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Eaters of the Dead - Michael Crichton 2012-05-14

From the bestselling author of Jurassic Park, Timeline, and Sphere comes an epic tale of unspeakable horror. It is 922 A.D. The refined Arab courtier Ibn Fadlan is accompanying a

party of Viking warriors back to their home. He is appalled by their customs—the gratuitous sexuality of their women, their disregard for cleanliness, and their cold-blooded sacrifices. As they enter the frozen, forbidden

landscape of the North—where the day's length does not equal the night's, where after sunset the sky burns in streaks of color—Fadlan soon discovers that he has been unwillingly enlisted to combat the terrors in the night that come to slaughter the Vikings, the monsters of the mist that devour human flesh. But just how he will do it, Fadlan has no idea.

The Urban Revolution -

Henri Lefebvre 2003

Originally published in 1970, *The Urban Revolution* marked Henri Lefebvre's first sustained critique of urban society, a work in which he pioneered the use of semiotic, structuralist, and poststructuralist methodologies in analyzing the development of the urban environment. Although it is widely considered a foundational book in contemporary thinking about the city, *The Urban Revolution* has never been translated into English—until now. This first English edition, deftly translated by Robert Bononno, makes available to a broad

audience Lefebvre's sophisticated insights into the urban dimensions of modern life. Lefebvre begins with the premise that the total urbanization of society is an inevitable process that demands of its critics new interpretive and perceptual approaches that recognize the urban as a complex field of inquiry. Dismissive of cold, modernist visions of the city, particularly those embodied by rationalist architects and urban planners like Le Corbusier, Lefebvre instead articulates the lived experiences of individual inhabitants of the city. In contrast to the ideology of urbanism and its reliance on commodification and bureaucratization—the capitalist logic of market and state—Lefebvre conceives of an urban utopia characterized by self-determination, individual creativity, and authentic social relationships. A brilliantly conceived and theoretically rigorous investigation into the realities and possibilities of urban space, *The Urban Revolution* remains an

essential analysis of and guide to the nature of the city. Henri Lefebvre (d. 1991) was one of the most significant European thinkers of the twentieth century. His many books include *The Production of Space* (1991), *Everyday Life in the Modern World* (1994), *Introduction to Modernity* (1995), and *Writings on Cities* (1995). Robert Bononno is a full-time translator who lives in New York. His recent translations include *The Singular Objects of Architecture* by Jean Baudrillard and Jean Nouvel (Minnesota, 2002) and *Cyberculture* by Pierre Lévy (Minnesota, 2001).

Medieval Persia 1040-1797 -

David Morgan 2014-09-19

The medieval period of Persia's remarkably continuous history began with its conquest by the Muslim Arabs in the seventh century AD and gave way to the modern period at the end of the eighteenth century when the influence of the West became pervasive. Without an understanding of the confused legacy of these centuries, no-

one can hope to understand the complexities and dynamism of modern Iran. Concise, clear and colourful, David Morgan's book is the best and most up-to-date short account of its subject in the English language.

The Caliph and the Heretic -

Sean Anthony 2011-12-02

This book offers an examination of the origins of Shī'ite Islam as viewed through the lens of the traditions surrounding its earliest and most infamous heretic, 'Abd Allāh ibn Saba', and the sectarian movement he purportedly founded, the Saba'īya.

Voyage Aux Regions

Équinoxiales Du Nouveau

Continent, Tome Neuvième -

Alexander Von Humboldt

2019-02-21

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original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

The Book of Contemplation -
Usama ibn Munqidh
2008-07-03

The volume comprises lightly annotated translation of a key

medieval Arabic text that bears directly on the Crusades and Crusader society and the Muslim experience of them.

The Saga of the Volsungs -
2012-06-19

"This is a book of the highest importance. No one should attempt to teach about Viking society or claim to understand it without being familiar with this chilling and enduring myth."—Eleanor Searle, author of *Predatory Kinship & the Creation of Norman Power*
"Byock's translation is excellent, but his thorough introduction is of equal scholarly importance. . . . His section on Richard Wagner's use of the Volsung material in writing his *Ring* will expand the topic toward modern Wagnerians."—Michael Bell, University of Colorado
"The Saga of the Volsungs is one of the most important texts of Old Icelandic literature, with its treatment of Old Scandinavian heroic traditions. . . . The most difficult part of the text to translate is, of course, the poetry, but also here the translator has been

successful."—Vésteinn Olason,
University of Oslo
The Far Traveler - Nancy Marie
Brown 2008
Offers a dramatic
reconstruction of the life and
times of Gudrid, a Viking
woman who, according to
Icelandic sagas, arrived in the
New World, spent three years
there, and gave birth to a baby,
before sailing home some five
hundred years before
Columbus, drawing on the
latest archaeological data,
scientific research, and cutting-
edge technology to trace her
odyssey. Reprint.

Medieval Islamic Maps - Karen
C. Pinto 2016-11

The history of Islamic mapping
is one of the new frontiers in
the history of cartography. This
book offers the first in-depth
analysis of a distinct tradition
of medieval Islamic maps
known collectively as the Book
of Roads and Kingdoms (*Kitab
al-Masalik wa al-Mamalik*, or
KMMS). Created from the mid-
tenth through the nineteenth
century, these maps offered
Islamic rulers, scholars, and
armchair explorers a view of

the physical and human
geography of the Arabian
peninsula, the Persian Gulf, the
Mediterranean, Spain and
North Africa, Syria, Egypt,
Iraq, the Iranian provinces,
present-day Pakistan, and
Transoxiana. Historian Karen
C. Pinto examines around 100
examples of these maps
retrieved from archives across
the world from three points of
view: iconography, context,
and patronage. By unraveling
their many symbols, she guides
us through new ways of
viewing the Muslim
cartographic imagination.

Into the Silent Land - Paul
Broks 2003

Paul Broks draws on his 15
years as a neuropsychologist to
present a narrative about
memory and personal identity.
Macabre yet humane,
unsettling but affecting, he
writes about the experiences of
his patients, and his experience
as their psychologist. The
stories are those of ordinary
people whose extraordinary
illnesses have much to say to
everyone about who and what
we are. They are also about

chance, compassion, human fallibility and eccentricity.

Two Arabic Travel Books -

Abū Zayd al-Sīrāfi 2014-12-08

In its parts, we find a priceless cargo of information; here are the first foreign descriptions of tea and porcelain, a panorama of unusual social practices, cannibal islands, and Indian holy men--a marvelous, mundane world, contained in the compass of a novella. In *Mission to the Volga*, we move north on a diplomatic mission from Baghdad to the upper reaches of the Volga River in what is now central Russia. This colorful documentary by Ibn Fadlan relates the trials and tribulations of an embassy of diplomats and missionaries sent by caliph al-Muqtadir to deliver political and religious instruction to the recently-converted King of the Bulgars. During eleven months of grueling travel, Ibn Fadlan records the marvels he witnesses on his journey, including an aurora borealis and the white nights of the North. Crucially, he offers a description of the Viking Rus,

including their customs, clothing, tattoos, and a striking account of a ship funeral.

Disagreements of the Jurists -

al-Qadi al-Numan, 2015-01-19

Al-Qadi al-Nu‘man was the chief legal theorist and ideologue of the North African Fatimid dynasty in the tenth century. This translation makes available in English for the first time his major work on Islamic legal theory, which presents a legal model in support of the Fatimids’ principle of legitimate rule over the Islamic community. Composed as part of a grand project to establish the theoretical bases of the official Fatimid legal school, *Disagreements of the Jurists* expounds a distinctly Shi‘i system of hermeneutics, which refutes the methods of legal interpretation adopted by Sunni jurists. The work begins with a discussion of the historical causes of jurisprudential divergence in the first Islamic centuries, and goes on to address, point by point, the specific interpretive methods of Sunni legal theory, arguing that they are both

illegitimate and ineffective. While its immediate mission is to pave the foundation of the legal Isma'ili tradition, the text also preserves several Islamic legal theoretical works no longer extant—including Ibn Dawud's manual, *al-Wusul ila ma'rifat al-usul*—and thus throws light on a critical stage in the historical development of Islamic legal theory (*usul al-fiqh*) that would otherwise be lost to history.

Ibn Fadlan and the Land of Darkness - Aḥmad Ibn Faḍlān
2012-01-31

Between the 9th and 14th centuries, Arab travellers such as Ibn Fadlan journeyed widely and frequently into the far north, crossing territories that now include Russia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. This translation offers an illuminating insight into the world of the Arab geographers, and the medieval lands of the far north.

The Way of the Spiritual Muslim - Ibn Qayyim Al-Jawziyya
2018-12-14

Experience the world of Islamic spirituality through its most

accomplished practitioners. *The Way of the Spiritual Muslim* presents a carefully selected collection of sayings and aphorisms from the works of some of the greatest spiritual figures of Islamic history. Discover the teachings of Ibn al-Jawzī, Ibn al-Qayyim, al-Ghazālī and other masters on purifying the heart, reconnecting with God, reorienting one's life toward the Hereafter and avoiding the various pitfalls of the worldly life.

The Penguin Anthology of Classical Arabic Literature - Robert Irwin
2006-05-25

Spanning the fifth century to the sixteenth, and ranging from Afghanistan to Spain, this unique collection provides a profound insight into the sheer vitality and depth of Classical Arabic literature. From the earliest surviving fragments of *The Thousand and One Nights* to the elegant beauty and profound power of the Qur'an - believed by the Islamic faith to contain the actual words of Allah - it includes translated extracts from all the major

works of the period, alongside many less well-known but equally fascinating pieces. Exploring such traditional themes as lovesick yearning and fated doom, and considering subjects as diverse as the etiquette of falling in love with slave-girls and the terrors of the sea, this compelling anthology of poetry and prose brilliantly illuminates a body of writing that has been unjustly neglected by the west for centuries.

The Book of John

Mandeville - C David Benson
2007-08-01

The Book of John Mandeville has tended to be neglected by modern teachers and scholars, yet this intriguing and copious work has much to offer the student of medieval literature, history, and culture. [It] was a contemporary bestseller, providing readers with exotic information about locales from Constantinople to China and about the social and religious practices of peoples such as the Greeks, Muslims, and Brahmins. The Book first

appeared in the middle of the fourteenth century and by the next century could be found in an extraordinary range of European languages: not only Latin, French, German, English, and Italian, but also Czech, Danish, and Irish. Its wide readership is also attested by the two hundred fifty to three hundred medieval manuscripts that still survive today. Chaucer borrowed from it, as did the Gawain-poet in the Middle English Cleanness, and its popularity continued long after the Middle Ages.

Guts & Glory: The Vikings -

Ben Thompson 2015-06-09

History comes alive for kids like no textbook can in this epic account of the time of the Vikings that's perfect for history buffs and reluctant readers! Contains awesome illustrations! From battle-axe-wielding tribes plundering the greatest cities of Europe to powerful kings and queens ruling their dominions with iron fists, the Vikings were some of the most feared and fearless figures in European history. Find the bravest

heroes, the most menacing villains, and unbelievably awesome facts and myths inside this action-packed overview that will amaze kids with tales of a people so incredible...it's hard to believe they were real. History buff and popular blogger Ben Thompson's lively storytelling style brings the Vikings back to life in this second book in the exhilarating Guts & Glory series!

Herodotus and Sima Qian: The First Great Historians of Greece and China - Thomas R. Martin 2018-11-27

In this accessible volume, Thomas R. Martin compares the writings of Herodotus in ancient Greece with those of Sima Qian in ancient China to demonstrate the hallmarks of early history writing. While these authors lived in different centuries and were not aware of each other's works, Martin shows the similar struggles that each grappled with in preparing their historical accounts and how their efforts helped invent modern notions of history writing and the job of

the historian. The introduction's cross-cultural analysis includes a biography of each author, illustrating the setting and times in which he worked, as well as a discussion of how each man introduced interpretation and moral judgment into his writing. The accompanying documents include excerpts from Herodotus' *The Histories* and Sima Qian's *Shiji*, which illustrate their approach to history writing and their understanding of their own cultures. Also featured are maps and illustrations, a chronology, questions to consider, and a selected bibliography.

The Travels of Ibn Jubayr - R. J. C. Broadhurst 2003

The Viking Diaspora - Judith Jesch 2015-06-05

The Viking Diaspora presents the early medieval migrations of people, language and culture from mainland Scandinavia to new homes in the British Isles, the North Atlantic, the Baltic and the East as a form of 'diaspora'. It discusses the

ways in which migrants from Russia in the east to Greenland in the west were conscious of being connected not only to the people and traditions of their homelands, but also to other migrants of Scandinavian origin in many other locations. Rather than the movements of armies, this book concentrates on the movements of people and the shared heritage and culture that connected them. This on-going contact throughout half a millennium can be traced in the laws, literatures, material culture and even environment of the various regions of the Viking diaspora. Judith Jesch considers all of these connections, and highlights in detail significant forms of cultural contact including gender, beliefs and identities. Beginning with an overview of Vikings and the Viking Age, the nature of the evidence available, and a full exploration of the concept of 'diaspora', the book then provides a detailed demonstration of the appropriateness of the term to the world peopled by

Scandinavians. This book is the first to explain Scandinavian expansion using this model, and presents the Viking Age in a new and exciting way for students of Vikings and medieval history.

The Expeditions - Ma'mar Ibn Rashid 2015-10-15

The Expeditions is one of the oldest biographies of the Prophet Muhammad to survive into the modern era. Its primary author, Ma'mar ibn Rashid (714-770 AD/96-153 AH), was a prominent scholar from Basra in southern Iraq who was revered for his learning in prophetic traditions, Islamic law, and the interpretation of the Qur'an. This fascinating foundational seminal work contains stories handed down by Ma'mar to his most prominent pupil, 'Abd al-Razzaq of Sanaa, relating Muhammad's early life and prophetic career as well as the adventures and tribulations of his earliest followers during their conquest of the Near East. Edited from a sole surviving manuscript, the Arabic text offers numerous

improved readings over those of previous editions, including detailed notes on the text's transmission and variants as found in later works. This new translation, which renders the original into readable, modern English for the first time, is accompanied by numerous annotations elucidating the cultural, religious and historical contexts of the events and individuals described within its pages. The *Expeditions* represents an important testimony to the earliest Muslims' memory of the lives of Muhammad and his companions, and is an indispensable text for gaining insight into the historical biography of both the Prophet and the rise of the Islamic empire.

The Elder Edda - 2013-11-07

Part of a new series *Legends from the Ancient North*, *The Elder Edda* is one of the classic books that influenced J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. 'So the company of men led a careless life, All was well with them: until One began To encompass

evil, an enemy from hell.

Grendel they called this cruel spirit...' J.R.R. Tolkien spent much of his life studying, translating and teaching the great epic stories of northern Europe, filled with heroes, dragons, trolls, dwarves and magic. He was hugely influential for his advocacy of *Beowulf* as a great work of literature and, even if he had never written *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, would be recognised today as a significant figure in the rediscovery of these extraordinary tales. *Legends from the Ancient North* brings together from Penguin Classics five of the key works behind Tolkien's fiction. They are startling, brutal, strange pieces of writing, with an elemental power brilliantly preserved in these translations. They plunge the reader into a world of treachery, quests, chivalry, trials of strength. They are the most ancient narratives that exist from northern Europe and bring us as near as we will ever get to the origins of the magical landscape of Middle-

earth (Midgard) which Tolkien remade in the 20th century.

Six Sagas of Adventure - Ben Waggoner 2014-10-25

A hero breaks into the tomb of an undead Viking to win fabulous treasure. . . a wise king faces enemy armies and hostile magic to win brides for himself and his warriors. . . a rakish outlaw seduces beautiful women and fights monsters on his quest to clear his name. . . a lazy and reluctant boy survives slavery, treachery, and deadly sorcery as he grows into the greatest hero. . . The sagas newly translated in this book are Gautrek's Saga (in two versions), The Saga of Hrolf Gautreksson, The Saga of Bosi and Herraud, The Saga of Sturlaug the Hard-Working, The Saga of Hrolf the Walker, and The Saga of Hromund Gripsson. Written in Iceland beginning in the 1400s, these are some of the most popular Old Norse tales of high adventure. Viking legends, mythology, and lore were blended with medieval romances of chivalry to create these ""sagas of adventure.""

Packed with sudden plot twists, dreadful villains, damsels in distress, and a generous dash of humor, these tales have never lost their power to delight.

Code of the Samurai - Thomas Cleary 2011-06-07

Learn the ways of the Japanese Bushido Code with this very readable, modern translation of the Bushido Shoshinshu. Code of the Samurai is a four-hundred-year-old explication of the rules and expectations embodied in Bushido, the Japanese Way of the Warrior. Bushido has played a major role in shaping the behavior of modern Japanese government, corporations, society, and individuals, as well as in shaping modern Japanese martial arts within Japan and internationally. The Japanese original of this book, Bushido Shoshinshu, (Bushido for Beginners), has been one of the primary sources on the tenets of Bushido, a way of thought that remains fascinating and relevant to the modern world, East and West. This handbook, written after five hundred

years of military rule in Japan, was composed to provide practical and moral instruction for warriors, correcting wayward tendencies and outlining the personal, social, and professional standards of conduct characteristic of Bushido, the Japanese chivalric tradition. With a clear, conversational narrative by Thomas Cleary, one of the foremost translators of the wisdom of Asia, and powerfully evocative line drawings by master illustrator Oscar Ratti, this book is indispensable to the corporate executive, student of the Asian Culture, martial artist, those interested in Eastern philosophy or military strategy, as well as for those simply interested in Japan and its people.

The White Darkness - David Grann 2018-10-30

By the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Killers of the Flower Moon*, a powerful true story of adventure and obsession in the Antarctic, lavishly illustrated with color photographs Henry Worsley was a devoted husband and

father and a decorated British special forces officer who believed in honor and sacrifice. He was also a man obsessed. He spent his life idolizing Ernest Shackleton, the nineteenth-century polar explorer, who tried to become the first person to reach the South Pole, and later sought to cross Antarctica on foot. Shackleton never completed his journeys, but he repeatedly rescued his men from certain death, and emerged as one of the greatest leaders in history. Worsley felt an overpowering connection to those expeditions. He was related to one of Shackleton's men, Frank Worsley, and spent a fortune collecting artifacts from their epic treks across the continent. He modeled his military command on Shackleton's legendary skills and was determined to measure his own powers of endurance against them. He would succeed where Shackleton had failed, in the most brutal landscape in the world. In 2008, Worsley set out across Antarctica with two other descendants of

Shackleton's crew, battling the freezing, desolate landscape, life-threatening physical exhaustion, and hidden crevasses. Yet when he returned home he felt compelled to go back. On November 13, 2015, at age 55, Worsley bid farewell to his family and embarked on his most perilous quest: to walk across Antarctica alone. David Grann tells Worsley's remarkable story with the intensity and power that have led him to be called "simply the best narrative nonfiction writer working today." Illustrated with more than fifty stunning photographs from Worsley's and Shackleton's journeys, *The White Darkness* is both a gorgeous keepsake volume and a spellbinding story of courage, love, and a man pushing himself to the extremes of human capacity.

The Book in the Cathedral -

Christopher de Hamel

2020-08-06

From the bestselling author of *Meetings With Remarkable Manuscripts*, a captivating account of the last surviving

relic of Thomas Becket The assassination of Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral on 29 December 1170 is one of the most famous events in European history. It inspired the largest pilgrim site in medieval Europe and many works of literature from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* to T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* and Anouilh's *Becket*. In a brilliant piece of historical detective work, Christopher de Hamel here identifies the only surviving relic from Becket's shrine: the Anglo-Saxon Psalter which he cherished throughout his time as Archbishop of Canterbury, and which he may even have been holding when he was murdered. Beautifully illustrated and published to coincide with the 850th anniversary of the death of Thomas Becket, this is an exciting rediscovery of one of the most evocative artefacts of medieval England.

The Book of Settlements -

2007-01-15

Iceland was the last country in Europe to become inhabited,

and we know more about the beginnings and early history of Icelandic society than we do of any other in the Old World.

This world was vividly recounted in *The Book of Settlements*, first compiled by the first Icelandic historians in the thirteenth century. It describes in detail individuals and daily life during the Icelandic Age of Settlement.

Islamic Mystical Poetry -

Mahmood Jamal 2009-10-29

Written from the ninth to the twentieth century, these poems represent the peak of Islamic Mystical writing, from Rabia Basri to Mian Mohammad Baksh. Reflecting both private devotional love and the attempt to attain union with God and become absorbed into the Divine, many poems in this edition are imbued with the symbols and metaphors that develop many of the central ideas of Sufism: the Lover, the Beloved, the Wine, and the Tavern; while others are more personal and echo the poet's battle to leave earthly love behind. These translations capture the passion of the

original poetry and are accompanied by an introduction on Sufism and the common themes apparent in the works. This edition also includes suggested further reading.

_____ - 2013

Verse and prose, from the 6th century CE (pre-Islamic) to the early 18th century CE.

Islam and Travel in the Middle Ages - Houari Touati 2010-08

In the Middle Ages, Muslim travelers embarked on a *rihla*, or world tour, as surveyors, emissaries, and educators. On these journeys, voyagers not only interacted with foreign cultures—touring Greek civilization, exploring the Middle East and North Africa, and seeing parts of Europe—they also established both philosophical and geographic boundaries between the faithful and the heathen. These voyages thus gave the Islamic world, which at the time extended from the Maghreb to the Indus Valley, a coherent identity. *Islam and Travel in the Middle Ages*

assesses both the religious and philosophical aspects of travel, as well as the economic and cultural conditions that made the rihla possible. Houari Touati tracks the compilers of the hadith who culled oral traditions linked to the prophet, the linguists and lexicologists who journeyed to the desert to learn Bedouin Arabic, the geographers who mapped the Muslim world, and the students who ventured to study with holy men and scholars. Travel, with its costs, discomforts, and dangers, emerges in this study as both a means of spiritual growth and a metaphor for progress. Touati's book will interest a broad range of scholars in history, literature, and anthropology.

The Way of Sufi Chivalry -
Ibn al-Husayn al-Sulami
1991-04-01

A highly respected Sufi saint and scholar of the 10th century, Ibn al-Husayn al-Sulami compiled this book as a guide to enlightened behavior for the spiritual aspirant. In its pages, he records the

teachings of renowned spiritual masters (available for the first time in English translation) as well as tales and quotations from the Koran and Hadith. The teachings reveal the true meaning of compassion, love, friendship, generosity, and hospitality, as well as the right actions associated with these virtues. According to the Sufis, Futuwwah is a code of honorable behavior that follows the example of the prophets, saints, and sages. By adhering to its precepts, the student learns detachment from the ego. The Way of Sufi Chivalry addresses the reader directly, providing the aspirant of today with living guidance on the path of perfection and the way of Sufism.

Ibn Fadlan and the Land of Darkness - Ibn Fadlan
2012-07-26

In 922 AD, an Arab envoy from Baghdad named Ibn Fadlan encountered a party of Viking traders on the upper reaches of the Volga River. In his subsequent report on his mission he gave a meticulous and astonishingly objective

description of Viking customs, dress, table manners, religion and sexual practices, as well as the only eyewitness account ever written of a Viking ship cremation. Between the ninth and fourteenth centuries, Arab travellers such as Ibn Fadlan journeyed widely and frequently into the far north, crossing territories that now include Russia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. Their fascinating accounts describe how the numerous tribes and peoples they encountered traded furs, paid tribute and waged wars. This accessible new translation offers an illuminating insight into the world of the Arab geographers, and the medieval lands of the far north.

The Abbasid Caliphate - Tayeb El-Hibri 2021-04-22

A history of the Abbasid Caliphate from its foundation in 750 and golden age under Harun al-Rashid to the conquest of Baghdad by the Mongols in 1258, this study examines the Caliphate as an empire and an institution, and its imprint on the society and culture of classical Islamic

civilization.

Edward the Confessor (Penguin Monarchs) - David Woodman 2020-11-26

Edward the Confessor, the last great king of Anglo-Saxon England, canonized nearly 100 years after his death, is in part a figure of myths created in the late middle ages. In this revealing portrait of England's royal saint, David Woodman traces the course of Edward's twenty-four-year-long reign through the lens of contemporary sources, from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and the Vita Ædwardi Regis to the Bayeux Tapestry, to separate myth from history and uncover the complex politics of his life. He shows Edward to be a shrewd politician who, having endured a long period of exile from England in his youth, ascended the throne in 1042 and came to control a highly sophisticated and powerful administration. The twists and turns of Edward's reign are generally seen as a prelude to the Norman Conquest in 1066. Woodman explains clearly how events unfolded and

personalities interacted but, unlike many, he shows a capable and impressive king at the centre of them.

Islamic Civilization in Thirty Lives - Chase F. Robinson
2017-04-03

Religious thinkers, political leaders, lawmakers, writers, and philosophers have shaped the 1,400-year-long development of the world's second-largest religion. But who were these people? What do we know of their lives and the ways in which they influenced their societies? In *Islamic Civilization in Thirty Lives*, the distinguished historian of Islam Chase F. Robinson draws on the long tradition in Muslim scholarship of commemorating in writing the biographies of notable figures, but he weaves these ambitious lives together to create a rich narrative of Islamic civilization, from the Prophet Muhammad in the seventh century to the era of the world conqueror Timur and the Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II in the fifteenth. Beginning in Islam's heartland, Mecca, and

ranging from North Africa and Iberia in the west to Central and East Asia, Robinson not only traces the rise and fall of Islamic states through the biographies of political and military leaders who worked to secure peace or expand their power, but also discusses those who developed Islamic law, scientific thought, and literature. What emerges is a fascinating portrait of rich and diverse Islamic societies. Alongside the famous characters who colored this landscape—including Muhammad's cousin 'Ali; the Crusader-era hero Saladin; and the poet Rumi—are less well-known figures, such as Ibn Fadlan, whose travels in Eurasia brought fascinating first-hand accounts of the Volga Vikings to the Abbasid Caliph; the eleventh-century Karima al-Marwaziyya, a woman scholar of Prophetic traditions; and Abu al-Qasim Ramisht, a twelfth-century merchant millionaire. An illuminating read for anyone interested in learning more about this often-misunderstood

civilization, this book creates a vivid picture of life in all arenas of the pre-modern Muslim world.

The History of al-Tabari Vol. 15 - Muhammad ibn Yarir al-Tabari 1990-01-01

Before the caliphate of the 'Uthman b. 'Affan, the Muslim community had grown from strength to strength in spite of a series of major crises--the Hirah, the death of the Prophet, the Riddah wars, the assassination of 'Umar by a Persian slave. But 'Uthman's reign ended in catastrophe. His inability to manage the social and political conflicts that were now emerging among various factions within the community led to his death at the hands of Muslim rebels. The consequences of this tragic event were bitter: not only a century of civil war, but also political and religious schisms of such depth that they have not been entirely healed even now. Most medieval Muslim historians told this story in an overtly partisan manner, but al-Tabari demands more of his readers. First of all, they must

decide for themselves, on the basis of highly ambiguous evidence, whether 'Uthman's death was tyrannicide or murder. But, more than that, they must ask how such a thing could have happened at all; what had the Muslims done to bring about the near-destruction of their community? Al-Tabari presents this challenge within a broad framework. For, even while the internal crisis that issued in 'Uthman's death was coming to a head, the wars against Byzantium and Persia continued. The first expeditions into North Africa, the conquest of Cyprus, the momentary destruction of the Byzantine fleet at the Battle of the Masts, the bloody campaigns in Armenia, the Caucasus, and Khurasan are all here, in narratives that shift constantly between hard reporting and pious legend. Muslim forces retain the offensive, but there are no more easy victories; henceforth, suffering and endurance will be the hallmarks of the hero. Most evocative in the light of

'Uthman's fate is the moving account of the murder of the last Sasanian king, Yazdagird III--a man betrayed by his nobles and subjects, but most of all by his own character.

Beowulf: A Verse Translation for Students - Edward L. Ridsden 2013-01-26

When Moors Ruled Spain - Gerald Brenan 2017-01-18
Less than 100 years after they had hurled themselves out of the desert, Arabs were building in Spain a civilization that lasted almost 800 years and cast a bright ray of light into the Dark Ages of Europe. Here, in this essay by the acclaimed British historian Gerald Brenan, is the story of Moorish Spain.

The Book of Marvels and Travels - John Mandeville 2012-09-13

In his *Book of Marvels and Travels*, Sir John Mandeville describes a journey from Europe to Jerusalem and on into Asia, and the many wonderful and monstrous peoples and practices in the East. A captivating blend of

fact and fantasy, Mandeville's *Book* is newly translated in an edition that brings us closer to Mandeville's worldview.

[Mission to the Volga](#) - Ahmad Ibn Fadlan 2017-04-04

Earliest surviving instance of sustained first-person travel narrative in Arabic. A pioneering text of peerless historical and literary value. In its pages, we move north on a diplomatic mission from Baghdad to the upper reaches of the Volga River in what is now central Russia. In this colorful documentary from the tenth century, the enigmatic Ibn Fadlan relates his experiences as part of an embassy sent by Caliph al-Muqtadir to deliver political and religious instruction to the recently-converted King of the Bulgars. During eleven months of grueling travel, Ibn Fadlan records the marvels he witnesses on his journey, including an aurora borealis and the white nights of the North. Crucially, he offers a description of the Viking Rus, including their customs, clothing, body painting, and a

striking account of a ship funeral. Together, these anecdotes illuminate a vibrant world of diversity during the

heyday of the Abbasid Empire, narrated with as much curiosity and zeal as they were perceived by its observant beholder.