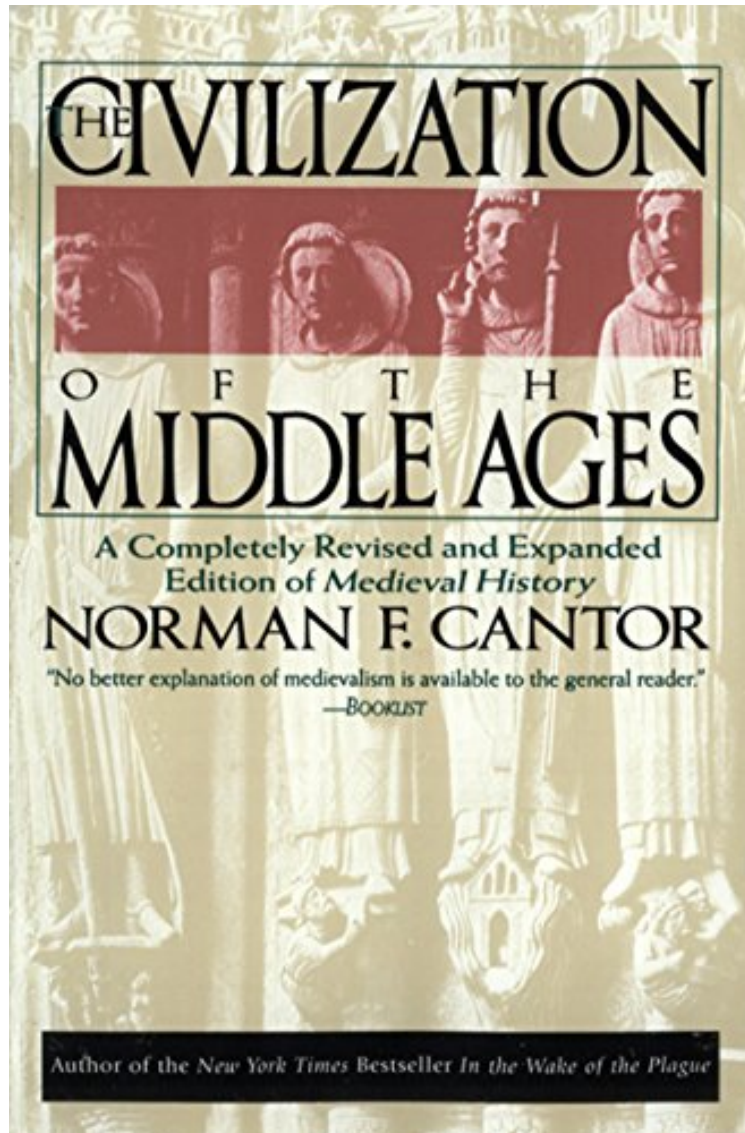


(Free read ebook) Civilization of the Middle Ages: Completely Revised and Expanded Edition, A

Civilization of the Middle Ages: Completely Revised and Expanded Edition, A

Von Norman F. Cantor
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Von Norman F. Cantor : Civilization of the Middle Ages: Completely Revised and Expanded Edition, A before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Civilization of the Middle Ages: Completely Revised and Expanded Edition, A:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A good introduction, after some critical correctionsVon Ein KundeI looked forward to this book when it first came out based

on the author's reputation. His previous book, *Inventing the Middle Ages*, was great, and based on his comments of other historians, usually non-academic, believed he had high standards. In the first edition hard cover edition, on which part of this review is based, he stated Marco Polo was from Florence and that the Arabs took the Byzantine capital. Casual readers know that Polo was from Venice and that it was the Turks who conquered Constantinople. Despite a letter to the publisher, no errata sheet or response was ever received. It is good to note that Marco Polo is now acknowledged as Venetian, and that while the Turks have not received their due, at least it reads Moslem armies. Still, a scholar of Mr. Cantor's reputation, should have known better. Even more important, publishers have an obligation to produce errata sheets to ensure that history is as accurate as possible. (We may have different views of objective facts, but these two items are as factual as fallible humans can be sure of.) In short, a readable book that can now be recommended for those who want a good, easy reading introduction. For me, the obvious errors of the first edition and lack of response to my inquiries still cause concern. Thank goodness for the internet and where these views can now be expressed instead of ignored.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A good introduction for beginners, but lacking citations. Von Ein Kunde_ *Civilization of the Middle Ages* _ has many good points, and overall I recommend it for readers with little prior background in medieval history and culture; only a couple of technical caveats prevent me from rating it higher. The text flows well -- it's clear and easy to comprehend, and informative without being overly prosy, or laden with detail which would overwhelm a reader who is only beginning to explore the Middle Ages. Most readers should have no problem reading this book from cover to cover, enjoying and comprehending all of it, something one cannot always say about a history book. It's focused enough to have a coherent flow and structure, while still ranging wide enough to cover a number of diverse topics; the book doesn't get stuck in a rut of politics or church history or some such, the way some introductory texts do. Unfortunately, the book is made less useful to scholars by the lack of either a bibliography or footnotes. (There is a recommended reading list, which I usually avoid, but in this case it's wonderfully detailed, and almost worth the price of the paperback edition to a beginner who wants a list of reliable sources for continuing study. But although it's a useful bonus, it doesn't make up for the lack of a bibliography.) This is clearly a book for the beginner or general reader, and one doesn't expect extensive footnotes in such a book, but one does expect to see a bibliography. As it is, the reader who wants to pursue some point of interest must begin from practically a standing start. This is a major flaw, and took about two points off of my numerical rating. Aside from the lack of citations, I'm very pleased with this book. I feel it's a good introduction for a beginner who's interested in medieval history, and wants more than just a listing of who fought who, who won, and who was king at the time. So long as the reader keeps in mind that history books should be footnoted, and should include a list of sources used, this is an excellent starting point. I found it to be about as readable as Joseph and Frances Gies' medieval books, with considerably less of the lack of specific detail which plagues the Gies' books -- the Gies' will often say that something was done in the Middle Ages, or in medieval Western Europe, or some similar broad reference, without saying specifically when or where, giving the reader the erroneous impression that medieval culture was a homogeneous monolith; Cantor does this much less frequently. Primarily because of this, I'd rate *Civilization of the Middle Ages* a notch above the Gies' books. Readers with a firm foundation in medieval history will likely be disappointed with this book, but such readers are not the target audience. The general reader will find the book readable and enjoyable. If the lack of citations make it less useful than it might be, this is compensated for, in my opinion, by Cantor's clear and flowing style. If all historians wrote like Cantor there'd likely be considerably more interest in the Middle Ages, and other times and places, than there is now. In my opinion this is at least as important as source citations.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. review of a key millenium will correct many an assumption Von Ein Kunde This thoroughly modern treatise brings the latest thinking and information to the man-in-the-street! It sweeps a key millenium without swamping the reader with minutiae. The language is very engaging without being populist; Cantor never sacrifices fact for the sake of making a point, as vignettes carry themselves here. This book serves as a reminder of the relevance the Middle Ages have today, at the end of another millenium in a post-modern crisis of conscience: It debunks many a myth still abounding in our psyche. Rather than sway into the fashionable, Cantor balances interpretations of male vs. female dominances, warrior vs. partnership ethos, or conquered vs. conqueror histories, as much as can be pieced together. "Civilization" thus stands to balance many a polarised debate, simply in giving renewed perspective to such a formative yet so poorly understood period

Kurzbeschreibung Now revised and expanded, this edition of the splendidly detailed and lively history of the Middle Ages contains more than 30 percent new material. Pressestimmen "No better explanation of medievalism is available to the general reader." --Booklist "Kurzbeschreibung Now revised and expanded, this edition of the splendidly detailed and lively history of the Middle Ages contains more than 30 percent new material.