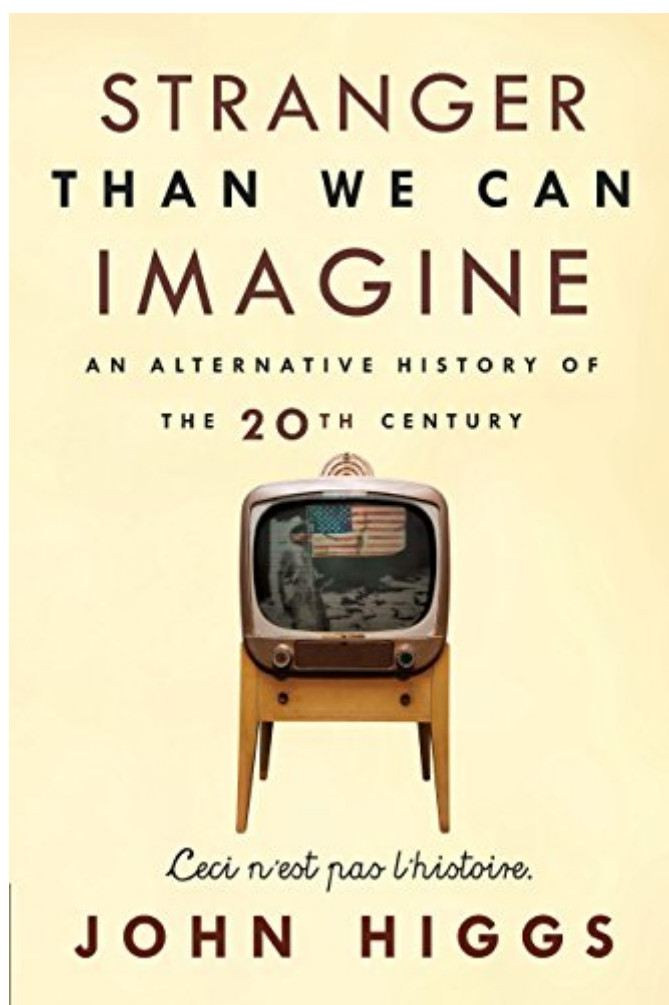


The book was found

Stranger Than We Can Imagine: Making Sense Of The Twentieth Century



Synopsis

In *Stranger Than We Can Imagine*, John Higgs argues that before 1900, history seemed to make sense. We can understand innovations like electricity, agriculture and democracy. The twentieth century, in contrast, gave us relativity, cubism, quantum mechanics, the id, existentialism, Stalin, psychedelics, chaos mathematics, climate change and postmodernism. In order to understand such a disorienting barrage of unfamiliar and knotty ideas, Higgs shows us, we need to shift the framework of our interpretation and view these concepts within the context of a new kind of historical narrative. Instead of looking at it as another step forward in a stable path, we need to look at the twentieth century as a chaotic seismic shift, upending all linear narratives. Higgs invites us along as he journeys across a century about which we know too much in order to grant us a new perspective on it. He brings a refreshingly non-academic, eclectic and infectiously energetic approach to his subjects as well as a unique ability to explain how complex ideas connect and intersect; whether he's discussing Einstein's theories of relativity, the Beat poets' interest in Eastern thought or the bright spots and pitfalls of the American Dream.

Book Information

File Size: 9617 KB

Print Length: 354 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1593766262

Publisher: Soft Skull Press (November 1, 2015)

Publication Date: November 1, 2015

Language: English

ASIN: B016HBZ1EU

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #60,853 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #12 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Historical Study > Essays #32 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Essays #79 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Modern (16th-21st Centuries) > 20th Century

Customer Reviews

Well written, readable and thought provoking book with a vague nondescript title. The scope defies a short synopsis. I enjoyed it and found it hard to put down. The core concept behind Einstein's Theory of Relativity is that there was no single perspective that can be considered correct or true. Our knowledge of our subject is dependent on the perspective we take. John Higgs extends that thought to explain the changes seen in the 20th century in art, politics, psychology, philosophy, quantum mechanics, physics, politics, culture, the internet and a bit more.

Thought provoking
Any reader will find points to ponder especially the comparison between popular music
Modernism
Post modernism
And more

Omphalos is my new word gained from this book...well executed thesis....mix of new hybrid philosophy and derived perspectives from history

As a history lover this book is a gem and lots of fun!

For me this was a new take on the history of the 20th Century making many interesting connections between events and intellectual advances that were new and novel.

The 20th century was arguably one of the strangest and most bewildering in recorded human history. It is also the one about which we know the most and yet which nevertheless remains almost impossible to understand. In "Stranger Than We Can Imagine: Making Sense of the Twentieth Century", British author, John Higgs, delivers a superbly enlightening review of the significant paradigm shifts that occurred during the 100 years since 1901, connecting seemingly disparate developments -- such as physicists' theories of relativity and quantum mechanics, the emergence of modernism and post-modernism in the arts, the rise of feminism and sexual equality, half a century of warfare culminating in the arrival of the nuclear age, our increasing dependence on technology, and the establishment of the internet -- in ways that demonstrate a thread of continuity across almost all fields of human endeavour over this period. From the mish-mash of seemingly unrelated and inexplicably bizarre events that triggered some of the most rapid changes to the global human condition -- and which now seems to threaten our continuing existence -- emerges a coherent thread of causality, which shines a light of meaning upon the overarching whole and renders the nonsensical (even for those who lived through the times) entirely comprehensible. And it's even an

easy, entertaining and enjoyable read. Highly recommended.

Fantastic book filled with interesting facts all weaved into engaging storytelling. This was a pageturner and I can't wait to jump into it again.

An original approach to understand XX century events that enlight XXI social behaviour. As a bonus track is also funny and well written. Excellent reading.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Stranger Than We Can Imagine: Making Sense of the Twentieth Century Soap Making: 365 Days of Soap Making: 365 Soap Making Recipes for 365 Days (Soap Making, Soap Making Books, Soap Making for Beginners, Soap Making Guide, ... Making, Soap Making Supplies, Crafting) Soap Making: 365 Days of Soap Making (Soap Making, Soap Making Books, Soap Making for Beginners, Soap Making Guide, Soap Making Recipes, Soap Making Supplies): Soap Making Recipes for 365 Days How to Grow More Vegetables, Ninth Edition: (and Fruits, Nuts, Berries, Grains, and Other Crops) Than You Ever Thought Possible on Less Land with Less Water Than You Can Imagine Composing for the State: Music in Twentieth-Century Dictatorships (Musical Cultures of the Twentieth Century) Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine The Ultimate Soap Making Guide: Unique Soap Making Recipes & Complete Soap Making Guide for Beginners (Soap Making at Home, Soapmaking Guide, Soap Making Recipes, Soap Making Book) Lipstick Traces: A Secret History of the Twentieth Century, Twentieth Anniversary Edition Amazing Recycled Projects You Can Create (Imagine It, Build It) I Can Only Imagine: Mercy Me with Jeff Kinley Twentieth Century Fox: A Century of Entertainment Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth-Century World (The Global Century Series) The Myth of the Twentieth Century: The Myth of the 20th Century; Mythos des 20. Jahrhunderts; An Evaluation of the Spiritual-Intellectual Confrontations of Our Age Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America (Politics and Society in Twentieth-Century America) Power, Speed, and Form: Engineers and the Making of the Twentieth Century The Versailles Settlement: Peacemaking After the First World War, 1919-1923 (The Making of the Twentieth Century) Comic Sense: A Comic Book on Common Sense and Social Skills for Young People with Asperger's and ADHD Chart Sense: Common Sense Charts to Teach 3-8 Informational Text and Literature K-2 Chart Sense: Common Sense Charts to Teach K-2 Informational Text and Literature Stranger Than Fiction (Shooting Script)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)