



The Savage Stone Age

Terry Deary, Martin Brown (Illustrator)

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Read on for incredible information on nasty Neanderthals, awesome archaeologists and curious cave paintings. Find out about the truth of Stonehenge and what suffering scientists do with Stone Age poo.

The Savage Stone Age Details

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From Reader Review The Savage Stone Age for online ebook

Annette Boehm says

Entertaining take on basic (stone age) history, the target audience here is young readers, and the information is kept at an appropriate level for that readership. Since this was originally for a British audience, the book spends a good deal of time on the topic of Stonehenge (which does date back to the stone age, rather than having been built by druids, as many believe) and has a focus on British locations. Still, great for getting young readers interested in the past.

Joseph Leskey says

Alright. When I read a history book, I expect historical fact. I'll willingly excuse *some* inaccuracies in *some* history books if their focus is not just history; however, I do not disregard such blatant rejection and misinterpretation of facts as found in this one. Nor do I savor the incomprehension that caused it, which is always clearly manifested unto the reader in such writings.

I must say that some parts were enjoyable and quite a few parts could easily have been, therefore I grant an extra star. But, simply because of the fallaciousness and sheer foolishness of the words, I cannot afford it three.

Angus says

good

Viktoria says

It was a nice before bed-read. nice little facts about life in den stone age, and mysteries like stone circles.

Klinta says

The book was interesting, some jokes better than other. It had some fun facts in it that I didn't know or had forgotten, so that was really cool to read about.

Nevertheless, I had a problem with the author's continuous explanations that one is wrong and the other thing is right. He even used the words "stupid archeologists" describing a group of people who tried to prove something they believed in, but weren't successful (and someone else proved them wrong).

It might have been meant to be a lighthearted remark, but it struck me as cold and evil. Many of the things that are presented as truths are actually guesses, it is mentioned even in the text "The guess is..."

And that is obvious, because we still find artefacts, bones, fossils etc. and learn new things about our past. So I don't find it correct to say that something is the (only) right thing (especially if it is a guess) and don't think that people with older ideas and research deserve bashing. If something is considered to be truth at the moment, you don't have to all the other theories in the field - some might be true AS WELL - come on, it is history.

The book is quite harsh on religion too, I am not religious, but I think that some of the comics went a bit far.

John Naylor says

I admit I am a latecomer to the Horrible Histories books. I have seen a few of the TV show episodes and enjoyed them so I thought I would give the books a go. This is my first one read.

It is funny, gruesome and horrifying at times. A perfect mix for some kids (and big kids like me) to enjoy. It has some genuine laugh out loud moments and some thoughtful insights. The history might not be exact. The jokes might grate some people as might the outside references but the book is great for a younger historian and even if they cannot fully get the words the illustrations will teach them things.

Siobhan says

As a child history was one of my favourite school subjects thus making Horrible Histories the perfect books for me.

Nowadays children have the television series yet I belong to the older group that had the books. Personally, I believe any child who has an interest in history should give these books a go. They're truly gripping and so many topics are covered.

Honestly, Horrible Histories are well worth a read.

Catherine says

I remember the first time I read a Horrible Histories book, it was actually about Ancient Egypt. I loved it then, it was history, but the real history. Things you don't normally hear about because of how gruesome it is.

Reading it now as an adult, I still love it. I'm obsessed with history, and it feels like there is always something new to learn.

I cannot wait for my children to read these books.

Savage Stone Age is a fascinating insight into what "humans" did back in the Stone Age. I also learned what people today think and do with artefacts from that time period.

What I learned most of all, we humans love to destroy things that have been around for thousands of years because of our stupidity.

At the end of the book is a quiz, to see if you were really paying attention. Not only do I think this is great for young people, but for everyone.

Easy to read, a book for all ages.

If you love the TV Show, then you are going to love this.

Xanthi says

Good fun to read and informative. Enjoyed the illustrations.

Jetsael Villegas says

En general, un buen libro. Deberían hacer una nueva edición porque seguramente hay nuevos datos sobre el tema.

Me agrada el tono que usan para narrar, pero creo que muchos chistes no tienen gracia y ahí está el mayor defecto del libro.

Bojan Bozic says

Extremely funny and informative.

Becky Quigley says

I grew up reading these books, although I never read this one in my youth. I nicked it off my daughter so I could swot up on Stone Age history - and it's a good read! It's straightforward, simple and entertaining; just what anyone, regardless of age, needs to learn something in brief in a short period of time.

Luke Waldron says

to start i really must say i love these books and have been loving them since i was in school so its nice to come back to them at 20 years old

and to start off the collection where best then the savage stone age which when you read the book you find out that thought times where extremely hard yes they wasn't exactly savage they actually seem alot better and kinder than a few humans alive today and that's saying something ??

and that they where alot smarter than we give them credit for and like it says in the book we are learning new

things about them every year every week and every day sooo theres still more for us to learn ??

Dane Cobain says

This isn't the best of the Horrible Histories books, but then I am a little jaded by now considering I've been working my way through the box set. Still, the Stone Age was interesting enough, it's just that I'm more of a fan of the Romans, the Vikings and the Middle Ages.

What I did like about this one is that there was a lot of information about archaeology in there, and I think it did a good job of encouraging kids to take up the profession. I always wanted to be an archaeologist as a kid and this book reminded me why, like watching an episode of Time Team. I bet it's a lot of hard work though, so read this instead.

Alina C?t?r?u says

The first book I'm going to talk about is Savage Stone Age and is actually the third one I've read, but its special subject forces me to put it in the top of the list. Throughout this book you will read about the timeline of human evolution and the three prehistoric periods of mankind (in a brief introductory chapter), how Stone Agers lived, the animals they hunted till becoming extinct. We will also learn more about the food they ate, how they cooked it, about their weird beliefs and gruesome burials, about brainy archaeologists, treasure hunters, accidental discoveries, stone circles legends and mysteries (including many fascinating facts about Stonehenge) and many other curious facts which won't let you put the book or reading device down.

I don't want to spoil your read, in case you plan to go through this book, but I will give you a tiny hint. For example, in the chapter Rotten Rituals, among many bizarre and pretty horrible funeral rituals, you will find out that there are many stone circles spread across Britain and their presence brings luck and good energies. Unfortunately, nobody knows exactly what they were made for. Tradition says that if a girl wanted to know who will be her future husband, she had to travel to Arthur's Stone (at Gower near Swansea, Wales), "wait until midnight when the moon was full and put cakes, milk and honey on the ancient stone. Crawl around the stone on your hands and knees and if the vision of your lover appears, then you will marry him. If not, then he's probably too busy watching telly." (Loc. 969-970)

There are also some little tests, through which Terry Deary challenges you to remember what you have learnt about the Stone Agehorrible histories Period. But don't worry if you get the answers wrong, because you are doing it just for fun. For instance, there's a test where the author asks you a few questions about the way Stone Agers lived and you have to choose the correct answer. If you get all the answers right, then you are a modern human being. If you get less answers right, depending on the number of wrong answers, you are a Neanderthal, chimpanzee or less than that.

Before ending this review, I must tell you that, although Savage Stone Age is a book for children, it helped me understand better my anthropology class and those history lessons from my childhood. Through the jokes and anecdotes inserted between the lines, the author reminds us that history can be child's play and its main role is to captivate the audience, because history also means story.

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