

# *The Dark Ages History*

This edition of Michael Wood's groundbreaking first book explores the fascinating and mysterious centuries between the Romans and the Norman Conquest of 1066. In *Search of the Dark Ages* vividly conjures up some of the most famous names in British history, such as Queen Boadicea, leader of a terrible war of resistance against the Romans, and King Arthur, the 'once and future king', for whose riddle Wood proposes a new and surprising solution. Here too, warts and all, are the Saxon, Viking and Norman kings who laid the political foundations of England - Offa of Mercia, Alfred the Great, Athelstan, and William the Conqueror, whose victory at Hastings in 1066 marked the end of Anglo-Saxon England. Reflecting recent

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historical, textual and archaeological research, this revised edition of Michael Wood's classic book overturns preconceptions of the Dark Ages as a shadowy and brutal era, showing them to be a richly exciting and formative period in the history of Britain. 'With In Search of the Dark Ages, Michael Wood wrote the book for history on TV.' The Times 'Michael Wood is the maker of some of the best TV documentaries ever made on history and archaeology.' Times Literary Supplement In Three Parts. Part 1, The Dark Ages, 180-814; Part 2, The Feudal Age, 814-1291; Part 3, The End Of The Middle Ages, 1291-1498.

In this fascinating survey, F. Donald Logan introduces the reader to the Christian church, from the conversion of the Celtic and Germanic peoples through to the discovery of the

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New World.

This important and overdue book examines illuminated manuscripts and other book arts of the Global Middle Ages. Illuminated manuscripts and illustrated or decorated books—like today's museums—preserve a rich array of information about how premodern peoples conceived of and perceived the world, its many cultures, and everyone's place in it. Often a Eurocentric field of study, manuscripts are prisms through which we can glimpse the interconnected global history of humanity. *Toward a Global Middle Ages* is the first publication to examine decorated books produced across the globe during the period traditionally known as medieval. Through essays and case studies, the volume's multidisciplinary contributors expand the historiography,

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chronology, and geography of manuscript studies to embrace a diversity of objects, individuals, narratives, and materials from Africa, Asia, Australasia, and the Americas—an approach that both engages with and contributes to the emerging field of scholarly inquiry known as the Global Middle Ages. Featuring 160 color illustrations, this wide-ranging and provocative collection is intended for all who are interested in engaging in a dialogue about how books and other textual objects contributed to world-making strategies from about 400 to 1600.

The Church and the Dark Ages (430-1027)

A History of Medieval Europe

Physical Brutality in Northern France, 1270-1330

The Crucible of Nature

Imagining the Past in Anthropology and History

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The Dark Ages

***Numerous illustrations, maps, and genealogies illuminate the often murky period ranging from the fall of Rome to the dawn of the Renaissance, with discussions of religious, political, economic, and social movements.***

***"Chronicles the period between the 4th and 12th centuries, when rulers in Europe, the Mideast and Asia turned to religious reasons to justify political and military action, a time that included the development of Islam, the crowning of Charlemagne and the rise of the T'ang Dynasty.***

***By the author of The History of the Ancient World."***

***One of the least understood periods of European history occurred between the 6th century and the 14th or 15th century (depending on which historian you ask). Commonly called the Middle Ages, this was a time period of extreme change for Europe, beginning with the fall of the Western Roman Empire.***

***What if the Dark Ages weren't so dark after all? You may have learned in world history class that the fall of the Roman Empire led to centuries of***

***violence, ignorance, and barbarism in Europe. But there's something missing from that account. The period between the fall of the Roman Empire and the High Middle Ages also was characterized by institutional, spiritual, and cultural advancements such as the rise of monasticism with St. Benedict of Nursia and the first encyclopedia by a Christian writer, St. Isidore of Seville.***

***The Dark Ages, 476-918***

***The dark ages in ancient history***

***Toward a Global Middle Ages***

***The Medieval Mind and the Renaissance -  
Portrait of an Age  
Encountering the World through Illuminated  
Manuscripts  
The Roman Empire and the Dark Ages***

A “marvelous history”\* of medieval Europe, from the bubonic plague and the Papal Schism to the Hundred Years’ War, by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Guns of August \*Lawrence Wright, author of The End of October, in The Wall Street Journal The fourteenth

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century reflects two contradictory images: on the one hand, a glittering age of crusades, cathedrals, and chivalry; on the other, a world plunged into chaos and spiritual agony. In this revelatory work, Barbara W. Tuchman examines not only the great rhythms of history but the grain and texture of domestic life: what childhood was like; what marriage meant; how money, taxes, and war dominated the lives of serf, noble, and clergy alike. Granting her

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subjects their loyalties, treacheries, and guilty passions, Tuchman re-creates the lives of proud cardinals, university scholars, grocers and clerks, saints and mystics, lawyers and mercenaries, and, dominating all, the knight—in all his valor and “furious follies,” a “terrible worm in an iron cocoon.” Praise for *A Distant Mirror*  
“Beautifully written, careful and thorough in its scholarship . . . What Ms. Tuchman does superbly is to tell

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how it was. . . . No one has ever done this better.”—The New York Review of Books “A beautiful, extraordinary book . . . Tuchman at the top of her powers . . . She has done nothing finer.”—The Wall Street Journal “Wise, witty, and wonderful . . . a great book, in a great historical tradition.”—Commentary A “lively and engaging” history of the Middle Ages (Dallas Morning News) from the acclaimed historian William Manchester, author of *The Last Lion*.

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From tales of chivalrous knights to the barbarity of trial by ordeal, no era has been a greater source of awe, horror, and wonder than the Middle Ages. In handsomely crafted prose, and with the grace and authority of his extraordinary gift for narrative history, William Manchester leads us from a civilization tottering on the brink of collapse to the grandeur of its rebirth: the dense explosion of energy that spawned some of history's

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greatest poets, philosophers, painters, adventurers, and reformers, as well as some of its most spectacular villains.

"Manchester provides easy access to a fascinating age when our modern mentality was just being born."

--Chicago Tribune

The Middle Ages was a critical and formative time for Western approaches to our natural surroundings. An Environmental History of the Middle Ages is a unique and unprecedented

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cultural survey of attitudes towards the environment during this period. Humankind's relationship with the environment shifted gradually over time from a predominantly adversarial approach to something more overtly collaborative, until a series of ecological crises in the late Middle Ages. With the advent of shattering events such as the Great Famine and the Black Death, considered efflorescences of the climate downturn known as the

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Little Ice Age that is comparable to our present global warming predicament, medieval people began to think of and relate to their natural environment in new and more nuanced ways. They now were made to be acutely aware of the consequences of human impacts upon the environment, anticipating the cyclical, "new ecology" approach of the modern world. Exploring the entire medieval period from 500 to 1500, and ranging across the whole of Europe, from

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England and Spain to the Baltic and Eastern Europe, John Aberth focuses his study on three key areas: the natural elements of air, water, and earth; the forest; and wild and domestic animals. Through this multi-faceted lens, *An Environmental History of the Middle Ages* sheds fascinating new light on the medieval environmental mindset. It will be essential reading for students, scholars and all those interested in the Middle Ages

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"The beauty and levity that Perry and Gabriele have captured in this book are what I think will help it to become a standard text for general audiences for years to come...The Bright Ages is a rare thing—a nuanced historical work that almost anyone can enjoy reading."—Slate "Incandescent and ultimately intoxicating." —The Boston Globe A lively and magisterial popular history that refutes common misperceptions of the European Middle

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Ages, showing the beauty and communion that flourished alongside the dark brutality—a brilliant reflection of humanity itself. The word “medieval” conjures images of the “Dark Ages”—centuries of ignorance, superstition, stasis, savagery, and poor hygiene. But the myth of darkness obscures the truth; this was a remarkable period in human history. The Bright Ages recasts the European Middle Ages for what it was, capturing this

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1,000-year era in all its complexity and fundamental humanity, bringing to light both its beauty and its horrors. The Bright Ages takes us through ten centuries and crisscrosses Europe and the Mediterranean, Asia and Africa, revisiting familiar people and events with new light cast upon them. We look with fresh eyes on the Fall of Rome, Charlemagne, the Vikings, the Crusades, and the Black Death, but also to the multi-religious experience of Iberia,

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the rise of Byzantium, and the genius of Hildegard and the power of queens. We begin under a blanket of golden stars constructed by an empress with Germanic, Roman, Spanish, Byzantine, and Christian bloodlines and end nearly 1,000 years later with the poet Dante—inspired by that same twinkling celestial canopy—writing an epic saga of heaven and hell that endures as a masterpiece of literature today. The Bright Ages reminds us just how

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permeable our manmade borders have always been and of what possible worlds the past has always made available to us. The Middle Ages may have been a world “lit only by fire” but it was one whose torches illuminated the magnificent rose windows of cathedrals, even as they stoked the pyres of accused heretics. The Bright Ages contains an 8-page color insert.

Medieval History For Dummies

Medieval History: from the Holy Roman

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Empire, to Vikings, the Crusades and  
Columbus Reaching the New World.

Overview of What Shaped the History of  
the

Medieval Violence

From the Dark Ages to the Renaissance

Drawing in the Middle Ages

The History of the Medieval World: From  
the Conversion of Constantine to the  
First Crusade

*Johannes Fried gives us a Middle Ages full  
of people encountering the unfamiliar,*

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*grappling with new ideas, redefining power, and interacting with different societies—an era characterized by continuities and discontinuities, the vibrant expansion of knowledge, and an understanding of the growing complexity of the world.*

*Sainted Women of the Dark Ages makes available the lives of eighteen Frankish women of the sixth and seventh centuries, all of whom became saints. Written in Latin by contemporaries or near contemporaries, and most translated here*

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*for the first time, these biographies cover the period from the fall of the Roman Empire and the conversion of the invading Franks to the rise of Charlemagne's family. Three of these holy women were queens who turned to religion only after a period of intense worldly activity. Others were members of the Carolingian family, deeply implicated in the political ambitions of their male relatives. Some were partners in the great Irish missions to the pagan countryside and others worked for the physical*

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*salvation of the poor. From the peril and suffering of their lives they shaped themselves as paragons of power and achievement. Beloved by their sisters and communities for their spiritual gifts, they ultimately brought forth a new model of sanctity. These biographies are unusually authentic. At least two were written by women who knew their subjects, while others reflect the direct testimony of sisters within the cloister walls. Each biography is accompanied by an introduction and notes that clarify its*

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*historical context. This volume will be an excellent source for students and scholars of women's studies and early medieval social, religious, and political history. Traces the history of the Roman Empire and the Dark Ages which followed through a description of common objects, tools, clothes, dwellings, food, and day-to-day activities of the people in both the cities and in the country.*

*This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we*

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*graphical elements with text in an easy-to-read typeface. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.*

*Sainted Women of the Dark Ages*

*The Bright Ages*

*The Light Ages: The Surprising Story of Medieval Science*

*The Atlas of World History: The Dark Ages Golden Ages, Dark Ages*

*A Distant Mirror*

**This title is part of UC Press's Voices Revived program, which**

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commemorates University of California Press's mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, *Voices Revived* makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology. This title was originally published in 1991.

*The Bright Ages: A New History of Medieval Europe* HarperCollins  
*The Middle Ages (c.500-1500)* includes a thousand years of European history. In this *Very Short Introduction* Miri Rubin tells the story of the times through the people and their lifestyles. Including stories of kingship and Christian salvation, agriculture and trade, Rubin demonstrates the remarkable nature and legacy of the Middle Ages.

The middle ages in Europe, a period of time from approximately A.

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D 500 to 1400, have been referred by a variety of terms- the age of faith, the dark ages, the age of feudalism, and even a golden age. The medieval era began with the destruction of the Roman Empire and the disorder that followed, which led to the rise of feudalism. During this period of darkness, the Roman Catholic Church provided spiritual direction as well as many nonreligious functions for the people of the times. Many literary, artistic, and architectural advanced occurred. From A. D. 00 to 1400, Europe went through a period of faith, disease, terror, feudalism, and advancements in art and architecture. This period is commonly referred to as the Middle Ages. The middle Ages brought an epidemic that killed roughly one-third of Europe's total population, renewed faith in God, and advancements in art, architecture and science. It is quite impossible to describe the middle Ages using one label. The Dark Ages, Age of

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Faith, and Golden Age of Europe have completely different meanings but come to describe one period in time- the Middle Ages. The middle Ages are sometimes referred to as the Dark ages, and rightfully so.

The Inheritance of Rome

Reference Studies in Medieval History, Part 3

Pen and Parchment

St. Benedict, Charlemagne, and the Rise of Christendom

A World Lit Only by Fire

A Captivating Guide to the History of Europe, Starting from the Fall of the Western Roman Empire Through the Black Death to the Beginning of the Renaissance

The idea that with the decline of the Roman Empire Europe entered into some immense 'dark age' has long

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been viewed as inadequate by many historians. How could a world still so profoundly shaped by Rome and which encompassed such remarkable societies as the Byzantine, Carolingian and Ottonian empires, be anything other than central to the development of European history? How could a world of so many peoples, whether expanding, moving or stable, of Goths, Franks, Vandals, Byzantines, Arabs, Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, whose genetic and linguistic inheritors we all are, not lie at the heart of how we understand ourselves? The Inheritance of Rome is a work of remarkable scope and ambition. Drawing on a wealth of new material, it is a book which will transform its many readers' ideas about the crucible in which Europe

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would in the end be created. From the collapse of the Roman imperial system to the establishment of the new European dynastic states, perhaps this book 's most striking achievement is to make sense of an immensely long period of time, experienced by many generations of Europeans, and which, while it certainly included catastrophic invasions and turbulence, also contained long periods of continuity and achievement. From Ireland to Constantinople, from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, this is a genuinely Europe-wide history of a new kind, with something surprising or arresting on every page.

The articles in this volume explore the way in which military developments helped to sculpt, out of very

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strange and diverse components, our familiar Europe. The period studied covers the fall of the Western Roman Empire, the rise of the Carolingian Empire and its eventual collapse, leaving a vacuum in the heart of Europe into which flowed new forces: the Vikings from outside and the great lords from within.

A spirited history of the changes that transformed Europe during the 1,000-year span of the Middle Ages: “ A dazzling race through a complex millennium. ” —Publishers Weekly The millennium between the breakup of the western Roman Empire and the Reformation was a long and hugely transformative period—one not easily chronicled within the scope of a few hundred pages. Yet distinguished historian Chris

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Wickham has taken up the challenge in this landmark book, and he succeeds in producing the most riveting account of medieval Europe in a generation. Tracking the entire sweep of the Middle Ages across Europe, Wickham focuses on important changes century by century, including such pivotal crises and moments as the fall of the western Roman Empire, Charlemagne ' s reforms, the feudal revolution, the challenge of heresy, the destruction of the Byzantine Empire, the rebuilding of late medieval states, and the appalling devastation of the Black Death. He provides illuminating vignettes that underscore how shifting social, economic, and political circumstances affected individual lives and international events—and offers both a new conception of Europe ' s

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medieval period and a provocative revision of exactly how and why the Middle Ages matter. “ Far-ranging, fluent, and thoughtful—of considerable interest to students of history writ large, and not just of Europe. ” —Kirkus Reviews, (starred review) Includes maps and illustrations

Dan Jones's epic new history tells nothing less than the story of how the world we know today came to be built.

Warfare in the Dark Ages

A History of Europe from 400 to 1000

Medieval Europe

The Feudal Age, 814-1291

A Captivating Guide to the Dark Ages and Black Death

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*Is your knowledge of The Crusades less than tip-top? Maybe you're curious about Columbus, or you're desperate to read about the Black Death in all its gory detail? Whatever your starting point, this expert guide has it all - from kings, knights and anti-Popes, to invasion, famine, the Magna Carta and Joan of Arc (and a few rebellious peasants thrown in for good measure!). Get ready for a rip-roaring ride through the political, religious and cultural life of the Middle Ages, one of the most talked-about periods in history. Medieval History for Dummies includes: Part I: The Early Middle Ages Chapter 1: The Middle Ages: When, Where, What, Who? Chapter 2: The end of Rome and the not so 'Dark Ages'. Chapter*

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*3: Angles, Saxons and Feudalism. Chapter 4: The Carolingians grab their chance. Chapter 5: Charlemagne - A new empire is born. Part II: The Making of Europe Chapter 6: The (Holy Roman) Empire Strikes Back. Chapter 7: East Meets West: Islam in the Western Mediterranean. Chapter 8: The Vikings: A threat from the north. Chapter 9: Schism: The Church splits itself in two. Chapter 10: The Normans: The 'real' Middle Ages begin. Part III: 'Holy War': Crusading at home and abroad. Chapter 11: Crusade: A call to arms. Chapter 12: The First Crusade Chapter 13: England vs France & Pope vs Emperor Chapter 14: The Second Crusade & The 'Crusades at Home' Chapter 15: Richard vs Saladin: The*

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*Third Crusade Chapter 16: The later Crusades and other failures. Part IV: Parliament, Priorities, Provisions & Plague Chapter 17: John, Henry, Rudolf & Edward. Chapter 18: Monks & Merchants: The new power brokers Chapter 19: The Papacy on Tour: Avignon and the Anti-Popes Chapter 20: 'God's Judgement?': The Black Death Part V: The End of the Middle and the start of discovery. Chapter 21: One Hundred Years of War Chapter 22: The Peasants are Revolting Chapter 23: Agincourt, Joan of Arc & the French recovery Chapter 24: Columbus & The New World Part VI: The Part of Tens Chapter 25: Ten Rubbish Kings Chapter 26: Ten Curious Medieval Pastimes Chapter 27: Ten Great Castles Chapter 28: Ten*

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*People Who Changed The World Chapter 29: Ten Great Books (To read next)*

*Intrigue. Disease. Adventure. War. Invention. Famine. This is the story of how humankind emerged from the Dark Ages prepared for the coming age of enlightenment. There is a good reason why many fantasy epics are based on events in the Middle Ages. For nearly a thousand years, people battled nature, disease, and each other to survive. Visionaries laid the foundations that today's world is built upon and their inventions and innovations gave rise to literacy, education, medicine, engineering and more. Explorers opened trade to foreign lands and flooded Europe with luxuries including silk, tea,*

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*and gold. Nearly half a million people died of the black plague. The feudal system failed, and aristocratic power dwindled. In Medieval History - Including: The Holy Roman Empire, Vikings, The Crusades, and Columbus Reaching the New World. Overview of What Shaped the History of the Medieval World you'll get a quick trip through the turbulent Middle Ages that is sure to inspire deeper study. You'll: - Follow the progress of the Romans, Vikings, Arabs, and Emperors whose conquests and defeat shaped the world. - Learn about the Sultans, Philosophers, Traders, and Crusaders who laid the foundations for technological and philosophical progress. - Watch the devastation of Europe as famine, disease,*

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*and war swept across the continent. - Join adventurers and explorers as they sail the world's oceans, chart new lands, and exploit them. By the end of this quick trip, you'll have a better understanding how such a turbulent period led to the Golden Age that followed.*

*Describes and analyses brutality in the later Middle Ages, focusing on a thriving region of Northern France.*

*Explores experiences of, and attitudes towards, violence. Offers fresh ways of thinking about violence in societies, and throws new light on the social life of villages and towns in a transitional period.*

*A unique, illustrated book that will change the way you see medieval history* *The Middle Ages: A Graphic History*

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*busts the myth of the 'Dark Ages', shedding light on the medieval period's present-day relevance in a unique illustrated style. This history takes us through the rise and fall of empires, papacies, caliphates and kingdoms; through the violence and death of the Crusades, Viking raids, the Hundred Years War and the Plague; to the curious practices of monks, martyrs and iconoclasts. We'll see how the foundations of the modern West were established, influencing our art, cultures, religious practices and ways of thinking. And we'll explore the lives of those seen as 'Other' - women, Jews, homosexuals, lepers, sex workers and heretics. Join historian Eleanor Janega and illustrator Neil Max Emmanuel on a romp*

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*across continents and kingdoms as we discover the Middle Ages to be a time of huge change, inquiry and development - not unlike our own.*

*A New History of the Middle Ages*

*The Middle Ages*

*Reference Studies in Medieval History, Part 2*

*Powers and Thrones*

*In Search of the Dark Ages*

*The Dark Ages. a Brilliant History of Medieval Literature*

**Following the fall of Rome in 476 CE, the entire dynamic of Europe underwent a complete shift in power and culture. The Dark Ages was an interesting period of about six centuries, and**

during it, Europe was still trying to figure out what it was and how it would survive the chaos that followed the fall of Rome.

Named a Best Book of 2020 by The Telegraph, The Times, and BBC History Magazine An illuminating guide to the scientific and technological achievements of the Middle Ages through the life of a crusading astronomer-monk. "Falk's bubbling curiosity and strong sense of storytelling always swept me along. By the end, The Light Ages didn't just broaden my conception of science; even as I scrolled away on my Kindle, it felt like I was sitting alongside

**Westwyk at St. Albans abbey, leafing through dusty manuscripts by candlelight." —Alex Orlando, Discover Soaring Gothic cathedrals, violent crusades, the Black Death: these are the dramatic forces that shaped the medieval era. But the so-called Dark Ages also gave us the first universities, eyeglasses, and mechanical clocks. As medieval thinkers sought to understand the world around them, from the passing of the seasons to the stars in the sky, they came to develop a vibrant scientific culture. In The Light Ages, Cambridge science historian Seb Falk takes us on a tour of medieval science through**

**the eyes of one fourteenth-century monk, John of Westwyk. Born in a rural manor, educated in England's grandest monastery, and then exiled to a clifftop priory, Westwyk was an intrepid crusader, inventor, and astrologer. From multiplying Roman numerals to navigating by the stars, curing disease, and telling time with an ancient astrolabe, we learn emerging science alongside Westwyk and travel with him through the length and breadth of England and beyond its shores. On our way, we encounter a remarkable cast of characters: the clock-building English abbot with leprosy, the French craftsman-**

**turned-spy, and the Persian polymath who founded the world's most advanced observatory. The Light Ages offers a gripping story of the struggles and successes of an ordinary man in a precarious world and conjures a vivid picture of medieval life as we have never seen it before. An enlightening history that argues that these times weren't so dark after all, The Light Ages shows how medieval ideas continue to color how we see the world today.**

**'Probably the best "buy" among recent works for one who comes to medieval history for the first time.' History (about the second edition)**

**Consisting of two parts, this book successfully conveys the importance of the distant past in understanding our modern world. The first part; The Dark Ages, examines the impact of the Barbarian invasions on Constantine's Christianized empire, and the gradual emergence, by the end of the ninth century, of a new social, economic and political order. There are important chapters on the on the Church and the Papacy, the coming of Islam, and the rise and fall of the Frankish Empire. The second part; The High Middle Ages, takes the reader from the Saxon Empire through to an examination of the**

**European economy in the mid-thirteenth century. Important topics covered in this period include the spread of monasticism, the reform of the Papacy, the crusades, and feudal monarchy. This has been the best introductory book in medieval history for fifty years, and still is.**

**Discusses the techniques, uses, and aesthetics of medieval drawings; and reproduces work from more than fifty manuscripts produced between the ninth and early fourteenth century.**

**A Very Short Introduction**

**The End of the Middle Ages, 1291-1498**

**A New History of Medieval Europe**

**A Captivating Guide to the Period Between the  
Fall of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance  
A History of the Church in the Middle Ages  
The Oxford Illustrated History of Medieval  
Europe**