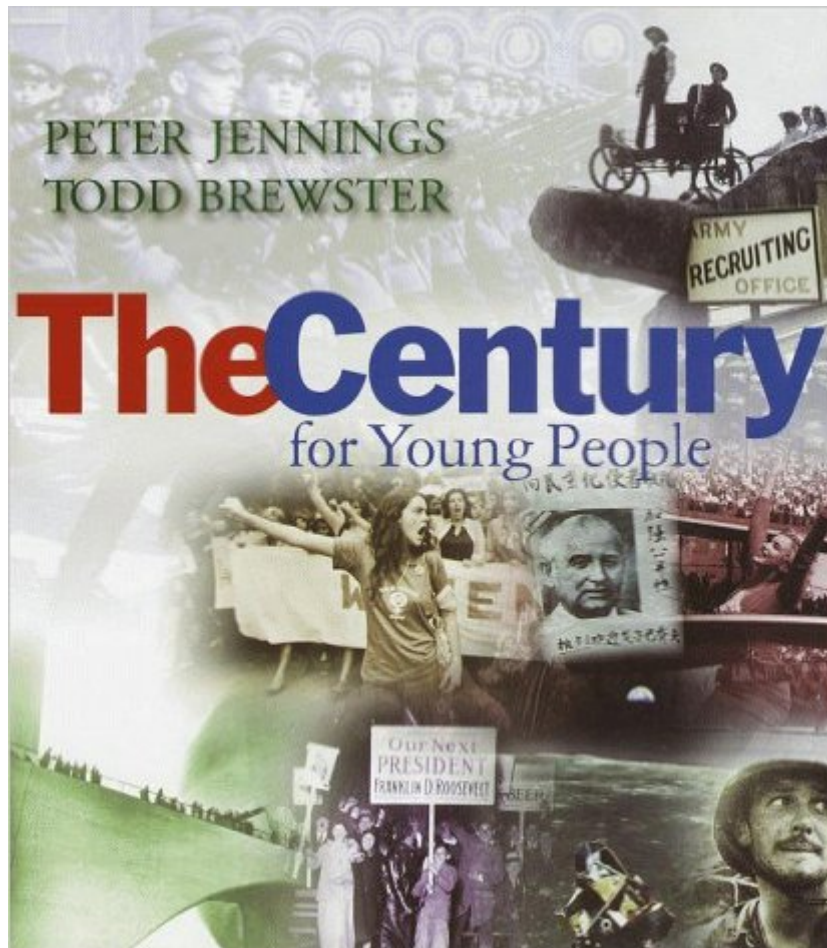


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The Century For Young People



Synopsis

Adapted from the #1 national bestseller especially for children 8-12! The twentieth century has been a time of tremendous change, the most eventful hundred years in human history. Join Peter Jennings and Todd Brewster for a fascinating journey back in time to experience the century's greatest moments. Through the vivid first-person accounts of eyewitnesses, the most thrilling--and the most terrifying--events of the past hundred years come to life. Here are the voices of ordinary people--children and adults--expressing their joys and sorrows, their hopes and fears, as they watched history being made. This is history as it was lived, and as it will be remembered for the next hundred years. This lavish book, in association with the television series presented by ABC News and The History Channel, includes more than 200 exquisitely reproduced photographs with an astonishing power to illuminate history. They will delight and appall you, educate and entertain you, as you watch the century unfold before your eyes. This spectacular book is a keepsake for every family's library. It is a riveting read and an essential research volume. It is the story of our time for all time.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (24 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

To relate a century's history and ideas cogently into 241 pages at a level that will involve kids is a tough task. To pull that off with photos and archival images AND first-person accounts is, to me,

pretty astonishing. It would be easy to carp about what's left out, but I think this book is a square-on portrayal of the U. S. as it was. We read about the immigrant experience, the emerging technologies, the wars and injustices and what they taught us, the ascendance of movies and sports in our culture, style trends, space exploration, the dismantling of Communism. The authors take pains to show that along with the tragedies and triumphs came valuable lessons that have impact on our lives today. Events are intelligently organized and analyzed without sugar-coating. The photos and illustrations are extremely well-chosen (not the ones always trotted out in history books), and in some cases, breath-taking -- due no doubt to the authors' access to a wealth of news images. In this sense, I think the book benefits greatly from the joining of a major media figure with a respected journalist. My two boys, 9 and 12, find this endlessly fascinating, and we've had some spirited and sophisticated dinnertime conversations. This is valuable stuff and, I think, a brave book. That said, I've read some of the previous reviews and find them baffling. Kids enjoy reading about the conflicts and drama that have led to present-day life. My own awareness of the complicated horrors and triumphs of WWII as a child, through my father's stories and literature, opened my eyes to what society is capable at its best and worst, in a way my bland textbooks never did. I agree that some of the images and text might be strong for a 9-year-old.

I must say that as a future history teacher, I am pleased with the choice of events in the timeline for this book. Jennings and Brewster do a decent job outlining the basic facts of the most important events of the 20th century. I would also like to point out that this would be an excellent source for young readers who may want to get a small taste of American history. The first-hand accounts given by people who lived during this time are riveting and they truly give readers a taste of what it was like to experience history as it was happening. However, there were some omissions in this book that bothered me as I was reading. For example, the section about the Vietnam War was very bothersome. It seemed to me that the only thing that was focused on was the negative losses Americans suffered. And conversely, battles like the Tet Offensive were left out of the book and not even mentioned (for those that may not know, the Tet Offensive was the most successful attack American forces participated in while in Vietnam). To me, it's obvious that the authors want to leave a bad taste in the reader's mouth about Vietnam. Sure, we were unsuccessful, but there is no mention of any success we had. One other error that is somewhat hidden is the section dealing with the Watergate Scandal. After giving a brief synopsis of what happened to President Nixon, the book states that Nixon's vice president (Gerald Ford) was sworn in after Nixon's departure. However, the book fails to mention that Spiro Agnew (Nixon's original VP) was forced to resign from office due to

charges of tax evasion and money laundering (when he was the governor of Maryland).

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