

sapiens a brief history of humankind

sapiens a brief history of humankind is a groundbreaking book that explores the fascinating journey of Homo sapiens from their origins to the present day. This article offers a comprehensive overview of the key concepts, chapters, and historical insights found in "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind." Readers will discover how cognitive, agricultural, and scientific revolutions shaped humanity's trajectory, the social structures that evolved, and the far-reaching impact of human innovation. By examining the book's central themes and Yuval Noah Harari's unique perspective, this article provides a detailed analysis that's informative for both new readers and those familiar with the work. Whether you're seeking a summary, an exploration of its main ideas, or a deeper look into how "Sapiens" has influenced modern understanding of history, this guide will serve as your resource. Continue below to find a structured table of contents that will navigate you through the major topics covered in "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind," optimized for search engines and designed for an engaging reading experience.

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Overview of Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind

"Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" is a best-selling work of nonfiction that traces the evolution of Homo sapiens over thousands of years. The book covers humanity's development from primitive foragers to modern societies, analyzing crucial turning points that shaped our species. Harari's approach synthesizes anthropology, biology, and history, presenting complex ideas in accessible language. The narrative is structured around major historical revolutions and examines how they influenced human behavior, culture, and social organization. By breaking down the rise of civilizations, the formation of religions, and the birth of science, "Sapiens" provides readers with a panoramic view of human progress. The book's influence extends beyond academic circles, inspiring debates about technology, ethics, and the future of humanity.

Yuval Noah Harari: The Author Behind Sapiens

Yuval Noah Harari is an acclaimed historian and professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He specializes in world history and macro-historical processes, focusing on how large-scale events shape societies. Harari's writing style combines storytelling with scholarly research, making complex subjects approachable for general readers. His background in medieval and military history informs his analysis of human evolution and societal change. Harari's international perspective and interdisciplinary approach have made "Sapiens" a global phenomenon, translated into dozens of languages and widely discussed in academic, business, and cultural contexts. His subsequent works, such as "Homo Deus" and "21 Lessons for the 21st Century," build upon the themes introduced in "Sapiens."

The Cognitive Revolution in Sapiens

Origins of Homo Sapiens

"Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" begins with the emergence of Homo sapiens in East Africa around 200,000 years ago. Harari discusses how genetic mutations and evolutionary pressure led to the development of unique cognitive abilities, setting sapiens apart from other human species. These abilities included advanced language, abstract thinking, and complex social structures.

Development of Language and Culture

The Cognitive Revolution, which occurred around 70,000 years ago, is a central theme in the book. Harari emphasizes that the development of language allowed humans to share information about the world, cooperate in larger groups, and transmit culture across generations. Storytelling, myths, and collective beliefs became essential tools for organizing societies and fostering collaboration.

Impact on Human Societies

- Formation of larger, more cohesive groups
- Establishment of shared myths and religions
- Enhanced ability to plan, strategize, and innovate
- Domination over other species and environments

These cognitive advancements laid the groundwork for future revolutions and the rise of civilizations, marking Homo sapiens as the dominant species on Earth.

The Agricultural Revolution and Its Consequences

Transition from Foraging to Farming

Harari explores the Agricultural Revolution, which began approximately 12,000 years ago, as a pivotal moment in human history. Humans shifted from nomadic foraging to settled farming, domesticating plants and animals. This transition allowed for population growth, the creation of villages, and eventually the formation of cities and states.

Social and Economic Changes

The Agricultural Revolution fundamentally altered social structures and economic systems. Surplus food production enabled specialization of labor, development of trade, and establishment of hierarchical societies. Power and wealth became concentrated, leading to the rise of ruling classes and organized religion.

Challenges and Consequences

1. Increased disease due to crowded living conditions
2. Environmental degradation from intensive agriculture
3. Social inequality and conflict over resources
4. Loss of traditional foraging lifestyles

While agriculture facilitated unprecedented growth and innovation, Harari argues it also introduced new problems and complexities for human societies.

The Unification of Humankind

Formation of Empires and Trade Networks

"Sapiens" details how humans gradually unified through the creation of empires, trade routes, and shared cultural systems. Empires such as Rome, Persia, and China expanded their influence through conquest, administration, and integration of diverse peoples. Trade networks connected distant regions, spreading goods, ideas, and technologies.

Role of Money, Religion, and Law

Harari highlights the emergence of universal systems—money, religions, and legal codes—as tools for unification. These systems provided common frameworks for trust and cooperation among strangers, enabling large-scale societies to function efficiently. Religions and ideologies helped legitimize power and fostered social cohesion.

Globalization and Cultural Exchange

Over centuries, the process of unification accelerated, culminating in global interconnectedness. Languages, technologies, and cultural practices spread across continents, laying the foundation for the modern world. Harari demonstrates how these developments shaped everything from political institutions to everyday life.

The Scientific Revolution Explored

Origins of Scientific Thinking

The Scientific Revolution, beginning around 500 years ago, marks another transformative era in human history. Harari explains how curiosity and systematic experimentation led to breakthroughs in physics, biology, and technology. The adoption of empirical methods and skepticism challenged traditional beliefs and sparked rapid progress.

Impact on Society and Power

Science revolutionized societies by enabling industrialization, medical advancements, and global exploration. Nations invested in research and innovation, seeking power and prosperity through technological superiority. Harari discusses how scientific knowledge became a driving force behind economic and political developments.

Ethical Dilemmas and Future Challenges

"Sapiens" raises critical questions about the ethical implications of scientific progress. The book explores issues such as environmental impact, genetic engineering, and the role of artificial intelligence in shaping humanity's future. Harari urges readers to consider the responsibilities that come with newfound power and knowledge.

Key Themes and Arguments in Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind

Role of Myths and Collective Beliefs

Harari argues that myths, religions, and ideologies are among humanity's most powerful tools, enabling large-scale cooperation and social organization. From ancient legends to modern nationalism, shared beliefs shape societies and drive historical change.

Adaptability and Innovation

A central theme is *Homo sapiens*' remarkable adaptability. Through innovation and flexibility, humans have survived and thrived in diverse environments. Harari emphasizes that cultural evolution is as significant as biological evolution in explaining human success.

Consequences of Progress

- Loss of traditional lifestyles and natural habitats
- Rise of complex social hierarchies
- Ongoing ethical debates about freedom, equality, and sustainability

The book encourages readers to reflect on the costs and benefits of progress, considering both historical achievements and contemporary challenges.

Impact and Reception of *Sapiens*: A Brief History of

Humankind

Global Influence and Popularity

"Sapiens" has become an international bestseller, praised for its accessible writing and thought-provoking content. It has been translated into over sixty languages and endorsed by influential figures in business, academia, and government. The book has sparked widespread discussion about human history, identity, and the future.

Academic and Critical Perspectives

The book's interdisciplinary approach has received acclaim for bridging gaps between history, science, and philosophy. However, some critics argue that Harari's broad scope leads to oversimplification or speculative conclusions. Despite differing opinions, "Sapiens" is recognized for stimulating debate and encouraging readers to question conventional narratives.

Cultural and Educational Impact

"Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" is used in curricula worldwide, inspiring new generations to think critically about history. Its influence extends to media, politics, and technology, shaping conversations about human progress and the challenges ahead.

Sapiens: Insights for Modern Readers

Lessons for the Present and Future

Harari's analysis provides valuable insights for understanding contemporary issues, from social

inequality to technological disruption. By exploring humanity's shared history, readers gain a broader perspective on current events and future possibilities. The book encourages informed decision-making and ethical reflection in an increasingly complex world.

Relevance to Personal and Global Challenges

"Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" remains relevant for individuals seeking meaning and purpose, as well as policymakers addressing global challenges. Its exploration of human nature, cooperation, and innovation offers practical lessons for navigating change and uncertainty.

Continuing the Conversation

The ongoing popularity of "Sapiens" ensures that its ideas will continue to shape debates about history, society, and the future of Homo sapiens. Readers and thinkers worldwide are invited to engage with its arguments and contribute to the evolving story of humankind.

Q: What is "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" about?

A: "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" is a book by Yuval Noah Harari that explores the history of Homo sapiens from their origins in Africa to the modern era. It examines major revolutions, social changes, and the development of human societies.

Q: Who wrote "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind"?

A: The book was written by Yuval Noah Harari, a historian and professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Q: What are the main revolutions discussed in "Sapiens"?

A: The main revolutions are the Cognitive Revolution, the Agricultural Revolution, and the Scientific Revolution. Each marks a major turning point in human history.

Q: How has "Sapiens" influenced public understanding of history?

A: "Sapiens" has popularized macro-historical analysis and sparked global discussion about human evolution, societal organization, and the challenges facing modern civilization.

Q: What are some key themes in "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind"?

A: Key themes include the role of myths and collective beliefs, adaptability and innovation, consequences of progress, and the ethical questions raised by scientific advancements.

Q: Is "Sapiens" used in educational settings?

A: Yes, "Sapiens" is widely used in schools and universities as a resource for understanding world history, anthropology, and philosophy.

Q: What impact did the Agricultural Revolution have on human societies?

A: The Agricultural Revolution led to settled communities, population growth, social hierarchies, and increased complexity in economic and political systems.

Q: Why is the Cognitive Revolution important in human history?

A: The Cognitive Revolution enabled Homo sapiens to develop advanced language, share complex ideas, and cooperate in large groups, setting the stage for cultural and technological progress.

Q: Does "Sapiens" discuss the future of Homo sapiens?

A: While focused on history, "Sapiens" raises questions about humanity's future, especially regarding scientific innovation, ethical dilemmas, and the impact of technology.

Q: What makes "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" unique among history books?

A: Its interdisciplinary approach, accessible writing, and focus on broad patterns and big questions distinguish "Sapiens" as a landmark work in popular history.

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Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind - A Deep Dive into Yuval Noah Harari's Masterpiece

Are you ready to embark on a mind-bending journey through 70,000 years of human history? Yuval Noah Harari's Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind isn't just a book; it's a transformative experience that challenges our understanding of ourselves and our place in the universe. This comprehensive blog post will delve into the core arguments of Harari's groundbreaking work, exploring its key themes and providing you with a deeper understanding of this influential text. We'll cover everything from the Cognitive Revolution to the challenges of the Anthropocene, making this

your ultimate guide to Sapiens.

The Cognitive Revolution: The Dawn of Sapiens' Dominance

Harari begins his narrative with the Cognitive Revolution, approximately 70,000 years ago. This wasn't a sudden mutation but a gradual shift – the development of sophisticated language and abstract thought. This unique ability, argues Harari, allowed Homo sapiens to cooperate on a scale never before seen, enabling the creation of complex social structures and the transmission of knowledge across generations. This capacity for shared myths and beliefs, from religion to national identities, is what truly set sapiens apart from other hominids, eventually leading to their dominance.

The Power of Fictional Stories

One of the most compelling arguments in Sapiens is the power of shared fictions. Harari suggests that our ability to believe in collective myths – things like money, nations, and human rights – are not inherently real but powerful constructs that shape our reality. These shared beliefs allow large groups of unrelated individuals to cooperate effectively, fueling the development of empires and civilizations.

The Agricultural Revolution: A Necessary Evil?

The Agricultural Revolution, around 10,000 years ago, is often presented as a pivotal moment in human history, the dawn of civilization. However, Harari challenges this rosy perspective. He argues that while agriculture led to population growth and the development of settled communities, it also resulted in a more arduous life for the average person. Farmers worked harder, ate less varied diets, and were more susceptible to disease than their hunter-gatherer predecessors. This raises a crucial question: was agriculture progress, or a trade-off with unforeseen consequences?

The Trap of Sedentary Life

The shift from nomadic hunter-gatherer societies to sedentary agricultural communities had far-reaching implications. While it allowed for population growth, it also resulted in increased social

hierarchies, the emergence of inequality, and the rise of disease. Harari presents a nuanced perspective, challenging the traditional narrative that paints agriculture solely as a positive development.

The Unification of Humankind: Empires and Globalization

The third major revolution discussed in *Sapiens* centers on the unification of humankind. Harari traces the development of empires, money, and the eventual globalization of our world, highlighting the ever-increasing interconnectedness of human societies. He explains how these processes, while often leading to conflict and exploitation, have also facilitated unprecedented levels of cooperation and exchange.

The Rise of Money and Empire

Harari skillfully connects the rise of empires and the development of money, showing how these two intertwined forces shaped human history. He explores the complex dynamics of power, wealth, and control, highlighting how shared belief systems, particularly in the value of currency, played a crucial role in creating global economic systems.

The Scientific Revolution and the Future of Humankind

Finally, *Sapiens* culminates in a discussion of the Scientific Revolution and its implications for the future of humanity. Harari explores the unprecedented power afforded by scientific advancements and their impact on our lives, from medicine and technology to environmental concerns. He raises critical questions about our future trajectory, prompting reflection on the potential benefits and risks associated with our continued technological progress.

The Anthropocene and the Challenges Ahead

Harari introduces the concept of the Anthropocene, an era defined by humanity's significant impact on the planet. He highlights the ethical and existential challenges we face, including climate change and potential future disruptions that technology could produce. The book doesn't offer easy answers, but rather encourages critical thinking about our relationship with the environment and our future.

as a species.

Conclusion

Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind offers a captivating and challenging perspective on our species' journey. Harari's masterful storytelling, coupled with his incisive analysis, forces us to confront our assumptions and reconsider our place in the grand narrative of human history. The book is not just a history book; it's a call to reflection, urging us to consider our past, present, and future with a renewed sense of awareness.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Is *Sapiens* suitable for non-academics? Absolutely. While the book covers complex historical themes, Harari's writing style is accessible and engaging, making it enjoyable for a wide range of readers.
2. What are the main criticisms of *Sapiens*? Some critics argue that Harari oversimplifies certain historical events and presents a somewhat Eurocentric perspective. Others question his philosophical conclusions.
3. What other books should I read after *Sapiens*? Harari's subsequent books, *Homo Deus* and *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*, are natural follow-ups. Other relevant works include books on evolutionary biology, anthropology, and global history.
4. Is *Sapiens* a good book for students? Yes, it's a valuable resource for students studying history, anthropology, sociology, and related fields. It provides a unique and thought-provoking framework for understanding human history.
5. Where can I buy *Sapiens*? The book is widely available online and in bookstores worldwide. You can easily find it through major retailers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and others.

Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind - A Deep Dive into Yuval Noah Harari's Masterpiece

Are you curious about the extraordinary journey of humankind, from humble beginnings to our current global dominance? Yuval Noah Harari's *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* offers a captivating and thought-provoking exploration of this very journey. This post dives deep into the core arguments and themes of Harari's groundbreaking work, providing you with a comprehensive overview to better understand our species' remarkable story. We'll explore key historical milestones, pivotal societal shifts, and the enduring questions Harari poses about our past, present, and future.

Prepare to embark on a fascinating intellectual adventure!

The Cognitive Revolution: The Spark of Sapiens' Success

Harari argues that the Cognitive Revolution, approximately 70,000 years ago, marked a pivotal moment in human history. This wasn't a sudden change, but a gradual shift in Homo sapiens' cognitive abilities, allowing for the development of complex language and abstract thought. This ability to communicate and collaborate on a previously unseen scale enabled coordinated hunting, the sharing of knowledge across generations, and the creation of intricate social structures. This, Harari suggests, is what ultimately differentiated Homo sapiens from other hominin species, ultimately leading to our dominance.

The Power of Fiction and Shared Beliefs

A crucial element of this cognitive revolution was the ability to create and believe in shared fictions – myths, religions, and national identities. These weren't literal truths, but collective beliefs that allowed large numbers of people to cooperate effectively. This ability to forge shared narratives, Harari contends, is the bedrock of human cooperation on a massive scale, underpinning everything from empires to modern corporations.

The Agricultural Revolution: A Double-Edged Sword

The Agricultural Revolution, beginning around 10,000 years ago, is often presented as a monumental leap forward. However, Harari presents a more nuanced perspective. While agriculture allowed for increased food production and population growth, it also led to a more sedentary lifestyle, increased workload, and a decline in overall health and nutrition for many. He argues that the agricultural revolution was less of a progress and more of a trade-off, with significant costs alongside the benefits.

The Rise of Inequality and Social Hierarchy

The agricultural revolution also fostered social hierarchies and inequalities. The shift from nomadic hunter-gatherer societies to settled agricultural communities led to the accumulation of wealth and power in the hands of a few, creating a system of social stratification that persists to this day. This, Harari argues, was a significant departure from the relatively egalitarian structures of earlier human societies.

The Unification of Humankind: Empires and Globalisation

The subsequent chapters of *Sapiens* chronicle the unification of humankind, exploring the rise and fall of empires, the development of money and trade, and the gradual interconnection of the world. Harari explores the role of scientific and technological advancements in shaping human societies, highlighting the impact of the scientific revolution and the subsequent industrial revolution.

The Scientific Revolution and its Impact

The scientific revolution, beginning in the 16th century, fundamentally changed human understanding of the world, replacing religious dogma with empirical observation and reason. This led to unprecedented technological advancements and a dramatic increase in the human population and its impact on the planet.

The Twenty-First Century: The Biotechnological Revolution and Beyond

Harari concludes by examining the challenges and opportunities facing humanity in the 21st century, focusing on the potential implications of biotechnology, artificial intelligence, and other rapidly evolving technologies. He poses important questions about the future of humanity, urging us to consider the ethical and existential implications of these powerful tools.

The Future of Humanity: A Question of Ethics and Responsibility

Harari's book isn't just a historical account; it's a call to action. He challenges readers to critically examine our past and consider the ethical implications of our technological advancements, urging us to shape a future where technology serves humanity, rather than the other way around.

Conclusion

Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind is more than just a history book; it's a compelling exploration of the human experience, prompting readers to question our assumptions about progress, happiness, and the future of our species. Harari's masterful narrative weaves together diverse strands of historical information, scientific insight, and philosophical reflection, leaving the reader with a profound understanding of humanity's remarkable and often contradictory journey.

FAQs

1. What is the main argument of *Sapiens*? The main argument is that Homo sapiens' success is due to our unique ability to cooperate in large numbers through the creation and belief in shared myths and fictions.
2. How does Harari view the Agricultural Revolution? Harari argues that the Agricultural Revolution, while increasing food production, also led to a decrease in overall human health and well-being, along with increased social inequality.
3. What is the significance of the Cognitive Revolution? The Cognitive Revolution marked a crucial shift in human cognitive abilities, leading to the development of complex language and abstract thought, ultimately enabling unprecedented levels of cooperation.
4. What are some of the key technological advancements discussed in the book? The book covers a range of technological advancements, from the development of agriculture and writing to the scientific revolution and the rise of biotechnology and artificial intelligence.
5. What is Harari's overall message for the reader? Harari's message is a call for critical reflection on our past and present, urging us to use our knowledge and technology responsibly to shape a positive future for humanity.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Sapiens Yuval Noah Harari, 2014-09-04 'Interesting and provocative... It gives you a sense of how briefly we've been on this Earth' Barack Obama What makes us brilliant? What makes us deadly? What makes us Sapiens? One of the world's preeminent historians and thinkers, Yuval Noah Harari challenges everything we know about being human. Earth is 4.5 billion years old. In just a fraction of that time, one species among countless others has conquered it: us. In this bold and provocative book, Yuval Noah Harari explores who we are, how we got here and where we're going. ****ONE OF THE GUARDIAN'S 100 BEST BOOKS OF THE 21st CENTURY**** PRAISE FOR SAPIENS: 'Jaw-dropping from the first word to the last... It may be the best book I've ever read' Chris Evans 'Startling... It changes the way you look at the world' Simon Mayo 'I would recommend Sapiens to anyone who's interested in the history and future of our species' Bill Gates

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Sapiens A Graphic History, Volume 1 Yuval Noah Harari, David Vandermeulen, 2020-11-12 The first volume of the graphic adaptation of Yuval Noah Harari's global phenomenon and smash **SUNDAY TIMES #1 BESTSELLER**. Featuring 256 pages of gorgeous full-colour illustrations and wrapped in a beautiful package. One hundred thousand years ago, at least six different species of humans inhabited Earth. Yet today there is only one-homo sapiens. What happened to the others? And what may happen to us? In this first volume of the adaptation of his ground-breaking book, renowned historian Yuval Harari tells the story of humankind's creation and evolution, exploring the ways in which biology and history have defined us and enhanced our understanding of what it means to be human. From examining the role evolving humans have played in the global ecosystem to charting the rise of empires, *Sapiens* challenges us to reconsider accepted beliefs, connect past developments with contemporary concerns, and view specific events within the context of larger ideas. Featuring easy-to-understand text covering the first part of the original edition, this adaptation of the mind-expanding book furthers the ongoing conversation as it introduces Harari's ideas to a wider new readership. '[A] wonderful graphic novel... Smart, funny and dipped deep in the reality of what we as a species are...' Big Issue ***Books**

of the Year*

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Homo Deus Yuval Noah Harari, 2016-09-08 **THE MILLION COPY BESTSELLER** Sapiens showed us where we came from. In our increasingly uncertain times, Homo Deus shows us where we're going. 'Spellbinding' Guardian The world-renowned historian and intellectual Yuval Noah Harari envisions a near future in which we face a new set of challenges. Homo Deus explores the projects, dreams and nightmares that will shape the twenty-first century and beyond - from overcoming death to creating artificial life. It asks the fundamental questions: how can we protect this fragile world from our own destructive power? And what does our future hold? 'Even more readable, even more important, than his excellent Sapiens' Kazuo Ishiguro 'Homo Deus will shock you. It will entertain you. It will make you think in ways you had not thought before' Daniel Kahneman, bestselling author of Thinking, Fast and Slow

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sapiens a brief history of humankind: Money Yuval Noah Harari, 2018-04-05 Selected from the books Sapiens and Homo Deus by Yuval Noah Harari How did money come to be invented? Why does it now have such significance in our lives? Does it make us happier or unhappier? And what does the future hold for it? With brilliant clarity and insight, Yuval Noah Harari takes the reader on a journey from the very first coins through to 21st century economics and shows us how we are all on the brink of a revolution, whether we like it or not. VINTAGE MINIS: GREAT MINDS. BIG IDEAS. LITTLE BOOKS. A series of short books by the world's greatest writers on the experiences that make us human Also in the Vintage Minis series: Home by Salman Rushdie Babies by Anne Enright Eating by Nigella Lawson Drinking by John Cheever

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sapiens a brief history of humankind: 21 Lessons for the 21st Century Yuval Noah Harari, 2018-08-30 ****THE NUMBER ONE BESTSELLER**** In twenty-one bite-sized lessons, Yuval Noah Harari explores what it means to be human in an age of bewilderment. How can we protect ourselves from nuclear war, ecological cataclysms and technological disruptions? What can we do about the epidemic of fake news or the threat of terrorism? What should we teach our children? The world-renowned historian and intellectual Yuval Noah Harari takes us on a thrilling journey through today's most urgent issues. The golden thread running through his exhilarating new book is the challenge of maintaining our collective and individual focus in the face of constant and disorienting change. Faced with a litany of existential and real crises, are we still capable of understanding the world we have created? '[Harari] has teed up a crucial global conversation about how to take on the problems of the 21st century' Bill Gates, New York Times '21 Lessons is, simply put, a crucial book' Adam Kay, author of Undoctored

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Sapiens Yuval Noah Harari, 2016-05-10 NATIONAL BESTSELLER NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER Destined to become a modern classic in the vein of Guns, Germs, and Steel, Sapiens is a lively, groundbreaking history of humankind told from a unique perspective. 100,000 years ago, at least six species of human inhabited the earth. Today there is just one. Us. Homo Sapiens. How did our species succeed in the battle for dominance? Why did our foraging ancestors come together to create cities and kingdoms? How did we come to believe in gods, nations, and human rights; to trust money, books, and laws; and to be enslaved by bureaucracy, timetables, and consumerism? And what will our world be like in the millennia to come? In Sapiens, Dr. Yuval Noah Harari spans the whole of human history, from the very first humans to walk the earth to the radical — and sometimes devastating — breakthroughs of the Cognitive, Agricultural, and Scientific Revolutions. Drawing on insights from biology, anthropology, palaeontology, and economics, he explores how the currents of history have shaped our human societies, the animals and plants around us, and even our personalities. Have we become happier as history has unfolded? Can we ever free our behaviour from the heritage of our ancestors? And what, if anything, can we do to influence the course of the centuries to come? Bold, wide-ranging and provocative, Sapiens challenges everything we thought we knew about being human: our thoughts, our actions, our power...and our future.

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sapiens a brief history of humankind: The Invention of Science David Wootton, 2015-09-17
We live in a world made by science. How and when did this happen? This book tells the story of the extraordinary intellectual and cultural revolution that gave birth to modern science, and mounts a major challenge to the prevailing orthodoxy of its history. Before 1492 it was assumed that all significant knowledge was already available; there was no concept of progress; people looked for understanding to the past not the future. This book argues that the discovery of America demonstrated that new knowledge was possible: indeed it introduced the very concept of 'discovery', and opened the way to the invention of science. The first crucial discovery was Tycho Brahe's nova of 1572: proof that there could be change in the heavens. The telescope (1610) rendered the old astronomy obsolete. Torricelli's experiment with the vacuum (1643) led directly to the triumph of the experimental method in the Royal Society of Boyle and Newton. By 1750 Newtonianism was being celebrated throughout Europe. The new science did not consist simply of new discoveries, or new methods. It relied on a new understanding of what knowledge might be, and with this came a new language: discovery, progress, facts, experiments, hypotheses, theories, laws of nature - almost all these terms existed before 1492, but their meanings were radically transformed so they became tools with which to think scientifically. We all now speak this language of science, which was invented during the Scientific Revolution. The new culture had its martyrs (Bruno, Galileo), its heroes (Kepler, Boyle), its propagandists (Voltaire, Diderot), and its patient labourers (Gilbert, Hooke). It led to a new rationalism, killing off alchemy, astrology, and belief in witchcraft. It led to the invention of the steam engine and to the first Industrial Revolution. David Wootton's landmark book changes our understanding of how this great transformation came about, and of what science is.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Summary of Sapiens Readtrepreneur Publishing, 2019-05-24
Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind by Yuval Noah Harari - Book Summary - Readtrepreneur (Disclaimer: This is NOT the original book)
How did we make it this far? We, Homo sapiens rule the world because we are the only animal that believe in the power of imagination. Dr Yuval Noah Harari's book on Sapien is a masterpiece which is truly unique on its own. While other books focus on either the historical or biological part of us human, Sapiens focuses on the three great revolutions of human history: Cognitive, Agricultural and Scientific. (Note: This summary is wholly written and published by readtrepreneur. It is not affiliated with the original author in any way) There's no one thing that's true. It's all true - Yuval Noah Harari Dr Harari is now advising us to think ahead because things are going to change. Human has been proven to revolutionized not only our world around us but ourselves too. We've grown, improved and transformed. And this transformation will not stop. Where will this take us? Where will we land and what are we becoming? P.S. Enrich your evolutionary brain with this book of wisdom and knowledge. Realize how much more you are than what you currently think of yourself. You'll love this book. You are after all, a human. The Time for Thinking is Over! Time for Action! Scroll Up Now and Click on the Buy now with 1-Click Button to Grab your Copy Right Away! Why Choose Us, Readtrepreneur? Highest Quality Summaries Delivers Amazing Knowledge Awesome Refresher Clear And Concise Disclaimer Once Again: This book is meant for a great companionship of the original book or to simply get the gist of the original book.

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PERFECT READ FOR TROUBLED TIMES From the bestselling author of *The Story of the British Isles in 100 Places* comes this inspiring and beautifully written meditation on the wisdom inherited from our ancestors. For all we have gained in the modern world, simple peace of mind is hard to find. In a time that is increasingly fraught with complexity and conflict, we are told that our wellbeing relies on remaining as present as possible. But what if the key to being present lies in the past? In *Wisdom of the Ancients*, Neil Oliver takes us back in time, to grab hold of the ideas buried in forgotten cultures and early civilizations. From Laetoli footprints in Tanzania to Keralan rituals, stone circles and cave paintings, Oliver takes us on a global journey through antiquity. A master storyteller, drawing on immense knowledge of our ancient past, he distils this wisdom into twelve messages that have endured the test of time, and invites us to consider how these might apply to our lives today. The result is powerful and inspirational, moving and profound.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *The World Until Yesterday* Jared Diamond, 2012-12-31 The bestselling author of *Collapse* and *Guns, Germs and Steel* surveys the history of human societies to answer the question: What can we learn from traditional societies that can make the world a better place for all of us? "As he did in his Pulitzer Prize-winning *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, Jared Diamond continues to make us think with his mesmerizing and absorbing new book. Bookpage Most of us take for granted the features of our modern society, from air travel and telecommunications to literacy and obesity. Yet for nearly all of its six million years of existence, human society had none of these things. While the gulf that divides us from our primitive ancestors may seem unbridgeably wide, we can glimpse much of our former lifestyle in those largely traditional societies still or recently in existence. Societies like those of the New Guinea Highlanders remind us that it was only yesterday—in evolutionary time—when everything changed and that we moderns still possess bodies and social practices often better adapted to traditional than to modern conditions. *The World Until Yesterday* provides a mesmerizing firsthand picture of the human past as it had been for millions of years—a past that has mostly vanished—and considers what the differences between that past and our present mean for our lives today. This is Jared Diamond's most personal book to date, as he draws extensively from his decades of field work in the Pacific islands, as well as evidence from Inuit, Amazonian Indians, Kalahari San people, and others. Diamond doesn't romanticize traditional societies—after all, we are shocked by some of their practices—but he finds that their solutions to universal human problems such as child rearing, elder care, dispute resolution, risk, and physical fitness have much to teach us. Provocative, enlightening, and entertaining, *The World Until Yesterday* is an essential and fascinating read.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Homo Sapiens* University Press, 2020-06-17 University Press returns with another short and captivating book - a brief history of our human species: *Homo sapiens*. All the humans who ever lived are extinct - except for *Homo sapiens*. We are, in Latin, the wise humans. We are the sole survivors of a long and deadly battle against the forces of nature and time. The first humans - hominids - diverged from the other primates and began to walk upright on two legs some 3 million years ago. The first modern humans - *Homo sapiens* - diverged from the other hominids some 250,000 years ago. Since then, modern humans and our big brains migrated out of Africa, developed the capacity for language, domesticated animals, became farmers, learned to write, got religious, built cities, invented money, expanded empires, harnessed the scientific method, tried enlightenment, challenged authority, created machines, conquered the air, weaponized the atom, eliminated disease, walked on the moon, did the internet, made artificial intelligence, fed seven billion people, and speculated about the future of our species. This short book provides a captivating account of the noble, savage, sacred, mundane, heroic and heart-warming events that connect us with our earliest ancestors - an account that you can read in about an hour.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *I Have No Mouth & I Must Scream* Harlan Ellison, 2014-04-29 Seven stunning stories of speculative fiction by the author of *A Boy and His Dog*. In a post-apocalyptic world, four men and one woman are all that remain of the human race, brought to near extinction by an artificial intelligence. Programmed to wage war on behalf of its creators, the AI became self-aware and turned against humanity. The five survivors are prisoners, kept alive and

subjected to brutal torture by the hateful and sadistic machine in an endless cycle of violence. This story and six more groundbreaking and inventive tales that probe the depths of mortal experience prove why Grand Master of Science Fiction Harlan Ellison has earned the many accolades to his credit and remains one of the most original voices in American literature. I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream also includes "Big Sam Was My Friend," "Eyes of Dust," "World of the Myth," "Lonelyache," Hugo Award finalist "Delusion for a Dragon Slayer," and Hugo and Nebula Award finalist "Pretty Maggie Moneyeyes."

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Homo Deus* Yuval Noah Harari, 2016 **From the author of the global phenomenon *Sapiens*** **A Guardian Book of the Year** **An Evening Standard Book of the Year** **A TLS Book of the Year** 'Homo Deus will shock you. It will entertain you. Above all, it will make you think in ways you had not thought before.' Daniel Kahneman, author of *Thinking Fast, and Slow* Yuval Noah Harari, author of the bestselling *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*, envisions a not-too-distant world in which we face a new set of challenges. In *Homo Deus*, he examines our future with his trademark blend of science, history, philosophy and every discipline in between. *Homo Deus* explores the projects, dreams and nightmares that will shape the twenty-first century - from overcoming death to creating artificial life. It asks the fundamental questions: Where do we go from here? And how will we protect this fragile world from our own destructive powers? This is the next stage of evolution. This is *Homo Deus*. War is obsolete You are more likely to commit suicide than be killed in conflict Famine is disappearing You are at more risk of obesity than starvation Death is just a technical problem Equality is out - but immortality is in What does our future hold?

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *The Art of War* Pete Katz, 2021-09-14 An entertaining graphic adaptation of the oldest military treatise in the world and a masterpiece of Chinese literature. Hailed as the oldest philosophical discussion on military strategy, Sun Tzu's *The Art of War* has been adapted as a graphic novel by award-winning illustrator Pete Katz. In this collectible thread-bound edition, the narrative focuses on a teacher instructing a pupil on the main points of Sun Tzu's treatise, with vibrant battle scenes interspersed throughout. Issues such as planning, tactics, manoeuvring, and spying are illustrated with full-color scenes, so that readers may gain a greater understanding of principles from the fifth century BC that continue to influence generals, politicians and business leaders to this day.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *You Lost Me* Marita van der Vyver, 2017-03-01 Willem Prins wanders the streets of Paris, disillusioned and glum. Once, he showed great promise as a South African writer of distinction, but years of disappointment have left their mark. Drowning himself in the Seine may well be the only option left to drive up his book sales. His reason for being in Paris - the French translation of an erotic novel he wrote under a pseudonym - is not exactly something to be proud of. He is no stranger to Paris. An ex-wife of his (one of three) lives in the city with his eldest son, a young man who barely knows his father. Willem finds an unlikely companion in Jackie, a young South African working as an au pair in the city, a woman old enough to be his daughter. Together, the two of them will face the chaos of the terror attacks on Friday the thirteenth in Paris. *You Lost Me* is bestselling author Marita van der Vyver's thirteenth novel, a story about life's thunder clouds and the bonds between us that offer shelter. It is a tale of disillusionment and loss, told with warmth and wicked humour.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Who We Are and How We Got Here* David Reich, 2018-03-29 The past few years have seen a revolution in our ability to map whole genome DNA from ancient humans. With the ancient DNA revolution, combined with rapid genome mapping of present human populations, has come remarkable insights into our past. This important new data has clarified and added to our knowledge from archaeology and anthropology, helped resolve long-existing controversies, challenged long-held views, and thrown up some remarkable surprises. The emerging picture is one of many waves of ancient human migrations, so that all populations existing today are mixes of ancient ones, as well as in many cases carrying a genetic component from Neanderthals, and, in some populations, Denisovans. David Reich, whose team has been at the

forefront of these discoveries, explains what the genetics is telling us about ourselves and our complex and often surprising ancestry. Gone are old ideas of any kind of racial 'purity', or even deep and ancient divides between peoples. Instead, we are finding a rich variety of mixtures. Reich describes the cutting-edge findings from the past few years, and also considers the sensitivities involved in tracing ancestry, with science sometimes jostling with politics and tradition. He brings an important wider message: that we should celebrate our rich diversity, and recognize that every one of us is the result of a long history of migration and intermixing of ancient peoples, which we carry as ghosts in our DNA. What will we discover next?

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Summary* Readtrepreneur Publishing, 2017-05-26 | Book Summary | Readtrepreneur Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind by Yuval Noah Harari | How did we make it this far? We, Homo sapiens rule the world because we are the only animal that believe in the power of imagination. Dr Yuval Noah Harari's book on Sapien is a masterpiece which is truly unique on its own. While other books focus on either the historical or biological part of us human, Sapiens focuses on the three great revolutions of human history: Cognitive, Agricultural and Scientific. There's no one thing that's true. It's all true - Yuval Noah Harari Dr Harari is now advising us to think ahead because things are going to change. Human has been proven to revolutionized not only our world around us but ourselves too. We've grown, improved and transformed. And this transformation will not stop. Where will this take us? Where will we land and what are we becoming? (Note: This summary is wholly written and published by readtrepreneur.com It is not affiliated with the original author in any way) P.S. Enrich your evolutionary brain with this book of wisdom and knowledge. Realize how much more you are than what you currently think of yourself. You'll love this book. You are after all, a human. The Time for Thinking is Over! Time for Action! Scroll Up Now and Click on the Buy now with 1-Click Button and Get a Copy Sent to Your Doorstep Right Away! Why Choose Us, Readtrepreneur? Highest Quality Summaries Delivers Amazing Knowledge Awesome Refresher Clear And Concise Disclaimer: This book is meant for a great companionship of the original book or to simply get the gist of the original book. If you're looking for the original book, search this link: <http://amzn.to/2qxORbB>

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *You're Doing it Wrong: A History of Bad & Bonkers Advice to Women* Kaz Cooke, 2021 You're Doing it Wrong is an outrageous tour through the centuries of bonkers and bad advice handed down and foisted upon women, told as only Kaz Cooke can -- with humour and rage, intelligence and wit. Come with Kaz on a laugh-out-loud frolic through centuries of terrible advice, from 14th-century clergy to the Kardashians (wear a dress made of arsenic, do some day-drinking, have sex with a billionaire biker, worry about your vagina wrinkles). It's also a roar against injustice, a rallying cry for sisterhood and a way to free ourselves from ludicrous expectations and imposed perfectionism. Kaz's own 30-year history of interest and experience in advice -- from her newspaper etiquette column to best-selling books, including Up the Duff and the Girl Stuff series - and years of archives and research have culminated in a full-colour, exuberant shout of a book with hundreds of wacky and sobering historical photos of objects and instructions. You're Doing It Wrong examines what we're told to do (change shape, shoosh, do all the housework), and what we're not supposed to do (frown, have pockets, lead a country). It covers sex & romance, paid work, fashion & beauty, health advice, housework, and a motherlode of mad parenting instructions -- from witchcraft to beauty pageants, with a side of aviatrixes. Put the kettle on and settle in.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Summary* Noah Fran, 2017-09-09 Harari attempts to capsule humankind's, and more specifically, Homo Sapiens' existence over two million years of existence. He uses biology, anthropology, and sociology to link our ancestors from millennia past, and tells a gripping tale of how different species of humankind, at different times emerged, developed, and for some, died off and disappeared totally from the face of the earth. He explains how language, culture, and religion developed over hundreds of thousands of year even with the biological constants dictated by nature. He offers compelling arguments on what made humans superior to other animals, beyond just being able to walk upright, and deftly use opposable thumbs.

Harari, in his sweeping tale of birth, survival, and death, categorically assumes the forces expounded in the evolutionary theories of Darwin, and puts question marks on those milestones of human development that evolution cannot explain. In a roughly, chronological order, he divides human progress into four distinct phases: Read more....

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Eternity in Their Hearts Don Richardson, 2010-10
Startling Evidence of Belief in the One True God in Hundreds of Cultures Throughout the World Has the God who prepared the gospel for all people groups also prepared all people groups for the gospel? Don Richardson, author of the best - selling book *Peace Child*, has studied cultures throughout the world and found within hundreds of them startling evidence of belief in the one true God. In *Eternity in Their Hearts*, Richardson gives fascinating, real - life examples of ways people have exhibited in their histories terms and concepts that have prepared them for the gospel. Read how Pachacuti, the Inca king who founded Machu Picchu, the majestic fortress in Peru, accomplished something far more significant than merely building fortresses, temples or monuments. He sought, reached out and found a God far greater than any popular god of his own culture. And there have been others throughout the world, like him, who've had to receive the blessing of the gospel. Get ready to be amazed at these intriguing examples of how God uses redemptive analogies to bring all men to Himself, bearing out the truth from Ecclesiastes that God has also set eternity in the hearts of men.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: The Ancestor's Tale Richard Dawkins, 2004 A renowned biologist provides a sweeping chronicle of more than four billion years of life on Earth, shedding new light on evolutionary theory and history, sexual selection, speciation, extinction, and genetics.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: The Expectant Dad's Handbook Dean Beaumont, 2013-05-16 Becoming a dad can be a daunting time - especially when most pregnancy and parenting information is targeted towards women. This exciting new book, from a leading expert in working with expectant dads, doesn't sideline or speak down to men. Instead it provides an array of targeted information to fully prepare men for their new roles - as both birth partners and fathers. The *Expectant Dad's Handbook* is a one-stop guide for men on their path to fatherhood. It provides practical answers to all the questions on the mind of a dad-to-be - from what to expect at each stage of pregnancy to how to cope with any worries and fears about becoming a dad. It also reveals unique insights into a dad's role during labour, showing key strategies for improving the birth. Both practical and accessible, this guide will provide all the information and advice fathers need for the journey ahead.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Summary of Sapiens: a Brief History of Humankind - by Yuval Noah Harari Sapiens Editorial, 2017-09-13 ABOUT THE ORIGINAL BOOK: Sapiens presents a pleasant and simple narrative about the extraordinary story of the evolution of mankind. In this work, it shows a detailed vision that everything we learn in school about history doesn't teach us anything about how our species spread throughout the world. How big cities and empires occurred, what made us believe in Gods, why did money arise? From that curious and interesting past, we are also presented with a projection into the future, towards the millenniums to come. It is a well narrated chronicle of life. From the first humans that inhabited the earth, all the way to the considerable progress like the great cognitive, agricultural and scientific revolutions. This work has drawn interest from universities and the public. Making the young writer an international celebrity.--CONTENT: The Origin Humans And Their History A Singular Being The Expansion Inheritance From Gathering To Harvesting The Future Writing Culture Universal Order How Much Is It? The Imperial Vision The Scientific Revolution A Costly Union, Science And Technology Conquering Mentality A Bear Hug The Industrial Engine When Do I Fit In This History? Where Are We Heading?

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Losing Earth Nathaniel Rich, 2019-04-23 By 1979, we knew all that we know now about the science of climate change - what was happening, why it was happening, and how to stop it. Over the next ten years, we had the very real opportunity to stop it.

Obviously, we failed. Nathaniel Rich's groundbreaking account of that failure – and how tantalizingly close we came to signing binding treaties that would have saved us all before the fossil fuels industry and politicians committed to anti-scientific denialism – is already a journalistic blockbuster, a full issue of the New York Times Magazine that has earned favorable comparisons to Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and John Hersey's *Hiroshima*. Rich has become an instant, in-demand expert and speaker. A major movie deal is already in place. It is the story, perhaps, that can shift the conversation. In the book *Losing Earth*, Rich is able to provide more of the context for what did – and didn't – happen in the 1980s and, more important, is able to carry the story fully into the present day and wrestle with what those past failures mean for us in 2019. It is not just an agonizing revelation of historical missed opportunities, but a clear-eyed and eloquent assessment of how we got to now, and what we can and must do before it's truly too late.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Human Evolution Bernard A. Wood, 2019 The study of human evolution is advancing rapidly. New fossil evidence is adding ever more pieces to the puzzle of our past; the new science of ancient DNA is completely reshaping theories of early human populations and migrations. Bernard Wood traces the field of palaeoanthropology from its beginnings in the eighteenth century to the present.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: The Ultimate Experience Y. Harari, 2008-03-07 For millennia, war was viewed as a supreme test. In the period 1750-1850 war became much more than a test: it became a secular revelation. This new understanding of war as revelation completely transformed Western war culture, revolutionizing politics, the personal experience of war, the status of common soldiers, and the tenets of military theory.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference Greta Thunberg, 2019-11-28 A new expanded and illustrated edition of the history-making speeches of Greta Thunberg, the young activist who has become the voice of a generation 'We are the change and change is coming' In August 2018 a fifteen-year-old Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg, decided not to go to school one day. A year later, she was joined in her strike by over seven million people around the world. This is the record of a game-changing year in the fight against the climate crisis. Collecting the speeches that sparked a global movement, and iconic images of those who made it happen, *No One Is Too Small to Make A Difference* is a rallying cry for why we must all wake up and fight to protect the living planet, no matter how powerless we feel. Our future depends upon it. With new speeches from Vienna, Paris, New York and Montreal

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Summary and Analysis of Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind Worth Books, 2017-03-07 So much to read, so little time? This brief overview of *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* tells you what you need to know—before or after you read Yuval Noah Harari's book. Crafted and edited with care, Worth Books set the standard for quality and give you the tools you need to be a well-informed reader. This short summary and analysis of *Sapiens* includes: Historical context Chapter-by-chapter overviews Character profiles Detailed timeline of key events Important quotes Fascinating trivia Glossary of terms Supporting material to enhance your understanding of the original work About *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari: *Sapiens* is a wide-ranging account of human history that upends the conventional wisdom about our species with novel, even startling, theories about how we developed and where we're headed. The bestselling book *Sapiens* takes the reader from humanity's remote origins in East Africa; through its spread to societies and empires around the world; and finally to the present, when *Sapiens* as we know them may be about to disappear. Throughout this journey, *Homo Deus* author Yuval Noah Harari offers new insights into the importance of language, imagination, and even ignorance in the development of human history. The summary and analysis in this ebook are intended to complement your reading experience and bring you closer to a great work of nonfiction.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: Mad, Bad, Dangerous to Know Colm Tóibín, 2018-10-30 'A father...is a necessary evil.' Stephen Dedalus in *Ulysses* William Butler Yeats' father was an impoverished artist, an inveterate letter writer, and a man crippled by his inability to ever

finish a painting. Oscar Wilde's father was a doctor, a brilliant statistician and amateur archaeologist who was taken to court by an obsessed lover in a strange foreshadowing of events that would later befall his son. The father of James Joyce was a garrulous, hard-drinking man with a violent temper, unable or unwilling to provide for his large family, who eventually drove his son from Ireland. In *Mad, Bad, Dangerous to Know*, Colm Tóibín presents an illuminating, intimate study of Irish culture, history and literature told through the lives and works of Ireland's most famous sons, and the complicated, influential relationships they each maintained with their fathers. 'A supple, subtle thinker, alive to hints and undertones, wary of absolute truths.' *New Statesman* 'Tóibín writes about writers' families...with great subtlety and sometimes with splendid impudence.' *Sunday Telegraph*

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Bones of Contention* Marvin L. Lubenow, 2004-10-01 Seeking to disprove the theory of human evolution, the author examines the fossils of the so-called ape men.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Hey, Kiddo: A Graphic Novel* Jarrett J. Krosoczka, 2018-10-09 The powerful, unforgettable graphic memoir from Jarrett Krosoczka, about growing up with a drug-addicted mother, a missing father, and two unforgettably opinionated grandparents. A National Book Award Finalist! In kindergarten, Jarrett Krosoczka's teacher asks him to draw his family, with a mommy and a daddy. But Jarrett's family is much more complicated than that. His mom is an addict, in and out of rehab, and in and out of Jarrett's life. His father is a mystery -- Jarrett doesn't know where to find him, or even what his name is. Jarrett lives with his grandparents -- two very loud, very loving, very opinionated people who had thought they were through with raising children until Jarrett came along. Jarrett goes through his childhood trying to make his non-normal life as normal as possible, finding a way to express himself through drawing even as so little is being said to him about what's going on. Only as a teenager can Jarrett begin to piece together the truth of his family, reckoning with his mother and tracking down his father. *Hey, Kiddo* is a profoundly important memoir about growing up in a family grappling with addiction, and finding the art that helps you survive.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Book Review: Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari* 50minutes,, 2019-04-04 It can be hard for busy professionals to find the time to read the latest books. Stay up to date in a fraction of the time with this concise guide. As its name suggests, *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* seeks to trace the history of Homo Sapiens from its earliest evolution, when it was one of several human species coexisting on earth, to the 21st century. This sweeping narrative takes in the Agricultural Revolution, the development of language, the rise of money and much more, showing us not just where we have come from but also where we might be going. The book became a publishing phenomenon when it first appeared in English in 2014: it made *The New York Times* bestseller list and received the National Library of China's Wenjin Book Award for the best published that year. It has been translated into over forty languages to date. This book review and analysis is perfect for: • Students of anthropology and world history • Anyone with an interest in the history of humankind • Readers looking for an accessible introduction to anthropology and evolutionary biology About 50MINUTES.COM | BOOK REVIEW The Book Review series from the 50Minutes collection is aimed at anyone who is looking to learn from experts in their field without spending hours reading endless pages of information. Our reviews present a concise summary of the main points of each book, as well as providing context, different perspectives and concrete examples to illustrate the key concepts.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Summary of Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind by Yuval Noah Harari* Peter Cuomo, 2021-10-25 Complete summary of Yuval Noah Harari's book *Sapiens* A genetic mutation 70,000 years ago gave humans (Homo sapiens) the ability to imagine and believe things that aren't true, which, Harari argues, had a profound impact on humanity's ability to cooperate in large groups. The Cognitive Revolution is one of the key turning points in human history that Harari examines in great detail. There are also references to the Agricultural Revolution (10,000 years ago) and the Industrial Revolution (300 years ago), both of which saw humanity migrate from foraging in the wild to farming in more permanent communities.

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *Rationality* Steven Pinker, 2021-09-28 A TIMES BOOK OF THE YEAR 2021 'Punchy, funny and invigorating ... Pinker is the high priest of rationalism' Sunday Times 'If you've ever considered taking drugs to make yourself smarter, read *Rationality* instead. It's cheaper, more entertaining, and more effective' Jonathan Haidt, author of *The Righteous Mind* In the twenty-first century, humanity is reaching new heights of scientific understanding - and at the same time appears to be losing its mind. How can a species that discovered vaccines for Covid-19 in less than a year produce so much fake news, quack cures and conspiracy theorizing? In *Rationality*, Pinker rejects the cynical cliché that humans are simply an irrational species - cavemen out of time fatally cursed with biases, fallacies and illusions. After all, we discovered the laws of nature, lengthened and enriched our lives and set the benchmarks for rationality itself. Instead, he explains, we think in ways that suit the low-tech contexts in which we spend most of our lives, but fail to take advantage of the powerful tools of reasoning we have built up over millennia: logic, critical thinking, probability, causal inference, and decision-making under uncertainty. These tools are not a standard part of our educational curricula, and have never been presented clearly and entertainingly in a single book - until now. *Rationality* matters. It leads to better choices in our lives and in the public sphere, and is the ultimate driver of social justice and moral progress. Brimming with insight and humour, *Rationality* will enlighten, inspire and empower. 'A terrific book, much-needed for our time' Peter Singer

sapiens a brief history of humankind: *The Playbook* Jennifer Jacquet, 2022-07-12 'This brilliantly subversive and witty book lays bare the techniques of manipulation and disinformation that keep the rich and powerful rich and powerful. . . A landmark book' Brian Eno 'Very funny, as satire should be, until you realise it's deadly serious' Adam Rutherford, BBC Radio 4 Start the Week Knowledge is power. Which is why the rich and powerful don't want you to have it. *The Playbook* is an exposé of the extraordinary lengths that corporations will go to in order to spread disinformation and deny the scientific facts - around climate change, public health risks and worker safety - when they don't suit their agenda. Written in the form of a corporate handbook for tobacco, oil and pharmaceutical company executives, it is a litany of obfuscation techniques, denial, delays and outright lies, including: how to recruit an academic 'expert' who is willing to compromise their integrity (or is just short of cash), how to massage the statistics, how to use legal and even physical intimidation against reporters and activists, and how, just as in a casino, to keep your customers comfortable, unquestioning, unthinking and playing along for as long as possible. Part satire, part social history, part guide to resistance, *The Playbook* is a charge sheet against the powerful. It shows us how, by understanding the methods and motives of disinformation campaigns, we may be able to outwit them.

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