

western civilization joshua cole

western civilization joshua cole offers an insightful journey through the key developments, ideas, and turning points that have shaped the Western world from ancient times to the present. This article explores the significant themes presented by Joshua Cole in his analysis of Western civilization, including the evolution of political systems, cultural achievements, major conflicts, and the impact of social changes. Readers will gain an understanding of how Western civilization has influenced global history and modern society. Additionally, the article examines the educational value and unique approach of Joshua Cole's work, the structure of his texts, and their relevance for students and history enthusiasts. By delving into the major periods, historical figures, and critical events, this comprehensive overview will provide valuable context and insights for anyone interested in the enduring legacy of Western civilization and the scholarly contributions of Joshua Cole.

- Understanding Western Civilization by Joshua Cole
- Thematic Approach and Structure of Cole's Work
- Major Eras in Western Civilization
- Key Themes and Contributions
- Impact on Modern Society
- Educational Value and Audience
- Summary of Key Insights

Understanding Western Civilization by Joshua Cole

Joshua Cole's approach to western civilization provides a comprehensive examination of the historical forces that have shaped the Western world. His work is recognized for its balanced perspective, integrating political, cultural, economic, and social dimensions. Cole's analysis traces the evolution of Western civilization from the ancient Mediterranean societies to contemporary times, highlighting pivotal moments, influential individuals, and transformative movements. Through a careful study of primary sources and scholarly interpretations, Cole encourages readers to critically assess the legacy and complexities of Western heritage. His books are widely used in academic settings, offering a clear and engaging narrative that appeals to both students and general readers interested in understanding the foundations and ongoing development of Western civilization.

Thematic Approach and Structure of Cole's Work

Joshua Cole's texts on western civilization are structured to facilitate a thematic and chronological understanding of historical developments. Each chapter typically focuses on a significant era or theme, supported by vivid accounts, timelines, and visual aids. The work emphasizes connections between events, ideas, and broader historical trends, making complex subjects accessible and relevant. Cole's methodology often includes comparative analysis, allowing readers to see how different regions and cultures within the Western world interacted and influenced each other. This organizational structure encourages critical thinking and helps readers grasp the interconnectedness of historical phenomena.

Distinctive Features of Cole's Textbooks

Joshua Cole's textbooks stand out for their clarity, depth, and pedagogical tools. He incorporates features such as:

- Chronological timelines for major events
- Discussion questions that promote analysis
- Document excerpts and primary sources for deeper understanding
- Illustrations and maps to visualize complex topics
- Summaries and key terms for each chapter

These elements enhance student engagement and provide a solid foundation for further exploration of Western civilization.

Major Eras in Western Civilization

A core strength of western civilization Joshua Cole's narrative is his division of Western history into distinct eras, each marked by unique developments and challenges. This periodization allows readers to appreciate the dynamic evolution of the Western world.

The Ancient World

Cole begins with the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. He discusses the rise of city-states, the development of democracy, and the expansion of empires. The classical legacy—including philosophy, literature, and scientific thought—forms a crucial foundation for later Western achievements.

The Middle Ages

The medieval period saw the emergence of feudalism, the influence of the Catholic Church, and the gradual formation of nation-states. Cole explores the cultural and intellectual revival of the High Middle Ages, the Crusades, and the transformative impact of the Black Death.

The Renaissance and Reformation

Joshua Cole highlights the Renaissance as a period of renewed interest in classical learning, artistic innovation, and scientific discovery. The Reformation introduced religious upheaval and permanently altered the landscape of Christianity in Europe, paving the way for new political and cultural realities.

The Age of Enlightenment and Revolution

This era witnessed the rise of rational thought, individual rights, and revolutionary movements. Cole examines the Enlightenment's impact on political philosophy, the American and French Revolutions, and the spread of democratic ideals throughout the West.

The Modern Era

Cole's analysis of the modern era covers industrialization, imperialism, world wars, and the Cold War. He addresses the social changes brought about by technological advances, the struggle for equality, and the ongoing debates about Western values in a globalized world.

Key Themes and Contributions in Western Civilization **Joshua Cole**

A hallmark of Joshua Cole's work is his exploration of recurring themes that define the Western experience. By focusing on these themes, readers gain a deeper understanding of the forces that have shaped Western societies across time.

Political Evolution and Governance

Cole traces the development of political systems from ancient monarchies and republics to modern democracies. He considers the impact of legal systems, constitutional frameworks, and struggles for representation on the evolution of Western governance.

Cultural and Intellectual Achievements

The history of Western civilization is marked by extraordinary cultural and intellectual accomplishments. Cole emphasizes contributions in philosophy, literature, science, and the arts, highlighting figures such as Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci, and Isaac Newton.

Economic Transformations

Economic changes—including the rise of trade, capitalism, and industrialization—are central to Cole's analysis. He examines how economic structures influenced social hierarchies, urbanization, and the distribution of wealth in Western societies.

Social Change and Identity

Cole addresses the evolution of social structures, gender roles, and concepts of identity. He explores the impact of migration, religious reformations, and movements for civil rights and equality throughout Western history.

Impact of Western Civilization on Modern Society

Joshua Cole's examination of western civilization underscores its far-reaching influence on contemporary global society. The political ideas, cultural norms, and technological innovations that originated in the West have become integral to modern life. Cole's work encourages readers to consider both the achievements and challenges of this legacy, including debates about globalization, cultural exchange, and ethical responsibilities. By understanding the roots of current institutions and values, readers are better equipped to engage with the complexities of the modern world.

Educational Value and Intended Audience

Western civilization Joshua Cole's textbooks are designed to serve a broad audience, from university students to lifelong learners. Their accessible style, combined with academic rigor, makes them ideal for classroom use and independent study. Educators appreciate Cole's balanced presentation of historical controversies and his commitment to fostering critical thinking. The inclusion of primary sources and discussion prompts ensures an interactive learning experience, while comprehensive coverage makes the material relevant for a variety of courses and interests.

Who Benefits from Cole's Approach?

The following groups benefit significantly from Joshua Cole's western civilization textbooks:

- Undergraduate and high school students in history courses
- Teachers and professors seeking reliable instructional resources
- General readers with an interest in Western history
- Researchers and academic professionals

Cole's adaptable and thorough approach suits a wide range of educational settings and learning objectives.

Summary of Key Insights from Western Civilization Joshua Cole

Joshua Cole's comprehensive study of western civilization offers invaluable insights into the origins, development, and ongoing relevance of the Western world. Through thematic organization, accessible writing, and thoughtful analysis, Cole's work illuminates the connections between past and present. Readers gain an appreciation for the complexities of history and the enduring impact of Western ideas, institutions, and cultural achievements. As Western civilization continues to shape global affairs, Cole's contributions provide a foundation for informed discussion and meaningful engagement with the challenges and opportunities of the modern era.

Q: Who is Joshua Cole and what is his connection to Western civilization studies?

A: Joshua Cole is a historian and author renowned for his textbooks on Western civilization. He specializes in European and Western history, providing comprehensive analyses that are widely used in academic settings.

Q: What makes Joshua Cole's approach to Western civilization unique?

A: Cole's approach is distinguished by its thematic organization, integration of primary sources, and focus on the interconnectedness of political, cultural, economic, and social factors throughout Western history.

Q: Which periods of Western civilization does Joshua Cole emphasize in his work?

A: Cole covers the major eras of Western civilization, including the ancient world, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, the Enlightenment and revolutionary periods, and the modern

era.

Q: How are Joshua Cole's textbooks structured to facilitate learning?

A: His textbooks are organized thematically and chronologically, with features such as timelines, discussion questions, document excerpts, illustrations, and chapter summaries to enhance student engagement and comprehension.

Q: Why are Joshua Cole's works widely used in educational settings?

A: Cole's clear writing style, academic rigor, and comprehensive coverage make his works ideal for high school and college courses, as well as for independent learners interested in Western civilization.

Q: What are some key themes discussed in Joshua Cole's Western civilization textbooks?

A: Key themes include the evolution of political systems, cultural and intellectual achievements, economic transformations, social change, and the ongoing impact of Western civilization on the modern world.

Q: How does Joshua Cole address the impact of Western civilization on modern society?

A: Cole explores how Western ideas, values, and institutions have shaped contemporary global society, encouraging readers to consider both the achievements and challenges of this historical legacy.

Q: Who can benefit from reading Joshua Cole's Western civilization textbooks?

A: Students, teachers, history enthusiasts, researchers, and anyone interested in understanding the foundations and development of Western civilization can benefit from Cole's thorough and accessible approach.

Q: What educational tools does Joshua Cole include in his textbooks to aid understanding?

A: Cole includes timelines, maps, primary source documents, critical thinking questions, and chapter summaries to support varied learning styles and promote deeper historical understanding.

Q: What is the overall significance of Joshua Cole's contributions to the study of Western civilization?

A: Joshua Cole's work provides a clear, engaging, and scholarly perspective on Western civilization, offering readers the tools to critically examine the past and its influence on the present.

Western Civilization Joshua Cole

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Western Civilization Joshua Cole: A Comprehensive Guide

Are you intrigued by the vast tapestry of Western Civilization but overwhelmed by where to begin? Joshua Cole's work offers a compelling entry point, providing insightful analyses and engaging narratives. This comprehensive guide dives deep into Joshua Cole's contributions to understanding Western Civilization, exploring his key arguments, pedagogical approaches, and the impact of his scholarship. We'll examine why his work resonates with students and scholars alike, and how it contributes to a more nuanced understanding of this complex and multifaceted subject.

Joshua Cole's Approach to Western Civilization

Joshua Cole, a renowned historian, is recognized for his accessible and engaging approach to teaching and writing about Western Civilization. Unlike traditional, Eurocentric narratives, his work often incorporates diverse voices and perspectives, challenging simplistic interpretations and fostering a more inclusive understanding of the subject. He doesn't shy away from the complexities and contradictions inherent in Western history, encouraging critical thinking and fostering a deeper engagement with the material.

Challenging Traditional Narratives

One of the key strengths of Cole's work lies in its willingness to challenge traditional, often triumphalist narratives of Western Civilization. He meticulously examines the darker aspects of Western history, including colonialism, imperialism, and the persistent inequalities that have shaped its development. This unflinching honesty is crucial in creating a more accurate and balanced understanding of the past, moving beyond simplistic narratives of progress and enlightenment.

Emphasis on Interconnectedness

Cole's approach highlights the interconnectedness of various cultures and societies throughout Western history. He demonstrates how ideas, technologies, and artistic movements have flowed across geographical boundaries, shaping the development of Western Civilization in unexpected ways. This perspective emphasizes the global nature of history, moving beyond a strictly European-centric framework.

Engaging Pedagogical Methods

Cole's pedagogical approach is widely admired for its clarity and effectiveness. He utilizes primary sources, engaging visuals, and compelling storytelling to bring the past to life. His ability to connect historical events to contemporary issues further enhances the relevance and impact of his work. This approach makes learning about Western Civilization both accessible and intellectually stimulating, even for those with limited prior knowledge.

Key Themes in Joshua Cole's Scholarship

While the specific content varies across his different works, several recurring themes consistently emerge in Joshua Cole's scholarship on Western Civilization:

The Role of Power and Inequality

Cole's work consistently examines the role of power and inequality in shaping Western Civilization. He analyzes how various social, economic, and political structures have created and perpetuated disparities throughout history. He explores the impact of these inequalities on different groups, highlighting the experiences of marginalized communities and challenging dominant narratives that often overlook or minimize their contributions.

The Evolution of Ideas and Ideologies

Cole's analyses often focus on the evolution of key ideas and ideologies within Western Civilization. He traces the development of concepts such as democracy, human rights, and religious belief, examining their historical context and the forces that have shaped their transformation over time. This focus on intellectual history provides a valuable framework for understanding the complexities of Western thought.

The Impact of Global Exchange

The interconnectedness of cultures is a recurring theme in Cole's work. He demonstrates how ideas, technologies, and artistic styles have flowed across geographical boundaries, shaping the development of Western Civilization in unexpected ways. This emphasis on global exchange challenges the notion of a purely self-contained Western world and highlights the importance of cross-cultural interactions.

The Significance of Joshua Cole's Contributions

Joshua Cole's contributions to the study of Western Civilization are significant for several reasons. His commitment to inclusive narratives, his focus on critical analysis, and his engaging pedagogical methods have greatly enhanced the way this subject is taught and understood. His work inspires a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the complexities of the past, equipping students and scholars with the critical thinking skills necessary to engage with historical narratives effectively. His scholarship moves beyond simplistic interpretations, fostering a deeper appreciation of the multifaceted and often contradictory nature of Western Civilization.

Conclusion

Understanding Western Civilization requires a nuanced and critical approach. Joshua Cole's work provides a valuable framework for this understanding, offering accessible and insightful analyses that challenge traditional narratives and promote a more inclusive perspective. His emphasis on critical thinking, diverse voices, and the interconnectedness of cultures makes his scholarship essential reading for anyone seeking a deeper comprehension of this complex and multifaceted subject. His contribution lies not only in his scholarly work but also in his ability to make the study of Western Civilization engaging and relevant for a wider audience.

FAQs

1. What makes Joshua Cole's approach to Western Civilization unique? Cole's approach is unique in its commitment to inclusivity, its critical examination of traditional narratives, and its focus on the interconnectedness of cultures throughout Western history. He avoids simplistic triumphalism and engages with the complexities and contradictions of the past.
2. Is Joshua Cole's work suitable for beginners? Yes, his work is known for its accessibility and engaging style, making it suitable for students and readers with varying levels of prior knowledge.
3. Where can I find Joshua Cole's work? His works are typically available through academic publishers and online academic databases. Check your local university library or online book retailers.
4. What are the key criticisms of traditional approaches to teaching Western Civilization? Traditional approaches are often criticized for their Eurocentric biases, their focus on a limited range of voices, and their tendency towards triumphalist narratives that overlook the complexities and contradictions of the past.
5. How does Joshua Cole's work contribute to a more inclusive understanding of Western

Civilization? By incorporating diverse voices and perspectives, challenging traditional narratives, and highlighting the contributions of marginalized communities, Cole's work fosters a more inclusive and representative understanding of Western Civilization.

western civilization joshua cole: Western Civilizations Joshua Cole, Carol Symes, 2017 The most pedagogically innovative text and media for the western civilizations course—now more current, more global, and more interactive. The balanced narrative in *Western Civilizations* has been bolstered with new and current scholarship—highlighting new environmental history, more coverage of Central and Eastern Europe, and increased coverage of European and Muslim relations—making it the most up-to-date and relevant text for students. In addition, Cole and Symes have enhanced their pedagogically innovative text with new History Skills Tutorials, Interactive Instructor's Guide, and Norton InQuizitive for History, making the Nineteenth Edition a more interactive and effective teaching and learning tool.

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western civilization joshua cole: *Lethal Provocation* Joshua Cole, 2019-09-15 Part murder mystery, part social history of political violence, *Lethal Provocation* is a forensic examination of the deadliest peacetime episode of anti-Jewish violence in modern French history. Joshua Cole reconstructs the 1934 riots in Constantine, Algeria, in which tensions between Muslims and Jews were aggravated by right-wing extremists, resulting in the deaths of twenty-eight people. Animating the unrest was Mohamed El Maadi, a soldier in the French army. Later a member of a notorious French nationalist group that threatened insurrection in the late 1930s, El Maadi became an enthusiastic supporter of France's Vichy regime in World War II, and finished his career in the German SS. Cole cracks the cold case of El Maadi's participation in the events, revealing both his presence at the scene and his motives in provoking violence at a moment when the French

government was debating the rights of Muslims in Algeria. Local police and authorities came to know about the role of provocation in the unrest and killings and purposely hid the truth during the investigation that followed. Cole's sensitive history brings into high relief the cruelty of social relations in the decades before the war for Algerian independence.

western civilization joshua cole: *It's Complicated* Danah Boyd, 2014-02-25 Surveys the online social habits of American teens and analyzes the role technology and social media plays in their lives, examining common misconceptions about such topics as identity, privacy, danger, and bullying.

western civilization joshua cole: *Technics and Civilization* Lewis Mumford, 2010-10-30 *Technics and Civilization* first presented its compelling history of the machine and critical study of its effects on civilization in 1934—before television, the personal computer, and the Internet even appeared on our periphery. Drawing upon art, science, philosophy, and the history of culture, Lewis Mumford explained the origin of the machine age and traced its social results, asserting that the development of modern technology had its roots in the Middle Ages rather than the Industrial Revolution. Mumford sagely argued that it was the moral, economic, and political choices we made, not the machines that we used, that determined our then industrially driven economy. Equal parts powerful history and polemic criticism, *Technics and Civilization* was the first comprehensive attempt in English to portray the development of the machine age over the last thousand years—and to predict the pull the technological still holds over us today. “The questions posed in the first paragraph of *Technics and Civilization* still deserve our attention, nearly three quarters of a century after they were written.”—*Journal of Technology and Culture*

western civilization joshua cole: *Collapse* Jared Diamond, 2013-03-21 From the author of *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Jared Diamond's *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Survive* is a visionary study of the mysterious downfall of past civilizations. Now in a revised edition with a new afterword, Jared Diamond's *Collapse* uncovers the secret behind why some societies flourish, while others founder - and what this means for our future. What happened to the people who made the forlorn long-abandoned statues of Easter Island? What happened to the architects of the crumbling Maya pyramids? Will we go the same way, our skyscrapers one day standing derelict and overgrown like the temples at Angkor Wat? Bringing together new evidence from a startling range of sources and piecing together the myriad influences, from climate to culture, that make societies self-destruct, Jared Diamond's *Collapse* also shows how - unlike our ancestors - we can benefit from our knowledge of the past and learn to be survivors. 'A grand sweep from a master storyteller of the human race' - Daily Mail 'Riveting, superb, terrifying' - Observer 'Gripping ... the book fulfils its huge ambition, and Diamond is the only man who could have written it' - Economist 'This book shines like all Diamond's work' - Sunday Times

western civilization joshua cole: *Beyond Civilization* Daniel Quinn, 2009-02-04 In *Beyond Civilization*, Daniel Quinn thinks the unthinkable. We all know there's no one right way to build a bicycle, no one right way to design an automobile, no one right way to make a pair of shoes, but we're convinced that there must be only one right way to live -- and the one we have is it, no matter what. *Beyond Civilization* makes practical sense of the vision of Daniel Quinn's best-selling novel *Ishmael*. Examining ancient civilizations such as the Maya and the Olmec, as well as modern-day microcosms of alternative living like circus societies, Quinn guides us on a quest for a new model for society, one that is forward-thinking and encourages diversity instead of suppressing it. *Beyond Civilization* is not about a New World Order but a New Personal World Order that would allow people to assert control over their own destiny and grant them the freedom to create their own way of life right now -- not in some distant utopian future.

western civilization joshua cole: *Napoleon's Egypt* Juan Cole, 2007-08-07 In this vivid and timely history, Juan Cole tells the story of Napoleon's invasion of Egypt. Revealing the young general's reasons for leading the expedition against Egypt in 1798 and showcasing his fascinating views of the Orient, Cole delves into the psychology of the military titan and his entourage. He paints a multi-faceted portrait of the daily travails of the soldiers in Napoleon's army, including how they

imagined Egypt, how their expectations differed from what they found, and how they grappled with military challenges in a foreign land. Cole ultimately reveals how Napoleon's invasion, the first modern attempt to invade the Arab world, invented and crystallized the rhetoric of liberal imperialism.

western civilization joshua cole: Perspectives from the Past: From the age of exploration through contemporary times James M. Brophy, Joshua Cole, John Robertson, Thomas Max Safley, Carol Symes, 2012 The best collection of longer primary sources now available in an affordable, compact format.

western civilization joshua cole: Conflict, Security and the Reshaping of Society Alessandro Dal Lago, Salvatore Palidda, 2010-07-13 A PDF version of this book is available for free in open access via www.tandfebooks.com as well as the OAPEN Library platform, www.oapen.org. It has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives 3.0 license and is part of the OAPEN-UK research project. This book is an examination of the effect of contemporary wars (such as the 'War on Terror') on civil life at a global level. Contemporary literature on war is mainly devoted to recent changes in the theory and practice of warfare, particular those in which terrorists or insurgents are involved (for example, the 'revolution in military affairs', 'small wars', and so on). On the other hand, today's research on security is focused, among other themes, on the effects of the war on terrorism, and on civil liberties and social control. This volume connects these two fields of research, showing how 'war' and 'security' tend to exchange targets and forms of action as well as personnel (for instance, the spreading use of private contractors in wars and of military experts in the 'struggle for security') in modern society. This shows how, contrary to Clausewitz's belief war should be conceived of as a continuation of politics by other means, the opposite statement is also true: that politics, insofar as it concerns security, can be defined as the 'continuation of war by other means'. This book will be of much interest to students of critical security studies, war and conflict studies, terrorism studies, sociology and IR in general. Salvatore Palidda is Professor of Sociology in the Faculty of Education at the University of Genoa. Alessandro Dal Lago is Professor of Sociology of Culture and Communication at the University of Genoa.

western civilization joshua cole: The Coal Question; an Inquiry Concerning the Progress of the Nation, and the Probable Exhaustion of Our Coal-Mines William Stanley Jevons, 1865

western civilization joshua cole: Civilization Niall Ferguson, 2011-03-03 DAILY TELEGRAPH BOOKS OF THE YEAR If in the year 1411 you had been able to circumnavigate the globe, you would have been most impressed by the dazzling civilizations of the Orient. The Forbidden City was under construction in Ming Beijing; in the Near East, the Ottomans were closing in on Constantinople. By contrast, England would have struck you as a miserable backwater ravaged by plague, bad sanitation and incessant war. The other quarrelsome kingdoms of Western Europe - Aragon, Castile, France, Portugal and Scotland - would have seemed little better. As for fifteenth-century North America, it was an anarchic wilderness compared with the realms of the Aztecs and Incas. The idea that the West would come to dominate the Rest for most of the next half millennium would have struck you as wildly fanciful. And yet it happened. What was it about the civilization of Western Europe that allowed it to trump the outwardly superior empires of the Orient? The answer, Niall Ferguson argues, was that the West developed six killer applications that the Rest lacked: competition, science, democracy, medicine, consumerism and the work ethic. The key question today is whether or not the West has lost its monopoly on these six things. If so, Ferguson warns, we may be living through the end of Western ascendancy. Civilization takes readers on their own extraordinary journey around the world - from the Grand Canal at Nanjing to the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul; from Machu Picchu in the Andes to Shark Island, Namibia; from the proud towers of Prague to the secret churches of Wenzhou. It is the story of sailboats, missiles, land deeds, vaccines, blue jeans and Chinese Bibles. It is the defining narrative of modern world history.

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major Netflix Original Series from the creators of Game of Thrones. 1967: Ye Wenjie witnesses Red Guards beat her father to death during China's Cultural Revolution. This singular event will shape not only the rest of her life but also the future of mankind. Four decades later, Beijing police ask nanotech engineer Wang Miao to infiltrate a secretive cabal of scientists after a spate of inexplicable suicides. Wang's investigation will lead him to a mysterious online game and immerse him in a virtual world ruled by the intractable and unpredictable interaction of its three suns. This is the Three-Body Problem and it is the key to everything: the key to the scientists' deaths, the key to a conspiracy that spans light-years and the key to the extinction-level threat humanity now faces. Praise for *The Three-Body Problem*: 'Your next favourite sci-fi novel' *Wired* 'Immense' Barack Obama 'Unique' George R.R. Martin 'SF in the grand style' *Guardian* 'Mind-altering and immersive' *Daily Mail* Winner of the Hugo and Galaxy Awards for Best Novel

western civilization joshua cole: *The Gifts of the Jews* Thomas Cahill, 2010-04-28 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • The author of the runaway bestseller *How the Irish Saved Civilization* takes us on another captivating...persuasive as well as entertaining journey into history (*The New York Times*), recreating a time when the actions of a small band of people had repercussions that are still felt today. *The Gifts of the Jews* reveals the critical change that made western civilization possible. Within the matrix of ancient religions and philosophies, life was seen as part of an endless cycle of birth and death; time was like a wheel, spinning ceaselessly. Yet somehow, the ancient Jews began to see time differently. For them, time had a beginning and an end; it was a narrative, whose triumphant conclusion would come in the future. From this insight came a new conception of men and women as individuals with unique destinies--a conception that would inform the Declaration of Independence--and our hopeful belief in progress and the sense that tomorrow can be better than today. As Thomas Cahill narrates this momentous shift, he also explains the real significance of such Biblical figures as Abraham and Sarah, Moses and the Pharaoh, Joshua, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. Full of compelling stories, insights and humor, *The Gifts of the Jews* is an irresistible exploration of history as fascinating and fun as *How the Irish Saved Civilization*.

western civilization joshua cole: *The Great Divergence* Kenneth Pomeranz, 2021-04-13 A landmark comparative history of Europe and China that examines why the Industrial Revolution emerged in the West *The Great Divergence* sheds light on one of the great questions of history: Why did sustained industrial growth begin in Northwest Europe? Historian Kenneth Pomeranz shows that as recently as 1750, life expectancy, consumption, and product and factor markets were comparable in Europe and East Asia. Moreover, key regions in China and Japan were no worse off ecologically than those in Western Europe, with each region facing corresponding shortages of land-intensive products. Pomeranz's comparative lens reveals the two critical factors resulting in Europe's nineteenth-century divergence—the fortunate location of coal and access to trade with the New World. As East Asia's economy stagnated, Europe narrowly escaped the same fate largely due to favorable resource stocks from underground and overseas. This Princeton Classics edition includes a preface from the author and makes a powerful historical work available to new readers.

western civilization joshua cole: *The Cult of Smart* Fredrik deBoer, 2020-08-04 Named one of *Vulture's* Top 10 Best Books of 2020! Leftist firebrand Fredrik deBoer exposes the lie at the heart of our educational system and demands top-to-bottom reform. Everyone agrees that education is the key to creating a more just and equal world, and that our schools are broken and failing. Proposed reforms variously target incompetent teachers, corrupt union practices, or outdated curricula, but no one acknowledges a scientifically-proven fact that we all understand intuitively: Academic potential varies between individuals, and cannot be dramatically improved. In *The Cult of Smart*, educator and outspoken leftist Fredrik deBoer exposes this omission as the central flaw of our entire society, which has created and perpetuated an unjust class structure based on intellectual ability. Since cognitive talent varies from person to person, our education system can never create equal opportunity for all. Instead, it teaches our children that hierarchy and competition are natural, and that human value should be based on intelligence. These ideas are counter to everything that the left believes, but until they acknowledge the existence of individual cognitive differences, progressives

remain complicit in keeping the status quo in place. This passionate, voice-driven manifesto demands that we embrace a new goal for education: equality of outcomes. We must create a world that has a place for everyone, not just the academically talented. But we'll never achieve this dream until the Cult of Smart is destroyed.

western civilization joshua cole: Threads Kate Evans, 2018-11-13 A heartbreaking, full-color graphic novel of the refugee drama In the French port town of Calais, famous for its historic lace industry, a city within a city arose. This new town, known as the Jungle, was home to thousands of refugees, mainly from the Middle East and Africa, all hoping, somehow, to get to the UK. Into this squalid shantytown of shipping containers and tents, full of rats and trash and devoid of toilets and safety, the artist Kate Evans brought a sketchbook and an open mind. Combining the techniques of eyewitness reportage with the medium of comic-book storytelling, Evans has produced this unforgettable book, filled with poignant images—by turns shocking, infuriating, wry, and heartbreaking. Accompanying the story of Kate's time spent among the refugees—the insights acquired and the lives recounted—is the harsh counterpoint of prejudice and scapegoating arising from the political right. *Threads* addresses one of the most pressing issues of modern times to make a compelling case, through intimate evidence, for the compassionate treatment of refugees and the free movement of peoples. Evans's creativity and passion as an artist, activist, and mother shine through.

western civilization joshua cole: *A Common Stage* Carol Symes, 2007 Introduction : locating a medieval theater -- A history play : the Jeu de saint Nicolas and the world of Arras -- Prodigals and jongleurs : initiative and agency in a theater town -- Access to the media : publicity, participation, and the public sphere -- Relics and rites : The play of the bower and other plays -- Lives in the theater -- Conclusion : on looking into a medieval theater.

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