



The Library of Alexandria

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The Library of Alexandria was the largest library of its time and a major center for learning and scholarly research, particularly in the fields of astronomy, geography, mathematics, and medicine. Caesar and Cleopatra, Erastosthenes and Euclid, Archimedes and Alexander the Great are just a few of the famous people connected to its story. Today, historians still argue about how the library was destroyed, and no one knows exactly what it looked like, yet there is no question that the library continues to fascinate and intrigue us. This extensively researched look at what we do know about the Library of Alexandria features Kelly Trumble's short, accessible chapters, and richly detailed full-color paintings by Robina MacIntyre Marshall. Together, they tell the story of one of the wonders of the ancient world, and show how its influence as continued long after its destruction. Glossary, suggested reading, selected bibliography, index.

The Library of Alexandria Details

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Author : Kelly Trumble , Robina MacIntyre Marshall (Illustrator)

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Download and Read Free Online The Library of Alexandria Kelly Trumble , Robina MacIntyre Marshall (Illustrator)

From Reader Review The Library of Alexandria for online ebook

Kcastro says

Nice introduction to the Library of Alexandria and the importance it had.

Naomi says

This is a very interesting book about the story of the Library of Alexandria. It gives a brief history of its vast collections, rivalry with the Pergamum Library, famous scholars, and subsequent destruction by fire. It has beautiful pictures.

Ariel says

Not a great treatment of a very exciting subject. But the only one on LoA for children, astonishingly enough. Though it's supposedly for YA as well as for MG, I wouldn't like to give it to a high school student who was reading up to grade level; the syntax, the vocabulary, the assumptions of prior knowledge seemed like they were about 6th. Trimble has a nice prose style but she really doesn't tell that much about Alexandria itself. The book is chopped up into biographies of stellar Alexandrians for the most part, and they would be better addressed as sidebars within the text. (Though they are stellar: Alexander himself, Galen, Strabo, Euclid, Archimedes, Ptolemy, are just a few.) As far as illustrations go, as all the critics have complained, these drawings are lifeless and dull. But the author does include a lovely map of Alexander's conquests, a family tree of the Ptolemies, a glossary of terms and an excellent bibliography.

Jocie says

This is a youth book, but I really enjoyed it. I don't know much about ancient history, this broadened my knowledge base.

Sharon says

Not only informative, but also beautifully illustrated.

Tamsyn says

I have to admit, I was a sucker for the pictures in this book. It is beautifully illustrated, and it drew me in. It drew my 3-year-old son in too, so I told him what was happening in the pictures. This is one I hope to revisit in a few years when he reaches that stage in our homeschooling.

Wes Hazard says

Sometimes if I'm thinking about learning more about a big topic (usually biographical/historical/art type stuff) I'll read a Young Adult non-fiction book about it. That way I can get a basic but wide-ranging & lucid footing in the subject and then decide if it's something I want to continue to learn about. If so, hooray, I can move up to more complex/comprehensive materials. If not, I at least got some tidbits that can potentially pay-off in barroom trivia down the line and I've used up a pretty small piece of reading time, no real loss.

That's the story that brought me to Trumble's *The Library of Alexandria*. And I'll say that it's definitely led me to doing more research on the iconic (and doomed) institution. This is a solid YA offering with a wealth of good, but not amazing, full-page illustrations.

Less a history of the Library itself than a general overview of the political/intellectual scene under the Ptolemaic dynasty in ancient Alexandria the book covers the achievements and historical importance of a variety of kings, mathematicians, engineers, etc. Caesar, Cleopatra, Euclid, Archimedes, Herophilus, all get their due in brief but effective sketches discussing their innovations and continued relevance. A history of the Library itself is given, along with very general explanations of its holdings and the work that went on there. The historical record itself is relatively sketchy and this book is a general YA overview so there's not an incredible amount of detail, but if you know a kid aged 7-11 who's into history you could do a lot worse than getting this book for them. I'm definitely looking forward to reading a general adult work on the subject, possibly even a scholarly one, we'll see. Either way, well done.

Becky B says

Trumble takes readers back in time and tells about the formation of this legendary library, the famous men who helped build it and studied there, and how it likely came to disappear. Ms Trumble does a good job of making it clear what is unclear, where historical information came from if not from primary sources, and lays all this out in a fairly readable (well, as much as possible with so many Ptolemys involved) and easily understood format accompanied on every spread by a full color captivating illustration by Robina Marshall. There are maps, a glossary, an index, and some further information in the back of the book.

This would be a great resource for math classes, science classes, and social studies classes as much of the Greek and Roman empires' history is entwined in the telling of the library, and by association, many famous scientists and mathematicians.

Mauri says

This book walks the line between entertaining and boring, informative and useless. It isn't interesting enough for children to enjoy and it isn't informative enough for students to use as a resource. It isn't even good enough to give adults a brief idea of Alexandria's class and culture.

Get it from the library, look at the illustrations(though not too closely, the figures are oddly out of proportion), then go to wikipedia.

Susan says

Nice overview of important academic developments in the classical era; helps reinforce relationships between rulers, philosophers, locations, and the influence of their ideas. Artwork is detailed and interesting. A worthwhile succinct resource, written at about a jr high level.

An interesting point: Claudius Ptolemy's underestimation of the actual size of the earth gave adventurers courage to explore the world based on an inaccurate concept of how far away things might be from each other. (Also, he had no information about the Americas to add to his map.)

Najibah Bakar says

Buku yang dibeli melalui Google Play ini ringkas setebal 86 halaman sahaja, menceritakan mengenai Perpustakaan Iskandariah, bermula dari sejarah pembukaan kota Iskandariah, sehingga musnahnya perpustakaan dan tradisi keilmuan Greek di sana.

Gaya naratif yang tidak terlalu akademik memudahkan pembaca, tetapi tetap berisi banyak maklumat berguna mengenai pembangunan koleksi perpustakaan, jumlah koleksi, pustakawan-pustakawan, Mouseion yang bersebelahan tempat sarjana berkumpul dan kehebatan sarjana2 zaman klasik Greek.

Buku ini juga menolak dakwaan palsu mengenai sebaran pada abad ke-13 mengenai tindakan 'Amr membakar perpustakaan Iskandariah, sedangkan perpustakaan itu sudah musnah sejak tahun 391 oleh para pengikut Kristian yang taksub. Manakala Islam hanya mengambil alih pemerintahan Mesir dan Iskandariah pada kurun ke-7 Masihi.
