

VINTAGE READING GUIDE

SAPIENS: A BRIEF HISTORY OF HUMANKIND YUVAL NOAH HARARI

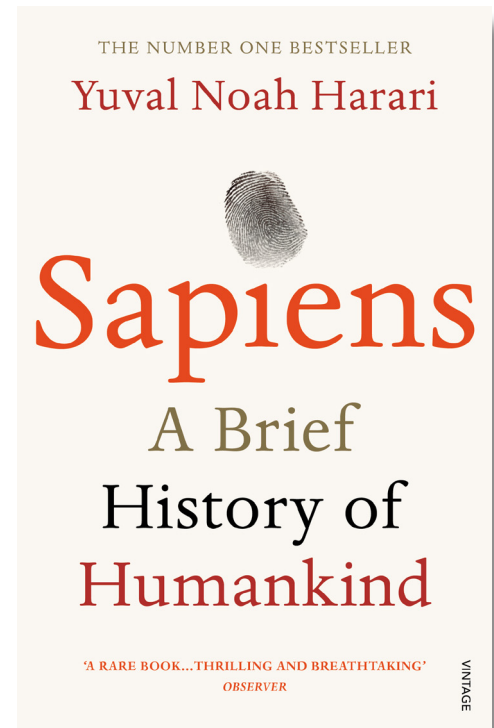
– About the book

FIRE gave us power
FARMING made us hungry for more
MONEY gave us purpose
SCIENCE made us deadly

Planet Earth is 4.5 billion years old. In just a fraction of that time, one species among countless others has conquered it. Us.

We are the most advanced and most destructive animals ever to have lived. What makes us brilliant? What makes us deadly? What makes us Sapiens? In this bold and provocative book, Yuval Noah Harari explores who we are, how we got here and where we're going.

Sapiens is a thrilling account of humankind's extraordinary history – from the Stone Age to the Silicon Age – and our journey from insignificant apes to rulers of the world.



– Questions and Discussion Points

Of all the human developments described in Sapiens, which one do you think was the most significant in the course of our history?

By what measures is homo sapiens the dominant species on planet earth?

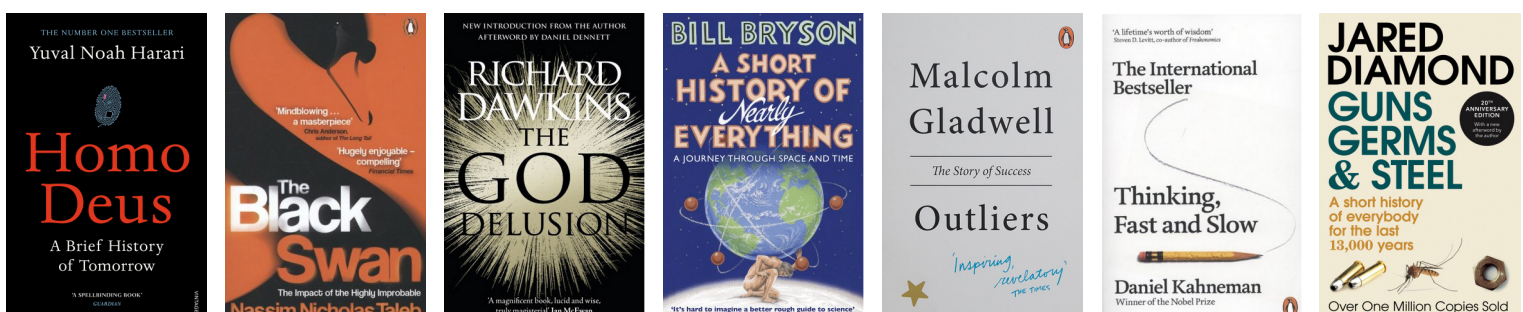
Which was the most surprising fact or assertion that you came across while reading the book? Did you disagree with any of Harari's arguments or interpretations?

Do you think that the major world religions are comparable to 'shared mythologies' such as nations, corporations and currency? When does a mythology become a reality?

Humankind has only been present for a minute fraction of planet earth's existence – do you think that our civilization will retain its current position in centuries to come?

How can reading about history help us in the present day and the future?

– Further reading



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– About the author

Dr Yuval Noah Harari has a PhD in History from the University of Oxford and now lectures at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, specialising in World History. *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* has become an international phenomenon attracting a legion of fans from Bill Gates and Barack Obama to Chris Evans and Jarvis Cocker, and is published in nearly 40 languages worldwide. It was a *Sunday Times* Number One bestseller. His follow-up to *Sapiens*, *Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow* was also a Top Ten Bestseller and was described by the *Guardian* as 'even more readable, even more important, than his excellent *Sapiens*'.



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– Endorsements

'I would recommend *Sapiens* to anyone who's interested in the history and future of our species'
Bill Gates

'Interesting and provocative... It gives you a sense of how briefly we've been on this Earth'
Barack Obama

'Jaw dropping from the first word to the last... It may be the best book I've ever read'
Chris Evans, BBC Radio 2

'Tackles the biggest questions of history and the modern world... Written in unforgettably vivid language'
Jared Diamond

'One of the best books I've read recently... Gives an excellent overview of how our species has developed'
Lily Cole

'Startling... It changes the way you look at the world'
Simon Mayo