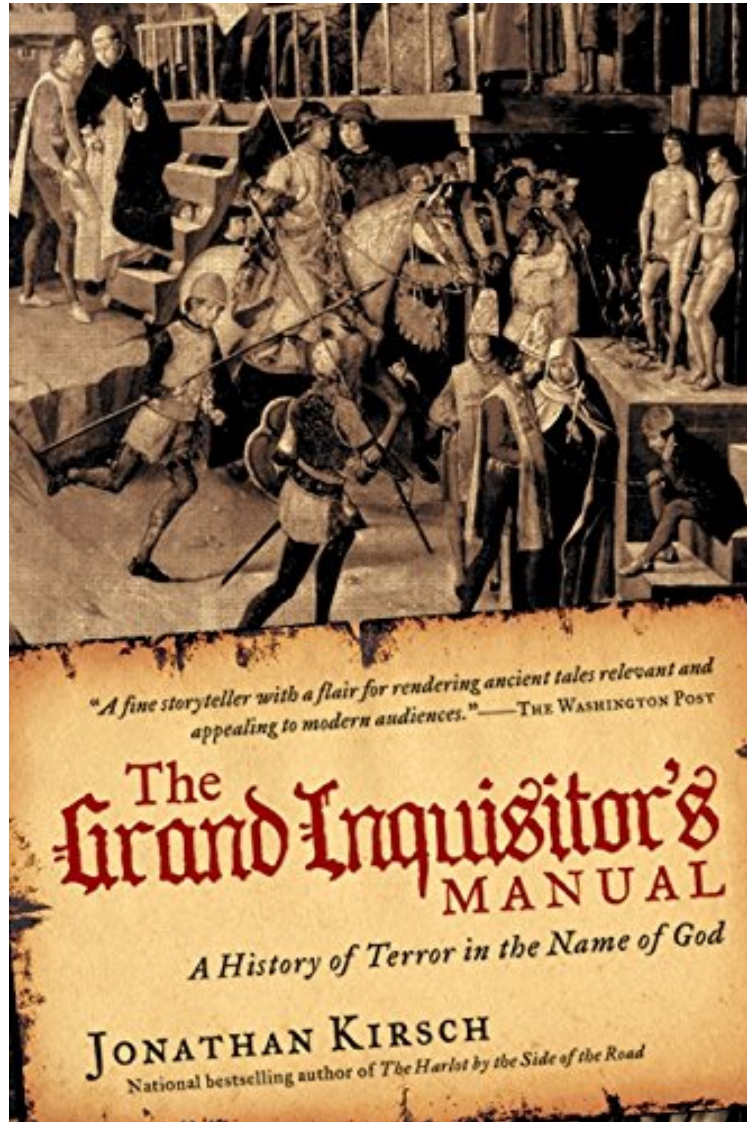


# The Grand Inquisitor's Manual: A History of Terror in the Name of God

Jonathan Kirsch

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**Jonathan Kirsch : The Grand Inquisitor's Manual: A History of Terror in the Name of God** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Grand Inquisitor's Manual: A History of Terror in the Name of God:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great read. Packed with interesting information. By Tom Connally The mention of the word Inquisition requires reaction. What happens to Galileo? Cervantes? Many names,

many horrors. Read this book and discover organized hatred and the result. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must read. By Bruce Altshuler This is a classic thorough history of the Inquisition. Well researched and fascinating. No one delves into the history of religion better than Kirsch. The Inquisition was not just about 15th Century Spain, it covered much of Catholic Europe and spread through the Spanish and Portuguese New World, and did not just involve hapless Jewish victims. This is a must read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Before I read this book I was limited to my knowledge of the term Inquisition. After reading the book my eyes have been complete. By Dr. Robert Eubanks Before I read this book my knowledge of the Inquisition was limited. After reading this book I now understand how destructive and corrupt this method is in controlling people. A must read for any student who wants a better understanding of how Religion and governments can justify their harsh treatment of humanity.

The Grand Inquisitors Manual by nationally bestselling author Jonathan Kirsch is a provocative popular history of the Inquisition, the 12th century reign of church-sanctioned terror. Ranging from the Knights Templar to the first Protestants, from Joan of Arc to Galileo, The Grand Inquisitors Manual is a fascinating and sobering study of the torture and murder of hundreds of thousands of heretics in God's name the original blueprints for persecution originally drafted in the Middle Ages but followed for centuries afterwards, up to and including the advanced interrogation methods recently employed at Guantanamo Bay.

From Publishers Weekly Starred. Mention the Inquisition to any informed person and you're likely to garner a response somewhere between horror and disgust. Kirsch, a prolific writer and documenter of our past (A History of the End of the World; Gods Against the Gods), offers up an amazing recounting of the abuses by clergy and state in those terrible times. Clinical in its descriptions, the narrative's lively and crisp prose brings us right into the torture chamber, shining a much-needed light into the mindset of the church and its representatives. Alarming, the author insists that although the Inquisition is but a memory for us today, the inquisitorial mindset is alive and well. Kirsch discovers many examples in more modern and familiar history: the Salem witch trials, Hitler's Germany, Roosevelt's placing Japanese-Americans in internment camps and Senator McCarthy's Communist-hunting. All of these injustices, he says, find their root in the same sense of power and privilege. Kirsch's forceful and cautionary account is essential reading for historians and anyone who wants to understand the potential dark side of religion. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Kirsch offers up an amazing recounting of the abuses of clergy and state in those terrible times. Kirsch's powerful and cautionary account is essential reading for historians and anyone who wants to understand the potential dark side of religion. (Publishers Weekly, Starred) A scathing account of the Inquisition's 600-year campaign to stifle religious dissent, as well as to persecute various groups of people it branded as alien menaces to communal security. Los Angeles Times (Los Angeles Times) Jonathan Kirsch is a fine storyteller with a flair for rendering ancient tales relevant and appealing to modern audiences. --Washington Post (Washington Post) From the Back Cover The Surprising History and Legacy of the Inquisition The renowned historian and critic Jonathan Kirsch presents a sweeping history of the Inquisition and the ways in which it has served as the chief model for torture in the West to this day. Ranging from the Knights Templar to the first Protestants; from Joan of Arc to Galileo; from the Inquisition's immense power in Spain after 1492, when the secret tribunals and torture chambers were directed for the first time against Jews and Muslims, to the torture and murder of hundreds of thousands of innocent women during the Witch Craze; and to the modern war on terror Kirsch shows us how the Inquisition stands as a universal and ineradicable reminder of how absolute power wreaks inevitable corruption.