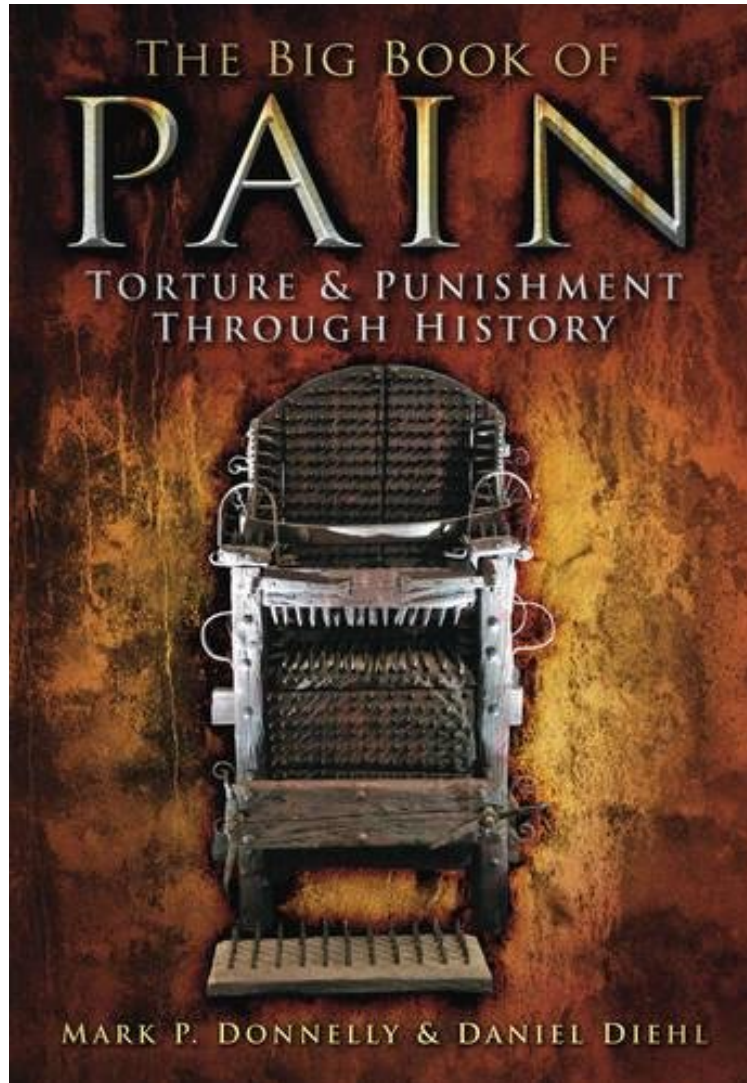


[Ebook pdf] The Big Book of Pain: Torture Punishment Through History

The Big Book of Pain: Torture Punishment Through History

Mark P. Donnelly, Daniel Diehl
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Mark P. Donnelly, Daniel Diehl : The Big Book of Pain: Torture Punishment Through History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Big Book of Pain: Torture Punishment Through History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The only bad part was having a better understanding of how much ...By NealI went to a torture museum in Amsterdam a few years ago and found it fascinating. After reading this highly informative book, I had a broad understanding of how the devices were used. The book covers a lot of ground and gives detailed descriptions of how the devices worked and what countries used them. The only bad part was having a

better understanding of how much pain so many people had inflicted on them. Many of these people were innocent and it was extremely disturbing knowing children were often included. These devices and methods were often ingenious but horrific in the ways they were used and how some were used to make the torture, not only more painful but, also, to make the pain last longer. There are many pictures and illustrations throughout the book. The book is well written and gives a very good understanding of what these victims had to endure. After reading this book, I don't believe reading any other books would give much more information than what was covered here. 20 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Man's Inhumanity to Man Knows No Bounds By Eternal Howl Diehl Donnelly have put together a wonderful book (if wonderful can be used in terms of the subject matter). The Big Book of Pain makes for an engaging read (I read it over two days); a good reference for your bookshelf, and has many copies of woodcuts, photos and scenes (including several pages of color plates with description) in case your imagination or memory fails you. The authors investigate various methods of torture through the ages and while they do pay the most attention on Europe and Britain, they do offer a small section on other regions including China, India and Africa. Included is a mini-encyclopedia, which makes as a good quick reference for those wanting to reference such things in medieval studies or other writing. This is not the first book on torture in history I have read (see A History of Torture if this subject matter interests you), but I did find more images that were also clearer, which helped me understand some of the real and imagined scenarios that would occur with various devices. Big Book of Pain does not seek to glorify the art of torture (which it really was an art form in its truly twisted sense), but to educate. At the end of the book, the authors offer modern-day scenarios (while not necessarily utilizing the Rack, the Pear, the Gibbet or the Iron Maiden), and leave the reader with a question of what the reader can do - since torture has and probably never will become just another passage in a history book. Otherwise Amnesty International probably would not exist. I'd recommend everyone that can separate themselves to some degree from the descriptions of personal torture, to read this and examine the world around them.) Are we living in an age of civilization or an age of barbarism and tyranny? For reference to the actual physical size of the book (since it is called The Big Book...) - it is roughly the size of a large format paperback - the book I am reviewing is hardcover. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not a picture book, but great information. By JZT The text was great at explaining many of the methods used but the illustrations showed the most common instruments. It would have been much more insightful if there were illustrations of the more bizarre methods/instruments used. This may have been done on purpose in case young minds find this book (or to keep stupid people who can't read from attempting to recreate anything discussed). If you are only looking for a picture book you'd be better off googling them. If you are looking for a book that creates an insightful view through text, then you found the right book.

Explaining the mechanics of torture even now a controversial topic this history questions why so much effort has been put into causing pain to fellow human beings

About the Author Mark P. Donnelly and Daniel Diehl have coauthored 12 books and more than 100 hours of documentary television. Their other titles include Eat Thy Neighbour: A History of Cannibalism; Haunted Houses: Guide to Spooky, Creepy and Strange Places Across the USA; and Medieval Celebrations.