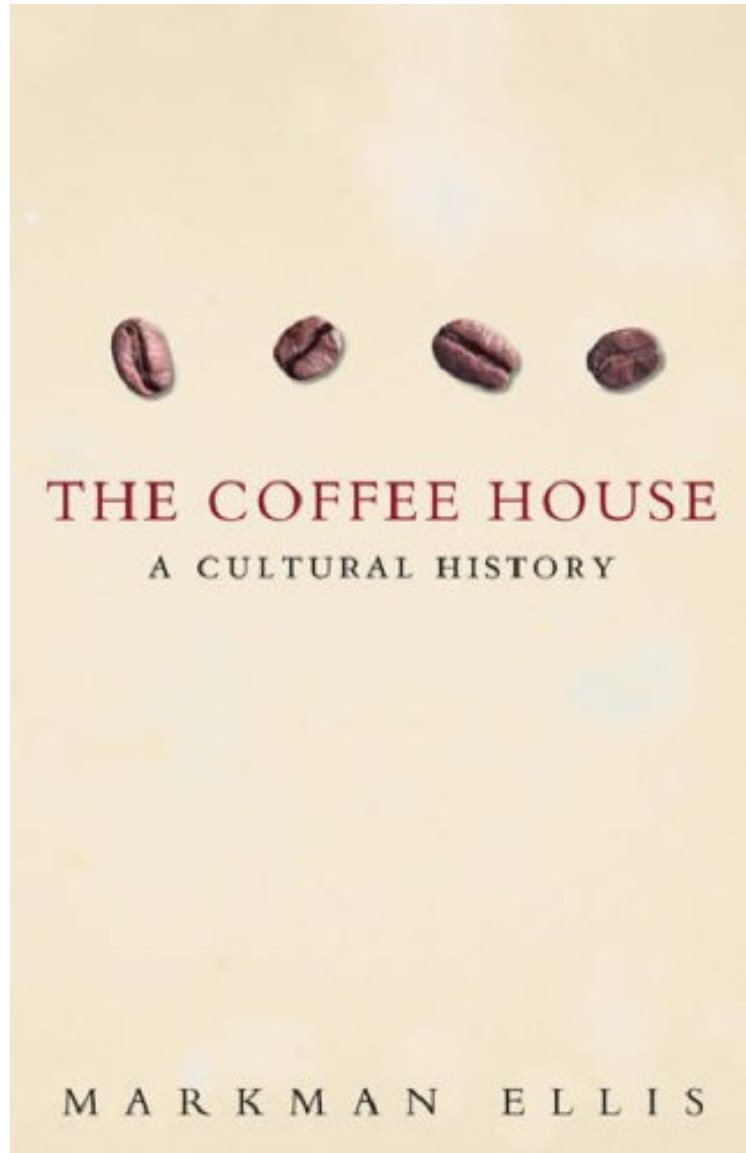


(Download) The Coffee House: A Cultural History

The Coffee House: A Cultural History

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0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. GookBy hong seong chouI bought it through e-book. Owing to it, I got it instantly and read it before my curiosity was diminished.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Historical AnalysisBy Valerie B. LullThe Coffee House by Markman Ellis is a scholarly approach to the history of coffee houses in London, England. It is meant to be a cultural history and is well backed up by lots of research and

references. Markman explores the history of coffee in Britain starting with the first travels of Britons to the coffee houses of Constantinople in the early 1600's. He then traces the beginnings of coffee houses in London. Coffee houses were the meeting places for men where they would discuss news and business. There were all kinds of coffee houses. Some were near brothels, some were patronized by merchants, some by philosophers and some by writers and scholars, as well as the general public. He traces the history of the coffee houses to the late 1700's when there was a decline in coffee houses, giving way to tea rooms for unchaperoned young women and tea gardens. Some houses served ale, beer, coffee, and tea. He brings us up to modern times with the advent of espresso and the espresso machine and the 20th century rise of coffee bars. Lastly he talks about the rise of Starbucks and other coffee chains and the return of the coffee house. I found this book quite scholarly and too descriptive and detailed. It is good for people who want to study the culture, but I would be content with a simpler version and more illustrations. -- Valerie Lull, Author, Ten Healthy Teas
4 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A scholarly review of coffee through history
By A Customer
Ellis's book was the first in a now frothy wave of books on the current phenomenon of coffee houses sweeping the globe. It's a good read - full of factual information, but with touches of sardonic wit and a great ability to generate memorable lines that succinctly sum up the period. Fantastic info on historical relevance to the fight against the political ruling class in Britain in the 18th century. Well-brewed, without a hint of irreverence...

When the first coffeehouse opened in London in 1652, customers were bewildered by this strange new drink from Turkey, hot, bitter, and black as soot. But those who tried coffee were soon won over, and more coffee-houses were opened across London, America, and Europe. For a hundred years the coffeehouse occupied the center of urban life, creating a distinctive social culture. They played a key role in the explosion of political, financial, scientific, and literary change in the 18th century, as people gathered, discussed, and debated issues within their walls.

'Markman Ellis's fascinating and wide-ranging cultural history explores the evolution of the phenomenon that started in Constantinople in 1554 and soon took the world by storm.' THE INDEPENDENT '[In] this wonderful book... Ellis percolates a comforting cup of inspiration for the future.' GOOD BOOK GUIDE '[a] scholarly but always readable account' DAILY MAIL 'Markman Ellis has written a scholarly, well researched and thoroughly entertaining book. This is a hot, bubbling volume to be sipped and savoured.' SUNDAY MERCURY 'Detailed and meticulously researched... would interest anyone with an enthusiasm for social history.' NEW BOOKS (May/June 06)
About the Author
Markman Ellis was educated at the universities of Auckland and Cambridge, and now teaches 18th-century literature and culture at Queen Mary, University of London. He has published books on the sentimental novel and gothic fiction, and articles on many topics in 18th-century studies, including georgic poetry, slavery, kangaroos and lap-dogs.