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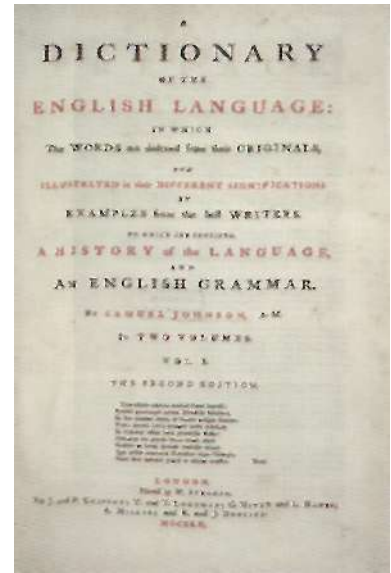
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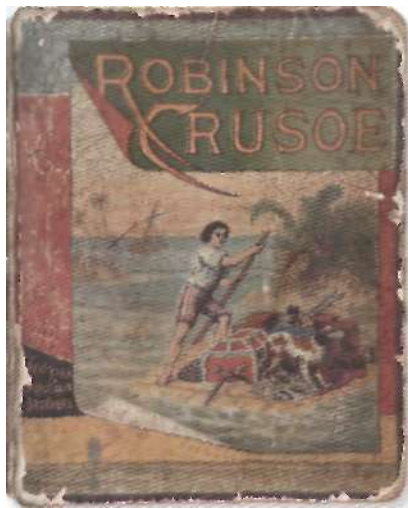
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Working with the BBC, Neil MacGregor, the Director of the British Museum, has launched a downright smart project. A History of the World in 100 Objects uses important pieces from the museum's collections to recount the long history of humanity. Throughout the year, the serialized radio program will air 100 episodes, each averaging 15 minutes, and they will cover two million years of human innovation and artistic creation. Below, I've included a recent episode that revisits the Olduvai hand axe, a tool invented some 1.2 million years ago that proved vital to human evolution and our mi



Historic places across the country have shaped who we are. They bring our history to life and tell the story of our collective identity. With your help, we've gradually been uncovering the 100 historic places that tell the remarkable story of England and its impact on the world. Through ten different categories, each judged by an expert from thousands of your nominations, we have reached a list of 100 places that have helped to make England the country it is today. We've produced a podcast series which explores each of the 100 places in detail and on sale now is a beautifully illustrated book *A History of the World in 100 Objects* was a joint project of BBC Radio 4 and the British Museum, comprising a 100-part radio series written and presented by British Museum director Neil MacGregor. In 15-minute presentations broadcast on weekdays on Radio 4, MacGregor used objects of ancient art, industry, technology and arms, all of which are in the British Museum's collections, as an introduction to parts of human history. The series, four years in planning, began on 18 January 2010 and was broadcast Rome. Athens. Memphis and Thebes. Ramses II. Nefertiti. Julius Caesar. Cleopatra. Aristotle. Sappho. Cyrus the Great. Democracy. Oligarchy. Republic and Empire. Societies and people long gone and still they tickle our imagination. Ancient history as a scholarly endeavor came into existence during the time of the European empires. The imperialists of Great Britain, France, Italy, and Germany looked to the distant past for validation and wrote their history accordingly, resulting in a research field dominated by white men focusing on Rome and Greece. But things are beginning to change. Books abo

Amazon.com Review Amazon Best Books of the Month, November 2011: In *A History of the World in 100 Objects*, Neil MacGregor, director of the British Museum, takes readers on a tour of the world by way of its material goods. From everyday items such as pots, utensils, and money to valuables such as art and jewelry, MacGregor shows that the things humans have left behind are often as rich and informative as written texts. In that sense, the book is much more than a museum catalog: it's a hundred keyhole views into a hundred different societies from around the world and throughout history. *A History of the World in 100 Objects* was a joint project of BBC Radio 4 and the British Museum, comprising a 100-part radio series written and presented by British Museum director Neil MacGregor. In 15-minute presentations broadcast on weekdays on Radio 4, MacGregor used objects of ancient art, industry, technology and arms, all of which are in the British Museum's collections, as an introduction to parts of human history. The series, four years in planning, began on 18 January 2010 and was broadcast. The book is ordered chronologically and divided thematically. Each of the 100 sections focuses on one object that represents a particular development in the evolution of books and in turn, world history and society. Abundant photographs inform and embellish. Here are some of the themes discussed: In the Beginning -- first human scratches on cave walls, cuneiform tablets, papyrus books, the oldest table of prime numbers. Again this is a great book that studies in-depth the history of the book and also gives many reasonable worries a face as we face them now in the modern literary world. A must-read for any diehard bibliophile. ...more. flag 1 like · Like · see review.