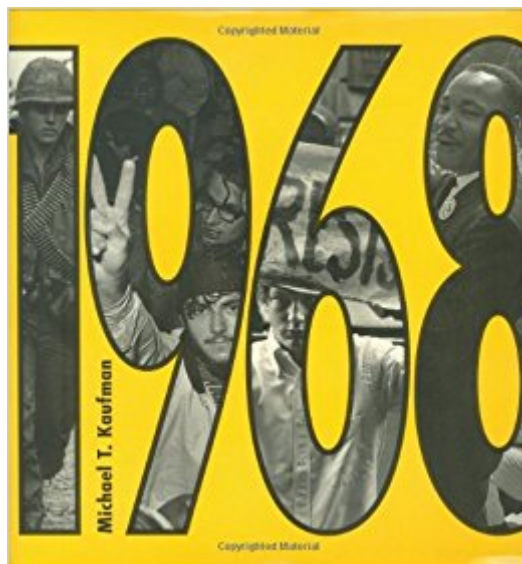


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# 1968 (New York Times)



## Synopsis

1968, THE YEAR AMERICA GREW UP From racial and gender equality fights to the struggle against the draft and the Vietnam war, in 1968 Americans asked questions and fought for their rights. Now, 30 years later, we look back on that seminal year--from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination to the Columbia University riots to our changing role among other nations--in this gripping introduction to the events home and abroad. The year we first took steps in space, the year we shaped the present, 1968 presented by a former New York Times writer who lived through it all, shares the story with detail and passion.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 9 Up **•**In the history of any culture, or indeed of the world, there are arguably years that are of greater significance than others. The events of 1939 and 2001 come to mind, and the argument of this book is that 1968 was likewise a watershed year with people rising across the globe to assert their own power and voice. Divided into 10 sections, the fluid prose treats topics such as the Tet Offensive; tensions on the U.S. home front engendered by the Vietnam War; the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Bobby Kennedy; the student uprisings in Paris and at Columbia University; the Prague Spring; demonstrations at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago; the summer Olympics in Mexico City; and the Apollo 8 Mission, which, on December 26, 1968, beamed back the first pictures of Earth as seen from space. Arranged

chronologically, the narrative puts these events and others into their proper sequence and notes how they echoed and influenced one another. Numerous excellent-quality black-and-white photos augment the text, and each section begins with a facsimile of the front page of the New York Times, showing how each event was reported. The full text of each article is appended, along with source notes and an excellent index. Read cover to cover, 1968 serves not just to explain but also to clarify the meaning of events. Students will be well served by this extensively documented treatment. — Ann Welton, Helen B. Stafford Elementary, Tacoma, WA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

*\*Starred Review\** Kaufman, whose reporting career at The New York Times spans four decades, expertly draws young readers into the worldwide events of a single, watershed year: 1968. In this illuminating New York Times Book, each chapter focuses on a different hot spot around the globe, beginning with the Tet Offensive and the Vietnam War and moving through uprisings in New York, Paris, Prague, Chicago, and Mexico City, as well as the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy. Reproductions of corresponding front-page articles from The New York Times open each chapter, while the full text of the articles appears in an appended section. The images, drawn from the Times archives, are riveting and will easily draw young people into the fascinating, often horrifying events of that “year like no other.” An expanded introductory time line will help readers place the events in larger historical and cultural context. In a time in which newspapers seem to be losing ground among young people to online sources and The Daily Show, this insightful, clear-eyed, moving overview serves as a reminder of the fundamental importance of journalism—to gather accurate facts into the stories that become history. An essential volume for teens’ understanding of the time period. Grades 7-12.  
—Gillian Engberg

Great book which retells the important highlights of the year 1968. I found it very useful for a research paper on the 1960s.

The author a journalist for the New York Times and journalism professor (LIU Brooklyn) goes over a year that should be remembered by those of all ages. I bought it to have in my library to give to my grandchildren when they ask about the "60's".

The book is really a coffee table book. I remember more information about 1968 than is contained in

this book. There are a few items that are interesting, but hardly what I would call in-depth. This particular book is superficial.

Great coverage of what was occurring in countries throughout the world in the year 1968.

good book thanks

A OK

It was a time of upheaval, yet many were hopeful and held up their splayed index and middle fingers as a sign of peace. As Michael Kaufman so aptly puts it, "there are some years that stand out more clearly than the rest, when in our memory it seems that the world spun faster and that important and unexpected things occurred almost on a daily basis. 1968 was that kind of year." Anyone who lived through those tumultuous times can attest to that. Stunning black and white photographs and portions of appropriate front page New York Times articles spanning two pages capture the essence of the era. The articles are printed in their entirety in the back of the book. Chapters include A Year Like No Other, Tet, Home Front, Martin Luther King, Jr., Columbia University, Paris, Bobby Kennedy, Prague, Chicago, Mexico City, Apollo, Articles and appendix materials. Kaufman, a New York Times reporter, was one of many who simply tried to figure out where all this was taking us. In December of that year, Apollo 8 captured the first pictures of earth taken from space, pictures that signaled hope for many. This is an impressive journalistic account of a year of both horror and hope. Michael Kaufman captured the emotions of 1968 perfectly. A time line in the front with small scattered photos impresses upon the reader the fact that the Vietnam War wasn't the only action on the planet. I feel the older generations may be drawn to this book even more heavily than its intended young adult audience.

1968 was a tumultuous year from beginning to end. In January/February there was the Tet Offensive. In December, the first photograph of Earth from Space was taken. In between, there were riots and assassinations. 1968 by Michael T. Kaufman describes the year's headlines along with many beautiful photographs. I am a huge fan of the 60s. 1968 is filled with great photographs of the year. The photographs were easily my favorite part about the book. Each chapter also contains details about the event. The information is just enough. Readers don't feel like they are reading a textbook, yet they gain a understanding on the topic. The back of the book contains full New York

Times articles on the events of 1968. These articles are meant as supplemental information. It was a smart decision to include these articles in the back. If the articles were put into the chapters, it would just be too much information. 1968 is an informative book about the year 1968, and I recommend the book to anyone who is interested in learning more about the 60s. However, anyone without a particular interest to the 60s will probably find the book a bit boring.

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