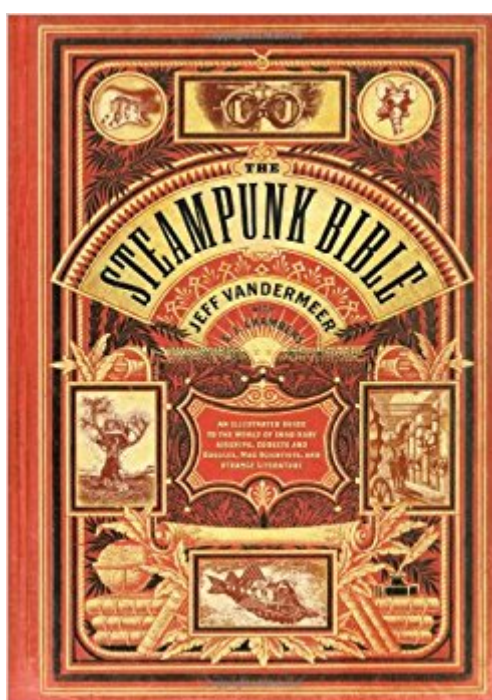


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The Steampunk Bible: An Illustrated Guide To The World Of Imaginary Airships, Corsets And Goggles, Mad Scientists, And Strange Literature



Synopsis

Steampunk is a grafting of Victorian aesthetic and punk rock attitude onto various forms of science-fiction culture. It is a phenomenon that has come to influence film, literature, art, music, fashion, and more. The Steampunk Bible is the first compendium about the movement, tracing its roots in the works of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells through its most recent expression in movies such as Sherlock Holmes. Its adherents celebrate the inventor as an artist and hero, re-envisioning and crafting retro technologies including antiquated airships and robots. A burgeoning DIY community has brought a distinctive Victorian-fantasy style to their crafts and art. Steampunk evokes a sense of adventure and discovery, and embraces extinct technologies as a way of talking about the future. This ultimate manual will appeal to aficionados and novices alike as author Jeff VanderMeer takes the reader on a wild ride through the clockwork corridors of Steampunk history.

Praise for The Steampunk Bible: "The Steampunk Bible is an informed, informative and beautifully illustrated survey of the subject." -The Financial Times "The Steampunk Bible is far and away the most intriguing catalog of all things steam yet written." -The Austin Chronicle "It's hard to imagine how VanderMeer and Chambers could have put together a stronger collection. Its publication marks a significant, self-conscious moment in the history of the movement." -PopMatters.com

Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Harry N. Abrams; 6th edition (May 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0810989581

ISBN-13: 978-0810989580

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.9 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 156 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #61,650 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Science Fiction & Fantasy #24 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > History & Criticism #6837 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy

Customer Reviews

Jeff VanderMeer is an award-winning author and coeditor of a bestselling anthology of Steampunk

literature. S. J. Chambers is an independent Poe scholar focusing on his importance to genre literature like Steampunk.

This is an awesome informative book about the history of steampunk. It discusses its roots and influences along with how it affected fashion, art, film and pop culture. It's also riddled with different steampunk related pictures. However, if you're looking for a steampunk picture book this is definitely not it. It does include awesome pictures but it is far more reading than pictures, which is a good thing if you're looking to educate yourself in the steampunk genre.

This book is a terrific overview of the history, literature, art, music, design, fashion, and philosophy of that amorphous area of cultural endeavor broadly named "steampunk." It will send you searching for more, and will get you thinking about our relationship to our technology and environment in ways that might surprise, depress, and inspire you by turns. So compelling is the writing, and so genuinely substantive are the issues it engages, that even if you don't know -- or care -- about "steampunk," you will still be pleasantly surprised and engaged by this various perspectives presented by (and questions raised in) this book.

For anyone who's had a taste of Steampunk and wants to learn more, this is the quintessential introductory volume. It's also a great shelf piece for those who are already immersed in Steampunk culture. What you get is a gorgeous hardcover and an overall beautifully designed book - a rarity in today's mass-market book scene. The cover does justice to the genre, featuring gadgets and gizmos against a suitably Victorian-esque backdrop. The interior design is equally true to the aesthetic of the genre, with full-color art on quality paper intertwined with essential information on all the fundamentals of Steampunk. As of now (2011), it is also remarkably up-to-date, offering a very contemporary vibe to a once-fringe genre that is becoming much more noticeable in today's culture. The fun even extends beyond the book to engage you in the broader Steampunk movement, due to its extraordinary list of quality weblinks that will take your Steampunk exploration to a whole other level. If I have any complaint, it would be that some of the color photos here seem a bit out of place in a book that otherwise lends itself to the look of an 'antiquated,' classy volume. All in all, "The Steampunk Bible" lives up to its name. A great way to begin (or reinforce) your journey of re-imagining the possibilities of technology and its role in human life, as is the hallmark of Steampunk.

LOVE this Book! Chock full of information and ideas! If you have ANY interest in Steampunk, this is YOUR book! Highly recommend this book! VERY happy customer! Buy with confidence!

The book is filled with interesting, enlightening, and fun information on Steampunk. It also includes beautiful illustrations. It covers Poe, Verne, Wells, the industrial revolution, the arts and crafts of rocket ships, goggles, corsets, Steampunk music, movies, comics, and television, as well as the future of Steampunk and much more. This is a great book that will make you yearn for more from these authors, and you will probably become a Steampunk fan, too! "Maybe one day we'll all be Steampunks." A quote from this Steampunk Bible

It's very much a history book, and was not a corpus or list of inventions with sketched pictures as I thought it would be. Social and cultural aspects and influences on and of Steampunk culture were explored. I still learned quite a bit from it, though, and the history was interesting. Media from the time period and inventions are present, in the book, though. First person isn't my favorite tense, especially in nonfiction, but that's more of a personal preference, and probably played a role in my experience.

My husband loved this book! I got it for Father's Day and I always catch him reading and checking out the illustrations and photos. Great purchase.

Was a gift.... person really enjoyed it. Made a great gift.

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