

# THE EPOCH TIMES

# LIFE &

# TRADITION



Fishing offers an opportunity for fathers and sons to form strong relationships through a meaningful activity.

## Why Fathers Should Take Their Sons Fishing

It's more than just a rod and reel

By Walker Larson

The first time I went fly fishing with my father, I immediately hooked him through the finger. Neither of us knew what we were doing (obviously), and my first attempt at a cast ended with this minor bloodshed. We worked the hook out, after a bit, though, and no major damage was done.

We persevered with the fishing expedition—moving together unsteadily into this unknown realm of fly fishing,

**Beyond mere physical benefits, exposure to the raw beauty and power of the outdoors forms our minds and imaginations in a profound way.**

just as we waded forward into the cold, sun-striped, leaf-fringed, trout-haunted pools of the creek. We didn't catch a single fish that outing. Or the next. Or the next.

Throughout that summer, perched inside a rusting red F-150, we wound our way on dusty country roads through the valleys and over the ridges of the Driftless Area in search of trout streams, most of which turned out to be overgrown, hopeless affairs. And when we did find suitable places to fish, the trout remained elusive.

There's something almost archetypal about a father and a son hitting the water with rod and reel during the long, languid days of summer. Whether roving the shorelines of glittering lakes or negotiating the currents of muddy rivers in a fishing rig, men and boys have always spent their free time—and sometimes their careers—in pursuit of finned adversaries. Maybe that's reason enough for the suggestion that fathers should take their sons fishing. Fishing is as old as human civilization itself. Prehistoric

*Continued on Page 2*

RELATIONSHIPS

By Jeff Minick

## A Gift of Summertime

There's no better time than the present for making new friends

If you've vacationed at the shore, then you probably know the routine.

Just after dawn, walkers and joggers appear on the beach, sometimes solitary, sometimes with a companion or two. As the morning deepens, adults and children drift out of their rented homes carrying canopies and umbrellas, chairs and towels, and coolers containing snacks and beverages, and they set up camp. The younger children build sand castles or splash at the water's edge, the older kids toss footballs and Frisbees or dive like porpoises into the waves, and the adults generally sit in the shade of their shelters, where they nap or chat together.

Dusk brings a reversal of the morning's exodus, and sun-bronzed families and friends return to their houses for supper and more conversation.

Anthropologists, psychologists, and other observers sometimes categorize such interactions as "amassing social capital," which is just a fancy way of describing the value of positive exchanges among people. However frivolous these hours spent together may appear, this shared time of play and talk strengthens the bonds between people.

**A Time for Friends, Old and New**

Visit this same beach in February, and the only people whom you'll find on the sand are a few fishermen casting their

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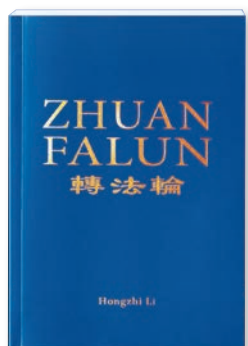
◀ Attending community events or classes can expand our social horizons.

BIBA KAYEWICH





## A Life-Changing Bestseller



Zhuangzi expounds on the profound principles of Truthfulness, Compassion, and Tolerance. It focuses on a long-forgotten term called “cultivation” and the importance of moral character on one’s path to spiritual perfection.

The book is the main text of the spiritual practice Falun Dafa. It was a national bestseller in China in the 1990s, and has since been translated into more than 40 languages. Find out why it has captured the hearts and minds of tens of millions of people in more than 100 countries worldwide.

“What made Falun Gong stand out from other qigong exercises and meditation practices was a moral system—compassion, truthfulness, and forbearance—unmistakably Buddhist in origin.

Arthur Waldron  
LAUDER PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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THE EPOCH TIMES

### RELATIONSHIPS

# A Gift of Summertime

Continued from Page 1

lines into the surf.

The seasons affect our rapport with others. In the fall, life for many of us picks up speed. Kids go back to school, which drastically alters the schedules of parents. Winter for much of the country means confinement to quarters; only the most hardened chef fires up a backyard grill in January in Minnesota or Maine. Spring brings blossoms and birdsong, but the weather is still iffy—balmy one day and bitter cold the next.

But summer, even the sweltering afternoons of August, is that time of year when more of us get outside, when the pace of life slows a bit and becomes more relaxed. The season itself is synonymous with the word vacation.

And so, whether we’re at the beach or in our own neighborhoods, summer offers us the best opportunities for amassing our social capital.

#### Time to Party

In “23 Budget-Friendly Summer Party Ideas,” Nicole Steriovski gives readers some great suggestions for bringing together friends and neighbors and having some fun. She recommends such events as hot dog or tapas bars, taco buffets, watermelon or ice cream sundae parties, and BYOB wine and cheese festivities. If you live in an apartment without a yard, she proposes gathering friends for a picnic in a nearby park. A brunch with offerings such as fruit, croissants, cheeses, yogurt, and other fresh, tasty foods also can be a hit.

In another online article, Sarah Martens recommends many of these same ideas but also adds a “Summer Shrimp Boil” and a “Seaside Escape,” of which she writes, “West Coast, East Coast, or no coast—anyone can enjoy a sea-inspired summer party with our tasty menu and a few tropical touches.”

Keeping it simple is the key to these get-togethers. The idea is for you as the host to share in the talk and laughter, not to stress over the menu or the seating arrangements. An ice cream social, for example, is a wonderful vehicle for a relaxed, pleasurable evening.

Sometimes, we get so caught up in our routines that we forget to enjoy the company of others, even in the summer. Some people are also apprehensive about inviting co-workers, or even friends, to their homes for some fun and fellowship. Start small, if that helps, and stay simple, but

give these summer celebrations a chance. You may be surprised at what gifts such a gathering may bring.

#### Lonely Hearts

Many Americans claim that they lead lives of unhappy isolation. They want friends, but they don’t know how or where to meet people and get acquainted. Once again, summer provides some ideal conditions for breaking that mold.

In an article on making friends during the summer, Paul Sanders offers some wise suggestions. He begins by cautioning lonely readers to lower their expectations, to realize that building friendships requires an investment of patience and effort. He recommends adding a “weekly social hour” to your calendar, setting aside a specific time for getting together with old friends or going to places to seek out new ones. This might include attending community events, such as fairs or a Saturday morning farmer’s market, or joining a summer class in something of interest such as yoga or art.

Here are some items I’d add to Mr. Sanders’s list.

First, put away your phones and screens. If you’re going to a sports bar or a café looking for a bit of company, try to avoid whipping out your cell phone as soon as you take a seat. Scout out the place a bit, engage the barista or bartender in casual conversation, and look at the people who come and go. If it looks

However frivolous these hours spent together may appear, this shared time of play and talk strengthens the bonds between people.

like a place that might fit you, then revisit it several times until you’re comfortable being there.

The second item is probably obvious. If we want to shape up physically, conventional wisdom tells us, the first thing to do is to get out of the house and start walking. The same holds true if we’re looking to connect with other people. We begin by leaving our house or apartment, and heading off to places where we’ll be around other people. This seems like a no-brainer, yet it’s easy to get stuck in a rut where we spend every evening alone at home.

Next, to become acquainted with others, we need to talk, ask questions, and be present with them. Mr. Sanders gives some helpful links in his article on the art of making conversation. Small talk doesn’t come naturally for everyone, but if we overcome this shyness, the results may surprise us.

Finally, take a summer attitude with you. Summertime is casual, easygoing, and centered on having some fun. Avoid

## Why Fathers Should Take Their Sons Fishing

Continued from Page 1

fishhooks carved from sea snail shells were discovered in a cave on the Japanese island of Okinawa in 2016.

But in addition to connecting us to our roots and millennia-old traditions, why should dads take their sons fishing? Let me offer a few key reasons.

#### Connecting With the Outdoors

In an age when teens spend an average of more than seven hours per day in front of screens, fishing provides a much-needed contact with reality and a break from the digital world. And, on the flip side, time in nature provides well-documented health benefits, including improved short-term memory, problem-solving, creativity, stress reduction, and feelings of well-being.

#### Building a Sense of Wonder

Beyond mere physical benefits, exposure to the raw beauty and power of the outdoors forms our minds and imagina-

tions in a profound way. Such experiences humanize and ennoble us. Educator John Senior defended the need to foster this sense of wonder in our lives, which he defined as “the reverent fear that beauty strikes in us.”

There’s no replacement for the sense of peace, awe, and mystery that comes over you as the sky begins to sigh into a navy blue, stars emerge, and the night creatures begin to sing—and even though it’s too dark to cast any longer, you yearn to stay. This is food for the heart and the soul. In the words of Leon Bean, experiences of great open spaces “teach us to forget the mean and petty things of life.”

#### Training in Masculinity

The role that fathers play in instilling a healthy sense of masculinity in their sons is the subject of countless articles and books in itself. For our current purposes, it’s worth noting simply that fishing provides time for boys to study and imitate their father’s masculine be-



◀ Summer is often synonymous with vacation; the pace of life slows down, and so do we.

making this quest with gritted teeth and a face of flint. Try instead to look at it as an adventure. Laugh at yourself if you fall flat. Then get to your feet and give it another shot.

#### We Need Each Other

“Even five-minute, meaningful conversations with other people not only fuel us in the moment but also build up a reserve of social capital so that when hard times strike, we can draw down on that bank account,” wrote author and positive psychologist Michelle Gielan.

In mid-June, my son and his family were staying for a week at the small house that they own on a beach in North Carolina. They were visiting other family members a mile or so up the road when his wife received a text from their prop-

erty management company that read: “Your house is on fire. The fire department is there.”

They raced back to find that their dryer had caught fire. A next-door neighbor, a casual acquaintance, had seen smoke coming from the vent, knocked on their door, and, receiving no answer, called 911. The firefighters arrived quickly, got the dog out of the house, left it with another neighbor who knew my son and the dog, and quickly put out the fire without too much damage to the house.

Because of that quick-thinking neighbor, the swift response by the fire department, and the help from the neighbors across the street, what might have become a major disaster instead became an inconvenience.

“Man,” Aristotle famously wrote, “is by

nature a social animal.” We aren’t meant to live lonely lives, miserable and isolated from one another. With its outdoor enticements and the more laidback approach to life inspired by this season, summer is a great time to remember that Greek philosopher’s pronouncement, and to expand and deepen our relationships with others in our community.

Jeff Minick has four children and a growing platoon of grandchildren. For 20 years, he taught history, literature, and Latin to seminars of homeschooling students in Asheville, N.C. He is the author of two novels, “Amanda Bell” and “Dust On Their Wings,” and two works of nonfiction, “Learning As I Go” and “Movies Make The Man.” Today, he lives and writes in Front Royal, Va.

havior. Fishing specifically provides an excellent means for this kind of training since the act of searching for food in the wild is an inherently masculine act. Men should provide for others, and fishing is a very concrete, hands-on way to do that.

#### Healthy Food

We can’t ignore the obvious, practical benefits of fishing: delicious, fresh fish to be grilled over the campfire or fried on the stove back at home. Fish is loaded with nutrients such as protein, omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins D and B2, calcium, iron, zinc, iodine, magnesium, and potassium. It helps support healthy heart and brain function. There’s a deep satisfaction in eating something you caught with your own hands and that you know is

▶ More than just a hobby, fishing can teach life lessons about masculinity and providing for others.



ONFORUS/GETTY IMAGES

healthy and nourishing for your body and the bodies of your loved ones.

#### Fostering Relationships

Shared, meaningful activities and the resulting memories build relationships between people, particularly men. Men, in my experience, are less likely to want to talk face-to-face with one another and unveil their deepest thoughts, fears, and hopes over coffee. But men do come to know and respect one another when they work side by side on some worthwhile goal. In such a case, the relationship is not the overt focus, which makes many men feel more comfortable with the situation.

But the relationship remains a, if not *the*, primary object of the time spent on the activity (just don’t say that to the other guys). And with the fishing (or other task) keeping the hands and eyes busy, the conversations—the real, meaningful, vulnerable ones—often follow.

Some of the most intimate and formative conversations with my father took place during those treks among the bluffs and up the streams in search of

brook and brown trout. More than any other male connection, the relationship between son and father needs this opportunity for the real, essential talks to happen—the talks about future hopes and fears, about career and vocation, about girls, about past mistakes, about misunderstandings and forgiveness, about just being a man in the modern world.

I’m not sure what kept us going, my father and me, during that first summer in which we faced failure after failure out on the water. I guess it was some combination of the reasons outlined above. But I’m glad we stuck with it—and not just because we did, eventually, land our first trout that year. It took sweat, and fighting swarms of gnats as thick as disappointment, and even some blood. But it was worth it. We were learning to love a rewarding lifelong sport and forming a bond that has endured through all the uncertainties of life. It worked for us. It can work for other fathers and sons, too.

Walker Larson teaches literature and history at a private academy in Wisconsin, where he resides with his wife. He holds a master’s in English literature and language, and his writing has appeared in *The Hemingway Review*, *Intellectual Takeout*, and his *Substack*, “The Hazelnut.”

## Wanted: Moral Courage

When we see acts of moral courage, we should recognize and applaud those who show it

By Lawrence W. Reed

“It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare,” Mark Twain wrote more than a century ago.

If moral courage means knowing what’s right and both doing it and defending it in spite of fear or obstructions, would you say we’ve improved over the years? My heart wants to say yes, but my head tells me no. Every day seems to bring distressing news of moral courage in decline.

When we see acts of moral courage, we should recognize and applaud those who show it. We should feel emboldened to practice more of it ourselves.

Here’s an example. It happened three years ago, but it’s still front and center in my mind. The story comes from Kansas City, Missouri. A struggling, single, black mother named Shetara Sims, who lost her job early in the pandemic and her daughter to street violence in 2012, did an incredible thing. She had only \$7 to her name, but when she found a dollar bill on the ground, she bought a lottery ticket and won \$100. Amazingly, she donated her entire winnings to help a police officer who had been shot in the head a few days before.

Ms. Sims had no obligation to make that donation, and she surely had bills of her own to pay. It wouldn’t have been wrong in any way if she had spent the winnings on herself. She was appreciative of the way the police handled the death of her daughter back in 2012, and in a small way, this gift enabled her to express that gratitude. The Kansas City police responded by forming a GoFundMe page with the goal of raising \$10,000 for Ms. Sims. In a few months, it generated more than \$167,000.

It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare.

Mark Twain

Using the money those policemen raised for her, Ms. Sims started a company in 2021 called Prestige Hauling & Delivery. She has since helped several dozen people earn commercial driver’s licenses and get a new start in life.

Here’s another story, one that is some 30 years old that I’ve told and retold a hundred times. You can read about it in Ted Engstrom’s book “Integrity.” The setting was the little town of Conyers, Georgia—a town full of salt-of-the-earth, self-reliant, patriotic citizens.

When school officials there discovered that one of their basketball players who had played 45 seconds in the first of the school’s five post-season games had actually been scholastically ineligible, they returned the state championship trophy that the team had just won a few weeks before. If they had simply kept quiet, probably no one else would have ever known about it and they could have retained the trophy.

To their eternal credit, the team and the town, dejected though they were, rallied behind the school’s decision.

“We didn’t know he was ineligible at the time ... but you’ve got to do what’s honest and right and what the rules say,” the coach said. “I told my team that people forget the scores of the games; they don’t ever forget what you’re made of.”

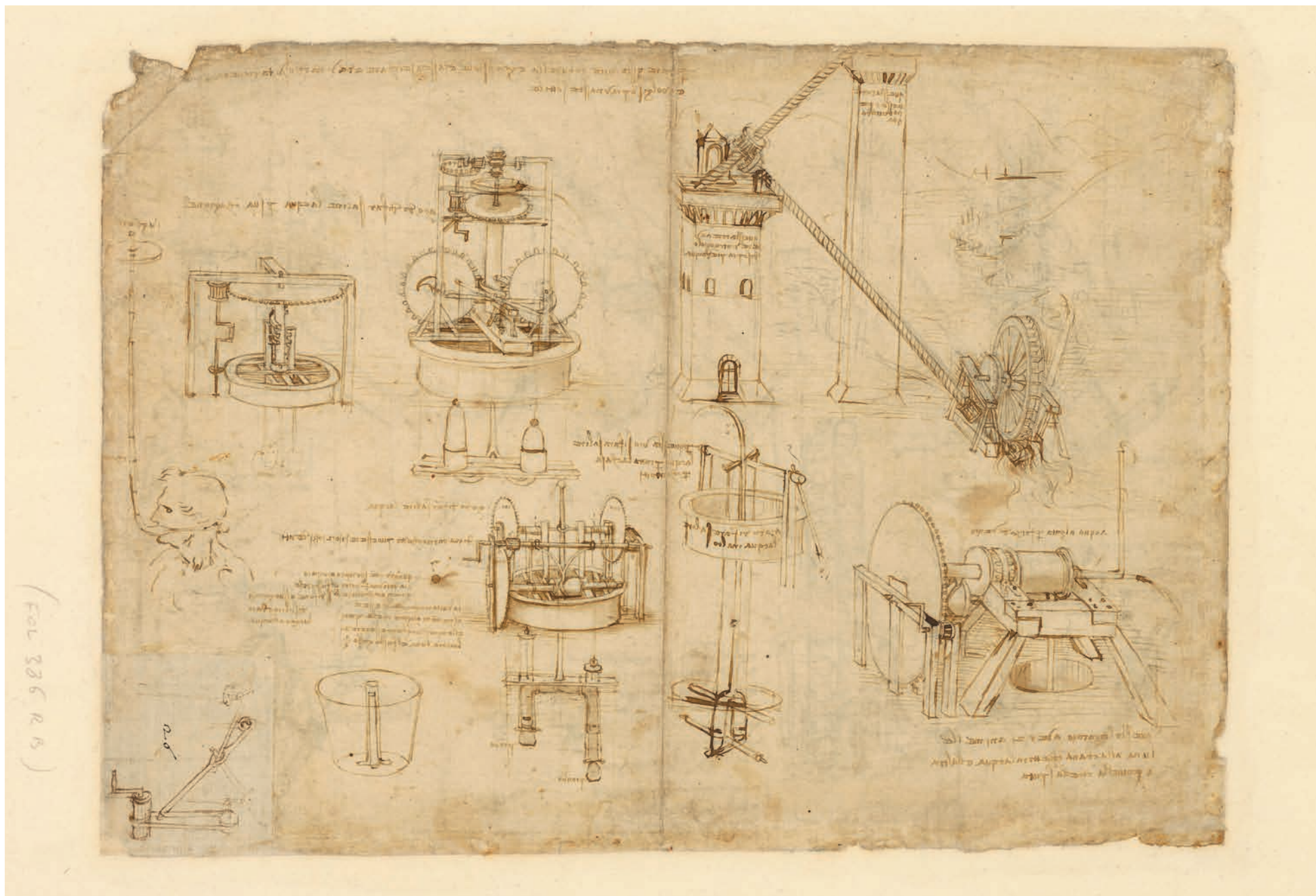
In the minds of most, it didn’t matter that the championship title was forfeited. The coach and the team were still champions—in more ways than one. I’ll bet those students learned a lesson in moral courage that they’ve never since forgotten.

We all should be inspired by such stories. More of them may be just what we need to lift both our spirits and our characters. If you agree, take a look at “Are We Good Enough for Liberty?” (FEE.org/resources/are-we-good-enough-for-liberty/) and encourage friends and family members to read it as well.

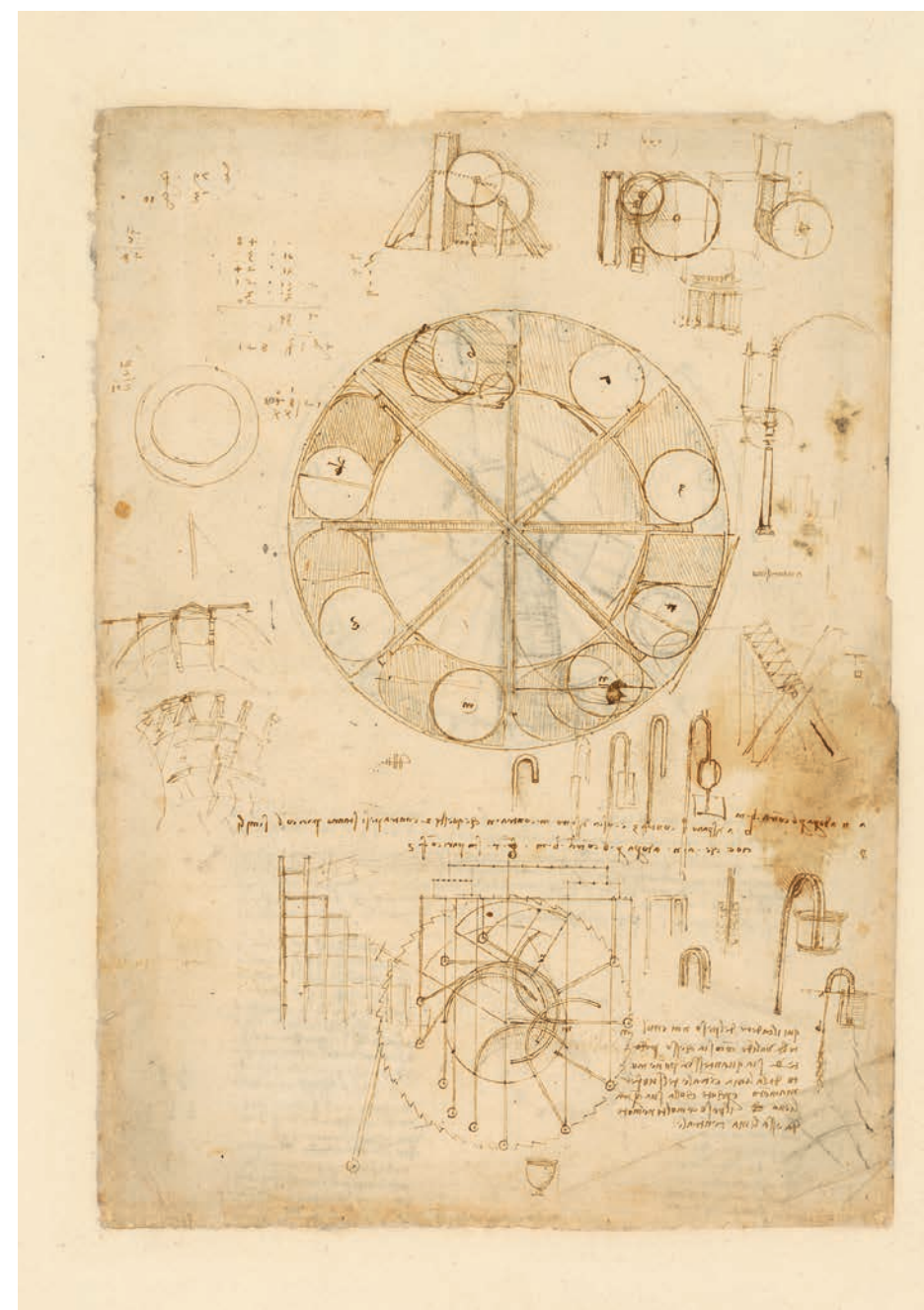
This article was originally published on FEE.org

Lawrence Reed is president emeritus of the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) in Atlanta. He is the author of “Real Heroes: Inspiring True Stories of Courage, Character, and Conviction” and the best-seller “Was Jesus a Socialist?”

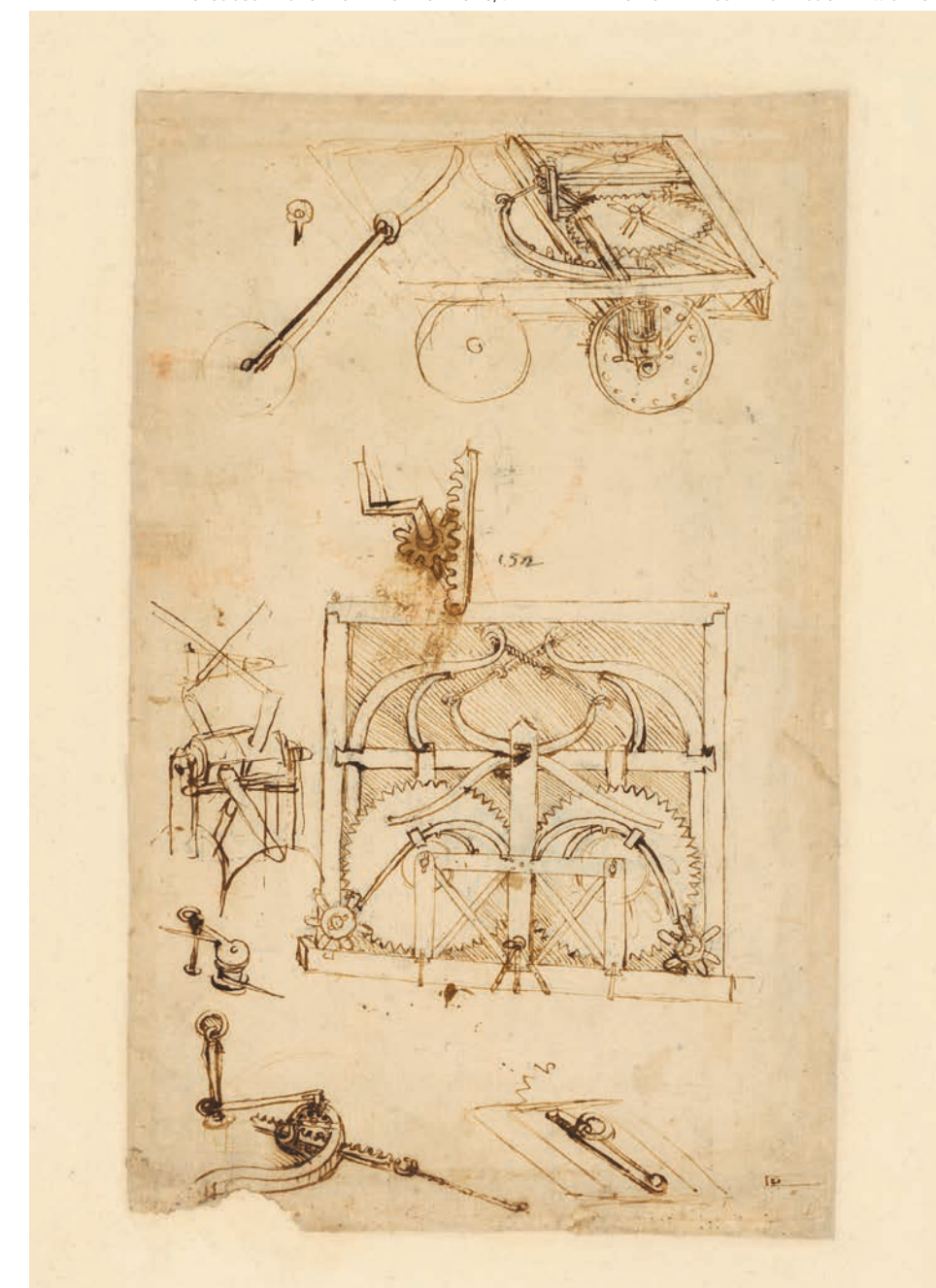




▲ "Diving Apparatus and Water Pumping Devices," circa 1480–1482, by Leonardo da Vinci. Metal point marks, pen and ink on paper; approximately 11 1/4 inches by 15 5/8 inches. "Codex Atlanticus" f. 1069r.



▲ "Perpetual Motion Study and Architectural Studies," circa 1503–1505, by Leonardo da Vinci. Drypoint, pen and pencil on paper; approximately 13 1/2 inches by 9 5/8 inches. "Codex Atlanticus" f. 778r.



▲ "Study of a Self-Propelling Cart," circa 1478, by Leonardo da Vinci. Pen and ink on paper; approximately 10 5/8 inches by 6 5/8 inches. "Codex Atlanticus" f. 812r.

# A US First: Leonardo's Ingenious Drawings Visit Washington

The 'Imagining the Future—Leonardo da Vinci: In the Mind of an Italian Genius' exhibition

By Lorraine Ferrier

Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael created the epitome of Renaissance art. Most of us know Leonardo's artistic brilliance through his best-known paintings, the "Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper," yet his art is one tiny facet of his legendary genius.

Some may be surprised to learn that he spent many years as an engineer, most

notably, about 17 years for Duke of Milan Ludovico Sforza, who also commissioned Leonardo to create "The Last Supper."

Leonardo made it his life's mission to understand everything.

"Reading the thousands of words in Leonardo's note-books, one is absolutely worn out by this energy. He won't take yes for an answer. He can't leave anything alone—he worries [about] it, re-states it, answers imaginary antagonists," wrote late art historian Kenneth Clark in his book "Civilisation."

Leonardo drew on his artistic talents to decipher the world around him and left thousands of pages of notes and drawings, more than any other artist.

For the first time in the United States, 12 of Leonardo's drawings from the "Codex

Atlanticus"—the largest collection of his writings and drawings—are now on display in the "Imagining the Future—Leonardo da Vinci: In the Mind of an Italian Genius" exhibition at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in Washington, until Aug. 20. Leonardo created the 12 drawings between 1478 and 1519. Exhibition visitors can marvel at Leonardo's mercantile script (mirror writing) and see his fantastical theories and research and his fantastical inventions that range from studies of motion, geometry, and mechanics to cartography, hydrology, and aerodynamics, to name a few.

## Nature, Leonardo's Master

The nature of Leonardo's genius was nature itself; it taught him mastery. He wrote

that "human subtlety ... will never devise an invention more beautiful, more simple or more direct than does Nature, because in her inventions nothing is lacking, and nothing is superfluous."

He believed in firsthand experience through one of the five senses, "as the mother of all certainty," with wisdom being "the daughter of experience." He pursued such wisdom; observing the natural world in all its minutiae, making copious notes and drawings of his findings. These discoveries permeated every facet of his work, as an artist, architect, and engineer, to name a few occupations.

According to the website Erenow, Leonardo was a systemic thinker, connecting one phenomenon to another.

"When he studied the proportions of the

human body, he compared them to the proportions of buildings in Renaissance architecture. His investigations of muscles and bones led him to study and draw gears and levers, thus interlinking animal physiology and engineering. Patterns of turbulence in water led him to observe similar patterns in the flow of air; and from there he went on to explore the nature of sound, the theory of music, and the design of musical instruments," the website states.

S.J. Freedberg explains how Leonardo connected the laws of nature to painting, in his book "Painting in Italy 1500–1600." Mr. Freedberg quotes Leonardo's "A Treatise on Painting": "The mind of the painter must transmute itself into the very mind of nature and be the interpreter between it and art, commenting with art the causes of its demonstrations as they are determined by its laws."

According to "A World History of Art," by Hugh Honour and John Fleming: "Careful study of plants and anatomy and the principles of organic growth led Leonardo to construct his paintings according to a similar system, with every part integrated in such a way that there are no apparent beginnings or ends, no sharp transitions. In his 'Virgin and Child With St. Anne,' for ex-

ample, he entwined the three figures into a pyramid, within which forms grow out of one another as naturally as a leaf from its stem or a branch from a tree-trunk."

## Codex Atlanticus

As the largest collection of Leonardo's writings and drawings, the "Codex Atlanticus" shows the extraordinary breadth of the master's genius beyond his artistic talents. Between the late-16th and early-17th centuries, Italian sculptor Pompeo Leoni mounted Leonardo's diagrams, drawings, and notes on 1,119 pages of cartography paper, compiling the codex. Leoni likely arranged the works aesthetically rather than systematically, according to Carolina Donzelli at the Biblioteca Ambrosiana in Milan (which holds the codex). So reading the codex from cover to cover may not make much sense.

An online copy of the codex, however, classifies the works into five searchable categories: "Human Sciences," "Tools and Machines," "Physics and Natural Scienc-

es," "Geometry and Algebra," and "Architecture and Applied Arts."

Having analyzed Leonardo's notebooks, along with the polymath's frequent interpolations, the late art historian Kenneth Clark wrote in *The New York Review* that "at least two eminent Leonardists have gone mad, and several of the others have shown uncomfortable signs of nervous tension. He is too heavy and weighty for any scholar to bear."

In the exhibition, visitors need not tax their minds over the works' content but rather delight in the illustrations and inventions that have influenced modern science and technology. Among the works are detailed diagrams and calculations exploring mathematical principles applied to art and architecture; a

detailed depiction of the central-eastern Mediterranean region, including coastlines, geographical features, and place names; a design for a cloth-shearing machine to automate cutting cloth; studies for a revolving crane with an adjustable counterweight; a drawing for a digging ma-

chine, including a gearbox and a mechanical arm for scooping and removing earth or debris; studies on the behavior of river water; designs for underwater exploration; studies for a self-propelling cart with gears and mechanisms; and drawings for wing designs for flying machines.

"If any of the above-mentioned things seem impossible or impracticable to anyone, I am most readily disposed to demonstrate them in your park or in whatsoever place shall please," Leonardo wrote in a 1482 letter to Sforza.

How wonderful it would've been to witness one of Leonardo's demonstrations. In his absence, Leonardo's "Codex Atlanticus" drawings demonstrate his enduring ingenuity, born from his reverence for nature's perfect creations and his faith in making the impossible possible.

*The "Imagining the Future—Leonardo da Vinci: In the Mind of an Italian Genius" exhibition at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in Washington runs through Aug. 20. To find out more, visit [DCLibrary.org](https://www.dclibrary.org)*

*The "Codex Atlanticus" can be seen online at [Codex-Atlanticus.Ambrosiana.it](https://www.codex-atlanticus.ambrosiana.it)*

## BOOK REVIEW

# How Anti-Colonialism Is Linked to Fascism

German history explored through evidence rather than superimposed beliefs

By Dustin Bass

When social activists and ideologically driven historians claim that something is evil by virtue of its existence, chances are those who receive that information are missing context. Typically, a lot of context. Colonialism is one of those topics regarding which today's social and political commentators are missing a lot of context, although indeed, they aren't short on rhetoric. Bruce Gilley, a professor of political science at Portland State University, has written a new book on the subject in an effort to provide more context on colonialism, although he does add his own hyperbolic rhetoric to the mix.

"In Defense of German Colonialism: And How Its Critics Empowered Nazis, Communists, and the Enemies of the West" is a follow-up to his work on imperialism, titled "The Last Imperialist: Sir Alan Burns' Epic Defense of the British Empire." Both works are hyper-specific, as one centers

on an individual, Burns, although it does extrapolate to the idea and ideals of the British Empire, and the other centers on a country, Germany.

## A Misconstrued Era

This work, as the title notes, is a defense of an era that has been misconstrued, and it's justifiable to suggest that it has been misconstrued on purpose. Gilley took advocacy to task by the use of historical records. Of course, advocacy has its place in the world but not if it's done for political ends; and this is the problem—and it is a very destructive problem—that Gilley works to dissect and lay bare. This is what Gilley tries to differentiate in his book.

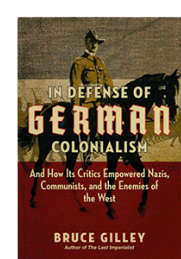
Activist historians work backward toward the beginning, therefore picking, manipulating, and choosing historical records to fit their end goal. Gilley does the opposite by taking the beginning, in this case German colonialism of the 19th century, and moves forward, pulling records and statements from those in German governmental authority and then colonial authority (including the original purpose of German colonialism as promoted in the "Spirit of Berlin" conference)—both good

and bad—and ties them together to weave a conclusion that's indeed opposite of the activists' own.

Does his conclusion create moral clarity for colonialism? I don't think it does. But I don't believe that's the point. Colonialism is a rather morally ambiguous topic, especially in an era that was full of revolutions, independence movements, and, in the words of Woodrow Wilson, "self-determination."

To some extent, one should consider Thomas Sowell's idea of "trade-offs" when considering colonialism. According to Sowell, an American economist, there are no solutions, only trade-offs. Gilley pitted the idea of "trade-offs" against itself. Should a tribe or nation in Africa subject itself to European authority and lose what the West would consider its independence? Or continue as a tribe or nation that, in many parts, remains centuries, if not millennia, behind the rest of the world?

Gilley references the Germans' "Spirit of Berlin" principles to indicate that the goal



**'IN DEFENSE OF GERMAN COLONIALISM: And How Its Critics Empowered Nazis, Communists, and the Enemies of the West'**

By Bruce Gilley  
Regnery Gateway  
Aug. 2, 2022  
Hardcover  
256 pages

was to uplift a group of people by instituting law and order, economic prosperity, technological and medicinal advancements, infrastructure, and education, with the sacrifice of pure autonomy.

Activists promote the idea of pure autonomy even if it means sacrificing the aforementioned. In the closing chapters of his book, Gilley noted the results that came from those "independence movements" in Africa. They most often resulted in nothing short of chaos and violence.

## Addressing the Guilt Theories

Gilley indicated that several theories might be driving forces of anti-colonialism. One is "group guilt," which is the idea of taking an exception and making it the rule. In this instance, the exception is necessarily negative. But Gilley refutes this idea.

"On such a 'group guilt' theory, every contemporary country is illegitimate, genocidal, and evil because every country has at one time experienced major policy lapses that have had terrible consequences," he wrote.

A tie-in to the "group guilt" theory is the use of "micro-history," a term used by Rebekka Habermas in her book, "Scandal in Togo: A Chapter of German Colonial Rule." Gilley uses Habermas's work and theory against her, and along with it the "group guilt" theory, by stating that "if anything, we should assume that a scandal is a scandal because it is not typical." These gloss-over accusations by contemporary scholars and historians

are the bases for Gilley's work.

The author also believes that this purposeful misconstruing of German colonialism—which reaches back a century to the post-World War I British, French, and Belgian propagandists—gave rise to communism in Germany and, ultimately, the Nazi party. Of course, the British and French had their reasons to create such propaganda, as the conclusion of The Great War gave rise to the opportunity to take the available German colonies.

## Third Reich and Anti-Colonialism

But how does the Third Reich fit in with anti-colonialism? Aren't colonialism and fascism synonymous? Gilley maintained they aren't and that they couldn't be more opposite. He argued that considering them synonymous stems from ideology.

"The bigger failure is ideological," he wrote. "Scholars wish ardently to believe that colonialism and fascism were two heads of the same monster.

"The Nazi doctrine was perfectly aligned with the doctrines of anti-colonialism." Pointing to modern scholars, he wrote, "Strangely, the contemporary academy is completely silent on the fascist origins of anti-colonialism.

"They simply do not want to admit that the anti-colonial movements they admire are rooted in fascist ideas and connections." Gilley argued that the reason these modern scholars are silent is that they adhere to the German American historian and political philosopher Hannah Arendt's "continuity thesis." It states that

fascism, Nazism specifically, sprouted directly from the seeds of colonialism. But even without Gilley's dissection, this thesis doesn't hold water. Arendt's "continuity thesis" only works if one works backward, but as mentioned above, counter-historical facts must be ignored or misrepresented.

Gilley may be poking the modern intellectual bear by making a more important point: These types of scholars suffer from ideological servitude and laziness. It's the equivalent of one fish swimming upstream while the others swim downstream: The group finds the downstream trip easy.

But why is this mode of historicism, as I suggested above, destructive? It should never be more evident than what the West

has witnessed over the past decade of tearing down statues, destroying monuments, rewriting history, and educating the next generation to advocate for politically and socially motivated theories.

Gilley described it even more chillingly, stating that "Germany succumbed to an all-embracing and debilitating 'guilt politics' that cast its flourishing era of liberal internationalism ... as an unbroken tale of oppression." He then described what has resulted from this "guilt politics," writing that "[Germany], which above all countries should have emerged from the Cold War as the unrivalled bastion of the Western-liberal and capitalist tradition, became instead a self-doubting wreck of a country that dared not speak its own name."

## The Great Scam

Although Gilley has written a powerful testament that undermines the scholarly activism of many decades (and he isn't alone in this, as he does reference numerous other scholars who believe as he does), he's also pointing the reader to something else, something bigger. It's the fact that we're all being scammed by revisionist historians who advocate for a political ideology rather than what's true, whether that truth is positive or negative.

If colonialism was as terrible as the contemporary rhetoric proclaims, then let the records speak for themselves instead of being filtered through the "guilt" theories and theses. The problem is that history, the history of the morally ambiguous, has been so overwhelmed and buried by ideological activism that the average reader will struggle to believe anything that Gilley suggests. His book appears as another ideology rather than a correction of history. His use of insulting adjectives regarding many of these scholars makes it seem so. There's no camouflaging his irritation and anger about something we should all be irritated and angry about.

The problem is that the pathos in our modern historical conversation plays too large a role. Our view of our own history decides our future. History doesn't need hyperbole; the truth is enough.

*Dustin Bass is an author and co-host of The Sons of History podcast.*



◀ Drawing of the participants in the Berlin Conference in 1884.





▲ The magic of storytelling comes alive through books. The three books below are recommended for their well told stories.

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHELF

# Children's Books About Storytelling

The best way to illustrate the art of storytelling is through beautiful stories

By Arianna Rudorf

Storytelling is powerful. Its history stretches back to the earliest days of humanity, and it's an art form intertwined with the passing down of wisdom and understanding. Our love and need for stories is still alive today, although it may be more clearly seen in our habit of getting drawn into episode after episode of a well-crafted TV show, instead of gathering around a fire to listen to lore from an elder.

The following are three books that do an excellent job of capturing the beauty and importance of a well-told story, and one of the books can even lead young readers to participate in it themselves.

**"The Storyteller's Handbook" by Elise Hurst**

A nontraditional picture book, "The Storyteller's Handbook" contains no words. Instead, each page is filled with Hurst's delightfully imaginative illustrations. Her drawings appear somehow old-fashioned, as if they wouldn't be out of place in an antique book of fairy tales. The foreword by Neil Gaiman, author of "American Gods," suggests that each of these images can lead readers to a magical storytelling experience.

The drawings certainly are touched with magic and may put readers in mind of "The Chronicles of Narnia" or "Alice in Wonderland." One page shows a fox peering into a mysterious forest full of gnarled trees, some growing into spiral staircases that lead to an unknown world above. In another picture, assorted animals have lined up, seemingly waiting for packages at a post office booth manned by a small rabbit. Another page shows giant snails sailing over an ocean of towering waves.

Each picture can be used as the jumping-off point for storytelling. The book will provide parents, grandparents, and caretakers with a lovely opportunity to share their own creativity with a young listener or a chance to jointly imagine what stories each image holds. The intricate details of each drawing mean that each one can be revisited over and over.

Though fantasy lovers and creatives of all ages will be delighted with the pictures in this book, it is recommended for preschool and elementary-aged children. (128 pages, Compendium, 2022).

**"To Tell You the Truth" by Beth Vrabel**

Trixy's grandma was a gifted storyteller, and she seems to have inherited that talent as well. Her fourth grade English class

assignment to write a true story about her life should be easy, but her grandma died six months ago, which has left Trixy trying to make sense of her grief and a head full of her grandmother's stories, which no one else seems to believe. As she copies down and shares her grandmother's stories, they are continually met with doubt as to their truth and accuracy. While some of the stories do seem hard to believe—could her grandma truly have run into Liberace at a small town bakery?—Trixy's faith in her grandma's honesty is unwavering. Eventually, she hatches a plan to prove the stories true. The narrative of "To Tell You the Truth" switches between charming stories of her grandmother's upbringing and Trixy's present-day struggles.

One easily forgivable flaw of this book is that Trixy is wiser and more articulate than seems believable of a 10-year-old. However, her insights and way of speaking, full of charming analogies, add to what makes this book a worthwhile read. The way in which Trixy sees other characters in terms of the stories that she believes have shaped them can teach a valuable lesson about empathy. Another strength of the story is its depiction of Trixy's father as an anchor of strength and love while his wife and daughter struggle with their grief.

Parents should be aware that Trixy's mother shows symptoms of and is eventually diagnosed with anorexia. Given the sensitivity of such a topic, this book would likely not be appropriate for students under the age of 10. (288 pages, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2021).

**"The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak**

In "The Book Thief," stories are a lifeline amid the harshness of Nazi Germany. The book depicts the suffering and tragedy of World War II and the Holocaust while telling the story of young, orphaned Liesel Meminger as she is taken in by the Hubermann family. The narrator, Death personified, describes episodes from Liesel's life, adding his own omniscient comments. Death especially focuses on the moments in which books touch and change the girl's life.

Learning to read from her foster father, who helps her to decipher a stolen copy of "The Grave Digger's Handbook," which marks her younger brother's death, becomes a nighttime antidote to her nightmares about her brother. Liesel gets older and adjusts to her life with her kind new father and her abrasive new mother, and an unexpected visitor joins their household. Stories are one of the few gifts that Max Vandenburg, the Jewish person who takes refuge in the Hubermanns' basement, has left to give to Liesel in exchange for her kindness. Stories—as Liesel reads aloud from her treasured books—are also the only things that cut through the dark terror within the air raid shelters as the war progresses.

This work of historical fiction is beautifully and tenderly told by its peculiar narrator. It is recommended for readers aged 12 and older. (608 pages, Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2007).

Arianna Rudorf is a graduate of the University of Dallas. Although originally from Illinois, she now lives in the Dallas area, where she teaches high school level English.

IMGORTHAND/GETTY IMAGES



# FOR KIDS ONLY

THE EPOCH TIMES

Week 28, 2023



## Inspiration

By Aldous Huxley

Noonday upon the Alpine meadows  
Pours its avalanche of Light  
And blazing flowers: the very shadows  
Translucent are and bright.  
It seems a glory that nought surpasses—  
Passion of angels in form and hue—  
When, lo! from the jewelled heaven of the grasses  
Leaps a lightning of sudden blue.  
Dimming the sun-drunken petals,  
Bright even unto pain,  
The grasshopper flashes, settles,  
And then is quenched again.

“It's the beauty within us that makes it possible for us to recognize the beauty around us. The question is not what you look at but what you see.”

HENRY DAVID THOREAU (1817-1862), AMERICAN NATURALIST AND WRITER



WHAT'S FORREST GUMP'S PASSWORD?



## MEDAL OF HONOR CREATED



On July 12, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed into law the conference of the U.S. Army's Medal of Honor. This award would come to be known as the highest military honor in the nation.

More than 3,400 Medals of Honor have been awarded so far.

The first recipients of the medal were six Union soldiers who, during the Civil War in 1862, penetrated deep into Confederate territory to destroy major infrastructure between Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Atlanta.

By Aidan Danza

## MERINO WOOL

The merino sheep is known across the world for its luxuriant, soft wool, used in expensive garments such as suits, sweaters, shirts, and blankets. The breed has been around since the 12th century, and it traces its origins back to Spain.

In Spain, the merino sheep was the source of the finest fiber that could be obtained. It adorned the robes of kings and nobles, and was guarded jealously by the government. Pastures were always made available for the vast flocks of sheep, which were moved 400 miles twice a year

in what were called the great migrations. Flocks of 10,000 sheep, guarded by 50 shepherds and 50 sheepdogs, moved at a rate of up to 20 miles per day in search of winter or summer pasture. The paths (called cañadas in Spanish) that they carved into the earth are still visible and protected "forever" in Spain from being built upon or blocked.

The great migrations were overseen by a large organization called the Mesta. The export of a live merino was punishable by death, in order to ensure the Spanish monopoly (meaning that the Spanish were the only country selling the merino) on the product, while the export of their wool made many Spaniards rich. For hundreds of years, Spain kept its exclusive hold on the merino market, but in the mid-1700s, merinos were exported to Swedish royalty, and soon after to royalty across Europe. The final nail in the monopoly's coffin was Napoleon's invasion of Spain



Merino wool is known for its softness.



Australia is now the world's largest exporter of merino wool.

around 1800. The Spanish, rather than letting Napoleon have the sheep monopoly, elected to export as many merinos as possible, letting their secret out to the world. At the present time, Spain's merino business has moved to Australia, which is the biggest exporter of merino wool in the world. America and South Africa are large producers of the product. It's still a quality product, but it's no longer as scarce, precious one like it was, and it's actually quite inexpensive due to the large population of the sheep—53 million of them live in Australia alone. Merino wool's chief use now is for sweaters and blankets.



VETERANS

# Kentucky WWII Centenarian Receives Service Medals 78 Years After Service

By Paula L. Ratliff

U.S. Army Air Force World War II veteran Edwin Smith received his military service medals nearly 78 years after he completed his service to our county.

In a small ceremony at Mr. Smith's home in Glasgow, Kentucky, Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-Ky.) presented Mr. Smith with the American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the World War II Honorable Discharge "Ruptured Duck" Lapel Pin. These medals were authorized by Congress after the war concluded and had never been issued to Mr. Smith. He was also given the Army Air Force patches that would have been

worn on his uniform. Additionally, his uniform would have included a metal wing pin and rank insignia.

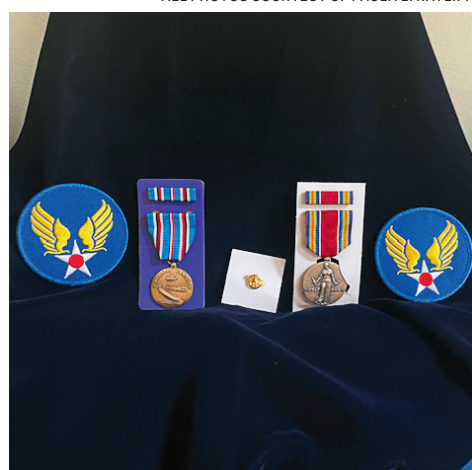
Mr. Smith achieved the rank of second lieutenant and credits the military with teaching him everything he knows about airplanes. "Prior to joining the service in 1941, I had never been on a plane, but I loved it instantly," he told The Epoch Times. "I learned everything I could about planes and military operations."

His story, like many others from the Greatest Generation, is one of miraculous intervention, as he was one of two survivors of a fiery crash of two B-29

super fortress bombers in Weatherford, Texas, on Aug. 14, 1945. Eighteen servicemen perished in the crash.

Mr. Smith spent 36 days in a military hospital and eventually returned to his barracks, only to find that his personal belongings, which included his uniforms and rank insignia, were gone. What happened to his personal belongings is unknown. "I guess they thought we had all died and they emptied everything out," he said. He was discharged a few days later, and he traveled home in a plain khaki uniform with no rank or insignia as a silent hero, unmarked and undecorated.

Mr. Guthrie's office submitted a request to the National Personnel Records Center in Washington, D.C., for Mr. Smith's military service records at the request of this author, who coordinated with the family. "Thankfully, his file survived the fire in 1973 which destroyed 16-18 million official military personnel files at the records center," Mr. Guthrie said.



▲ Mr. Smith was awarded the American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the World War II Honorable Discharge "Ruptured Duck" Lapel Pin.

Mr. Smith said he was grateful to have his medals. "I'm going to save them for when I'm a little older," he said. "I'm just so appreciative to have them after all these years. This is just so very, very nice."

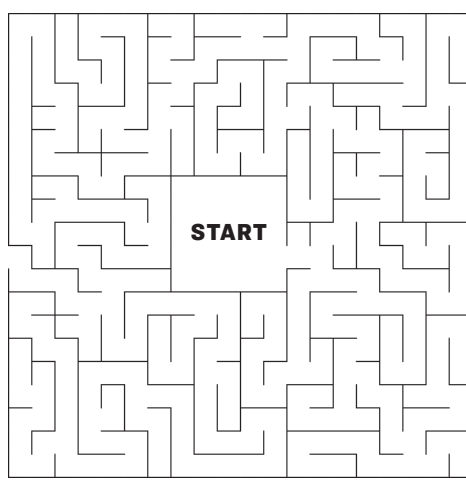
Second Lieutenant Edwin Smith, at 100 years young, is finally a decorated American hero.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAULA L. RATLIFF



Veteran Edwin Smith, 100, receives his military medals at a small ceremony at his home in Glasgow, Ky.

## AMAZING ESCAPES!



USE THE FOUR NUMBERS IN THE CORNERS, AND THE OPERANDS (+, -, AND X) to build an equation to get the solution in the middle. There may be more than one "unique" solution but, there may also be "equivalent" solutions. For example: 6 + (7 X 3) + 1 = 28 and 1 + (7 X 3) + 6 = 28

3	8		
2	6		
+	-	x	÷

Solution For Easy 1  
8 + 8 = (2 - 9)

11	15		
3	12		
+	-	x	÷

Solution for Medium 1  
91 - 8 x (11 + 21)

11	28		
1	24		
+	-	x	÷

Solution for Hard 1  
1 + 11 + 28 + 82



WORD SEARCH: The Great Outdoors!



- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| Bait       | Flies     |
| Beach      | Food      |
| Bees       | Frisbee   |
| Bike       | Fun       |
| Bikini     | Games     |
| Boat       | Gear      |
| Boots      | Hat       |
| Bugs       | July      |
| Campfire   | Kite      |
| Canoe      | Knife     |
| Cookout    | Ladybug   |
| Cornfields | Lake      |
| Desert     | Map       |
| Dragonfly  | Mountains |
| Earth      | Nature    |
|            | Outdoors  |
|            | Parasol   |
|            | Patio     |
|            | Pollen    |
|            | Raft      |
|            | Ranger    |
|            | Rope      |
|            | Sand      |
|            | Tent      |
|            | Trail     |
|            | Water     |
|            | Weeds     |
|            | Woods     |

HIDDEN TREASURES by Liz Ball  
www.HiddenPicturePuzzles.com



ALL PHOTOS BY SHUTTERSTOCK



▲ The west façade of Hampton Court was built in the Tudor style with its red brick, rows of rectangular windows, set of chimneys, and elaborate rooftops featuring gables. The façade features handmade bricks, tiles, stone, timber, and lead. Vitrified bricks form the large crisscross pattern that decorates the palace courtyard. At the center of the building is Anne Boleyn’s gatehouse, with an elaborate octagonal Tudor wine fountain on the right.

LARGER THAN LIFE: ART THAT INSPIRES US THROUGH THE AGES

# Hampton Court: Henry VIII’s Royal Residence

By Ariane Triebswetter

Famous for being Henry VIII’s residence, Hampton Court Palace is located in Richmond, a borough of London. The palace’s rich history and succession of owners make it a showcase for a unique blend of architectural styles.

Originally, Hampton Court belonged to Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, Henry VIII’s administrator, who bought the property in 1514. In 1529, the king removed the cardinal from Hampton Court, and Henry lived there with his wives. The palace then became an official residence for future royals, and the owners improved Hampton Court according to the tastes and fashions of their time.

On the west side of the palace, Henry VIII’s apartments showcase the Tudor style, best seen in the building’s red brick façade, the vast Great Hall, and the royal chapel’s vaulted ceiling.

To the east side of the palace, William III’s apartments were built in a 17th-century baroque style designed by Sir Christopher Wren. One of the highlights is William III’s baroque entrance, leading to the richly furnished chambers.

A century later, the palace saw its final change under the reign of George II and Queen Caroline, with the addition of the Georgian story, including Georgian apartments and art galleries filled with Renaissance paintings. After George II, no British monarch lived at Hampton Court again. In 1839, young Queen Victoria opened Hampton Court to paying visitors for the first time to finance a restoration.

The complex, with more than 60 acres of formal gardens and a historic maze, is a beautiful setting for a royal residence.

**After George II, no British monarch lived at Hampton Court again.**

*Ariane Triebswetter is an international freelance journalist, with a background in modern literature and classical music.*



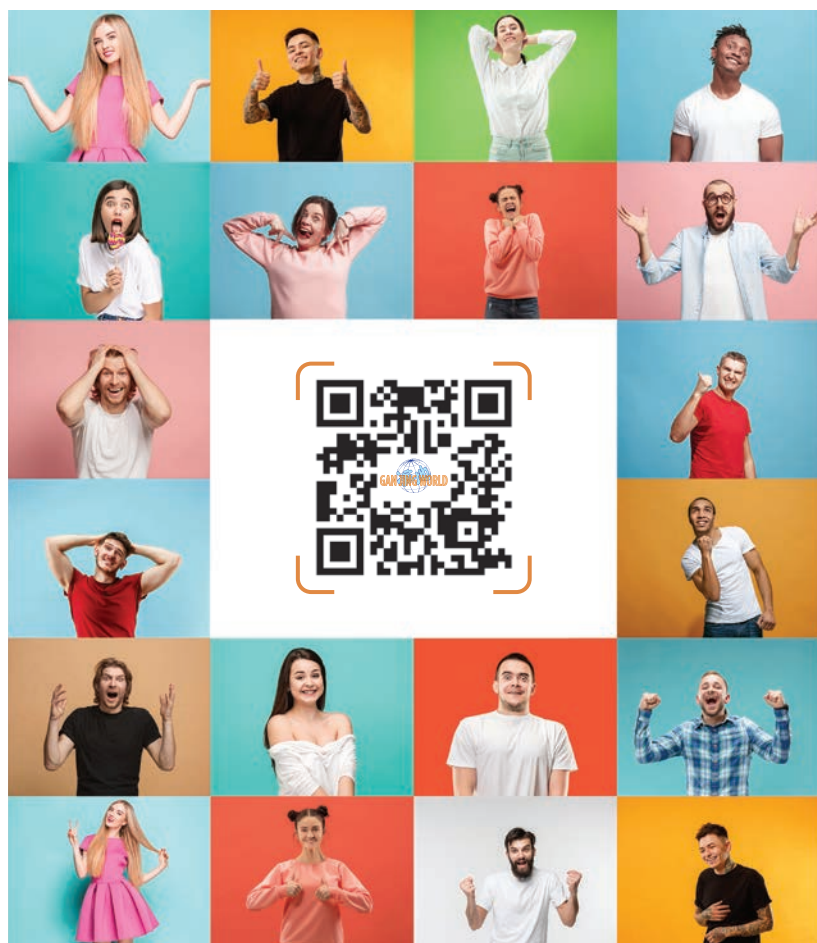
▲ The Great Hall is the largest room of the palace at 106 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 60 feet high. Located at the heart of Henry VIII’s Tudor palace and built in the 1530s, it owes much of its current appearance to its 1840 restoration. The walls are lined with tapestries depicting the story of Abraham, chosen by Henry VIII. Above the tapestries are stained-glass windows and hunting trophies, as Hampton Court was a famous hunting lodge.



▲ A marble staircase connects the floors of William III’s apartments. Here, visitors can admire the colorful illusionistic painting with gilded frames while climbing up the marble staircase to reach the principal floor—all showcasing the baroque style. William III commissioned Italian painter Antonio Verrio to create the illusion of a great Roman hall, depicting a competition between Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar.



◀ Installed in the chapel in the 1530s by Henry VIII, the vaulted ceiling was painted in blue by Sir James Thornhill for Queen Anne in the early 1700s. The celestial-themed ceiling features a playful scene of gilded cherubs playing musical instruments, adding a baroque element to the Gothic ceiling. In the right corner, in white lettering, is the motto of the British royal family: “Dieu et mon droit” (God and my right).



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