The book was found

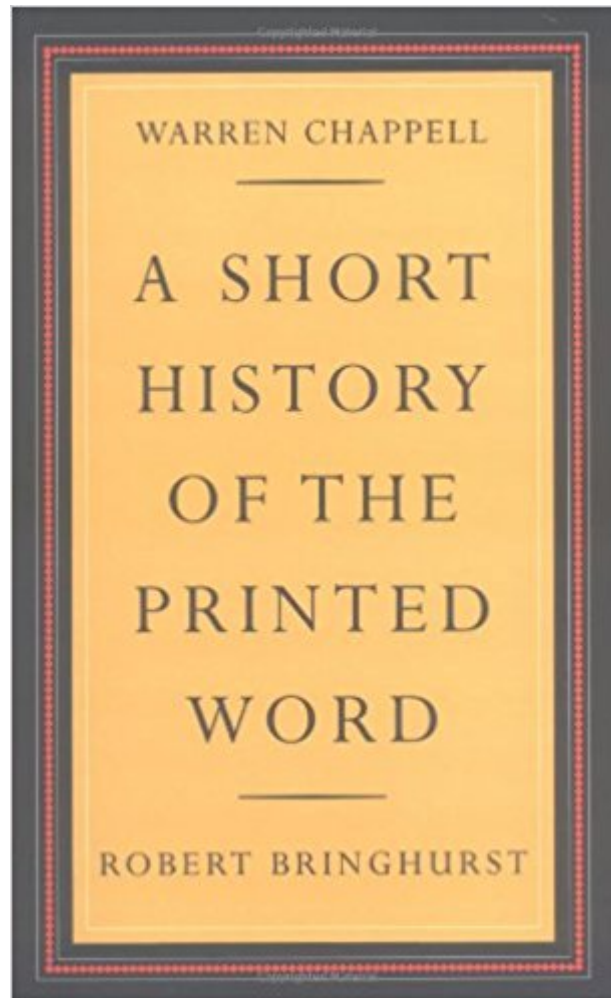# A Short History Of The Printed Word

WARREN CHAPPELL

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE PRINTED WORD

ROBERT BRINGHURST

Synopsis

This classic volume should find its place on every design student's bookshelf. Here is the history of the printed word, from the earliest alphabets through the evolution of the printing press. The contributions of the great printers and typographers are here. A new chapter by Robert Bringhurst takes up this history where Chappell put down his pen, covering the most recent developments in the printed word. Over 200 illustrations appear throughout.

Book Information

Paperback: 315 pages

Publisher: Hartley and Marks Publishers; 2 Rev Upd edition (June 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881791547

ISBN-13: 978-0881791549

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 5.8 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars   10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #517,742 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #145 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Book Design   #210 in Books > Computers & Technology > Graphics & Design > Desktop Publishing   #232 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Typography

Customer Reviews

Classic study

This book was on my wish list for several months before I finally purchased it. The author walks you through the history of printing by each century, noting improvements, significant advances, and set backs along the way. Governments rarely adapt quickly to new technologies and the most interesting parts of the book covered how governmental views towards printing changed through out the centuries. The book is an interesting read. Unfortunately it is fraught with printing errors ("firm" is frequently printed as "rm" and "first" appears as "rst" and many apostrophes are missing). This was surprising given that this is the 2nd edition of this work.

My copy of this book is the revision by Robert Bringhurst and it is simply riddled with what I take to be postscript errors. It's so bad that I wonder how they can get away with this. I didn't pay much for

my copy, else I'd have returned it for a refund. It just cannot have been proofed in the exact revision present in my copy.I award this book a (5-2) star rating. If fixed it would be a five star book. I look forward to a third edition - the authors' combined words correctly typeset.

Had to have this book so I can highlight and border write in it. Bought it after the librarian loan me her copy and I started to read it and had to give it back and get my own copy!

Chappell and Bringhurst have put together an informative, enjoyable book on printed text. It starts with a brief history of writing in general, then of the Roman alphabet now used for most European languages. Along the way, we see a few hints about the history of page layout and other typographic concerns. The book devotes a few pages to the skilled craft of punch-cutting, of carving the steel stamps that represented the master copies from which metal type was replicated.That just sets the stage, though. The next 250 pages or so cover the history of printed text in Europe and the New World. It's an amazing journey, filled with rich characters. Gutenberg was only one of those characters, and his bankruptcy played a surprising role in the spread of printing. Chappell followed through, era by era, until the start of photocomposition, somewhat after WWII. Bringhurst added the section on computer typesetting and all-electronic fonts, bringing the story quite up to date.Bringhurst has done an elegant, seamless job of updating Chappell's original work. This is a posthumous collaboration that actually works, to my happy surprise. The book tells a coherent story in a very readable way, without bogging down in pedantic detail. The history of print can't really be told in just 300 pages, but this is an outstanding summary. It provides the framework and structure for the full story. Interested readers will look elsewhere to furnish the framework with detail, but will keep coming back to give context to those finer points.With Bringhurst as collaborating author, you know that this book has to be a joy to read, both in its prose and in the structure of the physical book itself. I suggest it to anyone interested in typography, printing, or history in general.//wiredweird

A thoroughly enjoyable read on the people, places, and things that make up the history of type and publishing. Warren Chappell's book was revised and appended by noted author Robert Bringhurst and this book is the perfect complement to Bringhurst's own "Elements of Typographic Style". The content is alive with names, significant facts, technological contributions, and lots of good illustrations. This is an amazing book that is well-written and historically significant, and the authors fill in all of the gaps on the history of type and printing. The short history they describe is concise and thorough. The only disappointment is Bringhurst's final chapter on "The Digital Evolution and

the Close of the Twentieth Century", where he completely overlooks the significant contributions of the people and technologies in the digital age and opts instead to explore the work of a few small private presses. Also, how can one brief summary chapter hope to describe the accomplishments of the last thirty years? Sadly, Bringhurst missed a real opportunity to provide a keen insight on the digital revolution and its impact on the printed word. All the same, this is a "must have" book for typographers, type designers, and typophiles.

I have the 1999 second edition paperback version of the book. I found the first 100 or so pages of this book very engaging, But starting at the fifth magazine all the ligatures and many punctuation marks are missing - printed as spaces - or, in a few cases replaced with slashed capital o. Trying to read this book through all the typographical errors is like trying to read on a bumpy bus driving in circles around a construction site. I wish I could finish this book but it's too aggravating. On the plus side, I have a new-found appreciation for how important ligatures are.

Among graphic designers, one of the finest, most popular books in recent years is Robert Bringhurst's The Elements of Typographic Style (Hartley & Marks, 1992). In this book, Bringhurst revisits a classic history of typography, publication design and printing techniques that was originally produced in 1970 by Chappell (1904-1991), a book designer, illustrator and author who had studied with Rudolf Koch. Of eleven highly readable chapters, all were written by Chappell, with the exception of the last on "The Digital Revolution and the Close of the Twentieth Century." Why reissue Chappell's book? As Bringhurst explains in the preface, "He knew some of the things that historians know, but mostly he knew what historians don't know. I wanted the names and dates set straight, insofar as possible, and yet to hear the story told as Chappell told it, from a workbench rather than a keyboard, with silences in place of self-advertisements, and graver marks and acid stains in place of any footnotes." (Review copyright 2000 by Roy R. Behrens from Ballast Quarterly Review 15, No. 4, Summer.)

Download to continue reading...

Warriors Word Scramble: Word Scramble Games - Word Search, Word Puzzles And Word Scrambles (Word Games, Brain Games, Word Search, Word Search Games, Word ... Scramble, Word Scrabble, Unscramble Word) Word Search For Adult 100 Puzzles Book Volume1: Word Search Book Word Find Puzzles Large Print Game (Word Search Book For Adult 1) A Short History of the Printed Word World History, Ancient History, Asian History, United States History, European History, Russian History, Indian History, African History. (world history) 50 Extra Large Print Word

Search Puzzles and Solutions: Easy-to-see Full Page Seek and Circle Word Searches to Challenge Your Brain (Big Font Find a Word for Adults & Seniors) (Volume 1) 50 Extra Large Print Word Search Puzzles and Solutions: Giant Themed Circle a Word Searches for Active Brains with Everything Jumbo Sized (Big Font Find a Word for Adults and Seniors) (Volume 3) Swear Word Coloring Book Adults Retro & Pop Art Edition : A Very Sweary Coloring Book: 44 Stress Relieving Curse Word Pictures To Calm You The F**k Down (Swear Word Coloring Books) (Volume 4) Unscrambled - The Ultimate Anagram Solver for Scrabble, Words With Friends, and most popular word games! (Word Buff's Totally Unfair Word Game Guides Book 3) Word Search: 100 Word Search Puzzles: Volume 3: A Unique Book With 100 Stimulating Word Search Brain Teasers, Each Puzzle Accompanied By A Beautiful ... Relaxation Stress Relief & Art Color Therapy) Word Search: 100 Word Search Puzzles: Volume 1: A Unique Book With 100 Stimulating Word Search Brain Teasers, Each Puzzle Accompanied By A Beautiful ... Relaxation Stress Relief & Art Color Therapy) Word Search Book Vol.1: 1,000 Verbs for Daily use (Word Search Games Puzzles) (50 Carefully Designed Word Search with Solution to Twist Your Brain Book 1) 101 Word Find Puzzles Vol. 1: Themed Word Searches, Puzzles to Sharpen Your Mind (Large 101 Themed Word Search Series) (Volume 1) 50 Extra Large Print Word Search Puzzles and Solutions: The Best Easy-to-Read Circle-a-Word Puzzles With Fun Themes (Big Font Find a Word for Adults and Seniors) (Volume 2) The Little Book of Big Word Puzzles: Over 400 Synonym Scrambles, Crossword Conundrums, Word Searches & Other Brain-Tickling Word Games Word Search 360 Puzzle Books Word Finds: word search book adults large print puzzles game (Volume 1) Swear Word Adult Coloring Book : Blow Off Some Fuc*ing Steam 40 Stress Relieving Sweary Designs: Release Your Anger With The Best Swear Word Relief Book (Swear Word Coloring Books) (Volume 9) 3-Word Stories Coloring Book: The Adult Coloring Book of Colorist-Created 3-Word Stories (Three Word Stories Adult Coloring Books) (Volume 1) 3-Word Stories Coloring Book (Three Word Story Adult Coloring Book): The Adult Coloring Book of Colorist-Created 3-Word Stories (Adult Coloring, ... Adult Coloring Book Series) (Volume 1) Word Search: 100 Word Search Puzzles: Volume 2: A Unique Book With 100 Stimulating Word Search Brain Teasers, Each Puzzle Accompanied By A Beautiful ... Relaxation Stress Relief & Art Color Therapy) Adult Activity Book Saucy Swear Words: Coloring and Puzzle Book for Adults Featuring Coloring, Sudoku, Dot to Dot, Crossword, Word Search, Word Scramble, Word Match and more

Privacy

FAQ & Help