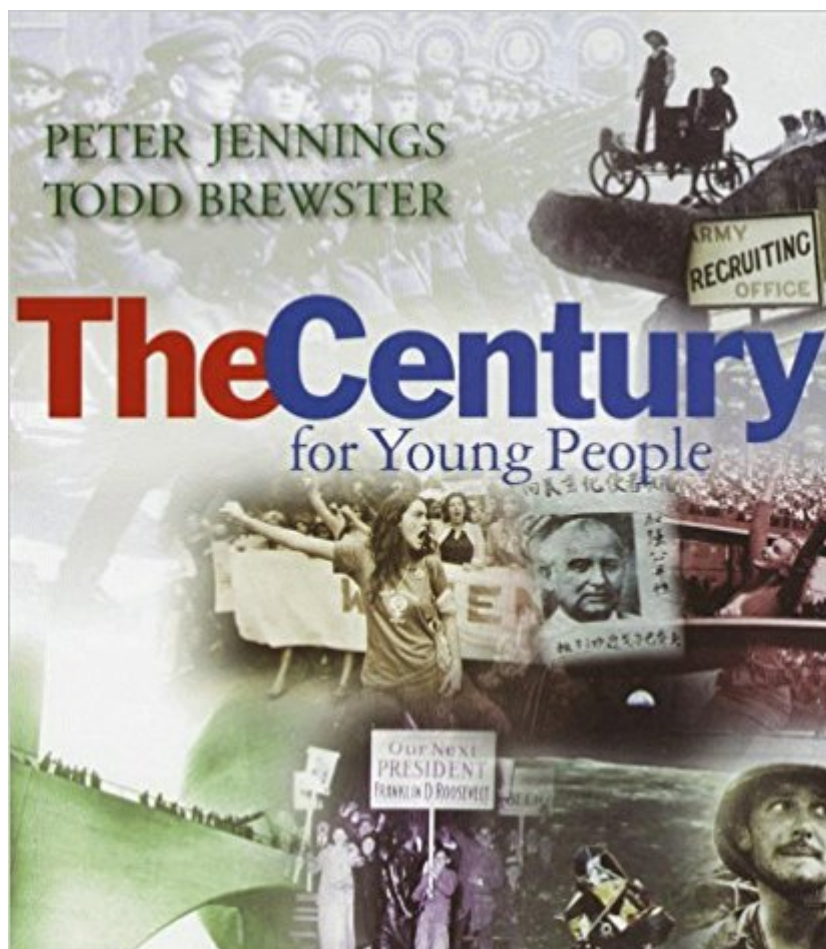


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# The Century For Young People



## Synopsis

Adapted from the #1 national bestseller especially for children 8-12! The twentieth century has been a time of tremendous change, the most eventful hundred years in human history. Join Peter Jennings and Todd Brewster for a fascinating journey back in time to experience the century's greatest moments. Through the vivid first-person accounts of eyewitnesses, the most thrilling--and the most terrifying--events of the past hundred years come to life. Here are the voices of ordinary people--children and adults--expressing their joys and sorrows, their hopes and fears, as they watched history being made. This is history as it was lived, and as it will be remembered for the next hundred years. This lavish book, in association with the television series presented by ABC News and The History Channel, includes more than 200 exquisitely reproduced photographs with an astonishing power to illuminate history. They will delight and appall you, educate and entertain you, as you watch the century unfold before your eyes. This spectacular book is a keepsake for every family's library. It is a riveting read and an essential research volume. It is the story of our time for all time.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

The 20th century brought seeds of change, global nightmares, years of doubt, and machine dreams. These are also some of the chapter headings of this stunning tribute to the past 100 years.

Adapting the bestselling adult version of *The Century*, journalists Peter Jennings and Todd Brewster take an unusual approach to the overwhelming task of capturing a century in 241 pages. Rather than using a standard didactic, textbook-style method, the authors choose to focus on the lives of ordinary people--those who influenced, and were most affected by, the radical changes of the 1900s. Marty Glickman describes the effect Teddy Roosevelt had on him as a boy. Gilda Snow's father, an electrician for the 1939 New York World's Fair, took her on a "backstage" tour of the event when she was 9 years old. Inez Jessie Baskin experienced the Montgomery bus boycotts firsthand. Stacy Horn, creator of an Internet virtual community, muses on the phenomenon of online relationships. Each sumptuous spread comes alive with Life magazine-style photos (over 200 total), compelling captions, feature essays on historical events and people, and pale blue sidebars with the stories of ordinary men and women of the century. With a new introduction aimed at young readers, and a higher personal story to narrative ratio than the full-length version, this magnificent volume belongs in any family's collection. (Ages 10 and older) --Emilie Coulter

With Armstrong's (*In My Hands*) help, news veterans Jennings and Brewster here smoothly adapt their bestselling tome for adults, *The Century*, for a younger audience. They offer young Americans a unique look at the past 100 years, via not only archival material but through the eyes of the people who lived through it. The volume combines the authors' affecting storytelling style with an exceedingly appealing design to draw readers into the major events that have shaped our nation (and often the world) in the 20th century. A clear chronology emerges in 12 concise chapters that explore events from the Wright Brothers' early flights to the world's devastating wars, to racial strife and the AIDS epidemic. Each chapter contains illuminating accounts in the words of ordinary people living in extraordinary times. Victor Reuther, a 1930s labor union organizer Ernest Michel, an Auschwitz survivor; and Inez Jessie Baskin, who sat at the front of a bus with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the end of the 1955 Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott, are examples of the myriad personalities that give voice to familiar textbook facts. Although the title implies a global approach to the century, many of the world events are limited to the situations that acted as catalysts to drive people to the U.S. from their native countries (e.g., the Russian Revolution, the chaos leading to WWI) or that affected America directly (such as the Vietnam War). What's most noteworthy here is the sense of immediacy the authors' approach offers: the reading experience is akin to peeking at hundreds of fascinating family trees and may well encourage youngsters to inquire about their own relatives' experiences. A bounty of excellent photographs (especially those taken at the turn of the century) accompanied by ample, detailed captions rounds out this essential addition to the family library.

Ages 8-up. (Oct.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I have never written a bad review before. However, this book is so politically driven that I am shocked. Of course you would expect some of that from Peter Jennings, but it is over the top. If you are a liberal you will love this book. Many of the hand picked interviews are slanted. The portrayal of life in this country is not what my husband and I have experienced. When I was growing up and today everyone I know is totally cool with the blacks, the whites, the rich and the poor. Yet listening to the news you would think that we ALL hate each other. That's the slant of the book. The evil rich white capitalist have RUINED the world with their greed and lust for power. In my personal opinion that description fits those, like Peter Jennings, in the media much better. I really wanted to be able to use the book with my son for part of his history. However I had to keep researching to find the details of the picture they were left out. Those are the little details that will change the whole perspective on the history picture created.

It's fascinating to understand the recent history of our country; it's triumphs, defeats, and how people migrated at different times. Britain and much of Europe are also included regarding WW1 and WW2. What's really cool is that they have first hand accounts from people who were actually there, say living in Britain when the Luftwaffe were bombing the heck out of them. Really easy to read and I would recommend it to middle students on up

This was required reading for my middle schooler and after he finished it, I read it too. Really thought it was great. Last chapter was probably the weakest-- felt as though Jennings wasn't sure what would stand out in years to come, so threw a little of everything in there. Even so, I would highly recommend it.

This book was recommended by a Charlotte Mason Homeschool I belong to. However, the emphasis on certain issues in the 80s and 90s may be troubling for some Christian parents. The narratives in the book are excellent and the book is not boring. There are some tough issues you need to review and be able to talk at length with your children (i.e., AIDS). I don't agree with some of the things emphasized (the OJ Simpson trial) and not mentioned (Pope John Paul's role in Poland's shaking off the yoke of communism and bringing down the iron curtain).

Wonderful primary source material from people living through a century in American history. I'm

using this to supplement my daughter's US history course through her school. It's much more interesting than most history texts.

With life screaming past us sometimes beyond the speed of sound, it is refreshing to find a resource to reflect upon. This is well written, photographed & presented. It sufficiently capsulizes important points of history & invites further investigation through out. Recommended/

It's a wonderful book, with clear summaries of the history of the 20th century, great photos, and it was an incredible bargain, 2nd hand, but like new.

Very well done and the photos are historic and engaging. My pre-teen son used this for his history course this year and it was his favorite subject.

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