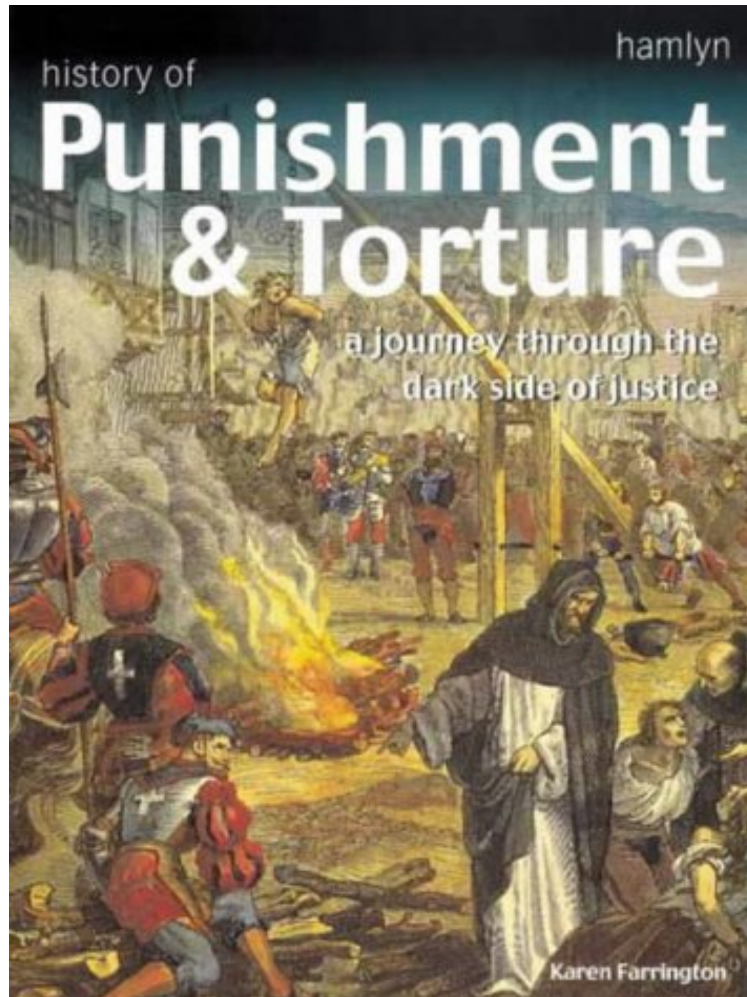


[FREE] History of Punishment Torture: A Journey Through the Dark Side of Justice (Hamlyn history)

History of Punishment Torture: A Journey Through the Dark Side of Justice (Hamlyn history)

Karen Farrington

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6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. broad and shallowBy Janrae FrankThe book is both broad, covering a lot of ground, but intensely shallow. The pictures are almost worth the price of admission, but the details are seriously lacking. Reads like a Time/Life book which tantalizes but does not produce anything. I bought it as research for a novel in progress and was very dissatisfied.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Nicely illustrated but uninformativeBy Michael N. RyanA ghoulish item for the coffee table with lots of pictures but little in information. Of no use to the scholar of this subject or of history in general.Overall, not very good.5 of 6 people found

the following review helpful. Beautiful yet horrifying
By A Customer
The book is very well illustrated and done in full color throughout. It is fascinating and gory; a great reminder of how civilized we have become and how safe a world we live in now. Read it in doses because too much of it at once is apt to make you sick and disgusted with the human animal.

The history of punishment and torture makes for macabre and mesmerizing reading: retribution without mercy, medieval justice, hellish prisons, and ingenious methods of inflicting torment upon the body and mind. Trace a path from the days of harshest penalties to more modern methods of reforming wrongdoers. Images graphically capture the plight of prisoners forced to walk treadmills till they went insane; bodies nailed to crosses; suspects tied to ducking stools; and the courts of the Inquisition, which left no stone unturned in their efforts to exact a confession. Discussions of human sacrifice, ordeal by fire or water, the dark days of juvenile justice, the pillory, and capital punishment reveal the astonishing array of clever and cruel sentences devised by those determined to deliver the ultimate punishments.