



World of Ideas

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Conversations with thoughtful men and women about American life today and the ideas shaping our future. Bill Moyers brings us one-on-one interviews with forty-two extraordinary men and women--poets and physicists, historians and novelists, doctors and philosophers--discussing what's happening in our lives, our hearts, and our minds as we approach a new millennium.

World of Ideas Details

Date : Published April 26th 1989 by Doubleday Books (first published 1989)

ISBN : 9780385263467

Author : Bill Moyers , Betty Sue Flowers

Format : Paperback 513 pages

Genre : Philosophy, Nonfiction, Politics, Sociology, History

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From Reader Review World of Ideas for online ebook

Mary says

Read during lunch at work off and on, but did to have time to read a whole chapter at a time. Liked some interviews better than others. Some gave an interesting reminder of an earlier decade.

Ahmed Monib says

I read this book a long time ago, and yet to this day some of the insights from the interviews have forever shaped my life.

Matt says

It's interesting reading this from a perspective some 20 years down the road. Most of what they say about America and the future applies just as much today as it did then, but there are also the obvious major changes -- everyone is hand-wringing about Japan overtaking our economy instead of China, for example, which is kind of amusing. But it would be great if Moyers would do this series again now, and preferably with a less America-centric focus.

Dick says

This was a great book! Moyers questions in his interviews have always been insightful. This book is a collection of those interviews. Very insightful people. You'll agree with some, disagree with others, but will find it interesting. In fact I think it's time to reread.

Kimberly Purcell says

Pretty heady stuff, but it certainly gets you thinking. You probably won't agree with everything that's talked about, but it gives you another perspective and that's always a good thing.

Cws says

XOS-973.92M

Jake says

Worth the read.

Allison says

Slowly flipping through this and reading interviews at random. It was published in 1989, but it is fascinating to see how much the book still speaks to me and to our contemporary world. Moyers is an excellent interviewer. The interview with Asimov is blowing me away! That man...wow!

This is a book one needs to own because it is impossible to read all at once. I got through 5 of the interviews. Wow, some really interesting stuff. I was so excited to read the interview with Chinua Achebe. He's been one of my favorite authors since I studied West African Lit in college. And Bill Moyers, he rocks!

Julie Akeman says

Finally done and this was a good intellectual stretch of the brain. This book is huge, like a coffee table book but worth the long reading experience. I was in eighth grade when this book was published so reading this took me back to a lot of history of the current events back then which of course didn't have that much recollection of personally, it's through my other reading that I recall those events covered in this World of Ideas. Well worth reading and seeing how far we come and interesting to see how this book is still relevant today.

Don Stanton says

Undeniably a visceral look at today's Liberal movement, but written before today's politics. Excellent read and well written.

I recommend it.

Will Todd says

Nice idea for a book, gathering transcripts of conversations held with intelligent guests of Bill Moyers PBS series (one of whom I actually met at a dinner party)...

...but a bit dated now.

This book predates 1990, so there's a lot of references to people and events of the 1980's (President Reagan, Iran-Contra, etc).

Still, some of the discussions are universal and relevant, and therefore worth a look.

And since I bought my copy at a library sale, definitely worth \$1!

Matt Clem says

A compilation of interviews with influential leaders across different areas of thought.

Cat says

Inspiring and thought-provoking. This reminds me of why Bill Moyers just rocks! What's fascinating is that he conducted the interviews over 20 years ago specifically to address the ideas of the day--and it still shines.

Here's one tidbit:

Moyers: "The chief reward of [interviewing people] is the joy of learning, of coming away from each person with a wider angle of vision on the times I live in, on the issues I am expected to act upon and the choices I can make as a father, husband, journalist, and citizen. The main reason I seek the ideas of others is for help—the diagnosis and treatment of my own isolation and the enlargement of my understanding."

WndyJW says

I enjoyed the book. Bill Moyers would be an interesting man to sit next to at a party.

Jploof says

I've had this book for a couple years now. Nothing like putting the author's face on a book to remind me that I haven't read his book yet.
