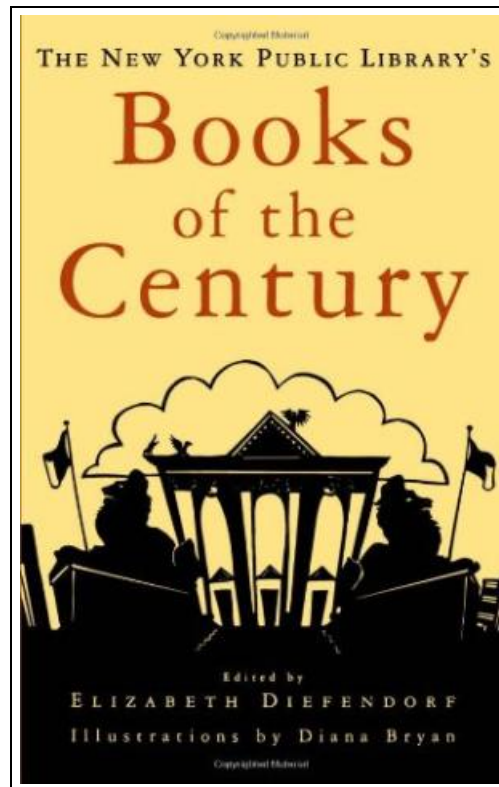


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Oxford University Press, USA. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Diana Bryan (illustrator). Paperback. 240 pages. Dimensions: 8.1in. x 6.2in. x 0.6in. What are the books that helped shape and define the last hundred years? This was the question put to the librarians of The New York Public Library as part of the Librarys 100th anniversary celebration. Which books had influenced the course of events for good or ill? Which interpreted new worlds or delighted millions of readers? Their answers to these questions formed *Books of the Century*, a highly popular exhibit during the Librarys centennial celebration (1895 to 1995), highlighting an exhilarating collection of important works by some of the greatest writers of our times. Now, the companion volume, *The New York Public Librarys Books of the Century* takes readers on a thought-provoking tour of the last hundred years, through the medium of the printed word. Here readers will find over 150 pivotal works organized into topical categories, reflecting themes that have informed the century, among them *Mind and Spirit*, *Protest and Progress*, *Women Rise*, or *Natures Realm*. Each is introduced with a brief commentary illuminating the themes and issues the books in that section address, followed by an annotation for each title offering a brief description and a key to its significance. The range of books is remarkable, embracing Chekhovs *Three Sisters* and Bram Stokers *Dracula*, as well as Galbraiths *The Affluent Society* and Durkheims *Suicide*, or Timothy Learys *The Politics of Ecstasy* and W. E. B. Du Boiss *The Souls of Black Folk*. Readers will find many illuminating juxtapositions. In *Utopias and Dystopias*, for instance, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, *Peter Pan*, and *Lost Horizon* are in the unexpected company of *Nineteen Eighty-four*, *A Clockwork Orange*, *Brave New World*, and *The Time Machine*. The centurys darkest moments are mirrored in...



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