"What is the History of Books?" Revisited

Abstract
Having accepted the invitation to revisit my essay of 1982, "What Is the History of Books?", I find that I can do it only in the first person singular and therefore must ask to be excused for indulging in some autobiographical detail. I would also like to make a disclaimer: in proposing a model for studying the history of books twenty-four years ago, I did not mean to tell book historians how they ought to do their jobs. I hoped that the model might be useful in a heuristic way and never thought of it as comparable to the models favored by economists, the kind in which you insert data, work it over, and arrive at a bottom line. (I do not believe that bottom lines exist in history.) It seemed to me in 1982 that the history of books was suffering from fissiparousness: experts were pursuing such specialized studies that they were losing contact with one another. The esoteric elements of book history needed to be integrated into an overview that would show how the parts could connect to form a whole—or what I characterized as a communications circuit. The tendency toward fragmentation and specialization still exists.
fields of history, archaeology, art history, military history, and philology. Among Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes. 418 Pages:2011·11.11 MB·84,629 Downloads. Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes Destiny Disrupted The history of the books became an acknowledged academic discipline in the 1980s, Contributors to the discipline include specialists from the fields of textual scholarship, codicology, bibliography, philology, palaeography, art history, social history and cultural history. Its key purpose is to demonstrate that the book as an object, not just the text contained within it, is a conduit of interaction between readers and words. This article treats the history and development of book, newspaper, and magazine publishing in its technical and commercial aspects. The preparation and dissemination of written communication is followed from its beginnings in the ancient world to the modern period. General considerations. The history of publishing is characterized by a close interplay of technical innovation and social change, each promoting the other. Publishing as it is known today depends on a series of three major inventions—writing, paper, and printing—and one crucial social development—the spread of literacy. Of the nonperiodical publications, books constitute by far the largest class; they are also, in one form or another, the oldest of all types of publication and go back to the earliest civilizations. History Revisited book. Read 4 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. Combining short fiction with speculative history, this entertainin... Such are the lines tha History Revisited: The Great Battles Edited by J David Markham and Mike Resnick. In concept, this is a great idea. Take some classic military oriented AH short stories: Southern Strategy by Michael Flynn.