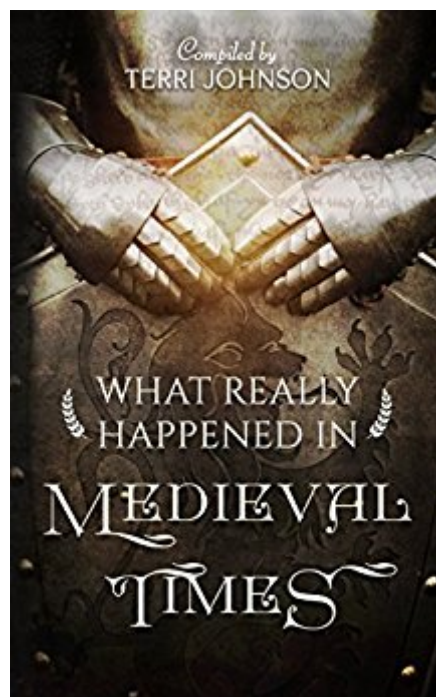




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# **What Really Happened In Medieval Times: A Collection Of Historical Biographies (What Really Happened... Book 2)**



## Synopsis

This collection of historical biographies geared toward 8-14-year-olds presents the lives of ordinary people who accomplished extraordinary deeds during the time of the Middle Ages. Illustrated with stunning portraits, this inspiring compilation of stories describes with historical accuracy and age-appropriate content the quality character and unbending determination of St. Patrick, Theodora, Alcuin, Wenceslas, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Joan of Arc, Johann Gutenberg and Martin Luther.

## Book Information

File Size: 5461 KB

Print Length: 153 pages

Publisher: Knowledge Quest, Inc.; 2 edition (December 19, 2016)

Publication Date: December 19, 2016

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01MRZ9ZND

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #547,077 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #21

inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > History > Medieval #159 inÂ Books >

Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Medieval #5388 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Children's Nonfiction

## Customer Reviews

Perfect match up for Story of the World and Classical Conversations Cycle 2

Biographies were always my favorite books as a kid, but my children prefer stories. As a homeschooler, I'm always looking for fun, entertaining ways for my children to learn--without realizing they're learning! So I was so excited when I got this book because these biographies of Middle Age heroes read like stories, not typical dry recitations of facts about a person's life. The biographies cover St. Patrick, Gutenberg, Joan of Arc, Martin Luther, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Alcuin,

Empress Theodora (Justinian's wife), and Good King Wenceslas (that's right, it's not just a Christmas song!). These make a wonderful read-aloud for elementary aged kids; middle schoolers and high schoolers can read them easily on their own. Overall, a wonderful supplement for the study of Middle Age history. We also have "What Really Happened in Ancient Times" and plan to buy "What Really Happened in Colonial Times" because the series is that good.

I love the "What Really Happened..." series of books! Each story is the perfect length for reading aloud in one sitting, and the stories bring to life many of the important people from the time period. "What Happened in the Middle Ages" is a story book, not a book about theology, and it doesn't attempt to sort out all the religious differences of the time period. The stories of St. Patrick, Theodora, Alcuin, Wenceslas, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Joan of Arc, Johann Gutenberg and Martin Luther are presented in an approachable and authentic way that my children and I both enjoy.

"What Really Happened During the Middle Ages" includes biographies on St. Patrick, Theodora, Alcuin, Good King Wenceslas, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Joan of Arc, Johann Gutenberg, and Martin Luther. The book is easy to read and written to interest students of all ages, whether as a read-aloud or read alone (recommended for ages 8+). This book is guaranteed to get your children interested in history! The biographies are written by current authors and even some homeschoolers! Highly recommended. I'm looking forward to reading "What Really Happened in Modern Times" coming out in Spring 2008.

We have really enjoyed this book as a read aloud in our homeschool. History comes alive when we spend time learning about the lives of those who have come before us. It is wonderful to sit snuggled on the couch reading these stories to my children and being transported back to the Middle Ages. For the past couple of years, it has become tradition to read the story of St. Patrick and St. Patrick's Day. History is about people, and this book does an excellent job and bring to life ages that have passed.

We love this book & I hugely recommend the other books that Terri Johnson has written. This book was a great addition to our study of the middle ages!!! Thanks Terri!!!!

This book was certainly interesting, and gave various perspectives on people in history. I appreciated the thoughtful and intelligent writing. One difficulty I have with many writings on some

historical figures, especially those from the Catholic church, is the assumption and treatment of these persons as genuine Christians. Perhaps some were, such as Saint Patrick, as only the Lord knows for sure, but when these folks are teaching Roman Catholic dogma and pointing others to the pope and Mary as having the authority and power that only Jesus has, then there is definitely a problem. At the very least, it would be good to include some reasons to wonder about their salvation, based solely on what the Bible teaches, not on someone's opinion.

This book is well written and does live up to a study of the Middle Ages. However, it does pose some problems for Catholic homeschoolers. This is not a book I would hand to my children. As a read-aloud I can use the stories that are wonderful (like St. Patrick) and either skip or adapt the problematic ones.

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