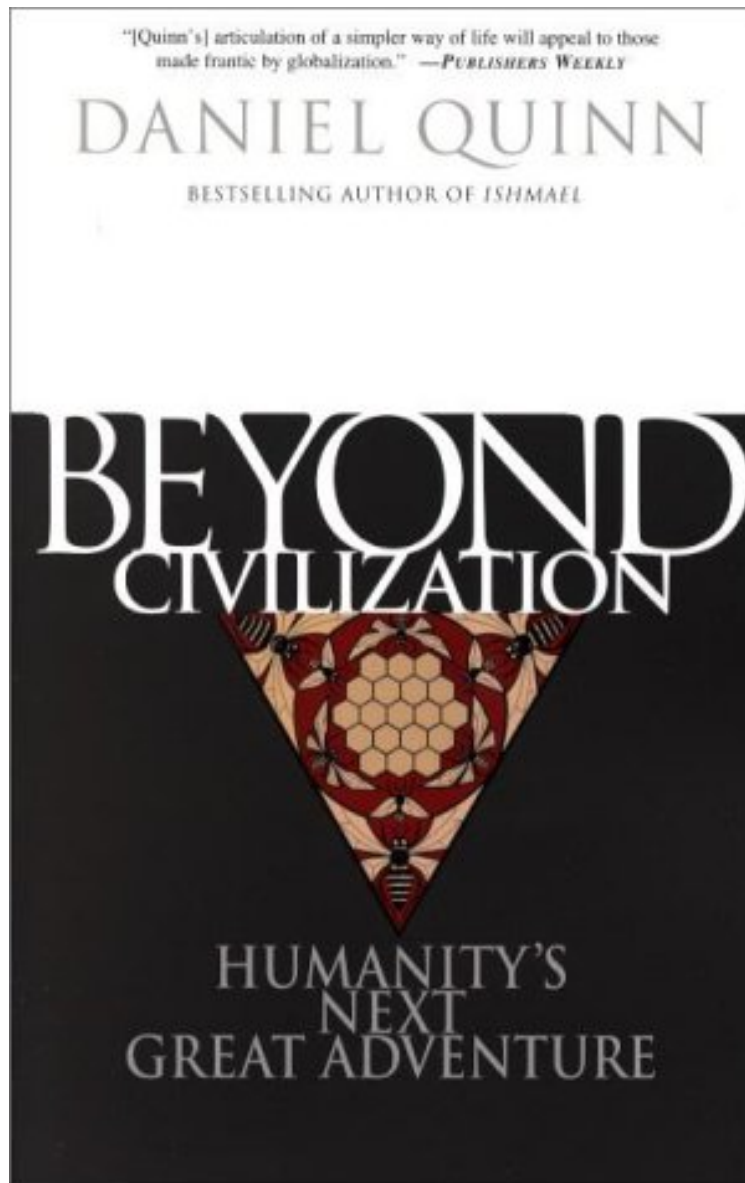


[Free] Beyond Civilization: Humanity's Next Great Adventure

Beyond Civilization: Humanity's Next Great Adventure

Daniel Quinn

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Daniel Quinn : Beyond Civilization: Humanity's Next Great Adventure before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beyond Civilization: Humanity's Next Great Adventure:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Simply a must read for anyone questioning where we are and where we are going. By J. Dolan After reading Quinn's Ishmael novels and The Story of B, Beyond Civilization pulls it all together. Here, he outlines clearly and concisely the themes of the fiction, how they relate to our real world problems,

and what "We" collectively will do about it eventually. Mr. Quinn makes a powerful case that what has happened before will happen again because it works; tribes of humans work and large scale civilization doesn't yet work in a stable system long term so we are left with two choices: 1. Fix the system we are in by adapting it and redirecting it. Unfortunately all large civilizations have failed to do in order for it to survive before so there is no expectation or evidence we can or will do any better this time. 2. Leave the system that is failing and create new, smaller, tighter localized communities that share a common value set and form new cultures. In the simplest terms, eventually a mass of people will "walk away" from what doesn't work regardless of laws or obstacles put in the way by authorities. At that point, the system fails, and many new ones will spring up just as they always have because that is what works. It is an easy read in a Q and A style format and my copy is jammed full of sticky notes for references. Ishmael changed my world perspective and Beyond Civilization cemented the new ideas together. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Academic approach By CJ in Buffalo This is a more academic approach to the messages Quinn introduced in his previous book (where fiction modeled loosely on the Platonic dialogues does the teaching). I enjoyed it but it isn't for everyone. Start with Ishmael and proceed accordingly! Quinn is definitely an author this world needs. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Be prepared to escape the confines of your established mind By Ingrid Martine I've read all of DQ's books. Read this one after the trilogy. Beyond Civilization is a big relief. Having been exposed to this extraordinary mind, I knew he would not take us back, but I couldn't envision the "forward," the beyond civilization. And yet, it's entirely do-able. I need no prescription. What is clear to me is that the change we must have can only come from changed minds. The case DQ makes clearly, fiercely, courageously, inexorably in all his books for changed minds leaves us never with the WHAT in doubt, only with the HOW. This book just deepens the experience of certainty. DQ convinces the reader who's curious and able to inquire into what he says despite the discomfort he or she may experience. The rest of what you read here is not DQ. It's my opinion. For the how, we have some options: coaching to make the unexamined assumptions that have US... visible. To change our thinking we must first see it. Secondly, read some more books, especially models that help you get to expand your self-awareness. Aside from my own book, I can recommend Kegan and Lahey's Immunity to Change and the Mastering Life's Energy course and book by the same name (Nemeth).

In Beyond Civilization, Daniel Quinn thinks the unthinkable. We all know there's no one right way to build a bicycle, no one right way to design an automobile, no one right way to make a pair of shoes, but we're convinced that there must be only one right way to live -- and the one we have is it, no matter what. Beyond Civilization makes practical sense of the vision of Daniel Quinn's best-selling novel Ishmael. Examining ancient civilizations such as the Maya and the Olmec, as well as modern-day microcosms of alternative living like circus societies, Quinn guides us on a quest for a new model for society, one that is forward-thinking and encourages diversity instead of suppressing it. Beyond Civilization is not about a "New World Order" but a "New Personal World Order" that would allow people to assert control over their own destiny and grant them the freedom to create their own way of life right now -- not in some distant utopian future.

.com Futurist Daniel Quinn (Ishmael) dares to imagine a new approach to saving the world that involves deconstructing civilization. Quinn asks the radical yet fundamental questions about humanity such as, Why does civilization grow food, lock it up, and then make people earn money to buy it back? Why not progress "beyond civilization" and abandon the hierarchical lifestyles that cause many of our social problems? He challenges the "old mind" thinking that believes problems should be fixed with social programs. "Old minds think: How do we stop these bad things from happening?" Quinn writes. "New minds think: How do we make things the way we want them to be?" Whether he is discussing Amish farming, homelessness, "tribal business," or holy work, Quinn's manifesto is highly digestible. Instead of writing dense, weighty chapters filled with self-important prose, he's assembled a series of brief one-page essays. His language is down to earth, his metaphors easy to grasp. As a result, readers can read about and ponder Beyond Civilization at a blissfully civilized pace. --Gail Hudson From Publishers Weekly With the publication of his trilogy of novels (Ishmael; The Story of B; My Ishmael), Quinn became something of a cult figure in visionary fiction. In those books, Quinn explored the self-sustaining nature of tribal societies and his belief that the current worldwide ecological and economic crises are due to the agriculture-based organization of civilized societies. He now turns his hand to nonfiction, with an appeal for universal renewal through a "New Tribal Revolution." Acknowledging that it would be impossible for most civilized humans to return to the hunting and gathering typical of tribes, Quinn argues that modern men and women need to invent a completely different mode of existence. To do this, they must question a basic assumption of all civilized societies: "Civilization must continue at any cost and must not be abandoned under any circumstances." Quinn, borrowing from Richard Dawkins, calls this assumption a "meme," the cultural equivalent of a gene. Quinn's main examples are peoples like the Maya and Anasazi, who returned to tribalism after unsuccessful attempts at other types of social organization, and the communal structure of traditional circuses. The author has a knack for stating the obvious with tremendous personal conviction. His articulation of a simpler way of life will appeal to those made frantic by globalization and all the forces conspiring to make people dance as fast as

they can. (Oct.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Using parable and dialog, Quinn introduces the reader to some of the philosophical views that have led to our tacit assumption that civilization is the answer to humanity's problems. He offers critical reminders, without being either polemical or technical, that civilization may not be the answer. Rather, he asserts that we should move beyond hierarchy to a new form of tribal living. Not the communal style of the 1960s but one suffused with conscious, purposeful awareness of each action's greater impact. Quinn notes, "Beyond civilization isn't a geographical space...it's a cultural space that opens up among people with new minds." As is characteristic of his philosophical novels, *Ishmael*, *The Story of B*, and *My Ishmael*, the prose is readable and the sociological discussion unobtrusive. Fans of Quinn's earlier works will welcome this title. Libraries seeking to provide contemporary discussion on human ecology will find this title an asset. -A Leroy Hommerding, Citrus Cty. Lib. Syst., Inverness, FL Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.