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In The Darkening Age, Catherine

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Nixey tells the little-known - and deeply shocking - story of how a militant religion deliberately tried to extinguish the teachings of the Classical world, ushering in unquestioning adherence to the 'one true faith'. The Roman Empire had been generous in

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The Darkening Age is an eye-opener for anyone who thinks that Christianity is, or ever was, a

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done a good job in setting the record straight.

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The Darkening Age: The Christian Destruction of the Classical World

Author Catherine Nixey

Genre History Publisher Houghton

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Mifflin Harcourt Publication date

April 17, 2018 Pages352

ISBN978-0544800885 The

Darkening Age: The Christian
Destruction of the Classical World
is a 2018 book by Catherine
Nixey. In the book, Nixey argues
that early Christians deliberately

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destroyed classical Greek and Roman cultures and caused the Dark Ages. Despite popular success, the book received extensive criticism from

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Darkening Age presents Hypatia's murder as the culmination of a straightforward Christian-vs.-pagan conflict, when it was something more complex. As the conflict over...

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Darkening Age, by Catherine...

Reviewed in the United States on
August 11, 2018 The "Darkening
Age" is nothing new and is just
the latest iteration of the now
tired and decrepit Whig "Myth of
Progress" which presents
Antiquity in some amazing light,

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the "Christian Era" as the dark age, and that the light of Antiquity was rekindled in the Enlightenment.

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Nixey looks at the rise of Christianity, showing how its early radical followers ravaged vast swaths of classical culture, sending the West into an era of dogma and intellectual decline.”
— Publishers Weekly, “Spring 2018 Announcements: History” “

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- Catherine Nixey, M4B 2018 In
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The Darkening Age : Catherine
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"The Darkening Age by Catherine Nixey looks at the rise of Christianity, showing how its early radical followers ravaged vast swaths of classical culture, sending the West into an era of dogma and intellectual decline." - Publishers Weekly, "Spring 2018

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Announcements: History"" [A] vivid and important new book...

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The Darkening Age describes the Late Antique Roman world between two arbitrarily chosen

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events: the destruction of the temple of Al-Lat in Palmyra in the 380s by Eastern (possibly Nestorian) Christians, and the departure of Damascius from Athens in 529.

Book review, 'The Darkening Age:

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'one true faith'. The Roman
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A New York Times Notable Book
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of 2018 “Searingly
passionate...Nixey writes up a
storm. Each sentence is rich,
textured, evocative, felt...[A]
ballista-bolt of a book.” —New
York Times Book Review In
Harran, the locals refused to
convert. They were dismembered,

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their limbs hung along the town's main street. In Alexandria, zealots pulled the elderly philosopher-mathematician Hypatia from her chariot and flayed her to death with shards of broken pottery. Not long before, their fellow Christians had invaded the city's greatest

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temple and razed it—smashing its world-famous statues and destroying all that was left of Alexandria's Great Library. Today, we refer to Christianity's conquest of the West as a "triumph." But this victory entailed an orgy of destruction in

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which Jesus's followers attacked and suppressed classical culture, helping to pitch Western civilization into a thousand-year-long decline. Just one percent of Latin literature would survive the purge; countless antiquities, artworks, and ancient traditions

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were lost forever. As Catherine Nixey reveals, evidence of early Christians' campaign of terror has been hiding in plain sight: in the palimpsests and shattered statues proudly displayed in churches and museums the world over. In *The Darkening Age*, Nixey

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resurrects this lost history, offering a wrenching account of the rise of Christianity and its terrible cost.

The Darkening Age is the largely unknown story of how a militant religion comprehensively and

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deliberately extinguished the teachings of the Classical world, ushering in centuries of unquestioning adherence to 'one true faith'. Despite the long-held notion that the early Christians were meek and mild, going to their martyr's deaths singing

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hymns of love and praise, the truth, as Catherine Nixey reveals, is very different. Far from being meek and mild, they were violent, ruthless and fundamentally intolerant. Unlike the polytheistic world, in which the addition of one new religion made no

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fundamental difference to the old ones, this new ideology stated not only that it was the way, the truth and the light but that, by extension, every single other way was wrong and had to be destroyed. From the 1st century to the 6th, those who didn't fall

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into step with its beliefs were pursued in every possible way: social, legal, financial and physical. Their altars were upturned and their temples demolished, their statues hacked to pieces and their priests killed. It was an annihilation.

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Authoritative, vividly written and utterly compelling, this is a remarkable debut from a brilliant young historian.

'A searingly passionate book' -
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embracing and absorbing new creeds. But with the coming of Christianity, everything changed. This new faith, despite preaching peace, was violent, ruthless and intolerant. And once it became the religion of empire, its zealous adherents set about the

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destruction of the old gods. Their altars were upturned, their temples demolished and their statues hacked to pieces. Books, including great works of philosophy and science, were consigned to the pyre. It was an annihilation. A Book of the Year in

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In A.D. 381, Theodosius, emperor of the eastern Roman empire, issued a decree in which all his subjects were required to subscribe to a belief in the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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This edict defined Christian orthodoxy and brought to an end a lively and wide-ranging debate about the nature of God; all other interpretations were now declared heretical. It was the first time in a thousand years of Greco-Roman civilization free thought

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was unambiguously suppressed. Why has Theodosius's revolution been airbrushed from the historical record? In this groundbreaking book, acclaimed historian Charles Freeman argues that Theodosius's edict and the subsequent suppression of

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paganism not only brought an end to the diversity of religious and philosophical beliefs throughout the empire, but created numerous theological problems for the Church, which have remained unsolved. The year A.D. 381, as Freeman puts it,

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was "a turning point which time forgot."
The Clival World

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Religious Dissent in Late Antiquity
reconsiders the religious history
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Christian Destruction Of The Ciclar World focusing on the shifting position of dissenting religious groups - conventionally called 'pagans' and 'heretics'. The period from the mid-fourth century until the mid-fifth century CE witnessed a significant transformation of late Roman society and a gradual shift

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It is a detailed analysis of selected themes and a close reading of selected texts, tracing key elements and developments in the treatment of dissident religious groups. The book focuses on specific themes, such as the limits of imperial legislation

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traditional pagan religion in the Roman Empire. The Final Pagan Generation recounts the fascinating story of the lives and fortunes of the last Romans born before the Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity. Edward J. Watts traces their experiences

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of living through the fourth century's dramatic religious and political changes, when heated confrontations saw the Christian establishment legislate against pagan practices as mobs attacked pagan holy sites and temples. The emperors who issued these laws,

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the imperial officials charged with implementing them, and the Christian perpetrators of religious violence were almost exclusively young men whose attitudes and actions contrasted markedly with those of the earlier generation, who shared neither their juniors'

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interest in creating sharply defined religious identities nor their propensity for violent conflict. Watts examines why the "final pagan generation"--born to the old ways and the old world in which it seemed to everyone that religious practices would continue

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as they had for the past two thousand years--proved both unable to anticipate the changes that imperially sponsored Christianity produced and unwilling to resist them. A compelling and provocative read, suitable for the general reader as

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critically acclaimed author of
Augustine. Pagans explores the
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surprising and unique viewpoint:
that of the people who witnessed
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what seemed then a powerful
religious cult. These "pagans"

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were actually pious Greeks, Romans, Syrians, and Gauls who observed the traditions of their ancestors. To these devout polytheists, Christians who worshipped only one deity were immoral atheists who believed that a splash of water on the

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deathbed could erase a lifetime of sin. Religious scholar James J. O'Donnell takes us on a lively tour of the Ancient Roman world through the fourth century CE, when Romans of every nationality, social class, and religious preference found their

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world suddenly constrained by rulers who preferred a strange new god. Some joined this new cult, while others denied its power, erroneously believing it was little more than a passing fad. In Pagans, O'Donnell brings to life various pagan rites and

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day. Armageddon and Paranoia
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weapons that began with the arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union and now extends worldwide. For decades, an apocalypse seemed imminent, staved off only by the certainty that if one side launched these missiles the other would

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launch an equally catastrophic counterstrike. This method of avoiding all-out nuclear warfare was called "Deterrence," a policy of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD). Still, though neither side actively wanted to plunge the world into nuclear wasteland, the

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possibility of war by misjudgment or mistake meant fears could never be entirely assuaged. Both an exploration of Deterrence and the long history of superpower nuclear policy, Armageddon and Paranoia comes at a time when tensions surrounding nuclear

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armament have begun mounting once more. No book until this one has offered so comprehensive a history of the topic that has guided--at times dominated--the world in which we live.

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