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Playing Cards - History of the Pack and Explanations of its Many Secrets

W. Gurney Benham

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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A very good book on the subject, but may be dated. By Richard
The history of common place items is always of interest to me. Things we take s for granted that nobody seems to know where they came from. This book is a good introduction to the history of the common playing card, and I highly recommend it. What struck me as odd, however, was the language of the book. While it is listed here as published in 2013, I recognized the style as distinctly not of this century. This is actually a reprint of a book originally written in the early 1900s. While this did not diminish my appreciation for the book, nor does it diminish my recommendation of it, it should not be viewed as the most current scholarly study of the subject. Its proclamations should be viewed with the understanding that they were made over a hundred years ago. This should be a little more prominent in its listing as it may be important to someone looking for the latest research on the subject. A lot can happen in 100 years. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Historical Approach By Upstate New Yorker This is a history of the playing card deck. It is illustrated and covers the European origins of the deck. It is full of playing card lore and touches on the use of the cards for divination. A great reference work that should be on the shelf of card collectors and those who are serious about fortune telling with the cards. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Mike This is a very informative book.

A history of playing cards from the early origins in mediaeval France to the wide range of decks available now. guide
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