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Charles Block's lively exploration traces the development of Humanism from prehistory to the present in comprehensive, yet marvelously succinct form. Focusing on the great thinkers of each era, Block has adroitly distilled the essence of their contributions into short chapters that kept me captivated and eager to keep turning the pages.

Humanism explores not only the expected, from Sophocles to Gandhi, but the oft-neglected as well. Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1797) “was a journalist, scholar, and educator, a radical thinker and courageous fighter for women’s rights.” Frederick Douglass (c.1818-1895), was born into slavery, became a leading abolitionist and, later, served as a Reconstruction-era bank president. And Norman Ernest Borlaug (1914-2009), born on a family farm in Iowa, saved over a billion people from starvation by his relentless pursuit of disease-resistant wheat, winning the Nobel Peace Prize.

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**The old saying that you can’t judge a book by its cover does not apply to this amazing one, Humanism, by Charles Block. The minute I saw this beautiful human head filled with all types of humanity I was pulled to read the collection of humanistic views very skillfully woven into the history of civilization from the beginning of the world as we know it to the present. I had trouble finishing my daily tasks in my rush to read this exciting, informative book. I enthusiastically give five stars to Humanism: The What, Who, Why, When & Where.**