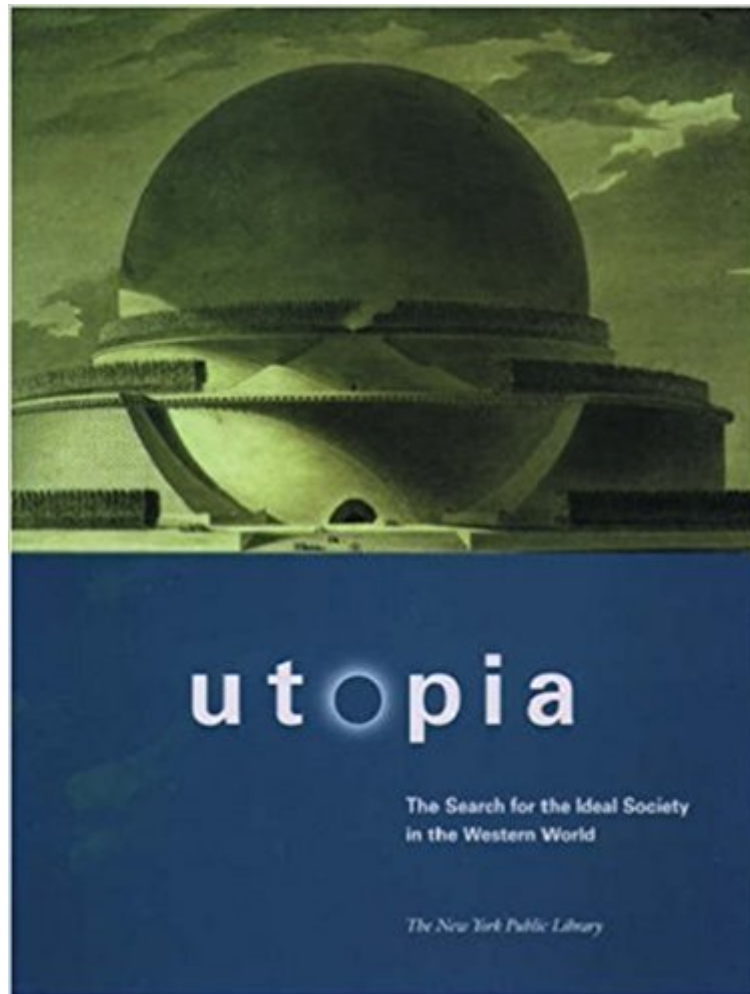




**Ebook Directory**  
the best source of ebook

The book was found

# Utopia: The Search For The Ideal Society In The Western World



## Synopsis

The idea of utopia, the perfect place, has tantalized humanity for thousands of years, from the myth of the Garden of Eden to the high-tech folly of Biosphere 2. Now the Bibliotheque Nationale de France and The New York Public Library are jointly sponsoring a major exhibition that explores the utopian imagination and the myriad attempts to achieve utopia, showcasing a spectacular collection of art and literature. *Utopia: The Search for the Ideal Society in the Western World* is the catalogue for the American exhibition, which will be on view in New York from October 14, 2000 through January 2001. Featuring essays by curator Roland Schaer and by Alain Touraine, Lyman Tower Sargent, and other leading European and American scholars of utopia, this elegantly designed volume will explore the long tradition of thought and art envisioning the "perfect place," extending from classical antiquity to the present. Lavishly illustrated with more than 200 pictures, most of them in color, *Utopia* presents such fascinating images as Theodore de Bry's 16th-century idealized drawings of the native inhabitants of the New World, Renaissance renderings of ideal architecture, posters from the Soviet Union and the 1939 World's Fair in New York, and photographs of experimental communities. Included as well are such resonant documents as a copy of the Declaration of Independence in Thomas Jefferson's hand, stunning illuminated manuscripts, and rare items relating to the French Revolution and to the social utopias of the Romantic Age from the collections of the Bibliothe'que Nationale. Both beautiful and intellectually provocative, *Utopia* is the perfect vehicle to explore an idea that has arisen, in many forms and many places, throughout human history.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 400 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press (January 11, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195141105

ISBN-13: 978-0195141108

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 1.2 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,586,849 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #67 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Bibliographies & Indexes > Politics](#) #747 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Social Theory](#) #912 in [Books >](#)

## Customer Reviews

Advance Praise: "The book is a wonderful idea and [will] find an audience beyond visitors to the exhibition."--Howard Davis, University of Oregon --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gregory Claeys, Professor of the History of Political Thought, Royal Holloway and New Bedford College, University of London.

good seller. I have never owned an actual bread product before but since I have started making my own bread, none of the knives I had were long enough to do a good job so I ordered this one. It is amazing. It's long enough for any loaf you may need it for and absolutely no difficulty is creating a smooth, even slice of bread. I would recommend it to anyone who is thinking of getting a good bread product. he love it, low price and high quality. great.

This large (perfect size for reading on your lap) book contains a series of intelligent essays and sumptuous illustrations and photos mapping the history of utopia from Plato on. I believe that the thing that makes it such a spectacular work is the wide range of disciplines, works and forces that the writers identify as utopic. When people think of utopia, they often think of science fiction, fanciful and ideal worlds that make life better than our wildest dreams. In truth, most science fiction these days explores utopia as a critical paradigm, realising that we can not live in a perfect world, they explore the possibilities, the way they work and the way they fail. I'm all for this, but the thing that I loved so much about the New York Public Libraries book on Utopia, was the way it is very solidly linked to the real world. It is, indeed, a book that explores the search for an ideal society in the western world. From the communes of the 1960's and '70's to the environmental housing collectives of the '80's and '90's. From the South Seas in the British imagination to Urban Geography, from Communism to Architecture, Romanticism and Formalism and Futurism, this book identifies attempts at and dreams of utopia from our own history. Rather than the speculation and fabulation of science fiction, the book provides us with our own speculation and fabulation, our own hope and idealism. I've always been fascinated by Utopia, growing up reading Ursula Le Guin, Yevgeny Zamyatin and others, Dostoevsky's happiness versus freedom dilemma grounded itself deep inside

me, living in New Zealand often feels like paradise, and hopes for a better world got me imagining. I have a deep attachment to science fiction, and I'm not saying that this book is good because it neglects the genre's speculation, I'm saying it's good because it provides the social context that encouraged us to speculate in the first place. This book, to me, is a background to every speculative utopia work I have ever read, and the further understanding is invaluable to me. This book is a fascinating read. Devour it. It also contains useful notes to illustrations, an index of personal names, a chronology of utopian/dystopian cinema and an extensive chronology of utopian literature .

If you have any interest in the subject of utopia, this book would be worth it for the pictures alone. It has marvelous reproductions of more than a hundred images associated with ideas of utopia. These include illustrations from famous utopian novels, artwork and architecture inspired by utopian longing (including a lot of political art and propaganda), and pictures of actual communities devoted to utopian struggle and living. But it's not just pictures. The book is also filled with brilliant, provocative essays about historical and philosophical utopias. I am teaching a course on this subject right now, and the material in this book is better written and more apt to provoke discussion than most of the "primary" material that you see listed in utopian bibliographies and web-sites. This book originated as a catalog for an exhibit at the New York Public Library. I hate to say it, but the book is even better than the exhibit. If you have any interest in thinking about the project of making a better world here on Earth, this book will be a valuable resource. And much of it is fun and exciting to read.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Utopia: The Search for the Ideal Society in the Western World  
Ideal Protein Diet Cookbook: Your Ideal Protein Nutrition Plan for Perfect Fitness and Wellness (Ideal Protein Diet, High Protein Diet, Perfect Protein Diet, Lose Weight, Protein Diet Plan)  
Warriors Word Scramble: Word Scramble Games - Word Search, Word Puzzles And Word Scrambles (Word Games, Brain Games, Word Search, Word Search Games, Word ... Scramble, Word Scrabble, Unscramble Word)  
Word Search: 100 Word Search Puzzles: Volume 3: A Unique Book With 100 Stimulating Word Search Brain Teasers, Each Puzzle Accompanied By A Beautiful ... Relaxation Stress Relief & Art Color Therapy)  
Word Search For Adult 100 Puzzles Book Volume 1: Word Search Book Word Find Puzzles Large Print Game (Word Search Book For Adult 1)  
Word Search: 100 Word Search Puzzles: Volume 1: A Unique Book With 100 Stimulating Word Search Brain Teasers, Each Puzzle Accompanied By A Beautiful ... Relaxation Stress Relief & Art Color Therapy)  
Word Search Book Vol. 1: 1,000 Verbs for Daily use (Word Search Games Puzzles) (50 Carefully Designed Word Search with Solution to

Twist Your Brain Book 1) Word Search: 100 Word Search Puzzles: Volume 2: A Unique Book With 100 Stimulating Word Search Brain Teasers, Each Puzzle Accompanied By A Beautiful ...  
Relaxation Stress Relief & Art Color Therapy) Magic Search Words-Health: Strategies and Search Tactics to Discover the Best of the Internet (Magic Search Words) Fruitlands: The Alcott Family and Their Search for Utopia Utopia as Method: The Imaginary Reconstitution of Society Cruising the Southern and Western Caribbean: A Guide to the Ships & the Ports of Call (Cruising the Southern and Western Caribbean) (Cruising the Southern & Western Caribbean) National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Trees--W: Western Region (National Audubon Society Field Guides (Paperback)) Westward Bound: Sex, Violence, the Law, and the Making of a Settler Society (Law and Society Series Published in association with the Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History) Fiji: The America Geographical Society's Around the World (American Geographical Society Around the World Program) SEO Made Simple (second edition): Search Engine Optimization Strategies For Dominating The World's Largest Search Engine Bluestocking in Patagonia: Mary Gilmore's Quest for Love and Utopia at the World's End Radicals Chasing Utopia: Inside the Rogue Movements Trying to Change the World Roots of the Western Tradition: A Short History of the Western World Power over Peoples: Technology, Environments, and Western Imperialism, 1400 to the Present (The Princeton Economic History of the Western World)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)