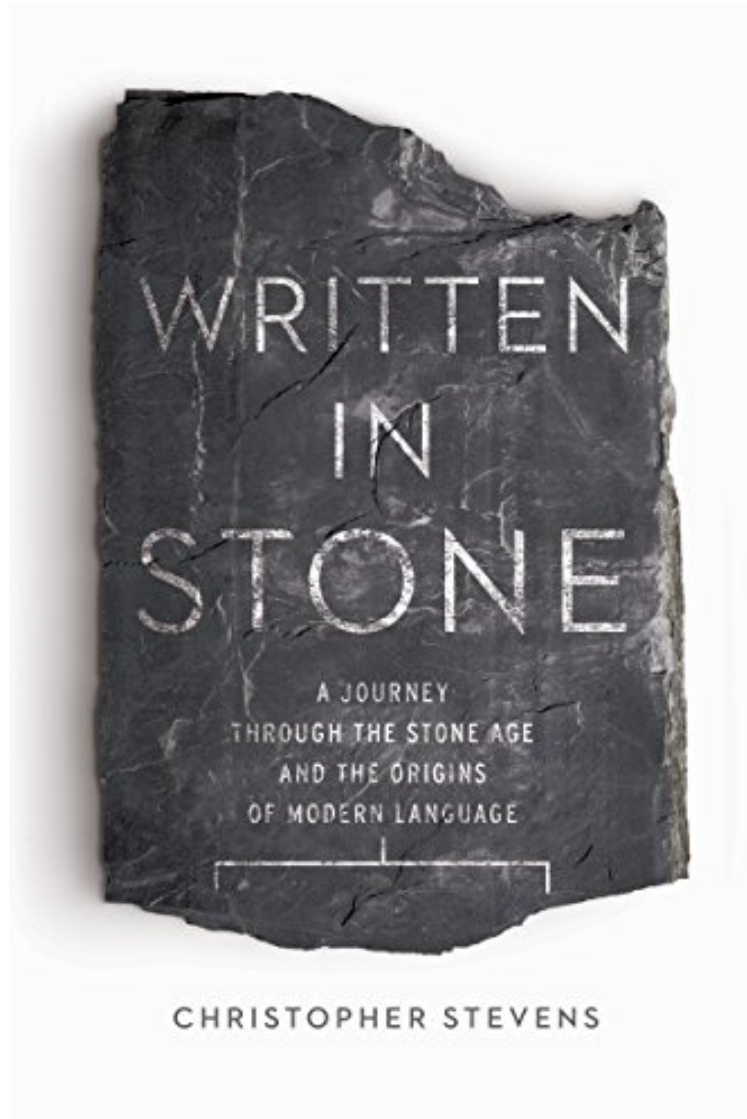


(Free) Written in Stone: A Journey Through the Stone Age and the Origins of Modern Language

Written in Stone: A Journey Through the Stone Age and the Origins of Modern Language

Christopher Stevens

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Christopher Stevens : Written in Stone: A Journey Through the Stone Age and the Origins of Modern Language before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Written in Stone: A Journey Through the Stone Age and the Origins of Modern Language*:

4 of 7 people found the following review helpful. I read *A Word A Day* by Anu Garg and ...By Care Life I read *A Word A Day* by Anu Garg and have been particularly fascinated when a word with Indo-European roots is the basis

for such a wide variety of English words. It's been delightful to have this dictionary of Indo-European roots with its clear explanations of how they have evolved in various languages. So now I also read an Indo-European Root A Day. 1 of 5 people found the following review helpful. I had hoped for more history. By STEVE CAINE While it introduced me to many word origins I didn't already know, I would have liked to learn more about the people who discovered these connections throughout history, the history of linguistics itself. Still, an entertaining read. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Digging For Words By John R. Lindermuth The search for the Mother Tongue has been going on for a long time. Babel is an attempt to explain the diversity of languages spoken by man. Linguists and anthropologists have been especially intrigued by the subject. Indo-European, the language addressed in Written In Stone, is not the one and only original language. But it is one believed by many to be the root of most European languages, save for a few exceptions such as Basque. Stevens gives a brief history of the search for the origin of this language and the people who spoke it, then plunges right into examples of the language and how it relates to others, going right from ak to wid. A majority of the examples make perfect sense. While others stretch the imagination. Still, can't blame the man for wanting to make his case. And don't be surprised if some of his anecdotes don't have you laughing out loud. For those who want to dig more seriously into the subject, Stevens provides a bibliography. If you're a word geek like me, you'll find this little book interesting. Otherwise--well, I still think you'll find it interesting.

Witty and erudite, Written in Stone is the first etymology book to reveal how the English language is based on original Stone Age words. Half the world's population speaks a language that has evolved from a single, prehistoric mother tongue. A mother tongue first spoken in Stone Age times, on the steppes of central Eurasia 6,500 years ago. It was so effective that it flourished for two thousand years. It was a language that spread from the shores of the Black Sea across almost all of Europe and much of Asia. It is the genetic basis of everything we speak and write today the DNA of language. Written in Stone combines detective work, mythology, ancient history, archaeology, the roots of society, technology and warfare, and the sheer fascination of words to explore that original mother tongue, sketching the connections woven throughout the immense vocabulary of English with some surprising results. In snappy, lively and often very funny chapters, it uncovers the most influential and important words used by our Neolithic ancestors, and shows how they are still in constant use today the building blocks of all our most common words and phrases.

A lively romp. Always enlightening and engaging. This is a delight for anyone who loves language in any form. - Publishers Weekly (starred review) Proves etymology remains a lively pursuit in this engrossing, sometimes-startling dissection of Indo-European, an ancient language that is the basis for half of the world's modern tongues. Combining the dexterity of a linguist, a philologist's passion for the influence of words on cultural history, and a taste for the bizarre, as befits a TV critic for London's Daily Mail, the author takes us on a detailed tour of a language that is profoundly alive in our everyday speech and literature. Demonstrates considerable prowess in making the journey both edifying and entertaining. - Kirkus s Written in Stone can be an enjoyable read for someone with a background in linguistics. Fun and light. - The Wall Street Journal The history of English is fascinating and this is a delightful distraction from a more serious linguistic approach to the topic. - Library Journal Offers fascinating insight. For example, they use the words ma and pa just as we do today. - Metro (London) A fascinating new book reveals how our ancient ancestors spoke. And you'll be astonished by how familiar it all sounds. - The Daily Mail (UK) About the Author Christopher Stevens is a writer and journalist. His runaway bestselling mnemonics book Thirty Days Has September hit the number-one reference book spot on . Christopher worked at the Observer for fifteen years before moving to the Daily Mail. He lives in London.