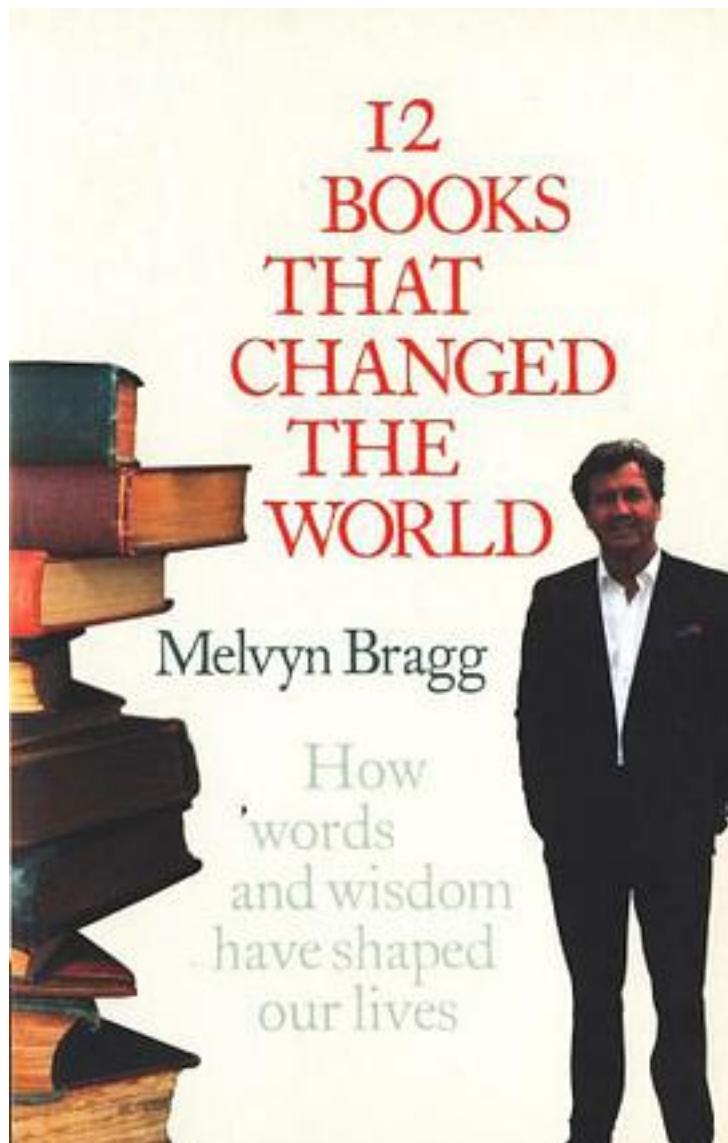


12 Books That Changed the World



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When we think of great events in the history of the world, we tend to think of war, revolution, political upheaval or natural catastrophe. But throughout history there have been moments of vital importance that have taken place not on the battlefield, or in the palaces of power, or even in the violence of nature, but between the pages of a book. In our digitised age of instant information it is easy to underestimate the power of the printed word. In his fascinating new book accompanying the ITV series, Melvyn Bragg presents a vivid reminder of the book as agent of social, political and personal revolution. *Twelve Books that Changed the World* presents a rich variety of human endeavour and a great diversity of characters. There are also surprises. Here are famous books by Darwin, Newton and Shakespeare -- but we also discover the stories behind some less well-known works, such as Marie Stopes' *Married Love*, the original radical feminist Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* -- and even the rules to an obscure ball game that became the most popular sport in the world ...

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知名小说家、文化评论家、主持人。毕业于牛津大学，主修历史。目前任利兹大学校长、英国国家艺术推广协会主席及英国上议院成员。在英国，布莱格先生的出版品和影音作品是著名艺术推广品牌。2009年他参与制作英国广播公司 (BBC) 纪念《詹姆士王圣经》诞生400周年的纪录片。2010年6月荣膺英国电影和电视艺术学院 (BAFTA) 终身成就奖。

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