Suffice it to say, they are not. The History of the Ancient World: from the earliest accounts to the fall of Rome. One minute I'm listening to the fall of Rome, and the next Audible is hoping that I enjoyed the program. When in doubt kill them first. The idea of humanitarian leaders working to reform their laws for the better? Although he doesn't know anything about the subject at first, he is eager to learn, and takes information that he gets from the world's leading experts and explains it to us in a way that makes it exciting and relevant. I'm not really sure what a better method would be, since the world is a big place and contained many civilizations getting their feet wet all at the same time. This topic is a hard one to write about simply because the sources are extremely limited, especially the further back one goes. Colourful, In-Depth, Informative. Moreover, by attempting to cover 2,000 years of human history in pages, the author maintains a very high altitude, largely rehashing things that I learned in junior high and high school. They were just as conflicted and confused as we are, just in a less complex and smaller-scale world than the global societies of today. She devotes far too much time and attention relaying the story of Noah and his flood, erroneously linking supposedly "world wide" "flood myths" to the minor flooding that is known to have taken place regionally in Sumer. Was there a moment in the book that particularly moved you? I would recommend this book for anyone who truly has an interest in history and wants to read in-depth about certain topics about the ancient world. Drawing on epics, ancient historians, and various legal texts and private letters, she introduces individuals who helped build the ancient world. Add a review Your Rating: Your Comment: Loved it looking for to the rest of series 2 people found this helpful. Listeners also enjoyed

Filter by: It provides some much needed narrative detail to the often dry and obfuscated facts regarding some of the earliest civilizations of mankind. Honestly, I have not quite read a book like it. I'm reading the hardcover edition and on page 23 Bauer writes "Because the Nile flowed from south to north, it was clear to the Egyptians that ever other river ran backwards. She achieves this admirably. Excellent. Robert Caister Since this book provides a history for such a long stretch of time, at no time does it go into great detail of any particular period or king. Her only failing is in most of the book consisting of the history of the ancient western world. Terrible narration. Unfortunately, grandchildren didn't arrive as soon as hoped. I'm not sure that could be avoided completely. This volume is a doorway into a captivating world. You've got Urukagina of Lagash or Tiberius Gracchus's reforms. I feel like I was listening to this book for so long that NOT listening to it feels strange. Mar 20, Bob rated it it was amazing. Susan Wise Bauer provides both sweeping scope and vivid attention to the individual lives that give flesh to abstract assertions about human history. Unfortunately, leaving Kirkum in the man's household wasn't doing much to increase the goodwill between the two families. John If I wanted cheery Biblical explanations, I'll dig out genesis. The reader was excellent. The fresh perspective on Moses's mother putting him in basket in the river as an explicit reference to Sargon's origin story hoping that a sympathetic western Semitic princess in the Egyptian court might find him was also an eye-opening theory. In short, if you are mostly ignorant as I was about most of Babylonian history for example, you will learn something. Customers who bought this item also bought. Dec 22, Erin rated it it was ok. Narrator John Lee has an amazing voice but unfortunately it does not fit well with this material. Follow podcast failed. Would recommend this book to those with a fascination for ancient societies 2 people found this helpful. This series of books by Susan Wise Bauer seeks to capture huge swaths of history not simply with sweeping generalizations and explanations, but rather covering a seemingly endless series of empires and leaders rising and falling in different parts of the ancient world, sometimes achieving greatness, oftentimes megalomaniac and despotic, but quickly seeing their demise in favor of the next to seize power. Refresh and try again. Another symptom of this same religioaist disease is her focus on the mythical figure of Abram. Bill Bryson has been an enormously popular author both for his travel books and for his books on the English language. From the viewpoint of an evolutionary biologist, he highlights the broadest movements both literal and conceptual on every continent since the Ice Age, and examines societal advances such as writing, religion, government, and technology. Susan Wise Bauer. For an adult reader who is interested in history but needs to brush up on the progression of empires, this book will provide a quick review and handy jumping off point for further study. The results are at once cursory and grim battle, tyrant, slaughter, battle, tyrant, rise, fall, lather, rinse, repeat. Daniel Conquer other people any way you can before they conquer you. I also co This topic is a hard one to write about simply because the sources are extremely limited, especially the further back one goes. Although an impressive scope, the approach I feel was flawed. Test Book Vol. Also, though much of such a fast-paced book will inevitably be historical narrative, she does have a few re-occurring themes such as the pros and cons of hereditary monarchy, with occasional summary paragraphs that tie up the progress of these themes as they progress.

The History of the Ancient World

Starting with the beginning of the recorded events of humanity much like your High School and College courses likely did. Clementi Product Details About the Author. When in doubt kill them first. I particularly liked the inclusion of China and India, usually books like this are painfully European-centric. Many of these details, naturally, have to do with the violence of war, problems of succession, or the debauchery of Roman emperors. This book is just enough to whet your appetite for further study in particular areas of interest. Chris Harman describes the shape and course of human history as a narrative of ordinary people forming and re-forming complex societies in pursuit of common human goals. And despite its length, and only covering up until AD or so, the book cannot spend too much time on any one period. History can be such a tangled mess and Susan Bauer did such a fantastic job untangling and searching for the truth or as close as we'll ever get to it. Besides, this was attempted once before well, many times in the 19th century. This specific ISBN edition is currently not available. It reminded me of syntetic voices from 10 years ago. Great Listening A comprehensive and very readable history. Insightful and articulately written. Known for its lively, clear prose as well as its scholarly research. A People's History of the United States is the only volume to tell America's story from the point of view of - and in the words of - America's women, factory workers, African-Americans, Native Americans, the working poor, and immigrant laborers. Add to Wish List failed. When he won, he mocked the idols as lousy gamblers. I've gone through a number of such overviews over the years, though not one as ambitious as this one. Aug 25, Laura added it. I'm not really sure what a better method would be, since the world is a big place and contained many civilizations getting their feet wet all at the same time. I received a shipment of several books from Amazon. Susan Wise Bauer is a writer, educator, and historian. Don't get me wrong, there ARE undoubtedly proven events which happened and are well-sourced geographically, archeologically and historically which are also mentioned in The Bible, but it is totally unacceptable to try to pass of vague Biblical references as hard-edged history. I've finished the book and it was excellent - told at a very entertaining level of detail and well edited. This is not the first history book to reach for, but if you need a broad refresher or want to expand the scope of your awareness in a survey-like fashion, it could be worth
picking up. View all 7 comments. I stopped reading this book when I realized it was going to take Genesis as accepted historical fact. Apr 14, Don rated it it was amazing Shelves: history. And looking back upon history which in reality, of course, has never stopped happening, even during our brief halcyon days , one can see that in almost every age in almost every part of the world, human beings have had to live their normal lives and do their normal business under conditions of uncertainty, danger and distress. Now, this beloved comic genius turns his attention to science. Susan Wise Bauer provides both sweeping scope and vivid attention to the individual lives that give flesh to abstract assertions about human history. My headline for this review is a summary of this book. If you were designing a World History course meant to be taught to every country across the globe, which ancient civilizations would you include? Well done all around. Loved it looking for to the rest of series 2 people found this helpful. Currently she runs Peace Hill Press, writes in a restored chicken shed, lectures on writing and history, helps run the farm, and cooks huge meals on a regular basis. All rights reserved. Jun 02, Connor Pickett rated it really liked it Recommends it for: Anyone who loves history. I did enjoy the moments of incredible brutality. Well written and engaging Covers a huge range of ancient history, linking events across Europe and Asia as they happen. Excellent history. We offer thousands of quality curricula, workbooks, and references to meet your homeschooling needs. Helpful in giving a context to the story of humankind, rather than merely a recitation of facts. There are no angels out there who rose to power - hardly - but there weren't pure devils either. It just jumped around too much for me. I did tend to get quite lost in the discussions of Assyria and Babylon, forgetting which ruler belonged to which empire. Great read for fans of history If you could sum up The History of the Ancient World in three words, what would they be? She is obviously brilliant, with a critical mind for reading evidence and stories and understanding not only the motivations of the readers but the writers. In this way, Bauer is indicating the progression of humanity in the ancient world and making it clear what the reader should be taking from the book. Despite the heaviness of our history, I'm excited now to dig into each historical period with a little more depth. Download the accompanying reference guide. And if you want to know what deeper economic, cultural and ecological trends underlay the rise and fall of ideas and empires, then this is not your book. The result is an engrossing tapestry of human behavior from which we may draw conclusions about the direction of world events and the causes behind them. Another, odd section of history is that of the Greek Bactrian kingdoms that evolved their way down into the Indus river valley and rulled areas of modern Pakistan, Afghanistan and India under Greek kings who were holdovers from the empire of Alexander long before and one of whom became a Buddhist In those cases, she did a great job and informing the reader about the speculative nature of the narrative. You don't need to wait for 20th century fascism, you had basically the same thing under ironically both Sparta and Athens. Susan Wise Bauer provides both sweeping scope and vivid attention to the individual lives that give flesh to abstract assertions about human history. Informative, witty and fascinating I thoroughly enjoyed the journey through the ages, especially the earlier accounts. She attempts, for example, to 'prove' parts of her 'history' by citing what the Old Testament has to say in Genesis! On the other hand, I am not too sure how one goes about writing this tome of an epic in one book or even three as she does! And it introduced me to lots of interesting topics that I intend to learn more about later. I'll be looking for more of his. Add to Wishlist.