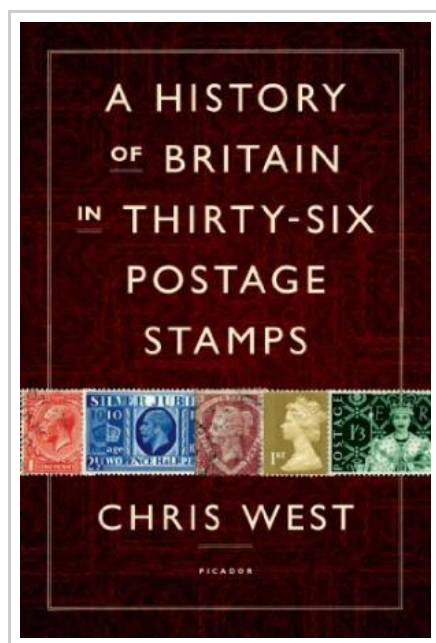




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A History of Britain in Thirty-Six Postage Stamps

By West, Chris.

Picador. 1 Cloth(s), 2013. hard. Book Condition: New. "Stamps tell stories," posits Chris West in this fascinating episodic history. "They speak to us across generations if only we'd stop squeezing them into albums and worrying about their catalogue value, and just listen to their voices instead." West's postmarked dispatches each begin with a stamp that he finds particularly expressive: some beautiful, some quirky, some baffling, some stained with blood and through them, one can glimpse the epic tale of an empire unfolding. From the Penny Black, the world's first printed stamp, issued soon after Queen Victoria's coronation, to the minisheet of four stamps celebrating the royal wedding of William and Catherine, this is a hugely entertaining and idiosyncratic romp, told in West's lively prose. "Chris West's book is like a collection of witty, informative letters about British history. It's as clear and readable as a picture postcard: short and sweet and chatty." Stephen Clarke "Though this delightful read is deliberately designed to capture the fancy of both devoted Anglophiles and stamp enthusiasts, it will also appeal to members of the Downton Abbey set interested in background and context." Booklist "Each classic, lovingly designed stamp is presented in full color, revealing it to be both a work of art..."



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