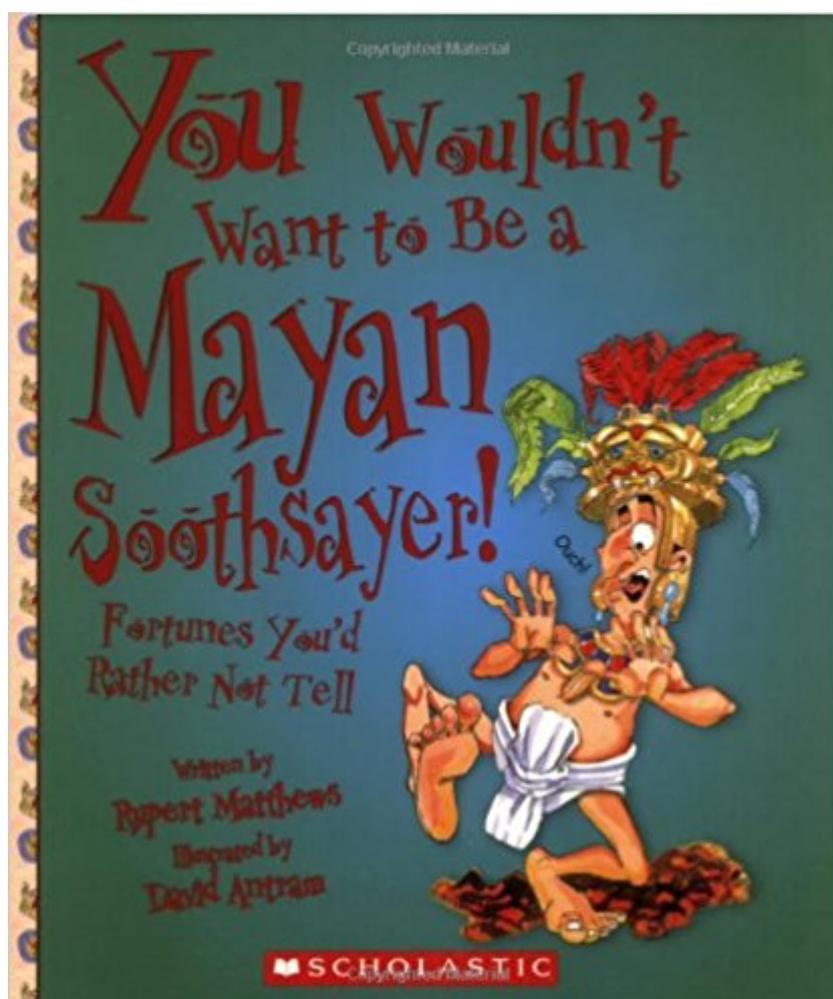


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# You Wouldn't Want To Be A Mayan Soothsayer!: Fortunes You'd Rather Not Tell



## Synopsis

Features: - Humorous Handy Hints that relate directly to the text are provided on each spread- High interest topic for children of all ages- Draws in even the most reluctant reader with a lighthearted tone and hilarious illustrations- The cultures and traditions of ancient civilizations spring to life in the pages of this series- Includes glossary and index- Perfect for struggling readers

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 930 (What's this?)

Series: You Wouldn't Want to...

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Franklin Watts (September 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0531139255

ISBN-13: 978-0531139257

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #197,947 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Central & South America](#) #106 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Ancient](#)

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

## Customer Reviews

I bought this book before our trip to Chichen Itza/ Uxmal to get an idea about the Mayan culture. It's geared towards kids but I, as an adult, got a lot of information out of it as well. I didn't want to read more than that. It is focused mostly on the Mayan priests and life during the Mayan era. Very brief but informative. Very colorful illustrations as well.

I'm a fifth grade teacher covering central and South America before the Spanish Conquest. Although this text isn't very rigorous, it's a great introduction to the Mayans, and has fun text features to build interest. It'd be nice to have a set to use in small groups.

I bought this book for my grandsons as we are taking them to see the Mayan ruins in Belize in July.

It is humorous and yet works in plenty of information. Enough to peak their interest.

I read this to my class of 5th graders, and they loved it! Afterwards, I couldn't pry it away from them and I had to make a sign-out sheet for it so that everyone could get a turn. It really brought to life what we were reading about in our history books.

Great book to read with your kids before setting off on that Mexican vacation!

great books

Bookworm Speaks! You Wouldn't Want To Be A Mayan Soothsayer! Fortunes You'd Rather Not Tell\*\*\*\*Written by Rupert Matthews Illustrated by David Antram\*\*\*\*Acquired: Perot Museum of Nature and Science. Series: You Wouldn't Want to... Paperback: 32 Pages Publisher: Franklin Watts (September 2007) Language: English Subject: Non-Fiction\*\*\*\*The Story: Get ready as the son of a Maya Holy Man you are expected to follow in your father's footsteps. It's not an easy job one false move and you could seriously regret becoming a Mayan Soothsayer. It's perilous! Top Tips from Experts. Pay attention in math class it's the key to success in the Maya world. Learn the names of all of the gods, and how to keep them happy. Don't make mistakes when making a sacrifice or you could be sacrificed next. Carrying a god's statue will keep you safe in battle. The Review: When Bookworm was in middle school, he came across a book in his history class. It was called- You wouldn't want to be a Roman Gladiator. It was brilliant. It was richly illustrated, funny, and surprisingly informative and upon further recollection, extremely accessible for a young student. He can still remember segments of the book with surprising clarity. Many years later, after exploring the Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed exhibit at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, Bookworm came across another book in the same series. Bookworm had known that there were more books in the series but he had no idea it was still around. Needless to say he bought it, read it, and now Bookworm is going to speak about it! Part of the reason this book is so accessible is how the text is personalized. It should be remarked that this series is one of the few books in general that utilize the second-person point of view. For the uninformed: First Person View means a story told from the point of view of I. Third Person is he, she, they. Second is You. Needless to say this particular format is particularly rare. In this book though, it works as it really takes the reader on a journey of this Mayan soothsayer from boyhood to master.

The creators of this book were smart in their formatting in that each section is dedicated to a particular facet of Mayan culture, yet presents each one as a step on the Soothsayer's Journey™s journey. The best kind of non-fiction is one that does not merely repeat facts but tells the reader a story and that is exactly what this book does. Throughout it, the author throws in additional facts, but they always relate to the main topic of the section and are accompanied by colorful illustrations. Illustrations are important no matter what the level of reader. They help them visualize the topic of the text. The illustrations while stylized to be appealing to the intended audience, do seem faithful to current historical hypotheses. The costumes, objects, buildings and other details seem factually accurate if perhaps a bit simplified. Bookworm is not an expert, so he would not know. The stylization mostly revolves around the human characters, which are rather funny and full of cartoonish exaggerations. Some may argue that they are not ethnically accurate but remember: this book is primarily marketed to kids. Final Verdict: While by no means an in depth examination of Mayan culture, this little book is a perfect introduction to the people of ancient Central America, either for firing the imagination of young minds or serving as a bite-sized serving of culture for a curious amateur. Four Mayan Pyramids out of Five the culture worm. blogspot.com

My kids found this the most interesting book we read about Mayan culture before going on a trip to the Yucatan.

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