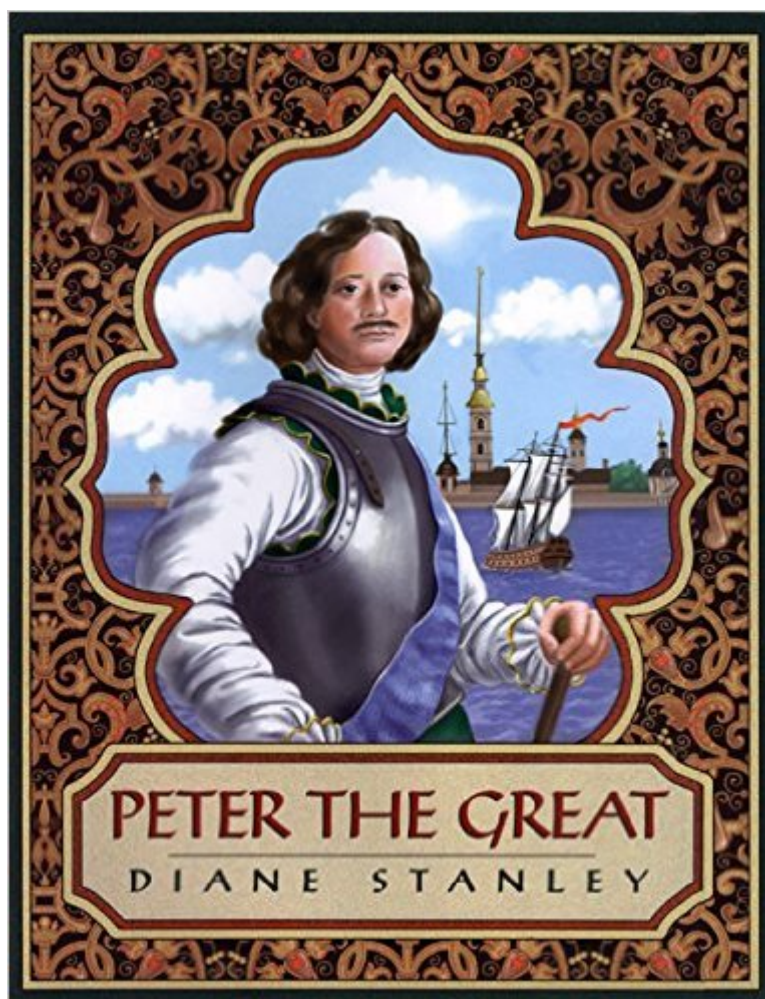


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# Peter The Great



## Synopsis

Peter the Great, crowned tsar of Russia at the age of ten, believed that whatever he wanted he should have -- and the sooner the better. What he wanted most was to bring his beloved country into the modern world. He traveled to the West to learn European ways -- the first tsar ever to leave Russia -- disguised as a common soldier. He explored the West with excitement and curiosity and returned home ready to undertake a series of momentous social reforms. And to satisfy his boyhood dream of a Russian naval port, he began to build, on a freezing swamp, a glittering new capital to be named St. Petersburg. In this welcome reissue of Diane Stanley's acclaimed picturebook biography, her meticulously researched text and sumptuous illustrations capture the fabulous world of seventeenth -- and eighteenth-century tsarist Russia and the greatness of its larger-than-life leader -- a man of huge stature and tremendous spirit whose impatience and vision, insatiable curiosity and boundless energy transformed half a continent.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 850 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; First American Edition edition (August 25, 1986)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 068816708X

ISBN-13: 978-0688167080

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #568,498 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European](#) #242 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Europe](#) #958 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 6

## Customer Reviews

I handed this to my 11 year old son to read independently. I wasn't sure it would hold his interest since it lists the intended audience as much younger. However, he finished it one sitting, brought it back to me and said, "Before I read other history books, I want to read more about Peter the Great!" What more could one ask of a book? Now to try to find something that takes that next step...BTW,

he has also read a couple of her other books and enjoys them all. I asked if he would be interested in whatever else Diane Stanley has published and he expressed great eagerness.

This book buys right into the theory that Russians are incapable of self-government and require a tyrannical dictator to haul them into order. Sheesh. This is a 1986 book by Diane Stanley, and I'm willing to give her the benefit of the doubt. Like all her books, this one is magnificently illustrated in the style of the time and place -- breathtaking illustrations on every page are more than worthwhile. However, it is this kind of reading of Peter the Great forcibly modernizing a backward and reluctant traditional people that led to Lenin, Dzerzhinsky, Stalin... and Putin. Don't give a boost to history's bad guys by telling them people are incapable of self-rule.

I learned so much from this book. It is absorbing and I would love to share it with my students. Peter the Great is a very interesting figure and I wish I had been introduced to him earlier in my life.

A very well written, beautifully illustrated book about Peter the Great. My elementary age children really enjoyed it and I actually learned a great deal about his life.

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