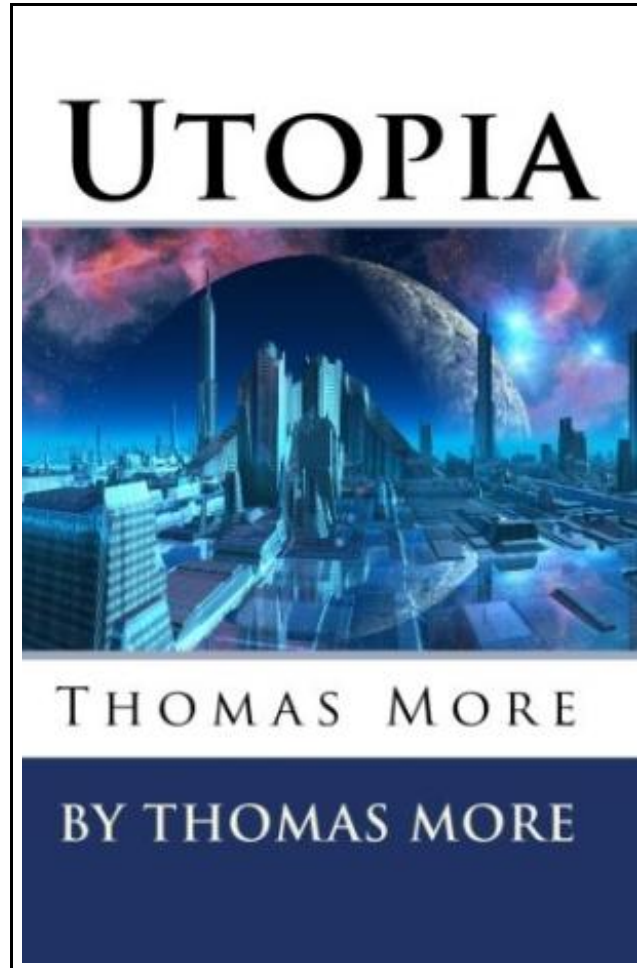


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Createspace, United States, 2010. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 213 x 137 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Although there are other Utopia books written before Thomas More s, it is this book that made its title into a by-word in the English (and other) languages. Utopia was More s response to Plato s Republic, in that it is a framework for a perfect society according to More s ideas of the time. Originally published in Latin, the first English version appeared in 1551, some 16 years after More s death. More s Utopia, which is a brief book (100 pages), portrays a communal, democratic society. It is paradoxically unregulated and tightly regulated. More s citizens just want to do what is best for their society, and that covers a remarkably narrow range of possibilities. There are, of course, some who break the laws of the land, and More deals with them harshly. Harsh is a relative term, though, and his punishments were hardly harsh in a day when it was a hanging offense to steal a loaf of bread for your starving family. More s Utopia is also a strongly religious society. Religious tolerance is a matter of law, a novelty by the standards of More s day and the standard of his own behavior. Tolerance , however, meant tolerance of any monotheism that wasn t too animistic, and certainly didn t tolerate the unreligious. Thomas More s own life was less than a Utopia. He was executed by Henry VIII (one of his best friends) for, among other trespasses, refusing to uphold the king s divorce from Catherine of Arragon. Before that time More served Henry VIII in many capacities, including Speaker of the House of Commons, Master of Requests, Privy Councillor, and Lord...



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