



Stolen Continents: The New World Through Indian Eyes

By Ronald Wright

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Presents native accounts--some translated for the first time from native American languages--of the plunder and persecution wrought by white settlers and explorers on the one hundred million people already living in the Americas in 1492.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Wright (*Time Among the Maya*) here presents a "New World" history, told from the perceived perspective of natives and lambasting the conquering whites, going back to Columbus: Cortes, de Soto, Pizarro, for example, are seen as crass, cruel, greedy invaders. To illustrate what he views as an epic wrong, the author probes five tragic encounters--with Aztec, Maya, Inca, Cherokee and Iroquois cultures. Using materials recorded as contemporaneously as possible, from the Incas to Cherokee principal chief Wilma Mankiller, the book follows a trail of treachery, blood and futility. Had the white race's diseases not wreaked havoc on the natives, writes the author, the "conquest" may have ended differently. While his scholarship proves marvelous, Wright's disjointed account is not likely to hold the reader's attention.

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From Kirkus Reviews

Clear and concise history detailing the experiences of Native Americans on both continents from 1492 to 1990, from travel-writer and Mayan specialist Wright (*Time Among The Maya*, 1989; *On Fiji Islands*, 1986, etc.). Rather than attempt a comprehensive rendering of the centuries of genocide practiced by those who came in the wake of Columbus, Wright sensibly opts to present a few of the "highlights." The savagery practiced against five major cultures--the Maya, Inca, Aztec, Cherokee, and Iroquois--and their responses appear in three stages, encompassing five hundred years: the initial periods of contact in each case; the hard and bloody struggles of these peoples once the battle was joined; and the modern phase, in which resistance continues along with the resolve to endure. Using contemporary native accounts wherever possible, in the belief that the white version has been heard often enough, Wright recounts Montezuma's failed strategy to welcome Cortes as an equal, which led to his palace becoming his prison; the Cherokee Nation's willingness two centuries later to emulate Western civilization, which only brought forced removal to Oklahoma and death along the Trail of Tears; and other base betrayals. Even with their societies largely destroyed, however, retention of an indigenous identity for the Incan descendants in Peru and their Mayan counterparts in Guatemala, and events such as last year's tense standoff between defiant Iroquois and thousands of Canadian troops can be seen, Wright says, as evidence that a determined native resistance continues. Familiar facts but a distinctive viewpoint: an intensely partisan chronicle of centuries of dishonor, written in a fluid, vivid style. (Sixteen-page b&w photo insert--not seen.) -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"A powerful account of the history and consequences of European invasion and rule that quotes from the authentic speech and writings of five peoples--Aztec, Maya, Inca, Cherokee, and Iroquois--through 500 years." (*Booknews, Inc.*)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ryan Neal:

The book *Stolen Continents: The New World Through Indian Eyes* gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting tension or having big problem using your subject. If you can make looking at a book

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Chung England:

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