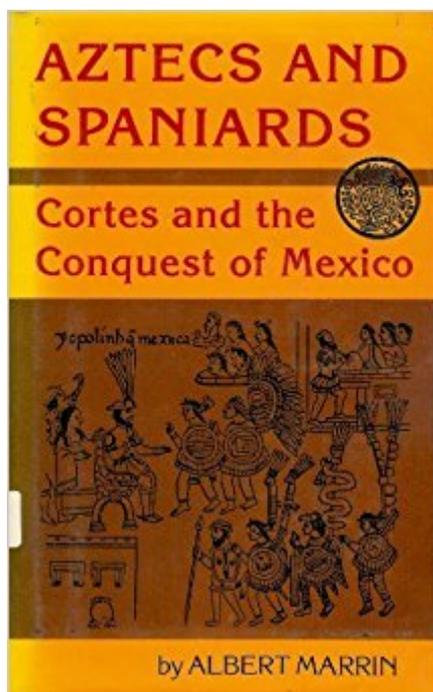


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Aztecs And Spaniards



Synopsis

Describes the history and culture of the Aztec Indians in the Valley of Mexico and discusses how the arrival of the conquistador Hernando Cortes brought about the fall of their mighty empire.

Book Information

Hardcover: 212 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Grade 8 Up On February 10, 1519, Hernan Cortes, anxious to avoid arrest, disobeyed orders and set sail from Havana with an army of 500 soldiers to conquer a golden land called Mexico. Marrin has distilled the best from several contemporary accounts of the expedition and condensed it into a palatable form. Under his skilled pen, Cortes and Montezuma become real people. The story begins with a historical perspective of the Aztecs and their origins, followed by the place of the "conquistadores" in their world. Readers travel with Cortes through a chronological account of the capture of Tenochtitlan and its reconstruction to the end of his life. Events are told with sufficient detail to add interest without bogging down. Sensitive readers may be bothered by graphic "blood and guts" descriptions; yet such description is unavoidable. One minor flaw is that the spellings of some Mexican words and their suggested pronunciations are not standard. The illustrative material is excellent. Many are photographs of artifacts now located in museums scattered throughout the world. Others are drawings that are based on ancient codices. An excellent account of the conquest of Mexico. Dennis C. Tucker, Bethel College Lib . , Mishawaka, Ind. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This book gives some fascinating information about the daily life of the Aztecs and their neighbors before the Spanish conquest. Marrin succeeds at writing in an unbiased manner, even when it

comes to describing horrifying events such as Aztec ritual human sacrifice. The narrative moves along quickly and every sentence is interesting. I often felt I was reading a gripping novel instead of a history book. There are also quite a few photos, maps and drawings.

...to Jennings' Aztec. After reading the latter, I sought to learn more about this civilization. Marrin's writing level was below adult, but for that reason, it was a simple one-day read. I enjoyed reading the details not covered in Jennings' tome, as well as expansion on what he did cover.

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