



Book Resume: An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People

An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, adapted by Jeanne Mendoza and Debbie Reese

Beacon Press, 2019

ISBN: 9780807049396 (Paperback)

Age Range*: 12 and up

Grade Range: 9 Up

BOOK SYNOPSIS

This new version of *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* brings a painful but necessary reframing of our history to younger readers and teachers looking to better understand the legacy of Indigenous peoples' resistance, resilience, and continued struggle against imperialism. Going beyond the story of America as a country "discovered" by a few brave men in the "New World," indigenous human rights advocate Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz reveals the roles that settler-colonialism and policies of American Indian genocide played in forming our national identity.

The original academic text is fully adapted by renowned curriculum experts, Debbie Reese and Jean Mendoza, for middle-grade and young adult readers to include discussion topics, archival images, original maps, timelines, a glossary, recommendations for further reading, and other materials to encourage students to think critically about their own place in history.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

☆ "An important corrective to conventional narratives of our nation's history . . . An accessible, engaging, and necessary addition to school libraries and classrooms. An excellent read, dismantling American mythologies and fostering critical reasoning about history and current events."—*Kirkus Reviews*, Starred Review

☆ "Should be required reading for all middle and high schoolers—and their teachers . . . There is much to commend here: the lack of sugar-coating, the debunking of origin stories, the linking between ideology and actions, the well-placed connections between events past and present, the quotes from British colonizers and American presidents that leave no doubt as to their violent intentions."—*Booklist*, Starred Review

☆ "Dunbar-Ortiz's narrative history is clear, and the adapters give readers ample evidence and perspective to help them to engage with the text. A highly informative book for libraries serving high school students."—*School Library Journal*, Starred Review

"Gripping, tightly written, and packed with facts traditional textbooks and historical accounts neglect to cover."—*Shelf Awareness*

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Contact: ahassan@beacon.org

*A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

“Wide-ranging and politically engaged . . . a valuable resource.”—*The Horn Book*

“This is a desperately needed corrective to existing histories for young people, and its combination of breadth and passion will spur both reflection and emotion.”—*The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- *Kirkus Reviews*: “Best of YA Nonfiction 2019”
- *School Library Journal*, “Best Nonfiction 2019”
- New York Public Library, a “Best Books for Teens”
- Paterson Prize Books for Young People Awards, 2020 Honor Book

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Teacher’s Guide](#)
- [Killing the Indians in 2023: Book Banning Seeks to Erase Native Americans](#) (*School Library Journal*)
- [Read Across America Books Banned or Challenged in Schools](#) (National Education Association)

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