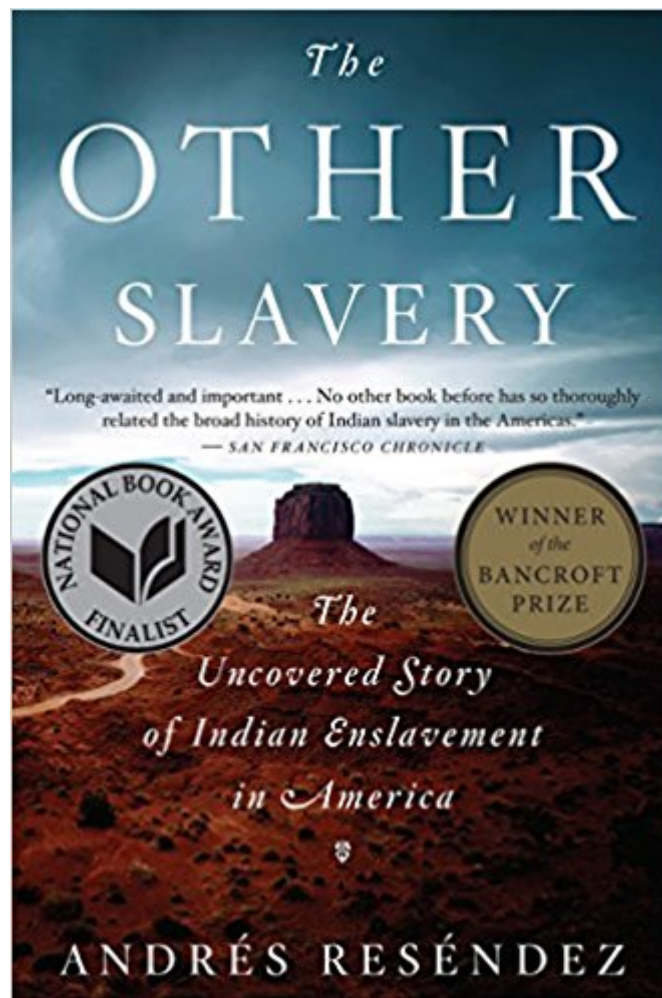




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The Other Slavery: The Uncovered Story Of Indian Enslavement In America



Synopsis

“Long-awaited and important . . . No other book before has so thoroughly related the broad history of Indian slavery in the Americas.” •San Francisco Chronicle “A necessary work . . . [Reséndez’s] reportage will likely surprise you.” •NPR “One of the most profound contributions to North American history.” •Los Angeles Times Since the time of Columbus, Indian slavery was illegal in much of the American continent. Yet, as Andrés Reséndez illuminates in his myth-shattering *The Other Slavery*, it was practiced for centuries as an open secret. There was no abolitionist movement to protect the tens of thousands of Natives who were kidnapped and enslaved by the conquistadors. Reséndez builds the incisive case that it was mass slavery—more than epidemics—that decimated Indian populations across North America. Through riveting new evidence, including testimonies of courageous priests, rapacious merchants, and Indian captives, *The Other Slavery* reveals nothing less than a key missing piece of American history. For over two centuries we have fought over, abolished, and tried to come to grips with African American slavery. It is time for the West to confront an entirely separate, equally devastating enslavement we have long failed truly to see. “Beautifully written . . . A tour de force.” •Chronicle of Higher Education

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Customer Reviews

“Reséndez corrects a blind spot in our understanding of North American history and

illuminates mechanisms by which present-day versions of the practice endure. • The New Yorker "This book is, arguably, one of the most profound contributions to North American history published since Patricia Nelson Limerick's "Legacy of Conquest" and Richard White's "The Middle Ground." But it's not necessary to be into history to understand its power: Our world is still the world Reséndez so eloquently anatomizes." • Los Angeles Times "No other book before has so thoroughly related the broad history of Indian slavery in the Americas, and not just its facts but the very reason it has been overlooked." • San Francisco Chronicle "Reséndez is adept at untangling the intertribal slave trade, as well as the pernicious behavior of white settlers in northern California." • Philadelphia Inquirer "With his new book, Reséndez joins a small but growing group of historians reexamining the scope and nature of slavery in the Southwest and Native America." • Santa Fe New Mexican "The Other Slavery is an eye-opening story about the enslavement of Indians. It is well researched and well written—a tragic, but fascinating look at a little explored dark corner of New World history." • Missourian "Every now and then a new book comes along that throws a switch on our historical valences and makes us see ourselves anew. The Other Slavery is one such book. Much as Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee did when it first appeared in the early 1970s, Andrés Reséndez's carefully sifted work fundamentally reshapes our understanding of a great enduring mystery: What really accounts for the swift and tragic demise of our continent's indigenous peoples?" • Hampton Sides, author of Blood and Thunder and In the Kingdom of Ice "In The Other Slavery Andrés Reséndez retells a vast section of Native American and North American history by putting forced labor in its multiple forms at the center. The result is a revealing, tragic, and heartbreaking history." • Richard White, Margaret Byrne Professor of American History, Stanford University "The Other Slavery is a necessary work that occupies a loaded historical landscape; Reséndez keeps a deliberate scholarly distance from the material, bringing forth evidence and constructing careful—even conservative—arguments. But that evidence speaks for itself, and the horrors quietly pile up." • NPR.org "We all know that Christopher Columbus and his successors enslaved the natives in the New World. Reséndez (History/Univ. of California, Davis; A Land So Strange: The Epic Journey of Cabeza de Vaca, 2009, etc.) exposes the broad brush that the "other slavery" wielded. The extinction of the indigenous peoples of America is usually written off as the effect of diseases introduced by Spanish soldiers and colonists. Not so, says the author; it took only 60 years after Columbus's discovery for a cataclysmic population collapse. They died from slavery, overwork, and famine. Reséndez

examines the methods of enslavement, from the 15th-century Caribbean to 19th-century California, and his approachable style eases reading difficult personal stories of slavery and cruelty. That there are so many individual stories illustrates the author's wide-ranging research. Columbus initially intended to transport Indians to Europe in a "reverse middle passage," but he was thwarted by Ferdinand and Isabella's opposition to slavery as well as the need for labor in the mines. In 1542, the Spanish crown passed the New Laws, outlawing slavery, and procuradores, specialist lawyers, were appointed to sue for freedom of those illegally enslaved. Reséndez shows how inconvenient laws were bypassed. First, the parameters of who could be enslaved were not necessarily strictly defined. While the royals insisted their people be treated as vassals, those who enslaved them just changed the nomenclature and methods. Colonists were granted encomiendas, grants of Indians to overlords, or repartimientos, compulsory labor drafts. The growth of peonage—debt slavery—provided even more slave labor. Eventually, Mexican silver mines turned to New Mexico to supply slaves, which gives the author the opportunity to provide the history of peoples in the Southwest. As the Mormons bought slaves to "civilize" them, the Spanish initially enslaved people to "Christianize" them. Both merely created an underclass. This eye-opening exposure of the abuse of the indigenous peoples of America is staggering; that the mistreatment continued into the 20th century is beyond disturbing.

—Kirkus "Reséndez (A Land So Strange), a professor of history at the University of California, Davis, details the ways in which Native Americans were subjected to enslavement throughout the Americas. When the U.S. gained California and other southwestern territories from Mexico in 1848, it also acquired a significant number of Indian slaves who were "entrapped by a distinct brand of bondage" perpetrated by colonial Spain and inherited by Mexico. This form of enslavement ran parallel to that endured by people of African descent throughout colonial Latin America and, Reséndez argues, generated an even more disastrous population loss. He notes the ways in which the "other slavery" defies simple definitions, relating how it was so widespread and deeply rooted in the economy and society of the Americas that it lasted even longer than that of African slavery, persisting in the guise of debt peonage into the 20th century.

Emphasizing the variety of experiences of unfree labor suffered over five centuries by individuals from communities as culturally diverse and geographically separate as the Maya, the Apache, and indigenous Caribbeans, Reséndez vividly recounts the harrowing story of a previously little-known aspect of the histories of American slavery and of encounters between indigenes and invaders. —Publisher's Weekly "Today, with the complex and myriad effects of globalization frequently in the news, human trafficking has managed to endure. —The Other

Slavery— It both reminds and cautions: Man's inhumanity to man is still making history." • Book Page — "At a time when we are struggling to come to grips with the legacy of our long-time African slavery experience, it is only right that we should also acknowledge and inform ourselves of the human tragedy endured by the indigenous people of this hemisphere from Columbus's first contact to the present. — • New York Journal of Books
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A landmark history the sweeping story of the enslavement of tens of thousands of Indians across America, from the time of the conquistadors up to the early twentieth century Since the time of Columbus, Indian slavery was illegal in much of the American continent. Yet, as Andres Resendez illuminates in his myth-shattering *The Other Slavery*, it was practiced for centuries as an open secret. There was no abolitionist movement to protect the tens of thousands of Natives who were kidnapped and enslaved by the conquistadors, then forced to descend into the mouth of hell of eighteenth-century silver mines or, later, made to serve as domestics for Mormon settlers and rich Anglos. Resendez builds the incisive, original case that it was mass slavery more than epidemics that decimated Indian populations across North America. New evidence, including testimonies of courageous priests, rapacious merchants, Indian captives, and Anglo colonists, sheds light too on Indian enslavement of other Indians as what started as a European business passed into the hands of indigenous operators and spread like wildfire across vast tracts of the American Southwest. *The Other Slavery* is nothing less than a key missing piece of American history. For over two centuries we have fought over, abolished, and tried to come to grips with African American slavery. It is time for the West to confront an entirely separate, equally devastating enslavement we have long failed truly to see. " --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Any one who wants to know the truth of how we treated the American Indians should read this book. What we did to them, in some cases still doing. should be brought out to light. History is fact, we must & should come to peace of what we did to them. Then we will find peace. This book helps us understand what we did. Excellent book, a must read to understand the true essence of American History. Sometimes American History can be ugly....very ugly.

Thank you Mrs. Kelly for making me do my homework, especially my reading assignments. Perhaps we read to know we are not alone? This book must be required historical reading regarding why humans cannot be trusted to do what is morally right by other humans. I suggest that this be read by

students starting, as early as the sixth (6th) grade. No one doubts the horrors committed by slavers toward the Africans that were sold by other Africans to be used as animals to support the greed of those who had lost their souls. Only a person who has lost their humanity could sell another human. In American classes throughout our country we are reminded of the crimes committed against the African slaves. It was with much anxiety and hurt, I felt, after I read *The Other Slavery* by Professor Resendez about the holocaust committed by the Spanish, Portuguese but worse the Mexicans toward the Indians of North America. Albert Einstein was quoted that "War is man's greatest obscenity to himself." Einstein was wrong! Slavery is far worse as Slavery commits the mind, soul and body to an eternal living Hell that death seems only to relieve. Twenty-five (25%) of African slaves died enslaved. According to Professor Recendez up to eighty (80%) of the Indian population did not survive. Why was this never taught in school? Why weren't we instructed that Chief Cochise (Arizona) hated every Mexican and wanted to kill them (Mexicans) all? Long before the Mayflower set sail the Spanish and Mexicans had already enslaved thousands of Indians to work and die in the silver mines. Chief Geronimo was punished to serve time in Florida. Before he died he had said that he would enter the war again if he could kill more Mexicans because of murders of his family by "Old Mexico." As the Mormons arrived in Utah the Mormons wanted nothing to do with slavery although Mormons believe (to this day) that Indians are from Israel and part of the promised people. However, note that Mormons cite that Indians are Lamanites and have the mark of Cain on them, by the nature of their dark skin. So, why did Mormons break with their faith and buy, sell and trade in Indians? The story is so horrifying that you have to read the book. The text highlights the efforts of President Lincoln and my favorite John Bingham (read *America's Founding Son*) whose deep faith and conviction demanded of them everything to end peonage. Yes, we passed laws to end slavery so why didn't it end? Sadly, today we still have slavery and peonage. After your reading ask yourself isn't illegal immigration and welfare just other terms for slavery and peonage? Great job professor! I will recommend your book to my students

What a fascinating book! Important read for anyone interested in "American" history (that includes all of the Americas as well as the United States). Written in an eminently accessible style so that the academic and non-academic alike will find value in its pages. Assign this book in every high-school American History classroom!

...an eye opener. Be prepared to shaking your head side on multiple chapters. You might even feel like crying and then getting angry.

This book opened my eyes about the history of my state's indigenous peoples; I've lived in New Mexico since my early teens! Thank goodness my introduction to this complex and emotional subject was guided by a superb researcher, gifted storyteller, and a master of beautiful writing.

Excellent!

Great book. I always knew that the Native people, my ancestors, were on the block with African-Americans, but this book tells the story brilliantly. A must read for all Americans.

This book cries out for a Pulitzer. Not only fascinating (and disturbing), but very well written. Author should get a MacArthur grant to continue his work.

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