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Elizabeth Hirschman

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Melungeons

The Last Lost Tribe in America



Elizabeth Caldwell Hirschman

N. Brent Kennedy, Series Editor

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Elizabeth Hirschman : Melungeons: The Last Lost Tribe in America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Melungeons: The Last Lost Tribe in America:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. I also enjoy the fact that so many family names are providedBy StephenHI have been studying Melungeons in Eastern Tennessee and Western North Carolina for about three years. I found some very interesting ideas in this book. I also enjoy the fact that so many family names are provided. I personally believe that "admixture" has a lot to do with the origin of the people of the Great Smoky Mountain area. If

you are from this area, this is a must read book. However, I do not believe they are a "Lost Tribe" as indicated by the title. These are simple country people who have been in those mountains for a very long time that represent complex haplogroups. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Melungeons By Aldena I find it a good research tool. I find it an extension of historical facts to 'The Melungeons' by N. Brent Kennedy which has more 'facts' to the families that I am following. The Melungeons has always been a fringe misunderstood people for centuries. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book for individuals who are pursuing relevant history of ... By Cynthia Ann Evans Excellent book for individuals who are pursuing relevant history of the early Appalachia. If you are pursuing an investigation into Melungeon heritage, I would recommend this book.

Most of us probably think of America as being settled by British Protestant colonists who fought the Indians tamed the wilderness, and brought democracy--or at least a representative republic--to North America. To the contrary, Elizabeth Caldwell Hirschman's research indicates the earliest settlers were of Mediterranean extraction, and of a Jewish or Muslim religious persuasion. Sometimes called Melungeons, these early settlers were among the earliest nonnative Americans to live in the Carolinas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, and West Virginia. For fear of discrimination--since Muslims, Jews, Indians, and other persons of color were often disenfranchised and abused--the Melungeons were reticent regarding their heritage. In fact over time, many of the Melungeons themselves forgot where they came from. Hence, today the Melungeons remain the last lost tribe in America, eye to themselves. Yet, Hirschman, supported by DNA testing, genealogies; and a variety of historical documents, suggests that the Melungeons included such notable early Americans as Daniel Boone, John Sevier, Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, and Andrew Jackson. Once lost, but now forgotten more.