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Edited by Peter C. Mancall

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Edited by Peter C. Mancall : Travel Narratives from the Age of Discovery: An Anthology (Paperback) - Common before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Travel Narratives from the Age of Discovery: An Anthology (Paperback) - Common:

1 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Pro-globalization propagandaBy Earnest SludgeI guess I should have done my homework a little better before ordering this. I had bought two other travel anthologies taken from works hundreds of years ago and that were also put out by Oxford University and I was quite satisfied by them. But those other anthologies were only intended to entertain and divert. This one has a boring ax to grind. And I must confess that I didn't read the Columbus, Cartier, Stade, de Lery or Oviedo selections because I'd already read the full accounts. These selections don't even qualify as narrative. They're just dry expositions on religious, social and trading customs. There's also an unpleasant moralizing, preachy tone to many of author's introductory comments, telling us that it was cruel and unjust to have abused and decimated the indigenous of North and South America and to have enslaved the Blacks of Africa. There's one particularly drawn-out, whiny selection by Guaman Poma that harps on and on about how there is "no justice for the poor Indians" of Peru. The main point of this anthology seems to be that the whole world was already nearly or fully civilized so it just made sense that the different centers should reach out and connect. I can't argue with the inevitability of it, it's just impossible for me to take any joy in it. And the dry, static, feet-nailed-to-floor tone of these selections confirms it. There were also quite a few typos in the selected texts. I was surprised since Oxford University is one of the most prestigious universities in the world.

A collection of narratives about travel and discovery in North and South America, Africa, Asia, and Europe in the 16th century. The authors represent multiple nationalities, including Spanish, Huguenot, French, Italian, and English, and the locations range from Brazil to Canada, China to Virginia, and Angola to Florida.