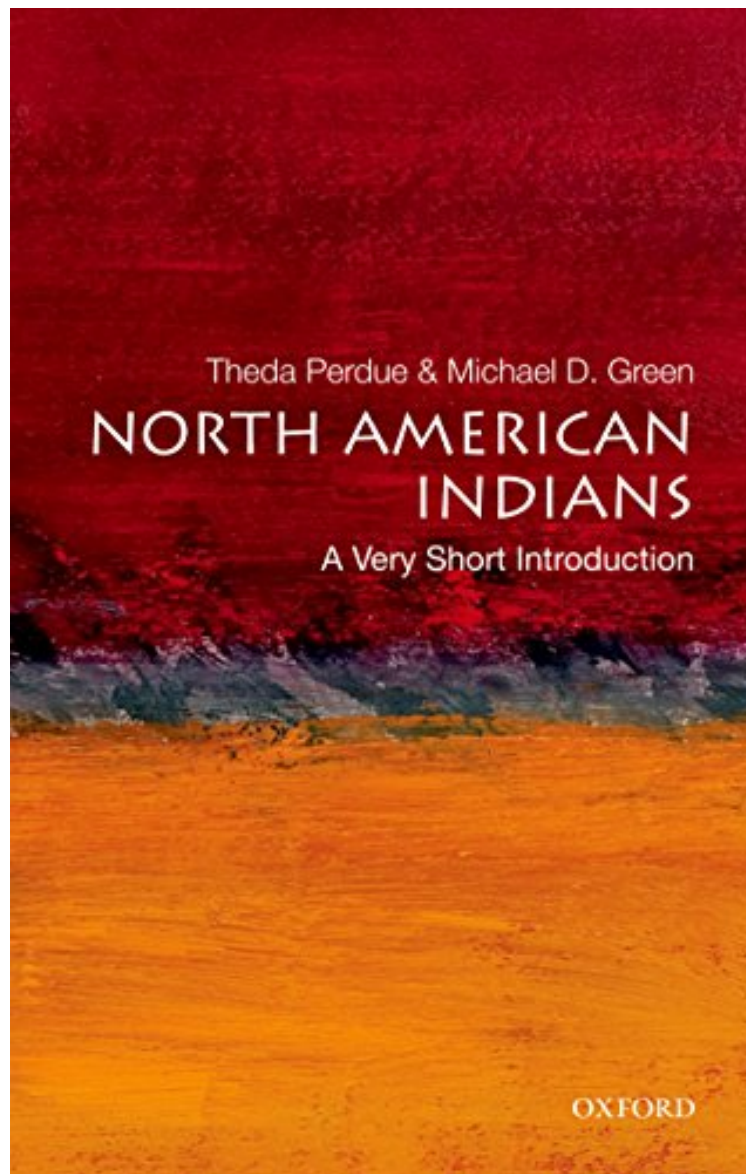


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North American Indians: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

Theda Perdue, Michael D. Green
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Theda Perdue, Michael D. Green : North American Indians: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised North American Indians: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions):

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Indian EncyclopediaBy Brian D. FerreroThis book outlines every

single North American tribe and the extreme difficulties Indians faced due to their removals. One by one Perdue details the most important issues that plagued North American Tribes emphasizing the horrific Federal disregard for treaties and broken promises that still hinder recognition to this day. From the arrival of Soto, through the formation of the Five Civilized Tribes, Perdue gives a brief but solid account of tribal resilience, spiritual practice and cultural history. From the Northeast clear out to the West, tribes barely eeked out an existence following the steamroll effect that Manifest Destiny provided, laying the foundations for U.S. Government Indian extermination. The book is an eye opener, and leaves the reader in quite a shock as there is not much good news embedded within these pages. It's a reality check and an overview of the numerous roadblocks the Federal government has bestowed on every single Indian tribe that ever roamed North America. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great introduction
By HistoryGrad
This book is a great introduction to American Indians. It gives a great chronology of the legal battles between the US government and different nations and tribes. Though it covers a great deal of information and is extremely condensed do not expect to see the individual histories or beliefs of each tribe, especially tribes from the northeast that are only discussed in brevity or completely left out. Over all, this is a great book to get better insight into the history of Native Americans. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Lot's of info packed in a little binding
By Tim Harlan
This book covers a breadth of information that is astounding considering it's size. If the other books in this series are as good I'd recommend those as well.

When Europeans first arrived in North America, between five and eight million indigenous people were already living there. But how did they come to be here? What were their agricultural, spiritual, and hunting practices? How did their societies evolve and what challenges do they face today? Eminent historians Theda Perdue and Michael Green begin by describing how nomadic bands of hunter-gatherers followed the bison and woolly mammoth over the Bering land mass between Asia and what is now Alaska between 25,000 and 15,000 years ago, settling throughout North America. They describe hunting practices among different tribes, how some made the gradual transition to more settled, agricultural ways of life, the role of kinship and cooperation in Native societies, their varied burial rites and spiritual practices, and many other features of Native American life. Throughout the book, Perdue and Green stress the great diversity of indigenous peoples in America, who spoke more than 400 different languages before the arrival of Europeans and whose ways of life varied according to the environments they settled in and adapted to so successfully. Most importantly, the authors stress how Native Americans have struggled to maintain their sovereignty--first with European powers and then with the United States--in order to retain their lands, govern themselves, support their people, and pursue practices that have made their lives meaningful. Going beyond the stereotypes that so often distort our views of Native Americans, this Very Short Introduction offers a historically accurate, deeply engaging, and often inspiring account of the wide array of Native peoples in America. About the Series: Combining authority with wit, accessibility, and style, Very Short Introductions offer an introduction to some of life's most interesting topics. Written by experts for the newcomer, they demonstrate the finest contemporary thinking about the central problems and issues in hundreds of key topics, from philosophy to Freud, quantum theory to Islam.

About the Author Theda Perdue is Atlanta Distinguished Professor of Southern Culture at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is the author of many books, including *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives and Cherokee Women: Gender and Culture Change, 1700-1835*. She is past president of the Southern Association for Women Historians and the American Society for Ethnohistory, and will serve as president of the Southern Historical Association in 2011. Michael D. Green is Professor Emeritus of American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has held fellowships from the Newberry Library and the Rockefeller Foundation and is former chair of the Native American Studies Program at Dartmouth College.