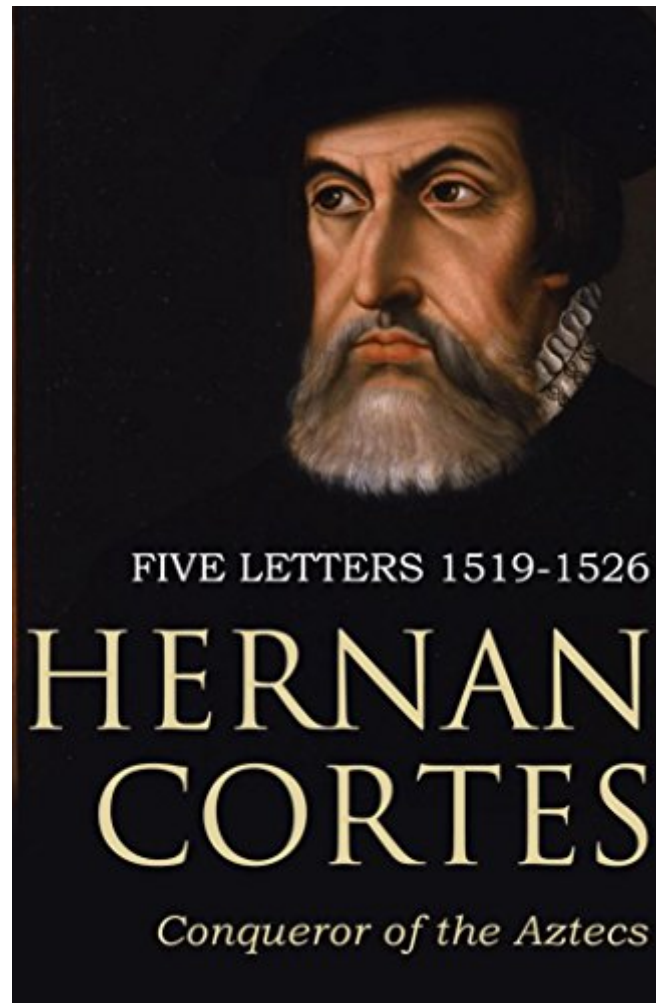




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Five Letters Of Cortes To The Emperor: 1519 -1526



Synopsis

“One of the most fascinating Machiavellian documents to come out of the Renaissance.” —Carlos Fuentes, *Guardian*

These five letters from Hernando Cortés to Emperor Charles V of Spain between the year 1519 and 1526 chronicle the expansion of the Spanish Empire into Mexico. In his detailed and fascinating letters, Cortés gives an account of the discovery of the mainland, the conquerors trek into hostile country and their clashes with the Aztec people led by Montezuma II. Translated by Francis Augustus MacNutt, this edition contains many enlightening footnotes and an introduction which gives a wider context to the letters and provides a historiography of the contemporary accounts of Cortés and his conquistadors. “In the letters of Cortés we have a clear picture of Mexico through the simple eyes of the conqueror who admires his enemies.” —He could write a masterly report. The second and the third letters are the clearest piece of narrative that we can ask for. We see the advance into the country, the conscientious determination to penetrate by peace, diplomacy or the sword to Montezuma’s capital, leading up to the final dramatic meeting with Montezuma himself.” —New Statesman

Hernando Cortés, born 1485, was a Spanish Conquistador who led an expedition that caused the fall of the Aztec Empire and brought large portions of mainland Mexico under the rule of the King of Castile in the early 16th century. Cortés was part of the generation of Spanish colonizers who began the first phase of the Spanish colonization of the Americas. He died in 1547.

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Customer Reviews

A direct account from a fearless general and world renowned sociopath. Cultural clash, perils in a foreign environment, and infighting amongst spaniards is the constant challenges that Cortes must endure and overcome in this world shaping event. I read this book with a biased opinion and an agenda...resentment towards the colonization of the western hemisphere. Not a single taino is alive today and little evidence exists of my native people. Cortes dealt with Mexico and Aztecs but you get my point. The charm and persuasive abilities of Hernando really come of in his letters and I believe it is the main reason why he was able to amass constant allegiance from rivaling tribes wanting to dethrone the Aztec empire. The man convinced or rather confirmed to the indigenous that his compass was a lie detector. I cant say enough good things about this publication. Exceeded my expectations by a large margin.

I was told it was used, but when it arrived it looked brand new, like I was the first person to open it. And the book is fantastic.

Had a hard day? Read this.

This book is the letters that Cortes wrote home to the king of Spain, and they provide a first hand account of his amazing adventure, and how he conquered one of the most powerful civilizations in the world. It is astounding how ruthlessly brutal the conquistadores were, and how devastatingly successful. It definitely puts a heavy dose of reality on the dates and names that usually make history dull.

ok

can't get any better than a PRIMARY source as a black man i use this as foundation to intellectualize

my arguments AGAINST europeans

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