

For history teachers looking to bring into their curriculum oft ignored tales of the effects of expansion rather than simply repeating the long-told story of American progress, *This Radical Land* will not disappoint. Miller's avidity for environmental justice is appreciated as is his honesty in putting much of the blame for the incessant dominion of the American landscape squarely on the shoulders of capitalism. For the modern history teacher trying to make sense of the impact of progress, Miller's book is a great resource.

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David Treuer. *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2019. Pp. 512. \$28.00.

The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee, by Ojibwe author and anthropologist David Treuer, explicitly sets out to challenge Dee Brown's iconic *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* (1970). Brown implied that Lakota history (and Native American history in general) tragically ended following the massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890. Overall, Brown's narrative described a story "of diminution and death" (1). Treuer, however, wanted to write a "counternarrative" that focuses on "Indian life rather than death." According to Treuer, Wounded Knee was both "an end, and a beginning" (1;11). Native American life, in the past and especially in the present, is more than a legacy of loss, pain, and defeat. As Treuer bluntly notes, "our cultures are not dead and our civilizations have not been destroyed" (17). Whereas Brown stopped in 1890, Treuer wants to take 1890 as his starting point to illustrate that survival and hope did not end on the wintry plains of Wounded Knee.

While Treuer states in his introduction that he mainly wants to focus on the 128 years after Wounded Knee, he takes about two hundred pages to get to that point. Part 1, "Narrating the Apocalypse: 10,000 BCE to 1890," spans one hundred pages and marches through thousands of years of Native American history. Part 2, titled "Purgatory: 1891-1934," likewise covers the key events of Native American history during that time period. These sections are well-written and provide an overview of the key events of Native American history during this long timeframe but provide little that is new in terms of content or analysis.

While still chronological and centered on events, Parts 3 through 7 provide new information that proves Treuer's thesis of native resilience and survival. In terms of events, the author covers Native American service in both world wars, urbanization in the 1950s and 1960s, the American Indian Movement of the 1960s and 1970s, and the development of Indian gaming. Most important, Treuer adds in eclectic interviews that he conducted with Native American family members, friends, and acquaintances from tribes across the nation. He visits with a cousin who is an MMA fighter, an Ojibwe man who lives off the land, the James Beard winning "Sioux Chef" Sean Sherman, an Ojibwe woman who started a women's running group on her reservation, a tribal president in Washington state who plans to open a marijuana dispensary, and many others who illustrate survival and resistance in very different ways. While acknowledging that problems remain both on and off reservations, all of these vignettes illustrate that Native Americans have found various ways to "strengthen their communities from the inside" (402).

Overall, Treuer's work is beautifully written and free of jargon. He is a consummate storyteller, as illustrated by his past publication of novels and his engaging recent memoir, *Rez Life: An Indian's Journey through Reservation Life* (2013). Despite the book's hefty page length, the chapters never feel long or drawn out. His section on "Digital Indians: 1990-2018" was especially original and illustrated how various Native activists are using technology and other innovations to promote economic development and healthy lifestyles, among other issues that have plagued reservations and Native Americans in general.

The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee is somewhat difficult to categorize as it is many things at the same time: a traditional chronological history covering the main events of Native American history from pre-contact to the present day, a primary source reader (the author includes various full primary sources in many of his chapters), and oral histories of his meetings with contemporary Native American men and women across the nation. The

fact that this book is hard to categorize, however, makes it all the more useful for teachers. *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee* can be used in multiple ways to help construct lessons; teachers can either read the book in its entirety for a sweeping overview of Native American history or use parts for more targeted lesson plans on, for example, early colonial tribes in Virginia. Either way, the book will help teachers to place Native Americans at the center of American history.

In sum, Treuer has written an indispensable book for experts and non-experts alike who are interested in Native American history, especially into the modern day. Despite the tragedy of Wounded Knee and other atrocities forced on Native Americans since 1492, authors like Treuer, and hundreds of other Native American activists, have survived to make and to tell their own history.

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