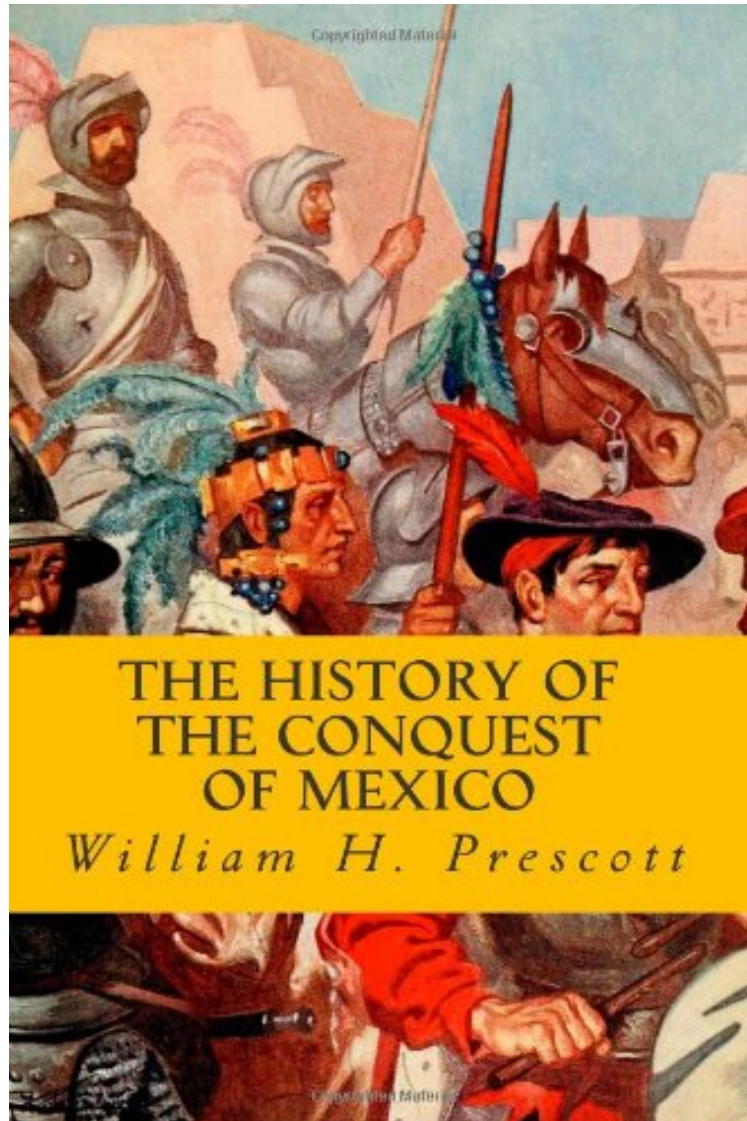


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The History of the Conquest of Mexico

William Hickling Prescott, Joaquin Collado
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William Hickling Prescott, Joaquin Collado : The History of the Conquest of Mexico before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The History of the Conquest of Mexico:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Winning for GodBy Indian BurnedThe author, in an admittedly dated style, gives a detailed story of how Cortes came back from the brink of defeat, over and over to finally triumph in a enormous bloodbath and conquer Mexico . I doubt if few people have any idea of what he went through... on the other hand, I doubt if many people have any idea what the Mexicans went through, which was far worse. In the book

the reader roots for Cortes as he decimates a whole civilization, in the name of God.... Makes you wonder!!!Regardless, it is a detailed and fascinating story of perseverance in the face incredible odds.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Cortes, in all his ambiguous glory - an extraordinary story!By D. B. WilliamsI originally bought this as an e-book because it was so cheap (embarrassing admission!), and I thought I'd miss out if I didn't purchase it then and there. Well it was cheap, but I would only have missed out if I hadn't begun reading before I realised it was cheap because it was a very old book, reprinted. Prescott's style is very dated, and his expressions sometimes seem convoluted, but I really enjoyed it enormously - his storytelling is superb, and while he sometimes reveals his age with non-PC comments about native peoples and their gods, he never seems condescending. His efforts to accurately portray that most extraordinary, single-minded, confident, competent leader, military commander, politician, and rascal Hernando Cortes succeed beyond expectation. While deploring the long-term results of the conquest of Mexico, Cortes' achievement is breathtaking, and wonderfully described by Prescott from a perspective much closer to the events than we can readily muster today.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An exciting storyBy coreyhuntEven though this book was written in 1890, it is surprisingly even handed in this struggle between the dominant culture of Central America and a small group of adventurers led by Hernando Cortes. The author obviously admires the achievements of the Aztecs, despite the 20,000 human sacrifices annually made to their gods. The conditions of the Aztec nation which made it liable to collapse and the skill of Cortes are discussed. This story would not be believed if history had not instructed us it is true.

William Hickling Prescott (May 4, 1796 January 28, 1859) was an American historian and Hispanist, who is widely recognized by historiographers to have been the first American scientific historian. His works "The History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella the Catholic" (1837), "The History of the Conquest of Mexico" (1843), "A History of the Conquest of Peru" (1847) and the unfinished "History of the Reign of Phillip II" (18561858) have become classic works in the field, and have had a great impact on the study of both Spain and Mesoamerica. Historians admire Prescott for his exhaustive, careful, and systematic use of archives, his accurate recreation of sequences of events, his balanced judgments and his lively writing style. Prescott started drafting the "History of the Conquest of Mexico" in October 1839. However, Prescott faced difficulties in writing the work which he had not encountered previously. There was relatively little scholarship on Aztec civilization, and Prescott dismissed much of it as "speculation", and he therefore had to rely almost exclusively on primary sources (with the exception of Humboldt).