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A NATURAL HISTORY OF NORTH AMERICA

ROBERT McCracken Peck

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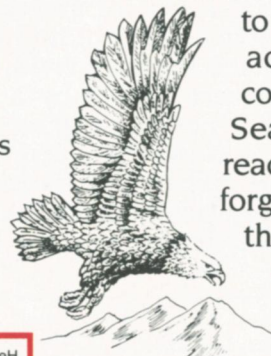
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Land of the Eagle is a glorious celebration of North America in all its natural beauty and bounty. It is the history of the exploration and the settling of this land by Europeans hundreds of years ago and the many changes they brought to it. For some settlers, North America was a wilderness that needed to be tamed in order to give up its bounty; for others, it was a paradise that through minimum toil would yield huge rewards. But both of these attitudes differed vastly from that of the native "Indians" — misnamed by early explorers who thought they had reached the Orient — who considered the land and its wildlife to be sacred extensions of their own lives and bodies.

Land of the Eagle examines these different perspectives and discusses how they helped shape today's North American continent. Using firsthand accounts by early discoverers, naturalists and settlers, and indigenous inhabitants, the book describes the American wilderness, capturing the excitement, hope and awe that this vast land instilled into all who encountered it. It also examines the dramatic change and conflict that the European settlers brought to North America — and how their use of the land and the wildlife had traumatic consequences for the native populations.



From the mangrove swamps of Florida to the frozen tundra of Canada, from the Atlantic coast to Alaska's Bering Sea, this book takes its readers on a provocative, unforgettable journey through the North American wilderness both past and present.

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