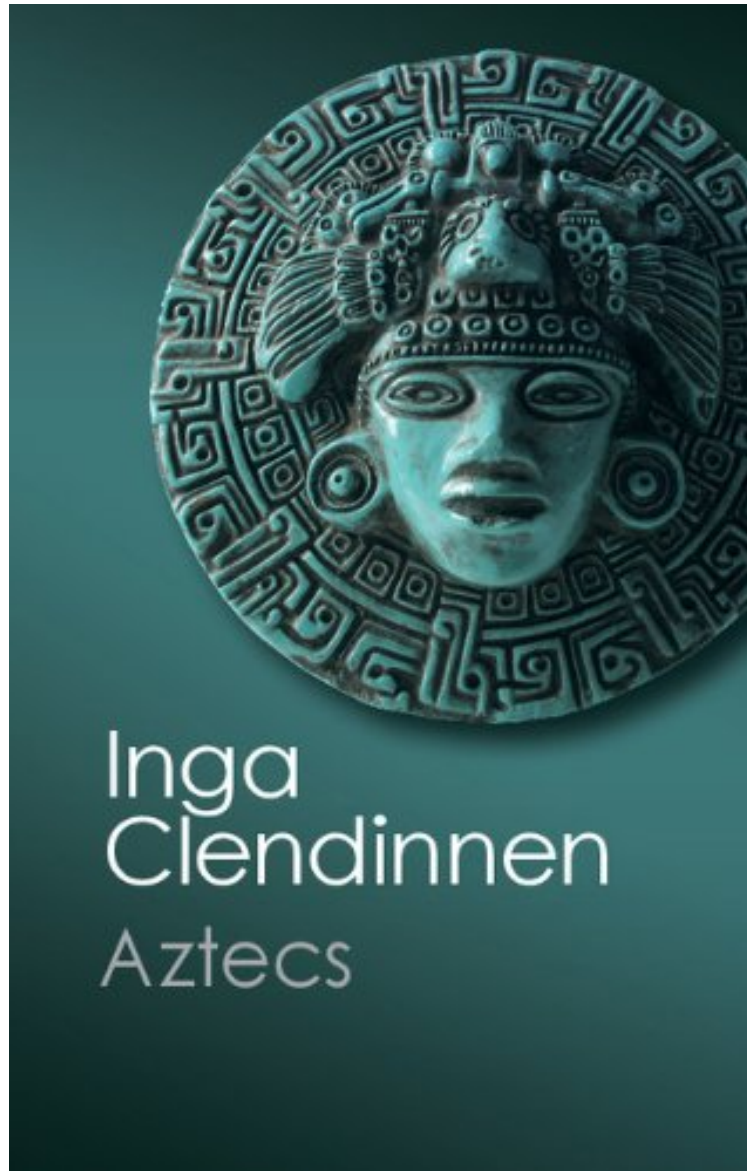


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## Aztecs: An Interpretation (Canto Classics)

*Von Inga Clendinnen*

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**Von Inga Clendinnen : Aztecs: An Interpretation (Canto Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Aztecs: An Interpretation (Canto Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. To understand the Aztec CivilizationVon Claude-Ren DE WINTERA lot of books are available about Precolumbian civilizations, especially mesoamerican; Aztecs and Mayas are the most learned of all. BUT, we read always the same

informations for a long time. Inga CLENDINNEN gives us "An Interpretation" : what kind of civilization has risen on the plateau of Mexico-Tenochtitlan ? How to explain Aztecs's power in a region where so many people had developed cities and values such as Olmecs (in TEOTIHUACAN) or Toltecs (in TULA) ? We discover first the City and its meaning. Then, we enter the mentality of the peoples who entertain LIFE by their Death (the Victims), their Work (Warriors, Priests, Merchant) or their personal place in the society (Males, Wives, Mothers). Third, we enter the Sacred and we begin to understand how the Rituals may consolidate the society with the Fear of others... before being the plea of a revolt of vassal populations. AZTECS were strong by their military organization but weak by their beliefs : an entire world fearing the sun could not be able to born another day, organizing war to provide their temples with victims to their Gods, such a world had to find its limits. When the Spaniards came with their "magic"... Aztecs resist, but only two years. The Death of the Empire is to find in its structures self. The same, with other contexts, explains the fall of the Ancient Indian Worlds, facing the Spaniards, the French or the Englishmen. Understanding how to be strong meant to become weak, for Native Americans old civilizations, may permit the Renaissance of New Indian worlds; but here, I go beyond the Interpretation of the Author. The Book tells us how to enter in Aztecs Civilization Construction, as we visit an Architecture, a Mechanism... Thanks to Inga CLENDINNEN for this initiation (please, excuse the bad english of a natural french writer).

Kurzbeschreibung In 1521, the city of Tenochtitlan, magnificent centre of the Aztec empire, fell to the Spaniards and their Indian allies. Inga Clendinnen's account of the Aztecs recreates the culture of that city in its last unthreatened years. It provides a vividly dramatic analysis of Aztec ceremony as performance art, binding the key experiences and concerns of social existence in the late imperial city to the mannered violence of their ritual killings. Pressestimmen 'This is an outstanding book, as rich in its reconstruction of social details as in its lucid analyses of the 'interior architecture' of the Aztec world Clendinnen makes a wonderfully informative and illuminating contribution to our understanding of Aztec society. Her book deserves a wide readership.' The Higher 'There is no other book quite like this one. It is probably the best presentation of the Aztec people, their culture, and their city from the point of view of the Aztecs themselves.' Michael D. Coe, Yale University 'Professor Clendinnen, an eloquent writer, a brilliant historian, and a very creative thinker, has crafted an intelligent book that is both informative and truly engaging.' J. Jorge Klor de Alva, Princeton University 'Aztecs offers a gripping account of an alien society and thus enlarges our apprehension of the sheer diversity of human cultures. I am grateful for the opportunity to have read her book.' David Brading, London of Books

das Produkt Inga Clendinnen creates a vivid and dramatic picture of life in the Aztec city of Tenochtitlan, once the nerve centre of the Aztec tribute empire. She explores the worlds of Aztec women, of priests and of warriors, in an extraordinary recreation of everyday life in the city. Contrasting the beauty and sophistication of Aztec culture with the savagery of human sacrifice, she attempts to explain the philosophy, rituals, and social structures that underpinned this remarkable empire.