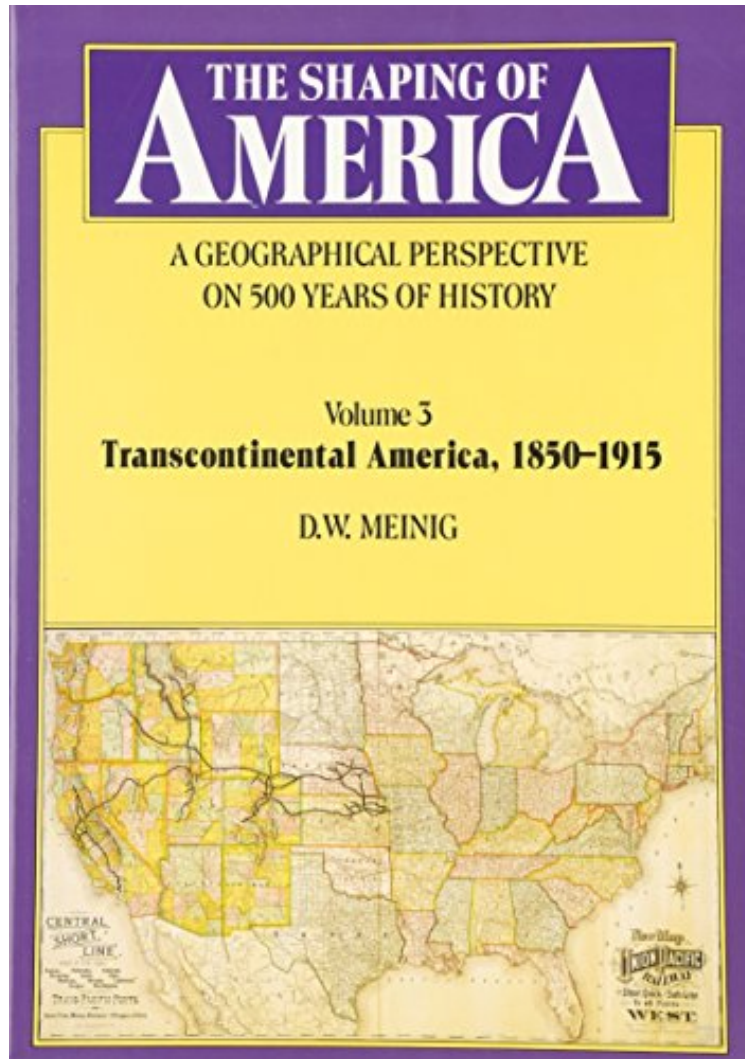


[Download] The Shaping of America: A Geographical Perspective on 500 Years of History, Volume 3: Transcontinental America, 1850-1915

The Shaping of America: A Geographical Perspective on 500 Years of History, Volume 3: Transcontinental America, 1850-1915

D. W. Meinig, D.W. Meinig

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0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Dougnot bad for a text book5 of 7 people found the following review helpful. An incredible family historyBy Javier PleitezCantora is the best book that I read that was

assigned by a schoolteacher. Even if I hadn't read for a grade at the time I first read it, my thoughts about it would have remained the same. It was very popular with my 11th grade English class(three years ago), and most of the students kept reading passed the days' assigned pages. Although I'm a person that's inclined to read sci-fi books, I found nothing in Cantora that I didn't like. Depicting a young woman's family history through several generations, this is a book that everyone can relate to, and even though it is a fictionalized history, it is believable that it could be mistaken for a real family history. Whether it's based on a real history or not, I do not know. Culture and struggle is everywhere in Cantora, and the characters are very well developed. In each generation, there is some sort of struggle against tradition, and it deals mainly with the women of the family. Cantora is a fast read because the the pages are not filled with many words that a person might look up. This is a real advantage that the book has for those people who aren't fond of reading. Many excellent are filled with hard language. But because Cantora has simple language, everyone, and I mean EVERYONE, will get hooked by the second page. Even the people who are most notorious for hating to read will find nothing boring in this book. I guarantee that non-readers and readers who prefer different genres will find out that this is an excellent book. It is impossible to actually loathe this novel. Cantora really needs to be more widely reconized.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A good companion pieceBy A CustomerAt times enlightening, the first volume of Meinig's "Shaping of America" series is a worthy companion to American history books about the same topic. As a geographer, Meinig's concern isn't so much the history of the United States--in fact, he assumes that the reader already knows quite a bit about the topic. Rather, he is attempting to understand and represent why the Americas--specifically North America--became the continent it did, with the cultural characteristics it has. As such, models of cultural interaction are key.Meinig's presentation is a bit grand--he could have used a more effective editor. Run-on sentences and grand adjectives pepper the text, and the organization (especially in the first section) could have been clearer. Still, this is a very important book in a very important series, because it provides a geographical perspective--one that previously had been ignored--on American history. As such, it makes a good companion to traditional histories of the North American continent.

This is the third of four volumes in a series acclaimed by both historians and geographers for its breathtaking scope and originality. D. W. Meinig continues his riveting account of Americas interwoven history and geography, describing the expanding countrys development from the mid-nineteenth century to 1915. To accompany his interpretation of Americas geographic evolution, Meinig offers forty superb new maps and forty-five other illustrations. Each original map enhances our historical understanding of the patterns, features, and themes of American history.The book begins with the struggle over where to build the Pacific railway and fix the nations first transcontinental axis. Meinig portrays in detail the settlement of the diverse regions of the American West and how these many Wests were incorporated into the growing nation. He then examines the South as an imperial province and the dominance of the American Core over an increasingly consolidated nation. In conclusion, the author considers Americas imperial pressures upon Canada and Mexico, the countrys overt expansions in the Caribbean and the Pacific, and the Panama Canal as a transcontinental completion.