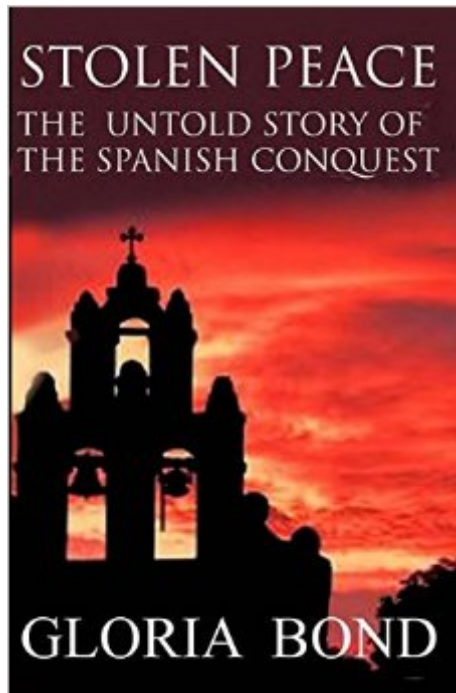


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Stolen Peace: The Untold Story Of The Spanish Conquest



Synopsis

When the Spanish arrived in the Caribbean in 1492, they left destruction in their wake. But no people were as devastated as the Taino Indians. Even the name of the island where they made their home — Quisqueya — was stolen, and called Hispaniola. In the wake of the Spanish Conquest, the Taino people struggled not for survival, but simply to be remembered. Their histories, their chants, and their gods were almost entirely wiped away. Until now. This is the untold story of the devastation wrought by the Spanish Conquest on the island of Quisqueya. It is the story of a people who cry out for remembrance more than 500 years later. It is the story of a few brave people who dared to stand up against a powerful empire that was dedicated to their annihilation. Stolen Peace combines fictional and historical characters from both the Spanish conquerors and Taino cultures to give insight into those forces that decimated a culture in a single generation. Note: This book was written — not only to tell a fictional story about what happened to the Tainos on the island of Hispaniola — but more important, it serves as a symbol of the painful tragedy that befell ALL native Americans.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First of all, thumbs up to Gloria Bond for writing the only historical novel I can find on the subject of the Tainos and the destruction the Spanish inflicted upon them. Her research is amazing and her characters really come alive. When Columbus "discovered" what is today Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic, the islands consisted of a peaceful people called the Taino. Except for an occasional Caribe attack, they lived in utter peace and solitude. They believed that their god,

Yocahu, would reward them for being peaceful people and as a result, they never defended themselves nor fought amongst each other. Unfortunately, this peaceful existence meant they were ill equipped and ill prepared to defend themselves from the Spanish Europeans and their swords. This is the story of a people before and after Columbus. What led to their downfall? This novel explores all the factors involved, tells how the Spanish raped the Taino women, enslaved anyone over fourteen years of age, cut off people's hands, and wiped out an entire race. The tragedy of the Tainos is that they thought Columbus was Yocahu and treated him as such. Their later disappointment ran deep. The main characters are Neef, a crippled Taino boy that overcomes many obstacles with his own people and with the white men, Princess Anacoana, Columbus (called Colon in the book), Mateo the cabin boy, Basamanaco the trader (and adoptive father to Neef), and one lone warrior that sacrifices himself in hopes of saving his people. Beautiful story and very well told. The only reason I fail to give it four stars is the prose is just awful at times. Thee, thy, and thou just do not fit the island scene. The Spanish come across as hicks with their own speech full of th's and n's.

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