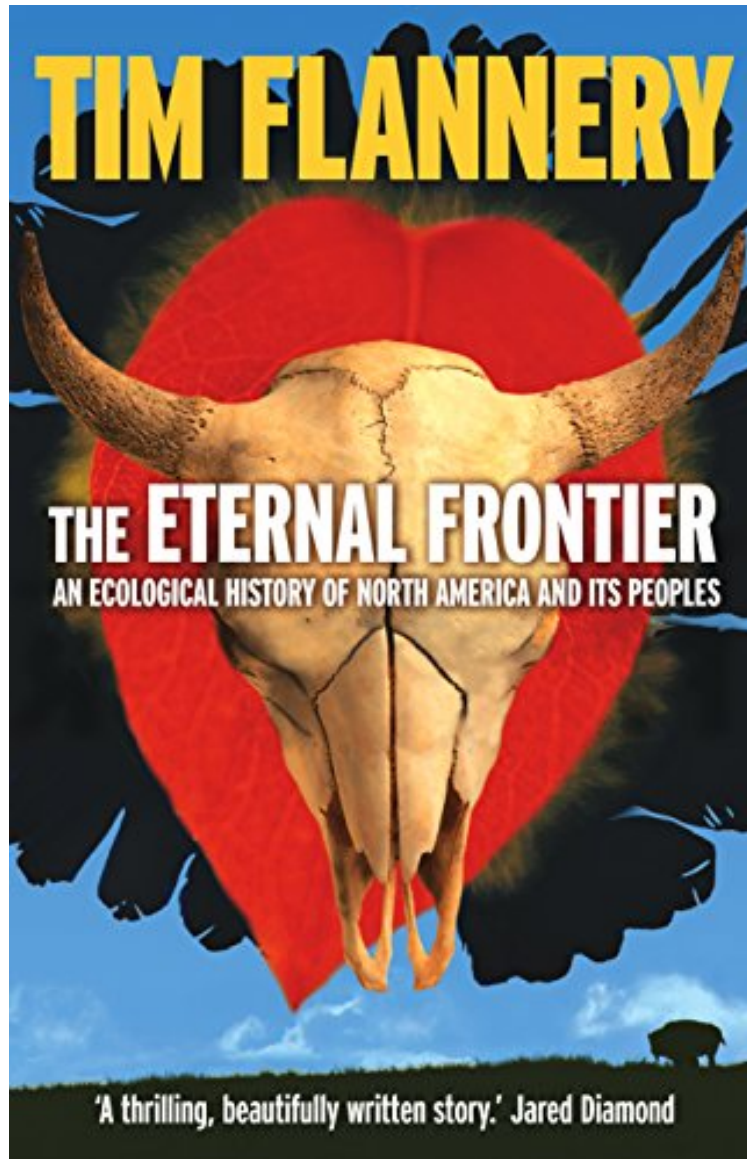


[Library ebook] The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America Its Peoples

# The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America Its Peoples

Von Tim Flannery

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Produktinformation Veröffentlicht am: 2010-05-16 Erscheinungsdatum: 2010-05-16 File Name: B005652CHS  
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Von Tim Flannery : The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America Its Peoples before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America Its Peoples:

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Armageddon Von Michael Swedlund Everyone should read this broad and thought-provoking overview of American history and be humbled. Indeed, destructive and improvident greed is in all humans, right the way back to the noble savage, supposedly living in harmony with nature. Can such an insight change our nature?

Kurzbeschreibung Tim Flannery's *The Eternal Frontier* is the ground-breaking sequel to *The Future Eaters*, which changed the way we think about ecological history. Now Flannery tells the astonishing story of North America from the day 65 million years ago when a meteor ten kilometres wide smashed into the Gulf of Mexico, ending the age of dinosaurs and devastating the continent. As he traces the rebirth of North America's animals, plants, climate and landforms, Flannery ranges from Alaska in the frozen north to Panama in the tropical south. He gives a fascinating account of how its diverse peoples have changed its environment, especially after the arrival of Columbus in 1492. This is a sweeping survey of a frontier, which has offered seemingly inexhaustible resources to countless generations of animal and human immigrants. 'No one before Flannery, so far as I know, has been brave enough to tackle the whole pageant of North America...to explain America, in the largest sense, to Americans-and to everyone else.' *New York Times Book* .de In *The Eternal Frontier* Tim Flannery leads the reader on a 65 million-year quest to understand North America. From the asteroid impact that wiped out the dinosaurs at the end of the Cretaceous Period to the ecological havoc now being wrought upon the continent by *Homo sapiens*, Flannery explores America's history with keen insight and an extraordinary breadth of knowledge that encompasses the fields of palaeontology, geology, geography, ecology, anthropology and history. Along the way we learn about the extreme climatic changes that have affected the land over the last 65 million years and the adaptive responses of America's vegetation and wildlife. Ultimately, human beings had to face the environmental vicissitudes of the continent, and Flannery's exploration of the ways in which we have coped makes for fascinating, if sometimes depressing, reading. The deep history of America is particularly interesting from an ecological point of view because the region seems always to have acted as a haven for migrants--human or otherwise. As such many parallels can be drawn between the continent's distant past and its recent history of human occupation. Here Flannery is very good, sensibly exploring the links between ancient and modern America without ever overplaying his hand. Although specialists will gasp at the way Flannery flings himself across subject matter that would fill the best part of a public library, I suspect most of them will applaud his audacity and praise the final result.--Chris Lavers.co.uk In *The Eternal Frontier* Tim Flannery leads the reader on a 65 million-year quest to understand North America. From the asteroid impact that wiped out the dinosaurs at the end of the Cretaceous Period to the ecological havoc now being wrought upon the continent by *Homo sapiens*, Flannery explores America's history with keen insight and an extraordinary breadth of knowledge that encompasses the fields of palaeontology, geology, geography, ecology, anthropology and history. Along the way we learn about the extreme climatic changes that have affected the land over the last 65 million years and the adaptive responses of America's vegetation and wildlife. Ultimately, human beings had to face the environmental vicissitudes of the continent, and Flannery's exploration of the ways in which we have coped makes for fascinating, if sometimes depressing, reading. The deep history of America is particularly interesting from an ecological point of view because the region seems always to have acted as a haven for migrants--human or otherwise. As such many parallels can be drawn between the continent's distant past and its recent history of human occupation. Here Flannery is very good, sensibly exploring the links between ancient and modern America without ever overplaying his hand. Although specialists will gasp at the way Flannery flings himself across subject matter that would fill the best part of a public library, I suspect most of them will applaud his audacity and praise the final result.--Chris Lavers