Stephen D. Glazier, Yale University - Clearly argued and meticulously researched. CAPTIVES OF CONQUEST offers a thorough and detailed inquiry into the Indian and African slave trades in the Spanish Caribbean. The author consulted Spanish documents as well as archaeological findings. Her main sources include court records, correspondences, and royal proclamations. Stone suggests that many of the institutions imposed in the Spanish Caribbean can be traced to fifteenth-century Spain. Her major argument is that the decrease in aboriginal populations is attributable to disease and warfare, but that most population decline is directly attributable to the slave trade. The Indian slave trade was lucrative, and it became the basis for economic, legal, and religious policies in the Spanish America. Stone makes a strong case that the quest for Indian slaves was a major impetus for early Spanish explorations of Central and South America. Captives of Conquest is most notable for its focus on interactions between African and Indian slaves. The book is also notable for its insightful discussion of early slave revolts on Hispaniola (1519-1533). CAPTIVES OF CONQUEST is engagingly written, clearly argued, and meticulously researched. Highly recommended. Stephen D. Glazier, Yale University

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Spanish Caribbean, a space and economy founded upon the bondage and coerced labor of both indigenous and African peoples.

Editorial Reviews

“Captives of Conquest is an original and important contribution to a growing body of scholarship that expands our understanding of slavery in Latin America. Through its innovative examination of indigenous slavery and by placing the circum-Caribbean and Central America at its center, it fills important lacuna in scholarly understandings of indigenous slavery in the Spanish Empire.”—Emily Berquist Soule, California State University Long Beach—This text refers to the hardcover edition.

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The book by Robert Matzen has a rating of 4.0 out of 5.0. 1 people have provided feedback.