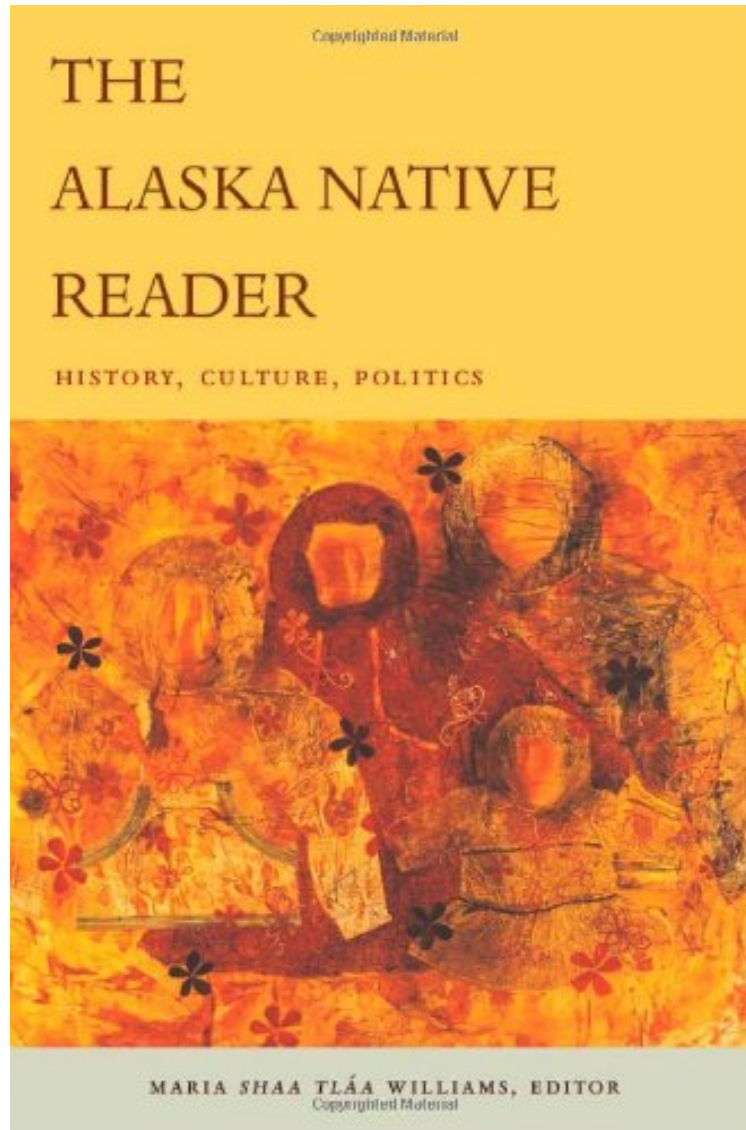


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The Alaska Native Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The World Readers)

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From Brand: Duke University Press Books : The Alaska Native Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The World Readers) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Alaska Native Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The World Readers):

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type font. Not worth the effort because of this. Disappointing!

Alaska is home to more than two hundred federally recognized tribes. Yet the long histories and diverse cultures of Alaskas first peoples are often ignored, while the stories of Russian fur hunters and American gold miners, of salmon canneries and oil pipelines, are praised. Filled with essays, poems, songs, stories, maps, and visual art, this volume foregrounds the perspectives of Alaska Native people, from a Tlingit photographer to Athabascan and Yupik linguists, and from an Alutiiq mask carver to a prominent Native politician and member of Alaskas House of Representatives. The contributors, most of whom are Alaska Natives, include scholars, political leaders, activists, and artists. The majority of the pieces in *The Alaska Native Reader* were written especially for the volume, while several were translated from Native languages. *The Alaska Native Reader* describes indigenous worldviews, languages, arts, and other cultural traditions as well as contemporary efforts to preserve them. Several pieces examine Alaska Natives experiences of and resistance to Russian and American colonialism; some of these address land claims, self-determination, and sovereignty. Some essays discuss contemporary Alaska Native literature, indigenous philosophical and spiritual tenets, and the ways that Native peoples are represented in the media. Others take up such diverse topics as the use of digital technologies to document Native cultures, planning systems that have enabled indigenous communities to survive in the Arctic for thousands of years, and a project to accurately represent Denaina heritage in and around Anchorage. Fourteen of the volumes many illustrations appear in color, including work by the contemporary artists Subhankar Banerjee, Perry Eaton, Erica Lord, and Larry McNeil.

The Alaska Native Reader successfully describes and captures the diversity of Alaskas history, politics, and cultural traditions. The book, although highly descriptive, provides a solid historical foundation and raises some thought-provoking questions. - Gregory R. Campbell, *Canadian Journal of Native Studies*