



Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil

By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead

Download now

Read Online ➔

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead

In 1550 the German adventurer Hans Staden was serving as a gunner in a Portuguese fort on the Brazilian coast. While out hunting, he was captured by the Tupinambá, an indigenous people who had a reputation for engaging in ritual cannibalism and who, as allies of the French, were hostile to the Portuguese. Staden's *True History*, first published in Germany in 1557, tells the story of his nine months among the Tupi Indians. It is a dramatic first-person account of his capture, captivity, and eventual escape.

Staden's narrative is a foundational text in the history and European "discovery" of Brazil, the earliest European account of the Tupi Indians, and a touchstone in the debates on cannibalism. Yet the last English-language edition of Staden's *True History* was published in 1929. This new critical edition features a new translation from the sixteenth-century German along with annotations and an extensive introduction. It restores to the text the fifty-six woodcut illustrations of Staden's adventures and final escape that appeared in the original 1557 edition.

In the introduction, Neil L. Whitehead discusses the circumstances surrounding the production of Staden's narrative and its ethnological significance, paying particular attention to contemporary debates about cannibalism. Whitehead illuminates the value of Staden's *True History* as an eyewitness account of Tupi society on the eve before its collapse, of ritual war and sacrifice among Native peoples, and of colonial rivalries in the region of Rio de Janeiro. He chronicles the history of the various editions of Staden's narrative and their reception from 1557 until the present. Staden's work continues to engage a wide range of readers, not least within Brazil, where it has recently been the subject of two films and a graphic novel.

↓ [Download Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Can ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Hans Staden's True History: An Account of C ...pdf](#)

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil

By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead

In 1550 the German adventurer Hans Staden was serving as a gunner in a Portuguese fort on the Brazilian coast. While out hunting, he was captured by the Tupinambá, an indigenous people who had a reputation for engaging in ritual cannibalism and who, as allies of the French, were hostile to the Portuguese. Staden's *True History*, first published in Germany in 1557, tells the story of his nine months among the Tupi Indians. It is a dramatic first-person account of his capture, captivity, and eventual escape.

Staden's narrative is a foundational text in the history and European "discovery" of Brazil, the earliest European account of the Tupi Indians, and a touchstone in the debates on cannibalism. Yet the last English-language edition of Staden's *True History* was published in 1929. This new critical edition features a new translation from the sixteenth-century German along with annotations and an extensive introduction. It restores to the text the fifty-six woodcut illustrations of Staden's adventures and final escape that appeared in the original 1557 edition.

In the introduction, Neil L. Whitehead discusses the circumstances surrounding the production of Staden's narrative and its ethnological significance, paying particular attention to contemporary debates about cannibalism. Whitehead illuminates the value of Staden's *True History* as an eyewitness account of Tupi society on the eve before its collapse, of ritual war and sacrifice among Native peoples, and of colonial rivalries in the region of Rio de Janeiro. He chronicles the history of the various editions of Staden's narrative and their reception from 1557 until the present. Staden's work continues to engage a wide range of readers, not least within Brazil, where it has recently been the subject of two films and a graphic novel.

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead
Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #492568 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Duke University Press Books
- Published on: 2008-07-16
- Released on: 2008-07-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.50" h x .78" w x 6.25" l, .97 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 296 pages

 [Download Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Can ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Hans Staden's True History: An Account of C ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead

Editorial Review

Review

“At long last an English edition of Hans Staden’s account of his captivity among the Tupinambá of mid-sixteenth-century Brazil is available for scholars, teachers, and students. . . . This book, with an extensive introduction written by anthropologist Neil Whitehead and a new English text translated from the German by historian Michael Harbsmeier, is an attractive, accessible, and reliable resource for teaching and research.” - Eve M. Duffy, *Hispanic American Historical Review*

“In this superb new English translation of his account, Whitehead and Harbsmeier make it possible for a new generation of US students to learn of Staden's travails. A sophisticated essay that places Hans Staden in his proper historical context serves as the introduction to the translation. . . . Highly recommended.” - R. M. Delson, *Choice*

“The book is a critical edition. . . . The book has become a cornerstone for discussion concerning native practices of cannibalism, but at the same time it is one of the earliest accounts available describing Brazil. Thus Whitehead and Harbsmeier seek to ransom the book from its place in the debate over cannibalism and place it rather within the literature of European contact with the native peoples of the Americas.” - John F. Schwaller, *The Americas*

“This new translation into English of Hans Staden’s *Warhaftige Historia*, or *True History*, originally published in 1557 in Marburg, will fill a gap in the study of both European colonialism and travel literature. . . . Illustrated with plentiful woodcuts and underscored by ethnographic descriptions, Staden’s book is a keystone to the history of colonial Brazil and of Tupi-Guarani societies, as well as to current refashionings of the colonial past. . . . Despite its exceptional quality among early colonial texts, there has not been an English-language version since Malcolm Lett’s edition of 1928. Whitehead’s and Harbsmeier’s accurate transcription and annotated translation of Staden’s first edition remedy this neglect. Moreover, their introductory study not only reconstructs the text’s legacies in a variety of contexts and disciplines, but also demonstrates its persistent appeal for current debates.” - Luciana Villas-Bóas, *Colonial Latin American Review*

“Whitehead and Harbsmeier have provided a lucid and readable translation that preserves the choppy rhythm and colloquial feel of the original German without sacrificing accessibility. . . . Hans Staden's *True History* is usefully true and usefully history. . . . Scholars of early modern Germany and of European colonialism, in addition to scholars of Brazil, now have a wonderful text with which to explore these and other issues with their students. With this translation, Whitehead and Harbsmeier have significantly advanced the study of the early modern world.” - Christine R. Johnson, H-German, *H-Net Reviews*

“I was quite astonished to find out that no version of Hans Staden’s account had been printed in English since 1929. Not only is it the earliest eyewitness narrative of the Tupi peoples written by a European; it deals

with the heated and enduring debate about the role of cannibalism in human experience.”—**Irene Silverblatt**, author of *Modern Inquisitions: Peru and the Colonial Origins of the Civilized World*

“Neil L. Whitehead’s introduction contextualizes Staden’s account with amazing richness. This is the definitive English edition.”—**Mary Louise Pratt**, Silver Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, New York University

“There is no doubt that this volume has returned Hans Staden’s narrative to its place as a basic text of European expansion and one of the most important accounts of cannibalism. This 1557 text is important for the wealth of its ethnographic observations, taken at first-hand by Staden, and for the narrative structure, which makes it comparable to the journal of Columbus, Raleigh’s *Discoveries*, or Jean de Léry’s *Histoire*.”—**Stuart Schwartz**, George Burton Adams Professor of History, Yale University

“At long last an English edition of Hans Staden’s account of his captivity among the Tupinambá of mid-sixteenth-century Brazil is available for scholars, teachers, and students. . . . This book, with an extensive introduction written by anthropologist Neil Whitehead and a new English text translated from the German by historian Michael Harbsmeier, is an attractive, accessible, and reliable resource for teaching and research.” (Eve M. Duffy *Hispanic American Historical Review*)

“In this superb new English translation of his account, Whitehead and Harbsmeier make it possible for a new generation of US students to learn of Staden’s travails. A sophisticated essay that places Hans Staden in his proper historical context serves as the introduction to the translation. . . . Highly recommended.” (R. M. Delson *Choice*)

“The book is a critical edition. . . . The book has become a cornerstone for discussion concerning native practices of cannibalism, but at the same time it is one of the earliest accounts available describing Brazil. Thus Whitehead and Harbsmeier seek to ransom the book from its place in the debate over cannibalism and place it rather within the literature of European contact with the native peoples of the Americas.” (John F. Schwaller *The Americas*)

“This new translation into English of Hans Staden’s *Warhaftige Historia*, or *True History*, originally published in 1557 in Marburg, will fill a gap in the study of both European colonialism and travel literature. . . . Illustrated with plentiful woodcuts and underscored by ethnographic descriptions, Staden’s book is a keystone to the history of colonial Brazil and of Tupi-Guarani societies, as well as to current refashionings of the colonial past. . . . Despite its exceptional quality among early colonial texts, there has not been an English-language version since Malcolm Lett’s edition of 1928. Whitehead’s and Harbsmeier’s accurate transcription and annotated translation of Staden’s first edition remedy this neglect. Moreover, their introductory study not only reconstructs the text’s legacies in a variety of contexts and disciplines, but also demonstrates its persistent appeal for current debates.” (Luciana Villas-Bóas *Colonial Latin American Review*)

“Whitehead and Harbsmeier have provided a lucid and readable translation that preserves the choppy rhythm and colloquial feel of the original German without sacrificing accessibility. . . . Hans Staden’s *True History* is usefully true and usefully history. . . . Scholars of early modern Germany and of European colonialism, in addition to scholars of Brazil, now have a wonderful text with which to explore these and other issues with their students. With this translation, Whitehead and Harbsmeier have significantly advanced the study of the

early modern world.”

(Christine R. Johnson H-German *H-Net Reviews*)

From the Publisher

"There is no doubt that this volume has returned Hans Staden's narrative to its place as a basic text of European expansion and one of the most important accounts of cannibalism. His 1557 text is important for the wealth of its ethnographic observations, taken at first hand by Staden, and for the narrative structure, which makes it comparable to the journal of Columbus, Raleigh's Discoveries, or Jean de Lery's *Histoire*."-- Stuart Schwartz, George Burton Adams Professor of History, Yale University

"Neil Whitehead's introduction contextualizes Staden's account with amazing richness. This is the definitive English edition."-- Mary Louise Pratt, Silver Professor of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, New York University

"I was quite astonished to find out that no version of Hans Staden's account had been printed in English since 1929. Not only is it the earliest eye-witness narrative of the Tupi peoples written by a European; it deals with the heated and enduring debate about the role of cannibalism in human experience."-- Irene Silverblatt, author of *Modern Inquisitions: Peru and the Colonial Origins of the Civilized World*

From the Back Cover

"I was quite astonished to find out that no version of Hans Staden's account had been printed in English since 1929. Not only is it the earliest eyewitness narrative of the Tupi peoples written by a European; it deals with the heated and enduring debate about the role of cannibalism in human experience."--Irene Silverblatt, author of *"Modern Inquisitions: Peru and the Colonial Origins of the Civilized World"*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Manuel Jett:

This Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil tend to be reliable for you who want to become a successful person, why. The explanation of this Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil can be among the great books you must have is giving you more than just simple reading through food but feed anyone with information that might be will shock your previous knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it all over the place and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed types. Beside that this Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil forcing you to have an enormous of experience such as rich vocabulary, giving you trial of critical thinking that could it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

Herbert White:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? May be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the e-book untitled Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil can be great book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Ray Ortiz:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book especially book entitled Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a publication then become one form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get just before. The Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil giving you a different experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful facts for your better life in this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

Mary Patterson:

Do you really one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Attempt to pick one book that you just dont know the inside because don't judge book by its cover may doesn't work at this point is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside appear likes. Maybe you answer might be Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil why because the fantastic cover that make you consider about the content will not disappoint you actually. The inside or content is actually fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly assist you to pick up this book.

Download and Read Online Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead #0Z4ELYXOHSW

Read Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead for online ebook

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead books to read online.

Online Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead ebook PDF download

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead Doc

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead Mobipocket

Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead EPub

0Z4ELYXOHSW: Hans Staden's True History: An Account of Cannibal Captivity in Brazil By Hans Staden, Neil Whitehead