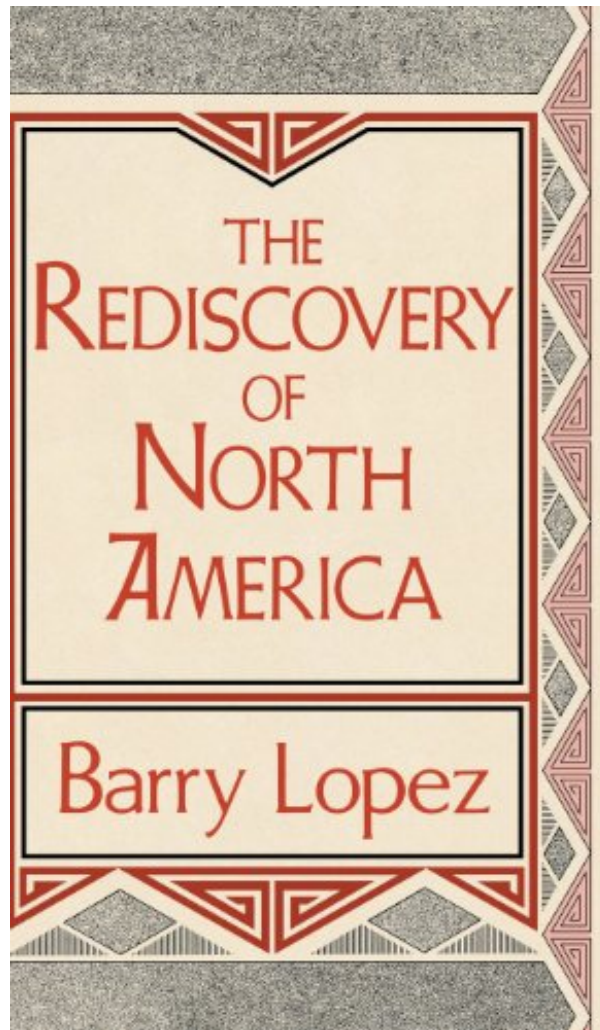
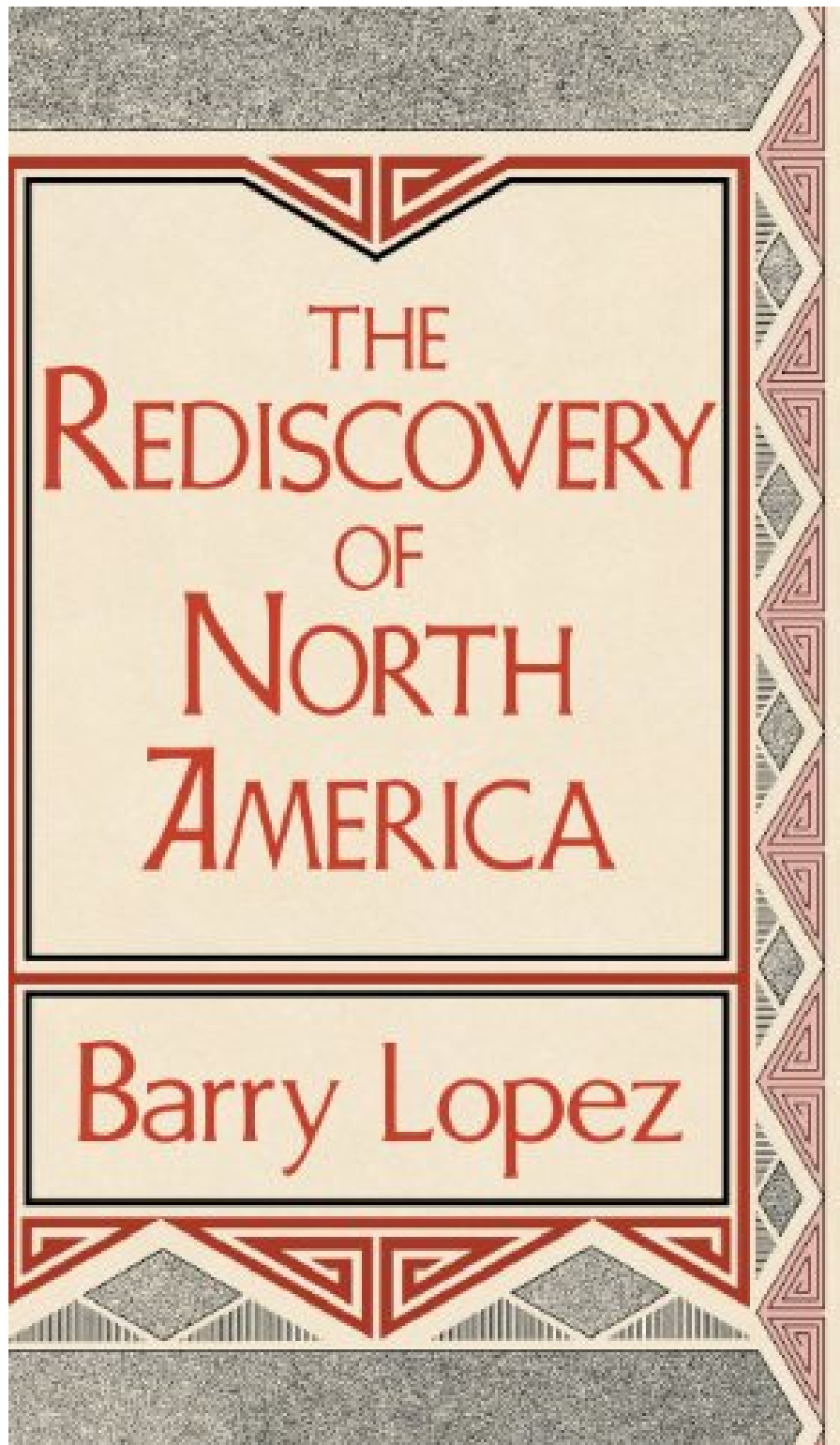


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From Publishers Weekly

A National Book Award winner for Arctic Dreams, Lopez here offers a polemical assessment of the legacy of Columbus.

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Review

"An eloquent, deep-reaching little book on the subject. But he goes far beyond the inquiry into Columbus' character, motives, and legacy. He also uses the occasion to turn our thoughts to hope: the hope that comes with both a frank acceptance of our past and a resolution to break ways with its shameful legacy."?Bloomsbury Review

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"Eloquently proffers a philosophy of limits that we cannot afford to ignore in this era of global warning and overpopulation."?Los Angeles Times

From the Inside Flap

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" The Spanish incursion into the New World, with its brutal destruction of indigenous peoples and their cultures and its material exploitation of much of two continents, reverberates in our history down to the present century. So contends prize-winning writer Barry Lopez in this beautifully written book. "The quest for personal possessions," he observes, "was to be, from the outset, a series of raids, irresponsible and criminal, a spree, in which an end to it was never visible . . . in which an end to it had no meaning." In this luminous essay, written five hundred years after the Spanish conquest, Lopez reexamines the attitudes that informed that event and that have underlain the entire European settlement of America. "The assumption of an imperial right conferred by God, sanctioned by the state, and enforced by the militia, the assumption that one is due wealth in North America," he writes, is apparent in the journals of people on the Oregon Trail, in the pronouncements of nineteenth-century industrialists, and in the political rhetoric of our own day. But, for Lopez, coming to grips with this terrible legacy opens new possibilities. "This violent corruption needn't define us. We can take the measure of the horror and assert that we will not be bound by it." We can "rediscover" our continent?not as a source of income but as a home, a place in which we are to find our strength and character, and in which certain moral courtesies and obligations obtain. We can develop a philosophy of place will enable us, finally, to take up a true residence in our homeland. Here is a voice for our time.

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- "Barry Lopez
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- History

From Publishers Weekly

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it is very easy to believe and see happening

By Breann Coffaro

Interesting take on the conquering of North America. When the idea is suggested, it is very easy to believe and see happening. Short and quick read!

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angry, dazzling - a beacon pointing home

By Nigel Kirk

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Two decades after the book was published, the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few has grown worse. Today the destruction of the physical world Lopez describes is mirrored in the slow destruction of hope in people.

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