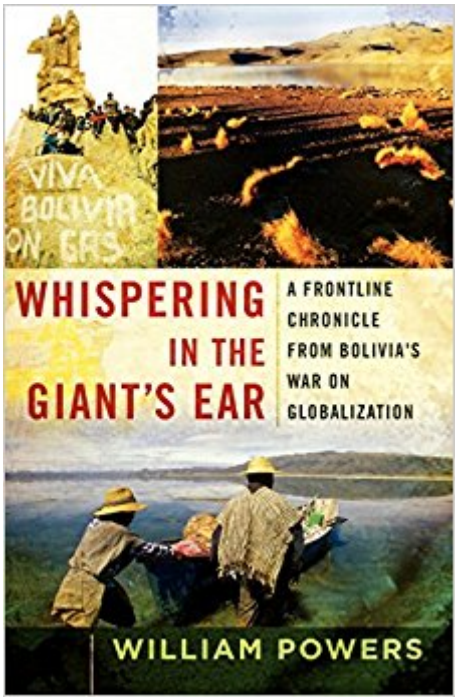
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Whispering In The Giant's Ear: A Frontline Chronicle From Bolivia's War On Globalization



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

Long the obscure "Tibet of South America", Bolivia emerged as a world flashpoint during the four years William Powers lived there as an aid worker. CNN and the New York Times have shown images of Aymara women in bowler hats standing down tanks; citizen protests have ousted multinationals and two pro-globalization presidents. In Whispering in the Giant’s Ear, Powers brings alive the recent struggles of the Bolivian people. When he arrives in the rainforest, he meets an extraordinary Chiquitano Indian named Salvador who is fighting the extinction of his people. At the same time, the clock ticks for three multinational energy companies forced to curb the global warming. Both goals depend upon the survival of a stretch of pristine jungle. But as Indians and oil giants join to launch the world’s largest Kyoto project - using forests to absorb dangerous planetary greenhouse gasses - Salvador’s life is threatened by loggers collaborating with a racist Bolivian oligarchy. The quest for a single rainforest is subsumed in a movement of national liberation. Whispering in the Giant’s Ear goes beneath the headlines, gracefully weaving memoir, travel, history, and reportage into an unforgettable chronicle of a "poor little rich country" attempting to engage the world without losing its soul.

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA (May 18, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596911034

ISBN-13: 978-1596911031

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #314,592 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 inÃ Â Books > Travel > South America > Bolivia #121 inÃ Â Books > Travel > South America > General #715 inÃ Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Globalization

Customer Reviews

During the last five years, the struggles of Bolivia’s indigenous community against government corruption and globalization have garnered unprecedented visibility for the nation around the world. As an aid worker living in Bolivia, Powers did not just witness the change; he was immersed in the action, forced to juggle the country’s internal conflict with his environmental organization’s mission

of saving the rain forest. By "thinking locally and acting globally," he forges a delicate partnership with Indians and multinational energy corporations to designate a swath of the forest for absorbing greenhouse gases. While matters of politics and the environment provide the framework for the book, much of the story is focused on the friendships he builds through genuine curiosity and emotion as he attempts to truly understand the needs of the people around him. What results is a deeply personal and informative chronicle of Powers's ambitions, the Indians' ambitions and perhaps most importantly in a country as physically diverse and dramatic as Bolivia, nature's ambitions. Although more background on Bolivia would have been helpful, the book succeeds in using the country's recent history to reveal how the worldwide battle for increased economic equality and environmental conservation operates locally. (May) Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Powers wrote about his experiences helping manage sustainable development projects in Liberia in Blue Clay People (2005) and now presents a piquant and provocative report on his work with Bolivia's largest conservation organization. Writing with self-deprecating humor and fluid understanding of the complex dynamics at work in this persistently poor land, Powers exposes the environmental and cultural destruction wrought by multinationals and the corresponding--and quite remarkable--uprisings of Bolivia's indigenous peoples in defense of the rain forests, their physical and spiritual home and the habitat for endangered species. Bolivia is the site of the world's largest Kyoto Protocol rain-forest experiment and pioneering debt-for-nature and carbon-credit projects, and Powers is keenly sensitive to the realities, possibilities, and paradoxes inherent in Bolivia's revolutionary politics and environmental innovations. By profiling a courageous and pragmatic Indian activist, tracking complicated disputes over land ownership and use, and detailing such green endeavors as "eco-wood" production, Powers chronicles Bolivia's success, against all odds, in leading the way toward creation of biosphere-sustaining and socially just societies. Donna SeamanCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

This isn't a fair review because I haven't finished it yet but the author seems so 'privileged'. I definitely wanted to learn something about Bolivia so let me finish the book and maybe I'll change the review.

William Powers' book gave me knowledge that only an individual with personal experience in his subject area can give. Going into the Bolivian , the author brought with him preconceived notions of

howthe environment there should best be handled for the benefit of all. He left knowing that no program there would be a success unless the long-held beliefs, perceptions, and practices of indigenous peoples were incorporated into such a program.I found Power’s enlightenment both exciting and encouraging. His experience means that the rest of us can can be enlightened as well, if only we want to be. It also clarified why some ’green’ projects are doomed from the beginning, i.e. when local issues are ignored or mishandled.In addition, this book is very well written and a pleasure to read. Highly recommended.

So much good writing is being done about the need to develop sustainable life styles that it’s difficult to sort out the best. This is a very important and readable book in that context. William Powers was there in Bolivia struggling with the tension between an indigenous tribe and the attempt of apparently well-meaning nonprofits and industrialists to change the natives. For those who think we can go back to living in the pre-industrial world, and for those who are looking for a better answer, this is an engaging story of great importance.

Worthwhile read for anyone wanting to know about the culture, landscape, and social issues of modern Bolivia. I found Powers’ writing honest and insightful. Interesting to see the differences between western and indigenous thinking. The "tranquilo" lifestyle of many Bolivians and the beautiful landscape and wildlife will have you wanting to visit AmÃƒÂ©rica del Sur.

This book gave me a much larger view of Bolivia and it’s people. Their struggle in this modern world. I was already planning a trip to Bolivia but this book brought the country to life before I even left home. 10 years after this book and you can still see the people struggling with the powers that be. It was the trip of a lifetime! Because of this book we stayed at the Chalalan Ecolodge in the Madidi National forest. It was one of the best experiences of all of my travels.

I have just finished Whispering in the Giant’s Ear and felt compelled to write a review. So much of what Powers has written about Bolivia has struck a chord with me, as I have just returned from Bolivia on assignment for a Canadian magazine. As I read this book, I found myself on the edge of my seat, anxious to see how Powers dealt with many of the same contradictions and frustrations I witnessed traveling through the Andes and into the low-lying areas in the east. This book’s obsession with the fine line between romanticism and pragmatism, the spiritual difficulty in assigning "value" to a forest in order to ensure its protection, makes it an absolutely crucial (and very

entertaining) read for anyone interesting in globalization, indigenous rights, environmentalism, global warming, Kyoto, NGOs... the list goes on. Pick up this book. Expose yourself to one of the most heart-wrenching (and under-reported) social dramas currently unfolding on our planet.

Now I have a better appreciation of Bolivia-its geography and culture. WHISPERING IN THE ELEPHANT'S EAR extends my understanding of globilization beyond our Western concerns of the East. It makes me equate the impact of globilization similar to that of the Industrial Revolution. In retrospect, the progress of that revolution ultimately involved all nations without particular attention to geography and culture. Now we hope to integrate the two without paying the price environmentally.Powers' descriptive writing is powerful. I could have used a glossary of Spanish words. Although his personal anecdotes are entertaining they seem secondary in a book of such importance. Perhaps more anecdotes on indiginous people would have been more significant.WHISPERING IN THE ELEPHANT'S EAR is a must read for those interested in our complex planet.

I learned of the concept of carbon credits when I read Big Coal. It seemed like an interesting idea, but I was curious about investigating it from the perspective of those countries participating on the other side of things. Whispering in the Giant's Ear was an excellent choice to reveal the conseqenses of our exploitation of non-renewable resources on "less developed" nations. Powers does an outstanding job of providing an interesting narrative with which to educate the reader about the role carbon credits are playing in the struggle of indigenous people to gain political power in a nation that is caught up in the process of globalization. The number of characters is not so many as to cause confusion, but enough to provide insight into several segments of Bolivian society. A sympathetic portrait of the indigenous peoples of the poorest of South American nations.

Download to continue reading...

Whispering in the Giant's Ear: A Frontline Chronicle from Bolivia's War on Globalization Bolivia: Bolivia Travel Guide for Your Perfect Bolivian Adventure!: Written by Local Bolivian Travel Expert (Travel to Bolivia, Travel Bolivia, Bolivia Travel) Ear Candling - The Essential Guide: Ear Candling - The Essential Guide:This text, previously published as "Ear Candling in Essence", has been completely revised and updated. Flemish Giant Rabbits: Flemish Giant Rabbit Breeding, Buying, Care, Cost, Keeping, Health, Supplies, Food, Rescue and More Included! A Complete Flemish Giant Rabbits Pet Guide Beginning Ear Training (Ear Training: Exercises) Bk/Online Audio Bolivia, 5th: Tread Your Own Path (Footprint Bolivia Handbook) Bolivia: Bolivia Travel Guide for Your

Perfect Bolivian Adventure!: Written by Local Bolivian Travel Expert Top 12 Places to Visit in Bolivia - Top 12 Bolivia Travel Guide (Includes Salar de Uyuni, Tiwanaku, La Paz, Lake Titicaca, Sucre, Death Road, & More) Peru, Bolivia & Ecuador Handbook, 3rd: Travel guide to Peru, Bolivia & Ecuador (Footprint - Handbooks) BOLIVIA Country Studies: A brief, comprehensive study of Bolivia Photographic Guide to Longhorned Beetles of Bolivia: GuÃƒÂ- a FotogrÃƒÂ¡fica de Escarabajos Longicornios de Bolivia Globalization, Culture, and Branding: How to Leverage Cultural Equity for Building Iconic Brands in the Era of Globalization Remaking New York: Primitive Globalization and the Politics of Urban Community, Vol. 12 (Globalization and Community) Three Knots to Nowhere: A Cold War Submariner on the Undersea Frontline Allied Aircraft Piston Engines of World War II: History and Development of Frontline Aircraft Piston Engines Produced by Great Britain and the united (Premiere Series Books) And If I Perish: Frontline U.S. Army Nurses in World War II The Giant Book of Standards Sheet Music: Easy Piano (The Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Giant Book of Christmas Sheet Music: Easy Piano (The Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Giant Book of Christian Sheet Music: Easy Piano (Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Giant Classic Rock Piano Sheet Music Collection: Piano/Vocal/Guitar (The Giant Book of Sheet Music)

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help