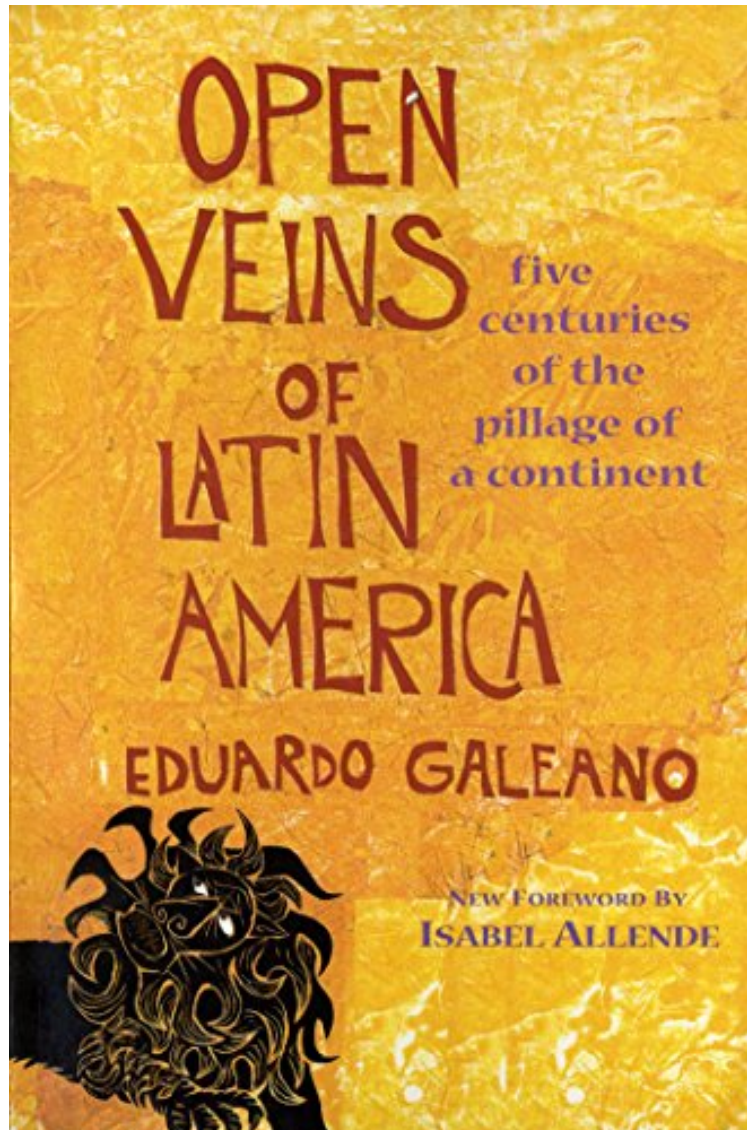


(Download) Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent

# Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent

*Eduardo Galeano*

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**Eduardo Galeano : Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. 40+ Years Later...By Michael in Mexico...and things have only gotten worse. As a Mexican, to read this book in 2015 in light of privatization moves by the current government and the frantic antics north of the border to get the TPP passed on fast track only rubs salt in the wounds. We have learned

nothing and are on the brink of disaster. Galeano should be required reading for all politicians (and citizens alike). 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. "Whack Upside the Head" insights on systemic national impoverishment By Theodore E. James Jr. Succinct iteration of all the key variables that explain the ruinous effects of the exploitation of countries with an abundance of natural resources by countries that have developed sophisticated systems for processing and adding value to those raw materials. Rapacious, profit-at-any-means mentalities, the ethic of the ends over the ethic of the means, by insidious companies and countries undermining any chance of the supplier countries partaking in the systemic benefits of economic and health advances. One of the few books that I continue to read and re-read. Floods of emigrations from Latin America, and by metaphor Africa, Middle East, South Asia are explained in "Whack Upside the Head" insights. Leaders of any country facing challenges from floods of immigrants must, yes MUST, read this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting, educational By dead man walking Not certain why Galeano recently repudiated his work in *Open Veins*. Most of the statements he makes in the book are well known to history and not particularly controversial. Whether or not they recommend a socialist solution to Latin America's numerous ills is a whole other debate. I never thought Galeano was necessarily advocating such a solution as he recounts the various ways Latin American countries have been exploited by large capitalist concerns over the years. I did enjoy his writing style, more so than some of his other works. It's helpful, I think, to know some of the basic historical facts about the various Latin American nations before reading this book or you won't understand much of it. Like reading *Mein Kampf* without any knowledge of postwar German politics at the time. In my case, it really supplemented and reinforced many of the things I've been reading and learning. Like *The Prize*, Daniel Yergin's opus about the history of oil, I only wish he had continued on into the present day.

Since its U.S. debut a quarter-century ago, this brilliant text has set a new standard for historical scholarship of Latin America. It is also an outstanding political economy, a social and cultural narrative of the highest quality, and perhaps the finest description of primitive capital accumulation since Marx. Rather than chronology, geography, or political successions, Eduardo Galeano has organized the various facets of Latin American history according to the patterns of five centuries of exploitation. Thus he is concerned with gold and silver, cacao and cotton, rubber and coffee, fruit, hides and wool, petroleum, iron, nickel, manganese, copper, aluminum ore, nitrates, and tin. These are the veins which he traces through the body of the entire continent, up to the Rio Grande and throughout the Caribbean, and all the way to their open ends where they empty into the coffers of wealth in the United States and Europe. Weaving fact and imagery into a rich tapestry, Galeano fuses scientific analysis with the passions of a plundered and suffering people. An immense gathering of materials is framed with a vigorous style that never falters in its command of themes. All readers interested in great historical, economic, political, and social writing will find a singular analytical achievement, and an overwhelming narrative that makes history speak, unforgettably. This classic is now further honored by Isabel Allende's inspiring introduction. Universally recognized as one of the most important writers of our time, Allende once again contributes her talents to literature, to political principles, and to enlightenment.

A dazzling barrage of words and ideas. -History Well written and passionately stated, this is an intellectually honest and valuable study. -Library Journal A superbly written, excellently translated, and powerfully persuasive expose; acute; which all students of Latin American and U.S. history must read. -Choice Language Notes Text: English (translation) Original Language: Spanish About the Author EDUARDO GALEANO is the author of *Open Veins of Latin America*, *Memory of Fire Trilogy*, *Book of Embraces* and the forthcoming *Upside Down*