

empire of the summer moon book

Empire of the Summer Moon book is a compelling historical narrative that delves into the complex and often tumultuous history of the Comanche Nation, one of the most formidable indigenous tribes in North America. Authored by S.C. Gwynne, the book provides an in-depth exploration of the rise and fall of the Comanche empire, the life of the legendary Comanche warrior Quanah Parker, and the broader context of American expansionism during the 19th century. Through meticulous research and riveting storytelling, the book offers readers a comprehensive understanding of a pivotal era in American history, emphasizing themes of resilience, cultural clash, and survival.

Overview of the Book

Author and Background

S.C. Gwynne, an acclaimed journalist and author, is renowned for his ability to craft detailed and engaging historical narratives. His work on the Comanche Nation in "Empire of the Summer Moon" is praised for its depth, accuracy, and narrative flair. Gwynne spent years researching archives, interviewing descendants, and consulting experts to create a balanced portrayal of the Comanche people and their history.

Scope and Structure

The book spans several decades, primarily focusing on the 19th century, a period marked by intense conflict between Native American tribes and expanding American settlers. It is structured into distinct sections that chronologically trace:

- The rise of the Comanche as a dominant force
- The life of Quanah Parker, a key figure bridging two worlds
- The decline and eventual collapse of the Comanche empire
- The broader implications of American westward expansion

Key Themes and Topics

The Rise of the Comanche Empire

The book begins by detailing how the Comanche tribe rose to dominance on the Great Plains, transforming from a relatively small group into a formidable empire.

- **Early Origins:** The origins of the Comanche people trace back to the Shoshone tribes in the northern Rockies, who migrated southward over centuries.

- **Horse Culture:** The acquisition of the horse in the 17th century revolutionized their mobility, warfare strategies, and hunting practices.
- **Territorial Expansion:** The Comanche expanded their territory across present-day Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, establishing control over vital hunting grounds.
- **Military Might:** Their mastery of mounted warfare made them one of the most feared tribes on the continent.

Conflict and Clash with American Expansion

As American settlers and the U.S. government pushed westward, conflicts with the Comanche intensified, leading to prolonged warfare.

1. **Native Resistance:** The Comanche fiercely resisted encroachment, leading to numerous battles and skirmishes.
2. **Impact of Disease and Warfare:** European diseases, combined with military campaigns, decimated their population and weakened their power.
3. **Battle of Adobe Walls:** A significant confrontation that exemplifies the fierce resistance of the Comanche and their allies.
4. **U.S. Policies:** The implementation of treaties, forced relocations, and military campaigns aimed to subdue the tribe.

The Life and Legacy of Quanah Parker

A central figure in the narrative, Quanah Parker's life epitomizes the transition from traditional Comanche life to adaptation within the American system.

- **Early Life:** Born around 1845, Quanah was the son of a Comanche chief and a captive woman of Anglo-American descent.
- **Warrior and Leader:** He became a formidable warrior and eventually a prominent leader advocating for his people.
- **Transition and Negotiation:** Quanah navigated the difficult path of maintaining cultural identity while engaging with U.S. authorities.
- **Cultural Preservation:** He worked to preserve Comanche traditions and language amidst mounting pressures to assimilate.

Decline and Fall of the Comanche Empire

The book details how a combination of military defeat, disease, and political pressures led to the disintegration of the Comanche's territorial control.

1. **Loss of the Buffalo:** The near-extinction of the buffalo, their primary resource, devastated their economy and way of life.
2. **Military Defeats:** U.S. campaigns, including the Red River War, effectively subdued the Comanche resistance.
3. **Reservation System:** The forced relocation to reservations marked the end of their nomadic lifestyle.
4. **Cultural Impact:** Efforts to assimilate Native Americans led to cultural erosion and loss of language and traditions.

Historical Significance and Impact

Understanding Native American Resistance

"Empire of the Summer Moon" sheds light on the resilience and strategic prowess of the Comanche, challenging the simplistic narratives of Native American subjugation.

The American Westward Expansion

The book contextualizes the broader theme of Manifest Destiny, illustrating how the quest for land and resources led to devastating consequences for indigenous populations.

Lessons on Cultural Preservation and Change

The story of Quanah Parker and the Comanche underscores the importance of cultural adaptation amid adversity and the lasting impact of colonialism.

Critical Reception and Impact

Reviews and Academic Perspectives

The book has been widely praised for its thorough research, engaging storytelling, and nuanced portrayal of the Comanche Nation. Historians appreciate Gwynne's ability to balance narrative

excitement with factual accuracy.

Controversies and Criticisms

Some critics argue that the book, while detailed, may romanticize certain aspects of Comanche resistance or overlook the full complexity of U.S. military policies. Nonetheless, it remains a seminal work in Native American history.

Conclusion

"Empire of the Summer Moon" offers an immersive and comprehensive look into one of North America's most powerful indigenous empires. By focusing on the rise and fall of the Comanche and the life of Quanah Parker, the book provides invaluable insights into the cultural resilience of Native Americans, the brutal realities of westward expansion, and the lasting legacy of this tumultuous period. It serves not only as a historical account but also as a reminder of the importance of understanding and respecting indigenous histories and cultures within the broader narrative of American history.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main focus of 'Empire of the Summer Moon' by S.C. Gwynne?

'Empire of the Summer Moon' chronicles the rise and fall of the Comanche Nation, focusing on their dominance in the American Southwest and the life of Quanah Parker, the last Comanche chief.

Who is Quanah Parker, and why is he significant in the book?

Quanah Parker was a prominent Comanche leader and the son of a Comanche mother and a Texas settler. He played a vital role in the tribe's history and its transition after forced reservations, serving as a bridge between cultures.

How does 'Empire of the Summer Moon' depict the conflicts between the Comanche and American settlers?

The book vividly portrays the brutal conflicts, including raids, battles, and negotiations, highlighting the resilience of the Comanche and the expansion of American frontier settlement.

What role does the Texas Rangers play in the story of 'Empire of the Summer Moon'?

The Texas Rangers are depicted as key figures in the struggle against the Comanche, engaging in military campaigns to suppress raids and secure the frontier for settlers.

Is 'Empire of the Summer Moon' a purely historical account or does it include personal stories?

While primarily a historical narrative, the book also includes personal stories of key figures like Quanah Parker, capturing their perspectives and humanizing the broader historical events.

What themes are central to 'Empire of the Summer Moon'?

Central themes include cultural clash, survival, resilience, the impact of colonization, and the transformation of Native American societies during westward expansion.

Has 'Empire of the Summer Moon' received any notable awards or recognition?

Yes, the book has been widely acclaimed for its thorough research and compelling storytelling, earning awards such as the Texas Book Award for Nonfiction.

How does 'Empire of the Summer Moon' compare to other Native American history books?

It is praised for its detailed, engaging narrative and comprehensive coverage of the Comanche's history, offering a unique focus on their dominance and the figures involved, setting it apart from broader Native American histories.

Would 'Empire of the Summer Moon' be suitable for readers new to American frontier history?

Yes, it is accessible to general readers and provides a thorough introduction to the complexities of the American West and Native American resistance.

Where can I find more information or reviews about 'Empire of the Summer Moon'?

You can find reviews and additional details on platforms like Goodreads, Amazon, and literary review sites, as well as in discussions on history-focused forums and podcasts.

Additional Resources

Empire of the Summer Moon is a compelling and meticulously researched narrative that delves into the tumultuous history of the Comanche Nation and the iconic figures who shaped their destiny. As a profound exploration of Native American resilience, frontier expansion, and the complex interactions between indigenous tribes and European-American settlers, the book stands as a significant contribution to American history literature. This guide aims to unpack the key themes, historical contexts, and narrative techniques employed in Empire of the Summer Moon, providing readers with a comprehensive understanding of its depth and significance.

Introduction to Empire of the Summer Moon

Published in 2016 by S.C. Gwynne, *Empire of the Summer Moon* offers a sweeping chronicle of the rise and fall of the Comanche Empire, focusing on the legendary leader Quanah Parker and the fierce warrior spirit of the Comanche people. The book combines detailed historical research with vivid storytelling, bringing to life the tumultuous period of the late 19th century when the American frontier was being rapidly transformed.

The narrative is not merely a recounting of events but also a reflection on themes such as cultural collision, survival, leadership, and the relentless push of American expansionism. Gwynne's work has been lauded for its engaging prose, comprehensive scope, and nuanced portrayal of complex characters.

Historical Context and Setting

The Comanche Nation's Rise to Power

The Comanche, originally from the northern plains, emerged as one of the most formidable tribes in North America by the 18th century. Their mastery of mounted warfare, strategic alliances, and adaptation to the plains environment enabled them to dominate a vast territory stretching from Texas to parts of Oklahoma and New Mexico.

The Age of Expansion and Conflict

The 19th century marked a period of intense conflict between Native American tribes, European-American settlers, and the U.S. government. Westward expansion, driven by the promise of land and economic opportunity, led to increased tensions, military campaigns, and forced relocations. The Comanche, known for their fierce resistance, became a symbol of Native American sovereignty and resilience.

Key Historical Milestones Covered in the Book

- The rise of the Comanche as dominant plains warriors
- The impact of the introduction of the horse and firearms
- The Texas Revolution and its aftermath
- The U.S. military campaigns against the Comanche
- The life and leadership of Quanah Parker
- The eventual decline of the Comanche power and their forced reservation life

Main Themes and Analysis

Leadership and Legacy of Quanah Parker

One of the central figures in *Empire of the Summer Moon* is Quanah Parker, the son of a Comanche chief and a captured white woman. Gwynne explores his complex identity, bridging two worlds:

native and settler. Quanah's leadership during the tumultuous period reflects themes of resilience, adaptability, and cultural preservation.

- Cultural Identity: Quanah's hybrid heritage made him a symbol of the evolving Native American identity.
- Leadership Skills: His ability to negotiate, resist, and adapt made him a pivotal figure in the tribe's survival.
- Legacy: His efforts in transitioning the Comanche into reservation life and advocating for his people's rights are highlighted.

The Comanche Warrior Spirit

Gwynne vividly depicts the fierce warrior culture of the Comanche, emphasizing their exceptional skills in mounted combat and guerrilla tactics. The book explores how their mastery of the plains and their strategic ingenuity allowed them to resist U.S. military campaigns for decades.

Key aspects include:

- The importance of horses in warfare and mobility
- The role of raids and warfare in maintaining tribal dominance
- The cultural significance of bravery and combat prowess

The Impact of European-American Expansion

The relentless push westward by American settlers and the U.S. government fundamentally altered the landscape for the Comanche and other tribes. Gwynne discusses:

- The encroachment of settlers and the resulting loss of hunting grounds
- Military campaigns like the Red River War
- The use of treaties, reservations, and forced relocations
- The devastating effects of violence, disease, and displacement

Cultural Clash and Assimilation

Empire of the Summer Moon explores the tragic collision of cultures, highlighting moments where Native traditions clashed with, or were suppressed by, colonial and federal policies. Gwynne portrays these conflicts with nuance, emphasizing the resilience of Native traditions even in the face of systemic suppression.

Narrative Style and Research

Gwynne's approach combines thorough archival research with storytelling akin to a novel. His vivid descriptions and character development bring historical figures like Quanah Parker, as well as lesser-known warriors and settlers, to life.

Notable techniques include:

- Use of primary sources, including letters, military reports, and oral histories
- Vivid scene-setting that immerses readers in the landscape and times
- Balanced portrayal of both Native Americans and settlers, avoiding stereotypes
- Incorporation of personal stories to humanize historical events

Critical Reception and Significance

Empire of the Summer Moon has garnered praise for its comprehensive scope and engaging narrative. Historians and critics alike have lauded Gwynne's ability to synthesize complex history into a compelling story that appeals to both casual readers and scholars.

The book's significance lies in its detailed exploration of a pivotal era in American history, shedding light on the resilience of the Comanche and the broader themes of cultural collision, survival, and change.

Key Takeaways for Readers

- The rise of the Comanche Empire exemplifies indigenous ingenuity and resilience.
- Leadership, exemplified by Quanah Parker, was crucial in navigating the tumult of the American frontier.
- The violence and displacement experienced by Native tribes were systemic and profound.
- Understanding the history of the Comanche provides insight into broader themes of American expansionism and cultural conflict.

Conclusion

Empire of the Summer Moon offers an in-depth, nuanced account of a critical chapter in American history. By focusing on the story of the Comanche Nation and Quanah Parker, Gwynne provides readers with a powerful narrative of resilience, leadership, and cultural survival amid relentless change. Whether you are a history enthusiast or a casual reader seeking a compelling story, this book serves as an essential read that deepens our understanding of the complex tapestry of American history.

If you're interested in exploring Native American history, frontier warfare, or the enduring spirit of indigenous peoples, Empire of the Summer Moon is a must-read that will inform, inspire, and challenge your perceptions.

[Empire Of The Summer Moon Book](#)

empire of the summer moon book: Empire of the Summer Moon S.C. Gwynne, 2011-07-07 In the tradition of *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, a stunningly vivid historical account of the forty-year battle between Comanche Indians and white settlers for control of the American West, centering on Quanah, the greatest Comanche chief of them all. *Empire of the Summer Moon* spans two astonishing stories. The first traces the rise and fall of the Comanches, the most powerful Indian tribe in American history. The second is the epic saga of the pioneer woman Cynthia Ann Parker and

her mixed-blood son Quanah, who became the last and greatest chief of the Comanches. Although readers may be more familiar with the tribal names Apache and Sioux, it was in fact the legendary fighting ability of the Comanches that determined just how and when the American West opened up. Comanche boys became adept bareback riders by age six; full Comanche braves were considered the best horsemen who ever rode. They were so masterful at war and so skillful with their arrows and lances that they stopped the northern drive of colonial Spain from Mexico and halted the French expansion westward from Louisiana. White settlers arriving in Texas from the eastern United States were surprised to find the frontier being rolled backward by Comanches incensed by the invasion of their tribal lands. Against this backdrop Gwynne presents the compelling drama of Cynthia Ann Parker, a nine-year-old girl who was kidnapped by Comanches in 1836. She grew to love her captors and became infamous as the White Squaw who refused to return until her tragic capture by Texas Rangers in 1860. More famous still was her son Quanah, a warrior who was never defeated and whose guerrilla wars in the Texas Panhandle made him a legend. S. C. Gwynne's account of these events is meticulously researched, intellectually provocative, and, above all, thrillingly told.

empire of the summer moon book: Quicklet on S. C. Gwynne's Empire of the Summer Moon (CliffsNotes-like Book Summary) Fraser Sherman, 2012-02-29 ABOUT THE BOOK "It seemed implausible that the westward rush of Anglo-European civilization would stall in the prairies of central Texas." - S.C. Gwynne, *Empire of the Summer Moon* S.C. Gwynne first became interested in the Comanches while reading Walter Prescott Webb's *The Great Plains*. Webb mentioned in one chapter that the Comanche tribes had been a barrier to white settlement, something Gwynne, a northerner, had never heard of. Intrigued, he began reading more books about the tribe, such as T.R. Fehrenbach's *Comanche: The Destruction of a People*. After moving to Texas in the 1990s, Gwynne discovered that the Lone Star State still remembered the Indian Wars. "A woman might tell me that her great-grandparents were both killed by Comanches," Gwynne told the Historynet website. "This happened to me a lot." (Interview with author S.C. Gwynne) Gwynne's research convinced him there hadn't been a significant book about the Comanches since Fehrenbach's 1974 history. Having already written two nonfiction books, he decided to make the Comanches the subject of his third. He reasoned that if he found their history exciting and novel, other non-Texans, including New York editors, would have the same reaction. (Interview with author S. C. Gwynne) MEET THE AUTHOR Fraser Sherman was born in England and is now happily living in Durham, NC. He has 15 years experience as a reporter, 20 published fantasy/SF stories and is also the author of three film reference books. EXCERPT FROM THE BOOK They rejected conventional pitched battles in favor of the swift attacks the Comanche employed, and with this strategy won repeatedly. Over the next few decades, Texas forgot everything the Rangers had learned about Indian fighting. Texas and the United States fell back on traditional military tactics and peace negotiations. Negotiating with the Comanche never worked: the tribe's warriors broke treaties and promises time and again, then came back and offered to renegotiate. By the 1860s, cholera, smallpox and other European diseases had crippled many Comanche tribes. Nevertheless, the remaining tribesmen remained formidable and their attacks actually pushed the frontier back east. Then, the United States government decided to give up on negotiations. In 1871 Army sent Col Ranald Mackenzie, a Civil War veteran, to lead cavalry into the plains and hunt down the remaining Comanche. Over the next four years, Quanah Parker's Indian warriors and Mackenzie's troops clashed repeatedly, with the cavalry ultimately gaining the upper hand. Parker surrendered in 1875 - the Comanches' days as buffalo hunters and raiders were over. Parker adapted fast and well to civilization. Comanches had never cared for property, except horses, but Quanah Parker became a successful businessman and a prosperous landowner. Parker founded a school district for Comanche students. He also promoted the Peyote rituals that became the basis of the Native American Church. He died in 1911, of heart failure.... Buy a copy to keep reading!

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2013 Describes the actions of both whites and Comanches during a 40-year war over territory, in a story that begins with the kidnapping of a white girl, who grew up to marry a Comanche chief and have a son, Quanah, who became a great warrior.

empire of the summer moon book: Summary of S. C. Gwynne's Empire of the Summer Moon Milkyway Media, 2024-01-16 Get the Summary of S. C. Gwynne's Empire of the Summer Moon in 20 minutes. Please note: This is a summary & not the original book. On October 3, 1871, the U.S. military launched a campaign against the Comanches, marking a turning point in the Indian wars. Led by Ranald Slidell Mackenzie, the Fourth Cavalry and Eleventh Infantry targeted the Quahadis, a Comanche band under the leadership of Quanah Parker. This mission followed the failure of President Grant's Peace Policy and was a response to the Comanches' resistance, particularly their raids and refusal to sign treaties. The narrative follows the Parker family, early Texas settlers, and the infamous Comanche raid on Parker's Fort, which resulted in the kidnapping of Cynthia Ann Parker...

empire of the summer moon book: Quanah Parker and The Empire of the Summer Moon Christine Hopkins, 2024-12-20 A legendary leader rose to make a lasting impression on history in the vast swath of the American West, where the sun sank below the horizon and tinted the sky with shades of gold and crimson. The final great Comanches chief, Quanah Parker, was a man of unwavering courage, unshakeable conviction, and an unyielding spirit. Quanah Parker, whose life was a witness to the complicated and frequently turbulent relationship between the Native American tribes and the encroaching American settlers, was born to a Comanche father, Peta Nocona, and a white mother, Cynthia Ann Parker. Quanah Parker was the Comanches' leader, and he bravely defended his people's culture, land, and way of life. This captivating book, *Quanah Parker and the Empire of the Summer Moon*, explores the life and times of this legendary leader. Set against the backdrop of the most significant events in the history of the American West, it is a tale of love, loss, war, and peace. We learn more about the complicated history of the US and the lasting impact of its indigenous peoples thanks to Quanah Parker's epic tale. Come along with us as we look into the extraordinary life and times of Quanah Parker, the last great Comanches chief, and take you on an unforgettable journey into the heart of American history. GET YOUR COPY NOW!!!

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empire of the summer moon book: *Stereotypical Indians* Eric Hannel, Karen Hannel, 2025-03-19 This scholarly yet provocative work critically examines the persistent and evolving stereotypes of Native Americans in popular literature, spanning from the 19th to the 21st centuries. The book meticulously traces the roots of these portrayals, exploring their proliferation and their lasting impact on public perception and policy. Each chapter unveils a new layer of complexity, from the dime novels of the 1800s that painted Native Americans as savages, to children's literature that enforced colonial narratives, and onto romance novels and popular histories that perpetuated myths and misconceptions. The authors dissect these narratives critically, revealing how they contribute to

a distorted understanding of Native American heritage and culture. Through an in-depth analysis of various literary genres, including comics and graphic novels, the book challenges readers to confront and rethink the deeply ingrained stereotypes that have long shaped American consciousness.

empire of the summer moon book: The Which Way Tree Elizabeth Crook, 2024-02-15 When a panther attacks a family of homesteaders in the remote hill country of Texas, it leaves a young girl traumatised and scarred, and her mother dead. Samantha is determined to find and kill the animal and avenge her mother, and her half-brother Benjamin, helpless to make her see sense, joins her quest. Dragged into the panther hunters' crusade by the force and purity of Samantha's desire for revenge are a charismatic outlaw, a haunted, compassionate preacher, and an aged but relentless tracker dog. As the members of this unlikely posse hunt the giant panther, they in turn are pursued by a hapless, sadistic soldier with a score to settle. And Benjamin can only try to protect his sister from her own obsession, and tell her story in his uniquely vivid voice. The breathtaking saga of a steadfast girl's revenge against an implacable and unknowable beast, *The Which Way Tree* is a timeless tale full of warmth and humour, testament to the power of adventure and enduring love.

empire of the summer moon book: The Most Dangerous Book: An Illustrated Introduction to Archery Daniel Nayeri, 2017-10-31 It's the ultimate introduction to the world of archery, in a book that turns into an actual bow that shoots paper arrows. All you have to do is unlock and open the upper and lower bow limbs, punch out and fold the arrows, and shoot! But the book is also a rich and lively illustrated history of archery, covering the physics of a bow and arrow; the types of bows used since 4500 BC; arrows from around the world, like the deadly stone arrowheads used by Native Americans, or the Japanese whistling Kabura-ya that helped Samurai signal each other. Here are the great archery battles—Thermopylae in 480 BC, where the Spartan "300" faced a Persian who shot so many arrows they darkened the sky; or the Battle of Leipzig in 1813, the last battle to feature archers—horsemen from the Eurasian steppes—who helped the Russians defeat Napoleon.

empire of the summer moon book: His Majesty's Airship S C Gwynne, 2024-05-21 The tragic story of the British airship R101—which went down in a spectacular hydrogen-fueled fireball in 1930, killing more people than died in the Hindenburg disaster seven years later—has been largely forgotten. In *His Majesty's Airship*, historian S.C. Gwynne resurrects it in vivid detail, telling the epic story of great ambition gone terribly wrong. Airships, those airborne leviathans that occupied center stage in the world in the first half of the twentieth century, were a symbol of the future. R101 was not just the largest aircraft ever to have flown and the product of the world's most advanced engineering—she was also the lynchpin of an imperial British scheme to link by air the far-flung areas of its empire from Australia to India, South Africa, Canada, Egypt, and Singapore. No one had ever conceived of anything like this. R101 captivated the world. There was just one problem: beyond the hype and technological wonders, these big, steel-framed, hydrogen-filled airships were a dangerously bad idea. Gwynne's chronicle features a cast of remarkable—and often tragically flawed—characters, including Lord Christopher Thomson, the man who dreamed up the Imperial Airship Scheme and then relentlessly pushed R101 to her destruction; Princess Marthe Bibesco, the celebrated writer and glamorous socialite with whom he had a long affair; and Herbert Scott, a national hero who had made the first double crossing of the Atlantic in any aircraft in 1919—eight years before Lindbergh's famous flight—but who devolved into drink and ruin. These historical figures—and the ship they built, flew, and crashed—come together in a grand tale that details the rocky road to commercial aviation written by one of the best popular historians writing today--

empire of the summer moon book: The Perfect Pass S. C. Gwynne, 2017-09-05 New York Times bestselling, award-winning historian S.C. Gwynne tells the incredible story of how Hal Mumme and Mike Leach—two unknown coaches who revolutionized American football in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s—changed the way the game is played at every level, from high school to the NFL--

empire of the summer moon book: The Game George Howe Colt, 2019-10-08 *A New York Times Notable Book* *A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year* From the bestselling National Book

Award finalist and author of *The Big House* comes “a well-blended narrative packed with top-notch reporting and relevance for our own time” (The Boston Globe) about the young athletes who battled in the legendary Harvard-Yale football game of 1968 amidst the sweeping currents of one of the most transformative years in American history. On November 23, 1968, there was a turbulent and memorable football game: the season-ending clash between Harvard and Yale. The final score was 29-29. To some of the players, it was a triumph; to others a tragedy. And to many, the reasons had as much to do with one side’s miraculous comeback in the game’s final forty-two seconds as it did with the months that preceded it, months that witnessed the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy, police brutality at the Democratic National Convention, inner-city riots, campus takeovers, and, looming over everything, the war in Vietnam. George Howe Colt’s *The Game* is the story of that iconic American year, as seen through the young men who lived it and were changed by it. One player had recently returned from Vietnam. Two were members of the radical antiwar group SDS. There was one NFL prospect who quit to devote his time to black altruism; another who went on to be Pro-Bowler Calvin Hill. There was a guard named Tommy Lee Jones, and fullback who dated a young Meryl Streep. They played side by side and together forged a moment of startling grace in the midst of the storm. “Vibrant, energetic, and beautifully structured” (NPR), this magnificent and intimate work of history is the story of ordinary people in an extraordinary time, and of a country facing issues that we continue to wrestle with to this day. “The Game is the rare sports book that lives up to the claim of so many entrants in this genre: It is the portrait of an era” (The Wall Street Journal).

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empire of the summer moon book: *Blood Aces* Doug J. Swanson, 2015-07-28 A rip-roaring saga of murder, money, and the making of Las Vegas They say in Vegas you can't understand the town unless you understand Benny Binion—mob boss, casino owner, and creator of the World Series of Poker. Beginning as a Texas horse trader, Binion built a gambling empire in Depression-era Dallas. When the law chased him out of town, he loaded up suitcases with cash and headed for Vegas. The place would never be the same. Dramatic as any gangster movie, *Blood Aces* draws readers into the colorful world of notorious mobsters like Clyde Barrow and Bugsy Siegel. Given access to previously classified government documents, biographer Doug J. Swanson provides the definitive account of a great American antihero, a man whose rise from thugdom to prominence and power is unmatched in the history of American criminal justice.

empire of the summer moon book: The Great Texas Wind Rush Kate Galbraith, Asher Price, 2013-07-01 From two environmental journalists, “the improbable story of how the oil and gas state became the nation’s wind-power leader” (The Texas Observer). In the late 1990s, West Texas was full of rundown towns and pumpjacks, aging reminders of the oil rush of an earlier era. Today, the towns are thriving as 300-foot-tall wind turbines tower above those pumpjacks. Wind energy has become Texas’s latest boom. How did this dramatic transformation happen in a state that fights federal environmental policies at every turn? In *The Great Texas Wind Rush*, environmental reporters Kate Galbraith and Asher Price tell the compelling story of a group of unlikely dreamers and innovators, politicians and profiteers. The tale spans a generation and more, and it begins with the early wind pioneers, precocious idealists who saw opportunity after the 1970s oil crisis. Operating in an economy accustomed to exploiting natural resources and always looking for the next big thing, their ideas eventually led to surprising partnerships between entrepreneurs and environmentalists, as everyone from Enron executives to T. Boone Pickens, as well as Ann Richards, George W. Bush and Rick Perry, ended up backing the new technology. In this down-to-earth account, the authors explain the policies and science that propelled the “windcatters” to reap the great harvest of Texas wind. They also explore what the future holds for this relentless resource that is changing the face of Texas energy. “Enjoyable to read. . . . I learned something on every page.”

—Michael Webber, Associate Director, Center for International Energy and Environmental Policy, University of Texas at Austin “A thoughtful, valuable story for anyone who cares about renewable energy or climate change.” —The Associated Press

empire of the summer moon book: Cinematic Comanches Dustin Tahmahkera, 2022 For centuries Comanches have captivated imaginations. Yet their story in popular accounts abruptly stops with the so-called fall of the Comanche empire in 1875, when Quanah Parker led Comanches onto the reservation in southwestern Oklahoma. In *Cinematic Comanches*, the first tribal-specific history of Comanches in film and media, Parker descendant Dustin Tahmahkera examines how Comanches represent themselves and are represented by others in recent media. Telling a story of Comanche family and extended kin and their relations to film, Tahmahkera reframes a distorted and defeated history of Comanches into a vibrant story of cinematic traditions, agency, and cultural continuity. Co-starring a long list of Comanche actors, filmmakers, consultants, critics, and subjects, *Cinematic Comanches* moves through the politics of tribal representation and history to highlight the production of Comanchería cinema. From early silent films and 1950s Westerns to Disney's *The Lone Ranger* and the story of how Comanches captured its controversial Comanche lead Johnny Depp, Tahmahkera argues that Comanche nationhood can be strengthened through cinema. Tahmahkera's extensive research includes interviews with elder LaDonna Harris, who adopted Depp during filming in one of the most contested films in recent Indigenous cinematic history. In the fragmented popular narrative of the rise and fall of Comanches, *Cinematic Comanches* calls for considering mediated contributions to the cultural resurgence of Comanches today.

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