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Red Matters: Native American Studies (Hardback)

By Arnold Krupat

University of Pennsylvania Press, United States, 2002.

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English . Brand New Book. Arnold Krupat, one of the most

original and respected critics working in Native American studies today, offers a clear and compelling set of reasons why

red-Native American culture, history, and literature should matter to Americans more than it has to date. Although there

exists a growing body of criticism demonstrating the

importance of Native American literature in its own right and

in relation to other ethnic and minority literatures, Native

materials still have not been accorded the full attention they

require. Krupat argues that it is simply not possible to

understand the ethical and intellectual heritage of the West

without engaging America's treatment of its indigenous

peoples and their extraordinary and resilient responses.

Criticism of Native literature in its current development, Krupat

suggests, operates from one of three critical perspectives

against colonialism that he calls nationalism, indigenism, and

cosmopolitanism. Nationalist critics are foremost concerned

with tribal sovereignty, indigenist critics focus on non-Western

modes of knowledge, and cosmopolitan critics wish to look

elsewhere for comparative possibilities. Krupat persuasively

contends that all three critical perspectives can work in a

complementary rather...



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Reviews

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