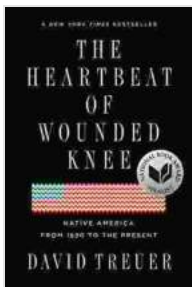


# The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: A Journey through Indian History and the Struggle for Survival

The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee is a powerful and moving account of the Lakota people's struggle for survival in the face of genocide and assimilation. Dee Brown's meticulous research and vivid storytelling bring to life the tragic events of Wounded Knee and the larger context of Indian history.

The book begins with the arrival of the first Europeans in the Great Plains and traces the Lakota people's history through their encounters with the fur traders, the US government, and the white settlers. Brown paints a vivid picture of the Lakota way of life, their spiritual beliefs, and their deep connection to the land.



## The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present by David Treuer

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 9503 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 526 pages

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As the white settlers moved westward, the Lakota people were forced to give up their land and their way of life. They were confined to reservations and subjected to a policy of forced assimilation. The US government tried to destroy their culture and their identity, but the Lakota people refused to give up their heritage.

The climax of the book is the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890. On December 29, 1890, US troops massacred over 300 Lakota men, women, and children at Wounded Knee Creek. The massacre was a turning point in Indian history and marked the end of the Lakota people's resistance to white domination.

The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee is a powerful and moving indictment of the US government's treatment of Native Americans. Brown's book is a must-read for anyone interested in American history, Native American culture, or the human spirit's capacity for resilience.

## **The Lakota People**

The Lakota people are a Native American tribe that lived in the Great Plains region of the United States. They are part of the Sioux nation and are closely related to the Dakota and Nakota people. The Lakota people are known for their warrior culture and their deep connection to the land.

The Lakota people were originally a nomadic people who hunted buffalo for their food and shelter. They lived in tipis and moved from place to place following the buffalo herds. In the 18th century, the Lakota people began to acquire horses from the Spanish and became skilled horsemen. They used horses to hunt buffalo and to raid other tribes.

In the 19th century, the Lakota people came into conflict with the US government as white settlers moved westward. The US government tried to force the Lakota people to give up their land and their way of life, but the Lakota people resisted. They fought a series of wars against the US government, but were eventually defeated.

Today, the Lakota people live on reservations in the Great Plains region of the United States. They have struggled to maintain their culture and their way of life in the face of assimilation and discrimination.

### **The Wounded Knee Massacre**

The Wounded Knee Massacre was a massacre of over 300 Lakota men, women, and children by US troops on December 29, 1890. The massacre took place at Wounded Knee Creek on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

The massacre was the culmination of a series of events that began with the Ghost Dance movement. The Ghost Dance was a religious movement that spread among the Lakota people in the late 1880s. The Ghost Dance promised that the Lakota people would be reunited with their ancestors and that the white settlers would be driven out of the Great Plains.

The US government saw the Ghost Dance as a threat to its authority and ordered the Lakota people to stop dancing. The Lakota people refused, and the US government sent troops to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to enforce its order.

On December 29, 1890, US troops surrounded a group of Lakota people who were dancing the Ghost Dance at Wounded Knee Creek. The troops

opened fire on the Lakota people, killing over 300 men, women, and children.

The Wounded Knee Massacre was a tragic event in American history. It was a massacre of innocent people and a violation of the US government's treaty obligations to the Lakota people.

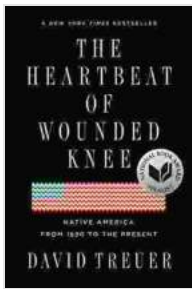
### **The Legacy of Wounded Knee**

The Wounded Knee Massacre had a profound impact on the Lakota people. The massacre destroyed their way of life and their culture. It also led to a loss of trust between the Lakota people and the US government.

The legacy of Wounded Knee is still felt today. The Lakota people continue to struggle with the effects of the massacre and the US government's policies of assimilation and discrimination.

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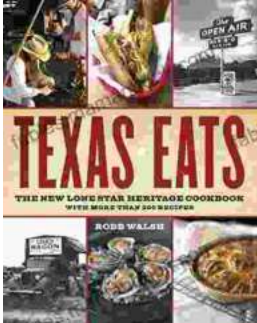
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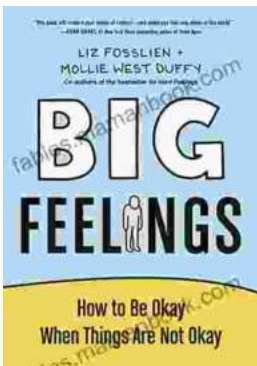
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