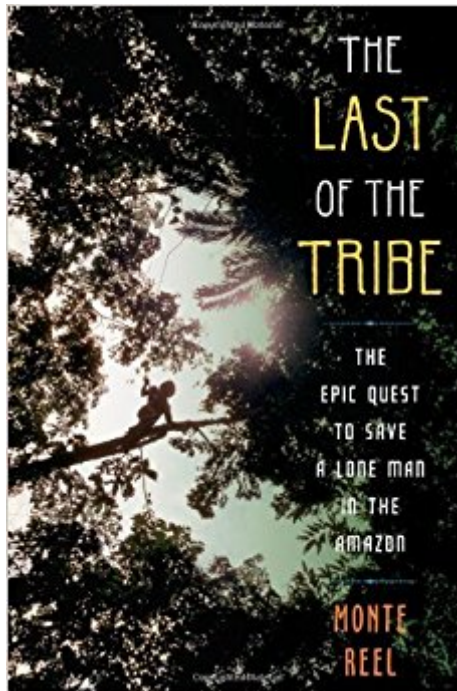




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The Last Of The Tribe: The Epic Quest To Save A Lone Man In The



Synopsis

Throughout the centuries, the Amazon has yielded many of its secrets, but it still holds a few great mysteries. In 1996 experts got their first glimpse of one: a lone Indian, a tribe of one, hidden in the forests of southwestern Brazil. Previously uncontacted tribes are extremely rare, but a one-man tribe was unprecedented. And like all of the isolated tribes in the Amazon frontier, he was in danger. Resentment of Indians can run high among settlers, and the consequences can be fatal. The discovery of the Indian prevented local ranchers from seizing his land, and led a small group of men who believed that he was the last of a murdered tribe to dedicate themselves to protecting him. These men worked for the government, overseeing indigenous interests in an odd job that was part Indiana Jones, part social worker, and were among the most experienced adventurers in the Amazon. They were a motley crew that included a rebel who spent more than a decade living with a tribe, a young man who left home to work in the forest at age fourteen, and an old-school sertanista with a collection of tall tales amassed over five decades of jungle exploration. Their quest would prove far more difficult than any of them could imagine. Over the course of a decade, the struggle to save the Indian and his land would pit them against businessmen, politicians, and even the Indian himself, a man resolved to keep the outside world at bay at any cost. It would take them into the furthest reaches of the forest and to the halls of Brazil's Congress, threatening their jobs and even their lives. Ensuring the future of the Indian and his land would lead straight to the heart of the conflict over the Amazon itself. A heart-pounding modern-day adventure set in one of the world's last truly wild places, *The Last of the Tribe* is a riveting, brilliantly told tale of encountering the unknown and the unfathomable, and the value of preserving it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In his first book, *Reel*, the South American correspondent for the *Washington Post*, brings to life the ongoing struggle on the Brazilian frontier between Native Americans and land-hungry settlers. In 1996, government Indian agents began to investigate rumors of a single Indian living in an area of the Basin recently opened to development. The agents discovered that there was indeed an Indian, but he rejected all attempts at communication, going so far as to shoot arrows at anyone who approached him. The agents' attempt to make direct contact became a race against time as local ranchers did everything they could to ensure that the last Indian went the way of the rest of his tribe. *Reel* smoothly translates the complexities of the Brazilian frontier into an adventure narrative, without slighting his material. *Reel* focuses on the colorful Indian agents, who come across as a mélange of cowboy, hippie, and anthropologist. He also brings out the paradoxes that face a poor country torn between exploiting its resources and preserving its heritage. While the dramas of the rain forest and obscure Native American groups may seem distant to New York and Los Angeles, *Reel* demonstrates how the life and death of a lone Indian in Rondonia have consequences for the entire world. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Reel, the South American correspondent for the *Washington Post*, approaches the search for the last surviving member of an tribe from the perspective of the government agents charged with both verifying his existence and preserving his way of life. Focusing more on politics than anthropology, *Reel* reports on the laws governing tribal lands and conflicts with ranchers and the men in the Isolated Indians Division who all believe passionately in protecting indigenous life. The narrative shifts back and forth from the pursuit of a rumored lone tribesman to the team members themselves and the reasons why each has so much personally invested in keeping the Indians on their land. This can make for disjointed reading at times, but by resisting the hyperbole of the "pure native," *Reel* provides a fresh look at a story that has become almost a cliché. This is an inquiry into money and power and political corruption juxtaposed against the rights of a single man who may "or may not" cling to an ancient way of life. --Colleen Mondor

For a couple of years I have been searching for information on the Brazil state of Rondonia without a great deal of accomplishment, only web offerings. The few travel guides I have consulted don't

even mention the Northern state. I found this book here at [with a search for "Guapore"](#). So if nothing else I have had some perspective on place names in Rondonia. My point of writing this "review" is to mention that, perhaps while reading it one would be interested in the actual footage of the "Lone Indian" mentioned, which can be found in an award winning film: "Corumbiara", by Vincent Carelli. The Portuguese version is on YouTube and there is said to be an English subtitled version which doesn't seem easy to locate. As I usually delete hyper links, I would also like to suggest to find the author Monte Reel's website for the book, plus also his hour long interview about it on the Diane Rehm show at WAMU. Apparently movie rights have been secured there have been activity in this area.

Monte Reel's new book is a very enjoyable read! I found each page to be just as enjoyable as the previous page. I found myself looking forward to relaxing and learning about an area of the world of which we normally don't even think. I must admit that in selecting this book, I was a little confused by the subject matter, since I was not familiar with this area of the globe, but within the first few pages, I quickly found myself oriented and even excited about the outcome. Well presented, clear and not overly verbose describes Monte's writing style. I am sincerely excited about his next book. If it is as well written and pleasurable as "The Last of the Tribe", it will be a gem!

The Last of the Tribe features a small Brazilian agency which must act to save a lone Indian from encroaching developers. The developers threaten the agents' mission not only through deforestation, but also through the corrupt political process. The backstories of all characters touched by the Indian are richly detailed, and the passions behind all stakeholders are clear. The Indian's story is enhanced by the portrayal of two other endangered tribes in the same Rondonia Province. The history of contacting isolated Indians is weaved seamlessly into the action-packed narrative of organizational strategy, political hearings, and dramatic standoffs. The book is well-suited for movie adaptation, and I'm thrilled it has attracted the interest of Doug Liman, who directed the Bourne Identity. I can't wait.

I first heard about this book during an interview with the author on NPR. The story piqued my interest so I bought the book. This is about an up-to-date account of the attempt to help the indigenous Indians of the jungle survive in the modern world. Agents of the Brazilian government discover what they believe is a one remaining Indian of an almost extinct tribe. Their battle to find and interview him, anti-Indian loggers, and near death experiences make this a learning experience.

I found the story informative and educational. The author did a lot of research plus his actual experiences of living with the indians and government agents make the book an easy read. In addition, a few photos scattered throughout the book are an assist to the reader.

I liked this book. It's the first of its kind I've ever read; chronicles of the expeditions for the last tribe in Rondonia. What came to mind while reading was that it was a macro-view of what it must have been like for the native Americans that were displaced in the name of progress. Only this had a better ending.

Paid 1 cent and postage for this book. Was well pleased with the copy and loved the book. Our son is an anthropologist working in Ecuador so I read anything I can on books about indigenous people in South America.

Excellent book depicting the lives/struggles of Native peoples of the . The story was compelling and I creditably interesting. I find myself thinking about this book and Native peoples struggles frequently.

Interesting read. A rare insight into a way of life that is nearly extinct.

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