

# LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

## Author

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## Illustrator

## Reviewer

Martinez, Shan

## Pages

32p

## Price

\$29.32

## ISBN

978-1-7284-7585-1

## Publisher & Date

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## Classification

Nonfiction (979.4)

## Grade level

4-6

## Book Review: REAL HISTORY OF THE GOLD RUSH, THE

This book attempts to expose lesser known and perhaps negative details of the Gold Rush event in California history. The author repeatedly points out that Native Americans lived in the areas where gold was discovered, and that the large migration that occurred displaced many of them. In addition, some were enslaved, and others were killed. One chapter focuses on how people from other countries were treated differently than American citizens. Foreign miners were required to pay a tax in order to mine for gold. This generally applied to Asian and Hispanic people and was less likely to be enforced for Europeans. Another issue revealed was that even though California entered the union as a free state, California lawmakers passed a law that forced enslaved people who had been freed to return to slavery.

After each chapter, there are reflection questions designed to focus the reader's thoughts on injustice and personal identification with injustice. The series, Left Out of History is part of the Read Woke Books brand. The goal of these books according to The Lerner Blog is to "amplify voices, challenge social norms, share perspectives of people who are underrepresented or oppressed, and encourage readers to take action in their community."

