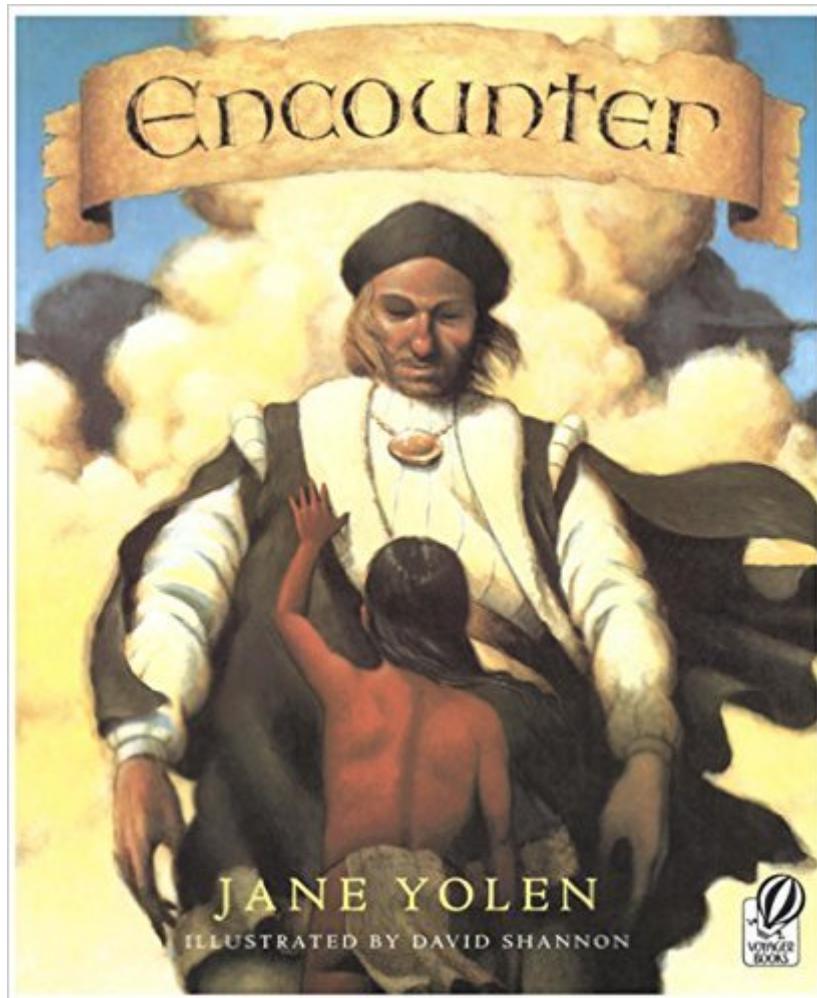


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# Encounter (Voyager Books)



## **Synopsis**

When Christopher Columbus landed on the island of San Salvador in 1492, what he discovered were the Taino Indians. Told from a young Taino boy's point of view, this is a story of how the boy tried to warn his people against welcoming the strangers, who seemed more interested in golden ornaments than friendship. Years later the boy, now an old man, looks back at the destruction of his people and their culture by the colonizers.

## **Book Information**

Series: Voyager Books

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (September 20, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 015201389X

ISBN-13: 978-0152013899

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (56 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,236 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Exploration & Discoveries #11 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans #39 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

Through the written word of Jane Yolen and the magnificent illustrations by artist David Shannon, we are given one of the most thought provoking children's books available as to the subject of early American, and indeed, European history. Recent historical writings, fed by some adjustments in our overall way of perceiving the early settlement of the Americas and their exploitation by European powers, have shed a new light on and caused most of us to take a second look as to our attitudes and conclusions as to the famous "Columbus Discovers America" story that most school children almost know by heart. Before I begin, I must admit that it is extremely tempting to begin a historical, political, social and ethical rant after reading this work as an adult. Make no mistake; I have extremely strong views and opinions when it comes to evaluating Columbus and his actions, which

are rather strongly reinforced by a wife who is a rather militant lady of overwhelming Native American heritage. These views and opinions, for me, were forged long before it became the "in" thing to trash the famous explorer. I will not, in this review, place my views to the forefront, but attempt, to simply review the book for what it is. This is the story of the landing and first encounter of Columbus and his crew as they met the indigenous people of Hispaniola (Haiti) which were called the Taino people. It is told through the eyes of a young boy who through a dream, fears that a great evil has descended upon their land. The boy tries to warn his people not to accept these strange beings; to reject them. His people do not listen to him of course and then the inevitable occurs and of course history is played out.

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