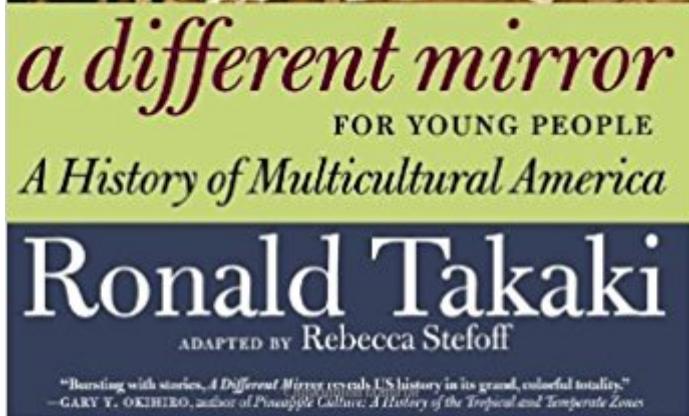


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# A Different Mirror For Young People: A History Of Multicultural America (For Young People Series)



## Synopsis

A longtime professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California at Berkeley, Ronald Takaki was recognized as one of the foremost scholars of American ethnic history and diversity. When the first edition of *A Different Mirror* was published in 1993, Publishers Weekly called it "a brilliant revisionist history of America that is likely to become a classic of multicultural studies" and named it one of the ten best books of the year. Now Rebecca Stefoff, who adapted Howard Zinn's best-selling *A People's History of the United States* for younger readers, turns the updated 2008 edition of Takaki's multicultural masterwork into *A Different Mirror for Young People*. Drawing on Takaki's vast array of primary sources, and staying true to his own words whenever possible, *A Different Mirror for Young People* brings ethnic history alive through the words of people, including teenagers, who recorded their experiences in letters, diaries, and poems. Like Zinn's *A People's History*, Takaki's *A Different Mirror* offers a rich and rewarding "people's view" perspective on the American story.

## Book Information

Series: For Young People Series

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 6 Up-This established adult classic of multiculturalism has been pared down for a younger audience. Stefoff, who previously adapted Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* (Longman, 1980), takes a crack at Takaki's look at America and its people. Focusing on a variety of groups-Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Africans, Irish, Mexicans, Afghans, Vietnamese, and more-this volume tells America's story through the millions of people who came here seeking the Land of

Opportunity only to find low wages, pitiable living conditions, and bigotry at every turn. Yet Takaki keeps bitterness at bay, writing with hope and conviction about the many opportunities for young Americans to make change in a country where, soon enough, "we all will be minorities." Steffoff adds a few nice touches-the short stories of individuals ending each chapter definitely make the content more relatable-but many young people would be better off sticking with Takaki's original text.-Sam Bloom, Blue Ash Library, Cincinnati, OH (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

In 1993, Takaki wrote his seminal work, *A Different Mirror*. In the second edition (2008), he revised some chapters and added others that focus on newer immigrants, legal and illegal, presenting views from the perspectives of both minority and immigrant groups and white, Eurocentric populations. As he stated in the final chapter, "White Americans will not be a majority for much longer" "America will truly be a nation of minorities." Here Steffoff takes Takaki's book and adapts it for middle-grade and younger high-school readers, reducing the original by about 150 pages and revising some vocabulary to make it more accessible for the intended audience. She has retained quotations from the original and maintained the carefully cited chapter notes. Sidebars toward the end of each chapter highlight a particular person or event discussed. This book, whether Takaki's original or Steffoff's adaptation, is important reading, and few other titles look at American immigration in such a thorough way. Grades 7-10. --J. B. Petty --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If you are a teaching or becoming a teacher, or a just interested in hearing the lost voices of history this is a MUST BUY! This book talks about immigration from all areas of the world from the times of Christopher Columbus to present day. It goes against main stream history text, and tells the story from the other perspective or from the voices not heard in history. You find out some unbelievable truths in this book. I was a history minor in college and am now going to be a teacher and I thought I knew history pretty well, but this book opened my eyes to a new world of history, one that I was not told in class. If you are interested in a multicultural text about America, this is the book to buy! I recommend this book to anyone interested in history!

Glad to finally have a history collection I can use in my high school classroom with older students, many of whom are struggling readers. The chapters are more concise and syntax simplified, but the content is still rich and meaningful.

Everyone should ready this, both young and old

Very interesting view

Fabulous content.TERRIBLE BIDING.I have had some of these books for a few days, and they are falling apart! So frustrating.

as expected

Useful learning tool for young Americans

Great delivery, fantastic book. I highly recommend reading it.

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