



Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence)

By Aparecida Vilaça

Download now

Read Online →

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça

In 1956, in the Brazilian state of Rondônia, a group of Wari' Indians had their first peaceful contact with whites: Protestant missionaries and officers from the national Indian Protection Service. On returning to their villages, the Wari' announced, "We touched their bodies!" Meanwhile the whites reported to their own people that "the region's most warlike tribe has entered the pacification phase!" Initially published in Brazil, *Strange Enemies* is an ethnographic narrative of the first encounters between these peoples with radically different worldviews.

During the 1940s and 1950s, white rubber tappers invading the Wari' lands raided the native villages, shooting and killing their victims as they slept. These massacres prompted the Wari' to initiate a period of intense retaliatory warfare. The national government and religious organizations subsequently intervened, seeking to "pacify" the Indians. Aparecida Vilaça was able to interview both Wari' and non-Wari' participants in these encounters, and here she shares their firsthand narratives of the dramatic events. Taking the Wari' perspective as its starting point, *Strange Enemies* combines a detailed examination of these cross-cultural encounters with analyses of classic ethnological themes such as kinship, shamanism, cannibalism, warfare, and mythology.

↓ [Download Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of E ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of ...pdf](#)

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence)

By Aparecida Vilaça

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça

In 1956, in the Brazilian state of Rondônia, a group of Wari' Indians had their first peaceful contact with whites: Protestant missionaries and officers from the national Indian Protection Service. On returning to their villages, the Wari' announced, "We touched their bodies!" Meanwhile the whites reported to their own people that "the region's most warlike tribe has entered the pacification phase!" Initially published in Brazil, *Strange Enemies* is an ethnographic narrative of the first encounters between these peoples with radically different worldviews.

During the 1940s and 1950s, white rubber tappers invading the Wari' lands raided the native villages, shooting and killing their victims as they slept. These massacres prompted the Wari' to initiate a period of intense retaliatory warfare. The national government and religious organizations subsequently intervened, seeking to "pacify" the Indians. Aparecida Vilaça was able to interview both Wari' and non-Wari' participants in these encounters, and here she shares their firsthand narratives of the dramatic events. Taking the Wari' perspective as its starting point, *Strange Enemies* combines a detailed examination of these cross-cultural encounters with analyses of classic ethnological themes such as kinship, shamanism, cannibalism, warfare, and mythology.

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça Bibliography

- Rank: #609391 in eBooks
- Published on: 2010-04-28
- Released on: 2010-04-28
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of E ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça

Editorial Review

Review

“Thanks to the excellent anthropological work of Aparecida Vilaça and colleagues studying Amazonia and Melanesia, it becomes increasingly apparent that the incorporation of otherness—in practices ranging from marriage and shamanism to warfare and cannibalism—is an essential condition of human being. It follows that the relationship between societies is an essential condition of their respective cultural orders as well as their historical development. Now Vilaça has produced a landmark ethnography of these processes, with an unparalleled documentation from the inside of the assimilation of the outside, highlighted by a stunning analysis of the cultural reciprocities of the colonial encounter.”—**Marshall Sahlins**, author of *The Western Illusion of Human Nature*

“This intimate portrait of a remarkable people who insist on encountering modernity on their own terms challenges us to think beyond outmoded notions about acculturation and loss of tradition. Deftly weaving the insights of Amazonian perspectivism with history, myth, and personal experience, Aparecida Vilaça shows how Wari’ choices to live with whites and adopt many of their ways are part of the logic of being indigenous. Empowerment derives from seeing the world through the eyes of others. *Strange Enemies* invites us to see the world through Wari’ eyes. The view is fascinating.”—**Beth A. Conklin**, author of *Consuming Grief: Compassionate Cannibalism in an Amazonian Society*

“*Strange Enemies* is the best ethnography ever written about a first contact history and thus probably the single most anthropologically satisfying publication of any kind for thinking about this subject.”
(Rupert Stasch *American Anthropologist*)

“Among the many works on first contact between Indians and non-Indians, *Strange Enemies* stands out for its illuminating focus on indigenous perspectives and its sophisticated analysis of how the Wari’ conceived of historical change.”
(Christine Mathias *Ethnohistory*)

“Thanks to the excellent anthropological work of Aparecida Vilaça and colleagues studying Amazonia and Melanesia, it becomes increasingly apparent that the incorporation of otherness—in practices ranging from marriage and shamanism to warfare and cannibalism—is an essential condition of human being. It follows that the relationship between societies is an essential condition of their respective cultural orders as well as their historical development. Now Vilaça has produced a landmark ethnography of these processes, with an unparalleled documentation from the inside of the assimilation of the outside, highlighted by a stunning analysis of the cultural reciprocities of the colonial encounter.”
(Marshall Sahlins, author of *The Western Illusion of Human Nature*)

“This intimate portrait of a remarkable people who insist on encountering modernity on their own terms challenges us to think beyond outmoded notions about acculturation and loss of tradition. Deftly weaving the insights of Amazonian perspectivism with history, myth, and personal experience, Aparecida Vilaça shows how Wari’ choices to live with whites and adopt many of their ways are part of the logic of being indigenous. Empowerment derives from seeing the world through the eyes of others. *Strange Enemies* invites

us to see the world through Wari' eyes. The view is fascinating.”

(Beth A. Conklin, author of *Consuming Grief: Compassionate Cannibalism in an Amazonian Society*)

“[B]road scope makes *Strange Enemies* a book that should be read even by anthropologists who have little familiarity with Amazonia. It is a compelling example of the vital work that has been emerging from Amazonian anthropologists for the past decade. Like the best of that work, it offers us glimpses into worldviews and practices that are nothing if not mesmerizingly ‘far out.’ And it uses those worldviews and practices to develop insights and conclusions that are unexpected and exhilarating.”

(Don Kulick *American Ethnologist*)

“Aparecida Vilaça’s book, first published in Portuguese in 2006, is an excellent contribution to the anthropology of Amazonia and Melanesia. . . . Vilaça’s book is recommended as important reading to anthropologists, students, and the general reader interested in understanding ‘the Other’ in our modern world.”

(*Colonial Latin American Historical Review*)

“The book is a well-written, highly readable, profound and original ethnographic and analytic contribution to Amazonian ethnology and ‘first encounter’ literature, such that any divergence in interpretation will also need an extended argument: it should be read by everyone interested in the subject.”

(Edwin Reesink *European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*)

This work has profound and far-reaching implications for anthropologists and historians who examine the frontiers of colonialism and globalization. . . . This is contemporary ethnography at its best, skillfully weaving together nuanced theoretical arguments, rich prose and storytelling, and insights that can only be gained by immersion in local settings. . . . Vilaça’s remarkable depiction of the coherence and resilience of native Amazonian peoples even in the face of catastrophic change is a must read for anyone interested in colonialism, globalization, and the place of indigenous peoples in the modern world.”

(Michael Heckenberger *American Historical Review*)

From the Back Cover

"This intimate portrait of a remarkable people who insist on encountering modernity on their own terms challenges us to think beyond outmoded notions about acculturation and loss of tradition. Deftly weaving the insights of Amazonian perspectivism with history, myth, and personal experience, Aparecida Vilaca shows how Wari' choices to live with whites and adopt many of their ways are part of the logic of being indigenous. Empowerment derives from seeing the world through the eyes of others. "Strange Enemies" invites us to see the world through Wari' eyes. The view is fascinating."--Beth A. Conklin, author of "Consuming Grief: Compassionate Cannibalism in an Amazonian Society"

About the Author

Aparecida Vilaça is Associate Professor of Social Anthropology in the Graduate Program in Social Anthropology of the Museu Nacional, Universidade Federal de Rio de Janeiro. She is a co-editor of *Native Christians: Modes and Effects of Christianity in the Americas*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Bessie Barrett:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a book your ability to survive raise then having chance to stand than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading the book, we give you this particular Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) book as starter and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Robin Castillo:

The reserve untitled Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) is the e-book that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the publication content that will be shown to a person. The language that publisher use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The copy writer was did a lot of research when write the book, therefore the information that they share to you personally is absolutely accurate. You also will get the e-book of Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) from the publisher to make you considerably more enjoy free time.

Chad Davis:

Do you have something that that suits you such as book? The guide lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, small story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not striving Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) that give your entertainment preference will be satisfied by reading this book. Reading habit all over the world can be said as the method for people to know world a great deal better then how they react to the world. It can't be explained constantly that reading addiction only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all of you who want to start studying as your good habit, it is possible to pick Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) become your current starter.

Minnie Weiner:

Reading a e-book make you to get more knowledge from this. You can take knowledge and information originating from a book. Book is published or printed or illustrated from each source that will filled update of news. On this modern era like right now, many ways to get information are available for you. From media social just like newspaper, magazines, science reserve, encyclopedia, reference book, new and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Are you hip to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just in search of the Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) when you necessary it?

Download and Read Online Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça #GDIO3UFNZC8

Read Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça for online ebook

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça books to read online.

Online Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça ebook PDF download

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça Doc

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça Mobipocket

Strange Enemies: Indigenous Agency and Scenes of Encounters in Amazonia (The Cultures and Practice of Violence) By Aparecida Vilaça EPub