

al correspondence Harrison illustrated the lives of Li Zibiao and George Thomas Staunton and their impact on discussions with the Qianlong Emperor. *The Perils of Interpreting* highlights the contributions of two very different men from unique cultural backgrounds and emphasizes the importance and effectiveness of interpreters. It is an excellent contribution to understanding colonial relationships between imperial states that would most benefit a college student audience. It serves of great use to expert historians and graduate students studying the early modern world, imperial Chinese history, and British colonial expansion. Microhistories such as this book help readers discover the many challenges and difficulties within translating and interpreting.

George Claude Macias

Kelly Lytle Hernández. *Bad Mexicans: Race, Empire & Revolution in the Borderlands*. New York, W.W. Norton and Company, 2022. Pp. 372. Paper \$19.95.

In *Bad Mexicans*, Kelly Lytle Hernandez, Professor of History at UCLA, focuses on the role of the Magonistas, a group of migrant rebels who built their social movement against Mexican President Porfirio Diaz, largely while they lived in the U.S. Led by Ricardo Flores Magón, they were the first to envision change for Mexico's lower classes, which is often overlooked by scholars. The Magonistas are intertwined with U.S. history as their movement inspired the Mexican Revolution of 1910 resulting in the displacement and migration of more than a million Mexicans to the United States altering race dynamics in the U.S. forever. The Magonistas's determination to create change despite being hunted by a Mexican dictator and fighting the newest U.S. governmental agency at the time, the Bureau of Investigation, which later became the FBI. *Bad Mexicans* argues that we cannot consider the U.S. as a global power without Mexico and Mexicans as their labor. It was the resource-rich land south of the U.S. border that propelled the American West as a global economic powerhouse. The book begins with Porfirio Diaz's rise to power that would later ignite the Magonista movement.

Lytle Hernández found references to the Magonista movement two decades earlier while researching her dissertation.

Divided into four chronological sections, *Bad Mexicans* draws on transnational, borderlands, social, political, racial, and policing histories. While her focus is to highlight the Magonistas she also covers the rise of the Porfiriato and the birth of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). The FBI's first task was to crush the nascent Mexican Revolution secretly, highlighting a U.S. agency connection to Mexican Revolutionaries and Mexico as a whole. By synthesizing these different events, the author allows the reader to understand the repression the Magonistas faced, the new policing created as a result, and how the Magonistas reoriented U.S. culture, politics, and society through the Mexican Revolution of 1910.

Lytle Hernandez draws on a vast array of primary sources such as the personal archive of Porfirio Diaz, the digital archives of Magon's letters and other writings, the *Archivo General de la Nacion* (AGN), the *Archivo Historico de la Secretaria de Relaciones en la Exterior* (AHSRE), and the archive of *La Case de El Hijo del Ahuizote*. Utilizing these archives, she analyzes interviews, images, Magon's writings, newspapers, letters, and government documents to illustrate the Magonistas' influence on the Mexican Revolution despite American governmental suppression. The Magonista's success highlights the group's importance in U.S. history as the Mexican Revolution of 1910 would have lasting implications for the racial makeup that shifted as a result of the Magonista movement.

Bad Mexicans contributes to a field of U.S. history lacking acknowledgment of the Magonistas as central to understanding U.S. and Mexican relations in the early twentieth century. Her writing is engaging and allows for a complicated story to become decipherable. This important study caters to a wide audience because of the author's storytelling abilities, as she discerns villains and heroes. *Bad Mexicans* reads more like a screenplay than academic scholarship, with a fluid flow and fast pacing. The book is intended for scholars and those who aim to understand the Mexican Revolution. A timeline to guide readers new to the Mexican Revolution would be useful addition to another edition of *Bad Mexicans*. Lytle Hernández's work often includes marginalized people, and *Bad Mexicans* wonderfully does this with the Magonista movement and its ever-lasting effects on American society and history.

Anthony Sales-Hernández