

# Winter of the Metal People

## Reviews for *Winter of the Metal People* and author Dennis Herrick

♦ “Herrick fully enters the minds of his historical Spanish and Puebloan characters, showing the cultural and religious differences between the two cultures that would inevitably lead to the first Indian war. There is a saying that history belongs to the victors, so while much of the Spanish story is based upon historical written documents, the author had to imagine the Puebloans’ story. But his research is well founded, and what results is a balanced novel that expresses the worldviews of both sides and relates it in an exciting and interesting manner. This novel is highly recommended for those interested in the history of the American Southwest and its native peoples.”

—John Kachuba  
*Historical Novels Review*

♦ “I do not ordinarily review fiction on these pages, but an exception is clearly in order with Dennis Herrick’s book. While this novel takes up the Pueblo side of things during Coronado’s *entrada* in 1540-42, it is important to note that Herrick has his facts in order. While this is fiction, I think it goes a long way toward understanding the conflict between early residents of New Mexico and the European newcomers. Well written, informative, and entertaining.”

—Don Bullis, Author, Western Historian, and Editor of the  
*New Mexico Historical Notebook*

♦ “A riveting historical novel of immense scholarship and insight. Dennis Herrick makes the story of the first American Indians in the West to face the military might of European forces as vivid and real as if Coronado’s expedition had ridden out of Mexico yesterday. *Winter of the Metal People* will forever influence your perception of the stunning landscapes and rich cultures of the Southwest.”

—Margaret Coel, author of *Killing Custer*

♦ “In *Winter of the Metal People* Dennis Herrick, journalist and award-winning writer of fiction, offers us a consummately humane novel of the first encounters between Pueblo peoples of the Southwest and a European, African, and Native American expedition led by Francisco Vázquez de Coronado in the early 1540s. Herrick skillfully brings the Native side of those encounters into vivid focus. We are brought to imagine the complexity and variety of Pueblo reactions as they struggle to come to grips with the foreign presence and how it violently impacts their lives and traditions.”

—Richard Flint, Historian, Author of *No Settlement, No Conquest: A History of the Coronado Entrada*

♦ “A vivid historical novel that brings to life the epic winter of 1540-41 as Spanish and Pueblo Indian worlds first collided. Herrick’s narrative—driven by extant annals of the Coronado expedition, recent archaeological research, and Pueblo accounts—is the closest we will ever get to standing on a hill above an ancient Pueblo community and witnessing the gritty reality of history. It is a masterful eye opener.”

—David E. Stuart, Professor of Anthropology, University of New Mexico  
Author of *Prehistoric New Mexico*, *Anasazi America*, and *The Ancient Southwest*

♦ “With *Winter of the Metal People* Dennis Herrick has peeled back the familiar to expose the fascinating. As he alternates viewpoints between Spanish conquistadors and the first Americans they found in thriving pueblos, Herrick provides essential reading for anyone who would understand the collision of cultures that defines so much of what we see all around us today.”

—Jim Belshaw, Author of *Trickster in the Front Yard* and *Closing the Chart*

♦ “This riveting story of what goes wrong when no one listens and/or understands, pits the Spanish conquistadors against Puebloan people who lived and farmed in relative peace....Herrick’s book is a fascinating story of miscommunication and fanaticism. His insight into two widely different cultures is outstanding.”

—Melody Groves, Author of *Kansas Bleeds* and *Border Ambush*