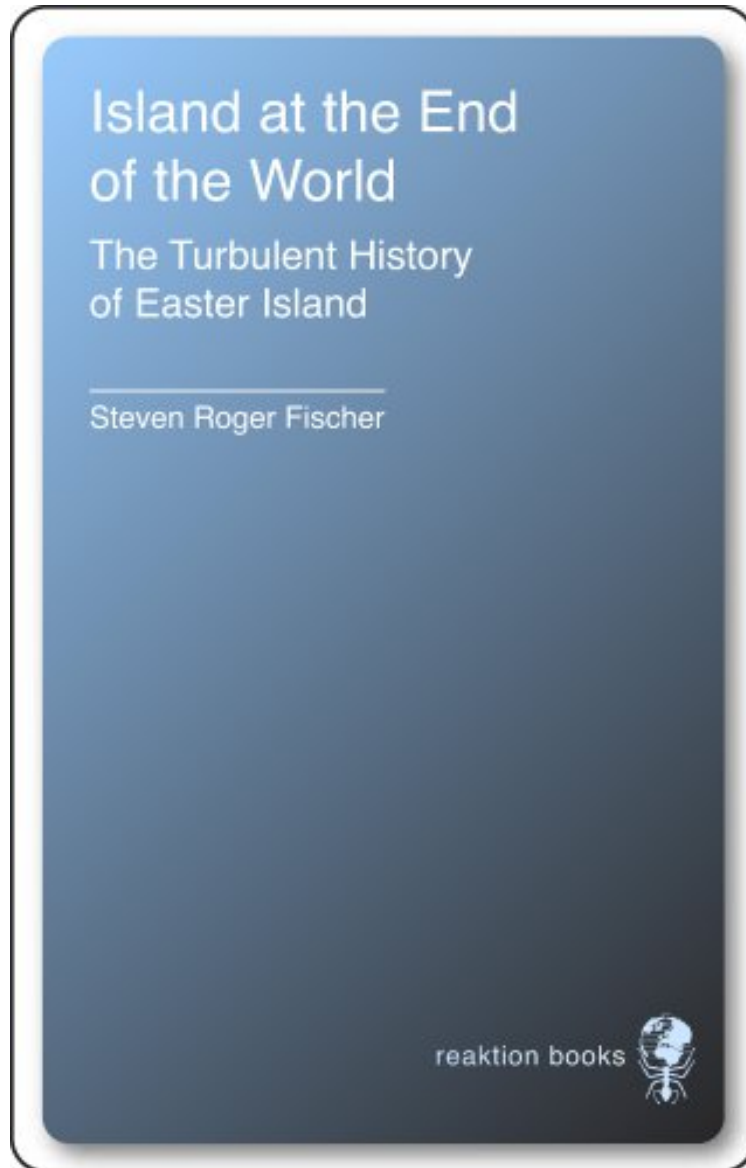


[Download pdf] Island at the End of the World: The Turbulent History of Easter Island

# Island at the End of the World: The Turbulent History of Easter Island

*Von Steven Roger Fischer*

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**Von Steven Roger Fischer : Island at the End of the World: The Turbulent History of Easter Island** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Island at the End of the World: The Turbulent History of Easter Island:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Must-

have book Von George Iosifidis A must-have book for those interested in the history of the Pacific Islands and, more particular, on Easter Island and its specifics.

Kurzbeschreibung Famed for its breathtaking isolation, Easter Island was a verdant South-Sea idyll when a small canoeful of Polynesians arrived in c. AD 700. Centuries later the islands statues were famous throughout the world. This book presents a comprehensive history of Easter Island told by a writer who is intimately familiar with the island, its people and their extraordinary story. When voyaging in the South Pacific became far less widespread around 1500, Easter Islanders became stranded on their desert-like isle, and were forced to adapt to survive. The first European visitors, in 1722, encountered a people thriving in total isolation, surrounded by huge architectural platforms of fitted stones topped by hundreds of monolithic busts. Subsequent intruders brought trade, disease, violence, and the Easter Islanders adapted to this change, too, through cultural re-invention: new leaders, new rituals, new gods. Steven Roger Fischer relates the compelling history of this unique region: how wars, smallpox and the Great Death decimated the island, how Catholic missionaries arrived in 1866 to relieve the suffering of the dying people, and how a despotic Frenchman claimed the island for himself, but who was then killed by the remaining islanders a population of only 111. The author also examines the modern history of the island, its colonization and annexation by Chile, and its peaceful but insistent civil rights movement in 1964-65. Today, the population has increased, as has tourism of the island from 2,000 visitors in 1991 to 20,000 in 2001 and continues to be managed by the indigenous Rapanui people. Foreign interest in Easter Island has never been so keen, and this book is a much-needed history of this little-known but remarkable island.

Pressestimmen "Many books about Easter Island are superficial fluff. . . . There is no such flummery in Steven Fischer's new book. As befits the head of the Institute of Polynesian Languages and Literatures in Auckland, New Zealand, he has produced a scholarly and readable account of the island's turbulent history. . . . Mr Fischer tells this long and complicated tale clearly, precisely and sympathetically. . . . A fascinating and highly readable history of one of the most exotic islands on earth." --The Economist

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