

America the Grateful: Where Thanksgiving Really Began

Thanksgiving is a time for family, friends, and food. But what are the true origins of this beloved American holiday? Most people believe that Thanksgiving began in 1621 with the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians. But the story is actually much more complex and fascinating.



America the Grateful: Where Thanksgiving really began

by William Edwin Baxter

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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The first Thanksgiving was not a single event, but rather a series of celebrations that took place over several years. The Pilgrims arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620, and their first winter was harsh. Many of them died from disease or starvation. The following spring, they were helped by a Native American named Squanto, who taught them how to plant corn and other crops.

In the fall of 1621, the Pilgrims harvested their first successful crop. To celebrate, they invited their Wampanoag neighbors to a three-day feast.

The menu included venison, turkey, fish, and vegetables. The Pilgrims also played games and sang songs. This was the first Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving was not officially declared a national holiday until 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln. He proclaimed the last Thursday in November as a day of "thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens." Thanksgiving has been celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November since 1941.

The story of Thanksgiving is a reminder of the importance of gratitude. The Pilgrims were grateful for the help of the Wampanoag Indians, and they celebrated their first harvest with a feast. We should all be grateful for the good things in our lives, and Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on those things.

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America the Grateful is a fascinating and well-written book that tells the true story of Thanksgiving. It is a must-read for anyone who wants to learn more about this important American holiday.



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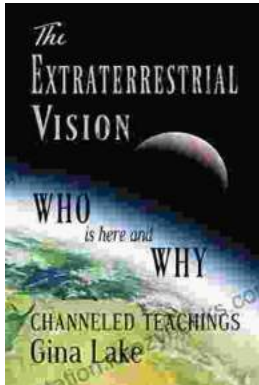
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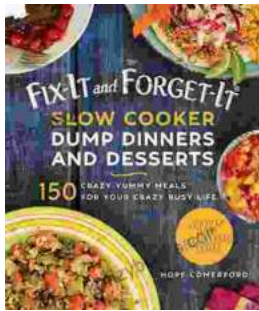
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