Who were the first Americans? What is their relationship to living native peoples in the Americas? What do their remains tell us of the current concepts of racial variation, and short-term evolutionary change and adaptation? The recent discoveries in the Americas of the 9000–12 000-year-old skeletons such as "Kennewick Man" in Washington State, "Luzia" in Brazil, and "Prince of Wales Island Man" in Alaska, have begun to challenge our understanding of who first entered the Americas at the end of the last ice age. New archaeological and geological research is beginning to change the hypothesis of land bridge crossings and the extinction of ancient animals. The First Americans explores these questions by using racial classifications and microevolutionary techniques to understand better who colonized the Americas and how. It will be required reading for all those interested in anthropology, and the history and archaeology of the earliest Americans.

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Dedication

To Gentry, who pointed out the path,
And to Leah, who has been at my side while I traveled along it.
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