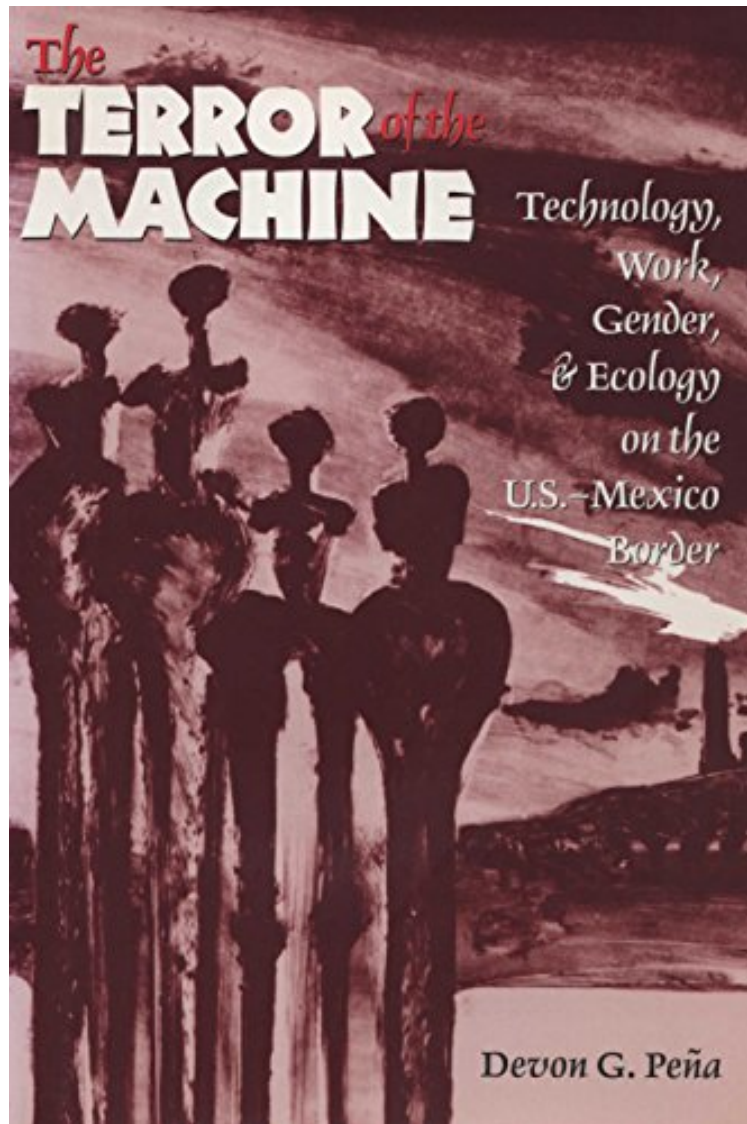


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The Terror of the Machine: Technology, Work, Gender, and Ecology on the U.S.-Mexico Border (Cmas Border Migration Studies)

Devon G. Pentilde;a

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Devon G. Pentilde;a : The Terror of the Machine: Technology, Work, Gender, and Ecology on the U.S.-Mexico Border (Cmas Border Migration Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Terror of the Machine: Technology, Work, Gender, and Ecology on the U.S.-Mexico Border

(Cmas Border Migration Studies):

Born of thirteen years of field research, this interdisciplinary work explores the complex intersections of technology, class, gender, and ecology in the transnational milieu of Mexico's maquiladoras, foreign-owned assembly plants located along the U.S. border. Devon Pentilde;a examines workplace and community struggles from the perspective of the women who work in the maquiladoras. He describes the workers' struggles for workplace democracy, social justice, and sustainable development. He also observes the circulation of struggle from the factory to the community, highlighting the efforts to establish worker-owned cooperatives in the border region during the 1970s and 1980s. Female maquila workers are typically portrayed as passive, apolitical, and easily exploited. This book, however, presents an opposing view, investigating the "subaltern life of the shop floor"—the workers' informal methods of resistance to hazardous conditions, sexual harassment, and managerial tyranny. Using survey research, oral history, discourse analysis, and site ethnography, the author develops a cogent critique of labor-process theory, a critique grounded on his extensive study of actual workplace politics in the maquiladoras. *The Terror of the Machine* is a trenchant analysis of the political, cultural, and environmental effects of maquila industrialization and an eloquent and persuasive call for alternatives in the direction of ecologically sustainable and culturally appropriate modes of development.

"Pentilde;a's book, the result of more than ten years of field research, delineates the political, cultural, and environmental effects of Mexico's borderside maquiladoras.... Through his critique of these foreign-owned assembly plants, Pentilde;a argues persuasively for the implementation of new methods of economic growth that may be both ecologically sustainable and culturally appropriate, and therefore beneficial to communities on both sides of the border." (Hispanic) About the Author Devon G. Pentilde;a is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Washington.