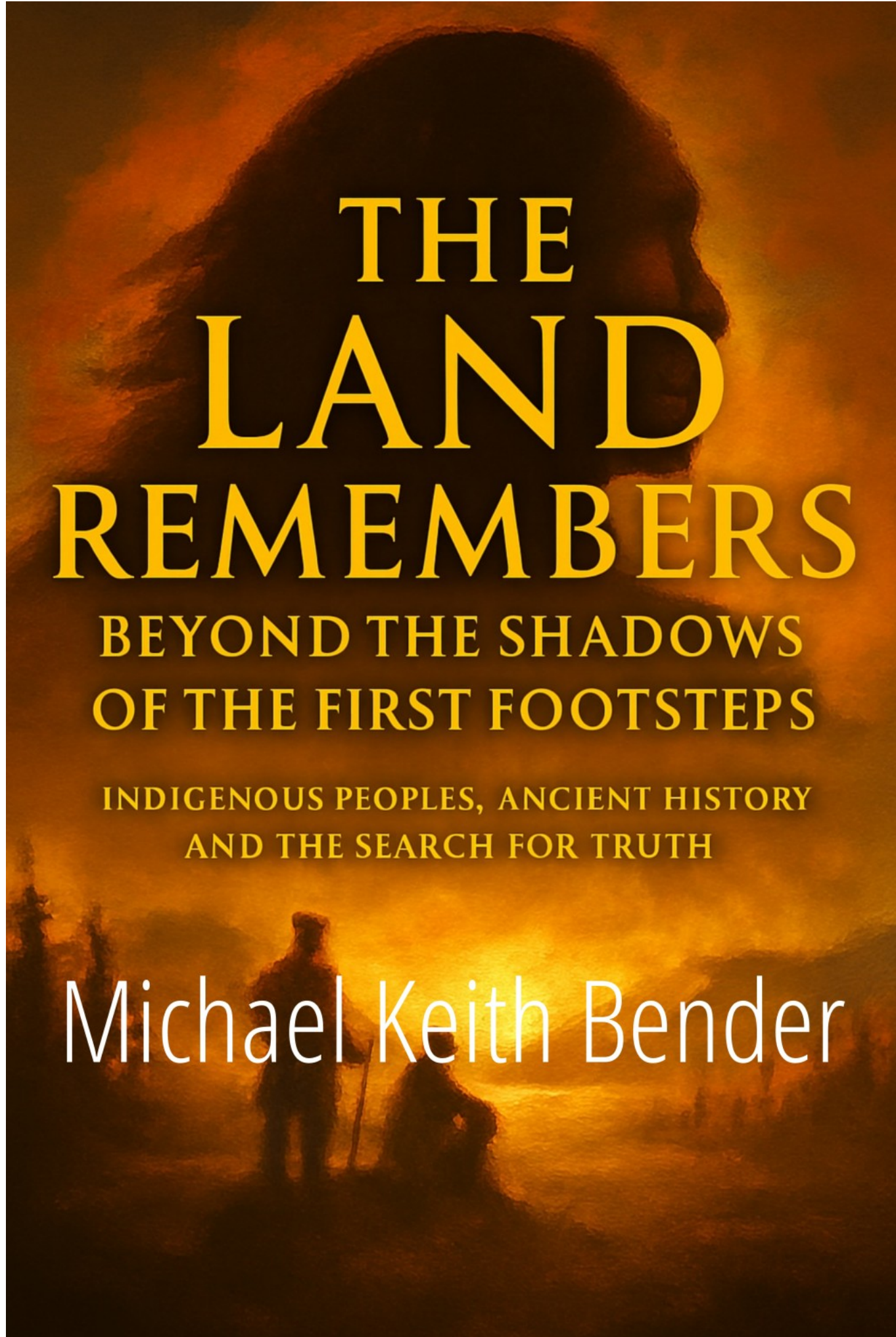


New Book Unveils Hidden Histories and Living Legacies of America's First Peoples

"The Land Remembers: Beyond the Shadows of the First Footsteps" offers a transformative look at Indigenous histories, land, and sovereignty



THE LAND REMEMBERS

BEYOND THE SHADOWS
OF THE FIRST FOOTSTEPS

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, ANCIENT HISTORY
AND THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH

Michael Keith Bender

Albany, New York Dec 23, 2025 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Author and international negotiator Michael K. Bender announces the release of his groundbreaking new book, *The Land Remembers: Beyond the Shadows of the First Footsteps*, a sweeping and accessible exploration of Indigenous presence, resilience, and enduring wisdom across the Americas.

Far more than a traditional history, *The Land Remembers* challenges how history itself is told—inviting readers to listen to the many voices that have often been silenced or erased. Bender braids together archaeological discoveries, legal battles, oral traditions, and science—balanced by humility, respect, and a profound belief in the power of story to heal, complicate, and create change.

“History is not just what happened, but who gets to remember. Every artifact, every law, every ceremony, every story is a thread. Only by weaving them together can we begin to see the real tapestry of this land,” Bender says.

Through chapters ranging from the science of ancient footprints and genetics to the fight for legal recognition and cultural revitalization, *The Land Remembers* centers Indigenous voices as the original and ongoing caretakers of this land. It confronts hard truths about dispossession and erasure, while uplifting the creative, legal, and spiritual resurgence visible today.

Key themes include:

- The myth of the “empty wilderness” and the power of oral tradition
- How law, science, and ceremony come together for truth and healing
- The Doctrine of Discovery and the lasting impact of colonialism
- Language, art, ceremony, and environmental knowledge as living forms of resistance
- Concrete pathways for reconciliation, justice, and honoring Indigenous sovereignty

Written for students, educators, policymakers, and curious readers alike, the book encourages new ways of listening, learning, and acting—a resource for building relationships rooted in truth and hope.

Michael K. Bender brings decades of cross-cultural experience as a negotiator, educator, and U.S. Foreign Service Officer. His work continues a commitment to amplifying overlooked stories with respect and humility.

The Land Remembers is available in print and ebook formats from major retailers and independent bookstores everywhere. <https://www.mkbender.com>

For interviews, review copies, speaking engagements, or partnerships, please contact Michael K. Bender at mkbauthor@outlook.com

About the Author:

Michael K. Bender is the author of the acclaimed “Shadows” book series, a former international negotiator and educator, and a lifelong student of cross-cultural history. He lives and writes with deep respect for the diversity of voices that shape our collective past.

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