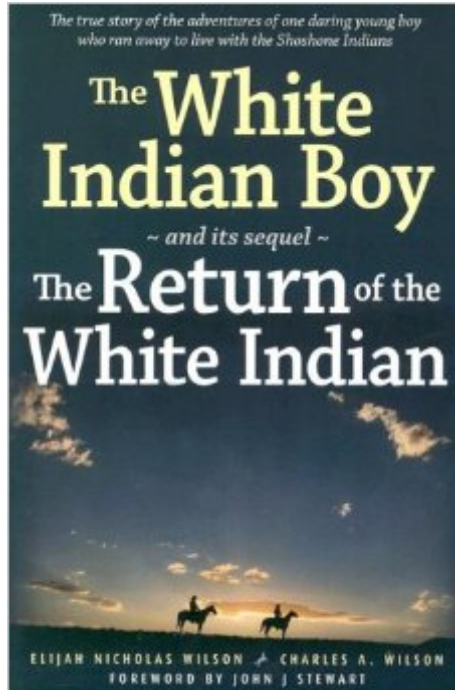


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# The White Indian Boy: And Its Sequel The Return Of The White Indian Boy



## Synopsis

First published in 1910, *The White Indian Boy* quickly became a western classic. Readers fascinated by real-life 'cowboys and Indians' thrilled to Nick Wilson's frontier exploits, as he recounted running away to live with the Shoshone in his early teens, riding for the Pony Express, and helping settle Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The volume was so popular that Wilson's son Charles was compelled to write a second book, *The Return of the White Indian*, which picks up in 1895 where the first memoir ends, telling the adventures of Nick Wilson's later life. These books, published here as a single volume, are testaments to a unique time and place in American history. Because he had a heart for adventure and unusual proficiency with Native American languages, Wilson's life became an historical canvas on which was painted both the exploration and the closing of a frontier, as he went from childhood among the Shoshone to work as an interpreter for the U.S. government on Indian reservations in Wyoming and Idaho in his later years. This volume includes new introductory material, a family tree, and a background of Indian-white relations in Jackson Hole. Packed with amazing details about life in the Old West, Wilson's colorful escapades are once again available to a new generation of readers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you are interested in America's early frontier west - the days of cowboys, pioneers, explorers and Indians - you will be fascinated with two western classics, *The White Indian Boy* and its sequel *The Return of the White Indian*. *The White Indian Boy*, first published in 1910, is the story of Nick Wilson, a young Mormon pioneer boy who became the adopted son of Washakie, famous chief of the

Shoshone Indians who inhabited areas of western Montana, eastern Idaho, western Wyoming and northern Utah. Nick later became a Pony Express Rider, a driver for the famous Overland Stage, a guide for General Albert Sidney Johnston, and co-founder of Wilson, Wyoming in Jackson Hole. Years later Nick's son Charles A. Wilson wrote a sequel to his father's famous book, telling of his father's later years and of his own adventures in early Jackson Hole. His book, *The Return of the White Indian*, is equally as interesting as his father's, telling of Jackson Hole's earliest days, of cowboys and Indians, of big game hunting, lake and stream fishing, world famous celebrities, development of Grand Teton National Park. These two books, published by the University of Utah Press as a single volume, vividly bring to life a unique time and place in American history. There is considerable humor mingled with historical fact, and enriched with early day photos. A delightful Foreword has been written by John J Stewart, author of several books and chief founder of the National Association and Center for Outlaw & Lawman History.

We read this book with our children and loved it. It was suggested by a wonderful elderly neighbor who read it when he was young and loved it all his life. Definitely worth reading. We have ancestors from Wyoming so it was fun to read about the places Wilson settled. Might be worth taking a trip to the places to really get an idea of the setting for the book. We've bought some to give away, it's that good.

I read the book and then recommended it to a book club I was organizing. We used it as our first book and everyone enjoyed it. I found the stories spellbinding and the history was very interesting. Nick Wilson led a fascinating life and I would recommend this book to anyone interested in history from the old West.

I felt like I was reading a diary of actual events. The historical insight was enlightening. History is hard to write about from the frame of mind of the people that lived it unless it is written by someone that did just that. "The White Indian Boy" transports us to the time of the settling of Wyoming through the eyes of the author.

The first part of this book was written by my great, great Uncle who actually lived with the Shoshone Indians and details his life with them. The second part of this book was written by his son who fills in from his memories of what it was like to hear the stories that Nick told while he was growing up.

I was very interested in reading this book. My father is in some way related to him. I'm not sure where in the tree we are related but it appears he was one of my great great grandfathers family. I found it very interesting to read about the way he was raised by Washakes family after he went to live with the Indians. I lived in Lander near the reservation and that is when my father told me about the white Indian boy. I enjoyed the book very much.

Very interesting and a way cool story about the kidnapping of white people by the Indian tribes. Just how many did they kidnap and have return to their families later in life. Great book about the challenges they faced and how they coped after returning.

It only took me a week to get through this engrossing book. Record time for me as I can't seem to find a lot of time to read. My wife thought I was losing my mind on a couple of occasions because of the laughter. What an amazing life these two books reveal. I can't wait to get it back from son in law so I can reread it. Highly recommended.

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