



Brian's Return

By Gary Paulsen

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As millions of readers of Hatchet, The River, and Brian's Winter know, Brian Robeson survived alone in the wilderness by finding solutions to extraordinary challenges. But now that's he's back in civilization, he can't find a way to make sense of high school life. He feels disconnected, more isolated than he did alone in the North. The only answer is to return-to "go back in"-for only in the wilderness can Brian discover his true path in life, and where he belongs.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

A deer in his canoe, a bear attack, a leg stabbed with an arrowhead--it's just another week in the life of 16-year-old Brian Robeson. In his opinion, this beats a date at Mackey's Pizza Den, a fight with a bully, and a video game at the mall any day. After having survived a plane crash and 54 days in the Canadian wilderness several years earlier, Brian can't seem to fit into "civilization." The world of high school and family life makes no sense anymore. So Brian begins to plan. It's time to return to the woods. This time, though, he makes no plans to come back home.

Gary Paulsen, the popular author of many critically acclaimed books for young people and winner of the 1997 Margaret A. Edward Award, has written another sequel to the Newbery Honor Book *Hatchet*. (*The River* and *Brian's Winter* were earlier sequels.) Paulsen's graphic and detailed descriptions of Brian's adventures demonstrate a deep familiarity and connection to the wilderness; and in fact the author has spent much of his life in the bush, living almost entirely off the land. Brian's experiences in nature parallel his growing independence and maturity; readers who don't feel like they "fit in" will easily relate to the young protagonist's search for identity and purity. (Ages 11 and older) --*Emilie Coulter*

From Publishers Weekly

The appearance of yet another sequel to *Hatchet* may raise a few eyebrows, but Paulsen delivers a vigorous, stirring story that stands on its own merits. Whereas the previous continuations, *The River* and *Brian's Winter*, essentially offer more of the same survivalist thrills that have made *Hatchet* so popular, this novel goes further, posing a more profound question: How does someone go from living on the edge to polite membership in ordinary society? (Paulsen addresses the same theme, albeit more grimly, in his Civil War novel *Soldier's Heart*.) Here, Brian has returned to his mother's house and can barely reconcile the seemingly arbitrary demands of high school with the life-or-death challenges he surmounted during his months alone in the wilderness. With the aid of a counselor, Brian formulates what had been an almost instinctual, unacknowledged plan to revisit the bush, and this solo trip, not his interlude with his mother, marks the true "return" of the title. The few cliff-hangers are almost beside the point: the great adventure here is the embrace of the wild, the knowledge of life at its most elemental. Aside from its occasional use of YA conventions (e.g., the preternaturally sensitive counselor; jejune rhapsodies over the relevance of Shakespeare), this work is bold, confident and persuasive, its transcendental themes powerfully seductive. Ages 12-up.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 6-9-Alone in the wilderness, Brian faced the elements and lived on the edge of death. Now that he's back in civilization, he can't make sense of ordinary life. By Gary Paulsen.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tameika Ahmed:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a book. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you

can add your knowledge by the book entitled Brian's Return. Try to make book Brian's Return as your close friend. It means that it can for being your friend when you feel alone and beside those of course make you smarter than in the past. Yeah, it is very fortunated to suit your needs. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know almost everything by the book. So , let us make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

Travis McDonald:

The book Brian's Return make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You need to use to make your capable more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting tension or having big problem with your subject. If you can make reading a book Brian's Return to be your habit, you can get more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You can know everything if you like wide open and read a publication Brian's Return. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other folks. So , how do you think about this publication?

Linda Hill:

Nowadays reading books become more and more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. The huge benefits you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want really feel happy read one having theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. The actual Brian's Return is kind of reserve which is giving the reader capricious experience.

Jennifer Powell:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Brian's Return, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

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