



The River

By Gary Paulsen

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The River By Gary Paulsen

"We want you to do it again."

These words, spoken to Brian Robeson, will change his life. Two years earlier, Brian was stranded alone in the wilderness for 54 days with nothing but a small hatchet. Yet he survived.

Now the government wants him to go back into the wilderness so that astronauts and the military can learn the survival techniques that kept Brian alive. Soon the project backfires, though, leaving Brian with a wounded partner and a long river to navigate. His only hope is to build a raft and try to transport the injured man a hundred miles downstream to a trading post--if the map he has is accurate.

"From the Paperback edition."

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The River By Gary Paulsen Bibliography

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- Binding: Library Binding
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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Nearly two years after being marooned in the wilderness--the experience recounted in *Hatchet*--Brian agrees to go back, accompanied by Derek, a psychologist who wants to study the strategies and especially the mental toughness that brought Brian through. At first he chafes at the relative comforts, the lack of true challenge, this second time around. All that changes when Derek is struck by lightning and falls into a coma--Brian must raft Derek to the nearest outpost, 100 miles downriver. In attempting this sequel Paulsen has set himself a difficult task, which he meets superbly. The new adventure is as riveting as its predecessor and yet, because of significant differences in the nature of its dramatic tension, is not merely a clone. The experiences of *Hatchet*, distilled by time, inform Brian's character throughout, so that the psychological terrain of the sequel is fresh and distinct. The older Brian is more reflective and accepting, and these qualities add new dimensions to his interactions with nature. And returning to the north effects a subtle but startling change: instantly, almost unconsciously, Brian finds himself absorbing every detail of the scene around him--taking the scent of the wind, reading the shape of each cloud--and in the process turning inward, finding words superfluous in the face of the wild. There is no dearth of action and physical suspense here, rendered in terse, heart-stopping prose. Paulsen, as always, pulls no punches: a scene in which Brian fantasizes about cutting Derek loose from the raft is as powerful as they come. Ages 12-up.

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From Kirkus Reviews

A sequel to the most popular of Paulsen's three Newbery Honor books (*Hatchet*, 1987), based on an unlikely premise-- government researchers want Brian to reenact his northwoods survival so that his strategies can be observed and taught to others. Derek, a young psychologist, and Brian are dropped off at another Canadian lake, near the first one, equipped only with knives and a radio that Derek has promised not to use except in a dire emergency. Everything goes all too smoothly until their camp is struck by lightning, zapping the radio and leaving Derek in a coma. Brian manages to float Derek 100 miles down a river to a trading post, thus saving his life. The lyrically described details of Brian's adventure-- building a fire, making a raft--are of most interest here; for all its graphically evoked perils (rapids, the craft's unwieldiness, exhaustion), the journey's successful outcome seems less in doubt than did the outcome of the compelling autobiographical wilderness experiences described in *Woodson* (1990). In *Hatchet*, Brian discovered his own strength, adding depth, complexity, and tension to the story; here, that strength is a given--as he himself points out. Perfunctory in design but vividly written, a book that will, as intended, please the readers who hoped that Paulsen, like Brian, would "do it again." (Fiction. 11-14) -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

From the Publisher

"We want you to do it again."

These words, spoken to Brian Robeson, will change his life. Two years earlier, Brian was stranded alone in the wilderness for fifty-four days with nothing but a small hatchet. Yet he survived. Now the government wants him to do it again -- to go back into the wilderness so that astronauts and the military can learn the survival techniques that kept Brian alive.

This time he won't be alone: Derek Holtzer, a government psychologist, will accompany him to observe and

take notes. But during a freak storm, Derek is hit by lightning and falls into a coma. Their radio transmitter is dead. Brian is afraid that Derek will die of dehydration unless he can get him to a doctor. His only hope is to build a raft and try to transport Derek a hundred miles down the river to a trading post -- if the map he has is accurate.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lily Pawlak:

What do you concentrate on book? It is just for students as they are still students or this for all people in the world, the particular best subject for that? Just you can be answered for that issue above. Every person has various personality and hobby per other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great and important the book The River. All type of book are you able to see on many resources. You can look for the internet sources or other social media.

Erin Weiss:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the time or they will get lot of stress from both day to day life and work. So , if we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not just a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer can unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, often the book you have read is actually The River.

Octavio Martin:

The book untitled The River contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains her idea with easy way. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not really worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was written by famous author. The author will take you in the new time of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice examine.

Sharonda Adair:

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