



Wild Man Island

Will Hobbs

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Andy is in a

world of trouble. On the last day of a sea kayaking trip in southeast Alaska, fourteen-year-old Andy Galloway paddles away from his group to visit the nearby site where his archaeologist father died trying to solve the mystery of the first Americans. A sudden, violent storm blows Andy's kayak off course and washes him ashore on Admiralty Island, an immense wilderness known as the Fortress of the Bears. Struggling to survive, Andy encounters a dog running with wolves and then a man toting a stone-tipped spear. The wild man vanishes into the forest, but the dog reappears and leads Andy to a cave filled with Stone Age tools and weapons. Running for his life, Andy retreats deep into the cave, where danger, suspense, and discovery await.

Wild Man Island Details

Date : Published April 1st 2003 by HarperCollins (first published 2002)

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Author : Will Hobbs

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From Reader Review Wild Man Island for online ebook

Tom says

Great adventure story; one of my favorites by Will Hobbs. There is tension, adventure, drama. A great read for preteens, teens and adult who want a well-written thriller that is G-rated.

Shanna says

Fourteen-year-old Andy is on a guided kayaking trip when he decides to sneak off on his own to pay tribute to his deceased father. Not surprisingly, things do not go well and Andy is left struggling to survive alone in the Alaskan wilderness. This is a pretty good story which moves along quickly. While there are implausible moments, they aren't so eye-rolling as to impede enjoyment of the story.

Scott says

My son was reading this for school and I've always been a sucker for survival stories so I grabbed this after he was done. It was much more than I expected, which was good and bad.

The survival aspect failed entirely (which bummed me out because that was why I was reading the book) but that was by design as Hobbs morphed the story into one of hope and discovery.

I'd say this was your standard middle grades book that most any kid would enjoy. It doesn't translate over to adults as well but I enjoyed it enough (although I did find myself skimming a page here and there).

Ben E says

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Wild Man Island is a realistic fiction novel written by Will Hobbs that tells the story of Andy Galloway, age fourteen, who becomes lost on Admiralty Island. Andy sets off on a sea kayaking trip in southeastern Alaska, in search of his father's final resting place. His father was an archeologist, investigating human beginnings in the Americas. Perched on a cliff overlooking a waterfall, he slipped and tumbled down the side. One night, Andy breaks away from the group on Baranof Island to place a memorial at the spot where his father last stood. As he paddles back to the group though, he is hit by a powerful gale and loses his way. The storm pushes him all the way around the tip of Admiralty, one of the three main islands, also named the Fortress of Bears.

Here, Andy must remember the survival skills that he learned with the trip leader and actually apply them, all with the threat of aggressive bears looming over him. Andy is struggling to obtain food and begins to weakly stagger inland, despite the warning that it is best to remain in one place when lost. He stumbles upon a small cannery where he expects to find people, but his hopes are soon crushed when Andy realizes that it was abandoned long ago. As he exits the manager's quarters, he spots a bearded man wearing supposedly deer hide clothes, walking on bark sandals, and clutching several thick books. Before Andy can get a better look at this strange man, he disappears. Andy then believes he is going insane, until he discovers an arrowhead

spear and a small knife carved from stone, proof that the wild man had been there. These tools lead Andy to catch game to feed himself, create shelter, and to build footwear that mimic the wild man's sandals. A mysterious black dog appears to him, and when Andy follows the Newfoundland, he is lead to an abundant salmon run. As the dog moves on, Andy puts his trust in it and embarks on a journey across high mountains, relying entirely on the dog to find his way. When he is led to the wild man's cave, though, Andy discovers a clue to the secret his father died chasing. Andy struggles to find a way off of the island with the mystery of the wild man's connection to his father's research obsessing his thoughts.

Wild Man Island is a fascinating novel about survival that illustrates the wonders and challenges of Alaska very clearly. Although this is a fiction book, it is filled with factual information that I did not know, such as the stories of the Clovis people crossing the land bridge to North America. This book is fast-paced and it never bored me. There was a portion of the book where not everything quite made sense, but all of this material was resolved in the end. However, the author puts this information in a format that makes it seem like a mystery novel, which was quite interesting. I thought this book was a very fun, quick read for about ten to twenty year old audiences.

Everett says

Another fine tale (in the adolescent literature genre) from Will Hobbs. The setting is Admiralty Island off the coast of Alaska. Although an unfortunate title for the book, there is plenty of substance. A young man, wrestling with the lost of his father some years ago, explores the past and present on his journey. The book has the right mix of current archeology and believable adventure to captivate the reader. This is a good classroom read or a fun independent adult quick-read if you enjoy the genre. Do not overlook the Author's Notes for some excellent website and research references (my students explored these on their own. (I rate books as per genre.)

Jennifer Walls says

I loved the book alot especially with the boy reuniting with his mom at the end and keeping the dog

Robert says

Mmmmmhmmmm....

Aly says

Andy just wants to feel close to his dad, and have a great adventure when something goes wrong and he has to put all of his survival skills into play. This book was very good to me. It was full of adventure and mystery, and it kept you on your toes. The way the author described things made me picture them in my head and t was like a mini movie. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves adventure books. I would also recommend this to any younger kids because I think it would be a great read for them.

Josue Rojas says

Personal Response

I have to say I really enjoyed this book. In the beginning of the book, I had found the book boring. The more I read the book, the more I wanted to read it. As the story progressed, Andy had to learn how to survive on the island. Andy went on many struggles to survive.

Plot

In the beginning of the book, Andy was on a trip to Alaska. Andy and his group were there because they were searching for whales. Andy went on the trip, but was there for another reason. Andy separates from the group and he ended up on an island. At the island, Andy had to go through many struggles, but he did everything to his power to survive.

Characterization

Andy throughout the book got better at survival. At the beginning, he doesn't know what to do at all. He is focused on finding a way to get home. He struggled at getting food and shelter since he wanted to get home. Later on, he understood that he needs to live in order to get home. Andy found food and he also found a shelter. Throughout the book there was a wild man who, appeared. In the beginning, the wild man had no trust for Andy. As the book went on, the trust increased.

Setting

The book was in Alaska and off an island. Andy is on a trip which was mostly on a canoe in the Ocean. Andy was also on this island which he got there by wiping out in the ocean. On that island, it seemed like there was civilization at one point because there was an old build there. It was said by the wild man, that on the other side was a small village.

Recommendation

I would recommend this book basically to middle school and higher. The book is more set to people that are into adventure. The book seems to be set in our timeline since they give hints off having phone available. At the beginning, it started out boring then like a couple chapter later it gets more interesting. As a person who doesn't find reading interesting, I actually enjoyed reading this book. Both males and female would enjoy this book even if the main character was a male. I gave this book four stars.

Garrett says

The book Wild Man Island by Will Hobbs is a great book for those who love a good survival tale. The book is filled with pages of suspenseful moments. In the beginning we start off our main character, Andy, who is separated from his fellow kayakers by a sudden gale and washes up on ashore, freezing, soaking, and with no supplies except a credit card.

I liked how in the book the tension was kept going and there was only a few dull moments. After Andy is temporarily paralyzed after desperately eating raw shellfish, he is greeted by a friendly dog. The dog takes

him to meet with David, a huge, shy recluse who faked his own death about ten years ago to live off the land. After distrusting David's intentions at first, Andy runs into a cave system he finds a burial site. Andy faces challenges with admirable courage, and his descriptions of the wildlife, nature, and the spectacular cave formations he discovers hold a ring of authenticity that makes his adventures and hardships as any of Hobbs' novels. I liked the ending of how David willingly sacrifices his solitude to help Andy back to civilization and acquires a new role as caretaker of the archaeological site. This helps him return to the island without losing his touch to the outside world. This is definitely a satisfying but rugged ending to this survival tale.

Noah Prideaux says

In the book Wild Man Island by Will Hobbs, Andy is on a kayak trip in Alaska searching for whales. On the last day of his trip he went to visit the island where his dad died. While on that island Andy realized that he misses his dad a lot. While on that island a massive storm came and blew him on a island called the fortress of the bears. When he is there he saw dogs and shortly after that he saw a weird man. Shortly after he sees him he vanishes into the forest. Leaving just him and the dogs. The dogs lead him to a cave where he finds stone age weapons. When he leaves the cave he meets a ferocious bear that leads him right back into the cave. With no where to go the wild man appears and saves him. Next the kayak group that Andy was with finally finds him and they take him and the wild man back. While they were kayaking back Andy found out that the wild man was a scientist who faked his death so the University would pay closer attention to his theory. After that they kayaked back to Alaska. My favorite quote of the story happened on page 192, "This island will always be known to me as wild man's island." I chose this quote because it shows the wild man had a big part in Andy's trip.

Hunter says

this book started off pretty slow but once you get to chapter 6 then the book really picks up and gets pretty interesting and you just want to keep reading and reading. I recommend the book if you are wanting a good book to read and get it read in a very short time because i only read for 20 every 2 days and im already in chapter 7. I hope you get this book and read it for your self

Colby Billings says

Wild Man Island Review

I liked wild Man island because it kept me interested in the plot and the characters through the whole book. It's a young adult book focusing on a Andy who is on a sea kayaking trip in southeast Alaska when he paddles away to go to a site where his archaeologist father had died when a violent storm blows in knocking him miles off course and leaving him stranded on a island with a mysterious wild man. I liked the main character Andy Galloway because he was motivated through the whole story for example he was motivated to go see where his father had slipped and fell to his death he wanted to see this spot because he wanted to know where, and what it looked like. And after the storm hit and he got stranded on the island with the wild man he was motivated to find out who he was and why he was there. He also was motivated to get off the island and back to his mom and grandparents because he couldn't imagine his mom losing him in the same area that they lost his dad. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes survival stories or even just the outdoors.

Chris Pitone says

The book Wild Man Island is a book about a 14-year-old boy named Andy Galloway that paddles away from his group to visit a site where his dad died and to solve the mystery of the first Americans, but on his journey, a storm hits the area and he struggles to survive. In my opinion, this is an interesting book. It is action packed, with a lot of ups and downs, and it also keeps you entertained throughout. You can feel the danger and suspense throughout the book, this really helped me to stay engaged. I would recommend this book to people who like mysteries, and adventure style books. They would really enjoy this book because it fulfilled with both of those genres.

Rayda says

This was a great read by Will Hobbs. Set in southeast Alaska at the ABC islands (Admiralty, Baranof, and Chichagof, due south of Juneau), 14 year old Andy is off on a sea-kayaking trip when he gets caught in a storm and marooned on Baranof. The pacing of the story was terrific and it kept my interest, to see how he fared in this strange, cold wilderness. The author's piece at the end explains what is fact and what is fiction, and is a welcome addition to the story. I highly recommend it for all young boy readers, and many girls will enjoy the adventure as well.
