



Brian's Hunt (A Hatchet Adventure)

By Gary Paulsen

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Millions of readers of *Hatchet*, *The River*, *Brian's Winter*, and *Brian's Return* know that Brian Robeson is at home in the Canadian wilderness. He has stood up to the challenge of surviving alone in the woods. He prefers being on his own in the natural world to civilization.

When Brian finds a dog one night, a dog that is wounded and whimpering, he senses danger. The dog is badly hurt, and as Brian cares for it, he worries about his Cree friends who live north of his camp. His instincts tell him to head north, quickly. With his new companion at his side, and with a terrible, growing sense of unease, he sets out to learn what happened. He sets out on the hunt.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The multitudes of Gary Paulsen fans (or more accurately, *Brian* fans) will be thrilled to find that the author has penned yet another story about Brian Robeson. Although Paulsen once claimed that he would "write no more about Brian," he seems to have been softened by the "staggering amounts of mail from readers" begging for more about the teen who is more at home alone in the wilderness than in the hustle and bustle of city life. In *Brian's Hunt*, the 16-year-old returns to the remote woods and lakes of Canada, where he encounters a mysteriously injured dog. His experiences two years earlier, after surviving a plane crash and months alone with only a hatchet to protect and provide for himself (*Hatchet*, *Brian's Winter*, etc.), have prepared him well to survive now. But can anything prime him for the horror that awaits him on an island campsite where he intends to meet his Cree friends?

This short episode is rife with the kind of gritty--even gruesome--details readers have come to expect from the Newbery Honor author. In an afterword, Paulsen reminds readers that he bases his stories on personal experiences and his extensive knowledge of the wild side of nature.

Confidential to avid fans: an intimation of romance amid all the rugged drama hints that *this* will not be the last *Brian* book, either. (Ages 10 to 13) --*Emilie Coulter*

From School Library Journal

Grade 6-9-In an author's note, Paulsen explains why he decided to reopen the story first begun in *Hatchet* (Bradbury, 1987). In this short installment, Brian, now 16, is back in the wilderness and encounters a savagely wounded dog. He makes his way to the lake island home of the Cree man he met in *Brian's Return* (Delacorte, 1999), where he discovers the tragedy that led to the dog's liberation. David and his wife have been partially eaten by a bear, which necessitates the hunt mentioned in the title and described in the final chapter. Throughout, the protagonist frequently remembers events from his original stranding, alludes to the problems he had faced trying to return to "civilization," and ultimately explains the special arrangement by which he has returned to the "bush" instead of high school. Although the story does stand alone, these many references will make the audience want to read (or reread) the earlier books. This story is not as well developed as the other episodes but it is a must-read for the hordes of existing *Hatchet* fans out there, and it may also serve to draw some new readers into the fold. An afterword discusses bear behavior and Paulsen's experiences with these animals.

Sean George, Memphis-Shelby County Public Library & Information Center, Memphis, TN

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6-10. Brian's back. And why not? After all, the hero of *Hatchet*, *The River*, *Brian's Winter*, and *Brian's Return* has by now become such a veteran survivor that even Paulsen's declaration (in *Brian's Return*) that he was done with his durable hero wasn't enough to keep the kid from an encore appearance. Brian, now 16, seems older than his years, a mighty hunter worthy of Hemingway. He turns his back on the so-called "civilized" world of his parents and retreats to the Canadian wilderness, at one with nature again. This time he rescues an injured dog and nurses it back to health. Lucky pooch. Less fortunate, Brian soon learns, are the Cree friends he met in earlier adventures. Their fate is the catalyst for the hunt of Brian's life. Less a novel than a very long short story, Paulsen's latest will satisfy his many fans, though it may be too slow to start and too obviously structured to win new friends for Brian. *Michael Cart*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

France Brown:

What do you about book? It is not important to you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what you problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy person? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is give you a sense of feeling bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? All people has many questions above. The doctor has to answer that question because just their can do this. It said that about publication. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is proper. Because start from on pre-school until university need this Brian's Hunt (A Hatchet Adventure) to read.

Stephan Partin:

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Kelly Thompson:

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Paulette Preston:

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