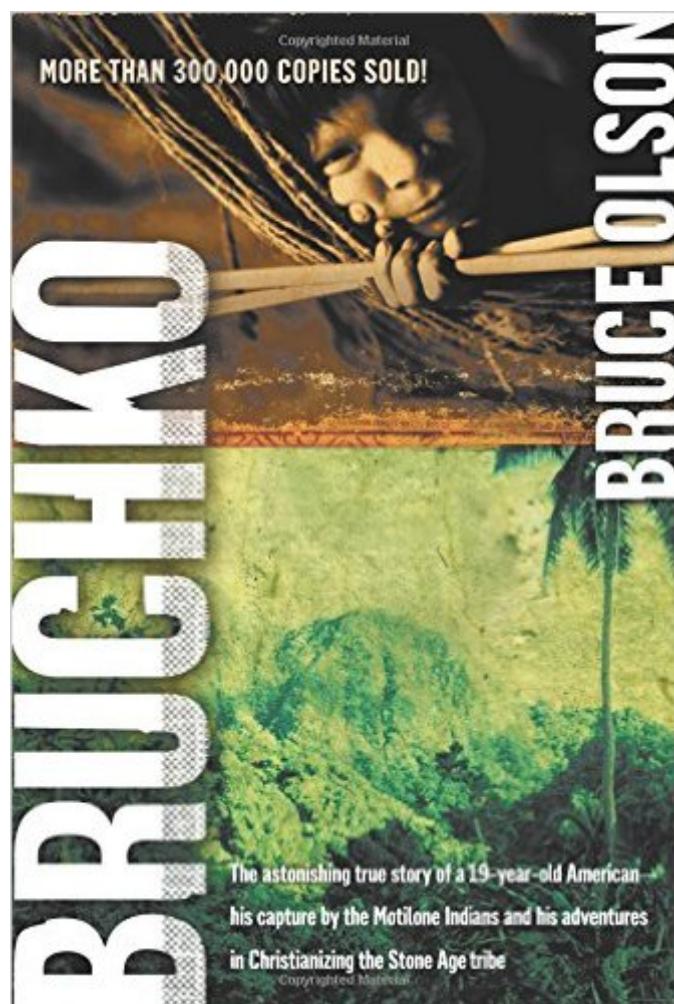


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Bruchko: The Astonishing True Story Of A 19-Year-Old American, His Capture By The Motilone Indians And His Adventures In Christianizing The Stone Age Tribe



Synopsis

What happens when a nineteen-year-old boy leaves home and heads into the jungles to evangelize a murderous tribe of South American Indians? For Bruce Olson, it meant capture, disease, terror, loneliness, and torture. But what he discovered by trial and error has revolutionized the world of missions. *Bruchko*, which has sold more than 300,000 copies worldwide, has been called "more fantastic and harrowing than anything Hollywood could concoct." • Living with the Motilone Indians since 1961, Olson has won the friendship of four presidents of Colombia and has made appearances before the United Nations because of his efforts. *Bruchko* includes the story of his 1988 kidnapping by communist guerrillas and the nine months of captivity that followed. This revised version of Olson's story will amaze you and remind you that simple faith in Christ can make anything possible. "[*Bruchko* is] an all-time missionary classic. Bruce Olson is a modern missionary hero who has modeled for us in our time the reaching of the unreached tribes." --Loren Cunningham Co-founder, Youth With A Mission

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It has been a while since I read "Bruchko," and my copy of the book is now out on loan, so I might have a few details wrong in what follows (but I am mostly confident in my memory). This is the story of a Bruce Olson, a 19 year old American youth who went, on his own (i.e., with close to zero support from anyone), as a missionary to the Motilone, one of the most feared and least understood Indian tribes in South America. He nearly died several times but in the end seems to have converted

the greater part of the tribe to Christianity. He did several things that were quite unusual. Two that stick in my mind were: 1) he and the Indians composed original hymns in their peculiar musical language, which is reported to sound eerie and dissonant -- almost demonic -- to Western ears; and 2) he went to great extremes to use dynamic equivalence in translating the Bible into their language. For example, he completely reversed the metaphor used by Christ in Matt. 7:24-27; in that tribe's culture, only a fool would build his house on a rock, and the obvious wise place to build a house is on *sand.* Architectural references were also modified, as in their culture the box-like rectangular architecture familiar to us is considered ugly; "virtuous" architecture is all round. And so on. As an aside, I'll bet that over time a new translation of the Motilone Bible will come to be needed, one that is more "direct and literal" in its approach and resorting less to "dynamic equivalence." I think they will eventually "outgrow" the one they have. The same may happen with their music; European music certainly evolved after contact with Christianity and there is still plenty more room for change.

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