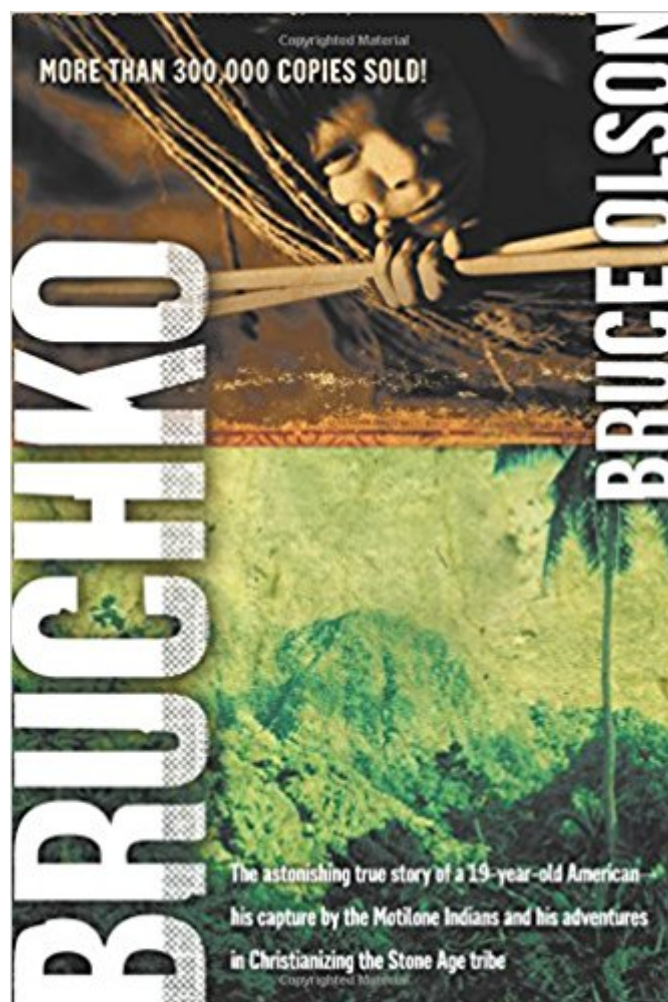


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# Bruchko: The Astonishing True Story Of A 19-Year-Old American, His Capture By The Motilone Indians And His Adventures In Christianizing The Stone Age Tribe





## 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 then 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

"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, cofounder, Youth with a Mission (YWAM)"I am personally grateful for this opportunity that Mr. Olson [had] to tell of the remarkable progress the Motilone Indians have made in contributing to the economical, spiritual, and social development of my country, Columbia." --Misael Pastrana, president of Columbia,

1970-1974 --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Bruce Olson, born in Minnesota and now a citizen of Colombia, is a linguist and graduate of sociology from a South American university. He has won the friendship of four Colombian presidents and appeared before the United Nations. His first book, Bruchko, has sold more than 300,000 copies worldwide. He lives in the jungle on the border of Colombia and Venezuela.

The first two or three chapters were less interesting than the rest, so give yourself time to get into this book. Bruchko is the story of a 19 year old with no training or background other than his intense skill in linguistics and his even more intense love for the Lord and the unreached peoples of a South American jungle who goes into that jungle and learns the culture and world of a previously unreached tribe. He shares the gospel within the context of that tribe and its customs. It's a fascinating read, if a bit gruesome at times (the parasites, ugh), and heartbreaking at others. Unlike almost any other missionary story I have read.

Both my boys read this at 13 years old. I wouldn't recommend for a younger child, they will probably lose interest. The boys love stories of missionaries, especially teenagers. I have bought this book at least 7 times over the years to give as gifts. Excellent reading!

i had trouble putting this down! after finishing each chapter, i said to myself, this is the last chapter i'll read tonight. but then i turned the page and made the mistake of thinking i'll just SEE what the first page of the next chapter says....and before i knew it, i'd finished that chapter and was into the next....and the next. what a great book! what a great missionary experience! what a great idea, to introduce Jesus Christ within the particular culture!

And what you have to share will not be shared until they respect you back. This book tells the compelling story of how a young man followed promptings by the Holy Spirit that made no sense to the elders of his world. The more he trusted those promptings the more amazing his journey became and the more effective he was as a person and as a truth teller sent by Christ. There are many culturally and spiritually significant lessons to be learned from this powerful and engaging story.

Apart from the amazing story itself, this book was an excellent example on how to teach people

about God and Jesus without trying to force them to look and act and be just like you. So many times in Christianity there is this mindset that all Christians have to look and act and speak and dress the same. What Bruchko shows is that to God the only norm is conformity in His Son Jesus Christ - and this book really helps challenge the idea of what that conformity looks like. Bruce used the Culture of the Motilone people to teach them about the truth of Christianity while resisting the urge to 'westernize' them. He was sensitive to their own beliefs, allowing the Holy Spirit to work among them to change their lives in God's timing, rather than trying to force issues when the time wasn't ripe. As described in this book, Bruce allowed God to come to the Motilone and work in their hearts, rather than force God upon them. I also appreciated the humanity of this book; it shows Bruce as a typical human being: stubborn, foolish and prideful; and yet, it shows how he was used by God to create such an amazing outpouring among the Motilone and other indigenous tribes. I look forward to getting to meet my Motilone brothers someday!

I don't want to give away the story, but it is pretty moving. I know I cried a lot reading it. The young man, who we would probably call a "nerd", "loner", or "loser" today, wanted to serve Jesus in the mission field but was turned down repeatedly by organizations. He then just raised his own money, and trusting God went on his own. The rest of the story is amazing and moving, and shows what we can do when we trust God and venture out. I don't think I'd ever be this brave, but I wish I was.

"Jesus had dark skin, and his eyes were black. He wore a G-string and hunted with bows and arrows. Jesus was a Motilone" (139). Bruchko is the story of how God used a nineteen year old boy to redeem an entire people group. Bruce Olson is a respected linguist, translator, and missionary. His incredibly successful work among the Motilone and other Indians could be called miraculous, and is recognized across the globe. Bruchko catalogues God's work through Olson in the first years of his ministry in Columbia beginning in 1959. Bruchko is so easy to read, thought provoking, and riveting that people of all ages and backgrounds will enjoy it. Furthermore, those who read it will be challenged to act on their calling. If they do not know their calling they will want to find out what it is. Bruce Olson has given readers a gift in Bruchko.

This book changed my life 20 years ago. While reading it, I believed I received the call to missions. It was awesome - but no more than an adventure story. Now, I AM a missionary - and I just read it to my kids and realized that the book was much deeper than I realized in my youthfulness. Such wisdom and insight... Things I really needed to hear. One of the best books I ever read, then and

now

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