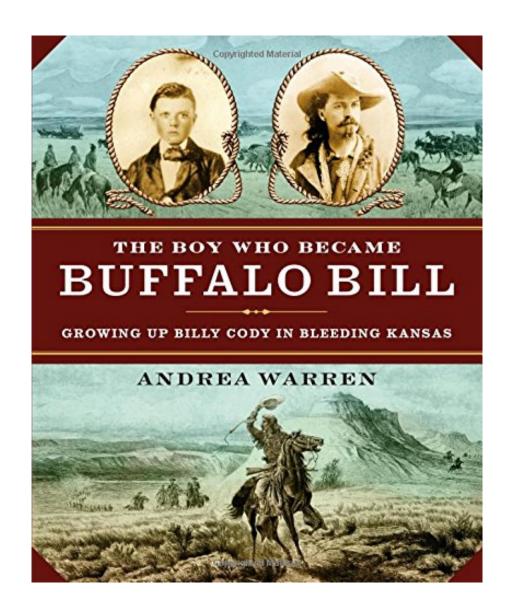


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The greatest entertainer of his era, Buffalo Bill was the founder and star of the legendary show that featured cowboys, Indians, trick riding, and sharpshooters.

But long before stardom, Buffalo Bill—born Billy Cody—had to grow up fast. While homesteading in Kansas just before the Civil War, his family was caught up in the conflict with neighboring Missouri over whether Kansas would enter the Union as a free or slave state.

To support his family after a pro-slaver killed his father, Billy—then eleven—herded cattle, worked on wagon trains, and rode the Pony Express. As the violence in Bleeding Kansas escalated, he joined the infamous Jayhawkers, seeking revenge on Missourians, and then became a soldier, scout, and spy in the Civil War—all by age seventeen.

Award-winning author Andrea Warren brings to life the compelling childhood of an adventurous, determined boy who transformed himself into a true American icon.

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Most helpful customer reviews

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Enjoyed

By Dawn

I read this book as a 72 year old to learn info about Billy Cody and was so interested to learn all the history of Kanas and the boarder wars. How is it that I have lived so long and never known any of this??!!..I highly recommend this book to any who are interested in our history..especially mid western and western history. Cody was a part of it all!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Fascinating and compelling narrative nonfiction.

By Heidi Grange

Warren herself points out in the author's note at the end of the book that her focus here was not entirely on Buffalo Bill, but on Bleeding Kansas and the events surrounding Kansas's statehood. And seeing as William Cody spent part of his childhood as well as his teenage years in Kansas at that time, he made a great way to tell the story of what was going on in Kansas at that time. Using Cody's own words as well as those of other family members and witnesses, Warren does a great job of sharing the tensions and conflict that boiled over into bloodshed and terror after Congress gave Kansans the right to decide whether to be a free or slave state. After the death of his older brother, Cody and his family set off for Kansas looking for a place to prosper and forget. But none of them forsaw the conflict that would invade their lives. The invasion of Kansas by slaveholders from Missouri and elsewhere clashed with Cody's father's beliefs and when that became known Cody's father was stabbed. While Isaac Cody survived the stabbing, his stance on slavery forced him away from his family in order to protect them and his family struggled without him. Within three years, Isaac

would be dead and Billy would be left at the age of 11 to be the man of the house. But his own restless, wandering nature made it a struggle to stay home.

Written in a compelling style, often times using direct quotes from Billy himself as well as his sister, Julia, and other witnesses, The Boy Who became Buffalo Bill, focuses on Billy's youth, the years leading up to Bleeding Kansas and the events surrounding Billy's life there. While the author does get into his adult life a bit at the end, the focus here is on his teenage years, his involvement in outlaw raids during the Civil War, and his service in the Union Army. It's clear that Warren is more trusting of Cody's own words than many others, and Cody was known to exaggerate and even make things up which makes it hard to know how much of his own version of his life was actually true. But regardless, Warren presents a compelling read, leaving it to the reader to accept or reject Cody's version of events.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Marvelously Entertaining!

By Don Estes

I loved this book! This book is both informative and immensely entertaining! I believe that I've learned more history from reading biographies than actual history books; and you'll definitely learn a lot from this wonderful biography of Buffalo Bill Cody! This is a book for all age groups!

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Yeah, reading a publication **The Boy Who Became Buffalo Bill: Growing Up Billy Cody In Bleeding Kansas By Andrea Warren** could add your close friends checklists. This is one of the formulas for you to be effective. As known, success does not mean that you have wonderful things. Recognizing as well as recognizing greater than various other will certainly offer each success. Next to, the notification and impression of this The Boy Who Became Buffalo Bill: Growing Up Billy Cody In Bleeding Kansas By Andrea Warren could be taken and also chosen to act.

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