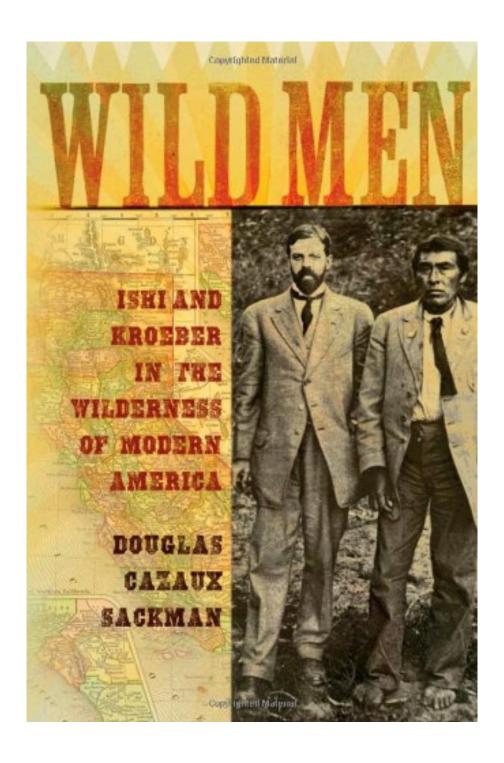


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When Ishi, "the last wild Indian," came out of hiding in August 1911, he was quickly whisked away by train to San Francisco to meet Alfred Kroeber, one of the fathers of American anthropology. When Kroeber and Ishi came face to face, it was a momentous event, not only for each man but also for the cultures they represented. Each stood on the brink--one was in danger of losing something vital while the other was in danger of disappearing altogether.

Ishi was a survivor, and he viewed the bright lights of the big city with a mixture of awe and bemusement. What surprised everyone is how handily he adapted himself to the modern city while maintaining his sense of self and his culture. Kroeber was professionally trained to document Ishi's culture and his civilization. What he didn't count on was how deeply working with the man would lead him to question his own profession and his civilization—how it would rekindle a wildness of his own. Although Ishi's story has been told before in film and fiction, Wild Men is the first book to focus on the depth of Ishi and Kroeber's friendship. Exploring what their intertwined stories tell us about Indian survival in modern America and about America's fascination with the wild, this text is an ideal supplement for courses on Native American history, the U.S. West, and the history of California.

• Sales Rank: #567146 in Books

Published on: 2010-12Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 5.40" h x .80" w x 8.10" l, 1.10 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 416 pages

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Wild Men is terrific

By Ronald Cohen

Sackman has taken a well know story and crafted it into a marvelous excursion into the lives of two fascinating individuals. Along the way his story takes many highways and byways, bringing together a wealth of information and insights into turn-of-the century San Francisco,, native American history, the study of anthropology, train travel, and so much more. A fascinating read, highlighted by numerous photos.

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Loved it!

By Kylie

Easy to read and interesting, I was reading chapters ahead of where we were in class and continued reading past the required pages. It really sucks you in and holds your attention. Loved it!

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A study of the post-captive (albeit voluntary) life of Ishi.

By Panda

Not what I had hoped, but excellent nonetheless. A fine homage to a human being who had reached the end of his ability to live and thrive in his lifelong environment and ventured into a world beyond his comprehension, yet in spite of language and cultural barriers managed to teach what he knew to the extent of his ability. Well worth reading just for the shift in paradigm between two cultures, in my opinion.

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