

**JUST
ABOUT A BOY**

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Just about a boy by Walter S. Phillips

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WALTER S. PHILLIPS

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ABOUT A BOY**

Just About a Boy

BY

WALTER S. PHILLIPS

(El Comancho)



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DEDICATION

THERE ARE BOYS STILL IN THIS OLD WORLD OF OURS—HAPPY, BRIGHT LITTLE SAVAGES WHO HAVE STILL TO BECOME CIVILIZED AND LEARN A LANGUAGE. UNTIL THEN THEY WILL LOVE THE WOODS AND THE WILDS AND BECOME FRIENDS WITH ALL THE VAST POPULATION OF THE WILDERNESS AND SO LEARN ITS SECRETS. SUCH A BOY IS A SAFE BOY IF HE FOLLOW THIS NATURAL BENT, FOR THERE IS NOTHING VICIOUS ABOUT THE WILDERNESS, AND TO THE BOY WHO LOVES IT THE WORLD OVER THIS LITTLE BOOK IS DEDICATED.

THE AUTHOR.

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PREFACE

These little stories are not written with the idea of adding any shining light to the large literature of the English language, but are just simple days taken from the life of a simple Western boy, who grew up along the shores of a little Western river.

This boy was no better and probably no worse than thousands of other boys, yet there is, and always was, a certain love of the wilderness and an insight into the lives of the wild people of the woods and valleys, that made him a gentle young savage, manly, true and keen.

I liked him from the first and associated more or less with him until he grew up and became the father of another boy, who is much like this boy that I know.

Such a boy interests other boys, and grown-up boys, too, and for this reason I was moved to tell of the doings of the young savage there on the little Western river first in the "Forest and Stream."

Soon I found that others loved this boy