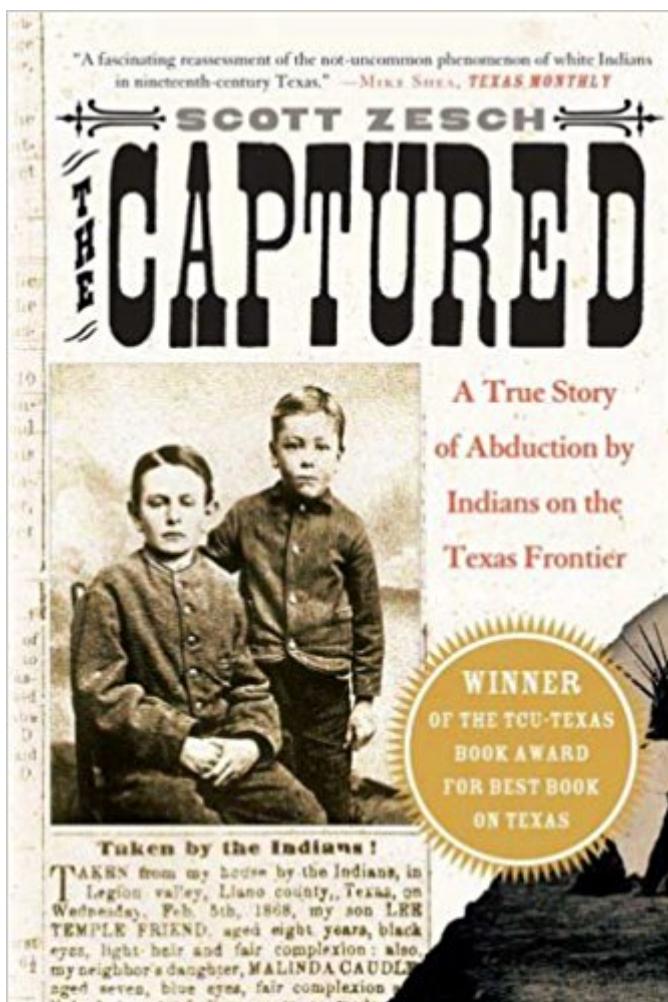


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# The Captured: A True Story Of Abduction By Indians On The Texas Frontier



## Synopsis

On New Year's Day in 1870, ten-year-old Adolph Korn was kidnapped by an Apache raiding party. Traded to Comanches, he thrived in the rough, nomadic existence, quickly becoming one of the tribe's fiercest warriors. Forcibly returned to his parents after three years, Korn never adjusted to life in white society. He spent his last years in a cave, all but forgotten by his family. That is, until Scott Zesch stumbled over his own great-great-great uncle's grave. Determined to understand how such a "good boy" could have become Indianized so completely, Zesch travels across the west, digging through archives, speaking with Comanche elders, and tracking eight other child captives from the region with hauntingly similar experiences. With a historians rigor and a novelists eye, Zesch's *The Captured* paints a vivid portrait of life on the Texas frontier, offering a rare account of captivity."A carefully written, well-researched contribution to Western history -- and to a promising new genre: the anthropology of the stolen." - Kirkus Reviews

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

On New Year's Day, 1870, Adolph Korn, the author's ancestor and son of German immigrants, was captured by three Apaches near his family's cabin in central Texas. Adolph was traded to a band of Quahada Comanches, with whom he lived until November 1872, when the Comanches traded their captives for those held by the U.S. Army. Adolph was irrevocably changed. Considering himself Indian, he lived in a cave, and died alone in 1900. The author's search into Korn's sad life led him to the similar stories of eight other children captured in Texas between 1865 and 1871. Drawing on his tenacious research and interviews with the captives' descendants, Zesch compiles a gripping

account of the lives of these children as they lived and traveled with their Indian captors. He delves into the reasons for their "Indianization," which for most of them lasted the rest of their lives, and discusses why they couldn't adjust to white society. A fascinating, meticulously documented chronicle of the often-painful confrontations between whites and Indians during the final years of Indian Territory. Deborah DonovanCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved  
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Scott Zesch grew up in Mason County, Texas and graduated from Texas A&M University and Harvard Law School. He is the author of the novel *Alamo Heights*, and he is the winner of the Western History Association's Ray Allen Billington Award. He divides his time between New York City and a ranch in Art, Texas (population 3).

I really loved reading this book on the life of the author's family member. His description of the hard times for this German-American family reflects my grandfather's life as a new immigrant to this country. I can relate to the hard lives these children suffered and lack of affection. I commend the author for caring about his family to research these events and make it now part of his story. Makes me wonder how many children this happened to in Kansas and Oklahoma. Great book!

I learned so much from this book. This was a very worth while read. I had no idea that so many white children were being abducted. AND I felt so sorry for the "White Indians" after they had lived with the different tribes, the Army came and "abducted" them to take them to white parents. These children some of them almost adults, never readjusted to the "white life". Very good. Nancy Jule Johnston

Scott Zesch does a very good job of telling the story of children who were captured by Indians on the Texas frontier during the 1870s. He has a very comfortable writing style and I was drawn into his story telling from the beginning. His book is well documented and the research is evident, but does not get in the way of the narrative. Zesch's journey is driven by two factors, his search for information about his ancestor, Adolph Korn, who was captured by the Apaches and later traded to the Comanches. And his quest to discover why, almost without exception, the captives who were later "rescued" and returned to their families, were never really able to adjust to their former life among their white families and community. Both of these motivations give Zesch's story a compelling invitation to travel with him as he seeks his answers. I thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

This book was very well researched and presented but it was very gory and heartbreaking. Full disclosure I couldn't finish it because it was dreary and disheartening. For a real interest in history and someone not looking for a silver lining with regard to the Native Americans it is an accurate and realistic depiction of Indian abductions, albeit bloody and violent.

Who wouldn't wish to remain in the Indian culture that was free of the puritanical German beliefs in religion & nothing but hard work? We are all aware of how long Cynthia Ann Parker longed for the Comanche life & died back with her white family sad & miserable. I enjoyed the book very much & found it somewhat depressing as I tend to feel about most of the books I read about the American Indians. Might not be a book for all literary tastes.

Texas history is full of exciting stories. This book "The Captured" By Zesch is a fantastic story. The author clearly worked hard to separate a Texas "tall tale" from the facts related to these captured children. His descriptive writing takes me to that time. It provides a clear picture of how hard life was for those trying to carve out a life in the Texas hill country in the later 1800's. If you love Texas history, fact base stories about Texas Indians and the white men who battled them, you must read this book. My only disappointment was that my digital version didn't contain enough of the images and photographs I think the book contains. I was able to create those myself in my head however. Loved it!

Good book and very interesting, but the Kindle version has a distracting number of typos. I've been making them for correction, but who knows if that ever happens ( directs you to a webpage that doesn't appear to actually show this information).

Very interesting to read true stories of real people captured by the Indians. The Indians were treated fairly and honestly as to their way of life and customs. It was interesting that so many who had spent time as captives actually preferred the Indian way of life and had trouble adjusting to their 'American' ways again. It was surprising that they almost all seemed to forget their native tongue very quickly; contemporary wisdom tells us that children can easily be bilingual and effortlessly use more than one language without even being aware of the mixture that may come from their mouths. Also interesting to read about Texas and areas with which I am very familiar.

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