



## Wabi: A Hero's Tale

By Joseph Bruchac

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Wabi was born an owl—a great horned owl who grew to become such a strong, confident creature that he was afraid of nothing. But now he *is* afraid. He fears that he might never win the heart of the girl he loves. Somehow, despite his own intentions, he has fallen in love with a girl—a beautiful, headstrong human girl. And so he begins the adventure of his life. He shape-shifts into human form in order to be with her. But before he can win her love, he must face an even greater challenge in a land he comes to think of as the Valley of Monsters.

**A *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year**

**\* "Wabi's inquisitive and endearing personality will charm readers."**

—*School Library Journal*, starred review

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## **Wabi: A Hero's Tale** By Joseph Bruchac Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8-Wabi is an odd owl. For starters, he grows bigger than most horned owls do. Then he realizes he can talk to and understand other creatures. He adopts a wolf pup that becomes a loyal friend and he falls in love with a girl from the nearby Abenaki village that he protects from evil creatures. When his great-grandmother tells him that he has ancestors who were humans who shape-changed to owls, Wabi decides to become human so he can win Dojihla's heart. When his owl-tufted ears give him away, he leaves the village. On his quest to discover his true self, he encounters several nonhuman monsters; rescues a wolf pack from Oldold Woman, who is keeping them captive; and discovers his own true self. Wabi's inquisitive and endearing personality will charm readers. Even when in human form, he thinks and acts like an owl and finds joy and pleasure when his human body can do something he didn't expect, such as kick very hard. His grandmother embodies the adage of wise old owls, dispensing advice and assistance in equal measures but never too much of either at any one time, and readers can see why Wabi falls in love with Dojihla, even if the other young men find her abrasive and compare her to a bobcat. They just haven't watched her as much or as carefully as Wabi has. Give this novel to readers who aren't quite ready for David Clement-Davies's *Fire Bringer* (2000) or *The Sight* (2002, both Dutton) or to anyone who enjoys reading about journeys of self-discovery.-*Lisa Prolman, Greenfield Public Library, MA*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 7-10. *Wabi* means white. Wabi's great-grandmother Owl gives him the name because of his pale feathers, and the two owls share a great bond: both understand and speak the language of humans. Wabi grows strong, and like male adolescents of many species, he is proud and not a little cocky. But he falls in love with a human Abenaki girl, Dojihla, as headstrong and confident as himself. Bruchac does a grand job of capturing the sweet swagger of Wabi as an owl and, later, after he is transformed into a boy, tucking in bits from a number of animal and monster tales. Wabi finds a wolf companion, learns to work his human body, and discovers ways to protect his environment and, eventually, Dojihla's people. Wolf, girl, and boy save each other in the end, and great-grandmother has a key role, too. Readers may be reminded of Nawat, the crow boy in Tamora Pierce's *Trickster's Queen*; this shape-shifter tale is very different, but it may appeal to the same audience. *GraceAnne DeCandido*

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Review

"Bruchac, in top form here, crafts an exhilarating journey tale . . . readers won't be able to turn the pages fast enough." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Bruchac's storytelling skills are on full display in this tale introducing an owl narrator...His tale agilely balances suspense, humor, and romance." —*Publishers Weekly*

"It is a welcome addition to the growing genre of Native American fiction for teens." —*VOYA*

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Harold Hutchison:**

Here thing why this kind of Wabi: A Hero's Tale are different and trusted to be yours. First of all studying a

book is good however it depends in the content of it which is the content is as yummy as food or not. Wabi: A Hero's Tale giving you information deeper since different ways, you can find any guide out there but there is no publication that similar with Wabi: A Hero's Tale. It gives you thrill studying journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing that will happened in the world which is might be can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your technique home by train. When you are having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of Wabi: A Hero's Tale in e-book can be your alternate.

### **Frances Smith:**

Typically the book Wabi: A Hero's Tale will bring one to the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to see, this book very suited to you. The book Wabi: A Hero's Tale is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

### **Myrtle Galloway:**

The reason why? Because this Wabi: A Hero's Tale is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap that but latter it will jolt you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such wonderful way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book get such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I were being you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

### **Floyd Brown:**

This Wabi: A Hero's Tale is brand new way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information since it relief your hunger details. Getting deeper you upon it getting knowledge more you know or else you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this Wabi: A Hero's Tale can be the light food for you because the information inside that book is easy to get through anyone. These books develop itself in the form that is reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book application form. People who think that in book form make them feel tired even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there is absolutely no in reading a publication especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for you. So , don't miss this! Just read this e-book style for your better life and knowledge.

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