

### Chapter 1 : Points West Online: Return of the Buffalo

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A gentle breeze brings with it the sweet vanilla scent of the ponderosa pine. In the distance, a herd of bison silently graze while a nearby meadowlark whistles a pleasant song. This is the sunlit world of Wind Cave National Park. However, it has not always been like this. By the mids most of the buffalo that had roamed the Great Plains were gone. The elk populations were reduced and scattered in the mountains and the pronghorn antelope had moved west to Wyoming and parts beyond. It seemed like the Great Plains and their abundance of life was fading into the memories of the mountain men and intrepid explores who had roamed the west. By , according to newspaper reports, the number of North American bison Bison bison in the United Sates was reduced to a woeful animals. There were interested parties trying to protect them and as early as , bills had been introduced into Congress to protect these magnificent animals, but little protection arrived. A few private ranchers took it upon themselves to start small herds from remnant survivors wondering the plains. But it was not until a concerted national effort was made that the survival of the species was assured. This began on December 8, when a group of 16 people assembled in the Lion House of the New York Zoological Society, all of them were interested in working to preserve the American bison. This organization became known as the American Bison Society; its primary goal was the preservation of the American buffalo. Among its founders were William Hornaday and Theodore Roosevelt. Wind Cave was one of several bison preserves they created and because of their efforts the future of the species was assured. But it was not an easy task to start a bison herd. First the preserve had to be established. For Wind Cave National Park that started in The Bison Society was looking for a place in South Dakota. Because of the rich habitats within the park, Wind Cave caught their eye and by a study by Mr. Loring was done indicting the park would sustain these massive animals. I do not think they could find a better location. There is plenty of water and shelter in the Park, and horses and cattle ranging there this winter are in better shape than any that I have seen elsewhere. Bison waiting to be shipped The arrangements to provide bison to the preserve started quickly. In his letter he states: The New York Zoological Society authorizes me to offer the American Bison Society a herd of ten buffaloes, consisting of males and females of various ages to stock the Wind Cave National Bison Range, whenever it is established by Congress. I need hardly assure you that these will be animals of absolutely pure blood. The Bison Society replied: This gift is a most valuable one The gift of this nucleus herd will be a strong argument with Congress for establishing the Game Preserve. Through these efforts, Congress established a 4,acre Wind Cave Game Preserve in August of to begin the reintroduction process not only of bison, but of many other animals being threatened by the changes occurring on the Great Plains. To read about the arrival of the bison, click here.

## Chapter 2 : The Return of the Buffalo | Culture Northern Ireland

*Return Of The Buffalo "Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children. We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, we borrow it from our Children."*

Return of the Buffalo: Every week, sometimes more frequently, bison are in the news. Sadly, it is often related to bison leaving the safety of a national park or private ranch. Usually, they are shot out of fear of brucellosis infection or that the great shaggy animal will rampage through fences or overturn cars. As sad as these reports are, in a strange sense, they point to some very good news. Bison are coming back in great numbers. They are outgrowing lands that have been set aside for their safety. Today, bison live in virtually every state in the Union and over most of Canada. Although numbers are difficult to estimate, there are probably , bison alive today. More than 80 percent of them roam private lands. Federal, state, and city lands host the remaining 20 percent of these magnificent grazers. If we were living at the beginning of the 20th century rather than the 21st, our view of the fate would be very different. In the s bison were at their lowest point. There were no more than a thousand living animals in the U. The time of the great slaughter resulted in the near extinction of bison. Fifty years before that, the North American bison population was estimated at 40 – 70 million animals. Warnings In , the naturalist William T. Hornaday wrote about the impending extinction of the bison. His only hesitation was whether the last bison would be killed within five or ten years of his writing. That dire prediction and the thought that bison – the great icon of the West – might become extinct ignited public sentiment, particularly east of the Mississippi. Wharton and Martin S. Founded in , the ABS helped to buy rangeland to provide protected habitat for the buffalo. They also purchased private herds of bison and lobbied congress for support. The First Success Bison may be the first American environmental success story. At the time that the total destruction of the buffalo was near, the American public acted decisively. Even a hundred years ago, eastern sentiment and money were the major forces in western conservation. On reflection, perhaps this condition is not so odd. This emerging environmental movement forced Congress to buy the land that then became the National Bison Range and Yellowstone National Park. Interestingly, these clubs were also able to convince arms and ammunition manufacturers that conservation was in their best interest. Ducks Unlimited is a good example of a group that combines hunting and conservation. Also near the end of the last century, the Canadian government began to set aside parkland for bison preservation. Between the times of the many characters who began saving the buffalo from extinction and the National Bison Association of today, The American Bison Society and its dedicated members worked diligently to save the bison from an end that everyone had predicted. Commercialization Begins Louis Maurer – Buffalo runner is the term that commercial buffalo hunters used to describe themselves. Late in life, he realized that bison were not an endless resource and that he personally had contributed to their near extinction. He wanted to make amends for the slaughter. He also realized that there was money to be made from live bison as well as dead ones. Michel and his partner, Charles Allard, sold animals to parks, zoos, and other ranchers. Rarely, however, did they sell a breeding pair. They preferred to sell the young bulls and to keep the cows as breeding stock. Besides live animals, Pablo and Allard also sold hides and mounts. Pablo offered his herd to the American government for purchase and removal to Yellowstone or other protected habitat. Although powerful men such as Teddy Roosevelt were in favor of the transaction, some members of Congress blocked the purchase. Pablo went to the Canadian government. The Superintendent of Rocky Mountain Park at Banff recognized the great opportunity and lobbied to have the Canadian government purchase the herd. They quickly accepted his advice and approved the purchase. To Crossbreed Charles Goodnight, the famous Texas rancher, also got involved in raising buffalo. Within a few years after the Civil War, he began gathering calves to start a herd. Both Goodnight and his wife thought that exterminating the buffalo would be a terrible loss to the country. Goodnight also thought there was money to be made off the buffalo if handled properly, but that was not an easy task. Everyone knew that bison had a nasty disposition and were dangerous to men and horses alike. Like any good rancher, he was trying to get the best combination of behavior, size and conformation by crossing two related but different breeds. More often than not, however, this experiment had the opposite

resultâ€”bad-tempered cows and sterile bulls. He experimented with cross-breeding and bison domestication. According to some of his contemporaries, Jones was also quite a storyteller, particularly when it came to his own adventures and importance. Regardless of the hype and showmanship, there are two things with which Buffalo Jones can be credited. He was successful with a few animals. Many other people also tried to domesticate the buffalo and use them for plowing and pulling wagons. Although occasionally successful, the practice never really caught on as anything more than a stunt. Or Not to Crossbreed Scotty Philip was another of the fascinating characters associated with the early bison conservation movement. After trying his hand at many occupations from gold miner to courier for the U. He raised thousands of cattle on his many ranches. His interest in preserving the bison began near the beginning of this century. By , he had 80 buffalo and continued to add more. Denver Museum of Natural History. He purposely culled them from the herd at roundup time and sold them for meat. His foresight has proven to be a great asset. Many herds today have their origins in the Philip herd. For example in , he sent 60 animals to a newly purchased game preserve of 60, acres in Custer County, South Dakota. This group became the nucleus of the Custer State Park herd. Today, excess animals are sometimes given to different Indian tribes who are building herds, or they may be sold at auction to other ranchers. A man of great will, strength and loyalty himself, Scotty Philip admired these same qualities in the buffalo. He also spoke about how the buffalo took care of each other. The near demise of both the bison and the tribes themselves did not break the spiritual link between Indian peoples and bison. For many Indian tribes, bison are not an economic venture or a romantic hobby; they are part of a path to spiritual renewal and tribal identity. For some tribes and many individuals today, the resurgence of bison and the active participation of the tribes is a return to old ways of spirituality, renewed pride in the present, and hope for the future. Arvol Looking Horse, nineteenth generation carrier of the sacred buffalo calf pipe, says that he has seen bison ranching turn around the lives of people living on reservations. They have been given hope and direction. Some have given up alcohol and are changing their lives. At the same time, some tribes are very aware of the potential economic impact of bison ranching. The Inter-Tribal Bison Cooperative now has more than thirty member-tribes that are either raising bison or are beginning to develop herds. The sale of excess bison meat provides much needed income to the tribes. It comes from cattle ranching, Native American spirituality, the conservation movement and the romance of the West. While many bison ranchers might see themselves as western, rugged individualist conservatives with well-developed profit instincts, so too, are many of these people very concerned about the environment and the ability to create sustainable agriculture and ranching in the New West. Photo courtesy of Robert B. Profit and Preserve Profit motive and ecological sensitivity usually are thought of as antithetical; yet, here is an emerging industry in which many of its participants are trying to combine the two. I asked Paul Jonjak, former President of the National Bison Association, about the convergence of political conservatism and conservation in bison ranching thinking that I had just hit upon a great unnoticed truth. The NBA, based in Denver, CO, has more than 2, members who own or manage most of the , bison that exist today. As any good trade association should be, the members of the NBA are optimistic about their industry. The Association expects that bison ranching will become more common throughout the country in the future. The NBA serves as a trade association for its members; it supports research into bison related issues and promotes education about bison, bison meat, and ranching. Not Just the Money Along with the economic motive, most modern ranchers believe that raising bison is better than raising cattle. They may tell you that these animals are smarter, more interesting, and provides better meat. If they know you well enough, the rancher also may tell you that pride, the romance of the West, and spirituality also are part of the reason they raise bison. In a sense, many bison ranchers believe they are doing something for the country and for the mythic West as well as for themselves and their families. They may ranch for economic reasons but their choice of buffalo over other animals relates to their great respect for bison and their intention to help the icon of the Plains survive.

**Chapter 3 : Return of the Buffalo () - Plot Summary - IMDb**

*The vast area of the American prairie tells the story of a year experiment: the settlement of the American plains. The radical plan of a scientist couple from New York is to make the Great Plains public property, a common area, and reverse it to its original condition.*

The collection has a maturity to it – a sense of artistic confidence. It reads like the work of a poet who is pausing to reflect on how far they have come, how the present tallies with their childhood hopes, and the prospects that lie ahead. There is a candour and playfulness to much of *The Return of the Buffalo*, a bittersweet sense of the vagaries of life, of chances missed, of the sudden tragedies, and the unexpected joys, that swoop in and give hope from nowhere. Cartmill is a poet undaunted by examining even the darkest of emotions. There is no subject off-limits or situation too delicate to explore, to describe, to understand and finally learn from. Is there a point when something experienced suddenly has the potential to be a poem? But I carry this around inside me until I experience something else entirely unconnected and suddenly there is a click when the two moments blend. This is when I get excited and grab my pen and capture that initial rush of adrenalin. Yet this longing is contrasted with episodes highlighting how unexpectedly joyous life can be. I do believe life can be "suddenly, unexpectedly joyous". Cartmill chose to write about the French capital for various reasons. Maybe that comes from growing up on the banks of the Blackwater. So there is an extra emphasis on the endings. As I listened to the story of that occupation I grew very emotional and actually ended up sitting there crying. It was really about a people finding their voice, finding their dignity and pride, and a new way of being in a changing society. I felt such strong parallels with my own life here in the north. So these two ideas fused together into the poem. I was lucky with Ryan because I felt from the start that we were both trying to make the same film and trying to make the best film we could. He tapped right into the main character of a traumatised soldier returning home to a nationalist area and a troubled family situation. I have to admit I felt quite proud of it, but also humbled because then you see all the work everyone else has put into it, too. But you just have to keep going and let the poem do its work separate from you as the writer. To have her operating in both fields can only benefit worlds that can sometimes feel distant and exclusive. Her work is vital, accessible, with a voice and passion all its own. Readers should welcome her return.

**Chapter 4 : The Return of the Buffalo: Restoring the Great American Prairie (TV Movie ) - IMDb**

*An ancient legend, it tells about one spring when the buffalo herds did not return to their traditional pastures. With the tribe starving, two young men are sent on one final search for the buffalo. As they are about to give up, they meet the Buffalo Woman, an Earth spirit who promises to send the herds to the tribe.*

History[ edit ] The proposal originated with Frank J. Popper and Deborah Popper, who argued in a essay [2] that the current use of the drier parts of the plains is not sustainable. The authors viewed the historic European-American settlement of the Plains States as hampered by lack of understanding of the ecology and an example of the " Tragedy of the Commons ". They note that the rural Plains has lost a third of its population since . Several hundred thousand square miles of the Great Plains have fewer than 6 persons per square mile. This was the population density standard of settlement which historian Frederick Jackson Turner used in his " Frontier Thesis " to declare the American Frontier "closed" in . Large areas have fewer than 2 persons per square mile. The Poppers demonstrated that the number of "frontier counties" increased by 14 between and , mostly on the Plains, and noted that there are more than 6, ghost towns in the state of Kansas alone according to Kansas historian Daniel Fitzgerald. They claim that the decline in population on the plains is accelerating. Details[ edit ] U. One way to achieve this would be through voluntary contracts between the Forest Service and Plains farmers and ranchers, in which owners would be paid the value of what they would have cultivated over the next 15 years. In the meantime, they would be required to plant and reestablish native Shortgrass prairie grasses and forbs, according to a Forest Service-approved program. Since their initial article in , the Poppers have acknowledged that many other parties have very important roles to play. They do not see the federal government as central as they first did. Many Plains residents intensely criticized the concept, especially in the first years. They point out that much of rural flight is due to mechanization of agriculture , where fewer people are needed to produce the same amount or more of agriculture output, not because farms are failing. Given the pace of rural depopulation , many scholars believe that aspects of the proposal are likely to happen with or without national government involvement. States, non-profit community development groups, and Native American nations have found the concept supports some of their own ideas about the future. Some are working independently or partnering on related ecological and sustainability issues. In the last decade, as the Poppers talk about the concept, they acknowledge there are many players. They have seen many partnerships come about, including private and non-governmental initiatives. In New England, the dominant forests have returned, taking over former areas of agricultural cultivation which were abandoned. This was just one among many economic development avenues suggested in the report. The only population that has increased on the plains is that of various Native American nations. Some of these have started to raise bison, in part for tourism and ecological value, as well as its primary place in their traditional cultures. The consortium now includes 57 Native American governments in 19 states. The buffalo count on Indian land has at least tripled since . As of , the tribes collectively managed 15, bison. In November The Kansas City Star published an editorial that claimed the aquifer was almost depleted and noted the biggest asset of the high plains was its prairie.

### Chapter 5 : Return Of The Buffalo | Handcrafted Leathers

*Buffalo runner is the term that commercial buffalo hunters used to describe themselves. Late in life, he realized that bison were not an endless resource and that he personally had contributed to their near extinction.*

Mitakuye oyasin, maka sitomni, hecitu welo! We are related to all things, all things on earth, it is indeed so! Visions and Ceremonies Return of the Buffalo: I was admiring the muted colors of the Montana landscape as it slid by, mile after mile. There was the occasional glimpse of livestock amidst fences and rocky buttes, as well as shrubby trees amidst the grasslands. Then, all at once, everything I had been seeing disappeared. In its place was a vast herd of bison, covering the land, and off to the side, an abundance of pronghorn antelope. So many individualsâ€”it seemed as though the earth itself were moving. And then, just as suddenly, I was seeing the original landscape again, but with a different perspective. In contrast to the abundance of life in the vision that had filled the plain, without limit as far as I could seeâ€”now the land felt barren and I could feel the fences that divided properties and retained livestock as boundaries that restricted the freedom of wildlife and the flow of energy. My soul wept for what was lost, and I realized that I had somehow slipped into a time that once wasâ€”a time when the buffalo and pronghorn roamed freely. A time when the native peoples lived in harmony with the land and the animals before the incursion of the white settlers whose desire for land ultimately spelled the demise of the buffalo and the indigenous tribes that depended upon them. And that vision stuck with me during our incredible adventure and meeting with the animals at Earthfire Institute. Most especially when we met Bluebell, the buffalo, up close and personal. And the feeling was mutual. Bluebell no longer had other buffalo companions, and had taken to adopting people as her new herd. As I researched the history of bison I felt drawn to purchase a leather bracelet decorated with a buffalo head nickel, which I have worn every day since. And I was drawn into a Native American store by an energy which turned out to be the jawbone of a bison. And it almost succeeded. Between and more than 10 million buffalo were slaughtered in a final push to force Native Americans onto reservations. A person could walk a hundred miles along the Santa Fe Railway west of Fort Dodge, Kansas hopscotching the dead carcasses at that time, prompting U. And by only 23 wild buffalo remained in Yellowstone National Park. Today the herd numbers about 4,, and it is estimated that the land can only support about 2,â€”a crisis that has sparked legal and ethical debates as a search for solutions ranges from restoring free-range to the herds to culling by slaughter. And suddenly, in the midst of immersion in research, it all fell into place. I understood what Spirit wanted; we were to incorporate the relationship between the people and the land as represented by the Native American people and the buffalo or American bison on the American nickel. By incorporating it into our ceremonies with native wildlife at Earthfire Institute and Yellowstone National Park we could assist in rebuilding the bridge and healing the rift between people and animals that grows wider with each passing day. With that concept in mind I went on the internet and easily located a quantity of buffalo nickels while Debbie Noyes located a supply of the new quarters which feature a buffalo at Yellowstone on the back. After the event each participant in A Walk on the Wild Side: All links must remain in the article. And, you must include the copyright notice and the bio. Her classes, sessions and ceremonial work are inspired by wild and domestic animals who have issued a call to action for personal and global healing. Her book Tails of a Healer: Animals, Reiki and Shamanism features heartwarming stories about animals and their role in her evolution as an energy worker and shamanic healer.

### Chapter 6 : Return of the Buffalo: Visions and Ceremonies | Wild Reiki and Shamanic Healing

*The birth of a white buffalo calf is believed to have been the sign that these times were now at hand." Arvol's story is woven together with the return of the White Buffalo and the healing of.*

### Chapter 7 : Buffalo Commons - Wikipedia

*Return Of The Buffalo. Shopping & Retail in Austin, Texas. Community See All. 1 person likes this. 1 person follows this.*

*About See All. Comanche Way Dale, TX.*

### Chapter 8 : Return of the Buffalo - DocuWiki

*Treaty Signed for the Return of the Buffalo. The Treaty event began with a Native American prayer and the Song of the Buffalo. Loud drum beats, "honor beats," echoed throughout the conference.*

### Chapter 9 : Return of the Warrior - Buffalo Thunder Weigh-In Results - Southwest Fight News

*The History of the Return of the Buffalo is an answer to the prayers of many people. Historic Oglala Lakota leader Black Elk, who shared his vision regarding the buffalo's return with us all, made this concept famous.*