

# Touching Spirit Bear



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Within Cole Matthews lie anger, rage and hate. Cole has been stealing and fighting for years. This time he caught Alex Driscoll in the parking lot and smashed his head against the sidewalk. Now, Alex may have permanent brain damage and Cole is in the Biggest trouble of his life.

Cole is offered Circle Justice: a system based on Native American traditions that attempts to provide healing for the criminal offender, the victim and the community. With prison as his only alternative, Cole plays along. He says he wants to repent, but in his heart Cole blames his alcoholic mom his, abusive dad, wimpy Alex -- everyone but himself -- for his situation.

Cole receives a one-year banishment to a remote Alaskan island. There, he is mauled by Mysterious white bear of Native American legend. Hideously injured, Cole waits for his death His thoughts shift from from Anger to humility. To survive, he must stop blaming others and take responsibility for his life. Rescuers arrive to save Cole's but it is the attack of the Spirit Bear that may save his soul.

Ben Mikaelson paints a vivid picture of a juvenile offender, examining the roots without absolving solving him of responsibility for his actions, and questioning a society in which angry people make victims of their peers and communities. Touching Spirit Bear is a poignant testimonial to the power of a pain that can destroy, or lead to healing

作者介绍:

Ben Mikaelson is the son of Danish settlers and grew up in Bolivia. He wasn't sent to school until the fourth grade where he was heavily bullied, and later moved to the United States in the 7th grade. Mikaelson started writing full time in 1984, and has won many awards, including the International Reading Association Award and the Western Writer's Golden Spur award. He has also gained many state Readers Choice Awards. He is a sky diving champion and has written many books such as Tree Girl, Touching Spirit Bear, Ghost of Spirit Bear and Petey. He owns a pet bear named Buffy, who is a 750 pound Black bear. Mikaelson saved him from execution, and personally does not believe that it is right to take an animal out of its natural environment. The bear had his claws removed and is very friendly. Today, Mikaelson lives outside of Bozeman, Montana with a wife and kids.

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标签

justice

criminal

暂未标签

心理学

## 评论

失足少年救赎自我的故事，心理描写很棒。不需要查词典也可以通畅地读下来，据说是美国中学生的推荐读物。

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这是一本经典的关于法律的小说，不用任何专业术语诠释了“heal”在criminal justice中的重要性，呼吁人们不要忽视恢复性措施在法律实践中的重要作用。同时也巧妙地提出了一些counterarguments唤起人们的critical thinking。小说的内容本身通俗易懂，也引人入胜，感性和理性，爱与仇恨，灵熊的化身，公众以及舆论的自行相悖，帮助人就是帮助自己，原谅与治愈才是终极法门，一系列反思，构成了问题少年的奇妙旅程。荒岛的夜晚不再荒凉可怕，篝火熊熊，伴随干柴噼啪噼啪的节奏，Cole跳起一支熊之舞，不远处的黑暗里，是灵熊幽幽的瞳仁。

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## 书评

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