

GERONIMO

Wolf of the Warpath

by RALPH MOODY

Of all the Apache warriors none was more feared than Geronimo. He and his band of Indian outlaws raced through the frontier settlements of Arizona, torturing, killing and burning. Their war whoops made the nights hideous. The cry of "Geronimo!" became the most terrifying sound in the whole Southwest.

"You will be a great chief," Geronimo's mother had told him. "You will be the wolf of the Apache warpath. You will fight this white wolf pack that comes down to kill your people and steal their homeland—and you will kill, kill, kill!"

The child learned his lesson well. He gained great cunning in his training as a scout. He mastered the arts of ambush, lightning attack and quick escape. He proved himself with bow and arrow, spear and knife. But he failed to earn the respect and friendship of the other Indian warriors. It was the Apaches themselves who offered to track down and capture the bloodthirsty renegade and his band of outcasts who had dared plot against the great chiefs Cochise and Mangas Coloradas.

While Geronimo cannot be honored as a hero, he is a landmark in American history. He will long be remembered as the last Indian leader who tried, through warfare, to turn back the tide of white civilization.

Illustrated by NICHOLAS EGGENHOFER

