

Into the West

Episode 5

“Casualties of War”

1. The army is in Lakota land and crosses the Medicine Wheel. Jacob Jr. explains that it is a sacred place to the Indians. The soldiers don't care.
2. General Custer recommends taking the Black Hills from the Indians. Gold is discovered in the Black Hills. Jacob Jr. is upset by this news.
3. Three months later white Americans start to build towns in the Black Hills and prospect for gold.
4. Robert Wheeler owns a General Store and sells equipment to the gold miners. He takes people to the Black Hills by wagon. The trip is expensive because it is a very dangerous ride. Robert takes a prospector into the hills and they are attacked by men on horseback. They shoot back and forth and the prospector is killed. Robert shoots two of the men. When the third man starts to leave, Robert decides to shoot him in the back.
5. Red Cloud Agency: Chief Red Cloud has secured a place in the sacred lands but it is now being run over by white men. Red Cloud is angry and brings the tribes together to fight with Sitting Bull against the whites.
6. Red Lance is ready to fight. Voices That Carry also wants to fight. Dog Star wants to wait for peace. Running Fox says that his clan will follow Sitting Bull and fight.
7. Voices Tat Carry stays with Dog Star to learn how to keep the winter count. He isn't happy and tells Red Lance that he wants to become a warrior too. Red Lance gives him the amulet in consolation.
8. Dakota Territory: Clara Wheeler is teaching children school. The children are from immigrant families and she is teaching them English and American history.
9. A traveling salesman comes to the Wheeler store and gives a demonstration of the new invention—a typewriter. Clara buys one.
10. Robert and Clara discuss his trip to take supplies to the miners in the Black Hills. Clara doesn't want him to go because it is so dangerous. Robert has ambitions and knows they can become rich selling supplies to the miners. He tells her about killing his attackers on the last trip.
11. Red Cloud Agency: Red Cloud asks the government for supplies and food for his people. The government offers \$400,000 for mineral rights to the Black Hills or

\$16 million to be paid over 15 years to buy the land from the Indians. Red Cloud wants to go to Washington to speak with the U.S. President.

12. Robert buys buffalo hides at \$3.00 each. He thinks he can make a lot of money on the hides because the southern buffalo herd is almost gone. When he tries to sell them to the traveling salesman he only offers \$1.00 per hide. The popular fad to own buffalo hides is not longer fashionable back east and people aren't buying them anymore. The salesman says the future profit will be in buffalo bones. Bones can be used for fertilizer. Robert is disappointed since he has spent so much money on the buffalo hides. He leaves without selling the hides.
13. Red Cloud Agency: Margaret is watching over the children and takes care of those without families or those the parents can not feed because of poverty.
14. Robert takes the buffalo hides to the Agency and gives them to the Indian women.
15. Robert meets Captain Pratt who talks to him about having principles. They talk about progress in the west and what men think is right.
16. Margaret teaches the children about their new home and Indian customs.
17. Dog Star kills a cow in a pen for food. Voices That Carry watches in disgust. He thinks it isn't honorable for a warrior to kill a captive animal rather than go hunting on the plains.
18. Voices That Carry runs away to Sitting Bull's camp. He explains they must all return to the agency or be considered hostiles to the American government.
19. Sitting Bull looks for a vision to deal with the soldiers. He has a vision and explains it to his followers. He is ready to take on the soldiers in war.
20. The white generals are planning an Indian attack. Custer goes to the Little Big Horn area.
21. Sitting Bull has moved men to the river to wait for the soldiers and many warriors from other tribes have joined him.
22. Jacob Jr. advises Custer there are many Indians nearby. He suggests waiting for reinforcements but Custer won't wait.
23. The Battle of Little Big Horn begins. Voices That Carry watches in the bushes. He takes a pair of binoculars from a dead soldier and watches the fighting.
24. Jacob Jr. is killed by the Lakota Indians.
25. General Custer dies in the fighting.

26. The Indians celebrate. They take possessions from the dead soldiers against the wishes of Sitting Bull.
27. White Feather was killed in the battle. Running Fox tells Voices That Carry to take his body back to his father, Dog Star and tell him White Feather fought bravely.
28. The white people demand that the army avenge Custer's massacre.
29. Voices That Carry reaches Dog Star's camp with White Feather's body. Dog Star and his family mourn his death.
30. A soldier gives Jacob Jr.'s letter to Robert to send to his family. Jacob and Thunder Heart Woman arrive at Robert Wheeler's store in Dakota. They realize they are related. Jacob and Robert talk about their son and want to see the battlefield.
31. Thunder Heart Woman and Clara talk about children as they travel to the battlefield. Thunder Heart Woman tells Clara not to be afraid of trying to have another baby if she really loves her husband.
32. At the battlefield, Thunder Heart Woman sprinkles tobacco and says a prayer to Wakan Tanka. They find the graves and mourn the death of Jacob Jr.
33. The army takes away all weapons from the Indians on the reservation in retaliation for Custer's death. The peace treaty is broken. The government also takes away the sacred lands.
34. Loved By the Buffalo repairs the medicine wheel. He replaces the stones that were out of place.
35. Captain Pratt talks to Robert and Clara about the Indian school. He talks about making civilized Indian children by immersing them in civilization.
36. Captain Pratt talks to Dog Star and Red Cloud. He tells them their children need a white education to be equal with the white Americans. He will teach them English and white ways.
37. Dog Star convinces the tribe to send their children away to the white school.
38. Margaret Light Shines will not permit her orphans to go to the white school. She will teach them herself at home.

39. Voices That Carry does not want to go but Dog Star tells him he needs the education to beat the white man. He is the oldest child to go and will be in charge of the others.
40. Clara and Robert decide to go to Pennsylvania to teach at Captain Pratt's school for the Indian children.
41. The Indian children are taken away from their mothers and sent to school. When they arrive at the school they must choose a white name and wear white clothing. Captain Pratt takes the amulet away from Voices That Carry. Voices That Carry is named George.
42. The white teachers cut the children's hair so they will look like white children. George tries to run away. He sits in the front yard for several hours. Clara wonders whether they are doing the right thing by forcing the children to change. George chants to Wakan Tanka and uses a knife to cut his own hair.
43. Margaret Light Shines teaches her children about the sacred medicine wheel.
44. Captain Pratt talks to the children about learning English. They are punished if they speak Lakota.
45. Robert tries to teach the children how to make wheels. George makes barbed wire amulets for the boys to wear under their shirts. Their pain will remind them they are Indian.
46. Pratt disciplines George for his behavior and discovers the barbed wire amulet. He takes away the barbed wire and George sees his Lakota amulet in Captain Pratt's desk.
47. Captain Pratt tells Robert, "To save the child we must kill the Indian completely."
48. George steals his amulet from the desk and goes into the forest near the school. He makes a camp there and remembers that he is an Indian. When he sneaks back into the school later, Captain Pratt sees him.
49. A child is forced to eat soap because he spoke his Indian language instead of English.
50. George takes some other boys to his camp in the forest and they do a native dance.
51. The children sleep during class the next day because they were up all night.
52. Pratt finds the camp and punishes George. George is locked up and the camp is destroyed. Robert talks with George inside the room. Roberts suggests that

George should learn to read and write in English so he can preserve his culture by writing it down. He tells George not to stop dreaming.

53. Six months later the children are speaking English and performing a skit on U.S. history. They are dressed in various historical costumes and George is dressed as an Indian. He wears the amulet as part of the Indian costume.
54. Afterwards Pratt tells Robert he is disappointed that he permitted George to dress and act the role of the proud Indian. Robert and Clara decide to leave the school. They can no longer agree to Captain Pratt's methods of civilizing the Indian children. They are sad to leave the children but happy for their future as Clara will soon have another baby. Robert and Clara leave the typewriter for George and he sits down and begins writing about his native culture.