Karl MAY: WINNETOU

1.dia

Karl Friedrich Ma(February 25, 1842 -March 30, 1912) is a German writer, one of the greatest authors of the American Wild West Stories. He wrote many adventure novels, some of these are fictional Indian stories. In his works, the Indians are mostly innocent victims of the colonists. His books have been a great success, and many are still read today.

2.dia

The novel consists of 4 volumes, with two protagonists: Winnetou, the young Apache Indian chief and Old Shatterhand
Winnetou's name means Burning Water.
The events take place in the Wild West, in the seventies of the last century.

3.dia

Winnetou, becomes the chief of all Apache tribes after his father and sister are killed by a bandit named Santer. Winnetou rides a black horse named Ilcsi (Wind) and uses a weapon called the Silver Rifle (a weapon pierced with silver nails) inherited from his father. Winnetou is the wisest Indian, who is noble, brave, peace-loving, deeply sensitive and resourceful.

4.dia

The novel begins with the two protagonists meeting each other. Winnetou is the son of an Apache chief, Old Shatterhand, an engineer for a railroad construction company. The young Indian discovers that the whites have broken the agreement made with them, they want to take their lands in order to run the new railroad tracks through the land of the Apaches

5.dia

Winnetou goes with his father and with his old teacher to the white people's camp to make them leave. They get into an argument and a hunter shoots the teacher. Winnetou swears revenge. Old Shatterhand knows that the real reason behind the war is the gold on the Indians' land. He wants to help the Indians, but it is very difficult for him to win Winnetou's trust so that they can continue the fight together.

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Old Shatterhand is finally accepted by Winnetou as his friend and brother, which is also sealed with a blood pact.

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They go on many adventures together for the freedom of the Indians. At the end of the novel, Winnetou gives his life for his friend, Old Shatterhand.

Karl May's Winnetou novels symbolize the desire for a free life, the close cooperation of life with nature, the trust in the basic goodness of people.

8.dia

Several films of Winnetou's adventures were made in the 1960s, where the protagonist was first played by French Pierre Brice and later by Serbian actor Gojko Mitić. Old Shatterhand is played by American actor Lex Barker. At first, the film is largely based on the book, but later it completely diverges from the stories in the novel.