

Western Fiction

Westerns are devoted to telling stories set primarily in the later half of the 19th century in what became the Western United States but also in Western Canada, Mexico, Alaska, and even Australia. Westerns often portray how primitive and obsolete ways of life confronted modern technological or social changes. This may be depicted by showing conflict between natives and settlers or U.S. Cavalry, or by showing ranchers being threatened by the onset of the Industrial Revolution.

Wyoming Wind: A Story of Tom Horn by John Chandler, Location: WFic Chan

Summary: Tom Horn was a real man, but his life and especially his death have become legend. Horn was reputedly the only white man trusted by Geronimo and later became a stock detective (essentially killers, hired to eliminate cattle rustlers) for some of the biggest cattle ranchers in the West.

Perma Red by Debra Magpie Earling, Location: Fic Earl

Summary: Dreaming of both escape and belonging on the Flathead Indian Reservation in the 1940s, Louise White Elk, a determined and beautiful young woman, comes of age as she is pursued by three dangerous men who will do anything to possess her--police officer Charlie Kicking Woman, the charismatic Baptiste, and Harvey Stoner, who owns nearly everything around him.

The God of Animals by Aryn Kyle, Location: Fic Kyle, Aryn

Summary: Sixth-grader Alice Winston is having a tough year. Her older sister dropped out of high school and ran off to marry a rodeo cowboy. Her father's horse ranch is teetering on the edge of solvency. Her depressed mother won't get out of bed. And her shop partner just drowned in a canal. Unprepared for the increasingly adult role she finds herself playing, Alice starts telling lies, and soon finds herself in a complicated relationship.

Death of a Healing Woman (Book I of the Texana Jones Series) by Allana Martin, Location: Myst Mart

Summary: When Texana Jones stumbles upon the murder of a healing woman, she trails the killer through El Paso, Juarez, and San Antonio, until she comes back to the desert and uncovers a powerful motive for the crime

Telegraph Days by Larry McMurtry, Location: WFic McMurtry, Larry

Summary: In his latest novel, McMurtry returns to his familiar theme of the mythology versus the reality of the West. Here the closing decades of the western frontier are viewed through the eyes of Nellie Courtright, who is likely to endure as one of McMurtry's most memorable and endearing heroines.

The Sergeant's Lady by Miles Hood Swarthout, Location: PBK-Western SW

Summary: Sergeant Ammon Swing finds himself falling for Martha Cox, the sister of local rancher Jacob Cox, who have become caught up in the middle of the desperate struggle between the Army and the Apache.

High Country by Willard Wyman, Location: WFic Wyman, Willard

Summary: After returning home from World War I, Ty Hardin returns to packing--guiding mule trains into mountains where wagons cannot travel--in the Montana mountains that he loves, but when his mentor, Fenton Pardee, dies, Ty leaves Montana for the Sierra Nevada where he becomes a legend in his own right.

