

LOUIS
L'AMOUR



BUCKSKIN
RUN

STORIES

Buckskin Run: Stories

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For the westerner trouble came with the territory. Long grass valleys, merciless deserts, sheer rock cliffs, icy streams, hidden trails, dusty towns. These were the proving grounds of daily life. At any time violence could explode and on the frontier there was no avoiding its sudden terrible impact. In this collection of his stories Louis L'Amour guides us to some of these untamed places where men and women faced the challenge of survival. And for the first time, L'Amour also presents a selection of riveting scenes from western history that are every bit as exciting as his stories.

From the Paperback edition.

Buckskin Run: Stories Details

Date : Published (first published December 1981)

ISBN :

Author : Louis L'Amour

Format : Kindle Edition 192 pages

Genre : Westerns, Fiction, Short Stories

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From Reader Review Buckskin Run: Stories for online ebook

Chuck says

Since I have read twenty some of the L'Amour westerns, it goes without saying that I find them colorful, entertaining and relaxing. It's probably my age since this genre is not often on the bestseller lists. This collection of short stories simply extends his well known theme of strong, rugged, brave, high integrity men that championed western America during the last half of the twentieth century. If your reading values come from best seller lists, MSNBC or Fox News, don't waste your time on Louis L'Amour.

Michael says

I picked up this collection of short stories, first published in various magazines in the late 1940s and early 1950s, when I visited Big Bend National Park and west Texas generally. I was looking for a book that would give me a sense of place. I'm sure I never read a western before, so this was my first. I was in a used book store in Alpine, TX and rummaged through the western section and saw there were a lot of books by Louis L'Amour, a name I associated with westerns (I guess this is how advertising and branding works). I had the sense from the large number of books, that he didn't write great literature. I presume some works he wrote were adapted to western movies (which I've seen my share of). Not wanting to get sucked into a book that I might not like, I picked up this collection of short stories. Here's my tale.

The title story, "Buckskin Run," was my first experience with L'Amour. The writing is fairly straightforward and sparse. It seemed that I've heard this language in movies before, beginning to confirm my suspicion that some of his work was adapted to movies. My snarky comment is that whoever wrote every "Scooby Doo" mystery back in the day (back before Crappy, I mean Scrappy Doo stories with real (lame) ghosts and monsters) was clearly influenced by this story. Besides the western elements, the key item relating to Scooby Doo is the valley that holds a secret. There's lost gold. There are rumors of ghosts. There are mysterious killings. Rascally Henry Childs would have gotten that gold if it wasn't for those meddling kids, I mean, the wits and frontier spirit of Rod Morgan. It's a fine, fine popcorn read that met its goals. It's not literature and you could sort of see it coming. Having finished my first contact with L'Amour, I knew what I was getting into.

The second story also had a mystery surrounding it. Not quite Scooby Doo, but the same sort of idea. Does L'Amour write mysteries with a western theme, or does he write westerns?

As I read more of the stories, I began to see a theme develop: Tough, moral, upstanding, skilled protagonist finds himself in a situation against entrenched interests that are not quite what they seem (or in a mustache-twirling villain sense, exactly what they seem). A secret exists. An initial fight occurs. Each side re-groups. A climax occurs. The hero and the girl start a ranch together (or the hero and some other guy in a vaguely homoerotic way get together, with the hero running the ranch and the other guy as a helper). Also I can't forget the element of a lost brother or relative or friend.

The stories get better, or at least are better structured, near the end. Stories like "Jackson of Horntown" and "Down the Pogonip Trail" are less mysteries to be solved or uncovered, but straight ahead stories that don't seem as forced.

Perhaps L'Amour has a novel that I would like to read, that is considered a classic. I would like to know so that I can read my first western novel and enjoy it. This book was fun for its purpose and I would recommend it for reading only one of the first few stories, then to concentrate on the last four-ish stories.

James Ross says

BUCKSKIN RUN
BY
LOUIS L'AMOUR
BOOK REVIEW BY JAMES ROSS

Buckskin Run is a series of short stories by Louis L'Amour that is set in the Wild West of the late 1800s. There are Cowboys, Native Americans, Mexican Macho Men, and all sorts of other people within these stories. Some of the things that all of the eight stories share in common is the type of people the main characters are. The main character is always a lone cowboy who doesn't really look for trouble, but for whatever reason, tends to always get wrapped up in it. Whether the "trouble" is a murder, rumors that end in gun fights or robberies; the "hero" always finds a clever way to fix a situation.

There are, of course, differences between stories as well. Some of the differences are that only some of the stories have women involved, some are in different seasons like summer or winter, and also the locations differ (whether it's a barren valley, a mountain range full of cracks and crevices, or grassy plains).

I had a fun time reading these stories because I have been surrounded by cowboy culture and even lived in the same landscapes where a few of the stories take place. I recommend this book to younger teenagers because of the mystery and action combined with the interesting language used in that time period.

Benjamin Thomas says

Every once in a while, when I have a few minutes to spare, I'll pick up a short story and give it a whirl. These particular stories were first published in magazines but for this book collection, he's added a small (1-2 page) historical note that, while not directly related to the stories, does serve to provide further flavor to them. Overall I really liked this collection, counting some of them among the best L'Amour short stories I've run across. That said, as with all collections like this, some are better than others. But overall, I rank this among the best of his collections of shorts.

Bob Cantrell says

Hey it is Louis L'Amour

Hey it is Louis L'Amour what more needs to be said. Now some people might call these western to be formulaic, but I say they are just damn fine stories. In this there is a strong sense of men, who are facing the challenges of nature and others. Yes they are strong men, but they had to be in each story you see that a man's word was the most important thing he had. To keep his word was an honourable thing. Now I have read a lot of Louis L'Amour western over the years many of which were short stories like this collection. These stories were new to me, which was a great because what usually happens to me is a get a collection of

short stories and find out that the majority of them I have read before not this time these are all new ones for me. So saddle up and hit the trail to the Bucks in Run. You won't go wrong.

Judge says

Good short stories. Few of them were real quick reads.

M.J. Groves says

The first Louis L'Amour in my reading history. These are very readable short stories and perfect for a trip through the Wild West. We had dinner one night in the bar in Durango where Louis used to sit and write.

Greg Schroeder says

The eponymous story, where the protagonists solves an old mystery, "Jackson of Horntown" where an aging sheriff goes out to capture the last surviving member of a (supposedly) lawless family but finds something else instead, and "Down the Pagonip Trail" where an outlaw and a sheriff find much more than they expect from a down and almost out rancher are the best.

The stories all read quickly and are full of the wholesome adventure and the flavor of the Old West as it progressed from empty wilderness to settled farm and ranch. They are perfect for reading when one doesn't have a lot of time or wants something relatively light.

bill reynolds says

Very entertaining

Involving you quickly into the stories. End
s before you .are ready to let go. Very quick read. Makes you want to read one of his novels

Fredrick Danysh says

An excellent collection of short stories about the human spirit from L'Amour. Each is accompanied by a brief historical note about true life characters of the American West.

Michael Sigler says

Great collection of short stories and a bit of history

This is a good collection of western short stories with a bit of history thrown in before each story. Ideal to read while riding the bus or on a lunch break.

Conan Tigard says

Even though the tales in Buckskin Run are short stories, they are very well developed and fun to read. Like most L'Amour characters, these guys are all tough problem solvers. The kind of men that our country was founded on.

If you just want to just sit down and read a quick western, Buckskin Run is the way to go.

I rated this book an 8 out of 10.

Edward says

A lot of Louis L'Amour's book seem pretty formulaic, but decent reads for westerns. This collection of shorts seemed a bit more repetitive, but it may be due to the condensed length. The historical tie-ins were kinda interesting.

Scott Whitney says

I picked this book up while sitting in a VA waiting room. I have read many of L'Amour's books in the past and really liked the stories from this book. The down side to this book was me wanting more about each of the main characters than what the stories provided. This is a good sign of great characters and that is something which I have always enjoyed from a L'Amour book.

Thomas Hunt says

This is a book of short stories. Not that they are bad, I just prefer his novels.
