



## **Tucker**

*Louis L'Amour*

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## **Tucker** Louis L'Amour

“If a man won’t fight for what is rightly his, then he ain’t much account.” With this challenge from his dying father, young Shell Tucker rode out after three men who had stolen the twenty thousand dollars his father was carrying. Two of the men he hunted, Doc Sites and Kid Reese, were his friends. Dreaming of adventure, Tucker had wanted to join their gang. But now, with his father gone and the people back home desperately in need of the proceeds from the cattle drive, Shell was determined to uphold his father’s reputation and recover their money. He knew the odds were against him. Finding his friends would be difficult. Getting the money back would be nearly impossible.

## **Tucker Details**

Date : Published September 28th 2004 by Bantam (first published October 1971)

ISBN :

Author : Louis L'Amour

Format : Kindle Edition 240 pages

Genre : Westerns, Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction



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# From Reader Review Tucker for online ebook

## Jean says

This book was published in 1971. The book follows a common theme of L'Amour stories. That of a boy becoming a man. I noticed in the story that a man asked Tucker if he could read. Tucker answered in the affirmative. The man told Tucker he should read all the books he could obtain. That a man educates himself by reading. The basic values of L'Amour come through in the story such as, take responsibility for your actions. Be honest. A man is only as good as his word. Give a man an honest day's work for your pay or vise versa and ride for the brand.

I originally read this book in 1971. The paperback was in a box of books that was given to me by friend. She obtained these at a Fiends of the Library book sale. So, I decided to reread it. I am glad I did. If you enjoy a good western or would like a reminder of the old fashion values this book is for you.

I read this as a paperback. It is 185 pages. Published by Bantan.

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## serena482\* says

This is the best Louis L'Amour I have read yet! It was awesome! Shell Tucker is awesome! :D

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## Josie Palmer says

In 1971, Louis L'Amour published his novel Tucker. The author was focused on writing stories about the Old West before it was highly populated by new settlers and miners. He wants the readers to know what the West used to be like, how few cities and towns there were, what the government was like, even how people treated one another. The genre of this novel is Historical Fiction.

Tucker is a novel that starts out with a boy, Shell Tucker, and his Pa on a cattle drive to sell that cattle their community worked together to raise. On their way home, they got in a heated argument, Shell galloped off from his father, and his father's horse acted up to where he was bucked off and the horse ran away. Shell eventually cooled down and went back to his father, finding out he was in bad shape, and he then went after his father's horse. When the horse is found, Shell sees that the money earned from the cattle was stolen by his two "friends", Doc Sites and Kid Reese, and another man, Heseltine. The three men run off with the money and Shell is able to at least get his father's horse back. Shell's father was left in such a terrible condition that he died a day or two later, and Shell makes it his job to get the money back for those who worked hard for it. He chases the men for months on end, not allowing them anytime to settle down and spend the money, but they were kept on their toes for all those months. They had multiple meet ups with each other, and men from both sides got shot up a bit. Shell had to spend a few days, turning nearly into weeks to rest and heal. Once he was healed he hit the road again, and on his way he ran into even more trouble other than the theifs with the money. The characters within the novel are very well developed. Shell didn't have any true friends, which meant he had a closer bond with his father who he still didn't listen to much. So, when he met a guy that helped him on the road, Con Judy got Shell to be a well known man, and a good one at that. The men are very relatable, because Shell himself is trying to not think about what he has to

do with his life in future, just like many students still in school. The plot is also very original, and keeps the readers hanging on, waiting to see what happens next in the story. With all the shooting, and western way of life going on, it is hard to stop reading. The geography within this story is very important, because Shell is traveling all along the west side of America, up and back down again, and some of the states are established already in this novel.

The theme of this novel is to always do the right thing even if it means risking your life. Shell knew that going after the men who stole the money was going to be a huge risk to himself, but he knew he had to get it back for those who worked hard to gain it, and he is also doing it for his father who died to get that money back to their community. A life lesson the readers can learn from this is that people are not always who you think they are. Heseltine fooled Reese and Sites by making them think he was there to help them, but really he just wanted the money to himself. This book is similar to *The Warriors Path* also written by Louis L'Amour. Both of these stories were written for the readers to explore what the West used to be like, and how tough it was. This is also similar to some John Wayne movies that show the Old west and what the people were like, and how they survived out there.

The only controversial thing within this novel that some readers might want to know about is all the gun fighting, and description of how fatigued and hurt the men got from being in the sun too much and being shot up from time to time. I recommend this book to everybody. It is a page turner, and very captivating. There is no certain age group that would dislike this book, Everyone from middle school adults would like reading this. This would be a more appropriate novel for middle school aged students rather than high schoolers, but high schoolers can still enjoy it.

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### **Sharon says**

For some reason, his books named for a single character are some of my favorites. Young man falls in with a bad crowd who subsequently turn on him. Then he seeks vengeance. What more can you ask for?

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### **Mary says**

I just love the good cowboys that get the bad guys! This is the story of a 17-year old cowboy who takes a long journey to retrieve something that was taken from him and in that journey he turns into a man. A great read!

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### **Cora says**

The seventeen year old protagonist of this novel promises to recover money taken from him and his father, and he endures beating, shooting, thirst, and personal doubt to become a young man with a "good name" that precedes him across the West. He learns the difference in foolish trust and faith in humanity.

His fresh approach and desire to become better is charming while the author inserts through the first person narrative some character lessons such as, ". . . the element that makes a man a thief makes him untrustworthy, but those who associate with him often forget that." Another quotable truth is reflected when Tucker observes, "I'd picked up a smattering of geology from Con Judy during our rides, and had begun looking at deserts and mountains from fresh viewpoints, and it showed me that the more a man knew, the more

interesting everything became. As Con had said, if you didn't have books to read, you could always read the face of nature."

True to L'Amour's style, the hero finds that his heart is set on life and love in the highest order.

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### **Rae says**

An enjoyable coming-of-age western. A young boy seeks revenge/justice on the men who killed his father and stole his money. At some point he has to decide if a revengeful heart is worth the grief it brings. Fun stuff.

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### **Stephanie Ricker says**

I am (and will be, for months) working through the ludicrous number of books I bought at the library sale. I breezed through *Tucker* by Louis L'Amour, which was solidly enjoyable but nothing I haven't said about L'Amour before. I find the occasional piece of genre fiction very therapeutic, and everyone loves a good Western.

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### **John K says**

Another very good book by Louis L'Amour, about a boy who becomes a man when he and his pa are robbed and pa dies. He learns the value of keeping promises, no matter how hard it is or how long it takes.

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### **Steven says**

I used to read L'Amour's books as a teenager. In fact, I read the author's entire oeuvre by my early 20s. I read this novel 48 years ago and decided to read it again. It felt good to read this exciting book of a teen who grows up quickly into a man in the wild West.

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### **Mason Marquette says**

#### **Personal Response**

I liked the book *Tucker* and enjoyed reading it. In the book there was always something exciting happening. It had lots of action because Tucker was always chasing somebody. There was a lot of gunfights, and this made you always want to keep reading. It also had a little bit of romance if that is what you like. The book also had some suspense because you never knew what was going to happen next. Overall I thought it was a very good book, and if you are into western style books you would like it.

#### **Plot Summary**

The book starts off with Tucker's dad getting injured, and then not long after he died. After this Con and Judy and Tucker ride after Hesseltine and the money. Con and Tucker would later have to part ways. Tucker meets Vashti in Colorado, but he leaves to ride after his money. Tucker keeps getting closer to Hesseltine, and more of Hesseltine's men die. Tucker then decides he is not going to pursue Hesseltine because he wants to go back to Vashti. After this he runs into Pony Zale, and he takes everything Tucker has. He left him to die, but Tucker would find Zale. Tucker gets some of his money back. Finally, Hesseltine sets up a trap for Tucker by tricking him into thinking he gave up. He did not give up. He tried to kill Tucker, but Tucker drew his gun faster and killed him. Tucker and Vashti would go off, and they live happily ever after.

#### Recommendation

I would recommend this book for anyone ages 13 to 18. There is a fair amount of violence in the book. Either gender could read this book, but it is definitely geared more towards boys. If you like old westerns you would like this book and should read it. I enjoyed this book, and I would recommend you to read it.

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#### Josh Ellis says

I really liked this book... its the second book that I have read by Louis L'Amour... I learned from this book that you should always try to have a goal in life... something that I liked about the main character was that he never gave up, he kept going no matter what, ive always tried to finish things that start...

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#### Denise says

I love Louis L'Amour westerns! This story was similar in some respects to others I've read but I still enjoyed it. Westerns, in the hands of a good writer like L'Amour, express a love of nature, a sense of good moral values, and a love of travel. This story involves Shel Tucker, a young man who must face a lot of serious problems to regain his neighbors' earnings from a cattle drive.

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#### Fredrick Danysh says

Young Shell Tucker hunts for the three men who rob his father of \$20,000 that he is carrying the sale of a trail herd. Two of the thieves were supposed to be Shell's friends. As he attempts to recover the money needed by the folks back, Shell grows up.

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#### Gloria says

I had to add this one simply because it was the first Louis L'Amour ever placed in my hands-- thanks to my big brother. Thanks, Tim -- you created an addict. :)

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