

Blood Meridian Cormac Mccarthy

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE • A searing, post-apocalyptic novel about a father and son’s fight to survive, this “tale of survival and the miracle of goodness only adds to McCarthy’s stature as a living master. It’s gripping, frightening and, ultimately, beautiful” (San Francisco Chronicle). A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones, and when the snow falls it is gray. The sky is dark. Their destination is the coast, although they don’t know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless bands that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food—and each other. The Road is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, “each the other’s world entire,” are sustained by love. Awesome in the totality of its vision, it is an unflinching meditation on the worst and the best that we are capable of: ultimate destructiveness, desperate tenacity, and the tenderness that keeps two people alive in the face of total devastation.

This finely crafted art portfolio includes twenty-two black & white illustrations and two color illustrations by David Palladini. The artwork originally appeared in the trade edition of The Eyes of the Dragon by Stephen King. This edition includes an exclusive afterword by David Palladini which is letterpress printed. The numbered edition is limited to three hundred copies and measures 10" x 15.5". The text and illustrations are printed on ultra-premium archival paper and are housed in a clamshell box of European linen book cloth over archival boards. The edition includes a previously unpublished illustration as well as a reproduction of the only extant copy of the original title page illustration hand-colored by David Palladini. The portfolio is signed by artist David Palladini.

Cormac McCarthy’s first novel, The Orchard Keeper, won the William Faulkner Award. His other books - Outer Dark, Child of God, Suttree, and Blood Meridian - have drawn a cult readership and the praise of such writers as Annie Dillard and Shelby Foote. "There are so many people out there who seem to have a hunger to know more about McCarthy's work," says McCarthy scholar Vereen Bell. Helping to satisfy such a need, this collection of essays, one of the few critical studies of Cormac McCarthy, introduces his work and lays the groundwork for study of an important but underrecognized American novelist, winner in 1992 of the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award for All the Pretty Horses. The essays explore McCarthy's historical and philosophical sources, grapple with the difficult task of identifying the moral center in his works, and identify continuities in his fiction. Included too is a bibliography of works by and about him. As they reflect critical perspectives on the works of this eminent writer, these essays afford a pleasing introduction to all his novels and his screenplay, "The Gardener's Son."

Blood Meridian, Or, The Evening Redness in the WestPan Macmillan

Revised and Expanded Edition

The Orchard Keeper

Life With(out) Bloodshed

The Road

An Exploration Into the Nature of Man and His Environment in the Context of the American West

“Sepich offers his insight and detailed research to the less knowledgeable reader. He crafts a book that will delight the McCarthy specialists.” —Western American Literature
Blood Meridian (1985), Cormac McCarthy's epic tale of an otherwise nameless “kid” who in his teens joins a gang of licensed scalp hunters whose marauding adventures on the Texas-Mexico border in the 1850s, it traces the fortunes of the Kid, a fourteen-year-old Tennessean who stumbles into the nightmarish world where Indians are being murdered and the market for their scalps is thriving. Sonora, Arizona, and California during 1849 and 1850, is widely considered to be one of the finest novels of the Old West, as well as McCarthy's greatest work. The New York Times Book Review ranked it third in a 2006 survey of the “best work of American fiction published in the last twenty-five years,” and in 2005 Time chose it as one of the 100 best novels published since 1923. Yet Blood Meridian's complexity, as well as its sheer bloodiness, makes it difficult for some readers. To guide all its readers and help them appreciate the novel's wealth of historically verifiable characters, places, and events, John Sepich compiled what has become the classic reference work, Notes on Blood Meridian. Originally published in 1993, Notes remained in print for only a few years and has become highly sought-after in the rare book market, with used copies selling for hundreds of dollars. In bringing the book back into print to make it more widely available, Sepich has revised and expanded Notes with a new preface and two new essays that explore key themes and issues in the work. This amplified edition of Notes on Blood Meridian is the essential guide for all who seek a fuller understanding and appreciation of McCarthy's finest work.

In the 1930s, Billy and his family come to Hidalgo County, New Mexico, where he becomes obsessed with a wild wolf that lives a precarious existence threatened by the region’s ranchers.

A “comprehensive and enlightening” study of Cormac McCarthy’s literary influences, based on newly acquired archival materials (Times Literary Supplement). Though Cormac McCarthy once told an interviewer for the New York Times Magazine that “books are made out of books,” he has been famously unwilling to discuss how his own writing is influenced by other writers. Yet his novels and plays masterfully appropriate and allude to an extensive range of literary works, demonstrating that McCarthy is well aware of literary tradition, respectful of the canon, and deliberately situating himself in a knowing relationship to precursors. The Wittliff Collection at Texas State University acquired McCarthy’s Made Out of Books, Michael Lynn Crews thoroughly mines the archive to identify nearly 150 writers and thinkers that McCarthy himself references in early drafts, marginalia, notes, and correspondence. Crews organizes the references into chapters devoted to McCarthy’s published works, the unpublished screenplay Whales and Men, and his plays. Crews identifies the authors, artists, or other cultural figures that McCarthy references; gives the source of the reference in McCarthy’s papers; provides context for the reference as it appears in the archives; and explains the significance of the reference to the novel or play that McCarthy was working on. This groundbreaking exploration of McCarthy’s influences—impossible to undertake before the opening of the archive—vastly expands our understanding of how one of America’s foremost authors has engaged with the ideas, images, metaphors, and language of other thinkers and made them his own.

Based on incidents that took place in the southwestern United States and Mexico around 1850, this novel chronicles the crimes of a band of desperados, with a particular focus on one, "the kid," a boy of fourteen

The Border Trilogy

At Hell's Gate

Recollections of a Rogue

Cormac McCarthy

Adventures in Reading Cormac McCarthy

25th ANNIVERSARY EDITION • An epic novel of the violence and depravity that attended America's westward expansion, Blood Meridian brilliantly subverts the conventions of the Western novel and the mythology of the Wild West—from the bestselling, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Road Based on historical events that took place on the Texas-Mexico border in the 1850s, it traces the fortunes of the Kid, a fourteen-year-old Tennessean who stumbles into the nightmarish world where Indians are being murdered and the market for their scalps is thriving.

In Reading the World Dianne C. Luce explores the historical and philosophical contexts of Cormac McCarthy's early works crafted during his Tennessee period from 1959 to 1979 to demonstrate how McCarthy integrates literary realism with the imagery and myths of Platonic, gnostic, and existentialist philosophies to create his unique vision of the world. Luce begins with a substantial treatment of the east Tennessee context from which McCarthy’s fiction emerges, sketching an Appalachian culture and environment in flux. Against this backdrop Luce examines, novel by novel, McCarthy's distinctive rendering of character through mixed narrative techniques of flashbacks, shifts in vantage point, and dream sequences. Luce shows how McCarthy's fragmented narration and lyrical style combine to create a rich portrayal of the philosophical and religious elements at play in human consciousness as it confronts a world rife with isolation and violence.

In this astute and learned analysis of McCarthy's fiction, Robert Jarrett looks at all seven of the novels published to date and responds to much of the current (and proliferating) critical thought about McCarthy. After an introductory biographical chapter, Jarrett addresses what he considers the two phases of McCarthy's fiction: as a regional writer of the Appalachian South, whose work mixes modernist and realistic techniques and merges contemporary fiction with the tradition of Southern literature (as in The Orchard Keeper [1965], Outer Dark [1968], Child of God [1973], and Suttree [1979]), and as a bold experimenter in form and style, with a keenly rendered postmodern aesthetic (as in Blood Meridian [1985], All the Pretty Horses, and The Crossing [1994]). Jarrett regards McCarthy’s early novels as attempts to write a modern fiction of the twentieth-century Tennessee hill country, comparable to what local-color realists or regionalists accomplished in the nineteenth century and to what William Faulkner accomplished in his mixture of modernism and regionalism in his Yoknapatawpha fiction. It is during his second phase, Jarrett points out, that the locales of McCarthy's novels shift to the Southwest, and any appearance they give of being popular westerns becomes only a disguise. In the final chapter Jarrett stresses three distinctive aspects of McCarthy's fiction: the diverse and idiosyncratic style of the narrative discourse, the central theme of the quest undertaken through a visionary landscape, and the role of interpolated tales. Drawing keenly on literary theory to synthesize the various strands of McCarthy’s unique narrative voice, Jarrett concludes that while the author's tales -often steeped in violence - may not tell us what we want to hear, the enduring pleasure of his novels lies in their imaginative and stylistic power.

A Reader's Guide to Blood Meridian is the essential companion to the classic novel by Cormac McCarthy. Every reader, whether a student of literature or a fan of the book, will find a wealth of information in these pages. Shane Schimpf has researched every aspect of the novel More...from terminology to foreign language translations to historical references to literary underpinnings. The content is presented as a page-by-page analysis facilitating a simultaneous reading of both. The result is a more complete understanding of the novel and McCarthy's dark vision contained therein. Unlike other written works about the novel, A Reader's Guide to Blood Meridian includes: 1) Chapter-by-chapter, page-by-page annotations to the novel. 2) A subject index which includes the initial appearance of major characters, references to historical figures, geographical locales, indigenous flora and fauna, biblical references and more. 3) A thematic overview of Blood Meridian exploring the relationship between the novel's two major figures, The Kid and The Judge.

Child of God

New Directions

A Bloody and Barbarous God

Numbered Edition

Reading Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian

'I have rarely encountered anything as powerful, as unsettling, or as memorable as Blood Meridian . . . A nightmare odyssey' Evening Standard

Even before Harold Bloom designated Blood Meridian as the Great American Novel, Cormac McCarthy had attracted unprecedented attention as a novelist who is both serious and successful, a rare combination in recent American fiction. Critics have been quick to address McCarthy's indebtedness to southern literature, Christianity, and existential thought, but the essays in this collection are among the first to tackle such issues as gender and race in McCarthy's work. The rich complexity of the novels leaves room for a wide variety of interpretation. Some of the contributors see racist attitudes in McCarthy's views of Mexico, whereas others praise his depiction of U.S.-Mexican border culture and contact. Several of the essays approach McCarthy's work from the perspective of ecocriticism, focusing on his representations of the natural world and the relationships that his characters forge with their geographical environments. And by exploring the author's use of and attitudes toward language, some of the contributors examine McCarthy's complex and innovative storytelling techniques.

Regarded by many as one of America's finest-living writers, Cormac McCarthy has produced some of the most compelling novels of the last 40 years. Through the increasing number of cinematic adaptations of his work, including the Oscar-winning No Country for Old Men, and the Pulitzer Prize for The Road, McCarthy is entering the mainstream of cultural consciousness, both in the United States and abroad. In Adventures in Reading Cormac McCarthy, Peter Josyph considers, at length, the author's two masterworks Blood Meridian and Suttree, as well as the novel and film of All the Pretty Horses, McCarthy's play The Stonemason, and his film The Gardener's Son. The book also includes extended conversations with critic Harold Bloom about Blood Meridian; novelist and poet Robert Morgan about The Gardener's Son; critic Rick Wallach about Blood Meridian; and Oscar-winning screenwriter Ted Tally about his film adaptation of All the Pretty Horses. Drawing on multiple resources of an unconventional nature, this book examines McCarthy's work from original and sometimes provocative perspectives. Proposing a new notion of criticism, Adventures in Reading Cormac McCarthy will become a useful tool for critics, students, and general readers about one of the great literary talents of the day.

In this taut, chilling novel from the bestselling, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Road, Lester Ballard—a violent, dispossessed man falsely accused of rape—haunts the hill country of East Tennessee when he is released from jail. While telling his story, Cormac McCarthy depicts the most sordid aspects of life with dignity, humor, and characteristic lyrical brilliance. "Like the novelists he admires—Melville, Dostoyevsky, Faulkner—Cormac McCarthy has created an imaginative oeuvre greater and deeper than any single book. Such writers wrestle with the gods themselves."

—Washington Post

My Confession

Or the Evening Redness in the West

Blood Meridian, Or, The Evening Redness in the West

The Metaphysics of Cormac McCarthy

Embracing the Ambiguity of Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian

From the bestselling, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Road • A novel at once fabular and starkly evocative, set in an unspecified place in Appalachia, sometime around the turn of the century. A woman bears her brother's child, a boy; he leaves the baby in the woods and tells her he died of natural causes. Discovering her brother's lie, she sets forth alone to find her son. Both brother and sister wander separately through a countryside being scoured by three terrifying and elusive strangers, headlong toward an eerie, apocalyptic resolution.

Blood Meridian (1985), Cormac McCarthy's epic tale of an otherwise nameless "kid" who in his teens joins a gang of licensed scalp hunters whose marauding adventures take place across Texas, Chihuahua, Sonora, Arizona, and California during 1849 and 1850, is widely considered to be one of the finest novels of the Old West, as well as McCarthy's greatest work. The New York Times Book Review ranked it third in a 2006 survey of the "best work of American fiction published in the last twenty-five years," and in 2005 Time chose it as one of the 100 best novels published since 1923. Yet Blood Meridian's complexity, as well as its sheer bloodiness, makes it difficult for some readers. To guide all its readers and help them appreciate the novel's wealth of historically verifiable characters, places, and events, John Sepich compiled what has become the classic reference work, Notes on Blood Meridian. Tracing many of the nineteenth-century primary sources that McCarthy used, Notes uncovers the historical roots of Blood Meridian. Originally published in 1993, Notes remained in print for only a few years and has become highly sought-after in the rare book market, with used copies selling for hundreds of dollars. In bringing the book back into print to make it more widely available, Sepich has revised and expanded Notes with a new preface and two new essays that explore key themes and issues in the work. This amplified edition of Notes on Blood Meridian is the essential guide for all who seek a fuller understanding and appreciation of McCarthy's finest work.

*** LONGLISTED FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD IN FICTION * A NEW YORK TIMES 100 NOTABLE BOOKS OF 2019 SELECTION * ONE OF TIME'S 10 BEST NOVELS OF THE YEAR * ONE OF WASHINGTON POST'S 50 BEST BOOKS OF 2019 * ONE OF O MAGAZINE'S BEST BOOKS OF 2019 * ONE OF NPR'S BEST BOOKS OF 2019 * "A profound meditation on the nature of reality...An extraordinary and dazzlingly original work from one of our most gifted and interesting writers." —EMILY ST. JOHN MANDEL, author of Station Eleven “Phillips is, as always, doing something at once wildly her own and utterly primal. Maybe it doesn't surprise me that the strangest book I've read about motherhood is also the best, but it does thrill me.” —REBECCA MAKKAI, author of The Great Believers “Spellbinding...both unsettling and irresistible. Phillips manifests the surreal, terrifying, and visceral experience of motherhood.” —DANA SPIOTTA, author of Innocents and Others “Like parenthood itself, The Need is frightening and maddening and full of dark comedy... Everyday life, here, is both tedious and fascinating, grotesque and lovely, familiar and tremendously strange.” —THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW (EDITORS' CHOICE) “[A]n extraordinary writer at her electrifying best.” —PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (STARRED REVIEW) When Molly, home alone with her two young children, hears footsteps in the living room, she tries to convince herself it's the sleep deprivation. She's been hearing things these days. Startling at loud noises. Imagining the worst-case scenario. It's what mothers do, she knows. But then the footsteps come again, and she catches a glimpse of movement. Suddenly Molly finds herself face-to-face with an intruder who knows far too much about her and her family. As she attempts to protect those she loves most, Molly must also acknowledge her own frailty. Molly slips down an existential rabbit hole where she must confront the dualities of motherhood: the ecstasy and the dread; the languor and the ferocity; the banality and the transcendence as the book hurtles toward a mind-bending conclusion. In The Need, Helen Phillips has created a subversive, speculative thriller that comes to life through blazing, arresting prose and gorgeous, haunting imagery. Helen Phillips has been anointed as one of the most exciting fiction writers working today, and The Need is a glorious celebration of the bizarre and beautiful nature of our everyday lives.**

"An epic novel of the violence and depravity that attended America's westward expansion, Blood Meridian brilliantly subverts the conventions of the Western novel and the mythology of the "wild west." Based on historical events that took place on the Texas-Mexico border in the 1850s, it traces the fortunes of the Kid, a fourteen-year-old Tennessean who stumbles into the nightmarish world where Indians are being murdered and the market for their scalps is thriving." -- Provided by publisher.

I Meant to Kill Ye

The Crossing

Cormac McCarthy's Tennessee Period

Reader's Guide to Blood Meridian

The World's Strongest Librarian

Literary Nonfiction. After teaching Cormac McCarthy's bloodiest, most challenging novel to her students for years, Stephanie Reents feels no closer to the strange void at the heart of Blood Meridian than when she began. So she journeys west, following the trail of the historical Glanton Gang across the desert landscape that McCarthy loves. In his archives, she discovers an obscure note about the kid--the novel's enigmatic protagonist--that might explain why this infamous novel is so hard to shake. This is part of Fiction Advocate's Afterwords series.

In this raw and moving memoir, Claude Thomas describes his service in Vietnam, his subsequent emotional collapse, and his remarkable journey toward healing. At Hell's Gate is not only a gripping coming-of-age story but a spiritual travelogue from the horrors of combat to the discovery of inner peace—a journey that inspired Thomas to become a Zen monk and peace activist who travels to war-scarred regions around the world. "Everyone has their Vietnam," Thomas writes. "Everyone has their own experience of violence, calamity, or trauma." With simplicity and power, this book offers timeless teachings on how we can all find healing, and it presents practical guidance on how mindfulness and compassion can transform our lives. This expanded edition features: •Discussion questions for reading groups •A new afterword by the author reflecting on how the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are affecting soldiers—and offering advice on how to help returning soldiers to cope with their combat experiences

This handsome edition of McCarthy's completed Border Trilogy in one volume gives the reader one of the most important works of American fiction of the last decades. McCarthy's work is far more than a western, but crosses the borders between fiction and philosophy, the real and the world of dream. With influences ranging from the traditional western; the coming-of-age story; the courtly romance; classical tragedy; and magical realism, McCarthy's masterpiece is a work to be read and read again. This new volume containing all three of the novels, All the Pretty Horses, The Crossing, and Cities of the Plain, is a welcome addition to the canon of McCarthy's works in print.

"The purpose of this study was to examine the impact of Samuel Chamberlain's italicMy Confessionitalic and Herman Melville's italicMoby-Dickitalic on Cormac McCarthy's italicBlood Meridianitalic. Cormac McCarthy states that "books are made out of books," and in identifying two novels which McCarthy cites as influence of italicBlood Meridianitalic, the goal was to determine the varying manners in which McCarthy engaged both texts, ultimately coming to the conclusion that Blood Meridian is a compression, and literal flattening, of both of these works. From italicMy Confessionitalic, McCarthy primarily draws from the work for historical purposes. Many of the men in italicBlood Meridianitalic are historically accurate sketches from Chamberlain's work, and McCarthy's Judge Holden completely owes his existence to Chamberlain, as italicMy Confessionitalic is the only mention of Holden in any document. In illuminating key passages from Chamberlain's work, and placing them in direct contact with similar passages from italicBlood Meridianitalic, readers are able to comprehend the ramifications of McCarthy's choice to either adhere to Chamberlain's text or deviate from it. From italicMoby-Dickitalic, instead of primarily drawing from historical sources, McCarthy utilizes Melville's novel in terms of character, plot, setting, and language. The points of contact between the two works are numerous, and at times highly visible. In examining the similarities and differences between the two works in areas of contact, readers are able to better understand McCarthy's compression of the works, as certain aspects of italicBlood Meridianitalic are elucidated in placing them in conversation with italicMoby-Dickitalic."--Abstract from author supplied metadata.

Days Without End

Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian

The Eyes of the Dragon Art Portfolio

The Need

A Soldier's Journey from War to Peace

Presents a collection of critical essays about the works of Cormac McCarthy.

Traces the public librarian author's inspiring story as a Mormon youth with Tourette's Syndrome, who, after a sequence of radical and ineffective treatments overcame nightmarish tics through education, military service, and strength training.

A young boy, an old man, and the outlaw who has unknowingly killed the boy's father, all try to resist the changes brought about during the period between the wars

Not control his amorous and pugilistic inclinations and so left for the West. According to his "Confession," he seduced countless women in the U.S. and Mexico, never missed a fandango, fought gallantly against Mexican guerrillas, and rode with the 1st Dragoons into the Battle of Buena Vista. His remarkable story is pure melodrama; but Goetzmann has proven by his painstaking research that much of it is true. In extensive annotation, the editor has been able to separate.

A Guide to Cormac McCarthy's Literary Influences

Beyond Reckoning

Literary Historical Relations in Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian

"Representations and Things" in Cormac McCarthy's "Blood Meridian, Or, The Evening Redness in the West"

Notes on Blood Meridian

With essays by Edwin T. Arnold, J. Douglas Canfield, Christine Chollier, George Guillemin, Dianne C. Luce, Jacqueline Scoones, Phillip A. Snyder, Nell Sullivan, and John Wegner The completion of Cormac McCarthy's Border Trilogy--All the Pretty Horses (1992), The Crossing (1994), and Cities of the Plain (1998)--marked a major achievement in American literature. Only ten years earlier this now internationally acclaimed novelist had been called the best unknown writer in America. The trilogy is McCarthy's most ambitious project yet, composed at the height of his mature powers over a period of fifteen years. It is "a miracle in prose," as Robert Hass wrote of its middle volume, an unsentimental elegy for the lost world of the cowboy, the passing of the wilderness, and the fading innocence of post--World War II America. The trilogy is a literary accomplishment with wide appeal, for despite the challenging materials in each book, these volumes remained on bestseller lists for many weeks. This collection of essays is the first book to examine these novels as a trilogy, the first to read them as an integrated whole. Together these explorations of McCarthy's magnum opus serve as an ideal companion reader. Represented here are nine of the most notable Cormac McCarthy scholars, both American and European. Their essays provide a substantial exploration of the trilogy from different perspectives. Included are gender issues, eco-critical approaches, explications of the war or land history underlying the trilogy, studies of narrative voice, dreams, the cowboy tradition, and the pastoral tradition, and considerations of McCarthy's moral and spiritual outlook. These essays complement one another in highly provocative ways, prompting new appreciation of the complexity of McCarthy's work and the profundity of his vision.

A man tells his sister that the child she bore him is dead, but learning it is alive, she searches the woods for her lost son

COSTA BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER LONGLISTED FOR THE 2017 MAN BOOKER PRIZE "A true leftfield wonder: Days Without End is a violent, superbly lyrical western offering a sweeping vision of America in the making."—Kazuo Ishiguro, Booker Prize winning author of The Remains of the Day and The Buried Giant From the two-time Man Booker Prize finalist Sebastian Barry, "a master storyteller" (Wall Street Journal), comes a powerful new novel of duty and family set against the American Indian and Civil Wars Thomas McNulty, aged barely seventeen and having fled the Great Famine in Ireland, signs up for the U.S. Army in the 1850s. With his brother in arms, John Cole, Thomas goes on to fight in the Indian Wars—against the Sioux and the Yurok—and, ultimately, the Civil War. Orphans of terrible hardships themselves, the men find these days to be vivid and alive, despite the horrors they see and are complicit in. Moving from the plains of Wyoming to Tennessee, Sebastian Barry's latest work is a masterpiece of atmosphere and language. An intensely poignant story of two men and the makeshift family they create with a young Sioux girl, Winona, Days Without End is a fresh and haunting portrait of the most fateful years in American history and is a novel never to be forgotten.

A Bloody and Barbarous God investigates the relationship between gnosticism, a system of thought that argues that the cosmos is evil and that the human spirit must strive for liberation from manifest existence, and the perennial philosophy, a study of the highest common factor in all esoteric religions, and how these traditions have influenced the later novels of Cormac McCarthy, namely, Blood Meridian, All the Pretty Horses, The Crossing, Cities of the Plain, No Country for Old Men, and The Road. Mundik argues that McCarthy continually strives to evolve an explanatory theodicy throughout his work, and that his novels are, to a lesser or greater extent, concerned with the meaning of human existence in relation to the presence of evil and the nature of the divine.

Notes Toward an Explication of Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian

Outer Dark

Cormac McCarthy's Western Novels

Blood Meridian

Cormac McCarthy: Blood Meridian

In the continuing redefinition of the American West, few recent writers have left a mark as indelible as Cormac McCarthy. A favorite subject of critics and fans alike despite--or perhaps because of--his avoidance of public appearances, the man is known solely through his writing. Thanks to his early work, he is most often associated with a bleak vision of humanity grounded in a belief in man's primordial aggressiveness. McCarthy scholar Barclay Owens has written the first book to concentrate exclusively on McCarthy's acclaimed western novels: Blood Meridian, National Book Award winner All the Pretty Horses, The Crossing, and Cities of the Plain. In a thought-provoking analysis, he explores the differences between Blood Meridian and the Border Trilogy novels and shows how those differences reflect changing conditions in contemporary American culture. Owens captures both Blood Meridian's wanton violence and the Border Trilogy's fond remembrance of the Old West. He shows how this dramatic shift from atavistic brutality to nostalgic Americana suggests that McCarthy has finally given his readers what they most want--the stuff of their mythic dreams. Owens's study is both an incisive look at one of our most important and demanding authors and a penetrating analysis of violence and myth in American culture. Fans of McCarthy's work will find much to consider for ongoing discussions of this influential body of work.

Violence and Forgetting in Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian

Books Are Made Out of Books

Reading the World

Cormac McCarthy's Version of the West in "Blood Meridian Or The Evening Redness in the West"