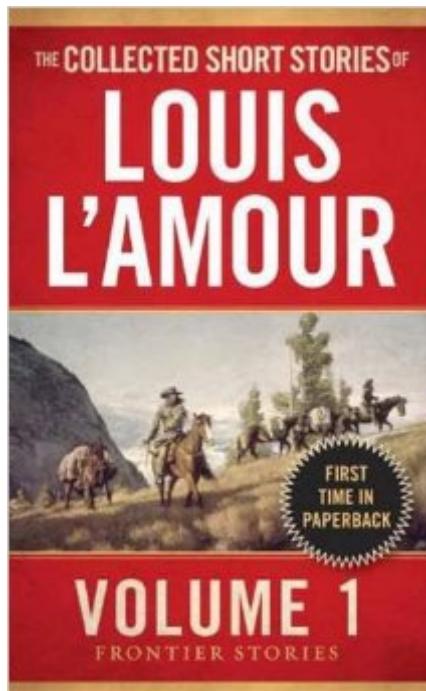


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# The Collected Short Stories Of Louis L'Amour, Volume 1: Frontier Stories



## **Synopsis**

Louis L'Amour is recognized the world over as one of the most prolific and popular American authors. While every one of his eighty-nine novels is still in print, a lesser known fact is that L'Amour is also one of the all-time bestselling authors of short fiction. Compared by The Wall Street Journal to Jack London and Robert Louis Stevenson, L'Amour's Collected Short Stories are now presented for the first time in paperback. The Collected Short Stories of Louis L'Amour, Volume 1, features thirty-five action-packed Frontier Stories. It kicks off a series of nine paperbacks, including a two-part volume of Adventure Stories and a two-part volume of Crime Stories, which will bring all of L'Amour's short fiction to his millions of readers around the world.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I am 71 years young and have been reading since I was five. I think I have read about every kind of book imaginable. Since I became a mature adult, (about 50 years), one thing has become important to me. That is the ability of the author to hold my attention. I have found only three able to do that and only one consistently. About ten years ago I started a collection of Louis L'Amour Leather Bound books. I have completed that collection and now I read about forty Louis L'Amour books a year. Every year. The Collected Short Stories of Louis L'Amour have all been written before in other volumes. Sometimes in more than one volume but, if you are going on a trip and you want to read for enjoyment and not take several books along this book meets all requirements. It has several

genre's of stories, mainly western, and it leaves a reader feeling accomplished and satisfied after completing a short story. The world lost a great person and story teller when Louis passed on. I hope his children keep putting out his hidden works and if they do I will certainly add them to my collection, even if they are reprints from other books.

When I was young, I overlooked Louis L'amour simply because he was so popular. My thinking being that a writer this popular must not dwell in the rarified air of the true "artist." Good God Almighty, how ignorant the young can be. These are great stories, crafted with a sure, firm hand. After reading several of the stories, and enjoying every one, it became clear what made L'amour so enduring a writer. First, the stories are constructed like brick houses. Even the very short ones have within them a clean, pure structure. They always start off at full speed, moving very quickly through conflict and resolution. Also, they are very intriguing stories, meaning that I was curious and eager, in every single one, to discover what happens. Finally, L'amour wrote about real people. Set against the current trend in American literature to create outlandish characters, chalk full of oddball ticks and habits, L'amour's characters seemed somehow all that more memorable. I don't know about you, but I have lost track of the number of books I have started recently, and after about 100 pages have to admit that 1) I really don't care about any of the characters. 2) I really don't care what happens next, and 3) the author is an oversensitive child, full of tricks and drama but nothing really to say. Sound familiar? If it does, give this book a try. It's the antidote. These were stories written by a grown man that had lived a real life, and he had something to say. Luckily for us, he was also a great writer with a gift for storytelling.

I am ashamed to admit that this is the first time I ever read anything by Louis L'Amour. I like short stories, so when I saw this for \$3 in a cut-rate shop, I figured, "What the heck." I am halfway through and already looking for the next volume so it is at hand when I finish that one. If you are a short story fan, buy the book. It is fabulous. If you are a writer of short stories looking for good examples, buy the book. These stories are very well written. He makes you care about the characters immediately. So much so that I am often sad that the story is through. I want to read more about these folks! Anyway, I love it.

I have all Louis L'Amour's writings in hardcover, and though these short stories are scattered throughout those 100 books, it is about time they appeared in their own right, in separate hardcover. The one thing somewhat surprising is of this date, only 5 reviews are listed here for this

collection. There are 35 stories in this hardcover, and while they are not all classics, each and everyone is very good, to say the least. And while I've been reading Louis on/off for the last 35 years, it is good to know that a newer generation will still have the reading pleasure he gives. Louis was writing short stories for pulps and western magazines long before he attempted any novels. He, as with Ernest Hemingway, learned his craft very well. If he hadn't, he would not have been paid, and would have washed out as a writer. While I personally think Louis wrote too many 'non-essential' books, those he has written are all at least readable. I would rather he had spent more time on his Sackett, Talon, & Chantry, series, and less time on other marginal books. For when he died, that series was left unfinished, never to be finished. A few of my personal favorites from this 1st volume would be: The Gift of Cochise, Trap of Gold, End of the Drive, A Mule for Santa Fe, Ironwood Station, and Beyond the Chaparral. I've got the 2nd volume on order, and will reread all these stories once again. My favorite short stories of Louis are I believe included in this 2nd volume. For the Chick Bowdre Texas Ranger stories are just about the best Mr. L'Amour ever wrote. Semper Fi.

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