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The Max Brand Megapack



Synopsis

The Max Brand Megapack assembles 20 classic Max Brand talesâ "novels and short storiesâ "set primarily in the American West. For pure Old West adventure, it doesn't get better than this -- more than 3,300 pages of action-packed reading! Included are: HARRIGAN (1918) THE GHOST (1919) HOLE-IN-THE-WALL BARRETT (1919) TRAILINÂ™! (1919) THE UNTAMED (1920) OUT OF THE DARK (1920) RIDERS OF THE SILENCES (1920) THE SEVENTH MAN (1921) WAY OF THE LAWLESS (1921) GUNMANÂ™S RECKONING (1921) RONICKY DOONE (1921) RONICKY DOONE AND THE COSLETT TREASURE (1922) RONICKY DOONEÂ™S REWARD (1922) BLACK JACK (1922) THE GARDEN OF EDEN (1922) THE RANGELAND AVENGER (1922) THE NIGHT HORSEMAN (1920) ALCATRAZ (1923) BULL HUNTER (1924) THE HAIR-TRIGGER KID (1931) And don't forget to search this ebook store for "Wildside Megapack" to see all the entries in the Megapack series -- including volumes of science fiction, fantasy, horror, mystery, westerns, classics, and much, much more!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a particularly large collection of Max Brand stories (most of them novels) at a remarkably low price. It is particularly well-formatted, has an active TOC, and altogether, is a tremendous set. Admittedly, a great many of these titles may be obtained for free at Gutenberg.org or from the Kindle Store (though not all of them will be found in the latter), but I like the convenience of getting a bundle of 20 titles instantly in a single download, and thereafter having them all in one place on my Kindle for easy access. Max Brand (in reality Frederick Faust) was a prolific pulp writer who wrote, among other things, the very popular "Dr. Kildare" series. But he is probably most famous for his hundreds of Westerns, and he is often (rightly) mentioned with, and compared to, Zane Grey and Louis L'Amour. Brand's stories, however, tend to have a slightly different, hard-to-define "feel" to them. Perhaps this is because Brand's heroes are frequently loners either in pursuit of someone who has wronged them or on the run from themselves (that is to say, from their consciences due to some past indiscretion, real or perceived); as such they often tend to be very introspective. Some heavy doses of personal-reflection and self-examination together with equally generous amounts of description (providing local color and a generic sense of the West) contribute to a disproportionate ratio of verbiage to action in many of his novels. Therefore, what some readers may consider stylistic detail for the sake of creating proper motivation leading to dramatic conflict, others (especially those readers used to more action-packed, contemporary shoot-em-ups) may fault as unnecessary padding which serves to slow down and prolong the story. (Wordiness is a common characteristic of pulp writers who were paid by the word). More significantly, however, this introspection imparts a higher level of "angst" (for lack of a better word) than found in Grey and L'Amour. Of the three, Brand has been criticized for not necessarily being the best chronicler of specific details pertaining to the "authentic" Wild West, but he does realistically depict the psychology of human behavior. This is accomplished, however, within the framework of sometimes contrived and often simplistic plot-devices that don't, in themselves, always ring particularly true. His "West" subsequently may come across as more of an abstraction, secondary (some may say "incidental") to the personal human drama he chooses to emphasize, and for which he is best known. Regardless of all that, Max Brand's uncritical fans simply like the way he tells his stories -- and so do I (even if some of his books seem to me like psychologically-oriented character studies set in an impressionistic West). And though I DO enjoy Brand very much, I must admit to preferring the truer grit of Louis L'Amour. Nevertheless, Brand is a superb story-teller, and those who like to read older-style, traditional classic Westerns should be very happy with this magnificent collection.

Good story lines, but very verbose and cluttered with non essential information that states the

obvious. Had to skim for pages in some spots to simply retrieve the story line.

Max has the ability to create a version of the Old West with some Characters and situations that seem to have come from the pages of Science Fiction. I have enjoyed this mixture of reality and make believe. The main characters are easy to define and there are not too many Characters for me to remember.. Also, most of the names are easy to remember, and usually I can tell who are the good guys or the bad guys - but there are some who keep me guessing. The variety of story lines in this assortment of stories helps to maintain my interest.

I purchased this when I purchased a Kindle HD for my father. He is often on the road and loves older western books. It took a long time for me to get him talked into a Kindle because of the technology, but he loves that he can read multiple stories without having to take the paperbacks with him on long trips. There are enough stories here that keep his attention for quite a while. Wonderful price and I was very happy to know that my dad will be entertained while waiting for various things.

About the only good thing I can say is that the book seemed to be well edited. As for the stories - a grave disappointment.

A lot of reading for a little money.....

I've enjoyed westerns since I was a child (I'm 70) and I enjoyed this compilation. The stories are more character stories than shoot-em-ups but there is plenty of action. In many of the stories the horses are well developed characters in their own self. The stories could have been put in order where the ones with the same characters were grouped instead of by published date.

Excellent! Old westerns at a great price

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