Echoes From Women Of The Alamo

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Friendswood Rene Steinke 2014-08-14 “Steinke’s sense of this small Texas town, with its explosive and interconnected lives and deaths, is absolutely masterful.”—Elizabeth Gilbert A big, moving novel of one tight-knit Texas community and the events that alter its residents’ lives forever. Friendswood, Texas, is a small Gulf Coast town of church suppers, oil rigs on the horizon, hurricane weather, and high school football games. When tragedy rears its head with an industrial leak that kills and sickens residents, it pulls on the common thread that runs through the community, intensifying everything. From a confused fifteen-year-old girl beset by visions, to a high school football star tormented by his actions, to a mother galvanized by the death of her teen daughter, to a morally bankrupt father trying to survive his mistakes, Rene Steinke explores what happens when families are trapped in the ambiguity of history’s missteps—when the actions of a few change the lives and well-being of many. Driving the narrative powerfully forward is the suspenseful question of the fates of four Friendswood families, and Steinke’s striking insight and empathy. Inspired in part by the town where she herself grew up, this layered, propulsive, psychologically complex story is poignant proof that extreme public events, as catastrophic as they might seem, must almost always pale in comparison to the intimate personal experiences and motivations of grief, love, lust, ambition, anxiety, and regret.

How the South Won the Civil War Heather Cox Richardson 2020 A provocative and propulsive look at American history, and the myth that the Civil War’s “new birth of freedom” ended oligarchy. It just moved westward.

Messy Beginnings Malini Johar Schueller 2003 When exploring the links between America and post-colonialism, scholars tend to think either in terms of contemporary multiculturalism, or of imperialism since 1898. This book challenges the idea of early America’s immunity from issues of imperialism.

Texas War of Independence Alan C. Huffines 2011-01-15 This volume examines the Texas War of Independence from its outbreak in 1835 to the Battle of the Alamo, to winning independence at the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836.

On to the Alamo Richard Penn Smith 2003-11-25 David “Davy” Crockett (1786–1836) was born in Tennessee, fought alongside Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812, and later served three terms in the House of Representatives before heading to Texas, where he died defending the Alamo. Col. Crockett’s Exploits and Adventures in Texas, first published after Crockett’s death and disingenuously attributed to him, was written by Richard Penn Smith as a narrative that promoted a sanitized account of the Alamo as a heroic effort by Americans to stem the Mexican “invasion” of Texas. The story, which was a huge success in its day, created a myth of the battle that pervaded the collective American memory for more than 150 years and reinforced the image of Davy Crockett as the “King of the Frontier.”

The Blood of Heroes James Donovan 2012-05-15 On February 23, 1836, a large Mexican army led by dictator Santa Anna reached San Antonio and laid siege to about 175 Texas rebels holed up in the Alamo. The Texans refused to surrender for nearly two weeks until almost 2,000 Mexican troops unleashed a final assault. The defenders fought valiantly—for their lives and for a free and independent Texas—but in the end, they were all slaughtered. Their ultimate sacrifice inspired the rallying cry “Remember the Alamo!” and eventual triumph. Exhaustively researched, and drawing upon fresh primary sources in U.S. and Mexican archives, THE BLOOD OF HEROES is the definitive account of this epic battle. Populated by larger-than-life characters—including Davy Crockett, James Bowie, William Barret Travis—this is a stirring story of audacity, valor, and redemption.

Harper’s New Monthly Magazine Henry Mills Alden 1898

The Texas Military Experience Joseph G. Dawson 2010 In this first scholarly collection to focus on Texas’ military heritage, prominent authors reevaluate famous personalities, reassess noted battles and units, call for new historical points to be considered, and bring fresh perspectives to such matters as the interplay of fiction, film, and historical understanding.
Concerns and Opinions of Vietnam Era Veterans
United States. Congress. House. Committee on
Veterans’ Affairs. Subcommittee on Oversight and
Investigations 1992
Landscapes of Writing in Chicano Literature I.
Martín n-Junquera 2013-12-17 Adding nuance to a
global debate, esteemed scholars from Europe and
North and Latin America portray the attempts in
Chicano literature to provide answers to the
environmental crisis. Diverse ecocritical perspectives
add new meaning to the novels, short stories, drama,
poetry, films, and documentaries analyzed in this
timely and engaged collection.
San Antonio on Parade Judith Berg Sobre 2003
Recounts the events of six historic festivals in San
Antonio, Texas, at the end of the nineteenth century,
describing each event’s pageantry, parades,
competitions, and participants.
The Intersection of Gender, Class and Ethnicity in U.S.
Latina Life Writings Michelle Johnson Vela 2001
Forget the Alamo Bryan Burrough 2022-06-07 A
—Wall Street Journal “Entertaining and well-
researched . . .” —Houston Chronicle Three noted
Texan writers combine forces to tell the real story of
the Alamo, dispelling the myths, exploring why
they had their day for so long, and explaining why the
ugly fight about its meaning is now coming to a head.
Every nation needs its creation myth, and since Texas
was a nation before it was a state, it’s no surprise
that its myths bite deep. There’s no piece of history
more important to Texans than the Battle of the
Alamo, when Davy Crockett and a band of rebels
went down in a blaze of glory fighting for independence
from Mexico, losing the battle but setting Texas up
to win the war. However, that version of events, as
Forget the Alamo definitively shows, owes more to
fantasy than reality. Just as the site of the Alamo
was left in ruins for decades, its story was
forgotten and twisted over time, with the
contributions of Tejanos—Texans of Mexican origin,
who fought alongside the Anglo rebels—scrubbed
from the record, and the origin of the conflict over
Mexico’s push to abolish slavery papered over.
Forget the Alamo provocatively explains the true
story of the battle against the backdrop of Texas’s
struggle for independence, then shows how the
sausage of myth got made in the Jim Crow South of
the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. As
uncomfortable as it may be to hear for some,
establishing the Alamo has long had an echo of
celebrating whiteness. In the past forty-some years,
waves of revisionists have come at this topic, and at
times have made real progress toward a more nuanced
and inclusive story that doesn’t alienate anyone. But
we are not living in one of those times; the fight over
the Alamo’s meaning has become more pitched than ever
in the past few years, even violent, as Texas’s future
begins to look more and more different from its past.
It’s the perfect time for a wise and generous-spirited
book that shines the bright light of the truth into a
place that’s gotten awfully dark.
Remember the Alamo Amelia E. Barr 2019-09-25
Reproduction of the original: Remember the Alamo by
Amelia E. Barr Echoes of Glory Robert Flynn 2009-04-01 Robert
Flynn’s new novel, Echoes of Glory centers on a
fictitious Texas county that embraces its legends,
but not its actual history. Set in the Reagan era, the
novel exposes shared myths as lies and the truth,
lacking all comfort. In his inimitable style Flynn
paints a portrait of the denizens of the county who
tacitly embrace the legend as all too human and all
too frail. Overshadowed by the accomplishments of
adjacent Doss County, Mills County clings to its
legends—the legendary Mills brothers. One brother
had died at the Alamo, one at Goliad, three had
fought at San Jacinto. The three survivors marched
into the center of Texas bringing with them stories of
heroism and acorns from the San Jacinto battlefield.
According to tradition, they planted an oak tree for
each hero who had died at the Alamo. Then there was
Timpson Smith, sole survivor of Second Platoon of
Marine reserves, who had prevented the North Korean
army from driving U.S. and U.N. forces into the sea. To
honor their memory the county erected a monument,
“Second to None,” topped with the heroic figure of
Timpson Smith. But there is a less heroic side of Mills
County. When Deputy Sheriff Larry Maddin decides to
run against Sheriff and Local Hero Timpson Smith, and
a drama professor at the university announces that
he will write a play depicting the true story of
Second Platoon, many fear the dark underside of Mills
County will be exposed. Echoes of a Distant Summer Guy Johnson
2011-10-12 “You done lived a tough life, boy, and I
know I’m part responsible for that. I ain’t askin’ you
to excuse me or forgive me. Just know I did the best I
knew to do. I was just tryin’ to make you tough
eough to deal with the world. To stand tall among
men, I knew you had to be strong and have yo’ own
mind.” “You were preparing me for war, Grandfather.”
Guy Johnson, the author of the critically acclaimed
debut Standing at the Scratch Line, continues the
Tremain family saga. Jackson St. Clair Tremain hasn’t
spoken to his grandfather King in nearly twenty years.
Disgusted by the violence and bloodlust that seemed
to be his grandfather’s way of life, Jackson chose to
distance himself from King and live a simpler life. But
now King is gravely ill, and his impending death places
Jackson’s life—as well as those of his family and
friends—in jeopardy. Reluctantly, Jackson travels to
Mexico to see King. But after a brief reconciliation, his
grandfather is assassinated, and Jackson suspects
that his grandmother Serena may have had a hand in it.
Jackson takes control of King’s organization, and as
he does, he reflects on the summers he spent in Mexico

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as a child and the lessons he learned there at the knee of his strong-willed, complex grandfather. In Echoes of A Distant Summer, Guy Johnson introduces us to a new hero, Jackson St. Clair Tremain, who learns that, like his grandfather, he must be willing to protect those he loves—at all costs.

The Alamo Story. R. Edmondson 2022-07-15 First published in 2000, J. R. Edmondson's The Alamo Story: From Early History to Current Conflicts thoroughly examines the famous "Shrine of Texas Liberty" from its origin as a Spanish New World mission to its modern status. It has been lauded as the "best" and "most readable" of all historical accounts devoted to the legendary mission-fortress. The original edition has been celebrated for over twenty years for its comprehensive approach to Alamo scholarship and for presenting the famous battle in the context of both American and Mexican history. This second edition of The Alamo Story includes new information about the battle and those involved, including expanded stories on the roles of minorities and some illustrations by noted artist Mark Lemon. The book also features a new chapter on Benjamin Rush Milam's assault on San Antonio with only three hundred Texans, the battle that set the stage for the siege of the Alamo less than three months later. And there is an extensive epilogue on the present-day conflicts about the physical Alamo compound, as historic preservationists clash with political and popular opinions in San Antonio.

Echoes of War. Michael C.C. Adams 2021-10-21 Americans are often accused of not appreciating history, but this charge belies the real popular interest in the past. Historical reenactments draw thousands of spectators; popular histories fill the bestseller lists; PBS, A&E and The History Channel air a dizzying array of documentaries and historical dramas; and Hollywood war movies become blockbusters. Though historians worry that these popular representations sacrifice authenticity for broad appeal, Michael C.C. Adams argues that living history—even if it is an incomplete depiction of the past—plays a vital role in stimulating the historical imagination. In Echoes of War, he examines how one of the most popular fields of history is portrayed, embraced, and shaped by mainstream culture. Adams argues that symbols of war are of intrinsic military significance and help people to articulate ideas and values. We still return to the knight as a symbol of noble striving; the bowman appeals as a rebel against unjust privilege. Though Custer may not have been the Army's most accomplished fighter, he achieved the status of cultural icon. The public memory of the reenacted British regular soldier shaped American attitudes toward governments and gun laws. The 1863 attack on Fort Wagner by the black Fifty-fourth Massachusetts regiment was lost to public view until racial equality became important in the late twentieth century. Echoes of War is a unique look at how a thousand years of military history are remembered in popular culture, through images ranging from the medieval knight to the horror of U.S. involvement in the My Lai massacre.

True Women. Janice Woods Windle 2012-03 Acclaim for True Women "Janice Woods Windle has performed a family miracle. Her book, True Women, is actually two books; a depiction of her distinguished Texas family, and an engrossing novel built upon her real ancestors. She recalls vivid scenes from her family’s past, but also weaves them into a well-constructed novel. I know of no other book like it. Exciting storytelling." -James A. Michener "Janice Woods Windle has looked into her own heritage and pulled out a great windstorm of a novel. True Women presents, a stable of women they breed best in Texas: strong, pound, vivid, unforgittable. This is an American original, deftly told."-Anne Rivers Siddon "True Women represents a part of our country’s history ignored and long overdue for recognition. At last, we can read about the pioneers and their husbands for a change!"-Fannie Flagg "I grew up listening to great stories. Janice Windle’s novel, True Women is an engaging story of three generations of Texas women whose lived capture your imagination and your heart. Her characters are as sturdy as Texas live oaks, and her novel is a timeless tribute to remarkable women in extraordinary times."-Ann Richards Governor of Texas "As a writer deeply rooted in Texas history, I find Janice Woods Windle’s historical novel, True Women, beautifully written and brilliantly researched. It is a landmark book and validates its title.”-Liz Carpenter Executive Assistant to Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson and Press Secretary to First Lady Lady Bird Johnson

Picturing Texas Politics. Chuck Bailey 2015-10-01 The Republic of Texas was founded in 1839, around the time that photography was being invented. So while there were no photographers at the Alamo or San Jacinto, they arrived soon after to immortalize, on film, Sam Houston, David Burnett, Mirabeau Lamar, and many other founding fathers of the Lone Star State. Over the following nearly two centuries, Texas politics and politicians have provided reliable, often dramatic, and sometimes larger-than-life subjects for photographers to capture in the moment and add to the historical record. Picturing Texas Politics presents the first photographic album of Texas politicians and political campaigns ever assembled. Chuck Bailey has searched archives, museums, libraries, and private collections to find photographs that have never been published, as well as iconic images, such as Russell Lee’s pictures of one of Ralph Yarborough’s campaigns. These photographs are arranged into four chronological sections, each one introduced by historian Patrick Cox, who also provides informative photo captions. The photographs display power and political savvy from
the early Republic to Lyndon Johnson and Bob Bullock; unmatched dedication to Texas in the Hobby and Bush families; and the growing influence of women in politics, from Miriam “Ma” Ferguson to Barbara Jordan, Ann Richards, and Kay Bailey Hutchison. With Sam Houston’s jaguar vest, W. Lee “Pappy” O’Daniel’s hillbilly band, a famous governor with an ostrich, and prominent Texans eating watermelons, shooting guns, and riding horses, this is Texas politics at its liveliest and best.

Echoes of War Michael C. C. Adams 2002
History Films, Women, and Freud’s Uncanny Susan E. Linville 2004-06-01 History films were a highly popular genre in the 1990s, as Hollywood looked back at significant and troubling episodes from World War II, the Cold War era, and the technoc–war in the Persian Gulf. As filmmakers attempted to confront and manage intractable elements of the American past, such as the trauma of war and the legacy of racism, Susan Linville argues that a surprising casualty occurred—the erasure of relevant facets of contemporary women’s history. In this book, Linville offers a sustained critique of the history film and its reduction of women to figures of ambivalence or absence. Historizing and adapting Freud’s concept of the uncanny and its relationship to the maternal body as the first home, she offers theoretically sophisticated readings of the films Midnight Clear, Saving Private Ryan, The Thin Red Line, Nixon, Courage Under Fire, Lone Star, and Limbo. She also demonstrates that the uncanny is not only a source of anxiety but also potentially a progressive force for eroding nostalgic ideals of nation and gender. Linville concludes with a close reading of a recent 9/11 documentary, showing how the patterns and motifs of 1990s history films informed it and what that means for our future.

Remember the Alamo (Western Novel) Amelia E. Barr 2022-01-04 “For many years there had never been any doubt in the mind of Robert Worth as to the ultimate destiny of Texas, though he was by no means an adventurer, and had come into the beautiful land by a sequence of natural and business-like events. He was born in New York. In that city he studied his profession, and in eighteen hundred and three began its profession, and in eighteen hundred and three began its practice in an office near Contoit’s Hotel, opposite the City Park. One day he was summoned there to attend a sick man. His patient proved to be Don Jaime Urrea, and the rich Mexican grandee conceived a warm friendship for the young physician...”


The Second Battle of the Alamo Judy Alter 2020-02-01 By 1900, the tale of the 300 Texans who died in the 1836 battle of the Alamo had already become legend. But to corporate interests in the growing City of San Antonio, the land where that blood was shed was merely a desirable plot of land across the street from new restaurants and hotels, with only a few remaining crumbling buildings to tell the tale. When two women, Adina Emilia De Zavala, the granddaughter of the first vice-president of the Texas Republic, and Clara Driscoll, the daughter of one of Texas’s most prominent ranch families and first bankers, learned of the plans, they hatched a plan to preserve the site—and in doing so, they reinvigorated both the legend and lore of the Alamo and cemented the site’s status as hallowed ground. These two strong-willed, pioneering women were very different, but the story of how they banded together and how the Alamo became what it is today despite those differences, is compelling reading for those interested in Texas history and Texas’s larger-than-life personality. Sociological Abstracts 1996

The Texas War of Independence 1835–36 Alan C. Huffines 2014-06-06 The Texas Revolution is remembered chiefly for the 13-day siege of the Alamo and its immortal heroes. This book describes the war and the preceding years that were marked by resentments and minor confrontations as the ambitions of Mexico’s leaders clashed with the territorial determination of Texan settlers. When the war broke in October 1835, the invading Mexicans, under the leadership of the flamboyant President-General Santa Ana, fully expected to crush a ragged army of frontiersmen. Led by Sam Houston, the Texans rallied in defense of the new Lone Star state, defeated the Mexicans in a mere 18 minutes at the battle of San Jacinto and won their independence.

Cult of Glory Doug J. Swanson 2021-06-08 “Swanson has done a crucial public service by exposing the barbarous side of the Rangers.” —The New York Times Book Review A twenty-first century reckoning with the legendary Texas Rangers that does justice to their heroic moments while also documenting atrocities, brutality, oppression, and corruption. The Texas Rangers came to life in 1823, when Texas was still part of Mexico. Nearly 200 years later, the Rangers are still going—“one of the most famous of all law enforcement agencies. In Cult of Glory, Doug J. Swanson has written a sweeping account of the Rangers that chronicles their epic, daring escapades while showing how the white and propertied power structures of Texas used them as enforcers, protectors and officially sanctioned killers. Cult of Glory begins with the Rangers’ emergence as conquerors of the wild and violent Texas frontier. They fought the fierce Comanches, chased outlaws, and served in the U.S. Army during the Mexican War. As Texas developed, the Rangers were called upon to catch rustlers, tame oil boomtowns, and patrol the perilous Texas-Mexico border. In the 1930s they began their transformation into a professionally trained police force. Countless movies, television shows, and pulp novels have

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celebrated the Rangers as Wild West supermen. In many cases, they deserve their plaudits. But often the truth has been obliterated. Swanson demonstrates how the Rangers and their supporters have operated a propaganda machine that turned agency disasters and misdeeds into fables of triumph, transformed murderous rampages—including the killing of scores of Mexican civilians—into valorous feats, and elevated scalawags to sainthood. Cult of Glory sets the record straight. Beginning with the Texas Indian wars, Cult of Glory embraces the great, majestic arc of Lone Star history. It tells of border battles, range disputes, gunfighters, massacres, slavery, political intrigue, race riots, labor strife, and the dangerous lure of celebrity. And it reveals how legends of the American West—the real and the false—are truly made.

Echoes from the West Verda Spickelmier 2011-09-06 The American West remains a period of fascination for many. In the relatively unknown years between 1828 and 1853, however, it experienced a critical transition, one that would define the emergence of the West for years to come. Possessing remarkable historical and literary aptitude, Echoes from the West contains interpretively written factual stories of Americans, native and new, that occurred during this important twenty-five-year period. From tales of years in Oregon Country from fur trader Jedediah Smith and fur trader John McLoughlin to stories of Hal Kelly, an agent of the Oregon Colonizing Company, and his new recruit, Nathaniel Wyeth, gifted historian Verda Spickelmier brings the tales of these intrepid men to vibrant life. In addition, Spickelmier shows the political impact of this westward expansion in Washington DC. Vivid snapshots of John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, and Martin Van Buren provide an intriguing glimpse into the inner workings of the government. As the country rapidly expands and moves inexorably toward division over slavery, each person's story becomes woven into the fabric of an energetic, yet struggling nation. Engaging and eloquent, Echoes from the West offers deep insight into a subject not often studied while simultaneously giving a delightfully imaginative twist to history.

Sam Houston and the Alamo Avengers Brian Kilmeade 2020-12-01 The New York Times bestseller now in paperback with a new epilogue. In March 1836, the Mexican army led by General Santa Anna massacred more than two hundred Texans who had been trapped in the Alamo. After thirteen days of fighting, American legends Jim Bowie and Davey Crockett died there, along with other Americans who had moved to Texas looking for a fresh start. It was a crushing blow to Texas’s fight for freedom. But the story doesn’t end there. The defeat galvanized the Texian settlers, and under General Sam Houston’s leadership they rallied. Six weeks after the Alamo, Houston and his band of settlers defeated Santa Anna’s army in a shocking victory, winning the independence for which so many had died. Sam Houston and the Alamo Avengers recaptures this pivotal war that changed America forever, and sheds light on the tightrope all war heroes walk between courage and calculation. Thanks to Kilmeade’s storytelling, a new generation of readers will remember the Alamo—and recognize the lesser known heroes who snatched victory from the jaws of defeat.

Women and the Texas Revolution Mary L. Scheer 2012 “Historically, wars and revolutions have offered politically and socially disadvantaged people the opportunity to contribute to the nation (or cause) in exchange for future expanded rights. Although shorter than most conflicts, the Texas Revolution nonetheless profoundly affected not only the leaders and armies, but the survivors, especially women, who endured those tumultuous events and whose lives were altered by the accompanying political, social, and economic changes.

From Santa Anna to Selena Harriett Denise Joseph 2018-03-15 Author Harriett Denise Joseph relates biographies of eleven notable Mexicanos and Tejanos, beginning with Santa Anna and the impact his actions had on Texas. She discusses the myriad contributions of Erasmo y Juan Seguín to Texas history, as well as the factors that led a hero of the Texas Revolution (Juan) to be viewed later as a traitor by his fellow Texans. Admired by many but despised by others, folk hero Juan Nepomuceno Cortina is one of the most controversial figures in the history of nineteenth-century South Texas. Preservationist and historian Adina De Zavala fought to save part of the Alamo site and other significant structures. Labor activist Emma Tenayuca's youth, passion, courage, and sacrifice merit attention for her efforts to help the working class. Joseph reveals the individual and collective accomplishments of a powerhouse couple, bilingual educator Edmund Mireles and folklorist-author Jovita González. She recognizes the military and personal battles of Medal of Honor recipient Raul “Roy” Benavidez. Irma Rangel, the first Latina to serve in the Texas House of Representatives, is known for the many “firsts” she achieved during her lifetime. Finally, we read about Selena’s life and career, as well as her tragic death and her continuing
MARKETABILITY.
Dark Echoes of the Past by Ramon Daz Eterovic
2017-12 A landmark event for fans of crime fiction. Private investigator Heredia spends his days reading detective novels; commiserating with his cat, Simonon; and peering out over the Mapocho River from his Santiago apartment. The city he loves may be changing, but Heredia can’t stop chasing the ghosts of the past. This time, they’ve come to him... Virginia Reyes’s brother, an ex-political prisoner of dictator Augusto Pinochet, was killed in an apparent robbery. Yet nothing of value was taken. The police have declared the case closed, but Virginia suspects that things aren’t quite as they appear and turns to Heredia for help. Heredia couldn’t agree more—but he can’t shake the feeling that there’s something Virginia’s not telling him. Heredia knows this is not a simple crime. His investigation proves it. Drawn back into a world where murderers nest, secrets are to kill and die for, and Pinochet’s legacy still casts a long, dark, and very threatening shadow, it’s all Heredia can do to crawl out of it alive.
Lone Star Rising by William C. Davis 2017-05-09 All Americans, not just Texans, remember the Alamo. But the siege and brief battle at that abandoned church in February and March 1836 were just one chapter in a much larger story -- larger even than the seven months of armed struggle that surrounded it. Indeed, three separate revolutionary traditions stretching back nearly a century came together in Texas in the 1830s in one of the great struggles of American history and the last great revolution of the hemisphere. Anglos steeped in 1776 fervor and the American revolution came seeking land, Hispanic and native Americans joined the explosion of republican uprisings in Mexico and Latin America, and the native tejanos seized on a chance for independence. As William C. Davis brilliantly depicts in Lone Star Rising, the result was an epic clash filled not just with heroism but also with ignominy, greed, and petty and grand politics. In Lone Star Rising, Davis deftly combines the latest scholarship on the military battles of the revolution, including research in seldom used Mexican archives, with an absorbing examination of the politics on all sides. His stirring narrative features a rich cast of characters that includes such familiar names as Stephen Austin, Sam Houston, and Antonio Santa Anna, along with tejano leader Juan Seguin and behind-the-scenes players like Andrew Jackson. From the earliest adventures of freebooters, who stirred up trouble for Spain, Mexico, and the United States, to the crucial showdown at the San Jacinto River between Houston and Santa Anna there were massacres, misunderstandings, miscalculations, and many heroic men. The rules of war are rarely stable and they were in danger of complete disintegration at times in Texas. The Mexican army often massacred its Anglo prisoners, and the Anglos retaliated when they had the chance after the battle of San Jacinto. The rules of politics, however, proved remarkably stable: The American soldiers were democrats who had a hard time sustaining campaigns if they didn’t agree to them, and their leaders were as given to maneuvering and infighting as they were to the larger struggle. Yet in the end Lone Star Rising is not a myth-destroying history as much as an enlarging one, the full story behind the slogans of the Alamo and of Texas lore, a human drama in which the forces of independence, republicanism, and economics were made manifest in an unforgettable group of men and women.
Cowboy Presidents by David Alexander Smith 2021-02-11 For an element so firmly fixed in American culture, the frontier myth is surprisingly flexible. How else to explain its having taken two such different guises in the twentieth century—the progressive, forward-looking politics of Rough Rider president Teddy Roosevelt and the conservative, old-fashioned character and Cold War politics of Ronald Reagan? This is the conundrum at the heart of Cowboy Presidents, which explores the deployment and consequent transformation of the frontier myth by four U.S. presidents: Theodore Roosevelt, Lyndon B. Johnson, Ronald Reagan, and George W. Bush. Behind the shape-shifting of this myth, historian David A. Smith finds major events in American and world history that have made various aspects of the “Old West” frontier more relevant, and more useful, for promoting radically different political ideologies and agendas. And these divergent adaptations of frontier symbolism have altered the frontier myth. Theodore Roosevelt, with his vigorous pursuit of an activist federal government, helped establish a version of the frontier myth that today would be considered liberal. But then, Smith shows, a series of events from the Lyndon Johnson through Jimmy Carter presidencies—including Vietnam, race riots, and stagflation—seemed to give the lie to the progressive frontier myth. In the wake of these crises, Smith’s analysis reveals, the entire structure and popular representation of frontier symbols and images in American politics shifted dramatically from left to right, and from liberal to conservative, with profound implications for the history of American thought and presidential politics. The now popular idea that “frontier American” leaders and politicians are naturally Republicans with conservative ideals flows directly from the Reagan era. Cowboy Presidents gives us a new, clarifying perspective on how Americans shape and understand their national identity and sense of purpose; at the same time, reflecting on the essential mutability of a quintessentially national myth, the book suggests that the next iteration of the frontier myth may well be on the horizon.
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Forgetting the Alamo, Or, Blood Memory

Emma Prez

In this literary novel set in nineteenth-century Texas, a Tejana lesbian cowgirl embarks on an adventure after the fall of the Alamo. Micaela Campos witnesses the violence against Mexicans, African Americans, and indigenous peoples after the infamous battles of the Alamo and of San Jacinto, both in 1836. Resisting an easy opposition between good versus evil and brown versus white characters, the novel also features Micaela’s Mexican-Anglo cousin who assists and hinders her progress. Micaela’s travels give us a new portrayal of the American West, populated by people of mixed races who are vexed by the collision of cultures and politics. Ultimately, Micaela’s journey and her romance with a Black/American Indian woman teach her that there are no easy solutions to the injustices that birthed the Texas Republic... This novel is an intervention in queer history and fiction with its love story between two women of color in mid-nineteenth-century Texas. Prez also shows how a colonial past still haunts our nation’s imagination. The battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto offered freedom and liberty to Texans, but what is often erased from the story is that common people who were Mexican, Indian, and Black did not necessarily benefit from the influx of so many Anglo immigrants to Texas. The social themes and identity issues that Prez explores—political climate, debates over immigration, and historical revision of the American West—are current today. “Prez’s sparse, clean writing style is a blend of Cormac McCarthy, Carson McCullers, and Annie Proulx. This makes for a quick and engrossing reading experience as the narrative has a fluid quality about it.” —Alicia Gaspar de Alba, professor and chair of Chicana and Chicano Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, and author of Sor Juana’s Second Dream “Riveting... Emma Prez captures well the violence and the chaos of the Southwest borderlands during the time of territorial and international disputes in the 1800s... Perez vividly depicts the conflicts between nations with the authority of a historian and with language belonging to a poet.” —Lambda Literary, Lambda Award Finalist

Joe, the Slave Who Became an Alamo Legend

Ron J. Jackson

“Among the fifty or so Texan survivors of the siege of the Alamo was Joe, the personal slave of Lt. Col. William Barret Travis. First interrogated by Santa Anna, Joe was allowed to depart (along with Susana Dickinson) and eventually made his way to the seat of the revolutionary government at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Joe was then returned to the Travis estate in Columbia, Texas, near the coast. He escaped in 1837 and was never captured. Ron J. Jackson and Lee White have meticulously researched plantation ledgers, journals, memoirs, slave narratives, ship logs, newspapers, personal letters, and court documents to fill in the gaps of Joe’s story. ‘Joe, the Slave Who Became an Alamo Legend’ provides not only a recovered biography of an individual lost to history, but also offers a fresh vantage point from which to view the events of the Texas Revolution”--