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Dead Man's Hand: An Anthology Of The Weird West



Synopsis

The weird, wild west - an American frontier populated by gunslingers, rattlesnakes, outlaws, zombies, aliens, time travelers, and steampunk! Twenty-three of science fiction and fantasy's hottest and most popular authors create all-new tales, written exclusively for this anthology. Aliens and monsters, magic and science are introduced to the old west, with explosive results.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For some reason, my reading preferences never led me towards Westerns. I read just about everything else genre-related (well, except for romance), but never got into that area. I'm not sure why. I guess horror dominated my tastes. So imagine my surprise and delight when Titan Books released DEAD MAN'S HAND, an anthology of the Weird West. I was intrigued to say the least, but I had no idea the treasures this book held in store for me. Within its pages are a vast array of bizarre and horrific stories that will enthrall even the staunchest of genre fans. And I will bet there's something in there for non-fans as well. I am so proud to own a copy of this book. It is chocked full of mesmerizing tales that will stun and engage readers of every kind. And it boasts some highbrow talent as well, including a few of my favorites: Tobias S. Buckell, Alan Dean Foster, Tad Williams, and Jonathan Maberry. Every story in DEAD MAN'S HAND is written well and carefully crafted for maximum impact. The wide variety of talent showcases a multitude of unique voices and highlights each author's distinctive style of storytelling. As a result, it is very easy to jump from one story to the next. This great diversity of writers is one major aspect of what makes this book so enjoyable. I liked every story in this collection, obviously some more than others. But each

one was a pleasure to read, and in doing so, I found a few more authors who I plan on checking out in the future. One of my favorite stories in DEAD MAN'S HAND is "Strong Medicine" by Tad Williams. In this tale, a man arrives in town in order to help them but nobody in town knows what he's supposed to help with?

John Joseph Adams in his book, "Dead Man's Hand" published by Titan Books brings us An Anthology Of The Weird West. From the Back Cover: HOW THE WEST WAS WEIRD! From a kill-or-be-killed gunfight with a vampire to an encounter in a steampunk bordello, the weird western is a dark, gritty tale where the protagonist might be playing poker with a sorcerous deck of cards, or facing an alien on the streets of a dusty frontier town. Here are twenty-three original tales "stories of the Old West infused with elements of the fantastic" produced specifically for this volume by many of today's finest writers. Included are Orson Scott Card's first "Alvin Maker" story in a decade, and an original adventure by Fred Van Lente, writer of Cowboys & Aliens. Other contributors include: Tobias S. Buckell * David Farland * Alan Dean Foster * Jeffrey Ford * Laura Anne Gilman * Rajan Khanna * Mike Resnick * Beth Revis * Fred Van Lente * Walter Jon Williams * Ben H. Winters * Christie Yant * Charles Yu * I think what usually comes to mind when we hear the word, "Western" are images of cowboys, horses, holstered six-guns tied down at the thigh for a quick draw, stagecoaches, cattle drives and frontier town. The list could go on and on but I would be pretty sure it would not include androids, time travel, dinosaurs, flying ships and other out of place things. That would be just Weird! John Joseph Adams has taken all this into consideration and brought us twenty-three tales of the Old West that John Wayne would never appear in. All these authors have brought a fresh spin to these tales and they are riveting entertainment. The title comes from the cards, aces and eights, that were in Wild Bill Hickok's hand as he was gunned down from behind while playing poker.

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