

Collected Stories Wallace Stegner

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Wallace Stegner's West

“Respectful of his subject but never worshipful, Fradkin has given us our first full critical portrait of the man and his protean career..” —Hampton Sides, author of *Blood and Thunder: An Epic of the American West*

The Spectator Bird

Critic, novelist, filmmaker, jazz musician, painter, and, above all, poet, Weldon Kees performed, practiced, and published with the best of his generation of artists—the so-called middle generation, which included Robert Lowell, Elizabeth Bishop, and John Berryman. His dramatic disappearance (a probable suicide) at the age of forty-one, his movie-star good looks, his role in various movements of the day, and his shifting relationships with key figures in the arts have made him one of the more intriguing—and elusive—artists of the time. In this long-awaited biography, James Reidel presents the first full account of Kees's troubled yet remarkably accomplished life. Reidel traces Kees's career from his birth in 1914 and boyhood in Beatrice, Nebraska, to his stint as an award-winning short-story writer and novelist, his rise as a poet and critic in New York, his branching off into abstract expressionism, jazz music, and theater, and his experimental and scientific filmmaking and photography. Going beyond the cult status that has grown up around Kees over the years, this work fairly and judiciously places him as a cultural adventurer at a particularly rich and significant moment in postwar twentieth-century America.

The Bartender's Tale

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Written during World War II and its immediate aftermath, the eighteen stories of *The Women on the Wall* move from women to war and back again, but it is the women who remain central. There are Alma, a war bride who runs a farm better than the neighbor men; Lucy, a former WAAF, working through college; Tamsen, who keeps her husband drunk so she can do as she pleases; and the women on the wall, who, with nothing to do but wait for their husbands to return from the war, find their private consolations. To these stories Wallace Stegner brings the same skill and thoughtfulness that won him the National Book Award for *The Spectator Bird*

The Women on the Wall

In *Recapitulation*, by National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize winner Wallace Stegner, the protagonist of his classic novel *Big Rock Candy Mountain* returns reluctantly to the Salt Lake City of his birth for the funeral of an aunt—the last link to his family’s history, and his own. Now in his sixties, even after a successful diplomatic career among other achievements that he knows derived from his early life in this place, Bruce Mason cannot help but reflect on the childhood misery caused by those same events. Intimate, reflective, even meditative, *Recapitulation* gives us what we are seldom offered, a chance to reconnect with a beloved character, to see who he became, and the opportunity to understand his earlier incarnation through his own eyes.

Best Short Stories

Gathers classic short stories by such authors as Washington Irving, Edgar Allen Poe, Edith Wharton, Mark Twain, Henry James, O. Henry, Jack London, Dorothy Parker, James Agee, and John Updike

Wallace Stegner and the American West

Gathers fifty-six stories by the distinguished prose stylist written between 1946 and 1995

Marking the Sparrow's Fall

NATIONAL BESTSELLER Winner of the Pulitzer Prize Winner of the National Book Award When *The Stories of John Cheever* was originally published, it became an immediate national bestseller and won the Pulitzer Prize. In the years since, it has become a classic. Vintage Books is proud to reintroduce this magnificent collection. Here are sixty-one stories that chronicle the lives of what has been called "the greatest generation." From the early wonder and disillusionment of city life in "The Enormous Radio" to the surprising discoveries and common mysteries of suburbia in "The Housebreaker of Shady Hill" and "The Swimmer," Cheever tells us

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everything we need to know about "the pain and sweetness of life."

Vanished Act

A brilliant satire of mass culture and the numbing effects of technology, *White Noise* tells the story of Jack Gladney, a teacher of Hitler studies at a liberal arts college in Middle America. Jack and his fourth wife, Babette, bound by their love, fear of death, and four ultramodern offspring, navigate the rocky passages of family life to the background babble of brand-name consumerism. Then a lethal black chemical cloud, unleashed by an industrial accident, floats over their lives, an "airborne toxic event" that is a more urgent and visible version of the white noise engulfing the Gladneys—the radio transmissions, sirens, microwaves, and TV murmurings that constitute the music of American magic and dread.

All the King's Men

Wolf Willow

'This is the age for the short story. None will be better or more worthy of admiration than Wallace Stegner's *Collected Stories*' Washington Post Book

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WorldIn a literary career spanning more than fifty years, Wallace Stegner, winner of a Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, has created a remarkable record of the history and culture of twentieth-century America. These thirty-one stories demonstrate why he is acclaimed as one of America's master storytellers. Here are tales of young love and older wisdom, of the order and consistency of the natural world and the chaos, contradictions and continuities of the human being.'Exemplary stories The reader of Stegner's writing is immediately reminded of an essential America a distinct place, a unique people, a common history, and a shared heritage remembered as only Stegner can' Los Angeles Times

The City of the Living

Introduction by Terry Tempest Williams Afterword by T. H. Watkins Called a "magnificently crafted story . . . brimming with wisdom" by Howard Frank Mosher in The Washington Post Book World, *Crossing to Safety* has, since its publication in 1987, established itself as one of the greatest and most cherished American novels of the twentieth century. Tracing the lives, loves, and aspirations of two couples who move between Vermont and Wisconsin, it is a work of quiet majesty, deep compassion, and powerful insight into the alchemy of friendship and marriage.

The Stories of John Cheever

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Willie Stark, a well-intentioned idealistic back-country lawyer is unable to resist greed, power, and lust for politics during his rise and fall as an American demagogue.

Wallace Stegner

Recapitulation

A landmark of literary recovery: the first major edition of an overlooked genius who in her lifetime was considered 19th-century America's greatest woman writer. In the eyes of her contemporaries, Constance Fenimore Woolson (1840-1894) ranked with George Eliot as one of the two greatest women writers of the English language. She wrote fiction of remarkable intellectual power that outsold those of her male contemporaries Henry James and William Dean Howells. James enshrined memories of his long, complicated friendship with Woolson in *The Beast in the Jungle* and *The Wings of the Dove*, and more recently Colm Tobin treated the relationship in his novel *The Master*. But Woolson's close association with James, and her likely suicide in Venice, have tended to overshadow her own literary accomplishments, pigeonholing her as a martyr to the male literary establishment. This volume, the most comprehensive gathering of Woolson's stories to date,

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represents the culmination of decades of recovery work done by scholars, and puts the focus back on the work, where it belongs. Set variously in the Great Lakes region, the post-Civil War South, and Europe, Woolson's short stories often concern outsiders of one kind or another--prophets and misfits living in remote landscapes, uneducated coal miners, impoverished spinsters, neglected nuns, a haunted caretaker of the dead, destitute southerners, and female artists driven to extreme behavior as they seek the admiration or approval of established (male) critics or writers. Woolson's minute realism captures both the social texture of her time and the inner emotional lives of these overlooked and marginalized characters. Most of all her writings startle us with their simmering intensity, their sensual descriptions of the environment, and refusal to smooth out the ambiguities and tensions that inevitably result from human efforts to communicate and connect. Her fiction is deeply human, resonating with a power across the centuries that makes them remarkably modern for today's readers.

Remembering Laughter

'Timely and timeless Will hold any reader to its last haunting page' Chicago Tribune
The early life of Joe Allston, the retired literary agent of Stegner's National Book Award-winning novel, *The Spectator Bird*, features in this disquieting and keenly observed novel. Scarred by the senseless death of their son and baffled by the engulfing chaos of the 1960s, Allston and his wife, Ruth, have left the coast for a

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California retreat. And although their new home looks like Eden, it also has serpents: Jim Peck, a messianic exponent of drugs, yoga and sex; and Marian Catlin, an attractive young woman whose otherworldly innocence is far more appealing - and far more dangerous. 'The Great Gatsby captures the twenties and yet transcends them. All the Little Live Things is a comparable achievement for the sixties Stegner's craft is here at an apex' Virginia Quarterly Review

The Color Purple

The Legacy of Wallace Stegner (1909-1993) - as writer, teacher and conservationist - once moved Edward Abbey to declare him "the only living American worthy of the Nobel." Unequaled in the American literature of place, his Pulitzer Prize-winning fiction created an entirely new consciousness of the American West. As director of the Creative Writing Program at Stanford University, Stegner wielded a powerful influence on many of the most important writers of two generations. Through his work for the Sierra Club and the Wilderness Society and his service as special assistant to the Secretary of the interior, Stegner contributed substantially to the emergence and development of the environmental movement. This remarkable tribute volume brings together eloquent testimonies from colleagues, friends, and family whose lives Wallace Stegner profoundly graced. Edited by Stegner's wife and son, and illustrated by a gallery of candid photographs, *The Geography of Hope* is a stirring memorial to a truly great man,

whose incandescent spirit will remain an inspiration for generations to come.

Wallace Stegner's Salt Lake City

Wallace Stegner founded the acclaimed Stanford Writing Program—a program whose alumni include such literary luminaries as Larry McMurtry, Robert Stone, and Raymond Carver. Here Lynn Stegner brings together eight of Stegner's previously uncollected essays—including four never-before-published pieces—on writing fiction and teaching creative writing. In this unique collection he addresses every aspect of fiction writing—from the writer's vision to his or her audience, from the use of symbolism to swear words, from the mystery of the creative process to the recognizable truth it seeks finally to reveal. His insights will benefit anyone interested in writing fiction or exploring ideas about fiction's role in the broader culture.

White Noise

A New England village, untouched by history since the American Revolution, is the unquiet arena containing, but just barely, the aloof natives and the summer residents. Their paths cross, happily or disastrously, in a book that seems too real to be fiction. As Wallace Stegner writes, the conflict on this particular frontier "has

been reproduced in an endlessly changing pattern all over the United States."

The Big Rock Candy Mountain

'Enchanting, heartrending and eminently enviable' Vladimir Nabokov Pulitzer Prize-winning author Wallace Stegner's boyhood was spent on the beautiful and remote frontier of the Cypress Hills in southern Saskatchewan, where his family homesteaded from 1914 to 1920. In a recollection of his years there, Stegner applies childhood remembrances and adult reflection to the history of the region to create this wise and enduring portrait of pioneer community existing in the verge of a modern world. 'Stegner has summarized the frontier story and interpreted it as only one who was part of it could' The New York Times Book Review

The Old Man and The Sea

Literary agent Joe Allston, the central character of Stegner's novel *All the Little Live Things*, is now retired and, in his own words, 'just killing time until time gets around to killing me.' His parents and his only son are long dead, leaving him with neither ancestors nor descendants, tradition nor ties. His job, trafficking the talent of others, had not been his choice. He passes through life as a spectator. A postcard from an old friend causes Allston to return to the journals of a trip he and his wife

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had taken years before, a journey to his mother's birthplace, where he'd sought a link with the past. The memories of that trip, both grotesque and poignant, move through layers of time and meaning, and reveal that Joe Allston isn't quite spectator enough. Wallace Stegner was the author of, among other works of fiction, *Remembering Laughter* (1973); *The Big Rock Candy Mountain* (1943); *Joe Hill* (1950); *All the Little Live Things* (1967, Commonwealth Club Gold Medal); *A Shooting Star* (1961); *Angle of Repose* (1971, Pulitzer Prize); *Recapitulation* (1979); *Crossing to Safety* (1987); and *Collected Stories* (1990). His nonfiction includes *Beyond the Hundredth Meridian* (1954); *Wolf Willow* (1963); *The Sound of Mountain Water* (essays, 1969); *The Uneasy Chair: A Biography of Bernard deVoto* (1964); *American Places* (with Page Stegner, 1981); and *Where the Bluebird Sings to the Lemonade Springs: Living and Writing in the West* (1992). Three short stories have won O.Henry prizes, and in 1980 he received the Robert Kirsch Award from the Los Angeles Times for his lifetime literary achievements.

Crossing to Safety

Winner of the National Book Award for First Work of Fiction "A very good novel indeed, with echoes of Gabriel García Márquez, Katherine Anne Porter, and even Graham Greene."--The New York Times Richard and Sara Everton, just over and just under forty, have come to the small Mexican village of Ibarra to reopen a copper mine abandoned by Richard's grandfather fifty years before. They have

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mortgaged, sold, borrowed, left friends and country, to settle in this remote spot; their plan is to live out their lives here, connected to the place and to each other. The two Americans, the only foreigners in Ibarra, live among people who both respect and misunderstand them. And gradually the villagers--at first enigmas to the Evertons--come to teach them much about life and the relentless tide of fate.

All the Little Live Things

The first collection published since his death in 1993 contains 15 never-before-published essays by Stegner, a little-known novella, and his most powerful and best-known essays on the American West.

Wallace Stegner

A boy coming of age in a part of the country that's being left behind is at the heart of this dazzling novel—the first by an award-winning author of short stories that evoke the American West. “August reads like early Hemingway, retooled for the present.”—William Finnegan, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Barbarian Days* Callan Wink has been compared to masters like Jim Harrison and Thomas McGuane. His short stories have been published in *The New Yorker* and have won numerous accolades. Now his enormous talents are showcased in a debut novel

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that follows a boy growing up in the middle of the country through those difficult years between childhood and adulthood. August is an average twelve-year-old. He likes dogs and fishing and doesn't mind early-morning chores on his family's Michigan dairy farm. But following his parents' messy divorce, his mother decides that she and August need to start over in a new town. There, he tries to be an average teen—playing football and doing homework—but when his role in a shocking act of violence throws him off course once more, he flees to a ranch in rural Montana, where he learns that even the smallest communities have dark secrets. Covering August's adolescence, from age twelve to nineteen, this gorgeously written novel bears witness to the joys and traumas that irrevocably shape us all. Filled with unforgettable characters and stunning natural landscapes, this book is a moving and provocative look at growing up in the American heartland.

Constance Fenimore Woolson: Collected Stories (LOA #327)

Now reissued - William March's 1954 classic thriller that's as chilling, intelligent and timely as ever before. This paperback reissue includes a new P.S. section with author interviews, insights, features, suggested reading and more. What happens to ordinary families into whose midst a child serial killer is born? This is the question at the center of William March's classic thriller. After its initial publication in 1954, the book went on to become a million-copy bestseller, a wildly successful

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Broadway show, and a Warner Brothers film. The spine-tingling tale of little Rhoda Penmark had a tremendous impact on the thriller genre and generated a whole perdurable crop of creepy kids. Today, *The Bad Seed* remains a masterpiece of suspense that's as chilling, intelligent, and timely as ever before.

Collected Stories

The Pulitzer Prize-winning novel that tells the story of two sisters through their correspondence. With a new Preface by the author.

Dog Run Moon

A compendium of fiction and essays by the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award writer includes previously unpublished works and offers insight into his in-depth understanding of the American West as well as his advocacy for recognition of a Western cultural base and regional environmental protections.

August

A recreation of the 1920s and 1930s Salt Lake City from Wallace Stegner's youth based on archival photographs, quotations from Stegner's writings, and

interpretive essays.

On Teaching and Writing Fiction

In a career spanning more than fifty years, Wallace Stegner (1909-1993) emerged as the greatest contemporary author of the American West—writing more than two dozen works of history, biography, essays, and fiction, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Angle of Repose* and the bestselling *Crossing to Safety*. Jackson J. Benson's *Wallace Stegner: His Life and Work* is the first full-dress biography of this celebrated "Dean of Western Writers." Drawing on nearly ten years of research and unlimited access to Stegner's letters and personal files, Benson traces the trajectory of Wallace Stegner's life from his birth on his grandfather's Iowa farm to his prominence as an award-winning writer, critic, historian, environmental activist, and teacher, and as founder of Stanford's creative writing program. But Benson's book is as much a consideration of Stegner's literary legacy as it is a retelling of his life. His critical reassessment of the entire body of Stegner's work argues convincingly for his subject's place in the literary canon—not merely as a "regional" Western writer but straightforwardly as one of the great American writers of the twentieth century.

The Bad Seed

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These Pulitzer Prize-winning stories represent the major short works of fiction by one of the most distinctively American stylists of her day. Jean Stafford communicates the small details of loneliness and connection, the search for freedom and the desire to belong, that not only illuminate whole lives but also convey with an elegant economy of words the sense of the place and time in which her protagonists find themselves. The Collected Stories of Jean Stafford includes the acclaimed story "An Influx of Poets," which has never before appeared in book form.

The Medicine Line

Running a venerable bar in 1960 Montana while raising his 12-year-old son, single father Tom Harry finds his world upended by the arrival of a woman from his past and her beatnik daughter, who claims Tom as her father and upends the town with her passionate and pretentious modern views. By the National Book Award finalist author of *Work Song*.

The Sound of Mountain Water

Along the border between Montana and Saskatchewan lies one hundred miles of hard and desolate terrain, a remote place where Native and new American nations

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came together in a contest for land, wealth, and survival. Following explorers Lewis and Clark and Alexander Mackenzie, both Americans and Canadians launched the process of empire along the 49th parallel, disrupting the lives of Native peoples who began to traverse this imaginary line in search of refuge. In this evocative and beautifully rendered portrait, Beth LaDow recreates the unstable world along this harsh frontier, capturing the complex history of a borderland known as "the medicine line" to the Indians who lived there. When Sitting Bull crossed the boundary for the last time in 1881, weary of pursuit by the U.S. cavalry and the constant threat of starvation, the region opened up to railroad men and settlers, determined to make a living. But the unforgiving landscape would resist repeated attempts to subdue it, from the schemes of powerful railroad magnate James J. Hill, to the exploits of Canadian Mountie James Walsh, to the misguided dreams of ranchers and homesteaders, whose difficult existence is best captured in Wallace Stegner's plaintive accounts of a boyhood spent in this stark place. Drawing on little-known diaries, letters, and memories, as well as interviews with the descendants of settlers and native peoples, *The Medicine Line* reveals how national interests were transformed by the powerful alchemy of mingling peoples and the place they shared. With a historian's insight and a storyteller's gift, LaDow questions some of our deepest assumptions about a nationalist frontier past and finds in this least-known place a new historical and emotional heart-land of the North American West. A colorful history of the most desolate terrain in America, one hundred miles between Canada & Montana, where three nations fought over

land, wealth, & ultimately survival.

50 Great American Short Stories

Second Growth

Bo Mason, his wife, Elsa, and their two boys live a transient life of poverty and despair. Drifting from town to town and from state to state, the violent, ruthless Bo seeks out his fortune - in the hotel business, in new farmland and eventually, in illegal rum-running through the treacherous back roads of the American Northwest. In this affecting narrative, Wallace Stegner portrays more than thirty years in the life of the Mason family as they struggle to survive during the lean years of the early twentieth century. Wallace Stegner was the author of, among other works of fiction, *Remembering Laughter* (1973); *Joe Hill* (1950); *All the Little Live Things* (1967, Commonwealth Club Gold Medal); *A Shooting Star* (1961); *Angle of Repose* (1971, Pulitzer Prize); *The Spectator Bird* (1976, National Book Award); *Recapitulation* (1979); *Crossing to Safety* (1987); and *Collected Stories* (1990). His nonfiction includes *Beyond the Hundredth Meridian* (1954); *Wolf Willow* (1963); *The Sound of Mountain Water* (essays, 1969); *The Uneasy Chair: A Biography of Bernard deVoto* (1964); *American Places* (with Page Stegner, 1981); and *Where the*

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Bluebird Sings to the Lemonade Springs: Living and Writing in the West (1992). Three short stories have won O.Henry prizes, and in 1980 he received the Robert Kirsch Award from the Los Angeles Times for his lifetime literary achievements.

Collected Stories

In the tradition of Richard Ford, Annie Proulx, and Kent Haruf comes a dazzling debut story collection by a young writer from the American West who has been published in The New Yorker, Granta, and The Best American Short Stories. A construction worker on the run from the shady local businessman whose dog he has stolen; a Custer's Last Stand reenactor engaged in a long-running affair with the Native American woman who slays him on the battlefield every year; a middle-aged high school janitor caught in a scary dispute over land and cattle with her former stepson: Callan Wink's characters are often confronted with predicaments few of us can imagine. But thanks to the humor and remarkable empathy of this supremely gifted writer, the nine stories gathered in Dog Run Moon are universally transporting and resonant. Set mostly in Montana and Wyoming, near the borders of Yellowstone National Park, this revelatory collection combines unforgettable insight into the fierce beauty of the West with a powerful understanding of human beings. Tender, frequently hilarious, and always electrifying, Dog Run Moon announces the arrival of a bold new talent writing deep in the American grain. Praise for Dog Run Moon "[An] excellent first book of stories . . . One of the great

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things about Dog Run Moon is how resilient and funny [the characters] are. They're at the end of their ropes, but they can still howl about the joy and pain each day brings, as if the young Levon Helm were singing their stories. . . . This is Thomas McGuane territory, and also that of writers like Joy Williams and Jim Harrison."—The New York Times "Wink is definitely not a writer of half measures; each of these stories demonstrates his ability to lay life bare. A significant collection highly deserving of the spotlight."—Library Journal (starred review) "Myth and history color these highly satisfying fictions about the way men and women struggle to shape their lives."—Kirkus Reviews (starred review) "The perils of work and the weight of bequeathal fuel these stories, and each one holds a lasting, unshakable image. Sometimes grace is bestowed upon the characters in a sidwinding, not altogether fabulous fashion; sometimes it's not bestowed at all. Callan Wink seems to know well the stratagems and delusions of men's hearts. He also seems born and bred to short-story mastery."—Joy Williams, author of *The Visiting Privilege* "Callan Wink's debut is impressive indeed. Fine, old-fashioned, rich and juicy fiction. Weeks later I'm still living with the characters."—Jim Harrison, author of *Legends of the Fall* "Callan Wink's fresh, urgent stories have an energy and propulsion that set them well apart from the cerebral finger painting of so much literary fiction. Here is a writer with a great big horizon."—Thomas McGuane, author of *Crow Fair* "Callan Wink's stories remind me of expertly tied trout flies—beautifully crafted, true to reality, and barbed. What a fine young writer."—Ron Rash, author of *Above the Waterfall* "As in all the best collections,

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each and every story in *Dog Run Moon* sings in the essential registers of love and death, work and nature. Callan Wink has the wisdom to write only of the things that matter, and the talent to make these stories as fresh as the literary headwaters from which they come."—Smith Henderson, author of *Fourth of July Creek* From the Hardcover edition.

The Uneasy Chair

Nominated for a National Book Critics Circle award, "Where the Bluebird Sings to the Lemonade Springs" gathers together Wallace Stegner's most important and memorable writings on the American West: its landscapes, diverse history, and shifting identity; its beauty, fragility, and power. With subjects ranging from the writer's own migrant childhood to the need to protect what remains of the great western wilderness (which Stegner dubs the geography of hope) to poignant profiles of western writers such as John Steinbeck and Norman Maclean, this collection is a riveting testament to the power of place. At the same time it communicates vividly the sensibility and range of this most gifted of American writers, historians, and environmentalists."

Angle of Repose

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Thirty-one stories spanning every period of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author's career deal with the consistency of the natural world and the disorder and contradictory nature of people, in such works as "Beyond the Glass Mountain," "The Traveler," "The Berry Patch," "In the Twilight," and others. Reissue. 15,000 first printing.

The Geography of Hope

A book of timeless importance about the American West and a modern classic by National Book Award- and Pulitzer Prize-winning Wallace Stegner. The essays, memoirs, letters, and speeches collected in *The Sound of Mountain Water* encompass memoir, nature conservation, history, geography, and literature. Compositions delve into the post-World War II boom that brought the Rocky Mountain West--from Montana and Idaho to Utah and Nevada--into the modern age. Other works feature eloquent sketches of the West's history and environment, directing our imagination to the sublime beauty of such places as Robbers Roost and Glen Canyon. A final section examines the state of Western literature, of the mythical past and the diminished present, and analyzes the difficulties facing any contemporary Western writer. Written over a period of twenty-five years, a time in which the West witnessed rapid changes to its cultural and natural heritage, and by a writer and thinker who will always hold a unique position in modern American letters, *The Sound of Mountain Water* is a hymn to the Western landscape, an

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affirmation of the hope embodied therein, and a careful and rich investigation of the West's complex legacy.

The Collected Stories of Jean Stafford

Bernard DeVoto was a wild intellectual from the Rocky Mountains, a rebel, iconoclast, and idealist who fled his stifling small town for the intellectual freedom and community of Harvard. While he settled eastward in his career as a novelist, professor, editor, historian, and critic, he continued to love, to a point of passion, western openness, freedom, and society. National Book Award- and Pulitzer Prize-winning author and fellow westerner Wallace Stegner's life intersected with DeVoto's many times, first by accident and later by friendship and example. They were kindred spirits, both westerners by birth, upbringing, and demeanor, novelists by vocation, teachers by necessity, and historians and conservationists by a sheer compulsion inspired by the region that shaped them.

Stones for Ibarra

Stegner's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of personal, historical, and geographic discovery Confined to a wheelchair, retired historian Lyman Ward sets out to write his grandparents' remarkable story, chronicling their days spent carving civilization

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into the surface of America's western frontier. But his research reveals even more about his own life than he's willing to admit. What emerges is an enthralling portrait of four generations in the life of an American family. "Cause for celebration . . . A superb novel with an amplitude of scale and richness of detail altogether uncommon in contemporary fiction." —The Atlantic Monthly "Brilliant . . . Two stories, past and present, merge to produce what important fiction must: a sense of the enchantment of life." —Los Angeles Times This Penguin Classics edition features an introduction by Jackson J. Benson. For more than sixty-five years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,500 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

The Collected Stories of Evan S. Connell

The Classics

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