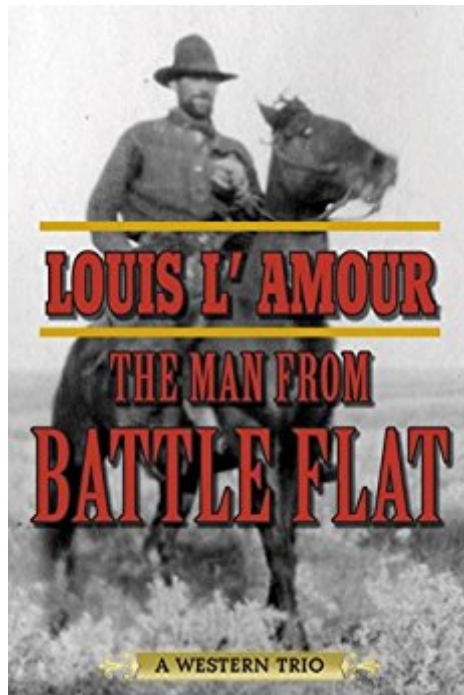


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The Man From Battle Flat: A Western Trio



Synopsis

Louis L'Amour brings the Wild West back to life in three unstoppable adventures! Mistakes Can Kill You is the story of Johnny O'Day. Half-dead from pneumonia and on the brink of giving up, he was taken in as a boy and nursed back to health by a young couple. Growing up, Johnny harbored nothing but resentment and jealousy of their biological son, Sam. But now Sam is in big trouble, and it seems that Johnny may be the only person who can come between his half brother and a pair of gunmen. Ross Haney is The Rider of Ruby Hills. At twenty-seven, he's broke, armed, and ready to settle down. But when a feud breaks out between the owners of two of the biggest spreads in Ruby Hills, it looks like the fair town is on the brink of destruction. Ross was a loner at first, but now he's got allies and a plan . . . In the title story, Krag Moran is a rider who becomes involved in a range war among ranchers and nesters. The town is divided, and by the time shots are fired and the body count starts to rise, Krag will have a lot of explaining to do to the wrong people. Skyhorse Publishing is proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in fiction that takes place in the old West. Westerns' books about outlaws, sheriffs, chiefs and warriors, cowboys and Indians' are a genre in which we publish regularly. Our list includes international bestselling authors like Zane Gray and Louis L'Amour, and many more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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Customer Reviews

This book has a trio of past, early writings by Louis L'Amour. Mr. L'Amour who died in June, 1988, at age 80, had written many stories years ago for the pulp western magazines prior to being able to make a living with by his novels. Until his contract with Bantam Books in the late 1950s many of his stories were like these 3 that are included within this book. The stories consist of a couple of short fiction ones, Mistakes Can Kill You and The Man From Battle Flat. Also included is a larger story, The Rider of the Ruby Hills, that later became the Bantam Books western novel, Where The Long Grass Grows. Mistakes Can Kill You originally saw print in Exciting Western magazine, November, 1950, under the byline 'Jim Mayo'. The Man From Battle Flat was first printed in Rio Kid Western magazine, January, 1952, under the byline 'Jim Mayo'. Jim Mayo was a fictional character Louis had used in his writings it's interesting he would use this name rather than his own name. The final story in this collection is The Rider of the Ruby Hills, appearing first in West, September, 1949, again under the 'Jim Mayo' byline. Whether you read Louis L'Amour in these early, rough draft stories, or later after he polished them up for Bantam Books, the stories are well worth the read if for no other reason than to see the growth of a writer. They all make for pretty good reading for anyone enjoying a western in general and a Louis L'Amour western in particular. Seasoned readers will recall that The Rider of the Ruby Hills was issued by Bantam Books in both mass market paperback and as a hardcover in the Louis L'Amour collection in September, 1986. The book also included 3 other stories: Showdown Trail, A Man Called Trent, and The Trail to Peach Meadow Canyon.

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