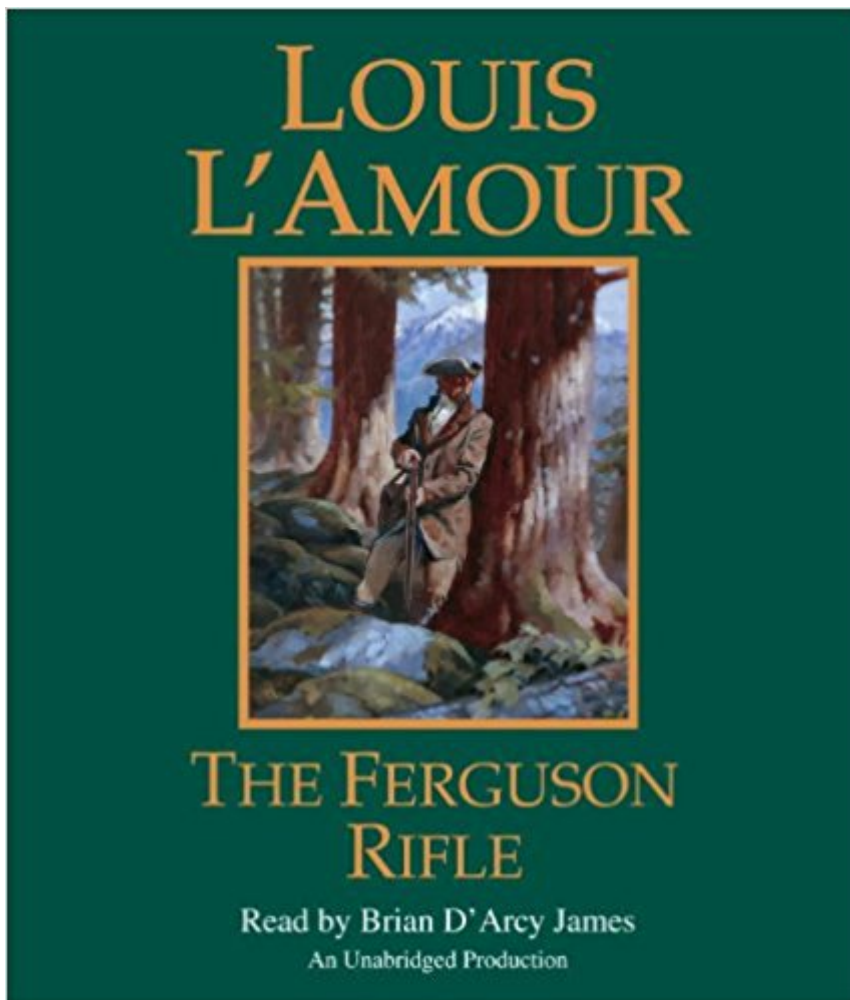




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The Ferguson Rifle



Synopsis

It began with gold that had once belonged to Montezuma. Stolen and cached in a church in Mexico, it was recovered by two army officers who fled north for the French settlements. Along the way one stabbed the other to death. The remaining officer was eventually killed by Plains Indians, but he buried the treasure just before he died. Now Ronan Chantry, a handful of trappers, and an Irish girl whose father was killed after telling her a few vague landmarks are searching for the lost treasure. But they are not alone. The girl's uncle, Rafen Falvey, wants it, too. Like Chantry, he is well educated, bold, and determined. Under different circumstances the two men might have been friends. But in all likelihood it wouldn't have made any difference. When it comes to gold, even friendship doesn't keep men from killing each other.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stripped of all he values in life, Ronan Chantry takes up his prized Ferguson rifle and heads west -- into an unknown land and an uncertain future. For an educated man, Chantry is surprisingly tough. For a civilized man, he is unexpectedly dangerous. But even he can't know the true extent of his courage until he draws the fire of a man who will do anything -- kill anyone -- for the glitter of gold.

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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He is a scholar and a gentleman, but Ronan Chantry was raised in the wilderness, hunting, trapping and tracking. Now that his wife and son have died in a fire, and pursued by the reputation of killing a man in a duel, Chantry returns to the wilderness. He does not remain alone for long, joining a small band of men also going into the West to try their hand at fur trapping. Their camp is nearly raided by allies of a treacherous Native American guide; but some time later the group makes friends with the Cheyenne, while trying to evade Spanish soldiers who have not yet gotten word that the Louisiana Purchase has gone through. Then Ronan stumbles across Lucinda Falvey, whose father was murdered for the secret of a lost treasure. The murderer and his minions have pursued Lucinda into the Dakota Territory, and turns out to have connections to both Lucinda and Ronan's pasts. Chantry and his allies must evade the killers, find the treasure and get the woman to safety--"perhaps an eccentric mountain man has the key to survival?" This is the first novel written in the Chantry family saga by all-time great Western writer Louis L'Amour. (But the last in internal chronology.) The title comes from Chantry's signature weapon, a firearm given to him by Major Ferguson himself. It's a customized prototype without the weakness in the lock mortise. Since the story is set about the time of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, a rapid-firing breechloader is a formidable advantage. This is a fast-moving story with clear but often evocative use of language; not a lot of time is spent on characterization, with bad man Rafen Falvey getting the bulk of what depth there is. Chantry is not just smart and well-educated, but wilderness-savvy and skilled at all forms of combat he turns his hand to. His one weakness is prideful anger, which led him into the fatal duel, and into the knock-down drag-out fistfight that is the climax of the book. The use of coincidence to drive certain story elements does come close to breaking suspension of disbelief. Recommended to Western fans, and those looking for a good manly adventure story.

Well...I read this book when I was a kid. It was one of the first books I really read (for fun, not school). My grandfather was a big Louis L'Amour fan. He passed the books along to me to read after he was finished. I remember loving this book and couldn't get enough L'Amour books under my belt after reading it. Now, some 40+ years later I thought I would read the book again. I liked it, again. However, it wasn't quite as good as I remembered. Oh to be that young again! For those wanting to read this book, go for it! It's a fun read, especially if you like L'Amour. If you don't and this

is your first attempt at the genre, it might be a little rough. L'Amour was churning these books out for a long time so they became very "cookie-cutter" but they are still fun to read. Just don't be expecting a real complex read.

Louis L'Amour is a good writer, who's books are predictable and fun to read. If you want unexpected plot twists and bad guys to be heroes pick another author.

it's lamour

L'Amour is always a good read. You can't go wrong with him. I read to my husband as he has sight problems, but I was reading L'Amour long before I met him because I'll read anything I get my hands on. My brother bought all the Louis L'Amour he could find, and then I would read the books when he finished them. The Ferguson Rifle is based on some facts so that made it even more interesting.

Lots of interesting facts about the early west

I just received the book and look forward to reading it! This is one of two of my original collection that was damaged. Thank you for this wonderful book to add to my collection!!!

Along with many good characters, Louis L'Amour also gives great character development. The story keeps you interested all the way through, and you like each character and what they add to the story. I would highly recommend this book!

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