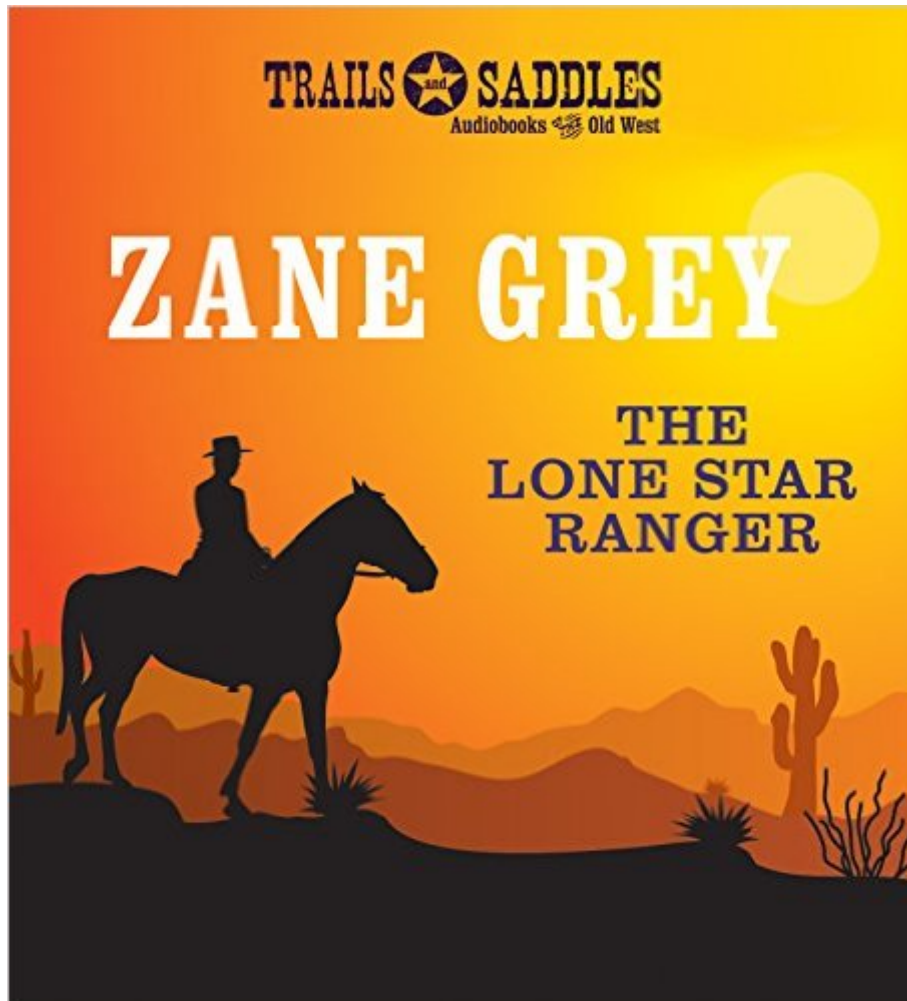


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The Lone Star Ranger (Trails And Saddles)



Synopsis

Despite his precarious position as a hunted fugitive on the wrong side of the law, Buck Duane puts his life and freedom on the line for a damsel in distress. This is one of Grey's best westerns.

Book Information

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Audio CD

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (148 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This book, though an oldie, kept me on the edge of my seat. Grey is the master of western and his descriptions are incredible. I am 13 but I was captured by this gritty novel.

Practically born with a gun in his hand, it was inevitable that Buck Duane would end up a wanted man. But, even if not a peaceful man, Duane is an honorable one. And now, there is a highly respected Texas Ranger captain on his heels, and this Captain McNally wants a personal meeting with him. It's been a long and hard life for Buck Duane, and he is no fool, not for the law and not for the outlaws. Zane Grey (1872-1939) was one of the giants of the Western genre, and this was his fourteenth novel published – by this time he was really hitting his stride. The book itself falls naturally into two parts, almost like two novellas published together. As you would expect with Zane Grey, the main character is tough and unrelenting, and the action is great. So, if you like a good Western, then you will like this book. It's good, solid Zane Grey – which means that it's a great adventure yarn that will keep you turning the pages.

This is the same story as *Rustlers of Pecos County*. The names are different and it starts with more

of a history on the ranger but other than that the plot and most of the dialogue are exactly the same. Good thing it was free or I would be crying foul.

I had always been under the impression that Zane Grey was the master of Westerns, so I to give this book a shot (I listened to the Audio Book). I was surprised weak (almost nonexistent) the plot was. (Spoiler Alert) As another reviewer mentioned, Buck Dwayne meets a girl who had been kidnapped by outlaws, falls in love with her, and decides to rescue her. They eventually make their escape and Buck rides away with the girl. Shortly thereafter, the girl disappears, apparently kidnapped by unknown persons for unknown reasons. Suddenly, that plot thread ends and a new one starts, with Buck Dwayne being three years older. The missing girl is never mentioned again.(Spoiler Alert) In the second plot thread, Dwayne becomes a Texas Ranger and is sent to infiltrate the most notorious band of outlaws in Texas. The assigned goal is to identify the outlaws and their leaders, then alert the Rangers so they can swoop in and eliminate the bad guys. Buck is supposed to be under deep cover when he befriends the outlaws. However, shortly thereafter, in the process of apprehending one of the outlaws for a petty robbery, Dwayne inexplicably reveals himself to be a Texas Ranger. Predictably, he then falls in love with the daughter of the outlaw leader. Then, without first checking with his Ranger boss, Dwayne offers the outlaw leader freedom from arrest and prosecution, if he will only agree to move out of Texas. When the Texas Ranger leader finally arrives with his men, Buck Dwayne tells to boss of the deal he had made. The Ranger leader, whose last known goal was to kill all the outlaws, is perfectly fine with the deal not to arrest the outlaw leader. Maybe erratic plots like this are typical for Westerns, but they don't make much sense to me. I guess I'll try at least one more Zane Grey novel before I give up on the genre, but I certainly wasn't impressed with this one.

Content Only: Despite having made the best seller list when it was originally published in 1915, and being considered one of Zane Grey's best works, I cannot appraise it that high. For one thing, this novel was actually the merging of two novels by Zane Grey's publisher at the time, Harpers. The front half is from a book titled, *The Last of the Duanes*, and the second half is from a book called, *Rangers of the Lone Star*. These two novels have been published as stand alone books in the last 20 years, and are far superior books. They also answer many unanswered questions the reader of *The Lone Star Ranger* will find themselves asking themselves as the book progresses. The premise of this work is a masterful idea: Does Buck Duane come by his deadly urge to kill because of his heritage, or does his environment cause him to be this way? Zane Grey was a believer in some of

what Charles Darwin professed, and popularized the phrase, "survival of the fittest" in many of his books. This edition is a welcome sight. I hope there will be many more. This book is collectable and readable; but NOT one of his best. It is however far better than anything being published today. I'd say this book is average, or a little below average.

All these Zane Greys were for me!!! My first books to put on my Kindle. They were all free - Thank You - !!!! Have all but two in old hardbacks, but the Kindle is so much easier to carry. It is so nice to dive into one of these wonderful old stories in written in and of much simpler times. Just washes the layers of every day stress away.

My grandfather read Zane Grey. This was my second Zane Grey book and I will read more. He wrote closer to the time on the story and it is a part of history I find quite interesting as he is coming out of that culture rather than writing about something he researched. That in itself I find interesting.

This is a classic western story. Good guy forced into bad behaviour, leaves town, meets outlaws, still does right thing, finds love and redemption, gets in many shoot-outs. If a western is what you want, this book provides!

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