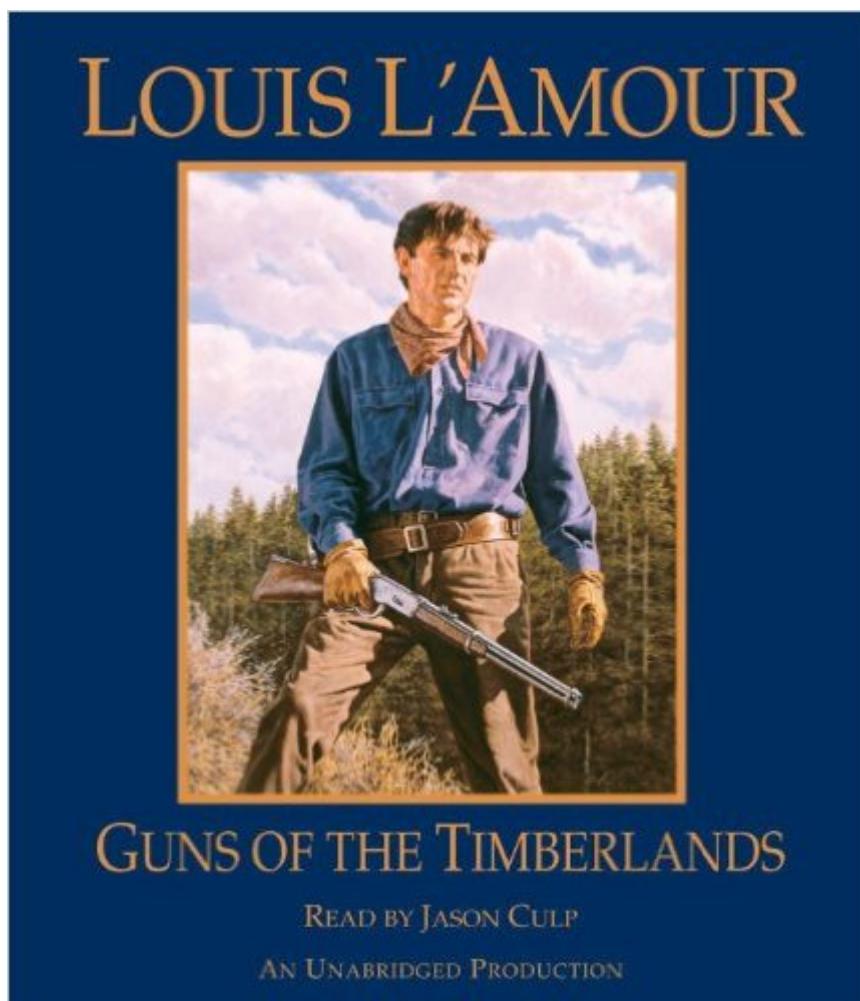


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# Guns Of The Timberlands



## Synopsis

Clay Bell spent the last six years fighting Indians, rustlers, and the wilderness itself to make the B-Bar ranch the prize of the Deep Creek Range. But Jud Devitt, a ruthless speculator from the East, now threatens everything Clay has worked for. Devitt, holding a contract with the Mexican Central to deliver railroad ties, wants to harvest timber off the land where Clay grazes his cattle. Backing Devitt are shady politicians, a dishonest banker, and fifty of the toughest lumberjacks in the county. But as Colleen Riley, Devitt's fiancée, realizes the brutal game he's playing, her disapproval of his actions, and Clay Bell's obvious integrity and charm, pull her toward a destiny that will tip the scales in their bloody battle over timber and cattle. From the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (60 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This is a classic underdog tale. Old fashioned good guy wears white and bad guys wear black kind of stuff. If you want a fast-paced, adventure-filled afternoon, then I suggest you pick this one up. Also, If you ever envisioned yourself beating up the bad guy and getting the girl, then you won't be making a mistake with *Guns Of The Timberlands*. It's one of the few books L'amour doesn't ramble on and repeat himself a hundred times over about something. This one is a keeper and a book that you'll find yourself reading time and time again. So, strap on your six-shooter and mount your cayuse! Because once you get engrossed in this one, it won't be long until you're riding off into the sunset with your sweetheart.

This book is in my top 5 of L'amour's works. The build-up to the climax is suitably gripping enough

that I decided to finish the book in a single sitting. The romance here sounds similar to the way it happens in a lot of his other books but it still somehow seems refreshing in this one. And as one reviewer points out below, L'Amour doesn't ramble. The supporting characters are developed convincingly to the point that I actually started caring about a couple of them. I thought the title of the book was somewhat poignant.

I'm not much into cowboy novels, but I wanted something light after some heavy literature. This fit the bill. L'Amour is actually quite an accomplished writer. Well developed plot, good character descriptions. And he clearly has studied and understands the history and laws and manners of the time.

The riders of the Bar B stand their ground when an army of lumberjacks arrive in Tinkersville to ravage the forest, an important part of the Bar B spread. Jud Devitt has a contract to supply railroad ties to the Mexican Central Railroad. He is a ruthless man and usually gets his way. He meets his match in Clay Bell, the tall and straight owner of the Bar B. When various legal maneuvers fail to dislodge the cattlemen, it's guns and fists in blazing Western action. The disparate visions of those who develop the land and those who exploit natural resources drive the conflict. Louis L'Amour breathes new life into the familiar elements of the Western story. Although this novel was written back in 1955, the environmentalist vs. capitalist angle sounds familiar. A clash between cattlemen and lumberjacks is an unusual variation of the typical Western conflict. L'Amour's novels and stories are a quick hit of colorful Western adventure. They are good lightweight reading and a pleasant change from the plugged-in clamor of modern life. ;-)

I guess I have to say I am on a nostalgic kick this afternoon. It has been years since I read this book, but at the age of 49 it still rings with me from my teenage years as one of my favorite of L'Amour's works. This is quintessential L'Amour, and if you want a book that is not too deep, nothing earth-shattering or life-changing, then this would be a good one. I wish I could personally thank L'Amour, and I wonder what his response would be if he knew that this author grew up on his work and is now being called The New Louis L'Amour. What a compliment! The newspaper reporter who coined that could never really have known the compliment he was paying me. Please give this L'Amour novel a try if you haven't. And if you have never read L'Amour at all, this wouldn't be a bad first one, either. I wish all young men (and women, too) could start out reading these when they were young. Maybe the younger generations of today would be a different sort of crowd.

L'Amour's novels follow a fairly predictable plot line; which is what makes them so enjoyable to read for me. You know how the story is going to progress, you know in the end the good guys win. The characters and their development makes you both like the good guys and really dislike the bad guys, while still keeping you entertained and involved.

L'Amour had good knowledge of old west along with words to describe his stories. Once you start reading, you can't put it down until it's finished. Plan reading all of the novels which mount to over 200. He makes you feel part of the story while reading.

As usual and very good read. You can always count on a well developed story and characters and true accounts of the places that are mentioned. Mr. L'Amour does his homework concerning the location of his story.

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