



The Last Kind Words Saloon: A Novel

By Larry McMurtry

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New York Times Bestseller

The Last Kind Words Saloon marks the triumphant return of Larry McMurtry to the nineteenth-century West of his classic *Lonesome Dove*.

In this "comically subversive work of fiction" (Joyce Carol Oates, *New York Review of Books*), Larry McMurtry chronicles the closing of the American frontier through the travails of two of its most immortal figures, Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday. Tracing their legendary friendship from the settlement of Long Grass, Texas, to Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in Denver, and finally to Tombstone, Arizona, *The Last Kind Words Saloon* finds Wyatt and Doc living out the last days of a cowboy lifestyle that is already passing into history. In his stark and peerless prose McMurtry writes of the myths and men that live on even as the storied West that forged them disappears. Hailed by critics and embraced by readers, *The Last Kind Words Saloon* celebrates the genius of one of our most original American writers.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Many famous western characters make cameos in McMurtry's first novel in five years, which continues in the farcical vein of the *Berrybender* series. An English lord, accompanied by his beautiful mistress, teams up with Charles Goodnight to found a vast cattle ranch near Palo Duro Canyon, Texas—and fails. Observing Goodnight from the sidelines are two wisecracking ne'er-do-wells, Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday, who, after a brief stint with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, drift down to Tombstone, where Wyatt's brothers, Virgil and Warren, have taken up the law and saloon-keeping, respectively. Other than Goodnight, Wyatt is the only developed character: he's a wife beater and alcoholic with a quick temper. He picks a fight with the Clantons, an ignorant but mostly harmless bunch, and kills them in a paragraph. The famous O.K. Corral fight is rendered as a heartless parody. Maybe McMurtry's version is truer than all the romanticized ones, but Gus McCrae from *Lonesome Dove* will roll in his grave. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** This might not be exactly what *Lonesome Dove* fans would like, but the first novel from McMurtry in five years will have his audience eager for anything. --John Mort

Review

Larry McMurtry possesses one of the most engaging, tempting-to-imitate voices in contemporary American fiction, a voice so smooth and mellow you can almost hear the ice clink against the glass as he talks. (Max Byrd - *New York Times Book Review*)

By turns droll, stark, wry, or raunchy, this peripatetic novel...will satisfy many readers who long for more from literary icon McMurtry. (Keddy Ann Outlaw - *Library Journal*)

[*The Last Kind Words Saloon*] is never dull, and it's also very funny. As always, McMurtry's characters are plain-spoken but subtle and full of dry humor... Moseying along with McMurtry is always worthwhile. (Adam Wong - *Seattle Times*)

The Last Kind Words Saloon is a beautiful, dreamy, deeply melancholy book, connecting legend and disparate threads of history in a seamless pastiche of tall tales drawn against the context of their real circumstances. (Nathan Pensky - *The Onion*)

In this 'ballad in prose,' as McMurtry describes his latest book, he paints the familiar historical characters in unfamiliar ways... lovely. (Richard Eisenberg - *People*)

A deftly narrated, often comically subversive work of fiction... If *Lonesome Dove* is a chronicle of the cattle-driving West that contains within its vast, broad ranges a small but heartrending intimate tragedy of paternal neglect, *The Last Kind Words Saloon* is a dark postmodernist modernist comedy. (Joyce Carol Oates - *New York Review of Books*)

Those who enjoy McMurtry's rueful humor and understated tone of elegiac melancholy will devour the book in one setting. (Michael Lindgren - *Washington Post*)

[A] wildly worthy addition to the best art books of 2014... *33 Artists in 3 Acts* is a superb read... (Maria Popova - *Brain Pickings*)

About the Author

Larry McMurtry is the author of twenty-nine novels, including the Pulitzer Prize winning "Lonesome Dove", three memoirs, two collections of essays, and more than thirty screenplays. He lives in Archer City, Texas.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Louie Laforge:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be upgrade about what going on or details even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which can be always change and make progress. Some of you maybe may update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what one you should start with. This The Last Kind Words Saloon: A Novel is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Sharon McMichael:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. With book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. A great deal of author can inspire all their reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the publications. But also they write about the data about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on earth always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write to the book. One of them is this The Last Kind Words Saloon: A Novel.

Mildred Ralph:

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