

US edition
coming soon

AMERICAN MARCHLANDS

Lance Weller

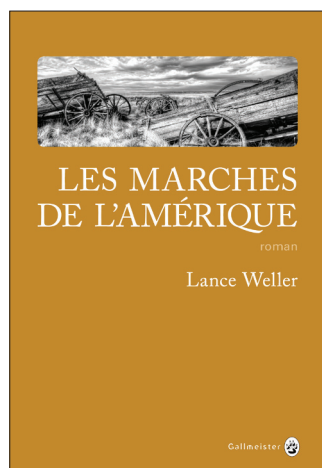
 LITERARY FICTION

novel

AMERICAN MARCHLANDS is set in the pre-Civil War 1840s, a time of American expansion westward when venturing beyond the defined borders of the United States was akin to stepping off into a moral void, a lawless, barely-charted marchland, a cauldron visited regularly by violence and atrocity.

The American marchland was ferociously contested by pioneers, outlaws, Indian tribes, the US Army, runaway slaves, scalp hunters, and dispossessed Mexican nationals, each vainly staking their claim to a piece of it only to be challenged by another claimant. It is into this savage land that Tom Hawkins rode, a killer before his 18th birthday, with Pigsmeat Spence, the haunted participant in the massacre of squaws and native children during the Black Hawk War, a man still mourning the loss of his beloved wife, and Flora, the beautiful slave whored out by her now-dead master and herself a killer of men, each of them together seeking to make his or her own way in the world, to pursue their elusive dreams of freedom.

The deep history and near-mythology of America's westward expansion in the 19th Century continues to fascinate readers. It is an extraordinary work of fiction that will be favorably compared with the novels of Cormac McCarthy.



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LANCE WELLER is the author of the critically-acclaimed debut novel WILDERNESS (Bloomsbury, 2012). He has also published short fiction in several literary journals. Among them "The Breathable Air" won Glimmer Train's Short-Story Award for New Writers and "The Seven League Boots," published in New Millennium Writings was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Born in Everett, Washington, Lance now lives in Gig Harbor, Washington, with his wife and four enormous dogs.



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"Here is a book [WILDERNESS] in the great tradition of the novel: a vivid world that wraps and holds the reader who can well lose himself in its grandeur. The character is the beloved Abel Truman. The landscapes are huge. Abel's story is both simple and rich, the novel unforgettable."

ANNIE DILLARD

"WILDERNESS, Lance Weller's first novel, can, without any doubt, be cited among the long and prestigious list of true literary masterworks."

TÉLÉRAMA

- **Longlisted for the French Prix Médicis for WILDERNESS.**

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