
NOTES ON
BLOOD MERIDIAN

REVISED AND EXPANDED EDITION

John Sepich

Foreword by Edwin T. Arnold

Contents

Foreword by Edwin T. Arnold—xi

Preface—xix

Acknowledgments—xxi

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTIONS

The Problem of Information—1; Three Sections—4;

Scalp Hunting and the Glanton Gang—5; Indian Haters—8

CHAPTER 2. BIOGRAPHIES

The Reverend Green—13; Judge Holden—14; Captain White—20;

John Joel Glanton—22; Albert Speyer—36;

Consul Bennet Riddells—38; Governor Angel Trias—39; Grannyrat—40;

Bathcat—41; Mangas Colorado—42;

Sarah Borginnis—45; The Yuma Chiefs—46; Callaghan—48

CHAPTER 3. SETTINGS AND SOURCES

The Leonids—51; The Comanche Attack—55; Ciboleros—59;

The Hueco Tanks—60; Jesús María—61; The Wild Bull—62;

The Meteorite—63; June 11, 1850—64; Fort Griffin—66; Chamberlain—68;

Ruxton—71; Ruxton—74; Hobbs—74; Audubon—75; Bartlett—78; Wislizenus—

81; Hughes—85; Reid—87; Dobie—88; Ober—89; Bourke—89

CHAPTER 4. ADDENDA

Languages: Spanish, French, German—95

Map Citations—101

ESSAYS

CHAPTER 5. TAROT AND DIVINATION—105

CHAPTER 6. JUDGE HOLDEN'S GUNPOWDER—119

CHAPTER 7. KNITTING THE WINDS

Arguments, Title, and Book—129; History—130;
Glanton—133; Kid—135; Holden—137

CHAPTER 8. WHY BELIEVE THE JUDGE?—141

CHAPTER 9. CONCORDANCES

Narrative Voice—153; Wolves—155; Apes—156;
Smiles and Laughter—156; Egg and Dome—158;
Fools and Crazies—159; Hallucinatory Void—160; Celestial—163; Marine—167;
Carnival—168; Religious—170; Ritual, Music, and Dance—176;
Chance, Fortune, and Deception—178

“Knitting the Winds” Concordances: Reins, Strap, String, Thread—179;
“As if . . . in a dream”—181; The Kid Helps—181; Look . . . Look Away—182;
Horses Shy, Horses Steady—183; Agency, Commitment, Witness—184

CHAPTER 10. MASSACRE ACCOUNTS

New York Daily Tribune—187;
New York Daily Tribune—188;
William Carr’s Los Angeles Deposition—189;
Daily Alta California—193

Bibliography—199

Index—211