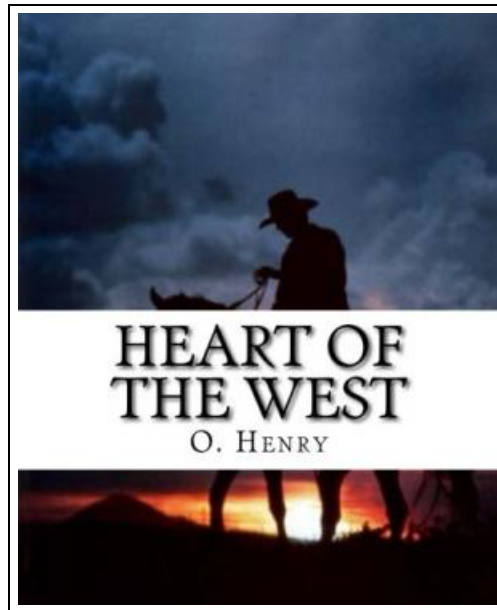


## Heart of the West: 19 Short Stories



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*(Wilbert Connelly)*

## HEART OF THE WEST: 19 SHORT STORIES

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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 235 x 190 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.There are nineteen short stories in this collection, some more and some less memorable. Romance among the cattle-royalty is a recurring feature, as are the adventures in love and scraps of the humbler cow-punching classes. All of them could be told as quick anecdotes over a campfire; maybe some of them were once. O Henry has polished them up to a high shine, peopled them with vivid characters, and wrung from them every drop of humour or pathos. As for the humour, Telemachus, Friend is the droll tale of a man whose staunch loyalty to his best friend prevents him courting their mutual crush without said best friend present, while Cupid a la Carte, narrated in hilariously grandiose style, tells the story of a man s battle to overcome his sweetheart s peculiar aversion to the eating habit. For sentimentality, try Christmas by Injunction, A Chaparral Prince, which plays on your heartstrings so obviously as to provoke indifference to the plight of its bathetic child heroine, or The Reformation of Calliope, which more pleasantly tells how a very bad man tried to put on his best front for his mama. My favourites are An Afternoon Miracle and The Princess and the Puma. The former has the strong, silent lawman fighting the villainous outlaw for the safety of an exotic beauty, but not all is as it appears, and I love how O Henry brings unique, slightly subversive characters out of these familiar archetypes. The latter tells of an abortive attempt by a cowboy to impress the daughter of a local cattle-king, the twist of which I found completely hilarious. The most memorable stories from this...

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