Record Nr. UNINA9910584593703321 Autore Deshaye Joel <1977-> Titolo The American Western in Canadian literature / / Joel Deshaye Pubbl/distr/stampa Calgary, Alberta:,: University of Calgary Press,, [2022] ©2022 **ISBN** 9781773852690 9781773852676 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (426 pages) Collana West series (Calgary, Alta.) Disciplina 813.6 Soggetti Canadian fiction Canadian literature Western stories, Canadian Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di contenuto Front Matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgements -- Introduction --Scaling and Spacing the Genre -- Tom King's John Wayne -- The Northwestern Cross -- From Law to Outlaw -- CanLit's Postmodern Westerns -- Degeneration through Violence -- Mining the Western in the Twenty-First Century -- Works Reproduced in Part -- Works Consulted -- Index Sommario/riassunto The Western, with its stoic cowboys and quickhanded gunslingers, is an instantly recognizable American genre that has achieved worldwide success. Cultures around the world have embraced but also adapted and critiqued the Western as part of their own national literatures, reinterpreting and expanding the genre in curious ways. Canadian Westerns are almost always in conversation with their American cousins, influenced by their tropes and traditions, responding to their politics, and repurposing their structures to create a national literary phenomenon. The American Western in Canadian Literature examines over a century

> of the development of the Canadian Western as it responds to the American Western, to evolving literary trends, and to regional, national, and international change. Beginning with Indigenous perspectives on

the genre, it moves from early manifestations of the Western in Christian narratives of personal and national growth, and its controversial pulp-fictional popularity in the 1940s, to its postmodern and contemporary critiques, pushing the boundary of the Western to include Northerns, Northwesterns, and post-Westerns in literature, film, and wider cultural imagery.

The American Western in Canadian Literature is more than a simple history. It uses genre theory to comment on historical perspectives on nation and region. It includes overviews of Indigenous and settler-colonial critiques of the Western, challenging persistent attitudes to Indigenous people and their traditional territories that are endemic to the genre. It illuminates the way that the Canadian Western enshrines, hagiographies, and ultimately desacralizes aspects of Canadian life, from car culture to extractive industries to assumptions about a Canadian moral high ground. This is a comprehensive, highly readable, and fascinating study of an underexamined genre.