



Borden Chantry

Louis L'Amour

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The marshal's name was Borden Chantry. Young, lean, rugged, he's buried a few men in this two-bit cow town—every single one killed in a fair fight. Then, one dark, grim day a mysterious gunman shot a man in cold blood. Five grisly murders later, Chantey was faced with the roughest assignment of his life—find that savage, trigger-happy hard case before he blasts apart every man in town... one by bloody one.

From the Paperback edition.

Borden Chantry Details

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Author : Louis L'Amour

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From Reader Review Borden Chantry for online ebook

Sophia says

A historical western murder mystery sounded really good and I wanted to snatch up more Louis L'amour Audio stories so it was a win-win.

Borden Chantry, the young town sheriff, comes back from bringing in a horse thief only to have a dead body on his hands. Everyone thinks the guy is just one of the many drunken cowboy shootings that occur on any given night, but Chantry isn't convinced when little details don't jive.

I enjoyed following along as Chantry, whom I connected with from the first, sifted through the clues to learn who the dead guy was, why he came to their town, and why he was killed. Borden is strong and capable, but he's also vulnerable. He feels the pressure of providing for his wife and son after losing his stock from bad luck and weather so that he had to take the town marshal position and knowing that his wife wants to move back east because she doesn't like this rough life while this is what he knows, loves, and is very good at. He also feels the pressure of replacing a good man who was a top-notch lawman and knowing that a few doubt he's the right man for the job.

There is an interesting philosophical discussion between the judge and the town banker about the necessity of a strong man who wears a gun like Chantry, knowing when and when not to use it, putting his life on the line so that others can live quietly, safely, and at peace that felt poignant to me in the face of our own day when it's very tough to be a good lawman/woman as well.

The murder mystery was a cunning one since the dead man is unknown around the area and there is little on him to give Chantry clues. Many people he talks to know more than they will say and he can tell. The killer thinks Chantry is getting closer than he is so he has his own near death experiences including the hiring of a paid killer to hunt Chantry down. He doesn't give up and I was rooting for him when things got pretty gritty.

The blend of authentic western and the murder mystery were great. This is definitely a western in flavor and I enjoyed feeling right there in the moment with Chantry, the town, and the surrounding western frontier area.

The narrator was a first-time for me with Erik Singer. I found parts really good and parts moderately good. I liked how he told a story and found his sense of tone and pace were really good. It was some of the western accents that felt overdone. Sometimes, it was just right- or at least, in my opinion- while at others, it sounded thick and ponderous so I was distracted. I think I got used to his way of voicing the western accent after a time because the distractedness was gone by the end of the book.

All in all, I enjoyed this book and am keen to listen to more of Louis L'amour's westerns particularly if they include a mystery like Borden Chantry.

My thanks to Penguin-Random House Audio for the opportunity to listen to this book in exchange for an honest review.

Braeden says

Louis L'Amour, is a ok book, the book at first is hard to get into but once you read more of it you understand it more. This book is filled with a western style noble. This book is filled with adventure and a little bit of mystery. The main character is Chantry he is a cowboy\sheriff. He is young, lean, rugged and he has buried a few men in his cow town. Then one dark night a mysterious man was shot. Then five murders later, Chantry faced one of the hardest things in his life.

Characters: I enjoyed reading this book as Chantry goes through his murder case. I also enjoyed some of the other characters, like a lot of the characters they are ropers and good ol country boys in it. It seems like a lot of the stuff in this book seems like a lot of the things in the books seems like it has a lot of real life things like some of the gun fights outside of bars and some of the little fights that they had out in the country.

Plot: The summary of the book has a very western blot. The marshals name was borden chantry. Yung, lean, rugged, and he has buried a few men in his two-bit cowtown. Every single one was killed in a fair fight.

Then, one dark, grim day a mysterious gunman was shot in cold blood. I enjoyed the events in the book, the only thing i would change is make another book that leads up to the end of this one. `

Conflict: The major conflict is one night when a man died from someone shooting him and it wasn't regular for someone to be shot in this small town. Everyone is worried about getting hurt or shot because they didn't know what happened to this guy that is the main conflict in the book.

What I learned: something that I learned in this book is it doesn't matter how hard it gets don't ever give up. Especially when your hometown loves you and loves what you do. Something else I learned is that don't blame someone for something that they didn't do.

Oleta Blaylock says

This story is set during the time the Sacketts, Orrin, Tyrel and Tell, were still living and ranching in Mora, New Mexico. The boys find out that a woman that helped some miners with smallpox is now very sick and in need of help. One of the miners was a Sackett so the boys send Joe Sackett to give the woman some money so she can get to a better climate. Joe is killed and the local marshall has to figure out what happened to him. It turns out the Joe is only one in several killings that are all linked to Mora.

Most of this story the readers doesn't know for sure who the handsome young man that was murdered is. There are some twists and turns but I think it is obvious who the killed all the people but it is alway nice to have that confirmed. I love the glimpse of life for a small town marshall with no experience in investigation. I always love reading about the characters that help tell the story mostly because Louis L'Amour seems to make them real. This isn't a bad story and it is a pretty quick read.

Donnacha says

I must say I was very surprised, this was a very good novel. Very enjoyable and well written.

Michael Sigler says

4.5/5

Louis L'Amour certainly was, and still is, the King of the Western genre.

Blakeharp says

This book is about a guy named Borden Chantry that is a sheriff. He has to watch over the town and deal with any crime that is committed. Chantry did not plan on being a sheriff but it is his job and has to do it. He's killed men before in a fair fight. He is in his early twenties and is rugged and lean. The town depends on him to keep the streets clean of murders. A young stranger came into town. Only a few people saw him while he was alive. Some one murdered him and Chantry has to figure out if the unknown man was killed by a local or a stranger. He has to find small clues and details about the man and the murder.

Rebekah Morris says

When I started this book I figured I'd enjoy it as I had the few other Louis L'Amour books I have read. I didn't expect to be trying to solve the murder myself and getting worried anytime a certain character came into the picture. At first I wasn't sure who was the murderer, as there were so many possibilities, but it turned out that my first hunch was correct.

Borden Chantry was a great marshall, and I wouldn't mind living in a town where he was the law. My all time favorite part though was the judge's talk with the banker.

"That young man is all that stands between us and savagery. He's the thin line of protection, and when he walks out there on the street his life is on the line every minute he wears that badge. . . . Laws are made to free people, not to bind them—if they are the proper laws. They tell each of us what he may do without transgressing on the equal liberty of any other man."

As with the other books by this author that I've read there is swearing, mostly using the "d" word.

Linda says

One of his best novels involving the law as both personal and impersonal force, mining, cows, and crime. Love the realistic interplay between spouses (Bess wants the civility of the East while Borden wants an open free lifestyle), the input of Billy the kid, and the possibility of turning a criminal to a deputy (Kim Baca).

James Spears says

This was a good story and mystery that took time to develop. It had a good ending.

Tom says

I love Louis L'Amour books and am also a fan of mystery novels, but this Louis L'Amour mystery just didn't do it for me. The identity of the murderer was obvious from the beginning, the main character blunders into one incredibly dangerous situation after another (let's check out this dark and ominously quiet mine shaft!), and ignores obvious clues for several chapters until he suddenly remembers them. That being said, there are plenty of positives here. I particularly enjoyed the interaction between Borden Chantry and the criminals Kim Baca and Boone Silva, probably as that was more western and less mystery than much of the rest of the book. Recommended for someone who absolutely must read all of L'Amour's work, but this is far from his best effort.

Steven Walle says

An other great story of the west by the Master story teller.

Full review will be coming shortly.

Enjoy and Be Blessed.

Diamond

Cyril says

Louis Lamour adds 2 things to all his westerns (on top of being a fine story teller who writes in an economic, easily read script, of course!)

He likes to spend time with historic characters, places, and events from those times; *and*

He always like to make a suitably moral message, which he drums in just enough to dig in under your sub-conscious

So here we find little cameos for Billy the Kid, Pat Garret, Buffalo Bill and others from the East; the town of Durango in Colorado, and a famous old hotel or two. Along with the True Meaning and Value of the Law :).

All of which adds just enough flavour and colour to put substance to what is a very nice little murder mystery, and a very satisfyingly self-effacing hero ...

Good for an hour or two's feet-up reading.

Barbara Lee Wood says

JUSTICE FOR ALL

Borden Chantry another rancher/town sheriff who was only twenty-four years old. The life in the west

caused you to mature quickly.

A good plot lots of intrigue and mystery, people were murdered by an unknown killer. Borden had to figure out who was during the killings and why.

Lots of arroyos, empty buildings and buildings roof tops that were used to drygulch a body if you had a mind to do so. Bord's life was at stake someone in town wanted him dead. The reasons unknown, but who ever this drygulcher was he wasn't wasting any time.

Find yourself a comfortable chair, sofa or whatever makes you comfortable I guarantee you will not put this book down until your finished. Only taking time to get yourself an iced tea or coffee to really relax..Ride easy everyone?????

Alan Mills says

Either you like traditional westerns or you don't. They reflect their time: racist, patronizing (at best) towards Native Americans, and women are almost always relegated to the kitchen. They focus on so called tough, manly adventures with horses and guns. Totally non-pc, and I completely understand why people hate reading them. But we all read stuff that is not pc, and this is my vice. If you DO like westerns, and you don't already know L'Amour, then you are doing it wrong, and are in for a treat. This is not a bad place to start. It is only slightly related to L'Amour's Sackett saga (many, many books about a single extended frontier family), and you don't have to know anything about those books to understand this one (it does help to know that there IS a Sackett saga though).

Borden Chantry is a failed cattle rancher, forced to become the town sheriff to earn enough money to feed his family. It isn't a job he wanted, but its one he is really good at. But his quiet little town suddenly is plagued with multiple murders, and Sheriff Chantry has no clue how to figure out who the culprit is.

So he starts to investigate, and the killer's attention appears to turn on Chantry. So in the end, what we have is a very fine murder mystery, disguised as a western! Well done.

Note: From the "dates read" info, it looks like it took me a long time to read this. Nope. I read about 2/3 in a cabin in the Ozarks...but the book belong to the cabin. So I read a couple of books, and then got my hands on my own copy--and finished it in an hour or so. Its a quick read.

Patricia Sharman says

Western

I love these books. He writes in a way that makes me feel I am there. Trying to collect them all
