Larry McMurtry’s *Lonesome Dove* Quartet as a Symbol of Frontier Rhetoric Represented by Trauma, Abuse of Women, Violence and Massacre

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**Abstract**

Larry McMurtry, the author of *Lonesome Dove* quartet, has won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in the year 1985. The paper is about the constant conflict between the White Settlers and Native Americans. Between them were the Mexican bandits, the Texas Rangers, and Prostitutes and Cattle Thieves. *Lonesome Dove* narrates the story of two retired Texas Rangers, Captain Woodrow F.Call and Augustus (Gus McCrae). Frontier rhetoric in *Lonesome Dove* is terrifying. Lorena’s sufferings during her captivity by renegades is so violent that it can be seen in both *Lonesome Dove* and *Streets of Laredo*. Characters of mixed race represented in McMurtry’s *Lonesome Dove* quartet are Blue Duck, Joey Garza and Ahumado. These three characters are psychopaths in nature and are ruthless. This may be due to the mixture of various genetic traits of White settlers, Native Americans and Mexicans. The Frontier is portrayed as liminal space. In McMurtry’s novel *Comanche Moon* the Texas Rangers have to clean up a historic Comanche raid. During the burial the Rangers raise the question as to why the White settlers come to this dangerous place from a faraway land. The inter-racial bonding between White settlers, Native Americans and Mexicans results in their offspring being psychologically affected. *Deadman’s Walk* is rewriting the history of the West. *Lonesome Dove* quartet is a set of four novels that depicts Frontier violence, Frontier rhetoric and all the ingredients that go into the making of successful frontier novels. In fact, McMurtry’s *Lonesome Dove* quartet is a postmodern pastiche comprising many critical theories.

**Keywords:** Frontier Rhetoric, Frontier Violence, Women Abuse, Gore, Massacre, Inter-racial bonding, Native Americans, White settlers, Racial conflicts.

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