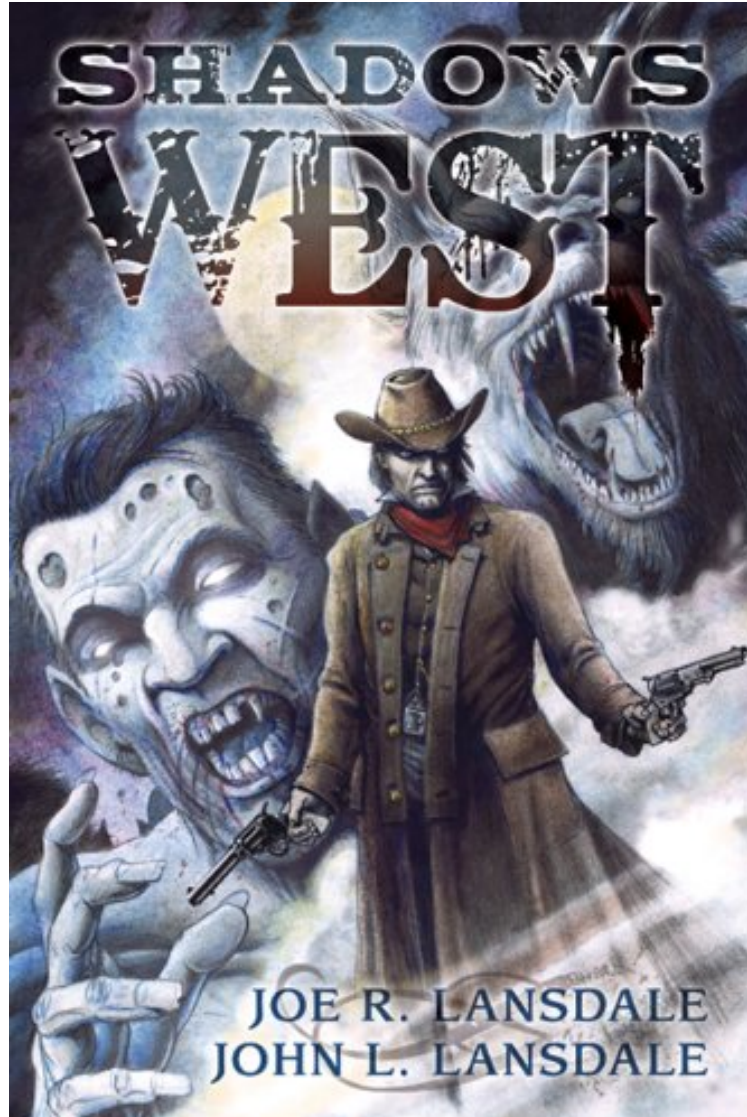


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## Shadows West

*Joe R. Lansdale, John L. Lansdale*  
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**Joe R. Lansdale, John L. Lansdale : Shadows West** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shadows West:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Imaginative B-movie fun... Joe R Lansdale returns to his roots. By Craig One of Joe R. Lansdale's earliest novels was *Dead in the West*, published in 1986, a tongue-in-cheek zombie western adventure. Along with *The Nightrunners* (1987), this helped establish him at the forefront of the so-called splatterpunk horror movement along with Clive Barker and Robert McCammon. In fact, had Lansdale stuck with this genre, he probably would have surpassed his peers and achieved the same sort of bestseller fame as Stephen King. But

Lansdale's greatest gift as a writer is that he so frequently and easily switches genres: from horror, to crime thrillers, to comic books, and most recently historical novels. It makes for great reading, but he's difficult to market, and I don't think he's ever found the consistent readership he deserves. *Shadows West* represents a return to his earliest form. These are zany, gory, B-movie screenplays filled with cowboys and gunslingers facing off against zombies, vampires, werewolves, and assorted demons. There's no romanticizing of the undead here. It's non-stop action and mayhem from start to finish. Included is the silver screen treatment of *Dead in the West*, plus a script loosely based on a sequel short story titled "Deadman's Road", and the original screenplay "Hell's Bounty". None of these scripts ever got produced, so Joe and John Lansdale brought them out in book form instead. The hardback version was a limited run; it's out of print and hard to find now. The ebook version is actually better because it includes a bonus short story, the original prose version of "Deadman's Road", so you can see how it compares to the (much modified) screenplay version. This is a fast, fun read that will leave you hoping some earnest low-budget Hollywood producer will take a chance and bring one or all of these tales to life on the big screen.

Six guns and zombies, a chicken eating werewolf, deals with the devil, and things that go bump in the night. John Wayne never had to deal with these kind of shenanigans, or these kinds of rowdies. But Joe R. Lansdale and John L. Lansdale aren't afraid, partner. They make this kind of material their everyday business. Compared to the cowpokes in their stories, John Wayne was a big sissy. We got shoot-em-ups and bite-em-ups and blow em-ups, and the appearance of classic bad guys, like Jesse James, sent straight from hell with a bad attitude. We got a horse black as the pit and fast as the wind. We got things that won't die even when they're dead. There are demons and ugly people, both inside and out, giant spiders and unnecessary cursing, and one hot red-head heifer with an eye patch and a bull whip. Who could ask for anything more. So, for your entertainment, pilgrim, here we have it: three screenplays that venture way out west... Way, way, way out west. The Western and the horror film will never be the same. Joe R. Lansdale is the author of numerous books and short stories and film and comic scripts. His novella, *Bubba Hotep*, was filmed, as was his short story, 'Incident On And Off A Mountain Road.' His work has received numerous recognitions, from New York Times Notable books to the Edgar and others. John L. Lansdale has written numerous comic books scripts, and was the most popular writer for the short lived revival of *Tales from the Crypt*, according to letter polls. He has also written in collaboration with his brother, Joe, a number of comic scripts for IDW based on the stories of Robert Bloch.