

James Byron Dean (February 8, 1931 – September 30, 1955) was an American actor from Indiana. He is remembered as a [cultural icon](#) of teenage disillusionment and social estrangement, as expressed in the title of his most celebrated film, [*Rebel Without a Cause*](#) (1955), in which he starred as troubled teenager Jim Stark. The other two roles that defined his stardom were [loner](#) Cal Trask in [*East of Eden*](#) (1955) and surly ranch hand Jett Rink in [*Giant*](#) (1956).