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Cowboy Hero: His Image in American History and Culture (Paperback)

By Jr. William W. Savage

University of Oklahoma Press, United States, 2018. Paperback. Condition: New. New edition. Language: English. Brand new Book. Like most other serious students of American popular culture, William W. Savage, Jr., believes that by examining our heroes we learn about ourselves. In The Cowboy Hero he takes as his subject the cowboy of myth, dime novel, wild West show, legend, Hollywood, museum, and television. With an introductory discussion of the elusive historical cowboy and an occasional return to his real world to keep the reader in balance, Savage reviews the cowboy hero in his various guises-as a cowboy doing the work of cowboys (seldom), as musician, as performer on stage and in wild West shows, and above all as a man's man, the object of whose affections is most generally his horse (other objects of the historical cowboy's affections are courageously alluded to). Then there is the cowboy the purveyor of macho cigarettes, sugarcoated cereal ("the historical cowboy was the very picture of malnutrition, but the cowboy hero might well hold a degree in home economics, so ardent is his praise of brand-name foodstuff"), coughdrops, painkillers, barbecue sauce, and laundry detergent. "No matter how much the American people revere their heroes or tout...



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