



# Larry McMurtry and the West: An Ambivalent Relationship (Texas Writers Series)

*Mark Busby*

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**Larry McMurtry and the West: An Ambivalent Relationship (Texas Writers Series)** Mark Busby

This is the first major single-authored book in almost twenty years to examine the life and work of Texas' foremost novelist and to develop coherent patterns of theme, structure, symbol, imagery, and influence in Larry McMurtry's work.

The study focuses on the novelist's relationship to the Southwest, theorizing that his writing exhibits a deep ambivalence toward his home territory. The course of his career demonstrates shifting attitudes that have led him toward, away from, and then back again to his home place and the "cowboy god" that dominates its mythology.

The book utilizes original materials from five library special collections, as well as interviews with McMurtry, his family, and his friends, such as Ken Kesey.

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