

Shine Brighter 2^{de}

File 2 Cowboys ride back

Extrait p. 36 - Article *simplytexan.com*

The cowboy stands as an iconic figure in American culture, embodying the rugged¹ individualism and frontier spirit that have come to define the nation's identity.

Originating from the Mexican vaqueros, the American cowboy emerged as a symbol of freedom, self-reliance², and adventure on the open plains.

The cowboy's influence on American identity extends far beyond the historical realities of frontier life, shaping a national mythos that continues to resonate today.

This romanticized image of the cowboy has permeated³ literature, film, and popular culture, contributing to a collective imagination of what it means to be American.

simplytexan.com

1. *sauvage (ici)* 2. *independence* 3. *imprégnait*

Extrait p. 25 – Article “*Who is the 21st century cowboy?*”

As America has changed, so have our heroes. By the 1960s, as social revolutions forced conversations about gender, race, politics, and morality, the Western genre was wrestling with the meaning of heroism and villainy—and how and to whom both personae were ascribed¹. The outlaws, bank robbers, and ruffians² who used to be the villains became the protagonists in films like *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* and *The Wild Bunch*. Suddenly, audiences were cheering for the man in the black hat as he kicked open the saloon doors—his motives had become as relatable³ as the sheriff's.

While these “revisionist Westerns” flipped the tables on the Hollywood heroes and villains, the new antiheroes were still almost exclusively straight⁴ white men.

Americans of any other identity didn't see themselves reflected in the wide-open spaces of the Western plains. But both American society and the Western kept evolving and expanding our notions of who gets to be a worthy⁵ hero. In the past couple decades, Westerns have told the stories of gay men (*Brokeback Mountain*), black men (*The Hateful Eight*), women (*Meek's Cutoff*), and young girls (*True Grit*), among others.

theatlantic.com, 2018

1. attributed 2. violent people 3. reconnaissable 4. hétérosexuel 5. digne

Extrait p. 40 – Roman “*No excuses, Willow Creek, Book 6*”

“We don’t like strangers.”

The voice emerges from somewhere over my shoulder. It’s cold and distant. A warning even more menacing than that of the growling¹ dog.

I pivot to face the speaker and barely stop myself from stumbling backward. I’m caught between the German Shepherd I just saw lumber² to its feet out of the corner of my eye and a woman with a rifle aimed at my kneecap. I can’t see her face under the brim of her dusty baseball cap. She’s wearing overalls and a flannel shirt, and her hair is one long dark braid dangling³ over her shoulder.

“We?” I cautiously ask. Maybe she already found a farmhand⁴.

“Me and Silas.” She gestures toward the German Shepherd. [...] “Who are you and why are you here? [...]

“I saw the ad in the feedstore.” I drop my hand because she’s obviously not going to shake it.

She gives me a head-to-toe perusal⁵. “You don’t look like you can handle this kind of work. Have you ever done manual labor a day in your life?”

Baseball is manual labor. People might think professional sports are glorified manual labor, but if I can hack hours of training, I can hack whatever this job is. “I’ve spent my whole adult life doing manual labor.”

Her lips curl into a sneer⁶. “Your jeans and flannel might be faded, but they’re designer label. And you’re not even wearing steel-toed boots. You’re dressed like someone who’s trying to blend in⁷, not someone who belongs.”

“I’m not afraid of hard work.”

“You wouldn’t last a day. I eat boys like you for breakfast.”

Andrea Jenelle, *No Excuses, Willow Creek, Book 6*, 2024

1. *qui grogne* 2. move heavily 3. hang loosely 4. *travailleur agricole* 5. scrutiny 6. *sourire moqueur* 7. have the correct appearance

Extrait p. 41 – Article “*How Cowboycore Became 2024’s Defining Aesthetic*”

From Beyoncé’s *Cowboy Carter* to Pharrell’s Western runway¹ extravaganza, yeehaw style is everywhere you look right now.

You’d be hard-pressed to find a more potent symbol of America’s ruthless self-determination and far-reaching wanderlust than the cowboy. From the wide-brimmed² hat and those body-hugging jeans to the snap-front shirt and the boots—he’s an instantly recognizable cultural figure. Better yet, he’s one which can be interpreted in a variety of ways.

So perhaps it’s not so surprising that the cowboy has become the prevailing archetype of 2024—an election year, no less!—though he may not always look exactly as you remember him. Take, for example, our latest cover star Beyoncé’s rendition³ on her country-inspired album *Cowboy Carter*: flowing silver locks, red-white-and-blue chaps, sitting sidesaddle on a majestic white horse.

Or there’s Pharrell Williams’s fall-winter 2024 collection, his third as creative director of Louis Vuitton’s menswear—faded denim with Western appliques, Nudie suits⁴, fringed gaucho pants, Western shirts, bolo ties, and grommeted cowboy boots and hats made of luxe leather. Most notably there was the catwalk casting—a diverse group composed heavily of Black and Native American men—which added a very specific, slyly⁵ political layer to Williams’s grand vision. “When you see cowboys portrayed, you see only a few versions,” Williams said backstage at the show. “You never really get to see what some of the original cowboys looked like. They looked like us, they looked like me. They looked Black. They looked Native American.”

Max Berlinger, *gq.com*, 2024

1. *défilé de mode* 2. *à bords larges* 3. *interprétation* 4. suits decorated with fake diamonds 5. *malicieusement*

Évaluation de la compréhension de l'écrit – Guide pédagogique

Extrait – Article de Carly Witteman, *crfashionbook.com*

The evolution of western Americana fashion

Whether you're jamming out at a desert music festival or enjoying a poolside barbecue, odds¹ are you'll spot a few cowboy boots and hats. Western wear's association with American pop culture can be seen in films and fashion dating back over a century ago.

For a long time, Western wear was only worn for utility, with farmers and settlers adopting the fashion to protect themselves from the harsh elements of the rugged² frontier and allow for more worker productivity. It wasn't until Western movies hit the big screen that the rest of America decided to join in on the trend. The turn of the century ushered in the invention of motion pictures, and with it, the Western film genre and its immense popularity. [...]

After the renewed commercial successes of the Western in the late 1930s, their popularity continued to rise until the 1950s, when the number of Western films produced outnumbered all other genres combined. While these movies provided a white-washed depiction of the American West, they were greatly impactful on the culture of Old Hollywood, and thus, on fashion. [...]

Fictional characters in Western films inspired fashion trends in real life, with celebrities across the 20th century adapting country style trends for various appearances and performances.

Carly Witteman, *crfashionbook.com*, 2023

1. *chance* 2. *tough*