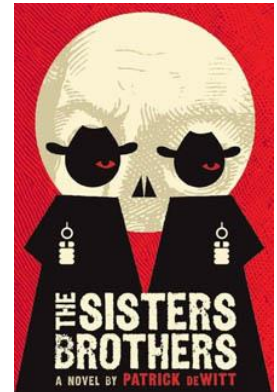




***The Sisters Brothers*
Patrick deWitt (2011)**

The Sisters Brothers pays homage to the classic Western, transforming it into an unforgettable tour de force, both "hilarious" and "relentlessly absorbing".

Filled with a remarkable cast of losers, cheaters, and ne'er-do-wells from all stripes of life-and told by a complex and compelling narrator, it is a violent, lustful odyssey through the underworld of the 1850s frontier that captures the humour, melancholy, and grit of the Old West and two brothers bound by blood, violence, and love.



What the critics say:

"A stylistically impressive, darkly comic reworking of the traditional western" - Metro

"The Sisters Brothers is intermittently moving, consistently very funny, and above all, original" - New Statesman

What do you think? Did you enjoy it? Did it make you laugh? Did you find it moving?

Is there a specific passage (or passages) that you connected with on an emotional level? What feelings did it evoke?

Out of all the offbeat characters that the brothers meet on their travels do you have a favourite, is one more memorable than another?

***The Sisters Brothers* has been described as a modern western, an anti-western, a black comedy, and a tale of ‘two buddies’. Do you think deWitt bends genre effectively?**

What was the nature of Eli and Charlie’s relationship? Was it convincingly portrayed?

About the author

Patrick Dewitt’s first novel, *Ablutions*, was published in 2009. He had previously published a short book of random writings and bad advice, *Help Yourself Help Yourself*. His second novel, *The Sisters Brothers* won the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize, the Governor General Literary Award and was shortlisted for the 2011 Man Booker Prize. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

Other books to look out for

- Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*
- Cormac McCarthy, *Blood Meridian*
- Charles Portis, *True Grit*
- Paul Beatty, *The Sellout*

And films...

The Sisters Brothers was made into a film in 2018, starring John C Reilly and Joaquin Phoenix as Eli and Charlie. It received mixed reviews but is well worth a watch if you liked the book.

- True Grit
- The Ballad of Buster Scruggs
- The Revenant
- The Assassination of Jesse James
- Hell or High Water