

Louis L'Amour Appreciation Piece

I have found Louis L'Amour to be one of the most enjoyable Western fiction authors. In all his works, his profound voice emphasizes the never-ending adventures associated with Old West ideology. *The Gift of Cochise* is a short story about a woman's courage. A third-person omniscient point of view explores the emotions of Angie, the main character, Cochise, who is curious about Angie's unfortunate situation, and Ches Lane, who must break the news to Angie that her husband has died.

Louis L'Amour has been known to use both Third and First-person points of view in his work. For my creative work, I am also leaning towards a third person point of view because I find it difficult to set the right tone in first person. I find ease in creating a believable series of character reactions in this point of view because I have more perspectives to work with. Writing in third person gives me more descriptive freedom which can assist with guiding the reader as they form scenes in their head from my writing. Focusing on one character's perspective, depending on what message I'm trying to convey, takes away from the opportunity to truly "show-off" the world I've created for my characters.

It was Louis L'Amour's intention that his work would conserve the Western genre as we grow farther and farther away from the era. He can tell a very simple story, but with the most expressive language that can pull the reader right in. Whether the reader experiences a sense of justice being served or a newly formed bond that will never disappear, his themes are usually wholesome and leave them with a sense of satisfaction afterwards. Throughout his work, L'Amour's use of literary devices like metaphors and similes have always made it easy to formulate a genuine understanding of the many different scenarios and settings. Louis L'Amour often asks the reader questions through the thoughts of the characters in his works which adds suspense. As a reader, experiencing the same concerns as the character can make the experience enjoyable. I don't often ask questions in my writing because I know the reader will already be asking the same questions inwardly as they read on. Instead, I will focus on the emotions of the characters, the atmosphere during a scene change, and the effectiveness of show-don't tell.