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# Centennial: A Novel

By James A. Michener



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## Centennial: A Novel By James A. Michener

Written to commemorate the Bicentennial in 1976, James A. Michener's magnificent saga of the West is an enthralling celebration of the frontier. Brimming with the glory of America's past, the story of Colorado—the Centennial State—is manifested through its people: Lame Beaver, the Arapaho chieftain and warrior, and his Comanche and Pawnee enemies; Levi Zendt, fleeing with his child bride from the Amish country; the cowboy, Jim Lloyd, who falls in love with a wealthy and cultured Englishwoman, Charlotte Seccombe. In *Centennial*, trappers, traders, homesteaders, gold seekers, ranchers, and hunters are brought together in the dramatic conflicts that shape the destiny of the legendary West—and the entire country.

BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's *Hawaii*.

### Praise for *Centennial*

“A hell of a book . . . While he fascinates and engrosses, Michener also educates.”—*Los Angeles Times*

“An engrossing book . . . imaginative and intricate . . . teeming with people and giving a marvelous sense of the land.”—*The Plain Dealer*

“Michener is America's best writer, and he proves it once again in *Centennial*. . . . If you're a Michener fan, this book is a must. And if you're not a Michener fan, *Centennial* will make you one.”—*The Pittsburgh Press*

“An absorbing work . . . Michener is a superb storyteller.”—*BusinessWeek*



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## Editorial Review

From Library Journal

A runaway best seller, Michener's *Centennial* was written as a tribute to America's bicentennial celebration. The book's 900 pages cover 136 million years. *Centennial* is an epic novel of the history, land, and people of Colorado. Centered around the fictional town of Centennial, the story contains an extensive cast of characters including Native Americans, French fur trappers, English noblemen, and American cowboys. Providing lively narrative against Michener's skillfully researched canvas are people like Levi and Ellie Zendt, who left the confining life of the Pennsylvania Dutch only to find terror and uncertainty on the trip west, and the Garrett family, whose yearly struggle to farm the land was met time and again with defeat. However, much of Michener's remarkable accomplishment is lost in this abridgment. Although the listener gets the main thrust of the story line, the strength and beauty of the original are lost. David Dukes's plodding narration is equally dull. Most libraries should stick with the print version.

- *Gretchen Browne, Rockville Centre P.L., N.Y.*

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From the Inside Flap

"Michener is America's best writer, and he proves it once again in CENTENNIAL."

THE PITTSBURGH PRESS

A stunning panorama of the West, CENTENNIAL is an enthralling celebration of our country, brimming with the glory and the greatness of the American past that only bestselling author James Michener could bring to stunning life. From the Native Americans, the migrating white men and women, the cowboys, and the foreigners, it is a story of trappers, traders, homesteaders, gold seekers, ranchers, and hunters--all caught up in the dramatic events and violent conflicts that shaped the destiny of our legendary West.

## Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harold Cole:

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**Vivian Regan:**

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