



Texas Outlaw

Adrienne deWolfe

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Fancy Holleday has more nerve than the average cardsharp. No man can resist her smoky voice and violet eyes—and that includes the federal tinstar, Cord Rawlins.

Cord may have tracked her all the way to Texas to recover the U.S. minting plates that she stole, but the Nevada penitentiary is a long ride north, giving her plenty of time to charm, seduce, or just plain outsmart the handsome Texas lawman.

Deputy U.S. Marshal Cord Rawlins is sworn to bring renegades to justice—including the brazen lady train robber who turned the tables on him near Carson City.

Tracking Fancy down is Cord's job, but resisting her persistent persuasions is a matter of personal honor. With Fancy's life in his hands, Cord begins to wonder if his clever prisoner is really as shameless as she pretends. Could her wicked smile be hiding a desperate secret—one that can steal his heart?

AWARDS:

Rita Finalist, Best First Book, Romance Writers of America

Rita Finalist, Best Historical Romance (under 100,000 words), Romance Writers of America

Finalist, Reviewers Choice Award (Best Debut Novel), Romantic Times Magazine

Winner, Honey of a Heroine Award, West Houston Chapter, Romance Writers of America

Texas Outlaw Details

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From Reader Review Texas Outlaw for online ebook

Dawn says

++Spoilers++

This is my first read by this author. I REALLY liked it

Here is a quick summary:

The story is about beautiful heroine "Fancy" who has had a hard life. She was a child of whore in a upscale brothel. She was eventually forced into becoming a whore too even after many failed escape attempts which left her beaten, whipped, and starved by the brothel thugs who chased her down and returned her to the whormonger owner. By the age 18, handsome spanish bandit Diego, pays a call to the whorehouse and gambles for Fancy and wins her (and her heart). For the next several years Diego uses Fancy to help him in his theivery. Fancy doesn't really like doing this, but she loves Diego (her savior) so much she will do almost anything for him, even though after being lovers for 7 years, he still has not proposed. It is when Diego gets greedy and organizes a train heist to steal US Government minting plates that things go awry. The train carrying the plates is guarded by (hero) US Marshall Cord Rawlings (and others). This is where Fancy meets the true hero of the story. After the debacle train heist Fancy escapes and is now a wanted woman. Cord has made it his personal business to locate Fancy and the minting plates bringing her to prison for her crimes. He eventually finds her and now the story REALLY begins! (You will have to read the rest on our own)

This was a very well written story with lovable complex characters, great conflict and good pace.

I loved the heroine. I loved that she had such a hard life but was really a good person inside.

I also loved the hero Cord. I will admit, that I almost dnf when I read that he was a widower who really loved and mourned his wife. I am glad I kept reading. I generally don't like when the hero has loved someone before, so you can imagine how happy I was to find that he really didn't love his first wife, and that she certainly didn't love him (we don't find this out until about 1/4 into the book). It also became apparent that Cord was more upset that he failed her and felt guilty/responsible that she died, than being upset that she was no longer in his life. Basically his first wife was a "well to do", sickly woman, who married Cord only for protection and Cord was never home with her (on purpose) because she was very dowdy. Well anyway, this I can handle. He thought he loved her and did mourn, but Fancy is his true love.. Yeay!!!

OK..Characters:

Hero Cord is a former Texas ranger, now US Marshal. He is very honorable, honest. A downright goody two shoes. He is not a manwhore, and never was. A really sweet and wonderful hero.

Heroine Fancy is a survivor. Smart, witty, beautiful, strong and street smart. Completely opposite of Cords 1st wife.

Secondary characters Wes and Zack, Cords younger brothers, grow fond of Fancy well before Cord does. They were so sweet I loved them both.

Antagonist Diego was well crafted. He is greedy, arrogant and selfish. I was happy to see he was not written

as your typical cliched bad guy. There are other antagonists as well, and they too were written nicely.

So here's my overall opinion:

A really fun read! Great characters, lovable hero, strong heroine, good conflict and action.. good pace, few lulls and yes I will read more of this author in the future.

Coleen Grisham says

From a Texan

Fun to read about Texas

A little more killing than I enjoy, but overall a good book, well written. Pretty accurate about Texas

Marjorie Mindel says

"I received a copy of this book from eBook Discovery in exchange for my honest review."

Well, what can I say? Instead of a bad-boy cowboy and an innocent lady, we have a switcheroo here.

An innocent-looking "soiled dove" is the decoy to a ruthless outlaw, and her mark is the federal marshal on the train. The train gets robbed, the marshal gets hoodwinked, and the murderous outlaw gets away with half of the \$4,000,000 worth of US mint plates.

The decoy is left behind to die in the snow, while the outlaw escapes with the plates.

Fancy ends up recuperating at Marshall Cord Rawlins' ranch, where his brothers idolize her and his aunt babies her.

Since this is a western romance, there's no lack of sleazy, horny cowboys and outlaws, a younger, abused "soiled dove" and a smarmy, hypocritical Nevada governor, who's blackmailed into pardoning Fancy after she helps recover the mint plates.

How does the story end? You'll just have to read it to find out. It's well worth the read!

Olivia says

I'm going to be honest, at first, I had a hard time getting into this book. It wasn't bad, I just couldn't get into it, and yet, I couldn't give up on it. I had to find out what happened next. This is the first book I have ever read, that dragged me into the story without me even being aware that I was being dragged. I'm glad I did though. I LOVE this book. I loved how Fancy redeemed herself. I love Cord for being Cord. Wes was hilarious and adorable, and Zach had such a quiet dignity to him, you could just tell that the two of them are going to turn into some amazing men when they get a little older. While reading this story, I laughed, I cried, I cursed, I gasped, and I laughed some more. I highly recommend this book. <3

Kerry says

Loved it

Truly adventurous story of a Lawman's job to get back what was stolen and the little hellion involved in a high stakes games of life and death.

Laura Greenwood says

Review forthcoming on <http://a-reader-lives-a-thousand-live...>

I received a copy of Texas Outlaw from the author in exchange for my review.

Fancy has grown up to a life of crime, but is now being made to feel that 25 is too old to be any use. When the Outlaw group she works with performs a train robbery, she runs into Cord, a Marshal, and the first law man who has ever failed to fall for her charms. When the robbery takes a turn for the worse, Fancy has to make off on her own. Eventually Cord catches up with her, and along with his two younger brothers, Zack and Wes, they start a journey which takes many unexpected turns.

[Link to Goodreads](#)

[Link to amazon](#)

After having read the Velvet Lies series by Adrienne deWolfe before I was excited to have the opportunity to read Texas Outlaw, and I was not disappointed! I love this book!

The main character, Fancy, is my kind of heroine (as the author said to me that she thought Fancy would be!). She was determined, smart, witty and lets not forget attractive. Ultimately she was a character well ahead of her time. Though she did have a more sensitive side as well, and there was much more to the character than originally meets the eye.

While Fancy was full of tricks and guile, the main lead, Cord, was the opposite, not wanting to lie, cheat or otherwise be dishonest in any aspect of his life. This creates a bit of a contrast and an interesting dynamic between the two leads, particularly when they begin to try outsmarting each other. As well as a romance, Texas Outlaw was a journey of these two characters and the way in which they rub off on each other, with Fancy becoming more fundamentally honest, and Cord becoming more laid back.

One of the things I liked the most about this pairing of characters was the banter and wit that was shared between the two of them. There were several points in the book where I read lines and started to laugh out loud because of what one of them had said!

Though it is a romance, there is also a good deal of action in Texas Outlaw, which would be fairly obvious as the book is about outlaws! This starts from the very first page, and carries on until the final few pages and the race that there ensues.

I loved this book, engaging and enjoyable characters with a fast pace and page turning quality!

Michelle says

I knew pretty quick after starting this book I was gonna fall in deep -- and I did! I deeply enjoyed getting lost

in Fancy and Cord's story.

I knew there was something deeper to Fancy than her sassy charms and smarts. And as you learn more about her, you can't help but intensely feel for her -- from the hidden heart-shattering secrets to the relieved and cheer-worthy discovering of her strength. Her growth caught me off-guard with how intensely I experienced it with her.

Cord -- I love that man! His grit and determination to track down Fancy rolled right over into his pursuit of her - both as an outlaw and then as his woman. If there was ever the right man for Fancy to teach her true love and what that means, he perfectly filled those shoes. And quite honestly, Fancy was the perfect woman to help fight off the demons he struggled with.

Besides being entertaining, real-life messages of looking deeper into a person, not giving up, digging for the truth, and fighting for what you need and want are weaved into the pages. Definitely not a book to pass by!

Amber says

Really appreciated the anti-heroine aspect of this - she's a whore plus she actually robs trains and stuff. Though she doesn't kill, the guys she works with do, so it's pretty impressive that she ends up being sympathetic throughout. The opening and life on the trail was really great but the last third was all over the place and never came together like I was hoping for. Reminds me a lot of which started off a bit slower but ended great. I would recommend both if you like this type of thing, which I do :)

Jessica says

I thought I was done with this specific genre. I'm not. I'd like to read the next one. It could be called guilty pleasure reading by some, or something a bit nastier by others who detest romances with foxy ladies and shirtless men in some sort of pre-coital embrace on the cover. Whatever.

There were times I was frustrated by 'Fancy', but ultimately I grew to love her. Cord, her love interest and male protagonist was very likable without being cliché or one dimensional. Of course, you can't NOT expect there to be some silliness in stories like these. But, it was fun, apt and well placed silliness. This is an author who can craft a damn entertaining romance story. Romance writing is NOT easy. I'm no expert, but Adrienne deWolfe seemed to know a thing or two about the period and setting. To be honest sometimes...I just love reading stuff like this to get away from it all.

DB says

The Marshall and the Outlaw, or is that the Lady? A Must Read!

This is the first Adrienne deWolfe novel that I have read. Thank you EBook Discovery for introducing me to her.

Fancy is not your average card-shark. She just wants to be accepted and truly LOVED. She lives the only

way that she knows including protecting herself from everything and everyone. When Marshall Cord walks into her life he upsets on only the card table she is playing at but he touches a part of her that she thought she has hidden away.

Fancy first finds, what she thought, LOVE from a conniving outlaw named Diego. She would do anything for him, even help rob a train. That is when she first meets Cord. After the robbery and her escape, Cord wants to redeem himself with his superiors. How can he do that, finding the stolen plates and bringing her in? All is well until the bottom falls out. Can he keep her alive? Can he bring her to justice without falling in love with her? Only time would tell.

It was a really good read that kept me entertained and frustrated. The battle of wits between Fancy and Cord made me want to slap them both a time or two.

**I received an Ebook Discovery copy for an honest review. However, this review was NOT affected in ANY WAY by that! **

Terri Gostola says

This review is from: Texas Outlaw (Wild Texas Nights, Book 1) (Kindle Edition)

Wow, I love this book! A feisty heroine, an honorable and sexy hero, and a page-turning plot - put it all together and this book is obviously five big glowing stars!

I am a huge fan of historical romance although not so much with westerns. Still, I decided to give this book a try, and am I ever glad I did because I now have a new favorite author to add to my short list.

The first line in the book is brilliant. "The last time Fancy Holliday robbed a train, she did it in her bloomers." A line like that fairly beckoned me to read more. Cord wasn't a man who had his tongue hanging out the first time he met Fancy. It was the opposite, for she tried her best to get his attention and he ignored her! I laugh because this is one hot blooded hero but the timing just wasn't right for him yet. He was a man of duty and honor who took his marshal duties seriously, and as we find out later in the story, he noticed her alright, but he was a man in control of himself.

At first I guessed Fancy and Cord would remain a love/hate relationship, which was fine with me because there was lots of action and a heck of a good story going on. But, no. Adrienne deWolfe expertly upped her game and turned up the heat. It's a wonder my Kindle wasn't smoking.

I better stop here because I don't want my gushing enthusiasm to give away spoilers.

I'll be reading every book in this series! Bravo!

KyBunnies says

Originally posted at Bunny's Review

There is a reason why I love Adrienne's books so much. She writes about tin-stars! I will state this and get on with my review – Damn deWolfe has done it again!

I love reading about the wild west, especially when they have tin-stars aka US Marshall. If I could hop thru time my first visit would be during this USA era. To see this great country take shape would be amazing since I cannot travel thru time I feed this desire by reading Adrienne. Her books take me away to a time I wish I could live.

Fancy is not your average card-shark and lady of the night. She is living the only life she knows and that includes protecting herself from most anyone or anything. When Cord walks into her life it is not just the card table he upsets he reaches into a part of her soul that she did not know existed.

My favorite part of this book was Fancy shooting the rattle snake. Being a person that has a slight phobia to snakes I knew her fear. But thru out this book I connected with each character. deWolfe always brings characters to life, readers feel the characters emotions on many different levels.

deWolfe is an auto buy for this reader. I will never pass up a chance to read anything she writes.

I highly recommend this book to any who enjoy historical romance especially western.

The bunnies and I give this book carrots.

I purchased this book at Amazon 2014.

Erica says

Fancy just wants to be accepted, prove that she's not too old to turn a man's eye, and marry the man who treats her like dirt, but saved her from a life as a whore. She'd do anything for the good for nothing outlaw Diego, even help rob a train.

Cord is the Marshal, her mark, too bad the man can see right through her ruse. When the robbery takes a turn for the worst, she barely escapes in the cold winter night, believing that Diego is dead by Cord's hand. Cord has to save face. Ridiculed because of the robbery, he wants to redeem himself by bringing in Fancy and her minting plates worth a fortune to face prosecution. When forced to work together to keep her alive, will the past keep them going after what they really want?

I have to admit, that eighty percent throughout this book, I wanted to strangle these two! Every time they took a step toward each other, one of them erected walls so damn quick that I suffered a headache. It was starting to get old, when it happened again and again. But despite that, it kept me going. I wanted to know who had the plates, how were they going to find a future together when so much stood between them, including the walls they themselves put up. I refuse to believe a woman with her guileless would be so blind to understand when a man loves her and when another is using her. Which Fancy did A LOT in this book.

It was a good read that kept me entertained and frustrated, but still willing to buy the next book.

Misfit says

Got a kick out of this at the back:

:p

"The last time Fancy Holleday robbed a train, she did it in her bloomers."

The girl: Fancy Holleday, raised on the rough side of the tracks and currently the *girl* of outlaw Diego Santana. When the book begins, they're in the thick of robbing a train to get their hands on a set of plates from the US Mint so they can commence to making counterfeit money. Fancy's specialty is using her well-endowed breasts to distract the good guys.

"Now real slowly, I want you to raise your hands and put them behind your head."

"The hell I will!" She cocked her .32. "Then you'll have one helluva time explaining to Mrs. Rawlins why you can't father a little lawman of your own."

The guy: Federal Marshal Cord Rawlins - he's not buying Fancy's shenanigans for a minute, but the robbery goes wrong and Fancy disappears with half the goods and Cord has to hunt her down. And when he does...

"That was her, all right. He would have recognized that wicked little hellcat smile anywhere. It was the same smile she had worn when she'd cocked her pistol at his pecker. Just last night, he'd had another nightmare about that .32 and had sat bolt upright, sweating like a plow mule."

That's about all the plot you need to know, but you'll get plenty of shoot-em-ups, nasty outlaws and loving and misunderstandings along the way. Not the greatest western romance out there, but plenty of fun when you're in the mood for something light on a rainy day. Originally published in 1995 and now available on Kindle, which I snapped up on one of the freebie runs. Extra points for the kindle formatting and no conversion errors outside of a couple of very minor typos. This is the first in a trilogy, but from looking at the descriptions it looks like Cord's two younger brothers get their own story and this does well as a standalone novel.

Ira says

This was my first book by Adrienne deWolfe but definitely not my last! I really loved the story and I loved how Cord little by little conquers Fancy and shows her another way to live - and of course I also love how Cord falls for Fancy, bit by bit or rather - page by page.

Okay, back to the beginning, where Fancy Holleday, a young and rather remarkable woman, is part of the gang robbing the train protected by Marshal Cord Rawlins. When he has finally tracked her down, he realizes that that might have been the easy part of his job. And even if he gets her back to the Nevada penitentiary, will he be able to let her go?

Fancy is very sweet and despite all her worldly knowledge rather innocent and the more you get to know her the more it is not just Cord who falls for her but the reader falls for her as well. At least I did. Completely, absolutely. And the more I learned about her life the more upset (and furious) I got and the more I just wanted her to be happy and have her dream come true.

Every time Diego Santana, Fancy's "fiancé" and the leader of the bandits robbing the train, entered the picture, I was angry and afraid that somehow, something....well, let's just say that he wasn't my favorite guy and I didn't like the way he treated Fancy. At all.

Enter Cords brothers, Zack and Wes - amazing characters, wonderful brothers (most of the time at least when they are someone else's brothers...) and their aunt Eulalia, a strong and very determined woman with a very big heart.

A bunch of amazingly complex and authentic characters, a lot of heartbreak (and handkerchiefs), hope, blossoming love and a Marshal trying to do the right thing, create a fast-paced, emotional and thrilling story that keeps the reader captivated till the end.
