



# Vengeance Road

By Erin Bowman

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When Kate Thompson's father is killed by the notorious Rose Riders for a mysterious journal that reveals the secret location of a gold mine, the eighteen-year-old disguises herself as a boy and takes to the gritty plains looking for answers and justice. What she finds are devious strangers, dust storms, and a pair of brothers who refuse to quit riding in her shadow. But as Kate gets closer to the secrets about her family, she gets closer to the truth about herself and must decide if there's room for love in a heart so full of hate.

In the spirit of *True Grit*, the cutthroat days of the Wild West come to life for a new generation.

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## **Vengeance Road** By Erin Bowman Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #80286 in Books
- Brand: Harcourt Brace and Company
- Published on: 2015-09-01
- Released on: 2015-09-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x 1.14" w x 5.50" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 336 pages

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up—After finding her father hanging dead from a tree and her home on fire, Kate sets out, disguised as a boy, to pursue the Rose Riders, the ruthless band of murderers and thieves who killed him. A nod to Charles Portis's *True Grit* (S. & S, 1968), this YA Western portrays the moral ambiguities that arise in the single-minded pursuit of revenge. Bowman's *Gold Rush Arizona* resembles nothing so much as a postapocalyptic Zombie-infested wasteland: Children are burned alive in coaches, whores and whisky abound, and Kate shoots good and bad men alike when necessity demands. The protagonist narrates her story in the same dialect as she speaks, a rough, pared-down chronicle of a world uncivilized. She distrusts even her few companions, Jesse and Will Colton, a pair of brothers in search of gold, and Liluye, an Apache girl who reluctantly agrees to guide them through the mountains. A series of tests along the way blur moral lines beyond recognition, especially as Kate begins to develop feelings for Jesse. Readers who won't flinch from a vivid portrait of a lawless world may appreciate her ruminations on the horrors she encounters and the choices she has made. By confronting such realities head-on, the book demands the same stoicism from its readers as the heroine herself possesses. VERDICT Teens sick of books that coddle them will enjoy sinking their teeth into Bowman's latest, a work for readers looking to graduate from L.A. Meyer's "Bloody Jack" series (HMH).—Anna Stover, Poughkeepsie Day School, NY

## Review

"Teens sick of books that coddle them will enjoy sinking their teeth into Bowman's latest...the book demands the same stoicism from its readers as the heroine herself possesses."

—*School Library Journal*

\* "Kate's pursuit of the murderous Rose Riders, intertwined with gold-rush greed driving men to madness, makes for a thoroughly engrossing read."

—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

"[Kate] is a hard-riding, tough-talking young woman who can shoot to kill. The story is hers to tell."

—VOYA

"Readers will be entranced by Bowman's swiftly paced, romantic revenge drama, and historical fiction fans will relish the period clothing, western dialect, and details of everyday life. With plot twists galore and a nice surprise at the end, it's a page turner."

—*Booklist*

"A story of grit, love, and deadly revenge that climbs off the page and into your heart—saddle up for a thrilling, harrowing ride!"

—Alexandra Bracken, *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Darkest Minds* trilogy

"A take-no-prisoners heroine with a bloody debt to settle. I'm still breathing in the dust and hot Arizona sun."

—Megan Shepherd, author of *The Madman's Daughter*

"Gritty and honest, *Vengeance Road* captures the heart of the Wild West."

—Mindy McGinnis, author of *Not a Drop to Drink*

“Thrilling. . . . Kate is a heroine to be reckoned with.”

—**Jessica Spotswood, author of *The Cahill Witch Chronicles***

“Relentlessly readable, *Vengeance Road* is a perfect Western. You won’t be able to turn in until you get to the very last page!”

—**Sandra Mitchell, author of *The Springsweet***

“Flinty and fierce, Kate is a formidable addition to the pantheon of tough young adult heroines. Her story and voice crackles to life.”

—**A.C. Gaughen, author of the *Scarlet Trilogy***

“Gold madness, a good-for-nothing posse, and frontier justice: *Vengeance Road* is everything you could want in a Western.”

—**Jodi Meadows, *New York Times* best-selling author with *My Lady Jane***

“This is the kind of book I’ll re-read again and again.”

—**Susan Dennard, author of the *Something Strange and Deadly* series**

About the Author

**Erin Bowman** used to tell stories visually as a web designer. Now a full-time writer, she lives in New Hampshire with her family and when not writing she can often be found hiking, geeking out over good typography, and obsessing over all things Harry Potter. Visit [www.embowman.com](http://www.embowman.com).

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Henry Evans:**

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to know everything in the world. Each book has different aim or goal; it means that publication has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. They can be reading whatever they consider because their hobby will be reading a book. How about the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, man feel need book after they found difficult problem or even exercise. Well, probably you will need this *Vengeance Road*.

#### **Rocio Linville:**

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**Brandon Macdonald:**

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