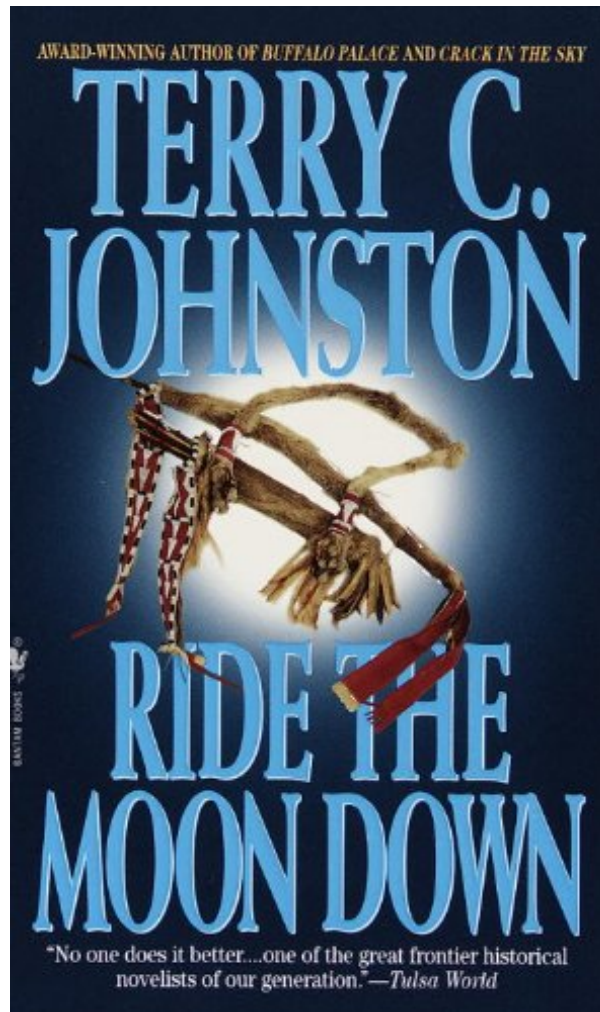


# RIDE THE MOON DOWN: THE PLAINSMEN BY TERRY C. JOHNSTON

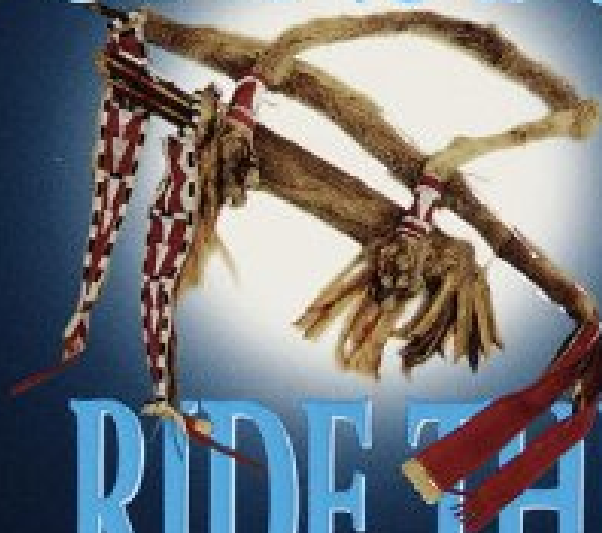


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AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR OF *BUFFALO PALACE* AND *CRACK IN THE SKY*

TERRY C.  
JOHNSTON



DAVID R. BOGGS

RIDE THE  
MOON DOWN

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From Publishers Weekly

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... western frontier all 10 of these books are very good, informative and a great story of a young ...

By Glen

If you are a student of history and the development of American western frontier all 10 of these books are very good, informative and a great story of a young man as he grows older and wiser. Johnston, in my opinion is a master of early American western history and storytelling with facts. They must be read in the following order to get the full story:

1. Dance on the wind – 1794-1824
2. Buffalo palace – 1825
3. Crack in the sky
4. Carry the wind
5. Borderlords
6. One-eyed dream
7. Ride the moon down
8. Death rattle
9. Ride the moon down – 1834 – 1840
10. Wind walkers - 1847 – 1853

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True Johnston - Absoutely Fantastic

By A Customer

As rendezvous re-enactors, we have found Johnston's works to be just truly amazing in their accuracy. We have purchased every book he has put out and we still keep looking for the next one! Had to have them shipped special while living overseas. A true master of the word and history of the West. Good on ya Terry - keep on writing! The Armstrong Clan

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

Titus Bass (Scratch) Rides On

By A Customer

Titus Bass was older than most when he came to the mountains in 1825. He had already experienced life as a Kentucky settler's child, a flat boat crewman on the Ohio & Mississippi rivers and a blacksmith's apprentice in early Saint Louis. Nevertheless, when he arrived in the Shining Mountains, he found his true home. Living life hard and one day at a time, surviving catastrophe after catastrophe, he has persevered not because he is some kind of superman, but because he has that tenacity necessary to live beyond the edge of civilization, where one miscalculation can mean sudden, violent death. Scratch has survived devious and evil partners, attacks by Indians and grizzly bears, the dreaded smallpox and the indifferent cruelty of nature itself. He has been shot, stabbed, cudged; even scalped. He has lived this life to the fullest. Finding his pleasure where he can--in Taos with its alluring Mexican maidens, in the tipi of a willing squaw, in the whiskey and camaraderie of the annual summer rendezvous. Finally, after years of trapping beaver as a partner with other "free men"--trappers beholden to no company--Titus Bass has found love and joy in the arms of his beloved Crow wife, waits-by-the-Water and his two small children, daughter Magpie and son, Flea. Even as they dodge sudden death, sometimes narrowly, this family finds happiness in one another and in the raw beauty of this breath-taking land that is the Rocky Mountains.

Now, after some fifteen years dodging death at the hands of Blackfeet, Arapaho, Sioux, even the harsh land

itself, his forty-four-year-old body suffering the consequences of this harsh existence, Scratch and his family find themselves facing an enemy that even tenacity, courage and determination might not defeat. The beaver that have allowed Scratch and others--Jim Bridger, Kit Carson, Jedediah Smith--survive and prosper in this hostile land are fast becoming scarce. Higher and higher must the trappers search for unmolested streams where they can collect their pelts. At the same time, tiny worm in China weaves silk and creates an alternative to the beaver to create hats for fashion-conscious Europeans and Easterners.

Will Scratch be able to protect himself and his family from attacks by Blackfeet bent on revenge, the hate of his Crow brother-in-law, a devastating epidemic of small pox, the treachery of unscrupulous entrepreneurs bent on controlling the beaver trade, Sioux venturing into his territory and, perhaps the most terrifying event of all, the end of the beaver trade?

The answer to that question is what will keep the reader glued to the pages of this chapter of the saga of Titus Bass. Excitement and danger loom on every page until the reader finally turns the last one. Even then, is the question answered....?

The character of Titus Bass, as developed by author Terry C. Johnston, is not a hero in the classic sense, but by his very commonness looms large as an ordinary man who does extraordinary things to survive and protect his beloved family. This latest book in the mountain man series continues the excellent writing about the way it really was in the first half of the 19th century for those who dared brave the unknown and foreboding wilderness of the North American continent west of the Mississippi river, where few white men survived long. Johnston is a masterful story teller who presents not a glorified accounting of the early west, but tells it like it really was--terrifying and magnificent.

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