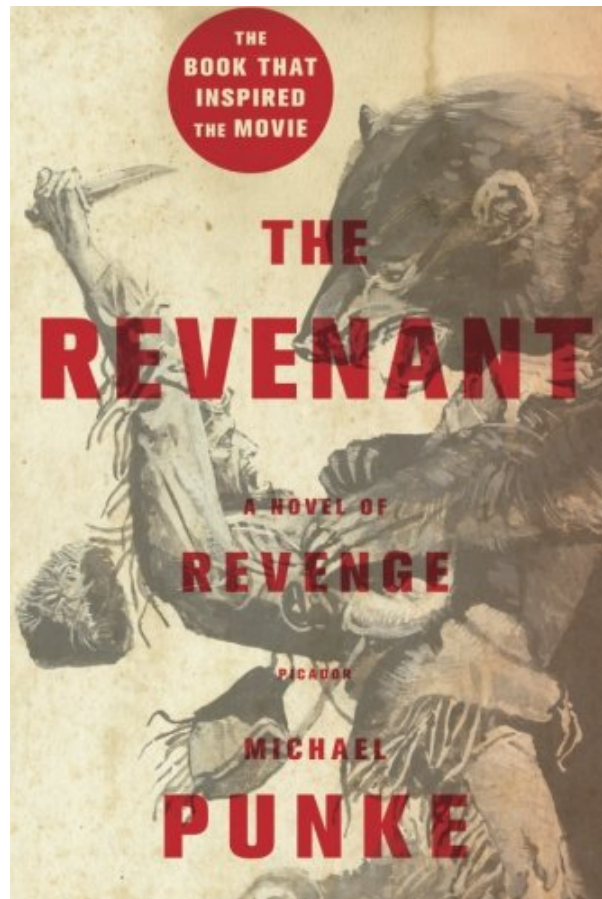
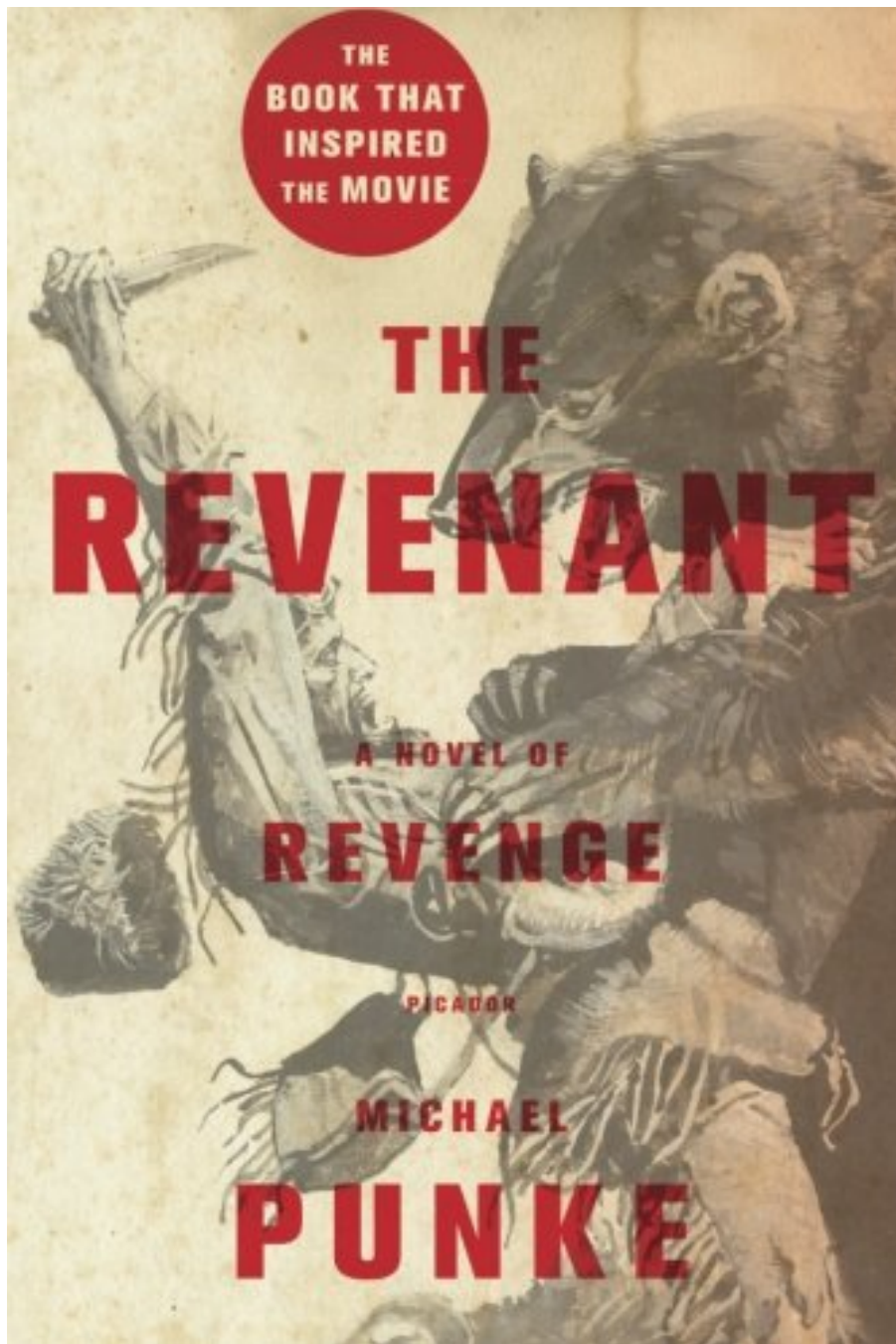


THE REVENANT: A NOVEL OF REVENGE BY MICHAEL PUNKE



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#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

A thrilling tale of betrayal and revenge set against the nineteenth-century American frontier, the astonishing story of real-life trapper and frontiersman Hugh Glass

The year is 1823, and the trappers of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company live a brutal frontier life. Hugh Glass is among the company's finest men, an experienced frontiersman and an expert tracker. But when a scouting mission puts him face-to-face with a grizzly bear, he is viciously mauled and not expected to survive. Two company men are dispatched to stay behind and tend to Glass before he dies. When the men abandon him instead, Glass is driven to survive by one desire: revenge. With shocking grit and determination, Glass sets out, crawling at first, across hundreds of miles of uncharted American frontier. Based on a true story, *The Revenant* is a remarkable tale of obsession, the human will stretched to its limits, and the lengths that one man will go to for retribution.

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- Released on: 2015-10-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .32" h x .3" w x 5.52" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages

From Publishers Weekly

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Most helpful customer reviews

191 of 205 people found the following review helpful.

High Adventure that Delivers!

By J. K. Grice

The word REVENANT is defined as "a person who returns, especially supposedly from the dead." There could be no better title for Michael Punke's high spirited western novel. In these pages, we discover historical fiction at its best. Though the book was published some years ago, it seems to be garnering more attention with a re-release, as well as anticipation of the movie *THE REVENANT* starring Leonardo DiCaprio, due out in January 2016.

At any rate, the story centers around legendary "mountain man" Hugh Glass. The time period is the early 1820's, when traders and fur companies were searching out domains in the Rocky Mountains, and in the present day states of Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, and the Dakotas. It is also a time only 18 years removed from the return of Lewis and Clark from the Pacific and the triumphs of the Corps of Discovery. Word had spread throughout our young nation of the vast areas of lands where a fortune might be made through the hunting and trapping of animals. The lust for furs, hides, and pelts to propitiate European buyers played a major role in this westward expansion. Thus, endeavors like The Rocky Mountain Fur Company sprang into existence and vied with one another to gain strong footholds in prime furbearer sections of the enormous Missouri Territory.

Often, financial backing was based out of St. Louis, where teams of men were organized to venture up the Missouri River, as well as its tributaries. The book centers around one such team led by a Captain Henry and included such members as John Fitzgerald, Jim Bridger, and Hugh Glass. Along with surviving the harsh elements of the Wild, these men also had to defend themselves against hostile Indian tribes like the Arikara and the Blackfeet. In addition, there was great competition from the Spanish and French that added to the urgency of securing tracts of land rich for trapping.

Much of what we know of these early "mountain men" is centered around both facts and legends. Hugh

Glass, Jedediah Smith, and Jim Bridger were three of the first actual white men who ventured into the Rocky Mountains and beyond. In *THE REVENANT*, we are given an exciting glimpse into a very early and virgin American West. It is no secret that Hugh Glass was a central figure at the time, and he was indeed attacked by a grizzly bear and left for dead by his party. Punke does such a marvelous job of weaving fact and fiction together, and he elaborates on this merger at the novel's end.

What I found most fascinating about this moving saga were the rich backgrounds we are given involving the histories of the major characters. We are treated to accounts not only of Glass, but also of Bridger, Fitzgerald, Henry, and the French voyageurs. The descriptions of the bear ordeal, of Glass's stoic determination, of the Indian attacks, and of survival in the brutal wilderness itself were absolutely compelling. Punke's knowledge and visceral prose make for story telling at its finest. If you enjoy films like *JEREMIAH JOHNSON* and books like *UNDAUNTED COURAGE* or *CROW KILLER*, I believe you will find *THE REVENANT* to be a splendid read that is well worth your time....

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Looking forward to seeing the movie next. Loved the book.

By Yonah reviewer

I'm really enjoying this book and I wasn't so sure I would, given what I thought it would be about. But its written in such a way that it holds my interest well and appeals to me. Normally a book about fur trappers and the wilderness wouldn't sound like something I could get into. But the events that set it off and the beautifully descriptive writing about the landscape and people and action captured my interest fully. It has lots of excitement and near peril and danger to keep it exciting. And for me, a non-fiction lover the best part is that its based on a true incident of heroism in the history of the American West back in 1822. A blend of a few different subjects that I am crazy about, the old American West, history, true stories and crime.

It's about betrayal and revenge, but also so much more. The main character Hugh Glass was a real life fur trapper and frontiersman who led quite a life and I'll probably be looking for more to read on him.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Meh writing was only saved by its amazing storyline

By Stephanie S.

The storyline told in the *Revenant* is amazing, but the writing leaves alot to be desired. I would have given this book a 5/5 if the writing hadn't been so bad. When reading this story, the author wasn't able to bring the landscape to life and it felt as though alot of the descriptions were rushed and told by someone without eloquent writing. I'm not a person that cares if a story is artistically written or gets bent out of shape by meh writing (I love the *Dragonlance Chronicles* and those stories are by no means masterpieces of prose), but I was even distracted by the lack of eloquence. It was almost like reading a history book without the detail that you would expect a history book to focus on. I can't believe I'm saying this, but just go see the movie. The movie has a slightly different story, but this is one of the rare times where I think the movie was better than the book.

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