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## FEATURES Mac Hedges & his new book *Shadow of the Wind*

Many thanks for sending Mackey Hedges' new book. It's a great story: the book, his life, your efforts, the connections to so many in the Western world. Margo Metegrano February 9, 2011

It's a pleasure to have that as our top news today at [CowboyPoetry.com](http://CowboyPoetry.com): February 9, 2011

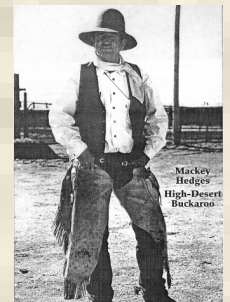


*Shadow of the Wind* is buckaroo **Mackey Hedges'** new sequel to his award-winning *Last Buckaroo*. Mackey Hedges doesn't like calling *Shadow of the Wind* a "novel." He comments, "It's a little bunkhouse tale about the lives of a couple of high desert buckaroos."

Many familiar names have a part in the *Shadow of the Wind*. The book's covers are graced by the paintings of the late [Joelle Smith](#), and over a dozen of her images are included in the book; she was a great fan of

*Last Buckaroo*. *Shadow of the Wind* opens with the lyrics of top songwriter [Dave Stamey](#)'s "Buckaroo Man." [Darrell Arnold](#), poet, writer, and former editor and publisher of *Cowboy Magazine*, was an editor for the book.

Mackey Hedges has made his living horseback all of his adult life. His biography tells that after being discharged from the Marine Corps in the 1960s, "...he headed straight for the mountains to fulfill his lifelong dream. He packed in the Sierras, wintered in isolated desert cow camps and went out on the wagons of several big outfits that branded 5,000 to 7,000 calves a summer." In the decades since then, he's worked in Nevada, California, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. Today, he lives in Nevada where he still works as a buckaroo on a large ranch.



*Shadow of the Wind* follows the lives of the main characters introduced in *Last Buckaroo*: rancher Dean McCuen and cowboy-for-life Tap McCoy. In *Last Buckaroo*, the story was told from Tap McCoy's point of view. Dean McCuen takes the reins in *Shadow of the Wind*. Full of action, atmosphere, and grit, the book is populated by many additional colorful characters.

The publisher comments on *Shadow of the Wind*, "There is nothing fictional about this story other than the plot. The characters are real, the adventures actually happened and the country and ranches exist. Every fight, bucking horse ride and wild wreck actually took place. It is a factual description of the working lives of the Great Basin buckaroos during the mid 1900s. Like

*Last Buckaroo*, it captures a time period that has all but come to an end."

At [www.CowboyBooksandMusic.com](http://www.CowboyBooksandMusic.com), the site of the co-publisher Robert W. Sigman (who brought *Last Buckaroo* in print), you'll find more about the 600-page plus *Shadow of the Wind*, including a [video](#) about Mackey Hedges, with music by Dave Stamey, and articles by Mackey Hedges and others. Also find more about Mackey Hedges and *Last Buckaroo* at [www.lastbuckaroo.com](http://www.lastbuckaroo.com).