# Pat Garrett: The Enigmatic Lawman Behind the Badge

Pat Garrett is a legendary figure in American history, known as the man who killed Billy the Kid. However, there is much more to Garrett's story than this one infamous act. He was a complex and enigmatic man, a lawman who straddled the line between good and evil.

#### **Early Life and Career**

Patrick Floyd Garrett was born on June 5, 1850, in Chambers County, Alabama. His family moved to Texas when he was a young boy, and he grew up on the frontier in a time of great lawlessness. Garrett quickly gained a reputation as a skilled gunman and tracker, and he began working as a bounty hunter and lawman.



Pat Garrett: The Man Behind the Badge by W.C. Jameson

★★★★★ 4.4 out of 5
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Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 248 pages



In 1880, Garrett was elected sheriff of Lincoln County, New Mexico. This was a dangerous job at a time when the county was plagued by outlaws and violence. Garrett quickly established himself as a fearless and effective

lawman, and he soon became one of the most respected lawmen in the West.

#### The Hunt for Billy the Kid

In 1881, Billy the Kid escaped from jail and went on a killing spree. Garrett was charged with hunting down and bringing Billy to justice. Garrett tracked Billy for months, and finally, on July 14, 1881, he cornered Billy in Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Garrett shot and killed Billy in the darkness, ending the life of one of the most notorious outlaws in American history.

#### **Aftermath**

Garrett's killing of Billy the Kid made him a national hero. However, it also cast a shadow over his career. Some people accused Garrett of killing Billy in cold blood, and his reputation was never the same.

Garrett continued to serve as sheriff of Lincoln County for several more years. He also worked as a bounty hunter and a US Customs inspector. In 1896, Garrett was assassinated by an unknown assailant in Las Cruces, New Mexico. He was 46 years old.

#### Legacy

Pat Garrett is a complex and enigmatic figure in American history. He was a fearless lawman who brought some of the most notorious outlaws of the Wild West to justice. However, he was also accused of being cold-blooded and ruthless.

Garrett's legacy is still debated today. Some people see him as a hero, while others see him as a villain. However, there is no doubt that Garrett

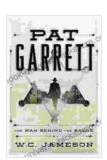
was a significant figure in American history, and his story continues to fascinate people to this day.

### **Additional Images**









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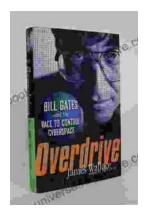
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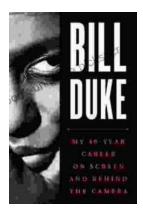
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