

KIDNAPPED AND CATRIONA

Robert Louis Stevenson

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KEY SELLING POINTS

- A highly regarded literary classic from one of Scotland's most distinguished authors
- This is a combined edition of RLS's classic novels of travel, romance and adventure

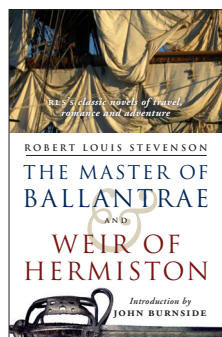
'Edinburgh wouldn't be Edinburgh without Robert Louis Stevenson' – Ian Rankin

SUMMARY

In *Kidnapped* (1886) and later fiction such as *The Master of Ballantrae* (1888), Stevenson examined some of the extreme and contrary currents of Scotland's past, often projecting a dualism of both personality and belief. This dualism is most famous in *Kidnapped*, whose two central characters are David Balfour, a Lowland Whig, and Alan Breck Stewart, a Highland Jacobite. The novel revolves around their friendship and their differences, suggesting a metaphor for Scotland itself. Stevenson wrote the sequel *Catriona* with the title David Balfour, but during serialisation in England the public became confused, thinking it might be a reprint of *Kidnapped*. At publisher Cassell's request, the title was changed to *Catriona*, after Balfour's daughter.

AUTHOR

Robert Louis Stevenson was an atheist and free spirit. In Samoa – where he died – he fought in a civil war for independence. In 1886, the blockbuster novel *Kidnapped* was published – a dramatic adventure of abduction and life on the run in the wilds of Scotland. Stevenson died in 1894, just 44 years old. The Samoan natives, who were devoted to Stevenson, cut a track through the jungle to create a resting place for him on top of the mountain above his beloved Vailima estate.



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