• Writes a lot about Knoxville and Tennessee
• Writes about mass movement and destruction of communities
• Writes about people who try to live outside mainstream society
• McCarthy himself lived as a down and out whilst at university and so met a lot of similar people
• First 4 books were written whilst living in Knoxville
• Whilst living in Santa Fe – NM he wrote his western novels

- *Blood Meridian* – 1985
- *All the pretty horses* – 1992
- *The Crossing* – 1994
- *Cities of the Plain* – 1998

• McCarthy writes about the character John Grady in *All the Pretty Horses*
• He goes into detail when describing someone doing something skilled

- *No Country for Old Men* – 2005 – borderlands – up to date (mid 1980’s)
- *The Road* – 2006 – Future set – post apocalyptic novel, about a man and boy trying to survive. Takes place about 10 years after the apocalypse – novel of endings

• Both Unusual novels

**Blood Meridian 1985**

• Howard Bloom (Harvard literacy critic) praises Blood Meridian and places McCarthy alongside Faulkner, Melville and Roth and Delilo. He also places the book in the Western Genre which is extremely important in American literature and film.