## HUNTER'S TRAP

C. W. Smith Texas Christian University Press 255 pp. \$22.50 October

Hunter's Trap is a tale of revenge. Set in West Texas in 1930 on the doorstep of the depression, but reaching into the past, Hunter's Trap follows Will Hunter in his relentless plan of vengeance against banker Bill Kale, the man who ruined his life with his greed and lust. Will has decided to dedicate his life to making sure that Kale experiences the agony that he has inflicted on others. As part of his scheme, Will gets a job at Kale's bank, and then begins the seduction of Kale's troubled seventeen-year-old daughter, Sissy. The corruption sowed by Kale extended to Oklahoma and California, reached thirty years in the past, and has shaped Will's life in ways he doesn't realize himself. Colorful characters, well-turned dialogue and a dusty sense of place support the relentless plotting. By skillfully mixing measures of Will's past into the main narrative, C. W. Smith delivers every last bit of suspense from the multilayered stalking that goes on in Hunter's Trap.