

# The Lost Engine: The Remarkable Renovation of a 1933 Fire Engine

For over a decade, the 1933 fire engine sat forgotten in a field, slowly being reclaimed by nature. But in 2023, a group of dedicated volunteers embarked on a remarkable journey to restore the lost engine to its former glory. The result is a stunning testament to community spirit and the importance of preserving our history.

Year:

1933

Make:

American LaFrance

Model:

750 GPM

Engine Type:

Gasoline-powered

Length:

24 feet

Weight:

8,500 pounds



## The Lost Engine renovation of a 1933 Fire Engine

by Peter Swann

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 11835 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 67 pages  
Lending : Enabled

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## **The Lost Engine**

The 1933 fire engine was purchased by the town of Smithville in 1934. It served the community for over 30 years, responding to countless fires and emergencies. In the 1970s, the engine was retired from service and placed in a field behind the town fire station. There it sat, slowly deteriorating, for over a decade.

In 2023, a group of volunteers formed the Smithville Fire Engine Restoration Committee. Their goal was to restore the lost engine to its former glory and make it a centerpiece of the town's history museum.

## **The Renovation**

The renovation of the lost engine was a massive undertaking. The volunteers spent countless hours stripping the engine down to its frame and rebuilding it from the ground up. They replaced the engine, transmission, brakes, and electrical system. They also repainted the engine in its original colors and restored the chrome trim.

The renovation was completed in 2024, and the lost engine was unveiled to the public at the town's annual Fourth of July celebration. The engine was a huge hit, and it quickly became a symbol of community spirit and history.



The lost 1933 fire engine after the renovation.

### **The Importance of Preserving Our History**

The renovation of the lost fire engine is a reminder of the importance of preserving our history. These old engines are more than just machines; they are symbols of our community spirit and our past. They tell the story of our town and the people who have lived here.

We must never forget the sacrifices that our ancestors made to build our community. The lost fire engine is a reminder of those sacrifices, and it is our responsibility to preserve it for future generations.

## Timeline of the Renovation

- **2023**  
Smithville Fire Engine Restoration Committee formed.
- **2024**  
Engine stripped down to the frame.
- **2025**  
Engine rebuilt from the ground up.
- **2026**  
Engine unveiled to the public at the town's Fourth of July celebration.

The restoration of the lost fire engine is a testament to the power of community spirit. It is a reminder of the importance of preserving our history for future generations.



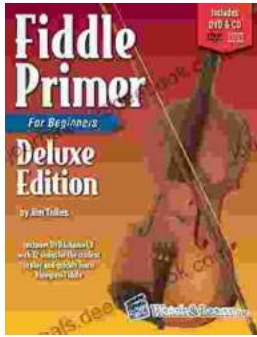
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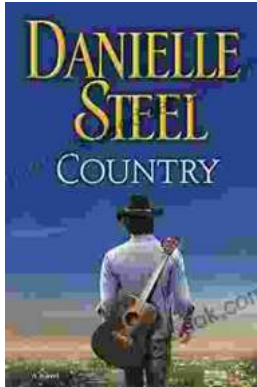
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