



ME ABC CHARLES STARRETT *et al*

NO. 31
DURANGO KID

The DURANGO KID

In this issue:
**'THE RETURN
of the
RED SCORPION'**

FRED
GARDNER '52

Reader's Digest Reports Good News for all sufferers from **PIMPLES** ACNE, TEEN-AGE PIMPLES, SURFACE SKIN BLEMISHES and IRRITATIONS!

AMAZING DOUBLE-ACTION ^{SKIN} TREATMENT THAT **CONCEALS AS IT MEDICATES**

Actual clinical tests conducted by leading doctors have proven that an amazing, new-type medicine helps clear up acne blemishes while it covers and hides embarrassing pimples in the many cases tested by the doctors, these were a mixture of men, women and children, White and Negro. Some with recent pimple eruptions and others with more troubles of many years. The results were:

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Feeding SKIN SPECIALISTS RECOMMEND THIS DOUBLE TREATMENT.



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The clinically-proven ingredients in the scientifically-formulated Formula of Scope Products have been demonstrated to help improve those annoying masses of grayish and blackish, greasy, clogged pores because it helps remove the oil that skin specialists often associate with acne. SKIN DOCTORS STATE THAT TO MEDICATE YOUR SKIN MAY PROLONG YOUR COMPLEXION TROUBLE AND MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO CLEAR UP! **SHAY MAY AT MARIETTA**—Send to Scope Medicinal Skin Formula with an "instant" "money-back" guarantee. MAIL COUPON AT ONCE!

The DURANGO KID

THE FLAMES WERE CRACKLING NOW, JUMPING HIGH, DOING A SORT OF CRAZY DEATH DANCE / THEY KEPT COMING CLOSER TO THE DURANGO KID — THOSE WEEPING, FLICKERING, HOT-TONGUED FLAMES / AND THE INDIANS WHO HAD SET FIRE TO THE TALL GRASS, SMILED DRINKY — FOR AT LAST THEY WERE OBEYING

"THE COMMAND TO KILL!"



IN HIS LONELY TENT, SPOTTED BEAR, THE AGED HALF-BLIND INDIAN MAN, SQUINTS FORWARD IN THE SHADOWS

WILL THE WISON COME AGAIN TONIGHT?



WODDNY— I HAVE COME SPOTTED BEAR / I HAVE COME AGAIN... WITH MY COMMAND TO KILL!

NEED!



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SO THE CHIEF'S POLICY—**PAUSE BY, AND WHEN THE SUN RISES AGAIN, A LONG BRAND IS DRINKING AT A STREAM...**

THE SWAYS BEHIND HIM!



AND THEN SPOTTED BEAR'S VISION SLIDES SLOWLY AWAY...



WHEN THE BODY HAS BEEN DISCOVERED—

SOON AFTER—

HOME ON THEIR RANGE—HARK! THUMB DEER AND THUN ANTelope PLAY...THUD!

NOW WILL YOU DO AS THE VISION COMMANDS, GREAT CHIEF?

MY HEART IS HEAVY—BUT THERE IS NO OTHER PATH TO FOLLOW, SO BE IT! LET THE SOUVS PREPARE THE TORTURE STAKE, LET THE WARRIORS RIDE-OUT AND CAPTURE A WHITE MAN...



45 MINUTES LATER...

CAN'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT'S HOLDING
MILLEY UP? HE WAS SUPPOSED
TO MEET—HEY! THOSE ARE
SCUFFLE MARKS!

THE TRAIL LEADS STRAIGHT TO
THE ENCAMPMENT/SOMETHING'S
WRONG—THIS TRIBE'S BEEN AT
PEACE FOR YEARS!

STOP! THAT BLACK SNAKE
THE ANKKA! HE IS THE
VISION COME TO SEE HOW
WE HAVE OBEYED HIS
COMMAND!



OH, VISION.
EVEN NOW THE
WHITE MAN IS
TIED TO THE
TORTURE
STAKE!

HE'S HALF-BLIND...
AND HE'S MISTAKEN ME
FOR SOMEBODY ELSE / I'LL
HAVE TO PLAY ALONG—IT'S
MY ONLY CHANCE TO
FREE MILLEY...



GOOD OLE
DURANGO! I
KNEW HE'D SHOW
UP!



OH?
They—

LET ME BE THE
FIRST TO SEAR
HIM WITH THE
FLAME!

HEY!
YOU SOME
LOCO?!



O-DURANGO, WH-WHUTRE YUH
DOIN'?' HERE I'VE BEEN PRAYIN'
YUH'D COME—AN' NOW THET
YUH'RE HERE, I'M W-WORSE
OFF THAN EVER!









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- 1 Set Piece for Tapsies

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"I WAS SENT BACK EAST WHERE MY UNCLE BROUGHT ME UP. HE WORKED THE THEATRE CIRCUIT AS A HYPNOTIST..."

QUEER TRICK! I'LL BE TEACHING YOU, YOUNG JEFF - BUT IT'S AS GOOD AS ANY!

IT'S A TRICK! I'LL BE TEACHING YOU, YOUNG JEFF - BUT IT'S AS GOOD AS ANY!



"MY UNCLE DIED... AND I TOOK OVER THE ACT!"

BRAVO! BRAVO! THE MAN'S SUPERB! HE CAN MAKE PEOPLE DO ANYTHING AT ALL SIMPLY BY STARING INTO THEIR EYES!



AS THE YEARS PASSED, I NEVER FORGOT THAT DAY! A MONTH AGO I TRAVELLED OUT HERE. I BEGAN VISITING THE OLD MEDICINE MAN AT NIGHT, AND USED HYPNOTISM TO MAKE HIM BELIEVE I WAS A VISION! I FIGURED THAT ONCE THE TRIBE BEGAN KILLING WHITE MEN, THE ARMY WOULD Wipe THEM OUT!

NOW THAT I'VE TOLD YOU MY STORY, IT'S NOT GOING TO DO YOU ANY GOOD! BECAUSE I'VE BEEN STARING INTO YOUR EYES WHILE TALKING - AND YOU'RE IN A TRANCE NOW, HELPLESS...



...AND I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU NEVER SNAP OUT OF IT!



BUT BEFORE THE HYPNOTIST CAN SOURCE TRIGGER-



AARSH!

I HEARD ALL HE WAS AN EVIL MAN! I STABBED HIM BEFORE HE COULD SHOOT YOU.



WHEW - THAT WAS CLOSE! NOW LET'S GO SEE YOUR CHIEF AND EXPLAIN TO HIM THAT THE COMMAND TO KILL WAS A PRANK!

THE END

The DURANGO KID

-IN-
THE CHALLENGE
AT
SKULL GORGE

—BY FRED GUARDALUPE



ALL RIGHT, BLACK MIKE—THIS IS IT / IT'S GOING TO BE EITHER YOU OR ME!

DUCK, BOYS—THE LEAD'S GONNA BE THICKER 'N SHOE IN JES' ONE MINUTE!

THE BIG CITY—A MAN IS LET OUT OF THE FEDERAL JAIL...

SO LONG, BLACK MIKE—YU'VE SERVED MORE TIME, HOMRE. NOW KEEP OUTA TROUBLE!

YEAH, I'LL KEEP OUTA TROUBLE, ALL RIGHT—AFTER I GIT RID O' DURANGO!



WORD SPSES ALONG THE OKEMO PRAIRIE...

PASS THUH WORD, FIL—BLACK MIKE'S OUTA JAIL, AN' COMIN' FER DURANGO / HE'S CALLIN' FER MEN—YU'IN?

COUNT ME IN / I'LL GO ROUND UP THUH REST O' MUH BOYS!



THIS IS IT, BOYS—BLACK MIKE'S OUTA JAIL, AN' COMIN' FER MEN / LET'S GO!

HENR, TELL HE'S GOT A SURE-FIRE PLAN THU' GIT DURANGO!



THEY COME—FROM THE SALLOONS, THE MOUNTAIN HIDEOUTS, THE DARK AND DESHATE FRONT'S OF THE NIGHT OWL...

OKAY, BOYS—WHAR'S HON PLAN, IT CAIN'T MISS.



A FEW DAYS LATER... THE DURANGO RID INTERRUPTS A RUSTLING RAID!



TUGG ALONG THE PASSES OF SKULL GORGE...

WAL, WE FIXED IT SO DAHO HARRY LET HISSELF GET CAPTURED. IF HE DOES HIS JOB RIGHT, DURRANGO OUGHTA BE COMIN' AFTER US ANY MINUTE...

...AN' FALL INTO OUR TRAP! WE GOT SUREMEN HIDDEN UP AN' DOWN THIS GORGE! IT'S WORKIN'! HYAR HE COMES!



SKULL GORGE IS JUST A HALF MILE UP THE TRAIL—IT'D BETTER START BEING CAREFUL...

LET 'EM PAST, BOYS—WANT 'EM GETS UP NEAR, THEN TALK GRASS—THEM GIVE 'EM SIGNAL AN' EVERYBODY SHOOTS TOGETHER!



THINGS ARE JUST A BIT TOO QUIET—WHEN I'D SURE HATE TO FALL DOWN THERE!



THIS IS IT, BOYS! GIT UP AN' MOVE IN—AN' MOVE IN SHOOTIN'! I WANT HIM DEAD!

WE'RE CLOSIN' IN FROM ALL SIDES! DURRANGO'LL NEVER GIT OUTA THIS TRAP!

I GOT 'EM! HE'S DOWN! HE'S DOWN!

HE'S SINGERR! HE'S GOAWR FALL OVER!

THAR HE GOES!

AIN'T NOBODY KIN LIVE THROUGH A FALL LIKE THAT! THAR'S NUTTIN' BUT SHARP ROCKS—TWO HUNDRED FEET DOWN! YAHOO!





HE'S DEAD,
ALL RIGHT / MESA
BROKE EVERY BONE
IN HIS BODY!

RIGHT - EVEN IF OUR
BULLETS MISSED / IN / GOLLY -
HE'S DEAD / SCRAPED ALL
OUR SHAVE / OFF HIS!



LISTEN TUH ME, BOYS / WHY BREAK
UP NOW? OUR JOB AIN'T DONE? WE
GOT A COMBINATION HYPER HYPER
TUH BEAT - LETS MOVE AITUH
TOWN AN' TAKE OVER!

RIGHT / WE'LL GIT
IDAHO HARRY GUTA
JAIL, AN' PUT TRAY
SHERIFF IN!
YIPPEE!



YAHOO / AIN'T AITAHN'
GONNA STOP US NOW!

HEHEHE
THAT'S GO!



WELL, IT WORKED / I STUFFED
MY DURANGO CLOTHES WITH THE
TALL GRASS AND THREW IT
OVER THE CLIFF, WHEN - AN' -
GLAD I WASN'T IN THOSE
CLOTHES!



ONLY THING IS - THERE'S NO
WAY DOWN THERE TO GET MY CLOTHES!
I'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL DARK TO
SNEAK BACK INTO TOWN - BRRR,
IT'S SORT OF COLD UP
HERE!



IN TOWN...
AIN'T
TOWN!

OPEN UP THE CELL,
SHERIFF - LET IDAHO
HARRY GUT AN' YOU GIT IN!
MOVE!

YAHOOO! I GUESS
THIS PLAN
WORKED!



IT WORKED ALL RIGHT / DURANGO'S
DAD / AN' WE'RE TAKIN' OVER THIS
TOWN / FROM NOW ON - WE'RE
THEY LAW!

D-D-D-D-D-D-D-D-D-D
DURANGO -
DEAD!



DIDDA, HEAR ' DURANGO'S
DAD / BLACK MIKE'S TAKIN'
OVER THIS TOWN / I'M
GITTIN' OUT!

DURANGO -
DURANGO - STEVE
OH, GULLY, STEVE
WHAT'LL I DO?



I RECKON THAT'S WITHIN LEFT
FOR ME BUT TUH 'SOB' 'S BACK,
MUH SADDLEBAG AN' HIT TULUH
TRAIL - TULUH 'SOB' 'S
LONELY TRAIL.



YIIIIIIII!
STEVE! - I
I THOUGHT
YUH WUZ
DAD!

A LITTLE COLD,
HAYBE - BUT FAR FROM
DEAD, PAL / QUICK,
PULL OUT ANOTHER
DURANGO OUTFIT
FOR ME!



AND NOW - I HAV
A DATE WITH BLACK
MIKE AND HIS
PALS, WHERE ARE
THEY, MULY?

RECKON THEY'RE IN
TUH SADDON'
CELEBRATIN'
YORE DEATH!



BUT YUH CAIN'T GO IN THAR,
ALOWE, DURANGO - NOT EVEN YOU /
THAR'S TEN OR FIFTEEN OF THEM
HOMERS - AN' THEY SHOOT ON
SIGHT / THE CHANCES ARE
ASIN' YUH!

HHHHH -
HAYBE -
YOU'RE
RIGHT!



IN THAT CASE WE NEED
SOME FANCY STRATEGY / COME ON,
MULY - WE'RE GOING TO ZIMMERT'S
GENERAL STORE!

I D-D-DONT GIT
IT - BUT I
RECKON I WILL
SEEK IN THE!





THOSE OTHER DURANGOS WERE JUST BARE CLOTHES - DUMMIES, BLACK MIKE - BUT *THE REAL!*

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES IT TAKES TUH KILL YUH, DURANGO - BUT -



...BUT I SURE AIM TUH FIND OUT! *YUH!*

ONLY ONE KILLING WILL DO FOR ME, BLACK MIKE - IF YOU EVER GET AROUND TO IT! / LOOKS LIKE THAT RUN WON'T DO IT! /



THAT'S OTHER WAYS THAN BULLETS! / I ONCE KILLED A MAN WITH A CHAIR - *LIKE THIS!*

THAT A FACT! / COULDN'T HE JUMP?



OR KICK?

BLAST YUH, DURANGO! I'LL BREAK A BOTTLE OVER YORE HAIR!



YOU SURE LIKE TO SMASH THINGS, DON'T YOU?



HERE, SMASH AWAY ALL YOU WANT!

DANNY!



THIS BEST ABOUT RYDS FER ALL THE FREE DRINKS AN' BROKEN BOTTLES.

AN' THIS RYDS FER THEM DUMMIES AN' CLOTHES THEY GOT SHOT UP!

BUSTED AN' BACK IN JAIL / YOU AN' YORE SURE-FIRE PLANS!

IT SHOULD WORKED! / IT SHOULD WORKED!

THE END

DURANGO'S WESTERN DICTIONARY

WITH this issue, THE DURANGO KID is inaugurating a new feature for his readers. This is to be a **DICTIONARY OF THE WEST**, including both western names and terms, explaining a little about Indians and pioneers, gunfighters and cowboys, horses and cattle. If you like the idea, why not write in and tell us so?

APACHE

The Apache were a number of Indian tribes living in and around Arizona, New Mexico and Mexico itself. These tribes consisted of Mimbrero, who ranged from the Rio Grande to the Gila rivers; the Mescalero, from the Pecos to the Rio Grande and down into Mexico; the Chiricahua; in the eastern part of Arizona and down into Mexico; and the Tonto, who also bore the name White Mountain Apaches because they lived in and near the White Mountains of Arizona.

They called the land in which they lived **APACHERIA**.

The heyday of these savage fighters was the years 1865 to 1885.

One of their most famous chiefs was **COCHISE**. Another was **GERONIMO**, who harassed the ranchers of the southwest in his sporadic raids. **MANGUS COLORADO** was a third chief whose fame has come down to us through the years.

The Apache himself was not a tall man, usually, though he was strong and wiry. He had a very deep chest, and sinewy, powerful legs. His hair was black and hung in thin strands to his shoulders. His face was broad, the cheekbones high, as they were in all Indians. Some Apaches were very good runners, with great endurance.

Never very great in numbers, the Apaches achieved their success in fighting because they were so familiar with the desert country in which they lived. Masters of disguise, they could make themselves look like a rock with their blanket and a little dirt. They liked the ambush, preferring to lurk among rocks of a canyon and make their attack in that manner, rather than use the colorful charge with which the Sioux and Cheyenne made their attacks.

The Apache are members of the Athabaskan tribal stock, and came into the American southwest sometime during the late fourteenth or early fifteenth centuries. When they secured horses (after the coming of the Spanish into Mexico) they became daring riders. They ranged down into Mexico, and fought many times with the Spanish and Mexicans. In the middle of the seventeenth century, we find them strong and savage, already raiding and murdering, making their names a dread to the Mexicans.

who they slaughtered and tortured when they could.

Not until 1850, when the expanding United States sent its cavalrymen to the southwest, was there any determined effort made to subdue them. Even then, this war between whites and Apaches lasted for nearly half a century!

The garb of the Apache was very different from that of the Plains Indians. The Apache, wearing deerskin jackets to mid-thigh, belted with rawhide or with metal discs chained together, with their kneehigh moccasins they called *s'deh s'keh*, and with red flannel headbands wrapped about their heads, were as distinctive as the Sioux (in their war-bonnets). Their thighs were naked, for they wore no trousers but only the breechcloth under their jackets. Of course, in cold weather, they did have leggings of deerhide that they donned. Bead necklaces were worn. Most of their clothes were ornamented with long fringes.

The Apaches ate deer, rabbit, antelope and elk, turkey and quail. They ate cactus fruit, wild potatoes and meal, sunflower seeds and wild strawberries for their vegetables. They drank a fermented brew called *stewin* that often made them very drunk.

They regarded the wind and thunder, rain and sun as gods.

BUFFALO

The American **BISON**, often misnamed the **BUFFALO**, was a powerful force in the life of the Indians before the white men drove them from their hunting grounds. Not only food but clothing and ornaments, rattles and medicines, were taken from this shaggy beast. The tepees were made of buffalo hide. The horns were used for magic, and to decorate the bonnets of the Indian medicine-men. Its hair was woven into ropes and belts. As can be seen, such tribes as the Sioux and Cheyenne, Blackfoot and Arapaho, Pawnee and Kiowa, needed the buffalo to exist.

At one time, the buffalo ranged all over North America, even as far eastward as Pennsylvania, and as far southward as Georgia! However, most people associate the buffalo only with the western prairies.

Their number ranged well into the millions. They were like "a moving, brown sea" when the early explorers first saw them. When the railroad was built across the United States in 1869, it halved the buffalo into a northern and a southern tribe. By 1873, the buffaloes in the south were gone. The buffaloes to the north lasted until 1883. Today, only on government lands can the bison be found, and then only in a few numbers.

The Indians hunted buffalo by driving them into great pens, by driving them over the edge of cliffs to fall to their deaths on the rocks below, and by racing on fast ponies into the moving herd, firing arrows or lances, and, when they got rifles, bullets. Sometimes a prairie brush-fire was started, with the herd being penned in the middle.

As many as were killed by the Indians, these were few indeed in number compared to those killed by white hunters. Many white men killed as many as two hundred a day, day after day! Their robes made warm blankets, and their bones were used for fertilizer.

As an animal, the buffalo was the largest mammal in North America. Sometimes a bull is eleven feet long, and stands six feet high at the shoulder! He may weigh almost as much as 2000 pounds! Females are smaller.

Today, there are about 25,000 buffalo living on reservations and game preserves.

DODGE CITY

Founded in 1872, Dodge City, Kansas, became a cow-town almost overnight. Originally it was called Buffalo City, and was built on the northerly side of the Arkansas River. The railroad boomed its population, for this was where the cow herds came, up the Chisholm and the Western trails, bringing long-horn cattle to the railroad pens, for loading into the cars. With the cattle came Texas gunmen, outlaws, human riffraff, and, inevitably, the lawmen.

Dodge has been called "Hell on the Plains" and "Babylon of the Frontier." There was no evil that was not committed at least once a day, between sunrise and sunset, including murder and robbery by violence, within the town's confines.

Men like WYATT EARP and "BAT" MASTERSON were two of the fastest gunmen who ever lived. They saved Dodge City as town marshals, and helped bring its evil life under control.

Some of the more famous badmen who came into Dodge City at

one time or another included JOHN WESLEY HARDIN, the great Texas artist with the Colt, and the handsome killer, CLAY ALLISON.

Day and night, Dodge City was open for business. In the daytime, cattle herds and whooping cowboys used its streets; at night the saloons and dancehalls came to life, and gamblers and gunmen, dance-hall girls and outlaws rubbed elbows with prospectors and mule-skinner, Indian-fighters and traders. It was a colorful period of American history.

Today, Dodge City is a fine, modern city of which the United States and Kansas are justly proud. If every one of you readers visit Dodge City, be sure to see its western museum. It is one of the finest in the world.

FANNING

Fanning is a method of shooting a sixgun. Instead of using the trigger of the Colt—as a matter of strict record, many "fanners" sawed off the trigger from their guns—the man who fanned his gun concentrated only on its hammer. Holding the gun in his right hand, he would bring the palm or heel of the left hand hard against the gun-hammer, bringing it back so that when it went forward again, it would fire the gun. Many "fanners" could fire sixguns as fast as they could move their palms back and forth across the hammers.

Fanning the gun was supposed to give the user of this method added speed. However, according to many real gunfighters, fanning often disturbed the aim of the gun, so that a fanner might often miss his target entirely.

GHOST TOWN

A ghost town is a town that once was inhabited and now is empty of all life. They dot the west from Montana south to Texas. Sometimes these towns were deserted overnight. Inasmuch as the towns sprang up because there were gold- or silver- or copper-mines nearby, when the claims or mines ran out there was no more reason for people to stay on. Occasionally a drop in market prices for silver and copper made it unprofitable, too. Or there might be a better strike discovered somewhere else. In these cases, everybody wanted to be on hand for that better strike. And so the town was abandoned and became a ghost town, where only the ghosts of the men killed there still wandered.

[We'll continue with this WESTERN DICTIONARY in the next issue of THE DURANGO KID.]

Dan Brand and Tipi

ON APRIL 19TH, 1775, AT LEICESTER THE BROTHERS FIRST HEARD OF THE BATTLE—AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WAS UNDERWAY! BUT NOW THAT THEY WERE ENGAGED IN A LARGE-SCALE WAR, THE PATRIOTS REALIZED WITH A SUDDEN PANG OF DESPAIR THAT THEY WERE IN ONE

"CANNON FOR FREEDOM"





WELL, DAN WITH YOUR MESSAGE: THERE ARE NO MORE TROUBLE-SPOTS BETWEEN HERE AND WHERE YOU WILL PICK UP YOUR NEXT ESCORT! AS FOR YOU, REBEL—YOU'RE BREATHING YOUR LAST LUNGFUL OF AIR! I'M AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT SURVIVAL EXECUTIONS OF ALL REBEL SPIES!



AND LAST WORDS, REBEL? MY DEATH HERE TONIGHT IS A SMALL THING. IT WILL NOT QUENCH THE FIRE OF FREEDOM! THEY WILL BURN EVER BRIGHTER—TILL AT LAST ALL OUR ENEMIES PERISH IN THE FLAMES!



SUCH INFLUENCE WILL NOT GO UNREMARKED! READY! AIM!



AT THAT MOMENT...



TIPI AND DAN DID AS AGAIN!



GOOD WORK, TIPI—YOU BROUGHT THE HORSES!

WHERES TO NOW DAN? THERE'S NO CHANCE OF OBTAINING THE COVERS!



A FEW DAYS LATER, DAN BRAND AND TIPI ARRIVE AT CASTLETON WHERE ETHAN ALLEN AND HIS GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS ARE ASSEMBLED!

BLESS YOU FOR BRINGING THIS REPORT, DAN BRAND! WE'VE BEEN WAITING HERE LONG ENOUGH—I'LL LEAD MY MEN OUT AT DAWN! FORT TICCADEGEROGA MUST BE TAKEN, SINCE THE MAIN FORTIFICATIONS COME FROM CANADA!



DAN KNOWS ETHAN ALLEN TO BE A MAN OF HIS WORD—A BRAVE AND RESOURCEFUL LEADER! BUT THERE IS ONE THING THAT DAN DOES NOT KNOW...

COLONEL CHISWOLD, CONSIDERED AS A FRONTIERSMAN, HAS TRILLED DAN TO CASTLETON!

SO ALLEN PLANS TO ATTACK AT DAWN! I'LL HAVE TO GET TO THE FORT BEFORE HUNT WITH A GARRISON OF ONLY FORTY-TWO MEN. THERE WON'T BE ANY CHANCE TO SET UP AN EFFECTIVE DEFENSE—BUT I'LL BE ABLE TO SPIKE THE CANONS, SO THERE'S NO CHANCE FOR THEM TO FIRE!



HEY! WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' THERE BY THE HEAD-QUARTER'S WINDOW?

OF ALL THE TIMES TO BE APPREHENDED BY A REBEL DOLT!

HERE'S MY PRIZE, MAN! LOOK CLOSE!



HEY!
A-A-A-RGH!

THUD



I HEARD SCUFFLING!
LOOK—THAT SOLDIER!



HEY!
READY!

THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN IN THE COLONEL WHO'S BIG ENOUGH TO WEAR A MASCARON THAT SIZE! AND THERE'S THE BROTHER STAFF-CAPTAIN COLONEL CHISWOLD!



TIP AND I KNOW THE COUNTRY BETWEEN HERE AND THE FORT LIKE THE BACK OF OUR HANDS, SIR. WE'LL DO AFTER CHISWOLD!

GOOD! SOON AS I GET MY GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS TOGETHER, WE'LL COME OUT AFTER YOU!



I'M BEING PURSUED... BY DAN BRAND AND THE YOUNG INDIAN. WE'LL LET THEM COME! ONCE THEY ENTER THE CANYON BELOW, I'LL HAVE A MOST UNPLEASANT SURPRISE FOR THEM!



IT'S THE MORMON BOY! HE ESCAPED THE AVALANCHE SQUADRON—AND NOW THE YOUNG FOOLS SWIMMING AFTER ME!



THESE PATRIOTS ARE ALL FOOLS! FOR THEIR CAUSE THEY RUSH BLINDLY FORWARD INTO THE JAWS OF DEATH. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SIT HERE AND WAIT... AND WHEN HE TRIES TO BOARD THE BOAT, BASH HIS HEAD IN WITH MY OAR!



YOU HAVE SPIES, MY LAD—THE BRITISH ARMY COULD HAVE USED YOU—*BOO!* *NOO!*...



JUST THEM! **AIRRR!**



B-BUT I SAW THE AVALANCHE CRASH YOU BOTH!

THERE WAS A SLANTING ROCK WEDGED INTO THE SIDE OF THE GORGE, WHICH, THAT GAVE US SHELTER AS

SOON AS YOU LEFT, WE RAN OUR WAY OUT!

DAN LEAPED INTO THE RIVER DOWNSTREAM. WHILE YOU KEPT YOUR EYES ON ME, HE CAME UP FROM BEHIND.



AND SO, UNHARMED, FORT TICONDEROGA FALLS TO STEPHEN ALLEN AND HIS GALLANT MEN!

B-BY WHAT AUTHORITY DO YOU ENTER THE KING'S GARRISON?

IN THE NAME OF THE GREAT JERUSALEM AND THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS!



AND THE PATRIOTS SAW THE CANNON ON THIS DAY, JAN 5, 1775—THAT WILL LIVE FOR FREEDOM!

The DURANGO KID



AS THE DURANGO KID CLAMBERED ASHORE HE WAS REELING FROM A BACK-BREAKING SWIM AGAINST THE SWIFT CURRENT / GRINNING CRUELLY, THE THREE KILLERS CLOSED IN / AND FROM THE NEARBY BUSHES PEERED THE RED SCORPION, DURANGO'S FIERCEST ADVERSARY / ONCE! DURANGO WAS DEAD, NOTHING WOULD STAND IN THE WAY OF THE

RETURN OF THE RED SCORPION!

FORCED TO FLEE FROM DEAD MAN DAM, THE RED SCORPION WALKS A PELICAN TRAIL... HIS HEAD HANGING WITH SHAME...

DURANGO BESTED ME FAR AND SQUARE. BUT THE NEXT TIME OUR TRAILS CROSS...!





IF IT'S EMPTY SADDLEBARS YOU'RE INTERESTED IN...

AIN'T THAT / Y'UBRE TRIPPIN' TOO CLOSE TO OUR, HIDE-OUT FER COMFORT?

QUIT TALKIN' BLAVYER! LET'S PERCOLATE HIM!



OPW!

BANG!

BANG!

THIS WHIP SAYS YOU DON'T!



AND IF YOU'RE STILL IN A LISTENING MOOD, MY GU-- HEY!

MAKE TRACKS, MEN -- THIN GUN-PARS STRATED AN AVALANCHE!



AARRH!

THUDD!



WARR-- ARMY-- WE CLEARED IT VALVE OF OUR HORSES / BUT HE'S OUT COLD-- AN' IN BID SHAVE TOO-NIGHT AS WELL, FINISH HIM OFF.

WAIT!! RECKONIZEE HIM!

HE'S THIN RED SCORPION -- THIN FASTEST-DRAWIN' DOLL HOOT THEE EVER, CLEARED LEATHER / ALL POKS HAVE 'A DO IS JUST SET THEE RED OUTFIT OP HIS, AN' THEY REACH FER THIN SKY? KNOW WHUT WE'RE GONNA DO ON OUR JOBS FROM NOW ON, MEN? WE'RE GONNA NERR HIS SCORPION OUTFIT!

THEE'S A GOOD PLAN / WE KNOW THEE TURNS A' MORNIN' IT / AN' BEIN' THAT WE ALL USE 'A RIDE THIN REDD O'RIET WE HAN RIDE AN SHOOT WITH THIN BEAT OF 'EM / OUR BULLETS-PLS HIS REPUTATION WILL MAKE US HARRER TO BEAT THIN -- HEY! WHUT RE YUN DOIN' WITH THEE GUN?!



IT'S GONNA FINISH HIM OFF! HE'S TOO PLUMB DANGEROUS TO LET LIVE!

DON'T BE A BURNED POOL! A MAN LIKE THUH SCORPION MUST HAVE A CACHE OF STOLEN GOODS! SOME WHARF! WELL NURSE HIM BACK TO HEALTH— THEN WORM THUH SECRET OF THUH CACHE OUTTA HIM!

THE VERY NEXT NIGHT—

HEH-HEH-HEH— WONT BE HIS MAW ILL BE CALLIN' ON TONIGHT!

WITH THUT MASK ON— HIS OWN MAW COULDN'T TELL YUH APART FROM THUH SCORPION!



AND SO STARTS A SERIES OF HONORABLE DEEDS, ALL COMPLETED BY A RIDER IN RED, ALL FEATURING SUPERB HORSEMANSHIP, RECKLESS DARING, AND BRUTAL RUTHLESSNESS!



AND THE AFFIRMITY IS ALWAYS DEATH!

DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! NEVER KNEW THUH SCORPION TO SHOOT FOLKS DOWN IN COLD BLOOD BEFORE!

DURING A CHASE, THUH SCORPION CUTTA DEAD HIM FOLKS MUST'VE SHOT HIM!

LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO HAVE TO TANGLE WITH HIM.

WHAT'S THIS HERE LETTER S FROM DAN SHREFF AT DEAD MAN'S DAN. HE SAID THUH RED SCORPION'S RUNNIN' HIS WILD GARDEN— ONLY THIS TIME WHEN HE PULLS HIS SOB'S, HE SMOOTS TO KILL!

3 STEVE BRADLEY DOES HIS DURANGO DUTTY!

YOU'LL BE KEEPFUL, WON'T YUH! THE SCORPION'S POISON ON THUH LEGS!

DON'T KNOW A SUREBET JUDGE FOR TWO-LEGGED FOLKS! THAN THIS GUN OF THE MULEY...



TH-TTHH
RED
SCORPION!

PULL KEN, DRIVER -
OR YOUR WIFE'LL BE WIDOW
TODAY! THAT YUH
HAD!



CAN'T RISK
TRYING A SHOT
FROM HERE / IF I
DAILY WOUND HIM, HE'LL
TAKE IT OUT ON THE
PASSENGERS / WHY -
IF I LAS-DO THAT
STUMP ACROSS
THE RAVINE...



OOOFF!

KURRAASSHH!



CRACK
CRACK!

HEADS DOWN,
EVERYBODY -
IT'S RAININ'
LEAD!

TWEET
TWEEET!

RAVINE'S TOO NARROW FOR ME
TO SHOOT / AFTER HIM - ROCKET'S
MIGHT HIT THE PASSENGERS / BUT I'M
ON HIS TRAIL NOW / AND I'M NOT
GETTING OFF TILL THERE'S A
NOISE AROUND HIS NECK!



CLEAR UP TO THE MOUNTAINS,
DURINGO GRIMLY FOLLOWS TWO
KILLER'S TRAIL!

DON'T HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT THE SCORPION DRY-
GULCHING ME / HE HAS TOO MUCH
WANTY TO WRIGGLE OUT OF A
FACE-TO-FACE DUEL WITH THE
DURINGO KID!



LOOKS HIM
RIDIN' RIGHT
OUT IN
THEIR OPEN!
I TOLD YUH
HE'D BE
COMIN'
AFTER ME!

YUH
THINK
THUH
SCORPION'S
ALL RIGHT
BACK IN
THEIR
WIDE-OUT?
YOU TIED HIM /
WHY'RE YUH
ASKIN' US? /
ASKIN' YUH?
DON'T YUH
YUH SIGH?
OFF DURINGO
SOON AS HE
PASSES THAT
ROADER, WE'RE
ALL GONNA
SHOOT TO
KILL!





OUT WHILE THE OUTLAW'S FINGERS WERE STILL TAKING UP THEIR TRIGGERS' SLACK —

CAREFUL, RAIDER, FOOTING'S BAD — HEY! SOMEBODY'S SHOOTING AT US!



THERE'S MORE THAN ONE MAN SHOOTING! COULD BE THE SCORPION'S FORMED HIMSELF A GANG...

DID WE HIT HIM? NOW — HE'S DURNED! THAR HE IS — HE'S SLUMBERED JUST BEFORE WE SHOT! — PEEPIN' OVER THIN BOULDER, BLAST, MEN!

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE MESSHALL, TWO'S HIDEOUT —



... AND NOW THE ROPE'S LOOSE ENOUGH FOR ME TO WORK ON IT WITH MY TEETH!

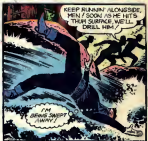


THE SHOOTING'S STARTED UP AGAIN! LUCKY THE BUCK-TOOTHED ONE WAS IN SUCH A HURRY TODAY WHEN HE TOLD ME TO THE CHAIR — I WAS ABLE TO SLUMP OVER WITHOUT HIS NOTICING...



RUSH HIM, MEN! HE'S WINGED FOR SURE NOW!

YIPPEE! / WHA! HA! — THIN SCORPION OUR PRISONER, AN' DURANGO DEAD!





MY GUN IS WATER-LOGGED! I CAN HARDLY STAND ON MY FEET...

YUH-NIGHT GIT AWAY THIS TIME!

I'M GONNA DRILL YUH-NIGHT BETWEEN THEM EYES!
 HOW DOES IT FEEL, DURANGO, TO BE PLUMB SURE YOU'RE GONNA DIE?



BLAMM!



SWAM-IT-IT'S TRAY SCORPION! HE GOT LOOSE!

HERE'S A GUN FOR YOU DURANGO! LET'S WORK OVER THEM TOGETHER!



NEVER DREAMED I'D BE GLAD TO SEE YOU TODAY SCORPION!

FOR A SECOND BACK THERE, I THOUGHT I'D LET YOU DIE... BUT WHEN YOUR TIME COMES, I WANT TO BE THE ONE WHO BLAZES YOU!

CRACK! CRACK!



TAK-TAK—THIS ONE DROPPED HIS GUNS!

AIEEE!

MIGHTY CARELESS OF THE GENTLEMAN!



WATER— (DON'T THINK I'VE TURNED SOFT BECAUSE OF WHAT I DID TODAY DURANGO! I'M STILL YOUR ENEMY!

NOTHING SOFT ABOUT YOU SCORPION, BUT I HAVE A SNEAKING SUSPICION THAT MAY DOWN UNDER ALL THAT BUSTLE, THERE'S A WIDE STREAK OF DECEIT!



AND SO THE TWO GREAT FIGHTERS GO THEIR SEPARATE WAYS AGAIN!

WHO KNOWS UNDER WHAT STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCE THEY WILL MEET AGAIN?

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