



CHARLES STARRETT

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AUTHORITY

The
**DURANGO
KID**

NO. 57

10¢

DURANGO
KID



FRED GIFFORD

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The DURANGO KID

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DK-117

FRED GUARDINEER

THE SUN BEATS PITILESSLY DOWN ON THE DEAD PROSPECTOR... ON HIS HATE-CRAZED DOG, FLAME... AND ON THE DURANGO KID, FIGHTING DESPERATELY TO SURVIVE! DURANGO KEEPS GIVING GROUND...! WILL HE FALL PREY TO

FLAME'S REVENGE!

SADDLE-BAGS FILLED TO BUSTING WITH NUGGETS... IT'S TIME FOR OLD SAM BARLOW AND HIS DOG, FLAME, TO HEAD DOWN OUT OF THE MOUNTAINS!

WE STRUCK IT RICH THIS TIME, FLAME! FROM HERE ON IN, YOU AN' ME ARE GONNA BE ABLE TO TAKE IT EASY!



IT'S BEEN HARD... ALL THESE YEARS, SCRATCHIN' FER GOLD... JUST THUH TWO OF US, AN' ME GETTIN' WEAKER ALL THUH TIME! IF NOT FER

YOU, FLAME, MY BONES WOULD'VE BEEN PICKED CLEAN BY THUH BUZZARDS LONG AGO!



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THE DURANGO KID



"THAR WAS THUH TIME YUH FOUGHT OFF THET COUGAR... I'LL NEVER FORGET HOW YUH POUNCED ON THUH RATTLER THET HAD ME MARKED FER DEATH... AN' EVER SINCE YUH DROVE OFF THET BADHAT IN LAME INJUN CANYON, NO TWO-LEGGED COYOTE'S EVER TRIED TO DO ME HARM AGAIN!"

RUFF!
RRRR-OWF!

AIEEE!

RRRR-OWFF!

GRRR!

HSSS!



YES SIREE, FLAME— NO TWO WAYS ABOUT IT, YUH'RE MY BEST FRIEND!



YOU SEE WHUT I SEE... OLE SAM'S SADDLEBAGS ARE LOADED WITH NUGGETS!

YEAH— BUT HE HAS THET DOG WITH HIM!

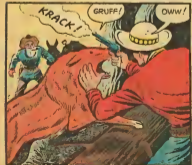
THAR AIN'T A DOG ALIVE THET KIN BEAT OFF THREE MEN WHEN SO MUCH GOLD'S AT STAKE! FLOW ME DOWN—!



BOON— FLAME! WHUT'S WRONG?!

R-RUFF!

A LIGHTNING STREAK COULDN'T STRIKE FASTER THAN FLAME LEAPING AT THE HIDDEN BADHAT!



KRACK!

GRUFF!

OWW!



BUT THEN— STAND ASIDE, OLE MAN! WE'RE GONNA HELP OURSELVES TO THOSE SADDLEBAGS WHILE OUR PARTNER KEEPS YORE DOG BUSY...!



STUNNED BY THE BLOW, OLD SAM STUMBLES TOO CLOSE TO THE CLIFF'S EDGE...

AND FLAME TURNS TOO LATE TO SAVE HIS MASTER!

THUH DOG'S SLIDIN' DOWN AFTER HIM! GRAB THOSE SADDLEBAGS... AN' LET'S MAKE TRACKS OUTTA HERE!



OLD SAM HAS BEEN KILLED BY THE FALL... AND FLAME STANDS GUARD OVER THE CRUMPLED BODY, HIS (RAGING) HEART SEETHING WITH HATRED FOR THOSE WHO CAUSED HIS MASTER'S DEATH!

A WHOLE DAY HAS PASSES... WHEN SUDDENLY-

RUFF!
RRRR-
OWFF!



IT'S THE DURANGO KID - LOOKING AS ALWAYS, TO GIVE A HELPING HAND...

THOUGHT I SPOTTED A MAN STRETCHED OUT SOMEWHERE DOWN HERE...!



BUT FLAME THINKS ONE OF THE BADMEN HAS RETURNED!

GRUFF!





THE NEXT DAY, NOT FAR FROM RED GULCH-

JED SHOULD BE BACK SOON WITH THUH CASH FER THOSE NUGGETS!

LUCKY FER US THET OLE PROSPECTOR FELL OVER THUH CLIFF! IF NOT HIS DOG WOULD'VE CHAWED US-



LOOK! TH-THAR COMES THUH DOG NOW! HE'S ON OUR TRAIL!



FOLLOW ME! THUH TRAIL DOWN THAR KEEPS WINDIN'! WE GOT TIME TO BACKTRACK TO WHAR THUH DOG'LL HAVE TO PASS UNDER US... AN' THEN WE'LL LASSO HIM!

30- GOT HIM!



CAREFUL HOW YUH HANDLE HIM - HIS TEETH ARE SHARP AS KNIVES! WE'LL DUMP HIM INTO THIS BAG - AN' TOSS HIM INTO THUH RIVER!



ONCE HE DROWNS OUR WORRIES 'LL BE -

STOP!

DURANGO'S AFTER US! PAL OF MINE IN RED GULCH HEARD HIM ASKIN' IF ANYBODY'S CASHED IN NUGGETS LATELY! I HIGH-TAILED IT BACK FAST AS I COULD - BUT HE'S ALREADY ON HIS WAY OUT TO OUR CAMP-SITE!

LEAVE THUH DOG HERE! WE'LL COME BACK TO FINISH HIM OFF SOON AS WE GET RID OF DURANGO...





WE'LL HVE TO USE KNIVES! WE'RE TOO CLOSE TO TOWN... THEY'D HEAR THUM SHOOTIN'!

SHIM-HERE HE COMES NOW!



HEY...!



DURANGO WARDS OFF THE FIRST BLOWS! HE'S DOWN NOW, TRYING TO ROLL AWAY—BUT HE'S TOO DAZED BY THE FALL!



JUST THEN—

IT'S THUH DOG...THOSE TEETH OF HIS... HE CHAWED HIS WAY THROUGH THUH ROPES AN' OUTTA THUH BAG!

AIEEE!

GRUFF!

I'LL GET HIM!



BUT THE BRIEF MOMENT'S RESPITE IS ALL THAT DURANGO NEEDS!

OWW!

AARGH!

KRACK!

KRACK!



LATER— YUH CAN'T PIN THEY OLE PRO-SPECTOR'S DEATH ON US! YUH GOT NO PROOF!

SEE WHAT I PICKED UP BACK AT THE CLIFF...? I'M LOOKING RIGHT NOW AT THE SHIRT IT WAS RIPPED FROM!



EASY, BOY, EASY—THE LAW WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM! BUT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO RIPPED THE SHIRT—AND THAT'S THE CLUE THAT WILL LOCK THE CELL DOORS ON THEM! SO YOU HAVE YOUR REVERSE, AFTER ALL!

THE END

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DK 4116

FRID GUARDNER

THIS WAS ONE TIME THE DURANGO KID'S FRIENDS FROZE WITH HORROR WHEN THEY SAW HIM LEAP DOWN OUT OF THE NIGHT! FOR THEY KNEW HE WAS COVERED BY THE NEVER-MISS GUNS OF

DEAD-SHOT DEBBY!

FOLKS AROUND HERE STILL TALK ABOUT THE FIRST TIME THEY SAW DEBBY UP ON A STAGE WITH GUNS IN HER HANDS...

AND NOW FOR THE MAJOR ATTRACTION OF THE EVENING—AN EXHIBITION OF TRICK-SHOOTING SUCH AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE—ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEED TO MAKE YOU GASP WITH AMAZEMENT—DEAD-SHOT DEBBY!



WAL, I'LL BE-- IT'S A FEE-MALE!

WHUT'S THUH TARGET GONNA BE— A BARN DOOR?

BUT THEN DEBBIE BEGAN SQUEEZING TRIGGER...



ANYBODY CARE TO WAGER, THAT THE LITTLE LADY HASN'T MISSED A SINGLE COIN?

KRACK!
KRACK!

KRACK!
KRACK!



ONE AMAZING TRICK-SHOT FOLLOWED ANOTHER...

SPLAT!

KRACK!

AND THEN, AS THE CLIMAX OF THE ACT-

YOU'VE ALL CHECKED THE BLIND-FOLD, SO YOU KNOW THE LITTLE LADY CAN'T SEE THROUGH IT! NOW KEEP YOUR EYES FIXED ON THE BOARD DOWN THERE, FOLKS...!



KRACK!
KRACK!

LEAPIN' LIZARDS-- NEVER SEEN SUCH SHOOTIN' IN ALL MY BORN DAYS!



LEAPIN' LIZARDS-- THE GAL KIN SHOOT!

HOORAY!

AFTER THE SHOW-

I'M FROM THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER, MA'AM. MIND TELLING ME WHERE YOU LEARNED HOW TO HANDLE FIREARMS...?



MY DAD, JEFF STONE, TAUGHT ME. YOU MUST'VE HEARD OF HIM. UP TILL THE DAY HE DIED, DAD WAS THE BRAVEST, FASTEST-SHOOTING SHERIFF IN THE WHOLE WEST!

LATER-

WHUTS THUH IDEER HAWN' MIKE POSE AS A REPORTER, BOSS?

IF WE COULD GIT THE GAL TO TOTE HER GUNS FER OUR GANG, THAR'D BE NO STOPPIN' US! AN' I THINK I KNOW JIST HOW WE'RE GONNA GIT HER...!



AFTER THAT, FOUR MONTHS PASSED, AND THEN ONE NIGHT—

SHHH— THAR SHE IS / THUH SHOW'S CLOSED FER THUH NIGHT, AN' SHE'S OUT FER A RIDE BEFORE HITTIN' THUH HAY / GIT MOVIN'... YUH KNOW WHUT TO DO!



HEY! SORRY, MA'AM / THIS MOUNT'S PLUM ORNERY!



LUCKY I DIDN'T — WH-WHAT'S THAT GUN FOR?



TO MAKE SURE YUH COME ALONG PEACEABLE-LIKE / THUH BOSS WANTS TUH TALK TO YUH...!



I'M MAKIN' YUH A FAIR PROPOSITION, DEBBY. TOTE GUN FER THIS— HERE GANG, AN' I'LL SPLIT YUH IN FER A GOOD SHARE OF THUH SWAG!

YOU MUST BE LOCO TO THINK I'D EVER RIDE WITH BAD-HATS / DON'T YOU KNOW WHO I AM? — SHERIFF JEFF STONE'S DAUGHTER!

SURE, I KNOW / AN' THAT'S EXACKLY WHY I'M SURE YUH'LL WORK WITH US, DEBBY! TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THIS LETTER... YUH EVER SEE THIS WRITIN' BEFORE?

IT'S DADS! N-MOBODY ELSE EVER WROTE THAT WAY!

THET'S RIGHT! AN' IT'S A FULL CONFESSION OF HOW HE FRONTED FER ME AN' MY GANG WHEN WE WAS OPERATIN' IN HIS TERRITORY! IT'S ABOUT TIME YUH FOUND OUT THET YORE PAW / WASN'T THUH FINE UPSTANDIN' HOMBRE YUH TOOK HIM FER, DEBBY...!



I'LL GIVE YUH ONE MINUTE TO MAKE UP YORE MIND / EITHER WORK WITH US... **OR** I SEND THIS-HERE CON-FESSION TO THUH NEWSPAPERS SO THUH WHOLE WORLD KIN KNOW WHUT A **LOWDOWN DOUBLE-CROSSIN' CROOK** YORE PAW REALLY WAS?



THE MINUTE'S UP, DEBBY! WHUT'S YORE ANSWER...?



I'LL SOB-WORK WITH YOU! B-BUT I DON'T WANT ANY OF THE MONEY! AND-SOB-YOU MUST PROMISE THERE WON'T BE ANY KILLINGS AS LONG AS I'M AROUND!



LONG AS WE GIT WHUT WERE AFTER, WE DON'T KEER, HOW MANY FOLKS STAY ALIVE! DO WE, MEN...? AN' AS FER YORE NDT WANTIN' ANY OF THUH LOOT, **THAT** MAKES US PLUMB HAPPY TOO!



AND SO, WITH DEBBY'S FABULOUS GUNS FIRING IN THEIR BEHALF, THE OWLHOOTS BEGAN CLEANING UP!



YIPPEE! SHE SHOT CLEAR AROUND THUH CORNER, KNOCKIN' THUH GUN, OUTTA HIS HAND WITH A RICOCHET! ND WONDER SHE HAD US SHINE UP THET WINDOW YESTERDAY...

HOLD-UP FOLLOWED HOLD-UP...



THAT-A-GAL, DEBBY! THOSE GUARDS WON'T BE WORRYIN' US NONE WHILE WE CLEAN OUT THUH SAFE!

NOT EVEN THE FASTEST STAGECOACHES WERE SAFE!



HOW'S THAT ?? OUR DEBBY NOT ONLY SHOT THUH GUNS OUTTA THEIR HANDS, BUT SHE ALSO SPLIT THUH REINS! NOW ALL WE GOTTA DO IS WAIT FER THUH STAGE TO ROLL TO A STOP - THEN WE CLOSE IN AN' GRAB THUH STRONG BOX!

TIME KEPT PASSING, WITH DEBBY HATING HERSELF MORE FOR EVERY SHOT SHE SQUEEZED OFF...

CAN'T STOP... CAN'T LET THE WORLD KNOW ABOUT DAD!

BUT IT COULDN'T GO ON FOREVER! UP TILL NOW, THE WEST'S MOST FEARED LAW-MAN HAD BEEN NORTH ON A MISSION FOR JUSTICE, BUT NOW HE WAS BACK! AND ON THE GANG'S VERY NEXT JOB—

AIEEE!

THUH DURANGO KID!

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE ON THE RECEIVING-END FOR A CHANGE?

SHOOT HIM, DEBBY! SHOOT...OR EVERY BODY'S GONNA FIND OUT ABOUT YORE PAW!

DURANGO HAD THEM LINED UP AND WAS CLEARING LEATHER TO TAKE THEM IN WHEN—

MY HAND IS NUMB...CAN'T PICK UP MY GUN!
YU'LL NEVER PULL US IN, DURANGO! WE'LL OUTSHOOT YUH EVERY TIME!

OOPF!

HEY!
KRACK!



LATER— YUH SHOULDN'T HAVE SASS'D HIM, BOSS / DURANGO'S COMIN' AFTER US!

GOOD! HEAD FOR THIN LEG RAVINE! WE'LL SET UP A TRAP FER HIM THERE THEH HE'LL NEVER GIT OUT OF! /

EVERYBODY JUMP OFF! LET THUH HORSES RIDE ON THROUGH! DURANGO WILL FOLLER THEIR TRACKS—AN' WE'LL PERCOLATE HIM PROM UP HYAR!



BOON— THE TRAIL'S CLEAR—THEY HEADED RIGHT INTO THE RAVINE! HMMM—THAT'S ODD!



WHEN I ROLLED OVER JUST IN TIME! LUCKY I SPOTTED THE HOOF-MARKS GETTING SMALLER! ONLY REASON FOR THAT COULD'VE BEEN THE RIDER'S JUMPING OFF TO SET UP AN AMBUSH!



THE ONE'S WHO FIRED ARE DUCKING BEHIND THE RIDGE, BUT THEY'VE SENT OTHERS TO BLOCK OFF THE FAR END OF THE RAVINE! I'M TRAPPED FOR GOOD NOW!



THAT'S NO PLACE DOWN THERE FOR DURANGO TO TAKE COVER! ALL WE GOTTA DO NOW IS STICK OUR GUNS OVER THUH RIDGE AN' SHOOT BLIND! DURANGO DON'T STAND A CHANCE—!

YOU CAN'T! YOU PROMISED THERE'D BE NO KILLING LONG AS I WAS AROUND!

GRAB THET SHE-CAT AN' TAKE HER GUNS!... I KIN SEE NOW, DEBBY, YUH'LL NEVER BE A BADHAT AT HEART! AIN'T A MAN OUTSIDE THUH LAW BUT WOULDNT GIVE HIS EYETEETH TO GIT DURANGO! TOO BAD, DEBBY—CAUSE THIS MEANS THET AFTER WE'RE THROUGH WITH HIM, WE'LL HAVE TO TEND TO YOU...!



BOSS-LOOK!

DURANGO KNOWS HE'S LICKED! SO HE'S GIVIN' HIS MOUNT A CHANCE TO GIT AWAY WHILE HE MUST BE LAYIN' FLAT IN THUH SHADOWS! HOLD FIRE! THET HORSE IS WORTH IT'S WEIGHT IN GOLD-DUST...!



AS SOON AS RAIDER HAD CLEARED THE NARROW RAVINE—

**BLAMM!
WHRAMM!**





STANDING SIDE BY SIDE, DURANGO AND DEBBY SQUEEZED TRIGGER SO FAST, THEIR PISTOL-CRACKS SOUNDED LIKE ONE LONG ROLL OF THUNDER!



THE DURANGO KID'S WESTERN DICTIONARY

THIS feature is a western dictionary, to explain for our readers the meaning of western terms and expressions they may come across in these pages. We will explain about Indians and pioneers, gunfighters and cowboys, horses and cattles, and so on . . .

TEPEE The tepee was the conical tent, usually made of buffalo hide, in which the Plains Indians lived. Very often these skin-tents were decorated by drawings that represented exciting scenes in the lives of their warrior owners.

The manner of raising the tepee was to put three poles on the ground together, and attach them in such a manner that they formed a tripod. Then, by using a long pole, this arrangement of poles was raised and braced by other poles. The buffalo skins were then stretched across the poles and sewed along the front so as to leave a flap opening. The women of the tribe did this work.

Inside the tepee was the fire, a circle of stones where the fire was made, set in middle of the tepee so that its fire smoke could go up and out of the opening at the top of the tepee. Twig and skin beds were set close to the skin part of the tepee, where the men, women and children slept. Rawhide thongs were stretched across the tent, from pole to pole, from which the warriors hung their bows, quivers of arrows, war clubs, lances and knives.

In bad weather, the warriors often gathered inside their tepees to play games, to eat and talk over their next hunting party or war party. The women, too, used these tepees in which to congregate, chattering away, sewing and mending hide jackets and moccasins, bow cases and arrow quivers, saddles and hackamores.

Usually about 20 poles were used in constructing the tepee. These poles were of cedar, spruce, or any straight slim tree. The buffalo covers for these skin-tents were made in the springtime. Sometimes as many as fifty buffalo skins were used to make a large lodge.

After the lodge was up, a skin lining, like curtains, was stretched all around the tepee, to keep out drafts and rain. This was often decorated with beads or paintings similar to those on the outside of the tepee.

Often a guest bed was put in among the regular beds of the family. Once in a while an altar to the Great Spirit was built, as part of the regular furniture of the tepee.

The door was nothing more than a skin flap, though some Indians used a blanket.

UNION PACIFIC One of the two railroads that spanned the continent for the first time on May 10, 1869. The other railroad that linked its tracks with theirs was the Central Pacific. The last tie to be fastened into place to complete the tremendous job (which held the fascinated interest of the entire nation) was made of highly polished California laurel, 8 feet long and 8 inches wide, and held a silver plaque commemorating the occasion.

This last tie was laid 1085.8 miles west of Omaha, Nebraska.

Governors and high officials of state and federal governments, executives of the railroad and other industries, men and women were on hand for this great occasion. Telegraph lines informed all the world that the United States was now a nation united by railroad tracks, from the gold fields of California to the fishing banks of Maine.

VIRGINIA CITY Virginia City, Montana, was the site of rich drama and high tragedy during the years of the building of the west. In 1863, five prospectors discovered huge golden nuggets in its creeks, and men came pouring in to try their luck. Virginia City grew from grassy banks and rocks to a teeming metropolis. Gold was the magnet that drew more than ten thousand men and women to Virginia City, to "try their luck!"

Two of the rich gold locations were Alder Gulch and Daylight Gulch. The miners used pans and sluicboxes to tap the streams for the precious yellow metal.

Inevitably, Virginia City attracted the lawless element. Henry Plummer and his gang flourished here, before the Vigilantes hanged them from some trees. Plummer was a law official who "went bad." When the thriving town elected him sheriff, he put his gun-toting pals in as his deputies and proceeded to hold up stage-coaches, rob payrolls and shoot down helpless people. But the law caught up to him and Henry Plummer and his men paid the price for their wrongdoing.

WHITE BUFFALO The white buffalo was actually an albino buffalo, with a pure white hide and reddish eyes. The Plains Indian considered this white buffalo a sacred object and would never harm one. The Omahas and others had a white buffalo ceremony.

ZUNI A tribe of Indians inhabiting the west central parts of New Mexico. They dwell in a pueblo, and seemingly have no other tribal connection with their neighbors and are found nowhere else. It is believed that they were victims of the fierce Navajo and Apache warriors when those tribes first came swooping down into the southwest. Believed to have been a strong, numerous people at one time, they were almost exterminated by these savage invaders of their hot desert country.

Today, the Zuni tribe numbers almost two thousand people.

ADOBE WALLS This was the scene of a famous battle between buffalo hunters and Indians. For some years before the battle took place, these buffalo hunters went out of towns like Dodge City, to massacre thousands of buffalos for their hides. They would leave thousands upon thousands of these animals dead on the plains.

Now the Plains Indian depended on the buffalo for his food and clothing, his tepee skins and war shields. He used its bones, its horns, even its hoofs

for various functions of his daily life. To see the buffalo shot down so wantonly—to the Indians, killing the buffalo was like killing *them!*—drove the Indians mad with fury.

Uniting, the Indians decided to attack Adobe Walls and exterminate these hide hunters. Adobe Walls was a depot and trading post, where the hunters and hide men could buy goods and supplies and sell their hides.

The Indians who formed the war party against the white men were Kiowas, Cheyennes, Comanches and Arapahos. Having beld their war talk near Red River, they were ready to ride. Leading them were such chiefs as Quannah Parker (son of a Comanche war chief and a white woman, he was the greatest of all Comanche chiefs) and Isa-tai, Wild Horse and Mow-way. Some of the Kiowa and Cheyenne war chiefs were the famous Satanta, Lone Wolf and Howling Wolf.

The battle itself took place in 1874, under a hot June sun. The Indians galloped in at a fast pace, but the buffalo hunters—each one of them an expert shot with the big buffalo rifles—were protected by thick adobe walls. Some of the white men even had telescopes attached to their guns, according to the Indian testimony in later years. Even when the Indians would be charging, but waiting to renew a charge, the buffalo hunters would pick off their horses, killing them at almost incredible distances.

Despite their ferocity and their anger, the Indians could not cope with the high-powered rifles in the hands of such expert marksmen. They were driven off, and Isa-tai, their main war chief Quannah Parker was only a young warrior at this time) was blamed for their crushing defeat.

Among some of the well-known white men fighting at Adobe Walls among these buffalo hunters were Bat Masterson and Wyatt Earp, who were later to become famous as sheriffs and town marshals.

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Sections 2213 SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF Charles Storzett as THE DURANGO KID, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1954.

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3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgagees, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state). None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include in cases where the stockholder or security holder

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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 1954

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Dan Brand and Tipi



THEY WERE TATTERED MUFTI... HAD FEW WEAPONS... LITTLE MILITARY TRAINING! ONLY THEIR COMMON HATRED OF TYRANNY CARRIED THEM THROUGH THE EARLY DAYS OF THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE! BUT THEY WOULD HAVE SURELY LOST IF THEY HAD NOT Banded TOGETHER UNDER THE MOTTO —

"UNITED WE STAND!"

JOSIAH WESTCOTE, A STUDENT AT HARVARD COLLEGE, WAS HEADSTRONG, HOT-TEMPERED, AND A LOVING SON AND BROTHER! THIS WAS APRIL, 18, 1775 —

LEAVE HIM BE, JOSIAH! WE'RE NOT AT WAR YET... AND ROYALISTS ARE ENTITLED TO THEIR OPINIONS!

HE'S MORE THAN EXPRESSED AN OPINION! HE CALLED MY FATHER AND BROTHER TRAITORS!



JUST THEN —

THE REDCOATS HAVE FIRED ON THE PATRIOTS AT CONCORD! IT'S WAR... WAR AT LAST!



WHERE ARE YOU GOING, JOSIAH? THE TERM'S NOT FINISHED YET... YOU'RE A STUDENT, NOT A SOLDIER!

EVERYONE KNOWS WHICH SIDE MY FATHER AND BROTHER ARE ON! THERE'S A REGIMENT OF REDCOATS STATIONED NEAR MY FATHER'S FARM! HE MAY NEED ME SOON...!

FOR TWO DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS, JOSIAH SQUEEZED HIS HORSE OVER DUSTY TRAILS!

KEEP MOVIN', HOSS! WE'VE JUST GOT TO GET TO THE FARM ON TIME!

BUT ON THE THIRD DAY WHEN HE REACHED THE FARM—

ON? GROANE
NO!



I CAME TOO LATE... THE REDCOATS WERE HERE ALREADY... AND ALL THAT'S LEFT ARE CHARRED REMAINS! PATRIOTS! ... WHAT GOOD DID IT DO MY FATHER AND BROTHER TO BE PATRIOTS? WHEN THE REDCOATS CAME WHERE WERE THEIR PATRIOT FRIENDS? HOING, NO DOUBT— CONCERNED ONLY WITH SAVING THEIR OWN SKINS!

AND SO JOSIAH HID IN THE FORESTS, SKINNING THE COMPANY OF ALL MEN, DREAMING ONLY OF VENGEANCE!

YOU ARE DEAD, DEAR FATHER AND BROTHER— BUT I LIVE ON! YOU HAVE MY WORD... I SHALL SPEND THE REST OF MY DAYS MAKING THE REDCOATS PAY DEARLY FOR WHAT THEY HAVE DONE HERE! AND I SHALL WORK TOWARD THIS END **ALONE!** ... THIS WILL BE **MY PRIVATE WAR!** ... FOR I FEEL ONLY SCORN FOR YOUR PATRIOT FRIENDS WHO WERE ABSENT IN YOUR HOUR OF NEED!

ONE DAY— A DETACHMENT OF REDCOAT CAVALRY! I'LL HAVE FINE SPORT TODAY...!





TIP! WAS RIGHT! A SCANT TWENTY YARDS LAY BETWEEN THE SLOWLY ADVANCING REDCOATS AND THEIR MOTIONLESS GURRY!



BUT THEN—

KEEP THE ROPE TAUT, TIP!—THERE MUST BE NO SLACK!

I SAY!



THIS IS FINE SPORT—PLAYING AT BOWLS, WITH THE KING'S SOLDIERS AS PINS!

OOOF!

GNNNG!



BEFORE THE KING'S SOLDIERS CAN REGAIN THEIR WITS, DAN BRAND AND TIP! WHEEL AROUND, AND—

HEAD FOR THE FOREST! THEY'LL NEVER FIND US THERE!



LATER...

WH-WHAT HAPPENED? WHO ARE YOU?

I'M DAN BRAND AND THIS IS TIP!— BOTH AGENTS FOR THE PATRIOT ARMY. YOU'RE LUCKY YOU WERE ONLY CREASED, FRIEND. THAT WAS FOOL-HARDY, TAKING ON THAT WHOLE DETACHMENT. WHO ARE YOU?

MY NAME DOESN'T MATTER. I HATE REDCOATS— I'M EN-HARDED IN A PRIVATE WAR AGAINST THEM!

PRIVATE WAR? ...THERE IS NO SUCH THING! OURS IS A COMMON CAUSE—WE HATE TYRANNY AND FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE! IF WE DO NOT FIGHT TOGETHER IN A UNITED ARMY, WE SHALL LOSE!

BUT DAN'S WORDS FELL ON DEAF EARS—AND THAT NIGHT, AFTER HE AND TIP! HAD BEDDED DOWN—

JOIN THEIR ARMY— BAN! WHERE WAS THEIR ARMY WHEN MY FATHER AND BROTHER WERE KILLED?





SO JOSIAH KEPT WAGING HIS PRIVATE WAR AGAINST THE REDCOATS! AND HIS ONE-MAN EXPLOITS WERE INDEED SPECTACULAR!

BUT THEY DID NOT BRING JOY TO THE LOCAL PATRIOT ARMY!

DO YOU THINK IT'S THE LAD YOU SAVED FROM THE CAVALRY WHO'S DOING ALL THIS, DAN?

HE MEANS WELL... HE CANNOT KNOW THAT THESE FORAYS DO NOT FIT IN OUR MASTER-PLAN FOR THIS TERRITORY! BECAUSE OF HIM, THE REDCOATS HEREBOUTS ARE CONSTANTLY ON THE ALERT— AND THERE IS NO CHANCE TO MOUNT A SURPRISE ATTACK ON THEM!



MEANWHILE, AT BRITISH HEADQUARTERS—

HOW LONG WILL THIS GO ON? SENTRIES WAYLAIN... BILLETTS BURNED... TROOP MOVEMENTS INTERRUPTED... AND ALL BY ONE MAN! WHEN WILL THIS THORN IN OUR SIDE BE CAPTURED?

YOU HAVE MY WORD, SIR... IT WON'T BE LONG! EVEN NOW I AM PREPARING AN AMBUSH!



SEVERAL DAYS LATER, A BRITISH SUPPLY WAGON RUMBLES ALONG THE ROAD WHERE JOSIAH HAD MADE HIS LAST APPEARANCE—



ONLY THE DRIVER AND ONE GUARD— THIS SHOULD BE EASY!

CLIMB DOWN FAST, BOTH OF YOU —OR MY BULLETS WILL TUMBLE YOU DOWN!



SUDDENLY— THAT'S THE MAN WE'RE AFTER— HOLD HIM TIGHT!



WHAT THE—?!

JOSIAH FOUGHT DESPERATELY, BUT HE WAS OVERWHELMED BY FORCE OF NUMBERS!

A PRETTY LITTLE AMBUSH—IF I MUST SAY SO MYSELF! DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD HARASS THE KING'S SOLDIERS AND STAY SCOT FREE FOREVER, DID YOU?



HE WAS DRAGGED TO A LARGE MILITARY PRISON WHERE HE WAS PLACED IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT AT THE END OF A LONG SHADY CORRIDOR...



CAN'T SEE WHY WE DON'T SHOOT THE BLIGHTER AFTER ALL THE TROUBLE HE'S GIVEN US!

SARNY—I'VE HEARD THERE ARE PLANS FOR A BIG PUBLIC EXECUTION OF REBELS!



A FEW DAYS LATER, TWO NEW PRISONERS ARE JOSTLED TOWARD THE LARGE COMMON CELL AT THE OTHER END OF THE CORRIDOR...

IT'S DAN BRAND... AND TIM!



FAT LOT OF 6000 THEIR JOINING THE PATRIOT ARMY DID THEM! THEY'VE WOUND UP IN THE SAME PRISON WITH ME!



THAT NIGHT, IN THE PRISON COMMANDANT'S OFFICE—

SIR, THERE'S A RIOT IN THE COMMON CELL! TWO OF THE GUARDS IN THERE WITH THEM!

RIOTERS! AND HOLDING HOSTAGES! WE'LL TEACH THEM A LESSON!



CALL IN EVERY GUARD—EVEN THOSE ON THE WALLS! WE'LL MARCH EN MASSE TO THE CELL AND SHOW THOSE PRISONERS WHAT IT MEANS TO RIOT AGAINST THE KING!



MINUTES LATER ALL THE GUARDS HAD ABANDONED THEIR WATCH TO ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE PRISON CELLS...

EVERYONE'S HERE? GOOD!



NOW THOSE REBEL BEGGARS WILL EITHER QUIET DOWN AND SURRENDER THE HOSTAGES—OR WE'LL FIRE POINT-BLANK INTO THE CELLS! READY ARMS!



AT THAT MOMENT—

THE WALLS ARE
UNGUARDED! UP
AND OVER,
MEN!



THE PATRIOT RAIDERS SWARM INSIDE.

YOU'RE FREE NOW,
BOYS! YOU'RE FREE!

CRACK!
UGH!



THE REBELS TRICKED US! DAN BRAND
AND THE YOUNG INDIAN LET THEM-
SELVES BE CAPTURED. ONCE HERE,
THEY INCITED THE RIOT AT A
PREARRANGED TIME... WHICH
CLEARED THE WALLS SO THE
ATTACKERS COULD ENTER...! ALL
THE PRISONERS ARE FREE NOW
EXCEPT THE ONE IN SOLITARY!
I'LL SHOOT HIM—SO THE KING WILL
NOT HAVE LOST ALL TODAY!



NOT SO FAST,
KING'S BOY!



WE'RE SAVING ALL
AMERICANS TODAY!



LATER...

FATHER! IRA!
YOU'RE BOTH ALIVE!

JOSIAH, MY SON!
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
WE ESCAPED BEFORE
THE BRITISH BURNED
DOWN THE FARM!
WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING
WITH THE PATRIOT
ARMY EVER
SINCE!



I SEE NOW... IF I HADN'T GONE BERSERK
AND SHUNNED THE COMPANY OF ALL MEN, I
WOULD HAVE SOON LEARNED MY FATHER AND
BROTHER WERE STILL ALIVE! I WAS WRONG
TO FIGHT ALONE...! IF YOU'LL HAVE ME,
SIR, I'D LIKE TO JOIN YOUR
ARMY!



END

Could You Use
\$1,000,000?

It's a life to hand you the million
—but that's impossible—But your
HEALTH is worth a million!
And WE CAN MAKE YOU
HEALTHY!



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The DURANGO KID



DK-115

FRED
GUARDINER

GO SIREE — THERE'S NOBODY IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD WHO EARNS MORE TO BE A HERO THAN DURANGO'S SIDE-KICK, MULEY PIKE! ONLY TROUBLE IS — EVERY TIME MULEY STICKS HIS BULL-NECK OUT, THE NOOSE DROPS DOWN ON DURANGO! AND THIS TIME DEATH RIDES RIGHT UP TO THE DURANGO KID'S FRONT DOOR — ALL BECAUSE OF

THE BLAZING EYES OF MULEY PIKE!

MULEY'S OUT RIDING BY HIS LONESOME TODAY...

FOLKS DON'T APPRECIATE ME NOW! IT'S ALWAYS DURANGO THIS AN' DURANGO THAT! BUT I'LL SHOW EM! SOON AS THET-THAR BOOK COMES TO THUH POST OFFICE...



A SUDDEN SWIRL OF DUST ON THE TRAIL BELOW CATCHES MULEY'S EYE!

OWLHOOTS RIDING AFTER THE STAGE! AND NOBODY AROUND TO STOP THEM BUT YOURS TRULY...!



HERE'S MY CHANCE TO PROVE I'M A HERO EVEN BEFORE THAT BOOK COMES... / LET'S SEE NOW—WHAT WOULD DURANGO DO IN A CASE LIKE THIS...?



HE'D SLIDE DOWN THE SLOPE—JUST LIKE THIS / AND THEN—



AND THEN—

OOOFF!

WHAACK!



SO POOR MULEY ROLLS DOWN INGLORIOUSLY.



JUST MY ROTTEN LUCK—DIDN'T SEE THAT BRANCH IN THE WAY!

AND WHEN HE REACHES THE BOTTOM—



OH-OH—LOOKS LIKE A RECEPTION COMMITTEE!

WAL, IF IT AIN'T MULEY PIKE—THUH POOR MAN'S GUARDIAN OF JUSTICE!

SHOULD WE PERCOLATE HIM NOW, BOSS—OR COME BACK AFTER, WE'VE ROBBED THE STAGE?

THUH STAGE'S HORSES ARE TUCKERED OUT...



...WE GOT PLENTY OF TIME TO TAKE KEER OF THIS CLOWN RIGHT NOW!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE DOOR OF THE STAGE SWINGS OPEN —



WHY—THEY WAS CLOSE! WHUT WERE YUH DOIN' ON THUH STAGE, DURANGO?

I HAD A HUNCH THAT GANG WOULD SHOW UP TODAY—SO I RODE ALONG AS THE ONLY PASSENGER, THEY HURT YOU, MULEY...?

NAAA — I WAS JUST LETTIN' EM **THINK** THEY HAD THUH DROP ON ME, BUT I'D HAVE COME UP WITH SUMPTIN' BEFORE THEY SQUEEZED TRIGGER! LET'S GIT TO THUH STAGE! I'M 'GROAN' IN NO SHAPE TO RIDE SADDLE BACK TO TOWN!



WHATTA MAN, DURANGO! YUH DONE IT 'GAIN!

NEVER SAW SUCH SHOOTIN' IN ALL MUH BORN DAYS!

BLAST IT—DURANGO'S REAPIN' ALL THE GLORY AGAIN! BUT I'LL SHOW THEM... ONCE I PICK UP THAT BOOK AT THE POST-OFFICE!

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT HE, JUD... 'CAUSE ONCE I GIT THROUGH WITH THIS BOOK, I'M GONNA BE A DIFFERENT MAN! YES, SIREE, A DIFFERENT MAN...!





WE'LL JUMP MULEY, THEN MAKE OUT HE HYPNOTIZES US / WE'LL DROP OUR GUNS WHEN HE TELLS US ... AN' HE'LL LEAD US RIGHT TO DURANGO TO SHOW US OFF! ONCE WE'RE THAR, FIRST CHANCE WE GIT, WE'LL DRAW THUH EXTRA GUNS WE'LL HAVE TUCKED UNDER OUR SHIRTS - AN' WE'LL BLAST BOTH OF 'EM!

AND SO - MY EYES ARE SO POWERFUL NOW, I CAVNT EVEN SHAVE IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR WITHOUT PUTTING MYSELF IN A TRANCE / I PITY THE FIRST PASSSEL OF OWLHOOTS I TANGLE WITH - /



GULP!
HE'S SO SKEERED, HE PLUMB FERGOT ALL ABOUT HYPNOTISM! GOTTA REMIND HIM SOME WAY...
BEFORE I KILL YUH, WOULD YUH MIND TAKIN' A LOOK AT MUH EYE? FEELS LIKE I GOT SUMP-THIN' IN IT.



SURE THING!
HEY! HE'S FALLING INTO A TRANCE! OF COURSE - MY BLAZIN' EYES... I CLEAN FERGOT! I CAN WORK IT ON ALL OF THEM!



YUH'RE UNDER MUH POWER... NOW DROP YORE SHOOTIN' IRONS!



NOW WALK AFTER ME! BEFORE I TAKE YUH TO THUH HOOSEGOW... WE'RE GONNA PAY A SURPRISE VISIT TO DURANGO!
DURANGO'LL BE PLENTY SURPRISED WHEN WE DRAW OUR EXTRA GUNS!

LATER, AT DURANGO'S SECRET HIDEOUT-

WELL, I'LL BE--! YUH KIN OUTSHOOT ME AN YUH KIN OUTRIDE ME, DURANGO - BUT HYAK'S PROOF THET YUH CAIN'T **OUTSTARE** ME! AN' THIS IS THUH BOOK THET TAUGHT ME EVERYTHIN' I KNOW!



MULEY'S HANDING THE BOOK TO DURANGO / SOON AS DURANGO STARTS FLIPPING THROUGH IT... I'LL GIVE MY MEN THE SIGNAL TO DRAW AND SQUEEZE TRIGGER!



BUT THEN-- HEY! OWW! DRAW, MEN-- DURANGO KNOWS WE'RE FAKIN'!



BUT THE DURANGO KID SLINGS HIS LEAD TOO STRAIGHT AND FAST!



B-BUT I THOUGHT THEY WAS IN A TRANCE! MEN IN TRANCES DON'T GIVE SIDE-GLANCES AND DON'T SMIRK! BUT THAT BOOK SURE CAME IN HANDY, MULEY! BY HURLING IT, I SLOWED UP THEIR DRAW AND HAD TIME TO CLEAR LEATHER MYSELF!



LATER - RI-I-PP! LOOKS LIKE MULEY'S THROUGH WITH THAT BOOK... BUT HE DON'T LOOK LIKE A DIFFERENT MAN TO ME!



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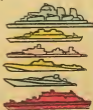
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