

DELL
COMIC

THE LONE RANGER'S COMPANION

TONTO

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Tonto's INDIAN LEGENDS

Long before the white man brought wheat and corn to the western Indians, those near the northern lakes lived on wild rice which they harvested in canoes by beating the tall brown stalks with their paddles.

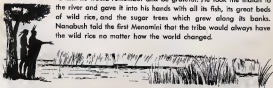


This legend of the Menomini tribe tells where the wild rice came from.



Many, many moons ago, Nanabush, a Good Spirit, came to earth to make the first Menomini. In four days, by working magic spells upon a bear, he transformed it into the first Menomini braves, whom he named Shekatcheke.

Nanabush made Shekatcheke head of the Menomini bear society so that he would remember and be grateful. He took the Indian to the river and gave it into his hands with all its fish, its great beds of wild rice, and the sugar trees which grew along its banks. Nanabush told the first Menomini that the tribe would always have the wild rice no matter how the world changed.



When the tribe moved from the Menomini River to Lake Winnebago after the white man came, there was no wild rice growing in the lake. Yet, after the tribe had lived there a few years, most of the wild rice disappeared from the river but grew everywhere in the shallows of Lake Winnebago. Had not the Good Spirit, Nanabush, promised that there would always be wild rice?

WAR FEATHERS

NEAR CHIEF STONE BEAN'S CAMP,
A SQUAD TOWNS CROW ARMS
WARRIOR.



THEY ARE TIPPING A HIDE JUST ABOVE THE
WARRIOR, TONTO RIDES UP

YOUNG FELLER
AIM AT HANTERS,
SOON! WE BETTER
STEP-UP PLENTY
FAST!



THE QUICKEST WAY TO END THIS AMBUSH WILL
BE TO FIRE CLOSE TO HIS BOW!

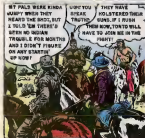


BANG!



MY BOW—HANT
IS SMOGGY!







WHOA, FELLERS!
WHOA!



HAVE SEE SHAKS AIGHT START
TO THROW KNIFE AT-UM, BUT
NEVER GET SCARED! ---
TOMED THINK IT BETTER
WE ALL RIDE OFF BEFORE
SHAKE BITE HORSES!

HECKON YOU'RE
SIGHT, TOMED!
LET'S YAMODEE,
WON' BIDDAP!



WHY DID
YOU TRY
TO ATTACK
THE WHITE
MEN AGAIN?
THEY HAVE
NOT HURT
YOU OR OUR
PEOPLE!

MY FATHER WAS A BRAVE AND HONORED
WARRIOR! IN OUR TRIBE LIKE HIS WAR
BONNET, STUCCED WITH WAR FEATHERS!
IS HIS SON, YOUNG CROW, NOT TO HAVE A
CHANCE TO WIN HIS FEATHERS,
TOMED!



YOUNG CROW, I KNEW YOUR FATHER WELL! HE WON
THOSE FEATHERS WHEN YOUR PEOPLE WERE AT BATTLE!
HE DID NOT PROVOKE WAR TO WIN GLORY FOR
HIMSELF AS YOU HAVE TRIED TO DO!

I HAVE COME OF
AGE TO BE A
WARRIOR ---
BUT PEACE RULES
THE PLAINS!



I AM RETURNING TO THE TRIBAL CAMP, YOUNG CROW!
RIDE WITH ME! SOMEDAY, YOU WILL UNDERSTAND
THE BLESSING OF PEACE!

SOON-TALE! I LONG
TO SEE THE WAR PAINT ON
THE BRAVES, THE TOMAH-
WAKS BINED ALOFT AT
OUR CAMPERS ---
BUT WE HAVE NO
ENEMIES!



BUT MEANWHILE, AT STONE SCAR'S CAMP...



STONE DEAR, LOOK!
BLACK BEAVER LIES
WOUNDED BY
YOUR TENT!

WHILE WE WERE OUT HARKING THE
FORES, HE ALONE REMAINED BEHIND!
BUT WHO WOULD STRIKE HIM
DOWN——— AND WHY?



DID YOU HEAR, TONT? THEN
OUR TRIBE STILL HAS ITS
ENEMIES!

BRING THE MEDICINE
MAN QUICKLY! HE
IS BADLY
WOUNDED!



AS THE BRAYE IS
TREATED,
STONE DEAR
ENTERS HIS
TENT AND
COMES OUT
QUICKLY...

THE COUNCIL
OUR SACRED PEACE PIPE
IS STOLEN!



DEATH
TO THE
TRIVING
ENEMY!

OUND THE WAR DRUMS!
WE SHALL BE AVENGED!
THE PIPE WILL BE
RETAIEN!



WAIT! THERE HAS BEEN PEACE
BETWEEN US AND ALL TRIBES!
SURELY, THIS IS THE ACT OF
SOME YOUNG HEADS SEEKING
GLORY! IT DOES NOT CALL
FOR WAR!

LET THE WAR
DRUMS DROWN OUT
HIS COUNCIL!
TONT! TALKS
LIKE QUART! WE
WILL FIGHT!

WHO CALLED TONTO A SQUAW SPEAKS WITH A FORKED TONGUE! HEAR HER OUT!

STONE BEAR, I AM CERTAIN THIS IS THE WORK OF BUT A FEW BRAVES! ALL I ASK IS A CHANCE TO TRACK THEM DOWN AND TRY TO RETRIEVE THE CALUMET WITHOUT A BLOODY WAR!

NO! LET US ARM AND CHASE THE RAIDERS AND WHEN THEY ARE CAUGHT, ATTACK THEIR CAMP!

SILENCE! YOU HAVE NOT KNOWN THE BITTER MISERY OF WAR! WE WILL TRY TONTO'S PLAN FIRST!

STONE BEAR, LET ALL THE BRAVES SEARCH FOR THE RAIDERS' TRACKS! ONCE FOUND, I WILL QUICKLY PURSUE THEM!

LET THEM FIND THE TRACKS HIMSELF--- HE SEEKS THE GLORY FOR HIMSELF!

TONTO, IF THE RAIDERS PROVE MANY, YOU WILL NEED HELP!

THE FASTER WE ARE, THE FASTER WE TRAVEL AND THE LESS CHANCE WE HAVE OF BEING SEEN! I WILL PICK OUT ONE BRAVE TO HIDE WITH ME!

NAME HIM, TONTO! THERE ARE MANY WARRIORS AMONG US WHOSE WAR FEATHERS BOAST OF BRAVE DEEDS AND SURE VALOR!

I WILL TAKE ONE WHO SEEMS TO EARN HIS WAR FEATHERS--- YOUNG CIM!

W- M-E-D





BOOK...

HAVE YOU FOUND WHERE
THEY CAME OUT, TONTOP?

YES, YOUNG GROW, BUT
THE RIDERS HAVE SPLIT
UP!



TONTOP, TWO RIDERS
WENT RIGHT AND THREE
LEFT! WHICH GROUP WILL
WE FOLLOW?

THE ONE
WITH THE
THREE RIDERS, YOUNG
GROW! THEY WOULD
SURELY TAKE THE
EXTRA MAN WITH
THE PEACE PIPE
FOR ADDED
PROTECTION!



LET US HOPE YOU ARE RIGHT,
TONTOP! THREE AGAINST US
IS AN EASY FIGHT TO WIN!

FIRST, LET US
FIND THEM!
THEIR TRAIL
LEADS STRAIGHT
FORWARD!



BOOK...

LOOK! TWO OF STONE
BEAR'S WARRIORS FOLLOW
THE TRAIL OF OUR THREE
COMPANIONS!

BUT THEY DO NOT KNOW THAT WE
TWO HAVE SWUNG BACK TO JOIN THEM, TONTOP!
RIDE BEHIND THE BOULDERS BELOW! WHEN THE
TWO BRAYES PASS IT, SHOOT TO KILL!



THE TRACKS LEAD BY THOSE
BOULDERS, TONTOP! SOME
GUESS!







TELL ME QUICKLY WHERE THEY ARE OR THIS BLANKET WILL BECOME TIGHTER AND TIGHTER AROUND YOUR THROAT!

LET GO—
—GASP—
THEY WAIT AT
THUNDER
FALLS!



IF YOU HAVE LIES, YOUR TONGUE WILL NEVER SPEAK FALSELY AGAIN!

THEY ARE HIDING FOR THE FALLS, BUT EVEN IF YOU REACH THEM, THEY ARE THREE TO TWO!



BUT THEY WILL NOT SUSPECT THE TWO RIDERS WHO WILL MEET THEM AT THUNDER FALLS AND THEIR ENEMIES—YOUNG CROW, TAKE THE BLANKET ROBBED FROM THE BRAVES, WE WILL WEAR THEM!

BUT ONCE YOU REACH THUNDER FALLS, YOU WILL NEVER RETURN!



SOON...

I WOULD LIKE TO FORCE THEM TO RETURN TO OUR CAMP IN SHAME!

WHEN THEY RETURN TO THEIR OWN CAMP WEAPONLESS AND ON FOOT, IT WILL BE SHAME ENOUGH!



LATER...

THERE IS THUNDER FALLS! REMEMBER, YOUNG CROW, KEEP THE BLANKET WRAPPED CLOSELY ABOUT YOU UNTIL WE ARE UPON THE OTHER THREE BRAVES!

DO NOT WORRY, TONTS! THEY WILL NOT DISCOVER OUR DISGUISE UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE!



BUT AS YOUNG CROW RIDES FORWARD, HIS BLANKET CATCHES ON SOME SHARP BRAMBLES ...





JUMP THEM BEFORE
THEY CAN USE
THEIR WEAPONS,
YOUNG CROW!

NOW WE WILL SHOW THESE
CONSERVLY DANDERS HOW
REAL BRAVES
FIGHT, TONTO!



I HAVE THE
ONE!



HE IS DOWN, TONTO!
NOW TO TAKE THE
OTHER BRAVE!



I HAVE THE CALLUMET!—
KICK THEM HERE WHILE
I RIDE FOR CAMP!

LEAVE THESE
TWO TO ME, YOUNG
CROW! AFTER
THAT ONE!



WHILE HE IS BUSY WITH
SAY GIRD, A KNIFE BLOW
WILL QUICKLY LAY
HIM LOW!

I WILL CATCH
HIM, TONTO!







COME CLOSER AND MY TOMAHAWK WILL BE PROCEEDED AGAIN!

IF I CAN JUST RIDE WITHIN A FEW MORE FEET OF HIM, THIS BLANKET WILL DO THE TRICK!



THIS WILL GULL YOUR TOMAHAWK'S EDGE!



NOW THE CALUMET SHALL BE OURS ONCE MORE!



I HAD BETTER RETURN TO TONTOK I LEFT HIM WITH TWO OPPONENTS!

Chah!



HERE IT IS, TONTOK! THE CALUMET IS OURS AGAIN!

WHY HAVE YOU RAIDED OUR TRIBE AND DISTURBED OUR PEACE THAT WE HAD SO LONG BETWEEN US?



THERE HAS BEEN PEACE TOO LONG AMONG US! WE HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO PROVE OUR VALOR!

AND DID THE SAID ON A LONE BRAVE PROVE YOUR COURAGE?—NOW YOU WILL RETURN TO YOUR TENTS IN SHAME!

YOU SPEAK TOO SOON! LOOK!



TONTOS, THEIR TRIBESMEN COME!
WE CAN FIGHT HERE, BUT WE
WILL HAVE LITTLE CHANCE
AGAINST SO MANY!

PUT YOUR WEAPONS AWAY,
YOUNG CROW! THIS IS NOT
THE TIME FOR FOOLHARDY
HEROICS! LET TONTO
DEAL WITH THEM!—
GIVE ME THE CALUMNY!



YOU WILL NOT
SURRENDER IT
NOW, TONTO, WILL
YOU? WE HAVE
FOUGHT HARD TO
WIN IT BACK!

DO NOT FEAR, YOUNG CROW!
THE SACRED PIPE WILL BE
PUT TO GOOD USE NOW!



HOW?—WE
ARE STONE BEAR'S
PEOPLE! WHERE
IS YOUR
CHIEF?

I WEAR THE CHIEPTAIN'S
FEATHERS! WHY DO YOU
ASK? YOU SHOULD PREPARE
YOURSELF FOR DEATH AND
TAKE A WEAPON IN HAND—
NOT A PIPE!



HERE IS MY
WEAPON! OUR
SACRED CALUMNY!
STRONGER THAN
YOUR BOWS!

THE PIPE'S MEDICINE IS WEAR
BEFORE OUR ARROWS!
WATCH!



YOUR BOWS CRASH SNEAKING INTO
STONE BEAR'S TENT AND SET UPON A
LONE WARRIOR TO STEAL THIS PIPE!
WE HAVE WON IT BACK! BUT PERHAPS
YOUR CHIEPTAIN BOUGHT IT— TO
SMOKE WITH US AND HONOR
THE SACRED PLACE!

PUT UP YOUR
BOW! THIS
BRAVE FEARS
IT NOT AND HIS
WORDS SOUND
SWEET TO MY
EARS!



THE YOUNG MEN OF YOUR TRIBE, LIKE OURS, DO NOT KNOW THE BITTERNESS OF WAR AND THE SADNESS OF A CLOSE ONE'S DEATH!

THERE IS NO GLORY TO BE WON ON senseless RAIDS! LIGHT THE PIPE, WE WILL SMOKE IT TOGETHER AND DEPART IN PEACE!



AS THE WARRIORS DISMOUNT AND SIT BY THEIR GREER, TONTO LIGHTS THE PEACE PIPE

THE PIPE IS LIT! I SPEAK FOR STONE BEAR AND SAY, LET PEACE REIGN!

YELL STONE BEAR THE SHAMED RAIDERS WILL BE PUNISHED! LET US REJOICE THAT NO ONE HAS BEEN SLAIN!



LATER...

TONTO? YOU HAVE RETURNED! AND THE CALUMET?

LOOK IN YOURS CROW'S HAND!



GRADUALLY, TONTO RELATES THE RECAPTURE OF THE CALUMET, THE RENEWED PEACE AND THEN...

YOU HAVE SCOUTED YOUR BIRD FEATHERS AND NOW THEN, YOUNG CROW! NOW LIVE IN PEACE WITH OUR BROTHERS AND THE WHITE MEN!

I SHALL, DRIEF STONE BEAR! BUT TONTO HAS TAUGHT ME THERE IS STILL A WAR TO BE WAGED AND HONOR TO BE WON IN FIGHTING IT!



IT IS THE FIGHT AGAINST EVIL AND INJUSTICE!

IN THAT WAR, TONTO HAS WON MANY HONORS, YOUNG CROW!

SET-UP UP, SCOUT!

FIGHT FOR THE WATER HOLE

AS TONTO RIDES ACROSS A HOT, ARID PATCH OF DESERT LAND, SUDDENLY

SHOOTING!
— WHOA,
SCOUT!



SEE IN, REDDIN, AND KEEP YOUR
HANDS AWAY FROM YOUR GLASS!

WHY YOU
SHOOT AT
TONTO?



WHY ARE YOU
RIDIN' THIS
NEX, REDDIN?

IT PLENTY HOT! TONTO
AND SCOUT NEED WATER!
TONTO KNOW WATER
HOLE HERE!



THE WATER HOLE'S HERE, ALL RIGHT, BUT IT'S UNDER
NEW MANAGEMENT! THE DRINKS AREN'T ON THE
HOUSE! IT'LL COST YOU FIVE DOLLARS
TO FILL A CANTEEN!

WATER HERE BELONGS TO
ALL TRAVELERS! TONTO
NOT PAY-UM!



IF YOU HAVEN'T THE MONEY,
ONE OF THOSE SEA-SURE'LL
DO INSTEAD OF—

HEY!— HE'S
TRYIN' TO RIDE
THROUGH!
GUN HIM
DOWN!

—TONTO NOT PAY,
BUT WE CAN'T
NO GET-UM UP,
SCOUT!









TOMTO JUST COME FROM THAT WATER HOLE! SUMMER THERE NOW! THEY NOT LET-UM DRINK UNLESS YOU PAY-UM!

WHAT? WHY THE THIEVES FOLEGAT? IF THEY CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THAT! THAT WATER HOLE'S PUBLIC PROPERTY!



THEY TWELVE MEN? NEAREST TOWN WITH THOSE'S TWO DAYS' RIDE! YOU PAY-UM OR FIGHT-UM!— BUT TOMTO KNOW OF OLD INDIAN WATER HOLE, MEBBE YOU TRY THESE FIRST?

THE FOLKS ON THE WAGON TRAIN AREN'T SPEAKIN' FOR A GUNFIGHT! BUT WE ARE PAYING NO THIEVES' TRIBUTE! WE'D BE OBLIGED TO YOU IF YOU'LL LEAD US TO THE OTHER WATER HOLE!



TOMTO, HOW MUCH FURTHER IS THIS SAND WATER HOLE?

IT CLOSE! WHEN YOU TOP RISE AHEAD, YOU SEE-UM?



I SEE IT NOW! WE LOST A FEW HORSES BUT SAVED OURSELVES A FIGHT!

WAIT! LOOK CLOSE AT WATER HOLE— SOMETHING WIDEN!



FILLED IN AND POLLUTED WITH COYOTES' BOTTIN' CARCASSES!

ONLY OTHER WATER HOLE IN DAY'S RIDE IS THE ONE GUNNER GUARD!



SWING AROUND, WE CAN'T PULL UP WITH WATER HERE-- IT'S POLLUTED!

WHAT? BUT WE'RE OUT OF WATER, ALL THE BARRELS ARE DRY?

WHERE'S THE NEAREST WATER HOLE? WE'D BETTER MAKE IT PRIORITY!



THE NEAREST HOLE'S HELD BY THE CUNNING TOWNSMAN INTO WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE OUR CHANCES AND SEE HOW WE CAN BARGAIN WITH 'EM!

LET A FEW MEN RIDE AHEAD WITH YOU AND WE TALK TO 'EM FIRST!



LATER...

HEIN HO! THEY SEE US COME!



HEIN, THERE'S A WAGON TRAIN FOLLOWIN' US. WE NEED WATER!

LIKE I TOLD THE BOSS, YOU CAN HAVE ALL YOU WANT FOR A PRICE. I'LL MAKE IT CHEAP, ONLY ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS A WATER BARREL!



A HUNDRED A BARREL? IT'S A ROBBERY! WE HAVEN'T GOT THAT KIND OF MONEY!

THAT'S A SHAME-- 'CAUSE IT'S MIGHTY DRY BETWEEN HERE AND THE NEXT WATER HOLE, AN' THAT'S MORE THAN A DAY'S RIDE!















DUKE! WAKE UP!



WHAT IN TARNATION?
THOSE FOOL SET THEM
ARE ASKIN' FOR
TROUBLE! BRAB
YOUR BURE!

BUT, DUKE, I
DON'T SEE ANY
RIDERS--- JUST
THOSE WAGONS
COMIN' AT US!



GUS 'EM DOWN, BOYS!
THEY'RE ALL THAT'S
BETWEEN US AN'
THE WATER WE NEED!

KEEP WAGONS COMIN'
FAST! BARDY RIDE
JUST AHEAD!

BOOM!

BOOM!



DUKE! THOSE WAGONS
ARE COMIN' STRAIGHT
FOR US!

YOOOW!

BOOM!

BOOM!



GODDAMN--- COME ON, FELLERS!
JUST A FEW MORE YARDER TONTO,
IT'S NO USE! THE WAGONS
ARE STUBB!





SOON

WE'RE RIDIN' WITH YOU, TOMTO' BUT IF THIS TRICK DOESN'T WORK, CARSON CAN TAKE US OVER LOOK STOCK AND BARREL!

WHEN WE HEAR WATER HOLE, TOMTORIDE LEFT, YOU RIDE TO RIGHT! YOU FIRE PLENTY SHOTS AND OVERT-EM WHILE TOMTO RIDE IN TO SHOOT ARROW!



WE'RE CLOSE TO THE HOLE NOW, TOMTO! GOOD LUCK!

SET-EM UP, SCOUT!



OH, THOSE SETTLERS MUST BE LOST! THEY'RE RIDIN' AT US OUT IN THE OPEN NOW!

FLUG 'EM! WE'LL GET THE MONEY WE ASKED FOR--- BUT OFF THEIR DEAD CARCASSES!



WE ARE IN NOW RANGE, SCOUT! NOW GO PLENTY FAST!



WHAT IS GLAZED? THE FLOOR? BUT THIS TIME, HE'S A DEFENSELESS TARGET!



BUT AS THE
OUTLAW AIMED,
A SHOT FROM
A SETTLER'S
RIFLE BEHIND
HIM FIRMS
ITS MARK...



THE ARROW, CARRYING THE STOCKING FILLED WITH THE
JUICE OF TOMATOES, LANDS...



DURE! THE
WATER?

IS-IT'S BETTER' BEE? WHAT'D
THAT INDIAN DO TO IT?



CARSON, ARROW PUT INDIAN POISON IN WATER HOLE!
THAT'S LEAD SETTLERS LAST NIGHT TO OTHER WATER
HOLE! THEY HAVE NOTES. BUT THEY STAY HERE!
YOU SURRENDER OR DRINK WATER AND DIE!



AS THE HOT SUN BLAZES DOWN, THE DEADLY FIRE OF
THE SETTLERS FIND THE GANG BY THE WATER HOLE...

TOHTO --- ALL
THE CANTERNS
ARE BONE DRY ---
WE CAN'T HOLD
OUT MUCH
LONGER!

CARSON'S MEN NOT
DRINK EITHERBY
AND BY, THEY GIVE
UP IF WE
STAY!



DURE --- CAN'T LAST
MUCH LONGER ---
TOO WEAK TO
FIGHT!

THEY'VE
GOT WATER ---
LET'S GO!

THE FIRST MAN
WHO DROPS HIS
GUNS, WILL GET
DROPPED BY MY
GUNSI BANNY!



