

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon, created by Geo. W. Trendle

Special Deputy
by Fran Striker

Number 12-10

Date 12-16-54

Preston
King
Blake.....Constable.
Jake.....heavy
Shorty.....heavy
One-eye....heavy
Katematronly
Tobeold timer
Voice..... bit

FILE

To save a man's life, Sergeant
Preston rode into a six-gun showdown
with ruthless killers who were determined
to escape justice at a ny cost. For
mile-a-minute adventure and thrilling
action be sure (ETC)

No: 1210

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(USUAL OPENING)

Annrc; In the Yukon Territory, Jake Stover and his three outlaw companions had been long sought for by the Northwest Mounted Police. But they felt secure in their well-concealed camp, high in the hills a few miles from the town of Rifle Ridge. Early one fall morning Jake inventoried the supplies then called -

Jake; (CALLS) Hey, Shorty, come here.

Shorty; (APPROACHING) Yeah, Boss. What's the trouble?

Jake; We're low on grub.

Shorty; That's no surprise. Hidin' here for three weeks like we've been, I figured we were due to run out of food.

Jake; You'll have to ride to Rifle Ridge and get the things we need.

Shorty; Why me?

Jake; You're new in the gang an' you're not wanted for murder. The Mounties have posted so many handbills describin' ^{LEFTY} ~~Jake~~, and One-Eye, and me, that a ten-year-old could spot us.

Jake; No. We're not spendin' any of that money for a long time. (FADING) Now saddle your horse an' get goin' ...

BREAK. FADE IN FOOTSTEPS

Anncr; Just before noon of that day, Constable Tom Blake walked along the main street of Rifle Ridge. Unknown to the outlaws, the constable had been stationed in town for the past two weeks as a permanent law officer. He had nearly reached his home when he saw Tobe Sullivan, a leathery-faced old man who did odd jobs to earn a meagre living -

Blake; Hello there, Tobe!

STEPS HALT

Tobe; Howdy, Constable. Glad to see you.

Blake; And I'm glad to see you, Tobey. I want you to come with me to my place.

Tobe; Why?

Blake; I want to show you a dog I have there.

Tobe; (FEAR) No, No, constable! I - I don't get along with dogs - I- uh -

Blake; (CUT IN) Tobe, I hope to cure you of your fear of dogs. Now come on. Walk with me.

STEPS SUSTAIN AS

Tobe; I- I'll walk with you as far as your house, Constable, but I - well, dogs don't like me! They growl an' bristle when I go near 'em - an' they try to bite me -

Blake; That's because you're afraid of dogs.

Tobe; I admit I'm afraid-

Blake; When a man's afraid, he gives off a scent of fear that makes dogs angry..

Tobe; I can't help it. I -

Blake; (CUT IN) You wait until you meet Sergeant Preston's dog. I'm sure Yukon King can help you get over your fear.

Tobe; Is Sergeant Preston in town?

Blake; No. But he stopped at my house ~~on his way to~~ and left his dog with me. He went on to Forty Mile. He went there hoping to get a line on Jake Stover's gang.

Tobe; I've seen the reward posters on those crooks! I sure hope Sergeant Preston runs 'em down.

Blake; So do I !

Tobe; Is the Sergeant comin' back here?

Blake; Yes. He should be here today or tomorrow.

Tobe; How come he didn't take his dog with him?

Blake; King's had a lot of hard travel during the past few weeks. The Sergeant wanted him to rest and put on a little weight.

Tobe; He thinks a lot o' that dog, doesn't he?

Blake; Indeed he does!

Tobe; I can't savvy anyone carin' so much about a dog.

Blake; If you had a dog who was willing to give his life to help you out of trouble, you'd understand how Preston feels.

Tobe; Y'mean King's that kind of a critter?

Blake; Yes.

BARKS BACK. MUFFLED . STEPS HALT

Tobe; (FEAR A dog's barkin' !

Blake; Steady, Tobe. Don't be afraid. That's Yukon King. See him there at the window?

Tobe; He - he's barkin' -

Blake; That's because he's glad to see me. Come on, Tobe.

STEPS SUSTAIN. BARKS NEARER

Tobe; H e- he sounds vicious -

Blake; He's not. You'll see how friendly he is.

Tobe: (PLEASED) Lookat him! My sakes alive, he's lickin' my hand. () King, you're the finest dog I ever saw. Good fella, King- (ADLIB AS)

Anncr; Constable Blake smiled at Tobe's reaction to King's friendliness.

HOOFS APPROACHING

Anncr; Blake turned and was about to close the door when he saw a man approaching, riding one horse and leading another. He recognized the man as Shorty Tatum!

Blake; (CALL SHARPLY) You there, Shorty!

Shorty; (BACK) A Mountie;

Blake; (CALL) Rein in!

Shorty; (BACK) Not a chance. (EFFORT) Git up!

HOOFS FASTER, FADING AS

Anncr; Shorty dropped the lead line of the extra horse and raced away -

Blake; (SHOUTS) Get him, King!

BARKS FADING FAST AS

Tobe; (STARTLED) Sakes alive!

Anncr; Seeing the big dog overtaking his horse, Shorty drew his gun - just as his horse, frightened by King, reared -

HOOFS BREAK STRIDE, WHINNY, BACK.

SHOT

Annex; ~~His horse, frightened by King, reared as~~
~~Shorty fired~~

~~SHOT~~ WHINNIES, HOOFS CLATTER- BACK

Annex; The shot went wild, and before the outlaw
could fire again, Blake's gun spoke -

SHOT, NEAR

Shorty; (BACK) (CRY OUT)

Annex; The constable's bullet smashed Shorty's gun.

RUNNING STEPS, SUSTAIN AS

BARKS, HOOFS CLATTER, FADE IN

Blake; (RUNNING) That's enough gunplay, Shorty!

Shorty; (COMING IN) Don't shoot, don't shoot me! I'm
disarmed!

Blake; Down, King! Steady, boy! () Control your horse, Shorty

Shorty; (ADLIB TO HORSE) Whoa there- whoa -

HORSE AND DOG SUBSIDE

Blake; I told you to draw rein!

Shorty; That- that dog - scared my horse -

Blake; Good thing he did! Now dismount and don't
try any fast moves!

Shorty; (DISMOUNTING) What're you doin' in town, Blake?

Blake; I'm stationed here.

Shorty; Hunph. If I'd known that, I'd've stayed away.

Blake; I dare say you would have.

RUNNING STEPS COME IN AS

Tobe; (RUNNING IN) Constable, is King all right?

Blake; He sure is, Tobe. He just helped me capture a crook.

Tobe; My sakes alive! The way he left the cabin -

Blake; You're under arrest, Shorty. Turn around and put your hands behind your back.

Shorty; Handcuffin' me?

HANDCUFFS AS

Blake; Of course. () Tobe, will you take this horse and the one that stopped in front of my cabin to the livery stable?

Tobe; Glad to, Sergeant.

Blake; Why'd you bring the extra horse, Shorty? Did you expect to meet someone?

Shorty; You figure that out, Blake.

Blake; Very well. I'll do that while you're behind bars. The jail is straight ahead. Start walking.

Annor; Late that afternoon, Sergeant Preston returned to Rifle Ridge and went directly to the cabin of the constable where King barked a welcome -

BARKING, ADLIB.

Then the big dog's manner changed -

WHINES & WHIMPERS

Blake; (LAUGHING) I declare, Sergeant, I think King's trying to talk to you.

Preston; He's excited about something - () Now King, take it easy, boy.

Blake; He's probably trying to tell you about the prisoner we captured this afternoon.

Preston; Prisoner? What prisoner?

Blake; Shorty Tatum.

Preston; (SHARPLY) Tatum!

Blake; Yes. He rode into town about noon.

Preston; Alone?

Blake; Yes. He was alone, but he led an extra horse.

Preston; Where is he now?

Blake; In jail.

Preston; Um-m. Blake, did you know that Shorty Tatum had joined Jake Stover's gang?

Blake; (SURPRISE) No! I thought he worked alone.

Preston; So did I, until I talked to several people in Forty Mile. Jake Stover and his pals robbed the bank there - and Shorty Tatum was with them.

Blake; Um. When did it happen?

Preston; About three weeks ago. The crooks got away with over fifty thousand dollars in new paper money.

Blake; Phew! Does the bank have a record of the serial numbers of the stolen bills?

Preston; Yes. And there are a number of eye witnesses who saw all four of the robbers.

Blake; Then there's no doubt about their identity.

Preston; None whatsoever.

Blake; Any killings?

Preston; No. But Jake Stover, One-Eye Hawks, and Lefty Barker are already wanted for murder. They'll hang when they're captured.

Blake; I'd sure like to see them captured.

Preston; Shorty Tatum probably knows where they're hiding.

Blake; Um. But I doubt that he'll tell. I spent a lot of time questioning him - but I didn't learn a thing.

Preston; (THOUGHTFULLY) Even so - we might be able to find the other crooks through Shorty -

Blake; How?

Preston; By using a trick - one that has worked well in the past. Tell me, Blake, who do you consider the most trustworthy ^{WOMAN} ~~PERSON~~ in town?

Blake; Kate Lockney. She runs a boarding house. Everyone trusts Kate.

Preston; I know her. She's a fine woman, and we'll ask her to help us. We need one other person. Who's the most trustworthy man you know?

Blake; Well - I know an old timer - I'm sure he's honest and reliable. King liked him.

Preston; Then he must be all right. What's his name?

Blake; Tobe Sullivan. He was with King and me this afternoon when we captured Shorty Tatum.

Preston; What does he do for a living?

Blake; Runs errands, chops wood - any odd jobs he can get.

Preston; Fine!

Blake; Want to talk to him?

Preston; Yes. But first I'll call on Kate Lockney.

Blake; I'll have Tobe here by the time you return.

Preston; Fine. () Come on, King. We'll go to the boarding house.

KING BARKS, FADING OUT.

Annecr; Kate Lockney was a pleasant-faced woman of middle age who looked on everyone as a friend. She had an especially high regard for Sergeant Preston, and was delighted to see him and his dog -

ADLIB WHIMPERS

Kate; Yes siree! You're lookin' fine- both of you!

Preston; Thanks, Kate. It's good to see you again.

Kate; And it's good to see you an' King! I tried to persuade Constable Blake to let me feed King while you were gone, Sergeant, but he wouldn't hear of it.

Preston; Well, Blake -

Kate; (CUT IN) I've got a hot pie, fresh out of the oven, Sergeant, an' some choice bones for King -

Preston; Not now, Kate. Thanks just the same. I want to talk to you about something very important.

Kate; Um-m. Sounds serious.

Preston; It is. Do you know Tobe Sullivan?

Kate; Course I do - the poor little critter-

Preston; Why do you say that?

Kate; Aw, he's had a lot of bad luck. He has to work awful hard to make ends meet, and -

Preston; If he were in trouble, would you help him?

Kate; Sure I would! I've tried to give him a little cash from time to time, but he's too proud to take it unless he earns it. Is he in trouble?

Preston; He may be in jail.

Kate; Jail? Tobe Sullivan? Oh, no, Sergeant. Why Tobe never did anything wrong in his life. Who'd want to jail him? () You're not foolin' are you?

Preston; No, Kate. He's going to jail - if I can persuade him to help me.

Kate; Help you - by goin' to jail? Sergeant, I don't savvy -

Preston; It's part of a plan to capture some killers, Kate. I'll need Tobe's help and yours.
(FADING) Now here's the plan I have in mind-

Annecr; Sergeant Preston talked at length, outlining his plan in detail while the widow listened. When he finished talking, Kate said-

Pate; ..and there's a chance Tobe might earn a reward, eh?

Preston; Yes, Kate. There are several rewards posted for the capture of the outlaws, and the bank in Forty Mile will pay five thousand dollars for the return of the stolen money.

Kate; I'd sure like to see Tobe earn a slice of that money. Count on my help, Sergeant.

Preston; Thanks. I'll let you know the final details after I've talked to Tobe. () Come on, King.

BARKS, FADE OUT.

Annccr; Preston returned to Constable Blake's cabin where he met and talked to Tobe. Delighted at the chance to help the Sergeant, the old man agreed to aid in the proposed plan. Later that night the constable and Sergeant Preston escorted Tobe to the cell where Shorty Tatum was already imprisoned -

STEPS ON FLOOR AS

Tobe; Don't lock me up...please don't jail me -

Preston; Step lively, Tobe.

Tobe; I've been framed, I tell yuh -

Preston; You'll have your day in court. Unlock the door, Blake.

UNLOCK CELL DOOR.

Shorty; What's goin' on? What'd the half-pint do?

Blake; Ask him.

Tobe; Constable, I thought you were my friend.

Blake; We were friends, Tobe, but I can't let friendship interfere with the maintenance of the law. Shorty, you stand back while I open the door.

Shorty; (FADE BACK) 'Fraid I'll rush out?

Blake; We're taking no chances--

DOOR OPENS.

Preston; Go on in, Tobe.

STEPS ADLIB AS

Tobe; (MUTTERS) Fine way to treat a man -

Preston; Just a minute, Blake, before you close the door- I think I'd better handcuff these men together.

Shorty; Handcuff us ?

Tobe; While we're in here?

Preston; Yes. The bars on the window don't look very strong. By standing on a cot you might break them away - () Your wrist, Tobe -

ADLIB HANDCUFFS

Blake; That's a small window, Sergeant -
~~That's a mighty small window, Sergeant - hardly~~
~~a foot square -~~

Preston; Tobe's a small man. With the bars gone, he might squeeze through - () Your hand, Shorty!
 If Tobe does get through, he'll dangle outside.

Shorty; I never heard of handcuffin' prisoners to each other while they're in the jail cell-

Preston; There are many things you've never heard of.

HANDCUFFS.

Preston; There. That'll hold you both. () By the way, Shorty, I heard that you helped Jake Stover's gang rob the bank in Forty Mile.

Shorty; Yeah?

Preston; Yes. And there were a number of witnesses. They'll identify you at the trial. You're sure to be convicted. You might earn a lighter sentence by helping the law.

Shorty; Want me to turn Squesler, eh?

Preston; We want Jake and his two pals for murder. Where's their hideout?

Shorty; Blake questioned me all afternoon. I told him I wasn't talkin'. I'm tellin' you the same.

Preston; Suit yourself.

Blake; ~~MMMM~~ Your pals will probably ride into town to look for you. When they do, we'll get them.

Shorty; Don't count on that, Mountie.

Preston; Lock them in, Blake.

Blake; Right.

SLAM AND LOCK CELL DOOR

Blake; All set, Sergeant.

Preston: Let's go.

STEPS FADING AS

Tobe; Handcuffed - oh my sakes alive-

Shorty; Shut up. I don't like it any better'n you do.

DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE, BACK.

Tobe; But I'm not a crook! They can't prove a man's a thief, just because stolen cash is found in his home.

Shorty; D'you expect a jury to believe you were framed?

Tobe; Wh- why not?

Shorty; (HARD LAUGH) Every crook claims the same thing.

Tobe; (SIGHS) I reckon you're right. () I - I hate to think of spendin' the rest of my life dodgin' the law - hidin' out - bein' a fugitive-

Shorty; (SNORTS) A pack of dodgin' an' hidin' you'll do! Before you turn fugitive you gotta get out of here an' free of these handcuffs.

Tobe; The handcuffs - dad-rat it - if it wasn't for these, I'd be all right-

Shorty; What d'you mean - you'd be all right?

Tobe: I'm not worried about gettin' out of here-

Shorty: (LOW, TENSE) You got a key to the door?

Tobe: No, but I've got a friend who'll get me out.
I was at her place when the Mounties came to
get me.

Shorty: Yeah?

Tobe; Yep. She knew they were goin' to pick me up.
We figured they could catch me easy, if I
tried to run - but if I let 'em jail me, then
she got me out of jail - () well -

Shorty; I savvy. You'd never be missed until morning.
There'd be all night to make the getaway.

Tobe; Yeah - but now - these handcuffs -

Shorty: Listen, Tobe! You sure your friend can bust
you out?

Tobe; Kate said she could - an' Kate Lockney generally
knows what she's talkin' about. She'll do it.

Shorty; When?

Tobe; Soon as she gets a chance. She'll smash the lock
on the back door, come inside an' get the key to
the cell. She knows it hangs on the wall in the
constable's office.

Shorty; In that case, Tobe - you've nothin' to worry about.

Shorty; Don't worry about 'em. If we can get out of here, I'll see that we get rid of the handcuffs.

Tobe; Yeah?

Shorty; Yep. I've got friends who'll get 'em off.

Tobe; You- you mean the men Sergeant Preston was talkin' about?

Shorty; Don't ask questions! Just sit tight an' hope your friend shows up.

BREAK

Anncr; Later that night, in their camp, Jake and his two partners waited with increasing impatience for Shorty to return. Jake looked at his watch and said -

Jake; Gettin' close to midnight! Shorty should've been back hours ago!

One eye; Maybe he ran into trouble.

Jake; Trouble ny eye. He more likely ran into a poker game in the cafe. I'll tell him a thing or two when he gets back.

One eye; Want me to go look for him?

Jake; No! None of us can risk goin' to Rifle Ridge. Too many handbills describin' us.

One-Eye; Then the only thing to do is relax and wait
for him to show up.

Jake; Two-bit tinhorns like him are a dime a dozen.
I should've picked one that could follow orders.

Anner; While Jake waited in camp, vowing to teach Shorty
a lesson he'd never forget, Kate Lockney approached
the rear door of the jail in Rifle Ridge. Sergeant
Preston, Constable Tom Blake and Yukon King were
with her.

(NITE NOISES) (STEPS)

Preston; This is as far as we'll go with you, Kate. From
this alley, Tom and I'll be able to watch the
jail.

Kate; You'd better watch it close.

Blake; Don't worry about that.

Preston; The lock on the back door'll give you no trouble.
We took care of it this afternoon.

Blake; Just make noise enough with it so's Shorty'll
think you forced the lock.

Kate; Right. I'll see you later.

(STEPS AS:)

Anner; Inside the jail, Shorty Tatum and Tobe heard
the sound of an iron bar being pressed against the
lock on the rear door.

(SOUND BACK AS:)

Tobe; (TENSE) Listen!

Shorty; I hear it.

Tobe; That must be my friend!

CREAKS
(DOOR ~~CRACKS~~ OPEN BACK AS:)

Tobe; She got the door open!

(JINGLE CUFFS CLOSE AS:)

(STEPS FADING IN AS:)

Kate; (FADING IN, WHISPERING) Tobe!

Tobe; (WHISPERING) I'm here, Kate!

Kate; (LOW) I'll get you out o' there in no time,
just like I promised.

Tobe; The key to the cell door's on the peg in the
Constable's office.

Kate; (FADING) I'll get it.

(STEPS FADING AS:)

Tobe; Y'see, Shorty. I told yuh she'd be here.

Shorty; Yeah. I just hope she can find that key.

Tobe; I'm^{STILL} worried about the handcuffs.

(JINGLE CUFFS AS:)

Shorty; My friends'll take care of 'em.

(STEPS FADING IN AS:)

Kate; (LOW, FADING IN) I've got the key, Tobe-

Tobe; What about the Mounties?

Kate; No need to worry about them.

Shorty; I'd like to shoot 'em both before we leave town.

Kate; Hold on! You're not goin' anywhere.

Tobe; He's gotta go with me, Kate. Look!

MOVE HANDCUFFS

Kate; Handcuffs!

Tobe; Yeah. We're handcuffed together.

Kate; Sakes alive -

Tobe; It's all right, Kate. I'll go with Shorty. His friends'll be able to get these things off us.

Kate; I - I don't know about lettin' him out, Tobe-

Tobe; You gotta! I can't go without him!

Kate; But I've heard about Shorty Tatum! He's not like you - he's a real crook!

Tobe; Now see here, Kate - it's a case of let him out or leave me in!

Kate; I - I suppose it is -

Tobe; You know doggoned well it is! Now unlock the door!

Kate; All right. I'll do it.

UNLOCKING DOOR

Tobe; Hurry, Kate-

OPEN DOOR

Kate; There y'are.

Tobe; Thanks, Kate.

Shorty; Wish I had my gun -

Tobe; It wouldn't do you any good. It was smashed
by a bullet. Remember?

Shorty; Yeah. That's right. Where are the horses I
brought to town?

Tobe; In the livery stable. I put 'em there for Blake. Did
him a favor - and then, a little later, he jails me. Fine
way to treat a friend.

Shorty; Let's go!

Tobe; C'bye, Kate, an' thanks again.

K STEPS AS

Kate; (FADING) Goodbye, Tobe- and be careful!

Tobe (CALL BACK) Right. () S^horty, can your horses
haul a buckboard?

Shorty; Yes, They've been hitched a few times. Why?

Tobe; There's a buckboard in the stable. It'd be
easier for us to ride aboard that than to
ride separate horses - (FADES) It'll be a lot easier-

NITE NOISES

BUCKBOARD FADING

Annrcr; A few minutes later, when Shorty and Tobe left town on the buckboard, Kate and the two policemen were watching from one end of the dark alley across the street. King and the horses waited nearby in the alley-

Preston; Time for us to move, Blake.

Blake; Right.

A COUPLE OF STEPS. HOOFCLUMPS ADLIB

Kate; I do hope nothin' happens to Tobe.

Preston; We'll follow as closely as possible, Kate, but I'm sure he'll be all right. () All set, King?

WHIMPERS. HOOFCLUMPS

Preston; (MOUNTING) Thanks for your help, Kate.

Kate; You're more'n welcome, Sergeant.

ADLIB: (GIDDAPS)

Preston; Come on, King!

BARK AS HOOFS START, FADE

FADE IN BUCKBOARD, ROUGH GROUND

Annrcr; When the buckboard reached the rugged hills, Shorty found it increasingly difficult to drive. The light wagon bounced and rocked violently over the rough ground -

Tobe; (JOUNCING) This is mighty rough goin' -

Shorty; (JOUNCING) It's no trail for a buckboard -
especially at night.

Tobe; (JOUNCING) We got much farther to go?

Shorty; (JOUNCING) No. Just hang on and- (BREAK) Hey,
why d'you keep lookin' back? D'you think the
Mounties are after us already?

Tobe; (JOUNCING) I - uh - I was just thinkin' -
we're prob'ly leavin' tracks that'll be easy
for Blake an' Preston to follow -

Shorty; (JOUNCING) Won't be anyone after us before
morning. By that time we'll have gotten rid
of the handcuffs an' moved on. () Look ahead-

Tobe; (JOUNCING) Huh? Where?

Shorty; (JOUNCING) A little to the left - there's the
campfire-

Tobe; (JOUNCING) Sure enough! We sure came on it
sudden. () Shorty! I see men with guns !

shorty; (JOUNCING) They're my pals. (YELL) Hold yer
fire, boys!

Jake; (BACK) It's Shorty! He's got someone with
him.

Shorty; (ADLIB WHOAS)

HOOFS AND WAGON STOP

Jake; (COMING IN) Shorty! Where you been all this time?

Voice; (COMING IN) Why'd you bring a buckboard?

One-eye; (COMING IN) Who's with yuh?

Shorty; One question at a time! Get down, Tobe.

ADLIB, GET OFF BUCKBOARD

Jake; You're handcuffed to the old galoot!

Shorty; That's right, Jake! I'm handcuffed - I didn't get the grub I went after - an' I've spent time in jail. And it's all your fault.

Jake; My fault?

Shorty; Yes! You said there were no Mounties in Rifle Ridge! () Anyone got a file to cut off these handcuffs?

One-eye; Lefty's got one.

Voice; (FADING) I'll get it.

Jake; Did you run into a Mountie?

Shorty; Two of them! Constable Blake saw me, recognized me, an' captured me. Later Sergeant Preston came to town. Then he an' Blake locked this critter in the cell with me.

Jake; How come you're handcuffed to him?

Shorty; Preston's idea. He locked us together in the jail cell.

Voice; (COMING IN) Here's a file. I'll go to work on the handcuffs.

ADLIB FILING

Jake; I didn't think you'd see a Mountie in town.

Shorty; Blake's stationed there permanently now.

Jake; Why was this critter jailed?

Shorty; Robbery. I don't know the details -

Tobe; I didn't steal a dime. I wasn't guilty-

Shorty; Save yer breath, Tobe. We don't care what did.

Jake; How'd you get out of jail?

Shorty; A friend of Tobe's let us out, but we couldn't get rid of the handcuffs. That's why we had to travel by buckboard.

Jake; The law'll be on your trail. The Mounties will come here and -

Shorty; (CUT IN) We can't stay here, Jake. We'll have to pack our gear and head for a new hideout.

Jake; Yeah. Hurry up, Lefty. Get the handcuffs off -

Voice; (FADING) I'm workin' as fast as I can. This is mighty hard steel -

Annex; Sergeant Preston and the constable halted their horses some distance from the campfire and, accompanied by King, advanced softly to a clump of brushwood. There they paused and watched Lefty fumbling the handcuff that gripped Shorty's wrist -

LOW GROWL

Preston; (LOW) Quiet, King-

Blake; (LOW) Shorty came here to get rid of the handcuffs - just as you thought he would...

Preston; (LOW) Um. () Blake, those crooks will start shooting as soon as they see us-

Blake; (LOW) We can get closer before we show ourselves.

Shorty; (BACK) Good work, Lefty!

Blake; (LOW) Shorty's free-

Jake; (BACK) Don't bother with the other bracelet, Lefty. The old man's not leavin' here with us. We can't be bothered with him.

Shorty; (BACK) But, Jake, ^{We can't leave him.} ~~if he's not here, he's not here, he's not here~~
He knows too much.
~~XX~~
~~XX~~

Jake; (BACK) He can't ^{talk} ~~do that~~ if he's dead.

Tobe; (BACK) (Cry OUT) Yer not goin' to kill me?

Jake; (BACK) Guess again!

Tobe; (BACK) (PANIC) No, no, please don't kill me-
Please gents0 (CO TINUE ADLIB AS)

GROWLS, CLOSE

Blake; (LOW, FAST) Sergeant, he's drawn a gun -

Preston; (FAST) No time now for caution! At 'em King!
Come on, Blake!

WILD SNARLS. RUNNING STEPS AS

ADLIB: (BIG STIR, FADING IN AS -)

SHOTS, ADLIB

Annrc; Preston opened fire while running forward. His bullet struck Jake's gun and knocked it from the killer's hand. One-eye and Lefty drew their guns and fired - but too fast for accuracy. Closing in, the lawmen returned the fire. One-Eye dropped with a bullet in the leg and in the next instant his gun arm was gripped by King!

One-eye; (ADLIB YELLS OF PAIN AND FEAR)

Annrc; Lefty was knocked off his feet by the impact of a bullet in the shoulder, but Shorty had armed himself with a knife. He was about to throw it at Preston when Tobe leaped -

Tobe; (EFFORT) Gimme that knife!

Shorty; (EFFORT)(ADLIB STRUGGLE)

Preston; (EFFORT) I'll take it! And this is for you, Shorty. (EFFORT)

BLOW. FALLING BODY.

Tobe; That got him, Sergeant!

Blake; Hold it, all of you. I'll shoot the first man who moves.

One-eye; (WAILING) I give up - call off this dog-

Preston; Down, King. Quiet, boy. We'll take over.

KING SUBSIDES

Preston; I'll cover them, Blake. Collect their weapons.

Blake; Right.

Preston; Tobe, I didn't see Shorty with that knife-

Tobe; He was goin' to throw it at you, Sergeant.

Preston; Yes! And you saved my life.

Tobe; Golly - you sure saved my life-

Preston; I didn't expect they'd try to kill you. Our plan nearly backfired.

Jake; Yer plan? You mean this galoot was workin' with you?

Preston; Yes, Jake. With his help we've captured all of you!

Jake; Why that undersized -

Preston; (CUT IN) Tobe's a bigger man than all of you crooks put together.

Blake; Sergeant, I have all the weapons.

Preston; Handcuff the prisoners.

Voice; What about my wound-?

One-eye; And mine-

Preston: We'll dress your wounds after you're handcuffed.

Tobe: Sergeant, those crooks were talkin' about the cash they stole from the bank in Forty Mile. It's all in their saddlebags.

Preston: Good! That means you and Kate will have an even bigger reward.

Tobe: Reward?

Preston; You've more than earned a reward for this night's work.

Tobe; Oh-h gosh -

Preston; Tobe, you still have a handcuff on your wrist- come over here. I'll take it off.

Tobe; A reward - cash money - golly, Sergeant, d'ya know what I'm goin' to do with the money?

Preston; What?

Tobe; I'm goin' to buy a dog -

Blake; With the cash you get you'll be able to buy a lot of dogs.

Tobe; I just want one - an' I want him to be like Yukon King/

Blake/
~~Sergeant!~~ Sergeant, the prisoners are handcuffed.

Preston; That does it, Blake. This case is closed.

THEME