

The Lone Ranger
by Ralph Goll

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MA HENRY TAKES A HAND

RANGER and TONTO

Maw Hank As before
Tom Dodge Reformed outlaw
Mart Stone Banker, killer
Bob Finch Spineless cashier
Marshal Ames Lawman, straight
Tod Stanton Deputy, straight
Voice Small part
Voice 2 Bit

The Lone Ranger

Number: _____

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MA HENRY TAKES
A HAND

(USUAL OPENING)

Annecr; It was 1876, a year memorable for the last great Indian uprising. The Sioux were on the warpath and Custer and his command had been wiped out in Montana Territory. Even so, the settlers of Colorado, which had just been admitted to the Union, prepared for an all-out celebration. They had scheduled a holiday week which would combine observance of the Territory's rise to Statehood with ceremonies commemorating the Centennial of the Declaration of Independence.

(HOOFS AT WALK)

Tonto and the Lone Ranger discussed the coming celebration as they walked their horses down to a trail crossing on the Denver and Modoc City Railroad.

Ranger; Tonto, the Flag now has thirty-eight stars.

Tonto; (GRUNTS) Me think there soon be plenty more.

Ranger; Tonto - look there.

Tonto; What you see?

Ranger; Those marks in the sand alongside the railroad tracks.

Tonto; They look like somebody fall off train, roll over.

Ranger; Do you see those zig-zag footprints?

Tonto; Him stagger off into bushes.

Ranger; If that man is alive, he needs help.

Tonto; Him right ahead. See!

Ranger; Yes. He's on his face.

AD LIB: (WHOA'S)

(HOOFS STOP)

(DISMOUNTING EFFORTS)

Tonto; Me turn him over while you get canteen.

Dodge; (GROANS)

Tonto; Him still alive, but got plenty cuts, bruises.

Ranger; Drink this, mister. We're friends.

Dodge; (GROANS) That's good. Thanks.

Ranger; Take it easy. We'll get you to town.

Dodge; (VOICE STRONGER) A masked man! What's the idea of you helping me?

Ranger; We've met before ---

Dodge; I know it. You're the feller who captured me after the stage hold-up at Wagonwheel Station five years ago.

Ranger; You're Tom Dodge.

Dodge; Right.

Ranger; What happened?

Dodge; A brakeman caught me bumming a ride on a freight train. He threw me off.

Ranger; I see.

Dodge; He wouldn't wait 'til we got to a town. He had to pitch me off out here a good fifty miles from nowhere. That's worse than shooting a man.

Ranger; The brakeman was within his legal rights.

Dodge; Legal rights be hanged! I never did a thing like that when I was riding the owlhoot trail!

Ranger; You never were accused of hurting anyone. That's why you got off with a five year sentence.

Dodge; I could have killed that brakey. I've got a gun.

Ranger; You didn't use it?

Dodge; Listen, mister, whether you believe it or not, I've learned my lesson. I want to go straight.

Ranger; If you want me to believe you, give me your gun.

Dodge; Take it.

Ranger; Now, Tom, I'm ready to take a chance on you.

Dodge; I don't savvy.

Ranger; Tonto and I are going to take you to Modoc City. I have a friend there who'll put you up until you're fit to work and can find a job.

Dodge; Why do you want to do that after getting me jugged in the first place?

Ranger; You deserved what you got. Now I want you to get what you deserve.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annex; Several days later, Tom Dodge knocked at the kitchen door of Modoc City's only hotel, a rambling structure of logs and stone known as the Hank House.

(KNOCKING)

Maw; (INSIDE) Come in! I've got no time to be opening doors!

(DOOR OPENS)

Annex; For a moment the ex-convict stared in voiceless awe at the Amazonian woman who confronted him. Sweat beaded her broad, red face and her mighty arms were white with flour. She held one of the pies for which men remembered her even after they had forgotten her salty sayings.

Maw; Stop gawking and come on in!

Dodge; Thank you kindly, ma'am.

(STEPS IN, DOOR CLOSES)

Maw; If it's a hand out you want, I'll fix you up. As the feller says, your belt buckle looks like it's rubbin' your backbone.

Dodge; I've had plenty to eat the last couple of days. I got ga'nted before that, Mrs. Henry.

Maw; You call me Maw Hank, or just plain Maw. Only one man calls me Mrs. Henry.

Dodge; I reckon that's the masked man.

Maw; Say! What do you know about him?

Dodge; Here's a note he wrote for you --

(RUSTLE PAPER)

Maw; Hm-m-mm, so you're Tom Dodge, and you're tryin' to ride the straight an' narrow trail?

Dodge; That's right, Maw.

Maw; Then you can roost here. Your board bill can run 'til you get fleshed up an' start working.

Dodge; I'm ready to work now. I was a top hand once.

Maw; As the feller says, ranch jobs are scarcer than rattlesnake fur. Howsomever, you might look around at the bank. Cattlemen sometimes stick up notices there when they want a rider.

Dodge; Thanks, Maw. I'll do that.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Anncr; Mart Stone, President of the Modoc City Bank, sat at a desk in his cashier's office. A lean, hard man, he wore range clothes and carried a gun, a habit which gave depositors a greater feeling of security than they would have found in the dignified dress of other bankers. At the moment he was busy affixing his signature to each one of the crisp, new bank notes which lay before him in bundles of a thousand dollars. Bob Finch, the cashier, stood at Stone's shoulder, a strained look on his bespectacled face.

Stone; There, Bob, I've signed the last one.

Bob; Mart - (HESITATES) I just checked the books.

Stone; Who told you to do that?

- Bob; Nobody. I did it to protect myself.
- Stone; What do you mean by that?
- Bob; I'm no fool. I've been watching you. You've lost thousands playing poker.
- Stone; Suppose I have.
- Bob; You've been dipping into bank funds. There's a twenty-five thousand dollar shortage.
- Stone; See here, Bob, I've had a run of hard luck. I'll win it back sooner or later.
- Bob; Even "sooner" won't be soon enough, Mart. Colorado's a State now, and the new banking department is out to see that the old Territorial banks are sound enough to get permanent charters.
- Stone; What of it?
- Bob; The examiners are on their way here right now. A traveling man ran into them in Lanceville. They're working this way.
- Stone; I see. That doesn't give us more than a week to cover up.
- Bob; What do you mean -- "us?"
- Stone; How much cash have we got on hand?
- Bob; We're practically out of currency except for that fifteen thousand dollar issue you just signed. We have some silver money, but no gold.
- Stone; Would half of these bank notes interest you?
- Bob; Not if I have to go to jail with you!

- Stone; I've got a scheme that'll cover the shortage and let us split this new currency.
- Bob; Well, I'm willing to listen. I'm tired of working for twenty dollars a week while you bet hundreds on a pair of aces.
- Stone; Then listen. We promised the business men we'd stay open on the first night of the big celebration. We'll fake a hold-up.
- Bob; Um--m.
- Stone; I'll come thru the back door wearing a mask. With cowpokes shooting up the town and miners brawling in every cafe, Marshal Ames wouldn't have a ghost of a chance to catch a real bank robber, let alone me.
- Bob; Mart, I think you've got something there.
- Stone; After I take the money, I'll simply step out into the alley, hide it under the back steps, and then hurry around the block. When the alarm's given, I'll be in the crowd out in front.
- Bob; What'll we tell the Marshal?
- Stone; We'll report forty thousand dollars stolen. That'll cover the shortage and let us get away with the fifteen thousand.
- Bob; I need the money. I'll string along with you.
- Stone; Good. Now there's just one thing to be careful about. That's this new money. Don't let any of it get into circulation.
- Bob; Why not?

Stone; We'd get into trouble if it became known we had a new issue just before the robbery and started spending some of it right afterward. I may have to use my share in a hurry.

Bob; Tell me the hour you'll show up. I want to have the place clear of customers and the strongbox open.

Stone; Eight o'clock will be the hour.

Bob; Okay, I'll be ready.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annecr; While Stone and Finch plotted the fake hold-up, Tom Dodge stood on the bank corner, his hat pulled low. Prison-wise, he knew that he was being watched by the City Marshal and hesitated to enter the bank on his job hunt. As he rolled a cigarette, the lawman moved in on him.

(STEPS UP)

Ames; You're Tom Dodge, aren't you?

Dodge; That's me. What do you aim to do about it?

Ames; I'm John Ames, the Marshal. The State Prison notified me that you'd been released and might head this way.

Dodge; I've got a right to be here.

Ames; Why are you hanging around the bank?

Dodge; I was going to look about a job.

Ames; A hold-up job?

Dodge; Marshal, I'm going straight.

Ames; Where are you staying?

Dodge; With Maw Hank.

Ames; Hm-m, I guess we'd better see her. If she'll vouch for you, I'll let you stay in town. Come on along.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annccr; On the first night of the Centennial celebration, Modoc City was a scene of unbridled revelry. As eight o'clock approached the square was jammed, but bursts of yelling and shooting continued to announce the arrival of more merry-makers.

(SHOTS, YELLS IN B.G.)

Little concerned by the demonstration, Tonto shouldered his way toward the bank with a twenty dollar gold piece which a provision dealer had been unable to change.

(DOOR OPENS, SHUTS)

The Indian found Bob Finch at the cashier's counter and presented the double eagle.

Tonto; Me want change.

Bob; Everybody's been wanting change. There's no gold and less than five dollars worth of silver in the place.

Tonto; If me no get change, me no get bacon.

Bob;! It's almost eight - our closing time. You'll have to vamoose.

Tonto; Me wait 'til you close. Maybe somebody bring in change.

Bob; Look, you pesky redskin -- (BREAKS)

Tonto; Me look. Me see plenty paper money in iron box where door is open.

Bob; You Indians don't like paper money.

Tonto; Me take--um. Me know banknotes are good as gold.

Bob; It's eight o'clock! Come on, Indian! Move!

Tonto; Me want change.

Bob; All right! All right! Here are four five dollar bills. Now get out! Pronto!

MUSIC: INTERLUDE, FADE UNDER

Annrc; A few seconds after Tonto left the front door of the Bank, Mart Stone slipped in thru an alley entrance. A neckerchief covered his face and he held a gun.

Stone; (BACK) Everything set, Bob?

Bob; Yes, but I had trouble getting rid of the last customer. The front door wasn't locked.

Stone; (COMING IN) It won't matter if I work fast. Where's the money?

Bob; Right there in the box, all tied in a bundle. But listen, Mart. About that money -- (BREAKS)

Stone; I've got it all.

Bob; I wanted to tell you -- (BREAKS) Say, you're pointing that gun right at me!

Stone; I sure am, you fool! I can't let you live, knowing what you do.

Bob; Wait! I won't tell! I'll juggle the books for you!

Stone; This balances everything!

Bob; (AD LIB TERROR)

(SHOTS, BODY FALLS)

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annrc; The sound of the shots reached Tonto before he could cross the crowded street. He darted back into the bank with several citizens at his heels.

(DOOR OPENS, STEPS)

Tonto; Something wrong here. Me smell-um gun smoke. Cashier gone.

(STEPS HALT)

Voice; Look! There by the counter! It's Bob Finch!

Tonto; Somebody call Marshal.

Voice; I'll get him!

(RUNNING STEPS FADING)

(BACK, CALLS) Murder! Murder at the Bank!

(FADE IN CONFUSION)

(RUNNING STEPS APPROACHING)

Voice; Here comes the Marshal!

(STEPS IN & STOP)

AD LIB: (EXCITEMENT)

Ames; Quiet, all of you! Get back! Is Finch dead?

Tonto; No pulse, Marshal. Him dead.

Ames; Was anyone seen leaving the bank?

Voice; I was at the mouth of the alley when I heard the shots. Right afterward someone ran away from the back door.

Ames; Only one man?

Voice; That's all. I figured a cowpoke was up to some crazy shenanigan.

Ames; A bank robber couldn't have picked a better time for a job.

Voice; Aren't you going to get up a posse?

Ames; Not now. Where's Mart Stone?

Stone; (BACK) Right here, Marshal. Let me thru, men.

AD LIB: (STIR)

Stone; (COMING IN) I should have stayed here tonight. Poor Finch.

Ames; Where have you been, Mart?

Stone; Out on the square watching the fun.

Ames; What's been taken?

Stone; The safe is empty. That means our loss may reach forty thousand dollars. Of course, I'll have to check.

Ames; Can any of the money be traced?

Stone; Not a cent of it. The currency was all old. The serial numbers of the bills aren't on record.

Ames; This was a one-man job and I think the man's still in town.

- Stone; Why do you think that?
- Ames; Why should he dust out? He killed the only person who could possibly identify him. All he needed to do was stash the money and lose himself in the crowd.
- Stone; With the town full of strangers, you'll never find him.
- Ames; Maybe not, but I can lay hands on a very likely suspect.
- Stone; You don't mean that the robber's right here, do you?
- Ames; No. The fellow I have in mind is Tom Dodge, an ex-convict who's boarding at the Hank House.
- Stone; That's where I stay. I've seen the critter there. Let's go get him!
- Ames; I can handle him alone. You stay here, Mart, and keep these men with you. I don't want word of what I'm doing to get spread around just yet.
- Voice; Say, Marshal, where'd that Indian go?
- Ames; He must have slipped out the back way. Well, he won't start any lynch talk.
- Stone; Lynching's too good for the fellow who killed Bob Finch.
- Ames; No more of that, Mart. I'll let you know as soon as I have Dodge safely locked up.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

- Annrcr; Later that night, Tonto rejoined the Lone Ranger at a deserted shack just outside Modoc City. He told of the bank robbery and murder, and then reported what he had been able to learn about Marshal Ames' activities.
- Tonto; Marshal find Tom Dodge in hotel. But him not find any gun or money. Dodge in jail now.

Ranger; Dodge's past record doesn't prove him guilty of this crime.

Tonto; Maybe that feller Stone rob-um own bank.

Ranger; What gave you that idea, Tonto?

Tonto; Him lie about money taken from bank. Him tell Marshal all paper money plenty old. Me know different.

Ranger; How's that?

Tonto; Just before him get killed cashier give me four bills from big pile in strongbox. That money all look new.

Ranger; I'll look at those four bills later.

Tonto; Stone make-um lot of lynch talk after Marshal arrest Dodge. Everyone getting plenty worked up when me leave town.

Ranger; Marshal Ames can't stand off a mob. The jail's too weak.

Tonto; (GRUNTS) What we do?

Ranger; We've got to get Dodge out! Get mounted and follow me!

AD LIB: (MOUNTING)

Ranger; Come on, Silver!

Tonto; Gittum up, Scout!

(HOOFS START)

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annrc; The curtain falls on the first act of our Lone Ranger story. Before we continue with the next exciting scenes, please permit us to pause for just a moment.

(COMMERCIAL)

Annex; The Lone Ranger and Tonto soon reached the mob-
threatened jail where Tom Dodge was held as a suspected
bank robber, and killer. They scouted around the log-
walled building on foot, and found that Marshal Ames
and his Deputy, Tod Stanton were busy stringing a
barbed wire barricade between the porch posts. The
Marshal was saying --

Ames; This wire ought to stop a mob for a while.

Stanton; Suppose they tackle the jail from the back. The
cell window's there, and the bars are just set in
holes bored in the logs.

Ames; It'll be up to you to keep them away from the window.
I'll try to hold the front door. Drive those nails
in hard.

(HAMMERING)

Stanton; That'll hold. Listen!

(HOOFS APPROACHING)

Ames; Someone's ridin' right up the walk.

Stanton; It's Maw Hank on her cross-breed Percheron! Somethin's
wrong!

Maw; Whoa, Puddinfoot! Don't knock the jail down!

(HOOFS HALT)

Ames; What's the matter, Maw?

Maw; The gang at the Ace High cafe is all set to hang
Tom Dodge!

Ames; You sure?

Maw; I saw them taking tongues off the freight wagons in front of my place. That means they're fixin' to smash their way into this place.

Ames; They'll have to kill me first!

Maw; You'd better turn Dodge loose. Even if he's guilty, he deserves better than he'll get from a mob.

Ames; I'm an officer, Maw. I can't turn any prisoner loose like that. ~~Anyhow Dodge is locked in the cell and the keys are gone.~~

~~Maw;~~ ~~None!~~

~~Ames;~~ ~~I threatened to take the trigger as soon as I heard your talk. Now nobody can take me away from me whether I'm dead or alive.~~

Maw; I see. Well, get the rest of that bobewire up. I'm heading for the Ace High.

Stanton; What you going to do?

Maw; As the feller says, Colonel Colt never invented a better persuaded than a woman's tongue. I'll try walking to those galoots. If that don't work, I've got a scattergun. (AD LIE GET UP'S)

(HOOPS START)

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annccr; Excitement had inflamed the men who packed the Ace High Cafe, biggest of Modoc City's gambling and drinking establishments. All talk centered on the bank robbery and plans to lynch the man in jail.

AD LIB: (EXCITEMENT)

(ROOM NOISES)

Annrcr; Mart Stone stood at the head of the bar, his lips twisted into a mocking smile. Beside him a miner flourished a rope and shouted --

Voice; (PROJECT) One more round for the house, barkeep! Then we'll go and stretch that killer's neck!

Stone; This one will be on the bank and me. Drink up, boys!

AD LIB: (CROWD)

Voice 2; Look who's comin' thru those batwing doors! It's Maw Hank and she's got a scattergun!

Maw; (COMING IN) Stand aside, you! I've got some things to say about this lynch party you're cooking up.

AD LIB: (STIR)

Maw; Shut up! Calm down!

AD LIB; (CROWD NOISES SUBSIDE)

Maw; (PROJECT) You gents come to town to celebrate Colorado bein' took into the Union --

Voice; (BACK) Hooray for Colorado!

Maw; Quiet down over there and listen to me!

AD LIB: (NOISES QUIET DOWN)

Maw; (PROJECT) We've got regular courts an' laws now, so there's no excuse for lynching anybody. We elect people to handle cases like the one against Tom Dodge.

AD LIB: (MURMURS)

Stone; Don't be foolish, Maw Hank.

Maw; Mart Stone, you stay out of this!

Stone; Dodge is guilty as sin. I say let him hang!

Maw; (PROJECT) Gents, didn't you ever hear of the Bill of Rights? It 'lows that everyone is entitled to a square deal in court.

Voice; (BACK) I've heard of Bill Wright. He's another owlhoot who ought to be strung up!

Maw; (PROJECT) I said the Bill of Rights. It's part of the United States Constitution and old Tom Jefferson wrote it. You hang Tom Dodge and you'll be hanging Jefferson and a lot of other ace-high Americans along with him.

Voice; I've had enough of this high-falutin' talk! Grab her gun, somebody!

AD LIB: (STIR)

Maw; Don't move you hooligans!

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annrc; Meanwhile, the Lone Ranger and Tonto, ~~aware that Marshal Ames could not be forced to open Dodge's cell in the absence of keys,~~ had withdrawn to the rear of the jail building where their horses stood. There they found the cell window. The masked man tossed a pebble thru the bars.

Ranger; Tom! Tom Dodge!

Dodge; Who's there?

Ranger; Your friend, the masked man. There's a mob gathering.
Can you squeeze thru the window if I pull ^{OUT} one of the bars

Dodge; I can make it. Where are your tools?

Ranger; My lariat is all I'll need. Make the loop fast to a bar.
I'll strengthen the hitch on my saddle horn.

Dodge; I've got it.

Ranger; Now, Tonto, you slip across the street and start shooting.
Make the officers think they're under fire. We'll meet
later behind the Henry House.

Tonto; (FADING BACK) Me savvy. Me burn plenty of powder.

Dodge; I got the rope tied, mister. Can your horse do it?

Ranger; He can. I'll lead him. Steady Silver.

(VOLLEY OF SHOTS, BACK)

Get ready, Tom! Come on, Silver!

(HOFFS PAWING GRAVEL, HORSE SNORTING)

Dodge; (LOUDER) Keep him pulling! The bar's giving!

(VOLLEY OF SHOTS, BACK)

(HORSE PAWING, SNORTING, WOOD SPLINTERING)

Dodge; (EXCITED, YELLS LOUDLY) It's out! I'm coming thru!

Ames; (BACK, YELLING) There's somebody out back! Get them,
Tod!

Stanton; (BACK) I'm coming, Marshall!

Ranger; Quick, Tom! Get on that pinto pony. (MOUNTING) Now
follow me!

(RUNNING STEPS UP)

Stanton; (COMING IN) Stop, you men! Stop or I'll shoot!

AD LIB: (GET UP'S)

(SHOTS)

(HOOFS START HARD)

MUSIC: UP TO COVER

Annrcr; The mob in the Ace High Cafe still wavered. Some of the men pressed forward toward Maw Hank and her scattergun. Some fell back while still others took a stand with the big landlady of the Henry House, their hands on their six-guns.

AD LIB: (STIR)

(ROOM NOISES)

Maw; Stay back, you fellers, or I'll let you have it!

Voice; I'm with you, Maw! Nobody's going to touch you!

Stone; Here comes Marshal Ames!

Ames; (COMING IN) Hold it, Maw! Hold it, everybody!

Maw; What's happened, Marshal?

Ames; Tell these hooligans who want to hang Tom Dodge that they'll have to catch him first!

Stone; What do you mean?

Ames; Dodge just broke jail! A masked man helped him!

AD LIB: (EXCITED STIR)

Stone; Where'd they go?

Ames; They had horses, so I reckon they headed for the hills.

Stone; This was your fault, Maw Hank! With that killer loose, nobody's safe!

Maw; I'll take the blame, Mart Stone!

Stone; (PROJECT) Boys, I'm offerin' a reward for Tom Dodge!
Two thousand dollars, dead or alive!

AD LIB: (STIR)

Voice; What are we waiting for? Come on! Let's ride!

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Anncr; When Maw Hank returned to her hotel a little later, she found the Lone Ranger waiting at the stables with Tonto and Tom Dodge.

Maw; I thought you fellers had made a get-away.

Ranger; I hope that's what everyone thinks.

Maw; Almost everyone in town is out in the mountains huntin' you.

Ranger; What about Marshal Ames?

Maw; Him and his deputy refused to ride with the mob. They knew they couldn't control it.

Ranger; Is Mart Stone with the posse men?

Maw; No, he must be in the hotel right now. A lamp was just lit in his room up there.

Ranger; I see it -

Maw; Stone has offered a two thousand dollar reward for Tom.

Dodge; For me? Why that sidewinder! He's bound to get me strung up!

Maw; Two thousand dollars is a lot of money. I don't quite savvy his play, knowin' he never cared much about Finch.

- Ranger; He may be trying to make sure his own crime is never uncovered. With Tom dead, the case would be closed.
- Maw; So you suspect Stone of pulling the job himself? I ought to have been smart enough to think of him.
- Ranger; Why do you say that, Mrs. Henry?
- Maw; Mister, he's as cold blooded as a mackerel that's been frozen up in an iceberg at the North Pole.
- Ranger; It's hard to understand why a banker who is able to embezzle his depositor's funds should turn hold-up man and kill his cashier.
- Maw; Stone has lost thousands of dollars playing poker the last few months. He uses his room for his games, so I know.
- Ranger; We'll never be able to clear Tom or convict Stone unless we tie him to the stolen money.
- Maw; If that dinero can be identified, why don't you grab Stone and force him to dig it up?
- Ranger; As things stand now, we'll have to get him to produce the money from his own person in the presence of good witnesses.
- Maw; That's so. People all figure you're Tom's pardner.
- Tonto; Kemo sabay, if Stone feller take-um money, him not take it far. Him show up in front of bank too soon.
- Ranger; I have a plan.
- Maw; Can I help?
- Ranger; Yes, Mrs. Henry. You can see to it that the Marshal and his deputy are at the jail for the next hour or so.

Tonto; What Tom and me do?

Ranger; Wait here for me. I'll have to act fast.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

Annrc; A few minutes later the masked man stood outside the door of Mart Stone's room. Sounds which came from within told him that the Banker was still up. He knocked.

(KNOCKING)

Stone; (INSIDE) What's the matter out there?

Ranger; I've got word for you, Stone.

Stone; (INSIDE) What about?

Ranger; Tom Dodge. Open up.

(DOOR UNLOCKS, OPENS)

Stone; You're wearing a mask! You helped Dodge break jail!

Ranger; That's right. Stand still!

Stone; What do you want of me? I wasn't trying to lynch Dodge.

Ranger; You offered a reward.

Stone; Yes, but listen --

Ranger; (CUTS IN) I want that reward money. The law can have Tom Dodge.

Stone; Are you offering to surrender your own pardner?

Ranger; I've got him. All you have to do is pay.

Stone; I think I see what's behind your double-cross.

Ranger; Think what you please.

Stone; You got Dodge out of jail figuring that he'd split the bank's money with you. He didn't come thru, so you want the reward for your trouble. I don't blame you.

Ranger; Are you ready to put up the money?

Stone; I'd be worse than a fool to let you have it before you turned Dodge in.

Ranger; I don't expect that. You post the money with Marshal Ames and I'll handle the rest of the deal.

Stone; That'll be all right with me.

Ranger; You'll have to get the money to him in a hurry. I can't wait around Modoc City much longer.

Stone; I don't carry that kind of dinero, but I can raise it within an hour.

Ranger; That's good enough.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE, FADE UNDER

Anncr; Maw Hank occupied the sturdiest chair in the jail office, holding her scattergun on her knees while Marshal Ames and Deputy Stanton tried to decide what her presence foretokened.

Ames; Maw Hank, you didn't come here just to be sociable. What's up?

Maw; Marshal, I don't rightly know, but I hear somebody out in front right now.

(DOOR OPENS, CLOSES)

Ames; It's Mart Stone. Howdy, Mart.

- Stone; Howdy folks. I thought I'd bring in the money I'm offering for a reward.
- Ames; You want me to pay it over to anyone who delivers Dodge here?
- Stone; That's the usual procedure. Here's the two thousand dollars.
- Maw; Say, Mart, how'd you get that much dinero together now that the bank has been cleaned out?
- Stone; It's poker money, Maw. I've always kept a cash reserve on hand.
- Ames; Well, I'll take charge of it, Mart.
- Ranger; (BACK) Steady, all of you! Keep your hands in sight!
- Ames; It's the masked man!
- Stanton; He came out of the cell!
- Stone; He's got your man Dodge with him!
- Ames; Yes, and there's that Indian who was in the bank!
- Stanton; What do you fellows want? What were you doing in the cell?
- (STEPS COME IN)
- Ranger; (COMING IN) We came in the way Tom Dodge got out - thru the window. We've been waiting for Stone.
- Stone; Marshal, I made a deal with this masked man to surrender Dodge.
- Ames; That deal doesn't go with me. He helped Dodge get out and even if he is willing to pull a double-cross now, he rates as an outlaw.

- Ranger; Disarm the men, Tonto. Mrs. Henry, watch that front door.
- Maw; I'm watching it, Masked man.
- Ames; Maw Hank, are you in cahoots with these fellows?
- Maw; We're all working for the same thing -- justice.
- Tonto; Me got guns, kemo sabay.
- Ranger; Now, Marshal Ames, take a look at that reward money Stone gave you.
- Ames; It's all freshly printed, I see.
- Ranger; That money was in the bank a few minutes before the robbery.
- Stone; He's lying, Marshal! It's a trick to save Dodge's neck!
- Ames; Somebody's lying!
- Ranger; Now examine the bank notes I'm handing you. Notice the serial numbers.
- Ames; They're pretty close to the numbers on these other greenbacks.
- Ranger; Those notes came out of a big pile in the bank's strongbox. They were passed to my Indian friend for change by the cashier.
- Stone; Finch did that? Why the -- (BREAKS)
- Ames; What were you going to say, Mart?
- Stone; Nothing Marshal. You practised law before you got to be a Marshal. You know a court wouldn't listen to these killers.

- Ranger; Tonto, tell the Marshal what happened a little while ago.
- Tonto; Me follow Stone. Him go behind bank, take-um something from under board steps, then come over here.
- Ames; Did you see what he took?
- Tonto; Too dark for that, but me go look under steps after him leave. Me find-um plenty paper money hid there. Me not touch it.
- Ranger; It can be examined later.
- Ames; Well, Stone, what have you go say to that?
- Stone; If there's any money around the bank, these owlhoots put it there to incriminate me.
- Ames; That's ridiculous. Bank robbers don't leave their loot behind just to get the banker in bad.
- Stanton; Anyhow, you told us the money you gave the Marshal came from your cash reserve. Did you bank it under your back steps?
- Stone; You can't prove any of the money was ever inside the bank!
- Ranger; It bears your bank's name and your own signature. The Bank Department and Wells Fargo Company will have records showing when you received it.
- Maw; Mart Stone, you can't get out of it. The masked man has hung the deadwood on you right.
- Stone; Yes, I guess I'm finished. Why did that meddler have to show up?
- Ames; Stone, you killed one man and almost got another lynched. What's behind all that?

Stone; You might as well know. I embezzled bank funds. Finch found out about it. I got him to go in with me on a fake hold-up that would cover the shortage and give some cash besides.

Ames; I suppose you killed Finch to shut his mouth.

Stone; I'm glad I drilled him. If the fool hadn't passed out those new bills this masked man wouldn't have had anything to go on.

Ames; Tom Dodge, I'm sorry I arrested you. If getting you a job will help square things, I can do that.

Dodge; That's all I want, Marshal.

Ranger; You'd better get Stone out of town before the mob comes back.

Stone; You're not taking me anywhere!

Maw; Look out for Stone! He's got a Derringer sleeve gun!

Stone; Drop your shotgun, woman. Now stay in front of me while I back out of here.

(SHOT)

Stone; (SCREAMS) My arm! (GROANS) He broke my arm!

Ranger; Hold him, Mrs. Henry!

(SCUFFLING FEET)

Maw; I've got him! Stand still you buzzard or I'll break your other wing!

Stone; (AD LIBBING) My arm!

Maw; Masked man, I call that real shooting when you can plug a skinny squirt like Stone who's hiding behind a walking mountain like me!

Ranger; Tonto, give the officers their guns.

Tonto; Me give-um back.

Maw; I'll fix up Stone's arm while you fellers get ready to hide him somewhere.

Ames; There's a train due pretty soon. We'll take him to Denver.

Stanton; Hey! The masked man and the Indian are gone!

Ames; Maw Hank, who is that masked man?

Maw; Don't you know now, Marshal? He saved your life once when the Dobe Anderson gang shot you up in the Badlands and left you for dead.

Ames; Then he's —

Maw; The Lone Ranger!

Ranger; (BACK) Hiyo Silver, Away!

THEME