

INDIAN FIGHTERS....

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IT IS HARD TO IMAGINE HOW THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS AND WEST-WARD BOUND WAGON TRAINS COULD HAVE SURVIVED WITHOUT THE CEASELESS VIGILANCE OF THE U.S. CAVALRY.

OFTEN GREATLY OUTNUMBERED,
THE TOUGH, HARD-BITTEN, IRONDISCIPLINED MEN AND OFFICERS
PATROLLED DEEP INTO INDIAN
COUNTRY TO TRACK DOWN AND
PUNISH SOME BAND OF
MARAUDING INDIAN WAR PARTIES.

THE CAVALRYMAN'S LIFE WAS A DREARY, MONOTONOUS LIFE EXCEPT WHEN THE TROOP WENT INTO ACTION AGAINST THE SIOUX, COMANCHE, APACHE AND OTHER WARLIKE TRIBES. SHORTLY AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, VETERANS OF BOTH SIDES FORMED VARIOUS TROOPS THAT HAVE GONE DOWN IN MILITARY HISTORY AS THE FINEST CAVALRY OF ITS KIND.

THEIR GLORY AND HEROIC EXPLOITS ARE STILL BEING TOLD IN BOOKS AND MOTION PICTURES.



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As THE LONE RANGER AND TONTO GALLOP TOWARD
SILVER DUST, TERROR STRIKES...

RUN! THE GHOST
GANG'S BACK!

THEY'RE BURNIN' HILTON'S
BARN AND STAMPEDIN'
HIS CATTLE!















AS THEY START DOWN THE DESERTED STREET, A
ROPE SLOWLY PULLS AT A BOARD, COVERING
A SMALL, HIDDEN VENTILATING SHAFT....

ACCORDING TO THE SHERIFF, WE
SHOULDN'T FIND ANY TRACKS...

GEE
GHOSTS' DON'T LEAVE FOOTPRINTS!

AHEAD!

















FINDING THEIR HORSES, THE LONE RANGER AND TONTO RIDE BACK TO TOWN...

I WAS RIGHT, WASN'T I?
YOU CHASED 'EM BUT
ONCE YOU GOT INTO
GHOST TOWN...THEY
ANYONE BEE

YES, BUT SOMEONE LEFT SOME NEW ROPE IN A SHAFT DOWN THERE! HAS ANYONE BEEN WORK-ING THE MINE LATELY?



NOT FOR YEARS! LEM WATKING OWNS MOST OF THAT MININ' LAND! HE'S AN OL' PROS -PECTOR, LIVES BY HIMSELF! HE JUST GAVE OVER HIS RIGHT TO THAT MINE TO MRS. KELLEM TO SQUARE HIS BILL AT HER GENERAL STORE!

SHERIFF, I'LL DO SOME PROSPECTING MYSELF IN THE MORNING AND LOOK UP LEM WATKING!



THE NEXT MORNING, AS THEY SET OUT TO LOOK FOR THE PROSPECTOR...

THAT MUST SWING AROUND TONTO!
THERE'S GUNPLAY BACK
IN SILVER DUST!

BANG

































































AND I DIDN'T LEAVE A























THE POSSE IS QUITTING! NOW ALL
WE HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IS THAT
THE GHOST GANG DOESN'T START
SHOOTING AT US AS WE RIPE
DOWN MAIN STREET!

CUT LEFT!THERE'S
AN OLD ENTRANCE
TO THE MINE SHAFT
A QUARTER OF A
MILE OFF!













MEANWHILE, IN FRONT OF SALLY KELLEM'S GENERAL STORE, THREE MEN ARE BARGAINING EARNESTLY.

WELL, LEM WATKING GAVE METHE
DEED TO SHAFT EIGHT AND MOST
OF THE OTHER PROPERTY THERE
AS SECURITY AGAINST HIS DEBT,
BUT I DON'T SEE WHY ANYONE'D
WANT TO BUY THAT USELESS
MINE!

OH, WE DON'T WANT THE MINE, MA'AM, WE'RE FIGURIN' ON RE-BUILDING GHOGT TOWN, BUT WE COULDN'T DO THAT WITHOUT OWNIN' THE ND BELOW AS WELL.



I CAN'T SEE ANY HARM IN SELLING YOU THE MININ'RIGHTS! CAN'T EVEN GET A SOUL TO GO NEAR THERE WITH THAT GHOST GANG HAUNTING THE PLACE! Well, We ain't afraid of the ghost gang, ma'am', now just gupposin' yuh sign here an ill hand yuh the two hundred greenbacks?





































THE LOVE RANGER THANKS TO HIS CLEVER FALL, WAS RACING LINHARMED THROUGHTHE MINE PASSAGE....



















QUICKLY, THE MINER CHECKS THE OTHER PASSAGENAYS.

CUT OFF! ONLY WAY OUT IS UP THAT THIRTY-FOOT, SHAFT BUT THE SIDES WIDEN TOWARDS THE BOTTOM, SO WE CAN'T CLIMB OUT! NO LADDER 'ROUND AND NO ONE'LL HEAR US YELL

WE HAVE THE
GHOST GANG CAP.
TURED BUT WE'RE
TRAPPED, TOO...
UNLESS I CAN
THROW UP, THIS ROPE.









SOON AFTER, WHILE THE SHERIFF AND POSSE RIDE OFF FOR THE TRAPPED GANG, THE LONE RANGER MAKES A CALL AT MRG. KELLEMS ...

I SURE WANT TO THANK YOU FOR SAMING ME FROM SIGNING AWAY AI FORTLINE / THAT GHOST GANG WAS CERTAINLY CLEVER USING THE OLD TOWN AS A HIDE-OUT AND TRYING TO SCARE US INTO SELL-ING WHAT WE THOUGHT WAS WORTHLESS LAND!

MIGHTY GLAD ONE HOMBRE WASN'T AFRAID OF CHASIN' GHOSTS! IF YUH EVER NEED MORE OF THEM SILVER BULLETS LET ME



















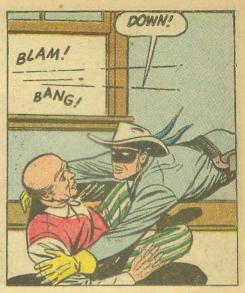
















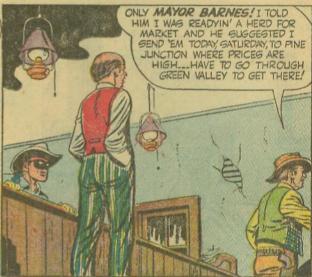




































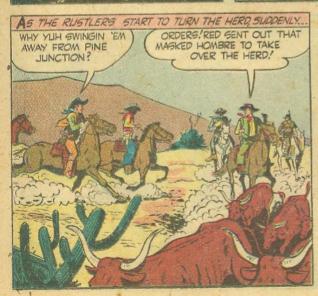




















































































































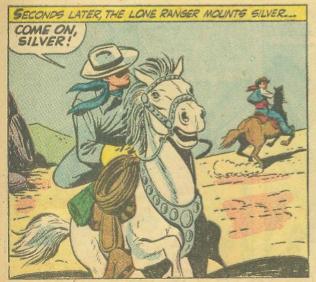










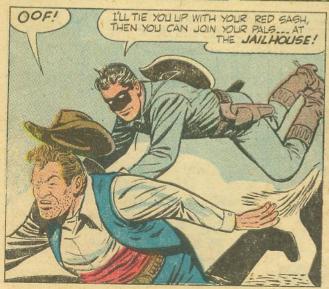
















Wolf Brother's side was still painful, under the snug bandage of buckskin that Prairie Rose had made for the healing wound. The jogging of his pony hurt—but Wolf Brother did not care, for his heart beat high with happiness. Out of the corner of his eye, he glanced

at his promised bride.

Prairie Rose, daughter of an Arikara chief, rode her pinto with the ease of a warrior. She was keeping the three other captured Hidatsa ponies in line. She had finished mourning for her father, and other relatives, lately slain by Sioux raiders. She had no one now, but Wolf Brother—the Pawnee youth who had rescued her from the Hidatsas. Yet she was content. It was she who had insisted that they continue hunting until they had located the great buffalo herd. Then they would return to Wolf Brother's people.

"We shall find them tomorrow, I think," the girl's voice spoke, just behind him. "I have a feeling, too, that

danger lies in our path."

"We will turn toward the setting sun, then," Wolf Brother replied. "Sometimes the Great Herd swings

westward to fool the hunters."

They stopped near sunset beside a little, willow-bordered creek. The five ponies were allowed to drink. Then they were "hobbled," with anklets of tough rawhide joined by a short, braided

thong. Wolf Brother shot a rabbit—and Prairie Rose broiled it for their supper, over a tiny fire of dry wood that did not smoke. Smoke might betray their little camp to enemy eyes. As darkness fell, the two rolled up in their buffalo robes, with their weapons. They slept the light sleep of all wild things who are alive because they are ever alert.

Sometime before midnight, a pony's snort awakened Wolf Brother. Reaching out, silently, he touched the buffalo robe of Prairie Rose. She stirred—and he knew that she had heard it, too. As noiseless as a shadow, he strung his bow, and slung his quiver.

"Wait here!" he told the girl-and

alided into the darkness.

Again he heard the snort of his Pawnee pony, and the nervous stepping of its free hind feet. He rounded a clump of willows, crouching low, to bring objects into relief against the lesser darkness of the sky. That showed them—a human figure bending in front of the horse—to cut the hobbles!

Wolf Brother's bowstring twanged. A yell of pain answered. The horse plunged. The smaller figure vanished. Then a flurry of hoofbeats and a defiant whoop told of the thief's escape.

All the horses but one had gone! Worse, their camp had been spotted. With daylight, Sioux, Cheyenne, or Hidatsa raiders might be on their trail.

Wolf Brother and Prairie Rose mounted their single horse, picked out a star for direction, and started.

"Half a day's travel from here," Wolf Brother told the girl, "rises a small, rocky butte. It will hide us, and provide a high lookout for both buffaloes and enemies. Sometimes one can find rainwater caught in deep hollows in the rock itself. We should sight it by dawn."

The dawn came—first with a pale, tender light—then with a golden flood. It showed the rocky butte three miles away. It also showed to Wolf Brother's searching gaze a score of raiders, still tiny in the distance, on their back trail!

Wolf Brother thrust the pony's rein into his partner's hand, and leaped to the ground. It hurt his side, but he gave no sign of pain.

"Our horse is tired," he said. "If I run part way, he may live to reach the butte... If he dies, we die too!"

Prairie Rose did not reply. But a mile farther, when pain slowed her warrior's pace, she jumped down—and motioned Wolf Brother onto the horse. Their pursuers were closer now.

For the last mile they both rode. Their pony died, pierced with Sioux arrows, fifty yards from the rock. But Wolf Brother and his partner reached protection, unhit. They climbed, a few yards at a time, pausing to shoot at

their baffled, howling foes. The girl's bow twanged as often, and with as deadly effect as did the boy's. At last the Sioux drew off, out of range.

"They will surround us," Wolf Brother stated calmly. "To leave us alive now would blacken their faces. Sooner or later their arrows will reach us. I could wish better things for you, Prairie Rose!"

Bravely her eyes met his.

"I could wish for only one thing better than to die with you, Wolf Brother," she said, "and that would be to live with you, always! I have asked the Great Spirit—"

Sioux war whoops drowned out her words. Sioux arrows clattered among the rocks where they stood. Then—abruptly—all was silent. All but a faint, far-off rumbling!

Quickly Wolf Brother stooped, laid

his ear to the rock.

"Stampede!" he exclaimed, leaping up. "The Great Herd comes—like the rush of flood water down a canyon! It will flow around this rock—it will sweep over our enemies if they wait too long..."

But the Sioux war party had not waited. They were out of sight before the first brown waves of the Great Herd washed the base of the butte. And on its highest point two tiny figures, like statues of bronze, lifted grateful arms to heaven—Wolf Brother and his partner, Prairie Rose!





































ING TO THE RIVER. JUST BEFORE DAWN, HE GETS UP. ...











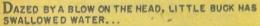
























BUT SOMETHING WORSE THAN A WILDCAT POKES ITS WICKED HEAD OUT OF THE TREE ROOTS — A COTTONMOUTH MOCCASIN...





IN ITS EAGERNESS, THE MOCCASIN STRIKES SHORT... AND THE SPELL OF ITS EVIL EYES IS BROKEN...

























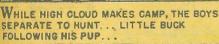
















WITHOUT WARNING, THE "LOG" COMES TO LIFE! A HORN TAIL-TIP WHIPS TUMBLEWEED OFF HIS FEET. .









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