

TITLE: **I WOKE UP WICKED** by Dorothy Johnson PROD: Martin Garrison, BY MOUTH

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CAST OF CHARACTERS (by compensation)

- 1 **MARION** aka the "Duke", aka "Rawhide", USA, 22, slight Texas drawl.
2 Honest Cowpoke turned reluctant Desperado
3 3091 words x (3) takes = **\$927.**
- 4 **MIZ PICKETT**, USA or UK/AUS, 24, prim lady and Eagle Nest schoolteacher,
5 among other things.
6 237 words x (3) takes = **\$100.**
- 7 **DUKE** aka The REAL Duke, USA, 45, medium Texas drawl, Head Honcho of the
8 Rough Bunch Outlaws. Mean hombre.
9 215 words x (3) takes = **\$85.**
- 10 **TROUT**, UK, 40's but looking much older, heavy Cockney accent.
11 Short, grizzled storekeeper of the Eagle Nest Store who resembles a fish--
12 and laughs like one. Honest as he needs to be.
13 160 words x (3) takes = **\$75.**
- 14 **SHERIFF**, 50's, Chief Lawman of Durkee, Montana Territory
15 157 words x (3) takes = **\$75.**
- 16 **CUTHBERT** aka Buck Sanderson, USA, 25, medium Texas drawl, 2nd-cousin to
17 Marion. Deputy Sheriff of Durkee, Montana Territory, among less savory
18 occupations.
19 215 words x (3) takes = **\$75.**
- 20 **CARMEN**, Mexican, heavy accent, 35, Duke's Moll in Eagle Nest.
21 15 words x (3) takes = **\$35.**
- 22 **WAGON BOSS/CONDUCTOR/DESPERADO 3**, USA, 40's, slight Texas drawl.
23 43 words x (3) takes = **\$35.**
- 24 **COWBOY 1/DESPERADO 1**, USA, 20-30, medium to heavy Texas drawl. Cowboy's an
25 honest cowpoke. Desperado's a hard case.
26 44 words x (3) takes = **\$35.**
- COWBOY 2/DESPERADO 2**, USA, 20-30, medium to heavy Texas drawl. Cowboy's an
honest cowpoke. Desperado's a hard case.
48 words x (3) takes = **\$35.**

27 MARION VO: In the end, I reckon I gotta' lay the blame on those
 28 dime novels I used to read behind the haystack back on the farm in
 29 Indiana.

30 For a young feller with a thirst for adventure in exotic places,
 31 the exploits of Deadwood Dick, Buffalo Bill and Calamity Jane made life
 32 on the farm with its endless chores look awful dull.

33 So the first chance I got, I set out to Texas for the romantic life of
 34 a cowboy on the open plains.

35 Two seasons of followin' the bony backsides of a couple hundred
 36 knothead steers up to Montana Territory succeeded in knockin' some of
 37 that nonsense outta me. But it wasn't till that last drive up to the
 38 railhead at Durkee that my education became complete.

39 (SOUNDS OF CATTLE BEING DRIVEN, HORSE AND CATTLE HOOVES, YIPS AND
 40 WHISTLES FROM COWPUNCHERS)

41 WAGON BOSS: Meet me at the bank in an hour, boys--I'll pay ya
 42 off there.

43 COWBOY 1 [making fun of his girly name]: Hey Marion! Whatcha gonna do
 44 with all the pay ya' got comin'--send it home to yer Ma? Buy some
 45 purty curly ribbons?

46 MARION: Nonna' yer business what I do with it. An' stop callin' me
 47 Marion. The name's DUKE.

48 COWBOY 2: Oh, watch out fellers--the "Duke's" likely to drink the town
 49 dry of Sasparilla! He's a meeean hombre, that Duke!

50 (Cowboys laugh)

51 MARION [good humoredly]: Go on an' laugh fellers. See ya' at the bank.

52 MARION (VO) We scattered and started struttin' the streets--all ragged
 53 and dusty.

54 We was too broke to do anything BUT strut.

55 Anyhow, after awhile, I see this feller behind a lawman's badge,
 56 leanin' against the wall and lookin' at me all squinty-eyed.

57 MARION (Defiantly): See anythin' MISTER? (suddenly recognizing him)
 58 Wait a second! Cuthbert? Cousin Cuthbert?

59 CUTHBERT (Hard and menacing): The name's Buck Sanderson, stranger.
 60 I'm deputy sheriff of this here county.

61 MARION: Cuthbert--ya shouldn't a' run off! Your Ma's been real upset
62 ever since ya--

63 CUTHBERT (Quietly snarky): How ya' doin', Mary Ann?

64 MARION (Huffing): The name's DUKE. I quess I made a MISTAKE.

65 CUTHBERT: Likely. Very likely.

66 MARION (VO): I know NOW that when he heard me say "mistake",
67 he figgered I was on the run. But I wasn't. Not THEN anyhow.

68 CUTHBERT: Got any plans, cowboy?

69 MARION: They're gonna pay us off at the bank right quick. After that,
70 I don't know what I'm gonna do.

71 CUTHBERT: Come have a drink first.

72 MARION: I don't have any coin till I'm paid.

73 CUTHBERT: Drink's on me!

74 MARION (VO) I shoulda' known better than drink with Cuthbert. He always
75 was a mean, sly feller for as long as I'd known him. He bought me a
76 beer--and slugged down a shot of Red Eye.

77 (Saloon noises.)

78 CUTHBERT: Guess I'll mosey along with you to the bank.

79 MARION (Suspicious): I can find it.

80 CUTHBERT: Don't worry--part o' my rounds.

81 (Exit Saloon; street noise. Bootsteps stop)

82 Now what's the Sheriff's horse doin' HERE? It was supposed to be took to
83 the livery stable--but I guess the boy fergot. (Pause) Here, YOU lead
84 him--I gotta keep my gun hand free--this is a tough town.

85 MARION (VO): Rather than argue with him, I grabbed the reins of the
86 horse--and led him. There was some fellers standin' around in front of
87 the bank--but none of 'em was from my crew. There were also some horses
88 standin' around.

89 CUTHBERT: I'll go see if they're payin' off yet. You stay here and hold
90 the horse.

91 MARION: I'M the one who's getting paid off--YOU hold the horse.

92 CUTHBERT (Hard): HOLD THE HORSE.

93 MARION (VO): So I held the horse--as he walked into the bank.
94 I was getting' madder by the minute when--
95 (SOUNDS OF FOUR GUNSHOTS)
96 Suddenly men came tearin' outta the bank like mad hornets--and jumped on
97 their horses!
98 (SOUNDS OF GALLOPING HORSES).
99 Cuthbert followed them out--gave 'em a few seconds start--and then
100 started shooting--
101 (THREE SHOTS)
102 --UP IN THE AIR.
103 I knew then that Cuthbert hadn't changed a bit.
104 So I did the obvious thing--I jumped on the Sheriff's horse and
105 galloped out of town in the other direction.
106 (ONE HORSE GALLOPING, TOWN NOISE, GUNSHOTS FADING. HOOFBEATS SLOW TO A
107 WALK)
108 After about ten miles I stopped to see if any bullets 'ad hit me.
109 They hadn't.
110 So here I was--a fugitive from justice. I'd stolen the Sheriff's horse
111 --and the bank had been robbed with me standin' there like I was part of
112 the gang--and I was witness to the fact that Cuthbert was in on it.
113 So I sat there wishin' I had a smoke--and thinkin' what a trecherous
114 villain Cuthbert was.
115 So I decided to go back and tell the Sheriff all about it--but just not
116 then. Some other YEAR would have to do. Cuz if I went ridin' back into
117 town on the Sheriff's horse, some trigger-happy posse might get the wrong
118 idea.
119 (SINGLE HOOFBEATS)
120 So I rode on a couple of miles till it started getting' dark. I unsaddled
121 --and went to bed in the brush--wishin' I could eat grass like the
122 Sheriff's horse.
123 (Nighttime sounds: crickets, distant coyote howling) FADE
124 (SAME NIGHT, SAME SPOT Sounds of a fire crackling, clink of tin utensils,
125 faint voices in middle distance)

126 MARION VO: I woke up in the dark--only it wasn't so dark as it shoulda'
127 been. Somebody close by had a fire going--and I could hear voices.

128 DESPERADO 1: That you Larry?

129 MARION (blearily): Who's Larry?

130 (Sounds of men stirring, levering and cocking weapons)

131 MARION VO: Just goes to show what a pure heart I had--and how little
132 brains. All of a sudden I remembered I was a wanted man.

133 DESPERADO 2: Got a rifle on you, mister.

134 Come into the light--with your hands up.

135 DESPERADO 3: How long you been there?

136 DUKE (dismissive): How long don't matter. Either he's on our side--
137 or he's dead.

138 MARION: I'm on your side.

139 (then anxiously) Which side is that?

140 DUKE: Ya ever drive cattle on shares?

141 MARION: Just for wages. I'm a hard-workin' cowpoke lookin' for an
142 opportunity.

143 DUKE: Well, it just found you. What name do ya go by?

144 MARION: Duke.

145 DUKE: No you don't--I'M Duke.

146 You're Rawhide.

147 MARION (disappointed): Rawhide! I've got ordinary skin like
148 everybody else!

149 MARION VO: It then dawned on me just who I was talkin' to. EVERYBODY
150 'ad heard o' Duke--he was one of the head hombres of the Rough Bunch.

151 Fact was, I'd taken the name o' Duke--not long before--'cause a reputation
152 went with it.

153 MARION (swallowing): If you say so Duke. I'm Rawhide.

154 DUKE (chuckling) Go bring Rawhide his boots. (Pause) Get Rawhide a
155 cup of coffee.

156 MARION VO: So that's how I got my bandit name.

157 And became an outlaw--one of the Rough Bunch.

158 I'd gone to bed honest and broke--but I'd woke up--WICKED.

159 (Sounds of a cattle drive; lowing steers, yips and whistles of cowboys,
160 clatter of hoofbeats)

161 DUKE: Round up those knotheads, Rawhide!

162 MARION VO: You MIGHT think driving stolen cattle was exciting--but it
163 ain't. They didn't look any different than they had when I pushed them
164 along as a law-abiding citizen. Why should they look any different?
165 Fact is, some of them was the same cattle. After they was rustled, they
166 become a lot easier to move, that's all. When they were an honest herd,
167 we were forever runnin' into lawmen and nesters alike sayin' "You can't
168 bring that herd through HERE," or "You can't cross this LINE." But when
169 the Rough Bunch moved a herd, the lawmen were always somewhere else on
170 urgent business--and the nesters--they greeted the Rough Bunch with open
171 arms--so as they could purchase stock with no questions asked.

172 So I began to think: this is the LIFE! It's safer and quieter than being
173 an honest cowboy. Nobody ever gets close enough to point a gun at you.
174 I could have enjoyed it--if hanging around all them outlaws hadn't made
175 me so nervous.

176 (Sound of a campfire, coffee being poured, etc.)

177 Duke and the others--they looked like cowboys anywhere--but just KNOWIN'
178 that they was the Rough Bunch gave me the shivers. I'd tried bein'
179 real polite--but they just glared at me.

180 So I glared back--and started showin' my teeth. And after that,
181 we got along pretty good.

182 But bein' an outlaw is awful tiring on your face muscles.

183 (Cattle drive noises)

184 Finally, one day we drove 'em up to the top of a rimrock ridge.

185 DUKE: Well there it IS. Eagle Nest.

186 DESPERADOES 1,2,3: YIPPEE!! (horses galloping)

187 DUKE: They got gals waitin' for 'em down there. THERE's a settlement no
188 lawman has ever laid eyes on. Not that they don't know where it IS.
189 We got a nice layout here. Families. Kids. Even had a school till the
190 teacher got married. Gotta scoot. YIPPEE!!! (galloping away).

191 MARION VO: And down he went--into the prettiest green valley I ever saw.
192 Steers snortin' down at the water--and good green grass all around.

193 I thought: Oh what the hell.

194 MARION (YELLING): I'm RawHIDE! One of the Rough Bunch! I'm a
195 real BAD hombre! YIPPEE!!!

196 (galloping)

197 I flung outta the saddle in front of a log building with a hitch for my
198 horse--and started to swagger in.

199 CARMEN: You are Raw-HIGH-ED.

200 MARION VO: A dark-skinned gal with long earrings stood grinning at me.
201 I swept off my hat.

202 MARION: Yes ma'am, I sure am. And what might YOUR name be?

203 CARMEN: My name ees Carmen.

204 MARION VO: She woulda' been kind of pretty had she not had a front tooth
205 missing. It suddenly dawned on me that the womenfolk of the Rough Bunch
206 might be even more dangerous than the outlaws themselves. Just then Duke
207 stepped out and glared at me. So I did what you should always do with
208 strange women--dangerous or not.

209 MARION: Pleased to meet you ma'am. Boss, where do we bunk? Cause it's
210 been a long, long time since I got a solid night's sleep.

211 DUKE: The big cabin's for the single men. The little shack is for those
212 that's got their own "housekeeping arrangements". (Pause) Carmen, you
213 git along home--and don't dally.

214 CARMEN (sulkily): Si, Duke. (seductively) Adios, Raw-HIGH-ED.

215 MARION VO: She dallied long enough to wave her eyelashes at me--and that
216 raised a chill along the back of my neck. But Duke gave me a frown that
217 kept it chilly.

218 DUKE: Your credit's good in the store here. (spurs jingle off)

219 MARION VO: Well THAT was a relief. Bein' an outlaw 'ad put less money in
220 my pocket than when I was honest.

221 (door swings open)

222 TROUT (hillbilly accent): I reckon you're Rawhide. [nervous laugh like a
223 fish] What'll you have?

224 MARION: Soap to wash the dust off the outside--a can of peaches to sweeten
225 up the inside--and some tobacco to relax before I go to sleep for three
226 or four days.

227 TROUT: Sure ting! (nervous fish-laugh) Comin' right up!

228 MARION VO: As I drank the peach juice, my eyes got used to the dim light
229 --and I saw that there was a--woman--sittin' about ten feet away.

230 MIZ PICKETT (soft, cultured voice): Trout--would you please
231 introduce us?

232 TROUT: Oh gosh--'xcuse me. Miz Pickett--this is Rawhide (nervous fish-
233 laugh) the new man!

234 MARION: How do you do, Ma'am.

235 MARION VO: She was a pretty lady--real young--had all her teeth too.
236 But she looked prim--and wore a black dress. If there was one thing
237 I didn't expect to find in Eagle Nest, it was a real lady.

238 MIZ PICKETT (opening door): I hope we shall become better acquainted--
239 Mr. "Rawhide".

240 MARION (flustered) Yessir--I mean yes ma'am--I do too.

241 (door closes as Miz Pickett leaves)

242 TROUT: The Widda there--she come to teach school--then married
243 Ed Pickett. (nervous fish-laugh) He got shot a while back.
244 (nervous fish-laugh) The other gals think she's a snob 'cause she keeps
245 her marriage certificate up on the wall--but they's just jealous.

246 MARION: A very nice lady.

247 TROUT: Oh she is--she is. (confidentially) If ya ever find out whether
248 she DID ride with the Bunch when they took that 'xpress car at Middle
249 Fork, I sure wish you'd tell me.

250 MARION VO: I could see it all--poor orphan girl with no folks--lured into
251 a nest of thieves to teach school--falls in love with the bandit Pickett
252 --then he's shot dead. Poor girl.

253 I put down the empty peach can and threw back my shoulders.

254 MARION (gruffly): If you want trouble with Rawhide, mister--just let me
255 hear you say one more bad word about that little lady.

256 TROUT (cringing) Oh, I won't, Rawhide--I sure won't! (Pause) Anyway, it's
257 all a vicious rumor, about her ridin' with--

258 MARION (menacing): THAT's what I meant!

259 TROUT (even more grovelling): Just a rumor--a VICIOUS rumor! And to show
260 ya my heart's in the right place, I won't even charge ya for the things
261 ya just bought.

262 MARION: I'll let it pass--THIS time.

263 (Spurs jingle out the door)

264 MARION VO: I found the bunkhouse--growled at the boys--then laid down
265 and slept--for thirty-six hours. I would have stretched it out longer
266 except I had a bad dream.

267 MARION (waking up in terror): Ahhhhhhhh!

268 MARION VO: In that moment, I'd didn't know if I was Marion--or Rawhide--
269 --or even the Duke.

270 When I got my bearings, I realized what a jam I was in. I wasn't the best
271 shot in the world--and my hide sure felt every bit as raw as my moniker.
272 What was I gonna do about this poor little widow lady marooned with these
273 bandits? Surely the law would be after her if she left--on account of
274 her association with the Bunch. And if she COULD escape, what money would
275 she have to live on?

276 MARION: And them sayin' she held up a train!

277 MARION VO: A towering RAGE suddenly come over me. I got up and marched
278 right outta there--clean forgettin' to put on my gun belt.

279 Outside, I run into several of the Bunch--and glared 'em down.

280 DESPERADO 1: Didja' SEE that? No gun belt!

281 DESPERADO 2: That Rawhide's the sorta' cold-blooded killer who don't even
282 NEED a gun!

283 DESPERADO 3: Rawhide's the type who'd strangle an innocent grizzly bear
284 with his BARE HANDS!!!

285 MARION VO: (laughs at the memory): Lemme tell ya: I never did so much
286 loafing in my life as I did in that valley. There was nothing to do
287 except sit around and gossip--play cards--and get drunk. And since I
288 didn't want to drink in this company--and I was scared to win at cards
289 --and also not willing to lose, even if I HAD any money--that only left
290 TALK.

291 Which, after Trout spread the tale of me getting riled up over
292 Miz Pickett, all I heard was the same thing--over and over:

293 DESPERADO 1: (together): Them rumors about Miz Pickett and the 'xpress
294 car--they're totally untrue!!!

295 DESPERADO 2: That's right!!

296 DESPERADO 3: You better believe it!!

297 MARION VO: Everyone except Duke seemed to walk on eggshells around me.
298 So it came as a relief when Duke himself came up late one day to tell me
299 I was on guard duty.

300 DUKE: Take your rifle--and ride up to the rim. And be ready. Nobody's
301 tried to bust into Eagle Nest yet--but some lawman out to make a
302 reputation might try it. One shot from up there and we'll with ya in a
303 heartbeat. But don't get jumpy and rout us out of a nice quiet sleep to
304 shoot up some friendly juniper. Last feller who did that ain't been heard
305 from since. The password's "Twenty dollars."

306 MARION: Yes Boss.

307 MARION VO: As I started riding up near sundown, Miz Pickett was luggin'
308 a couple o' buckets of water to her cabin--so I stopped to help her.

309 MIZ PICKETT: Thank you Mr. "Rawhide". I'd ask you in for supper, but
310 you know how people talk.

311 MARION: I'd gladly go hungry to protect your good name, Ma'am.

312 MARION VO: She gave me an approving look--but I noticed somethin' funny.
313 This prim little lady was lookin' at me like my aunt used to--over her
314 glasses. Only Miz Pickett didn't HAVE any glasses on.

315 MIZ PICKETT: Mr. "Rawhide"--have you ever given any thought to leaving
316 this life of ours?

317 MARION (guardedly): A feller thinks about a LOT of things, Miz Pickett.

318 MIZ PICKETT: Crime does no body any good. Look at my poor husband--
319 shot down in a bank robbery. Are you any better off since you joined the
320 Bunch?

321 MARION: Well I got credit at Trout's store.

322 MIZ PICKETT: But no real money. Not until those steers you brought in
323 get fattened up and sold. (Brief pause) But what if the nesters who
324 usually buy them get cold feet? The price on stolen beef can get
325 pretty low.

326 MARION: Were you thinkin' of gettin' outta here, ma'am? Don't mean to
327 pry into your private business.

328 MIZ PICKETT (resigned sigh): I COULD go back to teaching. But would the
329 Bunch let me leave?

330 MARION VO: Just then Duke stepped out onto the porch of the large cabin
331 and glared at us suspiciously.

332 MARION (in a loud voice): Any time at all, ma'am--any time at all.
333 MIZ PICKETT (understanding--also loud): Thank you Mr. "Rawhide"--thank
334 you for carrying the water.
335 MARION VO: The Duke watched me as I mounted my horse and trotted on.
336 The widow had given me something to chew on as I rode to the top of the
337 look-out. There, I unsaddled--and tried to keep warm without a fire.
338 (night sounds--crickets, coyote yelps)
339 Night-herding rimrock and juniper is even duller than ridin' round
340 bedded-down cattle--but my thoughts wouldn't give me any rest.
341 MARION: What's stopping me from gettin' on my horse and ridin' down to
342 where the rest of the world is?
343 MARION VO: I said to myself.
344 MARION: Duke and the Bunch for one!
345 MARION VO: They wouldn't like it--for sure. The LAW might not like it
346 either--'cause I was still sittin' on the Sheriff's horse. And who would
347 look ot for poor Miz Pickett? No I wasn't exactly hobbled--but I sure
348 was hog-tied.
349 MARION: Aaaah!
350 MARION VO: Here I was, a young feller--with no real bad habits--
351 I didn't drink much, I'd quit gambling--and here I was stuck with outlaws
352 --and helpless to protect a pretty little lady.
353 Movin' cattle was movin' cattle--but darn it, I was more scared of the
354 gals in Eagle Nest--they all had KNIVES in their garters.
355 All in all, I was a MUCH nicer feller since turning badman. But I was
356 scared to pull ot.
357 (sound of hooves and a horse nickering)
358 I grabbed my rifle (lever action working) before I realized that the
359 sound was coming up from the Eagle Nest side behind me.
360 MARION (menacingly): WHO'S THERE? Come ot--and lemme look at you--
361 or I'll shoot!!!
362 MARION VO: I sounded so mean, I even scared myself.
363 MIZ PICKETT: Oh, please don't!!! Mr. Rawhide, please help me. Can you
364 change twenty dollars?

365 MARION VO: For her, no password was necessary. Miz Pickett had a
366 saddle horse--and a packhorse--with one of its hooves caught between
367 two logs. I yanked him out--and felt big and strong. Hell, I coulda'
368 picked him up and lifted him out if necessary.

369 MIZ PICKETT: This is the night I'm leaving. The Bunch is having a
370 big meeting in the saloon--planning something--

371 MARION (gallantly): Then let's ride, ma'am. (horses trotting)

372 MARION VO: And that's how I left Eagle Nest--and the Rough Bunch.

373 It was easy enough--once somebody gave me a push. We could'a gone faster
374 if Miz Pickett hadn't brought so much stuff on the pack horse.
375 She'd brought everything--grub and blankets--and a couple of wood boxes
376 roped on. A neater job of horse packing I never did see.

377 MIZ PICKETT: Those are my books--in there.

378 MARION VO: We rode for enough hours to put plenty of distance between us
379 and Eagle Nest.

380 MARION: Whoa. I think it's safe to camp now. Lemme unload your pack horse
381 for you, ma'am.

382 MIZ PICKETT: Never mind the pack horse--get the fire going.

383 MARION: Sure--but I wouldn't want you to lift that heavy stuff off the
384 pack saddle.

385 MIZ PICKETT (a completely different tone): Rawhide. (sound of revolver
386 hammer cocking) GET THE FIRE GOING.

387 MARION VO: I turned around and though she still looked prim--in that
388 black dress with a divided skirt for riding--in her little, gloved
389 hands she held a small, nickel-plated Otis-Smith 32 caliber revolver--
390 with its tiny barrel pointed in the direction of my innards.

391 Two thoughts hit me at the same time: that there were sure to be mighty
392 few books in those boxes.

393 And that all those vicious rumors about the Express car robbery at
394 Middle Fork weren't vicious rumors at all.

395 But I kept those thoughts to myself.

396 MARION (brightly): Ma'am there's some good firewood over there--to the
397 left.

398 MARION VO: Officially, we took turns sleepin'--with one awake and
399 one standin' guard. But Miz Pickett never seemed to sleep at all.

400 We camped four nights--and every night I stood guard, I could feel her
401 eyes watchin' me every time I moved a muscle.

402 I didn't dare sleep either--not bein' certain I'd wake up if I let myself
403 drift off.

404 I was feeling pretty bleary by that fourth morning when we had breakfast.

405 MIZ PICKETT: Another twenty miles to the railroad.

406 MARION: Fine.

407 MARION VO: As we rode, I wondered if she'd dry-gulch me before we
408 got there.

409 MIZ PICKETT: You ever been in the cattle business on your own?

410 MARION: Never have.

411 MIZ PICKETT: I think I'll give up school teaching--and raise beef instead.
412 I'll need a foreman.

413 MARION: Expect you will, ma'am.

414 MARION VO: She didn't need no foreman--but I was in no position to argue.

415 MIZ PICKETT: That's settled, then. I'm going to take the train. You will
416 come along a week later. I'm your sister, Mary Smith.

417 MARION: Pleased to meet you, Sis. And where should I meet you later?

418 MARION VO: Not that I was goin' to--but it seemed wise to act interested.

419 MIZ PICKETT (writing) Here's the address. (Sweetly) We're going to get
420 along all right in the cattle business, "Rawhide".

421 MARION VO: I hoped we were--with about a thousand miles between us,
422 if I could help it.

423 MIZ PICKETT: In the meantime, you'd better hide out. The Bunch must be
424 getting pretty close by now.

425 MARION: Reckon so.

426 MARION VO: She didn't recommend anyplace I could hide--what with the
427 Law ahead and the Bunch behind--and bein' wanted for bank robbery, cattle
428 rustlin'--and stealin' the Sheriff's horse--what was a poor cowboy
429 to do?

430 MARION: By the way--where do you figure on catchin' the train?

431 MIZ PICKETT: Durkee.

432 MARION: DURKEE!?!? HELL!--Excuse me, Ma'am--but I can't go to Durkee!
433 That's where the bank was held up while I was holdin' this horse right
434 in front of it!

435 MARION VO: Miz Pickett looked annoyed. And I sure hated to annoy
436 Miz Pickett.

437 MIZ PICKETT: My goodness--you think you're so outstanding anybody's going
438 to recognize you?

439 MARION VO: She had a sound argument. Ever since I'd stopped scowlin' at
440 the Bunch--and let my face hang loose--I looked like an ordinary feller.
441 And if Cuthbert WAS around, was HE going to identify me? I'd identify
442 him right BACK.

443 MIZ PICKETT (with cool anger): There IS a man in Durkee I'd like to
444 meet though. I don't know who he is, but he engineered a bank robbery
445 that the Bunch got the blame for. I have a score to settle with that man.
446 We--I mean the Bunch--didn't rob that bank.

447 MARION: No Ma'am we--I mean they--didn't--they was rustlin' cattle.
448 (train depot noises)

449 MARION VO: We made it to the depot just ahead of the train. Lookin'
450 around at the loafers in the yard, I got a chill seein' Cuthbert as usual
451 leanin' against the wall behind his tin star. Though I preferred
452 his company to Miz Pickett's, the Bunch might show up any second--and
453 she was leavin' me no protection except my own wits.

454 I hoisted her boxes onto the platform. (heavy coins clinking)
455 They sure was some heavy books.

456 MIZ PICKETT (sweetly) Goodbye, dear brother Harry--take care of yourself.
457 Conductor--could you please take my books to my compartment?

458 CONDUCTER (straining to lift): Oh, lordy, what you got in here, ma'am.

459 MIZ PICKETT: Books, I said. (Thinking what she's getting away with).
460 Just books.

461 (train whistle, steam rising)

462 CUTHBERT: Hello, Mary Ann.

463 MARION: Hello, Cuthbert.

464 CUTHBERT: Who's the girl?

465 MARION: My sister.

466 CUTHBERT: I know your sisters--and she ain't one of 'em. You always
467 was a liar, Mary Ann.

468 (sound of Marion punching Cuthbert)

469 MARION VO: I didn't hit him hard. Just enough to make it look good,

470 CUTHBERT: Resistin' an officer, eh? Come with me, Mary Ann--and if you
471 tell anyone we're related, I'm gonna shoot you!

472 MARION: I'd rather BE shot than admit that.

473 MARION VO: I marched along so fast, he had to trot to keep up with me.
474 I'd never been so glad to get thrown in jail.

475 (jail door opens)

476 CUTHBERT: Now let's see whatcha' got in your pockets. Hm.. BROKE of
477 course.

478 What's this piece of paper in your shirt pocket?

479 I bet it's the address of that girl you just put on the train.

480 MARION: DON'T take that! I'll never remember where I'm supposed to
481 meet her.

482 CUTHBERT: Aaaaand WHY should she want YOU to meet her?

483 MARION (setting the bait): Don't know that she does. But she's my
484 Golden Goose. She's not only pretty, but she's also loaded--and wants me
485 to be foreman of her ranch.

486 CUTHBERT (nibbling the bait): Shouldn't be hard to find her a good man.

487 MARION (twitching the bait): She said she'd sure like to meet YOU.
488 But if you was to climb on that train, it would be just plain DIRTY of
489 you, 'cause I saw her first!

490 (long train whistle announcing departure)

491 CUTHBERT (hooked): Stay here, Mary Ann!!!

492 (office door slams as he runs out to the train)

493 MARION: YOU FORGOT TO LOCK ME IN!!!

494 MARION VO: Locked in or not, I wasn't about to go steppin' outside.
495 I just sat on the bunk in the cell till a nice old gent with a badge
496 strolled in ten minutes later.

497 (office door opens)

498 SHERIFF: What're you doing in there?

499 MARION: Was put here by a feller with a star on.

500 SHERIFF (rustling paper): Don't see nothin' written in the book.
501 What you in for?

502 MARION: Hitting him, I guess.

503 SHERIFF: I've often wanted to do that myself. You can go, for all I care.

504 MARION VO: Was there no refuge for Rawhide, the reformed outlaw?

505 MARION: I'm also wanted in nine states--and some territories!
506 Bank robbery, rustlin' cattle, forgery, arson--and stealin' horses--why,
507 I got your own horse right outside!

508 SHERIFF (delighted): You HAVE! Why boy I'm so delighted to have that
509 horse back, I tell you what I'm gonna do--I'm gonna make YOU my Deputy!
510 Somebody just said they'd seen Buck getting on the train, so I'm gonna'
511 need a new one. We got some BIG GAME comin' in here--eight members of
512 the Rough Bunch, that's who! Just got a telegram about how they ran into
513 a posse that was out lookin' for somebody else. Wanna work for me?

514 MARION (panicky): My health ain't good!!! An' I got case o' the fleapin'
515 litters--I mean leapin' flitters!!! (runs for the door)

516 SHERIFF: Hey! You forgot your gun--and your hat!

517 (He comes back in)

518 MARION VO: I couldn't go without my hat.

519 SHERIFF: Yessir--they got just about ALL of the Rough Bunch except that
520 little lady who was the boss of the whole shebang. Five thousand dollar
521 reward for her--but nobody except the outlaws knows what she looks like.

522 MARION: Five foot two--black hair--blue eyes--and she looks like the
523 president of the Ladies Aid. (Pause) And she just took the same train as
524 your deputy.

525 SHERIFF: WHAAAT!?!?!?

526 (throws open door and runs out)

527 MARION VO: I was right behind him--but I passed him when he swung into
528 the telegraph office.

529 His horse was ten yards further on. (galloping hooves)

530 It was a year before they stopped lookin' for me--the unidentified cowboy
531 who stole the Sheriff's horse--and set the law on Miz Pickett and the
532 greedy Cuthbert.

533 If I'd turned myself in to be a witness, I coulda' been a hero.

534 But I always felt kinda' guilty about my cousin Cuthbert--and I
535 never knew which one of the Bunch would break outta' the penitentiary
536 next.

537 Miz Pickett broke out--and got away to South America.

538 I was sure relieved to read about that in the newspaper--though I never
539 had nothin' against South Americans.

540 But they did save ME from havin' to run off to some heathen place like
541 China to steer clear of Miz Pickett!!!

542 THE END