

A Tale from the Trail in '26

Inspired by a true story

By Jeanie Hankins

(Just for fun with apologies to Robert Service and Audrey Hankins who were actual poets.)

There's strange things done
as Las Damas runs
Each spring on a ranch in A-Z
We all gather up
with horses and stuff
and celebrate being free.

The dusty trails
have their secret tales
that make good mem-o-ries,
but some of the best,
and I don't jest,
Were just made by you and me.

The LO lights have seen strange sights
but the strangest they ever did see
was that ride in '26
— The Gatsby Glitz —
Listen up and you will see.

We set off just right
with ribbons affixed
on trees, and fences, and places
And we rode a bit
through the creek and shit
With smiles on all our faces.

Over rocks and roots
and some bear poops
we made our way along
But holy smokes!
There were no jokes
and no one sang a song

When the trail it seems
just disappeared
and we had to scratch our head
We looked high and low,
“Damn, where did it go?”
And we were filled with dread

“Callahan! I thought YOU knew!?”
“Oh wait! Now, where am I?”
“Oh, there! I see you,
You're all coming through
Our rides will now collide

And shoot, oh dear
why didn't you steer?
We wanted a pleasant day.
I would shut the gate

But it is too late
Just don't mix up,! too late!

Oh damn it to hell,
my ride has now
exponentially grown
from a nice, tidy bunch
to a corporate lunch.
We all give out a moan.

What? Callahan is lost??
Oh, no she's not
But we should have trimmed the bush
Cuz Sandy's hand
is bleeding, man
There's no one here for a tush push

Cuz Gina was smart
and got her start
On the short ride
Don't you know
And we should have done that
but where is the map
and how do we get home??

Thank God for Meg!
from the out of the brush
She came to save day
She blazed a trail
and we set sail
And all got on our way.

Christie had an epiphany,
With a stick that she had broke
She got Alice's horse
to complete the trek
with a poke and a poke, poke, poke.

Back down the mountain
we did climb
over rocks and creeks and crap
got back to camp,
just in time
for a beer and much needed nap.

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