

TRUTH WILL COME TO LIGHT; MURDER CANNOT BE HID LONG-- BUT SECOND GUESSING A KILLER IS VERY LITTLE COMFORT TO HIS VICTIM--

YES, THIS WILL THAT SILAS SIMS SIGNED JUST BEFORE HE WAS KILLED GIVES ONE HALF INTEREST IN HIS NEWSPAPER TO YOU, AND ALL OF HIS OTHER PROPERTY--

--AND TH' OTHER HALF O' THE PAPER TO GIB POOCS? WHYEVER DID DAD DO THAT?

YOUR FATHER GAVE NO REASON-- IN SOME WAYS, HE WAS A VERY RETICENT MAN-- FOR INSTANCE-- HE NEVER EXPLAINED WHY HE WITHDREW LARGE SUMS OF MONEY FREQUENTLY, OF LATE--

--OR WHAT HE DID WITH THE MONEY-- THOUSANDS--ALMOST WIPED OUT HIS ESTATE, IN FACT--

RECKON WE KNOW WHAR TH' MONEY WENT, JUDGE SEAL--

SIMS'S FIRST WIFE DIED A FUR PIECE BACK; SIMS TOOK IT HARD, AN HEAR TELL--

"FIRST" WIFE? BUT, OF COURSE-- SILAS MARRIED AGAIN-- SECRETLY--

SHORE! PURTIEST GAL IN TEXAS-- KIT'S MAW-- DIED WHEN KIT WAS BORN--

I RECALL NOW-- SILAS WAS IN TEXAS-- HM-M-- BUT KIT-- WHY DIDN'T HE--?

WHY DIDN'T SIMS RAISE HIS BABY? WAL, THERE WAS SOME TROUBLE-- SIMS SHOT A FELLER-- FAIR FIGHT-- FELLER DESERVED SHOOTIN'!

BUT SIMS LIT OUT! WE DOWN HOME DIDN'T CONSIDER WHAT HE DONE NO SIN-- BUT HE DID! WOULDN'T BRING SHAME ON HIS BABY--

BUT HE SURE TOOK CARE TO SEE THAT KIT HAD PROPER RAISIN'--

WAL, SOMEHOW, THAT NO-GOOD CYRIL GOT WIND O' TH' STORY-- HE KNOWED RELTUB-- AND LAWYER KNUKS-- BETWEEN 'EM THEY WAS BLACKMAILIN' POOR SIMS--

AT LAST, WHEN HE WAS JEST ABOUT BROKE, HE DECIDED TO STOP PAYIN' BLACKMAIL, GO BACK TO TEXAS AN' FACE TH' MUSIC-- THEY FIGGERED HE HADN'T MADE ANY NEW WILL--

--OLD WILL LEFT EVERYTHING TO HIS FOSTER SON, CYRIL! SO-O-- THEY SHOT HIM--

RELTUB SHOT HIM-- LEPPIN' LIZARDS! WHAT A SAP I'VE BEEN! SHOULD'A' KNOWN FROM TH' FIRST!

KNOWED WHAT, ANNIE!

RELTUB! SPELLED BACKWARDS-- THAT'S BUTLER! DOESN'T TH' KILLER ALWAYS TURN OUT T'BE TH' BUTLER?

3-29-53

HAROLD GRAY

I CAME TO SEE ABOUT A JOB--

BUT OI DO ALL TH' HOUSEWORK MESILF!

FINE!

HAROLD GRAY

WHEN DO I START?

3-29-53

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