

Chapter 9 Continued

"I think I'm more afraid for you," I confessed. "That clown is getting her. insufferable. He sets out to bully

"I'm afraid, too," she breathed. "I never have been afraid before. I didn't fear Montoyo. I've always been and how strong I felt. able to take care of myself."

"You have your revolver?" I suggested.

"No, I haven't. It's disappeared. Mormon women don't carry revolvers.

"But you're not a Mormon woman." breath. "Do you know," she queried with sudden glance, "that Daniel means to marry me?"

"But you're not free; you have a

"Oh!" she cried, "why don't you learn to shoot? Won't you? Let me have your pistol, please.'

"You must grasp the handle firmly; cover it with your whole palm, but don't squeeze it to death; just grip t him close! He'll give you little grace by a ring of people, men and women. evenly-tuck it away. And keep your this time. But remember this: I'll their countenances pale, alarmed, inelbow down; and crook your wrist, never, never, never, marry him. tent. Voices sounded in a dull roar. in a drop, until our trigger knuckle is Rather than be bound to his I'll deal pointing very low-at a man's feet if you're aiming for his heart!"

"At his feet, for his heart?" I stammered. The words had an ugly sound

"Certainly. We are seaking of shooting now, and not at a tin can! You have to allow for the jump of the muzzle. Uuless you hold it down with your wrist, you over shoot; and it's the first shot that counts. Of course, there's a feel, a knack. But don't aim with your eyes. You won't Men file off the front sight-it sometimes catches, in the draw. And its useless, anyway. They fire as they point with the finger, by the feel. You see, they know. Some men are born to shoot straight; some have to practice a long, long while. I wonder which you are!"

"If there is pressing need in my

on my friends." tiles with goods for Salt Lake Mor- "No more of that, you brute," I in my hand (and how it came there his Mormons, what can we do? We'll mons," she retorted. "Are they go- roared "If you have anything to say, I did not know-beheld him spin ing to throw all business to the say it to me." winds?"

"You yourself may appeal to his tured.

"To them?" she scoffed. "To Hymade over? I'm under their teaching; yu like a louse!" for replenishing Utah."

She paused. Then resumed.

"But now if I may lend you a little easy! Take your run." I took it. "There he ready for my fingers. is. Cover him!"

"Where?' I asked. "Who?"

"There, before you! Oh, anybody! Think of his heart and cover him." "See that little rock? Hit it!"

I fired. The sand obscured the rock. She clapped her hands, delighted.

"You would have killed him. Nohe would have killed you. Quick! Give it to me!'

And snatching the revolver she cocked, leveled and fired instantly. The rock split into fragments.

"I would have killed him," she murmured, gazing tense, seeing I knew not what. Wrenching from the vision she handed back the revolver to me. "I think you are going to do, Sir Only, you must learn to draw. I mustn't stay longer. Shall we go to the fire now? I am cold."

We walked almost without speaking, to the Hyrum Adams fire. Daniel lifted his upper lip at me as we entered; his eyes never wandered from my face I was distinctly unwelcome. Accordingly, I said a civil "Good-evening" to Hyrum and raising my hat to My Lady left for my own bailiwick. Friend Jenks joined me.

"We were keepin' cases on you, and so was he. He saw that practicedamn, how he did crane! she was

givin' you pointers, eh?" "Yes; she wanted amusement." Jenks rocked to and fro, as we sat by the fire. "Hell! Wall, if you got to kill him you got to kill him and do it proper. For if you don't kill him

he'll kill you; snuff you out like awall, you saw that can travel." "I don't want to kill him," I pleaded.

"Why should I?" Jenks sat silent; and setting silent I foresaw that kill Daniel I must. I

willed by him, by her, by them all. if legs twining around his, each ounce and I dumbly wondered whether I was I did not kill him in defense of my- of me greedy to crush him down and dying myself. Across a great d'stance self I should kill him in defense of master him.

son, not a fortnight ago still living at and thither. I had his arms pinioned, a jog trot in dear Albany, New York to bend him. He spat in my face; State? It was puzzling how detached and shifting, set his teeth into my

### Into the Night

pected crisis. As we talked, sudden- stuck ly I saw Daniel nearing, striding "Not yet." She caught quick rapidly, straight for us, a figure port-veloped us. Again he spat, fetld entous in the fading glow, bringing the storm with him.

She saw, too. Her eyes wedened, startled, surveying not him, but me.

"Please go. I'll keep him." "It is too late now," I asserted, in a voice not mine. "I am here first and buffeted me in the mouth with his I'll go when I get ready."

"You mean to face him? I knew it. You will play the man! Waten that by a miracle we were surrounded with him myself!"

while I was all iciness and clamminess, my hands cold and my tongue dry, I felt that I was going to kill him. Daniel charged in for us. i did not touch revolver butt; he did not. He crowd. barked first at her.

"Go whar yu belong, yu Jezebel! relaxed. Then I'll tend to this-" The rabid epithet leveled at me I shall not re- teeth. "Lemme up, Mister."

"Be careful what you say, Daniel. No man on this earth can speak to me like that."

sneer, merging together yellow freck- bled up. les and tanned skin.

"Can't, Can't he? I kin an' I do. Now yu git. I've stood yore fast-an'- surge and shout of men and women. case," said I, "I shall have to rely up- loose plenty. I mean business. Git! to the stunning report of his revolver Whar yu'll be safe. I'll not hold off

He whirled.

father, and to the women, for protect- -you shut up!" By sudden reach he gaping foolishly, breathing hard, my And it was. We were twain in if that lout annoys you, I v n- gripped her arm; to her sharp, short scream he thrust her about.

rum Adams' outfit? why, they're good "What yu goin' to do?" She's promised the white of the torn soil. Mormons, and why should I not be to me. Git, yerself, or I'll stomp on He was upon his face, his revolver

every movement preliminary to the was standing here alive. I had killed onset! Bullets were too slow and him!

shot like a dog, I'll fee as though I the hulk of him and the intolerable ugh a haze; voices spoke in my ear had wiped out your score against me. sneer of him, and that his flesh was while I feebly resisted, a warm salty

The shock drove him backward. We ed at a fire. Could this really be I? Frank Bec- swayed staggered, grappling hither shoulder so that they clamped like nostrils. I obediently swallowed the teeth of a horse, through shirt and Hands were rummanging at my left hide to the flesh

We toppled together, came to the A meeting between My Lady and me ground with a thump. Here we churnbrought on, not longer after, the ex ed, while he flung me and still I

> The acrid dust of the alkali en--sprawled upon him, smothering his flailing arms; gave him all my weight and strength; smelled the sweat of him, snarled into his snarling face, close beneath mine.

Once he partially freed himself and fist, but I caught him-while strugg!ing, tossed and upheaved, dimly saw ing.

Presently I had him crucified: his and imploring. one outstretched arm under my knees. his other arm teethed by my two said I-a catch in my throat; for hands, my body across his chest, mumbled thickly, and helpless as a while his legs threshed vainly.

I looked down into his bulging eyes. "Nuf. Cry 'Nuf!" I commanded. "'Nuf! Say ''Uuf." echoed the

He strained again, convulsive; and

"'Nuff!" he panted through bared set out fore moon-up you can easy

"That settles it?"

"I said 'Nuf'," he growled. clear of him, to my feet. He lay for a All his face flushed livid with a moment, baleful, and slowly scram-

On a sudden, as he faced me, his hand shot downward-I heard the ducked aside, felt my left arm jerk and sting-felt my own gun explode around and collapse; an astonishing

'Yu! Why, yu leetle piece o' nothin' So there I stood, amidst silence, my enemy in a shockingly prone pos-"Git! I'm boss hyar." And at me: ture at my feet, gradually reddening

hand outflung. He was harmless. The it's time Daniel had a wife-or two, I forgot instructions, I disregarded moment had arrived and passed.

Figures rushed in between. Hands something to keep you from being I did not se his revolver; I saw but grasped me, impelled me away, throtaste in my throat.

And quicker than his hand I was "I killed him. I didn't want to kill upon him, into him, clinching him, him. He made me do it. He shot

"Yes, yes," they said, soothing gruff- yoked. ly. "Shore he did; shore you didn't. It's all right. Come along, come along.'

"Pick Beeson up. He's bad hurt, himself. See that blood? No, tain't ler's wife. Yet such must be. his arm, is it? He's bleedin' internal. Whar's the hole? Wait-he's busted something."

They would have carried me. "No," I cried, while their bearded faces swam. "He said ' 'Nuf'-he shot me afterward. Not bad, is it? I can walk."

As they hustled me onward the was being sucked into it, irrevocably clinging to him, arms binding him, world had grown curiously darkened, we stumbled by the wagons and halt out a word.

"You're all right." Jenks apparently had looked me over and was ministering to me. "Swaller this."

The odor of whiskey fumed into my arm; a bandage being wound about.

"Did I kill him?" I besought. "Not that! I didn't aim-I don't know how I shot-but I had to. Didn't I?"

"You did! He'll not bother you ag'n. She's yourn." That hurt.

ied me-dared me. We were man to man, boys. He made me fight him." "Yes, shore," they agreed-and they were not believing. They still linked me with a woman, whereas she had

"But it wasn't about her! He bull-

figured only as a transient occasion. Then she herself. My Lady, appeared, running in breathless and appeal-

"Is Mr. Beeson hurt? Badly! Where is he? Let me help." She knelt beside me, her hand grasped mine, she gazed wide-eyed

"No, he's all right, ma'am." "I'm all right, I assure you," babe to the clinging of her cold fing-

The group about me dissolved. Jensk seated himself close beside us. "Your arm won't bother you," he said . "Jest a flesh wound. You two can eat and rest up a bit, and if you

grub and anything else you need." "Mounts!' I blurted. " 'Set out,' you With a quick movement I sprang say? You mean that I-we-should run away? I'll not leave the train and neither shall she, until the proper time. Or do I understand that you

get cl'ar. We'll furnish mounts and

disown aus? "Hold on," Jenks bade, "Tain't a question of disownin' you. But you've killed one o' the Mormons, the wagon boss's son; and when he comes in the mornin' demandin' of you for trail by away, and facin' the old man."

"I think we'd best go," I agreed "It's the only way."

lver smoking in my fingers and menace to the outfit, and to each

other but inseparable.

The fact appalled. It gripped me coldly. I seemed to have bargained for her with first and bullet, and won her; now I should appear to carry her off as booty; a wife and a gamb-

"Moon'll be up in a couple o' hours," Jenks said. "I'd advise you to take an hour's start of it, so as to get away easier. If you travel straight south-'ard you'll strike the stage road in the mornin'. When you reach a station you'll have ch'ice either way.' "I have money,' she said; and sat

For the first half mile we rode with-

What her thoughts were I might not know, but they sat heavy upon her, closing her throat with the tor has just doubled my wages."

We were ture of vain, self-reproach. That much I sensed. But I could not reassure her. My own thoughts were so grievous as to crush me with aching woe.

This, then, was I: somebody who had just killed a man, had broken from the open trail and was riding, he knew not where, through darkness worse than night, himself an autlaw with an outlawed woman-at the best a chance woman, an adventuring woman-now the spoils of killing!

(TO BE CONTINUED)

#### A Smart Maid

He kissed the parlor maid and the

girl screamed. The wife came in and looked

around suspiciously. "Fifi, why did you scream?"

"Through joy, madam. The master

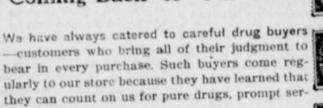
#### Dependable Eyeglass Service

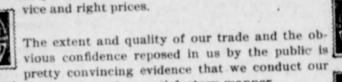
# Dr. Royal

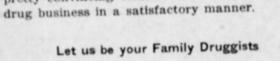
Eugene, Ore. 878 Willamette St. JUST ONE THING, BUT-I DO IT RIGHT!

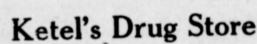
# WE GIVE DING GREEN DISCOUNT STAMPS

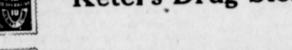
## Discriminating Drug Buyers Have The Happy Habit of Coming Back to Our Store























This modern age recognizes the honest quality of Camels

THE smokers of America have rewarded Real Quality with Real Leadership. For Camels have always been all quality and no frills.

The choicest tobaccos money can buy, superbly blended. Millions of dollars put into the cigarette. Never a penny expended for show.

There's just one way to find the smoking thrill that has won the modern world's admiration-try Camels. You'll know such taste and fragrance, such mellow mildness, as



We are **Exclusive Ford Dealers** Interested in Ford Owners

Let us install a new Halley Hot Plate Manifold for you on a 30 Day Free Trial Price installed is \$10.50.

### 13 Plate Full Rubber Battery

for Fords \$12.00. Credit for your old batteery \$1. This battery is guaranteed for one year.

Danner Motor Co. Fifth and A St. FORD SALES AND SERVICE Phone 49