

Twisted Trails of the Wold West

By Matthew Baugh

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The Old West was an interesting place, and even more so in the Wold-Newton Universe. Until fairly recently only a few of the heroes and villains who inhabited the early western United States had been confirmed through crossover stories as existing in the WNU. Several comic book miniseries have done a lot to change this, and though there are some problems fitting each into the tapestry of the WNU, it has been worth the effort.

Marvel Comics' miniseries, *Rawhide Kid: Slap Leather* was a humorous storyline, parodying the Kid's established image and lampooning westerns in general. It is best known for 'outing' the Kid as a homosexual. While that assertion remains an open issue with fans, it isn't what causes the problems with incorporating the story into the WNU. What is of more concern are the blatant anachronisms and impossibilities the story offers. We can accept it, but only with the caveat that some of the details have been distorted for comic effect.

When the Rawhide Kid is established as a character in the Wold-Newton Universe he provides links to a number of other western characters, both from the Marvel Universe and from classic western novels and movies. It draws in the Marvel Comics series' *Blaze of Glory*, *Apache Skies*, and *Sunset Riders* as well as DC Comics' *The Kents*. As with most Marvel and DC characters there is the problem with bringing in the mammoth superhero continuities of the Marvel and DC universes, though this is not insurmountable.

In a roundabout way DC's vertigo *Preacher* series is also connected to the WNU. The *Saint of Killers* storyline doesn't directly crossover with any of the other miniseries, but it mentions several of the same novel and cinematic characters. The Preacher universe is difficult to reconcile with the WNU. It features a unique characterization of God that is at odds with that of many established WNU stories. Preacher also takes place in a universe where the American President (implicitly Bill Clinton) had a nuclear weapon dropped on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations. Since a nuclear strike in Arizona is incompatible with other WNU stories set in the late 20th Century I have taken the (admittedly odd) position that the 19th Century events may be included but the 20th century events take place in an alternate universe.

The article is a work in progress. One day I hope it will connect with the extensive writings of J.T. Edson when Brad Mengle finishes his work on them. It will also connect with Andrew Henry's work on the interconnected series westerns of the group of British writers collectively known as the Piccadilly Cowboys. There are also new connections being found all the time and it is a fond hope that the number of characters not yet covered here will eventually come into the fold. At present there are no solid crossover type links for *Shane*, *Rooster Cogburn*, *Quigley Down Under*, and a number of other favorites. (I hold out special hope that *Six Gun Gorilla* will one day be included.)

Finally, I should mention the help of Rick Lai and Dennis Power. Rick did the vast preponderance of the work on all of the Spaghetti Western characters that appear here as well as for several of the television series. It was a fortunate coincidence that the research for this story overlapped his work in writing the story *The Last Vendetta* for ***Tales of the Shadowmen***. Dennis is an authority on western fiction and western history and his help has been invaluable.

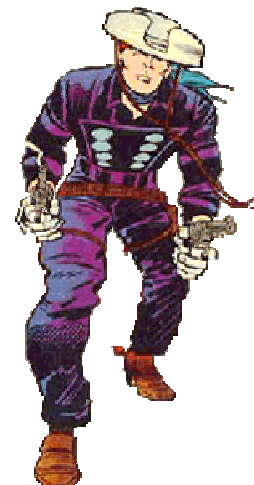
SECTION 1. THE KID

One of the deadliest gunfighters of the Old West was Johnny Bart, also known as the Rawhide Kid. The Kid was a diminutive man¹ with fiery red hair who could draw as fast and shoot as straight as any man on the frontier. He started running from the law when he killed the men who had gunned down his Uncle Ben and he was branded a murderer. Despite his many good deeds and his extreme reluctance about killing he remained on the outlaw trail for most of his life.

In the recent miniseries, *Slap Leather* by Ron Zimmerman and John Severin it is revealed that the Kid was gay². More importantly for our purposes it also reveals that the Kid is a part of the Wold-Newton Universe who had met the Cartwrights and heard of the Lone Ranger.

The Rawhide Kid (1845-?)

Johnny Bart³ was born on a ranch in Texas, the youngest of three brothers. The Kid's age was never given in the series, but we can deduce his year of birth by some circumstantial evidence. First, in *Slap Leather*, the Kid appears to be roughly the same age as "Little Jo



Cartridge.” A better clue comes in *Rawhide Kid, Volume 2* a mini-series that takes place in 1897. In this story the Kid is not yet an old man but is showing signs of impending age. His hair is graying, and he sports a set of false teeth. A birth year of 1845 would fit with the Kid’s apparent age in both of these stories.

During his early childhood, Johnny was orphaned by a Comanche raid on his parents’ ranch. His brothers also survived but the raid split them up and they were not reunited until many years later. Johnny was taken in by his uncle Ben⁴ a Texas Ranger with a ranch outside of Rawhide, Texas. Years later, when he became an outlaw, Johnny’s youth and the name of his hometown would inspire the nickname the “Rawhide Kid.”⁵

When Johnny was sixteen, his Uncle Ben began to teach him how to handle a gun. Ben had been one of the best gunfighters the Texas Rangers had produced, but young Johnny soon outstripped him. He had a skill with pistols that was little short of magical.

Two years later Ben Bart was killed in an unfair gunfight. He went to meet an outlaw face to face but the man’s partner gunned him down from ambush. The ambushers claimed it had been a fair fight but Johnny wouldn’t believe them. He challenged them and killed them all⁶. This brought Johnny the deserved reputation of a deadly gunfighter. It also branded him an outlaw.

From about 1863-1875⁷ the Rawhide Kid roamed the West, fighting outlaws, preventing Indian massacres, and staying a step ahead of the law. Most of his adversaries were gunfighters and other stock western villains. Occasionally he ran across proto-supervillains such as the Red Raven, or even alien monsters like the Living Totem. Through it all the Kid’s courage and amazing skill with his twin pistols won the day.

In the course of his adventures the Kid also met a number of the great figures of the Old West, though the stories of most of these meetings are unknown. Issue #1 of *Slap Leather* provides this list: Wyatt Earp (“...Soooo overrated...”), Billy the Kid (...*didn’t like him...*), Doc Holliday (“*A disgusting man.*”), Annie Oakley (“...*a wonderful person.*”⁸), and Wild Bill Hickok (“*Very nice man.*”) In earlier adventures the Kid had also met John Wesley Hardin, Johnny Ringo, Clay Allison and other.

In 1878 the Rawhide Kid rode into the small Texas town of Wells Junction⁹. He befriended the local town sheriff, a friendly but ineffectual widower named Matt Morgan. He helped Morgan fight off the gang of a fierce outlaw called Cisco Pike and reconciled him with his difficult son. All of this is standard fare for a western hero, except for the motivation. The Rawhide Kid was actually helping Morgan because he had developed

a romantic interest in him. Morgan was oblivious to the Kid's advances. He saw him as a friend and a valuable ally. Ultimately Morgan married the local school ma'm and the Kid rode off into the sunset.

At some point the in the late 1870's or early 1880's the Kid seems to have been pardoned for his alleged crimes. For a time he bought a small ranch near Shotgun Texas¹⁰ and settled there with a sidekick called 'Kid Randy¹¹.' The Kid was well liked by the citizens of Shotgun and often used his skill with pistols to protect the community from outlaws. Eventually, he lost the ranch under unknown circumstances¹². He took a job as a trick shot artist working for Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show¹³ and was performing there in 1885. That year the Kid left the show to join a small band of gunfighters hired to protect the small town of Wonderment, Montana from a gang of nightriders.

We don't know much about the Kid's career after this. His next (and final) recorded adventure took place twelve years later. His red hair was going gray and he was wearing false teeth, but he was still spry enough to outfight and outshoot much younger men. After he rode into the sunset a final time he disappeared from the pages of history. He could have been killed as his reflexes slowed with age, or he could have retired and lived quietly into the 20th century. If my estimate for the Kid's year of birth is correct, he would have been 53 at the time of this final adventure.

Of all of the Kid's adventures it is his time in Wells Junction that interests us most. These few days give a fresh look at the old west of the Wold-Newton Universe and the characters who roamed it. When telling a group of children about the famous gunfighters he had known the Kid mentions that he has never met the Lone Ranger but would like to. This establishes that the Rawhide Kid must live in the same universe as the Lone Ranger and Tonto. In other words, the Kid is a resident of the Wold-Newton Universe.

There are so many different characters brought into the WNU by their mention in 'Slap Leather' that it is useful to discuss each of them in some detail.

Laura Ingalls Wilder (1867-1957)

"...Our teacher is Miss Ingulls from a far off place called Walnut Grove. She's real nice and kinda pretty too."

Laura Ingalls is a recurring character in the story and the miniseries ends with her wedding to Sheriff Morgan. She often refers to her 'Pa' whom she idolizes and to her desire to write a memoir called 'Small House on the Prairie.'

Laura Ingalls is obviously meant to suggest Laura Ingalls from the television series "Little House on the Prairie." The drunken town doctor, 'Doc Baker' is also a parody of the physician from Walnut Grove in that series. Unfortunately, this crossover cannot be accepted as valid. The television series was loosely based on the "**Little House**" series of books¹⁴ that form an autobiographical memoir¹⁵. Laura Ingalls (later Laura Ingalls Wilder) was a historical person who lived from 1867-1957. She spent all of her life in the northern Great Plains states and was married to Almanzo Wilder at the age of 18. She and Wilder remained married until his death in 1949. There is simply no gap in her life that would allow her to move to Wells Junction and marry Matt Morgan. Besides, the real Laura would only have been 11 years old during the events of "Slap Leather."

Augustus McCrae (1823-1877)
Woodrow Call (1823-?)

Matt: "Last I heard, you and your boys were down in Texas, by the border, near Lonesome Dove."

Pike: "You hear right good. We come north after a little fracas with some old Texas Rangers down there. Name'a Woodrow Caul and Augustus McRay."

Captain Woodrow Call, Augustus "Gus" McCrae and the town of Lonesome Dove, Texas are from the novel **Lonesome Dove** by Larry McMurtry. This mention brings the continuity of **Lonesome Dove**, which also includes the novels **Comanche Moon**, **Streets of Laredo** and **Dead Man's Walk** into the WNU.



Woodrow Call was a medium-sized man with quick reflexes and a steely nerve. Call was a first-rate Texas Ranger, largely because he spent a great deal of his time and energy thinking about how to do his job better. Though a decent man, he lacked competence in dealing with non-rangering matters. He was especially inept in his personal relationships.

Augustus McCrae was taller than Call and his hair turned white as a young age. He had the best eyesight of any of the Rangers in his unit. Where Call was efficient, Gus's intelligence turned more to philosophical matters. He was as courageous as any man in the Texas Rangers, but was prone to laziness, drink and consorting with prostitutes.

While the chronological details of the two men's lives are sparse they both seem to have been born around the year 1823¹⁶, Call near Navasota, Texas and Gus somewhere in Tennessee. Call had lost his parents to smallpox and had been raised by a domineering uncle. When he was old enough he ran away to the city of San Antonio. There he met the easy-going Gus.

Augustus McCrae was born into a family that was well enough off to provide a decent education for the children. His sisters read Shakespeare and knew some Latin. Gus himself was too lazy and disinterested to pick up more than a smattering of knowledge. A natural storyteller, he loved to embellish his own adventures. He characterized his trip down the Mississippi as the time he was briefly a river-pilot. Actually he had been a stowaway and was left on a sandbar as soon as he was discovered.

Though of very different temperaments, Gus and Call become fast friends and (at Gus's suggestion) volunteered to serve together as Texas Rangers. Their first adventure together was in 1842. It was an ill-fated expedition to find a route from San Antonio to El Paso. The Comanches under the fierce war chief called Buffalo Hump foiled the expedition¹⁷. Some time later the young men took part in a disastrous expedition to reach Santa Fe and annex New Mexico for the Republic of Texas. This venture was led by an adventurer named Caleb Cobb and Gus and Call encountered such famous Texas figures as Bigfoot Wallace and Charlie Goodnight¹⁸. A combination of Buffalo Hump's warriors, the Apaches under a leader called Gomez, the Mexican army, and the brutal conditions of the Texas and New Mexico wilderness ultimately reduced the force of four hundred men to four survivors.

Through courage, toughness and dumb luck the two finally made it back to San Antonio and continued on as Rangers. Their next recorded adventure took them back out on the trail of Buffalo Hump in the year 1856¹⁹. This was a year of many changes in their lives. Gus's sweetheart of many years, Clara Forsythe decided to marry another man and leave San Antonio. Maggie Tilton, the prostitute Call had been seeing, bore him a son. Sadly, Call was never to acknowledge the boy as his own and he was given the name Newt Dobbs. This year also marked the pair's first close encounter with Buffalo Hump's deadly son, Blue Duck²⁰.

Gus married several times over the next few years. In 1860 he wed a woman named Geneva, who died of a fever after only four months. His second marriage, also in 1860, was to a woman named Nellie. She died the following year, just as news of the Civil War reached San Antonio.

Many Texans and many Rangers left home to join in the great conflict but Gus and Call felt it their duty to remain in Texas. They continued dealing with the Comanche and, in 1865, came upon the body of the aged Buffalo Hump, who had been murdered by Blue Duck. On returning to San Antonio they learned that Maggie had also died, leaving Newt in the rangers' care.

With the end of the Civil War, the federal government decided to disband the Texas Rangers. Gus and Call saw no further reason to remain in San Antonio. They took Newt and a few friends from the Rangers and headed west to the flyspeck town of Lonesome Dove in the hope of becoming cattle ranchers.

In 1877 the ex-rangers started a fateful cattle drive from Lonesome Dove to Montana. Old friends and enemies lost their lives in the grueling trek, including Gus, who died of a leg wound that turned gangrenous. After finishing the drive, Call made an even more harrowing return journey by himself to bury his old friend at Lonesome Dove. The Montana ranch venture fell apart the following year when Newt was killed in a riding accident²¹.

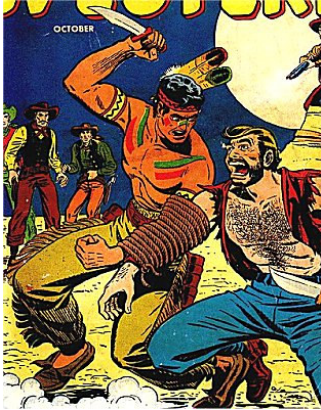
Call returned to Texas where he used his expertise hunting down outlaws. He often called on his old subordinate, Pea Eye Parker to help him. His final job in 1895²² was for a railroad that wanted him to track down robber and murderer Joey Garza. The mission was a success, but Call suffered terrible wounds in the process that cost him an arm and a leg. The last report of him was in 1896 when he was living on the farm of Pea Eye and his family and plying a new trade as a sharpener of knives, axe heads and other blades. While his final fate is unknown, it seems likely that he lived on into the 20th Century.

Marvel Comics Gunfighters

“...Here’s the rundown: I’m faster than Kid Colt, the Two Gun Kid, Apache Kid...”

Kid Colt and the Two Gun Kid are, with Rawhide, the heroes of the longest-lived western series that Marvel Comics put out. We will discuss them in more detail in section 2 of this article.

Apache Kid aka Alan Krandall aka Dazii aka Al Kare (1848-1886)
Apache Kid aka Rosa (1857-?)



The Apache Kid was a man with two names, reflecting the two cultures he would straddle all his life.²³ He was born in about 1848²⁴ and his mother, a white captive named Krandall (her first name was never revealed) called him Alan while his father, Red Hawk, called him Dazii²⁵. Unlike most children born of captive mothers, Dazii grew up aware of his dual heritage and able to speak English. This was likely a strategy of Red Hawk's²⁶. Aware that the white settlers could not be driven away he wanted a son who could bridge the worlds and help to bring peace.

Dazii took this responsibility seriously. As a young man he split his time between his band of Apache and life as a Cavalry scout named Al Kare. He spent a great deal of energy identifying potential areas of conflict between the whites and the Apache and nipping them in the bud. In the early years of his career he was quite successful walking the fine line between the two worlds. From the Apache he had learned the skills of stealth and fighting with traditional weapons. His mixed heritage earned him the nickname of Apache Kid²⁷. From his mother's people he had learned the skills of a pony soldier, and the fast draw of a gunfighter. Even the Kid's personal relationships reflected this rift. Two women were interested in him, Mary, a girl from the local fort, and White Swan, Red Hawk's niece.²⁸

Ultimately it was neither of these woman who won Dazii's heart, it was a half-Apache girl from another tribe who came to steal his ponies. The girl was sixteen and the Mexicans called her Rosa, her Apache name has not been revealed.²⁹ She was the daughter of a white woman captured by the Apache in the 1860's. Her mother died in childhood and she was raised without any knowledge of her dual heritage. When she was six her father's band was wiped out and she was given to a settler couple to raise. Rosa, who thought of herself as an Apache, ran away and joined another tribe. In an effort to prove herself, she fought, stole ponies, and undertook other tasks traditionally reserved for men.



After Rosa stole Dazii's ponies, a mutual respect and attraction grew between them. They became lovers, and were married after the custom of their people. The two lived together for several years during which Dazii taught Rosa the skills he has mastered as Apache Kid³⁰.

In 1876 The Apache were commanded to go onto a reservation at San Carlos. The leader Goyathlay, better known as Geronimo, refused to go. Rosa joined his small group and helped resist the US Cavalry. The Apache Kid thought the resistance was noble but wrong-headed. He refused to go with his wife and she left, cursing him for turning his back on his people.

The Apache Kid continued to try to keep the peace. He saw that the treaties with the native peoples were not being honored but believed that violent resistance would only lead to the annihilation of his people. At times he was distracted from this mission when other situations cried out for justice. One instance was his involvement in the 'Railroad Wars³¹' of 1877-78.

The relatively small Rio Grande railroad was competing in Colorado with the larger and richer Santa Fe line. The two focal points were the Raton Pass in New Mexico, and the Royal Gorge in Colorado. Tensions between the two railroads led to violence between gangs of workers and sabotage. The Santa Fe escalated things by hiring a band of Kansas gunfighters, led by Bat Masterson. The Rio Grand responded in kind with the Apache Kid and the Rawhide Kid signing on. Eventually the Wars ended with the Santa Fe gaining Raton Pass and the Royal Gorge in the hands of the Rio Grande Railroad.

Not much is known of the Kid's career for the next few years. In 1886 an aspiring gunfighter named Billy Tyler gunned him down from behind. His old friend, the Rawhide Kid, and his estranged wife, Rosa sought to avenge him. The two were working at cross-purposes at first but soon became friends. When Rosa learned that Geronimo had been forced to surrender, Rawhide helped her with a new mission. The two captured a group of Apache children bound for a mission school and returned them to the Apacheria where Rosa raised them in the ancient traditions of their people. Though there seemed to be strong feelings developing between them, the Kid disappeared and never saw Rosa again.

Rosa's final fate is unknown, though she seems to have succeeded in raising the children before she died. Presumably she lived until at least some time in the early 20th century.

Kid Sheleen (1858-?)
Cat Ballou (1877-?)

“... I’m faster than... Kid Shaleen.”

Kid Sheleen was a deadly gunman whose exploits were recorded in Roy Chanslor’s novel ***The Ballad of Cat Ballou***. The novel was altered substantially and made into a comedy movie. Since there is no reason to prefer the film to the original version we will assume that the novel is the correct record of the story.

Eli “Kid” Sheleen³² was an enigma of the West. We don’t know where he was born or how he died. We know that he was a deadly gunman with cold blue eyes and a deeply romantic nature, and that his life was built around his hopeless love for three women. Beyond that, we are forced to rely on a reconstruction of his life.

The Kid seems to have been born in 1858 and was probably the son of Irish immigrants. When he was sixteen he killed the man who “ruined” his childhood sweetheart and set out on the outlaw trail. He soon joined Frankie Ballou’s gang and became Frankie’s best friend and right hand man.

Frankie Sheleen was the son of one of the many Wyoming families whose homesteads had been taken by the Union Pacific Railroad. The UP entered the territory in 1867 and became notorious for pushing small landowners into ruin. Frankie had brought together a band of men with similar experiences to prey on the railroad. He left the gang in 1876 to marry Cathy Morgan, a pretty red-haired schoolteacher. Kid Sheleen had also loved Cathy but remained a friend to both when they were married.

A little girl named Cathy “Cat” Ballou was born to Frankie and Cathy in 1877. Frankie dissolved his gang and the Kid drifted away. He tried to find work at a dozen different menial jobs but his reputation as a gunfighter followed him everywhere. The Kid returned to Wolf City in 1894³³ to join up with Clay Boon’s gang and to see his old friends. He did, and found himself powerfully attracted both to Cathy and to the sixteen-year old Cat, who had grown into a tomboyish beauty with short black hair. A few days later a ruthless rancher drove a stampede across the Ballou land, killing Frankie and Cathy.

Cat killed the rancher in a fair fight but was convicted of his murder. The Kid broke her out of jail with the help of Clay and his gang only to see her fall in love with the young outlaw. For the second time in his life Kid Sheleen had lost a woman he loved to a good friend. Despite the loss, he

remained loyal to Clay and Cat, and the three of them entered the lore of the west together.

The Lone Ranger (1848-?)
Tonto (1852-?)

“As far as the Lone Ranger, all I can say is, I don’t care which one of us is faster. I just want to meet him.”

The Lone Ranger needs little introduction. Nowhere in the pages of history can a greater champion of justice be found. With his faithful Indian companion Tonto, the daring and resourceful masked rider of the Plains led the fight for law and order in the early western United States.



The Lone Ranger and Tonto are already an established part of the WNU and their lives are discussed in some detail in the article *Masked Men*. Since that article was written, Dynamite Comics has begun publishing *The Lone Ranger* that provides a new date for the Masked Man’s origin. According to *The Lone Ranger* serial the date should be 1865, in the

movie *The Legend of the Lone Ranger* it is 1874, and in the new comic series it is 1869. While none (or rather all) of these dates are canonic, this latest is preferable to the others, in my opinion.³⁴ This article is written in the assumption that the dates presented in the Dynamite Comics series are correct.

John Reid³⁵ was born in 1848 and was raised in Texas along with his older brother Dan³⁶. When Reid was a boy he met a Native American lad four years his junior³⁷ named “Wild One.”³⁸ The boy was Potawatomi and his band had migrated to Texas.³⁹ He was the only survivor of the massacre that claimed his mother and sisters. John gave the boy a horse to find his father and Wild One gave him a medallion as a pledge of eternal friendship.

In 1860 John and Dan discovered a rich vein of silver.⁴⁰ They had set up a hidden camp and had started to mine the high-grade ore when the Civil War broke out. The Reid family had strong feelings about slavery, which prompted Dan to enlist in the Union Army.⁴¹ John was sent to live with his Aunt Martha in Detroit, partly to save him from the ugly reaction of

the community to “Yankee sympathizers.”⁴² John remained in Detroit where he attended college. He studied law and theater⁴³ and returned to the west with his degree in 1869.

Dan Reid had been stationed in Richmond, Virginia following the war. It was there that he met and married a “fine lady” named Linda. He returned to Texas to establish himself before sending for Linda and the couple’s infant son, Dan Jr. During this time he worked as a Texas Ranger and planned to re-open the silver mine with his little brother. That plan suited John, whose greatest wish was to become one of the legendary lawmen like his father and brother before him.⁴⁴

Unfortunately, a ruthless outlaw named Butch Cavendish was terrorizing the Texas panhandle. Knowing that the Rangers posed a threat to him, he arranged an ambush in Bryant’s Gap. Six Texas Rangers, including Dan and John Reid, rode into the box canyon only to be gunned down by the Cavendish Gang. An Indian who had wandered into the canyon to hunt found the Rangers. He buried the five dead men and nursed the lone survivor back to health. When the Indian saw the ring, he recognized the youth who had saved his life years before.

The hunter was Wild One of the Potawatomi, and he had lived a turbulent life. His tribe was gone and he had wandered among several of the Texas tribes learning and languages as he went⁴⁵. He had also picked up a number of skills, including a formidable tracking prowess.⁴⁶ The young man had married into a tribe of Apache living in South Texas. While he was with them he had to endure the mocking nickname “tonto” which is Spanish for “fool.” When his adopted people were massacred, the young man took the insulting term as his personal name.⁴⁷ Tonto renewed his pledge of friendship with the Masked Man and began to call him Kemosabe.⁴⁸

At John’s request, Tonto made him a mask from the vest that Dan had worn and dug a sixth grave. This was done to fool the Cavendish gang into believing that all of the Rangers had been killed. The mask also had a symbolic meaning John, like the visor of a knight’s armor. He made a solemn vow never to give the mask up until he had brought 100 men to justice for each member of the Cavendish gang. He used the silver mine to create the famous silver bullets that were his symbol. He had vowed never to take a human life and the precious metal would help remind him of the value of human life.⁴⁹

The rest is history. The Masked Man and Tonto became legends as they traveled the west righting wrongs, defending the helpless, and promoting justice for all people. The final fate of the two is unknown, but they are

known to have been active as late as 1895 when they were present at the death of John Wesley Hardin.⁵⁰

The Legacy of the Lone Ranger lived on through his nephew, Dan. When the wagon train carrying Linda Reid and Dan to Texas was massacred, the baby somehow escaped harm⁵¹. He was eventually passed on to a kindly woman called Grandma Frisby who raised him. The Masked Man and Tonto finally found Dan at the age of fourteen and he rode with them for several years. Eventually, Dan went back east to study journalism at the Stryker School in Detroit. He used the funds from the silver mine to found the Daily Sentinel newspaper and crusaded for justice for many years.

When Dan retired, he left his son Britt in charge of the paper. Though he seemed an idle playboy, Britt was actually a worthy heir to the Reid family legacy. He even established his own masked identity to fight crime as the Green Hornet. There is much more to be said about this legacy, but that has already been said in the Masked Men article.

Benjamin “Ben” Cartwright (1809-1899)
Adam Cartwright (1830-?)
Erik “Hoss” Cartwright (1836-1873)
Joseph “Little Joe” Cartwright⁵² (1842-1898)

Haus: *“I’m thirty-eight. Name’s Haus Cartrite... cause I’m big like a Haus.”*

Jo: *“I’m the baby of the family. I just turned thirty-six. That’s why they call me Little Jo.”*

Erik “Hoss” Cartwright and Joseph “Little Joe” Cartwright are from the television series Bonanza, which is already established as a part of the Wold-Newton Universe. Their appearance in this issue further cements the Rawhide Kid as a part of the WNU, even if their ages are reported incorrectly⁵³.



Ben Cartwright was born on the Atlantic Coast of the United States in 1809 and had an adventurous life from almost the very first. As an apprentice seaman Ben traveled to New Orleans and saw the pirate-hero Jean Lafitte⁵⁴. Lafitte’s last recorded visit to New Orleans was in 1819 so Ben must have gone to sea at a very young age.

By the age of 19 Ben had a great deal of experience at sea but he was feeling the call of the land. He became engaged to Elizabeth Stoddard, a sea captain's daughter, and told her of his dreams to travel west and start a ranch. Ben married Elizabeth in 1828 and the following year a son named Adam was born to them. Sadly, Elizabeth died in childbirth leaving Ben to raise Adam on his own⁵⁵.

Several years later Ben met Inger Borgstrum in Illinois. He married Inger in 1832 went west with her and Adam several years later. It was on the westward journey in 1836 that Eric (usually known as Hoss) was born. Shortly following her son's birth, Inger was killed in a Paiute attack⁵⁶.

Ben and his sons ended up in Nevada and Ben staked a claim on what was to become the largest cattle ranch in the state. He called his land 'the Ponderosa' and built his home with his own hands. By 1841 he had a thriving concern. When his friend and foreman, Jean de Marigny died in an accident Ben took it on himself to travel to New Orleans to bring the news to Jean's estranged wife, Marie. Ben and Marie fell in love; he married her and took her back to the Ponderosa with him. The following year Little Joe was born to the couple⁵⁷.

Marie lived for a few years, but died before Joe was five⁵⁸. After loving and losing three women, Ben Cartwright never married again. He and his sons continued to work the Ponderosa where they built a great fortune from cattle and timber. Ben's sons were with him all this time with the exception of Adam, who traveled to Boston in 1848 to attend college.

In 1859 a prospector named Henry Comstock took credit for discovering the famous 'Comstock Lode' of silver in Gold Canyon, Nevada. Virginia City, one of the most successful boom-towns of the old west sprung up almost overnight. Though the Cartwrights initially resisted the influx of miners they quickly invested in silver mining as well⁵⁹.

In 1861 the outbreak of the Civil War nearly split the Cartwright family between Adam, whose mother was from Boston, and Little Joe, whose mother was from New Orleans⁶⁰. Ultimately Ben managed to keep his sons out of the war and kept the war from splitting his family. The four men continued to live together as bachelors on the Ponderosa until 1865 when Adam left to travel. Eventually he settled in Australia⁶¹. While living there he married an Australian woman and fathered Adam Cartwright Jr., or 'A.C.', probably around 1870⁶².

Ben, Hoss and Joe remained on the Ponderosa together until Hoss' death in 1877. Unknown to his family, Hoss had met a woman and fallen in love. He left her with the promise to come back and make her his wife, but died en route without telling anyone⁶³. Following Hoss's death, Little

Joe married a woman named Alice Harper. When she was brutally murdered he was nearly driven insane with grief. Eventually he avenged her death and recovered his emotional health, but the loss of Hoss and Alice changed him into a much more serious person.

Several years later, Joe married a woman named Annabelle. The date is not known but this was probably about 1880. The couple had two children, Benjamin (probably born about 1882), and Sara (Probably born in 1883). Joe's family grew and he took over the running of the Ponderosa. He left in 1898 to join with Teddy Roosevelt's 'Rough Riders' and was reported missing, presumed killed at the Battle of San Juan Hill⁶⁴.

The year 1900 saw the sudden death of Ben Cartwright. With Adam away, Hoss dead and Little Joe missing, Ben's brother Aaron⁶⁵ came to run the Ponderosa. This didn't set well with Ben's foreman Charlie "Bronc" Evans⁶⁶. The two helped Benjamin "Benj" and Sara keep hold of the Ponderosa and helped Josh (Hoss's illegitimate son) find his place in the family.

By the following year Aaron was comfortable enough with the way things were going that he had left things in the hands of Bronc and the young Cartwrights. Joe's widow Annabelle must have died over the course of the year⁶⁷. Adam's son A.C. came to live at the Ponderosa just as an old rival of Little Joe's was making a move to seize the ranch.

Later that year or the following year Benj, Sara, Josh, A.C. and Bronc enlisted the help of aging gunfighters Frank James and Charlie Siringo to help thwart some nefarious types. This is the last recorded adventure of the Cartwright family.

Will Kane (1838-?)

" 'Member when Will Kane pulled this kinda' stunt, tryin' to rally up townsfolk to stand up against outlaws?"

Will Kane was the marshal of the town of Hadleyville in the movie High Noon⁶⁸. Not a great deal is known about Will's life before the events of the film. He was a second-generation westerner, still reasonably young⁶⁹, who came to Hadleyville, New Mexico in 1868⁷⁰ to take the job of marshal. He had been suggested for the job by



the outgoing marshal, Martin Howe. Howe suffered from rheumatoid arthritis in his hands and could no longer hold a gun.

Will's first order of business was to clean up the town, which was at the mercy of a sadistic cattle baron named Frank Miller. He arrested Miller for murder and, with half a dozen deputies, scattered his men. Miller was to have been hung for murder but the rancher's had influential friends in the capitol. Miller was given a life sentence in the Territorial Prison⁷¹.

Following Miller's conviction, Kane had little trouble cleaning up Hadleyville, and even struck up a relationship with Miller's one time flame, a widow named Helen Rameriez. By 1873⁷², Will was ready to retire and live the peaceful life of a shopkeeper. He had ended his affair with Helen and fallen in love with a young Quaker girl named Amy Fowler. The two were married to the acclaim of the townsfolk. That same day, Will learned that Frank Miller had been released from prison and was coming in on the noon train to kill him. Unable to rally any sort of help from the town, Kane found himself facing the outlaws alone.

It is unknown what happened to Will after that fateful day, but two conclusions seem reasonable. He probably did keep his promise to Amy to settle down and open a store. He also probably did this as far from Hadleyville as he could manage.

Wells Junction

Other people in the town of Wells Junction include newspaper editor Lew Grant and Bernard Phyfe the First. Phyfe appears to be an ancestor of Deputy Barney Fife from *The Andy Griffith Show* and Grant may be an ancestor of Lou Grant from *The Mary Tyler Show* and *Lou Grant*. If this were the case, they would bring the continuity of *The Danny Thomas Show/Make Room for Daddy*, *Gomer Pyle USMC*, *Mayberry RFD*, *Rhoda*, and *Phyllis* into the WNU. Because there is no solid evidence that Bernard Phyfe and Lew Grant are the ancestors of Barney Fife and Lou Grant these connections remain speculative.

Several of the outlaws in Slap Leather bear some similarity to historical or fictional outlaws. Catastrophe Jen is an allusion to the historical Calamity Jane. Cisco Pike's name seems to be a combination of the names of the Cisco Kid (originally from an O. Henry short story) and Pike Bishop (from *The Wild Bunch*). Pike's chief lieutenant, Red Duck suggests Blue Duck, the main villain of ***Lonesome Dove***. However, none of these

villains bear more than the most superficial resemblance to their originals.

SECTION 2. WONDERMENT

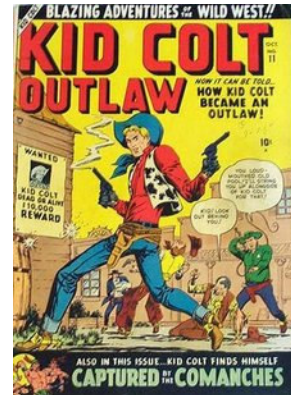
Knowing as we now do, that Kid Colt and the Two Gun Kid are a part of the WNU we can turn our attention to their involvement in the fate of a little town called Wonderment. This was where a group of seven western heroes fought a deadly gang of nightriders in 1885.

Kid Colt (1843-1885)

Rawhide Kid: “You! Kid Colt!”

Kid Colt: “Not so loud with that name pard. Folks lookin’ for me that I don’t need t’see.”

Blaine Colt was the only son of Wyoming rancher Jim Colt and excelled in the skills of riding, roping and shooting. Blaine recognized that he had a dangerously short temper and usually went unarmed rather than risk getting involved in a gunfight. He knew his skill and accuracy were too much for anyone else to compete with. Jim Colt didn’t understand Blaine’s reluctance about firearms and assumed that his son was a coward.



When Jim was killed in a gunfight with a local extortionist called Lash Larrabee, the young Blaine lost control. He strapped on a gun and headed out to Lash’s ranch where he killed the man and several of his comrades. When his anger passed Blaine realized that the men he had shot had been unarmed⁷³. He also realized that he had made an assumption about who had killed his father.

Though the young man regretted his actions, he realized that he couldn’t take them back. In the eyes of the law he was guilty of murder. Rather than stand trial he took up the outlaw trail where his youth and deadly skill with his twin pistols earned him the name ‘Kid Colt.’

Blaine Colt was technically an outlaw, but he never robbed or murdered. Like the Rawhide Kid and a few other supposed badmen, he roamed the west helping the innocent wherever they were threatened. Colt had a long career on the trail⁷⁴ and met a multitude of villainous types including

Doctor Danger and his Invisible Gunman, the Scorpion who could wound just by pointing his finger, the 'Fat Man' and his deadly boomerangs, the longbow-wielding Robin Hood Raider, the armor clad Iron Mask and many others. Though they anticipated later supervillains, all of Colt's villains turned out to rely on trickery and clever gadgets rather than genuine powers. The exception was the thirty-foot tall Monster of Hidden Valley. The monster was actually a peaceful alien being with telekinetic powers whose ship had crashed.⁷⁵

In 1884 Colt shot a sheriff, causing the price on his head to skyrocket. For a long year he eluded bounty hunters and Pinkerton agents led by the relentless Caleb Hammer. Eventually he met up with his old friend, the Rawhide Kid and decided to help defend the town of Wonderment. The effort was successful but, when the town was safe, the man called Gunhawk shot Colt in the back to collect the price on his head. Ironically it was Colt's enemy, Caleb Hammer who avenged him by shooting Gunhawk.

Two Gun Kid (1845-1885)

"You're looking for a man who is dead twice, Marcel—Matt Hawk and the Two Gun Kid died about two years back. I'm just plain Clay Harder now.

Matthew Leibowicz⁷⁶ was born to a Jewish family in Boston in the year 1845⁷⁷. Little is known about Leibowicz's early life. He seems to have



had a knack for picking up physical skills, but focused instead on academics. He graduated from Harvard University Law School and, in 1970⁷⁸, set out west to become a lawyer in the town of Tombstone, Texas.

Leibowicz knew that life out west might be difficult for a Jew and changed his name to Matt Hawk. It didn't help much. He hadn't been in town long when a local tough named Clem Carter roughed him up. Matt didn't have the skills to fight Carter but still stood up to him when he and his bullies decided to pick on an old man.

The old man turned out to be a legendary gunfighter named Ben Dancer. He hadn't needed any help but admired Matt's courage. He secretly began to instruct the young man in shooting, riding, roping and the skills of the frontier. Matt excelled at these lessons but Ben cautioned

him to keep his new abilities secret. Instead of openly becoming a heroic gunfighter, he assumed a masked identity. He took the name the 'Two Gun Kid' from a character in a series of dime novels⁷⁹ and began to fight for justice.

Over the next few years the Kid faced outlaws, and proto-supervillains, at least one of whom 'the Hurricane' possessed genuine superpowers. He met the Rawhide Kid, Kid Colt, and Billy the Kid. Along the way he romanced Clem Carter's lovely sister, the school ma'm, Nancy Carter. When Clem was killed, Nancy erroneously believed the Two Gun Kid had caused his death. This fact greatly complicated her romance with Matt.

The Two Gun Kid disappeared for an extended period in 1873. Though the circumstances are unclear, it seems he had encountered a time traveler who had taken him to the late 20th century.⁸⁰ After a time, Two Gun returned to the old west but not empty handed. The person who had sent him home had also sent along two crates of weaponry from the future. Attached to the crates was a note that read:

"Enjoy my little present, or don't. Quite a difficult choice, isn't it?"

The Kid chose not to use the present. He buried the weapons and tried to put his knowledge of the future behind him. His strange journey had changed him, leaving him feeling cynical and tired. He tried to continue his double identity for a time but his heart wasn't in it. In 1876 he retired his guns and costume to marry Nancy Carter.

Sadly, Matt's life was not destined to be peaceful or happy. The following year Nancy died giving birth to a baby girl, Eve. Four years later Matt lost his little girl to a rubella outbreak. The year after that his best friend, 'Boom-Boom' Brown suffered a broken jaw in a prizefight. The dentist who worked on Boom-Boom's jaw failed to use sterile equipment and the big man died of an infection.

On April 28, 2005 Matt Hawk 'died.' A black Canadian trapper named Marcel Fournier had been falsely accused of murder and Two Gun was determined to free him. He knew the day that history had recorded his death so he faked the death of Matt Hawk in a fiery explosion and used the diversion to rescue Marcel.

Marcel involved Two Gun in a massive conspiracy by a Russian businessman named Anatoly Fyskov⁸¹, which could have shifted the economic balance of power between nations, and nearly led to a war involving the United States, Russia, Japan, and Canada. With the help of Marcel, a Cibecue Apache named Running Fish, a rogue samurai named Nguro Hijiro and the crates of 20th century weapons, the Two Gun Kid

fought for months to avert the crisis. He succeeded, though he seemed to perish in a dramatic conflagration on July 20 of that year.

Following this adventure the Kid's 'Sunset Riders' scattered. Running Fish went to ride with Geronimo and was presumably either killed or relocated to a reservation when in 1886. Hijiro went to San Francisco and the fact that he was Japanese may not have saved him from the anti-Chinese violence that swept that city. Marcel traveled to Montana and settled in the town of Wonderment.

Matthew Leibowicz had faked his death once again and had settled in the boomtown of Anaconda, Montana. With both Matt Hawk and the Two Gun Kid officially 'dead', Matt took the name of the old dime novel hero he admired and became Clay Harder, attorney at law. He was still living in Anaconda in 1885 when Marcel Fournier found him and convinced him to help protect the town of Wonderment from the nightriders. In the struggle the Kid learned that Marcel was actually a traitor working for the town's enemies and shot him. It was a sad moment in a life plagued by tragedy, but it ended as Matt wanted it to. He went out in a blaze of glory defending the town from its enemies.

Reno Jones (1843-?)
Kid Cassidy (1843-1885)

“Didn’t know your pa was the subject of one of them dime novels, did you, Cass? Here it is. Reno Jones and Kid Cassidy—Gunhawks.”

The Gunhawks was a short-lived title from Marvel Comics featuring an interracial team of gunfighters in the Old West. The series attempted to flaunt the conventions of the western comic, with controversial results⁸². “Kid” Cassidy, his real first name is never revealed, was the son of a Georgia planter in the antebellum South. He was born about 1843 and grew up a child of privilege. Reno Jones⁸³ was a slave the same age as the Kid and the two were playmates as children. As the boys grew up, the social forces of the times drew them into separate worlds. Reno, if not content to be a slave, was fond enough of his masters that he didn’t want to see harm come to them. He loved a young woman named Rachel who was also a Cassidy slave.



When the war came, the Kid went off to join the Confederate Army while Reno chose to remain neutral and did not seek to cast off his slavery. He and Rachel remained with the elder Cassidy until the Union Army came through in autumn, 1864. The Union forces killed old Cassidy and burned the plantation. Several soldiers even abducted Rachel, pistol-whipping Reno in the process. This brutality filled Reno with hate for the Yankees. He took up with some renegade Confederate soldiers and spent the next week or so participating in hit-and-run raids against Sherman's army.

As soon as the Kid heard about the destruction of his home, he took leave and returned. He found Reno, but everyone else was dead or gone. Realizing that the Southern cause was lost, the Kid deserted. He headed west with Reno, looking for some trace of Rachel⁸⁴. On the way they encountered an old buffalo hunter named Jed who taught them how to survive on the plains. He also trained Reno in the use of his custom-made "Buffalo Gun" a hunting rifle with amazing range and power.

Reno and the Kid caught up with Rachel in the Colorado Territory. She had been captured by a Cheyenne warrior named Grey Fox and was his woman. She was in the encampment on the Sand Hill reservation where Reno and the Kid were witness to the worst massacre in the Indian Wars⁸⁵. On the morning of November 29, 1864 a militia company attacked the Sand Hill encampment killing the people they found indiscriminately. Approximately 150 Cheyenne and Arapaho were killed, mostly women and children, about a quarter of the total number in the camp.

Rachel was among the survivors and the Kid nearly died trying to free her. Ultimately he lived but Rachel and Reno were never reunited⁸⁶. They drifted for several years, the Kid growing more and more bitter towards the Yankees and everything that reminded him of his old life. His friendship with Reno faded as he brooded on the glory days of the South. One day he lost his temper and drew on his friend. Reno was faster and shot the Kid⁸⁷.

Assuming that he had killed his former partner, Reno left the wandering life behind him. He married a woman named Mary and they had two sons. In 1880 they were part of the 'Exoduster' migration to Wyoming and helped to found the town of Wonderment.

When nightriders began to raid Wonderment in 1885 it was Reno who set out to recruit gunfighters to defend the town. He called in the Rawhide Kid, Kid Colt, the Outlaw Kid, the Two Gun Kid, and Red Wolf. At one point in the conflict, Reno was wounded and presumed dead. Actually

he was found by Red Wolf and taken back to the Comanche shaman Flaming Star who nursed him back to health.

Flaming Star also gave Reno the glowing costume that had been worn by He-Who-Rides-the-Night-Winds. In this guise he joined in the final defense of Wonderment. Reno unmasked and killed the leader of the nightriders, who turned out to be Kid Cassidy.

The fate of Reno Jones after that violent night is unknown, but he may well have been able to lay aside his guns any live to an old age with his family.

The Outlaw Kid (1843-1885)

“He became th’ Outlaw Kid t’keep his Pa from knowin’ he took up th’ gun. His Pa found out and th’ shock killed him Temple split that side o’ himself off and blames it for his Pa’s death.”

Lance Temple was born the son of rancher “Hoot” Temple in 1843⁸⁸ and lived the first part of his life uneventfully enough. When he was a young man, the Civil War broke out and Lance left home to fight⁸⁹. We know next to nothing of his wartime experiences. We do know that, by the war’s end, Hoot had developed a strong aversion to guns and violence.



Hoot’s change of mind may have been due to religious conviction⁹⁰, a reaction to the brutality of the War, or some other cause. We only know that Hoot viewed gunplay is morally wrong. Lance privately disagreed, but out of his deep respect for his father, he refused to say so and even promised Hoot that he would never lift a gun against another.

Unfortunately, violence had a way of thrusting itself into the Temple’s lives. Land grabbers were after the Temple ranch. In one attempt to terrorize Hoot into selling they used a bomb that blinded him. Lance felt he had to do something yet couldn’t bear to break his promise to his father. He created the identity of the Outlaw Kid, a masked rider for justice. In this identity he could fight the land grabbers without his father knowing that he had broken his promise.

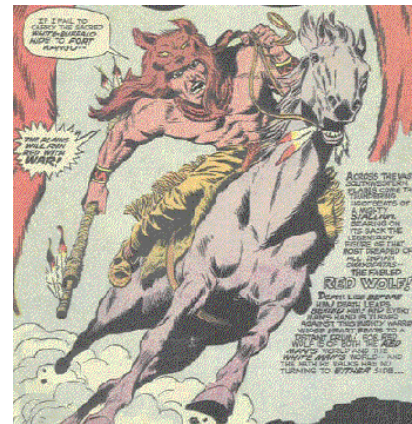
Eventually Hoot did learn that Lance was really the Outlaw Kid. The knowledge was a terrible shock, and the old man died of a heart attack. Lance was shattered by his guilt. It weighed on him so heavily that he developed a multiple personality disorder. As the Outlaw Kid he was still the deadly gunfighter seeking justice for the powerless. As Lance Temple he was a gun-shy man who took to tracking down the Kid, who he blamed for his father's death.

Lance was one of the gunfighters enlisted by the Rawhide Kid to help protect the town of Wonderment. His personality was reintegrated in the heat of the final battle and he died heroically, defending the townspeople.

Red Wolf (1847-?)

“Stories are told about this man, and the gray wolf, Lobo, who strides with him in both the white man’s camps and the red man’s. Long he tried to keep the peace between the races, until he saw the white man did not want peace with the red, but only wanted them dead.”

The man who would become Red Wolf was born around the year 1847⁹¹ in the region that would become the Wyoming Territory⁹². The boy was born to Cheyenne parents shortly before a unit of cavalry attacked and wiped out his tribe. One of the troopers, Rafe Hacker, rescued the baby boy from death and gave him to a pair of Mormon settlers named Martin and Emma Wakely⁹³ to raise as their own.



In 1865 Johnny's adoptive parents were killed in the series of uprisings under Chief Red Cloud⁹⁴. Shortly after burying his parents, Johnny encountered the entity known as Owayodata⁹⁵, the wolf spirit of the Cheyenne. The spirit commanded him to put on the mantle of the legendary Cheyenne warrior, Red Wolf and to fight for peace between his people and the settlers.

As Johnny Wakeley, the young man signed on as a scout at Fort Rango⁹⁶, while as Red Wolf he approached the local tribes. He hoped this would allow him to learn of potential conflicts on either side in time to stop them. Despite his best efforts, the bloody conflict dragged on for three years. Finally, the US agreed to close the Bozeman trail and the fort that had been built to defend it. Red Wolf was able to give up his

masquerade as a scout and his Johnny Wakeley identity⁹⁷. There was a period of relative peace from 1868-1872, but it soon became apparent that this was only a lull in the larger conflict.

In the 1870's the conflicts began to escalate again. In 1876 a unified force of different tribes handed the cavalry under Col. George A. Custer a crushing defeat at the Battle of Little Big Horn. Red Wolf does not seem to have been a part of this battle but, by this time, his sympathies were solidly with the tribes. The tribes had won the battle, but the massive retaliation soon drove them from their homelands.

The following year the government's attempts to confine the Nez Perce nation on to a reservation came to a head. Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce had always resisted the idea of war and attempted to take his people to Canada to resettle. Red Wolf heard of their valiant struggle and joined them. The heroic trek ended just miles short of the border when the military captured the Nez Perce and returned them to Idaho. Red Wolf was reported killed.

The reports of the wolfskin warrior's death were exaggerated. He continued to fight for his people, though we have virtually no records of his adventures until 1885 when he was called on to aid the citizens of the town of Wonderment. The citizens of that community had offered aid to the Nez Perce so Red Wolf agreed to help. The last that is known of him is that he decided to stay in Wonderment for a time and that he and the Comanche girl, Ghost Wind Rider had become lovers.

The mantle of the Red Wolf has passed from generation to generation. In modern times it passed to a Cheyenne named Will Talltrees, some of whose adventures have been related in Marvel comics. Talltrees was a Vietnam veteran who assumed the sacred role after returning from his tour of duty. It is difficult to say whether his adventures are a part of the WNU or not⁹⁸.

Ghost Rider
(As Carter Slade 1847-1873)
(As Lincoln Slade 1849-1877)

*“The figure, glowing spectral white in the moonlight, is a legend.
The natives call him ‘He-Who-Rides-the-Night-Winds’ but white men
know him simply as...the Ghost Rider.”*

In about 1865⁹⁹ a luminescent meteorite landed in the Texas¹⁰⁰ desert where it was found by the healer of a Comanche band. The shaman

heard a voice commanding him to become the guardian of the meteor and changed his name to Flaming Star.



Several years later young Carter Slade came into this section of Texas. Slade was a schoolteacher from Ohio who had decided to move west after earning his degree. The year was 1867 and Slade was 21 years old¹⁰¹. Shortly after arriving in Texas, Slade was attacked and left for dead by the gunsels of cattle baron Jason Bartholomew¹⁰². He was found by a young orphan named Jamie Jacobs and taken to the Comanche camp.

Under Flaming Star's care, Slade made a miraculous recovery. He believed that God had saved his life for a purpose and the medicine man believed that he was the destined champion of the meteorite. Together they created the costumed identity of 'He-Who-Rides-the-Night-Winds' or, as the white settlers called him, the 'Ghost Rider'¹⁰³. As the rider, Slade wore a costume with a full-face mask and long cape, which had been treated with the glowing dust of the meteor. The costume glowed with an unearthly white light. Slade used this effect and a battery of magician's tricks to help in his fight against evildoers.

It is difficult to sort out fact from legend in the adventures of the Ghost Rider¹⁰⁴. We can say for certain that he fought a variety of villains from the years 1868-1873, the most persistent of whom was the whip-wielding masked outlaw known as the Tarantula. At some point during this time Slade and Flaming Star's daughter, Spotted Doe became lovers. A baby girl called Ghost Wind Rider was born to the couple, probably in 1870¹⁰⁵.

By 1873, Carter's brother, Lincoln Slade¹⁰⁶ had come to the same part of Texas and was working as a town marshal. Lincoln and the Ghost Rider worked together to fight a man called Reverend Reaper and his gang. The battle took them into a mineshaft. Reaper was killed and Carter badly injured when the mine caved in. As he lay dying, Carter revealed his secret identity to his brother and made him promise to become the new Ghost Rider¹⁰⁷.

From 1873-1877 Lincoln continued to act as He-Who-Rides-the-Night-Winds. He also married and fathered two sons. By 1877 he had lost his wife and much of his idealism. He died that year under mysterious circumstances but no longer fit to wear the sacred costume¹⁰⁸. By this time the Comanche band had been all but obliterated by war and

disease. Flaming Star took the costume and his granddaughter and headed north, eventually settling in the town of Wonderment, Montana.

In 1885, when Reno Jones was injured fighting the nightriders, Flaming Star nursed him back to health and gave him the costume. As the third Ghost Rider he killed Clay Riley, leader of the gang. Ironically, Riley was the man who had been the Ghost Rider's foe Tarantula years earlier.

The legend of the Ghost Rider seems to have ended in Wonderment. Flaming Star stayed on in the town, his final fate is unknown. His granddaughter Ghost Wind Rider also stayed in Wonderment and became the lover of the heroic Red Wolf.

Gunhawk (1850-1885)

"Oh... I could give you a pick of names. Lee Barnett's as good as any. Some folks refer to me as Gunhawk."

Next to nothing is known about the mysterious and troubled individual known as the Gunhawk, not even his name. He was last seen using the alias 'Lee Barnett' so it is possible that this is his actual name. Though this is highly questionable, this article will use the name Lee Barnett as if it were correct.

Lee seems to have been born around 1850, though even this date is highly speculative. He was orphaned at a young age and taken by a sheriff. It is unclear whether the sheriff's name was Matt Hank, or Hank Matt. When Lee was a young man (perhaps in his teens) he and his foster father had a falling out. Lee left home and wandered. Little is known of him during these years.

About a decade passed and Lee learned that his foster father was killed. Saddened that he had never had a chance to reconcile with the man who raised him, Lee declared that he was, in his own words, *"...doomed to stay on the run for the rest of my life, trying to escape a past I don't even understand."*

Lee became a bounty hunter dressing in black and using a wide variety of aliases. He was a relentless man who would go to extreme lengths to bring a bounty, yet also a man with his own peculiar code of



honor. It mattered to him whether his quarry was innocent or guilty, and sometimes he gave a break to a bounty he sympathized with.

He had no such sympathy for his last target. In 1884 the famous outlaw, Kid Colt shot a lawman in a heated moment. The sheriff had been one of Gunhawk's few friends and he took a personal interest in tracking Colt down. Gunhawk caught up with Colt in the town of Wonderment just as the nightriders descended on the community. He found himself fighting side by side with the man he had sworn to kill.

Sadly, this shared experience didn't take the edge off Gunhawk's need for revenge. When the fighting was over he took advantage of an unguarded moment and shot Kid Colt in the back, killing him instantly. Caleb Hammer had fought alongside the two men in the defense of Wonderment and was the only witness to the killing. He was outraged and called Gunhawk out. Gunhawk carried a pair of custom-made colts with hawks carved into the handles. He was an expert with these weapons but Caleb Hammer's shotgun was faster and the bounty hunter joined his final prey in death.

Caleb Hammer (1855-1896)

"That's right—Caleb Hammer, Pinkerton agent. Don't go for that hogleg, boy. You're way outgunned."

Caleb Hammer was a man who never wanted to be a gunfighter. He was probably born about 1850 and seems to have lived in Illinois as a young man. An intelligent young man, Caleb also had a talent for violence. He was a skilled agent of the famous Pinkerton Detective Agency beginning in 1880 or earlier.¹⁰⁹ In 1884 he took an assignment to bring in Kid Colt, an outlaw who had shot a lawman. He spent a full year on the job before he caught up with Colt in the town of Wonderment. Colt was shot in the back by a bounty hunter called Gun Hawk. Disgusted by the man's cowardly actions, Hammer called Gunhawk out and killed him.



Disillusioned with life as a Pinkerton, Hammer went back east to study for the ministry and to take a wife in 1885 year¹¹⁰. Unfortunately, tragedy was to dog Hammer's life, on his wedding night a drunken man burst into the couple's room. Mistaking Caleb's

wife for another woman he shot her to death. Hammer never remarried and is not known to have ever entered another romantic relationship.

Caleb Hammer continued to try to do God's work, which he believed compelled him to work for workers' rights. In 1886 he and his brother were in Chicago trying to help striking workers. A conflict broke out between the workers and strikebreakers and Hammer's brother was killed.

With his faith shattered by the tragedies of his life, Hammer went to back to work for the Pinkerton Detective Agency. He brought in numerous desperados, taking care to bring them alive if possible. Though no longer a preacher he expressed a strong concern about the possible redemption of those he hunted.

Some years later, Hammer found and brought in his wife's killer, though even this brought him little peace. Hammer seems almost supernaturally tough in this adventure, emerging unscathed from a burning building and breaking gun steel with his bare hands¹¹¹. He continued working for the Pinkertons until his death in 1896. A fugitive named Absalom¹¹² ambushed him and shot him in the back. Absalom was caught and hanged for the crime.

Jeb Kent

"You meet any of the other legends like Bill Hickok or Wyatt Earp or Jeb Kent...?"

Jeb Kent and his brother Nathaniel were prominent figured in Kansas and Missouri history around the time of the Civil War. Their story is told in detail in *The Kents* mini-series by John Ostrander, Tim Truman, Tom Mandrake, and Michael Bair, published by DC Comics. Full information about them comes in section 3 of this article.

SECTION 3. THE BROTHERS

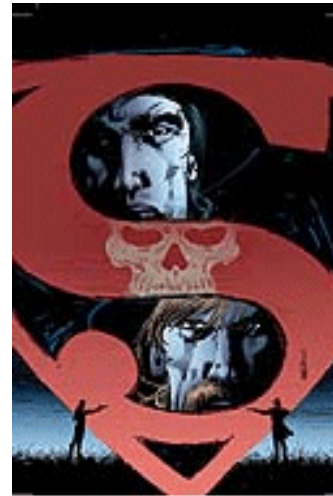
The mention of Jeb Kent in *Apache Skies* brings the DC Comics miniseries *The Kents* into the Wold-Newton Universe. *The Kents* is the history of the earlier generations of the family who adopted the foundling child who would one day become Superman. As both Superman and Jeb

Kent are in the WNU there is no impediment to bringing in the miniseries continuity.

Jeb Kent (1836-1874)
Nathaniel Kent (1834-?)

The Kents had been a Boston family¹¹³ with strong abolitionist sympathies. Silas Kent's convictions led him to move to Lawrence, Kansas with his two oldest sons. The three arrived in 1854 when Nathaniel was 18 and Jeb was 16.¹¹⁴

Kansas in the mid 1850's was suffering a bloody border conflict with Missouri. Both abolitionist forces and pro-slavery forces were sending their supporters to ensure the territory would enter the Union on one side or the other. There was even open violence as 'redlegs' from Kansas raided into Missouri and Missouri 'guerillas' raided Kansas. In the years leading up to the war, the territory earned the nickname 'Bleeding Kansas.'



TM & (C) DC Comics

The Kents soon learned how appropriate this name was. Shortly after establishing a print shop, Silas Kent was shot to death by a pro-slavery thug named Luther Reid¹¹⁵. Nate took over both the running of the shop and his father's abolitionist activities. He was a serious and idealistic young man perpetually at odds with his impulsive and irresponsible younger brother. In 1856 several things happened to escalate this tension.

Nate had gone to Washington to help lobby for Kansas when a large force from Missouri laid siege to the town of Lawrence. Jeb used the violence as a cover to take out his resentment against his brother. During the looting that accompanied the occupation of the town he burned down the Kent print shop.

Jeb's anger towards Nate coincided with a growing distaste for the abolitionist movement. He became involved with Lily Beaumont, the daughter of a pro-slavery family. When the abolitionist fanatic John Brown murdered Lily's family, she blamed Jeb for not preventing the deaths and fled the territory. Unknown to Jeb, she was pregnant with his child.

Between this incident and his growing friendship with pro-slavery guerilla William Quantrill, Jeb turned against the abolition movement and his brother completely. In 1860 Jeb was one of a gang of raiders who attempted to capture a freed family and send them back to slavery in the South. Nate had befriended the family and tried to protect them. In the dispute that followed, Jeb shot and wounded his older brother.

Nate lived and was nursed back to health by the Glenowens¹¹⁶. John Glenowen was a former trapper, originally from Wales. He has lived among the Delaware nation for years before coming to Kansas and his daughter Mary was half Delaware. Nate fell in love with her at first sight but circumstances would keep them apart for many years.

When the War broke out Nate and his friend Wild Bill Hickok joined the Union Army as scouts. Jeb joined the Confederate forces and rode with Quantrill, "Bloody Bill" Anderson, the Younger Brothers, and Frank and Jesse James¹¹⁷.

Following the war, Nate became a deputy US Marshal and part time cavalry scout. This allowed him the liberty to earn a living while he searched for Mary Glenowen, who had disappeared during the war. His path often crossed with Wild Bill Hickock's and the two of them were serving as scouts under General Custer in 1868 when Custer's men massacred a group of Cheyenne at the Washita River. It was the last time Nate would ever scout for the army.

In the meantime, Jeb had joined with some of his old friends from the war to rob banks. Though he was the youngest of them, the daring Jesse James was the unquestioned leader of the gang. The gang grew too brutal for Jeb and he tried working as a cowboy driving cattle from Texas to Abilene for a time. During this time he crossed paths with two violent young men, John Wesley Hardin and his own son, Taylor Beaumont. He decided to try to be a father to his son but the young man eventually goaded him into outlawry again.

Nate finally found Mary Glenowen. She had gone back to her mother's people only to be herded with them onto the newly established "Indian Territory" by the government. The two met again in 1871 and wasted no time in getting married. Nate accepted the job of sheriff of the town of Smallville, Kansas and the two settled down to raise a family.

Jeb and Nate met a final time. By 1874 Tyler had goaded Jeb into robbing the Smallville bank, where he hoped he would have a chance to kill his uncle. A repentant Jeb passed information of the raid to Mary and the gang walked into a trap. Rather than surrender, Tyler started a

gunfight. He and Jeb were fatally wounded in the battle. With his dying breath Jeb managed to find reconciliation with Nate.

We don't know much of the final fate of Nathaniel, though he was still alive in 1894. We do know that his descendants carried his values into the new century. His son¹¹⁸, Jonathan Kent married a woman named Martha Clark, and the alien baby they adopted and raised has become the stuff of heroic legend.

Jonah Hex (1838-1903)

Bill: *See that tall ugly sumbitch riding in?*

Nate: *Hard to miss a man that ugly. Who is he?*

Bill: *Goes by the name of Jonah Hex¹¹⁹.*

One of the strangest and saddest of all of the gunfighters of the old west was Jonah Hex. Born the son of a town drunk, and abandoned by his mother at an early age, Hex's life seemed doomed from the very beginning. Even his name seemed to portend against him for a 'Jonah' is another name for a bringer of bad luck, and a hex is a curse.



After Jonah's mother ran off with a salesman, his father took him west to seek their fortune. Their father-son bonds were not especially strong. When Jonah was thirteen his father traded him to a band of Apache in return for animal pelts. Jonah was a despised slave of the tribe until he managed to save the chief from a wildcat. This prompted the chief to adopt the boy.

This change of fortune gave the fifteen year-old Jonah some real status in the tribe, but earned him the hatred of the chief's natural son, Noh-Tante. The next year he attacked Jonah during a raid on a white settlement. Fortunately the attack only knocked Jonah out. He was taken in by a trapper and became, by turns a buffalo hunter and a cavalry scout under Col. Marcus Wainwright.

The young man's luck seemed to have taken a turn for the better, and he became engaged to the Colonel's daughter, Cassie. The reversal was only temporary though and Cassie was killed in a Comanche raid. The grief stricken Jonah joined up with the Confederate Army when the Civil War broke out. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant, but the idea of fighting on the side of slave-holders never set quite right with him. Towards the end

of the war he surrendered his troop and was horrified to see them massacred by the Union forces.

Jonah alone escaped the slaughter. A traitor to the Confederacy and a renegade to the Union, he sought to rejoin the Apaches who had raised him. When he arrived he was forced into a fight by Noh-Tante, who had never ceased hating him. He killed his adoptive brother in self-defense but the tribe shunned him for this action. Finding himself rejected by everyone he had known, Jonah had the 'mark of the demon' branded into his face with a hot knife. The disfiguring scars, and the Confederate officer's hat and coat he wore became his trademarks for the rest of his life.

Jonah Hex became a bounty hunter and one of the deadliest gunmen in the west. By the early 1870's, he found this lonely life wearing on him. He became the common law husband of a Chinese woman named Mei Ling¹²⁰ and fathered a child with her. He struggled to live a peaceful life, but circumstances continued to force him to use his gun. Eventually this proved too much for the gentle Mei Ling, who took the child and abandoned him¹²¹.

The history books lose track of Hex in the year 1875¹²² when he seems to have dropped off the face of the earth. There are scattered reports of him over the next 25 years, but the only reliable report isn't until 1899. At this point Hex, now a man of over sixty, had become the common law husband of a young Cheyenne woman called Tall Bird. The two lived in relative peace until a bank robber named George Barrow shot Hex down four years later.

The stories of most gunfighters end after their deaths, but not Hex's. His body was stolen then stuffed and mounted for display in a Wild West show. The body changed hands over the years, and macabre stories grew up around it. In 1987 burglars who had attempted to steal the body were found gunned down. The rumor was that the spirit of Jonah Hex was tired of being mishandled. Shortly after this Tall Bird, now around a hundred years old¹²³, claimed the body and took it back to her home to dispose of it in the traditional manner of her people.

We can only hope that Jonah's Hex's spirit finally knows peace.

Scalphunter (1839-1899)

"I was partnered up with this odd duck named Brian Savage, a white man raised by the Kiowa who call him Ke-Who-No-Tay. Around the post they just call him Scalphunter."

Brian Savage was born to Matthew and Laurie Savage, a ranching couple from Missouri. When Brian was a baby the Kiowa raided the ranch, killing his mother and abducting him. He was given a name that means, "he who is less than human" and raised by the tribe for twenty-three years. In 1863 the Cavalry attacked the Kiowa and captured the young man. A doctor identified him by a birthmark on his back, but all attempts to reunite him with his father failed.

Brian wanted no part of the white man's world, but knew that he could never return to the Kiowa. He signed on to the U.S. Cavalry as an Indian scout and, for a time worked with Nathaniel Kent under George Armstrong Custer.

On November 26, 1868, Scalphunter and Kent were present at the 'Washita Fight' when Custer's forces overran Black Kettle's encampment killing 103 people, 92 of who were old men, women and children. Disgusted by what they had seen, both men resigned from the Army.

Scalphunter took on the way of a wanderer after that. Like many of the roving heroes of the old west he protected the innocent and fought the wicked of every race when he came across them. Sometimes he worked as a lawman, and others as a hired gun. Unlike many of these heroes, Brian Savage took a very harsh approach to dealing with the villains he encountered. (You don't earn the name 'Scalphunter' by just shooting the guns out of someone's hand).

As the years progressed, Brian took to using the white man's weapons more and more. Sometime in the 1880's he became the lover of a prostitute named Annie and settled down to become the sheriff of Opal City. This union seems to have been a tempestuous one and Brian left his wife for a time to take up with the beautiful socialite, Margaret DeVere. He hoped that he could finally shed his past and be accepted in white society. Two enemies of his followed him to a soiree, believing that he would be unarmed at the event, but there was still enough of the scalphunter in Brian that he was carrying his knives. He fought and killed both men.

For Brian this was a decisive event. He realized that he would never belong in Margaret's society and returned to Annie. The two had a son, Steven whose exploits as an aviator in World War One earned him the

nickname “Balloon Buster.” In 1899, Brian was shot and killed by a desperate criminal named Jason Melville. His deputy Carny O’Dare returned fire, killing Melville but too late to save the man who had been called Scalphunter.¹²⁴

Brian Savage was a large and powerful man with a canny mind and remarkable stealth and tracking abilities. His size and gifts suggest that he is probably one of the members of Doc Savage’s family tree, though his place in the family genealogy has not yet been established. DC Comics recounted his adventures in *Weird Western Tales* #39-70.

Matt Savage (1830-? ¹²⁵)

“Trail boss was a man name of Matt Savage who I had worked for last season.”

Very little is known of Matt Savage’s early life, though it seems likely that he is another of the antecedents of the famous Doc Savage. Though neither man seems to have realized it, Matt Savage was the Scalphunter’s cousin and had been named for his uncle, Matthew Savage¹²⁶.

Matt Savage was an officer in the Union Army during the war. After the war he moved to Texas where he worked, first as a miner and later as a cattle boss. DC Comics told his adventures in *Western Comics* #77-85.

Matt Savage was a tall man who was smart, tough, and born with a love for adventure. It seems very likely that he is a part of the adventurous Savage family whose most famous member was Clark Savage Jr. better known as Doc Savage. The genealogical work connecting Matt to Doc has not yet been established.

Bat Lash (Dates Unknown)

Though he is not mentioned in *The Kents*, Bartholomew Aloysius Lash is worthy of mention because of his association with Jonah Hex. Bat Lash is also a resident of the WNU because of his involvement in the comic miniseries *“Guns of the Dragon.”*



Lash was born on the Texas ranch of his parents Lemuel and Martha Lash. The year of his birth is unknown but he seems not to have served in the Civil War so a guess of about 1850 may be correct. Bat's mother wanted to raise an educated gentleman while his father wanted a hard working rancher. The young man took some guidance from each of his parents but in an unconventional manner. He learned to use his fists and a six-gun, but he also learned to deplore violence and used his humor and intelligence to sidestep trouble whenever possible.

When Bat was a young man, corrupt land officials took the family's ranch. He tried to resist using legal means but the situation eventually turned violent. Bat's parents were killed when their enemies set the cabin they were hiding in on fire. The young man swore vengeance on the murderers and set out to find them.

Bat was anything but the stereotype of the vengeful gunfighter. An easygoing man with a taste for expensive living and pretty women, he dressed well and often wore a flower in his hatband. Bat made his living as a gambler as he traveled from town to town in the old west. The culmination of his quest for revenge has never been recorded, nor has his final fate. He is known to have been alive and still spry in the 1920s when he joined a small band of adventurers in the Pacific on an island populated by dinosaurs.¹²⁷

SECTION 4. THE SAINT

In The Preacher series of graphic novels there are a number of Western connections that connect nicely to those set up by the Rawhide Kid mini-series. The story *The Saint of Killers* reprinted in *THE PREACHER VOL. 4: ANCIENT DAYS* is set in a time of western legends. Many of the legends mentioned in this story are historical, including Billy the Kid, Pat Garrett, Jesse James, John Chisolm and Charles Goodnight. There are also a number of characters who do not exist in history but who co-exist with the Saint of Killers.

John Bernard Books (1843-1901)
aka John Chance
aka Cole Thornton

"J. B. Books, the Shootist who chose to die the way he lived."

John Bernard Books was the hero of the novel ***The Shootist*** by Glendon Swarthout. The story was made into a movie starring John Wayne. Because the movie follows the novel faithfully in most details¹²⁸, it is possible to draw evidence about Books' life from both sources.

John Bernard Books was born on January 29, 1843, probably somewhere in rural Texas. He had two sisters and a brother though he left home at a young age and never saw them again. As a young man he became a gunfighter and picked up a number of friends with similar inclinations. One of these friends was J.P. Harrah¹²⁹, who he would meet again years later.



Following the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, General John Bell Hood formed the cavalry unit known as "Hood's Texas Brigade." J.B. Books signed on and remained with Hood's unit through the end of the conflict.¹³⁰

Following the War, Books returned to the West. Operating principally out of Texas, he had a number of adventures whose details are lost to us¹³¹. We know that, in 1871 he rescued a young boy from several banditos¹³². In 1880 he was involved in a gunfight in the desert¹³³.

By 1881 J.B. Books had become the sheriff of the small town of Rio Bravo, Texas¹³⁴. His deputies were an old man called 'Stumpy' and a deadly gunslinger called 'Dude.' He spent a number of years in this position, apparently relishing the stability it gave him in what had been a chaotic life. This tranquility was broken when his job took him to El Paso in 1884 where he was badly wounded in a gunfight with two men. The local doctor, a man named Hostetler was able to save Books' life.¹³⁵



The following year Books was involved in one of the most dramatic sieges in Western history.¹³⁶ He had arrested the brother of a local cattle baron and the rancher's men made a number of attempts to rescue him. Books' only allies in this struggle were the Dude (who was struggling to overcome alcoholism), Stumpy, a young gunslinger called 'Colorado,' and a gambler's widow named Maudie¹³⁷.

Though he had met with success as a lawman, Books grew restless. Over the objections of his lover Maudie, he resumed the life of a roving

gunhand. The two didn't see each other again until 1889 when they met in South Texas town of El Dorado. Maudie was running a bordello, and Books (referred to as Cole Thornton in the story) was there to act as an enforcer in a range war. J.P. Harrah was the sheriff of El Dorado and advised his old friend to stay away from the conflict. Books complied, but before he could leave the area the young son of local rancher ambushed him. Books returned fire, critically wounding the lad who, unable to bear the pain, committed suicide. The young man's sister responded by putting a bullet in Books/Thornton's back.

Books left the area to work for some miners in Mexico and didn't return to El Dorado until six months later. The bullet, which had lodged near his spine, was causing him seizures and he needed a doctor to remove it. While he was in El Dorado he was persuaded to help Harrah (who was struggling with alcoholism) bring the range war to an end¹³⁸. The two men were successful, with the aid of some unlikely allies. Shortly after, a doctor was able to remove the bullet from Books/Thornton's back.

Books' life came to an end in 1901. He had been diagnosed with an advanced case of prostate cancer and had traveled to El Paso to have the diagnosis confirmed by Doc Hostetler. Realizing that he faced an agonizing death, Books set up a final gunfight. He managed to kill three of his enemies but was fatally shot in the back by a bartender. He perished of his wounds on his birthday, January 29, 1901.

Josey Wales (1832-?)

"Josey Wales, the army of one"

Josey Wales is a man with such a fierce reputation that he is often imagined as bigger and more menacing than he really was.¹³⁹ Some of the essentials of his life are found in a wanted flyer circulated by the U.S. Army at the close of the war:

JOSEY WALES: AGE 32, 5 FEET 9 INCHES,
160 POUNDS. BULLET SCAR HORIZONTAL
RIGHT CHEEKBONE, DEEP KNIFE SCAR
LEFT CORNER MOUTH.

PREVIOUSLY LISTED WANTED BY U.S.
MILITARY AS EX-GUERILLA LIEUTENANT
SERVING WITH CAPTAIN WILLIAM "BLOODY
BILL" ANDERSON IN MISSOURI.



WALES REFUSED AMNESTY AFTER THE SURRENDER, 1865.
REGARD AS AN INSURRECTIONIST REBBEL, BANK ROBBER,
KILLER OF AT LEAST 35 MEN.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. EXTREMELY QUICK AND
PROFICIENT WITH PISTOLS. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISARM.
REPEAT, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISARM.

WANTED DEAD. REPEAT, WANTED DEAD. \$75,000 REWARD.

From the dates on the poster we can see that Josey was born in 1832. He was the child of a Tennessee family who never received much formal schooling but was well schooled in the codes of honor and blood feud of the mountain clans. As a young man, Josey married a pretty girl, fathered a son and moved to Cass County, Missouri to start his own farm.

Josey would have been happy as a farmer and family man, but history interceded. Before the Civil War, Missouri was one of the states most hotly disputed by pro and anti slave forces. In the Spring of 1858 a group of "red-legs" crossed the border from Kansas, killed Josey's wife and son, and burned his home.

The young man was consumed by hatred and by the code that told him he had to exact bloody revenge on his enemies. He joined the likes of William Quantrill, "Bloody Bill" Anderson, and later Frank and Jesse James as they staged guerilla raids of their own throughout Missouri and Kansas. When the Civil War erupted in 1861 the guerillas had already been fighting for years.

Josey fought on the side of the Confederacy, not because he believed in the cause of slavery, but because it had been anti-slave riders who had killed his family. He was exceptionally quick with his pistols and an expert at the guerilla tactics of hit and run, ambush, and psychological warfare. When the war ended he heard stories of other guerillas trying to surrender and being shot down. He chose not to surrender and headed to Texas with an impressive price on his head. On the way he picked up an unlikely assortment of misfits and outcasts. The man who had lived by himself and only for revenge soon found himself the caretaker of an alternative community consisting of a Cherokee fighter named Lone Watie, an outcast Cheyenne woman named Little Moonlight, the irascible Grandma Sarah Turner and young Laura Lee Turner.

Josey shepherded these people safely into Texas where he forged a peace alliance with the Comanche chief Ten Bears and set up a small ranch. His friends helped convince the authorities that Josey Wales had died

several weeks earlier in Mexico. He assumed the name of 'Wells' and he and Laura Lee were married in a double ceremony with Lone Watie and Little Moonlight. Lone and Moonlight had a baby girl soon after the ceremony. Josey and Laura Lee had a son the following year. They named him Jamie after a young soldier who had died while riding with Josey.

Josey's peace was shattered again in 1868 when a group of Mexican *rurales* under the command of a local tyrant named Escobedo crossed the border. They inflicted considerable harm on the border towns, especially Santo Rio, where they made the mistake of assaulting and murdering the locals. Josey Wales felt compelled to avenge his friends and followed the vengeance trail until Escobedo was dead and the *rurales* had been severely punished.

This was Josey Wales' last recorded adventure. Rumors persist that he died shortly after the war, but others say he lived to an old age and that he and Laura Lee saw their children and grandchildren prosper in South Texas.

Amos Edwards (1829-?)
Martin Pauley (1851-?)

"Ethan Edwards, who rode a trail of hate for five long years"

Though his correct name was Amos, this man is often remembered as Ethan Edwards¹⁴⁰. He was a big man with a way of sitting in a saddle as inert as a lump of rock when riding. His older brother had died in youth, leaving him and his younger brother Henry the only survivors in the family.



When Henry came to Texas to settle, Amos followed. He worked a number of jobs including a stint with the Texas Rangers. He always showed great promise at these jobs, but he also always drifted away from them to work on his brother's ranch for no pay. Amos would never admit it, but he had always been in love with his brother's wife, Martha and could never be happy far from her.

In 1851 the Comanche raided the area and slaughtered the neighboring Pauley family. Only a baby boy named Martin was saved. Mart was taken in and fostered by the Edwards family. He grew into a quiet, thoughtful young man with a dark complexion.

It wasn't until 1869 that the Comanche struck again. They slaughtered the Edwards family and abducted the youngest daughter, a ten year-old girl named Debbie. Amos and Martin had been away chasing cattle thieves when this happened. They immediately set out on Debbie's track and continued it for five long years.

As they searched, Amos and Mart learned new skills. Amos had always been a skilled plainsman, but his search taught him how to track, communicate with, and fight the Comanche better than anyone else in the territory. If anything, Mart learned these skills to an even higher degree.

Mart never gave up on rescuing Debbie. He continued on the path even when it cost him his sweetheart, Laurie Matheson. She eventually tired of waiting for him and married a young ranger named Charlie McCrory.¹⁴¹ Amos never gave up either but he was driven more by hatred of the Comanche than by hope of saving Debbie. Mart often worried that Amos would consider Debbie lost and would kill her when they finally found her.

The quest came to an end in 1875 when Mart, Amos and a troop of cavalry caught up with the band that had Debbie. Amos was finally able to let go of his hate and tried to save Debbie from the melee. Sadly, the woman he thought was Debbie was a Comanche girl in Debbie's clothes. She shot the big man, and he was thought dead at first.¹⁴² Debbie escaped the fighting and Mart eventually tracked her down. She was one of the rare captives able to readapt to her old culture after being taken from the Comanche.

Though the story ends before we know for certain, it seems likely that Mart and Debbie eventually married and returned to her parents' ranch. We do know that when they did return they found that Amos had survived his wounds. He lived on into the early 20th century and met the famous lawmen Wyatt Earp and Bill Tilghman before his death.¹⁴³

Gus McCrae and Woodrow Call

“Woodrow Call and Gus McCrae, who brought the Hat Creek mob on the cattle drive of a lifetime”

The lives of Call and McCrae are already established as a part of the Wold-Newton Universe and are discussed in detail in section 1. Their mention here serves to reinforce the idea that the other fictional characters mentioned in *Saint of Killers* also exist in the WNU.

Will Munny (1844-?)

“William Munny, who one black night in 1880 was to scorn a hail of bullets and kill six men, and ride off unscathed from a town too terrified to face him¹⁴⁴”

Not all of the deadliest gunmen in the old west were those who were fastest and most accurate with their weapons. While these were very useful qualities, it was a cold-blooded disposition was even more effective. A fighter not encumbered by the innate hesitancy to take another human life would often prevail over a technically superior fighter.



William Munny was one of the men who gave credence to this axiom. Though not especially skilled with a pistol, Munny racked up an impressive body count in his bloody career. Once he killed three men in a gunfight, and he doubled that number on a July night in 1881 in the town of Big Whiskey, Wyoming.

Not much is known of Will Munny's early life¹⁴⁵. He was born about 1844¹⁴⁶ probably in either Kansas¹⁴⁷ or Missouri. Either way he would have grown up in the bloody undeclared war between abolition and pro-slave forces that tore those states apart in the years leading up to the Civil War. When the war broke out Will must have fought in the Civil War and may have had the same sort of experiences that turned others like the James brothers and the Younger brothers to crime. Whatever the case, Munny spent the post-war robbing and killing alongside the likes of Pete Sothow and Ned Logan.

The most dramatic event of Will's outlaw career was the robbery of the Rock Island and Pacific Railroad in 1869. Will used dynamite to derail the train and ended up killing a large number of passengers, including

women and children. The following year he shot down a US Marshall who tried to arrest him for the crime.

This level of violence was difficult even for a man like Will Munny to deal with. When he met Claudia Feathers in 1870 her efforts to reform him came at a time when he sorely wanted to change. Will married Claudia and gave up drink and violence for life on an isolated farm in Kansas. When his beloved wife died in 1878, Will was left to work a bad piece of farmland and to raise two small children by himself.

In 1880 a drunken cowboy lost his temper and attacked a prostitute in the town of Big Whiskey, Wyoming. He didn't cause any life-threatening injuries but his knife left disfiguring scars on the girl's face. When the town sheriff, William "Little Bill" Daggett failed to deliver anything like a just resolution, the prostitutes decided to take matters into their own hands. They raised some money and offered a bounty on the heads of the cowboy and a friend who was with him.

The so-called Schofield Kid brought word of the bounty to Will. The Kid was an untried fighter who had romantic dreams of becoming an outlaw. He knew Will through his uncle, who in turn contacted his old partner, Ned Logan. The men managed to kill both cowboys (though one had actually been innocent of any crime) but Ned was caught and killed by Sheriff Daggitt. Will went into town to confront his friend's killer and, in one of the shortest and bloodiest gunfights in the old west, managed to kill Little Bill and four of his deputies.¹⁴⁸

Will Munny took his children and fled the territory. There are several stories about what happened to him after that, the most likely being that he settled in San Francisco, where he prospered in dry goods and lived out the remainder of his life in relative peace.

One note of interest is that Will seems to have crossed paths with Wyatt Earp at some point. The two do not seem to have butted heads but Will didn't like Earp, seeing in him the same sort of bully and coward that Little Bill Daggitt had been.¹⁴⁹

SECTION 5: I'LL BE YOUR HUCKLEBERRY

In his fictionalized memoir of Doc Holliday, *Bucking the Tiger*, Bruce Olds uses quotes from famous figures of the Old West, both real and fictitious to illustrate the lives of Doc Holliday, and the people around him. Several of these references include characters known to exist in the

Wold-Newton Universe. By extension it follows that the rest of the fictional characters mentioned in the book must also be a part of the Wold-Newton Universe.

Paladin (1840-1905)

“Trigged out Paladin-like, an investment in black—bib-shirt, neckerchief, felt vest, silver concho belt, gunrig (the border of the holster was emblazoned with blues metal grommets and carbonized studs), pants, silver-toed, fancy-tooled Mexican boots—he (Billy the Kid) was engrossed at knifepoint policing his fingernails.”

This quote is Doc Holliday’s description of Billy the Kid when the two met on John Chisolm’s New Mexico cattle ranch at Christmas of 1878 or 1879¹⁵⁰. Doc’s likening of Billy to the deadly gun for hire confirms that Paladin is also a resident in the Wold-Newton Universe.



Paladin was an enigma of the Old West, a gunman dressed all in black whose true name was shrouded in mystery. Unlike most gunslingers, he was a cultured man with an excellent education. He was a dangerous fighter with his custom-made pistols and rifle or his bare hands but it was his broad learning and canny mind that were his greatest weapons. Paladin was a brilliant student of history, especially of military history, and spoke an amazing number of languages.

One story told of Paladin’s origins is that he was born Clay Alexander¹⁵¹, probably in the year 1840.¹⁵² His father was a New York businessman and his mother a belle from the Atlanta aristocracy. Clay grew up in St. Louis, with all the privileges his family could offer and a first rate education. After completing his basic education, the young man took a year off to travel the world before entering the military academy at West Point. We don’t know much about this trip except that one of the stops was a tiger-hunting safari in India.¹⁵³ He was there at the time of the Sepoy Revolt and doubtless saw some of that conflict.

Returning to America, the young man enrolled in the West Point Military Academy in 1858. He was a senior when the War broke out and, on his graduation, accepted an officer’s commission in the Confederate Army serving under General Sterling Price in Missouri. Actually this was a

ruse. Clay was acting as a spy and feeding information about Confederate troop movements back to his father in St. Louis.

Brock Helm, a Confederate spy who was closely associated with William Quantrill, learned of Clay's secret. He tracked the messages to Clay's father and murdered him. He then bragged of the crime to Clay's mother. When she died of grief a short time later, Helm took pride in claiming responsibility for both deaths.

Exposed as a spy, Clay returned to the Union Army¹⁵⁴ and was assigned to the Indian conflicts on the frontier. During this time he picked up a remarkable amount of knowledge about the western tribes.

Clay served with distinction but realized that he wasn't interested in a military career. Shortly after the war he resigned his commission. His father's fortune was gone but he received a small remittance from an uncle in Boston, on the condition that he stay away from the rest of the family. Paladin settled in San Francisco and used his money on private detectives to search for Helm.

In 1867 Clay fell into the trap of a wealthy man named Norge, who rigged a gambling venture. Norge agreed to overlook Clay's debts in return for his services in getting rid of a black-clad gunfighter named 'Smoke.' He claimed that Smoke was terrorizing the community of Delta Valley. The young man agreed and narrowly defeated Smoke, but the dying gunfighter revealed that he had actually been the settlers' protector against Norge's despotic rule. Motivated by guilt and the desire to redeem himself the young man donned Smoke's black outfit, took his stylized guns and became the town's new protector¹⁵⁵.

This was the beginning of a new career. Smoke had called Clay "young paladin" after the noble knights of the *Song of Roland*. He kept the name, and the black outfit with the figure of a chess knight worked into the holsters. From approximately 1868-1885 he operated out of the Hotel Carlton in San Francisco charging \$1000 to solve people's problems anywhere in the western territories. Paladin gave out business cards engraved with the motto "Have Gun—Will Travel" and accepted only cases he thought morally right. His friend and sometime assistant was a young Chinese man referred to as 'Hey Boy.'

Many of Paladin's adventures were fictionalized on the 1957-1963 Television program, *Have Gun—Will Travel*. The episodes were not sequential and jumped around in history quite a bit. A few of the highlights of Paladin's career were meeting Philius Fogg on the latter's 1872 trip around the world (*Fogg Bound*), coming across the battlefield at Little Big Horn hours after Custer's disastrous loss (*Comanche*), and

helping out British writer Oscar Wilde on the latter's visit to America in 1882.

A significant event in Paladin's life was his meeting with a younger gunfighter named Roderick Jefferson in 1877¹⁵⁶ (*Genesis*). Jefferson had been persuaded to do in Paladin just as Paladin had been tricked into going after Smoke many years before. Seeing a younger version of himself in the gunman, Paladin told him the story of his own genesis. Jefferson understood and reformed his own life just as Paladin had reformed his. The two became friends and Jefferson married Hey Boy's cousin.

In 1885 or thereabouts, Paladin inherited a large amount of money from an aunt. He retired and moved to Boston.¹⁵⁷ He may have married during this time, though there is no good evidence about this one way or the other.¹⁵⁸ His old friend Hey Boy did marry, to a young woman named Missy Wong who he had courted for several years.

Paladin still traveled to San Francisco, and even set up an annual poker game at the Hotel Carlton to bring in the world's best players. He died in 1905 and missed the last of these games, which was interrupted by the great earthquake of 1906.¹⁵⁹

Gus McCrae and Woodrow Call

"...Sallie (Chisum) proposed to keep to the steps of below content to dig at the ears of her hound, the basset Augustus, Augustus or Woodrow, I forget which."

The fact that Sallie Chisum appears to have a pair of basset hounds named Augustus and Woodrow strongly suggests that she has met the two famous Texas Rangers Augustus McCrae and Woodrow Call. This detail helps to cement the place of ***Bucking the Tiger*** in the Wold-Newton Universe. For more on Gus and Call, see section 1.

William Munny

"Wyatt Earp was... all blackjacks and brass knucks that one. King of the drygulchers.—Wm. Munny."

Will Munny is the protagonist of the movie *Unforgiven* and is already established as a part of the Wold-Newton Universe in this article. For more information on Munny see section 3.

Ethan Edwards

“As a lawman he (Wyatt Earp) warn’t incorruptible, warn’t no Bill Tilghman...”—Ethan Edwards

Ethan Edwards (more properly Amos Edwards) was one of the protagonists of ***The Searchers*** and is already established as a part of the Wold-Newton Universe in this article. For more information about Edwards refer to section 3.

Pike Bishop (1862-1913)
Dutch Engstrom (1861-1913)
Deke Thornton (1853-?)
Lyle Gorch (1872-1913, 1913-?)
Tector Gorch (1862-1913, 1913-1999)
Freddie Sykes (1859-?)
Angel (1888-1913¹⁶⁰)

“...he never stopped walking around as if to lord it over the rest of the world that he was Earp and they was not.”—Pike Bishop

The Wild Bunch was the collective name of one of the most infamous bank robbing gangs¹⁶¹ of the late 19th and early 20th century. They had a changing membership but were generally lead by Pike Bishop and Deke Thornton. Two other frequent members of the gang were ‘Dutch’ Engstrom and Freddie Sykes.



The makeup of the gang changed in 1908 when Deke was captured following a wild night on the town with Pike. He was sent to the rock pile at the territorial prison in Yuma where he suffered terribly. In his absence Pike recruited the infamous Gorch brothers, Lyle and Tector to round out the gang.

The Gorches had grown up in a rough backwoods environment and were two of the most brutal outlaws of the west. In 1886 they had been responsible for the destruction of an entire Mexican village. They lived for robberies and for the drunken revelry they could find with the money they stole. The only real exception to the general brutality of the gang

was the idealism of the young Mexican named Angel. He wanted gold mainly for the guns it could buy. Guns that could defend his village and others like it from the oppression of local petty tyrants.

The Wild Bunch's last job came in 1913 when they struck a bank on the American side of the border. They didn't know that the robbery had been anticipated and that Deke Thornton had been pardoned on the condition that he had to help capture them.

The Bunch mostly made it out of town unharmed but they needed a new source of cash. They hired on with a brutal local Mexican general named Mapache who wanted them to steal a US weapons shipment being moved by train. The Bunch succeeded, despite Deke's interference, and received a huge payoff from Mapache. Unfortunately Mapache and Angel had come to hate each other. The general had no problem letting the other members of the bunch go, but Angel he tortured and eventually killed.

This offended Pike Bishop's rough sense of honor. Rather than ride away with his money he rallied Dutch and the Gorch brothers and made a hopeless assault on Mapache. Against all odds they killed the despot and smashed his private army, but all four of them died in the process.

This was the end of the Wild Bunch but not of the Gorch Brothers. They reappeared in history at the close of the twentieth century as a pair of outlaw vampires. The two came to Sunnydale, California where they attempted to kill Buffy Summers, the current vampire slayer. The two failed and Tector's undead existence was ended when he was eaten by a subterranean demon. Lyle survived and returned the following year to seek revenge against Buffy. He failed but managed to escape, his current whereabouts are unknown but is likely he is still functioning as one of the undead.

This raises an interesting question. How did the Gorch brothers become vampires? They were shot down and their dead bodies hauled away on mules. There seems no opportunity for them to have been turned into creatures of the night.

When Pike went to rally his men he found Lyle and Tector arguing with a prostitute named Delores over her payment. The men left Delores behind to march to their final conflict. It seems likely that Delores was actually a vampire who infected the men with her bite while they were with her. When they were shot down they appeared to die but, come nightfall, the vampiric taint transformed them into the undead.

If this is the case it also seems likely that Delores was one of a number of vampires who haunted the Mexican-US border and who often posed as

prostitutes. These were the evil brood of Santanico Pandemonium whose activities were ended in the 1990's when an unlikely group of potential victims found a way to fight back¹⁶².

Josh Randall (1840-?)

“Come down to the last of it, the only thing you need to understand about Doc Holliday ain't all that complicated.”—Josh Randall

Joshua Randall was perhaps the most successful bounty hunter in the Old West. He was a lean, laconic man with a heart of gold. He used a distinctive weapon called a 'mare's leg' in his work. This was a repeating rifle cut down to about half its usual length. It was light enough to be used with one hand while still more accurate and powerful than a pistol.



Josh's interests lay as much in helping people out as in earning a living off of bounties. In addition to bringing in the usual assortment of bad-men, Randall dealt with such colorful types as a Korean martial arts expert and an elephant tamer who used his animal to frighten off townsfolk so he could loot their homes.

We do not know when Josh was born but the fact that he was a Civil War veteran makes a birth in the early 1840's likely. His commander in the Union Army was a Colonel Sykes and years later he would save the Colonel from false accusations¹⁶³.

Randall seems to have started his career as a bounty hunter shortly after the end of the war, and to have continued it into the early 20th Century. While we do not know a great deal about his personal life we are certain that he eventually married and fathered children. He told stories of his adventures to his son and his son passed those down to his grandson and great-grandson.

Josh's great-grandson, Nick Randall also lived an adventurous life. He was a CIA operative who retired to become a bounty hunter himself. In his only recorded adventure he tracked down and killed the elusive terrorist Malak al Rahim in 1986¹⁶⁴.

Josh seems to have continued hunting bounties into his seventies. When he retired he wrote a memoir titled, ***Memories of 50 Years Strapped to a Mare's Leg***. Among other things, the book contains Josh's impressions of Doc Holliday. The book probably have been written

sometime in the years 1915-1925, when Bat Masterson and Wyatt Earp were also writing about their lives.

Hoby Gilman (1840-1882)

Hoby Gilman was a Texas Ranger of some note whose adventures were told in the television series *Trackdown*. Gilman is not mentioned in ***Bucking the Tiger*** but he is still a part of the Wold-Newton Universe because he once met Josh Randall.¹⁶⁵



The year of Hoby's birth is unknown but he seems to be the same as Josh Randall.¹⁶⁶ He was born and raised in the town of Crawford, Texas with his sister Sarah. From an early age he admired the Texas Rangers but, before he was old enough to join them, Civil War broke out. Hoby enlisted in the Union Army and served for the course of the conflict. On leaving the army, Hoby returned to Texas where he became a Ranger to combat the lawlessness that has arisen there¹⁶⁷. In the course of his adventures he met Josh Randall, and participated in the final shootout with outlaw Sam Bass in 1878.

Not much is known about the later career of Hoby Gilman. Some say he retired from the Rangers and settled down peacefully. Others maintain that he took to bounty hunting and, under the alias of Thomas Luther Price, became very successful.

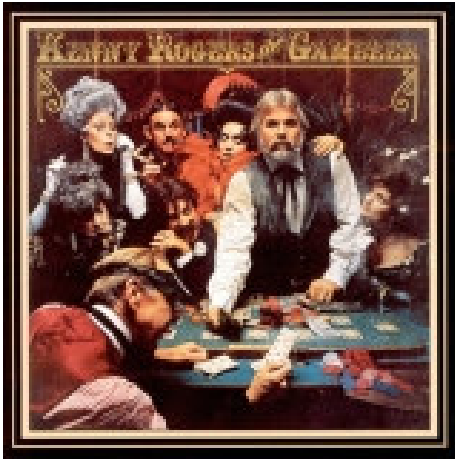
Price's career ended in 1882 when the vicious Clemins brothers gunned him down. The brothers had been blazing a trail of terror along the Texas-Mexico border. The brothers were killed in turn by Gilman/Price's protégé and lover, Hannie Caulder.

SECTION 6: THE GAMBLER

The adventures of Brady Hawkes are already considered a part of the Wold Newton Universe. Brady was a famous gambler of the late 1800's who crossed paths with many of the famous figures (both historical and fictional) of the Old West. His adventures were chronicled in *The Gambler* series of television movies starring singer Kenny Rogers in the title role.

Brady Hawks (1840-?)

Brady was a soft-spoken man with prematurely gray hair. He was a good hand with a gun but preferred to make his way in the west with his wits and his skill at a deck of cards. Though called 'the gambler,' Brady showed the professional poker player's disdain for games of chance like dice or roulette.



Virtually nothing is known of Brady's early life. He seems to have been born around 1840¹⁶⁸ though it is not certain where. He was a Civil War veteran, though he chose not to talk much about his involvement in the conflict. After the war he became one of a number of wanderers who made their living gambling. This was a fairly common lifestyle in the 1870's. The Maverick brothers and Doc Holliday made their living like this. Others like Wild Bill Hickok, Bat Masterson, Wyatt Earp and Mysterious Dave Mather spent extended periods living off of cards between other ventures.

He settled down briefly and fathered a son, Jeremiah in 1870. Soon thereafter the wanderlust caught him up again and he left his wife and child. In 1882 a letter reached him saying that Jeremiah was in trouble. Brady went to help him and assumed custody of the boy, whose mother had died.¹⁶⁹ The following year Jeremiah was taken hostage by an outlaw gang and Brady and his apprentice, Billy Montana had to rescue him.¹⁷⁰

In 1885 Brady became involved with the plight of the Sioux as he befriended Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill Cody¹⁷¹. Following this there is a large unknown period in his life and the next thing we know of him is in 1900. Brady's son, Jeremiah had grown to manhood by this time and had developed some spectacularly bad judgment in choosing friends. Jeremiah was riding with Butch Cassidy, the Sundance Kid, Flatnose Bill Curry and the rest of the Wild Bunch. It was only through luck and determination that Brady was able to pull his son out of the outlaw life before the law caught up with his new friends.¹⁷²

In about 1903 Brady traveled to England where he was soundly defeated in a high stakes poker game by Sir Colin Douglas. With his bankroll gone and his spirit broken the gambler drifted to Mexico. A woman named

Burgundy Jones pulled him out of his slump in 1906. She represented a consortium of brothel owners who wanted to stake a player for the last legal high-stakes poker game in the United States.¹⁷³

Brady made his way across the country to the game, meeting a dazzling array of the legendary figures on his journey. Eventually, he arrived in San Francisco where he faced Bart Maverick, Bat Masterson, President Teddy Roosevelt, and his nemesis, Sir Colin, in a last match. The game ended at dawn with Brady Hawks taking the final pot just moments before the start of the legendary 1906 earthquake.¹⁷⁴

Little is known of Brady's later life, except that his death came "*On a warm Summer's evening, on a train bound for nowhere...*"¹⁷⁵

Bart Maverick

"...if you don't have a Maverick in it, you don't have a game."

Bart was one of the famous Maverick brothers. For more information about the family, see section seven.

Wyatt Earp (1848-1929)

Hawkes: *...Wyatt Earp, still the fastest gun in the west!"*

Earp: *"I don't know about that. I haven't been tested in awhile."*

Possibly the most controversial lawman of the Old West, Earp is either shown as a shining hero or a black-hearted bully depending on whose version you listen to. His friends said that he was a fearless lawman, "*...brave, courageous and bold.*" His detractors said he was a thug who played as fast and loose with the law as suited him. They referred to him as the "fighting pimp."

This short biography will not attempt to sort out the facts of Wyatt's career, except to say that the version of him most frequently associated with the Wold-Newton Universe is that played by Hugh O'Brien in the television series *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp*.

Wyatt Berry Stapp Earp was born in Monmouth, Illinois, the sixth of ten children. His siblings were:

Newton Earp – An older half-brother, born in 1837
Mariah Ann Earp - An older half-sister, born in 1838
James Earp – An older brother, born in 1841
Virgil Earp – An older brother, born in 1843
Martha Earp – An older sister, born in 1845
Morgan Earp – A younger brother, born in 1851
Warren Earp – A younger brother, born in 1851
Virginia Earp – A younger sister, born in 1858
Adelia Earp – A younger sister, born in 1861

Wyatt was a boy when the California Gold Rush began. His father was interested enough to uproot the family and head west. They made it as far as Iowa before settling down again. In 1856, Wyatt's father, Nicholas Earp took the family back to Monmouth where he found employment serving as town constable and (allegedly) selling liquor on the side. These two occupations would turn up over and over in his son's lives.

Wyatt's older brothers enlisted in the Union Army but, despite repeated requests, they would not give Wyatt permission to follow them. Following the War, Wyatt joined his brother Virgil as a stagecoach driver. Around this time he also got his first taste of whiskey. It made him so ill he became a teetotaler for most of his life.

In 1869 Wyatt got his first taste of law enforcement when he succeeded his father as constable of Lamar, Missouri. The next year he married Urilla Sutherland, though the marriage lasted only a matter of months before Urilla died, either of typhus or from complications in childbirth.

Wyatt fell under suspicion of fraudulent practices as a peace officer, and was even charged with horse theft. He abandoned his position in Lamar, and seems to have worked as a buffalo skinner from 1871-1874. He may have met a number of other legendary westerners including Bat Masterson and Mysterious Dave Mather during this period.

In 1874, Wyatt reappeared in Wichita, Kansas where he met Wild Bill Hickok, and arrested the deadly gunman Ben Thompson.¹⁷⁶ From 1871-1876 he was a member of the Wichita police force until he was dismissed following an altercation with another officer.

Wyatt did a little traveling the next year. In 1877 he was in Fort Griffin, Texas where he first met Doc Holliday and his lover "Big Nosed" Kate. Leaving Texas after only a brief stay, Wyatt moved on to Dodge City, Kansas and became a part of the police force there. In 1878 he had a bizarre adventure with Dave Mather near the town of Mobeetie Texas.¹⁷⁷ He left Texas after this and returned to Dodge City where he was named

assistant town marshal. Later that year Doc Holliday saved Wyatt's life when a gang of armed cowboys cornered him.

The following year, Wyatt left Kansas and traveled to Tombstone, Arizona with his brothers Virgil, and Morgan. Doc Holliday and his lover "Big Nose" Kate Elder¹⁷⁸ joined the Earps in Tombstone shortly after. Almost immediately, tensions began to brew between the Earp faction and the powerful Clanton family and their allies. A string of incidents culminated in the famous "Gunfight at OK Corral" on October 26, 1881.

Though the Earps won the gunfight, things were far from over. On December 28 Virgil Earp was ambushed by an attack that left his right arm crippled. On March 18, 1882, Morgan Earp was shot dead while playing billiards. Over the course of 1882, Wyatt, Doc and an *ad hoc* posse tracked down and killed the men they believed responsible¹⁷⁹.

Following the war with the Clantons, Wyatt got away from law enforcement. In 1883 he joined up with Sadie "Josie" Marcus, an actress he had met in Tombstone, and the two became inseparable. Also that year Wyatt became a part of a group determined to reinstate Luke Short in the Long Branch Saloon in Dodge City. Luke had been driven out of town by the current sheriff, a man named Hinkle. Wyatt, Bat Masterson, and a group of gunmen arrived in Dodge in June and soon the 'Dodge City War' was over without a shot being fired.

Wyatt and Josie spent a number of years traveling after this. They lived in Idaho, Colorado, California and Alaska. Around 1885 Wyatt and Bat Masterson teamed with Sheriff Pat Garrett to rescue a friend named Ethan Cord from a Mexican prison.¹⁸⁰ From 1903-1910 he was a regular consultant for the Los Angeles Police Department. In 1906 he took a break from his duties to travel to Dodge City, where he met with a biographer. He also encountered Cheyenne Bowdie and Brady Hawkes in a battle with a large but incompetent gang of outlaws.¹⁸¹ Then went on to Tombstone where he helped out the son of an outlaw he had killed years earlier¹⁸².

Wyatt's last years in Los Angeles were quieter and he made the acquaintance of a number of celebrities, including movie cowboys Tom Mix and William S. Hart. Wyatt's first meeting with Mix was especially memorable, he was called to Hollywood to serve as a technical consultant on a silent film about the OK Corral Gunfight and ended up working with Mix to solve a murder¹⁸³.

In 1929, on January 29, Wyatt Earp died at the age of 80. Whatever the assessment of his character, his life was an extraordinary one.

Bat Masterson (c. 1853-1921)

“It’s now my privilege to introduce to you a man as well known as the Wild West itself. Gambler, gunfighter, lawman, and now a sportswriter for the New York Telegraph. Formerly of Deadwood, Dodge City, and Tombstone, the one, the only, Bat Masterson.”

There is some question about Bat Masterson’s early life. He was born either in 1853 or 1856 in either Quebec, Canada, or in the state of Illinois. There is even dispute whether his proper name was Barthomew Masterson or (more widely reported) William Barclay Masterson¹⁸⁴. There is even dispute about his famous nickname. Some say that ‘Bat’ was a shortened version of Bartholomew, while others maintain it was a reference to the fact that he was known for using his walking stick like a bat in fistfights.

As a young man, Bat joined his brothers Ed and Jim as buffalo hunters, and may have met Wyatt Earp out on the Staked Plains of Texas. Bat was one of the hunters attacked by Quanah Parker and his band of Comanche warriors at the Second Battle of Adobe Walls on June 27, 1874. Following the engagement he served as an Army scout for a short time.

It was in Sweetwater, Texas in 1876 that Bat killed his first man in a gunfight. Though victorious, Bat was wounded in the pelvis and needed a cane for the rest of his life. The following year he joined his brothers in Dodge City where he and his brother Ed worked as deputies alongside Wyatt Earp. By November 6 Bat had been elected County Sheriff. Things were going well until April of 1877 when Ed Masterson was shot and killed in the line of duty. Bat became much more stringent about the ‘no-gun’ laws in Dodge after that. Along with Wyatt Earp he earned much of the credit for cleaning up Dodge City

In 1877-1878 Bat was approached by the Santa Fe railroad to help it in its war with the smaller Denver Railroad. He assembled a crew of Kansas gunfighters including Doc Holliday and Mysterious Dave Mather to act as enforcers for the railroad, though this venture met with limited success. In 1883 he was one of several gunmen who went with Wyatt Earp to participate in the bloodless ‘Dodge City War.’

As time went on Bat spent less of his time as a lawman and more as a boxing promoter. By 1881 he had settled in Denver, married an actress named Emma Walters, and begun to write a sports column in the local newspaper. He continued promoting fights even after moving to New York City in 1902 and also wrote for the New York Morning Telegraph. During

this period he became a close friend of Teddy Roosevelt. Bat was still living in New York when he died of a heart attack in 1921.

Cheyenne Bowdie (1840-?)

Hawkes: *“Cheyenne Bowdie! What are you doing here?”*

Cheyenne: *“Got myself a contract driving a stage for the military.”*

Cheyenne Bowdie was a soft-spoken giant of a man, standing six and a half feet tall and powerfully muscled. He was a drifter and sometimes army scout who had held an officer's commission in the Civil War. After the war ended he roamed from place to place, taking what work he could find and helping out wherever he ended out.



Though Cheyenne had a great many adventures in his long career virtually nothing is known of his personal life. His last recorded adventure took place in 1906, when he helped Wyatt Earp and Brady Hawks against a gang of outlaws. Even in his sixties, the life-long drifter couldn't seem to settle down and live in one place.

The Virginian & Trampas

Ethan: *“Look at him work! He just gets better and better.”*

Doug: *Yeah! If there's a better horse trainer around, I don't believe I've met him.”*

This is actually an 'almost' link to one of the classic novels of the American west. In his travels Brady Hawkes runs across two cowboys who have just brought a herd into Colorado. These are Jim (played James Drury) and Doug (played by Doug McClure). Drury and McClure played the Virginian and Trampas on the television series *The Virginian*. The implication is that they are Trampas and the Virginian but there are too many problems with this idea to use this as a legitimate crossover.

The first problem is, of course, the change in names. The Virginian's name is never given so we could pretend his real name is 'Jim' but there is no good reason for Trampas to be called Doug.¹⁸⁵ Then too there are

serious discrepancies between the novel by Owen Wister and the television series that make constructing a coherent chronology impossible.¹⁸⁶ Finally, there are internal chronological problems with the television series.¹⁸⁷

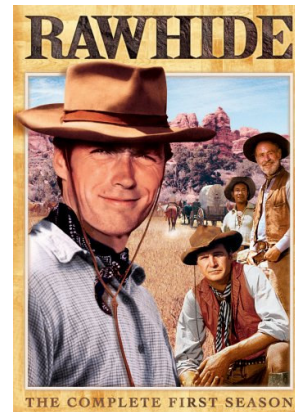
Sadly, when all of the evidence is weighed, there is still no good link connecting *The Virginian* to the Wold Newton Universe.

Gil Favor (1831-?)
Rowdy Yates (1836-?)
Wishbone (1823-?)

Hawkes: *“Cookie, you look so familiar to me. Didn’t you used to be with a cattle outfit?”*

Cookie: *“Things got too rowdy with that wild bunch.”*

The man who appears in *Gambler Returns* as ‘Cookie’ is Paul Brinigar, who played the trail cook “Wishbone” on the series *Rawhide* from 1959-1966. Though the name is different the character appears to be the same, thus bringing *Rawhide* into the WNU.



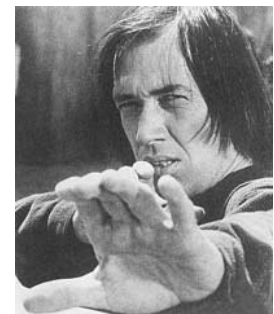
Rawhide told the story of a series of cattle drives led by Gil Favor and assisted by a number of cowhands, including Wishbone and Rowdy Yates. More research must be done on these men before anything resembling a respectable biography can be made for any of them.

Nothing is known of the final fates of Gil or Rowdy, but Cookie was last seen in 1906 working as the personal traveling cook of diamond Jim Brady.

Kwai Chang Caine (1847-?)

Hawkes: *Caine, my friend! I thought our luck had finally come to an end.*

Caine: *The restoration of harmony is thanks enough.*



In 1826, Thomas Henry Caine was born to Elizabeth Hale Caine and Henry Raphael Caine¹⁸⁸ in Lordsville, California. Thomas Caine was still in his teens when he married Elizabeth Chambers. Around 1844 a boy named Daniel was born to the two. Sadly, Elizabeth died, either in childbirth or while Danny was an infant.

Thomas Caine fell in love with a woman named Kwai Lin¹⁸⁹ and the two married around 1846. Henry was infuriated by his son's marriage to a Chinese woman and drove them away. The couple returned to China where they had a son, Kwai Chang Caine in 1847.¹⁹⁰ Elizabeth Caine was heartbroken and died several years later. Accounts vary about the source of her heartbreak.¹⁹¹

Thomas and his family lived in China for a number of years until the forces of a local warlord killed both him and Kwai Lin. The 10 year-old Kwai Chang Caine was left an orphan and went to the Shaolin Temple, where he taken in. Caine was trained in the ways of the temple, and in the discipline of kung fu. The blind Master Po became a sort of surrogate father to him.

Caine completed his training in the year 1867.¹⁹² His final tests were snatching a pebble from the palm of Master Kan, walking a length of fine rice paper without leaving a trace, and lifting a pot of hot coals with his bare forearms. This last feat branded him with the dragon and tiger marks which would always distinguish him as a Shaolin priest. He then left the temple and began a solitary existence as a wandering holy man.

In the year 1872¹⁹³ Caine sought out Master Po as he made a long-desired pilgrimage. The happy reunion was cut short with the guards of the Emperor's nephew¹⁹⁴ provoked a fight. Master Po defended himself and the royal nephew shot and killed the blind priest. In his grief and fury, Caine hurled a spear at the aristocrat and killed him. The Chinese government placed a reward on Caine's head.

Unable to remain in China, Caine hid with friends until he could be smuggled to his father's country. While he waited he fell in love with a young woman named Po Li. When he left the country Caine was unaware that Po Li was pregnant with his son. The following year she gave birth to a boy named Chung Wang.

Caine traveled to Lordsville and learned about his brother Danny. He spent the next several years looking for him and eluding bounty hunters¹⁹⁵. Finally, Caine found Danny and a young nephew, though he does not seem to have remained with them long.

Little is known of Caine's life between 1875 and 1890.¹⁹⁶ At the end of this period he was living in San Francisco's Chinatown when a secret society working for the Imperial family caught up with him. The group had discovered Chung Wang and had trained him to assassinate his father. When the plan failed Caine reconciled with Chung Wang. Despite this, the youth was never mentioned again in any version of the series.

In about 1898 Caine married a blonde saloon singer and settled down with her, at least as much as it was possible for him to settle down. The following year the two had a son named Matthew. In 1905 Caine had a bizarre adventure in which he swapped consciousness with his descendant, Kwai Chang Caine II. Cheyenne Bowdie also participated in this adventure¹⁹⁷.

The last recorded adventure of Kwai Chang Caine took place in San Francisco in 1906 when he defended Brady Hawks against thugs. It is not known when he died. His son Matthew went on to have a number of adventures of his own, including serving as a medic in the Second World War, and traveling to Tibet to search for a magical chalice.¹⁹⁸

Matthew Caine married a Chinese woman whose name has never been revealed and the two had a son named Kwai Chang Caine.¹⁹⁹ (I will refer to him as Kwai Chang Caine II for convenience sake.) This Caine was born around 1940 and Matthew had trained in a Shaolin Temple in Fukien province until the Chinese Communists forced them out in 1949.²⁰⁰ Matthew disappeared when Kwai Chang II was 14 but seems to have arranged for his son to continue his training at a different Shaolin Temple.²⁰¹

In 1965 Kwai Chang Caine II married a woman named Laura and a son named Peter was born to them the following year. Laura died while Peter was a toddler and Kwai Chang II raised him. Caine became aware of another Shaolin Temple in Northern California and joined it with his infant son. The two lived there in peace until a rogue priest arranged to have the temple destroyed in 1978. Kwai Chang and Peter were each told the other was dead and continued to believe this until they were reunited on Chinese New Year's Day in 1993. Peter in the meanwhile had been adopted by a police captain named Blaisdell and had become a police detective.²⁰²

Dave Blassingame (1836-?)

"Blassingame's Gasoline Filling station. Tire Repairing. Crank Case servicing." (Sign on Blassingame's shed.)

Dave Blassingame was a wandering cowpoke about who very little is known. Like so many other western heroes he roamed from place to place, taking work where he could and helping people in trouble. What set Dave apart was his acerbic wit, and his highly intelligent dog, 'Brown.' Dave was last seen in 1906 running one of the first filling stations in rural California²⁰³.

Paladin

"The game will be five card stud, check and raise. The cards are from the late Mr. Paladin's personal stock. By his rules, the game will be played until sunrise."

Paladin was the modern knight in black who rode the Old West righting wrongs and punishing evildoers. For more information about him, please see section 5.

Lucas McCain (1844-?)

Mark McCain (1871-?)

Hawkes: *"Lucas McCain! You haven't slowed down a bit, have you?"*

Lucas: *"I'm doing the best I can."*

Lucas McCain was born and raised in what would become known as the Indian Territory, and later as Oklahoma. Though he was a tall, powerful man, and a fierce fighter, Lucas preferred homesteading and raising his family in peace.



He was born about 1844 and little is known about his life before the Civil War.²⁰⁴ He served in the Union Army with the rank of Lieutenant²⁰⁵. Here he perfected his skills with a rifle. Following the War, Lucas returned to the Indian Territory. There he met a young woman named Margaret Gibbs, who he married sometime in the late 1860's.

In 1871 the couple had a son, Mark.²⁰⁶ They had a happy life until Margaret died in 1877.²⁰⁷ Grieving his loss, Lucas took his son and headed to North Fork in the New Mexico territory. They arrived in 1881, bought a ranch and built a home there. Lucas split his time between

ranching, raising Mark, and helping out the ineffectual town marshal, Micah Torrence against a long string of badmen.

Sam Buckhart (1858-?)

Though he didn't appear in *Gambler Returns*, *Luck of the Draw*, Deputy US Marshall Sam Buckhart is also a resident of the Wold-Newton Universe through his close association with Lucas and Mark McCain²⁰⁸.

Sam (his Apache name is never revealed but may have a meaning like heart-of-the-buck) was born into the Mescalero Apache tribe in about the year 1858²⁰⁹ and was raised to fight the white settlers. When he was fourteen he had an encounter with an army captain that changed his life. Sam had the opportunity to kill the man but, impressed by his courage, chose to hide him and nursed him back to health.



The captain died two years later and left an unusual provision for Sam in his will. The young man was to be the officer's heir, provided he used the money to get an education at Harvard University. Sam did, and on graduating he returned to the New Mexico territory and became a deputy US marshal working under Marshal Andy Morrison.

In 1881 Sam met and shared two adventures with Lucas McCain, the legendary 'Rifleman.' He continued to patrol the territory for several years and, in 1885²¹⁰, found a wagon containing a murdered man named Logan and his eight-year-old daughter, Tess. Sam brought the killers to justice, and adopted Tess to raise himself. Sadly only we know a few of Sam Buckhart's adventures and his final fate is a mystery.²¹¹

Ethan Cord (1851-?)

Though not mentioned in *Gambler Returns: Luck of the Draw*, Ethan Allen Cord is a part of the Wold Newton Universe through his association with Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson.²¹²

Cord was a gunfighter and sometime-lawman of considerable repute even before coming to the town of Paradise, California. Little is known of his



career at this time but the face that he associated with Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson suggests that he may have had his origins in Kansas. He may have met either or both of the others as a fellow buffalo hunter in the early 1870's and may even have been one of the Kansas gunfighters recruited by Masterson for the Railroad wars of 1878-1879. If so, he probably stayed on in New Mexico following this conflict and became acquainted with Pat Garret.

In 1884 Cord received word that his sister Lucy, a musical performer in St. Louis, had died. Having no other kin, Lucy sent her four children Claire (13), Joseph (11), Ben (9), and George (5) to live with him. Ethan, who was then 33 years ago struggled to raise the children despite his need to travel often to earn money as a gun-hand. In 1887 Cord took on the position of Paradise town marshal and his life stabilized somewhat.

Cord was reunited with Wyatt, Bat and Garrett in 188. He had been arrested on bogus charges and sent to a prison in Mexico. His three old friends came up with a daring plan to rescue him.

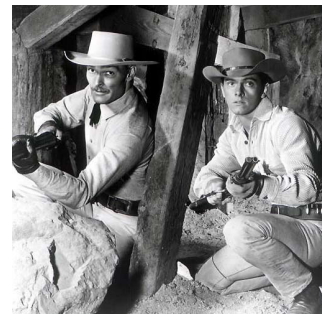
Unfortunately little is known of the rest of Ethan's life. He probably carried on as a lawman in paradise for some time, though his experiences there could easily have disillusioned him.²¹³

SECTION 7: THE POSSE

In the early years of television westerns there was a cluster of programs that often overlapped. Known collectively as the Warner Brothers Posse, these programs ran in the late 1950's and early 1960's. Two of these shows were Cheyenne and Maverick. Since both these programs are established as being part of the WNU it follows that all the rest are as well.

Dan Troop (1829-?) Johnny McKay (1858-?)

Dan Troop²¹⁴ was a career lawman. We know very little about his early life except that he was born in about 1829 and that he had a younger brother named Clay.²¹⁵ Dan was stolid, professional and incorruptible while Clay was more reckless and freewheeling. The two loved the same woman. When



she chose Clay over Dan, it caused a split between them. The woman wanted to make peace between the brothers but she was killed and the rift between them widened.²¹⁶

Dan was serving as the town marshal in Abilene, Kansas when word reached him that his old friend, Marshal David Lemp had been killed in Laramie, Wyoming. Dan rode to Laramie to take over the job of lawman for the town. He found Laramie a friendly town but soon realized that the people would never stand up to outlaws alongside him. The exception was eighteen-year old Johnny McKay.²¹⁷

Johnny was actually the son of a ruthless outlaw named Barney Tremain, and was born in Lawrence, Kansas in 1858. Barney's wife had left him while Johnny was a baby and had married a man named McKay. The family had lived in Lawrence until McKay was killed in a border raid.

In 1868, Mrs. McKay took her ten-year old son and joined a wagon train for Wyoming. She died on the journey and was buried on the trail in Nebraska and Johnny did the rest of his growing up in Laramie.²¹⁸

When Dan Troop came to Laramie in 1876 he hired on Johnny as his deputy and became a father figure to the young man.²¹⁹ The two continued to work together as an effective team keeping the peace in Laramie until at least 1884.²²⁰ In the course of their adventures they encountered Barney Tremain, who died with Johnny never knowing the truth of their relationship. Clay Troop also showed up in Laramie and redeemed himself in Dan's eyes. He died taking a bullet intended for his brother. Possibly the pair's most noteworthy adventure was the arrest in 1876 of Jack McCall after he had killed Wild Bill Hickock.

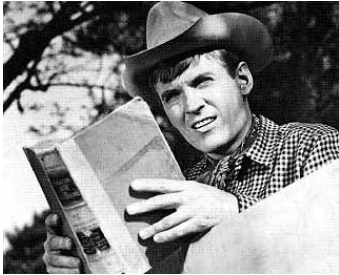
It is not known what became of Dan and Johnny after 1884. Dan Troop may have eventually married Lily Merrill, the clever, strong-willed owner of the Bird Cage saloon. Johnny most likely went on to have a career in law enforcement as long and distinguished as his mentor's.

Christopher Colt (1850-?)

Chris was the nephew of the famous gun maker Col. Samuel Colt (1814-1862) and traveled the west as a weapons dealer himself. This was a cover and Colt was actually a government agent secretly fighting crime.²²¹ He was born around 1850 and shared his work with his cousin, Sam Colt Jr.²²²

Tom “Sugarfoot” Brewster (1852-?)

Tom Brewster was an unusual hero for the old west. He was an easy-going young man born about 1852.²²³ Tom picked up the name Sugarfoot shortly after arriving in the west. A ‘sugarfoot’ is another word for a ‘tenderfoot’ or a novice to frontier life. Tom didn’t care much for gunplay or fistfights and used his wits and charm to get himself out of scrapes as often as possible. While drifting from place to place and helping people, Sugarfoot studied law by correspondence. His adventures crossed over with those of other members of the Warner Brothers posse, especially with those of Bronco Layne.



Bronco Layne (1837-?)

Bronco Layne (his real first name is unrevealed) was a Texas cattleman in the days leading up to the Civil War. He was born in about 1837 to a family of ‘quality.’²²⁴ When the war broke out, he felt it his duty to Texas to fight against the Yankees. He left his sweetheart behind and joined the Confederate Army. Bronco was commissioned as an officer, and rose to the rank of captain.



Though he was not from Missouri, Bronco spent time with the irregular units known as the ‘Missouri guerillas’ where he befriended Cole Younger and made an enemy of Jesse James. Late in the war Union forces captured him. Bronco was released from prison in the general amnesty that followed the war. He returned to his home only to find that the army had seized his ranch. To make matters worse, he has been falsely accused of murdering a rival while they were both prisoners. He managed to find the real murderer, but his good name was hopelessly sullied.²²⁵

With nothing to keep him at home, Bronco began to wander the west. Sometimes he took temporary jobs as a cavalry scout, lawman, or general trouble-shooter. In the course of his adventures, he met such historic figures as Pat Garrett, Billy the Kid, Wild Bill Hickok, Belle Starr and Teddy Roosevelt. He also became friendly with several other adventurers, especially Tom ‘Sugarfoot’ Brewster. Bronco’s final fate is unknown.

Beau Maverick (1845-?)
Bart Maverick (1846-?)
Bret Maverick (1847-?)
Brent Maverick (1850-?)
Ben Maverick (1854-?)

Beauregard “Pappy” Maverick was a riverboat gambler who cruised the Mississippi in the days before the war, when Sam Clemens was still a



river pilot. At some point in his career he must have settled down for a short time to become the father of three sons, Bart, Bret, and Brent²²⁶. Pappy raised the boys with countless folksy aphorisms and a pragmatic philosophy that taught it was always better to avoid, con your way out of, or run away from a fight. He also taught the boys to avoid all games of chance and stick to poker.²²⁷

The Mavericks had several cousins who also appeared in the series. Most notable of these was Beau, the son of Pappy’s brother Ben. Beau had served in the Union Army and had (through an outrageous misunderstanding) been granted the Medal of Honor. This act of “heroism” upset his father so much that he banished Beau to England.

Ultimately, all of the brothers and their cousin became full-time poker players. The Mavericks roamed from game to game on the western frontier, often meeting up with the likes of the Cartwrights, Matt Dillon, John Wesley Hardin, Wyatt Earp, and many others²²⁸. Of all the people they encountered, the Mavericks got to know fellow gambler Doc Holliday best. He became a close friend of both Bart and Bret.

Eventually Bret grew tired of the wandering life. In 1887 he took a big pot and bought a ranch in Sweetwater, Texas. Whether or not this was a permanent choice is not known. We do know that Bret’s ‘settled’ life was as adventurous as his roaming days had been.²²⁹ It was during this period that Bret became acquainted with his cousin Beau’s son, Ben Maverick, who followed in the family tradition.²³⁰

The final days of the members of the Maverick family have not yet been chronicled. Bart is known to have been active as late as 1906 when he sat in on a high stakes poker game in San Francisco where the other players included Teddy Roosevelt and Bat Masterson²³¹.

The Cartwrights

The *Maverick* episode *Three Queens Full* is a parody of the *Bonanza* series. Joe Wheelwright of the great Subrosa ranch is meant to be Ben Cartwright of the Ponderosa. His three sons, Henry, Moose, and Small Paul are meant to be Adam, Hoss, and Little Joe. In the story, Joe Wheelwright has grown weary of the perpetual bachelorhood of his three grown sons, and has sent off for three mail-order brides. Bart Maverick becomes a chaperone for the ladies on their cross-country journey. The story is told in a satirical style and its events must be considered a distorted version of what really happened since its events do not seem to have had a lasting effect on the Cartwrights.

Matt Dillon (1838-?)

In the *Maverick* episode *Gun-shy* Bret Maverick aroused the ire of sheriff Mort Dooley. The sheriff is clearly a parody of marshal Matt Dillon of Dodge City, and parodies of Miss Kitty, Doc Adams and Chester were also in evidence. At the close of the show, Dooley noted that Maverick was only one of several odd characters he had met. He mentioned that a gunfighter giving out business cards had passed through recently. This is clearly a reference to Paladin.



Next to Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson, Marshall Matt Dillon was the most famous lawman to police the streets of Dodge City. He was a larger than life figure who stood six and a half feet tall, yet he was very human. Dillon believed in the law but often found himself making difficult decisions when the letter of the law conflicted with his conscience.

Matt Dillon was born around the year 1838.²³² When Matt was still a boy outlaws murdered his father.²³³ This inspired him to become a lawman himself. While he was still in his teens, Matt lied about his age to become deputy to Sheriff Adam Kimbro.²³⁴ Matt went on to several posts after leaving Kimbro, including one as Sheriff of Coffeerville. In the late 1850's he was a lawman based in Yuma Arizona. It was there he met his first love, a young woman named Cara²³⁵.

There is no clear record of Dillon's activities during the Civil War. The fact that he never referred to his military service may indicate that he remained a western lawman rather than serve in the conflict. In either case, he was a lawman after the war and had earned a good enough reputation that Wild Bill Hickok recruited him as a deputy when he became marshal of Abilene, Kansas in 1871. It was also in Abilene that Dillon met a man who would become a lifetime friend, Dr. Galen Adams.²³⁶

Wild Bill was only in Abilene a matter of months but Dillon's time there was even shorter. He was summoned to Dodge City, Kansas to work on a case with US Marshall Josh Stryker. In the course of the case, Stryker shot and killed an unarmed man. Matt Dillon's testimony was responsible for sending him to prison.

Matt Dillon was then appointed to take Stryker's place, becoming a US Marshal operating out of Dodge City in 1871.²³⁷ Doc Adams followed Matt to Dodge and set up his office there. This also seems to have been the year that a young prostitute²³⁸ named Kathleen "Miss Kitty" Russell arrived in Dodge.

Miss Kitty had been born into a well-to-do New Orleans family in about 1845. Her father was a ne'er-do-well who abandoned the family when Kitty was a child.²³⁹ When she was about sixteen her reputation was further tarnished when she was seduced and abandoned by a 'no-good rake.'

A 'ruined' girl had little option in the Old West. Kitty became a prostitute on the Mississippi riverboats for a short time before the Civil War.²⁴⁰ Her activities during the war are unknown but it may be that she became one of the many 'camp followers' who plied their trade on the outskirts of military encampments.²⁴¹

Following the war she drifted from town to town, eventually settling in the newly founded Dodge City. Kitty was smart, tough, and ambitious; she saved her money, eventually becoming half-owner of the Long Branch Saloon and a woman of means. She also became Mat Dillon's confidante and lover for many years.²⁴² The two cared deeply for each other but Matt was unwilling to marry and risk leaving Kitty a widow.

Early in his career Matt was injured and spent several weeks with amnesia. During this time a homesteading widow named Mike Yardner cared for him and the two became lovers. When Matt regained his memory he returned to Dodge and his responsibilities.²⁴³

Matt Dillon served in Dodge City for 13 years, and a number of deputies served with him in that time. Chester Good was a former Texan with a bad leg and a loyal heart.²⁴⁴ Quint Asper was half Cherokee and split his time between being deputy and blacksmith. Festus Hagen was the only honest member of a backwoods family. Clayton Thaddeus “Thad” Greenwood was a young man who came to Dodge to avenge his father’s death and stayed on as a deputy. Newly O’Brian was an educated young man from Pennsylvania who tried his hand at being a gunsmith, and lawyer before settling on splitting his time between being a deputy and an apprentice to Doc Adams.

Matt Dillon didn’t meet as many of the famous figures of the Old West as one would expect. Though he was in Dodge when Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, and John Wesley Hardin were there is no record of him meeting any of them. He did meet the 12-year-old Billy Bonney in 1872, and the violence that surrounded Dillon had an influence on Billy’s later life. He also met Doc Holliday on Doc’s arrival in town in 1877 but the two managed to avoid violence. Matt considered this fortunate, knowing he was no match for Holliday.

Probably Dillon’s greatest enemy was the gunman Will Mannon. Mannon had been one of Quantrill’s raiders in the Civil War and was described as “*Quantrill’s killing arm, more than any of the others.*” He was a fearless and sadistic man who was one of the fastest guns of the west. He rode into Dodge in 1875 with the goal of adding to his reputation by killing Matt Dillon. While Dillon was away he shot Festus, bullied the entire town, including Newly, and assaulted Miss Kitty. Even after downing several bottles of whiskey he was easily able to beat Dillon to the draw. Fortunately, the whiskey affected his aim and the shot wasn’t fatal. Dillon returned fire and a badly wounded Mannon was sent to prison.²⁴⁵

In 1883 ex-Marshal Josh Stryker, who had lost an arm in prison, returned to Dodge looking for revenge.²⁴⁶ Matt beat Stryker’s plans but Miss Kitty, tired of the constant danger surrounding Matt’s life sold her interest in the Long Branch and returned to New Orleans.²⁴⁷ Ironically it was only a year later that Matt retired. Instead of following Kitty, he took up the life of a trapper.

In 1885 Will Mannon was released from prison and returned to Dodge looking to kill Matt Dillon.²⁴⁸ Miss Kitty and Matt both got the news and returned for a final confrontation and a last goodbye. Though their situations had changed the two could not recover their former relationship.

Something did change in Matt Dillon in that encounter. He gave up trapping and bought a small ranch in Arizona’s Pleasant Valley. In 1886

his old love Mike Yardner tracked him down. She shocked Matt with the news that he had a grown daughter named Beth as a result of their brief affair years earlier. She also told him that a renegade Apache warrior had abducted Beth²⁴⁹.

After rescuing Beth, Matt married Mike and brought the two to live on his ranch. Sadly, his new wife died within the year.²⁵⁰ Later that year Matt and Beth were involved in the outbreak of the conflict called the "Pleasant Valley War."²⁵¹

In 1896, Matt saw Beth marry²⁵² and took part in several last adventures. His final recorded adventure was in 1897 and Matt was beginning to feel his age. He was tired of the killing he had seen in his life.²⁵³ It is unknown when Matt Dillon died. The close of the century signaled the coming of a new west, a less violent place like he must have dreamed of but also a West where he would have had difficulty finding his place.

Dr. Michaela Quinn (1833-?)

Though she is not connected at all to the Warner Brothers Posse, Dr. Michaela Quinn once met marshal Matt Dillon and is thus a resident of the Wold-Newton Universe.²⁵⁴

Michaela Quinn was the daughter of a Boston physician who decided to fight tradition and become a doctor herself.



She was born February 15, 1833 and graduated from The Woman's Practical College of Medicine of Pennsylvania in 1860 and went into practice with her father. Around this time Michaela also met and became engaged to David Lewis. When David went off to serve in the Civil War he and Michaela lost touch. When he was

badly wounded he assumed a new identity rather than returning to face her pity.

Michaela's father died in 1868 and the practice dried up. She searched far and wide for a new position and finally answered a notice for a doctor for Colorado Springs, CO. The locals had reached the mistaken impression that she was a man. They were angry on learning the truth but, lacking any alternative, accepted her as their doctor. She also became the surrogate mother to Matthew Cooper (18), his sister Colleen (15), and younger brother Brian (9) when their mother Charlotte died.

Dr. Mike's (as she came to be known) closest friend proved to be Byron Sully, a hunter and trapper who had lived for years with the local Cheyenne. Romance blossomed between the two and they married in 1870. A baby girl, Katie, was born to them the following year.

In addition to serving the medical needs of the community, Dr. Quinn became an advocate for better relations with the Cheyenne. She and Sully even traveled to Washington at one point and spoke to President Ulysses S. Grant on behalf of their friends. Sadly, this was a losing cause and they were unable to head up the terrible massacre at Washita headed by General George A. Custer.²⁵⁵

Dr. Quinn's final fate is unknown, though it seems likely that she lived out the rest of her life in the community she had come to love. It is interesting to speculate that she may have met and treated the infamous Doc Holliday who came to Colorado Springs to be treated for tuberculosis and died there in 1887.

Samantha Crawford (1856-?)

Though she never had a television series of her own, gambler and con-woman Samantha Crawford is a sort of unofficial member of the Warner Brothers posse.

Samantha was born about 1851. Very little is known of her life except that she was an extremely clever and resourceful young woman who used her wits to make her way in the world. She crossed paths with Cheyenne Bowdie in 1875 and had several adventures with both Bret and Bart Maverick the following year. Her last recorded adventure came in 1877 when she teamed with both Bret and Bart Maverick to con a criminal.

SECTION 8: THE INSURANCE POLICY

Another great convergence of WNU western characters comes in the comedy film, *Alias Jesse James*. While there are a number of historical impossibilities in the story, the presence of several characters known to be in the WNU brings this story in as well.

Milford Farnsworth (1850?-?)

Milford was born in New York City, probably sometime in the early 1850's.²⁵⁶ He grew up in the city and never desired to go west. As a young man, Milford became an insurance salesman. Unfortunately, despite his ready wit, he was not terribly successful at his job. In 1874 he met a visiting westerner who introduced himself as T.J. James and who bought a huge life insurance policy.²⁵⁷



Milford was ecstatic, until he learned that his customer was actually Jesse James, the infamous bank and train robber. Realizing how risky it was to insure a man who lived such a dangerous life, Milford headed to Missouri to buy back the policy. Unfortunately, Milford was a patsy in a scheme of James'. The outlaw had made out the policy with his fiancée Cora Lee Collins as sole beneficiary.²⁵⁸ He planned to fake his own death, leaving Milford's body to pass for his. Cora Lee would collect on the policy and the two could marry and retire on the money.

Jesse's plan was stymied when Cora Lee fell in love with Milford and acted to save his life. The insurance company put out a huge reward, which attracted some of the best gunfighters and lawmen in the west. The posse arrested Jesse; Farnsworth married Cora Lee and eventually ended out as the president of the insurance company. The two had many children.

The story suffers from many anachronisms²⁵⁹ but is essentially true. Jesse was soon broken out of jail by his brother Frank and resumed his career.²⁶⁰ The gang broke up following the disastrous attempt to rob the bank in Northfield, Minnesota. Jesse lived quietly for several years under the alias of Tom Howard until Bob Ford murdered him in 1882.

Matt Dillon

Matt Dillon was already well established as a lawman in 1874 and (presumably) was in the right place at the right time to join the posse. For more on Dillon, refer to section 7.

Major Seth Adams (1811-1875)
Flint McCullough (1839-?)

Adams was a big, burly man whose a blustering manner covered a fair mind and an abundance of leadership. He was born in Galina, IL. about 1811²⁶¹ but little else is known about Adams' life before the Civil War except that he was engaged to a woman named Ranie Webster. During the war he a lieutenant until General Grant gave him the battlefield commission of major following the battle of Shiloh. He also knew General William Tecumseh Sherman during the war.²⁶²



When peace came, Adams took up work as a wagon master and led Conestoga wagons from St. Joseph, MO. to Sacramento, CA. on a regular basis. He was reunited with Ranie early in this venture, only to learn that she had believed him killed and had married another man. Several years later, Adams met and fell in love with Beth Pearson, a woman who closely resembled Ranie. She rejected him, rightly believing that he really saw in her the ghost of his lost love. Broken hearted, Seth left the wagon train.

Eventually he settled down in Texas where he did well raising cattle. He was shot and killed in 1885 in the town of Rio Bravo, TX²⁶³.

Adams' scout during his years with the wagon train was Flint McCullough. Flint was born in Virginia in 1839. His family traveled to Salt Lake City in 1850 where he received a good education. Flint's father passed away while he was young and he found a surrogate father in legendary army scout Jim Bridger. At the outset of the Civil War, Flint joined the Confederate Army. When the war ended he teamed with Seth Adams. Though the two often argued loudly they actually respected and cared for each other almost like a father and son.²⁶⁴

Flint left the wagon train in 1869 under tragic circumstances. He had fallen in love with a young woman named Nancy Davis. When Nancy was murdered, Flint left the wagon train to avenge her. He succeeded, but the incident left him shattered. He rode away from the train and his final fate is unknown.²⁶⁵

Will Kane

This character is not named in *Alias Jesse James* and is credited only as “Gary Cooper.” Since Cooper was not an old west lawman, this must have been one of the characters he played on screen. Will Kane is the only one of the lawmen played by Cooper known to have been a part of the WNU at this writing. QED, the character must be Kane. For more on Will Kane, refer to Section 1.

Annie Oakley (1860-1926)

Annie Oakley was born to Quaker parents in 1860, the fifth of seven children. Her family lived in poverty and Annie began to hunt game to help support them. She developed the remarkable marksmanship skills that were to stand her in good stead in the years to come.

When Annie was a teen she and her younger brother moved to the small town of Diablo. While there, she often helped her uncle; sheriff Luke



MacTavish and his deputy Lofty Craig deal with crimes. In 1874 young Annie was an informal part of the posse that arrested Jesse James.²⁶⁶

Annie married fellow sharpshooter Frank Butler in 1876 and began a career as a professional trick shot artist. She joined Buffalo Bill Cody’s Wild West Show in 1885. Her fellow performer, Sitting Bull gave her the nickname, “Little Miss Sure Shot.”

. The historical Annie would have been only 14 years old at the time of this story and had not yet begun her career as a sharpshooter. Possibly young Annie saw getting involved as an irresistible adventure and as a chance to put her skills to good use. She was almost certainly not a formal member of the posse.

Bret Maverick

Bret was a gambler and drifter who liked to avoid dangerous situations. Presumably this came at a time when he was down on his luck and needed the reward money. For more on Bret Maverick, see section 5.

Wyatt Earp

In 1874 Wyatt was a constable in Abilene and had not yet reached the height of his fame. He may have signed onto the posse looking for reward money and the chance to arrest the famous outlaw. For more on Wyatt, see section 5.

Davy Crockett (1786-1836)

David de Crocketagne (1786-1836) better known as David Crocket or simple as Davy was a frontiersman, war hero, and senator during the early settlement of the western United States. Crockett died at the siege of the Alamo in 1836 and could not possibly have been involved in the arrest of Jesse James. His inclusion in the story must be considered fanciful.²⁶⁷

Roy Rogers (dates unknown)

Roy Rogers was a cowboy and rancher from the old west who was known as “king of the cowboys” because of his skills at riding, roping, shooting, and singing. This Roy Rogers had a descendant, also named Roy Rogers, who had a set of similar adventures circa 1938-1959. To make matters more confusing, each man had a wonder horse named Trigger, and a lady friend named Dale. To make matters more confusing yet, an actor named Leonard Slye portrayed both Roys in a series of popular films and a television series.



Clearly there needs to be more work done on the biographies of the different Roys. That is something that will take a careful reviewing of all of the movies and television episodes to determine which are the adventures of Roy I, which are about Roy II, and which are mere fiction.

Tonto

Tonto of the Potawattomi is the famous friend and partner of the Lone Ranger. It is unlikely that he signed onto the posse looking for the reward. Possibly he couldn't resist the chance of helping to put away such an infamous badman. For more about Tonto, please see section 1.

“Horse” (dates unknown)

Though he does not appear in *Alias Jesse James*, the man named Horse showed up in an episode of *Wagon Train*. This brings him into the WNU. The man who would be known as 'Horse' was a young man from Boston who traveled to the west in the mid 19th Century²⁶⁸. He was captured by a band of Crow Indians in a raid and taken to live with the tribe.

Over time the young man became more and more acclimated to Crow ways. Eventually he underwent the grueling 'sun ceremony' and was adopted into the tribe. He was given the name "Horse" and won a bride.²⁶⁹ In the years immediately following the Civil war he met Seth Adams and told him his story.²⁷⁰

How the West Was Won

Though this article will not go into full biographies of the many characters, the events of the 1962 film *How the West Was Won* are a part of the WNU continuity. The movie tells the epic story of western settlement from the end of the Civil War until the late 1880's. One of the many historical characters featured in the film is General William Tecumseh Sherman, played by John Wayne. Wayne also played General Sherman in the *Wagon Train* episode, *Colter Craven Story*, thus establishing that *How the West Was Won* exists in the same fictional universe as *Wagon Train*.

SECTION 9: THE VENDETTA

The story *The Last Vendetta* by Rick Lai in the collection *Tales of the Shadowmen* draws a number of characters from 'Spaghetti Westerns' into the Wold-Newton Universe. The story, features an Assassin's Auction of famous killing tools held in New Orleans in 1900. The story is solidly

in the Wold Newton Universe because of references to such established WNU figures as Arsene Lupin, Fu Manchu, and Josephine Balsamo. The story connects a number of other characters to the Wold-Newton Universe, but only the western characters will be discussed here.

Django (1843-?)

The author of the letter was Ignacz Djanko, alias the Undertaker.

Ignacz Djanko (sometimes spelled Django) was born to a family of Croatian immigrants in America around the year 1843²⁷¹. Little is known about Django's early life. At some point in his young adulthood, Django had been married but his wife was murdered while he was away. The guilt of that moment may have been what drove him to take up the outlaw trail. In any case, he became one of the most ruthless gunfighters of the old west and is thought to have killed at least fifty men in his career.



Django is best known for a bloody adventure in South Texas in 1878. He had come into a small community where there was a fierce struggle for control between a Ku Klux Klan-like organization and a vicious gang of Mexican bandits. For reasons of personal profit, Django chose to side with the bandits. This nearly led to his death at the hands of their enemies, but luck, determination and an early model machine gun²⁷² managed to save him²⁷³.

Some years after the brutal battle, Django had a religious conversion.²⁷⁴ Taking the name Father Ignatius, he joined a monastic order in Mexico, where he remained until 1898 when events pulled him back into the world of violence. Two years later, Django received an invitation to the 'Assassin's Auction' in New Orleans. He passed the information to his old friend, Arthur Gordon, who went in his stead. When Gordon was murdered at the auction, Django swore vengeance on Count Bielowski, who had helped to set up the killing. He was last seen packing a machinegun in preparation for a trip to the North African kingdom of Ahaggar. It is not known what happened to him on this adventure. Given the history of the Queen of Ahaggar, it is likely that Django died there and that his orichalcum-coated body is on permanent display in the queen's palace.²⁷⁵

Lee Bailey (1832-?)

Bailey had been a Confederate gunsmith who had been forced to flee to Mexico when he got into trouble with the Federal troops stationed in the South during Reconstruction.

Lee Bailey was born in London's East end in about 1832 and lived there long enough that he would keep the accent all his life. As a young man he went to New Orleans, where he found work as a gunsmith. He was an extraordinarily skilled craftsman and inventor, anticipating many of the advances in firearms technology by years or even decades.

When the Civil War broke out Bailey began making guns for the Confederacy. When the war ended he found that the Union Army was less than happy with his wartime occupation. He moved to northern Mexico where he married a local woman and fathered a number of children.

Bailey was always more craftsman than businessman. He didn't like dealing with many of the men who were most interested in his product. He fell in with an unscrupulous businessman and adventurer named Arthur Gordon. Arthur was only too happy to deal with the clientele, leaving Bailey free to tend his craft.

Bailey designed many of the unique guns used by famous shootists of the old west. The records are vague but there are rumors that he designed Lucas McCain's rifle with its rapid lever action, the mini-shotgun used by a gambler known as 'Mississippi', the high-powered rifle of Matthew Quigley.²⁷⁶

The weapons we know of for certain are the pistols of Thomas Luther Price, the lightweight .45 revolver of Hannie Caulder, the weapons of the mysterious 'Preacher,' and the machine guns used by Django and others.²⁷⁷ Bailey invented his machinegun in the mid-1870's, predating Hiram Maxim's machine gun by nearly a decade.²⁷⁸

We do not know much about Bailey in his later years. It is quite possible that, following the death of his partner in 1900 he may have lived out the rest of his years in peace.

Hannie Caulder (1851-?)

Though she is never mentioned in *The Last Vendetta*, Hannie Caulder has to be included in the



Wold-Newton Universe because of her association with Lee Bailey. Hannie was one of the best known of the female gunfighters, and is often also remembered as one of the most striking women of the old west. She was tall, with auburn hair, green eyes, and a figure that is often mentioned by her biographers.

This is in part a tribute to her beauty and partly because she chose to exploit her appearance in her gunfighting career. She habitually wore a pair of tight jeans and wore no blouse under her poncho. This proved to be an effective distraction to male gunfighters on several occasions.

Hannie was born in New Orleans around the year 1851. Very little is known of her life until she married Jim Caulder, a tall, quiet man four years her senior. The two moved to the Colorado Territory where they set up a homestead and planned to raise a family. They had one child, a daughter, who died as an infant. They hoped that would be the last tragedy of their lives, but it wasn't.

One morning in 1883 the three Clemens brothers came across the homestead.²⁷⁹ They killed Jim, raped Hannie, and burned the house to the ground, leaving her for dead. Hannie was able to scavenge a pistol and a poncho from the ruins and set out looking for revenge.

She would have died if it were not for a bounty hunter named Thomas Luther Price. 'Price' was actually the alias used by Hoby Gilman when he left the Texas Rangers and became a bounty hunter. Price/Gilman took Hannie under his wing, eventually becoming her lover, and taught her how to fight and win against men like the Clemens. He also introduced her to Lee Bailey, who custom made a pistol for her.

The Clemens boys killed Thomas, leaving Hannie to seek revenge by herself. She did, using her new skills with a gun and her new resolve to kill. With the Clemens boys dead, Hannie partnered with a mysterious bounty hunter. Very little is known about this black-garbed individual who is known as 'Preacher' but he bears a remarkable resemblance to the mysterious Sartana. It is probable that the two are identical.

Silence (1863-1898)

#37 – C96 Mauser Pistol. Formerly the property of the Mute Shootist of Utah...

One of the most unusual figures of the old west was the 'Mute Shootist,' more commonly referred to as 'Silence.' To tell his story you must start with a little family background. Silence was a member of the famous

Gordon clan whose members include Francis X. Gordon, Raymond 'Flash' Gordon and Artemis Gordon.²⁸⁰

Silence's grandfather was Arthur Gordon, a Texas born adventurer of questionable scruples.²⁸¹ Arthur was born in 1817 and fought for Texas independence as a young man. He had also captained a slave ship, and been a gambler and duelist. Despite his shady reputation, Arthur managed to marry and father sons by two prominent women, Hermine de Chalusse of Paris and Francine Xavier of Austin. He was actually married to both women at the same time, though neither knew it.

Arthur's son by Francine was John Gordon.²⁸² Not much is known of John except that he seems to have been on the shady side of the law nearly as often as Arthur was. When Arthur lost his fortunes in the Battle of Sedan in 1870, John's connections helped him set up an arms dealership in Texas.

Arthur prospered in his new business, especially after he met a former Confederate gunsmith named Lee Bailey. The man was a genius, who had developed the earliest working model of a machine gun, but did not have a head for business. Arthur became the promoter for Bailey's weapons, an arrangement that suited both men.

John's fortunes were not so good. In the early 1870's he was forced to take his wife and young son and flee Texas with a price on his head. This caught up with John in the snow country of Utah, when a corrupt justice of the peace sent a sheriff to kill him. The sheriff also murdered John's wife slashed the throat of his young son. The boy survived, but was never able to speak again. This earned him the nickname "Silence."

Silence's anger over the death of his parents led him to take vengeance on the corrupt lawman. He went on to pursue a unique career as a "reverse bounty hunter." The justice of the peace was using bounty hunters to eliminate anyone who stood in the way of his ambitions. Silence would hire himself out to outlaws to track down and eliminate the bounty hunters who pursued them. Sometimes the Mute Shootist would kill his prey outright, other times he would spare their lives but would shoot off their thumbs, making it impossible for them to use firearms.

Silence pursued this career until the widow of a man who had been killed by an especially cruel bounty hunter called Loco hired him. Silence went after the sadistic Loco only to die himself. Loco went on to become an associate of the notorious Josephine Balsamo, the so-called Countess Cagliostro. He assumed the alias of Aguierre after a similarly bloodthirsty

conquistador and was still alive at the time of the Assassins' Auction of 1900.

Manuel Sanchez aka El Cuchillo (1844-?)

These included the knives of Manuel Sanchez...

Manuel Sanchez was born a peasant in northern Mexico. There are no records of his birth but he was probably born around the year 1844.²⁸³ Little is known of Sanchez' early life except that he was a policeman during the presidency of Benito Juarez. He is not known ever to have used a gun, but his skill at throwing knives was amazing.

Despite the fact that he was a Juarista, Sanchez worked for a time as a policeman under President Porfiro Diaz. By this time Sanchez was in need of a steady income, he was married to a prostitute named Rosita and claimed to have five children. It is unclear whether this was a legal marriage or a common-law arrangement.

In 1877 a gang of outlaws raped and murdered a girl on the Texas side of the border. Suspicion fell on Sanchez and a bounty hunter named Jonathan Corbett was sent to catch him. Eventually, Sanchez convinced Corbett of his innocence and the two tracked down the real culprits.²⁸⁴

Later that year, Sanchez learned that another Juarista, a poet named Ramirez had been arrested. He broke the man out of jail and learned that he had hidden a small fortune in gold in the small border town of San Miguel.²⁸⁵ Ramirez was killed by bandits, but not before telling Sanchez of the gold, and made him promise to use it to fund the revolutionary efforts of a man named Santillana.

With the help of his fiancée Dolores²⁸⁶ and a retired American lawman El Cuchillo tricked the government. He and the American lured Diaz's forces away while Dolores slipped away to take the gold to Santillana.²⁸⁷

It is not known what happened to Manuel Sanchez and his friends after this. Possibly Diaz's forces killed them. History tells us that there was no gold-funded revolution against the dictator. The fact that Sanchez's knives were featured at the assassin's auction lends some weight to the idea that he was dead by 1900.

Scott Mary (c. 1874-?)

...Doc Holliday's revolver that had been recently found in the Arizona town of Clifton...

Scott was a young man of illegitimate parentage who lived in Clifton, Arizona in the late 18th century.²⁸⁸ He was an outcast and was forced to work as the town garbage collector. The town stable-keeper, a man named Murph Allen Short, befriended Scott. Murph had once been a lawman in Abilene, Kansas. He used a wooden gun to teach Scott the skills of a gunfighter.

Unfortunately, Scott found a second surrogate father in the outlaw Frank Talby, who made him a lieutenant in his gang. Talby taught Scott even more about the way of the gun but recognized that the young man was potentially even faster than he was. He held back several methods of modifying a pistol to increase the speed of the draw.

When Talby killed the town sheriff, Murph Allen Short became a lawman again to stop him. Talby proved more than a match for Short, but his triumph was short-lived. Short had left Scott a legacy, the pistol once used by Doc Holliday. This gun had been modified to give its user an advantage in a fight. Scott called Talby out and, using Holliday's gun, killed him.

Scott threw away his pistol after killing the outlaw. His final fate is uncertain. He showed no interest in continuing life as a gunfighter, but he would not have returned to his ignoble existence either.

Sartana (1836-?)



Another enigma of the old west was Sartana, a sometime bounty hunter who seemed almost a living spirit of vengeance. Sartana does not appear in *The Last Vendetta* but Scott Mary rides a mule named Sartana. The animal must have been named after the famous gunfighter. The other circumstantial evidence linking Sartana to the WNU is his close resemblance to the mysterious "Preacher" seen in *Hannie Caulder*.

Little is known about Sartana's early life. He may have been born around 1836 but even this is not certain.²⁸⁹ The man's true name is lost to

history. He seems to have used a number of other aliases, including “Stranger,” “Cemetery,” and “Ace of Hearts.”²⁹⁰ He habitually dressed all in black, including a red-lined Inverness cape. He seemed to have some training in stage magic and used illusions to persuade others of his seemingly supernatural powers. He was adept at card tricks and could even throw sharpened metal cards to deadly effect. Sartana often hid a metal shield in his hat, something that allowed him to survive what seemed fatal shots on more than one occasion. Finally, Sartana carries a unique pistol, something like a four-barreled derringer. He had taken it from a corrupt sheriff years earlier and it had become his signature weapon.

Sartana was a homesteader until his wife and two children were murdered. Sartana himself was seriously wounded, but another homesteading couple nursed him back to health. Years later he repaid his debt to the couple when they run afoul of some villainous types.²⁹¹

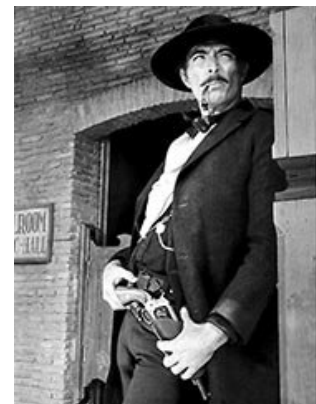
Sartana’s first adventure seems to have taken place in 1872 when he sprang a friend from jail to find a hidden fortune.²⁹² He returned several times over the next few years, always in adventures involving lost fortunes and competing schemes to claim them.²⁹³ In Sartana’s last adventure he gained a distinctive enemy named Sabbath. This parasol-wielding Englishman dressed all in white, and refused to kill anyone on Thursday.²⁹⁴ Sadly there is no information about any subsequent meetings between Sartana and Sabbath, or even any clue as to Sartana’s final fate.

For years Sartana had purchased custom-made weapons from master gunsmith Lee Bailey. On one trip to Bailey’s he encountered Hoby Gilman, aka Thomas Luther Price, and Hannie Caulder. Sartana was drawn to the young woman. When the Clemens Brothers killed Price, Sartana stepped in to make certain they had no unfair advantage over Hannie. After she avenged herself on the outlaws the two Sartana took Price’s place as her mentor and lover.²⁹⁵

Col. Douglas Mortimer (1826-?)

“I sold them to Gunsight Eyes, a bounty hunter who was one of my best clients.”

Douglas Mortimer was born into an aristocratic Southern family around the year 1834²⁹⁶ and pursued a career in the military. He was promoted rapidly and rose to the rank of Colonel in the army before the beginning of the Civil War. He chose to



fight for the Confederacy, though he never rose past the rank of major in that service.²⁹⁷

While he was away in the war, Mortimer suffered a tragedy. A deranged outlaw known as 'Indio' murdered his younger sister and her husband. Mortimer swore vengeance on the man but it would be years before he would track him down.

He became a bounty hunter. His uncanny marksmanship and his specialized guns, designed and built by Lee Bailey, made him one of the very best. Unfortunately, his passion for revenge led him to make a terrible mistake. In 1867 he picked up a lead on a man called 'Indio Black.' Believing this to man be the same Indio who had killed his sister, Mortimer traveled to Mexico and killed him.

When Mortimer realized he had killed a revolutionary hero instead of a sadistic killer it bothered him greatly, but it didn't stop him from continuing his career as a bounty hunter. In 1874 he and the mysterious stranger often called 'The Man With No Name' finally caught up with Indio and he avenged his sister. Two years later Mortimer was duped into working for a corrupt justice of the peace in Utah. He nearly killed an innocent man but recognized him as the son of an old friend. He warned the man about the plot against him, and then left Utah.

Coming so close to killing an innocent man him remember his terrible mistake with Indio Black. As a kind of penance he took the man's name and called himself 'Sabata' for the rest of his career.²⁹⁸

Later that year, Mortimer had his first adventure using his new alias. A group of prominent citizens had robbed an Army payroll to finance a land scheme and Mortimer/Sabata stopped them.²⁹⁹ His last recorded adventure was in 1879 when he spent some time working undercover in a circus.³⁰⁰

Sabata aka Indio Black (1835-1867)

'Indio Black' was born in Mexico, probably sometime in the 1830's. He is a very obscure figure in history who seems to have been of Indian ancestry and who developed an amazing skill with firearms. His family name was Zapata (though he usually corrupted the pronunciation to 'Sabata'). He earned the nickname 'Indio Black' from his custom of dressing in an outlandish black outfit with silver buckles. He is



best known for his theft of a large shipment of gold from the forces of the Emperor Maximilian in 1867. This was a tremendous boost to the efforts of Benito Juarez and his revolutionary forces.³⁰¹

Unfortunately the heroic Black Indian was mistaken for a murderer by the deadly bounty hunter, Douglas Mortimer. In 1867 Mortimer caught up with Sabata and killed him, only later realizing his mistake.

The Man With No Name (dates unknown)

This tall, lean gunfighter with sandy blonde hair and cold blue eyes is one of the most enigmatic figures in the old west. He is not referred to in



The Last Vendetta, but his association with Col. Mortimer means that he is also a part of the Wold-Newton Universe.

Nothing is known of this gunfighter's life before he appeared in 1864 looking for a horde of gold that had been hidden by a dying soldier.³⁰² He seems to have been a relatively young man at the time and was variously called 'Blondie,' 'Joe,' and 'Manco' (Spanish for 'right handed'). It is possible that his name actually is Joe, but even this is impossible to say with any confidence.³⁰³

The nameless gunslinger was a deadly fighter but his most dangerous aspect was his cleverness and intelligence. In 1873 he wandered into a small border town ruled by feuding gangs³⁰⁴. He used his cunning to turn the gangs against each other until he managed to wipe both out. The following year he teamed with Col. Mortimer to end the career of the psychotic outlaw known as Indio.³⁰⁵

What became of the mysterious shootist after that is a matter of speculation. He vanished from the chronicle of the west as mysteriously as he entered it.³⁰⁶

Curly Washburn (1860-1910)

John Washburn (1860-1910)

The speaker was a tall, muscular man with curly black hair. He was dressed in a black suit with a white carnation in his lapel.

“My name is Washburn. I am a sales representative of Washburn-Peterson Armaments.”

John and ‘Curly’ Washburn were twins born about the beginning of the Civil War and little is known of their heritage. They grew up to be arms dealers and formed a company with Yodlaf Peterson.³⁰⁷ As adults, the brothers could be distinguished by their hair. John’s hair was long and straight and he wore a mustache. Curly was clean-shaven and gained his nickname from his short, curly mane.

Early in his career, John married and fathered a son named Lincoln but the marriage may have broken up. Years later, Lincoln would go on to father two sons of his own, Duke and Curly. Their adventures in the late 20th century are recorded in the films *City Slickers* and *City Slickers 2*.

In 1906, John Washburn and Yodlaf Peterson went to Cuba to sell weapons to the government. Peterson betrayed John, and handed him over to rebels. The Cubans crucified John, and he would have died had it not been for Marsha, his loyal pet vulture. Marsha ate off John’s right hand, enabling him to free himself from the cross. He equipped himself with an artificial hand and set out for vengeance. John caught up with Yodlaf in Mexico in 1910. He was selling guns to the government and Peterson was selling to the rebels. Both men perished in final conflict.

Curly met a similar end in 1910 Mexico. He found himself on the opposite side of a conflict from Polish arms dealer Sergei Kowalski.³⁰⁸ Both men died in that conflict ending what seems to have been unintentional feud between the Washburns and the illegitimate sons of Django.³⁰⁹

Adam Saxon (1875-1901)

The group clustered around the machine gun was then joined by a thin young man clad in a white suit with a flamboyant blue scarf. He gave his name as Adam Saxon...

The Saxons were a powerful family in a small western town who had been feuding for years with the Vermeers. Ebenezer Saxon was a ruthless man who often skirted the law to build his empire. Like Ben Cartwright, Saxon shared his empire with three grown sons but David, Eli, and Adam³¹⁰ had little in common with the Cartwrights. The Saxons imagined themselves above the law and were ruthless in building and defending their holdings.

Adam was the youngest son. In 1901 he was in his 20's and showed both a flamboyant sense of fashion and deadly gunfighting skills. Adam was engaged to a girl named Elisabeth, which seems to have been a cover for his actual sexual orientation.

When the Saxon patriarch was murdered on December 13, 1900, the brothers decided that the rival Vermeer family must be guilty. They hunted down Philip Vermeer and would have lynched him, if not for the timely intervention of a lawman named Clayton.³¹¹ The sheriff was convinced of Vermeer's innocence and came into conflict with the Saxon brothers. When the truth of the murder was finally revealed it led to a gunfight, which Adam Saxon did not survive.³¹²

SECTION 10: ODDS AND ENDS

There are no more chains of characters linked to the WNU, but there are three individuals who are worthy of note. Referring to them under the heading of "odds and ends" has a double meaning for they are three of the oddest western characters of all.

Cisco Kid (1850-?)

"Time for O. Henry's dashing Robin Hood of the old west..."



regular basis.

Most of us are familiar with the television adventures of the Cisco Kid and his sidekick Pancho as portrayed by Gilbert Roland and Leo Carillo. In these adventures the two come across as a less-intense Lone Ranger and Tonto. They are wandering adventurers, wanted by the law but innocent of any wrongdoing. In the course of their adventures they captured outlaws, righted wrongs and donated the rewards to charity. Cisco was also a lady's man, romancing a new damsel in distress on a

As attractive as this image is, the real Cisco wasn't a selfless hero, nor was he Hispanic. He was a gringo named Frank Goodall³¹³ and O. Henry describes him thusly, *"The Kid was twenty-five, looked twenty; and a careful insurance company would have estimated the probable time of his demise at, say, twenty-six."*

By the age of 25 the Kid had killed six men in straight fights and about a dozen (mostly Mexicans) in less honorable conflicts. His only love was a young woman, reputedly of Aztec descent, named Tonia Perez. When Tonia betrayed the Kid for a handsome Texas Ranger named Sandridge, Cisco arranged a tragic end for her.³¹⁴ This adventure took place in 1875.³¹⁵ While Cisco was still grieving the death of his lover he had an adventure in northern Mexico in which a young boy named Poncho Morales aided him. The boy may have grown to become the comical sidekick fans know so well.³¹⁶

In 1878 Cisco fell prey to the vengeance of Tonia's mother, a powerful sorceress named Zora. He fled Texas for New Mexico, encountering such famous western figures as the Lone Ranger and Billy the Kid³¹⁷ in the process. It may be that this adventure transformed the Kid from ruthless outlaw to dashing hero, but further research is needed to determine which, if any, of the romanticized adventures of Cisco and Pancho are factual.

The last recorded adventure of the Cisco Kid took place in 1910 when he teamed with the time traveling hero known as the Rook.

Haakon Jones (1857-1906?)

Of all of the heroes of the old west none had stranger adventures than Haakon Jones. In his long career Jones encountered spirits, monsters, aliens, ancient horrors, mad scientists and even time-travelers. His keen intellect, iron muscled body, and skill with a six-gun saved him from encounters that would have killed a lesser man or blasted his sanity.

Haakon was born in 1857, the son of an Englishman and a woman of Norwegian descent. He grew up outside of Hanskka, Minnesota where his family expected him to become a farmer. Haakon had always loved to read of exotic places and longed to explore the world. When his mother, died the seventeen-year-old lad bought a six-gun and headed west to seek his fortune.

After several encounters with men and monsters, Haakon made his way to Fort Abraham Lincoln where he served as a scout with the 7th Cavalry from 1874-1876. It was in the cavalry that he met his life-long friends Captain Lawton and the Lakota scout Small Jumper. He and Small Jumper left the Army the year before Custer's disastrous encounter with Crazy Horse at the Little Big Horn.

Haakon spent the next nine years roaming the west. He encountered supernatural menaces, mad scientists, aliens, time travelers and other bizarre menaces. It was during this period that he met Paladin, Secret Service agent Jim West, and Adolph Hitler.

In 1885 Haakon met and married Ella Martin and settled down to life as a farmer. The couple prospered and, in August of 1886 a son was born to them. They named the boy Henry and felt that their lives were complete. Unfortunately Haakon's wife was haunted by a curse that claimed her life on New Year's Eve, 1889. Haakon traveled to Wales to leave Henry in the care of his English relatives. He returned to America by an easterly route.³¹⁸

Haakon's final adventure involved an encounter with Captain (now General) Lawton in San Francisco. He has never disclosed the details of that meeting but something claimed Lawton, caused the earthquake of 1906 and left Haakon Jones with no zest left for adventure. He spent some time with a California family and told their young son about some of his adventures. Haakon Jones left for the east soon after that but his stories may have inspired the writing career of Clark Ashton Smith.

Mysterious Dave Mather (1851-?)

Like Wyatt Earp, Annie Oakley and Bat Masterson, David Allen Mather is a historical person whose adventures have been retold in a series of fictional stories.³¹⁹ Mysterious Dave gained his nickname because he was a close-mouthed individual whose comings and goings were hard to follow. He was by turns a buffalo hunter, cattle rustler, lawman, stagecoach robber, saloon owner, politician, and hired gun. Dave was also the descendant of Cotton Mather, the 17th century New England clergyman famous for his involvement in the Salem Witch Trials.



Dave was born on August 10, 1851 in Saybrook, Connecticut. His father Ulysses was a sea captain who had abandoned the family when Dave and his brother Josiah were very young. The brothers remained in Connecticut until their mother Lydia died in 1868. They signed on a ship's crew but life at sea didn't suit them. They jumped ship in New Orleans and headed west.

Dave is thought to have been involved rustling cattle with Dave Rudabaugh in 1873. The two fled to Texas when they were suspected of burgling a ranchhouse and killing the owner. Later that year Dave was one of the first residents of Dodge City. That was also the year he was summoned to Arkham, Massachusetts to receive a legacy.

Though the Witch Trials were mostly a sham, which victimized innocent scapegoats, there were dark forces afoot in Salem. Cotton Mather learned of evil forces in the world and the humans who served them. He compiled copious notes about finding and combating these ancient horrors and passed his journal down through the generations of Mathers.

When Dave received the book, he also learned that his father had been a monster hunter. He had abandoned his family rather than expose them to the dark powers. Now that mantle had passed to Dave, and with it the enmity of a myriad of ancient horrors.³²⁰

Dave and Josiah tried buffalo hunting in 1874 but gave it up after a bizarre encounter with the elder god Ithaqua.³²¹ The brothers separated and Dave roamed the west for several years. He knew Bat Masterson from Dodge City and signed on when the famous lawman was recruiting enforcers for the Railroad Wars of 1878-1879. The railroad took him to Las Vegas, New Mexico where he settled in 1879. Dave was part of a loose faction of gamblers and gunmen collectively known as the Dodge City Gang who dominated the political life of the community.

Dave was named a deputy U.S. Marshal and served as a lawman in the area for the next year. He was involved in a deadly gunfight against four men in January of 1880 and emerged unharmed after killing one man, wounding two and running off the last. This established his reputation as one of the deadliest gunmen in the west. He was also accused of taking part in several stagecoach robberies as a member of the Dodge City Gang, but it is not known whether there is any substance to these charges.

The gang was driven out of Las Vegas in April of 1880. By this time Dave had already left town in pursuit of a sorcerer.³²² By December he had come to Dallas Texas where he became romantically involved with a brothel owner named Georgia Morgan. Georgia was a brilliant and beautiful woman of mixed African descent who claimed a lineage back to Marie Laveau of New Orleans. She was the great love of Mysterious Dave's life, though the laws against interracial marriage kept them from solemnizing their relationship.

It is not clear what happened, but April of 1882 found Dave trying to flee town with a vengeful Georgia in hot pursuit. She claimed that he had

stolen several valuable items from her. Dave managed to get out of Texas and never saw Georgia again. He settled in Dodge City again where he became an assistant city marshal and deputy sheriff of Ford County. He also became part owner of the Opera House Saloon.

In 1884 Dave was involved in a political battle with another saloon owner named Tom Nixon. Nixon tried to shoot the unarmed Mather and, several days later, Mysterious Dave shot him dead. He was acquitted but several other incidents of violence made it expedient for him to leave town, and the pages of history for good.

There are many stories about the final fate of Dave Mather. Ironically the account that may be closest to the truth is one that appeared in the February 9, 1988 issue of the *World Weekly News*. The article claims that Dave was part of a posse that encountered a UFO on the Arizona-Mexico border in 1889. Dave disappeared in that encounter and the article suggests that aliens abducted him.

But the mysterious final fate of Dave Mather may be something even stranger...

APPENDIX A: Sequential and Non Sequential Westerns Series'

1. **NONSEQUENTIAL WESTERNS**– In these westerns there is no relationship between the year an episode was broadcast and the year it was supposed to have taken place. In other words it is never safe to assume you know what year an episode is set in based on the season when it was aired. Interestingly, two of these programs are about historical characters but do not follow their adventures in chronological sequence.

Bat Masterson	Bronco	Cheyenne
Colt .45	The Gambler	Gunsmoke
Have Gun, Will Travel	The Lawman	The Lone Ranger
Sugarfoot	Trackdown	The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp

2. **QUESTIONABLY SEQUENTIAL WESTERNS**– In these westerns there are no solid historical references. It is impossible to tell whether there is a relationship between the broadcast season and the year the story is set in.

Law of the Plainsman	Paradise/ Guns of Paradise	Rawhide
Wagon Train	The Westerner	Wanted: Dead or Alive

3. **SEQUENTIAL WESTERNS**– In these westerns there is a strong relationship between the season and the year represented. Even in most of the sequential westerns there are still some irregularities but there is a solid effort at consistency.

Bonanza

Season	Year	Season	Year
1	1859-60	8	1867-68
2	1861-62	9	1868-69
3	1862-63	10	1869-70
4	1863-64	11	1870-71
5	1864-65	12	1871-72
6	1865-66	13	1872-73
7	1866-67	14	1873-74

Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman

Season	Year	Season	Year
1	1868	5	1871-72
2	1868-69	6	1872-69
3	1869-70	Revolutions	1874
4	1870-71	The Heart Within	1876

Kung Fu

Season	Year
1	1873-74
2	1874-75
3	1875-76

Maverick

Season	Year	Season	Year
1	1876-77	3	1878-79
2	1877-78	4	1879-80

The Rifleman

Season	Year	Season	Year
1	1881-82	4	1884-85
2	1882-83	5	1885-86
3	1883-84		

APPENDEX B: History Meets Fiction

A number of historical figures from the old west appear over and over again in the west of the imagination. This section will give a thumbnail biography of many of these figures, along with a list of their appearances alongside fictional characters.

Bloody Bill Anderson (1839-1864)

Anderson was a leader of the Confederate guerillas who raided Union territories during the Civil War. In the WNU, Anderson was a friend of Josey Wales and Jeb Kent and knew Bronco Layne.

Sam Bass (1851-1878)

Bass was a notorious outlaw and train robber whose career was ended by the Texas Rangers. In the WNU, Bass crossed paths with Bret Maverick. Hoby Gilman, Christopher Colt, and the Lone Ranger were all on hand at his death.

Judge Roy Bean (1825-1903)

Roy bean was a self-appointed jurist whose rulings were known for their eccentricity. In his career in the WNU, Bean crossed paths with the Lone Ranger, Christopher Colt, Woodrow Call, Peter Stulpnagel, and Brady Hawkes. (For more on Bean see Appendix B.)

William “Billy the Kid” Bonney (1859-1881)

Possibly the most famous outlaw and gunfighter of the old west, Billy lived a violent life and died young at the hands of a friend. In the WNU he knew Matt Dillon, Two Gun Kid, Bret Maverick, Bronco Layne, Christopher Colt, the Rawhide Kid, and Count Dracula. While he never met Roy Rogers, the two were apparently look-alikes. Billy may have had another look-alike in Ben Snow.

Ned Buntline (1823-1886)

An adventurer and novelist who popularized the life of Buffalo Bill in fiction, Ned is also known for his associating with some of the famous lawmen of the west. He gave customized revolvers known as "Buntline Specials" to Wild Bill Hickok, Wyatt Earp, and Bat Masterson. In the WNU, Ned also wrote dime novels about the Rawhide Kid and the Lone Ranger.

Calamity Jane (1852-1903)

Born Martha Jane Canary, Jane was as tough and reckless as any of the male frontiersmen and Indian scouts of the west. She was a friend and (she claimed) lover to Wild Bill Hickok and knew Buffalo Bill Cody well. In the WNU she also knew the Lone Ranger, Christopher Colt, and the Rawhide Kid.

Butch Cassidy (1866-1909?)

The leader of the Hole in the Wall Gang and the last of the great train robbers, Butch was thought of as a 'Robin Hood' outlaw. Stories persist that Butch and his partner Harry "The Sundance Kid" Longbaugh were not killed in 1909 but set up new identities and retired from crime. In the WNU, Butch knew Pike Bishop of the Wild Bunch and Brady Hawkes.

Sam Clemens aka Mark Twain (1835-1910)

Samuel L. Clemens was one of the greatest American novelists. He spent time as a riverboat captain and a journalist before becoming a literary success. In the WNU he met the Lone Ranger and Lucas McCain, as well as Captain Jean Luc Picard and the crew of the starship Enterprise. He also knew the Cartwrights of Virginia City very well and met them on a number of occasions.

Buffalo Bill Cody (1846-1917)

William Cody was one of the great frontiersmen of the old west. His adventures were dramatized in dime novels and a stage production. This exposure to the stage inspired him to form his famous Wild West Show. Bill knew Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane and George A. Custer. His Wild West Show featured Annie Oakley and Sitting Bull. In the WNU, Cody also knew the Lone Ranger, and the Rawhide Kid was once a part of his show.

George Armstrong Custer (1839-1876)

One of the most controversial figures of the old west, Custer was a military officer and Civil War hero. He was an ambitious officer who saw the Indian Wars as an opportunity to advance his career. Buffalo Bill Cody scouted for Custer during the Indian Wars, though Cody was not present when Custer died at the Battle of Little Bighorn. In the WNU a number of people scouted for Custer, including Cheyenne Bowdie, Scalphunter, Haakon Jones and Nate Kent. Custer also knew the Lone Ranger and often butted heads with Dr. Quinn. Cheyenne, Paladin, and the Lone Ranger all visited the Little Bighorn battlefield shortly after Custer's death.

Pat Garrett (1850-1908)

Pat Garrett was a New Mexico lawman whose chief claim to fame was that he killed Billy the Kid. In the WNU, Garrett was a friend to Ethan Cord, Wyatt Earp, and Bat Masterson. He knew but was on less friendly terms with Bronco Layne and Roy Rogers.

Geronimo (1829-1909)

This leader of the Mescalero Apache was famous as the last leader of Native resistance to American Expansion. The Mexicans called him Geronimo, but his name was Goythatlay among his own people. His struggles demonstrated a military genius and an unyielding spirit. Ultimately Geronimo lost his fight but became a national celebrity. He died on a reservation in Oklahoma. In the WNU two of Geronimo's allies were the second Apache Kid (Rosa), and Running Fish of the Sunset Riders. He also knew the Lone Ranger and Tonto.

John Wesley Hardin (1853-1895)

Considered the fastest gun in the west, by many historians, Hardin was born in Texas and became an outlaw there. He was captured 1874 and sent to prison for his crimes. He was released in 1894 to return to a life of crime until he was killed in a fight over a woman. In the WNU Hardin was a childhood friend of Jeb Kent's son, Tyler Beaumont. He also met Wyatt Earp, the Rawhide Kid, Bret and Bart Maverick brothers, and the Lone Ranger. Hardin was in the same part of Texas as Woodrow Call during the events of *Streets of Laredo* but it does not seem the two ever met.

Wild Bill Hickok (1837-1876)

James Butler Hickok was nicknamed "Duck Bill" because of his large nose. As his reputation grew he changed the nickname to "Wild Bill." He worked as a buffalo hunter, cavalry scout, lawman, and gambler. He was shot in the back in the town of Deadwood, South Dakota. In the WNU Hickok was a friend of the Rawhide Kid and the Lone Ranger. Nate Kent and Matt Dillon were Hickok's deputies in their early careers. He met Bronco Layne on one occasion. When Hickok was murdered Dan Troop and Johnny McKay brought his killer to justice.

Doc Holliday (1855-1887)

John Henry Holliday started out to become a dentist in Georgia, but tuberculosis forced him to move to the dryer climate of the west. Holliday became a skillful gambler and one of the most dangerous gunfighters on the frontier. He also friend of lawman Wyatt Earp and the two fought side by side at the OK Corral gunfight. Doc also knew, but was not especially close to Bat Masterson and Mysterious Dave Mather. Despite his dangerous life, it was ultimately disease that took Holliday's life. In the WNU Doc Holliday met a large number of characters including the Rawhide Kid, Dan Troop, Johnny McKay, Christopher Colt, Tom "Sugarfoot" Brewster, Bronco Layne, Billy the Kid and Paladin. Doc was also a good friend of Bret and Bart Maverick. After Doc's death, his revolver eventually found it's way into the hands of Scott Mary.

Frank James (1843-1915)

Alexander Franklin “Frank” James was nearly as famous an outlaw as his younger brother Jesse. Following Jesse’s death he gave up the outlaw life and lived peacefully until his eventual death. In the WNU Frank knew Jeb Kent and Josey Wales in the Civil War. He also met Bret Maverick once. Late in life he strapped on his guns a last time to help out the next generation of Cartwrights.

Jesse James (1847-1882)

A guerilla fighter in the Civil War, Jesse became famous as a bank robber in the 1870’s. He knew William Quantrill and may have met Billy the Kid.³²³ In the WNU, Jesse met Bronco Layne, Roy Rogers, Bret Maverick, and Frankenstein’s daughter. The posse that arrested Jesse once included Matt Dillon, Wyatt Earp, Annie Oakley, Tonto, Seth Adams, and Milford Farnsworth.

Chief Joseph (1840-1904)

Joseph was the leader who led the Nez Perce people on a march to escape US Cavalry forces that wanted to force them onto a reservation. Through brilliant tactics, Joseph nearly managed to evade a vastly superior force and escape with his people into Canada. Later in his life, Chief Joseph became a diplomat and peacemaker who traveled to Washington D.C. In the WNU Red Wolf was an ally of Chief Joseph’s and he met Matt Dillon once.

Emperor Joshua Norton I (c. 1815-1880)

Norton was a California real estate tycoon who lost all of his wealth (and possibly his mind) in the 1850’s. He declared himself Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico, even though he was homeless by that time. He was regarded as eccentric by the citizens of San Francisco, but was treated with deference and respect nonetheless. In the WNU, Norton was a friend of Ben Cartwright.

William Quantrill (1837-1865)

Quantrill was a leader of the Missouri raiders who plagued Kansas before the war. He helped to pioneer the guerilla tactics that made his men so difficult for conventional forces to deal with. When the Civil War started, Quantrill was given a commission in the Confederate Army and allowed to continue using his tactics. Frank and Jesse James learned the skills they would use as bank and train robbers while serving with Quantrill. In the WNU he knew Bronco Layne, Jeb Kent, and Josey Wales.

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919)

Roosevelt was born to a wealthy New York family and transformed himself from a frail and sickly youth to a robust adventurer. Eventually he rose to become the youngest ever President of the United States. Bat Masterson was a friend of Roosevelt's. In the WNU he also met Tom "Sugarfoot" Brewster, Bronco Layne, Little Joe Cartwright, Brady Hawkes, the Lone Ranger and Bart Maverick.

Sitting Bull (1831-1890)

Tatanka Iyotake was a spiritual leader of the Hunkpapa Sioux who helped to organize a confederation of Indian nations against the US Cavalry. Sitting Bull's efforts led to the defeat of General George A. Custer at the Battle of Little Bighorn. In his later life, Sitting Bull joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show where he met other celebrities like Annie Oakley. His life ended when he was shot in a skirmish with Reservation police. In the WNU Sitting Bull knew the Lone Ranger and Brady Hawkes.

Belle Starr (1848-1889)

Born Myra Belle Shirley, Belle was the most famous female outlaw in the old west. Belle is best known through her association with the James and Younger brothers. In the WNU she was a friend of Bronco Layne, and met Dr. Quinn and Bret Maverick on different occasions.

Lew Wallace (1827-1905)

A politician and author, Wallace is best known for his term as Territorial Governor of New Mexico where he crossed paths with Billy the Kid several times. He is also the author of the historical novel **Ben Hur**. In the WNU Wallace met Christopher Colt.

Jacob Waltz (1808-1891)

A German immigrant who prospected for gold in Arizona, Waltz found a mother lode in the Superstition Mountains. When he died the location of the mine was lost to history. Ever since it has been referred to as the "Lost Dutchman's Mine." In the WNU, Waltz was a friend of Beau Maverick.

Sarah Winnemucca (1841-1891)

Sarah was born Thocmentony, daughter of the Paiute leader Winnemucca. She grew up exposed to both Paiute and American culture and became the first published Native American author with her book **Life Among the Paiutes**. In the WNU Sarah had a brief romantic relationship with Little Joe Cartwright.

Cole Younger (1844-1916)

Younger was an outlaw best known for his involvement with the James gang and for being one of Belle Star's lovers. He was arrested following an attempted robbery in 1876 and was sentenced to prison. He was released in 1901 and never returned to the outlaw trail. In the WNU Cole was a wartime friend of Bronco Layne and Jeb Kent. He once met Bret Maverick.

APPENDIX C: The Two Deaths of Judge Roy Bean By Rick Lai

"In **Streets of Laredo** by Larry McMurtry, the villain of the novel, a Mexican bandit named Joey Garza, slew Judge Roy Bean by shooting

him several times and then hanging him. There is no question that Bean died. However, historically Bean died in 1903. How can ***Streets of Laredo*** be reconciled with history. The only explanation is that a mad scientist must have brought Bean back to life.

Who was active in the old West back then with the knowledge to resurrect Bean? A clue lies in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "*The Los Amigos Fiasco*" (first published in 1892). The narrator of the story claims that the story was set years earlier. Probably, the year was 1890 because that year was when New York became the first state to adopt an electric chair as a means of execution.

Somewhere in the West, the town of Los Amigos heard stories about electrical executions in the eastern USA. The town had a large electric plant, and the citizens planned to execute a local outlaw, Duncan Warner. A member of the town council, Peter Stulpnagel, was an elderly eccentric German electrician. He argued that the town was planning to use too much electricity to execute Warner, and that dire consequences may result. Stulpnagel was proven right. No only did Warner not die from his electrocution, but he was rendered virtually invulnerable. He could not be hanged or shot. Warner was then sentenced to life imprisonment.

My theory is that Stulpnagel theorized that if a massive amount of electricity made a living man invulnerable to hanging or bullet wounds, then a similar dose of electricity would revive a dead man who had died from either hanging or bullet wounds. Stulpnagel asked the town council to allow electrical experiments on corpses. The citizens of Los Amigos was repelled by Stulpnagel's suggestions and drove him out of town.

Stulpnagel fled to Langtry, the Texas town dominated by Judge Roy Bean. Stulpnagel went there because there were a regular series of deaths by either hanging or by shooting. Stulpnagel asked Bean to give him some corpses to experiment on. Bean responded that if Stulpnagel didn't shut up about these matters, he would be hanged. When Bean was killed, Stulpnagel stole his corpse from the morgue.

Using electricity, Stulpnagel brought Bean back to life. The resurrection process healed Bean's broken neck and bullet wounds. Stulpnagel expected Bean to be grateful. Unfortunately, Bean became convinced that it was not in his best interests for the public to know that he had been restored to life. People might look about him as some sort of Frankenstein monster. Therefore, Bean hanged Stulpnagel for grave robbing. Although news of Bean's death had spread beyond Langtry, the reappearance of a living Bean led everybody in the old West to conclude that this 1895 demise was just a false rumor.³²⁴

**APPENDEX D:
MASTER CHRONOLOGY
TWISTED TRAILS OF THE WOLD WEST**

-1809-

Ben Cartwright is born, possibly in Philadelphia.

-1810-

No recorded events of significance.

-1811-

Seth Adams is born

1812-1881

-1819-

Ben Cartwright sees the pirate, Jean Lafitte in New Orleans.

1820-1822

No recorded events of significance.

-1823-

Augustus "Gus" McCrae is born in Tennessee.

Woodrow Call is born in Texas.

-1824-

No recorded events of significance.

-1825-

Roy Bean is born in Kentucky.

1826-1827

No recorded events of significance.

-1828-

Ben Cartwright marries Elizabeth Stoddard.

-1829-

Elizabeth Stoddard dies giving birth to Adam Cartwright.

Amos Edwards is born.

Dan Troop is born.

-1830-

Matt Savage is born.

-1831-

No recorded events of significance.

-1832-

Ben Cartwright marries Inger Borgstrom.

Lee Bailey is born in London.

-1833-

Michaela Quinn is born in Boston.

-1834-

Josey Wales is born in the mountains of Tennessee.

Nathaniel Kent is born in Boston.

Douglas Mortimer is born.

-1835-

Possible birth of Sabata/Indio Black.

-1836-

Hoss Cartwright is born and his mother dies soon after.

Jebediah Kent is born in Boston.

Possible birth of Sartana.

-1837-

Bronco Layne is born in Texas.

-1838-

Jonah Hex is born.

Matt Dillon is born.

-1839-

Brian Savage, who will become Scalphunter, is born in Missouri. Before he is a year old he is abducted and raised by the Kiowa.

-1840-

Clay Alexander is born, possibly in St. Louis.

-1841-

Ben Cartwright marries Marie de Marigny.

-1842-

Gus McCrae and Woodrow Call become Texas Rangers.

Little Joe Cartwright is born.

Caleb Cobb leads a doomed expedition from Texas to annex Santa Fe. Woodrow Call and Gus McCrae are two of the handful of the trek's survivors.

-1843-

Blaine Colt (Kid Colt) is born in what will become Wyoming.

Lance Temple, who will become the Outlaw Kid, is born.

John Bernard Books is born.

Reno Jones and Kid Cassidy are both born in Georgia.

Birth of Ignacz Djanko, aka Django

-1844-

The birth of Manuel Sanchez (El Cuchillo)

The birth of Will Munny.

-1845-

Johnny Bart (Rawhide Kid) is born on a ranch near Rawhide Texas.

Matthew Leibowitz (Two Gun Kid) is born in Boston.

Beauregard "Beau" Maverick Jr. is born.

Kathleen "Miss Kitty" Russell is born in New Orleans, Louisiana.

-1846-

The Donner Party of settlers is snowed in as they try to cross the Sierra Nevada mountains. Under harsh conditions, the survivors turn to cannibalism.

Ben Cartwright is a part of the mission to rescue survivors of the Donner Party. While he is away from his family Marie has a miscarriage.

Bartholomew "Bart" Maverick is born.

-1847-

Carter Slade, who will become the first Ghost Rider, is born in Ohio.

The Cheyenne boy who will become Red Wolf is born in the Wyoming-Montana area. He is orphaned as a child, then adopted and given the name Johnny Wakely.

Kwai Chang Caine is born in China.

Bret Maverick is born.

Roy Bean becomes a trading post keeper in Chihuahua, Mexico.

-1848-

Will Kane is born somewhere on the western frontier.

John Reid (The Lone Ranger) is born.

Dazii aka Alan Krاندall (Apache Kid) is born.

-1849-

Lincoln Slade, who will become the second Ghost Rider, is born in Ohio.

Roy Bean kills a man and flees Mexico for California.

-1850-

Johnny Bart's parents are killed and his Uncle Ben takes him in.

Josh Randall is born.

Frank Goodall (Cisco Kid) is born.

Lee Barnett (Gunhawk) is born.

Hoby Gilman is born.

Caleb Hammer is born.

Brent Maverick is born.

Possible date for Lee Bailey coming to New Orleans.

-1851-

John Henry Holliday is born.

Sam Bass is born.

Events of The Ponderosa Season 1

Marie Cartwright is killed in an explosion.

The Cartwrights meet Joaquin Murietta, who teaches Adam to use a pistol.

Jonah Hex's father trades him to a band of Apache for hides.

Hannie Caulder (her maiden name is unknown) is born in New Orleans.

-1852-

Tonto is born.

-1853-

Jonah Hex saves the life of the Apache chief and becomes an adopted son.

Deke Thornton is born.

John Wesley Hardin is born in Bonham, Texas.

-1854-

Jonah Hex is reclaimed from the Apache and becomes an army scout.

Silas Kent brings his sons Nate and Jeb to Kansas to work for the abolition of slavery. Silas is killed by Luther Reid.

Ben Maverick is born.

-1855-

No recorded events of significance.

-1856-

Gus McCrae and Woodrow Call become captains in the Texas Rangers.

Nate Kent befriends Wild Bill Hickock and Mary Glenowen. Jeb becomes friends with William Quantrill.

Jeb Kent splits with his brother Nate over the issue of slavery.

-1857-

Newt Dobbs is born.

Tyler Beaumont is born.

Haakon Jones is born.

Clay Alexander is in India, shooting tigers.

-1858-

Kid Sheleen is born.

Sam Buckhart is born.

Johnny McKay is born.

-1859-

Season 1 episodes of *Bonanza*.

Virginia City, Nevada is founded following a silver strike.

The Cartwrights meet Samuel Clemins.

The Cartwrights deal with Henry Comstock and Little Joe courts Sarah Winnemucca³²⁵

Clay Alexander enters West Point Military Academy.

Freddie Sykes is born.

The orphaned Kwai Chang Caine enters the Shaolin Temple.

-1860-

Remainder of season 1 episodes of *Bonanza*.

The Pony Express is established on April 3 of this year. Riders for the St. Joseph, Missouri to Sarramento, California line include Wild Bill Hicock and Buffalo Bill Cody. **Little Joe Cartwright also signs on as a rider for a time.**³²⁶

J.B. Books and J.P. Harrah become friends.

Likely date for the birth of Rosa (Apache Kid)

Likely date for the birth of Hannie Caulder³²⁷

Michaela Quinn graduates from medical college.

Birth of John and Curly Washburn.

Likely date for the birth of Henry William Bonney (Billy the Kid)

-1861-

Season 2 episodes of *Bonanza*.

Dutch Engstrom is born.

April 16 – Abraham Lincoln becomes the 16th president of the United States.

The Civil War starts and many enlist on either side.

Col. Mortimer, Kid Cassidy, Jonah Hex, and J.B. Books join the Confederate Army. Books is a part of Hood's Texas Brigade. Jeb Kent and Josey Wales also join with the Confederacy and continue to ride with the Missouri guerillas of William Quantrill and Bloody Bill Anderson. Bronco Layne joins the Confederate Army and becomes a captain.

Seth Adams, Lance Temple, Matt Savage, Will Munny, Josh Randall, Hoby Gilman, and Nate Kent join the Union Army. Nate becomes a scout working with Wild Bill Hickok.

Gus McCrae and Woodrow Call elect to remain Texas Rangers rather than fight in the Civil War.

Blaine Colt becomes Kid Colt.

-1862-

Season 3 episodes of *Bonanza*

The Cartwrights meet Cochise.

Pike Bishop is born.

Tector Gorch is born.

Clay Alexander graduates from West Point and becomes a spy for the Union Army.

Lt. Seth Adams meets Generals Grant and Sherman at the Battle of Shiloh and is promoted to Major.

-1863-

Season's 3-4 of *Bonanza*.

Johnny Bart becomes the Rawhide Kid.

Brian Savage is recovered from the Kiowa by the Army. He becomes an army scout and bounty hunter and gains the nickname 'Scalphunter.'

Brock Helm kills Clay Alexander's parents. Clay is transferred to the western frontier.

Cole Younger saves Bronco Layne's life from Jesse James.

The birth of the boy who will come to be known as 'Silence'.

-1864-

Seasons 4-5 of *Bonanza*.

The Cartwrights meet Charles Dickens on his visit to the United States.

Little Joe Cartwright nearly gets in a gunfight with Wild Bill Hickok over Calamity Jane³²⁸

Jonah Hex attempts to surrender his troop to the union Army but his men are massacred. He flees the war and has his face branded with the mark of the demon.

Bronco Layne is captured and imprisoned by Union troops.

General Sherman devastates much of Georgia in his 'march to the sea.' The Cassidy Plantation is destroyed and Reno Jones' sweetheart Rachel is abducted. Kid Cassidy returns home and he and Reno head west in search of Rachel.

A militia troop attacks a Native American settlement at Sand Creek, Colorado. Reno Jones and Kid Cassidy are present at the massacre.

Events of The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.

-1865-

March 4 – Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated for a second term as president.

April 15 – John Wilkes Boothe assassinates Abraham Lincoln. Andrew Johnson becomes president.

Seasons 5-6 of Bonanza

The Cartwrights meet an elderly Gentleman who claims to be the pirate, Jean Lafitte.

Woodrow Call and Gus McCrae find the body of Buffalo Hump.

Josey Wales chooses not to surrender to Union forces. He journeys to Texas and starts a ranch.

Nate Kent leaves the army and becomes a US marshal and part time scout for the army. He also begins to search for Mary Glenowen, who vanished during the War.

Bronco Layne returns home to ruin and disgrace.

Jeb Kent joins up with the James brothers and the Youngers.

Lee Barnett is estranged from his foster father.

The Texas Rangers are temporarily disbanded. Gus McCrae and Woodrow call travel to Lonesome Dove to become cattle ranchers.

Adam Cartwright leaves the Ponderosa.

Lance Temple returns home to find his father menaced by a protection racket.

Johnny Wakely becomes Red Wolf.

Jonah Hex becomes a bounty hunter.

Matt Savage begins his career as a trail boss from Texas to Abilene.

Will Munny becomes an outlaw in Missouri.

Josh Randall becomes a bounty hunter.

Hoby Gilman returns to Texas and becomes a Ranger.

Seth Adams becomes a wagonmaster.

Seth Adams meets the Man Called Horse.

Possible date for the death of William Bonney's father. His mother moves the family to Indiana.

Possible date for the marriage of Roy Bean to a teenaged Mexican girl. The two move to San Antonio, Texas.

-1866-

Seasons 6-7 of *Bonanza*.

Hoot Temple is blinded by an explosion. Lance Temple becomes the Outlaw Kid.

Clay Alexander resigns from the army and moves to San Francisco.

-1867-

Clay Alexander becomes Paladin.

Paladin meets Mr. Spock who has traveled back to the past. He also meets Aaron Stemple (*Here Come the Brides*). Hoss Cartwright, Little Joe Cartwright, Bret Maverick, and the second Doctor Who also make brief appearances.

Kwai Chang Caine becomes a Shaolin priest and leaves the temple.

Indio Black, aka Sabata fights against the forces of the Emperor Maximilian.

Col Mortimer mistakenly kills Sabata.

-1868-

Season 8-9 of *Bonanza*.

Seasons 1-2 of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*.

Reno Jones shoots Kid Cassidy in self-defense.

Josey Wales travels to Mexico to avenge the deaths of friends.

Will Kane becomes town marshal of Hadleyville. One of his first actions is to put Frank Miller in prison for murder.

Carter Slade becomes the Ghost Rider.

Dr. Quinn moves to Colorado Springs.

Flint McCullough meets famed explorer Jim Bridger.

The US Cavalry attacks a camp of Native Americans at the Washita River. Nate Kent and Scalphunter are present at the massacre. Both men quit their scouting jobs. Dr. Quinn loses many Cheyenne friends in the massacre.

Jeb Kent is driving cattle with Matt Savage.

Johnny McKay and his mother join a wagon train to Wyoming. Johnny's mother dies on the journey.

Dazii adopts the alias of Al Kare and begins his career as the Apache Kid.

John Wesley Hardin kills his first man.

-1869-

March 4 – Ulysses S. Grant becomes president of the United States.

Seasons 9-10 of *Bonanza*.

Seasons 2-3 of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*

The Edwards family is killed by Comanches and Debbie Edwards is abducted. Amos (Ethan) Edwards and Martin Paulie set out to recover her.

Will Munny robs a train in Missouri with dynamite, which kills many passengers.

John Reid becomes the Lone Ranger. With Tonto he begins a career of righting wrongs and defending the helpless.

Dr. Quinn meets Belle Starr and the Younger brothers.

-1870-

Seasons 10-11 of *Bonanza*.

Seasons 3-4 of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*.

Reno Jones marries a woman named Mary.

William Munny kills a US marshal.

William Munny marries Claudia Feathers and gives up the life of a gunman.

Matthew Leibowitz (aka Matt Hawk) arrives in Tombstone, TX and becomes the Two Gun Kid.

Likely birth of "A.C." Cartwright in Australia.

Likely birth of Ghost Wind Rider.

Dr. Quinn and Sully travel to Washington to speak to President Grant on behalf of the Cheyenne.

Dr. Quinn and Sully marry.

Birth of Yodlaf Peterson, an illegitimate son of Django

-1871-

Seasons 11-12 of *Bonanza*.

Seasons 4-5 of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*.

Wild Bill Hickok becomes Town Marshal of Abilene, Kansas. His deputies include Nate Kent and Matt Dillon. Doc Adams is a friend of Dillon and Wild Bill's.

Matt Dillon replaces Josh Stryker as the US Marshal in Dodge City.

Bronco Layne saves Wild Bill Hickok from the vengeful fiancée of a man he shot.

Matt Dillon has two adventures with Wild Bill Hickok.

An amnesiac Matt Dillon has an affair with a widow named Mike Yardner.

Dr. Quinn and Sully have a daughter, Katie.

Wild Bill Hickok accidentally shoots and kills one of his deputies. He is fired by the town council of Abilene.

Nate Kent finds and marries Mary Glenowen. He takes the job of Sheriff in Smallville, Kansas.

Jeb Kent begins riding in an outlaw gang with his son Tyler Beaumont.

-1872-

Seasons 12-13 of *Bonanza*.

Seasons 5-6 of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*.

Paladin helps Phileas Fogg on his trip around the world in 80 days.

Lyle Gorch is born.

Young Sam Buckhart saves the life of a cavalry officer.

Kwai Chang Caine kills the Emperor's nephew and becomes a fugitive.

Haakon Jones leaves home following the death of his mother.

John Henry Holliday begins practicing as a dentist in Georgia.

Beth Yardner, daughter of Mike Yardner and Matt Dillon is born.

The twelve year-old Billy Bonney meets Matt Dillon.

Dr. Quinn meets poet Walt Whitman.

Sartana recovers a hidden treasure.

-1873-

Ulysses S. Grant is re-elected president.

Seasons 13-14 of *Bonanza*

Season 6 of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*.

Season 1 of *Kung Fu*

Ben Cartwright has an adventure with Sam Clemins.

Events of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman: Revolutions*.

Events of *High Noon*.

The Two Gun Kid disappears for a time.

Carter Slade dies and Lincoln Slade becomes the new Ghost Rider.

Kwai Chang Caine comes to America.

The Apache Kid meets and marries Rosa.

Matt Dillon passes through Colorado Springs and meets friends of Dr. Quinn.

Events of *A Fistful of Dollars*.

September – Dave Mather travels to Arkham to receive his legacy.

Doc Holliday is diagnosed with tuberculosis and heads to Dallas, Texas for his health.

Billy Bonney's mother remarries to a man named Antrim and the family moves to Silver City, New Mexico.

-1874-

Season 14 of *Bonanza*.

Seasons 2-3 of *Kung Fu*.

Kid Sheleen kills his first man. Later that year he joins Frankie Ballou's gang.

Tyler Beaumont and Jeb Kent plan to rob the Smallville bank. Jeb betrays the gang and reconciles with his brother Nate. Tyler and Jeb are both killed in the ensuing gunfight.

Roy Rogers Crosses paths with Jesse James.

Sam Buckhart is given an inheritance and travels east to get an education.

Haakon Jones leaves home and becomes a scout for the 7th Cavalry.

Dave Mather encounters Ithaqua.

Events of *Alias*, *Jesse James*.

Events of *For a Few Dollars More*

Possible birth of Scott Mary.

Ben Thompson helps the Lone Ranger thwart a crooked gambler.³²⁹

William Bonney's mother dies.

Sam Bass moves to Denton, Texas.

John Wesley Hardin kills the sheriff of Comanche, Texas. The Texas Rangers begin a three year manhunt for him.

-1875-

Seasons 2-3 of *KungFu*.

Events of *The Searchers*.

Jonah Hex. Mysteriously disappears for a time.

Alan Krاندall becomes the Apache Kid.

Lee Barnett becomes the Gunhawk.

Kwai Chang Caine is reunited with his brother Danny Caine.

Events of *The Caballero's Way*

Events of *The Cisco Kid: Gates of Hell*

Matt Dillon meets his greatest enemy, Will Mannon.

Samantha Crawford meets Cheyenne Bowdie.

Possible date for the birth of Adam Saxon

March- Haakon Jones encounters Ithaqua and an immortal sorceress who once tempted Conan³³⁰

Doc Holliday kills his first man and must flee to Jacksboro, Texas.

William Bonney is jailed for a prank.

-1876-

Events of *Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman: The Heart Within*.

Season 3 of *Kung Fu*.

Season 1 of *Maverick*.

William Bonney ends out in Tombstone, Texas where the Two-Gun Kid teaches him how to handle a gun.

The Two Gun Kid hangs up his guns. As Matt Hawk he marries his sweetheart, Nancy Carter.

Hoot Temple learns that Lance Temple is secretly the Outlaw Kid and the shock kills him.

Dan Troop becomes town marshal of Laramie, Wyoming and Johnny McKay becomes his deputy.

Samantha Crawford has several adventures with Bret and Bart Maverick.

A force of Sioux, Cheyenne and other warriors wipe out Col. George A. Custer's 7th Cavalry at the battle of Little Bighorn. **Though there are no survivors, Cheyenne Bowdie, Paladin and the Lone Ranger are in the area and view the carnage shortly after the battle.**

July- Haakon Jones kills eight men in a town called Poker Flat, New Mexico.³³¹

August - Haakon Jones and Jim West foil an assassination attempt on President Grant.

A man named Jack McCall shoots and kills Wild Bill Hickok in Deadwood, South Dakota. **Dan Troop and Johnny McKay bring McCall to Justice.**

The Apaches are all ordered onto the San Carlos Reservation. Geronimo refuses and begins his resistance against the US Cavalry. **Rosa splits with the Apache Kid to go with Geronimo.**

September- Bronco Layne and Belle Starr try, and fail to get Cole Younger to break off his association with Jesse James.

On September 7, the James-Younger Gang attempts to rob the bank in Northfield, Minnesota with disastrous results. Frank and Jesse James escaped, Cole, Bob and James Younger were all wounded and arrested, and the rest of the gang members were killed.

Doc Holliday kills a soldier in a gunfight and flees to Denver, Colorado.

Bret Maverick meets Doc Holliday on at least two different occasions.

The Lone Ranger and the Two-Gun Kid cross paths in an adventure involving a pack of werewolves.³³²

John Gordon and his wife are murdered. Their son survives a slashed throat and will grow up to become the deadly gunfighter called 'Silence.'

Events of *Sabada*.

Rutherford B Hayes and William Tecumseh Sherman meet Bat Masterson while on a campaign trip to Dodge City.

-1877-

Rutherford B. Hayes is inaugurated as President of the United States.

Season 2 of Maverick.

Gus McCrae and Woodrow Call take a cattle drive from Lonesome Dove to Montana. Gus dies in Montana.

Bart Maverick visits the Ponderosa and meets the Cartwrights. The details of this meeting seem to have been highly fictionalized.³³³

Hoss Cartwright falls in love but dies before he can tell his family about his intended. Later that year Hoss's illegitimate son Josh is born.

Haakon Jones meets Paladin.

Nancy Hawk dies while giving birth to a daughter.

Lincoln Slade, aka the Ghost Rider dies.

Kid Sheleen loses his love, Cathy Morgan, to his best friend, Frankie Ballou.

Samantha Crawford teams with Bret and Bart Maverick.

Crazy Horse is captured and assassinated, effectively ending the Indian Wars.

Doc Holliday travels a lot this year, stopping in Wyoming and New Mexico Territories. *In Laramie, Wyoming, Doc meets Marshal Dan Troop and Deputy Johnny McKay.*

Doc Holliday ends out in Griffin, Texas, where he first meets Wyatt Earp and Big Nose Kate.

The Cisco Kid meets the Lone Ranger and Billy the Kid.

William Bonney kills his first man at Camp Grant, Arizona. He is arrested but escapes from jail and flees back to New Mexico. Around this time he is given the name 'Billy the Kid.'

Sam Bass forms a gang and begins robbing trains in Texas.

Bret and Bart Maverick meet John Wesley Hardin.

Texas Rangers arrest John Wesley Hardin and he is sentenced to prison.

Tom "Sugarfoot" Brewster meets Billy the Kid in his first recorded adventure.

Bret Maverick is in Dodge City where he meets Marshal Matt Dillon.³³⁴

Christopher Colt meets Doc Holliday.

Tom "Sugarfoot" Brewster defends his cousin, the Canary Kid, against criminal charges. Bronco Layne, Deputy Johnny McKay, Christopher Colt and Doc Holliday are present at the trial.

Doc Holiday is jailed for the murder of another gambler. Big Nose Kate rescues him from a lynch mob and the two flee to Dodge City, Kansas.

Matt Dillon meets Doc Holliday.

Bronco Layne and Billy the Kid join forces to protect a sheep rancher.

Billy the Kid's friend and employer, William Tunstall is killed, triggering the "Lincoln County War."

The Railroad Wars over Raton Pass, NM and Royal Gorge, CO. begin. The Santa Fe Railroad hires Bat Masterson and a group of Kansas gunfighters, including Doc Holliday and Mysterious Dave Mather. The Rio Grande Railroad hires its own gunfighters. **These include the Apache Kid and the Rawhide Kid.**

Manuel Sanchez, aka El Cuchillo escapes a false charge of rape and murder.

Events of *Run Man, Run*.

-1878-

Seasons 3 and 5 of *Maverick*.

Events of *Rawhide Kid: Slap Leather*³³⁵

Claudia Munny dies.

Woodrow Call returns Gus McCrae's body to Lonesome Dove for burial. While Call is gone, Newt Dobbs dies in Montana.

Criminal mastermind Foxy Smith breaks Cole Younger out of prison as a part of his plan to create the greatest bank-robbing gang of all time.³³⁶

Cathy “Cat” Ballou is born to Frankie and Cathy Ballou.

Bret Maverick inadvertently stumbles into the plan of Foxy Smith to stage history’s greatest bank robbery. Foxy has recruited Billy the Kid, Frank and Jesse James, Cole Younger, Belle Starr, Sam Bass, Ben Thompson, and Black Bart.³³⁷

Mysterious Dave Mather and Wyatt Earp share an adventure in Texas.

Bart Maverick meets Cheyenne Bowdie, Marshal Dan Troop, deputy Johnny McKay, Bronco Layne, and Tom “Sugarfoot” Brewster. He also stops by the office of Christopher Colt, but Colt is not in. Bart’s oddest encounter is with Gerald Lloyd Kookson III, aka “Kookie.”³³⁸

Sam Bass is killed by Texas Rangers at Round Rock, Texas. **Hobie Gilman, Christopher Colt, and the Lone Ranger are present.**

In Dodge City, Doc Holliday saves Wyatt Earp from a mob of violent cowboys.

Backed by Bat Masterson, Wyatt Earp arrests the notorious Clay Allison.³³⁹ **The Lone Ranger is on hand to lend a hand.**

Bart Maverick spends some time in Dodge City. He becomes a good friend of Doc Holliday and shares several adventures with him. In one adventure Bart meets Wyatt Earp as well.

Josh Randall meets Hoby Gilman.

Christopher Colt meets Judge Roy Bean.

Paladin hints that he has met Matt Dillon.³⁴⁰

The Railroad Wars end. Bat Masterson and Mysterious Dave Mather are involved in the fighting.

Events of Django.

-1879-

Season 4 of Maverick.

In March, New Mexico Governor Lew Wallace gives amnesty to Billy the Kid. **Christopher Colt is present.**

Haakon Jones meets a time-traveling Adolf Hitler.³⁴¹

On July 26, Billy the Kid and Jesse James meet at the Old Adobe Hotel in Hot Springs, just outside Las Vegas, New Mexico.³⁴²

Doc Holliday works as a dentist in Las Vegas, New Mexico until he has to flee town after killing a man in a gunfight.

President Hayes visits Dodge City. An assassination attempt on the President is thwarted by Bill Tilghman and the Lone Ranger.

Jacob Waltz makes his last trip to his secret mine in the Superstition Mountains when his partner is killed by Apaches. Beau Maverick make's Waltz's acquaintance shortly before Waltz abandons the mine.

Sam Buckhart graduates from Harvard University and returns to New Mexico Territory to become a lawman.

Events of Return of Sabada

Events of Once Upon a Time in the West

-1880-

The Rawhide Kid buys a ranch in Shotgun, Texas and settles down to raise his nephew, Kid Randy.

A prostitute is mutilated by two cowboys in Big Whiskey, Wyoming. Her friends raise money to hire a gunman to avenge her.

Christopher Colt meets Buffalo Bill Cody.

Little Joe Cartwright marries a woman names Annabelle.

Christopher Colt meets Calamity Jane.

The 'Exodusters' settle in Wyoming. The town of Wonderment is established.

Caleb Hammer is ordained as a minister and marries. Unfortunately, on his honeymoon, his wife is mistakenly killed by a drunken man.

Years after the fact, Bat Masterson becomes involved in the conspiracy that assassinated President Lincoln.

Billy the Kid encounters Dracula in Texas.

Jesse James encounters Frankenstein's daughter in Texas.

Doc Holliday and Big Nose Kate settle in Tombstone, Arizona.

-1881-

March 4 – James A. Garfield becomes President of the United States.

September 19 – President Garfield is assassinated and Chester A. Arthur becomes president.

Season 1 of *The Rifleman*.

Events of *Unforgiven*.

J.B. Books becomes sheriff of a small town in Texas on the Rio Bravo.

The Two-Gun Kid's daughter Nancy dies of rubella.

Caleb Hammer's brother is killed by strikebreakers in Chicago. Caleb leaves the ministry and becomes a Pinkerton agent.

Lucas McCain and his ten year old son Mark settle in North Fork.

Lucas McCain shares two adventures with Deputy Marshal Sam Buckhart.

Possible date for an expedition to find the Lost Dutchman Mine financed by Bat Masterson.

The Lone Ranger persuades Sheriff Pat Garrett to begin the hunt for Billy the Kid.

July– Bronco Layne tries to help Pat Garrett bring in Billy the Kid peacefully. Garrett has other ideas.

On July 13, Sheriff Pat Garrett shoots and kills Billy the Kid. Billy's friend, Bronco Layne is present.

Sharp-shooter Annie Oakley joins Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Shortly after signing on, Annie and the Lone Ranger thwart an attempt to rob the show's payroll.

Roy Rogers arrives in New Mexico where his resemblance to Billy the Kid leads to some difficulties.

On October 26 Wyatt Earp, two of his brothers, and Doc Holliday are involved in the gunfight at OK Corral. *The first Doctor Who is there as a witness.*

-1882-

Seasons 1-2 of The Rifleman.

The Two Gun Kid's longtime friend 'Boom-Boom' Brown dies.

The birth of Benjamin "Benj" Cartwright.

Paladin meets Oscar Wilde on the author's trip to America.

Events of Hannie Caulder.

Bob Ford shoots Jesse James for a \$500 reward.

Roy Bean takes up residence in Vinagaroon, Texas and is appointed justice of the peace.

-1883-

Seasons 2-3 of The Rifleman.

The birth of Sara Cartwright.

Miss Kitty leaves Dodge City.

June – The famous Dodge City Peace Commission photograph is taken. The photo includes: Charles E. Bassett, Wyatt Earp, Frank McLain, Neil Brown, W. H. Harris, Luke Short, Bat Masterson, and W.F. Petillion.

-1884-

Seasons 3-4 of The Rifleman.

J.B. books first meets Doc Hostetler.

Kid Colt shoots a sheriff. The Pinkerton Agency sends Caleb Hammer to bring the Kid in.

Kid Randy goes off to college. The Rawhide Kid sells his ranch and joins Wild Bill Hickok's show as a trick shot artist.

Brian Savage gives up being the Scalphunter. He becomes the sheriff of Opal City and marries a woman named Annie.

Dan Troop and Johnny McKay meet Bob Ford.

Matt Dillon retires as a US Marshal.

Roy Bean moves to Langtry, Texas and is elected judge. Despite his total ignorance of legal matters, Judge Roy Bean will hold this office until his death. The accouterments of his court include one law book, a revolver, and a pet bear.

The Lone Ranger meets Judge Roy Bean and defends Bean's unorthodox methods.

-1885-

March 3 – Grover Cleveland becomes President of the United States.

Theodore Roosevelt buys a ranch in the badlands of the Dakota Territory. When outlaws try to take advantage of the future president he receives help from the Lone Ranger.

Seasons 4-5 of *The Rifleman*.

Lucas McCain and his son Mark meet Sam Clemens, aka Mark Twain.

April 28 – The reported death of Matt Hawk.

July 20 – The reported death of the Two-Gun Kid.

Events of *Rio Bravo*.

Reno Jones rounds up a group of legendary gunfighters including the Rawhide Kid, Kid Colt, the Two Gun Kid, the Outlaw Kid, and Red Wolf to defend the town of Wonderment. Gunhawk, Caleb Hammer, and Kid Cassidy are also involved. In the final battle the Outlaw Kid, the Two Gun Kid, Kid Cassidy, Kid Colt, and the Gunhawk are all killed.

Kid Sheleen kills three men in a gunfight at the Gold Nugget in Tonopah. He is wounded himself.

Paladin receives an inheritance and retires to Boston.

Deputy Marshall Sam Buckhart adopts orphaned Tess Logan.

Matt Dillon, Miss Kitty and Will Mannon meet for a final time in Dodge City.

Django became a monk under the name Father Ignatius.

Christmas – Haakon Jones settles down and marries Ella Martin.

-1886-

Season 5 of *The Rifleman*.

Lyle and Tector Gorch destroy an entire Mexican village.

The Apache Kid is murdered by Billy Tyler. Rosa becomes the new Apache Kid to track down his killers.

The capture of the Apache leader Geronimo by the US Army.

Events of *Apache Skies*.

Events of *New Maverick*.

The Lone Ranger and Teddy Roosevelt work together again to thwart a criminal plot. The famous painter Frederick Remington is also on hand.

Events of *Gunsmoke: The Last Apache*.

Matt Dillon marries d Mike Yardner

Mike Yardner Dillon dies.

Events of *Gunsmoke: To the Last Man*.

August – Haakon and Ella Jones have a son named Henry.

The terrible winter of 1886-1887 forces Teddy Roosevelt to sell his ranch in the Dakota Territory. Roosevelt returns to the east and a life in politics.

-1887-

Bret Maverick wins a ranch in a poker game and decided to settle down. Bret's friend, Doc Holliday is also involved in the game.

Doc Holliday dies of tuberculosis in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. His final words are, "...*this is funny*."³⁴³

Clay Allison travels to Denver to kill Bat Masterson but the Lone Ranger intercedes.³⁴⁴

Clay Allison dies when the wagon he is driving crushes him.

-1888-

Bret Maverick gives shelter to his old friend, Billy the Kid.

Haakon Jones loses his wife Ella just before the New Year.

-1889-

Haakon Jones takes his son Henry to be raised by relatives in England.

Benjamin Harrison becomes President of the United States.

Events of El Dorado.

Haakon Jones fights the Deep Ones and glimpses the terrible Cthulhu on the island of R'leyh.

Haakon Jones' struggles with the deity Ahriman cause the fire that destroys the city of Seattle.

Mysterious Dave Mather mysteriously disappears from history.

In Deadwood, Haakon Jones nearly loses his soul to a witch's enchanted mirrors.³⁴⁵

-1890-

Caleb Hammer finds his wife's killer.

Kwai Chang Caine faces his vengeful son, Chung Wang.

US Army concerns about the Ghost Dance movement results in a tragic massacre at Wounded Knee, South Dakota. Sitting Bull is killed in an

attempt to arrest him shortly before the massacre. **Sitting Bull's old friend, The Lone Ranger is with him when he dies.**

-1891-

The Lone Ranger thwarts a vengeful Clay Allison who is planning to murder Bat Masterson.³⁴⁶

-1892-

No recorded events of note.

-1893-

March 4 – Grover Cleveland becomes President of the United States for the second time.

Samuel Clemens meets Captain Picard and the crew of the starship Enterprise.

-1894-

Events of ***The Ballad of Cat Ballou.***

John Wesley Hardin is pardoned by Governor Jim Hogg of Texas and released from prison.

-1895-

Steven Savage, who will become the 'Balloon Buster' is born to Brian and Annie Savage.

Events of ***Streets of Laredo.***

John Wesley Hardin is shot and killed in El Paso. **The Lone Ranger is present at Hardin's death.**³⁴⁷

Events of ***Day of Wrath.***

-1896-

Caleb Hammer is killed by a man named Absalom.

Events of ***Gunsmoke: The Long Ride.***

-1897-

William McKinley becomes President of the United States.

The Rawhide Kid encounters Buffalo Bill Cody, Ned Buntline, and Annie Oakley in his last recorded adventure.

Matt Dillon's last recorded adventure.

-1898-

Little Joe Cartwright is with the Rough Riders and goes missing after the Battle of San Juan Hill.

Haakon Jones is also with the Rough Riders and is mustered out with an injury.

Events of *The Great Silence*.

Events of *Django Strikes Again*.

Haakon Jones and Ward Philips hare an adventure in Arkham. ³⁴⁸

-1899-

Jonah Hex is shot and killed by George Barrow.

Brian Savage, the Scalphunter, is shot and killed by Jason Melville.

Matthew Caine, son of Kwai Chang Caine is born.

-1900-

The death of Ben Cartwright.

Josephine Balsamo holds her 'Assassins Auction' in New Orleans.

-1901-

March 4– William McKinley is re-elected as president.

September 14– William McKinley is assassinated. Teddy Roosevelt becomes president.

The death of J.B. Books.

Events of *The Grand Duel*.

Judge Roy Bean dies peacefully in Langtry, Texas.

1902–1903

No recorded events of note.

-1904-

The death of Jonah Hex.

-1905-

The death of Paladin.

Kwai Chang Caine and Cheyenne Bowdie team up.

-1906-

Events of Gambler 4: Luck of the Draw in which Brady Hawkes meets the Rifleman, Wyatt Earp, Cheyenne Bowdie, D.W. Griffith (who is making a movie about the Lone Ranger³⁴⁹), Diamond Jim Brady³⁵⁰, Bat Masterson, Dave Blassingame, Kwai Chang Caine, Bat Masterson, Bart Maverick, and President Teddy Roosevelt.

Haakon Jones is involved in a supernatural conflict of epic scale which causes the San Francisco earthquake.

Yodlaf Peterson betrays John Washburn in Cuba.

1907-1908

No recorded events of significance.

-1909-

The Rook meets the Cisco Kid.

-1910-

Events of Companeros.

Events of A Professional Gun.

1911-1912

No recorded events of significance.

-1913-

Events of The Wild Bunch.

1914-1916

No recorded events of significance.

-1917-

Steve Savage becomes the air ace known as the 'Balloon Buster.'

1918-1919

No recorded events of significance.

-1920-

Wyatt Earp meets the young Indiana Jones in Hollywood. (Young Indiana Jones and the Hollywood Follies)

1921-1939

No recorded events of significance.

-1940-

Kwai Chang Caine II, son of Matthew Caine is born.

1941-1943

No recorded events of significance.

-1944-

Birth of Nick Randall, the great-grandson of Josh Randall.

1945-1985

No recorded events of significance.

-1986-

Nick Randall's only recorded adventure.

-1987-

Jonah Hex's body is finally laid to rest.

1988-1997

No recorded events of significance.

-1998-

Lyle and Tector Gorch meet Buffy, the Vampire Slayer. Tector is killed.

-1999-

Lyle Gorch survives a second encounter with Buffy, the Vampire Slayer.

¹ The Rawhide Kid had several incarnations. When his series debuted in 1955 he was a strapping outlaw turned rancher who fought badmen in his spare time. When Stan Lee and Jack Kirby took over the series in 1960 the Kid changed. Now he was an outlaw, a man who could whip his weight in wildcats but who was continually underestimated because of his small stature and youthful appearance. When the Kid was given an entry in *The Handbook of the Marvel Universe* his small size was forgotten. The handbook listed him as 5'10" and 185 lbs. The following statement from the story "A Legend is Born" printed in *Rawhide Kid* #92, is consistent with the Kid's size in his Silver Age appearances:

"For the record: The Rawhide Kid had an unusually low, mild voice! He was five feet, three inches, in his stocking feet, and had never in his life weighed more than one hundred and twenty-five pounds! His hands were normal size, a mite on the small side maybe, and he carried no more than two regulation colt .45's!"

² The Kid's sexuality was only dealt with indirectly way in the original series. As in most comic books of the time, there was little sexual dimension to his adventures. While the Kid occasionally fell in love, he would always leave the lady in question by the end of the story, usually saying that he couldn't ask any girl to love him while he was on the run. In one adventure the Kid humbled two arrogant circus strongmen and drove off a band of stagecoach robbers, only to be frightened away by a kiss from a grateful fellow passenger. Whatever the kid's sexuality, we cannot take the flamboyant behavior of *Slap Leather* at face value. It offers stereotypical gay mannerisms from the late 20th and early 21st centuries which are out of place in a 19th century story.

³ According to *The Handbook of the Marvel Universe* the Kid has a more involved origin story in which his last name was originally Clay. He was raised by Ben Bart who was not a relative but who adopted him. For this article I am following the original story in which Ben Bart was the brother of Johnny's father.

⁴ In the *Slap Leather* mini-series the Kid has a different origin. He was a bullied little boy whose father was a town drunk. In this article I have chosen to go with the original version.

⁵ In earliest version of *The Rawhide Kid* the nickname had a different origin. The Kid was a violent outlaw as adept with a rawhide whip as he was with his guns. By the second issue of the title it was decided to make the Kid a less unsavory character.

⁶ In most of the later versions of the story, Johnny only wounded the ambushers and handed them over to the sheriff. Though more humane, this version lacks the logic of the original. If Johnny had only disabled the men there would be little need for him to run from the law.

⁷ The dates are estimated. The adventures were told in *The Rawhide Kid*, Issues #17-151 published by Marvel Comics. Issues 1-16 tell the adventures of an earlier version of the character.

⁸ There is something odd about the references to Annie Oakley in the Rawhide Kid Stories. In *Rawhide Kid Vol 2*, Issue#2 the Kid meets Annie, who is traveling with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. The two embrace and reminisce about the days when they rode shotgun on the Durango stage together. The implication is that the two were once lovers.

In the *Slap Leather* miniseries, the Kid has this to say when asked if he ever went out with Annie: “Annie is a wonderful person. Very smart. Very funny... Not my type but I can see how someone with a very wide window of acceptability might find her attractive... But, come on, you’ve seen pictures of her, haven’t you?”

The historical Annie Oakley (born Phoebe Ann Mozee) was an attractive woman who was born in 1860 and came to the public’s eye as a sharpshooter in 1880. She would only have been a girl of 18 at the time of *Slap Leather* and never rode shotgun for a stage line. From about 1876 she was married to fellow sharpshooter Frank Butler and does not seem to have been involved in any extra-marital relationships.

It is possible that the authors of one or both of these miniseries was confusing Annie with Calamity Jane. Calamity (born Martha Jane Cannary) was much closer to Rawhide’s age, having been born in 1852. Unlike show-woman Annie, Jane had held many dangerous jobs such as Army scout and Pony Express rider. It is plausible that she rode shotgun alongside the Rawhide Kid. Calamity also fits the Kid’s unflattering description much better than Annie. She once passed as a man for three years while working for the Cavalry, and would often go for months without bathing.

⁹ Told in the 2002 mini-series *Slap Leather* by Ron Zimmerman and John Severn. He date is established by the fact that Hoss Cartwright is still living and that Wyatt Earp has recently instituted a no-guns policy in Dodge City.

¹⁰ The original adventures of the Rawhide Kid, as well as the Two Gun Kid were published by Atlas Comics. When Atlas became part of Marvel Comics, the characters were all altered. The adventures of the Kid described here are from the Atlas years. When these adventures were reprinted in *Mighty Marvel Western* a footnote was added that they came from a period in the Kid’s life when he was able to settle down.

¹¹ No explanation was ever given for Kid Randy and how he came to be Rawhide’s sidekick. I believe he was Randall Bart, the son of one of Rawhide’s brothers. It is easy to imagine that Randy’s parents were killed in some tragedy, forcing the Kid to settle down for a few years to raise him.

¹² Though it is never stated in the series, I believe the Kid sold the ranch and placed the money in a trust to pay for Randy’s education.

¹³ As seen in the miniseries *Blaze of Glory*.

¹⁴ The names and a number of situations from the books appeared in the television series but the relationship was always fairly loose. Michael Landon, who produced and starred in the series, admitted in interviews that he had never read the novels.

¹⁵ The *Little House* books and the years they were first published are: *Little House in the Big Woods* (1932), *Farmer Boy* (1933), *Little House on the Prairie* (1935), *On the Banks of Plum Creek* (1937), *By the Shores of Silver Lake* (1939), *The Long Winter* (1940), *Little Town on the Prairie* (1941), *These Happy Golden Years* (1943), *On the Way Home* (1962), *The First Four Years* (1971), *West From Home* (1974). The last three books of the award-winning series were published posthumously.

¹⁶ According to the screenplay for the television mini-series, which was written by Larry McMurtry, **Dead Man's Walk** took place in 1842. Call and Gus were young men but their ages weren't given. In **Comanche Moon** they are said to have been "...not yet twenty..." on the disastrous Caleb Cobb expedition. A birth year of 1823 would have made them each 19 years old.

¹⁷ The Buffalo Hump of the novels doesn't match up to the historical Comanche war chief of the same name. The real Buffalo Hump was named *Pochanaquarhip* or *Ko-cho-naw quoip*, a name which is loosely translated 'Buffalo Hump' and which seems to have some phallic significance. Ko-cho-naw quoip did lead a deadly raid across South Texas though this was in August of 1840 rather than in 1856, and it was directed against the towns of Linville and Victoria rather than San Antonio. Ko-cho-naw quoip was beaten by the Texas Rangers soon after the raid at the Battle of Plum Creek. He eventually made peace with the Texans and died peacefully in 1870, a very different fate from the Buffalo Hump of the novels.

¹⁸ Even this excellent series is sometimes at variance with western history. W.W. "Bigfoot" Walker (1817-1899) was a historical scout who served for many years with the Texas Rangers. He was along on the Meir Expedition of 1842-43 but survived the "black bean lottery" and returned home to die of old age. Charles Goodnight (1836-1929) was also a famous Ranger but was much too young to have been involved in **Dead Man's Walk**.

¹⁹ These events transpire in the first section of the novel **Comanche Moon** by Larry McMurtry.

²⁰ Blue Duck is the son of a Mexican girl named Rosa who Buffalo Hump kidnapped in **Dead Man's Walk**. Though he must only have been 14 years old in **Comanche Moon** he was already a dangerous killer.

²¹ There is a very different account in the television miniseries *Lonesome Dove 2*. In this Newt lives to see Call return and the two are finally reconciled. The young man changes his name to 'Newt Call' and goes on to have his own adventures in the short-lived *Lonesome Dove* television series. As the two versions are irreconcilable I have chosen to follow the continuity of the novels and this article will regard *Lonesome Dove 2* and the television series as fictitious.

²² The date is deduced by the inclusion of the historical outlaw John Wesley Hardin in the novel. Hardin died in 1895.

²³ Marvel comics' Apache Kid is not related to the historical Apache Kid (c. 1860-?). He was a Pinal Apache named Hashkee Binaa Nteel who was raised noted army scout Al Seiber. The soldiers apparently had difficulty with pronouncing Hashkee Binaa Nteel and called the young scout "Kid." In 1889 the Kid was involved in several violent altercations and was sentenced to prison. On the way to Yuma the Kid and several other prisoners escaped and vanished into the wilderness.

²⁴ The Apache Kid's birth year is speculative. I have chosen 1848 because it allows him to start his career as the age of 20 and have 5 years of adventures before meeting Rosa in 1873.

²⁵ In the original series the Kid's 'real' name was Alan Krاندall though he used the alias Alouysious Kare. There was no mention of his Apache name until the *Apache Skies* miniseries.

²⁶ This is never explicitly stated in any of the Apache Kid stories but it is consistent with both the Kid's mission and with Red Hawk's personality as seen in the original series.

²⁷ In the original series the Apache Kid was a costumed identity assumed so that no one would know that Alouysious Kare was working to help the Apache. In *Apache Skies* this dual identity is much more an open secret, if it is a secret at all.

²⁸ Current Marvel Comics continuity says that the earlier adventures of the Apache Kid were fictional and were featured in the dime novels of the 1800's. This is similar to the stories of the original Two-Gun Kid which are considered fictional adventures that were read by the real Kid.

²⁹ Rosa is introduced in the miniseries *Apache Skies*. She cannot be the same character as White Swan because she comes from a different Apache band than Dazii.

³⁰ *Apache Skies* doesn't ever say how long Dazii and Rosa lived together as husband and wife. I am assuming it must have been 2-3 years to allow for Dazii to have trained her in gunfighting skills to the level seen in the miniseries.

³¹ *Apache Skies* fictionalizes the name of the Santa Fe Railroad to the 'Santa Fe and Pacific' and of the Rio Grand Railroad to the 'Colorado Texas Line.' Other than this, it accurately depicts the historic wars between the railroads.

³² The novel never mentions the Kid's real first name. That detail is supplied by the movie.

³³ While no dates are given in the novel, the film states that Cat's dramatic rescue from the gallows happened in 1894. All of the other dates are based on this date and the ages of the characters.

³⁴ An 1876 date is late enough that it would make a number of historical meetings documented in the radio series impossible. The Masked Man and Tonto met Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill Hickok, George Custer, Sitting Bull, and a number of other historical characters much earlier than 1874. The 1865 date doesn't present this problem but it raises the question of what John Reid did in the Civil War. It's hard to imagine the Lone Ranger fighting for the Confederacy given his views on slavery. It is equally hard to imagine him fighting for the Union and facing other Texas Rangers on the battlefield. It is just as difficult to imagine the Ranger finding a way to avoid military service. The 1869 date solves the question by allowing John Reid to be just young enough to miss serving on any side.

³⁵ The Lone Ranger's name is established as Reid in both the radio and television programs but neither series ever mentioned a first name. "John" seems to have come from the liner noted of a record album. Nevertheless "John Reid" has been mentioned in several media since and has become the Ranger's *de facto* name.

³⁶ *Encyclopedia Britannica* gives the Masked Man's birth year as 1850 and I have been unable to discern their source for this information. My date of 1847 is meant to suggest a character too young to have served in the Civil War but old enough to be a lawyer in 1869.

³⁷ The writer's "bible" that George Trendle wrote for the for The Lone Ranger radio program lists the Ranger's age as 30 and Tonto's as 26. While this offers limited information, it does establish that Tonto is four years younger than his friend.

³⁸ Radio director James Jewel had attended a Native American themed Summer camp as a boy. The storyteller at Camp Ke-Mo-Sa-Be was a Potawatomi Indian. After the boys were in bed the storyteller often drank too much and became rowdy. The other Potawatomi nicknamed him “Tonto” and said that it meant “Wild One.” He liked the word and suggested it for the name of the Lone Ranger’s companion. There is no such word as “tonto” in Potawatomi. It seems fitting that Tonto’s name among his own people was something meaning “Wild One.”

³⁹ The Potawatomi were indigenous to the Great Lakes region and were well known to the creators of the Detroit-based Lone Ranger radio show. While the tribe was virtually unknown in the southwest, the *Handbook of Texas Online* reports that, “About 1852, however, a group of Potawatomis, associated with the Kickapoos, migrated to Texas, where they settled along the headwaters of the Sabine and Trinity rivers. Tonto’s band were either these people, or a smaller unrecorded migration around the same time.

⁴⁰ In the origin episode of the television series Jim Blaine says that the Reids discovered the mine “...nine years ago this Spring.” Nine years before the ambush at Bryant’s Gap would be 1860 by this timeline.

⁴¹ Dan’s Union sympathies are my own conjecture. The idea that the Reids were anti-slavery fits with the Lone Ranger’s egalitarian views, and explains why Dan would be allowed to continue working with the Rangers after the Civil War.

⁴² In the Legend of the Lone Ranger, the same raiders who killed Tonto’s mother and sisters also burned the Reid home and killed his parents. In the Dynamite series Dan and Reid’s father is still alive in 1869.

⁴³ The Masked Man’s origin story has been retold differently several times. Sometimes he returns as a practicing lawyer, sometimes as an educated young man with an unspecified degree, and sometimes the education is omitted and he is just a Texas Ranger. The graduated law student version seems a reasonable compromise. The theater classes (suggested by Dennis Power) seem a reasonable assumption, given the Masked Man’s facility with disguises.

⁴⁴ There is a historical difficulty with the Lone Ranger’s origin story. Texas had not officially been a part of the Confederacy, but most Texans who participated in the war fought on the side of the South. Rather than allow a well-armed group of native Texans continue to operate, the government disbanded the Texas Rangers at the end of the war and formed groups of “Minute Men” to fight Indians and patrol the borders. The minute-men consisted mostly of “galvanized Yankees” as Union sympathizers were called. The Rangers were formally reinstated in 1874. Captain Reid’s company must have been a minute man group who held onto their old Ranger badges and continued to operate more-or-less as they had before the war.

⁴⁵ This is conjecture, but helps to explain why Tonto was fluent in so many different Native American languages. At the time the Lone Ranger was created there was a commonly held misconception that the Native American languages were all dialects, or at least were closely related languages. Actually, there are more distinct language families in North America than there are in Europe.

⁴⁶ Tonto was a great tracker and, in the early radio episodes did not have his own horse. I believe that he learned the skill from a man who never rode a horse, the Kickapoo tracker named Famous

Shoes. This seems especially likely given the alliance of the Kickapoo and the Texas Potawatomi. The adventures of Famous Shoes are recounted in the *Lonesome Dove* series of novels by Larry McMurtry.

⁴⁷ Tonto is usually said to be Potawatomi, though the Lone Ranger novels by Fran Stryker sometimes refer to him as an Apache. There is no name like “Tonto” in the languages of either of these people. The Dynamite Comics series suggests that “Tonto” which means “fool” in Spanish is actually a derisive nickname that the Ranger’s companion accepted as a de facto name. The idea that it was Apache in South Texas who gave this name to him is my own conjecture.

⁴⁸ The show’s producers claimed that Kemo Sabe meant either “faithful friend” or “trustworthy scout.” This does not seem to be the case and many possible etymologies have arisen to discern the true meaning of the phrase. These include:

- A Navajo phrase meaning “soggy shrub”
- A Tewa phrase meaning “Apache Friend”
- A Yavapai Apache phrase meaning “One Who is White” or possibly “White Shirt”
- A corruption of the Spanish phrase *qui no sabe*, roughly meaning “One Who does Not Know”)
- A corruption of the Cree word *Kiimootapiwin* or the Ojibwe word *Gimoozabi*, which both mean “He Who Peeks.”

The last is the most likely explanation for several reasons. Cree and (especially) Ojibwa are linguistically very close to Potawatomi. The word *Gimoozabi* is pronounced very similarly to “Kemosabe.” The meaning of the word could easily suggest a scout, who sneaks up on prey or enemies to peek at them. Alternatively it could suggest a masked man who peeks out from behind his mask.

⁴⁹ Several modern authors have suggested a different purpose for silver bullets. *The Legend of the Lone Ranger* bizarrely suggested that Reid was a poor shot but that the ballistic properties of silver made him a great marksman. Several stories, including the Ranger’s appearance as “Kid Clayton” in Marvel Comics and the short story “*The Moon over Gypsy’s Gulch*” by John Sunseri suggest that the Masked Man used silver bullets because he knew of werewolves active in the old west. Sunseri’s story is collected in *Hell’s Hangmen*.

⁵⁰ As told in the radio episode *John Wesley Hardin*.

⁵¹ According to the Reid Family tree found in the Tops Comics Green Hornet series, Dan Reid Jr. was born in 1874. Since Dan could not have been born more than a few months after his following his father’s death we must assume this date is in error. I believe that Dan was born in 1869 and that his uncle finally found him in 1883.

⁵² A chronology of Bonanza is fraught with difficulties. I have relied on two sources for this, though they do not agree in all of their particulars. The chronology according to series producer David Dortort can be found on the “Bonanza: Scenery of the Ponderosa” website at <http://ponderosascenery.homestead.com/chronology.html> and the scholarly Bonanza Timeline at <http://www.geocities.com/mh430us/>

⁵³ According to series creator David Dortort, Hoss was born in 1836 and Little Joe was born in 1842. This would mean that Hoss would be 42 and Joe 36 when they rode into Wells Junction in the Fall of 1878.

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- ⁵⁴ Mentioned in the episode “*Gentleman from New Orleans.*”
- ⁵⁵ These events are recounted in the episode “*Elizabeth, My Love.*”
- ⁵⁶ Recounted in the Episodes “*Inger, My Love*” and “*Journey Remembered.*”
- ⁵⁷ Recounted in the episode “*Marie, My Love.*”
- ⁵⁸ Mentioned in the episode, “*A Rose for Lotta.*”
- ⁵⁹ The founding of Virginia City was depicted all through the first season of *Bonanza*, especially the episode “*The Henry Comstock Story.*” According to series producer David Dortort, Ben is 50, Adam 29, Hoss 23 and Joe 17 years old in the first season.
- ⁶⁰ Told in the episode “*A House Divided.*”
- ⁶¹ Adam’s disappearance corresponds with actor Pernell Roberts leaving the show in 1965.
- ⁶² Adam’s life in Australia and the existence of A.C. are revealed in the 1993 television movie, *Bonanza: the Return.*
- ⁶³ By David Dortort’s scheme, Hoss’s death should coincide with the death of actor Dan Blocker in 1972. However, in one episode, Hoss mentions the death of Custer at Little Bighorn so he could not have died until sometime after that 1876 battle.
- ⁶⁴ This is recounted in the 1988 television movie *Bonanza: The Next Generation.* The question of whether Little Joe was alive or dead was left an open issue in case actor Michael Landon developed an interest in the project.
- ⁶⁵ Ben had a brother named John who was mentioned in the original series. John was the father of recurring character Will Cartwright. Apparently Ben had a second, unmentioned brother as well.
- ⁶⁶ This character is called Charlie Poke in *Bonanza: The Next Generation* and Bronc Evans in *Bonanza: The Return.*
- ⁶⁷ The characters of Aaron and Annabelle were not carried over from *Bonanza, the Next Generation* to *Bonanza: The Return.* They are never mentioned and their fates are speculation.
- ⁶⁸ *High Noon* is credited as being based on a short story called “*The Tin Star*” by John M. Cunningham. Actually the original screen treatment by Carl Foreman had been written before the producers became aware of Cunningham’s story. Because of some similarities they thought it wise to buy the screen rights to “*The Tin Star.*” The action, themes, and characters in the film are very different from those in the story, and the movie version will be treated as the ‘real’ version in this article.
- ⁶⁹ Though actor Gary Cooper was 50 during the filming of *High Noon*, the screenplay states that the character is “...in his middle thirties.”

⁷⁰ The screenplay of *High Noon* mentions that the story takes place five years after Will became marshal. Since the movie seems to be set in 1873, Will must have become marshal in 1868.

It is difficult to place Hadleyville's location. The screen play says, "*THE PLACE IS HADLEYVILLE, population around 400, located in a western territory still to be determined...*" The film also mentions that Miller's brother has been "...down in Texas" and "...down in Abilene" for several years so the town appears to be north of Texas. There are also references to the "...politicians up north" suggesting that Hadleyville is in the south, relatively speaking. The most likely settings are Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado and New Mexico. Kansas was a state in 1873 rather than a territory. Oklahoma was a part of the Indian Territory. There were white settlements but no territorial capitol or prison. The flat terrain seen resembles New Mexico much more than Colorado, and the territorial capitol in New Mexico was "up north" in Santa Fe. This makes the New Mexico Territory the most likely setting for Hadleyville. (Though the names are similar, this is not the same as the town in Mark Twain's short story "*The Man Who Corrupted Hadleyburg.*")

⁷¹ The town is clearly in a territory. The famous theme song sung by Tex Ritter is in error when it says, "*He took a vow while in state prison...*"

⁷² The notes in the screenplay of *High Noon* say, "*THE TIME is about 1870 or 1875.*" With this as a guideline I have split the difference to call it 1873.

⁷³ The story was told in *Kid Colt's* own title. The detail that the killers were unarmed was added in *Blaze of Glory*.

⁷⁴ As seen in *Kid Colt, Outlaw* issues #1-229.

⁷⁵ In 2006 Marvel published a story in which Colt was partnered with a woman gunslinger named "Arizona Annie." I have not included this in the WNU continuity because the story featured the Skrulls, an alien race which is a part of mainstream Marvel Universe continuity.

⁷⁶ The Lee-Kirby incarnation of the character was Matthew Hawk for the entire series run. The character's Jewish heritage was only revealed in the *Sunset Riders* miniseries.

⁷⁷ The date is estimated based on the assumption that Matthew must have been about twenty-five when he first arrived in Tombstone. This is about the youngest age at which he could have passed a bar exam and become a practicing lawyer.

⁷⁸ The comics don't give the date but most sources agree that the series is set in the 1870's. Assuming that Two Gun's adventures began in 1870 seems about the only way to allow enough time for all of his adventures before the events of the '*Sunset Riders.*'

⁷⁹ The 'dime novels' are a reference to issues 1-59 of the *Two Gun Kid* series. In those first issues the Kid was a non-masked singing cowboy named Clay Harder. When Stan Lee and Jack Kirby took over in issue #60 Clay Harder became a fictional character and the Matt Hawk identity was used.

⁸⁰ Two-Gun's time-travel adventures are a part of a crossover with *The Avengers*. Since the WNU does not share much continuity with the Marvel Universe this creates a difficult situation. It seems most likely that the Two-Gun Kid visited the 20th Century of an alternative universe.

⁸¹ It is implied in the series that the mammoth Fyskov is the ancestor of Wilson Fisk, the Marvel Comics villain better known as the Kingpin.

⁸² Most of the controversy stems from the portrayal of old Mr. Cassidy as a kind master and of Reno and the other slaves as happy on the plantation. The attempt was to show that slaveholding in the old South was more complex than a society of uniformly evil masters, but this was overplayed to an extreme (and offensive) degree.

⁸³ Reno's last name is something of a mystery. The custom in the old South was for slaves to take the last names of their owners. It is strange that he should be called 'Reno Jones' instead of 'Reno Cassidy.' Probably Reno chose the last name 'Jones' for himself on becoming a freedman.

⁸⁴ In the series it was implied that Reno actually joined the Confederate Army and that he and the Kid continued fighting until the end of the war, but this is chronologically impossible. Sherman's march through Georgia took place in Autumn, 1864 and the massacre at Sand Hill took place Nov. 29 of 1864. The only way for the Reno and the Kid to reach Colorado in time to witness the massacre would be for them to have left the South while the War was still raging.

⁸⁵ While the Sand Creek Massacre is not mentioned by name in the series, there is no other historical event this could be.

⁸⁶ The early years of Reno and the Kid are recounted in *Gunhawks*, #1-4. The series ended without any clear resolution to the quest for Rachel.

⁸⁷ As told in *Blaze of Glory*.

⁸⁸ Lance's age is never given. This date is based on my speculation that he was 18 when the War began.

⁸⁹ While I speculate that Lance joined the Union Army, I am not aware of any clear indication of this in the series.

⁹⁰ One possibility is that Hoot was a member of the Christian sect known as Society of Friends or the Quakers. The Quakers were well known for progressive social attitudes such as the abolition of slavery. Unlike many abolitionists, the Quakers were also pacifist and viewed resorting to violence for any cause as morally evil. Many Quaker settlers carried this non-violent attitude to the West and even the violence of the frontier often could not shake their convictions. While Hoot may have been a Quaker, he does not follow the Friends' custom of calling people "thee" and "thou" rather than "you" which was still observed in the 19th Century.

⁹¹ This places Red Wolf series slightly after the "Bloody Year on the Plains" when tensions between Natives and settlers reached a climax. This seems logical, though I am not aware of any slaughter of an entire village by US cavalry prior to the terrible massacre at Sand Creek, CO. in 1864.

⁹² The region is never explicitly named, but issue #4 of *Red Wolf* features a climactic battle amid the geysers of Yellowstone.

⁹³ The Wakeley's religion was never discussed in the series, but the only settlers in the area at this time were Mormon or Spanish.

⁹⁴ 1865 is often known as "the Bloody Year on the Plains." It was precipitated by the opening of the Bozeman Trail. This allowed large groups of prospectors to cross through Lakota lands, heading for the gold fields of Montana. The incursion on their land infuriated the tribes, who were already outraged by the massacre of more than 100 Cheyenne and Arapaho at Sand Creek, Co, the previous year. The villagers at Sand Creek were erroneously suspected of harboring renegades. Despite the fact that they were living peacefully on a reservation, supposedly under the protection of the US government, they were attacked and men, women and children were killed.

⁹⁵ The Cheyenne do indeed have a Red Wolf ceremony in which a dancer dressed in a wolf-skin performs a sacred ritual to ensure the success of the hunt. The Cheyenne name for the red wolf is *Maheone honehe*. There does not seem to be any being named 'Owayodata' in Cheyenne lore, but the thunder spirit Nonoma is said to appear in the form of a wolf and the red wolf ceremony honors him. For more information refer to the excellent book *The Wolves of Heaven* by Karl H. Schlesier.

⁹⁶ There is no historical Fort Rango. This outpost is undoubtedly a fictional name for the historical Fort Phil Kearney, which was the focus for most of the 1865 conflict.

⁹⁷ This is speculative, though it seems logical. With Ft. Rango (Ft. Phil Kearney) abandoned there would be no reason to maintain the pretense of being a scout, and the identity of Johnny Wakeley is never referred to in any story after the close of the Red Wolf series.

⁹⁸ The problem with Will Talltrees is that his adventures have usually involved crossovers with Marvel Universe characters who do not exist in the WNU. These include the Avengers, Tigra and the Super Skrull, Nomad, and Dr. Strange.

⁹⁹ Most sources say this happened in the 1870's but this does not allow sufficient time for all of the events of the Ghost Rider's life. I have set the story back a few years with the assumption that all of the Ghost Rider's adventures took place 100 years before they were first published. There are few solid clues to the time setting to be found in the stories themselves.

¹⁰⁰ The series doesn't specifically identify Texas, but given the fact that Flaming star is Comanche, this is the most likely locale.

¹⁰¹ The first appearance of the Ghost Rider in Marvel Comics was in 1965. Slade's age is based on the assumption that he had recently graduated from college.

¹⁰² Jason Bartholomew's name is uncannily similar to that of another evil cattle baron. In the film *El Dorado* the villain was a rancher named Bart Jason.

¹⁰³ When the series was reprinted in the 1970's the character's name was changed to the Night Rider to avoid confusion with another Marvel character called the Ghost Rider. Later, realizing the historical connection of the phrase 'night-rider' and violent racist groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, Marvel changed the name to the Phantom Rider. In *Blaze of Glory*, the character's original name is finally restored.

¹⁰⁴ Marvel's Ghost Rider is virtually identical to an earlier version of the character whose adventures were published by Magazine Enterprises from 1949-1955. This original version was a federal marshal named Rex Fury who donned the spooky costume to fight macabre villains, including some genuine werewolves, vampires and other supernatural menaces. The Rex Fury version of the character and his adventures do not seem to take place in the Marvel Universe at all, and must probably be counted as fictional in the Wold-Newton Universe as well.

¹⁰⁵ Ghost Wind Rider did not appear in the original Ghost Rider series. She is an original character in *Blaze of Glory*. Her name and the fact that she is said to be Flaming Star's granddaughter strongly suggest that she is Slade's daughter by Spotted Doe. This is the earliest year I can find to place Ghost Wind Rider's birth, though she seems older than 15 when she appears in *Blaze of Glory*. The inclusion of a strong female Native American character in the miniseries is laudable, but Ghost Wind Dancer's characterization as a strident, sexually uninhibited young woman wearing a buckskin mini-skirt and midriff top is an unfortunate concession to a stereotype long criticized by Native Americans.

¹⁰⁶ In the chronology I have assumed that Lincoln was two years younger than Carter. Their respective ages are not given in the series.

¹⁰⁷ The date of Carter's death is not given in the series. It was the original character who appeared in a time-travel story in the Avengers which took place in 1873. Though the Avengers and their continuity do not exist in the Wold-Newton Universe, this is sufficient proof that Carter Slade could not have died any earlier than 1873.

¹⁰⁸ The 1877 date comes from another time-travel story. In *The West Coast Avengers* Lincoln Slade fell in love with the super-heroine, Mockingbird. He used a love potion to seduce her so that she would stay in the 19th century with him. Eventually the potion wore off and the outraged Mockingbird fought and killed Lincoln. The West Coast Avengers are not a part of the Wold-Newton Universe but the idea that Lincoln Slade died in 1877 under ignoble circumstances can easily be accepted.

¹⁰⁹ *Blaze of Glory* takes place in 1885 and Caleb has already been on Kid Colt's trail for a full year. It seems likely that a man with his reputation had been with the agency for several years prior to that assignment.

¹¹⁰ There is a continuity problem here. Caleb's first appearance in *Marvel Premier* has him becoming a minister in 1885 and not taking up a gun until after his brother's death. *Blaze of Glory* has him active as a Pinkerton in 1884-85 and probably earlier. I have reconciled this with a pre-ministry phase as a Pinkerton.

¹¹¹ Actually this is not quite true. As Hammer remarks, "*I was wearing gloves.*"

¹¹² Absalom is a villain from the Marvel comic *X-Force*. He is one of the Externals, a group of immortal mutants who work to control human society from behind the scenes. Like the immortals of *Highlander*, the Externals do not learn of their powers until they have suffered death and returned to life. Since mainstream Marvel comics continuity is incompatible with the WNU Absalom's presence here does not bring *X-Force* and their continuity into the Wold-Newton Universe. There are several possibilities for Absalom's inclusion and no way at this time to know which is correct.

1) Absalom was a mortal criminal in the WNU and died when he was hanged.

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- 2) Absalom was an immortal mutant who discovered his powers after he was hanged. His subsequent adventures are unknown and there is no way of knowing whether there are any other Externals in this universe.
 - 3) There are no Externals in this universe but Absalom is actually one of the similar Highlander-type immortals.

¹¹³ They may have been a branch of the Kent family founded by French *émigré* Philippe Charbeneau (later known as Philip Kent) whose saga was told in a series of historical novels by John Jakes.

¹¹⁴ The ages of the Kent brothers are not given in the series. The ages I have listed are based on their appearances and the ages of their siblings.

¹¹⁵ At the time of this writing there is no evidence connecting Luther Reid to the heroic Reid family of Texas, whose members include the Lone Ranger.

¹¹⁶ Mary Glenowen gave Nate an Iroquois healing blanket at this time. The blanket featured a snake (a healing totem) coiled in the shape of an 'S' inside a pentagon whose lines represent the five nations of the Iroquois League. It looks remarkably like the insignia Nathan's adoptive descendant Clark would one day wear on the chest of his uniform.

¹¹⁷ Jeb Kent and Josey Wales must also have known each other well. Josey also rode with Anderson, Quantrill, the James boys, the Younger boys, etc. in the War.

¹¹⁸ It is left unclear exactly what relation Nathan Kent was to Jonathan Kent, but given the time frame of the Wold-Newton Universe in which Superman was adopted in the early years of the 20th Century, Nathan is probably Jonathan's father.

¹¹⁹ There is a mistake connected to this bit of dialogue. Jonah Hex is shown in *The Kents* with his face mutilated by distinctive scars. However, at the time Nate Kent and Wild Bill Hickok met him he had not yet been branded with the mark of the demon.

¹²⁰ If the name of Jonah's lover sounds familiar it is because this is a common name given to female Chinese characters in American fiction. 'Mei' is from a character meaning 'beautiful' and 'Ling' is from a character meaning 'precious.' Given the nearly infinite variety of possible Chinese names it is interesting to find so many Mei Lings in fiction.

¹²¹ Jonah's life story began in DC comics and ran in several titles over the years. His first appearance was in *All Star Western Tales* #10. The title became *Weird Western Tales* with issue #12 and Jonah stayed with the title until 1977 when he was given his own title. *Jonah Hex* ran for 92 issues and the character has popped up sporadically since then.

¹²² The comic *Hex*, which ran for 18 issues claims that Jonah was snatched from 1875 by time-travel technology and brought to the year 2050 to fight against a dystopian government. The story of his return to the past has never been told.

¹²³ We are never given Tall Bird's age but, if she were 19 in 1899 she would have been 107 when she finally buried her husband. It is extremely unlikely that she was older than this.

¹²⁴ Scalphunter was reincarnated as policeman Matt O'Dare in the late 20th century. After a near death experience, O'Dare began to assume aspects of Brian's personality. He had been a corrupt, vicious cop but gained a new sense of honor as well as a new fondness for using a pair of revolvers and a knife. I have not included this part of Scalphunter's story as it is a part of the *Starman* series and thus of the mainstream DC Universe continuity rather than the WNU.

¹²⁵ Savage's age is never given but his story begins shortly after the Civil War and he appears to be in his mid-30s.

¹²⁶ In one issue of *Starman* (published by DC comics) it is stated that Matt Savage, Trail Boss and Matthew Savage of *Scalphunter* are the same person. There are several similarities. Both men were cattlemen in the old west and shared the same name. However, Matt Savage is presented as being roughly the same age as the Scalphunter and could not possibly be old enough to be his father. My uncle-nephew theory is meant to maintain a connection between the two stories while rejecting this impossible connection.

¹²⁷ As seen in the DC Comics miniseries *Guns of the Dragon*

¹²⁸ In the movie Books wears a regular pistol belt where the novel gives him holsters sewn into his vest. The novel mentions that he has never been a lawman, a detail I have assumed to be incorrect in the light of evidence in the movie. The most important change is the character of Gillem, the son of the widow Books rents a room from. In the movie Gillem matures considerably as the story progresses. Eventually he shoots a man, then throws away his gun, rejecting the life of a gunslinger. In the book he is as immature and arrogant as ever at the end of the story.

¹²⁹ Most of the details of Books' life are from *The Shootist* but J.P. Harrah is a character from the movie *El Dorado*. He mentions that his acquaintance with Books (called Cole Thornton in the movie) goes back to before the Civil War.

¹³⁰ Books/Thornton's involvement with Hood's Texas Cavalry is mentioned in *El Dorado*.

¹³¹ The opening montage of *The Shootist* shows us scenes of Books' career as he ages. The clips are from a number of John Wayne movies, suggesting that the characters in these earlier movies are all Books in his younger days. With the exception of the clips that cannot be made to fit, this article makes the assumption that this is correct.

¹³² This scene is from the movie *Red River*. Unfortunately, it is not possible to reconcile the dates of that story or the character of Thomas Dunson with J.B. Books' life.

¹³³ This scene is from the movie *Hondo*, but the dates of that story and the life of Hondo Lane cannot be reconciled with the life of J.B. Books.

¹³⁴ The name of the town in the movie *Rio Bravo* is never mentioned, but it is logical to assume it is the same as that of the movie. The assumption that Books/Chance became sheriff in 1881 is based on the statements that he had been there for some time.

¹³⁵ The incident in El Paso is reported in *The Shootist*. The rest of this information comes from the movie *Rio Bravo*.

¹³⁶ These are the events of *Rio Bravo*. The date of 1885 comes from the montage in *The Shootist*. *Rio Bravo* is based on the short story, *Rio Bravo*” by B.H. McCampbell. The story does not appear in any collections and could not be reviewed for this article.

¹³⁷ The real name of the character played by Angie Dickenson in *Rio Bravo* is never given. The Dude gives her the nickname “Feathers.” We don’t learn that she is actually named “Maudie” until she reappears in *El Dorado*.

¹³⁸ These events are from the movie *El Dorado*. Two scenes from this movie are seen in the opening montage of *The Shootist*. They are given the dates of 1889 and 1895 but I have chosen to disregard these in favor of the six months span between the two incidents mentioned in *El Dorado*. The movie is based on the novel, *The Stars in their Courses* by Harry Brown but the characters and plot of have been altered beyond easy recognition. For purposes of this article the movie is considered the ‘real’ version of the story.

It is interesting to note that that several of the characters in *El Dorado* could be considered older versions of *Rio Bravo* characters even without the link provided by the opening scenes in *The Shootist*. The connection comes from two pieces of dialogue in *El Dorado*. Cole Thornton mentions that the rifle J.P. Harrah carries looks familiar. Harrah comments that he had it modified to resemble a rifle Thornton had ‘gotten lucky’ with several years ago. John Chance carried an identical rifle in *Rio Bravo*.

When Maudie is introduced, it is clear that she and Thornton are old lovers. When Harrah asks her about Thornton this dialogue follows:

Maudie: I met Cole right after my husband was killed. I did tell you that.
Harrah: Yeah, you told me.
Maudie: Well, there I was, stranded, a gambler’s widow without a chip to my name. Cole was... awful good to me... gave me a stake... helped me get on my feet... never would take a... I don’t know J.P. With Cole and me... I guess It’s... uh. I’ll always think of him as a...
Harrah: He’s a top hand.

This is an accurate retelling of John Chance’s encounter with “Feathers” in *Rio Bravo*. Though the character names and actresses are different, it seems that Feathers and Maudie are meant to be the same character.

¹³⁹ For a different take on Josey Wales in the Wold-Newton Universe, please see Ric Bergquist’s article *The Man With No Name*.

¹⁴⁰ In the novel *The Searchers* by Alan LeMay, the character is referred to as Amos. When the novel was made into a movie with John Wayne in the role, the character’s name was changed to Ethan. The references to Edwards in *Saint of Killers* and *Bucking the Tiger* both call him ‘Ethan.’ For this article I am assuming that the name Amos and the version of events given in the novel are more accurate.

¹⁴¹ The film version differs on this point. Laurie rejects Charlie and promises to wait for Mart.

¹⁴² This is quite different from the ending of the film. In that version, Ethen (Amos) finds Debbie, considers killing her, then relents and embraces her. In this instance, neither the book nor the movie has matters quite right.

¹⁴³ There is a quote from Amos (called Ethan) in *Bucking the Tiger* by Bruce Olds. Amos gives his impression of Wyatt Earp and says he didn't measure up to Tilghman in terms of lawman's ethics. Since neither Earp nor Tilghman had done any work as lawmen in 1875, Amos must have lived long enough to meet both men and see them become western legends.

¹⁴⁴ There is a chronological error in this quote from *Preacher: Saint of Killers*. Wold Newton scholar Rick Lai points out that the scene involving the scarring of a prostitute's face is dated 1880, but that Will Munny and his companions didn't arrive in Big Whiskey until July of the following year. The 1881 date is confirmed by Munny's statement that his wife has been dead for almost three years. Claudia Munny died in 1878.

¹⁴⁵ For a very different theory of William Munny's back story, see Ric Bergquist's article *The Man With No Name*.

¹⁴⁶ The screenplay for *Unforgiven* says that Munny is an ordinary-looking man with thinning hair, a drooping moustache and beard stubble who seems to be about 35-40 years old. In the film, Ned Logan remarks that he and Munny were young when they were riding together. Munny says he left the outlaw trail eleven years earlier. If we split the difference, and assume that it has been fifteen years since the two rode together as young men, we can make some projections. Munny was about 26 when he last saw Ned, and 22 when they last rode together.

¹⁴⁷ Will's farm was in Kansas and we know that he once robbed a train in Missouri. Ned tells Little Bill that he is "Will Munny out of Missouri." The Missouri connection could mean that he was one of the guerillas who rode with Quantrill and the James brothers. On the other hand, his friendship with Ned could mean he was one of the anti-slavery 'Redlegs' from Kansas who raided across the border into Missouri. It is impossible to say based on the slender evidence.

¹⁴⁸ The full story is told in the 1992 film *Unforgiven*. A full transcript of the script is available on line on Clint Eastwood's website.

¹⁴⁹ Will's thoughts on Earp are included in the novel *Bucking the Tiger* by Bruce Olds.

¹⁵⁰ There is no historical record of such a meeting, though Chisum did know both Doc and Billy.

¹⁵¹ Paladin's name is never revealed in the series. It, and the details of his early life, are found in the authorized novel *A Man Called Paladin* by Frank G. Robertson. The novel is not universally accepted as canonical. Dennis Power has a different theory of who Paladin really was which can be found on his *Secret History of the Wold-Newton Universe* website.

¹⁵² This date is hypothetical and is based on Paladin's likely age when he entered West Point.

¹⁵³ The *Have Gun, Will Travel* episode, *Tiger* reveals that Paladin was in India to hunt tigers in 1857. The presumption that this was a part of a year's vacation before entering West Point seems logical given his family's wealth. Paladin's year of birth and West Point dates are derived from this assumption.

¹⁵⁴ While he was undercover Clay Alexander rode with Quantrill's raiders. It is likely that he encountered Jeb Kent and Josey Wales at this time. There is no record of him meeting these men after the war, but they would probably have considered him a traitor and an enemy.

¹⁵⁵ Paladin's origins are revealed in the *Have Gun, Will Travel* episode *Genesis*. Actor Richard Boone played both the younger Paladin and Smoke in the flashback sequences.

¹⁵⁶ In the novel *A Man Called Paladin*, the encounter with Jefferson comes immediately following the encounter with Norge rather than 10 years later. Though the novel seems correct in many other regards, this encounter makes more sense in the time frame offered in the television series.

¹⁵⁷ The idea of Paladin's inheritance and retirement comes from the radio version of the show rather than from the television series.

¹⁵⁸ There were two recurring love interests on *Have Gun, Will Travel*. The first was Dr. Phyllis Thackeray who appeared on two episodes in the show's first season. The other was an Englishwoman named Diana Coulter, who appeared in several episodes in the second season.

¹⁵⁹ Paladin's poker game is central to the plot of the 1991 Television movie *Gambler Returns: Luck of the Draw*, which is set in 1906. Paladin is said to have died in the film.

¹⁶⁰ None of the characters ages are hinted at in the movie. In the screenplay, Angel is described as in his mid-twenties. The estimated ages of the other characters are based on the ages of the actors who portrayed them in the film.)

¹⁶¹ The name the "Wild Bunch" was also used by Butch Cassidy's gang but the two gangs are not the same. Pike Bishop mentions that he has heard that Butch and the Sundance Kid have retired and gone to Bolivia at one point in the movie.

¹⁶² As seen in the film *From Dusk till Dawn*. Thanks to Dennis Power who first suggested the Gorch / Santanico Pandemonium connection.

¹⁶³ Mentioned in the Season 1 episode, *Fatal Memory*.

¹⁶⁴ Nick's story is found in the 1987 movie *Wanted, Dead or Alive*. Nick is revealed to be Josh's great-grandson in the dialogue. The 1986 date is derived from the fact that a movie theater is showing *Rambo: First Blood Part 2* as a bargain matinee suggesting that this is approximately one year after the movie's theatrical release.

¹⁶⁵ This occurred in the episode *The Bounty Hunter*, seen in season 1 of *Trackdown*. This episode served as the pilot for the *Wanted: Dead or Alive* series.

¹⁶⁶ The idea that Hoby and Josh Randall were the same age is based on the fact that the actors who played them, Robert Culp and Steve McQueen, were the same age. The date of 1840 is arbitrary but seems likely since both men were old enough to be Civil War veterans.

¹⁶⁷ The Texas Rangers were disbanded following the war and their duties were assumed by "Minute Men" troops composed of Texans who had served in the union Army. It wasn't until 1874 that the Rangers were reinstated. A number of television westerns, including *Trackdown* and *The Lone Ranger* ignore this and assume that the Texas Rangers continued to function unchanged in the post-war years.

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- ¹⁶⁸ This is based on actor Kenny Rogers' age in the first movie of the Gambler series.
- ¹⁶⁹ Told in the television movie, *Kenny Rogers is The Gambler*. The date is derived from the fact that Jeremiah appears to be about 12 in the first two movies, and 30 in the fifth movie. *Gambler V: Playing for Keeps* is connected to historical events from 1900.
- ¹⁷⁰ Told in the television movie, *Kenny Rogers is the Gambler: The Adventure Continues*. The date is derived from the fact that, though played by a different actor, Jeremiah is approximately the same age as in the first movie.
- ¹⁷¹ Told in the television movie, *Kenny Rogers as The Gambler: Part III: The Legend Continues*. The date is derived from the fact that 1885 was the only year Sitting Bull appeared in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show.
- ¹⁷² Told in the television movie, *The Gambler V: Playing for Keeps*. The date is derived from the historical events surrounding the end of the Wild Bunch.
- ¹⁷³ This is an odd premise, as poker has never been outlawed in the United States.
- ¹⁷⁴ Told in the movie *Gambler Returns: Luck of the Draw*. The date is given in the movie.
- ¹⁷⁵ From the song "The Gambler" which was the inspiration for the series of movies.
- ¹⁷⁶ Both the meeting with Hickok and the arrest of Thompson are the subject of much historical debate. It is unlikely that either really happened in our world, but the Wold-Newton Universe is a place where larger than life adventures are more likely to be true.
- ¹⁷⁷ See the story *Fool's Gold* in *Lovecraft's Shadow Magazine* #1.
- ¹⁷⁸ Big Nose Kate was actually named Mary Katherine Horony but often used the alias Kate Elder. She is unrelated to the character of the same name in the movie *The Sons of Katie Elder*.
- ¹⁷⁹ An excellent timeline of the events of Wyatt Earp's life can be found at <http://www.gv.net/~syd/WyattSEarp/index.html>
- ¹⁸⁰ Seen in the television series *Paradise* episode *A Gather of Guns*.
- ¹⁸¹ Seen in the television movie, *Gambler Returns, Luck of the Draw*. By my count, Earp, Cheyenne, and Hawkes killed 26 members of Cade Dalton's gang without receiving a single wound.
- ¹⁸² Seen in the television movie, *Wyatt Earp: Return to Tombstone*.
- ¹⁸³ As told in the 1988 movie *Sunset*. In our world, Wyatt had been living in Los Angeles for some time and was already a friend of Tom Mix by 1929. nevertheless, the film is all true "...give or take a lie."
- ¹⁸⁴ One suggested solution to the question of Masterson's name was that he was actually William Bartholomew Masterson but sometimes used Barclay as his middle name for unknown reasons.

¹⁸⁵ The real problem is no doubt one of the copyrights involved. The producers of *Gambler Returns* were able to hire Drury and McClure but were apparently unable to secure the rights to the names of the characters.

¹⁸⁶ In the novel the Virginian and Trampas are deadly enemies and the hero eventually the hero shoots Trampas dead in a gunfight. In the series the two become close friends. In the novel Molly Stark is a teacher who comes to Wyoming. The Virginian courts and eventually weds her. In the television series Molly is editor of the local newspaper and dies before any real romance has a chance to develop. There are many other place names, characters, dates, and relationships that are changed.

¹⁸⁷ The first season is set in the late 1890's. In one episode, the Virginian and Trampas even join Teddy Roosevelt's "Rough Riders" and participate in the charge up San Juan Hill. Beginning with season 2, the action is moved back to the mid-1880's.

¹⁸⁸ The 1826 date is listed in a book Caine's grandfather gives him in the episode *Dark Angel*.

¹⁸⁹ The names of Caine's and Danny's mothers are given in the episode *The Brothers Caine*.

¹⁹⁰ In the episode *Dark Angel* Caine's grandfather tells him that he has a brother named Danny who is "...three or four years older..." than he is. This makes Caine considerably younger than actor David Carridine was during the filming of the series. This estimate is supported by the fact that it is not long before Elizabeth's death of a broken heart in 1852. Elizabeth's tombstone is seen in the episode *Dark Angel*.

¹⁹¹ Henry Caine told his grandson that Elizabeth was heartbroken that her son had married a Chinese woman but preacher Serenity Johnson said that her grief came from the fact that Henry had driven her son and his wife away.

¹⁹² The show gives the impression that Caine was at the Shaolin Temple longer than ten years, but the evidence seems solid. Shortly before Caine passed his final tests, Master Po told him about the festival he wished to attend in five years. The festival, and Po's death happened in 1872.

¹⁹³ Master Po told Caine, "...Five years hence, it is my wish to make a pilgrimage to the Forbidden City. It is a place where even priests receive no special status. There in the Temple of Heaven, will be a festival The full moon of May. It will be the thirteenth day of the fifth month in the Year of the Dog." This date is impossible. The Chinese year of the dog falls every 12 years. It came in 1862 and again in 1874. Neither of these dates can be made to fit into the internal timeline of Kung Fu. By any scheme Caine was still a boy in 1862, and he was in America by 1873.

¹⁹⁴ Though the series referred to the Emperor and the Emperor's nephew, China in this period was ruled by the Dowager Empress, Tsu Hsi.

¹⁹⁵ As told in the television series *Kung Fu*. The series covers Caine's adventures over the years 1873-1875.

¹⁹⁶ *Kung Fu: The Movie* gives the year as 1885 but this is impossible to reconcile with the age of Chung Wang. Chung Wang as he appears in the movie is fully grown and could not possibly be a

boy of 12. Moving this date to 1890 is arbitrary, but it does give Caine's son the more believable age of 17.

¹⁹⁷ As told in the *Kung Fu: the Legend Continues* episode *The Gunfighters*. The dates of Caine's marriage and Matthew Caine's birth are supposition based on the fact that Matthew appeared to be about six in the episode.

¹⁹⁸ Matthew Caine's adventures were discussed on the series *Kung Fu, the Legend Continues*. The incidents mentioned here are from the episode *The Sacred Chalice of I Ching*.

¹⁹⁹ Matthew's wife is never described or mentioned by name in the series. The idea that she is Chinese seems logical since Kwai Chang Caine II is often said to look Chinese.

²⁰⁰ As seen in the *Kung Fu: The Legend Continues* episode *The Return of Sing Ling*.

²⁰¹ There seem to be more Shaolin Temples in the Wold-Newton Universe than in our world. In *Enter the Dragon* Bruce Lee's character is seen training at a Shaolin Temple, which seems to be in Hong Kong. The other actor seen sparring with Lee in the Shaolin sequence is Sammo Hung. It is interesting to speculate that this Hong Kong Temple is where Kwai Chang Caine, Mr. Lee and Sammo Law of the television series *Martial Law* all studied.

²⁰² The adventures of the reunited Kwai Chang Caine II and Peter were told in the 1993-1997 series *Kung Fu: The Legend Continues*. Kwai Chang II seemed less the martial arts master than his grandfather. The series focused more on supernatural powers he had developed and referred to him as a 'Shamballa Master.' These powers included telepathy, psychokinesis, and even time travel.

²⁰³ Dave Blassingame's adventures were seen on *The Westerner*, a television program that lasted for only 13 episodes in 1959. Dave's age is an estimate based on the age of actor Brian Keith.

²⁰⁴ Lucas' age is an estimate based on the information known about his early life.

²⁰⁵ Lucas' rank was mentioned in the episodes *Sheridan Story*, *The Prisoner*, and *Millie's Brother*. He seems to have held this rank through the entire war.

²⁰⁶ Mark McCain is said to be 10 years old when he and Lucas settled in North Fork in the episode *The Sharp Shooter*.

²⁰⁷ In the episode *Home Range* Lucas says that Mark was 6 when Margaret died. In the episode *The Vision*, Mark says she died when he was 3. I am assuming that Lucas' version of events is the more accurate.

²⁰⁸ Sam was the hero of *Law of the Plainsman*, a spin-off series from *The Rifleman*.

²⁰⁹ This date is conjecture based on the idea that Sam had graduated from Harvard and worked in the West for several years before meeting Lucas McCain.

²¹⁰ Sam appeared in two episodes of *The Rifleman*. The first season of the Rifleman was set in 1881 so Sam met Lucas in that year. *The Law of the Plainsman* series was set in 1885.

²¹¹ *Law of the Plainsman* was cancelled after only one season of 30 episodes.

²¹² Wyatt and Bat are fixtures in the old west and show up in many different stories. What makes their appearance in *Paradise* noteworthy is the fact that Wyatt was played by actor Hugh O'Brien and Bat by Gene Barry. Since O'Brien and Barry were also the actors who played Wyatt and Bat in *Gambler Returns* it makes sense to assume that both stories occupy the same fictional universe.

²¹³ *Paradise* lasted only two seasons and was revived for a third as *Guns of Paradise*. Ethan's job must have been disheartening. Any time some crisis came up the townspeople were quick to crumble, leaving Ethan to deal with the situation alone. It was same situation Will Kane had faced in *High Noon*, but on a regular basis.

²¹⁴ The careers of Dan Troop and Johnny McKay were chronicled in the 1958-1962 television series, *The Lawman*.

²¹⁵ Dan's exact age is never revealed. Actor John Russell was 37 during the first season but says he saw Dan Troop as an older man, in his mid to late 40's. Russell streaked his hair with gray to accentuate Dan's age. This timeline assumes that Dan Troop was 47 during the first season of the show.

²¹⁶ These events are told in the episode *The Gang*.

²¹⁷ Johnny's age is revealed in the episode *The Deputy*.

²¹⁸ The story of Johnny's background is told in the episode *The Joker*.

²¹⁹ The first episode of the series *The Deputy* is actually set in 1879. we learn this from the dates on Marshal Lemp's tombstone. However, the episode *The Captives* is tied to the historical events surrounding the assassination of Wild Bill Hickock on August 2, 1876. The date in *The Deputy* must be treated as an error.

²²⁰ In the episode *The Outcast*, Dan and Johnny must protect Bob Ford from mob violence. The anger against Ford stems from his assassination of outlaw Jesse James in 1882 to collect a \$500 reward. Bob mentions the suicide of his brother Charlie which happened in 1884, so the must take place no earlier than that year.

²²¹ Christopher Colt's adventures were chronicled in the 1957-1960 television series *Colt .45*.

²²² Chris Colt's year of birth is estimated based on actor Wayde Preston's age. Though Col. Sam Colt was a historical figure, neither Chris nor Sam Jr. were.

²²³ Sugarfoot's age is estimated based on the age of actor Will Hutchens.

²²⁴ Layne had his own spread before the war, and was made an officer. These facts both suggest he came from a family with some wealth. His birth year is deduced from the age of actor Ty Hardin.

²²⁵ This was told in the *Bronco* episode, *The Long Ride Back*.

²²⁶ *Maverick: The Making of the Movie* by Burl Barer lists Bret's birthday as April 7, 1847, which means that actor James Garner was exactly the same age as the character he was playing. The birth years of the other Maverick brothers are estimated based on the ages of actors Roger Moore, Jack Kelly and Robert Colbert compared to Garner's.

²²⁷ The episode "Trail West to Fury" tells a different story. Bret and Bart were ranchers in Little Bend, Texas before leaving to join the Confederate Army in 1861. Their unit was captured in 1864 but they became "galvanized Yankees" to get out of the military prison and fought Indians in the west with the Union Army for two years. When they returned to Texas they came into conflict with a crooked rancher and were framed for the murder of two men. For that reason they were never able to return to Texas and were forced to make a living gambling.

This version of events is difficult to reconcile with the other dates in the show's chronology. It also seems to suggest that the Bret and Bart were the only brothers and that their parents had both died. For the purposes of this article I count the whole story as a tall tale the brothers made up to amuse their friend Dandy Jim while the three of them were trapped by flood waters.

²²⁸ The adventures of the brothers were chronicled in the television series *Maverick* from 1957-1962.

²²⁹ Bret's adventures were chronicled in the television series *Bret Maverick* which ran from 1981-1982.

²³⁰ Ben's adventures were seen in the short-lived series *New Maverick* which ran in 1983

²³¹ As seen in the television movie *Gambler Returns, Luck of the Draw*.

²³² There is no available evidence for Matt's birth year so I have assumed that he was the same age when he came to Dodge as actor James Arness during the first season of the *Gunsmoke* television series.

²³³ The fact that Matt's father was killed by outlaws was revealed in the television movie *Gunsmoke: One Man's Justice*.

²³⁴ Adam Kimbro appears in the episode "Kimbro." By the time he met Dillon again the pressures of being a lawman had made him an alcoholic.

²³⁵ Dillon's youthful romance is mentioned in episode "Cara." In this television episode, Cara comes to Dodge City and tries to use her relationship with Matt Dillon to help her new lover, who is an outlaw.

²³⁶ The fact that Matt and Doc knew Hickok in Abilene is established in two of the radio episodes, *Hickok* and *Matt for Murder*. *Matt for Murder* was later remade into a television episode.

²³⁷ There is a real historical conundrum in Matt's early years in Dodge. The episodes *Hickok* and *Matt for Murder* both claim that Wild Bill Hickok is Marshal of Abilene. This places the episodes in 1871 because Hickok only served in this position from April-September of that year. His accidental shooting of his own deputy ended his position and his career as a lawman. This is a problem because Dodge City wasn't established until 1872. It seems that, in the Wold-Newton

Universe, Dodge City must have been founded about 1870 or else the episodes with Hickok must be treated as fictitious.

²³⁸ Kitty's profession was downplayed for the sensors in the television series, but the radio program was very clear about it.

²³⁹ These details about Kitty's young life come from the television episode *Daddy-O*. Kitty's father came to Dodge claiming to want to restore their relationship. Actually, he has learned that Kitty has become half owner of the Long Branch Saloon and was hoping for a handout.

²⁴⁰ In the book *Gunsmoke: A Complete History and Analysis of the Legendary Broadcast Series* actress Amanda Blake reveals this part of Kitty's back-story. Unless Kitty was older than I have supposed, she could not have worked on the riverboats for very long. Kitty would have been sixteen in 1861, and would only have been on the riverboats a few months at best before the outbreak of war halted river traffic.

²⁴¹ This is a well-documented aspect of the Civil War, and some generals were infamous for their camp followers. The prostitutes who followed Union Army General Joseph Hooker's camp came to be called "Hooker's girls" which is the origin of the slang term "hooker."

²⁴² Both the radio and television programs hinted at Matt and Kitty's relationship without making it explicit. Actors James Arness and Amanda Blake have both expressed the conviction that their characters were lovers.

²⁴³ This episode "Matt's Love Story" was shown in the 19th season of the television series. I have placed it as close to the beginning as possible because Matt unknowingly leaves Mike pregnant with a daughter who shows up as a young adult in the Gunsmoke TV movies.

²⁴⁴ On the radio Parley Baer played Chester Proudfoot. He was Dillon's deputy for the entire series. On television Dennis Weaver played Chester from 1955-1964. The producers of the show felt that "Proudfoot" sounded too much like an Indian name and the character became Chester Good.

Burt Reynolds played Quint Asper on the television series from 1962-1965.

Ken Curtis played Festus Hagen from 1962-1975.

Roger Ewing played Thad Greenwood from 1965-1967.

Buck Taylor played Newly O'Brien from 1967-1975.

²⁴⁵ Mannon was the second man to outdraw Dillon. The first was the nearsighted Dan Grat in *Matt Gets It* the premier episode of the television show. Unlike Grat, Mannon returned to face Dillon a second time. The 1875 date is based on Kitty's comment that the Civil War was "...10 years ago."

²⁴⁶ Seen in the episode "Stryker."

²⁴⁷ In *The Badge* Matt comes after Miss Kitty and the two return to Dodge City together. This is ironic, as Amanda Blake would leave the series the following year. In *Gunsmoke, Return to Dodge* flashbacks to *The Badge* implied that this really was the time Kitty left for good. I am assuming that *Return to Dodge* is correct in its interpretation.

²⁴⁸ This is seen in the television movie *Gunsmoke: Return to Dodge*. This date means that Mannon had served only 10 years in prison and not 15 as the movie asserts. However, this is the only logical place this story can fit into the chronology.

²⁴⁹ This is seen in the television movie *Gunsmoke: The Last Apache*. The story must take place in 1886 because of references to the capture of Geronimo. Beth cannot possibly be 21 years old as stated in the story. By this timeline she would be only 14.

²⁵⁰ Though this is not explicitly stated it can be inferred from the fact that Mike doesn't appear in any of the subsequent movies. Beth appears but her name has changed from Beth Yardner to Beth Dillon. It is implicit that Matt has adopted her.

²⁵¹ Seen in the television movie, *Gunsmoke: To the Last Man*. The Pleasant Valley War was a real conflict that lasted roughly from 1886-1896.

²⁵² The date is speculative and is based on the fact that the Pleasant Valley War is not in evidence in the movie. The Pleasant Valley War ended in 1896.

²⁵³ Seen in the television movie, *Gunsmoke: One Man's Justice*. The date is speculative.

²⁵⁴ Matt Dillon appeared in the final episode of *Doctor Quinn, Medicine Woman*. Using digital technology the image of the young James Arness was placed in the episode.

²⁵⁵ There is an internal chronology problem here. In *Doctor Quinn*, the Washita massacre took place in 1870, but in our world the conflict was in 1868.

²⁵⁶ Actor Bob Hope was 56 years old when he played Milford, but the character is presented as a young man just getting started in his career. As a man of 20-24 he would have been born anytime from 1850-1854.

²⁵⁷ The date is speculative and was chosen because it fit well with the careers of Jesse James and with most of the other characters appearing in the story.

²⁵⁸ Jesse's one great love was his first cousin, Zerelda "Zee" Mims whom he eventually married. By all accounts he was loyal to her. Whatever her involvement with the James gang, Cora Lee Collins would not have been Jesse's lover, let alone his fiancé.

²⁵⁹ In addition to the items already reported, the film had Milford losing money on the Gentleman Jim Corbett, John L. Sullivan championship fight. The bout was actually held in 1892. The film also features future US President, Harry S. Truman as a little boy, playing piano at the James home. The real Truman was a Missouri native, but was not born until 10 years after the events of the movie.

²⁶⁰ Historically, Jesse James was never arrested. To assume that he was in the Wold-Newton Universe we must assume he spent only a brief time behind bars. The idea of Frank and the James Gang rescuing Jesse is based on a similar incident in the movie *Jesse James* (1939).

²⁶¹ Adams' birth year is speculation based on the age of actor Ward Bond.

²⁶² As told in the episode *Colter Craven Story*. Ward Bond's friend John Wayne made a rare television appearance as Gen. Sherman.

²⁶³ The character Ward Bond plays in *Rio Bravo* is actually named Pat Wheeler but the characterization is similar to that of Adams. The idea that the two men are one and the same is speculative.

²⁶⁴ This information comes from actor Robert Horton's biography of the character, found at the wagon train tribute website <http://www.fiftiesweb.com/wt/wagon-train.htm>

²⁶⁵ Seen in the episode *Nancy Davis Story*.

²⁶⁶ The details about Tagg and the town of Diablo are not historical and come from the television series *Annie Oakley*, starring Gail Davis. The same actress also played Annie in *Alias Jesse James* making it possible to pretend that this was a real adventure of the young marksman.

²⁶⁷ While the Internet Movie Data Base credits Fess Parker's appearance as Davy Crockett, it is possible that this character might as well be Daniel Boone. Parker played both characters and used nearly identical costuming for them. The idea of Daniel Boone showing up in the film is even more absurd as he died a generation before Crockett.

²⁶⁸ The novel *A Man Called Horse* begins in the year 1825 and the movie is approximately 1845. The events of the wagon train episode are set shortly after the Civil War, suggesting that Horse was captured in about 1855.

²⁶⁹ Horse's story is told in the short story *A Man Called Horse* by Dorothy M. Johnson, which was the basis for the *Wagon Train* episode of the same name. The best-known version of this story is the 1970 movie starring Richard Harris as Horse. In the film the unnamed Bostonian became an Englishman named John Morgan, and the tribe who kidnapped him was the Lakota. For purposes of this article the short story is considered the correct version.

²⁷⁰ As seen in the *Wagon Train* Episode *A Man Called Horse*.

²⁷¹ Rick Lai deduced Django's full name from the fact that he is called "Father Ignatius" in the film *Django Strikes Again*. Actor Franco Nero was 25 years old when he first played Django, but makeup was used to make the character seem about 10 years older.

²⁷² In our world the first working machine gun was invented by Hiram Maxim in 1884. This, and a date of 1889 on a tombstone could be used to place the events of *Django* at the turn of the century. This is at odds with the plot of the movie, which suggests it takes place shortly after the close of the Civil War. *The Last Vendetta* clears this up by revealing that the date on the tombstone was an error made by a drunken stone-carver, and the machine-gun was made by former Confederate gunsmith, Lee Bailey, who anticipated Maxim's invention by a decade.

²⁷³ As seen in the movie *Django*.

²⁷⁴ Django's conversion did not lead to reconcile with his lover Maria, a prostitute of mixed Mexican and French parentage. Django abandoned his lover at the end of *Django*. A similar character played by the same actress (Loredana Nusciak) appears in the movie *10,000 Dollars Blood Money*. Rick Lai believes that Maria assumed the name Mijanou became a saloon owner. There is a character named "Django" in this movie but he is so different that Rick believes he is a different bounty hunter who is using Django's name under false pretenses.

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- ²⁷⁵ For more on Ahagger and its queen, refer to the novel *L'Atlantide* by Paul Benoit.
- ²⁷⁶ McCain is from *The Rifleman* television series, Quigley is the hero of the movie *Quigley Down Under*, and Mississippi is from the movie *Eldorado*. The idea that Bailey made their firearms, and the idea that Quigley is a part of the WNU are speculation.
- ²⁷⁷ Bailey first appeared in the movie *Hannie Caulder*. Thomas, Hannie and the Preacher are all also from that movie.
- ²⁷⁸ The fact that Bailey created his own machine gun is revealed in *The Last Vendetta*. This helps to explain the otherwise anachronistic use of the weapon in *Django*.
- ²⁷⁹ The novelization of *Hannie Caulder* establishes the date by mentions a poster advertising a performance by Oscar Wilde on stage. Wilde toured the United States in 1883.
- ²⁸⁰ For more information on this family please refer to the article *The Amazing Gordons* by Mark Brown on the Wold-Newton Universe website.
- ²⁸¹ Arthur is best for his adventures as told in the novel *Le Vie Infernale* by Emile Gaboriau.
- ²⁸² Only the name 'Gordon' is heard in the movie *The Great Silence*. The name 'John' is supplied by *The Last Vendetta*.
- ²⁸³ This estimate is based on the age of actor Thomas Milian.
- ²⁸⁴ As seen in the movie *The Big Gundown*.
- ²⁸⁵ The gold was supposedly hidden by Juarez when Diaz took power, but this is historically impossible. Benito Juarez died in 1872 and was succeeded by Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada. In 1876 Porfiro Diaz overthrew Lerdo de Tejada to become President of Mexico. The gold in *Run, Man, Run* must have actually been hidden by followers of Lerdo de Tejada.
- ²⁸⁶ A fiancée named Dolores and a wife with five children named Rosita are reason to wonder about Sanchez's marital status. Had Rosita died in the months between the two stories? Was El Cuchillo planning to become a bigamist?
- ²⁸⁷ Seen in the film *Run, Man, Run*.
- ²⁸⁸ The events of *Day of Wrath* must take place sometime after Doc Holliday's death in 1887. I put the date at 1895 and have estimated Scott's birth year based on that date.
- ²⁸⁹ Sartana's age is speculation, based on the age of actor Gianni Garko.
- ²⁹⁰ The other aliases all come from the movie *They Call Him Cemetery*. "Ace of Hearts" comes from his use of playing cards, "Stranger" is self-evident, and "Cemetery" is from the large number of outlaws he has sent to the graveyard. While the name "Sartana" is never used in the movie, the character is played by the same actor (Gianni Garko), dresses in the same costume, and even appears to use the same unusual derringer. The film is also directed by the frequent Sartana series director Giulano Carnimeo (aka Anthony Ascott.)

²⁹¹ As seen in the movie *They Call Him Cemetery*.

²⁹² The events of *Light the Fuse... Sartana is Coming* can be dated by a gravestone that reads 1872.

²⁹³ The Sartana adventures continues with *If You Meet Sartana... Pray for Your Death* (1969), *I Am Sartana, Your Angel of Death* (1969), and *Have a Good Funeral, My Friend... Sartana Will Pay* (1970).

²⁹⁴ Sartana's final adventure was *I am Sartana, Trade Your Guns for a Coffin* (1972). An unrelated character named Sartana appears in *One Thousand Dollars on the Black*. Despite the fact that he is also played by Gianni Garko, there is no connection between the two Sartanas.

²⁹⁵ The idea that Sartana and the Preacher are the same character developed out of a discussion with Rick Lai. The two characters are very similar and their timelines mesh smoothly.

²⁹⁶ Col. Mortimer claims he is "...nearly fifty years of age..." in *For a Few Dollars More*. The fact that he is 47 or 48 in 1874 suggests a birth year of 1826 or 1827.

²⁹⁷ In *For a Few Dollars More*, the character is referred to as Col. Mortimer but in *Sabata Returns* he is called the Major. *The Last Vendetta* reveals that the character Lee Van Cleef played in the Sabata movies and Col. Mortimer are the same person and provides an explanation for the changing rank.

²⁹⁸ All of this is revealed in *The Last Vendetta*.

²⁹⁹ Seen in *Sabata*.

³⁰⁰ Seen in *Return of Sabata*.

³⁰¹ Seen in *Adios Sabata*.

³⁰² The Civil War is still in progress so the film must take place sometime in the years 1861-1865. There is a tombstone in the sad Hill Cemetery that reads 1864.

³⁰³ The first of the films featuring this character is *A Fistful of Dollars*. This is director Sergio Leone's homage to Akira Kurosawa's film *Yojimbo*. The samurai hero of the Kurosawa film and its sequels never reveals his true name. It is reasonable to assume that Eastwood's character does not either.

³⁰⁴ The events of *A Fistful of Dollars* can be dated by Eastwood's use of an 1872 model Colt Peacemaker revolver. There is also a tombstone dated 1873 that is clearly seen at one point.

³⁰⁵ The events of *For a Few Dollars More* can be dated by a newspaper that Col Mortimer finds in an archive.

³⁰⁶ For a different theory about the mysterious gunfighter's career see Ric Bergquist's article *The Man with No Name*.

³⁰⁷ Peterson is the character played by Franco Nero in *Companeros*.

³⁰⁸ As seen in the film *A Professional Gun*.

³⁰⁹ The Last Vendetta established that Kowalski is Django's the illegitimate son. Rick Lai had suggested that Peterson may also be Django's son. Actor Franco Nero played all three characters.

³¹⁰ Adam appears to be in his 20's in the movie *The Grand Duel* but the date of his birth is purely speculative.

³¹¹ Clayton (played by Lee Van Cleef) is an enigmatic character and little can be said about him with any certainty. It is interesting to speculate that he may be an American relative of John Clayton, aka Tarzan, but at this writing there is no clear connection.

³¹² I will not reveal the end of *The Grand Duel* except to say that it is a very clever surprise.

³¹³ O. Henry mentions that Cisco's name was Goodall. He never mentions a first name, but Cisco is commonly a nickname for Francisco, or Frank. The author also tells us that the Mexicans who knew him gave him the nickname El Chivato (the goat). This is a fairly common nickname for a restless young man (in modern slang it is shortened to "vato") and was also applied to Billy the Kid by his friends. I suspect that O' Henry was drawing a conscious parallel to Billy and imagine that Cisco was a gringo who lived on the border long enough to pick up some Mexican mannerisms.

³¹⁴ As told in the short story *The Caballero's Way* by O. Henry. The character was changed into the heroic Latino character in the movies and later on television. It is only with several recent comic book miniseries that Cisco has returned to his roots.

³¹⁵ The *Hell's Gates* story takes place shortly after the events of *The Caballero's Way*. The graphic novel offers the impossible date of 1854 for this but the Moonstone Comics website corrects this to 1875.

³¹⁶ As seen in the *Cisco Kid: Hell's Gates* comic and graphic novel. The story claims a date of 1854 But this is not consistent with any other version of the character. The Moonstone Comics website www.moonstonecomics.com corrects the date to 1875.

³¹⁷ As seen in the Moonstone Comics miniseries *Gunfire and Brimstone*. The year is established in issue #2 when Billy the Kid shoots a blacksmith named "Windy" Cahill. Historically, Cahill was the first man Billy killed and it sets the date of the story as 1877.

³¹⁸ Indiana Jones' father was a Henry Jones who was raised in the UK. It may be that this story is meant to imply that Haakon Jones is Indy's grandfather. Unfortunately, the dates don't quite work. Henry is much too young to be Indy's father. Then again, this could be a subtle joke about the fact that actor Sean Connery is only a dozen years older than Harrison Ford.

³¹⁹ At this writing (12/2006) only two of these stories are in print. *Mysterious Dan's Legacy* is collected in *Arkham Tales* and *Fool's Gold* appears in the collection *Hell's Hangmen*. I have special reason to hope that many more will see print as I am the author.

³²⁰ As told in the story *Mysterious Dan's Legacy* collected in *Arkham Tales*. The character is referred to as Dan Hawkins in this story but is actually Dave Mather.

³²¹ As told in the story *The Cold Comes South* in the upcoming *Lovecraft's Shadow Magazine #1*.

³²² As told in the unpublished *Trail of the Brujo*.

³²³ There is a persistent story, probably apocryphal that Jesse James took Billy the Kid to dinner at the Old Adobe Hotel in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Supposedly Jesse tried to talk Billy into joining his gang but the Kid refused.

³²⁴ Actually, there is a false historical rumor that Judge Roy Bean was sitting on his porch when a Mexican bandit shot him to death.

³²⁵ Sarah Winnemucca was a historical person. She was the daughter of the Paiute chief Winnemucca and her name in her own language was Thocmetony. At the time of the story she would have been 15 and little Joe would have been 17.

³²⁶ This episode happened in season 7 of *Bonanza* so, by the show's time scheme it should have happened in 1866-67. Historically, the Pony Express was in existence for only 18 months so I have moved the date accordingly. It is possible that Joe met other famous riders such as Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Cody who also rode for the express.

³²⁷ This assumes that Hannie was 31 years old (the age of actress Raquel Welch) during the events of the movie *Hannie Caulder*.

³²⁸ In this episode Calamity's jealous lover is actually identified as Doc Holliday. This is impossible for several reasons. Doc was never involved with Calamity Jane, and probably never met her. Also, in 1864 he was still a youth living in Georgia. Calamity herself was only 12 in 1864 and there is no historical record of her having met Hickok so early. Still, assuming the character identified as 'Holliday' was actually Hickok seems the only way to make the episode even marginally believable.

³²⁹ This incident, which involves Thompson romantically with Flora Blake, a woman whose brothers he killed, is completely fictional. Historically he was married to Catherine Moore in 1863 and remained with her his whole life.

³³⁰ The fair skinned, fire-haired temptress met Conan in the story "*The Frost Giant's Daughter*."

³³¹ It is unclear whether the town in this story could be the same as in Bret Harte's "*The Outcasts of Poker Flat*."

³³² In the story the Two Gun Kid runs across a masked gunfighter named Kid Clayton and his faithful Apache companion, Nantan. Clayton is a crusader for law and order who rides a white stallion and uses silver bullets. Clearly, he is meant to be the Lone Ranger. The story presents a paradox, for Kid Clayton is killed by the werewolves while the Lone Ranger has adventures through the mid-1890's.

³³³ In the *Maverick* episode Ben Cartwright is called Joe Wheelwright, the Ponderosa ranch is the Subrosa, and Adam, Hoss and Little Joe are called Henry, Moose, and Small Paul. This episode

must be distorted because Adam Cartwright had left the Ponderosa many years earlier. Most likely, Bart met ranch hand Candy rather than Adam. The idea that Ben had sent away for three brides for his sons and the implied triple wedding at the end of the episode do not mesh with the Bonanza timeline. Presumably, Bart really did meet the Cartwrights, and was involved in some sort of romantic hijinks involving Hoss, Little Joe and Candy, but later exaggerated the story.

³³⁴ This episode is a parody of *Gunsmoke*. Though the marshal is called Mort Dooley, he is clearly meant to be Matt Dillon.

³³⁵ The date for *Slap Leather* comes from the ages given Hoss and Little Joe Cartwright's ages and a reference to Wyatt Earp's enforcement of the no-gun laws in Dodge City. Wyatt began enforcing these laws in 1877.

³³⁶ This incident is never actually mentioned in the episode but it is a logical supposition. Cole Younger was in prison from 1876-1901 and could not have participated in the plan unless Foxy had engineered his temporary escape.

³³⁷ The year of 1878 before the death of Sam Bass seems the most likely

³³⁸ While there are no chronological problems with the western characters, "Kookie" was a character from the series *77 Sunset Strip*, which was set in the late 1950's.

³³⁹ While Allison was turned back from Dodge in 1878, there is a good deal of historical controversy whether either Earp or Masterson were even present.

³⁴⁰ In the episode Paladin meets a rival gun for hire who claims to have been one of Dillon's deputies for five years in Austin. Paladin says the man is a liar because Dillon was never a lawman in Austin.

³⁴¹ There is no good way to date this story except to say that it falls into a group of Jones' adventures that must happen between 1877 and 1884.

³⁴² Most historians dismiss the story of Billy the Kid and Jesse James meeting as a legend, but in the Wold-Newton Universe this incident is much more likely. Jesse and the Kid already knew each other, having worked together the previous year in a gang put together by Foxy Smith.

³⁴³ Doc's comment may have been prompted by the fact that he was in bed and barefoot when he died.

³⁴⁴ There is no historical second meeting between Masterson and Allison, and Bat didn't even return to Denver until 1891, three years after Allison's death.

³⁴⁵ The story is very similar to Robert E. Howard's *The Mirrors of Tuzan Thune* and the mirrors are clearly meant to be the same. Tuzan Thune was assisted by a girl in the Kull story. Rick Lai speculates that the witch in the Haakon Jones story may be an older version of the same girl.

³⁴⁶ This encounter, and the idea of a running feud between Masterson and Allison, are wholly fictitious.

³⁴⁷ In the Lone Ranger version John Selman was an established outlaw whose gang had rejected the young Hardin. Three years later Hardin murdered his father as a perverse revenge. Selman tracked Hardin to El Paso where he killed him in a fair gunfight. Historically it was the 42 year old Hardin who was the established outlaw and the dispute had to do with the woman Selman was seeing. He took the much safer tactic of shooting the deadly Hardin in the back of the head.

³⁴⁸ Ward Phillips is a friend of Randolph Carter's in *Through the Gate of the Silver Key* by H.P. Lovecraft and E. Hoffman Price. Phillips was intended to be a fictional version of Lovecraft. His appearance in this story suggests that he was actually about half a dozen years older than the author.

³⁴⁹ The great director's full name is not used but the character is referred to as "D.W." Though he is portrayed as an elderly man (played by Mickey Rooney), Griffith was actually only 31 years old in 1906. In our world Griffith didn't begin making short films until 1907 and didn't achieve fame until the 1915 release of his epic *Birth of a Nation*. Though *Birth of a Nation* is an historic movie, it is unlikely that the Lone Ranger would have approved of its heroic presentation of the Ku Klux Klan.

³⁵⁰ Diamond Jim Brady promotes the match between Gentleman Jim Corbett and John L. Sullivan as the first ever to use boxing gloves and the Marquis of Queensbury Rules. Bat Masterson later comments that Corbett won the match in the 21st round. All of these things are true of the Sullivan-Corbett match, except that it really took place in 1892 in New Orleans, Louisiana. There is no way to reconcile these events with history and we must assume that the match mentioned in the movie was between different fighters.