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STORIES

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November, 1933

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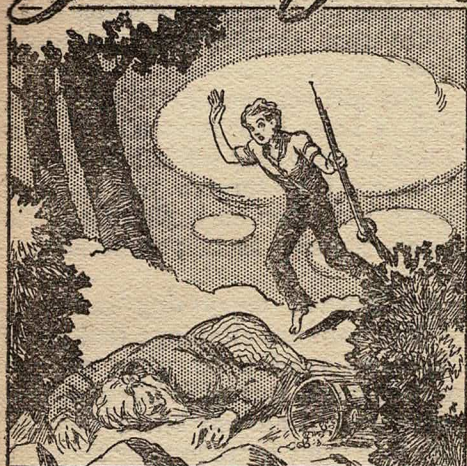
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Zane Grey's "To the LAST MAN"

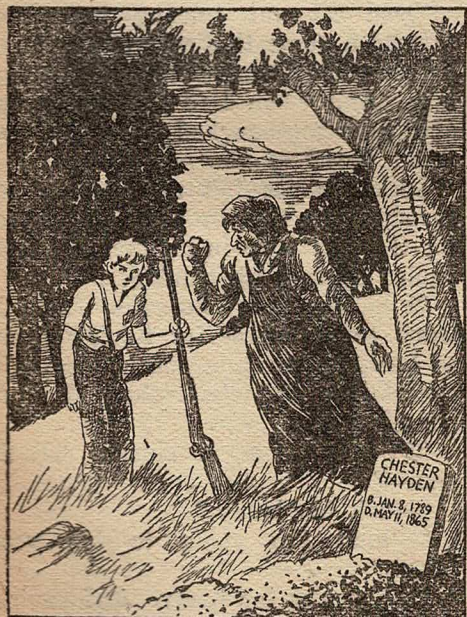


"Cursed be Jed Colby!" cries Lynn Hayden, on a fateful day in 1865, finding the body of his "Gran' pappy" on a lone mountain trail. The Hayden-Colby feud has waged bitterly in the Kentucky mountains. Another victim has been claimed by Colby's rifle.

A pictorial novelization of the Paramount picture featuring Randolph Scott, Esther Ralston, and Jack La Rue, based on the famous story by Zane Grey



The Civil War is over—Mark Hayden, Lynn's father, returns home. "Granny" pleads that the Haydens must be avenged. Mark turns a deaf ear to her; his is a vision of peace, he is resolved to end the feud by going west with two younger children.



Mark goes away, leaving Lynn to care for "Granny." She leads Lynn to the grave of "Gran' pappy," and there urges the boy to uphold the feud tradition that Mark has ignored. "An eye for an eye," she declaims. "Get Colby, young feller." Lynn vows that he will do as she asks.



Before leaving on the wagon train, Mark Hayden has gone to see the sheriff. "Jed Colby's done for my dad," Hayden has reported. "Put him in jail." The sheriff's comment to the charge is: "I guess I'm bound t' arrest him." Through a new procedure in feud cases, Colby is jailed for 15 years.



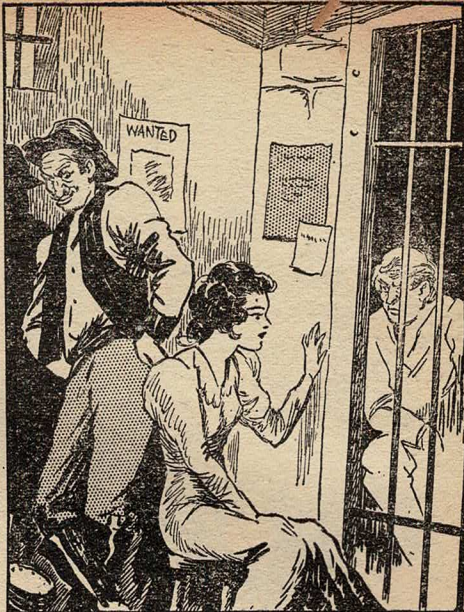
Mark, full of a life, hits the ground in despair. He has no hope of good. He claims a sizable portion of the Kentucky Mountains, land of the rich.



The scene shifts to Jed Colby and Daggs. Colby is evil. Daggs is evil. Daggs is evil. Hayden and Daggs are evil. But Colby prefers his extensive family. The spirators start r



Mark, full of ambition and desire for a new life, hits the open spaces and travels in hope of good fortune and happiness. He claims a sizable strip of land in the Rocky Mountains, land which is later to become one of the richest ranches in the great West.



In 1880 Colby's prison term is drawing to its close. He is visited by his daughter Ellen. Jim Daggs, recently released from prison and a pal of Colby's, has located Hayden's ranch and is outfitting a wagon train—Colby and Daggs are on Hayden's trail!



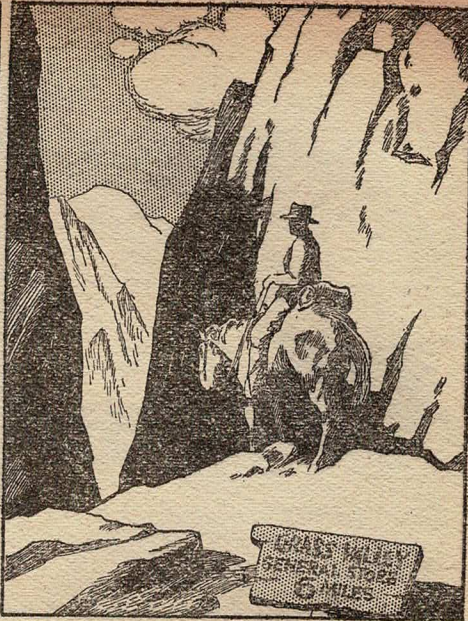
The scene shifts to the Great West—where Colby and Daggs have arrived intent on evil. Daggs recommends a quick killing of Hayden and sudden riches for them both—but Colby prefers slowly to bleed Hayden of his extensive possessions. The two conspirators start rustling Hayden's cattle.



Daggs falls in love with Ellen Colby, who accompanied her father to the West. He dreams fondly of possessing Hayden's ranch—and having her for his bride. He is repeatedly annoyed by his accomplice, and threatens him to no avail. His greedy eyes glisten as he forces his attention upon her.



Caught in the act of stealing cattle, one of Colby's men is killed in a battle with one of Hayden's men. The latter is wounded, and returns to tell the story of his encounter. Mark Hayden is gloomy over the news—realizing that grim troubles have begun that may well result in ultimate disaster.



While Mark Hayden sits bowed in gloomy thoughts, a stranger enters the town on his first visit to the Golden West. As he rides his horse, something in the valley below him attracts his attention. "What's this!" he exclaims, and prepares to investigate.



The stranger and the girl meet. She is attracted by his frank appearance, his frank appearance. He is drawn by her youthfulness. "What's this!" he exclaims, and prepares to investigate.



Ellen, in swimming, is being molested by Daggs, whose greedy eyes are fixed upon her as he taunts her mercilessly. The stranger readily understands the situation—and determines to give his assistance to the girl.



With hard fists driven by muscles of steel, the stranger plunges in and makes short work of Daggs. Thoroughly beaten, cowed, Daggs crawls away vowing vengeance and cursing bitterly.



Now Daggs is actuated by a desire to avenge himself on Lynn. He is impatient to secure Mark. He persuades Colby to set a trap.



The stranger and the girl look into each other's eyes. She is attracted by his politeness, his frank appearance and manliness. He is drawn by her youthful beauty. There, on the open range, romance is born. "What is your name?" asks the stranger.



The shocking answer makes him gasp in amazement. "I'm Lynn Hayden!" he exclaims, and turns away. Both realize that love between them is an impossibility—for since childhood they are sworn enemies, and the feud is still on!



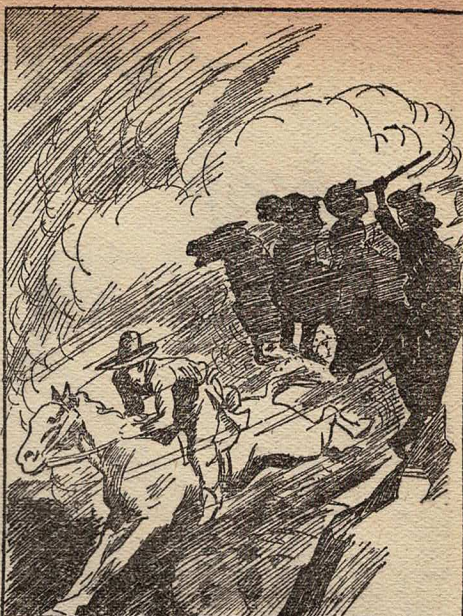
Now Daggs is actuated by a desire to revenge himself on Lynn Hayden. He is also impatient to secure Mark Hayden's ranch. He persuades Colby to help him set a trap.



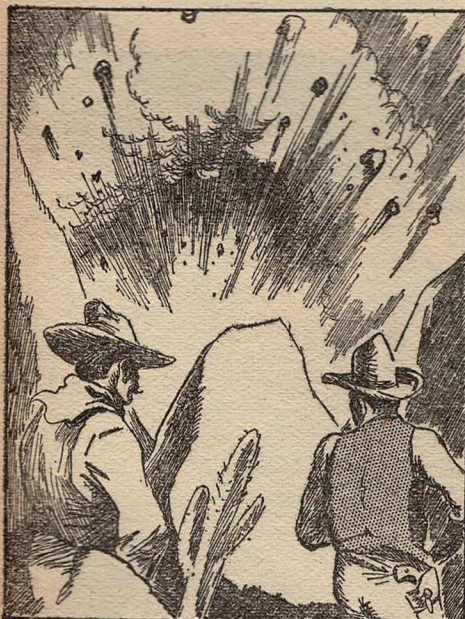
While most of the hands are away, the Colby gang stages a surprise attack on the Hayden ranch. Mark and his younger children are killed. Lynn is now the last of the Haydens!



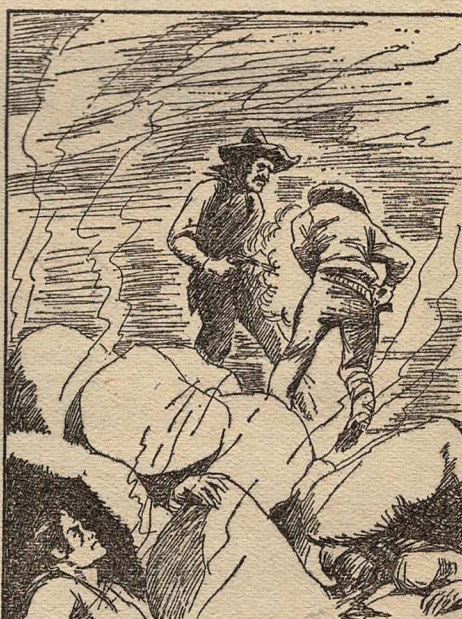
Lynn gets wind of the attack, hurries to the scene. A sharpshooter, he downs most of the murderous gang—but Daggs and Colby escape. Lynn is determined to capture them and make them pay for their villainy.



Lynn leads a posse, out to get Daggs and Colby and to recover stolen cattle and horses which have been hidden in a ravine. Blindly, the posse rides into the trap set by the cunning fiends!



BOOM! A sharp explosion rocks the hills. The posse is annihilated! The powder blast in the canyon spells sudden death and destruction and the tragedy echoes over the surrounding countryside.



Daggs, realizing that Colby is the only person in the way of his complete possession of the Hayden ranch and marriage to Ellen, murders his partner immediately after the explosion. A hidden man observes the crime.

In the Next Issue of **THRILLING RANCH STORIES:**



For Lynn has escaped with only survivor of the trap, the nearest cabin—Ellen's. Ellen what has happened, approaching.

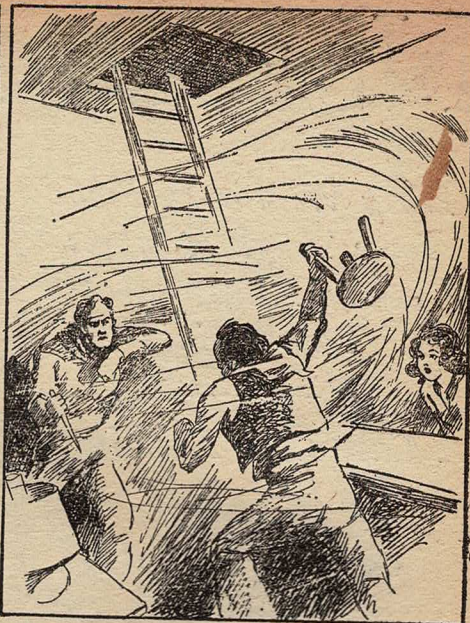


"I love you," Lynn exclaims that first day when your eyes shine brightly as she proposes. The lovers agree no longer any reason for enmity.

Another Exciting



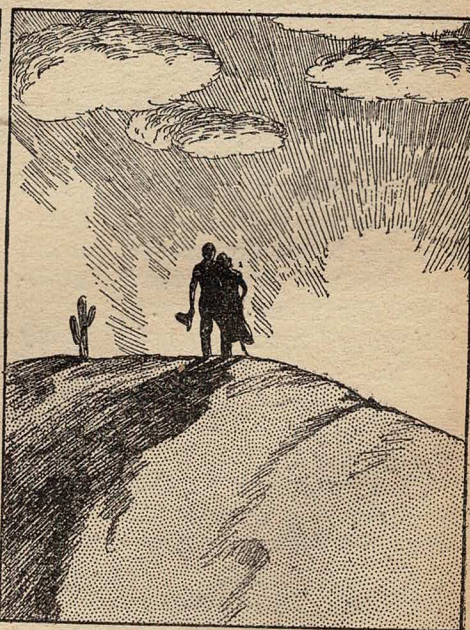
For Lynn has escaped with his life—the only survivor of the trap. He staggers to the nearest cabin—Ellen's. Gasping, he tells Ellen what has happened. They see Daggs approaching.



Daggs enters, and a fierce battle ensues. Though wounded, Lynn is more than equal to the combat. Daggs meets his Waterloo—and the last man of the Colby crowd is vanquished.



"I love you," Lynn exclaims. "Ever since that first day when you were—" Ellen's eyes shine brightly as she listens to his proposal. The lovers agree that there is no longer any reason for enmity between them.



Together they look forward to joyous years—these two, who have found a love that transcends all hatred. Ellen and Lynn—Hayden, standing at the threshold of a glorious future.

Another Exciting Pictorial Novelization