

# THE WAYFARING STRANGERS

Big Sam

## Unit Study Guide

Study guide written by: Andrew Riffenburgh  
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## **Introduction**

We hope you enjoyed listening to Big Sam and your introduction to the characters of the Wayfaring Strangers. The purpose of this study guide is to provide a simple unit study that could run over the course one half to a full week. Inside are many fun activities we hope you will enjoy.

## **Comprehension**

**Question:** How did Duane signal to Buddy that they were in trouble?

**Answer:** By moving the chimney flue to create a smoke signal.

**Question:** Do you know what a “posse” is?

**Answer:** It’s actually a shortened version of the Latin term *posse comitatus*. This term reportedly dates as far back as the year 1645. It literally means “power or authority of the county.” It is still in force today and means that a county official can call for your help in tracking down a fugitive. If you refuse, you can be jailed. In the Old West, law enforcement usually consisted of a few men. When a dangerous criminal was on the loose, sheriff’s would call upon the local armed citizens to join in the manhunt.

This doesn’t happen very much nowadays, because most towns have a dedicated police force or county sheriff’s department.

**Question:** What did Sam’s mother do when he was a “kid”?

**Answer:** Read from the Book of Psalms in the Bible, or as Sam put it “Read Psalms to us kids.”

**Question:** What was Duane’s previous occupation?

**Answer:** He was a marshal.

**Question:** Why did Duane “retire”?

**Answer:** So he could spend more time with his family.

**Question:** What did Labeouf use for light when he walked out to the barn?

**Answer:** A candle.

**Question:** What did Buddy do to that candle?

**Answer:** He snuffed it out with his whip. (As an interesting side note, Buddy Davis really is very skilled with a bullwhip as seen in his Amazing Adventures videos from Answers in Genesis.)

**Question:** Do you know what the difference is between a sheriff and a marshal?

**Answer:**

Marshal

On the frontier, the term “Marshal” generally meant the U.S. Marshal, a very powerful official. U.S. Marshals were not elected, but appointed by the President of the United States, and with the advice of the United States Senate.

These Marshals could appoint deputies to work under them and it was often these deputies who faced the most danger in tracking down fugitives. Technically, the U.S. Marshal could go only after federal criminals, but many deputies also held dual commissions on a local level. They often lent a hand to local officials.

Sheriff

The word “Sheriff” comes from the old English term “Shire Reeve.” In old England there were numerous shires, such as Nottinghamshire (you’ll remember this if you’ve ever heard the story of Robin Hood). Over each shire was a “Reeve”; this meant an official who acted on behalf of the king in keeping the peace.

In the Old West, this term carried basically the same meaning of a county official who maintained law and order. The sheriff would have deputies, who were authorized to work on his behalf. He would be elected by the town, or towns, under his jurisdiction (jurisdiction means the geographic area the sheriff has authority over.)

Town Marshal

In the Old West, there were also officials known as town or city marshals. Their jurisdiction was over only specific towns. These men sometimes also carried out mundane duties such as fire inspector or dogcatcher. They often served legal papers. But because of their placement in towns, they also had firsthand encounters with dangerous outlaws. Famed gunfighter Wild Bill Hickok was a town marshal.

These titles hold roughly the same meaning today in most places across the United States. As an interesting research project you might look up the name of the County Sheriff or U.S. Marshal in your area.

## **Activities:**

### **Be an artist**

Draw a picture of several western props you heard about in the show, such as a saddle, a cowboy hat, a ranch or a horse. If you're not familiar with what they look like, do a little research.

One idea is to draw different kinds of saddles. Do a little research through your encyclopedia or the internet. For example: The U.S. Cavalry used McClellan saddles (all the way into the twentieth century). California saddles were very ornate. English saddles were used by some immigrants in the West, and the Texas saddle is probably the most iconic.

### **“There’s gold in them thar hills”**

Make your own gold, with a can of gold spray paint and a handful of rocks.

### **A place to put your gold**

In the Old West, most gold was transported in cloth bags.

- Cut out two cloth rectangles approx. 12 inches long by 10 inches wide.
- If you don't have experience in sewing, have an adult help you stitch up three of the sides, or glue them with fabric glue.
- Using a durable black paint, paint the letters of the bank name on the side. (i.e. First National Bank, Tombstone Bank, etc.).
- If you have a set of stencils, this will make the lettering job even easier.
- Sew a hem around the top edge of the bag and thread a string or shoelace through it. Then pull the two ends of drawstring together to tighten up the top of the bag.

### **Make a Wanted Poster**

Pretend you are a sheriff on the hunt for an outlaw. Since this is the Old West, there is no internet or video. You need to circulate a wanted poster so people know what the outlaw looks like.

- Find a picture of a real-life outlaw (like Billy the Kid, John Wesley Hardin or Jesse James) or make up your own person.
- You have to give the information people need to identify him. Such as: hair, eye color, scars, marks, etc.

(Check our website for a template to get you started.)

## **A Cabin in the Woods**

The Circle R Ranch is in a piney forest. Make your own Log cabin!

- Take several cardboard tubes, or make rolls from brown construction paper
- Glue the tubes together on top of each other.
- Take a large piece of cardboard and fold it in half to make a roof.
- To be authentic put on a Z Brace door (it looks like this).



## **It's a blast!**

For a fun Western prop, make your own dynamite (invented in 1867)!

- Take a dowel, or cardboard tube, and cut it into three equal pieces of about 7 inches long.
- Now stack them in a pyramid shape by putting two on the bottom and one on top.
- After you've done this, wrap them with dark tape or twine to hold the stack together. Wrap the sticks a couple of inches in from each end.
- Now, take a piece of string and attach it to one end for a fuse.

On your next Western adventure you'll need to put out the fuse before it's too late!

## **Bible Lesson**

Big Sam is a story of redemption and salvation. But as Duane pointed out, you need to be a "doer of the Word" and not just a "hearer." Sam was raised hearing about the Bible, when his mother "read psalms." But it was never personal for him. He lived a life of evil.

God gives people "grace." That means when we disobey Him, He forgives us. That's what the song Amazing Grace is talking about (you hear the Riffenburghs and the choir singing it in the show). But this grace doesn't mean we can continue to willfully disobey God.

Here's a good picture lesson to think about.

## **The Stop Sign**

In a lot of ways, people prove everyday that they fear the traffic code more than God.

If you live in the United States, you know what a stop sign is. It's a big red octagon road sign that means traffic is supposed to stop at an intersection of streets. This sign is there for people's safety, so that traffic can run according to rules. In the same way, God's Word is like a stop sign, telling us what is safe and right for us to do.

Now just imagine a highway patrol car was parked right next to that sign. You'd know the officer was watching you, so you'd be extra careful to obey the sign. In the same way God is watching us, to see if we are obeying His law. We also know that He's watching us for our own good.

Now just suppose you didn't stop at that sign and just drove your car on through. The police officer would have to stop you.

Maybe you were looking at your car radio and didn't see the sign. You'd still be guilty of the crime, but since it wasn't intentional, the officer might let you go without a ticket. But he'd give you a warning to be more careful and not let it happen again.

But suppose the officer pulled you over and you said:

"Yes, I ran the stop sign on purpose," you said.

"Why did you do that? You know it's wrong." The officer replied.

"Because I *wanted* to."

The officer would give a hard look and say "But you've broken the law. You put yourself and everyone around you in danger."

"Yes I did, but you're a policeman and you're supposed to be nice. Give me a little grace."

You know what would happen? You'd get a ticket and you'd have to pay the penalty for breaking the law.

Since we can't see God, it's easy to think He's not watching us. If we do anything wrong, He'll forgive us for anything we do. God will forgive us, but that doesn't change the fact that we broke God's laws. We must repent of our sins. Repent means to turn away from.

### From the Bible

King David was called a man after God's own heart, but once he did something very bad. David wanted another man's wife, and her name was Bathsheba. David had her husband killed and then took Bathsheba to be his own wife.

Later, Bathsheba gave birth to a baby, but the baby died as a punishment for David's sin. God forgave David for all his sins, but that didn't change the damage David had done. Eventually one of David's sons would go on to sin the same way David did. This son was killed by his brother, Absalom, and David's kingdom was wracked by war.

When it was all over, David's son Absalom was dead, and the strife in the family would continue long after David died. David's sin caused pain for himself and everyone around him.

"The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."  
Proverbs 15:3

“For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad.”

Luke 8:17

### Closing Thoughts

A good gauge of how much we love God is how much we obey Him. We don't hurt the people we love. Every time we sin, it grieves God.

Will we ever obey perfectly? No, the Bible says:

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

I John 1:8

But as Christians we should not be servants of sin and abusers of God's grace:

“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

<sup>2</sup> God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

<sup>3</sup> Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

<sup>4</sup> Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

<sup>6</sup> Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.”

Romans 6:1-6

The Lord Jesus Christ was the only person who was ever sinless. But obedience is required of Christians. We can obey God only with His help.

“Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.”

James 2:18

We can't earn our salvation (we never could), but we can make a decision to obey.

In the end of our story, Sam realized that he was a sinner and needed to repent (turn from) his sins. When he accepted God's free gift of salvation, he could become a changed man.

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”  
James 1:22

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”  
Romans 12:2

### Tests

As Duane points out to Sam, the book of 1 John contains tests to see if you are saved or unsaved:

“And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

1 John 2:3-4

Duane points out that this is just one of the many tests that John uses as evidence of how we can know that we are in Christ.

The late Dr. Henry Morris puts it well in his notes in the *New Defender's Study Bible*:

(1 John 2:3) This is the first of at least thirty-seven occurrences of “know” (Greek *ginosko* or *eido*) in I John. One of the prominent themes in this epistle is the assurance we have in Christ. This first test of how we know our salvation is real is that we desire to keep His commandments just because they are His commandments, and we desire to please Him.

Keeping God's commandments won't save you because no one can keep them perfectly. The only one who has ever kept them perfectly is Jesus Himself. He could do it because He was more than just a man. Jesus could because He *IS* the Christ.

Another test is found in 1 John 2:22:

“Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.”

Sin is serious and anyone who is sinning is doing the work of the devil. Jesus had no sin.



”<sup>5</sup> And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

<sup>6</sup> Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

<sup>7</sup> Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

<sup>8</sup> He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

<sup>9</sup> Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.”

1 John 3:5-9

Take the time to read 1 John and see how many more tests you can find. Then see if you pass the tests.

Here are just a few to get you started:

2:3 “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.”

2:5 “But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.”

2:29 “If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.”

3:14 “We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.”

4:2 “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:”

## **History**

### **Westward Expansion**

America moved westward in three stages; during the late 1700s, pioneers, like Daniel Boone, led settlers out of the thirteen colonies and into the untamed regions of Kentucky.

The next stage was the movement to the rich plains of Kansas and Missouri.

Finally, settlers made their way to the western coast and to the states of California and Oregon.

After the Civil War, the Transcontinental Railroad linked the far reaches of the West to the developed Eastern seaboard along the Atlantic.

With the railroads came an entire industry of communication and shipping and the West changed with it. However, as is often the case with new technology, there came new kinds of crime.

### Western Outlaws

Jesse James, Butch Cassidy, and William L. "Wild Bill" Carlisle were probably the most famous of train robbers. They were all caught, killed or died in obscurity. Like Sam says, the life of all criminals was, and is, a lonely and scary existence.

Frank James, who accompanied his brother Jesse on many of their crimes, said:

"I was tired of an outlaw's life. I have been hunted for twenty-one years. I have literally lived in the saddle. I have never known a day of perfect peace. It was one long, anxious, inexorable, eternal vigil. When I slept it was literally in the midst of an arsenal. If I heard dogs bark more fiercely than usual, or the feet of horses in a greater volume of sound than usual, I stood to arms. Have you any idea of what a man must endure who leads such a life? No, you cannot. No one can unless he lives it for himself."

Newspaper quote from October 5, 1882

If a crook was going to rob a train, they would wait for it to slow or stop. They rarely jumped from a horse to a moving train, but in Sam's case he jumped aboard when the train was climbing a steep grade and couldn't go as fast.

The people who turned to crime in the West thought they would make a fast fortune, but most Western outlaws only ever scraped by. Many, reflecting on their wasted years, realized they'd have actually made a better living at a steady job, than they ever did robbing.

So if anyone ever tempts you to steal, know that number one you have broken God's laws. Second, it will always come back on you, and third, that you would have done better working for whatever it is in the first place.

## Violence

Many people have the mistaken idea that putting more restrictions on the ownership of firearms prevents gun violence. It has also been cited that America has a violent past that needs to be curbed. Many are concerned that we could return to the days of the “Wild West”.

However, facts show that the Old West was not quite as wild as some people would have us believe. In fact, the amount of people killed by guns in the Old West was less than in many major cities today.

Dr. Roger McGrath, Ph.D., is a historian who has studied much in this area. He has taught at the University of California Los Angeles and California State University, Northridge and is a recipient of the California Military History medal. He has also come away with a more realistic view of the Old West. For example, he studied one of the most violent towns the west ever knew, Bodie, California.

The gold rush town’s evil reputation was summed up by a gloomy 10 year old girl who wrote “Goodbye God, I am going to Bodie.” The Reverend F.M. Warrington wrote that Bodie was “a sea of sin lashed by the tempests of lust and passion.” Yet, even in this place, crime was very different from the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In many headlines today, we hear about crimes against innocent bystanders or those who are unable to defend themselves. However, in the Old West, violent crimes against the elderly, children and woman were very low, if not completely unusual. Most of the violent crimes that did occur were in saloon brawls or so called “honor” fights, much like a European duel.

McGrath has said,

"Those who got hurt were willing participants and many of them asked for what they got."

McGrath contends that an armed citizenry was actually a deterrent to crime. He has said that attempts to further legislate guns are misguided.

"We already have 20,000 gun laws on the books in the United States. It doesn't make sense...They're all ineffectual. They affect the law-abiding citizen and not the criminals, who don't obey them in the first place. It's like outlawing crowbars as a way to fight burglary."

"A person usually won't attack another person if he thinks it might bring an equally violent and effective response."

It has been observed that between 1952-1992 the population of Los Angeles tripled from around 5 million to 14.5 million. However, the crime rate during that same period rose an

astonishing 1,000 percent. In 1993, Chicago's robbery rate was "15 times higher" than Bodie.

In his review of McGrath's book *Gunfighters, Highwaymen & Vigilantes*, William Broyles Jr. wrote:

"The contrast with modern urban America is even more striking when viewed in statistical terms. Bodie's robbery rate, half of which represents stagecoach robberies, converts to 84 per 100,000; New York's in 1980 was 1,140 and Miami's 995. Bodie's burglary rate was 128; Miami's was 3,282 and New York's 2,661."

According to the book *The Cattle Towns*, by Robert Dykstra, in the towns of Dodge City, Abilene, Ellsworth, Caldwell and Wichita there were 45 homicides between 1870 and 1885. Even when the populations of these towns are factored together, the amount of homicides is surprisingly low.

Robert Utley, retired historian for the National Park Service has said:

"Melees in the West erupted and died down... There was never this constant threat of violence we have now."

McGrath concludes that:

"If the trans-Sierra frontier was at all representative of frontiers in general, then there seems to be little justification for blaming contemporary American violence and lawlessness on a frontier heritage."

*Gunfighters, Highwayman & Vigilantes*, pg. 259

## **Math**

**Question:** The outlaws are confused about the time. Why?

**Answer:** Because Sagebrush's watch was running an hour slow.

**Question:** How much money did the outlaws steal from the bank?

**Answer:** \$30,000 in gold and bank notes.

**Question:** If the outlaws divided the \$30,000 equally between themselves, how much would each of them get?

**Answer:** There are 3 outlaws, so each of them would get \$10,000 ( $30,000 \div 3 = 10,000$ ).

**Question:** Now since Sam is the leader of the gang, what if he took 50% of the loot? How much would Sage and Labeouf have if they split the remainder equally?

**Answer:** First we have to figure out what 50% of \$30,000 is ( $30,000 \div 2 = 15,000$ ). So if Sam gets \$15,000 then the outlaws have to split the other \$15,000. So to split up 15,000 we would write the problem like this: ( $15,000 \div 2 = 7,500$ ).

**Of course, the outlaws should never have robbed the bank in the first place!**

**Question:** Buddy says that after Sam got away, the posse hunted him for a solid week, but “he was nowhere to be found.” If Sam escaped on Saturday morning at 8 a.m. and the posse hunted him until next Saturday at 8 a.m., how many hours would that be?

**Answer:** The first thing to solve is the hardest. How many hours were there in the first Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.? ( $24 - 8 = 16$  hours).

Now the next Saturday they hunted only until 8 a.m. That would be 8 hours.

Then we know that they hunted from Monday through Friday. Twenty-four hours are in a day, so that would be: ( $5 \text{ days} \times 24 \text{ hours} = 120$ ).

$$120 + 16 + 8 = 144$$

So between the time Sam had escaped and the posse had to call off the search, 144 hours elapsed. That’s a long time in the saddle!

### **Did you know?**

During the 1870s, time was set according to the railroads, but this was very difficult, because there were **70** kinds of railroad time.

If you left a town on a train traveling west or east, you would lose or gain a minute every 9 miles. It could be very confusing.

In 1883, this changed and the United States of America now has the time zones it has today. If you live in California, you know that a friend you’re talking to on the telephone in New York is three hours later than your time.

No wonder the outlaws stopped the wrong train!

### **Did you know?**

Duane says that they have to go back in the storm and find the outlaws, because the money “they stole doesn’t belong to them. When they rob the bank it hurts everybody.” That’s true, but there’s more to this statement than meets the eye.

In the Old West, a bank didn’t have many protections for account holders. If the money was stolen it would be gone for good.

Today, there is an organization called the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or FDIC. If you go to a bank you will see a sign posted for this. That means that if you keep up to \$250,000 in a bank account, the money is insured. So if the bank is robbed or closes down, your money will be protected. However, this is still a promise and not a 100% guarantee. If there was a massive bank failure in our country, there is no possible way to insure everybody's money.

Remember, "for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven." Proverbs 23:5

## Science

### Mumps

**Question:** Why did the outlaws eat a pickle to see if they had the mumps?

**Answer:** Because, when you have mumps, eating a pickle hurts your salivary glands (Or in Grandma's words "salervation").

Mumps is a highly contagious virus, usually accompanied with a high fever, muscle pain and headaches. After these symptoms occur, they are usually followed by a swelling in the Parotid (Pa- Row-Tid) Gland, located in the throat. The Parotid Gland is the largest of your saliva glands. When you eat, your saliva helps to break down your food for swallowing.

A pickle used to be a common test for parents to see if their children had the mumps. Because of the acids and vinegar often used in pickle making, these would inflame the tender and swollen glands in the throat. However, this is not a proof-positive test, and if you think you have mumps you should consult a physician.

Mumps used to be very common, but, in recent years, there has been a 90% drop where people have been vaccinated against the disease.

### Thunder

There is a lot of thunder in Big Sam. You can hear it rumbling throughout the story. But what is thunder exactly?

When lightning splits the air, thunder is created. In millionths of a second, the air around the lightning is heated to 50,000°F (Just to give you an idea of how hot this is, this is five times the temperature of the surface of the sun!). Since the temperature rises so quickly, the air expands rapidly. That is the cause of thunder.

You can calculate how far a thunderstorm is from you by figuring the number of seconds between the flash of lighting and the rumble of thunder. Divide those seconds by five.

## **Map Reading**

The story of Big Sam is roughly based on real places in the San Bernardino Mountains. Gold mining flourished here during the 1800s, but over the years, almost all towns and structures have vanished.

Below is a map of some of the places mentioned in our story. See if you can sharpen your map-reading skills by answering the questions below.

Note: We have placed a compass in the corner of the map for ease of use, but it does not point to true north. The map dates from the early 1900s.

**Question:** Find Polique Canyon Creek, where the bridge washed away.

**Question:** What is the elevation of the mountain directly northwest of Union Flat?

**Answer:** 8335 feet

**Question:** Furnace Canyon connects with a canyon to the east. What is its name?

**Answer:** Wild Rose Canyon.

**Question:** Find Holcomb Valley.

(Holcomb Valley was the site of an Old West mining town by the name of Belleville. This would be where Mr. Walton's store is located.)

**Question:** What creek runs next to Horsethief Flat?

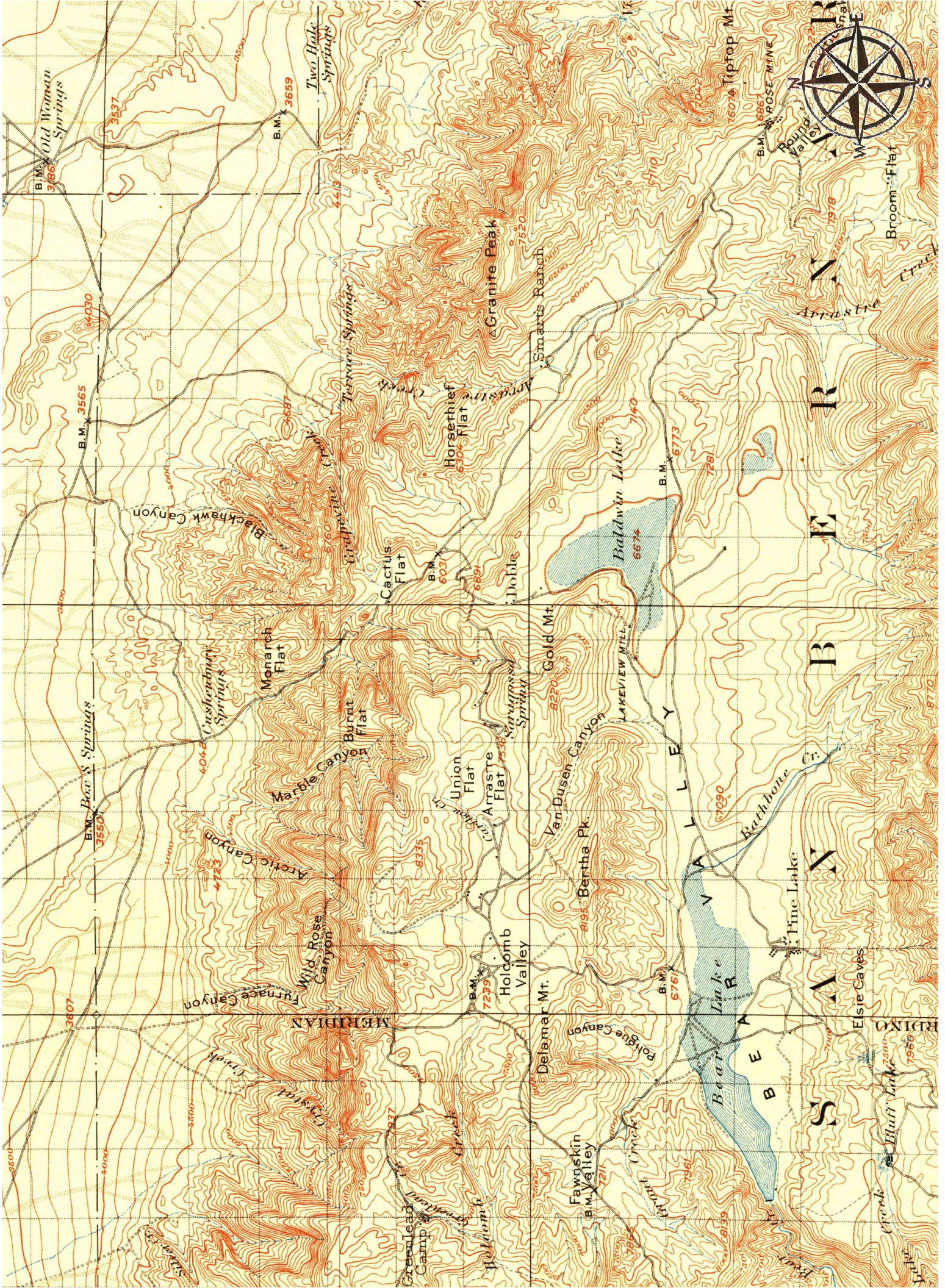
**Answer:** Arrastre Creek.

**Question:** Can you find the Rose Mine?

**Answer:** (**Hint:** If not, check the southeast corner of the map.) It is located right above the compass rose.

**Question:** What mountain is just north of Rose Mine?

**Answer:** Tiptop Mountain.





## **Bibliography**

Information on marshals and sheriffs: *The Gunfighters*, from the editors of Time-Life Books, Text by Paul Trachtman, pgs. 103, 106.

Information on railroad time: *The Look of the Old West*, by William Foster-Harris, pg. 183.

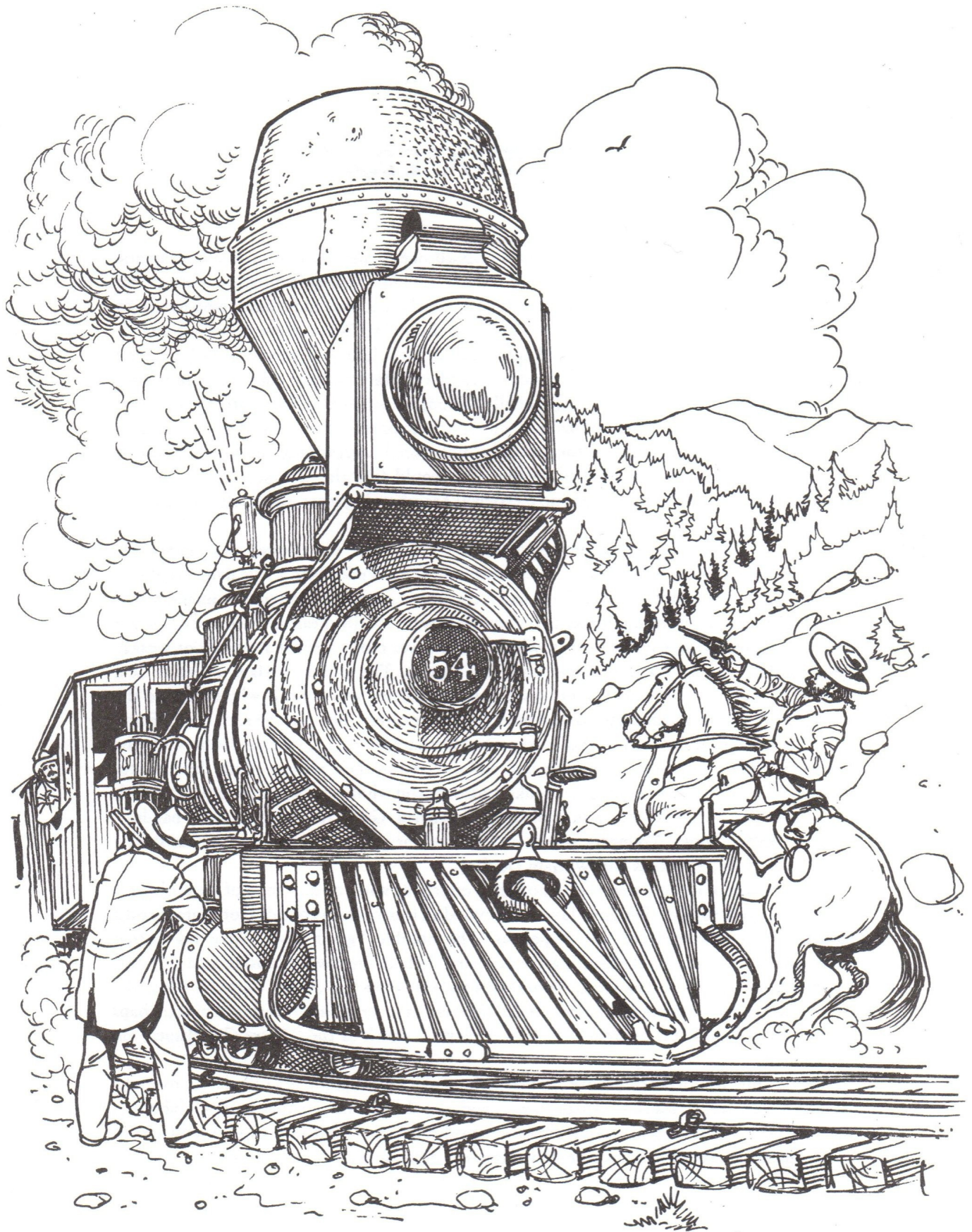
Thunder information: *The Weather Book*, by Michael Oard, pg. 37.

The information on safecracking, heard in the audio drama, was gathered from the writings of Allan Pinkerton, noted detective of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Information on violence in the Old West: *Not-So-Wild-Frontier*, (The New York Times, September 9, 1984) by William Broyles Jr.; *A Lesson to Be Learned in the Old West Code: Violence: There were shootouts but far fewer cowardly or random killings, scholar Roger McGrath explains*, (Los Angeles Times, October 11, 1993) by John M. Glionna; *The Wild West Was A Relative Walk On The Mild Side* (Chicago Tribune, March 30, 1995) by Eric Zorn; *Gunfighters, Highwaymen & Vigilantes*, by Roger D. McGrath, 1984.

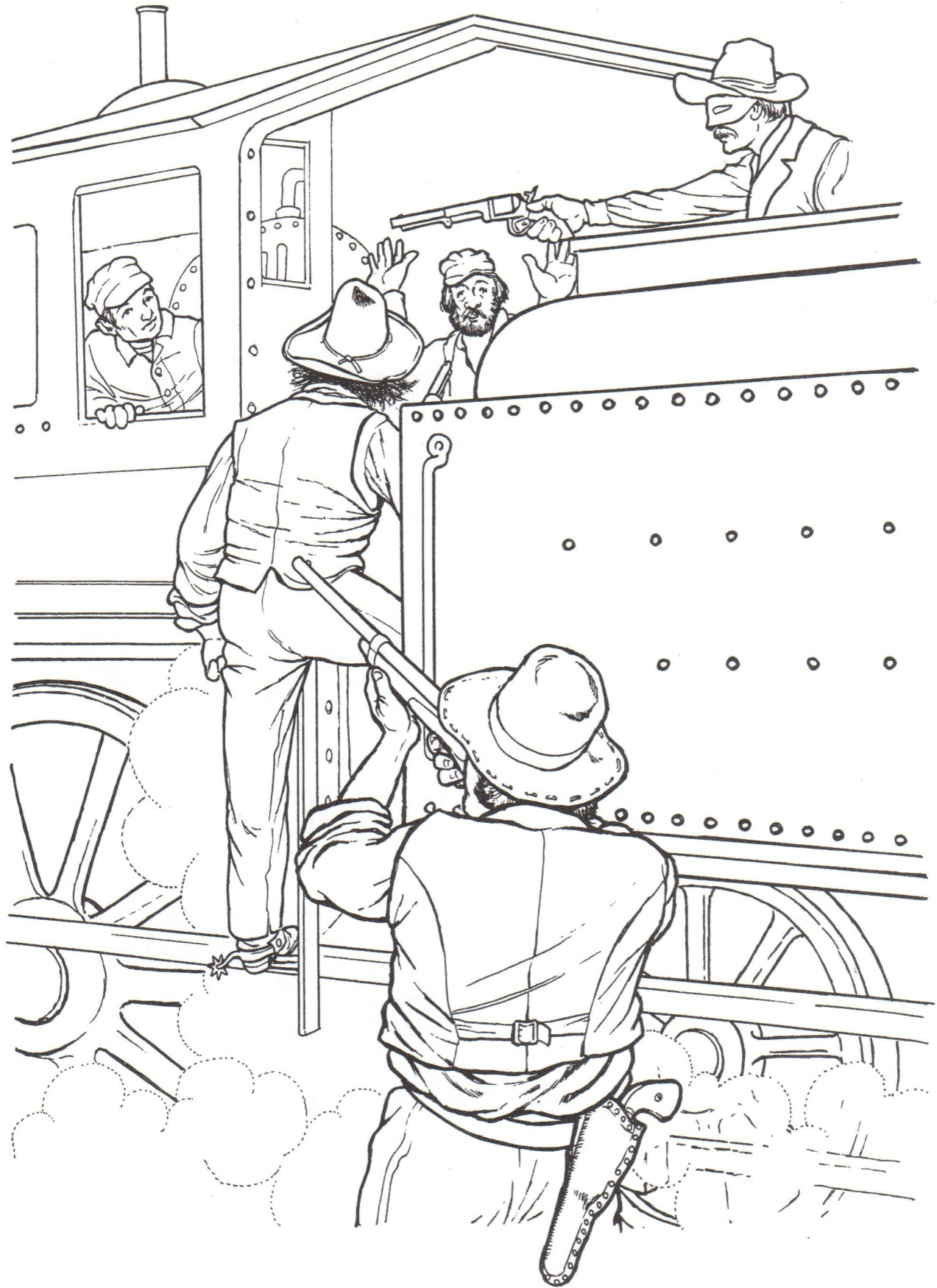
## **Want to enjoy more of the Old West?**

- A great book series is the Little House on the Prairie books, written by Laura Ingalls Wilder. Laura actually lived through the events of the West and wrote about them in her books. (There is an NBC television series by the same name, but practically all the stories were created just for the show and were not about the real Laura Ingalls.)
- If you enjoy Western movies, you will like Roy Rogers's TV show and films. Also, The Lone Ranger starring Clayton Moore and Jay Silverheels is another great program.
- Roy Rogers and the Lone Ranger were also heard on radio during the 1930s-1950s. You can easily find some of these audio episodes on the internet.



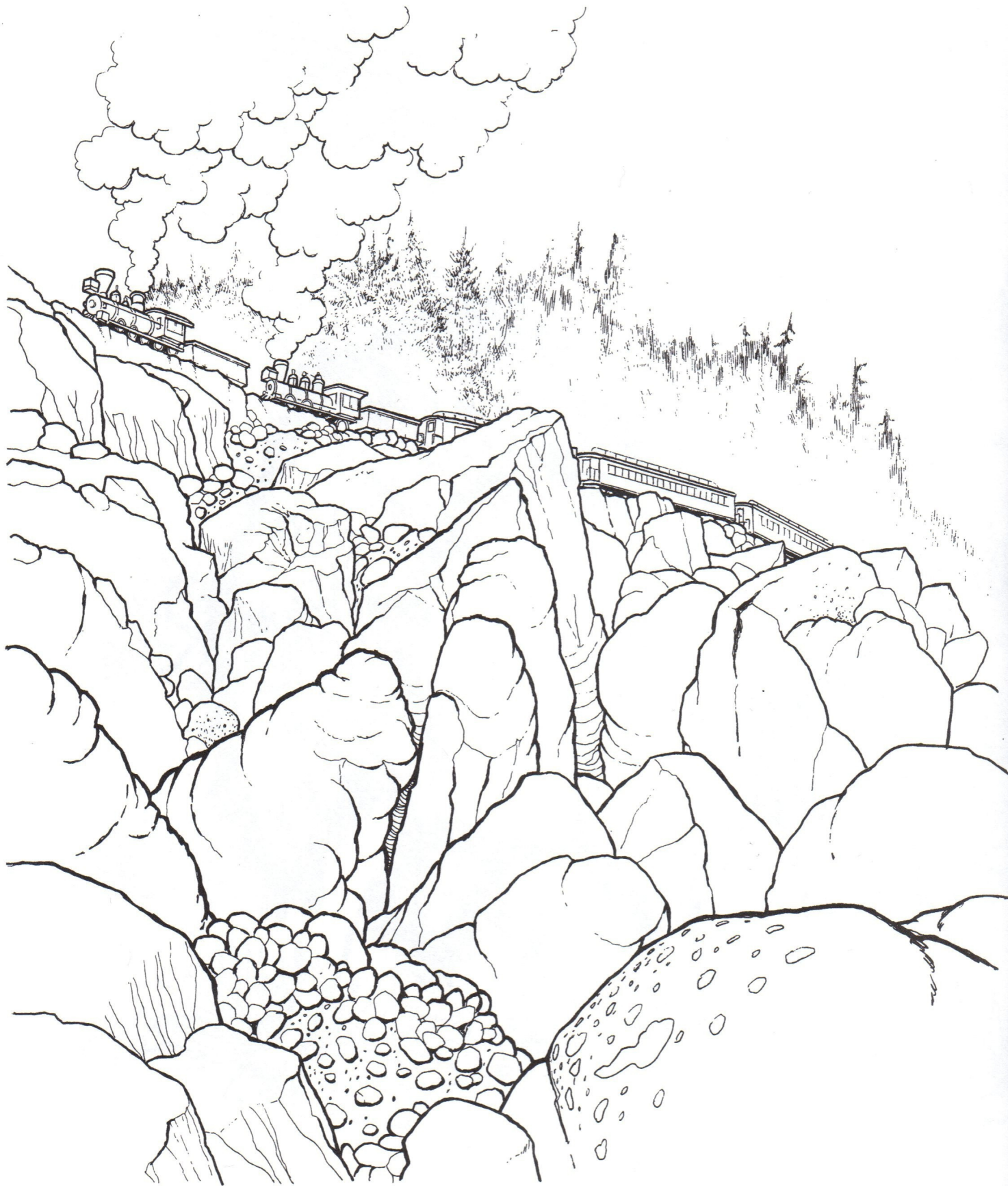
The Reno Brothers—John, Simeon, Bill and Frank—were actually Midwestern outlaws. They robbed and murdered throughout southern Indiana and pillaged towns in Iowa and Missouri for more than two years. They won their place in America's criminal history when they robbed the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad on October 6, 1866. It was the first train robbery in America. Frank,

Simeon and Bill Reno as well as an accomplice named Charles Anderson were all lynched in the jail at New Albany, Indiana, on December 11, 1868. John served time in the Missouri State Prison for holding up the city treasurer of Gallatin, Missouri in the spring of 1867.



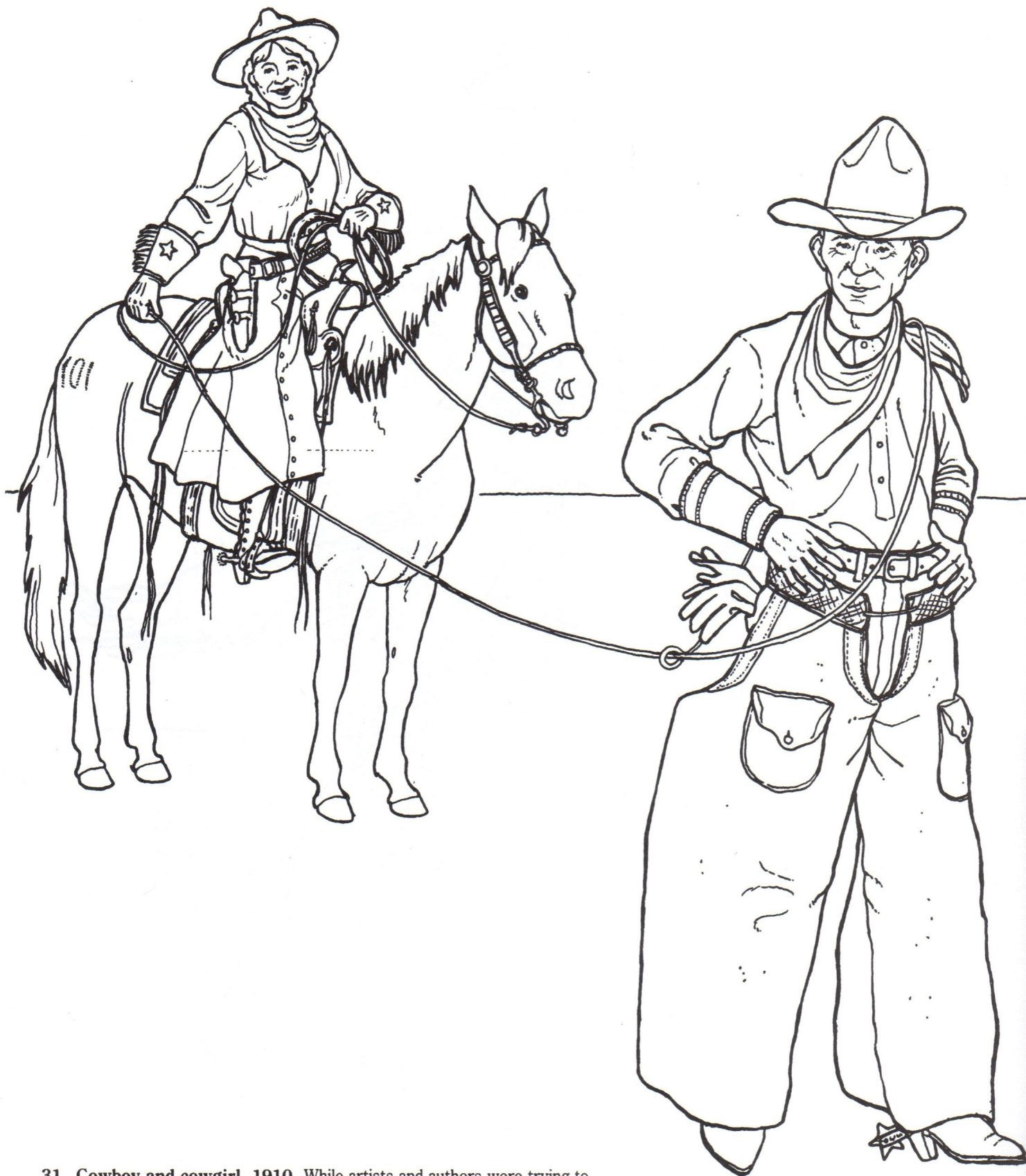
**Train robbers in action.** Train robbers like Jesse James and his gang saw the possibilities of large-scale theft aboard this new form of transportation. A train could carry far more

passengers and freight than could the old-time stagecoach and the chance of bigger profits must have been attractive.



**Railroading in the mountains.** The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad built this narrow-gauge rail line through the canyon of Rio de las Animas in Colorado at a cost of

\$140,000 a mile to serve an area that had before been accessible only by mule train.



**31. Cowboy and cowgirl, 1910.** While artists and authors were trying to capture and preserve the Old West for Eastern audiences, the real West continued to evolve. Free range had been a thing of the past for a generation. Many of the best cowboys had joined Wild West shows, traveled the rodeo circuit or performed before motion-picture cameras. The notion of the “cowgirl” was developed by these show-business institutions out of Western women who knew how to rope and ride.