

She must know as well as I do, that Joe Leroy and Cully Conrad pulled this thing off —"

A gun barked from somewhere in the rear. The woman flung up her hands and made a gurgling noise. Her mouth rapidly filled with a crimson fluid which she spat out upon the floor.

"One of 'em's got me," she gasped, and fell forward out of the box.

Duke withdrew his hand from his smoking pocket, dropped from the window and started to run. His mind was fixed upon a certain loose board in the floor of his cabin. But from the court room there suddenly came a roar which sounded like the voices of many hungry beasts, and the air about him was filled with bits of whistling lead. . . .