

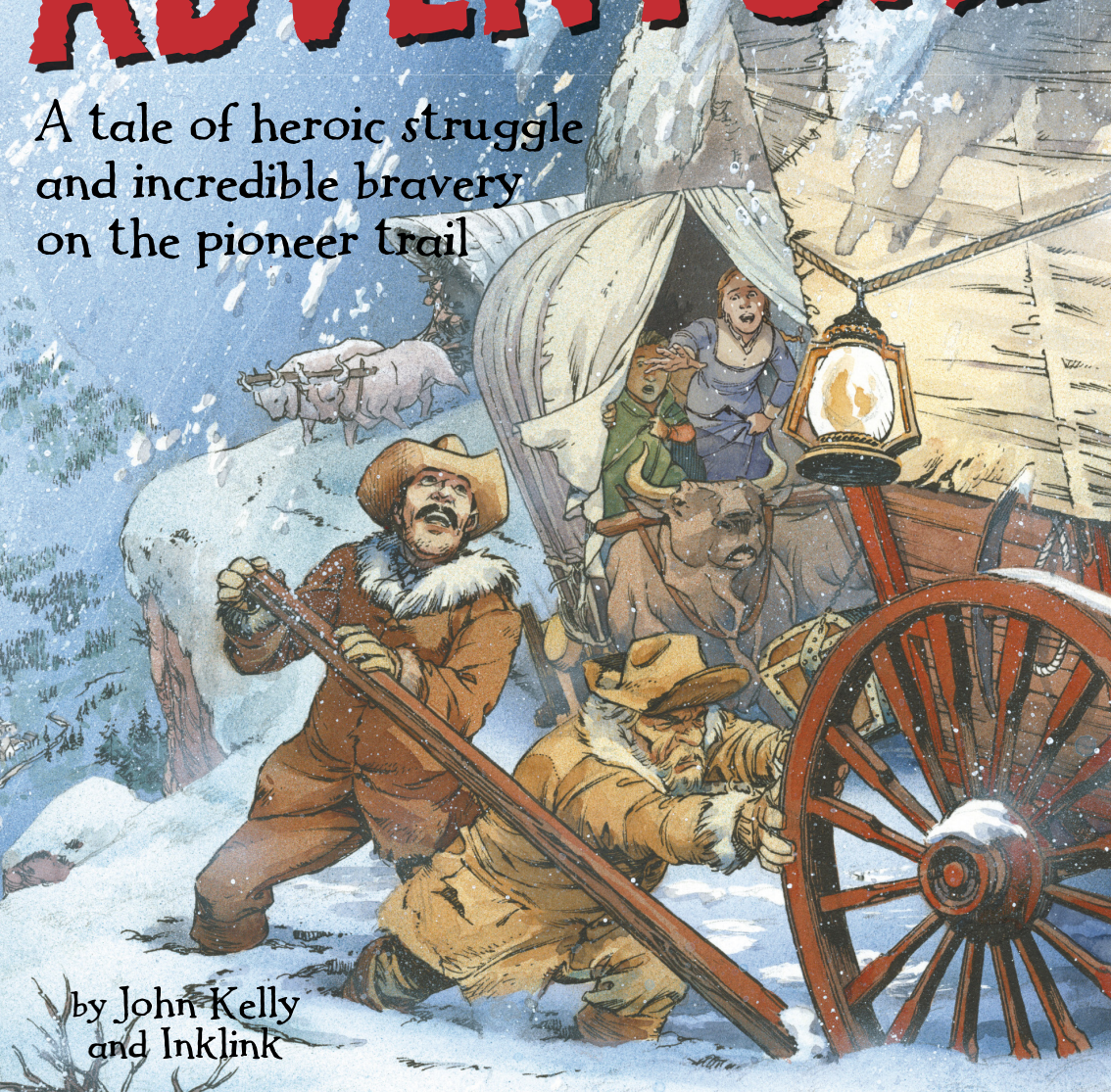


GRAPHIC READERS

PROFICIENT
4
READERS

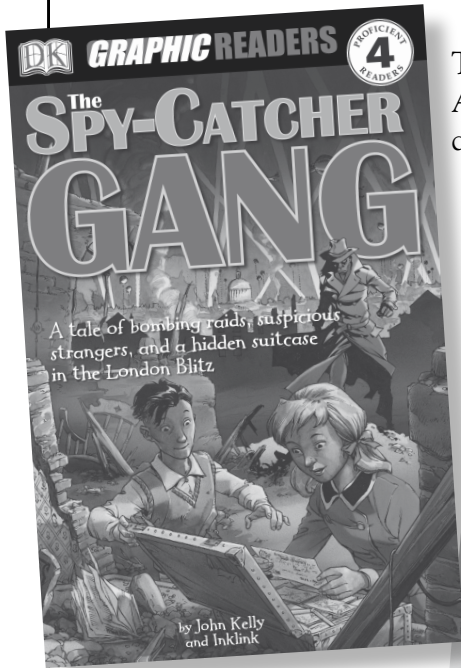
WAGON TRAIN ADVENTURE

A tale of heroic struggle
and incredible bravery
on the pioneer trail



by John Kelly
and Inklank

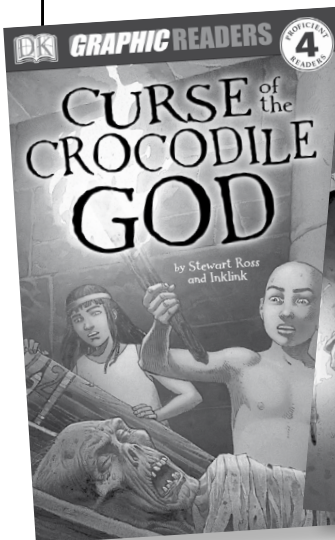
Don't miss...



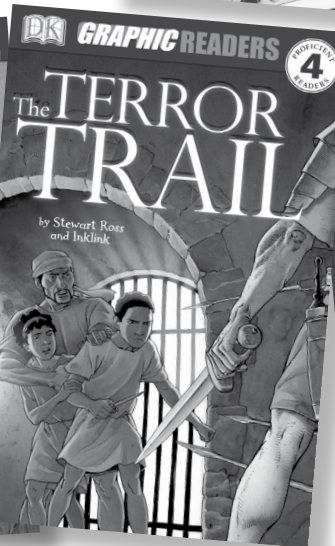
THE SPY-CATCHER GANG
A mysterious tale of bombs, spies, and a hidden suitcase in the London Blitz.



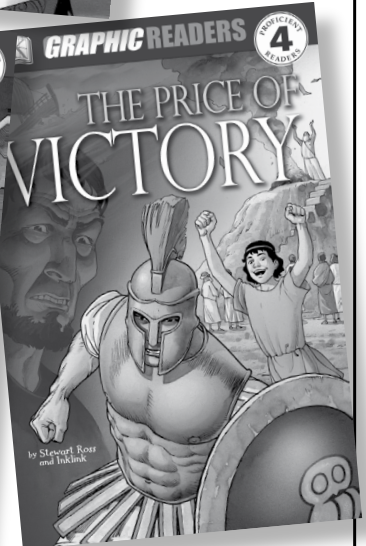
INSTRUMENTS OF DEATH
A gripping story of intrigue and death at the court of the first emperor of China.



CURSE OF THE CROCODILE GOD
A terrifying tale of tomb robbers in Ancient Egypt.



THE TERROR TRAIL
A breathless tale of faith and justice in Rome's arena of death, the Colosseum.



THE PRICE OF VICTORY
An exciting story of rivalry and sabotage at the Olympic Games in Ancient Greece.

A Note to Parents and Teachers

DK READERS is a compelling program for beginning readers, designed in conjunction with leading literacy experts, including Dr. Linda Gambrell, Professor of Education at Clemson University. Dr. Gambrell has served as president of the National Reading Conference and the College Reading Association, and has recently been elected to serve as president of the International Reading Association.

Beautiful illustrations and superb full-color photographs combine with engaging, easy-to-read stories to offer a fresh approach to each subject in the series.

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- Level 1:** Beginning to read
- Level 2:** Beginning to read alone
- Level 3:** Reading alone
- Level 4:** Proficient readers

The “normal” age at which a child begins to read can be anywhere from three to eight years old. Adult participation through the lower levels is very helpful in providing encouragement, discussing storylines, and sounding out unfamiliar words.

No matter which level you select, you can be sure that you are helping your child learn to read, then read to learn!





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www.dk.com

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READERS



WAGON TRAIN ADVENTURE

Written by John Kelly
Illustrated by Inklinc



WAGON TRAIN ADVENTURE

Sarah's story takes place on the California Trail in 1849. During the 1800s, thousands of people from the eastern United States of America traveled west to California and Oregon, where land was cheap and the climate healthy. Many families sold everything they owned to pay for the trip west because they believed life would be better there. The journey took up to six months and was so hard that some people did not survive it. Turn to page 44 to see a map and a timeline, then let the story begin....

"My name is Sarah Hanson and I am 12 years old.

My family comes from a quiet town in Ohio. We've sold our farm and bought a wagon so we can join the trail to California. Pa says we can afford a bigger farm there. Ma, Pa, and me are traveling with Pa's best friend, Max Johnson. Cousin Joshua and Uncle Charles are also coming along. I'm a bit scared, but I'm also excited about seeing new places and having adventures."





MAY 1849,
INDEPENDENCE,
MISSOURI.

THE TOWN WAS FULL OF
PEOPLE. MOST OF US WERE
HEADING WEST WITH THE
WAGON TRAINS.

I COULDN'T BELIEVE
MY EYES WHEN I SAW...



...A HUGE INDIAN
STANDING OUTSIDE
A STORE.



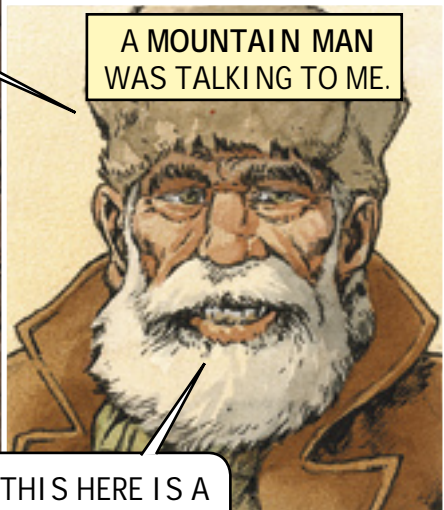
EXCUSE ME, MI SS?



THAT AIN'T NO REAL INDIAN!



A MOUNTAIN MAN WAS TALKING TO ME.




THIS HERE IS A REAL INDIAN .

MY VERY GOOD FRIEND,
TUM-SE-NE-HO.



VERY PLEASD TO MEET YOU, SIR.

PA'S CALLING,
I'VE GOT TO GO.



YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL AROUND MOUNTAIN MEN, SARAH.

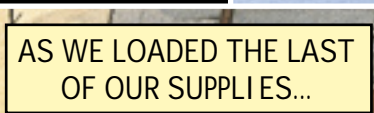
THEY EAT GRIZZLY BEARS FOR BREAKFAST...



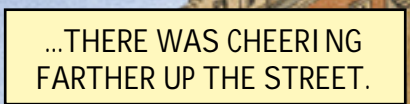
...AND LITTLE GIRLS FOR DINNER!



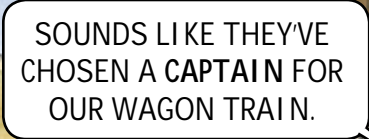
TAKE NO NOTICE, SARAH!



AS WE LOADED THE LAST OF OUR SUPPLIES...



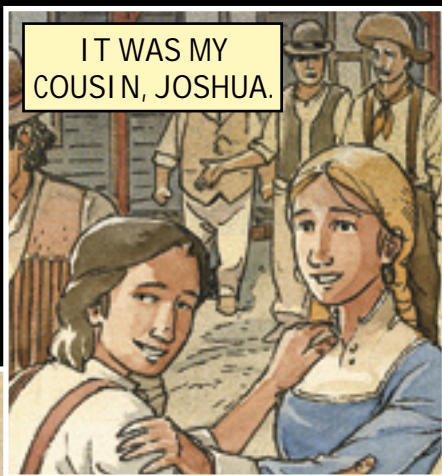
...THERE WAS CHEERING FARTHER UP THE STREET.



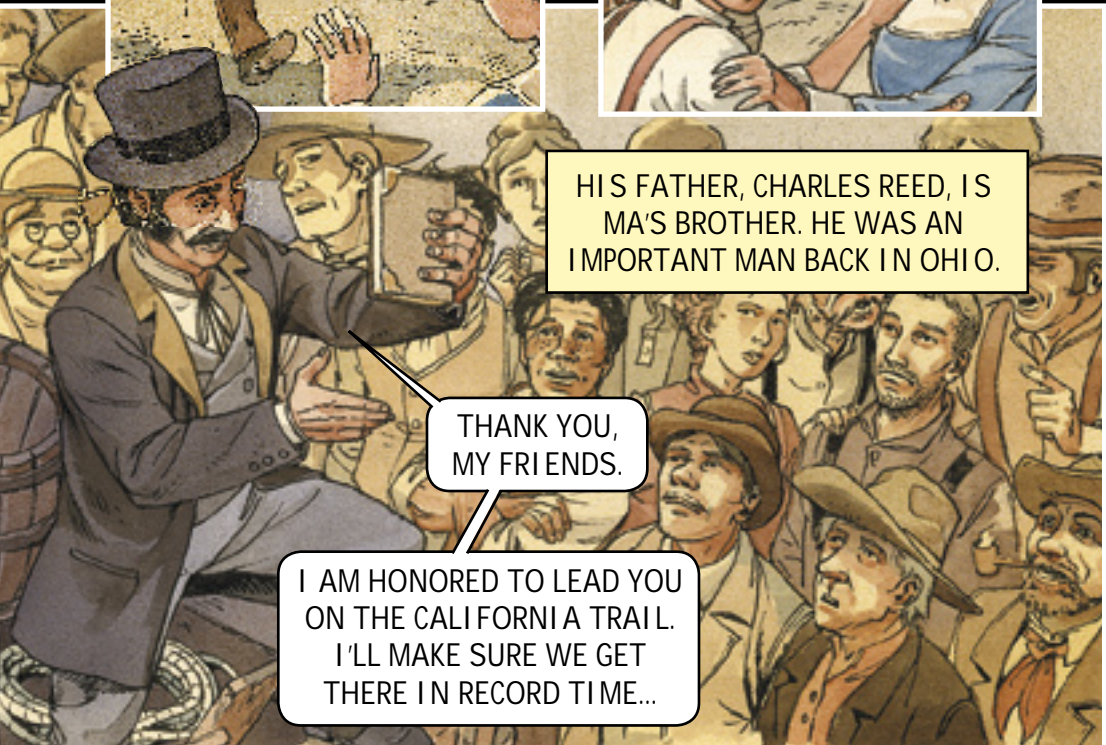
SOUNDS LIKE THEY'VE CHOSEN A CAPTAIN FOR OUR WAGON TRAIN.



THEY'VE JUST ELECTED FATHER!



IT WAS MY COUSIN, JOSHUA.



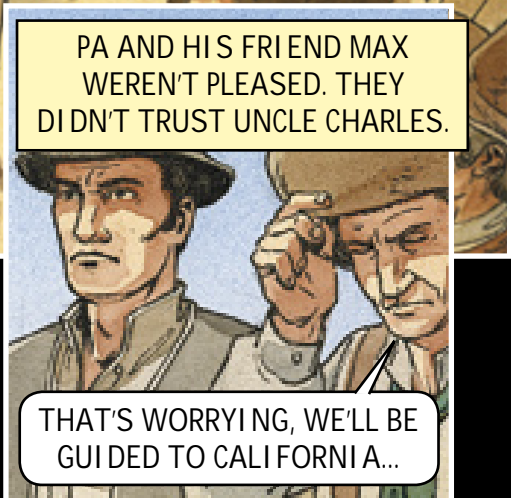
HIS FATHER, CHARLES REED, IS MA'S BROTHER. HE WAS AN IMPORTANT MAN BACK IN OHIO.

THANK YOU, MY FRIENDS.

I AM HONORED TO LEAD YOU ON THE CALIFORNIA TRAIL. I'LL MAKE SURE WE GET THERE IN RECORD TIME...

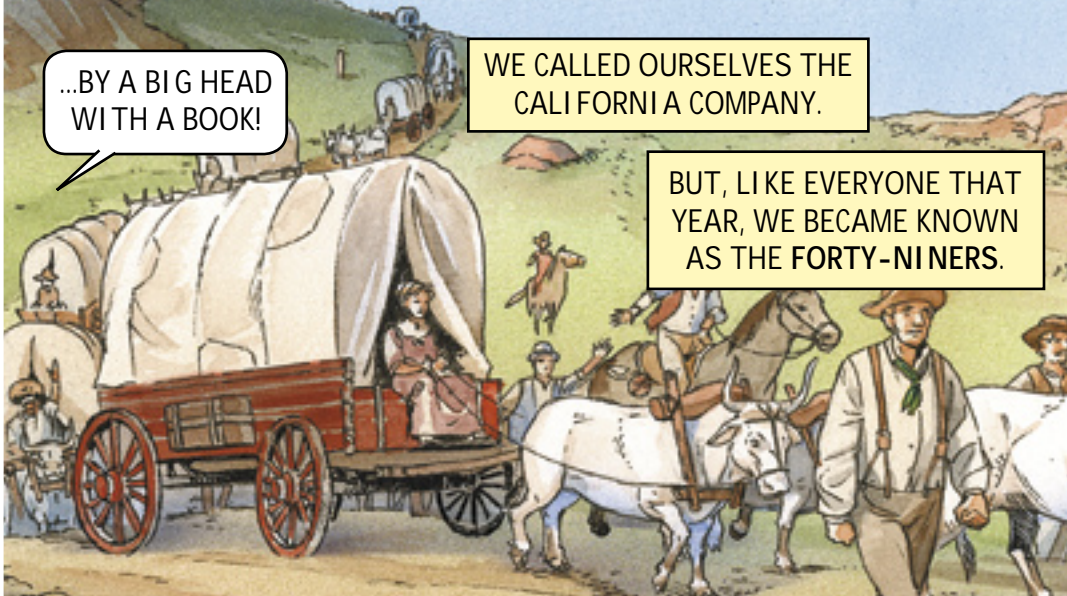


...WITH THE HELP OF MY TRUSTY GUIDE BOOK!



PA AND HIS FRIEND MAX WEREN'T PLEASED. THEY DIDN'T TRUST UNCLE CHARLES.

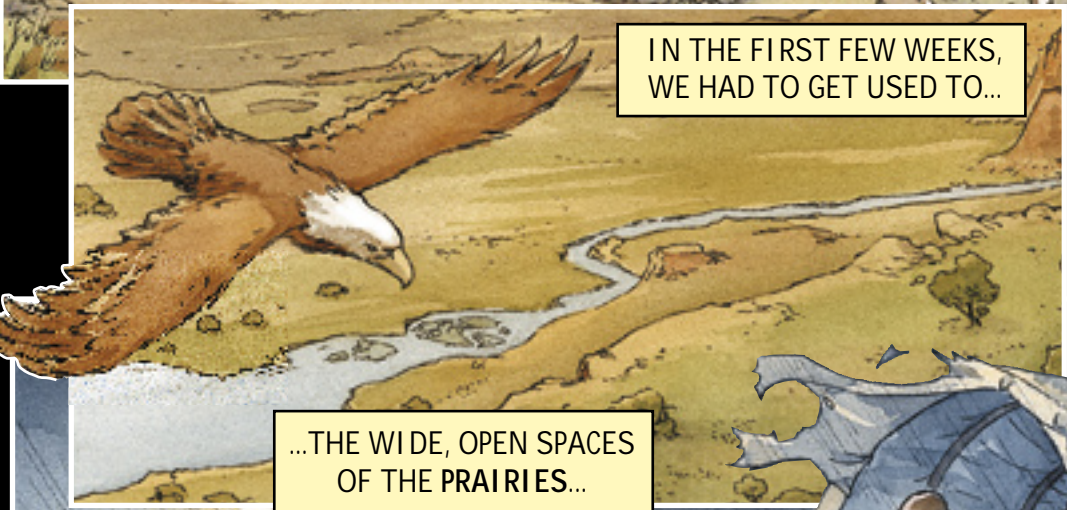
THAT'S WORRYING, WE'LL BE GUIDED TO CALIFORNIA...



...BY A BIG HEAD
WITH A BOOK!


WE CALLED OURSELVES THE
CALIFORNIA COMPANY.

BUT, LIKE EVERYONE THAT
YEAR, WE BECAME KNOWN
AS THE FORTY-NINERS.



IN THE FIRST FEW WEEKS,
WE HAD TO GET USED TO...

...THE WIDE, OPEN SPACES
OF THE PRAIRIES...



...THE RAIN...

...AND THE WIND.

They were also known as settlers, pioneers, and overlanders.



WE WERE OFTEN SOAKED TO THE SKIN...



...EXHAUSTED BY THE LACK OF REST...



...SORE FROM THE ROUGH GOING...

...AND UPSET WHEN OUR ANIMALS DIED.




BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, AFTER WE'D SET UP CAMP FOR THE NIGHT...



...I'D JUST SIT AND STARE UP AT THE STARS.

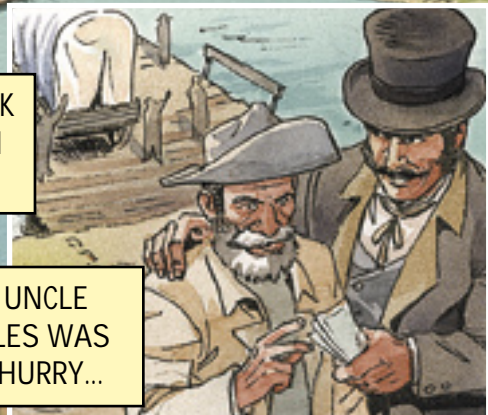




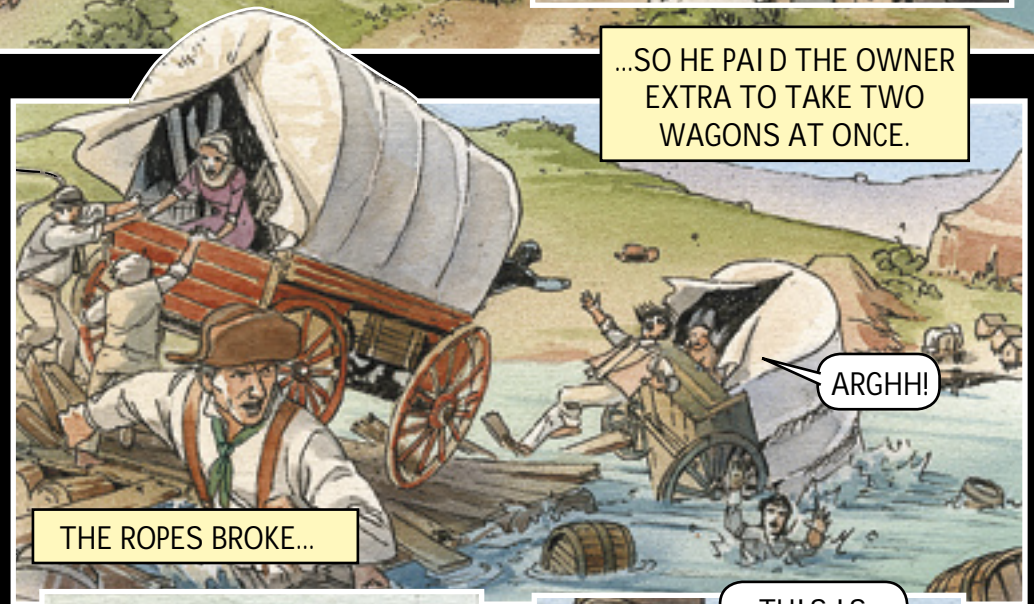
AT OUR FIRST BIG RIVER CROSSING, WE HAD TO USE A ROPE FERRY.

IT ONLY TOOK ONE WAGON AT A TIME.

BUT UNCLE CHARLES WAS IN A HURRY...




...SO HE PAID THE OWNER EXTRA TO TAKE TWO WAGONS AT ONCE.




THE ROPES BROKE...

ARGHH!



THIS IS CHARLES'S FAULT!



...AND POOR MR. WEBER NEARLY DROWNED.

LEAVE IT, MAX!



THE NEXT DAY I WAS OUT COLLECTING BUFFALO CHIPS...

...WHEN MAX WENT TO SPEAK TO UNCLE CHARLES ABOUT THE ACCIDENT.



I WANT A WORD...

HOLD ON...LOOK...



...BUFFALO!

NO, YOU FOOL!



BLAAAMMM!

I HEARD THE GUNSHOT.



THERE WAS SILENCE, THEN...



...A RUMBLING SOUND.



I RAN...



...AND RAN...

...AS FAST AS I COULD GO.



BUT IT WASN'T
FAST ENOUGH...



...EVERYTHING
WENT BLACK.



THE NEXT THING I REMEMBERED WAS SOMEONE'S HAND ON MY FACE.

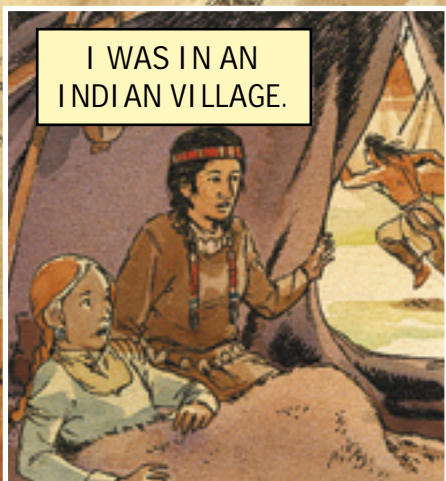


WHO ARE YOU?



WE DIDN'T SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE...


...BUT I FELT SAFE.



I WAS IN AN INDIAN VILLAGE.



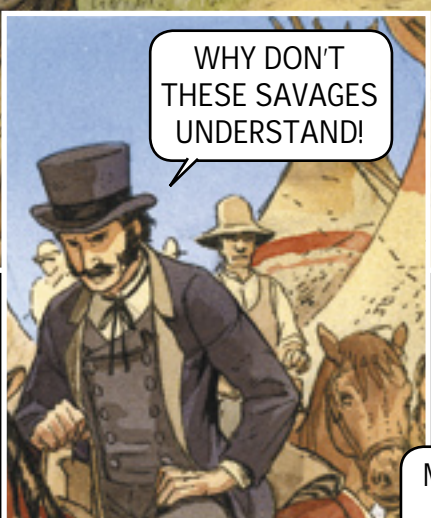
SUDDENLY, I HEARD VOICES OUTSIDE.



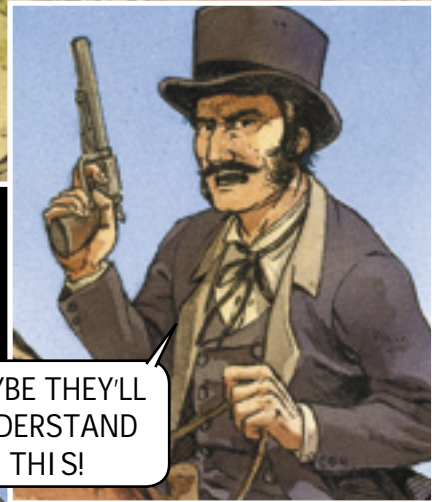
IT WAS UNCLE CHARLES AND SOME OF THE OTHERS.

THEY'D FOUND ME.

BUT UNCLE CHARLES WAS SHOUTING AT THE INDIANS.




WHY DON'T THESE SAVAGES UNDERSTAND!



MAYBE THEY'LL UNDERSTAND THIS!



WAIT!



THINGS WERE TURNING NASTY.



MAX!



SARAH!

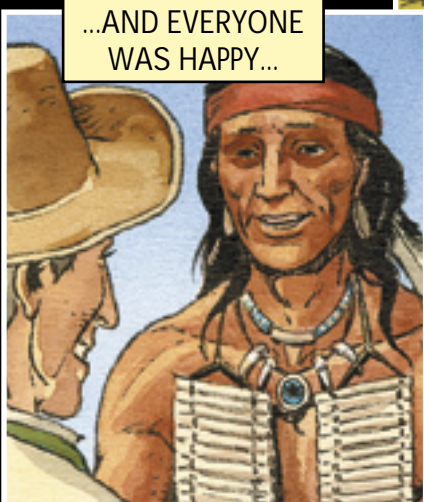
YOU KEEP OUT OF THIS, MAX!



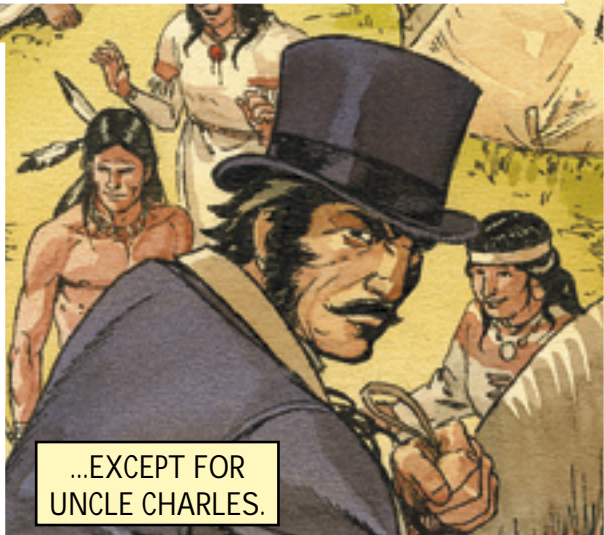
I TOLD MAX THAT THE INDIANS WERE HELPING ME.

MAX THANKED THE INDIAN CHIEF...

A LIKELY STORY!

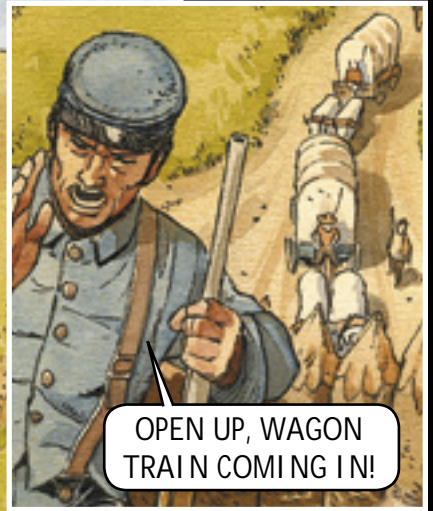
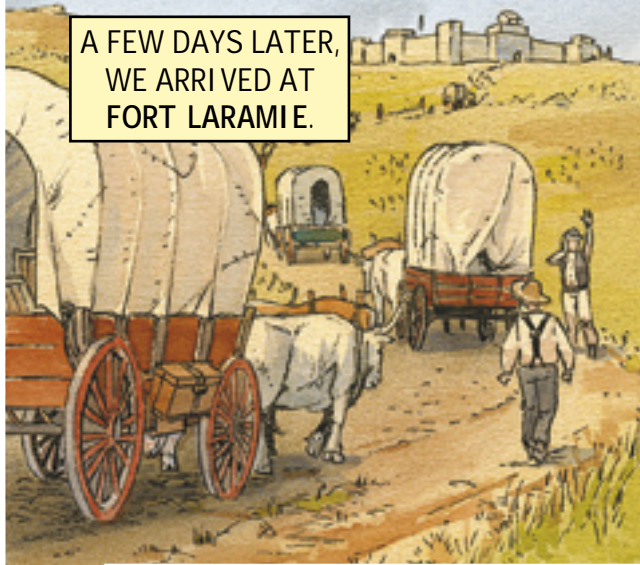


...AND EVERYONE WAS HAPPY...



...EXCEPT FOR UNCLE CHARLES.

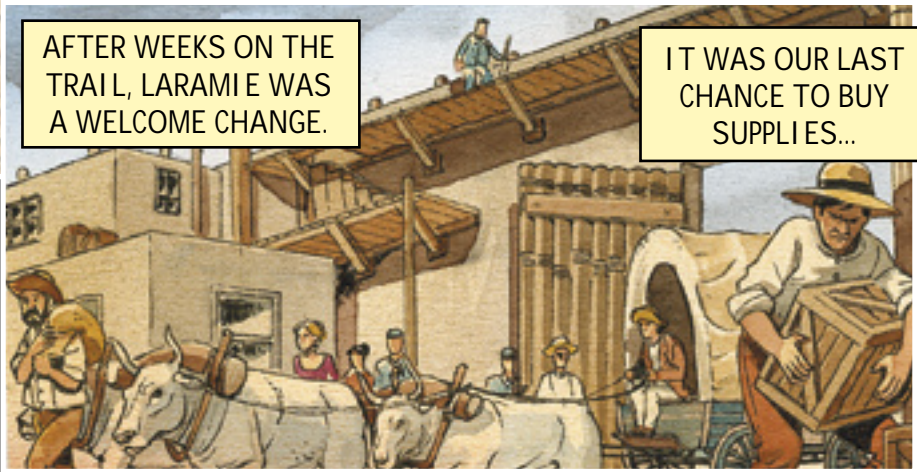
A FEW DAYS LATER,
WE ARRIVED AT
FORT LARAMIE.



OPEN UP, WAGON
TRAIN COMING IN!

AFTER WEEKS ON THE
TRAIL, LARAMIE WAS
A WELCOME CHANGE.

IT WAS OUR LAST
CHANCE TO BUY
SUPPLIES...



...BUT THEY WERE
EXPENSIVE.

HOW
MUCH?



EVERYONE WAS EAGER TO
HEAR NEWS ABOUT
THE ROUTE AHEAD.





WE HAD TO LEAVE ANYTHING THAT WASN'T ESSENTIAL.

LUXURIES WERE NOW USELESS TO US...

... AND HAD TO BE THROWN AWAY.



A FEW DAYS OUT OF LARAMIE, THE TRAIN CAME TO HALT.

IS THERE A PROBLEM?

SORT OF!

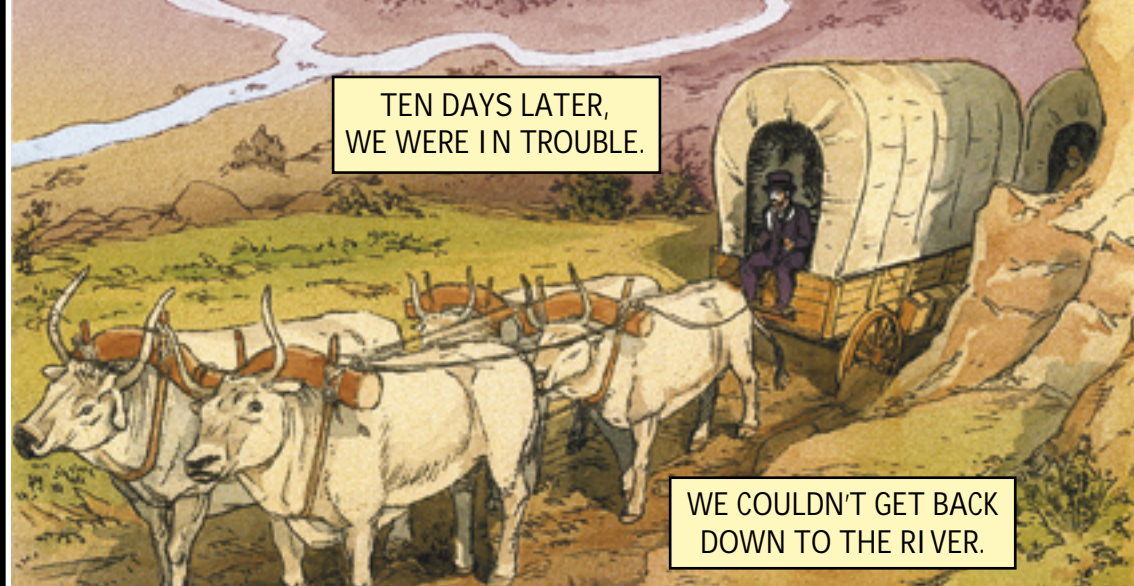
CHARLES HEARD ABOUT A SHORTCUT BACK AT LARAMIE.



HE THINKS IT'LL KNOCK MILES OFF THE NEXT STAGE.

PA AND MAX THOUGHT IT WAS A MISTAKE.

BUT THEY WERE OUTVOTED.



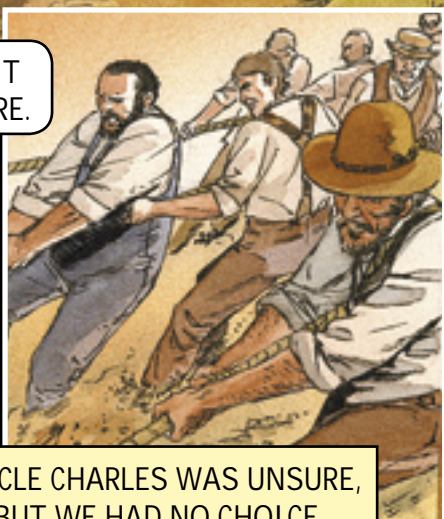
TEN DAYS LATER,
WE WERE IN TROUBLE.

WE COULDN'T GET BACK
DOWN TO THE RIVER.




WE CAN LOWER THE
WAGONS BY ROPE.

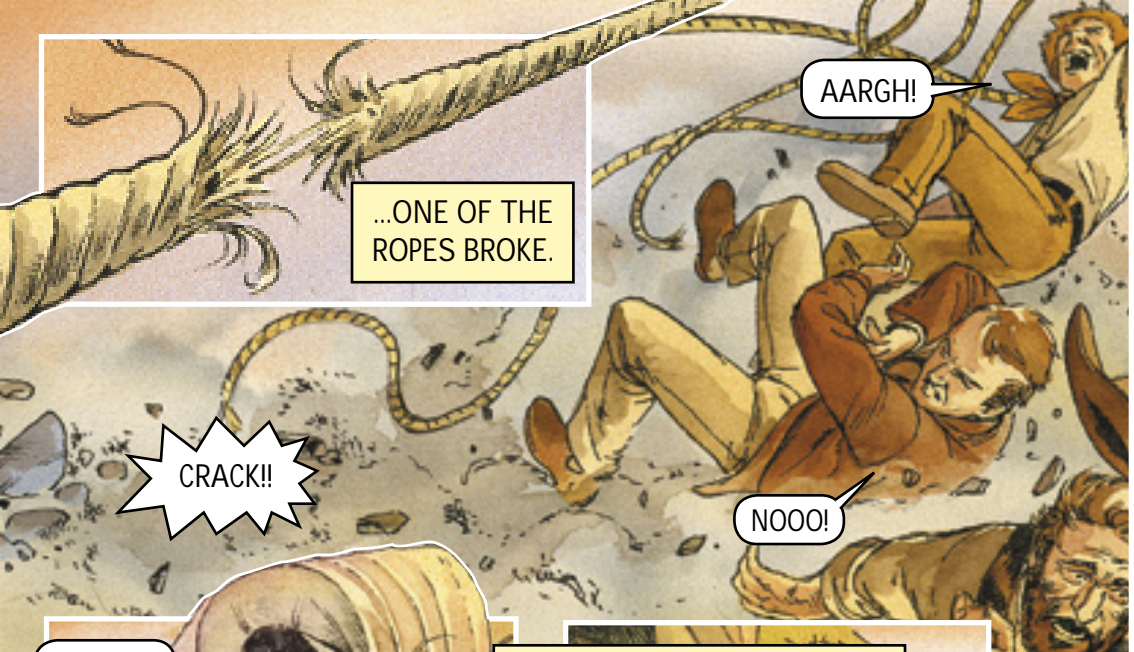
I'VE SEEN IT
DONE BEFORE.



UNCLE CHARLES WAS UNSURE,
BUT WE HAD NO CHOICE.



ALMOST ALL THE WAGONS
WERE SAFELY DOWN WHEN...



...ONE OF THE ROPES BROKE.

AARGH!

CRACK!!

NOOO!



SARAH!

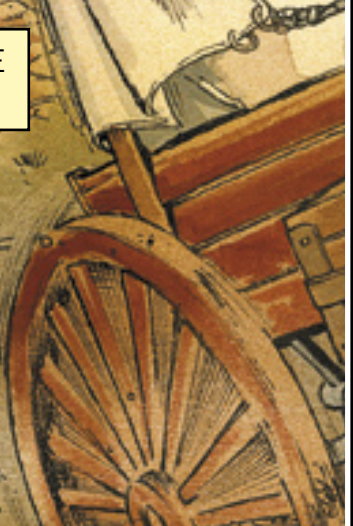
THE RUNAWAY WAGON WAS COMING STRAIGHT AT ME.

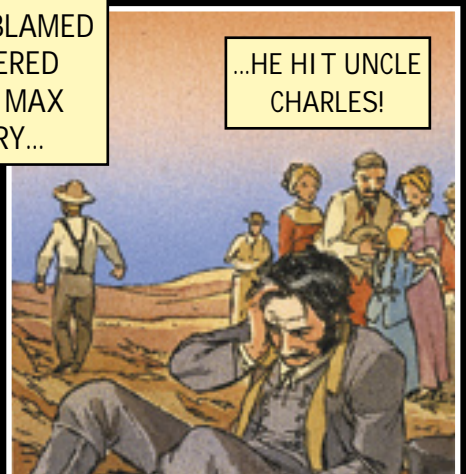
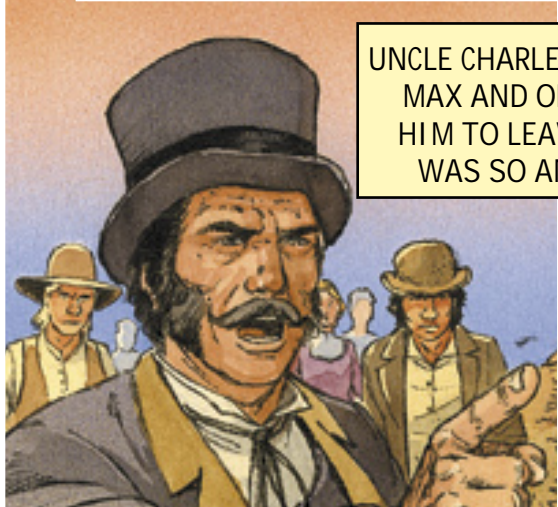
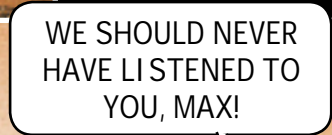
LOOK OUT!



PA PUSHED ME TO SAFETY...

...BUT HE WAS NOT SO LUCKY!





THE NEXT DAY WE SAID
GOODBYE TO PA...



...AND THEN
MAX LEFT.

YOU TAKE GOOD CARE OF
YOUR MA NOW, SARAH.



PLEASE DON'T
GO, MAX!

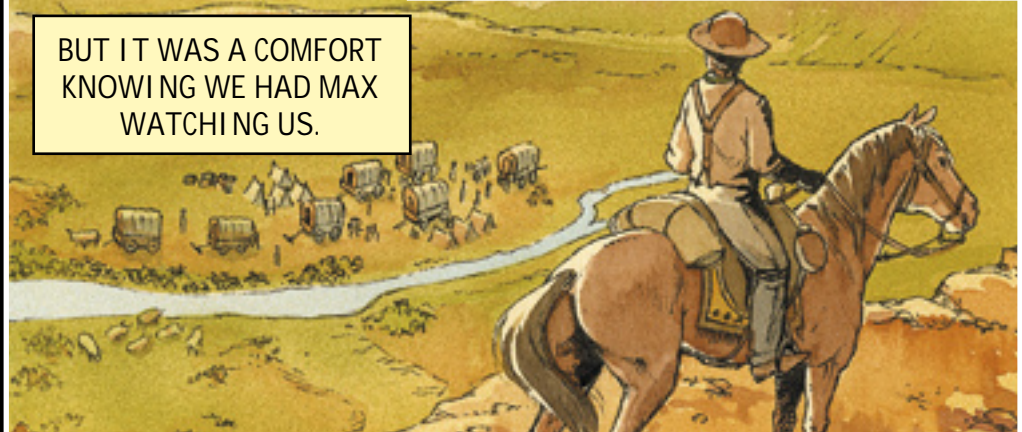
DON'T WORRY, I'M
NOT GOING FAR.

SOMEONE NEEDS
TO KEEP AN EYE
ON YOU ALL.



IT WAS AWFUL GOING
ON WITHOUT PA.

BUT IT WAS A COMFORT
KNOWING WE HAD MAX
WATCHING US.

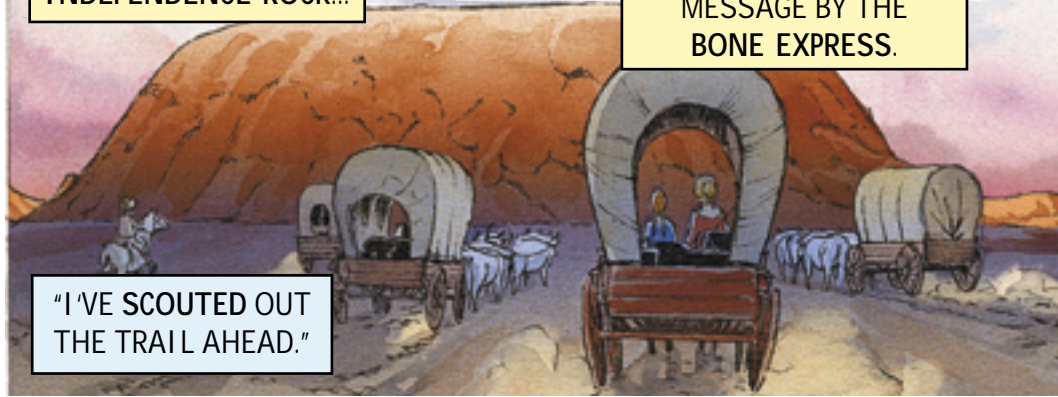




A WEEK LATER, NEAR INDEPENDENCE ROCK...



...MAX SENT HIS FIRST MESSAGE BY THE BONE EXPRESS.



"I'VE SCOUTED OUT THE TRAIL AHEAD."

"IT'S SAFE AS FAR AS FORT HALL."

"TRY TO ENJOY THE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS ON INDEPENDENCE ROCK."




...AND THE JOURNEY SEEMED TO GO ON FOREVER.



BUT IT WASN'T THE SAME WITHOUT PA AND MAX...





LOSING PA HIT MA
PRETTY HARD.


FORT HALL WAS MORE THAN
HALFWAY TO CALI FORNIA...

...BUT, BY THE TIME WE GOT
THERE, MA WASN'T WELL.



THE FORT'S DOCTOR
EXAMINED HER.

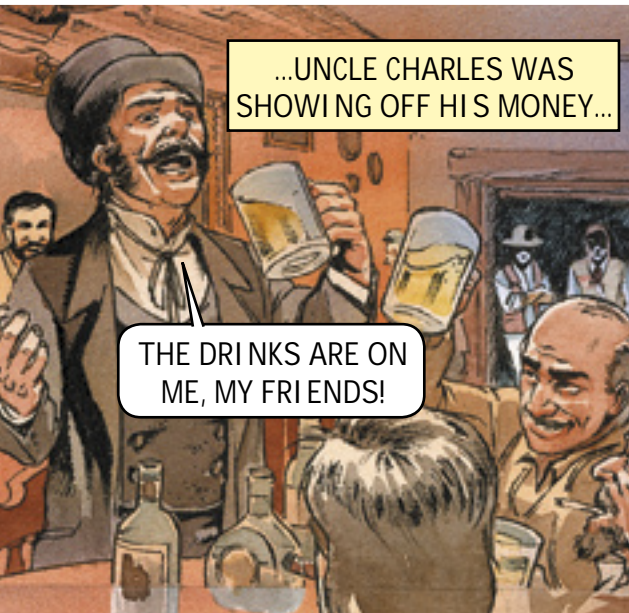
COUGH!



KEEP AN EYE ON HER,
MISS. IT COULD BE
MOUNTAIN FEVER.


OH, NO!

WHILE I WORRIED...




...UNCLE CHARLES WAS
SHOWING OFF HIS MONEY...

THE DRINKS ARE ON
ME, MY FRIENDS!




...WHICH ATTRACTED
SOME UNWELCOME
ATTENTION.

A WEEK LATER...



...I GOT ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM MAX.




"THERE ARE REPORTS OF INDIAN ATTACKS AHEAD. BE CAREFUL."




PAH!

I TRIED TO WARN UNCLE CHARLES...



...BUT HE SAID WE DIDN'T NEED EXTRA GUARDS THAT NIGHT.



HE TOLD ME NOT TO BE SO SILLY...

....THERE WAS NO ONE OUT THERE!



I FINALLY MANAGED TO SLEEP...



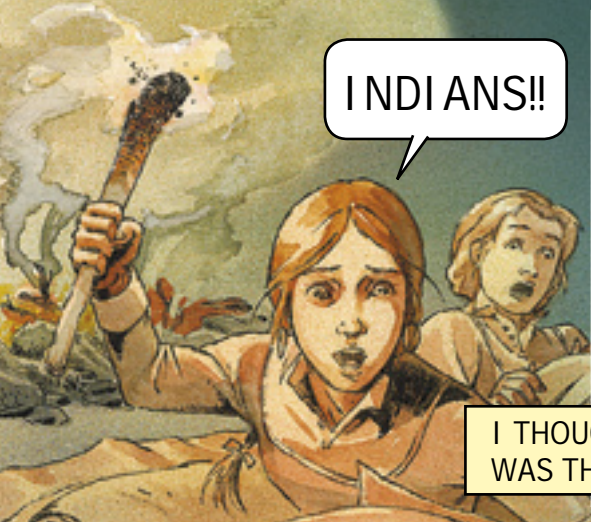
SNAP!



HUH?



...WHEN SUDDENLY...



INDIANS!!

I THOUGHT IT WAS THE END.





GET THE GUNS!



THE MEN GRABBED THEIR WEAPONS...



...BUT THE INDIANS WERE TOO QUICK.

TWAANG!



THUDD!

MR. FITZPATRICK WAS HIT.



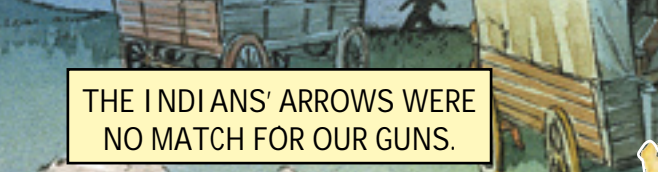
I GRABBED JOSHUA...

COME ON!



...WE HAD TO HIDE!


Children often outnumbered the adults on a wagon train.



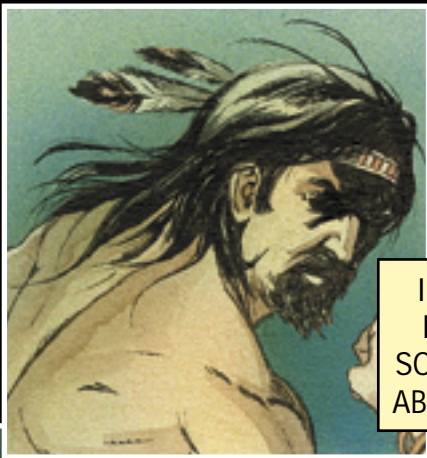
THE INDIANS' ARROWS WERE
NO MATCH FOR OUR GUNS.




THE INDIANS
RAN OFF...



...BUT FIRST THEY
SET FIRE TO ONE
OF THE WAGONS.




IN THE FIRELIGHT,
I THOUGHT I SAW
SOMETHING STRANGE
ABOUT THE INDIANS...



...BUT AS WE BATTLED TO
PUT THE FIRE OUT...

MORE
WATER!



...I FORGOT
ABOUT WHAT
I'D SEEN.



THE NEXT DAY UNCLE CHARLES FOUND THEY'D TAKEN ALL HIS MONEY...

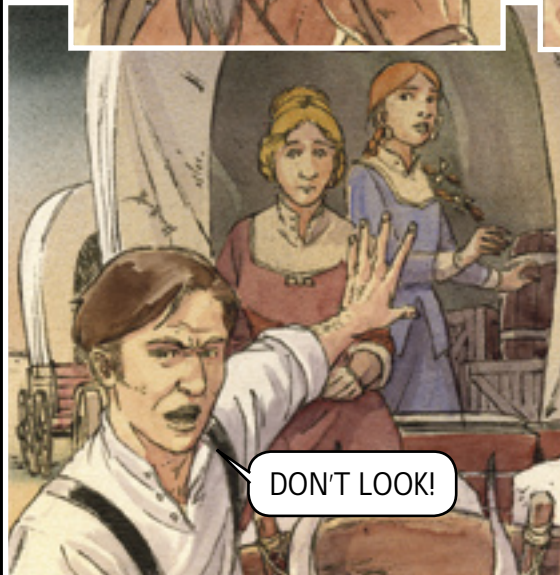
...BUT WE HAD TO GO ON.



A FEW DAYS LATER...



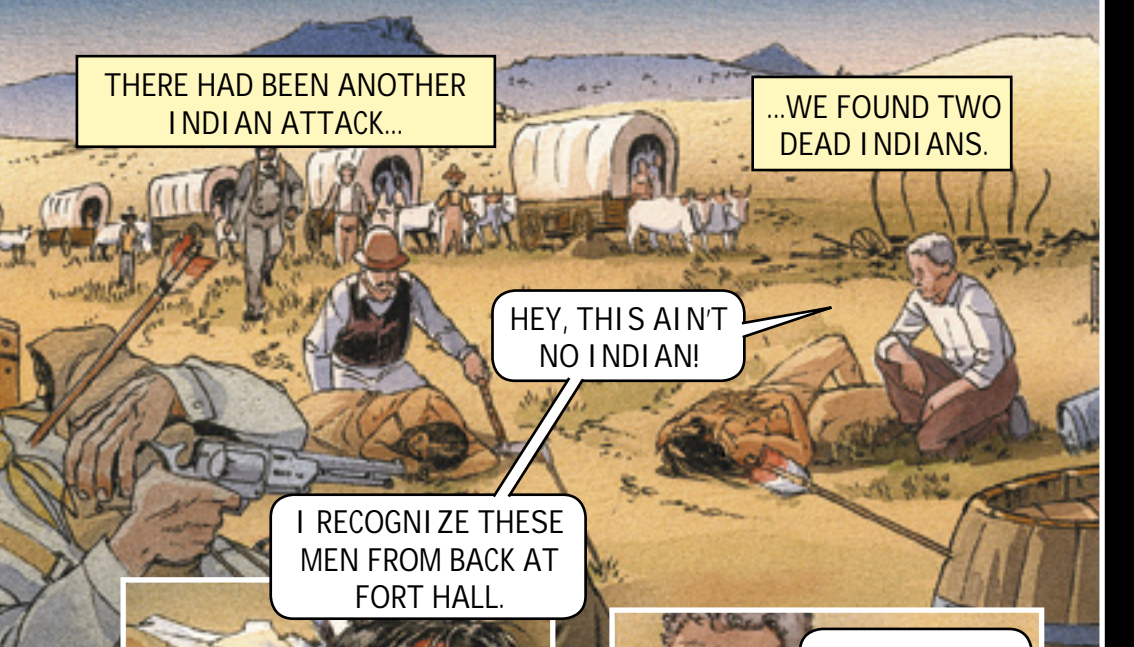
...WE CAME ACROSS AN ABANDONED WAGON.



DON'T LOOK!



BUT IT WAS TOO LATE.

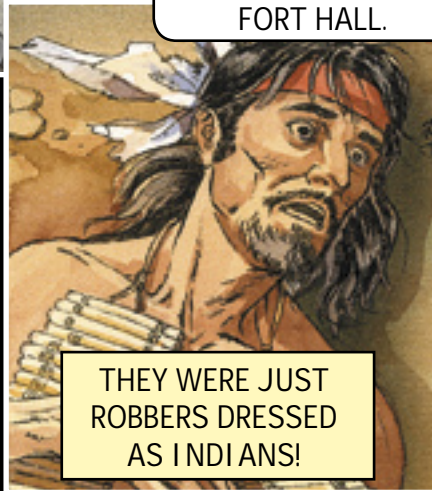


THERE HAD BEEN ANOTHER INDIAN ATTACK...

...WE FOUND TWO DEAD INDIANS.

HEY, THIS AIN'T NO INDIAN!

I RECOGNIZE THESE MEN FROM BACK AT FORT HALL.



THEY WERE JUST ROBBERS DRESSED AS INDIANS!



YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE THIS!



IT WAS MAX!



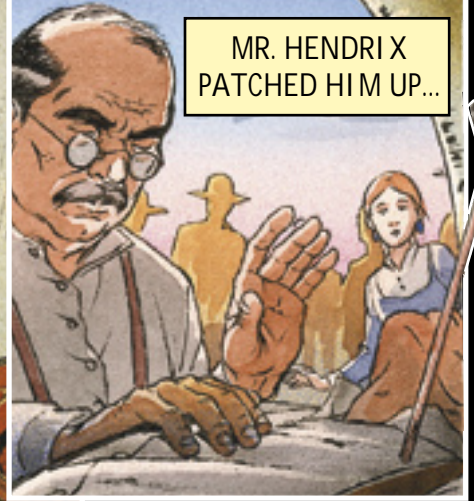
HE'D FOUGHT THE ROBBERS...

...AND SAVED A BABY FROM THE ATTACK.

MAX WASN'T TOO BADLY WOUNDED.



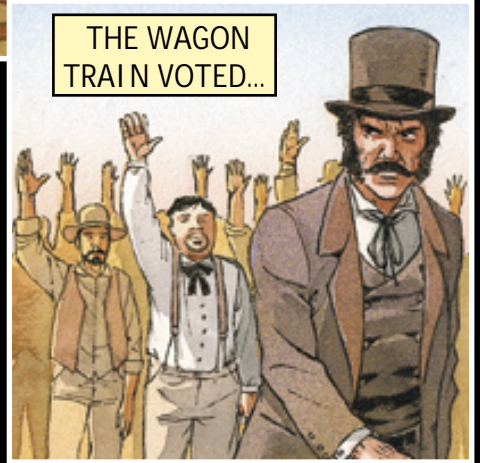
MR. HENDRIX PATCHED HIM UP...



...AND SAID HE'D BE FINE IN A WEEK OR TWO.



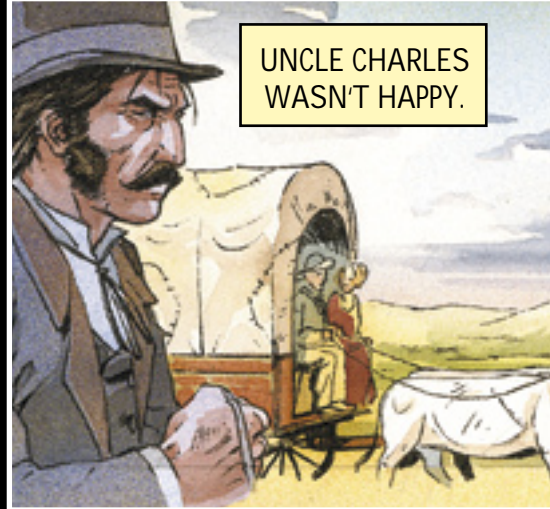
THE WAGON TRAIN VOTED...




...AND WELCOMED MAX BACK AS A HERO!




UNCLE CHARLES WASN'T HAPPY.







AFTER MONTHS ON THE PRAIRIES, THE HILLS WERE TOUGH GOING.




AXLES BROKE...



...THE RAIN
POURED...



...EVERYTHING
WAS MUD...



...AND SOMETIMES THE WAY
AHEAD WAS BLOCKED.

COME ON YOU, TWO!

MAKE YOURSELVES
USEFUL!



MAX WAS FINE NOW...



PHEW, THIS IS THIRSTY WORK!

COUGH!

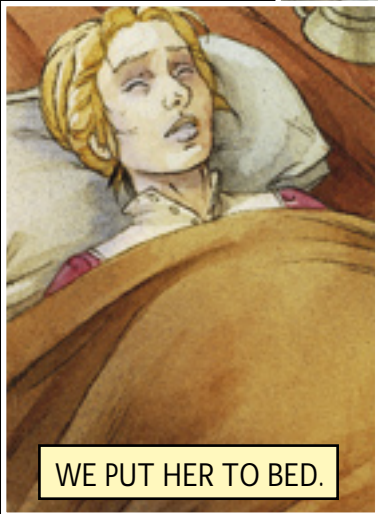
THANKS!



ARE YOU ALL RIGHT...?



...BUT MA SEEMED TO BE GETTING WORSE.



WE PUT HER TO BED.



PLEASE GET BETTER!



WE KEPT GOING BUT HAD TO MOVE SO SLOWLY THAT...

...WE WERE HOLDING EVERYONE BACK.



THE OTHERS CAME TO SEE US...

MAX...



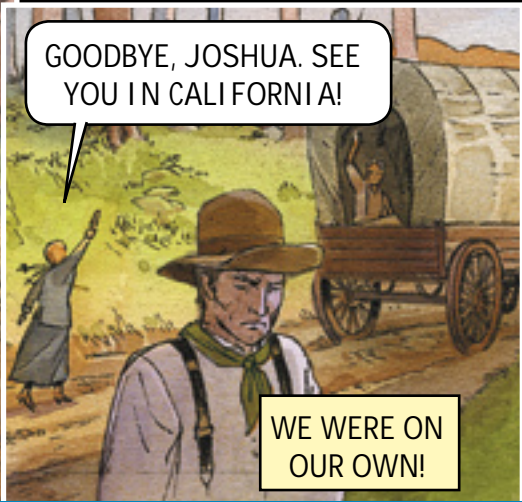
...THEY WANTED TO LEAVE US BEHIND.



THERE WAS NO CHOICE.


SNIFF

HURRY UP, BOY!



GOODBYE, JOSHUA. SEE YOU IN CALIFORNIA!

WE WERE ON OUR OWN!



WITHOUT THE OTHER WAGONS,
THE HILLS SEEMED STRANGE
AND FRIGHTENING.

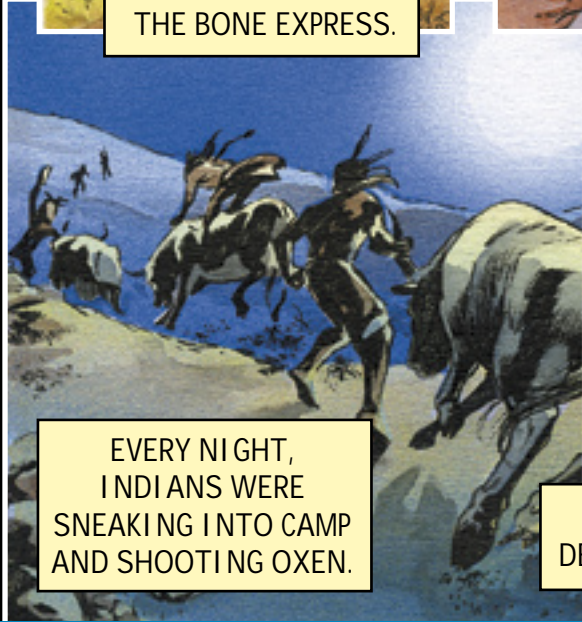


I GOT A MESSAGE
FROM JOSHUA ON
THE BONE EXPRESS.

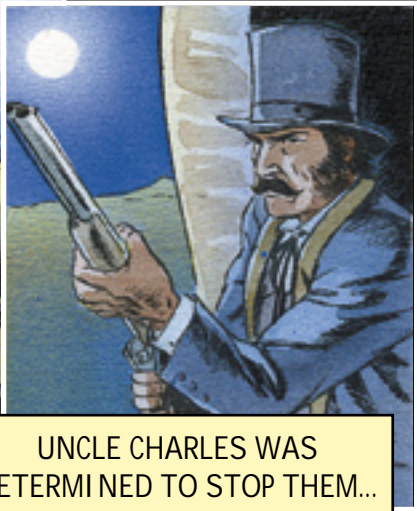


READ IT TO
ME, DEAR!

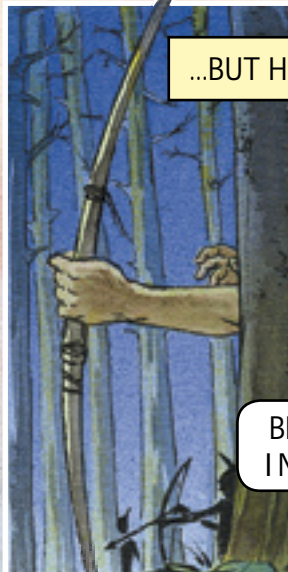
IT WASN'T
GOOD NEWS.



EVERY NIGHT,
INDIANS WERE
SNEAKING INTO CAMP
AND SHOOTING OXEN.



UNCLE CHARLES WAS
DETERMINED TO STOP THEM...



...BUT HE COULDN'T.

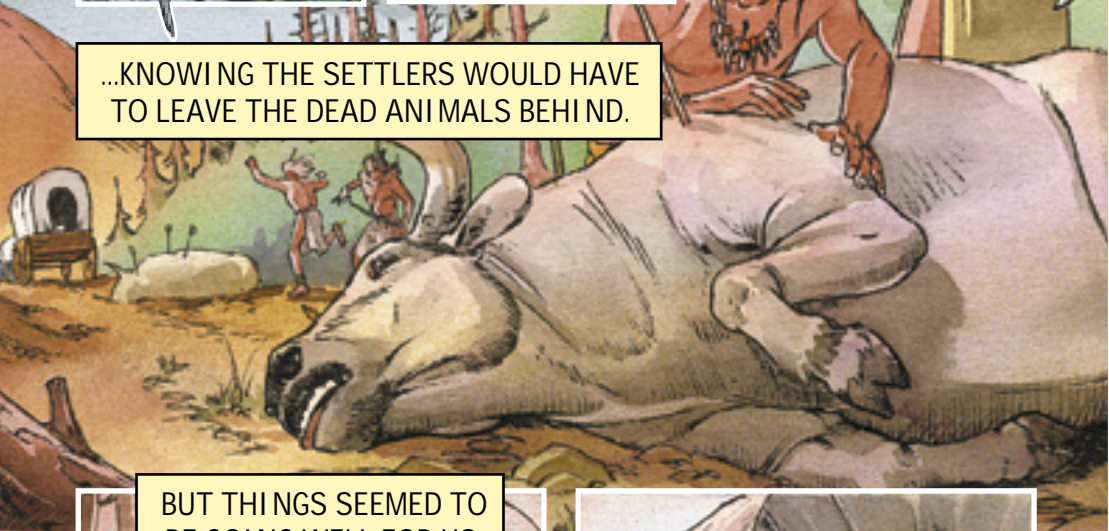


BLASTED INDIANS!

THE INDIANS WANTED THE OX MEAT, SO THEY SHOT THE OXEN...



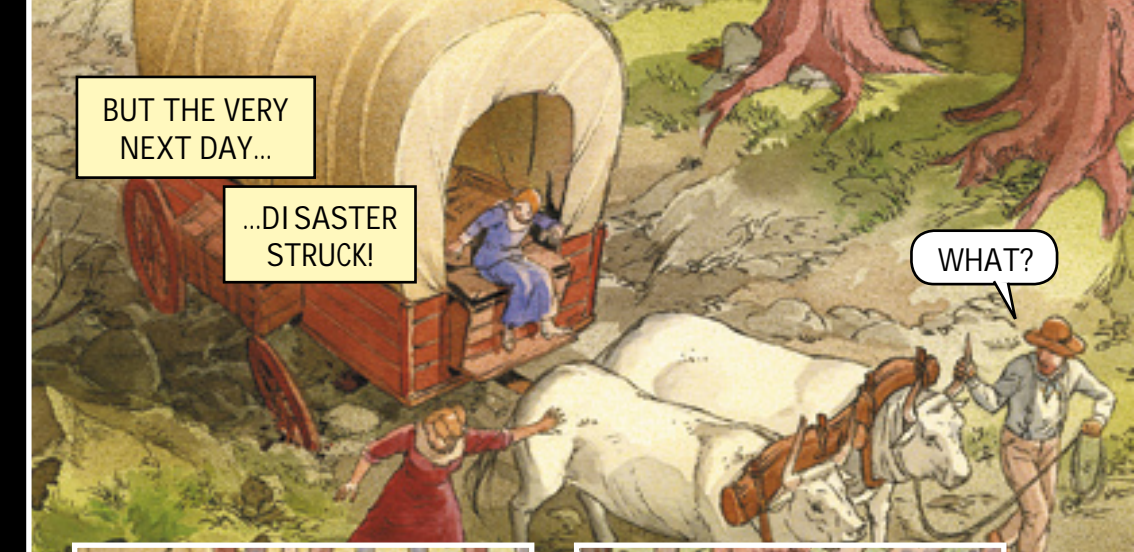
...KNOWING THE SETTLERS WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE THE DEAD ANIMALS BEHIND.



BUT THINGS SEEMED TO BE GOING WELL FOR US.



YOUR MA'S GETTING STRONGER EVERY DAY.



BUT THE VERY
NEXT DAY...

...DI SASTER
STRUCK!

WHAT?



IT'S BEYOND REPAIR!

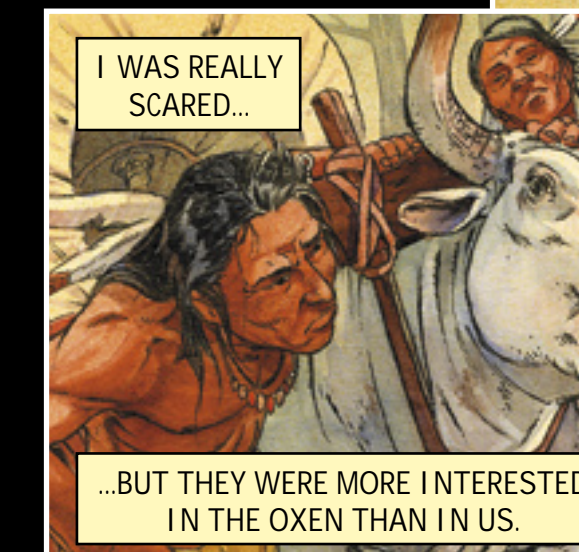
SUDDENLY,
MAX FROZE.

DON'T MOVE!



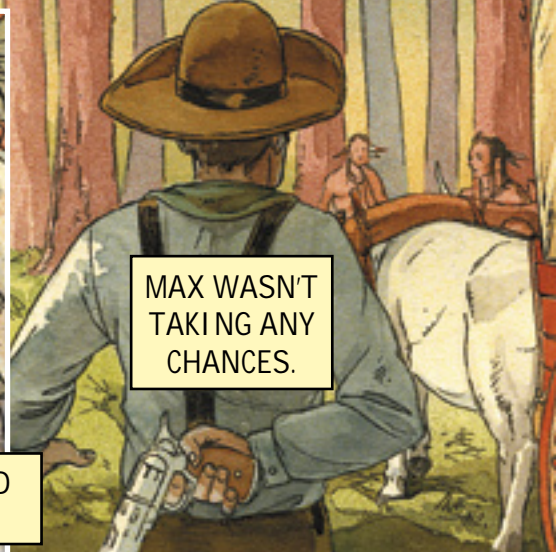
WHY?

INDIANS APPEARED
FROM NOWHERE.



I WAS REALLY
SCARED...

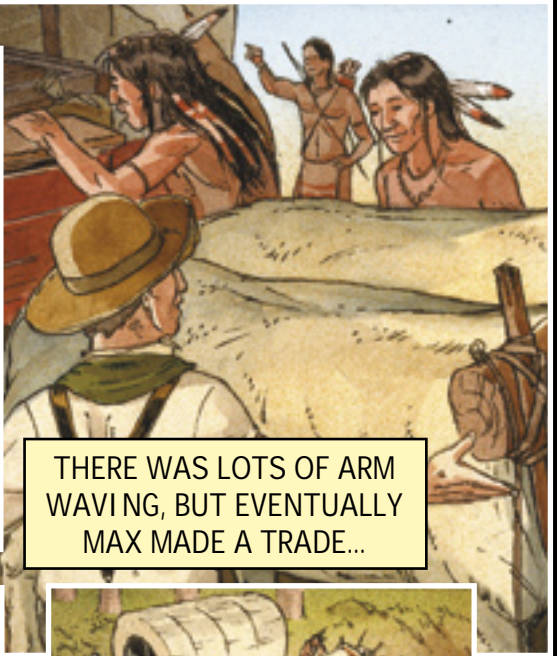
...BUT THEY WERE MORE INTERESTED
IN THE OXEN THAN IN US.



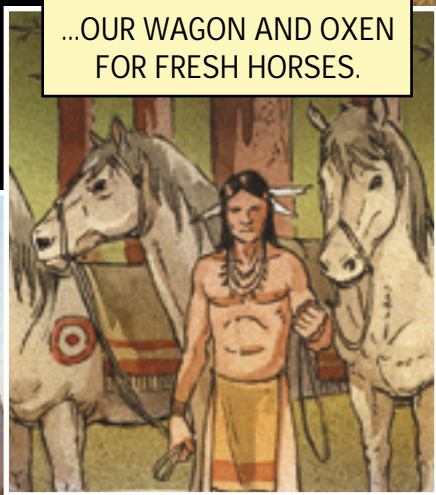
MAX WASN'T
TAKING ANY
CHANCES.



I'VE GOT AN IDEA!



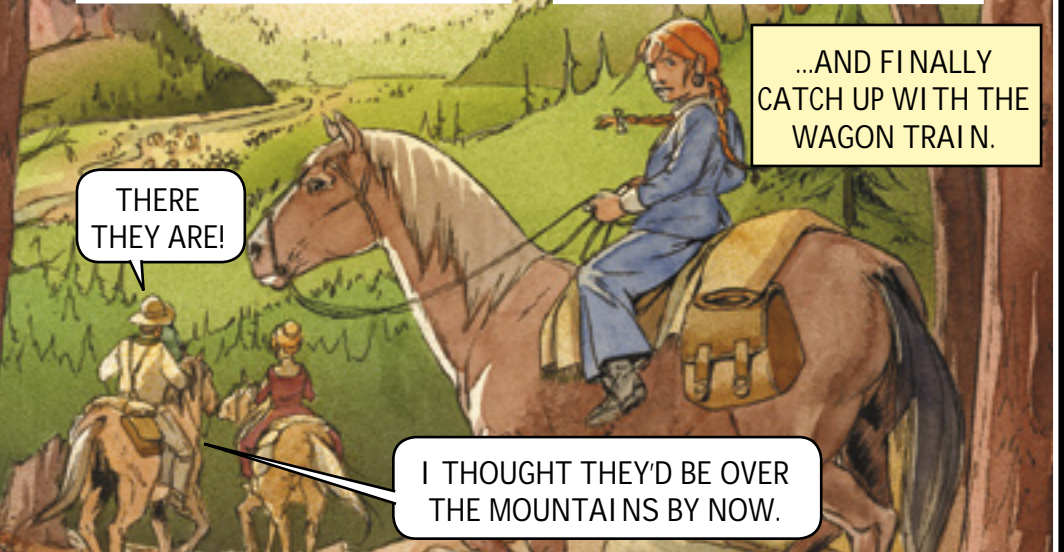
THERE WAS LOTS OF ARM WAVING, BUT EVENTUALLY MAX MADE A TRADE...



...OUR WAGON AND OXEN FOR FRESH HORSES.



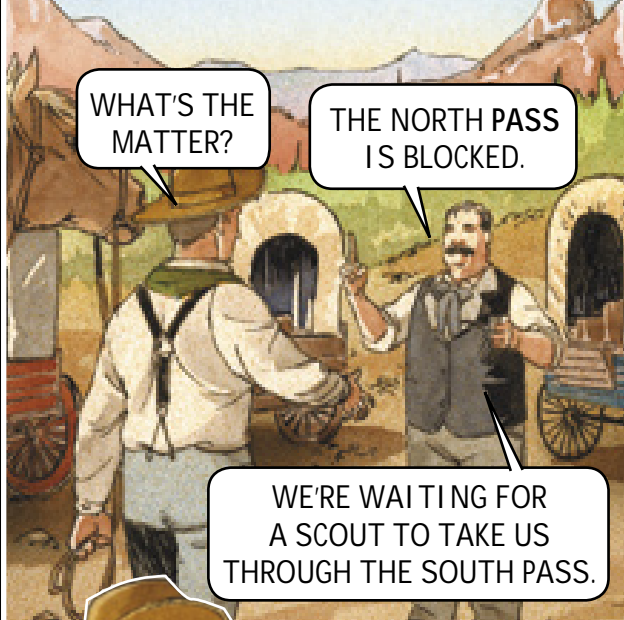
WE'D BE ABLE TO MOVE MUCH FASTER ON HORSEBACK...



THERE THEY ARE!

I THOUGHT THEY'D BE OVER THE MOUNTAINS BY NOW.

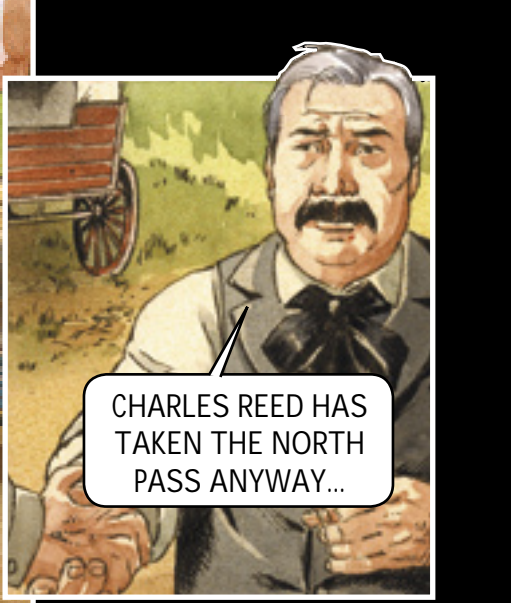
...AND FINALLY CATCH UP WITH THE WAGON TRAIN.



WHAT'S THE MATTER?

THE NORTH PASS IS BLOCKED.

WE'RE WAITING FOR A SCOUT TO TAKE US THROUGH THE SOUTH PASS.



CHARLES REED HAS TAKEN THE NORTH PASS ANYWAY...



...AND DRAGGED THAT POOR BOY WITH HIM.



I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!

I'M COMING WITH YOU!



NO, STAY WITH YOUR MA!



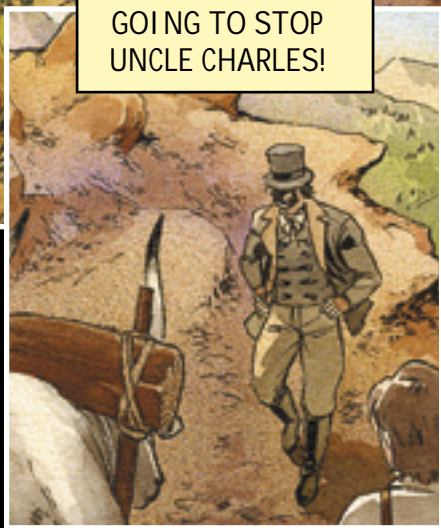
SARAH,
WAIT!

BUT I HAD TO HELP JOSHUA.



THE PASS WAS
BLOCKED BY A
LANDSLIDE...

...BUT THAT WASN'T
GOING TO STOP
UNCLE CHARLES!



I'LL BLAST
MY WAY TO
CALIFORNIA!



AS THE FUSE BURNED,
THEY TOOK SHELTER.



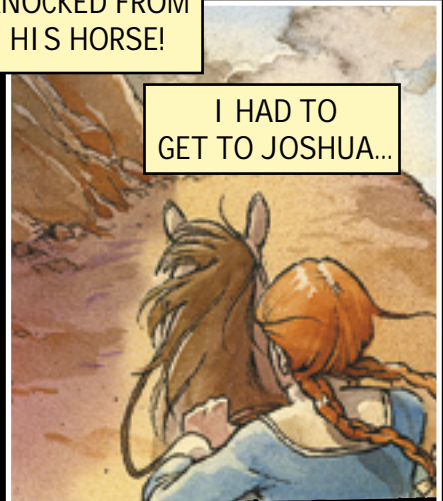
WE WERE
ALMOST THERE
WHEN...



BOOM!



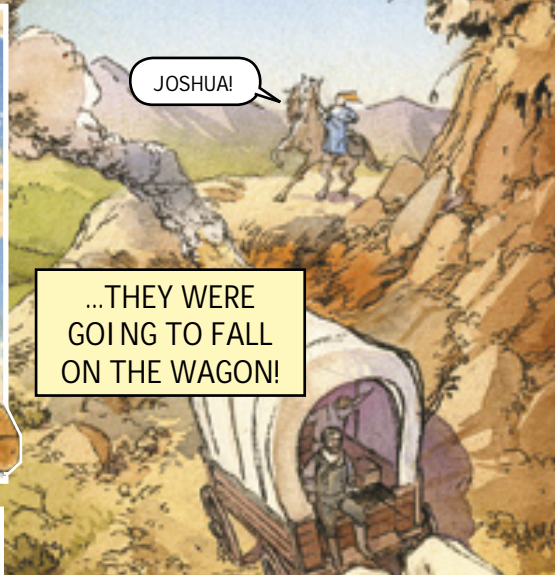
...MAX WAS
KNOCKED FROM
HIS HORSE!



I HAD TO
GET TO JOSHUA...



THE EXPLOSION HAD LOOSENED MORE ROCKS...



JOSHUA!

...THEY WERE GOING TO FALL ON THE WAGON!



JOSHUA!
LANDSLIDE!



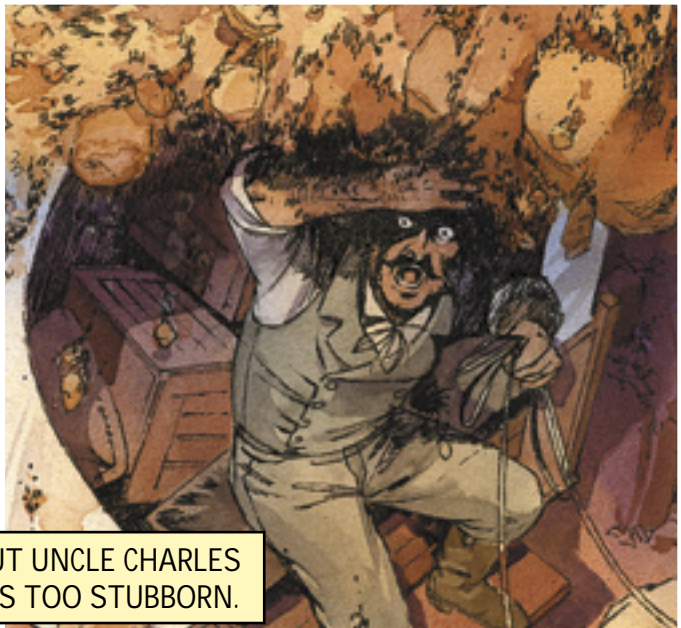
PA, IT'S SARAH!

IT'S NOT SAFE!

I'LL BE FINE!



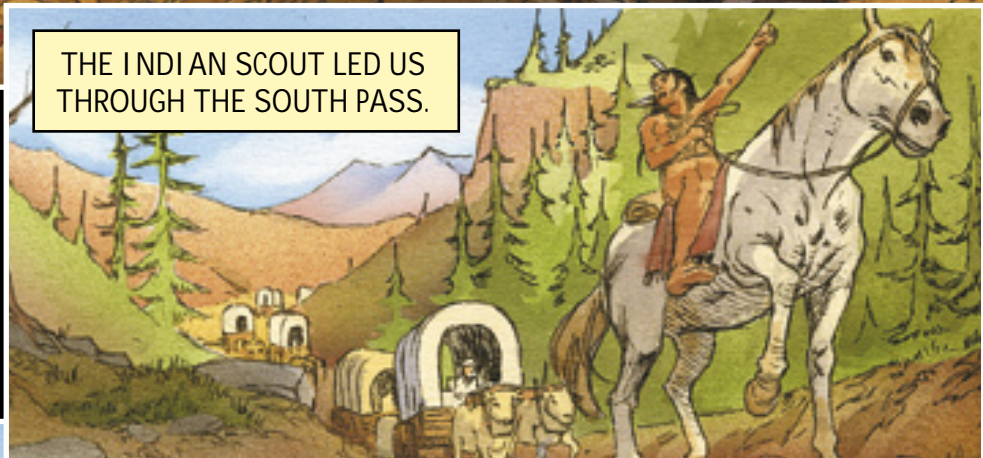
JOSHUA MADE A QUICK DECISION...



...BUT UNCLE CHARLES WAS TOO STUBBORN.



WE WERE TOO LATE TO SAVE HIM.



THE INDIAN SCOUT LED US THROUGH THE SOUTH PASS.



AFTER A FEW MORE WEEKS, WE ARRIVED IN CALIFORNIA.

MAX RODE AHEAD. HE WAS GOING TO CLAIM THE LAND FOR...

GOOD LUCK, MAX!

...OUR NEW HOME!

WE MADE IT!

THE END



Start of First
Crusade to
the Holy Land

1095

Kublai Khan
conquers Asia



1279

Columbus sails
to America



1492

1000

1200

1400

THE JOURNEY WEST

Native American tribes (also known as Indians) have lived in what is now the United States for thousands of years, but the first European settlers didn't arrive until the early 1600s. The people in the British colonies (lands owned by Britain) eventually decided they wanted to rule themselves. They declared themselves independent of Britain in 1776 and founded the United States of America.

By the 1800s, the area from the east coast to the Missouri River was settled by Europeans and Americans, but most of the region west of that was uninhabited except by Native American tribes. Only a few maps made by explorers and fur traders existed. With the help of these maps, families started moving west, setting up homes and farms.

As more pioneer families decided to go west, they started traveling in wagon trains because it was safer to go in large groups. They left in the spring and hoped to arrive by the fall, before the snow arrived. The trails took them across rivers, prairies, deserts, and high mountains.

At first, just a few thousand people made the trip west, but after gold was discovered in California in 1848, tens of thousands of settlers traveled a year in the hope of getting rich. This led to clashes with Native Americans, who saw their land and way of life being destroyed.

By 1869, a railroad had been built to link the East and West coasts and the days of the wagon trains came to an end.



A map showing
the California Trail
in the 1840s.



Pilgrims from
Britain arrive
in America

1620

The French
Revolution



1789

Start of
World War II



1939

TIMELINE

1600

1800

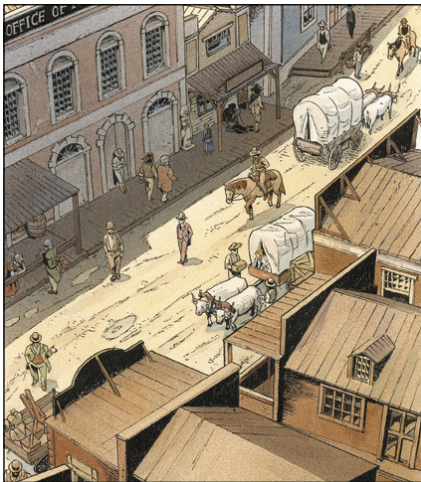
YOU ARE HERE

2000

GLOSSARY

INDEPENDENCE PAGE 5

The town of Independence is in the state of Missouri in the American Midwest. It was a “jumping-off” point—a place where emigrants met, organized their wagon trains and set off on the trails. People met at Independence because it was one of the farthest places west people could get to by river boat.



WAGON TRAINS PAGE 5

Groups of covered wagons traveled in long lines called wagon trains. The number of wagons in a train varied from about six to up to 100.

INDIAN PAGE 5

American Indians, also called Native Americans, are the people who have lived in North and South America for thousands of years. There were many different Native American tribes living in the United States at the time that Europeans arrived.



MOUNTAIN MAN PAGE 6

Most mountain men were Europeans who made a living as fur trappers. They hunted wild animals such as bears for their skins and often dressed in the hides of the animals they killed. Mountain men knew the Rocky Mountains and America’s western lands well and often worked as guides on the wagon trains.

GRIZZLY BEARS PAGE 7

These large bears live in the Rocky Mountains. Their brown fur is tipped with gray—“grizzly” means “partly gray.”

CAPTAIN PAGE 7

The wagon trains needed to be highly organized to survive the long journey. The settlers usually elected one of the men as leader, or captain, of the train.

ELECTED PAGE 8

When people vote to choose a leader, the person who gets the most votes is elected the leader.

GUIDE BOOK**PAGE 8**

In the 1840s, many emigrants used guidebooks written by settlers who had already traveled the routes to California or

Oregon. Most wagon trains, however, also employed a mountain man to guide them on their journey.

EMIGRANTS**PAGE 8**

Emigrants are people who leave their homes to settle in another country or place.

FORTY-NINERS**PAGE 9**

The emigrants who traveled to California in 1849 became known as the forty-niners. Gold was discovered in California in 1848, and the following year the number of people on the California Trail greatly increased as people rushed to the gold mines in the hope of getting rich. In 1848, there were only about 400 emigrants, but in 1849, there were about 25,000.

PRAIRIES**PAGE 9**

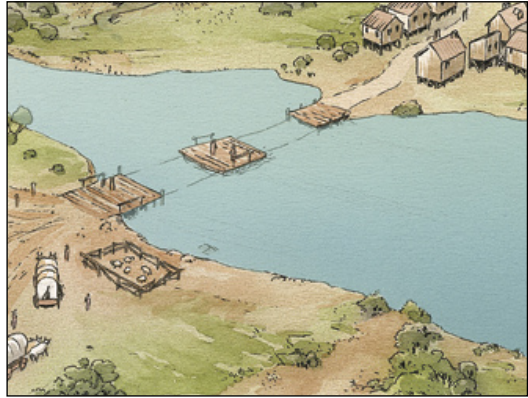
The prairies are the grasslands of central North America, east of the Rocky Mountains. The area is also called the Great Plains.

PIONEERS**PAGE 9**

Pioneers are people who are the first to do something or go somewhere.

OVERLANDERS**PAGE 9**

California could be reached by sea from the East Coast of America but the trip was long and expensive. Those who went overland by wagon train were often called overlanders.

**ROPE FERRY****PAGE 11**

The California Trail took the emigrants across several big rivers. In some places, the water was too deep to drive across and there were no bridges. The only way to cross was on rope ferries—floating wooden platforms pulled by men with ropes. The settlers usually had to pay the men who owned the ferries to use them, although some pioneers built their own ferries.





BUFFALO CHIPS PAGE 12

There was no wood on the prairies to use as fuel for cooking, so the settlers had to use buffalo dung instead. The dried dung heaps were known as buffalo chips. The chore of collecting buffalo chips was often given to the settler children.

FORT LARAMIE PAGE 17

Fort Laramie was one of several places on the trail where settlers could rest, stock up on fresh food and supplies, and repair their wagons. It was originally built by fur traders as a place to do business with local Native American tribes.



ESSENTIAL PAGE 18

If you can't do without something, it is essential. Essential items for the pioneers would have included food, clothes, and tools for cooking and repairing the wagons.

LUXURIES PAGE 18

Luxuries are things that are not really necessary. Many settlers dumped pieces of furniture and other items that they didn't really need and were too heavy to carry without slowing down the wagon train.

INDEPENDENCE ROCK PAGE 23

One of the sights on the trail was Independence Rock, a huge granite rock about 130 feet (40 meters) tall. It got its name because the emigrants attempted to reach the rock by July 4th (Independence Day), having set out in the spring. Many settlers carved their names on the summit of the huge rock.

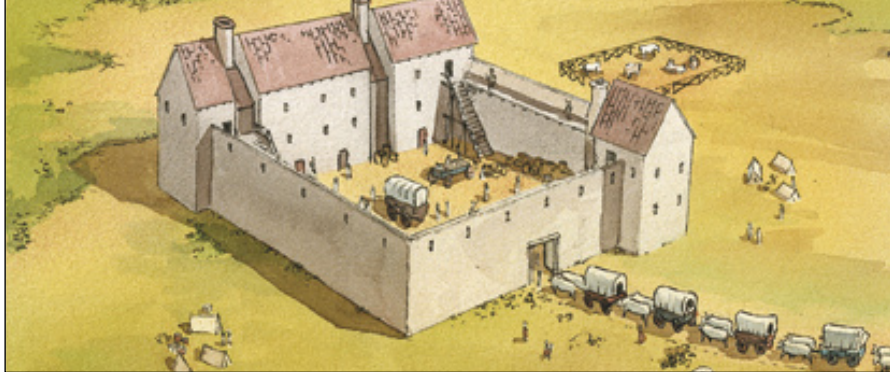
BONE EXPRESS PAGE 23

The settlers used the bone express to send messages to people on wagon trains behind them on the route. Someone traveling west would write a note and then leave it by the side of the trail in a buffalo skull or a piece of material where it could be easily seen.



SCOUTED PAGE 23

"Scouted" means someone has gone on ahead on a journey and gathered information about the route.



FORT HALL PAGE 23

This trading post was another place where emigrants could stop and get fresh supplies. It was also the place where the California and Oregon trails split. Those going to Oregon went northwest, while those going to California traveled southwest.

FOURTH OF JULY PAGE 23

On the Fourth of July (Independence Day), Americans celebrate the anniversary of the day in 1776 when the United States declared that it would no longer be ruled by Britain.

MOUNTAIN FEVER PAGE 24

The symptoms of mountain fever included a headache, fever, and muscle pains. The illness may have been caused by a bite from an insect



called a tick. It was a deadly disease, but cholera was the most deadly disease on the trail, and few people survived it.

AXLES PAGE 32

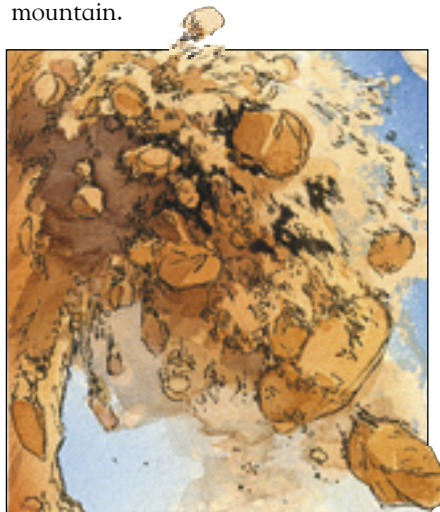
Axles are long bars that connect the wheels on a vehicle. A pioneer wagon's axles were made of wood, and sometimes they broke going over bumpy ground.

PASS PAGE 39

A pass is a way through a mountain.

LANDSLIDE PAGE 40

A landslide happens when rocks and dirt fall down the side of a hill or mountain.



FUSE PAGE 41

A fuse is a piece of flammable cord. One end of the cord is lit and the flame travels along its length until it reaches gunpowder at the other end. This sets off an explosion.



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- Days of the Knights
Volcanoes and Other Natural Disasters
Secrets of the Mummies
Pirates! Raiders of the High Seas
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MLB: The World of Baseball
MLB: October Magic: All the Best World Series!
WCW: Feel the Sting
WCW: Going for Goldberg
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JLA: Superman's Guide to the Universe
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