

TALES OF MACABRE

DOUBLE OR NOTHING

IN THE OLD WEST, AT A PEACEFUL CAMPSITE IN THE HILLS, TOM MAYNARD SNIFFED HOT COFFEE AND HEARD ONLY THE CHIRPING OF BIRDS. THEN, HE THOUGHT HE HEARD THE CLICK OF A GUN HAMMER BEING PULLED BACK...

SORRY I DON'T HAVE TIME TO JOIN YOU IN A CUP OF COFFEE, MAYNARD... BUT I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

YOU!
HARRY
HILD!

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HARRY
HILD
GAVE HIS
OPPONENT
A SECOND
OR TWO
TO DRAW
HIS GUN...
THEN...

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

IT WAS
ALL
OVER...

NOW THAT I'VE
FINISHED WHAT I
CAME HERE FOR,
MAYBE I WILL
HAVE THAT CUP
OF COFFEE!



'CAUSE I HAPPEN TO BE THE BEST THERE IS IN MY LINE OF WORK!



YES, HARRY HILD WAS A BOUNTY HUNTER WHO MADE HIS FORTUNE BY TRACKING DOWN MEN WANTED BY THE LAW...AND HE ALWAYS BROUGHT THEM IN... DEAD!



BUT AS HE PREPARED TO HEAD BACK TO TOWN...



LOOK, YOU! I DON'T COTTON TO HAVE PEOPLE SPYIN' ON ME WHILE I WORK! SO IF YOU GOT BUSINESS HERE, YOU BETTER DO IT WITH YOUR GUN DRAWN!



BUT... HEY, THE FELLER'S GONE! WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE?! AWW... PROBABLY JUST A TRICK OF THE SUN... A MIRAGE!



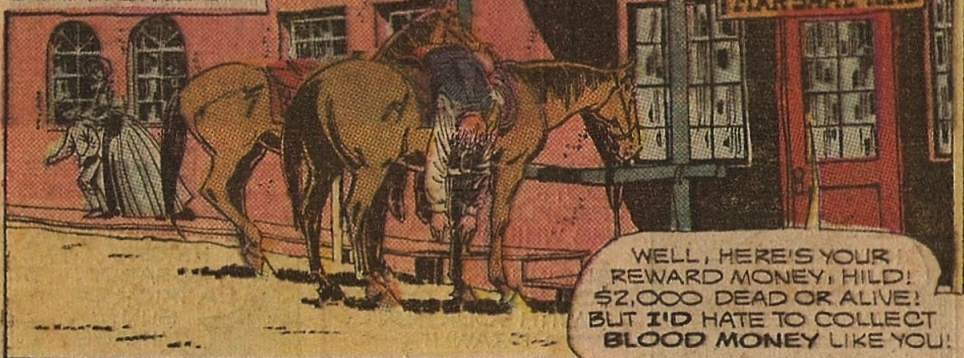
HARRY THOUGHT NO MORE ABOUT THE MAN WHO HAD SEEN HIM IN THE HILLS... AND CONTINUED MAKING HIS GRUESOME LIVING...



THEN, ONE DAY WHILE HUNTING DOWN A NOTORIOUS OUTLAW NAMED LARRY BARD...

GOT HIM WITH ONE CLEAN SHOT!

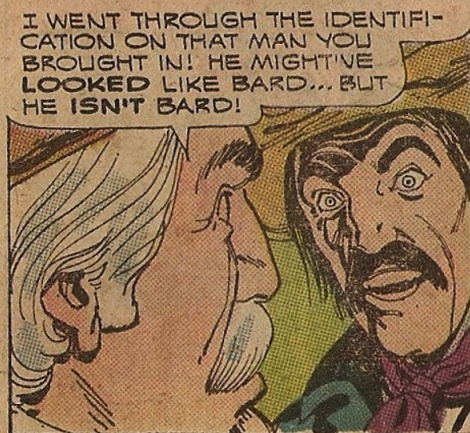
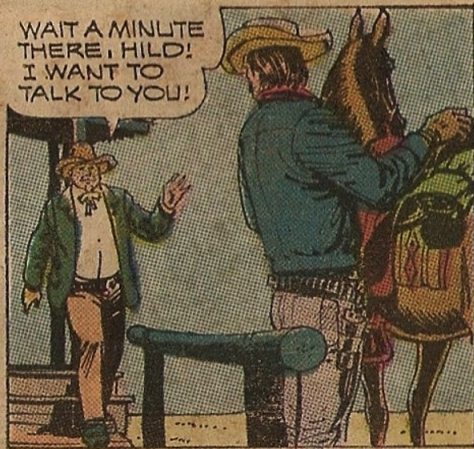
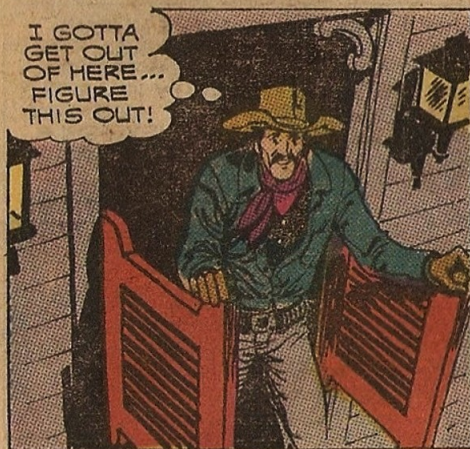
HARRY BROUGHT BARD'S LIFELESS REMAINS BACK TO TOWN, EAGERLY ANTICIPATING THE REWARD THAT HAD BEEN PLACED ON THE OUTLAW'S HEAD...



AND NOW, THIS CALLS FOR A LITTLE CELEBRATIN'! I TRACKED BARD A LONG WAY... AND THAT DESERT SUN SURE CAN MAKE A MAN THIRSTY!







I'M AFRAID YOU'RE NOT
TAKIN' ME
ANYWHERE,
STAR-
PACKER!

OWWPHF!

KA-POW!



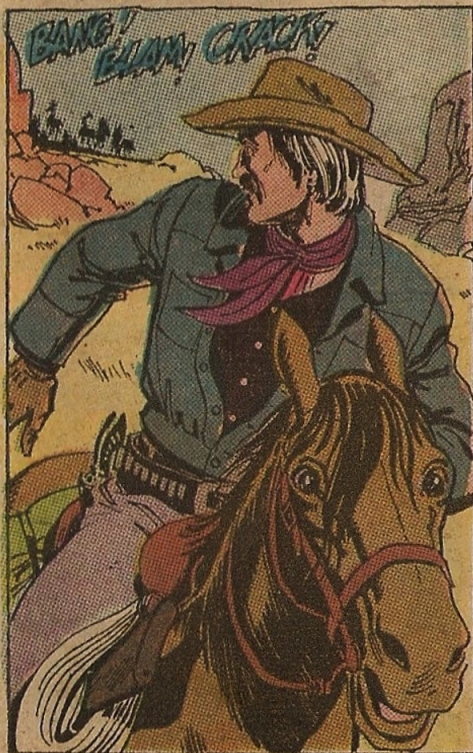
YUH SEE THAT?
THE OWLHOOT'S
RIDIN' OFF!

C'MON! LET'S FIND
OUT WHAT THE
MARSHAL HAS
TO SAY!



HARRY HILD RODE HIS HORSE
HARD... BUT BEHIND WAS THE
SOUND OF MANY HOOVES,
POUNDING THE DRY EARTH...AND
THE NOISES OF GUNS BLAZING,
SENDING THEIR HOT PROJECTILES
DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO HIM...

THAT POSSE'S GAININ'!
THEY'LL BE ON ME IN
ANOTHER MINUTE! BUT
THERE STILL MIGHT
BE A WAY FOR ME
TO ESCAPE!



HURRY,
BOYS! HE'S
LEADING
US TO THE
CHASM!



ONLY A FOOL WOULD HAVE MADE THAT JUMP... BUT THEN, HARRY HILD WAS WANTED FOR MURDER. THERE WAS A POSSE AFTER HIM, AND ALL OF ITS MEMBERS WERE TRYING TO BRING HIM DOWN!



WHOA, MEN! NONE OF US ARE DESPERATE ENOUGH TO RISK THAT JUMP! I'M AFRAID HILD HAS ESCAPED US! LET'S HEAD BACK FOR TOWN!



HARRY HILD HAD GOTTEN AWAY... AND SO THERE WAS A SMILE ON HIS COARSE FEATURES WHEN HE SAT DOWN TO A CUP OF HOT COFFEE IN HIS CAMP IN THE HILLS...



HOLD IT! I DON'T REALLY HEAR ANYTHING, BUT I SOMEHOW FEEL LIKE SOMEONE'S WATCHIN' ME! BETTER GET MY RIFLE!

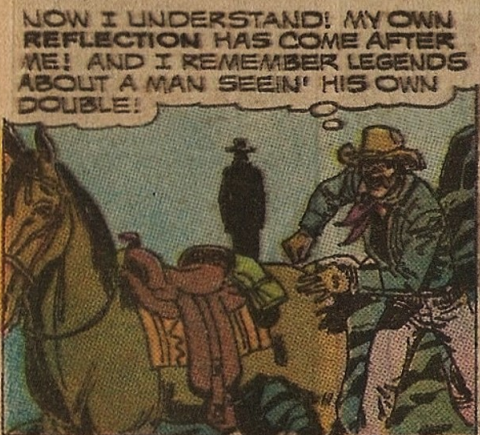


COULD BE REID! IF IT IS, I'M READY FOR HIM!





THE STRANGER STEPPED INTO THE MOONLIGHT...AND WHAT HARRY SAW MADE HIS SPINE FREEZE!



AND SO, HARRY
BEGAN HIS LONG
FLIGHT...FROM
HIMSELF!

HOW CAN I ESCAPE
SOMEONE WHO HAS
ALL MY OWN
HUNTING SKILLS?



EVEN AFTER HIS
HORSE DIED, HARRY
CONTINUED HIS
FLIGHT. BUT
AS ALWAYS...



HARRY HILD HAD BE-
COME THE PREY...JUST
LIKE HIS FORMER
VICTIMS. HIS HORSE
HAD GROWN WEAK
AND ILL...AND SOON
HARRY WAS FORCED
TO WALK...



HARRY WAS
DELIRIOUS...PERHAPS
HE THOUGHT HE MIGHT
ESCAPE...



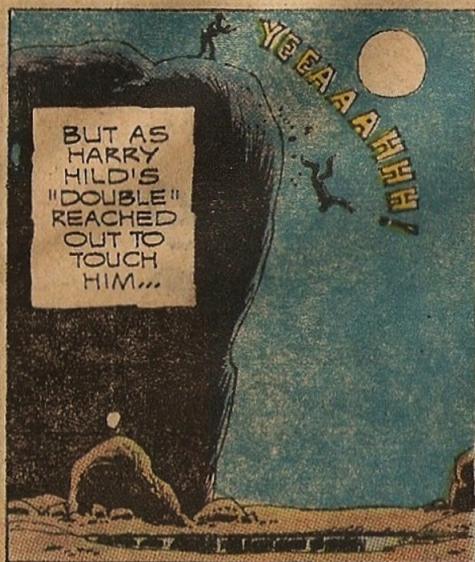
N-NO! I
WON'T LET
YOU
T-TAKE ME!

IN THE DAYS THAT
FOLLOWED, THE BOUNTY
HUNTER WAS ALWAYS
PURSUED BY HIS OWN
PHANTOM...WHO NEVER
TIRED, NEVER
HUNGRED OR
THIRSTED...



DON'T COME ANY
CLOSER! CAN'T YOU
SEE THAT I CAN'T
RUN ANY FARTHER?
NO, DON'T
TOUCH
ME!



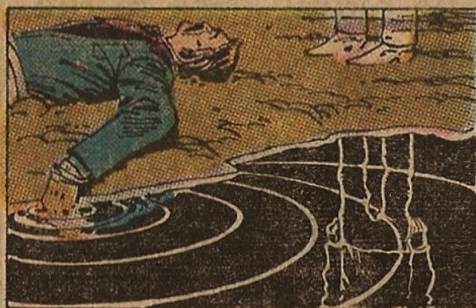


THE FALL WAS FATAL. IT WAS TOO LATE FOR HARRY TO UNDERSTAND WHY HIS REFLECTION HAD STEPPED INTO THE REAL WORLD...



HE'D NEVER KNOW HOW HIS OWN REFLECTION...OR "OTHER SELF"... WAS REVOLTED BY THE WAY HE HAD HUNTED DOWN HIS FELLOW MEN...

...AND THAT IT WAS HIS "OTHER SELF" WHO PUT A STOP TO HARRY'S BRUTALITIES, BY HUNTING HIM DOWN WITH ALL OF HARRY'S OWN SKILLS!



WHEN MARSHAL REID FINALLY DID TRACK DOWN THE BOUNTY HUNTER...

IT'S HILD...AS DEAD AS ONE OF HIS OWN VICTIMS!



THE MARSHAL NEVER SUSPECTED THAT HARRY HILD HAD, IN A WAY, BEEN KILLED BY...HARRY HILD!

THE END