

HOLDUP AT AMBUSH CANYON

A READER'S THEATER SCRIPT FOR CLASSROOM USE ONLY

Cast of Characters and Their Lines: *

- STAGECOACH (4): Shake, Rattle and Roll (3 times)
- DRIVER: "Giddyup, ya ornery critters!"
- GUARDS (2): "We must save the Payroll!"
- LADY: "Oh my heavens!"
- GAMBLER: "Raise you five, my friend!"
- DANCE HALL GIRLS (2): "Well, hi there, fellas!"
- BANDITS (2): "All right now... Stick `em up!"

NARRATOR #1

NARRATOR #2

NARRATOR #3

** Each time the Narrators say one of the names listed above, they pause and let the characters read their designated line.*

Narrator #1: The stagecoach was carrying a large shipment of gold from the El Dorado mine.

Narrator #3: The driver drove furiously, well aware of the dangers he'd surely face at Ambush Canyon.

The guards guarded. There were four passengers – a lady, a gambler, and two pretty dance hall girls.

Narrator #2: The passengers were shaken and bounced along as the stagecoach rolled furiously over the bumpy road.

The driver held the reins tightly.

The guards clutched the sack of gold.

Narrator #3: Inside the stagecoach the gambler tried to start up a conversation with the lady, who then fainted.

Narrator #2: Ignoring her, the gambler then talked to the dance hall girls.

It was late in the day when the stagecoach finally reached...

ALL: Ambush Canyon!

Narrator #1: Little did the driver, the guards, the gambler, the dance hall girls, and the lady suspect that beyond the next bend, a pair of desperate and ferocious bandits awaited them.

Narrator #2: Suddenly shots rang out! The stagecoach screeched to a

halt. The bandits ordered everyone out of the stagecoach.

Narrator #3: Down came the driver, the gambler and the lady, who promptly fainted at the sight of those ornery bandits. Then, ever so slowly, the two dance hall girls stepped out of the stagecoach with a giggle.

Narrator #1: The two bandits turned to look at the pretty dance hall girls.

Narrator #2: Meanwhile, while the bandits turned their heads, the guard knocked them out and captured both of them. The stagecoach was saved!

ALL: The moral to our story is this:

Guards: We must save the Payroll?
(questioning)

Gambler: **Raise you five, my friend?**
(questioning)

Dance Hall **Actually, fellas, you're both**
Girls: **wrong! The moral to this**
 story is to keep your mind on
 your business!

Lady: **Oh, my heavens!**

ALL: **THE END!**