

A LUCKY LUKE ADVENTURE

THE BOUNTY HUNTER

BY MORRIS & GOSCINNY



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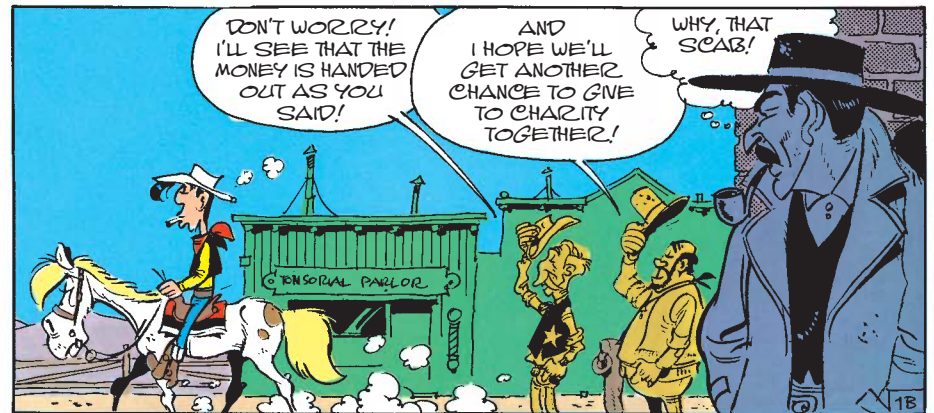
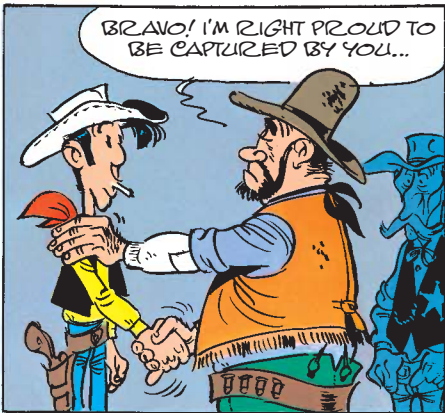
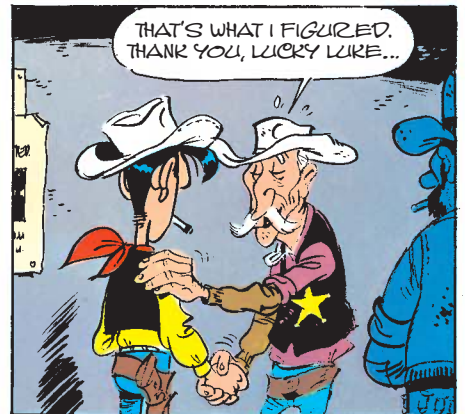
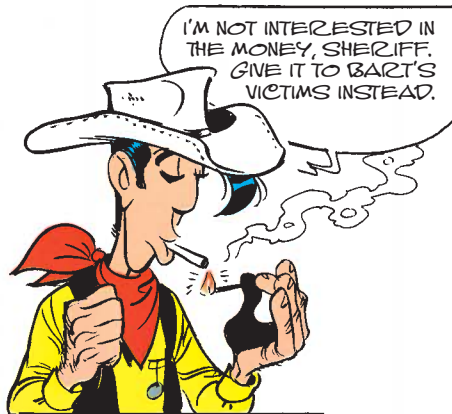
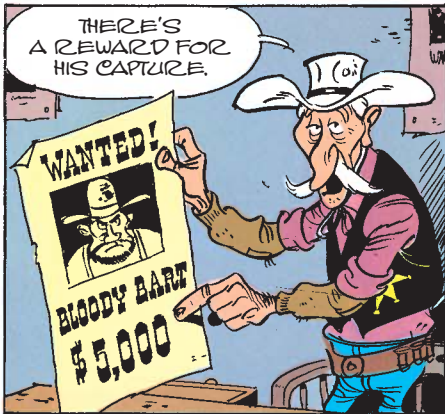
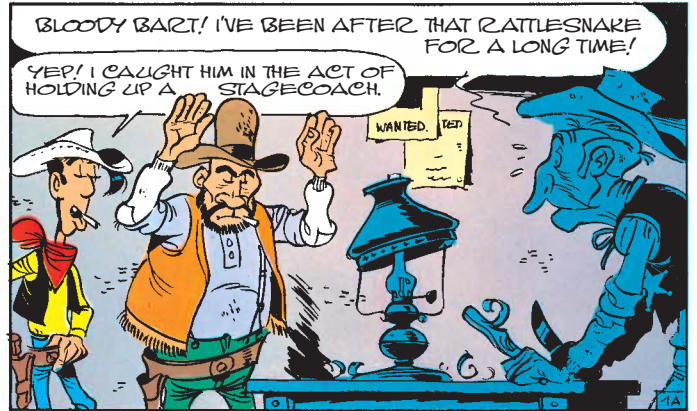
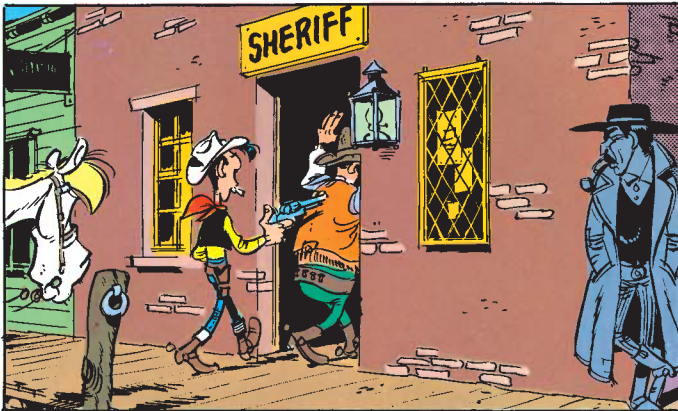
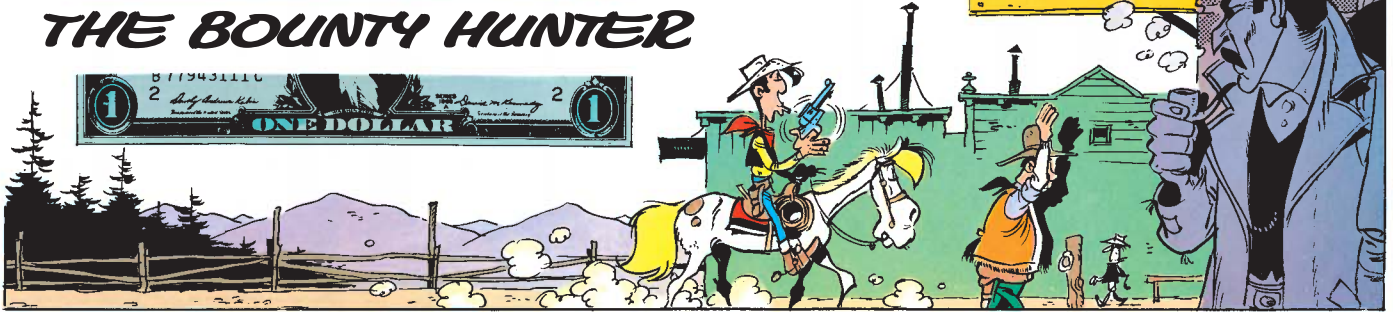
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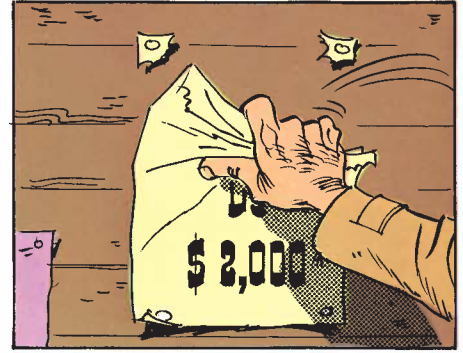
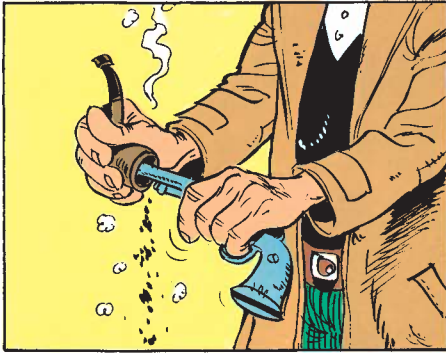
THE BOUNTY HUNTER



WHAT KIND OF WORK IS LUCKY LUKE BEING ACCUSED OF TAKING? THE BOUNTY HUNTER'S.

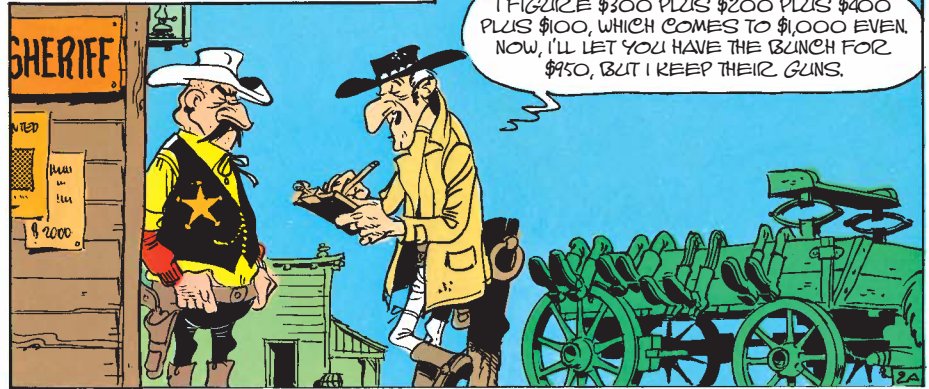
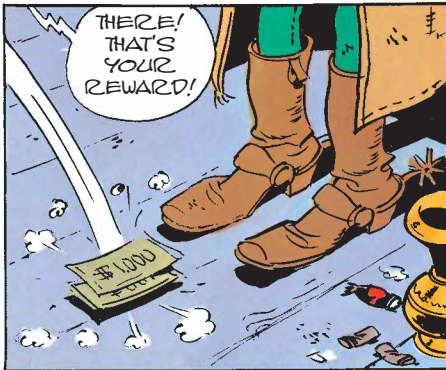
COMPARED WITH THE WILDLIFE OF THE WEST, THE BOUNTY HUNTER WAS EVEN MORE DESPISED THAN COYOTES, RATTLESNAKES AND VULTURES...

THEY EARNED THEIR BREAD IN EXCHANGE FOR THE LIBERTY OR LIVES OF THEIR PREY... NOT ALWAYS INNOCENT FOLKS, IT'S TRUE.



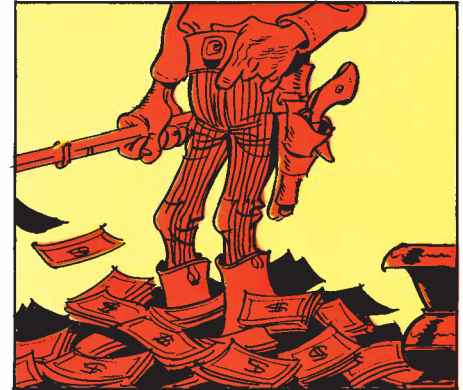
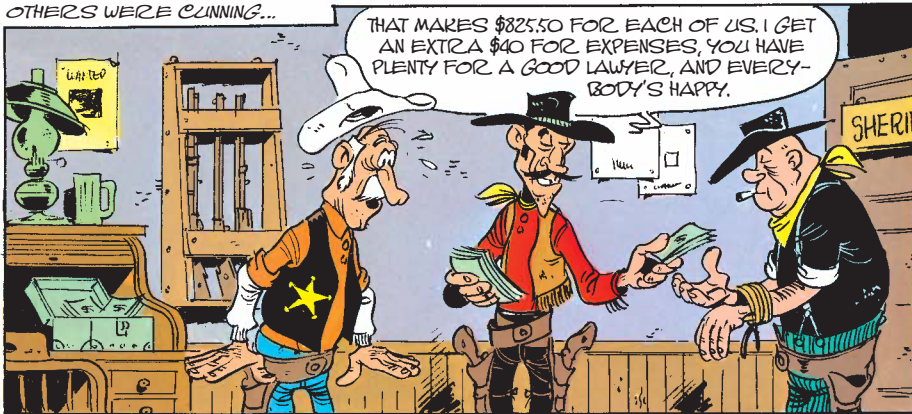
SORDID ASSISTANTS OF JUSTICE, BOUNTY HUNTERS WERE PAID WITH CONTEMPT.

SOME DID RATHER WELL...

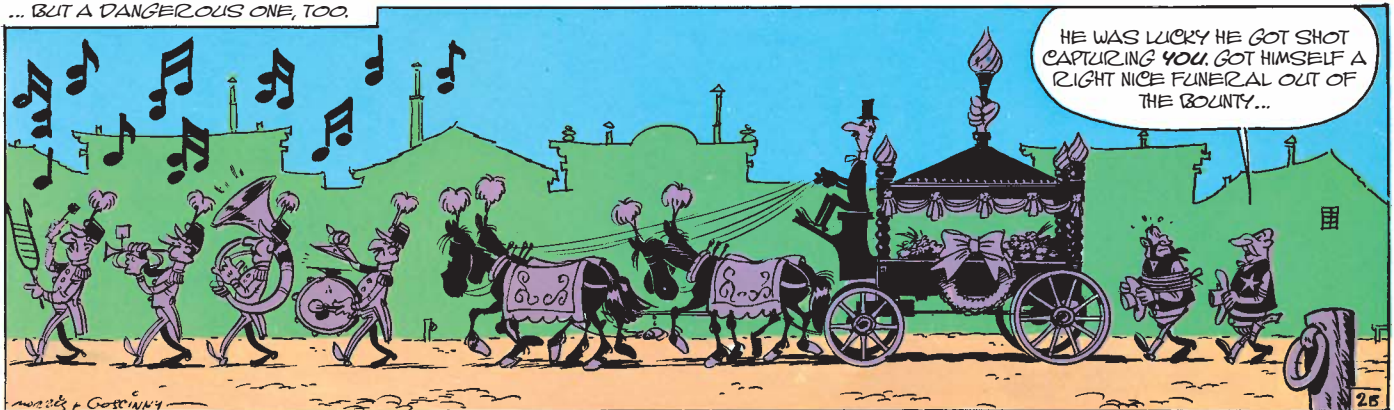


OTHERS WERE CUNNING...

IT WAS OFTEN A PROFITABLE JOB...



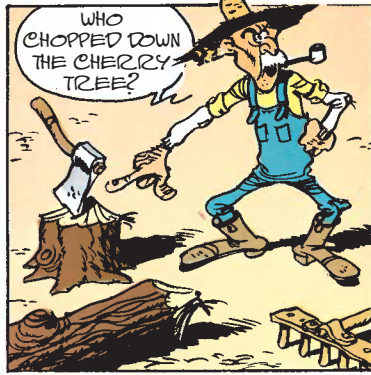
... BUT A DANGEROUS ONE, TOO.



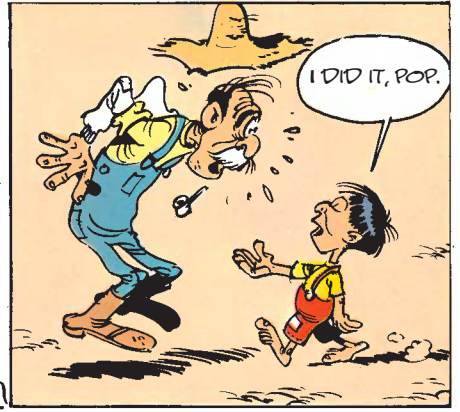
THIS MAN IS A BOUNTY HUNTER. HIS NAME IS ELLIOT BELT.



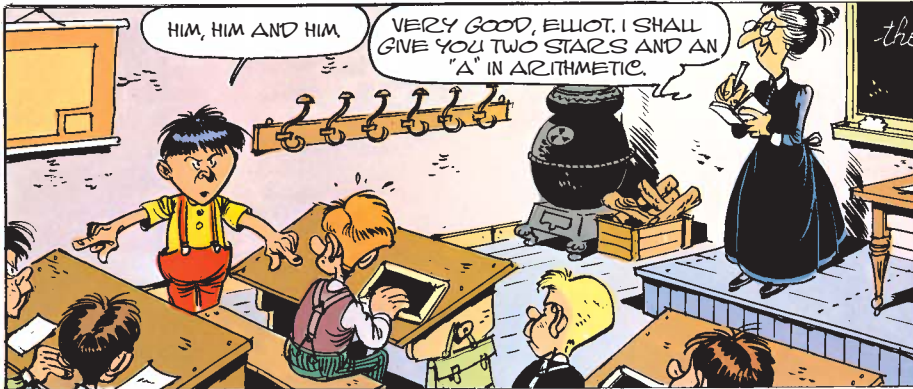
HE FOUND HIS CALLING EARLY IN LIFE. ONE MORNING...



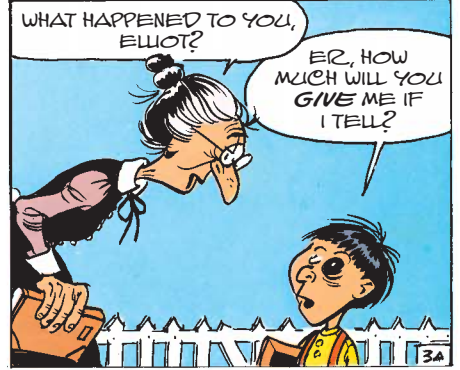
25¢ REWARD FER HANDIN' OVER THE GUILTY PARTY!



AT SCHOOL, HE GOT GOOD MARKS FOR TELLING ON HIS CLASSMATES.



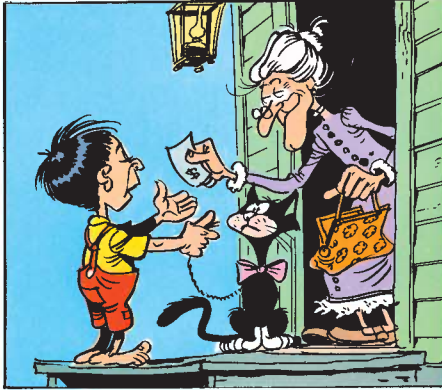
AND, IF, BY CHANCE, ONE OF THEM TOOK REVENGE...



BY NIGHT HE KIDNAPPED CATS AND DOGS.



AND THEN RETURNED THEM FOR A REWARD.



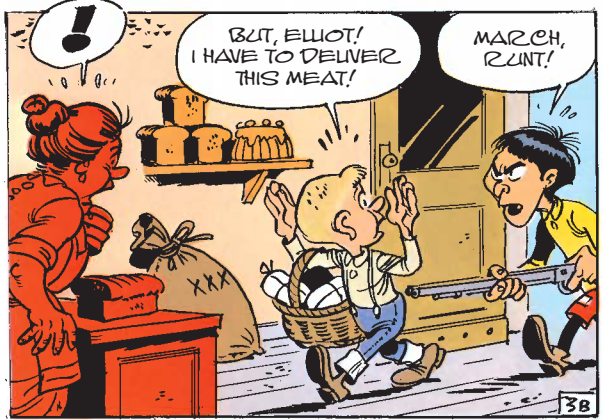
DURING THE RAT EXTERMINATION CAMPAIGN OF 1883, THE TOWN PAID 25¢ A RAT AND ELLIOT TOOK IN HUNDREDS...



... ALL RAISED BEHIND THE BARN.



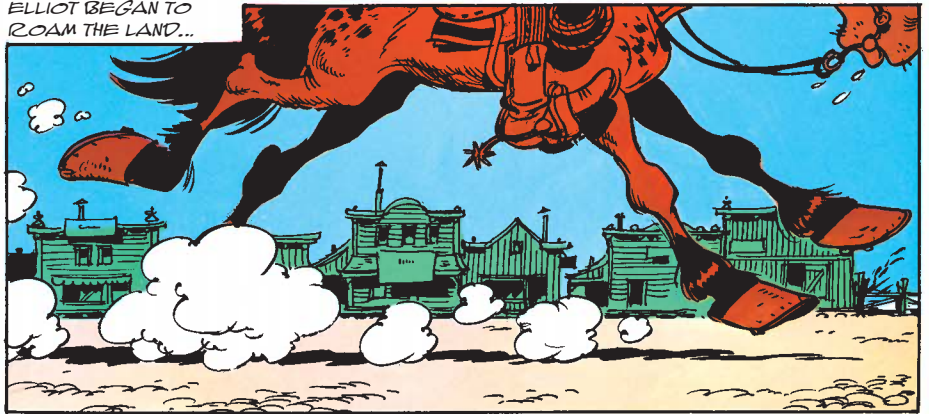
THE CHILD GREW, AND, ONE DAY...



THIS LITTLE INCIDENT OBLIGED ELLIOT BELT TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME BECAUSE THE DELIVERY BOY'S FATHER TURNED OUT TO BE THE TOWN BUTCHER, WILD BILL CLEAVER...



ELLIOT BEGAN TO ROAM THE LAND...

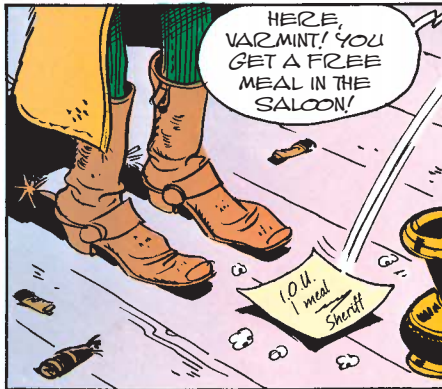


HE DISCOVERED HIS GREAT TALENT FOR HANDLING A GUN, DRIVEN BY GREED RATHER THAN COURAGE, HE SET HIMSELF UP AS A PROFESSIONAL BOUNTY HUNTER.



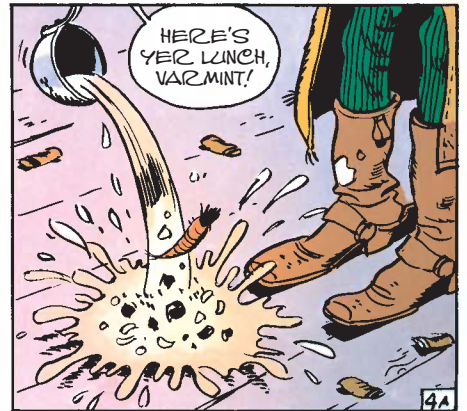
"DEAD OR ALIVE," THE POSTER SAID.

PROFITS WERE MODEST, AT FIRST...



HERE, VARMINT! YOU GET A FREE MEAL IN THE SALOON!

10.00 meal Sheriff

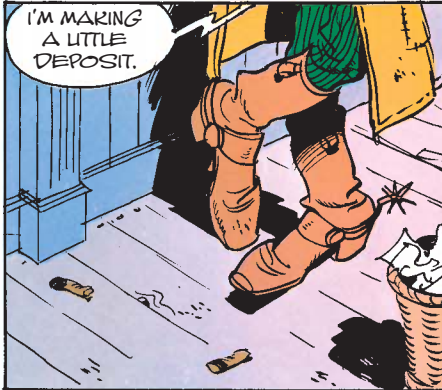


HERE'S YER LUNCH, VARMINT!

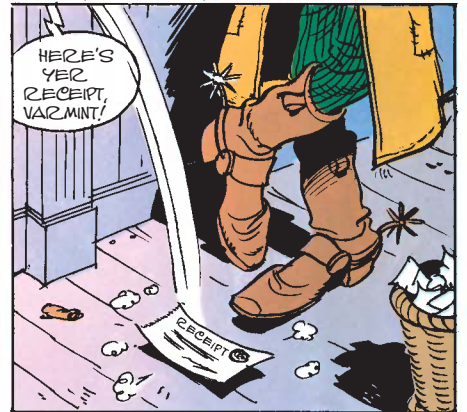
THEN, THE MONEY GOT BETTER...



AND BELT OPENED A BANK ACCOUNT.



I'M MAKING A LITTLE DEPOSIT.

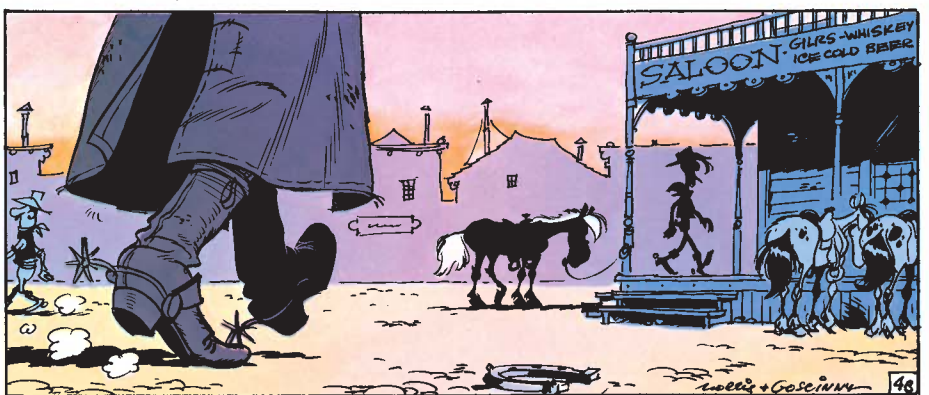


HERE'S YER RECEIPT, VARMINT!

ELLIOT BELT BECAME A BOUNTY HUNTER WITH A REPUTATION THAT WOULD MAKE A FIERCE APACHE WARRIOR SHAKE IN HIS MOCCASINS.



AND BY CHANCE, THE HUNT BROUGHT HIM TO CHEYENNE PASS.



SALOON - GILES - WHISKEY - ICE COLD BEER

