Episode 5: Good, Old-Fashioned, Police Work

Campaign Date: November 11-17, 1876

Characters:

Doctor Samuel Elder (Travis)
Jasper Cole, Newspaperman (Andrew)
Boy, the Mysterious Stranger (Bob)
"Honest" Harvey Boone, Attorney at Law (Pete)
Sheriff J.J. Sherman (Craig)

Judge: Dave N.

PROLOGUE

Two days after the posse returned to town, Sheriff Sherman's wound started to fester. Dr. Elder did some aggressive wound treatment and managed to keep it from going gangrenous, but the sheriff was not able to travel for a piece. In one of his more lucid moments, he deputizes Dr. Elder as "Temporary Under-Sheriff" to carry on the sheriff duties until he recovers.

The good doctor retrieves 2 telegrams that had been sent in reply to some of the inquiries the sheriff had sent out about the mysterious benefactors sending money to the homesteaders.

Telegram 1:

To: Sheriff J.J. Sherman, Hacksaw County, Arizona

From: Marshal Bill O'Reilly, Phoenix, Arizona

Money wired to Ryan Gosling was brought to the Western Union Office by young office-boy STOP

Boy signed as "Tad Young" STOP

Had note and cash from Metzger-Wickersham Law Firm STOP

No such firm in town STOP

Telegram 2:

To: Sheriff J.J. Sherman, Hacksaw County, Arizona From: Marshal Paul Peterson, Tuscon, Arizona

Money wired to George Costanza delivered to the Western Union Office by secretary from First National Bank of Tuscon STOP

Signature: "Mary Louise Jones" STOP

Had note and cash from From First National, in a First National envelope STOP

No such secretary exists at First National of Tuscon STOP

LOG:

November 11, 1876, Hacksaw Crossing, Arizona

Dr. Elder spots a Wells Fargo wagon carrying 2 shipments of guns. 40 marked for Cliff Huxtable and 40 for Pablo Ramirez in Rosalita. The Ramirez shipment is immediately loaded onto a cross-country wagon and sent out of town. The posse decides to wait to see who picks up the other shipment. Jasper intercepts Cowboy Louis (one of the Wells Fargo drovers) on his way to the post office. They discuss the arms shipments and Jasper discovers that they were two completely separate orders just shipped together for convenience.

The posse discusses things and decides to follow the Ramirez shipment. They run into the overland freight wagon returning to town. The drover, Dallas Ralston, said that Ramirez picked up the guns on the trail. The posse tracks Ramirez and his crew. Boy tries to sneak ahead of them but is spotted. Boy has a pointless conversation with Luis from Ramirez's crew and moves out of their way.

The posse tracks Ramirez to the edge of Apache territory. Realizing that they are gunrunners, they discuss things awhile. They have Boy trace the gun runners. He spots them handing the guns to Apaches in exchange for an elaborately carved stick, and then heading south east toward Mexico. The posse then tracks the gun-runners and catches them before the border. In the gun-fight, Boy is nearly mortally wounded by being gut-shot, but Dr. Elder manages to stabilize him. Soon, after 3 of the gun-runners are killed and one runs off, Ramirez surrenders and reveals that Evans had paid for the guns for the Apaches.

The posse spends the night at Rosalita. Dr. Elder gets Boy conscious, if still hurting, and patches himself up a bit.

November 12—Rosalita to Hacksaw Crossing

November 13—Hacksaw Crossing

The posse returns to find that the Sheriff has recovered. The sheriff has the Wells Fargo Huxtable gun shipment moved to the sheriff's office.

November 14—Hacksaw Crossing

Sheriff has guns to the Indians charge added to the warrant against Richard Evans.

November 17—Hacksaw Crossing

Dr. Elder patches up himself and Boy. Cliff Huxtable comes into town and visits the sheriff's office for his delivery. The sheriff finds that Cliff wasn't expecting rifles. The sheriff decides to seize the rifles and stake-out Cliff's place. They find nothing, but are visited by Abby Gosling. The sheriff notices a locket Abby wears, labeled AL. She explains her maiden name was Abby Lane. The posse decides to head to the Gosling house. Boy sneaks up to spy. He doesn't see any strangers, but notices a new padlock on the shred.

Waiting till night, Jasper and Dr. Elder sneak up to the shed. Dr. Elder picks the lock and finds a supply of ammunition in the shed. The Sheriff confronts the Goslings and seizes the bullets.

Back in town, the sheriff is met by Chester Longhair, Arizona Ranger. He confers with the sheriff about the Old Man Bandits, who had previously done robberies in Tuscon and Phoenix, before their bank hesit in Hacksaw. Longhair pokes around town a little and uncovers that the mules in the robbery were stolen, not rented.

Harvey searches the court records looking for a Lane. He doesn't find anything but remembers that one of the new waitresses at the Rio Madre was named Margot Lane. The sheriff does some subtle questioning of Margot, and begins to suspect the pair of Margot and Wilma of being the Old Man bandits.