Guy Bass

LAURA NORDER

SHERIFF OF BUTTS CANYON

With illustrations by
Steve May

Barrington Stoke

To Denise
Who gave Laura her name!

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WHO'S WHO IN



LAURA NORDER
the sheriff's daughter

LAURA'S DAD
the sheriff
of Butts Canyon





TEN GUN BEN
the outlaw

JEN ERROL
the General Store owner



PORTLY POUNDCAKE
the mayor



MORT L. COIL
the undertaker

BUTTS CANYON



SNIPPY CLIPPER
the barber



TAD TIPSY
the barman

PRECIOUS LITTLE
the gold prospector

HARMONY PLAINSONG
the music teacher



WALTER SPITTY
the bad-mannered man

DOC KNITWELL
the doctor



DUNCAN DISORDERLY
the masked menace

Chapter 1
Welcome to Butts Canyon

A long time ago, before motor cars and microwaves and mobile phones, there was the Wild West! It was an unruly land full of cowboys, cowherds and cowpats. It was a time when men were men, horses were horses and everything else was everything else.

And it was a time of lawless bandits, where the only rule was THERE ARE NO RULES.

Except, that is, in Butts Canyon.

In this small, dusty town, rule-breaking, wrong-doing and bad behaviour were things

of the past. In Butts Canyon, there was one lawmaker that no one dared cross.

No, not Portly Poundcake, the town mayor.

No, not even the town's sheriff, who had a badge and an office with a fancy SHERIFF sign hanging above the door.

No, Butts Canyon was run by a ten-year-old girl by the name of Laura Norder.

Laura's only rule was that everyone followed the Golden Rules, a list of dos and don'ts as long as a winding river. And that is exactly what the townsfolk did. But why? Why would anyone do what a ten year old told them to do?

You wouldn't ask that question if you had met Laura Norder.