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KEY=COMPTON - SCHMITT WEST

THE HUNTED

Penguin Retaliating against a blackmailer who would expose his personal secrets, Charlie Chilton is forced into the service of the town's marshal and left for dead on the side of a snowy mountain by a ragtag band of drunkards who Charlie resolves to bring to justice. Original. 75,000 first printing.

RALPH COMPTON THE HUNTED

RALPH COMPTON: THE HUNTED

Retaliating against a blackmailer who would expose his personal secrets, Charlie Chilton is forced into the service of the town's marshal and left for dead on the side of a snowy mountain by a ragtag band of drunkards who Charlie resolves to bring to justice. (westerns).

THE HUNTED

A RALPH COMPTON NOVEL

Big Charlie Chilton knows better, but when a loudmouth threatens to expose his secrets he teaches him a lesson. It turns out the man was about to make an important supply run for the town's marshal, who drafts Charlie instead. The ragtag drunkards running the freighting outfit make the treacherous trek north worse. When bad blood springs up between them, Charlie is left for dead on the side of the mountain. But they should have made sure he was really gone.

THE HUNTED

RALPH COMPTON BOUNTY HUNTER

Penguin A bounty hunter is outgunned and under fire in this Ralph Compton western... John Tone was good at his job. Some would say ruthless. If there was killing to be done, Tone showed no mercy. In another time, far across the ocean, he had lost the only person he had ever loved—and he'd been dead inside ever since. That was the hand Fate dealt him, and he would play it out. But when a powerful criminal from San Francisco's notorious Barbary Coast makes him an offer he can't refuse, Tone himself becomes the hunted one. He has to draw out six of his client's worst enemies—making himself a target for the men he would kill. And against those odds Tone knows he may be loading the six chambers of his Colt for the last time... More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

THE GOODNIGHT TRAIL

THE TRAIL DRIVE, BOOK 1

St. Martin's Paperbacks Former Texas Rangers Benton McCaleb, Will Elliot, and Brazos Gifford ride with Charles Goodnight as he rounds up thousands of ornery, unbranded cattle for the long drive to Colorado. From the Trinity River brakes to Denver, they'll battle endless miles of flooded rivers, parched desert, and whiskey-crazed Comanches. And come face-to-face with Judge Roy Bean and legendary gunslingers like Clay Allison. For McCaleb and his hard-riding crew, the drive is a fierce struggle against the perils of an untamed land. A fight to the finish where the brave reach glory—or die hard.

RALPH COMPTON TIN STAR

Berkley In this all-new Ralph Compton Western in the Sundown Rider series, Luke Hadley goes on a vengeance trail when the Rhodes Gang kidnaps his new wife. Luke Hadley had just gotten married when the Rhodes Gang crashed the wedding party and wreaked havoc, shooting Luke three times. He survived only to discover his guests murdered and his wife missing. Luke has only a sparse trail of clues to follow, but with help from a phony Pinkerton badge and a mysterious woman with many skills - including breaking him out of jail - he finally rides down those who've wronged him...

RALPH COMPTON DIE TRYING

Penguin Two bandits are forced to put aside their rivalry to find a hidden cache of gold in this suspenseful installment in Ralph Compton's bestselling Gunfighter series. Outlaws. Assassins. Thieves. That is how Chris Burr and Katie Roper are known. Ordinarily they're enemies and competitors. But when they each find themselves in possession of half a map that will lead them to a fortune in hidden gold, they're left with no choice but to work together. Their alliance is tenuous at best, and what begins as a tentative, untrusting partnership will soon become a game of cat and mouse through a sun-scorched land ravaged by the fiery conflict of the civil war. As Chris and Katie learn that survival may depend on trusting each other, they are pursued across the desert by both a sheriff and a relentless, cold-blooded killer. With their fortunes and futures hanging in the balance, the hunters and the hunted find themselves on a collision course that will culminate in a final, deadly reckoning!

DEATH RIDES A CHESTNUT MARE

Penguin A woman sates her lust for vengeance in this Ralph Compton western... Waylaid by a pack of murdering outlaws, Daniel Strange's lifeless body is left dangling at the end of a rope. Now, a mysterious gunslinger is on the vengeance trail, packing Strange's trademark twin Colts, and answering to the same name. With fiery green eyes and a temper to match, he won't stop until every last man who killed Strange shares the same fate. And as each bullet finds its mark, his victims will die never knowing the truth: that Daniel Strange may be dead and buried, but his daughter is alive—and killing... More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

RALPH COMPTON THE OUTLAW HUNTERS

[Penguin](#) In this rousing new Ralph Compton Western, a young man must learn to lead if his companions are to face a band of outlaws—and survive. Back home in California after a failed attempt to strike it rich in the silver mines of Colorado, the last thing Eugene Castor wants is to be recruited to join a manhunt. But Castor finds it impossible to turn down his father's old friend, Marshal Arthur Adams. Besides, the reward is sizeable. Not only did a band of outlaws rob Old Man Herbert, the richest man in town, but they kidnapped his new wife, too! The posse is a volatile mix that includes Herbert's hot-tempered son, the family's cold-eyed hired gun, a crack shot rancher with no time for a loser like Castor, and Geneva Harriot, the town's controversial lady doctor. Out on the trail of the fugitives, the group encounters a traveling medicine show, a band of rowdy prospectors, and a whole passel of bloody trouble. As they race to catch up to the outlaws, Castor starts to realize things may not be what they seem. After his previous failures, will he be able to trust himself enough to get to the bottom of what really happened?

RALPH COMPTON RIDERS OF JUDGMENT

[Berkley](#) Unaware that she is being pursued by a U.S. federal marshal, Danielle Strange hunts down the outlaws who murdered her father and, with a price on her head, must complete her mission before time runs out. Original.

RALPH COMPTON SHOT TO HELL

[Penguin](#) A deadly marksman is on the hunt to find his missing sister in this exhilarating new Ralph Compton Western. One terrible day, fifteen-year-old Leif Gunnarson comes home to find his family home on fire and a gruesome scene inside: his parents are tied up, on the brink of death among the hellish flames, and his sister is nowhere to be found. His father can barely gasp a name: Simkins. And with that, Leif has his life's mission--to track down Luther Simkins, notorious outlaw and gang leader, and find his sister. Along the way, Leif finds a temporary home in Wyoming Bob's Wild West Show. He has an innate talent with firearms but needs to hone those skills until he can outshoot anyone, even Simkins. Touring the West as the star performer known as Trickshot, Leif finally gets wind of an outlaw who could lead him to his sister. It will be the most important showdown of his life--but will his sharpshooting be a match for the shocking tricks the outlaw has up his sleeve?

RALPH COMPTON TEXAS HILLS

[Signet](#), published by [New American Library](#) (Summary): Owen Burnett's needs are small. All he's ever wanted is his wife's affection, his children's health, and a little plot of land makes him a business proposition that could leave him richer than he's ever dreamed, he can't refuse giving the risky scheme a try. Rounding up cattle in the Texas hill country is nothing to take lightly.

RALPH COMPTON BROTHER'S KEEPER

[Penguin](#) When puncher Thalís Christie's parents write to implore him to hunt down his brother who's been shot while prospecting in the Black Hills, he sets out to do his family duty and find his brother, encountering many dangers and obstacles along the way.

RALPH COMPTON DIE TRYING

RALPH COMPTON SHOTGUN CHARLIE

[Penguin](#) The only thing a man can trust is his gun in this gripping Ralph Compton western.... Big for his age, young and impressionable drifter Charlie Chilton is taken in by the gruff leader of a gang of small-time crooks. While Grady Haskell sees something of himself in kindly, wayward Charlie, the ruffian pushes all feelings aside for a potentially big score. When Haskell's bold daylight bank job in prosperous Bakersfield turns bloody, Charlie attempts to thwart the heist—and ends up the only gang member caught alive. Sentenced to swing, Charlie makes a daring escape, determined to track down Haskell and prove his innocence. But with a mysterious marshal and a party of angry townsmen hot on his heels, Charlie must track the killer thieves through a vicious winter storm in the High Sierras—before the seething posse gets the chance to hang him high. More Than Eight Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

RALPH COMPTON THE RELUCTANT LAWMAN

[Penguin](#) A gunman wants to hang up his Colts in this fast-paced installment of Ralph Compton's Sundown Riders series. Luke Lessing was told his career at the Pinkerton Agency was assured, thanks to his skill with pistol and rifle. But when his partner got ambushed, Luke was widely blamed. Discouraged with Pinkerton politics, he moved on to a job as sheriff in a "sleepy" little town in Colorado, only to barely escape with his life. So Luke happily traded wearing a badge for cooking at the Comstock Café in Virginia City, hub of the fabled Comstock Lode. He'd put his past behind him—until a bushwhacked marshal and a confrontation with an old enemy drag him into a whirlpool of corruption, missing miners, and concealed treasure, where you can never tell who will betray you next. Luke's pressured to pin on a badge yet again, not only by the Secretary of the Nevada Territory, but the Secretary's boss, who happens to be President of the United States. There's a lot of dough on the line, but not the kind he's got a talent for. What does a fella have to do to get back to baking biscuits? More than eight million Ralph Compton books in print!

RALPH COMPTON DEMON'S PASS

[Penguin](#) Two men brave the unforgiving frontier in this western in Ralph Compton's Sundown Riders series. Parker Stanley's family had a dream: to start a new life in the Far West. But en route, a Cheyenne band slaughters his parents and abducts his sister, leaving him for dead. Then a cowboy named Clay Springer rides to the rescue—and comes up with an idea. He's got a team ready to deliver goods to the Mormons in Utah, but he's short on funds for supplies. He knows that Parker managed to hold on to his family's savings, so he suggests a fifty-fifty partnership. With a three-wagon, seven-man team, Parker and Clay will traverse the barren land to find a secret mountain pass that will save them three hundred miles on their journey. But out in the wilderness, Parker's sister needs saving—and he has vowed to find her. More Than Eight Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

RALPH COMPTON DOUBLE: ROUGH JUSTICE #2

[Berkley](#) The Strange siblings are on the hunt for justice in this wild double installment of bestselling Western author Ralph Compton's Rough Justice series. **RIDERS OF JUDGMENT:** In her guise as "Danny Duggin," Danielle Strange has spent the past two years hunting down the outlaws who murdered her father. Reunited with her brothers, the twins Tim and Jed, she plans to take her war across the border into Mexico--unaware she's being pursued by a U.S. federal marshal.... Saul Delmano comes from a powerful family of cattlemen whose business stretches from the Southwestern territories into Mexico. He's put a \$2,000 reward on Danny Duggin's head, tempting every outlaw and bounty hunter across the West to try to collect it. But the cry of vengeance has been shouted out--and only justice can silence it. **DEATH ALONG THE CIMARRON:** Disguised as "Danny Duggin," Danielle Strange hunted down the merciless cutthroats who murdered her father. Now the feared gunslick has hung up her trademark twin Colts--and given up her secret identity--to make something out of her Texas ranch. But then a passel of hard cases rides into town and all hell breaks loose. And when the vicious gunmen kill one of Danielle's old saddle pals, she knows it's time for Danny Duggin to ride the vengeance trail again....

BLOOD ON THE GALLOWS

[Penguin](#) When he arrives in the town of Rest and Be Thankful, which is run by an evil mayor and his cruel son, former big-city detective John McBride vows to take down these these vicious tormentors with the help of a mysterious white-haired preacher. Original.

RALPH COMPTON TERROR TRAIL

[Penguin](#) With their father injured and their brother murdered, the Aguirre twins--Dolores and Sonya--lead a crew of ranch hands and friendly members of the Mescalero Apache tribe to recover their herd--a perilous journey that brings about swift justice.

RALPH COMPTON THE HELLBOUND POSSE

Penguin In this fast-paced new installment in bestselling author Ralph Compton's Gunfighter series, the tables are turned on a posse when they become the hunted. Three men rode into Hades, New Mexico, to rob a bank. Only two rode out. Sheriff Wilson Carter killed one of the bandits in the middle of Main Street. Now he and his posse are after the two fleeing criminals. He doesn't know that the bad guys are part of a much larger gang. Nor does he know that the two men are racing to meet up with their comrades, and that the corpse on Main Street was once the brother of the psychotic gang leader. Sheriff Wilson Carter is about to find out what it's like to be hunted.

RALPH COMPTON RIDE THE HAMMER DOWN

Penguin In this racing new installment in bestseller Ralph Compton's the Gunfighter series, Marshal John Beck is a man who has spent his career dispensing justice throughout the West, but now the justice is personal. Marshal John Beck was the law in the dangerous town of Mother Lode, Arizona. On his own, he'd managed to keep bandits, rustlers, and desperados at bay. It was a tough job for one man to handle, but he made it work...until the day Bram Hogan and his Brickhouse Gang got the drop on the lawman. They beat Beck to within an inch of his life and dropped him in the desert where nothing but a slow, painful death awaited him. But the gang underestimated Beck. Even at his lowest point, he found a way to survive. Now, he's coming back and anyone who stands against him is going to ride the hammer down to the grave.

THE WESTERN TRAIL

THE TRAIL DRIVE, BOOK 2

St. Martin's Paperbacks In the aftermath of the Civil War, cash-starved Texans turned to the only resource they possessed in abundance: longhorn cows. Despite the hazards of trailing longhorns across some three hundred miles of Indian Territory, this was the only way to access the railroad... **THE WESTERN TRAIL** Benton McCaleb and his band of bold-spirited cowboys traveled long and hard to drive thousands of ornery cattle into Wyoming's Sweetwater Valley. They're in the midst of setting up a ranch just north of Cheyenne when a ruthless railroad baron and his hired killers try to force them off the land. Now, with the help of the Shoshoni Indian tribe and a man named Buffalo Bill Cody, McCaleb and his men must vow to stand and fight. Outgunned and outmanned, they will wage the most ferocious battle of their lives—to win the right to call the land their own.

RALPH COMPTON DRIVE FOR INDEPENDENCE

Berkley Starting a new career as a drover, former bounty hunter Art Catlin must lead the herd from Sante Fe to Independence, Missouri, and, along the way, encounters countless threats, from environmental to personal.

RALPH COMPTON THE DANGEROUS LAND

Penguin A father is on the hunt for justice in this Ralph Compton western... Frontier life is hard enough without having kids to worry about—especially for a widower like Paul Meakes. Still, he's settled where he is and resolved to stay in the small Colorado town his son and daughter call home. So when his daughter is hit by a seemingly poisoned arrow during an Indian raid, Paul is determined to track down the Comanche villains who hurt his little girl—and bring them to justice with the help of Indian hunter Hank Adley, a hired gun who's got business of his own with the tribe. But when the trail leads from a close call with Indian warriors to a deadly intrigue, Paul discovers that the dangers of the West are far greater and more varied than he ever imagined. And to save his family, he has no choice but to take a stand against them all.... More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books in Print!

RALPH COMPTON LOST BANSHEE MINE

Berkley Two miners have worked their claim for a year and are barely eking out a living. One night, one of them gets drunk and buys a treasure map from a shady character who says that it came from an infamous bank robber. The other miner thinks the map is a complete fraud, but then details start clicking into place. Maybe they have the key to their fortunes after all! But word gets around, and the infamous bank robber shows up looking for his map. They will have to fight off hostile Indians, miners, and a dangerous felon to get the cache of gold.

RALPH COMPTON THE TOO-LATE TRAIL

Penguin A rancher discovers just how many times a man's luck can hold out in this thrilling novel in the bestselling Trail Drive Series After struggling for years to work a raw-patch ranch in the arid flatlands of Texas, young Mitchell Newland learns that his herd of scrubby range cattle will fetch ten times their local price if they're driven to Montana. He strikes a one-sided deal with the devil, neighboring rancher Corliss Bilks, to back his play with cattle, men, and horses. The trail brims with hellish hardship: prairie fire, stampede, flooded rivers, hailstorms, rattlers, sickness, long, broiling days and frigid nights. Halfway to Montana, range pirates and a rogue Apache war party close in. Mitch and the boys fight, grim and helpless, watching as their herd is driven westward in a cloud of dust and cackling laughter. Cut down to two bloodied men, Mitch collapses, far too late, and admits the old man has won the bet. But salvation in the form of a Basque shepherd revives Mitch and his pal, Drover Joe, and Mitch realizes he isn't done. Not by a long shot. And now he has nothing to lose.

RALPH COMPTON DEATH ALONG THE CIMARRON

Penguin A gunslinging woman can't escape her past in this Ralph Compton western. Disguised as "Danny Duggin," Danielle Strange hunted down the merciless cutthroats who murdered her father. Now the feared gunslick has hung up her trademark twin Colts—and given up her secret identity—to make something out of her Texas ranch. But then a passel of hard cases rides into town and all hell breaks loose. And when the vicious gunmen kill one of Danielle's old saddle pals, she knows it's time for Danny Duggin to ride the vengeance trail again.... More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

THE DANGEROUS LAND

A RALPH COMPTON NOVEL

Penguin When his daughter is hit by a poison arrow during an Indian raid, widower Paul Meakes, determined to bring the Comanche warriors responsible to justice, hires an Indian hunter to help him on his quest, only to discover that the dangers of the West are far greater than he ever could have imagined. Original. 75,000 first printing.

RALPH COMPTON DOUBLE CROSS RANCH

Penguin A rancher fights to save the woman he loves in this Ralph Compton western... Rancher Ty Farraday's hunt for stray cattle takes a turn for the worse when he discovers a shallow grave and the body of wealthy Alton Winstead, the owner of the Double-Cross Ranch. Ty's first frantic thoughts are of Winstead's widow, Sue-Ellen, who picked Alton over him. Unfortunately, she chose poorly. Alton masterminded a crime and left his helpers to swing for it. Hungry for revenge, the murderous headcases have overrun the Double-Cross and are holding Sue-Ellen prisoner. They believe she's harboring some very important information. Ty boldly rescues her from the ranch—only to find their troubles are only beginning... More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

OUTLAW'S RECKONING

[Penguin](#) More information to be announced soon on this forthcoming title from Penguin USA

RALPH COMPTON DRIVE FOR INDEPENDENCE

[Penguin](#) In this brand-new Ralph Compton Western, the drovers of the Bar X ranch will face sandstorms, renegades, and outlaws along the historic Cimarron trail. After a child is accidentally killed in a shootout, Art Catlin decides to give up his life of bounty hunting and finds a new career as a drover, working for the Bar X ranch. The trail is 770 miles from Santa Fe to Independence, Missouri, and Art isn't fool enough to think it'll be an easy journey. As they head east, they seem to come upon countless threats, from environmental to personal. If they're to make it all the way with the herd intact, Catlin will need to use all of the skill and knowledge he's acquired over his long and violent career.

THE AUTUMN OF THE GUN

[Penguin](#) A gunslinger goes up against his own kin in this western from USA Today bestselling author Ralph Compton. Nathan Stone is a living legend in the West as a lawman, an outlaw, a gambler, and a wanderer through the wildest towns and terrain. He has blazed a vengeance trail, giving no quarter and asking for none. Fearlessly, he plays his cards and uses his Colt .45s as best he can in games of chance, skill, and savagery, for stakes of life or death. Now he's riding on a course that will test his rawhide nerves and lightning draw against the likes of Doc Holliday, Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid, the fleeing James brothers, and the incredible John Wesley Hardin as he heads toward a fateful rendezvous with the one gunfighter as fast and deadly as he: a teenage kid who kills like a man—Nathan's own son... More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

RALPH COMPTON RIDERS OF JUDGMENT

[Penguin](#) The Strange siblings are on the hunt for justice in this Ralph Compton western. In her guise as "Danny Duggin," Danielle Strange has spent the past two years hunting down the outlaws who murdered her father. Reunited with her brothers, the twins Tim and Jed, she plans to take her war across the border into Mexico—unaware she's being pursued by a U.S. federal marshal.... Saul Delmano comes from a powerful family of cattlemen whose business stretches from the Southwestern territories into Mexico. He's put a \$2,000 reward on Danny Duggin's head, tempting every outlaw and bounty hunter across the West to try to collect it. But the cry of vengeance has been shouted out—and only justice can silence it. More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

RED MOON

[Penguin](#) A KILLER STORM In the dark of night during a raging storm, a criminal is on the loose in the Arizona badlands. His name is Wilson Orez. Half-Apache and a former cavalry scout, Orez is skilled with weapons, seasoned in the desert, and trained to keep a cool head while death lurks all around him. Or when it springs from his own hands. Arizona Ranger Sam Burrack knows the only way to stop Orez is to kill him. But the madman has robbed a stagecoach, driven away its horses, and brutally pistol-whipped one of its passengers, leaving four unfortunate souls stranded in a desert on the verge of flooding. Now Sam must lead them to safety before he can continue his hunt for Orez—if he doesn't drown first. More Than 2.5 Million Ralph Cotton Books in Print

RALPH COMPTON COMANCHE TRAIL

[Penguin](#) In this Ralph Compton western, a man rides for vengeance and into danger... Thad Taylor is no one's idea of a fine man. Usually drunk and shiftless, he's disapproved of by most—especially his father. But when his father doesn't return from a trip across the Kansas plains, Thad is the only one who can search for him. And he's far from ready for the ordeal. Because his father is already dead. He has fallen victim to the bloody Benders—a demented family who lures travelers into their cabin way station only to rob and brutally murder them. Now, for his father's memory, Thad must hunt the Benders down and deliver them either to the law—or to the grave. More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

THE DAWN OF FURY

[Penguin](#) A gunslinger gets bloody payback in this western from USA Today bestselling author Ralph Compton. Nathan Stone experienced the horror of Civil War battlefields. But the worst lies ahead. When he returns to Virginia, to the ruins of what was his home, he discovers his father butchered and his mother and sister stripped, ravished, and slain. The seven renegades who did it rode away to the West. Half-starved and afoot, he takes to their trail. Nathan Stone's deadly oath—blood for blood—will cost him seven long years, as he rides the lawless trails of an untamed frontier. His skill with a Colt will match him with the likes of the Jameses and the Youngers, Wild Bill Hickok, John Wesley Hardin, and Ben Thompson. Nathan Stone will become the greatest gunfighter of them all, shooting his way along the most relentless vengeance trail a man has ever ridden to the savage end...and this is how it all begins. More Than Six Million Ralph Compton Books In Print!

RALPH COMPTON

TEXAS HILL

Owen Burnett's needs are small. All he's ever wanted is his wife's affection, his children's health, and a little plot of land which he can farm. Still, he's no fool. So when his neighbor Gareth Kurst makes him a business proposition, one that could leave him richer than he's ever dreamed, he can't refuse giving the risky scheme a try. Rounding up cattle up in the Texas Hill Country is nothing to take on lightly. Between the Comanches roaming the countryside and the horns of the beasts he's hunting down, Owen knows every second he spends out in the wild puts his life in plenty of danger. But the greatest threat to his person is one he never expected -- his ruthless and conniving business partner, who has no plans of ever sharing his hard-earned cash.
