Don't Shoot Shotgun Helen King



Don't Shoot Shotgun by Helen M King

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The Shotgun Messenger

Helen King was born in Missouri in 1858. Her family moved to Kansas when she was young, and it was there that she learned to shoot. She was a natural marksman, and she quickly became known for her skill with a shotgun. In the 1870s, King began working as a shotgun messenger for Wells Fargo. She was responsible for delivering gold and other valuables from one town to another. This was a dangerous job, but King was fearless. She rode her horse through blizzards, deserts, and mountains, and she never backed down from a fight.

King's reputation as a shotgun messenger grew, and she soon became a legend in the Wild West. She was known for her bravery, her determination, and her skill with a gun. She was also known for her sense of humor, and she often joked with the outlaws she encountered.

The Shootout at Dodge City

One of the most famous stories about Helen King is the shootout at Dodge City. In 1878, King was delivering a shipment of gold from Denver to Dodge City. As she approached the town, she was ambushed by a group of outlaws.

King fought back, and she killed three of the outlaws. The other outlaws fled, and King rode into Dodge City with the gold shipment safe and sound.

The shootout at Dodge City made King a national hero. She was celebrated in newspapers and magazines, and she was even invited to meet President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Later Life

King continued to work as a shotgun messenger for several years. In 1882, she married a rancher named John King. The couple had two children, a son and a daughter.

King retired from Wells Fargo in 1884. She and her family moved to a ranch in Colorado. King died in 1901 at the age of 43.

Legacy

Helen King was a true pioneer. She was a fearless woman who broke down barriers and paved the way for other women in the Wild West. She is still remembered today as one of the most famous and respected outlaws of all time.

Helen King's story is an inspiring tale of courage, determination, and humor. She was a true legend of the Wild West, and her legacy continues to inspire people today.

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