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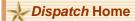


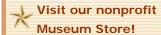
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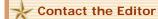
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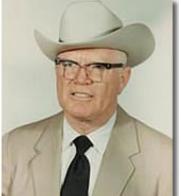
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Silk Pajamas (A Red Arnold Story)

Texas Ranger Red Arnold

By Robert Arnold

 ${f I}$ n the early fall of 1961, Jack O'Brien, the chief of police at Texarkana, Texas, gave Red Arnold a call asking for the Ranger's help in breaking up a prostitution ring in

town. Texas Rangers don't typically get involved with local prostitution, even though they helped out often in the Texarkana area during the mid to late 1960s. Red told Jack that he would help him out where he could. Glenn Elliott had just made the Rangers, so Red asked him to work undercover because he knew that Glenn would not be well known in Texarkana.

Red met Glenn at a local motel in Texarkana late one afternoon, and both checked into a room. Glenn changed into farm clothing, which included a pair of faded jeans, a thin cotton shirt, and a pair of scuffed, brown loafers. A sweat-stained ball cap from the Windom, Texas, feed store and an old, metal suitcase completed his outfit. Glenn looked like a farmer that had come to the city for a visit.



Texas Ranger Glenn Elliott

Red drove Glenn to the Texarkana bus depot about the time that the bus was arriving from the west. Not wanting them to be seen together, Red let Glenn out on the back street that ran behind the depot, and Glenn walked in through a rear door. To those that were inside, they would have thought that he had just gotten off the bus from Windom. Glenn went to the nearest phone booth and called a local cab.

When the cab arrived, Glenn got in the back seat and instructed the driver to take him to the motel that he and Red had previously checked into. Upon arriving, Glenn asked the driver to wait for him while he went inside. He pretended to check in at the desk and then came back outside and had the driver bring the suitcase up to the room. Once there, Glenn offered the driver a drink of bourbon and told him that his cousin had recently come to Texarkana and was able to hook up with one of the local girls at a certain house in town. Glenn wanted to do the same. He described the house where the girl worked, one located on the outskirts of town on Highway 59. He then instructed the driver to come back promptly at seven o'clock to pick him up so he could get a ride to the house. A sizable tip and the drink of bourbon impressed the driver, who told Glenn that he would be back at seven.

Right on time, the cab driver appeared at the motel, picked Glenn up, and drove to the targeted house, which was a large, frame dwelling with a café in front. They both got out. The driver introduced Glenn to the guy that was working the café cash register, vouched for him, and then left. The man at the register directed Glenn to the rear of the café, which opened into a large living area. Glenn was then introduced to the madam, who was sitting in one of the comfortable chairs. Glenn repeated the story that he had previously told to the cab driver, and the madam called out one of the girls. As Glenn and the girl exchanged pleasant conversation, he had the girl as well as the madam quickly at ease. He told them that his cousin had said that he could choose from several girls. He asked to see the ones that were not working.

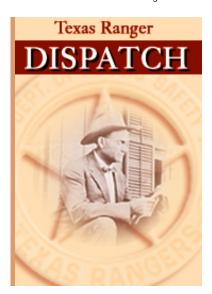
The madam complied, and in a few minutes, six or seven girls appeared in the living room. After a few minutes of talking price, Glenn paid the madam with marked money. He then told the madam and the girls that he was Texas Ranger, showed his badge, and arrested them all for prostitution.

Glenn sat the women down in the living room and then called the police department on the home phone. He asked the dispatcher to contact Red and the police chief (who were supposedly waiting for his call) and ask them to come to the house and assist him in the arrests. He was told by the dispatcher that the chief and Red had responded to a local convenience store robbery where the store clerk had been shot, and they couldn't come to help until the investigation had been completed. Glenn went back to the girls and informed them that the place was closed for the night and they should just relax until the police wagon arrived. Red and Chief O'Brien showed up a couple of hours later.

By the time that Glenn and Red finished with wrapping up the case at the police station it was past midnight. They returned to their hotel for a short night's sleep. As they were preparing for bed, Red noticed that Glenn was removing a pair of pajamas from his suitcase. Red asked him what he was doing, and Glenn responded that he was getting ready to go to bed. Red didn't say much to Glenn, but a few days later at Company B Headquarters in Dallas, Red kiddingly told everyone that he wasn't too sure about the newest Ranger because he wore pajamas to bed. Glenn took the good natured ribbing from the other Rangers well, as all new Rangers did.

A couple of weeks later, annual training for the Rangers began. All Rangers were required to attend, and the week-long sessions were spread across several weeks so that all the Rangers across the state would not be in training at the same time. Red and Glenn were selected to attend together, and they went down to Austin in Red's car.

When Red and Glenn arrived, they went up to their quarters, in which four Rangers were assigned to a room. After the first night session, they went back to their room to get ready for bed. They were accompanied by their roommates, Company D's Captain Alfred Y. Allee and Charlie Miller, two Ranger veterans who could make the hardest criminal melt with just a look. As Red and Glenn sat near each other in idle conversation, Glenn glanced across the room at the captain and Charlie. He gave Red a nudge with his elbow and nodded his head across the room. Red looked over and saw the two Rangers removing silk pajamas from their suitcases. Red looked back at Glenn, shook his head, and never said another word about Rangers wearing pajamas.







Capt. A.Y. Allee

Charlie Miller

Dispatch

Jr. Rangers

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