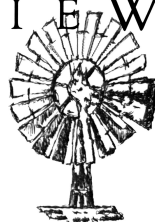


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## John Sprocket, After the Posse Returns

Robert Cooperman

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# John Sprockett, After the Posse Returns

by Robert Cooperman

I led Dennehy's drunk posse  
in circles and onto false trails;  
around ghostly campfires I told  
of Utes drooling to sink arrows  
and knives into white men's guts.

Between my terror tales  
and the liquor getting drunk up,  
they had less stomach to search  
than General Lee to continue  
the War he knew we'd lose  
before he gathered an army.

Sheriff knows I'll kill him  
quicker than I'd swat a fly  
if he asks me how that snake  
of a minister got found  
at the Hell-end of a dry shaft.

Let the Widow and her Tracker  
find a long happy life together,  
far from where I might be forced  
to keep their mouths shut forever.

