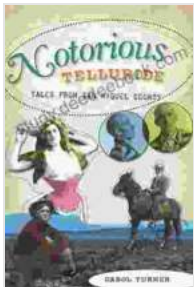


# Notorious Telluride: Wicked Tales of Murder, Mayhem, and Mischief in San Miguel County

Nestled amidst the majestic San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado, the picturesque town of Telluride is renowned for its pristine beauty, world-class skiing, and vibrant arts scene. However, beneath the town's charming facade lies a darker history, replete with tales of greed, violence, and human depravity.

Beginning with its founding in the late 19th century as a boomtown during the silver rush, Telluride has attracted its fair share of unsavory characters. From ruthless miners to desperate outlaws, the town's rough-and-tumble past has left an indelible mark on its collective memory.



## Notorious Telluride: Wicked Tales from San Miguel County by Carol Turner

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

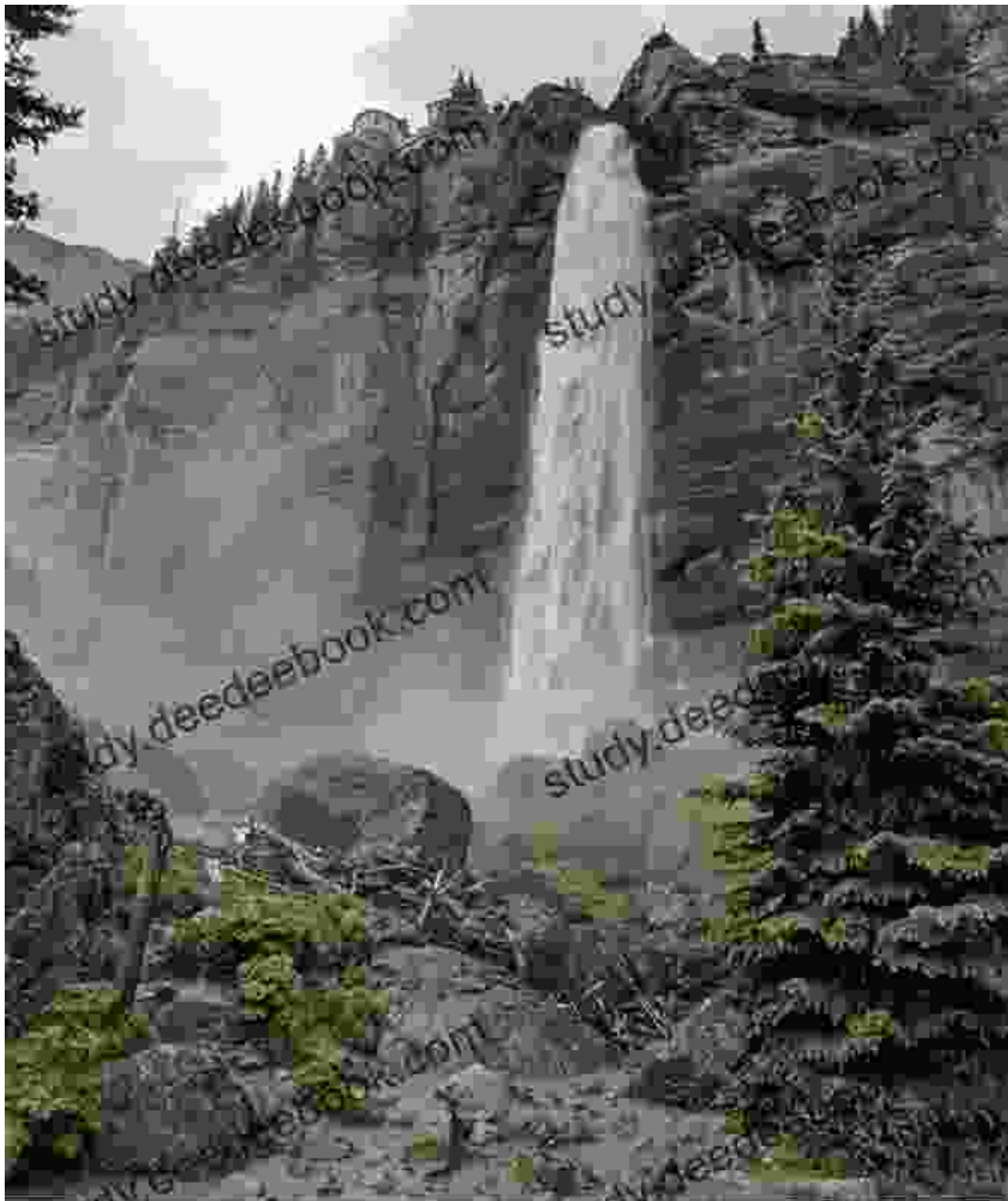
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In this engaging article, we delve into the murky underbelly of Telluride's history, uncovering some of the town's most notorious crimes and misadventures. From the infamous "Bloody Monday" incident to the

unsolved murder of a renowned mountaineer, these tales offer a glimpse into the darker side of a town that continues to captivate visitors with its haunting allure.

### **"Bloody Monday": A Tale of Miners' Rage**



On a fateful Monday in May of 1899, the Telluride mining community erupted in violence. A bitter labor dispute between miners and mine owners

had reached its boiling point, culminating in a deadly confrontation known as "Bloody Monday."

As hundreds of miners marched on the Smuggler-Union Mine, the largest employer in town, the situation quickly escalated. Shots rang out, and in the ensuing chaos, two miners were killed, and several others were injured. The incident left a deep scar on Telluride's history and highlighted the tense relations between labor and capital during that era.

### **The Mysterious Death of L.F. Naegele**



In 1961, Telluride was rocked by the unsolved murder of Louis F. Naegele, a prominent mining engineer and local businessman. Naegele's body was discovered in the basement of his home, and the case quickly became a sensation.

Rumors of a love triangle, financial disputes, and a possible connection to organized crime swirled around the investigation. Despite extensive efforts

by law enforcement, the case remains unsolved to this day, leaving behind a lingering mystery that continues to fascinate locals and visitors alike.

## **Butch Cassidy's Train Robbery**

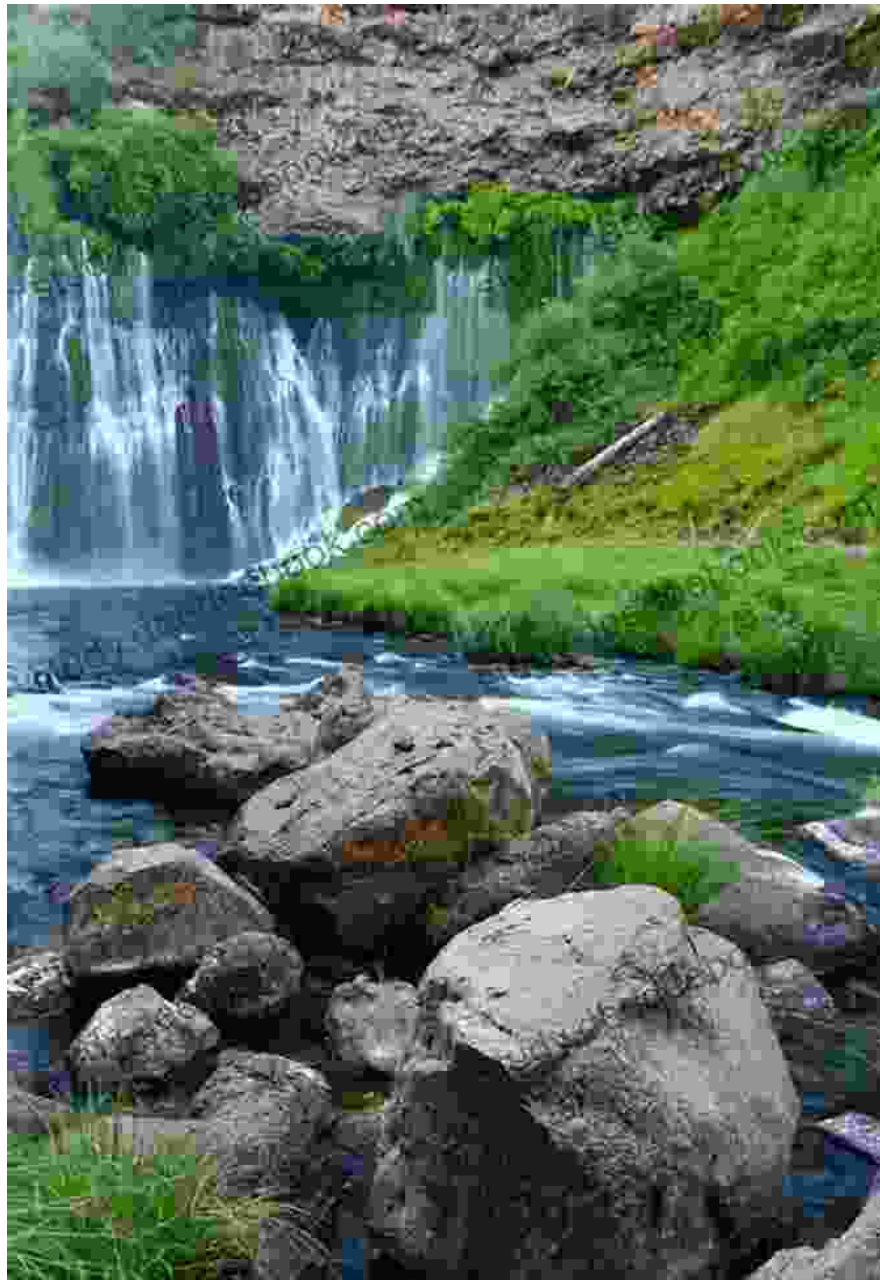


Telluride's outlaw history is forever intertwined with the legendary figure of Butch Cassidy. In July 1889, Cassidy and his gang of outlaws ambushed a San Miguel Valley & Ouray Railroad train near Telluride.

The robbery netted the outlaws nearly \$20,000, making it one of the largest train robberies in Colorado history. Cassidy and his gang managed to

escape, but the incident cemented Telluride's reputation as a haven for outlaws and desperadoes.

## **The Curse of the Bridal Veil Falls**



Nestled in the mountains above Telluride, the Bridal Veil Falls has long been a symbol of both beauty and tragedy. According to local legend, the

falls are haunted by the spirit of a young bride who fell to her death on her wedding day.

Over the years, numerous accidents and deaths have occurred near the falls, leading to speculation that the legend is more than just a tale.

Whether the curse is real or imagined, the Bridal Veil Falls remains a place of both awe and trepidation.

### **The "Evil Ski Instructor" of Telluride**

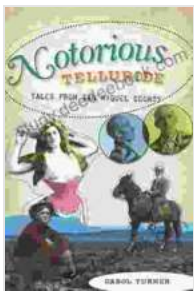


In the 1970s and 1980s, a charismatic ski instructor named Ted Bundy terrorized Telluride and the surrounding area. Bundy, who had previously committed numerous murders in other states, moved to Telluride and used his charm and charisma to lure young women to their deaths.

Bundy's crimes shocked the community and cast a dark shadow over Telluride's reputation. His eventual capture and execution brought a measure of closure to his victims' families, but the memory of his reign of terror continues to haunt the town.

While Telluride's natural beauty and cultural attractions enchant visitors from far and wide, the town's darker history provides a sobering reminder of the complexities of human nature. From the violence of the silver boom to the unsolved mysteries and tales of the macabre, Telluride's past is a testament to the enduring power of both good and evil.

As you explore this captivating town, take a moment to ponder the stories that lie beneath the surface. The ghosts of Telluride's wicked past may be long gone, but their echoes continue to linger in the shadows, adding an eerie charm to this unforgettable mountain destination.



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