

Los Poncheros
Graphic Novel by Jimmy Nguyen

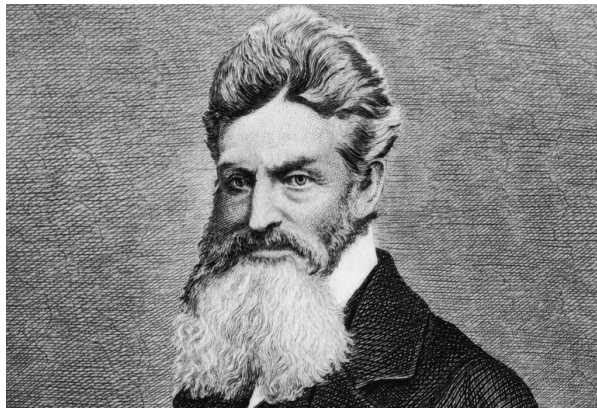
PAGE ONE (One panel)

Panel 1. A black and white daguerreotype of TURBIN CORBETT standing in his poncho looking into the camera intensely. Etched/lithograph style illustration with a little photo debris and minor wear and tear added to make it look a bit older.



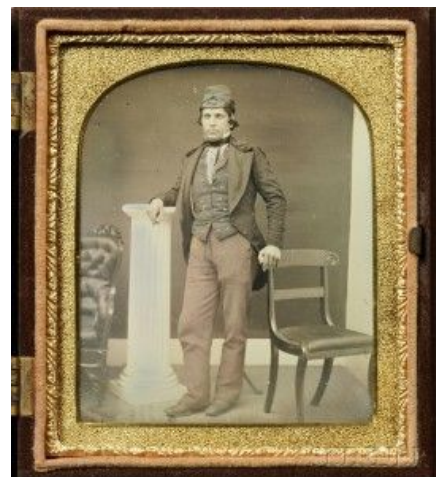
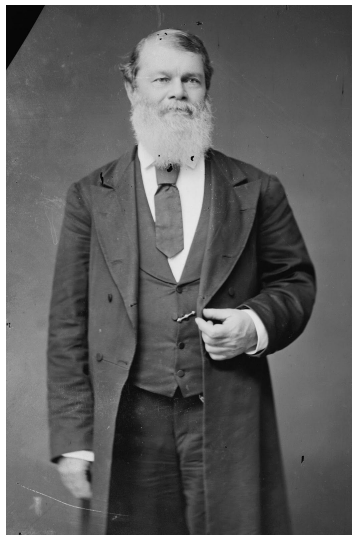
He wears a cream poncho with two big bear claw symbols in dark red on his shoulder with a ring of bears around the bottom.

He looks like John Brown with the big hair and big beard, but with bright red hair.



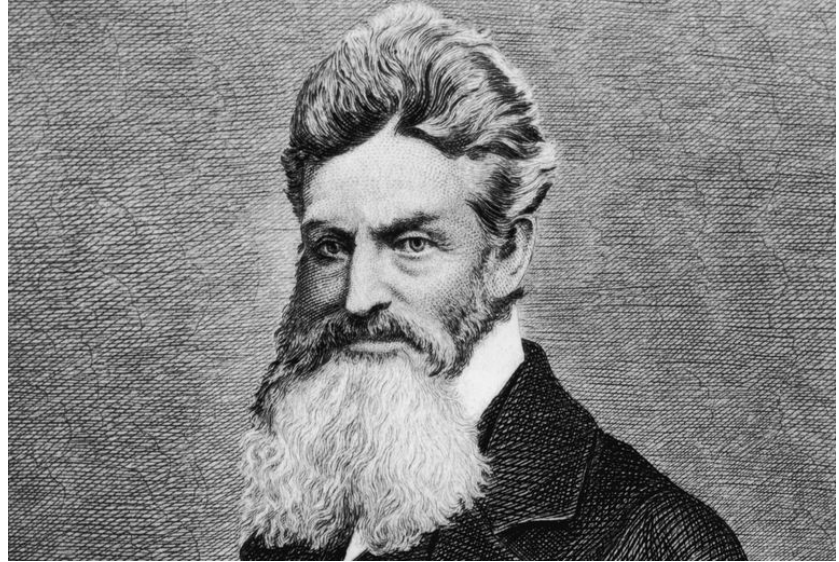
John Brown (left). Corbett should be standing and looking in his poncho leaning against a rifle, but with no hat and he looks directly at the camera

(right). Color, brightness, and contrast should match (below left and middle). His left arm should be resting on a pedestal column (below right) and standing on a bearskin rug. It should look like it's in a small, intimate studio with baseboard molding (below right).





(Etched/lithograph examples)



CAPTION: TURBIN CORBETT, EL COLORADO PONCHERO

CAPTIONS (randomly placed around daguerreotype): "The Apache got to calling him the Colorado Ponchero. It couldn't have been for his hair, but I suspect it was for his poncho always being soaked in other men's blood."

"You couldn't escape Corbett. He'd track you even if you was on pegasus with its hooves on backward."

"Some say he castrated himself in the Painted Caves. No one can say for sure as there ain't a man foolhardy enough to ask. Sack or no sack, I wouldn't think it'd affect his aim."

PAGE TWO (Five panels)

Panel 1. It is winter in the trapper's paradise of the Upper Missouri River. Three trappers are in a canoe gliding down a calm, aqua blue river. The banks of the river, which are 50 yards apart, are sliced unusually high so the explorers' field of vision is limited to only what's ahead. A light dusting of white snow is evident on some of the hillside pines and on the ground.



Wide river (left), tall banks (right), but with trees and mountains in the distance.

In the boat, we are introduced to three members of Los Poncheros, famous for their derring-do and iconic ponchos, which they wear over their thick coats.

LEW DANG, THE ASIAN PONCHERO - an Asian man in his early-20s with a baby face, wispy mustache, and samurai hairstyle. Short and thin, many will have heard of his daring exploits, but are incredulous upon introduction as his physical presence does not square with the legend.

He wears a black poncho with a ring of cream bats



going around the neckline and around the bottom edges.

*When I say "bottom edge of poncho," it is the part where the blue line is on the black poncho (middle picture)



Possible hairstyles for Lew Dang (shoulder length and/or samurai style).

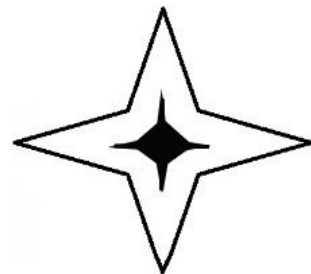
TURBIN CORBETT, EL COLORADO PONCHERO - a White man in his early-20s with untamed, flaming red hair and wooly beard (looks like John Brown). Like his hair, his fiery expressions can switch from broad smile to rabid mouthed at the drop of a hat.

SERAPIO LA VACA, THE MEXICAN PONCHERO - a squat, leathery vaquero in his mid-30s, with walrus mustache and chubby cheeks. Fittingly, he wears a bovine expression while chewing his raw tobacco. He kind of looks like a chubbier Pancho Villa (right).



He wears a light brown poncho dotted with eight little white morning stars.

And a wavy water symbol in white around the neck and bottom edge.



Their canoe holds a nervous energy as they make their way around a bend. Corbett paddles in front with Serapio paddling in the stern. Dang sits in the middle.

CAPTION: WINTER 1857 - THE RABBIT HUNT

Panel 2. An impatient Corbett calls back to the Serapio sitting in the stern, paddling gently with his cheeks and lips full of tobacco. Dang sits in the middle studying the steep banks.

