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**THE LONE RANGER AND TONTO: A COMPARATIVE
ANALYSIS OF BOOK AND SCREEN ADAPTATIONS**

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Prohlašuji, že jsem práci zpracoval(a) samostatně a použil(a) jen uvedených pramenů a literatury.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The bachelor thesis, with the title *The Lone Ranger and Tonto: A Comparative Analysis of Book and Screen Adaptations*, deals with the comparison of the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* by Fran Striker and its screen adaptations. The main objective of the thesis is to compare the book (1941) with the movie serial *The Lone Ranger* (1938), the TV series *The Lone Ranger* (1949 – 1954) and with the latest movie version *The Lone Ranger* (2013). We can find similarities as well as differences.

The book as well as the movie serial and series are not very well known in the Czech Republic. Thanks to the western Hollywood movie production Czechs are familiar at least with the latest movie version starring Johnny Depp. However, the stories about The Lone Ranger and his sidekick Tonto are very popular in the US. Both character has significantly contributed to the literary and TV in history of the US.

The thesis is divided into seven chapters and several sub-chapters. The thesis consists of theoretical and practical part. First chapter introduces the topic to the reader. This chapter is dedicated to the origin of the Lone Ranger, the whole setting and background of the period of Wild West and also the western genre. Further, the biography of the author of the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* – Fran Striker, the book in its entirety – its main characters and summary are provided in following chapters. Then, the component parts of the screen adaptations are discussed; namely those of *The Lone Ranger* movie serial, *The Lone Ranger* TV show and *The Lone Ranger* movie 2013.

The practical part is based on a comparison of the book and its screen adaptations. It is divided into one chapter and several subchapters. It deals with the similarities and differences between the book and its screen adaptations.

To accomplish the objective of the bachelor thesis, it was necessary to read book *The Lone Ranger Rides* and thoroughly scan the book under question, watch the chosen screen adaptations and analyse them. The book and film are used as primary sources for the bachelor thesis. The secondary sources are predominantly the internet ones.

2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO THE TOPIC

The absolutely first appeared of the Lone Ranger was on January 30, 1933 on Detroit's WXYZ radio station. It opened with the theme song from the William Tell Overture. The introduction began:

“When the West was young and danger lay at the end of every trail, the Lone Ranger and his faithful Indian companion, Tonto, brought law and order to the length and breadth of the early Western states.” [1]

From these introduction is clear, that the Lone Ranger is taken place in the setting of Wild West and the genre of the Lone Ranger is western.

2.1 Radio series

The first official broadcast of Ranger, who rode on the side of right and justice, debuted on January 30, 1933 on Detroit's WXYZ radio station. However, the sworn fans stated as the date of its first official broadcast February 2, 1933.

For the first three months the Ranger was played by George Stenius. After Stenius was selected Brace Beemer. Beemer left the radio station and was replaced by Earle W. Graser (until his death in 1941). Brace Beemer came back to play the part. He played the Lone Ranger until the last live broadcast on September 3, 1954. His voice was the most popular voice on the radio as the Lone Ranger. The radio's Tonto was played by actor John Todd. [2] The radio show began with the stirring fanfare from William Tell Overture.

The thirty-minute radio program aired at 7:30, three nights per week. The radio program was an immediate hit. More than 20 million Americans were tuning into The Lone Ranger three times a week by 1939. [2] This radio show was carried by more than 400 radio stations in America. The Lone Ranger had got 2,956 radio episodes on WXYZ. [3]

2.2 Genre of western

American western films or serials usually revolve around a hero and accentuate the importance of honour and law. The western film/serial genre frequently depicts the conquest of the wilderness and the subordination of nature in the name of civilization. The distinctive settings include ranch houses, the homesteads, the saloons or for example jails. The cult western elements are buckskins, cattle drivers, horses etc. The central plot of western films/serials often revolves around the conflict – good versus bad, white hat versus black hat, settlers versus Indians. [4]

2.3 Setting

The book and the screen adaptations are set in an identical period and place. The story is set in the second half of the 19th century in Texas. In this period lots of battles and conflicts took place. At the outset of this period was the **American Civil War** (1861 – 1865). This event is not the mainstay of story. However, the Civil War swayed the whole United States of America and also naturally its residents. The state of Texas separated from the United States on February 1, 1861 and joined the Confederate States of America. Texas was not the constituent of significant battles.

The next conflict was the **Texas-Indian wars**. It was sequence of battles and conflicts between settlers in Texas and the Southern Plains Indians. The conflicts lasted from 1820 to 1875. The number of casualties was enormous. By the 1860s, majority of Native Americans had been moved to the west of the Mississippi River. It was a result of the **Indian Removal Act**¹ passed 30 years earlier. Whole tribes were impelled into

¹ Indian Removal Act – it was signed into law by Andrew Jackson on May 28, 1830. He authorized to exchange unsettled land west of the Mississippi for Indian lands. The Cherokee tribes were moved by violence west by the United States government. Roughly 4,000 Cherokees died on this movement. This is known as the „Trail of Tears“. [8]

reservations in exchange for pledges of peace, supplies and cash payments. Some Native Americans cooperated with the United States, while others defended themselves. The violence disseminated throughout the West in a further series of conflicts, referred to as Indian Wars in the late 1800s. [5]

For this period are also typical the Texas Rangers. “The history of the Texas Rangers is in a sense the history of Texas itself.” [6] “**The Texas Rangers** were Indian fighting militiamen who were established in a Texas area that was freed of Mexican rule.” [7] This law enforcement agency with state-wide jurisdiction arose from initiative of Stephen Fuller Austin (he is best known as the father of Texas) in 1823 in Austin, Texas. The Rangers are the oldest state law enforcement organ in the United States.

The whole setting is enacted in an era of **Wild West**. Wild West is regarded as wild approximately since 1803. The American area began to expand westward and its western frontier changed several times in 19th century. The history of the settlement of Central America, Midwest and Northwest of the United States is rather young. On the map of 1802 ended the area of United States with frontiers of Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana. Oklahoma belonged to the area of Arkansas. Texas still did not exist as an independent state and was part of “New Spain”, alias Mexico.

Wild West was distinguished by battle among the cowboys, Indians, traders and the government of the USA. The district was delimited by the west frontier of these states: The North Dakota, The South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. It was an era, when man with the manifold characters and occupations took a law into their own hands. [7]

With the gradual acquisition of new territory for the Union was a border territory shifted westwards. After 1836 the border line "west" shifts to the river Rio Grande (the merit of the Texas Revolution and the secession of Texas from Mexico - 1835-1836) and the border area comes to the level of today's New Mexico. Farther west is nothing apart from a "barren land" and Indians. On the map it is today Arizona, Utah, Nevada and California, which are practically without settlement by white colonists. Other area "belonged" only to true "westmen", who contrived to survive alone in the wild and who had a fortune and contrived to somehow communicate with the Indians. The first daredevils tried to settle the west and northwest America only since 1830. Everything was on the geographic west America before this era (until approximately 1825 to 1830), is the question unsettled territories and has nothing to do with the "Wild West" and "western cowboy". It was untouched territory inhabited by indigenous Indian tribes. It was an area where only "Pioneers of the West" commissioned by the US government - or government spies, undertook expeditions to unknown territory, sketched the first map and preparing the ground for the settlement of new territories. [9]

The definitive beginning of the end was represented by the so called Manifest Destiny² in 1845. It was more supported by the outbreak of the California Gold Rush. Thus, the several thousands of settlers started to the west. The Native Americans were angry and therefore this period called Indian Wars. It was grinded on several decades. For the end of the Indian wars is considered December 29, 1890, when it was massacred of more than one hundred and fifty men, women and children from the Sioux at Wounded Knee. [11]

² Manifest Destiny = It first appeared in the July-August issue of the United States Magazine and Democratic Review, in 1845. The author was John L. O'Sullivan. He said: "our manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free development of our multiplying millions." [10]

2.4 Settlers versus Native Americans

The story of Lone Ranger and Tonto involves a great deal of discussion about the relationship between settlers and Native Americans in the 19th century.

The definition of the word *settler* in the dictionary says:

“someone who goes to live in a place where not many people live, and starts to make it into a community“ [12]

“A person who settles in an area, typically one with no or few previous inhabitants“ [13]

Under the word settler can imagine almost anyone. Ranchers, farmers, craftsmen, adventurers, business up to the priests or prostitutes. [11]

When the Europeans went to America for the first time, they were welcomed by the Native Americans. They wanted land. The Indians were not scared of them. There was sufficiency of land for everyone to use it and plant crops. They tried to help the Europeans to survive on the land and taught them how to plant crops. Nevertheless, the Native Americans did not comprehend that the settlers were going to keep the land. This idea was alien to them. However, the settlers felt that they were superior to the Native Americans. Progressively, more and more settlers arrived and took increasingly more land.

The problem between the settlers and the Native Americans was also religion. The settlers were sworn Christians. They were convinced that Christian religion is one true faith and all people should believe in it. The Indians were not Christians, therefore the settlers could not trust them. The settler groups thought that the Indians were evil due to the fact that they had no religion. The Native Americans were very religious people with a belief in unseen power. The other serious problem were

diseases. The settlers brought the sickness (for example a smallpox) with them from Europe. The smallpox killed whole tribes. [14]

In 1838 president Andrew Jackson determined that the Cherokee tribe could not remain in their home state of Georgia. They were compelled to leave their land. The Native Americans were forced to travel thousands of miles.

The start of the war among United States government, the settlers and the Native American people began, when American soldiers massacred all women, men, children in a village called Sand Creek. [8]

In the 19th century (by the 1850s) almost all Native American tribes, approximately 360,000 in number, resided to the west of Mississippi River. These American Indians, some from the North-western and South-eastern territories, were restricted to Indian Territory located in current day Oklahoma, while the Kiowa and Comanche Native American tribes shared the land of the Southern Plains. The Sioux, Crows and Blackfeet dominated the Northern Plains. These Native American groups confronted adversity as the constant influx of European settlers into north-eastern American cities pushed a flow of migrants into the western lands already occupied by these diverse groups of American Indians. Between 1830 and 1860 the United States almost doubled the amount of territory under its control. These territorial gains coincided with the arrival of European and Asian immigrants who wanted to join the increase of American settlers heading west. This, cooperated with the discovery of gold in 1849, presented the opportunities for those, willing to make the long journey westward. Therefore, with the military's protection and the U.S. government's help, many settlers began constructing their homesteads in the Great Plains and other parts of the Native American tribe inhabited West. [15]

Native American were first settlers of the Americas. They lived in harmony with nature, were more welcoming and believed in sharing of the land. By way of contrast the European settlers aggressively stole the land, were Christians. They were greedy and untrustworthy. Native Americans and Europeans settlers were the only one mutual interest. Both were very interested in the owning of the Americas. [16]

3 THE LONE RANGER RIDES – A BOOK

The Lone Ranger Rides was written by Fran Striker in 1941 and was illustrated by W. A. Smith (see an example in the appendix II). The book is divided into thirty chapters and every chapter has its own title. The story is narrated by the main characters along with a narrator. The book is written in colloquial English. The author used not so common expressions and literary expressions, which were used by speakers at the times this book was written. The story by Fran Striker is absolutely fictitious. The basic facts like names, dates and places have been progressively adjusted and retrofitted during the years. [17]

However, this book is not the only novel about the Lone Ranger. Eighteen other novels were published. Most of them were also written by Fran Striker, with the exception of the first one, which was written by Gaylord Dubois³.

1. *The Lone Ranger* (1936) - Dubois' adaptation of the 1933 radio show
2. *The Lone Ranger and the Mystery Ranch* (1938)
3. *The Lone Ranger and the Gold Robbery* (1939)
4. *The Lone Ranger and the Outlaw Stronghold* (1939)
5. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto* (1940)
6. ***The Lone Ranger Rides* (1941)** - novel discussed in the thesis
7. *The Lone Ranger at the Haunted Gulch* (1941)
8. *The Lone Ranger Traps the Smugglers* (1941)
9. *The Lone Ranger Rides Again* (1943)
10. *The Lone Ranger Rides North* (1943)
11. *The Lone Ranger and the Silver Bullet* (1948)
12. *The Lone Ranger on Powderhorn Trail* (1949)
13. *The Lone Ranger in Wild Horse Canyon* (1950)
14. *The Lone Ranger West of Maverick Pass* (1951)
15. *The Lone Ranger on Gunsight Mesa* (1952)

³ It is also possible to find the spelling of his name as DuBois.

16. *The Lone Ranger and the Bitter Spring Feud* (1953)
17. *The Lone Ranger and the Code of the West* (1954)
18. *The Lone Ranger and Trouble on the Santa Fe* (1955)
19. *The Lone Ranger on Red Butte Trail* (1956) [18]

3.1 Fran Striker's Biography

The author of the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* is Fran Hamilton Striker. He was born on August 19, 1903 in Buffalo, in New York. He died in a car crash on September 4, 1962 in New York.

Striker was best known for writing comics for the radio; he created the Lone Ranger, Green Hornet, and Sergeant Preston of the Yukon characters. He was also the author of eighteen novels all of which are connected by the character of Lone Ranger.

The adventures of the Lone Ranger were first presented to radio audience on January 30, 1933 in Detroit, Michigan. The radio show attracted the audience's attention and noticed immediate and huge success. Everyone in the United States of America liked this western thriller.

"Today, the masked figure of the Lone Ranger is a legendary icon in pop culture, but he got his humble beginnings from radio scriptwriter, Francis Hamilton Striker." [19]

Striker grew up in Buffalo in New York. When he graduated from the Lafayette High School, he studied for three years chemistry at the University of Buffalo. Throughout his youth, Fran Striker left the school and started a career in radio. In a short time he was engaged by local Buffalo radio station, called WEBR. He worked as a radio announcer and studio manager, too. He wrote more than forty diverse series for the radio.

"Fran Striker penned scripts for westerns, mysteries, science fiction adventures, and even romantic comedies." [19]

He left WEBR to work on his career of a scriptwriter. The owner of the radio station WXYZ, George W. Trendle, asked Fran Striker to write four episodes of a western thriller for his radio. Striker was enthusiastic about it and accepted the challenge. And this is how Striker created the character of Lone Ranger. When *The Lone Ranger* radio series became a huge success, the radio WXYZ offered him a full-time position as a scriptwriter. According to *the Museum of Broadcast Communications* he wrote about sixty thousand words per week. [19] He was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 1988. [20]

3.2 Summary of the book

The book *The Lone Ranger Rides* takes place in the western part of Texas. Bryant Cavendish owns the large farm in the Basin, where the Cavendish clan raise the cattle. His niece Penelope and four nephews (Mort, Jeb, Vince and Wallie) live with Bryant in the farm. He had got two brothers, but they died. The book begins with Bryant Cavendish hearing some strange noise from the Gap. He is not sure what it is, but thinks that it is gunplay. Bryant is not enthusiastic about the generation of Cavendish's boys for his nephews are not much courageous.

Six Texas Rangers were ambushed by a gang of outlaws at Bryant's Gap. The Texas Rangers were killed (Bert, Jim, Dave, Grant, Don). All had fallen, apart from one. The only survived Ranger is wounded. He was shot in his right leg and left shoulder. The injuries did not look good for him. The strange white stallion with the name Silver took him away. He realized that he must survive so he could tell what happened at the Cavendish place. After some period of time, he woke up, but everything hurt him. The Ranger seemed to hear a voice. He seemed that the voice is an Indian boy. The boy whom the Ranger had known long years ago. The Indian boy was fully alone, because Indian war raged

and the boy was the sole survivor. He was son of a chief. At the time of the war the Ranger was a small boy, too. It was Tonto.

Penelope (Penny) desired to ride a horse in Thunder Mountain. This territory was forbidden for her uncle. She held up, because she overheard tense dialogue between her cousins Vince and Mort. Initially, they argued about Rebecca (Becky). Afterwards, they waited for Rangoon (cowhand)⁴. Rebecca came to Penny. Becky told Penny how things have changed, during the time she was in the school. Mort hurt Becky. Rebecca knew and heard “some things”, which she had not. She was afraid that Mort would kill her.

Penelope rode off on her mustang Las Vegas. She headed for Thunder Mountain. When she was already there, the trail was blocked by a splendid horse. Afterwards an Indian emerged. He was striking-looking man. He introduced himself as Tonto and introduced also the horse as Silver. She wanted to determine which of men from the Basin had used the Thunder Mountain trail. However, Tonto did not know how to answer. Tonto told her about the wounded friend, who needs food. Penny had promised him to secure the things the wounded man needed. Tonto made six graves for dead Rangers. The impression would be given that all six of the Rangers had died.

Becky was shot through the window by forty-five slug in her house, she died. Her husband Mort killed her. Mort was shot too, but he survived.

The Ranger returned to health because of Tonto. He wanted to catch the killers. Tonto gave him the silver bullets, which Tonto himself had cast. Tonto gave him also a mask and the Texas Ranger’s metal badge. Since then The Ranger became The Lone Ranger. They were travelling together. They captured and tied Rangoon after he attacked Penelope Cavendish. Rangoon was familiar to the Lone Ranger. It

⁴ Cowhand = a person employed on a cattle ranch; cowboy or cowgirl [21]

seemed to him that he had seen him when he had another name. Penny thought that The Lone Ranger is one of the outlaws. She did not know whom she can trust in the Basin. Uncle Bryant, Yuma, Vince, ... everyone was suspected of the killing, of the theft of cattle. Everyone persuaded her to leave the Basin. It was not the safe place for her. Something bad happened there.

Vince, Jeb, Mort and Wallie were made to sign a paper (agreement) by. They had to sign away any claim that they might have on the ranch. Uncle Bryant wanted to leave his all property to someone else. He went away from the Basin into Red Oak. Sawtell and Lonergan forced Penny to sign the paper, too, otherwise they would kill Vince and Jeb. So, Penny signed it, too. The Lone Ranger set out to investigate into the Basin. He found the fatally wounded Gimlet (cook), who said that he was stabbed by Yuma. The Lone Ranger beat Yuma and took him with one. The Ranger seized the document. He will take it to Bryant. He locked Sawtell, Lonergan, Lombard, Vince and Jeb into the vault which was in the cellar in the Bryant's house. Bryant placed the charge of murder against Mort. He escaped from prison. Bryant was shot and wounded. The Lone Ranger, Bryant came back in the Basin. The Ranger wanted to investigate all wrongdoings and murders. Both of them were attacked by Wallie, Lonergan, Lombard, Vince and Sawtell. The Lone Ranger and Bryant defeated them.

Lonergan, Lombard, Sawtell, Vince, Mort, Rangoon with lead of inconspicuous Wallie were the murderers, murderers of Texas Rangers, thieves of cattle. In the upshot emerged that Bryant and Yuma were innocent and Bryant included in his last will only Penelope. The Lone Ranger and Tonto left the Basin because the Texas Rangers took care of everything. They took to the road together like friends with their horses Silver and Scout. [22]

3.3 Main characters in the book

The book *The Lone Ranger Rides* includes a lot of characters. The Lone Ranger, his horse Silver, Tonto, Bryant Cavendish, Penelope (Bryant's niece), Vince Cavendish, Mort Cavendish, Jeb Cavendish (Bryant's nephews), Wallie Cavendish, Rebecca (Mort's wife), Yuma, Rangoon and so on. However, the most important ones are the Lone Ranger and Tonto.

3.3.1 The Lone Ranger

The Lone Ranger is the main fictitious character in the book. He was born on September 14, 1850. He is a masked Texas Ranger. He had his own creeds:

*"I believe that to have a friend,
a man must be one.*

*That all men are created equal
and that everyone has within himself
the power to make this a better world.*

*That God put the firewood there
but that every man
must gather and light it himself.*

*In being prepared
physically, mentally, and morally
to fight when necessary
for that which is right.*

*That a man should make the most
of what equipment he has.*

*That 'This government,
of the people, by the people
and for the people'
shall live always.*

*That men should live by
the rule of what is best
for the greatest number.*

*That sooner or later...
somewhere...somehow...
we must settle with the world
and make payment for what we have taken.*

*That all things change but truth,
and that truth alone, lives on forever.*

In my Creator, my country, my fellow man." [17]

Ranger's name is based on the context of the story and it refers to the fact that he is the only survivor of a shooting of a group of six Texas Rangers. The Lone Ranger, whose real name is John Reid, his elder brother and next four Rangers were tracing the gang in the forefront with the rogue, Wallie Cavendish. The gang decoyed the Rangers into the canyon of Bryant's Gap. Everyone from Rangers was killed, apart from John.

He was found by Tonto, alive but seriously wounded. John met Tonto some years ago. When Tonto was a child, the Indian war broke. The white boy (John Reid) found the Indian boy, who was beside his dead parents. The white boy saved him and they became friends. They stuck together and travelled for given period of time until their ways separated. Lone Ranger recognized Tonto from his voice. The two encountered again. However, they swapped the roles of the saviour and saved one this time.

John was shot in his right leg and left shoulder, however, he was strong. He knew that he had to survive to be able to let the other people know what had happened. Before being found by Tonto, he crawled from the last strength into the cave where he fell unconscious. Then, Lone Ranger promised to take revenge on the gang for killing his brother and other Rangers. He also promised to bring law back to the American Old West.

The gang did not know that one of the Rangers survived, though. It was partly a play of John and Tonto, who sank six graves so that the gang thought that all Rangers were dead. That is also why John had to wear a mask over his eyes and the moment when the Lone Ranger came into existence. The sole human who knew who The Lone Ranger really was Tonto. He gave him a gun, too. However, the Lone Ranger is afraid of it. In the book, he respects and observes his own moral principles. He behaves honestly, bravely, wisely and compassionately. He is paragon of gentleman with polished manners and clean speech. He wears the badge and the white hat as every Ranger.

“Then Tonto brought a mask from beneath his buckskin shirt. It was black, and fashioned to cover the entire upper part of man’s face, effectively concealing all identity. “Wear this,” Tonto said.” [22 p. 45]

Originally, the character was inspired by the Texas Ranger Captain, John R. Hughes, which Zane Grey dedicated the book *The Lone Ranger* in 1915 to. [23] John Reynolds Hughes was a Texas Ranger and cowboy and then also author, who lived between the years 1855 – 1947. “He lived among the Choctaw and Osage Indians for about four years and then lived with the Comanche in the Fort Sill area.” [24] Afterwards, he moved to Texas, where he raised horses. In 1886 some horses were stolen from his and his neighbouring ranches. John Hughes trailed the men, who stole him the horses. He killed some of them. He returned the horses to owners. Hereby, Hughes gained the attention both of the outlaws and also the Texas Rangers. [24]

3.3.2 Tonto in the book

One of the main characters of the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* is the Indian/Native American Tonto. This fictional character was born in 1854. “Tonto was the one of the best-known Native American characters in 20th-century popular culture.” [25] He was the son of a chief, who as the only one survived a frenzied Indian war.

In Spanish, the word "Tonto" literally translates as a "fool" or "silly". However, this word meaning is not probable in connection to the character, because it is a pejorative naming. More probable is the meaning taken from the language of Native Americans, which is the "wild one".

„He was tall, fully six feet, without the advantage of heels. He was clad in buckskin and moccasins. His face was broad and characteristically high-cheekboned. Hair was drawn straight back from a part in the middle and done in a war knot low on the back of his head. Heavy revolvers, of the most modern make, swung from his waist, were a somewhat incongruous touch. A bow and arrows would have been more in keeping with the rest of the Indian's equipment.“ [22 p. 20]

The character was created by Fran Striker and George Washington Trendle. His English is pidgin⁵; nevertheless, Tonto was a very smart and moral man. He speaks in a following way: "Me leave camp on mountain", "You wait", "Me got plenty scheme". [22 p. 37] In the book, Tonto plays the role of a sidekick. It is the Lone Ranger who occurs in the spotlight in the book. However, without him, this story would not work. *The Lone Ranger Rides* was first published in 1941. In those years, racism was rampant. Therefore more emphasis was given on the Lone Ranger than on Tonto. However, in the latest version of the story shot in Hollywood as a blockbuster movie, it is on the contrary, giving the main attention to Tonto as the main character of the movie shot in the 21st century.

3.3.2.1 Native American

As we already know from previous subchapters, Tonto is an Indian, or Native American as we correctly refer to indigenous population of the US these days. The name Indian was originated from the mistake of Spaniards, who believed that Christopher Columbus in the late 15th

⁵ Pidgin = it is a language which developed out of occasional and limited contacts between Europeans and non-Europeans in location other than Europe. It often lacks inflections on verbs and nouns. It has been characterized sometimes as „broken“ or „chaotic“ language. [26]

century came into India. The Indian culture can be divided into two large territories of North and South America. [27 p. 70]

“In the mid-1500s, when Europeans began permanent settlement there already existed a multitude of distinctive Native-American cultures.” [28 p. 28] Approximately 10 million Indians lived in North America. Their cultures had developed countless mutually incomprehensible languages and totally different social structures. The Indian cultural region of the Southwest includes contemporary western Texas and Oklahoma, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and Utah. [28 p. 28]

The terms Native Americans and American Indians are used interchangeably. “In many cases "Indians" is a proper name or title such as in "American Indian Movement" or "Bureau of Indian Affairs". The name Indian was used traditionally in American culture and history. The term "Native American" became popular much later, but both are commonly used today and neither should be considered preferable over the other, although people do have personal preferences.” [7] Lastly, in the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* from Fran Striker, it is not said to which tribe Tonto belongs.

4 THE LONE RANGER – 1938 MOVIE SERIAL

The first adaptation of *The Lone Ranger* appeared as movie serial and was released on February 12, 1938. The serial belongs to the genre of western. The colour of the serial was black and white. It was shot in Alabama Hills, Lone Pine, California; Iverson Ranch – Los Angeles, California and in Kernville, California. The overall runtime of all episodes of the TV serial is 264 minutes (every episode lasting 17 minute on average). [29]

Movie serial is a short subject, which was originally shown in cinema/movie theatres in connection with a feature film. Every chapter was screened at a movie theatre for one week and was ended with a cliffhanger⁶, in which characters found themselves in some suspenseful situation. Therefore, the viewers had to return each week to see the cliffhanger solved and watched the continuing story. The movie serials were popular in the beginning of the 20th century. [30]

The serial had fifteen episodes with the following titles:

1. *Hi-Yo Silver (30 min 17s)*
2. *Thundering Earth (18 min 22s)*
3. *The Pitfall (16 min 43s)*
4. *Agent of Treachery (16 min 39s)*
5. *The Steaming Cauldron (16 min 17s)*
6. *Red Man's Courage (16 min 28s)*
7. *Wheels of Disaster (15 min 58s)*
8. *Fatal Treasure (16 min 54s)*
9. *The Missing Spur (16 min 35s)*
10. *Flaming Fury (16 min 33s)*

⁶ Cliffhanger = An exciting end to part of a book or television programme that makes you want to read or watch the next part. [31]

11. *The Silver Bullet* (16 min 18s)
12. *Escape* (16 min 22s)
13. *The Fatal Plunge* (16 min 37s)
14. *Messengers of Doom* (16 min 49s)
15. *The Last of the Rangers* (17 min 03s) [32]

For example, the story of Hi-Yo Silver is as follows. The story began with an ambush of Texas Rangers by the Jeffries's gang. The sole survivor, whose face never allowed to be seen, was joined with other four men. They united on the grounds of the battle against the outlaw chieftain. Their group comprised of five men, plus the survivor's staunch Indian Tonto. They set up headquarters in an old stockade near the cave, where the Lone Ranger had concealed the guns and his mask. Jeffries learnt about Texas Rangers investigation. His spy planted dynamite at the stockade entrance. The Lone Ranger escaped the blast by luck. [33]

The serial was very successful in the United States and so the producers decided to release a follow-up. Therefore, on February 25, 1939 a serial with the name *The Lone Ranger Rides Again* was introduced. To follow the pattern, the producers divided *The Lone Ranger Rides Again* likewise into fifteen episodes: [34]

1. *The Lone Ranger Returns* (28 min 54s)
2. *Masked Victory* (16 min 43s)
3. *The Black Raiders Strike* (16 min 45s)
4. *The Cavern of Doom* (16 min 44s)
5. *Agents of Deceit* (16 min 37s)
6. *The Trap* (16 min 39s)
7. *Lone Ranger at Bay* (16 min 42s)
8. *Ambush* (16 min 40s)

9. *Wheels of Doom* (16 min 44s)
10. *The Dangerous Captive* (16 min 37)
11. *Death Below* (16 min 40s)
12. *Blazing Peril* (16 min 41s)
13. *Exposed* (16 min 42s)
14. *Besieged* (16 min 39s)
15. *Frontier Justice* (16 min 45s) [34]

4.1 Summary

An outlaw leader wanted to take control over Texas after the Civil War. He killed Colonel Marcus Jeffries and claimed his identity. Then, Jeffries 's men murdered a troop of Rangers. The Indian Tonto found one of the Rangers still alive. The Ranger became the Lone Ranger. He swore to avenge the massacre and defeat of Jeffries and his men. However, Jeffries suspected that the single Ranger was still alive, because he had got spies. Jeffries's gang intended to destroy a wagon train of Texans. He impelled Blanchard to send a recommendation that he was made the governor. The Lone Ranger tried to stop the courier; however, he was not successful. The identity of the Lone Ranger was still unknown. Jeffries and his men tried to eliminate the Lone Ranger. In the series it was clear only after some time, who the Lone Ranger was. He finally unmasked in the chapter 15 (Last of the Rangers).

4.2 Main characters

The movie serial is based on the book and tries to introduce all important characters as described in the book. The main characters playing important role in the serial are Tonto, Lone Ranger, George Blanchard, Joan Blanchard (George Blanchard's daughter), Captain

Smith also known as Colonel Jeffries, Father McKim, Kester and Bob Stuart.

5 THE LONE RANGER (TV SHOW/SERIES)

After a successful radio series, the TV producers also started a television show with the same theme, running from 1949 to 1957. The TV series aired on the ABC Television network. The show was black and white between the years 1949-1956. From 1956 to 1957, it was already made in colour. Altogether, there were produced 221 thirty minute of episodes. The series lasted for five seasons: Season 1 – 52 episodes; Season 2 – 26 episodes, Season 3 – 52 episodes, Season 4 – 52 episodes and Season 5 – 39 episodes. The TV show involved also the narrator/announcer, who presented or described some scenes. Fred Foy and Gerald Mohr were the narrators of the TV show. It was the first true “hit” series.

Further, comic books, two cartoons, books and gramophone records were inspired by The Lone Ranger on the ground of the huge success. [35]

5.1 Summary

Six Texas Rangers, who were led by Captain Dan Reid are ambushed in a canyon by the outlaw Butch Cavendish’s gang, due to the betrayer Collins. Only one Ranger (Dan Reid’s brother John) survived attack. He is found and healed by an old friend from his childhood, an Indian named Tonto. John made a mask from his brother’s vest. He became the Lone Ranger. The Lone Ranger revealed how he found his horse Silver and how he came to silver bullets. Butch Cavendish killed the important men in the town of Colby and replaced them with the members of his gang. The Lone Ranger and Tonto decided to investigate when three banks owned by the same man were robbed by an enigmatic one-eyed bandit. They chased the Yuma Kid and his gang through the land. Tonto and the Lone Ranger tracked Butch and his gang. Many members

of this gang of outlaws died. The Lone Ranger and Tonto clashed with a group of marauders, who were terrorizing a wide area of the southwest. Both of them helped an elderly Indian chief decided about the future of his impoverished tribe through the choice of which son will prosper as chief. Murders, lynching of inhabitants and harms in the town of Vandalia brought the Lone Ranger and Tonto in an effort to restore law and justice to the inhabitants. [36]

They investigated the robbers of gold or money, murders. They searched the missing people. The Lone Ranger and his companion Tonto were inseparable duo. The Lone Ranger and Tonto were fair, honest and did the issues for the common weal and better life of upright people. [37]

5.2 Main characters

The main characters in The Lone Ranger series include The Lone Ranger, Tonto, Dan Reid (Lone Ranger's nephew), Jim Blaine, Duke Wade, Bank Robber, Ben Boone, Butch Cavendish, Collins, Andrew Larkin and so on. This series includes many characters because were shot over 200 episodes. The most important ones are again The Lone Ranger and Tonto.

5.2.1 The Lone Ranger

The Lone Ranger as a character in a TV series was portrayed by Clayton Moore (real name Jack Carlton Moore). He appeared in the television series from 1949 to 1952 and then from 1953 to 1957. He was replaced by John Hart because of salary dispute only for one season in 1952. For 52 episodes John Hart represented the man behind the mask. Moore was the most popular western star of the era. [38] During his gap from the Lone Ranger he appeared in three serials: *Radar Men from the Moon*; *Son of Geronimo: Apache Avenger* and *Jungle Drums of Africa*. [38]

Clayton Moore was born on September 14, 1914 in Chicago. He died on December 28, 1999 in hospital in Los Angeles after suffering heart attack. His career commenced in 1949 when George Trendle spotted him in *Ghost of Zorro*. Trendle and Striker were about to launch the television version. Clayton Moore landed the main role. This actor has got star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame; like the only person with both his name and his character "Clayton Moore, The Lone Ranger". [38] Moore was also inducted into the Stuntman's Hall of Fame in 1982. He earned \$500 per week in 1949-1951 seasons, \$1,500 per week in 1954-1957. [1]

"In the television show, the Lone Ranger:

- Never killed anyone.
- Never kissed the girl.
- Never shot to kill, only to disarm.
- Never drank, cussed or smoked.
- Never accepted reward money.
- Never showed his face to anyone but Tonto.
- Always upheld a moral code.
- Always respected the rights and beliefs of others." [1]

This creed of the Lone Ranger were written by Fran Striker. There was also a code of behaviour for the Lone Ranger. It was set forth by George Trendle and Striker in the writer's guide for Lone Ranger stories. The code was strictly followed in the radio show and later in the television show. [6]

5.2.2 Tonto

Tonto was played by Jay Silverheels (real name Harold J. Smith), who was from Mohawk tribe in reality. He was born on May 26, 1914 on the Six Nations Reservation in Ontario, Canada. Silverheels died on

March 5, 1980 in Los Angeles. He was one of 10 children. He appeared in every one of the 221 episodes. Jay Silverheels was inducted into the Hall of Great Western Performers of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in 1993. [38]

5.2.2.1 Potawatomi⁷

Tonto in the TV show is from the Potawatomi tribe. They call themselves Bodéwadmi. This word means “fire keepers”. That refers to the Council of Three Fires, an alliance of which they were part. It was made up of the Potawatomi, Ojibwe and Odawa. They are all Native American people. Most of the members of Potawatomi tribe speak English, however, they have their native Potawatomi language, too. This language is polysynthetic, musical, includes complicated verbs with many parts and has free word order. They are Algonquian-speaking people. This tribe originally occupied the Great Lakes region of the United States.

“By the end of the 18th century, tribal villages were being displaced by white settlements, ultimately ushering in the American treaty era. Through a series of treaties, beginning in 1789, their tribal estate equating to more than eighty-nine million acres was gradually reduced in size.” [39] The federal government progressively decreased Potawatomi ground. They were forced to adopt U.S. citizenship. This decision forever affected their culture and lives.

Nowadays, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is one of 39 federally admitted Native American tribes. The headquarters of this tribe is in Oklahoma. [39]

“We speak the Potawatomi language in our community.”

⁷ likewise Pottawatomie and Pottawatomi

= *Gkiktomen ode zheshmowen pene she shena ebmoseyak ode
widoktadwen.*“ [39]

Potawatomi men wore breechcloths, leggings, deerskin shirts and moccasins. The women wore deerskin dresses. Later, they accommodated to fashion. Men and women predominantly wore long hair. The Potawatomi painted the faces only in special occasions. [40] Tonto corresponds with the appearance of the members from Potawatomi tribe. He has got also long hair, the black one. He wears deerskin long-sleeved shirt with the tassels. [9]

Presently, the population of Potawatomi is estimated to approximately 26,000 individuals. [41]

Kemosabe⁸

A lot of discussions are held regarding the word “Kemosabe” used frequently by Tonto. He called the Lone Ranger as “Kimosabe” and said: “It means trusty scout.” in the Lone Ranger series. This word is used immediately in the first episodes “Enter the Lone Ranger”. [42] Lone Ranger sworn fans did not even know what it really meant. However, there are many theories about the possible meanings. *The Yale Book of Quotations* gives the definition of the word as “faithful friend or trusty scout.” Striker’s widow told that Fran Striker interpreted Kemosabe as a “good friend” or “good scout”. [43] The dictionary translates it like “faithful friend”. [44] The word is actually from the language of the tribe of Potawatomi. [6]

⁸ Kemo Sabe, Kemo-sabe

6 FILMS

The first movie, which was based on TV series, was called *The Lone Ranger* (1956) with Clayton Moore and Jay Silverheels in the main roles. *The Lone Ranger and The Lost City of Gold* (1958) was the next film again with Clayton Moore and Jay Silverheels as part of the cast. The following movies are *The Return of The Lone Ranger* (1961), *The Legend of The Lone Ranger* (1981), *The Lone Ranger* (2003) and the latest one *The Lone Ranger* (2013). This bachelor thesis is primarily concerned with the latest one shot in 2013.

6.1 The Lone Ranger (2013)

The movie *The Lone Ranger* is based on the radio series Lone Ranger by Fran Striker and George W. Trendle. The release date in the USA was on July 3, 2013. This American action western was produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Jerry Bruckheimer Films. It was directed by worldwide successful Gore Verbinski (other films from Gore Verbinski: *Pirates of Caribbean*, *The Ring*, *Rango*). The music of the film was composed by Hans Zimmer (*The Lion King*, *Gladiator*, *The Last Samurai* and so on).

The movie was shot in 16 filming locations. For example, in Monument Valley, Utah, USA; Almosa, Colorado, USA; Texas, USA; Lone Pine, California, USA and so on. The budget of the movie *The Lone Ranger* was estimated \$215,000,000. The movie earned \$29,210,849 during the opening weekend in the USA. The box office was \$260,502,115. The languages spoken there are English and North American Indian. [34]

The Lone Ranger had not such a positive reactions from the viewers. The viewers in the Czech Republic rate it on 67 %. [45] *The Lone Ranger* is rated among the flop of year the 2013. Disney lost out in this movie approximately \$190,000,000. However, the movie obtained

two Academy Award nominations. The nominations for the Best Visual Effects and Best Makeup and Hairstyling. Regrettably, the movie also won Golden Raspberry Awards⁹ in category of Worst Prequel, Remake, Ripoff or Sequel on March 1, 2014. [46]

6.2 Summary of the movie

The movie begins in 1933 in San Francisco. The little boy Will walks through a carnival (travelling circus) near the under-construction Golden Gate Bridge. Will is dressed in a disguise similar to that of The Lone Ranger. He stops by the Wild West Tent. He sees buffaloes, cowboy mannequins and a wax sculpture of an old Indian. He gets closer and Indian's eyes move. The very old Indian introduces himself as Tonto. Will is a fan of the Lone Ranger and knows his name. The boy wonders how Tonto came in travelling circus. Tonto commences to tell him the story.

The rail magnate Latham Cole supervises on the construction of the transcontinental railroad in Colby, Texas, where the rail has got a stop. In one railway car is handcuffed Tonto. Next to him sits the notorious outlaw Butch Cavendish. Butch Cavendish will be hanged. The federal Marshals are together to assure the execution realizes. In the next railway car is John Reid. The young prosecutor with a university degree. The Marshals unchain Butch, because he has to go to the "bathroom." However, the Marshals do not know that Butch hides a gun. Tonto wants to call attention to the gun, but Butch shoots both of them. The five Texas Ranger, including John's brother Dan Reid, wait for Butch at the train station. Butch's outlaw gang catches up with the rail. They rob passengers and kill the engineers. John hears the gunshot and goes to investigate it. He gets to Tonto and Butch. They want to kill each other.

⁹ Golden Raspberry Awards = it is also called Razzies. The Golden Raspberry is an award for the worst in film. It was founded by John J. B. Wilson in 1980. [47]

John forces them to surrender, while he is the district attorney. The Butch's gang rescues Butch. John and Tonto are handcuffed. The rail derails. They survive, however, Tonto is arrested and taken to the jail by Dan.

Dan with John must apprehend and arrest Butch. Dan bid his wife Rebecca and son Danny farewell. Both of them and other Texas Rangers leave to search for Butch. During the manhunt for Butch, they spot white horse. Dan explicates that the Comanche Indians believe the white horse is a spirit animal. They ride the horses at a canyon. Texas Ranger Collins disappears and the remaining Rangers are ambushed by Butch's gang. Dan's men are shot. Butch cuts out Dan's heart, although Dan was still alive. In the meantime Tonto escaped from the jail and sees the result of fight. He digs graves and at the precise moment John comes around. Tonto knocks John with a rock and entombs him with other Rangers. The white horse stands over John's grave. Tonto understands this sign and extracts John from the grave. Tonto takes sleeping John away from the canyon. While John sleeps he creates a silver bullet from the Texas Ranger's badges.

John awakes. Tonto explains that he is spirit walker¹⁰ and Butch is a wendigo¹¹. Tonto made a leather mask out of Dan's vest. Hi gives it to John and tells him to wear a mask and become a symbol. Both ride into town to Red's Brothel, which is operated by Red Harrington. They ask her about Butch. Their conversation is interrupted by angry horde, because they find out Tonto. In this Brothel is entry for the Comanche Indians forbidden. Because Comanche Indians have been burning white settlements over recent weeks. John remembers Rebecca and Danny. They arrive in time. The members of Butch's gang had headbands and painted faces like Comanche Indians. Rebecca's house was on fire. They

¹⁰ Spirit walker = a man who cannot be killed in the fight [48]

¹¹ Wendigo = a man who is possessed by a demon with an insatiable appetite for human flesh [49]

go indoors, however Rebecca and Danny were not there. The white horse saves them from the burning house. Tonto and John realize that Butch's gang is behind all recent attacks.

Butch's gang think that the masked man is the ghost of Dan Reid. Rebecca and Danny are in their hideaway with the traitor Collins and Butch. Collins is tasked to kill Rebecca and Danny. He fails. He is shot. Cole announces the continued construction of the railway and dispatches United States Cavalry captain Jay Fuller to exterminate Comanche Indians.

John and Tonto reach into Comanche hamlet, where John learns about Tonto's life story. Tonto as a child lived in a Comanche settlement. He came across a pair of white settlers. Tonto showed them the Comanche river, which was full of silver. As a reward they gave him a cheap pocket watch. The men killed Tonto's tribe and even Tonto's crow. Tonto stayed as the sole survivor. All his life he tries to find men who killed his tribe. He constantly wears the watch and the crow as a reminder of their treachery.

They find themselves at a silver mine where Butch supervises. John and Tonto ambush the men in the mine. Butch realizes that the Lone Ranger is just the lawyer. Tonto wants to kill Butch. However, John cannot forget his moral obligations. They lead him to face justice. Rebecca and Danny are in Latham Cole's railway. It was Cole, who saved them and shot Collins. John and Tonto steal nitroglycerine and use it to destroy a railway bridge. John reaches into the rail. He realizes that Rebecca and Danny are in the rail, that Cole is their kidnapper and that Cole and Butch are the brothers from Tonto's story. In the rail is silver in the value \$65,000,000 and using this money Cole will buy the railway, which will enable him to control the whole country.

Tonto rescues Rebecca and Danny. Butch and Fuller are killed, because two railway cars collide. Cole escapes to San Francisco with railway full of silver. However, Cole with the railway arrives at the destroyed bridge. He flies off the tracks into the water and dies.

The crowd applaud John, he is a hero. He is offered a law-enforcement position. They try to reveal his true identity. John refuses both. He rides to Tonto and tells him that he has decided to call the white horse "Silver". [29]

"In 1933 in San Francisco, the old Tonto is preparing to go home after a long day's work. He puts on a jacket and a bowler hat, and trades the kid a silver bullet before heading off into the night." [29] [48]

6.3 Main characters

The movie includes a lot of characters Tonto, John Reid (the Lone Ranger), Butch Cavendish, Latham Cole, Collins, Dan Reid, Rebecca Reid (Dan's wife) and so on. However, the most important ones are Tonto and Lone Ranger.

6.3.1 Lone Ranger

Armie Hammer plays the part of the Lone Ranger (John Reid). This American actor was born on August 28, 1986 in Los Angeles, USA.

In the movie the character of the Lone Ranger represents politeness, honesty, adherence to principles. He is a young, college-educated prosecutor. He always honours laws. However, in the movie he also represents kind and rather gullible man and sometimes even a ridiculous one. He got a leather mask from Tonto as a symbol Butch's gang will fear. However, he does not awaken the terrifying impression. He also wears the white hat.

6.3.2 Tonto

Tonto in the movie *The Lone Ranger* is portrayed by Johnny Depp. The actor was born on July 9, 1963 in Owensboro, Kentucky, USA. Although Johnny Depp is not a Native American, he acts an Indian. For that reason the Native Americans were not enamoured of this non-Indian actor. [50] However, it is not absolutely true, because Johnny Depp is partial descendant of Indian tribes Cherokee and Creek. [51]

Tonto`s character performed by Johnny Depp is greatly eccentric and slightly mad. According to Kevin Gover, Johnny Depp was chosen to speak in baritone¹², but he inexplicably lapses to Pidgin English sometimes. [52] However, Johnny Depp was quite complimented for an endeavour to speak the Comanche language. "The words were there, the pronunciation was shaky, but adequate." [53]

Comanche Tonto in the movie has got white painted face with black vertical lines. He wears long black hair, from which the eagle feathers hang. The pigtails appear in his hair here and there. This coiffure was typical for Indians. This coiffure is so called coiffure "mokoni". According to the coiffure could be identified the belonging to a certain group. [27 p. 223] Tonto wears a deceased crow on his head in the movie.

6.3.2.1 Comanche

As mentioned in the paragraph above, Tonto is a representative of Comanche. Comanches rang among prairie Indians. Roughly thirteen packs in the number of 20 000 people occupied the southern periphery prairie in the contemporary Texas. They came there in 17th century from the north from Rocky Mountains. Comanche Indians were the best riders from Prairies and plains. Since childhood they trained speed and dismounts. They were fierce warriors. They raised the horsemanship on

¹² Baritone = a male singer or voice with a range higher than bass and lower than a tenor. [54]

the art. Comanche Indians were experts in the catching mustangs. The group, which had got 2,000 Comanche Indians, owned 15,000 horses. They moved in Oklahoma in the end and now there are living about 3,000 Comanches. [27 p. 96] They were organized as bands, not really as a tribe. They lived in tee-pees. Comanches were formerly part of Shoshone Indians. The languages of these tribes are still almost the same. [55]

7 PRACTICAL PART – COMPARISON

Frequently, people appraise that the book and the primal screen adaptations are much better than remakes. In the case of The Lone Ranger, it seems to be truth. The latest movie did not meet the expectations of its creators and did not follow the success of its TV predecessors. In contrast, over-seventy-year-old series has got still immense number of fans.

The differences among the main characters in the book and screen adaptations are considerable, however, the crucial moments and characters are not changed. The aim of this chapter is to point out and to summarise the changes in screen adaptations in comparison to the book. Primarily, the changes related to the main characters of The Lone Ranger, Tonto, the plot and the setting.

7.1 Summary

The important part of the analysis is the plot of the stories. The significant beginning of the story is the same in all of the examples. Six Texas Rangers are ambushed by the gang of outlaws (because of a traitor). Only one Ranger survived. Due to the mask, he became the Lone Ranger.

The analysed screen adaptations and the book do not differ in the significant actualities in the plot. Only the latest movie is conceived slightly in a different way, but it does not apply to the summary. The 2013 movie is presented as a comedy. It is adapted to the contemporary viewers and not only to those who like western genre. The plot revolves about a silver mine. The outlaws seize the silver mine. However, in the series the Reid brothers (Dan and John) owned the silver mine and operated with it. They both had planned on using it for their retirement. In the book, there is not even a mention about it. In the movie, it is the same. In the movie, the outlaws want to escape with the railway carriage

full of silver to San Francisco. By contrast, the plot in the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* rather revolves about the stolen cattle.

The next contrasts are between the silver bullets. In the series, the Lone Ranger asked Jim Blaine (he is a retired Texas Ranger, who knows about the silver mine) to make for him silver bullets from the silver from his own mine. Jim asked him: "Why in the world would you want silver bullets?" [6] The Lone Ranger explained Jim that the silver bullets would be a symbol of justice and purity for him." [6] On the television show the Lone Ranger says he uses silver bullets as a symbol of justice, but more importantly, silver bullets serve to remind the Ranger of just how heavy a price firing a gun can be." [6] In the book it is completely different. Tonto melted down the silver from the killed Texas Ranger's badges and created from this the silver bullets. Afterwards he gives them to the Lone Ranger.

Further, the film-makers omitted lots of things. For instance, they missed that Tonto and the Lone Ranger had known each other from childhood, as stated in the book and series. On the other hand, they also added many things. For example, in the movie the outlaw Butch Cavendish cuts the Dan's heart out and then he eats it. A love story is introduced, too. John loves Rebecca, his brother's wife, and she loves him.

On the TV show the outlaw Butch Cavendish never died and the Lone Ranger never disclosed himself to Butch. By contrast, in the movie, Butch died in the upshot and the Lone Ranger appears for a while without the mask, so Butch knows who he is.

Generally speaking, the main plot line is about pursuing the outlaws, who killed the Texas Rangers in the novel and the latest movie. The TV show has got over 200 episodes, therefore, the main plot line is much more extensive.

7.2 Setting

The setting of all selected examples is the period of the Wild West in the United States of America, specifically in Texas, as was described in more detail in the chapter 2.3. An era of the analysed texts is also revolved around the Texas Rangers.

The only exception occurred in the 2013 movie. The part of the plot is enacted in 1933, in San Francisco (see chapter 6.2). That is in the carnival which overlooks the under-construction Golden Gate Bridge. The main part is set in 1869, Colby, Texas. The whole story of the other versions is only enacted in the second half of 19th century.

In the movie there is enacted a war between the Indians (in this case Comanche) and the settlers. The Comanches got treaty with the settlers, however, the settlers violated it. The settlers constructed a railway across the Comanche border. The movie shows the relationship between the Indians and the settlers.

7.3 Main characters

In all analysed examples the main characters are preserved, namely the characters of The Lone Ranger and Tonto. However, the stories also comprise countless minor characters that occur in different versions.

Every adaptation portrays a group of outlaws, bad and vicious men, who have a leader. The leader is called Butch Cavendish in the latest movie version and in the TV series. However this name is never mentioned in the book. The leader of the outlaws there is Wallie Cavendish. The creators at least preserved the surname for the character.

Further, there are differences when it comes to the Lone Ranger's older brother. His name is Dan Reid and he was one of the killed Texas Rangers in the latest movie and in the TV show. Also he has a son and a wife. In the book, it is not clear what the name of the Lone Ranger's brother is. However, it is evident that he is Texas Ranger. There is also no mention of the fact that he had a family. But the 2013 movie creators dedicated relatively great attention to Reid's wife Rebecca and his son Danny.

Other changes are clearly seen in the names of the members of the gang of outlaws. Their first names are Barret, Jesus, Frank, Skinny, Ray, Butch (the leader) and Collins (the traitor) in the latest movie. None of these names occur in the book. The names of the traitor Collins and the leader Butch Cavendish are also in the TV show, however, the other names of the outlaws are different there. Their names are Blacky, Whitey, Jerry and so on.

7.3.1 The Lone Ranger

The Lone Ranger is a crucial character in all analysed examples. In the book (see chapter 3.3.1) he is at the forefront, also in the movie serials and series. He represents moral principles, especially honesty. He serves as an example for people and likewise for children. Contrary to that, in the 2013 movie, he is rather overshadowed by Tonto.

Further, his appearance is slightly changed over time. He wears white hat and the mask that remains the same. In the movie he has a black suit, a white shirt and the red bandanna on. In the series he wears a blue shirt and black gloves. The mask represents the most important part of his character. Because of the mask he became known as the Lone Ranger. The mask represents something mysterious and due to it, his identity is not clear in the movie serial, series and the book. On the other hand, in the 2013 movie, the mask is something that others often laugh at

and the Ranger is mocked because of it. In all versions, the mask is made from the fabric of his brother's black vest.

Originally, the Lone Ranger's real first name was not given during the radio and television program. Only his last name Reid is known, because of his brother Dan Reid. [6] However, in the 2013 movie and in the TV show, the Lone Ranger is commonly called John Reid.

In the 2013 movie, the Lone Ranger is well-educated man (see chapter 5.2.1). He is a district attorney. He speaks standard language. In the other analysed works there is no mention of his education. He is just the member of the Texas Rangers.

In the book, and also in the series, the Lone Ranger is since the very beginning the Texas Ranger, as stated above. By contrast, in the movie, the Lone Ranger comes back home after nine years and his brother Dan gives him the badge after their father. Hereby this act Dan appoints John the Texas Ranger.

The Lone Ranger has a horse in all analysed versions. His name is Silver; he is white. In the 2013 movie, the Lone Ranger gives him the name Silver up the end of the film. Throughout the whole film they call him simply the horse or a spirit horse. The spirit horse is, according to the Comanches, a horse who leads the chosen one on the other side

The movie makers did not follow all of the Lone Ranger's creeds (see chapter 5.2.1) introduced by Fran Striker in the book. Striker wrote that the Lone Ranger never showed his face to anyone but Tonto. The Lone Ranger took off the mask for a while in the movie and he was recognized by Butch Cavendish.

7.3.2 Tonto

Tonto is an Indian. He is called a companion or sidekick of the Lone Ranger. However, Tonto is of different origin in analysed examples. In the book (see chapter 3.3.2) he is called a half-breed, but there is no mention of his origin. In the series (see chapter 5.2.2.1) he is from the Potawatomi tribe. Originally, in the radio series, Tonto is also identified as a chief's son of the Potawatomi tribe. By contrast, in the 2013 movie, Tonto is a Comanche (see chapter 6.3.2.1). In the latest movie, when the old Tonto tells his story to Will (see chapter 6.2), he is called as a "**Noble Savage**"¹³. This appellation is only there. In general, he is presented as principled, virtuous and fiercely loyal and also intelligent and wise. [56]

His appearance is changing. In the series, he wears the typical Indian headband and the hair tied into a ponytail. Conversely, in the movie Tonto wears loose hair and a bandanna. However, the colour of his hair is always the same; black. Only in the 2013 movie he has the deceased crow on his head (see chapter 6.3.2). He feeds the crow and talks with it. Tonto has the deceased crow since his childhood, when he lost parents. The crow reminds him his tribe. In the 2013 movie he has also face painted all the time.

His manner of speech is the same in all analysed examples.

In conclusion, it is evident that movie makers and screenwriters of the 2013 movie and TV show made several minor or major changes in comparison with the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* and the radio broadcast. However, the viewers are able to learn the basic facts about the story.

¹³ Noble Savage = „in literature, an idealized concept of uncivilized man, who symbolizes the innate goodness of one not exposed to the corrupting influences of civilization“ [57]

8 CONCLUSION

The aim of the bachelor thesis was to analyse and compare the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* and its screen adaptations in order to find similarities and differences.

The bachelor thesis was divided into two parts; theoretical and practical part. The first part of the analysis dealt with the era in which the story took place and also with the origin of the Lone Ranger. The story is set in the period of Wild West in Texas. In the theoretical part the bibliography of Fran Striker was described. It is also dedicated to his book *The Lone Ranger Rides* including the main characters (Lone Ranger and Tonto) and its plot summary. Further, the analysis of the chosen screen adaptations was done. There were introduced the crucial main characters (Lone Ranger, Tonto) and the plot in the screen versions. The information about the actors, earnings, budget is provided, too.

In the practical part, the analysis of chosen screen adaptations and the book was focused on the comparison between main characters and summary. The plot was not very difficult in the comparison of the original book. The principal line of action remained the same. The main characters were also conducted in the same way.

As primary sources for the bachelor thesis were used the original version of *The Lone Ranger Rides* written in 1941, the mentioned latest movie from 2013 and of course the TV show just as the movie serial.

According to the author of the bachelor thesis, none of the movies or serials cannot surpass the original radio show and the book. Generally, in most cases it is true that the original is unrivalled. Universally, people do not like the remakes and imitations. However, the latest movie had to be a box-office hit, mainly due to the leading actor, Johnny Depp. It has not happened. The movie is not bad. However, it has nothing to do with

the original or with the TV show. The movie *The Lone Ranger* is rather a comedy. It is intended for all viewers, not only for the western enthusiasts

At the end of the thesis there are attached some appendices, such as glossary, in which are explained the vocabularies, which are used in the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* and the photos of the characters.

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Appendices sources

Appendix I

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Appendix II

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Appendix III

Picture 1

Lone Ranger Wiki, (2015). *Lone Ranger*. [online] Available at: http://loneranger.wikia.com/wiki/Lone_Ranger [Accessed 12 Apr. 2015].

Picture 2

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Picture 3

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Appendix IV**Picture 1**

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Picture2

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Picture 3

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11 ABSTRACT

The aim of the bachelor thesis, *The Lone Ranger and Tonto: A Comparative Analysis of Book and Screen Adaptations*, was to analyse the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* written by Fran Striker and compare it with its screen adaptations – *The Lone Ranger*, a movie serial (1938); *The Lone Ranger*, a TV show (1949-1957) and *The Lone Ranger*, a movie (2013), and accentuate the main similarities and differences between the original book and the chosen screen adaptations.

The bachelor thesis is divided into two parts – theoretical and practical. The theoretical part contains introduction to the topic, including the setting and cultural background of the period. Further, the work also contains the information about the creator of the Lone Ranger. Further, there is summarized information about the book and screen adaptations, including contents and the main characters. The practical part deals with the comparative analysis which shows differences and similarities between the book and the screen adaptations.

The bachelor thesis includes the appendices in form of a glossary and several pictures, which are connected with the topic of the thesis

12 RESUMÉ

Cílem této bakalářské práce, *Lone Ranger a Tonto: Srovnávací analýza knihy a jejích adaptací*, bylo porovnat knihu *Osamělý jezdec*, kterou napsal Fran Striker, s několika jejími adaptacemi. K porovnání byly vybrány následující adaptace: *Osamělý jezdec*, seriál (1938); *Osamělý jezdec*, televizní pořad (1949-1957) a *Osamělý jezdec*, film (2013). Cílem bylo zdůraznit hlavní podobnosti a rozdíly mezi knižní předlohou a vybranými adaptacemi.

Bakalářská práce je rozdělena do dvou částí – teoretické a praktické. Teoretická část obsahuje představení tématu, včetně prostředí a charakteristiky doby, v níž se její děj odehrává. Dále pak také informace o tvůrci *Osamělého jezdce*. V práci jsou také shrnuty informace o knize a televizních adaptacích, včetně obsahů a charakteristiky hlavních postav. Praktická část se zabývá komparací uvedených děl a ukazuje na rozdíly a podobnosti mezi knihou a televizními adaptacemi.

Bakalářská práce obsahuje přílohy s glosářem a obrázky, které se týkají tématu.

13 APPENDICES

List of appendices

- Appendix I: Glossary
- Appendix II: Illustration from the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* by W. A. Smith
- Appendix III: The Lone Ranger (1949 - 1957)
- Appendix IV: The Lone Ranger (2013)

Appendix I: Glossary

aftermath	the follows an unpleasant event or accident, and the effects that it causes
betray	to not be loyal to your country or a person, often by doing something harmful such as helping their enemies
buckboard	a light vehicle with four wheels that is pulled by a horse, and was used in the US in the 19th century
cartridge	a tube containing explosive powder and a bullet that you put in a gun
crook	a very dishonest person, especially a criminal or a cheat
double-cross	to deceive someone by working only for your own advantage in the (usually illegal) activities you have planned together
heir	a person who will legally receive money, property, or a title from another person, especially an older member of the same family, when that other person dies
hombre	a man, especially one who is strong
outfit	a group of people who work together as a team or organization
outlaw	(especially in the past) a person who has broken the law and who lives separately from the other parts of society because they want to escape legal punishment
pipsqueak	someone that you think is not worth respecting or paying attention to, especially because they are small or young
quirt	a short-handled riding whip with a braided leather lash
scripture	also the (Holy) Scriptures the Bible: the way God is portrayed in Scripture; the holy books of a particular religion (Hindu scriptures)
sidekick	someone who spends time with or helps another person, especially when that other person is more important than they are
stalemate	a situation in which neither group involved in an argument can win or get an advantage and no action can be taken
stallion	an adult male horse that is used for breeding
vengeance	the punishing of someone for harming you or your friends or family, or the wish for such punishment to happen

Appendix II: Illustration from the book *The Lone Ranger Rides* by W. A. Smith



Picture 1. *The Lone Ranger*



Picture 2. *The Lone Ranger and Silver*



Picture 3. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto*



Picture 4. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto*

Appendix III: The Lone Ranger (1949 - 1957)



Picture 1. *The Lone Ranger and Silver*



Picture 2. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto*



Picture 3. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto*

Appendix IV: The Lone Ranger (2013)



Picture 1. *Tonto*



Picture 2. *The Lone Ranger*



Picture 3. *Butch Cavendish*