



Hogs n Hens

by Jerry Powell

“...I know it’s been a ways back, but Willie Pierce ought not to have done what he did,” she pouted. “He left her all alone and little Hot Shot never had no daddy because of it.”

“...It’s near to Christmas time Jim King and if you’re of any account at all, you’ll find Willie Pierce and deal severely with him.

“...I got things of value I can risk,” Jim explained. “I got me three fat sow-hogs and a passel of hens... Since you’re buying up all that bottom land, you’ll be needing the livestock.”

...Jim pretended to regain his focus on the game, a focus that, in reality, was never diverted. He looked at the board in feigned surprise.

“Why... Oscar done won a game from me.”

Oscar motioned for everyone to come over and have a look. He said, “I told you I’d get one in on you one of these days, King Jim... now, where’s them mules of yours? I’ve won ‘em fair and square.”