

GRIMLY HATING HIS GORY TASK, THE OLD TIMER SEARCHED OUT EVERY ONE OF THE STRIPED REPTILES...

I HAVEN'T WASTED A SHOT... ONLY FOUR SLUGS LEFT! OH, PLEASE, PLEASE! LET ME FIND THE RIGHT ONE!!



AND ON ALMOST THE SAME SPOT... BUT TWENTY YEARS LATER, A YOUNG MAN STUMBLES... AND FALLS... EXHAUSTED... A SIBILANT HISS MAKES HIM OPEN HIS EYES... TRY TO GET UP...

I... I CAN'T... GET... UP... TOO... TIRED...



WAIT! HE'S DISAPPEARING! DISAPPEARED! GONE... GONE COMPLETELY!! Y-YOU SAVED MY LIFE!!

THANK HEAVEN!! WELL, MISTER, I FIGURED IF I COULD FIND THE SAME GILA THAT GOT THAT MUTATION BLAST AN' KILL IT NOW... HERE IN 1958, TWO YEARS BEFORE THE ATOMIC TEST... IT JUST COULDN'T EXIST THERE IN '77 WITH YOU!!



AND YOU WERE RIGHT, SIR!! LUCKY FOR ME THAT GILA WAS ALREADY BORN IN 1958! IF IT HADN'T BEEN, YOU COULDN'T HAVE KILLED IT AND... BUT IT'S OVER AND I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHOM TO THANK!!



PSHAH! NO THANKS NEEDED, FRIEND! BUT MY NAME'S CHARLIE GRAHAM, WHAT'S YOURS?

UNCLE CHARLIE!! THIS IS FANTASTIC!! I'M YOUR GRAND-NEPHEW BILLY WYATT!!

JUST THINK...

BILLY! WHAT--? BILLY! HE'S GONE!! I CAN'T READ HIM ANYMORE!



CONTACT BETWEEN THEIR MINDS TOTALLY BROKEN OFF, UNCLE CHARLIE SPURRED HIS HORSE HOME AND WHEN HE WALKED IN TO FACE HIS YOUNG GRAND NEPHEW THERE WERE TEARS OF HAPPINESS IN HIS EYES...

I RECKON I GAVE YOU THE BEST GIFT A MAN CAN GIVE SOMEONE HE LOVES!

LEMME SEE IT!



YOU CAN'T SEE IT YET, BILLY... BUT TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW YOU'LL KNOW ABOUT IT AND THEN YOU'LL REMEMBER YOUR OLD UNCLE CHARLIE... YOU'LL REMEMBER AND BE GLAD THAT TODAY I GAVE YOU YOUR LIFE!

