

# FAMOUS CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

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## Seth Bullock

**Strength:** 8 (+0)

**Dexterity:** 9 (+1)

**Endurance:** 9 (+1)

**Intelligence:** 9 (+1)

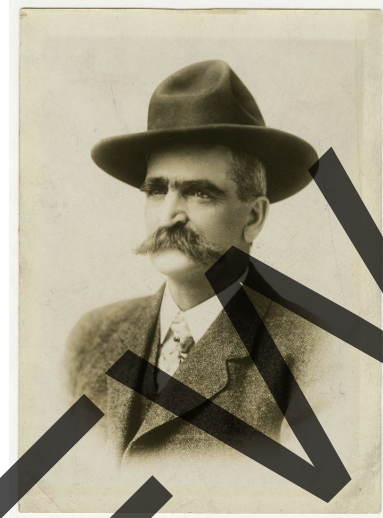
**Education:** 5 (-1)

**Charisma:** 11 (+1)

**Reputation:** 7

**Primary Language:** English

**Birthdate:** July 23, 1849



|                       |   |               |   |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|---|
| Animals (Riding)      | 2 | Draw          | 1 |
| Broker                | 2 | Drive (Wagon) | 1 |
| Etiquette             | 2 | Investigate   | 1 |
| Gun Combat (Revolver) | 2 | Leadership    | 1 |
| Persuade              | 2 | Streetwise    | 1 |
| Recon                 | 2 | Explosives    | 0 |
| Admin                 | 1 | Interrogation | 0 |
| Advocate (Politics)   | 1 | Melee         | 0 |
| Animals (Farming)     | 1 | Survival      | 0 |

Seth Bullock is best known for his work as the sheriff of Lawrence County, South Dakota. He has been portrayed in numerous fictional accounts concerning this time in his life.

Bullock was born in 1849 in what is now Ontario, Canada to George and Anna Bullock. Bullock's father was a retired British sergeant major and one can imagine that the home was full of military discipline. Bullock's father was also involved in politics and it seems that this involvement would inspire Bullock to do likewise. It was perhaps this sort of discipline that prompted Bullock to leave his home at age 16 to go to Montana to live with his older sister. This was short lived and he was sent back home to his parents only to leave again for Helena, Montana two years later.

Following in his father's footsteps, Bullock ran for the Montana Territorial Legislature and lost. He followed this up with a run for the Territorial Senate and won. He served in the Territorial Senate for two years during which he was part of creating Yellowstone National Park. In 1873, he was elected to be the sheriff of Lewis and Clark County, Montana and thus began his career in law enforcement. During this same period, he opened a hardware store in Helena. However, in 1874, he and his partner, Sol Star, saw that business might be better for them in the burgeoning town of Deadwood in the Dakota Territory.

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that “Doc” Holliday was among the bandits, this caused even more friction between the Earps and the Clantons.

Meanwhile, since Wyatt lost the previous election for sheriff to Johnny Behan, he moved again to his gambling concession at the Oriental Saloon. Milt Joyce, the owner of the saloon, had given Wyatt 25% of the earnings from the faro game being run in the saloon. This prompted Wyatt to invite Bat Masterson to come down and assist him in the faro game. Bat would stay in Tombstone from January to April of 1881.

The smoldering powder keg of tension between the Earps and the Clantons finally exploded on October 26, 1881 at the famous Gunfight at the OK Corral. The gunfight has been portrayed by films, books, plays, and television shows over the years. It has been seen through the lens of righteous law enforcement taking down evildoers, gang-on-gang violence, dirty cops taking out their competition, an extension of the Civil War with Republicans fighting Democrats, as righteous men fighting corrupt cops, or even as a punishment for trespassing on an alien world in science fiction. The truth is likely in there somewhere (well, save the part about aliens), but the facts are that the gunfight which has become so famous lasted only 30 seconds.

Near midnight on the previous day, “Doc” Holliday and Ike Clanton had a confrontation at the Alhambra Saloon concerning Ike’s accusations concerning the stagecoach robbery. Virgil Earp threatened to put both Ike and “Doc” Holliday into jail if they didn’t stop arguing, and Holliday went back to his room at a local lodging house with Ike threatening Holliday as he left. Following this, Ike Clanton, Sheriff Johnny Behan, Tom McLaury, Marshal Virgil Earp, and a fifth man whose name has been lost to history played poker at the Occidental Saloon until dawn. Ike Clanton had been drinking all night and was said by witnesses to continue to threaten the Earps and Holliday to the point that some said that he tried to confront Holliday at the boarding house.

The Clanton Cowboys continued to come into town to back up Ike in what they felt like was a coming confrontation. Sheriff Behan attempted to defuse the situation using his connections with the Clantons to attempt to get them to lay down their arms but this was to no avail though he would tell Virgil Earp that he had disarmed them. Marshal Virgil Earp decided to disarm the cowboys and, when he heard they were gathering on Fremont Street, got Wyatt, Morgan, and “Doc” Holliday to join him. The foursome found Billy Claiborne, Billy Clanton, Ike Clanton, Frank McLaury, and Tom McLaury near the intersection of Fremont Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, located near the OK Corral.

The gunfight commenced with Ike Clanton, reportedly, running for his life and escaping without injury. Many stated that Wyatt had allowed him to leave the gunfight without injury as he claimed to be unarmed. Tom and Frank McLaury were killed along with Billy Clanton. Billy Claiborne had run from the gunfight as well. Holliday was bruised from a grazing shot across his hip, Virgil Earp has been shot through the calf, and Morgan Earp had been hit in the shoulder. Wyatt Earp was unscathed.

Following a trial which failed to indict the Earps or Holliday, Virgil Earp was ambushed on December 28, 1881. Virgil was injured and would lose the use of his left arm. On March 18, 1882, Morgan Earp was killed while playing billiards at Hatch’s Saloon. This would prompt Virgil to take Morgan’s body via train to California. Wyatt would accompany them to the train station alongside Holliday, Warren Earp, Sherman McMaster, and “Turkey Creek” Jack Johnson. Wyatt saw Frank Stilwell and another cowboy armed with

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### Johnny Ringo

**Strength:** 8 (+0)

**Dexterity:** 11 (+1)

**Endurance:** 10 (+1)

**Intelligence:** 10 (+1)

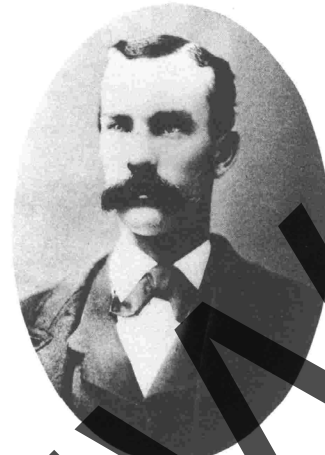
**Education:** 9 (+1)

**Charisma:** 7 (+0)

**Reputation:** 10

**Primary Language:** English

**Birthdate:** May 3, 1850



|                       |   |            |   |
|-----------------------|---|------------|---|
| Draw                  | 2 | Carouse    | 1 |
| Gun Combat (Revolver) | 2 | Gambler    | 1 |
| Melee (Blade)         | 2 | Navigation | 1 |
| Recon                 | 2 | Advocate   | 0 |
| Animals (Farming)     | 1 | Survival   | 0 |
| Animals (Riding)      | 1 |            |   |

John Peters Ringo was born in what was then Washington, Indiana and is now Greens Fork, Indiana to Martin and Mary Ringo on May 3, 1850. His aunt, Augusta Peters, was the aunt of Cole Younger (see p.53). In 1856, the Ringo family would move to Liberty, Missouri and, in 1858, moved again to Gallatin, Missouri during which he would receive a classical education. In 1864, the family decided to move to California. On the way there, near what is now Glenrock, Wyoming, Martin Ringo accidentally shot himself with the shotgun he was carrying. The family continued, though grief stricken and horrified to San Jose, California.

Ringo would live with his family until at least 1869 possibly as late as 1870 working as a farmer. He would leave his family and head to Texas with a plan to own his own ranch. Ringo would go to Mason County, Texas. While there, he became friends with Moses Baird and Scott Cooley. During a period called the "Hoodoo War", the local German immigrants attacked the local jail and lynched two cattle rustlers that were inside. This led to reprisals from other locals including Cooley, Baird, and Ringo. After Baird was killed, Ringo shot and killed a man named James Cheyney on September 25, 1875. Cheyney had contributed to Baird's death by leading him into an ambush. Ringo was arrested for the murder and sent to prison in 1876 where it is said that he may have met fellow inmate John Wesley Hardin (see p.27).

Ringo was released and went to Loyal Valley, Texas. He spent a short time there as a constable. People who knew him in Texas referred to him as a dark personality, a man with a bad temper, who drank profusely but enjoyed reciting Shakespeare. Most who met him felt that he had gone to college but it would seem that he was simply well-read or, at least, more well-read than those around him. After a time in Loyal Valley, he would move to Arizona.