

Paw an' Me
(Ranchman Junior)

**Paw a' me, we're men, you bet!
We kin cuss an' chew, an' spit.
I kin spit as fur as Paw,
Roll a wad' round in my jaw
Till ye'd think' twas mumps I had.
(year' for las' I had ' em bad
On both sides, an' couldn't spit
Ner chaw- well, hardly not a bit).
Got an' outfit jis' like Paw's,
Spanish bit kin break th' jaws
Of any bronc gits fresh with me.
An' yer eyes would bug to see
My new chaps-Angorry hair
All fixed up to look like bear.
Silver spurs' at long ago
Paw, he brung from Mexico
With little bells an' jinglin chains.
An' my bridle, it's got reins
Wove of hair by Chappo when
He done time down in th' Pen.
Fancy headstall- Gee! Now, son
It's finest Chappo ever done.
Silver conchos in a row
Carved by some old Navajo
Fer his war-belt. Paw says: "Now
That buck don't need' em anyhow".**

**Paw, he always takes the prize
At rodears, an' big steer-ties;
Says come next Forth o' July
He's a-goin' to let me try
Fer the first calf- ropin' prize.
An' he bets 'at I'll surprise
All them punchers, thinks that they
Got a chance t' lug that prize away.**

**Maw, sometimes she'll r'ar an' pitch,
Talkin' about school,.. an' sich,
Waste o' time fer men like us.
Paw, he always lets her fuss
Some.. then calm her, like he can.
Gee! I'm glad that I'm a man!
Wimmin folks 'll do fer maws,
But it takes us men fer paws.**

The poem *Paw an' Me* was written by Sharlot M. Hall. It uses a COLLOQUIAL way of speaking (informal or casual) to give you the idea of cowboy speech.

Vocabulary

Paw= Pa or Dad

Fur= Far

Wad= Tobacco

Twas= It Was

Las= Last

Ner= Nor

Chaw= Chew

Jis=Just

Th=The

Bronc= Bucking horse

Angorry= Angora fur, rabbit

Brung= Brought

Headstall= Head gear for a horse

Bit= Piece of metal attached to a bridle or head piece, which is then placed in the horse's mouth. It is used to stop or turn a horse by pulling on the reins.

Bridle=Headstall and bit

Reins= Two long pieces of leather that attach to bridle. Rider controls the horse by pulling on them.

Pen= Jail

Tack= Horse gear such as saddle, reins, bridle and bit

Conchos= Round silver buttons used for decoration on horse's tack

Buck= Male adult Indian

Rodears= Rodeos

Steer-ties= Calf roping

Fer= For

Punchers= Cowboys who move cattle

R'ar= Rear as in a horse standing up on its back legs

Sich= Such

Wimmin= Women