Gold has been discovered in California! The year is 1850 and the forty-niners can now afford wives, race horses, or silver engraved double barrel shotguns and pistols, if they so desire.

Having been in California last year, Charlie Streeter knows the value of supply and demand. Prospectors and adventurers from back East are spending $200 each to travel to either San Francisco, Sacramento, or San Jose to make their fortunes, a name for themselves... or something else. Charlie intends to guide a wagon train of eight or more wagons, plus limited belongings, to California from St. Joseph, Missouri. The trip is expected to take nine weeks.

Despite the warning of several mountain men, Charlie has gathered this daring group of travellers. Each person is expected to contribute a pair of mules and 100 pounds of food. Each traveller is allowed to bring 20 pounds of clothing and “essentials” and is guaranteed to find gold within two months of arrival.

As part of the conditions on the trip, each person must be a capable marksman and have their own weapon(s). Indians are less likely to attack well armed parties.

Because of the small size of the train, and as larger wagon trains are more noticeable, speed will be a main protection. Using mules, which are considerably faster than typical oxen, the wagons will not be nearly as heavy and there will be extra mules. The train will travel from 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM, with a lunch stop at noon, every day except Sunday. On Sundays, the train will travel from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

On the second day out of St. Joseph, your group came across another wagon train which had lost the wagon master. Two wagons did not want to return to St. Joe with the others and asked to join you. Because this other train was willing to move fast, was well equipped, and most of all because they had a gunfighter in the group, Charlie said “Yes.” He did not want to make the gunfighter mad—especially since he had killed the prior wagon master.

Join together to face the decisions of going West with these fellow brave sons of destiny and even braver men who have undertaken to guide and help them. By making the right decisions, everyone will get to California safely. Wrong decisions, however, will result in shortened or altered lives. Don’t let your scalp hang in an Indian lodge or leave your bones bleaching on the sand.