

Monday May 21st 2018

Victoria Day

We had trouble getting to sleep with fireworks popping off all over. So, we were very happy to wake up to a peaceful Monday morning with bright sunshine. The neighbourhood walk was very quiet.

Weather: Toronto 50F to 65F sun Louisville 69F to 86F part cloud

NYTX: David took one minute and 21 seconds while Louise nailed it in only one minute and 2 seconds.

BBC: Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro has won re-election to another six-year term, in a vote marred by an opposition boycott and claims of vote-rigging.

After a cold cereal breakfast with mixed fruit, we started housecleaning. David drove the powered Husky vacuum cleaner for the first shift while Louise dusted. David brewed a second batch of coffee for the much-needed break. Bet Victoria and Albert never had this much fun!

We loaded up the van for a Tuesday morning run to the Squire's Beach road garbage depot in Pickering. This would be the fourth trip there since we started emptying the house.

BBC: Dozens of people have been poisoned by carbon monoxide after failing to turn off the ignition on keyless cars, according to the New York Times. Its report found that 28 people had died and 45 others had suffered injuries since 2006. More than half of the 17 million vehicles sold annually in the US now have keyless ignitions.

We had sent an e-mail to a neighbour asking for a reference to a cleaning service. The neighbour came over and we chatted for a while. We sent a message to the recommended cleaning service asking for an estimate.

We had toasted 7 grains bread with shaved two cheese and sliced tomato sandwiches for lunch.

We had a lovely afternoon walk. The neighbourhood was alive to the sounds of lawn movers and the hammering of nails as fences got fixed. Kids were riding their bikes and Maisie almost got mowed down by a pair of sidewalk scooters.

Louise served a marinated steak with green peas and rice. We had some Pinot Noir to celebrate Victoria Day.

We watched the final episode of "Bailey and Scott". It sort of fizzled to an end. We do not think there will be a sequel. It was an enjoyable series: well-written and well-cast and believably-acted.

We then turned our attention to "Stephen Fry in America" This is a six-part BBC television series in which Stephen Fry travels across the United States. In the six-part series he travels, mostly in a London cab, through all 50 of the U.S. States and Washington, D.C..

Tuesday May 22nd 2018

We got to sleep but then the anti-aircraft batteries started up trying to shoot down Martian space craft. There are only two occasions when Toronto residents can legally light fireworks on their property without a permit, One is Victoria Day. As a matter of fact, there was a time when kids used to call Queen Victoria's birthday Firecracker Day. The other is Canada Day (July 1st).

It quieted down around midnight. Then somebody started at 01:30 with a sequence that sounded like a Bofors 40mm cannon. At 03:00 it started to rain. David gave up and got up at 03:30 hrs

Weather: Toronto 57F to 59F rain Louisville 70F to 85F part cloud

NYTX: Louise got it in only 64 seconds. As usual, David was slower at one minute 55 seconds.

It being Tuesday, the recycling and kitchen waster bins went to the curb just before 07:00 hrs.

BBC: Marks and Spencer has announced that it will close 100 stores by 2022, accelerating a reorganization that it says is "vital" for the firm's future. Of the 100 stores, 21 have already been shut and M&S has now revealed the location of 14 further sites to close. Under its plan, M&S wants to move a third of its sales online and plans to have fewer, larger clothing and homeware stores in better locations.

Continuing his preparation to initiate a new ISP for the new "www.ironsidz.ca" David started copying the old "www.ironsidz.net/IronTrip" to a portable backup drive.

We took a chance and walked Maisie between showers. We were amazed to see lilacs in bloom – that seemed to early to us. Then again, the purple sand cherries were also out.

We drove off to the recycling/garbage depot in Pickering. First we dropped into Metro grocery store to buy brioche – only select stores get it. So, we decided we would bake our own.

To our surprise, the dump area was lined up with cars and trucks coming and going. We waited for a good 20 minutes before we were allowed to drive in. A serious line of vehicles was trying to get in and to get out the entire time we were there. We were bewildered about the many, many dumpers. We never saw anything like that number of people there before. Did everyone do spring cleaning over the long weekend? Was it closed last week? We cannot imagine. But back to the way it works, you drive onto a weighing scale, get the nod and then go to the dumpsters to off load. As you exit, the vehicle gets reweighed and you pay the weight difference. In this case \$13.25

We continued on to a large nursery called Vandermeer at Bayly and Lake Ridge in Ajax to buy some shrubs and ground cover for the newly cleared corner near the front door. We were quickly successful in finding what we thought we needed . . . five low-spreading euonymous plants and three creeping phlox. We searched for a distinctive birdhouse, but we only found ones made in China or the USA.

On the return we dropped into Michael's to buy some black oil paint for Louise's masterpieces. Also we found a birdhouse, tho not distinctive in its original state - we have a plan to make it special.

Then we had a stop at No Frills to pick up the yeast we needed for brioche. We also got some other

essentials.

We had lentil soup for lunch and then decided we needed to plant our new acquisitions before somebody spirited them away. We remembered that the check out person had told us we had to take to shrubs out of the container before we planted them. That was a bit like telling us that the we needed the green side up on any turf.

Nonetheless, we dug our holes and smashed the pots to liberate the variegated euonymus shrubs. We also broke up the pot-bound root balls so they could spread. We filled the holes with water and mashed the plants in so that no air pockets would survive. We broke up our five shrubs and positioned them first along with pinky-purple creeping phlox ground cover. We are going to liberate some periwinkle that David planted years ago in the ravine to give some variety to the neat corner planting. We also found a massive cluster of hostas, that came from David's mother's in Prince Edward Country near Belleville, that would be divided to give a bit of height to the planting.

After a short break we got the giant loppers and took out a dead sapling in the ravine that was too big to ignore.

We were a bit tired after our efforts in the morning and afternoon, but went out for an afternoon walk as Maisie had not lifted any boxes or dug any holes and she was a bit antsy.

The lone red bud that we know of in the neighbourhood was in full bloom. It made Louise a bit homesick.

We had our split meal for supper – Louise having salmon and David his Montreal Smoked Meat.

We went back to Stephen Fry as he continued his grand tour of the US. He dealt too much on the seedy underbelly of America. The high spots were in Kentucky – Woodford Reserve and Keeneland Track. Stephen made two other key points: first, that they are still fighting the Civil War, and second that South Florida is not part of The South.

Wednesday May 23rd 2018

We woke up at 05:55 to a warm glow in the eastern sky.

Weather: Toronto 54F to 77F sun Louisville 68F to 85F mostly sun

NYTX: David did it in one minute 33 seconds. Louise was slow at one minute and 48 seconds.

CBC: [Neil Macdonald on the June 7th Ontario election]. Last year, the average Canadian household handed over about 43 per cent of its total earnings to federal, provincial and municipal governments combined, and Ontario's aggregate tax burden is very close to the national average. Ontarians are carried in the womb of a nanny state from cradle to grave. How much more civilized, really, does it need to be? [For voters who cannot bear to choose the Conservatives, Liberals or New Democratic Party, there's actually a *None of the Above* party running.]

Louise was mourning the passing of Dr Elizabeth Ann Kirby, a fellow faculty member from Florida State University, Tallahassee. Her daughter Caroline Alexander wrote a book, named “Bounty” on the

trials of the mutineers of HMS Bounty. We ordered the book from the Toronto Public Library.

The early morning walk was delightful. Sun, with no wind, and rabbits to chase. Little Maisie continues to be a businesslike, serious walker. She seems to be totally aware and engaged at times in leading the way and at other times, into her own investigations. Sometimes she has a definite preference for our route, which she expresses by somehow doubling her weight and taking a position fully hunkered down and pointed in her preferred path. It is with difficulty that Louise refuses to accommodate this little expression of will or desire.

After a breakfast of eggs in a nest, David decided he would dig up the hostas. He got three big clumps and planted them in Louise's Corner. Louise did the finishing touches to tidy up David's heroic efforts.

A big clay planter, that had not seen plants for a decade, was moved to the curb, with the hope that somebody would take this treasure.

The morning slipped away while we tried to make telephone appointments, having failed with e-mail. It is getting harder to get anybody to do anything.

Louise came up with a new sandwich for lunch. On a toasted Costco mini-baguette, split in two and hollowed out a bit, she placed a slice of Brie, a crisped prosciutto tranche, and a nice dollop of jellied whole cranberries. It is a nice, rich sandwich. A small portion is sufficient. Louise nicknamed it PBC.

We drove off eastwards on the 401 towards Oshawa to the “Bed, Bath and Beyond” at Thickson Road in Whitby (the sequence going east is Scarborough, Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa). The BBB website indicated they had the baking pans Louise needed for upscale Brioche. Last year this is where we found the only popover pan in Canada.

We doubled back to Costco in Ajax and bought a ton of non-essentials and some essentials just to make our stop there necessary.

Back home, with the sun out and a temperature of 77F, David decided to go down into the ravine rock gardens to rescue some shade plants. While he worked the bugs feasted on his exposed flesh. He managed to bring back some samples and planted them in Louise's Corner.

About 15:40 we decided to go for a walk. On the outbound leg we spotted Canada's sesquicentennial tulips. We had first seen these 150s in Ottawa during the May, 2017 Tulip Festival.

It was not long before the heat started to take its toll. A couple of times Maisie went on strike and stretched out on cool grass to dissipate heat. On the way back we went through the cooler grassed area of Wanita Parkette. It was an area the developers were forced to reserve for a school, but the school was never built. Maisie hugged the shade and the big kids walked slowly, as we were also dragging and feeling the heat.

Supper was pan-roasted chicken breast, with a delicious asparagus and cauliflower variation. The asparagus was cooked in melted butter and sprinkled with Panko to achieve a crisp, crunchy state. The cooked cauliflower was mashed with a bit of butter. A green salad was enjoyed afterwards, as per the French style.

We continued with Stephen Fry as he explored from the Canadian to the Mexican border, the spine of North America: the Rocky Mountains, which also constitute the continental divide between river systems flowing West to the Pacific or east, to the Atlantic, where he also visited the prairie plains. Stops included nature reserves and media magnate Ted Turner's bison farming as well as the German immigrants in North Dakota, a virtual ghost town, Texan socialites at a Houston benefit dinner.

All in all, we were not that impressed with Stephen Fry. He was exhibiting too much of that British tendency to mock the Americans – the ones who saved them from defeat in both World Wars.

Thursday May 24th 2018

We were up at 06:06 and it was almost sunny. The upstairs balcony thermostat read 50F.

Weather: Toronto 55F to 71F sun Louisville 65F to 85F sun
NYTX: David did it in one minute 54 seconds. Louise got it in a blinding 52 seconds. Wow.

We went walking at 06:40 and were back by 07:10 – it was a wonderful way to wake up. David filled the watering can from the outside faucet and watered our new plants.

Before breakfast we watched a video on how to make Brioche. Then we had a simple breakfast of cold cereal and fresh fruit.

While Louise started on the brioche, David began to move the old computer system from the upstairs computer room. Easiest was the keyboard, then a bit heavier was the tower computer that David had built from a kit. The hardest was the huge Samsung CRT – it weighed a ton.

David got the dolly from the garage and took it upstairs. He loaded the CRT onto the dolly, but could imagine losing control as the dolly was eased down the stairs. So, it took both David and Louise to get the CRT down into the foyer.

To ease his back, David brought the lighter bags of electronic detritus downstairs. Having basically emptied the computer room, that had seen three generations of computers and was the birthplace of the 'Ironsides' website, we then had a problem. What were we going to do with an empty room?

David received an e-mail from Amazon reminding him that we was about to get dinged for another year of Prime. We barely remembered even signing up for it. So, we deleted all the credit card information and cancelled Prime.

We had been admiring the white lilac at the top of the ravine in our backyard. David had “borrowed” it about 25 years ago from Prince Edward County where “volunteers” grow on scrub land with limestone outcroppings. The lilacs were planted by United Empire Loyalists who fled the great misunderstanding of 1776. A few houses down the street edge on the ravine where it collapsed at the time of the 1953 Hurricane Hazel, one very large purple lilac remains from that time. It is in full bloom and scents the air all around.

About 10:00 the brioche dough, which had doubled in size, was sent to the refrigerator to cool off for

six hours. The Dodge van was loaded with the electronic treasure.

BBC: US President Donald Trump has cancelled a planned summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. He said he had made the decision based on the "tremendous anger and open hostility" in a recent North Korean statement. Mr Trump said it would be "inappropriate" to hold the summit as scheduled in Singapore on 12 June.

Testing David's 7-11 cell phone he found the touchscreen needed calibration. From the Web he found that this was a frequent complaint. From the Play Store he downloaded an application called Touchscreen Calibration. He had to endure several advertisements before he could actually try the application. It did not work – it was just a vehicle to sell stuff.

For lunch we had half a Printed Circuit Board (PCB) sandwich, a repeat of yesterday.

Then Louise took Maisie to walk and to take pictures of the fallen tree across the road from us, which has become a landmark. We believe it will be there from now on. She had received photos in a text from her friend in Louisville who has carved out a lush path to the Little Goose Creek from the back of the property where their houses reside. The photos from Louisville are sent in a text., called The Deer Path. Actually there was a deer in the centre of the path. Louise's dead tree is not an equal exchange, besides it is hard to focus a camera with a Cairn Terrier in tow.

Louise ascended to her atelier to try to paint. Perhaps she made a little progress.

BBC: Prince Harry has become Baron Kilkeel - one of the titles gifted to him by the Queen on his wedding day. The Prince is the first royal to have been granted the title, but he will no doubt feel at home when he visits the capital of the ancient kingdom of Mourne. He will also be known as the Earl of Dunbarton and the Duke of Sussex. [*Is it just me, or do others think this is all too much twaddle?*]

By afternoon the weather was about as good as it gets. A gentle breeze was swaying the tree tops and it was a very acceptable 77F.

Around 15:30 we drove off to the Community Environment Day for Councillor Crawford recycling event at 3600 Kingston Road (Markham Road). We had arrived early and were second in line. Louise was very impressed with the orderly and tidy fashion of the event. We got lots of assistance with the heavier items and gasps as we passed over equipment in good working order – they will find it a new home. When got home we took Maisie for a short walk.

David took an on-line BBC test to determine which British accent he has. The BBC concluded he was from Manchester. It must have been too much “Bailey and Scott”.

For supper we had a choice of hamburgers or tacos. It was such a hard choice to make, but hamburger won the toss.

With some misgivings, we returned to find out if Stephen Fry could redeem himself in his report on the US. We did at least find out what a “DC” is in a Nevada brothel. Fry spent too much time covering matters of little interest, while totally missing material of significance.

Friday May 25th 2018

Weather: Toronto 62F to 78F mostly cloud Louisville 62F to 89F sun

NYTX: Louise got it in one minute 18 seconds. David crashed and burned – it was a weird format

We went for an early walk – the weather was just perfect. Just about all the blossoms are now in full panoply. Louise took Maisie across the street to meet the miniature poodle. For several weeks now, the poodle has gone into crazy gyrations each morning when we see him. We learned that he is 7 months old. Louise told his owner that the craziness has another year at least. He is very cute. Maisie was not impressed.

At breakfast we tested the brioche cake/bread that Louise baked on Thursday. We each had a slice slathered with raspberry jam. Louise thought it needed a tweak. David simply enjoyed this rare treat.

CBC: Canadian police have launched a huge manhunt for two suspects who set off a homemade bomb at a restaurant in a Toronto suburb. Peel Regional Police has asked for the public's help to identify the men behind the "horrendous act", which injured 15 people, three critically. Two suspects entered the Bombay Bhel restaurant in Mississauga and detonated the improvised bomb on Thursday night.

David had to get the results of blood work so we drove to 'The Shops' at Lawrence Avenue and Don Mills Road. Construction crews made it very difficult to drop off Louise. David went on to his doctor's and got some good news. Picking up Louise was even trickier in that the entrances to 'The Shops' from Don Mills had been cut off by paving crews. It took David a while to find an entry through the back streets. When he did get into the complex, there were no parking spaces. Fortunately, Louise had spotted David and waved him down as he prepared to make another pass.

We had veggie spring rolls for lunch. They are less filling and also less tasty than our preferred Costco brand. Unfortunately, Costco has the habit of dropping products that people like.

After lunch David went down into his work shop and started dumping some of his airplane model building “thingies” into a cardboard box. He had not touched any of it for ten years.

While Louise contemplated the back of her eyelids, David continued reading about Captain John Aubrey in “Master and Commander”. Things had not gone well as he had lost his ship “Sophie” and had been captured by the French. He faced a court-martial in Gibraltar by a British Admiralty court.

By late afternoon the temperature had climbed to incredible 80F – much too warm for the Scottish dog to go for a stroll.

Having chosen Hamburgers for Thursday's supper, there was little doubt that tacos would be on call for Friday's fare.

Tacos hit the spot, then we watched the evening BBC newscast as well as the PBS Friday news.

There was a lovely, cool breeze coming up from the ravine, so we decided to take our afternoon walk at 7 pm. It is much easier to ascend the hill on Jean Dempsey when the sun is not beating down on us.

On Netflix we watched “Spy Game”, a movie starring Robert Redford, Brad Pitt and Catherine McCormack. It was rather fanciful, but good.

Saturday May 26th 2018

We had a lazy start as it was overcast. The upstairs bedroom balcony thermometer read 60F. The ravine thermometer is always a bit cooler than the official Toronto Pearson International Airport reading. That would be the “Lake Effect”.

Weather: Toronto 63F to 77F cloud Louisville 72F to 85F part cloud

NYTX: The Saturday monster took David four minutes and 16 seconds. Louise was half that time at two minutes 8 seconds.

CBC: The main group opposing the liberalization of Ireland's abortion law conceded on Saturday that it has lost Friday's referendum on the issue by an overwhelming margin, a spokesperson said. The people of Ireland "weighed it in the balance and it came down on one side. Ireland's government has said that if the "yes" side wins, it plans to introduce legislation allowing abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. In the final tally The Republic of Ireland had voted overwhelmingly to overturn the abortion ban by 66.4% to 33.6%.

About 07:00 we set out for the morning walk and soon met up with a Chocolate Labrador. The owner was having difficulty keeping it under control. The Lab definitely wanted Maisie for breakfast. In typical fashion, Maisie totally ignored this troublesome menace.

Next up Maisie went on alert when she spotted “Oreo” a black and white cat who was right on the edge of the ravine in the wild patch where the blue squill give the first inkling of spring. We got a nice photo. A bit later, Maisie flushed “Snowball” from under a car and would have had the white cat had it not been for Maisie's leash. Actually, the leash probably saved Maisie from an ignominious defeat.

Back home we “developed” our photos and started to prepare for maple syrup-doused French Toast, made with brioche from our own kitchen, breakfast, with a side of sliced strawberries and Greek vanilla-flavoured yogurt.

After breakfast we decided to wash the outside windows. It just seemed too hard to hire a window washer at a reasonable price. While David manned the fire hose, Louise came along behind and polished. After we had finished, we found the extendable squeegee in the basement cold storage room.

We also did a bit of gardening. We harvested some periwinkle from beneath the north backyard fence where it was serving no purpose. We split the clump in two and planted each in Louise's Corner. The new plantings seem to be happy in their new setting.

Louise decided the yew bushes leading up to the front door had become too big for their britches. We took out Cindy “Lopper” and the pile of removed limbs went into the ravine to provide habitat for the birds.

At that time, only 10 am, we realized that we'd done a day's work, and we could feel that. We began the day saying that we'd have a day off. Starting our day off at 11:00 that might still be possible.

For lunch Louise came up with a tasty tuna salad.

David finally gave up hope of ever seeing the invisible plumber who never shows up to install the new sink and toilet. Acting together, we hoisted the new marble top onto the old vanity and checked the line up of the taps and drain. We noted one piece missing and without that we could not proceed. We needed a 1/2 in. x 1-1/4 in. PVC DWV Hub x SJ Trap Adapter-C480.

We drove over to Home Depot to exchange a 20 inch marble side splash for a 21 inch side splash and to buy some clear varnish for a secret project Louise was planning. David bought the wrong sink adapter.

We gave up for the afternoon and decided to see what was on Netflix. We found a wonderful documentary on Gene Cernan, Apollo 10 and Apollo 17 – the eleventh and last man to walk on the moon. Those were the years when everything seemed possible. We have slid backwards since then.

Louise took Maisie for a short walk because David had simply run out of gas.

David had to wrestle Windows 10 to get the latest drivers for the Canon Canoscan 9000F. This forced obsolescence of trusted peripherals is getting tiresome.

We had pizza for supper.

On Netflix we watched “Legal Eagles” with Robert Redford, Deborah Winger and Daryl Hannah. Chelsea Deardon (Daryl Hannah) is arrested for stealing artwork painted by her deceased father, and sympathetic attorney Laura Kelly (Debra Winger) sets out to defend the young woman against slick prosecutor Tom Logan (Robert Redford). After a series of romantic exchanges, Tom ends up falling in love with Laura and teaming up with her to help clear Chelsea of the charges. However, as the lawyers dig deeper into the case, things take a shocking turn, and Tom finds his career in jeopardy.

It was pretty thin gruel.

Sunday May 27th 2018

Weather: Toronto 60F to 72F sun Louisville 70F to 88F T-storms and cloud
NYTX: David one minute 53 seconds Louise was slightly slower at one minute and 54 seconds.

We woke up to find that the Midnight Skulker had taken the decrepit old BBQ we had trundled to the curb yesterday afternoon. It really is a very efficient service provided by MS Inc.

CBC: In the run up to the Ontario election slated for June 7th, the Progressive Conservatives' huge lead has collapsed, the New Democratic Party has experienced an unprecedented surge in popularity, and the Liberals (now the governing party) now face a potentially humiliating loss on voting day.

We left for the morning walk about 06:35 – David in short sleeves. The morning was tranquil, cool, and overcast. No cars and no other walkers were met on our entire walk.

Back home the laundry was started. For breakfast Louise served fried eggs on a thin slice of home-

baked brioche.

Sensing we were on a roll, we unpacked the new toilet to check the colour sample swath against the china. Perfect.

From the Web we found the Benjamin Moore calculator to find out how much paint we needed. We had calculated 150 square feet by hand and BM came out at 159 square feet. So, that meant we needed one US gallon each of primer and paint. We also needed other painting materials. David took stock and made notes. He was in high gear to get the powder room done.

Louise set out to do the week's laundry and to vacuum just a little downstairs. Emptying the house of lots of 'stuff' has made it easier to keep it dust free. Simplicity! Simplicity!

We drove over to Home Depot to return the PCB drain connector that David had purchased the day before. We found a plumbing assistant and got the required part, half of which we would have to toss. Louise went to the paint department and got the required primer and paint. Louise had picked a paint that complements the sink top.

Back home David and Louise collaborated to get the sink top to mate with the existing drain plumbing. It was a bit of a task, but we got it done. Stripped to his skivvies, David pretended he was a 25 year old and got his head into the cabinet and twisted and turned on the knife edge floor of the cabinet trying to get the taps and hardware to line up. It hurt and took a long time to complete. Key was the use of a rubber strap can opener called "The Cobra" - it was the only thing that would grab the wide nut on the bottom of the sink.

The hook up of the drain plug lifting mechanism went a bit better, but there was still twisting and turning under the sink and endless adjustment until Louise reported that the mechanism worked without binding. Next was hooking up the "Y" harness to mix the hot and cold water. Last was the fairly simple task of connecting the hot and cold flexible water feed pipes. By noon we had a fully functioning sink.

David celebrated with TnT – that is a cup of (T)ea to wash down a (T)ylenol-3. Louise continued with her new recipe for biscotti.

Next was the removal of the old toilet and the installation of the new throne. But, first a bit of research was required as the last time David performed this operation was in Ottawa in 1977-78.

We had a light lunch of a slice of warmed-up pizza and a fresh biscotti with hot tea.

Summoning up our courage, we shut off the water to the toilet and bailed it out, used towels to get most of the remaining water and then lifted the old toilet off its mounting, making sure to plug the hole in the floor with a plastic bag. We were unable to separate the tank from the base. With a lot of sweat, we eased the whole unit out the side door on a dolly.

The removal of the old toilet revealed a whole swath of old wallpaper that had to be removed. Louise knew a trick whereby one squirted the old wallpaper with fabric softener. After a few minutes soaking, a metal scraper could get bits off the old wallpaper off. It took quite a lot of effort, with both taking

turns. Once cleared, the old surface was rubbed with coarse sandpaper. Then David, who helped Michelangelo do the frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, laid a thin layer of plaster over the old surface. Once dried, this plaster will be sanded smooth.

Louise prepared Montreal-spiced pan-fried chicken with asparagus and peas.

On Netflix we watched two Hugh Grant movies. The first about a washed-up Hollywood screen writer forces to teach writing at a college in NE New York state. The second about a New York separated couple who witness a murder and then have to go into witness protection in a very remote part of cattle country.