



Three innocent men are lynched for supposed cattle-rustling and murder. They are a rancher named Martin (Dana Andrews), a hard-headed old man (Francis Ford) and a Mexican (Anthony Quinn). This is the climax of "The Ox-Bow Incident."



1. Carter (Henry Fonda) and his buddy (Henry Morgan, left) watch the posse gather for the manhunt. Attempts to reason with the mob are useless.



2. Carter wakes up Martin. The posse has come upon three men asleep in Ox-Bow Valley and has surrounded them.



4. The accused men are given until daybreak before being hanged. Martin, whose possession of cattle without a bill of sale convinces the bloodthirsty posse of his guilt, writes a farewell letter to his wife.



5. Carter makes a final vain plea for the execution to be postponed, at least until the sheriff arrives. The leader of the posse is a sadistic Confederate major (Frank Conroy), who symbolises mob violence.



6. At daybreak the men are lynched. The sheriff meets the returning posse with proof that they were innocent. Back in the bar of Darby's saloon, Carter (left) reads to the deflated members of the posse the letter left by Martin.