

round. I was going to lock the doors.

Suddenly, there was a terrible pain in my head. Someone had hit me on the head. Someone had hit me very hard. I fell to the ground.

A man's voice said, 'You were right, Dick. There *was* somebody hiding in the stable.'

Then someone put a bag over my head. And someone tied my hands behind my back with a rope.

I lay on the ground and waited. What next? There was a terrible pain in my stomach, then in my arms and then in my legs. Someone was kicking me very hard. Someone was kicking me again and again. Was I going to die?

Then another man spoke.

'Don't kill him! I want to ask him some questions!' he said.

The kicking stopped.

'OK, mister,' the second man said. 'What were you doing in the stable? Tell me! If you don't tell me, I'll kill you!'

I thought for a second. Someone kicked me again. This time, someone kicked my back. Was it Dick? Who *was* Dick? Dick Gates? Another kick!

'S-security,' I said. 'I'm a racecourse official. I'm checking security.'

A hand touched the yellow security pass.

'He is an official,' Dick said. 'What shall we do?'

'Leave him here,' the first voice said. 'He hasn't seen our faces.'

I heard the two men walk away. I lay on the ground. I could not see because the bag was over my head. I could not speak. I could not stand up. My hands were tied behind me. My whole body was painful. I fainted.

Back to L.A.

I woke up. I was lying on the ground. Where was I? I didn't know!

Then I remembered. I was in the stables area at Santa Rosita Racetrack. My hands were tied behind my back and there was a bag over my head! My whole body was painful.

What had happened to me? I remembered the two men. How long had I been on the ground? I tried to think.

Then I heard a voice. 'Who are you? What's happening here?'

I knew that voice! It was Slim.

