

RESTRICTED TERRITORY

Act X Services

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End of Act X

To Act IX

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Act X

[Services]

Act X, Scene 1

[Startin' Early]

Scene: Dark bedroom, before dawn. Sam quietly wakes Tylor who is sleeping next to him and motions him to go to the other bed. As Sam quietly gets dressed, Tylor goes to the bed where CJ and Austin are sleeping. Tylor and CJ exchange places. CJ starts getting dressed. Sam fastens his holster as he goes out the bedroom door.

Sam is standing in front of the cook stove warming his hands. The coffee pot is on the back position. CJ comes into the kitchen carrying a coat and wearing a revolver. He puts the coat on the kitchen work table. They keep their voices low.

Sam: Joe 'll be hot in just a minute. Join me for a cup before we go?

CJ: Yeah. I'd like that. You know I'm not much of a coffee drinker, but today, it feels like I could use it. Why are we up so early?

Sam: We've got a lot of work to do in order to keep Victoria and Austin from having to see the bodies. (Sam pours two cups of coffee.) I'm a little concerned about all of us out in the open for very long. The sooner we get the funeral finished, the safer we'll all be.

They drink while talking.

CJ: (Suggesting that Sam forgot they had to use horses.) You do know that the horses don't have headlights. Right?

Sam: (Defying the youngster's accusation of not thinking things through.) Full moon was four days ago. What do we have now?

CJ: (Thinks for a second.) A waning gibbous.

Sam: And it comes up?

CJ: [\(Speaking out loud while figuring in his head.\)](#) Fifty-two minutes and 45 seconds times four. That's two zero eight and one eight zero, [\(Answering with confidence.\)](#) Three hours, twenty-eight no, . . . three hours, thirty-one minutes after sunset.

Sam: [\(Impressed.\)](#) Very good. I would have taken 'about three and a half hours' as an adequate answer, but it's good to get the brain going in the morning. The fairly bright moon and the reflection off the snow will provide enough light for the horses. [\(Sam finishes his coffee and puts the cup in the sink. CJ follows suit.\)](#) Let's hit it. [\(As CJ closes with Sam on their way to the door, Sam puts his arm around CJ's shoulders.\)](#) I haven't had this much anxiety about a day since I got married. I'll be happy when it's over.

[CJ turns down their lamp and grabs his coat. Sam gets his coat from the hook by the door. They both grab a rifle and put on their hats. CJ turns off the lamp as they head out the back door. The light blue moonlight illuminates them, the barn and the snow, as they step out the door.](#)

Act X, Scene 2

[Unexpected Help]

[Scene: Just before dawn at the grave site. Sam rides to the access point of the grave site, dismounts and scouts the area for problems. Then he makes his way, through one hundred and fifty feet of forest, to the edge of the grove. To the northwest he sees a light in the window of Gwen and Gregory Hill's ranch house. He dashes back to where his horse is tied. Next to his horse is Falling Leaf's horse. A familiar voice is heard.](#)

Falling Leaf: [\(Quietly, in a forced whisper.\)](#) Wait. It's just me. I knew you'd be here early.

Sam: [\(Turning around to face the voice. In a decidedly relieved but exasperated tone.\)](#) Falling Leaf, you should know better than to scare an old man. I didn't expect you this early.

Falling Leaf: [\(Flatly stated.\)](#) You should be more attentive.

Sam: (Talking to himself.) Man, I don't need that kind of rush this early. (Addressing Falling Leaf.) Let me bring CJ in. (Sam lights the lamp and holds it up high.) I wanted to check this place out before he came in with the cart.

Falling Leaf: My mother and father are in Gwen's cabin. We were good friends of the Creightons' and Hills. My mother and father spent all night, using the wood from the ranch house, to make coffins. I knew you wouldn't have time.

Sam: You're right. That's very thoughtful. I sure didn't want to bury them without coffins, but we don't dare wait any longer. Thank you very, very much. And give my thanks to your parents.

Falling Leaf: I wish we could do more.

Sam: Who else, besides you and your parents, knows about us?

Falling Leaf: No one. We came at night using the north trail. Very few people know about that trail. As far as I know, nobody from Bar-R-Bar has ever used it.

CJ arrives in the cart. He dismounts as Falling Leaf and Sam approach the cart. As they are talking, they help unload the tools from the cart.

CJ: Good morning Miss Falling Leaf.

Falling Leaf: Morning CJ. You can call me by my English name, Sarah, if you prefer.

CJ: (Shyly.) No, that's ok. I Think Falling Leaf better suits your beauty. (CJ is embarrassed by his own comment. He blushes and looks at the ground. Not used to be complemented so directly, she responds with a shy smile as she too, looks away from CJ.)

Sam: CJ, back to the task at hand, please. (CJ gets the hint to stop flirting. Both CJ and Falling Leaf compose themselves as if nothing was said.) Falling Leaf, maybe you should let your parents know that I'm here with CJ. We're ready to start moving the bodies. We'll be over as soon as we get the tools unloaded.

Falling Leaf: Okay, we'll be waiting. How is White Squirrel?

Sam: (He stops unloading to give full attention to the question. Sam starts with a positive tone.) Physically, he's doing okay, not yet out of the woods, but getting better. He's a real tough kid. (Falling Leaf nods in agreement. Sam lowers the level of enthusiasm.) Emotionally, it's been real hard on him. I know, that by you being here, it'll help him a lot. Thanks for being such a good friend.

CJ finished unloading the tools.

Falling Leaf: He is much more than a friend to me. (CJ takes more interest in the conversation.) He is my brother in spirit. I have felt his pain for the last three days. That's how I knew he was alive. I will miss him when he leaves.

CJ: (Surprised that she knew their plans.) How'd you know he's leaving? We never told you that.

Sam: We have now. (Looking at CJ in disbelief about how he could be so careless about disclosing their plans to leave. Directed at CJ.) Really?

Falling Leaf: (Addressing Sam.) I just know. I don't know why I know, but I know he will go with you. You will make a good family. He will be happy again, as will many others. . . . I will let my parents know you will be there soon.

Falling Leaf mounts her horse and rides off to Gwen's house.

CJ: (Confounded.) What did she mean by that.

Sam: (Shakes his head.) I have no idea.

CJ: (As he climbs onto the cart.) She sure is pretty, but she kinda freaks me out a little.

Sam: We all have our quirks, CJ. I like her. She has a good heart.

Sam gets the saddlebags from his horse and puts it in the cart as he climbs up.

CJ: What's that for?

Sam: This is plan B.

Camera: Montage: Sam and CJ ride off across the field to Gwen's house. There are four coffins in the front of the house. They greet Gus and Yellow Feather next to the coffins. They load two coffins onto the cart, drive to the explosives shack and then to the grave site. They drive back to Gwen's to repeat the process.

Music and cart sounds only. The greetings are not heard over the music.

Act X, Scene 3

[Final Prep]

Camera: In preparation for unexpected guests, the cart is unhitched and the horse is saddled for quick escape. All grave sites have coffins in them and a marker is at the head of each one. Gus is pounding in the last marker. Sam, CJ, Yellow Feather and Falling Leaf are all standing together near the foot of the graves. Sam, Gus, CJ and Yellow Feather are wearing holsters.

Gus: That ought to do it. (After he finishes, he approaches the rest of the group.)

CJ: (CJ reaches out his hand to shake with Gus.) Thank you mister. . . . I'm sorry I didn't catch you last name.

Gus: Just call me Gus. (Gus shakes CJ's hand and holds on to it while he finishes his sentence.) I appreciate the sentiment, young man, but it just makes me feel old to be called 'mister'.

CJ: Well, thank you Gus. We couldn't have done it without you.

Sam: I know Victoria and Austin will be pleased with the site, too. Yellow Feather, we know you've worked as hard as the rest of us, thank you.

Yellow Feather: [\(In a voice of discontentment.\)](#) My friends deserve more than a secret burial. [\(Short pause.\)](#) Someday, they will be remembered properly for their sacrifice.

CJ: Yes, ma'am. I'm sure they will.

Sam: CJ, how about ridin' up the hill a bit to help escort Victoria and Austin down.

CJ: Yes, sir. Be glad to.

Sam: Thanks. . . . Ever

CJ: [\(Interrupting and finishing the phrase.\)](#) Vigilant!

Sam: [\(Quietly, to himself.\)](#) Yeah. Ever Vigilant.

[CJ mounts his horse and rides up the hill and out of sight.](#)

Act X, Scene 4

[The Funeral]

Scene: At the grave site. Sam is talking to Gus and hands him two of Austin's EWS (Early Warning System) devices. Gus and Sam both have rifles. Falling Leaf and Yellow Feather are talking by the access point to the grave site. Falling Leaf waves to the men, indicating that CJ is returning. Gus nods in acknowledgment. CJ rides down to the ladies and looks into the grove at Sam. Sam nods to him, indicating that it is okay to bring Victoria and Austin to the site. CJ turns his horse to face uphill and then waves with his left hand. Tylor is just visible in the distance. Camera: zooms in on Tylor. Tylor looks behind him and nods. Victoria and Austin ride past Tylor and down toward the rest of the horses. CJ leads four of the horses past the grave site to a spot in the trees closer to the meadow so they will not be bunched up if Wilson's men arrive. Camera: On Victoria and

Austin as they arrive at the access point. Camera: On Tylor as he takes one more look around from his vantage point. He then heads to the access point. Camera: On CJ, Sam and Gus, they are standing in a group talking. Audio fades in.

Sam: (Addressing CJ and Gus, but mostly CJ.) I'm sure God will understand why you can't close your eyes during the prayers. Do your best to keep your vision clear. CJ, make sure Tylor understands the security plan as soon as possible. Just to make sure we're all on the same page, repeat the plan back to me.

CJ: Yes, sir. If we get visitors, you and Tylor will take care of Victoria and Austin, Gus and I will take care of Yellow Feather and Falling Leaf. If we get separated, we meet back in the mine.

Sam: Great.

Gus: It's a good plan. Let's hope we don't have to use it.

CJ: Copy that.

Gus: (Bewildered by CJ's expression.) What?

CJ: Sorry. It just means I agree.

Gus: Oh.

Sam goes to Victoria and Austin to help them dismount. Victoria and Austin are dressed in their best Sunday clothes. Tylor is wearing a white shirt and tie under his jacket, as well as, a holster. He takes the rifle out of the scabbard as he follows Victoria and Austin. Yellow Feather and Falling Leaf greet and hug Victoria and Austin. The four of them, followed by Tylor and then Sam, proceed solemnly, to the grave site. CJ pulls Tylor aside and whispers the plan to him, pointing to the horses and gesturing the area he is to watch. Sam makes his way to the head of the graves. Yellow Feather, Victoria, Austin and Falling Leaf, as they hold hands, position themselves at the foot of the graves. Gus, Tylor and CJ are standing at about 120 degrees from each other, surrounding the

others, looking past the grave site to watch their respective areas of concern. Tylor takes out his revolver, adds one more round to the cylinder and puts it on half cock before he re-holsters it. Sam opens the Bible.

Sam: Shall we begin. . . . O Lord, (Camera: On the foursome as Sam begins the prayer. They all bow their heads. The camera pans across them.) why you called our beloved, to be with you at such early ages, we do not understand. (Camera, in close. Yellow Feather has the start of tears in her eyes.) Their presence here on earth will sorely be missed. (Camera: in close. Victoria has tears and her lips are trembling.) Although we may ponder why, it is surely not ours to question your wisdom in bringing them home to you. (Camera: in, bust shot. Austin has his head buried in Falling Leaf's arm as he cries.) Please receive their souls into thy kingdom, where we will, (Camera: Half body shot. Falling Leaf has her arms around Austin, as tears drop from her cheeks.) once again, be rejoined with them, in thy great presence. Amen.

All: Amen

Camera: Pans past Falling Leaf to see Tylor with tear streaks down his face. His feet are shoulder width apart and his rifle is held low across his body. He is concentrating on his area of concern. He wipes a tear from his cheek, maintaining his post. The hammer is back on the rifle's action. Camera swings to CJ. Same stance, same tears, same concentration. Gus is on one knee, tears on his cheek. His rifle butt is on the ground and the barrel is pointed up. He is carefully keeping watch.

Sam: Let's read from the bible, Genesis chapter 3, verse 19.

Camera: Audio fades out, camera zooms out, back and up. Camera hovers, at treetop level, with top view of the full grave site in frame. Camera slowly rises to show entire grove in frame. Snow starts coming down. Camera then zooms out and up quickly. The earth fills the frame as scene fades to black.

Act X, Scene 5

[The Map]

Scene: Black screen. There are sounds of people rustling and keys jingling. A lamp comes in from the left side of the screen and illuminates the scene. Location: Pantry. CJ, Tylor and Austin are at the shelving unit. Austin has the key and has placed it in the lock contained within the hole with the R around it.

Austin: (Taking his eyes off the lock to look at CJ and Tylor. In a quiet stealthy voice.) Thanks guys for doing this with me.

All the boys are speaking in stealthy, whisper-like voices.

CJ: (Camera: full shot of the three boys at the shelf.) Of course.

Tylor: What's an adventure without your brothers?

Austin smiles at them and turns the key. The whole back panel of that shelf pops open toward them. Tylor jumps. The other two look at him and laugh.

CJ: A little jumpy?

Austin: Do we need to wait for you to change your pants?

CJ and Austin laugh.

Tylor: (Embarrassed that he is a little nervous.) Just get on with it.

They clear off the shelf and remove what is now apparently a box. The box is sealed. It has a small round hole on the back top. There is an inlay of a squirrel just above the hole.

CJ: Now what? Do we need a nail or something?

Tylor: (Examining it closely with the lamp.) It looks like a small key hole. Is that the only key you have?

Austin: Yeah. That's all he left. (Austin thinks for a moment.) Wait! I got it! (He pulls out his pocket knife with the inlay of a squirrel, and opens the back blade. It has notches on it. He puts the blade into the box and unlocks the box.)

Tylor: (Surprised.) Wow.

CJ: (Noticing the similarity to Sam's knife.) Can I see your knife?

Austin: Sure. Why? (Handing it to CJ.)

Tylor: Uncle Sam had one just like this, but it wasn't in such good shape.

CJ: Where'd you get it? (Handing it back to Austin.)

Austin: My dad gave it to me on my tenth birthday. Ren used to be a watch maker before he was a prospector. He made it.

Tylor: No way. Hand made?

Austin: Yeah. It's a key and I never knew it.

CJ: (Looking at Tylor.) It's got to be the same knife. Things are getting too weird.

Austin: What do you mean?

Tylor: Sam's knife was just like yours. He used that blade for stripping wire.

CJ: We'll check with Sam to see if it's the same one.

Tylor: Okay, but later. I want t' see what's in the box.

Austin: Okay, let's open it.

They slowly open the box and peer in. It has a rolled paper and some keys.

Austin: That's strange.

CJ: What's strange?

Austin: I never got keys before. Just a map.

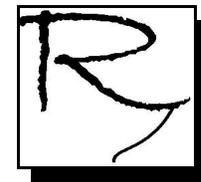
Tylor: What'd the map lead you to?

Austin: Usually something I've been wanting for a long time, like a book or some clothes. Once I got a ten dollar gold piece.

CJ: So, you just follow the map and get your stuff? Sounds kinda easy.

Austin: That's how it was when I first met him. Then he made it harder and harder. Now the map only gives me clues, then I have to figure out what they all mean.

Camera: Shows the map from the boy's perspective. While they discuss the map, the camera shows what they are pointing at. The map shows the house and mine system. It has a legend down in the lower right corner. In the center top of the map are three skull and crossbones. There are smaller crossbones scattered through the mine system. Other symbols are declared in the legend. The other symbols correlate to names of people in the town. Ren's symbol correlates to Austin, while the V correlates to Victoria.



Ren's Mark

Tylor: What does this mean? (Pointing to the three skull and crossbones.)

Austin: He used to put traps out that would cover me in flour or pour water on me. (Pointing at the skulls with Tylor.) He would put one of those symbols on the top of the map to remind me to be careful.

CJ: I guess he really means it this time.

Austin: Yeah. He never put something on the maps that wasn't important. This down here is new too. (He points to the legend.)

Tylor: Let's look it over a couple times before we start.

CJ: I agree.

Austin: Maybe three times, . . . (Pointing back at the top of the map.) there's three skulls.

Camera backs out of mine while the boys work on the map.

Act X, Scene 6

[EWS activated]

Scene: Inside the main room of the cabin. Sam and Victoria are sitting at the table talking.

Sam: Since we're going to present your evidence to the judge tomorrow, we need make a plan to get in and out of town with the least amount of exposure and maybe a couple back-up plans should things change.

Victoria: We'll have to ask Austin how to sneak into town. He thinks I don't know, but he does it all the time. He can also tell us how to get around to wherever we need, without people knowing.

Sam: Once you and I step into that courtroom, everyone will know you're alive and in town and that you're with me; however, until then, the boys and I should be able to move about freely, since nobody knows us.

Victoria: Not too freely, but at least they won't know that you know Austin or me, yet. The townsfolk don't feel comfortable around strangers. You'll be watched pretty closely: (Emphasizing the point.) That's for sure.

Sam: That could work to our advantage. If everybody's watching my nephews and me, then you should be able to get around more easily until court starts. I don't think Austin needs to be seen at all. Let's just kind of leave him as a ghost. It'll be much safer for him if no one knows he's alive. He could hide in the mine.

Victoria: True enough, but we can't leave him here by himself. Besides, we'll need him to get around. There's no way I could remember all the tricks he uses. And, like you said, circumstances could change.

Sam: Then, we'll have to come up with a disguise or something for him.

An explosion is heard from the front road early warning device.

Sam: (Yelling to the boys in the mine.) It's from the South Road. (Now addressing Victoria in a calm voice.) You know the plan. (Victoria quickly heads back to the mine entrance, passing CJ on his way out. Sam, yelling back to the mine.), Tylor, back door please. Stay out of sight. CJ, circle around. I've got the front door.

CJ: Copy that. (CJ is at the back door with a pair of rifles and a poncho.)

Tylor is in the kitchen, peeking out one of the shutters. He nods at CJ. CJ rushes out the back door. Tylor continues watching through the shutter until CJ is safely on his way.

Tylor: (From the kitchen area to Sam who is in the front room with two rifles. Sam is cocking the hammers back on both rifles while looking out the front door.) The mine is secured. CJ's on his way. I'm on my way now.

Sam: We'll do it just like we practiced. Stay hidden unless I need you! And remember the codes!

Tylor: Understood.

Tylor looks out the shutter, one last time, then closes it. He grabs two rifles and a poncho that are on the table as he exits the back door.

Sam leaves the front door open so he can see out. He crosses to the kitchen, putting the rifles on the table (muzzles toward the door) and continues into the kitchen. There, he puts some green branches into the stove creating dark smoke in order to draw the riders to the cabin. He then gets a cup of coffee and takes the two rifles to the front door. He places one, inside, by the door.

Sam: (In a raised voice, so Victoria and Austin can hear, but not yelling.) Ready in the front. Steppin' out.

Sam takes the other rifle and the coffee cup with him. He places the rifle behind the column on the front porch. He takes a position between the columns and puts another round in his revolver as he waits for the visitors. Sam leaves the front door ajar for easy egress.

Scene: On the road to Creighton Valley. There are six riders; Wilson is on the lead horse. There is a slight cloud of snow and gunpowder smoke, dissipating, in the background. Cody points out the smoke from the cabin to Wilson. Cody then directs two of the riders off the trail and to the south.

Camera on CJ: He is stealthfully making his way to a pre-built hiding place. The hiding place has several ropes tied off and a clear view of a small footpath. CJ is wearing a white poncho and a bandana with an obviously home made camo pattern, to cover his face. Camera backs out of hiding place toward the footpath. CJ blends into the bush and is totally camouflaged by the poncho and bandana.

Camera on Tylor: He makes his way into the trees, just north of the cabin. He gets into a trench where he places one rifle behind a large tree. He continues twenty yards farther west, in the trench, to another area with lots of cover where he puts the second rifle. There are two strands of fencing wire, with stick handles on them, sticking out from the snow and into the trench, near the rifle. He returns to the first rifle and takes a 360 look around. He places the white poncho over himself, ties a white bandana over his face, aims the rifle at the old cowbell and cocks the hammer back. He sees Sam on the front porch while he lets out a deep sigh as he settles in.

Camera on the two riders sent off the trail earlier: The riders dismount when they get to a down tree that blocks any further progress. They are pleased to find a small footpath that heads in the direction they wish to go. They make their way up the path through some brush and, eventually, between two large trees. **Camera on CJ:** CJ releases (slip knot release) two of the ropes in quick succession. **Camera on dismounted riders (now on foot):** A

large branch swigs out and hits them in the face and another swings out from behind and hits them in the legs, knocking them down onto their backs. Camera on CJ: He releases another rope that drops a log across the intruders that pins them to the ground.

Camera: at the front of the cabin, looking out toward the road. The rest of the visitors arrive on the road as expected. There are four riders. The fake doctor, Pete McGinn, Hank Wilson and Cody the foreman. They approach the cabin.

Sam: (Calling out to the riders.) That's far enough! (The riders pull up.) What'd ya' want?

Marshal: I'm the marshal from Harmony Valley.

Sam: (Talking over McGinn.) Didn't ask who ya were, I asked what ya wanted. We'll get to who ya are later.

Sam (appears to) calmly sips his coffee. He is actually quite nervous, but acts very calm. Camera: from Sam's point of view, snow can be seen falling from some trees in the distance. Sam knows one of the traps has been sprung. The only reaction Sam makes is a slight smile. The riders are oblivious to the trap being sprung.

Wilson: This is my property. What the hell are you doing here. Marshal, arrest him for trespassing.

McGinn starts to get off his horse, then stops when Sam starts talking.

Sam: First off, the town marshal has no authority here. (Knowing that Sam is correct and feeling, by Sam's tone, that he has a very good understanding of the situation, McGinn settles back into his saddle.) This is under the sheriff's jurisdiction. We all know that Sheriff Hawkins has revoked all law enforcement authority (McGinn looks to the ground, defeatedly.) of the marshal outside the township. So Petey can stay right there on that horse. (The riders are surprised that he knows the marshal's name.) Secondly, I'm the legal tenant. (He holds up a paper that might, or might not, be a tenant agreement.) These ten acres are under an easement agreement, in perpetuity no less, of the deed, therefore; it's under my control, not yours, (Snidely.) Hank. (Because none of them had ever seen Sam before, knowing the marshal's name was a surprise, but knowing Wilson's name, and calling him Hank set all of them to wondering who they just tangled with. Sam is pleased to see the expected

reaction.) And, of course, third, last I heard, this is Bill Creighton's land. So, unless you come back with proper (Sam stops in mid sentence as Cody reaches down and puts his hand on his gun in an aggressive posture to intimidate Sam. Sam puts down his coffee cup on the railing while raising his left hand with a closed fist.) Take your hand off that weapon. I'm only going to tell you once. (Cody leaves his hand on the gun. Sam raises one finger. Immediately, a shot rings out from somewhere north of the riders' position. The slug hits an old cow bell (conveniently hung) behind the riders. While the riders are distracted by the bell, Sam draws his gun and holds it on the Cody.) This would be a good time to comply. (Cody raises his hands away from his gun. After the shot, and seeing no more immediate action, Tylor, under cover, moves to the other rifle position in the trench.) Very good. I think we're communicating much better now.

Sam: (He puts his finger down and slowly puts his hand down. In a very calm and authoritative tone.) Now is a good time for introductions. I am Captain Sam Reynolds, you can call me Captain Reynolds. I am the current legal tenant of this cabin and I have every right to be here. Next person that touches their gun, gets no warning. I do hope that is understood.

Wilson: Since you gave us the courtesy of a warning, I feel obligated to let you know that I have two rifles pointed at you right now . . . and they don't miss. (Looking at the cow bell suggesting that it was an errant shot.) So, (Mocking Sam.) this would be a good time (Changing tone to angry.) for you to toss that gun right out here and call off your man.

Sam: (Smiling and with a slight chuckle.) I sure wouldn't want to get this (Looking down at his gun.) fine piece of machinery muddied for no reason. (Yelling into the trees south of the riders.) You boys can come on over and join the rest of your pack. (The riders and Sam look over to the trees south of the road. Two men in long johns and boots emerge from the trees. They both have targets drawn on their foreheads.) Oh, by the way, my men don't miss either. He hit exactly where I asked him.

Thug #1: (Addressing Wilson.) Sorry boss, we never saw 'em.

Wilson: Morons. Where's your clothes?

Sam: They can have their stuff back when they leave, except, of course, the guns. We'll be holding those for a while. Back to the original question; what'd ya want.

Marshal: So, Mr. Reynolds,

Sam: [\(Interrupting.\)](#) Captain.

Marshal: [\(Pauses and rephrases the statement, emphasizing the 'Captain'.\)](#) Captain Reynolds. To answer your question, we're looking for some lost children, one boy, about 12, and a girl about 18. You seen 'em?

Sam. Nope. Can't say I have. [\(Yelling out into the forest. Looking south, west and north, as if asking a full platoon of men.\)](#) If anybody seen some kids, fire off a round. [\(Sam waits a couple seconds. The forest is silent.\)](#) Guess not.

Sam: [\(He holsters his weapon.\)](#) If I do see 'em, I'll be sure to let 'em know that you're looking for 'em. [\(Putting them on the defensive by calling them liars without stating it directly.\)](#) Funny, I didn't hear ya' callin' for 'em on your way up here. It seems to me that you've got an awfully large pack of wolves for finding two lost kids. Not exactly what I'd consider a standard search party.

[Wilson knows Sam isn't buying the story, but he unsure how much Sam does know.](#)

Marshal: Those kids mean a lot to us. [\(Trying to keep Sam from finding out what the kids saw.\)](#) You shouldn't talk to 'em, or get near 'em. They got the pox.

Sam: Humph, smallpox. [\(In obvious disbelief.\)](#) Really? So, how do we know that? Some sort of premonition?

Marshal: [\(Trying to give some authority to his claim. Gesturing that he is talking about the man next to him.\)](#) That's what Doctor Evans has concluded.

Sam: So, Doc, I take it you've seen 'em already and came up with that diagnosis, just before they got lost?

Doc: Well, no. [\(Hesitant.\)](#) But I have seen their kin. [\(Speaking with more confidence.\)](#) I'm sorry to say, they've succumbed to the disease.

Sam: Really? I just spoke to them a few days ago. They had no signs or symptoms of smallpox. [\(Pauses while formulating his next sentence.\)](#) Well, I suppose I should go take care of the animals then.

Wilson: No! That's my property. The Doctor here put it under quarantine. No one is allowed down there.

Sam: [\(Challenging the reasoning and showing that he has a knowledge of the disease. In a tone showing that he is playing their game better than them.\)](#) I'm sure the fine doctor here surely told you that livestock can't get or carry smallpox.

Wilson: [\(Obviously knows nothing about smallpox and animals.\)](#) Of course he has. [\(Looking to the doctor for confirmation. The doc gives a nearly imperceptible nod.\)](#) The livestock is not your concern. You just keep away from those ranches, or I'll have you shot for trespassing.

Sam: [\(Serious tone.\)](#) Actually, the livestock are my concern, but I'll keep your threat in mind. Understand, I don't take kindly to threats. [\(Picking up his coffee cup.\)](#) You have exceeded your welcome. [\(He takes a sip of the cold coffee, spits it out and throws the rest out into the snow. Speaking to them like unwanted dogs.\)](#) So, go on now, get. Don't come back. There'll be no more warnings.

Wilson: [\(As he turns his horse to face the ranches.\)](#) You haven't heard the last from me.

Marshal: [\(Following the lead of Wilson.\)](#) Or me!

Sam: [\(Mockingly.\)](#) Likewise, I'm sure.

[The riders start heading north toward the ranches.](#)

Sam: Hold on there. Can't let you go that way. [\(The riders stop.\)](#) Remember, the Quarantine! Hate to tell the town's people that you're spreading smallpox everywhere you go. [\(The riders start moving again. Sam draws](#)

his revolver.) I just couldn't sleep at night knowing that I let you infect all those fine people. (Cody thinks about drawing his gun. Sam holds up two fingers. A shot rings out that hits a plow disc across the path of the riders. Camera: On Tylor. He puts down the rifle and holds onto one of the handles leading into the snow.) Another perfect shot. (The riders stop again. Cody puts his right hand on the saddle horn to show that he is not going to draw.)

Wilson: (To his men.) Where'd that come from.

Thug #1: Don't know boss. It's like they're ghosts. That's how they got me and Toby.

Sam: Don't bother lookin' for 'em. They're well trained professionals. The only time you'll see 'em is just before the bullet hits your forehead. (Pointing to the target on Toby's forehead with his revolver. Toby tries to wipe off the target.) They like to see the fear in your eyes, right . . . before . . . you . . . die. (Toby gets a shiver down his back. Sam is now addressing the Doc.) Standard quarantine is two weeks. (Now staring directly at Wilson.) I expect it to be nice and quiet around here 'till it's lifted. (Camera: on Tylor. A sizeable clump of snow falls on Tylor's hand. He jumps a little, pulling the handle. The camera follows the wire through the snow to a rabbit trap. On the trap is a bag of black powder. Next to the trap is a larger bag of black powder. Camera: from Sam's perspective, looking at the riders. A large explosion goes off along the trail to the ranches. Camera: On Tylor. Tylor looks surprised as he ducks farther into his trench, awaiting the debris. Camera: On the riders. The horses get startled and the two ranch-hands dive into the snow for cover. After the debris stops falling, Sam rolls his eyes.) I'm done talkin' now, so back to town you go. Cody, your minions can find their stuff on the trail out. (Cody is surprised at being called by name.)

The two on foot get up, dust themselves off and start to leave along the road out, but the riders just sit there, defying Sam. Sam raises his closed fist. After about a second, Hank turns his horse to leave. The pack rides off in the direction from which they came with Toby and thug #1 following on foot.

Wilson: (Looks back over his shoulder.) We'll be back.

Sam: (Maintaining full confidence in his tone.) We'll be expecting you.

Camera follows the pack as they leave. Camera looks back at Sam. Sam does the ‘watching you’ (Two fingers pointing at his eyes, then at the pack.) motion. Fade out.

Wilson: (The scene is faded black. The sounds of the horses hooves are heard as they make their way in the snow.) Find out everything you can about that son of a bitch! (Audio to silent.)

Act X, Scene 7

[Debriefing]

Scene: Dining table. Everybody is in their regular seats. Dinner is over.

Victoria: Sam, I want to thank you for this afternoon. Your plan worked exceptionally well, I hope we don’t need to do that again very soon.

CJ:, Tylor: (CJ and Tylor high five across the table.) Yeah!

Sam: I agree. Everybody stuck to the plan, mostly. (Throwing a knowing glare toward Tylor.)

Tylor: I said I was sorry. It was too sensitive.

Sam: (Tylor, adamantly mouthing to Austin, “ It wasn’t my fault.”) It sent them back to town wondering what to do next. Our advantage was that we surprised them. It won’t be that easy next time. Since they don’t know how many of us there are, or know this area too well, they won’t be back at the cabin tonight; although, they’ll probably go after the ranches. CJ and I will take care of that later. One thing we *can* count on is that they’ll be back up here again tomorrow, scouting around looking for intel on our capabilities. I’m afraid there’s not much we can do about it.

CJ: (Respectfully disagreeing.) Uncle Sam, you could be wrong about that. (Sam looks at CJ quizzically, waiting for further explanation.) Not that we can keep them away, but we can sure make their visit very unpleasant.

Sam: [\(Interested.\)](#) Oh? Fill me in.

CJ: [\(In a reserved excitement.\)](#) We wanted to wait 'till after dinner to tell you about what Austin's map was about. There is so much cool stuff we found out. We also found out about some serious stuff that'll help when they come back.

Sam: Well . . .

CJ: [\(Glancing at Austin.\)](#) I think Austin should tell you. [\(Directed at Austin.\)](#) It's your map.

Austin: Okay, [\(Directed at Victoria and Sam. Giving credit where it is due.\)](#) Remember that without CJ and Tylor, I wouldn't have been able to figure all this out.

Victoria: [\(Getting impatient and wanting to forego the acceptance speech.\)](#) Okay. Okay. What'd you find?

Austin: First, we found out that Ren was a really good miner. He found lots of gold in the mine.

Victoria: I thought he was gone most of the time. Any idea how much he found?

Austin: I don't know exactly. It is all divided up for his friends in town. [\(He has a single soft cough, then takes a sip of water.\)](#) The map pointed to all the different places that he hid the gold. Each hiding place was for a different friend. We didn't open other peoples' gifts, so we don't know how much is in each one, but they're pretty heavy.

Tylor: [\(Cutting in to summarize and help get to the other items on the map.\)](#) Let's just say it's a lot of gold.

Austin: He also left some for each member in our family. [\(Solemnly.\)](#) Mom, Dad, Uncle Greg and Aunt Gwen and Uncle Bryan. [\(Directed at Victoria.\)](#) He left some for you and me, too.

Sam: [\(Impressed.\)](#) Wow, that was really generous of him.

Tylor: But that's not all. The mine has traps all through it. Ren made all kinds of traps.

[Victoria is obviously not pleased with the news.](#)

Austin: Yeah. If you use the wrong hole to open the pantry, it makes all the traps active. That's why Ren said to only use that one hole. That pile of levers and stuff near the entry is used to reset the traps.

Victoria: What kind of traps?

CJ: [\(Addressing Victoria. Serious.\)](#) The kind you don't walk away from. [\(Directed at Sam.\)](#) That's what I was eluding to. There are enough traps to take out over a dozen of Wilson's men. None of them are the same and it looks like Ren never intended to have his secret mine exposed. We found all seventeen of the traps. One of the clues on the map led us to a list of the trap locations and how they trip, how to reset 'em and how to disable 'em.

Victoria: [\(Concerned for her little brother's safety. Directed at Austin.\)](#) I don't want you going back in there.

Austin: [\(Directed back at Victoria.\)](#) Ren would never hurt me. That's why he gave me the map. It shows all the traps and the triggers. I guess the little traps he set for me before, were training for this. It's not dangerous when you know where everything is.

Sam: Did you find all the items marked on the map.

CJ: We located all the traps [\(Looking at Victoria to validate Austin's claim of knowing all about the traps.\)](#) and all the hidden gold locations . . . except one.

Victoria: Why's that?

Austin: There's a clue we can't figure out.

Sam: [\(Always up for a challenge.\)](#) Maybe we can help. What's the clue.

Tylor: It's more of a riddle.

Austin: It has three blanks. Then . . .

All three boys: "The first one is something else."

CJ: ([Offering his best guess, hoping to get a little recognition for his cleverness.](#)) I first thought it was 'a kiss', but that doesn't fit. Maybe 'Love's first kiss'. That doesn't make a very good clue to a location.

Sam: Of course you did. ([Tylor and Austin giggle.](#))

Tylor: ([Dismissing his brother's idea.](#)) Besides, that doesn't make sense. ([Interjecting his own thoughts on the subject. CJ and Victoria look at each other and smile in understanding that Tylor and Austin haven't reached that point in their interpersonal relationships yet.](#)) I thought it had to do with an imposter or something that's fake; like a fake wall or something.

Austin: Maybe it's something that changes. You know like a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. But I don't know anything in the mine that's like that. Fool's gold?

Victoria: That *is* a tough one. There's not much to go on. Maybe it's one of the phrases he used often, or a lesson he taught you. ([Addressing Austin.](#)) If that's the case, the rest of us ([Looking at Sam and the boys.](#)) won't be much help.

Sam: Maybe it's a famous quote. It has an odd, familiar ring to it ([Trailing off into thought.](#)) . . . ([Quickly recovering to the conversation.](#)) We'll all look at it tomorrow and see what we can come up with. Speaking of tomorrow, while we clear off the table, we need to finalize our plans and contingencies.

[They all get up and start clearing the table. The discussion continues while they work.](#)

CJ: What about tomorrow?

Victoria: I need to go to town to see the district judge. (Everybody but Sam is surprised and turn toward Victoria in disbelief.) Yellow Feather told me that the judge would be in town 'till the end of the week: That means tomorrow. Wilson's already claimed this to be his property. We need to fight the claim. I can't let Mom and Dad die for nothing.

Tylor: Isn't it too dangerous to be seen before we leave to Ohio?

Sam: That was the plan, but things have changed. Hiding won't work. Wilson knows, that I know, that he murdered Austin and Victoria's family. I could see it in his face. He expects me, and my men, (Gesturing to everybody else.) to either run, or make fortifications in anticipation of his attack. If we stay, we can hold off an attack for maybe a few hours. (Surveying the cabin as if it were currently being attacked.) Eventually, they'll burn the cabin and we escape through the mine. But then we're on the run, on foot, in the snow.

Victoria: We aren't doing that! (Austin is shaking his head, almost in terror, of the thought.)

Sam: The other option is run. Tonight. However, I'm sure he has scouts watching for just that. They'll pin us down before tomorrow evening. If the impossible happens and we don't get caught before making it to Sacramento, (While talking, Sam hugs Austin from behind. Austin smiles slightly at the affection.) Austin won't make it. (Austin completely loses his smile and color as he has a quick wave of doom pass through him.) He isn't well enough yet to ride for three days in the snow. (Knowing that Austin is feeling like he's letting everyone down because of his weakness, Sam clarifies his position.) He's tough enough. (Sam gives Austin a kiss on the top of the head.) He's just not well enough.

Tylor: What are we gonna do then?

Sam: Our best chance is to do something he won't expect, and that is to face him head-on, . . . with some help. We're going to meet with law enforcement before we get to town. We'll be counting on them to keep Victoria safe. The rest of us will be more or less on our own.

Austin: (Surprised that neither Sam nor Victoria thought about the corrupt marshal.) But the marshal won't help us. He works for Mr. Wilson!

Sam: No, you're right, Austin. The marshal is, absolutely, not our ally, but the sheriff and his deputies are. I talked to Gus about it this morning. He said the sheriff's looking for a reason to lock up Wilson and would take any help he could get. So I told Gus to have the sheriff meet us at the train station at sun up.

Austin: [\(An idea flashes to Austin in an instant.\)](#) Since we're going to town, I can give out all the gold for Ren. It may be my last chance before we go to Ohio.

Sam: That probably won't happen. You need to rest and not be seen. Victoria *has* to see the judge, so there's no way around her being seen, but it's best that Wilson thinks you're dead. I'm going to see if I can help Victoria in the court house, so Wilson will see me there with her. He'll put two and two together and know that Victoria is staying here. You and the boys should just find a place and keep out of sight.

[Austin is visibly dejected.](#)

Victoria: Austin, we're going to need your help getting into and out of town, but no one should know that you're with us. We need to come up with way to hide you or a really good disguise of some kind.

Tylor: [\(Addressing Victoria.\)](#) If anybody sees him sneaking around, it will just draw attention. I think he should hide in plain sight. If you don't look like you're hiding, no one pays much attention to you. [\(Addressing Austin.\)](#) Austin, who is the least noticed person in town?

Austin: [\(After a short thought.\)](#) Probably Mary-Lou Parsons. Why?

Victoria: Who?

Austin: You know David, right? The big guy with the white horse?

Victoria: Yes.

Austin: And Russell? He always has on those noisy spurs.

Victoria: Sure, everybody knows ‘em.

Austin: Well, Mary-Lou is their little sister. She’s always with ‘em, but nobody ever notices her.

Victoria: You’re right. I don’t even know what she looks like.

Tylor: [\(A big smile comes across his face.\)](#) I’m sure Austin is going to hate this, and just to be clear, I’m not encouraging him to be [\(Air quotes.\)](#) different. But I think he should become our [\(Anticipating strong opposition from Austin.\)](#) . . . um . . . little sister.

Austin: [\(Austin thinks for a second, then fully realizes the implication of Tylor’s suggestion. Emphatically.\)](#)
No! No way. I’m not dressing up like a girl.

Tylor: Sorry man. You just made the perfect case for why you should. Tell me, who would ever think that tough guy, Austin Creighton, would dress up like a girl?

Austin: [\(Insistently.\)](#) Nobody. They all know I’m not a sissy.

CJ: [\(Trying to help Tylor’s case.\)](#) Exactly. Even your friends won’t expect you be disguised as a girl.

Austin: [\(Looking for any excuse to not dress like a girl.\)](#) I don’t have long hair or nothin’.

CJ: You could wear a hat. I’m sure Falling Leaf will help you get in disguise. [\(Speaking to himself.\)](#) Who knows, she might have the disguise waiting for him.

Sam: [\(Trying to make it sound more intriguing.\)](#) Remember, this is not just dress-up, but it has to be a believable disguise. You’ll become the perfect spy. Like you said, no one would notice you. I think that could be the best way to keep you safe.

Victoria: [\(Austin looks at Victoria in desperation. She responds to his non-verbal plea.\)](#) Without the disguise, there’s no way you could go about town giving away the gifts from Ren.

Sam notices that Austin let down his opposition a little when he saw a way to complete the task entrusted to him by Ren.

Sam: It's settled then. Tomorrow, (Looking at Austin while trying to reassure him of the limited engagement.) and only tomorrow, CJ and Tylor will have a little sister. (Austin hangs his head in defeat. Looking directly at CJ and Tylor.) A little sister that they will protect from all harm. Right?

CJ: Of course.

Austin: (His last plea for clemency.) Victoria? Really?

Victoria: (Solidifying the sentence.) It is the safest disguise you could have. I'm sure you can make it work.

Austin: (Feeling bullied into becoming a sissy, he plants a blaming glare on Tylor.) Okay, but I don't like it. Not one bit!

Sam: (Attempting to end the topic as 'not a big deal' so Austin isn't embarrassed further.) Noted. Austin doesn't like disguises. (Intentionally making the broad statement to cause Austin some reflection.)

Austin: (Trying to explain that he's just doesn't like girl disguises.) That's not what . . . (Sam holds up a hand to stop the complaint.)

Austin: (Changing directions, he tries to draw the other boys into his misfortune.) What about CJ and Tylor? Don't they need a disguise too?

Sam: No. Nobody knows them. I'll be using that to our advantage tomorrow, as well.

Victoria: Sam, what will you be doing.

Sam: I'll need to help you with the judge, I'm sure. (Victoria seems a little disappointed to hear a chauvinistic remark like that from Sam. Sam expected the reaction, so he hurriedly continues to explain.) Not that you aren't

capable. But if I remember my history right, [\(speaking deliberately about the times they are in, in an effort to not offend Victoria.\)](#) men did not take women seriously when it came to ‘manly’ things like business and law. And your youth is not helpful either.

Victoria: [\(No longer disappointed, she agrees with his assessment of the political and social atmosphere. Admittingly.\)](#) I wish you were wrong. Your help would be appreciated.

Sam: [\(Addressing Victoria.\)](#) The primary reason for the trip to town is the court appearance. I have other business to take care of, as well. Hank needs to be held responsible for the murder of your family. [\(Now addressing the whole group.\)](#) The boys and I will formulate a plan after we check out the lay-of-the-land, so to speak.

CJ: Who’s going to watch the cabin?

Victoria: There’s no one left for that. We’ll just have to assume that Hank’s men will be here by themselves.

Tylor: We should let Ren handle that for us.

CJ: Yeah. The mine could be left open by ‘accident’. They’ll have to check it out.

Sam: [\(Playing the devil’s advocate to push the veiled conversation into the open.\)](#) They’ll find out where Victoria and Austin have been hiding.

CJ: True, but they’ll never get out to tell anyone.

Sam: [\(That was the response Sam was waiting for. He can now do a reality check on the boys to see if they had really thought this through.\)](#) You’re talking about people getting killed in there. It’s not a game. [\(Pauses.\)](#) Are you sure you can live with that decision?

Tylor: [\(Coldly.\)](#) Sure. With that decision, I think we’ve all got a better chance to live.

CJ: ([Impassioned.](#)) I agree. Everyone of them is trying to kill Victoria and Austin and maybe even us. The fewer of them, the better chance of *all of us* living to see Ohio. I've never been more sure. I have no problem letting them get killed.

Sam: Austin? Will our decision bother you?

Austin: ([Without hesitation.](#)) No. No sir, not at all. If someone's got t' die, between us or them, I choose them. They killed my parents, aunt and uncles. Hey deserve t' die.

Sam: Victoria?

Victoria: Anyone coming here is trying to kill us. I have no problem killing them first. I agree with Austin; they got it comin' to 'em.

Sam: Okay, that's settled. ([Adding a complication.](#)) There is something we have to consider though, what if Falling Leaf stops by. She's been here already. There's no telling if she'll be back. And, Austin, what about anyone else that might come up?

Austin: I'll leave a note. Any of my friends will be able to read it, but Wilson's men won't even know it's a note.

Sam: You sure? ([Looks at Victoria for confirmation. Victoria gives a nod.](#))

Austin: Positive.

Sam: Okay then. That's the plan for here.

Victoria: Austin, we'll need to take all the documents with us, so make sure you get them out of the mine, *before* you set the traps.

Austin: I will.

Sam: We need an early start tomorrow and CJ and I have to go out for a little while tonight, so let's call it a night. Have you boys 'set the alarm'?

Camera: While the check list is run down by Tylor, the camera shows the defensive items.

Tylor: Yep, one at the front door, one at the back, and one in the outhouse. (Camera shows mouse trap like devices with black powder bags at each of the locations.)

Sam: Windows?

CJ: Locked and shuttered. (Camera shows shuttered windows.)

Sam: Defense?

Austin: All loaded and ready. (Camera shows several firearms placed strategically around the inside of the cabin and mine.)

Victoria: What else did you guys come up with?

Austin: Well, there's a rope and pulley for the scarecrow to use the outhouse. (Camera shows a scarecrow on a rope that 'flies' toward the out house when a sandbag is released. Seen as it was tested earlier in the day.)

CJ: The extra boards at the steps. (Camera shows a board across the opening at the top of the stairs and a tread extension on the second step that causes a trip.)

Tylor: The remote detonators for the warning devices. (Camera shows strings that cross walkways that lead to more mouse trap like devices.)

Sam: Okay, Okay. Get cleaned up and ready for bed. Austin, are we in your room or the middle room tonight?

Austin: (A little embarrassed.) Maybe we could all stay in the same room until we get to Ohio. If that's okay?

Sam: That's fine. However long it takes, we'll be there for you. Okay? (Sam gives Austin a big, carefully placed, hug.)

Austin: (While hugging Sam.) I know. Thanks. I really appreciate it.

Fade to black.

Act X, Scene 8

[Arsonist's Surprise]

Inside the Creighton's cabin. It is dark outside. CJ is cleaning out the ashes from the heating stove. There is a large pot on the stove. There are several unlit lamps near the stove. Sam comes in, closing the door behind himself.

Sam: Make sure you get it all. I don't want this to be on us. . . .(Sam looking around.) Did you get all the windows and doors closed?

CJ: Yes, sir. I did that while the stove and pot were heating. Do you really think they'll come tonight?

CJ puts the ashes in a bucket and carries them out the door.

Sam: (Following CJ with one of the two lit lamps. He places it up on a chair on the porch so the light shines through the window.) Almost positive. People like Wilson, don't wait for things to happen. They make 'em happen. He knows, by now, that we've discovered the murders. He used to have two options: either to pin the murders on us, or try to destroy the evidence. However, because he's already told everyone, with a doctor by his side, that the Creighton's died of chickenpox, his options have been eliminated - he needs to destroy the evidence.

CJ: Can't we just tell the sheriff what happened? Victoria and Austin are eye witnesses.

Sam: The case would never go to trial. At least not in this county. The people here are too afraid of Wilson to form a jury that could convict him. The sheriff wouldn't want Wilson to get a not guilty verdict. If that happened, Wilson could never be charged for it again.

CJ: (Disappointed and slightly sarcastically.) So, Wilson gets away with murder!

Sam: (Understanding CJ's frustration.) From what Gus tells me, the sheriff's a lot like Wilson - He likes to make things happen. His goal is to push Wilson into making a mistake that he can't squirm out of. He's doing everything he legally can, to nail Wilson and present a case so strong that the jury has to return a guilty verdict. We have to do whatever we can, to help him.

CJ and Sam come back into the house. Sam looks into the big pot. He takes a towel and removes an inner pot. He looks into the big pot and sees the boiling water. He puts the smaller pot back in larger one. Sam splashes a little water into the stove, closing the stove door to keep the steam in, thereby extinguishing any embers. He then extinguishes the last indoor lamp, placing it on the table away from the stove.

Sam pours the fuel from one of the lamps into the smaller pot and vapor rises out of the pots and pours down the sides of the pots to the floor.

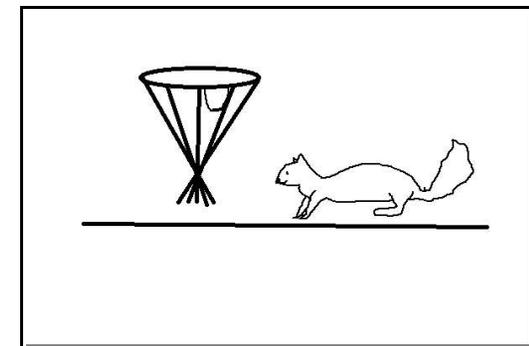
CJ: (Watching the vapor spread.) Did you do this to the other houses too?

Sam hands CJ one of the signs that Austin made and gestures him to leave. CJ takes the sign outside, leaving the door open so he can talk to Sam.

While Sam is talking, camera shows his actions in the previous houses:

- (1) Sam pours fuel into a pot on the stove with vapor coming off.
- (2) Sam leaving a lamp on the front porch of Bryan's house.

Sam: I used the same idea for Gwen's place,(1) but I changed it up a bit for Bryan's. I didn't have time to heat his stove, and there wasn't much fuel oil, so I changed the fuel in the lamp to black powder(2). I also put up the signs that Austin gave me, just in case a friend comes up.



Warning sign: Upside down tee pee indicates death or dead house.

The signs that Austin made up are just pictures of an upside down tee pee and a squirrel next to it. CJ pushes the sign up under the lip of the siding, so it can be clearly seen. He then watches through the window as Sam pours the fuel from the remaining lamps into the pot.

CJ: You sure this will work? Seems kind of iffy. We're counting on 'em coming inside. Why won't they just throw some torches or lamps on the roof or through the windows and ride off?

Sam: They only do that kind of thing in the movies. This will work just fine. These guys want to burn these buildings to the ground, leaving nothing to chance. So, they'll come in and set multiple fires to make sure it happens.

Sam goes out the door and joins CJ on the porch. Sam turns off the last lamp (on the chair, outside.). CJ and Sam mount their horses and ride across the meadow. The moon is at last quarter.

End of Act X

[To Act IX](#)

[To Act XI](#)