

# RESTRICTED TERRITORY

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## Act XIII

[Departure]

### Act XIII, Scene 1

[ Send Off ]

Scene: Morning, just after sunrise at the train station. The weather is clear and cold. Around the station, there is snow in the shaded areas and mud everywhere else. The platform is busy with passengers, railway workers, and well wishers. The train pulls into the station with a lot of noise, releasing steam as it stops. Passengers disembark and greet their waiting friends and family. Railway workers access the baggage and cargo cars. Sam, Victoria, CJ, Tylor and Austin are dressed in fine traveling clothes. Victoria and CJ both have small cases with them. They are surrounded by Gus, Yellow Feather, Falling Leaf, Mr. Fry, Paul, Robert and Mrs. Pratt. Sheriff Hawkins and his deputy, Lewis, are standing on the platform, away from the crowd. Everybody seems to be talking at the same time.

Gus, Yellow Feather and Sam are having a discussion about the property.

Sam: You're welcome to use anything left in the cabin. Victoria was concerned that some things might be in your way. If that's the case, please just store them in the . . . um . . . 'pantry' (meaning the mine) until we get back next year. Austin gave you some maps and instructions, right? And by the way, Victoria left a trunk in the pantry that she'll send for once we get safely to Ohio.

Gus: Yes, yes. We, . . . that is the three of us, are aware of the 'pantry' and it's extra storage hazards. I'll be sure to keep things safe there.

Yellow Feather: We were good friends of the Creightons. It will be much different here without them.

Sam: I'm sure Victoria and Austin will miss you as well. Austin is quite fond of Falling Leaf.

Yellow Feather: Yes. They are like brother and sister.

In the background the sheriff is facing the camera toward the deputy and the rest of the crowd. The deputy is looking away from the camera toward the back of the train. An unidentifiable figure wearing two pistols and carrying a rifle, stealthily boards the last car of the train without notice.

Sam: Nothing more? I thought they were like boyfriend and girlfriend.

Yellow Feather: No. White Squirrel does not have those feelings for her. *(Looking around to make sure the kids don't hear her. In a slightly hushed tone.)* I think Paul has those feelings though.

Gus: *(Feeling betrayed by not being kept informed of romantic developments.)* You've gotta tell me these things. How is a father to look after his daughter, if nobody tells him what's going on?

Yellow Feather: Paul is not the one to watch. He is a well mannered boy and respectful of Falling Leaf. It is Falling Leaf that should be watched. *(Using her head, she points to Tylor and Falling Leaf standing away from the group.)* She seems interested in Tylor. Tell me, who is as single-minded as your daughter? *(Gus lowers his head knowing she is talking about him, and understands that she doesn't want him to be too protective.)*

*Camera moves to the next the next conversation. Tylor and Falling Leaf are standing on the side of the station where there are fewer spectators.*

Falling Leaf: I will write you.

Tylor: But you don't even know my new address. . . . *I don't even know what my new address will be.*

Falling Leaf: Still. I will write you.

Tylor: *(Nodding in resigning agreement.)* I know you will. And somehow, I know I'll get it, wherever I am.

Falling Leaf: You will take good care of White Squirrel?

Tylor: Of course. We're like brothers. I'll always be there for him.

Falling Leaf: Tiger, I will miss you.

Tylor: Me too. *(He gently takes her hand. Then the look on his face changes as he remembered something.)*

Tylor: and Falling Leaf: *(Together.)* I got . . . *(He drops her hand to retrieve something from his pocket. She pulls something out from a small pouch.)*

They both bring out a leather necklace with a heart shaped stone. Each sees the other's gift.

Tylor: and Falling Leaf: (Together again, laughingly, finishing the sentence together.) You something.

They both laugh while they exchange gifts. They put them on each other.

The camera leaves them to join another group.

Paul, CJ and Austin are talking in a small group.

Paul: (Looking at the ground to avoid eye contact.) I never thought you might actually leave Harmony Valley. (Now looking directly at Austin.) I figured our kids would grow up together like one big family. It's gonna get real quiet without you.

Austin: (Not looking too well. Speaking with a little difficulty due to weakness.) That just means you'll have to work twice as hard to stir things up around here. (He puts on a weak smile.)

CJ: (Trying to lighten the mood and take a little pressure off Austin.) We'll be back in about a year to visit and to see how you're doing.

Austin: (Quietly and softly.) Paul. Promise me that you'll look after Mrs. Pratt. (Seeing that Paul is concerned about the responsibility, Austin adds some assistance.) Falling Leaf will help, too.

Paul: (Paul smiles at the thought of he and Falling Leaf working together. Paul emphasizes how much Austin is needed in Harmony Valley.) It takes two of us to take over what you did by yourself.

Austin: (Speaking weakly.) Just promise me.

Paul: Yes. I promise. (Austin is very pale and loses focus, then snaps back alert.) You okay? You don't look so good.

CJ: (Very concerned upon noticing that Austin's health has declined rapidly.) Austin. You need to sit down for a bit. (He wraps his arm around Austin and takes him to a bench. As he's helping Austin to the bench, he looks at Paul and silently mouths 'Get Victoria').

CJ: (After they sit down.) Hey buddy, what's up?

Austin: (Still quiet and weak.) I guess I'm just a little tired.

CJ puts his hand on Austin's forehead.

CJ: Dude, you're burnin' up.

Camera follows Paul as he finds Victoria in the crowd. She is talking with Mr. Fry and Robert.

Paul: (He steps right next to Victoria interrupting the conversation.) Pardon my interruption Miss Creighton. Austin isn't feeling well. CJ sent me to get you.

Victoria: (Concerned.) Where? (Paul points to the location of the bench.)

Victoria: (Addressing Mr. Fry and Robert.) I'm sorry, you'll have to excuse me.

Mr. Fry: Of course, please go. (Victoria leaves in a controlled rush.)

Robert: I hope he feels better soon. (Calling to her as she leaves.)

After winding her way through the people on the platform, Victoria arrives at the bench where CJ and Austin are sitting.

CJ: (Addressing Victoria.) He was really pale. He looks better now, but I think he has a fever.

Austin: (Weakly, but trying to sound normal.) I'm just a little tired. I'm okay.

Victoria: (Places her hand on Austin's forehead. Addressing Austin in a stern tone.) And how long have you been a nurse?

Austin looks at Victoria, then looks down, defeatedly, without a response.

Victoria: [\(With confidence.\)](#) That's what I thought. [\(Addressing CJ.\)](#) We should get him on the train and resting. We're in cabins three and four on the second passenger car.

CJ: I'll take care of it. We'll see you in there. [\(Addressing Austin.\)](#) Come on you little heater. [\(With his arm around him, he helps Austin up and walks him to the train. Camera follows them to the train.\)](#) Let's get you settled in. I'll get you some water from the dining car once I have you lying down.

Austin: [\(Bravely, trying to minimize the situation.\)](#) Really. It's no big deal.

CJ: [\(Stops and looks directly at Austin.\)](#) You want to check with Victoria on that?

Austin: [\(Softly.\)](#) No. [\(CJ smiles at the response as he continues to assist Austin to the train.\)](#)

## Act XIII, Scene 2

[ Ohio Bound ]

Scene: [On the train, in Victoria's cabin. Austin is lying on a bench. CJ steps into the cabin with a glass of water. CJ closes the door behind him.](#)

CJ: [\(Getting on one knee, next to Austin, he hands the glass of water to Austin.\)](#) The same, better or worse?

Austin: [\(While Austin answers, CJ puts his hand on Austin's forehead to check his fever again.\)](#) The same. . . Maybe a little better.

[Sam and Victoria enter the cabin.](#)

CJ: [\(Addressing the adults, he gives an objective status report on Austin's condition.\)](#) His color's better, but he hasn't cooled down any. [\(Sensing that Victoria and Sam might want to talk to Austin alone.\)](#) It's getting a little crowded. I'll join Tylor in the other cabin. [\(Addressing Austin.\)](#) Feel better soon. [\(CJ leaves.\)](#)

Sam: [\(He takes over CJ's spot, kneeling next to Austin. He checks the capillary refill in Austin's finger, then begins taking Austin's pulse.\)](#) Hey big guy, you've got me worried again. Can you tell us what's going on?

Austin: [\(Down playing his condition.\)](#) I don't want to be a problem again. I'm just a little tired.

Sam: (Placing his hand on Austin's arm, he speaks directly, but gently.) First of all, you've never been a problem and, secondly, you're more that just a little tired. (Looking at Victoria to pass the conversation to her, then looking back at Austin.) If you don't want to tell me about how you're feeling, then tell your sister. (Sam stands up.) I'll step out if you'd like.

Austin: No! (Austin grabs Sam's pant leg.) It's okay. You can stay. (Releasing the pant leg.) Please.

Victoria: (Sitting on the Austin's bench, she runs her hand through his hair, brushes his cheek, then gently rests her hand on his chest.) Tell me exactly how you feel.

Austin: (Knowing that he is very sick, Austin is afraid. He doesn't know anyone, that was as sick as he is, that didn't die. Hesitantly.) I feel really weak (His voice gets shaky as he bravely holds back the tears of fear. ) and it's hard to catch my breath most of the time. I'm pretty hot too. I feel better sometimes, (Closing his eyes.) but I feel worse most of the time.

Victoria: (Softly.) Little brother, you're pretty sick. I think you already knew that. (Austin, eyes still closed, nods slowly.) We may have to put you in the hospital in Sacramento until you're better.

Austin: (He opens his eyes wide. His fear is evident.) No! (Almost begging. That's usually the last stop for sick people, before they die.) I don't want to go to a hospital.

Sam: We can't just let you get worse. The symptoms you described . . . and from what we can see, it looks like you might have a really bad infection. I really don't want to say this, but I have to make you understand how serious this is. ( This weighs on Sam and he hesitates. Sam take a deep breath.) If you don't get treatment, you may not make it to Ohio. We just can't take that chance.

Although Victoria knew what Sam was going to say, actually hearing it said, made her heart drop.

Austin: (Tears streak down his face.) I'm scared.

Victoria: We know you are. (She takes his hand.) We'll be with you the whole time making sure you get the best treatment. Sam and I will make sure you get better real fast.



Sam: (Reassuringly.) We'll stay in Sacramento until you're well enough to travel to your uncle Colin's hospital. Okay?

Austin: (Understanding that it's not optional.) I don't have a choice, do I?

Victoria: Your choice is to either fight against us or let us help you. Either way, when we get to Sacramento, you're going to the hospital.

Sam: (Sam gets back on one knee. He wipes the tear from Austin's cheek and rests his hand on the top of Austin's head.) I suggest we team up to fight the infection together. How about it?

Austin: (Looking toward his feet. Giving up his fight to stay macho, his attitude becomes passive as he accepts their decision.) Okay. . . . (Looking toward Victoria then Sam, weakly with sincerity.) Thanks.

Sam leans over, and kisses Austin's forehead. He then gets up and goes to the cabin door.

Sam: (Very calmly.) I'll let the boys know that there is a slight change in plans. They may even like spending a couple days in Sacramento. They only know what it's become, not what it was. (Sam exits the cabin. Victoria props Austin up into a semi sitting position.)

### Act XIII, Scene 3

[ Bad News ]

Scene: Sam's cabin. CJ is standing by the window and Tylor is sitting looking at a book. Sam steps in and closes the door. He has a worried look on his face.

Tylor: (Looking up from the book, he sees the worried look on Sam's face.) What's wrong?

Sam: (Calm and serious.) Austin. (CJ, hearing the tone in Sam's voice, turns from the window to look at Sam.) It looks like he's got pneumonia.

CJ: (In disbelief.) What? . . . (Speaking as a statement.) It's curable? . . . (After understanding Sam's tone, he has significant doubt that it can be cured.) . . . Right?

Sam: No. [\(Both boys have their hearts drop.\)](#) Not really. [\(Sam holds back his tears.\)](#) They don't have the same medical capabilities in this time period as we're used to.

Tylor: [\(Desperate to offer a solution.\)](#) Can't we just give him a big dose of antibiotics or something?

Sam: [\(Trying to stay objective in his explanation.\)](#) We could if we were in 2017. But they haven't even scratched the surface of antibiotics in 1877. Most people don't survive pneumonia now. Even in 2017 they lose a lot of people. Most treatments available, in this time period, are just short of lethal poisoning. It's almost barbaric, but it's the best they have right now.

Tylor: [\(Almost beside himself fearing that they will soon lose Austin.\)](#) What are we gonna do? [\(Raising his voice.\)](#) He's supposed to be part of our family. Falling Leaf said so. She's never wrong. [\(Standing.\)](#) We can't just give up on him.

Sam: [\(Gesturing to Tylor to quite down so he isn't heard in Austin's cabin.\)](#) No. Of course not. We're going to do everything we can.

CJ: [\(In desperation.\)](#) What *can* we do?

Sam: [\(Instructively.\)](#) We're taking him to the hospital in Sacramento. With Victoria and me both working on him, he'll have a chance to pull through.

Tylor: [\(Angry and frustrated.\)](#) So we just sit and wait . . . and hope he doesn't die?

Sam: [\(Trying to calm the boys down and reassure them that he won't give up on Austin.\)](#) Not even close. [\(Now including the boys in Austin's treatment.\)](#) You two have the second most important role in his recovery - [\(The boys look, with interest, at Sam for their part in his treatment.\)](#) maintaining a positive attitude. Besides helping keep him quiet and resting well, you need to keep him in good spirits. Attitude is super important. It could be the difference between success and failure. You have to be supportive and keep him fighting.

CJ: [\(Accepting the responsibility without hesitation.\)](#) We'll do whatever it takes.

Tylor: Can I see him now?

Sam: [\(Shaking his head.\)](#) No. He's resting right now. You can stop by his room in about an hour to make sure he doesn't get depressed. Your goal is smiles. Keep him smiling.

CJ: Does he know how sick he is?

Sam: He knows he's really sick and it scares him, but don't mention pneumonia to him. These days, that's like a death sentence. He might stop fighting. We need to stay strong for him and keep him hopeful.

Tylor: [\(Angrily.\)](#) I hate the 1870's. I need some air!

[As Tylor passes CJ, CJ pats Tylor's shoulder in empathy, before Tylor storms out the door.](#)

CJ: [\(Speaking about Tylor, addressing Sam.\)](#) I'll check on him in a few minutes when he cools down.

Sam: [\(Addressing CJ.\)](#) Thanks. You okay?

CJ: [\(Sad and unconvincingly.\)](#) I guess.

Sam: [\(Prying.\)](#) You sure?

CJ: [\(Explaining his feelings.\)](#) Yeah. It just hurts to think about everything he's been through. Now this.

Sam: I know what you mean. I'm going for some air too. [\(Pointing to the rear of the train.\)](#) If you want to talk, I'll be on one of the platforms.

CJ: Okay, Thanks. [\(CJ sits on one of the benches and stares out the window.\)](#) I'm going to spend some alone time here.

[Sam leaves the cabin.](#)

CJ: [\(Talking to himself.\)](#) What just happened? Once we got on the train, he was supposed to be safe. Now . . . .

[CJ puts his head in his hands and begins to quietly sob.](#)

**Act XIII, Scene 4**

[ Tipping the Scales ]

Scene: Hallway of one of the cabin cars. Tylor is deep in thought, walking down the hall.

Sheriff Hawkins approaches from the other direction, followed by Lewis. They get very close before Hawkins says something.

Hawkins: (Seeing Tylor deep in thought.) Tylor?

Tylor: (Startled as his train of thought is broken.) Oh! Sheriff Hawkins. I'm sorry I didn't notice you sooner.

Hawkins: You seem to be deep in thought. Everything okay?

Tylor: (He starts to tell him about Austin.) Well, (Tylor notices Lewis behind the sheriff and changes his tone.) I think so. I'm just stretching my legs and thinking of the friends we left in Harmony Valley.

Hawkins: If you were to ask me, it looks like maybe you were (Tone changes to a slight tease.) thinking of someone in particular. (Meaning a girlfriend. Hawkins laughs.)

Tylor: (Going along with the assumption to keep Lewis in the dark, while thinking to himself that he was thinking of someone in particular, but the someone is on the train, not in town.) Yeah, you could say that.

Hawkins: It's real easy to see through young bucks like you. (Tylor gets a little nervous. Maybe his deception failed.) It's either food or girls, and the dinning car is the other way.

Tylor: (Relieved that he didn't catch on to the deceit. He does his best to put on a smile.) Got me there. (Looking past the sheriff. Making sure that Lewis knew he was noticed.) Oh, hi Lewis. (Emotional due to Austin's condition, he has no compunction in venting his anger by making Lewis feel uncomfortable.) Did you ever find Victoria's documents that you lost?

Lewis: (Defensively.) I didn't lose any documents. The Judge must have misplaced them. He's not very organized.

Tylor: Oh, sorry. (Adding another stab.) I heard it was the bailiff's responsibility. I must be mistaken. Well, you gentlemen have a nice trip. We'll probably see each other at lunch. Until then.

Hawkins: (Noticing the combination attack on Lewis, but not interfering.) Sure. We'll see you then. . .  
(Remembering that he wanted to speak with Sam.) Oh, would you know where I might find Captain Reynolds?

Tylor: (Courteously.) He was in his cabin just a few minutes ago. If I see him, I'll let him know you're looking for him.

Hawkins: (Unconcerned.) That won't be necessary. If I don't catch him now, I'll speak with him at lunch.

Tylor: Okay. Well, take care.

They pass each other as they continue on their respective paths. As they pass, Tylor stealthily takes Lewis' gun from his holster.

## Act XIII, Scene 5

[ Encouraging Message? ]

Scene: In Victoria's cabin. Austin is resting comfortably on one bench, Victoria is sitting on the opposite bench. She looks through the small case she brought and takes out a note. On the front it says Folsom. It is the note that Falling Leaf gave to Austin, to give to Victoria. Even though they are not in Folsom yet, she opens the note.

Dear Victoria,

I know that this is going to be hard to believe, but Austin, Sam, CJ and Tylor will be fine in their new family. Sam will take good care of Austin and give him the medicine he needs. I will write to you soon.

Falling Leaf

Victoria looks at the note again, then flips it over to see if there is anything on the back. There isn't. She puts it back in the case, ponders it a bit, then checks on Austin who is asleep on the opposite bench.

Camera Ghosts through the door, into the hall, and then into Sam's cabin. CJ is the only one there. He has the table opened up so he can write a letter. The camera looks over his shoulder as he is writing.

The letter starts:

*Harmony Valley Press,*

*Dear Editor,*

*As a person of no bias, except squarely against violence and criminal activity .*

*. . .*

There is a knock on the door.

CJ: Who is it?

From the hall: *It's sheriff Hawkins.*

CJ: Okay, just a moment.

CJ Takes the pistol from the holster near him. He hides the gun behind the door as he opens it. Sheriff Hawkins and Lewis are in the hallway.

Hawkins: CJ, is Captain Reynolds here?

CJ: No. I'm sorry. He stepped out to get some air. Can I help?

Hawkins: *(Handing an envelope to CJ.)* Could you see that Sam gets this? The undertaker found it in the pocket of one of Wilson's men. He may find it interesting. It's a page from the recorder's ledger.

CJ: Yes sir. Of course. Is this all, or should I let him know you're looking for him?

Hawkins: There's a couple things I'd like to discuss with him, but there's no hurry. I'll just wait to see him at lunch. Sorry to disturb you.

CJ: That's okay. I was just passing the time. I'll make sure the captain gets this and let him know you stopped by.

Hawkins: Thanks. We'll see you later.

Hawkins and Lewis go back toward the front of the train.

Camera drifts out the door as CJ is closing it. Camera watches as Hawkins and Lewis go toward the front of the train, then turns 180 degrees and drifts down the hall through a couple of cars. Sam is standing on the platform between the cars looking out into the forest as the train heads down to Placerville. The gunman, Jacob, quietly opens the coach door leading to the platform, the sound being masked by the sound of the train.

The camera drifts back up the hallways to the car with CJ's cabin.

Tylor is standing at the door of the cabin. He knocks the special knock and the door opens.

Tylor: (Stepping into the cabin. He only sees CJ.) Where's Sam?

CJ: He went for some air too.

Tylor: I need to apologize for storming out. I'm pretty scared of losing Austin and I feel powerless to help him. It's just really frustrating.

CJ: (Steps over to Tylor and gives him a hug.) Me too, bro. Me too. (Tylor returns the hug.)

As CJ releases Tylor, he hits the gun that Tylor took.

CJ: (Patting the gun before stepping back.) Wow, what's this?



Tylor: (He takes the gun out of his waistband and places it on the table.) I took it from Lewis. He doesn't know.

CJ: (Confused, but slightly amused.) What's up with that?

Tylor: (Quietly telling a secret.) Falling Leaf told me that the sheriff was going to be shot in the back while he was on the train. I'm sure it's Lewis that shoots him.

CJ: Huh? (Interrupted by the knock.)

There is a knock on the door. It is not the secret knock.

CJ: (CJ takes a blanket from the bench and covers the gun with it.) Who is it?

Voice from the hall. Train steward. Lunch is being served in the dining car.

CJ: (Loud enough to be easily heard through the door.) Thank you. We'll be on our way.

## Act XIII, Scene 6

[ Lunch ]

Scene: Dinning car. Sheriff and Lewis are seated at a table. The sheriff sees the boys and motions for them to join them.

Hawkins: (Standing as he shakes their hands. Lewis stays seated.) So where's everybody else?

Tylor: Victoria and Austin will be taking lunch in their room. I haven't seen the captain in a while. I thought he might be here.

Hawkins: Have a seat with us. (He motions to the two empty chairs as he sits down.) We'll make room for him when he shows up.

CJ: Thank you. ( He steps aside and allows Tylor to sit across from Lewis.)

Tylor: (While Tylor is getting settled, there is a clunk under the table.) What's that? (While the others look on with interest, Tylor reaches under and brings out Lewis' revolver.) I wonder who this belongs to.

Lewis: (After quickly checking his holster.) That's mine. (Embarrassed, speaking to the sheriff.) It must have fallen out when I sat down.

CJ: (While Tylor hands it to Lewis.) Better pay closer attention. Kind of dangerous leaving a gun lying on the floor.

Lewis checks to make sure that it's loaded then puts it back in his holster. CJ and Tylor look at each other satisfied that the sham worked. The train whistle blows.

Conductor: (At the front of the dining car, announces the next stop.) Placerville. Approaching Placerville!

The conductor walks down the aisle to the next car. He can be heard in the background: Placerville. Approaching Placerville!

Lewis: (While getting up.) I'll have lunch later. Sheriff, I'm going to check with the telegraph station about any messages for us. I'll report back to you when we are underway.

Hawkins nods as Lewis leaves the table. The camera follows Lewis out of the car.

## Act XIII, Scene 7

[ Imposter ]

Scene: Victoria's cabin. Austin is asleep on the bench. Victoria is staring out the window. There is a knock on the door.

Victoria: Who is it?

Voice from the hall: Train steward, ma'am. I have your lunch.

Victoria: Oh. Very good. (As she stands, she looks at Austin sleeping soundly. In a hushed tone.) I'll be right there.

Victoria opens the door. Lewis is standing at the door with his gun drawn. He barges in, pointing the gun at Victoria. He closes the door behind him.

Lewis: Don't make a sound. We're going to take a little stroll to the baggage car.

Lewis reaches over and pulls Austin up into a sitting position. It startles him awake. He sees Lewis with the gun.

Lewis: (Addressing Austin.) Not a sound.

Victoria: Leave him alone, he's not well.

Lewis slaps Austin across the face. Austin falls onto his side from the impact, then sits back up glaring at Lewis. His lip is bleeding.

Lewis: (Looking directly at Victoria.) Say another word and see what happens to him!

Lewis: (Addressing Austin.) Get up!

Austin stands slowly, then attacks Lewis. Austin has no strength so his attack is rather pitiful. Lewis punches Austin in the face which knocks him back onto the bench. Austin tries to get back up to resume the attack. He sees that Lewis has the gun pointed at Victoria and stops his attack.

Lewis: (He pulls the hammer back on the gun.) Try it again. (Austin just sits there. After a few seconds, Lewis feels he has gained control.) Now get up.

## Act XIII, Scene 8

[ Signatures Required ]

Scene: Baggage car. Jacob is standing with a gun trained on Sam. Sam is standing with his hands tied behind him. Jacob opens the cargo door.

Jacob: Captain Reynolds. It's a shame you won't be going out in a blaze of glory, but I kind of like to keep things less spectacular. Critters out there will scatter yer bones 'cross this whole mountain and you'll just kind of vanish. Just watch that first step.

Sam gets a little smile on his face and has a small chuckle. He just figured out the last riddle of the puzzle. Austin comes through the passage door followed by Victoria and Lewis.

Jacob: The captain here was just about to step out for some fresh air. (Jacob grabs Sam by the back of the collar and feigns pushing him out, then pulls him back into the car.) However, since guests are beginning to arrive, he can wait until the rest of the business is finished. Who knows, he might like some company.

Jacob pushes Sam backward into the baggage. As he stumbles backward, Sam falls into a sitting position, leaning on the baggage. Austin rushes over to Sam and gives him a big hug. While hugging Sam, Austin puts his knife in Sam's hand.

Jacob: He ain't goin' to save you this time, kid. Sit down and keep still. (Lewis pulls Austin off of Sam and shoves him into a sitting position next to Sam. Addressing Lewis.) You got what we need?

Lewis: Yeah, boss. Right here.

Lewis hands a satchel to Jacob. Jacob takes out the papers and looks them over.

Jacob: Good. (Addressing Victoria.) Here's the thing. My boss needs these papers signed. If you sign 'em, you and your brother don't need to die. You can just stay on the train all the way to Ohio. On the other hand, if you decide not to sign 'em, then I'll have no choice but to kill all of you, (Looking at Sam.) Including his two nephews. (Addressing Victoria.) You can sit over by them two while Lewis extends an invitation to the boys.

Jacob trains his gun on Victoria and tips his head to indicate to Lewis to go get the boys. Victoria goes over and sits by Austin. Austin, exhausted, leans on Victoria. She wraps her arm around him.

Jacob: (Noticing that Austin is lethargic.) What's with the kid?

Sam: He's sick. He needs a doctor.

Jacob: Well, if missy here signs everything, then he'll be free to see all the doctors he wants. If not, well, doctors won't do him any good.

Victoria: I'll sign if you let us all go. Sam, the boys and me. You leave us alone in Ohio, and we won't go back to Harmony Valley.

Jacob: Sounds enticing, but I don't think I want to let ([Kicking Sam's foot.](#)) the captain here, free to come after me.

Victoria: He won't. You leave us alone, we'll leave you alone. We just want to live a normal life without looking over our shoulder all the time.

[Jacob tosses the satchel to Victoria.](#)

Jacob: Just git t' signin'. You've got no chips to bargain with.

[Victoria finds the areas that she is supposed to sign, and starts signing the documents.](#)

## **Act XIII, Scene 9**

[ Vacant ]

[Camera turns from the discussion and chases down Lewis.](#)

[CJ and Tylor are walking in the hallway, returning from the dinning car. CJ has a cup of coffee and Tylor is carrying a book.](#)

[Lewis sees the boys go into the cabin as he comes through the inter-car passage of the following car.](#)

[Lewis makes his way through the car and the next inter-car passage into the hallway of Victoria's and Sam's cabins. He draws his gun and kicks in Sam's cabin door. The boys are not in the room.](#)

[The hot coffee is on the table alongside the book that is sitting on CJ's letter.](#)

Lewis checks the windows. They are locked on the inside. There is no place for them to go. Lewis remembers the stories about the haunted cabin. He gets scared, a chill goes down his spine and he rushes back toward the baggage car.

## Act XIII, Scene 10

[ Quick Exit ]

Camera in the baggage car: Hawkins stands up in the passage between the crates. He trains his revolver on Jacob.

Hawkins: (Startling and addressing Jacob as he pulls back the hammer on his revolver.) Put it down!

Jacob: (Seeing that he is compromised, he carefully puts the gun and the satchel on the floor.)

Hawkins: (Addressing Sam, but keeping the revolver trained on Jacob.) Sam, I've been looking for you. I wanted to ask you about some security issues. Looks like you may have stumbled across a couple already.

Sam: Sorry to keep you waiting. I've been a little tied up.

Hawkins: We'll see to that directly. Victoria, I'm gonna need your help here. (Noticing that Austin is very weak.) What's wrong with Peter?

Victoria: (As she leans him over onto Sam.) He's pretty sick. (She stands up.)

Austin puts his arms around Sam. Camera view behind Sam. Sam has been trying to cut the ropes he is tied with, but was making slow progress. Austin, more effectively, helps to cut Sam loose.

Two loud shots in succession ring out - same timing as when Austin's parents were murdered. Hawkins falls to the floor hitting his head. Lewis enters from behind Hawkins.

Jacob: (Picking up his gun, but leaving the satchel on the floor.) 'Bout time you got back. Where's the boys?

Lewis: Gone.

The three hostages look at each other, hoping the boys are okay.

Jacob: (Angrily. Moving toward Lewis, unintentionally putting distance between himself and the satchel.)  
Gone? What do you mean, gone.

Lewis: (Shaken by the boys' disappearance.) They disappeared. (Gesturing.) Vanished, like ghosts. I saw 'em go into their cabin, then they were gone. (Fearfully.) Somethin' ain't right, boss.

Jacob: (Discounting it as ineptitude.) We'll find 'em later.

Jacob: (Turning back to address the hostages.) Well missy, looks like this little party's over. We won't be needin' you or your little family anymore. So who's first? (Sam, with Austin's help, is finishing cutting himself loose.)

Austin, surprising everyone, gets up and grabs the satchel. Sam, seeing Austin make a move, throws a package at Jacob, keeping him from using his gun. Austin runs to the cargo door and holds the satchel out the door.

Austin: (With his knife in one hand for defense and the satchel held hostage in the other, Austin threatens to throw out the documents.) Let 'em go or I'll throw this. (There is a few second stand off as Jacob weighs his options. Austin's face loses all color and his eyes roll back as he starts to collapse.)

Sam sees that Austin is about to pass out and jumps up to get him. Victoria sees what is happening, so she also runs to the door to help Austin. Jacob, recognizing that Austin is about to lose the satchel, races over trying to get the satchel.

Lewis is focused on the activity at the cargo door and doesn't notice Hawkins standing behind him. Lewis is looking to make a shot, but Jacob keeps getting in the way. Hawkins, now conscious, hits Lewis over the head with an empty ten gallon milk jug. Lewis is knocked to the floor. Hawkins grabs Lewis' gun.

Austin falls backward out the door as Sam jumps for him. They both fly off the train. Slow motion > Sam grabs Austin and holds him tightly in a bear hug to protect him from the impending trauma when they hit the ground. Camera back to > full motion.

Victoria sees them fly off the train, then a tree blocks her vision for a split second. She doesn't see where they landed.

Jacob grabbed the satchel from Austin but was knocked into the door opening by Sam. He is hanging on to the door with one hand, trying not to fall off the train and holding the satchel with the other hand.

The train whistle sounds.

Victoria grabs the satchel and pulls it into the train car. Jacob gets pulled back into the train car too. Jacob, thinking she accidentally rescued him, smiles at Victoria and relaxes at the door. Smiling, he plans to gain the upper hand again.

The train whistle blows again. The whistle sound changes as the engine enters the tunnel.

Victoria is still holding onto the satchel. She pulls the satchel toward her and freezes, looking out into the forest. Then, with all her might, lands a front kick into Jacob's ribs while releasing the satchel, sending Jacob out the door just before the train car enters the tunnel. Camera: view as seen by Jacob - sees the outside of the train, then the tunnel stones, then the screen goes black.

## Act XIII, Scene 11

[ Missing Persons ]

Scene: Placerville train station. Victoria and Hawkins are standing on the platform. He hands the satchel and Austin's knife to Victoria.

Hawkins: I'm sorry Victoria. This is all they were able to recover. There was no sign of Sam or Austin. And we never found CJ or Tylor. (Victoria sits on a bench and begins to sob.) I am truly sorry. We'll get a larger search party together in the morning and try again. I saw that the transfer papers were signed, but I hope you don't mind me asking. Why did you sign it Jane Blackwell?



Victoria: I knew Jacob was going to kill us anyway. There was no way I was going to give that bastard the satisfaction of my actual signature.

## **End of Act XIII**

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