

RESTRICTED TERRITORY

Act XIV Back?

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End of Act XIV

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Act XIV

[Back?]

Act XIV, Scene 1

[When are We Now?]

Scene: Early evening on a snow covered trail in the forest. The forest is filled with the sound of wind through the trees and the sky is dark. Camera shows the trail covered in snow. There are no tracks visible. Suddenly, CJ and Tylor are flung from nowhere, onto the snow. They land ungracefully, tumbling to a stop. They have snow in their hair and clothes.

CJ: (Sitting up and brushing off the snow.) What the hell?

Tylor: (Sits up while checking himself for injuries.) Did we crash? (Looking for the crash site.) Where's everybody else? Where's the train? (Looking at CJ.) You okay?

CJ: Yeah. You?

Tylor: Yeah. Think so.

The boys continue to brush themselves off and start looking around. Camera shows that they see a transmission tower and some power lines. Then what appear to be lights from a jumbo jet break through the clouds as the craft makes a slow descent to Mather Field.

CJ: (He jumps to his feet very excitedly.) We're back. We're back in 2017! (Pointing out the lights.) See!

Tylor: (Also getting to his feet.) Yeah. (Now sure that they are back to modern times.) Yeah! (Yelling into the woods.) We're back!

They start jumping around, excited at what they perceive to be 2017. In their excitement, they also notice that they have clothes. They stop jumping around as they verify that they are still dressed. Then jump around again. After a few seconds their joy quickly subsides and they stand still.

Tylor: (Concerned.) What about Uncle Sam, Victoria and Austin?

CJ: Damn it! (Agitated, he starts kicking the snow.) This is so messed up.

CJ is wandering, in no particular direction, he is visibly upset. Then he suddenly realizes that he and Tylor are out in the open. He motions to Tylor to follow him as he dashes for cover in the trees. They arrive in an area with much better cover. They both look to see if there is any activity around them.

Tylor: What now?

CJ: (Speaking in hushed tones.) First, until we know it's safe, we need to keep out of sight. Second, we need let Mom and Dad know we're okay and determine the situation. . . . I don't know what the heck we can tell Aunt Trish.

Tylor: We'll have to figure that out later. One step at a time. (He brushes some snow off CJ's back.)

CJ: Speaking of time. There's no telling how long we've been gone. We're just assuming that we're back to the time when we left. We might have been gone for minutes . . . (A little worried.) or maybe . . . years.

Tylor: (Breaking CJ's concentration.) Hey! (Pointing up the trail.) At least we're back to the same area we started. This is the trail we took to the cabin.

CJ: Yeah. It sure looks like it. Even if we're back to the right time, we don't know if it's safe.

Tylor: Let's get back to the cabin and see if our stuff is still there.

CJ: Okay. (Afraid he might be sent back to the cabin in 1877.) But I'm not going inside.

Tylor: (Concurring with the unspoken assessment. Shaking his head no.) Me either. We'll just get the ATV's and head back down to the truck. We can call Mom from there.

CJ: Okay then. That's our plan. Just keep an eye out for anything unusual.

Tylor: (Sarcastically.) What could possibly be unusual around here?

They both turn slightly away from each other and check their guns and make sure they are loaded before stealthily making their way to the cabin site.

Act XIV, Scene 2

[A Trip Back?]

Scene: In front of the cabin. There is a small amount of smoke coming from both chimneys. The ATVs are not out in front. The boys are in the tree line watching the cabin. There is some faint stove handling noises from the cabin, then some dark smoke from one of the chimneys.

The boys look at each other and shrug as they wonder why someone would make the dark smoke. CJ motions that he is going to go down through the trees and then, back up to the barn. Tylor nods and motions that he will keep an eye on the cabin.

CJ makes his way to the tree line near the barn. He motions Tylor to join him.

Tylor starts to move, then, suddenly, the front door of the cabin begins to open. He freezes in his tracks.

Wac ih 'a steps out onto the front porch and looks around as if he's expecting someone.

Wac ih 'a: (Calling out into the forest.) Sam! (There is a slight echo in the valley.) CJ! (Another faint echo.) Tylor! (A third faint echo.) . . . (After listening for a response, he speaks to himself.) They should be here by now.

Tylor signals to CJ 'You cover me' [points to CJ, puts his hand over the pointing hand, then points to himself]. CJ shakes his head no. Tylor does not heed the response. He steps a couple feet out of the trees. CJ draws his gun, ready to defend Tylor, if need be.

Tylor: (Surprising Wac ih 'a.) Hi. I'm Tylor.

Wac ih a': (Turning to face Tylor. Calling down to him.) I heard someone yelling a little while ago. Are you okay?

Tylor: (Having never met Wac ih a', he is not letting his guard down.) I'm sorry. Who are you?

Wac ih a': I'm Wac ih a'. I take care of the land here. (Waving his arm as a welcoming invitation.) Why don't you come in and get warmed up. Sam said you would come up Wednesday, but I never saw you before you left.

Tylor: No thanks. I just want to get my ATV and go back down to my truck.

Wac ih a': The snow machines are in the barn. Let me show you. (Wac ih a' sees the gun on Tylor's hip. He puts his hands in the air and does a slow turn to show that he is unarmed.) I'm not armed. I'm assuming that's CJ in the trees. (Wac ih a' points to the area of CJ with his head.) He can relax. (Wac ih 'a puts his arms down.) I'm not going to harm you.

Tylor: (In an almost curt tone.) We're not really too trusting right now. People in this area have been trying to kill us.

Wac ih a': (Calmly.) I see . . . (He steps off the porch and walks to within ten feet of Tylor and stops.) Where's Sam?

Tylor: He's . . . Well, I'm not quite sure.

Wac ih a', now between Tylor and the barn, motions Tylor to continue toward the barn. Wac ih a' stays about ten feet ahead of Tylor as they walk to the barn.

Tylor: Mister Wac ih a'. What day is it?

Wac ih a': Please just call me Wac ih a'. It's Monday.

CJ joins Tylor as they pass by his post. CJ stays a little behind to keep an eye on Wac ih 'a.

Tylor: (Not quite sure he wants to know, because it may be an answer he doesn't like.) No, I'm sorry. I mean the whole date.

Wac ih a': Of course. It's the twenty-seventh of November, 2017. Are you and CJ okay? You've been missing for four days. Dressed like that, I'm surprised you're still alive. (Wac ih a' is referring to the fact that they are not dressed to be overnighting in the winter woods. The boys look at each other wondering if their appearance is unusual. Neither considers their appearance to be remarkable, so they dismiss the comment.) Sam said that you

would be here last Wednesday. When I came out that evening, your snow machines were here, but there was no sign of you or CJ, except, of course, the clothes you left at the door. Sam left without saying anything the day before. I'm starting to feel like I'm a bad host.

They arrive at the barn door. Wac ih a' opens the door. There are three ATVs with snow tracks on them. The boys' bags are still on the ATVs. There is a garbage bag on the seat of CJ's ATV.

Wac ih a': All your belongings are still on the machines. Sam's bags are in his room where he left them. (Pointing to the garbage bag.) That's the clothes you left on the porch.

CJ: (Curiously.) So the clothes were just laying on the porch?

Wac ih a': Actually they were piled up at the door. Pockets had cell phones and keys in 'em too. That's how I got these (Indicating the ATVs.) in here. (Referring to the search of the pockets and the moving of the ATV's.) Hope you don't mind. (The boy's shake their heads no.)

A commotion is heard at the front of the cabin. A faint voice is heard.

Austin: (Faintly, in the distance.) Captain? You okay?

The three freeze in their tracks, listening for more. After a second of thought, Tylor recognizes the voice.

Tylor: (Surprised and excited.) That's Austin!

Tylor starts running to the front of the cabin. CJ is right behind him. Wac ih a' is trotting along behind them. As they get closer and in line of sight, the boys call to them.

CJ: (Happily calling.) Austin? Uncle Sam?!

Tylor: (The boys arrive at Sam, on his back, on the ground and Austin standing over him.) Are you guys okay?

Austin: (In a weak voice. He steps away so CJ can check on Sam.) I think the captain's hurt. He doesn't talk.

CJ: (Getting down right next to Sam.) Uncle Sam? What's wrong?

Sam takes a big slow breath.

Sam: (Very hoarse.) Just got the wind knocked out of me. He's heavier than he looks. (CJ and Tylor smile.) Give me a minute.

CJ: (CJ smiles at Sam.) Okay old man, but you're not that feeble. I'll give you half a minute. Your thirty seconds has already started.

Tylor: (Turning Austin toward him and embracing him.) Austin. How about you?

Austin: (Without strength, he loosely embraces Tylor.) I didn't get hurt, but I'm not feeling too well.

Wac ih a': Let's get them in the cabin.

CJ: (Afraid of getting thrown back in time again.) No.

Sam: (Still on his back, not able to see Wac ih a' or the cabin.) Cabin? Where the heck? (He starts to sit up. The strength hasn't returned to his abdomen just yet, so he plops back down.) Yeah. If there's a cabin take Austin in and get him warmed up. He can't get chilled.

CJ: (Quietly to Sam.) 2017. (Sam looks a bit confused.) Ren's place.

Sam: (Now understanding the situation. Quietly back to CJ.) Been here long?

CJ: About an hour.

Wac ih a': (Steps into Sam's view.) If it's okay, I'll take him in now. He looks pretty sick.

Sam: Wac ih a'! (Remembering what Austin said about his name.) You sly fox, you. (Now able to sit up.) It's good to see a friendly face. (Looking at Austin.) Austin, this is Wac ih a', he won't hurt you. You remember, I spoke of him before. He'll get you warmed up. I'll be there in a couple of minutes.

Austin, CJ and Wac ih a' are standing next to each other facing Sam (still sitting on the ground), and Tylor. An image flashes in Tylor's mind. Tylor sees Victoria holding the strap of the satchel and Jacob hanging out the

train. Victoria sees Tylor. Tylor nods that all is well. Victoria kicks Jacob while releasing the satchel. The image disappears, but the assurance of knowing Victoria is safe and that she knows Austin is safe, plants itself firmly in Tylor's consciousness.

Camera follows Austin and Wac ih a' as they go to the cabin. Wac ih a' offers his arm to Austin. Without hesitation, Austin takes hold of Wac ih a' as they walk.

Austin: (Weakly, speaking in Miwok as they head to the cabin.) <Miwok> walpu- wac ih a', ʔoja • he-tY pasas-
•i- me • we- </Miwok> [Trans. Good morning Wac ih a', 'my name' White Squirrel].

Wac ih a': (As they are going up the stairs.) White Squirrel, please use English. My Miwok is very bad.

Austin: Yes, sir. (Noticing all of the changes as they go through the door.) What happened to the cabin?

Camera back to Sam.

CJ: (Thinking that since they were together on the train, they would all arrive together in 2017.) Where's Victoria?

Sam: (With assistance from CJ, Sam gets to his feet.) I'm not sure. Austin and I fell off the train just before Placerville. She was in the car, but she didn't fall with us. She was fighting with Jacob when I saw her last. Sheriff Hawkins was shot by Lewis.

Tylor: Don't worry about the sheriff. (Camera: vignette of gun on small table, cartridges out of gun. CJ checking that the bullets slide through the barrel, a pile of powder on the small table and Tylor tapping the bullets back into the cartridges. Spoken during vignette.) > He should be okay, maybe hurt, but okay. We took the powder out of Lewis' cartridges and shaved down the bullets. The only thing pushing the bullet was the primer. > (End of vignette.)

Sam: It did sound odd When did you fall off the train?

CJ: We didn't. We were just sitting there in our room, then we were tumbling in the snow.

Sam: Victoria must still be on the train. I think she's going to stay there.

Tylor: (Authoritatively.) She is . . . and she'll be okay. (Sam and CJ look at Tylor, then at each other and shrug, then back at Tylor.) She won't be coming to this time. That's what Falling Leaf was trying to tell us. I don't know how she knows, but she does. I know it, too. I just realized that I always did, but I just didn't want to listen. . . . We aren't going back to that time. (Nodding toward the cabin where Austin is getting warmed.) None of us.

Sam: (Mostly addressing CJ to see if what Tylor said made sense to him.) I'm not sure I caught all that, but our priority now is to get Austin to the hospital. (Addressing Tylor.) You can explain all that again on the way. Are our ATVs still here?

CJ: Yeah. (Indicating toward the barn.) They're all in the barn.

Sam: (Thinking, he tilts his head forward and stares at the ground for a second or two. After formulating a plan, he lifts his head up. Addressing CJ.) Get the ATV's out front here and warming up.

CJ: Aye. (CJ takes off to the barn.)

Sam: (Addressing Tylor.) Send a message with the spot to Trish. Tell her to have an ambulance waiting for us at the parking lot. We'll be there in fifteen minutes.

Tylor: (Tylor is very concerned about Austin. He wants to get him to the hospital as quickly as possible. Interrupting.) What about a chopper?

Sam: (Looking at the sky and evaluating the weather.) It's too dark and about to snow again. They won't fly in this weather; besides, it'll be a code two transport. (He messes up Tylor's hair.) Good thinking though. With your message, make sure you tell Trish it's for someone with complications from a horse riding accident. When you're finished, help CJ. I'll be out as soon as I get Austin bundled up.

Tylor: On it. (Tylor starts for the barn as Sam heads to the cabin. Tylor stops as if he had an epiphany and turns toward Sam. Tylor's stopping draws Sam's attention.) Don't worry. He's gonna make it. (Tylor smiles and then runs off to the barn.)

Sam gets a bewildered look on his face. A few seconds ago Tylor was super worried, now he seems as if all is well. Sam shrugs it off as he hurries to the cabin. He stops at the first step and wipes the snow off of the top left corner of the stone, revealing Ren's symbol. Sam smiles and then hurries up the stairs and into the cabin.

Act XIV, Scene 3

[Bundled Up]

Scene: In the cabin. Austin is sitting in a chair next to the cooking stove. He is hunched over a bowl and has a spoon in his hand. Wac ih a' is sitting in a chair facing Austin.

Sam: (Rushing into the cabin and into his room. Calling out to Wac ih a' as he is busy getting clothes in which to bundle Austin.) Wac ih a'. I'm sorry to have to run off like this. We'll be back in a few days. We need to get Austin to the hospital right away. The boys are getting the ATVs ready. (Sam goes to the kitchen carrying an arm load of winter riding clothes.) As soon as I get him bundled up we'll be on our way. (Sam drops the clothes by Austin, then goes back into his the room to get more stuff.)

Wac ih a': I have already given him some soup, but he did not eat much. (Wac ih a' gently takes the bowl from Austin's hands.) He is beat up pretty bad. I know it wasn't you, but there will be questions at the hospital.

Sam: I know. Everybody's going to have questions. (Buying time to come up with a plausible story.) I don't have all the answers yet. Austin isn't even supposed to be here. Things are going to get complicated.

Wac ih a': (Thinking about CPS and the police getting involved.) I reckon they will.

Sam starts putting his riding gear on Austin. Austin is little more than a manikin that Sam is dressing. He is barely with it.

Sam: (Addressing Austin.) I know this is way to big for you, but it will keep you warm on our trip. (While he is zipping and snapping up the coat, quietly, so only Austin hears.) You are going to have a ton of questions, but just go along with everything the boys and I say. I'll explain later. You just have to trust me. (Now a little louder so Wac ih a' can hear.) I love you, son. (He gives Austin a kiss on the cheek before slipping on some winter riding pants.)

Austin: Where's Victoria?

Sam: She's okay. She's still on the train. Okay?

Austin nods his head. Sam finishes bundling Austin, then puts a helmet on him and turns on the helmet intercom.

Sam: (Shaking Wac ih a's hand) Wac ih a'. Thank you for everything. Give me a couple days, then I'll be back.

Wac ih a': Take your time. I'm not going anywhere.

Sam grabs his jacket, picks up Austin and goes out the front door.

Act XIV, Scene 4

[Austin's First ATV Ride]

Scene: In front of the cabin. It is beginning to get dark. The three ATVs are there running. CJ and Tylor are in their riding gear, including helmets, sitting on their ATV's. Sam puts Austin on his ATV then opens one of the cargo boxes, takes out a short rope and his spare helmet, turns on the intercom and puts on the helmet. O = intercom

Sam: (Over the helmet intercom, as he is tying a rope around himself and Austin.) Hey buddy, can you hear me?

(Concurrently.) CJ, and Tylor answer: Yeah. While Austin answers (Weakly.): Yes, sir.

Sam: (Shaking his head because of his mistake.) My fault. Try it again. CJ?

CJ: CJ here.

Sam: Tylor?

Tylor: Tylor here.

Sam: Austin, just talk if you can hear me.

Austin: (Copying the others.) Austin here. But how . . . ?

Sam: (Finished tying the rope. Interrupting Austin, but talking in a loving and understanding tone.) I'll explain what I can, once we get started. CJ take point. Call out anything we need to watch for.

CJ: Copy.

Sam: Ty, you take six. Keep an eye on Austin for me. Let me know if he starts looking sketchy.

Tylor: Copy that.

Sam: Austin. Hold on tight. This is going to take a bit over ten minutes and it'll be a little noisy. Put your head in the middle of my back, it'll keep us from smacking helmets. Let me know if you get dizzy again.

Austin: Okay. . . I mean, copy.

Sam: CJ, head out.

The ATVs roar out, down the trail. CJ leads, Sam, with Austin holding onto him from behind, is second and Tylor is third. The camera watches as the tail lights go out of sight.

Act XIV, Scene 5

[Masks and Needles]

Scene: Dark parking lot where there is a fire engine and an ambulance, both with their emergency lights on. The back of the ambulance is open. Inside the back of ambulance, Austin is on the gurney in a supine position. There are two paramedics and Sam in the ambulance. CJ and Tylor are looking in from the open door.

Paramedic 1: (Addressing CJ and Tylor.) Hey guys, we to have to close the doors and get him some privacy.

CJ: (Addressing the paramedic. Asking the destination - Sacramento Children's Hospital.) SCH?

Paramedic 1: Yeah. Dispatch shows they're open.

Sam: (Handing CJ a big pile of winter wear that was previously on Austin.) Wait take this. I'll call your cell if we get diverted.

CJ: (Addressing Sam as he takes the clothes.) See you there. (CJ closes the ambulance door.)

The paramedics see that Austin has a black eye. They check his abdomen and find a large bruise on his abdomen. Seeing this, the paramedics strip Austin down by cutting off his clothes. They then, using C-spine precautions, roll him onto his side to look at his back. They see the two wounds from the belt. They roll him back onto the spine board, strap him down, and cover him with blankets. While paramedic 1 is continuing the medical survey (taking temperature), paramedic 2 gets a history from Sam.

Paramedic 1: (Addressing the driver.) Code two, SCH.

The ambulance moves out. Paramedic 1 applies a c-collar and starts an IV as Paramedic 2 continues with the history. Soon, the road noises indicate that the ambulance is traveling at freeway speeds.

Paramedic 2: (Addressing Sam.) So, what happened? Oh, no. Sorry. Let's start with who he is.

Sam: (Sam has no way of proving Austin's ID or relationship. He knows there will be big paperwork issues and custody issues at the hospital, but Austin's care comes first. He tries to use as much of Austin's actual information as he can, clearly stating the changes so Austin can hear.) His name is Austin Jeremiah Reynolds, born on February Third, 2007. (Sam looks at Austin to see if he is listening. Austin looks a little surprised, then nods his head just a little for Sam to see.)

Paramedic 2: (The paramedic is typing this into his tablet.) And who are you to him?

Sam: (Taking a leap of faith that Austin will not get upset.) I'm his dad. (Looking at Austin again. Austin slowly closes his eyes. As Sam continues answering questions, Austin reaches out and takes Sam's hand. Sam uses two hands to hold Austin's hand during transport.)

Paramedic 2: Ok now let's find out what happened.

Sam: He was out riding a horse last week, by himself. (Directed at Austin as a scolding.) He know's better. (Directed back at the paramedic.) Anyway, he fell into a fence and some brush when the horse slipped on some

ice. The horse took off and left him. He got back about an hour later, almost hypothermic. We got him warmed up, cleaned up, fed and put to bed. Other than a couple pretty good scratches on his back, he seemed okay.

Paramedic 2: (Trying to see if this is a made up story to cover up child abuse. The face and abdomen injuries are a lot newer than the scratches.) Is that where he got those bruises on his abdomen and face?

Sam: (Well aware of the injured child protocol that looks for injuries that are of different stages of healing, he properly includes a time gap that is plausible.) No, just the cuts on his back. Like I said, he seemed fine and had no complaints for the next few days. Then yesterday, he said he wasn't feeling well. Like a little weak. He went to bed early. He didn't get up until about 15:30 this afternoon. He wandered into the kitchen and fainted onto the kitchen table and chairs, ending up on the floor. We use a wood burning cook stove, so I'm glad he didn't fall that way. Anyway, when I checked him, he was feverish. He said he was having trouble catching his breath.

Paramedic 2: Does he have any other medical history, allergies, or medications that he takes?

Sam: No. He's normally a real healthy kid.

Sam's cell phone rings. He looks at the id and sees that it is Trish.

Sam: (Addressing Paramedic 2.) It's his mom, I better take this. (Austin's eyes open slightly, then slowly close again. Sam takes the call.)

Sam: Hi babe. It's Austin. (Trying to give Trish a heads up about some strange happenings.) I think he might have (Sam looks at Austin's face, then remembers the 'death sentence' of the term pneumonia.) . . a really high fever. Were on our way to SCH now. ETA about forty-five minutes.

Paramedic 1: (Addressing Paramedic 2.) I'll call it in.

Paramedic 2: Yeah, go ahead.

Paramedic 1: (The medic report, between the //s and Sam's phone conversation occur at the same time. Sam's conversation is dominant.) // SCH, Medic 278 inbound to your facility code 2.

Radio: Medic 278. Go ahead with your report.

Paramedic 1: SCH Medic 278 inbound to your facility code 2, ETA forty minutes. Patient is a ten year old male, 35 kilograms. He is non-verbal and lethargic. Pupils, round equal and reactive. Chief complaint dyspnea with vertigo and syncope. Skin is hot and damp, temp is 103.6. BP is 108 over 60, pulse is 132, respirations are 18 and shallow. PO₂ is 84. He has lower lobe rales bilaterally. BGL is 100. Break

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Medic 278 continuing. Patient experienced a fall from a horse about a week ago, and another fall from a syncopal episode today, at about 15:30, from a standing position onto wooden furniture and floor. Patient has no head, neck or spine complaints. Lacerations and contusions are consistent with the history. We have him supine, with C-spine precautions. Oh-two 12 liters via non-rebreather. Established an iv of normal saline, tko. ETA 35 minutes.

Radio: Medic 278, SCH. Increase iv rate to 500 cc's per hour. Update us every 10 minutes, or upon change of condition.

Medic 278 copies. Increase iv to 500 cc per hour and update every 10 or change of condition.

Radio: SCH clear. //

Trish: I have Austin's medical record number. It's on our plan, (Sam reads it out - Sam is underlined, Trish is light colored - as Trish reads it to him.) Medical record Medical record (Paramedic 2 looks at Sam and writes the number as Sam repeats it.) 33 77 55 44 00 00 99 22 Charlie Charlie.

Sam: (Surprised that Trish wasn't confused about the patient being Austin, and even more surprised that she has a medical number for him. Trying not to show his surprise to the medics, but also trying to see if they were actually on the same page.) How did you find it so quickly?

Trish: (Understanding that Sam couldn't know she was ready for their return.) I got a letter from Victoria while you were away and a visit from Special Services. The letter explained a lot of things and suggested I get a few things in order for *our son's* return. You and I have got a lot of catching up to do. The sooner the better.

Sam: I understand what you mean. . . . By the way, it is February third, 2007, right? And what about shots?

Trish: Yes, Austin J Reynolds, February third 2007. Everything is up to date. It's all taken care of. I'll see you at the ER.

Sam: You might want to call Tylor. He's riding with CJ. They'll meet us at SCH. He may be able to fill you in on some more details.

Trish: He's talking to Bill right now. Susie and Bill are riding with me. Susie's on the phone with to the hospital.

Sam: Okay babe. Love you.

Trish: Love you, too.

End of Act XIV

[To Act XIII](#)

[To Act XV](#)