

INT. JAILHOUSE - DAY

The three Harpe women, each holding a baby in their arms, sit on their cots, smirking at Ballenger, Blain and Biegler who are stood staring at a hole in the wall of the cell. Big and Little Harpe are not present.

JAMES BLAIN

How did they achieve this right under your nose, Biegler? Were you sleeping?

JOHN BIEGLER

No, sir. I don't know how, sir. They must have had help on the outside. I never saw or heard a thing, I swear.

JAMES BLAIN

(to the women)

Why is it that you remain here?

SUSAN

As we have been insisting all along sir. We were not with those men by choice, but under duress.

She is quite believable. Ballenger motions for Blain to follow him aside.

CAPT. BALLENGER

(whispered conversation)

Those women are liars, Mr. Blain, and I'll prove it. Let them nurse those brats, serve out their sentence here and I wager that as soon as they are released, they will return immediately to their former ways.

JAMES BLAIN

You still hold that they were accomplices in those murders, Captain?

CAPT. BALLENGER

I do, sir. Permit me follow them when they are released, and I guarantee that they will lead us back to their murdering husbands. They remain here now only because of the hindrance of their newborns.

Blain considers this and nods discreently.

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