

~~STEGALL~~

~~Get him some supper. You'll need to  
be moving on first light, Love.~~

~~LOVE~~

~~Thank you for your hospitality.~~

~~Stegall rides away. Mary walks to the door of the home and  
Love follows her inside.~~

**START**-----

**CHAPTER IV: INT. MOSES STEGALL'S HOME - NIGHT**

MARY sits rocking her baby. Love sits at the table eating.

LOVE

It's a good meal. You had good  
raising. I can tell by the taste in  
your food.

MARY

I've never heard such a thing.

LOVE

It's long been told that you can  
read a woman's raising by the  
richness of the flavors.

MARY

My daddy was a carpenter and a  
dreamer. We were going to live on  
the banks of the Mississippi River.

LOVE

Savages?

Mary nods.

MARY

Our flatboat ran aground. I'd been  
terrified since we got on that  
river. He insisted. The whole time  
I just kept thinking about my Blue  
Ridge Mountains. I wonder why they  
weren't enough for him.

Mary picks up a handkerchief from the arm of the rocking  
chair and touches it to the baby's lips. She gently rocks  
the baby and continues in a softer voice.

MARY

We were following Colonel Donelson.  
He was in the current and couldn't

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MARY (cont'd)  
get back to help us. I saw what they did to my mama and daddy. I've never seen so much blood. Me and a couple of others, we got away. I don't recall much else. Except that Moses found me. I remember when he got me.

LOVE  
And the others?

MARY  
I don't know.

Pause.

My favorite time of year on the mountain is winter. The snow is so beautiful. Pure white. And the way the sun would hit it, take your breath away.

There's a knock at the door. Mary stands and gently places the sleeping baby into the crib, dabs the baby's lips again with the handkerchief and turns toward the door.

~~CHAPTER IV: EXT. MOSES STEGALL'S HOME - NIGHT~~ **(CONT.)**

BIG HARPE, dressed as a preacher and holding a bible in one hand and a shotgun in the other, knocks on the door to the Stegall home as his brother, LITTLE HARPE, also dressed as a preacher, stands by his side also holding a shotgun. Mary Stegall answers the door.

MARY  
Preacher.

MARY opens the door a little wider and LOVE stands holding a cup in his hand. Mary nods toward Love.

BIG HARPE  
Bless you, mam.

Mary steps to the side and the Harpe brothers enter the room.

Love steps forward and extends his hand to Big Harpe and they shake.

**END**-----