

DAUGHTER SIDES

LEGRAND

What have you come for?

She doesn't know how to start.

DAUGHTER

I need your help.

He certainly knows he owes her some.

DAUGHTER

Mamie said there-

LEGRAND

Who?

DAUGHTER

Our nig... our servant. She said there was a young soldier wounded on the battlefield. The day I was struck.

LEGRAND

There were many.

She knew this wouldn't be easy. He recognizes a determination.

DAUGHTER

Doctor. I am pregnant.

He is as surprised with the news as he is confused why he's been told.

DAUGHTER

This soldier. Mamie said he caught a bullet... in his scrotum.

The doctor is slow to piece it together.

DAUGHTER

It is not possible that this same bullet went from his... to mine.

Legrand: astounded at such a thought.

DAUGHTER

And this be the reason I am baring child.

Legrand collects himself.

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LEGRAND

Might there be other more plausible explanations. You see it is-

DAUGHTER

I am virgin.

There's quiet now for a while, the fire cracking between them.

DAUGHTER

My mother and father are quite upset. They do not believe that I have refrained from... you know.

The doctor nods.

LEGRAND

And you want me to convince them.

She nods. Her eyes fall to the fire. His glance up at the night sky.

LEGRAND

Until today I did not know if you were still living. And if you were not, it might be a credit to my lack of attention.

She meets his eye, hopeful.

LEGRAND

I suppose you can prove... your purity if need be.

She hesitates for just a moment and his nerves rise.

DAUGHTER

Yes.

They are quiet again.