

# START SCENE 1

51 INT. COTTAGE AT HORSE FARM, KITCHEN - DAY

MR. WALTERS

Good morning. Don't mean to interrupt your breakfast.

Will nods hello.

MR. WALTERS (CONT'D)

I know that you have particular ways.

Will shifts his weight, trying to hide his exasperation with Mr. Walter's.

MR. WALTERS (CONT'D)

And I don't want to disrupt.

WILL

What do you have planned for us today?

MR. WALTERS

I was hoping you would help with the tree work.

WILL

I'd rather not operate heavy machinery. Is there any work with the horses that I could do? Down in the stables?

MR. WALTERS

Yes, but I'd rather you not work down there yet. Working with horses requires training. And that can happen, but for now, I need help elsewhere.

Will nods, complying.

MR. WALTERS (CONT'D)

Do you not know how? Or is it something else?

There's silence for a moment.

MR. WALTERS (CONT'D)

Listen, the work that really needs doing is trimming, baling, and driving. That's how I make my money.

WILL

Okay. Tractors, trucks, saws, armored vehicles -- whatever. I can operate them all.

Mr. Walters softens.

MR. WALTERS

I can start you on the smaller trimmer, not a problem.

# END

**SIDES - My Abandonment**  
**ROLE: MR. WALTERS**  
Feb/March 2017  
simon max hill casting

CAROLINE  
What kind?

WILL  
Any kind that can fly.

CAROLINE  
Let's look at the stars like we  
used to do.

## START SCENE 2

57 EXT. COTTAGE PORCH - NIGHT

Caroline and Will lie in blankets under the night's sky, jammed with stars. The leaves rustle. Will exhales.

58 EXT. MR. WALTER'S HOUSE, BACK PORCH - DAY

Caroline stands next to the washing machine dropping clothes in. Mr. Walters comes out onto the porch.

MR. WALTERS  
Different than doing laundry at  
your special place in the stream, I  
bet. Do you know how to use the  
machine?

CAROLINE  
We went to the laundromat  
sometimes, like when it was  
raining.

Caroline cuts off tags from the new bright clothes with her pocket knife and adds them to the load. One pair of jeans has fancy, glittery pockets, which she takes a moment to examine. The way Mr. Walters is observing her makes Caroline think she's supposed to narrate what she's doing.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)  
These are school clothes. I'm just  
getting ready.

MR. WALTERS  
You'll finally get to spend some  
time with kids your own age.  
That'll change you.

Caroline pours some detergent into the machine. Mr. Walters hands Caroline a small bag.

MR. WALTERS (CONT'D)  
I know from the article that you  
used to have a garden.

Caroline looks inside the bag to find several packets of seeds.

CAROLINE

Thank you.

Caroline, interested in the article, wants to know more.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Why did they want to write about us?

MR. WALTERS

A lot of people think about living off the grid, but not many actually do it.

He fans through a pile of magazines and papers to find the article and passes it to her. She looks it over and passes the article back to him.

MR. WALTERS (CONT'D)

No, keep it. Your dad may want to read it.

CAROLINE

I don't think so.

Mr. Walters shrugs.

59

EXT. HORSE FARM, GARDEN PLOT - DAY

59

Mr. Walters stands against the fence as Caroline plants the seeds. She sets the worms carefully aside and breaks up the clods with a trowel.

Overhead, she hears a helicopter.

CAROLINE

What's the helicopter doing?

MR. WALTERS

Forestry mapping. Deciding where to cut next.

Caroline gets back to work putting the seeds in the soil.

MR. WALTERS (CONT'D)

This life here must seem pretty easy. Hope it's not too boring for you.

CAROLINE

It's a person's own fault if they get bored.

She works in a very focused way, finishing the row.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)  
 Okay. These turnips are all  
 planted.

MR. WALTERS  
 I'm interested in how you were  
 living before, but your father  
 doesn't seem to want to talk about  
 it.

CAROLINE  
 What would you like to know?

MR. WALTERS  
 I don't know exactly, I guess I'm  
 just interested.

CAROLINE  
 I have a question for you.

MR. WALTERS  
 Shoot.

CAROLINE  
 How come you're all alone?

MR. WALTERS  
 I like the solitude, I guess.

CAROLINE  
 You and my dad aren't so different  
 then.

MR. WALTERS  
 That could be.

CAROLINE  
 Except no one bothers you about it.

MR. WALTERS  
 That's true.

**END**

60 EXT. HORSE FARM - DAY

60

Caroline walks along the edge of the farm following the fence  
 that stretches along the property.

61 EXT. ROAD/YARD - DAY

61

A rabbit scampers into the middle of the road. Caroline  
 hears a boy's voice calling out, "Chainsaw." Caroline scoops  
 up the rabbit and carries it into the yard.

ISAIAH, late teens, walks from a small half-built shed-like  
 structure in his yard.