

35 EXT. TIFFY FARM- NIGHT

Matthew Tiffy passed out in his chair empty beer and wine bottles across the table. Slave Ruth(20s) comes out the door with a basket of cornbread taking what cornbread is left on the table. Ruth heads towards a group of slaves gathered around a campfire. Gabe (20s) meets her and takes the basket. He steps into the light of the fire and starts passing around the bread.

GABE

Where is Thomas? He looks around at each of the slaves where is Ben (Teen) ?

NANCY (OLDER SLAVE WOMAN)

They headed towards the barn at dark.

Gabe and Ruth rush to the barn to find Thomas and Ben loading tobacco on a wagon.

GABE

Thomas what are you doing?

(Inspecting the wagon) Ben, tell me you're not involved in this?

Ben looks to Thomas on how to answer

GABE (CONT'D)

Master Tif will have your hand in a jar if he catches you stealing his crop!

THOMAS

He won't know if you can keep your lips tight, these hands have tended the land to make these crops, so it is mine to do with as I see it. Besides I don't have family working the big house like you. Looking at Ruth.

GABE

Ruth helps to see we all get fed and we get the supplies we need.

THOMAS

Well she should get back before ole Tif wakes from his nap. Are you listening?

I've heard of other masters going as far as paying their slaves for their work, some are even teaching them to read.  
We get paid at the end of a whip.

BEN  
Better yet the end of a rope!

Gabe grabs Ben

GABE  
Stealing is Stealing weather you  
work the land or not. This crop  
belongs to Master Tif.

Thomas walks towards Gabe and grabs his hand looking at his palm.

THOMAS  
From the looks of it you haven't  
worked that much?  
I WILL get my share of the land.

Thomas loads the last bag on the wagon, Gabe grabs Ben from trying to climb on the wagon as Thomas drives off in the night. Gabe, Ruth, and Ben watch as he drives away.