

1 EXT - DAY - COUNTRY ROAD 1

1

It is a cold, and gray day. A chain gang works along the side of a country road. Their breath is visible as they pound pickaxes or shovel into the frozen dirt to loosen it. They have jackets but they're not nearly as warm as the leather, fur lined jackets that the three guards wear.

The HEAD GUARD walks up and down the side of the road chewing bright white gum while two other guards sit in an old pick-up truck smoking or chewing tobacco, drinking coffee, joking and petting their HOUND DOG.

One prisoner at the end of the chain gang stops working and daydreams for a moment. He looks down into the frozen swamp and forest just a few feet away, closes his eyes and makes a wish.

Although the DAYDREAMER doesn't look back he can feel the gaze of the HEAD GUARD watching him and goes back to work. The HEAD GUARD smiles, showing off his bright white teeth and matching chewing gum.

It begins to snow very lightly and everyone looks up, even the guards. The HOUND DOG growls and the prisoners quickly go back to work.

The DAYDREAMER is looking at the sky when he swings down into the dirt but hits the chain keeping all the prisoners together. He looks down and notices that he's actually dented the chain against the frozen dirt. The BIG PRISONER next to him notices. They quickly look up to see the HEAD GUARD strolling to the other side of the line. The DAYDREAMER and BIG PRISONER continue striking the chain and in just a few strokes they're free. They pause and look to the guards who haven't noticed yet. The ANXIOUS PRISONER on the chain gain realizes what's happened, is too excited to wait and pushes the others in order to escape. The commotion causes the guards to notices what has happened and come running. The BIG PRISONER AND DAYDREAMER escape but the ANXIOUS PRISONER is pummeled by the HEAD GUARD before he gets too far. The HEAD GUARD signals to GUARD 1 to watch the remaining prisoners. The HEAD GUARD, GUARD 2 and the HOUND DOG head into the forest after the prisoners.

- 2 EXT - DAY - FOREST 1 (PARENT'S BACK YARD) 2  
 The BIG PRISONER and DAYDREAMER run through the forest.
- 3 EXT - DAY - CLEARING (PARENT'S WAY BACK YARD, CLEARING) 3  
 They dart through a clearing in the forest, they can hear the dog barking in the distance.
- 4 EXT - DAY - FOREST 2 (PARENT'S WAY BACK YARD RIGHT) 4  
 They crash through a swampy area which slows them down.
- 5 EXT - DAY CLEARING (PARENT'S WAY BACK YARD, CLEARING) 5  
 The guards are close behind.

6 EXT - DAY - CREEK (PARENT'S SIDE YARD)

6

The BIG PRISONER and DAYDREAMER seem to be making headway. They run along a creek and come to a dead end where a service pipe is emptying water. They try to climb up. The DAYDREAMER is able to climb out of the creek after a few moments. He reaches back to help the BIG PRISONER. In the middle of his climb the HOUND DOG barks distracting the two and the BIG PRISONER falls back into the creek. The DAYDREAMER is about to go back and help him, but he can see the HEAD GUARD, GUARD and HOUND DOG in the distance. He decides to run.

Moments later, the BIG PRISONER is captured. The HEAD GUARD and HOUND DOG continue on while GUARD 2 stays with the BIG PRISONER.

7 EXT - DAY - COUNTRY HIGHWAY (ROAD TO MT. ZION)

7

The DAYDREAMER bursts out onto the highway dirt road and takes off running at three times the speed. He stops suddenly when he sees a TRUCK LOAD of THREE GUARDS driving down the road. He stops and looks back. The HEAD GUARD with the HOUND DOG leap onto the road and start towards him. After a moment of consideration the DAYDREAMER reluctantly jumps off the road into a frozen swamp.

The HEAD GUARD catches up to the point where the DAYDREAMER left the road. He pauses and smiles, then calmly follows after him.

8 EXT - DAY - SWAMP/FOREST (PARENTS WAY BACK YARD LEFT)

8

The HEAD GUARD follows the HOUND DOG as he tracks the DAYDREAMER, they reach the edge of the swamp.

9 EXT - DAY - FOREST EDGE (COULTER'S MILL FIELD)

9

The HEAD GUARD proceeds slowly, cautious of any possible hiding place, he's hunting. The HOUND DOG whines a bit, the HEAD GUARD knows the DAYDREAMER is near by. He squats down near a tree to wait. The snow is really thick now.

The HEAD GUARD hears a branch snap and quickly turns, raises his rifle and sets his sites on... a REINDEER, he lowers his rifle. There's a moment of peace as he watches. Even the GUARD DOG sits and wags it's tail. The HEAD GUARD chuckles and raises his rifle to shoot, but the DAYDREAMER suddenly rushes out of his hiding place toward the REINDEER. The HEAD GUARD fires twice and misses. The REINDEER remains still. Frustrated, the HEAD GUARD and HOUND DOG chases after the DAYDREAMER in a rage.

10

EXT - DAY - CORNFIELD (COULTER'S MILL FIELD)

10

The HEAD GUARD reaches the clearing where the REINDEER and DAY DREAMER should be, but there's nothing, only the HOUND DOG sniffing the ground and reindeer tracks.

The HOUND DOG begins barking up at the sky. The HEAD GUARD looks up and is still. The image of a flying sleigh with reindeer is in the reflection of his sunglasses as he watches the DAYDREAMER escape.