

WILL
Let's ride out!

The BLACK ARMY rides out in a tumultuous CLOUD OF DUST.

As the DUST CLEARS... JACK & ANDREW arrive on their SINGLE HORSE, late again. VENUS watches them approach.

JACK
Oh pray, lawd. Dey killin' all de white peoples! It ain't gwine be no mo' Christmas.

ANDREW
But... might not be no mo' whuppin's neither.

AUNT DEBORAH
Oh, it's gwine be some mo' whuppin's. I guarantee it.

ANDREW
Did dem niggas come kill all yo' white people?

VENUS
No. My white folk too smart. Dey done ran off into de woods 'fore dem niggas ever came here.

ANDREW
Was Nat Turner wid 'em?

VENUS
Nat Turner he went dat away.

ANDREW
Us might as well follow Nat den. Cause I don't know what else to do.

JACK
Which way dem niggas went again?

VENUS
Dem niggas went dat away.

ANDREW
Naw, I thought you jus' say Nat Turner went dat away.

VENUS points in two different directions

VENUS

Nat Turner did went dat away,
nigga. But dem niggas dey went dat
away.

JACK & ANDREW

So den, which way us s'posed to
go?

VENUS

I jus' told yall! You could go dat
away or dat away.

AUNT DEBORAH

But either way, jus' go away, you
dratted niggas!

JACK & ANDREW race off in one direction, then another in a
confused and chaotic fashion.

AUNT DEBORAH

Dem some tarnation ignorant porch
monkeys. Yes dey is.

EXT. FRANCIS HOUSE -- MORNING

It is a two story box of a wooden structure, with a sloping
roof, a sloping covered porch and chimneys on each side.

NATHANIEL FRANCIS stands outside checking his crops. DOYLE,
the overseer, is nearby. NATHANIEL's 2 NEPHEWS, 3 year old
JOHN BROWN and 8 year old SAMUEL BROWN, run around outside,
playing like all little children do.

All of a sudden one of SALLY'S SLAVE BOYS runs up to the
HOUSE, screaming frantically.

SALLY'S SLAVE BOY

Some folks done... some folks done
kilt all de white folks!

NATHANIEL laughs at him.

NATHANIEL

You don't know what you are
talking about.

SALLY'S SLAVE BOY

Yessir. I do. Dey kill everybody.
All de white peoples.

NATHANIEL's smile slowly fades.