

**THE GOLDEN TREE**

by

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version 6

Based on the movie

[40th revision]

Story about a little piece of Sacramento's History  
For "A Place Called Sacramento" 2010 screenplay contest

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HENRY

Arlen stop yer fussin' and get back to pannin.

ARLEN

But Henry I was...

HENRY

I know what yuz doin. Every time.

ARLEN

But Henry. Ain't ya happy when ya find gold?

HENRY

Quit actin' like a sage hen and get back to pannen'.

ARLEN

You tuchy as a teased snake. Ya old Scallywag.

HENRY

Hobble your lip Arlen.

ARLEN

Ain't no funnin' ares ya? Bear? Snake? Wha.. What is it? Whats got you rattled Henry?

HENRY

Ahh. It's nothin'. Just thought I heard...

RATTLESNAKE DICK

Mornin. Such a nice mornin. Too nice to be working hard. Right boys?

GEORGE SKINNER

We was just wondering what you was looking fer.

ROMERO

Like we don't already know.

HENRY

What you boys want?

RAFAEL ESCOBAR

Boys? Who you callin boy?

RATTLESNAKE DICK

Now Rafael. Simmer down. Our new friend meant no disrespect. Ain't that right mister?

ARLEN

Weeze just fishin'.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

Boys I reckon he's the funny one.

ARLEN

It's true. Looking for trout and...

HENRY

Wipe yer chin Arlen.

GEORGE SKINNER

I reckon he's the smart one.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR

Well. We're fishin too.

ROMERO

Fer gold.

CYRUS SKINNER

We'll be taking that.

GEORGE SKINNER

Whoa. I wouldn't do that.

CYRUS SKINNER

Your future depends on it.

GEORGE SKINNER

Don't be stupid now.

ROMERO

Goney off his chump and on the shoot. He gonna scratch with five beans in the wheel.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

Aw. George. Cyrus. Be nice to our new friends. They want to oblige. Tain't that right mister?

GEORGE SKINNER

Shave tail get the guns. Romero! Get the guns you shave tail!

RAFAEL ESCOBAR  
Hey old codger. Give em yer  
shootin'-iron. And do it real slow  
like.

HENRY  
Yer gonna end up at the end of a  
rope one day boy.

ROMERO  
Wooh. Hooh. Show him down Rafael.  
Grandpa giving you trouble.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR  
Looks like yer at the end of yer  
rope.

ARLEN  
Henry

RAFAEL ESCOBAR  
Mighty fancy lead-pusher fer an old  
codger.

HENRY  
It's special to me. Given to me by  
me wife. God rest her soul.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR  
Then it's special to me.

CYRUS SKINNER  
Yellow belly. It's your turn.

ARLEN  
Henry?

HENRY  
Give em yer gun Arlen. They just  
bark. Got no bite.

ROMERO  
Ruff, ruff. HA ha ha.

RATTLESNAKE DICK  
Now ain't that more civilized?  
Thank you.

CYRUS SKINNER  
Yellow belly. Feels like a few  
bottles of whisky in here.

RATTLESNAKE DICK  
I say about thirty dollars.

CYRUS SKINNER

Hot digity. That makes sixty-five  
this morning.

GEORGE SKINNER

That all you have?

ARLEN

It's worth more than that.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR

Is it worth your life you old  
codger?

ARLEN

I'm only thirty-four.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR

Well my thirty-four year old  
friend. Do you want to see thirty-  
five?

DAD (V.O.)

Sierra. Sierra!?

2

INT. ROOM: PRESENT DAY - DAY

2

DAD

Look what I found. Our family  
tree. Well. My mom's side anyway.

SIERRA

That's great dad.

DAD

My grandmother, my mom's mom, you  
and Brooke's great grandmother...

SIERRA

Dad I know how the connections  
work.

DAD

We're connected to the gold rush  
here in Sacramento. My great,  
great, great, great grandmother,  
Elizabeth Jane Cloud, helped James  
Marshall discover gold back in  
eighteen forty-eight.

(beat)

Isn't that exciting?

BROOKE

I think it is.

DAD

Thank you Brooke.

(looks at Sierra)

Honey. Our ancestors are in the history books. They're famous.

SIERRA

Were they rich?

DAD

Well... There's more important things in life than money.

SIERRA

Says someone without a job and a home. Sorry Dad. I'm not blaming you like mom did. I'm just.

DAD

It's okay. We'll get through this if we stick together. Okay? What are you reading?

SIERRA

"A place called Sacramento." It's the title anyway. It's more like a western about outlaws.

DAD

It's by Ron Cooper? There's probably something about our family in there. We'll break for lunch a bit. Okay?

RAFAEL ESCOBAR (V.O.)

Is it worth yer life? Ya old codger?

ARLEN (V.O.)

I'm only thirty-four.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR (V.O.)

Well my thirty-four year old friend. You want to see thirty-five?

SIERRA

What do you want?

BROOKE

Can I help?

SIERRA  
Help? With what?

BROOKE  
Packing boxes with you.

SIERRA  
I'm reading.

BROOKE  
Dad said we need to pack more  
boxes.

SIERRA  
You do it.

BROOKE  
Fine. I will.

SIERRA  
Not in here. Go away. Ouch. That  
hurts.

3

EXT. BANK OF A RIVER: 1855 - DAY

3

GEORGE SKINNER (V.O.)  
Is that all you have?

ARLEN  
It's worth more than that.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR  
Is it worth yer life you old  
codger?

ARLEN  
I'm only thirty-four.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR  
Well my thirty-four year old  
friend. Do you want to see thirty-  
five?

ARLEN  
Wells Fargo and Company is paying  
seventeen an ounce.

CYRUS SKINNER  
The stagecoach company? You're mad  
you clodhopper. They just transfer  
the gold from place to place.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

(to self)  
Stagecoach? Gold?  
(pulls down bandanna)  
George. I have an idea.

GEORGE SKINNER

(pulls down bandanna)  
What is it Rattlesnake?

RATTLESNAKE DICK

We need to see Jack Phillips.

CYRUS SKINNER

(pulls down bandanna)  
That four-flusher? He serves  
nothin but tarantula juice.

ROMERO

More like bug juice Cyrus.

RAFAEL ESCOBAR

Ya sure waz tangle-legged while  
back Cyrus.

CYRUS SKINNER

Laugh it up shave tailed biddy.

ROMERO

Why you always callin me names?

GEORGE SKINNER

Cause we can.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

Boys! Well my new friends. Thank  
you kindly for the information  
and...all your hard work. Name's  
Rattlesnake Dick.

DAD (V.O.)

It says it right here.

4

INT. ROOM: PRESENT DAY - DAY

4

DAD

Many scoffed at Marshall that it  
was only mica or fool's gold, iron  
pyrites.

(MORE)



DAD (cont'd)

Jennie Wimmer immediately recognized the small nugget as being gold that was brought to her by her young son William in eighteen forty-eight.

(beat)

Marshall took the gold to his boss Captain John A Sutter at his fort near the junction of the American and Sacramento Rivers. You want to see it?

6

EXT. INSIDE SUTTER'S FORT: PRESENT DAY - DAY

6

DAD

Allot of this is because they had... They had... Originally John Sutter wanted to have Sutter's fort down by the river down by old Sacramento, but because of the flooding they brought it more inland... See because it was on the highest ground he could find convenient.

BROOKE

Oh wow.

DAD

See this. It's an aerial view. And these are all the families right here.

See, John Sutter, said I was so foolish I understood so little about the business, but he's the name you remember now. This is exciting you guys.

There's the man himself. John Sutter he was seventy-seven. Tremendous, this is great. Some of our ancestors may be here.

This is one of the original signs. Sutter's Fort founded in 1839 by John A Sutter.

(MORE)

DAD (cont'd)

Interesting too because allot of those people that came to the gold rush, you know they come up on their boats in the river and they would just leave their boats on the shore and just desert them and they would take those boats apart and that's what allot of this wood they used later on was from those original boats.

7

EXT. OUTSIDE SUTTER'S FORT: PRESENT DAY - DAY

7

DAD

It's amazing back then the way they would do these things.

SIERRA

Yeah. But there was no mention of our *famous family* dad.

DAD

Well. They were close. They were in Sutter's mill in Coloma. About 45 minutes away. They'd have to do that by horse or by carriage. Wouldn't that be cool?

BROOKE

Yeah it would.

DAD

Oh come on. You know you enjoyed it.

8

INT. ROOM: PRESENT DAY - DAY

8

SIERRA

He noticed some particles of yellow mixed in with the reddish earth... Could they be gold? Took them to Sutter at his fort... Sam Brennan... Said he must talk to him alone... with some acid... they touch the grains... Marshall had discovered gold...That's it?

88

INT. ROOM: PRESENT DAY - LATER

88

SIERRA

Not really famous were we Great  
Grandma Cecilia? Just a normal,  
run-of-the-mill, obscure family.  
Probably different Wimmer's.

Private Journal of William Riley  
Wimmer.

(turns page)

Eighteen hundred forty-six.  
Friday, November twenty. I have  
decided to keep a journal of events  
in my life. After arriving at the  
fort, they call it Sooter's Fort,  
in New Helvetia, Father, Elijah,  
and John went off to fight in the  
Mexican war leaving Jennie, George,  
Sarah, and myself. How sad.

(flips more pages)

Eighteen hundred forty-seven.  
Wednesday, February ten. Word is  
going round about a group of  
travelers stranded in the mountains  
during the heavy snow. There are  
rumors about terrible things.  
Captain Sooter sent a rescue party.

Eighteen hundred forty eight,  
Monday. January twenty-four.  
During my chores I heard the cries  
of Mr. Marshall calling me to take  
a shiny rock to mother that he  
thinks is gold.

YOUNG WILLIAM (V.O.)

Eighteen hundred forty eight,  
Saturday. January twenty-nine.

9

EXT. SUTTER'S MILL-RACE: SATURDAY, JAN 29, 1848 - DAY

9

YOUNG WILLIAM (V.O.)

Father allowed George and I to walk  
the river bank with him waiting for  
Marshall's return with Mr. Sooter.

JAMES MARSHALL

I need to keep the men busy on the  
mill. If they find out...

JOHN SUTTER

I know James. I'll think of something.

JAMES MARSHALL

John this is Peter Wemmer.

PETER WIMMER

Mr. Sooter, it's a pleasure to meet you.

JOHN SUTTER

Ah, yes Mr. Wemmer. Please call me John my good man.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

John. Your manner's leave you this morning?

JOHN SUTTER

Forgive me dear. Peter this is my wife Anna Dubelt. Anna this is Peter Wemmer.

PETER WIMMER

It's a pleasure to meet you Mrs. Sooter.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

Anna. Please.

JOHN SUTTER

Well. This is a day of rejoice. If this be what James says it is.

PETER WIMMER

Jennie, my wife, has worked with gold back in Lumpkin County, Georgia, so if she says it is, it must be. George, go fetch your mother. Tell her Mr. Sooter is here with James.

GEORGE WIMMER

Why can't William do it? He's the youngest.

PETER WIMMER

George. This is important. George! Go now.

GEORGE WIMMER

Yes father.

JAMES MARSHALL

As you can see John. There's nuggets and flakes along this race. I know it's gold.

PETER WIMMER

It's not mica or iron pyrite.

JOHN SUTTER

Look at them sparkle. Be ashamed if it were fools gold. And you've kept this hush hush?

JAMES MARSHALL

Yes. Only the Wimmer's and a few of my trusted men know about it. But it won't long before...

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

John.

JOHN SUTTER

Yes Anna.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

Do I get to see what the fuss is about?

JOHN SUTTER

Can't you see the glimmer in the water?

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

You expect me to go in there and get one up myself.

YOUNG WILLIAM

Here you go ma'am.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

Hello. And who are you?

PETER WIMMER

William. Don't bother Mrs. Sooter.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

Oh no. He's fine. William is it? I have a son also named William. What a handsome boy you are. How old are you?

YOUNG WILLIAM

I'm no boy ma'am. I'm eight.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

How adorable. So this is what the fuss is about? This little golden rock. It doesn't look much like gold that I've seen before.

YOUNG WILLIAM

And you've seen gold before ma'am?

JENNIE WIMMER

Morning everyone. Ma'am.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

Anna. Please. You have an adorable little boy.

JENNIE WIMMER

Oh. William? He's not mine.

JOHN SUTTER

Mrs. Vemmer. It's a pleasure to meet you. I understand that you believe this to be gold?

JENNIE WIMMER

Mr. Sooter. I do. Because it is. All of it is.

JAMES MARSHALL

As do I John. Remember I said it first.

JOHN SUTTER

Call me John. How did you come to your conclusion?

JENNIE WIMMER

I used to work with gold back in Lumpkin County, Georgia.

JOHN SUTTER

Yes. Peter told me that. But how did you test it?

JENNIE WIMMER

I took that lump that William gave me and I threw in the lye kettle.

JAMES MARSHALL

The one I found and reckoned it was gold.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

Lye kettle?

BEATRICE

We leach creek water through wood ashes and put it into a pot of left-over cooking grease. Ma'am.

YOUNG SARAH

It's just soap fer washing clothes Ma'am.

JENNIE WIMMER

I told em. If was is gold, it will be gold when it came out.

BEATRICE

We forgot all about it tills next mornin'. But it wasn't in the soap.

YOUNG SARAH

It was at the bottom of the pot. Right under the potash as bright as could be.

BEATRICE

Just like that one there.

JOHN SUTTER

Quite a story ladies.

JAMES MARSHALL

It's all true John. I was there. I found the gold that she tested. I brought it to...

JOHN SUTTER

Yes James. Jennie. You are a woman of strength and knowledge. Walk with me and tell me more about this lye.

JENNIE WIMMER

You lookin to do yer own washin?

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

John. No.

JENNIE WIMMER

I can send you off with a couple o jars. No problem.

JOHN SUTTER

I want to know more about the process. Shall we?

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

We're leaving so soon? We just got here.

JOHN SUTTER

I told you to stay back at the Fort.

ANNA DUBELT SUTTER

I wanted to see this important discovery.

JAMES MARSHALL

We need to keep this quiet. If word got out....

JOHN SUTTER

We need treaty with the Indians and file a claim with Governor Mason in Monterey.

JAMES MARSHALL

Very well John.

JENNIE WIMMER

Gold changes people. Makes them do things they wouldn't normally do.

JOHN SUTTER

James. Double the mens wages not to say anything. Have a few of your trusted men pick up the nuggets every morning. Shall we?

JENNIE WIMMER

Sarah. Check on Benjamin. Beatrice. Check on the kettle for me please.

BEATRICE

Yes Jennie.

PETER WIMMER

George. Go freshen up the horses and check Mr. Sooter's wagon.

GEORGE WIMMER

Yes father. What about William?

PETER WIMMER

Stay out of trouble boy.



GEORGE WIMMER

You can come and help me with the horses William.

GEORGE WIMMER (cont'd)

Yer not to be touching that.  
Tain't yers.

YOUNG WILLIAM

Twas on the ground.

BEATRICE

This is what they didn't want us to see?

YOUNG WILLIAM

Just yellor rocks.

GEORGE WIMMER

You're not even suppose to be down here.

YOUNG SARAH

William go take care of Benjamin.

YOUNG WILLIAM

But Jennie told you to do it.

YOUNG SARAH

And I'm telling you to do it.

GEORGE WIMMER

Baby watching is woman's work.

BEATRICE

If yer mother heard you say that you's be in a heap o' trouble.

GEORGE WIMMER

And who's gonna tell her? William.  
Go look after Benjamin.

YOUNG WILLIAM

Just cause you soft down on. I get no fair shake. You gonna kiss her?

GEORGE WIMMER

Bite yer tongue William.

YOUNG SARAH

They reckon this be gold.

YOUNG WILLIAM

Where is it coming from?

GEORGE WIMMER  
Goney. From the mill up there.

YOUNG SARAH  
We gonna be rich now?

YOUNG WILLIAM  
Able to get nice things fer the  
family.

GEORGE WIMMER  
It's not our gold. Just leave it  
alone.

BEATRICE  
It sure is pretty.

10      EXT. SUTTER'S MILL-RACE: THURSDAY, FEB 3, 1848 - DAY      10

YOUNG WILLIAM (V.O.)  
Eighteen hundred forty eight,  
Thursday. February third. I  
filled my pockets with my gold  
findings along the river bank that  
Mr. Marshall's men miss every  
morning. Been thinking about a  
safer place to hide my pocket-fulls  
as there are too many people  
looking for gold stashes around the  
mill.

11      INT. ROOM: PRESENT DAY - DAY      11

SIERRA  
Dad.

SIERRA (cont'd)  
Eighteen hundred fifty-nine,  
Wednesday. June eighth.

12      EXT. FOREST PATH: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1859      12

WILLIAM (V.O.)  
The pickings from around the mill  
are getting scarce.  
  
Miners say the gold rush is getting  
dry in California.  
  
Many have headed east to Comstock  
or even further to Pikes Peak.  
(MORE)

WILLIAM (V.O.) (cont'd)

Though some have gone to the Empire Mine, I've been thinking about heading east to Kansas.

I almost filled the round tin I found by the river before it was time to go to the fort.

13

EXT. DIRT ROAD: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1859 - DAY

13

WILLIAM (V.O.)

As usual I snuck out of the fort. But today...

SAMUEL BRANNAN

William?

WILLIAM (V.O.)

Was different.

SAMUEL BRANNAN

William my boy.

WILLIAM

Mr. Brannan? Senator.

SAMUEL BRANNAN

I was never sworn in my boy. How fortunate that we meet. I am heading to Napa later this month. I could use someone like you William. Become your own man.

WILLIAM

Well... Thank you Mr. Brannan, but I...

SAMUEL BRANNAN

Don't be so quick to turn down such a golden opportunity.

MEE LIEN

Now Samuel. Leave the boy alone.

WILLIAM

I'm no boy ma'am. I'm nineteen.

SAMUEL BRANNAN

Mee. William here was an integral part of the discovery of gold in the region. This is Mee Lien. She's my attaché to China.

WILLIAM

Nice to meet you miss Lien.

MEE LIEN

(looks at William)

I'm waiting for Samuel to make me his business partner.

SAMUEL BRANNAN

Women, finance, and business just don't go together.

MEE LIEN

You will live to see the day we women get equal rights.

SAMUEL BRANNAN

A woman's place is in the kitchen or the bedroom. William will agree.

MEE LIEN

Samuel.

SAMUEL BRANNAN

Think about my offer. There's more to California than this small little corner. Let's go May.

WILLIAM

I will Mr. Brannan. I will.

SAMUEL BRANNAN

See you around William. And be careful.

MEE LIEN

Nice to meet you.

CYRUS SKINNER

Well well. What do we have here? Hay seed blowing in the wind.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

He's like a snake built on stilts.

CYRUS SKINNER

Don't look like no high society type.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

What's yer name boy?

WILLIAM

I'm not a boy.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

He ain't boy. You ain't got no shootin' iron. Even Wild Bill Hickock is smarter than that.

WILLIAM

I can take care of myself.

CYRUS SKINNER

We come across a real curly wolf. You ever drink corn juice? It's whisky boy. I take it you haven't had a real woman than either.

WILLIAM

Whisky is the devil's drink and I'm waitin till marriage. Father and Jennie say it's the right thing to do.

CYRUS SKINNER

Father says. Oh that's a good one.

RATTLESNAKE DICK

What a hoot.

CYRUS SKINNER

What that in yer pocket boy? Your gold stash?

RATTLESNAKE DICK

His gold stash? That's a hoot Cyrus.

CYRUS SKINNER

Bet he's got a whole pile of it buried somewhere near a tree.

VICTORIA MARIE

William! William. Now what you doing hanging around them boys? They're not my type. I don't want you getting mixed up with them.

WILLIAM

I wasn't getting mixed up with them Victoria Marie.

VICTORIA MARIE

Where you off too in such a hurry  
William? Don't you love me no  
more?

WILLIAM

Well. Huh. Yeah. I guess.

BENJAMIN (O.C.)

You gonna kiss her?

WILLIAM

Benjamin Franklin. Go away.

VICTORIA MARIE

Well? You gonna kiss me?

WILLIAM

What do you want?

BENJAMIN

Dad wants you to help him with the  
supplies?

WILLIAM

Does he need help right now?

BENJAMIN

No.

VICTORIA MARIE

So kiss me already.

BENJAMIN

Yuck.

MARTHA JANE

He's my brother.

VICTORIA MARIE

Little sis's are a pain.

MARTHA JANE

Over-grown crumpet.

VICTORIA MARIE

Look you little twit. You best be  
on yer way for I toss ya in a cow  
patty.

WILLIAM

Now. No. Now Martha Jane she  
won't do that.

VICTORIA MARIE  
Oh yes I's will.

MARTHA JANE  
Try it you old goat.

BENJAMIN  
Get her.

WILLIAM  
Come on Ladies.

VICTORIA MARIE  
Who's an old goat

BENJAMIN  
Get Her, Come on Get her.

VICTORIA MARIE  
I'm gonna toss ya in a cow patty

BENJAMIN  
Get her, come on come on. get her  
get.

VICTORIA MARIE  
He's mine you mule brain.

WILLIAM  
Come on you two break it up.

MARTHA JANE  
I'm Williams favorite girl. Not  
you. You Barber's Cat.

BENJAMIN  
Get her, get her.

VICTORIA MARIE  
Who's an old goat

WILLIAM  
Martha Jane! Victoria Marie! Knock  
it off right his minute.

BENJAMIN  
Get her, get her.

WILLIAM  
Victoria Marie! Martha Jane!  
Knock it off right now. Stop doing  
this every time.

VICTORIA MARIE  
He's mine.

MARTHA JANE  
He's mine.

SARAH  
William! Does father know about  
you and her?

MARTHA JANE  
Sarah?

BENJAMIN  
Uh Oh.

VICTORIA MARIE  
It's none of yer business Sarah.

SARAH  
My family is my business Victoria  
Marie.

VICTORIA MARIE  
Not what I heard.

WILLIAM  
Sarah. What are you doing Sooter's  
fort? Thought you lived in  
Sacramento City?

SARAH  
Sacramento City is a big city.

VICTORIA MARIE  
We're gonna to live there when  
William finally asks me ta marry  
him.

MARTHA JANE  
No he's not.

WILLIAM  
Ladies.

MARTHA JANE  
She's no lady.

VICTORIA MARIE  
You little twit.

SARAH  
Did you change yer plans again?

WILLIAM  
No. I haven't.



SARAH

You haven't told her?

VICTORIA MARIE

Told me what? William? You got  
some slazy trug?

MARTHA JANE

No more than you.

WILLIAM

No. No.. It's not a woman.

VICTORIA MARIE

I knew you loved me and I'm the  
only girl.

SARAH

He's talkin bout headin back east.

VICTORIA MARIE

Fer What William? You planning to  
leave me?

ZEKE

Dagnabit. I told ya to leave my  
sister alone. Now I'm-a-gonna  
break ya in half.

VICTORIA MARIE

Zeke. Leave us alone. Yer not my  
daddy.

ZEKE

No. But yer my sister. And I  
don't like him.

VICTORIA MARIE

Zeke. Leave him alone. He ain't  
hurtin no one.

ZEKE

And he's not gonna after I get done  
with him.

BENJAMIN

Get em William.

WILLIAM

Benjamin hobble yer lip you're no  
help.

ZEKE

I'll give you first whack.

WILLIAM

Lucky for you I've got things to do. Benjamin take Martha Jane back to the fort. Bye Sarah. Nice to see you.

VICTORIA MARIE

William? What?  
(turns back at Zeke)  
You beef-headed yack. Don't you have chores to do?

ZEKE

Where's he going?

EXT. WOODED AND OPEN AREAS - 1859 - CONTINUOUS

WILLIAM (V.O.)

For 11 years I've not told the family about the gold.

I started doing it for them, but I wasn't suppose too.

They're just yellow rocks. You can't drink 'em. You can't eat 'em. But they've made men like Mr. Brannan very rich.

Jennie says. Gold changes people.

14

EXT. SPARSELY WOODED AREA: 1859 - CONTINUOUS

14

WILLIAM (V.O.)

I think my family's changed.

BENJAMIN

Where are you going?

WILLIAM

Never you mind. What do you want?

BENJAMIN

Dad says he wants you to help him with the supplies.

WILLIAM

Okay. I'll be there in a awhile.

BENJAMIN

I said don't follow me Martha Jane.

MARTHA JANE

Mom said to follow you and make sure you do what you're told.

BENJAMIN

Snitch.

WILLIAM

You two can go away now. Well go. The sooner you two go away, the sooner I can follow you. Get out of here or I'm gonna pummel ya.

BENJAMIN

Snitch.

MARTHA JANE

Baby Benjamin.

BENJAMIN

I'm not a baby. Martha pain!

WILLIAM

Well I can't pummel you and you can't snitch on me, so we'll call it a draw. Now go away.

15

EXT. SPARSELY WOODED AREA: DEEPER: 1859 - CONTINUOUS

15

WILLIAM (V.O.)

No. I'm not gonna tell them.

BENJAMIN

What you doing?

WILLIAM

Benjamin Franklin! I told you to go away! I'm just digging for worms.

BENJAMIN

You find any?

WILLIAM

No. It's too dry. Come on.

BENJAMIN

You going fishing?

WILLIAM

Maybe. Martha Jane. Come on.

BENJAMIN  
You take me this time?

WILLIAM  
Of course. You're my brother. You  
want to go too.

MARTHA JANE  
Ewe.

BENJAMIN  
Girls don't know how to fish. Make  
her clean it.

MARTHA JANE  
EWE!

William reaches his hand out to Martha Jane.

WILLIAM  
He's just joshing.

BENJAMIN  
No I wasn't.

WILLIAM  
Yes you were.

BENJAMIN  
No I wasn't. She's a girl and they  
clean and cook what men bring home.

MARTHA JANE  
I guess your not getting married.

16

INT. ROOM: PRESENT DAY - DAY

16

WILLIAM (V.O.)  
As we walked back to the fort I  
could tell they knew something.  
Maybe it was time to tell them.

Sierra looks at the map again.

SIERRA  
Dad. Dad!

17

EXT. SPARSELY WOODED AREA: DEEPER: PRESENT DAY - LATE  
AFTERNOON

17

DAD

This is exciting. A treasure hunt.

SIERRA

This isn't like the movie Dad.

BROOKE

What movie?

DAD

I'd play me in it. What? I'm good looking. I'm a good actor.

SIERRA

Yeah right. I guess over there. That one.

BROOKE

Where's the x?

SIERRA

Dad. You read her too many stories.

BROOKE

I like Dad's stories.

SIERRA

So do I. Sort of. You do know things have changed in one hundred and fifty-one years right?

DAD

Yeah, but that's what makes treasure hunting exciting.

BROOKE

Yeah. You never know what you will find.

DAD

That's right Brooke.

SIERRA

I can't believe I am buying into all this treasure and history stuff.

DAD

Isn't it exciting though?

BROOKE  
Dad keep digging.

SIERRA  
There's probably nothing there.