

# THE CORPSe OF DISCOVERY

Lewis and Clark and the Birth of an Empire

by David Koren

*Lakota (Sioux) translation by Jerome Kills Small.  
French translation by Babelfish.*

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## **SETTING AND BACKGROUND**

Various places along the trail west. From St. Louis to the Pacific and back again.

Even though the story takes place 200 years ago, from 1804 to 1809, the story is told using a variety of storytelling styles and formats that have emerged in the twentieth century, predominantly through film and television.

All anachronisms are entirely intentional, and are intended to make this story of the start of American westward expansion accessible to Americans in the twenty-first century, who have grown up sitting in front of the television. The anachronisms, juxtaposing two eras in one scene, serve an added purpose of drawing an immediate comparison between life in the early nineteenth century and life today.

Locations are meant to be depicted as suggestively as possible, with a piece of furniture or lighting change carrying the weight of informing the audience where we are.

Likewise, costumes should be more suggestive than literal. However, costumes should show variety and creativity. Characters should look as different from one another as is possible.

**CHARACTERS**

*to be played by 8 actors (5m., 3w.)*

**1. Intro: the Rockies**

MERIWETHER LEWIS (M1)  
WILLIAM CLARK (M2)  
SHELLY KIOHANI (W1)

**2. The Frame: Couch Potato 1**

JOE AMERICAN (M\_)  
PUMPKIN (F\_)

**3. Talk Show: William Clark**

TALK SHOW HOST (M3)  
William Clark (M2)

**4. State of the Union Address**

ANNOUNCER (\_\_\_)  
Thomas Jefferson (M4)

**5. Reality Show: Explorers 1**

TV STAR (W3)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
William Clark (M2)  
and everybody

**6. Commercial: Rush's Thunderbolts**

DR. BENJAMIN RUSH (M5)  
VOICEOVER (W1)

**7. Business Meeting: Council Bluff**

GEORGE DROUILLARD (M3)  
NIGEL CHAPMAN (M4)  
LITTLE THIEF (W1)  
BIG HORSE (W2)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
William Clark (M2)

**8. Soap Opera: the Death of Sergeant Floyd**

CHARLES FLOYD (M4)  
PATRICK GASS (M5)  
George Drouillard (M3)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
William Clark (M2)

**9. American History Minute 1**

ANNOUNCER (W3)

**10. Cowboys and Indians: Meeting the Lakota Sioux**

JOHN COLTER (M5)  
INDIAN BRAVE (M4)  
BLACK BUFFALO (W1)  
THE PARTISAN (W2)  
BUFFALO MEDICINE (W3)  
PIERRE CRUZATTE (M3)  
Patrick Gass (M5)  
George Drouillard (M3)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
William Clark (M2)  
Thomas Jefferson (M4)

**11. Infomercial: Beaver Pelts**

John Colter (M5)  
George Drouillard (M3)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)

**12. Spies and Intrigue: at the Teton Sioux Village**

Black Buffalo (W1)  
The Partisan (W2)  
Buffalo Medicine (W3)  
Pierre Cruzatte (M3)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
William Clark (M2)

**13. Press Conference: Arrival at the Mandans**

PRESS AGENT (W3)  
SACAGAWEA (W2)  
TOUSSAINT CHARBONNEAU (M4)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
William Clark (M2)  
George Drouillard (M3)  
Shelly Kiohani (W1)

**14. Sports Report: the Big Hunt**

SPORTS ANNOUNCER (M\_)  
HUNTSMAN (M\_)

**15. Home Shopping: Battle Axes**

HOME SHOPPING LADY (W1)  
JOHN SHIELDS (M5)

**16. Hospital Drama: Sacagawea Has a Baby**

YORK (M\_)  
OTTER WOMAN (W3)  
JESSAUME (M3)  
Sacagawea (W2)  
Toussaint Charbonneau (M4)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)

**17. Reality Show: Explorers 2**

RICHARD WARFINGTON (M\_)  
 MOSES REED (M\_)  
 John Newman (M5)  
 Sacagawea (W2)  
 Toussaint Charbonneau (M4)  
 Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
 William Clark (M2)  
 TV Star (W3)

**INTERMISSION****18. The Frame: Couch Potato 2**

Joe American (M\_)  
 Pumpkin (F\_)

**19. Nature Show: the Grizzly**

ALLIGATOR WRANGLER (M3)  
 GRIZZLY BEAR (W\_)  
 John Colter (M5)  
 and 3 others

**20. Thriller: Looking for the Shoshoni**

Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
 William Clark (M2)  
 George Drouillard (M3)  
 Sacagawea (W2)  
 Toussaint Charbonneau (M4)  
 Hught McNeal (M5)  
 1 BRAVE (M2?)

**21. Reporter: Continental Divide**

Shelly Kiohani (W1)  
 Hugh McNeal (M5)  
 Meriwether Lewis (M1)

**22. Thriller 2: Finding the Shoshoni**

Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
 George Drouillard (M3)  
 THREE WOMEN - W1, W2, W3  
 CAMEAHWAIT - M4 OR M5  
 William Clark (M2)  
 Sacagawea (W2)  
 Toussaint Charbonneau (M4)

**23. After School Special: Lewis's Depression**

Meriwether Lewis (M1)  
 William Clark (M2)  
 and everybody

**24. Embedded Reporter: the Pacific**

Shelly Kiohani (W1)

**25. Cop Show: Fort Clatsop**

Sergeant Pryor

**26. War Movie: Skirmish with the Blackfeet**

JOHN ORDWAY (M3)

NATHANIEL PRYOR (M4)

REUBEN FIELD (M4)

JOSEPH FIELD (M5)

BLACKFOOT 1 (W1)

BLACKFOOT 2 (W2)

BLACKFOOT 3 (W3)

Meriwether Lewis (M1)

William Clark (M2)

Patrick Gass (M5)

George Drouillard (M3)

**27. American History Minute 2**

ANNOUNCER (W3)

**28. Comedy Sketch: Lewis' Injury**

Meriwether Lewis (M1)

William Clark (M2)

Pierre Cruzatte (M3)

Patrick Gass (M5)

**29. News Report: Arrival in St. Louis**

Meriwether Lewis (M1)

William Clark (M2)

Shelly Kiohani (W1)

**30. Movie Trailer: the Corps[e] of Discovery**

ANNOUNCER

MATT DAMON (as Clark)

BEN AFFLECK (as Lewis)

AL PACINO (as Jefferson)

JENNIFER LOPEZ (as Sacagawea)

GERARD DEPARDIEU (as Cruzatte)

**31. News Magazine: Lewis under Fire**

SOFTBALL HOST (W\_)

JAMES MCHENRY (M\_)

**32. Press Conference: Lewis Hounded by Reporters**

REPORTER 1 (M/F \_)

REPORTER 2 (M/F \_)

Meriwether Lewis (M1)

Shelly Kiohani (W1)

**33. Greek Tragedy: Death of Lewis**

JOHN PERNIER (M3)  
SERVANT (M5)  
MRS. GRINDER (W1)  
Meriwether Lewis (M1)

**34. Frame: Couch Potato 3**

JOE AMERICAN (M\_)  
PUMPKIN (F\_)

**35. 50's Situation Comedy ("Leave it to Beaver"): the Clark Family**

JULIA HANCOCK CLARK (W3)  
MERIWETHER LEWIS CLARK (M1)  
JEAN BAPTISTE CHARBONNEAU (M3)  
WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK (M5)  
LIZETTE CHARBONNEAU (W1)  
MARY MARGARET CLARK (W2)  
York (M4)  
William Clark (M2)

**36. Moral: Thomas Jefferson**

Thomas Jefferson (M4)

**POSSIBLE DOUBLING**

M1 - Lewis  
M2 - Clark  
M3 - French - Drouillard, Cruzatte, Jessaume  
M4 - Jefferson, Nigel Chapman, Charbonneau  
M5 - Younger - Rush, Gass, Colter  
W1 - Reporter, Black Buffalo, Mrs. Grinder  
W2 - Professor, Sacagawea, Partisan  
W3 - TV Star, Buffalo Medicine, Julia Hancock Clark,  
Otter Woman

**1. INTRO: THE ROCKIES**

(CLARK stands, looking into the audience. He squints, and has a hand raised to his eyes.)

CLARK

(Behind him)

Meriwether! Meriwether, get up here! You gotta see this!

(LEWIS climbs from REAR to where CLARK is.)

LEWIS

What do you see?

CLARK

Look.

LEWIS

(Squinting, hand raised)

What am I looking at?

CLARK

In the distance. 100 miles away.

LEWIS

Mountains.

CLARK

The Rockies.

LEWIS

Snow capped peaks. In autumn. They must be thousands of feet tall.

CLARK

Mmm hmm.

LEWIS

Looks nothing like Appalachia.

CLARK

Nope.

LEWIS

How far have we come?

CLARK

Twenty-one hundred sixty-three miles. More or less.

LEWIS

We'd better make as much jerky as we can carry. If we're going to make it through those mountains. There's enough buffalo here to feed an army, but once we get to those mountains...

CLARK

Listen.

LEWIS

What? I don't hear anything.

(Sound of a small helicopter approaching.)

CLARK

We'd better get moving.

(CLARK turns to go. The helicopter lands, off.)

LEWIS

I'll handle it.

CLARK

I'll tell the men to pack up.

(CLARK exits. A reporter, SHELLY KIOHANI, comes scurrying in, bending to avoid the wind kicked up by the helicopter. The reporter carries a microphone.)

KIOHANI

Mr. Lewis! Mr. Clark! Can I ask you a few questions, Sir?

LEWIS

(Microphone in his face.)

Make it quick. We've got a continent to explore.

(From here, the microphone goes back and forth.)

KIOHANI

What do you see, when you stand up here on this bluff?

LEWIS

I believe I see the Rocky Mountains. Off in the distance.

KIOHANI

How far away would you say those are, Sir?

LEWIS

Perhaps eighty or a hundred miles.

KIOHANI

What's your next move?

LEWIS

Prepare our provisions for the trek through the mountains. Look for the Shoshonis. Trade for horses. Find a guide. Get to the source of the Missouri River. Make a quick pass through the mountains. Find the Columbia River on the other side.

KIOHANI

What do you think your chances are?

LEWIS

Quite good. We have an Indian woman from the Shoshoni people...

KIOHANI

Do you have any idea how wide those mountains are?

LEWIS

None. No American has seen them before, as far as I know.

KIOHANI

Well, good luck to you, Sir!

LEWIS

Thank you.

(LEWIS stands idle while KIOHANI turns and faces the audience.)

KIOHANI

This is Shelly Kiohani, KSFY-News, Sioux Falls. We'll continue to follow Lewis and Clark as this story develops. Back to you, Brad.

(Static.)

**2. THE FRAME: COUCH POTATO 1**

(JOE AMERICAN in an old, beat up recliner, drinking a Bud, watching TV. PUMPKIN, his pre-teen daughter, enters carrying books.)

PUMPKIN

Hi, Dad. What are you watching?

JOE

Nothing, Pumpkin. Just the news. Hey, would you get daddy another Bud?

PUMPKIN

Sure, Dad, in a sec. Dad, there's a special on Lewis and Clark on TV tonight.

JOE

Who? That Superman show?

PUMPKIN

No, dad. The explorers. They were the first Americans to get to the Pacific Ocean. I have to write a term paper on them.

JOE

(Not listening)

Oh. That's nice, Pumpkin.

PUMPKIN

Can I watch it?

JOE

Oh... When's it on?

PUMPKIN

Eight o'clock.

JOE

Eight o'clock? Pumpkin, Daddy's got to watch his prime time then. That's why I've have this 52-inch TV, home theatre, DVD, VHS, Tivo, universal remote set-up. When I come home from work, I'm dead. I just want to relax. Watch America's Most Wanted, Monster Trucks, Fear Factor, World's Most Dangerous Car Chases, Iron Man Competition, Girls Gone Wild, World Wrestling Federation, Faces of Death. And movies where people and things get blown up.

PUMPKIN

But, Dad! It's historic!

JOE

Aww, history's boring, Pumpkin. That's why it's in black and white. I don't know why they don't make it more accessible. Like that movie The Patriot. Or Glory. Or Apollo 13. That's good history. Now get Daddy a beer and let's watch some prime time like a normal family. I think American Idol's coming on. Now that's historic. Picking the stars of tomorrow... today!

PUMPKIN

(Begging)

Dad, I'll get you beers all night. And bring you snacks. And change the channels for you. Can we just watch a little Lewis and Clark? It'll help me do better in school...

(She looks at him plaintively.)

JOE

(Won over by her)

Oh, all right.

(She takes the remote, changes the channel.)

But I'll probably just fall asleep. I just can't stay awake for that stuff.

(She sits on the floor to watch.)

Hey, where's my beer?

(Static.)

### 3. TALK SHOW: WILLIAM CLARK

(CLARK and a TALK SHOW HOST sit across from each other at a table. CLARK is cleaned-up, but still rough looking. The HOST wears suspenders and a bow tie.)

HOST

(Leans over table, reads from notes)

We're here tonight with William Clark. Co-Leader of The Corps of Discovery, the expedition across the continent. Superintendent of Indian affairs for the Louisiana Territory. Mr. Clark, thank you for joining us.

CLARK

Thank you, Larry.

HOST

First of all, let me just say, I was truly sorry to hear about the tragic and untimely death of Governor Meriwether Lewis, your co-leader on the expedition. I know our entire audience is with me in expressing our condolences.

CLARK

Thanks. It was a great shock.

HOST

If it's all right with you, I'd like to come back to Governor Lewis in a few minutes. First, let me ask you. Did you ever imagine that you would be considered one of the greatest explorers in history?

CLARK

No...

HOST

I mean, we knew it was there. Robert Gray had discovered the Columbia River by sea. We had information from trappers and Indians about where the rivers were. You really just filled in the map. Isn't that right?

CLARK

That's true. We did fill in the map. But we did more than that. You have to remember, when we left St. Louis in 1804, the United States had just acquired the Louisiana Territory from France. We were sent out to see if you could get across the country by water.

HOST

Which you can't. Is that correct?

CLARK

No. There are tremendous mountains in the way.

HOST

You were the first Americans to see the Rocky Mountains.

CLARK

Yes. So we were sent to see what the easiest way across the country was, but also to claim the country for the United States. To let the people living there, Indians and trappers, know that they were living on the territory of the United States.

HOST

So it was a diplomatic mission.

CLARK

The President wanted us to make peace with his children West of the Mississippi.

HOST

Were you successful?

CLARK

Well, we definitely spread a message of peace. And we did recruit a number of chiefs to go back to Washington to meet the President. But Indian nations aren't run like our government, Larry. It's not as easy or as straightforward to get them to agree to something. While we were out there, we tried to broker peace between the Arikaras and the Mandans. We brought an Arikara chief with us to meet the Mandans. We thought they wanted peace. But peace never really took hold there. All it takes is one brave. One squabble over a buffalo. And it's back to war.

HOST

If we could just get back to your companion and friend Governor Lewis for a moment...

CLARK

Certainly.

HOST

It is believed that Governor Lewis took his own life. That he died by his own hand.

(CLARK nods.)

Did anybody see it coming? Were there signs?

CLARK

Captain Lewis was one of the greatest men I've ever known, Larry. Together we accomplished something unprecedented in history. He was President Jefferson's secretary, and was groomed by the President to explore the west, to make this journey to the Pacific. He knew almost as much as the President about botany and zoology. Before he left, he learned about medicine from Dr. Benjamin Rush. He was the first American to describe the prairie dog, the grizzly bear, the antelope. He discovered something like 200 species of plants, and almost 100 of animals.

HOST

Yes. But was he depressed?

CLARK

Things have been difficult for Governor Lewis over the last few years. Debts, pressure to finish the journals, the scandals. Life as a politician is very different than life as a soldier or explorer. The pressure on the Governor was overwhelming. Did I see it coming? No, absolutely not. I could not have imagined it. But I wasn't surprised. Shocked. But not surprised.

HOST

Thank you for joining us.

(Static.)

#### 4. STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

(An ANNOUNCER.)

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Speaker: the President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson.

(THOMAS JEFFERSON at a lectern or podium.)

JEFFERSON

When we assemble together, fellow citizens, to consider the state of our beloved country, our just attentions are first drawn to those pleasing circumstances which mark the goodness of that Being from whose favor they flow.... Another year has come around, and finds us still blessed with peace and friendship abroad; law, order, and religion at home; good affection and harmony with our Indian neighbors; our burthens lightened, yet our income sufficient for the public wants, and the produce of the year great beyond example. [Thomas Jefferson, 1802]

My fellow Americans, the State of our Union is strong. [Bill Clinton, 1997]

As you know, we have sent Lewis and Clark to explore the river Missouri and find the best communication from that to the Pacific Ocean. Their expedition has had all the success which could have been expected. They have traced the Missouri nearly to its source, descended the Columbia to the Pacific Ocean, ...learnt the character of the country, of its commerce and inhabitants; and it is but justice to say that Lewis and Clark and their brave companions have by this arduous service deserved well of their country. [Thomas Jefferson, 1806]

## JEFFERSON

(Continued)

It gives me pleasure to announce to Congress that the benevolent policy of the Government... in relation to the removal of the Indians beyond the white settlements is approaching to a happy consummation. Two important tribes have accepted the provision made for their removal... and it is believed that their example will induce the remaining tribes also to seek the same obvious advantages.... Toward the aborigines of the country no one can indulge a more friendly feeling than myself, or would go further in attempting to reclaim them from their wandering habits and make them a happy, prosperous people.... [Removal of the Indians] will separate the Indians from immediate contact with settlements of whites; free them from the power of the States; enable them to pursue happiness in their own way and under their own rude institutions; ..and perhaps cause them gradually, under the protection of the Government, ...to cast off their savage habits and become an interesting, civilized, and Christian community. [Andrew Jackson, 1830]

By the treaties made and ratified with the Miamies, the Chippewas, the Sioux, the Sacs and Foxes, and the Winnebagoes during the last year the Indian title to 18,458,000 acres has been extinguished.... When the heavy expenses incurred by the United States... are considered... no one can doubt that justice has been done to the Indians.... Certain it is that the transactions of the Federal Government with the Indians have been uniformly characterized by a sincere and paramount desire to promote their welfare.... The case of the Seminoles constitutes at present the only exception to the successful efforts of the Government to remove the Indians.... The continued treacherous conduct of these people; the savage and unprovoked murders they have lately committed, butchering whole families of the settlers... leave the Government no alternative but to continue the military operations against them until they are totally expelled from Florida.... I recommend, therefore, ...the plan submitted by the Secretary of War... for the permanent occupation of the portion of the Territory freed from the Indians and the more efficient protection of the people of Florida from their inhuman warfare. [Martin Van Buren, 1838]

It is confidently hoped that serious outbreaks will not again occur and that the Indian tribes which have for so many years disturbed the West will hereafter remain in peaceable submission. [Chester Arthur, 1883]

## JEFFERSON

(Continued)

We seek peace. We strive for peace. And sometimes peace must be defended. A future lived at the mercy of terrible threats is no peace at all. If war is forced upon us, we will fight in a just cause and by just means--sparing, in every way we can, the innocent. If war is forced upon us, we will fight with the full force of the United States military--and we will prevail. [George W. Bush, 2003]

These, fellow citizens, are the circumstances under which we meet. [Thomas Jefferson, 1802]

(Static.)

## 5. REALITY SHOW: EXPLORERS 1

(The entire cast lines up across the stage. They all wear buckskin, moccassins, carry rifles, etc., except the TV STAR. She steps out of the line-up, carrying a microphone.)

TV STAR

I'm here with the Corps of Discovery in St. Charles, Missouri. For those of you not familiar with the West, this is the furthest white settlement up the Missouri. 450 people, mostly French. This is the edge of civilization. Is everybody ready?

CAST

(with enthusiasm)

Yeah!

TV STAR

The name of the game is "Explorers." 45 men will leave St. Charles in a keelboat and two pirogues. By winter, you'll be in the Mandan Villages. Some of you will be picked for the permanent party, and continue on to the West. Some of you will not. And it's all in the hands of these two men... Meriwether Lewis and William Clark! Come on up here!

(LEWIS AND CLARK step forward.)

Are you guys ready for the journey ahead?

LEWIS

I've been preparing for this for years.

CLARK

We've got a long road ahead of us, Julie.

TV STAR

That's right. It's two thousand miles to the Pacific. But overland, it's going to take you over four thousand. You've got 45 men with you now. How many do you think you need for the journey west?

(LEWIS AND CLARK look at each other.)

CLARK

Well, we were thinking it would be around thirty. Soldiers, frontiersman, French trappers. Maybe a few Indians. A few half-breeds. Hearty men who can stomach this kind of adventure.

## LEWIS

The group has to be big enough that we can defend ourselves if we get into trouble. But small enough that we can get upriver quickly and without attracting trouble from hostile Indians or the Spanish, French, or British.

## TV STAR

Let me tell them the rules of the game. Guys, you've met Captain Lewis and Captain Clark. These are your co-leaders. Your survival is in their hands. Listen to what they say. You're a team out there. It's not just about winning the game. It's about coming back alive.

The keelboat is filled with whiskey, guns, grain, salted meat, and grease. But it's not enough to live on for two years. You'll hunt. You'll feast on the land. You will certainly encounter Indians. They may be hostile or friendly. Part of your mission is to make peace with them and between them, as best you can. This is new land out there. It's now a part of the United States. You're going to inform the residents of that land that they have a new white father, President Thomas Jefferson.

This isn't going to be easy. You've got to stick together. You've got to learn to work together if you're going to survive. You'll all be heroes when you get back. If you get back. Are you ready?

## CAST

(with enthusiasm)

Yeah!

## TV STAR

Captains, the game is on!

(LEWIS and CLARK give each other a high five.)

## LEWIS and CLARK

Let's go!

(Frantic activity: everybody rushing around. Something suggesting a big boat with oars rolls in from the LEFT. The men get up in it, start to row. the boat moves VERY slowly.)

## TV STAR

And the adventure begins! The townspeople from St. Charles have all come out to say goodbye to the explorers, to wish them well on their journey. Forty-five men. One slave. One dog. On a voyage into the unknown.

## EXPLORERS

(Waving at the audience)

Goodbye! See you soon! Goodbye! See ya!

(The boat continues across the stage at a snail's pace. The men on the boat say things like "Stroke!" and "Put your backs into it!")

## TV STAR

No American knows what they will find. They will bring back stories of adventure and mystery. The Corps of Discovery, the Lewis and Clark expedition, will go down in history with Columbus and Cook and Magellan.

(The boat continues to creep across the stage, the men have stopped waving, just rowing.)

## TV STAR

(Watching the boat)

Yes... These men are going to paddle, upstream, for two thousand miles or more... It certainly is exciting here. It certainly is...

(Having run out of things to say)

When we come back, we'll see how far the men get on their first day of travel. We'll talk to some of the men, and see how they're holding up. Right after these messages...

(The boat continues, behind the TV STAR. It is less than halfway across the stage. Static.)

**6. COMMERCIAL: RUSH'S THUNDERBOLTS**

(DR. BENJAMIN RUSH steps out in front of the boat.)

RUSH

Hi, I'm Dr. Benjamin Rush. Do you feel like you're up a creek without a paddle? Are you down in the dumps, and you don't know why? Do you have an illness you just can't shake? Something inside you got you down?

Maybe you need the Thunderbolt.

My Thunderbolts are powerful medicine. If you feel like you've got a demon camped out inside you, Rush's Thunderbolts can get him out.

One Thunderbolt, taken any time of day or night, causes immediate evacuation of the bowels and digestive tract. You've never felt so clean, inside and out.

We all know how good it feels to expel waste. But did you know that disease, illness, and bad humours can be stuck inside you? Sure, you could bleed these things out. But that can be dangerous and very messy. Sometimes one Thunderbolt is all it takes.

Rush's Thunderbolts have been known to provide relief from a range of disquieting maladies including constipation, infection, fever, boils, pox, and plague. Your results may vary. Ask your doctor about Rush's Thunderbolts. Tell 'em you heard about it from Dr. Rush.

VOICEOVER

Talk to your doctor or healthcare professional to see if Rush's Thunderbolts are right for you. The most common side effects of Rush's Thunderbolts are headache, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and anal leakage. Symptom relief does not rule out serious conditions. Please read the important Product Information about Rush's Thunderbolts and discuss it with your healthcare professional.

(Static.)

**7. BUSINESS MEETING: COUNCIL BLUFF**

(The boat stays in position. LEWIS enters, carrying two contemporary computer bags. He puts both down CENTER, and begins to unpack a notebook computer and a data projector. He sets them up to project on, or behind, the boat. CLARK enters, with a bag.)

CLARK

Are we ready?

LEWIS

Nearly.

CLARK

Is that thing going to work?

LEWIS

It'll work. I got it in Philadelphia.

CLARK

I've got the gifts. Paint. Dress coats. A couple of blankets. A few flags and medals. How many chiefs are we expecting?

LEWIS

(Still futzing with the projector)

Fourteen Otos and Missouris. I'm not sure how many chiefs.

CLARK

We should've brought more medals.

LEWIS

Be careful not to give out too much. We've got a lot of tribes to meet.

CLARK

Right. You got your speech ready?

LEWIS

Yeah.

CLARK

Did you memorize it?

LEWIS

No. It's just the first time. I've got to see how it goes over, and then I can tweak it. We'll have to do this for every tribe.

CLARK

You know. It's never good to read a speech. The best speeches are either memorized. Or improvised.

LEWIS

Do you want to give the speech?

CLARK

I'm no good at speeches.

(LEWIS shoots CLARK a look.)

I just think you ought to memorize it. That's all.

LEWIS

I'll memorize it for the next tribe. I got to see how it goes over.

(LEWIS stands up: the projector is ready. He turns it on. The first slide is a typical PowerPoint slide with a jazzy background. It reads: "presentation to THE MISSOURI AND OTO tribes, Council Bluff, August 3, 1804")

CLARK

Looks professional. Are you ready?

LEWIS

I think so. Let's do it.

CLARK

(Shouting off)

Drewer!

(GEORGE DROUILLARD enters. He's a French trapper who has lived among the Indians. He speaks with an exaggerated French accent. He smokes.)

DROUILLARD

Yes. What is it?

CLARK

Are the Indians ready?

DROUILLARD

They are waiting patiently. I gave them some tobacco.

CLARK

Can you understand them?

DROUILLARD

No, sorry. I do not speak the Oto. But they have a translator with them. He is English.

LEWIS

Are they in a pleasant mood?

DROUILLARD

The men did their parading around and fired their guns. The Indians liked that very much. Now they are smoking and having a good time. I am showing them my pet beaver who I captured this morning.

LEWIS

Good. Send them over.

DROUILLARD

You got it, Boss.

(DROUILLARD exits.)

CLARK

What do you want me to do... during the speech?

LEWIS

Watch how it's going. Look at them carefully. See if they like it. Listen to what I'm saying so I can fix anything that seems off.

CLARK

Okay.

(NIGEL CHAPMAN enters. He is an English fur trader living with the Otoes. LITTLE THIEF and BIG HORSE follow. The chiefs wear contemporary business suits, and have ponytails. All smoke. CHAPMAN runs over to LEWIS and CLARK. He speaks in an exaggerated cockney accent.)

CHAPMAN

(Offering his hand)

'Ello there. Nigel Chapman.

CLARK

(Shaking)

William Clark.

LEWIS

(Shaking)

Meriwether Lewis.

CLARK

You're English.

CHAPMAN

Yeah, yeah. Suppose I am. I live with the Otos now. Killing beaver and such. Making a pound or two. Providing all the fashionable ladies in London with beaver for their stoles and shawls and collars and such.

LEWIS

You'll translate for us?

CHAPMAN

'Ats why I'm 'ere, Gov'nor. May I present Little Thief and Big Horse. Of the Oto tribe.

CLARK

(Shaking their hands.)

William Clark. Good to see you.

LEWIS

(Shaking.)

Meriwether Lewis.

(LEWIS picks up a small remote control for the projector.)

CLARK

Why don't you have a seat? We have a little presentation for you.

(CHAPMAN whispers to them, and the chiefs sit in chairs just in front of the audience, side by side, facing the stage. CHAPMAN squats between them to whisper.)

LEWIS

(Reading)

Children. We have been sent by the great Chief of the Seventeen great nations of America to inform you that a great council was held between the great chief and your old fathers the French and the Spaniards.

(Slide: a picture of the U.N. General Assembly)

In this great council it was agreed that all the white men of Louisiana should obey the commands of the great chief. He has adopted them as his children and they now form one common family with us.

(Slide: line art cartoon of family: father/mother/sister/brother)

## LEWIS

(Continued)

Children. Your old fathers the French and the Spaniards have withdrawn all their troops and have surrendered all their fortifications to the great chief. They have gone beyond the great lake toward the rising sun, from whence they never intend to return to visit their former red children.

(Slide: a ship sailing into the sunset)

Nor will they, or any other nation of white men, ever again display their flag on the troubled waters; because... the great Chief... will command his war chiefs to Suffer no vessel to pass--but those which Sail under the protection of his flag, and who acknowledge his supreme authority.

(Slide: soldiers marching)

Children. The great chief has become your only father.

(Slide: a portrait of Jefferson)

He is the only friend to whom you can now look for protection, or from whom you can ask favours, or receive good councils, and he will take care that you shall have no just cause to regret this change; he will serve you, and not deceive you.

(Slide: white man shaking hands with Indian)

Children. Impelled by his parental regard for his newly adopted children on the troubled waters, the great chief has sent us out to clear the road and make it a road of peace.

(Slide: a Jefferson nickel)

Children. Know that the great chief who has offered you the hand of unalterable friendship is the great Chief of the Seventeen Great Nations of America...

(Slide: Map of the U.S.)

...whose cities are as numerous as the stars of the heavens, and whose people like the grass of your plains, cover with their cultivated fields and wigwams, the wide extended country...

(Slide: Suburban sprawl, smoke stacks)

...reaching from the western borders of the Mississippi, to the great lakes of the East, where the land ends and the sun rises from the face of the great waters.

(Slide: Manhattan skyline)

Children. Know that this great chief, as powerful as he is just, and as beneficent as he is wise, always entertaining a sincere and friendly disposition towards the red people of America, has commanded us his war chiefs to undertake this long journey, which we have so far accomplished with great labour and much expense...

(Slide: a briefcase full of money)

...in order to council with yourselves and his other red children on the troubled waters, to give you his good advice; to point out to you the road in which you must walk to obtain happiness.

LEWIS

(Continued. Slide: Dororthy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Lion from The Wizard of Oz, skipping happily down the yellow brick road)

Children. You are to live in peace with all white men; neither wage war against the red men your neighbors. Injure not the persons of any traders who visit you under the protection of your great father's flag...

(Slide: U.S. flag, flying)

...for by the signal you may know them to be good men, and that they do not intend to injure you; they are therefore to be treated as friends, and as the common children of one great father.

(Slide: family snapshot: mom/dad/many many kids, or the "Leave it to Beaver" family)

Children. Do these things which your great father advises and be happy.

(Slide: yellow smiley face button)

Avoid the councils of bad birds...

(Slide: a bad bird, a raven or crow)

...turn on your heel from them as you would from the precipice of a high rock, whose summit reached the clouds, and whose base was washed by the gulph of human woes,

(Slide: a great depression photo - Dorothea Lange or Walker Evans)

...lest by one false step you should bring upon your nation the displeasure of your great father, who could consume you as the fire...

(Slide: fire)

...consumes the grass of the plains.

(Slide: scene of carnage from an Indian campaign)

Children. Follow his counsels and you will have nothing to fear, because the Great Spirit will smile upon your nation and in future ages will make you outnumber the trees of the forest.

(Slide: a forest of trees, with one shadowy human figure. LEWIS lets this image sit for a moment. CLARK begins clapping. The Indians begin clapping, too. Slide goes to black.)

LEWIS

Thank you. Any questions?

(CHAPMAN confers with the Indians.)

CLARK

We've got some lovely presents for you.

(He opens a sack. He pulls out two medals.)

First, the peace medal. With Thomas Jefferson on it.

(He puts one medal over LITTLE THIEF's head, and one medal over BIG HORSE's head.)

And then we have...

(Looking in the sack.)

Paint!

(He pulls out two small paint cans, and gives one to each chief. He looks in the sack again.)

And also... blankets!

(He gives a small blanket to each chief.)

CHAPMAN

(Conferring)

We appreciate these wonderful gifts.

(Confers again)

We promise to follow the good advice that you have given. And we are happy that we can trust our new American father.

(Confers again)

We would like some whiskey. And powder.

CLARK

Whiskey! Who doesn't want whiskey? Where are our manners?

(CLARK pulls a flask out of his coat and two shotglasses. He fills one with whiskey and gives it to LITTLE THIEF, and fills the other for BIG HORSE. He toasts with each, and drinks from the flask.)

Here's to the Missouris and the Otos, and the Great Father of the Seventeen Nations!

(LITTLE THIEF AND BIG HORSE drink. CLARK takes a long draught from his flask.)

CHAPMAN

Hey. Don't forget the limey.

(CLARK hands the flask to CHAPMAN. CHAPMAN drinks. The Indians hold out their glasses for more, and CHAPMAN refills the glasses. They clink silently, and drink again. After he drinks again, CHAPMAN returns the flask to CLARK.)

CLARK

Meriwether. I like these Indians. Can we spare some powder? Maybe some balls. A bottle of whiskey?

CHAPMAN

This would make us very happy.

LEWIS

Oh, all right.

(CLARK finishes the flask. LITTLE THIEF and  
BIG HORSE still have their glasses out.)

Little Thief. Big Horse. We would like to invite you to go to Washington in the spring to meet your new father, the Great Chief. If you will promise to go, we will give you some powder and a bottle of whiskey. What do you say?

(CHAPMAN confers with the Indians.)

CHAPMAN

We think these gifts are very nice. And we would be happy to go on a trip to Washington to meet the Great Chief. We can only hope that he is as congenial with his whiskey as you are with yours.

CLARK

I'll get the whiskey. And some powder and balls.

(He exits.)

LEWIS

And now, would you like to see my air gun?

(LEWIS pulls out a BB gun. The chiefs look afraid.)

I'm not going to shoot you with it. I just want to show you that America has more than just whiskey and powder... We have technology! This gun works with air pressure. There is no powder. No smoke.

(He pumps the air rifle.)

It works with air. The more I pump it, the farther the ball will go when I squeeze the trigger. There we are...

(He points the rifle into the air, as if aiming.)

And now... I fire...

(He pulls the trigger: a huge bang. The chiefs look startled.)

Pretty neat, huh? Want to see my magnifying glass? It can set fire to grass and bugs with only the sun's rays!

(Static.)

**8. SOAP OPERA: THE DEATH OF SERGEANT FLOYD**

(Midnight. LEWIS and CLARK. LEWIS uses a sextant. CLARK has a book and is writing down measurements. There's a big clock that CLARK consults.)

LEWIS  
Eleven degrees seventeen minutes.

(CLARK writes.)

CLARK  
It's a nice clear night for it.

LEWIS  
These are the best readings we've had for a week.

CLARK  
By the time we get back, we'll have books filled with readings. You think somebody will really go through and figure out what they mean? Where we really are, right now? The objective location of this bluff.

LEWIS  
No doubt about it.  
(Reading again)  
Eleven degrees five minutes.

CLARK  
(Writing)  
Surely there must exist some simpler way of measuring latitude.

LEWIS  
You mean longitude. Latitude isn't so hard. We get latitude from the readings of the sun at noon. It's longitude that we're trying to figure out by standing out here at midnight measuring the angle between the moon and Antares.

CLARK  
(Remembering his lessons)  
Right... longitude is long. North-south. Latitude is east-west.

LEWIS  
Correct.  
(Reading)  
Ten degrees fifty four minutes.  
(CLARK writes. DROUILLARD enters.)  
Drewer. You should be asleep.

DROUILLARD

(With a French accent.)

It is Sergeant Floyd, Sir. He is much worse.

LEWIS

We'll look in on him in a few minutes.

DROUILLARD

I do not think that he will make it through the night.

LEWIS

As soon as we finish these readings.

DROUILLARD

Yes, Sir.

(Lighting change: FLOYD lies in the center with LEWIS and CLARK kneeling around him. FLOYD is passing in and out of consciousness.)

CLARK

Is there nothing we can do?

LEWIS

We've bled him. We've purged his bowels. It does no good. His condition continues to deteriorate. This bilious colic will not be expelled from his body. I'm afraid we're going to lose him.

(CLARK looks at LEWIS, stunned. FLOYD wakes.)

FLOYD

Ehhhh. Captains. Am I dead?

LEWIS

Not yet, Floyd.

CLARK

(Grabbing Floyd's hand)

You've got to hang in there.

FLOYD

I'm afraid.

CLARK

It's not over yet. These things can turn. Hang in there. Stay with us.

FLOYD

I'm a goner, aren't I?

CLARK

Not so fast. Not so fast.

(FLOYD falls into unconsciousness. CLARK lays his hand on FLOYD's stomach. LEWIS and CLARK stand up, step away.)

LEWIS

He's not going to last for long.

CLARK

The sun will be coming up soon. Do we stay here, or do we break camp?

LEWIS

I think we have to keep moving.

CLARK

But, moving him now... that could kill him.

LEWIS

What's the alternative? Stay here and wait for him to die?

CLARK

Let's put him in the keelboat. Have one of the men keep an eye on him. At least that way he can sleep.

LEWIS

Good idea. Now let's get some rest.

(Quick blackout.)

GASS

(In the darkness)

Captains! It's Floyd! I think we're losing him!

(Lights up. LEWIS and CLARK kneeling with FLOYD. CLARK takes his hand.)

FLOYD

I dreamt that I was back at home.

CLARK

You'll be at home soon.

LEWIS

Back in Kentucky, with your family.

FLOYD

You're my family now.

(FLOYD fades, regains consciousness. To CLARK:)

I am going away. I want you to write me a letter.

CLARK

(Pulling out his journal)

What should it say, Floyd? What do you want me to write?

(FLOYD fades again. He makes a small coughing noise, and is dead.)

LEWIS

Floyd? Floyd!

CLARK

He's gone.

(Pause. CLARK puts FLOYD's hand back on his stomach. Lighting change: LEWIS addresses the audience, as if addressing his men.)

LEWIS

We are here to honor our fallen comrade and friend, Sergeant Charles Floyd. He passed away with a composure that justifies the high opinion that Captain Clark and I had formed of his firmness and good conduct. At all times this man gave us proof of his determined resolution to do service to his country and honor to himself. We lay him to rest here, on top of this bluff, with every honor due to a brave soldier. In his honor, We will name this bluff Sergeant Floyd's Bluff, and the river that enters the Missouri River near here Sergeant Floyd's River. We will mark his grave with a simple cedar post, so that every man and woman who comes after will know the spot where Sergeant Floyd died, the first U.S. soldier to die in this wild new territory.

(Static.)

**9. AMERICAN HISTORY MINUTE 1**

(ANNOUNCER.)

ANNOUNCER

Sergeant Charles Floyd died of appendicitis on August 20, 1804, near present-day Sioux City, Iowa. There was very little that the medicine of the day could have done for him, either at home or in the field. The first appendectomy was not performed for another 80 years.

Though he was cut down by infection in the prime of his life, Floyd's story does not end there.

On the return trip two years later, the Corps of Discovery found that Floyd had been dug up by Indians, and left half covered. They refilled his grave, and replaced the cedar marker.

Over fifty years later, in 1857, the grave was destroyed by a flood. Floyd's skeleton was reburied as soon as the flood passed, with the exception of his forearms and a part of his midsection, which could not be found, as they must have washed downriver.

Over ninety years after his death, in 1895, Floyd was dug up by historians. A local lawyer, C.R. Marks, inscribed his signature on Floyd's skull.

In 1900, Floyd was unearthed once again. His remains were moved to a site nearby designated for his permanent monument. The 100-foot obelisk that stands over Floyd's remains was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1901, as the first Registered National Historic Landmark.

Floyd has an honored spot by the side of the road, watching the cars as they whiz by on I-29, the trains speeding past on the Union Pacific Railroad, and boats headed upstream or downstream on the Missouri.

This has been an American History Minute.

(Static.)

**10. COWBOYS AND INDIANS: MEETING THE LAKOTA SIOUX**

(The boat moves slowly RIGHT, upriver. JOHN COLTER stands DOWN RIGHT, waving to the boat with both arms. CLARK is on the boat, wearing a cowboy hat.)

CLARK

Cotler! How's the hunting?

COLTER

(hands cupped to his mouth to shout across the river)

The hunting's good... Lots of elk. But they took the horse! Those dang Indians took our last horse!

(Lighting change. DROUILLARD stands with an INDIAN. They trade hand signals, holding up fingers and pointing. DROUILLIAND gives the verbal play-by-play, in his heavy French accent.)

DROUILLARD

(Pantomiming)

Upriver. How many Sioux? Five? Ten? Twenty?

(The Indian points upriver and makes indecipherable, but specific symbols, saying, basically, that there are 80 lodges at the next river, and sixty lodges a distance beyond that.)

80 lodges at the next river. 60 more beyond that. That's a lot of Sioux.

(Pantomiming)

Have you seen our horse? It was stolen from us.

(The Indian shakes his head: no.)

Did you hear that the horse was stolen?

(The Indian shakes his head: no. DROUILLARD holds up a finger for the INDIAN to wait.)

Captain Lewis! Captain Lewis!

(LEWIS enters from LEFT, wearing a sword and a cowboy hat.)

LEWIS

Yes, Drewer?

DROUILLARD

I have been conversing with this Indian using my Indian hand signals. He has not seen or heard anything about our stolen horse. He says that there are 80 Sioux lodges at the next river. And 60 beyond that.

LEWIS

Can you translate for me, Drewer?

DROUILLARD

I can try. What would you like to say?

LEWIS

Tell him we're a mite upset with his tribe.

(DROUILLARD pantomimes this)

We come here as friends. But we're ready to fight if we have to. We're not afraid of any Indians.

(DROUILLARD pantomimes, and LEWIS waits for him to catch up.)

That horse was sent by the new father of the red children as a present for your chief. We will not speak to your people until the horse is returned.

(DROUILLARD Pantomimes. The INDIAN shrugs.)

Tell your chiefs that we are coming upriver. And that we want our horse back.

(DROUILLARD Pantomimes. The INDIAN waits. Pause.)

What does he want?

(The INDIAN holds his hand out.)

DROUILLARD

I think he wants a symbol of our friendship.

LEWIS

Well, if he thinks I'm giving him a tip...

DROUILLARD

I would recommend it, Sir. He will take this message to his tribe.

LEWIS

Oh, all right.

(LEWIS pulls out a cigar and hands it to the INDIAN.)

Now get out of here. Tell your chiefs.

(DROUILLARD pantomimes this, ending by pointing RIGHT, for the INDIAN to go. He does. Lighting change. CLARK enters, and steps over to LEWIS and DROUILLARD. He carries a sack, and wears a sword.)

CLARK

(Shouting to everyone)

The Sioux are coming! Stay on your toes!

(to DROUILLARD)

Drewer, do you speak Sioux?

DROUILLARD

No. I can only use the Indian hand signals. Cruzatte speaks some Sioux.

LEWIS

We need him.

DROUILLARD

I will get him.

(DROUILLARD steps offstage. CRUZATTE enters, an old French trader. He looks a lot like DROUILLARD, with a different hat and an eyepatch. Another, slightly different French accent.)

CRUZATTE

Drouillard said you wanted to see me.

LEWIS

You speak Sioux?

CRUZATTE

It has been a while. But yes.

LEWIS

We need you to translate for us.

CRUZATTE

I will do my best.

CLARK

Where's the PowerPoint?

LEWIS

It fell in the river. It's drying out on the bank.

CLARK

That's a shame... We wanted to impress these guys.

LEWIS

I know. I memorized my whole speech.

(Three Sioux chiefs--BLACK BUFFALO, PARTISAN, and BUFFALO MEDICINE--enter. All wear men's business casual clothing: slacks and shirts unbuttoned at the neck.)

CLARK

Hello there!

CRUZATTE

Hau! [Hello!]

LEWIS

Thank you for coming!

CRUZATTE

Yahi pi kin le pilamayaya pi yelo! Tanyan wacinyanka pi yelo. [Thank you for coming! Happy to see you!]

PARTISAN

Hau. [Hello.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Hau. [Hello.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Taku ehin kte kin he na'unhh'un pi kta ca unhi pi yelo. [We come to hear what you have to say.]

CRUZATTE

He says they are here to listen to what we have to say.  
(to the Indians)  
Taku eniciyapi he? [How do they call you?]

BLACK BUFFALO

Tatanka Sapa emachiya pi. [Black Buffalo is what I'm called.]

PARTISAN

Partisan emachiya pi. [Partisan is what I'm called.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Tatanka Phejuta emachiya pi. [Buffalo Medicine is what I'm called.]

CRUZATTE

(Points to each)

This is Black Buffalo, The Partisan, and Buffalo Medicine.

CLARK

Welcome. I'm Captain William Clark and this is Captain Meriwether Lewis. He's Pierre Cruzatte.

(Grabbing three chairs from here and there.)

Have a seat. Make yourselves comfortable.

CRUZATTE

Iyotake. Unpi Okabla ya. [Sit. Be comfortable.]

(The three INDIANS sit facing upstage, in front of the audience. BLACK BUFFALO in the middle.)

LEWIS

(Clears his throat, presents)  
 Children. We've been sent by the great Chief of the Seventeen great nations of America to let you know that a great council was held between the great chief and your old fathers the French and the Spaniards.

(This translation is difficult for CRUZATTE. He speaks in a halting manner, translating in his head as he goes along.)

CRUZATTE

Emm, Wakanyeza pi, itanchan unkitawa pi kin Washichu Ikcheka na Spayola Otake kin ob woglake. [Emm. Children. Our great chief met with the French people and the Spanish people.]

LEWIS

In this council it was agreed that everyone in Louisiana should obey the commands of the great chief.

CRUZATTE

Emm, tuwe keyash itanchan kin el nughe yusa pi kta ca he ogra glushtan pi yelo. [They agreed that everybody should obey the great chief.]

LEWIS

The great chief has adopted everyone as his children and we are now one family.

CRUZATTE

Emm, Wana tiwahe unwanjila pi yelo. [Now, we are one family.]

LEWIS

Children. Your old fathers the French and the Spaniards have withdrawn all their troops and have surrendered all their fortifications to the great chief.

CRUZATTE

Wakanyeza pi, Emm. Washichu Ikcheka na Spayola kin iyayekiya pi na ich'ich'u pi yelo. [Children. Emm. All the French people and all the Spanish people have run away and surrendered.]

LEWIS

Cruzatte, are you really translating all this?

CRUZATTE

It is a very concise language. Not so verbose as my French or your English.

LEWIS

Children. The great chief has become your only father.

CRUZATTE

Wakanyeza pi, ithachan thakan kin wana ateyaya pi yelo.  
[Children. The great chief has become your father.]

LEWIS

He is the only friend to whom you can now look for protection, or from whom you can ask favours, or receive good councils, and he will take care that you'll have no reason to regret this change; he will serve you, and not deceive you.

CRUZATTE

Kola heca. Woyuha ota nich'u pi. Onichiya pi kte. Nignaya pi kte sni. [He is a friend. He gives many presents. He will aid you. He will not deceive you.]

CLARK

Meriwether, I don't think they're following this.

LEWIS

Ask them if they understand.

CRUZATTE

Oyakahhnigha pi he? [Do you understand?]

BLACK BUFFALO

(Half-heartedly)

Han, Lakakh cin. [Yeah, sure.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Le huhu kin el thalo wanice. [There is no meat on these bones.]

PARTISAN

Han, Woglaka pi conala na woyuha ota kte yelo. [Yeah. Less talk, more presents.]

CRUZATTE

Emm. I think they might like to skip ahead in the program.

LEWIS

Okay.

(Looks up, mouths his speech to himself, skipping ahead)

Our cities are as numerous as the stars of the heavens, and our people like the grass of the plains... we cover the whole land with our cultivated fields and wigwams, reaching from the western borders of the Mississippi to the great lakes of the East, where the land ends and the sun rises from the face of the great waters.

CRUZATTE

Oyate na makoce ota unyuha pi. [We have lots of people and much land.]

LEWIS

(Mouths his speech to himself, skipping ahead)

Children. The great chief wishes you to live in peace with all men, white and red. Do not wage war against the red men your neighbors. Do not attack any traders who visit you under the protection of the great father's flag. When you see the flag you will know them to be good men, and that they do not intend to injure you. Treat them as friends, and as the common children of one great father.

CRUZATTE

Washichu kin wicakiza pi sni pi yo. Kola hecha pi yelo. [Do not attack white men. They are friends.]

LEWIS

You do not want to bring upon your nation the displeasure of your great father, who can consume you as the fire consumes the grass of the plains.

CRUZATTE

Ithachan tankan kin yuchanzeka pi sni yo. Ileniya pi kte yelo. [Do not anger the great chief. He will burn you.]

LEWIS

Follow his counsels and you will have nothing to fear, because the Great Spirit will smile upon your nation and in future ages will make you outnumber the trees of the forest.

CRUZATTE

Ithachan tanka kin ihakab mani na takuni kokipha pi sni yo. Wakan tanka kin ihha na niglu'ota pi kte yelo. [Follow the great chief and fear nothing. The great spirit will smile and your people will multiply.]

LEWIS

Thank you.

CRUZATTE

Pilamayaya pi yelo. [Thank you.]

(The INDIANS stand up.)

LEWIS

We have some presents for you.

CRUZATTE

Woyuha unich'u pi. [We have gifts for you.]

(CLARK opens the sack and pulls out three medals.)

CLARK

First, we would like to offer you these peace medals. With the likeness of our great chief, Thomas Jefferson. As a symbol of our respect and friendship.

CRUZATTE

Maza wanap'in. Ithachan tanka kici kiciza pi wanil. [The peace medal. With the great chief.]

(LEWIS puts one medal over the head of each chief.)

CLARK

And we also have...

(Looking in the sack.)

A coat and hat!

(He pulls out a blazer and a baseball cap.)

CRUZATTE

Ogle tanka na waphoshtan unnich'u pi! [A coat and hat we give you!]

LEWIS

Black Buffalo, because you are clearly the great chief here, we present you with this coat and hat from the seventeen great nations of America.

(LEWIS takes one side of the jacket and together he and CLARK put it on BLACK BUFFALO, who looks a little confused. The other chiefs watch and giggle. CLARK puts the hat on BLACK BUFFALO's head.)

PARTISAN

Lila owayang waste! [Very handsome!]

CRUZATTE

Tatanka Sapa ata nikili. He un, woyuha kin lena unnich'u pi [Black Buffalo, you are great. For that reason we give you these gifts.]

(PARTISAN and BUFFALO MEDICINE stop laughing. CLARK bundles up the empty sack.)

LEWIS

And that's all we have. Thank you for coming!

CRUZATTE

Ho, hecetu welo. Pilamayaya pi yelo [There, that is all. Thank you.]

(The chiefs make no move to leave. The following is too fast for CRUZATTE to translate.)

PARTISAN

Le taku huwo? [What is this?]

BLACK BUFFALO

Le taku kin lila tokecha. [This is very strange.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Ogle mithawa kin tuktel yanka huwo? [Where's my coat?]

PARTISAN

(to CRUZATTE, LEWIS, CLARK)

Lecheg-la? Tonik-cha pi huwo? [Is this all? What's wrong with you?]

BLACK BUFFALO

Le miye yelo. Wiyo-phe-mich'iyeye sni. [This is me. I don't sell myself.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Nakun takun unk'u pi yo! Ka wata kin maza wakhan na mni wakhan ojula yelo. [Give us more! That boat is filled with guns and whiskey!]

CLARK

What are they saying?

CRUZATTE

They are disappointed. They want more presents.

CLARK

But that's all we have. Tell them that's all we have.

CRUZATTE

Lena echela unyuha pi. [We have only these.]

PARTISAN

Wini-shica pi na wani-shakala pi. [You are greedy and cheap.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Le ogle ki washakala. Le un machuwita kte. [This coat is cheap. I will be cold with this.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Le omniciyapi kin sice. Manchanzeke. [This meeting is bad. I am angry.]

CRUZATTE

I think we should give them something more.

LEWIS

Like what?

CLARK

I'll get the whiskey.

LEWIS

I know I could use a drink.

(CLARK runs off.)

Ask them if they want some whiskey.

CRUZATTE

Mni wakhan yachin pi he? [Would you like whiskey?]

PARTISAN

Han, unk'u pi yo! [Yes! Give it to us!]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Itomni unyapi na unkihahha pi kta iblukcan [I think they are trying to get us drunk and make fun with us.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Wablatkan wacin. [I want to partake.]

(CLARK returns with a bottle of whiskey and six glasses on a tray. He pours whiskey in each. The Indians grab their glasses. CLARK puts the tray on the ground.)

LEWIS

Here's to the Seventeen Great Nations of America!

CLARK

Here's mud in your eye!

(All drink. The Indians finish, and hold out their glasses for more. CLARK pours.)

PARTISAN

Washte! [That's good!]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Le phejuta wash'ake. [This is strong medicine.]

CRUZATTE

Salut!

(All drink. CLARK moves to pour again.)

LEWIS

That's enough for me.

PARTISAN

Akob muk'u po! [Give me more!]

(CLARK empties the bottle into their glasses, and puts it on the tray. They drink. Their speech begins to slur.)

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Wana taku kta huwo? [Now what?]

PARTISAN

Taku akab luha pi huwo? [What else do you have?]

BLACK BUFFALO

Mni wakhan isam luha pi huwo? [Do you have more whiskey?]

PARTISAN

(to BLACK BUFFALO)

Waposhtan washte luha. Mak'u wo! [Nice hat. Gimme.]

(PARTISAN takes BLACK BUFFALO's hat and puts it on his head.)

BLACK BUFFALO

He waposhtan kin mitawa! [That's my hat!]

PARTISAN

Wana miye mitawa. [It's mine now.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Ake waposhtan wanji mak'u pi yeto? [Can I have another hat, please?]

LEWIS

Well. It was very nice of you to come to pay us a visit.

CLARK

Hope to see you again.

CRUZATTE

Tanyan wa'unni-yanka pi. Yahi pi kin le washte. [Nice to see you. It was good of you to come here.]

PARTISAN

(Agitated and incredulous)

Hechegla huwo? [Is this all?]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Walehan takuni ikipi sni. [Nothing is worth it so far.]

LEWIS

Goodbye!

(PARTISAN staggers over to LEWIS and CLARK.)

PARTISAN

(In CLARK's face)

Wata ojula taku unyak'u pi hantanash echecla ilala pi oyakihi pi kte. [When you give us a canoe full of gifts, only then can you leave.]

CRUZATTE

Emm. They won't let us continue unless we give them a canoe filled with gifts.

CLARK

This is intolerable.

PARTISAN

Le wakpala kin unki-thawa pi. Unki-chazuzu po! [We control the river! You will pay us!]

(CLARK draws his sword.)

CLARK

We are not messing around with you Indians! We are not squaws... we're warriors!

(PARTISAN and CLARK are eye to eye.)

LEWIS

(Shouting to the boat)

Sergeant Gass!

GASS

(From the boat)

Yes, Captain?

LEWIS

Are all weapons loaded?

GASS

Yes, Captain!

LEWIS

Aim the cannon, the blunderbusses, and all rifles at the Indians.

GASS

We are, Captain.

LEWIS

Stand by for my order to fire.

GASS

Yes, Sir.

(THOMAS JEFFERSON appears, like a ghost. Only LEWIS can see him. Everybody else freezes.)

JEFFERSON

Meriwether?

LEWIS

Yes? Mr. President!

JEFFERSON

Remember my instructions! "In all your intercourse with the natives, treat them in the most friendly and conciliatory manner which their own conduct will admit." Especially the Sioux. "On that nation, we wish most particularly to make a favorable impression."

LEWIS

But, Mr. President! My back is to the wall.

JEFFERSON

Don't be a hothead, Meriwether. Think of your mission!

LEWIS

Yes, Sir.

JEFFERSON

Get to the Pacific!

LEWIS

Yes, Sir.

JEFFERSON

(Vanishing)  
Get to the Pacific...

(JEFFERSON is gone. The action resumes:  
PARTISAN and CLARK at a standoff.)

CLARK

Go.

BLACK BUFFALO

(to PARTISAN)

Wakta echun wo! [Be careful!]

PARTISAN

Ungnaya pi. [They're fooling (bluffing) us.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Unkiwanyanka pi. [They're sizing us up.]

BLACK BUFFALO

(Putting his hand on PARTISAN's shoulder)

Tehhi yelo. Thog-ya unki-yutha pi ki washte kte.  
[There's difficulty. It would be good to try something  
different.]

(PARTISAN shakes him off.)

CLARK

Get out of here!

BLACK BUFFALO

Unkute pi hantash takuni unkichu pi kte sni yelo. Ungna  
unt'a pi kte yelo. [If they shoot us we won't get  
anything at all. Perhaps we will be dead.]

BUFFALO MEDICINE

Le anpetu kin le ihanke sni ayes toka sni. [It does not  
matter if this doesn't end today.]

(BUFFALO MEDICINE puts his hand on PARTISAN's  
shoulder.)

LEWIS

(to the boat)

Hold steady! Prepare to fire!

PARTISAN

Ohan. [Oh, all right.]

(PARTISAN turns away from CLARK.)

BLACK BUFFALO

(to LEWIS, CLARK, CRUZATTE)

E'unki-chik-tunza po. [Erase our actions for us (we are  
sorry).]

CRUZATTE

He apologizes for the other chief's behaviour.

CLARK

Don't you Indians know that we have more medicine on board our boat than would kill twenty of your nations in one day?

LEWIS

(Calmly)

William. Put the sword away.

CLARK

Yes. Of course.

(CLARK resheaths his sword. He extends his hand to the Indians)

No hard feelings.

CRUZATTE

Pila'unyaya pi. E'uni-chik-tunza pi yelo. [Thank you. We will forget it for you.]

(The Indians do not take CLARK's hand.)

CLARK

Oh, forget it.

(CLARK storms off, LEFT.)

BLACK BUFFALO

Thohinyanki yeto! [Wait!]

CRUZATTE

Captain Clark, wait!

(CLARK returns. PARTISAN and BUFFALO MEDICINE stand off, RIGHT, a little.)

LEWIS

What is it?

BLACK BUFFALO

Niye ob ciya pi owakihi he? Mita otunwahe kin cicipazo pi kte yelo. [Can I go along with you? I will show you my village.]

CRUZATTE

He wants to travel upriver with us. And show us his village.

LEWIS

Just him? Or all three?

CRUZATTE

Nishnala? [By yourself?]

BLACK BUFFALO

(Looks at his companions, decides)  
Han, Mishnala. [Yes, by myself.]

(LEWIS looks at CLARK. CLARK shrugs.)

LEWIS

Send the others home.

CRUZATTE

Ohan, Partisan na Thatanka Phejuta, wana yagla pi kin waste. [Partisan and Buffalo Medicine, it would be good to see you go home now.]

PARTISAN

Taku? [What?]

BLACK BUFFALO

Gla po! [Go home!]

(PARTISAN storms off. BUFFALO MEDICINE follows.)

LEWIS

Okay. Let's go.

(BLACK BUFFALO follows LEWIS onto the boat. CRUZATTE and CLARK behind. Static.)

## 11. INFOMERCIAL: BEAVER PELTS

(DROUILLARD steps out, addresses the audience. Off to one side, a table with a stuffed animal beaver.)

DROUILLARD

Have you ever wondered why your life is so boring? Have you ever thought to yourself, "Why am I so dull?" Do you ever look around at people around you and think, "I do not like them so much"? Do you ever consider trying to lead a life of adventure, but do not because you do not know how to begin, or do not believe that you can succeed?

Have I got something for you! What would you say if I were to tell you that you can change your life tomorrow, get away from just about everybody, and make a literal killing by living off the fat of the land?

Sounds crazy, right? Sounds too good to be true? That is what I thought until I discovered the beaver.

I am George Drouillard, beaver trapper and member of the Corps of Discovery. And I'm going to teach you how to make a killing by killing beaver.

You have probably never thought of the beaver as a cash cow. It is not a cow at all you say, it is a little furry beast with two big teeth and a flat paddle-like tail that chews up trees and makes dams. But did you know that the beaver's fur, its "pelt," is coveted throughout the world--in New York, London, Paris, Tokyo, Hong Kong--but that North America is the place where most of that beaver comes from? We have great big beaver here. No beaver on the Seine, that's for sure. No beaver on the Thames. But up here on the Missouri River, you cannot spit without hitting a big, beautiful, well-maintained beaver.

Let me show you our little friend.

(Steps to the beaver table)

Here he is. His little life recently cut short by the trapper's rifle after he was caught in one of our traps. Prices fluctuate too much for us to be too specific, but let's say the pelt will get you a dollar in North Dakota in trade with the Mandans or the trappers. It's worth five dollars by the time it gets all the way down the river to St. Louis, twenty dollars in New York, and fifty dollars in London.

DROUILLARD

(Continued)

I, George Drouillard, am prepared to show you how you can capitalize on the incredible premium placed on the beaver pelt throughout the civilized world. With my new BEAVER TRAPPER'S GUIDE, the BEAVER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, and free video, you'll be well on your way to making a killing.

But don't just take my word for it. Listen to what one of our satisfied customers has to say...

(JOHN COLTER enters, faces audience.)

COLTER

I've always fancied myself a bit of an outdoorsman. But growing up in Pittsburgh is nothing like hunting beaver out in Northern Louisiana! I had no idea how much I didn't know until I got Drewer's book! Like many Americans, I used to believe that the secret to hunting is superior firepower. Shoot it and shoot it again until it ain't moving no more. But Drewer taught me the benefit of "savoir faire." Now I'm a better hunter, and I save on ammo, too!

DROUILLIARD

I'll bet there are many things you do not know about the beaver. The flat tail, for example, is a delicacy out here. You can cook it up and eat it soon after the kill. It is as tasty as foie gras.

Act now and we will also include the BEAVER RECIPE BOOK, which is packed to the tail with recipes for beaver meat and beaver tail, including my personal favorite, beaver pailliard avec les champignons. Avoir!

(Static.)

**12. SPY MOVIE: AT THE TETON SIOUX VILLAGE**

(CLARK and BLACK BUFFALO sit on the boat.  
CLARK's cowboy hat is gone.)

CLARK

You see, we own all this now. It's all ours. We give names to rivers, animals, whatever. Like that island there. I will call that island Bad Humored Island. Do you know why? Because I'm in a bad humor. A bad mood. Your people really got my ire up back there.

BLACK BUFFALO

Winitko iblukcan. [I think you're crazy.]

CLARK

Cruzatte?

CRUZATTE

(Appears)

Yes, Sir?

CLARK

Ask him if we're at his village yet.

CRUZATTE

Yati kin kiyela huwo? [Are we close to your home?]

BLACK BUFFALO

Katu welo. Paha he akho-tanhan. [Right over there. On the otherside of that hill.]

CRUZATTE

He says it's right over there.

CLARK

(Standing)

Whoa! Stop the boat! Bring her to the left bank!

(Lighting change. LEWIS, CRUZATTE, and BLACK BUFFALO. BLACK BUFFALO is giving LEWIS the tour. LEWIS's cowboy hat is off.)

BLACK BUFFALO

(Like a tour guide)

Lel wati. Lena mitha oyate. Sicanghu kin. Tipi opawinghe unyuha pi, na oyate opawinghe napchi-yukan. [This is my home. These are my people. The Brule. We have about a hundred tepees. There are about nine hundred of us.]

CRUZATTE

This is the home of the Brule band of the Tetons. There are a hundred tepees, and nine hundred people.

LEWIS

Your houses are unusual. Your tepees. Indians to the East do not live in houses like this.

CRUZATTE

Nita tipi kin owethokecha. Tipestola hecha. Oyate slolwicha'unya pi hena tipi tokecha oti pi. [They are sharp point teepees. The Indians we know live in different kinds of houses.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Lel oyate ota pi. Omaha ki naphe-wicha-unya pi. Akicita wikcemna shakpe sam zaptan wicha'unkte pi, na winyan na wakhanyeza kin wikcemna topa sam shagloghan wicha'unyuha pi. [There are more people than usual here. We just won a big battle with the Omahas. We killed seventy-five warriors and took forty-eight women and children prisoners.]

CRUZATTE

They just won a big battle with the Omahas. They killed seventy-five warriors and took forty-eight women and children prisoners. Captain Lewis, I speak Omaha. My Omaha is much better than my Sioux.

LEWIS

Well, that's a relief. As soon as you get a chance, break away and see if you can speak to the prisoners. Find out what happened, and see if you can get more information about the Sioux from the Omahas.

CRUZATTE

Yes, Sir.

BLACK BUFFALO

Niyu'onihan wa'unchi pi kte yelo. Ungna khohan winyan wanji yachin nacheche. [We are going to have a dance in your honor. Perhaps you might want a woman in the meantime.]

CRUZATTE

They're planning a party for later. He asks if you might like a squaw.

LEWIS

A what?

CRUZATTE

A squaw. A woman.

LEWIS

For what?

CRUZATTE

To satisfy the longings of the flesh, I suppose.

LEWIS

Oh, no. No. Thank him. But tell him I do not require a squaw.

CRUZATTE

Pila'unyaya pi yelo. Winyan wanzi chin sni. Ayesh, miye imatokha sni. [Thanks. He doesn't need a squaw. Myself, however, I wouldn't mind.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Wachi pi ekta winyan wanzi aniphe kte yelo. [A woman will be waiting for you at the dance.]

CRUZATTE

(Face lights up)

Pilamayaye yelo! [Thanks!]

(Quick blackout. Traditional Sioux music: chanting and singing with tamborines. Lights up: LEWIS and CLARK step forward, wide-eyed.)

CLARK

That was some dance. I've never seen anything like that before.

LEWIS

No American has.

CLARK

The way the women danced around... with all the scalps and trophies of war... all the men that their husbands or fathers had killed. If only we could get our women to do that... I've certainly never seen an American woman take such delight in our conquests!

LEWIS

No. I don't believe they do.

(CRUZATTE enters.)

CRUZATTE

Captain. Captain. I have been talking to the Omahas.

LEWIS

Yes?

CRUZATTE

They are a sad and dejected looking people.

LEWIS

What did you learn from them?

CRUZATTE

They say that the Tetons are planning to rob us when we least expect it. They say this hospitality is all a decoy to gain our confidence so they can rob us.

CLARK

Hmm. Let's stay on our toes, and have the men on alert at all times. But let's not let the Sioux know that we are watching them carefully.

(BLACK BUFFALO enters, from the dance.)

LEWIS

Here's Black Buffalo. Act normal.

BLACK BUFFALO

Ho, hecetu welo. Iyokipi-nich'iya pi huwo? [There you are. Did you enjoy the scalp dance?]

CRUZATTE

He wants to know if you enjoyed the dance.

CLARK

Tell him it was immensely enjoyable. A real blast. But now we are tired and are going to bed.

CRUZATTE

Iyokipi-ich'iya pi. Iyunka pi kte. [They had fun. They're going to bed.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Winyan etan wicha-yachin pi he? [Do you want a woman?]

CRUZATTE

He wants to know if we'd like to take squaws with us.

CLARK

Squaws? For what?

(to LEWIS)

Is he offering us women?

LEWIS

Yes.

CLARK

What a curious custom!

LEWIS

Apparently they want to make us feel at home.

CLARK

(Excited)

Indeed!

LEWIS

Catch us off guard.

CLARK

(More considered)

Right.

LEWIS

William...

CLARK

Tell him we cannot accept the squaws.

CRUZATTE

Winyan wicha-chin pi sni. [They don't want squaws.]

BLACK BUFFALO

(to CRUZATTE)

Wan lila sicaya. Nis? [That is very bad. And you?]

LEWIS

Let's go to bed.

CRUZATTE

(to BLACK BUFFALO)

Istima pi kin waku kte yelo. [When they are asleep, I'll come back.]

CLARK

Goodnight!

LEWIS

'Night!

(LEWIS and CLARK exit. BLACK BUFFALO and CRUZATTE share a glance. CRUZATTE follows him off. Lighting change. LEWIS, CLARK, BLACK BUFFALO, PARTISAN, BUFFALO MEDICINE, CRUZATTE.)

LEWIS

We have truly enjoyed our time with you here. But we must be going upriver.

CRUZATTE

O'iyokipi ayesh, unkiyaya pi kte yelo. [It has been fun, but we will be leaving.]

BLACK BUFFALO

Hiya! Ena un po! Nahanhchi Brule winyan kin iyokpi niya pi sni yelo. [No! Stay! The Brule women have not given you a good time yet.]

CRUZATTE

He would like us to stay and take a woman.

BLACK BUFFALO

Ehake anpetu wanzi. Ehake anpetu wanzi ena un po. [Just one more day. Stay just one more day.]

CRUZATTE

He would like us to stay one more day.

CLARK

We can't. Thank him for his hospitality. But we have to go.

CRUZATTE

Unkiyaya pi kte yelo. [We will be leaving.]

CLARK

I'll be on the boat.

(He exits to the boat.)

LEWIS

Thank you. It has been a pleasure.

CRUZATTE

Pila'unyaya pi yelo. I'oyokipi unyuha pi. [Thank you again. It has been a pleasure.]

PARTISAN

Ilala pi oyakihi pi sni. [You can't go.]

CRUZATTE

Takuwe? [Why not?]

PARTISAN

Echin iyaye-unni-chi-ya pi kte sni. [Because we won't let you.]

CRUZATTE

They won't let us go.

LEWIS

Let them try and stop us.

CRUZATTE

I am afraid that they will.

## BLACK BUFFALO

Chanli etan unyak'u pi'hechegla unla pi'chanli echela. Iyaye unnichiya pi kte. [If you could just give us some tobacco... that's all we ask... just some tobacco. We will let you proceed.]

## CRUZATTE

They want some more tobacco.

## LEWIS

Tell them we won't be blackmailed.

(Shouting)

All hands! Ready for departure!

(PARTISAN and BUFFALO MEDICINE grab the bow-line of the boat.)

## CRUZATTE

Tuweni unpatitan pi kte sni. [No one will pressure us.]

## BUFFALO MEDICINE

Chanli chonala echela unchin pi. [All we want is a little tobacco.]

## CRUZATTE

They still ask for tobacco.

## CLARK

(on the boat)

Tobacco? Here, have some tobacco!

(CLARK throws down a single cigar.)

## BLACK BUFFALO

Sichaya echanu pi. [You have acted bad.]

## CRUZATTE

He is insulted.

## LEWIS

Insulted? We will not be blackmailed. We will not be trifled with.

## CLARK

All hands, prepare to fire!

## BLACK BUFFALO

Chanli chonala un kiliya echanu pi. [You have over acted for a little tobacco.]

## CRUZATTE

He says he can't believe you're getting so worked up over a little tobacco.

LEWIS

Oh, all right!

(LEWIS pulls out a few cigars. He steps over and hands one to PARTISAN, one to BUFFALO MEDICINE, and one to BLACK BUFFALO. They release the bowline.)

LEWIS

Now let's get out of here.

(LEWIS and CRUZATTE exit to the boat. PARTISAN, BUFFALO MEDICINE, and BLACK BUFFALO suck on their cigars.)

CLARK

(Shouting, from the boat)

Spread the word! If you try to stop us again, we will defend ourselves!

CRUZATTE

Tuktetu k'e-ayesh oyaka po. Na'unkic'I-zin pi kte yelo.  
[Tell it everywhere. We will stand our ground.]

(Static.)

### 13. PRESS CONFERENCE: ARRIVAL AT THE MANDANS

(LEWIS and CLARK at a podium. A flash of cameras.)

LEWIS

We want to welcome you to Fort Mandan. This is where the Corps of Discovery will be spending the winter. We have spent the last few weeks constructing this Fort, and we are quite pleased with its defensibility.

Let me tell you a little bit about our plans for the winter months. Our friends, the Mandans and Hidatsas, have made us feel very comfortable here, near their villages, and we are developing a very friendly business and social relationship with the chiefs and their people. We are hunting with the Mandans and we are surviving by trading with them in goods and services--including small arms made by our blacksmith, Private Shields, and doctoring provided by Captain Clark and myself.

We are also beginning to prepare for spring. As you may know, the Mandan Villages are the furthest that most white traders have come up the Missouri River. Beyond this point, we have no map, we have no idea what to expect on the way to the Pacific Ocean.

A key challenge and concern to us for the journey ahead is in being able to communicate with the Indians. We are actively recruiting translators from the Indians and the independent traders we meet along the way. I want to introduce you to a few new hires...

(Both LEWIS & CLARK look off.)

Drewer, could you bring the team out?

(DROUILLARD, CHARBONNEAU, and SACAGAWEA enter. They stand to one side of the podium, in a row facing the audience. Camera flashes from the audience again.)

Let me introduce you to our translation team. George Drewer, next to me here, will translate between English and French. Toussaint Charbonneau, next to him, doesn't speak a word of English, but can speak French and Hidatsa. His wife, next to him, speaks Hidatsa and Snake. We believe that the Snakes live near the source of the Missouri in the Western mountains, and may be able to provide horses for our portage to the Columbia River. Are there any questions?

(Reporter SHELLY KIOHANI stands, raises a hand from the audience.)

LEWIS

Yes?

KIOHANI

Can you tell us more about the Indian woman? What is her name?

LEWIS

(to DROUILLARD)

What is her name again?

DROUILLARD

(to CHARBONNEAU)

Quel est son nom? [What is her name?]

CHARBONNEAU

Son nom est Sacagawea. [Her name is Sacagawea.]

DROUILLARD

(Heavy French accent)

Her name is Sacagawea.

KIOHANI

How old is she?

LEWIS

(to DROUILLARD)

How old is she?

DROUILLARD

(to CHARBONNEAU)

Quel âge a-t-elle? [How old is she?]

CHARBONNEAU

Elle a quinze ans. [She is fifteen.]

DROUILLARD

She is fifteen.

KIOHANI

Captain, is she pregnant?

(LEWIS looks at DROUILLARD. DROUILLARD looks at CHARBONNEAU, mimes pregnant. CHARBONNEAU nods.)

LEWIS

Yes. Apparently she is.

KIOHANI

Are we to understand that you are planning to bring a pregnant woman, or a woman with a small child, across the continent?

LEWIS

Yes. I'm afraid that's all we have time for. This concludes our press conference. Thank you very much.

(LEWIS steps away from the podium. Static.)

**14. SPORTS REPORT: THE BIG HUNT**

(A SPORTS ANNOUNCER and a HUNTSMAN sit behind a desk.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Welcome to The Big Hunt. I'm Brett Stevenson. This is my co-host, master huntsman Tom MacDonald. It's been another big day out there on the plains. Isn't that right, Tom?

HUNTSMAN

That's right, Brett. Americans and Mandans hunting together. It's truly spectacular to see.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Let's start off with the score. The Indians are still way out in the lead. Last night we reported that the Americans had a score of 11 buffalo, and the Indians had 18. Today the Indians added insult to injury, bagging 22 buffalo, while the Americans only got 9. What's going on out there?

HUNTSMAN

It's quite simply that the Mandans are great riders. Great horsemen. You should see the way they hunt. Riding bareback, controlling their horses with their knees, firing arrows. I have to tell you, the Americans are truly shamed by how well those Indians ride. Especially the Virginians. It's got to be embarrassing for them.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

So even without guns, the Indians are way out in front.

HUNTSMAN

That's right. What looked like a serious advantage on the part of the Americans going into this hunt--the fact that they had guns while the Indians only have bow and arrow--has turned out to not be as critical as we thought. It turns out that if you can ride, you can kill. It seems that riding ability is more important than firepower or marksmanship. That's the real lesson of this hunt if you ask me.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

It's cold out there, isn't it?

HUNTSMAN

Oh, yeah. It was 45 below last night.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Do you think that's a factor here, Tom?

HUNTSMAN

It certainly could be. These Mandans have had winters like this their whole lives. They know cold. The Americans just aren't used to it. It simply does not get this cold on the East Coast.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

But the Americans are still in the game.

HUNTSMAN

Well, they're being good sports about it. They love a good hunt. But I think they're probably about ready to pack it in. I think Lewis and his men have killed enough buffalo to last a while. And that cold has to be getting to them. I don't think they'll stay out there another day.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

It certainly would be tough to make a come back at this point. With the Indians ahead by so many buffalo.

HUNTSMAN

Yeah, I think Lewis has got to be looking for a way to make a graceful exit here, to gather his meat and go home.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Any word on the Sioux?

HUNTSMAN

No, the Sioux have not yet been a factor here. We had expected to see Sioux raiding parties out there. We haven't seen them yet. But I know the Americans and the Mandans have got to be on their toes. And I wouldn't be surprised if the Sioux show up sometime this season.

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Thanks, Tom. When we come back, we'll give you the beaver update. When the Big Hunt continues...

(Static.)

**15. HOME SHOPPING: BATTLE AXES**

(HOME SHOPPING LADY and JOHN SHIELDS stand at a table. There's a battle axe on the table, with a large melon.)

HOME SHOPPING LADY

We really have something special for you this hour. This is, without a doubt, one of the most unique items we've ever had. For the collectors out there. For the warriors. I'm here with John Shields, expert blacksmith and member of the Corps of Discovery. Tell our viewers what you've got there.

SHIELDS

Thanks, Connie. This is a battle axe. It's iron. I made it myself from an old stove.

HOME SHOPPING LADY

Now this is a high quality weapon.

SHIELDS

Absolutely. The Indians really love them.

HOME SHOPPING LADY

Today we're offering this special limited edition custom designed handcrafted Fort Mandan Battle Axe. Made by hand by Private John Shields. For the one-time price of only thirty-nine dollars. Now what would the Indians pay for a weapon like this?

SHIELDS

Oh, we'd get about eight gallons of corn for one of these.

HOME SHOPPING LADY

You heard it here. This axe has a retail value of eight gallons of corn! And we'll ship it to you today for only thirty-nine dollars! John, tell us some more about this weapon. What makes this weapon so special?

SHIELDS

Well, let's say you're an Indian in Northern Louisiana. You're a Mandan. Or a Hidatsa. You probably don't have any guns. You're probably spending a lot of time making your weapons out of rocks or whatever you can get your hands on. Spears. Arrows. You're whittling. You're carving. And you probably can't find quality iron like this. This battle axe is made with the highest quality iron available West of the Mississippi. And that's a definite advantage in battle. I mean, when the business end of this axe connects with your enemy's head, he's really gonna know about it.

HOME SHOPPING LADY

He sure will! Look at that thing! Show us how it works!

SHIELDS

It's a crude weapon, really. You just grab it by the handle, like this.

(Picks it up, foists it)

Personally, I find it works best when you apply a downward motion. When you get it up here, and bring it down on your enemy fast and hard. Like this.

(He buries the axes in the melon.)

HOME SHOPPING LADY

Wow! You can see how effective that is! I can't believe that you can get a high-quality armament like this for only thirty-nine dollars!

SHIELDS

You can. But you've got to act now. I only brought two hundred of these today. And when those are gone, they are gone.

HOME SHOPPING LADY

And those are going fast. We have just over a hundred left. We've sold over ninety since the start of this program. And this is an exclusive. You are not going to find this on the Internet. You are not going to find this at your major superstores. These are only available here, today.

SHIELDS

You see, out on the plains, everybody wants guns. Guns guns guns. But you got to remember, guns take bullets. You need powder. You need balls. Guns jam. Now if your gun jams, out on the prairie, what are you going to do? You're done for. But if you've got a battle axe, at least you can defend yourself. And you're not dependent on powder or balls. And it's not going to jam. With one of these babies, you never run out of killing power.

HOME SHOPPING LADY

If you're an Indian warrior. If you're settler. Even if you're a housewife. A battle axe like this is going to make you a more effective killing machine. We only have a few axes left. Private Shields, is there anything else you want to say about this fine handmade, custom-designed iron battle axe?

SHIELDS

I think we've said it all. This is the finest battle axe West of the Mississippi today. It's easy to use. It's durable. It's guaranteed. Your enemies will quake with fear. This axe makes anybody into a one-man (or one-woman) war party.

HOME SHOPPING LADY

That's it! They're all gone!

SHIELDS

I guess I have to make more!

HOME SHOPPING LADY

Later, we'll be offering a genuine leather battle axe case. And also a selection of warpaints by Judy Kay! So stay tuned!

(Static.)

**16. HOSPITAL DRAMA: SACAGAWEA HAS A BABY**

(LEWIS in a white lab coat and blue scrubs, with rubber gloves. YORK stands, facing upstage, with his pants down. LEWIS examines him.)

LEWIS

York, I've never seen anything like this before. Not on this particular part of the anatomy. How did you manage to do this to yourself?

YORK

Well. I was over at the Mandan Villages... spreading goodwill among the Mandans and several of their squaws.

LEWIS

Yes?

YORK

Those Mandan squaws sure do seem to like me.

LEWIS

So I've heard.

YORK

Anyway, when it was time to leave, I looked around the teepee, but I couldn't find my britches. I don't know what happened to them. But I knew I had to get back in a hurry so as not to upset my master Captain Clark. So the squaws lent me a robe to make it back to the fort. I wrapped it around myself and started to walk back. I thought I was fully covered by the robe. I guess I wasn't.

LEWIS

No. I guess not.

YORK

What are you gonna do, Doctor Lewis? You're not gonna have to cut it off, are you?

LEWIS

No, York. I think it'll heal. Keep it covered, and apply this frostbite poultice at least three times a day.

(Gives him a jar.)

If it doesn't heal in a week, come back to me then.

YORK

Thank you, Doctor.

(YORK pulls up his pants.)

LEWIS

And York. No squaws until you're healed!

YORK

Yes, Doctor.

(LEWIS removes his gloves. YORK starts to exit.)

Captain, there are some Indians and a trapper headed this way.

(LEWIS looks off. YORK exits.)

LEWIS

Bring her in here! Hurry!

(OTTER WOMAN and CHARBONNEAU lead SACAGAWEA in. She is very pregnant.)

CHARBONNEAU

Sidisi! [Hurry! (Hidatsa)]

SACAGAWEA

Ade! [Pain! (Hidatsa)]

OTTER WOMAN

(to SACAGAWEA, calming.)

Shh. Bazia. Bazia. Natesu'uN. [Shh. Sister. Sister. Medicine. (Shoshoni)]

CHARBONNEAU

Nous avons besoin de votre aide! [We need your help.]

LEWIS

How long has she been in labor? How far apart are the contractions?

(OTTER WOMAN, CHARBONNEAU, and SACAGAWEA look at LEWIS.)

CHARBONNEAU

Quoi? Je ne comprends pas. [What? I don't understand.]

LEWIS

Oh, shit. Drewer! Jessum! Labiche! Cruzatte! Somebody! I need a friggin' translator in here!

(JESSAUME enters.)

JESSAUME

Yes. What is it?

LEWIS

I need your help. Ask him how long she's been in labor?

JESSAUME

Combien de temps a-t-elle été dans le travail? [How long has she been in labor?]

CHARBONNEAU

Cuatro heures. [Four hours.]

JESSAUME

Four hours.

LEWIS

Four hours? What took you so long? Let's get her on the table!

JESSAUME

Sur le table! [On the table!]

CHARBONNEAU

Akoka maitikitopa! [Up on the table! (Hidatsa)]

(OTTER WOMAN and CHARBONNEAU ease SACAGAWEA on the table. OTTER WOMAN holds her hand.)

OTTER WOMAN

Natesu'ungahni. Gaipai. [Hospital. Bed. (Shoshoni)]

JESSAUME

Eh. Can I go now?

LEWIS

No way. I need your help.

CHARBONNEAU

Nous sommes venus ici parce que nous avons entendu dire que vous êtes un bon docteur. Je m'inquiété pour mon épouse. [We have come here because we have heard that you are a good doctor. I am worried about my wife.]

JESSAUME

He says that they are here because they have heard that you are a good doctor. They are worried about her.

LEWIS

Is this her first baby?

JESSAUME

Est-ce que c'est son premier? [Is this her first?]

CHARBONNEAU

Oui.

LEWIS

This could be difficult.

(LEWIS puts on rubber gloves.)

SACAGAWEA

Ma kiets. [I am afraid. (Hidatsa)]

OTTER WOMAN

(Calming)

Shh.

LEWIS

Jessum, get me some boiling water and clean towels.

JESSAUME

Pour quoi?

LEWIS

Just do it.

JESSAUME

But we don't have any clean towels, and it will take some time to build a fire to boil water.

LEWIS

Get some help from Drewer or Clark. This woman needs our help.

JESSAUME

Yes, Sir.

(JESSAUME exits. LEWIS has his gloved hands in the air. OTTER WOMAN looks frightened.)

LEWIS

No matter what I say, none of you will understand me. Is that right?

CHARBONNEAU

Quoi?

LEWIS

The fact of the matter is that I've never delivered a human baby before. I've delivered horses. In Virginia. But this is my first human. I have no idea what I'm doing. I'm not a doctor. I'm an explorer. But I know a thing or two about medicines and herbs.

(JESSAUME returns with a towel and a pot of steaming water.)

JESSAUME

Hot water and towels!

LEWIS

Thank you, Jessum. Put that right here. I'm worried about her. She's been in labor for four hours. If only we had an herbal medicine to induce the birth...

JESSAUME

Rattlesnake.

LEWIS

What?

JESSAUME

The rattlesnake. You administer a portion of the rattle. It works every time.

LEWIS

How do you know that?

JESSAUME

I have helped with a few births before. Here and there. We never use boiling water or towels. Just the rattle of the rattlesnake.

LEWIS

Do you want to be the doctor?

JESSAUME

But I have no training. I have no scrubs.

LEWIS

Very well. Do you have a rattlesnake?

JESSAUME

No. I do not have that either.

LEWIS

You know, I think I've got one in my medicine kit.

(to SACAGAWEA)

Stay right there. Don't move.

(He runs off.)

JESSAUME

Restez-ici. Ne Bougez pas. [Stay there. Do not move.]

CHARBONNEAU

Desa dakoa. [Do not move. (Hidatsa)]

JESSAUME

Il va chercher un serpent á sonnettes. Nous essayerons cela. [He will get a rattlesnake. We will try that.]

CHARBONNEAU

(Alarmed)

Que fera-t-il avec le serpent à sonnettes? [What will he do with the rattlesnake?]

JESSAUME

Il emploiera le serpent à sonnettes pour induire la naissance. [He will use the rattlesnake to induce the birth.]

CHARBONNEAU

(More alarmed)

Quoi? Comment? [What? How?]

JESSAUME

Ne vous inquiétez pas. [Do not worry.]

(LEWIS returns with a rubber snake.)

LEWIS

Got it!

SACAGAWEA

(Seeing the snake)

Kuxtika! [Help! [Hidatsa]]

JESSAUME

You understand that you only need the rattle.

LEWIS

I have a knife.

(LEWIS throws the snake on the ground. He pulls out a knife and cuts the end of the snake.)

JESSAUME

Mash up the rattle.

(LEWIS mashes the rattle with the knife.)

LEWIS

Now what?

JESSAUME

(Grabs the pot of water.)

Put it in here.

(LEWIS puts the rattle bits in the water.)

LEWIS

There. Now what do we do with that? How do we apply it?

JESSAUME

Make her drink it.

(LEWIS stands.)

LEWIS

(to SACAGAWEA)

Drink this. It will make the baby come.

JESSAUME

Buvez ceci. Ce la incitera le bébé à sortir. [Drink this. It will make the baby come out.]

CHARBONNEAU

Midihi. Hidi hopadi makadista hu atazikoa. [Drink. This medicine makes the baby come out. (Hidatsa)]

OTTER WOMAN

Dedeaipede! [Baby! (Shoshoni)]

SACAGAWEA

Dedeaipede. Makadista. [Baby. (Shoshoni) Baby. (Hidatsa)]

(She drinks from the pot.)

Tesame. [Hot. (Hidatsa)]

(CHARBONNEAU takes the pot from her.)

JESSAUME

This medicine works fast.

LEWIS

How fast?

(SACAGAWEA begins breathing heavily.)

JESSAUME

That fast.

(LEWIS gets between SACAGAWEA's legs.)

LEWIS

Push!

JESSAUME

Poussez!

CHARBONNEAU

Adakide! [Push! (Hidatsa)]

(SACAGAWEA begins grunting as she pushes.)

LEWIS

Adakide!

(With one gasp, SACAGAWEA pushes and out pops the baby. LEWIS catches it. OTTER WOMAN grabs the towel.)

OTTER WOMAN

Duyepe'! [A boy! (Shoshoni)]

SACAGAWEA

Duyepe'. [A boy. (Shoshoni)]

(LEWIS cuts the cord with his knife. OTTER WOMAN wraps the baby in the towel. JESSAUME comes over, slaps the baby. He starts crying.)

OTTER WOMAN

Dedeaipede. [Baby. (Shoshoni)]

SACAGAWEA

Makarishta-Matse. [My little boy. (Hidatsa)]

(SACAGAWEA holds her arms out for the baby. OTTER WOMAN gives it to her.)

CHARBONNEAU

Mon fils. Je l'appellerai Jean Baptiste. [My son. I will call him Jean Baptiste.] Ita dazi hahkua Jean Baptiste. [His name is Jean Baptiste. (Hidatsa)]

SACAGAWEA

Matseke. Jean Baptiste. [My little boy. Jean Baptiste. (Hidatsa)]

OTTER WOMAN

Ite-tsaki makadista. [Beautiful baby. (Hidatsa)]

(LEWIS removes his gloves.)

LEWIS

(To JESSAUME)

Well done.

(He shakes JESSAUME's hand.)

That rattlesnake sure did the trick.

JESSAUME

It is an old French remedy.

LEWIS  
(to CHARBONNEAU, SACAGAWEA)  
That's a beautiful baby.

CHARBONNEAU  
Son nom est Jean Baptiste.

LEWIS  
Welcome to the Corps of Discovery, Jean Baptiste.

(Static.)

**17. REALITY SHOW: EXPLORERS 2**

(LEWIS, CLARK, CORPORAL WARFINGTON, SACAGAWEA with baby, CHARBONNEAU, MOSES REED, JOHN NEWMAN line up across the stage. TV STAR steps in, carrying a microphone.)

TV STAR

Welcome back to Explorers! We're here at Fort Mandan with the Corps of Discovery. It's been a long hard winter here in North Dakota, and it's finally spring. We're now one year into our journey, and this is the moment of truth. This is where the party splits in two. Some of you will continue west. The others will take the keelboat and head back down the Missouri to St. Louis.

Captains, it is time! Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, come on up here!

(LEWIS and CLARK step forward.)

Captains, you and your men have done well. You have a lot to be proud of. There's been only one serious casualty along the way.

(LEWIS and CLARK look at the ground.)

Sergeant Charles Floyd. Cut down in the prime of his life from Bilious Colic. Truly a tragedy. How does it make you feel?

(Points the microphone at LEWIS and CLARK.)

CLARK

It was a real shame. It's always sad to somebody die like that. Especially one so young and full of life.

TV STAR

Captain Lewis, your thoughts?

LEWIS

I'll second that. Floyd was a good man. A good soldier. I wish he were with us now.

TV STAR

Hopefully his will be the last life lost along the way. Are you ready to move on?

CLARK

I'm ready.

LEWIS

I'm ready, too.

TV STAR

Have you decided who will continue to the Pacific, and who will return to St. Louis?

CLARK

We have, Julie.

TV STAR

How many men will be continuing, Captain?

CLARK

About 30.

TV STAR

So 15 will be going home.

CLARK

That's right.

TV STAR

Captains, how do you make a difficult decision like this? How do you decide who goes on to the Pacific, and who gets to ride downstream on the keelboat?

LEWIS

It's a tough decision. But we've had a year to make it. We've been watching these men, asking ourselves at every step, "Would I want my life in his hands?" If the answer is no, that man is going home today.

TV STAR

The keelboat is packed with supplies. There are also your journals, a report for the President, and botanical and zoological samples.

LEWIS

That's right, Julie. Getting those samples and those journals to the President is an important mission. The man who commands the keelboat on its journey down the river needs to be somebody we can trust.

TV STAR

So, who have you decided will command the boat back to St. Louis.

LEWIS

Corporal Richard Warfington.

WARFINGTON

(Excited)

Yes!

TV STAR  
Corporal Warfington, step out here!

(WARFINGTON steps out.)

How do you feel to be going home?

WARFINGTON  
(Excited)  
Well. It's a little sad. But I miss my family, just as we all do. And I will get to command the keelboat. That's my first command, and I intend to make you proud, Captain Lewis and Captain Clark.

TV STAR  
Very well put. Thank you, Corporal.

(WARFINGTON exits.)

Well, there's no point keeping everybody in suspense. Let's let the party know who will be continuing and who will not.

LEWIS  
(Pulls out a piece of paper)  
I have a list of those men who will accompany Corporal Warfington in the keelboat to St. Louis.

TV STAR  
As your name is called, please step out of the line.

LEWIS  
Boley. Dame. DeChamps. Newman.  
(NEWMAN exits.)  
Robertson. Tuttle. White. Barter. Reed.  
(REED exits.)  
Carson. Roi. Caugee. Roky. Primeau. Rivet. Collin.  
LaJeunness. Malboeuf. Pinaut. Hebert.

TV STAR  
Those that remain. You are the Corps of Discovery. Congratulations! Captains, we've had a few additions to the group, too.

CLARK  
\*That's right, Julie. Charbonneau, Janey, and Pompey.

LEWIS  
That's Sacagawea and her son Jean Baptiste.

TV STAR  
Charbonneau, Sacagawea, step on out here!

(CHARBONNEAU and SACAGAWEA step up to LEWIS, CLARK, and TV STAR.)

CLARK

We've brought them in to be translators. Sacagawea is a member of the Snake tribe. They're an important tribe we're going to run into upriver when we hit the mountains. When the river runs out, we'll need to ditch the canoes and trade for horses. Sacagawea is our ace in the hole.

TV STAR

Now, Sacagawea. You don't speak any English at all, is that right?

SACAGAWEA

That's right, Julie. I speak the language of the Shoshoni people. Snake as Captain Clark says. And also Hidatsa, the language of the tribe that captured me as a child.

TV STAR

Charbonneau. Is it true you won your wife in a bet?

CHARBONNEAU

That's right. Both my wives.

(Everybody laughs.)

TV STAR

But you don't speak English, either?

CHARBONNEAU

Not a word. Just Hidatsa and French.

LEWIS

Luckily, we've got a number of French trappers with us. Drewer, Cruzatte, LaBiche, LePage.

TV STAR

So if you want to talk to Sacagawea, or one of her people, you'll talk to one of four bilingual trappers, the trapper will talk to Charbonneau, and Charbonneau will talk to Sacagawea.

LEWIS

That's the plan.

TV STAR

We all wish you luck with that. Now, Sacagawea, you've got a young baby there.

SACAGAWEA

Jean Baptiste.

TV STAR

How old is he?

SACAGAWEA

Two months.

TV STAR

You're taking a two month old baby on a journey into the unknown?

SACAGAWEA

That's right.

TV STAR

Captains, is this wise?

CLARK

The Indians travel with their babies all the time. For our part, we don't want to leave Janey behind because of her value in negotiating with her people. But we also think that having a woman and a baby with us reinforces the idea that we come in peace.

TV STAR

Charbonneau, Sacagawea, thank you. We'll see you on the river!

(CHARBONNEAU and SACAGAWEA move off to the RIGHT. CHARBONNEAU exits RIGHT, SACAGAWEA stops downstage RIGHT.)

TV STAR

Well, we're about to get started on our voyage into the truly unknown. You're now about to penetrate a country at least two thousand miles across, on which the foot of civilized man has never stepped. You've got six canoes and two large pirogues. These little vessels contain every article by which you will subsist or defend yourselves. What's going through your minds, right now?

CLARK

Well, this little fleet of ours, though not quite as respectable as the fleets of Columbus or Captain Cook, is still viewed by us with as much pleasure as those famed explorers ever beheld theirs. These are our men. This is our fleet. This is our adventure. Let's go!

LEWIS

Exploring the West has been a dream of mine for ten years. This is one of the happiest days of my life. I have no doubt we will make it to the Pacific and back. See you in St. Louis!

TV STAR

Captains, to your canoes! The journey is on again!

(LEWIS and CLARK run off RIGHT. Static. Spotlight on SACAGAWEA.)

SACAGAWEA

Sure it's crazy. The only woman traveling with a group of thirty men. With my baby on my back. It's a little scary. But it's a chance to go home again, at least for a visit. To see my family, and the place I grew up. It's been four years since I was captured. Four years I've been with Charbonneau. I mean, I'm sixteen. I want to see the world, you know. I can't just spend the rest of my life, the next twenty years or whatever, just hanging around here in nowheresville, North Dakota. I want to go west. I want to see things nobody's ever seen. That's why I'm going. It's not about their journey, it's about mine.

(Static. Blackout. Intermission.)

**18. FRAME: COUCH POTATO 2**

(JOE AMERICAN in his recliner, with the remote. PUMPKIN sits on the floor, enrapt.)

JOE

I don't get it, Pumpkin. There's Lewis and Clark on every channel. The news channels, the sports channels, even the movie channels.

PUMPKIN

It's the two hundredth anniversary, Dad. It's a big deal.

JOE

That must be it. Everybody's trying to get a piece of the action.

PUMPKIN

It sure must've been exciting on that journey. To be the first people to see the mountains. Well, the first white people anyway.

JOE

(Changing channels)

I just think it'd be exciting to find one normal show on TV. It hasn't been this hard to watch prime time since the Iraq War.

PUMPKIN

But Dad, it's historic! It's educational!

JOE

(Finds his channel)

Ahh! Here's something educational for you, Pumpkin. A nature show!

(Static.)

**19. NATURE SHOW: THE GRIZZLY**

(The ALLIGATOR WRANGLER in the center of the stage. He speaks with an exaggerated Australian accent.)

WRANGLER

G'Day! Welcome to the Alligator Wrangler! Today we're going to show you one of the most fearsome animals of North America... the grizzly bear!

(GRIZZLY enters, sniffs around the stage. For the most part, the GRIZZLY acts what the ALLIGATOR WRANGLER describes.)

The grizzly bear was first discovered by Lewis and Clark on their journey across America. If you aren't familiar with Lewis and Clark, they're the American equivalent of Burke and Wills, the most famous explorers in Australian history! The natives along the way kept warning Lewis and Clark about this big ferocious bear, but they poo-pooed the natives, thinking that they never met a bear they couldn't handle. When they finally met the grizzly, they learned that the natives were right! Krikie!

(GRIZZLY roars.)

The grizzly is much bigger and more aggressive than other bears. They can weigh up to 400 kilos! That's about 850 pounds for you Americans. They have huge claws, enormous teeth, and are much more prone to attack than any other kind of bear. They can even walk on their hind legs, although they run on all fours.

(GRIZZLY walks around on two legs, runs away on four.)

So what does an animal like this eat? Whatever the heck he wants to! The grizzly is a forager. He'll eat berries, fish, even other animals. Whatever he can get his paws on. And he's got an excellent sense of smell. He can smell food up to 18 miles away! You can bet he's smelling me right now!

(GRIZZLY rears up on two legs, sniffs.)

The grizzly's an excellent fisherman. He stands in the river, waiting for a nice fish to pass by. When he sees the fish, he pounces on it, crushing the fish between his enormous paws and the river bed. Yum!

(GRIZZLY pounces.)

## WRANGLER

(Continued)

Though there are many stories about grizzlies attacking humans, the grizzlies would much rather eat berries or fish. It's only when they're cornered that they turn on humans. So keep your distance! Give the grizzly his space!

When Lewis and Clark first saw the grizzly, a few of their men took shots at it, to try and hunt the grizzly. They received a real education about this bear right away.

(COLTER comes in, with a rifle.)

The first thing they learned was that the grizzly did not frighten easily. More often than not, when it was hit by a bullet, it would turn and charge its attacker.

(COLTER fires at the GRIZZLY, and the GRIZZLY turns on him. COLTER runs off.)

The second thing they learned was that the grizzly was tough to kill. In some cases, it took ten bullets well placed to bring down a grizzly, even if it had been hit in the head and heart.

(Sound of gunshots. The GRIZZLY is hit by several bullets.)

That makes it very tough when all you've got is a gun that fires one shot at a time. After each shot, the soldier had to stop to reload. And you can't reload when you're running away with a grizzly in pursuit!

(COLTER enters. The GRIZZLY pursues him. COLTER runs across the stage.)

The third thing they learned was that the grizzly was not afraid of water. If the grizzly bear was chasing you, even diving into the river wouldn't help. The grizzly would follow.

(COLTER mimes diving into a river. The GRIZZLY mimics his mime.)

The fourth thing they learned was that the grizzly could also climb trees. It's the only bear that can climb, because of its big sharp claws. If you're running away from an angry grizzly, you can't even climb a tree to escape!

(COLTER climbs. The GRIZZLY climbs.)

## WRANGLER

(Continued)

While they were in grizzly country, no man on the expedition would go out alone. In fact, when they found a grizzly, hunting parties of eight or ten would attack it. Six or eight would shoot it first. Then, when it charged, the other two would try to kill it while the first group would reload as quickly as they could.

(Three other explorers enter. They shoot the GRIZZLY. The GRIZZLY falls. COLTER breathes a sigh of relief.)

Lewis wrote about the grizzly, just as he wrote about all the new animals he discovered on his journey--the antelope, the prairie dog, the coyote.

Strangely enough, Lewis wrote that the grizzly bear's testicles are placed much further forward on their belly than in other bears, and are suspended in separate pouches from two to four inches apart. This is total bunk. The Grizzly's testicles are just like those of every other mammal. And nobody today can figure out what Lewis was looking at.

(The GRIZZLY is now dead. COLTER pokes him with his rifle.)

But I'm not about to get close enough to this grizzly's testicles to prove Lewis wrong.

Remember, the grizzly bear is considered a threatened species by the American government. So even if you could kill one like Lewis and Clark, you'd be in big trouble!

We'll see you next time on the Alligator Wrangler, when I'll stick my head into a prairie dog town to see what's going on under the surface! G'day!

(Static.)

**20. THRILLER: LOOKING FOR THE SHOSHONI**

(LEWIS writes in his journal. CLARK enters, limping.)

LEWIS

William, you're back! Did you find them?

CLARK

(Exhausted)

No. No Indians. No horses.

LEWIS

Are you all right?

(LEWIS helps CLARK to sit.)

CLARK

I'm not well.

LEWIS

Your feet are a mess.

CLARK

Those prickly pears are a bitch.

(LEWIS helps CLARK off with his shoes.)

LEWIS

Eew.

CLARK

That's the least of it. I've got a fever. I get chills and aches. I'm bilious, but I haven't had a passage for days.

LEWIS

You know what you need?

CLARK

We need to find the Indians. Trade for horses. Get over those mountains.

LEWIS

(Pulling out a medicine bottle)

How does a dozen thunderbolts sound?

CLARK

(Thinks, then)

I'll take five.

LEWIS

Fair enough.

(Hands CLARK the pills)

There you are.

(CLARK swallows, makes a face.)

CLARK

There are signs of Indians everywhere. But no Indians.

LEWIS

If we don't find the Snakes and trade for horses, we won't make it over the mountains.

CLARK

I know. I know.

LEWIS

You need to stay off your feet for a few days.

(DROUILLARD, CHARBONNEAU, and SACAGAWEA enter.)

DROUILLARD

Captains, The Indian squaw has something to say to you.

LEWIS

Yes?

SACAGAWEA

Wa eke hidi sedu. Hidi hahkua todu Hidatsa mi dutse mi. [I know this place. This is where the Hidatsa captured me. (Hidatsa)]

CHARBONNEAU

Elle identifie ce endroit. C'est où elle a été capturée il y a cinq ans. [She knows this place. This is where she was captured five years ago.]

DROUILLARD

She recognizes this area. This is where she was captured five years ago.

SACAGAWEA

Wa adati hito tuakaduk Hidatsa matsedidi ate. Ma dohpaka kada ha amahami. [I was camped here when the Hidatsa war party attacked. My people fled toward the mountain. (Hidatsa)]

## CHARBONNEAU

Le Shoshoni ont été campés ici quand le Hidatsa a pillant la partie a attaqué. Le Shoshoni a retraits en amont, mais il était trop tard. [The Shoshoni were camped here when the Hidatsa raiding party attacked. The Shosoni retreated upstream, but it was too late.]

## DROUILLARD

The Shoshoni were camped here when the Hidatsa raiding party attacked. The Shoshoni retreated upstream, but it was too late.

## SACAGAWEA

Hidatsa matsedidi kitahe topa maadukiadetsi, topa miakaza, k nuwa makarishta. Matsedidi dutse topa makarishta k hakaheta miakaza. [The Hidatsa war party killed four men, four women, and some boys. They took four boys and all the women prisoner. (Hidatsa)]

## CHARBONNEAU

Le Hidatsas a tué quatre hommes, quatre femmes, et un certain nombre de garçons. Ils ont pris quatre garçons et tous femmes restantes. [The Hidatsas killed four men, four women, and a number of boys. They took four boys and all the remaining women.]

## DROUILLARD

The Hidatsas killed four men, four women, and a number of boys. They took four boys and all the remaining women prisoner.

## LEWIS

Ask her if she has any idea how we can find her people.

## DROUILLARD

Demandes-lui si elle a une idée comment nous pouvons trouver ses personnes. [Ask her if she has an idea how we can find her people.]

## CHARBONNEAU

Tose odapi dita dohpaka? [How can we find your people? (Hidatsa)]

## SACAGAWEA

Amahoka hidi kadu, ma dohpaka kidi atsa hito. Daka ika. [In this season, my people hunt near here. We must keep looking. (Hidatsa)]

## CHARBONNEAU

Elle dit que dans cette saison, ils chassent dans ce secteur. Nous devons conuer á regarder. [She says that in this season, they hunt in this area. We must keep looking.]

DROUILLARD

She says that in this time of year, they must be in this area. We just need to keep looking.

LEWIS

Ask her how you say "white man" in Snake.

DROUILLARD

Demandez-lui comment vous dites "l'homme blanc" dans Shoshoni. [Ask her how you say "white man" in Shoshoni. (French)]

CHARBONNEAU

Tapa hahkua "masi" ka Shoshoni? [What is "white man" in Shoshoni? (Hidatsa)]

SACAGAWEA

Ta-ba-bone. [Stranger (Shoshoni)]

CHARBONNEAU

Vous dites "Ta-ba-bone." [You say "ta-ba-bone."]

DROUILLARD

"Ta-ba-bone."

LEWIS

Ta-ba-bone. Thank you very much for your help.

DROUILLARD

Nous allons maintenant. [Let's go. (French)]

CHARBONNEAU

Dakoa. [Let's go. (Hidatsa)]

(DROUILLARD, CHARBONNEAU, and SACAGAWEA exit.)

LEWIS

We need to send out an advance party, led by one of us, that will stay out until they find the Indians.

CLARK

(Starts to get up)

I'll go.

LEWIS

You can't. Not with your feet in tatters. I'll take Drewer and McNeal.

CLARK

All right.

(Lighting change. LEWIS, DROUILLARD, and MCNEAL.)

LEWIS

There must be an Indian road through here. Let's fan out and head across this valley. Drewer to the right. McNeal stick with me. If you see any signs of the trail, put your hat on the muzzle of your rifle and hold it aloft. Let's go.

(They spread out and head slowly across the stage, searching the ground for a trail. LEWIS notices something, pulls out a telescope, scans the horizon.)

LEWIS

McNeal, I see something.

MCNEAL

What is it?

LEWIS

I'm not sure. Take my rifle.

(LEWIS hands MCNEAL his rifle. DROUILLARD continues to advance. An INDIAN enters, and stands at the far side of the stage. He watches them approach.)

LEWIS

He's watching us. Let me try something, to show him that we are friends. I've heard that pulling out a blanket is sign of peace.

(LEWIS pulls out a blanket and opens it. The INDIAN watches. LEWIS drops the telescope on the blanket.)

MCNEAL

It doesn't seem to be working.

LEWIS

(Shouting)

Ta-ba-bone! Ta-ba-bone!

(The INDIAN brave exits.)

Damn it.

(Static.)

**21. REPORTER: CONTINENTAL DIVIDE**

(MCNEAL and LEWIS, with SHELLY KIOHANI.)

ANNOUNCER

(Offstage)

We interrupt this program to bring you a special report from KSFY-News.

KIOHANI

This is Shelly Kiohani from KSFY-News. I'm here with Captain Meriwether Lewis and Private Hugh McNeal of the Corps of Discovery. Private, what's that under your feet?

MCNEAL

It's the Missouri River!

KIOHANI

What do you mean?

MCNEAL

This is the highest source of the Missouri. This water flows from here to St. Louis, getting bigger and bigger, meeting other streams, until it flows into the mighty Mississippi.

KIOHANI

What does this mean for the mission, Captain Lewis?

LEWIS

Shelly, it means that we're accomplished a big objective. And that we're on the border of U.S. Territory. Past here, it's no man's land.

KIOHANI

What's next, Captain?

LEWIS

We cross this pass and we find the source of the Columbia. Do you want to come with us?

KIOHANI

Sure. Let's go.

(ALL begin to march, LEWIS in the LEAD. SHELLY falls into the rear.)

We're marching with the Corps of Discovery over a mountain pass. No American. No white man, or woman, has ever seen what we will find on the other side. The expedition has heard from the Indians that this should be a simple passage, over this mountain range, and down to the Columbia River on the other side.

(LEWIS stops.)

LEWIS

Oh my God.

(The MEN stare off. KIOHANI steps over to LEWIS.)

KIOHANI

What is it, Captain?

LEWIS

Mountains and more mountains. As far as the eye can see. No river. No plains. Just brown, desolate, snow-capped mountains.

KIOHANI

Captain, what does this mean?

LEWIS

We need horses. We need food. If we don't find the Snake Indians, we'll never make it across.

KIOHANI

Thank you, Captain. This is Shelly Kiohani, KSFY-News, with the Corps of Discovery.

ANNOUNCER

(Offstage)

And now back to our regular program.

(Static.)

## 22. THRILLER 2: FINDING THE SHOSHONI

(An OLD INDIAN WOMAN and a YOUNG INDIAN GIRL sit on the ground. LEWIS and DROUILLARD enter.)

LEWIS

Ta-ba-bone! Ta-ba-bone!

(The INDIAN WOMEN hide their heads in fear.)

OLD WOMAN

Gai. Gai. [No. No. (Shoshoni)]

LEWIS

We're not going to hurt you. We are your friends. We have gifts for you.

(LEWIS pulls out some glittery beads.)

Here. These beads are for you.

(The OLD WOMAN takes the beads, hesitantly.)

Drewer, try your sign language. Tell her we are friends.

DROUILLARD

(Pantomiming)

We are your friends. We will not hurt you.

(To LEWIS)

They are very afraid.

LEWIS

We want to give you more things. We also have paint.

(He pulls out red paint. )

Don't be afraid.

(LEWIS begins to paint the OLD WOMAN's cheeks with paint.)

That's better, isn't it?

DROUILLARD

She seems to be calming down.

LEWIS

Ask her if they will take us to their tribe.

DROUILLARD

Will you take us to your people?

OLD WOMAN

Haa. [Yes. (Shoshoni)]

DROUILLARD

I think they will.

(LEWIS helps the old woman up.)

LEWIS

Thank you.

(They set off. Lighting change. The OLD WOMAN and the YOUNG GIRL lead LEWIS, DROUILLARD, and MCNEAL. The men stop dead in their tracks. LEWIS holds on to the INDIANS.)

DROUILLARD

Do you see what I see?

MCNEAL

There must be sixty of them. Ready for war.

DROUILLARD

If they attack us, we are dead meat.

LEWIS

Stay here. Keep your weapons down. McNeal, take my rifle.

(LEWIS pulls out a flag and starts forward with the two women. CAMEAHWAIT, the Shoshoni chief, enters. CAMEAHWAIT whispers to the OLD WOMAN. CAMEAHWAIT looks LEWIS over.)

CAMEAHWAIT

Ah-hi-e! Ah-hi-e! [I am pleased! I am rejoiced! (Shoshoni)]

(CAMEAHWAIT gives LEWIS a big hug.)

LEWIS

Hello there.

(CAMEAHWAIT releases LEWIS.)

CAMEAHWAIT

(Pointing to himself)

Nean naniha Cameahwait. Enne hagai' nanihade? [My name is Cameahwait. What is your name? (Shoshoni)]

LEWIS

Lewis. Meriwether Lewis.

(Shouting)

Drewer, come over here! Leave your rifle!

DROUILLARD

(Approaching)

Yes, Sir.

LEWIS

Sign language. We are pleased to meet you.

LEWIS

We are the children of the Great Spirit. We present you with this United States flag, a symbol of peace among white men.

(LEWIS gives CAMEAHWAIT the flag.)

CAMEAHWAIT

Ah-hi-e. [I am pleased. (Shoshoni)]

LEWIS

We are very glad that we found you.

(Lighting change. DROUILLARD, LEWIS, and CAMEAHWAIT, sitting and eating.)

LEWIS

We thank you for these choke cherry cakes. We have not eaten in days.

(CAMEAHWAIT makes hand signs.)

DROUILLARD

He says that food is very scarce here. His people are starving. They are about to go to the buffalo plains.

LEWIS

Is there a way through the mountains?

(DROUILLARD makes hand signs, CAMEAHWAIT responds.)

DROUILLARD

It is very difficult. There is no food there. But there is a member of the tribe who may be able to guide you.

LEWIS

The rest of our party will be coming soon. Twenty-five men, one Snake Indian woman with a baby, and a black man.

(DROUILLARD makes hand signs, CAMEAHWAIT responds.)

DROUILLARD

He would like to meet the woman and the slave. They have never seen a black man.

LEWIS

Will the chief come with us over the pass to find the rest of our party?

(DROUILLARD makes hand signs, CAMEAHWAIT responds.)

DROUILLARD

We have been good friends. He will come with us with some of his men.

(Lighting change. LEWIS, DROUILLARD, CAMEAHWAIT, and a SHOSHONI BRAVE. CAMEAHWAIT makes hand signs that DROUILLARD reads.)

DROUILLARD

They are not pleased. They are afraid that we are leading them into a trap. They want to trust us, but they are afraid that we are friends with the Blackfeet, and that they will kill them.

LEWIS

Take my rifle.

(He hands his rifle to CAMEAHWAIT.)

Tell them that white men do not lie. And if he believes I am lying, that he may shoot me.

(DROUILLARD gives hand signs. CAMEAHWAIT seems surprised by this. CAMEAHWAIT pulls out SHOSHONI necklaces for LEWIS and DROUILLARD.)

DROUILLARD

He wants any enemies of his to think we are Shoshoni.

(LEWIS takes off his hat, and puts it on CAMEAHWAIT's head. CAMEAHWAIT is again surprised.)

LEWIS

Drewer, take McNeal and go try to kill some game. These Shoshonis are as hungry as we are.

DROUILLARD

Yes, Sir.

(Lighting change. The SHOSHONI BRAVE is joined by ANOTHER BRAVE, who are devouring a raw deer on the ground. LEWIS, CAMEAHWAIT, and DROUILLARD watch.)

LEWIS

It's like they haven't eaten in weeks. Just ripping into that deer with their teeth. Eating the raw kidneys and spleen and liver and guts. The blood running down their faces. I never knew people could be so hungry.

DROUILLARD

I will try to kill some more.

LEWIS

Very good, Drewer.

(Lighting change. LEWIS, DROUILLARD, CAMEAHWAIT. CLARK, SACAGAWEA, and CHARBONNEAU enter.)

CLARK

Meriwether!

LEWIS

William, thank God you made it!

CLARK

What's that Indian doing with your rifle?

LEWIS

He was going to shoot me if you didn't show up soon.

CLARK

I hope we didn't keep you waiting too long.

LEWIS

No. We've been getting by with Drewer's sign language, but let's set up a translation chain now that Janey's here.

(SACAGAWEA stands next to CAMEAHWAIT and looks at him strangely. CHARBONNEAU stands next to her, DROUILLARD next to him, and LEWIS and CLARK on the end.)

LEWIS

Now, the first thing we want to ask is. Will they trade us for horses? How many can they spare?

DROUILLARD

Nous commercerez-vous pour des chevaux? Combien pouvez-vous épargner? [Will you trade us for horses? How many can you spare?]

SACAGAWEA

Ne Sosoni. [I am Shoshoni. (Shoshoni)]

CAMEAHWAIT

Enne hagai' nanihade? [What is your name? (Shoshoni)]

SACAGAWEA

Nean naniha Sacagawea. [My name is Sacagawea.  
(Shoshoni)]

CAMEAHWAIT

Nean naniha Cameahwait. [My name is Cameahwait.  
(Shoshoni)]

SACAGAWEA

NeaN baba'! [My brother! (Shoshoni)]

(SACAGAWEA embraces CAMEAHWAIT. He is taken  
off-guard.)

CAMEAHWAIT

NeaN nammi? [Are you my little sister? (Shoshoni)]

SACAGAWEA

Haa! Haa! [Yes! Yes! (Shoshoni)]

(CAMEAHWAIT hugs her.)

LEWIS

What's going on?

DROUILLARD

Qu'est-ce que c'est? [What is this?]

CHARBONNEAU

Takada? [What is this? (Hidatsa)]

SACAGAWEA

Ma iakash! [He's my brother! (Hidatsa)]

CHARBONNEAU

C'est son frère! [It's her brother!]

DROUILLARD

It's her brother.

CLARK

You've got to be kidding.

CAMEAHWAIT

AisheN. Ah-hi-e. [Thank you. I am rejoiced.] Thank you  
for bringing my little sister back to me. Whatever you  
need, I will help you get from my people. Horses, a  
guide to take you through the mountains, help getting  
out of your canoes. Anything you ask. You have given me  
a greater present than any man ever has.

(Static.)

**23. AFTER SCHOOL SPECIAL: LEWIS'S DEPRESSION**

(LEWIS sits on the ground writing in his journal.)

LEWIS

This day I completed my thirty-first year, and conceived that I had in all human probability now existed about half the period which I am to remain in this Sublunary world. I reflected that I had as yet done but little, very little, indeed, to further the hapiness of the human race, or to advance the information of the succeeding generation. I viewed with regret the many hours I have spent in indolence, and now sorely feel the want of that information which those hours would have given me had they been judiciously expended. But since they are past and cannot be recalled, I dash from me the gloomy thought and resolve in future to redouble my exertions and at least endeavor to promote the primary objects of human existence...

(CLARK enters, stands off to the side)

...by giving them the aid of that portion of talents which nature and fortune have bestowed on me. Or, in future, to live for mankind, as I have heretofore lived for myself.

CLARK

Hey, Buddy.

LEWIS

Hey.

CLARK

How you doin'?

LEWIS

Oh, good. Fine, fine.

CLARK

Everything ok?

LEWIS

Yeah.

CLARK

Well, if you ever want to talk about anything you just let me know.

LEWIS

Okay.

CLARK

You're like a brother to me. And I hate to see you looking so sad.

LEWIS

Thanks. It's just that I feel like I haven't really done anything with my life. I mean, what have I really accomplished?

CLARK

What do you mean? We're living the dream! We're discovering new lands, making new scientific discoveries every day, mapping the West, and building relationships with unknown Indian tribes. We're paving the way for millions of Americans that will follow us over these mountains. You've done more than almost anybody I know.

I know, but...

CLARK

No buts. Come on, I've got something to show you.

(CLARK reaches out his hand to LEWIS and helps him up. The entire cast comes in and stands at REAR. CLARK turns LEWIS around to see them.)

EVERYBODY

(Singing)

Happy birthday to you! Happy birthday to you! Happy birthday dear Captain Lewis! Happy birthday to you!

(All clap.)

CLARK

Happy Birthday, Meriwether.

LEWIS

I thought everyone had forgotten.

(CLARK puts an arm around LEWIS.)

CLARK

How could we forget you? I only wish I could offer you a drink of whiskey, but the whiskey's all gone! Maybe you'd like a nice Shosoni squaw, huh?

LEWIS

Don't go there, Man!

CLARK

Sorry, Buddy. Just trying to cheer you up.

LEWIS

Thanks, everybody. Hopefully by my next birthday we'll be back in St. Louis, being treated like heroes, with the adoration and appreciation of all Americans.

CLARK

That's more like it, Buddy. Keep your chin up. I love you, man.

LEWIS

Thanks, William.

(Everybody starts to disperse. Static.)

**24. EMBEDDED REPORTER: THE PACIFIC**

(SHELLY KIOHANI from KSFY-News in Sioux Falls stands downstage. She has a microphone in one hand and holds the other to her earpiece to hear.)

KIOHANI

I have to tell you, Nancy. This is one of the most exciting moments this reporter has ever witnessed. It's one of the moments that you hope for as a reporter embedded with the military. The Corps of Discovery is now within sight of the Pacific Ocean. You may be able to see it off in the distance behind me. This means that we have nearly accomplished the primary objective of our mission: to find the best route across North America. Lewis and Clark and their men have been out here for eighteen months--up the Missouri, through the mountains, and down the Columbia. Aside from the fact that, as you can see, it's a miserable day here on the Columbia River, the men are overjoyed. Even though I've only been with them for part of this journey, I share in their excitement.

A few minutes ago, as soon as he saw the Pacific, Captain Clark stood up and started shouting to his men. A moment later, they were all cheering. I was cheering with them.

This is truly a great day for the United States of America. When the Corps of Discovery was traveling up the Missouri River, we were still in U.S. territory. Once we crossed those mountains, we were in no man's land. This land doesn't belong to anybody. The United States can now make a claim to the entire continent, East to West.

Back to you, Nancy.

(Static.)

**25. COP SHOW: FORT CLATSOP**

(Sergeant ORDWAY steps forward.)

ORDWAY

This is our fort on the Pacific. Fort Clatsop. Near present-day Portland, Oregon. I work here. I'm Sergeant Ordway.

It was a rainy day. Another rainy day in a long series of rainy days. It had been a long, hard, boring winter for the men. As the Indians in these parts would steal a cane from a blind man, security was by the book. Always a Sergeant on duty, with three privates. Always a sentry. At dusk, the gates are closed. All the Indians have to leave the fort. This is standard procedure. My job? When I'm on duty, I run the show. Keep an eye on the Indians. Maintain order. Anything I can't handle, I go straight to the Captains. But there's not much I can't handle.

There's no whiskey left, and nothing to do but wait for spring. Some of the men take to indulging in the cheap carnal pleasures offered by the Chinook squaws. The men pay for their moments of bliss not only in a few worthless trinkets, but also with their health and eventually their lives--venereal disease is rampant. I don't know whether we gave it to them or they gave it to us, but it's everybody's problem now.

Anyway, it all ran as smooth as the Indian kid's bottom until the first bloom of spring, when the men started to get itchy. We needed canoes to get up the river again. And the Indians knew they were the only store in town. They hiked their prices, and the Captains got desperate.

(CLARK enters.)

CLARK

They've stolen from us. They don't understand property. They don't behave by our rules.

ORDWAY

Captain, we still have to behave honorably.

CLARK

Honor isn't going to get us home, Sergeant. Dispatch four men to sneak into the Clatsop village and steal a canoe.

ORDWAY

I'll do it, Sir. But I want you to know I don't like it.

CLARK

Nobody's asking you to like it, Sergeant.

(CLARK vanishes.)

ORDWAY

We took the canoe and hid it. Before long we broke camp and got back on the river. But the Indians were wise to us. We ran into an Indian a few miles away who claimed it was his canoe. He was pretty upset. We bought him off and kept moving. Word must've got out. After that, it was open season on us.

You'd turn your back, and your gun would be gone. You'd turn again, and your pack would be gone. They followed us, and stole everything they could from us.

(CAPTAIN LEWIS and an INDIAN enter. LEWIS has him at gunpoint. The INDIAN is terrified.)

LEWIS

I caught this one stealing a piece of lead.

ORDWAY

What do we do with him, Captain?

LEWIS

I'm tempted to beat him. Teach him a lesson.

ORDWAY

He looks plenty scared already. I think he's already got the lesson.

LEWIS

(Lowering his rifle)

Yeah, I guess so. Go on, now, beat it.

(The INDIAN runs away. LEWIS exits.)

ORDWAY

The situation grew desperate. One soldier caught an old man trying to sneak into camp late at night, and whipped the Indian. It was just a matter of time before the situation escalated into bloodshed.

LEWIS

(Re-entering)

They stole my dog! They took Seaman! Dispatch three men. Find those thieves. If they give you any trouble, shoot them!

ORDWAY

(Reluctantly)

Yes, Sir.

(LEWIS exits)

Luckily, it wasn't necessary. When the Indians saw that we were serious, that we'd kill to get the dog back, they gave him up.

We tried to talk to them, of course. Every band of Indians we passed, Captain Lewis would try to get through to them.

LEWIS

(Enters)

Don't steal from us, or you'll pay the consequences!

ORDWAY

But they didn't listen. A few times, our anger broke through. We lost our temper.

(LEWIS and INDIAN enter.)

Captain Lewis saw an Indian stealing an iron socket from a pole. He caught him, cursed him, and beat him severely.

(LEWIS punches the INDIAN, knocks him down, kicks him.)

He told all the Indians standing around:

LEWIS

I will shoot the first of you that even attempts to steal anything from us. We are not afraid to you. And I have it in my power now to kill you all and set fire to your homes.

(INDIAN slinks off.)

ORDWAY

The Captain's threat was put to the test. The Chinooks stole a saddle from us.

LEWIS

I will either get the stolen goods back or I will burn your houses!

ORDWAY

Luckily for the Indians, and for us, they coughed up the saddle. We made it through the Chinooks with our hands clean. Barely.

(Static.)

**26. WAR MOVIE: SKIRMISH WITH THE BLACKFEET**

(LEWIS, CLARK, Sergeant PATRICK GASS, Sergeant JOHN ORDWAY, and Sergeant NATANIEL PRYOR, all wearing combat helmets. They kneel in a circle. LEWIS and CLARK draws on the ground with a stick. PROJECTION: detail map of return journey, from Traveler's Rest to where the Yellowstone River meets the Missouri River.)

CLARK

As you know, we have quite a few objectives that we want to accomplish on the way back to the Mandans. Here we are at Traveler's Rest. We have canoes here that we would like to reuse. We have the cache here that we need to dig up and bring with us. We would like to explore the Yellowstone River, to see if it provides a more direct route across the country. We would also like to explore the Marias River to see if it extends above the forty-ninth parallel, extending the boundaries of the United States. If possible, we would like to make contact with the Blackfeet, the only major tribe that we have not yet encountered. Captain Lewis...

LEWIS

Captain Clark will take twenty men. Plus the Indian woman and her child, Sergeant Ordway, and Sergeant Pryor. They will ride down along the Bitterroot to the place where we left our canoes on our way over the mountains.

Captain Clark will leave Sergeant Ordway, with ten men, and will ride with the rest of the party to the Yellowstone River, where they will build canoes and travel down the river.

Once the canoes are built, Sergeant Pryor will take all of the party's horses, and two men, and ride to the Mandan Villages. Let them know we're coming, and give them all the horses as a gift.

Sergeant Ordway and his men will take our canoes and ride down the Jefferson to the Missouri to the falls.

At the falls, they will meet Sergeant Gass and two other men, who will have gotten there overland with me. Sergeant Gass and Sergeant Ordway will dig up the cache and conduct the portage.

LEWIS

(Continued)

Meanwhile, I will ascend the Marias River with six volunteers to explore the country and ascertain whether any branch of that river lies above the Forty-Ninth Parallel. We also hope to meet with the Blackfeet.

We will rendezvous with Sergeant Ordway and Sergeant Gass at the mouth of the Marias. Then we will all ride down to meet with Captain Clark's party, and head for the Mandans.

Got it? Any questions?

(Lighting change. LEWIS and GASS, standing.)

LEWIS

Sergeant Gass, how many?

GASS

Seven missing. We have ten horses left.

LEWIS

They were stolen?

GASS

It looks that way, Sir. Drewer found Indian tracks.

LEWIS

I can't take six men up the Marias with only ten horses. I'll take Drewer, and the Fields brothers. You take the rest, wait for Sergeant Ordway, and make the portage. We'll meet you on the other side of the falls.

GASS

Yes, Sir. But what will you do if the Blackfeet are hostile?

LEWIS

We'll give them some gifts and the Indian speech. If they're hostile, we'll retreat.

GASS

Be careful, Sir. We've heard they're vicious and lawless. And they have guns.

LEWIS

I know. Between you and me, I'm hoping we don't run into them.

GASS

Good luck, Sir.

(Lighting change. LEWIS and DROUILLARD. LEWIS has a sextant, and tries to read the sky.)

DROUILLARD

It is very lucky that we have not yet encountered any Blackfeet. There are many signs of large parties with many horses. Fresh tracks. I have a bad feeling. We should turn back.

LEWIS

We have to know how far we are from the border. I know we're still south of the Forty-Ninth Parallel. But is there any chance that this creek stretches above it?

DROUILLARD

I don't think so, Sir.

LEWIS

I just wish it weren't so cloudy so I could get a good reading.

DROUILLARD

It shows no signs of clearing up.

LEWIS

No.

DROUILLARD

If we run into a Blackfoot hunting party, with only four of us...

LEWIS

Just one more night. If the weather is still cloudy in the morning, we'll head back down the river.

DROUILLARD

Yes, Sir. I'll tell the others.

(Lighting change. THREE BLACKFEET stand, talking, at RIGHT, wearing denim or leather jackets. LEWIS, DROUILLARD, REUBIN FIELD, and JOSEPH FIELD march on from LEFT. All carry rifles, and JOSEPH has a U.S. flag. They stop dead in their tracks. LEWIS gestures for DROUILLARD to proceed upstage, and for the FIELDS to hold back. They start to move slowly across the stage, LEWIS in the lead. The BLACKFEET notice them, and become alarmed.)

LEWIS

Come on now. No need to be frightened.

(LEWIS turns around and hands his rifle to REUBIN. LEWIS proceeds. ONE BLACKFOOT steps away from his friends, and heads toward LEWIS, slowly. LEWIS and the BLACKFOOT meet. LEWIS holds out his hand. The BLACKFOOT turns and runs back to the others. LEWIS continues to advance. Another BLACKFOOT steps out, walks to LEWIS. LEWIS cautiously offers his hand. The BLACKFOOT takes it, and they shake.)

LEWIS

Pleased to meet you. I want you to meet my friends.

(LEWIS gestures for the others to join him. The BLACKFOOT does the same. Everybody meets and shakes.)

LEWIS

Drewer, I need your sign language help.

DROUILLARD

Yes, Sir.

LEWIS

Who is the chief here?

(DROUILLARD pantomimes. All three BLACKFEET raise their hands.)

DROUILLARD

All chiefs and no Indians, eh?

LEWIS

No matter.

(LEWIS gives one BLACKFOOT a medal, another a handkerchief, and another a flag.)

LEWIS

It is getting late in the day. I think we should all camp together.

DROUILLARD

But, Sir...

LEWIS

Tell them. Ask them.

(DROUILLARD pantomimes to them. They nod their agreement.)

DROUILLARD  
They seem to like the idea.

(LEWIS takes his rifle back from REUBIN.)

LEWIS  
(to REUBIN and JOSEPH)  
Unload the rest of our stuff.

REUBIN  
Yes, Sir.

(REUBIN and JOSEPH exit LEFT. Blackout. The THREE BLACKFEET, and LEWIS and DROUILLARD sit on the ground. All three BLACKFEET suck on cigars.)

LEWIS  
This is a good shelter.

(DROUILLARD pantomimes. The INDIANS nod appreciation.)

LEWIS  
Where is your tribe?

(DROUILLARD pantomimes. One INDIAN gestures back.)

DROUILLARD  
One day's march away. Near the foot of the mountains.

LEWIS  
Ask about trading. Who do they trade with?

(DROUILLARD gestures. The same INDIAN gestures back.)

DROUILLARD  
They ride six days north to a trading post. They trade skins for guns and liquor.

LEWIS  
Let me give my speech.

DROUILLARD  
Ready.

(DROUILLARD gestures as LEWIS talks.)

LEWIS

We have been sent by your new father, the Great Chief. We have made peace with all the white men. They are now part of our tribe and listen to the Great Chief. We came from the waters where the sun rises, and have gone to the waters where the sun sets. We are here to invite you to join our tribe. And to trade with us. We will give you much better deals than the British. We have lots of guns and lots of liquor. We ask that you do not fight with your neighbors or with us.

(DROUILLARD pantomimes. The INDIANS seem pleased.)

DROUILLARD

I think they are happy with this. Or maybe it is just the tobacco.

LEWIS

We are building an American trading empire. We have made peace between many of the tribes. The Nez Perce, the Shosonis.

(DROUILLARD pantomimes. The INDIANS seem surprised. One INDIAN mimes back.)

DROUILLARD

They don't like the Nez Perce or Shoshonis. They don't want us to sell guns to other tribes. They don't like that idea. They are the only tribe that has guns.

LEWIS

You are a powerful tribe and we respect your position here. We want to be friends.

DROUILLARD

They do not want the other tribes to have guns.

LEWIS

I'll bet they don't.

(Blackout. In the darkness:)

LEWIS

Reubin.

REUBIN

(Asleep)

Hmmm?

LEWIS

Wake up. It's your watch.

REUBIN

Yes, Sir.

(Lights up. LEWIS still sleeps. One INDIAN grabs his gun and sneaks off. DROUILLARD is standing fighting with an INDIAN over his rifle.)

DROUILLARD

Damn you! Let go my gun!

(LEWIS sits up, reaches for his rifle: it's gone. He pulls out a pistol, sees the INDIAN. Jumps up and runs.)

LEWIS

Stop! I'll shoot!

(JOSEPH and REUBIN enter, with rifles. The INDIANS freeze. They aim their rifles at the INDIANS.)

LEWIS

Hold your fire!

(Both INDIANS let the rifles go. DROUILLARD and LEWIS grab their rifles.)

DROUILLARD

Can I kill them? Let me kill them!

LEWIS

No. What happened?

(The FIELD BROTHERS look at each other.)

JOSEPH

They tried to take our rifles, Sir. At first light.

LEWIS

Who was on guard?

JOSEPH

I was.

LEWIS

So how did it happen, Private?

(Both INDIANS sneak off.)

JOSEPH

I laid down my rifle...

LEWIS

You what?

JOSEPH

Just for a second. One of the Blackfeet grabbed my rifle and Reubin's and ran off. Reubin and I chased him, caught him, and got our rifles back.

REUBIN

I had to kill him with my knife. He drew one breath and the wind of his breath followed the knife and he fell dead.

DROUILLARD

Look! They are driving off our horses!

LEWIS

The insolence. Shoot them!

(DROUILLARD aims his rifle, fires. REUBIN and JOSEPH run off. Blackout. Gunshots. Lights up: LEWIS, DROUILLARD, REUBIN, and JOSEPH, standing over an INDIAN body.)

DROUILLARD

This did not go so well, eh?

LEWIS

We only killed two of them. The others are running back to their tribe. We have to get out of here. How many horses do we have?

JOSEPH

Eight.

LEWIS

Load the horses. We've got a long ride ahead of us.

(All exit but LEWIS. He stands over the body of the dead Blackfoot. He pulls out one of the peace medals, and puts it over the neck of the Indian.)

LEWIS

Just so they know who we are. And that they aren't the only game in town anymore.

(Blackout. Lights up to half. LEWIS, DROUILLARD, REUBIN, and JOSEPH stumble in.)

REUBIN

How many miles was that?

DROUILLARD

A hundred at least. Maybe more.

(They collapse. Lighting change: they wake up in exactly the same positions.)

LEWIS

We have to go. Get up.

JOSEPH

(Groggy)

What?

REUBIN

I can't move.

DROUILLARD

My butt is asleep. My whole body is asleep.

JOSEPH

So stiff.

LEWIS

It's not just our lives at stake. If the Blackfeet find Ordway and Gass before we get to them, before we can warn them...

DROUILLARD

Let's go.

(All stand, grab their things.)

LEWIS

If we are attacked on the plains, we will stand our ground. We will not go without a fight.

(They exit. Lighting change. LEWIS and DROUILLARD enter.)

LEWIS

Ordway, is that you?

ORDWAY

Captain! So good to see you!

LEWIS

You too. Look, we have to get moving. We got into some trouble and killed a few Blackfeet. The sooner we get on the river, the better.

ORDWAY

We can leave any time.

DROUILLARD

We are very lucky to have escaped.

(Static.)

**27. AMERICAN HISTORY MINUTE 2**

(ANNOUNCER.)

ANNOUNCER

Very lucky indeed. Four years later, George Drouillard was killed near here by Blackfoot Indians. He was scalped and decapitated. We can speculate about whether the Indians recognized him or not.

A year before that, former Corps of Discovery members John Colter and John Potts also ran into the Blackfeet near here. Potts was killed immediately, but Colter was captured. The Blackfeet stripped him naked, gave him a head start across a field of prickly pears, and pursued him to kill him for sport. But Colter outran them, managing to kill one with his hands along the way. He escaped into the Gallatin River and showed up a week later at a fort two hundred miles away.

(Static.)

**28. COMEDY SKETCH: LEWIS' INJURY**

(LEWIS and CRUZATTE enter, rifles drawn. They are hunting. CRUZATTE has his fiddle strapped to his back.)

CRUZATTE

The hunt is good, eh Captain Lewis? Many good elk and deer and buffalo, eh?

LEWIS

Yes, we have been lucky, Cruzatte. Let's see... I've killed four elk, two deer, and a buffalo. And you...

CRUZATTE

I have killed a deer.

LEWIS

Let's be honest. No fibbing.

CRUZATTE

Well, I hit him. He ran off. He is now bleeding to death somewhere out there. It was certainly a fatal shot. He will not recover.

LEWIS

Oh, Cruzatte. You old blind French bastard. You're the worst hunter we have. If I had known, I never would have brought you with me.

CRUZATTE

It is not my strength.

LEWIS

No.

CRUZATTE

Fiddle playing is my strength.

(Pulls out his fiddle)

Would you like me to play for you to ease your mind?

LEWIS

No, Cruzatte. We have to hunt.

CRUZATTE

You do not like the fiddle?

LEWIS

Sure, I like the fiddle. But we have to hunt for food now.

CRUZATTE

Perhaps later, then.

(CRUZATTE puts the fiddle away. They turn back-to-back, searching for quarry.)

LEWIS

(Sees something, off.)

Look there! An elk!

(Aims, fires: KAPOW!)

Got it!

CRUZATTE

Do you think we will be back in the Mandan Villages soon? There is a little Mandan squaw who I am fond of.

LEWIS

As soon as we catch up with Captain Clark, we'll zip down the river and be at the Mandan Villages before you know it. You'll be doing the buffalo dance with your squaw in no time.

CRUZATTE

It is not that I am not enjoying the journey. Conquering the west is fun.

LEWIS

We call it liberating, Cruzatte.

CRUZATTE

Liberating the west is fun. But I need to liberate my squaw every so often, as well as the west. I think I like the word "conquering" better.

LEWIS

You can conquer your squaw if you want. But we are not conquering this country. We're liberating it from the oppression of Indian tyranny.

CRUZATTE

It does not seem so bad here.

LEWIS

That's because you're French. To us peace-loving Americans, it's terrible here. There are no clear leaders. The tribes trade with or fight with whoever they want to.

CRUZATTE

Yes. I see. It is chaos.

LEWIS

That is why we must liberate this country. In order to impose order, and make it safe for Americans to do business here.

(Sees a deer)

Shh! A deer!

(Aims, fires: KAPOW!)

Shoot! Missed it! Let's split up... I think you're scaring them off.

CRUZATTE

As you wish.

(CRUZATTE and LEWIS step away from each other, in big tiptoe steps. Each gets to the far side of the stage, turns around. CRUZATTE spins himself around, looking for elk or deer. He sees LEWIS, and thinks he is an animal.)

CRUZATTE

Aha! A big one!

(He takes aim and fires at LEWIS: KAPOW! LEWIS is hit in the ass.)

LEWIS

Ooo! Damn you! You have shot me!

(CRUZATTE is horrified. He starts shaking visibly.)

LEWIS

Cruzatte? Are you there? Cruzatte!

(CRUZATTE runs offstage.)

LEWIS

Cruzatte! Help! Anybody!

(GASS enters.)

GASS

Captain? Are you all right?

LEWIS

Gass! I've been shot. I'm not sure whether it was Cruzatte or Indians.

(GASS runs over to him.)

GASS

Where are you hit?

LEWIS

It's my ass.

GASS

Does it hurt?

LEWIS

You bet your ass it does!

GASS

Let me help you. You should lie on your stomach.

(GASS helps him to lie down. CRUZATTE slinks onstage.)

CRUZATTE

Oh my! What has happened here?

GASS

The Captain's been shot.

CRUZATTE

How terrible! Who could have done such a thing?

GASS

So you didn't shoot him?

CRUZATTE

What? Me? I cannot hit an elk! Do you think I can hit a man?

LEWIS

If it wasn't Cruzatte, it must have been an Indian raiding party. We've got to get out of here.

GASS

But, Sir. You can't walk in your state. We will have to carry you. Cruzatte, get his legs. I'll get his arms.

(GASS and CRUZATTE pick up LEWIS.)

LEWIS

Oof! Careful!

(They carry LEWIS off. Lighting change. GASS and CRUZATTE wheel in LEWIS, who lies on his stomach in a canoe. GASS and CRUZATTE row the canoe. LEWIS is much weaker.)

LEWIS

Is there any sign of Captain Clark?

GASS

Nothing yet, Sir. Wait... I think I see canoes ahead!  
Yes, it's Captain Clark!

LEWIS

Pull ashore... Hurry!

(GASS and CRUZATTE row to shore. CLARK enters, rushes to LEWIS.)

CLARK

Oh my God! Meriwether! What happened? You've been shot!  
Oh my God! Not your ass!

(CLARK embraces LEWIS, as best he can.)

LEWIS

(Weak)

William. Thank God.

CLARK

I'll take care of you, Meriwether.

(CLARK pulls down LEWIS's pants.)

CLARK

Eew. It's worse than I thought.

(He pulls off his shirt, begins to clean  
LEWIS's wound.)

Who shot you?

LEWIS

Cruzatte.

CLARK

I'll kill him. Slowly.

CRUZATTE

It wasn't me!

LEWIS

Or Indians.

CLARK

I'll kill them all. The French. The Indians. I don't care. This is disgusting. To shoot a man in the ass. You might never be able to sit again!

LEWIS

Say it isn't so.

CLARK

It looks like the bullet passed right through. They hit you in the left cheek, here, and the bullet exited your right cheek, here. They got both cheeks with one bullet!

LEWIS

Oh, William. I'm scared. I like my ass. I don't want to lose it. You don't think you'll have to amputate, do you?

CLARK

I don't know. It looks pretty bad. We'll have to watch it very carefully.

CRUZATTE

I will play my fiddle to help the healing process.

(CRUZATTE begins to play. It is terrible.)

LEWIS

I hate the fiddle.

(CRUZATTE plays feverishly and terribly. Static.)

## 29. NEWS REPORT: ARRIVAL IN ST. LOUIS

(A news logo is projected onto the rear of the stage: "Journey of Discovery." NEWS ANCHOR at desk.)

NEWS ANCHOR

Good evening. This is KSFY-News from Sioux Falls. I'm Nancy Niova. It's a historic day in St. Louis. After two and a half years, The Corps of Discovery has returned to unanimous cheering and adulation. They've made it to the Pacific and back, and brought back discoveries and observations about the lands West of the Mississippi. Shelly Kiohani is with them now. Shelly?

(SHELLY KIOHANI, with LEWIS and CLARK. Parade music plays.)

KIOHANI

Thanks, Nancy. Captains, how does it feel to be back in civilization.

CLARK

Oh, just great. We've missed the United States.

KIOHANI

Can you give us a sneak peek at any of your discoveries or observations?

LEWIS

Well, there's no all-water route to the Pacific. It's a tough crossing. But there's a lot of land and resources out there that make the trip worth it. It's beautiful country out there.

KIOHANI

What's next for Lewis and Clark? Captain Clark?

CLARK

I've got a little cousin down in Virginia that I'd like to ask to marry me. (Takes over, looks directly into the camera)  
Julia Hancock, if you're watching, will you be my bride?

KIOHANI

(Tickled)

Captain, that's wonderful! We certainly hope she's watching! We'll check back with you to see what she says! How about you, Captain Lewis?

LEWIS

I've got to go straight to Washington to meet with President Jefferson and give a full a report.

KIOHANI

And then what? You're certainly popular, both of you. Are you going to run for political office? Maybe President Lewis and Vice President Clark, or the other way around?

LEWIS

It's way too early to think about our next careers. As far as I'm concerned, I'm still in the U.S. Army, and I'm still under orders from my Commander-in-Chief.

KIOHANI

Thank you both for taking a few minutes to talk to us.

LEWIS

Thank you, Shelly.

(Static.)

**30. MOVIE TRAILER: THE CORPS[E] OF DISCOVERY**

(MATT DAMON and BEN AFFLECK, as LEWIS and CLARK, rowing a canoe. An ANNOUNCER down right.)

ANNOUNCER

When America was young. And wild. Two men had the courage to row against the current.

DAMON

Meriwether, look!

AFFLECK

What do you see?

DAMON

Indians!

(LEWIS and CLARK raise their rifles, fire.)

ANNOUNCER

In a dark land. In a dark time. Two men with a message of peace.

AFFLECK

Children. The great chief has become your only father...

ANNOUNCER

Peace. By any means necessary!

DAMON

We have more medicine on board our boat that would kill twenty of your nations!

ANNOUNCER

But desperate measures have desperate consequences...

AFFLECK

If anyone were to grasp the depths to which I have sunk... They see that I am half mad, but I am more far gone than that...

ANNOUNCER

Matt Damon is William Clark.

DAMON

I should be extremely happy in your company, Sir.

ANNOUNCER

Ben Affleck is Meriwether Lewis.

AFFLECK

I reflect that I have as yet done but little, very little, indeed, to further the happiness of the human race...

ANNOUNCER

With Jennifer Lopez...

LOPEZ

(as SACAGAWEA)

NeaN baba'!

ANNOUNCER

...Al Pacino...

PACINO

(as JEFFERSON)

In all your intercourse with the natives, treat them in the most friendly and conciliatory manner which their own conduct will admit.

ANNOUNCER

...And Gerard Depardieu.

DEPARDIEU

(as CRUZATTE)

I did not shoot him!

ANNOUNCER

Lewis and Clark: The Corpse of Discovery. Starts Friday at theatres. Check local listings for showtimes.

(Static.)

**31. NEWS MAGAZINE: LEWIS UNDER FIRE**

(HOST at a table, with JAMES MCHENRY. He speaks with a gentle Irish accent.)

HOST

Good morning. Today on Softball: The Scandal in Louisiana. Did the Governor and the Superintendent of Indian Affairs conspire to misappropriate government funds for personal profit?

I'm joined this morning by James McHenry. Former Secretary of War in the Adams administration. Welcome, Mr. Secretary.

MCHENRY

Thank you. It's good to be here.

HOST

This week, the story broke that Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, former explorers and now, respectively, the Governor of the Louisiana Territory and the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Louisiana, may have engaged in some impropriety with regard to government funds. We've got a Mandan Indian chief, Big White, in St. Louis. He was stuck there and he couldn't get home.

MCHENRY

For two years.

HOST

Right...

MCHENRY

Lewis and Clark went through Louisiana and the West in 1804/06 inviting chiefs to Washington willy-nilly. Jefferson ate it up. Unfortunately, these chiefs didn't always make it home. There was the Arikara chief who died on the way. Now the Arikaras hate us as much as the Sioux. And we couldn't get Big White home because the Arikaras and the Sioux were in the way. The Mandans are our friends, and we didn't want to turn them into enemies. So we had to get Big White home safe.

HOST

And they tried two years ago.

MCHENRY

The Army sent Sergeant Pryor up there. Terrible shame. I believe three men were killed, and eight others injured. The whole mission was a failure.

HOST

So fast-forward to this year.

MCHENRY

Well. There's a difference of priorities. Washington is worried about the Eastern seaboard, and the English. In St. Louis, peace with the Indians is all that matters.

HOST

But returning the chief was a high priority of president Jefferson, right?

MCHENRY

To Jefferson, yes. But Jefferson left office in March. To the Madison administration, security along the coast is a much higher priority. Our army can't fully secure both the East and the West. Not without help.

HOST

Help from the private sector.

MCHENRY

That's right. In this case, the St. Louis Missouri River Fur Company. Formed last year. The partners are the who's who of St. Louis, including William Clark, Former Governor James Wilkinson's brother Benjamin, and current governor Meriwether Lewis's brother Reuben.

HOST

And the plan was for this company to return the chief, at the expense of the U.S. government, and then to profit from an exclusive fur trading license?

MCHENRY

Exactly. My understanding is that the company raised 125 men to take the chief home, with the U.S. government paying the bills. And the company then stayed up on upper Missouri as the only legal trader there. A license granted by Governor Lewis.

HOST

So, on the plus side, the mission was accomplished.

MCHENRY

It was executed perfectly. It was such a large show of force--125 men, fully armed, on a flotilla of 13 barges and keelboats. I don't believe they met much resistance at all. They just shocked the Indians into submission with armaments. And now Big White is at home with his family and tribe.

HOST

But Lewis and Clark and their friends...

MCHENRY

They're lining their pockets.

HOST

One Indian agent in the West has asked, "Is it proper for the public service that U.S. officers such as a Governor or a Superintendent of Indian Affairs should take any share in Mercantile and private concerns?" Are Lewis and Clark are in real trouble here?

MCHENRY

Well, it's not clear from a legal point of view. But in the arena of public opinion, this is a real blow to their position as national heroes. However, the biggest problem they have is the falling out with the Madison administration. The government is not happy with this privateering on the part of its officials. Now I've heard they're refusing additional requests for money from Lewis.

HOST

That will make it difficult to run Louisiana.

MCHENRY

Without money, absolutely. And Lewis is not a rich man. He can't run Louisiana, let alone his household, without help from the government.

HOST

So what's next?

MCHENRY

I think we'll see Lewis called to Washington to account for himself. And either he'll make peace with Madison. Or he'll resign.

HOST

Secretary McHenry, thank you for being with us.

(Static.)

**32. PRESS CONFERENCE: LEWIS HOUNDED BY REPORTERS**

(LEWIS with three REPORTERS around him, including the REPORTER from previous scenes, SHELLY KIOHANI.)

LEWIS

I would like to announce that I will be travelling to Washington in the next few days to meet with the new President and others to report on the state of affairs in the Louisiana Territory. I will leave next week and return in a month or more.

REPORTER 1

Governor, is it true that some of your expenditures are being refused by the President?

LEWIS

I can't comment on that at this time. I can only say that I have the highest respect for President Madison, and I'm going to review his agenda with regard to administration of this territory.

REPORTER 2

Governor, when will the journals of your great journey be ready for publication?

LEWIS

Publication is pending. I don't have a firm date.

KIOHANI

Governor, it is rumored that you are a silent partner in the St. Louis Missouri River Fur Company, the same company that has an exclusive license on the Upper Missouri. Is this true, Governor?

LEWIS

All my finances are open to the public. The St. Louis Missouri River Fur Company is an important contributor to the economy of this territory. But I am not a partner, silent or otherwise.

KIOHANI

Governor, how much did they pay you to issue an exclusive license? Is it true you're on the take?

LEWIS

I believe my record stands for itself. I have always exhibited the highest integrity in all my dealings.

REPORTER 1  
Governor, are you a substance abuser?

LEWIS  
I have nothing further at this time.

(LEWIS flees. Static.)

**33. GREEK TRAGEDY: DEATH OF LEWIS**

(An ANNOUNCER.)

ANNOUNCER

Tonight on Masterpiece Theatre: The Tragedy of Meriwether Lewis. Part 7.

(The front door of GRINDER'S INN, with two chairs on the porch, and a pail of water. The sound of a horse whinnying, off RIGHT. LEWIS enters from RIGHT. He is wearing a white gown, with blue stripes. He knocks on the door.)

MRS. GRINDER

(opening the door)

Yes?

LEWIS

Can you spare a room for the night?

MRS. GRINDER

Is it just you?

LEWIS

No. Two servants will be coming shortly.

MRS. GRINDER

That's fine. As long as you don't mind if they sleep in the barn.

LEWIS

No. Not at all. Not at all. Do you have any whiskey?

MRS. GRINDER

Certainly. I'll pour you a glass.

(She returns to the house, leaving the door open. LEWIS is agitated: he paces, sits, stands, looks off. MRS. GRINDER returns with the whiskey.)

MRS. GRINDER

Here you are.

LEWIS

Thanks, Ma'am.

(He sips a tiny bit, makes a face.)

MRS. GRINDER

Won't you have a seat?

LEWIS

Certainly. Where are my manners? I'll sit right here.

(He sits.)

MRS. GRINDER

I don't believe I caught your name, Sir.

LEWIS

I'm Meriwether Lewis.

MRS. GRINDER

(Surprised)

Oh! You don't say... Well, my husband is Grinder. So I'm Mrs. Grinder. He's away in town. Until tomorrow or the day after. I guess I'll have a story to tell him! We don't get many famous people through here!

LEWIS

(Solemnly)

I'm on my way to Washington. Have you ever been to Washington?

MRS. GRINDER

No. Is it anything like Knoxville?

LEWIS

No. People are nice in Knoxville. Honest, too.

MRS. GRINDER

Oh. Well, I should tell you that the room, with dinner, will be two dollars for the night. That includes accommodations for your horse and servants.

LEWIS

That's fine, fine.

MRS. GRINDER

Well. I think I'll start some dinner. I'll be just inside if you need me.

LEWIS

Thanks.

(She goes back inside, leaving the door open. LEWIS barely touches the whiskey. PERNIER and another SERVANT enter.)

PERNIER

Governor?

LEWIS

Yes?

(Jumps up)

Oh, Pernier!

PERNIER

I'm glad we caught up with you.

LEWIS

So am I. So am I. Pernier, could you get me some powder? I'm sure we have some in a canister in one of our bags...

PERNIER

This is a nice spot, isn't it?

LEWIS

Oh, yes. View to the West...

PERNIER

If you're all right here, we'll tend to the horses.

LEWIS

Sure. Go ahead. I'll be here.

(PERNIER and the other SERVANT exit. LEWIS begins to pace.)

LEWIS

Oh! If anyone were to truly grasp the depths to which I have sunk. They see that I am half mad. But I am more far gone than that. If I could only get some powder. Get a gun. Load the gun. Pernier won't help me. He's against me. He's listening to the others. If William were here, he would help me. He would understand. How did it get so far? How did I get so far from home? Where is home? Virginia? The Great Plains? Fort Clatsop? I have come a long way and I have lost my home. And now they line up against me like the Blackfoot Indians. Like a firing squad. I am called to Washington to account for myself. To explain my actions in the matter of a certain indiscreet scandal! Meanwhile, I'm broke. I owe everyone, even my servant. And the great work of my life. The journals of the voyage. Go unread. I can't open them. I can't look at them. They are so painful to me. I just carry them, in their entirety, wherever I go. Like some cursed Greek. Like Ajax or somebody like that.

(MRS. GRINDER sticks her head out of the door.)

MRS. GRINDER

Sir? Are you all right?

LEWIS

(Stops pacing)

Yes. Fine. Never better.

MRS. GRINDER

Dinner's ready. Would you like to come in?

LEWIS

Yes.

(He goes into the house. PERNIER and the other SERVANT enter.)

SERVANT

Your master is not well.

PERNIER

He tried to jump overboard twice on the Mississippi. Both Dr. Russell and Major Neelly are very concerned. I have been told to keep him away from any weapons.

SERVANT

I'll help you as best I can.

PERNIER

He's a good man. He's just going through a rough patch. I don't know what would happen to me if anything happens to him.

SERVANT

You're free. You'd find another master. Just like I would.

PERNIER

It wouldn't be as easy for me.

SERVANT and PERNIER

Meriwether Lewis is on his last legs in Tennessee. On his way to Washington to report on his performance as governor. His friend Jefferson is no longer President. Now Madison is the man that he is accountable to in Washington. And there are other monkeys on Lewis's back. He's terribly in debt. He drinks to excess, does snuff to excess, and he smokes. At the age of thirty-five, he's unmarried, doesn't date. Most of all his journals, the prize of the journey, rot away. Can't bring himself to open them, or edit them. The nation waits. Poor Lewis seems to be self-destructing before our eyes!

(LEWIS comes out of the house.)

LEWIS

Thank you for dinner, Mrs. Grinder! I'm sorry. I'm just not very hungry. There's my whiskey!

(He rushes over to where he has left it, takes a sip, makes a face.)

PERNIER

Are you all right, Sir?

LEWIS

Yes, of course. Pernier, would you fetch me my pipe? I'd like to sit out here and smoke for a while.

PERNIER

Yes, Sir.

(LEWIS sits. PERNIER turns to go, the other SERVANT stares at LEWIS. PERNIER grabs him and pulls him off.)

LEWIS

Look at that sunset. What a sweet evening this is. The west is more than a place or a direction. It is a spirit. I carry it inside me now. The east has become anathema. How can I turn my back on that sunset, and head east?

(PERNIER and the other SERVANT return.)

PERNIER

(Handing LEWIS his pipe)

Here you are, Sir.

LEWIS

Thank you, Pernier. Would you light me up?

PERNIER

Certainly.

(Pernier pulls out a book of matches and lights LEWIS's pipe.)

LEWIS

Thanks. That's very good. I was just thinking about what a sweet evening this is. Don't you agree?

PERNIER

It certainly is.

LEWIS

With a beautiful sunset.

PERNIER

Yes.

LEWIS

It seems like such a crime to have to turn our backs, head east. The real adventure lies to the West, beyond that sunset.

(MRS. GRINDER appears from within.)

MRS. GRINDER

Governor, it's almost dark. I'm making your bed now.

(LEWIS leaps up.)

LEWIS

No, wait! I don't need a bed. I can't sleep in a bed anymore. Since I went to the Pacific and back I can't sleep in a bed. Pernier, get my bear skins and my buffalo robe.

PERNIER

Yes, Sir.

(PERNIER and the SERVANT step off to the horses.)

MRS. GRINDER

So you prefer to sleep on the floor?

LEWIS

Yes. I sleep on bear skins, in a buffalo robe. On the floor.

MRS. GRINDER

How unusual.

LEWIS

If it's good enough for the Indians, it's good enough for me.

(PERNIER and the SERVANT enter, each carrying a blanket. MRS. GRINDER leads them into the house.)

LEWIS

Now is my chance. While no one is looking...

(LEWIS sneaks off to where the horses are.)

PERNIER

Governor Lewis! Governor!

(LEWIS returns with a metal canister. He hides it in his robe.)

LEWIS

Yes?

(PERNIER comes out of the house.)

PERNIER

Your bed is ready.

LEWIS

Thank you, Pernier. Good night.

PERNIER

Good night, Sir.

(The other SERVANT comes out of the house. LEWIS enters the house.)

MRS. GRINDER

(from within)

I'll be sleeping in the kitchen if you need me, Sir.

LEWIS

(from within)

Very well. Thank you. Good night.

(Sound of doors closing from within. The house is shut for the night. All lights are extinguished.)

SERVANT and PERNIER

His journey to the Pacific truly changed him. He's a different man. All the wildness in him turned up to maximum. Now he can barely control himself. He's bursting through the skin. He doesn't care what people think is appropriate. He wants to sleep on the floor, he insists on it. We only hope that he can find a way to pull through. We only hope that he can find balance in himself. As we retire to bed, our thoughts are with him and we hope that he will make it through the night.

(They exit toward the barn.)

LEWIS

(Shouting from within the house)

My enemies are all around me. To the east and to the west. Enemies in St. Louis, Washington, Virginia, Philadelphia. There are no more excuses that they will accept. I am out of time. My options are reduced to two: kill or be killed. Like before. Like with the Blackfoot, sometimes murder is the only option. Our animal instincts insist that we choose to attack or flee. I choose to strike first. I choose to be the one who calls the shots. And so I strike, pre-emptively, at the only target within range.

(The sound of a gunshot.)

LEWIS

Oh, lord!

(The kitchen light is lit. Pause. Another gunshot.)

LEWIS

Ahh!

(Pause.)

LEWIS

Oh madam! Give me some water, and heal my wounds!

(No reply. The front door opens, and LEWIS comes stumbling out. He is bleeding from his head, where he has grazed himself, and his chest.)

LEWIS

Where's the water? I am so thirsty.

(Finds the water pail, squats awkwardly next to it, and drinks with the drinking spoon.)

LEWIS

How am I not dead? One shot in the head, and one in the breast.

That should be enough. Am I Achilles? Should I aim for the heel?

I still breathe. My heart still beats. I still have the use of my faculties.

I am not a coward, but I am strong. It is so hard to die.

(MRS. GRINDER opens the door.)

MRS. GRINDER

Governor?

LEWIS

I'm here. Do you have a gun?

MRS. GRINDER

Oh lord! I'll fetch the servants!

(She goes toward the barn.)

LEWIS

I have another idea.

(He crawls back to the door, prys it open, and crawls inside. MRS. GRINDER re-enters with PERNIER and SERVANT.)

MRS. GRINDER

He was right there by the water pail.

PERNIER

And it was two shots that you heard?

MRS. GRINDER

Yes.

PERNIER

Was he bleeding?

MRS. GRINDER

In the dark I couldn't be sure.

(PERNIER goes into the house.)

PERNIER

(within)

Oh, lord!

LEWIS

Help me, Pernier! I've almost got it!

SERVANT

What is it?

PERNIER

(Sticks his head out)

He has shot himself twice. That didn't do the trick. So now he is cutting himself with his razor.

SERVANT

How ghastly!

LEWIS

(Within)

Pernier, help me! Don't be afraid. I won't hurt you. Take my rifle and shoot me. You can have all the money in my trunk.

PERNIER

(Within)

I can't do it, Sir. I can't help you.

LEWIS

(Within)

It's okay. I have done the business now. My good servant, give me some water.

(PERNIER comes out with a glass, and scoops water from the pail.)

MRS. GRINDER

Is he still alive?

PERNIER

Barely.

(PERNIER goes back in.)

SERVANT

My master, Major Neelly, will be here this morning.

MRS. GRINDER

My husband should return today. I hate it when he goes away and leaves me here like this. Something always happens.

(PERNIER comes out.)

PERNIER

He's dead.

SERVANT and PERNIER and MRS. GRINDER

Poor Meriwether Lewis, dead at thirty-five, by his own hand! Oppressed by madness, brought on by the pressure of his office. Groomed by Jefferson to find the Pacific Ocean and return. He was an army man, not suited to political civilian life. Though he was a hero, and a statesman, he couldn't find a wife. And the journals of the journey still sit unread while Americans move westward in search of everything they do not have--riches and adventure and land. Poor Meriwether Lewis, dead at thirty-five, by his own hand!

(Static.)

**34. FRAME: COUCH POTATO 3**

(JOE AMERICAN is totally asleep in his recliner. PUMPKIN is curled up asleep on the floor. He awakes with a start, from a dream.)

JOE  
Indians! They're coming! Help!

(This wakes PUMPKIN up.)

PUMPKIN  
Dad? What is it?

JOE  
Huh? Oh, nothing, Pumpkin. I think it's bedtime.

PUMPKIN  
Yeah.

(She picks up the remote, turns off the TV.  
She gives him the remote.)

JOE  
I was having one hell of a dream. About conquering the West. Fighting the Indians. Coming back a hero.

PUMPKIN  
Good night, Dad.

(She kisses him, exits. He takes the remote,  
turns the TV back on. Static.)

**35. 50's SITUATION COMEDY ("LEAVE IT TO BEAVER"): THE CLARK FAMILY**

(The CLARK breakfast table. CLARK (who is 45) sits reading the paper, wearing glasses. Around him are WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK (4), MARY MARGARET CLARK (1), JEAN BAPTISTE CHARBONNEAU (9), and LIZETTE CHARBONNEAU (3). WILLIAM has a tricorner hat. JEAN BAPTISTE and LIZETTE have headbands with a single feather each. LIZETTE and WILLIAM push each other. JULIA HANCOCK CLARK (24) enters with a tray, and begins to serve everyone.)

JULIA

What's going on in the world, William?

WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK

Lizette pushed me.

CLARK

Hmm. The Treaty of Ghent.

JULIA

Don't push your brother.

LIZETTE

He's not my brother.

(Points to JEAN BAPTISTE)

Jean Baptiste is my brother.

JULIA

Yes. Well, we're all family in this house.

CLARK

It looks like the war is finally over.

JEAN BAPTISTE

What war?

CLARK

The war with the British.

JEAN BAPTISTE

What's war like?

CLARK

It's awful. Just awful. It's a good thing this business is finished and the British have been sent packing. You could have been drafted!

JEAN BAPTISTE

But I'm nine!

CLARK

You can fire a rifle, can't you?

JEAN BAPTISTE

Yeah. My dad taught me.

CLARK

Then you can serve in the army to defend this country.

MARY

Waaa!

JULIA

Oh, don't cry, honey.

(JULIA sits down next to MARY, plays with her.)

Where's Meriwether?

(CLARK looks around.)

CLARK

(Shouting)

Meriwether! Meriwether Lewis Clark!

(MERIWETHER LEWIS CLARK (6) comes running in, sits down, eats toast ravenously.)

JULIA

Now take your time, Meriwether. One bite at a time.

CLARK

Where's the coffee?

JULIA

I only have two hands.

CLARK

(Shouting)

York!

JULIA

I can do it. I don't need his help.

CLARK

Sure you do. He can get the coffee.

(Shouting again)

York!

(YORK shuffles in.)

YORK

Yes, Sir?

CLARK

York. Could you grab the coffee pot from the kitchen?

YORK

Yes. Sir.

(He shuffles out.)

JULIA

He's very surly today.

CLARK

He's been in a bad mood lately. He's on me again to set him free.

JULIA

Maybe you should.

(CLARK shrugs.)

MERIWETHER

I was just thinking about Captain Lewis. What was he like, Dad?

CLARK

He was a great man.

MERIWETHER

Is that why you named me after him?

CLARK

Yes.

MERIWETHER

Do I look like him?

CLARK

A little. He had two eyes. He had a nose and a mouth. He had hair, too. Just like you.

MERIWETHER

Where is he now?

CLARK

He's up in heaven.

JEAN BAPTISTE

He's dead. Just like my mom.

JULIA

Pompey!

JEAN BAPTISTE

Don't call me that!

JULIA

Okay, Jean Baptiste. We don't talk about people who aren't with us anymore like that. We need to show respect for the dearly departed.

(YORK shuffles back in with the coffee.)

MERIWETHER

How did he die?

JEAN BAPTISTE

He k--

CLARK

Don't say it, Pomp! He had an accident, Meriwether. Just like Pompey's mom. Bad things sometimes happen like that. Even to people who are very good.

(YORK pours coffee for JULIA.)

MERIWETHER

When did he die?

CLARK

A few years ago. When you were very young.

(LIZETTE and WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK are done eating. They push each other again.)

LIZETTE

Stop pushing!

WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK

You pushed first!

JULIA

Do I have to separate you two?

(YORK pours coffee for CLARK.)

CLARK

Thanks, York.

YORK

Sir. I wonder if we could speak...

Not now. CLARK

Later? YORK

Perhaps later. CLARK

When? YORK

CLARK  
Later. I know what you want, and I think we've discussed it enough.  
(YORK pours coffee on CLARK's lap. CLARK jumps up.)  
Yeeeow!

I'm sorry, Sir. YORK

You meant to do that! CLARK

JULIA  
York. You should be ashamed of yourself.

YORK  
Me? I'm a slave. I never mean to do anything.  
(YORK starts to shuffle off.)

CLARK  
Get back here.

YORK  
Yes, Sir.

JEAN BAPTISTE  
Oooooo!

MERIWETHER, JEAN BAPTISTE, WILLIAM PRESTON, LIZETTE  
(Joining in)  
Oooooo!

MERIWETHER  
(Whispering)  
Is he gonna get it now?

JULIA  
Shhh!

CLARK  
Admit it. You meant to do that.

YORK  
I didn't. It was an accident!

CLARK  
You're mad at me because you want your freedom.

YORK  
I'm a slave. I don't want anything.

CLARK  
I'm taking you outside.

YORK  
Please.

JULIA  
William...

WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK  
Yes?

JULIA  
Not you. I'm talking to your father. William, do you have to?

CLARK  
We need to have some discipline around here. Let's go.

(YORK shuffles off, followed by CLARK.  
MERIWETHER gets up to follow them out.)

JULIA  
Meriwether. Sit down.

MERIWETHER  
May I watch?

JULIA  
You may not! Sit down.

(Sound of whipping from outside. Ten lashes.)

MARY  
Waaa!

JULIA  
Mary, what's wrong?

(JULIA continues to play with MARY.)

JEAN BAPTISTE

That has to hurt.

WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK

Why is Daddy whipping York?

JULIA

Because he was bad.

WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK

Will Daddy whip me if I'm bad?

JULIA

I don't know. If you're good, we won't have to find out.

JEAN BAPTISTE

But sometimes bad things happen. Even to good people.

(CLARK returns. He's a little disheveled.)

CLARK

I hate having to do that.

JULIA

You didn't have to.

CLARK

(Sitting, picking up the paper)

Oh, I had to. I've known York my whole life. He went with me to the Pacific and back. I know when he's acting up.

JULIA

William, maybe you should give him what he wants.

CLARK

What? Preposterous. Set him free? How can I do that? I need him way too much. I depend on him.

JULIA

Look at it from his perspective. You grew up together. Now he sees you with a big, beautiful family. Isn't it natural that he would want the same thing?

CLARK

Did he tell you that?

JULIA

Of course not.

WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK

Daddy, will you whip me if I'm bad?

CLARK

Of course not. Don't be silly.

JEAN BAPTISTE

What about me?

CLARK

Nobody else is getting whipped!

JULIA

William, I know it's not my place. But I think you should set him free. We can hire somebody else. A free black man. Somebody. He's served you for so long. Let him go to Louisville and live with his wife. Better. Give him some money so he can buy his wife's freedom, too.

CLARK

But York and I are like brothers.

JULIA

So treat him like a brother. Let him go.

CLARK

What do you boys think?

MERIWETHER

Even though he's a black man, he should still be able to be free, shouldn't he?

JEAN BAPTISTE

You have been so kind to us. You are like a father to us. And a mother. Now that we have no mother, and our father is away. You should be kind to York, too. Let him go.

WILLIAM PRESTON CLARK

Let him go.

LIZETTE

Let him go.

MERIWETHER

Let him go, Dad.

MARY

Waaa!

(JULIA plays with MARY. CLARK gets up and goes to the door.)

CLARK

York, could you come in for a minute?

(YORK shuffles in, in pain.)

YORK

What can I do for you, Sir?

CLARK

York, it's not about what you can do for me. I've been thinking. I think you should go. You want to live with your wife, right?

YORK

Yes, Sir.

CLARK

Well. You should be able to do that. You've done enough here.

YORK

Thank you, Sir.

CLARK

You can go whenever you want.

YORK

Thank you.

(They look at each other for a moment. YORK turns to go. JULIA clears her throat.)

CLARK

(Pulls out his wallet)

Oh. I know you might need a little help to get you started. Here's some money. Just to help you with travel and expenses.

(He hands YORK a wad of bills.)

YORK

Thank you, Sir. You're very kind.

(They look at each other for a moment. YORK turns to go, exits. CLARK comes back to the table. JULIA is beaming.)

JULIA

(Kisses CLARK on the cheek)

I am so proud of you!

(Static.)

**36. MORAL: THOMAS JEFFERSON**

(JEFFERSON enters.)

JEFFERSON

The whole commerce between master and slave is a perpetual exercise of the most boisterous passions, the most unremitting despotism on one part and degrading submission on the other. Our children see this and learn to imitate it. The parent storms, the child looks on, catches the lineaments of his wrath, puts on the same airs in the circle of smaller slaves, gives a loose rein to the worst of passions and thus nursed, educated, and daily exercised in tyranny, can not but be stamped by it...

Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure, when we have removed their only firm basis--a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God? ...That all men are endowed by their creator by certain unalienable rights--life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness... That... [these rights] are not to be violated but with his wrath?

Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just.

(Blackout. End of play.)