

Scott Free and Hardy Son & Baker

JAMES
Nootka Sound is not for sale.

IN: 10:00:33 EXT. THAMES, FORESHORE - DAY

James walks on the Thames beach.

HELGA (V.O.)
I can give you whatever you like.

IN: 10:00:35 INT. DELANEY COMPANY

KRISTOFFER NYHOLM

TABOO

Scored Music 'Titles'

Brace hesitates.

JAMES (CONT'D)

You may choose to leave my services, if you wish Mr.
Brace.

Brace stares into James's eyes.

BRACE

WILTON

I spoke to old Grady afterwards. He said Delaney told him he was going to use the ship for trade.

Scored Music '102m03' out: 10:0

PETTIFER

With whom?

WILTON

Language 10:07:37

He said his company was called Delaney Nootka trading. He is planning to re-open up the trading post to assert his ownership. That fucking man will hang for treason.

IN: 10:07:42

Give me back my horse.

ATTICUS

What's the biggest thing you saw? For my files, my book about the world. What's the biggest thing you saw in Africa.

James knows Atticus's ways, knows he has no choice but to play along.

James is incredulous but not surprised. He knows Atticus and () [ab5(a) -10.0108 Tc 41 0 0 41 0 09) 4 (t)

Or I'll slit your gizzard and drop you in the current you

IN: 10:13:10

The Prince turns back a page and points at a particular article. Coop settles his leather case and scrolls onto a desk. These two men have worked together for a long time, so the formality is flexible, or forced, or treated as fun.

As Coop takes out his files....

COOP

Oh you mean the blockade.

PRINCE REGENT

Language 10:13:53

Fuck them.

Coop hands The Prince a hand written report and a hand drawn map with a coastline of England and Ireland marked. There are crosses drawn on the map, a semi-circle of red crosses in the Irish Sea and a wedge of blue crosses in the English Channel. As the Prince takes it, Coop explains, busy with other papers....

COOP

Now. The red crosses are the positions of the American ships. They are attempting to blockade our trading routes to the west. And the blue crosses are Royal Navy ships, erm, preparing to engage.

The Princes' first response...

PRINCE REGENT

Why did you make the Americans red?

Coop turns, puzzled by the Prince's question....

PRINCE REGENT(CONT'D)

Why did you make them red? It is us who should be red. We wear red.

Coop is accustomed to the Prince and continues preparing his papers and scrolls...

COOP

The admiralty drew up the map. Now. They say that the Irish are supplying the blockade with tack and pork.

Coop hands the Prince another report...

COOP (CONT'D)

But they will soon run short of powder.

The Prince just looks at the sheet then hands the map back to Coop.

PRINCE REGENT

Get the Admiralty to draw the map again and make the British red and the Americans green or something. Since they are so new.

Coop can reflect the absurdity and let the Prince know he's being ridiculous with a formal....

COOP

The Prince roars.

PRINCE REGENT

Yes!!!

The Prince steams Then he spots the map that Strange drew.

PRINCE REGENT

Language 10:16:17 What the fuck is this?

They both study the map.

COOP

Oh it's from the East India.

PRINCE REGENT

Language 10:16:20 Fuck them as well.

COOP

I intend to.

IN: 10:16:23 EXT. DELANEY SHIPYARD - EVENING

As James makes his way through the shipyard, he sees shadows and also feels by some sixth sense that he is being followed.

James turns again, sees a young black girl, half African, with black hair cropped short to her head. This is WINTER. She is barefoot and dressed in sackcloth. Her eyes sparkle.

JAMES

Who are you?

Scored Music '102m07' In: 10:16:23

WINTER (QUICKLY)

Winter.

JAMES

Miss Winter?

WINTER

No. Just Winter.

JAMES

Just Winter.

James reacts with mild astonishment. She speaks with a soft London accent.

WINTER

I live with the whores but I'm a virgin.

James hides his curiosity.

JAMES

Why are you following me?

WINTER

To save your life.

James waits.

WINTER (CONT'D)

The mistress Helga gave information to a man with a silver tooth.

He studies her. She nods firmly and we now reveal who she is.

WINTER (CONT'D)

I spy on her.

James is curious.

WINTER (CONT'D)

From the conversation he meant to do you harm. And the mistress knew it. She wants you dead so she can have her rooms back.

James looks at her again.

JAMES

How old are you?

WINTER

Thirteen.

JAMES

Why would she keep you and not rent you?

Winter shrugs.

WINTER

Too ugly.

James gently shakes his head, knowing it's not true.

WINTER (CONT'D)

She says one day I'll catch a man and he'll carry me away. Someone like you. I spied you too.

James is as baffled by her as we are but he is always practical. He studies her.

JAMES

Tell me about this man with the silver tooth. Winter.

WINTER

I can show you where he is moored if you want?

IN: 10:17:59 EXT. THAMES - NIGHT

James is rowing with Winter.

JAMES
And he sleeps on the ship alone?

WINTER
He takes a particular girl aboard and does mean things.
But there's no one else.

JAMES
Are you tricking me?

WINTER
No.

James shakes his head with amusement.

WINTER (CONT'D)
They say you was in Africa. What is it like? Is everybody
naked?

James keeps rowing...

WINTER (CONT'D)
I want to go to America.

James peers at her. Winter looks up and her eyes sparkle.

WINTER (CONT'D)
Promise to take me to America one day.

Scored Music '102m07' out: 10:1.
Scored Music '102m08' In: 10:1.

James peers at her and joins the game...

JAMES
New York or Boston?

WINTER
The current here heads for Gravesend.

JAMES
You know navigation?

WINTER
Yes. Us 'larks all want to be sailors. (Beat)
That's his sloop.

JAMES
Right

James grabs the metal anchor and eases it into the water.

He removes his boots, coat and hat.

WINTER
Why do you even believe I am telling the truth?

James glances at her.

JAMES

Because

WINTER

What are you gonna do?

JAMES

Well, I shall ask him why he has been sent to kill me.
And by who. STAY !

He slips into the water and swims toward the sloop.

IN: 10:19:31 EXT. HISPANIOLA, DECK - NIGHT

James is now onboard, he removes a hatch and lowers himself down inside the ship.

Slowly he moves around the ship, he has a dagger and a blade and his short Ashanti stabbing sword. In the hold he comes across Islamic prayer beads made from a particular stone and beside them a small tin, which he sniffs. He then finds candles and matches. He puts them on the desk and lights a candle.

Music 'Asantema' In: 10:21

He pours whale oil across the decking and then gathers up the candles and places them in a circle with their wicks touching, like the spokes of a wheel. He puts light to the wicks.

The whale oil begins to burn and the wood of the deck begins to catch.

James steps back out onto the deck of the boat just as the flames begins to take hold.

IN: 10:21:10 EXT. THAMES/ROW BOAT – NIGHT

JAMES

You do. You do. You have goodness in you. You can see it in your eyes. And you have the same eye's has her. Winter, she's your daughter isn't she and that's why you don't rent her. Am I wrong? I would rather that you worked with me, rather than against

He then picks up the hammer, begins to use the hammer and chisel to carve a symbol...

We come close and cut around James as he works in half light. Moment-by-moment we see the symbol he is carving in the oak is the same as the symbol on the back of his neck.

Music 'Khoi Connection' out: 10:3

At last the work is done. The same raven and cross hammer have been etched into the woodwork of his ship.

IN: 10:31:36 INT. PROSPECT OF WHITBY – DAY

James sits alone, drinking.

IN: 10:31:49 EXT. THAMES FORESHORE – EARLY MORNING

James in the swirling water up to his waist. He then begins to reach into his pockets and pulls the colored glass beads out by the handful

He scatters the beads into the water and they catch the morning light. They glisten beautifully, in spite of their provenance. He throws handful after handful like a man sowing seeds.

IN: 10:32:10 EXT. THAMES FORESHORE – EARLY MORNING

Establisher.

IN: 10:32:16 EXT. CHAMBER HOUSE. DAY

Establisher.

Scored Music '102m12' out: 10:3

IN: 10:32:21 INT. CHAMBER HOUSE, DRAWING ROOM – NIGHT

James breezes through and Brace reacts to the smell.

BRACE

Blasphemy: 10:32:27 Holy Christ, where the hell have you been?

James pours himself a large brandy on a table near the fire.

BRACE (CONT'D)

I made a fire in your room for the mice...

JAMES

In Parliament today, they'll be debating the beating of servants. The Whigs want to protect you. I believe that would lead to anarchy.

BRACE

Are you not ever hungry?

JAMES

I ate in the whorehouse.

BRACE

To qualify as food it needs to be solid. I made some coffee. But that'll be stone cold now.

Scored Music '102m13' out: 10:3.

A pause as James fixes Dumbarton with his devil stare. We see through Dumbarton's glassy eyes and eccentric manner he is also a very hard man to be reckoned with.

DUMBARTON

Unless you tell me who sent you, I will have to ask you to leave at the point of a gun.

JAMES

A man who called himself Colonnade.

Dumbarton half laughs but his mood sours.

DUMBARTON

Not yet in hell?

JAMES

Now in Ponta Delgada in the Azores. Similar.

DUMBARTON

You should know the wound in the shoulder is no longer used by us as a signal.

JAMES

No.

DUMBARTON

No. We change codes when we think...

Dumbarton angles his head at James with a smile...

DUMBARTON (CONT'D)

That perhaps the scum British have overtaken it.

JAMES

Yet you do not trust the name 'Colonnade'?

DUMBARTON

What do you want?

JAMES

I want a line of conference with the President of the fifteen states of America.

Dumbarton stares at James.

JAMES

My name is James Delaney.

DUMBARTON

The name means nothing.

JAMES

But it will to the President and his representatives who are travelling to the negotiations in Ghent.

A pause. Dumbarton hides his surprise at James's knowledge.

JAMES (CONT'D)

The border between the United States and Canada is being drawn up in a very quiet closed room though. You see I have something of great value to your nation. Something the British are trying to kill me for.

Dumbarton tries to remain distant...

DUMBARTON

And what? You seek protection?

James stares at Dumbarton and just from the power in his look we get that James doesn't need protection.

JAMES

JAMES

Then I will trade with them.

James turns to Thoyt and fixes him with his stare.

THOYT

I hear you bought a ship.

James speaks casually...

JAMES

I did and then I discovered it was formerly used for carrying slaves.

Thoyt reacts but buries himself in papers...

JAMES (CONT'D)

I checked the vessel's log. And before it was taken by the Spanish, it was once owned by the Honorable East

I am armed.

IN: 10:41:51 INT. THOYTS AND CO. FINAL DIVISION HEARING - DAY

Thoyt is at a long oak desk inside the impressive office of Thoyts and Co. The room is dominated by a portrait of the King and more naval paintings.

James is surrounded and heckled as he enters the room.

Of his daughter, Zilpha Annabel Delaney now Zilpha
Annabel Geary...

A pause.

THOYT (CONT'D)

There is no mention in this last will and testament.

Scored Music '102m16' In: 10:4.

Mumbles around the room. Zilpha lowers her head and Thorne steams with anger.

THOYT (CONT'D)

To his son James Keziah Delaney is left the only existing
asset of the Delaney estate

Thoyt swallows his emotion

THOYT (CONT'D)

Including The Nootka trading post and landing ground on
the Pacific North West coast of the Americas in what
was formerly Spanish America

There is uproar and yells of defiance at James.

MAN IN CROWD

Whatever you have you will sell Delaney!

As the yelling and uproar continues, Thorne glares at James but James is looking up at the
ceiling . Thoyt is banging his gavel again. The yelling is all aimed at James to sell his assets to
pay the debts

THOYT

There must be order for me to continue!

We are close to Zilpha

Be sure of this Delaney! That legacy is your death sentence!

Thorne's strong voice carries through the uproar. James looks down from the ceiling to look at Thorne.

THORNE

Out of my way

Zilpha walks away and Thorne follows, snatching up his hat. We see James's desire to communicate with her and perhaps even in this uproar Thoyt sees his emotion.

THOYT

I must have order for me to continue.

There is fury and murder in the air now. A knife is pulled. A sturdy looking builder (HALL) steps forward with the knife brandished...

HALL

Language 10:43:53

I dug new foundations for that old bastard! I never got a penny!

Hall jabs the knife at James... James meets the threat with easy calm. Thoyt stands up to intercede and yells above the noise...

THOYT

The son does not inherit the debt of the father unless he is named in deeds of exchange. James Delaney has declared a new trading company in his own name...

Scored Music '102m16' out: 10:4

The mob are all now yelling at once and two more knives are drawn. James has an expert eye for danger and sees both. He then stands and puts the heavy leather case on the desk with a bang.

He flings it open and empties the contents onto the desk between him and the mob. A cascade of silver coins falls out.

Soon there is silence. James stands astride the pile of money. All eyes on him.

JAMES

My father's debts amounted to a sum total of two hundred and fifteen pounds and seventeen shillings.

Murmurs around the room.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Behold. Two hundred and fifteen pounds and seventeen shillings.

There is astonishment...

JAMES (CONT'D)

Mr. Thoyt will pay each one of you exactly what you are due. But you will form an orderly line.

The men hesitate.

She peers at James.

LORNA (CONT'D)

My name is Lorna Delaney, formerly Lorna Bow. Two years ago in Dublin Horace Delaney and I were married.

Lorna produces a marriage licence and other documents.

LORNA (CONT'D)

And I have proof that I am his widow.

James stares at her. Thoyt walks toward Lorna.

THOYT

I will have my clerks divide the silver. Madam, come to my office.

He turns and gestures for Lorna and James to follow him. As they leave...

IN: 10:46:05 INT. THOYT'S OFFICE - DAY

We are alone with Lorna in the impressive oak timbered office and now we see the nervousness we didn't see before. A fire burns in the large fireplace and as Lorna sits and takes in the intimidating environment, she takes a deep breath and whispers to herself...

LORNA

(to herself)

Calm. Pretty. Certain. Fragrant.
Calm. Pretty. Certain. Fragrant.

After a moment a door opens and James and Thoyt enter. Lorna's deadly stare returns. The two men sit side-by-side, an intimidating panel.

Thoyt holds up the marriage licence and papers that Lorna provided...

Scored Music '102m17' out: 10:4

THOYT

This is an Irish document and may take a little time to validate.

LORNA

Oh I can wait.

THOYT

But Mr. Delaney's son knew nothing of any marriage...

He often spoke of you. He was very, very proud...

JAMES

Why Dublin?

LORNA

Well he was on business.

JAMES

But your business is here isn't it?

Now it's Lorna's turn to react to knowledge...

JAMES (CONT'D)

You are an actress. You appeared on stage at the Theatre Royal in Covent Garden. In a play called 'The Painted Savage'...

Thoyt turns to James for explanation...

JAMES

I found a program and an illustration in an empty drawer...

LORNA

Well if my likeness was in there, the drawer wasn't empty.

James turns to Thoyt.

THOYT

If the paperwork from Dublin is validated Miss Bow will have a legal claim against his estate as widow...

LORNA

Look, Mrs. Delaney is my name. Bow is the name that I use for the stage.

James turns to her sharply...

JAMES

Are you a good actress?

LORNA

Your father thought so...

THOYT

And was that before or after he lost his mind...

LORNA

Well love is a kind of madness isn't it Mr. Thoyt. Or have you never experienced it?

James likes her. He angles his head. This woman is outrageous...

James peers at her...

JAMES

Well I have no love of the theatre.

Scored Music '102m18' In: 10:4

She smiles...

LORNA

And I spend very little time in German brothels.

Again James is surprised by her knowledge. She stands and leaves and James watches her go. His look to Lorna is more amused, more alive than his longing for Zilpha.

IN: 10:48:25 EXT. THOYT'S & CO. THE STRAND - DAY

James is leaving Thoyt's chambers and finds Atticus

IN: 10:49:25 INT. EAST INDIA COMPANY, BOARD ROOM - DAY

The senior officers of the company are gathered around a table. Port and coffee have been served. Sir Stuart Strange is chairing the meeting and we also see Pettifer, and others of the company we have met before.

The clerk will scribble the minutes as they talk.

Sir Stuart has handed a copy of a hand-written report to the nearest officer who skims quickly then passes it on. Everyone skims it and passes it on and we follow it around the table.

The door is knocked. Sir Stuart barks 'come' and Thoyt is led into the room. He is shown to the empty chair as he mops his brow. Sir Stuart reaches out to the clerk, grabs his pen and snaps it in two.

THOYT

Err, a dispatch arrived from Dublin. The marriage is confirmed and is legal.

Sir Stuart taps the table. It's hard to tell if he is happy or angry...

SIR STUART

What is the significance of this Mr. Godfrey?

Godfrey's face is crimson and he looks down to the agenda for help.

SIR STUART

It's not written down, you have to work it out. Aagh Pettifer?

PETTIFER

The girl is an opportunity.

SIR STUART

Thoyt, tell them the possibilities of this opportunity...

Thoyt is anxious and clears his throat...

THOYT

She will have a claim against James Delaney for shared ownership of Nootka.

SIR STUART

Bravo. A whore actress to the rescue of the mighty East.

We move around the room.

THOYT

It is not a, a foregone conclusion...

There is gentle laughter...

Zilpha looks to James, a half smile, some buried, wild person enjoying seeing the light again. She speaks as if it is something they once discussed...

ZILPHA
Did you really eat flesh?

James sees his chance to grab his old lover....

JAMES
Why don't you, tell your friends that you're sick and
come and hear everything...

Scored Music '102m21' In: 10:5
Scored Music '102m20' out: 10:5

ZILPHA
I would laugh at you but you're not well.

JAMES
Ah Ah Ah.

Scored Music '102m21' out: 10:5

She has offered him a glimpse of her old devil self then snatched it away. He grabs her arm again. Lovers fighting, children fighting....

Music 'Symphony No6' In: 10:5

They stare at each other. James needs to know if she knew. He can still see into her soul and he quickly is sure she didn't know. The way she hides her reaction tells James a lot about her

A fight ensues with a blade flashing and blood spilling.

Then, in a split second, James snarls and bites the neck of the man and tears out a vein. He pulls his head down and knees his face so hard we hear the skull crack.

James spits out blood and goes again to bite the back of the assailants' neck. His teeth sink in around the man's spine and he gnaws on the bone. The assailant screams.

James looks down and sees the knife in place in his belly, the blade two inches into the soft tissue on the non-appendix side. He knows it is not fatal but he also knows not to pull it out yet.

He grunts as he leans back against the wall. His mouth and neck are covered in blood. He fights to stay conscious but he is losing blood and slowly falls to the ground against the wall.

10:56:24 ***FLASHCUT: African tribesman appears holding a knife.***

Music 'Zulu Group' In: 10:56:24 out: 10:5

IN: 10:56:34 **END CREDITS**

