

THE TOLEDO WAR
(Pilot)

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TEXT: "The following is 99% accurate."

FADE IN:

INT. CONGRESS OF THE CONFEDERATION BUILDING - DAY

TEXT: "1787, Congress of the Confederation"

Elderly white Congressmen stand around, one holding a large sheet of written-up parchment.

CONGRESSMAN

This Ordinance calls for forming states in our Northwest Territory. The north-south border for these states are to be an east and west line drawn through the southernly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan.

INT. OHIO CONGRESS BUILDING - DAY

TEXT: "1802, Ohio"

Different elderly white Congressmen stand around, one holding a different sheet of written-up parchment.

OHIO CONGRESSMAN

Based on the Mitchell Map, the most accurate we have, this Ohio Constitution recognizes the east and west line to define our state's northern border shall include in our state the Maumee River, thus --

BAM! A FUR TRAPPER kicks in the door, huffing down the aisle.

FUR TRAPPER

Wait!

TEXT: "The following is 98% accurate."

The Fur Trapper arrives, out of breath.

FUR TRAPPER

I am but a fur trapper with disturbing news. The southern tip of Lake Michigan is actually lower than where the Mitchell Map had it. Ohio's border line now, with this more accurate survey of the region, does not include the Maumee River.

OHIO CONGRESSMAN
But... that river is worth a
fortune in trade commerce!

FUR TRAPPER
And, according to the 1787
Northwest Ordinance, belongs to the
territory above us: Michigan.

The Congressmen mumble about this.

OHIO CONGRESSMAN
Let us add... a provision! That if
what this fur trapper suggests is
true, then... Our state boundary
line should be angled *slightly*
northeast once nearing Lake Erie!
Thus giving *Ohio* the Maumee Bay.

The Congressmen look at one another in confusion.

ANOTHER OHIO CONGRESSMAN
Can we...? Can we do that?

The central Congressman tries to come up with an answer.

INT. UNITED STATES CONGRESS BUILDING - DAY

TEXT: "1817, ~~Congress of the Confederation~~ U.S. Congress"

Similar elderly Congressmen stand around.

U.S. CONGRESSMAN
Given the noted inaccuracy of the
Mitchell Map, the U.S. ordered an
official survey of the Ohio-
Michigan border-line, conducted...

The Congressman reads off a sheet of parchment.

U.S. CONGRESSMAN
By "U.S. Surveyor General Edward
Tiffin, former... Ohio Governor."

EDWARD TIFFIN (50), kicks his boots up and grins.

EXT. DETROIT - DAY

TEXT: "1818, Michigan"

LEWIS CASS (36) stands in front of a young Detroit.

LEWIS CASS

Michigan ordered our own survey,
finding extended east from Lake
Michigan, as decreed, the prized
Maumee Bay remains ours. Thus,
Michigan *shall* set up government
there, build roads there, and
collect taxes there.

A guy in the back of the crowd raises his hand.

TEXT: "The following is 94% accurate."

GUY IN THE BACK

I mean... Isn't *none* of this ours?
Just that... there were already
people living on this land --

LEWIS CASS

Shut up. Shut him up!

INT. UNITED STATES CONGRESS BUILDING - DAY

TEXT: "1833, U.S. Congress"

Different men, same shtick. A YOUNG OHIO CONGRESSMAN stands.

YOUNG OHIO CONGRESSMAN

Ohio lobbies against Michigan's vie
for statehood, as Michigan's claim
to having the required 60,000 in
population is tainted by including
our citizens near the Maumee River,
an area dubbed "The Toledo Strip."

The Michigan Congressmen stare furiously at him.

YOUNG OHIO CONGRESSMAN

In fact, Ohio will now name the
county upon which Toledo rests
"Lucas County," after our dear --
and recognized *state* governor.

A Michigan Congressman spits on the floor.

EXT. DETROIT - NIGHT

STEVENS T. MASON (24) stands in front of a mob, everyone
holding torches.

TEXT: "The following is 86% accurate."

STEVENS T. MASON
 They literally named the county
 "Lucas" -- we're not gonna -- ! No.
 Nope. Uh-uh. As new governor of the
 Michigan territory, I have enacted
 the Pains and Penalties Act: any
 dirty Ohioans who act on behalf of
 their government in Toledo,
Michigan will be fined a thousand
 dollars and five years hard labor.

The mob roars in delight.

INT. OHIO CONGRESS BUILDING - NIGHT

All the Congressmen surround ROBERT LUCAS (54).

ROBERT LUCAS
 Their boy governor of their non-
 state has sent a militia into our
 Toledo. They want the Maumee River?
 Let them try to take it from us.

The Congressmen roar in delight.

ROBERT LUCAS
 I have submitted, on your
 congressional approval, the request
 to send our forces to Toledo, *Ohio*!

The Congressmen give a standing ovation.

CUT TO BLACK.

TEXT: "The following is 1% accurate."

CUT TO:

EXT. MAUMEE RIVERBANK - DAY

BOOM! A merchant cart is splattered in orange juice.

A group of Michigan soldiers roar in delight, standing next
 to a smoking cannon. All of the soldiers are women, with most
 being women of color.

TEXT: "1835, Toledo"

THERESA (20s-30s) cranks a record player. Out comes Gorillaz.

THERESA
 Crave the fucking wave!

KATIE (20s-30s) repositions the cart, then hurries away. EVE (20s-30s) shoves armfuls of oranges into the cannon.

EVE

Okay, these fuckers are plump.

To the side of this, an Italian MERCHANT (50s) pleads.

MERCHANT

I'm sorry! No more!

KATIE

Sorry my bumpy dick; who are you gonna pay your taxes to?

MERCHANT

The Ohio soldiers threatened to destroy my oranges!

BOOM! The fired, exploding oranges knock the cart over, splintering it some. Theresa and Eve cheer.

KATIE

Fuck! I missed it!
(to Merchant)
You citrus bitch!

MERCHANT

Noooooo!

EXT. MAUMEE RIVERBANK - LATER

In the background, Michigan soldiers take turns throwing the oranges in the air while another shoots them. Theresa uses her musket as a baseball bat while Eve pitches her an orange. Theresa nails it and the orange soars.

THERESA

Going, going, gonorrhea!

Katie sits in the grass, carving a penis into her musket.

TITLE CARD: "THE TOLEDO WAR"

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - HAYSTACKS - LATER

The three soldiers walk into the walled base, wheeling the cannon back with them. The base is full of soldiers lazing around, all of them women.

Parking the cannon next to the others, the three sit on stacks of hay. Eve pulls out a joint, lighting it. Theresa waves her musket at another soldier, NANCY (20s-30s).

THERESA

Nancy! Colin's all fucked.

NANCY

Oh, what'd you do to him now?

THERESA

I was shooting these Ohoes when
a... a fucking orange hit me. His
trigger's all sticky.

Theresa tosses her musket to the sighing Nancy.

KATIE

What do we wanna do today?

EVE

Get drunk and make a human pyramid.

Katie accepts the joint from Eve, hitting and shrugging.

THERESA

Peach from the infirmary brewed up
some crazy kind of beer with, like,
moonshine cherries in it. I heard
three glasses straight up makes you
shit out your thyroid.

EVE

Get some with lunch? Katie?

Katie shrugs, passing the joint along.

KATIE

Don't you wanna do something new?

EVE

It has cherries in it -- "Shit out
your thyroid" as in your thyroid
comes out your butt, or you start
shitting out of your -- ?

KATIE

Did you think...? I thought we'd be
doing a lot more soldier shit.

THERESA

I mean, I'm fine without it.

KATIE

No. I'm fine without it, I just wish there was like... a mission. A battle. I dunno, fucking dysentery.

THERESA

We are doing real shit. That orange guy with the taxes? We just bought Michigan another shitty musket by fucking up his oranges. You know he's not funding Ohio soldiers now.

EXT. MARKET - SAME TIME

The Merchant is surrounded by IKE (20s-30s) and WINSTON (20s-30s), two Ohio soldiers, both men. He shows his damaged cart.

IKE

You're kidding.

MERCHANT

(crying)

My cart! She is ruined!

WINSTON

Ike, the juice pattern makes it look like The Last Supper.

IKE

Okay -- All right -- Look. We get it. They hot juiced ya. We still need your taxes.

MERCHANT

You take my taxes this morning!

WINSTON

Ike, look. This splotch is Trevor.

IKE

We're not allowed to go back without your taxes, man! That's --

MERCHANT

How do I pay the taxes if I have no money?! No oranges?! All the merchants ask Ohioans to protect our businesses! Put cobblestone in the market so our goods are not splattered with mud! You do nothing but take our taxes for your war!

Ike doesn't know what to say.

EXT. MARKET - MOMENTS LATER

Ike and Winston are walking away. Ike bites his lip.

WINSTON

We sell our kidneys? Honestly, they weigh you down a lot.

Ike still doesn't know what to say.

WINSTON

Ike, I'm desperate for booze. The Bitchigans have so much of it.

IKE

If we trade with them --

WINSTON

I haven't been drunk in a month!

IKE

We'll find the money. Fuck, man. I haven't been this sober since my first three months in the womb.

WINSTON

If you suck Zach off, he'll give us the rest of his tequila.

IKE

I'm not doing -- Zach's disgusting. Guy looks like he starts STIs.

WINSTON

I would. Henry says if I cheat one more time, he's gonna be upset.

IKE

Steal the tequila?

WINSTON

From Zach? He'd eat us.

IKE

He doesn't actually -- Does he actually eat people?

Winston points to a market stall with no merchant. Ike nods.

IKE

If we tried to get it from the Bitchigans, they'd fire upon our approach. We'd have to find somebody to, like... "Hey Mister."

EXT. PATHWAY - LATER

BENNY (10) ponders the proposal of the two Ohio soldiers.

BENNY

Okay. But I get to keep half the
money *and* booze.

IKE

No fuckin' way.

WINSTON

Absolutely not.

BENNY

(leaving)

I'm gonna go throw rocks at ducks.

IKE

Stop... Work with us. All the money
goes to the women, all the booze
goes to us, and you, Benny... You
get to drink with us.

BENNY

I'd rather throw rocks at ducks.

IKE

You're not thinking about it --

BENNY

(leaving)

Correct.

WINSTON

Benny, please... If you drink with
us, you can tell all your friends
you got drunk with adults. And
that's a very cool thing for you to
say at ten.

IKE

Believe me, this is a low for us.

WINSTON

Besides the platter squatting deal.
But my asshole was getting *chapped*.

BENNY

... How about this? I keep the
booze: you can drink some with *me*.

Ike and Winston think about it. They have no choice.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - BUSH - EVENING

Ike, Winston, and Benny, crouch as they approach. They're fifty yards from the fortified entrance to the base.

WINSTON

(hushed)

Those guns have liver spots. Ike, their guns have E.D. Ike, their guns eat dinner at four.

IKE

(hushed)

Winston -- shut the fuck up.

They stop behind a bush. Ike pulls out the money.

IKE

All right, Benny: I'm giving you two dollars. Get as much booze as you can fit in your lil' arms.

BENNY

(taking money; inspecting)

The fuck is -- "Ohio Dollars?" They're not gonna take this.

IKE

It's all we have, okay?

Benny shrugs, then rises, heading to the gate.

WINSTON

I'm gonna run away with the booze as soon as he brings it.

IKE

No... I'm faster.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - HAYSTACKS - SAME TIME

Katie, Theresa, Eve, and PEACH (20s-30s) play Euchre, a card game. There's a drained pitcher, cherries at the bottom.

EVE

Diamonds.

THERESA

You fucking chode. You bullshitting fucking sewed up asshole.

Katie looks away, then arches her eyebrows:

Across the base, JACKIE (20s-30s) gets sized for her uniform.
Now's probably a good time to mention everyone is bisexual.

KATIE
Who the fuck is that?

Peach glances.

PEACH
Jack-ie? Enlisted today.

KATIE
Uhh... Okay. Peach -- uh -- Peach-
Peach-Peach, did you do her medical
inspection?

Peach nods. Eve waves her cards in Katie's face.

EVE
It's diaaamooondsss.

THERESA
(pushing Eve's hand down)
You dumb sow.

KATIE
We'll get to the game in a -- What,
uh...? Tell me about her.

PEACH
She's... medically fit for combat.

THERESA
Hot.

EVE
You're gonna abandon us when it's
diamonds. I wish I were in a coma.

Katie thinks about it, looking to Eve.

KATIE
What -- What should I say to her?

EVE
... "Hey, do you need to pee? Cuz
ur-an-eight."

Katie thinks about this, nods, and gets up.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - OUTFITS - MOMENTS LATER

Katie arrives as Jackie looks over her finished uniform. She's almost ashamed of it, but remains resolute.

KATIE
(awkward)
Hey.

Jackie looks, not responding.

KATIE
Do you...? No. I like my pick-up
lines like I like my drinks: Black.

Jackie frowns.

JACKIE
The fuck did you just say to me?

KATIE
That's not -- I don't know what
that was supposed to -- I...

Katie tries to find the right words as Jackie nods, walking away. Katie follows.

KATIE
I just wanted -- Like, y'know --
It's really hard to make friends in
war, so... If you needed a new
friend -- like, a first friend -- I
can friend your brains out.

JACKIE
Do you have shell-shock?

KATIE
No! No, the war's been super chill.
Literally zero shocked shells.
Like, you're not gonna, y'know...
get -- get die. I'm Katie.

JACKIE
Uh-huh. You're drunk, right?

KATIE
Haha, right?! I know!

Katie tries to think about what she said as Benny appears.

BENNY
Excuse me, I'd like to buy alcohol.

KATIE

Woah! How'd you get past the -- ?

BENNY

The guards are shit-faced and
stabbing a tree. I have two Ohio
dollars.

JACKIE

How old are you?

KATIE

Where'd you get two Ohio dollars?

BENNY

Two soldiers gave it to me. They're
hiding outside your base.

Katie and Jackie double take.

JACKIE

They're...? They're what?

BENNY

Yeah, they gave me this money to
buy booze from you, but they were
definitely gonna bolt as soon as I
brought it back, and watching you
shoot them is gonna be way cooler
than throwing rocks at ducks.

The two women are flabbergasted. Jackie climbs a ladder.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - WALL - CONTINUOUS

Jackie pokes her head over the wall, seeing the bush rustle.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - OUTFITS - CONTINUOUS

Jackie comes back down.

JACKIE

Do we sound an alarm?! What's the
protocol for --

KATIE

Wait!

Katie thinks.

KATIE

Shitz Crackers, I am not Soblerone.
Hold... No: they are funded and
gun-ded. Their whole base is. We've
done *nothing* for a month cuz we're
afraid of going there for recon --
But! If these two are *here* now...

INT. MICHIGANDER BASE - GENERAL'S QUARTERS - LATER

Katie and Jackie arrive at the General's Quarters. An old,
grizzled, decorated woman, sits at a desk, holding in a moan.

JACKIE

General Vernor? We have a matter
requiring your immediate attention.

A younger woman hops up from under the desk, wiping her
mouth. This is VERNOR (20s-30s).

VERNOR

Deirdre, give us privacy.

The now identified DEIRDRE nods, exiting the room promptly.

KATIE

Verns, there are two Ohoes hiding
outside the base.

VERNOR

Woah! Did we kill 'em?

JACKIE

No --

VERNOR

That's gay. Fuck 'em up.

KATIE

No, look: if we capture them, we
can extract some Ohoe plans.

VERNOR

The Ohoes have *plans*? Fuck. They've
got so much fucking money. No time.
If they're out there, we gotta
treat 'em like zits: pop 'em before
they're gone.

JACKIE

They sent a boy to buy alcohol.

Vernor's confused. Katie doesn't get it, but pretends to.

JACKIE

Governor Lucas doesn't consider alcohol a necessity for Ohioan soldiers outside surgery, and I guarantee they drank all of --

KATIE

(realizing)

They're desperate enough to come here; they're not leaving soon.

JACKIE

(agreeing)

Rushing to shooting will scare them off or kill without necessity.

Katie goes to hold Jackie's hand, which Jackie confusedly pulls away from. Katie pretends she was intending to lean on Vernor's desk.

Vernor thinks about this proposition.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - BUSH - NIGHT

Ike and Winston are still waiting behind the bush.

IKE

Stop eating the bush.

WINSTON

I'm so hungry...

IKE

I'm almost sure this is poison oak.

WINSTON

Yeah, that makes sense. I've been leaking for the past half-hour.

IKE

What does that even...? Fuck, man!
Is that why it smells like that?

WINSTON

I was hoping you didn't smell it.

IKE

Go take a shit!

Winston nods, hurrying away.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - SAME TIME

Katie and Vernor approach the bush from the side, armed.

VERNOR
(hushed)
On my command.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - SAME TIME

On the other side, Theresa and Eve approach the bush.
Theresa, still drunk, trips over her own feet.

THERESA
(hushed)
Shuckin' fit --

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - BUSH - SAME TIME

Ike peeks at the gate, not seeing the soldiers approaching.

IKE
(worried)
What'd they do to that kid?

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - POST - SAME TIME

Benny sits at a wall post, drinking the cherry beer with Peach. They watch the soldiers approach in the darkness.

BENNY
This is so dope. Oh, fuck -- I've
never seen a person legit die.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - FOREST - SAME TIME

Winston shits his brains out in a forest clearing.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - BUSH - SAME TIME

Katie and Vernor are now close enough.

VERNOR
NOW!

The soldiers jump up, aiming their muskets at Ike.

Ike gets up to run, but is cut off by more soldiers.

As Ike raises his hands, he's surrounded by a dozen women.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - FOREST - MOMENTS LATER

Winston walks out of the forest, pulling his pants up.

WINSTON

Oh -- I accidentally did it over a
bunny nest and don't know if it --

Winston realizes Ike is gone. He looks around, then sees Ike being led to the gate, surrounded by Michigander soldiers.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - POST - MOMENTS LATER

Vernor approaches the wall post Benny is at, Ike in tow.

VERNOR

You said there were two!

BENNY

Yeah, there are! You said there
were gonna be gunshots.

Vernor looks back, barely seeing Winston in the fire light from the base.

VERNOR

Yeah, there are.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - BUSH - SAME TIME

Winston realizes Vernor is aiming her musket directly at him. He hops up, sprinting in the opposite direction.

BANG! A musket ball whizzes by him.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - POST - SAME TIME

Vernor's musket smokes as the other soldiers fire on Winston. Jackie doesn't. Katie, seeing this, doesn't either.

Theresa drunkenly vomits, firing as she falls over.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - SAME TIME

Winston huffs and puffs into the night.

INT. MICHIGANDER BASE - GENERAL'S QUARTERS - LATER

Katie and Jackie toss Ike on a chair, Vernor at her desk.

VERNOR

Tell us about your base and your plans, or you get to meet Roy: the horse who fucks people.

Ike doesn't say a word.

VERNOR

Gonna ball hard-play, huh? All right. Jackie, get Roy.

Jackie doesn't know what to do.

JACKIE

Can I...? Can I talk to you?

Vernor fumes.

VERNOR

All right. But just because she feels bad since Roy's cock is super big and horsey tonight. Katie, make sure our friend stays warned.

Vernor heads to the side with Jackie. In the background, Katie leans into Ike's ear, making horse orgasm sounds.

JACKIE

(hushed)

We can't do this. Do we really have a horse that does that?

VERNOR

(hushed)

No. Just bring in a random horse.

JACKIE

We can't torture prisoners.

VERNOR

That's so gay, man. Look, I super duper doubt that the horse is just gonna start fucking the guy.

JACKIE

We can't psychologically torture them either. We need to inform the Ohio militia we have one of their men and bargain for his return.

VERNOR

If they captured one of us, you
know what they'd do?

INT. OHIOAN BASE - GENERAL'S QUARTERS - EARLY MORNING

YUENGLING

(with hand gestures)
Horse cock. Their prostates.

Winston, dirty and ashamed, stands in GENERAL YUENGLING's
(20s-30s) quarters. It's significantly nicer than Vernor's.

YUENGLING

That's what we'd be doing -- And
you're telling me they're doing
that to Ike?

Winston's too guilty to talk. Yuengling mutters under his
breath, looking to HENRY (20s-30s), a decorated soldier.

YUENGLING

Oh, Ike was so pretty. Oh, did I
wanna have weird sex with him. Oh,
man -- All right, look --

HENRY

General Yuengling, if I may --

YUENGLING

No, you may'nt. I'm sending Winston
back there in exchange for Ike.

WINSTON

Sir!

YUENGLING

Gosh, was I gonna move on Ike soon.
Pounce like a piranha.

HENRY

Sir, might I propose an idea?

YUENGLING

Ike got captured and he didn't: far
as I care, that's on Winston.
(to Winston)
You come back with Ike and no you,
or you don't come back at all.

EXT. OHIOAN BASE - MORNING

Henry escorts Winston out of the base. All of the soldiers are men, the munitions significantly more expensive.

WINSTON

Henry, you have to help me.

Henry doesn't answer, leading Winston.

WINSTON

Henry, I will never, ever cheat on you ever again if you help me.

HENRY

(rolling eyes)
Gag me with a gag.

WINSTON

Please. *Please.*

Henry stops.

HENRY

You tell me you won't cheat again:
I help you. Soon as you're safe and
sound, you're a tour de foreskin.

Winston doesn't answer, pleading. Henry can't take it.

HENRY

Look. I was gonna suggest this to
Yuengling, but... They don't have
the guns we do. Or cannons. Or...

Henry thinks about it, then gestures for Winston to follow.

INT. OHIOAN BASE - ARMORY - LATER

Henry leads Winston down wooden stairs into a cavern.

WINSTON

I've never gone down here.

HENRY

Proud of you. Ike's value to them
is in information and negotiation,
so you're worth more to them, given
you're one of the only soldiers
with lips looser than your teeth.

WINSTON

Hygiene or die-gene.

HENRY

It is in Ohio's best interest to
have neither of you in their hands
for long. No time for low bids.

Henry lights a candle, leading them along guns, swords, etc.

HENRY

It was a gift from John Quincy
Adams to the Michigan militia. We
intercepted it.

Henry stops at a large case: seemingly for a rifle.

HENRY

Yuengling wanted to save it for
when he entered battle himself.

Henry opens the case. Winston gawks at what's inside.

HENRY

There's a rumor Adams'll send more.

Henry closes the case, handing it to Winston.

HENRY

I'm the only one that knows about
this one besides Yuengling, so if
he looks for it and there are none
here... If I'm giving you this to
trade for Ike, you *must* intercept
the next one coming.

Winston takes the case.

WINSTON

Thank you!

Winston kisses Henry and sprints back up the stairs.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - DAY

Katie leads the shackled Ike out of the General's Quarters.

KATIE

Peach there'll feed you literal
hogshit and you have to eat it.

Katie notices Jackie approaching and loosens her grip on Ike.

KATIE

If you want to. You don't have to.

JACKIE

(to Ike)

Did they give you a comfortable
place to sleep?

KATIE

General's quarters.

IKE

Hung upside down.

KATIE

Like a bat! That's how...?

("Right?")

That's how they do it.

JACKIE

(to Katie)

I'm formally requesting permission
to oversee the just treatment of
our prisoner.

KATIE

The, uh...? He is being justed. I'm
justing the fuck outta him.

IKE

Ohioans don't sleep upside down.

KATIE

Okay, scientifically, he's a liar.

Jackie takes Ike from Katie and leads him to the eating area.
Katie doesn't know what to do, not following them.

JACKIE

Where are you from?

Ike doesn't answer.

JACKIE

I'm from Northern Kentucky. Close
to Cincinnati. We moved to Toledo
last year. Before the War started.

Ike doesn't answer.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - EATING AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Jackie sits Ike down at a table. Peach chops vegetables.

JACKIE

Two breakfasts.

Peach ladles out stew into two bowls, placing them in front of Jackie and Ike. Peach spits in Ike's food.

Jackie frowns, switching bowls with Ike and eating.

JACKIE
How long have you served?

Ike tries to hide being impressed with Jackie's cordiality. Jackie waits for Ike to say something.

Katie sits across from them with her own breakfast.

KATIE
Woah. You two. Crazy seeing you
together. Two of you. Hey. Both.

Katie eats. After a moment, so does Ike.

IKE
Tastes like shit.

Katie smacks Ike's bowl, his breakfast now on the ground.

KATIE
Oh wow, wind's fucking wild here.
Probably tastes shittier now.

Jackie glares at Ike, putting her bowl in front of him. Katie sees this and becomes timid.

JACKIE
Katie, can you do something else?

KATIE
Oh. Uh, like...?

JACKIE
Just...

Jackie hints for Katie to leave. Katie, hangdog, nods.

KATIE
Yeah, yeah, you wanna -- That's
cool. That's coo- Pour me a Moscow
Cule! For sure.

Beat. Katie grabs her bowl and leaves.

IKE
Who's "we"?

Jackie frowns.

IKE
You said "we" moved here from
Northern Kentucky. Who's "we"?

Jackie nods, having difficulty answering.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - HAYSTACKS - MOMENTS LATER

Katie arrives next to Theresa and Eve. Theresa polishes her musket as Eve alternates between her joint and her breakfast.

Katie plops down on a haystack, unable to eat.

KATIE
What's, uh...? What's that new
girl's deal, y'know?

THERESA
She's hot.

Eve grunts in agreement.

KATIE
Yeah, but like... not really. Not
like "I wanna have sex with her" --
more like I want her to have sex
with liking me. Y'know? She's
acting like the Ohoe isn't...

EVE
Jackie's not from Michigan. It's
all in the shoulders.

KATIE
She's not one of *them*...!

EVE
Maine. They point to people they
like with their knees in Maine.

Katie looks to Jackie talking to Ike: she's got her knees pointed towards him. Katie can't believe it.

THERESA
Eve's never been wrong.

EVE
I'm going to be wrong five times.

THERESA
Other clams in the sea.

Katie thinks about this, struggling to shove the food in her mouth and unable to chew it.

EVE

We should patrol the market.

THERESA

I don't wanna deal with that today.
Let's drink, eat; it's Sunday.

EVE

I know. I'm just saying what we
should do.

EXT. MARKET - SAME TIME

Winston charges through the market with the case. He pauses to catch his breath, getting his bearings. He tries to flag people down for help.

WINSTON

Can anyone help negotiate with --
Hey, Mister! Can you go into the
Bitchigan base for me! Hey! There's
a child here: Benny. Seen him?
Benny? Ye high? Eyes full of
deceit? No?

MERCHANT (O.C.)

You!

The Italian orange Merchant charges towards Winston.

MERCHANT

You must help me! A kid takes my
cart away!

WINSTON

I'm very busy right now.

MERCHANT

I pay you my taxes! You are
supposed to protect my business!

WINSTON

I... Yes! I am, but --

MERCHANT

I pay taxes to Michigan then?!

WINSTON

No! Just -- I'll be back to pick up
the taxes, I have to --

MERCHANT

No, no! I already pay! You protect
my business from the kid!

WINSTON

Wait. Which kid?

The Merchant redirects Winston's head: in the distance, Benny
is running off with the Merchant's juiced cart.

WINSTON

Oh, fuck! *That* k- Benny!

Winston charges in his direction.

Benny rushes along with the cart, not noticing Winston
approaching behind him.

WINSTON

Benny! Wait!

Benny sees Winston behind him, gasps, and runs faster. People
in the market have to rush out of the way to avoid the cart.

WINSTON

No! Benny, you back-stabbing
Fuckleberry Finn! Get over --

Winston trips and falls in the mud, throwing the case.
Merchants around him laugh as Winston wipes his eyes, his
boot sticking out of the mud.

WINSTON

Ow, my clavicles --
(not seeing the case)
Where's the...? Where's -- ?!

Winston hops to his knees: the case is nowhere to be seen.

WINSTON

Where's the case?! There was a --

Winston sees Benny getting further away. Winston flails
around to search the mud, checks under market stalls and
carts, around people's legs: the case is nowhere.

WINSTON

Oh, no... Oh, no.

The Merchant, out of breath, arrives at Winston.

MERCHANT

You do not catch him?!

WINSTON

The case I was holding! Do you see
it?! It was just --

MERCHANT

You try to take my taxes twice --
and don't save my cart twice?

Winston looks: Benny's out of sight now. Whimpering at being
unable to find the case, Winston shakes his head, grabs his
boot, and charges in Benny's direction.

WINSTON

(to the Merchant)

Stay here and look for that case!
I'll be back in two seconds! Don't
let anybody else find it!

(to Benny)

Benny! Benny, get back here!

Winston gets smaller and smaller. The Merchant throws his hat
in the mud, cursing.

After a moment, he goes to grab the hat back, pulling with it
the case -- which had buried itself upon impact.

The Merchant thinks to call out to Winston, but doesn't. He
accepts this consolation.

The Merchant opens the case. The contents shock him.

EXT. COBBLESTONE ROAD - SAME TIME

Benny peeks back at the market: no sign of Winston. He pushes
the cart towards the wide-open, cobblestone road.

As the cart reaches the road, one of its wheels immediately
breaks off, launching Benny to the ground.

Benny rubs his scraped hands. He sees the cart and gasps,
trying to shove the wheel back on. No use: wood's broken.

Winston arrives at the end of the market, seeing Benny.

WINSTON

YOU!

Winston rushes to him, Benny too heartbroken to notice.

BENNY

No, no, no --

WINSTON
(arriving)
You little... fucking... I'm out of
breath, hold on.

Winston wheezes as Benny rests his forehead on the cart.

WINSTON
You... are under arrest... by the
Ohio State Militia...

Benny covers his face and starts crying. Winston frowns.

WINSTON
What are you...? Stop... Stop doing
that... Stop.

Winston tries to slap Benny's hands away from his face.

WINSTON
You're under arrest -- Stop that.

BENNY
The duck...

Winston doesn't understand.

EXT. MAUMEE RIVERBANK - LATER

Benny is crying, pointing out something for Winston:

It's a duck in the grass. It quacks.

Benny cries. Winston frowns.

BENNY
I was throwing rocks so when you
hit near them, they fly away, but I
hit this one and its wing broke!

Benny sobs as Winston still doesn't understand.

BENNY
It can't travel the world anymore!
I wanted to put it on the cart so I
could take it around the world!
Paris! Detroit! Cleveland!

WINSTON
Are you being seri-

BENNY

Yes, I'm being serious! I ruined
its ability to fly!

WINSTON

Benny, you're responsible for a man
being a prisoner of the Michi-

BENNY

Ducks are better than people! They
can fly-y-y-y-

Benny crumbles down, sobbing.

WINSTON

Do you have any idea what I had to
go through to chase you down?!

BENNY

(nearly indecipherable)
Because you can't fly!

WINSTON

Fuck, Benny! Fuck! Do you get how
stupid this is?!

Winston sits in the grass, dejected. He stares at the duck as
Benny wails into the grass, ripping up bunches.

WINSTON

You can just pick up the duck to
take it places! Stop crying!

BENNY

If you touch a bird, its mom will
smell human and reject it!

WINSTON

That's not tr- Your mother doesn't
smell something weird on you and
suddenly reject you, does she?!

BENNY

She probably did!

Winston frowns, then realizes. Benny sobs more. After a
moment, Winston pats Benny on the back.

WINSTON

Fuck, Benny... Fuck!

Winston thinks. He picks up the duck.

BENNY

What are you -- ?!

Winston hands Benny the duck.

WINSTON

There you go. There's human on it.
Now you have to take care of it...

Winston walks away, Benny gawking.

Winston pauses and waves for Benny to follow him. Benny hops up, cradling the duck, and hurries after him.

INT. MICHIGANDER BASE - GENERAL'S QUARTERS - AFTERNOON

Vernor frustratedly sighs, Ike sits in a chair, Jackie supervises this interaction, Katie leans on a wall.

VERNOR

Putting gunpowder under his
fingernails while he plays a
burning fiddle?

JACKIE

I report it to Governor Mason.

VERNOR

The Governor's like fifteen! He
probably loves torture!

JACKIE

That's your gamble. I'm not sorry.

VERNOR

Fucking come on! It's uncool even
when it's funny?!

Vernor pouts, then faces Ike head-on.

VERNOR

Do the Ohoes have any plans to
attack in the next three months?

Ike doesn't respond. Vernor nearly convulses in anger.

VERNOR

Just fucking move some lip!

IKE

You'll have to kill me first.

Vernor looks to Jackie with excitement, but Jackie shakes her head. Vernor frowns and returns to Ike.

VERNOR

I would. I would kill you so much.
I was put in this position because
of how badly I wanted to puncture
some skulls -- I mean *really* make
'em look like big elbows --

Vernor pulls out a piece of paper from off her desk.

VERNOR

But we haven't had a single battle
and it's been months of this. I've
got a -- look, I've got a list. See
it? "Ways to Kill Ohoes. Number
one: fist."

JACKIE

General, we talked about --

VERNOR

(tossing list)
Psychological torture. Yep, we
talked! Fuck!

Vernor retreats, resigned.

JACKIE

If he isn't going to *volunteer*
information, we should offer him a
deal or trade him for supplies.

KATIE

Y'know! I'm just gonna say that's a
really great idea! I love it. The
bat guy's probably onboard. Let's
give him back for some guns, gauze,
and ganja.

IKE

(to Jackie)
What kind of a deal?

KATIE

Shut the fuck up.

JACKIE

Join the Michigan cause.

IKE

No.

No.

KATIE

KATIE

Good. Shut the fuck up.

JACKIE

Michigan's claim to the Toledo Strip isn't just, but it's more just than Ohio's. Being a state rather than a territory, Ohio simply has the money to bully Michigan. You know it's wrong.

IKE

I don't.

KATIE

He doesn't. These people don't have feelings. Only echolocation.

JACKIE

Then what supplies do the Ohioans have that we can trade you for?

Ike gives a *"You know I'm not telling you that"* smirk. Jackie sighs, looking to Vernor.

JACKIE

We have to come up with demands on our own then.

VERNOR

I demand to kill him.

EXT. MARKET - AFTERNOON

Winston arrives at where he lost the case, Benny and the duck in tow. The Merchant's gone.

WINSTON

Where is...? There was a man...!

Winston looks around: nowhere. Benny digs around the mud, he looks up to Winston, shrugging.

WINSTON

No... Oh, no.

After a moment, Winston nods in defeat.

WINSTON

Okay. Never mind. Just... go home.

Winston stands. Benny doesn't move.

WINSTON

I needed you to negotiate twice and
you screwed that up twice. It was
what was in that case or my life. I
have my orders from the General.
You can no longer help with them.
Go home.

After a moment, Winston walks along. Benny follows.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - BUSH - EVENING

Winston approaches the base, Benny a few steps behind.

BENNY

What do you think they're gonna do
to you in there?

WINSTON

I said to go home. Take care of
your duck.

The duck quacks. Benny pets it.

BENNY

Am I gonna see you again?

WINSTON

No. Well, they might hang me up in
the market, but I'll be filled with
gravel or crickets or something.

BENNY

Which hole do you think they'd use
to fill you?

WINSTON

I don't know. I don't want -- What?

BENNY

Like your mouth?

WINSTON

Don't -- I don't know.

Winston continues walking to the wall. Benny still follows.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - WALL - MOMENTS LATER

Guards aim their muskets as Winston approaches with his hands
up, Benny trailing.

WINSTON
I'm unarmed!

THERESA
What's the kid got?

The duck quacks. The guards lower their guns. Vernor arrives.

VERNOR
You! Hold on!

Vernor takes a gun from a guard and aims it at Winston, firing. Winston yelps, but is missed.

VERNOR
Fuck these guns, man!

WINSTON
Wait! No! I'm here for Ike!

VERNOR
For... Ike? Ike!

Katie and Jackie bring Ike up the guard post.

VERNOR
Yeah, we know -- we *extracted* that.
We just -- We just have been using
his, y'know, *full* name! Uh...

KATIE
Ichael!

WINSTON
Hey, Ike, what's up?

IKE
What are you doing?

WINSTON
General! I'm here to trade to free
your prisoner.

KATIE
It's a deal!

VERNOR
Shut up! What are you offering?

IKE
I'd rather die than be traded f-

VERNOR

(fingers over his mouth)
Yeah, that's good. You better be
offering something real good or
we're shooting you outta here!

WINSTON

I'm supposed to offer... Me?

Vernor stares, upset. She grabs another guard's rifle,
shooting at Winston. Winston yelps, but is missed again.

VERNOR

Fuck, dude. Point blank.

JACKIE

General! -- Soldier, we have no
interest in opening a hotel. We
request a legitimate trade. We want
to note that we've treated your
fellow soldier well and --

VERNOR

Shut up! Everyone just -- We want
guns. Come back with that and
hopefully little *Ike* here will
still have his fingies. He's been
telling us everything about your
base -- He's valuable to us.

IKE

I haven't told them a single --

VERNOR

Shut up! Gosh! Everyone here!

WINSTON

If it gets Ike out, I'll tell you
about the Ohio base.

VERNOR

I said sh-

Vernor's ears are perked. Ike's face falls

Vernor huddles the four of them away from the wall.

KATIE

I'm down.

IKE

He isn't gonna talk. He's a liar.
He lies about everything. Winst-

Ike stops himself.

VERNOR
What's his name?

Ike won't repeat it. Vernor breaks the huddle.

VERNOR
(calling out)
What's your name?

WINSTON (O.C.)
Winston!

VERNOR
(back in the huddle)
Cool. Send Ike down.

IKE
No, wait --

KATIE
Deal.

JACKIE
Hold on, we should --

The huddle breaks, Katie leading Ike away. Vernor looks out at Winston. After a moment, she nods.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

The entrance opens, Winston and Benny outside of it.

WINSTON
Fuck, Benny. Fuck. This is all your
fault. Get out of here.

Benny nods, not moving.

The Michigan soldiers approach with shackles in hand as Katie brings the shackled Ike forward.

Ike and Winston stare at one another as Winston has his shackles put on.

WINSTON
Have a drink for me, then?

Ike shakes his head. Once Winston's in shackles, Vernor brings Ike the key.

But suddenly, Vernor grabs Ike and Winston's shackles arms, hoisting them both up in victory.

VERNOR
Now we have *two of them!*

IKE
Wait -- !

The Michigan soldiers cheer, except for the shocked Jackie and Katie.

JACKIE
General!

KATIE
No, no, no -- Hold on!

The soldiers drag Ike and Winston back into the base.

IKE
No! No! Fuck, Winston!

WINSTON
Oh, fuck! Oh, no!

JACKIE
General, this is blatant disregard for the accepted release of prisoners --

KATIE
Verns, we can't keep still be keeping this Ike guy! Verns, this guy fucking sucks, man!

Vernor isn't hearing any of it, smiling.

Benny sprints away from the base, cradling the duck.

INT. OHIOAN BASE - GENERAL'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

Yuengling throws a ship in a bottle across the room.

YUENGLING
Are you shitting me?!

Benny stands across from him, still holding the duck. Henry stands in the corner, ready to cry.

YUENGLING
I was writing down these lists of things I was gonna say to Ike --
(re: different lists)
"Convincing him to fuck" -- "Swears to say while fucking" -- "Swears not to say while fucking" -- You understand how much bullshit this is right now?!

Yuengling collapses in his chair, face in his arms.

YUENGLING

Why do you have a duck?

HENRY

General, this is a pointed offense against the State of Ohio. We have to attack.

YUENGLING

We gotta get Ike out first!

HENRY

Sir, we can't --

YUENGLING

He's too pretty to be in danger! I was never gonna let him actually fight -- Fuck me. All right, look, kid. You're short, but you did the right thing. You're in the Ohio militia now.

BENNY

I don't wanna --

YUENGLING

Good. Henry, put together some soldiers for a rescue mission. Discreet. Get the uniform guy in here for this kid: he knows what the inside of the base looks like. Henry, you're responsible for him.

HENRY

Wh- Sir?! I-I-I-I don't have --

YUENGLING

I don't have either! My have is sitting in a cell!

INT. MICHIGANDER BASE - PRISONS - NIGHT

Winston and Ike sit in separate cells, desolate.

WINSTON

I'm sorry.

Ike shakes his head.

WINSTON

I really thought they... wouldn't do that...

IKE
... Me neither.
(beat)
You smell like shit still.

Beat. Footsteps tip-toe down stairs. Ike and Winston stand.

It's Katie, holding a ring of keys and a musket.

IKE
Fuck you. We're not telling you
anything.

WINSTON
Please don't test that.

Katie goes to Ike's cell, finding the right key.

WINSTON
Wait! Ike! -- Don't hurt him! I'll
tell you everything! Yuengling has
a special weapon that John Quincy
Adams was supposed to --

Katie points the musket at Ike.

KATIE
Shut up! Don't say anything!

Winston hushes as Katie opens Ike's cell. She pulls Ike's
shackle chain off its hook and leads him out.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - FOREST - NIGHT

Katie leads Ike into the forest, the fire light barely
keeping them visible.

It's too dark for Ike to make out any movements in the
bushes. His breathing gets heavier.

They stop. Katie looks around for witnesses.

IKE
Okay... Okay, don't do this.

Katie stares, almost surprised by this.

IKE
I don't know if it's... You don't -
- I can -- I can tell you some
things. You don't have to do this.
Let's go back to the cells and I'll
tell you about our base.

KATIE

Fuck... Wish you hadn't said that.

IKE

No. Just... Just *don't*. Okay? Are you gonna hurt Winston?

Katie stares, putting the musket over her shoulder. She looks through the keys and finds the right one.

She undoes Ike's shackles as they *clink!* to the ground.

Ike's flabbergasted.

KATIE

Don't ask, okay? That's it. Just shut up and go. That's it.

Ike doesn't know if this is for real.

KATIE

Run, okay? Shooting a moving target with this rusty cock's impossible.

Ike still doesn't move.

KATIE

Okay, if you *don't* run right now, I *am* gonna shootcha. Good?

IKE

Are you going to hurt Winston?

Katie stares. She shakes her head.

KATIE

He's clearly got a mouth though. Would he snitch on me to General Vernor for doing this?

Ike stares. It's clear he doesn't know the answer.

Beat. Ike starts jogging away. Katie watches him go, looking again for witnesses.

Katie thinks, then hurries back to the base.

EXT. MARKET - NIGHT

Ike rushes through the empty market, lit by the moon. Mud sucks at Ike's boots, pulling one off as Ike tumbles.

Moaning in pain, Ike wipes his eyes.

IKE

Ow...

Ike struggles to get the mud out his eyes. He stands, feeling for his boot and tugging it out the mud.

Ike sniffs, recoiling. Once he can see, Ike stops and stares at something starting back at him:

It's a bunny covered in shit.

Ike thinks, looking back towards the Michigander base.

Deciding, Ike takes off his other boot.

EXT. OUTSIDE MICHIGANDER BASE - BUSH - NIGHT

Ike creeps forward, no boots to make a sound. Looking at the gate, the guards are passed out with bottles in their hands.

Ike bites his muddy lip, then continues.

EXT. MICHIGANDER BASE - HAYSTACKS - NIGHT

Ike sticks to the walls, maneuvering towards shadows. Two soldiers come by as Ike dives behind a haystack.

Some hay falls from Ike's stack and a soldier stops. She stares. She pulls her musket off her shoulder, pointing it at the haystack, directly through to Ike's head.

BAM! The two soldiers (and Ike) jump from the sound of a gunshot. The soldiers look to the wall, their muskets aimed:

Eve stands at her post, having just fired her musket into the night sky. She's staring at Ike's haystack as well.

EVE

First night that Lyra's out. Those
five stars there.

The two soldiers mutter and continue on. After a moment, Eve looks away from Ike's hiding place, sipping a bottle.

Ike hurries forward.

INT. MICHIGANDER BASE - PRISONS - LATER

Ike tip-toes in, the cells' torches doused for some reason...

IKE
(whispered)
Winston...! Winston...!

Ike grabs hanging flint from the wall, scraping it against the steel accent over a torch sconce, lighting it.

Ike pulls the torch off its sconce.

IKE
(whispered)
Winston...! Hey...!

Ike approaches Winston's cell, holding the torch to it:

Winston lies facedown in the hay.

IKE
Wins-

Ike brings the torch through the bars, revealing Winston to be lying in a massive pool of blood -- a bullet wound going clean through his back.

A musket with stars carved into it lies next to the cell.

INT. OHIOAN BASE - GENERAL'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

Henry watches as a soldier takes Benny's measurements.

HENRY
I... I absolutely hate to ask this
but... How do you know Winston?

BENNY
Oh. Me and him, and uh, Ike would
drink together. Yeah. Us. Booze.

Henry nods.

HENRY
Wow, do I hate that I asked that.

Yuengling enters with his battle uniform on.

YUENGLING
How many men assembled?

HENRY
Six, including yourself and the
child, sir.

YUENGLING
Cloak and dagger. Very good.

Yuengling inspects himself in the mirror, nodding.

YUENGLING
Henry, this may be the night upon
which I die, but it shall be worth
it. Love warrants a good life;
lust, a good death.

Henry nods.

YUENGLING
For that reason, I request that you
bring to me the weapon in reserve.

Henry goes pale.

YUENGLING
The one from John Quincy Adams. If
I die, it shall have tasted blood.

Henry swallows, then struggles to explain.

INT. MERCHANT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The Merchant wears his pajamas in front of a mirror, looking
at the case.

MERCHANT
Soldiers do nothing to protect.

The Merchant bring his night cap over his face, revealing
he's cut eyeholes into it.

The Merchant opens the case. He pulls out its contents: a
glowing, humming katana. He holds it up.

The Merchant poses with the katana in the mirror.

CUT TO BLACK.