

(Lights up, Fairfax and other slaves.)

FAIRFAX
(Speaking to other slaves.)

Is them mules still there?

BEN

They still there Alfred.

FAIRFAX

Enough for all of us?

BEN

Enough.

ZEKE

Massa have the overseer check on things 'bout this time of night. What if he finds us? They do kill slaves that run off . . . when a Massa get right tired n' mean. They can act right foolish.

ELLA

I don't know Alfred . . . maybe we shouldn't.

BEN

Come on ya'll, we can't get scared now.

ZEKE

When we gonna get scared, when we dead!

FAIRFAX

Yeah, you right, they might catch us and kill us. Especially stealin' them mules. but I tells ya this. Gone, worry about what'll happen if ya DO try and escape, but best think on this, what'll happen to you if you DON'T try and escape.

(The slaves fall silent.)

FAIRFAX (Cont.)