

Character Journal 3

Journal three lays out the given circumstances of the play given in first person in order to refamiliarize myself with the textual given circumstances as the character using inner and outer objects and sensory information.

Act One Scene 1 - Aboard the No-Name

My name is Seneca Howland and I am aboard the No-Name. My brother O.G and I are embarking towards the unknown with 8 other men, mapping and discovering The Canyons. We are making our way through the Colorado rivers starting in Wyoming, with 4 boats. We've got the No-Name, we've got the Whiskey. Emma Dean, The Maid of the Canyon and Kitty Clydes Sister. We've started this adventure through the rapids of Flaming Gorge. This first rapid involved some swelling, but Emma Dean makes it through and so it's our turn. Frank Goodman, who is also aboard the No-Name, keeps getting distracted and looking back to see the other boats. I need him to keep his eyes to the front or else we risk losing control of the boat. You cannot worry about other boats unless they call for a line or are in obvious danger. You *must* look ahead. Rowing requires a lot of strength. It feels like boxing or extreme support with repeated pushing and writhing movement. The water splashes in at times, which feels nice in comparison to the heat from the sun. We make it through and so follows Kitty Clydes sister, who we are then able to warn about the swelling river waters. Once we are past a rapid we are much more helpful. It also can help us to take a moment to catch our breath and reflect on the moment that's just passed. After they make it through they have to lend a line to The Maid of the Canyon. Once we've made it past this area, Dunn notices that we lost some bacon.

Act One Scene 5 - The Rapids from Knife's Point

We've reached the rapids at Knife's Point are clear, still in good spirits. No swelling or rocks, which means a smooth ride until we notice a waterfall. We are unsure everytime we hit one whether it will be a straight shot down or little waterfalls. (KD water rides) We don't know how far down it goes until we're in it. We hold tight and start towards it. It brings excitement and thrill. Dunn notices that the river is narrow ahead and so we tie off and prepare to portage. It was a great and thrilling moment. (Walking off intimidator KD, feels cool)

Act One Scene 6 - Carrying the No-Name

As we begin portaging the No-Name, Goodman begins walking. He talks a lengthy amount while we portage. His voice makes the boat feel heavier and slows time down. It does not help pass the time or distract. The boat is heavy, and requires locked arms and extensive strength. (Carrying Nikki) He begins by asking how we are able to smoke and hoist the boat, but we've built enough strength to contend with both. O.G. taught me how to roll a cigarette while riding a horse. Goodman goes on about the heat and his complexion. I decide this sounds like Goodman doesn't

want a cigarette. He's focused on his complexion while we are burned leathery tan from the sun and proud of it. Then he goes on about the sun, and how grateful he is for its shade, but it's clearly hitting O.G. I can feel the heat from the rays and know the sun is only worsening it for him even though he doesn't complain. Then O.G. and Goodman start talking about literature, *Wuthering Heights* and neighbors who drive you crazy. (inside joke) Goodman is one of these. Goodman wants to put the boat down. *Maybe he's had too much of the mocking.* I agree, but express to my brother about how hard it will be to start picking back up. Goodman then sees something on a rock. It says 'Ashley 18 something- either 55 or 35- and we inform the other men.

Act One Scene 7 - Campfire

We are setting up camp and Powell begins to tell us about the Ashley expedition. Bradley's confused, but we know about the previous people who have run these rivers. Natives, war runaways, expeditioners. Sumner filets a fish and everyone's impressed. *How do I feel about everyone's impression of Sumner versus me?* I tell a story that is relevant to conversation and no one is. Hawkins confronts my brother about filching tobacco. I warn him to mind his business and Hall tries to get involved. Powell splits us up and has everyone who smokes figure out the rations. *Do I agree with this plan?* Sumner toasts to Ashley and we all cheer. Shady ends the night with a song. *Do I feel like joining in on the celebration?*

Act One Scene 9 - Rapids from Dunn's Cliff

We start on the rapids and they are very strong. They sound like a lions roar. It's intimidating and causes me to row harder as the sound is a predictor of some trouble and need of strength and attention. We start getting pulled and we try to row left, but it's no use. Its too late we get pulled into a whirlpool. We've lost complete control of our boat and we call for a line. It doesn't help and we start slipping in. The boat is tilting and we are unable to grasp it because of the slick rushing waters overpowering us. We fall overboard. The water bobs us helplessly. I try to swim, but it's up to the current and luck to bring me near anyone who can hear my calls for help. I am choking on water, using my voice after desperate inhales of air. We beg for help and Dunn is able to pull me in. The boat is gone. I can see it flying away at great speeds. I try to tell them. Sumner pulls Goodman in, but I dont see O.G. (M gone scared) I call for O.G. unable to rest or look down until I know he's okay. I think Hawkins pulled him in. He asks me if i'm okay and I say i'm good and that is the moment where I let myself fall to the exhaustion. We bank.

Act One Scene 10 - Dinner

Its the evening after our boat went overboard. (Morning cry) (In shock-SC) *How am I handling the trauma?* We are camped out for dinner. Dunn mentions we lost the whiskey. We also lost

smoked fish and bacon. There's a lot of food gone and we lost the whiskey. (Coffee spilled after bad day) Everything is wet and cold. I try to wring my things out. There's sand and dirt buried in my clothes. Dunn, Sumner, O.G. and I are going on a hunt. I'm exhausted and cold, the sun is down and the campfire is 10 men's source of heat. Goodman has a gash on his leg. He's next to me and it looks pretty raw. I worry about possible infection and a slightly wounded Goodman means for the rest of us. *Have we bonded after this?* (Only ones who experienced- SC) Dunn confronts Powell about not portaging. We agree with Dunn. We should have portaged. Powell disagrees still. *We almost died, but he accepts that, is this the moment my opinion of him changes?* Powell believes we should focus on forethought and our wins rather than the losses. *Do I want to agree with Powell despite not agreeing with his order not to portage? How much do I have to forgive him in order to continue on?*

Act Two Scene 2 - Dinner

O.G. and I set up camp and built a fire, while the others did tasks like trying to find food. I get a good spot next to the fire tonight. Goodman did end up finding and catching fish using Dunn's sack method. O.G. and I tried to hunt but couldn't get a clear hit on anything so I am grateful that the sack method came in handy. Dunn says it's too cliffy for the hunting here anyways. Hall lets us know that these cliffs don't level out. O.G. and I found remains of what we believe to be the Ashley men's boat and I take this as a bad omen and decide to tell everyone. I'm clutching a cigarette, but I feel too sick to smoke it. I'm anxious from the thought of dying. My ciggie can't comfort me. Powell and Bradley join us and Powell lets us know he almost died on one of the mountain cliffs, but Bradley took off his pants and saved him. Goodman seems to want to say something, but sends kudos to the run on the river the next day instead.

Act Two Scene 3 - On the Boats

I am aboard Kitty Clyde's sister, along with Old Shady who is Powell's older brother and Bradley. I'm still in the back of the boat, providing most of the power of the boat which is wearing on me more and more. Powell alerts us that there are rocks. We row with this in mind, but Emma Dean gets stuck in the rocks and their boat is in a whirlpool swell. We grab the wall and try to paddle to them, but they go overboard. I spot Sumner and pull him into our boat. Powell and Dun get pulled into the Maid of the Canyon, but Goodman's nowhere to be found. The Emma Dean had our flour and Hawkins is focused on that. Hall tells us that he can see the Emma Dean and the flour will be okay. Powell wants us to find Goodman and Bradley spots him on a rock. We all headed towards the rock.

Act Two Scene 5 - Atop the Ridge

As Just Jim

Johnson and I see a couple of guys on the ridge near the settlement we stay at. They ask us questions. Powell thought they'd be meeting the Utes, but they are meeting us instead. It's beautiful out. The land is full of extensive cliffs and beautiful sunshine that seem limitless. We are unafraid of the height of the mountain we are on. I'm untrusting of these travelers and take time to study their faces and in turn their intentions. They are leading an expedition to the region. I did that before. Designs on things. Sumner wants to know if we can help them locate the mormons. We can. We offer them more help. Their boats have capsized and the governments treating their 'mission' as an afterthought. Governments not too nice. Goodman made the right choice to leave. This land ain't ours.

Act Two Scene 6 - The Mouth of the Little Colorado

We are on the river again. Old Shady's got food poisoning. Bradley needs to watch what's in front of him. He and the other guys joke about Powell's wife/the freshly caulked Emma Dean boat. I tell Bradley to center and keep on the wall as we navigate, but he's confused. A rock bed knocks Shady's ore out of his hand. I tell Bradley to move to the side but he loses his balance and falls out of the boat. He's dragging with it. Shady strong arms- starts paddling with his arm- and we all rush towards Bradley. The boat is too fast and we cannot slow down which means Bradley cannot get back in. Shady reaches in to try to feel for Bradley and finds him and pulls him into the boat. We bank and Hall and Hawkins tell us to look up. We've made it to the big canyon. It's really big. Grand.

Act Three Scene 2 - Camp at Dusk

Dunn, O.G. and I are at camp making projections and calculating our chances of survival in the sand. Sumner is sitting by the freshly saved and caulked Emma Dean and we aren't too sure what Hawkins is doing but when Dunn asks he says he is making a fire to boil coffee. Sumner jokes about eating the grounds instead. Gross. It's muggy outside and the beauty of the outdoors seems to be fading as the summer goes on. We heard a rattle noise from a snake. We paused to see what was there and Hall came in loud, but we need to hear where its coming from. Hawkins asks if anyone sees it, but I don't. Then I do! Its huge and it's right next to Sumner. We are brainstorming what to do next. Snakes are very poisonous here. Dunn whats to shoot it and O.G. thinks we should hit it with something, but next thing we know Hawkins is jumping over to the snake and smashing it with a coffee pot. Powell and Shady come in and scare us because they are also carrying snakes. Once all is well we all sit out to eat them. Dunn brings up some things we had been discussing like the low food rations of flour, but Powell cut him off and had Hawkins go through a ration check. He called out O.G. for eating snake meat. Rations are very low. Dunn then brings the subject to potential survival. We have determined a 5% chance of survival. Powell is unimpressed by our projections in the sand and has Hall tell us the estimated time we still have in the big canyon. **THREE TO SIX WEEKS!** This timing means we really don't have

enough food. Dunn fights to be able to tell everyone that we will all die out here, but Shady says we save each other and Powell gives a speech on survival and challenging death.

Act Three Scene 3 - Blinding Daylight

O.G, Hawkins and Hall are the first to bank at the next rapids. We hear loud roars of rapids and rushing water signaling something. Everyone on Kitty Clyde, including me are next and then finally Emma Dean. Hall is the first to notice some waterfalls up ahead and is determined to go through. O.G. says he can't do it, but they take off anyways. I hear O.G. call for me and I call back. I cannot see him because he is far up ahead. I hear panic in his voice. (jump reflex K fall) Next Emma Dean goes through and finally us. We scream and then make it to the end. There is another waterfall ahead and Sumner vomits from the momentum of the one before, but we take off and hold tight.

Act Three Scene 4 Campfire, Dusk

We are back at camp at dusk following a 35 mile day, with multiple waterfalls and lessening rations. My body is sore and too much movement hurts. I'm simultaneously exhausted and too anxious to sleep. Hawkins offers us the few apples we have left, just enough for everyone to have one. O.G. is unsettled by the idea of eating another apple because he's tired and tired of apples. I don't believe now is the time to complain about the rations we have left. We know we are leaving the mission and are awaiting Dunn's announcement of this, but first we all eat together. We all take bites of our apples and discover they are all mealy except for Bradley's. They taste grainy and mushy, upon inspection I notice mine is brown and rotting. Hawkins tells Bradley to pass it around and we can all take one bite. We pass the apple one by one while taking a bite. I am reminded of a story from my childhood. When O.G and I were young our parents tied our hands to a fencepost at night and challenged us to untie them and free ourselves. Dunn loses it and confronts Powell about us leaving. Everyone is surprised and wants us to stay, but we can't. We agree to stay for breakfast and leave early the next day, which maximizes daylight and gives us a last day with our men. Powell insists we stay, but it's no use.

Act Three Scene 5

It's the morning after we've told the men that we are leaving the expedition. Hawkins has surprised us with biscuits. We are excited, but Dunn turns them down and I decide it is best for them to keep the rations they have left. O.G. breaks the biscuit denial and takes one prompting us all to follow. It is a brief moment of relief that is followed by our need to leave. We cannot waste daylight. Bradley and Hall push us to stay but it's no use and Dunn pushes for the men to join us with the same result. We have all made up our mind and we say our goodbyes and make our way

towards the Mormon settlement O.G. knows of. Soreness and anxiety fill my body as we head towards it.