

CONTINUED:

Montford wades out into the warm embrace of the sea, stares at the stars above. Edward splashes out of the water in his long johns, dripping wet -- he joins his grandfather.

START

Edward draws a figure in the sand -- a straight line with a curve, resembling a hat.

BOGGY

What have you there?

EDWARD BRYANT

Brand... the one I want for my own cattle.

BOGGY

Planning to follow your father's footsteps?

Edward nods, improves on his sand drawing.

EDWARD BRYANT

Dad always told me a brand was one of the most important things. You brand something and it's permanently part of something bigger.

BOGGY

Painful, though.

EDWARD BRYANT

Sure... Hurts at first but the pain goes away. Belonging is forever.

Boggy looks to Montford wading in the sea.

BOGGY

Very true... and the pain from scars lasts forever, too.

Boggy and Edward share a moment.

BOGGY

I scarred your father... and he made you a better man. Nice to know my actions weren't passed down.

EDWARD BRYANT

Why'd you leave?

BOGGY

Because my bad outweighs my good.

EDWARD BRYANT

Then why'd you come back?

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BOGGY

I've been diagnosed with
consumption. So, with what little
time I have left, I need to right
my many wrongs.

Edward Bryant looks to Boggy, perplexed.

IN THE SURF -- Montford looks to the moon, then to his father
and Edward. His thoughts remain his own.

INT. ST. AUGUSTINE HOTEL ROOM - LATER

Montford and Edward sleep in beds -- Boggy atones on the
floor. The door pounds, startling them awake.

VOICE (O.S.)

Fire!

Flames from the street below reflect on the window's glass --
thick smoke wafts into the room. They quickly awake, choking
on the noxious fumes.

EXT. ST. AUGUSTINE STREET - CONTINUOUS

Montford, Edward and Boggy emerge from the hotel, grope
through smoky darkness on the street. The only illumination
is the angry orange and red from the nearby flames. The roar
of flames mixes with the sound of shouting, alarmed people.

VOICE

It's the hospital! There's people
in there.

Montford and Boggy race towards the old St. Augustine
hospital, now engulfed in flames. Tom Hannah and OTHER
TOWNSPEOPLE have already formed a bucket brigade -- they
splash water onto the hungry furnace. A man races out, an
unconscious child in his arms -- Boggy wets his handkerchief
in a fire bucket, races inside.

Lt. Pratt, Sgt. Richter and other soldiers from the 10th
arrive and join those already battling the inferno.

LT. PRATT

We need more men!

MONTFORD

(indicating the fortress)
You've got seventy good men right
over there!

More wood collapses in flames -- Boggy exits with an older
woman.

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