

## Scene Three

## [MUSIC NO. 18A – OPENING II-3]

(SCENE: *The Grill, a while later that night.*)

(AT RISE: **CALEB** sits in darkness at a table, clutching a handful of papers. He drinks from a bottle. **SHELBY** comes in from the back porch, unaware that **CALEB** is in *The Grill*. **CALEB** sets his bottle down on the table.)

**SHELBY.** Caleb. You should be in bed.

**CALEB.** You're right. It's two thirty in the morning. I *should* be in bed. But somehow I just couldn't sleep. Must've been something I read.

**SHELBY.** What are you talking about?

**CALEB.** I had the paper over in Genesee Depot send me some clippings about Percy Talbott's trial. You might want to read them.

**SHELBY.** I don't care what they say.

**CALEB.** You should. Did you know that sweet little friend of yours slashed her stepfather? Take a guess how many times.

**SHELBY.** Don't do this.

**CALEB.** Two or three maybe?

**SHELBY.** I'm going home.

**CALEB.** How about twenty or thirty? Read 'em.

(**CALEB** thrusts the papers at **SHELBY**.)

That girl's a cold-blooded killer.

**SHELBY.** That girl is the first *hope* we've had since Eli was here.

**CALEB.** You watch your words, Shelby!

**SHELBY.** I'm tired of watching my words! You're jealous, Caleb, because Percy is doing something for me and for this town that you could never do!

*(CALEB stands suddenly, knocking his chair over in the process. Something in SHELBY's face stops him from aggressively approaching her. After a moment of stunned silence for both of them, he speaks.)*

**CALEB.** Shel...

**SHELBY.** I think you should find someplace else to stay for awhile.

*(SHELBY exits.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 19 – BEFORE SUNRISE]**

*(Crossfade.)*