

~~TOM Mr. Finch, if you was a colored man like me, you'd be scared too.~~

~~(Atticus goes back to his table, nodding to Mr. Gilmer as he passes. Gilmer rises and goes to Tom.)~~

MR. GILMER You were given arrested for disorderly conduct, Robinson?

TOM Yes, suh.

MR. GILMER What'd the nigger look like when you got through with him?

TOM He beat me, Mr. Gilmer.

MR. GILMER Yes, but you were convicted, weren't you?

ATTICUS It was a misdemeanor and it's in the record, Judge.

JUDGE Witness'll answer though.

TOM Yes, sir. I got thirty days.

MR. GILMER You're pretty good at busting up chiffarobes and kindling with one hand aren't you?

TOM Yes, sir. I reckon so.

MR. GILMER Strong enough to choke the breath out of a woman.

TOM I never done that, sir.

MR. GILMER But you're strong enough?

TOM I reckon so, sir.

MR. GILMER Had your eye on her for a long time, hadn't you boy?

TOM No, sir. I never looked at her.

MR. GILMER Then you were mighty polite to do all that chopping and hauling for her, weren't you boy?

TOM I was just tryin' to help out, sir.

MR. GILMER That was mighty generous of you. Why were you so anxious to do that woman's chores?

TOM Looked like she didn't have nobody to help her.

MR. GILMER With Mr. Ewell and seven children on the place, boy?

TOM Well, I says it looked like they never help her none.

MR. GILMER You did all this chopping and work for sheer goodness boy?

TOM Just tried to help her.

MR. GILMER You're a mighty good fellow, it seems - did all this for not one penny.

TOM She seemed to try more'n the rest of 'em. I felt right sorry for her.

MR. GILMER You felt sorry for her! *You felt sorry for her? (turning to the jury)* He felt sorry for her. *(turning back to Tom)* Now you went by the house as usual last May twenty-first and she asked you to come in and bust up the chiffarobe?

TOM No, sir.

MR. GILMER Do you deny you went by the house?

TOM No, sir.

MR. GILMER She says she asked you to bust up the chiffarobe. Is that right?

TOM No, sir, it ain't.

MR. GILMER You say she's lying, boy?

TOM I don't say she's lying, Mr. Gilmer. I say she's mistaken in her mind.

MR. GILMER Tell me boy. Why did you run away?

TOM I was scared, sir.

MR. GILMER If you had a clear conscience, boy, why were you scared?

TOM Like I says before, it weren't safe for any colored man to be in a -- fix like that.

MR. GILMER But you weren't in a fix. You just testified you were resisting her advances. Were you scared she might hurt you?

TOM No, sir. I was scared I'd be in court, just like I am now.

MR. GILMER Scared you'd have to face up to what you did?

TOM                    No, sir. Scared I'd have to face up to what I didn't do.

MR. GILMER            You bein' impudent to me, boy?

TOM                    I didn't go to be.

~~(Dill stands up in the balcony and runs out.)~~

JEAN LOUISE           I didn't hear the end of Mr. Gilmer's cross-examination because Dill suddenly left the balcony.

REV. SYKES            ~~(to Scout) You'd better go.~~

JEAN LOUISE           Dill had seemed to be all right that day, nothing wrong with him.

MR. GILMER            No more questions.

JUDGE                  You can step down, Mr. Robinson.

~~(As Tom slowly rises and goes back to his place next to Atticus, the lights change. Dill runs on stage into a pool of light representing a courthouse hallway. Scout catches up with him.)~~

SCOUT                  'smatter with you?

DILL                    I'm okay.

SCOUT                  The heat got you? Ain't you feeling good?

DILL                    Said I was okay.

SCOUT                  Then why'd you run out?

DILL                    It's just him I couldn't stand.

SCOUT                  Who?

DILL                    That old Mr. Gilmer doin' Tom thataway, talking so hateful to him.

SCOUT                  Dill, that's just his job. He's supposed to act that way, he was just cross-

DILL                    I know all that, Scout. It was just the way he said it made me sick, plain sick.

SCOUT                  That's just Mr. Gilmer's way, Dill, he does 'em all that way. They all do, most lawyers, I mean.