

1.4 The Kitty Clyde's Sister

Old Shady and Bradley secure everything inside the Kitty Clyde's Sister to prevent spillage before a day of rapids-running. Old Shady is the oldest crew member on the mission and does not like people. Bradley is 19 and genuinely loves people.

START HERE-----

BRADLEY. So then my mother died so I went back to Wisconsin for a while and took some time to get my shit together you know? It was rough because I really really loved my mother? She was totally my rock? But I know God's got her smiling down on me during this trip and it was always her dream to see the West. She was Maryland born and raised and she made it all the way to WISCONSIN! Wait, where's your family from again?

OLD SHADY. Wisconsin

BRADLEY. Wait no shit! Where in Wisconsin??

OLD SHADY. Boone

BRADLEY. Oh my god that's probably only two hundred miles from where my Ma lived. The world is a small small place sometimes.

OLD SHADY. Make sure it's tied tight

BRADLEY. I am. I am, no worries

OLD SHADY. The boat'll tip. Supplies will fall out.

BRADLEY. No I know, I know

OLD SHADY. Four boats 100 yards downstream.

BRADLEY. I got faith. I got faith, Shady. When did they start calling you Shady?

When, in the War?

OLD SHADY. .

BRADLEY. Yeah I know. I was in it. I had a real rough time.

I mean, I was pretty young when I joined up so I actually didn't do any fighting so—

I guess I was just lucky with the timing.

OLD SHADY. .

BRADLEY. But I heard you were pretty instrumental in Grant's Army. You and Major Powell!

OLD SHADY. *(Inhales. Opens his mouth to say something. Decides against it. Closes his mouth. Exhales.)*

BRADLEY. Was it crazy when Major Powell lost an arm? Were you sad? Or worried? I would feel crazy if my brother lost an arm.

OLD SHADY. I think we're ready to lift.

BRADLEY. Oh okay <----- **END HERE**-----

Powell runs over to Bradley and Old Shady, covered in satchels, giggly.

POWELL. I did the satchels!

I've got maize in one satchel, and coffee in another, and all of the extra pairs of pants in the other one. And my personal satchel of journal and quilt and miscellaneous papers.

OLD SHADY. We've got your beans in this boat John Wesley.

POWELL. You better keep those safe or I'll deny you in my journal!

OLD SHADY. I know

BRADLEY. Old Shady and I were just talking about the war.

POWELL. Why would you ever do that?

BRADLEY. Well we just don't talk much on our boat so I was—

Powell cuts Bradley off swiftly with one hand.

POWELL. Bradley, do you know why our Ma started calling Old Shady "Old Shady"? Because when we were kids we used to pretend to be trees, and I would get bored easy but Shady would stand in the field all day. Right, Shady?

OLD SHADY. A tree in the breeze.

POWELL. Alright boats! In the water! We've got a big, bright, sunny day ahead of us!