

despondent girl.

Binta is being comforted by Nyo Boto and the women of Juffere when Omoro returns from his search, dropping Kunta's bow before them. "Binta, you will always have two sons. But now one is forever outside your embrace." In mourning and defeat, Binta screams and her agony is shared and echoed by the other women of the village.

Kunta shrieks as he is branded with the double 'L' mark of the Lord Ligonier; then, along with the other captives, he is ushered into a boat which takes them out to the ships. Kunta stares sadly at the vegetation beyond the beach, imprinting this last image of his homeland in his mind forever.

Three days in the horrible dark of the ship's cargo hold have robbed Kunta of health. Chained to his Black brothers, helpless against rats as well as the stench of body waste and sickness in the crowded space, Kunta is shamed by his uncontrollable seasickness, wondering for what unknowable crime Allah is now punishing him. One man away, the wrestler assures Kunta: "Allah understands and knows that you are a man."

In his cabin, Captain Davies and Mr. Slater review the cargo taken aboard. Accounted for are three thousand elephants' teeth, three thousand pounds of beeswax, eight hundred pounds of raw cotton, thirty-two ounces of gold and one hundred forty Negroes. Mr. Slater corrects the Captain. "One hundred thirty-eight." One Black went over the side and another died in the hold. Captain Davies wants to know how many Slater thinks will survive the voyage. "Tis a question of tight pack or loose pack."—depending on how you stack the Blacks in the hold. Captain Davies insists on a loose pack; you carry less but, hopefully, more survive.

Mr. Slater reminds the Captain that it is time to get the slaves out of the hatches and "Dance" them. This way they get some exercise which keeps them in shape for auctioning; the hold can be cleaned and the crew can have a look at the wenches. Captain Davies commands a Christian ship will not lead any man into sin (fornication). But Slater argues that the crew needs the release; besides, it's good for the wenches.

Kunta, like the others, is virtually blinded by the sunlight upon being dragged from the hold up to the deck. When he looks about the ship to find no river bank in the distance and no sight of land, he sinks to a new level of despair. In the hold, he had thought that he could jump overboard and swim ashore once he got on deck. Now all hope of escape is lost.

In shifts, the Blacks are herded into formation on deck. They are washed with water and their festering sores jabbed with salve. Kunta turns at the sound of a scream to see Fanta being chased by a blond sailor. Surrounded by other sailors, Fanta is caught, thrown to the deck and beaten by her pursuer. Kunta lunges toward the sailor but is pulled to the deck by his chain.

As the women are washed, the Wrestler calls Kunta's attention to the Black drummer with the Wolof features who stands beside the white twelve-year-old ship's boy. "Perhaps his drum will talk to us." Now, as all the slaves are made to "dance" to the whips lashing at their feet, Kunta chants in Mandinka: "Kill the white men, kill the white men." The crew does not understand the meaning of the chant but the Wolof Drummer picks up the rhythm and his beat speaks to the slaves on deck. They take up the chant -- each in his own language.

Captain Davies believes that the slaves are telling him to sleep lightly. But then, Davies hasn't had a good night's sleep this entire voyage. With a knowing smile, Mr. Slater thinks he knows the reason why.

In the dark hold, Kunta refuses to eat—he cannot hold the white men's food in his stomach. The Wrestler also has his problem (because of widespread dysentery); but he tells Kunta that a warrior must eat so that he can be strong to kill the white men.

The Fulani man between Kunta and the Wrestler dies. The Wrestler watches carefully as a seaman unhinges the Fulani from the chain with his key. The corpse is thrown overboard and Kunta, though still held by the chain, is no longer shackled to another body. Above deck, Mr. Slater takes a girl to Captain Davies' cabin to keep him warm in the night chill. Captain Davies protests—"Mr. Slater, I've told you my views on fornication."—but feebly. Slater exits; and, offering his Christian name to the girl, Thomas Davies snuffs out the candle.

The Wrestler has been observing the routine of the ship's crew. He has counted twenty white men with long knives and "the killing sticks that make fire." There are about one hundred and forty slaves—at least one hundred of whom are warriors. Because he is no longer chained to another man, Kunta might be able to get to Seaman Thompson and get the key to unlock the other warriors. The Wrestler urges every man in the hold to get to know his neighbor -- learn his language and communicate to him that there is a plan for freedom. "We will be one village," urges the Wrestler. "Await the signal."

SHOW NO. 2 -- Kunta is involved in a disastrous attempt at rebellion on board the slave ship before his arrival at Annapolis, where he is sold to his first owner and meets his first -- and only -- friend, an American-born slave called Fiddler. In spite of protests by the cruel overseer, Kunta Kinte's new owner insists that Fiddler will break in the new slave. After learning that the owner of Fanta lives only fifteen or twenty miles away, Kunta Kinte



FIDDLER



CompCare.
The best health care plan of its kind for the best price anywhere. Compare these costs with any other plan.

\$32.10/mo.* — individual
\$64.20/mo.* — family

*When prepaid through automatic checking account transfer.

- Same low rate for all age groups under 65
- Family rates apply to any size family
- Rates guaranteed through 1979

Blue Cross CompCare

pays 100% of your hospital bill

Semi-private hospital room (up to 365 days) / **PAID IN FULL**

Hospital extras / **PAID IN FULL**

Intensive care / **PAID IN FULL**

Hospital outpatient care (medical emergencies) / **PAID IN FULL**

Plus...

Physician services (office and home) / **80%***

Surgery / **80%***

Anesthesia / **80%***

Maternity / **80%*** (Hospital Paid in Full)

X-ray and lab / **80%***

Prescription drugs / **80%***

Accidental Injuries / **UP TO \$500 FOR TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS**

*Provided under major medical, which pays 80% of usual and customary charges after \$100 annual deductible.

See your local insurance agent or broker or return the coupon today for a CompCare brochure without obligation

☐ Send me your brochure describing CompCare protection.

☐ I'm over 65, or soon will be. Send me your CoverAge 65 brochure.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

1001 Market Street
P.O. 1271
Portland, Oregon 97207



Blue Cross
of Oregon

An equal opportunity employer