

Mudford Smugglers' Run Audio Trail Transcript

7. DR. QUARTLEY'S TALE

[An owl hoot in the distance]

LOVEY Hush friend, and lay low. Watch Doctor Quartley's door

[Horses whinny and come to a halt]

MAN ONE [to horse and to men] This is the cottage.

[Sound of men dismounting, feet hitting the frosty ground with a crunch, walking a few steps]

MAN ONE Hurry. He's not long to live, I'm sure of it.

[Sound of door being pushed open, violently, fire crackling in the background, moans of MAN TWO in pain and fear]

DR. QUARTLEY Good grief! There's blood everywhere. What happened to him?

MAN ONE I cannot say, Doctor Quartley, for it will incriminate ye.

DR. QUARTLEY Let me see the damage [MAN TWO YELPS as if prodded in the wound]
There's a pistol ball lodged in his back! We must extract it immediately. You man, boil some water.

MAN ONE Doctor, he has to get away from here, lest he be caught. I have a cart we can take him on –

DR. QUARTLEY If he survives, this man must not be moved – it will kill him.

MAN TWO [Groans] They'll hang me!

DR. QUARTLEY [To MAN ONE] Fetch some brandy, he won't want to be sober for this.

[Groans and wails from MAN TWO, the fire rises, clink of medical instruments/ hiss of a wound being cauterised]

LOVEY Bet you're wondering if the young man lived or died? Dr. Quartley didn't know either, he just seen him dragged off in a cart. But, some fifteen years later, Doctor Q took a boat ride on the River Avon...

[Sound of ducks, reeds in the wind, moorhen, gentle lapping of the river on the boat]

the oarsman of the boat kept looking at Quartley summat strange. The man lifted his shirt to show a great big scar on his back. He had a great big grin on his face. Quartley had saved his life!