

and hid her face in his breast. "Oh, Dave!" she cried, in a piteous voice, "take mother and me away from this place; I don't want to live at the clearing any more. You've killed the old life I loved." And she broke into a storm of tears.

Dave waited till she was quieter. Then he said: "If I've changed your life, Mirandy, ye've changed mine a sight, too. I'll hunt and trap no more, dear, an' the beasts'll hev no more trouble 'long o' me. We'll sell the clearin', an' go 'way down onto the Meramichi, where I can git a good job surveyin' lumber. I'm right smart at that. An' I reckon—oh, I love ye, an' I need ye, an' I reckon I can make ye happy, ye wonderful Mirandy."

The girl heard him through, then gently released herself from his arms. "You go an' tell mother what I've done, Dave," she said, in a steady voice, "and leave me here a little while with Kroof."

That evening, after Miranda had returned to the cabin, Kirstie and Dave