23 CONTINUED:

23

MOUNTIE

(crying) Don't look at me.

CHRISTY

Let me see, Mountie.

Christy pulls Mountie's hands away. She holds the light to Mountie's face. Christy GASPS. Mountie CRIES out in pain and covers her eyes from the light.

MOUNTIE

It hurts ...

CHRISTY Dear Heavenly Father ...

INT. MACNEILL'S CABIN - NIGHT

24

The wind blows a branch against the cabin wall. A loud THUNDER CLAP nearly shakes the house. A BANG on the door. Thinking it's the branch again, MacNeill ignores it and lights his magnificent pipe.

> MACNEILL (puffing on his pipe) "...Quoth the Raven, nevermore..."

A LOUDER KNOCK.

CHRISTY (O.S..) Dr. MacNeill! Let me in.

MacNeill's pipe drops out of his mouth, landing in his lap with unpleasant results. He jumps up, brushing the sparks away, and rushes to the door. He opens it. A flash of LIGHTNING illuminates Christy cradling Mountie in her arms. MacNeill pulls them in and pushes the door shut against the wind.

MACNEILL

What are you doing out on a night like this?! Have you taken leave of your senses? There's a storm blowing in!

CHRISTY
It couldn't wait. It's waited much too long as it is.

(CONTINUED)