

Sida = A slave girl of whom George Eighman became enamored and by whom he had three children - One of them was sold by Col. Eighman ~~to the~~ ~~South~~ She was taken North and freed. They were then married and they returned to Carolina, and lived as man and wife. On the death of Geo. Eighman he willed his estate to her and her children. The will being contested a Receiver was appointed and when the will was accepted he became Administrator of the estate by him the two children were sold and

George Eighman married her supposing her to be free; claimed as a slave and proved to be a slave Col. Eighman brought her and gave her to George on the promise that he would abandon her. He brought her North freed her and took her back with him as his wife. George died, willed to her & children in case of her death to Mary Ann Harryson & Mary Ann E. He took under the will and transferred to her, will contested. During contest M. removed slaves and freed them. Took Sida to Thornhold.

George E. Hughes — Will of estate

1 - To my wife Elizabeth and my children
born of her body.

2 - To Merwyn Hargrove, to be used as his
conscience may dictate for the glory of
Gods +

The first was invalid because
the devisees were slaves -

The second was invalid
because it was really for the benefit
of slaves who were thus to be
freed.

Jason Withnail — Favorite + Trusted servant of Joseph Mer -

Wife H — Freed, Sten's wife, who is bought
by H — After H — leaves his care of Sten's
hold - Knows of papers in secret vault
beside South of Sten's children. Captured and
sold as free negro unlawfully in state

John
Jason -

Will of Col. Eighmie; - To George Eighmie ^{for his life} and the lawful heirs of his body,
and in default of heirs to Merwyn Hargrove and his heirs
Merwyn Hargrove executor.

Will of Geo. Eighmie; To my wife Elida Ransom and ~~the~~ my children born of her
body - Merwyn Hargrove Exr -

There being no debts the will of Col. Eighmie was not proved
On the death of George his will was offered for pro-
bate and refused on the ground that the devisees
were incompetent to take under a will being slaves,
collateral heirs claimed estate. Merwyn proved will of Col.
Eighmie and took possession as Exr -

George had two children - James and ~~Henry~~ ^{Lena} -

Col. heirs kidnaped these children - and put them with poor white
family in mountains -

Elida removed by Merwyn - to protect her from kidnappers
and made housekeeper at Sturmholtz.

All the servants at Sturmholtz changed except Jason ^{and}
Thank - to preserve the integrity of Elida -

Merwyn makes great efforts to recover chil-
dren but fails.

Families with whom boy and girl were moved to Texas and
are lost sight of by Col. heirs who adopt theory that Mer-
wyn has found them and has them in hiding. They adopt
theory that Elida is the daughter of Elida - Send emissary
who arrives after Martin is domiciled at Sturmholtz.