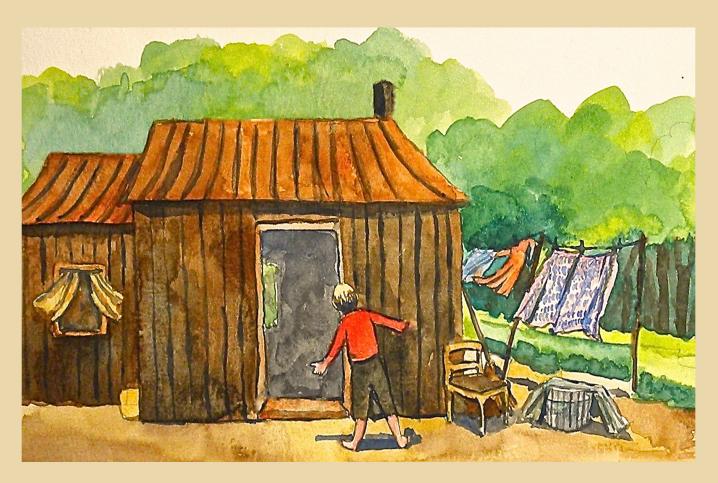
Life returned to normal and two years passed - normal until one day in August. Early that morning Nathan went to the stables to saddle his horse and wait for Thomas. He waited for an hour and still no Thomas. It wasn't like him to be late. Nathan went to the slave quarters but found no one there.



Nathan was worried and he went up to the big house to find his mother. He found her on the front porch and he could tell she'd been crying.

"Mama, what's wrong? Where's everyone? I can't find Thomas." Nathan asked one question after another.