044 GERARD
You are quite a bit taller since we last saw you.

045 ROBERT
I couldn't wait to read every letter you sent me, Uncle, I mean, Brother Gerard. It's going to take some getting used to calling you both "brother."

046 BERNARD
Don't worry. It took us quite awhile to remember to call Uncle Gaudry 'Brother Gaudry'.

ABBOT STEPHEN ENTERS.

Side 2 START >>>

047 ABBOT STEPHEN
Congratulations to our newly professed monk! Though, you won't be remaining here too very long. In fact, none of you men will.

048 ROBERT
What do you mean, Abbot Stephen? I just made my vows, and I intend to keep them.

049 ABBOT STEPHEN
Bernard, I am sending you out to found a New Monastery.

050 BERNARD
Me?

051 ABBOT STEPHEN
And Robert and Gerard will accompany you. I will be sending twelve of you altogether.

052 ROBERT
How exciting, Uncle err Brother Bernard! We'll be just like the apostles!

053 BERNARD
But Abbot, surely there is a more experienced man seasoned in the ways of virtue for such a task?

054 ABBOT STEPHEN
Bernard, thanks to God's grace, our monastery here is now bursting at the seams. We cannot accept any more men, yet more continue to knock on our door everyday. The Lord used you, Bernard, to bring these men to us. And now He will use you to found a new monastery.

055 BERNARD
But Abbot, I am not yet thirty. I am too young.

056 ABBOT STEPHEN
Did God not say to Jeremiah: "Do not say, ‘I am only a youth?’" God is with you. In the new monastery, you will observe the Holy Rule of St. Benedict just as we keep it here. With all simplicity and humility.

057 BERNARD
And I am to be in charge?

058 GERARD
Brother, you led all of us here to Citeaux. Who else could lead all of us somewhere else?

059 ABBOT STEPHEN
Remember Bernard, your goal must be to profit the monks, not to be preeminent over them. Let mercy triumph. As our holy Father Benedict wrote: when you correct the brothers, do so gently, otherwise by rubbing too hard to remove the rust, you may break the vessel. Do not let faults flourish, but be careful to not crush the bruised reed either.

060 BERNARD
With God's mercy and the intercession of His Holy Mother, I will do my best to fulfill this task.

061 GERARD
May I ask, Abbot?

062 ABBOT STEPHEN
Yes, Brother Gerard?

063 GERARD
Where will this new monastery be founded?

064 ABBOT STEPHEN
There is a piece of land in the valley, La Vallée d'Absinthe.

<<< END

SHORT TRANSITION WITH MUSIC.

8 EXT. CLAIRVAUX VALLEY - DAY

TRUDGING THROUGH WET EARTH. BUZZING INSECTS.

065 GERARD
The Valley of Bitterness?!

066 ROBERT
There is nothing here except the swampy marsh. Uncle, erm Brother Bernard, how are we supposed to build a new monastery here?

067 BERNARD
Men, we must rely entirely on God's providence. On our own strength, this task would be insurmountable.

068 UNCLE GAUDRY
That's saying it lightly, Bernard. I've seen some desperate situations in battle as a knight, but this--

069 BERNARD
With God, nothing is impossible, Brother Gaudry! From now on, we will no longer call this the Valley of Bitterness. Instead, we will call it Clear Valley: Clairvaux.

070 UNCLE GAUDRY
Clairvaux. It will take a lot of work before that name fits.

071 GERARD
I like it. The name Clairvaux gives hope. Our Lord drank a cup of bitterness for our salvation, but with His presence, our trials can be sweet.