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we're...
evenings, it's usually safe to touch. Even so, I always take a moment to listen carefully for the hum that means the fence is live. **Right now** it's silent as a stone. Concealed by a clump of bushes, I flatten out on my belly and slide under a two-foot stretch that's been loose for years. **There are several other weak spots** in the fence, **but this one is so close to home** almost always enter the woods here.

As soon as I'm in the trees, I retrieve a... of arrows from a hollow log. El... has been successful at keeping... 12. Inside the woods the... concerns like venom... paths to follow. But... find it. My father... was blown to b... even to bury. I... up scri...

poa... risk... to ve... by m... den... My fa... the official... for inciting... blind eye to the... gry for fresh m... twelve di... But here's the ca... we were. You can o... exchange for tesserae... supply of grain and o... each of your family... twelve, I had my na... had to, and three t... myself, Prim, and n... needed to do this. A... at the age of sixteen... times. Gale... single-handedly... have his name in forty... You can see why... been at risk of needing a tessera, can set him... of her name being drawn is very slim compared to those of... who live in the Seam. Not impossible, but slim. And... even though the rules were set up by the Capitol, not the... stricts, certainly not Madge's family, it's hard not to resent... who don't have to sign up for tesserae.

We make out well. The predators ignore us on a day when easier, tastier prey abounds. By late morning, we have a dozen fish, a bag of greens and, best of all, a gallon of strawberries. I found the patch a few years ago, but Gale had the idea to string mesh nets around it to keep out the animals.

On the way home, we swing by the Hob, the black mar... in an abandoned warehouse that once held... with a more efficient system that... from the mines to the trains, space. Most businesses are... but the black market's... of the fish for good... Sae, the bony old... from a large kettle, change for a couple... elsewhere, Greasy... wild dog. We don't h... meat is... easy Sae... with... my tongue. equal verve. We... is to be scared... is so affected,

I watch as Gale... out his... and slices the bread. hair, olive skin, we... not related, at least... work the mines resem... with their light hair... place. They are. My... merchant class that... the occasional Seam... in the nicer part of... ard doctors, apothec... now my mother... medicinal... be brewed into remedies. leave her home for the Seam... try to rem... that when all I can see is the woman who sat by, blank and unreachable, while her children turned to skin and bones. I try to forgive her for my father's sake. But to be honest, I'm not the forgiving type. Gale spreads the bread slices with the soft goat cheese, carefully placing a basil leaf on each while I strip the...

