The children grow up. Joe (now played by Paul Reynell) is a good-looking head stockman and Jedda (Ngarla Kunoth) a lovely, spirited girl. The McManns would like to see them married and Joe is all for it.

But Jedda is troubled by something she cannot understand. Sarah has been almost fanatical in her attempt to wipe out all aborigine influence, yet Jedda wants to learn more about the ways of her people. At night the corroboree music keeps her awake and troubles her thoughts.

Her mental confusion receives a severe jolt when a wild black joins the station natives returning home from walkabout. Called Marbuck (Robert Tudawali), he is a good hunter. McMann hires him and as soon as Marbuck sees Jedda he wants her.

Jedda is fascinated, yet she tries to resist Marbuck. Soon all the station lubras are talking about how Marbuck puts himself in Jedda's way all the time. Marbuck one night sings Jedda to him and she is unable to resist his sorcery. She comes to his campfire.