

053 AGNES

Do you really think my brother is going to marry you?

054 ELIZABETH

We are betrothed.

055 AGNES

Doesn't Ludwig always bring you a little gift when he goes on trips?

056 ELIZABETH

He brings me something as a token of his affection, yes.

057 AGNES

When he returned home from Leipzig last week, what did he bring you?

058 ELIZABETH

Well, he didn't bring me anything.

059 AGNES

Didn't he? Perhaps he's lost interest in you.

060 ELIZABETH

I don't know, I -

061 AGNES

My brother needs a wife who will bring him honor, Elizabeth. Once Ludwig returns from the hunt, I'm sure he'll send you straight back to Hungary. He has no choice.

TRANSITION WITH MUSIC.

7 INT. CASTLE SITTING ROOM - DAY

062 ELIZABETH

Oh Jutta, this is terrible! What do you think, Count Walther? Is Agnes right? Will Ludwig send me away?

START >>> 063 **COUNT WALTHER**

Good Elizabeth -

064 ELIZABETH

Perhaps he would be better off marrying someone else.

065 JUTTA

My lady, ignore these lies.

066 ELIZABETH

But, Jutta, I am not welcome at court. It feels so difficult to be faithful to the Lord while performing my royal duties here.

067 COUNT WALTHER

You do very well navigating some of the, shall we say, challenging personalities at court.

068 ELIZABETH

The interests of those at court are so different from mine. Perhaps I could serve the Lord more faithfully if I didn't marry Ludwig.

069 COUNT WALTHER

Nonsense. You won't be this easily beaten, will you?

070 JUTTA

God willed you to come here.

071 COUNT WALTHER

And I promised your father before we left Hungary that I would be your faithful protector. I will not let them send you away

072 ELIZABETH

I feel so alone.

073 COUNT WALTHER

The enemy of our soul often works this way when we seek the Lord and do what's right. He stirs up doubt, confusion, discouragement. Agnes has twisted the truth. The way you live at court is remarkable.

074 JUTTA

My lady, your life is hidden with Christ in God.

075 COUNT WALTHER

Agnes seeks fulfillment in the vanities of the world, but they don't satisfy her. It maddens her to see how contented you are. Your patience and generosity go against everything she believes will get her ahead in this world.

076 ELIZABETH

And Ludwig? Will he choose the luxuries of courtly life over me?

077 COUNT WALTHER

I will speak with Ludwig. If he is to become Landgrave of Thuringia, he needs to stand up and put an end to these whispers against you.

<<< END

TRANSITION WITH MUSIC

8

INT. CASTLE - DAY - LATER

LUDWIG KNOCKS ON THE DOOR, OPENS, AND ENTERS.

078 ELIZABETH

Ludwig, I thought I would see you sooner after the hunt.

079 LUDWIG

Elizabeth I want to speak with you.

080 ELIZABETH

I'll pack up my things.

081 LUDWIG

My dearest, what do you mean?

082 ELIZABETH

To go back to Hungary. Count Walther said he would speak with you. I won't be a burden for you. It's for the best.

083 LUDWIG

Count Walther did speak with me. Elizabeth, I had no idea how cruel the nobles have been to you at court. Especially my own family.

084 ELIZABETH

They were looking out for the interests of the kingdom.

085 LUDWIG

That's my responsibility. Take my hand.

086 ELIZABETH

What?

087 LUDWIG

Dance with me.