

022 GIFFORD

The Jesuits are missionaries, are they not? In England, this is a death sentence!

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023 ROBERT

Dying by defending our faith and winning souls back to Catholicism is a glorious calling, not a tragedy. I can think of no better way to give myself to Christ: body, mind, and soul, even unto death.

024 FATHER ALLEN

Some of you will return to England, knowing the dangers that await you. Some will be called to Rome. But all of you... All of you must be steadfast. And make no mistake, the purpose of this school is to revive our Catholic Faith in England.

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025 ROBERT

(with a smile)

Welcome to Douai.

UPBEAT MUSIC TRANSITIONS US...

**Age: 17**

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**INT. FATHER ALLEN'S OFFICE - A LITTLE LATER**

Father Allen and Robert sit in Father Allen's office.

026 FATHER ALLEN

Have a seat, Robert. Thank you for giving the new students that fine introduction earlier. You have always been gifted with words.

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**Side 1**

**START >>>**

027 ROBERT

Thank you, Father Allen.

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028 FATHER ALLEN

I admit, it pains me that you wish to leave to study in Rome when there is so much work that can be done here to further the Catholic cause.

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029 ROBERT

My heart is with the Society of Jesus, Father. I believe my talents will grow and evolve as a Jesuit.

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A pause.

030 FATHER ALLEN

How many times have you written for acceptance into the Roman school?

031 ROBERT

Three times, Father. They claim that I am too young, but I know my heart is ready.

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032 FATHER ALLEN

You are but seventeen.

033 ROBERT

And yet, I have been waiting an entire lifetime for this opportunity, Father. Every morning I wake and ask if today will be the day that I hear from them. I know God calls me to the Jesuits. I feel it as surely as I feel the ground beneath my feet.

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A pause.

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034 FATHER ALLEN

The Jesuits are not for every soul, Robert. Their path is narrow. Obedience without question. Poverty without comfort. And danger... Without end.

035 ROBERT

I have been cloaked in danger my entire life. I long to give more. I long to minister to England's soul. I long to follow Christ to the end, to be his hands and feet. My heart yearns for the Society.

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036 FATHER ALLEN

And if the letter never comes?

Robert hesitates.

037 ROBERT

Then I shall write again. And again after that. Until my words no longer reach Rome, or my heart no longer beats.

<<< END

038 FATHER ALLEN

I shall pray that your persistence is met with favor.

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