

052 YOUNG JOHN

A girl?!

053 BOY

Listen, girl, this is a Gentlemen's club. You can't be in the Society!

WALLA: THE BOYS ECHO IN AGREEMENT.

054 YOUNG ANNE

I can fight for our faith just as well as any of you!

WALLA: THE BOYS GRUMBLE. ROBERT ONCE AGAIN CLEARS HIS THROAT AND THEY SILENCE.

Side 2

START >>>

055 YOUNG ROBERT

Anyone willing to fight for our faith is welcome here. We cannot restore Catholicism with men alone.
(to Anne)
What is your name, my lady?

056 YOUNG ANNE

Anne Dacre.

057 YOUNG ROBERT

Welcome Anne Dacre. The Church needs you.

058 YOUNG ANNE

Thank you, Robert Southwell.

ROBERT LAUGHS LIGHTLY. THE ROOM SETTLES.

059 YOUNG ROBERT

Tonight, gentlemen... Um, and lady... We swear an oath to honor God and the Catholic faith. The most dangerous place in the world for Catholics today is England. They have taken our Churches. Demolished our Altars, our Abbeys, our Priories. Even our private chapels must be hidden from the world's view. We Catholics who will not attend the Queen's church are called, 'Recusants.' It comes from the Latin word, recusare which means "To Refuse." So I ask you today to embrace this name, with all your heart, and to shout with me, "I refuse!"

THE ROOM STEADIES: SOFT, INSPIRING MUSIC PLAYS.

060 YOUNG ROBERT (CONT'D)

Members of our Secret Society... Do you refuse to compromise in your worship?

061 ALL CHILDREN

I refuse!

062 YOUNG ROBERT

Do you refuse to attend Protestant services? Even under threat of beatings, or fines, or being taken to the Tower?

063 ALL CHILDREN

I refuse!

064 YOUNG ROBERT

Do you refuse to swear allegiance to the Queen's Church over the Catholic Church?

065 ALL CHILDREN

I refuse!

066 YOUNG ROBERT

Do you refuse to sit idle as others suffer for following our Lord Jesus?

067 ALL CHILDREN

I refuse!

068 YOUNG ROBERT

Do you refuse to be silent when the one true faith is attacked?

069 ALL CHILDREN

I refuse!

070 YOUNG ROBERT

And now I ask you, do you promise to protect those who cannot protect themselves? And most importantly, to create a safe haven for others to practice our Catholic faith?

071 YOUNG ANNE

I do.

072 YOUNG JOHN

I do.

WALLA: THE REST OF THE BOYS CHIME IN
ASYNCHRONOUSLY.

073 ALL CHILDREN
We do.

074 YOUNG JOHN
But Robert, can we truly vow to
shield anyone from harm?

075 YOUNG ROBERT
We can vow to try.

<<< END

SUDDENLY, HEAVY FOOTSTEPS IN THE HALL.

076 YOUNG ROBERT (CONT'D)
What was that?

ROBERT OPENS THE DOOR AND PEERS OUT.

077 YOUNG ROBERT (CONT'D)
It looks like a messenger from
London. Stay here, friends. I'll
find out what's going on. John,
come with me.

ROBERT AND JOHN WALK DOWN THE HALLWAY.

8 INT. WARBLINGTON CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL - MOMENTS LATER

WALLA: FAMILIES CONVERSING AFTER MASS.

The boys enter the hall as the messenger hands a letter to
GEORGE COTTON, John's Father.

078 MESSENGER
I come bearing an urgent letter for
the Lord of Warblington Castle.

WALLA: THE ROOM QUIETS AT THE MESSENGER'S WORDS.

079 GEORGE COTTON
I am the Lord you seek.

GEORGE TAKES AND OPENS THE LETTER.

080 YOUNG JOHN
(to himself)
Father?

081 GEORGE COTTON
(reading, in disbelief)
The Duke of Norfolk has been
executed.