

11 INT. THE VAUX ESTATE - DAY

Robert Southwell performs mass in a hidden chapel:

068 ROBERT
Missa est. Go in peace to love and
serve the Lord.

069 ALL
Thanks be to God.

SHUFFLING FEET AS THE CONGREGATION RISES. WALLA:
PEOPLE LEAVE THE HIDDEN CHAPEL CAREFULLY. ONE
VOICE CUTS THROUGH THE SCENE.

START >>> 070 ANNE
You always did have a gift for
words...

071 ROBERT
(stunned)
Anne?! Anne Dacre?!

072 ANNE
It's Anne Howard now. Actually *Lady*
Howard, if it please you.

073 ROBERT
It's Father Southwell now, if it
please you.

074 ANNE
Oh, it very much does!

THEY EMBRACE.

075 ANNE
I missed you so much, my friend.
What a long way you've come from
the Secret Society meetings beneath
your father's table.

076 ROBERT
I have missed you too. What brought
you here?

077 ANNE
My maid, Margaret, who heard
whispers that you'd be here.

ROBERT CHUCKLES.

078 ROBERT

I have prayed for strength... And here you stand, as if sent for me.

079 ANNE

I prayed you would return to England. Your words reached us, Robert. They stirred hearts. Even among the Queen's ladies.

080 ROBERT

You've read them?

081 ANNE

Every one. Passed hand to hand, treasured like relics. I kept one hidden in my home for weeks, but then realized my selfishness in doing so. So I copied it. And then I sent it on its way. And now... I want to help you however I can.

082 ROBERT

But Anne... Your proximity to court, if they discover you.

083 ANNE

They won't. I know how to survive in silk and silence. And what you don't know is this: I can take your work straight to the palace.

084 ROBERT

You would do that?

085 ANNE

I will do that. But I have one request. Well, make it two.

086 ROBERT

Anything.

087 ANNE

The first... You must come to my home, and serve as my Chaplain.

088 ROBERT

It would be a great honor. And the second?

089 ANNE

Make the pamphlets smaller.

090 ROBERT
Smaller?

091 ANNE
So they can fit in a lady's dress
pocket.

092 ROBERT
A lady's dress pocket?! Why -

093 ANNE
How else do you think they are
being distributed at court?

<<< END

OPTIMISTIC MUSIC SWELLS.

12 INT. THE QUEEN'S PARLOR - DAY

The Queen hosts tea for the gentry ladies.

WALLA: SOFT LAUGHTER, GENTLE DIN. TEACUPS CLINK,
LUTE MUSIC PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

094 LADY 1
The Ambassador from Venice was
positively dreadful, did you see
the size of his ruff?

095 LADY 2
It arrived three days before he
did. Positively dreadful.

096 LADY REGAN
He bowed so low I thought his wig
might fall right off his head.

WALLA: LAUGHTER. THE QUEEN WALKS AMONG THEM.

097 QUEEN ELIZABETH
Ladies, you amuse me. For a moment,
you make me forget the wretched
world.

HER FOOT BRUSHES AGAINST PARCHMENT. A CRINKLE.

098 QUEEN ELIZABETH
What's this?

SHE BENDS. PICKS UP THE PARCHMENT.