

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Ends not my choice which with no  
time expires.

\*

THE DOOR OPENS AND THE MUSIC CUTS OUT ABRUPTLY.  
JOHN ENTERS, HUMMING A CHEERFUL TUNE.

START >>>

082 JOHN  
Oh. Robert. I didn't see you there.  
What are you doing in bed? It is  
barely noon.

\*

JOHN SETS BOOKS AND PAPERS ON THE TABLE.

\*

083 JOHN  
Writing no doubt... Always writing.

084 ROBERT  
I was rejected from the Jesuit's  
English College in Rome.

\*

\*

JOHN STOPS WHAT HE IS DOING.

085 JOHN  
Robert. No. I-I am terribly sorry.

\*

086 ROBERT  
It's okay. I will find another way.  
I just don't know what to do next.

\*

087 JOHN  
Then wait, and listen. The Lord  
speaks clearest when we think we've  
lost our way.

A pause.

088 ROBERT  
A letter came for you as well.

\*

089 JOHN  
For me?

HE PICKS UP THE LETTER AND OPENS IT. AFTER A FEW  
MOMENTS, HE IS STUMBLES BACK TOWARD HIS CHAIR.

090 ROBERT  
John? What is it?

091 JOHN  
It's my father-

092 ROBERT  
What's happened?

093 JOHN  
He's been arrested.

094 ROBERT  
No.

095 JOHN  
Walsingham's men took him days ago.  
He is being held in the Tower.

JOHN PAUSES, CRUMPLING THE PAPER IN HIS HANDS.

096 JOHN  
I have to go back. I cannot stay  
here while my father-

097 ROBERT  
No.

\*

098 JOHN  
What? I will not sit in safety  
while he suffers!

099 ROBERT  
And what would you do if you  
returned? March into the Tower and  
demand his release? You, an  
intended priest? You would be  
arrested *instantly!*

\*

100 JOHN  
How can you blame me for wanting to  
return when you *claim* that is your  
greatest desire?

\*

101 ROBERT  
Of course I wish to return to  
England, but *until* we are ready! We  
are not even priests yet!

\*

A PAUSE. JOHN EXHALES DRAMATICALLY.

102 ROBERT  
Your father knew the risks. He has  
fought for our faith, and now it is  
time for you to do the same.

\*

103 JOHN  
That is what I'm trying to do!

104 ROBERT  
We cannot be reckless! We are the  
future of English Catholics! *This  
is bigger than you.*  
(MORE)

\*

\*

ROBERT (CONT'D)

This is bigger than your father.  
Who are you serving if you run home  
now? Do we serve God's will, or our  
own?

\*

\*

JOHN SLUMPS INTO HIS CHAIR, RESIGNED.

105 ROBERT

(softly)

You understand, don't you?

106 JOHN

I understand.

**<<< END**

DRAMATIC MUSIC TRANSITIONS US TO...

10

**INT. ROBERT AND JOHN'S DORM ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT**

CRICKETS AND WIND RUSTLING THE TREES PICKS UP.

\*

John sleeps, while Robert quietly whispers a prayer.

107 ROBERT

Lord God, protect John's father.  
Protect John's family. Hear my  
prayer. Soften the hearts of those  
who wish to harm us-

A SUDDEN COMMOTION THUNDERS THROUGH THE  
DORMITORY. DOORS ARE OPENED ONE BY ONE.

\*

108 FATHER ALLEN

Wake up, men! Wake up! Make haste!  
Rise from your beds! At once!

ROBERT AND JOHN'S DOOR IS FLUNG OPEN.

109 ROBERT

Father Allen? What's happened?

110 FATHER ALLEN

Flanders is under attack.

JOHN IS ROUSED FROM SLEEP.

111 JOHN

Flanders? That's only a few miles  
away from here.

112 FATHER ALLEN

Spanish mercenaries killed  
thousands. Protestant and Catholic  
alike.

\*

(MORE)