109 TOPCLIFFE

I must speak to the Bellamy girl.

110 JAILOR

Master Topcliffe, I fear that-

111 TOPCLIFFE

How dare you move to slow me down.

Out of the way.

(infuriated)

Open her cell, now.

112 JAILOR

As you wish, Master Topcliffe.

THE LOCK IS UNDONE. A DOOR OPENS. WATER DRIPS.

INT. ANNETTE BELLAMY'S CELL - CONTINUOUS

BARE FEET ON STONE AS ANNETTE SLIDES BACK.

START >>> Who's there?

18

113 ANNETTE

114 TOPCLIFFE

You know who it is, Annette.

115 ANNETTE

Please, no. What do you want? You've come to torment me again? I told you everything.

116 TOPCLIFFE

You are certain he is with your family now? I cannot risk another misstep in the eyes of the Queen.

117 ANNETTE

I received a coded letter from my mother.

(through tears)

She never dreamed that I would betray her... Father Southwell has arrived at my family's estate.

118 TOPCLIFFE

Excellent. Tonight, you shall be set free. You will meet with Father Southwell and ensure he performs Mass tomorrow. If you are proven correct, I shall uphold my part of the deal. You and your family will walk forward unharmed.

119 ANNETTE

(quietly) And what of my soul? <<< END



120 TOPCLIFFE

Your soul is of no concern to me.

OMINOUS MUSIC PLAYS US OUT.

19 INT. THE BELLAMY RESIDENCE - SECRET CHAPEL - NIGHT

SOFT MURMURS, A PEACEFUL HUSHED REVERENCE.

121 ROBERT

Brothers and sisters... First, I want to welcome back Annette Bellamy. I am deeply grateful to meet her in her new freedom.

A LIGHT CLAP FROM THE SMALL CONGREGATION.

122 ROBERT (CONT'D)

As you all know well, we are not alone in our trials. The Saints, the newest martyrs... They walk beside us. Laying down our lives for God's truth is the greatest glory we can enter into. And if we are willing to give our lives to save a single soul, how much more gladly would we lay our lives down to win Queen Elizabeth's heart for the good of the realm? I pray it is still possible.

A pause.

123 ROBERT (CONT'D)

Now new obstacle has presented itself to us: The Bloody Question. Prisoners are examined not by what they have done, but about what they might hypothetically do. And the only answer that will satisfy the Queen's judges is the one that will condemn them.

A pause.

124 ROBERT (CONT'D)

And yet, there is hope. In this latest slaughter, the hacked root of Catholicism still flowers. And momentum is spreading.