

023 PASER

Merneptah! You are not permitted to burst into His Highness's private chambers unannounced!

MERNEPTAH ignores PASER and walks closer to RAMSES.

024 YOUNG MERNEPTAH

Your blood runs through *my* veins, not his!

RAMSES SIGHS.

Side 2

START >>> 025 **RAMSES**

Paser, leave us.

026 PASER

(bowing)

Yes, your Highness.

PASER WALKS AWAY, QUICKLY.

027 YOUNG MERNEPTAH

I *am* your son.

028 **RAMSES**

And I *am* Pharaoh. You revealed a secret, *my* secret, without my permission. You defied me in front of the entire court.

029 YOUNG MERNEPTAH

He was being praised above me!

030 **RAMSES**

Watch your tone, boy.

031 YOUNG MERNEPTAH

A Hebrew foundling honored above me, a prince of Egypt!

032 **RAMSES**

You might be a prince, Merneptah, but do not forget your place under Pharaoh. I *am* god incarnate, and I alone decide who is worthy of my favor! Now, go.

RAMSES TURNS AND WALKS AWAY FROM MERNEPTAH.

033 YOUNG MERNEPTAH

One day, I may be Pharaoh. Then I will decide who deserves honor.

034 **RAMSES**

(scoffs)

You have many brothers before you,
Merneptah. And the gods of Egypt
are not fools. They watch. They
judge. They choose who is worthy to
rule. It would be a *miracle* if you
ever become Pharaoh. Now...

(angered)

Get. Out.

<<< END

DRAMATIC MUSIC SWELLS, THEN FADES.

3

INT. BITHIAH'S CHAMBER - EVENING

SUBTLE, GENTLE SPLASH OF AN INDOOR FOUNTAIN. A
HEAVY DOOR CREAKS OPEN, THEN CLOSSES QUIETLY
AFTER A MOMENT.

035 BITHIAH

Come in, Moses.

MOSES WALKS IN, TOWARDS BITHIAH.

036 YOUNG MOSES

You knew... all this t-time. You
knew I wasn't Egyptian.

037 BITHIAH

I knew. But none of that mattered
to me.

038 YOUNG MOSES

But it matters now! Why didn't you
ever tell me?

039 BITHIAH

Because you were... you are my son.

040 YOUNG MOSES

But *who* am I? Where did I come
from? Did you... did you really
find me in the Nile as Pharaoh
said?

BITHIAH SIGS DEEPLY.

041 BITHIAH

I had just lost my husband. My
heart ached for a child to fill the
emptiness in these chambers. I went
to the sacred waters of the Nile to
bathe. To grieve.