

HE SCUTTLES AWAY, SANDALS SLAPPING THE PAVEMENT. *

MERNEPTAH CHUCKLES WICKEDLY.

Side 1

START >>>

YOUNG MERNEPTAH

Ha! Look at him scurry away like the rat he is.

YOUNG MOSES

Still. You don't have to tease him like that.

YOUNG MERNEPTAH

I am a prince of the high throne. Heir to the morning sun. I'll tease whomever I want. *

YOUNG MOSES

Speaking of the sun... It's almost midday... *

YOUNG MERNEPTAH

Something pressing on you?

YOUNG MOSES

I have lessons with grandfather. *

MERNEPTAH LAUGHS IN ARROGANCE.

YOUNG MERNEPTAH

Ha! You still do those? Like a little boy?

YOUNG MOSES

It's grandfather's wish. He wants to prepare me. *

YOUNG MERNEPTAH

I don't know what for. You'll not amount to anything, little nephew.

YOUNG MOSES

You don't know that.

A BLADE WHOOSH AS MERNEPTAH SLASHES IN THE AIR.

YOUNG MERNEPTAH

Hmmph! Hmmph! Well, if your leadership skills are anything like your footwork, I'd say you've got a long way to go.

YOUNG MOSES
And you're more comfortable
fighting the air than a real foe!

YOUNG MERNEPTAH
I'm practicing my slash! You just
wait for the contest, Moses. This
blade will find you then.

<<< END

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YOUNG MOSES
You're on. We'll see who the weak
one is.

EGYPTIAN TRAINER
Young masters, please! Moses,
you're right, you'd better hurry
along. You mustn't keep our Pharaoh
waiting. We can continue this
training tomorrow. I'll see you
before the first hour.

YOUNG MOSES
Yes sir! With my training I shall
bring honor to our family name!

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EGYPTIAN TRAINER
Better hurry along now.

YOUNG MOSES
Farewell!

*

HE DASHES OUT OF THE TRAINING AREA...

INT. PHARAOH'S PALACE - THRONE ROOM - MINUTES LATER

...AND INTO THE PALACE.

YOUNG MOSES
(catching his breath)
Forgive me, grandfather! I was--

*

RAMSES
Excuses do not befit a ruler, nor
one who speaks in the name of the
ruler, as you one day will, Moses
Sa-nisut, son of the King. I do not
wish to hear your reasons. Only
that you will do better.

YOUNG MOSES
Yes. Of course, grandfather.