

WALLA: EXCITED ERUPTION OF THE CROWD AND ALL
GATHERED

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012 AARON

(speaking over them)

Everyone, listen! Pack your things!
Gather your livestock! Prepare for
the march into the desert!

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THE WHOLE COUNCIL ERUPTS IN EXCITED CHATTER.
SOME LEAVE TO GO AND PACK. OTHERS CHEER AND
HOLLER. A JOYOUS OCCASION!

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START >>>

013 DATHAN

Thank you Moses, Aaron. You have
done well.

014 MOSES

Thank you, Dathan -

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015 DATHAN

You must be tired. Go home to your
family. Rest for the journey. We
will get the people ready to go.

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016 MOSES

What do you mean?

017 DATHAN

Abiram, Korah, and the other elders
and I will lead the people.

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*

Most people have left by now. Sporadic packing, excitement,
hollaring, people walking through continues -

018 ABIRAM

Yes, Dathan is right. We will bring
the people through the desert.

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019 KORAH

To Canaan.

020 AARON

Dathan. Moses has been appointed by
God to lead us out of slavery.

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021 DATHAN

And he has. Now that it is done,
God's promise is fulfilled, and we
will make the plans to get us out
of Egypt into the land of our
fathers.

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022 AARON

Do you think God made a mistake in
choosing Moses?

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023 ABIRAM

Aaron. You know we are not going to
trust this Egyptian to lead us.

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024 MOSES

Have I not proven that my mission
is from the God of Abraham, Isaac,
and Jacob? I am no Egyptian, and I
will lead God's people.

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The arguments gets progressively more heated:

025 KORAH

Your signs and wonders have
concluded, Moses. We are free.
Rejoice, Moses. Go home. The Lord
will reward you!

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026 DATHAN

Yes, go home, Moses.

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027 AARON

This is not right. Our God has
performed these wonders by Moses's
hand, not yours.

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*

028 DATHAN

And how do you expect this
murderous shepherd to lead us
through the desert? To provide food
and water for 600,000 men and their
families?

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A FAMILY WITH A SMALL FLOCK OF LOOSE CHICKENS
RUNS THROUGH.

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029 AARON

So you do think God has made a
mistake. Moses has spent ten years
in the desert - he knows it better
than anyone!

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030 ABIRAM

Then he should know how dangerous
it is!

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031 AARON

What is your plan to provide for
us, Dathan? Abiram?

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(MORE)

AARON (CONT'D)
 Do you have enough livestock to
 feed us all the way? Have you
 filled **flasks** of water for us to
 carry on our backs?!

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THE FOUR OF THEM ARGUE INCOMPREHENSIBLY FOR A
 FEW MOMENTS.

Elishe'ma's voice cuts through:

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032 ELISHE'MA
 Enough.

THEY ALL GO SILENT.

033 **DATHAN**
 Elishe'ma, **old man**. Why are you
still here? You should be at home
with your daughter and
grandchildren.

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034 ELISHE'MA
 I am the oldest of the council of
 elders. Do you not wish to hear
 what I have to say?

035 ABIRAM
 What say you, Elishe'ma? Will the
 Egyptian lead us?

036 ELISHE'MA
 Moses?

037 MOSES
 Yes?

038 ELISHE'MA
 How will you feed and water us? Can
 you keep us safe, fed - alive, at
 least - all the way to Canaan?
 600,000 men and our families?

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039 MOSES
I cannot.

*

A WEATHERED GROAN, DISSAPOINTMENT FROM
 ELISHE'MA.

040 AARON
 (dejected)
 Moses... Moses we-

041 DATHAN

(pretentious)

See? Leave us then-

042 MOSES

It is not possible for any man...
 Just **as** it is not possible for a
 man to turn a river into blood...
 or cause darkness to fall on the
 land for three days. Just **as** no man
 could command the angel of death to
 pass over his home. **There is no man**
 among us who can lead us to the
 promised land. But the God of
 Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? The God
 who raised a **Hebrew** slave to the
royal household of Egypt? The God
 who humbled the arrogant son of Ra?
 Yes, I believe He can lead us
 there.

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Beat.

043 ELISHE'MA

Dathan, Abiram, Korah... I stand
 with Moses.

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044 KORAH

...Aye, so do I.

045 ABIRAM

Aye. Dathan?

Dathan is reluctant to admit defeat:

046 DATHAN

Very well, shepherd. Lead these
 lost sheep out of Egypt. We will
 see if God's hand is with you.

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<<< END

AARON CLAPS MOSES'S BACK.

047 AARON

You know I am with you, **Brother!**
 What shall we do now? What's first?
 Shall we move the herds? Should we
 plan our route?

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048 MOSES

First **we must pay our debts, Aaron.**
 Long ago, when I lived in the
 palace, **our mother, Jochebed** told
 me of an old Hebrew prophesy.

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