

Side 2

START >>>

032 TERESA

(troubled)

I'm sure this information will be the subject of all our prayers after Vespers tonight.

033 CHARLOTTE

How much longer do we have for recreation, Sister Constance? What does your little hourglass tell us?

034 CONSTANCE

Ooh, let me see...I...oh!

035 MARIE-HENRIETTE

What is it?

036 CONSTANCE

The hourglass is...it must have fallen out of my pocket when we went to mass at Saint-Antoine.

037 CHARLOTTE

Our hourglass is gone?
(suddenly bursting into tears)

Oh, it's too much to bear!

038 CONSTANCE

Sister Charlotte!

039 CHARLOTTE

I'm sorry sisters. Without our enclosed life, we are without our rhythm. I feel I'm a child outside the womb, no longer guided by a mother's heartbeat.

040 CONSTANCE

It will take some time to adjust, dear sister.

041 CHARLOTTE

(dabbing her nose)

As a young girl, I couldn't wait to enter society. I wanted to go from ballroom to ballroom and dance. Oh how I loved to dance!

042 CONSTANCE

(trying to comfort her)

I would love to have seen you dance a gavotte.

043 CHARLOTTE

But, in my first season, I...the ball was ransacked by brigands. I refused to give up my jewels, and I was beaten. I was injured. And I was sentenced to a life using this crutch.

CHARLOTTE TAPS HER CRUTCH ON THE FLOOR.

044 CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

But...the Lord was quick to show me His love. He presented me with a new path. The joy of Jesus, and of the quiet Carmelite life, has surpassed even the joy I felt dancing a minuet. But now that joy is being taken from me too.

(sniffs)

I acknowledge how selfish that sounds.

045 TERESA

It is not selfish to love the Divine Spouse. He will never abandon us, Sister Charlotte.

046 CHARLOTTE

I do know it, Mother.

047 TERESA

(to the community)

But I wonder how you all feel about us abandoning ourselves to God? I intend to make an act of consecration every day, beginning today. When each of you feels truly ready to follow the Lamb, I invite you to join me.

048 CHARLOTTE

As I have said, Mother. I no longer have any hesitation.

◀◀◀ END

049 MARIE-HENRIETTE

I am the same. We have known victorious love, in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen for us. Since the night we were evicted, I have felt His transforming love working within me. And I'm ready to abandon myself completely to it should we be asked to give the gift of our lives.