

029 CONSTANCE
Of course.

030 CHARLOTTE
And I must say we've all been
greatly tested in that lesson since
we elected our current Mother
Prioress, instead of Sister
Euphrasia.

MUSIC TRANSITION.

7 INT. KITCHEN, COMPIÈGNE MONASTERY - EVENING 7

BUBBLING SOUP IS BEING LADLED INTO BOWLS. THE
ATMOSPHERE IS SERENE.

031 TERESA
I always look forward to your
cabbage soup, Sister Charlotte.

032 CHARLOTTE
Thank you, Mother.

033 CONSTANCE
We don't eat much, but what we do
eat, we prepare well.

034 TERESA
Oui! We are French, after all!

EUPHRASIA ENTERS

Euphrasia (50s) is sharp and quick-witted, doesn't hold back
about things, prone to dramatics.

Side 1

START >>> 035 **EUPHRASIA**
(agitated)
Sisters! I must speak!

036 TERESA
Then speak, Sister Euphrasia!

037 **EUPHRASIA**
I have an urgent letter from my
cousin. There's been an uprising in
Paris! The French Guard has
evacuated and left the city to be
ransacked by...revolutionaries!

THE GROUP GASPS IN DISTRESS. A BEAT WHILE THEY
ALL PROCESS IT.

038 CHARLOTTE
What do these...these...
revolutionaries want?

039 EUPHRASIA
Blood!

CONSTANCE GASPS.

040 TERESA
(disapproving)
Sister Euphrasia!

041 EUPHRASIA
I'm sorry, but it's pointless to
sugar coat it, Mother.

042 CHARLOTTE
(gravely)
People are hungry.

043 EUPHRASIA
Yes, they are!

044 CHARLOTTE
(realizing, side-topic)
Speaking of which, where's Sister
Marie-Henriette with the bread? She
is usually like clockwork.

045 MARIE-HENRIETTE (O.C.)
I'm here.

046 CHARLOTTE
(Praise be to God)
Louange à Dieu!

MARIE-HENRIETTE SWEEPS IN AND PUTS TWO LARGE
BAGUETTES ON THE COUNTER.

Marie-Henriette (30s) is diplomatic, reliable, intelligent.

047 MARIE-HENRIETTE
(worried)
I had to find an extra coin to pay
the boy from the boulangerie. The
price of bread has gone up to 15
sols.

048 CHARLOTTE
15 sols! We'll need to make those
two baguettes last a fortnight!

049 MARIE-HENRIETTE
I'll cut the slices thin.

SHE STARTS SLICING THE BAGUETTES WITH A KNIFE.

050 CONSTANCE
But so many families are already in poverty. How are they buying bread for 15 sols?

051 EUPHRASIA
They aren't, Sister Constance. That's why there's all this unrest. People are starving. While the aristocracy stuff themselves with oysters, Champagne and macarons.

052 MARIE-HENRIETTE
And with the winter frosts, and the country on the verge of bankruptcy, I'm very worried for-

053 CONSTANCE
Bankruptcy?

054 CHARLOTTE
Yes, child. The wars King Louis has involved France in have come with extreme costs.

055 EUPHRASIA
His support for the American revolution has pushed us into financial ruin! Utter madness!

Teresa is usually patient with Euphrasia, but she's loyal to the King and Queen and can't let this slide.

056 TERESA
Sister Euphrasia, whilst we all love and cherish your uniquely... passionate personality, you overstep to speak of our King in such a way.

057 EUPHRASIA
I assure you people are saying far worse, Mother. The Parisians seizing the Bastille prison was a violent act against the monarchy.
(a gentle barb)
But perhaps you are too young to understand the nuance.

≪≪≪ END