

START >>>068 **TRINO**

Wait. You're new. And they already have you hauling wood?

069 JOSELITO

I asked what needed doing.

070 **TRINO**

You *asked*? Most men here have to be told what to do... Three times. Anyway, I'm Trinidad Espinoza, but everyone calls me Trino.

071 JOSELITO

José. José Sánchez del Río. People call me Joselito.

072 **TRINO**

Ah! You're Miguel and Macario's little brother. How old are you?

THEY START WALKING TOGETHER.

073 JOSELITO

Fourteen. You?

074 **TRINO**

Fifteen. Almost sixteen.

075 JOSELITO

Why are you here?

TRINO STOPS WALKING. JOSELITO STOPS TOO.

076 **TRINO**

The *Federales* came to my village. They said we were hiding priests. We were, but they didn't just arrest the priests. They burned the church. Then they burned homes... My home.

077 JOSELITO

Is your family okay?

078 **TRINO**

My father tried to stop them. They took him to prison. My mother grabbed my sisters and me and we ran, but I got lost in the hills. I-I don't know where they are.

079 JOSELITO

I'm sorry, Trino.

080 **TRINO**

A Cristero patrol found me three days later. They brought me to the camp. I've been here since. Carrying water. Hauling wood. Being -

081 JOSELITO

Useful. For Jesus. Our King.

082 **TRINO**

Yes!

(beat)

What's that sticking out of your bag? A weapon?

083 JOSELITO

My secret weapon. My bugle!

JOSELITO PULLS OUT HIS BUGLE.

084 **TRINO**

You play?

085 JOSELITO

My brothers used to say it sounded like a dying goat. But I've been practicing.

086 **TRINO**

Let's hear it then. Can't be worse than Don Antonio's singing.

087 JOSELITO

Okay! Listen.

JOSELITO TAKES A DEEP BREATH. HE PLAYS A SHORT, MELODIC, AND CRISP CALL.

088 **TRINO**

Wow! That was better than our actual bugler! When he plays, it sounds like he is strangling a cat. Did you know that the flag bearers usually carry bugles too? For when the General needs to send signals across the battlefield.

089 JOSELITO

Really?

090 **TRINO**

It's an important job. Dangerous, though. You're visible. A target.

091 JOSELITO
Seems like everything here is
dangerous.

092 **TRINO**
You're right about that.... You
know, we should make a pact.

093 JOSELITO
A pact?

094 **TRINO**
We should watch out for each other.
You know? Like - like brothers!

095 JOSELITO
Brothers in Christ!

096 **TRINO**
*¡Sí! Hermanos en Cristo. That's our
pact!*

THEY SHAKE HANDS, FIRMLY. THEY BEGIN WALKING
AGAIN, FASTER THIS TIME.

097 **TRINO**
Come on. I'll show you the lookout
point. You can see the whole valley
from up there!

◀◀ END

HOPEFUL MUSIC SWELLS.

8

EXT. CRISTEROS' CAMP - DAY

8

CAMP SOUNDS - NORMAL AFTERNOON ACTIVITY. MEN
WORKING, TALKING QUIETLY. SUDDEN COMMOTION AT
CAMP ENTRANCE.

098 SOLDIERS
*¡Padre! ¡Es el Padre Sánchez! /
¡He's alive! They released him! /
¡Es un milagro!*

WALLA: MEN RUSHING TOWARD ENTRANCE, EXCITED
MURMURS. JOSELITO DROPS A TIN CAN. CLATTER.

099 JOSELITO
Uncle... That's my uncle!

JOSELITO PUSHES THROUGH CROWD.

100 FATHER IGNACIO
(to the crowd)
My sons, my dear sons...