

Side 2
START >>>

046 TARCISIUS
(low to himself)
Let's see. I'll need candles, wine
and bread...

047 CATO
(coming up behind him)
Why do you need all that?

048 TARCISIUS
(startled)
Cato! I didn't see you there.

049 CATO
You don't see me anywhere anymore.
You don't have time for me.

050 TARCISIUS
I've been busy--

051 CATO
Doing what?

052 TARCISIUS
Important things. I wish I could
tell you, but--

053 CATO
What's more important than your
friends?

054 TARCISIUS
I will tell you - when it's not so
dangerous. Where's Cornelius?

055 CATO
Who cares? Ever since you left,
Cornelius started hanging out with
Otho and making fun of everyone.
Especially you. And me.

056 TARCISIUS
He what? Why would he do that?

057 CATO
(growing emotional)
I don't know! I don't know
anything, Tarcisius! I don't know
why you abandoned me, or why stupid
Otho and Cornelius get to have
parents and I don't. You and
Cornelius were the only family I
had - and now I have nobody!

058 TARCISIUS

Cato... I'm sorry. Look, come to my house tomorrow, mid-day. It'll explain everything. Trust me.

059 CATO

Why should I trust you?

060 TARCISIUS

Because... You're right. I abandoned you, and I shouldn't have. But something wonderful is happening tomorrow, and I want to share with you.

061 CATO

(beat)

Wonderful?

062 TARCISIUS

Just come to my home tomorrow.
Please.

063 CATO

Okay. I'll be there.

064 TARCISIUS

But tell no one.

065 CATO

Who do I have to tell?

<<< END

SFX: TENDER LYRE MUSIC UP.

8 INT. TARCISIUS'S HOME - DAY

Livia and Rufus meet with Stephen, the Bishop of Rome.

066 RUFUS

Livia, this is Stephen, the Bishop of Rome.

067 LIVIA

It is with great honor that I welcome you into our home, Bishop.

068 STEPHEN

Thank you for letting us celebrate here.

069 LIVIA

My husband was faithful. And now my sons are. And I'm - I'm trying again. Trying to conquer my fear.