

042 KIALA  
Many times.

043 REYNIERS  
Why?

044 KIALA  
Because I wanted him to live.

045 REYNIERS  
And he responded—

046 KIALA  
Like he always did. Calm. Like the  
answer was already decided in him.

9 EXT. RUBBER CAMP - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

NIGHT INSECTS. DISTANT THUNDER. RAIN HAS  
SOFTENED BUT REMAINS. A FIRE CRACKLES WEAKLY.

WALLA: MEN COUGH

047 KIALA  
(quiet)  
You're not seeing what I'm seeing.

048 ISIDORE  
And what is that, my friend?

049 KIALA  
I see men staring at you.  
Like you're - like you're a story  
they can hold onto.

050 ISIDORE  
Men need stories.

051 KIALA  
Stories don't stop whips.

052 ISIDORE  
But they can stop men from turning  
into animals.

053 KIALA  
(beat)  
It's cloth, Isidore.

054 ISIDORE  
It is cloth... but it carries a  
promise I made when I took the  
rosary in my hands.  
(MORE)

Side 2  
START >>>

**ISIDORE** (CONT'D)

I asked the Mother of Christ to keep me close to her Son. If I cast this aside out of fear, then my prayer was only words.

055 KIALA

You could take it off when he's near. Put it back later. No one would know.

056 **ISIDORE**

I would know.

057 KIALA

So you'd rather die than bend?

058 **ISIDORE**

(soft, direct)

I'd rather die whole than live broken.

A BEAT.

FIRE POPS.

059 KIALA

You are not the only one who wants to live whole Isidore.

060 **ISIDORE**

True.

061 KIALA

Then why make them watch you die?

062 **ISIDORE**

(quiet)

Because someone has to show them that a man can be afraid and still not surrender.

**<<< END**

CAMP SOUNDS FADE INTO COURTROOM SOUNDS

10

**INT. COLONIAL COURTROOM - CONTINUOUS**

063 REYNIERS

Did you believe him?

064 KIALA

Yes.