

13 INT. COLONIAL COURTROOM - RETURN

COURTROOM SOUNDS RETURN.

103 REYNIERS  
How did it make you feel when he  
told you he forgave Van Cauter?

**START >>>**

104 **IYONGO**  
Ashamed. I wanted revenge.  
He was dying and still choosing  
peace.

105 REYNIERS  
Did other men hear him?

106 **IYONGO**  
Yes. They stopped talking about  
running. They started helping. One  
brought water. One brought leaves  
to cool the fever. One brought his  
own cloth... and tore it in half...  
Isidore made us remember we were  
not only workers. We were brothers.

107 REYNIERS  
Thank you, Iyongo.

REYNIERS FOOTSTEPS RETURN TO HIS SEAT.

108 JUDGE DE VOS  
Cross, Monsieur Delcroix.

109 DELCROIX  
Iyongo, let's be clear. You  
trespassed. You entered a  
restricted area.

110 **IYONGO**  
The man was dying.

111 DELCROIX  
You broke rules.

112 **IYONGO**  
I followed my conscience.

113 DELCROIX  
Ah. That word again. So, whenever  
you men choose disobedience, you  
call it conscience. Mr. Van Cauter  
was legitimately in charge of the  
camp. He was operating within his  
authority.

(MORE)

DELCROIX (CONT'D)

Is it fair to say that what you call "conscience" is simply, *insolence*.

114 **IYONGO**

No. Insolence is pride. Conscience is the voice inside every man that knows right from wrong.

115 DELCROIX

And who decides what is wrong? You?

116 **IYONGO**

A man knows.

117 DELCROIX

(sarcastic)

A man knows.

(beat; sharpening)

Did Isidore ever encourage others to resist?

118 **IYONGO**

He encouraged men to remember they were men. He told men not to hate.

119 DELCROIX

So, Resist. I see. You said he forgave Van Cauter.

120 **IYONGO**

Yes.

121 DELCROIX

And you want the court to believe that's proof he is holy or divine?

122 **IYONGO**

The court should believe he was not like Van Cauter.

(beat)

But still, justice is required. Forgiveness is not permission. It is the choice of peace over pain.

**<<< END**

123 DELCROIX

(pressing)

Or it is a performance. A dying man says "I forgive you" and suddenly everyone whispers prayers and shares cloth and the camp becomes... inspired.