

Side 1

START >>> 101 **ZIPPORAH**
Here. Moses. Let me help you set up
your tent.

102 YOUNG MOSES
No, I can do it. Go back to your
sister's tent. And get out of this
rain!

103 **ZIPPORAH**
The rain won't hurt me.

104 YOUNG MOSES
Zipporah -

105 **ZIPPORAH**
Let me help.

106 YOUNG MOSES
Fine.

THEY WRESTLE WITH THE TENT A MOMENT LONGER WHILE
THE WIND WHIPS THE RAIN AROUND THEM.

107 **ZIPPORAH**
There! Now get inside out of this
storm.

108 YOUNG MOSES
Thank you.

109 **ZIPPORAH**
Of course.

Zipporah starts to go.

110 YOUNG MOSES
Wait -

111 **ZIPPORAH**
What is it?

112 YOUNG MOSES
Ah. Um. Tha-tha-thank you.

113 **ZIPPORAH**
You already thanked me.

114 YOUNG MOSES
Thank you for always n-n-noticing
when I need help.

115 ZIPPORAH
 (half teasing, half
 embarrassed)
 I mean it's not hard to tell.

116 YOUNG MOSES
 But you care -

117 ZIPPORAH
 Of course I do.

Beat.

118 YOUNG MOSES
 Goodnight, Zipporah.

119 ZIPPORAH
 Goodnight, Moses.

◀◀◀ END

TRANSITION WITH POURING RAIN SLOWLY LIFTING...

6 INT. JETHRO'S CAVE - DAY

MOSES ON HIS KNEES IN JETHRO'S CAVE, SLOWLY AND
 PAINFULLY SHEERING A SHEEP. GRUNTS, BLEATS, CLIP
 OF THE CLIPPERS.

120 JETHRO
 Slowly, Moses. Slowly. If you move
 too quickly you'll cut the sheep's
 skin.

WITH AN EFFORT, MOSES COMPLETES THE LAST CUT.

121 YOUNG MOSES
 Hey! I sheered a sheep!

122 JETHRO
 Not bad.

THE SHEEP SHOOTS AWAY, BLEATING.

123 YOUNG MOSES
 Will you call me a shepherd now? Or
 am I still just a hired hand.

124 JETHRO
 Don't get ahead of yourself,
 Egyptian.

TRANSITION WITH MUSIC.

085 ZIPPORAH
Who are you?

086 YOUNG MOSES
(taken aback)
What?

087 ZIPPORAH
Who are you?

088 YOUNG MOSES
I am Moses, shepherd of Midian.
Jethro's son. Zipporah's husband.
And Gershom's father.

BABY COOS.

089 ZIPPORAH
When I met you, here at this well,
you told me you were Nobody. A
stranger, headed nowhere.

090 YOUNG MOSES
Yes -

091 ZIPPORAH
All you would say is that you were
not an Egyptian -

092 YOUNG MOSES
I am not an Egyptian.

093 ZIPPORAH
- even though you fought with the
kopesh and dressed like an Egyptian
prince.

094 YOUNG MOSES
Zipporah -

095 ZIPPORAH
And then three days ago you named
my son "Gershom."

096 YOUNG MOSES
I -

097 ZIPPORAH
Hebrew for stranger.

098 YOUNG MOSES
Yes -

099 ZIPPORAH

If you still think you are a stranger here in Midian, who are your people, Moses?

Beat.

100 ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Where does our son belong?

Beat.

101 ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Who are our people?

Beat.

102 YOUNG MOSES

I abandoned them.

103 ZIPPORAH

Moses -

104 YOUNG MOSES

I fled Egypt and I abandoned them.

105 ZIPPORAH

What happened?

106 YOUNG MOSES

I'm wanted for murder.

107 ZIPPORAH

I don't understand -

108 YOUNG MOSES

I was born a Hebrew, but raised in an Egyptian by Pharaoh's daughter.

109 ZIPPORAH

How -

110 YOUNG MOSES

When I became a man, I discovered my true identity. I was a Hebrew. By blood, I belonged among the slaves. One day I saw an Egyptian slave driver beating a Hebrew laborer. I stepped in to defend the Hebrew. I struck the Egyptian. And he died. So I fled. Nobody, going nowhere.

111 ZIPPORAH

But you were defending that Hebrew!
If you went back to Goshen -

112 YOUNG MOSES

If I went back to Goshen, they
would be punished for me. I had to
run. I had not choice. What I told
you was true - I was Nobody.
Neither the Egyptians nor the
Hebrews would claim me. I was a man
without a people.

Beat.

113 ZIPPORAH

Do you want to go back?

114 YOUNG MOSES

(quickly, almost harshly)
No. Never.

END.