



THE AUDACITY TO KILL MY NEPHEW, NO MATTER HOW EGREGIOUS YOU THINK HIS ACTIONS MAY BE, IS UNFORGIVABLE, SIR CYRENIC.

I WANT THIS MAN BOUND AND TAKEN TO THE--



YOUR MAJES--

SILENCE!

TAKE HIM TO THE CHOPPING BLOCK, IMMEDIATELY!



YOUR MAJESTY, YOU ASKED ME TO SIMPLY SAY THE WORD, AND I COULD CLAIM MY PRIZE FROM THE TOURNAMENT. A WALK WITH THE KING, HIS EAR FOR ITS ENTIRETY.

I CLAIM IT NOW.

YOU DARE--



WALK WITH ME, YOUR MAJESTY.

AND LEARN OF THINGS LOST TO TIME.



HOW DID YOU FIND THE PASSAGEWAYS?

CAVERN? WHAT CAVERN?

FROM THE CAVERN BELOW THE CATACOMBS.



I THOUGHT YOU WOULD KNOW MORE THAN I.

TIME HAS A WAY OF SWALLOWING UP KNOWLEDGE. LIKE FIRE TO PAPER, SUCH AS THE LETTER IN YOUR HAND.



DID YOU NEVER STOP TO THINK HOW YOU RECEIVED YOUR ESTATE?

FATHER GAVE IT TO ME, TO GIVE ME STATUS, TO PROTECT ME!



BUT DID HE NEVER TELL YOU WHO OWNED IT BEFORE?

...NO...



BUT LEOTTA TOLD ME IT WAS AN ENEMY'S ESTATE.

AH, YES, OF COURSE IT WAS.



ANYONE WHO DOES NOT AGREE WITH A KING IS AN ENEMY.

AND MY INTENDED HAD THE MISFORTUNE OF BEING IN A TIME OF WAR, AND FROM A FAMILY WITH TIES TO AENITIA.



"MANY IN THE FAMILY DIDN'T WANT THE WAR TO BEGIN WITH, OR DIDN'T WANT TO CHOOSE SIDES."

"SOME EVEN SIDED WITH AENITIA, WITH PROMISE THEY WOULD BE ABSOLVED OF THEIR DEBTS SHOULD AENITIA CONQUER HARBENY."



"HE EXECUTED THE TRAITORS, STRIPPING THEM OF THEIR LANDS AND TITLES, ERASING THE LINEAGE FROM TIME."

"MY INTENDED WAS ACCUSED OF TREASON WHEN SHE VOICED HER ALARM AT THE STATE OF HER CIRCUMSTANCES."

"SHE MADE ME ABANDON HER, IN FEAR THAT HER MISFORTUNE WOULD BEFALL ME."

"AND THEN SHE MET HER END BY VERATO'S JUDGMENT."



AND WHILE I PUT HER UNDER STONE, VERATO BESTOWED HER WEALTH UPON YOU WHEN YOU WERE BORN.

HAD HE WANTED THE ESTATE ALL ALONG?

DID HE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE FAMILY'S TRANSGRESSIONS, ALL FOR YOU?

YOU WANT TO KILL ME OVER SPECULATION?



AND YET I HEAR THE HESITANCY IN YOUR VOICE.

BECAUSE YOU KNOW HE WAS CAPABLE OF IT. JUST AS YOUR UNCLE IS CAPABLE. BECAUSE THEY WERE MOLDED BY THEIR FATHER, AND HIS FATHER BEFORE HIM.

AND YOU SHARE THE SAME BLOOD AND THE SAME UPBRINGING.