

The Court

Drama · Scene for 5 · 3 min · Female role · Young adult · Advanced

(The court. They await the king's verdict.)

LE ROI

The throne has reasons the heart knows nothing of. I join two kingdoms, not two lovers.

ISABELLE

Sire, it is my name you wed; my soul resists. Can one give one's hand and keep all the rest?

DON CARLOS

Let her keep her soul, and yield me her rank. I do not marry a heart: I marry a continent.

LA DUCHESSE

There speaks a prince. Love is a luxury; peace, a necessity no sigh can pay for.

LE CONSEILLER

Think, Madam, of the blood a refusal would spill. One "yes" from your lips is worth a thousand armies.

ISABELLE

So I am asked, in the name of all these dead, to become one of them, alive, as an example.

LE ROI

No one is killing you, my child. You are being asked to take a throne.

ISABELLE

A throne is a tomb one gilds and inhabits. I will climb it, my king. But let no one expect of me tear or smile: nothing but a precise queen.

(She holds out her hand to Don Carlos, without looking at him.)

DON CARLOS

... I win a continent, and there I'll be lonelier than on the first day of the world.

What you can do with it

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