

JOAB #1

EXT. JESSE'S HOUSE - DAY

Joab is watching David prepare for a journey.

JOAB
Explain this to me again.

DAVID
I'm going to the palace to explain
to the tax collector.

JOAB
And why is it you think that's a
good idea?

DAVID
I understand you think that's
stupid, but someone has tell them
why we can't pay the taxes.

JOAB
I don't think it's stupid. I think
you're going to get flogged.

DAVID
A lion killed many of our sheep.
They cannot flog us for that.

JOAB
My suspicion is, the King and Queen
can order floggings for whatever
they fancy.

DAVID
I am going to tell them about the
lion. And then I will tell them I
am going go to kill the lion.

JOAB
Now you think you're going to kill
a lion?

DAVID
Someone must do it.

JOAB
David, have you been boiling
henbane root? You're a shepherd,
not a lion killer.

DAVID
Today, I am.

Joab studies him.

JOAB
So you're going to get flogged and
then mauled by a lion... Sounds
like a good time to me.

DAVID
I have faith in a better outcome.

JOAB
Faith you've always had David,
wisdom not so apparent.

David finishes gathering his things and notices Joab
beginning to do the same.

DAVID
What're you doing?

JOAB
I hear they order less lashes when
it's more than one person.

David smiles and puts his arm around his friend.

DAVID
I guess you fall into the faith
over wisdom category as well my
friend.

JOAB # 2

EXT. DESERT WILDERNESS - DAY

David and Joab debate. A man behind them, DOEG, is bound and gagged.

DAVID
We're not killing him.

JOAB
We're outlaws now, it's either him
or us.

DAVID
Saul is the killer. I won't sink to
his level.

JOAB
King Saul has a bounty on your head
and this snake is going to get rich
telling him where we are.

DAVID
He's just a shepherd, like we were.

JOAB
You know who he is?

DAVID
Yes, but we can't kill him based on
suspicion.

JOAB
He knows who you are. Like it or
not, if you let him go you put us
at risk.

David considers.

DAVID
I didn't ask you to come with me.

JOAB
No you're right, I could have just
let you die.

DAVID
Then take responsibility for your
choice. You blame me, but I never
chose this path. I didn't ask to be
anointed.

JOAB
But you did lay with the queen
before marrying her daughter.

David PUNCHES Joab - Joab rolls with it like a champ, blots
the blood on his lip.

JOAB (CONT'D)
Are you upset because you have to
kill a defenseless man, or because
I'm right?

David remains silent. Joab walks to Doeg, pulls a knife,
slits his throat. He looks up to David. Cold.

JOAB (CONT'D)
You might be anointed, but it's my
job to keep you breathing until you
reach that throne.