

EXT. PALACE COURTYARD- DAY

The yard is bright and full of color. LITTLE FINGER carefully approaches CERSEI, surrounded by GUARDS.

CERSEI

Lord Baelish.

LITTLE FINGER

Your Grace.

CERSEI

I wonder if I might ask you for a favor.

LITTLE FINGER

Of course, Your Grace.

CERSEI

Ned Stark's youngest daughter Arya, we can't seem to locate her.

LITTLE FINGER

If she's escaped the capital, Winterfell seems the logical destination.

CERSEI

A mockingbird. - You created your own sigil, didn't you? -

LITTLE FINGER

Yes. Some people are fortunate enough to be born into the right family. Others have to find their own way.

CERSEI

I heard a song once about a boy of modest means who found his way into the home of a very prominent family. He loved the eldest daughter. Sadly, she had eyes for another.

LITTLE FINGER

When boys and girls live in the same home, awkward situations can arise. Sometimes, I've heard, even brothers and sisters develop certain affections. And when those affections become common knowledge, well, that is an awkward situation indeed,

especially in a prominent family. But prominent families often forget a simple truth, I've found.

CERSEI

And which truth is that?

LITTLE FINGER

Knowledge is power.

She takes a moment to fully hear his words.

CERSEI

Seize him.

The Guards take Little Finger in hand and draw their swords.

CERSEI

Cut his throat. Stop. Wait. I've changed my mind. Let him go.

They release him. The guards obey her every command.

CERSEI

Step back three paces. Turn around. Close your eyes. Power is power. Do see if you can take some time away from your coins and your whores to locate the Stark girl for me. I would very much appreciate it.