

Content Warning: Religious War / Violence

FASTRADA

(to CHARLES)

We're so proud of Lewis, aren't we, dear? Oh, my darling, before I forget, the royal treasurer informs me I've somehow overdrawn my allowance account.

CHARLES

You're overdrawn again?

FASTRADA

Now, now, my Lord, you know how confused I get about money. After all, I'm just an ordinary housewife and mother...

(To the audience)

... just like all you housewives and mothers out there.

(And SHE goes)

CHARLES

(Looking after her)

You know, sometimes I wonder if the fornicating I'm getting is worth the fornicating I'm getting.

START

PIPPIN

Father. I know what I want to do now.



PIPPIN

I want to be a soldier.

CHARLES

What? Denied!

PIPPIN

Father, I'm your oldest son. That means I'll be King one day. And fighting wars is an important part of being King, isn't it?

CHARLES

Fighting wars is the most important part of being King. After all, the Pope and I have dedicated ourselves to spreading Christianity throughout the entire world, even if we have to kill every non-Christian to do it.

PIPPIN

Exactly. So, I want to join you in your campaign against the Visigoths.

CHARLES

Denied.

PIPPIN

But that's not fair! You're taking Lewis.

CHARLES

Yes, well, your brother Lewis is an ideal warrior. He is strong and stupid. You, on the other hand, are educated.

PIPPIN

And for what? Father, you're dedicated to something. I just want to be dedicated to something too, with all my heart and soul. Something extraordinary. Otherwise my life won't have any meaning at all.

CHARLES

Oh, you want your life to have meaning.

PIPPIN

Yes, I do.

CHARLES

Well, that's very ambitious of you, Pippin. Denied!

(HE starts off)

PIPPIN

But father!

CHARLES

Denied!

PIPPIN

(Gives it one more try)

Father, you created an entire kingdom out of nothing. And now I want my chance... My chance to fight for my country... for my family...

(kneels)

And for my King.

(CHARLES is taken aback, moved and impressed)

CHARLES

Ohhh...

(HE relents)

All right. Get yourself a decent helmet and come along.

END