

Prod. #76921

XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS

"Warrior ... Princess"

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XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS

"Warrior ... Princess"

CAST LIST

XENA/PRINCESS DIANA  
GABRIELLE

KING LIAS	(LEE-us)
PHILEMON	(PHIL-a-mon)
MINEUS	(min-EE-us)
GLAUCE	(GLAU-s)
TESA	(TESS-a)
MIRUS	
LOW-LIFE	
GUARD	
WAIF	

\* Pronunciations added

Prod. #76921 - 12/01/95 - Blue

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SET LIST

INTERIORS:

CASTLE - CORRIDOR  
- FOYER  
- GREAT HALL  
- HALLWAY

PRINCESS DIANA'S ROOMS  
BROMIUS' ROOM

EXTERIORS:

WALLED CASTLE - MAIN GATES  
PRINCESS' COURTYARD  
KINGDOM  
VILLAGE  
SHACK  
COUNTRYSIDE  
COUNTRY ROAD

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CHRONOLOGY

DAY 1	SCENES #1 - 14	*
NIGHT 1	SCENES #15 - 20	*
DAY 2	SCENES #21 - 22	*
NIGHT 2	SCENES #23 - 25	
DAY 3	SCENES #26 - 34	

XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS .

"Warrior ... Princess"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. WALLED CASTLE - MAIN GATES - DAY

1

Xena approaches on horseback. She dismounts and approaches TWO GUARDS who have come out to meet her. She looks ready for a confrontation.

XENA

I'm here to see --

She stops because something unusual has just happened. Both Guards have fallen to their knees and bowed their heads toward her.

XENA

(a little taken aback)  
-- the King.

The Guards scramble to their feet, open the gates for Xena and bow as she passes giving them a curious look.

XENA

Thanks.

2 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

2

FOUR GUARDS line the corridor, two on each side, holding spears at rest on their shoulders. A door at the end of the corridor opens and one of the Guards from in front of the castle steps inside to make room for Xena who appears in the doorway. The other Guards spot her and move their spears forward. In a flash Xena has drawn her sword but freezes as she watches:

THE CORRIDOR GUARDS

slam the butts of their spears against the ground and then hold their spears out in an upward slant forming an arch for Xena to pass under. She cautiously moves under the spears, watching the Guards carefully. She enters:

3 INT. CASTLE - FOYER - DAY

3

Xena enters and finds A YOUNG LADY-IN-WAITING. Her name is TESA. She's startled to see Xena and eyes her outfit curiously.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

TESA  
Are you alright?

XENA  
I'm fine. I --

Xena stops as Tesa takes a cape off her shoulders and puts it on Xena's shoulders. Xena gives her a bemused look.

XENA  
What are you doing?

TESA  
I just thought you might want to cover your... costume.

XENA  
What's wrong with my... costume?

TESA  
(bowing her head)  
Nothing, of course.

XENA  
I'm looking for the King.

TESA  
He's in his bedroom. I'm sure he wouldn't mind if you visited him there.

XENA  
In his bedroom? I don't think so. Can you ask him to come to me?

TESA  
Of course. Your wish is my command.

Tesa scurries out. Xena notices a table with a wine decanter and a wine glass sitting on it. Several chairs line the table. A torch sits in a holder above the table. She goes to sit down, realizes the cape is still draped over her shoulders, pulls it off with an irritated sigh, and drops it on the table. She sits and throws her feet onto the table top.

ON A WALL DRAPERY

behind Xena. It moves ever so slightly. We can see two feet protruding out from underneath the drapery.

ON XENA

She tilts her head slightly as she becomes aware of movement behind her. Nonchalantly, she pours herself a glass of wine.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: 2

3

ON THE WALL DRAPERY

TIMUS, a vicious looking man, steps out from behind it. He's holding a dagger. He creeps cautiously toward Xena, the dagger poised for a strike.

ON XENA

Timus edges toward Xena. He's behind her when she casually takes a sip of the wine. Timus raises the dagger up over Xena's shoulder. Suddenly, Xena grabs the torch off the wall, turns and breathes fire into Timus' face. Scorched, Timus staggers back, crashes through a window and disappears as he falls out of the castle. A BEAT. Then we hear the SOUND OF A SPLASH and the SIZZLING SOUND of moat water putting the fire out.

KING LIAS (O.C.)

It would have been nice to interrogate him.

Xena whirls, ready for another assault, only to find KING LIAS, a statuesque old man, with two GUARDS at his side. Without a look at Xena, he crosses to the window.

KING LIAS

(to his Guards)

He's headed west. Go after him!

The Guards scurry out of the room.

KING LIAS

(still looking out the window)

You're obviously a very formidable woman.

XENA

What's going on here?

He turns to Xena, his face registering amazement.

KING LIAS

By the gods above, this is remarkable.  
(regrouping)

I'm sorry.

(troubled)

Where to start?

XENA

Try explaining who ordered that man to attack me.

KING LIAS

That's what I'd like to know.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: 3

3

He then begins a slow circle around Xena.

KING LIAS

I've sent for you because I need you  
to save someone's life.

XENA

Look -- I'm not just a hired sword at  
the disposal of those who can afford to  
pay!

KING LIAS

But what about those who need you? The  
attempt on your life was meant for my  
little girl!

The door opens and the King's child, DIANA, enters.

DIANA

Father, you wanted to see me?

Only she's hardly a child. She's a dead-ringer for Xena.  
ON Xena's shock --

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER



ACT ONE

FADE IN:

4 INT. FOYER - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

4

Diana demurely bows to her father.

KING LIAS

(to Xena)

May I present my daughter, Diana --  
Princess of Treus and heir to my  
throne.

Diana presents her hand to Xena, expecting her to curtsy.  
Xena doesn't. She just stares at Diana in amazement.

KING LIAS

My dear, this is Xena -- Warrior  
Princess.

The two "princesses" study each other.

DIANA

Amazing! It's like looking in a  
mirror.

(beat)

Before I've combed my hair.

KING LIAS

Diana, could you leave Xena and me  
alone for a moment.

DIANA

But Father -

KING LIAS

(with gentle force)

Diana, please.

Reluctantly Diana exits.

KING LIAS

I don't want to talk in front of her  
about the attempts on her life. She's  
upset enough as it is. I think now you  
understand the earlier confrontation.

XENA

I was mistaken for her.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

KING LIAS

(nods)

I'd heard from my cousin, Sisyphus, what a remarkable resemblance you bore to my daughter. When I heard you were in the area I thought it was fated that you help us.

XENA

Don't be so sure. There are plenty of people out there that could use my help and they don't live in castles surrounded by guards.

The door opens and a Guard appears.

GUARD

Sir, the assassin has escaped.

Lias nods and the Guard exits.

KING LIAS

As you see our guards are not doing any good. Somehow the assassins are getting past the security. This was the second attempt on Diana's life.

XENA

I sympathize but --

KING LIAS

I've heard of late you've become a fighter for justice. What could be more just than putting slave traders out of business?

XENA

What are you talking about?

KING LIAS

Diana is to be married to Mineus of Liberium the day after tomorrow. Once Diana and Mineus are married, the two kingdoms will become united under our constitution. Our laws strictly forbid slavery.

XENA

That must not set too well with the rich slave traders in Liberium.

KING LIAS

They're terrified of losing their trade once the kingdoms are united.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: 2

4

KING LIAS (cont'd)

They're behind these attempts on Diana's life. I'm sure of it. The poor girl, to have to go through this now before her wedding. She's had a tough enough life as it is.

XENA

(looking around at the opulence)

Oh, yeah. She's really been roughing it.

KING LIAS

Her mother was killed by bandits when she was a little girl. I've spoiled her terribly trying to make up for the loss. But no amount of riches can possibly take the place of a mother. This wedding is her chance for happiness. Now it's being threatened by the greed of slave traders. As a King and a father, I implore your help.

Xena studies Lias carefully for a moment. His anguish is sincere.

XENA

So you want me to masquerade as the Princess.

KING LIAS

Just until the wedding.

XENA

Your daughter should go into hiding outside the castle while I play her part.

KING LIAS

No! I will not hear of it. I haven't allowed her outside the castle walls since her mother was killed.

XENA

That's even better. No one will know who she is.

(off Lias' concern)

Look, whoever is trying to kill your daughter will be looking for her here.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: 3

4

XENA (cont'd)  
Someone inside your castle is working  
with the slavers. This is where the  
danger is.

Tesa reenters. Xena grabs the cape off the table and throws  
it over her shoulders.

XENA  
(under her breath, to  
Lias)  
Name?

KING LIAS  
(under his breath)  
Tesa.

XENA  
(pause)  
Tesa...  
(thinking on her feet)  
I'm sorry I was curt with you before  
but I so wanted you to like my costume.  
It's for a ball I plan to have after  
the marriage.

\*  
\*  
\*

TESA  
Oh, Your Highness, it's a wonderful  
costume for a ball. I didn't  
understand what it was for.  
(beat)  
Would you like to have Croisus tonight?

XENA  
Croisus?

KING LIAS  
(leaning into her,  
whispering)  
A Treuen delicacy.

XENA  
Of course, I love Croisus.

TESA  
And quails eggs for breakfast?

XENA  
Yes, that's fine.

TESA  
Akbash now?

XENA  
Definitely.

Tesa claps her hands.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: 4

4

XENA  
I'm famished. A few bites of Akbash is  
just what I need.

The King winces and Tesa looks stunned as A SERVANT enters  
with a small dog on a pillow. His name is AKBASH.

The dog has been recently groomed and has a red ribbon on  
top of his head.

TESA  
Excuse me, Your Highness, you want to  
eat Akbash?

She gestures at the dog.

XENA  
I was joking of course.

TESA  
Of course.

She retreats. The servant hands the pillow and dog to Xena  
and retreats. Xena eyes the dog for a moment and then  
throws a look at the doubtful King.

XENA  
It'll take some practice but I'll get  
it.

She smiles at Akbash who almost takes her nose off with a  
snapping bark. Off the King's concerned look, we:

CUT TO:

5 INT. PRINCESS DIANA'S ROOMS - DAY

5

The area consists of a sitting room and bedroom fit for a  
princess. Light pours in from large windows.

Xena hands over the last of her outfit to Diana, leaving her  
in only her "underthings." The Princess takes them from  
behind a screen -- where she's dressing.

XENA  
Who is here from Liberium?

DIANA (O.C.)  
Only my fiance's brother, Philemon. He  
negotiated the terms of the marriage.  
I'm supposed to meet my future husband  
later on today when he arrives.

This gets Xena's attention.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

XENA  
You've never met your husband-to-be?

DIANA (O.C.)  
No.

XENA  
That's good.

DIANA (O.C.)  
Unless you have to spend the rest of  
your life with him.  
(beat)  
But I'm very optimistic. If he's  
anything like his brother, that would  
be wonderful.

XENA  
You like this Philemon then.

DIANA (O.C.)  
(dreamily)  
Oh, yes. He's brave and noble with sky  
blue eyes and fawn-colored hair.  
(stepping from behind the  
dressing screen)  
So -- how do I look?

Diana is now dressed as Xena. She's managed to prettify Xena's outfit with ribbons and a bright red scarf sticking out from the shoulder strap. At the moment she's holding the chakram, trying to put her arm through the hole.

DIANA  
This seems too big.

XENA  
Be careful. That's not a piece of  
jewelry. It's a weapon.

DIANA  
How does it work?

XENA  
You throw it.  
(takes the chakram and  
hangs it on the belt the  
Princess is wearing)  
Leave it there. It looks great on you.

Xena starts taking the ribbons off the Princess' Xena outfit.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: 2

5

DIANA

I was just trying to give it some color. It's awfully dark.

XENA

You have to convince people you're me, and I like dark.

Xena steps back and examines Diana. It's better, but Diana's stance is hardly Xena's.

XENA

Lift your shoulders -- now push them back some.

Diana complies, nearly falling over.

XENA

Plant your feet -- like this.

Xena demonstrates, Diana does the same but fails to command a warrior-like presence.

XENA

Well -- it's a start.

Diana removes a lovely dress from her wardrobe.

DIANA

(sincerely)

Thank you for risking your life for me.

Diana hands the dress to Xena.

DIANA

I'm sure this experience -- pretending to be you, I mean -- will be good for me. I'll be among the little people, learning of their concerns.

XENA

The first thing you should learn is not to call them "little" people.

Diana nods.

XENA

You'll find my friend, Gabrielle, at the stable in town. Give her this and she will take care of you.

Xena hands a small scroll to Diana who takes a deep breath. Xena holds up the dress. Diana patiently turns it around.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: 3

5

DIANA  
That is the front.

Xena smiles -- touché.

CUT TO:

5A EXT. CASTLE - MAIN GATES - DAY

5A\*

Diana (dressed as Xena) exits.

\*

CUT TO:

\*

6 INT. PRINCESS DIANA'S ROOMS - DAY - LATER

6

Xena explores. A huge curtain is draped across the window, held in place by a thick gold rope. Xena looks out the window at a private, walled courtyard with a fountain, columns and statues. She notices a pathway leading directly to another part of the castle. There is no trellis or vine to the window.

In the bedroom area, the closet is filled with gowns and the dresser with fine combs and perfumes.

The bed is soft and luxurious. Silk gauze canopies flow above it and cascade down. A pitcher of water and a goblet are positioned on the bedside table. A NOISE outside the door alerts Xena. She sneaks into the sitting room area and takes a position behind the door.

THE SHADOW OF A MAN

is projected on the wall as the door slowly pushes open. In his hand he carries what looks like a CLUB that looms in a threatening manner.

RESUME XENA

as she suddenly steps from behind the door and before he knows what's hit him, Xena grabs the intruder (PHILEMON) by the scruff of his neck. She bounces him from side to side -- BAM! BAM! BAM! -- like a rag doll.

His eyes roll up into his head on the first slam and he SLIDES down the wall in an unconscious heap when Xena releases him. It's hard to tell at this point, but he's quite handsome and very bright.

Much to her chagrin, the "club" turns out to be nothing more than a bouquet of ROSES. Certain they hide a weapon, Xena rips them apart. Nothing.

(CONTINUED)



6 CONTINUED:

6

She lifts Philemon's head up and pushes the hair from his face.

XENA

(re: hair)

I suppose this could qualify as fawn...

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

PHILEMON

(groans)

Ohhh...

XENA

...So let's see if you have sky blue eyes.

She pours a goblet of water and tosses it in his face. His eyes pop open and come back into focus. They are as blue as the sky. Suddenly, panic fills his face.

PHILEMON

Your Highness -- did you see them?

XENA

No, you scared them away...

(hopeful)

...Philemon.

PHILEMON

I should have been by your side, Your Highness.

He bows to the best of his injured ability, then catches sight of the destroyed flowers. Xena picks them up.

XENA

(re flowers)

It was a nice thought...

PHILEMON

(shy)

Thank you...

Philemon dusts himself off.

PHILEMON

Lucky I was early.

(off Xena's look)

Remember you wanted to take a walk with me. But since there was another attempt, maybe we shouldn't.

XENA

(covering)

No, no. I feel very safe with you. I'd like to take a walk around the whole castle if possible.

As she extends her arm to Philemon she studies him, wondering if he's involved in the conspiracy.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. PRINCESS' COURTYARD - DAY

7

Xena and Philemon stroll through the private area.

XENA

And your brother? Is he like you?

PHILEMON

(smiles)

You always ask that and I always tell you the same thing. He's a gentleman and a scholar. I'm merely a negotiator.

They have reached the fountain. Xena stops. They sit at the fountain.

XENA

Tell me again what you think of your country liberating the slaves?

PHILEMON

You know how I feel. It will make me very proud of Liberium.

Xena examines his sincere features for a moment.

XENA

And your brother?

PHILEMON

You know he believes strongly in emancipation. Why are you asking these questions?

XENA

My father thinks that it may be the pro-slave faction that's trying to kill me.

PHILEMON

I assure you, all of the Liberium contingent coming here today support the emancipation of the slaves. We would free them right now if it weren't for the ancient bylaws. Every thing will work out fine.

\*  
\*  
\*

Xena smiles.

PHILEMON

My brother is marrying a beautiful, intelligent woman whose face and smile light a room brighter than sunshine. And when he hears you play the harp...

XENA

(dread)

The harp...?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

PHILEMON  
(nods, his feelings gush)  
...his heart will break as mine did and  
he will feel about you as I do.

XENA  
And how is that?

PHILEMON  
(embarrassed by his  
outburst, covers)  
That... this is the best possible  
marriage for him.

He stands.

PHILEMON  
Shall we...?

But before they can go anywhere, TWO LARGE ASSASSINS appear  
from behind statues.

PHILEMON  
I don't suppose you know them, do you?

XENA  
No, I don't.

FOUR MORE GOONS step out from behind columns.

Philemon steps in front of Xena, protectively.

PHILEMON  
Stay behind me. This could get ugly.

XENA  
You have no idea...

And as the ASSASSINS CLOSE IN:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

8 EXT. PRINCESS' COURTYARD - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

8

The Assassins draw their swords as they close in.

PHILEMON

Don't worry, Princess. I can handle this.

Philemon pulls his sword and readies himself for the onslaught.

The assassins attack. Philemon skillfully fends off a couple of blows. As he turns to block a third, one of the assassins is in position to deliver a death blow. Suddenly, Xena's foot shoots out from behind Philemon and catches this assassin in the jaw, knocking him unconscious.

Philemon doesn't see this as he's fighting for his life. One of the other assassins drives Philemon back toward Xena. This assassin is overpowering Philemon. At one point the assassin slams his sword hilt into Philemon's nose. Xena's fist shoots out from underneath Philemon's arm and plunges into the assassin's solar plexus. He grunts and bends over. Philemon looks confused for a moment, not knowing what happened. He then slams his sword butt into the back of the assassin's head.

The four other assassins split up and come at Philemon from two sides. Philemon turns to face two of them while Xena starts bouncing fists and feet off the others' faces, out of Philemon's sight. She's really laying it to them. The two assassins who have been knocked down, scramble to their feet and make a run for it, not wanting any more from this Princess. The two that Xena is wasting also make a run for it. The two that are fighting Philemon and can see Xena in action behind Philemon, also run.

Xena goes after them.

PHILEMON

Your Highness! You're running the wrong way.

He wraps his arms around Xena's waist, trying to stop her pursuit. He holds on as Xena runs a few steps dragging him behind. She realizes the assassins have got away and stops. Philemon stands behind her, his nose bleeding. She goes to help him.

XENA

Keep your head back and press hard, here. It will stop the bleeding.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

Philemon looks at her strangely as he follows her instructions.

XENA

You were so brave.

CUT TO:

9 EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

9

Gabriellé, writing a lyric poem, waits for Xena under a tree near the stable. Stuck for a rhyme, she pauses --

GABRIELLE

(recites, dramatic)

...The woe of hearts long dead  
Pounds soundly in my head.  
For a Warrior Princess lives  
In the world of broken...

(stuck)

...broken... bives... mives, sieves...

(considers)

...broken sieves... That could work.

She writes that down on a scroll as the shadow of a scuzzy LOW-LIFE falls across her. She looks up.

GABRIELLE

Could you move away, sir? You're blocking my sunlight.

LOW-LIFE

I'll gladly return the sun... for a price.

GABRIELLE

Sunlight is free from the gods.

LOW-LIFE

(leers, threatening)

Not when I'm around. Now give me your purse.

Gabrielle looks concerned but then she sees Diana (dressed as Xena) approaching.

GABRIELLE

Listen, you don't want to be doing this. It's going to prove dangerous to your health.

He lunges for her.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

GABRIELLE

Xena!

Diana looks around for "Xena" before realizing it's her. She adjusts her warrior attire and runs to help -- like any "princess" might.

The Low-Life has his hands around Gabrielle's throat when Diana arrives and looks on, helpless.

GABRIELLE

Xena! Help!

Diana kicks the Low-Life in the shin, hurting her foot.

DIANA

Ouch!

Gabrielle rolls her eyes in disbelief as the Low-Life releases her and goes after Diana.

LOW-LIFE

Well, you look like you could spare a gold piece or twenty...

There's a tense moment as the Low-Life and Diana face off against each other. Then, suddenly, Diana turns and runs for her life. The Low-Life snickers and is about to give chase when suddenly his KNEES BUCKLE.

WIDEN TO Gabrielle, using her staff to take him down. And he does go down -- just like a sack of oats. She then starts battering his head with blows from the staff. Soon he scrambles to his feet and runs away.

Gabrielle stalks up to:

DIANA

who is hiding behind a tree.

GABRIELLE

You know, I wish you'd give me some warning when you're gonna test me like that.

Gabrielle eyes Diana who looks like you could say "boo" and she'd run all the way back to the castle.

GABRIELLE

Are you alright? What happened at the castle?

DIANA

Gabrielle?

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: 2

9

GABRIELLE

Yes?

Diana hands her the scroll. Gabrielle reads it as Diana looks around, taking in her new world.

GABRIELLE

(re: scroll)

So you're Princess Diana.

Diana nods.

GABRIELLE

Who just happens to look exactly like Xena.

Diana nods again. Gabrielle chuckles and shakes her head.

GABRIELLE

It's test day, huh? Well, I'm not falling for this one. You can do better than that.

DIANA

You mean you don't believe that I'm Princess Diana?

GABRIELLE

Not for a minute.

DIANA

(getting a little hysterical)

But you've got to. I can't pretend to be Xena without you giving me some pointers. I haven't been outside the castle in years. I got lost three times on the way here. Look at the blister I worked up.

(takes off her shoe and shows Gabrielle her heel)

I miss my Father so much already.

(beginning to cry)

And now you don't even believe I'm me, you think I'm Xena but if you think I'm Xena I'll have to be Xena but I can't because I'm not Xena.

Gabrielle studies the Princess' frightened face for a moment and then a look of shock comes onto her face.

GABRIELLE

You're not Xena.

(CONTINUED)



9 CONTINUED: 3

9

DIANA  
That's what I'm saying. I'm Princess  
Diana.

GABRIELLE  
My goodness. The resemblance is  
amazing.  
(bows)  
I'm honored to meet you, Princess.

DIANA  
(looking around  
nervously)  
I don't think you're supposed to be  
bowing. I'm not me, remember.

GABRIELLE  
Right.

DIANA  
You should tell me what I should do to  
be a convincing Xena.

GABRIELLE  
For starters, stop crying.

DIANA  
Right.

CUT TO:

10 EXT. PRINCESS' COURTYARD - DAY

10

Xena explores the ground where the battle took place. She's surprised to see the FOOTPRINTS of the attackers lead INTO the castle and not away over the gate. She stops, her senses alerted. She looks around. No one. She continues to examine the footprints as we notice Philemon studying her from behind a column.

TESA

appears in the courtyard. She spots Xena and rushes up to her.

TESA  
Princess, you have to get ready for the  
reception. Your husband-to-be has  
arrived.

Xena follows Tesa into the castle.

ON PHILEMON

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

He steps out from behind the pillar. He looks suspicious.

CUT TO:

11 INT. PRINCESS' ROOMS - DAY

11

Tesa brushes Xena's hair.

TESA

Eight hundred thirty-three. Eight hundred thirty-four...

XENA

How much longer?

TESA

(amused)

The usual, Your Highness. A full one thousand strokes. You want to look your best for Mineus.

Xena rolls her eyes.

ON KING LIAS

as he enters the room. Xena spots him and turns to Tesa.

XENA

My hair has never looked so good. I don't need any more brushing.

TESA

(sweet smile)

Only two hundred more strokes.

XENA

(escorting Tesa out of the room)

I'll tell you what. We'll do twelve hundred tomorrow to make up for it. Bye.

Once Tesa is gone, Xena turns to the King.

KING LIAS

Philemon told me about the latest assassination attempt.

XENA

Yes. I went back later to follow their tracks. When they ran away they didn't go out the gates. They entered the castle.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

XENA (cont'd)

Someone inside, someone with a lot of control over who comes and goes around here, is working with them.

KING LIAS

This is very disturbing. A traitor in our midst.

(beat)

Mineus, my future son-in-law, has arrived. The feast in his honor will begin soon.

XENA

Well, I'm ready to meet him.  
(off Lias' concerned look)  
What's the matter?

KING LIAS

I could excuse you by saying the Princess isn't feeling well. This is an awfully dangerous test of your believability as Diana. The ball will be full of people who've known Diana from childhood.

XENA

That's just the place I want to be. One of them may be the traitor. Don't worry. I'll pull it off.

She glances at a mark on her wrist and covers it with her sleeve.

KING LIAS

What happened there?

XENA

Akbash bit me again.

She exits, as the King looks nervous.

CUT TO:

12 INT. GREAT HALL - DAY

12

The festivities are in full sway. Philemon and MINEUS, his brother, are seated at the dining table chatting. Mineus is a pale, homely fellow, not much like his brother at all.

ON XENA AND KING LIAS

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

as they enter. He escorts her up to Mineus who stands and bows. Xena curtsies. She's a tad wobbly on the way up. She smiles charmingly at Mineus and then takes her place by King Lias on the other side of the table.

ON MINEUS AND PHILEMON

MINEUS

She's attractive enough but her curtsy is abominable. You said her manners are impeccable.

PHILEMON

They were until now.

ON XENA

who is carefully studying the crowd. She spots something.

XENA'S POV - GLAUCE

He is in his forties, dressed elegantly with an abundance of rings and other jewelry. He's talking with a large, formidable man, Bromius. \*

ON XENA

XENA

(to Lias, gesturing toward Glauce)

Who's the walking gem mine? \*

KING LIAS

Glauce, my ambassador to Liberium.

XENA

You must pay him well. \*

KING LIAS

The Liberiums love to give gifts to visitors. Some of them are very wealthy.

XENA

Like the slave traders.

(continuing to stare at Glauce)

Who's he talking to? \*

KING LIAS

Bromius, my top general. \*

Xena gives him a look. \*

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: 2

12

KING LIAS

They're both above suspicion.  
Glauce's followed my instructions  
perfectly in arranging this entire  
marriage. And he doesn't have an evil  
spot in his entire soul.

\*  
\*

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: 2

12

XENA

We all have that spot of evil  
somewhere.

Glauce takes his seat across from Xena. He picks up his wine glass and raises it in a toast.

GLAUCE

To the most beautiful bride under Zeus'  
sun.

A chorus of murmurs agrees with this assessment. Xena drinks and then raises her glass.

XENA

(staring directly at  
Glauce)

To the end of slavery in Liberium.

Glauce joins the chorus of approving murmurs.

XENA

(continuing to stare at  
Glauce)

To the end of corruption in our  
kingdom.

Glauce continues to join in the approbation but a slight sign of discomfort crawls onto his face as he stares at Xena.

XENA

Death to traitors in our midst.

Glauce forces a smile but looks very uncomfortable. Everyone is looking at Xena, surprised at the spunk of the Princess. Xena notices and bursts into a girlish giggle.

XENA

Did I do it right, Father?

KING LIAS

Perfect. Just as I told you. You  
might have overacted a bit on that last  
one.

He laughs and every one joins in with the mirth. Glauce's face relaxes as he's convinced this silly little girl hasn't a clue.

KING LIAS

Bring on the feast.

Mineus stands up.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: 4

12

MINEUS

I have a toast.

Xena beams at Mineus with her best blush.

MINEUS

To my wife-to-be.

More cheers and drinking.

MINEUS

(to Xena)

I understand that you are an accomplished musician.

XENA

(blushing modesty)

Not really.

PHILEMON

(in a challenging way)

She's an artist on the harp.

GLAUCE

She is. Bring on the harp.

KING LIAS

I'm awfully hungry...

Philemon stands and starts to chant.

PHILEMON

Please, Diana, play for us.

Everyone at the table stands and cheers for her to play.

ON A HARP

It's being pushed in by some servant. It's placed at the head of the table. A chair is placed beside it.

ON XENA

as she smiles at everyone, stands, walks over to the harp and sits down.

ON PHILEMON

as he watches her carefully.

ON GLAUCE

as he wears a self-satisfied smile.

ON XENA

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: 4

12

as she raises her fingers to touch the harp strings.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO



ACT THREE

13 INT. GREAT HALL - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

13

Xena sits at the harp as everyone waits for her to begin. She strums the strings playfully with her fingers for a moment.

ON KING LIAS

He looks very nervous.

ON XENA

She caresses the strings.

ON XENA'S FINGERS

They're applying force to the strings.

ON THE HARP

The strings begin to break. After they're popped, Xena sits back looking shocked. King Lias stands.

KING LIAS

It appears someone strung the strings too tight. Well, maybe another day.

As King Lias throws Xena a relieved look, we:

CUT TO:

14 EXT. SHACK - DAY

14\*

CLOSE ON A BRUSH

stroking some hair.

DIANA (O.C.)

Four fifty-eight, four fifty-nine --

WIDER

to show Diana is brushing the horse's tail. Gabrielle is putting out the blankets for a night's sleep. Gabrielle is giving Diana an odd look. In the background we see an old abandoned shack.

GABRIELLE

I think that's plenty.

DIANA

Really? It looks so flat and dull.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

GABRIELLE

Horses' tails are supposed to be flat and dull.

DIANA

Why are you putting those perfectly good blankets on the soil?

GABRIELLE

It'll be dark soon. We need to get some sleep.

DIANA

I agree but what does that have to do with --

(suddenly it hits her)

You mean we're going to sleep on the ground?

GABRIELLE

That's what Xena does.

(notices Diana looking toward the shack)

You don't want to be sleeping there. I'm sure it's crawling with rats.

(beat)

You hungry?

DIANA

I could eat a whole hen myself.

Diana lies down gingerly on her blanket.

GABRIELLE

Couldn't we all. Unfortunately, I'm not as good a hunter as Xena. We'll have to make do with this.

She hands Diana a chunk of bread and cheese.

DIANA

You know, I brought some dinars with me. Maybe we could go to an inn and have a real meal.

GABRIELLE

Just try the cheese. It may not be as bad as you think.

With some trepidation, Diana takes a bite. Her nose wrinkles at the pungent taste. Gabrielle laughs.

DIANA

What is it?

(CONTINUED)

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

\*  
\*

14 CONTINUED: 2

14

GABRIELLE

It's funny. You look so much like Xena, but you're nothing alike.

DIANA

No one I know would believe this is me, either. Philemon thinks I'm such a delicate flower, too frail to eat cheese and bread or endure an evening under the stars. Did I tell you I've never been outside the castle walls but twice?

GABRIELLE

More times than you've actually been outside the castle walls.

DIANA

But this experience will enrich me and allow me to better rule my kingdom. Yes! At last I'm one of the... lit...(tle)...  
(stops herself)  
...one of the ordinary people.

Gabrielle is sick of hearing this and reclines on her pallet, closing her eyes.

DIANA

And once I'm Queen -- I won't be locked away in my castle! I will go out to my people. I will share in the simple joys, know their hearts...

Diana suddenly lets out a SCREAM as she sees a RAGGEDY MAN, named MIRUS, standing a few feet away, staring at them. Gabrielle sits straight up and grabs her staff.

DIANA

Who is that horrible man?

GABRIELLE

That's one of those ordinary people whose simple joy you want to share.

DIANA

Oh, yes.

MIRUS

Hello. Do you have some extra crumbs for a starving man and his family?

DIANA

Starving? No one is starving in my... this kingdom.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: 3

14

MIRUS

Whatever you say, Miss.

Gabrielle hands him her bread.

GABRIELLE

I think you need this more than me.

MIRUS

Thank you.

He heads for the shack.

DIANA

You said you had a family. Where are they?

The shack door opens behind him and THREE WAIFS appear, with their MOTHER, a thin woman who could definitely do with a good meal.

MIRUS

That's them. We're staying in this shack until I can find some work.

As Diana eyes this sorry group, we:

CUT TO:

15 INT. PRINCESS' ROOMS - NIGHT

15

Xena enters and finds Philemon sitting in her room.

XENA

Philemon. What are you doing here?

He takes an orange from a fruit basket on the table and tosses it to Xena.

PHILEMON

Care for some fruit?

Xena catches the orange effortlessly -- no problem. He looks at her, cold, then pulls a DAGGER from its sheath and LUNGES.

PHILEMON

What have you done with Princess Diana? Where have you taken her?

Xena grabs the knife and slams him against the wall.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

XENA

Her father has sent her away -- for her own safety.

(beat)

How did you know?

PHILEMON

Lots of things. Like just now when I tossed you that orange. Diana can't catch. I first became suspicious when you tended my bloody nose. The Princess faints at the sight of blood. Who are you?

\*  
\*

XENA

Xena.

PHILEMON

(shocked)

Xena! Amazing.

(beat)

Do you know who's behind the attacks?

XENA

Whoever gains the most from her murder. Would that be you?

PHILEMON

(outraged)

I would never harm her! She is the most magnificent creature ever to walk the earth! Her smile is daylight itself, her voice as sweet as a siren's song...

XENA

(beat, gently)

How long have you been in love with her?

Philemon stares at Xena for a beat, startled, then:

PHILEMON

(softly)

From the first day I laid eyes on her.

ON XENA

believing his sincerity --

CUT TO:

16 EXT. PRINCESS' COURTYARD - NIGHT

16\*

Timus, the man who first attacked Xena on her arrival to the castle, steps from the shadows. His face is slightly burned and he holds the Greek version of a MOLOTOV COCKTAIL. He lights it from a small torch and heaves it through the open window above him. Timus stares, waiting for the fiery explosion. It doesn't come. He struggles to get a better angle to see in the room, as we:

INTERCUT WITH:

17 INT. PRINCESS' ROOMS - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

17\*

Xena holds the bomb (which she caught). Philemon looks on.

PHILEMON

(curious)

...But how does it work?

XENA

Like this.

She TOSSES it out the window where it lands -- and EXPLODES in a wall of FLAMES at Timus' feet. Philemon is further stunned as Xena LEAPS out the window and --

18 EXT. PRINCESS' COURTYARD - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

18\*

-- grabs the dazed and smoking Timus, and DUNKS him in the FOUNTAIN. STEAM RISES.

XENA

It's sizzling out here tonight, don't you think? \*

TIMUS

(terrified)

Who... who are you? You're not the Princess!

XENA

You got that right, Plato. Why're you trying to kill her?

Timus refuses to talk. She sighs, deeply, then puts the "pinch" on him.

XENA

Your blood flow has stopped and you're doomed to die a painful death unless you tell me who your contact inside is.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

TIMUS  
(great pain)  
The King's general, Bromius. I was  
hired by him.

Xena releases him. He collapses into a heap.

XENA  
I wouldn't try walking for a while, but  
you'll live -- which is more than you  
deserve.

Timus, grateful for his life, watches as Xena leaves, and  
we:

CUT TO:

19 INT. CASTLE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

19\*

Xena, King Lias and Philemon, escorted by several Guards,  
hustle down the hallway.

KING LIAS  
Why? Why Bromius? He's been my  
martial-general since before my  
daughter was born.

XENA  
Obviously the slave traders got to him  
with a bribe.

They're joined by Glauce who looks very concerned.

GLAUCE  
I understand you suspect Bromius to  
have something to do with the  
treachery.

KING LIAS  
As terrible as it may seem, he appears  
to be involved.

GLAUCE  
(pained)  
How sad.

Lias reacts as the Guards pause at a DOOR. Lias gives them  
a nod and they shove the door open to find --

ANGLE - BROMIUS

hanging from the rafter, eyes bulging, face blue with death.  
Lias stares in disbelief.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

GLAUCE

He killed himself rather than deal  
with the disgrace of being found out as  
a traitor. \*

KING LIAS

With the leader of the conspiracy dead,  
the danger is past. I'm going to get  
Diana.

(to Xena)

Thank you, Xena.

He hurries off.

GLAUCE

(to Xena)

Xena! Well, that explains a lot.

(beat)

I'm talking about the harp incident, of  
course. I join the King in extending  
our gratitude for saving the Princess.

Xena nods her acceptance and Glauce exits. Xena looks  
inside Bromius' room.

20 INT. BROMIUS' ROOM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

20

She studies the room carefully.

PHILEMON

(quietly disappointed)

When she returns, the wedding will go  
on as planned.

XENA

Unless you speak up. Tell Diana you  
love her.

PHILEMON

My brother is the first born. Diana is  
rightfully his.

XENA

Diana doesn't belong to anyone but  
herself. And the sooner you both  
realize that, the better off your  
kingdoms will be.

Xena leaves Philemon to consider.

CUT TO:



21 EXT. SHACK - DAY

21\*

Diana, Gabrielle, Mirus and his family sit around chowing down on roasted chicken.

MIRUS

Thank you, Xena, for buying us this food. It's the first good meal we've had in a while.

One of the little children walks up and hugs Diana around the leg. Diana looks down at this waif and has to fight off the tears.

DIANA

I assure you all that the corruption that has stopped royal aid reaching the poor will come to an end.

(beat)

I know the King personally. He'll hear about this.

WAIF

(touching the chakram)

What's this?

DIANA

It's my... round killing thing.

GABRIELLE

Chakram.

DIANA

(to Gabrielle)

Bless you.

(to Waif)

I use it to fight against evil.

WAIF

Tell us about it.

DIANA

Well, like one time I had to kill a lot of... centaurs...

Diana sees Gabrielle shaking her head disapprovingly.

DIANA

Not centaurs. I mean Cyclops?

Gabrielle shrugs and nods. That'll do.

DIANA

Hundreds of them. Took care of them all with my trusty round thing.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

WAIF  
Show us how it works.

DIANA  
(how could it hurt)  
Alright.

She pulls the chakram off her belt.

DIANA  
See that tree.

GABRIELLE  
No!

It's too late. Diana has thrown it at the tree.

ON THE CHAKRAM

It comes nowhere near the tree. It bounces off a boulder, flies sideways and decapitates a row of flowers, splits a barrel in two and flies back toward Diana and company.

ON DIANA, GABRIELLE, MIRUS AND HIS FAMILY

They all hit the dirt as the chakram flies over them and heads toward.

KING LIAS

rides up on his horse, flanked by a couple of his soldiers. He ducks, but not before the chakram collides with his crown, spitting it in two. It then boomerangs back toward:

DIANA AND COMPANY

who hit the dirt again as the chakram sails over them once more.

ON THE TREE

The chakram finally comes to a halt, embedded in the trunk of the tree.

ON DIANA AND THE WAIF

WAIF  
Good shot.

CUT TO:

22 EXT. PRINCESS' COURTYARD - DAY

22

Diana storms in (still dressed as Xena) followed by King Lias and Gabrielle. Her experience among the "little" people has expanded her mind greatly.

DIANA

I'm telling you, they have nothing! I listened to them! Bromius wasn't the only corrupt official in our midst. We have to make sure the charity intended for the poor actually reaches them.

XENA (O.C.)

Sounds like your journey among the little people was educational.

WIDEN TO Xena, who's with Philemon.

DIANA

You were right. They aren't little at all. They're grand and warm and deserve so much from us.

KING LIAS

We can discuss all this later. Right now you have a future husband to meet.

Xena casts a glance at Philemon. He goes down on one knee and bows deeply to Diana.

PHILEMON

Welcome home, Your Highness. My brother looks forward to his introduction.

He looks up at her, sadly. She extends her hand.

DIANA

Stand, Philemon. We are soon to be family.

Gabrielle has worked her way over to Xena. She looks around.

GABRIELLE

Nice place. A girl could get used to this.

XENA

Well, don't. We're on our way as soon as I can get out of...

(re: outfit)

...this. I'd like to make it to Corinth by nightfall.

(to Diana)

Shall we resume our former selves?

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

Off Diana's nod, we go to:

GLAUCE

who watches this from behind a pillar. He's with a HULKING  
SOLDIER.

GLAUCE

Once Xena is gone, killing Diana will  
be easy.

Off his evil grin, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

23 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

23

Philemon walks with Mineus toward their rooms.

MINEUS

After the wedding vows are taken, it's  
all official, correct?

PHILEMON

Yes.

(beat)

Do you think you can love her?

MINEUS

Who?

PHILEMON

Diana. Who do you think?

MINEUS

Oh, Diana. Love her? I don't know,  
we'll see.

\*  
\*

PHILEMON

(depressed)

If it's alright with you, I think I'll  
head back home right after the wedding.  
You'll want to be alone with your bride  
and there's nothing really left for me  
to do.

MINEUS

(reaches his room)

Whatever...

A Guard moves down the hallway carrying a chair.

GUARD

Excuse me, Sir. We had to borrow this  
chair from your room. If you'll allow  
me, I'll return it now.

MINEUS

Certainly.

PHILEMON

What did you need the chair for?

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

GUARD

To stand on while we cut down that  
swine who hung himself.

PHILEMON

There was nothing to stand on in his  
room?

GUARD

No, Sir. Not a thing.

As it sinks in that Bromius was murdered, Philemon races  
off.

24 INT. PRINCESS' ROOMS - NIGHT

24

Philemon is on his knees imploring Diana.

PHILEMON

He had to have been murdered, Your  
Highness! There was nothing for him  
to stand on to hang himself.

DIANA

What does this mean?

PHILEMON

The conspiracy has not yet been  
crushed. Your life is still in danger.  
The wedding must be cancelled.

DIANA

(new found courage)

No! We can't let these terrorists stop  
us from doing what is right. Go find  
Xena. Bring her back.

PHILEMON

I can't leave you alone!

DIANA

Please, Philemon. Do as I say. I ask  
you from my heart!

He gives in and exits.

CUT TO:

25 EXT. CASTLE - MAIN GATES - NIGHT

25

Philemon on horseback, explodes out of the palace gate!

DISSOLVE TO:

26 INT. GREAT HALL - DAY

26

It's a bustle of activity as preparations for the wedding are taking place. Glauce enters with the HULKING SOLDIER.

GLAUCE

(quietly to the soldier)

We'll kill two birds with one stone.

\*

Glauce looks up. ABOVE them, a heavy "chandelier" is being hoisted to the ceiling.

27 EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

27

Philemon rides like the wind, passing a sign pointing to Corinth. He leaves peasants along the road in a flurry of dust and curious as to what the urgency is.

28 INT. PRINCESS' ROOMS - DAY

28

Diana is being dressed for the wedding in a beautiful gown fit for a queen. She is being pampered and fussed over by her servants, and the end product is magnificent.

TESA

Your Highness looks beautiful.

Diana's tension, nevertheless, bleeds through. She knows an attack could come at any moment.

29 INT. GREAT HALL - DAY

29

Mineus joins Glauce.

MINEUS

Glauce! Well, all your negotiations are about to reach fruition.

GLAUCE

You're not getting nervous, are you?

MINEUS

Why?

GLAUCE

It's your wedding day!

MINEUS

Oh, well -- yes.

GLAUCE

Here is where you will crown your future bride -- and join our kingdoms... for better or for worse.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: 29

ANGLE - CHANDELIER

It is being tied off and a KNIFE secreted nearby.

30 INT. HALLWAY - DAY 30

GUARDS line the hallway as Diana is escorted to her wedding.

31 EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY 31

Xena and Gabrielle travel along the road. Xena rides as Gabrielle walks. Suddenly, Philemon rides up. \*

PHILEMON

Xena!

XENA

(to Gabrielle)

I'll handle this.

She rides over to Philemon.

XENA

What is it, Philemon?

PHILEMON

It's urgent you return to the castle! Bromius was murdered! Obviously by other conspirators. The Princess is still in danger!

Xena and he turn back toward the castle.

CUT TO:

32 INT. GREAT HALL - DAY 32

HARP MUSIC and HANDMAIDS tossing FLOWERS precede Diana. THE RESTRUNG HARP is prominent in the background.

ON LIAS AND GLAUCE

(CONTINUED)



32 CONTINUED:

32

Touched by the beauty of his daughter, Lias gets caught up in the moment.

GLAUCE

She is a tribute to you, Your Highness.

ON MINEUS

as he joins Diana under the chandelier.

ANGLE - THE ROPE

as the knife cuts deeply into it.

ANGLE - MAIDENS

dance for joy around Diana and Mineus.

ANGLE - THE ROPE

begins to SHRED, causing the CHANDELIER to shimmy ever so slightly. It's enough, however, to attract --

DIANA

And just in the nick of time, too, for suddenly it comes CRASHING towards them. She quickly PUSHES Mineus to safety and with faster-than-mortal speed GRABS the flailing rope to counterbalance the FALLING chandelier! WAIT - THIS ISN'T DIANA. IT'S XENA. THEY'VE DONE A DOUBLE SWITCH.

As she ASCENDS above the fray, the CHANDELIER DESCENDS and gives her a bird's eye view of ASSASSINS DRESSED AS SOLDIERS storming in.

XENA SWINGS like Tarzan and yells her WAR CRY as she flies across the room and into the soldiers.

MINEUS

This is who I'm marrying?

Stunning everyone, she battles the Assassins two at a time, kicking, screaming and punching her way to dominance.

GLAUCE

(to Mineus)

No, it's Xena.

(to his henchmen)

Which means Diana's someplace else -- probably unprotected. Let's go.

Glauce and his men start to make their sneaky getaway through the crowd, but Xena keeps an eye on them as she finishes off the last of the assassins.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: 2

32

As it looks like they're about to get away, Xena grabs the HARP and using it as a BOW, LOADS the STRINGS with ARROWS (from the pulverized soldiers).

She STRUMS the strings and A DOZEN ARROWS pin Glauce to the WALL. THWACK!

XENA

Didn't anyone ever tell you it's rude to leave before the cake is cut?

Xena has prevailed and the aftermath is ugly. The guests stare, nonplussed.

MINEUS

I don't know if this is the best time... but, ah... I'm not marrying this woman.

\*  
\*

CUT TO:

33 EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

33

Philemon rides hard, back toward the castle. He looks over his shoulder to see:

DIANA

still dressed as Xena, has reigned in her horse. She sits on the horse staring at Philemon. Philemon gallops back to her.

PHILEMON

Xena. What are you doing? We must hurry.

DIANA

There's something bothering me.

PHILEMON

(exasperated)

What!

DIANA

Did you tell Diana that you love her?

PHILEMON

How can you think about that now? Her life is in danger.

DIANA

She'll be fine. Besides this is more important.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

PHILEMON  
More important than her life!

DIANA  
Did you tell her?

PHILEMON  
No.

DIANA  
Why not?

PHILEMON  
Because I don't think she loves me.

DIANA  
You're wrong. I do.

It takes a moment but suddenly Philemon realizes the truth.

PHILEMON  
Diana.

DIANA  
Philemon.

On horseback they lean over and kiss.

CUT TO:

34 EXT. KINGDOM - DAY

34

Diana and Philemon celebrate their nuptials, dancing among the little people as King Lias, Xena and Gabrielle watch.

Philemon kisses his bride. Gabrielle melts.

GABRIELLE  
This is so romantic, isn't it?

XENA  
Very.

GABRIELLE  
I hope I find someone to love who will make me smile like that.

XENA  
I'm sure you will. Just don't be afraid to speak up when it happens.  
(beat)  
Of course, with you, that's never a problem, is it?

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

GABRIELLE  
(eyeing Diana)  
She looks so beautiful, doesn't she?  
Look how her hair shines.

XENA  
Of course. They stroke it every night  
1200 times.

GABRIELLE  
Wait 'til you see Argo's tail.  
(eyeing Diana)  
What was it like being her?

XENA  
Not as much fun as you might think.

GABRIELLE  
Really? You had people waiting on you  
hand and foot all the time, fulfilling  
your every whim. You were surrounded  
by all the riches a person could  
desire. You didn't enjoy that?

XENA  
(Spartan discipline)  
It just wasn't me.

A servant walks by with a tray of dumplings he's passing out  
to the people. Xena grabs one.

XENA  
You ought to try one of these. They're  
incredible. They serve them for  
dessert every night.

She takes a mouthwatering bite and looks to be in heaven.  
She notices Gabrielle's curious look.

XENA  
I didn't say a girl couldn't get used  
to it.

As they start to chuckle, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE