

XENNA

WARRIOR PRINCESS

Warrior ...
Princess ...
Tramp

BY
R.J. STEWART

Season 2
Episode #1

XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS

"Warrior ... Princess ... Tramp"

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Directed by
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Notice:

Revised Pages: Cast, Set, 5-7, 9-13, 15, 26-28, 30, 33, 39, 40

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SHOOTING DRAFT
March 29, 1996
Rev. April 11, 1996 - Pink

XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS

"Warrior ... Princess ... Tramp"

CAST LIST

XENA/PRINCESS DIANA/MEG
GABRIELLE

KING LIAS
PHILEMON
JOXER
AGIS
ALCIBIADES
BARFLY
GUARD
NURSE

(LEE-us)
(PHIL-a-mon)

(AGE-iss)
(al-chu-bee-AR-dees)

Referred to in Dialog:

BOEOTIA

(bo-EE-sha)

XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS

"Warrior ... Princess ... Tramp"

SET LIST

INTERIORS:

CASTLE - KING LIAS' BEDCHAMBER
- FOYER
- CORRIDOR #1 - OUTSIDE GUEST BEDROOM
- CORRIDOR #2
- CORRIDOR #3
- CORRIDOR #4
- CORRIDOR #5
- GUEST BEDROOM

- DUNGEON
- THRONE ROOM
- NURSERY
- DIANA'S ROOMS
- UNDERGROUND CHAMBER

TAVERN
CAVE

EXTERIORS:

CASTLE
COURTYARD

XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS

"Warrior ... Princess ... Tramp"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. KING LIAS' BEDCHAMBER - DAY

1

CLOSE ON A SMILING BABY

An ancient hand appears in frame and gently caresses the baby's cheek.

WIDER TO SHOW

King Lias lying in bed, looking very ill. Princess Diana sits at his side. The King's admiring his granddaughter, who is cradled in the arms of Diana. Diana's back is to us so that we can't see what she looks like. Philemon stands behind Diana with a comforting hand on her shoulder.

KING LIAS

She'll be a great queen one day.

(to Diana)

As you will be -- very soon, Diana.

DIFFERENT ANGLE

We see that Diana is the spitting image of Xena. (This reveal should be played for a surprise, since some of our audience might not have seen the first Diana episode.)

DIANA

(holding back the tears)

Father, please, don't say that. You'll get better, I know you will.

KING LIAS

You must be strong. I fear my time is near. It is important that the transition between my rule and yours goes smoothly.

DIANA

(pulling herself together)

I'm ready to do whatever is needed of me.

KING LIAS

As you know, I've sent for Xena. In difficult times like these, it's good to have mighty friends close at hand.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

DIANA
And who is mightier than Xena?

CUT TO:

2 INT. TAVERN - DAY

2

Joxer stands in this lowlife pub regaling some of it's regular barflies with tales of his adventures.

JOXER
I was the one chosen to fight Callisto because if there's anyone mightier than Xena, it's Joxer the Magnificent.

ON GABRIELLE

as she enters the tavern. She walks up behind Joxer. He doesn't notice her.

JOXER
So I challenged Callisto to pit her strength against mine. Of course, at first she was a little hesitant, but I'll give the girl credit, she got over her fear and came at me. I dodged her first sally and spun around to --

He's acting out the fight. He spins around to find himself staring into the face of Gabrielle.

GABRIELLE
Go ahead. I'm dying to hear the rest.

JOXER
...to... ah... call Xena. I wanted her to have the satisfaction of dispatching the villainess. Which she did, while I held off the other members of Callisto's gang.

GABRIELLE
Gee, I don't remember it that way.

JOXER
Well, you were tied up at the time.

GABRIELLE
So were you.

The barflies enjoy a chuckle at Joxer's expense.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

GABRIELLE

(to Joxer)

What are you doing here?

JOXER

The word's out that King Lias sent for Xena. I thought she might need my help.

GABRIELLE

I don't think so but I'll ask her when I see her.

JOXER

I already asked her. She said to give her time to settle in at the castle and then I should follow.

GABRIELLE

What are you talking about? She's coming from Thebes. The message she sent to me said she wouldn't be here till tomorrow.

JOXER

(pleased with himself)

Wrong. She left here an hour ago.

GABRIELLE

How could she get here so fast?

JOXER

I don't know. But she was definitely here.

GABRIELLE

Well, I better hurry to catch up with her.

JOXER

Tell her not to worry, I won't be long. I could tell when we parted this morning, she was going to miss my affections.

He throws a lascivious look at the barflies. They give out a conspiratorial chuckle. Gabrielle whacks him on the nose.

JOXER

Ow! What'd you do that for?

GABRIELLE

That's Xena's reputation you're playing with. That's going too far.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED: 2

2

Gabrielle exits, leaving a thoughtful Joxer behind.

CUT TO:

3 INT. CASTLE - FOYER - DAY

3

Xena sits at the table, sipping a glass of wine. AGIS, shrewd, formidable, forty-ish, stands next to her. Diana, Philemon and two members of the Royal Guard enter.

DIANA

Xena. Welcome.

XENA

Hello, Diana.

They embrace.

DIANA

Thank you so much for coming. We didn't expect you so soon.

XENA

I made very good time. Diana, I'd like you to meet Agis. He's been an advisor to King Cadmus of Thebes. I trust him completely. He'll be a great help to us all in these difficult times.

DIANA

(to Agis)

If Xena trusts you, I trust you. Welcome.

AGIS

I'm honored, Your Highness.

XENA

How is the King?

DIANA

(very emotional)

Not well, Xena.

Xena gives Diana a comforting hug.

XENA

We'll get through all this together.

Suddenly, Gabrielle enters.

GABRIELLE

Hello, Princess.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

DIANA

Welcome, Gabrielle.

(to everyone)

I'll see that rooms are prepared for
you all.

(to a Guard)

Stay with Xena. Her commands are to be
obeyed as if they were from the King
himself.

GUARD

Yes, Your Highness.

Diana exits, accompanied by Philemon. When they're gone,
Gabrielle turns to Xena.

GABRIELLE

Xena, we have to work on communication
here. I thought you were going to meet
me at the tavern later on today. And
what happened between you and Joxer
that made him think you were in love
with him? You got to watch what you
say to that guy. He's a little crazy,
you know. He had the whole bar
thinking you were some kind of lowlife
tramp.

Xena turns to the Guard assigned to her.

XENA

Guard.

(points to Gabrielle)

Throw this bigmouthed idiot into the
dungeon.

Agis is a bit surprised, but says nothing. The Guard
takes Gabrielle's staff and grabs her arm. (She's without
the staff for the rest of the episode.) Off Gabrielle's
stunned look, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

4
THRU
5
OMITTED

4*
THRU
5*

6 INT. CASTLE - GUEST BEDROOM - DAY

6*

The door opens and Xena is shown in by a lady-in-waiting. The lady-in-waiting bows and exits. Xena eyes her surroundings and smiles. The door opens and Agis enters.

*
*
*

XENA

You ever hear of knocking?

*
*

Agis calmly closes the door behind him and then suddenly springs at Xena, grabs her and slams her up against the wall.

*
*
*

XENA

Hey, watch it. That's no way to treat a Warrior Princess.

AGIS

Let me remind you of reality, Meg. You're a filthy tramp that I fished out of the gutter because you look like Xena and Diana. You're useful to me only if you're a convincing thespian.

MEG

Thespian!? You didn't say nothing about any kinky stuff. Besides, I've pulled it off so far.

*
*

AGIS

Not quite. You ordered Xena's best friend thrown into a dungeon.

MEG

She's so irritating.. I don't know how Xena puts up with her. Hey, don't worry, I'll fix it.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

AGIS

Yes, you will because you're going to do exactly what I say.

MEG

Fine.

Agis lets go of her and walks over to a window and looks down at the castle grounds. *

MEG

This room's nice but I bet Diana has a real comfy setup. When do I get to be her? *

Meg sits down at a desk. As she does her chakram catches on the arm of the chair. *

AGIS

When it's appropriate to make the switch. *

Meg awkwardly frees the chakram. *

AGIS

It'll be soon. I want you acting as the Princess when Lias dies. That way you can turn the control of the army over to me right away.

Meg studies the chakram and then places it on it's edge on the surface of the desk.

AGIS

Once I have command of the army, I can launch an attack on Meridius and sell it's citizens into slavery.

Meg spins the chakram on edge, like one would with a coin. It spins around the table like a top.

AGIS

It will only be the beginning of a series of conquests.

MEG

Hey, Aggie, look at what the round thing does.

Agis slams the chakram down onto the desktop with the flat of his hand.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: 2

6

AGIS

The chakram's a weapon, not a toy.

MEG

What kind of damage could a cheap wooden thing like that do?

(picks up the chakram;
it's in two pieces)

Look, you broke it.

AGIS

The real one is made of iron. This is just a fake, like you. As long as people believe it's the real thing, we'll keep it. The moment anyone knows it's not authentic, I'll destroy it. Do I make myself clear?

MEG

Crystal.

AGIS

Fix it, put it back on your belt and leave it there. And get dressed. You need to visit Xena's little friend.

CUT TO:

7 INT. CASTLE - DUNGEON - DAY

7

A furious Gabrielle is pacing her cell. The door opens and Meg (as Xena) enters.

GABRIELLE

You better have a pretty good explanation.

MEG

Gabrielle, this is all part of a plan.

GABRIELLE

Could you tell me what that plan is?

MEG

No, I can't.

GABRIELLE

I'm supposed to accept being thrown into a dungeon and you won't even share the plan with me?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

MEG

Gabrielle, have you ever had burning splinters shoved under your fingernails?

GABRIELLE

No.

MEG

I figured as much. The man we're up against is known for getting information from people by that method. The less you know, the safer you are.

GABRIELLE

Well, if he captures me he won't know I don't know anything. He'll still put the splinters under my fingernails.

Good point.

MEG

That's why it's important that you stay down here. You're less likely to fall into his clutches that way.

GABRIELLE

Hey, I can take care of myself. Are you treating me like a kid again? I thought we were past that.

MEG

Well, we're not.

She taps on the door.

MEG

Don't try to contact Diana. It would only put her in danger.

*
*

The door opens and Meg exits, leaving a confused and devastated Gabrielle behind.

8 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

8

Meg (as Xena) joins Agis.

MEG

She'll stay quiet.

AGIS

Good.

Agis turns to walk away.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

MEG

Hey, Aggie --

AGIS

My name's Agis.

MEG

What are we going to do when the real
Xena gets here?

AGIS

She won't.

CUT TO:

9 INT. TAVERN - THE NEXT DAY

9

Xena enters the same tavern we saw Gabrielle and Joxer in earlier. She walks toward the bar. The barflies see her and chuckle amongst themselves. One of the barflies (the one with a speaking part) steps in front of her, blocking her path.

BARFLY

How about you and me have some fun?

XENA

No thanks.

She tries to move around him but he moves to block her again.

BARFLY

So, now you're playing hard to get?

She gives him a punch to his shoulder. Well, not exactly a punch. It's more the equivalent of flicking off a fly. The Barfly staggers back onto his butt and Xena walks up to the bar and addresses the Innkeeper.

XENA

Have you seen a little blonde woman
around here?

The Innkeeper is about to respond when the Barfly suddenly appears at Xena's side. A Second Barfly steps up to her other side.

BARFLY

She left yesterday. But there's no
reason for you to be lonely when there
are healthy men like us around.

(puckering)

How about a kiss?

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

The Second Barfly blows in her ear. Xena brings both elbows up into their respective chins and knocks them senseless.

XENA
(to Innkeeper)
Give me a cup of wine.

She hears some footsteps behind her. She turns to see:

ALCIBIADES

and ten henchmen. Alcibiades is a tall, well-muscled brute of a man. He and all of the henchmen have their weapons drawn.

XENA
I take it you're not looking for a
kiss?

The Innkeeper puts a glass of wine on the bar.

ALCIBIADES
Nah.
(points his sword at her)
I want your heart.

XENA
You're not my type.

She takes a sip of wine. With a growl Alcibiades charges. Xena grabs a torch from behind the bar and breathes fire into his face. The fight is on.

Xena does a backflip onto the bar and kicks a couple of the henchmen into oblivion. She then does a somersault into the whole pack of them, her feet and fists making contact with four different henchmen. All four go down.

Alcibiades has recovered from the fire assault and charges. Xena head butts another henchman while swinging a back kick into Alcibiades' stomach. She then does a split kick and takes out two more henchmen. Alcibiades and the remaining conscious henchmen choose the better part of valor and run for their lives. As they exit the tavern, the Barfly struggles to his feet, shaking out the cobwebs.

BARFLY
Just one little kiss?

Xena blows on him. He keels over. Xena exits, deep in thought.

CUT TO:

*

10 INT. CASTLE - GUEST BEDROOM - DAY

10

Meg finishes gluing the chakram back together. She puts it back on her belt and then stands in front of a mirror practicing her Xena act. She pulls the sword. Not bad. She starts whirling the sword a la Xena. She looks pretty good. She gets some momentum going on it, then loses control and lets it go. The sword flies up and sticks into the ceiling. Meg climbs up on the desk in order to reach up and pull the sword down. It doesn't come. She puts all her weight on it, actually lifting her feet off the desk. Suddenly, the sword comes free and Meg crashes back down onto the desk. The desk legs give and Meg and the desk crash to the ground. She scrambles to her feet. The door opens and the Guard appears.

GUARD

Are you alright?

MEG

Fine. Just practicing a new punch I've been working on.

She drives a fist down toward the collapsed desk and then throws a scowl at the Guard. He backs out sheepishly and closes the door. Meg grabs her butt where she landed on the desk and limps toward the window. She becomes aware of a familiar voice coming from outside. She peers out at:

11 EXT. CASTLE - DAY - MEG'S POV

11

JOXER

He's arguing with a guard who won't let him into the castle.

GUARD

You're not getting into this castle.
So be smart and walk away while you
still can.

JOXER

You have no idea who you're dealing
with, do you? Don't make me hurt you.

He tries to step forward but the guard shoves him back on his bottom.

DIFFERENT ANGLE

MEG

(very Xena-like)
That's alright, Guard. He's with me.

Joxer gets up and the guard stands aside.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

JOXER
(to the guard)
You're a very lucky man.

He throws a look up at Meg.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: 2

11

MEG
(seductive smile)
Hurry.
(points)
It's those stairs right over there.

12 INT. GUEST BEDROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

12

Meg rushes back to the mirror but this time she's trying to make herself sexy. She pulls at her armor, trying to accentuate her cleavage. She then pulls her hair over to one side, exposing her neckline. She then hurries over to the bed and sits on it, with her legs crossed in a seductive manner. There's a KNOCK on the door.

MEG
Come in.

Joxer enters. Meg pats the bed next to her.

MEG
Have a seat.

Joxer sits next to her. There's a BEAT, then Meg throws her arms around him. They kiss. Suddenly, he stands up and moves away.

MEG
What's the matter?

JOXER
I've been thinking a lot about something Gabrielle said to me.

MEG
What did that little brat say?

JOXER
Well, she scolded me for not showing you the respect you deserve.

MEG
What are you talking about?

JOXER
(confessing; ashamed)
I told a barroom full of men about how intimate you and I got.

MEG
Hey, there's nothing wrong with a little publicity.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

JOXER

Gabrielle pointed out how unfair to your reputation that was. So I've decided that I don't deserve you as a lover.

MEG

You're kidding. Don't listen to Gabrielle. I'm seriously considering having her executed.

JOXER

Oh, no. Now I've ruined one of the great friendships. This is all wrong. One of us has to be strong.
(moves toward the door)
I'll be waiting outside your window, should you need my sword at your service.

She leaps up and scurries over to him, blocking his exit.

MEG

I need your services right now.

Joxer realizes he's weakening and darts out of the room. Meg thoughtfully watches him go.

MEG

(with a confident smile)
He'll be back.

CUT TO:

13 INT. CASTLE - CORRIDOR #2 - DAY

13

Joxer, struggling with his passions, makes his way down the hall.

JOXER

Be strong, be strong.

He realizes he's lost and confusedly makes a left turn and confronts:

DIANA

moving toward him in a beautiful gown.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

JOXER

Oh, this is madness. Do you really think a different dress will weaken my manly resolve.

(beat)

You're right.

He embraces Diana, dropping both hands onto her buttocks and kissing her neck. As Diana SCREAMS for help, we:

CUT TO:

14 INT. DUNGEON - DAY

14

Gabrielle sits brooding angrily. The door opens and Joxer is tossed in. He lands in a heap in the middle of the cell. He and Gabrielle exchange glances.

JOXER

Xena's kinda unpredictable, isn't she?

GABRIELLE

You're telling me.

*
*

CUT TO:

15 EXT. CASTLE - DAY

15

Xena rides up to the castle. A couple of confused guards let her pass.

16 INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

16

Xena enters and walks up to Diana who sits on the throne looking distraught, wiping away a few tears.

XENA

Diana, we have a problem. I was attacked in a tavern by a band of thugs. Somebody obviously didn't want me to get here; somebody who wants to take advantage of the King's illness. We have to prepare for --

DIANA

(weeping)

Xena, I just came from seeing Papa. He's slipping away. Can we talk about this later?

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

XENA

Alright. I'll talk to Philemon about making the castle secure.

(puts a comforting hand on Diana's shoulder)

We'll make it through this together.

Diana nods and Xena exits. Once she's gone:

DIANA

Hey, Aggie, I thought you said she wasn't going to make it to the party.

It's not Diana at all but Meg. A curtain behind her is pulled aside to reveal Agis, Alcibiades and a bound-and-gagged Diana. A henchman holds a knife to her throat.

AGIS

(irritated with Meg's challenging tone)

Obviously, something went wrong.

MEG

Be careful, Aggie. She looks tough. How'd you like the tears?

AGIS

Nice touch.

He glances at the Henchman.

AGIS

You know what to do with her.

The Henchman nods.

ON DIANA'S FRIGHTENED EYES

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

17 INT. DUNGEON - DAY

17

Joxer is deep in befuddled thought while Gabrielle paces nervously.

JOXER

So what you're saying is, Xena and Diana are exact look-alikes.

GABRIELLE

Right.

JOXER

Oh, boy. That means I assaulted royalty. I'm in trouble.

(beat)

But on the bright side, Xena still has a thing for me.

GABRIELLE

Impossible.

(sees Joxer is hurt by this statement)

No offense, Joxer, but you're just not her type.

JOXER

Well, she's certainly making do with my type. Let me tell you what we did in that tavern.

GABRIELLE

That's not necessary. I wish I knew what was wrong with her.

JOXER

It's simple really. She's been struck by Cupid's arrow. It's love, Gabrielle. But don't worry, I'm prepared to do the honorable thing.

GABRIELLE

Leave?

JOXER

No. Marry her. We could all travel together. Xena and I could be like a mother and father to you.

GABRIELLE

(pounding on the door)
We got to get out of here.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

The door opens and Meg (as Diana) appears.

MEG

Xena told me all about the plan.

GABRIELLE

What is the plan?

MEG

I can't tell you. But you'll have to stay here.

(to Joxer)

She also explained the misunderstanding with you.

JOXER

I'm terribly sorry, Your Highness. I'm lower than rat's droppings. Forgive me, please.

MEG

Of course. It was just an honest mistake. Now come with me.

Joxer moves out the door. Gabrielle starts to follow. Meg gives her a push back into the cell.

MEG

Sorry. Remember the plan.

JOXER

(as the door closes)

Will you tell me the plan?

MEG

Of course.

GABRIELLE

(enraged)

Joxer gets to hear the plan but I don't!

MEG

Xena's orders. She's very fond of him, you know.

The last thing Gabrielle sees before the door closes is Joxer's self-satisfied grin. Gabrielle kicks the door and lets out an angry growl, as we:

CUT TO:

18 INT. CORRIDOR #3 - DAY

18

Meg and Joxer make their way down the hall.

JOXER
So what's the plan?

She pins him to the wall and plants a delicious kiss on his lips.

JOXER
(coming up for air)
This is the plan?

NURSE (O.C.)
Your Highness.

Meg turns to see a plump Wet Nurse at the end of the hall, holding the royal baby.

MEG
(irritated)
Yes.

NURSE
It's time for the baby's nap. You know how she can't drift off unless you sing a lullaby to her.

MEG
Alright, alright. Go on to the nursery. I'll catch up to you there.

The Nurse exits with the baby.

MEG
Wait for me in my room. I won't be long.

She hurries off in the direction the Nurse went. Joxer pulls himself together.

JOXER
Maybe I should just go with this.

CUT TO:

19 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

19

Philemon sits on a bench looking dismayed. Xena approaches.

XENA
Philemon.

Philemon leaps up.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

PHILEMON

Xena, you should be ashamed of yourself. The entire castle is talking about how you brought your boyfriend in here. Do you know he actually made a pass at Diana?

XENA

My boyfriend? What are you talking about? I just got here.

PHILEMON

Oh, stop playing the fool. I was there yesterday when you arrived, remember?

Xena thinks for a moment, trying to figure out exactly what's going on.

XENA

Have you seen Diana and I together at all since you say I arrived.

PHILEMON

Yes. You know I have.

Xena is stunned by this response.

PHILEMON

Look, I know about your past, I know you can be rough sometimes, but we have a crisis here. You have to concentrate on the buisness at hand. Agis and I feel --

XENA

Who's Agis?

PHILEMON

For the love of the gods, pull yourself together. Agis is the advisor you brought with you from Thebes.

XENA

Philemon, we have a real problem here. You need to arrest this Agis and double the guard on the King.

PHILEMON

Why would I do that?

XENA

Someone is pretending to be me.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: 2

19

PHILEMON

You're losing your mind, Xena. My
advice to you is to lay off the wine.

He exits, leaving a frustrated Xena behind.

CUT TO:

20 INT. NURSERY - DAY

20

Meg (as Diana) sits on a chair by a cradle. She's singing a
barroom ballad (a la "A 100 Bottles of Beer on the Wall") to
the baby. The baby's wailing up a storm. The Nurse stands
by, looking appalled.

CUT TO:

21 INT. DIANA'S ROOMS - DAY

21

Joxer is standing in front of a mirror, primping for his
latest rendezvous.

JOXER

Joxer, face it. You're irresistible.
Why should you deny yourself to these
needy women?

Xena enters.

XENA

Joxer, what are you doing here?

JOXER

Xena. I don't know how to break this
to you... I best just spit it out.
Princess Diana wants me.

XENA

She what?

JOXER

I can see the pain in your face but,
you should know, I've decided there's
enough of me to go around. Hey, lets
be adults about it. It doesn't mean
you and I can't still have some fun.

He reaches out to carress her breasts. She slaps his hand
away.

XENA

Are you suicidal?

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

JOXER

Want to play hard to get, huh? That's fine with me.

He hooks his finger behind the leather above her cleavage and pulls her toward him. She answers with a straight right to nose that sends him flying over Diana's bed. Xena picks him up and slams him against the wall.

XENA

You have some explaining to do. For starters, where's Gabrielle?

JOXER

She's still in the dungeon where you put her.

XENA

What?

They hear FOOTSTEPS. Xena grabs Joxer and pulls him behind a curtain. They hide there as:

MEG AND AGIS

enter.

MEG

I don't know what your gripe is, Aggie. I'm doing everything you want me to do.

AGIS

And more. Try staying away from that clown Joxer.

INTERCUT WITH:

JOXER AND XENA

behind the curtain. Joxer takes offense and is about to step out from behind the curtain. Xena puts a commanding hand on his shoulder and keeps him in place.

MEG

I think he's cute.

Xena throws a bemused look at Joxer, who wears his most debonair expression.

AGIS

You better not mess this up.

MEG

Look who's talking.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: 2

21

AGIS

What does that mean?

MEG

You were supposed to keep the real Xena away from here. The last time I looked she was making herself quite at home. What kind of small time operation are you running here anyway, Aggie?

Agis pulls his sword and points it at Meg's throat.

Joxer is about to charge. Xena restrains him, but draws her own sword and holds it at the ready.

AGIS

(ice cold)

Don't talk to me that way. A despicable slag like you should find it an honor to work with a man like me. And my name is Agis, not Aggie.

MEG

Take it easy, now, Agis.

AGIS

You're going to do exactly like I say from now on, correct?

MEG

Exactly.

AGIS

Good. I'll worry about Xena, you worry about your curtsy. It's horrid.

He exits. Meg goes to the mirror and starts halfheartedly working on her curtsy. Joxer and Xena take advantage of the opportunity to sneak out.

CUT TO:

22 INT. DUNGEON - DAY

22

Gabrielle is fuming. She's working her frustration out on a mattress, which she's kicking viciously.

GABRIELLE

Hey, Warrior Princess, try this on for size.

She gives the mattress another kick, just as the door opens and Xena and Joxer appear.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

GABRIELLE
I figured out the plan. YOU'RE TRYING
TO DRIVE ME INSANE!

XENA
Let's go.

She exits with a still angry Gabrielle following.

23 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

23

CLOSE ON THE ROYAL BABY

She's crying.

WIDER

to show the Nurse carrying the baby across the courtyard.

NURSE
Don't worry, sweetheart. We won't ask
mommy to sing for you anymore.

She enters the castle, just before:

Xena, Gabrielle and Joxer enter the courtyard from a
different entrance.

XENA
There's someone pretending to be the
princess. Our first action has to be
finding Diana and making sure she's
safe.

GABRIELLE
Wait a minute! I believe you when you
say there's another lookalike here.
That would explain everything. But how
do I know you're the real Xena.

Xena nonchalantly grabs her chakram, glances around and lets
it fly.

ON THE CHAKRAM

as it caroms off of walls, posts, pillars, splits a water
bucket in two, decapitates a row of flowers and flies back
toward Gabrielle's head. Just before it splits her face
open, Xena's hand reaches out and grabs it, an inch from
Gabrielle's nose.

GABRIELLE
Hi, Xena. Am I glad to see you.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

XENA

We're gonna split up and search the castle. They might have hid Diana here.

JOXER

Well, how will I know who's who?

XENA

If you're talking to a woman who looks just like me and she has any interest whatsoever in you as a man -- that's the bad one.

JOXER

(knowing smile)

She is bad.

GABRIELLE

(under her breath)

Not to mention tasteless.

CUT TO:

24 EXT. CASTLE - DAY

24

Alcibiades rides toward the castle. Suddenly, Meg steps out from a bush. She's holding the end of a rope. The other end of the rope is still in the bushes. SHE'S DRESSED AS DIANA.

MEG

Alcibiades.

Alcibiades pulls up his horse and studies Meg carefully.

ALCIBIADES

Meg?

MEG

Of course it's me. Who else would know your name?

(gestures toward the bushes)

Look what I got.

She pulls on the rope and a bound-and-gagged Gabrielle stumbles out of the bushes.

MEG

We found her snooping around. Agis wants you to take her to the same place you're hiding Diana. That way we'll have two cards to play against Xena.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

Alcibiades studies Meg carefully.

ALCIBIADES

Alright, give me the rope.

MEG

I'm coming, too. Xena's figured this whole thing out and I don't want to be anywhere around her. I'm terrified of that warrior witch. If I come, maybe you and I can relax a little later on.

Alcibiades studies her for a moment and then suddenly draws his sword and drives it down toward Meg's head. Meg CRIES OUT in fright and freezes. The sword stops an inch from her scalp. Alcibiades lets out a LAUGH.

ALCIBIADES

Sorry. Had to make sure you weren't Xena.

(nods toward Gabrielle)

Bring her along.

He rides back the way he came. Meg and Gabrielle follow.

CUT TO:

25 INT. CAVE - DAY

Diana sits tied to posts that are driven into the wall of the cave. Three thugs squat a few feet away, dicing for dinars. Diana looks weak. Alcibiades, Meg and Gabrielle enter.

MEG

Hey, boys.

The thugs all give her a familiar nod. She walks up to Diana and grins down at her. Gabrielle is shoved down beside Diana, and Alcibiades begins tying her up.

MEG

How you doing, Princess?

DIANA

Not well. I'll be dead soon.

MEG

Why's that?

DIANA

I've been sitting on this cold ground for almost an entire day. How could anyone survive that?

*
*
*
*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

GABRIELLE
(to Diana)
A cold bottom isn't really fatal.

*
*
*

MEG
(to Gabrielle)
Yeah, but listening to you babble on
nonstop may cause her to kill herself.

*
*
*

All the thugs chuckle.

*

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: 2

25

MEG
(to the thugs)
Hey, watch what I'm going to do to the
little brat.

The thugs all get up and stoop over to watch what torture Meg is going to inflict on the brat. Meg reaches out to touch Gabrielle, but then suddenly spins around and clocks all three thugs in succession in the Mother of All Three Stooges slaps. THIS ISN'T MEG. IT WAS XENA THE ENTIRE TIME. She then kicks Alcibiades in the groin, grabs his sword, and cuts Diana and Gabrielle free. Alcibiades and the thugs have scrambled to their feet by now and the fight is on.

ON XENA

She crashes two heads together and then uses the cave wall to run up, push off, do a back flip and kick two of the thugs in the jaw simultaneously.

ON GABRIELLE

as she grabs a club and manages to slam Alcibiades to the ground with a surprise attack from the rear. He scrambles to his feet and dashes out of the cave. We see him leap on his horse and gallop away.

ON DIANA

She watches one of the thugs land at her feet. Dazed, he struggles to get up. She daintily picks up her skirt hem and THEN LETS GO WITH A VICIOUS KICK TO HIS JAW.

ON XENA AND GABRIELLE

as they exchange surprised glances.

CUT TO:

26 INT. CASTLE - CORRIDOR #4 - DAY

26

A furious Agis is talking to a flustered-looking Alcibiades.

AGIS
You imbecile. Do you know what's at stake here? If we can put Meg on the throne we will control the most powerful army in Boeotia. Conquests you've never dreamed of are in our grasp. And you lead Xena directly to our hideout.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

ALCIBIADES

What are we going to do about Xena?
Now that she has Diana, there's nothing
stopping her from coming after you.

*

*

AGIS

There's still one card left to play.

CUT TO:

27 EXT. CASTLE - DAY

27

Xena, still dressed as the Princess but carrying a sword,
stalks toward the castle. Gabrielle and Diana hurry to keep
up.

28 INT. NURSERY - DAY

28

The door opens and Xena, Diana, Gabrielle and Philemon
enter. Diana screams out in horror when she sees:

THE CRADLE

It's empty.

ON DIANA

DIANA

They took my baby.

ON XENA

We CLOSE IN on her concerned face.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

29 INT. UNDERGROUND CHAMBER - DAY

29

Xena (dressed as Diana), Philemon, Diana and Gabrielle enter this secret chamber.

DIANA

This chamber is known only to the Royal Family.

XENA

Good. I want you and Philemon to stay here until I find the baby.

PHILEMON

But you can't expect me to just hide down here when my child's life is in danger.

XENA

Your life is in danger now, too.
(off Philemon's frustration)

Philemon, you just have to trust me. My plan is the best way to save your child.

DIANA

Then we'll stay down here.
(to Philemon)

We have to trust Xena now. She's our only hope.

Philemon nods his reluctant acceptance.

XENA

(to Gabrielle)
Gabrielle, you need to find Meg and keep her in one place. I'll do the rest.

GABRIELLE

Right.

Xena and Gabrielle exit as Diana and Philemon comfort each other with an embrace.

CUT TO:

30 INT. CORRIDOR #5 - DAY

Xena (dressed as Diana) makes her way down the hall. Joxer appears at the end of the hallway behind her.

He hurries to catch up with her and throws his arms around her waist.

JOXER

Got ya!

Xena instinctively plunges an elbow into his stomach. Joxer slumps against a wall.

JOXER

Hi, Xena.

XENA

Sorry, Joxer. Just habit.

JOXER

That's alright. I've been trying to keep an eye on the fake Diana --

XENA

Her name's Meg.

JOXER

Meg. That's a pretty name.

XENA

You're not falling for her, are you? She's bad news. *

JOXER

I've seen a different side of her.

XENA

I'm sure you have.

JOXER

I think she's just a victim of circumstances.

XENA

Well, she'll be a victim of some more circumstances once I get my hands on her. By the way, don't worry about keeping an eye on her anymore. I've got Gabrielle on that.

JOXER

(offended)

You think Gabrielle can do it better than me?

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

XENA
It's not a competition.

JOXER
You think I'm a complete joke, don't
you?

XENA
I don't have time for this right now.

She turns to go and then sees Agis rounding the corner.
Joxer doesn't see him. Xena grabs Joxer and plants a
passionate kiss on his lips.

AGIS
(barely controlling his
anger)
Princess, may I talk to you, please?

XENA
(coming up for air)
Can it wait?

AGIS
No, it can't.

Xena (now playing Meg) reluctantly lets go of her hold on
Joxer and follows Agis around the corner. WE STAY ON JOXER
as he wears a bemused expression.

CUT TO:

31 INT. DIANA'S ROOMS - DAY

31

Meg stands in front of a mirror, altering one of Diana's
gowns to make it more sexy. She reaches down and tears a
slit in the dress so that part of her leg is exposed.

MEG
Yeah, that's the look.
(studies her reflection)
A little more cleavage wouldn't hurt.

She reaches over to a table to get a pair of scissors.
When she looks back in the mirror she sees the reflection
of Gabrielle standing behind her. She spins around.

GABRIELLE
Relax. You're not going anywhere.

Meg tries to bull her way out of the room but Gabrielle
tackles her.

THE CAT FIGHT

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

These two mix it up real good. Meg's style of fighting is of the barroom variety. She knees, kicks, bites and gauges.

Gabrielle uses all the fighting techniques she has learned in order to subdue her. At one point, Meg grabs Gabrielle's hair and swings her around, slamming her against the wall. Meg's about to get out when Gabrielle jumps onto her back, wraps her legs around her torso and starts pummeling her head with her fists. This is too much for Meg who collapses into a heap on the floor.

GABRIELLE

You gonna stay here?

MEG

(beginning to cry)

Have mercy on me, please.

GABRIELLE

Hey, tears won't do any good with me.

Meg stops crying on cue. She sits up and stares at Gabrielle.

MEG

(with a bitter laugh)

Look at you, sitting there, looking down your nose at me. That's alright, I'm used to it. Spoilt brats like you always hate girls like me.

GABRIELLE

What do you expect, considering what you've been doing?

MEG

What was I supposed to do? Agis said he'd kill me if I didn't do what he said.

GABRIELLE

(facetious)

Oh, sure. None of this is your fault, I suppose.

MEG

I didn't say that.

(looking genuinely sad)

Everything's my fault. My whole worthless life is my fault.

Real tears begin rolling down her cheeks. A wave of sympathy crosses Gabrielle's face but she shakes it off.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: 2

31

GABRIELLE

I've got to admit I feel for you. I know I shouldn't but you look so much like my best friend it's --

MEG

Shut up. I don't want your pity. I've been on my own since I was ten. I'm stronger inside than you'll ever be.

GABRIELLE

Since you were ten?

MEG

Yeah. My father died in childbirth.

GABRIELLE

Your father died in childbirth?

MEG

Yeah, he got drunk and fell off the roof when I was being born.

(wistfully)

I've always wondered what it's like to have a father.

(to Gabrielle)

I bet you had a good one.

GABRIELLE

Yeah, I guess I did. What about your mother?

MEG

One of her boyfriends liked me too much so I left home. I heard she died the next year. I wish I could have been there to say good-bye to her. She was no good, but I loved her.

(wipes away some tears)

I hate it when I get like this.

Gabrielle looks on with sympathy.

CUT TO:

32 INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

32

Agis is strutting around angrily. Xena (as Meg, dressed as Diana) sits on the throne pouring herself a glass of wine. Agis furiously slaps the wine glass out of her hand and grabs her by the hair. Alcibiades stands behind the throne. Several other henchmen stand around.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

AGIS

This is not a party. Will you get that through your head while it's still attached to your shoulders?

Xena nods, looking afraid.

AGIS

Now that Diana is on the loose there's only one thing to do.

XENA

What's that?

AGIS

Kill the King. You can't assume the throne until he's dead. As long as we have the baby, Diana and Xena won't do anything. Lias is still surrounded by loyal palace guards. I want you to take him some poison.

XENA

No.

Agis draws his sword and holds it at Xena's throat.

AGIS

What?

XENA

I meant poison isn't the right way to go. You can never be sure it's going to do the job. I should stab him. I could smuggle the knife in under the baby's blanket and pretend I'm bringing the tyke to see the old buzzard.

Agis smiles.

AGIS

That's good. I like that.
(to one of the henchmen)
Go get the baby.

The henchman exits.

CUT TO:

33 INT. DIANA'S ROOMS - DAY

33

Gabrielle stands guard over Meg. Meg has no more tears to shed. She sits on the bed eyeing Gabrielle. Suddenly, the door opens and Lias enters, on wobbly legs. Gabrielle hurriedly helps him to the bed beside Meg.

GABRIELLE

Are you alright?

KING LIAS

No.

(looking at Meg)

Why haven't you come to see me?

Meg glances toward Gabrielle. Gabrielle throws her a stern look as if to say, "don't hurt this sweet old man."

MEG

Sorry, Father. I've been bothered by some things.

KING LIAS

Well, nothing could give my final days in this life more worth than to be able to comfort you. Tell me what it is that's troubling you.

MEG

I don't think you'd understand.

KING LIAS

My sweet.

(turns her face toward him with his quivering hands)

We've always shared all our hopes, dreams and pains. Don't shut me out now. If your soul has been darkened, let my love bring light to it.

MEG

I've done some terrible things, Father.

KING LIAS

Nothing could be terrible enough to stop my love for you.

She lets herself drift into his loving embrace. For a moment, at least, she has a father's love.

CUT TO:

34 INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

34

The henchman enters with the baby. Agis approaches him as Xena watches carefully.

AGIS

Here it is.

Suddenly, Joxer leaps into the room with a sword in each hand.

JOXER

Xena! Let's take the baby.

He tosses one of the swords at Xena. She lets it clatter to the floor. She's still playing the part of Meg, hoping that she can still pull this off in spite of Joxer's idiot move.

AGIS

(chuckling)

Meg. He thinks you're Xena.
(to Alcibiades)

Kill the idiot.

Alcibiades walks toward Joxer. Xena sighs. She has no choice now. She flicks the sword with her foot and it pops up into her hand. With a SCREAM she charges Alcibiades.

ON THE HENCHMAN

He sees Xena's charge and exits quickly with the baby.

ON XENA

She drives Alcibiades and the others back long enough to flee the room with Joxer. Alcibiades, Agis and the other henchmen give chase.

CUT TO:

35 INT. DIANA'S ROOMS - DAY

35

Meg is still in Lias' embrace. Gabrielle looks on. Suddenly, the door bursts open and Agis and his henchmen enter. Alcibiades grabs Gabrielle and holds a knife to her throat. The other henchmen point their swords at Meg.

MEG

What are you doing? It's me, Meg.

Agis eyes her for a moment and then pulls a dagger and hands it to Meg.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

AGIS
Then prove it.
(points at Lias)
Kill him.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

36 INT. DIANA'S ROOMS - DAY

36

Meg holds the knife to Lias' chest. Lias looks confused and pained. The door opens and Xena and Joxer appear. All hell breaks loose.

Xena whacks Agis and Alcibiades with a split kick.

Gabrielle grabs a spear from one of the henchmen and, using it as a staff, starts cracking heads.

Meg takes advantage of the chaos and tries to escort Lias out of the room.

Xena sees that one of the henchmen is advancing on Meg and Lias. She grabs the guy by the back of his hair and hurls him head first into a wall. Lias and Meg exit.

Xena is about to follow but she has to pause to backhand the guy who's pulverizing Joxer. She whacks the thug into unconsciousness and then sets out in pursuit of Meg and the King, who now have a head start.

37 INT. CORRIDOR #1 - DAY

37

Meg and Lias move down the corridor. Meg has to support the King as she goes.

KING LIAS

You're not my daughter, are you?

MEG

Not officially.

She opens a door and enters:

38 INT. GUEST BEDROOM - DAY

38

Meg brings the King in and sits him on the bed.

MEG

You're on your own now, Pops.

She turns to go but finds herself facing:

XENA

She's holding her sword and she looks real tough.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

MEG

Hey, your little friend just thumped my butt. I don't stand a chance against you. Why don't you just kill me and get it over with?

XENA

'Cause I need you to stay here and take care of the King.

MEG

Me? You must not have been paying attention. I'm no good.

XENA

You just got the King to safety. I saw you.

MEG

That was my good deed for the year. Believe me, you don't want to leave anybody's life in my hands. I'm a lowlife.

XENA

I don't care about what you've done in the past. Do good now and you are good.

(beat)

Lock the door after I leave and keep him warm. A chill now could kill him.

She exits. Meg reflects for a moment, then strolls over to the bed and throws a blanket over Lias. She then sits down at the bedside.

KING LIAS

You look so much like my daughter. It's amazing.

MEG

Yeah, it is. Three women look so much alike, but inside so different. One's a warrior, one's a princess and one's a tramp.

As Lias gives Meg a sympathetic look, we:

CUT TO:

*
*

39

39 INT. DUNGEON - DAY

The dungeon has been converted into a nursery. The Nurse sits rocking the baby in a small basket-like cradle. One of Agis' hired thugs is standing guard. The door opens and Agis bursts in, grabs the basket holding the baby and exits.

CUT TO:

40

40 INT. GUEST BEDROOM - DAY

A weak King Lias lies in bed. Meg sits next to him talking up a storm. It's like she's saying things she's been wanting to say to someone her entire life.

MEG

So then I lived in Athens for a while. I got by any way I could. I actually did some honest work there. I was a cook. I have quite a touch when it comes to spices. You like spicy foods, King?

She looks over to Lias. His eyes are closed. He's very quiet.

MEG

King Lias. King Lias?

CUT TO:

41

41 INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

Agis enters. Several of his men, including Alcibiades, have assembled there.

AGIS

Put a rope over that chandelier.

Alcibiades tears a rope off one of the curtains and, standing on the shoulders of his men, he hooks the rope on the chandelier.

AGIS

Tie this basket to it.

He's about to hand up the baby basket when we hear:

XENA'S VOICE

Hold it, right there.

They turn to see:

XENA

standing in the doorway, dressed in full Xena garb.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

XENA

(moving toward them)

I'm coming to get that baby. Anybody who tries to stop me is going to taste my sword.

She draws her sword, loses control of it and let's it bounce off her foot. It's Diana. Hobbling on one foot, she then grabs the chakram.

DIANA

Don't move. I can still get you with my round killing thing.

Alcibiades walks up to her and grabs the chakram away from her.

DIANA

Please, give me my baby. Then you can go in peace.

ALCIBIADES

It's Diana.

AGIS

Run that basket up on the rope. We'll see if she gives us what we need when her baby is about to take a bad fall.

Alcibiades ties the basket to the rope and pulls it up to the level of the chandelier. He ties the rope off on the leg of a table. The baby is now high up on the ceiling.

DIANA

Please. What do you want?

AGIS

I want you to turn your army over to me. Do that, and continue to cooperate, and your baby will be safe.

Diana is at a loss as to what to do. She's about to answer when:

XENA'S VOICE

Everyone stay away from that rope.

They turn to see:

XENA

standing in the doorway in full Xena garb. She holds the chakram ready to throw.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: 2

41

XENA

It'll take only a blink of an eye for
my chakram to split the skull of anyone
who comes close to that rope.

She walks toward the rope, holding the chakram at ready.
It's a tense moment as she's crossing to the rope. The
tension eases considerably when HALF OF THE CHAKRAM FALLS
OFF ONTO THE FLOOR. It's Meg.

AGIS

Grab her. It's Meg.

Alcibiades grabs Meg. He's distracted by Xena's war whoop.
They turn to see:

XENA

somersaulting toward them. She lands in the midst of them,
still dressed like Diana, sword at the ready.

XENA

Guess which one I am.

THE FIGHT IS ON

Xena slams her sword butt into the chin of one of the
henchmen and moves toward the rope. She positions herself
to defend the rope from the onslaught of all of Agis' men.
She's kicking butt.

ON PHILEMON

He enters, sees the situation, draws his sword and jumps
into the fray.

ON AGIS

AGIS

Kill Diana. We'll wipe out the entire
royal family if we have to.

ON ALCIBIADES

Alcibiades moves toward Diana. Xena leaps forward and slams
her sword butt into the back of his head. He goes down in a
heap, but this has left the path open to the rope. Agis
cuts the rope.

ON THE BASKET

As it falls, it tilts, and the baby plummets out toward the
floor.

ON XENA

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: 3

41

She dives for the baby and catches it just before it hits the ground. She scrambles to her feet and watches the thugs close in on her.

XENA

Meg!

She tosses the baby in the air toward:

MEG

who catches the baby. Bad guys charge her. She spots:

JOXER

as he runs into the room.

MEG

Joxer.

She tosses the baby to him. He catches it and then sees the henchmen charging. He's about to toss the baby toward Diana.

DIANA

No! I can't catch.

Joxer, carrying the baby like a football, dodges a few bad guys and then spots:

GABRIELLE

as she charges into the room.

JOXER

Gabrielle.

He tosses the baby toward Gabrielle.

GABRIELLE

Not again.

Joxer's toss isn't so good and Gabrielle has to dive to catch the baby.

ON XENA

as she knocks out Agis and then leaps onto the last standing thug who is about to attack Gabrielle. Xena knocks him unconscious with a kick to the back of his head. All is quiet for a moment before Diana rushes over and takes the baby from Gabrielle. Philemon joins her to check to see if the baby is alright.

CLOSE ON THE BABY

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: 4

41

She's smiling. This was fun.

RESUME DIANA AND PHILEMON

They admire their child for a moment before:

MEG

Diana. I just came from your father.

As they all turn to listen to Meg, we:

CUT TO:

42 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE GUEST BEDROOM - DAY

42

Meg and Gabrielle stand outside the door. We see Xena in the b.g. attending to Lias. Diana sits on the other side of the bed holding the baby. Philemon stands behind her with his hands on her shoulders.

MEG

I hope he pulls through. He's a good man. I may even write him from jail.

(beat)

If I learn to read and write.

GABRIELLE

If it was up to me, I'd let you go free. Give you another chance.

MEG

Well, you're a softy. Hey, don't worry about me. I messed up, I'll take what's coming to me.

Xena comes out of the room.

XENA

I think he's going to make it. He may live for years to come.

MEG

Alright!

Philemon comes out.

PHILEMON

Meg, he'd like to talk to you.

43 INT. GUEST BEDROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

43

Meg enters and sits on the edge of the bed. An alert, but tired, King Lias eyes her sternly.

(CONTINUED)

4 43 CONTINUED:

43

KING LIAS

They told me of the plot you were mixed up with. You're right. You've done some bad things.

MEG

I told you, I'm trash.

KING LIAS

Stop it! I don't ever want to hear anyone talking like that about my personal cook.

It takes a moment for Meg to figure out what he's said and then her eyes light up in wonder.

MEG

You're not kidding me, are you, King?

KING LIAS

Not at all. And by the way, I do like spices.

MEG

I'm as spicy as you can get. Thank you, King Lias. I won't let you down.

CUT TO:

44 EXT. CASTLE - DAY

44

Xena, Gabrielle and Joxer are saying good-bye to Meg. (Gabrielle has her staff back.)

XENA

Bye, Meg.

MEG

Bye, Xena. It was good being you for a while.

XENA

Just don't do it again.

GABRIELLE

Bye, Meg. Learn to read so I can write you.

MEG

I'll do that.

JOXER

Meg. I guess this is it.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

Gabrielle and Xena move away so Meg and Joxer can share good bye words.

MEG

Good-bye, Joxer.

She embraces him.

MEG

(under her breath)

Lose them as quick as you can and
double back. I'll leave the backdoor
of the castle open for you.

JOXER

Right.

As Joxer hurries to catch up with Xena and Gabrielle, and
Meg beams a wholesome smile, we:

FADE OUT.

THE END