

Callback Side for Philip and Geoffrey

*PHILIP' s chamber, immediately following. It is a gracious room, its back wall lined with tapestries. A canopy bed, the curtains closed, stands at one side. A pair of chairs sit, one at each side of a low table on which there are two goblets and a wine decanter . As the lights rise , PHILIP is preparing for bed. He turns as GEOFFREY, calling his name, comes skidding into the room .*

GEOFFREY

Philip, Philip---is John here?

PHILIP

Here? In my room?

GEOFFREY

Come on, Philip; this is me.

PHILIP

I've been expecting him.

GEOFFREY

The whole thing breaks tonight; we've reached the end of it.

PHILIP

If that's a warning, thank you.

GEOFFREY

What if it's an offer?

PHILIP

"What if" is a game for scholars: what if angels sat on pinheads?

GEOFFREY

What if I were king?

PHILIP

It's your game, Geoff; you play it.

GEOFFREY

All of England's land in France, from Normandy down to the Spanish border, once I'm king.

PHILIP

All that. What could I do that's worth all that?

GEOFFREY

By morning I can be the chosen son. The crown can come to me. But once it does, once Henry's favor falls my way, the war begins.

PHILIP

We have so many wars. Which one is this?

GEOFFREY

The one that Richard, John and Eleanor will make. I'll have to fight to keep what Henry, in his rage, is going to give me.

PHILIP

Yes, you will.

GEOFFREY

That's why I need you, Philip. Will you fight with me against them all?

PHILIP

Against them all?

GEOFFREY

Don't tell me it's a risk. I wouldn't hand you half of France to fight an easy war.

PHILIP

I wouldn't want you for an enemy.

GEOFFREY

Are we allies, then?

PHILIP

We were born to be.

END OF SIDE