

22 CONTINUED: 4

22

She says it with veiled or double meaning and Xena studies her eyes, knows she overheard at least part of their conversation.

SCILLA

(concentrating on
unrolling the maps)

Here's the most detailed map. Though not the most recent. Forays to this place are, needless to say, at one's own risk.

(to Xena)

Remember what happened to Glaucus. Especially nasty. You don't want to end up like that.

XENA

I don't intend to.

CUT TO:

23 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

23

Xena is below in a courtyard, meeting, addressing, assessing and briefing her TROOPS. Scilla and Gabrielle are watching from a casement window.

24 INT. PALACE - DAY

24

SCILLA

Does it trouble you that you don't know everything about her life?

GABRIELLE

In media res as the Romans say. That's where I came in. I don't enshrine her as a goddess. I write about our life together. I don't have to exaggerate her good qualities, but she's only too human at the same time.

SCILLA

Yes, well I know.

(gauges Gabrielle)

Sorry, I don't mean to sound so proprietary.

GABRIELLE

(shrugs)

You knew her first. I'll be there to the last. She's saved my life so many times.

SCILLA

And you hers, apparently. She has

(CONTINUED)