

Gladiator IV

Chapter 13 "Victory or Death"

Maximus is now a slave in the service of Proximo, a gladiator entrepreneur. He has become famous because of his ability as a gladiator in the arena. He is now working in the provinces. He manages to stay alive because of his ability but also because of his desire for revenge.

I Before you watch.

1. Do you remember the story so far? Put these sentences in order.

- a. Maximus' family is murdered by the Praetorian.
- b. Marcus Aurelius is the Emperor of Rome and Commodus is his son.
- c. Commodus orders Maximus' execution.
- d. Maximus is a famous general.
- e. Maximus arrives home too late.
- f. Maximus escapes.
- g. Lucilla meets Maximus.
- h. Marcus Aurelius offers him the protectorate of Rome.
- i. The Emperor dies a strange death.

II Watching the video: Sequence 1 – Scene 1

Scene one, The Gladiator wins ...

Now watch the video for the first time.

- a. Where are we now?
- b. What is happening?
- c. Why are the people pleased with Maximus?
- d. What is Max's nickname?



II Watching the video: Sequence 1 – Scene 2

Scene two, Proximo proposes greatness ...

1. Which character says this?

- a. "You are good, Spaniard, but you're not that good."
- b. "We are finally going back to where we belong."
- c. "He touched me on the shoulder and I was free."
- d. "I will give them something they have never seen before."



2. Correct the mistakes.
 - a. "You are finally going back to where you belong."
 - b. "You were a soldier?"
 - c. "He touched me on the arm and I was free."
 - d. "I will give them something they have seen before."
 - e. "...when enough men have been born, perhaps you will have your freedom"
3. Answer the questions.
 - a. Where are they?
 - b. What is the weather like?
 - c. What relationship does Proximo and Maximus have?

II Watching the video: Sequence 1 – Scene 3

Scene Three, my family lies beyond the sea ...

Juba is Maximus' gladiator friend. Where Maximus has lost hope and is pessimistic about his future, Juba looks on life with optimism. Belief in his family's well-being keeps him going. He offers Maximus a way forward and makes him rethink his desire to die.

1. Watch the sequence and answer the questions
 - a. Where are they? What are they doing?
 - b. Does Juba have the same tattoo as Maximus?
2. This is the Tapescript from the conversation of Juba and Maximus. Complete the missing words.



JUBA: It is somewhere out there, my, my My wife is preparing food. My daughters carry water from the Will I ever see again? I think not.

MAXIMUS: Do you believe that you will see them again when you?

JUBA: I think so, but then, I soon. They will not die for many years. I will have to

MAXIMUS: But you would...wait?

JUBA: Of course.

MAXIMUS: You see, my and my are waiting for me.

JUBA: You will meet again. But not yet. Not yet.

MAXIMUS: Not Not

III After you watch

1. What do you think? Answer these questions in your own words.
 - a. What did Marcus Aurelius give Proximo, long ago?
 - b. Why does Juba miss his family?
 - c. Maximus and Juba share a dream, what is it?
 - d. What are Maximus and Juba's ideas about life, death and family?
 - e. What do they think happens to people when they die?

After you watch: Speaking

1. What do you think will happen next?
 - a. Will Lucilla marry Maximus?
 - b. Will Maximus show the Coliseum who he is?
 - c. Will Proximo kill Maximus?
 - d. Who will help Maximus to get his revenge?
 - e. Will a spaceship save Maximus in the arena?



Tapescript

PROXIMO: What do you want? Hmmmm? Girl? Boy?

MAXIMUS: You sent for me?

PROXIMO: Yes I did. You are good, Spaniard, but you're not that good. You could be magnificent.

MAXIMUS: I am required to kill so I kill. That is enough.

PROXIMO: That's enough for the provinces but not for Rome. The young Emperor has arranged a series of spectacles to commemorate his father, Marcus Aurelius. I find that amusing since it was Marcus Aurelius, the wise, the all-knowing Marcus Aurelius, who closed us down. So finally after 5 years of scratching a living in flea infested villages we are finally going back to where we belong, the Colosseum.

Oh you should see the Colosseum, Spaniard. 50,000 Romans watching every movement of your sword, willing you to make the killer blow. The silence before you strike, and the noise afterwards, it rises, rises up like...like...like a storm, as though you were the Thunder God himself.

MAXIMUS: You were a gladiator?

PROXIMO: Yes, I was.

MAXIMUS: You won your freedom?

PROXIMO: Long time ago the old emperor Marcus Aurelius presented me with a Rudius - it's just a wooden sword, a symbol for your freedom. He touched me on the shoulder once, and I was free.

MAXIMUS: You knew Marcus Aurelius?

PROXIMO: I did not say that I knew him. I said he touched me on the shoulder once.

MAXIMUS: You asked me what I want. I, too, want to stand in front of the Emperor, as you did.

PROXIMO: Then listen to me. Learn from me. I wasn't the best because I killed quickly. I was the best because the crowd loved me. Win the crowd, win your freedom.

MAXIMUS: I will win the crowd. I will give them something they have never seen before.

PROXIMO: Haaa! So, Spaniard, we shall go to Rome together and have bloody adventures and the great whore will suckle us until we are fat and happy and can suckle no more. And then, when enough men have died, perhaps you will have your freedom. Here, use this....

...

JUBA: It is somewhere out there, my country, my home. My wife is preparing food. My daughters carry water from the river. Will I ever see them again? I think not.

MAXIMUS: Do you believe that you will see them again when you die?

JUBA: I think so, but then, I will die soon. They will not die for many years. I will have to wait.

MAXIMUS: But you would...wait?

JUBA: Of course.

MAXIMUS: You see, my wife and my son are already waiting for me.

JUBA: You will meet them again. But not yet. Not yet.

MAXIMUS: Not yet. Not yet.