

### Scene Before

After Maximus left the arena in humiliating fashion he went inside his palace to have a talk with one of his closest advisors, he leads his advisor with quick strong steps to the main corridor of the palace they both sit down and a servant immediately serves them water but Commodus throws his cup away with anger, he then breathes heavily and recomposes himself. Commodus: WHAT JUST HAPPENED OUT THERE! I just got humiliated by a SLAVE! Commodus kicks the table. Advisor: Calm down Commodus, you did exactly what you should have done, killing the poor bastard would have created chaos all around Rome. Commodus: BUT OBVIOUSLY IT WAS THE RIGHT CHOICE, IT WAS THE ONLY CHOICE I COULD HAVE MADE! Imagine I would have killed the bastard, I would have lost all the little respect I have from this empire! I just feel so humiliated. Commodus angrily hits the table. Commodus: I MUST have the head of that slave. Advisor: Are you suggesting we should all out kill him? Because something like poisoning him would achieve no more than conspiracies against you all around the empire and that is in no way good, and all the respect you have gained from the people will crumble. Commodus: And what do you propose my loyal advisor? Now that we know that poisoning or other type of undercover murder is not viable? Commodus takes a swig of water Advisor: I propose a duel between you and the slave, you shall officially and personally challenge the slave to a duel in the COLISEUM, we will do anything in our power to deliver you an easy victory that will end up with the slaves head in a SACK! Commodus and his advisor stand up firmly. Commodus: You have once again given me the right answer to my desires... Commodus grabs the advisors hands. Commodus: Thank you Marcellus you are a great and loyal servant. Marcellus nods and they both start walking opposite ways.