

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

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ELIZABETH

... Of course I shall deny it.

CECIL

Your Majesty must publicly
dissociate herself from this most
bloody act.

ELIZABETH

I never ordered it.

CECIL

Of course, Madam, of course.

(BEAT)

You must also make conciliatory
gestures towards the Spanish.
Your dependence upon their goodwill
is greater than ever. You must...

ELIZABETH

I must...

The word "must" is not used to
princes.

I have followed your advice in all
the affairs of my kingdom, but your
policies would make England nothing
but part of France or Spain.

From this moment I am going to
follow my own opinion.

CECIL

Forgive me, Madam, but you are only
a woman.

ELIZABETH

I may be a woman, Sir William, but
if I choose I have the heart of a
man!

I am my father's daughter. I am not
afraid of anything.

CECIL

I...

I deeply regret, Madam, if I have
caused you such offence though God
knows all my advice has only ever
been to secure Your Majesty's
throne

ELIZABETH

And I am grateful for it.

(BEAT)

I have decided to create you Lord
Burghley, so you may enjoy your
retirement in greater ease.

CECIL

- Madam...

ELIZABETH

- That will be all, Lord Burghley.

CECIL

Majesty..

CECIL BOWS TO THE QUEEN AND LEAVES.