CHARLES

Well, how did things go in Padua?

PIPPIN

Very well, sir, some of my tutors...

CHARLES

(Interrupting PIPPIN)

Good...good. I'm a great believer in education.

PIPPIN

And yet you have become the most powerful man in the world without it.

CHARLES

The most powerful man in the world? Oh, Pippin, don't exaggerate. What about the Pope?

PIPPIN

I rank you ahead of the Pope, sir.

CHARLES

I happen to agree with you. But the world I grew up in was simpler. The sword solved every problem. Tomorrow is for you.

PIPPIN

But it's still today.

CHARLES

But for how long? Pippin, sunrise and sunset are similar, but not identical.

(Action freezes on CHARLES and PIPPIN. The LEADING PLAYER appears)

LEADING PLAYER

Enter Lewis...

(LEWIS jumps up from the side. As the LEADING PLAYER introduces him, HE strikes a series of characteristically masculine poses to show off his muscles)

Pippin's halfbrother... and after Pippin, heir to the throne. Addicted to the physical, Lewis loves weight lifting... Lewis loves wrestling... but most of all... Lewis loves Lewis.

(LEWIS crosses the stage swinging his sword, as if HE were attacking something.)

LEWIS

Hah! Hah! Hah! Hah!

PIPPIN

Well done, brother.