

GREAT MOMENTS IN HISTORY

THE HOLY Q RATING

THEME UP & UNDER

ANNC: The One Act Players present: 1
Great Moments in History!

THEME FADE OUT

ANNC: Italy: 1478 2

VOICE: Order! Order! By Holy decree of 3
His Holiness Sixtus VI, this
sixth Holy Council is now in
session!

FAHLAHTIO: Archbishop Roshombo, have you the 4
Holy Q ratings for last week's
name?

ROSHOMBO: Yes. Cardinal Fahlahtio, I am 5
sorry to report to the Holy
Council that the name into which
we poured so much divine effort
has tested very poorly with our
focus groups; in fact, it tested
the lowest so far.

FAHLAHTIO: (Incredulous) Lower than "Offices 6
of the Holy Roman Tormenters"?

ROSHOMBO: Yes. And we all recall how very, 7 *

VERY unpopular that one was.
Bottom line: "Anointed
Brandishers of Purgatorial
Torture" will simply not, and I
mean NOT, bring in the numbers we
have been divinely inspired to
seek.

FAHLAHTIO: Did you try "Anointed Brandishers 8
of Purgatorial Torture Most
Holy"?

ROSHOMBO: Yes, Cardinal. We tried all the 9
approved permutations. "Anointed
Brandishers of Purgatorial
Torture *Most Holy*."

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ROSHOMBO: "Anointed Holy Brandishers of Purgatorial Torture". "Anointed Brandishers of Holy Purgatorial Torture". And even "Anointed Holy Roller Brandishers of the Most Holy Purgatorial of Holy Tortures." All no-gos I am afraid. 10

FAHLAHTIO: But, Roshombo, his Holiness is quite adamant that "holy" be in the name. 11

ROSHOMBO: With all due respect to the Holy Council, perhaps our emphasis on the inclusion of "Holy" in the name has obscured the real problem. 12

FAHLAHTIO: Which is? 13

ROSHOMBO: Everything else. 14

FAHLAHTIO: So it is back to the Holy Drawing Board of Actium, again? 15

ROSHOMBO: Not necessarily. 16

FAHLAHTIO: Go on. 17

ROSHOMBO: I did test a few other possible names ... 18

VOICES: What?!? Without authorization! You over-reach! Etc. 19

ROSHOMBO: omitting such words as -- oh, I don't know -- "agony", "damnation", "torment", and yes, "Torture!" 20

FAHLAHTIO: I suggest we hear Archbishop Roshombo's suggested name. And if we don't like ... we'll torture him! Quiet! We will have quiet! 21 *

ROSHOMBO: Now, I will simply announce the name that scored highest on the Holy Q ratings tabulation. 22

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ROSHOMBO: I implore my fellow Councilors 23
not to react hastily, but to sit
and contemplate this name in a
most reverent and holy silence
before speaking. All right?
Good. Bishop Palino, if you
please ...

FX: Choir starts to sing a soft note. 24

ROSHOMBO: And the number one, Holy-Q- 25
testing name, by far, is ...

FX: Choir note out. 26

ROSHOMBO: "The Spanish Inquisition" 27

VOICE: (distant) What?! 28

ROSHOMBO: (Louder) The Spanish Inquisition. 29

VOICE: "My Man Has Indigestion". I like 30
that.

ROSHOMBO: No, no, no. (spoken very 31
deliberately) "The Spanish
Inquisition".

VOICE: I don't like that. 32

FAHLAHTIO: Quiet! What is the genesis of 33
this name?

ROSHOMBO: Well, where is everyone going 34
these days?

VOICE: Hell! 35

ROSHOMBO: No, no, before that. 36

VOICE: Madame Bobolina's? 37

ROSHOMBO: No, not the Cardinals. The rest 38
of them.

VOICE: What, the peasants? 39

ROSHOMBO: (Slight exasperation) Yes! 40

VOICE: Spain? 41

ROSHOMBO: (Pleased) Yes. Our testing shows 42
the peasantry finds Spain
sufficiently exotic, yet not
altogether unpleasant.

(CONTINUED)

FAHLAHTIO: Yes, it is of late one big Costa Brava full of ale-swilling Gauls. 43

VOICE: And Jutes! 44

ROSHOMBO: And "Inquisition" suggests curiosity ... 45

FAHLAHTIO: Without actually stating it. Yes, yes - inviting, accurate, and yet gives us an out! That will make the boys in Legal very happy. Fine work Roshombo! 46

ROSHOMBO: Thank you, Excellency. 47

FAHLAHTIO: (sotto) There could be a cardinalship in this for you. 48

ANNC: And that is how the Spanish Inquisition became the most admired system of torture in all history. 49

VOICE: We're going to be sooo popular! 50

ANNC: And who would have expected that? 51

ANNC: Tune in again for another: Great Moment in History! 52

THEME UP

END CREDITS