

A locker-room lesson from Alexander's mutiny at Opis

The turn came when the question shifted from "What am I owed?" to "What have we built-and what do we owe one another?"

Subject: When "What am I owed?" fractures a team

Coach,

At Opis, Alexander's Macedonian soldiers did not revolt over one issue alone. Their anger had accumulated around status, changing roles, outsiders receiving honor, and the fear of being replaced. A gesture intended as generosity was heard as contempt.

The repair began when the conflict was made reciprocal: what the leader had built for the group, what the group had endured, and what each owed the other. Reconciliation finally became real only when recognition was restored-every Macedonian was named a "kinsman"-and unity was made visible through a shared banquet and ritual.

I've shaped this history into a short locker-room presentation for teams caught between legitimate frustration and collective responsibility.

Would it be useful if I sent it over?

Best, [Name]