

DORA

A Musical Comedy in Two Acts

“...the people can always be brought to the bidding of their leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to dangers. It works the same in any country.”

Reichsmarschall Hermann Göring
Nuremberg Trials, 1946

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DoraTheMusical.com

Songs at
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/s50t2q5g52ypfiz/AADQc4bs0qkhFO17rT3tWiFba?dl=0>

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Brief Synopsis

Victoria, the sideshow fortune teller in an English circus during World War I can see the future, but no-one wants to hear how each war only leads to the next war. Caught up in the patriotic frenzy of wartime, she is unjustly arrested as an enemy saboteur. Can she control her power and change the future?

SETTING

A small town in England, 1916. A circus has bravely set up to provide what entertainment it can in these difficult times.

Act 1, Scene 1: The center ring of a one-ring circus

Act 1, Scene 2: Victoria's tent

Act 1, Scene 3: Leah's tent

Act 1, Scene 4: The midway

Act 2, Scene 1: The police station

Act 2, Scene 2: A battlefield in France on one side + Leah's tent on the other side

Act 2, Scene 3: Victoria's tent

Act 2, Scene 4: The midway

Act 2, Scene 5: A battlefield hospital

Act 2, Scene 6: The midway

A note on the setting

Yes, it really is a circus. Perhaps it is also a metaphor for life off the main road, but it is a circus all the same. I have not written much circus activity, but I would expect some circus business while the characters are talking to one another. Due to my affection for and trust of directors, I leave it to you to put in the circus stuff you would like to see.

Dramatis Personae

Victoria, soprano, 20s	A psychic. Victoria has been given the gift of seeing the future, which depresses her. She has trouble finding people who believe her pessimistic forecasts.
Roger the Socialist, baritenor, 20s	A socialist. Roger is committed to his political cause, even militant about it when better judgment would suggest he keep quiet.
Roger the Pacifist, tenor, 20s	A pacifist. Roger is not afraid; he just doesn't see the point in dying in someone else's war. He greets the world with humor.
Ringmaster, baritenor or mezzosoprano, 50s–60s	The circus master of ceremonies, androgynous. Written for baritenor, adjust as needed for casting. His/her narrator's omniscience is nothing compared to Victoria's gift. The Ringmaster can remain onstage and watch the action with us or he/she can retire OS when not involved in the action.
Leah, soprano, 20s	Pronounced "lay-a." A trapeze artist. She is in love with Luke, whom she encouraged to do his duty and go to war. She will have regrets, and she spends Act 1 vacillating between the pro and anti-war factions. Where will she end up in Act 2?
Hilda, mezzo-soprano, 40s	A trapeze artist from parts unknown. Hilda is a patriot and strong advocate of the war. She speaks with an American accent. Doubles as Auntie Gert.
Luke, tenor, 20s–30s	Former trapeze artist, now a soldier. Leah's lover. She pushed him into the army, although he would rather not have gone. Doubles as the Sad Clown.
Policeman, baritone, 40s–50s	A veteran whose injuries in the war resulted in his discharge from the army. He now does what he can on the home front. Doubles as the Happy Clown and plays the guitar.
Teddy Roosevelt, baritenor, 50s	26 th President of the United States. A believer in the fighting of good wars. Remember the Maine!
DORA	No need to cast DORA. The Defense of the Realm Act, a British law was passed in 1914 to, among other things, suppress the expression of discouraging sentiments about the war.

Songs

Where the demo recording and the book diverge, the lyrics in the book are the most recent.

01 The Colors are Pretty	5
Cue 01a The Future (Prelude)	10
02 Dora	13
03 Quite a Man	16
04 Letter to Leah	19
04 Letter to Leah)	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Ypres underscore #1).....	22
05 Way of Life)	23
06 The Future).....	29
07 My Boy.)	36
08 Community).....	38
09 A Real American Girl)	44
10 Presidents' Parade).....	50
11 Catastrophe).....	55
Ypres underscore #2).....	64
12 Death to Us).....	66
13 Letter to Leah reprise)	68
14 A Boy Named Roger).....	71
15 Sisters).....	74
16 Land of the Savages)	81
17 Your Little Boy)	84
18 A Girl Named Hilda)	86
19 Dora, Reprise)	92
20 Land of Peace).....	95

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Act 1, Scene 1.

(The center ring of a one-ring circus somewhere in England. In the middle stands the RINGMASTER)

(Cue 01 The Colors are Pretty)

RINGMASTER

(HE/SHE speaks over the song introduction.)

Ladies and gentlemen! I give you nineteen sixteen. An amazing year. A year of thrills and chills. Something to entertain and amuse every member of the family.

IT'S NINETEEN SIXTEEN, AND WE HAVE A LITTLE WAR
DESTROYING MOST OF EUROPE THOUGH NO ONE RECALLS WHAT
FOR,
THEY SAY THAT KAISER WILHELM'S A DISTINCTLY NASTY CHAP,
SO IT'S UP TO DEAR BRITANNIA TO WIPE HIM OFF THE MAP.

When the war broke out, I was running this little circus on the continent. It was a bad time to be a foreigner on the continent, because everyone was the enemy of someone, and foreigners were believed to be spies. So, before they could hang us, we scampered away back to merry old England. Except England isn't so merry in wartime, and people don't much feel like going to the circus during times like these. Still we do what we can, eh, Victoria?

(VICTORIA steps forward into the light.)

VICTORIA

THE COLORS ARE PRETTY AND THE MUSIC IS SWEET
AS WE TRY TO FORGET THAT THERE'S NOT MUCH TO EAT,

RINGMASTER and VICTORIA

THE TRAPEZE IS LOW AND THE LIONS ARE TAME
AS WE TRY TO FORGET THAT THE WORLD IS AFLAME.

RINGMASTER

Victoria is our fortune teller. She sees things before they happen. Isn't that right, my dear?

VICTORIA

THE FUTURE IS JUST A RIVER THAT FLOWS
OUT OF THE PAST AND ONWARD FOREVER,
WHEN I PUT MY FACE IN AND OPEN MY EYES,
I SEE THINGS AND PEOPLE MIGHT THINK THAT I'M CLEVER.

A gift from my dear departed Auntie Gert, it was. She felt sorry for me sitting alone on my own all the time, so she came back from the dead to visit me.

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AUNTIE GERT

(SHE enters)

You've been so dreadfully alone since your mum and dad died. You need a way to meet people!

TAKE THIS LITTLE GIFT, VICTORIA DEAR,
AND SHOW THE FUTURE TO THE WORLD FOR ITS OWN SAKE.

VICTORIA

BUT NOBODY I KNOW IS PREPARED TO HEAR
THAT WE KEEP ON MAKING THE SAME MISTAKE.

I WANT SOME UNDERSTANDING, OH,
I NEED A LITTLE UNDERSTANDING
WHY I MUST SEE A FUTURE I CAN'T FIX,
WITH A GIFT THAT'S ONLY GOOD FOR SIDESHOW TRICKS.

RINGMASTER

Victoria was named after the late queen of course.

AUNTIE GERT

That was in my day, you know. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had nine children, and their 42 grandchildren got us into this mess. Victoria's son, Edward VII, had a son George V...

POLICEMAN

(HE enters.)

God save the King.

RINGMASTER

...and Queen Victoria's daughter, also called Victoria, gave birth to Wilhelm II, whom we affectionately call Kaiser Bill. Victoria's daughter Alice gave birth to Alix, the Empress of all the Russias. The kids are now all at war with one another. Talk about a family that can't get on together!

RINGMASTER, VICTORIA, AUNTIE GERT, and POLICEMAN
QUEEN VICTORIA'S HEIRS HAD BECOME THE HEADS OF STATE
IN A EUROPE WHERE NO-ONE LIKED WHAT WAS ON HIS PLATE,
AND NO-ONE HAD MORE NEED TO FLEX THE ROYAL WILL
THAN VICTORIA'S GRANDSON, THAT SATAN, KAISER BILL.

(AUNTIE GERT exits)

90 RINGMASTER
91 Kaiser Bill started the war by invading Belgium and France, turning what would have
92 been just another Balkan war into a world war. Thanks to Kaiser Bill, our little circus
93 struggles to get by without men. Young men are all dead, or waiting in line to be dead.
94 We had a man once. On the trapeze, our lovely Leah and the unfortunate Luke.
95
96 (LEAH steps into the light dressed as a trapeze artist. LUKE joins her, and
97 THEY dance.)
98
99 LUKE
100 I love performing with you, Leah. I want to fly with you forever.
101
102 LEAH
103 Sorry, my dear, but you must go off to war. You must fight the Hun in France so we
104 don't need to fight him on Main Street.
105
106 LUKE
107 I must?
108
109 LEAH
110 You must.
111
112 VICTORIA
113 Don't make him go, Leah. Luke will die a horrible death in France. I can see it as clearly
114 as I see you now!
115
116 LEAH
117 (SHE is huffy.)
118 What a distinctly unpleasant sentiment. You're simply jealous that I have a man and you
119 don't. Victoria, you must learn to control the dreadful things that you say.
120 (Addressing LUKE.)
121 Luke, go. You will come home covered in glory!
122
123 (LUKE changes onstage into the SAD CLOWN, is given a rifle, and does
124 a mournful pas de deux with LEAH.)
125
126 HANDSOME LUCAS AND I MADE OUR TRAPEZES DANCE,
127 BUT MY LUCAS HAS GONE TO THE TRENCHES OF FRANCE,
128 I FLY THROUGH THE HEAVENS BUT MY HEART IS ON THE GROUND
129 AND IT WON'T COME UP FOR AIR UNTIL LUKE IS SAFE AND SOUND.
130
131 RINGMASTER
132 Luke has gone off to defend King and country. But, no worries, we were fortunate to get
133 Hilda, a somewhat retired trapeze artist from parts unknown, to fill in.
134 (HILDA enters, dressed as a trapeze artist.)

135 Wonderful Hilda, who swings from the trapeze for your entertainment, although it isn't
136 so good for her arthritis.

137

138

HILDA

139

THE COLORS ARE GAUDY AND THE MUSIC'S TOO LOUD

140

AND I TRY NOT TO SCREW UP AND FALL ON THE CROWD.

141

142

(HAPPY CLOWN enters and makes believe he is slipping on a banana
143 peel, or some other clown business.)

144

145

HILDA and HAPPY CLOWN (accompanying)

146

THE CLOWNS AREN'T FUNNY AND WE HAVE NO HIGH WIRE

147

AS I SWING THROUGH THE AIR WITH MY JOINTS ALL ON FIRE.

148

149

VOICE OFF

150

But, where's Dora?!

151

152

COMPANY

153 Dora!

154

155

RINGMASTER

156

This little circus keeps us from having to work in the factories, but isn't much of a story
157 by itself. To have a story, we need a couple of characters to stir things up, boys who think
158 the circus would be a good place to hide from the war. A couple of blokes named Roger.

159

160

ROGER THE PACIFIST

161

(HE peeks out from one wing).

162

Righto, Guv'nor, that's me. I'm a pacifist.

163

164

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

165

(HE peeks out from the other wing).

166

Hold on a minute, I'm Roger, too. I'm a socialist.

167

168

THE ROGERS

169

WE ARE HEALTHY YOUNG MEN WHO HAVE NOT GONE OFF TO
170 FIGHT,

171

BECAUSE OUR PRINCIPLES SAY IT IS NOT RIGHT,

172

WHICH MAKES US STINKING COWARDS IF YOU QUESTION THIS LOT,

173

AND GIVES US THE CHANCE TO STIR UP WHAT SO FAR IS NOT MUCH
174 OF A PLOT.

175

176

RINGMASTER

177

Thank you gentlemen.

178

179 ROGER THE PACIFIST
180 You're welcome. Can we tell them about Dora now?
181
182 RINGMASTER
183 Be patient. Let's wrap up this song first. Ready, company?
184
185 COMPANY
186 Ready!
187
188 LEAH, HILDA, RINGMASTER, ROGERS,
189 HAPPY CLOWN, SAD CLOWN
190 THE COLORS ARE PRETTY AND THE MUSIC IS SWEET
191
192 VICTORIA
193 I WANT SOME UNDERSTANDING...
194
195 LEAH, HILDA, RINGMASTER, ROGERS,
196 HAPPY CLOWN, SAD CLOWN
197 AS WE TRY TO FORGET THAT THERE'S NOT MUCH TO EAT.
198
199 VICTORIA
200 WHY I MUST SEE A FUTURE I CAN'T FIX
201
202 LEAH, HILDA, RINGMASTER, ROGERS,
203 HAPPY CLOWN, SAD CLOWN
204 FUTURE SHE CAN'T FIX
205
206 VICTORIA and COMPANY
207 WITH A GIFT THAT'S ONLY GOOD FOR
208 SIDESHOW TRICKS.
209
210 (Button. The company exits in various directions leaving VICTORIA
211 onstage. A stool and dressing table are brought on).

212 Act 1, Scene 2. Victoria's tent
213 Cue 01a The Future (Prelude)
214 (VICTORIA takes off her costume and puts on a robe while singing
215 sadly.)
216 ALONE WITH THE FUTURE,
217 A FUTURE I DON'T WANT TO SEE,
218 I'D RATHER SEE A FUTURE WITH A SOMEONE,
219 INSTEAD OF SEEING NO-ONE THERE WITH ME.
220
221 THE FUTURE IS JUST A RIVER THAT FLOWS
222 OUT OF THE PAST AND ONWARD FOREVER,
223 ALONE, ALONE.
224
225 (RINGMASTER knocks and enters.)
226
227 RINGMASTER
228 You are so terribly unhappy.
229
230 VICTORIA
231 My gift of prophesy is such a burden. No one will listen to me, no matter how important
232 the news I bring.
233
234 RINGMASTER
235 You can only change the future by changing the present.
236
237 VICTORIA
238 The world will be in such a terrible state if people don't listen to me.
239
240 RINGMASTER
241 I wonder if people aren't just as happy with the world in a terrible state. Does it require
242 that you be in a terrible state as well?
243
244 VICTORIA
245 It makes me so lonely. No one wants a whiner like me as a friend.
246 I HAVE NEVER HAD SOMEONE WHO CALLED ME A FRIEND,
247 I'M AFRAID MY SAD AND LONELY DAYS NOW WON'T EVER END,
248 I'D BE A GOOD FRIEND FOREVER
249 IF SOMEONE WOULD BE SO KIND TO ME.¹
250

¹ A foretaste of the song Sisters. This excerpt is not on the demo.

251 RINGMASTER
252 Stop fighting your gift. Accept it. Use your gift to be an agent of change for a better
253 future.
254
255 VICTORIA
256 An agent of change? I don't know how to do that.
257
258 RINGMASTER
259 You change the future by changing the present. Let's try changing your future right now.
260 I want you to meet a young man with whom you might have a life.
261 (HE/SHE beckons offstage. ROGER THE SOCIALIST enters tentatively.)
262 This lad is Roger. He needs a friend, too. Roger, this is Victoria. We met her in the
263 opening.
264
265 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
266 (HE stands sheepishly, hat in hand. The RINGMASTER exits.)
267 G'day, miss.
268
269 VICTORIA
270 A young man, how nice. You're not in the army!
271
272 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
273 Please, don't be hard on me. I was hoping you weren't going to be one of those self-
274 righteous women who think all men should be dying in France for the King. I for one
275 can't fight in this war.
276
277 VICTORIA
278 If you don't want to go to war, just don't go. People will call you a coward, but you ought
279 to be used to it by now.
280
281 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
282 But I'm not a coward.
283
284 VICTORIA
285 I'm sure I don't care, but just out of curiosity, what are you if not a coward?
286
287 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
288 (With pride)
289 I'm a socialist!
290
291 VICTORIA
292 A socialist? What's that got to do with it?
293

294 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
295 Socialists don't believe in this fight between decadent capitalist societies to see which of
296 them will be ascendant in the enslavement of the world's workers.
297
298 VICTORIA
299 What rubbish. Why do you need to bother me with this business? If you're a socialist, go
300 rent an office and pass out your literature.
301
302 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
303 But I can't. It's not allowed. One can't talk against the war.
304
305 VICTORIA
306 This is England. You can talk about anything you like.
307
308 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
309 Not so. It's illegal to talk against the war.
310
311 VOICES OFF
312 Dora!
313
314 VICTORIA
315 All right, calm down. I don't see any policemen after you.
316
317 (A knock on the door)
318
319 POLICEMAN
320 (Offstage)
321 Police!
322 (ROGER THE SOCIALIST, in a panic, jumps under the dressing table,
323 where HE is not well hidden. HE puts his head under VICTORIA's robe,
324 to hide better)
325
326 VICTORIA
327 (To HERSELF.)
328 Odd, I didn't see him coming.
329 (To ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
330 Are you blocking me? And what are you doing under there?
331
332 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
333 (HE is shaking under the robe.)
334 Shhh! Hide me!
335
336 POLICEMAN
337 (HE enters.)
338 Sorry to intrude, miss. We have reports of socialists in the area.

339

340

VICTORIA

341 And what does that have to do with me?

342

343

POLICEMAN

344 Just notifying the population to be on the lookout. If you see anything suspicious, give
345 the local constable a call. We can't be too careful in these times with seditious elements
346 about.

347

348

VICTORIA

349 Well, there are no socialists in here, unless you want to look under my robe.

350

(ROGER'S shaking gets worse.)

351

352

POLICEMAN

353 No, miss, that would be entirely unsuitable. Good day.

354

(HE exits.)

355

356

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

357

(HE emerges.)

358

Are you crazy? What if he had looked under your robe?

359

360

VICTORIA

361 I didn't think there was much chance of that. Of course, I would never have imagined that
362 a stranger, socialist or not, would take such liberties as to dive under my robe.

363

364

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

365

You needn't worry about me. I have no interest in what's under your robe.

366

367

VICTORIA

368

Should I be insulted?

369

370

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

371

Oh, my no,

372

(*Cue 02 Dora*)

373

you're pretty and all that. But I couldn't focus on that sort of thing. Not now.

374

375

THERE WAS ONCE A TIME

376

WHEN I WOULD HAVE BEEN ENTHRALLED

377

BY A WOMAN SUCH AS YOU,

378

BUT MY LOVE LIFE HAS BEEN STALLED.

379

380

I WOULD HAVE BEEN CONVINCED

381

BY YOUR HAIR AND BY YOUR EYES,

382

BUT MY ARDOR'S BEEN DERAILED

383

AND NO PASSIONS IN ME RISE.

384
385 IT'S DORA,
386 I THINK OF NOTHING ELSE BUT DORA,
387 I HAVE NO URGING TO EXPLORE A
388 NEW ROMANCE,
389 LET YOUR FACE ENTRANCE
390 ME, GIVE YOUR LEGS A GLANCE,
391 ENTERTAIN A FANCY
392 FOR A LOVELY, LOVELY GIRL LIKE YOU.

393
394 FOR A GIRL LIKE YOU
395 I WOULD HAVE BEEN THE BLOKE,
396 I HAD HEALTHY FANTASIES
397 AND THOUGHT POLITICS A JOKE.

398
399 THE WORLD'S A STRANGE NEW PLACE,
400 MY OPINIONS ARE A CRIME,
401 AND FOR LOVELY GIRLS LIKE YOU,
402 I HAVEN'T GOT THE TIME.

403
404 IT'S DORA,
405 I THINK OF NOTHING ELSE BUT DORA,
406 I HAVE NO NOTION TO BECOME YOUR
407 NEW ROMANCE,
408 CHANGE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES,
409 GIVE MYSELF A CHANCE TO
410 ENTERTAIN A FANCY
411 FOR A LOVELY, LOVELY GIRL LIKE YOU.

412
413 (Button. ROGER THE PACIFIST runs on, looking over his shoulder).

414
415 ROGER THE PACIFIST
416 (To ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
417 There you are. I didn't know where you had gotten to.

418
419 VICTORIA
420 Who the devil are you?

421
422 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
423 He is called Roger, like me.

424
425 ROGER THE PACIFIST
426 Yes, imagine that. They told me mum she could have the name all to herself for her
427 favorite son, and this bloke's mum goes and swipes it.
428

429 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
430 (To ROGER THE PACIFIST)
431 Must you make everything a joke?
432 (To VICTORIA)
433 Yes, we have the same name. But it's easy to tell us apart. I'm the one with principles.
434
435 ROGER THE PACIFIST
436 Socialist rantings, not principles.
437
438 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
439 You wouldn't know a principle if it jumped up and bit you on the arse.
440 (To VICTORIA, rolling his eyes)
441 Excuse me, miss, he's a pacifist.
442
443 VICTORIA
444 I don't understand. Do pacifists not have arses?
445
446 ROGER THE PACIFIST
447 Of course I have an arse. Quite a nice one, I think. And, yes. I'm a pacifist. I believe in
448 the sanctity of life.
449
450 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
451 You mean the sanctity of *your* life.
452
453 ROGER THE PACIFIST
454 Especially that.
455
456 VICTORIA
457 A very reasonable sentiment.
458
459 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
460 You'd take a life if you needed to. You've got a sister, haven't you? What if the German
461 were threatening to kidnap your sister?
462
463 ROGER THE PACIFIST
464 That's highly unlikely. She isn't very pleasant.
465
466 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
467 You would protect her. I know you would. And if necessary, you'd butcher the Hun.
468
469 ROGER THE PACIFIST
470 I would probably shake him by the hand and warn him to watch out for her nails.
471
472 VICTORIA
473 Are you a coward?

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ROGER THE SOCIALIST

Of course he's a coward.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

It's hard to know, isn't it? I mean, since I won't get into a fight on principle, how would I know if I were a coward?

(Cue 03 Quite a Man)

WHEN I'M WALKING DOWN THE STREET
I'M NOT AS A SOLDIER DRESSED
AND THE PEOPLE THAT I MEET
WITH PATRIOTISM ARE OBSESSED.

THEY ASSUME THAT I'M A COWARD
'CAUSE I HAVE NO WILL TO FIGHT,
WITH WHITE FEATHERS I AM SHOWERED,
KING AND COUNTRY ALWAYS RIGHT.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST and VICTORIA
GOD SAVE THE KING.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

BE A MAN,
I'M ALWAYS TOLD TO BE A MAN,
UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT I CAN
TAKE UP A GUN
AND AIM IT AT SOMEONE
WHO HAS A MOTHER WHO JUST WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

IF I MEET A PRETTY LASS,
SHE MOST LIKELY WANTS TO KNOW
WITH WHICH REGIMENT I FIGHT,
AND WHEN OFF TO FRANCE I GO.

IF I TELL HER THAT I'M NOT
WEARING KHAKI, BLEEDING RED,
SHE ASSUMES THAT I'M AFRAID
TO BE PREMATURELY DEAD.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST and VICTORIA
FOR GEORGE OUR KING, OUR GRACIOUS KING

517 VICTORIA
518 (To ROGER THE PACIFIST)
519 I shouldn't think that being a pacifist means that you're not a man.
520 (To ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
521 And I don't admire bullying. After all, if he thinks it's wrong to fight a war, what does
522 that make him? An aardvark? Not that it makes much difference to me.
523 YOU'RE A MAN OR YOU'RE NOT,
524 TELL ME WHAT HAVE YOU GOT
525 THAT MIGHT IMPRESS ME A JOT?
526 BULLIES SAY WHAT THEY DO
527 'CAUSE THEY'RE JEALOUS OF YOU,
528 (SHE gestures to ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
529 THIS BLOKE'S FULL OF HOT AIR,
530 I DON'T THINK IT'S RIGHT, BUT I FRANKLY DON'T CARE.
531 (Dance break)
532
533 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
534 WHILE YOU'RE CRYING LIKE A GIRL,
535
536 VICTORIA
537 Hey, I'm a girl!
538
539 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
540 WITH THE BOSSES STILL IN CHARGE,
541 YOU ARE USELESS TO THE WORLD,
542 A WHINING SISSY BY AND LARGE.
543
544 YOU THINK FEAR IS PACIFISM,
545 YOU'RE NOT DOING WHAT YOU CAN,
546 JOIN THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM,
547 'CAUSE YOU'RE STILL NOT QUITE A MAN.
548
549 VICTORIA ROGER THE PACIFIST
HE'S QUITE A MAN. I'M QUITE A MAN.
QUITE A MAN, QUITE A MAN,
I LIKE TO HEAR I'M
QUITE A MAN. QUITE A MAN.
549
550 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
551 EVEN THOUGH WE BOTH KNOW
552 THAT YOU CAN
553 PICK UP A GUN AND AIM IT AT A BOSS
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ROGER THE PACIFIST
WHO MIGHT HAVE A MOTHER
WHO JUST WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

THE ROGERS and VICTORIA
MIGHT HAVE A MOTHER
WHO JUST WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.
(Button. End of scene.)

564 Act 1, Scene 3. Leah's tent
565 (The RINGMASTER walks into the spot.)

566
567 RINGMASTER
568 Ladies and gentlemen! The circus is proud to offer, for your entertainment pleasure, those
569 daring darlings of the trapeze, the beautiful Leah and, from parts unknown, the
570 mysterious Hilda!

571
572 (Light up on LEAH and HILDA dressed as trapeze artists, after their act.
573 If your actors have some acro, LEAH and HILDA can fly into the scene.)
574

575 HILDA
576 What a chore to fling these old bones through the air for the amusement of a handful of
577 women and old men. Can we cut the triple somersault? It's hell on my bursitis.

578
579 LEAH
580 The triple? That was Luke's favorite. Poor Luke. In a trench instead of doing the triple
581 somersault with his darling Leah.

582
583 HILDA
584 Oh, my, my ancient brain has stopped working.

585
586 (Cue 04 Letter to Leah)
587 (Dialog over song intro)
588 I have a letter for you. The postman gave it to me just before we went on.
589 (HILDA hands LEAH a letter. Noise off.)
590 What is that racket outside? It sounds like rats in our rubbish bin again.
591 (SHE exits)

592
593 LEAH
594 A letter from Luke! What does my dear boy say?

595
596 (Spot up on LUKE, who is dressed in a filthy uniform, holding a rifle. HE
597 recites and sings the letter as LEAH reads it. The HAPPY CLOWN enters
598 with a guitar to accompany the song.)
599

600 LUKE
601 My darling Leah, Here I am, defending my country, although I must say, the bullets are a
602 bit intimidating. But only when they are shot at us. Which is all the time. And the shells
603 are so loud. I wish defending King George wasn't such a noisy affair. It makes my ears
604 ring, and it's hard to sleep with the noise and the shrapnel and the bullets. I'd like to sleep
605 so I could dream of you, Leah, and of how wonderful life will be after we've killed the
606 enemy and otherwise taught him a good lesson.

607 THEY SAY THE TIME GOES FASTER
608 FOR THE MEN WHO HAVE NO ROOTS,
609 NO-ONE WHO'S LEFT BEHIND TO MOURN
610 THE CHAPS THE GERMAN SHOOTS

611
612 FOR ME WHO LEFT A GIRL BEHIND
613 TO ENROLL IN KITCH'NER'S ARMY,
614 THE TIME GOES SLOW, I WAIT TO KNOW
615 IF JERRY'S FIRE WILL HARM ME.
616

617 Of course, from time to time I wonder about what it might be like to be hit. Not that I
618 mean to be unpatriotic, but one sees it all the time, the lads being carried back into the
619 trench. They've done their best, haven't they, but the Hun has done a bit better. It makes
620 one think about things. Yet, too much thinking would be unpatriotic, so I try not to do it.
621

622 I'M WAITING UNDER CANNON BLASTS
623 THE GAS THAT'S SENT TO BLIND US,
624 I PRAY WHEN WE GO OVER THE TOP
625 THE GERMAN GUNS DON'T FIND US.
626

627 LEAH, NO-ONE WILL LAY A
628 HAND ON MY SWEET LEAH,
629 YOU CHANGED MY WAY A'
630 LOOKING AT LIFE,
631 WILL YOU BE MY WIFE
632 IF I MAKE IT HOME TO YOU?
633

634 LEAH, WHEN I'M AWAY A
635 PINING FOR SWEET LEAH,
636 EVERY DAY AH,
637 YOU ARE MY LIFE,
638 WHEN YOU ARE MY WIFE
639 I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU AGAIN.
640

641 LEAH
642 Oh, why did I make you go away? What was so important that I sent the man I love to
643 face such peril?
644

645 LUKE
646 I WENT TO WAR TO FIGHT THE FOE
647 WHO TRIES TO KILL US NIGHT AND DAY,
648 BUT GERMAN HORDES WILL ALWAYS FIND
649 A BRITISH SOLDIER IN THEIR WAY.
650

651 MY COUNTRY AND MY KING HAD CALLED,
652 I WOULD HAVE LET THEM CALL IN VAIN,
653 BUT YOU TOLD ME I HAD TO GO,
654 THOUGH IN THIS TRENCH I'M GOIN' INSANE.

655
656 LEAH
657 BE BRAVE MY LUKE, BE BRAVE MY LAD,
658 YOUR DUTY CALLED AND YOU OBEYED,
659 BUT NOW I'M HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS
660 BECAUSE I'VE MADE YOU SO AFRAID.
661

LUKE	LEAH
LEAH, NO ONE WILL LAY A	AH, LUKE, SWEET LUKE,
HAND ON MY SWEET LEAH,	
YOU CHANGED MY WAY A'	YOU CHANGED MY
LOOKING AT LIFE,	LIFE
WON'T YOU BE MY WIFE	I'LL BE YOUR WIFE
IF I MAKE IT HOME TO YOU?	COME HOME TO ME.
I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU AGAIN.	

662
663 (Button. Spot on LUKE fades out, and HE is gone.)
664

665 LEAH
666 (LEAH is shaken; the first inkling that her enthusiastic support for the
667 war might have been misplaced)
668 He's a fine, fine lad. I do wish I had let him stay here with me, though. It would be lovely
669 to be married.

670
671 HILDA
672 (HILDA enters leading the POLICEMAN)
673 Look what I found loitering outside our tent.

674
675 POLICEMAN
676 Excuse me, miss. Do you have any socialists in here?

677
678 LEAH
679 I don't think so.

680
681 HILDA
682 Perish the thought. Say, why aren't you doing your bit in the army instead of bothering
683 citizens like us?
684

685 POLICEMAN
686 (Cue Ypres underscore #1)
687 But I was in the army, to be sure. Joined up in '14 and on the first boat to France, I was.
688 Saw a bit off action, and I hope to say that some German families are in mourning as a
689 result. But I was gassed at Ypres², I was. Terrible stuff, that Jerry gas. It makes your
690 lungs bleed and bubble so you drown in your own spit, if you'll pardon my language.
691 Most of the chaps in my regiment fell where they stood and never got up. I was one of the
692 lucky ones that lived to tell about it. Spent six months in hospital before they judged I
693 might be fit to return to the world. But not to the army. No, they wouldn't let me stay in
694 the army. Too weak in the chest I was and always would be. So they sent me to protect
695 the home front.

696
697 LEAH
698 By hunting socialists?

699
700 POLICEMAN
701 Yes, miss. Socialists and other unpatriotic types.

702
703 LEAH
704 Are there no patriotic socialists?

705
706 POLICEMAN
707 None, miss. Socialists say we should quit the war. That kind of talk helps the enemy,
708 which makes socialists the enemy, too. Saying discouraging things about the war is
709 unpatriotic. And it's against the law.

710
711 VOICES OFF
712 Dora!

713
714 POLICEMAN
715 I need to keep our community safe from these rascals, particularly with sensitive projects
716 in the area.

717
718 HILDA
719 Sensitive projects? Whatever do you mean?

720
721 POLICEMAN
722 Just down the road is the shoe factory.

723
724 LEAH
725 That old shoe factory has been there for years.

726

² He mispronounces it Eye-pers.

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POLICEMAN

All the same, the shoe factory has become very important in these times of war. Let's just say that good British shoes are quite essential, if you know what I mean. Wink, wink, as it were.

HILDA

Are you saying that the shoe factory is making something other than shoes?

POLICEMAN

No, ma'am. I could never say that, could I? Let's just say that it would be a great loss to the war effort if something were to happen to our shoe factory. That's why I need to round up the socialists before they bring about more mischief. We have a new weapon in our arsenal now. Conscription!

LEAH

Conscription? There is no conscription in England.

POLICEMAN

There is now. It's just been passed. Socialists will have a choice. They can fight for their King or they can rot in prison. I'm not a hard fellow. I support giving a chap what's in error a chance to reform himself. Put him in the army where he can do some good protecting our way of life.

(Cue 05 Way of Life)

THE FELLOW WHO MIGHT HESITATE TO GIVE KING GEORGE HIS
FULL SUPPORT
WOULD TELL YOU THAT THE INFANTRY IS ONLY INESSENTIAL
STRIFE,
BUT WON'T HE BE THE FIRST TO SAY THAT CRICKET IS HIS FAV'RITE
SPORT?
SO LET HIM DO HIS DUTY TO PROTECT OUR BRITISH WAY OF LIFE.

LEAH

But how dreadful to be shot at all the time!

POLICEMAN

I'D WAGER THAT YOU'RE FOND OF DRINKING TEA AND EATING
CRUMPETS,
AND CIVILIZING SANDWICHES BY TAKING CRUSTS OFF WITH A
KNIFE,
SO OFF TO BATTLE MEN MUST GO WHEN BRITANNIA SOUNDS THE
TRUMPETS,
AND TO THE DEATH IF NEEDED TO PROTECT OUR BRITISH WAY OF
LIFE.

772

773

LEAH

774 You mean this war is about our food?

775

776

POLICEMAN

777

Yes, miss.

778

779

(Dance break.)

780

781

POLICEMAN, LEAH, and HILDA

782

(The POLICEMAN conducts.)

783

THE GERMANS WANT TO TAKE AWAY

784

THE TASTY FOOD THAT LIFE'S ABOUT

785

REPLACING TREACLE, CREAM, AND SCONES

786

WITH SAUSAGES AND SOUR SAUERKRAUT.

787

788

LEAH

789

I'm still not buying it's about the food.

790

791

POLICEMAN

792

I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT I'M AS LIBERAL AS ANY GUY,

793

I HAVE A LITTLE COTTAGE WHERE I KEEP A LITTLE BRITISH WIFE

794

WHO DOES MY WASH AND DARN'S MY SOCKS AND COOKS MY

795

STEAK AND KIDNEY PIE,

796

NO WONDER I INSIST SOMEONE PROTECT MY BRITISH WAY OF LIFE.

797

798

LEAH

799

SO LUKE MUST DO HIS DUTY?

800

801

POLICEMAN

802

YES, LUKE MUST DO HIS DUTY

803

804

POLICEMAN, HILDA, and LEAH

805

TO PROTECT YOUR/OUR BRITISH WAY OF LIFE.

806

807

(Button. POLICEMAN exits..)

808

809

LEAH

810

A war about our food, how curious.

811

812

(LEAH and HILDA merge into the passersby at the beginning of the next

813

scene.)

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Act 1, Scene 4. The Midway

(Patrons and performers³ straggle past a row of signs advertising midway attractions: the bearded lady, the elephant boy, the fortune teller. Among the passersby is the RINGMASTER, who stops center stage and addresses the audience.)

RINGMASTER

The midway! The heart of the circus, where fortunes are made 5 pence at a time. It is here that our star attraction, Victoria, astounds audiences with her uncanny ability to make contact with the shades of yesterday and to predict the events of tomorrow. And it is here that her two new friends, Roger and Roger, have decided to hide from the events of the world that have gotten into such a state without their approval.

(The ROGERS skulk onstage. They are crudely disguised. ROGER THE SOCIALIST is a cowboy and ROGER THE PACIFIST is an American Indian. The Indian costume might include long underwear, some feathers, and a few dabs of war paint. Think Mortimer.)

Ladies and gentlemen, the Rogers!

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

How did you know it was us?

(To ROGER THE PACIFIST)

I told you these costumes wouldn't work.

RINGMASTER

Your costumes are magnificent. I'm sure your own mothers wouldn't know you.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

His mother doesn't want to know him. She's a Tory.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

Why don't you stop about my mother?

(To the RINGMASTER)

We'd be pleased to join your circus, gov'nor, seeing as how we're between engagements.

RINGMASTER

What do you young men hope to do for the circus?

ROGER THE PACIFIST

We will amaze your patrons with scenes from the Wild American West. Savages on the warpath! Tomahawks everywhere! Paleface scalps flying off their heads!



³ For small cast productions, consider cut-outs, projections, or backdrop pictures of the crowd.

856

857

RINGMASTER

858 I thought you were a pacifist. Savages on the warpath. It sounds delightful. All right, set
859 yourself up in a tent. You get to keep half of what people pay to see your little show.

860

(HE exits.)

861

862

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

863 It's too bad you don't know the first thing about being an Indian.

864

865

(VICTORIA enters.)

866

867

ROGER THE PACIFIST

868 Hello, Victoria.

869

870

VICTORIA

871 What are you two supposed to be, escapees from the lunatic asylum?

872

873

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

874 He thinks we look like cowboys and Indians.

875

876

ROGER THE PACIFIST

877 That's right. We're the new Wild West show at the circus.

878

(The ROGERS put on their idea of a Wild West show.)

879

880

VICTORIA

881 (SHE laughs.)

882 You two are a Wild West show? You don't look very wild.

883

884

ROGER THE PACIFIST

885 (Striking a pose, with his hands like claws).

886

How about now?

887

888

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

889 Pathetic.

890

891

ROGER THE PACIFIST

892 We have to practice. We've joined the circus. We're a midway attraction, just like you.

893

894

VICTORIA

895 Just like me? All you're doing is taking advantage of tragic stereotypes of a group of
896 people who have been disadvantaged for centuries.

897

898

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

899 What does that mean?

900

901 VICTORIA
902 The native people of North America have been treated extraordinarily badly by people
903 who look like me and you. Well, like you without the feathers. In the future, the little act
904 you're trying to put together will be considered racist.
905
906 ROGER THE PACIFIST
907 Racy? That's good, isn't it?
908
909 VICTORIA
910 Racist. That's bad. Besides, even in our backward society, you won't attract customers.
911 You have no talent.
912
913 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
914 You have talent? I thought you were a fortune teller. What talent does that take? You just
915 fool people.
916
917 VICTORIA
918 No, I don't.
919
920 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
921 You want us to believe that you really know what's going to happen before it does?
922
923 VICTORIA
924 Sometimes.
925
926 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
927 We don't believe that, do we, Roger?
928
929 ROGER THE PACIFIST
930 No. We're scientific types, we are.
931
932 VICTORIA
933 I thought you were a savage Indian.
934
935 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
936 That's me stage persona.
937
938 VICTORIA
939 Well, you'd better work on that stage persona, because the Policeman is coming.
940
941 THE ROGERS.
942 (Looking around)
943 Where? I don't see him? Where is he?
944

945 VICTORIA
946 (SHE taps her head)
947 You don't see him, but I do. In here.
948
949 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
950 What makes you think that two intelligent adults, well, one intelligent adult and a
951 sniveling moron, would be taken in by that sort of nonsense? I can see you taking pennies
952 from children and weak-minded country folk, but we're too sophistica- . . .
953
954 POLICEMAN
955 (Entering, tipping his hat to VICTORIA).
956 G'day, miss.
957 (The ROGERS freeze in terror).
958 And what have we here?
959
960 VICTORIA
961 Cowboys and Indians. Just in from America.
962
963 POLICEMAN
964 America, eh? You're not socialists are you? America is full of socialists, I hear.
965
966 ROGER THE PACIFIST
967 Ojibwa.
968
969 POLICEMAN
970 What?
971
972 ROGER THE PACIFIST
973 Me not socialist. Me Ojibwa.
974
975 POLICEMAN
976 Ojibwa? Sounds as bad as a socialist if you ask me.
977
978 ROGER THE PACIFIST
979 Ojibwa not socialist. Ojibwa spit on socialist (*he spits on* ROGER THE SOCIALIST).
980
981 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
982 Hey!
983
984 POLICEMAN
985 (Turning to ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
986 And what's *your* story?
987

988

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

989 Howdy, guv'nor. Me name's Scrappy Jack, just in from driving the cows and such down
990 that dusty trail to Passaic, New Jersey.

991

992

POLICEMAN

993 Look, we don't want any trouble here. We don't want socialists, and we certainly don't
994 want riffraff from Passaic, New Jersey.

995

996

ROGER THE PACIFIST

997 Ojibwa spit on socialist from Passaic, New Jersey.

998

(HE spits on ROGER THE SOCIALIST again).

999

1000

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1001

(Sotto voce)

1002 You do that again and I'll thrash you.

1003

1004

POLICEMAN

1005 We're not accustomed to wild savages in these parts. I'll be keeping an eye on you
1006 heathen. Any sign of trouble, and I'll have you shipped off to the war.

1007

1008

THE ROGERS.

1009 Blimey!

1010

1011

POLICEMAN

1012 So watch yourselves or you'll end up in a big canoe bound for France.

1013

(HE exits.)

1014

1015

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1016 Ojibwa no like France.

1017

1018

VICTORIA

1019 Well, gentlemen, I guess your costumes worked well enough. You've duped your first
1020 weak-minded country folk.

1021

1022

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1023 Say, Victoria, you really did see him coming, didn't you. How did you do it?

1024

1025

(Cue 06 The Future)

1026

(THEY speak over intro and vamp.)

1027

1028

VICTORIA

1029 Sometimes I just see things before they happen.

1030

1031

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1032 You're very special if you can see the future. That must be terrific.

1033

1034

VICTORIA

1035 Not really.

1036

The Future

1037

WHAT WOULD YOU DO

1038

IF I CAME UP TO YOU,

1039

AND I SAID HERE'S THE FUTURE, NOW OWN IT?

1040

YOU WOULD SEE THE NEXT WAR,

1041

AND IT'S REALLY A BORE,

1042

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER CONDEMN THAN CONDONE IT?

1043

1044

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1045

(THEY speak over vamp.)

1046

So can you see the glorious triumph of socialism!

1047

1048

VICTORIA

1049

You're going to hate it.

1050

YOU WOULD SEE THAT NEXT YEAR,

1051

RUSSIAN WORKERS WILL CHEER,

1052

COMRADE LENIN NEEDS NO INTRODUCTION,

1053

BUT THEN THINGS GO AWRY

1054

AS FREE WILL GOES

1055

Bye-bye,

1056

REVOLUTION BRINGS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.

1057

1058

(SHE speaks over the bridge.)

1059

But this gift hasn't done anything for my social life. It's only made me more depressed.

1060

ALONE WITH THE FUTURE,

1061

A FUTURE YOU HAVE NEVER KNOWN,

1062

A FUTURE I DON'T SEE AS AN IMPROVEMENT,

1063

FOR IN THIS FUTURE I AM STILL ALONE.

1064

1065

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1066

(THEY speak over the bridge and vamp.)

1067

It sounds an awful burden, Vic. I'd love to keep you company in the future. And I

1068

wouldn't be surprised if pacifism comes into its own before long, especially after this

1069

bloody foolish war.

1070

VICTORIA

1071

Sorry, Roger. Not quite.

1072

PACIFISM GOES ON

1073

BUT IS NEVER THAT STRONG,

1074

YOU'LL JUST HATE WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING,

1075

WE LOVE PACIFISTS, YET NOT,

1076

AS MOST PACIFISTS GET SHOT

1077

MEN CALLED GANDHI, JOHN LENNON, AND MARTIN LUTHER KING.

1078 Blessèd are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God. Matthew
1079 chapter 5, verse 9.
1080 (Beat)
1081 What nonsense.
1082 (SHE pauses to wipe away a tear.)
1083 Well, I suppose we must get on with it.
1084
1085 ALONE WITH THE FUTURE,
1086 A FUTURE YOU HAVE NEVER KNOWN,
1087 A FUTURE I DON'T SEE AS AN IMPROVEMENT,
1088 FOR IN THIS FUTURE I AM STILL ALONE, ALL BY MYSELF.
1089
1090 THE FUTURE IS JUST A RIVER THAT FLOWS
1091 OUT OF THE PAST AND ONWARD FOREVER,
1092 ALONE. ALONE.
1093 (Button.)
1094
1095 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1096 You poor thing. Imagine having that gift and being ignored!
1097
1098 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1099 Even so, it's bloody good news about Marxism.
1100
1101 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1102 Weren't you listening? Your Marxist government will be just as bad as any other
1103 government.
1104 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1105 Victoria hasn't predicted a pacifist government. Have you, Victoria?
1106
1107 VICTORIA
1108 No, I'm afraid a pacifist government would be quite impossible.
1109
1110 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1111 See, no pacifist government!
1112
1113 VICTORIA
1114 The business of government is keeping itself in power. The only way for a government to
1115 stay in power is to make war on those more intelligent elements of the society that can
1116 see that there are lunatics running things. A pacifist government wouldn't last two
1117 seconds.
1118
1119 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1120 Is it a foregone conclusion that all governments will be run by lunatics?
1121

1122
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1166

VICTORIA

Of course. Who else would want to run a government but a lunatic?

(TEDDY ROOSEVELT enters, perhaps wearing life preserver or carrying a barrel boat. This is theater after all.)



TEDDY ROOSEVELT

I don't agree one bit.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

Who the devil are you?

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States of America.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

(To VICTORIA).

Did you bring him here?

VICTORIA

I don't think so. You're not dead, are you sir?

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Not at all, my dear. I'm quite fit.

(Looking at the ROGERS)

What are you two young men supposed to be?

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

I, sir, am a cowboy.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

You paleface from across the big water, me Indian.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

(HE laughs.)

You're not an Indian. I could carve a better Indian out of a banana.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

I don't doubt you could, gov'nor. But I'm an Indian all the same.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

You're probably a petty thief, hiding from the law.

1210 RINGMASTER
1211 What's all this chatter?
1212 (To TEDDY ROOSEVELT)
1213 Who are you?
1214
1215 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1216 I am Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States of America.
1217
1218 HILDA
1219 An American!
1220
1221 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1222 (HIS attention is drawn to HILDA.)
1223 And who is this charming young woman?
1224
1225 RINGMASTER
1226 Hilda, from parts unknown.
1227
1228 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1229 Parts unknown is it? I'd say you have a touch of the Dakotas in your accent.
1230 (HILDA is silent. TEDDY ROOSEVELT addresses the rest of the group.)
1231 Tell me, how did the war start? What convinced England to give its rotten German cousin
1232 a thrashing?
1233
1234 (The COMPANY acts out the history, with one character playing each of
1235 the countries being mentioned).
1236
1237 LEAH
1238 Poor Serbia was invaded by the Austrians.
1239
1240 HILDA
1241 So you see, Mr. President...
1242
1243 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1244 (Flirting).
1245 Call me Twenty-six.
1246
1247 HILDA
1248 So you see, Mr. President, England was put in a position of having to defend the right of
1249 small nations to exist, to be independent of their bullying larger neighbors.
1250
1251 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1252 Ah, England the defender of the small nation.
1253

1254 VICTORIA
1255 (Sarcastically)
1256 Like Ireland.
1257
1258 RINGMASTER
1259 Touchy subject, Victoria. You might want to stay away from it. An agent of change, not
1260 an *agent provocateur*.
1261
1262 VICTORIA
1263 It's hard not to provoke people who say stupid things, such as England being a defender
1264 of small nations. England is a defender of England. Belgium was set up as a cushion to
1265 protect England from the next Napoleon. When the Germans invaded France in this war,
1266 they cut through Belgium, guaranteeing that England would be drawn into the war to
1267 protect its buffer zone.
1268
1269 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1270 You're very clever, aren't you, Vic? How do you do it?
1271
1272 VICTORIA
1273 It's really not so clever. The future is just a river that flows out of the past and onward
1274 forever. It's as easy for me to look into the past as the future.
1275
1276 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1277 That's all very interesting, but the fact is, the Germans were the invaders. They're the bad
1278 guys, and they need to have their heineys kicked back across the Rhine.
1279
1280 LEAH
1281 Exactly so!
1282
1283 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1284 The problem with England is that there was no conscription before the war. You should
1285 have recognized the Germans for the devils they were and built up an army of two or
1286 three million men. You could have clobbered the Kaiser before he had a chance to think
1287 his first nasty thought. An ounce of prevention!
1288
1289 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1290 You mean preventing a war by starting a war?
1291
1292 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1293 Exactly so!
1294
1295 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1296 That's crazy.
1297

1298
1299 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1300 Your problem, young man, is you're a sissy. American women don't give birth to sissies.
1301 Here's the song of freedom and heroism for us to sing to our children, our future soldiers.

1302 (Cue 07 My Boy.⁴)
1303

1304 MY BOY MUST NEVER BRING DISGRACE
1305 TO HIS IMMORTAL SIRES,
1306 AT VALLEY FORGE AND LEXINGTON
1307 THEY KINDLED FREEDOM'S FIRES.

1308
1309 DAD'S FATHER DIED AT GETTYSBURG,
1310 MINE FELL AT CHANCELLORSVILLE,
1311 WHILE DAD HIMSELF WAS WITH THE BOYS
1312 WHO CHARGED UP SAN JUAN HILL.

1313
1314 AND DAD, IF HE WERE LIVING NOW,
1315 WOULD SURELY SAY WITH ME
1316 NO SON OF OURS SHALL DARE DISGRACE
1317 THE GRAND OLD FAM'LY TREE

1318
1319 BY TURNING OUT A SLACKER
1320 WHEN HIS COUNTRY NEEDS HIS AID,
1321 IT IS NOT OF SUCH TIMBER THAT
1322 AMERICA WAS MADE.

1323 (HE plays the air guitar.)
1324

1325 ROGER THE PACIFIST

1326 What is *that*?

1327
1328 VICTORIA

1329 It's called an air guitar.

1330
1331 ROGER THE PACIFIST

1332 What?

1333
1334 VICTORIA

1335 It's the future.

1336
1337 HILDA

1338 I like it!
1339

⁴ A poem written for the Four Minute Men program authorized by President Wilson to support the US effort in World War I after the US entered the war. Public domain.

1340 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1341 Hilda likes it.
1342 I'D RATHER YOU HAD DIED AT BIRTH
1343 OR NOT BEEN BORN AT ALL
1344 THAN KNOW THAT I HAD RAISED A SON
1345 WHO CANNOT HEAR THE CALL
1346
1347 THAT FREEDOM HAS SENT ROUND THE WORLD
1348 ITS PRECIOUS RIGHT TO SAVE,
1349 THIS CALL IS MEANT FOR YOU MY BOY,
1350 AND I WOULD HAVE YOU BRAVE.

1351
1352 (HILDA and LEAH put on a harmony.)
1353 AND THOUGH MY HEART IS BREAKING,
1354 I BID YOU DO YOUR PART,
1355 AND SHOW THE WORLD NO SON OF MINE
1356 IS CURSED WITH CRAVEN HEART.
1357
1358 AND IF YOU DIE AND DON'T RETURN
1359 MY LATER DAYS TO CHEER
1360 AND I HAVE ONLY MEMORIES
1361 OF MY BRAVE BOY SO DEAR,

1362
1363 HILDA and LEAH
1364 OH OH, TEDDY,
1365 SING IT, TEDDY.

1366
1367 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1368 I'D RATHER HAVE IT SO, MY BOY,
1369 AND KNOW YOU BRAVELY DIED
1370 THAN HAVE A LIVING COWARD SIT
1371 SUPINELY BY MY SIDE.

1372
1373 TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM SIN, MY BOY,
1374 GOD GAVE HIS ONLY SON,

1375
1376 HILDA and LEAH
1377 HIS SON.

1378
1379 TEDDY ROOSEVELT, HILDA, and LEAH
1380 HE'S ASKING FOR MY BOY TODAY
1381 AND MAY HIS WILL BE DONE.

1382
1383 (Button.)
1384

1385
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1426

ROGER THE PACIFIST

And how did Jesus get into your song? In my bible, Jesus is a pacifist.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

That's because you're uneducated. The German is so wicked, that Jesus, were he here today, would gladly run him through with a bayonet.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

But the Germans are Christians, too. And besides, Jesus was a socialist.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Actually, Jesus was a Republican. I happen to know this. Personally. Jesus would love the war not for the war's sake but for its role in the larger war with evil, the war that has no end.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

(HE is sarcastic.)

Thank goodness for war without end.

HILDA

Don't be a bore, young man. The war has been very good for us. It has brought us together. Before the war, we were an insular society, but now we have found a common cause as a community.

LEAH

Community?

(Cue 08 Community)

HILDA

You see, my dear, a society is a group of people who happen to live in the same place but who have little to do with one another. A community, on the other hand, is a group of neighbors working together for a common cause.

(In this song, HILDA wins LEAH back to the cause. VICTORIA and the ROGERS stand apart.)

THROUGHOUT OUR LIVES WE'VE LIVED APART,
AND NOW THE FOE KNOCKS ON OUR DOOR,
SOCIETY WAS A POOR START,
AS A COMMUNITY WE'LL WIN THIS WAR.

“Where freedom stirs,
let tyrants fear.”



1427 LEAH, MY FRIEND, STAND WITH YOUR COUNTRY,
1428 WHERE FREEDOM STIRS, LET TYRANTS FEAR,⁵
1429 JOIN WITH US, BE FREEDOM’S SENTRY,
1430 MAY GODLESS TYRANNY DISAPPEAR.

1431
1432 WE WERE A SOCIETY,
1433 NOW WE'RE A COMMUNITY,
1434 SOCIETY, COMMUNITY,
1435 WE ARE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE TOGETHER.

1437 VICTORIA
1438 EV’RYONE SPOUTS PATRIOTISM
1439 WITHOUT TAKING TIME TO COMPREHEND
1440 MINDLESS ALLEGIANCE ONLY LEADS TO
1441 MINDLESS DESTRUCTION AND WAR WITHOUT END.

1443 LEAH
1444 Something really should be done with you, Victoria. You don’t appreciate the importance
1445 of standing together in times like these. You need to stop speaking if you have nothing
1446 good to say.

1448 HILDA
1449 Leah is right, Victoria. It’s time for you to be quiet.

1451 LEAH
1452 RISE UP, MY FRIENDS, STAND UP MY NEIGHBORS,
1453 OUR VOICES ARE OUR VICT’RY’S FOUNDATION,
1454 SEE HOW TOGETHER WE CAN LABOR
1455 TO ACHIEVE THE ENEMY’S EXTERMINATION.

1457 LEAH and HILDA
1458 FIGHTING AS ONE, NO ONE CAN BEAT US,
1459 STRIVING TO WIN, FOES CAN’T DEFEAT US,
1460 WAR WAS OUR OPPORTUNITY
1461 TO BE A STRONGER COMMUNITY.

1462 _____
⁵ “Where freedom stirs, let tyrants fear.” George W. Bush. A projection of him and the
quotation would work well here.

1463

LEAH and HILDA accompanied by SAD and HAPPY CLOWNS, TEDDY ROOSEVELT, RINGMASTER	THE ROGERS
WE WERE A SOCIETY, NOW WE'RE A COMMUNITY, SOCIETY, COMMUNITY, WE ARE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE TOGETHER.	WHAT FOOLISHNESS, YOUR SONGS A SORRY MESS, BAH, BAH, POO, POO, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO

1464

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1465

1466 Sheep!

1467

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1468

1469 Baaaa.

1470

LEAH and HILDA accompanied by SAD and HAPPY CLOWNS, TEDDY ROOSEVELT, RINGMASTER	THE ROGERS
WE WERE A SOCIETY, NOW WE'RE A COMMUNITY, SOCIETY, COMMUNITY, WE ARE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE TOGETHER.	WE THINK YOU'RE FULL OF SHITE, WE DO, THAT'S WHY WE'RE NOT QUITE THERE WITH YOU, WE'RE NOT QUITE TOGETHER NOW.

1471

(Button)

1472

1473

VICTORIA

1474

1475 How can you glorify this ugly war?

1476

HILDA

1477

1478 There are no ugly wars.

1479

(SHE looks down her nose at VICTORIA)

1480

Only ugly sentiments.

1481

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1482

1483 Uh-oh, Vic, I think she wants to fight.

1484

VICTORIA

1485

1486 Surely you don't believe this war is justified because it brought together our community
1487 in a common cause. A bake sale could have done just as well.

1488

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1489

1490 Good come-back, Vic.

1491

1492

HILDA

1493 The war has had a cleansing effect, as only a great convulsion of society can. Before the
1494 war, the tensions in the world were unbearable. France was at Germany's throat, the
1495 Italians wanted to boot the Austrians back across the Alps, the Austrians hated the
1496 Serbians, the British were racing the Germans for the biggest navy, and the Russians
1497 were a threat to everyone. This war was like a thunderstorm on a humid summer day, and
1498 it will clear the air, letting us move forward in peace and victory!

1499

1500

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1501

(HE is smitten.)

1502

Oh, I like your style.

1503

1504

HILDA

1505 And that's why this war will be known as the War to End all Wars.

1506

1507

LEAH, RINGMASTER, THE CLOWNS (*variously*).

1508

The War to End All Wars. Quite right. Jolly good. Smashing name. Wonderful.

1509

1510

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1511

(To VICTORIA)

1512

Is that how the war will be known? The War to End All Wars?

1513

1514

VICTORIA

1515

I'm afraid not.

1516

1517

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1518

How will it be known in the future? Capitalism's Last Gasp?

1519

1520

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1521

The Great War?

1522

1523

HAPPY CLOWN

1524

The Heroic War?

1525

1526

LEAH

1527

The Final War?

1528

1529

VICTORIA

1530

No. (beat) World War One.

1531

1532

ALL (*horrified*).

1533

World War *One*???

1534

(Big pause while this revelation sinks in)

1535

1536

VICTORIA

1537 This war will not be the last war, not even close to the last war. And as brutal as it is, it
1538 will not be the most brutal war.

1539

1540

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1541 Surely you exaggerate.

1542

1543

VICTORIA

1544 I never exaggerate. In the face of the monumental stupidity of the human race,
1545 exaggeration would be redundant.

1546

1547

HILDA

1548 I would hardly call patriotism monumental stupidity.

1549

1550

VICTORIA

1551 And yet it is the most monumental of stupidities, isn't it?

1552

1553

HILDA

1554 The call to arms to protect one's homeland is the most honored duty that can be asked of
1555 a citizen. To die in the defense of one's country is the holiest possible death. As the poet
1556 writes,

1557 Ah, ye gods! Ye great immortals

1558 In the spacious heavens above us!

1559 Would ye on this earth but give us

1560 Steadfast minds and dauntless courage

1561 We, oh kindly ones, would leave you

1562 All your spacious heavens above us!

1563

1564

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1565 That was beautiful.

1566

1567

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1568 Far out.

1569 (HE writes it down.)

1570 Can you say it again?

1571

1572

HILDA

1573 Ah, ye gods! Ye great immortals

1574 In the spacious heavens above us!

1575 Would ye on this earth but give us

1576

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1621

ROGER THE PACIFIST

(HE is still taking notes.)
Steadfast minds and dauntless courage.
Great stuff, that. Who wrote that? I'll have to look it up.

SAD CLOWN

Can you at least tell us whether we will win the war?

VICTORIA

No one wins, everyone loses. The losers lose and the winners lose.

HILDA

Happily, our leaders understand that this war is a battle to save civilization itself.

VICTORIA

Civilization has been saved so many times, you would think it would be worth something by now. Our leaders? What arses our leaders are. Just like all other leaders throughout history. They know what to say, because it's all been said before. The same words, words to make their genitals seem larger.

(The COMPANY gasps at the genitals line
LEAH is angry and near tears)

LEAH

Victoria, you are so offensive, particularly for someone with a man in the war. And likely because you have no man. It's simply cruel! Don't our brave soldiers have a difficult enough time without people giving comfort to the enemy by criticizing our war effort?

VICTORIA

Comfort to the enemy? *We* are the enemy. I can't believe no one sees what has been plainly written in our history ever since our ancestors were beating one another over the head with clubs and rocks.

(SHE exits.)

RINGMASTER

(Spoken as HE/SHE follows VICTORIA offstage)

Victoria, wait! Stop fighting everyone. Be an agent of change!

HILDA

(Huffily)

What a distinctly unpleasant women.

(SHE exits in the opposite direction.)

LEAH

It's all so confusing.

(LEAH and the CLOWNS exit.)

1622

1623

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1624

(Admiringly)

1625 She's quite a little spitfire, isn't she?

1626

1627

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1628 She certainly is.

1629

1630

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1631 I just love a girl who can hold her own in a fight. The principles that inspire passion in

1632 her; why, they're good home-grown American values.

1633

1634

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1635 They are?

1636

1637

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1638 Yes, indeed. In fact, the more I see of that little cutie, the more convinced I am that she's

1639 American.

1640

1641

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1642 Victoria? American?

1643

1644

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1645 No, not Victoria. Hilda, from parts unknown. Well, I'll bet the parts unknown are right

1646 smack in the middle of the U.S. of A. Why, that there is a real American girl. I need that

1647 woman in my life.

1648

1649

(Cue 09 A Real American Girl)

1650

(In this song, TEDDY ROOSEVELT and the ROGERS compete with one another, for example, by singing more quickly and more loudly.)

1651

1652

1653

THERE'S NOTHING TO COMPARE TO A REAL AMERICAN GIRL,
A WOMAN EASY ON THE EYE WHO SETS YOUR HEART A-WHIRL,
SHE PASSES YOUR BULLETS WITH HER LIPPY-STICK ON STRAIGHT,
SHE RAISES UP YOUR BABIES SO THEY KNOW WHOM TO HATE.

1654

1655

1656

1657

1658

A REAL AMERICAN GIRL IS A GEM BEYOND COMPARE,
SHE KNOWS IF SHE'S NOT WITH HER MAN, SHE ISN'T ANYWHERE,
SHE CULTIVATES THE RIGHT DEGREE OF YANKEE LIBERTY,
NOT TAKING ANY LIBERTIES TO DISAGREE WITH ME.

1659

1660

1661

1662

1663

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1664

I THINK IT'S RATHER NICE TO SPEAK YOUR MIND WHEN YOU ARE
HOT,

1665

1666

TO INDICATE PRECISELY WHAT WAR IS AND WHAT IT'S NOT,

1667 TO ANSWER JINGOISTIC NONSENSE FROM A PERFECT FOOL,
1668 I THINK MY VIC WAS RATHER QUICK TO WIN THAT VERBAL DUEL.

1669

1670

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1671 SHE SPEAKS HER MIND, AND WHAT A MIND; THAT WOMAN KNOWS
1672 HER STUFF,

1673

1674 How odd. I never considered that a nice-looking woman like that might have a fine mind.

1675

1676 SHE HANDS YOUR DRIVEL BACK TO YOU WHEN SHE HAS HAD
1677 ENOUGH,

1678

1679 If not for Dora, I would have fallen for her long ago, but now I have no choice but to fall
1680 in love.

1681

1682 ALTHOUGH SHE'S NOT ENLIGHTENED YET ABOUT THE TRUTH OF
1683 MARX,

1684 I MUST SAY THAT THAT WOMAN LIGHTS MY FIRE WHEN SHE
1685 SPARKS.

1686

1687

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

1688 THE OTHER COUNTRIES WISH THEIR WOMEN WERE AS FINE AS
1689 OURS,

1690 WITH GIRLISH FRILLS LIKE LAUNDRY SKILLS AND CULINARY
1691 POWERS,

1692 AND WHEN YOUR MULE ACTS LIKE A FOOL AND WON'T GET IN THE
1693 PLOW,

1694 YOUR MATE WITH CHARM WILL WORK YOUR FARM, AND STOP TO
1695 WIPE YOUR BROW.

1696

1697

THE ROGERS

1698 THE ELOQUENT VICTORIA MADE HILDA LOOK A FOOL,
1699 BEFORE SHE TRIES TO TALK AGAIN, SHE'D BEST GO BACK TO
1700 SCHOOL,

1701 WE ARE AMAZED, WITH VIC WE'RE CRAZED, SHE PLAYED A
1702 PERFECT PART,

1703 AND DON'T YOU KNOW HER LITTLE SHOW SPOKE CLEARLY TO MY
1704 HEART.

1705

1706

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

1707 SOME MEN MAY FALL FOR GOLDEN CURLS,

1708

1709

ROGER THE PACIFIST

1710 SOME FOR A CREAMY THIGH,

1711

1712 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1713 SOME MEN ARE NUTS FOR SHAPELY BUTTS,

1714
1715 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1716 ON THAT YOU CAN RELY,

1717
1718 THE ROGERS
1719 BUT IT WAS NEAT TO HEAR VIC TREAT
1720 YOUR HILDA WITH DISDAIN,
1721 OH, OH, VICTORIA, WHAT A STORY,
1722 WE'VE FALLEN FOR YOUR BRAIN.

1723
1724 TEDDY ROOSEVELT, THE ROGERS
1725 (THEY sing over one another. The next three parts are sung concurrently.)

1726
1727 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1728 THERE'S NOTHING TO COMPARE TO A REAL AMERICAN GIRL,
1729 A WOMAN EASY ON THE EYE WHO SETS YOUR HEART A-WHIRL,
1730 SHE PASSES YOUR BULLETS WITH HER LIPPY-STICK ON STRAIGHT,
1731 SHE RAISES UP YOUR BABIES SO THEY KNOW WHOM TO HATE.

1732
1733 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1734 I THINK IT'S RATHER NICE TO SPEAK YOUR MIND WHEN YOU ARE
1735 HOT,
1736 TO INDICATE PRECISELY WHAT WAR IS AND WHAT IT'S NOT,
1737 TO ANSWER JINGOISTIC NONSENSE FROM A PERFECT FOOL,
1738 I THINK MY VIC WAS RATHER QUICK TO WIN THAT VERBAL DUEL.

1739
1740 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1741 SHE SPEAKS HER MIND, AND WHAT A MIND; THAT WOMAN KNOWS
1742 HER STUFF,
1743 SHE HANDS YOUR DRIVEL BACK TO YOU WHEN SHE HAS HAD
1744 ENOUGH,
1745 ALTHOUGH SHE'S NOT ENLIGHTENED YET ABOUT THE TRUTH OF
1746 MARX,
1747 I MUST SAY THAT THAT WOMAN LIGHTS MY FIRE WHEN SHE SPARKS.

1748
1749 TEDDY ROOSEVELT and THE ROGERS
1750 (THEY try to outdo one another on the last note.)
1751 I MUST SAY THAT THAT WOMAN LIGHTS MY FIRE WHEN SHE SPARKS.

1752
1753 (Button. TEDDY ROOSEVELT storms off.)

1754
1755 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1756 I say, aren't we the moderns, falling for a woman's brain.

1757
1758 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1759 Yes, we are. Why, I don't know if such a thing will ever be in style. We should ask
1760 Victoria.
1761
1762 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1763 Good idea. I'll ask her.
1764
1765 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1766 *You'll* ask her? Why shouldn't I ask her?
1767
1768 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1769 Because we're both sweet on her, right?
1770
1771 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1772 Yes, that's true.
1773
1774 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1775 That makes us rivals.
1776
1777 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1778 I suppose it does.
1779
1780 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1781 When two chums like us become rivals, that could become awkward, don't you think?
1782
1783 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1784 We're not really chums. All you do is argue with me.
1785
1786 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1787 I don't argue with you. I simply point out when you say something foolish. Which is most
1788 of the time. We can't ask Victoria to listen to all this commotion. It's an awkward situation
1789 that need to be handled delicately. We both know that I'm the delicate member of the team.
1790
1791 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1792 You are?
1793
1794 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1795 Why, yes. You have all these passions, you do all this speech-making and stomping
1796 around. No, mate, you're definitely the blunt instrument here. I'll ask her.
1797
1798 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1799 Just a minute, just a minute. I don't see why we can't both ask her.
1800

1801 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1802 All right, we'll both ask her. But, we don't want to overwhelm her. You can come along,
1803 but let me do the talking.
1804
1805 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1806 Well, okay, you can do the talking, but make sure you tell her that we're both asking.
1807
1808 (THEY head off together, having the following conversation as THEY exit.)
1809
1810 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1811 Of course, that would be only fair. Now, in order not to confuse her, I think you should stay
1812 back, so we don't crowd her. In fact, you should probably stand behind a tree.
1813
1814 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1815 Behind a tree?
1816
1817 ROGER THE PACIFIST
1818 Yes. And you should face away from Victoria so she doesn't feel too pressured. In fact,
1819 maybe you could climb into the tree...
1820
1821 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
1822 Wait a minute. I don't see any trees around here. Do you see any trees? (THEY are off.)
1823
1824 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1825 (HE enters from the opposite direction carrying a bullwhip.)
1826 Now where did the fake cowboy and Indian go? I want to teach them some respect.
1827
1828 (VICTORIA enters, stopping short when she sees TEDDY ROOSEVELT).
1829
1830 VICTORIA
1831 Oh!
1832
1833 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1834 (HE bows stiffly, hiding the whip behind his back.)
1835 Miss.
1836
1837 VICTORIA
1838 Mr. President. That's quite a nice...bullwhip.
1839
1840 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1841 Oh, that. It's nothing. A little souvenir that I picked up in Paris.
1842
1843 VICTORIA
1844 I see.
1845

1846 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1847 Not doing anything undignified, I should add.
1848
1849 VICTORIA
1850 Of course not.
1851
1852 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1853 Although, speaking of undignified behavior, might I comment?
1854
1855 VICTORIA
1856 Of course.
1857
1858 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1859 I was rather taken aback at your behavior, which I found, well undignified.
1860
1861 VICTORIA
1862 I see. Undignified.
1863
1864 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1865 Yes. Not at all ladylike. I am accustomed to women being rather more reserved in their
1866 political opinions.
1867
1868 VICTORIA
1869 I understand. I might even have guessed that you are accustomed to women not having
1870 political opinions.
1871
1872 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1873 Now, don't misunderstand me. I think women are entitled to political opinions as long as
1874 those opinions are patriotic and, well...unspoken.
1875
1876 VICTORIA
1877 Patriotic and unspoken?
1878
1879 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1880 Yes, supportive of the country, particularly in times of war. In my country, women are
1881 very pleased to support their fighting men.
1882
1883 VICTORIA
1884 Yes, I know. Yours is quite a bellicose society, isn't it?
1885
1886 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
1887 Bellicose? What do you mean?
1888
1889 VICTORIA
1890 You Americans love war.

1891
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1934
1935

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

I beg your pardon. We Americans love peace.

VICTORIA

I suppose you think so. Your history suggests otherwise.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Our history? What do you know of our history?

VICTORIA

Quite a bit, including that history yet to come. It's really quite distressing. In the next hundred years, your country will join in many wars to protect its empire.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Empire? The United States does not have an empire. You have us confused with your own country perhaps.

(Cue 10 Presidents' Parade)

VICTORIA

GREAT BRITAIN ADMITS WITH PRIDE
THAT SHE HAS AN EMPIRE
FOR WHICH MANY A BRITON HAS DIED
IN THE QUEST TO ACQUIRE
YET MORE LAND, TO KEEP BRITANNIA GRAND
AND OUR POETS INSPIRE.

We haven't concealed our ambitions. You have and will continue to do so.

YOUR COUNTRY WILL OUTDO MINE
AS YOU BUILD YOUR OWN EMPIRE,
A SECRET SHRINE TO THE BOTTOM LINE
AS YOUR LEADERS CONSPIRE
TO WIN LOOT WITH THEIR POWER,
YOU'LL WORSHIP THE GREAT DOLLAR SIGN.

You will fight wars to protect spheres of influence in countries that have never flown the American flag. The invocation of liberty and democracy for all will be your excuse for invading weaker nations that threaten important markets. In your day it was sugar cane. Before long it will be oil.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

That nasty ooze? Never!



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VICTORIA
 YOUR PRESIDENTS WILL BE A PARADE
 OF MENTAL DWARFS AND SOCIAL MISFITS,
 WITHOUT SCRUPLES ARE SUCH PEOPLE MADE,
 WITH DEADLY RESULTS FROM THEIR DIM-WITTED SNITS.

YOUR PRESIDENTS WILL ALL GO TO WAR
 FOR THE LAND OF THE PAWNEE AND HOME OF THE SLAVE,
 THE WAGE SLAVE WITH NO HOPE ANYMORE
 EXCEPT TO ESCAPE TO AN EARLY GRAVE.

(The COMPANY enters, disguised as Presidents. Dance break.)

COMPANY
 WE'RE FOOLS AND CROOKS, YOU CAN BET YOUR MOUSTACHE,
 WE'LL TAX YOUR INCOME LIKE NEVER BEFORE,
 WE'LL MAKE GRAND EXCUSES FOR TAKING YOUR CASH
 TO PAY OFF OUR FRIENDS WHO MAKE PROFITS FROM WAR.

WE'LL WATCH WITH GLEE WHILE YOUR BRIDGES CRUMBLE,
 WITH ROADS CAVING IN ON YOUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS,
 SO WE CAN ARRANGE A FOREIGN POLICY FUMBLE,
 AND SEND ALL YOUR CASH TO OUR BUDDIES WHO MAKE GUNS.

THANK GOD FOR POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE FEW,
 THE FEW OF US WHO CLASHED UNAFRAID,
 'CAUSE WE DIDN'T CARE WHOM WE HAD TO SCREW
 AS WE FOUGHT LIKE HELL TO GET IN THE PARADE.

VICTORIA
 LET'S GET IN LINE FOR THE PRESIDENTS' PARADE,
 A LINE OF MORONS WHO DROOL AND SPIT,
 OVER TIME WE'VE HAD OUR HOPES BETRAYED,
 BECAUSE THESE SAD CREATURES JUST ARE NOT WORTH

VICTORIA
 LET'S GET IN LINE FOR THE PRESIDENTS' PARADE,
 A LINE OF MORONS WHO DROOL AND SPIT,
 OVER TIME WE'VE HAD OUR HOPES BETRAYED,
 BECAUSE THESE SAD CREATURES JUST ARE NOT WORTH

VICTORIA	COMPANY ⁶
VERY MUCH AT ALL,	SHIT!

⁶ Except TEDDY ROOSEVELT

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VICTORIA and COMPANY⁷
VERY MUCH AT ALL.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT
Your disrespect cannot go unanswered.

I DON'T AT ALL LIKE YOUR STYLE,
AND YOU'VE EARNED MY DEEPEST ENMITY,
YOU'LL LEARN IN A VERY SHORT WHILE
IT'S UNWISE TO DEFAME MY GOOD NAME,
I'M A VERY POWERFUL ENEMY,
A VERY POWERFUL ENEMY.

(Button. TEDDY ROOSEVELT storms off. Everyone onstage dances off
except for VICTORIA. RINGMASTER enters or takes off his disguise.)

RINGMASTER
What was that old boy so steamed about?

VICTORIA
I predicted the future of his country.

RINGMASTER
He didn't care for it?

VICTORIA
Not at all. He's angry at me for what his country will become. And I don't even vote there.
As a matter of fact, it's 1916, I can't vote anywhere. What's that all about?

RINGMASTER
(HE/SHE soothes HER.)
One day, the world will appreciate you and your gift.

VICTORIA
I can't see it. This gift of mine has some serious blind spots. You really think I will be
appreciated some day?

⁷ Ditto. TR has his say next.

2014 RINGMASTER
2015 Probably not. But I appreciate you. That might be the most you can hope, that one person
2016 here and there appreciates you. Remember, learn to control your power and your mouth so
2017 you can be an effective agent of change. How are things progressing with your new friends,
2018 Roger and Roger?
2019
2020 (RINGMASTER exits as the ROGERS enter. Maybe high fives or some
2021 other interaction between RINGMASTER and the ROGERS. The ROGERS
2022 are still yammering at one another.)
2023
2024 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2025 I still don't see how I can get up in a tree when there are no trees.
2026
2027 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2028 How about a tent pole? You could shimmy up and stay quiet.
2029 (HE sees Victoria.)
2030 Here she is. Now be quiet.
2031
2032 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2033 (HE ignores the instruction; ROGER THE PACIFIST makes faces.)
2034 Victoria, you were wonderful speaking your mind, even if the President didn't like it.
2035
2036 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2037 Yes, in fact, we love you for it.
2038
2039 VICTORIA
2040 You do?
2041
2042 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2043 We do. We decided we love you...
2044
2045 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2046 Both of us...
2047
2048 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2049 ...for your fine mind.
2050
2051 VICTORIA
2052 My, that's strange.
2053
2054 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2055 What's strange?
2056
2057 VICTORIA
2058 For a man, two men, to love a woman for her mind.

2059

2060

ROGER THE PACIFIST

2061 Surely we're just advanced. Won't it be common in the future for men to love women for
2062 their minds?

2063

2064

VICTORIA

2065 (SHE scans the audience with her hand shading her eyes like a scout.)

2066 No, not as far as I can see.

2067 (SHE points out the reasons for love that SHE sees in the men in the
2068 audience.)

2069 Fine body, family money, cooks like mom, does that special thing with her tongue, but no,
2070 no fine mind.

2071

2072

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

2073 I guess it's only us, then.

2074

2075

VICTORIA

2076 That's just lovely.

2077

2078

ROGER THE PACIFIST

2079 Which of us do you love, then?

2080

2081

VICTORIA

2082 I can't say that I've thought about it. Why would I love either of you?

2083

2084

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

2085 It's customary, I think, for the girl to love one of the boys. We both love you, you love one
2086 of us.

2087

2088

ROGER THE PACIFIST

2089 It gives some dramatic thrust to the plot, doesn't it?

2090

2091

VICTORIA

2092 There really hasn't been much groundwork for me loving either of you, has there? I mean,
2093 have either of you earned my love?

2094

2095

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

2096 (to ROGER THE PACIFIST).

2097 She has a point, Roger.

2098

2099

ROGER THE PACIFIST

2100 I suppose she has. We haven't earned her love.

2101

(HE addresses VICTORIA.)

2102 We'll set about right away earning your love.

2103

2104 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2105 We'll do it together.
2106
2107 VICTORIA
2108 That might not be convenient.
2109
2110 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2111 Why not?
2112
2113 VICTORIA
2114 If you do everything together, I won't have much reason to choose one of you over the
2115 other.
2116
2117 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2118 Yes, I see your point.
2119
2120 RINGMASTER
2121 (HE/SHE enters.)
2122 Victoria will not have to make any decisions until the next act. We first have one more
2123 piece of business: the shoe factory. You remember the policeman being secretive about the
2124 shoe factory? Of course, any idiot could figure out that it wasn't really a shoe factory but a
2125 munitions plant. And where there are munitions plants, there are saboteurs. Here comes the
2126 good constable with some terrible, terrible news.
2127
2128 (The POLICEMAN runs on screaming.)
2129
2130 POLICEMAN
2131 Terrible! Catastrophe! Help!
2132
2133 (The rest of the COMPANY including the SAD CLOWN come on stage to see
2134 what the noise is about.)
2135 COMPANY
2136 What is it? What's the matter?
2137 (Cue 11 Catastrophe)
2138
2139 POLICEMAN
2140 A TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE,
2141 EXPLOSION AT THE FACTORY,
2142 IN OUR TOWN SEDITION LURKS,
2143 THEY'VE BLOWN UP THE MUNITIONS WORKS.
2144
2145 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2146 IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE WORKERS THERE
2147 BECAUSE THE BOSSES DIDN'T CARE.
2148

2149 HILDA
2150 MORE LIKELY IT WAS SOMEONE WHO
2151 HAD SOCIALIST LEANINGS, PROB'BLY YOU.
2152 (Dance break. TEDDY ROOSEVELT goes to give HILDA a kiss. SHE is
2153 not pleased by HIS attentions and shoos HIM away.)
2154
2155 POLICEMAN
2156 THE CIRCUS SHOULD HAVE STAYED AWAY,
2157 I KNEW THAT THERE'D BE HELL TO PAY,
2158 YOU WORK YOUR TRICKS, YOU MESMERIZE,
2159
2160 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
2161 YOU ARE A DEN OF GERMAN SPIES.
2162
2163 (Dance break. TEDDY ROOSEVELT is still trying to play up to HILDA.)
2164
2165 RINGMASTER, LEAH, VICTORIA, THE ROGERS, SAD CLOWN
2166 THE CIRCUS IS A FORCE FOR GOOD,
2167 WE'RE VALUED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD,
2168 WE QUITE RESENT YOUR AWFUL LIES,
2169 (HILDA joins for this line:)
2170 WE DON'T KNOW ANY GERMAN SPIES.
2171
2172 LEAH
2173 I MISS MY LUKE,
2174 WHAT HAVE I DONE
2175 SENDING HIM TO WAR?
2176 I WISH HE'D RUN
2177 AWAY.
2178
2179 VICTORIA and ROGER THE PACIFIST
2180 ONE LESS BOMB PLANT,
2181 WHAT DO WE CARE?
2182 FEWER BOMBED PEOPLE,
2183 THAT SOUNDS PRETTY FAIR TO US.
2184
2185 POLICEMAN
2186 OH WOE IS ME, I'VE FAILED THE KING,
2187 I NEEDED TO DO EV'RYTHING
2188 TO KEEP THE BOMBS FALLING FOR THE CROWN,
2189 AND NOW I'VE LET MY COUNTRY DOWN.
2190
2191 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2192 I GUESS YOU'RE JUST A SILLY TWIT,
2193 THE BOSSES' DOG WAITING TO BE HIT...

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HILDA
A SOLDIER BRAVE, DON'T MIND HIS STUFF,
YOU DID YOUR DUTY, THAT'S ENOUGH.

LEAH
I'M SO ALONE
PLEASE GIVE LUKE A CHANCE
TO COME HOME TO ME,
TO LIVE THROUGH FRANCE FOR ME.

POLICEMAN
(HE reproaches LEAH.)
But what about our bombs?

VICTORIA
(Reproaching HIM in return.)
MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL,
WHEN MEN WORRY THAT
(SHE gestures dismissively at HIS crotch)
THEIR PENISES ARE TOO SMALL
THEY NEED TO DROP BOMBS ON EV'RYONE.

RINGMASTER
There is general shock. The P word wasn't used in public in 1916.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT
(Addressing the POLICEMAN)
Did you hear the mouth on that woman? Blaming the war on small...well you heard her!

POLICEMAN
WITH A CRIME AGAINST THE CROWN,
THERE'S MY DUTY TO BE DONE,
AND THOUGH IT MAY MAKE YOU FROWN,
I MUST APPREHEND SOMEONE.

NOW YOUR CIRCUS I'M DECIDING,
IS A REFUGE FOR THE HUN,
AND THAT REPROBATE IN HIDING
KNOWS THAT JUSTICE WILL BE DONE.

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THE ROGERS.
 THAT AMERICAN'S A VILLAIN,
 CAUSE HE HATES OUR CLEVER VIC,
 HE MUST THINK HE'S MARSHAL DILLON,
 HIS SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS MAKES US SICK.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST
 THERE'S AN END TO EV'RY STORY

ROGER THE PACIFIST
 BUT THE ENDING'S NOT QUITE NOW,

THE ROGERS
 THAT DAMN YANKEE WILL BE SORRY
 WHEN WE TAKE OUR FINAL BOW.

LEAH + SAD CLOWN	HILDA + TR	ROGERS, VICTORIA, RINGMASTER	POLICEMAN
I'M SO ALONE	A TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE	ONE LESS BOMB PLANT	OH WOE IS ME I'VE FAILED THE KING

2299
 2300
 2301
 2302

VICTORIA (LEAH sings Ahs)
 I WANT SOME UNDERSTANDING,

LEAH + SAD CLOWN	HILDA + TR	ROGERS, VICTORIA, RINGMASTER	POLICEMAN
PLEASE GIVE LUKE A CHANCE	EXPLOSION AT THE FACTORY	WHAT DO WE CARE	I NEEDED TO DO EVERYTHING

2303
 2304
 2305
 2306
 2307

VICTORIA (LEAH sings Ahs)
 I NEED A LITTLE UNDERSTANDING,

LEAH + SAD CLOWN	HILDA + TR	ROGERS	POLICEMAN
TO COME HOME NOW	IN OUR TOWN SEDITION LURKS	ROGERS, VICTORIA, RINGMASTER	TO KEEP THE BOMBS FALLING FOR THE CROWN
TO LIVE THROUGH	THEY'VE BLOWN UP THE MUICTIONS	THAT SOUNDS PRETTY FAIR TO	AND NOW I'VE LET MY COUNTRY

FRANCE FOR ME	WORKS	US	DOWN
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VICTORIA
HOW CAN I WIN MY FREEDOM
FROM THESE VILLAINS WHO MISLEAD 'EM,

VICTORIA, LEAH, LUKE, the ROGERS
WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD IN STORE FOR ME?

COMPANY
(THEY all point, HILDA, POLICEMAN, and TEDDY ROOSEVELT at
VICTORIA and VICTORIA, LEAH, SAD CLOWN, RINGMASTER, and
the ROGERS at HILDA, POLICEMAN, and TEDDY ROOSEVELT.)
YOU'VE BLOWN UP THE MUNITIONS WORKS.
(Button. End of Act 1)

2323 Act 2, Scene 1. The Police Station.
2324 (The ROGERS enter during the entra'acte, dressed in outlandish military-
2325 like clothing.)
2326
2327 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2328 Where is everyone?
2329
2330 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2331 I don't know. This place gives me the creeps. What a bad idea to come here.
2332
2333 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2334 You want to save Victoria, don't you? It will make us worthy of her love. Rescuing her is a
2335 useful plot device. A way to earn her love.
2336
2337 (The POLICEMAN enters.)
2338
2339 POLICEMAN
2340 May I help you? Why, I know you two, don't I?
2341
2342 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2343 G'day, your Honor. We used to be circus performers.
2344
2345 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2346 (*Sotto voce*).
2347 Shhh! Are you crazy? Don't tell him that. He hates the circus.
2348
2349 POLICEMAN
2350 That den of spies, I hate the circus. I should arrest you both on the spot.
2351
2352 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2353 But, your Honor, we've seen the error of our ways.
2354
2355 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2356 We want to be patriots.
2357
2358 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2359 And we've come to you for guidance.
2360
2361 POLICEMAN
2362 You've come to the right place, you have. I am proud to say that I am something of an
2363 expert on patriotism, I am.
2364
2365 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2366 Tell us again how you brought the Shoe Factory Bomber to justice.
2367

2368 POLICEMAN
2369 It was really quite simple. I saw the factory explode with my own eyes, I did, and fleeing
2370 from the scene was that despicable traitor, the circus tramp they call Fräulein Victoria, still
2371 carrying the burnt match that she used to light the fuse.
2372
2373 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2374 (To ROGER THE PACIFIST)
2375 What a liar.
2376
2377 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2378 Is that so? Weren't we lucky you were on the scene?
2379
2380 POLICEMAN
2381 Quite so. She put up quite a fight, using all her nasty Boche tricks, but in the end, a German
2382 spy is no match for a sturdy English constable.
2383
2384 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2385 Where is the felon, by the way?
2386
2387 POLICEMAN
2388 (HE is suspicious.)
2389 Who wants to know?
2390
2391 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2392 We're only anxious that she be securely incarcerated, so we can sleep in peace.
2393
2394 POLICEMAN
2395 (HE pats his breast pocket.)
2396 Don't you worry. She's safely under lock and key.
2397
2398 THE ROGERS.
2399 (THEY pat their breast pockets.)
2400 Good!
2401
2402 POLICEMAN
2403 Now, what about you young men? Not interested in joining your fellow circus traitor in the
2404 slammer are you?
2405
2406 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2407 No, guv'nor. We want to be patriots like you.
2408
2409 POLICEMAN
2410 To be a patriot like me, you need to join the army and kill Germans.
2411

2412 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2413 That sounds like just the ticket. Why didn't we think of that?
2414
2415 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2416 Yes, what a splendid idea.
2417 (To ROGER THE PACIFIST)
2418 Now what?
2419
2420 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2421 We'd like to know what it's like, your Honor. You were on the field of battle, weren't you?
2422
2423 POLICEMAN
2424 Yes, I was, but I got too big a whiff of Jerry gas. Nearly killed me, but I was a splendid
2425 soldier right up to that moment.
2426
2427 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2428 Can you tell us, your Honor, how to be good soldiers?
2429
2430 POLICEMAN
2431 The main thing is to be brave, never to hesitate to do whatever you're ordered to do.
2432
2433 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2434 Don't use your mind at all, right?
2435
2436 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2437 (To ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
2438 That should be natural for you, Roger.
2439
2440 POLICEMAN
2441 Exactly. Them what's officers know best.
2442
2443 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2444 But what if they order you over the top, and the enemy has a steady barrage of machine
2445 gun fire?
2446
2447 POLICEMAN
2448 Run like the dickens and hope your legs don't get shot out from under you.
2449
2450 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2451 Your legs shot out from under you? Does that happen?
2452
2453 POLICEMAN
2454 It certainly does.

2455 (Cue Ypres underscore #2)
2456 Why, I recall one day at Ypres⁸, we were dug in well and feeling snug. Then, without
2457 warning there come the Jerries, running like hell for our position. Well, our gunners lay a
2458 steady bit of fire into their lines, shooting the legs off the bastards. I swear, this one little
2459 fella just kept running, or trying to, with no legs to take him anywhere. But he kept
2460 pumping his arms, and shouting his battle cry, all the while his torso is bumping along the
2461 ground. It was rather comical, it was.

2462
2463 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

2464 Yes, it sounds extremely funny.

2465
2466 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2467 It must be awfully good fun. We'll do it. We'll march over and enlist.

2468 (HE produces a flask)

2469 Now, will you help us drink to it?

2470
2471 POLICEMAN

2472 I cannot. I am on duty.

2473
2474 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2475 (HE pours three glasses. Each of the ROGERS takes one).

2476 What a pity. And this is high quality schnapps.

2477
2478 POLICEMAN

2479 Schnapps?

2480
2481 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

2482 Taken off the mutilated corpse of a German officer.

2483
2484 POLICEMAN

2485 (HE picks up the glass and sniffs it.)

2486 So this is what the Boche officers drink.

2487
2488 ROGER THE PACIFIST

2489 (HE raises his glass.)

2490 God save the King!

2491
2492 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

2493 God save the King!

2494 (HE addresses the reluctant POLICEMAN.)

2495 You can't ignore a toast to the King, can you?

2496

⁸ Again, he pronounces it Eye-pers

2497 POLICEMAN
2498 (*Lifting his glass*) I suppose a little one won't hurt, will it? God save the King (*he takes a*
2499 *sip*). Not bad at all. No wonder the Germans can show a little pluck on the field.
2500
2501 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2502 God save the Queen!
2503
2504 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2505 To Queen Mary!
2506
2507 POLICEMAN
2508 God save the Queen!
2509 (HE drinks a bit more.)
2510
2511 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2512 (HE addresses the POLICEMAN, refilling his glass)
2513 Your turn.
2514
2515 POLICEMAN
2516 God save England!
2517
2518 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2519 Good one. God save England!
2520
2521 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2522 God save England!
2523 (THEY drink.)
2524
2525 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2526 Death to the enemy!
2527
2528 ROGER THE SOCIALIST and POLICEMAN
2529 Death to the enemy!
2530 (THEY drink.)
2531
2532 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2533 Death to the socialists!
2534
2535 ROGER THE PACIFIST and POLICEMAN
2536 Death to the socialists!
2537 (THEY drink.)
2538
2539 POLICEMAN
2540 (HE slurs his speech.)
2541 A glorious death to the two of you!

2542
2543 THE ROGERS.
2544 Death to us!
2545 (THEY drink.)
2546 (Cue 12 Death to Us)
2547 (During the song, the ROGERS keep refilling the POLICEMAN's glass,
2548 getting HIM drunk while THEY only pretend to drink.)
2549
2550 DEATH TO US!
2551 SURVIVAL'S TREASONOUS,
2552 THE MOMMAS WHO BORE US
2553 WOULD BE FIRST TO IMPLORE US
2554 TO DIE MERITORIOUS.
2555
2556 POLICEMAN
2557 DEATH TO YOU!
2558 AND TO YOUR MOMMAS, TOO,
2559 EXTERMINATED LIKE VERMIN
2560 YOU'LL BE KILLED BY THE GERMAN,
2561 GREAT HEROES WILL DEATH MAKE OF YOU.
2562
2563 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2564 SO HERE'S TO FRIENDSHIP, HERE'S TO HONOR,
2565
2566 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2567 HERE'S TO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING,
2568
2569 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
2570 AND IF WE NEED TO GET YOU HIGHER,
2571
2572 ROGER THE PACIFIST
2573 WE'VE ONLY JUST TO TOAST THE KING.
2574
2575 POLICEMAN
2576 Here, here!
2577
2578 (Dance break)
2579
2580 THE ROGERS
2581 LET'S TOAST SOME MORE,
2582 KAISER BILL'S AN OPEN SORE.
2583
2584 POLICEMAN
2585 I'll drink to that.
2586

2587 THE ROGERS
2588 THE MORE THAT WE DRINKIE,
2589 THE WORSE THAT HE STINKIE,
2590 AND HIS MOTHER'S A THREE-SHILLING WHORE.

2591 POLICEMAN

2593 Oh, that's nasty.

2594 TWO SOLDIER BOYS WITH LOVE OF COUNTRY
2595 TAKE THEIR PLACE AGAINST THE FOE,
2596 AND SURELY IT'S MY SAINTLY DUTY
2597 TO LIFT A GLASS BEFORE THEY GO.

2598 THE ROGERS
2599 TWO CIRCUS LADS WHO LOVE VICTORIA
2600 HAVE GOT HER CAPTOR ALL AGLOW,
2601 AND SURELY IT'S OUR SINCERE PLEASURE
2602 TO LIFT A KEY BEFORE WE GO.

2604 (ROGER THE PACIFIST takes the key from the POLICEMAN'S shirt
2605 pocket while ROGER THE SOCIALIST distracts him with a drink. ROGER
2606 THE SOCIALIST exits and then re-enters with VICTORIA. The
2607 POLICEMAN sees HER, shrugs, and lifts HIS glass to her as THEY sing
2608 together.)

2610 THE ROGERS, VICTORIA, and POLICEMAN
2611 TWO CIRCUS LADS WHO LOVE VICTORIA
2612 FOOLED YOU/ME WITH THEIR SOLDIER CLOTHES,
2613 THEY GOT YOU/ME DRUNK AND STOLE THE LADY RIGHT
2614 UNDERNEATH YOUR/MY SHINY RED NOSE.

2616 POLICEMAN
2617 RIGHT UNDERNEATH MY SHINY NOSE.

2619 (Button. End of scene.)
2620

2621 Act 2, Scene 2. A battlefield in France on one side of the stage and Leah's
2622 tent on the other. LUKE is writing a letter on the eve of battle. LEAH is
2623 sitting in her tent, reading the letter. The RINGMASTER is stage center,
2624 between the two tableaux.
2625 (Cue 13 Letter to Leah reprise)

2626
2627

RINGMASTER

2628 Ladies and gentlemen! I give you July 1, 1916. The Allies are not doing well in the war and
2629 have decided to throw everything they have at the German positions in France. The Battle
2630 of the Somme begins after five days of allied bombardment. On the first day of battle, there
2631 will be 60,000 British casualties including 20,000 dead. On the eve of that battle, Luke is
2632 bitter.

2633
2634

(RINGMASTER exits.)

2635
2636

LUKE

2637 FIVE DAYS WITHOUT A WINK OF SLEEP,
2638 WE'RE READY TO GO TO OUR DEATH,
2639 DON'T TELL US OF OUR HOLY CAUSE,
2640 DON'T WASTE YOUR LOVELY BREATH.

2641
2642

2643 YOU TOLD ME OF TWO BOYS YOU KNOW
2644 WHO WON'T PICK UP A GUN,
2645 LEAVE THEM ALONE, THEY KNOW THAT WE'RE
2646 NOT HELPING ANYONE.

2647
2648

2649 THERE'S NONE OF US BELONGS IN FRANCE,
2650 WE'VE NO EXCUSE TO BE HERE,
2651 YOU PATRIOTS AT HOME ARE BLIND,
2652 IN MUD AND BLOOD WE SEE CLEAR.

2653
2654

2655 THEY TELL US TO PUSH ON SO THAT
2656 OUR COMRADES WON'T HAVE DIED IN VAIN,
2657 BUT DIE IN VAIN IS WHAT WE DO,
2658 WE SEEK OUR DEATH, WE DON'T COMPLAIN.

2659
2660

2661 LEAH, I'LL NEVER LAY MY
2662 EYES ON MY SWEET LEAH,
2663 I'LL BE ALONE WHEN
2664 I LOSE MY LIFE,
2665 IF YOU WERE MY WIFE
2666 THEY WOULD SEND A FLAG TO YOU.

2667 Ha!
2668

2665 THEY TOLD ME LIES THAT WILL
2666 COST ME MY LIFE,
2667 YOU WON'T BE MY WIFE,
2668 YOU WILL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN.
2669 (LUKE puts on the SAD CLOWN mask, which is now crying bloody tears.)
2670
2671 LEAH
2672 (SHE lets the page fall.)
2673 WHAT HAVE I DONE?
2674
2675 (Button. End of scene.)

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Act 2, Scene 3

VICTORIA's tent. The ROGERS and VICTORIA sneak on.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

I'm telling you, Vic, it's the last place he'll think to look for you. Your own tent.

VICTORIA

But what if he *does* look for me here? He'll take me back to jail.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

Then we'll just break you out again.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

He's really not all that bright. Roger can easily come up with another plan. Right, Roger?

ROGER THE PACIFIST

Roger, Roger.

VICTORIA

You fellows are awfully kind to risk yourselves for me.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

We like risk. Danger. Peril. Right, Roger?

ROGER THE PACIFIST

No, not right. We like Victoria.

(To VICTORIA)

Besides, you're innocent. We just need to keep you hidden until we can prove it. Come on, Roger, we've got work to do.

(The ROGERS exit as the RINGMASTER enters.)

RINGMASTER

Hello, my dear, you seem on the way to changing your future as I suggested. Though, being arrested for treason and breaking out of jail are not what I had in mind.

VICTORIA

Things have gotten quite complicated, haven't they? I may not be alone much longer, although being in Wakefield prison with hundreds of other women is not what I had in mind.

RINGMASTER

At the least you and the Rogers seem to have become great friends.

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VICTORIA

What a couple of sweethearts. I must say, I haven't been quite as lonely with those two around. There's nothing like a daring rescue to make a girl fall in love, but one usually falls in love with a single person, doesn't one? And these two are quite a pair. One of them makes speeches about social justice, while the other one mocks everything and just tries to make his way in the world.

RINGMASTER

So which one do you like best?

VICTORIA

Neither of them is just right. No matter how fabulous men seem, they all have some flaw that in the end will make a girl nuts. The socialist is very passionate, very intense. I like passion. It's very exciting. But that kind of passion all the time? I might have to kill the poor dear. And the other one, the pacifist. I like his irreverence. I like a free thinker, of course, but his lack of respect for the usual conventions might one day become a lack of respect for *me*. I wouldn't like that at all.

RINGMASTER

It would be quite convenient if you fell in love with one of them. It would likely end your visions. After all, falling in love would make it impossible to see the future. Who could stand being in love and seeing the future?

VICTORIA

Why were men made so imperfectly? Each one has something you like, but none of them has it all. I think we ought to be able to pick something from each, to build our own man to suit us. But, I suppose it's impossible.

(Cue 14 A Boy Named Roger)

I suppose I'll have to settle for one man, as irritating as he may be.

(RINGMASTER adds harmony.)

I LIKE A BOY NAMED ROGER,
INTO MY TENT AND LIFE CAME HE,
MY ROGER COULD BE EV'RY THING TO ME,
BUT WHICH OF THESE TWO ROGERS WILL IT BE?

RINGMASTER

WHO WILL IT BE?

VICTORIA

I HAVEN'T HAD MUCH LUCK WITH MEN,
I TALK TOO MUCH OF THINGS AND THEN
THE GUY CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE,
HE'S RUNNING SCREAMING FOR THE DOOR.

2764 RINGMASTER
 2765 SCREAMING FOR THE DOOR.
 2766
 2767 VICTORIA
 2768 BUT ROGER'S DIFFERENT, ROGER'S KIND,
 2769
 2770 RINGMASTER
 2771 KIND.
 2772 VICTORIA
 2773 HE SAYS HE LOVES ME FOR MY MIND,
 2774
 2775 RINGMASTER
 2776 YOUR MIND
 2777
 2778 VICTORIA
 2779 HIS HEART IS GOOD, HIS LOVE IS TRUE,
 2780
 2781 RINGMASTER
 2782 SO TRUE.
 2783
 2784 VICTORIA
 2785 I ONLY WISH HE WEREN'T
 2786
 2787 VICTORIA and RINGMASTER
 2788 TWO.
 2789
 2790 RINGMASTER
 2791 It would be lovely to see you paired up with one of these fine lads. If you can stay out of
 2792 jail, of course.
 2793
 2794 VICTORIA
 2795 Yes, but oddly enough, I don't see my future with either of them. Perhaps it's just one of
 2796 my blind spots.
 2797
 2798 ONE ROGER HAS HIS PRINCIPLES,
 2799 HIS SPIRIT IS INVINCIBLE,
 2800
 2801 RINGMASTER
 2802 INVINCIBLE.
 2803
 2804 VICTORIA
 2805 THE OTHER KNOWS JUST WHAT TO SAY,
 2806
 2807 RINGMASTER
 2808 AH, WHAT TO SAY.

2809
2810 VICTORIA
2811 HIS TALENT IS FOR REPARTÉE.
2812
2813
2814 RINGMASTER
2815 AH, SUCH REPARTÉE.
2816
2817 VICTORIA
2818 ONE ROGER'S FEET ARE ON THE GROUND,
2819
2820 RINGMASTER
2821 ON THE GROUND.
2822
2823 VICTORIA
2824 THE OTHER IS A GOOF, A CLOWN,
2825
2826 RINGMASTER
2827 A GOOFY, GOOFY, GOOFY, GOOFY CLOWN.
2828
2829 VICTORIA
2830 ONE-HALF MY BEAU IS SERIOUS,
2831 THE OTHER HALF'S HILARIOUS.
2832
2833 RINGMASTER
2834 HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA.
2835
2836 (Seque without Button. LEAH enters holding Luke's letter. SHE is crying
2837 and is in terrible shape. SHE points wordlessly to the letter, she points to
2838 VICTORIA, the sky, SHE doesn't know what to do.)
2839
2840 RINGMASTER
2841 News from the front?
2842 (LEAH hands HIM/HER the letter and puts her head in her hands. The
2843 RINGMASTER reads the letter.)
2844 Things look bad for poor Luke. What can be done for the poor boy?
2845 (LEAH shrugs, wordlessly, crying more wildly.)
2846
2847 VICTORIA
2848 May I read it?
2849
2850 LEAH
2851 No! You have no right. You brought us this tragedy with your attitude and your...your
2852 jealousy, because I have a man and you don't.
2853

2854 RINGMASTER
2855 Now, Leah, I'm sure Victoria had no role in Luke's difficulties.
2856
2857 (The RINGMASTER goes to embrace LEAH, but LEAH pushes the
2858 RINGMASTER away. The RINGMASTER exits, shaking HIS/HER head. LEAH
2859 turns on VICTORIA.)
2860
2861 (Cue 15 Sisters)
2862
2863 LEAH
2864 IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, VICTORIA,
2865 ALL YOUR FAULT.
2866
2867 VICTORIA
2868 Oh, Leah, I am so terrible at giving bad news ahead of time.
2869 LEAH, POOR DEAR LEAH,
2870 LUKE'S AT THE END OF HIS CAMPAIGN,
2871 I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D BE IN PAIN,
2872 THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO,
2873 THOUGH I HAD A SNEAK PREVIEW.
2874
2875 LEAH
2876 WHY DID I SEND LUKE TO HIS DEATH AND
2877 HOW COULD YOU HAVE LET ME?
2878 NOW THAT LUKE'S CAUGHT IN THIS TERRIBLE TRAP,
2879 HOW THE HELL WILL HE GET FREE?
2880 It's so unfair. Luke is in trouble. He expects to die soon.
2881
2882 VICTORIA
2883 I wish I could do something to help. I can see the future, but I don't know how to change it.
2884
2885 LEAH
2886 (Calming down just a little.)
2887 You change the future by changing the present. And I missed my chance when I had Luke
2888 here in the present. Now, he'll always be in the past for me. I can't blame you for that.
2889
2890 IT'S ALL MY FAULT, VICTORIA,
2891 ALL MY FAULT.
2892
2893 VICTORIA
2894 No, Leah, it's not your fault at all. You mustn't blame yourself. You were only repeating
2895 what has been drummed into our heads since we were children, how Great Britain must
2896 take on the world to ensure the survival of civilization. You and I are not the perpetrators
2897 here. We are the victims.
2898 (LEAH falls weeping into VICTORIA's arms.)

2899 Oh, Leah. We're not so different. We've both been so terribly abused by the wicked and
2900 powerful of the world.

2901 SISTERS, FOREVER WE ARE SISTERS,
2902 I DIDN'T THINK SO WHEN YOU SENT
2903 YOUR MAN TO JOIN A REGIMENT,
2904 BUT YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR VIEW
2905 AND I'M PLEASED TO STAND WITH YOU.

2906

2907 LEAH
2908 SISTERS, WE ARE SISTERS,
2909 WE DIDN'T KNOW BEFORE TODAY,
2910 WE'VE GONE THROUGH LIFE THE SAME SAD WAY,
2911 TRYING NOT TO MIND
2912 THAT THE WORLD IS SO UNKIND.

2913

2914 I BELIEVE THAT LIFE IS TO LIVE AND
2915 GOVERNMENTS ARE ROTTEN,
2916 MAKING IT HARD FOR MEN TO ESCAPE
2917 FROM THE CHAUVINIST TRAPS THAT THEY'RE

2918

2919 LEAH and VICTORIA
2920 CAUGHT IN.

2921

2922 VICTORIA

2923

2924 SISTERS ARE THOSE WHO KNOW HOW TO LIVE IN
2925 PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER

2926

2927 LEAH

2928 'NOTHER

2929

2930 VICTORIA and LEAH
2931 WHERE IS THE MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO GIVE
2932 A FRIENDLY, SISTERLY HAND TO HIS BROTHER?

2933

2934 RINGMASTER

2935 (HE/SHE pops back in for a moment)

2936 I could be that man.

2937 (HE/SHE exits.)

2938

2939 LEAH

2940 SISTERS, WE ARE SISTERS, WE ARE,
2941 AGAINST THE DREAD FRATERNITY

2942

2943 VICTORIA
2944 OF TOXIC MASCULINITY,
2945
2946 LEAH
2947 THOUGH THERE'S A TRENCH DUG THROUGH MY HEART,
2948
2949 VICTORIA and LEAH
2950 BEING SISTERS IS A START.
2951
2952 LEAH
2953 I don't think Luke will be coming home to me.
2954
2955 VICTORIA
2956 I will be there for you, Leah. I've never done something like that before, but I've never had
2957 this kind of connection with anyone before. We can be there for each other
2958 I HAVE NEVER MET SOMEONE WHO CALLED ME HER FRIEND,
2959 COULD MY SAD AND LONELY DAYS NOW BE AT AN END?
2960 I MIGHT WANT TO STAY FOREVER
2961 IF YOU'RE GONNA BE SO KIND TO ME.
2962
2963 LEAH
2964 ALL OF US NEED SOMEONE WHO WILL BE ON OUR SIDE
2965 WHEN OUR PLANS AND THOSE OF PIOUS BULLIES COLLIDE,
2966 WE CAN BE DEAR FRIENDS FOREVER
2967 IF YOU THINK THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO BE.
2968
2969 LEAH and VICTORIA
2970 YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN A CHUM WILL APPEAR
2971 SO DON'T LIVE IN FEAR
2972 NOW I'M HERE, NEED A FRIEND?
2973 'CAUSE THAT'S WHAT WE'RE.
2974
2975 VICTORIA
2976 I WAS NOT AWARE OF WHAT WAS
2977
2978 LEAH and VICTORIA
2979 POSSIBLE HERE,
2980 NOW MY WORLD IS SPINNING IN A
2981 NEW ATMOSPHERE,
2982
2983 VICTORIA
2984 EVEN THOUGH I CAN STILL SEE TROUBLE,
2985 COMING AT US AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT,
2986

2987 LEAH and VICTORIA
2988 SISTERS CAN BE TOUGH GUYS IN A FIGHT.
2989 (Dance break)
2990 SISTERS, WE ARE SISTERS, WE ARE,
2991 IF YOU NEED ME, I'LL BE THERE
2992 BECAUSE OF ALL THE HURT WE SHARE,
2993 AND THOUGH TIMES ARE TOUGH,
2994 BEING SISTERS IS ENOUGH.
2995
2996 (The CLOWNS enters and performs a dance to the It's Enough theme at the
2997 end of the song. Button.)
2998
2999 LEAH
3000 But what are you doing here? I thought you were in jail. You escaped?
3001 (VICTORIA nods.)
3002 It's too dangerous to be sitting here. The policeman will be looking for you.
3003
3004 VICTORIA
3005 Of course he will, but the Rogers don't think he would think to look in here. It's too
3006 obvious.
3007
3008 LEAH
3009 The Rogers are a bit daft, you know. Of course he will look in here. But he won't look in
3010 my tent. You can hide there.
3011
3012 VICTORIA
3013 That's very kind of you. Of course, you're right.
3014
3015 LEAH
3016 (Embarassed)
3017 Victoria, I had a vision. I saw them, as clearly as I am seeing you, women like me who are
3018 sick to death with worry. They sat with me in my tent, wringing their hands, twisting their
3019 handkerchiefs. You don't think I'm crazy, do you?
3020
3021 AUNTIE GERT
3022 (SHE enters)
3023 Because you see people who aren't there? It's an everyday occurrence for Victoria. It only
3024 means you are more connected with the world. That's not crazy. It's a good thing.
3025

3026 VICTORIA
3027 Auntie Gert, hush please. You'll frighten Leah. She's not used to dead people. Not yet,
3028 anyway.
3029 (AUNTIE GERT exits.)
3030
3031 LEAH
3032 One of the women looked just like me. She turned to me and spoke as though we were old
3033 friends.
3034
3035 VICTORIA
3036 Happens to me all the time.
3037
3038 LEAH
3039 She spoke German, Victoria. And right then I knew. Somewhere in France is a boy like
3040 Luke, a German boy, who has no more idea why he is there than does Luke, who has no
3041 more wish to hurt Luke than Luke does to hurt him. But one of them, in the end, will hurt
3042 the other.
3043
3044 VICTORIA
3045 Everyone is a victim. Except for the men who start the wars.
3046
3047 LEAH
3048 Who put men in charge?
3049
3050 VICTORIA
3051 You ask a question that women have asked for centuries, and will continue to ask for
3052 centuries to come. It's one of the classic unanswerable questions like who created mimes,
3053 Mondays, and amebic dysentery.
3054
3055 LEAH
3056 I don't suppose we can solve it all now, can we? Thank you, Victoria.
3057 (THEY embrace, LEAH exits as ROGER THE SOCIALIST enters.)
3058
3059 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3060 (HE wears a few feathers and is carrying his cowboy costume.)
3061 Here, Victoria, put this on. I have an idea for getting you out of this mess.
3062
3063 (VICTORIA reluctantly puts on the costume, maybe just a cowboy hat and
3064 moustache, as THEY exit into the next scene.)

3065 Act 2, Scene 4. The midway. ROGER THE SOCIALIST enters, dressed as
3066 an Indian. He leads a reluctant VICTORIA, disguised as a cowboy.

3067
3068 VICTORIA

3069 I have a bad feeling about this costume.

3070
3071 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

3072 You look smashing. You will be a big success in America.

3073
3074 VICTORIA

3075 I'm not feeling like a big success. And how do you know we'll like it in America?

3076
3077 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

3078 President Wilson promises they will never be a part of this war.

3079
3080 VICTORIA

3081 Why do you believe him? He's not a socialist, is he?

3082
3083 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

3084 No, he's a Presbyterian. But I don't think that's too far off.

3085
3086 VICTORIA

3087 What does Roger think of this idea?

3088
3089 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

3090 I don't know. He's gone off. I haven't seen him.

3091
3092 VICTORIA

3093 He wouldn't like the idea of us running away without him. He loves me, too, you know.

3094
3095 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

3096 Well, if he turns up, he can come along. We'll find some feathers for him to wear.

3097
3098 VICTORIA

3099 But what will we do in America?

3100
3101 ROGER THE SOCIALIST

3102 We'll find a circus to join. They have circuses there, you know. I hear most of Washington
3103 is a circus. We'll settle there.

3104
3105 VICTORIA

3106 I suppose I can earn my living in any circus, but what will you do? You have no talent
3107 whatsoever.

3108

3151 (Cue 16 Land of the Savages)
3152 (The COMPANY [except ROGER THE SOCIALIST] enters in disguise to
3153 accompany TEDDY ROOSEVELT. This song is part recited, part sung.)
3154
3155 SO YOU'RE GOING TO AMERICA,
3156 ALL THE BOYS WILL BE HYSTERICAL
3157 TO SEE YOU DRESSED UP LIKE A CLOWN,
3158 THEY GONNA TAKE YER ASSES
3159
3160 COMPANY
3161 DOWN.
3162
3163 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3164 THEY'LL TWIST YOUR ARM, APPLY SOME TORQUE,
3165 THEY'LL BEAT YOU, THOSE BOYS IN NEW YORK,
3166 THEY'LL STICK THOSE FEATHERS UP YOUR TAIL,
3167 THEY'LL LOCK YOUR UGLY
3168
3169 COMPANY
3170 BUTT IN JAIL.
3171
3172 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3173 AMERICA'S TOO TOUGH FOR YOU,
3174 DO ALL THE PRAYING YOU CAN DO,
3175 THEY DON'T WRITE POEMS OR READ ULYSSES
3176 OR LISTEN TO BACH AND ALL THEM
3177
3178 COMPANY
3179 SISSIES. SISSIES!
3180
3181 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3182 WHEN YOU GET OFF THE BOAT, BETTER RUN TO YOUR MOMMA
3183 CAUSE YOUR CLAUSE IS GONNA END WITH A COMA NOT A
3184
3185 SAD CLOWN, ROGER THE PACIFIST, RINGMASTER, POLICEMAN (disguised)
3186 COM A NOT A COMMA.
3187
3188 LEAH, VICTORIA, HILDA (disguised)
3189 COMMA, COMMA, COMMA
3190
3191 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3192 THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BUCK,
3193 BUT WE DON'T LIKE STRANGERS AND YOU CLEARLY
3194

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COMPANY
SUCK.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT
YOU'RE A DRUNK, WORTHLESS PUNK,
ALL YOU IMMIGRANTS SMELL LIKE SKUNK,
KEEP YER FACE OUTTA OUR PLACE,
YOU BELONG TO SOME LESSER RACE.

WELCOME TO THE LAND OF THE SAVAGES,
IF SAVAGES ARE WHAT YOU WANT TO BE,
DON'T BE TOO QUICK TO UNPACK YOUR BAGGAGES
IN CASE OUR WELCOME GIVES YOU CAUSE TO FLEE.

SO YOU WANT TO BE AMERICAN,
WE SAY NOPE, YOU'RE A HOPELESS BOGEYMAN,
WE WELCOME YOU LIKE WE WELCOME THE FLU,
KEEP YOUR SORES OFF OUR SHORES, AND YOUR FOREIGN MANNERS,
TOO.

WE DON'T LIKE FLIES, WE DON'T LIKE POO,
WHICH TELLS YOU WHY WE DON'T LIKE YOU,
YOU'RE A

COMPANY
CREEP,

TEDDY ROOSEVELT
MAKE US

COMPANY
WEEP,

TEDDY ROOSEVELT
YOU SHOULD FALL INTO THE

COMPANY
DEEP,

TEDDY ROOSEVELT
DEEP BLUE

COMPANY
SEA,

3240 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3241 LEAVE US
3242
3243 COMPANY
3244 BE,
3245
3246 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3247 YOU WON'T LIKE OUR
3248
3249 COMPANY
3250 BIGOTRY.
3251
3252 WELCOME TO THE LAND OF THE SAVAGE,
3253 WE HOPE YOU WON'T BE TOO INCLINED TO STAY,
3254 IF YOU'RE TOO FAR FROM OUR VIEW OF THE AVERAGE,
3255 WE DON'T WANT YOUR KIND IN THE U.S. OF A.
3256 DON'T WANT YOUR KIND IN THE U.S. OF A.
3257
3258 (Button.)
3259
3260 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3261 I must say, I'm somewhat discouraged by your manner. I had rather hoped to go to
3262 America.
3263
3264 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3265 Look, Cochise, I'll make a deal with you. Give up your idea of polluting my country with
3266 your pitiful carcass, and I'll arrange passage for you to go to Cuba. It will get you away
3267 from here, and you and the missus can get yourselves a nice suntan. I've got lots of
3268 connections in Cuba, having conquered the place once upon a time.
3269
3270 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3271 That's mighty friendly of you, Mr. President.
3272
3273 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3274 Don't mention it. Be here at 8 this evening with your bags packed. I'll take care of all the
3275 arrangements to send you away.
3276
3277 COMPANY (off)
3278 Dora!
3279 (TEDDY ROOSEVELT laughs diabolically. Of course, HE is planning on
3280 setting a trap for THEM. End of scene.)

3281 Act 2, Scene 5. A battlefield hospital on one side, LEAH's tent on the other
3282 side. LEAH is reading a letter, VICTORIA comforts her. LUKE stands in
3283 the hospital. HE is dead, but HE can still sing to us.
3284 (Cue 17 Your Little Boy)

3285
3286 LEAH

3287 (reading, tearfully)
3288 Dear Madam. The King and Queen deeply regret to hear of the loss you and the Army have
3289 sustained by the death of your young man in the service of his country, and I am
3290 commanded to convey to you the expression of Their Majesties' true sympathy with you in
3291 your sorrow.

3292
3293 LUKE

3294 MAMA, WHEN YOU GAVE HIM BIRTH,
3295 YOU HELD HIM CLOSE WHEN HE BEGAN TO CRY,
3296 YOU GAVE HIM WARMTH, YOU GAVE HIM LOVE,
3297 YOUR LITTLE BOY'S NOT CRYING ANYMORE,
3298 ANYMORE.

3299
3300 MAMA, WHEN YOU RAISED HIM UP,
3301 YOU TOLD HIM THAT IT'S DANGEROUS TO RUN
3302 WITH SCISSORS OR ON SLIPPERY STONES,
3303 YOUR LITTLE BOY'S NOT RUNNING ANYMORE.

3304
3305 YOUR CHILD WAS A SPECIAL MAN,
3306 HE HELD YOUR HEART AS YOU HELD HIS HAND,
3307 THERE ISN'T ANYBODY WHO
3308 SHOULD HAVE TAKEN YOUR BABY AWAY FROM YOU.

3309
3310 IF HE DIDN'T GET HIS WAY,
3311 HE'D FUSS AND FRET AND MAKE HIMSELF A PEST,
3312 A MOTHER'S LOVE WAS STRAINED A TAD,
3313 YOUR LITTLE BOY'S NOT FRETFUL ANYMORE,
3314 ANYMORE.

3315
3316 IT'S DANGEROUS TO RUN
3317 WITH FIXED BAYONET ON A FOREIGN BATTLEFIELD,
3318 YOUR LITTLE BOY'S NOT RUNNING ANYMORE.

3319
3320 Good-bye Leah.

3321
3322 LEAH

3323 Good-bye my Luke.

3324
3325 (Button. End of scene.)

3326 Act 2, Scene 6. The midway at 8 pm. It is deserted. HILDA appears from the
3327 shadows carrying a travel bag. SHE is wearing a cloak and moving furtively.
3328 TEDDY ROOSEVELT appears; HE has been waiting.

3329

3330 TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3331 Ah, Hilda, my dear. I was hoping you would happen along.

3332

3333 HILDA

3334 (SHE draws back. SHE is not happy to see HIM. SHE pulls her cloak more
3335 tightly around HER.)

3336 Why, Mr. President...

3337

3338 TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3339 Twenty-six.

3340

3341 HILDA

3342 What a surprise to see you out here.

3343

3344 TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3345 I've been restless, Hilda.

3346

3347 HILDA

3348 You should try warm milk.

3349

3350 TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3351 I don't think it will help.

3352

3353 HILDA

3354 Prune juice, then.

3355

3356 TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3357 I don't think so. I have that wonderful ailment for which there is no cure.

3358

3359 HILDA

3360 My heartfelt condolences.

3361 (SHE tries to move off).

3362

3363 TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3364 Hilda, wait! I must speak frankly to you.

3365

3366 HILDA

3367 Perhaps tomorrow, Mr. President. I only speak frankly during the daylight.

3368

3369 TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3370 What a joker! You're amazing, Hilda.

3371
3372 HILDA
3373 Yes, I am. Now good night. Sleep tight. See you in the morning
3374
3375 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3376 Hilda! I love you!
3377
3378 HILDA
3379 That's nice, Mr. President, see you in the morning.
3380
3381 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3382 But doesn't that mean anything to you?
3383
3384 HILDA
3385 (SHE stops, puts down her bag, and turns to face TEDDY ROOSEVELT.)
3386 You don't even know me, Mr. President. If you knew me, you'd see that I'm just a tired old
3387 woman. I want to go home.
3388
3389 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3390 But with me, you are home.
3391
3392 HILDA
3393 No, with you I'm standing out in the midway at night.
3394
3395 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3396 But, Hilda . . .
3397 (Cue 18 A Girl Named Hilda)
3398 I LIKE YOUR SPUNK, I LIKE YOUR FIRE,
3399 YOUR POLITICS FILL ME WITH DESIRE,
3400 YOUR FACE IS PRETTY AND YOUR MIND IS QUICK,
3401 MAY I SPEAK TO YOU SOFTLY OF MY BIG STICK?
3402 OF MY, MY BIG STICK.
3403
3404 I LOVE A GIRL NAMED HILDA,
3405 INTO MY LONELY LIFE CAME SHE,
3406 AND WHEN I SEE MY HILDA STANDING THERE,
3407 I WONDER IF SHE CARES FOR ME.
3408
3409 SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT I'M TOO OLD FOR LOVE,
3410 THAT I SHOULD USE MY BED TO SLEEP,
3411 THOSE PEOPLE HAVE NOT SEEN
3412 Hilda!
3413 OR THEY'D KNOW WHY I'M IN SO DEEP,
3414 SO DEEP,
3415 THEY'D KNOW I'M IN DEEP.

3416

3417

HILDA

3418

A MAN YOUR AGE SHOULD BE IN BED,

3419

YOU'LL CATCH A CHILL AND WAKE UP DEAD,

3420

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU SEE IN ME,

3421

I'M NOT THE GIRL YOU WANT, YOU WANT,

3422

YOU WANT ME TO BE.

3423

3424

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3425

But, Hilda . . . !

3426

3427

(Button. HILDA exits.)

3428

3429

RINGMASTER

3430

(HE/SHE enters.)

3431

Sorry, Mr. President, but this story is not about your aborted love affair with the mysterious

3432

Hilda. We have more important business.

3433

3434

(ROGER THE SOCIALIST and VICTORIA enter opposite, disguised,

3435

carrying valises)

3436

3437

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

3438

We're ready to go, Mr. President. Off to Cuba!

3439

3440

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3441

Wonderful. One moment.

3442

(HE pulls a whistle from his pocket and blows it. At once, the

3443

POLICEMAN appears.)

3444

There you are, constable. Your fugitives.

3445

3446

VICTORIA

3447

What? You betrayed us. You lied to us.

3448

3449

RINGMASTER

3450

Lied to by an American president. Who'd have thought it?

3451

3452

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3453

Now, now. You two are terrorists. I could have sent you to Cuba and let them deal with

3454

you...

3455

3456

VICTORIA

3457

...but Guantánamo won't be a detention camp for another 85 years.

3458

3459

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

3460

So you'll have to wait in a British jail until then. Take them away, officer.

3461
3462 POLICEMAN
3463 Right, gov'nor.
3464 (HE addresses ROGER THE SOCIALIST and VICTORIA)
3465 I arrest you in the name of the King for the malicious destruction of His Majesty's
3466 munitions plant. And, no, I don't care for a drink.
3467
3468 VICTORIA
3469 But we're innocent.
3470
3471 POLICEMAN
3472 Of course you are.
3473
3474 (ROGER THE PACIFIST enters.)
3475
3476 ROGER THE PACIFIST
3477 (HE angrily addresses ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
3478 Making off with my girl, are you, you miserable socialist.
3479
3480 POLICEMAN
3481 (HIS ears perk up.)
3482 A socialist?!
3483
3484 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3485 Quiet, you idiot, I'm in enough trouble. And besides, she's not your girl.
3486
3487 ROGER THE PACIFIST
3488 (HE punches ROGER THE SOCIALIST in the nose, then addresses
3489 VICTORIA.)
3490 Pardon my manners, Vic, but I've been thinking of punching him in the nose for a long
3491 time.
3492
3493 VICTORIA
3494 Not a very pacifist thing to do, is it?
3495
3496 ROGER THE PACIFIST
3497 In love, there is no pacifism. Victoria!
3498 (HE gives her a big kiss on the lips. SHE barely responds.)
3499
3500 VICTORIA
3501 Thank you, Roger, but I'm not ready to commit to you. I don't really love you.
3502
3503 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3504 So you love *me* after all!
3505

3506 VICTORIA
3507 Frankly, no, I'm not in love with either of you. Maybe someday, but not right now. I have
3508 too much trouble telling you apart.
3509
3510 POLICEMAN
3511 (HE addresses VICTORIA)
3512 Please excuse me for disturbing your love festival, but there is the matter of your arrest for
3513 blowing up the King's munitions works.
3514 (HE places HER in manacles.)
3515
3516 ROGER THE PACIFIST
3517 Actually, Victoria is innocent.
3518
3519 POLICEMAN
3520 Innocent?! We've got an air tight case against her.
3521
3522 (LEAH enters, pushing HILDA before her. LEAH carries HILDA's travel
3523 bag.)
3524
3525 ROGER THE PACIFIST
3526 You've got nothing, copper, nothing except the wrong lady.
3527 (HE points to HILDA.)
3528 There's your bomber.
3529
3530 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3531 Hilda?
3532
3533 ROGER THE PACIFIST
3534 Yes, Hilda.
3535
3536 LEAH
3537 From parts unknown.
3538
3539 HILDA
3540 But, everyone knows I am His Majesty's most loyal subject.
3541
3542 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3543 Yes, of course you are, my dear.
3544 (HE addresses ROGER THE PACIFIST)
3545 What proof do you have?
3546

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ROGER THE PACIFIST

You remember that sappy song she sang,
(HE sings mockingly.)

WE WERE A SOCIETY,
NOW WE'RE A COMMUNITY.

Well, this society and community thing is straight out of 1914 Berlin. Gesellschaft, or society, was replaced by Gemeinschaft, or community, in the new Boche vision of a world made better by the war. Pure propaganda, of course, but very popular with the rank and file. Right, Frau Hilda?

HILDA

You can't prove anything with your little German lesson.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

Ah, but what about that weird poem. Remember, my friends? Now how did it go? Oh, yes,
(Mockingly)

Ah, ye gods! Ye great immortals
In the spacious heavens above us!
Would ye on this earth blah blah blah!

Now, just who do you think wrote that bit?

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Shakespeare?

EVERYONE ELSE.

(THEY mutter, variously).
Shakespeare?! Dumb Yank. What a moron.

ROGER THE PACIFIST

No, not Shakespeare, genius. Goethe.⁹

RINGMASTER

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe! Considered the greatest German literary figure of the modern era. There is general shock and consternation.

POLICEMAN

My, my, Goethe. This begins to look serious for you Miss Hilda.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

In my country, we don't accuse people of crimes based on the poetry they recite. Do you have any real evidence?



⁹ Pronounced Ger'-ta.

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LEAH

(SHE dumps out the contents of HILDA's travel bag.)

How about her code book, radio set, and the floor plans for the munitions factory?

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Hilda!

HILDA

(SHE throws off her cloak revealing a Wagnerian costume.)

Brünhilde!

(The POLICEMAN takes off VICTORIA's manacles and puts them on HILDA).

VICTORIA

(To LEAH)

You saved me!

LEAH and VICTORIA

(THEY embrace.)

AND THOUGH TIMES ARE TOUGH,
BEING SISTERS IS ENOUGH.

THE ROGERS

(ROGER THE SOCIALIST rubs his nose.)

What about us, Victoria?

VICTORIA

As people will say one day, we can just hang out. Maybe I will become attached to one of you. Or at least used to you.

LEAH

Yes, we can all just hang in.

VICTORIA

Hang out.

POLICEMAN

Once again, I must spoil the party.

(HE pushes ROGER THE SOCIALIST to where HILDA is standing.)

You're still under arrest.

ROGER THE SOCIALIST

What? I didn't do anything.



3634 POLICEMAN
3635 You're still a socialist, you discourage the war effort, and you give assistance to the enemy.
3636 Those are crimes. It's right there in the Defense of the Realm Act.
3637
3638 COMPANY
3639 DORA!
3640
3641 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3642 (HE spells it out, maybe in the air, maybe on a blackboard, whatever)
3643 Defense of the Realm Act.
3644
3645 COMPANY
3646 Oh! (or duh, your choice).
3647
3648 (Cue 19 Dora, Reprise)
3649
3650 VICTORIA, LEAH, and the ROGERS
3651 THE WORLD'S A STRANGE NEW PLACE
3652 OUR OPINIONS ARE A CRIME,
3653 AND FOR LOVING ANYONE,
3654 WE HAVEN'T GOT THE TIME.
3655
3656 IT'S DORA,
3657 I THINK OF NOTHING ELSE BUT DORA.
3658
3659 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3660 (HE sings to VICTORIA.)
3661 I LACK THE FREEDOM TO BECOME YOUR NEW ROMANCE,
3662 CHANGE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES,
3663 GIVE MYSELF A CHANCE
3664 TO ENTERTAIN A FANCY
3665 FOR A LOVELY, LOVELY GIRL LIKE YOU.
3666
3667 VICTORIA, LEAH, and the ROGERS
3668 IT'S DORA,
3669 I THINK OF NOTHING ELSE BUT DORA,
3670 I WANT THE FREEDOM TO BECOME YOUR NEW ROMANCE,
3671 CHANGE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES,
3672 GIVE MYSELF A CHANCE
3673 TO ENTERTAIN A FANCY
3674 FOR A LOVELY, LOVELY GIRL/BOY LIKE YOU.
3675
3676 (Button.)
3677

3678 POLICEMAN
3679 (To ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
3680 It's my duty to arrest you under the Defense of the Realm Act.

3681 COMPANY
3682
3683 DORA!

3684 POLICEMAN
3685 (HE is annoyed at the interruption.)
3686 Quite! I rather doubt they will send a hearty young fellow like you to prison, though. Not
3687 with so many empty spots in the trenches.

3688 LEAH
3689 (SHE goes to ROGER THE SOCIALIST and puts HER arms around HIM.)
3690 May I interrupt, your Honor? This gentleman is my new fiancé. We will be married.

3691 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3692 (To LEAH)
3693 Excuse me, do I know you?

3694 LEAH
3695 (Privately to ROGER THE SOCIALIST)
3696 Do be quiet. I'm trying to save your life.
3697 (To the POLICEMAN)

3700 I don't believe it's quite fair that this war will take two fiancés from me in such rapid
3701 succession. I am certain that the King would disapprove.

3702 VICTORIA
3703 He most certainly would disapprove

3704 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3705 Having so recently been disappointed in love, I have to support her position, Constable.
3706 What harm would it do to let the lad go free?

3707 POLICEMAN
3708 Very unfortunate, I'm sure, but there is no room in the law for personal considerations.

3709 LEAH
3710 But my Luke died a hero.

3711 LUKE
3712 (Enters, in uniform. HE looks dead; after all he *is* dead.)

3713 I died a victim.
3714 (LUKE marches up to the POLICEMAN, in HIS face)

3715 You will let the boy go.



3723
3724 POLICEMAN
3725 (HE is trembling.)
3726 There's my duty to be done.
3727
3728 LUKE
3729 (Louder, menacing)
3730 You will let the boy go. Now.
3731
3732 POLICEMAN
3733 I don't like the idea of Socialists in my territory.
3734 (Still trembling, HE addresses ROGER THE SOCIALIST, with a look over
3735 his shoulder at LUKE)
3736 I will release you under the condition that you leave this precinct at once.
3737
3738 (THE POLICEMAN and TEDDY ROOSEVELT lead HILDA offstage;
3739 LUKE gives LEAH a kiss on the forehead in benediction and exits on THE
3740 POLICEMAN's heels.)
3741
3742 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3743 Okay, we have to leave. Where shall we go?
3744
3745 LEAH
3746 (SHE takes VICTORIA by the hand.)
3747 I go nowhere without my sister.
3748
3749 ROGER THE PACIFIST
3750 We can all go together. Since we're already dressed for it, let's go "hang on" in America!
3751
3752 VICTORIA
3753 Hang out.
3754
3755 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3756 America!
3757
3758 VICTORIA
3759 America?
3760
3761 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3762 America! You heard Mr. Roosevelt. President Wilson will never enter the war. America
3763 will be the land of peace.
3764
3765 VICTORIA
3766 Don't be ridiculous. I can see the future of America very clearly...
3767

3768 (Cue 20 Land of Peace)
3769 RINGMASTER
3770 (Calming HER)
3771 Victoria, you change the future by changing the present. Be agents of change in America.
3772 Turn your visions into dreams.
3773
3774 LEAH
3775 Yes, dreams. We must have our dreams.
3776 (SHE takes VICTORIA's hand.)
3777 Come, my angel of change. To America.
3778
3779 (In this finale, all the actors appear. Part names are indicated, but for the
3780 doubled parts, it is not important which costumes are worn. The
3781 RINGMASTER conducts.)
3782
3783 ROGER THE PACIFIST and VICTORIA
3784 A PLACE WHERE YOUR
3785 TENSIONS ARE RELEASED,
3786 A PLACE OF QUIET
3787 A LAND OF PEACE.
3788
3789 LEAH
3790 NO MORE THINKING OF THE WAR,
3791
3792 ROGER THE SOCIALIST
3793 NO MORE FEARING THE POLICE,
3794
3795 VICTORIA and LEAH
3796 LEAD US TO A PLACE FOR LIVING,
3797 BRING US TO THE LAND OF PEACE.
3798
3799 THE ROGERS, LEAH, and VICTORIA
3800 FOUR PEOPLE HOLDING HANDS,
3801 STARTING A NEW LIFE TOGETHER,
3802 DREAMING OF A LAND OF PEACE
3803 WHERE ALL ALL MEN ARE BROTHERS.
3804
3805 LEAH and VICTORIA
3806 OR SISTERS.
3807
3808 THE ROGERS, LEAH, and VICTORIA
3809 ALL MEN ALL MEN
3810 ALL MEN ALL MEN
3811 ALL MEN ARE BROTHERS OR SISTERS.
3812

3813 (TEDDY ROOSEVELT and HILDA enter.)
3814
3815 TEDDY ROOSEVELT and HILDA
3816 TWO PEOPLE SAYING NO
3817
3818 HILDA
3819 TO THE PRESIDENT
3820
3821 TEDDY ROOSEVELT
3822 AND THE COLLUDER,
3823
3824 TEDDY ROOSEVELT and HILDA
3825 DREAMING OF A COUNTRY WHERE
3826 ALLE MENSCHEN WERDEN BRÜDER.
3827
3828 COMPANY (from Beethoven's 9th Symphony)
3829 ALLE MENSCHEN, ALLE MENSCHEN,
3830 ALLE MENSCHEN, ALLE MENSCHEN.
3831
3832 WE ARE NOT PROUD
3833 OF THE RULING CROWD
3834 OF PEOPLE ANXIOUS FOR A FIGHT,
3835 WE NEED TO GO
3836 WHERE THE WINDS THAT BLOW
3837 CARRY BIRDS NOT BOMBS ON THEIR CAREFREE FLIGHT.
3838 WE NEED TO GO
3839 WHERE THE WINDS THAT BLOW
3840 CARRY BIRDS NOT BOMBS ON THEIR CAREFREE FLIGHT.
3841
3842 LEAH
3843 A PLACE TO HEAL
3844 WHEN YOUR FIANCÉ IS HORRIBLY
3845 (The music stops. SHE speaks softly.)
3846 Deceased
3847
3848 VICTORIA, LEAH, and HILDA
3849 (THEY come together.)
3850 SISTERS HAVE NO CHOICE
3851 BUT TO DREAM OF A LAND OF PEACE.
3852
3853 THE COMPANY.
3854 (THEY join hands, put arms around one another, or lean together.)
3855 A PLACE WHERE YOUR
3856 PARANOIA IS DECREASED,

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3868

VICTORIA
A PLACE OF QUIET
THE COMPANY
A LAND OF
A LAND OF PEACE,
A LAND OF PEACE,
A LAND OF PEACE,
A LAND OF PEACE, OF PEACE.

(Button. End of Act 2)