

REPUBLIC UNDONE 3/8/19 By John B. Henry

SCENE I: UNDOING THE GREAT REPUBLIC

WOODROW: (*Dressed in cardinal vestment*) God has anointed *me* America's King David. (*Places bear skin hat on his head*) Providence has crowned *me* with limitless power. (*Picks up bayoneted rifle*) Americans are God's new chosen people. *I'll* destroy all the non-chosen. *I'll* compose the last chapter of His immortal work. Through *me*, God swings His terrible swift sword to save humanity from damnation. (*Picks up sword & swings, falls down*) Heaven and earth are one. God renders unto *me* both the things that are God's and the things that are Caesar's. *I* surpass both Jesus and Caesar. God wills *me* to crush anyone who resists my ambition. It's heresy to question *my* infallibility.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) In one breathe, you've used "Me" and "I" more times than my saintly friend George Washington did in a lifetime.

WOODROW: Who are you?

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) You don't recognize the Constitution's architect? I am the Ghost of James Madison.

WOODROW: You aren't on Mount Rushmore. But I'll be. War should define America. I'm going to be America's greatest war President.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) You're the serpent in the constitutional paradise I created at the Philadelphia Convention. Each individual marching to their own drummer. No Dictators! No Autocrats! No Demagogues! No Authoritarians!

WOODROW: If Washington or Lincoln had governed in peace time, they would be forgotten.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) I discovered a vaccine against mankind's deadliest disease.

WOODROW: (*Mocking*) Pray tell. Smallpox? Measles? Mumps?

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) Deadlier than the Black Plague.

WOODROW: (*Mocking*) Scarlet fever? Whooping cough? Polio?

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) War! Legalized, first-degree murder.

WOODROW: I love presidential wars.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) I entrusted the war power exclusively to the legislature. That hadn't been tried in 3,000 years. My vaccine worked brilliantly. Congress refused to go to war unless the nation was attacked. Peace begot dazzling riches. The ambitious and industrious flocked to the United States from all over the world.

WOODROW: I airbrushed you out of my 5-volume history of the American people.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) I'll wear that as a badge of honor!

WOODROW: The unitary British government is best.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) The British Empire is sinking faster than the Titanic. Prime Ministers fight endless wars on their own.

WOODROW: That's Britain's glory. Congress can't run an empire.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) You need psychiatric help. No civilized man exalts war. Calling war the white man's burden doesn't diminish its savagery.

WOODROW: I'll elevate the Presidency to the most powerful office in the world. My unchecked power will replace the Star Spangled Banner with Rule Britannia. (*Song*)

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) What turns wives into widows? War! What turns children into orphans? War! What has fathers bury sons rather than sons bury fathers? War! What enriches the 1%? War!

WOODROW: Dying in combat is a sure ticket to heaven.

MADISON GHOST: (*Smoke*) That's as improbable as a camel going through the head of a needle. If you get the war power wrong, forget liberty and justice.

WOODROW: You must enjoy shaving your legs every morning. Dreading being dreaded is for wimps. Better for the United States to be feared than loved. The President must have the authority to bomb anyone at any time for any reason and never have to say he's sorry.

SCENE II: COURTING FIRST COUSIN

WOODROW: (*Kneeling, ring in hand*) Hattie Woodrow, you're the apple of my eye. (*Project GOD'S COVENANT*) Our love is part of **GOD'S COVENANT**. You're ordained to marry me!

HATTIE: God shortchanged women by making Eve from Adam's rib.

WOODROW: He had to start somewhere.

HATTIE: I don't want your headaches, insomnia and indigestion. You're a mama's boy!

WOODROW: You'll forget my shortcomings. All the world will know how special I am.

HATTIE: We're first cousins.

WOODROW: As they said in colonial Virginia: "Close enough to be sure. Far enough away to be safe."

HATTIE: Food, wine, art and sports excite me. God, oratory and power excite you.

WOODROW: Opposites attract. My greatness will solve any problem.

HARRIET: I must be the center of a man's universe. You're the only one that counts. You sound better than you are. I can't love you.

WOODROW: (*Stands*) Yes, we can. "No" isn't in **GOD'S COVENANT**.

HATTIE: But it's in mine...Tommy. (*Exits*)

WOODROW: Without an adoring wife, I'm lost.

SCENE III: COURTING ELLEN

ELLEN: As you know, our fathers are both Presbyterian ministers.

WOODROW: Ellen, you're the apple of my eye. Our love is part of **GOD'S COVENANT**. (*Project GOD'S COVENANT*)

ELLEN: (*Skeptical*) Sounds as rehearsed as the Lord's Prayer.

WOODROW: No, those words are only for you.

ELLEN: I'm attracted to ambitious men, not bank clerks. Is following your father's footsteps in **GOD'S COVENANT**?

WOODROW: Dad shepherds the Presbyterian elect. He saves a few souls now and then. That's not enough for me. I want to save the world. All of humanity is my flock! I'll join politics with religion. Even more than Lord Gladstone, Britain's greatest prime minister. (*Project picture*) His picture has adorned my bedroom since childhood.

ELLEN: Gladstone talked like Jesus Christ. But governed like Augustus. He made Britain a greater empire than Rome.

WOODROW: Gladstone won't match my glory. A sparrow won't fall to the ground without my benediction. James Madison's checks and balances won't handcuff me.

ELLEN: We need Madison's separation of powers because men are driven by hormones. Power. Money. Sex. Fame. And Certainty. For all his brilliance, Napoleon lost everything in Moscow.

WOODROW: But Napoleon's Tomb is Paris' most honored attraction.

ELLEN: Madison's Constitution shines a century after Napoleon's military triumphs are forgotten.

WOODROW: You're more formidable than Wellington at Waterloo. (*A dark shadow fall across Ellen's face*) What is it, my love?

ELLEN: Before we go any further, I must share a secret.

WOODROW: Of course, my love. Will it disturb me?

ELLEN: A suicide in the family.

WOODROW: Who?

ELLEN: My Daddy. He was traumatized by combat in the Civil War. I couldn't hold him together after Moma died.

WOODROW: I'm melancholic like your Daddy.

ELLEN: Me too. We understand each other so well. Dear Woody, I do adore you. You're my knight in shining armor.

WOODROW: You'll outshine Dolly Madison in the White House.

ELLEN: God gave you eloquence. God gave you brilliance. God gave you industry. But God sent me to give you judgment and wisdom.

WOODROW: God blessed you with social graces.

ELLEN: I don't have time to worry about fashion. Listen. Be a college professor. Practice oratory. Write books about changing the Constitution. You'll get rave reviews and lucrative speaking engagements with JP Morgan.

WOODROW: You're just like mother. So intelligent. So supportive. So, what else do I need to do?

ELLEN: Look at me. Learn to talk like a Yankee. The Civil War is taboo. Princeton was Madison's stepping stone to the White House. Princeton's presidency should be yours.

SCENE IV & V ON VIDEO

SCENE VI: COURTING CARNEGIE

WOODROW: I'm honored by your presence, Mr. Carnegie.

CARNEGIE: I'm the richest man in America!

WOODROW: Your riches can make Princeton the greatest university on earth.

CARNEGIE: Every college president like you courts me!

WOODROW: We must rebuild Princeton after the great British universities: The Quad Plan of Oxford and Cambridge. (*Project QUAD PLAN*)

CARNEGIE: Elite university graduates administer empire. You championed the Spanish-American war. Cuba was just an excuse to conquer the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam. You supported waterboarding.

WOODROW: It's the white man's burden to rule over non-chosen people. (*Pulls from chest pocket*) Rudyard Kipling poems are close to my heart.

CARNEGIE: (*Pulls from chest pocket and puts in Woodrow's*) True Americans should reserve that sacred space for the U.S. Constitution. Madison's genius was to assign the war power to Congress, the Labrador Retriever who stays at peace unless attacked. Congress won't go abroad in search of monsters to destroy.

WOODROW: You're wrong. The war power should be entrusted to the branch of government with the personality of a Pit Bull. Always sniffing for a country to attack. Only the President has that energetic and bellicose personality.

CARNEGIE: America's future is the march of the mind -- not of the foot soldier. I'm dotting America with public libraries. Without constitutional literacy, our Republic is doomed.

WOODROW: Only a muscular American military can save humanity with a barrel of a gun.

CARNEGIE: Our salvation is peace. The Constitution's Declare War Clause made us rich beyond the wildest dreams of the founding fathers. I didn't build the steel industry to underwrite wars. I left Scotland to get rich.

WOODROW: (*Toss football to Carnegie*) What about a football stadium called Carnegie Colosseum? Grander than Harvard and Yale!

CARNEGIE: (*Slams football down on ground*) I hate football! Same as lions eating Christians in the Roman Colosseum! Only savages exult in brain damage! If you stop pestering me, I'll build you a lake for crew. Rowing is harmless.

WOODROW: We'll call it "Lake Carnegie".

SCENE VII: MARY PECK

ELLEN: Jesse, Margaret and Eleanor have left the nest. I feel worthless.

WOODROW: (*Looks up from typewriter*) You should be beaming. You've raised 3 lovely daughters.

ELLEN: I'm just an extra in your motion picture spectacle.

WOODROW: There's room for only one lead actor.

ELLEN: We both need space. How about you take a trip and give me the space.

WOODROW: That's a fine idea. Separate vacations will strengthen our marriage.

ELLEN: Great minds think alike. Woody, here's your ocean liner ticket. Here's a nice picture of me and a hat to keep you warm. (*Both exit*)

(Scene in Bermuda) (Woodrow & Mary enter)

WOODROW: Mary, I love Bermuda in the winter. Your dinner parties are intoxicating. You're a more compelling listener than Mark Twain is a humorist.

MARY PECK: Come down and see me sometime. Any time.

WOODROW: I'll do just that. Every chance I get. Ellen and I agree separate vacations are best.

MARY PECK: Let's put Ellen's picture on the mantelpiece. You have it in your pocket, don't you?

WOODROW: Yes, I do. Thank you. That does make me feel better.

MARY PECK: Your pioneering Quad Plan fascinates me. You're really onto something with your soaring ideas about limitless presidential power.

WOODROW: Here's a present. *(Hands book)* My favorite Gladstone biography.

MARY PECK: I love talking about Lord Gladstone. *(Project picture)*

WOODROW: Only fools deny the world is run by mankind's conscience.

MARY PECK: You're more brilliant than the Constitution's framers. Who says men aren't angels? The hell with the little Jimmy Madison. He can't hold a candle to you. On our beach walks, I thrill when you recite Shakespeare.

WOODROW: *(Looks in eye)* "If it be a sin to covet honor, I am the most offending soul alive. We few, we happy few, we band of brothers. For he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother. And gentlemen in England shall think themselves accursed they were not here, and hold their manhood's cheap whiles any speaks that fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day."

MARY PECK: My darling! Wonderful! You're my Henry V! Fight for honor! Fight for empire! You'll move across the pages of poetry and romance.

SCENE VIII: NO PEERS

WOODROW: My Quad Plan is in trouble. My best friend defected to my Princeton faculty enemies.

ELLEN: I'm sorry.

WOODROW: If you're not for me, you're against me!

ELLEN: Come Woody, sit by me. You sound like your father, all wrath and vengeance. You're better than that. There are no good guys and bad guys. Go get yourself cleaned up. You're scheduled to speak at the Princeton alumni dinner in an hour. Remember, punctuality is the courtesy of kings. (*Woodrow exits*) Dark blood spreads over Woodrow's pupils whenever he meets resistance. He shrinks elephants into fleas and magnifies fleas into elephants. Without me, he'd be a Captain Ahab. (*Pours glass of water*) (*Woodrow storms in*)

WOODROW: The Board just rejected my Quad Plan. (*Project QUAD PLAN*) Quad damn it!

ELLEN: You've accomplished everything you can. Princeton's now in the same league as Harvard and Yale. (*Messenger enters with telegram*)

WOODROW: New Jersey's Democratic bosses are offering me Governor.

ELLEN: God comes through again like Ty Cobb – our Georgia Peach – in the bottom of the 9th.

SCENE IX: COURTING BRYAN

ELLEN: Mr. Tumulty. Colonel House. I appreciate your labors for Woodrow.

TUMULTY: His campaign speeches for New Jersey Governor are unforgettable.

HOUSE: They earned him the 1912 Democratic presidential nomination.

ELLEN: (*Facing Tumulty*) Thank you for masterminding Woodrow's progressive landmark legislation.

TUMULTY: His public utility regulation is very popular.

HOUSE: And his eugenics law sterilizing criminals is even more praised.

TUMULTY: Now New Jersey's a model state.

ELLEN: William Jennings Bryan can veto any Democratic presidential candidate. He's in Princeton. So I invited him to dinner. (*Tumulty & House exit*) (*Ellen lights candles*)

BRYAN: (*Enters*) Mrs. Wilson, your charms draw more eyes than rainbows. For every successful man, there's a smarter and stronger wife.

ELLEN: I like being a woman in a man's world. Men can't wear dresses, but I can wear the pants.

BRYAN: Ah, the aroma of your Southern fried chicken is more alluring than the scent of red roses.

ELLEN: I admire everything your wife enabled you to do.

BRYAN: I admire everything you enabled Woodrow to do.

ELLEN: My husband's the best candidate. Your endorsement is worth any cabinet position.

BRYAN: It's a deal. Secretary of State. (*Ellen extends her hand*)

SCENE X: THE PECK AFFAIR

WOODROW: I just love your 5th Avenue penthouse. LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!

MARY PECK: Princeton's only a heartbeat away. Our perfect tryst. (*He pulls close*) You seem mighty glad to see me.

WOODROW: Your divorce is great news.

MARY PECK: You've changed my world.

WOODROW: Mary, you're the apple of my eye. Our love is part of **GOD'S COVENANT**.

MARY PECK: You deliver those words like a poetic refrain.

WOODROW: My happiness depends on you. I love that blouse.

MARY PECK: I like my clothes tight enough to show I'm a woman, but loose enough to be a lady.

WOODROW: I can't resist you. You're my beautiful, wild child of nature. My perfect playmate. You make me drunk with happiness. If it's a sin to covet your love, I'm the greatest sinner alive. (*Both exit*)

(*Princeton home, Woodrow enters*)

WOODROW: Ellen, I'm home. There you are.

ELLEN: (*Shaking letter in his face*) Adulterer! Your love letter to Mrs. Peck was hidden in your Gladstone biography.

WOODROW: Give it to me.

ELLEN: Scoundrel! You say the same things to her you say to me. "You're the apple of my eye." Guilty! "Our love is part of **GOD'S COVENANT.**" Guilty again! (*Faces audience*) Women are interchangeable commodities for you!

WOODROW: (*Lovingly grabs her*) It doesn't mean what it says.

ELLEN: (*Pulls away*) Things will never be the same. You're a man of high ideals and NO principles. And I mean NO principles.

WOODROW: (*Moves toward her*) It was folly.

ELLEN: (*Pulls away*) You broke your marriage vows to God as well as me. Mary Peck is part of the Devil's Covenant. Not **GOD'S COVENANT.** (*Cries*)

WOODROW: (*Moves toward her*) It depends on the meaning of the word "of".

ELLEN: (*Pulls away*) First you insult my honor. Then you steal our intimacy.

WOODROW: (*Moves toward her*) Mary (*Ellen slaps*) I mean Ellen, my Dearest. I'm speechless.

ELLEN: (*Pulls away*) You're not half the man you think you are.

WOODROW: (*Moves toward her*) You knew I lacked judgment and wisdom when we married. At least I'm not a bank clerk.

ELLEN: (*Pulls away*) I abandoned my painting career for you. The worst trade since Manhattan was sold by the Indians for trinkets and beads.

WOODROW: (*Moves toward her*) I'm grateful for everything you've done.

ELLEN: (*Pulls away*) Adultery is a peculiar way to show your gratitude.

WOODROW: (*Moves toward her*) I listened to the serpent like Eve.

ELLEN: Men always blame women! *(Pause)* Now the White House is within our reach. And what do you do? You risk everything! I'm sick and tired of being the only adult in this marriage.

SCENE XI: ALICE PAUL

(White House scene) (American flags & President's desk with typewriter)

ALICE: *(Standing)* I've headquartered the National Women's Party right across the street from the White House. From now on, we're point blank. Suffrage is the litmus test of a true progressive. Can't you understand that, Mr. President?

WOODROW: *(Typing at desk)* Politics kills feminine charms.

ALICE: Feminine charms shine brightest in the 9 states where women vote.

WOODROW: Female voting destroys the family.

LUCY: Family values flourish out West.

WOODROW: Currency reform is my priority – not recasting womanhood!

ALICE: The Federal Reserve is good only for financing imperial wars and enriching too-big-to-fail banks.

LUCY: Women aren't bound by laws made by legislatures that deny us the vote.

WOODROW: Oh my dears: You're revolutionaries!

ALICE: I take that as a high compliment. My ancestors fought in our War of Independence. I'm fighting in a struggle to win the same rights for women. We'll win freedom in spite of your opposition.

WOODROW: Never tell a woman she's wrong. I'm thrilled to be a progressive!

ALICE: Words! Words! Words! I'm so sick of words.

WOODROW: Suffrage is a matter of federalism and should be decided state by state.

LUCY: Suffrage is a moral issue. Suffrage will make America great. *(Hands "Make America Great" yellow suffrage hat)*

WOODROW: I didn't run on suffrage. I represent only the platform my party won on.

ALICE: Stop insulting our intelligence.

WOODROW: Stop insulting the office of the Presidency. Suffrage isn't worth more than 10 minutes. Our meeting's over.

ALICE: Democrats have enough votes in the Senate and House to pass our amendment.

WOODROW: You'd have drowned first at the Salem witch trials. I mean that respectfully, of course.

LUCY: Such a charming man.

ALICE: We'll campaign against every Democrat until we get universal suffrage.

WOODROW: Women vote just like men. You won't change anything.

LUCY: That's a wonderful argument for disenfranchising men. Let's switch places.

(Woodrow resumes typing) (Alice & Lucy exit and join suffragists in LaFayette Square)

(Pat leads Suffragists in First Song) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqPiFXux1lg&sns=em:>

Hark the sound of myriad voices rising in their might
Tis the daughters of Columbia pleading for their right
Raise the flag and plant the standard, wave the signal still
Brothers we must share your freedom

(All Suffragists together:)

Think it not an idle murmur
You who hear the cry
Tis a plea for human freedom
Hallowed liberty
Raise the flag and plant the standard, wave the signal still
Brothers we must share your freedom
Help us and we will
Oh our country glorious nation, greatest of them all
Give unto they daughters justice or thy pride will fall
Raise the flag and plant the standard
Waive the signal still
Brothers we must share your freedom
Help us and we will

SCENE XII: WILLIAM MONROE TROTTER

WOODROW: Three guys go into a bar. A kike, a Jap and a nigger. The bartender says
(*Interrupted by Trotter*)

TUMULTY: Welcome, Mr. Trotter. It's a pleasure to meet Harvard's first colored Phi Beta Kappa.

WOODROW: What's wrong with segregation? The Supreme Court blesses separate-but-equal.

TROTTER: They enforce the separate but ignore the equal. We're the untouchables.

WOODROW: I'm all for progress. It's just change I can't stand. It took more than two centuries to abolish slavery. Be patient.

TROTTER: I refuse the drug of gradualism. The time has come to rise from the dark valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice.

WOODROW: Jesus accepted slavery.

TROTTER: Our leadership celebrated you as a second Abraham Lincoln. Now our followers denounce us as traitors.

WOODROW: That's blackmail. Race has no place in politics.

TROTTER: Except when you want our votes.

WOODROW: I'm sorry you feel that way. Segregation must be approached factually, not emotionally.

TROTTER: Civil rights are sacred. You and your Dixie base are flouting the 15th Amendment. Wholesale disfranchisement! Literacy tests! Klan lynching! Make no mistake: our Constitution must be color-blind. All citizens should be equal before the law. The humblest is the peer of the most powerful.

WOODROW: I won't tolerate your impertinence! Get out!

TROTTER: Mr. President: Do you work for the Klan's Imperial Wizard? We need justice and receive injustice. We need the rule of law and receive mob violence. You should tremble before God. He's just and his justice will not slumber forever. (*Exits*)

TUMULTY: Woodrow, get hold of yourself.

WOODROW: Sometimes I can't control of the volcanos inside me.

TUMULTY: To win re-election, you must court, not alienate, colored voters. You shouldn't have screened D.W. Griffith's *BIRTH OF A NATION* at the White House. People say it's racist.

WOODROW: Nonsense – that film writes history with lightning.

TUMULTY: It glorifies the Ku Klux Klan.

WOODROW: My Southern base comes first.

SCENE XIII: ELLEN DIES

WOODROW: (*Holds hand in her bed*) I've been blessed by 29 wonderful years with you. Dearest, please don't leave me. Not now!

ELLEN: You left me long ago for Mary Peck.

WOODROW: I ended the affair.

ELLEN: You tore a hole in my heart. I rolled a stone over the wound and tried to pretend it wasn't there. How else could I go on?

WOODROW: Please Ellen, I haven't slept with Mary in years.

ELLEN: My heart never healed. It bleeds a little every day.

WOODROW: I can't bear to hear you talk this way.

ELLEN: My love subsists on life support. Half dead. Half alive. I'm dying from your ingratitude.

WOODROW: I thank God every day for you.

ELLEN: Why do you write Mary Peck every week?

WOODROW: I write about current affairs. So historians will know my thinking.

ELLEN: Why don't you keep a diary like John Quincy Adams? Your letters are adultery by other means.

WOODROW: I owe my fame to you. Marriage to Mary would be political suicide.

ELLEN: Treating coloreds and women as second-class citizens is no way to lead mankind. Do me a favor. Don't treat the Germans the way the Yankees treated us. Don't let the war be your serpent. It squanders money better spent on schools, hospitals, roads, the poor and the elderly.

"I Didn't Raise My Boy To Be A Soldier" (*Pat & chorus sing*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9qi9LbvD3Q&sns=em>

Ten million soldiers to the war have gone,
Who may never return again.
Ten million mothers' hearts must break
For the ones who died in vain.
Head bowed down in sorrow
In her lonely years,
I heard a mother murmur thru' her tears:
I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier,
I brought him up to be my pride and joy.
Who dares to place a musket on his shoulder,
To shoot some other mother's darling boy?
Let nations arbitrate their future troubles,
It's time to lay the sword and gun away.
There'd be no war today,
If mothers all would say,
"I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier."

WOODROW: God hasn't revealed His war plan to me, just yet.

ELLEN: You men have made such a mess of things. Promise me you'll keep us out of this war.

WOODROW: I can't promise to break **GOD'S COVENANT**.

ELLEN: You already did that with Mary Peck.

WOODROW: You're right. You've convinced me.

ELLEN: How can I believe you? You have a credibility gap. (*Doctor enters*) Doctor Grayson, follow my instructions. Minister to Woodrow's eating disorders. His migraines. His insomnia. His twitching. His coughing. His strokes. His depressions. His insatiable craving for glory. Have I forgotten anything? (*Dies*)

WOODROW: (*Grabs head with both hands & shouts*) Dr. Grayson, my worst migraine ever!

SCENE XIV: COLONEL HOUSE

WOODROW: (*Playing cards*) Solitaire has always been my favorite game. With Ellen gone, I play every day and night. I wish someone would kill me.

HOUSE: Don't say that! God elected you for immortal work.

WOODROW: Heavens! After Moses, I thought God talked only to me.

HOUSE: (*Fawning*) I live to please you. God sent me to replace Ellen as your other self.

WOODROW: Will you be as selfless?

HOUSE: I can't do enough.

WOODROW: I can trust you not to betray my confidences.

HOUSE: You're wisest of the wise. Bravest of the brave. Gentlest of gentleman. Noblest of nobleman.

WOODROW: (*Project fist*) I always fume over that little group of willful men who thwarted my Quad Plan. Princeton would have leapfrogged Harvard and Yale.

HOUSE: Even with that handicap, you still put Princeton in a tie.

WOODROW: He who puts his hand to the plough and looks back isn't fit for the kingdom of God.

HOUSE: Every day I thank God for the privilege of serving you.

WOODROW: (*Hugs*) Take the Lincoln bedroom. You can make a tax-deductible donation to the Wilson Foundation later.

HOUSE: The Great War is the biggest upheaval since Jesus Christ. Unless you get involved, you won't receive a Nobel Peace Prize like President Roosevelt.

WOODROW: I can't let Teddy surpass me.

HOUSE: I'll be your national security advisor.

WOODROW: Without pay. Without acknowledgment.

HOUSE: We'll circumvent the Constitution. I'll never face Senate confirmation or oversight.

WOODROW: Secret diplomacy is my stock and trade.

HOUSE: We'll keep Secretary of State Bryan in the dark.

WOODROW: That'll prevent his resignation and challenge to my re-election.

HOUSE: Better to have Bryan inside the tent pissing out than outside pissing in. (*Wilson exits*) I've mastered Woodrow's personality. A perfect Yahweh. Malignant narcissism. Fragile self-esteem. Invents facts. Vindictive toward the un-worshipful. Infuriated by contradiction. Chronic temper tantrums. Introspection unimaginable.

XV: BREAKING NEUTRALITY

BRYAN: (*Wilson typing*) (*Bryan gives paper*) Mr. President, dispatch this note to Downing Street. Demand freedom of the seas and respect for American neutrality.

WOODROW: Suppose the British persist.

BRYAN: Embargo food, the British go hungry. Embargo weapons, the British can't fight. We're holding a royal flush against their two clubs. Madison went to war with the cards reversed.

WOODROW: J P Morgan complained at his Long Island mansion about you blocking his loans. The Allies must have unlimited credit.

BRYAN: Neutrals having "Allies" is like baseball umpires owning teams. If we support the military capabilities of one side at war but not the other, we abandon our neutrality.

WOODROW: Neutrality means whatever I want it to mean. Nothing more. Nothing less.

BRYAN: You're provoking Germany to blow up our munitions factories and sink our armed merchant ships. If you play our royal flush, Downing Street will fold.

WOODROW: Let me study your diplomatic note. (*Bryan exits*) (*Continues typing*) (*House enters*) Irish-American and German-American voters may abandon me for supporting Britain.

HOUSE: No one's dearer to my heart than you. Just wait until after the 1916 election to escalate into full-scale war against Germany.

WOODROW: I'll campaign on keeping us out of war.

HOUSE: Every night I dream I'm in heaven knowing you're my President. William McKinley and Teddy Roosevelt began our empire with the conquest of the Philippines. You can make America a world power.

WOODROW: My dozens of military interventions in the Caribbean and Latin America are dress rehearsals. (*Gives paper*) Here's Bryan's note to London.

HOUSE: I'll see if the British Ambassador approves. (*House exits*)

BRYAN: (*Enters*) Did you send my Downing Street cable?

WOODROW: No!

BRYAN: Then I'll challenge you for the 1916 nomination!

WOODROW: Relax. (*Pause*) We can't risk our special relationship.

BRYAN: Where's that in the Constitution?

WOODROW: I won't win a Nobel Peace Prize if I embargo Britain.

BRYAN: Your oath is to defend the Constitution. Not Britain.

WOODROW: You don't define American interests. I do. What's good for me is good for America.

BRYAN: The Constitution defines American interests. Not you. And what's bad for the Constitution is bad for America.

SCENE XVI: BRITISH EMPIRE

(*Chorus sings Rule Britannia*)

LLOYD GEORGE: Lord Gray!

LORD GRAY: Lloyd George.

LLOYD GEORGE: How thrilling to direct something more powerful than the British Navy. The greatest propaganda campaign the world has ever seen.

LORD GRAY: Crucified Allied soldiers. (*Points at projected poster*)

LLOYD GEORGE: Raped nuns with breasts sliced off. (*Points at projected poster*)

LORD GRAY: We cut Germany's cables to the United States.

LLOYD GEORGE: Peddling fake news to America is a cake walk.

LORD GRAY: We market war like soap. (*Hands pamphlet*)

LLOYD GEORGE: (*Reads*) "The War That Will End War" (*Project*) is the way we advertise the bloodiest war in history.

LORD GRAY: Colonel House is working the advertisement into Woodrow's speeches. (*House enters*)

LLOYD GEORGE: Welcome, Colonel.

LORD GRAY: We're just praising you.

LLOYD GEORGE: We divided the Ottoman Empire.

LORD GRAY: (*Project numbers*) The British empire increases 862,549 square miles.

LLOYD GEORGE: And the French empire increases 238,000 square miles.

LORD GRAY: 4 to 1.

LLOYD GEORGE: Some allies are more equal than others.

HOUSE: Keep it secret. Or it'll kill our propaganda.

LLOYD GEORGE: We appreciate your fake neutrality.

LORD GRAY: We appreciate vetting your diplomatic dispatches.

HOUSE: We've been arming, feeding and funding you from the beginning.

LLOYD GEORGE: You must do more for a ticket to the peace table.

HOUSE: What's your admission price?

LORD GRAY: Millions of American soldiers.

HOUSE: That'll break the stalemate for sure.

LLOYD GEORGE: Woodrow must stop praising self-determination. The Irish take it rather seriously.

LORD GRAY: So do our subjects in India.

LLOYD GEORGE: It might even catch fire in the Philippines.

LORD GRAY: Be careful what you wish for. You might get it.

HOUSE: Don't worry. Woodrow will trade self-determination for a League of Nations.

LORD GRAY: We're recommending you for knighthood. In the meantime, here's a British pin as a token of our appreciation.

HOUSE: Thank you, my Lord.

SCENE XVII: KAISER WALKS THE LINE

KAISER: Ach mein Gott! I'm heart-broken.

AUGUSTA VICTORIA: (*Enters holding dead child*) I found her lying beside her parents and twin sister. Only a few days before she was nursing at the bosom of her loving mutti. Starved to death by the cruel British blockade. Presided over by unser Cousin Georg.

KAISER: Oh, Georg. What ingratitude! We gifted Britain 8 generations of German monarchs.

LUDENDORFF: While Wilson moralizes about our U-boote, a million innocent civilians starve to death.

AUGUSTA VICTORIA: The British blockade's a war crime.

KAISER: Neutral nations protest its illegality. Only Wilson is silent.

AUGUSTA VICTORIA: Even his own State Department disputes his view of international law.

LUDENDORFF: Remember, blockading Britain is proportionate retaliation.

KAISER: It satisfies international law.

AUGUSTA VICTORIA: The British use surface vessels. We use submarines.

LUDENDORFF: Our U-boote spared crews before the British armed their merchant ships.

KAISER: British ships falsely fly American flags with impunity.

AUGUSTA VICTORIA: Wilson abandoned Americans in Mexico. But he's willing to risk war to protect Americans recklessly travelling on British armed merchant ships in war zones.

LUDENDORFF: I can achieve victory before American troops land. Eure Majestät, lift all submarine restrictions.

AUGUSTA VICTORIA: (*Recites Lord's Prayer in German low voice*)

LUDENDORFF: God, our heavenly Father, hear our prayer. We acknowledge our shortcomings and ask thy help in leading thy German Reich to glorious victories. Give us this day a machine gun that will fire 10,000 rounds a minute. In thy merciful patience, forgive each bullet that misses its mark. Forget not thy children that hide from us in the trenches. Bring them under our merciful hand that we may end their suffering. Lord, thy will be done! Lead us not into the temptation of letting our wrath be too gentle in carrying out thy divine judgment. Deliver us from the Evil One. Thine is the kingdom, Deutschland.

AUGUSTA VICTORIA: Amen (*German*)

KAISER: Herr General. The military always overpromises. The von Schlieffen Plan had us in Paris by now. Discretion is the better part of valor.

SCENE XVIII: EDITH WILSON

WOODROW: I love southern belles. (*Edith enter*) Edith, you're the apple of my eye. Our love is part of **GOD'S COVENANT**. (*Project*)

EDITH: Did you rehearse those lines? They sound memorized.

WOODROW: You're the perfect antidote to the world's loneliest job.

EDITH: Marriage to power is a woman's aphrodisiac.

WOODROW: I'm late to a cabinet meeting. I'll share everything with you later. (*Exits*)

DOCTOR GRAYSON: (*Enters*) Your husband's chronic depressions are concerning.

EDITH: Do you have a remedy?

DOCTOR GRAYSON: You're it. He's a 600 horse-power motor in a frail chassis.

EDITH: If you had been Woodrow's Princeton physician, you might have prevented his stroke and paralysis. (*Pause*) I love to dominate him on the golf course. With his 40 handicap, I'm coasting to victory after the third hole.

WOODROW: (*Enters*) (*Doctor Exits*) What happiness you give me. When you rest your hand in mine, I feel like shouting for the strength and joy that's in me.

EDITH: So sweet you need me so much. You're my tiger.

WOODROW: It's bliss to be in your arms. I share my heart only with you. (*Pause*) We're inseparable Virginians running the world.

EDITH: (*Woodrow sits at typewriter*) I wish Bryan would die from an overdose of peace or grape juice. Fire him! (*Pause*) And while you're at it, fire Tumulty too!

WOODROW: What did Tumulty do?

EDITH: He lacks breeding.

WOODROW: Because he wasn't raised like us, he's deft at handling my diverse visitors.

EDITH: He's a crypto-hyphenated American craving Irish independence. Colonel House's flattery disguises his vaulting ambition. Our intimacy forecloses all others.

WOODROW: You make my heart sing at heaven's gate.

SCENE XIX: BRYAN RESIGNS

EDITH: Over a hundred Americans drowned.

BRYAN: What did they expect? The German Government posted this warning in 50 American newspapers for weeks: (*Reads*) "Quote. NOTICE! Travelers please be warned that vessels flying the British flag are liable to destruction in waters adjacent to the British Isles."

EDITH: Your mother was right. The Germans will destroy Western civilization. Britain's fight is our fight. Time for you to be Gladstone. Go to war!

BRYAN: American passengers can't shield British munitions from enemy attack.

WOODROW: (*Typing, facing Bryan*) Munitions are irrelevant. Americans should be able to travel wherever they want and however they want. That right is more sacred than due process.

BRYAN: We should pass a law banning American passengers on ships of warring nations. Only a tiny fraction of wealthy Americans are effected. You're a selective humanitarian. You have a heart of stone for the German children starved by the British blockade.

WOODROW: Only disloyal hyphenated-Americans would say that. People say you're on the Kaiser's payroll.

BRYAN: The Lusitania was a British -- not an American -- ship. Sunk in a war zone -- not on the high seas.

WOODROW: That's fake news!

BRYAN: The torpedo hit the hull where British munitions were stored. That's why it sank instantly.

WOODROW: Give me alternative facts!

BRYAN: You provoked submarine attacks by endorsing Britain's illegal European blockade. (*Takes from Wilson and reads*) Let me see your diplomatic note to Berlin.

WOODROW: Unless Germany pays reparations, I'm breaking diplomatic relations.

BRYAN: That's it! I won't be complicit in starving women and children. Here, sir, is my resignation! (*Hands letter, exit*) (*House enter*)

HOUSE: You tower over Washington and Lincoln. They never even dreamed of saving mankind. Here's a British Empire pin to inspire you.

WOODROW: Everybody has at least one skeleton in their closet. Before I can make America great, I must stop Mary Peck from selling my intimate letters to her to the Republicans.

HOUSE: The 1916 election is only 13 months away.

WOODROW: Here's \$7,000!

HOUSE: Isn't that all your savings?

WOODROW: (*Shakes head, pause*) She's broke. Give her the money. We can't risk delay.

HOUSE: Thank God there's no campaign finance law.

SCENE XX: DECLARATION OF WAR

WOODROW: Boy, we just squeaked by.

HOUSE: By the skin of your teeth. If Mary Peck had sold your letters, there would be no second term.

WOODROW: If I hadn't campaigned under the banner "HE KEPT US OUT OF WAR", I would have been a one-term President.

HOUSE: Now Germany has resumed unrestricted submarine warfare.

WOODROW: I must ask Congress to declare a state of war.

HOUSE: Be cunning. In 128 years, Congress has never initiated a war. Madison, Polk and McKinley asked Congress to declare that foreign aggression had ended peace. We must follow their example.

WOODROW: You're right. The American people aren't clamoring for war. Congress won't declare war against Germany. Their members are a bunch of Labrador Retrievers.

HOUSE: We'll just say Germany has initiated war against us. (*Exit*) (*Edith enter*)

WOODROW: (*Kneel*) Oh, my sweet Edith, looking in your eyes gives me strength to fight the Germans.

EDITH: (*Places Bush Skin Hat on his head, Kneel*) **Deuteronomy 32:** God says: "I kill..."

WOODROW: "I wound..."

EDITH: "I will make mine arrows drunk with blood"

WOODROW: “**and my sword shall devour flesh.**” For 3 long years, my offer to mediate was scorned. (*Hands*) Here’s my war speech.

EDITH: (*Turning pages*) I’m thrilled I’m part of **GOD’S COVENANT**. My darling, you’re brilliant! The world’s greatest man. More famous. More admired. More worshiped. Our greatest war President.

WOODROW: God, our heavenly Father, hear our prayer. We acknowledge our shortcomings and ask thy help in leading thy chosen people to glorious victories. Give us this day a machine gun that will fire 10,000 rounds a minute. In thy merciful patience, forgive each bullet that misses its mark. Forget not thy children that hide from us in the trenches. Bring them under our merciful hand that we may end their suffering. Lord, thy will be done! Lead us not into the temptation of letting our wrath be too gentle in carrying out thy divine judgment. Deliver us from the Evil One. Thine is the American kingdom.

(*Outside Capitol citizens gather*)

“Over There” <https://youtu.be/Y2ktNsYMaag>

JAMES CAGNEY/MALE :

Johnny, get your gun, get your gun, get your gun.

FRANCES LANGFORD/PAT SINGS IN HATTIE/CITIZEN OUTFIT:

Take it on the run, on the run, on the run.

Hear them calling you and me,

Every Son of Liberty.

JAMES CAGNEY: Hurry right away, no delay, go today.

PAT sings:

Make your Daddy glad to have had such a lad.

Tell your sweetheart not to pine,

To be proud her boy's in line. Over there, over there,

Send the word, send the word over there

That the Yanks are coming, the Yanks are coming

The drums rum-tumming everywhere.

So prepare, say a prayer,

Send the word, send the word to beware -

We'll be over, we're coming over,

And we won't come back till it's over, over there.

JAMES CAGNEY: EVERYBODY SING!

WHOLE CHORUS/COMPANY: (SING TWICE)

Over there, over there,

Send the word, send the word over there
That the Yanks are coming, the Yanks are coming
The drums rum-rumming everywhere.
So prepare, say a prayer,
Send the word, send the word to beware -
We'll be over, we're coming over,
And we won't come back till it's over, over there.

SCENE XXI: LET FREEDOM DIE

MADISON GHOST: STOP! STOP! You blocks! You stones! You worse than senseless things! "Over There" exalts war. Yet it excites you above everything else. Mothers don't raise standing armies.

WOODROW: (*Enter*) The Constitution is a museum piece. Separation of powers keeps me off Mount Rushmore. I can't save mankind if Congress is the first branch of government.

MADISON GHOST: You deceived the American people for 2.5 years. Like a tuba, you blared neutrality while moving heaven and earth to assist the Triple Entente.

WOODROW: I'm the proud father of presidential wars.

MADISON GHOST: You've been a Field Marshal to the British. Arms. Loans. Fake news. Blacklisting American firms. Intercepting our mail. Cutting our cables to Germany. Interdicting Southern cotton, mid-Western meat and western copper. (*Project BRITAIN VIOLATES AMERICAN NEUTRALITY*)

WOODROW: Claiming neutrality enabled me to maneuver Congress into giving me a declaration of war.

MADISON GHOST: Had I been President in 1914, I would have issued Britain an ultimatum over flagrant violations of our neutral rights. If Britain had persisted, I would've asked Congress to acknowledge a state of war as I did in 1812. I would've ordered Eddie Rickenbacker to bomb Big Ben.

WOODROW: **GOD'S COVENANT** trumps the Constitution. My allegiance is to all mankind.

MADISON GHOST: You spiked the national debt from \$1 billion to \$30 billion— the most extravagant spending spree in the nation's history. You paid a steep price for machine guns, tanks and fighter-bombers with unbuilt schools, unrepaired roads and unconstructed bridges.

WOODROW: Hyphenated Americans pour the poison of disloyalty into our national arteries.

MADISON GHOST: According to Teddy Roosevelt: "To stand by the President, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable."

WOODROW: My Espionage and Sedition Acts make the Not-Yet-Guilty criminals. I'm proud to have imprisoned more dissenters than John Adams.

MADISON GHOST: You carry the disease that necessitated my vaccine.

WOODROW: Separation of powers is the worst idea in history. *(Madison & Woodrow exit)*
(Judge, Alice & Lucy enter)

(In courthouse)

JUDGE: How do you plead?

ALICE: Not guilty! *(Suffragettes cheer)*

JUDGE: But the Not-Yet-Guilty are the worst offenders. Women should be seen. Not heard!

LUCY: Not guilty. *(Suffragettes cheer)*

JUDGE: Order!

ALICE & LUCY: We're political prisoners! *(Suffragettes echo)*

JUDGE: Stop! You're risking contempt.

LUCY: Petitioning is protected by the First Amendment. *(Suffragettes cheer)*

JUDGE: Order!

LUCY: You're punishing free speech.

ALICE: Wilson's a hypocrite. *(Suffragettes cheer)*

LUCY: *(Raises banner)* "KASIER WILSON: Have You Forgotten Your Sympathy With the Poor Germans Because They Aren't Self-Governed? 20,000,000 American Women Aren't Self-Governed."

JUDGE: 7 months in jail! (*Exits*) (*Alice & Lucy dragged off*) (*Alice & Suffragettes sing "RISE UP WOMEN" Tune: John Brown's body*)

Rise up, women, for the fight is hard and long.
Rise up in thousands singing loud a battle song.
Right is might, and in strength we shall be strong
And the cause goes marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah! The cause goes marching on.

JAILER: (*Enters, puts flashlight on Alice's face*) Sleep deprivation! The Wilson Administration's best enhanced interrogation technique.

LUCY: That won't defeat our hunger strike.

ALICE: We won't eat until women get the vote! (*Suffragettes echo*)

JAILER: Then we'll force feed you. (*strap down, resistance, force tube down throats, scream, suffragettes echo*)

SCENE XXII: THE FALL

WOODROW: My doughboys broke the European stalemate. Against the advice of all my advisors, I come to Paris as a Messiah. Through me, God defeated Germany to enthrone the conscience of the world. The savagery of self-interest surrenders to the dignity of righteousness. History's supreme moment has arrived. Drawing the sword of peace, American boys co-mingled their blood in French soil as a timeless reminder of their selfless devotion in lifting the burden of mankind. Their sacrifice points like a rugged finger to heaven. Like the ancient Hebrews, Americans are God's chosen people. Old Glory flies as the flag of humanity. The League of Nations culminates America's long journey of providential service. War's a thing of the past. (*Exit*)

CLEMENCEAU: (*Enter with Lloyd George*) I was elected Prime Minister of France because I asked to be buried standing up facing Germany. Lloyd George, you were elected Prime Minister of Britain because you know the greatness of war!

LLOYD GEORGE: Great for expanding our empires.

CLEMENCEAU: Great for expanding our executive power.

LLOYD GEORGE: That's why we call it the Great War! (*High five*)

CLEMENCEAU: We're lucky Woodrow didn't listen to General Pershing.

LLOYD GEORGE: Woodrow had four million soldiers. All the money. He could have marched to Berlin. Dictated peace without victory.

CLEMENCEAU: Woodrow's influence ended with Germany's unconditional surrender.

LLOYD GEORGE: How are we going to repay Woodrow's \$10 billion of war loans?

CLEMENCEAU: Mask our bankruptcy with voodoo economics. Force the Germans to sign a war-guilt clause and pay our debt with reparations.

LLOYD GEORGE: Let's squeeze the Germans until their pips squeak.

CLEMENCEAU: I'm not called the Tiger for nothing.

LLOYD GEORGE: Is that why you always wear gloves?

CLEMENCEAU: To hide my claws. (*Woodrow & Edith enter*) Let's get down to business. (*Pointing to chart*) 1.3 million Frenchmen dead.

LLOYD GEORGE: (*Pointing*) Almost a million from the British Empire.

CLEMENCEAU: (*Pointing to Woodrow*) You only lost 116,000.

LLOYD GEORGE: Adjusted for population, our losses are 30 times yours.

CLEMENCEAU: We need Lebensraum. Let's dismember Germany.

LLOYD GEORGE: 10% of their population!

CLEMENCEAU: And 13% of their territory! (*Ripping map*) Alsace-Lorraine. (*Ripping*) Let's also give western Germany to Belgium.

LLOYD GEORGE: (*Ripping*) Let's amputate the eastern side of Germany and create Czechoslovakia.

WOODROW: That's 3 million Germans!

EDITH: Don't they get self-determination?

CLEMENCEAU: The same self-determination you gave your Redskins.

LLOYD GEORGE: Let's leave the League of Nations out of the treaty.

WOODROW: You can't do that.

LLOYD GEORGE: (*Ripping*) Let's amputate eastern Germany more and put 2 million Germans in Poland.

CLEMENCEAU: (*Ripping*) Don't forget Denmark. (*Ripping*) And Italy. They need Germans too.

LLOYD GEORGE: Let's exclude Germany from the League. Just like we excluded those bastards from our negotiations.

WOODROW: Thank God for my League of Nations. Otherwise, Germany would seek revenge.

SCENE XXIII: PROTECTING CONGRESSIONAL WAR POWER

ALICE ROOSEVELT: Hurrah! The Democrats lost control of both chambers.

SENATOR LODGE: Thank God the mid-term elections were held only days before the war ended with the Armistice.

ALICE ROOSEVELT: The voters repudiated Wilson after he foolishly insinuated we Republicans are traitors.

SENATOR LODGE: As the new Senate Majority Leader, I'll wield the Constitution to defeat Woodrow's Versailles Treaty.

ALICE ROOSEVELT: Thanks to the great little Madison who put the Senate in the driver's seat. (*Woodrow & Edith enter*)

SENATOR LODGE: Mr. President, may I help you carry the Treaty? (*Reaches for book Woodrow carrying*)

WOODROW: Not on your life!

SENATOR LODGE: I'm Madison's sentinel guarding separation of powers. The treaty's unconstitutional. Only Congress can declare war. We can't allow the League to take us to war over every disputed boundary in the world.

WOODROW: The treaty imposes only a moral obligation.

SENATOR LODGE: Then you should accept my reservation which reads: "The Congress,

under the Constitution, has the sole power to declare war and employ U.S. military forces.”

WOODROW: I don't do reservations.

EDITH: 116,000 American boys fought for humanity by giving their lives for Woodrow's League of Nations.

SENATOR LODGE: No! They fought under the Stars and Stripes.

ALICE ROOSEVELT: They thrilled to The Star-Spangled Banner.

SENATOR LODGE: And they sang God bless America.

WOODROW: (*Holds League*) The heart of the world beats in this great and sincere document.

ALICE ROOSEVELT: (*Holds Constitution*) But the heart of America beats in our Constitution.

SENATOR LODGE: The League Covenant is badly written.

ALICE ROOSEVELT: Soap bubbles of oratory and souffles of phrases.

SENATOR LODGE: It might get an A at Princeton but an F at Harvard.

ALICE ROOSEVELT: You're trying to float to heaven on sea of mush. You're not Christ.

SENATOR LODGE: You're the anti-Christ.

ALICE ROOSEVELT: I feel as if I've wandered into the Mad Hatter's tea party.

SENATOR LODGE: Mr. President, I have the votes. Accept the League with my reservation. Otherwise, no League.

WOODROW: Over my dead body. I'll take my case directly to the American people.

SENATOR LODGE: You already did that and lost. Now it's my turn to pass judgment on you. A Wilsonian America won't replace a Madisonian America on my watch.

SCENE XXIV: WOODROW'S LEGACY

MADISON GHOST: (*Holds Constitution*) You couldn't convince the Senate to surrender the war power to the President and League of Nations. So you recklessly whistle-stopped across the country sermonizing to the same voters that had rejected your war gospel at the mid-term elections. A stroke brought you to the brink of death. You preferred crucifixion to acceptance of my war vaccine.

WOODROW: Madison, God damn your separation of powers. God damn your Declare War Clause. My League of Nations would have prevented war forever by summoning the moral conscience of the world.

MADISON GHOST: Sermons on the Mount don't stop war. No land is more blood-stained than the Holy Land.

WOODROW: I was created and put on earth to lead all of mankind. To moral perfection!

MADISON GHOST: The Versailles Treaty was only half time before World War II. The war to end war gave birth to peace that ended peace. You seduced Germany with magnanimity to gain the Armistice. Then you endorsed a Carthaginian peace to secure immortality. Your stab in the back created Adolf Hitler.

WOODROW: Being right makes process and institutions irrelevant. Your self-doubting Constitution frustrates great men like me.

MADISON GHOST: No man can be trusted with limitless power. Liberty and peace are its first casualties. To benefit the 99%, my war vaccine aborts self-proclaimed great men.

WOODROW: I'm awed by my saintliness. Why aren't you?

MADISON GHOST: My miracle in Philadelphia outshines Jesus 37 miracles. The Declare War Clause of the Constitution has saved more lives and prevented more misery than the medical profession. Your hero Lord Gladstone effused that my Constitution was "the most wonderful work every struck off by the brain and purpose of man." By denying the war power to the President, the Republic set the gold standard for civilization. It radiates peace and prosperity.

WOODROW: Give me the Constitution! (*Grabs Constitution from Madison and tears page by page*) You're a relic. In the Wilsonian century, each President will make his office into a bigger war room. The Commander-in-Chief will be enthroned by history's greatest military as the supreme warlord of the earth. (*Starts burning pages*) Some burn books. I burn the American Constitution. Citizens won't know a single day of peace. America will garrison every continent

with military bases. Mankind will cower under our predator drones and our citizens under NSA dragnet surveillance. The national debt will soar.

MADISON GHOST: When you put your hand on the Bible, you swore to uphold the Constitution. Not burn it.

WOODROW: I uphold **GOD'S COVENANT**. America will proudly replace Britain as world leader. The Democratic and Republican parties will reject your beloved separation of powers and enthusiastically build my imperial presidency. Congress will gleefully flee from accepting responsibility and acquiesce in endless presidential wars. I'll be celebrated under the banner of promoting democracy abroad and you'll be completely forgotten. I'll totally erase your Great Republic from public memory.

The Wilsonian Century will live for the ages.

MADISON GHOST: Malignant narcissism blinds you. You have undone our Great Republic. Have lost the last best hope on earth. You sir are to the Constitution what Julius Caesar was to the Roman Republic. Dante's Circles of Hell will be your final resting place!

Cast & Crew

Director: Rick Davis
Assistant Director: Hugh Hill
Costume Director: Chloe Squires
Drama Poo Bah: Richard Squires
Humorists: Richard Rymland, Travis Brown
Constitutionalist: Bruce Fein
Lighting Directors: Henry Gorfein, Howard Coon
Photography & Video: Ray Boc
Social Media & Image Consultant: Max Mohr

Ghost of James Madison: Bruce Fein
Woodrow Wilson: Colin Davies
Hattie Woodrow: Pat Nicklin
Tommy Wilson: Maeve Cuiba
Joseph Wilson: Howard Coon
Jesse Wilson & Ghost: Deverell Pedersen
Ellen Axson Wilson: Faith Lewis
Messenger: Dante DeVito
Mary Peck: Molly McCartney
Andrew Carnegie: Bill Nitze
Alice Paul: Pat Nicklin
Lucy Burns: Nuchhi Currier
Henry Monroe Trotter: Hermond Palmer
Joseph Tumulty: Peter Stenner
William Jennings Bryan: Bob Randolph
Edith Galt Wilson: Gail Kitch
Colonel House: Bill Nitze
Lloyd George: Michael Vlahos
Lord Grey: Dante DeVito
Kaiser: John Schmitz
Kaiser's Wife Augusta Victoria: Sandy Read
Ludendorff:
Judge: Peter Stenner
Jailer: Dante DeVito
Suffragists: Molly McCartney, Gail Kitch, Hali Jilani, Nuchhi Currier, Pat Nicklin
Doctor Cary Grayson: Peter Stenner
Speaker of the House: Peter Stenner
Clemenceau: Howard Coon
Senator Henry Cabot Lodge: Bob Randolph
Alice Roosevelt Longworth: Hali Jilani