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ACT II

1. WHAT’D I MISS

COMPANY
Seventeen. Se- se- seventeen... Se- se- seventeen...

Burr
1789.
How does the bastard orphan, immigrant decorated war vet unite the colonies through more debt? Fight the other founding fathers til he has to forfeit? Have it all, lose it all, you ready for more yet? Treasury Secretary. Washington’s the President, ev’ry American experiment sets a precedent. Not so fast. Someone came along to resist him. Pissed him off until we had a two-party system. You haven’t met him yet, you haven’t had the chance, ‘cause he’s been kickin’ ass as the ambassador to France but someone’s gotta keep the American promise. You simply must meet Thomas. Thomas!

COMPANY
Thomas Jefferson’s coming home! Thomas Jefferson’s coming home! Thomas Jefferson’s coming home! Thomas Jefferson’s coming home! Thomas Jefferson’s coming home Lord he’s been off in Paris for so long! Aaa-ooo! Aaa-ooo!

Jefferson
France is following us to revolution, there is no more status quo. But the sun comes up and the world still spins.
I guess I better think of something to say,
I’m already on my way, let’s get to the bottom of this...

WASHINGTON
Mr. Jefferson, welcome home.

HAMILTON
Mr. Jefferson? Alexander Hamilton.

WASHINGTON AND ENSEMBLE
Mr. Jefferson, welcome home.

COMPANY
Mr. Jefferson, welcome home
Sir, you’ve been off in Paris for so long!

JEFFERSON
So what did I miss?

WASHINGTON
Ladies and gentlemen, you coulda been anywhere in the world tonight, but you’re here with us in New York City. Are you ready for a cabinet meeting???

WASHINGTON
The issue on the table: Secretary Hamilton’s plan to assume state debt and establish a national bank. Secretary Jefferson, you have the floor.

JEFFERSON
‘Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.’ We fought for these ideals; we shouldn’t settle for less.

These are wise words, enterprising men quote ‘em. Don’t act surprised, you guys, cuz I wrote ‘em.

JEFFERSON/MADISON
Oww

JEFFERSON
But Hamilton forgets his plan would have the government assume state’s debts. Now, place your bets as to who that benefits: the very seat of government where Hamilton sits.

HAMILTON
Not true!

JEFFERSON
Ooh, if the shoe fits, wear it. If New York’s in debt—why should Virginia bear it? Uh! Our debts are paid, I’m afraid. Don’t tax the South cuz we got it made in the shade. In Virginia, we plant seeds in the ground. We create. You just wanna move our money around. This financial plan is an outrageous demand, and it’s too many damn pages for any man to understand. Stand with me in the land of the free and pray to God we never see Hamilton’s candidacy. Look, when Britain taxed our tea, we got frisky. Imagine what gon’ happen when you try to tax our whisky.

WASHINGTON
Thank you, Secretary Jefferson. Secretary Hamilton, your response.

HAMILTON
Thomas. That was a real nice declaration. Welcome to the present, we’re running a real nation. Would you like to join us, or stay mellow, Doin’ whatever the hell it is you do in Monticello? If we assume the debts, the union gets a new line of credit, a financial diuretic. How do you not get it? If we’re aggressive and competitive The union gets a boost. You’d rather give it a sedative? A civics lesson from a slaver. Hey neighbor, Your debts are paid cuz you don’t pay for labor. “We plant seeds in the South. We create.” Yeah, keep ranting, we know who’s really doing the planting. And another thing, Mr. Age of Enlightenment, Don’t lecture me about the war, you didn’t fight in it. You think I’m frightened of you, man? We almost died in a trench while you were off getting high with the French. Thomas Jefferson, always hesitant with the President, reticent—there isn’t a plan he doesn’t jettison. Madison, you’re mad as a hatter, son, take your medicine. Damn, you’re in worse shape than the national debt is in, sittin’ there useless as two shits. Hey, turn around, bend over, I’ll show you where my shoe fits.

WASHINGTON
Excuse me? Jefferson, Madison, take a walk! Hamilton, take a walk! We’ll reconvene after a brief recess. Hamilton!

HAMILTON
Sir!

WASHINGTON
A word.

MADISON
You don’t have the votes.
JEFFERSON/MADISON
You don’t have the votes.

JEFFERSON
Aha-ha-ha ha!

JEFFERSON/MADISON
You’re gonna need congressional approval
and you don’t have the votes.

JEFFERSON
Such a blunder sometimes it makes me
wonder why I even bring the thunder.

MADISON
Why he even brings the thunder...

WASHINGTON
You wanna pull yourself together?

HAMILTON
I’m sorry, these Virginians are birds of a
feather.

WASHINGTON
Young man, I’m from Virginia, so watch your
mouth.

HAMILTON
So we let Congress get held hostage by the
South?

WASHINGTON
You need the votes.

HAMILTON
No, we need bold strokes. We need this plan.

WASHINGTON
No, you need to convince more folks.

HAMILTON
James Madison won’t talk to me, that’s a
nonstarter.

WASHINGTON
Winning was easy, young man. Governing’s
harder.

HAMILTON
They’re being intransigent.

WASHINGTON
You have to find a compromise.

HAMILTON
But they don’t have a plan, they just hate
mine!

WASHINGTON
Convince them otherwise.

HAMILTON
What happens if I don’t get congressional
approval?

WASHINGTON
I imagine they’ll call for your removal.

HAMILTON
Sir—

WASHINGTON
Figure it out, Alexander. That’s an order from
your commander.

3. TAKE A BREAK

ELIZA
Un deux trois quatre
Cinq six sept huit
neuf.

PHILIP HAMILTON
Un deux trois quatre
Cinq six sept huit neuf.

ELIZA
Sept huit neuf—

PHILIP
Sept huit neuf—

ELIZA
Sept huit neuf—

PHILIP
Sept huit neuf—

ELIZA
Sept huit neuf—

PHILIP
Sept huit neuf—

3. TAKE A BREAK

HAMILTON
One two three four five six seven eight nine!

HAMILTON
My dearest, Angelica,
“tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow
creeps in this petty pace from day to day”
I trust you’ll understand the reference to
another Scottish tragedy without my having
to name the play.
They think me Macbeth, and ambition is
my folly,
I’m a polymath, a pain in the ass, a massive
pain,
Madison is Banquo, Jefferson’s Macduff
And Birnam Wood is Congress on its way to
Dunsinane.

HAMILTON/ANGELICA
And there you are, an ocean away.
Do you have to live an
ocean away?
Thoughts of you subside,
then I get another letter,
I cannot put the notion away...

ELIZA
Take a break.

HAMILTON
I am on my way.

ELIZA
There’s a little surprise before supper
and it cannot wait.

HAMILTON
I’ll be there in just a minute, save my plate.

ELIZA
Alexander—

HAMILTON
Okay, okay—

ELIZA
Your son is nine years old today.
He has something he’d like to say. He’s been practicing all day. Philip, take it away—

**PHILIP**
Daddy, daddy, look—
My name is Philip.
I am a poet.
I wrote this poem just to show it.
And I just turned nine. You can write rhymes, but you can’t write mine.

**HAMILTON**
What!
I practice French and play piano with my mother.
I have a sister but I want a little brother.
My daddy’s trying to start America’s bank. Un deux trois quatre cinq!

**HAMILTON**
I know.
**ANGELICA**
My dearest Alexander,
You must get through to Jefferson.
Sit down with him and compromise,
don’t stop ‘til you agree your fav’rite older sister,
Angelica, reminds you there’s someone in your corner all the way across the sea.

In a letter I received from you two weeks ago I noticed a comma in the middle of a phrase. It changed the meaning. Did you intend this? One stroke and you’ve consumed my waking days. It says:

**HAMILTON/ANGELICA**
“My dearest Angelica”

**ELIZA**
Run away with us for the summer.
Let’s go upstate.

**HAMILTON**
Eliza, I’ve got so much on my plate.

**ELIZA**
We can all go stay with my father. There’s a lake I know...

**HAMILTON**
I’d love to go.
**ELIZA**
You and I can go when the night gets dark...

**HAMILTON**
I will try to get away.

**HAMILTON AND ANGELICA**
You won’t be an ocean away. You will only be a moment away...

**ELIZA**
Alexander, come downstairs. Angelica’s arriving today!

**ELIZA**
Angelica!

**HAMILTON**
The Schuyler sisters!

**ANGELICA**
Alexander.

**HAMILTON**
Hi.

**ANGELICA**
It’s good to see your face.

**ELIZA**
Angelica, tell this man John Adams spends the summer with his family.

**HAMILTON**
Angelica, tell my wife John Adams doesn’t have a real job anyway.

**ANGELICA**
...you’re not joining us? Wait.

**HAMILTON**
I’m afraid I cannot join you upstate.

**ANGELICA**
Alexander, I came all this way.
ELIZA
She came all this way–

ANGELICA
All this way–

ELIZA AND ANGELICA
Take a break.

HAMILTON
You know I have to get my plan through Congress.

ELIZA AND ANGELICA
Run away with us for the summer.
Let’s go upstate.

HAMILTON
I lose my job if I don’t get my plan through Congress.

ELIZA AND ANGELICA
We can all go stay with our father.

ELIZA
There’s a lake I know
In a nearby park
You and I can go
Take a break
and get away–

Let’s go upstate
where we can stay.

Look around, look around
at how lucky we are
to be alive right now–

We can go–
When the night gets dark.
Take a break.

when the night gets dark.
Take a break.

HAMILTON
I have to get my plan through Congress.
I can’t stop until I get this plan through Congress.

4. SAY NO TO THIS

BURR
There’s nothing like summer in the city.
Someone under stress meets someone looking pretty.
There’s trouble in the air, you can smell it.
and Alexander’s by himself. I’ll let him tell it.

HAMILTON
I hadn’t slept in a week.
I was weak, I was awake.
You never seen a bastard orphan
more in need of a break.
Longing for Angelica.
Missing my wife.
That’s when Miss Maria Reynolds walked into my life, she said:

MARIA REYNOLDS
I know you are a man of honor,
I’m so sorry to bother you at home
but I don’t know where to go, and I came here all alone...

HAMILTON
She said:

MARIA
My husband’s doin’ me wrong
beatin’ me, cheatin’ me, mistreatin’ me...
Suddenly he’s up and gone.
I don’t have the means to go on.

HAMILTON
So I offered her a loan, I offered to walk her home, she said

MARIA
You’re too kind, sir.

HAMILTON
I gave her thirty bucks that I had socked away,
she lived a block away, she said:

MARIA
This one’s mine, sir.

HAMILTON
Then I said, “well, I should head back home,”
she turned red, she led me to her bed, let her legs spread and said:

MARIA
Stay?

HAMILTON
Hey...

MARIA
Hey...

HAMILTON
That’s when I began to pray:
Lord, show me how to say no to this.
I don’t know how to say no to this.

But my God, she looks so helpless
And her body’s saying, “hell, yes”

MARIA
Whoa...

HAMILTON
Nooo, show me how to

MARIA
Whooa...

HAMILTON/ENSEMBLE
Say no to this.
HAMILTON
I don’t know how to

HAMILTON/ENSEMBLE
Say no to this.

HAMILTON
In my mind, I’m tryin’ to go

ENSEMBLE
Go! Go! Go!

HAMILTON
Then her mouth is on mine, and I don’t say...

ENSEMBLE
No! No!
Say no to this!

No! No!
Say no to this!

No! No!
Say no to this!

HAMILTON
So was your whole story a setup?

MARIA
I don’t know about any letter!

HAMILTON
Stop crying Goddamnit, get up!

MARIA
I didn’t know any better

HAMILTON
I am ruined...

MARIA
Please don’t leave me with him helpless.

HAMILTON
I am helpless—how could I do this?

MARIA
I don’t want you

HAMILTON
 unconstitutional

MARIA
Yes!

ENSEMBLE
Say no to this!

ENEAIRL
No! No!

No! No!

No! No!

HAMILTON
I wish I could say that was the last time.
I said that last time. It became a pastime.
A month into this endeavor I received a letter
from a Mr. James Reynolds, even better, it said:

JAMES REYNOLDS
Dear Sir, I hope this letter finds you in good
health, and in a prosperous enough position to put
wealth in the pockets of people like me: down on
their luck.
You see, that was my wife who you decided to

HAMILTON
Fuuuu—
Yes. Yes!
Say no to this!
No! No!
Say no to this!
No! No!
Say no to this!

HAMILTON
Say no to this.
I don’t say no to this,
there is nowhere I
can go.

MARIA
Don’t say no to this.

ENSEMBLE
Go go go...

5. THE ROOM WHERE
IT HAPPENS

JAMES REYNOLDS
So?

HAMILTON
Nobody needs to know.

HAMILTON
Say no to this!

BURR
They renamed it after him. The Mercer legacy
is secure.

HAMILTON
Sure.

BURR
And all he had to do was die.

HAMILTON
That’s a lot less work.

BURR
We oughta give it a try.

HAMILTON
Ha.

BURR
Now how’re you gonna get your debt plan
through?

HAMILTON
I guess I’m gonna fin’ly have to listen to you.

BURR
Really?

HAMILTON
Talk less. Smile more.

BURR
Ha.

HAMILTON
Do whatever it takes to get my plan on the
Congress floor.

BURR
Now, Madison and Jefferson are merciless.

HAMILTON
Well, hate the sin, love the sinner.

MADISON
Hamilton!

HAMILTON
I’m sorry Burr, I’ve gotta go.

BURR
But—

HAMILTON
Decisions are happening over dinner.

BURR
Two Virginians and an immigrant walk into
a room.

BURR AND ENSEMBLE
Diametric’ly opposed, foes.

BURR
They emerge with a compromise, having
opened doors that were

BURR AND ENSEMBLE
Previously closed,

ENSEMBLE
Bros.

BURR
The immigrant emerges with unprecedented
financial power,
a system he can shape however he wants.
The Virginians emerge with the nation’s
capital.
And here’s the pièce de résistance:

BURR
No one else was in
the room where it
happened.

ENSEMBLE
The room where it
happened.
The room where it happened.
The art of the trade, how the sausage gets made.
We just assume that it happens.
But no one else is in the room where it happens.

BURR AND COMPANY
Thomas claims—

JEFFERSON
Alexander was on Washington’s doorstep one day in distress ‘n disarray.

BURR AND COMPANY
Thomas claims—

JEFFERSON
Alexander said—

HAMILTON
I’ve nowhere else to turn!

JEFFERSON
And basically begged me to join the fray.

BURR
But! No one else was in—

BURR AND COMPANY
The room where it happened.

BURR
No one really knows how the parties get to yessss. Parties get to yessss.

COMPANY
Assume that it happens.

But no one else is in the room where it happens.

BURR AND COMPANY
Meanwhile—

BURR
Madison is grappling with the fact that not every issue can be settled by committee.

COMPANY
Ev’ry game of chessssss.

JEFFERSON
I suppose.

MADISON
Wouldn’t you like to work a little closer to home?

JEFFERSON
Actually, I would.

MADISON
Well, I propose the Potomac.

JEFFERSON
And you’ll provide him his votes?

MADISON
Well, we’ll see how it goes.

JEFFERSON
Let’s go.

BURR
No!

BURR
Congress is fighting over where to put the capital—

COMPANY screams in chaos.

BURR
It isn’t pretty.

Then Jefferson approaches with a dinner and invite,

And Madison responds with Virginian insight:

MADISON
Maybe we can solve one problem with another and win a victory for the Southerners, in other words—

JEFFERSON
Oh-ho!

MADISON
A quid pro quo.

JEFFERSON
I suppose.

MADISON
Wouldn’t you like to work a little closer to home?

JEFFERSON
Actually, I would.

MADISON
Well, I propose the Potomac.

JEFFERSON
And you’ll provide him his votes?

MADISON
Well, we’ll see how it goes.

JEFFERSON
Let’s go.

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MADISON
Wouldn’t you like to work a little closer to home?

JEFFERSON
Actually, I would.

MADISON
Well, I propose the Potomac.

JEFFERSON
And you’ll provide him his votes?

MADISON
Well, we’ll see how it goes.

JEFFERSON
Let’s go.

BURR
No!
COMPANY
– one else was in the room where it happened.

BURR AND COMPANY
The room where it happened.
The room where it happened.
No one else was in the room where it happened.
The room where it happened.
The room where it happened.

BURR
My God!

BURR AND COMPANY
In God we trust.
But we’ll never really know what got discussed.
Click-boom then it happened.

BURR
And no one else was in the room where it happened.

COMPANY
Alexander Hamilton!

BURR
What did they say to you to get you to sell New York City down the river?

COMPANY
Alexander Hamilton!

BURR
Did Washington know about the dinner?
Was there Presidential pressure to deliver?

COMPANY
Alexander Hamilton!

BURR
Or did you know, even then, it doesn’t matter where you put the U.S. Capital?

HAMILTON
Cuz we’ll have the banks, we’re in the same spot.

BURR
You got more than you gave.

HAMILTON
And I wanted what I got.

When you got skin in the game, you stay in the game.
But you don’t get a win unless you play in the game.
Oh, you get love for it. You get hate for it.
You get nothing if you...

HAMILTON AND COMPANY
Wait for it, wait for it, wait!

HAMILTON
God help and forgive me,
I wanna build something that’s gonna outlive me.

HAMILTON/ JEFFERSON/ MADISON/ WASHINGTON
What do you want, Burr? What do you want, Burr?
If you stand for nothing, Burr, what do you fall for?

BURR
I wanna be in the room where it happens.
The room where it happens.
I wanna be The room where it happens.
I wanna be I wanna be in the room... Oh

HAMILTON
I wanna be
I wanna be

COMPANY
What do you want, Burr?
What do you want, Burr?

I’ve got to be
I’ve got to be

in the room in that big ol’ room

COMPANY
The art of the compromise—

BURR
Hold your nose and close your eyes.

COMPANY
We want our leaders to save the day—
BURR
But we don’t get a say in what they trade away.

COMPANY
We dream of a brand new start—

BURR
But we dream in the dark for the most part.

BURR AND COMPANY
Dark as a tomb where it happens.

BURR
I’ve got to be in the room...
I’ve got to be...
I’ve got to be...
Oh, I’ve got to be in the room where it happens...
I’ve got to be, I’ve gotta be, I’ve gotta be in the room!
Click-boom!

6. SCHUYLER DEFEATED

PHILIP
Look! Grampa’s in the paper! ‘War Hero Philip Schuyler loses Senate seat to young upstart Aaron Burr!’
Grampa just lost his seat in the Senate.

ELIZA
Sometimes that’s how it goes.

PHILIP
Daddy’s gonna find out any minute.

ELIZA
I’m sure he already knows.

PHILIP
Further down,

PHILIP AND ELIZA
Further down,

PHILIP
“Let’s meet the newest Senator from New York…”

ELIZA
New York—

PHILIP AND ELIZA
Our Senator!...

HAMILTON
Burr!

HAMILTON
Since when are you a Democratic-Republican?

BURR
Since being one put me on the up and up again.

HAMILTON
No one knows who you are or what you do.

BURR
They don’t need to know me. They don’t like you.

HAMILTON
Excuse me?

BURR
Oh, Wall Street thinks you’re great.
You’ll always be adored by the things you create.
But upstate,

HAMILTON
Wait.

BURR
People think you’re crooked!
And Schuyler’s seat was up for grabs, so I took it.

HAMILTON
I’ve always considered you a friend.

BURR
I don’t see why that has to end!

HAMILTON
You changed parties to run against my father-in-law.

BURR
I changed parties to seize the opportunity I saw.
I swear, your pride will be the death of us all!
Beware: it goeth before the fall...

7. CABINET BATTLE #2

WASHINGTON
The issue on the table: France is on the verge of war with England. Do we provide aid and troops to our French allies or do we stay out of it? Remember, my decision on this matter is not subject to congressional approval. The only person you have to convince is me. Secretary Jefferson, you have the floor, sir.

JEFFERSON
When we were on death’s door, when we were needy, we made a promise, we signed a treaty. We needed money and guns and half a chance. Who provided those funds?

MADISON
France.
In return, they didn’t ask for land,
only a promise that we’d lend a hand
and stand with them if they fought against
oppressors,
and revolution is messy but now is the time
to stand.
Stand with our brothers as they fight against
tyranny.
I know that Alexander Hamilton is here and he
would rather not have this debate.
I’ll remind you that he is not Secretary of
State.
He knows nothing of loyalty,
smells like new money, dresses like fake
royalty,
desperate to rise above his station,
everything he does betrays the ideals of our
nation.

Hey, and if ya don’t know, now ya know, Mr.
President.

Thank you, Secretary Jefferson. Secretary
Hamilton, your response.

You must be out of your Goddamn mind if
you think
the President is gonna bring the nation to
the brink
of meddling in the middle of a military mess,
a game of chess, where France is Queen and
Kingless.
We signed a treaty with a King whose head is
now in a basket.
Would you like to take it out and ask it?
“Should we honor our treaty, King Louis’
head?”
“Uh... do whatever you want, I’m super dead .”

Enough. Hamilton is right.

Mr. President—

We’re too fragile to start another fight.

But sir, do we not fight for freedom?

Sure, when the French figure out who’s gonna
lead ‘em.

The people are leading—

The people are rioting.
There’s a difference. Frankly, it’s a little
disquieting you would let your ideals blind
you to reality.
Hamilton.

Sir.

Draft a statement of neutrality.

Did you forget Lafayette?

What?

You’re nothing without Washington behind
you.

Hamilton!

Daddy’s calling.

Where do we draw the line?

So quick-witted.

Alas, I admit it.

I bet you were quite a lawyer.

My defendants got acquitted.

Huh. Well, someone oughta remind you.

What?

You’re nothing without Washington behind
you.

Hamilton!

Daddy’s calling.

8. WASHINGTON ON
YOUR SIDE

It must be nice, it must be nice to have
Washington on your side
It must be nice, it must be nice to have
Washington on your side.

Ev’ry action has its equal, opposite reactions.
Thanks to Hamilton, our cab’net’s fractured
into factions.
Try not to crack under the stress, we’re
breaking down like fractions.
We smack each other in the press, and we don’t print retractions. I get no satisfaction witnessing his fits of passion. The way he prims and preens and dresses like the pits of fashion. Our poorest citizens, our farmers, live ration to ration as Wall Street robs ‘em blind in search of chips to cash in. This prick is askin’ for someone to bring him to task. Somebody gimme some dirt on this vacuous mass so we can at last unmask him. I’ll pull the trigger on him, someone load the gun and cock it. While we were all watching, he got Washington in his pocket.

JEFFERSON AND BURR
It must be nice, it must be nice to have Washington on your side. It must be nice, it must be nice to have Washington on your side.

Look back at the Bill of Rights.

MADISON
Which I wrote.

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
The ink hasn’t dried. It must be nice, it must be nice to have Washington on your side.

MADISON
So he’s doubled the size of the government. Wasn’t the trouble with much our previous government size?

BURR
Look in his eyes!

JEFFERSON
See how he lies.

MADISON
Follow the scent of his enterprise.

JEFFERSON
Centralizing national credit and making American credit competitive.

MADISON
If we don’t stop it we aid and abet it.

MADISON
Somebody has to stand up for the South!

BURR
Somebody has to stand up to his mouth!

JEFFERSON
If there’s a fire you’re trying to douse,

MADISON AND JEFFERSON
You can’t put it out from inside the house.

JEFFERSON
I’m in the cabinet. I am complicit in watching him grabbin’ at power and kiss it. If Washington isn’t gon’ listen to disciplined dissidents, this is the difference: This kid is out!

MADISON/BURR/JEFFERSON
Oh!
This immigrant isn’t somebody we chose.
Oh!
This immigrant’s keeping us all on our toes.
Oh!
Let’s show these Federalists who they’re up against!
Oh!

MADISON/BURR/JEFFERSON
Southern motherfuckin’-

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
Democratic-Republicans!

JEFF/MAD/BURR/ENSEMBLE
Oh!

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
Let’s follow the money and see where it goes.

ENSEMBLE
Oh!

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
Because every second the Treasury grows.

ENSEMBLE
Oh!

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
If we follow the money and see where it leads, get in the weeds, look for the seeds of Hamilton’s misdeeds.

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
It must be nice. It must be nice.

MADISON
Follow the money and see where it goes.

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
It must be nice. It must be nice.

JEFFERSON
The emperor has no clothes.

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
We won’t be invisible. We won’t be denied. Still, it must be nice, it must be nice to have Washington on your side.

9. ONE LAST TIME

HAMILTON
Mr. President, you asked to see me?
WASHINGTON
I know you’re busy.

HAMILTON
What do you need, sir? Sir?

WASHINGTON
I wanna give you a word of warning.

HAMILTON
Sir, I don’t know what you heard, but whatever it is, Jefferson started it.

WASHINGTON
Thomas Jefferson resigned this morning.

HAMILTON
You’re kidding.

WASHINGTON
I need a favor.

HAMILTON
Whatever you say, sir, Jefferson will pay for his behavior.

WASHINGTON
Shh. Talk less.

HAMILTON
I’ll use the press, I’ll write under a pseudonym, you’ll see what I can do to him—

WASHINGTON
I need you to draft an address.

HAMILTON
Yes! He resigned. You can finally speak your mind—

WASHINGTON
No, he’s stepping down so he can run for President.

HAMILTON
Ha. Good luck defeating you, sir.

WASHINGTON
I’m stepping down. I’m not running for President.

HAMILTON
I’m sorry, what?

WASHINGTON
One last time. Relax, have a drink with me one last time. Let’s take a break tonight and then we’ll teach them how to say goodbye, to say goodbye. You and I.

HAMILTON
No, sir, why?

WASHINGTON
I wanna talk about neutrality.

HAMILTON
Sir, with Britain and France on the verge of war, is this the best time—

WASHINGTON
I want to warn against partisan fighting.

HAMILTON
But—

WASHINGTON
Pick up a pen, start writing. I wanna talk about what I have learned. The hard-won wisdom I have earned.

HAMILTON
As far as the people are concerned, you have to serve, you could continue to serve—

WASHINGTON
No! One last time the people will hear from me one last time and if we get this right we’re gonna teach ‘em how to say goodbye. You and I—

HAMILTON
Mr. President, they will say you’re weak.

WASHINGTON
No, they will see we’re strong.

HAMILTON
Your position is so unique.

WASHINGTON
So I’ll use it to move them along.

HAMILTON
Why do you have to say goodbye?

WASHINGTON
If I say goodbye, the nation learns to move on. It outlives me when I’m gone. Like the scripture says: “Everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree and no one shall make them afraid.” They’ll be safe in the nation we’ve made. I wanna sit under my own vine and fig tree. A moment alone in the shade, at home in this nation we’ve made. One last time.

HAMILTON
One last time.

WASHINGTON
The hope that my country will
view them with indulgence; And that, after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its service with an upright zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion, as I myself must soon be to the mansions of rest. I anticipate with pleasing expectation that retreat in which I promise myself to realize the sweet enjoyment of partaking, in the midst of my fellow-citizens, the benign influence of good laws. Under a free government, the ever-favorite object of my heart, and the happy reward, as I trust, Of our mutual cares, labors, and dangers.

WASHINGTON
One last time.

ALL WOMEN
George Washington’s going home!

HAMILTON
Teach ‘em how to say goodbye.

WASHINGTON
You and I

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE
Going home

WILLIAM HENRY HUNTER
History has its eyes on you

WASHINGTON
We’re gonna teach ‘em how to say goodbye!

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE
Teach ‘em how to say goodbye!

WILLIAM HENRY HUNTER
To say goodbye!

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE
Say goodbye!

WASHINGTON
One last time!

10. I KNOW HIM

KING GEORGE
They say George Washington’s yielding his power and stepping away. ‘Zat true? I wasn’t aware that was something a person could do. I’m perplexed. Are they gonna keep on replacing whoever’s in charge? If so, who’s next? There’s nobody else in their country who looms quite as large . . .

WASHINGTON
One last time.

11. THE ADAMS ADMINISTRATION

BURR
How does Hamilton, the short-tempered, protean creator of the Coast Guard, Founder of the New York Post, ardently abuse his cab’net post, destroy his reputation? Welcome, folks, to BURR/COMPANY

BURR
Jefferson’s the runner-up, which makes him the Vice President.

JEFFERSON
Washington can’t help you now, no more mister nice President.
BURR

JEFFERSON
Say what?!

BURR
Hamilton publishes his response.

HAMILTON
Sit down, John, you fat motherf-

BURR
Hamilton is out of control.

MADISON
This is great! He’s out of power. He holds no office. And he just destroyed President John Adams, the only other significant member of his party.

JEFFERSON
Hamilton’s a host unto himself. As long as he can hold a pen, he’s a threat. Let’s let him know what we know.

12. WE KNOW

HAMILTON
Mr. Vice President. Mr. Madison. Senator Burr. What is this?

JEFFERSON
We have the check stubs. From separate accounts...

MADISON
Almost a thousand dollars, paid in different amounts...

BURR
To a Mr. James Reynolds way back in seventeen ninety-one.

HAMILTON
Is that what you have? Are you done?

MADISON
You are uniquely situated by virtue of your position—

JEFFERSON
Though ‘virtue’ is not a word I’d apply to this situation—

MADISON
To seek financial gain, to stray from your sacred mission—

JEFFERSON
And the evidence suggests you’ve engaged in speculation—

BURR
An immigrant embezzling our government funds—

JEFFERSON/MADISON
I can almost see the headline, your career is done.

BURR
I hope you saved some money for your daughter and sons.

BURR/JEFFERSON/MADISON
Ya best g’wan run back where ya come from.

HAMILTON
Ha! You don’t even know what you’re asking me to confess.

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
Confess.

HAMILTON
You got nothing. I don’t have to tell you anything at all.

Unless.

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
Unless?

HAMILTON
If I can prove that I never broke the law, do you promise not to tell another soul what you saw?

BURR
No one else was in the room where it happened.

HAMILTON
Is that a yes?

JEFFERSON/MADISON/BURR
Um, yes.

BURR
“Dear Sir, I hope this letter finds you in good health and in a prosperous enough position to put wealth in the pockets of people like me: down on their luck. You see, it was my wife who you decided to –”

JEFFERSON
Whaaaat –

HAMILTON
She courted me. Escorted me to bed and when she had me in a corner that’s when Reynolds extorted me for a sordid fee. I paid him quarterly. I may have mortally wounded my prospects but my papers are orderly!

As you can see I kept a record of every check in my checkered History. Check it again against your list n’ see consistency. I never spent a cent that wasn’t mine,
you sent the dogs after my scent, that’s fine.
Yes, I have reasons for shame
but I have not committed treason and sullied
my good name.
As you can see I have done nothing to provoke
legal action.
Are my answers to your satisfaction?

JEFFERSON
My God.

MADISON
Gentlemen, let’s go.

HAMILTON
So?

JEFFERSON AND MADISON
The people won’t know what we know.

HAMILTON
Burr!
How do I know you won’t use this against me
the next time we go toe to toe?

BURR
Alexander, rumors only grow. And we both
know what we know.

13. HURRICANE

HAMILTON
In the eye of a hurricane
there is quiet
for just a moment,
a yellow sky.

When I was seventeen a hurricane
destroyed my town.
I didn’t drown.
I couldn’t seem to die.

I wrote my way out,
wrote everything down far as I could see.
I wrote my way out.
I looked up and the town had its eyes on me.

They passed a plate around.
Total strangers
moved to kindness by my story.
Raised enough for me to book passage on a
ship that was New York bound...

I wrote my way out of hell.
I wrote my way to revolution.
I was louder than the crack in the bell.
I wrote Eliza love letters until she fell.
I wrote about The Constitution and defended
it well.
And in the face of ignorance and resistance,
I wrote financial systems into existence.
And when my prayers to God were met with
indifference,
I picked up a pen, I wrote my own deliverance.

In the eye of a hurricane
there is quiet
for just a moment,
a yellow sky.

I was twelve when my mother died.
She was holding me.
We were sick and she was holding me.
I couldn’t seem to die.

HAMILTON
I’ll write my way out...

BURR
Wait for it,
wait for it,
wait for it...

Burr AND
ENSEMBLE
Wait for it,
wait for it,
wait for it...

Write
ev’rything
down, far as I
can see...
I’ll write my
way out...
Overwhelm
them with
honesty.

WASH/ELI/
ANG/MAR
History has its
eyes on you.

HAMILTON
This is the eye of the hurricane, this is the only
way I can protect my legacy...

COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON)
Wait for it, wait for it, wait for it, wait...

HAMILTON
The Reynolds Pamphlet.

14. THE REYNOLDS
PAMPHLET

FULL COMPANY
The Reynolds Pamphlet.

JEFFERSON/MADISON/ANGELICA
Have you read this?

BURR/JEFFERSON/MADISON
Alexander Hamilton had a torrid affair.
And he wrote it down right there.

MADISON
Highlights!

HAMILTON/
JEFFERSON
“The charge against
me is a connection
with one
James Reynolds!
For purposes of
improper speculation.
My real crime is an
amorous connection
with his wife
for a considerable
time with his
knowing consent

JAMES REYNOLDS
James Reynolds!

BURR
My real crime is an
amorous connection
with his wife

MADISON/BURR/JEFFERSON
Damn!
“I had frequent meetings with her. Most of them at my own house.”

At his own house!

At his own house!

Damn!

“Mrs. Hamilton with our children being absent on a visit to her father.”

No...

Boooo!

Have you read this?

Well, he’s never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.

Never gon’ be President now.
COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON/ELIZA)
His poor wife.

15. BURN

ELIZA
I saved every letter you wrote me.
From the moment I read them
I knew you were mine.
You said you were mine.
I thought you were mine.

Do you know what Angelica said when we saw your first letter arrive?
She said,

“Be careful with that one, love.
He will do what it takes to survive.”

You and your words flooded my senses.
Your sentences left me defenseless.
You built me palaces out of paragraphs,
you built cathedrals.
I’m re-reading the letters you wrote me.
I’m searching and scanning for answers
in every line,
for some kind of sign,
and when you were mine
the world seemed to

Burn.
Burn.

You published the letters she wrote you.
You told the whole world how you brought
this girl into our bed.
In clearing your name, you have ruined our
lives.
Do you know what Angelica said
When she read what you’d done?
She said,

“You have married an Icarus.
He has flown too close to the sun.”

You and your words, obsessed with your legacy...
Your sentences border on senseless,
and you are paranoid in every paragraph
how they perceive you,

You, you, you...

I’m erasing myself from the narrative.
Let future historians wonder
how Eliza reacted when you broke her heart.
You have torn it all apart.
I am watching it burn.
Watching it burn.
The world has no right to my heart.
The world has no place in our bed.
They don’t get to know what I said.
I’m burning the memories,
Burning the letters that might have redeemed you.
You forfeit all rights to my heart.
You forfeit the place in our bed.
You sleep in your office instead,
with only the memories
of when you were mine.
I hope that you burn.

16. BLOW US ALL AWAY

PHILIP
Meet the latest graduate of King’s College!
I prob’ly shouldn’t brag, but, dag, I amaze
and astonish!
The scholars say I got the same virtuosity and
brains as my pops!
The ladies say my brain’s not where the
resemblance stops!
I’m only nineteen but my mind is older,
gotta be my own man, like my father, but
bolder.
I shoulder his legacy with pride,
I used to hear him say
that someday
I would—

ENSEMBLE
Blow us all away.

PHILIP
Ladies, I’m lookin for a Mr. George Eacker.
Made a speech last week, our Fourth of July
speaker.
He disparaged my father’s legacy in front
of a crowd.
I can’t have that, I’m making my father proud.

MARTHA
I saw him just up Broadway a couple of blocks.
He was goin’ to see a play.

PHILIP
Well, I’ll go visit his box.

DOLLY
God, you’re a fox.

PHILIP
And y’all look pretty good in ya’ frocks.
How ‘bout when I get back, we all strip down
to our socks?

BOTH
Ok!

COMPANY
Blow us all away.

PHILIP
George!

GEORGE
Shh.

PHILIP
George!

GEORGE
Shh! I’m tryin’ to watch the show!

PHILIP
Ya’ shoulda watched your mouth before you
talked about my father though!
GEORGE
I didn’t say anything that wasn’t true.
You father’s a scoundrel, and so, it seems, are you.

ENSEMBLE
Oooooooooooh!

PHILIP
It’s like that?

GEORGE
Yeah, I don’t fool around.
I’m not your little schoolboy friends.

PHILIP
See you on the dueling ground.
That is, unless you wanna step outside and go now.

GEORGE
I know where to find you, piss off.
I’m watchin’ this show now.

PHILIP
Pops, if you had only heard the shit he said about you
I doubt you would have let it slide and I was not about to—

HAMILTON
Slow down.

PHILIP
I came to ask you for advice. This is my very first duel.
They don’t exactly cover this subject in boarding school.

HAMILTON
Did your friends attempt to negotiate a peace?

PHILIP
He refused to apologize, we had to let the peace talks cease.

HAMILTON
Where is this happening?

PHILIP
Across the river, in Jersey.

HAMILTON/PHILIP
Everything is legal in New Jersey...

HAMILTON
Alright. So this is what you’re gonna do:
Stand there like a man until Eacker is in front of you.
When the time comes, fire your weapon in the air.
This will put an end to the whole affair.

PHILIP
But what if he decides to shoot? Then I’m a goner.

HAMILTON
No. He’ll follow suit if he’s truly a man of honor.
To take someone’s life, that is something you can’t shake.
Philip, your mother can’t take another heartbreak.

PHILIP
Father—

HAMILTON
Promise me. You don’t want this young man’s blood on your conscience.

PHILIP
Okay, I promise.

HAMILTON
Come back home when you’re done.
Take my guns. Be smart. Make me proud, son.

PHILIP
My name is Philip
I am a poet
I’m a little nervous, but I can’t show it.
I’m sorry, I’m a Hamilton with pride.

You talk about my father, I cannot let it slide.

PHILIP
Mister Eacker! How was the rest of your show?

GEORGE
I’d rather skip the pleasantries.
Let’s go.
Grab your pistol.

PHILIP
Confer with your men.
The duel will commence after we count to ten.

ENSEMBLE
Count to ten!

PHILIP
Look ‘em in the eye, aim no higher.
Summon all the courage you require.
Then slowly and clearly aim your gun towards the sky—

MALE ENSEMBLE
One two three four

FULL ENSEMBLE
Five six seven —

17. STAY ALIVE
(REPRISE)

ENSEMBLE
WOMEN
Stay alive...

HAMILTON
Where’s my son?

DOCTOR
Mr. Hamilton, come in.
They brought him in a half an hour ago.
He lost a lot of blood on the way over.
Stay alive..... Is he alive?

DOCTOR
Yes. But you have to understand the bullet entered just above his hip and lodged in his right arm.

HAMILTON
Can I see him please?

DOCTOR
I’m doing ev’rything I can but the wound was already infected when he arrived–

HAMILTON
Philip.

PHILIP
Pa.

I did exactly as you said, Pa. I held my head up high.

HAMILTON
I know, I know. Shh. I know, I know. Shh. I know you did ev’rything just right.

PHILIP
High.

Even before we got to ten–

I was aiming for the sky.

ELIZA
You changed the melody every time.

PHILIP
Ha. I would always change the line.

ELIZA
Shh. I know, I know.

PHILIP
I would always change the line.

ELIZA
I know, I know.

ELIZA
Un deux trois quatre
Cinq six sept huit neuf.

PHILIP
Un deux trois quatre
Cinq six sept huit neuf.

Good.

ENSEMBLE MEN
Stay alive....

ELIZA
Who did this, Alexander, did you know?

PHILIP
Mom, I’m so sorry for forgetting what you taught me.

ELIZA
My son—

PHILIP
We played piano.

ELIZA
I taught you piano.

PHILIP
You would put your hands on mine.

ELIZA
You changed the melody every time.

PHILIP
I would always change the line.

ELIZA
I know, I know.

ELIZA
Un deux trois quatre
Cinq six sept huit neuf.

PHILIP
Un deux trois...

18. IT’S QUIET UPTOWN

ANGELICA
There are moments that the words don’t reach. There is suffering too terrible to name. You hold your child as tight as you can and push away the unimaginable. The moments when you’re in so deep, it feels easier to just swim down.

ANGELICA/ENSEMBLE
The Hamiltons move uptown and learn to live with the unimaginable.

HAMILTON
I spend hours in the garden. I walk alone to the store, and it’s quiet uptown. I never liked the quiet before. I take the children to church on Sunday, a sign of the cross at the door, and I pray. That never used to happen before.

ANGELICA AND WOMEN
If you see him in the street, walking by himself, talking to himself, have pity.

HAMILTON
Philip, you would like it uptown. It’s quiet uptown.

ANGELICA AND WOMEN
He is working through the unimaginable.

ALL MEN (EXCEPT HAMILTON)
His hair has gone grey. He passes every day. They say he walks the length of the city.
HAMILTON
You knock me out, I fall apart.

COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON AND ELIZA)
Can you imagine?

HAMILTON
Look at where we are. Look at where we started.
I know I don’t deserve you, Eliza. But hear me out. That would be enough.

If I could spare his life,
If I could trade his life for mine,
he’d be standing here right now and you would smile, and that would be enough.
I don’t pretend to know the challenges we’re facing.
I know there’s no replacing what we’ve lost and you need time.
But I’m not afraid, I know who I married.
Just let me stay here by your side, That would be enough.

COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON AND ELIZA)
If you see him in the street, walking by her side, talking by her side, have pity.

HAMILTON
Eliza, do you like it uptown? It’s quiet uptown.

COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON AND ELIZA)
He is trying to do the unimaginable.
See them walking in the park, long after dark, taking in the sights of the city.

HAMILTON
Look around, look around, Eliza.

COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON AND ELIZA)
They are trying to do the unimaginable.

ANGELICA
There are moments that the words don’t reach. There is a grace too powerful to name. We push away what we can never understand, we push away the unimaginable.

They are standing in the garden, Alexander by Eliza’s side. She takes his hand.

ELIZA
It’s quiet uptown.

COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON AND ELIZA)
Forgiveness. Can you imagine?

Forgiveness. Can you imagine? If you see him in the street, walking by her side, talking by her side, have pity. They are going through the unimaginable.

19. THE ELECTION OF 1800

FULL COMPANY
The election of 1800.

JEFFERSON
Can we get back to politics?

MADISON
Please?

JEFFERSON
Yo. Ev’ry action has an equal, opposite reaction. John Adams shat the bed. I love the guy, but he’s in traction. Poor Alexander Hamilton? He is missing in action. So now I’m facing—

JEFFERSON AND MADISON
Aaron Burr!

JEFFERSON
With his own faction.

MADISON
He’s very attractive in the North. New Yorkers like his chances.

JEFFERSON
He’s not very forthcoming on any particular stances.

MADISON
Ask him a question: it glances off, he obfuscates, he dances.

JEFFERSON
And they say I’m a Francophile: at least they know I know where France is!

MADISON
Thomas that’s the problem, see, they see Burr as a less extreme you.

JEFFERSON
Ha!

MADISON
You need to change course, a key endorsement might redeem you.

JEFFERSON
Who did you have in mind?

MADISON
Don’t laugh.

JEFFERSON
Who is it?

MADISON
You used to work on the same staff.

JEFFERSON
Whaaaat.

MADISON
It might be nice, it might be nice to get Hamilton on your side.
JEFFERSON AND MADISON
It might be nice, it might be nice
To get Hamilton on your side.

BURR
Talk less!

Smile more!

Don’t let ‘em know what you’re against
or what you’re for!

Shake hands with him!

Charm her!

It’s eighteen hundred,
ladies, tell your husbands: vote for
Burr!

MALE VOTER
I don’t like Adams.

FEMALE VOTER
Well, he’s gonna lose, that’s just defeatist.

ANOTHER MALE VOTER
And Jefferson–

TWO MEN
In love with France!

ANOTHER FEMALE VOTER
Yeah, he’s so elitist!

TWO WOMEN
I like that Aaron Burr!

A WOMAN
I can’t believe we’re here with him!

A MAN
He seems approachable...?

ANOTHER MALE VOTER
Like you could grab a beer with him!

ENSEMBLE
Dear Mr. Hamilton: your fellow Fed’ralists
would like to know how you’ll be voting.

HAMILTON
It’s quiet uptown.

ENSEMBLE
Dear Mr. Hamilton: John Adams doesn’t stand
a chance, so who are you promoting?

HAMILTON
It’s quiet uptown.

MEN
Jefferson or Burr?

WOMEN
Jefferson or Burr?

But if you had to choose

EVEN MORE VOTERS
Dear Mr. Hamilton:

MEN
Jefferson or Burr?

WOMEN
Jefferson or Burr?

John Adams doesn’t stand a chance so who are you promoting?

Burr–

Burr
Our republic needs a leader!

MADISON
It’s a tie!

ENSEMBLE
If you had to choose

BURR
I learned that from you.

ENSEMBLE
If you had to choose

HAMILTON
What?

BURR
I’m chasing what I want.

HAMILTON
You’re openly campaigning?

BURR
Sure!

HAMILTON
That’s new.

BURR
Honestly, it’s kind of draining.

BURR
Sir!

HAMILTON
Is there anything you wouldn’t do?

BURR
No. I’m chasing what I want.

HAMILTON
And you know what?

HAMILTON
What?

BURR
I learned that from you.

ENSEMBLE
If you had to choose

HAMILTON
If you had to choose

ENMM EMBLE
If you had to choose

MADISON
It’s a tie!

ENSEMBLE
If you had to choose

HAMILTON
You’ve created quite a stir, sir!

BURR
I’m going door to door!

HAMILTON
You’re openly campaigning?

BURR
Sure!

HAMILTON
That’s new.

BURR
Honestly, it’s kind of draining.

BURR
Sir!

HAMILTON
Is there anything you wouldn’t do?

BURR
No. I’m chasing what I want.

HAMILTON
And you know what?

HAMILTON
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That’s new.

BURR
Honestly, it’s kind of draining.

BURR
Sir!

HAMILTON
Is there anything you wouldn’t do?
JEFFERSON
It's up to the delegates!

ENSEMBLE
If you had to choose
If you had to choose

JEFFERSON/MADISON
It's up to Hamilton!

VOTERS
If you had to choose, If you had to choose, Choose, Choose!

HAMILTON
Yo.

ENSEMBLE
Oh!

HAMILTON
The people are asking to hear my voice

ENSEMBLE
Oh!

HAMILTON
For the country is facing a difficult choice.

ENSEMBLE
Oh!

HAMILTON
And if you were to ask me who I'd promote –

ENSEMBLE
Oh!

HAMILTON
Jefferson has my vote.

MADISON AND JEFFERSON
Well, I'll be damned.
Well, I'll be damned.

MADISON
Hamilton's on your side.

ENSEMBLE
Well, I'll be damned.
Well, I'll be damned.

JEFFERSON
And?

MADISON
You won in a landslide.

BURR
Congrats on a race well-run.
I did give you a fight.

JEFFERSON
Uh-huh.

BURR
I look forward to our partnership.

JEFFERSON
Our partnership?

BURR
As your vice-President.

JEFFERSON
Ha. Yeah, right.

You hear this guy? Man openly campaigns against me, talkin' bout, “I look forward to our partnership.”

MADISON
It's crazy that the guy who comes in second becomes vice President.

JEFFERSON
Yeah, you know what? We can change that. You know why?

MADISON
Why?

JEFFERSON
‘cuz I'm the President. Hey, Burr, when you see Hamilton, thank him for the endorsement.

20. YOUR OBEDIENT SERVANT

BURR
How does Hamilton, an arrogant, immigrant, orphan, bastard, whoreson, somehow endorse Thomas Jefferson, his enemy, a man he's despised since the beginning, just to keep me from winning? I wanna be in the room where it happens —
BURR AND COMPANY
The room where it happens.
The room where it happens.

BURR
You’ve kept me from—

BURR AND COMPANY
The room where it happens.

BURR
For the last time.

Dear Alexander:

I am slow to anger,
but I toe the line
as I reckon with the effects
of your life on mine.
I look back on where I failed,
and in every place I checked,
the only common thread has been your
disrespect.
Now you call me “amoral,”
a “dangerous disgrace,”
if you’ve got something to say,
name a time and place,
face to face.

I have the honor to be Your Obedient Servant,
A dot Burr.

HAMILTON
Hey, I have not been shy.
I am just a guy in the public eye
Tryin’ to do my best for our republic.
I don’t wanna fight,
But I won’t apologize for doing what’s right.

I have the honor to be Your Obedient Servant,
A dot Ham.

BURR
Careful how you proceed, good man.
Intemperate indeed, good man.
Answer for the accusations I lay at your feet or
prepare to bleed, good man.

HAMILTON
Burr, your grievance is legitimate.
I stand by what I said, every bit of it.
You stand only for yourself.
It’s what you do.
I can’t apologize because it’s true.

Burr, your grievance is legitimate.
I stand by what I said, every bit of it.
You stand only for yourself.
It’s what you do.
I can’t apologize because it’s true.

BURR
Then stand, Alexander.
Weehawken. Dawn.
Guns. Drawn.

HAMILTON
You’re on.

HAMILTON
I have the honor to be Your Obedient Servant,
A dot Ham.

Burr, your grievance is legitimate.
I stand by what I said, every bit of it.
You stand only for yourself.
It’s what you do.
I can’t apologize because it’s true.

BURR
A dot Burr.

21. BEST OF WIVES AND
BEST OF WOMEN

ELIZA
Alexander, come back to sleep.

22. THE WORLD WAS
WIDE ENOUGH

MALE COMPANY
One two three four

FULL COMPANY (EXCEPT HAMILTON
AND BURR)
Five six seven eight nine—

BURR
There are ten things you need to know.
We rowed across the Hudson at dawn.
My friend, William P. Van Ness signed on as my—

Hamilton arrived with his crew: Nathaniel Pendleton and a doctor that he knew.

I watched Hamilton examine the terrain. I wish I could tell you what was hap'ning in his brain.

This man has poisoned my political pursuits!

Most disputes die and no one shoots!

Hamilton drew first position. Looking, to the world, like a man on a mission.
This is a soldier with a marksman’s ability. The doctor turned around so he could have deniability.

I watch him in the eye, aim no higher.

They won’t teach you this in your classes, but look it up, Hamilton was wearing his glasses.
Why? If not to take deadly aim?
It’s him or me, the world will never be the same.
I had only one thought before the slaughter: This man will not make an orphan of my daughter.

They won’t teach you this in your classes, but look it up, Hamilton was wearing his glasses.

Near the same spot your son died, is that why—

Near the same spot my son died, is that why—

He examined his gun with such rigor?
I watched as he methodically fiddled with the trigger.

Confession time? Here’s what I got:
My fellow soldiers’ll tell you I’m a terrible shot.

Confession time? Here’s what I got:
My fellow soldiers’ll tell you I’m a terrible shot.

I imagine death so much it feels more like a memory.
Is this where it gets me, on my feet, sev’ral feet ahead of me?
I see it coming, do I run or fire my gun or let it be?
There is no beat, no melody.
Burr, my first friend, my enemy, maybe the last face I ever see,
If I throw away my shot, is this how you remember me?
What if this bullet is my legacy?

Legacy. What is a legacy?
It’s planting seeds in a garden you never get to see.
I wrote some notes at the beginning of a song someone will sing for me.
America, you great unfinished symphony, you sent for me.
You let me make a difference.
A place where even orphan immigrants can leave their fingerprints and rise up.
I’m running out of time. I’m running, and my time’s up.
Wise up. Eyes up.
I catch a glimpse of the other side.
Laurens leads a soldiers’ chorus on the other side.
My son is on the other side.
He’s with my mother on the other side.
Washington is watching from the other side.

Teach me how to say goodbye.

Rise up, rise up, rise up, Eliza,

My love, take your time.
I’ll see you on the other side.
Raise a glass to freedom...

He aims his pistol at the sky—
BURR
Wait!

BURR
I strike him right between his ribs. I walk towards him, but I am ushered away. They row him back across the Hudson. I get a drink.

COMPANY
Aaaah
Aaaah
Aaaah

BURR
I hear wailing in the streets.

COMPANY
Aaaah
Aaaah
Aaaah

BURR
Somebody tells me, “You’d better hide.”

COMPANY
Aaaah
Aaaah
Aaaah

BURR
They say

BURR AND ANGELICA
Angelica and Eliza—

BURR
 Were both at his side when he died. Death doesn’t discriminate between the sinners and the saints, it takes and it takes and it takes. History obliterates. In every picture it paints, it paints me with all my mistakes. When Alexander aimed at the sky, he may have been the first one to die, but I’m the one who paid for it.

WASHINGTON
Let me tell you what I wish I’d known when I was young and dreamed of glory. You have no control:

WASHINGTON AND COMPANY
Who lives, who dies, who tells your story?

BURR
President Jefferson:

JEFFERSON
I’ll give him this: his financial system is a work of genius. I couldn’t undo it if I tried. And I tried.

WASHINGTON AND COMPANY
Who lives, who dies, who tells your story?

BURR
President Madison:

MADISON
He took our country from bankruptcy to prosperity. I hate to admit it, but he doesn’t get enough credit for all the credit he gave us.

WASHINGTON AND COMPANY
Who lives, who dies, who tells your story?

ANGELICA
Every other founding father story gets told. Every other founding father gets to grow old.

BURR
And when you’re gone, who remembers your name? Who keeps your flame?

BURR AND MEN
Who tells your story?

ANGELICA AND WOMEN
Who tells your story?

WOMEN
Eliza.

ELIZA
I put myself back in the narrative.

WOMEN
Eliza.

ELIZA
I stop wasting time on tears. I live another fifty years. It’s not enough.

FULL COMPANY
Eliza.

ELIZA
I interview every soldier who fought by your side.
MULLIGAN/LAFAYETTE/LAURENS
She tells our story.

ELIZA
I try to make sense of your thousands of pages of writings.
You really do write like you’re running out of—

ELIZA AND COMPANY
Time.

ELIZA
I rely on—

ELIZA AND ANGELICA
Angelica.

ELIZA
While she’s alive—

ELIZA AND ANGELICA
We tell your story.

ELIZA
She is buried in Trinity Church,

ELIZA AND ANGELICA
Near you.

ELIZA
When I needed her most, she was right on—

ELIZA AND COMPANY
Time.

ELIZA
And I’m still not through.
I ask myself, “What would you do if you had more—”

ELIZA AND COMPANY
Time.

ELIZA
The Lord, in his kindness,
He gives me what you always wanted.
He gives me more—
ELIZA AND COMPANY
Time.

ELIZA
I raise funds in D.C. for the Washington Monument.

WASHINGTON
She tells my story.

ELIZA
I speak out against slavery.
You could have done so much more if you only had—

ELIZA AND COMPANY
Time.

ELIZA
And when my time is up, have I done enough?

ELIZA
Oh. Can I show you what I’m proudest of?

COMPANY
The orphanage.

ELIZA
I establish the first private orphanage in New York City.

COMPANY
The orphanage.

ELIZA
I help to raise hundreds of children. I get to see them growing up.

COMPANY
The orphanage.

ELIZA
In their eyes I see you, Alexander. I see you every—

ELIZA AND COMPANY
Time.

ELIZA
And when my time is up, have I done enough?

COMPANY
Will they tell my story?

ELIZA
Oh, I can’t wait to see you again. It’s only a matter of—

ELIZA AND COMPANY
Time.

COMPANY
Will they tell your story?

COMPANY
Time...

COMPANY
Will they tell your story?

COMPANY
Time...

COMPANY
Will they tell your story?

COMPANY
Time...

COMPANY
Who lives, who dies, who tells your story?

COMPANY
Time...

COMPANY
Who lives, who dies—

FULL COMPANY
Who tells your story?
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Stage Managers: Scott Rowen, Deanna Weiner.

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