

(JAMISON stands to address all.)

JAMISON

Soldiers! We -- we've had new orders come in! There is another strategy! An old tactic, from before the Depletion! We've orders to attempt it again, to rekindle its powers!

BRADEN

What's going on Captain?

JAMISON

Soldiers of old -- that fought with weapons of sheer resistance, not with guns or blades, but with the force of their courage.

SUTTON

Okay seriously Cap, what's Jamison on about?

JAMISON

With forbearing, with arms open -- they would conquer their opponents, often in times of insurmountable odds!

RENNON

(standing)

Listen, Soldiers -- to what Jamison has to say. Our assault is meant as a diversionary tactic, and she is right to have this strategy. This strategy is, the most likely to succeed, given our objective.

SOLDIERS

But, how? / What do you mean? / What objective?

JAMISON

Soldiers, I've read the enemy's holy-book! There is a passage in it that condemns them to the torment of their gods if they should attack an unarmed soldier who comes in peace! Let us use this against them! Isn't this same law laid down in the scriptures of our own holy codex as well? We've only forgotten its use!

KELLY

(Pointing up)

Look! A hawk flies toward the enemy camp!

TYLER

It's a sign!

JAMISON

Now is the time for this bold new action, this tactic of the ancients, to end all war and unite all peoples, through a march of peace -- a charge, not seen in generations!

**(MUSIC: #12 IMAGINE HOW THEY'LL SEE US) << Track 12 >>**

IMAGINE HOW THEY'LL SEE US,  
IMAGINE WHAT THEY'LL SEE.  
SOLDIERS COME TO FREE THEM  
FROM WAR'S INSANITY.  
JUST THINK, CLOSE YOUR EYES,  
AND IMAGINE THEIR SURPRISE,  
SEEING TROOPS MARCHING TOWARDS THEM  
THROWING THEIR SWORDS DOWN.

WHAT WOULD YOU HONESTLY DO,  
IF SOLDIERS CAME CHARGING AT YOU,  
WITH NOT GUNS, WITH NOT KNIVES,  
BUT ARMS OPENING TO YOU,  
GIVING YOU THEIR LIVES?

IMAGINE HOW THEY'LL GREET US.  
IMAGINE WHAT THEY'LL SAY,  
SOLDIERS COME TO MEET THEM,  
WITH A BETTER WAY THAN KILLING.  
JUST FEEL, IN YOUR HEARTS,  
THIS IS HOW THE HEALING STARTS,  
A PEOPLE ONCE SEVERED  
COMING TOGETHER.

(JAMISON produces a long and thin flag of different fabrics tied together, multi-colored, but not rainbow. SHE attaches it to a pole and raises it.)

**(MUSIC: #12a ADVANCING (REPRISE)) << Track 12 >>**

DO YOU SEE THIS FLAG, THAT THE PAST HAS PROVIDED?

SOLDIERS

Yes, I see! / We see the flag of the past! / Raise it up  
Jamison!

JAMISON

IT WAS MADE TO UNITE A PEOPLE DIVIDED!

SOLDIERS

A people divided! / Yes! / Hurrah! / A reunification!

JAMISON

GENERATIONS OF WAR AND KILLING AND HATRED.

SOLDIERS

Generations! / War, endless War! / What's to come of it all?

JAMISON

Come! Follow me now! Only we can put an end to it once and for all!

(SOLDIERS mobilize, shedding weapons and armor and picking up flowers and light branches.)

SOLDIERS

ONLY WE CAN STOP IT, WE CAN STOP IT.

JAMISON

CAST OFF YOUR ARMOR AND YOUR SHIELDS,

SOLDIERS

TAKE OFF YOUR ARMOR, PUT DOWN YOUR SHIELDS

JAMISON

WITH NAKED PALMS WE'LL CHARGE THE FIELDS.

SOLDIERS

WE CAN STOP IT, GENERATIONS OF WAR

JAMISON

WE'LL PACIFY THEM WITH OUR LOVE.

SOLDIERS

WE'LL PACIFY THEM WITH OUR LOVE

JAMISON

WE'LL RAIN THE TRUTH OF HEAVEN ABOVE.

SOLDIERS

RAINING THE TRUTH OF HEAVEN ABOVE.

JAMISON

COME GATHER GOOD GIFTS OF FLOWERS AND BRANCHES

SOLDIERS  
GATHER THE BRANCHES, GATHER THE FLOWERS

JAMISON  
A NEW TIME, A NEW PEACE, A NEW FUTURE ADVANCES.

SOLDIERS  
THE FUTURE ADVANCES, A PEACEFUL AGE IS COMING.

JAMISON  
VOICES OF THE PAST CALLING US TO BEGIN.

SOLDIERS  
WE HEAR THE VOICES CALLING US TO BEGIN.

JAMISON  
NOT WITH THE POWER OF ARMS, BUT THE POWER WITHIN!

SOLDIERS  
THE POWER WITHIN, THE POWER WITHIN.

AND I BELIEVE, IN THE POWER WITHIN ...

(The scene enters a slow motion.  
JAMISON leads a charge,  
eventually moving downstage  
towards the audience. When the  
company gets close, the music  
stops, and real-time resumes.  
RENNON is shot in the legs;  
BRADEN, in the shoulder; TYLER  
and SUTTON, shot dead; as for  
any CHORUS SOLDIERS, a third are  
shot dead, a third are injured,  
and a third are frozen in shock  
or are trying to help the  
fallen. ENEMY SOLDIERS are heard  
through speakers in the back of  
the theater overlapping with  
SOLDIERS lines, all in no  
particular order. Ad lib.)

ENEMY SOLDIERS  
Cease fire! Cease Fire!  
Cease fire!

SOLDIERS  
(walking around, shot)  
I don't understand..

They just, ran at us --  
with nothing.

Oh god, no, no.

Back-off-Back-off-Back-off.

(retreating)  
Fall back, fall back!

They might be strapped;  
They might be strapped to  
blow!

Captain Rennon!  
  
(sounds of pain)

What the hell! Ceasefire!

Jamison! What are our  
orders!

Get back! Get back, all of  
you!

Medic!

They just ran at us -- with  
jack nothing, nothing at  
all.

Kahpas, save us!

(JERIN kneels over TYLER.)

JERIN

Tyler?

(JERIN gives TYLER a couple  
face-taps and shakes.)

Hey sis -- hey now -- come on now sister, come on ...

ENEMY CAPTAIN

(through speakers)

Form a line, hands up, above your heads! Form a Line!

(SOLDIERS vaguely start to form  
a line, one SOLDIER in the line  
gets shot.)

God damn it, I said cease-fire!

JERIN

... not you.

ENEMY CAPTAIN

Hands on your heads, slowly now.

(JERIN grabs a knife and gets up  
in a rage. ADAMS takes him to

the ground with a clothesline to  
the chest.)

ENEMY 5

I don't think they're strapped, they don't appear to have  
anything on them.

ENEMY CAPTAIN

You -- yes you -- what do you have there, in your hand --  
slowly now.

(JERIN whimpers on the ground as  
the scene fades on JAMISON,  
showing the audience the flower  
in her hand.)

(FADE OUT)

(END OF ACT 1)

ACT 2

Scene 1

SETTING: Detention tent in an Enemy camp.

AT RISE: SOLDIERS are on their knees, bound and wearing zap-collars, chained to a heavy palanquin, as well as each-other, facing ENEMY CAPTAIN, who holds Jamison's flag. ENEMY 4 and ENEMY 5 stand guard, wearing same-color scrimmage jerseys.

**(MUSIC: #13 WHAT IS THIS NEW WARFARE?) << Track 13 >>**

ENEMY CAPTAIN  
ARE YOU LUNATICS?  
HAVE YOU GONE COMPLETELY MAD?  
ARE YOU SUICIDAL?  
WHAT IS THIS NEW WARFARE?

NO WEAPONS NO STANDARDS,  
NO GRUNTS NO COMMANDERS,  
NO WAY TO DISCERN WHAT YOU ARE.  
JUST THIS 'FLAG',  
JUST THIS WEED, AND YOUR BODIES TO BLEED!

(ENEMY CAPTAIN tosses flag to  
the stage apron, where it will  
remain for the next four  
scenes.)

WHAT CAN YOU BE HIDING,  
WHAT IS THIS NEW WARFARE?

AND WHAT AM I TO SAY?  
WHAT AM I TO WRITE IN MY ACCOUNT?  
MONKEYS CHARGING, WILD AND NAKED,  
NO CLARIFICATIONS, AND NO EXPLANATIONS  
NO REASONS, NO CAUSES, NO SENSE,  
JUST A STAMPEDE OF MADMEN.

WHAT'S YOUR STRATEGY?  
WHAT AM I NOT SEEING HERE?

WHAT IS THIS NEW BATTLE PLAN?  
WHAT IS THIS NEW TACTIC?  
WHAT IS THIS NEW WARFARE?  
WHAT ARE YOU?

And how am I to account for so many? So many prisoners? How am I to be believed? Especially considering that all other divisions sent against us have been almost entirely wiped out.

ADAMS

You Lie!

ENEMY CAPTAIN

Quiet!

(ENEMY 4 zaps SOLDIERS from a remote pad.)

Your attack was anticipated. We meant for you to catch your prisoner, your precious 'captain', knowing full well he was to give you the 'information' you would undoubtedly seek.

(SOLDIERS react to this, ENEMY CAPTAIN zeros in on JAMISON.)

You! Your face betrays you -- Captain! Stand her up!

(ENEMY 4 stands JAMISON up for inspection.)

Tell me, have we the same 'luck' as you, do we have here now, one of substantial rank?

(to all)

Is this your Captain -- alive, captured?

(inspects again.)

... No ... not this one here, this one -- who led the naked-monkey charge ... this one is ... a healer of some kind. I can tell this, even without her equipment -- strange tactic, a healer leading a naked-monkey charge. Or perhaps, brilliant, in some unforeseen way ... No, foolish. You are a fool, healer.

(feigns walking away)

-- Or are you indeed this rabble's Captain, trained to appear -- not as such?

KELLY



The Captain is dead!

ENEMY CAPTAIN

I will discover the meaning of your tactics -- I will discover your game. One thing is for certain -- with more prisoners,

(harming KELLY repeatedly)

comes more -- of -- a -- likelihood ...

(wipes brow, breathes.)

That one of you will have, the answer, that I need. One of you at least will break, will beg -- beg me to allow you to tell me -- what in the hell is happening here!

ADAM

We're a platoon, of the lowest of low-ranking soldiers, sent to become a drain on your resources, none of us knows anything.

ENEMY CAPTAIN

... Perhaps.

ADAM

In fact, we were sent without weapons because we were disloyal to the Hive -- set us free and we'll prove it! We were going to defect --

(ENEMY CAPTAIN knocks ADAMS out.)

ENEMY CAPTAIN

Stop your chattering, monkey ... Lieutenant, the interrogations will begin in one hour, see that our guests remain -- well, until then.

(ENEMY CAPTAIN exits. ENEMIES 4 and 5 exit the tent and stand guard downstage. ENEMY 5 relaxes; ENEMY 4 fusses.)

ENEMY 5

Relax, perimeter's iced to the ocean, they're not going anywhere.

(ENEMY 4 puts on an earpiece.)

Waste of time, they'll know it's bugged.

ENEMY 4

Maybe they're not real soldiers, maybe they haven't been trained.

ENEMY 5

Meh ...

(Several beats.)

So ... when we were mowing'm down, you know, and I saw, that they weren't coming to attack us, I stopped shooting right then, even before the ceasefire.

ENEMY 4

I also stopped firing, it confused me.

ENEMY 5

(laughs)

Didn't confuse me -- it was fine by me,

('hff' sound)

'thought it was pretty damn decent of them, actually, you know?

ENEMY 4

(nasal 'nnn' sound)

I don't know about that ... my first thought -- was that they'd had it.

ENEMY 5

They'd had it?

ENEMY 4

Perhaps they were starving, and they did what they did so they'd be captured and fed ... or, perhaps they were compelled by some, sign.

ENEMY 5

A sign, are you serious?

ENEMY 4

(making thinking gestures)

The prophets, they've been speaking of the, the Moon, falling from the sky, and the Sun, that it will soon blow out like a candle, only after it swallows us whole. Perhaps they've seen the signs before we have. Perhaps they've --

ENEMY 5

(laughing)

Oh come on with that, really? The sun's gonna swallow us whole. That's not even -- but yeah, okay -- if they wanted to surrender -- why do it in a charge? Why not send an emissary?

ENEMY 4

That's just it -- Why? The prophets have said we'd begin to see wonders, and strange things -- strange signs.

ENEMY 5

That could mean anything.

ENEMY 4

You don't think what's happened is strange?

ENEMY 5

Of course I do, but it doesn't have anything to do with the end the world.

ENEMY 4

... Perhaps they're hoping to curry favor with their god, before they die. Before the end, before --

ENEMY 5

You're really something you know that, damn it ... don't you see -- I've been throwing sticks for something like this -- This is it: this is the -- the beginning, not the end. This is, the start of something ...

**(MUSIC: #14 THE SUN'S GONNA SHINE) << Track 14 >>**

AND I DON'T BELIEVE IN THE END OF THE WORLD.  
THE WORD'S JUST BEGINNING TO SPIN, MY FRIEND.  
AND IF YOU'RE AFRAID, THAT THE END OF THE WORLD  
IS COMING ON, OH SOLDIER NOW,  
DON'T LET THAT FEAR WIN YOU OVER MY FRIEND.  
BECAUSE THE SUN'S GONNA SHINE, THE SUN'S GONNA  
SHINE, AND THE LIGHT'S GONNA BE YOURS THE LIGHT'S  
GONNA BE MINE.  
DON'T LET THAT FEAR SINK IN, TO YOUR SOUL.

AND I KNOW THAT GRACE, IS ILLUSIVE, SOLDIER, BUT  
IT'S ATTAINABLE.  
IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU, AND YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN  
TOO.  
YES SIR GET ON THE CASE, FOR GRACE.  
YOU COULD JOIN THE GODS, IT'S EASY,

YOU JUST MAKE SOMETHING, THEN GIVE IT AWAY  
IN ALL GOOD FAITH, TO FRIEND AND FOE.  
AND THEN THE SUN'S GONNA SHINE, THE SUN'S GONNA  
SHINE, AND THEN THE LIGHT'S GONNA BE YOURS, THE  
LIGHT'S GONNA BE MINE.  
YOU JUST MAKE SOMETHING, THEN GIVE IT AWAY  
WITH A HOPE FOR A NEW LIFE TO COME.

AND I DON'T BELIEVE IN EVERLASTING DARKNESS.  
SOLDIER, YOU CAN BELIEVE IN DARKNESS THAT'S YOUR  
PREROGATIVE.  
BUT YOU KNOW I'M GONNA TRY, I'M GONNA TRY TO  
CHANGE YOUR MIND.  
GONNA TRY TO HELP YOU LIVE, HELP YOU LIVE, CANT  
YOU SEE WHAT'S HAPPENIN HERE?  
IT'S THE START OF WHAT COULD BE A BETTER WAY!

YEAH YOU KNOW I BELIEVE IN AN ENDLESS PROCESSION  
OF TOMORROWS.  
I WILL SEE THE SUN RISE, MANY MORE TIMES BEFORE I  
DIE.

YET, IF TOMORROW NEVER COMES FOR ME,  
HEAVEN I KNOW IT WILL SHINE ON SOMEONE IN MY  
PLACE,

(put arms on ENEMY 4)

MY BELOVED HEAVEN'S SOLDIER, WILL CARRY ON THIS  
LIFE OF MINE, IN MY STEAD.  
AND THEN THE SUN'S GONNA SHINE, THE SUN'S GONNA  
SHINE, THE LIGHT'S GONNA BE YOURS, THE LIGHT'S  
GONNA BE MINE.

YES IT'S GONNA BE MINE, ALL OF THAT BIG FAT  
SUNSHINE OH-WHEY, THE SUN'S GONNA SHINE, THE  
LIGHTS GONNA BE YOURS AND MINE.

ENEMY 4

How? How can you feel this way? Have the gods given you a  
vision?

ENEMY 5

No -- I just, something's happening, right now -- I have to  
talk to one of them, to the healer.

ENEMY 4

That's not within our mandate.

ENEMY 5

But it's not against it ... the bugs -- have they been talking at all in there?

ENEMY 4

No, they've been silent.

ENEMY 5

See? They're not working. The healer -- I'm gonna juice it out of her, just cover me while I get her.

(beat)

Come on ...

ENEMY 4

Alright. But if she doesn't talk, it's ...

ENEMY 5

It's what?

ENEMY 4

... This is a waste of time.

(ENEMY 5, covered by ENEMY 4,  
fetches JAMISON and brings HER  
outside.)

ENEMY 5

We know, from your actions, that you were not intending to harm us. Tell us why you charged at us, in the way that you did. Speak, or face punishment.

JAMISON

You want to know ...

ENEMY 4

Yes, tell us. Why have you done this? Has the god of the enemy commanded you? Is the end of all things now upon us? Have you seen the signs?

JAMISON

No, no signs.

ENEMY 4

Your colony then? It's failing. You were starving and so --

JAMISON

It was an ancient tactic ... from when all were unified.

ENEMY 5

The Unified States -- from before the Depletion?

JAMISON

A passive, march ... Why did you attack us? We had no weapons. I thought your gods forbade it. I thought it was in your scriptures. I thought --

ENEMY 5

(claps, points)

Oh! That's -- The scriptures -- that is in our scriptures -- the Atonement!

(said like cussing.)

Krass-is-first! The Atonement!

(to ENEMY 4)

Hey, do you think any of the others have thought of this --

(ENEMY 4 is shaken.)

Wait, did you, did you get a kill?

ENEMY 4

I, I can't be sure, I was firing, and I ...

ENEMY 5

Look at him! Holy Eyes, look at him -- he believes!

(paces around, shakes head)

Oh, but didn't you do it all wrong!

ENEMY 4

There haven't been civilians, not in this number ... the last of them requested quarter generations ago.

ENEMY 5

Yes, but that's it though -- they were civilians! We killed civilians!

ENEMY 4

No ...

ENEMY 5

Look at him! The Atonement! Holy Eyes!

(snaps a pointed finger.)

What if others -- what if they've made the connection already! The Atonement! They'll be thinking of the payments owed, the rites --

(to JAMISON)

Listen, I didn't know why, but it made sense somehow -- like a strong wind blowing the canopy off -- and it was just -- I felt: freed, if only for the moment.

(laughs, slaps thighs)

But you did it wrong -- don't you see?

JAMISON

You felt free?

ENEMY 5

It's a loophole! You saw it. Damn Sheena, you saw it --  
(grabs JAMISON)

Listen I've been praying for something like this -- and half of it's all nothing but nonsense, but this -- this might be it! Here --

(ENEMY 5 starts loosening  
JAMISON's bonds.)

ENEMY 4

(raising weapon and zapper)

What are you doing?

ENEMY 5

Don't you see -- they can't hurt us. We can spread this all over!

(ENEMY 5 raises up JAMISON.)

Listen, we can finish what you've started -- but we'd do it right this time. We do it slower; we give everyone time to think. The fighting -- the war would have to stop, there'd be nothing else --

(to ENEMY 4)

Listen, soldier, brother, we've forgotten what we're fighting for -- it's just that -- the enemy wants to destroy our truth ... But there is no truth, no right and wrong, just nonsense, just killing, just raids ...

(to JAMISON)

But you -- you don't want to destroy us -- you just want an end to it all. You just needed to find a way.

JAMISON

(nodding and weeping)

Yes, oh yes, that's it. That's it exactly.