

LYSISTRATA'S WAR

An original Rock Opera by

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Adapted from Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*

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CHARACTERS *(in order of appearance)*

Child's Voice

Myrrhine, an Athenian woman

Cinesias, Athenian soldier, her husband

Lampito, a Spartan woman

Theron, Spartan soldier, her husband

Lysistrata, an Athenian woman

Calonice, a friend of Lysistrata

Magistrate, an Athenian official

Finance Minister, an Athenian official

War Minister, an Athenian official

Chloe, an Athenian woman

Zoe, her lover

Alyssa, an Athenian woman

Charissa, an Athenian woman

Melita, an Athenian woman

Nerita, an Athenian woman

Philo, Athenian soldier, Calonice's husband

Governor of Athens

Daphne, an Athenian woman

Galatea, an Athenian woman

Belen, an Athenian man

Tessa, a Spartan woman

Raissa, a Spartan woman

Hypatia, a Spartan woman

Leander, a Spartan man

Stratyllis, an Athenian man

Assistant War Minister, an Athenian official

Terrorist

Chorus of Athenians and Spartans

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OVERTURE

Begins with ominous music as a young child's voice is heard saying:

War is stupid.
All that happens in a war is that people die.
Nothing is decided that couldn't be decided another way.
People think they are doing a good thing when they fight a war,
But all they are doing is making people suffer...

A time capsule montage of war from present day to the ancient period takes place as the chorus is heard chanting, "Chre stratiotein sumballein machein," Ancient Greek for: "It is a soldier's duty to wage battle." (Translation by Peggy Meyer.)

SCENE 1

Opens with two couples, Myrrhine and Cinesias, and Lampito and Theron, on each side of the stage. The men are in uniform and are about to leave for the war.

Myrrhine

Another day, another dawn,
Why can't you stay, so soon you're gone.
Another day, I need you here,
I hope and pray, and hide my fear.

Cinesias

Another day, another test,
Until we win, I get no rest.
Another day, you have to wait,
I shouldn't stay, I'm running late.

Both

Another day, just another day.

Lampito

Another day, another dawn,
Another war and you are gone.
Another day, you might be killed,
To prove a point, your blood is spilled.

Theron

Another day, but do not fear,
I know we'll win, our duty's clear.
Another day, Now I must go,
Each day I'm gone, I miss you so.

Both

Another day, just another day.

As the men begin to leave:

Myrrhine

How can this war go on and on?
It's one thing to hear of a war across
the sea
But another thing completely when
it's my family
When the death and destruction
aims directly at me

Lampito

Why do we keep on wasting their lives in a
war across the sea?
It's another thing completely when
it's my family
When the death and destruction
aims directly at me

All

Another day, I hope I (you) live,
Another day, I have to give.
Another day, it is our fate,
The war goes on, the war we hate.

Another day, just another day,
Just another day, just another day.

The men move to each side of the stage--the women fade off. The music segues into a drum cadence and horns calling the men off to war. The men begin singing each part of the next song individually at first, and then are joined by their comrades as they march and drill to the Battle Song.

Cinesias

It's the duty of every soldier,
going off to war,
To fight,
to defend his country's way of life,
No matter what's in store.

Theron

It's the duty of every soldier,
Standing in the ranks,
To fight,
To battle on through day and night,
Without need of any thanks.

Theron and men (yelled)

It's the duty,

Cinesias and men (yelled)

It's the duty,

Theron and men

Of every soldier,

Cinesias and men

Of every soldier,

Theron and men

To fight,

Cinesias and men

To fight,

Theron and men

For what is right,

Cinesias and men

No end in sight,

Theron and men

To protect,

Cinesias and men

To protect,

Theron and men

Our way of life,

Cinesias and men

Our holy right,

Theron and men

To guard,

Cinesias and men

To guard,

Theron and men

Our home from strife.

Cinesias and men

Within the light.

Theron and men

For God is on our side.

For God is on our side.

For God is on our side, our side.

Cinesias and men

For God is on our side.
For God is on our side.
For God is on our side.

(The soldier's singing crescendos into a full male chorus in counterpoint.)

Theron and men

It's the duty of every soldier,
Going off to war,
To fight.
Knowing that we're right,
We never give a pause,
'Cause we fight a noble cause.
For as we go off to war,
We're told what we're fighting for.
And as the weapons fly,
We never question why.
Because it is the duty
of every soldier to fight.

Cinesias and men

It's the duty of every soldier
to fight.
Knowing that we're right,
We never give a pause,
Beause we fight a noble cause.
For as we go off to war,
We're told what we're fighting for.
And as the weapons fly,
We never question why.
It's the duty
of every soldier to fight.

Song finishes with both sides facing each other in battle lines. There is a pause and then a yell and movement that starts a very large choreographed battle scene with the War Theme from the Overture in the background. As the battle progresses the human pain and suffering begins to create chaos within the ranks of soldiers. The music is punctuated with the cries of death, etc. Into this comes Lysistrata, wandering through the mass of the fighting, the dead and dying. She is dresses in bedclothes and somehow looks like an angel amidst the carnage. No one takes any notice of her.

Lysistrata

My God! How can this happen?
How can we create such pain and strife?
How can we kill and say what we are doing
is to protect our way of life?
What are we doing to each other?
What are we doing to ourselves?
What are we doing to the world?
Whatever we're doing,
Whatever we're doing, it must stop.

At this point the men freeze, the music shifts, and then slowly they begin to move off leaving Lysistrata alone.

How can we do this?
What can it all be for?
Talk to anyone who's been there,
And no one wants a war.

Look at all the haunted faces.
Look them in the eye,
And you'll see that all a war does,
Is make sure that good people die.

This war is to give us what we need,
When the truth is it's all for power and greed.
Our leaders have convinced themselves and us,
That they are the enemy no one can trust.
And their leaders have done quite the same,
They're in the right and we're the ones to blame.
What a shame!

I can't sit by,
And watch people die.
I can't watch as we're told,
Some politician's lie.
This war must end, and now,
I'll take it to the top.
Before more people die
I have to make it stop!

On the last word she wakes up, we see she is in her own bedroom.

This war must end, and now,
I'll take it to the top.
Before more people die,
I have to make it stop!

Lysistrata begins to get dressed as the scene ends.

SCENE 2

Calonice

Good morning, Sunshine,
Time to go, no time to sit,
This is it.
Come on, let's get you out in the sun,
Down to the beach,
Somewhere we can have fun.

Lysistrata

Calonice, stop!
Last night I had a dream.
Images cascading, falling and fading,
But so real I could feel the blood,
So real, I could feel the pain.

People dieing, killing and crying,
The highest price to be paid,
For a section of soil, or a barrel of oil,
We have lost our way.
We have lost our way.

Calonice (*spoken*)
What do you mean?

Lysistrata
What is the one thing that's draining our lives?
It takes all our taxes, our husbands and wives.
What is the one thing we're told is a need?
Though it's all about power and greed.
With our leaders declaring with a patriotic thrill,
We must seek out the enemy, find him and kill,
And who are we doing it for?

Calonice
Oh, I get it. You mean the war

Lysistrata (*spoken*)
Exactly.

Lysistrata and Calonice move into the street. As they do several Spartan women led by Lampito show up looking edgy and out of place.

Lysistrata
Lampito and women of Sparta, I welcome you.
Thank you for coming on such short notice.

Lampito
We came, but what is this about?

Lysistrata
I'm sure you are tired of this war going on and on and on.

Lampito
Everyone is tired of this war, except the men who started it.

Lysistrata
Well, I might have a way to stop it.

Lampito
Oh really, how?

Lysistrata
Women of Athens, and Sparta!

Women of Athens and Sparta!
Time is running out,
This war will never end.
We must gather together every foe and friend.

Women of Athens and Sparta!
Women of Athens and Sparta!
We must raise a shout,
We must stop the war,
And everything it's for.
We must raise a shout,
We must stop the war,
And everything it's for.

Women are gathering, listening.

Lysistrata and Calonice

Women of Athens and Sparta!
We must stop the war!
We Must Stop the war!

Various responses (*spoken*)

How?
We can't stop the war!
We don't have the power!
Yeah, what can women do?

Lysistrata

What can women do?
We do not have political power,
We're not in the business elite.
For some we are there to deflower,
But in that, there lies the deceit.

For what do men need from us,
Plead from us, bleed from us,
Without it they're nothing but wrecks?
The one thing we have over men,
Is without us they cannot have sex.

If we deny them their pleasure,

Calonice

No hunting for treasure.

Lysistrata

Stop doing our duty,

Calonice

So they get no booty.

Lysistrata

From every wife, girlfriend,

Calonice

Or whore.

Lysistrata

Soon they'll be down on their knees,
And we'll put a stop to this war.

Women all react strongly thinking it won't work.

Lysistrata

I know this can work, please listen to me!
The war must be stopped, oh, why can't you see!
This is the place, we really have some power,
The time is right now, this is the hour.
They don't get one kiss until hostilities cease.
If we deny them this, they will have to make peace

General mayhem as Lysistrata tries to convince the women. Calonice yells or whistles to get their attention. The music shifts to a jazzier mood.

Calonice (spoken)

Let me try!

(sings)

Hey girls, what do you think?
Do we have the power to stop
The men and their war?
If we take away their fun,
The women can come out on top.

We know what they want,
We know what they like,
For sex everything they'll drop.
When it comes to sex,
The women are really on top.

So if they want to make war,
They can draw their big swords.
But when they finally come home,
If they want some hot sex,
They can climb into bed,
But they're going to have it alone.

Women

But what about us, how will we cope?
Our needs are important too.
There are some things we can do for ourselves,
But that takes too much effort to do!¹

There is a 16-bar dance break where the women show what the men will be missing.

Do you think it's easy for us to stop?
Because as you have said,
Women love it on top.

Calonice

Of course, we will suffer,
We should not take this light,
But an ace in the hole is our card.
For us, guaranteed, it will not be easy,
But for them it will REALLY be hard.

When they can't get it here,
And they can't get it there.
The pressure builds, it doesn't fade.
Soon they'll get upset, when nothing's all they get,
'Cause we don't ever let them get laid.²

All Women

Everything they try,
Everything they do,
Everything will just flop!
We hold the key to passion's release,
And we love it on top.
We hold the key to passion's release,
And we love it on top.

A runner comes in and speaks quickly to Lysistrata.

Lysistrata

Ladies, now that we've taken some action,
I'll relate to you some other things.
We will surely hit them below the belt,
But we must also grab the purse strings.
It is hard to make war without money,
Money that can be better spent

¹ Alternate Lyrics include: "But that doesn't include a good screw," and "That we'd rather not have to do."

² Original lyrics: "The pressure builds, everyone knows. They'll start to tire, when they can't put out the fire, 'cause we don't let them use their hose."

On the health and welfare of our citizens.
Money used for what it was meant.

Since most of the men are off fighting the war,
We took advantage of their lack.
Some women were charged to take over the treasury,
And now they have just come back.
They've been successful, I'm told,
And now things should happen much quicker.
We've taken their money and their sex,
Which now leaves them only their liquor.
And we know how well they operate when drunk,
So we'll make sure their war is sunk.
And now, I need your solemn vow.

Lysistrata

I promise to withhold,
my virtue and my sex,
From all men young and old,
Even knowing what comes next.
They will be driven crazy,
And do anything to score.
But I'll be vigilant, not lazy,
Until they end this war.

Women

I promise to withhold,
my virtue and my sex,
From all men young and old,
Even knowing what comes next.
They will be driven crazy,
And do anything to score.
But I'll be vigilant, not lazy,
Until they end this war.

SCENE 3

The Magistrate and the War Minister are in his office, the Finance Minister has hurriedly entered and consulted with him.

Magistrate

What do you mean you can't get in?
Mere women have blocked your way?
Make a use of force,
Make them rue the day.

Women are no match,
For bold determined men.
They are the weaker sex.
Force them to let you in.

Finance Minister

But Magistrate, we tried.
They blocked our every turn.
The treasury is locked.
It's a serious concern.

Magistrate

Very well, I'll look into it. (*Dismisses Finance Minister.*)

This problem can't be that large.

I can take care of this business.

God, it's good to be in charge.

Women taking over, how absurd.

I can sweep them all aside with just one word.

Don't they understand, the silly girls,

It's the men who rule the world.

War Minister

Sir, I think you are so right, if I may say.

These women think that politics is play.

When it comes to really knowing, they're so tame.

They think the government is a game, they're to blame!

They should all be home, not running wild,

To take care of hearth and home and child.

Magistrate

So who's the leader of this mob?

War Minister

They call her Lysistrata...

Magistrate

Then let's go do our job.

The Magistrate and the War Minister exit and confront Lysistrata and the women.

SCENE 4

Magistrate

Now then, what's all this?

Lysistrata

It is just as you see it.

Magistrate

You've had your joke, so why not go,
and perhaps I won't arrest you.

Up to now you have not disrupted the flow,

And since I find you rather cute,

I'm in a mood to let you go.

Lysistrata

Oh, you haven't seen anything yet, just you wait.
Your flow of money to the war, will be a little bit late.
And from where I sit, you're in no position to make demands.

Magistrate

Now see here...

Lysistrata

No, you see here, little man.
The treasury is ours.
And we will not depart,
This is not the end,
It's just the start.

Magistrate

I've had enough of this! Guards!
We'll soon see who is in control,
And we'll see how pretty you look
Locked up in the hole.

The guards come up.

Break down the door!
Never mind the cost!
Our honor is at stake!
We'll show her who's the boss!

The guards move to the door.

Suddenly several women appear with bows all pointed at the Magistrate.

Uh... Wait a minute.

The guards are looking somewhat nervously at the women.

Please be reasonable, little honey.
Why are you doing this?
Is your husband not giving you enough money?

Lysistrata

How can such idiots run the state?
The main issue here is the war, Magistrate.
Your war which is cheating us and bleeding us drop by drop,
Of money, humanity, and this war must stop.

War needs lots of money, and now I hold the purse,
For the big war machine. It can't get much worse.
But it takes more than that. Yes! It takes much more.
I have to take the heart out of your war.

Magistrate

What do you mean?

Lysistrata

Just this,

Until the soldiers stop fighting, this is a fact.
Women of Athens and Sparta have created a pact
To refuse all sex to any soldier, from bottom to top,
Until all agree that this madness will stop.

So you will get nothing from wife, lover or whore,
Until everyone puts a stop to this senseless war.

Magistrate *(spoken)*

Did you say refuse sex?

Lysistrata *(spoken)*

I did.

Magistrate

You've got to be kidding if you think that will stop the war.
You're delusional!

Lysistrata

I guess we'll see,
Oh, by the way, your wife's with me,
And if that brings you no distress,
We also have the word of your mistress.

Magistrate

Yes, well,
The war is more complex
Than simply stopping it still,

Lysistrata

It's not so complex,
Just choose not to kill.

Magistrate

Your patriotism seems rather weak,
And against all our soldiers of whom you speak.
It's easy to criticize
All those who are giving their lives.

Lysistrata

On the contrary, I want them all to live.

Magistrate

But that is a power that's not yours to give.

Lysistrata

Exactly my point, here's what you will do.

Magistrate

I will not stand idly by while you...

Lysistrata

No, you won't stand around.
You'll take our demands,
And our actions to stop the war
To your superiors.
Maybe they will show some sense.

Magistrate

I'll see you and all who are with you thrown in the pit!

He exits.

Lysistrata

If that would stop this war, I would gladly do it.

Short music transition into Scene 5. Time has passed.

SCENE 5

All the women are lying about, looking bored, stressed, nervous, etc.

Various Women (spoken)

How much longer?
Is it over yet?
I don't think I can wait anymore.
Even my toys are broken.

Lysistrata

If it's this bad for us, think how it must be for them.

Calonice

Can I go see in person?

Lysistrata

No!

A female couple enters hand in hand.

Chloe
Hi girls!

Zoe
How are you? Isn't a beautiful day?

Calonice
That's no fair! They don't have to stop.

Chloe
We have no one in the war.
And it's not our fault if you're stupid enough to need a man in your life.

Zoe
There are prob'ly some soldiers who are also like us.

Chloe
Don't ask, don't tell.

Lysistrata
Ladies, we must all band together.
The only way we'll win is if we act as one.

Chloe and Zoe
Oh, all right. *(They look knowingly at each other.)*

Lysistrata
All right.
We've kept them on the outside,
Now let's turn up the heat.
The real test is about to begin,
When your men come home on leave.
Entice them, tease them, but don't give in.
Let them know the war must stop,
Before you'll give in with all of your heart.

Alyssa
So when my husband comes home,
I'll fix his favorite meal.
Dress in thin lingerie,
And when he cops a feel,
I'll back away and say, No,
You'll just have to go, because,

Until you stop the war,
You get nothing from me.
As long as you fight,
This is all that you'll see.

The killing must stop,
That's what this is for.
You won't have any fun,
Until you stop the war,
Until you stop the war,
Until you stop the war.

A Chorus of agreement.

Charissa

My boyfriend just loves it
When I move and dance,
'Cause that means soon
He'll have his hands in my pants.
But he's in for a surprise
when I stop his advance saying,

Until you stop the war,
You get nothing from me.
As long as you fight,
This is all that you'll see.
The killing must stop,
That's what this is for.
You won't have any fun,
Until you stop the war.
Until you stop the war,
Until you stop the war.

Melita

I've been married for 25 years.
He falls asleep after just a few beers.
But when tries with his girlfriend,
He'll have nothing but tears as we say,

Until you stop the war,
You get nothing from me.
As long as you fight,
This is all that you'll see.
The killing must stop,
That's what this is for.
You won't have any fun,
Until you stop the war.
Until you stop the war,
Until you stop the war.

Nerita

My guy is a sweetheart.
He is everything nice.

Though he wants all my fire,
He'll get nothing but ice.
He'll want everything,
But a shower must suffice and I'll say,

Until you stop the war,
You get nothing from me.
As long as you fight,
This is all that you'll see.
The killing must stop,
That's what this is for.
You won't have any fun,
Until you stop the war,
Until you stop the war.

All women

Until you stop the war,
We will all be depressed.
You can beg, you can plead,
But you have to stay dressed.
By fighting a war,
You created a mess.
You gotta stop the war!
You gotta stop the war!
You gotta stop the war!
You gotta stop the war!

SCENE 6

Cinesias, Belen, Philo in camp, evening.

Philo:
I never thought it was real.
I fight, I do my job well,
But it's not a glorious job.
People I know well have died.
They have died in front of me.
They have died in my arms.
We work together to stay alive,
But the glory has turned to dust
Covered in blood.

Our leaders are out of touch.
They fight the war from afar.
Don't know what the losses are,
But we don't question at all.
We will continue to fight.

We will continue to die.
We are only winning
Because we are still alive;
That's how it is.

Belen:
I signed on at seventeen,
To have a soldier's life.
To fight is what I want.
Don't have a home or wife.
If this war should end,
They'll have no need for me,
And I'll fade into the distance

I can't say that war is good
But it's my job—I do it well.
I protect our people,
Not part time, but all the time.
I know they need me,
But they'll discard me
Until the next war.

Cinesias:
I miss my home.
I miss my wife.
I miss my life.
When will it end?

I long to be
Safe and sound,
Sleep off the ground.
When will it end?

I fight each day.
Each day I try.
Hope I don't die.
It has to end.

With any luck
This war will cease.
I'm in one piece,
And I'll go home.

All:
One thing is for sure.
To know about the war
Don't listen to the men
Who you listened to before.

Don't listen to your leaders
Who say it's going well.
They can go to hell!
They just need to be elected,
Don't care how we're all affected.

If you wanna know the truth,
Wanna know about my life.
Then read the letters from son to mother
From husband to wife
Hear the story first hand
From those of us who are here.
We gotta fight this war.
When will they stop the war.
We wanna stop the war.
They gotta stop the war.

SCENE 7

Scene begins with Myrrhine and Calonice at different places on the stage getting ready for their men.

Myrrhine

I miss you,
I miss you every morning.
I miss you,
Though I know it's not forever.
I want you,
I want you every minute,
Though I know I must be true to what we need

Calonice

I miss you,
I miss your tender touch.
I miss you,
Though I know it's not forever.
I want you,
I just want to hold you,
Though I know I can't give in to what you want.

Myrrhine

I love you,
As the flower loves the sunshine.
I need you,
And I hope we last forever.
To have you is to have the perfect
feeling,

Feeling that we are complete when
we're together.
I miss you.

Calonice

I love you,
As the flower loves the sunshine.

I need you,
And I hope we last forever.
To have you is to have the perfect
feeling,

Myrrhine

But now I have to put that all aside,
And the feelings I have must stay
locked inside.
It's our land and our people we're
doing this for,
To put aside our love 'til we stop the
war.

When we're together.
I miss you.

Calonice

I have to put that all aside.
The feelings I have are locked inside.
We're doing it for our people.
We have to stop the war.

The men enter.

Cinesias

I love you,
This war can't last forever.
I miss you
With each new day that's dawning.
I want you,
I want you for forever.
But forever seems like never when I'm so far away,

Philo

I want you
As a dying man wants water.
I need you
Each and every morning.
I touch you
With every thought and feeling.
And I know it won't be long 'til we're together.

Cinesias

I miss you.

Philo

I miss you.

Myrrhine & Cinesias

It's been too long
since I've been able
to hold you.
I thought of this
moment and how it
would seem,

When I look in your
eyes and let my love
enfold you,
And now that we're
here it's not just a
dream.

Calonice

It's been too long.
I want to hold you.
I look in your eyes.
It's not a dream.

Philo
All I want is to hold
you.

I want to see in your
eyes.
Let my love enfold
you.

We're here, it's not
just a dream.

The music continues as the lovers embrace. The men obviously have something specific in mind. We see the women break it off and tell the men about their vow.

Cinesias (spoken)
We can't what?

Philo (spoken)
You're kidding, right?

Cinesias
I've thought of nothing but you since I've been gone,
Nothing but you so that I could go on and on.
The thought of you filled all my dreams,
The thought of you, the thought of you.

Philo
You are the one I've been dying for.
You are the one, why I came through that door.
Thy thought of you, was all that I had,
The thought of you, the thought of you.

Myrrhine
Why don't you see what we are trying to do?

Calonice
If we stop the war, all of this will be through.

Myrrhine
The killing must stop, we'll say with each breath.

Calonice
This war simply bleeds us all to a slow death.

Philo & Cinesias
So why blame us?
We spend the time up on the borders.
And we don't make decisions, we just follow orders.
Go after the leaders, don't have sex with them.
The leaders should suffer, not enlisted men.

Calonice & Myrrhine
It must be everyone from bottom to top.

It's the only way we will make it all stop.

Cinesias

But you are my wife, does that mean nothing at all?

Philo

But you are my wife, does that mean nothing at all?

Myrrhine

But I should have your respect, I'm not just some doll.

Calonice

But I should have your respect, I'm not just some doll.

Philo & Cinesias

Just this once, I promise I won't tell.

Calonice & Myrrhine *(weakening)*

Just this once...

Philo & Cinesias

I love you so much.

Calonice & Myrrhine

(Spoken with sudden resolve.)

NO!

Cinesias

Remember that time when we were out on the lake?

Myrrhine

When you skipped out of work, just for my sake?

Cinesias

And the only thing soft was that old flower sack,

Myrrhine

And the terrible sunburn you got on your back.

Cinesias

I love you now just as I did in that hour.

Myrrhine

Why don't you go and take a cold shower?

Cinesias moves to center.

Philo

Have I told you just how beautiful you are?

Calonice

Don't expect that to get you very far.

Philo

Why don't you relax and I'll rub you down.

Calonice

That would be great, just not under my gown.

Philo

This isn't fair, I'll bet others give in.

Calonice

No one, otherwise we couldn't win.

Philo moves to center with Kinesias.

Philo

You too?

Cinesias

What's going on? Why do this to us?

Philo

They're not fighting the war, so why make a fuss?

Cinesias

We are only soldiers, not the powers above.

Philo

So how come we're the ones without any love?

Philo & Cinesias

Our love is so hot, it would turn flowers to ash.
If we could stop this war, we'd do it in a flash.

Myrrhine

I love you,
As the flower loves the sunshine.
I need you,
And I hope we last forever.
To have you is to have the perfect
feeling,
Feeling that we are complete when
we're together.

I love you.

Calonice

I love you,
As the flower loves the sunshine.
I need you,
And I hope we last forever.
To have you is to have the perfect
feeling,

When we're together.

I love you.

Philo and Cinesias move back to the women.

Cinesias

I love you,
And I do respect you.
I need you,
And I hope we last forever.
To love you is to treat you as an equal.
And if this means so much I'll wait until it's over.
I love you.

Philo

I love you,
But I am your husband.
I need you,
And it's part of your duty.
To love me, and give me what I've wanted.
This will all blow over and you'll thank me for it later.
Now love me, love me.
Love me!

Philo forces himself on Calonice. We hear her screams as we go to blackout.

SCENE 8

Interpretive dance dream sequence with all the men and women. The dance starts with men on one side perhaps doing similar movements from the war sequence and women doing similar movements from "Women on Top." They then blend into couples and encompass the conflict. The dance becomes harmonious between them as the governor enters with his entourage. The men break away from the women (though still staged as couples) and begin to go back to war moves. As this happens, the governors and magistrate stand above the crowd overlooking the war and then randomly the men begin to be killed. As this happens, the women also die beside their men. Eventually the governors and magistrate are looking over a field of dead. Fade to black.

SCENE 9

The Athenian government offices. Various governors, politicians.

Governor

Gentlemen. The war is important, for freedom and should
Go on for a while because my job is good.

War Minister

Our contacts say the market is high.
The buzz is all good for our piece of the pie.

Finance Minister

But as you've noticed, we've developed a thorn.
These women will wish they had never been born.
To take away our rights as husbands and men,
To tie up the treasury all this, and then
Demand that we stop the war?

Magistrate

Can't we just ignore them, what can they do?
Do they think we'll stop the war just because we can't screw?
As for the treasury, that really won't last.
We can tap other funds and get to them fast.

Finance Minister

But we have to do something, and do it right now.
The effect this has had is to lower morale.
The men don't want to fight, they just sit and complain,
Though our cause is still just and their duty is plain.

War Minister

Well, how 'bout at home, how are the polls?

Finance Minister

Down 20 points--the war's full of holes.

Magistrate

We have to stop them!
These women can't win!

War Minister

But how do we stop them?
What is the spin?

Governor

I have just the thing, a patriotic tale.
They don't love their country, with that we can't fail.
It's for times like this that we foresaw
The need for the new patriot law.

Magistrate

We can have them arrested if we see them as a threat.

We don't need any evidence, just grab them, no sweat!

War Minister

They're an enemy to freedom, that is the spin.
If all the people think that, then we will win.

All Officials

The war must go on, it's this war that we need.
Re-election's at hand, and we must succeed.
Everyone in our government supports it, and should.
This war is good business and business is good.
Yes, the war is good business and business is good.

SCENE 10

Lysistrata alone.

Why?
Why must this go on?
Am I fooling myself?

What am I doing, to think this will work?
What do I think we can really do?
Why should they stop this, just because of us?
Why would they stop this, for anything at all?

I've already come to far to now start having doubt.
I must see it through, make sure that nobody pulls out.
It's not just for me that this is for,
I just want to stop this needless war.

You sometimes can't avoid a war, it's a matter of degree.
But there are wars for profit, and wars to set us free.
I know it isn't simple.
War's a part of who we are.
But we move to war too easily.
Make the wound and then leave the scar.

What if every leader, had to look at all the dead,
See every lifeless eye, every shattered head.
Then had to tell every mother, husband, child, or wife,
Just who wasn't coming home, why we chose to end their life?
And travel to the fields where everyone was killed,
See the hopeless eyes of refugees desp'rate to rebuild.
Our leaders would have to stand there, looking everyone in the face,
And answer one question truthfully:

Did this war
Make the world
A better place?
Maybe then,

Maybe then
We might try something else,
Before we go to war,
Again.

I am Athenian, and I have a voice to say,
This war is wrong and must be stopped today.
Yes, I am Athenian, I am proud of who we are.
I am not unpatriotic, 'cause I don't want this war.

I am Athenian, and I love my country.
Yes, I love my country.
I don't want to see it suffer, or see it kill...
Anymore.

Scene 11

*Various people coming out. Women, both Athenian and Spartan on one side,
men on the other..*

Daphne

I'm tired of waiting, when will he be home?

Galatea

They said the war would not last long.

Belen

Maybe Lysistrata has it right,
We shouldn't fight.

Tessa

They tell us the war is going well,
But each day I go through hell.

Raissa

I support the troops that went,
But I question the government.

Hypatia

My mind's in a funk.

I feel in a haze,
'Cause I haven't had sex
In so many days.

Leander

I used to think my wife was so frumpy.
But even no sex with her, has made me grumpy.

Stratyllis

I just get jumpy

All

We're all in a state, and here is the tune.
Something must give, and it's got to give a lot real soon.
Is it the government or Lysistrata who betrayed us?
The state of the state is quickly turning to chaos.

What is going on, what can we all do?
How do we solve this, we haven't a clue
We just want to be happy, like we used to be
Where are our leaders, who should we see?

Governor

People, people, you must understand.
There's only one reason why this got out of hand.
These women, and this Lysistrata
Are unpatriotic, and they gotta
Simply stop what they're doing if you want to stay free.
To get back where you were, you must listen to me.

Lysistrata

Well, you've got quite a mob.
Should we have this out right here?
Is it worth your job?

Governor

That's not necessary, for we know easily how to deal
With people like you who are attempting to steal
Our precious way of life.
And we will protect
Every honest citizen from your unholy sect.
Because you're unpatriotic and the new law is clear,
We can arrest you, if we hate what we hear
(spoken) Guards, arrest her!
(The guards quickly hustle Lysistrata off.)

Myrrhine

No! She's done nothing wrong!

Lampito

If you take her, you'll have to take us all!

Governor

People, people, do not be a mob.
Please let your government just do it's job.
We're here to protect you by stopping this threat.
Believe me, these terrorists will deserve what they get.

Crowd follows protesting. Guards close doors to Governor's chambers and the crowd wanders off. Calonice is left by herself.

Calonice

It's not what it seems,
It must all be dreams.
How can my life unravel so?
Churning the pain, it's hurting me so,
And I don't know when I'll hit bottom.

I know I still love him,
In spite of what he's done.
Don't know if I can leave him,
Our life had just begun.
What should I do?
What should I do?

Circles in circles,
I look in the past
To try to find how this could be.
All that I knew,
just couldn't be wrong.
So why did he do this to me?

I know I still love him,
In spite of what he's done.
But I must leave him.
It just can't be undone.
But is it something I can do?
What should I do?

My God, the pain,
Oh God, the shame,
To be helpless in my own home.
How dare he do this to me?
How can I bear this wound to me?
Right now I could cut him
to watch him bleed.

I know I still love him,
Or love what I thought he was.
And I will leave him.
Don't look, don't think, don't pause.
It's something I will do.
It's something I will do.

I know I still love him,
Or love what I thought he was.
And I will leave him.
Don't look, don't think, don't pause.
It's something I will do.
It's something I will do.

SCENE 12

The Trial.

*The officials bring charges to Lysistrata, which she answers,
and she convinces them to talk a truce.*

Magistrate

We must do what we can...

War Minister

...To stop her.

Finance Minister

We must convince the crowd...

Assistant War Minister

...To drop her.

We must do what we can...

Finance Minister

...To stop her.

War Minister

We must convince the crowd...

Magistrate

...To drop her.

All

But what is the way

we proceed here today?

Governor

Hold.

You are accused of insidious crimes.
We must protect all in these dangerous times.
You've committed a crime against the state.
You must turn back now before it's too late.

All

You must turn back now, before it's too late

Lysistrata

How did it come to this?
How can you find
It a crime against the state
When I just speak my mind?
You are slowly killing
The freedom you prize.
Democracy is dying
Before your own eyes.

Magistrate

Stop her now!

War Minister

Don't let her continue!

Finance Minister

Where's the faith...

Assistant War Minister

...That we've placed in you?
Stop her now!

Finance Minister

Don't let her continue!

War Minister

Where's the faith...

Magistrate

...That we've placed in you?

Governor

Wait.

Why do you blame our soldiers with your mob?

Lysiatrata

You're the one to blame,
They're just doing their job.

Governor

But it's the same thing,
We're on the same side.

Lysistrata

Then try to be honest, if you've nothing to hide.
This war's about vengeance, money and pride.
But I know that I could never convince you,
Because reality is just not within you.
But I have a plan, there's nothing to dread.
You can stop this war, and still come out ahead.

Governor

We're listening.

Lysistrata

How do you expect to win re-election
When all men can think about is their erection?
It's not for me that you end this fight,
But the good of the country, and for doing what's right.
If you are responsible for bringing troops back,
You can take the credit, when they jump in the sack.
And you say that we won, and they will raise up a cheer.
'Cause the people won't know about what happened over there.
For your re-election, just look at the spin,
If you end this war now, I know you will win.

Magistrate

She has a point.

War Minister

It is good spin.

Finance Minister

If we end the war,

Assistant War Minister

We might just win.
She has a point.

Finance Minister

It is good spin.

War Minister

If we end the war,

Magistrate

We might just win.
We bring them good news,
And then disperse the mobs.
But most important is we saved our jobs.

Governor

Stop, you've made your point.
It might just work.
I don't want to be seen as an uncaring jerk.
I'll speak with the Spartan Governor soon.
I believe their elections are set for next June.
I will stop the war, and save the day
Because this isn't real, life is just a play.
This isn't real, it is just a play.

Finale

The crowd awaiting the news from inside. A single person, sings to another two who sing to several more, etc.

Daphne

The war is at an end.
It will stop and foe will become friend.

Galatea and Belen

A finish to what we've been fighting for,

All 3

And they've finally put a stop,
To this ongoing, draining, sad, pathetic war

Tessa

Listen one and all,

Raissa

It's time.

Belen and Tessa

Strike up the tune!

All 5

The war is at an end, and it ended none too soon.

Everyone

The war is over, the war is done.
We don't even know if anybody won.
It doesn't really matter, we know what's coming next,
After waiting way too long, we can all start having sex.
(Drum break)

Who would have thought that Lysistrata would win,
But that is no surprise, when you see the state we're in.
The war is over, and it's time to move on.
We celebrate the living, And mourn those who have gone

Myrrhine

I love you,
As the flower loves the sunshine.
I need you,
And I hope we last forever.
To have you is to have the perfect feeling,
Feeling that we are complete when we're
together.
I miss you.

Cinesias

I love you,
As the flower loves the sunshine.
I need you,
And I hope we last forever.
To have you is to have the perfect feeling,
When we're together.
I miss you.

*Philo moves toward Calonice.
As he gets to her, she signals and guards come out.
They place him under arrest, leading him off. She watches.*

Calonice

I know I still love him,
Or love what I thought he was.
And I will leave him.
Don't look, don't think, don't pause.
It's something I will do,
It's something I must do.

Everyone

The war is over,
and it's time to move on.
We celebrate our lives now.
And welcome the dawn,
We celebrate our lives,
And welcome the dawn.

Calonice

The war is over,
It's time to move on.
We celebrate our lives now.

Lysistrata

It's a time to heal,
A time for hatred to cease.
It is time that we learn,
How we can live in peace.

Everyone

The war is over,

And it's time to move on.
We celebrate our lives now,

And welcome the dawn.

And it's time to move on.
And welcome the dawn.

Lysistrata and Principals

The war is over,

Myrrhine and the girls

Hey girls, what do you think?
Now we don't have to stop
The men and their war.
We can all have fun and
The women can be on top.

Hey girls, what do you think?
Now we don't...

*As the chorus starts again an individual is seen pushing through the crowd toward Lysistrata.
As he gets close he rushes toward her brandishing a knife, screaming:*

You are a plague to our cause!
You would destroy our way of life!
We must kill to be free!

As he moves to stab her the lights go to black and we hear a small child's voice:

War is stupid.
All that happens in a war is that people die.
Nothing is decided that couldn't be decided another way
People think they are doing a good thing when they fight a war,
But all they are doing is making people suffer...