

GLORY DENIED BY TOM CIPULLO
LIBRETTO ADAPTED BY THE COMPOSER
FROM THE ORAL HISTORY GLORY DENIED BY TOM PHILPOTT
(2005) Music Drama in Two Acts

ACT I

OT	(Spoken) It didn't matter – whatever I did.
----	---

//

YT	It doesn't matter, whatever I do.
----	-----------------------------------

//

OT	I'd had some intelligence training, so I understood what they were doing.
----	---

//

YT	But even knowing, I can't change it.
----	--------------------------------------

OT	That's the hell of it. When they control your
----	---

//

YT	will. fight it.
----	-----------------

OT	environment so completely, they can manipulate your morale at will. You can fight
----	---

//

YT	try to minimize the effect, you can't get away from it.
----	---

OT	to a certain point. You can try but you
----	---

//

YT	Longer interrogation sessions, less sleep, cut wood, blow on the fire, bend down, bend down, bend, bend, The simplest task has become insurmountable. They wake me in the middle of the night to cut brush. They take my boots, make me go barefoot into the jungle. Anything to cause me physical pain,
----	---

//

YA	My darling, my darling, I miss you, I miss you, I miss you my darling.
----	--

YT	to lose rest.
----	---------------

//

YA	As for the girls forgetting who their father is before your tour is up in June, forget it.
----	--

//

OT	Longer and longer interrogation sessions
----	--

//

YT	Longer interrogation	across my back.
OT	Fin(a)lly the beatings mostly with bamboo	

//

YT	a guard behind.	just	punctuation.
OT	An interrogator in front,	Not an outright beating	punctuation.

//

OT	“You must answer. You must abide by the rules of this camp. You must obey the guards. Do you Do you agree? You must answer. You must obey the guards.		
----	--	--	--

//

YT	What?
OT	How many U.S. aircraft in Vietnam?

//

YT	How should I know?
OT	How many ships in the seventh fleet? How many airfields?

//

YT	What?	must answer.”
OT	How many radios? of what type? What frequency?	You must answer.”

//

YT	from the letters they found in my pocket.
OT	They knew about me “How do you think your

//

OT	wife feels? Since you’ve been gone your wife has had a baby and she doesn’t know if you are dead or alive.
----	--

//

YT	“How do you think your wife feels? How do you think she feels? How does she feel?”
OT	(again) (again)

//

OT	“You know we still hold some prisoners from the French war. We keep them because they are not fit to return to their fam(i)lies. Some were killed
----	---

//

YA	My darling, today has been one of those days.
OT	because after so long they were not fit to live.

//

YA	All three children have misbehaved. Ruth and Laura dumped cereal all over the floor. Then the mailman came and no letter from you. Right now, Pam is watching <u>The Wizard of Oz</u> . She just said, “mom, come here, this is scary.” Oh, brother. “ Time passes so slowly but our fifth week of separation
----	---

//

YA	is over, only about twenty more until your tour is up in June. I miss
YT	How do you think your wife feels?

//

YA	you my dearest and love you so very much. You must obey the guards.
OT	You must answer.

(interlude)

YT	What statement? I never agreed to any statement.
OT	We’re ready to take your statement. You agreed.

//

OT	You agreed to obey camp regulations. One regulation is that you must do ev’rything you are told.
----	--

//

YT	I won’t make a statement. I refuse.
OT	You must obey the guards. You must abide by the rules of

//

YT	I -----
----	---------

OT	this camp. You must hold the pen, must hold the pen, must hold the pen, must hold the pen.
----	--

//

YT	----- must hold the pen, must hold the pen, I must hold the pen.
OT	pen, You-----

//

YT	I must hold the pen. I must hold the pen. I must hold the pen.
OT	You -----You ----- You-----

//

YA	My darling, Laura didn't
YT	I must hold the pen. I must hold the pen.
OT	You -----You -----

//

YA	finish her box of Cracker Jacks today. She said she's saving some for Daddy. They'll be pretty stale when your tour is up in June.
----	--

//

YT	watch-----
OT	When I fin(a)lly sign the statement, it is as if I am standing to the side, watch-----

//

YT	--- ing myself do it.
OT	-----ing myself -----do it.

//

YA	My darling
YT	I rewrote it.
OT	They told me to rewrite it in my own hand. They told me to read it

//

YA	Laura didn't finish her Cracker Jack today. She's saving some for Daddy. My
YT	
OT	into the microphone. She's saving some for Daddy.

//

YA	darling, I went to the doctor today. Ev'rything is fine.
OT	How do you think your wife feels?

//

YA	When the baby kicks, my whole stomach bounces.	Your mother
YT	How do you think she feels?	
OT	How do you think she feels?	

//

YA	has sent a cradle. At this moment, Mitch Miller's group is singing "Miss You Since You Went	
----	---	--

//

YA	Away, Dear." I'm almost in tears. I went to the doctor today.	
YT	Ev'rything is fine.	
OT	Ev'rything is fine.	

//

YA	Your mother has sent a cradle.	"Miss You Since You Went Away."
YT	She's saving some for Daddy.	
OT	She's saving some for Daddy.	

//

YA	I'm almost in tears.	return...
O A	"The Secretary	
YT	Alyce.	We still hold Frenchmen unfit to return to their families.
OT	Alyce.	We still hold Frenchmen unfit to return to their families.

//

O A	of the Army has asked me to express his deep regret that your husband Captain Floyd J. Thomson has been missing in Vietnam since twenty six March, Nineteen Sixty Four. You will be advised promptly when any information is received. A representative of the commanding general Third U.S. Army will contact you personally to offer assistance. Captain Thompson's parents are being notified. J. C. Lambert, Major General	
--------	--	--

(interlude)

YT	My darling Jim, Enclosed is a star Pam made in school. She said, "It's a little lopsided, but	
----	---	--

//

YA	"I want Daddy to have it."	
YT	that's okay, isn't it, Mom? I want Daddy."	

(interlude)

OA	As of Monday,
YT	Taken from village to village, each day waiting for something to happen.

//

OA	one hundred eighty eight sorties with fixed wing aircraft have been flown in the search. Poor visibility bad weather and mountainous terrain continue to hamper the search.
----	---

//

YT	Waiting for something to happen.
OT	Taken from village to village-----, I couldn't understand why

//

O A	Nobody can tell me anything. Can I stay on post?
OT	they weren't questioning me.

//

OA	Will I keep getting his checks?
YT	Three escape attempts.
OT	Frankly, they were hardly

//

YT	escape attempts. (interlude) Since I was taken prisoner, I have received
OT	worth the title.

//

YT	the best of medical care and have been well treated. I have not lost any weight.
----	--

//

YA	Enclosed is a star -----
OA	a star -----
YT	The Vietnamese Liberation Front maintains a lenient policy toward all prisoners of war

//

YA	Pam made in school ----- It's a little lopsided
OA	Pam made in school ----- It's a little lopsided
YT	Prisoners are not maltreated or tortured.

//

YA	but that's okay.	I want Daddy to have it.
OA	but that's okay.	I want Daddy to have it.
YT	This policy embodies the highest ideals of mankind.	
OT	but that's okay.	I want Daddy to have it.

//

YA	I got ambitious today and cleaned out the hassock. Our Readers' Digest came today, looks like some real good stories in it. You'll have plenty of reading to catch up on when you get home.	
----	---	--

//

YT	Dear Mom, We really appreciate the clothes you made for Alyce. You wouldn't believe the difference in her. Pregnancy really brought out the true beauty in her. Gone is the suspicion, the foul language and the temper bred in the mis(e)rable atmosphere she has known her whole life.	
----	--	--

//

YA	I got ambitious today and cleaned out the hassock -----	
YT	She is a truly wonderful girl-----.	She has

//

YA	There isn't another couple as happy as us.	
YT	the sweetest kindest nature.	There isn't another couple as happy as us.

//

YA	When they control your environment so completely, they can manipulate your morale.	
OA	Harold	

//

YA	And a very caring person,	
OA	was a friend. That's all it started out to be, just a friend.	

//

YA	wouldn't hurt a fly.	
OA	One day I said to my friend, "Let's go bowling Harold will be there	

//

YA	To Major General J. C. Lambert, Pleased be advised that as of the date of this letter,	
OA	To Major General J. C. Lambert, Pleased be advised that as of the date of this letter,	

//

YA	my new residence is Hudson, Massachusetts. One night he asked me to a movie.	
OA	my new residence is Hudson, Massachusetts.	I said,

//

YA	I said, "Yes."	My new residence is
OA	"Yes." One night he asked me out for dinner.	

//

YA	Hudson, Massachusetts.	
OT	I was put in a horizontal cage maybe two feet wide maybe	

//

OT	two feet high, and five feel long: not big enough to sit up in or to lie down. There I was kept for four months. The camp commander gave me a lesson on how to bow.	
----	--	--

//

OA	Harold taught the boy how to ride his first two-wheeler-----	
OT	I was obliged to bow anytime one	

//

YA	Neighbors saw Harold come and go but I didn't care.	
OA	Neighbors saw Harold come and go but I didn't care.	
OT	of them approached the cage.	

//

YT	I was obliged to bow anytime	
OT	I was obliged to bow anytime	I invented all manner of things to pass the time.

//

OT	Building houses was my fav(o)rite. Ev'rything in the plan had to be absolutely perfect. The exact number of bricks, the number of board feet of lumber, the fixtures, the wiring, the plumbing, the cost. Ev'rything had to be accurate.	
----	--	--

//

YT	It has five bedrooms.	
OT	Otherwise, it would have been a waste of time.....	

//

YA	Twin bathrooms,
YT	The master bedroom has a walk-in dressing room. Twin bathrooms, mine just a shower.

//

YA	There's a boy's room. Know you have a
YT	Alyce's bathroom has a tub and a built-in vanity. There's a boy's room. I know I have a

//

YA	boy now. The living room has space for a grand piano.
OA	Can't your law firm
YT	boy now. The living room has space for a grand piano.
OT	The living room has space for a grand piano.

//

OA	find some way to help me? I need to get on with my life. The army has shown me no proof he's alive. Are you saying this could go on for fifty years? Am I supposed
----	--

//

OA	to sit in a goddamn rocking chair with a prayer book and wait-----?
YT	It has five bedrooms.

//

OA	He must be declared dead.
YT	The master bedroom has a walk-in dressing room.

//

YA	As for the girls forgetting who their father is. -----
YT	I know I have a boy now.-----

//

OA	Misses Thompson The ar-----my
OT	misses Thompson The army has changed your Captain Thompson's status

//

OA	from missing
OT	to detained in a foreign country against his will effective September one

//

OA	Nineteen sixty-five. I wish to emphasize this change of status
OT	Nineteen sixty-five. I wish to emphasize this change of status is merely a technical change

//

OA	I wish to emphasize this change is technical
YT	The Vietnamese Liberation front maintains a lenient policy

//

YT	I have been well treated, Prisoners are not maltreated, or tortured, I have been well -----
----	---

//

YA	I could have hugged the mailman today two letters from you. I sit and dream of time
YT	treated

//

YA	gone by and time to come. I long to have you, long to have you hold me
OT	I was put in a

//

YA	I sit ----- and ----- dream-----
OT	horizontal cage maybe two feet wide, maybe two feet high, and five feet high

//

YA	I long to have you hold me
OA	I wish to emphasize this change is technical I wish to
OT	I was put in a horizontal cage maybe two feet wide

//

YA	I sit and dream of time gone by I long
OA	emphasize this change is merely technical... I wish I
OT	two feet high and five feet long I was put

//

YA	I long to have you hold me to hold -----
OA	wish ----- I I
YT	I must hold the pen, I
OT	I was put I was put I was put

//

YA	-----
YT	must hold the pen. I must hold the pen, I must hold
OT	You can't get away from it.

interlude

OA	The army kept pestering me. "How are you doing?" It got to be a pain in the ass. I told them to leave me alone Leave me alone.
----	---

//

OA	Leave me alone. -----
OT	It is the policy of the Department of Defense not to release

//

OA	"How are you doing?"
OT	your name to anyone without your consent. Please complete the attached form

//

OA	May the faith and hope
OT	indicating your decision concerning the release of your name. May the faith and hope

//

OA	which has sustained you in the past continue in the days that follow.
OT	which has sustained you in the past continue in the days that follow.

//

OA	Leave me alone. (interlude)
OT	Bullshit!

//

OA	You certainly do not do not have my permission to use my husband's name----- to call public attention to his capture, ----- now going on eight years. ----- As -----for that bracelet, there will be none of that either. No bracelet with his name on it His name will be released to no one, and if it is ---- there will be hell----- to pay.
----	--

//

YA	No letter from you----
YT	Then the mailman came and no letter from you----- (interlude)

//

OT	Everyone has their own sense of right and wrong, but few people stop to think about it. It's just there. In prison, I had time to think and to create a genuine sense of values. Things came out of my subconscious; Things I'd long forgotten. I could remember the names of grammar school classmates and passages from the Bible we had memorized as children. For a prisoner,
----	---

//

YT	The Lord is my
OT	the Twenty Third Psalm took on a meaning I had never dreamed of before

//

OA	May the faith
YT	shepherd, I shall not want; He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me
OT	May the faith

//

YA	Time ----
OA	and hope which has sustained you in the past Bullshit!
YT	beside still wa-----ters, He restores my soul.
OT	and hope which has sustained you in the past

//

YA	passes so slowly, but our fifth week of separation is over
YT	He leads me in paths
OT	How do you think your

//

OA	Am I supposed to sit in a goddamn rocking
YT	of righteousness for his name's sake-----
OT	wife feels

//

OA	chair with a prayer book and wait He must be declared dead.
YT	Even though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death
OT	Ev'ry ----

//

YT	I fear no evil for He is
OT	one has their own sense of right and wrong.

//

YA	Right now Pam is watching The Wizzard of Oz.
YT	His rod and His staff they comfort
OT	with me

//

YA	The star's a little lopsided but that's okay.
OA	Let's go bowling. Harold will be there. Neighbors saw
YT	me.
OT	The star's a little lopsided but that's okay.

//

OA	Harold come and go but I didn't care.
YT	He prepares a table before me in the presence of

//

OA	Are ----- you saying this could go on
YT	my enemies.
OT	We still hold prisoners from the French war, unfit to return to their families.

//

YA	I could have hugged the mailman today
OA	for fifty years
YT	He anoints my head with oil, my cup overflows.

//

YA	Two letters from you Two letters from you.
OA	There'll be none of that
YT	Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me.

//

YA	I got ambitious today-----
OA	bracelet shit.
YT	all the days of my life
OT	There's a boy's room

//

OA	His name will be released to no one, to no one,
YT	and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
OT	and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

//

OA	His name will be released to no-----one,
YT	and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord of the Lord
OT	and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord of the Lord

//

OA	to no-----one, and if it is-----
YT	in the house of the Lord
OT	in the house of the Lord

//

YA	There's be Hell to pay!
YT	for-ev -----er.

End of Act I

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ACT II – Scene 1

YA	As -----for that bracelet, there will be none of that either. His name will be released to no one, and if it is....
----	--

//

OA	Ladies and gentlemen, We have the distinct honor to introduce and welcome home
OT	Ladies and gentlemen, We have the distinct honor to introduce and welcome home

//

OA	the longest serving prisoner of war in American history, Navy pilot Everett Alvarez.
YT	Everett Alvarez.
OT	the longest serving prisoner of war in American history, Navy pilot Everett Alvarez.

//

OA	Everett Alvarez.
YT	Everett Alvarez. longest serving? longest? longest
OT	Everett Alvarez.

//

YA	Ev'ryone expected Vietnam to be over in no time at all. I told my
OA	Nobody even knew where it was.
YT	serving?

//

YA	mother Jim's gone to Vietnam. She said, I said, "I don't know."
OA	Where the hell is that?

//

YT	Alyce, the army comes first. Second, you. Third, our children.
OT	Alyce, the army comes first. Second, you. Third, our children. (interlude)

//

YT	Article 2. A ceasefire shall be observed as of twenty four hundred hours
OT	Article 2. A ceasefire shall be observed as of twenty four hundred hours

//

YA	Ev'ryone expected
OA	Ev'ryone expected
YT	Greenwich Mean Time, on January Twenty seventh Nineteen seventy three.
OT	Greenwich Mean Time, on January Twenty seventh Nineteen seventy three.

//

YA	VietNam to be over in no time at all.
OA	VietNam to be over in no time at all.
YT	the Paris Accords. Within sixty days a
OT	Article 5 Within sixty days there will be a

//

YA	Nobody even knew where it was.
OA	Nobody even knew where it was.
YT	total withdrawl of all troops from South VietNam
OT	total withdrawl of all troops from South VietNam

//

YA	I said, "I don't know."
OA	Where the hell is that.
YT	The dismantlement of all military bases in South VietNam
OT	The dismantlement of all military bases in South VietNam

//

YA	Article 8. The return of all captured persons shall be completed within ninety days.
OA	Article 8. The return of all captured persons shall be completed within ninety days.
YT	Article 8. The return of all captured persons shall be completed within ninety days.
OT	Article 8. The return of all captured persons shall be completed within ninety days.

//

YA	Persons who are ill, wounded or maimed, women and old persons shall be returned first.
OA	Persons who are ill, wounded or maimed, women and old persons shall be returned first.
YT	Persons who are ill, wounded or maimed, women and old persons shall be returned first.
OT	Persons who are ill, wounded or maimed, women and old persons shall be returned first.

//

OA	The remainder shall be returned in order of their dates of capture.
OT	The remainder shall be returned in order of their dates of capture.

//

YA	beginning with those ----- who have been held----- held the longest.
OA	beginning with those who have been held -----held the longest.
YT	beginning with those ----- who have been held -----held Everett Alvarez.
OT	beginning with those who have been held -----held the----longest.

(interlude)

YA	He looks so old.
OA	Hi Jim.
OT	Hi babe, choc'late covered cherries, my fav'rite, thanks,

//

OT	There was nothing for me when I was released. No photos, No letter, no letter,
----	--

//

OA	Jim -----we have to talk. At my uncles.
OT	Well, talk now. Where are the kids? Why?

//

OA	There's something I have to tell you.
OT	I knew something was wrong. Talk now. Talk now!

//

OA	After you hear me out, if you don't want me around anymore, I'll leave-----I'll take my coat and go. I'll leave-----and that will be the end of it. After you hear me out, You can decide what's wrong or right, And you'll never have to see this face again. After you hear, after you hear me out. but you'll get to see the kids. I wouldn't ever keep you from the kids. I wouldn't do that. That's your right and their right. I wouldn't stop you. I'd never do that. After you hear me out, if you want me to leave, if you want me to go, I'll go. After you hear me out.
----	--

(interlude)

YA	Dear Major Thompson, No words can compensate you for the ordeal you have endured
YT	Dear Major Thompson, No words can compensate you for the ordeal you have endured

//

YA	for your country. Your captivity required a faith
YT	for your country. the longest in American history, required a faith

//

YA	which can never fully be comprehended by others. Some things about America may appear
----	---

//

YA	to have changed -----	That is inevitable.
YT	to have changed -----	
OT		I want what I left.

//

YA	Still, I want to assure you, there has been no change in the pride the American people
OA	Still, I want to assure you, there has been no change in the pride the American people
YT	the American people
OT	the American people

//

YA	feel for what our servicemen have done in Indo China, and the thankfulness
OA	feel for what our servicemen have done in Indo China, and the thankfulness
YT	feel for what our servicemen have done in Indo China, and the thankfulness
OT	feel for what our servicemen have done in Indo China, and the thankfulness

//

YA	we share on your safe return. -----	Welcome home. -----
OA		Welcome home. -----
YT	Welcome home	Welcome home. Wel---come home.
OT		Welcome home.

//

YA	Most sincerely, Richard Nixon.	(interlude)
----	--------------------------------	-------------

//

OT	<p>Teflon cookware, men with long hair, stay-pressed shirts, mini skirts. Disc brakes, 8-trak tapes, bucket seats and wives who cheat. Youth culture, drug culture, culture shock, acid rock, Woodstock and Doctor Spock. Coke, 'ludes, hash, pot, Penthouse, Hustler, Playboy with a beaver shot. Triple X movies, feelin' groovy, central air, no school prayer. Peace signs, gas lines, see-through blouses, lying spouses. Turn on, tune in, Drop out, Welcome home. CBs, color TVs, gatorade, Roe v. Wade. Women's Lib, Civil Rights, Stonewall, strobe lights. Stain-free rugs, Watergate bugs, Space Age laser, Ali Frazier, Go-go boots, leisure suits, No Sid Ceasar. No-frost freezer. Inflation, stagflation, confrontation, angry nation. Pill popping, one-stop shopping, polyester, wife swapping. Turn on. Tune in. Drop out. Burn out. Welcome home. No Mickey Mantle or Marilyn Monroe. No Sandy Koufax. No Sandra Dee. No R F K or L B J not Lincoln's Birth but Presidents' Day.</p>
----	---

I missed so much I can't catch up, I can't catch on.
 Ev'ry single fact I knew or thought I knew, is diff'rent now.
 Ev'ry thing has changed somehow.
 John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, astronauts, moon shots.
 Heiress robber Patty Hearst, soldiers coming home get cursed.
 Fad diets, Chicago riots, Watts, Newark, Brownsville, Bed-Stuy, My Lai,
 Kids get high, Men can cry, Wives can lie.
 Terrorists at the Munich Games,
 Athletes now with Muslim names.
 Credit cards, fast food, Music's vulgar, movies lewd.
 a nation become crude and callous,
 Bob and Carol and Ted and Alyce!
 Turn on. Tune in. Freak out! Welcome home!
 Charles Manson, Sharon Tate, Pentagon Papers, Kent State. Welcome home.
 Leonard Bernstein's radical chic, Betty Friedan and her damn mystique. Welcome home.
 Failure to communicate, college students demonstrate. Home!
 Japanese cars, topless bars, Traitors pass for movie stars. Home!
 Home to a regained life. Home to a stained wife. Home. There'll be Hell to pay.
 Home. Who remembers Veterans Day?
 Turn on, Tune in, Drop out, Cop out, Right on, Sit-in, Love-in, Come on, Give in, Give out,
 Put out, Put on, Right on, Hang-up, Uptight, Far out, Sell-out, Burn out, Freak out.
 Welcome ----- home! (interlude)

//

YA	Do you want me to go or stay?
OA	There it is. Do you want me to go or stay?-----
OT	I guess I want you to stay.

//

OT	I think we can overcome this and start over again. (interlude)
----	--

//

OA	<p>He went through Hell, but so did I. I told the children he was dead, because... that's what I believed. That's what I believed. Nine years. How could any human being survive that? He went through Hell, but so did I. Unless you live through something like that, you have no idea. Nine years. The phone calls in the middle of the night. "We're praying for you." That's how they would begin, and then they'd change. "Your husband got what he deserved. We shouldn't be in VietNam at all. And the press, always wanting stories, "Is there any news?" And the local V F Double-U would phone to call me a whore." but mostly, people just turned their backs. They just turned their backs. The young part of my life was slipping away. Jim's was, too, I know, sitting in that Hell hole. But what kind of life would I have? An older woman with four kids? There are some things I did that I'm not proud of, but.... I had to do them, for my kids, for my own sanity. Unless you live through something like that, You have no idea. Nine years. He went through Hell, but so did I.</p>
----	--

(interlude)

OT	We went to Massachusetts. I wanted to see where they had lived.
----	---

//

YA	Harold was a father and I was a mother to his.
OA	Harold was a father to my kids, and I was a mother to his.

//

OT	I wanted to see where they lived,
----	-----------------------------------

//

YT	the house that she and her Harold had bought with my checks, my army pay checks,
OT	the house that she and her Harold had bought with my checks, my army pay checks,

//

YT	when I was a prisoner and the furniture bought with my paychecks.
OT	when I was a prisoner a swimming pool bought with my paychecks.

//

YA	It has five bedrooms. The bedroom has a
OA	It has five bedrooms. The master bedroom has a walk-in dressing room.

//

YA	walk-in dressing room.
----	------------------------

(interlude)

OA	No, I'm not. I had to learn to fight
OT	What's happened to you? You're not the Alyce I left.

//

OA	my own battles, and be my own woman.....
OT	Well, I don't like it. I want what I left.

//

OA	Well, you ain't gonna get it. I'm not about to start asking you for a dollar ev'rytime I need a pair of stockings.
----	--

//

YA	Some things about America may appear to have changed. ----- That is inevitable.
YT	Some things about America may appear to have changed.----- That is inevitable.
OT	I want what I left.

//

YA	Welcome home.
OA	Welcome home.
YT	I think we can start over. I think we can start over.
OT	I want what I left. I think we can start over. I think we can start over.

//

YA	over with. I just want it over with.
OA	I just want it over with. I just want it over with.
YT	We can start over.
OT	We can start over. (interlude)

//

OT	<p>Pastor, Friends, Members of the Congregation, I never expected, nor do I deserve such a tremendous welcome home. The warmth of the welcome has touched me very deeply. A professional soldier and his family must forego putting down roots. Still, our taproot is firmly established in this Church. Alyce and I were born and brought up here. Here we received our Christian education, were confirmed into the Church, and were married. My family worshipped here for many years, and my mother taught Sunday School, served with the Ladies' Aid, and sang with the choir. I have fourteen years of perfect attendance pins from Old North Sunday School, and later I too sang in the choir, and today my son, at nine years old, will be baptized at Old North Church. Today, by the grace of God, we are all together again. Members of the Congregation, Pastor, my friends, I've come home.</p>
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YT	how did I manage to survive for nine years?
OT	My friends, many have asked how did I manage to survive for nine years?

//

YT	inadequate medical care, torture,
OT	Years of malnutrition, sub-human living conditions,

//

YT	Communist indoctrination,
OT	interrogation, My friends, I made up my mind to survive

//

YT	These then are the things from which I drew the strength to survive nine years,
OT	one day at a time. one day

//

YT	Faith in God, faith in country, faith in the love of a good woman.
OT	at a time. I made up my mind to

//

OA	There are some things I did that I'm not proud of.
YT	Christ tells us, "If ye have faith,
OT	survive.

//

OA	But I'm not wishing I could change them.
YT	even as a grain of mustard seed,

//

OA	I did those things to survive.
YT	Ye shall move mountains.
OT	One day at a time. Ye shall move mountains.

//

OT	Alyce, Something has happened, something, All that hate, all that bitterness, gone, gone like the weight of the world off my shoulders. I forgive you Alyce. For ev'rything.
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//

OA	I don't give a shit whether you forgive me or not. What have I done
OT	I forgive you.

//

YA	My darling Jim, My darling Jim, Darling Jim,
OA	that calls for forgiveness?
YT	Faith in God, faith in country,
OT	One day at a time

//

YA	Today was gorgeous outside, mmmm....
OA	I did those things to survive.
YT	faith in the love of a good woman.
OT	Nine years.

(interlude)

YA	<p>My darling Jim, Today was gorgeous outside, Temp'ature in the forties, not real cold. All the snow melted, except in the front where the sun never hits.</p> <p>The girls talk to your picture ev'ryday, and at night in their prayers they say, "Please keep our daddy safe. Please keep our Daddy safe."</p> <p>My darling Jim, Today was gorgeous outside, Not real cold. All the snow melted, except right in front where the sun never hits.</p>
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Entr'Acte

ACT II – Scene 2

OT	<p>It doesn't matter. One day at a time. doesn't matter. Forget it. Get up. Make coffee. What to do today? Good movie. Make coffee. P. O. Double-U. Nine years, eat anything. doesn't matter Forget it. Confident. Survivor What to do today? Do it right or not at all. Drink coffee. Good movie. Okay. Okay. Let this shit die. One day at a time. It doesn't matter. Forget it. Blind. High school blind date, Blind Blind drunk. It doesn't matter. Drunk on my ass. Forget it. Madly, Madly in love. Blind. Let this shit die! Let this shit die. Make coffee. Drink coffee. All right, Okay, forget it. don't know... don't know... bracelet... What to do today? Good movie... don't know... can't ... Confident. Forgive. I forgive. Bracelet. Everyone else had a bracelet. Everyone else. It doesn't matter.... doesn't matter... Army first, children second. What to do today? One day at a time... Let this die. Do it right or not at all. Drunk. Blind. Love. Hell. Hell to pay. Forgive everyone. Everyone else... It doesn't matter. doesn't matter. One day at a time. Forgive.... forget.... doesn't matter doesn't doesn't matter Forget it. Forgive. One day at a time.... doesn't matter doesn't matter One day..... One day..... One day... (Bracelet.)</p>
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