

Monday 19 January 11:30pm

I have completed a new script from start to finish. It includes some minor changes and stage direction updates. I also caught some minor errors in grammar, spelling and production that have all been fixed. There are new characters and those players who were expecting to receive scripted lines can now start learning their lines.

There is a new Act III Scene IV moving the previous Scene IV to Scene V. Please compare your current script with the new one before deciding whether or not to print out the latest version. I will be using the new script at rehearsals and referring to the new page numbers. At this point I can't foresee another revision until the cast is completely filled. Therefore, you may want to continue with your current copy if you are certain that there are no changes to your part, or you can make the changes to your own copy.

Due to the length of the play I have created a Narrator part for the Epilogue to allow the play to move quickly through the late winter months and early spring. You will also note that the Choir songs indicated throughout the play have all been dropped. Once again, please read through the new script carefully and ensure that you are following the latest version. I would also encourage you to recycle your old script if you print out a new one.

Please continue to help us recruit players for the OPEN positions on our Cast of Players. Thank you for your patience. I will continue to work with Nicky to create a bilingual script for her role as the Commanding Officer. Likewise, I will work with Nicholas and Samantha to expand their Scene with some lines scripted in French. I want to create a script that accommodates everyone's talents and abilities, while at the same time maintaining the plot line and the historical timeline sequence.

This week and the next Carol will be away and I would ask everyone to be patient with the production process. I will introduce Gillian as one of our Associate Directors who will be working with the Readers. I plan on keeping the two groups the same for this week and ask that the Main Characters rehearse their parts with each other for the first hour. I will work with the Support/Extras to prepare them for their roles in Act One. At 5:00pm we will have a complete walk through of Act One. We won't be using props since you may still be relying on your scripts.

May I also remind you that the deadline for being off script for Acts One and Two is 15 February, which is only three rehearsals away from today. We need to finish off Act Three by 8 March and be totally "off script" by that same rehearsal date. Once we are passed that date we will begin to "block" the Scenes which means doing entrances, exits, movements, and using real props. The Support/Extras will also be rehearsing the set changes as well as performing in their roles.

We have lots of work to do before the Spring Break. Please refer to the first of our Dailies to get the production schedule. Everything is on schedule at this point and I encourage you to be working ahead on your own to learn your lines. We will also begin working on the Impromptu method for the brief scenes that take place in the Epilogue. Having a Narrator will make it that much easier to follow, but we still have to rehearse things and be prepared.

Now for something special. Beginning on the first rehearsal in February and the first rehearsal of every month after that, I would like us all to participate in a Home Fires Players Pot Luck Supper following the end of our rehearsal time at 6:00pm. This way we can get to know each other better and enjoy ourselves. Parents and non-cast member friends are most welcome. To make it simple, I would ask that our Main Characters and Readers bring something for the meal and the Supporting/Extras bring desserts. The Directors will look after the beverages and Salads.

I hope that you will all plan to stay for this event which only happens once a month and look forward to sharing a meal with the rest of the Home Fires Players.