

Dulce Rosa

Characters

Senator Anselmo ORELLANO (Tenor) A retired, much-respected politician. He lives in his family hacienda on his large, prosperous country estate, with his adored daughter,

ROSA Orellano (Soprano) His only child. Her mother died giving birth to her. She and her father are devoted to each other.

INEZ (Mezzo) An orphan, a family friend who joined the Orellano household aged 10 when Rosa's mother died, and who raised Rosa from the cradle.

TOMAS Chacon (Tenor) Rosa's childhood friend, son of the Senator's oldest (now dead) friend.

TADEO Cespedes (Baritone) Leader of a guerrilla army.

Juan AGUILAR (Bass-baritone) A young politico on the rise. Former protégé of Senator Orellano.

CHORUS of city dwellers, townspeople of Santa Teresa, The Orellano hacienda household.

Setting

A South American country, the early 1950's, at a time of political unrest.

The old regime is failing, and no one knows what will happen next. The action is divided between the **Orellano hacienda**, near the quiet little town of **Santa Teresa**, the **jungle**, and the country's **Capital City**.

Dulce Rosa

Act One

Scene 1: The Capital City of a Latin American country, Early 1950's – Night

#1 Night in the Capital

It is as if the city is holding its breath. Time is suspended. Something is about to happen, and when it does, it will be bad.

People hurry, as if unwilling to be out and about. Only the policemen stroll. They wait. They watch. They have all the time in the world.

In a scruffy apartment, TOMAS Chacon is treating a wounded man for a gunshot wound. Others keep lookout. Tomas is only a medical student, but he does what he can, and is professional, but tense. He shouldn't be here, shouldn't be doing this. They are exhausted, scared. Tomas packs up his doctor's bag, and is spirited out of there. He refuses payment, is made nervous by their thanks. He is given a gun – he hesitates, but it is urged on him so he takes it and tucks it inside his coat. The apartment fades out. Tomas is brought to street level – a poor area. His guide disappears. Tomas relaxes, but only a little, he is not safe yet. He sets off on foot.

Citizens move about their business. Nothing is distinct, and the people are little more than silhouettes. All seems normal enough: strolling couples taking the air, families, café society. Ordinary people, living the lives they have lived for many years. But there is an air of tension amid the normality. Tomas makes his way through the frightened, unsettled city.

As Tomas passes a corner, a shadow moves in the darkness. He turns – it vanishes. Did he see it, or not? He continues. He criss-crosses the stage, worried, tense, checking his watch, his directions. Is he being followed? (Yes). Shadowy figures ahead of him, behind him. He never quite knows where they are, or if he has seen them. He turns up his collar, hurries on, trying ‘not to hurry’ and so draw attention to himself. And calm, serious men in overcoats and wide-brimmed hats shadow him among the shadows.

The little apartment is raided. The people there are beaten and dragged off. The wounded man in the bed, whom Tomas treated, is shot. The others are taken away for questioning. Elsewhere, the citizens go about their evenings, deliberately not seeing what it would be dangerous to see.

Tomas reaches the Train Station. He gets into his carriage, and at last can relax.

The train journey takes him through the night to the quiet little town of Santa Teresa. Dawn breaks. Mountains, forests, fields, vineyards, a volcano. All is calm and orderly in the lush beauty of this quiet paradise that is the fiefdom of Senator Anselmo Orellano.

Scene 2: The Orellano Hacienda – Day (morning)

A haven of prosperity and peace, far from the troubles of the world. A beautiful day.

ROSA Orellano brings AGUILAR to meet her father. She is radiant, spirited, open. He is reserved, polite, a little out of place here in his dark city suit. She charms him, holding his arm, enjoying herself. As he enjoys being charmed by her.

#2 ROSA / AGUILAR ENTRANCE – Rosa, Aguilar

ROSA

I WILL MAKE A BET WITH YOU

MY FATHER WILL SAY NO

(She stops, happy about the big festival today)

AND IF I WIN

YOU WILL STAY FOR THE FESTIVAL

She sees INEZ and tells her to fetch her father, who has this visitor. Inez goes.

AGUILAR

IF YOU WIN

IT MIGHT NOT BE WISE FOR ME TO STAY

(Carefully)

I AM TOLD

YOUR FATHER NEVER SAYS NO TO YOU. . .

ROSA

(Delighted)

YOU WANT ME TO ASK HIM?

I DO YOUR DIRTY WORK FOR YOU!

(Teasing)

NOW WHY WOULD I DO THAT?

AGUILAR

BECAUSE THEN

THERE WOULD BE NOTHING

I WOULD NOT DO FOR YOU

AND ROSA

I CAN BE A USEFUL FRIEND

ROSA

HE IS HAPPY HERE

FREE FROM CARE

AGUILAR

HERE THERE IS
PEACE, AND PLENTY
ELSEWHERE
CROPS HAVE FAILED
ARMIES ROAM THE LAND
TAKING WHAT THEY WANT
LOOTING, BURNING
ANSWERING TO NO ONE

WE NEED A LEADER
ALL CAN RESPECT

ROSA
BUT NOT MY FATHER

ROSA
THERE MUST BE SOMEONE ELSE

AGUILAR
THERE ARE TOO MANY

CLIQUES, FACTIONS
FEARING EACH OTHER
YOUR FATHER
COULD UNITE US

WITHOUT HIM
I FEAR THE WORST

ROSA
ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME
IS WHAT IS BEST FOR MY FATHER

Dulce Rosa – Libretto April 28th 2013

Senator ORELLANO enters, larger-than-life, expansive, welcoming. He is amused and pleased to see Aguilar, his former protégé.

#3 ORELLANO ENTRANCE – Orellano, Aguilar, Rosa

ORELLANO
SO THEY HAVE SENT
A MINISTER, NO LESS!

AGUILAR
VICE MINISTER, SENATOR...

ORELLANO
I'M SURE YOU WILL CORRECT THAT SOON ENOUGH
YOU ARE DOING WELL, JUAN
MY SOURCES TELL ME
YOU ARE A MAN TO WATCH

AGUILAR
AND NO ONE HAS SENT ME
IN FACT, IF THEY KNEW I WAS HERE...

(Stops himself, changes tack)

MY OWN SAFETY IS UNIMPORTANT
THERE ARE BIGGER THINGS AT STAKE

ORELLANO
BIGGER THINGS
NO LONGER TEMPT ME

MINISTER, YOU ARE YOUNG
AND AMBITIOUS

I AM NEITHER

ONCE I WOULD HAVE LEAPT AT IT
I WOULD HAVE ORDERED
A FINE NEW UNIFORM
I WOULD HAVE AWARDED MYSELF
A CHESTFUL OF MEDALS
AND STOOD, ON THE PALACE BALCONY
AS OUR ARMY MARCHED PAST, SALUTING

ROSA

I CAN JUST SEE YOU

AGUILAR

YOU HAVE FRIENDS IN THE CAPITAL

ORELLANO

AT THE TOP
YOU ARE QUITE ALONE

AGUILAR

WITHOUT YOU
THEY WILL FAIL

ORELLANO

SOONER OR LATER
IN POLITICS
EVERYONE FAILS

ROSA

YOU WILL FIND SOMEONE ELSE

AGUILAR
THERE IS NO ONE ELSE –

ORELLANO
MY LIFE IS HERE NOW –

AGUILAR
THERE WILL BE WAR –

ORELLANO
WITH MY DAUGHTER –

AGUILAR
FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY
FOR YOUR COUNTRY
FOR YOUR FRIENDS
FOR YOUR LIFE

ORELLANO
I WILL NOT LEAD
NO PARTY, NO ARMY

I HAVE SERVED MY COUNTRY
ALL MY LIFE

ORELLANO
SO, MINISTER
YOU MAY TELL MY ENEMIES
THEY ARE SAFE FROM ME

AND TELL MY FRIENDS...

ROSA
HE WILL NOT LEAD
NO PARTY, NO ARMY

HE HAS SERVED HIS COUNTRY
ALL HIS LIFE

#4 THE HOUSE WHERE I WAS BORN – Orellano (Rosa, Aguilar)

I HAVE DONE WHAT I CAN
I NO LONGER HAVE THE HUNGER
AMBITION
ILLUSION

I WILL GROW OLD
HERE AMONG MY STREAMS AND VALLEYS
BELOW THE MOUNTAINS
IN THE HOUSE
WHERE I WAS BORN

MY YEARS OF SERVICE
HAVE COME AND GONE
I END MY DAYS
WHERE I WAS BORN

LET ME GROW OLD
HERE AMONG MY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS
HERE AMONG MY FIELDS AND VINEYARDS
IN THE HOUSE
WHERE I WAS BORN

I HAVE ALL THAT I NEED
I NO LONGER NEED THE CITY
APPROVAL
POSITION
TO BE FEARED
REVERED
ADMIRER

ADORED

I GAVE ALL THAT I HAD
I HAVE SEEN THROUGH THE DELUSION
I HAVE EARNED MY REWARD

MY YEARS OF SERVICE
HAVE COME AND GONE

ROSA
YOU HAVE DONE ALL THAT YOU CAN
MORE THAN WHAT WAS ASKED OF YOU

AGUILAR
DO NOT ABANDON US NOW
WHEN WE HAVE MOST NEED OF YOU

ORELLANO
I END MY DAYS
WHERE I WAS BORN

ROSA
AMONG YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS
AMONG YOUR FIELDS AND VINEYARDS

AGUILAR
YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO
ALL WILL AGREE TO FOLLOW

ORELLANO
LET ME GROW OLD

HERE AMONG MY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS
HERE AMONG MY FIELDS AND VINEYARDS
IN THE HOUSE
WHERE I WAS BORN

IN THE HOUSE
WHERE I WAS BORN

Tomas, Rosa's friend since the cradle, enters. He sees Aguilar and beckons to Rosa.

#5 TOMAS ENTRANCE – Tomas, Rosa, Aguilar, Orellano

TOMAS
WHAT IS *HE* DOING HERE?!

ROSA
ASKING MY FATHER'S HELP

TOMAS
SO THAT HE CAN HELP HIMSELF!

ROSA, amused, kisses him and leaves with INEZ to get ready for Mass.

ORELLANO
MAY I INTRODUCE
THE SON OF MY OLDEST FRIEND –

AGUILAR
TOMAS AND I HAVE MET

ORELLANO

YOU KNOW EVERYONE, JUAN

AGUILAR

IT IS MY JOB

SOME DIFFICULTY WITH HIS PASSPORT

FORTUNATELY I WAS ABLE TO HELP

AND AS I KNEW I WAS COMING ALL THIS WAY

(To Tomas)

SHALL WE COMPLETE THE FORMALITIES...?

TOMAS

OF COURSE...

They go to one side to do the paperwork.

AGUILAR

I ENVY YOU

CALIFORNIA

I SIT AT MY DESK ALL DAY

SIGNING PAPERS

STAMPING PASSPORTS

IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

WE NEVER GO ANYWHERE

THERE ARE OTHER STUDENTS THERE

IN CALIFORNIA

I WOULD LIKE TO BE KEPT INFORMED ABOUT THEM

TOMAS

SENOR, I AM A MEDICAL STUDENT
NOT A SPY

AGUILAR

AND WHICH WERE YOU
LAST NIGHT, IN THE CITY?

TOMAS

LAST NIGHT? I WAS HERE

AGUILAR

IF YOU WERE NOT
UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE SENATOR
YOU WOULD BE IN PRISON NOW
UNDER INTERROGATION

ASK YOURSELF
WHO WILL PROTECT ROSA
WHILE YOU ARE AWAY?
A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN THREE YEARS

Tomas realizes that he has been trapped.

Orellano gives Aguilar his answer.

ORELLANO

I AM SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, JUAN
I KNOW WHAT IT WOULD HAVE MEANT FOR YOU
PROMOTION
PROTECTION

A SWIFT RISE TO POWER

(Kindly. But doesn't realize the implications)

YOU WILL HAVE TO GET THERE WITHOUT ME

The action fades across to Rosa's Room, where Inez is preparing Rosa for the Festival Mass:

Scene 3: Rosa's Room – Continuous

#6 A THOUSAND DAYS – Inez, Rosa

INEZ

HE SAYS HE LOVES YOU

ROSA

I KNOW HE DOES

INEZ

AND NOW HE IS LEAVING

ROSA

HE WILL BE BACK

INEZ

YOU SHOULD BE MARRIED

ROSA

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

INEZ

GIRLS MARRY

WOMEN KNOW BETTER

YOU SHOULD RUN AWAY WITH HIM

ROSA
AND LEAVE MY FATHER?

INEZ
THAT IS WHAT DAUGHTERS DO

ROSA
IT IS NOT LONG
I WILL NOT CHANGE
I MUST STAY HERE
WITH MY FATHER

INEZ
A THOUSAND DAYS
A THOUSAND MILES
YOU SHOULD LEAVE HERE
WITH A HUSBAND

GO, WITH NOTHING
BUILD A LIFE TOGETHER
IN A NEW LAND
HERE THE FUTURE IS DARK

MY PEOPLE WHISPER
OF ARMIES IN THE NIGHT
IN THE JUNGLE
GROWING
WAITING
WHILE THE WORLD SLEEPS

ROSA

I AM
ALL MY FATHER HAS
I COULD NEVER LEAVE HIM
THIS WILL BE OUR HOME
WHERE WE WILL RAISE
THE SONS HE NEVER HAD

ORELLANO joins them and admires Rosa.

ORELLANO

BEAUTIFUL

ROSA

PAPA...

ORELLANO

IT IS AS IF SHE HAD NEVER DIED
IN THE ENDLESS DARKNESS
YOU WERE MY ONLY LIGHT
MY SWEET ROSA

ROSA

I WISH I HAD KNOWN HER
AND LOVED HER AS I LOVE YOU PAPA

ORELLANO

TOMAS HAS ASKED TO SPEAK WITH ME AFTER MASS...

ROSA

PAPA, YOU DO NOT WANT ME

TO DIE AN OLD MAID...

ORELLANO

MUST I LOSE BOTH WIFE AND DAUGHTER?
YOU ARE ALL I HAVE LEFT OF HER

ROSA

I CAN LOVE A FATHER
AND A HUSBAND

She kisses him. But he does not respond as she'd hoped.

He is not happy at the prospect.

INEZ

ALWAYS HER FATHER FIRST
SHE SHOULD PUT HER HUSBAND FIRST

Transition to:

Scene 4: The Church of Santa Teresa – Day (Noon)

#7 PRAYERS – Inez, Orellano, Tomas, Rosa, Chorus

INEZ

SUCH IS EV'RY FATHER'S FATE
TIME MOVES ON AND CHILDREN GROW
HELP HIM GOD TO LET HER GO
GO BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE

FEMALE CHORUS

GRANT OUR PRAYER SANTA TERESA
FOR TODAY IS YOUR HOLY DAY

ORELLANO

THOUGH SHE IS A WOMAN GROWN
SHE IS STILL MY DARLING ROSE
O, BUT GOD IN HEAVEN KNOWS
I WOULD KEEP HER FOR MY OWN

MALE CHORUS

GRANT OUR PRAYER SANTA TERESA
FOR TODAY IS YOUR HOLY DAY

TOMAS

HEAR ME FATHER MAKE ME BRAVE
I HAVE LOVED HER ALL MY LIFE
GIVE ME ROSA FOR MY WIFE
FROM THE CRADLE TO THE GRAVE

ROSA

LET THE TROUBLES IN HIM CEASE
NOW HE HAS MADE UP HIS MIND
LET HIM LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND
LET THE WORLD LEAVE HIM IN PEACE

#8 GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO – Rosa, Orellano, Tomas, Inez, Chorus

CHORUS

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

ET IN TERRA PAX HOMINIBUS
BONAE VOLUNTATIS
LAUDAMUS TE
BENEDICIMUS TE
ADORAMUS TE
GLORIFICAMUS TE
GRATIAM AGIMUS TIBI

INEZ/ROSA/ORELLANO/TOMAS
LIKE ANY FATHER HE/I MUST KNOW
TIME MOVES ON AND CHILDREN GROW
HELP HIM/ME GOD TO LET HER/ME GO

CHORUS
PROPTER MAGNAM GLORIAM TUAM
DOMINE DEUS ROSA/ORELLANO/TOMAS/INEZ
REX COELESTIS GRANT OUR PRAYER
DEUS PATER OMNIPOTENS SANTA TERESA, FOR TODAY IS
ET IN TERRA PAX HOMINIBUS YOUR HOLY DAY

CHORUS
DOMINE FILI UNIGENITE, JESU CHRISTE
DOMINE DEUS, AGNUS DEI, FILIUS PATRIS
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

TU SOLUS DOMINUS
TU SOLUS ALTISSIMUS
JESU CHRISTE CUM SANCTO SPIRITU

ALL
IN GLORIA DEI
GLORIA
AMEN

Tomas approaches Orellano.

Scene 5: The Festival, Town of Santa Teresa – Day (Continuous)

#9 THE REQUEST – Orellano, Tomas, Chorus

TOMAS
DON ANSELMO
BEFORE I LEAVE
FOR CALIFORNIA
MAY I HAVE
YOUR PERMISSION
TO ASK ROSA
TO MARRY ME

ORELLANO
SHE TELLS ME
YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD, TOMAS

TOMAS
THE WORLD IS CHANGING
LIKE IT OR NOT
ALL I WISH IS
TO SEE IT CHANGE
FOR THE BETTER

ORELLANO

YOUR ROOTS ARE IN THE PAST, TOMAS
DO NOT FORGET
THE OLD WAYS
HAVE SERVED US WELL

TOMAS

NOT EVERYONE
INJUSTICE
CORRUPTION
POVERTY
OPPRESSION
ARE STILL WITH US
AND HAVE BEEN FOR TOO LONG

I WANT PEACE
NOT WAR
AND NOTHING MORE
THAN TO SERVE
MY COUNTRY
MY PEOPLE

ORELLANO

YES
THAT IS HOW WE ALL START
I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN
IN SOME WAYS, TOMAS
YOU REMIND ME OF ME THEN

AND ONE DAY
WHEN I AM LONG GONE

DO NOT BE SURPRISED
WHEN YOU FIND
YOU REMIND YOURSELF
OF ME NOW

WELL, IF YOU ARE NOT FULL OF FIRE
AT YOUR AGE
YOU DO NOT DESERVE TO BE YOUNG

YOU WILL LEARN, TOMAS
AS WE ALL DO
THE HARD WAY

Orellano gives his answer – but to his beloved Rosa, not to Tomas.

#10 THE HEART OF MY LIFE – Orellano, Rosa

ORELLANO

YOU ARE AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOUR MOTHER
SHE WOULD BE AS PROUD OF YOU AS I AM

DULCE ROSA...

YOU ARE THE HEART OF MY LIFE, MY CHILD
ALL THAT A FATHER COULD EVER ASK OF GOD
NOTHING MEANS MORE TO ME THAN FOR YOU
TO KNOW HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU

I HAD LOST ALL HOPE ON THIS EARTH
BUT YOU GAVE ME THE REASON I SHOULD LIVE
ALL I HAVE IS YOURS IN RETURN
IF ONLY THERE WERE MORE THAT I COULD GIVE

ROSA

ALL OF MY LIFE I SINCE I WAS A CHILD
YOU GAVE ME MORE THAN A DAUGHTER EVER HAD
I WOULD DO ALL THAT I CAN FOR YOU
TO SHOW HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU

FROM THE VERY DAY OF MY BIRTH
THAT TOOK THE MOTHER THAT I NEVER KNEW
YOU HAVE BEEN THE HEART OF MY LIFE
THERE'S NOTHING THAT I WOULD NOT DO FOR YOU

ORELLANO

MY SWEET ROSA, MUST YOU
LEAVE ME

AH
HOW CAN I LIVE
WITHOUT YOU ALL ALONE

DULCE ROSA
YOU ARE THE HEART OF MY LIFE
MY CHILD
ALL THAT A FATHER COULD EVER
ASK OF GOD
ALWAYS REMEMBER
MY LOVE FOR YOU
YOU ARE THE HEART
OF MY LIFE

ROSA

I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU
FATHER

AH
YOU WILL NOT LIVE
WITHOUT ME ALL ALONE

MY SWEET FATHER
YOU ARE THE HEART OF
MY LIFE, PAPA
ALL THAT A DAUGHTER COULD
EVER ASK OF GOD
I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER
MY LOVE FOR YOU
YOU WILL BE THE
HEART OF MY LIFE FOREVER

#11 ANNOUNCEMENT – Orellano, Chorus

ORELLANO

MY FRIENDS

I HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT

WHEN TOMAS RETURNS FROM CALIFORNIA

THERE WILL BE A WEDDING

IN SANTA TERESA

CHORUS

ROSA WILL BE MARRIED

MARRIED HERE IN SANTA TERESA

SANTA TERESA

AH

Tomas puts a ring on Rosa's hand.

She shows the ring off delightedly to all.

Celebration. And this is our Happy Ending.

But –

Transition to:

Scene 6: The Jungle – Day (afternoon)

Once again, we get our “shaky undercurrent” feeling, which grows more ominous the further we get from the safety of Orellano territory.

A few guerillas are present, at their jungle headquarters. There are bits of rusting machinery and tents and bedrolls and campfires as well as lush jungle visible.

TADEO Cespedes, their leader, is alone and brooding. He expects nothing, needs nothing.

And here, in his neat city suit, not a hair out of place, cool in the stifling heat, comes AGUILAR. He waits, calmly, as he is checked for guns. He is unruffled. Accompanying him are two of the secret policemen who shadowed Tomas in the prologue.

Aguilar is brought to Tadeo. And he starts to make his pitch. The music tells the story of Aguilar's persuasiveness, and Tadeo's "lack of interest." Aguilar is a born salesman: charming, careful, realistic, honest.

#12 THE JUNGLE – Aguilar, Tadeo

TADEO

I NEED NOTHING

AGUILAR

YOU NEED YOUR MEN

TADEO

AND I HAVE THEM

AGUILAR

FOR HOW MUCH LONGER?

EVERYTHING IS CHANGING

IN THE CAPITAL

OLD MEN IN UNIFORMS

CIRCLE EACH OTHER

WATCH EACH OTHER

WATCH THEIR BACKS

NOW IS THE TIME

THE PRIZE IS THERE

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE
IT WILL NOT COME AGAIN
POWER, RICHES
ALL YOU COULD EVER NEED
YOU WILL HAVE ALL –
OR NOTHING

TADEO
YOU THREATEN ME?

AGUILAR
THERE WILL BE
A NEW ORDER
THE OLD WILL FALL
AND THE WINNERS
WILL LINE THE LOSERS
AGAINST THE WALL

OR STAY HERE
OUTLAWS FOR EVER
AND ONE DAY
WHEN EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED
ONE DAY SOME GENERAL
WILL RID OUR LAND
OF ALL THESE LITTLE ARMIES
ONE BY ONE
WHY SHOULD THAT GENERAL
NOT BE YOU?

TADEO
AND WHEN I HAVE DONE WHAT YOU ASK

AND YOU HAVE NO FURTHER NEED OF ME?

AGUILAR

I ALWAYS WILL
I AM A REALIST
I WILL MAKE ENEMIES
WHO WILL PROTECT ME
IF NOT YOU?
YOU DO YOUR JOB
I WILL DO MINE

TADEO

AND IF I SAY NO?

AGUILAR

YOU SAY NO TO *THEM* (= say 'no' to his Men)

#13 I NEED NOTHING – Tadeo, Chorus

TADEO

I NEED NOTHING
YOU CAN GIVE
I HAVE FOUGHT FOR
ALL THESE YEARS
OWING NOTHING, OWNED BY NONE
I KNOW NO LIFE BUT WAR
I LEFT THE WORLD BEHIND
AND NOW...
YOU ASK ME TO RETURN
AND LEAVE THE LIFE THAT I HAVE HERE

(To his men)

I AM NOTHING
WITHOUT YOU
YOU HAVE MADE ME
WHAT I AM
YOU HAVE FOLLOWED ME TO WAR
AND DONE ALL I HAVE ASKED
YOU'VE GIVEN ME YOUR LIVES
AND NOW
I GIVE YOU IN RETURN
THE ONE THING YOU WANT MOST OF ALL

YOU WILL HAVE YOUR REVENGE
FOR THE LIVES YOU HAVE LOST
FOR THE PAIN YOU HAVE SUFFERED
FOR THE YEARS YOU HAVE STARVED
THE DAY HAS COME
WHEN YOU WILL MAKE THEM PAY

THOSE WHO TOOK ALL YOU HAD
THOSE WHO KILLED ALL YOU LOVED
THOSE WHO WROTE THEIR NAMES

IN BLOOD
UPON THE RUINS OF YOUR LIVES
THE DAY HAS COME
WHEN YOU WILL MAKE THEM PAY
I NEED NOTHING
FROM THAT WORLD
IT HOLDS NOTHING
FOR ME NOW
IF I DO AS YOU HAVE ASKED

CHORUS

ALL WE HAD
THOSE WE LOVED

LIFE FOR LIFE
BLOOD FOR BLOOD
WE WILL
MAKE THEM PAY

I DO IT FOR THESE MEN
I LEFT THE WORLD BEHIND
AND NOW...
YOU LEAVE ME WITH NO CHOICE
BUT TO LEAVE THE LIFE THAT I HAVE HERE

#14 THE PACT – Tadeo, Aguilar

TADEO

SO
YOU HAVE A JOB FOR ME

AGUILAR

THE OLD MEN IN UNIFORMS
WILL DIE RATHER THAN SUPPORT EACH OTHER
THERE IS ONLY ONE MAN
WHO COULD UNITE THEM

TADEO

AH
THE SENATOR
WITH THE BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER

AGUILAR

WITHOUT HIM
OUR PATH IS CLEAR

Transition to:

Scene 7: The Garden of the Orellano Hacienda – Evening

Tomas is leaving for California, for three years of study.

#15 FAREWELL – Tomas, Rosa

TOMAS

YOU SHOULD COME WITH ME

ROSA

YOU KNOW I CANNOT

TOMAS

ROSA, IT IS NO LONGER SAFE HERE

ROSA

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

TOMAS

ARE YOU BLIND TO WHAT IS HAPPENING?

OUR COUNTRY IS DYING

HOW CAN YOU DO NOTHING?!

ROSA

NOTHING EVER HAPPENS

IN SANTA TERESA

HERE, ALL IS QUIET

AS IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN

TOMAS

THIS IS THE STILL BEFORE THE STORM

WHEN THE STORM BREAKS

YOU SHOULD BE ANYWHERE BUT HERE

EVERYTHING IS CHANGING –

ROSA

WHATEVER HAPPENS
I WILL NOT CHANGE

TOMAS

IF I MUST LEAVE
I LEAVE MY HEART
WHEN I RETURN
OUR LIVES CAN START
AND FROM THAT DAY
I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU AGAIN
TILL DEATH DO US PART

ROSA

UNTIL THAT DAY
WHEN YOU RETURN
I WILL WAIT HERE
FOR YOU

TOMAS

I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU AGAIN
TILL DEATH DO US PART

SO MANY MILES
SO FAR APART
SO LONG UNTIL
OUR LIVES CAN START
BUT FROM THAT DAY
I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU AGAIN
TILL DEATH DO US PART

ROSA
UNTIL THE DAY

TOMAS
IF I MUST LEAVE

ROSA
WHEN YOU RETURN

TOMAS
I LEAVE MY HEART

ROSA
I WILL WAIT HERE

TOMAS
I WILL RETURN

ROSA and TOMAS
FOR YOU

I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU AGAIN
TILL DEATH DO US PART

They embrace.

ROSA
GOD GO WITH YOU

TOMAS
STAY SAFE, MY ROSA

He gathers his suitcases and, reluctantly, leaves. She watches him go till he is out of sight.

Transition to:

Scene 8: Various: Town of Santa Teresa, also the Orellano Estate – Night

The sunset of Tomas' departure fades to darkness, and quiet. It is an ominous quiet...

Figures dart in the shadows. Doors are slammed. People hurry to their neighbors, and talk urgently, in low voices. Something is coming, and it's not going to be good. Families carry bundles from their homes and run for safety out of there.

At the church, Padre Clemente is leading mass. People hear the rumors, and slip quietly away before their turn.

TADEO and his men slip into town.

#16 THE RAID, PART ONE – Tadeo, Chorus

TADEO
THEY WILL NOT SEE US COMING

KEEP TO THE SHADOWS
UNTIL YOU ARE AMONG THEM
IF THEY DO NOT SURRENDER
KILL THEM
IF THEY WANT TO DIE
KILL THEM
IF THEY DEFY YOU
DENY YOU
LET NO ONE STAND

BETWEEN YOU
AND REVENGE

The raid bursts in on the unsuspecting town. The attack comes with sudden swiftness.
Torches. Flames, in the distance at first, pretty blossoms of light. Then here, and harsh.

The wolves have come out of the night, and are among the sheep.
Padre Clemente is cut down at the altar. Screams and gunshots. Fire and fury.

The terrified townspeople are huddled in the church for sanctuary.

CHORUS

LORD HAVE MERCY
KYRIE ELEISON
CHRIST HAVE MERCY
CHRISTE ELEISON
AH
SANTA TERESA
IN HORA PERICULI
IN HORA INDIGEONIS
SANTA TERESA
DOMINE EXAUDI ORATIONEM MEAN
SANTA TERESA
OSTENDE NOBIS DOMINE MISERICORDIAM TUAM
ET CLAMOR MEUS AD TE VENIAT
KYRIE ELEISON
CHRISTE ELEISON
DOMINE EXAUDI ORATIONEM MEAM
CHRISTE

Then the raid heads for its real target: the Orellano hacienda.

Scene 8a: The Orellano Hacienda (intercut) – Continuous

Senator Orellano organizes the resistance. A few scared house-people, with antiquated rifles.

Orellano hands out guns and ammunition, takes off his overcoat and hands it to a servant, rolls up his sleeves for the fight of his life, while urging his feeble band to fight.

#17 THE RAID, PART TWO – Orellano, (Chorus)

ORELLANO

THEY MUST NOT TAKE ROSA

UNDERSTAND?

UNDERSTAND?

WHOEVER IS THE LAST ONE OF US

SAVE TWO BULLETS

ONE FOR HER

ONE FOR YOURSELF

SWEAR IT

SWEAR IT!

MEN

(Ragged mumble)

I SWEAR

All will obey. The raiders shall not have Rosa. The rattle of gunfire, shouts approaching. The defenders hurry to their stations.

The raiders reach the house. A stand-off for a while.

But they are too strong, and too many.

#18 THE RAID, PART THREE – Orellano, Tadeo

TADEO

WE HAVE WAITED
SO LONG

AND NOW
IS OUR TIME

TO TAKE BACK

PAY BACK

YOU LIVED
IN THE SHADOWS
ALL THESE YEARS
BROKEN
EXILED

NOW
YOU COME OUT OF THE NIGHT

AND NOW
THEY DIE

ORELLANO

WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL

HOLD STRONG

THEY CANNOT GET IN

WE WILL DRIVE THEM BACK

DO NOT SHOOT AT
SHADOWS
MASTER YOUR FEARS
AND WE
BREAK THEM

NOW
THEY COME OUT OF
THE NIGHT

AND THEY
WILL DIE

Scene 8b: The Hacienda's private chapel – Continuous

Rosa, locked in the chapel for safety, can hear the raid, louder and louder, getting closer.

#19 I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED – Rosa, Orellano

ROSA

TOMAS, TOMAS
I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED
GONE WITH YOU

NOW HE'LL NEVER KNOW
NOW HE'LL NEVER SEE
THE SONS HE NEVER HAD

HE GAVE HIS WORD
GIVE HIM HELP
HELP US

OH GOD
THEY'RE IN THE HOUSE

HE GAVE HIS WORD
HELP US

Senator Orellano did not foresee that he would be the last of his household left alive. Fate is cruel. He has to obey his own order. He comes in, wounded, to Rosa.

ROSA

FATHER...
YOU'RE HURT

ORELLANO

IT IS OVER

ROSA

LET ME HELP YOU

PLEASE LET ME HELP YOU

ORELLANO

ONLY DEATH CAN HELP NOW

FORGIVE ME, MY DARLING

He is going to shoot her.

ROSA

FATHER! NO!

ORELLANO

I CANNOT LET THEM TAKE YOU

ROSA

KILL ME NOW

AND THEY WIN

LET ME LIVE

AND I WILL AVENGE YOU

ORELLANO

ROSA...

ROSA

IF I WERE A SON

THEY WOULD KILL ME

AND OUR LINE WOULD END
BUT I AM ONLY A GIRL
I KNOW WHAT THEY WILL DO TO ME
I CAN BEAR IT
WHATEVER HAPPENS

(The Pride of the Orellanos!)

I AM YOUR DAUGHTER!

LET ME LIVE
AND I WILL AVENGE YOU

THEY WILL PAY
I SWEAR IT, PAPA
BLOOD FOR BLOOD
DEATH FOR DEATH
AND I WILL LIVE ON
KNOWING YOU ARE WATCHING OVER ME
AS I RAISE YOUR GRANDSONS
IN THE HOUSE WHERE YOU WERE BORN

He lowers his revolver.

ORELLANO
BUT YOU WILL SUFFER

ROSA
AS WILL THEY

LET ME LIVE
AND I WILL AVENGE YOU

Dulce Rosa – Libretto April 28th 2013

He dies.

ROSA

Papa...

The GUERILLAS burst in. They see Rosa and head for her, howling.

Tadeo enters in time to stop them. He takes command.

#20 ACT ONE FINALE – Tadeo

TADEO

STOP

LEAVE THE GIRL FOR ME

His men leave to loot the hacienda.

One of them steals Orellano's revolver on the way out.

Tadeo approaches Rosa.

She knows what is coming.

She backs away from him.

There is no escape.

He follows her.

He reaches her.

Dulce Rosa – Libretto April 28th 2013

She is trapped.

She is holding her crucifix, without realizing it.

He takes it, and snaps the chain off her neck.

He pushes her to the ground, and they are now almost entirely out of sight in the alcove, as he rapes her by the altar of her family chapel. All else is shadow or black.

The struggle by the altar fades out to merciful darkness.

End of Act One

Act Two

Scene 9: The Ruined Orellano Hacienda – The next morning

Slowly, day dawns. Black, to gray. Misty, indistinct.

#21 DOMINE SALVE NOS – Chorus

CHORUS

(Off)

SALVE, AUDI

DOMINE SALVE NOS

SUCCURRE

MISERERE MEI DEUS

The hacienda is a ruin. It has been torched to the ground.

Rosa emerges out of what was a nightmare black-out rather than a sleep. It has left her exhausted, shattered. She moves slowly, like a zombie. She gathers her torn and bloodied night-clothes around her. She is in pain as well as in hell.

For a moment, she drops her head in utter defeat. The enormity of what has happened floods over her. Her life is ruined. She feels, as well as physical pain, shame, and guilt, and misery, and despair. She won't make it.

She looks around, and surveys the wreckage of her life and home...

... and finds her father's scattered belongings (scarf, coat, hat).

#22 PAPA – Rosa

ROSA

PAPA...

MY FIRST WORD
WHEN I COULD TALK
WHEN I COULD WALK
MY FIRST STEP
WAS INTO YOUR ARMS

AND YOU WOULD
LIFT ME HIGH
AND SWING ME ROUND
LAUGHING

AND I WOULD
BURY MY FACE IN YOUR SHOULDER
SO NO ONE COULD SEE ME
CRY
WITH HAPPINESS

AS I CLOSED MY EYES
AND BREATHED YOU IN
WHILE YOUR LAUGH
ROLLED RIGHT THROUGH ME
AS I CLUNG TO YOU
TREMBLING

I THOUGHT I WOULD
DIE

FROM HAPPINESS

PAPA

It changes here. That was the past. Now for the future.

YOU GAVE ME EVERYTHING
MY LIFE
MY HOME

Here it comes: ROSA's vow on her father's death.

GIVE ME YOUR STRENGTH
AND I WILL MAKE THEM PAY
FOR TAKING YOU FROM ME
I WILL MAKE THEM PAY

But she doesn't have the strength yet.

HOW CAN THE SUN STILL SHINE
THE WIND STILL BLOW
THE EARTH STILL TURN
THE TREES STILL GROW

AND DAYS AND NIGHTS
AND YEARS MOVE ON
AND I MUST LIVE
AND YOU ARE GONE

GIVE ME YOUR STRENGTH
PAPA...

Inez emerges from the ruins, followed by townspeople and villagers.

#23 SHE IS ALIVE – Chorus, Rosa

FEMALE CHORUS

SHE IS ALIVE

MALE CHORUS

ROSA

FEMALE CHORUS

THEY LET HER LIVE

MALE CHORUS

ROSA

FEMALE CHORUS

WHAT DID THEY DO

TO HER...?

MALE CHORUS

ROSA

FEMALE CHORUS

HER FATHER GONE

MALE CHORUS

ROSA

FEMALE CHORUS

WHAT WILL SHE DO?

MALE CHORUS

ROSA

CHORUS

HOW CAN SHE STAY?

Inez studies Rosa. This is puzzling her. Her father didn't kill her (to save her) after all!

INEZ

YOUR FATHER LET YOU LIVE

ROSA

FOR A PURPOSE

INEZ

WHEN HE KNEW

WHAT THEY WOULD DO

ROSA

FOR A PROMISE

I WILL NOT WEEP

IN FRONT OF THEM

BUT OH, INEZ

WHEN I START

HOW WILL I STOP?

INEZ

YOU MOURN, YOU MEND

BONES BREAK

HEARTS ACHE

TEARS FALL

YOU HURT, YOU HEAL
AND MAKE AN END

WOUNDS CLOSE
AND ARE GONE
YOU LIVE, YOU LEARN
PAIN PASSES
YOU MOVE ON

YOU MOURN
YOU MEND

CHORUS

THEY WILL COME BACK
THEY WILL KILL US ALL
WHAT SHALL WE DO...?

ROSA

MY FATHER
WOULD WANT US TO DO
AS WE HAVE ALWAYS DONE
AS YOUR FATHERS HAVE ALWAYS DONE

SOW, AND TEND
AND GROW, AND REAP

I COULD GO
WHERE NO ONE KNOWS ME
START AGAIN
A NEW LIFE
IN A NEW LAND

I WILL STAY HERE

HERE AMONG MY STREAMS AND VALLEYS

CHORUS

HERE AMONG MY FRIENDS

HERE AMONG YOUR

AND NEIGHBORS

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

AND REBUILD

THE HOUSE WHERE I WAS BORN

AH

IN THE HOUSE WHERE I WAS BORN

MM

CHORUS

AH

By assuming her father's motif/aria, she is taking over his mantle, stepping into his shoes. They have a leader, an Orellano. She is truly her father's daughter.

Transition to:

Scene 10: The Capital City – Presidential Palace, the Plaza below – Evening

#24 EULOGY – Aguilar, Chorus

AGUILAR

WE HAVE LOST

ONE OF OUR GREATEST MEN

A MAN WHO SHOULD STAND

WHERE I STAND NOW

LET HIM NOT MAKE

THIS SACRIFICE IN VAIN

LET THERE BE PEACE

CHORUS

HE GAVE HIS LIFE FOR US

AGUILAR

NEVER AGAIN

MUST SUCH A THING HAPPEN

NEVER AGAIN

MUST THESE ARMIES ROAM OUR LAND

IF WE UNITE

AND STAND TOGETHER NOW

WE WILL HAVE PEACE

CHORUS

PEACE

AH – AH

AGUILAR

NOW IS THE TIME

THE PRIZE IS THERE

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE

IT WILL NOT COME AGAIN

IN PLACE OF FEAR AND HUNGER

PEACE AND PLENTY

A BRIGHT FUTURE

FOR YOUR CHILDREN

FOR YOUR COUNTRY

WE WILL HAVE PEACE

CHORUS

FOR OUR CHILDREN

FOR OUR COUNTRY FOREVER

WE WILL HAVE PEACE

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He has them now. And for the rest of his long and unchallenged life.

Transition to:

Scene 11: The Orellano Hacienda – Days and Nights

The rebuilding has already begun.

Inez comes to Rosa. She knows what Rosa is doing. Privately, a warning:

#25 THE WARNING – Inez, Rosa, Orellano

INEZ

YOU SCRATCH YOUR WOUND
IT WILL NOT HEAL...

ROSA

I SWORE

INEZ

YOU WAIT, YOU WEAVE
YOU PLAN
YOU SCHEME
YOU DREAM
YOU HOLD YOUR HATE
IT WILL NOT LEAVE

ROSA

HE KILLED MY FATHER

INEZ

FLAMES BURN

EVER HIGHER
UNTIL YOU FIND
YOU ARE LOST
IN THE FIRE

Inez sees the danger, which Rosa misunderstands.

She leaves Rosa, and Orellano appears above and behind her – a ghost, a memory, the rock on which Rosa built her life.

ORELLANO
HOLD TRUE
TO YOUR PROMISE

ROSA
THEY TELL US
WE HAVE PEACE NOW
BUT WHAT IS PEACE
IF THERE IS NO JUSTICE?

ORELLANO
JUSTICE WILL BE DONE
ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

ROSA
IT WILL BE, PAPA...
I PROMISE

ORELLANO
I AM ALWAYS WITH YOU
MY SWEET ROSA

Now it becomes personal. As the work of the regeneration of her family home is underway behind her, Rosa turns from that, and concentrates on her duty, her obsession, her revenge.

#26 DAY IN, DAY OUT – Rosa, Tadeo, Orellano

ROSA

DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT
NOT AN HOUR PASSES
WHEN YOU ESCAPE MY THOUGHTS
TADEO CESPEDES
GENERAL TADEO

AND YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE ME
GENERAL
TADEO
TRY HOW YOU WILL

FIGHT YOUR LITTLE WARS
AND FOOL YOURSELF
THAT I WILL LET YOU GO
NEVER

NEVER
YOU WILL COME TO ME
TADEO
YOU CANNOT RUN
AS I COULD NOT
YOU CANNOT HIDE
EVEN IN THE BLOOD AND HEAT
OF BATTLE

YOU CANNOT ESCAPE ME
CANNOT FORGET ME

I LOOKED INTO YOUR EYES
TADEO CESPEDES
WHEN YOU RUINED ME
FOR YOUR PLEASURE
YOU ARE PAYING
FOR YOUR PLEASURE
TADEO CESPEDES
GENERAL TADEO

DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT
I HAUNT YOUR DREAMS

I SAW YOUR SOUL
AND I REACHED FOR IT
AS YOU REACHED FOR MY BODY
IT IS MINE
YOU ARE MINE
YOU WILL NEVER GET IT BACK
UNLESS YOU COME TO ME

I WILL WAIT
FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES
DAY IN, DAY OUT

Scene 11a: The Capital City, Presidential Palace – Continuous (Intercut)

TADEO
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT
I DO NOT SLEEP
FOR FEAR OF WHAT I MIGHT DREAM

I WILL NOT LISTEN
SIREN VOICE
CALLING

YOU HAVE NO POWER OVER ME
THE WORLD
IS FULL OF WOMEN!

Two elegant women drape themselves over Tadeo, but he flashes back to the Chapel, to Rosa.

ROSA
I DID NOT RUN
AS YOU CANNOT RUN
I STAYED AMONG MY PEOPLE
THEY SEE ME, AND DESPISE YOU
MOCK YOUR NAME
I HOLD MY HEAD HIGH
AS YOURS DROPS
IN MISERY AND SHAME

ORELLANO
HE WILL KNOW NO PEACE FOR
AS LONG AS HE LIVES
HE CANNOT ESCAPE YOU
CANNOT FORGET YOU

TADEO
LEAVE ME ALONE
MY LIFE IS MY OWN
WHAT IS DONE IS DONE
OVER – FORGOTTEN
IN THE PAST

ORELLANO
MY ROSA
MY DAUGHTER

ROSA ORELLANO
YOU MEAN NOTHING
I WILL NOT LISTEN

EVERY FACE
IS YOURS

HOLD FAST

THE GIRL
IN THE CHAPEL

HOLD TRUE

TADEO
WILL THERE BE NO END?
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

ROSA/ORELLANO
DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

ORELLANO
ROSA HOLD FAST
HOLD TRUE

TADEO
THERE IS NO UNDOING
WHAT IS DONE
WHAT I HAVE DONE

ORELLANO
ROSA, HOLD FAST
HOLD TRUE
HOLD FAST
HOLD TRUE ROSA

WHAT HAVE I DONE...?!

(It's all sinking in now)

ORELLANO
TO YOUR PROMISE
HOLD TO YOUR PURPOSE
HOLD TO YOUR PROMISE

TO THE VOW YOU MADE

TADEO
WILL THERE BE NO END?
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

ROSA/ORELLANO
DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT – MY
DAUGHTER

ROSA/ORELLANO/TADEO
DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

TADEO
...AFTER NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

ROSA
THERE IS NO ESCAPE
GENERAL TADEO
NO RELEASE
NO REPRIEVE
YOU WILL COME TO ME
AND BEG FOR WHAT I WILL
NEVER GIVE YOU

Rosa, Orellano and Tadeo leave. Inez, alone on stage, has her perspective on Rosa's obsession.

#27 SHE THINKS OF HIM – Inez, Tomas, Rosa

INEZ
IT IS NOT WISE
TO PICK A WOUND
TO CHAFE A SCAB
IT WILL NOT HEAL

YOU THINK OF HIM
DAY IN, DAY OUT
HOUR AFTER HOUR
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

THE TIME HAS COME
TO MAKE AN END
PUT IT TO SLEEP
AS I WOULD DO
SING HER TO SLEEP
HUSH NOW, ROSA
NO MORE CRYING
IT IS NOT WISE
IT WILL NOT HEAL
DAY AFTER DAY
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

Scene 11b: California, Student bedroom, Continuous

Intercut: TOMAS and ROSA, in separate continents.

TOMAS
I HEARD THEY HURT YOU

ROSA
(Too quickly)
NO!
THEIR LEADER KEPT HIS MEN
AWAY FROM ME

TOMAS

TADEO CESPEDES...!

ROSA

MY FATHER WAS HIS TARGET
IT WAS... PURELY POLITICAL

TOMAS

WHY DID YOU NOT LISTEN TO ME?!

ROSA

I COULD NOT LEAVE MY FATHER

TOMAS

NOW YOU CAN
NOW YOU MUST

ROSA

I AM NEEDED HERE

TOMAS

AND SO AM I
I SHOULD BE THERE
NOT HERE
WHILE MY COUNTRY BLEEDS –

THEY ARREST US, ON ARRIVAL
MY COMRADES, TAKEN
NO ONE KNOWS WHERE
THEY DISAPPEAR

ROSA
THEN STAY
YOU MUST NOT DIE TOO, TOMAS

TOMAS
IT IS WORTH ANY RISK

ROSA
DO NOT WORRY
I AM SAFE IN MY HOME

TOMAS
I WILL COME WHEN I CAN

Tomas fades out.

ROSA
HOW CAN I TELL HIM?
HOW CAN I NOT?

And her father, Orellano, is there to support her, as always.

#28 REMEMBER – Orellano

ORELLANO
REMEMBER
HOW I TAUGHT YOU
REMEMBER
HOW I RAISED YOU
LOVED YOU
PRAISED YOU

FOR WHAT YOU WERE
AND WHAT YOU ARE

AND WHAT WAS YET TO BE

I LIVED FOR YOU
MY ROSA
AND NOW
YOU LIVE FOR ME

THEY TOOK IT ALL
MY HOUSE
MY LIFE
ALL THAT THEY COULD TAKE
IT BROKE MY HEART
TO THINK WHAT YOU
WOULD SUFFER
FOR MY SAKE

TO GIVE ME
WHAT YOU PROMISED
WHAT YOU ALONE CAN GIVE

I KNOW THAT YOU
WILL SHOW ME
I WAS RIGHT
TO LET YOU LIVE

I WAS RIGHT
TO LET YOU LIVE

Scene 12: Presidential Palace, A Side Room by the Banquet Hall – Evening

There is to be a triumphant banquet for the new *Presidente* Aguilar.

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But Tadeo is not going to attend. Aguilar, now in magnificent evening attire, enters, along with BANQUET GUESTS.

#29 DECISION – Aguilar, Tadeo

CHORUS (Off)

TO OUR LIBERATION
FROM A GRATEFUL NATION (AAHs)

AGUILAR

YOU MISS OUR CELEBRATION, GENERAL...?

TADEO

TO CELEBRATE
ONE MUST BE PROUD
OF WHAT ONE HAS DONE

AGUILAR

YOU RESENT THE
POWER YOU GAVE ME?

TADEO

(That almost makes him smile)

IT IS NOT YOU
WHO HAS POWER OVER ME

AGUILAR

LET ME HELP YOU
I WOULD NOT BE
WHERE I AM NOW
BUT FOR YOU

TADEO

I WOULD NOT BE...

WHERE I AM NOW

(Meaning “in this agony”)

IF YOU HAD LEFT ME ALONE

I WOULD STILL BE

MY OWN MASTER

YOU CANNOT HELP, *PRESIDENTE*

I OWE A DEBT

WHICH I MUST PAY

He leaves. Aguilar watches him go, concerned. Then he turns back to his Guests.

They all head off for the banquet as the chorus welcomes them.

CHORUS (Off)

WE WILL HAVE PEACE

LET THERE BE PEACE

#30 THE DAY WILL COME – Inez, Rosa, Orellano, Tadeo, Tomas, Aguilar

INEZ

YOU SOW, YOU REAP

YOU USE, YOU TAKE

AWAKE, ASLEEP

YOU BROOD, YOU ACHE

ROSA

DAY IN, DAY OUT

NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

YOU WILL COME TO ME

INEZ

AT WORK, AT REST
AWAKE, ASLEEP
YOU BEND, YOU BREAK
YOU SOW, YOU REAP

ROSA

NO ESCAPE
DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

TOMAS

THE DAY WILL COME
I WILL RETURN
ONE DAY, ROSA
YOU WILL SEE
WHEN IT IS SAFE
ONE DAY, ROSA
WAIT FOR ME

ORELLANO

I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU
MY SWEET ROSA
YOU WILL MAKE ME PROUD
YOU ARE MY DAUGHTER

AGUILAR

WHAT IS IT
THAT HAS YOU IN ITS POWER?

YOU SHOULD END IT, *GENERAL*
END IT

TADEO
I WOULD NOT BE
WHERE I AM
IF YOU HAD LEFT ME ALONE

ORELLANO
I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU, ROSA
YOU WILL MAKE ME PROUD YOU
ARE MY DAUGHTER

INEZ / ALL
WHAT IS TAKEN
MUST BE PAID FOR
WHAT IS BROKEN
MUST BE MENDED
WHAT IS FATED
MUST BE MADE FOR
WHAT WAS STARTED
MUST BE ENDED

ROSA
NO ESCAPE
NO REPRIEVE

INEZ
DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

TOMAS
I WILL RETURN
ONE DAY, ROSA

ORELLANO
I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU, ROSA
I AM ALWAYS WITH YOU, ROSA

TADEO
DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

AGUILAR
END IT
END IT

INEZ
THE DAY WILL COME

ROSA
AND YOU WILL COME

And there he is.

Tadeo has come to the Orellano Hacienda, to pay for his crimes with his life.

His hands, as ever, are clutched round the crucifix he tore from Rosa's neck.

Scene 13: The Orellano Hacienda – Day (afternoon)

ROSA
YOU WERE WORRIED
I WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED
I KNEW HE WOULD COME

INEZ
THAT IS NOT WHAT WORRIES ME

They wait for him to speak.

He does not know where to start.

He is lost in his anguish.

#31 A MAN OF SHAME – Tadeo, Rosa

TADEO

YOU DID NOT CRY OUT
SAID NOTHING

DID NOT LOOK AWAY
BUT HELD MY EYES

SINCE THAT NIGHT
EVERY TIME
I LOOK IN THE MIRROR
I SEE NOW
WHAT YOU SAW
A MAN OF SHAME

WHAT HAD YOU DONE TO DESERVE IT?
NOTHING
BUT BE
YOUNG
BEAUTIFUL
BRAVE

WHAT I HAVE DONE
CAN NEVER BE FORGIVEN
BY EITHER OF US

NO WORDS CAN MEND
WHAT I HAVE BROKEN
BUT THEY ARE OWED
AND MUST BE SPOKEN

MINE THE GUILT
MINE THE BLAME
MINE THE SORROW
MINE THE SHAME
I CAN BEAR IT NO MORE
MY DEATH WILL BE
A SWEET RELEASE
IN DEATH ALONE
WILL I FIND PEACE

This is Rosa's moment of victory.

Rosa raises the gun, aims – and, completely unexpectedly, fires past his head, not into it.

ROSA

YOU WILL NOT GET WHAT YOU WANT FROM ME
THIS TIME

YOU TALK OF SHAME, GENERAL TADEO
WHAT DO I OWE YOU?
MY PAIN
MY SUFFERING

THEN TAKE THEM

YOU DESTROYED MY LIFE
I WILL NOT SPARE YOU
ONE SECOND OF YOUR MISERY

DEATH WOULD BE A GIFT
YOU DO NOT DESERVE

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LIVE, TADEO CESPEDES
AND GOD GRANT YOU
A LONG LIFE YET

This is wholly unforeseen. Tadeo did not expect that.

He gets up to go, stunned, confused...

But he stops; turns; gathers himself: and reveals his secret.

#32 HALF A WORLD AWAY – Tadeo

TADEO

I WAS HALF A WORLD AWAY
WHEN MY FATHER'S LETTER FOUND ME

IT WAS A SUNDAY, HE WROTE
AFTER CHURCH, HE RODE INTO THE HILLS
WHILE MY MOTHER AND SISTERS WENT HOME
THERE WAS TO BE A FEAST
INSTEAD, THE SOLDIERS CAME

RIDING HOME, MY FATHER HEARD THE SCREAMS
AND THEN THE SHOTS
SILENCING THEM

HE SAW THE SMOKE
AND THE SOLDIERS
DRIVING OFF IN THEIR TRUCKS
LAUGHING, AS OUR HOUSE BURNED
DRINKING OUR WINE

HE BURIED MY MOTHER
MY SISTERS
THEN HE WENT INTO THE MOUNTAINS
WHERE I FOUND HIM
OTHER MEN JOINED US
MEN WHOSE LIVES WERE ASHES
AS WERE OURS
WHEN MY FATHER DIED, I LED THEM
AND WE FOUGHT
ON AND ON AND ON
YEAR AFTER YEAR
UNTIL THEY LEFT US ALONE

UNTIL HE CAME TO ME
AND THE PRICE OF MY PEACE WAS...

WHAT THEY DID TO US, I DID TO YOU

IF THERE IS TO BE
NO REPRIEVE
NO RELEASE
SO BE IT

GIVE ME YOUR PAIN
I WILL BEAR IT
GIVE ME YOUR GRIEF
I WILL SHARE IT
GIVE ME YOUR SORROW
I WILL WEAR IT
AS A MEMORY
OF WHAT I HAVE BECOME

I WOULD GIVE ANYTHING
TO HAVE THAT NIGHT AGAIN

He goes.

Rosa's moment of triumph turns out to be a confusion.

#33 I DO NOT HATE – Rosa, Inez

| ROSA | INEZ |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| DAY IN, DAY OUT | AWAKE, ASLEEP |
| NIGHT AFTER NIGHT | YOU SOW, YOU REAP |
| I BRING HIM HERE | YOU FIND YOUR FATE |
| ONLY TO FIND | IT IS TOO LATE |
| ONLY TO FIND | IT IS TOO LATE |
| ONLY TO FIND | |
| ONLY TO FIND | |
| I... DO NOT HATE | |

Rosa is stunned. This is **Step 1** of her process of realizing what has happened, and what it means, and where this leaves her. *Now* she realizes what Inez has been warning her about!

She is still fixated on Tadeo. She no longer hates him.

Therefore...

ROSA
NO
IT IS NOT POSSIBLE
IT IS NOT POSSIBLE...

She goes to the family chapel.

Scene 14: The Family Chapel, Day (late afternoon)

#34 IT IS NOT OVER – Rosa

ROSA

HE IS ALL I HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT
THESE LONG MONTHS
DAY IN, DAY OUT
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

(Step 2)

AND NOW
IT IS NOT OVER

STILL
HE IS ALL
I THINK ABOUT

I TOLD MY FATHER
I KNEW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN
I DID NOT KNOW
IT WOULD BE *THIS*

(Step 3)

Her hatred of Tadeo has turned to love.

OH GOD
YOU WHO COMMAND US
LOVE THINE ENEMY
HOW CAN I DO THAT
AND NOT HATE MYSELF?!

WHY HAVE YOU DONE THIS TO ME?
MUST I LOSE MY FATHER
MY HONOR
AND MY PRIDE?

(Step 4)

(Yes. Only without her Pride
can she find peace.)

#35 FORGIVENESS – Rosa, Tadeo

Her realization is *agony*.

ROSA

WHY MUST I LOVE HIM?
HOW CAN THIS BE?
LORD, TELL ME WHY
YOU HAVE DONE
THIS TO ME?!

I HAVE DONE ALL I CAN
WHAT CHOICE AM I TO MAKE?
MY VOW OR MY HEART
WHICH MUST I BREAK?

Scene 14a: Roadside, near the Hacienda – Afternoon/Eve/Night falls (Continuous)

Tadeo has stopped. He has nowhere to go.

TADEO

SHE CAN NO MORE RELEASE ME
THAN I CAN RELEASE HER
FROM WHAT I HAVE DONE

TADEO

THE ONE PERSON IN THIS WORLD
I DID NOT WANT TO HURT
I HAVE HURT
IT IS MORE THAN I CAN BEAR

ROSA

THE ONE PERSON
I DO NOT WANT TO LOVE
I MUST LOVE
MORE THAN I CAN BEAR

ROSA turns – and there is TADEO.

He gathers himself to say what he came back to say.

TADEO

IF I DID NOT CARE
I WOULD NOT HAVE COME
BUT THERE IS NO ONE
IN THIS WORLD
I CARE ABOUT MORE

(He starts again)

I KNOW YOU HATE ME
ROSA ORELLANO

ROSA

I DO NOT HATE YOU
TADEO CESPEDES...

TADEO

YOU WANT ME TO SUFFER
AS YOU SUFFERED

ROSA

THERE HAS BEEN
ENOUGH SUFFERING...

(Step 5)

I FORGIVE YOU

Now Rosa takes control. She realizes **(Step 6)**.

ROSA

IN MY PRIDE, I SWORE
THAT I COULD BEAR IT
WHATEVER HAPPENED

(And the listening gods said, ‘Oh
yes? Really? Can you bear...
this?’)

All is clear to Rosa now. She has come through her ordeal to understanding.

I SEE NOW

GOD HAS FORGIVEN ME
THIS IS NOT PUNISHMENT **(Step 7)**
FOR MY PRIDE
BUT MY REWARD

ROSA

NOW I KNOW WHY YOU
CAME BACK TO ME
FOR SO LONG NOW
I HAVE THOUGHT OF
NOTHING ELSE
ONLY YOU
I THOUGHT I’D NEVER
SEE YOU AGAIN
NEVER HEAR YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME

TADEO

HOW COULD I HOPE YOU
WOULD FORGIVE ME?
FOR SO LONG NOW
I HAVE THOUGHT OF
NOTHING ELSE
ONLY YOU
I THOUGHT YOU’D NEVER
SEE ME AGAIN
NEVER HEAR ME SAY
I LOVE YOU DULCE ROSA

Neither can quite believe it, but both have heard the one thing they long to hear.

But –

#36 TEARING APART – Orellano, Rosa, Tadeo, Tomas, Inez

ORELLANO

(Out of the shadows)

YOU SWORE
BREAK YOUR WORD
BREAK MY HEART
YOU CHOOSE HIM
OVER ME

ROSA

PAPA, YOU MUST FORGIVE ME

ORELLANO

NEVER!

ROSA

DO YOU NOT THINK
I DID NOT WANT
TO FORGIVE HIM?
BUT I HAVE

HE LOVES ME

ORELLANO

HE SHAMES YOU
YOU SHAME ME
I LET YOU LIVE

ROSA

KNOWING WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO ME

ORELLANO

YOU BEGGED

YOU SWORE

ROSA

AND THEN WHAT?

I KILL HIM, THEN WHAT?

WHY MUST I LOSE

ALL THOSE I LOVE?

AN EMPTY LIFE

LIVED ON, ALONE

AND ALL FOR PRIDE?

ORELLANO

NO CHILD OF MINE

WORTHY OF OUR NAME

WOULD NOT RATHER DIE WITH HONOR

THAN LIVE IN SHAME

YOU ARE

NO CHILD OF MINE

ROSA

NO, PAPA... NO

Tomas enters, with Inez trying to keep him away.

INEZ

YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE COME

TOMAS

WHERE IS ROSA?

INEZ

THERE IS NOTHING FOR YOU HERE

GO

BACK TO CALIFORNIA

WHERE YOU ARE SAFE

TOMAS

(Sees Tadeo)

WHY IS HE HERE?!

ROSA

TOMAS!

TOMAS

I COME A THOUSAND MILES

BY SEA, BY NIGHT

OVER MOUNTAINS

HUNTED BY THIS MAN'S ARMY

AND I FIND YOU

IN THE ARMS OF THE ENEMY

ROSA

TOMAS, I AM SORRY

I LOVED YOU AS A CHILD

A BOY

I LOVE TADEO AS A MAN

I LOVE THIS MAN

TADEO

I WILL TELL NO ONE YOU ARE HERE

LEAVE

YOU WILL BE SAFE FROM ME

TOMAS

I DO NOT FORGET

MY PROMISES

MY COMRADES

YOUR FATHER'S HONOR

TADEO

YOU WILL BE GONE BEFORE THEY KNOW

YOU HAVE MY WORD

ROSA

TOMAS I AM SORRY

PLEASE FORGIVE ME

TOMAS

INEZ

GO BACK TO CALIFORNIA

TOMAS

THERE IS NOTHING FOR YOU HERE

SHE HAS MADE HER CHOICE AND YOU ARE

NOTHING TO HER NOW

ROSA

IT IS OVER
EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED AND YOU ARE
NOTHING TO ME NOW

TADEO

NO ONE WILL KNOW
YOU ARE HERE
THAT YOU HAVE COME BACK
PLEASE GO WHILE YOU CAN
I WILL SAY NOTHING OF YOU NOW

TOMAS

HOW CAN YOU STAND THERE WITH
THIS MAN AND TELL ME
I AM NOTHING TO YOU NOW

ORELLANO

YOU SWORE
BREAK YOUR WORD
BREAK MY HEART
YOU ARE NO CHILD OF MINE
YOU ARE NOTHING TO ME NOW

TOMAS

YOU BREAK YOUR WORD

TADEO

TOMAS
PLEASE GO
LEAVE NOW

INEZ and TADEO

TOMAS

WHILE YOU ARE SAFE

TOMAS

CHORUS

LEAVE

EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED AND

SHE IS NOTHING NOW

LEAVE NOW TOMAS

ORELLANO

NO CHILD OF MINE

TOMAS

YOU BETRAY ME AND YOUR FATHER

YOU BREAK YOUR WORD BUT I DO NOT

He pulls out his gun and takes aim at Tadeo. Inez tries to stop him, he pushes her away forcefully and she falls to the ground.

ROSA

TOMAS, NO

TOMAS, NO

CHORUS

NO!

Rosa goes to plead/reason with Tomas but steps into the bullet intended for Tadeo.

Tomas drops the gun in horror and confusion and runs out.

Dulce Rosa – Libretto April 28th 2013

ROSA

(Manages to repeat)

I LOVE THIS MAN

She slumps to the ground in Tadeo's arms.

Inez freezes, Tadeo tries to help Rosa.

But to no avail.

Rosa dies.

TADEO

ROSA

AH, ROSA

CHORUS

IN PARADISUM DEDUCANT

TE ANGELI

The End

Libretto by Richard Sparks

Adapted from the short story, *Una Venganza*, by Isabel Allende

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