

*CONSTANTINE (M)*

*Full script available here:*

<http://www.charlesmee.org/big-love.shtml>

**CONSTANTINE**

The future is going to happen, Thyona,  
whether you like it or not.

You say, you don't want to be taken against your  
will.

People are taken against their will every day.

Do you want tomorrow to come?

Do you want to live in the future?

(Nevermind.)

You can't stop the clock.

Tomorrow will take today by force

whether you like it or not.

Time itself is an act of rape.

Life is rape.

No one asks to be born.

No one asks to die.

We are all taken by force, all the time.

You make the best of it.

You do what you have to do.

We are not here to negotiate.

I'll have my bride.

If I have to have her arms tied behind her back  
and dragged to me

I'll have her back.

*GIULIANO (M)*

*Full script available here:*

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**GIULIANO**

I knew a man once  
so kind and generous.

I was a boy

I was on a train going to Brindisi (or Rome)  
and he said, I'm going to marry you.

He asked how far I was going.

To Rome, I said.

No, no, he said,

you can't get off so soon

you need to go with me to Bologna.

He gave me a pocket watch

and a silk scarf

and a little statue of a saint.

He quoted Dante to me

and sang bits of Verdi and Puccini.

He was trying everything he knew  
to make me laugh and enjoy myself.

But, finally,

he seemed so insistent

that I grew frightened of him.

He never touched me,

but he made me promise

that I would come to see him in two weeks time.

I promised him,

because I thought he might not let me get off the  
train

unless I promised.

He gave me his address, which of course I threw  
away.

And when I got off the train,

I saw that he was weeping.

And I've often thought,

maybe he really did love me

maybe that was my chance

and I ran away from it

because

I didn't know it at the time.

*PIERO (M)*

*Full script available here:*

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**PIERO**

OK. Well, then,

what if I were to say, yes, I can do my part,  
in fact, I'm not a bad person entirely,  
some people think of me even as a generous  
person,

and I can help,

but why should I help you?

I know nothing about this dispute.

I don't know whether these fellows have some  
rights, too.

What shall I do if they come to me

and say you've abducted our women

give us our women

or we'll shoot you?

I don't know what sort of fellows they are.

Should I put myself, perhaps my life on the line -  
knowing nothing?

and also the life of my nephew

my brother next door

my brother's sons,

I put their lives on the line

for what?

To save you whom

I don't know

why would I do this?

*LYDIA (F)*

*Full script available here:*

*<http://www.charlesmee.org/big-love.shtml>*

**LYDIA**

You know, everything you say may be right,  
Thyona  
but I have to ask myself,  
if it is  
then why don't I feel good about it?  
I have to somehow go on my gut instincts  
because sometimes  
you can convince yourself in your mind  
about the rightness of a thing  
and you try to find fault with your reasoning  
but you can't  
because  
no matter how you turn it over in your mind  
it comes out right.  
But really there are some things,  
when you want to know the truth of them,  
you have to use not just your mind or even your  
mind and your feelings  
but your neurons or your cells or whatever  
because they are too complicated  
they need to be considered in some larger way  
and in the largest way of all  
I know I have to go with my whole being  
when it says I love him and he loves me  
and nothing else matters  
even if other things do matter even quite a lot

*OLYMPIA (F)*

*Full script available here:*

*<http://www.charlesmee.org/big-love.shtml>*

*\*\*\*How to pronounce "GUILIANO":*

*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIKYpEi4kU0>*

**OLYMPIA**

Maybe we should think about it.  
Some people go on honeymoons, (too.)  
They go to places where there are hammocks and  
white sand  
and people hold them by the waist  
and lift them up out of the water  
splashing and laughing  
and they dive underwater  
without the tops of their swimming suits  
and people drink things through straws  
and they listen to the waves  
and even make love in the afternoon  
and even like Guiliano says, to be submissive  
because, to me,  
submission is giving up your body,  
and your mind and your emotions  
and everything  
to someone who can accept all the responsibilities  
that go with that.  
And I myself enjoy the freedom that submission  
gives me.  
I like to be tickled and tortured  
and I like to scream and scream  
and feel helpless  
and be totally controlled  
and see how good that makes someone else feel.

*THYONA (F)*

*Full script available here:*

*<http://www.charlesmee.org/big-love.shtml>*

**THYONA**

First comes justice,  
and if there is no justice,  
then those who are being taken advantage of  
have every right  
to take their oppressors,  
to take those who stand in their way  
and drive them across the fields  
like frightened horses,  
to set fire to their houses,  
to ruin everything that comes to hand.  
To leave rubble,  
to leave shattered stones,  
empty streets,  
and silence.  
No living thing.  
not one stone left standing on another,  
(but) rather a wilderness of stones,  
and see if finally then  
a lesson has been learned.  
Because there are times,  
when this is justified.  
There are times, though you may not like it,  
when this is all that human beings may rightly do  
and to shrink from it  
is to be less than human.