

The Ally Way (A Version of Alcestis)

Thelma

Now a song's sung of a noble lady,
One who died for her beloved Adie.
She joins the list of brave heroines
Saving the truth from men's dustbins:
History written in other men's blood.
Without her, now Adie's tears do flood.
There was Antigone, the bride of death,
Who for her conscience, breathed her last breath.
The first to say no to unjust laws!
Then the Amazons who fought in wars,
Graceful warriors who took up arms
To hunt and battle, they left the farms;
Now they beat men at their own games.
Need something done? Give it to the dames!
They kept the men for household tasks.
What happens to a boy child? Just don't ask!
"Amazon" means "without a breast";
For shooting arrows, they were obsessed.
Cleopatra by love waged her own war,
Brought Caesar to his knees: *his* child she bore.
Boudicca the fierce, was by Rome fear'd
And many a soldier by her was speared.
Queen Maeve ruled her subjects in Connacht,
In bed and war she won as she ought.
Lady Murasaki told Genji's Tale
With more finesse than any male;

Susan B. Anthony helped us vote;
Candidates must be good, or miss the boat.
While Sally Ride rode to the stars,
Wilma Mankiller led her Cherokees far;
Maya Angelou got her Nobel;
Hillary now makes her senatorial sell,
While Bill bangs his babes, and goes to hell.
Mother Teresa will never fall
As she shows her love for humanity all.
Alysin shines as a heroine brave:
Her husband's life only *she* did save.

Bruce

Well, friends are friends. They take you as you are. But you should listen to me a little for your own good. You helped me when I got into some trouble a few years ago and I owe you my life. Thank God I've a chance to pay you back. But you've got to make it a little easier for me. You've got to watch what you say about "terrorism." It used to be a rumor, now it's a real threat.

Adie

Bruce, my good friend. Always at my side. I knew I could count on you being here when I needed you.

Bruce

It's an honor to serve you sir. You're the best Secretary of State in our history!

Adie

Shakes head.

No, Bruce. When I look in the mirror that's not what I see. I see someone who has compromised everything he believed in, and a man who is ashamed of his legacy as an American. I had such high hopes. Once we could be proud of ourselves. Back in the days of the American Revolution, after telling England to go to hell we had a constitution that was the envy of people who didn't share our freedoms. We got rid of Hitler and were helping other countries get back on their feet. Uncle Sam wasn't an ugly American, but offered a glad hand! As Secretary of State I thought I could make a difference, and at the same time have our country set an example for other people. Now I have to reevaluate some things.

(*chuckles*) What distinguishes us from the terrorists now? Our enemies? The fact that THEY don't take pictures to send home when they torture? Aren't we supposed to know what is right and wrong? We call the enemy pigs, but they don't even EAT pigs. Who are the animals here?

Do they blame me now just because I don't think it's in our interest to make scorched earth of other countries? Sept. 11 was no accident.

Our debit list includes Native American genocide, environmental destruction, slavery which destroyed generations, concentration camps for loyal Japanese, and the destruction of even future generations in Hiroshima: 80,000 people killed instantly and 90% of the city destroyed. And we didn't prove our point by that, but had to flatten Nagasaki three days later. People say that in Japan ultimately about 1/2 million were killed from radiation.

I thought we could make amends for that. I wanted us to create the good life for future generations, and I wanted to be part of that

creation, and bring peace, genuine peace, to the world, with enough food to feed everyone, or at least to share some of what we have. Spend money on cleaning up our domestic fires rather than starting ones in the Middle East.

But now? Civilians are shot every day, even our own soldiers when the war is supposedly over.

And we can't even take care of our local messes. California went up in smoke because we wouldn't fund cleaning up the beetle infestation that made trees dried timber! From 40 million to do that when it was needed, we now have a 4 billion bill to do what should have been done for a fraction of the cost!

Enter Shooter, Adie's father, and Ally. She looks suspicious.

Ally

What is this? A stag party?

Adie

Yes. Bruce has picked up signals that trouble's brewing. Maybe an attack on our life.

Adie goes to Ally and kisses her warmly.

Bruce

Looks at Shooter.

Shooter, we need you. Be on your guard. There have been new threats since Adie gave that press conference about the Patriot Act. Do you remember he said it's one thing to be tough on terrorism but unacceptable when we give up our fundamental freedoms at the same time? It was clear that Adie was denouncing the policies of President Forrest.