

Disarming Girls

by

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THE GIRLS (3W)

TRUUS OVERSTEEGEN - ages 18-23 throughout the play. A soldier and a leader. Stubborn.
HANNIE SCHAFT - ages 21-26 throughout the play. A well-brought up law student.
FREDDIE OVERSTEEGEN - ages 16-21 throughout the play. Spunky, girlish, "the little sister".

THE CHORUS (3W)

Rules of Chorus: They exist in two dimensions.

NARRATION: exists outside the world of Hannie, Truus, and Freddie. Tone is contemporary, "vibe-y". They also literally build the world of the play.

and CHARACTERS: exist inside the world of Hannie, Truus, and Freddie. 1940's in the Netherlands.

1 - FATHER, PROTESTER, COUNCIL MEMBERS A, B, AND C, GERMAN SOLDIER A, GERMAN MAJOR, BÖHM, GERMAN RADIO HOST, OFFICER, LIEUTENANT FISCHER, WETERINGSHANZ PRISONER, ANOTHER PRISON GUARD AT AMSTELVEENSEWEG

2 - PHILINE, FRANZ, QUEEN WILHELMINA, PRISONER, GERMAN SOLDIER B, BAR PATRON, CAPTAIN LUDWIG, WETERINGSHANZ PRISONER, PRISON GUARD AT AMSTELVEENSEWEG

3 - SONJA, PROTESTER, COUNCIL MEMBERS D, E, AND F, HOST OF RADIO ORANJE, MEGASCENE PRISONER, YOUNG GERMAN OFFICER, POLICE CAPTAIN, INTERROGATOR, WETERINGSHANZ PRISONER

INCLUSIVITY IN CASTING STATEMENT

This is a play considering the universal experiences of women from the past, present, and future. We require that casting includes female-identifying artists from a diverse spectrum of races, abilities, sexual orientations, ages, and backgrounds. Do not be constrained by the idea that this is a "period piece". Director/movement choreographer should feel free to change movement indicated in stage directions based on the individuals in the cast.

SCENE 17

(TRUUS continues until FREDDIE interrupts her with:)

FREDDIE

Truus - if your face is sweaty, the makeup won't stick!

123

Prom prep vibes!

(HANNIE helps TRUUS into a dress.)

TRUUS

This is supposed to make women look better?

FREDDIE

Most women. Hannie, Truus and I should really switch roles. She's just an ordinary Joan.

TRUUS

Joan?

3

That's just her face.

FREDDIE

A Joan means boring to look at.

HANNIE

I think Joan means courageous- like Joan of Arc. Now sit down so I can put this on your face.

(TRUUS sits. HANNIE applies makeup.)

FREDDIE

Good luck.

TRUUS

This is a nauseating amount of makeup. This is idiotic. I look idiotic. This isn't going to work.

HANNIE

Truus, you look like a woman-

TRUUS

No, I don't want to do this.

Dressing as a man has worked so far. Those clothes leave no trace. If we're shapeless, we're safe.

HANNIE

Your shape is your strength.

(Breath.)

Our plan is to go into battle. No one looks at a woman and thinks she would fight. Right?

TRUUS

That's why / we wear -

HANNIE

/ We can disarm the enemy, simply by existing as women.

(HANNIE makes TRUUS look in the mirror.)

Your warpaint is this makeup. Your target is Hendrick Böhm - a captain. Your weapon is your words - your persuasion to get him to join you.

TRUUS

But will he?

HANNIE

Of course.

TRUUS

It's twenty-one fifteen. I feel like I'm going to throw up.

HANNIE

You're a soldier and this is what the mission requires. Show me your walk into the bar.

TRUUS

Here I go.

(TRUUS awkwardly struts from one end of the room to the other.)

1

Oh, no.

3

It's tragic.

FREDDIE

Truus!

TRUUS

I'm trying.

HANNIE

Watch.

(3 drops the runway beat.)

2

Ope, here we go now!

(HANNIE gracefully strolls from one end of the room to the other. 3 stops the runway beat.)

TRUUS

Isn't that what I did?

FREDDIE

God, no.

HANNIE

All right, all right. Can I sculpt you?
Hip out a bit. Very nice. Chin up? Not so much. Good. And
move like you're stirring a pot with your hips.

(3 drops the runway beat again.)

Try once more. Relax your body- from there you'll have the
fullest possibility of motion.

(TRUUS tries this from one end to the
other. It's kinda graceful! 123 cheer!)

My girl- you're a girl! We're ready now, except for one
thing.

(HANNIE hands TRUUS and FREDDIE their own
tubes of lipstick.)

FREDDIE

Oh, my.

2

Hannie's lipstick-

HANNIE

"True Crimson".

3

Freddie got-

FREDDIE

"Dusty Rose".

TRUUS

"Cognac Red".

(HTF applies lipstick at the same time as
123 holds up mirrors for them.)

HANNIE

To die beautifully.

FREDDIE

You don't think she's going to die, do you?

(2 and 3 begin to transform the space into
a Moffen bar.)

HANNIE

No, I don't. Here's what you'll do, Truus:

(Transition.)

SCENE 18

(1 AS BÖHM sits on a barstool and tosses
his firearm on the bar.)

HANNIE (CON'T)

Ten p.m. is before it gets rowdy and after mostly everyone
there has had their first or second round.

(TRUUS enters the bar.)

You'll walk in like we practiced.

(TRUUS tries her best.)

Locate the target. Approach the target, but don't sit yet.
Let him see you.

(1 AS BÖHM notices TRUUS approaching.)

Notice his order.

1 AS BÖHM

(To 3 AS BARTENDER:)

Double whiskey, neat.

TRUUS

Uh. I'll have the same.

HANNIE

Then you may sit by him.

(TRUUS sits by 1 AS BÖHM.)

TRUUS

Hi, hello.

1 AS BÖHM (bemused.)

Hello.

TRUUS

What is your name?

1 AS BÖHM

Hendrick Böhm.

TRUUS

(At 1 AS BÖHM's insignia:)

Ah, Captain Böhm.

1 AS BÖHM
What is yours?
(Breath.)

TRUUS
Joan.

1 AS BÖHM
Joan what?

TRUUS
Oh, uh-

1 AS BÖHM
You don't know your surname?

TRUUS
Hah, I apologize. I have just been drinking already this evening. Joan -

HANNIE
Come on, you remember.

TRUUS
- Jenever.
(1 AS BÖHM chuckles, then silence. 1 AS BÖHM turns back to his drink.)

HANNIE
If you start to lose him, apply some lipstick.
(TRUUS gets out Cognac Red and applies.)

1 AS BÖHM
(1 AS BÖHM throws back his drink.)
I haven't seen you here before.
(TRUUS takes a drink and tries to stifle a gag.)
Are you all right?

TRUUS (swallowing.)
Mhmmmm.

1 AS BÖHM
Is this your first time?

TRUUS
...at a bar? Oh no, I just usually order something else.
(Silence.)

1 AS BÖHM
You are very interesting to watch.

TRUUS
Oh?

(Breath.)
You are very...handsome to look at.

1 AS BÖHM
(To 3 AS BARTENDER:)
Another.
(1 AS BÖHM raises the glass.)
God protect the Fuhrer and the Fatherland.
(TRUUS swallows.)

TRUUS
(TRUUS raises her glass.)
God protect the Fuhrer and the Fatherland.
(They drink.)

1 AS BÖHM
So, it's your first time here.
(1 AS BÖHM touches her face.)

TRUUS
My. Your hands are quite soft for a soldier.

1 AS BÖHM
Are they?

TRUUS
Are mine?
(1 AS BÖHM takes TRUUS' hand and kisses it.
TRUUS throws back the rest of her drink.)
Would you mind walking me home? I know a very private.
Route.

1 AS BÖHM
Now?
(TRUUS leans in and whispers something in 1
AS BÖHM's ear.
He smiles, drops money on the counter, and
reclaims his weapon. They leave together.)

TRUUS
This way, "Herr Captain".
(Transition as 2 and 3 create a forest. 1
AS BÖHM and TRUUS walk until they get to a
clearing.)

2

A kiss on the cheek.

(TRUUS kisses 1 AS BÖHM on the cheek.)

FREDDIE

Bang.

(Transition.)

SCENE 19

(123 transform the space into the
Clubhouse.)

2

Sleepover vibes!!

3

The girls have been up all night.

TRUUS

All right, Freddie. So you're the Mof-

(FREDDIE strikes a pose.)

FREDDIE

Where do I sit?

TRUUS

There, anywhere.

Now, order a whiskey.

(FREDDIE bangs on table and speaks in a bad
German dialect.)

FREDDIE

Give me the whiskey!

TRUUS

And you spot me!

Hannie, you're me! A Moffen girl, obviously.

HANNIE

Oh, look at me. I'm "Joan" and I actually prefer men's
clothes.

TRUUS

And you say-

FREDDIE

Hello, Fraulein. You look like beautiful German woman.

TRUUS

No, his accent was thicker.

(FREDDIE with a thicker bad accent.)

FREDDIE

You look like beautiful German woman.

TRUUS

Thicker!!!

FREDDIE (thick accent.)

You look like beautiful German woman!

TRUUS

And I said:

HANNIE

Your hands are so soft. Are your lips as well?

(HANNIE takes big sip of invisible
whiskey.)

FREDDIE (thick accent.)

No- everything about me is hard.

(HANNIE does spit-take of invisible
whiskey. HTF and 123 all dissolve in
laughter.)

HANNIE (saluting.)

To Truus!

FREDDIE (saluting.)

To Truus!

HANNIE

For her first successful Moffen mission!

TRUUS (saluting.)

Strike those that hurt-

123, HANNIE AND FREDDIE

And hurt not those that help!

(All complete salute. Breath.)

FREDDIE

I have a question:

Why didn't we stay to help bury him?

TRUUS

We were just supposed to see to his death.

HANNIE

Franz says it's not for women to see.

FREDDIE

But we can see them dead?
(Weighty silence.)
Why did you leave me there?

HANNIE

What?

FREDDIE

Truus didn't come to tell me the coast was clear for hours.

TRUUS

I-

HANNIE

What happened?

TRUUS

She soiled herself.

FREDDIE

-Truus! I don't get to do the fun part-

TRUUS

Freddie, I'm sorry I didn't come sooner, all right?-

FREDDIE

You got to run away and I'm the one who had to pull the trigger.

TRUUS

That's because you're the most accurate shot!

FREDDIE

So I have to stay hidden in the cold woods staring at a dead man for hours while -

TRUUS

/ I was distracted.
I will never do that again. I promise.

FREDDIE

You promise?

TRUUS

Of course. I'm sorry.
(Breath.)

FREDDIE

I suppose I will forgive you.

(Thick accent:)
Even if it's...hard.
You may kiss me on my cheek.
(TRUUS obliges.)

TRUUS
You're up next, Hannie.

2
Let's see Hannie. STIR. THAT. POTTT.
(FREDDIE hurries to the radio and turns the dial to a raucous dancing tune.
3 drops the runway beat. HANNIE works the runway and "stirs the pot" like so crazy. HANNIE grabs FREDDIE to join her.
2 and 1 add to the beat and the song. Everyone is dancing. 123 are dropping it low. HTF are swing dancing or doing the jitterbug. This is a universal moment, though the two worlds are separate. What woman hasn't had a sleepover dance party?? Suddenly:)

3 AS HOST OF RADIO ORANJE
"Good evening listeners, at sea, in the country or anywhere in the world. June 6th, 1944.
(HTF and 1 and 2 stop to listen.)
We interrupt to let you know that early this morning, the Allies began their assault on the north-western face of Hitler's European Fortress. D-Day has arrived.
(Blackout. Transition.)