

Revised 6/12/17

ACT II
Scene 6

(LIGHTS UP: TWO MONTHS LATER. LATE AFTERNOON. MOISHE'S OFFICE. MOISHE picks up phone and calls SENIOR NONA.)

MOISHE (on phone)

Hello Nona. It's me.

(SENIOR NONA picks up phone in her spotlight)

SENIOR NONA (on phone)

Hi Moishe. How have you and Sophie been doing?

MOISHE

It's been hard on all of us. And you?

SENIOR NONA

Like everyone else, I've been crying for days. Franks office was in Tower Two and we were crazy with worry. Fortunately, he was out of town during the attack. Still, he won't return our calls or anything. I'm a mess.

MOISHE

Oye! I'm so sorry to hear that. But that's what happens in war. Buildings are destroyed, lives are torn apart and the spirit of the people is broken.

SENIOR NONA

My last chance to save my family came tumbling down with the Towers. That's why I sent you Spirit of America. I wanted to show us a better way.

MOISHE

I know and you did a great job. Your song is as strong as the National Anthem and as beautiful as God Bless America. And I want you should know, I called in every favor I had to get it on a label. All I got was, that they are not taking anything on the subject because the radio stations won't play them.

SENIOR NONA

Why?

MOISHE

Well, supposedly the radio stations got a memo from the top saying that President Bush wants us to move forward and not be reminded of the incident.

SENIOR NONA

But if the stations stopped playing songs like Blowin in the Wind during Viet Nam, who knows how much longer the war would have gone on. The songwriters deserve an

opportunity to express their points of view, otherwise in 15 or 20 years the people will ask, "Where are the songs?"

MOISHE

I don't know what to tell you.

SENIOR NONA

I know it's not your fault but I just want to scream.

MOISHE

Go ahead. You'll feel better. Let it out!

SENIOR NONA (Screaming)

AAAH! There will be no songs to help us heal or make sense of the senseless.

MOISHE

Do you feel better?

SENIOR NONA

Not really. That was only the half of it.

MOISHE

What do you mean?

SENIOR NONA (tearing up)

I lost the first man I ever loved to Vietnam. I thought if I could shed a better light on what just happened, then maybe his death could count for something good. That people would finally realize that there is no war to end all wars (beat) because everyone loses something in the end.

MOISHE

I am so sorry Nona. I know how you feel (beat) but sometimes death is not the worst thing that can happen.

SENIOR NONA

What do you mean?

MOISHE

My nephew Jacob came home a basket case from the last war. He couldn't sleep. He couldn't focus...was screaming all the time. Then he couldn't hold down a job and just disappeared. Finally, one day when his mother was going grocery shopping, she found him laying on the street begging for food.

SENIOR NONA

Oh my God Moishe. That's awful.

MOISHE

And he was one of the lucky ones because she brought him home.