

MC: Race-mixing abolitionists!
WC: A bulwark--
MC: Stone them and burn down this hall! Burn it burn it!
WC & TW: They are burning our hall!
MC: Burn it! Burn it!

Mrs. D: Ashes, ashes, dreams, ashes.
How many times can the broken heart heal?
I vowed never to forget the goodness of the human heart, but today is a dark day.

Ang & TW: Ashes, ashes, we'll start again.
It was only a building, a means and not an end.

Sar: Angelina, Miss Douglass, Mr. Weld!
Why are you standing here? The convention is starting now.

Mrs. D, TW, Ang: How can that be?

Sar: We have a school room. There is no time for slacking. Come along.

Mrs. D, TW, Ang: We'd better go.

WC: Welcome to the second day of our convention.
This school room will do just fine so please pay attention.

Sar: Our work is not done and we have no time to lose.

All: Our work is not done, we'll find a way.

~ The End ~

Postscript: For the rest of their lives, Theodore, Sarah, and Angelina kept a single household. Together, they wrote *American Slavery As It Is*, the most influential anti-slavery publication prior to *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. They continued to work for emancipation and women's rights, although they faded from national attention. Sarah Mapps Douglass educated her community and worked for freedom until her death in 1882. She ordered that her papers be burned after she passed, and so we know only the broad outlines of her selfless and dedicated life.

The anti-slavery movement moved toward political action and away from the notion that slavery could be ended by convincing people of its sinfulness. Although a number of factors led toward schism, the "woman issue" triggered a split among abolitionists in 1840. Still, the work of the early abolitionists, in the form of tireless and often dangerous traveling, speaking, and writing, educated northerners and brought them to an understanding that made the Civil War possible.

The public example of the Grimkes, and the work done by women in the female anti-slavery societies, paved the way for the rise of the women's movement. The first women's rights convention was held at Seneca Falls, NY, in 1848. The early women's rights organizations and activities were modeled after the female anti-slavery societies.

And today...our work's still not done!

A Hundred Times More



Saturday, October 26, 2019

First Unitarian Universalist Church

Nell Clowder..... Music & lyrics
Jenn Goodner..... Conductor

Solos

Natalie Joy Howard..... Sarah Mapps Douglass
Page Stephens..... Sarah Grimke
Charissa Memrick..... Angelina Grimke
David Small..... Theodore Weld
Alexa Nelan young Sarah Grimke
Kirstin Street Hetty

Soprano

Shelley Burton
Garielle Masters
Kinsey Neas
Tyra Smith
Tracy Tanner

Alto

Stacey Amorous
Shelley Auer Schneider .. Mother
Isabella Dolande... Church Council
Rosa Mondragon Harris
Amesha Stephens
Sametria Richardson

Tenor

Rashad Burris
Garrett Cordes Mailman
Andy Fleming... Church Council
Holton Johnson

Bass

Iain Sturrock Father, Reverend
Christopher Robertson
Dionysus Hendersen
David Adams Henry
Mark Willenbring Church
Council

special guest appearance by Tapestry Singers

Orchestra

Sherri Marcus..... violin
Brett Osburn viola
Tani Barr cello
Monica Salas flute
Patrick Hughes French horn
Parvati Mani..... piano
Elayne Harris percussion

AS Men: No they're not!

All Wom: Yes they are!

TW: Your example does so much for women, Angelina.

Stay true to abolition and let other women give the women's speeches.

Ang & Sar: Can't you see, my brother, that woman would do, and she could do,
a hundred times more for the slave if she herself were not fettered?

All: Woman cannot push abolition forward with all her might,
Until we take up the stumbling block out of the road.

We do not ask anything special for our sex.

We just ask our brethren to take their feet off our necks.

9. Pennsylvania Hall *Everyone*

All: Welcome! Welcome! Welcome to Pennsylvania Hall!
Pennsylvania Hall, our new temple of Free Speech!
All views are welcome here, no one need ever fear.

TW, MC: Ladies, we leave you now to your women's convention
For abolition.

Mrs. D: First report!

WC: Women helped build Pennsylvania Hall!

Mrs. D: Second report!

WC: Our petitions are two miles long!

Mrs. D: What is that noise?

WC: A crowd is gathering outside.

Mrs. D: I don't like the look of them.

WC: We've seen rabble rousers before.
We can't let them stop our work.

Sar, Mrs. D & WC:

Look outside! What you see is the spirit of slavery.
We have dared to plot the death of the beast.
If we weren't a threat they would leave us in peace.
The fierceness of woman is not in her fists.
Our patience is legion and we will persist.
I would die for this cause, but I'm not a martyr.
We disband our convention to fight on tomorrow.

MC: There is a natural order, order ordained by God.

WC: We will go out two by two, hold fast to your partner!

MC: Order you shall not defile, order you shall not defile,
Order that we must protect, we must protect!

WC: A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.

MC: Unnatural women, stone them!

WC: Protect your faces, keep your heads down!

Program

Overture *Mrs. Douglass, chorus*

Growing Up *Young Sarah, Mother, Hetty, Father, women's chorus*

Lullaby for Angelina *Adult Sarah*

Angelina in Charleston
Angelina, Mother, brother Henry, Reverend, chorus

Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society
Mrs. Douglass, women's chorus, Angelina

Mr. Garrison *Angelina, Mrs. Douglass, women's chorus*

Intermission

Agents' Training: the Monster *men's chorus, Theodore, Sarah, Angelina*

The Grimkes are Doin' It
*Mrs. Douglass, women's chorus, Angelina, Sarah, men's chorus,
Theodore, church council*

Pennsylvania Hall *Mrs. Douglass, Sarah, Angelina, Theodore, chorus*

Solo: Weld destroyed his voice giving anti-slavery speeches.
Solo: That's why he's our teacher now.
Ang: An orator with an injured voice is like a lion without a roar.

TW: *Solo/Theodore Weld (lyrics not listed)*

I must restrain my passion else my voice gives out.

MC: Two million seven hundred thousand,
So many, so many.

Ang: He is a lion in the tribe of abolition!

Sar: Eloquent words, Mr. Weld,
But what would you have us do?

TW: *Solo/Theodore Weld (lyrics not listed)*

Sar: Mr. Weld, my sister cannot do these dangerous things!

Ang: Sarah!

TW: We have been discussing the men's work, Miss Grimke.
You women have a different job to do.

Ang: Please tell us.

TW & MC:

You will go to the cities, to the parlors, in the homes, and speak to groups of women.
By your earnest and knowledgeable powers of persuasion you will win them to our
cause. We need the women, Misses Grimke and no matter what some people say, it is
the expression of her nature and her duty to help the slave.

Sar: These are not things that women do.

TW: But you can do them.

Sar: You mean me?

TW: I mean you, Sister Sarah.

Sar: For years I have heard only, "You can't."

Ang: What say you, Sister? Will you do it?

S & A: Two million seven hundred thousand, enslaved.

Sar: The first time I ever witnessed a person being whipped,
My child's heart cried out against it.

All: We are here to plot the death of the beast,
To give it no quarter until it's deceased.
By peaceful means, by legal ways,
We'll starve it to death and number its days.
By rousing the north, and opening eyes,
And telling the truth.

8. The Grimkes are Doin' It – Mrs. Douglas, Angelina, Sarah, PFASS women, Theodore, Antislavery men, Church Council

Mrs. D: Make way for women in abolition!

Mrs. D & PFASS: Sarah and Angelina will prove that women can leave the kitchen.

We have the brains and the courage to fulfill this mission.

Our eyes are upon them, we're holding our breath.

Will they succeed, will they pass the test?

They are the vanguard, showing the way

Can they handle the strain or will they fall prey?

Narration; speeches by Sarah and Angelina

Women: We never imagined such horrible things could be a part of the American dream. These women of such deep and caring piety have convinced us we must form an anti-slavery society.

TW: Have you heard my brothers?

AS Men: Heard what?

TW: Ten new anti-slavery societies this month.

AS Men: How so?

TW: It's Sarah Grimke and her sister, Angelina.

Have you heard how brilliantly she builds her arguments?

AS Men: Sarah, too.

TW: How exhaustive are her proofs, how piercing her laments?

AS Men: Sarah, too.

TW & AS men: They are rousing the north, opening eyes,
telling the truth and exposing lies.

Church Council: (chanting)

We invite your attention to the dangers which at present threaten the female character. The power of a woman is found in her dependence. She understands God made her weak and weakness is her shield. When she assumes the place of man and publicly foments reform, she yields the powers God has granted. She becomes unnatural and degeneracy and ruin are her lot.

Church Council: There is a natural order, order ordained by God.
Exemplified in a meek and goodly wife.

PFASS: Have you ever heard such nonsense? Weakness is our main defense!
What do these men know of what's natural?
They think the fox should guard the hen!

Speeches by Sarah and Angelina

AS Men: Is this an anti-slavery movement, or is it a women's movement?

All Wom: It is a movement the Grimkes helped to build.

AS Men: They are not helping.

All Wom: Yes they are!

Nell Clowder..... Producer

Linda Nenno..... Staging director & dramaturg

Gus Sterneman Instrumental conductor

Viki Schmidt Accompanist

Ruth Sumners..... Financials & development

Janna Bear..... Stage manager

Sarah Lancaster, David Sumners,
Peggy Gough, Viki Schmidt Reception

Liz Gold..... Poster

Debbie Denison..... Artwork "Prayer Without Words"

Sound John Cates

Photography Jake Lorfing

Sponsored By



Supporters and Helpers

In approximate chronological order

Ruth Sumners, Barbara Wilson, Viki Schmidt, Janet Williams, Jenn Goodner, Jenny Lou Pena, Linda Nenno, Jessica Winslow, Hai Zheng, Debbie Denison, Rachel McInturff, Liz Cass and the Armstrong Community Music School, Jim & Cindy Phillips, Mary Ellen Fine, Kathleen Bohn & Sherry Woods, Pam Cosel, Sarah Gowin, Carla McElhaney, Margaret Aymer, Shannon Posern and the First Unitarian Universalist Church, Asaf Ronen, Page Stephens and the Butler School of Music, Duane Roth and St. John's United Methodist Church, Rick Rowley, Lina Breining, Julia Watkins-Davis, Mary Robbins, Prof. Darlene Wiley, Chandler Calkins & Karen Waters, Nancy Garrett, Wylie J Jordan, Palmer McLean, Christy Maney, Liz Gold, Dr. Stephen Burnaman, Dr. Gloria Quinlan and the Huston Tillotson University Choir, Isaac Moshay, Faith Holmes & Renee Simar, Elliott Girls, Jan Hill, Celeste Epstein, Toni Powell, Dr. Don Lovering, David Sumners, Judlyne Gibson and KMFA, Deborah Kylar, Susan Alloway–

Thank you, all!

Ang: I wrote William Lloyd Garrison a letter,
He moved me more than I can say.
All: You wrote William Garrison?
Ang: I did.
All: Tell us what you said. I said...

6. Mr. Garrison – Angelina, Mrs. Douglass and women's chorus

Ang: Mr. Garrison, I have been afraid.
WC: Why afraid?
Ang: Afraid of the violence faced by abolitionists
here in the north.
WC: We, too, have been afraid.
Ang: Mr. Garrison, I have been afraid
Not for your life, but that your courage would fail,
That you would give up, abandon the slave,
And slay the hope you have given me.
Ang: But you Mr. Garrison have stood firm.
You have not retreated even an inch
From this holy ground, emancipation.
Mr. Garrison, how earnestly I desire, not for relief,
but that we all are willing and able to endure to the end.
I speak from what I have seen, I speak from what I have known
in the land of slavery, and I say:
This is a cause worth dying for!
And I would see our blood, abolitionist blood spilt,
rather than our beloved country desolated by war.
WC: No man could speak more eloquently,
She has moved us so powerfully, this woman, this woman.
...
At last, at last! The men have opened their doors to women.
...
Ang: Let me see that letter! I will go to agent's training.
And I will make sister come with me.
Sarah won't refuse me if it's to protect my reputation.
WC: Watch out abolitionist men! Here come the Grimke sisters!

7. Agents' Training: The Monster

Theodore Weld (TW), Sarah and Angelina, men's chorus (MC)

MC: Welcome, Misses Grimke, to agents' training.
Sar: We're just here to listen.
MC: Our teacher is Theodore Weld, a brilliant orator.
He swore never to marry until the last slave is free.
Solo: Here he comes, everyone settle down.

1. Overture – Mrs. Douglass and chorus (CH)

Mrs. D: Let me tell you about the Grimke sisters
CH: Sarah and Angelina
Mrs. D: You've never heard of them but you should know them
CH: This hole in our history will be plugged up now.
Mrs. D & CH: They were brave, they were smart,
They were committed to freedom
And equality of race, gender – equality.
They were not perfect,
They could be self-righteous
They could be stubborn and annoying
CH: But you have to be annoying to change the world.
Mrs. D: Fifty-five years before the Civil War
CH: Sarah is ten years old.
Mrs. D: In Charleston, South Carolina
CH: The Grimkes have slaves, a plantation,
and are well-respected.
Mrs. D & CH: Sarah was odd (at ten)
She studied Latin (at ten)
Strangest of all she wanted to do away,
Get rid of, eradicate slavery.
But she was a girl
And this was a time
When women belonged to husband or father.
Woman's place was at home.
Little Sarah did not know
The ways of the world.

2. Growing Up – Young Sarah, Hetty, women's chorus

S,H: I hope that she likes me, I just want to play.
All this nasty grown-up stuff just gets in the way.
Mama warned me, explained how to act.
I should do what she says but I feel so trapped.
S: Mother said I should teach you, and I will,
Something important, something that thrills.
H: I like to learn, I'll do my best.
Will you teach me a riddle or fancy dance step?
S: Hetty, I will teach you to read!
H: But Mama said I can't, it's dangerous--
S: Don't worry, it will be our secret.
Now listen and repeat after me:
S,H: A is for apple
A is for apple
B is for butter / B is butter
C is for cream / and chocolate too
D is for dough / D is dough

S,H & WC: Mix them together they bake into words
Cooking up everything you've ever heard.
And bringing you tastes of a world far away
Reading, you learn what the wisest men say.

H: That's so much fun! Can I try it?

S: Go ahead!

S,H: 'A' is for apple / That's right

'B' is butter / Keep going

'C' is chocolate / Wish I had some

'D' is delight it's delight it's delight

S&H & WC: Amazing the things you can know

With twenty-six letters to put on a show

You can read in the Bible and learn how to live

No end to the joy that the written word gives ...

3. Lullaby for Angelina – Sarah (lyrics not listed)

4. Angelina in Charleston – Angelina, Mother, her brother Henry, Reverend, chorus (CH)

Ang: Every day I see such suffering. I can't believe my family does not see what I see.
I must find a way to make them see.

Ang: Mother, may I please have a word with you?

Mthr: What is it, Angelina?

Ang: Why should slaves do everything, but have nothing of their own?

Mthr: O Lord, not this again.

Ang: Mother they need blankets.

Mthr: They get one each year.

Ang: Mother they need food.

Mthr: They have plenty to eat.

Ang: Mother, a Christian should be generous and gentle to all God's children.
I think of your immortal soul.

Mthr: How can you talk to me this way?

Ang: Mother please, do not misunderstand me

Mthr: You call me unchristian –

Ang: Mother please

Mthr: how do you think I feel?

Ang: Mother please

Mthr: Ah, your words cut me.

Ang: Mother please, I did not mean that, I did not mean to say-

Mthr: I have been redeemed by Christ's blood.

He will not suffer me to be plucked from his hand.

Ang: Every day I see such suffering. I must find a way to relieve this suffering.
There must be a way.

Ang: Henry, dear brother, may I have a word with you?

Hnry: What is it, Angelina?

Ang: Your slave, John, has run away again out of fear of you.

Hnry: I'll give him a beating he'll never forget.

Ang: Henry, please don't beat him.

Hnry: Why not?

Ang: Henry, please don't beat him.

Hnry: He leaves me no choice.

Ang: Henry, our Savior taught us to be kind, to take care of the poor and helpless.
You would not beat your horse so.

Hnry: My horse is better than any slave. Angelina, how I treat my slaves is none of your
business so get out of my way.

You don't understand my responsibilities

Ang: You have responsibilities to God.

Hnry: Don't preach at me.

Ang: It is not preaching to say what's in my heart.

Hnry: You have always thought that you knew better, that you were better.

Ang: This evil is destroying you, Henry!

Hnry: Move to the North if you think we're so terrible!

Ang: Reverend MacDowell, my friend, preach the sinfulness of slavery,
the dignity of each and every soul. You know the Bible says so.

Rev: Angelina, my job is to save souls. I cannot threaten the masters' control.
They must think the church is on their side
Else they'll never let their slaves be baptized.

Mthr, Hnry, & Rev: There is a natural order ordained by God, exemplified in the culture of the
South. Which you would destroy! See us impov'rishd! Everything twisted!

Ang & CH: O Lord, How long will you suffer the foot of the oppressor to stand on the neck of
the slave?

Ang: I must! I can't!...

5. Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society Mrs. D, Angelina and women's chorus

Mrs. D: Welcome, welcome, Angelina!

Mrs. D / WC: Welcome to Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society.

We are just women but we have a mission to support the abolitionist men.

We're raising money to build a new hall, A temple of free speech for all.

If we help to build it then surely the men, when they have their conventions, will let
us attend, attend at Pennsylvania Hall.

Ang: Excuse me, ladies, but please explain how this new building helps the slaves in the
south.

Mrs. D: Miss Grimke there are things you should know. Abolitionists have many foes. When
our men speak, they may be attacked, especially if they are black.
We need to be able to gather and plan out our national strategy without fear.

Mrs. D & WC: In Boston our leader, William Lloyd Garrison, was dragged thru the streets at
the end of a rope.

Ang: I heard about it.

Mrs. D & WC: The mob would have killed him, but he was saved
because the mayor arrested him first.