

Scene Two

(JOAN is being held down by her brother PIERRE while her father JACQUES beats her with a stick. ISABELLE is standing by, looking grieved.)

JACQUES. No daughter 'a mine is goin' whoring after an army!

JOAN. Hittin' me won't change my mind.

JACQUES. Get those voices outta yer head or I'll lock you up.

JOAN. Can't, Da.

JACQUES. Can't or you won't?

JOAN. Can't when I know I'm right. (JACQUES hits her again.)

ISABELLE. Jacques, stop.

JOAN. Let him, Ma, I can take it.

JACQUES. You're a tough one, aren't you?

JOAN. Guess I am.

(JOAN wipes at her eyes.)

PIERRE. You cryin' now.

JOAN. Yuh. so?

PIERRE. Can't lead an army if you cry like a girl.

JOAN. Not cryin' like a girl.

PIERRE. Cryin' like what, then? A boy?

JOAN. I'm cryin' 'cause my arse hurts.

ISABELLE. Leave her alone now.

PIERRE. What's with you wantin' to wear men's clothes? You wanna be a guy? You sweet on girls?

JOAN. Shut it.

ISABELLE. That's enough, leave her alone.

PIERRE. Want me to have a go at her, Da?

JACQUES. No. Get the cow collar.

JOAN. You gonna lock me up now, Da?

JACQUES. That's right. 'Til you get your head screwed on straight.

JOAN. That's a lovely thing to do, chainin' up yer daughter like a piece 'a livestock. When my escort gets here they're gonna think you're quite the man.

ISABELLE. Don't get smart with your Da.

JOAN. Not getting smart, just letting him know what's what.

JACQUES. I held back on you, y'know. If a soldier gets a hold 'a you, there's no mercy.

JOAN. Yuh, I seen what they can do. We could all get slaughtered anyway, sittin' here dumb as a sheep. ISABELLE. Bite your tongue.

(PIERRE comes back with the cow collar and a lock and chain and starts buckling it around JOAN's waist.)

JOAN. It's true, Ma. We could be the next LeBeques. I've gotten the call to save our country. I have the backing of God Almighty Himself, and you wanna hold me back?! PIERRE. It's 'cause you're outta your nut.

JOAN. That's your own ignorance. I have people out there who believe me.

PIERRE. Fuggin' Cousin Durand? He's a moron.

JOAN. I got a high-ranking captain with connections to the royal court, I got a bishop, I got the entire city of Vaucouleurs who know I'm the Maid. But own family treats me like dirt!

ISABELLE. We're just lookin' out for you, Joanie.

JOAN. This is lookin' out for me? What you're doin' to me is wrong, it's sinful! Your doubtin' could send you all to hell!

JACQUES. Don't you threaten us, girl.

ISABELLE. Shame on you!

JOAN. I'm just sayin' it 'cause I love you Da. I'm sorry you can't see that I'm right.

JACQUES. (to PIERRE.) Chain her to her bed.

JOAN. I will not let this family crush me!

(PIERRE takes JOAN off.)

ISABELLE. Oh Jacques. What have we done? She hates us.

JACQUES. She'll get over it.