

SCENE ONE: Ancient Britain, outside

(OPTIONAL SONG: THROUGH AND THROUGH (COMMUNITY TOGETHER))

BOUDICCA her daughters HEANUA and LANNOSEA, address the audience.

BOUDICCA: Welcome good tribespeople of Britain! I have called you here today as we are all in grave danger. And we haven't got much time!

LANNOSEA: The Romans, led by that nasty idiot Catus Decianus, have done us all a terrible wrong.

BOUDICCA: That's right daughter. My dear husband, who was the ruler of this kingdom, has died. In his will he left half the kingdom to the Romans and half to our daughters here.

HEANUA: Yes, but those greedy Romans are taking *all* of it and turning us out on the streets. They said they were better than us.

BOUDICCA: Then, they marched in, beat us up, and took all our stuff.

ICENI SOLDIERS enter, running. They bow to BOUDICCA.

BRIAN: Queen Boudicca, we bring bad news!

BOBBY: The Roman soldiers are on the rampage and they're beating up every Iceni person they see!

BILLY: They're taking their stuff too, and trashing our homes and villages!

BRIAN: They will not stop until they destroy us!

BOBBY: They're going to crush our neighbours, the Trinovantes, next.

BOUDICCA: We can't let them treat us Britons like this. We must stand up and fight, or they will destroy us, our children, and our future.

HEANUA: We must fight for our community!

LANNOSEA: We must fight for our rights!

BOUDICCA: But we need the whole tribe to unite. Soldiers, are you with us?

ICENI SOLDIERS: Yes!

BOUDICCA (to audience): Iceni tribespeople, fellow Britons, are you with us?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

BOUDICCA: Thank you, thank you! Now, we can't do this alone. We need to convince our neighbours, the Trinovantes, to join us and avenge our lost freedom.

ICENI SOLDIERS: To freedom!

BOUDICCA, HEANUA, LANNOSEA and ICENI SOLDIERS exit

SCENE TWO: Ancient Britain, outside

TINA TRINOVANTE and her SOLDIERS are trying to build shelters out of sticks.

- TINA:** Come on everyone – we need to get these shelters finished – the weather’s getting worse.
- TOMMY:** It’s the coldest winter on record, apparently.
- TINA:** They say that every year.
- TOMMY:** Thank you for helping us Queen Tina.
- TINA:** Looks like you need all the help you can get.
- TAYLOR:** Not all leaders would help their people like you do.
- TINA:** Well, I am your Queen, but I’m also a Trinovante. I take my inspiration from my friend, Queen Boudicca, of our neighbours the Iceni.
- TEGAN:** She’s my hero.

TOMMY nudges TEGAN

- TOMMY:** We’re lucky to have leaders like you and Boudicca.
- TAYLOR:** I wish the Romans actually cared about their subjects. They’re taking over the place – treating all us like slaves. And that Catus Decianus – he’s no leader, he’s just a big bully.

Marching footsteps are heard. CATUS DECIANUS and ROMAN SOLDIERS enter.

- TOMMY:** This is our chance.
- TAYLOR:** Let’s stand up to him.
- TEGAN:** Let’s hide behind a bush!
- TINA:** Catus, Catus, Sir, we, the Trinovantes, have some things we are not happy about. We’d like to –
- CATUS (interrupts):** It’s alright little girl, I’m just passing through. Don’t bother *me* with your trifles. I’m Catus Decianus and I’m a very busy man.
- TINA:** But this is important! You can’t just come here and-
- CATUS (interrupts):** Look; I’m a Roman and you’re a Briton. I’m a man and you’re a woman. I’m fab and you’re drab. So, give me all your stuff, get lost, and make way for amazing, wonderful, brilliant me!

The ROMAN SOLDIERS threaten the TRINOVANTES and knock down their shelters.

The TRINOVANTES reluctantly give CATUS purses of coins from their pockets and exit.

CATUS and the ROMAN SOLDIERS assemble to leave together or to sing their OPTIONAL SONG. It has a disco strut/catwalk vibe.

(OPTIONAL SONG: I’M CATUS DECIANUS)