

Live Free or Die

3 personnes vivant en Guadeloupe durant la période de la 1^{ère} abolition de l'esclavage, ont appris la décision de Napoléon Bonaparte de rétablir l'esclavage. Ils se sont rencontrés dans un lieu secret afin de décider ensemble comment lutter contre cet acte inhumain.

Three people living in Guadeloupe during the period of the first abolition of slavery, learned Napoleon Bonaparte's decision to restore slavery. They met in a secret place to decide together how to fight against this inhuman act.

scène 1: "First meeting"

Par une nuit sans étoile, une jeune dame assise sur un tronc de raisinier bavarde avec un homme sur une plage... Quand soudain, ils entendent des bruits de pas...

Mulâtresse S: - Be quiet please! Someone is coming.

Joseph: - Who's there? Who are you?

Louis: - It's me. I'm Louis Delgrès.

Les 2 amis répondent en chœur.

Mulâtresse Set Joseph: - Nice to meet you!

Louis: - Good evening lady and gentleman, I am sorry. I am very late.

Joseph: - Don't worry, you're here, it's the most important.

Louis: - Thank you very much.

Joseph: - My friend, I have the pleasure to introduce you to Mulâtresse Solitude. She is a great fighter. She is a fierce woman.

Louis: Congratulations! Madam, I admire your courage.

Mulâtresse S: Thank you sir, it's not easy but I will continue to fight for the cause.

Louis: What about you my friend, who are you?

Joseph: I'm Joseph Ignace. I was born here. I am a former slave and I fight against the restoration of slavery.

Louis: Me too, it's my dream. I'm from Martinique but I live in Guadeloupe. I want to break these chains. No question of becoming a slave again. "Live Free or Die".

Mulâtresse S: We must absolutely be together to have more strength

Les 3 amis se prennent par les bras et lancent à l'unisson: "live Free or Die".

Scène 2 : Landowners' lives

Dans la maison du maître, Loulouse esclave domestique a choisi de rester sur l'habitation. Elle surprend une conversation entre Don Nicolas et son épouse au sujet de la situation.

In the house of the master, Loulouse domestic slave chose to stay on the habitation, surprises a conversation between Don Nicolas and his wife about the situation.

Don Nicolas: These people got what they wanted: freedom

Victoria: It's nice to be free. But now, what are they going to do? They will come to steal our goods.

Don Nicolas: You're worry about them, but what about us? What are we going to become? Who will work in the fields?

Victoria: We will not find free workers any more.

Don Nicolas: Don't worry. The English will help us. We will restore slavery.

Victoria:The law is favorable to them. It has already condemned many landowners. It is the civil war in Guadeloupe. I'm afraid so.

Don Nicolas: I understand, especially since the Negroes have joined the army. It's hard but we will win, because General Richepance comes with an army to fight the revolutionaries.

Victoria: Oh my God, I'm hot, I need a cool drink... Loulouuuuse!

Loulouse:Yes, mistress ... What can I do for you?

Victoria: Give me a fresh lemonade immediately!

Loulouse: Yes mistress, right now!

Loulouse se rend dans la cuisine chercher la commande.

Victoria:Oh dear,I feel bad. Ask this slave to hurry ...

Don Nicolas: But what is this lazy girl doing? Don't worry, it will be fine. Breathe normally ... Loulououououse ???

Loulouse revient avec deux verres sur un plateau. Elle le pose sur une table et sert la dame et le monsieur.

Victoria: What are you doing? So many time to prepare a drink?

Don Nicolas: They're all the same. They do not want to work anymore.

Loulouse: Excuse me master, there was not enough lemonade, I had to prepare some more...

Scène 3: Preparation for war

Le Consulat s'est installé en France, le gouverneur républicain Victor Hugues est remplacé. L'armée composée en majorité de métis et de noirs lutte pour empêcher le rétablissement de l'esclavage.

Massoteau: It's announced the arrival of General Richepance with 3740 (Three thousand seven hundred and forty)soldiers!

Ignace:Bonaparte, the 1st Consul is afraid of going through again the episode of Santo Domingo.

Soldat 1: Toussaint Louverture taught them a lesson, causing a defeat to the French army.

Soldat 2:It's a lesson for us too, a black man can also lead an army to victory.

Massoteau: Above all, they want to restore slavery because free labor makes France wealthier and whealthier.

Ignace: Yes, it's his wife Josephine who had this idea.

Soldat1: the villain, she believes that black people are their animals.

Soldat 2: Worse than their animals, their things!

Ignace: That's why we have to fight.

Massoteau: Even if they are more numerous, we have to trick like Toussaint Louverture to beat them.

Scène 4: The battle

Le 06 Mai 1802, la flotte de Richepance est en approche des côtes guadeloupéennes. Il prepare ses stratégies avec ses lieutenants.

On May 6th, 1802, the Richepance fleet is approaching the Guadeloupe coast. He prepares his strategies with his lieutenants.

Richepance: Gentlemen, you must strip all the forts of the blacks and replace them with our soldiers. You chained and imprisoned them on the ships.

We shall land a group of men in Pointe-à-Pitre and another in Basse-Terre.

Les militaires: As you like, my general !

Richepance: You'll pursue them and catch them all. Nobody must escape.

Les militaires: It will be done, General. As you like!

Epilogue: A tragic end

Sur la scène, blessés et mourants, des hommes et des femmes se lamentent...
On the scene, wounded and dying, men and women are moaning ...

Femme 1: They slaughtered everybody: men, women ...

Un soldat: They were too numerous. The Baimbridge troop, rather than being caught, preferred suicide.

Un autre soldat: In Basse-Terre, Delgres' troop was driven from the fort. They retreated to Matouba. They were pursued by Richepance's army. He preferred death by blowing himself up with his men.

Un autre soldat: All of them are dead, Delgrès, Ignace, Massoteau ...
Slavery is restored ...

Femme 2: Now, they joined our ancestors. They are free.

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