

SCRIPT for “Perspectives and Promises of Hope”

Arranged by Harriet Worrell, Director of Theatre at Woodstock Union High School

Text in boldface is said by all speak chorus members.

Whit Van Meter plays music intro on guitar.

Meghan, singing: I hope
For more love, more joy and laughter
I hope
You’ll have more than you’ll ever need
I hope
You’ll have more happy ever afters
I hope
We can all live more fearlessly
And we can lose all the pain and misery,

I hope, I hope. . . . (*The Dixie Chicks*)

ALL **I hope** (*music fades*)

I hope / (*music stops*)

I hope (*whisper singing*)

Sally Hope arouses

Martha As nothing else can arouse

ALL **A passion**

Gary Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul (*Emily Dickinson*)

ALL **for the possible.** (*William Sloane Coffin*)

Sarah And therefore,

Meghan All things

Em in this world

ALL **must be seen**

Scott your hopes

Al dreams

Meghan and aspirations

John are **legitimate**

Em with

ALL **Youthful**

Martha They are trying to take you airborne

ALL **Hopeful**

Sally Above the clouds

ALL **Eyes.** (*Henry David Thoreau*)

Al Above the storms.

Scott if you only- -LET them. (*William James*)

John presenting

ALL **PERSPECTIVES**

Gary and

ALL **PROMISES**

Sarah of

ALL **HOPE!**

EMILY I'm Emily Silver, English teacher.
(*Start guitar and play softly under all of these quotes.*)

There is hope of a tree
If it be cut down
That it will sprout again
And that the tender branch thereof
Will not cease. . .*the Book of Job*

AL If we were logical, the future would be bleak indeed. But we are more than logical. We are human beings, and we have faith and we have hope and we can work...*Jacques Cousteau*

I'm Al Zielenski, math instructor.

SARAH True hope is swift
and flies with swallow's wings. . .*William Shakespeare*

I'm Sarah Allen, librarian-

SALLY Sally Shipton, school counselor-

We are consoled and strengthened by
being hopeless together. We don't need specific outcomes
— we need each other. . . so says *Thomas Merton*.

SCOTT Scott O'Hearn, also school counselor

Never deprive someone of hope—
it may be all they have. . . *H. Jackson Brown, Jr.*

MARTHA The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope for.
And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not
admire it from a distance, but live right in it, under its
roof. . . *Barbara Kingsolver*

I'm Martha Rich, Head of School

GARY Learn from yesterday,
Live for today,
Hope for tomorrow.
The important thing is to
not stop questioning. . . *Albert Einstein*

Gary Engler, science-

MEGHAN Every area of trouble gives out a ray of hope and the one unchangeable
certainty is that nothing is certain or unchangeable. . . *John
F. Kennedy*

Meghan Sterling, English

JOHN There is always hope.

*Aragorn in The Lord of the Rings,
The Two Towers*

John Hunt, IT Help Desk

Al Hope IS the last thing to be lost. (*Guitar stops strongly after "lost."*)

Gary singing Walk on, walk on . . . (*from Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel*)

Sarah Rowan Froehlich: (*conversational*) Over the years, my perspective on hope
has changed so much. I have gone from not understanding what hope is good for, to
hopes for myself, to hopes for the world. I hope for equality around the world, especially
between rich and poor. Right now, I think of hope as rain. Rain means life, and life
without hope is sad and lonely. But just like rain stops, some people have stopped valuing
hope, and only see the bad skies.

Meghan Haley Grigel: These are all things that I think of when I hear the word

ALL **HOPE** (*soft*)

John mud season

Em state championships

Scott _____ paper cranes

Gary _____ wind turbines

Martha _____ morning glories

Scott _____ babies

Meghan _____ peace signs

John _____ sunburn

Sally _____ sparkles, secret admirers

Al _____ lunchboxes

Scott _____ stars

Sarah _____ hammocks, giggles, curls

John _____ piglets

Gary _____ johnny jump-ups

Meghan _____ flip flops

Martha _____ double rainbows

Sarah _____ pennies

Sally _____ birthdays

Al _____ a good piece of toast

Em _____ my friends' little sisters--the next generation.

Scott _____ India Choquette wrote from Sweden that Hope in Sweden is

ALL _____ **"hoppas"**

Meghan _____ (pronounced kinda like

ALL _____ **"hoop-ahs"**)

Em _____ but when said incorrectly (which, by me, is most of the time) means

ALL **hop.** (*Take a beat and a quick audible breath*)

Like a bunny.

Sarah 50% of what I say comes out sideways and backwards.

Not to mention my luscious American accent. I can only

ALL **hop**

Gary that I don't sound too. . . hmmm . . . motbjudande

(*MOOT- BEE-YOU-DAHN-DAY with the BEE-YOU as one sound.*)

ALL **Moot- beeyou- dahn-day.**

Sally Rebecca Norton: Hope springs eternal (thank you, Alexander Pope) – maybe tomorrow will be the first-ever snow day in May.

Al Kylie Cook: The ability to hope--

is something we all hope for--

because of its power--

to prove a--

Martha light

ALL **light, light, light, light** (*echo*)

John at the end of the tunnel

ALL (*quick breath*) **exists**

Em Matt Field

Meghan Hope

Scott is wishful thinking. . .

Sally It can be created by anyone . . .

Al It cannot be taken, but **can** be given.

ALL **Hope is from the heart**

John _____ and allows you to **imagine** (*extend*) endless--**possibilities**.

Martha _____ Elizabeth Parenteau

Em _____ You may not know that you have it,

Gary _____ but a hope is always there.

Sally _____ It's like the sun when it is cloudy,

you can't see it,

though it's only--**hiding**. (*whisper*)

Martha _____ Tyler Williams: Hope IS the belief that all things will fall into their respected places

Scott _____ Ian Weider: I hope to live a long (*extend*) fulfilling life.

Meghan _____ I would like to travel to many places around the world like

Sarah _____ New Zealand,

Gary _____ and Africa,

Martha _____ like so many of my family members have done.

Al _____ I hope that my life will not need **big!expensive!objects!**

Sally _____ but I hope that my life will always have friends and family around me

John _____ Billy Ulz: I hope for the new generation to **learn** from people's previous mistakes and spread a **new hope** (*high*) to everybody around the world.

Sarah _____ Helen Cleaves: I hope for an interesting life and the memory to remember it all, even the unimportant stuff.

Al _____ Like what the weather was like that day,

Scott _____ or whether I ate breakfast or not.

Gary _____ I hope to be able to look back on my life and have regrets, so that the times I don't regret look all that more intelligent.

Meghan _____ **I hope for fewer close calls**, because my nerves can't take the abuse.

John I hope I figure out what I want to do in life. **I hope I'm up to the challenge** (*most intense*), and that even if I'm not--I go for it anyway.

Em Eliza Hoffman: Hope is a never clear, never sharply defined, flutterings of feelings in your heart. The adrenaline, the pain, the wishes. **Hope gets locked away**, when all it wants to do is sing. Hope is a silver wisp of a dream, the downy fluff of a newly hatched bird.

Sarah Nicolas Kramer: It's the air that inflates the balloon,

Gary but it is also –too often— the tack that pops it!

Martha Ashleen Buchanan (*scholarly and absolutely sure*) Hope, is a constant in the history of human existence. Wherever there is longing for something better or for justice, there will be hope propelling that longing. It is the fuel that provides the energy for change. It is because of hope women have gained the right to vote and as a nation we celebrate our first African American president. Hope brought us to this day and it will continue to take us to new heights.

Sally sings Walk on, walk on,

Gary Rebecca Page: Hope is the **strength** (*high*) by day and night I live

Martha Strength is the **power** (*low*) to do things beyond imagination

Sally Power is the **change** (*medium*) and what I have to give

Al Change, is the

ALL **hope** believed by all creation

Scott Matisse Hack: People hope to rise higher

I hop

For it makes more joy

Sally Maddison Wilhite: The sun is something worth hoping for. Everyday I hope that the sun is going to shine. The sun does so much more than help plants grow, it does more than give you a sun tan, **it brings joy to more than me**, it brings joy to **many**. (*Last line really crisp, and run together quick and definite*) Let's all hope for a bright, sunny, clear day tomorrow and watch as people smile and enjoy themselves. (*Downright evangelical joyful it should be.*)

Sarah Two perceptions by Amos Hine...The Zombiful response: (*Group does vocal percussion—“Boom boom, boom boom...”—underneath the following lines*)

John Hope is what we do when we cannot affect the outcome of a situation. A

situation like an oncoming horde of Zombies, for instance. All we can do is sit there and wait and hope they don't smell our sweet flesh. They will most definitely devour us whole.

Martha the Normal response: (*Now stop boom-booms*)

Al Hope is what we resort to doing when we cannot affect the outcome of a situation. Hope is akin to **worry** in that sense, although obviously with a different connotation. With both, I'm sure we can agree, the situation in question is a done deal, and nothing we can do would change that. In my opinion, neither **worry** nor **hope** is a useful or productive activity.

Em Jacob Mott hopes for peace on earth.

Meghan I hope that little birds will be able to peacefully frolic through crystal clean air,

ALL (*Sing*) **They rock in the morning all the day long, rocking and a boppin and a singin their song, all the little birdies on jaybird street love to hear the robin go tweet tweet tweet** (*Bobby Day*)

Sarah their beautiful songs bringing life as the blazing orange sun rises above the cloudy mist of the morning.

Gary I also hope that when the zombies come (*boom boom*) (and they will come) perhaps we will be able to coexist peacefully.

John Or, should the zombies refuse, I hope that with my trusty broadsword, Ziang Xaopoah (*high adventure drama sound*), I will be able to lead the remnants of the human race to drive them back to the dark abyss from which they spawned! (*end drum sound*)

Sarah, Gary, John Viva la revolution!! (*shout*)

Martha Michael Diamond: I hope that Jacob Mott's zombie hopes don't come true.

Sally Aidan Lopez: Hope is what gets you through the day and especially the night, a night filled with blood thirsty demons, pounding on our windows...

Al Rigel Garrison-Botsford: Shotgun shells, half a can of propane, a chainsaw, and only 25 zombies waiting for you. You HOPE you have enough ammunition.

Scott Micah Washburn: Hope is a reflection on all your shortcomings as you suddenly realize your pitiful handgun is doing nothing to stop the zombies surrounding you, (**boom boom**)

Em pressing in, (**boom boom**)

Al dulling your senses, (**boom boom**)

Meghan choking off your. . . (**boom-boom**)--

ALL **Hope.**

Sally _____ Emilie Vansant: Hope is infectious,

Scott _____ spreading like a fire

Em _____ and feeding off desire.

Martha _____ Natalie Mitchell: It's in **everyone**. Some people just have to dig deeper than others. Let's just say hope is **selflessness** and **compassion**.

Meghan _____ Kipling Haviland-Hack: It's wanting something better. Martin Luther King Jr. was hoping for change. Everybody has **hopes --and dreams**.

Sally _____ Alisha Stommel: Hope is a connection that every person has with the world.

Scott _____ It's an inner feeling that allows us to have **strength** in a time of need.

John _____ Soldiers hope to come home alive and well;

Em _____ wives hope to be reunited with their soldier-husbands.

Sarah _____ When we're sad,

Gary _____ hope is our mentor;

Sarah _____ when we're angry,

Al _____ it's our guide.

Scott _____ Andy Sharp: Hope is a dangerous thing.

Meghan _____ If you take the risk and lift your hopes up,

Em _____ then it is possible that you will not reach the goal you were hoping for and your hopes will be smashed down and you will be worse off than before.

Sally _____ Sadness will come.

John _____ (*take a pause of thought and add:*)
But overall, (*beat, beat-breath*) hope is worth it.

Martha _____ Tegan Pellerin: Hope is a prayer,

Gary _____ a dream,

Sarah _____ a wish—

Martha _____ the thing we long for most.

ALL _____ **It's freedom.**

Em _____ Anna Smith: It's seeing a tulip bulb sprout from the soil or a robin and knowing that spring is near

Al Josh Jacobs-Rebhun: a feeling of excitement that maybe something will or won't happen, did or didn't happen.

Sally Henry Levine: It's the will to keep fighting

John a little speck of **optimism**

Meghan a **light** in the dark

Gary Amanda O'Donnell: It gives you strength when you are weak,

Sarah motivation when you are tired.

Scott Sam Berner: Hope is to have the feeling something **magnificent** will occur:

Em a belief,

Gary a desire,

Martha a conviction.

ALL **Hopes and dreams**

Scott Kayla Glazer: like a bottle of seltzer that's been shaken—

Meghan bubbling crazily

Sally and spilling over the lid.

Al Sometimes the bubbles get a little flat,

Scott so then I just have to shake the bottle again.

Sarah Matthew Bach-Lombardo: It's a power
that will forever **guide us** through sorrow and glory.
from one day to the next.

Em Arianna MacKinnon: It changes and forms to fit each individual like a thick protective coat that keeps the outside out.

ALL **Follow your hopes and dreams.**

Gary Krystyna Melahn: It's the **silent comfort** that takes us through a predicament with ease and panache. . .

Al Sam Rondeau: it's a spring after a long winter or maybe the first drops of rain following months of drought. . .

Sarah Indie Scopetti: . . . a lifetime of rich hot chocolate on cold winter nights

John Jenna Postler: the rope that we **cling** to when we are drowning in **icy/cold/water**.

Martha Evann Orleck-Jetter: It's the caged bird locked behind bars dreaming of flying away into a starry night.

Sally (singing) Starry starry night. . .

Scott Lily Leveret: And it's appreciated differently by everyone.

Sarah Some clutch it around them like a shawl,

Meghan while some ban it from their lives

John Caitlin Roberts: a dream that's attainable
But seems far away

Em Something to look forward to,
knowing it could
--**abracacadabra**—
disappear

ALL **Hopes and dreams**

Gary Travis Godfrey: make the world go round.

Al Tara Pellerin:

Meghan I hope for love

ALL **not hatred,**

Sarah Peace

ALL **not war,**

John an education

ALL **Not failure.**

Sally I hope for a (*gentle*) **peaceful** end to life for everyone

Al Jonah Richard: I picture cities,

Em foreign and near,

Martha cured of poverty and starvation—

Gary a place where blacks and whites,

Sarah Hindus and Muslims,

John and Shiites and Sunni

Meghan can live

ALL **peacefully,**

Scott side by side.

ALL **Follow your hopes and dreams.**

Sally Shenia Covey: I believe that hope is-- the butterflies in your stomach when you're being handed your report card

Martha or the sweaty palms of a 6 year old as she tries for the first time to ride a bike with no training wheels.

Em But most of all I think it's the smile you get when you're walking down the street

Sarah or the hug and kiss you get from Mom and Dad at night

Al that gives us the hope to move on—

Gary the hope to know that we are **worth something**

Martha Willy Koch-Sembdner

John I hope that I can watch all my dreams that I had in my whole life on DVD when I'm in heaven.

Meghan Colby Richardson:

Al In loss

Scott In depression

Sally In hardship

Em It is

ALL **hope**

John That makes you a **better** person

Al And the world a **better** place

Gary Peter Ferguson: Granted, Hope requires no work, but making it come to fruition does.

Sarah Ben Bauer: I have to work for what I want. I hope for good grades, and for my parents to lend me the car.

Scott Holly Buttrey
Espero que puedo escribir este.
Estoy al banquete del semestre.
Tomo la clase de español.
Maybe I should learn to yodel.
Espero que "hago" por el año.
!Que horrible! Necesito ir al baño.

Sally Maggie Pomeroy: Hoping is that little thing in you that tells you you want to achieve something.

Al Rosie Sharp: A person with the ability to hope does not impress me.

Sarah I respect those with the ambition to go after what they hope for.

Scott Hope is not some abstract feeling that makes the world better,

Martha but an aid to us as we achieve what we desire despite whatever barriers may be in our way.

Em Mike Batchelder hopes. I hope to be able to push myself further and further in my education, so I can become a better person.

Sally Sydney Coulter: Hope is the ability to get up when you fall;

John to try again when you fail.

Gary It's what makes you act on your **crazy** ideas.

Scott It's the ability to do something **new** to get somewhere **new**.

Martha It's what makes one person change the world.

Em Lizzy Marks: 1. HOPE (noun) desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment. 2. See "Barack Obama" 47th President of the United States of America

John Hope is what makes you say,

ALL **"Yes I can."**

Meghan Gabriella Pacht: Hope is waiting, learning and growing

Al working, earning and giving

Sarah change

Martha important and hard.

Scott Carole Clark and Taylor Cudhea: A blanket to keep you safe at night

Gary An excitement on a child's face

Meghan An inspiration to all who will dream on forever

Al love that never goes away

Sarah wishes for the future that never seem to fade

Gary Hope is

ALL **what we live for.**

Sally Rozy Isquith: Some people hope for **small things** even if the reward is **less**, so that things are **achievable**. Others hope for **great things** with **large rewards**, though less likely to achieve. **I** hope for

ALL **great things**,

Em and sometimes I surprise myself with my **determination** and **strength**.

Meghan Eleanor Patten: When Pandora opened her box, **poof!** wretched things came out:

John despair,

Al anger,

Sarah lies.

Martha She shut in the most important item: Hope,

ALL **the thing we need to get through it all.**

John (singing) Walk on, walk on

Gary Hope can guide you or make you believe, but most of all hope gives us

Sally possibility.

Scott Henry Vansant:

ALL **Hope**

Meghan (singing) Walk on Walk on

Al is the supernatural force that lifts us out of the deep ditches of despair toward

ALL **enlightenment.**

Gary Reece MacRae

Sally Hope floats

Em Skipping across the breeze

Scott From fulfilled spirit to empty soul

Sally Always moving

Sarah Emily Kadish:

ALL

- **Hope is the idea we base our lives on.**
- **It keeps us living from one day to the next.**
- **It keeps our souls alive.**

Meghan Manisha Henrion has hopes.

Gary I want to be a cook.

Martha I'm working this summer at Molly's on the prep line.

ALL **Hopefully**

John that will be a start.

Em But I also want to sew, too—design clothes.

Sarah Rachel Borst has hopes.

Scott I've been doing my clinicals at Gifford.

Em I've been working in the birthing center

John and with older patients.

Martha In a day I see patients at the **end** of their lives and the **start** of new ones.

Meghan Hope is a newborn's cry heard in the same silence as the end of a life a life's end

Gary a warm heart in the dark,

Sarah and a dream

ALL **my dream**

Al with enough spirit to reach it.

Scott Jason Gray has hopes.

Sally I hope for a successful four years of **college** at Lyndon State.

Martha I hope after four years of school to be hired at a public school as a physical education teacher, and that I will **touch lives** of children and feel like a mentor.

Gary I hope when I get my own classes I'll see children **happy** and hear **productive** conversation as children learn under my care.

Martha I hope to be a successful educator.

Sarah Karleen Richardson's High School Hope

Meghan, singing Little girl hopes

big girl dreams,

Planning for college and graduate school,

Hoping you have all the right tools.

Wishing on stars.

Hope is something innocent and young,

Whispered and sung from tongue to tongue.

reminder of better times,
knowledge that everything will be fine.

ALL **Walk on. Walk on.** (*spoken*)

Em Jacob Osborne: Hope is our generation.

Sarah The sparkling social butterflies,

Gary the sleepy video gamers,

Sally the valedictorians and over-achievers.

Scott We all are a collective force of hope.

Gary Young musicians with swift fingers,

Em athletes who live, breathe, and compete,

Al crafts people with palms of iron.

Scott We are inheriting

John this society,

Sarah this culture,

Sally this world,

John and we are raised high by the enduring dreams of

Scott Mom, Dad, Nana, and Papa.

Our generation embodies

ALL **the hope**

Scott of an entire nation.

Em There will come a time when

Scott we will embrace this
truth and rise to the challenge.
Well, (*a beat or two*)
I hope so.

Al I hope you never lose your sense of wonder

Scott I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean

Sarah When one door closes, I hope one more opens

Martha I hope you never fear those mountains in the distance

Al _____ Never settle for the path of least resistance

Sally _____ And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance

Sally (*singing*) **I hope you dance**

Meghan & Sally (*singing*) **I hope you dance.** (*Lee Ann Womack*)

John _____ Hope is the thing with feathers that kept so many warm (*Dickinson*)

ALL **Walk on**

Em _____ you'll never walk alone (*Rodgers and Hammerstein*)

Gary _____ Your hopes, dreams, and aspirations are

ALL **legitimate** (*William James*)

Sarah _____ Fly with swallow's wings (*Shakespeare*)

ALL **With hope in your heart** (*Rodgers and Hammerstein*)

Al _____ Learn

Scott _____ Live

Sally _____ Hope for tomorrow (*Einstein*)

ALL **The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope FOR.**
 (*Barbara Kingsolver*)

Martha _____ And as long as you're standing, there IS hope.

Em _____ There is hope of a tree. . . (*Emily Dickinson*)

John _____ There is ALWAYS

ALL **hope.** (*Guitar music begins. Chorus now sung vigorously and victoriously.*)

ALL (*singing*) **I hope**
For more love, more joy and laughter
I hope
You'll have more than you'll ever need
I hope
You'll have more happy ever afters
I hope
We can all live more fearlessly
And we can lose all the pain and misery,
I hope, I hope. . . .

I hope
For more love, more joy and laughter
I hope
You'll have more than you'll ever need

**I hope
You'll have more happy ever afters
I hope
We can all live more fearlessly
And we can lose all the pain and misery,**

And we can lose all the pain and misery. (*The Dixie Chicks*)