

ACT II Scene VII

(Susan B' Anthony busy with her housework)

**ANNA HOPE**

comes in.

Oh it was wonderful, wonderful, they listen to nobody the way they listen to you.

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

Yes it is wonderful as the result of my work for the first time the word male has been written into the constitution of the United States concerning suffrage. Yes it is wonderful.

**ANNA HOPE**

But

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

Yes but, what is man, what are men, what are they. I do not say that they haven't kind hearts, if I fall down in a faint, they will rush to pick me up, if my house is on fire, they will rush in to put the fire out and help me, yes they have kind hearts but they are afraid, afraid, they are afraid, they are afraid. They fear women, they fear each other, they fear their neighbor, they fear other countries and then they hearten themselves in their fear by crowding together and following each other, and when they crowd together and follow each other they are brutes, like animals who stampede, and so they have written in the name male into the United States constitution, because they are afraid of black men because they are afraid of women, because they are afraid afraid. Men are afraid.

**ANNA HOPE**

timidly.

And women.

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

Ah women often have not any sense of danger, after all a hen screams pitifully when she sees an eagle but she is only afraid for her children, men are afraid for themselves, that is the real difference between men and women.

**ANNA HOPE**

But Susan B' why do you not say these things out loud.

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

Why not, because if I did they would not listen they not alone would not listen they would revenge themselves. Men have kind hearts when they are not afraid but they are afraid afraid afraid. I say they are afraid, but if I were to tell them so their kindness would turn to hate. Yes the Quakers are right, they are not afraid because they do not fight, they do not fight.

**ANNA HOPE**

But Susan B' you fight and you are not afraid.

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

I fight and I am not afraid, I fight but I am not afraid.

**ANNA HOPE**

And you will win.

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

Win what, win what.

**ANNA HOPE**

Win the vote for women.

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

Yes some day some day the women will vote and by that time.

**ANNA HOPE**

By that time oh wonderful time.

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**

By that time it will do them no good because having the vote they will become like men, they will be afraid, having the vote will make them afraid, oh I know it, but I will fight for the right, for the right to vote for them even though they become like men, become afraid like men, become like men.

(Anne bursts into tears. Jenny Reefer rushes in)