

## ***Suicide Note from Palestine***

### **Scene Breakdown and text excerpts**

#### **Scene 1 – Is this a dream?**

Amal finds herself being reanimated in a hospital. Listening to her heart beat stop, she jumps out of her body to find that she is in a strange place from where she cannot escape, where she is being watched and filmed.

A tall-headed Arab magnate tells her she doesn't have friends. He asks her what does she offer her friends to encourage them to support her.

#### **Scene 2 – UN bid**

Strange characters (USA, Europe, Israel, The Army and the Arab World) invite Amal to make a speech at the UN general meeting. They call her Palestine.

Palestine tells the audience that she is sad, that she feels there is no hope and that things are not going to change: she decides, at that moment, to die as a political act.

Palestine's decision seems to make a big change in plan of the countries involved in the meeting. Europe and the Arab World are sent away.

#### **Scene 3 – Interrogation with Israel**

Israel interrogates Palestine about her plans. Palestine answers that she has decided to die; that she is tired and feels she is 1000 years old. Israel asks to be left alone and lets her know that she is only 64 years old.

America and the army return to take her back to her cell.

#### **Scene 4 – Indignation of the Arab countries**

The Arab world comes to show its indignation and is denounced as a hypocrite. Palestine denounces the lies of her supposed-to-be brothers and allies. Palestine still doesn't want to live in this world of lies.

Her certainty about her decision that the only way would be to leave this world sets an alarm off that brings in UN doctors and the army that give her drugs.

#### **Scene 5 – Hallucination**

Palestine hallucinates of its past: "I'm writing to the others, those who are purer than the rain before it touches the sidewalk, those who are born and die without leaving their villages or abandon their friends or ever changed their cigarette brand or the way of lying down on the grass in the valleys or the ground of the prisons.

The Homeland of the tyrants gives people nothing but humiliation and oppression: Their cities and their villages are graves and prisons. Therefore, to be with them is the betrayal of Humanity. It is the right of the human being to have a safe life, surrounded by happiness: although being born in a Homeland is like having roots connecting the man with his land – these roots will never be strong and grow except if you water them with freedom and justice.

The whole nation is playing crosswords and watching football games and following the latest happenings of the newest TV series while the Israeli guns are pointed at their foreheads and their land and their dignity and their oil... how do I wake them up? How do I convince them that Israel's dreams are bigger than their borders?"

Palestine tries to come back to a lucid state and hurts herself.

#### **Scene 6 – Europe visits Palestine**

Palestine is under intensive care and is visited by Europe that keeps trying to make her say that she is under a lot of pressure and this is why she has hurt herself. Europe doesn't get the answer he wants and America accuses Palestine of not being responsible for her acts.

### **Scene 7 – Longing**

Left alone, Palestine finds a paper to write a message for the sea.

“I miss with fear a land that I’ve never touched.

I am afraid that fear will make me a slave imprisoned in a cage of tears.

I miss a country still to be born.

I miss the sea all over the years,

The sea that we said we will never meet.

From now until many years to come, the sea will still be dead.

I am living with this fact.

The days will pass without me thinking,

when I will be an old woman living in the street, forgotten, the sea will still be dead. I knew that I have to stand and wait.

oh sea, oh sea, why have you abandoned me?

You know that you are the only place that I can’t lie when I am with you, on you... the life has no meaning without you, it’s very dry.

I got used to love the absent.”

### **Scene 8 – Oslo**

Arab world comes to say “no ifs or buts”. After understanding that there is no other way, Palestine decides to give it a try, deceive the people, change the history, to forget and accept.

### **Scene 9 – Transformation of Palestine**

UN doctors manipulate Palestine in an infernal dance. Israel comes in the end to inaugurate the new state.

### **Scene 10 – America saves the world**

Palestine, when left alone with Israel realizes the changes are not like she was told and revolts. America comes to save Israel from the Palestinian rage. Palestine is accused of being a terrorist and is left alone with the army.

### **Scene 11- Confession of a soldier**

The Army still wanting to interrogate Palestine and, being surprised about the immense strength and resistance from Palestine after all the torture and hurt, has a moment of realization: Palestine is right. The Army commits suicide.

### **Scene 12 – The birth of a new generation**

A new generation is born to the words of realization that the power is with the weak if they are together.

“To those amongst the highly placed

It is considered low to talk about food and existence.

The fact is: they have already eaten and they have already lived.

The lowly must leave this earth without having tasted

Any good meat.

For wondering where they come from and where they are going

There is no time to question. We know that we are exhausted.

If the lowly do not

Think about what's low

They will never rise.

Useless, the pouring out of the people's sweat.

Useless, the pouring out of the people's blood.

Lost, Is the land taken from its people.

The Injustice is flooding above life but the buildings are growing.

We say: we still have time.  
The forests still grow.  
The land still bears.  
The patient people still breathe.

On the map of Time the day is not yet shown.  
We are very hungry.  
One of those days  
Is going to be marked with a cross.  
When the leaders speak of peace  
The common folk know  
That war is coming.

Those at the top say: to be in charge  
Is difficult for the normal people.  
The people have to realize that.

They say Peace and War  
Are of different substance.  
But their peace and their war  
Are like wind and storm.

We have to wake up.  
When the time comes,  
we don't have to hesitate.

To you who steal the land and our rights:  
YOUR TANK IS A POWERFUL VEHICLE  
It smashes down forests and crushes a hundred men.  
But it has one defect:  
It needs a driver.

To you who stole the future:  
Your airplane is powerful.  
It flies faster than a storm and destroys a whole city.  
But it has one defect:  
It needs a belief."

### **Scene 13 – Morning**

Amal awakes in her room to her father telling her she is late for the History exam. Her father insistently asks if she has memorized all the history of Palestine.  
When left alone, Amal finds herself saying the words that came to her in a dream:  
"General, man is very useful.  
He can fly and he can kill.  
But he has one defect:  
He can think."