

Atlantropa

A Rock-Opera written by Guillaume Delage

Scene 1 (Philae) : Welcome to Ostania

VERSE

Well-tailored three-piece suits,
Ripped jeans and holey t-shirts,
Tidy diversity

Private social dinners,
Contrasting with the foodstuffs distributions.

Flying taxis in the streets
Passing between the giant screens,
Above the crowds of passers-by.

Do you understand where we are ?
This man-made country.
Would you be better off anywhere else ?

CHORUS

Welcome to Ostania !
Life has become a factory.
Is there anything more beautiful than Ostania ?
For the best of routines !

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VERSE

Sophisticated mega-buildings,
Dilapidated old districts,
Forming an unbalanced city.

Self-lit parks
For evening strolls
Nature is not left out.

The president's central tower,
Overlooking this modern city,
And the dull or bright districts.

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Scene 2 (Hybris) : President's speech

Dear Ostanians...

We have been prospering for almost 200 years,
On these lands that we created,
But we will not stay much longer,
For this is the news I have been given

The dam that created our country,
Seems doomed to collapse soon,
But I will not let a second go by,
To take action and show you my strategy.

Since we must find new lands,
And our neighbors are closed due to poverty,
I have decided to build an artificial island,
More elaborate than our original home.

"That makes the news less difficult,
But what is this island called ?"

Let me introduce you...
Atlanthropia !

No more bad weather problems,
We will check its operation !

Atlanthropia !

Unlimited food,
Thanks to our sophisticated mega-greenhouses !

Atlanthropia !

Oooh... Atlanthropia !

Scene 3 (Charlie) : Citizens reassured

Hybris has done well on this one.
Almost everyone is reassured.
They say to themselves that, after all,
This president might not be so bad.

Those who dream of a family life,
Will still be able to raise their kids,
And those who don't have that much friend,
Will at least be able to roll their hump.

Scene 4 (Philae & Flora) : Naive Star

PHILAE

After so many years of going hungry
And being left behind.
A glimmer of hope now lights up
Even the most modest homes.

FLORA

I think you're fooling yourself.
Do you honestly think so ?
After so many years of cultivating fear,
Hybris has blood on his hands...

PHILAE

I never thought I'd see you again...

FLORA

I must say that I've done nothing to...

PHILAE

When you were my only friend,
Why did you leave ?

FLORA

I was afraid of your success,
That it would take you away from who you are.
Not to mention how I felt...

PHILAE

What are you trying to say ?

FLORA

I was afraid to love you,
That your heart would be closed to me.
And so much fame and money,
Rarely make one benevolent.

PHILAE

I'm not the only one who's fooled myself.
If only you had stayed...
You'd see that in all this time,
Nothing has been different.

FLORA

I have a bad feeling about this,
If what I think turns to be so true,
It's not the end of our torment !

PHILAE

That's why you reappear,
To inflict all your ideas on me,
Like when we were in high school !

FLORA

When our rights are taken away,
When their fortunes are sublimated,
Can we really trust their ideas ?

PHILAE

It's true that you're right,
Even if I was innocent
We must rebuild trust.

FLORA & PHILAE

We must remain united,
So that we do not despair,
And above all, help each other
In order to save Ostania.

I'm no longer afraid to love you,
I only see you by my side
To fight against these people
Who are far too malignant

I'm no longer afraid...

Scene 5 (Charlie) : Charlie's narration

Flora wasn't wrong this time !
Hybris did indeed announce it, we'll have to pay for the ticket and
it's... pricey !
Just think, people are so desperate they start stealing, robbing...
As for me...

Scene 6 (Charlie) : Burlesque

VERSE

I don't have a particular goal in life,
My routine and the customers' nonsense are enough for me.
What do you want me to say?
Anyway, whatever happens, I smile and I laugh!

For you, it might be weird, but this is where I love to live.
I don't care about going to that island because this is where I like
to laugh.
I could never set foot there,
And I don't see why it should bother me!

In the evening, I watch the news,
And I imagine an audience.
On a funky disco tune,
I tell them our stories.

I don't want to be an idol,
Rich in money and fame,
I might look like a fool,
But at least I don't make a fuss!

CHORUS

I don't care about anything!
I don't need much
You're always complaining
Yet you're the ones voting

If they don't want you
On this island, why go there?
All this doesn't add up
They won't let you on board.

So why keep bothering ?
What's the point of fighting ?
Do like me instead!
Oh, oh, oooh!

VERSE

There aren't any rich customers who come here,
I mostly sell beer and bad whiskey.
This is my idyllic spot !
No need to go any further, this is my utopia!

Why should I be afraid of what's coming?
Worrying won't save you from drifting anymore.
You should have thought of that before!
I love watching you, you're entertaining!

Why waste your life ?
Fighting over a piece of land.
And if we must be cured
That means we should have been warned !

I am the narrator of the world
Cheerfully waiting for it to flood
I wouldn't be a soft touch,
But casual and hopeless.

CHORUS

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I don't need much
You're always complaining
Yet you're the ones voting

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Scene 7 (Flora) : Flora's Call

If you're watching this video, it's because you're aware
Faced Hybris and what it stands for.
It's time to act!
If we don't pay to live,
Under the pretext that this island delivers us,
He condemns us all to drowning.
Hybris speaks, Hybris manipulates,
He wants to divide us, make us doubt!
We must put an end to this charade!

VERSE

If you're watching this video
You will be, I'm sure
Aware of the chaos
Weighing on our future.

But nothing is lost yet
If we stand together
Against those stubborn beings
Who don't care about our names

PRE-CHORUS

We are not nobodies
But we're citizens of this state!
We will stand in the streets
To claim our rights!

Set free your voices
It's about time that he hears us
Let's not accept this dictate
Because our lives depend on it!

CHORUS

Then make
This island free of charge
For the inhabitants of Ostania
Let them

Live their lives
Don't be so selfish

VERSE

They say that violence and weapons
Won't save human existence
But it's then, before our tears
that they abandon their misdeeds

Let us not be overwhelmed
By rancor and hatred
Pacifism is the key
To save the human race.

PRE-CHORUS

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But we're citizens of this state !
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To claim our rights!

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It's about time that he hears us
Let's not accept this dictate
Because our lives depend on it!

CHORUS

Then make
This island free of charge
For the inhabitants of Ostania
Let them

Live their lives
Don't be so selfish

BRIDGE

Let's stand together for Ostania
And let's fight for this country!
Oooh!
Let's stand together for Ostania
And let's fight for this country!
Oooh!
And let's fight!

CHORUS

Then make
This island free of charge
For the inhabitants of Ostania
Let them

Live their lives
Don't be so selfish

Scene 8 (Hybris) : President's Speech

Dear Ostanians.

Since some troublemakers are rebelling,
I must act to put an end to these quarrels.
I do not intend to let those who threaten our survival go
unpunished.

So this is where we stand.
Any protest is therefore forbidden!
And if you notice any mutiny,
You must, of course, report it to me immediately.

I will offer places to the most loyal among you,
In order to reward your loyalty.
This will allow those of you who are struggling
To access this island without negotiation.

Scene 9 (Charlie) : Citizen under pressure

This time, people are under pressure
Not many feel confident.
Some also wonder,
Wouldn't it be easier to report others ?

Because of this stormy climate,
They're no longer getting along.
And since people aren't talking to each other anymore,
Calm has returned to the streets.

Scene 10 (Philae) : Star-Desespoir

VERSE

Child of Ostania,
With parents from another land,
Who fled the rising water of their island.
It seems like it runs in the blood.

When you have no friends
You think in order to keep yourself busy
You look for something you love
And your place within the system.

I wanted to feel beautiful
To no longer look so frail
To be loved for who I truly am
And let pride erase my tears, but....

CHORUS

I, who used to be like you,
You, the ones I owe everything to
Should I go away,
And let you down?

I, who was like you,
You, the people to whom I owe everything.
Should I go away,
And forget my past?

VERSE 2

I dreamt so hard of this life
Wanting to be a symbol of hope
I wanted it at any price
But all I did was disappoint you

Is being a star so good?
If you're no longer here, I'd be nothing.
Nothing at all...

CHORUS

I, who used to be like you,
You, the ones I owe everything to
Should I go away,
And let you down?

I, who was like you,
You, the people to whom I owe everything.
Should I go away,
And forget my past?

BRIDGE

If you're no longer here,
I'll be nothing... Nothing...

I tried
To convince them of our cause,
But their hatred feeds my madness.
I'm scared...

CHORUS

I, who used to be like you,
You, the ones I owe everything to
Should I go away,
And let you down?
I, who was like you,
You, the people to whom I owe everything.
Should I go away,
And forget my past?