

TEACHER COMMENTARY: THIS SIMULATION, BEING THE FIRST IN THE SERIES, HAD NOT YET BEEN RENDERED IN THE KIND OF DIALOGUE THAT SO CLEARLY DEFINES MOST OF THE SUBSEQUENT SIMS. IN THE SUBSEQUENT SIMS, THERE WAS (AS YOU CAN CLEARLY SEE IN THE SAMPLE SCRIPTS) CONSIDERABLY GREATER OPPORTUNITY FOR DIALOGUE AND SOME STUNNING EXAMPLES OF DIALOGUE THAT BRIDGES "ACTUAL" AND "IMAGINED" INTERACTIONAL SPEECH. THIS FIRST EXAMPLE, BEING BASED PRIMARILY IN A COURTROOM, HAS VERY CIRCUMSCRIBED OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE VERBAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

**OPENING STATEMENT**  
**by Ms. Flo Lorenzo**  
**(aka T--- A-----)**

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury. You've heard the prosecution describe my client as dangerous. You've heard them accuse my client of unlawful crimes. However, you'll come to understand through the course of this evening, that these characterizations are far from the truth.

TEACHER COMMENTARY: NOTE HOW PERFECTLY THE STRATEGY AND TONE OF THE DEFENSE FITS WHAT YOU READ IN THE PAPERS EVERY DAY, OFTEN WITH A DEROGATORY COMMENT ABOUT IT BEING A PRODUCT OF "WOKE." REMEMBER: THIS WAS WRITTEN MORE THAN A DECADE-AND-A-HALF BEFORE WE HAD THE NOTION OF "WOKE." TO ME, THIS MEANS THAT THE ROOTS OF "WOKE," FAR FROM BEING TRANSITORY, WERE IN PLACE A LONG TIME PREVIOUS.

Now certainly the turmoil and tragedy my client endured has taken a toll on him. But you have a duty to look beyond his physical appearance and into the soul of a man who was imprisoned, beaten down, and betrayed. A man who was forced to live in chaos and whose sanity was pushed over the edge into another state altogether.

In fact, you'll hear from my client's psychologist, whom he eventually turned to as a result of his mental anguish. She'll tell you in her expert opinion that the anarchy, the deception, and the long-time entrapment culminated into a significant quantitative and qualitative change in my client's behavior. A change considerable enough that it influenced my client to become a former state of himself. Again, the prosecution will have you believe that my client acted violently in ruining Atrus's property. But you'll meet my client and you'll come to see that he is a loving husband and father, who, like you, would do anything to defend his family's name.

You'll see that the People have no proof that my client can be separated from the environment in which he was entrapped. You'll

also see that my client is not only a caring man, he's a sensitive man who, like you, values the bonds of friendship. You'll come to understand how my client was deceived. How he was a victim of bad faith exercised by the logic of mutual causality.

You'll learn about the promises made to my client and how they increased at a constant rate and then were broken. You'll hear how my client was forcefully imprisoned by two power-hungry capitalists who wanted to take over his hometown of Narayan. How his ongoing struggle with these opposing forces was a battle to free himself from this bondage. Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury, the Prosecution does not have the evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that my client is guilty of any of these alleged charges. In fact, if you find my client guilty of anything, it's being Naive, Loyal, and Victimized.

**DEFENSE'S CLOSING STATEMENT:**

**TEACHER COMMENTARY:** BY THE TIME WE GOT TO DEVELOPING THE FOLLOWING CLOSING ARGUMENTS (ALSO BY COUNCILOR LORENZO, DEFENSE ATTORNEY), WE HAD WORKED OUR WAY THROUGH SEVERAL OF THE METAPHORS IN OUR TEXTBOOK, *IMAGES OF ORGANIZATION* BY GARETH MORGAN. IN "FLO"'S SUMMATION, SHE MAKES REFERENCE TO SEVERAL OF THESE METAPHORS, AND HAS HELPFULLY HIGHLIGHTED THOSE REFERENCES BY MAKING THEM BOLD.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury, let me refresh your minds by reiterating a statement made some time back by the Prosecution, which pointed out so appropriately that "Many of us have families and homes. Our homes are where we enjoy the comfort and security with our loved ones. Our homes are where we establish the rules for the good of the family."

Yes, that is true indeed and I am sure that you all will concur with this universal sentiment. In this regard I would like to point out that my client Saavedro is no exception. Saavedro was a happy family man, who prioritized his wife, children, his beautiful hometown Narayan and its governing traditions over everything else.

Ordinary organizationsZ: difficult to apply this metaphor, but not when you conceive it according to the conditions in an "unreal" video game. As application of the metaphor proves, it is one of the most useful ways

It wasn't until Narayan was intercepted by **random disturbances** in the form of Atrus and his sons Sirrus and Achenar that

Saavedro and his beloved hometown **was pushed far from its equilibrium and towards the edge of utter chaos.** It led to the destruction of Narayan's serenity and Saavedro's belief in the annihilation of its members, including his family who he assumed were dead for 20 long years. To top it all, Atrus and eventually his sons, Sirrus and Achenar had made hefty promises to Saavedro about returning to Narayan and nurturing it by a **process characterized by positive feedback, where more leads to more.**<sup>1</sup>

TEACHER COMMENTARY: IN THE ABOVE, COUNSELOR LORENZO IS APPARENTLY REFERRING TO MORGAN'S STATEMENTS ABOUT THE *FLUX AND TRANSFORMATION* METAPHOR. TRADITIONALLY, OUT OF MORGAN'S METAPHORS, FLUX AND TRANSFORMATION IS ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT TO TEACH, PROBABLY BECAUSE ITS PRECEPTS (E.G., "THE ONLY CONSTANT IS CHANGE") SEEM PARADOXICAL, COUNTER-INTUITIVE OR EVEN NONSENSICAL.

BUT IT IS HERE THAT SIMULATION PROVES IT WORTH. EVEN IF IT IS DIFFICULT TO APPLY THESE STRANGE IDEAS TO "REAL" ORGANIZATIONS, ONE IS AFFORDED NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING BY APPLYING THE PRINCIPLES TO AN "IMAGINARY" DOMAIN, WHERE THE LAWS OF LOGIC AND PHYSICS OFTEN DON'T APPLY. IT'S AS IF THE STUDENTS, IN A WORLD DEFINED BY FLUX AND TRANSFORMATION, ARE SUDDENLY LIBERATED TO CONSIDER HOW IDEAS MIGHT APPLY IN ALTERNATIVE REALMS.

Contrary to their promise, however, they committed a breach in the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing against my trusting client, Saavedro. Atrus and his sons demonstrated that they were only interested in **feeding off a common rich resource without regard for the wellbeing of the whole Age. The tragedy of the commons problem** took precedence once more as Narayan **fell to pieces.**

Imagine being imprisoned for 20 years, knowing that you are innocent. Imagine an incarceration so severe that you lose track of time, have dissociative memory disorders and a mental fog so dense that you believe that your beloved family, the center of your universe is dead and gone forever. Let me ask you, Jury members, in all legal earnestness, how any human being would have reacted had such a tragedy befallen him/her and knowing fully well who had inflicted this calamity, he/she was completely helpless.

Yes, my client Saavedro was helpless for 20 long years because he was falsely imprisoned by Sirrus and Achenar, who in their

purported **struggle of the opposites** with Saavedro wanted to keep him away, knowing that he was the biggest **proletariat** threat to their capitalist conquest plan for Narayan. Saavedro had severe mental trauma caused as a result of this long-term entrapment which brought serious psychological wounds to him. In addition, the collapse of Narayan and the supposed death of his family were emotionally devastating to him as it would be with anyone who is human and sensitive.

As for proof, our expert witness's testimony and other audio-visual evidence materials have already been presented to the court for the Judge and Jury's perusal. It has been proven that traumatic experiences cause a heightened sense of defensiveness and that people who experience trauma often protect themselves with exaggerated responses of external outbursts. The prosecution has imposed the charges against Saavedro of assault, destroying private property in Atrus's home and defacing artifacts in several ages.

If Saavedro did so, he was only acting in self-defense when he attempted to return the desperation and tragedy that he had suffered in the hands of Atrus and his sons. Let me also point out at this very moment that we must not attempt to view Saavedro's actions and inner logic as separate from the ages. **If we put ourselves "inside" such systems, we come to realize that we are within a closed system of interaction and that the environment is the part of the system's organization.** My client Saavedro could not have damaged the environment which he was accused of doing as **the environment is merely an extension of his own identity.** **If the individual,** in this case Saavedro, **cannot be separated from the environment in which he operates,** he cannot be accused of the property crimes since the property is as much his as it is Atrus's.

Saavedro is not guilty of the charges leveled against him. The only thing he is 100% guilty of is being the victim of false promises and forced incarcerations. As opposed to the Prosecutions libeling of my client as a tool of "terrible vengeful domination", I urge the court to flip the coin and see the true picture, that being of a once trusting and loving man, now but a victim of undesirable forces of flux and transformation which not only destroyed his peace of mind but took away from him all that he ever loved. It is my solemn appeal to you, the Jury members to review the facts of this case and arrive at the solitary verdict that Saavedro is NOT guilty.

TEACHER COMMENTARY: THE RELIANCE ON FLUX AND TRANSFORMATION AS THE GOVERNING METAPHOR SEEMS PERFECTLY IN LINE WITH THE NATURE OF VIDEO GAMING; THE TWO JUST SEEM TO MESH.