



## Act 4

**Narrator:** Molly dashes from the stream to the cannons, her pitcher sloshing with water. Upon returning to her husband's cannon, she sees him fall to the ground.

**Molly Pitcher:** William! Are you hurt?

**Narrator:** William, dazed and sick, cannot respond. He is weak with heat exposure. The team leader, seeing William down, orders his team back.

**Molly Pitcher:** William, get up! Your team needs you.

**Narrator:** Molly looks around at the crew. They are weak from heat. She grabs the swabber and thrusts the wooden pole into the muzzle of the cannon.

**Molly Pitcher:** There's no need to fall back, sir. I'm taking William's place!

**Narrator:** Molly looks into the eyes of the men. Her energy inspires them. The commander shouts, "What are you waiting for? Listen to her!"

**Molly Pitcher:** Swab! Load the cartridge, Private! Ram! Fire!



**Narrator:** With each fire, Molly calls out a reason for the fight against the British.

**Molly Pitcher:** Take this one for threatening our freedom! And another for burning our homes! Here's one for the harsh taxes!

**Narrator:** As the sun sets, General Washington rides his horse alongside the cannon line. Through the smoke, he sees the form of a young woman beside a cannon.

**Private:** Molly! We're out of cannon shot.

**Molly Pitcher:** Let me see what's in my apron pockets. Yes, this firecake and pincushion will do. Swab! Load! Ram! Fire! Take that back to your greedy English king!

**Narrator:** Thirteen metal pins shoot out of the cannon, piercing the night air. The heat of the exploding gunpowder mixed with a large dose of patriotism causes an aurora of red, white, and blue that stretches across the skies. Thirteen white stars form a perfect circle on the star-spangled banner in the sky. When the British see this sight, they drop their rifles and flee the battlefield. The battle is over. Molly kneels at her husband's side.

**Song: The Star-Spangled Banner**



**William Hays:** Oh, Molly, what did you just do?

**Molly Pitcher:** Just my fair share, nothing more.

## Act 5

**Private:** Molly, General Washington sent me to find you.

**Molly Pitcher:** Me? Are you sure?

**Private:** I'm certain of it. He saw you with the cannon.

**Narrator:** Molly wipes her hands on her apron and straightens her cap on her head.

**Molly Pitcher:** Do I look all right, William? Am I fit to meet the general?

**William Hays:** You are the best looking soldier in this army!

**Private:** If you'd like, we'll all come with you, Molly. We'll be sure he knows that we couldn't have held the cannon without you.



**Narrator:** Molly and the entire army of soldiers stride across the camp to Washington's tent. The general steps outside. He towers over Molly. The army of soldiers surrounds her. Washington grins at the sight. Molly curtsseys.

**Molly Pitcher:** General Washington, I am Molly Hays. It is an honor to meet you.

**George Washington:** Mrs. Hays, I was moved by your courage on the battlefield.

**Molly Pitcher:** Why, I was simply doing my part.

**George Washington:** You are too modest. If not for you, a cannon would have been pulled from battle. Every cannon fired is fired for freedom. For your efforts, I give you the title of Sergeant in our Continental Army. You have served your country well.

**Narrator:** The men cheer loudly, and Molly laughs heartily.

**William Hays:** Molly, must we salute you now?

**Molly Pitcher:** That's Sergeant Molly, Private, and don't you forget it!