

MONOLOGUES

Introduction

Hair

The "Wear and Say" Lists

The Flood

The Vagina Workshop

Vagina Happy Fact

Because He Liked to Look at It

Not-So-Happy Fact

My Angry Vagina

My Vagina was My Village

The Little Coochi Snorcher that Could

Reclaiming Cunt

A Six-Year-Old Girl was Asked...

The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy

I was There in the Room

One Billion Rising Film

Spotlight Narration

3 Rising

CAST:

Dorothee Schwolgin, Ellie Waters, Sybille Schieren-Neuber, Johnna Phillips,
Renu Li, Tracy Tollmann, Sandra Kokic, Lisa Housholder

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The Vagina Monologues

by Eve Ensler



{PROGRAMME}



V-DAY BORNHEIM 2013 SPONSORS:



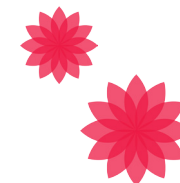
BENEFICIARY OF THE V-DAY BORNHEIM 2013 FRAUENHAUS BONN (Women's Shelter in Bonn)

When abused women must protect themselves and their children from a violent father or a partner, they will find a refuge in the autonomous Women's Shelter "Women Helping Women". The staff of the Women's Shelter endeavour to uphold the Shelter not only as a refuge but also as "a home away on borrowed time", a place where women and children feel safe and secure. Public grants cover only a portion of the costs incurred. The Women's Shelter cannot survive without donations. www.frauenhaus-bonn.de

LOCAL STATISTICS ABOUT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:

For Germany, there is a 2004 representative of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth on violence against women with the following results:

- 40% of women in Germany have experienced physical and/or sexual violence since their 16th year of age.
 - 25% of women living in Germany have experienced violence by current or former partners (domestic violence).
 - 13% of women living in Germany have experienced criminally relevant forms of sexual violence since their 16th year of age.
 - 42% of women living in Germany have experienced psychological violence, for instance, intimidation, slander, threats, psychological terror.
 - Violence against women is perpetrated mostly by partners or ex-partners, and mainly in the domestic sector.
 - Women in separation or divorce situations are particularly vulnerable to become victims of violence by the (ex) partner.
 - More than half of the women affected by physical violence bodily injury has suffered from attacks – only one third asked for medical help.
 - Depending on the type of violence, 56% to 80%
- of women who have suffered psychological after-complaints (insomnia, depression, increased anxiety, etc.). The proportion was particularly high in the case of psychological and sexual violence.
 - Children are often involved from the beginning in the event of violence against the mother. 20% of those women who have experienced violence in their past partnership, stated birth was the triggering event, and another 10% the pregnancy.
 - Violence in a woman's life often marks a break with the usual relationship and life situations, even if the perpetrator is not the partner (e.g., separation, change of residence, termination of employment).
 - 37% of physical and 47% of victims of sexual violence have not spoken to anyone about it. The proportions are even higher, if the perpetrator is the current or former intimate partners.
 - When women talk about the violence they have experienced, then first and foremost with people from their immediate social environment.



a wave of contagious energy and purpose flowing into the streets and bodies and hearts of those who have been marginalized and impoverished, disappeared, raped and hurt. Imagining, something we have only seen in our Cassandra dreams, our bodies dancing and moving and shaking the way we were always meant to move and dance and shake. Dancing, drumming, feet stomping, hips moving --more thunderous than Apollo's intimidation, shaking free his curse. Then we will finally believe Cassandra - that voice inside us, that life inside us - that we have punished and denied, that voice that knows the truth and the way - one billion Cassandras and more, freed and rising.

About Eve Ensler

Eve Ensler is a Tony award winning playwright, performer and activist. She is the author of *The Vagina Monologues*, which has been published in 48 languages and performed in over 140 countries. Eve's newest work, *I Am An Emotional Creature: The Secret Life Of Girls Around The World*, was published in book form and made *The New York Times* Best Seller list. The play, *Emotional Creature* was work-shopped in Johannesburg, South Africa, followed by Paris, France. It opened at Berkeley Repertory Theatre in June 2012, and will open in November 2012 Off-Broadway, New York City. She is the founder of V-Day, the global movement to end violence against women and girls, which has raised over 90 million dollars. Eve's play *Here* was filmed live by Sky Television in London, UK.

Her other plays include *Necessary Targets*, *The Treatment* and *The Good Body*, which she performed on Broadway, followed by a national tour. In 2006, Eve released her book, *Insecure At Last: A Political Memoir*, and co-edited *A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and a Prayer*. Her new book *In The Body of the World* will be published by Holt in 2013.

HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH V-DAY

For more information about V-Day, the global movement to end violence against women and girls, please visit the V-Day web site at www.vday.org. To stay informed about events, actions, and opportunities for participation, sign up for V-Mail, the movement's online newsletter at www.vday.org/vmail. And follow us on Twitter @VDay & Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/vday>



ABOUT V-DAY

V-Day is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. It raises funds and awareness through benefit productions of Playwright/Founder Eve Ensler's award winning play, *The Vagina Monologues* and other artistic works. V-Day promotes creative events that increase awareness, raise money and revitalize existing anti-violence organizations. V-Day generates broad attention for the fight to stop violence against women and girls, including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sex slavery. Each year, community members and students join the V-Day College and Community Campaigns to produce annual benefit performances of "The Vagina Monologues" and other artistic works to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within their communities.

In 2012, more than 5,800 V-Day benefit events took place, produced by volunteers around the world. To date, the V-Day movement has raised over \$90 million and reached over 300 million people, educating them about violence against women and the efforts to end it.

Performance is just the beginning. V-Day stages large-scale benefits and produces innovative gatherings, films, and campaigns to educate and change social attitudes toward violence against women, including the documentary, *Until the Violence Stops*; community briefings on the missing and murdered women of Juarez, Mexico; the December 2003 V-Day delegation trip to Israel, Palestine, Egypt, and Jordan; the Afghan Women's Summit; the March 2004 delegation to India; the Stop Rape Contest; the Indian Country Project; *Love Your Tree*; the June 2006 two-week festival of theater, spoken word, performance and community events *Until the Violence Stops*: NYC; the 2008, V-Day 10-year anniversary events *V TO THE TENTH* at the New Orleans Arena and Louisiana Superdome; the *Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource: Power To The Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo* Campaign; the *V-Girls Campaign* and the *V-Men Campaign*, which launched in 2010.

The V-Day movement is growing rapidly throughout the world, in 130 countries from Europe to Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, and all of North America. V-Day, a non-profit corporation, distributes funds to grassroots, national, and international organizations and programs that work to stop violence against women and girls as well as creating international educational, media and PSA campaigns, reopening shelters, and funding over 14,000 community-based anti-violence programs and safe houses in Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Kenya, South Dakota, Egypt and Iraq. In 2001, V-Day was named one of *Worth Magazine's* "100 Best Charities", in 2006 one of *Marie Claire Magazine's* Top Ten Charities and in 2010 was named as one of the Top-Rated organizations on *Philanthropedia/Guidestar* and *GreatNonprofits*. The 'V' in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine, and Vagina.

MISSION STATEMENT

V-Day is an organized response against violence toward women.

- V-Day is a **VISION**
We see a world where women live safely and freely.
- V-Day is a **DEMAND**
Rape, incest, battery, genital mutilation and sexual slavery must end now.
- V-Day is a **SPIRIT**
We believe women should spend their lives creating and thriving rather than surviving or recovering from terrible atrocities.
- V-Day is a **CATALYST**
By raising money and consciousness, it will unify and strengthen existing anti-violence efforts. Triggering far-reaching awareness, it will lay the groundwork for new educational, protective, and legislative endeavors throughout the world.
- V-Day is a **PROCESS**
We will work as long as it takes. We will not stop until the violence stops.
- V-Day is a **DAY**
We proclaim Valentine's Day as V-Day, to celebrate women and end the violence.

MESSAGE FROM EVE

Rising Cassandra

Cassandra keeps calling to me. Cassandra, the most beautiful daughter of Priam and Hecuba, King and Queen of Troy. Cassandra, given the gift of prophecy by Apollo who wished to seduce her and when she rebuffed his sexual overtures he punished her by making sure no one ever believed her prophecies. Cassandra, who had the surest knowing and vision and was rendered powerless to impact her world.

Cassandra, metaphor of our times. A global village of Cassandras, knowing, seeing the future ignored and rendered lunatics by the curse of the almighty father.

I think of the last 15 years working every day with activists across the planet to sound the alarm about the impact of violence against women and girls. I think of a few weeks ago in Nairobi at the first V Africa Summit where 46 activists gathered from across the continent to tell their stories, to deliver their strategies and prophecies and to find themselves in a room of Cassandras, some recently out of jail for protesting Female Genital Mutilation, some unable to show their faces for fear of retribution, some with missing body parts from rape, some challenging their governments and religious institutions with radical performances, some running for office.

I think of the Congo where over 8 million have perished and hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been raped and tortured and had their vaginas burned and cut and mutilated and destroyed in a 13 year old war for minerals. I think of traveling the planet with Congolese activists speaking out at Parliaments and the White House and Downing Street and the UN with the Secretary General and Presidents and their wives and their top aides. I think how often I have been cautioned that my language is inflammatory or extreme, that I might tone it down, that I am being hyperbolic when in fact I have not come close to finding the language which could express

the horrors I have heard and witnessed. I think of Dr. Denis Mukwege of Panzi Hospital in Bukavu, Congo, on the front lines of the war for over 13 years endlessly calling out to the international community and the leaders of his own country, being told he was exaggerating or inventing stories while he was staring daily into the bloody, mutilated vaginas and destroyed uteruses he was attempting to repair. Perhaps Cassandra is the metaphor of denial. The mechanism, the curse of patriarchy that prevents and refutes women's wisdom and vision and warnings, rendering them mad and powerless and leaving the world in mortal danger. I think of how my own father spent so much of his life tarnishing my character, defining me a liar, building a shield that would later protect him from my adult accusations. Discount Cassandra, delegitimize Cassandra, you discount her story. But the curse on Cassandra was ultimately a curse on humanity. Not only because Cassandra's potentially life saving vision was disqualified, but it taught us to discount the Cassandra in each of us. It silenced our knowing; and we do know things. We know right now that we are in massive trouble. That the destruction of the earth and women's bodies is leading to major catastrophe. We know time is running out. But we remain frozen, inactive, unable to respond to the magnitude with our full beings, impotently stuck and twisting in our knowing.

I have spent the last 15 years listening to the stories. My daily inbox is crammed with the atrocities and grotesque acts committed on women's bodies across the planet. It is a seemingly impossible task, finding a way to keep telling the same story over and over. I have learned that I must be judicious and mannered in how I tell these stories, meting them out temperately so as not to overwhelm or disturb or frighten the listener even though the stories I tell have



destroyed their victims. I have learned how to pull back and maintain my distance because that is where legitimacy resides. But what of the 10 year old girl in Texas raped and videoed by 20 men, what of Jeanne tied to a tree for a month, now incontinent from gang rape, what of the women with missing hands, breasts, vaginas, legs and clitorises, the women with scars and holes inside them, what of the women who suddenly fall shaking to the ground in rape memory faints and fits, whose bodies are occupied with nightmares and reproductive cancers from violated cells. What of the shame and self loathing that is so thick sometimes women don't even feel the right to kill themselves, what of the 85 to 99 per cent of all women who experience street harassment or elected officials who claim legitimate rape doesn't make you pregnant or parents who are convicted for honor killing their own daughter for marrying the man of her choice, or comedians who still think rape jokes are funny? What of the 75 thousand raped women every year in France or the girls trafficked or 2 million who suffer female genital mutilation every year, or 1 out of 5 college students raped on campuses in the U.S., the 200 million girls who go missing each year or the 1 in 3 women in raped in the U.S. military?

Right now one out of every three women on the planet will be raped or beaten in her lifetime. That is a UN Statistic. That is equivalent to 1 billion women and girls. Here's what I see. There are two possible futures.

One is a future without women, where their rights and bodies and vaginas and lives are destroyed, where men without women subsequently destroy themselves, where the economic and religious wars are fought on the bodies on women, where women are commoditized and objectified out of existence. Where rape is so prevalent that it kills love and tenderness and intimacy and connection. Right now for

example in the Congo and other war zones there are thousands of children who are the product of rape, exiled and rejected like a foreign species.

Then there is the other future. It begins on February 14, 2013. It begins as we prepare for One Billion Rising, a call to the billion women who have been violated and the men who love them, to the women who have been beaten and raped and cut and mutilated and burned and sold and who know the destruction of the female species heralds the end of human kind. A call to walk out of your homes, your jobs, your schools and find your friends, your group, your place and music and DANCE. A Global dance action, our feet on the earth. And in these months leading to One Billion Rising we will link our issues and stories and villages and cities to the dancing.

“Right now one out of every three women on the planet will be raped or beaten in her lifetime.”

How do you break a curse? Imagination,

organization, disruption, dancing. In organizing, we will discover our solidarity and the scope of this issue. We will come to know that ending violence against women is as important as ending poverty, or Aids or global warming. We will come to see that it is not a local issue or particular to any culture or religion or village or age, but in fact it is how patriarchy maintains itself. We will come to see what is possible. Already 160 countries have signed up. Over five thousand organizations. Unions that represent millions. Ministers, Movie Stars, Movement builders, Members of Parliament, Indigenous women, artists, Olympic athletes. Essentially, the world. Disruption and dancing. The active elements for smashing and dissolving a curse. Dancing, where we finally move from witness to participant, from liberal to radical, from sleepwalker to booty shaker, from delegitimized seer to irresistible doer. Dancing, all the sorrow and outrage and hurt and wisdom and hunger that has been have repressed finally coming forth (*continued*)