It is my opinion that the earth is very noble and admirable by reason of so many and so different alterations and generations which are incessantly made therein.

—Galileo Galilei
SCENE 1
In the year sixteen hundred and nine
Science’ light began to shine.
At Padua City, in a modest house,
Galileo Galilei set out to prove
The sun is still, the earth is on the move.
SCENE 1

Galileo’s scantily furnished study. Morning.

GALILEO is washing. ANDREA, son of his housekeeper, MRS. SARTI considers a big astronomical model.
“Where did you get that thing?”
SCENE 2

No one’s virtue is complete:
Great Galileo liked to eat.
You will not resent, we hope,
The truth about his telescope.
SCENE 2

The Great Arsenal of Venice, overlooking the harbor full of ships.

SENATORS and OFFICIALS on one side, GALILEO, his daughter VIRGINIA, and his friend SAGREDO on the other side.

ARTISANS from the Arsenal and LUDOVICO are among the onlookers.
SCENE 3
SCENE 3

January ten, sixteen ten:
Galileo Galilei abolishes heaven.
SCENE 3

Galileo’s study at Padua. It is night.

GALILEO and SAGREDO at a telescope.
Page from Galileo's notebook tracking the orbits of the satellites of Jupiter.
OBSERVAT. SIDEREÆ

Hexaem macula ante secundam quadraturam aligebibus sublimiis terminis circumvallata conspicitur, qui tanquam altissima montium spha ex parte Soli adfecta obfusiorum apparente, quæ vero Solent repletunt, inciden 

cient aequo oppositum in cavitaribus adeo, quantum 

par Soli adfecta splendens appareat, obscura vero ac umbre 

la, que ex parte Solis sita est. Invicta deinde lumi 

fascia, cuin primam vasa firma dicta macula tenebres 
eb oduela, claria mone trium ducta estinere tenebres 

frondunt. Haec disputation apparentiam frequentes figure 

componunt.
By setting the name of Medici in the sky, I am bestowing immortality upon the stars. I commend myself to you as your most faithful and devoted servant, whose sole desire is to reside in Your Highness’ presence, the rising sun of our great age.

—Galileo Galilei
SCENE 4
SCENE 4

Galileo’s house at Florence. Well appointed.

GALILEO is demonstrating his telescope to PRINCE COSIMO DE’ MEDICI, a boy of nine, accompanied by LADIES of the court, and PROFESSORS. With GALILEO are ANDREA, FEDERZONI (a new assistant), and MRS. SARTI.
SCENE 5
SCENE 5

Things take indeed a wondrous turn
When learned men do stoop to learn.
Clavius, we are pleased to say,
Upheld Galileo Galilei.
SCENE 5

A hall in the Collegium Romanum.

HIGH CHURCHMEN, MONKS, and SCHOLARS laughing.
GALILEO by himself in a corner.
The Collegio Romano
CHRISTOPHER CLAVIUS:
“He is right.”
As these new astronomical charts enable us to determine longitudes at sea and so make it possible to reach the new continents by the shortest routes, we would beseech Your Excellency to aid us in reaching Mr. Galilei, mathematician to the Court of Florence, who is now in Rome from a letter written by a member of the Genoa Chamber of Commerce and Navigation to the Papal Legation.
SCENE 6
When Galileo was in Rome
A Cardinal asked him to his home.
He wined and dined him as his guest
And only made one small request.
SCENE 6

Cardinal Bellarmin’s house in Rome. Music is heard and the chatter of guests.

A SECRETARY watches.

GALILEO, his daughter VIRGINIA, now twenty-one, and LUDOVICO MARSHILI, who has become her fiancé, are just arriving.
Cardinal Bellarmin and Cardinal Barberini
The Cardinal Inquisitor
SCENE 7
SCENE 7

Galileo, feeling grim,
A young monk came to visit him.
The monk was born of common folk.
It was of science that he spoke
SCENE 7

Garden of the Florentine Ambassador in Rome.

GALILEO and FULGANZIO, the LITTLE MONK of Scene 5, are talking.
OBSERVAT. SIDEREAE

vergit primo loco dicamus, quam facilioris intelligen-
tiae gratia in duas partes dilinguo, alteram empe-
clariorem, obscuriorum alteram: clarior videtur totum
Emipharium ambiere, atque perfundere: obscurior
vero veluti nubes quaedam facie iam ipsa inficiit, mac-
llorinque reddidit: illae autem maculae fabulosae, &

tatis amplius vnicuique sunt obscuri, ililaque omni
omne conpexit; quapropter magnas, seu antiquas eas
appellabimus, ad differentiam aliarum macularum am-
plitudine minorum, at frequentia ita confarit, ut
totum Lunare superficiem, præsertim verò lucidio-
rem partem perspexit; ha vero à nemine ante nos
obscurata fuerunt: ex iparium autem lapsus iteratis
inspectionibus, in causis deduci putamus sententiam, ve-
certò intelligamus, Luna superficiem, non perpul-
tam, æquabilis, exactissimamque pharicinatis excibus,
vi magna Philosophorum coors de ipa, deqù reliquis
corporibus coelitibus opinata est: sed contra inequa-
llem, aliperam, caudatibus, tumulisque confarit,
non aequali; ac iphis metis Telluris facies, qua montium
inguis, valluumque profunditatis hinc dé dilucul-
tur. Apparentia vero ex quibus hac colligere licuit
cuiusmodi sunt.

Quarum aut quinta post confectionem die, cum
splendidis Luna fsete nobis cornibus offeret, im
terminem, partem obscuram à luminosa dividit,
non æquabiliter secundum qualem lineam extendi-
tur, veluti in solido perfectè pharicinatis acciderat;
se æquabilibus, aliperis, & admodum fina linea
longius, veluti apposita figura repraesentaret, com-
plures enim veluti excentricia lucide vistae lucis te-
nebrarumque confarit in partem obscuram exten-
duntur, & contra tenebrose particula intrà lumen
ingreditur. Quinimum, & magna nigriement mac-
cularum

RECENTS HABITAE.

celum exiguarum copia, omnino à tenebrosa parte
secuturum, totam ferè plagam iam Solis lumine per-

tam inviduque conpergit, illa saltem excepta parte

tum magnis, & antiques maculis est affecta. Adno-

timus autem, modo dictis exiguis maculas in hoc

formar, & omnes conuenire, ut partem habeant ni-
griement locum Solis respicientem; ex adverso autem
saeculorum terminis, quæ candidibus inuis co-
mensur. At confinicum postis aspectum habemus

in Terra circa Solis exunctum, dum vulpes nonnum lu-

\[\text{Diagram}\]

Verum
INTERMISSION
SCENE 8
SCENE 8

Eight long years with tongue in cheek
Of what he knew he did not speak.
Then temptation grew too great
And Galileo challenged fate.
SCENE 8

Galileo’s house in Florence again.

GALILEO is supervising his assistants—ANDREA, FEDERZONI and FULGANZIO—who prepare experiments. MRS. SARTI and VIRGINIA are sewing bridal linen.
SCENE 9
SCENE 9

On April Fools’ Day, thirty two,
Of science there was much ado.
People had learned from Galilei:
They used his teaching in their way
Around the corner from the market place a BALLAD SINGER and his WIFE, who is costumed to represent the earth in a skeleton globe made of thin bands of brass, are holding the attention of a sprinkling of representative citizens...
Up stood the learned Galileo
Glanced briefly at the sun
And said: “ Almighty God was wrong
In Genesis, Chapter One!”
Good people what will come to pass
If Galileo’s teachings spread?
No altar boy will serve the mass
No servant girl will make the bed.
The carpenters take wood and build
Their houses—not the church’s pews.
And members of the cobbler’s guild
Now boldly walk the streets—in shoes.
Dana is home to the college's art and theatre departments, as well as classrooms, studios, the Dalton Art Gallery, and the Winter Theatre.
SCENE 9

THE BALLAD SINGER and his WIFE...
SCENE 10
SCENE 10

The depths are hot, the heights are chill,
The streets are loud, the court is still.
SCENE 10

Antechamber and staircase in the Medicean palace in Florence.

GALILEO waits with his daughter VIRGINIA to be admitted to the presence of the PRINCE.
The Cardinal Inquisitor
SCENE 11
SCENE 11

The Pope
SCENE 11

A chamber in the Vatican. The POPE, URBAN VIII—formerly CARDINAL BARBERINI—is giving audience to the CARDINAL INQUISITOR.
SCENE 12
June twenty second, sixteen thirty three,
A momentous date for you and me.
Of all the days that was the one
An age of reason could have begun.
SCENE 12

Again the garden of the Florentine Ambassador at Rome, where Galileo’s assistants wait the news of the trial.

FULGANZIO and FEDERZONI are attempting to concentrate on a game of chess. VIRGINIA kneels in a corner, praying.
Page from Galileo's notebook tracking the orbits of the satellites of Jupiter.
TOWN CRIER:
I, Galileo Galilei, Teacher of Mathematics and Physics do hereby publicly renounce my teaching that the earth moves. I forswear this teaching with a sincere heart and unfeigned faith and detest and curse this and all other errors and heresies repugnant to the Holy Scriptures.
You can plainly see that if a horse were to fall from a height of three or four feet, it would break its bones, whereas a dog would not suffer injury. The same applies to a cat from a height of as much as eight or ten feet, to a grasshopper from the top of a tower, and to an ant falling down from the Moon.
Nature could not allow a horse to become as big as twenty horses nor a giant as big as ten men, unless she were to change the proportion of all its members, particularly the bones. Thus the common assumption that great and small structures are equally tough is obviously wrong.

—From the “Discoursi”
SCENE 13
1633-1642
Galileo Galilei remains a prisoner of the Inquisition until his death.
SCENE 13

A country house near Florence.
A large room simply furnished.

An OFFICIAL of the Inquisition stands on guard in the anteroom.
My purpose is to set forth a very new science dealing with a very ancient subject—motion....

And I have discovered by experiment some properties of it which are worth knowing....
SCENE 14
SCENE 14

The great book o’er the border went
And, good folk, that was the end.
But we hope you’ll keep in mind
You and I were left behind.
SCENE 14

Before a little Italian customs house early in the morning.

ANDREA, in the midst of his travels encounters two CUSTOMS OFFICERS and a BOY.
May you now guard science’ light,
Kindle it and use it right,
Lest it be a flame to fall
Downward to consume us all.
Engraving of Galileo at age thirty-eight, by Joseph Calendi
Portrait of Galileo at age forty-two, by Domenico Robusti
BLACKOUT