

A Reader's Theater Script for  
*One Dead Spy*  
Written by Nathan Hale  
Script Adaptation by Gail Shipley, TBA Committee Member

**Readers:**

Nathan Hale

Hangman

Redcoat

Buzzard

Narrator

**Redcoat:** Make way for the PRISONER! Make way for the SPY! I have a spy here, Mr. Hangman. What do we do with spies?

**Hangman:** WE HANG SPIES!

**Redcoat:** That is correct! Spying against your KING and COUNTRY is punishable by DEATH! I have orders to...um...Huh? Where are the blasted hanging orders? We can't hang him without the orders. I must have left them somewhere...be right back.

**Hangman:** This is awkward. Do you...uh, want to practice your, um, last words Mr...?

**Hale:** Hale, Nathan Hale. I haven't thought about my last words.

**Hangman:** I've heard some real doozies in my time. I can give you some ideas.

**Hale:** But...then they wouldn't be MY last words.

**Hangman:** How about..."I am going to take my last voyage..." something real poetic-like? Or something angry, like "Down with all of you!"

**Hale:** Well...

**Hangman:** Regrets! Do you have any regrets?

**Hale:** I regret that I only have one life.

**Hangman:** Ha ha! Good one! If you had an extra life you could be hanged, then just walk

away. Anything else?

**Hale:** Not really.

**Hangman:** No regrets?

**Hale:** No. I spied for my country, and I'd do it again.

**Hangman:** Ah! Patriotic stuff! That's good! How about, "Give me liberty or give me-what was it? -a sandwich!"

**Hale:** No, no. It was, "Give me liberty or give me death." Patrick Henry said that last year.

**Hangman:** Now those are some great last words!

**Hale:** Those weren't his last words. He said them in a speech. Patrick Henry is the governor of Virginia.

**Hangman:** "Give me liberty or give me an extra life so I can die for my country two times." How's that?

**Hale:** Hmm. That's not great...

**Hangman:** "Give me a sandwich or give me death!"

**Hale:** You really want a sandwich.

**Hangman:** Yes, I do.

**Hale:** I regret that I do not have a sandwich to give you.

**Hangman:** That's all right, I have a sandwich waiting for me at home. You seem like a nice fellow. I regret that I do not have an extra life to give you.

**Hale:** I regret that I have but one life to give for my country.

**Hangman:** Ooh nice! Were those your last words? Somebody write that down! Huh? Hey? Get offa him! You dirty buzzard! He ain't dead yet!

**Buzzard:** KAWWWWW

**Hangman:** Bird attack? Earthquake? What's happening?

**Narrator:** Rumble rumble rumble rumble rumble

**Hangman:** Yipe! It's folding up like a trap! Every man for himself! What in the world...?

**Hale:** Who-o-a-a-ah!

**Narrator:** CHOMP

**Hangman:** Hey! That was my prisoner! It's a monster book! A book that eats people! AAACK! Run Away! Don't eat me! I hate books!

**Narrator:** Bonk

**Hangman:** AAAAAAAAAAAAAA Huh? The Big Huge Book of American History. Look at all the stars.

**Buzzard:** KAAWWWW

**Hangman:** WHOA You're back!?

**Hale:** Hello.

**Hangman:** "Hello" he says. Hello? What in blue blazes just happened!??

**Hale:** This is "The Big Huge Book of American History." I just made history.

**Hangmen:** You what?

**Hale:** My last words were so good, they put me in the history book.

**Hangman:** They were? I don't even remember them.

**Hale:** "I regret that I have but one life to give for my country."

**Hangman:** So do I, but I still can't remember what your last words were. What's inside that

giant book?

**Hale:** The history of this country. I saw it all-hundreds of years into the future.

**Hangman:** How could you see the future in a history book? It doesn't make any sense.

**Hale:** A giant book just swallowed me whole. Does that make any sense?

**Hangman:** What did you see in the future?

**Hale:** I saw the birth of this nation. I saw wars, heroes, and villains...explorers and inventors...iron ships, flying ships...millions of lives, millions of stories.

**Narrator:** Are you curious about our past? Want to hear of wars, heroes, villains and more? Want to hear a spy from the past tell of the future? Then you need to read this exciting graphic novel, *One Dead Spy*.

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