

The Square is a play about democracy written by Athena Farrokhzad.

SCENE 1

Two characters say that everyone is allowed to participate and decide in the democracy. A third character says she isn't allowed to participate and decide.

SCENE 2

Three characters hold a meeting about their square, but can't get along. An excavator comes to rebuild the square into a shopping mall.

SCENE 3

Scene 3 is a poem that says: *say something about squares that makes us come together.*

SCENE 4

A police officer stops a character who hasn't done anything [illegal]. The character protests. A third character is present as witness.

SCENE 5

Scene 5 is a poem that says: *sing something about punishment that is in proportion to our crime.*

SCENE 6

A character has just received citizenship but decides to give her vote to someone who doesn't have one. Another character tries to convince the first character to not give away the vote.

SCENE 7

Scene 7 is poem that says: *ask something about votes that will be counted.*

SCENE 8

Two characters play soccer with unfair rules. When the loser doesn't want to play anymore, the winner finds a new opponent. The new opponent wins but is punished for it.

SCENE 9

Scene 9 is a poem that says: *think about resources that give according to needs.*

SCENE 10

A group of characters fight for their right of asylum by doing a sit-in on a square. But they want more than asylum; they also want a society in which everyone can live.

SCENE 11

Scene 11 is a poem that says: *dream about resignation that isn't passed down to us.*

SCENE 12

The character who hasn't been allowed to participate and decide in the democracy asks Tony Benn's five essential questions of democracy:

“What power have you got?”

“Where did you get it from?”

“In whose interests do you use it?”

“To whom are you accountable?”

“How do we get rid of you?”

Translator's Note

Although the intention of the playwright is that all parts in the play can be played by actors of any sex, female pronouns are used in two instances in this translation for the sake of grammatical simplicity.