



0. WOMEN OUGHT TO VOTE - Story Preface

1. THE FIGHT BEGINS

2. FAMOUS SUFFRAGISTS

3. DECLARATION OF SENTIMENTS

4. NO RIGHTS

5. WOMEN OUGHT TO VOTE

6. VICTORY

Udo J. Keppler created this illustration—"The Feminine of Jekyll and Hyde"—which appeared in *Puck's* June 4, 1913 issue. The Library of Congress [summarizes this centerfold](#): "Illustration shows a woman holding a flag labeled 'Woman Suffrage' standing behind an angry hag labeled 'Militant Lawlessness' with a Medusa-like face, wide-eyed and open mouth, rushing toward the viewer, carrying a bomb and a torch with smoke labeled 'Arson.'" Online via the Library of Congress.

Contemporary placards, cartoons, pictures and editorials demonstrate the obstacles women faced as they struggled for political freedom. And it wasn't just men who opposed granting women the right to vote. [Some](#) American women thought the whole suffrage movement was foolishness.

- In the last year of his life, the artist George Yost Coffin gave [Brumidi's](#) famous fresco *The Apotheosis of George Washington* (located in the [Rotunda](#) of the U.S. Capital) a different look when he published (in the January 26, 1896 issue of the *Washington Post*) a [cartoon](#), *The Apotheosis of Suffrage*, spoofing the women's movement.
- Susan Anthony was often the target of unflattering [cartoons](#) and [descriptions](#).
- [Election Day!](#) - a caricature from 1909 - depicts a mother on her way to the polls, leaving her husband behind to care for the children.
- The National Anti-Suffrage Association, in approximately 1911, displayed a [sign](#) in the window of its headquarters: "Opposed to Woman Suffrage."
- 1912: "Men of Ohio! Give the Women a Square Deal. Come in and Learn Why Women [Ought to Vote](#)"
- Washington, D.C. was the scene of a [freedom march](#) on [3/3/13](#). [Alice Paul](#) had conceived [the idea](#) of a [suffragette parade](#) to coincide with the [presidential inauguration](#) of Woodrow Wilson. Not everyone was pleased with [the results](#).
- Women from the National Women Suffrage Association [lobbied](#) for voting rights on April 22, 1913.
- While some women marched for the cause in New York City ([in 1912](#) and [1913](#)), others [learned](#) how to be effective speakers.
- Women expressed their [plea](#) - "Help us to Win the Vote" - in a 1914 placard.
- Suffragettes [picketed](#) in front of the White House in February, 1917.

Despite 150 years of failure and disappointment, Abigail Adams' prediction (that women would ultimately have their say in American politics) finally became reality in 1920.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/WOMEN-ought-to-vote-Suffragists-Heroes-of-the-Civil-Rights-Movement>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/WOMEN-ought-to-vote-Suffragists-Heroes-of-the-Civil-Rights-Movement>

Media Stream

Apotheosis of Washington - U.S. Capitol Rotunda

This image depicts *The Apotheosis of Washington* - a very large fresco on the ceiling of the U.S. Capitol Rotunda - which Constantino Brumidi created in 1865.

The work plays a key role in *The Lost Symbol*, a novel by Dan Brown.

The Architect of the Capitol provides more information about this famous fresco:

The Apotheosis of Washington in the eye of the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol was painted in the true fresco technique by Constantino Brumidi in 1865. Brumidi (1805-1880) was born and trained in Rome and had painted in the Vatican and Roman palaces before emigrating to the United States in 1852.

A master of creating the illusion of three-dimensional forms and figures on flat walls, Brumidi painted frescoes and murals throughout the Capitol from 1855 until his death. The canopy fresco, his most ambitious work at the Capitol, was painted in eleven months at the end of the Civil War, soon after the new dome was completed, for \$40,000.

Suspended 180 feet above the Rotunda floor, it covers an area of 4,664 square feet. The figures, up to 15 feet tall, were painted to be intelligible from close up as well as from 180 feet below. Some of the groups and figures were inspired by classical and Renaissance images, especially by those of the Italian master Raphael.

In addition to a description of the work, the Architect of the Capitol provides publicly available photos of the inner dome and canopy, the canopy fresco and close-ups of the individual groupings:

In the central group of the fresco, Brumidi depicted George Washington rising to the heavens in glory, flanked by female figures representing Liberty and Victory/Fame. A rainbow arches at his feet, and thirteen maidens symbolizing the original states flank the three central figures.

(The word "apotheosis" in the title means literally the raising of a person to the rank of a god, or the glorification of a person as an ideal; George Washington was honored as a national icon in the nineteenth century.)



Six groups of figures line the perimeter of the canopy; the following list begins below the central group and proceeds clockwise:

- War, with Armed Freedom and the eagle defeating Tyranny and Kingly Power;*
- Science, with Minerva [the Roman goddess known as Athena to the Greeks] teaching Benjamin Franklin, Robert Fulton, and Samuel F.B. Morse;*
- Marine, with Neptune [the Roman god known as Poseidon to the Greeks] holding his trident and Venus [Aphrodite to the Greeks] holding the transatlantic cable, which was being laid at the time the fresco was painted;*
- Commerce, with Mercury [Hermes to the Greeks] handing a bag of money to Robert Morris, financier of the American Revolution;*
- Mechanics, with Vulcan [Hephaestus to the Greeks] at the anvil and forge, producing a cannon and a steam engine;*
- Agriculture, with Ceres [Demeter to the Greeks] seated on the McCormick Reaper, accompanied by America in a red liberty cap and Flora picking flowers.*

The Capitol's cast-iron dome was designed in 1854 by Thomas U. Walter, the fourth Architect of the Capitol, who had also designed the building's north and south extensions.

Work on the dome began in 1856; in 1859 Walter redesigned the structure to consist of an inner and outer dome. A canopy suspended between them would be visible through an oculus, or eye, at the top of the inner dome, and in 1862 Walter asked Brumidi to furnish a design for "a picture 65 feet in diameter, painted in fresco, on the concave canopy over the eye of the New Dome of the U.S. Capitol."

It is possible that Brumidi added a watercolor image of his final canopy design over a tentative sketch on Walter's 1859 drawing at this time. (A photograph of the entire drawing and a detail of the canopy area are available.)

The fresco underwent a thorough cleaning and restoration in 1987-1988. Although fresco is a very durable medium, grime had accumulated on the surface of Brumidi's Apotheosis for over a century. In particular, the joints between the giornate, the sections of plaster, had darkened, creating disfiguring lines in the composition.

Today, with the fresco completely cleaned and treated, the unified effect and soaring illusion of space intended by the artist can once again be seen.

Click on the image for a greatly expanded view.

Images and descriptions online, courtesy Architect of the Capitol.

PD

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Apotheosis-of-Washington-U.S.-Capitol-Rotunda>



Cartoon - Disparaging Women's Rights (Election Day!)

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress (American Memory). Digital ID, at the LoC, cph 3a51845. Copyright expired due to passage of time.

PD

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Cartoon-Disparaging-Women-s-Rights-Election-Day->



Women's Suffrage - Help Us Win the Vote

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. From the NAWSA (National American Woman Suffrage Association) Collection at the Library of Congress, reproduction number LC-USZ62-23622.

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View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Women-s-Suffrage-Help-Us-Win-the-Vote>



National Woman Suffrage Association

Image online, from the George Grantham Bain Collection, courtesy the Library of Congress.

Reproduction number: LC-USZ62-93552

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View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/National-Woman-Suffrage-Association>

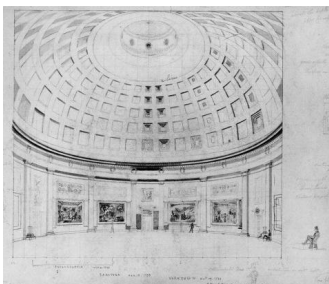


Picketing at the White House

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. Reproduction number: LC-USZ62-31799

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Rotunda at the U.S. Capitol - Early Illustration

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. It is included in a list of [other early illustrations](#), for the nation's various buildings, with this title:

To Throw the Labor of the Artist Upon the Shoulders of the President of the United States: The House and Senate Wings

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View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Rotunda-at-the-U.S.-Capitol-Early-Illustration>



Sign - Give Women A Square Deal

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. Reproduction number: LC-USZ62-30776

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Sign - Opposed to Woman Suffrage

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. Reproduction number: LC-USZ62-25338

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View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Sign-Opposed-to-Woman-Suffrage>



Suffrage - Marching in 1912

The original copyright on this photograph, by the American Press Association, has expired due to passage of time. Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. LoC Reproduction Number: LC-USZC4-5585

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Suffrage - Marching in 1913

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. Part of the George Grantham Bain Collection at the Library of Congress. LoC Reproduction Number: LC-B201-3643-12

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Washington Post Political Cartoon on Women's Suffrage

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. Reproduction Number: LC-USZ62-10862

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Washington-Post-Political-Cartoon-on-Women-s-Suffrage>



Women Suffrage - Freedom March Photo, 3 March 1913

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. Part of the George Grantham Bain Collection at the Library of Congress. LoC Reproduction Number: LC-USZ62-22262

PD

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Women-Suffrage-Freedom-March-Photo-3-March-1913>

Alice Paul and Lucy Burns - Building the Base

Clip from "Iron-Jawed Angels" (2004), an HBO film about suffragettes fighting for a constitutional amendment, giving American women the right to vote.

Clips online, courtesy HBO and YouTube. All copyrights/ownership rights belong to HBO. Provided here as "fair use" for educational purposes and to acquaint new viewers with the program.

Director:

Katja von Garnier

Producers:

Len Amato
Lydia Dean Pilcher
Robin Forman
Paula Weinstein

Writers:

Sally Robinson
Eugenia Bostwick-Singer
Raymond Singer
Jennifer Friedes

Starring:

Hilary Swank - Alice Paul
Frances O'Connor - Lucy Burns
Molly Parker - Emily Leighton (a fictional character portrayed as a senator's wife)
Laura Fraser - Doris Stevens
Lois Smith - Rev. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw
Vera Farmiga - Ruza Wenclawska (also known as Rose Winslow)
Brooke Smith - Mabel Vernon
Patrick Dempsey - Ben Weissman (a fictional character)
Julia Ormond - Inez Milholland
Adilah Barnes - Ida Wells-Barnett
Anjelica Huston - Carrie Chapman Catt

Music:

Reinhold Heil
Johnny Klimek

Cinematography:

Robbie Greenberg

Editing:

Hans Funck

Distributor:

HBO Films

Release date:

February 15, 2004

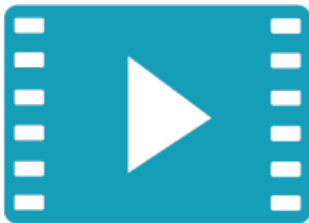
Running time:

125 minutes

Quoted passages from an article by Sheridan Harvey, online at the [Library of Congress - American Memory](#) - web site.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Alice-Paul-and-Lucy-Burns-Building-the-Base>



Breaking Ranks within the Women's Movement

Clip from "Iron-jawed Angels" (2004), an HBO film about suffragettes fighting for a constitutional amendment, giving American women the right to vote.

Clips online, courtesy HBO and YouTube. All copyrights/ownership rights belong to HBO. Provided here as "fair use" for educational purposes and to acquaint new viewers with the program.

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