

“NON-STOP”

Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Why does Hamilton describe the U.S. Constitution as his “client” that needs defending?

What is the "tension" that Burr is referring to?

Who did Hamilton eventually join forces with to defend the Constitution?

How many total Federalist Papers did Hamilton write?

What concession does Hamilton make about the state of the Constitution?

[BURR]

Alexander?

[BURR]

Okay.

[HAMILTON]

Aaron Burr, sir.

[HAMILTON]

I know I talk too much, I’m abrasive.

You’re incredible in court. You’re succinct, persuasive.

My client needs a strong defense. You’re the solution.

[BURR]

It’s the middle of the night.

[HAMILTON]

Can we confer, sir?

[BURR]

Who’s your client?

[BURR]

Is this a legal matter?

[HAMILTON]

The new U.S. Constitution?

[HAMILTON]

Yes, and it’s important to me.

[BURR]

No.

[BURR]

What do you need?

[HAMILTON]

Hear me out.

[HAMILTON]

Burr, you’re a better lawyer than me.

[BURR]

No way!

[HAMILTON]

A series of essays, anonymously published,
defending the document to the public.

[BURR]

No one will read it.

[HAMILTON]

I disagree.

[BURR]

And if it fails?

[HAMILTON]

Burr, that's why we need it.

[BURR]

The constitution's a mess.

[HAMILTON]

So it needs amendments.

[BURR]

It's full of contradictions.

[HAMILTON]

So is independence.

We have to start somewhere.

[BURR]

No. No way.

[HAMILTON]

You're making a mistake.

[BURR]

Good night.

[HAMILTON]

Hey.

What are you waiting for?

What do you stall for?

[BURR]

What?

[HAMILTON]

We won the war.

What was it all for?

Do you support this constitution?

[BURR]

Of course.

[HAMILTON]

Then defend it.

[BURR]

And what if you're backing the wrong
horse?

[HAMILTON]

Burr, we studied and we fought and we
killed

For the notion of a nation we now get to build.

For once in your life, take a stand with pride.

I don't understand how you stand to the side.

[BURR with ENSEMBLE, ENSEMBLE]

I'll keep all my plans close to my chest.

Wait for it, wait for it, wait...

I'll wait here and see which way the wind will blow.

I'm taking my time watching the afterbirth of a nation.

Watching the tension grow.

[ANGELICA]

I am sailing off to London.

I'm accompanied by someone who always pays.

I have found a wealthy husband

Who will keep me in comfort for all my days.

He is not a lot of fun, but there's no one

Who can match you for turn of phrase,

My Alexander.

[HAMILTON]

Angelica.

[ANGELICA]

Don't forget to write.

[ELIZA]

Look at where you are.

Look at where you started.

The fact that you're alive is a miracle.

Just stay alive, that would be enough.

And if your wife could share a fraction of your time,

If I could grant you peace of mind,

Would that be enough?

[BURR]

Alexander joins forces with James Madison and John Jay to write a series of essays defending the new United States Constitution, entitled The Federalist Papers. The plan was to write a total of twenty-five essays, the work divided evenly among the three men. In the end, they wrote eighty-five essays, in the span of six months. John Jay got sick after writing five. James Madison wrote twenty-nine. Hamilton wrote the other fifty-one!

Source: Miranda, L. -M. (2015). Non-Stop. Genius Media