PHASE 1: Build & Export .SRT File

Tools: Notepad (or GPT), your lyrics & timing

1. Create your .srt file using your finalized lyrics and timing.

2. Structure must follow the format below:

1

00:00:08,000 --> 00:00:14,000

Three hundred years we stood and we fought the fight!

3. Save it as .srt using Notepad → Save As → File name: HF\_GPT\_srt\_we-are-the-guard\_20250720\_v1.srt

- Set Save As Type: All Files

- Encoding: UTF-8

PHASE 2: Convert & Style in Aegisub

Goal: Turn .srt into animated karaoke subtitles (.ass)

Tools: Aegisub (https://aegisub.org)

1. Open Aegisub.

2. Go to File → Open Subtitles → load your .srt file.

3. Go to Audio → Open Audio → load your .wav music track.

4. Open Subtitles → Styles Manager:

- Create New Style with:

Font: Roboto or Oswald

Size: 40

Outline: 2

Shadow: 1

Alignment: Center Bottom

5. Apply style to all lines in subtitle grid.

6. Highlight each line, then go to Timing → Karaoke → Auto Split into Words.

7. Adjust the \k values manually if desired to set progressive coloring.

8. Save as .ass subtitle file (File → Save As → karaoke\_subs.ass)

PHASE 3: Render Lyric Overlay with FFmpeg

Goal: Burn subtitles into karaoke-style lyric video

Tools: FFmpeg (https://ffmpeg.org)

Use the following command from terminal or command prompt:

ffmpeg -i your\_song.wav -vf "ass=karaoke\_subs.ass" -c:v libx264 -preset fast -crf 22 -pix\_fmt yuv420p output\_lyrics.mp4

Replace:

your\_song.wav → path to your song

karaoke\_subs.ass → path to styled subtitle file

output\_lyrics.mp4 → output filename

This will create a lyric video file with karaoke subtitles burned in.

PHASE 4: Import and Layer in HitFilm

Goal: Combine karaoke overlay with visuals

Tools: HitFilm (Express or Pro)

1. Open your HitFilm project.

2. Import:

- Background footage or visual media

- output\_lyrics.mp4 from FFmpeg

3. Drag base footage into Video Track 1.

4. Drag output\_lyrics.mp4 into Video Track 2 above it.

5. Resize and align the overlay if needed.

6. Use opacity keyframes or fade transitions to style.

7. Export your final video with the embedded lyric layer.