

From The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza (Iliad Blowout)

(The set may truly be anything. Greek pillars. A school. A bare stage. Perhaps a complete Dionysian temple with roasting spits of pigs if you have that kind of budget. If you don't, perhaps toy pigs.)

(NARRATOR 1 enters with a stack of note cards. She is dressed in Greek attire and is somewhat nervous.)

NARRATOR 1

Hello audience.

(she flips her note card.)

My name is—

(she flips her note card)

<ACTOR'S REAL NAME> and I'm here today to give my presentation on Greek Mythology in an informative, entertaining and

(flips card)

Entertaining manner.

(realizes she's written "entertaining" twice and destroys note card.)

(NARRATOR 2 storms onto the stage, wearing an outlandishly nerdy outfit. NARRATOR 2 is the exact opposite of nervous.)

NARRATOR 2

ALL RIGHT PEOPLE ARE YOU READY TO LEARN ABOUT THE GEEKS!!!?

Yeah! That's what I'm talking about! GEEEEKS!! Who's with me! Scream it! Scream it! GEEEEKS!

(NARRATOR 2 is unimpressed with the audience reaction.)

That's cool, all right, I know what you're doing then. You're just like, feeling me out—okay, I got it. So... Let's talk about Geek Mythology. According to Wikipedia, there are many different types of geeks. You've got your physics geeks, your sci-fi geeks, your theatre geeks

(He points sneakily at NARRATOR 1)

Your historical re-enactment geeks, your computer game geeks, your fantasy adventure role-playing geeks, but this is what you gotta know.

NARRATOR 1

We're supposed to be doing a presentation on Greek Mythology. Greek.

(NARRATOR 2 stops.)

NARRATOR 2

Why would we do that?

NARRATOR 1

Because that's what we've been studying for the past two months.

NARRATOR 2

Seriously?

NARRATOR 1

Have you been paying attention at all?

NARRATOR 2

I've got an Ipod, I don't pay attention to anything. Ipod ROCKS!

NARRATOR 1

Right. We're supposed to be doing a presentation on Greek Mythology

NARRATOR 2

Oh. That's cool, I'll just wing it.

NARRATOR 1

Do you know if we're getting graded individually, or as a group?

NARRATOR 2

I think individually.

NARRATOR 1

Great. Well—no discussion of Greek Mythology is complete without dealing with Epic Poetry. Which is what we are going to—discuss with you—

(NARRATOR 2 has a laptop out. NARRATOR 1 notices.)

What are you doing?

NARRATOR 2

Research. Come on, Wikipedia. We're just gonna cut and paste this sucker. Do we have wi-fi in here?

(he whispers loudly to NARRATOR 1)

Stall. Stall for time.

NARRATOR 1

I actually did my work, <Actor's name>.

NARRATOR 2 *(mocking her)*

I actually did my work, <actor's name.>

NARRATOR 1

So—to help us with our presentation we have a few actors who are... um... they're really pretty awesome—can you guys come on out there?

ACTOR *(off-stage)*

No!

NARRATOR 1

The audience wants to see you.

ACTOR (*off-stage*)

I don't care!

NARRATOR 1 (*stern*)

Come out here.

ACTOR (*off-stage*)

I'm not wearing pants!

(ACTOR appears, holding one of the curtains over his lower section. He waves.)

NARRATOR 1

All right, this is only one of a dream team of actors pulled together from the community.

Trust me. They are... really good. Despite what you've heard. So...

(NARRATOR 2 waves his hand for NARRATOR 1 to keep stalling.)

We only have a certain amount of time to do this.

(NARRATOR 2 keeps gesturing for her to stall. NARRATOR 1 gestures back that she can't stall.)

So for our presentation we will be discussing and portraying the Iliad.

(NARRATOR 2 perks up.)

NARRATOR 2

Seriously? The Iliad?

(he closes his laptop.)

NARRATOR 1

You've actually heard of it?

NARRATOR 2

It's only like the greatest epic poem of all time. I read it every night.

NARRATOR 1

I wouldn't exactly call it the greatest.

NARRATOR 2

Well nobody's asking you. The Iliad rocks, man!

NARRATOR 1

I find it kind of dull, actually.

NARRATOR 2

Are you kidding me? It's like a party for your brain!

(he screams it and runs around)

The Iliad! The Iliad! Yes! Yes! Yes!

(he stops and notices no one else is joining him.)

NARRATOR 1

The Iliad is a recounting of the Trojan War composed by Homer—

NARRATOR 2

Homer! YES!!!!

NARRATOR 1

By Homer some time around seven hundred B.C. It was the first work he completed and as a result, it's a little... how do you say it?

(NARRATOR 2 is throwing things around and chanting like a football fan.)

NARRATOR 2

Il-i-ad! Il-i-ad! Il-i-ad!

NARRATOR 1

Immature. The Iliad is 8,674 lines long. Of those, 7,922 describe someone being killed.

NARRATOR 2

YES! YES!

(NARRATOR 2 finds two swords and begins waving them around like pom poms.)

Two four six eight! Death death death death is great!

NARRATOR 1

You know what? It's just—could you stop that for a second? I just—I don't like the Iliad. It's like the target audience is eight year old boys.

NARRATOR 2

So?

NARRATOR 1

I like stories with narrative complexity and deeper meanings and application to our daily lives.

NARRATOR 2

See I prefer stories that aren't boring.

NARRATOR 1

Well, since no study of mythology is not complete without a history of the Trojan war—

NARRATOR 2

WAR!!!

NARRATOR 1

We are going to present it as if it were performed by its target audience: eight year old boys.

(NARRATOR 2 runs off-stage to general hub-hub.)

So... why was there a war you ask?

ACTOR

Who cares?!

NARRATOR 1

I care, darn it, and I'm going to explain it!

(ACTOR runs out on stage carrying a sword. He kills NARRATOR 1.)

ACTOR

Now you're dead!

NARRATOR 1

I am not dead, I am here to give context—

(ACTOR stabs NARRATOR 1 again.)

ACTOR

Now you're dead again!

NARRATOR 1

I am not dead.

ACTOR

Cheater! Rule check!

(ACTOR 2 appears.)

She says she's not dead!

NARRATOR 1

You can't kill me I'm—

ACTOR 2

Did he stab you?

NARRATOR 1

Yes he did—

ACTOR 2

Then you're dead.

ACTOR 1

I told you you were dead.

(ACTOR 1 stabs her again.)

I just stabbed you again. You're triple dead.

NARRATOR 1

There is no such thing as triple dead!

ACTOR 2

Actually there is. It means you've been stabbed three times. That's okay, you can come back to life in two minutes.

NARRATOR 1

Well good luck telling this story then—

ACTOR 1

Why are you still talking?

NARRATOR 1

Fine.

(NARRATOR 1 collapses.)

Ack. I'm dead.

ACTOR 1

Yay! She's dead!

(The TROJANS enter. They wear red and gold if at all possible. Opposing them are the GREEKS, including ACHILLES. They wear different uniforms.)

TROJAN

What do you want, Geeks?

GREEK

It's Greeks! How many times do I have to tell you that?!

TROJAN

What do you want, Geeks?

(The TROJANS laugh.)

GREEK

That's it! This is war!

(Everyone pulls out very fake-looking swords. One GREEK gets out an imaginary machine gun and begins gunning down the Trojans.)

TROJAN

Hey hey hey! You can't do that!

GREEK 2

Here's my rocket launcher! Boooooooooom! Smash!

TROJAN

Time out! Time out!

GREEK

No time outs!

TROJAN

I said time out!

GREEK

There are no time outs!

TROJAN

We're using swords—you can't use a machine gun!

GREEK 2

We Greeks have advanced beyond your puny civilization!
(The TROJANS lay down their weapons.)

TROJAN

We're not playing then.

GREEK

Oh come on.

TROJAN

We're doing this with swords or not at all.

GREEK

Fine. Put the machine gun away.

GREEK 2

Fine. You guys are no fun. I still get to have a robot then.

GREEK

No robots.

GREEK 2

I'm going home then.

GREEK

You can't go home! We need you!

GREEK 2

I didn't want to play this stupid war any way. And I'm taking my swords.
(GREEK 2 takes GREEK's sword away.)

TROJAN
Come on guys, lets get `em!

GREEK
Come on, I don't even have a weapon!
(The TROJANS stab the GREEK repeatedly.)

TROJAN
You're dead, I hit you, you're dead!

GREEK
Fine. Ack.
(GREEK dies. NARRATOR 1 recovers.)

NARRATOR 1
So the battle was not going well for the Greeks—they appealed to their great hero, Achilles. Now, Achilles' mother had dipped him in the river Styx when he was an infant, so he was invulnerable to harm.
(ACHILLES enters. The TROJANS attack him.)

TROJAN
You're dead! I hit you!

ACHILLES
Shield.

TROJAN 2
I hit you in the back!

ACHILLES
Shield.

TROJAN
I hit you again!

ACHILLES
Didn't hurt. Bam. You're dead. Bam. You're dead.
(ACHILLES kills TROJAN and TROJAN 2 ridiculously easily. They run off stage to become TROJAN 3 and TROJAN 4. If you have more actors, feel free to use as many TROJANS as you wish. They charge.)

TROJANS
I killed you! I killed you!

ACHILLES

Shield. Bam. You're dead. Bam you're dead. Bam you're dead. Shield. Bam you're dead.
Shield. Shield. Bam you're dead. Bam you're dead.

(This play will soon be available from www.playscripts.com. If you are interested in reading the entire thing or wish to inquire about production rights, please contact me at don@donzolidis.com)