

MYTH

by Tristan Jackson-Pate

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Characters

The Chorus: The 9 Muses

- 1- Calliope; Muse of epic poetry. Leader of the chorus.
- 2- Clio; Muse of history, proclaimer of great deeds.
- 3- Erato; Muse of lyric and love poetry.
- 4- Euterpe; Youthful muse of joyful music.
- 5- Melpomene; Muse of tragedy and theatre.
- 6- Polyhymnia; Pious muse of hymns and sacred music.
- 7- Terpsichore; Muse of dance.
- 8- Urania; Wise muse of astronomy and the fates.
- 9- Thalia; Charming muse of the comic arts and theatre.

Titans

Kronos
Rhea
Prometheus
Atlas
Epimetheus
Helios

Olympians

Zeus
Poseidon
Hades
Hera
Athena
Artemis
Apollo
Ares
Aphrodite
Hephaestus
Demeter
Hermes
Persephone
Hecate

Mortals

Tantalus
Sisyphus
Pandora
Musician

Act One

What is a Myth?

All- What is a myth?

- 1- A tall tale?
- 7- A silly story?
- 5- A warning from the past?

- 2- Who made the world?
- 3- The land, sky and seas?
- 8- Who made
- All- Us?

- 4- Why does the sun shine?
- 8- Why do the winds blow?
- 6- Why is day
- 8- Always followed
- 6- By night?

- 1- Stories we tell each other
- 6- Stories to *explain*-
- 8- Stories to help us understand
- 3- The whirling
- 8- Swirling
- All- Feelings in our bellies

4- But how does a myth.... become a myth?

- 1- How have these stories
- 7- From Ancient Greece
- 1- Told before books
- 4- Or films
- 9- Or telly
- 1- Reached our ears
- All- Today
- All- Here
- All- In this park?

- 5- Stories timeless and timely
- 8- Stories scary and supernatural
- 7- Stories re-told and re-imagined
- 6- For centuries
- 1- By Poets
- 9- Players

All- *People*.

- 1- Stories for everyone
- 3- Passed down by word of mouth
- 8- In a vast unbroken line from generation to generation
- 1- Stories from which you may take away, whatever you bring to them

- 6- Too many myths
- 1- Too many tales
- 7- Too many that triumph
- 5- Too many that fail
- 4- Too many questions
- 6- Too much to uncover
- 4- Too many lessons
- 6- Too much to discover

8- So where to begin?

-
- 1- Let's begin at the very beginning.
 - 4- The very very beginning?
 - 1- Would you like to hear a story? (*TO THE AUDIENCE*) Well would you? Then ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, you must call on us, the Nine Muses to begin. When we say:
All- 'Sing, O muses, tell us a story'.
 - 1- Then you must reply;
 - All- 'Of myth and of legend, of Gods and of Glory'
 - 1- Did you get that? Well, let's try:

- All- Sing O muses, tell us a story
- All- 'Of myth and of legend, of Gods and of Glory'.
- 1- Well done!
- Sing O muses, of the time before seasons
- 5- Before evil
- 3- Or hope
- 8- Before knowledge or reason
- 6- Before Gods and mortals
- 7- Before light and dark
- 8- The great chain of events leading here to this park

In the Beginning

2- In the beginning, there was chaos.

CHAOS.

1- A yawning.
6- A void.
5- Nothingness.

THE CHAOS STOPS.

9-It was pretty boring.
All- Shhhh!

1- Chaos is how our world began
5- And chaos is how it shall end.

4- A glorious, brilliant, chaotic
9-Messy
4- Mess!
9-Messier than a toddler at breakfast time!
7-Messier than a plasterer's radio!
9- Messier than Lionel Messi wearing messy effect hair wax in a snowstorm.
All- In space!

1- And then...
8- Out of chaos
7- Sprang
2- Erebus and Nyx!
9-You don't need to remember their names.

2- Erebus the darkness and Nyx the night!

6- And Erebus and Nyx did beget-
2-Hemera
1-The day
2- And Aether
1- The light

3- Meanwhile...
8- Gaia, mother earth-
4- Well who 'begat' her then?

1- Mother earth, so the story goes, simply winked into existence.
9- That's convenient.

5- And with mother earth appeared... *Tartarus*.
All- The underworld.
5- The land of the dead!

6- And Gaia, sweet Goddess, mother earth, gave birth to Pontus, the sea and Ouranos, the sky

1- And Gaia and Ouranos in turn had many children

9- Here we go

1- They were...

2 TAKES A DEEP BREATH.

2- Oceanus and Iapetus and Coeus and Crius and Mnemosyne and Hyperion, and Phoebe and Rhea and Theia and Themis and Thetys and Kronos!

THE CHORUS APPLAUD.

9- You really don't need to remember their names.

5- The almighty Titans!

1- Soon to be ruled by the strongest of all...

KRONOS APPEARS.

Kronos: Kronos.

9- Booooooo!

4- Hissssss!

5- Kronos the dark

6- Kronos the brooding

RHEA APPEARS.

Rhea- Kronos the- is he *looking* at me...?

1-Kronos who caught the eye of another Titan, Rhea.

3 SHOOTS RHEA WITH A BOW AND ARROW.

3- Rhea fell *instantly* and oh so *deeply*... in love.

MUSIC.

Kronos and Rhea

All- Love hits so quickly, it blossoms and blooms
Like a bolt from the blue, you're completely consumed
Love can strike suddenly, so says the myth
In life, you can't choose who you fall in love with

Rhea: (*SIGHS*) Kronos.

3-But Kronos, didn't notice her.

1- Every day he lurked alone in the darkest depths of Tartarus-

5- The underworld

1- Fathoms beneath mother earth

5- Brooding

9- Sulking

Kronos- Thinking like, really deep like... *thoughts*.

Gaia's Revenge

1- Now, Gaia knew that her daughter, Rhea was in love with Kronos-

7- And she also wanted her own husband, Ouranos out of the picture.

1- And so, mother earth concocted a truly *evil* plan.

Rhea- (*WITH AN EAR TO THE GROUND, REACTING IN SHOCK*) Mum?! Are you sure?! Well, that *is* a truly evil plan. Kronos!

SHE GOES TO KRONOS.

1- They were to convince Kronos to kill his *own father*, the sky God, Ouranos and to rule in his place!

4- Well that's just awful! What son would ever-

Kronos: Yeah, alright. Sure.

KRONOS FLIPS HIS FRINGE OUT OF HIS EYES. RHEA SIGHS, WEAK AT THE KNEES.

5- Gaia fashioned him a fearsome sickle-

7- Sharp and serrated

8- Destructive and deadly

1- Kids you might want to look away for this bit.

5- With which he *murdered* the God of the sky!

SOME OF THE CHORUS LOOK AWAY IN FEAR, OR COVER EACH OTHER'S EYES.

KRONOS TAKES HIS SICKLE AND HACKS AWAY AT THE SKY UNTIL HE IS BREATHLESS AND EXHAUSTED.

HE REGAINS HIS COMPOSURE AND BROODING POSE.

THE CHORUS LOOK BACK.

All- NOOOOOOOOOO!

5- Kronos had destroyed the sky father Ouranos!

6- Yet with his dying breath, Ouranos was heard to shout-

All- Beware, Kronos, as your children will in turn, over-throw you!

THE CHORUS COWER, COVERING THEIR HEADS WITH THEIR HANDS.

5- The sky!
All- The sky!

1- (TO AN AUDIENCE MEMBER) Excuse me, Sir/madam, would you do us a favour and just hold up the sky for a sec? Just temporarily, that's it. No, keep your arms up for goodness sake! We don't want the sky falling on our heads!

2- All hail Kronos! King of the Titans, ruler of the ancient world!
Rhea- And his Queen, Rhea.

SONG- BAD GUY

All- Kronos ruler of the ancient land
Taking his destiny by the hand
Slaughtered the all seeing Ouranos
Think you're so mythical

Rhea steps up to take the crown
Plotted to bring their father down
Used Kronos for her dirty work
She's so pathological

But he's a bad guy
Think he's had enough guy
Not the greatest Dad guy
Run off with your stuff guy
He's that bad type
Make your mama sad type
Then chop up your Dad type
Might just eat your kids-

Rhea- Wait, wait wait. He's a *bad* guy?

All- Duh!

The Children of Rhea

1- Now, we know what you're thinking
9- I only came out for a bit of afternoon theatre
7- And a picnic
4- Yeah, I didn't think it would be so
7- Grizzly
4- Gruesome
7- Gory

9- Well it's about to get a whole lot worse.

1- Because Kronos and Rhea... had children.

All- Ahhhhh.

1- No ahhhh.

All- Oh.

1- Because Kronos feared his children would grow up to kill him.

All- Right.

1- So what do you think he did?

AUDIENCE RESPONSE, 1 INTERACTS, TAKES SUGGESTIONS.

1- Well, I'll tell you. Kronos ate his children.

All- Yuk!

AS 1 DESCRIBES THE ACTION, KRONOS EATS FIVE TINY SCREAMING CHILDREN, WATCHED BY A PROTESTING RHEA.

1- His first five children, to be precise

2- Hestia and Hades and Demeter and Poseidon and Hera!

7- Gobbled them up like gobstoppers.

5- Like blubbering little blueberries.

9- Like moaning little maltesers.

KRONOS THROWS AND CATCHES THE FINAL 'BABY' IN HIS MOUTH. HE BURPS. FLIPS HIS HAIR.

1- And what do you think Rhea thought of that?

Rhea- Oh, he's just *misunderstood*. Maybe he'll change?

4- What?!

All- Love can strike suddenly, so says the myth

In life, you can't choose who you fall in love with!

4- *Are you serious?*

Rhea- No, of course not! I'm *livid!*

3- Even love has its limits.

1- Rhea now *hated* Kronos, and she plotted to over-throw him.

9- Here we go again.

1- When her sixth baby was born-

3- Beautiful bouncing baby Zeus!

BABY ZEUS APPEARS.

All- Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh.

1- Yes ahhhhhh.

Rhea tricked the wicked Kronos, swapping the swaddled child, for a stone.

4- A stone?

1- A stone.

RHEA HANDS KRONOS A STONE. WITHOUT LOOKING, KRONOS THROWS AND CATCHES IT IN HIS MOUTH, SWALLOWS IT WHOLE. HE WALKS OFF, HUMMING TO HIMSELF, STOPPING TO CHOKE BRIEFLY. BABY ZEUS POPS HIS HEAD OUT OF RHEA'S BAG AND GIVES THE AUDIENCE THE THUMBS UP.

3- And so the real baby Zeus was smuggled away to the island of Crete-

7- Where he participated in....

All- A baby training montage!

Zeus' Training

MUSIC. BABY ZEUS UNDERGOES A PHYSICAL TRAINING MONTAGE WITH RHEA.

6- And before you knew it, Zeus was seventeen. Young, handsome, and ready for revenge.

ZEUS, NOW A TEENAGER, DOES THE KRONOS 'HAIR FLIP'

Rhea's Revenge

MUSIC. KRONOS IS BROODING IN THE UNDERWORLD.

RHEA ENTERS WITH ZEUS, HOLDING GOBLETS.

Kronos: Rhea, is that you?

Rhea: Yes, *husband*.

Kronos: I never see you any more.

Rhea: Funny, that.

Kronos: I miss you.

Rhea: Do you now?

Kronos: Yes. You must know, that though I play the fearless ruler, I have... a sensitive side.

Rhea: Oh really.

Kronos: A titan has needs.

Rhea: Hm.

Kronos: I love you...

Rhea: Cheers.

Kronos: Let's have another baby.

Rhea: Yeah, *likely*. Look, Kronos- I brought you a new servant to cheer you up.

ZEUS STEPS FORWARD AND HANDS THEM EACH A GOBLET.

Kronos: Oh.

Rhea: Cheers.

Kronos: Cheers.

THEY CLINK GOBLETS.

Kronos: *(TO THE AUDIENCE)* Cheers.

(TO THE CHORUS) Cheers.

All- Cheers.

KRONOS RAISES THE GOBLET TO HIS LIPS.

All-Oh!

Kronos: What?

All-Nothing

KRONOS DRINKS DEEPLY.

1- But Zeus had concocted a deadly potion for his father

7- So as Kronos glugged

8- And gulped

7- And swigged

8- And swilled

1- He began to feel...

9- Bit worse for wear

Rhea- How does that feel Krony? Hm? That aching in your belly? That firey, biley, burny-

7- Sick

5- Wretchy

4- Spewy

Zeus- *(KNOCKING RHEA OUT OF HARM'S WAY)* Watch out!

KRONOS IS ABOUT TO VOMIT.

1- And lo, in an unholy cavalcade of vom, Kronos did spew forth:

2- Hera, Poseidon, Demeter, Hades and Hestia!

SONG. 'ZEUS, RULER OF THE ANCIENT WORLD'.

All- Hera (Hera), Poseidon (Poseidon), Demeter (Demeter), Hades and Hestia

Hera (Hera), Poseidon (Poseidon), Demeter (Demeter), Hades and Hestia

Hera (Hera), Poseidon (Poseidon), Demeter (Demeter), Hades and Hestia

Hera (Hera), Poseidon (Poseidon), Demeter (Demeter)
Who is the chosen one?

Gimme a Z
Z!
Give me an E
E!
Give me an OOOOOOO
ZEUS!

Zeus, Olympian, King of us all
Teach us your ways so evil will fall
Zeus, Olympian disciple of no-one!
Pass on your wisdom, the courage to go on!

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!
Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!

Dominions

1/Zeus- The battle was won.
All- Hooray!

1- Kronos was locked away in the depths of Tartarus, never to return. Atlas, his titan brother, was punished with the task of holding up the sky- thank you so much for hanging onto it for the time being sir/madam, could we give him/her a round of applause please?

ATLAS APPEARS AND IS GIVEN THE BURDEN OF HOLDING UP THE SKY.

Atlas- *(TO THE AUDIENCE MEMBER)* Sure you don't want it back for a bit? Fine.

2- A new order of Gods had emerged!
6- And to decide their dominions
2- Zeus drew lots with his brothers; Hades and Poseidon.
9- Wonder how this is going to go?

HADES, ZEUS AND POSEIDON DRAW STRAWS. ZEUS RECEIVES THE LONGEST, HADES THE SHORTEST STRAW.

Zeus- Oh will you look at that? Well, I'll take ruler of the sky and earth- that sounds a modest title. And, Poseidon, why don't you take God of the seas? Come on, give us wave, huh, huh, huh?

POSEIDON BOWS AND WHIPS HIS BLUE CLOAK ABOUT HIS, AS IF DISSAPEARING INTO THE WATER.

Zeus- Now, Hades... well.... it's just the old underworld left I'm afraid. I hear it's lovely this time of year... why don't you pop down there, check out your new digs and I'm sure you won't give us any trouble in the near future, there's a good chap.

Hades- (*Sings*) Hello darkness my old friend
I've come to talk with you again.

HADES WHIPS HIS DARK CLOAK ABOUT HIM, DISAPPEARING UNDER THE EARTH.

Zeus- Well, how about another blast of the old theme song, eh?

SONG. 'ZEUS, RULER OF THE ANCIENT WORLD REPRISE'

All- Zeus, Olympian, King of us all
Teach us your ways so evil will fall
Zeus, Olympian disciple of no-one!
Pass on your wisdom, the courage to go on!

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!
Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!

2- And in time, the King of the Gods, had many children...

Musicians- First was Ares, skilled in combat a God of battles and war
Like Athena, formed fully armed from the head of her father was born
Boy Hephaestus, thrown from Olympus then climbed up the mountain so tall
Dionysus, God of wine, and mischief and laughter and brawls

Fifth was Apollo, God of sweet music and wielding a golden arrow
His twin sister, Artemis God of the hunt with her quiver and bow
Next was Hermes, linguistically clever, endeavours to send souls below
Aphrodite, hero to starcrossed lovers before Romeo

The Olympians

1/Zeus- And so the 12 Gods were established
8- Looking down at the earth from their home, the very peak of the great mountain
All- Olympus.
6- And long may the great Olympian Gods reign victorious!
Gods- Hooray!

4- So that's the end of the story then?
5- Oh, no.
8- It's just the beginning.
4- No, not *more* Gods?

9- These lot can't remember any more names, can you? Look at her, she's at *bursting* point.
1- Which story would you like to hear next?
4- Ummm

DRUMS.

6- Too many myths
1- Too many tales
7- Too many that triumph
5- Too many that fail
4- Too many questions
6- Too much to learn
4- Too many lessons
6- Too hard to discern

7- What about a story... of mortals?
6- Oh, how dull.
1- You wish to hear the story of the first human?
4- Oh yes!
6- Why must we muses concern ourselves with the fates of men and women?
1- What about you, our mortal guests? Would you like to hear the story? Then you must help us, once more, to begin.

2- Sing O muses, tell us a story
All- Of myth and of legend, of Gods and of Glory
7- Tell us a tale of the first ever people
5- Before towns, before cities
6- Before churches or steeples
3- Before music, or poetry
6- Before man would aquire
All- That great secret commodity, Promethean fire!

9- Honestly. Spoiler alert.

Zeus and Hera

6- Almighty Zeus; sky father, great cloud gatherer, lord of the heavens and the earth... was bored.

HERA AND ZEUS AT THE BREAKFAST TABLE. HERA READING THE PAPER. ZEUS, BORED, SIGHS HEAVILY.

9- Some Gods are just never satisfied
All- Shhhh!

ZEUS SIGHS AGAIN.

6- Frankly, he was annoying his wife, Hera.

Hera- Yes?

Zeus- What?

Hera- Did you want something?

Zeus- Oh no. Nothing especially.

Hera- Right. Pass the ambrosia.

ZEUS DOES SO.

Zeus- It's just..

Hera- Yes?

Zeus- Oh. Nothing.

Zeus- I mean it's not-

Hera- Quite.

Zeus- Not really-

Hera- No.

Zeus- So.

Hera- Yes.

ZEUS SIGHS. HERA RUSTLES HER PAPER. ZEUS STARTS TO HUM HIS 'THEME SONG'.

Hera- Can you not?

ZEUS STOPS HUMMING. HERA SETTLES DOWN TO READ. ZEUS BEGINS TO DRUM HIS FINGERS ON THE TABLE.

Hera- Seriously?!

ZEUS STOPS. HE TAKES OUT A THUNDERBOLT, PICKS HIS TEETH WITH IT.

Zeus- Maybe we should go and see Hades this weekend, should we?

Hera- No.

Zeus- Fine. (*SIGHS*) Bored. Bored, bored, bored bored. Hera. Hey Hera. Hera. (*HE TAPS HER ON THE SHOULDER*) I'm Hera! HERA!

Hera- Look will you get out from under my feet! Go turn yourself into an eagle and fly about or something- I've had *enough* this morning.

Zeus- Fine. (*TINY VOICE*) Love you.

Zeus and Prometheus

MUSIC. ZEUS TURNS HIMSELF INTO AN EAGLE AND FLIES ABOUT.

6- Swooping eagle-like over the beautiful Grecian landscape, Zeus felt the sun, pulled by the God Helios' chariot, beating down on his back-

Zeus- *(AS THE EAGLE)* Oh, alright Helios? Yeah, not too bad.

7- And Zephyrus the west wind, ruffling his feathers-

Zeus- *(AS THE EAGLE)* Yeah, cheers Zephie, just what I needed, yeah.

7- But he couldn't help but feel...

All- Utterly fed up.

8- He saw all that he ruled below him

5- The great mountains and deserts

3- The lucious forests and greenlands

7- He saw the prowling lions

3- And the grazing cattle

8- And he thought

Zeus: *(AS THE EAGLE)* There's something missing.

8- Then he spotted his good friend, the titan-

Zeus- *(AS THE EAGLE)* Prometheus!

PROMETHEUS APPEARS.

Prometheus- Zeusy baby! I'd know that wing span anywhere!

Zeus- *(AS THE EAGLE)* Guilty as charged! How's it going, you legend?

Prometheus- Oh you know, all good! Enjoying life *not* being punished for all eternity- you know, obviously hope *that* is going to continue.

Zeus-*(AS THE EAGLE)* Oh yeah- you helped us out in the war against Kronos, mate, I wouldn't forget *that!*

Prometheus- Great, well, that's... look I can't help but notice I'm talking to an eagle here.

Zeus- *(AS THE EAGLE)* Oh, yeah.

ZEUS BECOMES HIMSELF AGAIN. HE AND PROMETHEUS DO AN ELABORATE HANDSHAKE AND HUG

Both- Weeeeeey!

Prometheus- So how are you?

Zeus- Well. I'm...

9- Bored.

Zeus- Yeah. Right. Pretty.... pretty bored. B.O.R.E.D. Spells bored. You feel me?

Prometheus- Hm. Yeah that can be tough.

Zeus- Tell me about it. *Gods*, it's hard being me.

Prometheus- Yeah. *(TO THE AUDIENCE)* This guy, eh? What you need, Zeus, is a project.

Zeus- A what?

Prometheus- A project. (TO THE AUDIENCE) He does, doesn't he? Perhaps... you could learn to play an instrument? Anyone play an instrument?

PROMETHEUS DISCUSSES THIS WITH THE AUDIENCE.

Zeus- Well, thing is, Apollo's kind of got that covered.

Prometheus- Oh right, yeah.. You used to like hunting, though?

Zeus- Yeah, well Artemis handles that now. Sort of her *thing*.

Prometheus- Right. (TO THE AUDIENCE) Anyone got any ideas? Any interesting hobbies?

PROMETHEUS AND ZEUS INTERACT WITH THE AUDIENCE.

Prometheus- That's it- why don't we make something?

Zeus- Make something?

Prometheus- Create something – something brand new!

Zeus- Now you're talking! Like a new animal, with like, *loads* of heads, or the body of a snake and the head of a lion or something?

Prometheus- I mean, I feel like we have a *few* of those already.

Zeus- Yeah. Yeah you're right. Or like a disgusting old hag with snakes for hair and she's all like "hissss hissss hissss!" (TO AN AUDIENCE MEMBER) Not you madam, just using you as a frame of reference.

Prometheus- What about an animal... that's more like us?

Zeus- What?!

Prometheus- You know, an animal that can walk and talk and-

Zeus- Woah woah woah- you mean create an animal... *in my image*?

Prometheus- Why not?

Zeus- Because they'll try and kill us, Prometheus! (TO THE AUDIENCE) Honestly, this guy.

Prometheus- Would they?

Zeus- Children always try to kill their fathers! (REFERENCING A CHILD IN THE AUDIENCE) Look at that little face, cute, right? WRONG! She's planning something, that's for sure.

Prometheus- Ok, ok. What if- what if... they were *smaller*.

Zeus- How small?

Prometheus- Like *this* small.

ZEUS MELTS A LITTLE.

Zeus- Awwww. That does sound cute.

Prometheus- Right?

8- And so Zeus and Prometheus went down to the river bank.

The First Man

MUSIC. ZEUS AND PROMETHEUS SKIP DOWN TO THE RIVER BANK. THEY SPLASH EACH OTHER WITH WATER, WRESTLE LIKE CHILDREN, PLAY HIDE AND SEEK ETC, THEN TOWEL OFF IN THE SUN.

8- The two friends began to fashion little figures from the clay at the banks of the river.

THE FRIENDS FLICK CLAY AT EACH OTHER, SMEAR IT ON EACH OTHER'S FACES AND CHASE EACH OTHER AROUND.

9- Eventually-

7- Prometheus sculpted a tiny person

8- The very essence of Zeus in miniature- held together by the God's holy spit

ZEUS SPITS.

All- Euuuuurgh!

ZEUS LOOKS ANGRILY AT THE CHORUS.

All- Sorry.

MUSIC. ATHENA APPEARS. THE CHORUS BOW.

8- And who should appear but-

2- The great grey eyed Goddess Athena, daughter of Zeus-

9- Who happened to be passing-

3- And breathed life into the little human.

ATHENA DOES SO.

MUSIC. ONE BY ONE, THE LITTLE FIGURES BEGIN TO COME TO LIFE.

8- And so, the first man was born.

4- Why is it always the first man?

8- Don't worry, we're coming to that...

THE LITTLE FIGURES BEGIN TO WALK, THEN TALK, THEN DANCE.

Zeus- Look at these little people, aren't they excellent?

Prometheus- They really are!

THEY JOIN IN WITH THE DANCING. THE FIGURES TURN AND PANIC, SEEING THE GIANT GODS.

Zeus- Fear not, my little tidgypuds, for I am almighty Zeus, and I see, that my work here is good!

Athena- *(ASIDE TO PROMETHEUS)* His work?

THE FIGURES BOW TO THE GODS.

Zeus- Haha! That's more like it! Now, these little chaps must remember, their place, right Prometheus? Don't go giving them tools, or weapons, or- Gods forbid, *fire*, for goodness sake. Prometheus?

PROMETHEUS IS PLAYING WITH ONE OF THE HUMANS.

Prometheus- What? No, course not.

PROMETHEUS EXITS WITH THE HUMANS.

Promethean Fire

ZEUS, ATHENA AND HERA AT THE BREAKFAST TABLE, WATCHING PROMETHEUS BELOW. HE IS DANCING AROUND IN A CIRCLE 'RING A ROSES STYLE WITH THE HUMANS'. ZEUS POLISHES A THUNDERBOLT.

Zeus- Let's see what the little humans are up to this morning... ahhh, isn't that cute.

Hera- Hm.

Zeus- Prometheus just *loves* those little guys.

Athena- Father, we must create more of this species.

Zeus- You think so?

Athena- These little men are charming enough, but... *simple*, don't you think?

Hera- Quite.

Athena- If they are to flourish, we must create... women!

Zeus- Woah, woah woah. Let's not forget who's in charge here, hmm? We don't want them flourishing *too* much, do we?

HERA AND ATHENA SHARE A LOOK.

5- But Prometheus, best friend to man, wanted exactly that.

3- Prometheus and those humans, eh?

9- I guess you could say they were his Achilles' heel.

EVERYONE LOOKS AT 9.

9- What?

Prometheus- What the humans really need now, is *fire*.

7- The titan knew that Zeus would not stand for this

All- Beware Prometheus!

5- The Gods can be petty, the Gods can be cruel

All- To cross an Olympian, you'd be a fool
7- But he knew humans were destined for great things
3- And he knew they needed fire to achieve them
7- Sometimes, you just *know*, don't you?

PROMETHEUS TAKES A TORCH AND LIGHTS IT FROM THE SUN. HE BRINGS IT DOWN TO THE GROUND. MUSIC, AS THE LITTLE FIGURES STARE IN AWE AND BEGIN TO DANCE AROUND THE BONFIRE. THE GODS CONTINUE TO WATCH ON.

The First Woman

Zeus- How dare he!
Hera- What now?
Zeus- I'll have his guts for this!
Athena- Calm down father, you must think strategically.

9- Thinking wasn't Zeus' strongest suit
7- But eventually, he came up with a plan.

Zeus- Hephaestus!

HEPHAESTUS LIMPS OVER.

Hephaestus- Yes, Dad?
Zeus- You're a sculptor- I want you to make me a woman. It's an idea I've had completely independently.

HERA AND ATHENA ROLL THEIR EYES.

8- And so Hephaestus sculpted *another* figure
Hephaestus- In the image of you, sister Athena
Hera- In the image of *all* beautiful Goddesses

APPRODITE APPEARS.

Aphrodite- Ahem. Excuse me?
All- Aphrodite!

THE CHORUS BOW TO THE GODDESS OF LOVE.

Aphrodite- Yes, it's me, Goddess of love, most gorgeous of all time, you know the drill. What's this about modelling something in my image?
3- And so Aphrodite breathed life into the first woman.

MUSIC. APRHODITE DOES SO.

3- And just like that, LOVE had entered the human world!

THE HUMANS AND GODDESSES DANCE AROUND.

3- And do you know what? Love has never left it!

All- Thanks be Great Goddess Aphrodite!

8- The Gods of Olympus all flocked around-

9- Frankly to see what all the fuss was about

THE GODS CROWD AROUND THE FIRST WOMAN.

Hermes- What's going on?

Artemis- What's all this shouting?

Ares- And *vulgar* dancing?

Hermes- Oh Mummy, *look!*

Apollo- She looks just like you Aphrodite.

Artemis- Like me, I thought-

Hermes- Oh no, just like Aunty Demeter!

Zeus- This is... a woman!

THE GODS STAND BACK TO LOOK AT PANDORA.

All- Oooooooh.

6- And so, the Gods bestowed gifts upon her.

Athena- Athena gave her wisdom and craft- she taught her to weave and dressed her in a beautiful silver robe.

Hera- Hera gave her confidence and curiosity. (*TO PANDORA*) Now don't you go taking any nonsense from anybody!

Hermes- Hermes gave her language, and taught her cleverness and cunning.

Aphrodite- I just actually think you're kind of minimising my contribution here? I mean hello- LOVE?

THE CHORUS ENCOURAGE THE AUDIENCE TO APPLAUD.

HEPHAESTUS LIMPS FORWARD WITH A BOX.

Hephaestus- And as a birthday present, father Zeus gave her one final gift. A most magnificent box, containing... well...

Zeus- That's for me to know and you, *never* to find out? Hm?

8- The first woman was here and she was named

Pandora- Pandora.

3- The girl with all the gifts.

Pandora's Box

Hermes- So Hermes, speedy sandalled messenger God, brought Pandora to earth, where she was revered by all.

All- Ahhhhhh.

Prometheus- Who's this?

Pandora- I'm Pandora. Alright?

Hermes- First woman, and gift from almighty father Zeus.

Prometheus- Zeus sent her, did he?

PROMETHEUS LOOKS UP SUSPICIOUSLY.

Hermes- Yes he did, as it happens. As a wife to your brother, Epimetheus.

Prometheus- Epimetheus?

EPIMETHEUS APPEARS.

Epimetheus- Yes?

3 SHOOTS EPIMETHEUS WITH AN ARROW.

All- Love can strike suddenly, so says the myth
In life, you can't choose who you fall in love with

Prometheus- I've got a bad feeling about this.

MUSIC. MONTAGE, EPIMETHEUS AND PANDORA FALL IN LOVE. LOTS OF SILLINESS.

Epimetheus and Pandora

EPIMETHEUS AND PANDORA SAT ON THE BOX.

Epimetheus- Ok, now you; what did you actually really first think when you actually really first saw me, like *actually* though?

Pandora- Hmm.. I thought... he's nice.

Epimetheus- Did you actually though?

Pandora- And I thought. (*GIGGLES*) I'd like to *kiss* him.

9- Vom.

Pandora- I lovey wovey dovey love you Epimetheus.

Epimetheus- Well I adore-a-rora-rora you Pandora.

Pandora- Awwwwww.
Epimetheus- It's just-
Pandora- What?
Epimetheus- Oh, nothing.
Pandora- What is it?
Epimetheus- Nothing.
Pandora- Come on, you can ask me anything! I am your... *girlfriend*.

THEY COLLAPSE IN HOPELESS GIGGLES AGAIN.

Epimetheus- Alright, truth?
Pandora- Cross my heart.
Epimetheus- What's in the box?
Pandora- Oh, I can't tell you.
Epimetheus- Why?
Pandora- Well, because... I don't know.
Epimetheus- You don't know?
Pandora- Zeus told me never to open it.
Epimetheus- *Oh*. Right, well that makes sense. I'd leave it then.
Pandora- What?
Epimetheus- Well you know... beware Greeks bearing gifts. Oh, *that's* good. I should write that down.
Pandora- Yeah, ok. I suppose I did promise Zeus. Seemed pretty important to him. (*WHISPERS*) *He's kind of a weird guy*.
Epimetheus- Yeah, exactly. (*YAWNS*) Well. Night, night then.
Pandora- Night.

EPIMETHEUS FALLS INSTANTLY ASLEEP.

Pandora- It was a *present* though... a wedding present. I mean, it is technically my box... 'Pandora's box'. Don't you think? Epi?

EPIMETHEUS SNORES. PANDORA SHAKES HER HEAD AND LIES BACK.

Whispered voices- Pandora. Pandora!
Pandora- Huh?

PANDORA LOOKS ABOUT. SILENCE. SHE GOES BACK TO SLEEP.

1- In the days that followed, Pandora tried desperately to ignore the voices.

PANDORA AND EPIMETHEUS ARE PLAYING DRAFTS, USING THE BOX AS A TABLE.

Whispered voices- Pandora. Pandora!
Pandora- What?
Epimetheus- It's your move.