



Hercules

by Joshua Clarke and Lewis Clarke

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Act 1

Scene 1

In a dark dungeon in the underworld, Hades enters stage left followed by his minions, Pain & Panic. Front cloth, mystical setting, scary music, melancholy etc.

Hades *(Evil laugh)* My name is Hades, lord of the dead, lord of the flies, Lord of the rings *(Laughs at self)* Welcome to my crib. You are about to witness a great event! No not the Panto you idiots! My hostile takeover of the cosmos, mwahaha! **Audience boos!** Just for those boo's I'm gonna be an extra 10% evil tonight, free of charge! God I'm good – Well, not good as in... good... You know, as in... as in a bad kind of good. I'm good at bad. I got a bad A Level.

Pain You got bad A Levels?

Panic I didn't even make it to A Levels.

Pain Well what about your GCSE'vils?

Panic Well I got a B in torture, C in Underworld History, I completely flunked Potions, but I did get an A in French! 'Voulez vous couchez avec moi c'est soir?

Pain Wow! What does that mean?

Panic I dunno, but it got me an A.

Hades Enough! We've only got 2 minutes for this prologue, and I haven't even explained my characters motivation yet!

(Muses Enter)

Muse 1 Not so fast, snot face!

Hades Oh for the love of Zeus! It's those Muses.

Muse 2 Calm the attitude Hades!

Muse 3 We come with news of a prophecy...

Hades Oh, a Prophecy! You didn't say anything about a prophecy!? I love a good prophecy!

Pain Say prophecy more. (*Nudge/wink to panic*)

Panic Ok, prophecy prophecy prophecy...

Pain Shhh! (*Hits Panic*)

Muse 1 In 18 years precisely, the planets will align ever so nicely...

Muse 2 The time to act will be at hand, unleash the Titans – your monstrous band!

Hades Nice, nice.

Muse 2 Then the once proud Zeus will fall, and you Hades will rule all!

Hades Yes! Get in! (*Hades, Pain & Panic dance*)

Muse 3 A word of caution to this tale... There is one way that you may fail...

Hades Come again?

Muse 1 There is one called Hercules, Zeus' baby boy...

Muse 2 And if he shall fight, he will ruin your ploy...

Muse 3 Heed this warning, and good luck Hades...

Muse 1 For a hero's strength, lies within Hercules!

(*Muses Exit*)

Hades Oh Fireballs!!

Panic Oh well, back to the ironing board...

Pain It's drawing board you idiot!

Panic Oh yeah that's right, I failed Home Economics as well!

Hades Wait a tick! Pain, Panic, Pop quiz... How do you kill a god?

Pain I do not know!

Panic You can't... they're immortal..?

Hades Bingo! They're immortal... But with this magic potion... we can turn him mortal! Come on!

Muses Voice Over

Muse 1 *And so it was, that night, under the orders Hades, Pain and Panic broke into Mount Olympus, home of the Gods, and god knapped young Hercules, and brought him down to Earth to complete the evil deed.*

Muse 2 *They fed Hercules the potion to make him mortal, but before he could drink the last drop, a rather masculine woman and her son stumbled across them. Pain and Panic fled the scene, fearing they would be caught, and left Hercules.*

Muse 3 *The woman took care of the young boy, as if it were her own, and raised him in the small village of Kavos. Though it soon became clear that Hercules was no ordinary boy.*

Muse 1 *People in the village became fearful of his astounding strength, and he was an outcast, a misfit, in a place where he felt he did not belong.*

Muse 2 *Our poor Hercules, cut adrift from the town, with just the company of his dearest Mother and Brother.*

Muse 3 *However, there would come a time when his God-like strength would be needed, as Hades was biding his time in the underworld, waiting for the planets to align, unaware of Hercules' existence.*

Scene 2

**The village of Kavos. Opening number (Domino? Jessie J/best day of my life?
American authors)**

Some chorus enters through auditorium, onto rostrum etc. Song finishes and Ma Salata walks to front of stage.

Ma

Hello everybody! Isn't it a beautiful day? Almost as beautiful as me...

(Chorus Laugh)

Watch it you lot, it's a small village, I know where you all live! Oh look! We have company, hello you lot! Hi kids! Hi mums!
(seductively) Hello Dads... *(Down onto rostrum)*

You know, they say that people look a lot like their pets, well tonight I'm going to test this out... *(Asks audience member)* You sir, do you own a goat?... Just so you know, who ever is sitting there I always say – 'Do you own a goat'.. I just got lucky tonight. Oh I'm only kidding! Oh, how rude of me, I haven't even introduced myself. My name is Ma Salata, and I live here with my son Zak Siki. Now he's lovely, but he really doesn't have much in the way of brains. Once he let his mind wander, and it never came back! And then there's my other son Hercules. I found him when he was just a baby so he doesn't know I'm not his real mother, so when you see him just play along. Can you do that for me? **(YES)** Oh goody goody. *(Enter Jason the cat)* Oh how silly of me, I nearly left out the other member of the family. This is our little tabby, Jason. Just the other day he ate a ball of wool. Do you know what happens when a cat eats wool? They have mittens. Oh please yourselves. He's a stray, we took him in off the streets too. I wonder who the next man I take in will be. *(Picks out a man from the audience)* Hello, what's your name? **(John)** Ooh John, and I thought I was good looking, but you take it to a whole other level. If you ever get cold, you know you can use me as a blanket. I've got a feeling I'll be seeing you rather a lot this evening/afternoon. Hey, seeing as we are all friends now, shall we try something? Now every time I say goodbye, I will say 'TARA DEARS!' and I would like you to shout back 'TARAMASALATA', shall we give it a go? TARA DEARS! *(taramasalata)* Now look, if I'm going to

wear these heels for two hours, you could at least humour me with some volume. Let's try again 'TARA DEARS!' 'TARAMASALATA!' Oh that's wonderful. Carry on like that and we'll have a whale of a time.

Zak Siki enters

Zak Hi ma! Look I just bought an iPad! And it only cost 50 quid!
(holds up an eye-patch)

Ma You numpty. That's an eye-patch. You've massively over payed.
(to audience) What did I tell you? I've seen more intelligence in a pencil.

Zak Hey ma. Can you sense something...?

Ma Like what?

Zak Well, it feels like hundreds of eyes are staring at me...

Ma That'll be the audience.

Zak Oh, what are they here for?

Ma Ah, well they've come to stare at *my* beautiful face.

Zak Oh no they haven't!

Ma Oh yes they have!

Zak Oh no they haven't!

Ma Oh yes they have!

Zak Alright I think they've got the idea. Ooh Ma before I forget - Hercules knocked over a vase at the market again.

Ma Oh for heavens sake! Between you getting tricked everyday in the market, and Hercules destroying every stall in town. It's a miracle how we make ends meet.

(Hercules enters through the auditorium by 10-15 townsfolk)

Hercules Ma, help!

(Chase around the auditorium, big kaffuffle, shouting, gesticulating, etc)

Ma Alright you lot, clear off, whatever damages he caused, I'll cover!
Now go on, before I start throwing Humus.

Hercules Oh mum, I'm sorry. I was just trying to help out at the market, and I fell into the vase stall. I went to catch one of the vases and it smashed in my hands!

Ma Oh, I know Herc. You just don't know your own strength is all.

Zak Yeah! Just ignore the fact that they call you a freak!

Hercules They call me a freak...? *(upset)*

Zak Yes, but only behind your back.

Ma Ignore him Herc. *(To Zak)* You should hear what I say about you behind your back!

Zak Oh, ok! *(turns back)*

Ma Turn around you idiot. I need you to come and tidy up this mess at the market. *(To audience)* He may be a fool, but that boy sure can sweep. Tara dears! *(Taramasalata!)*

Zak *(Shouting off stage)* Be right there Ma! Cheer up, Hercules. One day everything will become clear...

Hercules What do you mean 'become clear'?

Zak Oh, nothing! *(nervously)*

Hercules You know, Zak, one day I'll make something of myself. I'm going to make a difference, like really make a difference in this world. I just... Don't know how yet.

Zak I'll help you! It's like mum always says – I may appear stupid on the outside, but on the inside I'm moronic!

Hercules You're right Zak! Together we could change the world!

(Song, "Mostly Me")

Hercules Oh I know it's only a pipedream Zak, but I really think one day I can do it.

Zak Well we all have a dream. I dreamt of joining the debating team, but someone talked me out of it.

Hercules What are you like Zak? Right we'd better get off and help Ma clear up in the market.

Zak Probably best if you don't come along mate. I think that some of the villagers are still a bit angry, best give them a wide birth for a bit. I'll see you later mate. Bye everyone! (Zak and Jason exit)

Hercules Yeah, I guess he's right. I've never been able to do things right boys and girls. Sometimes I just don't feel I belong anywhere.
(Goes to leave)

(Muses enter and Hercules freezes)

Muse 1 Poor Hercules, he's really having a hard time.

Muse 2 I know, it's not his fault he has God-like strength.

Muse 3 *(moving over to the frozen Hercules)* I think they're all just jealous, of his manly physique, and his chizzled features, and his gorgeous eyes that I just absolutely...

Muse 1 Alright we get it, you fancy him. But dream on girl, because you know, that's not how our young here's story turns out.

Muse 2 That's right. And I think we've let him grow up just enough for us to intervene.

Muse 3 Ooh, can I do it? Pleaseeeeeee!

Muse 1 No, no! You know that's not how the story goes... It's time now to put our plan into action.

Muse 2 And quit our blabbing for audience satisfaction!

Muse 3 The moment has come, no tedious dances or songs...

Muse 1 For our hero Herc to find out where he truly belongs...

Flash of light, scene move etc, to the hall of Zeus

(Hercules Unfreezes)

Hercules Hey Ma, can I have a...whoa. Where am I? I was just in the middle town and now I'm in this place. It's really old, dark, and gloomy...is this the Plinston Hall? I can't really see anything, oh look a lamp. I wonder if I should rub it (rubs the lamp, then looks offstage as someone is speaking to him) what? (back to the audience) Oh sorry not this year. Seriously though where am I? I feel really uncomfortable, like I'm being watched.

(Thunder and lightning, darkened stage. All of a sudden brighter)

Zeus Uh, hello. Is this thing on. Check mic, check 1,2. Is this Earth, hello? Come in Earth.

Hercules Who is that I can't see anything. Is there someone out there?

Zeus Hercules is that you? My boy, my little Hercules.

Hercules Um, no sorry, I think you've got the wrong Hercules. I'm just gonna leave now.

Zeus What's your rush? After all these years is this the kind of hello you give your father?

Hercules My father?

Zeus (Darth Vader impression) Yes Hercules, I am your father!

Hercules Darth Vader is my father?

Zeus (Laughs) No my boy. Close. But no. I am Zeus and I am your Father.

Hercules I-I don't understand. If you are my father, does that mean that I'm...

Zeus A god?

Hercules A god. I'm a God?!

Zeus Hey, you wanted to know where you belong, and by thunder, you're old enough to know the truth.

Hercules But why did you leave me on earth? What was wrong with me?

Zeus Nothing. Your mother and I loved you with all our hearts but someone stole you from us and turned you mortal, and you see Hercules, mortals cannot live on Mount Olympus.

Hercules And you can't do a thing?

Zeus I can't, Hercules, but you can.

Hercules Really? What? I'll do anything.

Zeus Hercules, if you can prove yourself a true hero on Earth, then you will become a God once more!

Hercules A true hero. Great! Uh, exactly how do you become a true hero?

Zeus I can't tell you that. If I did there would be no need for the second act.

Hercules Well can't you at least give me a sign?

Zeus Ah! Now that I can do! *(Stage hand puts on a sign pointing the direction to 'Thebes')*

Hercules Thebes! I'll do it Father. I'll go to Thebes, become a hero and then take my rightful place on Mount Olympus!

Zeus That's the spirit! I have to go now son, I think I've left the gas on. Good Luck, my boy!

(More thunder and Lightning as Zeus goes)

Hercules I can't believe it boys and girls, I found my Father, I can't wait to tell Ma and Zak, that now I know where I belong!

(Solo Song)

(Herc exits through the auditorium high fiving the audience)

Scene 3

(Hades Enters)

Hades (evil laugh) Only one month to go until my world domination. If I'm gonna be honest boys and girls, it's incredibly stressful taking over the world. I mean first of all there's the battle and then a victory parade, and then the after party. There's so much to do. We haven't booked a band, everybody wants a free bar. At this rate I'm going to have to re-mortgage the Underworld. And to top it all off, I have the worst organiser's in the world!

(Pain and Panic enter, holding clipboards and wearing headsets)

Pain We've got some bad news Hades. Little Mix are unavailable, we can't afford Beyonce and Lady Gaga said she would only do it if you pay for her outfits.

Hades No way, I've seen what she wears. That's just not in my budget. See what One Direction are up to, and if not just book Ricky Martin again.

Panic Yes I love 'Livin la vida loca'!

Hades Now with you two, organising the party I need somebody to gather people for the Uprising. Aha! (calls offstage) Meg! Oh Meg!

Meg What do you want now?

Hades Hey, come on Meg. Don't be like that. Just because you're my slave, doesn't mean we can't be friends. Even though you sold your soul to me, we can still have a good time.

Meg Exactly you own my soul. Isn't that punishment enough without me having to hang around with you, Simon Cowell and Louis Walsh.

Pain Hey! I see myself as more of a Dermot O'leary. *(does an impression)* Your pantomime starts right here. *(spins around)*

Panic Yeah and I'm like Gary Barlow. *(another impression)* That was absolutely fantastic.

Hades Ooh that's a good idea see if we can get Take That. Anyway, I digress. Now Meg, I have great plans, to take over the world and if you play your cards right, there could be a little seat next to my throne for you as my bride.

Meg Are you kidding? You are so ugly you have to trick or treat by phone.

Hades Oh please, you think that offends me? You'll have to try harder than that.

Meg Alright then. You're so ugly, when your mum dropped you off at school, she got a ticket for littering.

(Pain and Panic laugh)

Panic Ooh, I've got one. You're so ugly, you make onions cry *(more laughter)*

Pain How about this one. You're so ugly, you stuck your head out of the car and got arrested for mooning!

(Meg, Pain and Panic laugh, Hades get very angry and casts a spell, making the stage darker, scaring the others)

Hades *(shouts)* That's enough. I am the almighty Hades and you will show me respect. Now Meg, I want you to go to Thebes, and tell all the thieves and all the other criminals that if they join me in my uprising then they will have a share in my new empire! And if you don't, well I guess I'll just add another few years onto your sentence. Is that understood!

Meg Fine, but mark my words. You won't get away with this. Someone is going to come along and stop you!

Hades Oh don't worry about that Meg. I had Pain and Panic here sort that out a long time ago. Isn't that right boys.

Panic Well actually, we've been meaning to talk to you...

Pain (interrupting) Yep, that problem is long gone, don't you worry about that your dreadfulness.

Hades You see Meg. Now be a good girl and do what I have asked you to do.

Meg Fine! (walks off) I hate you!

Hades (laughs) My plan is falling into to place! (exits)

Pain You idiot, you nearly told him that Hercules was still alive.

Panic I'm sorry I forgot! I don't like Hades anyway, he sent me this note. (Holds up a sign saying BNAG)

Pain Why has this made you upset?

Panic Because it's bang out of order.

Pain Well, if you don't like it you should just get a job elsewhere.

Panic I know that's why I've been filling in my CV (*holds up a piece of paper with the letters C and V almost coloured in*) I've just got to fill in this last bit!

Pain (**angry**) By Zeus you're an idiot!

Panic (*puts a pipe in his mouth upside down*) Alright, alright. Pipe down!

Pain Stop messing about.

Panic I'm sorry I'm just worried about this Hercules situation. Hades is not going to be happy when he finds out.

Pain You mean 'if' he finds out.

Panic Of course he's gonna...if...if is good!

Pain Right now come on, let's go see if One Direction are available.

Panic Oh yeah, they do the best song ever! (exit)

Scene 4

Straight transition from scene before, music starts as soon as Panic says "Best Song Ever". Chorus, Ma, & Zak sing "Best Song Ever" from Ma's kitchen.

(Best Song Ever)

Ma Ah, now isn't that better! See, Ma will show you a good time. I'm sorry about what happened at the market, help yourself to humus.

Zak Oh mum I'm sick of humus. Don't we have anything else? Here mum, do you have dry roasted nuts?

Ma Certainly not Zak, it's the way I walk. But I tell you what, we do have a couple of sirloins on the top shelf.

Zak No I can't have those, the steaks are too high!

Villager So Ma, where is Hercules? I'd like a firm word with him after what happened today.

Ma D'ya know, I have no idea. I haven't seen him myself. *(to chorus)* Hey you lot, have any of you seen Hercules?

Villagers No.

Ma *(To John)* What about you John, you're not hiding him under your muscles are you? Well he must be around somewhere, I'd better go look for him, and make sure that he isn't getting into even more trouble. Zak you stay here and look after the place. Do you think you can handle that? *(throws him the keys to the shop)*

Zak Of course! *(doesn't catch the keys)*

Ma Oh dear, I'd better look quickly. Don't worry John, I'll be back in a jiffy. TARA DEARS!

Audience TARAMASALATA! *(Ma exits)*

Zak (to audience) Hey we haven't really had a chance to chat yet have we. Well I'm Zak, and I work here with my mum and my brother Hercules. I bet you're wondering what we do here. Well I'll tell you. (*forgets and then asks Jason*) Oh yeah...we make dips, not just any old dips, the best dips this side of Athens. We even make salsa. Do you know, I tried salsa dancing once, but I couldn't fit my feet in the jar... Anyway, as I was saying, Hercules is my brother... well he's not actually my brother... but, he is...oh it makes my head hurt. Anyway, he doesn't know any of this so keep it zipped!

(*Hercules enters*)

Hercules ZAK! EVERYONE! I'm not who you think I am!

Zak I... Don't know what you're talking about.

Hercules You're not my brother, are you Zak!

Zak (*Laughs awkwardly*) Yes... Yes of course I am. (*To audience*) Did you tell him!?

Hercules No, listen to me!

Zak (*Still to audience*) I trusted you guys!

Hercules I am the son of Zeus!

Zak (*Still to audience*)... And if we don't have trust, what do we have, you... you what?!

Hercules I am a god!

(*Moment of silence, and then Zak and Jason fall to the ground, bowing ridiculously*)

Hercules Stop groveling you idiots! I'm still the same guy, I still think of you as my brother, man!

Zak Whatever you say! Please don't smite me, oh mighty Hercules!

(*Ma enters*)

Ma Get up of my floor, Zak! I've just cleaned it and I don't want your stupidity rubbing off on it!

Hercules Ma!

Ma Oh, Hercules! Where have you been, I was getting worried.

Hercules Well you don't need to be worried any more; I know where I belong ma!

Ma What are you talking about!?

Hercules So, one moment I was standing in the street, the next I was in the temple of Zeus! I don't know how I got there, but he told me everything Ma! I'm going to be a god! All this time I've never really felt like I belonged anywhere, but I finally do! It's up there, with my father on Mount Olympus!

Ma Oh, I'm sorry to have kept this from you Herc. I mean me and Zak where just trying to do what we thought was best for you, my boy.

Hercules Oh, Ma I'm forever grateful. And now I need your help more than ever!

Zak Sure, I mean we only took you in from the street, raised you with the only money we had, fought off the villagers daily every time you caused damage in the streets...

Ma Zak!

Zak Just kidding Herc, anything!

Hercules I don't know how I'm going to become a hero. All my father said was 'go to Thebes!' Then something about gas, and that he had to leave. He was a bit vague for a god.

Ma Well, I know Thebes well enough! I'll take you!

Zak How do you know Thebes, Ma?

Ma If I told you that I'd have to kill you.

Zak Oh. If you have to kill me can you wait till next week, I've got Pilates on Friday morning!

Ma You're so stupid, the closest you'll get to a brainstorm is a light drizzle.

Hercules So can we go, now!?

Ma Sure! I just have to make up some dodgy excuse to get rid of these lot! *(Chorus) (Fart noise)* Oh, sorry! That was me! You guys should probably get out of here; once I start I can't stop. Go on, out!

Hercules Well, if you're both coming I guess I should start packing for the trip! Don't be long guys. Don't want to have to smite you when I become a god!

Ma I'll smite you, if you don't hurry up!

Hercules *(Scared)* Yes, Ma!

(Hercules exits. Slapstick!!)

Scene 5

(Muses enter. Dreamy forest setting)

Muse 3 Is he here yet?

Muse 1 No, no. Any moment now, though.

Muse 2 Oh, I can't wait until Hercules gets to Thebes, then Hades will be in trouble! And he can shove his plan to take over the universe right up his...

Muse 3 Nostrils! Yes, yes. His big hairy nostrils.

Muse 1 Now, now, girls – Hercules has a long way to go to become a hero yet.

Muse 3 Oh he'll become a hero all right! I can just see his name up in lights now, and him standing up there in Mount Olympus. Strong, handsome, tanned, with his great, big...

Muse 2 Arms... Yes, his great big arms.

Muse 1 Here he comes now. Quick! He mustn't see us! I think our Herc's adventure is truly about to begin!

(Muses exit, Hercules and Jason enter)

Hercules Oh, hello boys and girls! We're just on my way to Thebes. Ma and Zak are still packing, they should be along any minute now. Problem is, we have no idea where we are do we Jason?! *(Meg enters)* Hi, I was just wondering, could you show me the way to... *(Struck by Megs beauty)*

Meg Amarillo..?

Hercules Haha... No... I mean... I was just stunned by your... er... The way you....

Meg Are you always this articulate?

Hercules Haha! What I meant to say was... Your face looks nice.

Meg *(Laughing)* Thanks. Yours to. I'm Meg.

Hercules Hercules... *(Voice breaking)* My name is Hercules. And this is my cat Jason.

Meg *(To the cat)* Well aren't you handsome!

Hercules Thanks, Thanks very much! Oh you meant Jason, right...

Meg You're all dressed up, where are you off to?

Hercules Oh, I'm just off to become a god, no big deal!

Meg A god. Really? How do you plan on doing that!?

Hercules Oh, I don't know that bit, yet. All I know is I'm off to Thebes!

Meg You don't want to go there. There are thieves in Thebes!

Hercules Perfect! I'll swoop in there all hero-like. Stop those criminals, and take my rightful place alongside my father, Zeus! *(high-fives jason)*

Meg Wow, you've really got it all figured out, huh?

Hercules Haha, yeah. Meg, I don't know if it's the romantic forest, the situation in which we met or the fact that this is panto but I've never had this connection with someone before. Heck, I've only known you 35 seconds, but... I think I'm in love...

Meg I feel the same, It's weird. A wonderful weird!

(Love Duet)

(Enter Ma & Zak. Feel awkward)

Ma Blimey, Herc! I told you to wait up... Oh, who's this!?

Hercules This is Meg...

Zak Were you two kissing!?

Hercules No!

Ma Is this your girlfriend!?

Hercules No. Well...

Ma & Zak Herc's got a girlfriend! Herc's got a girlfriend! *(Singing)*

Hercules Shut up! *(To meg)* Sorry about them!

Meg *(Laughing)* It's ok.

Zak *(To Meg, flirty)* He didn't use the fact that he's a god as a chat up line, did he?! Well, he's not! Well, not yet. We've got to go to Thebes, fight some crime etc, but I don't want to bore you with that. The names Zak, but you can call me... Stud Muffin!

Ma The only thing she'll call you is inappropriate! Oh, its tough isn't it dear? Having to deal with constant male attention!

Zak The only attention you get is from the police. Did you know boys and girls; it's illegal to be that ugly! You can get 10 years for looking like that!

Ma Don't listen to him John, I once entered into a competition for beauty.

Zak Yeah, crufts!

Hercules Can you two stop it, you're scaring Meg!

Meg No it's ok! You both make me laugh.

Zak Right, hate to break you two up, but Herc we better get going.

Ma Thebes isn't going to save itself!

Hercules Oh... Meg... will I ever see you again?

Ma I'm sure you will, it's a small theatre. Now come on, move it!

Hercules Bye...

Meg Bye...

Hercules She's really something, isn't she Ma..?

Ma Yeah, oh yeah. She's really something. A real pain in the patella!
Now go!

(Hercules, Jason, Ma & Zak exit)

Meg Well my day just got a little better...

(Pain & Panic enter, Dressed up as Batman & Robin)

Meg ...Oh, never mind.

Panic Holy Hera, Batman! A damsel in distress!

Meg I'm not in distress, 'Robin'.

Panic No... it's me, Panic!

Pain You idiot, we're supposed to be undercover! We can't go walking around looking like creatures of the underworld, we might draw attention to ourselves.

Meg Sure, because dressed like that you'll blend in.

Panic Shut it you! Hades is on his way, and he's not happy!

Meg Right, cos' normally he's Chris Cringle.

(Hades Enters)

Hades Oh Meg!

Meg Speak of the devil!

Hades Meg, my little flower, my little bird, my little nutmeg! I thought you were going to get the thieves from Thebes to join my uprising, and yet here I am kind of – Thief-less...

Meg Well, I was on my way, but I got held up...

Hades Held up by what?

Meg This wonder boy, Hercules.

Panic Hercules... why does that name ring a bell?

Pain Shut up...

Hades I'm sorry, who?

Panic I know! He was name of the guy we were supposed to...

Pain Shut up!!

(Lights dim, thunder rolls)

Hades SO! You got rid of him did you!? 'Dead as a door nail', weren't those your exact words!?

Pain This might be a different Hercules.

Panic Yeah! Hercules is a very popular name nowadays.

Hades I am about to take over the world, and the one imbecile who can mess it up, is swanning about in the woods?!

Pain But, there's still time to stop him!

Panic Yeah; at least we made him mortal... didn't we?

Meg I wish I hadn't said anything now.

Hades Fortunately for the three of you, we still have time correct this little hiccup! To work!! (*Evil laugh*)

(pain and panic begin to twerk!)

Hades What are you two doing?

Pain We thought you said 'twerk'...

Hades No you idiots I said 'to work' Honestly, I often wonder what I've done to deserve you two. Now to thebes!

Panic Can we keep these costumes?

Scene 5

The city of Thebes – Chorus Song – I need a hero?

Ma So here we are, Thebes, if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere.

Hercules Wow, is this all one town? It's huge.

Ma Yes it is, and it's full of danger and criminals. Lot's of big scary men...I don't know why we didn't come here before.

Zak Hey Ma, look, our friends have come on the journey with us. Haven't you lot got anything better to do?

Ma And John's here too. Alright, quit it with the sublties, I'll be your girlfriend.

Zak Here you lot, watch your backs, there's thieves all around. Especially our drummer, he loves to steal drums.

Ma No, no dear. He plays the steel drums. Honestly, if you walked into a bar, you'd say ouch.

Ensemble 1 We lost everything in the fire.

Ensemble 2 Don't even get me started on the crime rate.

Ensemble 3 It seems Thebes has really gone downhill in a hurry.

Hercules Ma, this is my chance. I'm gonna go over there and ask if they need a 'Hero's help'. (*Goes over to them*) Excuse me, it sounds to me that you could use a hero.

Ensemble 2 Yeah, and who are you?

Hercules My name is Hercules, and I just happen to be...a HERO!

(*Crowd laughs*)

Ensemble 3 Is that so? Have you ever saved a town before?

Hercules Uh...no!

Ensemble 1 Have you ever reversed a natural disaster?

Zak (*Pointing to ma*) There's no one that could've prevented that in fairness.

Ma Oi! I'll have you know I have the skin of a 16-year-old.

Zak Well you'd better give it back, your stretching it!

Ensemble 3 What about any monsters have you fought any of them?

Zak No, but we've had many arguments with her (*points at ma again*)

Ma Zak, what starts with 'come here' and ends in 'Ouch'?

Zak I don't know...

Ma Come here!

Zak (*he walks over and gets a smack*) Ouch!

Ensemble 2 Look, we need an actual Hero. Not a wannabe!

(Chorus exit)

Hercules Oh, what am I going to do? I just need a chance to prove that I can be the Hero that they need.

Ma Well what are we standing around here for? Let's go and look for the chance to prove yourself!

Hercules You're right Ma, come on, let's go!

Zak Oh, why do we have to go looking for trouble? *(whimpers)*

Ma Don't be such a baby. Come on! *(they exit)*

(Hades enters with Pain and Panic)

Hades Mwahahaha, did you see him there? He couldn't even convince those simpletons that he could be there saviour. This is going to be a piece of cake.

Pain Why do we have to be the ones who are in trouble? I don't want to be stuck under a rock!

Hades You're just lucky I haven't turned you into ash, when I found out what you had done, or should I say hadn't done.

Panic We are sorry, your most disgustingness!

Pain Yes, and to prove it we'll do a good job this time.

Hades You had better or else it's the incinerator for you. Now get in position. *(Pain and Panic stand in position to be covered by the rock)* Now you lot are about to see something really special *(casts a spell to move the rock over pain and panic)* Are you comfortable? *(muffled noise)* Good! Now for the bait. Meg!

(Meg enters)

Hades There you are, my sweet! You know what to do...

Meg Yes, yes. Scream for help, to get Hercules' attention to save Pain and Panic...

Hades Geez, you could sound a little enthusiastic.

Meg You know this isn't going to work! Hercules is much too smart, strong, handsome and gorgeous for this trap!

Hades Don't you worry Megster, I have a plan B that will prove quite the showstopper! Now quit your stalling and start being distressed!

(Hades moves to hide)

Meg I don't know what to do boys and girls. I wish I didn't have to trap Hercules, but Hades has my life on a string... *(Sad. Audience "Ah")* Nice ah's. Here goes... HELP! HELP! SOMEBODY! COME QUICK!

(Hercules enters, followed by Zak, Ma, and chorus)

Hercules Meg! I thought I'd never see you again! *(goes to hug but gets shunned away)* What's wrong?

Meg There are two young boys trapped under a rock over here, we need a hero!

Hercules This is it! My chance to truly prove my worth!

Ma Oh, I don't know boys and girls. Its all a bit too convenient, don't you think!?! *(audience react)*

Zak Yeah! Do you think he should do it!?

Hercules Stop being so cynical! This is my opportunity. Here goes... *(Goes to the rock)* Hello there! Are you ok?

Pain Well, things could be better!

Panic This rock fell on us you see, you couldn't be a dear and help us, could you?

Hercules This happens to be your lucky day, for I am a hero!

(moves rock, chorus cheer!)

Pain Jeepers mista! You're really strong!