

Gods Men and Monsters
A Medium Teapot Production

CAST LIST

The heroes:

Arianna/Ariadne - Rachael Adams

Romeo/Eros - Robin Jones-Gane

Nate/Narcissus - Brad Bourbon

Chloe/Echo - Eleanor Jones

Theseus - Iola Budden

Psyche - Alice Clarke

The adults:

Mr Emmonds - Iola Budden

Aegeus - Robin Jones-Gane

Aphrodite - Bram Bourbon

The other children

Mina Tour - Eleanor Jones

Nemesis - Alice Clarke

SCENE LIST

- Library, late afternoon, book is found
- English classroom, late afternoon, Mr E
- Street near school, morning, Narcissus' livestream
- Outside school, morning, Echo intro
- Cliffside, afternoon, Eros and Psyche
- Theseus' front door, afternoon, Theseus into
- School corridor, afternoon, Ariadne intro
- Art classroom, afternoon, Echo + Narcissus
- School canteen, enter Psyche!
- Corridor, after school, Theseus and Mina fight
- Outside school, after school, Echo + Narcissus
- Park, after school, Nemesis
- Eros' kitchen, afternoon, Aphrodite Eros argument
- Eros' front door, Psyche arrives
- Split stage Ariadne and Theseus music

Interval

- Re-introduction
- Playground? Narcissus' livestream pt 2
- Split stage between Aphrodite and Psyche in the kitchen and Eros in their room
- Pavement, evening, car accident
- A&E waiting room, Eros is okay
- Park, Theseus shows up and is a prick and Ariadne does her speech
- Still park, Narcissus and Echo chat
- English classroom, final scene

The script

INT. LIBRARY - LATE AFTERNOON

ROMEO is at a desk doing homework. They are wearing a denim jacket with patches. Others are working at desks behind them. ARIANNA walks over and drops a frankly enormous book on the desk. Romeo looks up.

Beat.

ARIANNA

I found a book.

ROMEO

I can see that. What is it?

ARIANNA

I don't know.

ROMEO

Well it's currently on top of my maths homework so if you could move it I'd appreciate it.

ARIANNA

(incredulously)

Romeo? Doing homework? Somehow I feel that goes against your whole brand.

ROMEO

Hey, I hate the forced conformity of the education system as much as the next guy, but I *will* get a detention if I don't do this.

ARIANNA

Okay fine.

(she moves the book)

ROMEO

Give me just one moment and I'll be done.

ARIANNA

Alright.

Comfortable pause. Arianna starts looking vaguely through the book. Rome puts their pen down.

ROMEO

Done! So what's going on with this book?

ARIANNA

Still no idea. There are a *lot* of long words in it though.

ROMEO

You know what I think you should do? Take it to Mr Emmonds. I feel like he's the kind of guy who'd recognise any old big book.

ARIANNA

Genius. I'll do it now, you wanna come?

ROMEO

Oh, that was a joke. But yeah sure.

They pick up their stuff and walk towards the exit of the library. As they go they pass NATE and CHLOE, who are looking through art history books.

ROMEO

(exaggerated whisper)

Hey! Nate! Chloe! You wanna come on a mission to ask Mr Emmonds what this mysterious old book is?

NATE

Absolutely.

CHLOE

If it means I have an excuse to stop this (gestures to books on desk) then yes, definitely.

INT. ENGLISH CLASSROOM

MR EMMONDS is at his desk, upstage right, probably marking. The kids appear at the door, downstage left. None of them want to knock (lots of "you do it!" "no you do it" going on). Eventually ROMEO gets shoved into the classroom

MR EMMONDS

And the rest of you?

ROMEO

How did you-?

MR EMMONDS

I'm not stupid, go and tell the others to come in.

Everyone else files in. Mr Emmonds stands up.

MR EMMONDS

Alright then, what do you lot want?

ARIANNA

We found a book.

MR EMMONDS

Congratulations. Where?

ARIANNA

The library.

MR EMMONDS

Unoriginal, but I suppose a good a place as any to find a book. Where is it and what do you want from me?

CHLOE

We want to know what it is.

She gives it to him. Mr Emmonds looks at it and starts chuckling slightly.

ROMEO

What is it sir?

MR EMMONDS

You want to know what it is? Well you've come to the right person. I know this book.

ROMEO

(to Arianna)

I told you! I told you he'd know.

MR EMMONDS

(sits on the table)

Well it's too easy if I just tell you, so any guesses?
Big books, full of long words, what are we thinking?

NATE

Biology textbook.

MR EMMONDS

Good. Wrong, but good.

CHLOE

Shakespeare?

MR EMMONDS

Nope, although I'm sure whoever wrote it would be
flattered with such a comparison.

ROMEO

Sir, we aren't gonna get it.

MR EMMONDS

Well if you're sure. This (gestures) is mythology.
Specifically, although I should probably just check...

He opens the book

Yes. Specifically Greek mythology. Who knows anything
about greek myths? Come on, one of you must have read
Percy Jackson?

Pause.

Chloe raises her hand

Yes! Wonderful. Not surprised it's you either, Chloe. No
offence. Right then, this is going to be a learning
experience now. There's no escaping it.

NATE

Sir!

MR EMMONDS

I promise it'll be interesting. First things first, why
is mythology important? Why are we interested in it?

NATE

Not sure I am interested to be honest sir.

MR EMMONDS

Fair enough, I'll rephrase my question. Why *should* we be interested in it?

(beat)

Anyone?

(another awkward beat)

Oh dear. We've got a while to go. Okay so mythology is interesting because it's really old. And yet somehow we still see its themes in our lives now, and in the stories we write. Mythology shows us the parts of humanity that have always been the same, all the way through history. Myths are important because underneath everything they're about *people*.

NATE

Question.

MR EMMONDS

(sighing)

Yes Nate.

NATE

How can they be about people if they're about gods?

ARIANNA

Yeah and wasn't Zeus a real dick?

MR EMMONDS

Brilliant points, both of you. I wish you were like this in all my lessons. Nate first: the greek gods are actually much more human than lots of gods, hence why Zeus isn't the all-knowing all-powerful god like God capital G. Also, there are stories about human heroes, Heracles, Theseus, Jason. Arianna, also a good point, Zeus was a... well he wasn't great.

NATE

Yeah but sir I see your point, it's very poetic and all that, but I still don't get what it's got to do with us, now.

MR EMMONDS

Nate, you're setting me up so well here, thank you.

NATE

I mean it was definitely an accident but you're welcome.

MR EMMONDS

Okay if I'm going to teach you anything about mythology I do have to tell you the stories, but we could absolutely make it interesting. Right, let's turn these characters into people you'd see on one of the screens you watch instead of doing homework. First up. Because one of you is literally called Romeo, let's start with Eros.

ROMEO

Really?

MR EMMONDS

My apologies, I'm sure you get this all the time, but Romeo is inevitably associated with Romeo and Juliet, literature's most famous lovers. That's your first clue, can anyone tell me anything about Eros?

CHLOE

Well I mean...

MR EMMONDS

Not the Percy Jackson version, but thank you Chloe. Now I know I'll regret saying this but Eros was the Greek version of Cupid, and the son of the Aphrodite, goddess of love.

ROMEO

So had a bow and arrow and made people fall in love? That's kind of lame.

MR EMMONDS

This always happens when I try to describe Eros. Look, forget what you've been told about the small, vulnerable child running around in an angel costume with a comical

bow and arrow. Eros is a primordial god, a creature born from chaos. Love is very powerful, it isn't something to tamper with. Now imagine having control over one of humanity's most internal instincts. Having unlimited access to a weapon which could be used to overpower man's sense of reason. Imagine if you could use that for personal gain or revenge. Eros wasn't 'lame' at all, he was powerful.

Throughout this Romeo is sort of acting out what Mr Emmonds is saying, clowning around in front of the class.

So, now you know how impossibly complicated and nuanced this all is, I'm going to try not only to simplify some of these stories but to adapt them. I really don't make my own life easy. Let me think. Human stories, to start with. We'll look at the allegories for society and ones about gods some other time. Human stories...

[pause while he thinks]

Alright I've got them.

(writes each one this on a whiteboard)

Eros and Psyche.

Eros, we've covered. Psyche means "the soul." She's very pure and innocent, and for some reason in Renaissance art she's usually depicted with butterfly wings.

Theseus and Ariadne.

Theseus, great hero, killed the Minotaur and a hundred monsters before then. Invented the legal system. Ariadne, daughter of Minos, fell in love with Theseus and helped him kill the Minotaur. Was abandoned by him as they were travelling home.

Narcissus and Echo.

Narcissus has been given a very cruel legacy, as has any character primarily known for what Freud said about them. That isn't to say he wasn't cruel, he was, very. Echo, best known of the victims of that cruelty, and the one who stayed true to Narcissus even after that.

Right now we've got that out of the way, we make them real. We make them tangible. I know myths, you guys know teenagers. So translate them. Tell me who these characters are once they're real.

SOMEONE

Okay I've got one. I think if Narcissus was a teenager, he'd livestream his walk to school.

EXT. STREET NEAR THE SCHOOL - MORNING

NARCISSUS is walking down the street, the viewpoint is from his phone (?) ; he is live-streaming his walk to school.

NARCISSUS

Oh my god guys my hair looks so good today.

He gets closer to school.

TEACHER (V.0)

Young man! Phones off! Narcissus!

NARCISSUS

Whatever. Farewell my millions of adoring fans.

Change

SOMEONE

Echo. She spent most of last year distracting Hera to make sure that she didn't catch her boyfriend kissing other girls by the bike racks.

EXT. JUST OUTSIDE SCHOOL

ECHO is sat outside, wearing headphones? A girl taps her on the shoulder and she turns round.

GIRL

Sorry Echo, but you're friends with Narcissus right?

ECHO

I mean yeah, a bit.

GIRL

Great! Uhh can you give this to him?

She holds out a note.

Echo reads it out loud.

ECHO

"Narcissus, will you go out with me?
Yes, check box, No, check box."

Of course I'll give it to him.

GIRL

Thank you so much!

She leaves. Echo looks at the note and sighs.

SOMEONE

Eros, actually the mastermind behind most of the drama
that happens at school, doesn't like his mum.

SOMEONE ELSE

Psyche, one of those people who's clever and also
talented, and then also nice so you can't even hate her
about it.

EXT. CLIFFSIDE, AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING-projection?

EROS and PSYCHE are walking in opposite directions and they
walk past each other. EROS drops a granola bar and PSYCHE
picks it up and turns around to tell her.

PSYCHE

(nervously)

Hey! Sorry um, you dropped this!

EROS

Oh thank you!

PSYCHE

It's no problem. Really no big deal.

(awkward beat)

EROS rushes to fill the mind-numbing void of awkwardness
before they drown.

I'm Eros.

PSYCHE

Psyche.

PSYCHE realises she is still holding the granola bar. They both look at it then at each other.

PSYCHE

Er- here!

She throws the granola bar at EROS and sprint past them. They are left with the granola bar and confusion.

SOMEONE

Theseus knows every pick up line in the book, but doesn't know his dad.

SOMEONE ELSE

It's not that he's a bitch, but... oh wait yes it is.

INT. THESEUS' FRONT DOOR - LATE AFTERNOON

THESEUS walks in and puts his bag down. He shrugs his jacket off and hangs it up. He walks across the room, trying to be quiet but drops a book, making a loud noise. Aegeus is on a phone call.

AEGEUS (O.S or split-stage)

Theseus? Is that you?

Theseus sighs and grits his face before turning around to address his dad.

THESEUS

Yeah, hello father.

AEGEUS

Come in.

AEGEUS continues his phone call as THESEUS stands awkwardly in the doorway.

INT. AEGEUS' STUDY

Key part of this set is bookshelves and possibly a spinny chair. It feels expensive. AEGEUS might be sitting at a desk. Aegeus is on call and you can faintly hear the other person as well. Aegeus is smiling and gesticulating and facing towards a wall/window on a spinny chair.

AEGEUS

Well go on then. Sit down.

Theseus does so, very awkwardly.

GUY ON PHONE

Thank you so much! Are you sure you can spare someone?

AEGEUS

Oh don't worry about it. I'll find someone.

Ends call, Aegeus' face switches to serious.

Theseus. You don't have plans tomorrow do you?

THESEUS

Well actua-

AEGEUS

Brilliant. Thanks son. I need someone to go to some event at a school, you wouldn't mind would you?

THESEUS

(sighs)

No dad, that's fine.

AEGEUS

Thank you Theseus. You're a credit to yourself.

(beat)

You can leave now.

Theseus gets up and walks out. Aegeus watches him curiously, but not particularly affectionately.

THESEUS

(sarcastic)

My day was great, thank you dad.
How was yours, dad?

(beat)

Love you too, dad.

SOMEONE

Ariadne is often underestimated but really smart, and won't let herself be pushed around. She continues to be surprised when she has crushes on boys.

INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - AFTERNOON

ARIADNE is talking to ECHO outside the changing rooms. The corridor is mostly empty, maybe a couple of people in the background.

ARIADNE

Okay so I was talking to Miss and she said that I have "a good brain for computers." What does that even mean?

ECHO

Probably just that you're incredibly intelligent.

ARIADNE

Shut up.

ECHO

You know it's true!

Exit Echo and Ariadne.

Because by this point we have introduced everyone, maybe here we have a moment during the set change where every character is onstage, so the audience can see everyone.

BELL RINGS

INT. ART CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

The art room is a very light room, with lots of windows. It is quiet but there is the sound of QUIET BACKGROUND CONVERSATIONS. NARCISSUS and ECHO are sat at the same table.

Echo looks over at Narcissus.

ECHO

What are you drawing?

NARCISSUS

Me.

ECHO

(slightly awkwardly)

Oh my god, me too! We have so much in common.

NARCISSUS

(mocking, condescending)

You're also drawing a self-portrait?

ECHO

Oh, no, that's not-

NARCISSUS

Good. You're... not exactly a great masterpiece.

ECHO

No, I meant I-

(beat)

(a confession)

I'm drawing you.

NARCISSUS

(eyebrows raised, dismissive)

Cute.

(beat)

ECHO

Would you like to see?

NARCISSUS

Uhh fine.

Pause while Narcissus looks at the picture carefully, as though he is trying to find fault.

NARCISSUS

You've drawn my nose wrong.

(beat)

BELL RINGS

INT. SCHOOL CANTEEN - LUNCH

EROS and a couple of friends are at a table in the canteen.
GENERAL BACKGROUND NOISE.

ARIADNE

(mouth full of food)

Mh, you know we have a new kid?

EROS

Oh?

ARIADNE

Yeah, I think Echo's showing her round.

EROS

Oh okay.

ARIADNE

(gesturing towards the door behind Eros)

There they are.

Enter Psyche and Echo.

Eros turns around in their seat and sees her.
She sees them.

EROS

Oh.

(beat while they look at each other)

Shit.

PSYCHE

(waving)

Hey! Eros, right?

EROS

I uhhh. I've gotta go.

They get up from the table and run out of the room, almost falling over on the way.

- 1) Eros runs out of the canteen, shuts the door behind himself, looks panicked
- 2) Psyche hand her bag to Echo, says "one second, so sorry," and runs after Eros
- 3) Eros runs up the stairs (staging?)
- 4) Psyche gets to the door but doesn't see where Eros has gone.
- 5) Eros sees Aphrodite leaving a room, carrying a clipboard. They grab her and run down the corridor.
- 6) Psyche is looking for Eros in a room downstairs, hears footsteps and heads for the stairs.
- 7) Eros and Aphrodite are going through a door at the end of the corridor. Aphrodite asks what the hell they're doing. Eros says "no time, just go" and runs down different stairs. Aphrodite follows.
- 8) Psyche appears at the top of the stairs, sees the door closing and runs for it.
- 9) Eros and Aphrodite are outside the school, Eros says, " we need to go," and tugs Aphrodite along the road
- 10) By the time Psyche is out of the building, Eros and Aphrodite have disappeared.

INT. CANTEEN - LUNCH

Quiet as PSYCHE walks back to the canteen. She enters and walks over to where Eros' friends are.

PSYCHE

Any idea what that was about?

ARIADNE

We were hoping you'd know.

PSYCHE

Not a clue.

INT. CORRIDOR - AFTER SCHOOL

ARIADNE is talking to NARCISSUS.

ARIADNE

I'm so happy our exams are done, I can't wait to hang out with you all day-

MINA (O.S)

Ariadne!

ARIADNE

So yeah, now we have so much free time I was thinking-

Enter Mina

MINA

Ariadne! I'm so glad I found you!

Ariadne turns around with a very fake smile.

ARIADNE

Oh hi! I totally didn't hear you!

NARCISSUS

What? You clearly just ignor-

ARIADNE

(whacks Narcissus with a book, whispers)

Dude, shut up.

MINA

(interrupting)

Anyways, are you free on-

ARIADNE

No, sorry.

MINA

Oh, I didn't say..

ARIADNE

Uhh... oops.

NARCISSUS is clearly enjoying this very much and laughing at ARIADNE's situation. He imitates ARIADNE behind Mina's back, exaggerating her movements. (stomping a foot, crossing arms etc.)

Mina

Soooo you free on Tuesday?

ARIADNE

No.

MINA

What about Wednesday?

ARIADNE

No.

MINA

Thursday?

ARIADNE

No.

MINA

Fri-

ARIADNE

No.

NARCISSUS stamps his foot a bit too loud and Mina turns around.

MINA

You got a problem with me?

NARCISSUS

(sarcastic)

Oh no, not at all.

(pause)

So Mina, I'm writing an essay on how people handle rejection, what to give me a statement? I assume you are free on Tuesday? Or Wednesday? Or Thursday? Fri-

Mina punches Narcissus.
Enter THESEUS.

ARIADNE

Dude, what the hell? You can't just punch someone??

MINA

You defending him? You sad that I punched your boyfriend?

THESEUS

Is everything ok?

MINA

Stay out of this, tory wanker.

THESEUS

No, I don't think I will actually. Leave them alone

They square up to each other. MINA backs down

MINA

Whatever.

MINA leaves the stage. ARIDANE goes to help NARCISSUS offstage before returning to THESEUS

THESEUS

Is your boyfriend alright?

ARIDANE

He's not my boyfriend.

THESEUS steps slightly closer.

THESEUS

Oh really? But I thought Mina said-

ARIDANE

(flatly)

Mina's a bitch.

She turns around and while her back is turned THESEUS walks closer.

ARIADNE (CONT.)

Mina is a bitch. A self-centered bitch who doesn't know what the word no means and can't take a hint to save her life.

She turns around again and gets startled to see that THESEUS has moved across the room.

Oh, hi.

THESEUS

Oh I'm sorry I guess I just wanted to make sure you were ok.

ARIADNE

Um thanks I guess...

THESEUS

Look I don't want to overstep or anything, and I know we just met but would you want to meet up this weekend?

Short silence

Sorry I overstepped, you probably have guys lining up on your doorstep to ask you out and-

ARIADNE

Yes.

THESEUS

Yes... like ... wait seriously?

(beat)

ARIADNE

Yes.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE FRONT OF SCHOOL

NARCISSUS is leaning against a wall, on his phone, not acknowledging anyone walking past. Enter ECHO, trying to find him within the crowd. She sees him and calls out to him.

ECHO

Hey! Narcissus!

NARCISSUS

Oh. Echo. Hi.

Narcissus thinks the conversation is over and goes back to looking at his phone. Echo doesn't move.

ECHO

Look, Narcissus, I-

Narcissus looks up again, puts his phone in his pocket with a sigh.

I have something to ask you.

NARCISSUS

Echo, this is very dramatic and all but could you get on with it? I have important things to be doing.

ECHO

Okay, um I was just wondering if, if you wanted to maybe go to the cinema this weekend?

NARCISSUS

With you?

ECHO

Yes.

NARCISSUS

No. Excuse me.

He moves past her, puts his headphones on and walks down the road, hands in his pockets. Echo is left alone on the stage; the rest of the students have dispersed during the conversation. Hold here for a bit, music?

LIGHTS UP TO PARK - AFTER SCHOOL

NEMESIS is sat on a bench, looking at her phone. Her face is lit up by her phone. Enter ECHO. Nemesis looks up and waves her over. Echo sits down next to her.

NEMESIS

How'd it go?

ECHO

Take a wild guess.

NEMESIS

Okay I guess not good.

ECHO

Bingo.

(pause)

NEMESIS

You know, I hear a lot of rumours, stories, lots of
(pause) unusual things. I could always do a bit of
digging, it shouldn't be difficult to find something to
incriminate him with -

ECHO

No it's okay.

(pause. Echo thinks about it)

Actually why not. Go for it.

NEMESIS

(smiling)

Wonderful.

INT. EROS' KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

APHRODITE is sitting at the table. There is a cup of tea in front of her but she is not going to drink it. EROS is stood in the corner, looking very uncomfortably at the ceiling. They move towards the door.

APHRODITE

Oh I don't think so.

Eros steps away from the door, ashamed

I think I deserve an explanation for that little performance?

EROS

But I don't have one.

APHRODITE

So you interrupted my meeting, you *ran out of school*, for no reason?

EROS

Well there was a reason...

APHRODITE

And?

EROS

It's very stupid.

APHRODITE

(viciously)

Oh good. Just what I wanted to hear. That makes this all so much better.

[beat, Aphrodite regrets that but won't apologise]

EROS

If you'd just let me go back to school, I promise I can sort it all out

APHRODITE

Let you go back to school? I will do nothing of the sort. Until I know what's going on, I won't know you're safe and so I won't send you back.

EROS

I'm safe mum, I wish you'd just stop-

APHRODITE

Go to your room.

EROS

What?

APHRODITE

You heard me. Now.

Eros leaves the room, slamming the door as they go.

Aphrodite sighs.

Eros is sat in their room, with one light on. There is the sound of a lock clicking. They jump up and run to the door.

EROS

Mum! Please don't.

APHRODITE

I'm sorry Eros. I'll bring you dinner in half an hour alright?

Eros sighs, defeated. They've tried arguing before.

EROS

Alright.

EXT. EROS' HOUSE

PSYCHE walks up to the house. She takes a deep breath, then knocks on the door. Nothing. She tries again. APHRODITE opens the door.

APHRODITE

Who are you? What do you want?

PSYCHE

My name's Psyche, I was wondering-

APHRODITE

Psyche?

PSYCHE

Yes, I was just-

APHRODITE

You'd better come in.

They both go into the house.

PSYCHE

Where's Eros?

APHRODITE

They're in their room.

PSYCHE

Oh, can I...?[falters]

APHRODITE

No you cannot. I don't trust you Psyche, and you're not going near them until I do.

PSYCHE

Alright. Well how can I get you to trust me?

APHRODITE

Well since you mention it, there is one thing..

FRED ASTAIRE SCENE

Break/interval

- Rachael's song?
- Some kind of catch up/introduction before the story starts again.

POSSIBLY INT. ENGLISH CLASSROOM, POSSIBLY JUST ON THE STAGE,
NOT CLEAR LOCATION

MR EMMONDS

Alright so this is going surprisingly well, you lot are very clever.

NATE

Thanks.

MR EMMONDS

However! I have a couple of questions. First, what's going on with Psyche?

ROMEO

She's being given an impossible mission by Aphrodite.

MR EMMONDS

What's the mission?

ARIANNA

We decided it wasn't relevant.

MR EMMONDS

Who was the person Echo was talking to?

CHLOE

Nemesis.

MR EMMONDS

Genius. Does she get an introduction?

ROMEO

I suppose she should, yeah.

Enter Nemesis.

NEMESIS

Hey. I didn't get a chance to introduce myself earlier. Nemesis. Goddess of divine retribution. Or like the human version of that. Essentially I'm the one who makes sure that people get what they deserve when they succumb to hubris, evil deeds, undeserving good fortune, all of that fun stuff. And Narcissus was so easy to get to. An internet "celebrity" with thousands of followers who thinks he's better than everyone. It's nothing new. You see, he cares too much about numbers on a screen, ones and zeros, and so he pushes away everyone in person. And that works for a while, but eventually, they all leave. And without all your fans holding your little internet world up, it falls apart and you're left with nothing.

EXT. Playground at school? Projection of his stream behind him where you can see comments?

NARCISSUS

Hey guys! I'm at school. Again. It's so boring and I hate everyone here, you know? Relatable right? Anyways I was thinking if we get to our sub goal I would do something cool. So if everyone helps we could hit that and I won't hate you forever.

Chat begins to say messages like "does he only care about hitting sub goals" "did you see the tweet talking about him" "toxic streamer"

NARCISSUS

What guys come on, don't leave? It was just a joke, ok? I was being funny.

More people continue to leave. NEMESIS enters.

NEMESIS

Oh dear, seems like everyone's left? Guess you're just a normal person like everyone else now. Shame.

NARCISSUS

What? How did you do that? How could you do that? I had thousands of viewers!

NEMESIS

(bored)

I have my ways. People are like sheep. They'll follow anyone blindly if you lead them on enough.

NARCISSUS

I can't believe you would do that! My followers mean the world to me! They're all I have.

NEMESIS

Oh well. Should've thought about that before being a dick huh.

NEMESIS exists. NARCISSUS is left to be sad by himself.

Split stage with APHRODITE and PSYCHE in the kitchen on one side and EROS in their room on the other. Focus on Eros. Good Old-Fashioned Lover Boy is playing. Eros sits up and overhears some of Aphrodite and Psyche's conversation. They turn the

music down to hear better. Focus on Aphrodite and Psyche to hear:

APHRODITE

Do you understand?

PSYCHE

Yes.

APHRODITE

Good. And don't come back empty-handed.

Psyche leaves, Eros hears the door. They try to open their door, which obviously doesn't work, and then they start looking around their room. They see the window and walk over to it. (this whole section needs "choreographing", possibly in time with the music?)

After Eros has successfully climbed out of the window, Aphrodite comes upstairs to find them. Obviously they are not there, possibly the music fades out as Aphrodite realises.

EXT. PAVEMENT - EVENING

PSYCHE runs onstage, stops (at a junction?) centre stage. She looks pretty hopeless and dejected. She sits down heavily. Enter EROS, a different location so that they can't see her, running and probably calling her name. This bit will require blocking but:

- Eros sees Psyche and runs towards her
- Aphrodite enters upstage (preferably on a higher level if we can make that work)
- Psyche sees Eros
- Car drives at Eros
- Psyche pushes Eros out of the way
- Blackout

Lights up, bright, onto

INT. A&E WAITING ROOM - TIME IS IRRELEVANT

PSYCHE and APHRODITE are sat on hospital chairs, not next to each other but close. Silence for a few moments.

PSYCHE

Should I go?

APHRODITE
(hurriedly)

No!

(beat)

I mean, I don't think that would be a good idea.

PSYCHE

Okay.

Long silence.

APHRODITE
Psyche. I feel like I have to thank you.

PSYCHE

Oh no, you don't.

APHRODITE
No, I do. You saved my kid's life.

PSYCHE
(quietly)
I didn't do it for you.

APHRODITE
I know.

Pause

PSYCHE
They'll be okay.

APHRODITE
I know.

Short pause.

Enter EROS. They have a large plaster on their face, their hair is flat and they seem uncertain on their feet, but they are okay. They are quiet as they enter but as the door shuts behind them Aphrodite and Psyche turn around.

Aphrodite runs to them and hugs them.

APHRODITE

You're okay. You're okay.

EROS

Yes mum, I'm okay.

APHRODITE

She was right, you're okay.

EROS

She?

Aphrodite finally lets go of Eros and steps back. Eros sees Psyche as she stands up.

EROS

Psyche?

PSYCHE

(strained)

I told her you'd be okay.

Eros runs towards Psyche and barrels into her, giving her the biggest hug they can manage.

PSYCHE

You alright there?

Eros steps back, out of the hug.

EROS

Thank you.

PSYCHE

What for?

EROS

Well saving my life would be the obvious one. But also for yelling after me about that stupid granola bar.

PSYCHE

The granola bar? My god.

Hugs them. End scene

EXT. Restaurant?

ARIADNE is standing by herself. She gets out her phone and calls Echo. Echo could come onto the other half of the stage?

ECHO

Hey! How'd your date go?

ARIADNE

He stood me up.

ECHO

For real? That tory son of a- (angry rambling)

ARIADNE

Hey hey hey it's ok. Honestly, I shouldn't have expected anything more.

ECHO

Are you sure you're ok?

ARIADNE

Yeah I'm fine.

Enter THESEUS.

He just showed up, I'll call you later ok?

(to Theseus)

You took your time.

THESEUS

I know, I know. But I'm here now, that's all that matters.

ARIADNE

Seriously? Not even an apology?

THESEUS

(continues like he didn't hear her)

Normally I would be all gentlemanly and chivalrous and pick you up but my dad needed to talk to me and y'know, can't let the old man down and one thing led to another-

THESEUS is dramatically addressing the audience rather than apologising to ARIADNE.

ARIADNE

Are you done?

THESEUS

I- not really, I still have like 15 more lines of this whole monologue thing.

ARIADNE

Screw your monologue.

THESEUS

Okay fine no monologues.

He laughs. She doesn't.

I do have something for you though.

ARIADNE

Oh really?

He hands her a box. She opens it.

Theseus.

THESEUS

Yeah?

ARIADNE

I can't take this.

THESEUS

It's not a big deal.

THESEUS has basically forgotten that he was late and genuinely has no idea how much he hurt ARIADNE

ARIADNE

No, I actually can't take this. I have to try to make you understand this. Currently I have two options: I could take this and forget you were late, and we go have a nice time, or a moderately nice time and you never realise you did anything wrong, or I don't accept it and I can actually tell you how angry I am. I'm sure you have your own issues. I get that you don't want to let your dad down. But at the minute I actually don't really care. I have feelings too, yours don't cancel out mine, and it really isn't okay to just leave me hanging around here all evening. Just because you can buy shiny things doesn't mean you can rock up late and make everything alright with some random gift. That's not how this works. That's not how anything works.

(pause)

Fuck, Theseus you really have no idea how ordinary people work do you?

She gives him the box and walks away.

Theseus is left alone. He puts the box on the floor and steps back. Then he walks offstage in the opposite direction to Ariadne.

Enter NARCISSUS. He sits down on a bench and puts his head in his hands. Pause, then...

ECHO (OFFSTAGE)

Narcissus!

NARCISSUS

(head still in his hands)

Echo.

Enter ECHO

NARCISSUS

Please just leave me alone.

ECHO

Are you okay?

NARCISSUS

(looks up?)

Do I look like I'm okay?

ECHO

No, that's why I'm here. Well that and also, I wanted to apologise.

NARCISSUS

You? What would you have to apologise for?

ECHO

I didn't think she'd go so far.

NARCISSUS

She?

ECHO

Nemesis.

NARCISSUS

Are you telling me you knew about this?

Echo nods

Echo. Did you- Did you make her do this?

ECHO

Yes. I'm sorry.

Long pause.

NARCISSUS

(quietly)

Thank you.

ECHO

(disbelieving)

What?

NARCISSUS

I think she was right. I really was obsessed. I didn't even notice the people around me. And I'm sorry for being so awful to you.

ECHO

You know what Narcissus?

NARCISSUS

What?

ECHO

You're alright.

NARCISSUS

Thank you.

ECHO

So obviously I regret asking you out because of all this, but also I think it wasn't a good idea anyway. You up for going anyway, just as friends this time?

NARCISSUS

You know what?

ECHO

What?

NARCISSUS

I'd love that.

Echo's phone buzzes. She checks it.

ECHO

I've gotta go rescue Ariadne from the terrifying ordeal of her date. Are you going to be okay?

NARCISSUS

Yeah.

ECHO

Good.

NARCISSUS

See you soon then.

Exit Narcissus.

Enter ARIADNE.

ARIADNE

Hey.

ECHO

Hi. What happened?

ARIADNE

So he was super late and then he didn't even acknowledge how messed up that was and then he tried to give me some super fancy necklace to make up for it.

ECHO

Please tell me you yelled at him.

ARIADNE

Oh I did a whole speech.

ECHO

Glad to hear it.

ARIADNE

And then I chucked the necklace back at him and walked off.

ECHO

Iconic.

ARIADNE

Thanks

ECHO

Would you like me to walk home with you?

ARIADNE

If that's okay.

ECHO

Of course it's okay.

They both exit. Lights brighten into

INT. MR EMMOND'S CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

MR EMMONDS

So there you go. A very brief introduction to some stories of greek mythology. Thoughts?

ROMEO

That was... a lot of information.

MR EMMONDS

Yeah fair. The rest of you?

CHLOE

Why did only some of them get happy endings?

MR EMMONDS

Which stories did you think had happy endings?

CHLOE

Just Eros and Psyche right?

MR EMMONDS

Don't look at me like I'm going to tell you if you're right or wrong, there's no such thing as correct in mythology. But I would say no. I mean there's also no such thing as a happy ending to a story, or really an ending at all.

(beat)

CHLOE

What?

MR EMMONDS

Basically I would argue that this version of Echo and Narcissus definitely has a happy ending, but especially if you assume that that isn't actually the end of the story.

ARIANNA

So actually it's just Theseus who's sad by the end.

MR EMMONDS

I guess so, yeah. And what do you think happens to Theseus? Does he sort himself out? Is he just sad forever?

ARIANNA

I mean, I guess I'd hope that he'd learn from this.

MR EMMONDS

You sound unsure about that.

ARIANNA

Well it's just that, sometimes people don't.

MR EMMONDS

Very well said.

ARIANNA

Thanks.

MR EMMONDS

And so we come to the conclusion that ancient heroes can be like all the rest of us and we can be like them, and also that everything is more complicated than it seems.

(beat)

You can all go now, I assume you have places to be.

NATE

Oh shoot yeah, cheers sir see you later

Exit Nate.

CHLOE

I've gotta go, art history homework, thanks!

Exit Chloe. Romeo and Arianna are still there, looking at the bookout of the window, waiting for something. Pause.

MR EMMONDS

Go on you two, I'll see you soon.

ROMEO

Alright. Bye sir.

MR EMMONDS

Do you mind if I hang onto the book for a bit? I'll get it back to you by.. Monday

ARIANNA

Feel free.

MR EMMONDS

Thank you.

Romeo and Arianna leave. Mr Emmonds picks up the book, looks it over and laughs.

MR EMMONDS

Gods, men and monsters. Oh that's hilarious. What was I thinking? Gods, men and monsters.

The End.

Costumes:

- For all the students, shirts (probably button up) and school trousers/skirts, then this stuff over it.
- **Narcissus:** Loud, bright clothing. Questionable-ish fashion choices but pulls it off
- **Aphrodite:** hot milf vibes. Pta mum.
- **Theseus:** Baseball jacket
- **Ariadne:** cheerleading uniform. Oversized sweaters and tennis skirts, baggy jeans, small tops and theseus baseball jacket
- **Eros:** very much dark academia; waistcoats, sweaters, shirts, suspenders, blazers, suits, tartan,
- **Psyche:** so cottagecore, just a little forest fairy, white, flowy dresses, headbands!, floral patterns,
- **Mina:** Preppy popular girl.
- **Echo:** art hoe shit. Overalls covered in paint
- **Nemesis:** black and white colour scheme
- **Asgeus:** suit or something
- **Mr Emmonds:** tweed vibes, newsboy cap