

HERCULES

By Lewis Clarke & Joshua Clarke

ACT 1

Scene 1 – Hades' Underworld

Hades enters stage left followed by his minions, Lethal & Bizzle. 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.

Lethal You got bad A Levels?

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

Lethal Well what about your GCSE'vils?

Bizzle 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?'

Lethal Wow! What does that mean?

Bizzle 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!

Lethal Say prophecy more. *(Nudge/wink to Bizzle)*

Bizzle Ok, prophecy prophecy prophecy...

Lethal Shhh! *(Hits Bizzle)*

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, Lethal & Bizzle 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!!
Bizzle Oh well, back to the ironing board...
Lethal It's drawing board you idiot!
Bizzle Oh yeah that's right, I failed Home Economics as well!
Hades Wait a tick! Lethal, Bizzle, Pop quiz... How do you kill a god?
Lethal I do not know!
Bizzle You can't... they're immortal..?
Hades Yes! They're immortal... But with this magic potion... we can turn him mortal! Come on!

Muses Voice Over – As this happens, we see the action taking place behind the gauze.

Muse 1 *And so it was, that night, under the orders Hades, Lethal and Bizzle 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. Lethal and Bizzle 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.

Song- (Domino Jessie J/best day of my life American authors)

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 form 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!

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

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 – You and me, but 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)

- 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, 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 saying '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!

Song – Go the Distance. (Hercules exits)

Scene 3 – Hades' Underworld

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!

(Lethal and Bizzle enter, holding clipboards and wearing headsets)

Lethal 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.

Bizzle 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.

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

Bizzle 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.

(Lethal and Bizzle laugh)

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

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

(Meg, Lethal and Bizzle 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 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 Lethal and Bizzle here sort that out a long time ago. Isn't that right boys.

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

Lethal *(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)*

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

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

Lethal Why has this made you upset?

Bizzle Because it's bang out of order.

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

Bizzle 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!

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

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

Lethal Stop messing about.

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

Lethal You mean 'if' he finds out.

Bizzle Of course he's gonna...oooh, I like if!

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

Bizzle Oh yeah, they do the best song ever! *(exit as intro for best song ever begins)*

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