

MEDUSA

Characters:

Medusa a Gorgon

Gorgon 1

Gorgon 2

Minerva goddess of wisdom

Mercury the messenger god

Perseus a hero

His Girlfriend

The Wicked King

Introduction

[All enter and stand in line]

ALL: salvete omnes!

[Minerva steps forward]

MINERVA: Minerva sum. dea sapientiae sum

[Minerva points at each of the characters in turn with her spear and they step forward and introduce themselves]

MEDUSA: Medusa sum. Gorgo sum. homines in lapidem verto. ecce!

[She turns and stares pointedly at Perseus' girlfriend who "turns to stone" in mid flirt with Perseus]

GORGON 2: sorores Medusae sumus

GORGON 3: nos omnes malae sumus [They all cackle evilly]

WICKED KING: rex sum. Perseum odi. [looks evilly at Perseus] mortem eius volo.

PERSEUS: Perseus sum. pulcher et bonus et fortis sum.

[In a slightly irritated way Minerva touches girlfriend with her spear and she comes back to life]

GIRLFRIEND: ubi sum? o! amica Persei sum. suspirium meum est.

MERCURY: Mercurius sum. mortuos ad Tartarum duco.

MINERVA: haec est fabula nostra.

[All leave]

scaena prima

[Enter King, Perseus and Girlfriend]

KING: Perseu! volo te mihi caput Medusae ferre. magnum praemium promitto.

PERSEUS: facile est, o rex, mihi, qui tam fortis sum, hoc efficere.

[King leaves]

GIRLFRIEND : o me miseram ! Perseu, Medusa Gorgo est et homines in lapidem vertit. noli Medusam spectare.

PERSEUS : noli sollicita esse, mea columba fortissimus sum. non timeo.

[Minerva and Mercury enter]

MINERVA : fortissimus vero es, Perseu, sed stultus quoque. Medusa scelestia bestia est.

MERCURY : ecce ! [he holds up sandals with large wings attached] calcei alati

MINERVA: ecce! [She holds up a large and very shiny shield] scutum in quo Medusam spectarempone potes.

GIRLFRIEND,MINERVA and MERCURY: nunc vale Perseu, et feliciter!

[They wave to him as he leaves then also leave in the opposite direction]

scaena secunda

[Medusa and her sisters enter]

MEDUSA: salvete vos omnes! num pulchrae sumus? capilli nostri angues sunt.

[Medusa and her sisters dance around meanwhile Perseus enters unseen by them. He looks scared]

PERSEUS: eheu! quamquam fortissimus sum Gorgones terribiles sunt. heros tamen sum.

[He pulls himself together, creeps up on Medusa, walking backwards and looking at her reflection in his shield. He chops off her head (mask?) and puts it in his bag. Medusa falls to the ground with bloodcurdling screams at which point her sisters notice something amiss]

GORGON 2: o soror mea! quid accidit? num mortua es?

GORGON 3: ecce homo scelestus effugit. ego eum persequor.

[A chase ensues in which the Gorgons run in slow motion and Perseus easily escapes thanks to the winged sandals. As the chase ends and they leave, Mercury enters. He pulls Medusa to her feet and leads her out]

scaena tertia

[The king enters, rubbing his hands and looking gleeful]

KING: laetissimus sum. Medusa Perseum in lapidem vertit. euge!

[Perseus enters carrying Medusa's head in a bag]

PERSEUS: salve rex. ecce! caput Medusae habeo.

[He holds up Medusa's head and the King "turns to stone". Perseus' Girlfriend enters and rushes to embrace Perseus who hastily drops the head]

GIRLFRIEND: o Perseu amo.

[Mercury enters. He pushes the rigid King out and Minerva enters]

MINERVA: nunc fabula nostra perfecta est. vobis gratias agimus.

[Whole cast enters and bows]

Script written by Classic Teacher Sarah Brown of Truro High School.

DVD winner of 2006 Mythology Competition.

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