

TROY STORY

NON-RHYMING SCRIPT SAMPLE

Scene 1

(To the **intro music (track 9)** the whole cast enters and positions are taken for the first song.)

Song **Troy Story** (tracks 1 & 10, lyrics p17) (Whole cast)

(To one side of the main stage stand four narrators, reading from scrolls.)

Narrator 1 Welcome, one and all, to our little bit of theatre which tells a tragic tale from Ancient Greece! Prepare to be astonished, astounded and amazed at just how crazy things could get three thousand years ago!

Narrator 2 Before we start, however, we must ask that you keep any coughing, sneezing and, dare we say, snoring to a minimum – our actors are very sensitive, you know! Oh, and in respect for the historical period we are portraying, please ensure that all your mobile phones have been switched off! They didn't have them in those days, in case you weren't aware!

Narrator 3 So, let's begin our story on Mount Olympus, a paradise home to the gods and goddesses of Ancient Greece. We say 'paradise', but on this particular day things weren't so happy and relaxed. Three of the goddesses had really got the hump with each other!

(Hera, Athene and Aphrodite enter and stand on one side of the stage, hands on hips, glaring angrily at each other. Zeus leads on the other gods and goddesses and they stand opposite.)

Narrator 4 Hera, Athene and Aphrodite had fallen out! It seemed that these three ladies couldn't agree on who the winner of 'most glamorous goddess' should be. Needless to say, the atmosphere on Mount Olympus had become quite unpleasant!

Zeus I beg you, will you three please sort it out! This squabbling is too much! Each of you is lovely in your own particular way, so can't we just leave it at that?

Hera Zeus, my dear husband, as king of the gods it should be you who makes the decision. Oh, and don't let the fact that I'm your wife sway you in any way.

Aphrodite Oh be quiet, Hera! (smiling coyly at Zeus) Zeus is very wise; he'll make the right decision, I'm sure. Anyway, I'm the goddess of love – just look at me. There can be no other winner!

- Athene** Hold your horses Aphrodite, this result is no forgone conclusion. And just for the record, I object to Zeus being the judge when he's married to one of the contestants. That's what is known as a conflict of interests!
- God 1** If I could just butt in here? Athene is right, we must find an impartial judge. How about a mortal man, someone with wealth and rank down on earth? In fact, I have someone in mind.....
- (Paris enters, preening and posing. The cast wolf-whistles.)*
- Narrator 1** So they summoned Paris, prince of Troy. For the record, he moisturised and worked-out daily and spent a lot of time in front of the mirror. He also judged people on their looks (not a nice trait) and so was well-placed to oversee a beauty competition!
- Paris** Athene, Hera, Aphrodite, I'm here to be impressed. Hit me with your best shot, charm me and show me why I should pick you.
- Narrator 2** Yes, we know these days that beauty contests are frowned upon, and rightly so, but don't forget our tale is from way back in history when attitudes were different. Also, the decision Paris was to make would have important consequences for the rest of our story, so we have to include it. Right, let's see how each goddess tried to influence that decision.....

Song Pick Me, Paris

(tracks 2 & 11, lyrics p18)

(The three goddesses, supported by the whole cast)

(Paris strokes his chin and considers the different offers made to him by the three goddesses during their song.)

- Narrator 3** With very little hesitation, Paris chose the goddess who had promised him the very thing his vain heart desired.
- Paris** I'm sorry Hera and Athene, lovely as you are, Aphrodite's offer of giving me the most beautiful mortal woman as my wife was just too tempting.
- Goddess 1** At last, we have a winner – Aphrodite! Perhaps things round here can go back to normal now and we can all just get on!
- Zeus** Indeed! A fair decision well made. Thank you Paris.
- Narrator 4** However, this is only the beginning of our tale. Hera and Athene were consumed with rage! They had been humiliated by the decision and so cursed the mortal who had made it!
- Hera** Foolish Paris! Just for that, your city, Troy, is going to face destruction!
- Athene** Oh yes, have you got an unpleasant time ahead! Mwah ha ha ha ha!

*(All exit to the **intro music (track 12)**. The lights fade and the stage is set for the next scene.)*

Scene 2

(We are at a feast hosted by King Menelaus. Present are all the kings, queens, princes and heroes of Greece, enjoying a tippie!)

Narrator 1 Some weeks later, Menelaus, king of Sparta, held a feast for all the big wigs in Greece. Everyone who was anyone was present, to enjoy fine food and wine and to discuss the important topics of the day.

Menelaus How good to see you all here, the true top brass of Greek society; Achilles, Odysseus, Agamemnon to name but a few. However, this evening's guest of honour has travelled far to be with us, so I'd like you to give him a warm welcome. Ladies and gentlemen, let me introduce Paris, prince of Troy!

(Followed by a personal servant who constantly cools him with a large fan, Paris arrogantly enters to swooning gasps from the women and suspicious mutters from the men.)

Narrator 2 Wow, that Paris gets everywhere, doesn't he? It only seems a minute since he was stirring things up amongst the gods on Mount Olympus! Anyway, he'd been sent to Sparta by his father, the king of Troy, to make a trade agreement with the Greeks. Little did they know that he'd be leaving with a lot more than that!

Narrator 3 Menelaus called for Helen, his wife, whose reputation as the most beautiful mortal woman alive was not undeserved.

(Followed by the dancing maidens, Helen gracefully enters to swooning gasps from the men and suspicious mutters from the women.)

Helen Menelaus, my dearest husband, may we dance for you and your guests?

Menelaus Of course, darling. Beauty such as yours should be seen by all! *(proudly nudging a nearby guest)* That's my wife, that is!

(To Helen's dance (track 13) she leads the maidens in a routine. On finishing, Helen goes to join her husband. Paris whispers to his servant.)

Paris Servant, I'm smitten! She must be the one that Aphrodite told me of, the one destined to be mine!

Servant I doubt it, Master. She seems happy to be by her husband's side. Maybe Aphrodite was lying to you?

(Unnoticed by the crowd, Aphrodite enters with Eros who is carrying a bow and arrow.)

Aphrodite Eros, my son, aim well with your arrow of love and make sure you hit Helen in the heart. Paris picked me as the fairest goddess and I must make good my promise to him.

(With Aphrodite behind him, her hands on his shoulders, Eros takes aim at Helen.)

Eros Okay, here we go! I have her in my sights.....*(we hear the arrow sound effect (track 14).....Bullseye!* Now this is going to get interesting!

Narrator 4 As the arrow struck her, Helen fell head over heels for the first man she then laid eyes on, which was....yes, you guessed it....Paris!

(Eros and Aphrodite hide in the crowd. Helen looks dreamily at Paris, then casts a disdainful eye over her husband before leaving his side and wandering to the front of the stage.)

Helen Gosh, is that my husband? What on earth did I ever see in him? But that handsome stranger there.....he's right up my street!

(Helen beckons to Paris who joins her centre stage. The crowd gathers behind the couple, obscuring them from Menelaus and his group of friends, Achilles, Odysseus and Agamemnon, who carry on enjoying a lads' tippie!)

Song **Completely Stuck On You**

(tracks 3 & 15, lyrics p19)

(Helen and Paris with Guests)

Paris Helen, my ship is ready to sail. When the sun has set, come back to Troy with me.

Helen *(considering the proposal)* Oh, go on then! I mean, what could possibly go wrong?

(Intro music plays (track 16), during which Helen, Paris and the servant sneak off, while the feasting crowd falls into a stupor as the lights fade.)

Scene 3

(The next morning the revellers wake up, looking the worse for wear.)

Narrator 1 As the new day dawned, Menelaus and his guests awoke from their stupor!

Menelaus What a party....and what a headache! *(looking round)* Helen! Helen! A bit of breakfast would be nice! Helen? Has anybody seen my wife?

Guest 1 I hate to be the bearer of bad tidings, my Lord, but I think she may have done a runner with that Trojan chap!

Guest 2 We were busy having fun while the slippery snake whisked her off to Troy! I think he's kidnapped her!

Narrator 2 At this news, King Menelaus really blew his stack! Well, you would, wouldn't you? He summoned all the warriors and heroes to his side.

Menelaus You ready for a rumble, guys? Prepare for war....we're off to Troy!

(All the heroes gather round brandishing swords and shields. Each steps forward to bravely offer allegiance.)

- Agamemnon** I, your brother, Agamemnon, will be by your side all the way!
- Idomeneus** You can count on me, Idomeneus of Crete. A cruise and then a bit of a punch-up, that sounds like the perfect boys' holiday to me!
- Philoctetes** My name's hard to get your teeth around, but I, Philoctetes, am here to do your bidding. My skill with a bow and arrow will certainly aid your cause, my Lord.
- Odysseus** It's been foretold that I, Odysseus, am about to start a very long journey. I consider it an honour to start that journey with you!
- Diomedes** And I, his friend, Diomedes, lay down my sword for you. And if it's any consolation, my Lord, I know how you're feeling. My girlfriend's recently given me the elbow too!
- Patroclus** I, Patroclus, could do with a change of scene. The night-life on the old Acropolis isn't what it used to be.
- Achilles** And I, Achilles, your most fearsome fighter, indestructible to spear and sword, I shall lead the charge against Troy's city walls. Errr, just one thing I should mention though, I'm a goner if I cop an arrow to the heel! But don't worry, I doubt that will happen.
- Narrator 3** Many more stepped forward to offer their services, but we really don't have the time to try and pronounce all their names! Together they amassed a mighty fighting force to sail to Troy and rescue Helen, the beautiful woman who would come to be known as 'the face that launched a thousand ships'!

Song **Hard As Nails**

(tracks 4 & 17, lyrics p20)

(The heroes, supported by whole cast)

(Intro music plays (track 18), as they march from the stage and the lights fade.)

Scene 4

(On the plains of Troy. The Trojans occupy one side of the stage, behind representations of walls/gates/battlements, while the Greeks, once entered, will occupy the other side with representations of a battle camp. A 'no-man's land' lies in between.)

- Narrator 4** So our heroes sailed to Troy, a voyage which lasted many weeks. Needless to say they arrived a little exhausted, but with nice sun tans!

(The Greek army, led by Achilles, marches on and stands in formation on their side of the stage.)

- Narrator 1** They were here to rescue Helen, yes, but as punishment they also planned to lay waste to the city!

(King Priam, with Paris to his left and Hector to his right, appears at the front of the Trojan battlements, looking out at the Greek army.)

Narrator 2 Priam, king of Troy, flanked by his sons Paris and Hector, looked out from the battlements at the vast enemy that had set up camp on the plains outside the city walls.

Priam Paris, Hector, look! It seems some guests have come to visit! We will make them regret they ever came to Troy!

Paris But Father, look how many of them there are! *(nervously)* Maybe I was a little hasty bringing Helen here. Perhaps if I give her back, they'll go away!

Hector Silence, little brother! You are a prince and a soldier! Such cowardly talk is unacceptable. *(calling out)* Fellow Trojans, heed my call and to the glory of our king, let's show these Greeks what we are made of!

Song **Bunch Of Losers**

(tracks 5 & 19, lyrics p21)

(Trojans chanting at the Greeks.)

Narrator 3 And so the plains of Troy became a battleground! The two armies met in ferocious combat!

*(To the **battle music (track 20)** the two armies fight, swords and spear thrusts mimed to the rhythm. This can be choreographed all around your hall, if you have space. During the fight, Hector can be clearly seen, centre stage, killing Patroclus. Over the slower final section of music the two groups wearily separate to their respective sides of the stage, leaving a number of dead and injured Greeks in the centre. Achilles then leads a group back to inspect them.)*

Narrator 4 When the dust had settled, it was clear that the Greeks had come off second best to the Trojans. Many heroes, such as Odysseus, narrowly avoided death, but were badly injured. Their wounds would heal in time, but others met a sticky end. One of these was Achilles' closest friend, Patroclus.

(Kneeling by the body of Patroclus, Achilles shouts to Hector and the Trojans.)

Achilles In the name of mighty Zeus, I vow revenge on you, Prince Hector! You'll be just a stinking corpse when I am finished with you! I propose a duel, man to man. Unless, of course, you're too scared?

END OF SCRIPT SAMPLE

Please note, an editable version of the script (MS WORD doc.) is included in the download and CD-ROM formats of this musical. If you buy the book format, the editable version can be emailed to you on request, free-of-charge.