

TROY STORY

RHYMING SCRIPT SAMPLE

The following script is written in rhyming couplets. To help your cast deliver the lines so they scan properly, the bold underlined syllables should be stressed.

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. If possible they speak together like a traditional Greek 'chorus'. If not, lines can be spoken individually.)

Narrators **W**elcome, people, **o**ne and all, **t**o our little **p**iece
Of **t**heatre which **t**ells a tragic **t**ale from Ancient **G**reece,
Whilst you're watching, **t**ry to stifle **s**nore and sneeze and **c**ough,
And **p**lease ensure that **a**ll your mobile **p**hones have been switched **o**ff!

We **s**tart high on a **m**ountain, **O**lympus to be **p**recise,
Where the gods and **g**oddesses hung **o**ut – 'twas **p**aradise.
But **s**omething was **a**miss up here, things **w**eren't serene and **c**alm.
Three **g**oddesses were **t**hreatening to **d**o each other **h**arm!

(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.)

Hera, Athene and **A**phrodite had **r**eally fallen **o**ut!
But **w**hat was all the **c**attiness and **b**ack-biting **a**bout?
Well, it seemed that **t**hese three ladies **c**ouldn't quite **a**gree
On **w**ho the winner **o**f 'most glamourous goddess' should **b**e.

Zeus **P**lease, I beg you, **s**ort it out! This **s**quabbling's a **p**ain,
And I mean that **l**iterally, I'm **g**etting a **m**igraine!
Each of you is **l**ovely in your **o**wn particular **w**ay,
But **w**ho is the most **d**rop-dead gorgeous? **N**one of us dare **s**ay!

Hera Then **Z**eus, my husband, **I** suggest you **f**ind someone who **d**oes!
Let **t**hem decide and **p**ick the fairest **f**rom the three of **u**s.

Aphrodite With **m**y great looks, it's **o**bvious I've **g**ot this in the **b**ag.
So **c**an't we just get **o**n with it, 'cause **w**aiting's such a **d**rag!

Athene **H**old your horses, **t**his result is **n**o forgone **c**onclusion.
Finding an **i**mpartial judge is the **o**nly real **s**olution.

God 1 **Okay**, we know a **fella**, so belt **up** for goodness' **sake!**
Just **stop** your constant **arguing** and **give** our ears a **break!**

(Paris enters, preening and posing. The cast wolf-whistles.)

Narrators **So** they summoned '**Mister Cool**' – **Paris**, Prince of **Troy**,
Who **moisturised** and **worked-out** daily – **what** handsome **boy!**

Paris **Athene**, Hera, **Aphrodite**, I'm **here** to be **impressed**.
What is it that **makes** you so much **better** than the **rest?**
Hit me with your **best** shot, let me **see** you charm and **schmooze**,
And **then** the fairest **goddess** from the **three** of you I'll **choose**.

Narrators **Yes**, we know these **days** that beauty **contests** aren't **PC**,
But **don't** forget our **tale** is from way **back** in **hi**story.
Of **course** we shouldn't **judge** people **upon** their looks – that's **wrong**.
But **Ancient** Greece was **rife** with it! **Okay**, let's have a **song**....

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.)

Narrators With **very** little **hesitation**, **Paris** chose the **one**
Whose **promise** he could **base** his future **happiness** upon.

Paris I'm **sorry** Hera **and** Athene, **lovely** as you **are**,
Aphrodite's **offer** was just **too** tempting by **far**.

Goddess 1 **At** last, ladies, **can** we put an **end** to all this **fuss?**
We **have** an outright **winner**, so there's **no** more to **discuss**.

Zeus And **now** I would **appreciate** the **chance** to clear my **head**,
So **I'd** be grateful **if** you all went **somewhere** else **instead!**

Narrators **How**ever, that is **only** the **beginning** of our **tale**,
For **Hera** and **Athene** cursed this **shallow**, mortal **male!**

Hera & Athene **Foolish** Paris! **Now** your city, **Troy**, is going to **face**
Devastation **and** destruction! **How?** Well, watch this **space!**

(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 – pronounced **Men-a-lay-us** – of Sparta. Present are all the kings, queens, princes and heroes of Greece, enjoying a tippie!)*

Narrators We're **g**athered at a **f**east held by King **M**enelaus of **S**parta,
With **l**ots of famous **G**reeks all eating **t**aramasalata!
They **t**alked of sport and politics, **philosophy** old and **n**ew
And **i**f a patent **h**ad been granted for **A**rchimedes' **s**crew.

Menelaus **A**ll of Greece's **t**ru**e** top brass, I'd **l**ike to welcome **y**ou;
Achilles, Odysseus, **A**gamemnon – **j**ust to name a **f**ew.
But **this evening's** **g**uest of honour **i**s a **y**oung **e**nvoy
Who's **t**ravelled far, so **m**ake some noise for **h**im – Paris of **T**roy!

(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.)

Narrators **P**aris, he gets **e**verywhere! It **o**nly seems a **m**inute
Since he was on **M**ount Olympus **putting** his foot **i**n it!
He'd been sent to **S**parta by his **d**ad, the Trojan **k**ing,
To **m**ake a trade **a**greement....you **k**now the sort of **th**ing.

When **g**uests were settled **M**enelaus called **H**elen, his **w**ife,
A **c**aptivating **b**eauty who had **s**o enhanced his **l**ife!
Her **r**eputation **w**ell-deserved, she **t**ruly was a **s**tunner –
If **l**ooking gorgeous **w**as a race, she'd **b**e the only **r**unner!

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

Helen **M**enelaus, **d**earest husband, **m**ay we dance for **y**ou?

Menelaus **A**bsolutely! **G**o for it! We'd **r**eally love you **t**o!

(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 **S**ervant, I've not **s**een a face like **h**ers in all my **l**ife!
Is **s**he the one whom **A**phrodite **p**romised as my **w**ife?

Servant I **d**oubt it, Master. **S**he seems happy **b**y her husband's **s**ide.
Maybe it's the **c**ase that you've been **t**aken for a **r**ide!

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

Aphrodite **E**ros, do make **s**ure you hit her **i**n the heart, my **s**on.
Paris picked me **a**s the fairest – **n**ow I **o**we him one.

(Eros takes aim and speaks in the voice of a sports commentator.)

Eros Oh **y**es, this lad's on **f**orm, he's super **f**it, he aims.....
*(We hear the **arrow** sound effect (track 14)he **s**cores!*
Bullseye! That should **d**o it, Paris! **H**elen's now all **y**ours!

Narrators As the arrow **struck** her, Helen **fell** into a **trance**,
Her **head** completely **frazzled** – poor girl **didn't** stand a **chance**!

(Helen looks at her husband, then wanders away from him to stand at the front. Aphrodite and Eros retreat into the crowd of guests.)

Helen **Gosh**, is that my **husband**! I should **knock** him into **touch**!
He's the sort that **doesn't** really **float** my boat that **much**!

(Not noticing Helen's absence, Menelaus continues to make merry with Achilles, Odysseus and Agamemnon. Helen spots Paris staring at her.)

Helen But **hang** on just one **minute**, who's that **stranger** over **there**?
The **dreamy**-looking **guy** who doesn't **know** it's rude to **stare**!

(Paris and Helen meet centre stage at the front. The crowd gather behind them, obscuring the couple from Menelaus and his group of friends.)

Song **Completely Stuck On You**

(tracks 3 & 15, lyrics p19)

(Helen and Paris with Guests)

Paris My **ship** is ready, **sails** aloft, so **when** the sun is **set**
Dearest Helen, **will** you come to **Troy** with me?

Helen You **bet**!

(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.)

Narrators As the new day **dawned** on Sparta, **Menelaus** **said**...

Menelaus **What** a party! **Ooh**! But there's a **banging** in my **head**!
I can't quite **remember**, but I **guess** we 'ad a '**larf**!
(looking round) **Hmmm**, can anybody tell me....**where's** my better **half**?

Guest 1 I **hate** to be the **bearer** of bad **tidings**, but I **fear**
That **Helen** and the **Trojan** prince do **not** seem to be **here**!

Guest 2 **We** were busy **having** fun while **that** infernal **cur**
Whisked her off to **Troy**! My Lord, I **think** he's **kidnapped** her!

Narrators At this news King **Menelaus** **really** blew his **stack**
And **straight** away began to plan for **imminent** **attack**!
He **summoned** all the **warriors** and **heroes** to his **side**.

Menelaus You **ready** for a **rumble**, guys? We **catch** tomorrow's **tide**!

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

- Agamemnon** I **know** my name's a **mouthful**, but I **vow** to do my **bit**.
Me, your brother, **Agamemnon**, **I'm** so **up** for it!
- Idomeneus** **You** can count on **me**, Idomeneus of **Crete**.
A **cruise** and then a **punch-up**. I **consider** that a **treat**!
- Philoctetes** **Philoctetes!** Now **mine's** a name to **get** your teeth **around**!
My **skill** with bow and **arrow** will **astonish** and **astound**.
- Odysseus** It's **been** foretold that **I**, Odysseus, will **wander** many **years**.
I **fancy** starting **off** my trip with **you** fine buccaneers.
- Diomedes** And **I**, his friend, **Diomedes**, lay **down** my sword for **you**.
I know how you're **feeling**, Sire. My **girlfriend's** dumped me **too**!
- Patroclus** **I'm** Patroclus and I **really** cannot **wait** for **this**,
These **days** there's not much **happening** on the **old** acropolis!
- Achilles** And **I**, Achilles, **indestructible** to spear and **sword**,
I shall lead the **charge** against Troy's **city** walls, my **Lord**.
There's **one** thing I should **maybe** mention, **though** it's no big **deal**,
I'm a goner **if** I cop an **arrow** to the **heel**!
- Narrators** **Many** more stepped **forward** to join **in** the fun and **games**,
But **we** don't have the **time** to try pronouncing all their **names**!
Against such heroes **surely** Troy would **throw** in all its **chips**,
Give **back** the face that **was** about to **launch** 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 they have entered, will occupy the other side with representations of a battle camp. A 'no-man's land' lies in between.)

- Narrators** Our **heroes** sailed to **Troy**, their voyage **lasting** many **weeks**.
The **hot** and tiring **journey** put some **colour** in their **cheeks**!

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

- Narrators** **They** were here to **rescue** Helen, **yes**, but **furthermore**
They **planned** to give those **pesky citizens** of Troy what **for**!

(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.)

Priam Paris, Hector, **look!** It seems some **guests** have come to **visit**.
It's **not** too early **in** the day to **slay** them all, now **is** it?

Paris What **if** our Trojan **army** doesn't **quite** match up to **Sparta's**?
I **reckon** they won't **rest** until they've **had** my guts for **garters!**
(nervously) **Maybe** I was **hasty** bringing **Helen** here to **Troy**,
'Cause **standing** up to **that** lot isn't **something** I'd **enjoy!**

Hector **Silence**, little **brother**, don't **display** such **cowardice**.
Our **father**, Priam, **won't** accept **behaviour** like **this**.
(calling out) **Trojans**, heed my **call** and to the **glory** of our **king**,
Fall in line! Now **at** the double, c'**mon**, let's get stuck **in!**

Song **Bunch Of Losers**

(tracks 5 & 19, lyrics p21)

(Trojans chanting at the Greeks.)

Narrators And **so** the plains of **Troy** became a **mighty** battleground.
The **Trojans** edged **ahead** on points, **in** the opening **round**.

*(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.)*

Narrators And **when** the dust had **cleared** it was **apparent** that the **Greeks**
Hadn't really **got** to grips with **Troy's** battle **techniques**.
Odysseus, for **example**, he was **battered** to and **fro'**
And **just** about got **out** alive, the **lucky** so-and-**so!**
His **wounds** would heal in **time**, but others **met** a sticky **end**,
One of these was **Patroclus**, **Achilles'** closest **friend**.

(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 **through!**
I propose a **duel**, man to **man**. You fancy **that?**
Unless, of course, you've **gone** and lost your **bottle**, scaredy-**cat!**

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.