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HERCULES

"The Green-Eyed Monster"

Written by

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Directed by

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Executive Producers  
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SHOOTING DRAFT  
April 4, 1996

HERCULES

"The Green-Eyed Monster"

Cast List

HERCULES  
SALMONEUS (sal MO nee us)

HOLIDUS (holl ID us)  
STOUT WOMAN  
PSYCHE (sy KEE)  
SUITOR  
SATYR #1 (SAY ter)  
CUPID (KEW pid)  
APHRODITE (af roh DY tee)  
WINNING BRAWLER

Dialogue References:

MALIDON (MAL i don)  
HEPHAESTUS (hef FACE tus)

HERCULES

"The Green-Eyed Monster"

Set List

INTERIORS:

INN  
SALMONEUS' TENT  
CATHEDRAL  
CATHEDRAL - ADJOINING ROOM  
CATHEDRAL ENTRANCE  
CATHEDRAL - BACK

EXTERIORS:

TOWN OF MALIDON  
COUNTRYSIDE  
WOODS  
INN  
FLOWER SHOP  
EDGE OF TOWN  
POND  
MOUNTAIN  
BASE OF MOUNTAIN  
TOP OF MOUNTAIN

HERCULES

"The Green-Eyed Monster"

FADE IN:

1 EXT. THE TOWN OF MALIDON - DAY

1

An old statue of APHRODITE is badly in need of repair. PAN DOWN to take in the town's marketplace. It's market day. Farmers and artisans peddle their wares. Suddenly, a HOODED FIGURE dashes by. A moment later, a big, rough-looking MAN appears, knocking over people and produce alike. Gasping for breath, he approaches a 50ish businessman named HOLIDUS.

MAN

Which way?

Holidus points down an alley and the man races off.

MAN

Thanks.

HOLIDUS

(after a beat)

It's okay. He's gone.

The hooded figure climbs out of a barrel and joins Holidus. We still don't see a face. A beat later, a STOUT WOMAN runs up, hot on the rough-looking man's trail.

STOUT WOMAN

Pelops! When I get my hands on...

Seeing the hooded figure, the stout woman stops.

STOUT WOMAN

You! You've got a lot of nerve, showing your face in public.

The hood falls away, revealing PSYCHE. She's 20ish, spirited... and drop-dead gorgeous. She's about to fire back when Holidus takes her by the arm and pulls her away:

HOLIDUS

Excuse us.

People stare as they walk off.

HOLIDUS

(in hushed tones)

We had an agreement, Psyche. Not during the day. Remember?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

PSYCHE

I'm sorry, Father. But I felt like a prisoner. I had to get out.

HOLIDUS

(sadly)

Let's go home.

SUITOR (O.S.)

As Zeus is my witness, it's true!

PSYCHE

Not again...

A wealthy SUITOR approaches with six servants in tow. He steps up to Psyche, drops to one knee and kisses her hand.

SUITOR

Dear lady, these eyes have feasted upon the most magnificent creatures on earth. But never... never have they seen your match. I am truly your servant.

(standing; to Holidus)

How much you want for her?

PSYCHE

What?

HOLIDUS

You don't understand, sir. My daughter is not for sale.

SUITOR

Of course she's not. Now what will it be? A thousand dinars? Two thousand? Just name your price.

ARCHER'S POV -- THE SCENE

Whoever the archer is, he's looking down the shaft of an ARROW, aimed at Psyche from 60 feet away.

ANOTHER ANGLE - EDGE OF THE WOODS

The archer is none other than CUPID, 20ish, tattooed, unshaven, rebellious. With him are three or four SATYRS, furry humanoid pranksters who are a cross between Hell's Angels and frat boys. Cupid's wings are partially concealed by his animal-fur cloak.

SATYR #1

Come on, Cupid. Get it over with. Let's have a toga party.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

The Satyrs chant "To-ga, to-ga, to-ga!" Holding his aim on Psyche, Cupid pulls the bow taut. Another Satyr belches loudly. Cupid gives him a disgusted look, then turns back to his target and shoots his arrow.

ANGLE - SUITOR

SUITOR

If he won't sell, I want you to...

The suitor reacts to a jolt to his back. We hear a tingling sound. A glow briefly surrounds him. Looking at his servant, an adoring smile comes over the suitor's face.

SUITOR

Come here, Triptolemus. You have the most beautiful eyes...

The servant struggles to escape his master's embrace.

ANGLE - CUPID

The satyrs stare at Cupid in disbelief.

SATYR #1

I don't get it. Weren't you supposed to shoot the girl?

CUPID

There's been a change in plans. Let's get outta here.

He turns to leave -- and runs into APHRODITE, who is glowering angrily and tapping her foot impatiently.

CUPID

Mom?

APHRODITE

It's never taken you two weeks to do a job, and now when I come to see what's going on, you miss a clean shot. You better have an explanation, junior.

CUPID

Yeah, I've got one. I'm sick of doing your dirtywork. I got a life of my own. Y'know?

APHRODITE

(smiling nostalgically)

It seems like just yesterday you were fluttering around with those chubby pink cheeks and cute little wings.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 3

1

APHRODITE (cont'd)

But look at you now.

(beat; businesslike)

Tell ya what. Just do this one gig,  
then we'll talk. Deal?

CUPID

Sorry. From now on, I'm my own boss.

Cupid flaps his wings, starts to fly away.

APHRODITE

Wait! Don't be stupid, Cupid.

CUPID

(mockingly)

Later.

He flies off. The satyrs laugh -- until Aphrodite glares  
them into silence.

2 EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

2

A BODY flies past camera. We're in the midst of a skirmish.  
Soldiers from two sides are doing battle, and HERCULES has  
his hands full trying to keep them apart.

HERCULES

Guys, guys, this is ridiculous.  
Wouldn't it be easier to talk about  
this?

As Hercules dispatches two combatants, Aphrodite  
materializes, visible only to him.

HERCULES

Aphrodite. I suppose this isn't a  
social call.

APHRODITE

Why, Hercules, how can you say that  
when you know how much it pains me to  
see people fighting? You know my  
philosophy: make love, not war.

HERCULES

(flipping a soldier)

And...?

APHRODITE

All right, I do need a little favor.  
It's Cupid. He's been acting up  
lately, hanging with a bad crowd. I'm  
afraid he's headed for trouble.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

HERCULES

So you want me to talk to him.

APHRODITE

Well, you are his favorite uncle.  
And he won't listen to me, that's for  
sure.

HERCULES

I'd love to help you, little sister.  
But I'm kind of busy right now.

APHRODITE

(dismissive laugh)  
What, this? Stand back.  
(becoming visible)  
Excuse me, boys. May I have your  
attention, please?

Most of the fighting ceases as the soldiers notice her and  
stare. But a few continue to fight.

HERCULES

You're losing your touch.

APHRODITE

As if!

NEW ANGLE - FROM BEHIND APHRODITE

who lets her robe fall to the ground. The sight of the love  
goddess topless does the trick. Weapons drop like rain from  
the awestruck soldiers' hands. Aphrodite smiles at  
Hercules, who looks away modestly.

APHRODITE

There. Can we go now?

SMASH CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

END OF TEASER



ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3 EXT. WOODS - DAY

3

Cupid's rowdy satyr friends carouse, fight and carry on at general hoggishness as the CAMERA PUSHES THROUGH THE WOODS.

CUPID (O.S.)

Hercules, all the years I was growing up, the only time I ever saw Mom was when she wanted me to make some stupid mortals fall in love.

The CAMERA FINDS HERCULES sitting with Cupid.

CUPID

Well, some of 'em need my help and some of 'em don't. But either way, I'm sick of it. Y'know?

HERCULES

Aphrodite's never been your average, everyday mother. That can't be a secret to you. But we all have our jobs to do.

CUPID

Okay, okay, but check it out. Two weeks ago, she shows up out of the blue, says she wants me to make some girl fall in love with a toad. Now you tell me, what's that all about?

HERCULES

Some girl?

Cupid looks away shyly.

CUPID

Her name's Psyche. She's, uh... she's different. Gorgeous, really. Anyway, the minute I saw her, I knew the whole thing was bogus.

HERCULES

Psyche? Daughter of Holidus, the innkeeper?

CUPID

You know her?

HERCULES

When she was a kid. Does she still live in Malidon with her father?

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

CUPID

Yeah. What are you gonna do?

HERCULES

Talk to your mother for starters.  
Meanwhile, do us both a favor and stay  
out of trouble. Okay?

CUPID

Gotcha, Uncle Herc. You know, you're  
almost cool.

HERCULES

Thanks... I think...

As Hercules leaves, he passes the satyrs, who roll drunkenly  
in the mud, noogeying each other. Hercules sighs.

4 EXT. ELSEWHERE IN THE WOODS - DAY

4

Hercules rounds a bend and finds Aphrodite waiting.

HERCULES

I knew you'd be around here somewhere.

APHRODITE

I'm disappointed in you, Hercules.  
You saw the kind of life Cupid's  
leading. Why didn't you do something?

HERCULES

Like what? Tell him to just say no?

APHRODITE

Whatever. I don't care. Just get him  
in line. I mean, if you can't do it,  
who can?

HERCULES

Maybe no one. In case you haven't  
noticed, he's a grown man.

(beat)

Tell me something, Aphrodite. Your  
only concern here is your son. Right?

APHRODITE

Absolutely.

HERCULES

And the fact that Psyche's  
beautiful -- that doesn't bother you?

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

APHRODITE  
You think I'm jealous of a mortal?  
Please...

HERCULES  
Well, now that we've cleared that up,  
you won't be needing me anymore.

APHRODITE  
You're just walking away? Some role  
model you are.

HERCULES  
Later.

As Hercules departs, Aphrodite schemes.

5 EXT. MALIDON - DAY

5

A boy nails a sign to a tree. The subtitled translation  
reads: MAPS TO PSYCHE'S HOUSE.

Walking down the road, Hercules passes several similar  
signs. A saturation campaign. Reaching the edge of town,  
he sees a thriving FLOWER STAND not far from Aphrodite's  
statue. Customers are lined up three deep.

HERCULES  
No. It couldn't be...  
(moving closer; sighing)  
It is.

HERCULES' POV

SALMONEUS and an assistant are selling flowers like  
hotcakes.

SALMONEUS  
Hey, step right up. Get 'em while  
they're fresh and dewy. Two, four,  
six, eight -- flowers will help you  
pollinate.  
(doing a double-take)  
Hercules! What a pleasant surprise.  
(to his assistant)  
Hold down the fort.

Salmoneus scurries toward Hercules.

SALMONEUS  
You've got it made, my friend. No way  
Psyche chooses any of these losers  
instead of you.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

HERCULES

Hate to disappoint you, but that's not what I'm here for.

SALMONEUS

Don't kid a kidder. What'll it be to help you seal the deal? I've got roses, lilies, pansies -- on second thought, you're not the pansy type. No, for you, I'd say a mixed bouquet's the way to go.

As Salmoneus searches for the right flowers:

HERCULES

(re the suitors)

Salmoneus, you're taking advantage of all these men.

SALMONEUS

I prefer to think that I'm keeping their dreams alive.

Salmoneus offers Hercules a huge, wilted bunch of flowers.

SALMONEUS

Here you go. Two dinars for these beauties plus a deal on the wedding. That's half my normal rate.

HERCULES

No thanks. Just tell me where I can find Psyche.

SALMONEUS

A map will cost you two dinars.

Hercules turns and sees the INN. Suitors bearing flowers are milling in front of it, waiting for their dream woman.

HERCULES

I think I can manage on my own.

But before he can leave:

SALMONEUS

Uh, Hercules...  
(confidentially)  
I haven't seen her yet, but I hear this Psyche makes Aphrodite look like a bow-wow. Know what I mean?

HERCULES

If I were you, I'd be careful.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: 2

5

SALMONEUS

Careful doesn't pay the rent. See you later.

Hercules heads for the inn. Salmoneus goes back to work.

SALMONEUS

Hey, get your flowers, get your maps! Everything you need to win the heart of the most beautiful girl in the world!

When he passes the statue of Aphrodite, the invisible goddess of love is leaning against it as she eyes him.

APHRODITE

Don't judge me by the statue, melonhead. It doesn't do me justice.

6 EXT. WOODS - DAY

6

Satyrs cavort in the background as Cupid sits on a stump, brooding. WIDEN to reveal Aphrodite behind him, watching with the maternal concern we've never seen in her before.

APHRODITE

It's Psyche, isn't it?

Cupid doesn't respond. Aphrodite sighs.

CUPID

Just leave me alone, would you, Mom?

APHRODITE

But I don't like to see you sitting here heartbroken.

CUPID

How'd you expect me to feel?

APHRODITE

Cupid, I've told you time and again, mess around with mortals all you want. That's what they're for. But whatever you do, don't fall in love.

CUPID

Why not?

APHRODITE

Because it can't work. Believe me, I know.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

APRHODITE (cont'd)  
(Cupid looks away)  
All right, if that's the way you're  
going to be. I'd hate to have to  
ground you, but I will. Unless you  
shoot the chick with your arrow of  
love. And I'm talking about L-U-V.

Off a sullen Cupid.

7 INT. INN - DAY

7

The place is empty. His back to the door, Holidus sits at a  
table, dejectedly going over the books. When he hears the  
door open, Holidus doesn't even look back.

HOLIDUS  
Whoever you are, we're closed and my  
daughter's not receiving any visitors.

HERCULES (O.S.)  
Even if it's an old friend?

HOLIDUS  
(turning around)  
Hercules?

HERCULES  
How are you, Holidus?

As the two men share a warm reunion, Psyche runs in:

PSYCHE  
Daddy, did you say Hercules?  
(then; seeing him)  
I don't believe it. It really is you.

Psyche leaps into Hercules' arms. After a beat, she steps  
back, smiling radiantly. Her beauty stuns Hercules.

HERCULES  
Psyche? The last time I saw you, you  
were this tall.  
(hand at waist level)  
You had pigtails and freckles, and all  
you cared about was climbing trees.

HOLIDUS  
She still climbs them.

PSYCHE  
Sometimes it's the only way to escape.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

HERCULES

I can believe it.

The adoring Psyche barely hears Hercules.

PSYCHE

You haven't changed a bit. You're still the world's bravest, best-looking hero. Tell me, what was it like fighting the Hydra? And Echidna, the mother of all monsters? You've got to tell me how you rid the world of her.

HERCULES

Well, actually, I didn't. You see...

PSYCHE

Just as modest as ever. Oh, Hercules, it's so good to see you.

HOLIDUS

How long are you going to be with us?

HERCULES

I'm just passing through on my way to Corinth. I haven't seen my mother and Jason since they were married.

PSYCHE

Well, at least stay for lunch. If you don't, I'll never forgive you.

HERCULES

In that case...

Off Hercules' smile.

8 EXT. INN - DAY

8

Invisible and inaudible, Aphrodite strolls through the throng of suitors, carefully looking them over:

APHRODITE

Well, boys, this is it. Somebody's gonna score with Psyche today. So... who's our lucky winner?

As she speaks, she checks out the cosmetically-challenged suitors. They feel her presence as she pokes and prods them like so many cattle. She seems particularly amused by the large belly she's jiggling.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

APHRODITE  
Dashboard abs. I like that.  
(getting a whiff of the  
next suitor)  
A man who doesn't believe in bathing.  
That's good, too.

She's inspecting a toothless old man when she spots Salmoneus, closing shop for the day. With a wicked smile, she heads for him like a wolf after a lamb chop.

9 EXT. FLOWER SHOP - DAY

9

Salmoneus kneels to pick up the last stray flower petal. When he looks up, he sees Aphrodite materialize in front of him. He doesn't recognize her, but beauty is beauty, which means he turns into a jibbering idiot.

SALMONEUS  
Oh, beauteous one, let me ravish... I mean lavish you with a rose -- and not a wilted one, either.

APHRODITE  
Business must be good.

Drooling, Salmoneus nods. Aphrodite steps closer. Through the following, she slinks around him seductively

APHRODITE  
It's amazing what a man will do to win the love of a beautiful woman. Especially one who makes Aphrodite look like a bow-wow.

Salmoneus glances at the statue of Aphrodite, then back at the genuine article.

SALMONEUS  
You're not...?  
(off her smile and nod)  
Listen, your gorgeousness. I swear to Zeus, you were always my favorite goddess. I even collected your cards as a kid. And believe me, they don't do you justice.  
(falling to his knees)  
Don't kill me. Please, I'll do anything. Anything!

APHRODITE  
Get up.

(CONTINUED)



9 CONTINUED:

9

SALMONEUS  
(warily)  
Why?

APHRODITE  
I've got a deal for you.

SALMONEUS  
(rising; his old self)  
You do? What's in it for me?

APHRODITE  
I want to rock your world, stud  
muffin.

SALMONEUS  
I'll bring the handcuffs.

Salmoneus leers, steps closer. Aphrodite stops him.

APHRODITE  
Not so fast. There's something you  
have to do for me first.

10 INT. INN - DAY

10

Hercules and Psyche are finishing lunch. Hercules looks up to see Psyche staring at him, deeply infatuated.

PSYCHE  
Hercules, do you think I'm attractive?

HERCULES  
You're more than that. You're  
beautiful.

PSYCHE  
So you... like me?

HERCULES  
Of course I do.  
(then)  
Psyche, what is it?

PSYCHE  
I want you to take me away from here.  
(off his amazement)  
Really, I'm serious. All these men  
treating me like I'm some kind of  
prize -- it's disgusting. I can't  
stand it any longer. I want to see  
the world, I want to have  
adventures...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

PSYCHE (cont'd)  
(taking his hand)  
With you.

It takes Hercules a beat to recover.

HERCULES  
Psyche, I think you're wonderful. I  
really do. But you're young. You  
need to live your own life. Not mine.

PSYCHE  
I wouldn't get in the way. I promise I  
wouldn't.

HERCULES  
But you'd still be in my shadow, and I  
don't want to see that happen. If you  
stop and think about it, you won't,  
either.

PSYCHE  
But I don't want to stop.

Off Hercules' audible gulp.

11 EXT. EDGE OF TOWN - DAY

11

Cupid is kneeling with his bow and arrow when Aphrodite  
materializes at his side.

CUPID  
Go away.

APHRODITE  
Now, Cupid, you know this is for the  
best.

CUPID  
(sarcastic)  
Yeah, right.

He sullenly strings an arrow. He's got a clean shot.

CUPID'S POV

Salmoneus makes his way through the suitors milling outside  
the inn's front door, primps and knocks. When there's not  
an instant response:

SALMONEUS  
Come on, would you. Aphrodite's  
waiting and my sap is rising.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

He knocks again. A beat later:

PSYCHE (O.S.)  
Who's there?

SALMONEUS  
A friend of your father's. He sent  
for you.

The door opens and Psyche steps out with Hercules.

HERCULES  
(suspicious)  
What are you up to, Salmoneus?

SALMONEUS  
Me? Up to something?

RESUME CUPID AND APHRODITE

Cupid's bow is pulled taut, but he can't let fly.

APHRODITE  
Don't wait! Do it!

CUPID  
(lowering his bow)  
I can't.

APHRODITE  
You fool! Give me that!

She grabs his bow. Cupid struggles to get it back.

SUITOR (O.S.)  
There she is! Take her!

ON THE INN

The suitor's men charge, push Salmoneus aside and try to grab Psyche. They're so hot for her that they forget Hercules is around. At least they do until he wades into the suitors to rescue Psyche.

HERCULES  
Gentlemen, gentlemen -- this isn't any  
way to prove your love.

Hercules tosses aside two suitors, frees Psyche.

RESUME CUPID AND APHRODITE

In their struggle, they accidentally shoot an arrow.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: 2

11

ANGLE - HERCULES

He feels a strange prick, followed by a tingling sensation in his back. He forgets about the overzealous suitors and stares at Psyche as if for the first time.

HERCULES  
(goo-goo eyed)  
Psyche?

POW! Hercules is blindsided by a suitor. As stars twinkle before his eyes, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

12 EXT. INN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

12

Hercules lies in the dirt, too infatuated with Psyche to care about the suitor who just blindsided him.

HERCULES

Hi.

PSYCHE

Hercules, you really ought to be worrying about these men. They're trying to hurt you.

HERCULES

They are? Well, in that case...

Without looking, he rises, blocking a punch and casually disposing of the suitor who threw it. Salmoneus watches the proceedings in disbelief.

HERCULES

Are you all right, Psyche?

PSYCHE

I'm fine, thanks. Now would you please start worrying about yourself?

HERCULES

Okay, if that will make you happy.

Hercules tosses a suitor over the inn. And that's just the beginning as he subdues the suitors while Psyche watches in awe. When he's finished, Hercules stands before her with a loopy smile on his face.

PSYCHE

Hercules, what is it?

HERCULES

I wish I could find the words to tell you how beautiful I think you are. But all I can say right now is... I love you.

Hercules takes Psyche in his arms and kisses her passionately. She's stunned, but quickly melts.

ANGLE - EDGE OF WOODS

Aphrodite stews as she watches Hercules and Psyche kiss.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

APHRODITE  
Oh, no... Cupid?  
(looking around)  
Cupid, where are you?!

But he's gone and she's frustrated.

RESUME SCENE

Hercules gazes at Psyche adoringly. Salmoneus stands nearby, completely ignored. After a beat, he clears his throat to let the lovers know he's there. It's no use.

PSYCHE  
Hercules, what's come over you?

HERCULES  
It's the most wonderful feeling I've ever had.

SALMONEUS  
Excuse me?

The lovers don't hear him.

PSYCHE  
But just a few minutes ago, you were acting like you couldn't wait to get away from me. And now...

SALMONEUS  
Yoo-hoo...

HERCULES  
Now I want to spend the rest of my life with you.

SALMONEUS  
Okay, be that way. I've got someone special in my life, too, you know.

He stomps away. Psyche kisses Hercules again before:

PSYCHE  
This is like a dream come true. Come by in an hour.

HERCULES  
What are you going to do?

PSYCHE  
Make myself beautiful for you.

Then she runs home, leaving the lovestruck Hercules, who thinks she looks just fine as is.

13 EXT. EDGE OF TOWN - DAY

13

Salmoneus, his horns up, is on the prowl for Aphrodite.

SALMONEUS

Aphrodite? Where are you, my passion  
flower? I've come to pluck your  
petals.

And then something on the ground catches his eye. It's  
Cupid's bow and arrows, but he doesn't realize it.

SALMONEUS

Hey, look what I found.

He picks them up, looks around to make sure nobody's  
watching, and scurries away chortling at his good fortune.

14 EXT. WOODS - DAY

14

The worried satyrs are watching Cupid work off his agitation  
by pacing back and forth. When Aphrodite approaches, the  
concerned look on her face doesn't appease him.

CUPID

What do you want?

APHRODITE

To apologize. Hercules was right.  
You're not a kid anymore.

CUPID

I don't believe it. What happened,  
did Tartarus freeze over?

APHRODITE

Okay, okay. Don't press your luck.  
(a beat)

Listen, I know you don't wanna hear  
this. But believe me, what happened  
back there, it's just as well. You  
and Psyche... it would never have  
worked.

CUPID

How do you know?

APHRODITE

Because Psyche is a mortal, and  
mortals are like plums. They taste  
great for awhile. But before you know  
it... prunes.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

CUPID

Let me tell you something... Mom. I can't imagine anything worse than living another day without Psyche.

APHRODITE

(earnest)

Look, Cupid. I know I haven't been much of a mother. But if you try to win this girl's love, you'll feel a jealousy so strong...

(off Cupid's nod)

How do I say this? It'll change you. All right?

CUPID

You're just jealous. Y'know? You can't stand having your looks compared to anyone's. Especially a mortal's.

APHRODITE

Just stay away from her, Cupid. Please.

CUPID

No, Mother. You stay away. Now would you stop bothering me? I could really use some time alone.

She looks at Cupid sadly and vanishes, leaving him to tend his broken heart.

15 INT. SALMONEUS' TENT - DAY

15

Salmoneus has turned the place into a love nest done in pink and red. Candlelight flickers on grapes and glasses of wine. There are paintings of Aphrodite, erotic statues of Cherubs, a hot tub, and a huge bed with satin sheets and a red rose on the pillow. In the midst of all this smarmy opulence, Salmoneus sits clad in silk pajamas. When a chime rings, he dives onto the bed, trying to look sexy.

SALMONEUS

Enter, oh vixen of vixens.

Hercules walks in holding some flowers. Salmoneus jumps to his feet, embarrassed.

SALMONEUS

Hercules... I was just taking a nap.

HERCULES

Dressed like a lounge lizard?

(CONTINUED)



15 CONTINUED:

15

SALMONEUS

I happen to think I look very stylish.

HERCULES

(looking around)

Quite a place you've got here.

SALMONEUS

Decorated it myself. Listen, I don't mean to be rude, but shouldn't you be out making the world safe for those of us who are lovers, not fighters?

HERCULES

That can wait. I saw these flowers outside and I was wondering if...

SALMONEUS

Take 'em. Now if you don't mind...

(on second thought)

Wait. You know Aphrodite pretty well, don't you?

HERCULES

She's my half sister. Why?

SALMONEUS

Well... with all due respect, she does have a reputation for being... you know. And I have it on good authority that she's hot for my body. So I was wondering... Should I play hard to get? Or should I just let her have her way with me? What do you think?

HERCULES

I think I'm leaving. How much for the flowers?

SALMONEUS

Ten dinars.

HERCULES

I thought you said take 'em.

SALMONEUS

I decided it would be bad for business.

HERCULES

You know, I just had a better idea.

SMASH CUT TO:

16 INT. INN - DAY

16

Hercules and the beautified Psyche are kissing passionately. The door behind them is open until Psyche kicks it shut. When they finally come up for air, she beams at him.

PSYCHE

You've made me so happy.

HERCULES

I hope this will make you even happier.

And he hands her a scroll.

PSYCHE

What is it?

HERCULES

A poem. I wrote it just for you.

PSYCHE

Oh, Hercules, that's so sweet.

She's about to unroll it when Hercules points at her bags.

HERCULES

What's all this?

PSYCHE

I know it's a lot, but if we bring them now, we won't have to come back after we meet your parents.

HERCULES

My parents?

PSYCHE

Yes, silly. You were going to visit them, remember? Well, now I can come along and find out all those things you're too modest to tell me.

HERCULES

But...

PSYCHE

We can talk on the trip. Let's go find my father and give him the news.

She takes his hand and drags him toward the door.

17 EXT. THE INN - DAY

17

Cupid has been spying on the fun couple through a window. He's seething with jealousy.

18 EXT. MALIDON - DAY

18

As the ecstatic Psyche watches, a very proud, very happy Holidus looks squarely at our hero.

HOLIDUS

There's only one thing to say:  
Welcome to the family, Hercules.

HERCULES

May I call you Dad?

HOLIDUS

Why, I'd be honored.

The two men clasp hands as Psyche kisses them both on the cheek.

ANGLE - EDGE OF TOWN

The lurking Cupid watches in a growing rage.

RESUME SCENE

PSYCHE

It's going to be so great traveling  
the world together, Hercules. And  
with me at your side, you'll be able  
to help more people than ever.

HERCULES

Slow down, Psyche. Those days are  
over now.

PSYCHE

We'll be like...  
(double-clutching)  
What did you say?

HERCULES

We're going to stay here. Get married  
and put down roots. Have a family.  
Isn't that what you wanted?

PSYCHE

No. Anyway, you can't do that.  
You're a hero.

Holidus frowns disapprovingly.

HOLIDUS

Now, Psyche, the man is the head of  
the household.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

HERCULES

But everything I do will be to please you. I'll cut down my hours. Travel less. I'll be the best husband there ever was.

PSYCHE

(in shock)

Tell me I'm dreaming.

HERCULES

We both are. And I hope we never wake up.

Hercules kisses the dismayed Psyche.

ANGLE - EDGE OF TOWN

Unable to stand it any more, Cupid begins to change. His hands and feet start to sprout claws.

RESUME SCENE

Hearing a terrible shriek, Hercules, Psyche and Holidus turn to see a GREEN-EYED MONSTER swooping down on them. It snatches Psyche in its talons. The word "No!" is frozen on Holidus' lips. Hercules tries to grab Psyche back, but he's too late. The scroll falls from her bodice as the monster flies off toward the mountains, carrying her away.

PSYCHE

Hercules!

HERCULES

Psyche!

Off Hercules' frantic cry.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

19 EXT. MALIDON - DAY - CONTINUOUS

19

Hercules and Holidus watch helplessly as the monster carries the screaming Psyche away.

HERCULES

Psyche!

HOLIDUS

My little girl!... Hercules, you've got to save her!

HERCULES

I will.

HOLIDUS

But how? That thing...

Hercules recalls something from long ago.

HERCULES

The Green-Eyed Monster.

HOLIDUS

You know what it is?

HERCULES

Yes -- and I think I know why it did this, too.

Then something catches his eyes -- the scroll he gave Psyche. He kneels to pick it up.

HOLIDUS

What are you going to do with that?

HERCULES

Give it back to Psyche when I find her.

And with that, he marches away.

20 EXT. MOUNTAIN CATHEDRAL - DAY

20

The cathedral is a forbidding structure perched on a mountain top. The Green-Eyed Monster flies toward it, carrying the screaming, struggling Psyche.

21 INT. CATHEDRAL - DAY - CONTINUOUS

21

The monster swoops through a high window, drops Psyche and whooshes on to land in front of a cobwebbed wall mirror. As it peers at itself through the gloom, Psyche tries to run to a door. It's locked. When she moves to a window, the monster blocks her path. She recoils in fear.

PSYCHE  
Don't hurt me, please, I'm begging  
you.

Suddenly, the monster is transformed into Cupid.

PSYCHE  
(stunned)  
What's going on? Who are you?

CUPID  
I'm Cupid.

PSYCHE  
No, you're some kind of monster. I  
saw you.

She looks around desperately for a possible escape route.

CUPID  
You're wasting your time. There's no  
way out.

When Cupid steps nearer, Psyche backs away.

PSYCHE  
Don't come any closer.

CUPID  
There's nothing to be afraid of. I  
don't bite.

PSYCHE  
If you're so nice, why don't you let  
me go?

CUPID  
You'd just run back to Hercules

PSYCHE  
You're right, I would.

CUPID  
(saddened)  
He's a lucky guy, having you feel that  
way about him.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

PSYCHE

And he feels the same about me. Why,  
he... he... he even wants to marry me.

CUPID

(dismayed)

He does?

(beat)

There's someone I've got to see. I'll  
be back in a while.

PSYCHE

You mean you're leaving me here?

CUPID

Don't worry, you'll be safe. I'd  
never do anything that would hurt you.

On that note, he leaves.

PSYCHE

(to herself; surprised)

You wouldn't?

22 EXT. POND - DAY

22

Hercules strides purposely up to a rock beside the pond.

HERCULES

Aphrodite, I need to talk to you.

When she appears, she's brushing her hair with agitated  
strokes.

APHRODITE

Sorry about what happened back there.

HERCULES

It's too late for that. The  
Green-Eyed Monster was Cupid, wasn't  
it?

(she nods)

I knew it. Where'd he take her?

APHRODITE

How should I know?

(off Hercules' glare)

All right, all right. My guess is he  
flew over to Hephaestus' old cathedral  
in the mountains. The place is a  
total drag, but he always liked it.  
Go figure.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

HERCULES

Let's figure something else: I fell in love with Psyche because Cupid hit me with one of his arrows. Right?

APHRODITE

(nods)

He's so darn stubborn. If only he'd listened...

HERCULES

(shaking his head)

Little sister, you've really outdone yourself this time.

(beat)

Now tell me about the curse. Which one of the gods put it on Cupid?

APHRODITE

Old cowface, who else?

HERCULES -

Hera?

APHRODITE

Yeah, she got all jealous because I stole one of her boyfriends. He wasn't even that cute. Anyway, after that, she knew she'd never be as beautiful as me, so...

HERCULES

She punished Cupid.

APHRODITE

Exactly. When he feels the pain of unrequited love, he loses it. Big time.

HERCULES

But it's not permanent.

APHRODITE

Not the first two times. But if it happens again...

HERCULES

Three strikes and he's out.

23 EXT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

23

Six of the satyrs are horsing around, trading noogies, making fart noises and generally behaving like asses.

(CONTINUED)



23 CONTINUED:

23

CUPID (O.S.)  
(sharply)  
Cut it out!

The satyrs look up and see their scowling leader approaching.

CUPID  
Don't you jokers ever stop horsing around?

SATYR #1  
Horsing around? Hey, we're not centaurs.

The satyr's fellow goofballs laugh. Cupid doesn't.

CUPID  
Very funny.  
(beat)  
Where are the rest of the chuckleheads?

SATYR #1  
You mean you didn't see them in the cathedral? They went looking for you.

CUPID  
I thought I told them to... Oh, never mind. Listen up, okay? I've got a job for you.

And the satyrs lean close to their leader.

24 EXT. WOODS - DAY

24

Hercules and Aphrodite are walking away from the pond.

APHRODITE  
I know it sounds crazy now, but it really was a good plan.  
(before he interrupts)  
No, think about it. Cupid's arrow hits Psyche, and she flips for the money grubber, what's his name?

HERCULES  
Salmoneus.

APHRODITE  
Right. So fast forward a few years. Psyche's a fat, happy housewife with six kids and a mortgage. Cupid's gotten over her. Everybody wins.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

HERCULES

Nobody more than you.

APHRODITE

Come on, Hercules. If that arrow had just hit her, everything would be fine.

HERCULES

But everything's not fine. And I need to know that Psyche's safe. After that, I'll leave and never see her again.

APHRODITE

Hercules, hello. If you think you can beat Cupid's arrow, I've got news for you: No one's that strong.

HERCULES

I am.

APHRODITE

Yeah? Let's put it to the test. Whatever I say, you say the first thing that comes to mind. Okay?

(he nods)

Okay... Sun.

HERCULES

Moon.

APHRODITE

Bread.

HERCULES

Butter.

APHRODITE

Psyche.

HERCULES

(trying to fight it)

Smart... Funny... Sexy...

(losing it; dreamy)

Perfect.

APHRODITE

See what I mean? Now wait here. I'm gonna go save my son from that... that pretender.

HERCULES

Aphrodite! I'm going, too. And there's nothing you can do to stop me.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: 2

24

APHRODITE

Tell it to my playmates.

She points to a dozen GOONS who have silently crept up.

APHRODITE

Later.

She disappears with a smile as the goons charge Hercules.

HERCULES

Is this really necessary?

He ducks one punch, then flattens the goon who threw it.

HERCULES

I guess it is.

So he proceeds to pound knobs on the goons with the speed of light. And when he's finished:

HERCULES

Now where were we, Aphrodite?

And off he races.

25 INT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

25

Psyche has been gagged and tied to a chair. Three satyrs stand guard as she struggles to break free. After a beat of her desperation, Cupid enters.

CUPID

(outraged)

What do you think you're doing? I didn't tell anybody to treat her like this.

Cupid removes her gag. As he unties her:

PSYCHE

I don't believe this. All these years, I heard you were so wonderful. But you're just as much of a... an animal as they are.

The satyrs laugh and make animal noises.

CUPID

Shut up and get out of here.

As the satyrs leave, Cupid turns back to Psyche tenderly.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

CUPID

They didn't hurt you, did they?

PSYCHE

What do you care?

CUPID

I care a lot. I know what it's like  
to feel trapped.

(turning away)

When I was a kid, I used to come here  
all the time. It was the only place I  
knew I could get away from my mother.

PSYCHE

Then let me go. Please.

CUPID

I can't.

PSYCHE

Why not?

Full of pain and longing, Cupid turns and looks at her.

CUPID

I just can't. I'm sorry.

Then he walks into an adjoining room, leaving Psyche  
completely baffled.

26 INT. ADJOINING ROOM - CATHEDRAL - DAY - CONTINUOUS

26

When Cupid enters, Aphrodite is waiting.

CUPID

If you've come for Psyche, you're  
wasting your time.

APHRODITE

But I told you there'd be problems.  
You should have listened to me.

CUPID

No, you listen to me, Mom. I love  
Psyche and I'm not letting her go.

Aphrodite gives Cupid the kind of broken-hearted look only a  
mother is capable of.

APHRODITE

But you know what will happen to you.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

CUPID

The least you could have done was warn me how bad Hera's curse was. Y'know?

APHRODITE

(hanging her head)

It's worse than you think it is. If it happens two more times, it will be permanent.

CUPID

You mean I'd be the Green-Eyed Monster forever?

Aphrodite nods and Cupid's brash facade crumbles.

CUPID

I don't get it. Why can't I just fall in love like a normal person? All I want is to cherish Psyche forever.

APHRODITE

You really are the romantic type, aren't you? Okay, here's what you do: Get your bow and arrow and shoot her. Make her fall in love with you.

CUPID

No, I want Psyche to love me because she wants to. Not because she has to.

APHRODITE

How sweet... and so old fashioned. But not a good idea. Now please, let me take her before Hercules shows up.

CUPID

Stay away from Psyche, you hear me, Mom? Or I swear I'll make Hera look like your best friend.

And Cupid stomps away.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Psyche is hiding behind a door, tears of sympathy glistening in her eyes. It's clear that she heard everything.

27 EXT. WOODS - DAY

27

Hercules is heading for the cathedral when he chances upon a sight that stops him in his tracks.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

HIS POV

Two BRAWLERS are so busy pounding knobs on each other that they don't notice Salmoneus a short distance away. He's holding Cupid's bow and doing the best he can to aim an arrow at an apple on a nearby tree. He fires and misses, hitting one of the brawlers square in the butt just as the brawler is about to knock out his foe.

SALMONEUS

I'm out of here.

But then he sees that the brawler he hit with the arrow isn't interested in violence anymore. Instead, he embraces the other brawler.

WINNING BRAWLER

I love you, man.

Suddenly, Salmoneus realizes what a valuable commodity he's holding and starts celebrating like the greedhead he is.

SALMONEUS

At last, my reward for a life of virtue and thrift -- Cupid's bow! Oh, the riches! Oh, the fabulous babes!

Hercules steps up to interrupt his reverie.

HERCULES

Down, boy.

SALMONEUS

Don't be a spoil-sport, Hercules. I'll bet Cupid has lots of these lying around the house. I'll just take care of the lovebirds he can't get to.

HERCULES

For a price, right?

SALMONEUS

Anything else would tarnish my reputation.

HERCULES

Reputation?

SALMONEUS

Would you cut that out?

HERCULES

Not unless you start respecting the power of Cupid's arrows.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: 2

27

HERCULES (cont'd)  
(acting progressively  
nuttier)

They can turn your life upside-down,  
you know... drive you out of your mind  
with love... make you do things that  
are absolutely crazy...

SALMONEUS  
Don't exaggerate. I'm not a child.

HERCULES  
Need proof, do you? Watch this.

And he sprints toward a cliff a short distance away.

SALMONEUS  
Hey, where are you going?  
(no reply)  
Hercules?

And our hero leaps off the cliff with a mighty shout.

SALMONEUS  
Hercules!

Off his terror-stricken look --

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

28 EXT. WOODS - DAY - CONTINUOUS

28

We're back with the stunned Salmoneus. Hercules' off-the-cliff shout is still echoing in his ears when it is interrupted by a loud SPLASH.

SALMONEUS

What the...?

He hurries to the edge of the cliff and, after a beat of hesitation, peeks over.

SALMONEUS' POV

Hercules has landed in a lake.

SALMONEUS

Hercules? Are you all right?

ON HERCULES

He doesn't even know Salmoneus is there. He's too busy staring at his reflection in the water. It's turning into the image of Psyche.

HERCULES

Why can't you leave me alone? You're so beautiful, but... Deianeira is the only woman I've ever really loved...

(then; amazed)

Deianeira?

Slowly but surely, Deianeira's image replaces that of Psyche. When Hercules sees the wife he cherishes so dearly, a joy unlike any other sweeps over him.

SALMONEUS (O.S.)

Hercules? What is it? What's wrong?

He looks up at Salmoneus, his face lit by a smile.

HERCULES

How could anything be wrong? I'm a free man. Deianeira broke the spell.

SALMONEUS

Are you sure you didn't hit your head when you jumped?

HERCULES

No, this is about my heart.

(CONTINUED)



28 CONTINUED: 2

28

And he starts to wade ashore.

SALMONEUS

Then you're okay?

HERCULES

Never better. Now all I've got to do is rescue Psyche.

SALMONEUS

Well, if you won't be needing me...

He starts to leave, clutching the tools of Cupid's trade.

HERCULES

Salmonius, be careful with that.

SALMONEUS

I'm shocked that you think I wouldn't be. Shocked, I tell you.

And he toddles off. Hercules watches for a beat, shaking his head wearily. Then he resumes his quest for Psyche.

29 EXT. BASE OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

29

Hercules comes crashing out of a thicket of trees and finds himself staring at a mountain that looks like Greece's equivalent of the Matterhorn.

HERCULES

Jump off a cliff, climb a mountain, up and down, down and up. What next?

(beat)

Only one way to find out.

And he begins his long, arduous climb.

30 EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

30

It's a treacherous climb for Hercules. As he inches his way toward the top, a rock gives way and sends him falling.

He saves his life by grabbing a tree limb that functions much like the vines Tarzan used to swing on. In all the excitement, however, the scroll bearing his poem for Psyche slips out of his waistband and starts to fall.

He plucks the scroll out of mid-air and holds it tight as he swings to a ledge where he can pause and catch his breath. When he's there, he can't resist reading the poem.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

HERCULES

"Psyche, Psyche, you are so sweet.  
Without you life is incomplete."

(making a face)

"When I met you I was lonely. Now you  
are my one and..."

(utterly appalled)

I should belong to the Bad Poets'  
Society.

Hercules crumples the scroll and starts to throw it away.  
But he stops himself.

HERCULES

Can't do it. Something like this  
would give litter a bad name.

The poem goes back in his waistband and he resumes climbing.

31 EXT. TOP OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

31

At long last, the weary Hercules reaches the top. He'd like  
to stop, but when he sees THE CATHEDRAL looming in the  
distance, he knows he's got to keep going.

ANGLE - CATHEDRAL

Two satyrs serving as lookouts see Hercules and hurry off.

32 INT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

32

Psyche is pacing when Cupid enters with a tray of food.

CUPID

I thought you might be hungry.

As Cupid sets the tray on a table, Psyche is looking at him  
differently. He notices, but he's too shy to return her  
look. But when he starts to leave:

PSYCHE

I never knew Gods got lonely too.

CUPID

(stopping, turning)

What?

PSYCHE

Nothing. Thanks...  
(off his look)  
For the food.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

As Cupid exits, he's approached by the satyrs who spotted Hercules. They whisper in his ear.

CUPID  
(frowning)  
Already? He's even faster than I  
thought he was.  
(to Psyche)  
Stay here. You'll be safe.

He exits, locking the door behind him and failing to notice how closely the intrigued Psyche is watching him.

33 INT. CATHEDRAL ENTRANCE - DAY

33

When Hercules enters warily, the place seems deserted. Suddenly, a winged figure appears IN SILHOUETTE at the end of the hall.

CUPID  
You shouldn't have come, Hercules.

HERCULES  
Before you decide that, you better  
hear what I have to say.

CUPID  
We don't have anything to talk about.

HERCULES  
What if I told you your arrow didn't  
work on me? What if I told you I'm  
not in love with Psyche?

CUPID  
You're lying!

Moving closer to Cupid's silhouette, Hercules spots several satyrs lurking ominously behind pillars and furniture.

HERCULES  
You know me better than that, Cupid.  
I just want to make sure she's safe.

CUPID  
From what... the Green-Eyed Monster?

HERCULES  
No... From Aphrodite. Now call off  
your Satyrs.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

CUPID  
(reluctantly)  
I can't do that.  
(to the satyrs)  
Stop him.

The satyrs pounce. Hercules is ready for them, but their ferocity still almost bowls him over.

34 INT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

34

Psyche can hear the sounds Hercules and the satyrs fighting, but the door is locked. All she can do is press her ear against it and listen.

APHRODITE (O.S.)  
Don't waste your hearing, girlfriend.

Psyche turns to see...

PSYCHE  
Aphrodite.

APHRODITE  
In the flesh. Now let's get you out of this dump. Come on.

PSYCHE  
Not until you tell me why you're doing this.

APHRODITE  
Hello. I'm trying to help you.

PSYCHE  
No, you're not. I heard you before. With Cupid. I'm not going anywhere until you tell me what's going on.

APHRODITE  
Oh, I get it. You're copping this attitude because everybody's been saying you're more beautiful than I am.

(rolling her eyes)  
Now that I've seen you, it's obvious they're clueless.

PSYCHE  
Do you really think I like being compared to you? Not being able to go anywhere or do anything. Having people treat me like some kind of freak.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

That takes the wind out of Aphrodite's sails.

APHRODITE

Don't sugar-coat it. I'm just here to save Cupid. Loving you could really mess him up.

PSYCHE

But I never thought you'd...

APHRODITE

It's a mom thing.

PSYCHE

(after a beat)

Then let's go.

Psyche heads for the far door. Puzzled, Aphrodite follows.

APHRODITE

That was easy.

35 INT. CATHEDRAL ENTRANCE - DAY

35

Hercules finishes off the satyrs with a grand flourish. Then he strides down the hall and finds the waiting Cupid armed with a huge old sword he took off the wall.

CUPID

Don't go any farther.

HERCULES

Cupid, read my lips: I'm not in love with Psyche. Are we clear on that? But I am taking her out of here, with or without your help. Now what's it going to be?

CUPID

I'll tell you what it's going to be -- goodbye!

Then he flies away.

HERCULES

You're just as stubborn as your mother.

And he sets out after Cupid. On foot, of course.

36 INT. BACK OF CATHEDRAL - DAY

36

Psyche and Aphrodite arrive at the back of the Cathedral. The door has been sealed with bricks. There's no way out.

APHRODITE

Great.

PSYCHE

You're a goddess. Do something.

APHRODITE

I can get out, easy. But that's not the problem. You are.

(shaking her head)

Mortals...

PSYCHE

(half-heartedly)

Sorry.

APHRODITE

Well, look, while we're waiting...

POOF! A GOLDEN GOBLET appears in Aphrodite's hand. It's brimming with some kind of nectar.

APHRODITE

Here, drink up.

PSYCHE

How will drinking that help Cupid?

APHRODITE

I'm his mother. Would you just trust me?

PSYCHE

Oh... All right...

And down the hatch the nectar goes.

APHRODITE

You know, I like you. It's a shame you're so darned... cute.

Suddenly, Cupid flies in and lands beside Psyche.

CUPID

She's not cute, she's beautiful. And she's going to be my wife.

(taking Psyche's hand)

Come on, let's blow this pop stand.

APHRODITE

Don't do it, Cupid. You know what will happen.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

PSYCHE

(confused)

Would someone please tell me what's going on?

HERCULES (O.S.)

Maybe I can.

Psyche, Aphrodite and Cupid turn to see our hero arrive.

CUPID

Not a chance!

In the blink of an eye, he morphs into the GREEN-EYED MONSTER and makes a savage charge at Hercules. Aphrodite and Psyche are both screaming at Cupid not to do it. But he keeps going and Hercules has to dive out of the way.

HERCULES

Can't we just sit down and...

The monster attacks Hercules again.-

APHRODITE

Don't hurt him, Hercules!

HERCULES

(incredulous)

Me hurt him?

Hercules fights defensively, trying to subdue the monster, not defeat it. The battle slowly shifts in his favor. Finally, Hercules manages to get behind it, pinning its wings and talons in a bear hug.

HERCULES

How many times do I have to tell you, I'm not...

Hercules stops in mid-sentence, stunned by the sight of

PSYCHE

who has aged into a woman of 60. Hercules releases the monster, who morphs back into Cupid.

HERCULES/CUPID

(in shock, as one)

Psyche?

Embarrassed, Psyche nods, then quickly looks away. Cupid turns in a rage to Aphrodite.

CUPID

What have you done, Mother?

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: 2

36

APHRODITE

If it's any consolation, she's not as old as she looks.

CUPID

For once in your life, would you give me a straight answer? What have you done?

His plaintive tone takes all the sass out of Aphrodite, at least for the moment. After a beat, subdued:

APHRODITE

I did what any mother would. I tried to protect you.

HERCULES

The thought of losing you was too much for her, Cupid.

CUPID

But I don't care what happens to me, I really don't. I'm in love with Psyche.

Psyche steps up to Cupid and looks into his eyes.

PSYCHE

You don't have to say that.

CUPID

I don't care what you look like. I know what a wonderful person you are, and I want to spend the rest of my life with you.

PSYCHE

Oh...

She starts to cry. Cupid gently takes her in his arms. As they embrace, Hercules looks at Aphrodite:

HERCULES

It's really love, Aphrodite.

APHRODITE

What do you want me to do about it?

HERCULES

Come here and I'll tell you.

The two of them put their heads together, Hercules whispering and Aphrodite listening. When he finishes:

(CONTINUED)



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36

APHRODITE  
Cool idea, big brother.  
(turning to Cupid and  
Psyche)  
Excuse me, kids? Here's the deal,  
courtesy of Hercules. I'll restore  
Psyche's looks... on one condition.

Another goblet materializes in Aphrodite's hand. She steps  
toward the understandably wary Psyche.

PSYCHE  
I'm... I'm not so sure...

APHRODITE  
Chill, would you? This is ambrosia.  
One sip and it's off to Olympus.

PSYCHE  
You mean you're going to make me  
immortal?

APHRODITE  
You got it, sweet cakes.

The overjoyed Psyche turns to Cupid.

PSYCHE  
Oh, Cupid.

CUPID  
Psyche...

As the lovebirds hug and kiss, Cupid glances back at  
Aphrodite.

CUPID  
Thanks, Mom.

And then he goes back to kissing Psyche. Aphrodite,  
meanwhile, is turning to the smiling Hercules.

APHRODITE  
Wow, he thanked me.  
(beat)  
Hey, what are you smiling about?

HERCULES  
I was just thinking about Hera having  
those two around. They'll drive her  
crazy with jealousy.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: 4

36

APHRODITE

Then we better not keep her waiting.  
(clapping her hands)  
Okay, let's get on with it. This  
offer ain't good forever.

Psyche steps up to Hercules.

PSYCHE

Hercules, I...

HERCULES

It's all right. All that matters is  
that you two are happy. Now you  
better get going.

PSYCHE

Thanks. Both of you.

Psyche drinks from the goblet and morphs back to her  
youthful self. With just a little extra glow.

PSYCHE

That was great.

CUPID

Come on, Psyche. I can't wait to show  
you Olympus. You're gonna love it.

Psyche kisses Hercules' cheek:

PSYCHE

Goodbye, Hercules...  
(sweetly; to Aphrodite)  
Mom...

Aphrodite blanches as the lovebirds disappear.

APHRODITE

Does this mean I'm a mother-in-law?  
How humiliating.

HERCULES

Don't start pouting. You did the  
right thing. That's all that counts.

APHRODITE

Whatever.

SATYR #1 (O.S.)

He went that way! Get him!

Gasping for breath, Salmoneus runs in, slaps Cupid's bow and  
arrow down on a table and hides behind Hercules. The three

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: 5

36

satyrs follow, exhausted. Seeing Cupid's weapons on the table, they flop down to rest.

SALMONEUS

Hercules, help! Save me, save me!

HERCULES

(re satyrs)

From them? They look too tired to be dangerous.

SALMONEUS

No! From that!

We hear a bleat and a lovestruck GOAT runs in and makes a beeline for Salmoneus.

SALMONEUS

She got in front of one of my arrows and... Whoa!

Salmoneus jumps on the table, trying to escape.

SALMONEUS

Easy, girl. Nice goat... It is a girl, isn't it?

HERCULES

You mean you can't tell? I thought you were an expert on the opposite sex.

Salmoneus doesn't think he's funny, but Hercules and Aphrodite certainly do as we use their laughter to --

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR