Dramatis Personae

AgamemnonTalia BarnoyAchillesEmily AguilarHomerAlix GalumbeckGoddessGrace SalzeiderPatroclusAllison Eckert

Greek Chorus:

Briseis - Fangirl Emily Lazo

Diomedes - Dudebro Claire Hylton

Menelaus - Pro-war Sarah Rose Santiago

Neoptolemus - Gen ZJulia KesackNestor - BoomerJulia Billera

Odysseus – Dudebro Arlowe-Abigail Willingham

Trojan Chorus:

Cassandra - Meta MJ Schmidt

Chryseis - Feminist Evvia Townley-Bakewell

Hector - DadEmma UnglaubHelen - FeministMaddy Brosius

Paris - Influencer Elizabeth Hamilton

Priam - Anti-war Avery Fingelton

Prologue

HOMER: What a beautiful day in Ionia! Perfect for brainstorming the most Epic. Tale. Ever. *continues walking, head down, scribbling on scroll*

[GODDESS enters]

HOMER: Hey! Watch where you're going!! I'm working on a very important poem —

GODDESS: Oh really? Let me see that!! *grabs paper* There's nothing but scribbles! Are you even a real poet?

HOMER: *stands up* Uh, yeah! I'm Homer. Who the hell are you? *snatches paper back*

GODDESS: I'm Venus.

HOMER: Who?

GODDESS: Oops – wrong century! You can call me Aphrodite. Say, you need an epic? Well, I've got one for you. A couple hundred years ago, in Troy...

Scene 1

[Greek Chorus (+ Chryseis), Agammemnon]

[Trojan Chorus enter]

DIOMEDES: What brings you all the way from your camp?

HECTOR: My scouts have informed me that you have something of ours that we would like back. We are here to retrieve Chryseis.

MENELAUS: You have something of mine that I would like back, too!

HELEN: I am not a possession. I'm a human being – why has no one asked me how I feel about all of this?

ODYSSEUS: Girls and their feelings, am I right? It's all Penelope ever wants to talk about.

PRIAM: Now, I really didn't want to get involved, but Chryseis' father *is* a priest of Apollo, and you know what Apollo can do...

CASSANDRA: We're already in the middle of a plague! What more is Apollo supposed to do?

AGAMEMNON: If I give you Chryseis, I won't have a war prize...

NESTOR: Take what you deserve from those lousy kids!

AGAMEMNON: You know what, you're right! Oh, Achiiiilleeees!!

[ACHILLES + PATROCLUS enter]

NEOPTOLEMUS: I ain't ever seen two pretty best friends.

BRISEIS: But these two are just the cutest! *squeals*

PARIS: Well, I have more likes on Insta!

AGAMEMNON: Achilles – my man! We have a teeny-tiny problem here that you and I can very easily solve. The Trojans say that if

we do, Apollo will end the plague. And for our cause, that would be a great shot in the arm!

CHRYSEIS: Uh, that's not what Cassandra said...You men *never* listen.

AGAMEMNON: Won't you please be quiet, dear. I'm speaking. Anyway, all we have to do is return Chryseis!

ACHILLES: I don't see how this involves me...

AGAMEMNON: I'd be left without a war prize, Achilles. And that's not fair. So, to make everything even, I'll be taking Briseis from you.

ACHILLES: What! But – that's not fair! I won her! You can't just take her from me – I WON HER! *start of a tantrum*

PAT: Achilles, babe, we've talked about this. Deep breath – in and out.

ACHILLES: *to Agamemnon* What's the point of fighting if you get the best pick of the prizes AND all of our *gestures to everyone* prizes, too? War...what is it good for?

WAR - Edwin Starr

CHORUS separate into Pro-War (DIOMEDES, HECTOR, MENELAUS, NEOPTOLEMUS, NESTOR, ODYSSEUS), <u>ANTI-War (Briseis, Cassandra, Chryseis, Helen, Paris, Priam)</u>

AGAMEMNON + PRO-WAR CHORUS:

War, huh, yeah What is it good for? Absolutely everything Say it again, y'all!

War, huh, good gods What is it good for? Absolutely everything Listen to us!

AGAMEMNON:

Oh war, I adore

'Cause it means celebration of blood, guts, and gore War means treasure and *gera* for me All things we need most certainly

AGAMEMNON + PW CHORUS:

War, huh, good gods, y'all What is it good for? Absolutely everything Listen to us!

War, it ain't nothing but an entertainer War, friend even to the peacemaker

ACHILLES:

Oh, war is where friends and lovers die The thought of war brings a tear to my eye War has caused loss of booty and blood Personally, I think war is a dud

ACHILLES + ANTI-WAR CHORUS:

War, huh, good gods, y'all What is it good for? Absolutely nothing

War, huh, yeah, uh What is it good for? Absolutely nothing Listen to us!

War, it ain't nothing but a lost cause

War, it got one friend, that's Ares Khalkeos

AGAMEMNON:

Oh, war has realized many a young man's dreams Made him belovéd, stronger and lean

ACHILLES:

Life is much too short and dear to spend fighting wars for nine years War is idealized crime, bringing us to tears

ALL:

War, huh, good gods, y'all What is it good for? Absolutely, huh Say it again!

War, whoa-oh-whoa-oh, What is it good for? Absolutely, huh Listen to us!

AGAMEMNON:

kleos, timé, arete: Tell me

Is there no place for them today?

ACHILLES:

You say we must fight to gain war prizes But then you go and take them all away!

ALL:

War, huh, good gods, y'all

What is it good for?

You tell me!

Say it, say it, say it!

War, huh, good gods, y'all

What is it good for?

Absolutely

(AGAMMEMNON + PW CHORUS) EVERYTHING!

(ACHILLES + AW CHORUS) NOTHING!

ACHILLES: *to Agamemnon* Fine – just take Briseis! It's not like I get a say anyway! But don't expect me to fight for you anymore!

AGAMEMNON: Whatever, Achilles! [AGAMMEMNON, GREEK CHORUS exit]

[Trojan Chorus exit]

Scene 2

[CHORUS, arguing]

PARIS: Hector, I don't wanna give back Helen – I've gained so many followers! What if I give back the booty I took instead?

ODYSSEUS: And just forget the nine years we've been here? I don't think so!

HELEN: Hello! I'm. Right. Here!! You know you can just ask me what I want?

BRISEIS: If we're talking about wants, I want to go back to Achilles!

DIOMEDES: Shh! The men are talking.

CHRYSEIS: *rolling her eyes* Ick. Boys.

NESTOR: Back in my day, we'd settle this with a good old-fashioned duel.

CASSANDRA: This isn't going to end well...

PRIAM: Now, now – We don't need to fight about this. Maybe we should take a minute and cool off?

PARIS: Yeah! We really don't need to do this right now...

HECTOR: Actually, we do. Bro, we need to end this. It's been nine years too long.

MENELAUS: Man up, Paris! We duel. To the death! NEOPTOLEMUS: Oh, my gods! We on XGames mode!

WAR-CRY - Pitbull, ft. Ke\$ha

ALL:

It's goin' down, hear our war-cry You better move, you better fight Let's have a duel to end this outcry It'll be the war we won't forget

Ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh Ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh

GREEK CHORUS:

The bigger they are, the harder they fall

This biggity boy's a diggity dog

I have 'em like Cerberus, leashes on

Barking in their chains and throngs (War-cry)

Helmets down, weapons up (War-cry)

That's the way we like the what?! (War-cry)

Slicker than olive oil spills

They say they won't, I bet they will (War-cry)

ALL:

Swing your partner 'round and 'round

Start of the duel, it's goin' down
One more shot, another round
Start of the duel, it's goin' down
Swing your partner 'round and 'round
Start of the duel, it's goin' down
One more shot, another round
Start of the duel, it's goin' down

It's goin' down (It's goin' down), hear our war-cry
You better move (You better move), you better fight (You better
fight)
Let's have a duel to end this outcry

It'll be the war we won't forget (We won't forget)

Ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh Ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh

TROJAN CHORUS:

Look up in the sky, it's a bird, it's an omen Yah, it's just us, all things prearranged Live in Troy, we'll be Roman Blessed to say, money ain't a thing Club thumping like brazen Cyclopes Load up another round, homies We about to soar, why? 'Cause it's about to go down

ALL:

Swing your partner 'round and 'round Start of the duel, it's goin' down

TROY STORY

One more shot, another round

Start of the duel, it's goin' down

Swing your partner 'round and 'round

Start of the duel, it's goin' down

One more shot, another round

Start of the duel, it's goin' down

Whoa-oh-oh (War-cry)

Whoa-oh-oh

Woah-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh (It's goin' down)

[PARIS disappears in a mist]

(Paris?) Woah-oh-oh

Whoa-oh-oh

Woah-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh (It's goin' down)

Whoa-oh-oh (War-cry)

Whoa-oh-oh

Woah-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh (It's goin' down)

Whoa-oh-oh

Whoa-oh-oh

Woah-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh (War-cry)

ODYSSEUS: Uh, guys...Where'd Paris go?

HECTOR: That little twerp...

PRIAM: He's probably here somewhere!

NESTOR: His "wife" should know where he went! *gestures to Helen*

HELEN: I didn't ask to be abducted by him. CHRYSEIS: Besides, she's not his babysitter!

CASSANDRA: How did no one else see this? His mom took him

away in a mist!

DIOMEDES: His mom, the goddess? Yeah, right.

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CASSANDRA: Ugh! No one ever believes me!

[AGAMMEMNON enters]

AGAMEMNON: What's all this commotion about? I'm trying to sleep!

MENELAUS: Brother, Paris got away! I was about to kill him!

AGAMEMNON: Oimoi – I would have won this war if it weren't for you meddling gods! *shakes fist in the air* AND, on top of everything else, Achilles refuses to fight!

BRISEIS: *sigh* Achilles and Patroclus...my OTP...

AGAMEMNON: Greeks! Quit fooling around! Go to Camp Achilles and convince him to fight. I won't take no for an answer. And Trojans – get Paris. He really needs to learn to fight his own battles.

[Greek Chorus exit]

[Trojan Chorus exit]

Scene 3

[Trojan Chorus, near Camp Achilles]

PARIS: Achilles and Patroclus just got an Insta account! I wonder if they'd do a follow for follow...

CHRYSEIS: Paris, they have better things to do than follow your silly Instagram account. Y'know, like fight against us in this war.

HELEN: If you just let me go, we could end this fighting.

PRIAM: Why on earth would we do that? As much as I hate this war, we can't just give you up after all this time...

HECTOR: We gotta hide! The Greeks are coming! The Greeks are coming!

[Trojan Chorus exit]

[Greek Chorus enter]

NEOPTOLEMUS: WHAT ARE THOOOOSE?! *pointing to Achilles' shoes*

ACHILLES: They're my slippers.

PAT: Too bad they don't cover your heel.

ACHILLES: *sneers at Patroclus* PAT: What? It was too easy.

BRISEIS: Wow – you guys are perfect for each other!

NESTOR: It doesn't matter how cute they are, Briseis. What matters

is if they'll fight!

ACHILLES: What do you mean? I'm not fighting!

DIOMEDES: Well, actually – that's why we're here, bro. ODYSSEUS: Will you pretty please come fight for us?

MENELAUS: Come on, Achilles!

COME ON ACHILLES – Dexys Midnight Runners

GREEK CHORUS:

Young Helen of Troy

Sounded sad upon her leaving

And she moved million ships in grieving

Our mothers cried

Sang along

Who'd blame them?

You've shown (you've shown up)

So, show (so show up)

Now I must say more than ever

Come on Achilles

Too-ra-loo-ra, too-ra-loo-rye, aye And we can fight just like our fathers

Come on Achilles

Oh, I swear (what he means)

At this moment, you mean everything

You in that cuirass

My thoughts I confess

Verge on envy

Oh, come on Achilles

Come on Achilles

These Trojans 'round here

Fare beaten-down lives, stuck in deprived places

They're so resigned to what their fate is

But not us (no, never)

No, not us (no, never)

We are far too strong and better

Remember

Too-ra-loo-ra, too-ra-loo-rye, aye

Achilles, I'll hum this tune forever

[Trojan Chorus enter]

GREEK + TROJAN CHORUS + PAT:

Come on Achilles

Oh, I swear what (what he means) Ah, come on, let's take on everyone!

Golden cuirass

Achilles (tell us yes) Ah, come on let's

Ah, come on Achilles

Golden cuirass

Achilles (tell us yes)

TROY STORY

Ah, come on let's

Ah, come on Achilles, please

Come on Achilles, too-loo-rye-aye

Come on Achilles, too-loo-rye-aye

Now you're all grown

Now you have shown

Oh, Achilles

Say, come on Achilles

These things they are real

And we know how you feel

Now we must say more than ever

Things 'round here won't changed

We say, too-ra-loo-ra, too-ra-loo-rye-aye

Come on Achilles!

ACHILLES: One word: NO!

[ACHILLES storms out]

PAT: *to Trojan Chorus* Wait – Why are you guys here? Shouldn't y'all be fighting other Greeks or something?

Trojan Chorus looking confused, scratching heads, etc.

PARIS: We just want to sing, sing, SING!

CASSANDRA: *looks sternly at Paris* We'll just be leaving...

[Trojan Chorus exit]

MENELAUS: Well, that was a complete BUST! Agamemnon is gonna kill me!

PAT: Not exactly. I know you're struggling out there. What if we trick the Trojans into thinking Achilles returned to the battlefield?

DIOMEDES: And how would we do that?

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PAT: I'll wear his armor, of course! Trust me, it'll work. No one will suspect a thing. I'll meet you all back at main camp in a bit!

[PAT exits; GREEK CHORUS exit]

Scene 4

[Greek Chorus, whispering excitedly]

[AGAMMEMNON enters]

AGAMEMNON: You dare come back empty handed?!

BRISEIS: But we did bring Achilles!

[PAT, dressed as Achilles, enters]

AGAMEMNON: Oh, Achilles! You came!!

MENELAUS: *to Agamemnon* I told you we could convince Achilles!

NEOPTOLEMUS: You did not!

PAT: *taking off Achilles' helmet* Did somebody say they needed a hero?

AGAMEMNON: You're not Achilles!

DIOMEDES: He's the next best thing! He fights with Achilles, eats with Achilles, sleeps—

PAT: Uh, yeah! We do everything together! You even thought I was Achilles.

AGAMEMNON: Alright, alright! I'm convinced. Those stupid Trojans won't know what hit them!

PAT: Alala!

[PAT exits; AGAMMEMNON, GREEK CHORUS cheer as Pat runs into battle]

[ACHILLES appears]

ACHILLES: What's everyone looking at?

AGAMMEMNON + GREEK CHORUS jump in surprise

NESTOR: We're just watching the war! Blood, gore, more blood...the usual.

ODYSSEUS: *clueless* Hey guys! Look over there! I think Pat made it to the wall!

ACHILLES: He's where now?!

BRISEIS: Odysseus! We weren't supposed to tell Achilles!

NEOPTOLEMUS: Disappointed but not surprised.

MENELAUS: Could you stop arguing!? I'm trying to watch the action! *turns back to war* Oh, great! Looks like they're taking a break now! *pouts*

[Trojan Chorus enter, carrying Pat]

CASSANDRA: Achilles – I'm so sorry. If it's any consolation, even though I *knew* it would happen, I didn't *want* it to happen...

confused, ACHILLES looks around at TROJAN CHORUS

PARIS: Tell him what you did, Hector!

PRIAM: Now, Paris, don't throw your brother under the chariot. Hector, tell him.

PRIAM pushes HECTOR forward, rest of TROJAN CHORUS step back

HECTOR: *nervously* I'm so sorry about this...There was a minor mix up on the battlefield. I thought that you were fighting, not Patroclus. And to be totally honest, I was the third guy to spear him.

ACHILLES: You what?!

HELEN: Hector killed Pat – well, the third one to have a go at him.

CHRYSEIS: Precisely! So easy to follow. Men can be so dull!

ACHILLES: And I'm supposed to be okay with this because *you thought I was the one fighting*????

PARIS: He said sorry!

ACHILLES: Move out of my way! Patroclus! *falls to the ground by Pat's body*

WELCOME TO THE MYRMIDONS - MCR

ACHILLES:

When I was a young boy

My tutor took me to the agora

To see a tragedy

He said, "Pais, when you grow up, Will you be the savior of Thessaly,

Phthia and Alos?"

He said "Will you defeat them,

Your rivals, and all the opposition,

The plans that they have made?"

"Because one day you'll leave here,

A chieftain to lead them into battle,

To rule the Myrmidons"

Sometimes I get the feeling Thetis watches over me

And other times I feel like I'm alone

And through it all, the rise and fall, the bodies in the fields

And now you're gone, I wish you could have known

I'll carry on

I'll carry on

And though you're dead and gone, believe me

Your memory will carry on

We'll carry on

And in my phren, I can't contain it

The chorus won't explain it

A war that has me dealing with outdated regimes

My menis and hate nearly killed us all

So, state the facts and take it back

Let's shout it loud and clear

Defiant to the end I hear your call

To carry on

AGAMEMNON + CHORUS:

He'll carry on

TROY STORY

And though you're dead and gone, believe him

Your memory will carry on

You'll carry on

And though we're broken and defeated

Our weary hero marches

On and on he carries through the tears

Ooh oh ohhhh

Disappointed faces of his peers

Ooh oh ohhhh

Take a look at him cause he could not care at all

ACHILLES:

Do or die, they'll never shake me

'Cause no one else will ever have my heart

Go and try, they'll never break me

I want it all, I wanna play this part

I won't restrain or say I'm sorry

I'm untamed, I'm gonna be a superstar

Give a cheer for all the broken

Listen here, because it's who we are

I'm not just a man, I'm a hero

Just a man, who had to sing this song

I'm not just a man, I'm a hero

I

Don't

Care!

ALL:

We'll carry on

We'll carry on

And though you're dead and gone believe me

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Your memory will carry on

We'll carry on

And though we're broken and defeated

Our weary hero marches on

Do or die, they'll never shake me (We'll carry on)

'Cause no one else will ever have my heart (We'll carry on)

Go and try, they'll never break me

We want it all, we wanna play this part

We'll carry on!

ACHILLES collapses by Patroclus

ALL weeping, tearing hair out, etc.

Scene 5

Continuation of Scene 4

CASSANDRA: *drying tears* Wait – Nobody dies in Greek play!!

HOMER: *appearing from nowhere* "DOH! REWRITE!"

PAT: *sits up* "Hey guys! What'd I miss?"

ACHILLES: Oh, Pat! I thought you were gone forever!

PAT: *looking confused* How – how long was I out?

ODYSSEUS: You died, bro! What was Hades like?

CHRYSEIS: Odysseus, you're so insensitive. The poor guy was just resurrected!

NESTOR: You young'uns are so dramatic. He just suffered a minor surface wound. 'Tis but a scratch!

AGAMEMNON: At least I won't have Achilles on my back about Pat's death now, amirite ladies?

BRISEIS: Don't look at me. You almost caused Achilles to lose his soulmate!

AGAMEMNON: Let's not point fingers at me. If anyone's to blame here, it's Hector.

ALL stare at HECTOR

HECTOR: Uhh...no hard feelings, Achilles? ACHILLES: You *killed* my boyfriend, Hector.

NEOPTOLEMUS: Mood.

PRIAM: What if we give you back Helen?

PARIS: But daaaaad! I was gonna livestream the — *PRIAM gives

PARIS death stare*

DIOMEDES: Hey! That sounds like a pretty good deal.

HELEN: I am not a bargaining chip! But I do want to go home...

AGAMEMNON: What do you say, Achilles? No hard feelings?

PAT: C'mon, babe. I'm not actually dead...

ACHILLES: Alright, alright – No hard feelings!

DON'T YOU (FORGET ABOUT US) - Simple Minds

CHORUS:

Hey, hey, hey, hey Ooh-ooh, woah

ACHILLES:

Won't you come hear about me?

I'll be well-known, lasting, you know it, baby

Tell them my struggles and clouts

Relive everything, inside and out and

PAT:

War's strange, so real in the dark

Think of the dreadful things that we were written in

Sore rage may pull us apart

When the fight gets into your heart, baby

ALL:

Don't you forget about us

Don't, don't, don't, don't Don't you forget about us

AGAMEMNON:

Will you understand us?

Look our way? Ever notice?

Time keeps falling, time keeps falling

Down, down, down

ALL:

Will you recognize us?

Read our story or walk on by?

Time keeps falling, time keeps falling

Down, down, down, down

Hey, hey, hey, hey Ooh-ooh, ooh-woh

HOMER:

Don't you try and portend

It's my feeling Greece wins in the end, I won't

Inform you or test pretenses Fantasy, fictionality – uhh!

ALL:

Don't you forget about us

We'll be well-known, lasting, you know it, baby

Took you all back to the start

Through almost half twenty-four subparts, baby

Don't you forget about us Don't, don't, don't, don't

Don't you forget about us

As you walk on by
Will you read our story?
As you walk on by
Will you read our story?
And you walk on by
Or will you walk away?
Will you walk on by?
Come on, read our story
Will you read our story?

We say:

Ooh la, la-la-la, la-la-la-la La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la La-la-la-la, la-la-la-la La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la La-la-la-la, la-la-la-la La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la