# **Philip Armstrong**

## **Tales of Prometheus**

Tales of Prometheus is a play lasting roughly 25-30 minutes written for young people aged approximately 12-18. It was first performed by grade 7 students at Thuringia International School in Weimar Germany on March 23, 2023, at the Mon Ami Theatre, Weimar to an audience of 400 parents and friends.





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Tales of Prometheus is structured such that two (or more) separate groups of performers can perform, for instance, sections A and C and section B and D respectively, as shown below.

| <u>Characters</u> | <u>Scene</u> | <u>Costume Ideas</u>          |  |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Zeus              | 1, 2, 5, 6   | Olympian god with thunderbolt |  |
| Poseidon          | 1            | Olympian god with trident     |  |
| Hades             | 1            | Olympian god                  |  |
| Cronus            | 1            | Imprisoned Titan god          |  |
| Rhea              | 1            | Imprisoned Titan god          |  |
| Atlas             | 1            | Titan god holding up Earth    |  |
| Hera              | 2, 5         | Goddess                       |  |
| Epimetheus        | 2            | Titan god                     |  |
| Bird 1            | 2            | Bird wings                    |  |
| Bird 2            | 2            | Bird wings                    |  |
| Fish 1            | 2            | Fish gills                    |  |
| Fish 2            | 2            | Fish gills                    |  |
| Rattle-dong       | 2            | Half fish/half bird           |  |
| Elissa            | 2            | Human                         |  |
| Elpis             | 2            | Human                         |  |
| Agatha            | 2            | Servant                       |  |
| Berenike          | 2            | Servant                       |  |
| Semele            | 5, 6         | Mortal girl                   |  |
| Seleukos          | 6            | Mortal human                  |  |
|                   |              |                               |  |

| Sokrates   | 6     | Mortal human  |
|------------|-------|---------------|
| Auxentios  | 6     | Human acrobat |
| Homeros    | 6     | Human acrobat |
| Hyakinthos | 6     | Human acrobat |
| Chrysanthe | 6     | Human acrobat |
| Eudoxia    | 6     | Human acrobat |
| Melitta    | 6     | Human acrobat |
|            |       |               |
| Characters | Scene | Costume Ideas |

| <u>Characters</u> | <u>Scene</u> | Costume Ideas          | <u>Performer</u> | Stand-in |
|-------------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Calisto           | 3            | Servant                |                  |          |
| Demeter           | 3            | Servant                |                  |          |
| Olympian 1        | 3, 4         | Olympian child of Zeus |                  |          |
| Olympian 2        | 3, 4         | Olympian child of Zeus |                  |          |
| Olympian 3        | 3, 4         | Olympian child of Zeus |                  |          |
| Prometheus        | 4, 7, 8      | Bound in chains        |                  |          |
| Pamphlos          | 4, 8         | Human                  |                  |          |
| Pelagia           | 4, 8         | Human                  |                  |          |
| Perikles          | 4            | Human                  |                  |          |
| Anahiale          | 7, 8         | Goddess                |                  |          |
| Chymene           | 7            | Goddess                |                  |          |
| lapetus           | 7            | God                    |                  |          |
| Hephaestus        | 8            | God of metalwork       |                  |          |
| Eagle             | 8            | Bird wings             |                  |          |
| Heracles          | 8            | God with bow and arrow |                  |          |

#### Scene 1 The gods atop Mount Olympus

(Enter Olympian gods: Zeus, Poseidon and Hades, to centre stage)

(Enter Titans: Cronus and Rhea to front of stage right, Atlas to rear of stage left)

Zeus Welcome everybody to this mountain top.

Poseidon It is good to see all of my friends again.

Hades It is wonderful that we are together again in peace and justice.

Zeus I am King Zeus and I have a mighty thunderbolt.

Poseidon I am Poseidon and I have a mighty trident.

Hades I am Hades, consort of the beautiful Persephone, and I have a mighty chariot.

Atlas (from the side) And I am Atlas who holds aloft the whole world of which everyone

speaks, including that mountain top. It's rather heavy, but forever I do this. It's a

long task!

Cronus (from the side) It's a long task to be banished to the underworld like this.

Rhea My dear friend, Cronus, once we were the mighty Titans who ruled the entire

cosmos. But those days are passed.

Cronus Yes, Rhea, my dear wife, and now Hades in his chariot keeps guard over us.

Rhea My dear husband, we enjoyed a golden age after Uranus was chased away, but

never again shall we and the other defeated Titans roam free. The world will soon

teem with creatures we can barely recognise. Birds and fish, rattle-dongs, humans!

Zeus It is the new gods living on Mount Olympus who govern the world; we are the true

kings.

Poseidon We are mighty kings indeed! I feed on great fishes! (Shows off trident)

Hades We have defeated the wretched old gods who once ruled the cosmos. I feed on the

dead!

Zeus Ha ha! I shall feed on the living. I shall take care of the sky, and the air, and all the

land about.

Poseidon I shall take care of the seas and rivers, beneath the surface of the great waters.

Hades I shall take care of the underworld, beneath the land, beneath the sea, the land of

the dead.

Cronus We are among the dead and Hades in his underworld chariot shall keep watch over

us. We are immortal and we shall exist forever, but it shall be in a realm beyond

what all else can see.

Rhea We are an eternity itself, but invisible to the eye.

(Exit Titans)

Zeus Come, my friends! Let us keep watch over the new world of creatures and ensure all

is according to law, to my law.

(Exit Olympian gods)

#### Scene 2 The formation of creatures of the world

(Enter Hera, Epimetheus, Agatha, Berenike)

Hera There they go! The three mighty Olympian gods; they are very mighty indeed!

Epimetheus Very mighty!

Hera The Titans are gone; they were failed by the trickery of Cronus, and now they are

imprisoned forever in the underworld. Epimetheus, it is only your immediate family

that remains in the free cosmos. (gestures to Epimetheus)

Epimetheus Yes, only Prometheus and I!

Agatha And the loyal helpers. For I am Agatha...

Berenike ...And I am Berenike. We shall act as aids to Prometheus and Epimetheus to help

them sort out the world.

Hera We have become allied with Zeus, and the Olympian gods, ever since Cronus

resolved to trickery. We will try to help their work in the world. We shall create new

earthly creatures on the land, and in the sea. We shall plan this very carefully.

Epimetheus Plan? No, I have already taken care of it. Let me introduce you to the creatures of

the world.

(Enter birds 1 & 2)

Agatha Who are you? Bird 1 We are birds.

Bird 2 We have wings. Do you see how we can fly?

Agatha What do you mean? You can fly? With wings? That's very impressive!

Epimetheus I have given wings to the birds so they can fly in the sky.

Bird 1 We have been given wings so we can fly. I am an expert flyer.

Epimetheus This bird is an excellent flyer.

Bird 2 Would you like to see us fly?

Epimetheus Well, not really. It's rather busy at the moment.

Bird 1 But I'm sure you would. Watch this! Weee! (Bird moves around stage, flying)

Epimetheus Excellent!

Bird 2 Thank you. I can fly. I can fly away!

(Exit birds 1 & 2)

Epimetheus As you can see, I have taken on the task of giving each type of species in the world

its unique functional attributes which will help it to prosper.

(Enter fish 1 & 2)

Berenike Who are you? Fish 1 We are fish.

Fish 2 We have a fin and a tail. Do you see how we can swim?

Berenike What do you mean? You can swim? With a fin? That's very impressive!

Epimetheus I have given fins to the fish so they can swim in the seas and rivers.

Fish I have been given fins so I can swim. I am an expert swimmer.

Epimetheus This fish is an excellent swimmer.
Fish 1 Would you like to see us swim?

Epimetheus Well, not really. It's rather busy at the moment.

Fish 2 But I'm sure you would. Watch this! Weee! (Fish moves around stage, swimming)

Epimetheus Excellent!

Fish 1 Thank you. We can swim!
Fish 2 We can swim away! Bye!

(Exit fish 1 & 2, enter rattle-dong)

Agatha Who are you?

Rattle-dong I am a rattle-dong. I have wings and I have a fin. Do you see how I can swim in the

sky?

Agatha What do you mean? You can swim? With wings?

Epimetheus I have given both wings and fins to the rattle-dongs so they can swim in the sky.

Agatha Swim in the sky?

Rattle-dong I have been given both wings and fins so I can swim in the sky. I am an expert

swimmer in the skyer.

Epimetheus This rattle-dong is an excellent swimmer in the skyer.

Rattle-dong Would you like to see me swim in the sky?

Epimetheus Well, not really. It's rather busy at the moment.

Rattle-dong But I'm sure you would. Watch this! Weee! (Rattle-dong moves around stage, and

falls over)

Epimetheus Oh dear!

Rattle-dong Yes, it's a bit hard. There's really not enough water in the sky, even when it's raining.

And actually, I'm the only one left. All of the other rattle-dongs have since fallen over and been eaten by all those birds and fish. My species is on the brink of utter extinction. After all, it seems there's not much call for swimming in the sky in this

world. So, I'd better be going. Bye!

(Exit rattle-dong)

Hera Epimetheus is not always the best expert at pre-planning things. When he's creating

creatures for the world, he just makes things up as he goes along. He's good at

hindsight, always thinking about what he could have done better in the past, but not

necessarily what he could do better in the future.

Epimetheus I concede that sometimes animal characteristics have been given to creatures which

were unfit for their environment, which has led to the rapid extinction of their

species.

(Enter Zeus)

Agatha Hello Zeus. How are you? What have you been up to?

Zeus Just throwing my thunderbolt around a bit. Just chasing a few charming goddesses.

Berenike Always hungry! Always the scoundrel, like Cronus! But still, we're pleased to see you

here.

Zeus Epimetheus has been showing off some of his handiwork for the world of animals. I

know he has! I hope I'm not too late. He's done such a great job! Let's see some

other creatures.

(Enter humans: Elissa & Elpis)

Humans (can't talk) Mmmmm!

Berenike What's this, then?

Epimetheus This is a human being! But I ran out of ideas. I couldn't think of any special

characteristics to give to these creatures. Maybe they should sky in the fly! No, that

wouldn't work!

Zeus Oh! It seems they already have some unique attribute, given they seem to look

uncannily like the gods.

Epimetheus Yes, but I can't think what else to do.

Hera Prometheus will help here. This needs some planning! Not hindsight! It needs fore-

thought.

Zeus Just so long as you don't come up with something too natural! Well, I'm off now. I'd

better get on with hurling a few of my lightning bolts around. It's good for chasing

and catching those maidenly goddesses. Delicious!

(Exit Zeus, Epimetheus, Hera, Agatha, Berenike)

#### Scene 3 At Mount Olympus

(Enter Calisto, Demeter, Olympian 1, 2 & 3)

Calisto When it comes to humankind, Epimetheus is a little lost as to how to proceed.

Demeter What characteristics should be given to them?

Calisto These humans should be able to have offspring and multiply, just like other

creatures in the world.

Demeter They should be able to eat and drink from fruit and vegetables to get their chemical

energies, just like other living things.

Calisto And eat other creatures too, like those fish and birds. They should be like Zeus!

Demeter Yes! Most important, these people must have the capacity to perceive themselves in

a form like that of the gods. Indeed, they might ask if it is they that have summoned the existence of the gods in the first place. It is clear they need something special to

realise this capacity.

Olympian 1 Prometheus has the gift of forethought and inquiry; he is able to think things

through before acting. You must ask him what to do.

Olympian 2 This is true. Prometheus is a clever fellow.

Olympian 3 Clever indeed! He is able to employ intelligence and to bring many positions to his

considerations, so as to come up with considered decisions.

Olympian 2 He recognises this attribute in itself might be shared with humanity by way of fire,

which would enable them to build great civilisations, and endow them with a quality

of mind possessed previously only by the gods, that pertaining to free will.

Olympian 1 But watch out! Zeus won't like for too much! Though I suppose Prometheus wants

to do his best anyway, to act the hero even if he suspects the gods might object to

his actions, none less than Zeus.

Olympian 3 Prometheus knows in advance that the Olympian ruler will not accept a critical

attribute associated with the gods being shared with the natural world.

Prometheus You should listen to what those Weimar people say. They say that the Hegelian myth

of the heroic premodern is the first stage of cognitive development.

Calisto We will go to Prometheus and talk with him about this.

Demeter We will try to help.

(Exis Calisto and Demeter)

Olympian 1 I'd better get back to my trident, so these new people will be able to model me for

their statues.

Olympian 2 I'd better get back to tending to those dreadful Titans, and to wait for the first visits

of these new people, after they're eventually dead of course.

(Exit Olympian 1 2 & 3)

#### Scene 4 Prometheus and the theft of fire

(Enter Hephaistos)

Hephaistos Here I am at the centre of Mount Olympus, and Hephaistos is using fire and an anvil.

He is making metal tools. He is an ironsmith for the gods. Wow! What a great

responsibility I have.

(Enter Prometheus carrying a fennel-stalk, Olympian 1, 2 & 3)

Prometheus It's this way! Follow me, everybody. I know the way around Mount Olympus better

than anyone. We're going to plunder the workshop of Hephaistos, who is god of fire

and the patron of craftsmen and the metal works.

Olympian 3 Wow! Look at all these metal devices.

Olympian 2 Look at these swords and daggers.

Olympian 1 Look over there, at those red-hot rocks and stones.

Prometheus Shhh! Be quiet! Don't let anybody see you.

Hephaistos Hmm! I'll need to replenish Zeus' thunderbolts later this afternoon. Wow! What a

responsibility I have.

(Exit Hephaistos)

Prometheus Come this way! Follow me, everybody!

Olympian 3 Wow! Look at the molten rock.

Olympian 2 Wow! It's a like a volcano.

Olympian 1 Wow! It's glowing red-hot!

Prometheus (Takes the fire) That's what we need for the task at hand. The stones come first, the

devices follow. We need to hide these rocks in the hollow of these fennel-stalks. Be

careful. They're hot!

Olympian 1 You'll give these as the gift of fire to humanity?

Prometheus I will. Humanity will use the fire to learn the same skills as those possessed by

Hephaistos. They will learn to make tools for the fields and harvest, and weapons

too.

Olympian 3 Impressive!

Prometheus Here will do. (Prometheus sets the rocks down; the group settles to watch what

happens from the opposite side of the stage)

(Enter humans: Pamphlos, Pelagia, Perikles)

Pamphlos (Gathered with humans at opposite side of the stage to Olympians) These tools are

splendid. We have done a marvellous job, my friend.

Pelagia Yes, they are very good indeed.

Olympian 1 (Aside to his group) Look at how humans have developed skills of metalwork.

Prometheus Yes, they have. More than that. Look how they have developed language and self-

awareness. They have free will to choose, and they have self-awareness to know

they can choose.

Olympian 1 They're like the gods.

Prometheus They are answerable to the ethical standards known to themselves.

Olympian 2 Listen to them!

Pamphlos Sometimes I wonder, how we managed to acquire such marvellous skills.

Pelagia It's because Prometheus gave the gift of fire to the first humans.

Perikles What do you mean?

Pamphlos Prometheus believed that the gift would serve humankind well.

Pelagia It would enable people to prosper in conditions compromising both a physical

domain of natural laws and a metaphysical domain of divine law.

Perikles Impressive!

Pamphlos Prometheus plundered the workshop of Hephaistos on Mount Olympus and,

without anybody knowing, he took several red-hot stones.

Pelagia Yes, hiding them in a hollow fennel-stalk. I heard the story.

Perikles Prometheus presented them as the gift of fire to humanity. Thereafter he has

watched as humans developed skills of metalwork, and also developed the

capacities for thought and language.

Pamphlos He's watching now!

Prometheus (Aside to his group) Shh! Don't say anything.

Pelagia Probably he is.

Perikles Because of him, humans are thus able to act as agents of responsible action.

Pamphlos This has led to support for communities by building fire in a hearth and also the

ability to build weapons and tools.

Pelagia Also, to the ability to create civilization and culture.

Perikles And including the pursuit of the arts and both empirical/scientific and intellectual

pursuits.

Prometheus (Aside to his group) They can support their communities not only by building fire in a

hearth and by building tools and weapons, but thereafter to the ability to create

civilization and culture, including the pursuit of the arts and both empirical/scientific

and intellectual pursuits.

Olympian 1 Impressive!

Olympian 2 You've done a fantastic job, Prometheus!

Prometheus Humans are thus able to act as agents of responsible action in the world.

(Exit Prometheus carrying fennel-stalk, X, Y, Z in one direction,

Exit humans: Pamphlos, Pelagia, Perikles separately in another direction)

#### Scene 5 Zeus, the Philanderer

(Enter Zeus, Semele)

Semele Help me!

Zeus Come here you wretched maiden! You cannot escape me!

Semele Please leave me alone. I am only innocent!

Zeus Artemis, you are the most beautiful maiden in the world.

(Enter Hera)

Semele (Hides behind Hera) Help me, please!

Hera (To Zeus) I am so cross with you! You are a mighty god, but always you are doing

such terrible things.

Zeus Me! Terrible things? What are you talking about?

Hera With that maiden?

Zeus Artemis is goddess of the hunt and wild animals.

Hera You are a wild animal.

Zeus I am king of the gods.

Hera I'm talking about the way you treat these new humans.

They need Prometheus to look after them

Semele Already they've been given the gift of fire. They can think through problems and

develop clever tools and devices.

Zeus I'm not so sure I'm very happy about all of this. Humans need to be put in their

correct place in the world.

Semele Where's that?

Zeus Well, not alongside the gods, that's for sure! It's the gods like me who carry a

thunderbolt. Epimetheus, where's my thunderbolt?

Hera Maybe we should have Prometheus look after your thunderbolt. (Turns to Semele)

You look after yourself, my sweet thing. This is supposed to be my husband. If

anything happens, you tell me about it. I'll protect you from him.

(Exit Hera)

Zeus Hera has gone and we are alone again.

Semele Prometheus watches over us.

Zeus Prometheus?

Semele Zeus, will you show me the true god that stands before me. Not some dreadful

story.

Zeus You want to see the real me!

Semele No more of the deceptions. When we first met, you were disguised as fire, and I

could not see the real Zeus. You were called Zeus Areius, the warlike one.

Zeus This god is known to disguise himself in many forms, as a bull, a cuckoo, a serpent,

and even an eagle.

Semele You are Zeus Olympios, king of the gods.

Zeus And also, I am Zeus Eleutherios, the freedom giver. (Zeus raises his thunderbolt and

Semele is destroyed by fire)

(Exit Semele)

Zeus I don't like all this talk of Prometheus, not at all. I must watch out for him.

(Exit Zeus)

Scene 6 The Wrath of Zeus

(Enter Zeus)

Zeus I am a mighty King and I have been made mightily angry. (Stands to the side)

(Enter Seleukos, Sokrates, Semele)

Seleukos Quickly, come with me! (Hiding)

Sokrates What's that fire. It's terrible!

Seleukos Zeus has always been quick to anger.

Zeus Extremely angry! I am the King of all kings!

Sokrates He'll always resort to violence if he's opposed. But I think we can hide down here!

Seleukos It was his use of brutal force that wrested the Kingship from Cronus and the Titans.

Semele Even today. He's always throwing lightning bolts at anybody or anything causing his

disfavour.

Sokrates Yes, including the girls that don't trust his friendliness.

Seleukos But his violent deeds are often ill-considered and the cause of unexpected

consequences.

Zeus What's this noise coming from over there. I hope it's nobody trying to oppose my

kingship.

Sokrates Zeus would have destroyed all of humanity by now if Prometheus hadn't repeatedly

intervened.

Semele We need Prometheus again now.

Sokrates But he is bound to a rock. He cannot help us.

Semele What are we going to do?

Zeus No, there's nothing there. What a shame! I was looking forward to becoming even

more angry.

(Enter Auxentios, Homeros, Hyakinthos, Chrysanthe, Eudoxia, Melitta)

Hyakinthos Zeus has become angry like this ever since he found out that free will has been

gifted to worldly creatures.

Auxentios Worldly creatures like us.

Homeros He thinks this is one of the important characteristics defining the gods' power.

Auxentios And now it's been given to the very creatures able to imagine themselves in the

shape of the gods.

Homeros He can't take it back from them; this is beyond his competencies, but always he

seeks to enact revenge.

Hyakinthos Revenge upon us.

Chrysanthe Eventually he'll turn his attention to Prometheus.

Zeus I hope I don't come across Prometheus trying to trick me again. He was a fool to try

such a thing. But not, he's my prisoner now.

Hyakinthos Zeus thinks that Prometheus has betrayed him twice, both times by supporting

humans at the expense of the gods.

Chrysanthe Prometheus is champion of humanity.

Zeus I'm leaving here. There is nothing for me here. Yes, I think I'll go and check on

Prometheus, to see how he's doing, now that I've had him chained to a rock.

### (Exit Zeus)

Eudoxia I think the fire has stopped now. We can get away from here.

Melitta Yes, follow me!

Eudoxia Let's go everybody. We're free!

Melitta We're free!

(Exit all)

#### Scene 7 Celebrating Prometheus

(Enter Prometheus bound in chains, Anahiale, Chymene, Iapetus)

Prometheus I am suffering at the hands of the gods. I have been tormented for years.

I tried to help humanity. I stole the fire, and I paid the penalty.

Anahiale He paid the penalty and is in great pain.

Prometheus This is agony to me. I would rather be in chains in Tartarus where I would not have

the indignity of my enemy's delight.

Chymene Everybody is sad for Prometheus, including the Amazon maidens,

lapetus Even the martial Arabians, who fight with sharp-tipped spears,

Anahiale Even Oceanus and the sea waves, the depths, groan too.

Prometheus Humans were infantile before I made them intelligent

and gave them understanding.

They were dream figures who knew nothing.

They lived underground like ants, or in caves.

Anahiale He gave them knowledge. He gave them language.

Prometheus I gave them knowledge of number, of discursive language, the ability to tame beasts,

and build ships. Yet still I cannot rescue myself. I am bound here.

lapetus One day you will be free.

Chymene Princess Io will come, and then Heracles.

Prometheus My destiny will not set me free for a long time.

I will suffer pain and torment more.

The craft of self-agency is weaker than necessity.

Chymene Who controls necessity?

lapetus Who controls what cannot be controlled?

Prometheus It is the triple Fates and the unforgetting Furies; so it is said.

Even Zeus cannot escape them, and their respective destiny.

He is doomed in destiny, necessarily.

(Exit all)

#### Scene 8 Bound in Chains

(Enter Prometheus bound in chains, Hephaestus, Anahiale)

Prometheus Once I was a heroic ally to the Olympian ruler. I considered him a worthy champion,

and Zeus considered me worthy of his mighty prestige and renown. But then I

became a champion of humanity.

Hephaestus You betrayed Zeus twice, both times with trickery, by way of supporting humans at

the expense of the gods.

Anahiale Hephaestus is a loyal fellow. He handles the fire and metal forge at Mount Olympus

at Zeus' request.

Prometheus Hephaestus, you have manufactured these chains and you have secured me here.

Hephaestus I act on behalf of Zeus and you have betrayed him. You provided the gift of fire to

humanity, and then you established the relation between gods and humanity by way of sacrificial procedures. In both cases you undermined Zeus' Kingship, acting behind

his back and against his specific wishes.

Prometheus I have acted to help humanity.

Hephaestus Even if he once held great respect for Prometheus, especially after he helped the

Olympians in the great Titanomachy, now Zeus has become furious. He has decided to punish the old Titan for these betrayals. He has sentenced Prometheus to eternal

torment for his deeds.

Prometheus Eternal torment!

Hephaestus Prometheus has been bound in chains to a rock on Mount Caucasus, here beyond

the Black Sea at the far edge of the world.

Prometheus I am bound in chains to a rock on Mount Caucasus, beyond the Black Sea at the far

edge of the world. Nobody will help me.

Hephaestus Farewell Prometheus. You will remain here forever in eternity.

(Exit Hephaestus, enter eagle)

Anahiale Here comes the eagle of King Zeus! This creature will take acre of this traitor.

Prometheus What's that in the sky? A great eagle! It represents the interests of Zeus. It has been

directed to the rock where I am in chains with the instructions to undermine both

my physical and emotional well-being. It will do this by biting out and devouring my

liver.

Eagle It shall be absolute agony for Prometheus.

Prometheus Somebody help me!

Eagle Hungry, hungry, hungry...

Prometheus Aah...! It hurts! It is absolute agony for me. When my liver grows back overnight, a

repercussion of my celestial status, and I resume some degree of stability, then it is

gnawed out again by the eagle the very next day, in a never-ending cycle.

Eagle I shall be back tomorrow.

Prometheus Somebody help me!
Eagle On and on, forever!

Anahiale Yes, forever!

(Exit Hera & Eagle)

Prometheus: Yes, forever!

(Enter Pamphlos, 2, Group)

Pamphlos I want to tell you the story of how Prometheus was eventually freed.

Group Yes, tell us.

Pelagia Watch this.

Group Here comes Heracles. (Moves to side of stage to watch the action)

(Enter Heracles with bow and arrow)

Heracles At last I have found Prometheus. I have laboured for ten years and completed ten

great tasks, but at last the most important is here.

Prometheus Who comes near?

(Enter eagle)

Eagle Hungry, hungry...

Heracles I have the duty to shoot down this terrible creature. It is not a real eagle. It is Zeus in

disguise. (Heracles shoots at the eagle with an arrow)

(Exit eagle)

Heracles I come to release you, Prometheus. No longer will you be chained to agony and

despair.

Prometheus I am glad at last you have come. I was alerted to the possibility of reprieve, to secret

knowledge that predicted the necessity of Zeus' downfall.

Heracles Zeus is my father and I am loyal to him. But he has done many foul deeds and I have

too. So now I serve Hera to make atonement for us both.

Prometheus I am glad you have come. I knew you would be here, Heracles, yet still there is still

anguish.

Heracles Still Prometheus is in pain, subject to anguish and torment, no doubt caused by

humanity around him succumbing to the plights released from Pandora's urn. All is

terrible, yet there is hope in the oracle; there remains the possibility of change.

Prometheus I have seen these things. I will attend to them.

Heracles At last, after a great duration of time, the oracle shall come fully true. Prometheus

has been freed from his torment by Heracles who has chased away the eagle,

shooting it down with his arrows. He released Prometheus from his binds and the

repeating torment caused by the eagle. And now Prometheus can fulfil the rest of

his task.

Prometheus I am free! (Prometheus stands tall)

Heracles Prometheus stands atop Mount Ida. He declares at the top of his voice, for all to

hear, of how the descendants of he and Pandora will now reveal the resolve to

torment and alienation, of how the paradox of how an understanding of the riddle

of agency must lie within free will itself.

Prometheus I will do everything I can to aid humanity.

Heracles Farewell, Prometheus.

(Exit Heracles)

Pamphlos And so it is Prometheus walks among people once again.

Group (*Peering at Prometheus*) There he is! He looks so brave!

Pelagia He shall teach us many lessons.

Pamphlos We shall celebrate Prometheus with a dance

**Dance of Prometheus** 

(Exit all)