



SYNOPSIS

The Greek Gods are sitting up on high as judges. There have been rumblings down on Earth that things aren't fair. Apparently, and much to the disapproval of the Gods, some of the mortals want to be elevated to the status of God. How dare they!

The so-called Greek Heroes take it in turns to justify their cases. They each have a three minute pitch. The floor resembles a cross between "Britain's Got Talent" and "X Factor" with Zeus being the lead judge (Simon Cowell). The other judges are Hera (Sharon Osbourne), Hades (Louis Walsh) and Aphrodite (Nicole Scherzinger).

Some of the contestants include: Icarus who sings "First Boy in the World to Fly" whilst moralising on why we should all, when all said and done, listen to our dads; Theseus, the swashbuckling idiot; Orpheus, who claims to be the first man to have entered the Underworld, all in the name of love; and Jason, proudly wearing the golden fleece.

In order to keep the judges happy, there are a handful of muses to introduce each pitch. They may also feed the audiences with Greek dishes, if they can get themselves organised. The muses include: Tzatziki, Taramosalata, Moussaka, Feta and a rather bedraggled Pita.

At one point a wizened man appears (Socrates) and starts spouting forth a load of bunkum. He doesn't last long as does a slave (Aesop) who bursts onto the stage and starts rambling on about a hare and a tortoise. No one makes the connection.

It's dear old Hera who suggests that the democratic thing to do would be to let the audience decide who their most worthy Greek hero is, who might have a chance to sit amongst the gods. Zeus is furious with this idea and storms off.

Finally, with the possible gift of immortality coming their way, all the heroes decide to run a mile. Who wants to live forever? they all declare.

A soothsayer (Oracle) may also try to predict events. It would be fun seeing someone in a cloak and pretend trance and speaking some words in Ancient Greek!

As the even wears on, it becomes apparent that the gods are all related and are all full of flaws. Who'd want to be mixed up with that bunch of hoodlums!

Zeus on the Loose – CAST

* denotes a solo

MC (Master of Ceremonies)

Judging Panel:

*Zeus - plus thunderbolts (Chief judge)

*Hera (Zeus' long-suffering wife)

*Aphrodite (narcissistic tendencies)

*Hades (all doom and gloom)

The Contestants (Greek heroes):

*Orpheus (first mortal to enter the Underworld and return)

*Theseus (the man who slew the Minotaur)

*Jason (the original action hero)

*Icarus (first boy in the world to fly; must be willing to fly!)

Others:

*Eurydice (Orpheus' wife)

*Cockney Hag (Eurydice's mentor)

Suitors (who dance with Aphrodite and Medusa)

Eros (Aphrodite's son, AKA Cupid)

*Elvis (one of Aphrodite's suitors)

*Minotaur

Mini-Minotaurs (6) (to dance the Hakka)

Argonauts (to sail with Jason)

King Pelias (wants Jason dead)

Medea (falls in love with Jason)

Daedalus (Icarus' father)

Charon (rows people across the river Styx on their way to the Underworld)

Cerberus (three-headed dog that guards the Underworld)

Socrates (the number one philosopher)

Aesop (the number one storyteller)

Greek shepherd boy

*Medusa (beautiful but deadly)

Oracle (tries to predict the future and speaks only in Greek!)

Muses (to bring on the heroes and, perhaps, crack a few Greek jokes. Could be a double act like Ant & Dec!)

MC: Ladies and Gentlemen! Good evening and welcome to the ultimate talent show. You've heard of Britain's Got Talent, The Apprentice and The X Factor. Well, tonight, we give you the show to end all talent shows – we give you THE OMEGA FACTOR! Before we meet our contestants, let's meet our four judges, all the way from Mount Olympus. It's our very own Greek Gods, Chief Judge Zeus, his lovely wife Hera, the gorgeous Aphrodite and lastly, Lord of the Underworld, Hades.

(cue music as they enter and take their seats on the judging panel)

TRACK 1 – OMEGA FACTOR THEME TUNE

MC: Zeus, tell me, what are we looking for in our contestants? What's the show all about?

Zeus: There have been rumblings down on Earth that things aren't fair. Some of the mortals want to be elevated to the status of gods. How dare they! *(throws a thunderbolt)*

I would never share my throne with any mortal.

Hera: I say give them a chance!

Zeus: I say give them a chance! (repeated in a mocking, imitating fashion)

Hera: Let's hear their side of the story and then discuss it amongst ourselves and vote on it.

Zeus: Agh! This democracy thing has really gone to your head.

Hades: As your older brother, I say we should proceed with the competition. Give each hero a short pitch in which to prove him or herself.

MC: Aphrodite, goddess of love and beauty, do you concur?
(*Aphrodite is still fixing her make-up and looking in a small hand-held mirror. Other gods cough to catch her attention*)

Aphrodite: Sorry, I was miles away! Did I miss something?

Zeus: No, you just carry on, auntie.

MC: Right! Time is running on. Let's crack on with the competition. Just before we do get going, Hera, can you tell us what the prize is? What's on offer to the hero that wins?

Hera: The gift of immortality (said with much grandeur) and a place on Mount Olympus as a god or goddess.

MC: Wow! Anything else?

Zeus: Yes, this little box (said in a sinister tone)

Hades: Haven't I seen that box before?

Hera: Yes, you have; it's Pandora's Box. You're up to your usual tricks, Zeus. How could you?

Zeus: You know how I like to punish the mortals.

Hera: You've broken enough hearts already.

Zeus: Oh, be quiet!

MC: Okay! Without further ado, I give you our contestants, our very own Greek heroes. (*Greek heroes parade in, singing track 2*)

TRACK 2 – WE WANNA BE GODS

Heroes:

We wanna be gods, we wanna be gods
We think we've made the grade
So listen to us, hear us out and join in our crusade
We've rowed the seas many a time
Fighting for the good
We have tales of daring
And tales of brotherhood
We wanna be gods, we wanna be gods
We think we've made the grade
So listen to us, hear us out and join in our crusade
Hear our prayer
Make all things fair
And deliver us from from evil

Dialogue in bars 38 to 41:

Zeus: You want to be Gods. Ha! You'll never be like us – you're mortals. (*said condescendingly*)

Jason: We've been to school; we know how to read and write.

Ostinato:

Alpha, beta, gamma, delta
Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi
Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi

Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi
Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi
Omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau
Upsilon, phi, chi, psi
Omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau
Upsilon, phi, chi, psi
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta
And the very last word and the very last word
And the very last word and the very last word
And the very last word and the very last word
And the very last word and the very last word is
Omega!

Voice 1:

(Pause 4 bars)

Alpha, beta, gamma, delta, epsilon
Zeta, eta, theta, repeata
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta, epsilon
Zeta, eta, theta, repeata
(pause 16 bars)
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta, epsilon
Zeta, eta, theta, repeata
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta, epsilon
Zeta, eta, theta, repeata
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta, epsilon
Zeta, eta, theta, repeata
Omega!

Voice 2:

(Pause 12 bars)

Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi, why?
Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi, why?
(Pause 12 bars)
Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi, why?
Iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi, why?
Omega!

Voice 3:

(Pause 20 bars)

Omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau, ow!
Upsilon, phi, chi, psi, psi, psi
Omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau, ow!
Upsilon, phi, chi, psi, psi, psi
Omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau, ow!
Upsilon, phi, chi, psi, psi, psi
Omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau, ow!
Upsilon, phi, chi, psi, psi, psi
Omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau, ow!
Upsilon, phi, chi, psi, psi, psi
Omega!

Heroes:

We wanna be gods, we wanna be gods
We think we've made the grade
So listen to us, hear us out and join in our crusade
We wanna be gods, we wanna be gods
We think we've made the grade

So listen to us, hear us out and join in our crusade, Oi!

MC: Just to remind you, our four judges each have a buzzer which they can use if they've heard enough.
(*judges demonstrate*)

If a contestant gets four buzzes, then they must stop and it's all over for them. Are you ready to meet contestant number one? Please give a warm round of applause for Mr Orpheus!
(*Orpheus enters looking thoroughly miserable. A muse leads him on*)

Zeus: Why the long face?

Orpheus: I've lost my wife.

Zeus: Count yourself lucky!

Hera: Excuse me! (*sounding annoyed*)

Orpheus: No, I was very much in love, so much in love. My wife Eurydice was out walking in a field one day. She was bitten by a snake and died. Oh, I miss her so terribly. So much so, that I am prepared to do what no mortal has done before: to enter the gates of Hades in order to get her back.

Zeus: Why is there a muse on stage?

MC: Ah, I forgot to say that each contestant will be led out by a muse. Each muse will bring out some ambrosia for our gods.

Hera: Tell them what a muse is. It will amuse them!

Zeus: Ha, ha, ha! (*said sarcastically*)

Hera: Hush! (*said commandingly*)

MC: A muse is a sister goddess, each one a protector of a different art or science. They were all children of Zeus, but that's another matter.

Zeus: Oi! Mind your own business, you mortal! More to the point, where's my ambrosia you promised?

MC: Mr Orpheus was brought out by the lovely Tzatziki. Tzatziki, please present your ambrosia to the judging panel.

(*Judges try some of the Tzatziki*)

Zeus: Tell us your story, Mr Orpheus.

