Beyond Wonders

Beginner’s Drama

Mr. Seidel

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Characters

Gretchen... A shy young adolescent

Melinda... An outgoing god

Alexandra... An envious god

Master Rhodes... A friendly trainer and director of the Sirèn training facility, who is also a god.

Synopsis

 An oracle tells the people of Sirèn that the secret country will be destroyed unless the “chosen one” arrives.

**ACT I SCENE 1**

*Gretchen’s bedroom curtains has suddenly fluttered open. The night lamp on the wooden dresser is flickering off and on. Gretchen is fast asleep.*

Melinda:*(whispers)* I wonder if she knows she drools.

Alexandra:She snores like a grizzly bear *(scrunches her face up in disgust)* Alright, that’s enough beauty sleep, wake her up.

*(Melinda bends over towards Gretchen)*

Melinda:*(screams)* WAKE UP, CUTE STUFF!!!

Gretchen: Aaahh! *(falls off bed)* Who are you people?!

Melinda: Well can’t you read? Our tags say Melinda and Alexandra.

Alexandra: Mel, you know humans aren’t that smart.

Gretchen: You’re a human too... Aren’t you? *(Gets closer to Alex and pokes her eye)*

Alexandra:*(angrily)* Ow, you twit! I’m a god, how can you ever compare me to a filthy human?

Gretchen:*(in disbelief)* A god? Why would a god come to find me? How did you even get in here? *(matter of factly)* My mom knows all my friends, she wouldn’t have let you in here.

Melinda: It’s midnight *(points to window)* Everyone’s sleep, duhh!

Alexandra:*(gets annoyed)* Alright,enough chit chat. You’re coming with us. *(Alex climbs out the window and Mel instantly follows)*

Gretchen: Wait,but I’m still in my pj’s!*(Gretchen sighs and reluctantly follows)*

**ACT 1 SCENE 2**

*Alexandra,Melinda,and Gretchen arrives at what seems to be a training facility. Gretchen looks around, seeing thousands of gods and goddesses roaming the premises. On her left, she found an archery range with a few teen gods practicing their aim. On her right, she discovered younger gods learning how to ride their own pegasus. At the far back of the facility, a large, ten-story, palace stood tall surrounded by snowy mountains and trees.*

Gretchen:*(amazed)* This place is incredible. You think I can check out the swords later?

Alexandra: Don’t get comfortable, after you battle that horrid beast, you’re out of here.

*(Gretchen’s dark brown eyes pop out of her fairly large head)*

Gretchen: Beast?! Me battle a beast?!!!

Melinda:*(runs up to Alex and whispers)* Wait, I thought Master Rhodes requested that she stays.

*(Gretchen overhears)*

Gretchen: Who’s Master Rhodes?

Alexandra: Shh, once she’s done with her duty, what use will she be?

Gretchen: What horrid beast? Who’s Master Rhodes? How did you two even find me? WHY DID YOU EVEN PICK ME??!!!

*(Alex stops dead in her tracks and turns on her heels so she is now facing Gretchen so that they are nose to nose)*

Alexandra:*(menacingly)* Listen you imbecile, if it was up to me, I would’ve chosen one of our own kind. It maybe would’ve been me! You’ll have to ask Master Rhodes why a mortie like yourself is presumed to be the chosen one. *(She turns back around and continues walking)*

Melinda:*(reassuringly)* Don’t mind her, she’s just upset that the oracle revealed she isn’t the chosen one.

Gretchen: Does she really have to be that mean though? It’s not like I asked to be this “chosen one”

Melinda:*(sighs heavily)* Listen if you repeat anything I’m about to tell you, I’ll slice your hand off, got it?

*(Gretchen laughs but notices that Mel is indeed serious and instantly stops and nods her head)*

Melinda: Alexandra has been preparing for as long as I can remember, just to prove that she can lead us deities. She blocks everyone out to focus on controlling her powers and training; she even tried to block me out, but you know I wasn’t havin’ it... She’s considered a loner here and all because she wants to be the best. She believes Master Rhodes, doesn’t even notice her efforts. So of course she’s angry that a mortie has gotten the chance she always wanted.

*(Gretchen looks down in pity)*

Gretchen: Can’t I just get out of here, and she can take the responsibility?

Melinda: *(throws her hands up in surrender)* Trust me, I wish it was that easy, but it’s not. If the oracle says a mortie is the one, you’re the one.

*(They start walking again)*

Gretchen: Well, I don’t even know much about gods and BATTLE, look at me! I’m frail, I might break if someone even throws a stone at me.

Melinda: That’s what training is for mortie.

Gretchen: Am I going to speak to this Master Rhodes soon? And what is a mortie for heaven’s sake?!

Melinda:*(smirks)* Correction, for the gods’ sake... Yeah, we’re heading there now. And a mortie is a mortal, an ordinary.

**ACT 1 SCENE 3**

*Melinda and Gretchen reach the palace that Gretchen had noticed earlier. Alexandra waits at the top of the white marble steps. Gretchen gets a glimpse of a tall, muscular, shadow behind the glass door but cannot make out the face of the person.*

Alexandra: If you two weren’t lollygagging, you would’ve been here sooner.

Melinda: Oh don’t get your nunchucks in a twist.

*(When Alex turns to walk in, Gretchen notices a pair of black nunchucks hanging at her side)*

Gretchen:*(whispers to herself)* so much for exaggeration.

*When they reach the top of the steps, Gretchen is the last to enter. She is surprised to see that the mysterious figure is a young man, seemingly no older than 30. His dark brown hair was in a tangled mess of curls. The heavy bags under his hazel eyes showed his lack of sleep.*

Master Rhodes:*(politely)* Well, you must be Gretchen, our “chosen one”. Nice to meet you.

Gretchen:*(shyly)* I don’t know about the chosen one thing but it’s nice to meet you too.

Master Rhodes: I know this all must come as a surprise, but I’m sure Alexandra and Melinda has explained how important it is to have you here.

Gretchen: Actually, I need to know more about this beast. It’s only right since I’m obligated to fight it, you know?

Master Rhodes: Oh certainly, I’m shocked that they didn’t tell you everything you need to know.*(He gives Alex and Mel a disapproving look)*

Alexandra: I didn’t really want to answer much questions, Master.*(sarcastically)* I was too busy tending to my injured eye.

*(Melinda snickers and Alex gives her a threatening look)*

Master Rhodes:*(shakes his head)* Well Gretchen, I see you’ve gotten on someone’s bad side... Anyway, the reason you’re here is baffling honestly. Our facility is in danger, the Manticore beast will be coming soon to destroy it and all the young gods and goddesses who reside here. Trust me, I would never want anyone that isn’t involved in our world to have anything to do with this monster, but it’s no longer in my control now that the Oracle has revealed our fate...*(desperately)* Without your help, we’re doomed.

Gretchen: It has to be some other way! I can’t stay here and wait for some beast to show up. I have to get home to my mom.

Alexandra: Yeah, just let her go. I can defeat the Manticore myself, Master Rhodes.

Master Rhodes: I’m sure you can Alex but you’re not the chosen one. I doubt Zeus and the others will be happy about changing plans... Gretchen, as crazy as it seems, I’ll explain everything to your mom. Just please, agree to help.

Gretchen:*(hesitantly)* Fine, how will I defeat him?

Master Rhodes: We’ll get started on your training right away, you’ll have the necessary weapons on the day the battle will ensue... I have a feeling you’re going to fit right in.

*(Master Rhodes and Gretchen begin to walk out)*

Melinda:*(looks over to Alex)* You might as well get over it Alex, she’s the chosen one... Let someone take some responsibility around here for once. *(Leaves out)*

Alexandra:*(to herself)* She’s not taking my spot.

**ACT 1 SCENE 4**

*It has been three weeks since Gretchen arrived at the Sirèn training facility. The young gods at the facility have warmly embraced Gretchen and look forward to her battle with the Manticore. Melinda and Alexandra have been mentoring the mortie, something Alex is still not fond of.*

Melinda: Alright that’s enough for the morning. You know, I think you actually have a chance of beating that monster’s wings off.

*(Gretchen blushes)*

Alexandra:*(scoffs)* Yeah right, she’ll be lucky if she goes home with both of her legs in tact.

Gretchen: I agree with Mel actually, I mean I’ve gotten way better since the first time I’ve practiced.

Alexandra: Just because you actually know how to hold a sword now doesn’t mean you have a chance of defeating the Manticore.

Gretchen:*(angrily)* Alexandra, I’m getting really tired of your attitude. If you have an issue with me being the chosen one, take it up with Zeus or maybe even Artemis, otherwise shut your mouth!

Alexandra: I would be frightened and take your outburst literally

but it’s very hard to take you serious when just two weeks ago, you couldn’t figure out which way to hold your shield.

Melinda:*(amused)* Want me to hand you two some swords?

*(Master Rhodes approaches from around the large Oak tree)*

Master Rhodes: That won’t be necessary Melinda. Leave the quarreling for Gretchen’s battle with that beast.

ALexandra: Master, I still don’t believe welcoming an outsider into our secret location is a good idea.

Master Rhodes: I understand your concerns Alexandra, but I assure you, everything will be fine. Besides, Gretchen belongs here *(smirks and walks off)*

*(All three girls look puzzled but head off towards the lake)*

*When they approach the lake, the sky that had once been a bright shade of baby blue is suddenly replaced with dark gray clouds. The ground starts to shake and rumble right beneath their very feet.*

Gretchen:*(curiously)* Does this happen often?

Alexandra:*(looking around as if she’s trying to find something)* If it did, we wouldn’t have had our facility built here.

*(The three girls hear a terrifying noise and notice a faint shadow flying away from the clouds)*

Shadowy figure: Scrrarchh!

Melinda:*(looks towards the sky)* I sure hope that isn’t Zeus. It looks like he gained a couple pounds. Athena probably tricked him into losing his vocals cords for cheating again.`

Alexandra:*(eyes slowly grow larger)* That’s not Zeus, you idiot. That’s the Manticore! Bring Master Rhodes right away!!

*Melinda turns in the direction towards the palace but Master Rhodes is seen running in their direction with his golden shield in his hand. He stops when he gets to Alexandra.*

Master Rhodes: I heard it when I was around the campfire... We need to get ready, quickly! Melinda gather the little gods and take them underground. Alexandra, bring the rest and tell them to be prepared.

Alexandra:*(pleading)* But Master, I can—

Manticore:*(even louder than before) Sscrraarchh!!*

Master Rhodes: GO NOW ALEX!

*Alex hurriedly goes to find the older gods.*

Master Rhodes: Are you ready Gretchen?

Gretchen:*(frightened) No*, this can’t happen now!

*Alex returns with about 100 other gods marching behind her.*

Master Rhodes: I know this is scary but you can’t back out now. We only have about 3 minutes before the Manticore reaches us.

Gretchen: I’m sorry Master, but I can’t. I’ve never done this before. This is too much responsibility! I wouldn’t even hurt a fly.

*Melinda reappears*

Melinda:*(jokingly)* Well isn’t that a coincidence, that thing actually can fly.

Master Rhodes: This isn’t the time Melinda! Look Gretchen, I know you can do this.

Gretchen: No, I can’t! I’m not even a god.

Alexandra:*(fed up)* I knew you couldn’t handle this. Hand me your sword.

Master Rhodes: Alexandra!! That is enough! Now Gretchen, you have the ability to save us. Look around... Do you really want to let your new friends down?... Let your own father down?

Gretchen,Alex,Melinda: FATHER??!!

Alexandra: What do you mean father? Surely Zeus couldn’t be.

*Gretchen is in shock*

Master Rhodes:*(calmly)* And he isn’t. I am.

*Before anyone can say anything else, the insanely large Manticore swoops down and pounces on Melinda.*

Melinda: Someone get this thing off of me! It’s breath smells like pure rat guts. *(swatting the beast’s face away from her own)*

*Before Alexandra or Master Rhodes can do anything, Gretchen stabs the smelly Manticore in its side.*

Manticore: AAarrgh!*(throws his claws towards Gretchen face)*

*Gretchen backs away, barely missing the attack*

Master Rhodes:*(surprised and yelling)* Gretchen! Be careful!*(throws her the shield)*

*Gods and goddesses including Master Rhodes and Melinda surround the hideous beast before them and Gretchen, their apparent hero. Each and every one, has a sword made of brass, and are in position, ready to attack if needed.*

Gretchen:*(to herself)* I can do this. I can do this. *(Stabs the Manticore in the eye)*

*Alexandra is looking down at the battle from a sturdy branch on a tall oak tree. Her sword is in her hand. She seems as if she’s getting ready to jump down.*

Melinda: Come on Gretchen! Get it over with! Chop the head off that thing!!

*As Gretchen begins to end the battle, she stops and looks the monster in its face. For the first time since the Manticore has appeared, she notices that the head of the Manticore resembles a human’s. She shutters at the discovery.*

Master Rhodes: What are you waiting for?! End this!

*Gretchen tries to bring her sword down onto the Manticore’s neck but before she can, Alexandra is seen jumping out of the tree and slices the Manticore’s head off. Before she hits the ground, she accidentally stabs Gretchen in the shoulder.*

Gretchen: Aah!*falls*

Master Rhodes:*(runs over along with Melinda)* Someone bring me a purple herb.

Melinda:*(on the verge of tears)* Quick!

*An older goddess runs off but quickly returns with a purple herb in a glass jar... Master Rhodes takes the herb out of the jar and places it on Gretchen’s injured shoulder. The herb starts to become transparent and eventually disappears into Gretchen’s shoulder... Melinda picks her up and hastily returns to the palace.*

Master Rhodes:*(furiously)* What were you thinking Alexandra? It was not your place to kill the Manticore!

Alexandra:(calmly) I did what had to be done to protect us. I am gravely sorry for injuring Gretchen but I am not sorry for saving every one of us.

Master Rhodes:The gods will not be happy. I am sure they will have some kind of punishment fall upon you for disobeying the oracle. You are an incredible disciple Alex and I pity you for the suffering you are going to endure, but you have to leave the grounds. I will not put my other students in danger because of your jealousy.

Alexandra:*(outraged)* I have done nothing but helped this facility grow!! But if you wish to have a coward like Gretchen defend you, then so be it, I will grab my things and be gone by tonight.

Master Rhodes: Very well then… Goodbye Alex.*(walks away along with the rest of the gods)*

*Alexandra is left alone*

***A*CT SCENE 5**

Gretchen: So you and mom agreed that I wouldn’t meet you until I was 18.

Master Rhodes: Yes, we thought that would be best. But as you have witnessed, the gods had other plans.

Melinda: Wait, so you mean to tell me that you never wondered where your dad was?

Gretchen: Of course... every once and awhile I wanted to ask, but my mom seemed to be working so hard to provide for me that I wouldn’t have to be worried about it. But she did tell me that my father wasn’t very far and that I would see him sooner than later.

Melinda:*(shakes her head)* I would’ve asked.

Gretchen:*(ignores her)* I’m really a demigod... wow!

Master Rhodes:*(smiles)* I hope you consider visiting again. It was a pleasure to see you.

Gretchen:*(cheerfully)* I think I will. I enjoyed being here.

*Later that night...*

*Alexandra is walking towards the chariot that awaits to take her to Mount Olympus. She has two gray duffel bags on each of her arms. Before she heads off, she looks back at the palace and smiles deviously.*