

WAR OF THE GODS

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"Out of every HUNDRED men in battle, there are TEN that
should not be there.

Another EIGHTY are nothing more than targets.

Only NINE are real fighters, and we are lucky to have
them, for they the battle make.

But ONE, ONE is a WARRIOR. And it is he who brings the
others home."

Heraclitus 2000 BC

SUPER: GREEK DARK AGES... 1,900 B.C.

FADE UP:

EXT. MOUNTAINSIDE - EVENING

Clouds fill the sky as the wind howls and the heavens rumble.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Men tell tales of heroism. For pride,
for history's sake. They tell them to
glorify their own deeds.

CUT TO:

A YOUNG BOY'S blistered feet drudging up the mountain side,
moving away from the sea battered coast.

NARRATOR (CONT'D) (V.O.)
But this is no such story. For there is
no hubris here...

The boy's woolen chlamys is sullen and torn, it barely covers
his chest as it WHIPS in the wind.

NARRATOR (CONT'D) (V.O.)
For this is the tale of the great hero,
Theseus.

The young boy/THESEUS continues up the mountain, dragging his
empty fishing net behind him as...

EXT. MOUNTAIN PLATEAU - CONT.

... SOPHIA, his mother, wiry and austere, spots him from atop
the plateau.

The site of her beleaguered son pains her but she does her
all to hide it when suddenly a RUSTLING startles her.

She spins around, peering into the growing darkness. But the
setting sun is of no use to her as the mountain peaks cast
down shadows.

SOPHIA
Is someone there?

No reply, only more RUSTLING and the faint sound of WHISPERS.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
Show yourself!

Sophia reaches down, picks up a STRIGIL, a sharp husking
tool, when just then...

... a stone STRIKES her in the head. She crumbles to the
ground as three TEENAGE VILLAGERS emerge from the weeds,
wielding leather SLINGS.

TEEN LEADER
Be gone, whore!

Sophia cowers back, struggling to regain her balance.

TEEN LEADER (CONT'D)
And take your bastard son with you!

They HURL more stones and surround her when suddenly -- a FISHING NET ensnares them. The teens turn and see Theseus charging towards them.

One teen quickly frees himself, takes aim and fires but Theseus is a step ahead of him...

... he avoids the strike, dives forward, rolls and rises to his feet -- CRACKING him across the face.

Despite being younger Theseus fights with a ferocity the teens cannot match. He wrestles the leader to the ground and grabs hold of the STRIGIL, about to cut him down when --

SOPHIA
Theseus, no!!!

A blood-lust fills his eyes -- but he heeds his mother and lets the teen go.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
So was life for young Theseus, for he grew up an outcast along the frozen coast of Northern Greece.

The teens race off, all the while cursing Theseus.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Many accused his mother of being a harlot and a gypsy. She was to blame when they failed to pull fish from the sea. She was to blame when there was a drought. It was always her fault.

INT. HOVEL - CONT.

Theseus enters, followed by Sophia. She moves to him but he walks past her, head hung low... his blood still boiling.

THESEUS
Why must we stay here?

SOPHIA
Please, honor my judgement.

THESEUS
We should move on.

SOPHIA
No.

THESEUS
Why? What purpose does it serve!?

Sophia sighs deeply, thinking.

SOPHIA
(pause)
Can you keep a secret?

He doesn't respond.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
Answer me.

He begrudgingly nods.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
You don't understand, this is something
you must guard with your life. It must
be more precious to you than the air that
you breathe.

THESEUS
What is it, mother?

SOPHIA
Follow me.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - EVENING

Sophia leads Theseus high up the mountain to a great boulder.

SOPHIA
Take note of this stone and remember it
well.

THESEUS
I don't understand.

SOPHIA
Try moving it.

He just looks at her.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
One day you'll be able to. And when that
day comes, you can leave this village and
join your father.

THESEUS
My father? What are you talking about?

SOPHIA
You are no bastard, Theseus. Your father
is a great man but he has an evil cousin,
a very powerful lord with fifty sons.
They are waiting for your father to die
so they can divide his land.
(MORE)

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

If they knew he had a son to inherit it, they would kill you. This is the reason we travel from town to town, never taking root. This is why we live like gypsies.

Theseus eyes her, taken aback, not knowing what to think.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

I swear to you, it's true.

THESEUS

Then what is my father's name?

SOPHIA

I promised him I wouldn't reveal his name until you were strong enough to move this stone and fight your enemies. And to that promise I am beholden.

Theseus turns to the stone. He places his hands on it and pushes with all his might. It doesn't budge.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Don't worry, one day you'll move it and your life will change forever.

ON THESEUS as he eyes the stone.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Theseus didn't know what to make of his mother's story. When he was younger she would tell him wild tales of the Fall harvest to raise his spirits and help him endure his hunger. And while this felt like one of those tall tales Theseus couldn't help but find some strange comfort in it, especially during the long hard years that lied ahead.

CROSS FADE TO:

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Theseus, now sixteen, powers through chest high water, dragging his seining net. Waves POUND him relentlessly but he fights his way to shore where...

... he quickly scours through his catch. Disappointment fills his face.

EXT. HOVEL - DAY

Sophia picks olives, but the branches have wilted. She does her all to remain strong as...

INT. HOVEL - NIGHT

... she makes a thin paste from the few olives she has culled together. She offers it to Theseus.

THESEUS
No, I'm fine. You eat.

SOPHIA
We'll share it.

THESEUS
If we do, we'll both be hungry.

SOPHIA
Theseus --

THESEUS
No, it's better that one of us be
satisfied than the both of us be left
wanting. I'm going to check on my traps.

Suddenly a BLOOD CURDLING SCREAM startles them.

EXT. HOVEL - CONT.

Theseus quickly emerges, carrying a small torch. He sees a
buzz of activity in the village as Sophia joins him.

SOPHIA
What's going on?

Torches move about and SHOUTING can be heard as the sound of
a terrible commotion nears.

THESEUS
Go back inside.

The noise grows louder, it's a dreadful combination of
trampling hooves, iron pings and heavy breathing.

Theseus pushes his mother inside and draws his dagger as...

... a huge shimmering mass charges towards him. Theseus
throws down his torch and takes refuge in the darkness.

REVEAL in the orange hue of the torchlight, a GREEK HOPLITE
warrior, encased in heavy brass armor atop a noble steed.

Theseus emerges, taken back. He has never seen workings of
metal like this.

HOPLITE ARCHON
You need not fear me. I am an archon to
the Great King Petros. I am in pursuit
of a demon.

THESEUS
Demon?

HOPLITE ARCHON
Yes. Have you seen anything pass?

THESEUS

No.

HOPLITE ARCHON

Take shelter then and be at the ready.
For these beasts know no mercy.

The Hoplite blares out a SIGNAL with his horn as he charges off. In the distance, Theseus hears the SOUND returned as...

... the hoplites' SIGNALS rain out like a chorus.

SOPHIA

(from the door)

Come inside Theseus. You heard what --

Suddenly a SNAP rings out, followed by MUFFLED SCREAMS. Theseus' hairs go on end as he turns towards one of his traps.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Leave it be.

Theseus thinks to himself.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Theseus please! Let the hoplites --

But Theseus races off before she can stop him.

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE - CONT.

Theseus approaches a pitfall trap, eyeing the dugout trench as something stirs below.

He cautiously raises his torch to get a better look. To his surprise he sees:

An OLD MAN, ensnared at the bottom.

THESEUS

Old fool, what are you doing out here?

OLD MAN

Please help me... my leg is trapped.

Theseus shakes his head in disbelief as he jumps down to help.

INT. HOVEL - LATER

Sophia uses spider webs like sutures, crisscrossing them over the OLD MAN's abrasions.

OLD MAN

Thank you, my lady.

THESEUS

You could have gotten yourself killed out there. Why were you wandering about?

OLD MAN

It is my nature. I am a wanderer.

The Old Man tests his leg as Sophia finishes.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)

Well done. I am in your debt.

He moves to exit.

SOPHIA

You mustn't go out there. A demon is about.

THESEUS

Mother please, such talk is forged by superstition and fear. Just as they call us omens of misfortune so do they call another a demon.

OLD MAN

So you don't believe in such things?

THESEUS

Not at all.

OLD MAN

Do you even know where demons come from?

Theseus shakes his head 'no.'

OLD MAN (CONT'D)

So you've never heard the story of the gods?

THESEUS

The gods? The gods are dead. Those are fool-hearted tales, for fool-hearted people. I only know that which is real. I put my faith in the secret of steel.

OLD MAN

Oh, I see.

Theseus draws his dagger, wielding it expertly.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)

Well, my young friend today fortune smiles upon you. I am a tinker, a wandering worker of metal. I know this secret and can forge you a sword if you so desire it.

THESEUS

I do.

OLD MAN

Then it is done. I will commission you such a weapon. All I ask in return is that you feed and house me while I labor for you.

Theseus and his mother share a quick look.

THESEUS

(hesitant)

We can house you, but the whole countryside starves. We have little food to offer.

OLD MAN

That you offer it is enough. It is settled. I will make you a sword, one that I know you will put to good use. But I must say, you are wrong to dismiss the divine, young one.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF THE PLATEAU VILLAGE - LATER

A HOPLITE joins KING PETROS, a broad shouldered nobleman, who takes note of some BLOOD splatter along a limestone till.

HOPLITE

My King, the miller says his daughter is missing.

KING PETROS

Rally the others, but do it *quietly*...

The hoplite races off as King Petros urges his horse onward, following the blood trail as...

EXT. VILLAGE FOUNTAIN - NIGHT

... Theseus approaches and dunks his bucket into the basin. He notices the water is dark with blood. A chill shoots down his spine as...

... he sees a BODY bob up and down in the far end of the pool. He jumps in and rushes over to help when...

... he sees entrails scattered about in the faint moonlight. He stops and takes in the gruesome scene when...

... from the corner of his eye he catches the water's waves rippling past him -- something is behind him.

He SPINS around and sees -- a DEMON -- an Orc like creature -- LEAP OUT AT HIM -- KNOCKING HIM back, PLUNGING him into the water, about to kill him when...

... the Demon let's out a guttural cry as KING PETROS drives his spear into its side --

-- using it like a jousting lance, lifting the beast off its feet, driving it out of the basin and onto the ground --

-- when suddenly the demon SNAPS the spear in half and yanks King Petros off his horse...

... sending him crashing downwards. King Petros quickly rises to his feet, draws his two swords and goes on the attack, SWINGING with precision --

-- driving one sword after the other into the demon's upper torso. Venomous black blood spews out as the demon crumbles to a knee.

The King moves to finish him when --

-- the Demon rises in a fit of rage and SMASHES him, sending him hard up against a wall.

King Petros tries to get his bearings as the beast charges in. He rips a torch off the wall just as the Demon leaps onto him -- thrusting it into its face.

The demon SHRIEKS wildly, stumbles back and races away.

King Petros slowly rises to his feet and turns to Theseus, who looks at him in awe.

KING PETROS
Are you injured?

Theseus shakes his head 'no' as several HOPLITES join the King.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
Don't let him escape. (to Theseus) Go home and stay *inside*.

EXT. PLATEAU - CONT.

The hoplites chase after the demon but it's too fast for them. It rounds a corner and disappears.

INT. HOVEL

Theseus enters, rattled.

SOPHIA
What happened? Are you alright?

THESEUS
I'm fine, it was nothing...

He moves past her and takes a seat on his bed, his heart still racing as...

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE

... the hoplites track the beast's path to a clearing. They spread out and an eerie quiet sets in when...

... they find a MAN, bloody and wounded, slumped up against a tree.

King Petros joins them and takes note of the man's injuries, they mirror the wounds he inflicted on the demon.

KING PETROS
Arrest this *man*.

EXT. HOVEL - MORNING

Theseus exits as a BELL TOLLS. He notices a CROWD gathering at the village square and races over.

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE - CONT.

Theseus weaves through the CROWD as a column of hoplites make their way to a platform where King Petros awaits.

In their custody is the MAN they captured the night before. His mouth is bound and he is restrained by heavy chains.

KING PETROS
(to the man)
There are demons amongst us, and you stand accused.

King Petros pulls a white-hot brand out of a fire.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
Let this test of fire reveal your true nature.

The man cowers back as the hoplites pull the chains taut, forcing him to his knees.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
May the gods have mercy.

King Petros drives the brand into the man's shoulder... The smell of burning flesh permeates through the crowd as Theseus looks on.

Only the man's MUFFLED CRIES can be heard when suddenly --

-- a terrible SHRIEK erupts from inside him as his gag tears free.

MAN
AWHHHHHHH!!!!

The pigment of his skin quickly darkens as his back arches violently and he struggles to stand upright.

The hoplites do all they can to restrain him, pulling hard on the chains as the man transforms into --

-- a DEMON.

The crowd cowers back with horror as THESEUS stands there frozen with disbelief.

KING PETROS
You spill innocent blood and have no regard for human life. You and your cult have forsaken man.

DEMON
No, it is you that has forsaken man for it is clear that you can be conquered. You will die soon my lord and your kingdom shall fall.

King Petros' face hardens as he raises his sword...

KING PETROS
Let this be an example then.

The King STRIKES the demon with his sword, gashing open its neck, before finishing him with a backhanded blow.

A shocked silence blankets the crowd as Theseus looks on.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
(to the crowd)
I know there are others amongst you demon in nature who spy upon us. Go back to Arachne, go and stand witness to what you've seen here today. For the people of this realm will fight. And for the wrong you have brought upon us we will avenge!!!

The CROWD lets out a CHEER.

EXT. HOVEL - LATER

Theseus approaches the Old Man as he works away on his anvil.

THESEUS
You said you know of demons.

OLD MAN
I do.

THESEUS
How does such a thing exist in a man?
How is it possible?

The Old Man studies Theseus.

OLD MAN

To understand demons you must go back to the beginning. You must know of the gods.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And so the old man began to tell Theseus a tale that had long been forgotten. He told him how the world was born and how...

The Old Man animatedly tells his tale.

OLD MAN

... in the beginning a ray of light tore through the chaos and Gods, the masters of light, and Titans, the family of darkness, were born.

WHITE FLASH TO:

EXT. VIRGIN LANDSCAPE - DAY

Lush, green fields with snow capped mountains.

OLD MAN (V.O.)

And the physical world as we know it was formed. Yet this infant realm was different, for it was pure, vacant of ambiguity. There was simply good...

HERMES, the messenger of the gods, an eight foot tall physical specimen, races across a field leaving a violent wake in his path.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

... and evil.

Hermes peers down at the TITANS' dark realm.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Soon this contrast became conflict. Conflict became war.

The Titan HYPERION, a dark rendition of Hermes, draws from his quiver and lets loose a volley of arrows.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The never-ending struggle had begun.

Hermes grins as he eludes each ARROW and in a flash, moves even faster -- BLURRING past the other projectiles.

CUT TO:

THESEUS listening to the OLD MAN's story, unsure what to make of it.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)
 For the Titans, whose only pursuit were
 to devour, kill and breed could not help
 but attack the Gods.

CUT TO:

TEASING SHOTS: A PHALANX of TITANS, led by their king,
 IAPETUS, weave through darkened woods towards Mt. Olympus.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 In turn the gods felt compelled to
 vanquish the Titans for they despised
 their evil nature.

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - NEAR MT. OLYMPUS

ZEUS, leader of the gods, hurls BOLTS, casting Titans back as
 Iapetus charges at him when suddenly --

-- MEDUSA emerges from the phalanx of Titans, eyes
 shimmering, casting GODS to stone.

ARIES charges towards her, FIRING ARROWS, three at a time,
 STRIKING her across the face, blinding her one eye as...

... the Titan giant CRYPTOS SLAMS down his mallet, sending
 forward a great fissure, causing a land slip along Mt.
 Olympus.

ROCKS rain down but the goddess ATHENA raises her hand, stops
 them in mid air and slings them at the Titans.

CUT TO:

The OLD MAN as sincerity fills his eyes.

OLD MAN
 And soon the earth trembled as the blood
 of these so-called "Immortals" spilled
 and those incapable of death succumbed to
 it.

CUT TO:

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - DAWN

The field runs with blood as a great fog blankets the
 battleground.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 Both Gods and Titans fell alike.

Slowly reveal various GODS and TITANS frozen in contorted
 death poses as the fog slowly dissipates...

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Still neither side would relent and the
 two factions battled on endlessly,
 incapable of conquering the other.

EXT. TITAN ENCAMPMENT - A MISTY MOON LIT NIGHT

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 Until one day...

The CYCLOPS and the HUNDRED-HANDED ONE stand guard when
 SUDDENLY an eagle swoops down and takes refuge nearby.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 ... Zeus convinced two of the Titans to
 abandon the ranks of darkness and take up
 arms with the Gods.

In SILHOUETTE the eagle morphs into Zeus. The Cyclops and
 Hundred-Handed One raise their weapons to STRIKE...

... but Zeus persuades them not to.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 And with this, reason and compromise were
 introduced into the world.

The Titans lower their weapons and take heed.

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - DAY

TEASING SHOTS: ZEUS leads the gods' charge as the Hundred
 Handed One launches a volley of spears that rain down on the
 Titans.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 Slowly, both the war and world began to
 change.

Enduring heavy casualties the Titans break rank and flee.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 For the Gods finally defeated the Titans.
 And those Titans not killed, twelve in
 total, were gathered and exiled to Mount
 Tartaros...

EXT. MT. TARTAROS - DAY

A mountain second to only Mt. Olympus.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 ... where they were imprisoned in a great
 hall deep beneath the ground.

INT. HALL

The twelve Titans clamor against the closing doors but to no avail as darkness engulfs them.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
And there the Hundred-handed One stood guard, sworn to never let this evil loose upon the world again.

EXT. HOVEL

THESEUS
But what of the demons?

OLD MAN
Patience my young friend. One event begets another.

The Old Man draws a time line across the ground.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)
Here is the dawn of time.

He makes a mark at the beginning.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)
And here, (pointing further down) the war of the gods. It was after this great war that the gods created "humans," beings they hoped would be noble, virtuous and pure.

EXT. ANCIENT GREECE - DAY

PEOPLE move about a thriving city state.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
For three hundred years peace and tranquility reigned and man lived free from hardship or disease. However, as the ages passed...

EXT. HOVEL

The Old Man's wiry finger runs along the time line.

OLD MAN
... the lingering shadow of darkness that spawned the Titans began to slowly reemerge...

INT. CAVE - DUSK

Mist slowly rolls out as the sun sets.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 ... it began poisoning mankind,
 whispering in its ear, twisting the
 truth.

A MAN stops in his tracks when he comes across the body of a
 dead Titan, miraculously well preserved.

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 For men were simple creatures, easily
 swayed and misguided.

INT. HOVEL

The Old Man talks with disdain.

OLD MAN
 Soon many men found themselves adrift.
 And as their malcontent grew they became
 bitter and ungodly.

EXT. VALLEY - DUSK

A group of SAVAGE MEN ambush a TRAVELER, stabbing him
 repeatedly.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 They ceased to pay tribute to the gods
 and heed their tales. Some even began to
 pledge their allegiance to the Titans.

INT. CAVE (FROM BEFORE)

The savage men in SILHOUETTE perform an unholy ceremony
 around the fallen Titan.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
 The most twisted and demented of these
 men began to eat of the few remaining
 Titans left on Earth. And through this
 black communion a new family of darkness
 arose.

A MAN breaks from the ceremony and comes under a shaft of
 moonlight. He is no longer a man...

OLD MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 They became demons, evil and wicked
 creatures, that could disguise themselves
 like men, but were in fact furious
 monsters hidden beneath a human veneer.

EXT. HOVEL

Theseus looks on intrigued.

OLD MAN

And so the peaceful dawn of mankind ended.

He points down to the time line.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)

And that is where we find ourselves today. Fighting an evil with ancient roots. One that many don't believe exists. But like you, when they see a demon they begin to believe.

THESEUS

I'm not sure what to believe.

OLD MAN

Last night you called me an old fool, well what are you? Nothing more than a young fool, too blind to see that which is right in front of you.

Just then a HORN blares out in the distance.

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE - CONT.

King Petros and the hoplites form a line of bronze and ride out of town as VILLAGERS pour out from their homes.

KING PETROS

(calling out)

You have all bared witness to an evil whose numbers grow with each passing day. Let there be no doubt, this threat is real and it must be met. But our realm is vast and the enemy swift.

The line's pace is slow and deliberate as a hoplite BLOWS his horn again.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

I ask all men capable of bearing arms to campaign with us. We will house you, feed you, train you. All that is required is the courage to come forward. Now, who's with us? Who will help us track down these fowl beasts?

Some begin to heed the King's call and come forward.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

Come, take up a weapon and join the line.

The hoplites let out a CHEER as each new man falls in.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
 And what of the rest of you? Who else
 will fight to protect the women and
 children of this land!?! Who else has
 the mettle to stand with us?

Several more men come forward as the line of bronze grows
 longer.

EXT. HOVEL - CONT.

Theseus looks at King Petros with deep seated admiration as
 the procession approaches.

HOPLITE ARCHON
 How 'bout it boy, are you with us?

Theseus looks up at the Hoplite.

SOPHIA (O.S.)
 Theseus, no...

He turns to his mother. The look of determination in his
 eyes sends a chill down her spine.

THESEUS
 (pause)
 I wish to fight. I have toiled here long
 enough. I'm sorry Mother.

Theseus decidedly moves past her and into the hovel...

INT. HOVEL - CONT.

... where he gathers a few necessities for the long march
 ahead.

SOPHIA
 You mustn't go. Please Theseus. It will
 be your death.

That stops him in his tracks.

THESEUS
 There is very little I have chosen in
 this life. But my fate will be my own.

SOPHIA
 Do you not recall that which I have told
 you. Your enemies are --

THESEUS
 Stop. Stop with your tales of
 nonsense!?! My enemies are here, Mother.
 And I am tired of being looked down upon
 and scoffed at... I know in my soul I am
 meant to do this.

SOPHIA

And I know in mine you are not.

Theseus looks at her, the scars on her face cut deeply in his psyche.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

In that moment, Theseus realized if he were to join this crusade his mother would become vulnerable. The village zealots still cursed her name in the night and talked of punishing her for her "ungodly" ways. It was only Theseus' presence that kept them at bay.

EXT. HOVEL

The hoplite archon approaches the Old Man.

HOPLITE ARCHON

What about you, friend? We could use a tinker such as you. Why not put your skills to the test and stand with us.

OLD MAN

I can only join you if the young master does. For my skills are betrothed to him for the time being.

Just then Theseus emerges from the hovel.

THESEUS

(to the hoplite)
I'm sorry I cannot join you.

King Petros shoots a look back at them as Theseus bows his head in shame.

OLD MAN

Well, it looks like there will be no call to adventure for us. Honor the gods and fight bravely my friend.

HOPLITE ARCHON

Old fool, you align yourself with a coward.

The hoplite spurs his horse and charges off as a look of disgust grows on Theseus' face.

OLD MAN

You have the will to fight, yet you stay. Why?

THESEUS

What's it to you, old man?

Theseus takes off...

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE

... he scales the sharp incline as anger fuels him onwards.

EXT. MOUNTAIN PEAK - CONT.

Theseus pulls himself up, where he spots the long bronze line, marching off in the distance, their armor glittering in the setting sun.

THESEUS

One day...

Just then he notices a RIDER on a BLACK MARE peering down at the procession.

EXT. RIDGE

The Rider spurs his horse, it rears up and takes off as...

EXT. VALLEY

... some gravel falls from the ridge. King Petros looks up, catching a glimpse of the rider.

KING PETROS

Euripides, Solon. (gesturing) A spy.
Follow me.

The king, EURIPIDES and SOLON take off on their horses, racing up the ridge.

EXT. RIDGE

The rider spots them and picks up his pace. They give chase as...

... the rider surges ahead and rounds a bend... momentarily putting himself out of the King's eye-line...

... where he quickly draws his crossbow, turns and takes

aim -- FIRING just as King Petros rounds the bend -- turning right into the oncoming ARROW --

-- he tries to dodge it -- but can't -- it grazes up against his shoulder -- tearing flesh -- WHIZZING past him and into Solon's chest --

-- casting him off his horse and to his death as he tumbles down the jagged mountainside.

The king hardly has time to react as the rider's crossbow rotates and FIRES again --

KING PETROS

Watch out!

-- the King and Euripides duck down as -- another ARROW BLISTERS past them, just missing.

The rider quickly moves towards an opening in the ridge. To the left lies a steep cliff, to the right a forest.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
We have to cut him off.

The rider starts to bend for the forest but King Petros quickly draws a crossbow of his own and FIRES --

-- forcing the rider to jerk his mare left -- barely eluding the ARROW as the King and Euripides fan out and try and outflank him...

... each time the rider bends right King Petros and Euripides force him left -- towards the cliff...

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
He's ours.

The ground in front of them begins to run out as they rapidly approach the edge.

EURIPIDES
My king...

KING PETROS
Stay with me!

A sly grin crosses the rider's face as he forces his mare to LEAP OFF the CLIFF --

-- King Petros pulls HARD on his bridle, doing all he can to stop, as does Euripides.

The rider sails downwards to his impending doom when suddenly...

... WINGS tucked beneath the horse's blanket emerge and the mare shakes off its helmet -- REVEALING it's not a mare at all. It's a CHIMERA, a winged half-breed.

King Petros jumps off his horse, long bow in tow, taking aim.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
Zeus, guide my hand.

He pulls hard, letting loose an ARROW that goes hurtling through the air.

CUT TO:

THE RIDER as --

-- the ARROW STRIKES him in the BACK and PIERCES THROUGH HIS CHEST. He slumps over in agony but manages to hold on as the chimera flies off into the horizon.

EXT. CAVES OF ARACHNE

The chimera swoops across a barren swamp, towards the caves...

EXT. CAVE - CONT.

... landing at the mouth of an entrance as the Rider clings to life.

INT. CAVE - CONT.

The half-breed weaves through a labyrinth of tunnels until it reaches a large cavern, deep within the cave where...

INT. CAVERN

... the DEMON LORD, the man who found the first dead Titan, holds court. He is a formidable figure, cloaked in dark armor, his BREAST PLATE emblazoned with the mark of the beast -- ABBADON.

RIDER (O.S.)
(gasping)
My Lord...

He hobbles over.

RIDER (CONT'D)
King Petros has ordered a decree. He comes for us...

The rider collapses to the ground as life leaves him.

DEMON LORD
So it begins.... (to his minions) The spilling of blood suits us. Let King Petros rise up against us, it only further distracts them from our true purpose.

The Demon Lord calls forward several demons so that they may hear his council.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
While most men had forsaken the gods and ceased to recount their tales the demons instead held true to them.

The Demon Lord speaks to his quorum.

NARRATOR (CONT'D) (V.O.)

They had not forgotten the tale of the twelve titans imprisoned deep beneath the ground at Mt. Tartaros. In fact they knew the legend to be true, and in some sense, this was their secret.

Two demons break from the quorum and return with a CHEST.

NARRATOR (CONT'D) (V.O.)

For it was this knowledge that brought them comfort in the cold hard years they idled in the darkness, growing in number and resolve.

As the Demon Lord opens the chest a fluorescent glow emanates out.

DEMON LORD

Behold, the shards of Iyisis have been found!!!

The Demon Lord pulls several crystals from the chest and raises them above his head.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)

Bring forth the prisoners.

Several hoplites, sans their armor, are brought forward in chains and arranged in a single file line.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)

Give them back their false courage.

The men struggle against their captors as their armor is clamped into place.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)

And give them their shields as well...

The Demon Lord picks up a bow and loads a shard into it.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)

Behold the reward of our labors here within the caves.

The hoplites stand at the ready, not knowing what to expect as...

... the Demon Lord pulls back on the bow's chord letting loose, HURTLING the SHARD forward --

-- it PIERCES THROUGH the first HOPLITE'S CAST IRON SHIELD, BRASS CHEST PLATE and BODY with such ease the MAN has a HOLE in his BACK before he even feels the pain.

The same goes for the OTHERS as the SHARD RIPS THROUGH ALL of THEM and imbeds itself deep within the wall behind them.

The hoplites stand there, stunned as...

... the METALLIC PANGS that RANG OUT with each PIERCED SHIELD ECHO through the cave. It's an eerie moment...

... the MEN crumble to the ground, one after another, as the HOLES in their CHESTS spew blood and take hold.

The demons let out a ROAR.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)
 (re: shards)
 We have discovered half the puzzle we seek. Let us find the great bow of Cronos and complete our task!

The demons let out another ROAR.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)
 Let it be known, some of those amongst the humans must stay behind and die at the hands of King Petros. Let him believe his crusade is succeeding while we bide our time and prepare for war!

EXT. HOVEL - EVENING

Theseus, tired and haggard from a long day, dejectedly throws down his nets as the Old Man approaches.

OLD MAN
 Don't be daunted my young friend. Your suffering is a gift.

THESEUS
 A gift?

OLD MAN
 Yes, you should honor the gods for it.

THESEUS
 I've had enough of this "gift." Let the gods be generous and honor someone else.

OLD MAN
 Ha! How little you know. When I look at you, I see taut iron steel. I see the will to fight. It is suffering that has forged that strength in you.

THESEUS
 And yet I remain here...

OLD MAN
 Patience my young friend. One event begets another...

The Old Man moves to his flume.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)
I've worked the secret of steal for you.

He draws the sword he's fashioned for Theseus.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)
I can teach you how to use it if you so desire.

THESEUS
(pause)
Why do you help me?

OLD MAN
Young fool, don't ruin a perfectly good deed by asking. Just accept what I offer.

Theseus nods slowly and takes up the sword as...

EXT. FIELD

... King Petros, atop his horse, charges after a DEMON, DRIVING a lance into its side. The beast struggles against him as...

... several hoplites storm in, further IMPALING the beast with spears, killing it.

KING PETROS
We must hurry, there will be others nearby!

The column charges ahead. As the dust settles and the men ride off REVEAL...

... DEMONS emerging from the tall weeds. One of the Demons uses hand signals, signing orders to the others. They slowly sink back down and take off as...

EXT. MOUNTAIN

... the Old Man rounds a bend, casting his shadow across a wall of rocks. Slowly the shadow begins to transform --

-- as the Old Man becomes a eight foot tall physical specimen, for he is ZEUS disguised.

ARIES (O.S.)
You betray your own bidding, oh king of kings.

Surprised, Zeus turns to ARIES, the GOD OF WAR, who emerges from the forest. Their bodies are scarred from battle, their faces hardened by the never ending struggle.

ZEUS
Don't be coy with me Aries.

ARIES

I thought we were not to intervene. Or does that not apply to you?

ZEUS

I simply said we cannot fight for them. And that I have not done.

ARIES

Oh, I see... I'll make that distinction clear to the others.

ZEUS

You'll do no such thing.

ARIES

Then allow me to help you.

ZEUS

No, if man is meant to inherit the earth they must do so on their own accord.

ARIES

Then why do you come to this one's aide?

ZEUS

Because soon the demons will attack and mankind will need brave men like Theseus to lead them.

EXT. CAVES OF ARACHNE - EVENING

The demons from the FIELD, cloaked in shadows, make their way to a large cavern where...

INT. CAVERN - SAME TIME

... more and more demons emerge, amassing in number as DEMON BLACKSMITHS distribute armor and weapons. They all make their way to...

INT. DEMON LORD'S CAVERN

... the Demon Lord, who addresses them in mass.

DEMON LORD

The day we reveal our true strength approaches, my brothers. For as our gathering hastens so does the dawn of our time! Soon all of Greece will tremble before us!!!

EXT. HOVEL

Theseus works up a sweat, tracking the Old Man's blade as he parryies his strikes.

OLD MAN
 Never forget what is most important in
 battle.

The Old Man points to Theseus's head.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)
 Speed, strength, numbers can all be
 overcome with clear thought and decisive
 action... Raise your sword. I will come
 at you with the high guard.

They resume their training as the Old Man attacks.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 And so Theseus endured as a terrible fate
 befell the rest of Greece.

EXT. CAVES

The demons CHARGE out, a stampeding tidal wave of death.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 For the war of the demons had begun.
 Like a sheer force of nature they
 overwhelmed almost all in their path.

EXT. THESSALONIKI - DAY

The Demon Lord leads his WAR MACHINE against the WHITE TOWER
 of Thessaloniki quickly overtaking the GARRISON of MEN there.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 One by one the city states of Greece
 fell...

A LONE MESSENGER escapes the siege and races off on his
 horse...

INT. HALL - MT. TARTAROS

... bringing word to King Petros and his court.

MESSENGER
 My lord, they are pouring out from Asia
 Minor, across Thrace. Up and down the
 rivers they come.

KING PETROS
 How many?

MESSENGER
 They are at least ten thousand strong, my
 lord.

HOPLITE ARCHON
 Ten thousand?

The messenger nods as the news weighs heavily on the court.

KING PETROS
(to the hoplite archon)
Make haste and spread the word of this.

The King dawns his helmet and takes up a sword.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
And gather the hoplites... For tonight
we ride for war.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
And while this struggle raged, Theseus'
village in the far corner of Greece went
untouched... until one day...

EXT. COASTAL RIDGE - MORNING

Theseus, now a young man, gathers his nets. He has grown into a physical specimen, with chiseled features and a body of wrought iron steel.

He hears a RUMBLE in the distance, looks up and sees a dust cloud envelop the village as DEMONS on horseback swarm in.

He quickly tosses down his nets and takes off.

EXT. TRAIL - CONT.

Theseus races towards the village as...

INT. VILLAGE

... The Demon Lord leads the charge, cutting down MEN and WOMAN alike. The air quickly fills with SHOUTS, AGONY and the SHRILL of CARNAGE.

Few MEN fight back as the VILLAGERS flee and run for their lives.

EXT. HOVEL

Sophia looks out her window, sees the CHAOS and rushes out as...

EXT. TRAIL / VILLAGE

... Theseus sprints into the heart of the bloodbath, moving towards his hovel, frantically looking for his mother as...

EXT. TROTH

... Sophia moves to a wounded BOY, leaning up against the troth. VILLAGERS race past them, driven by self preservation, unwilling to help...

... but Sophia grabs hold of the boy and pulls him towards her hovel as...

EXT. VILLAGE

... a DEMON on horseback charges at Theseus about to strike when --

-- Theseus rips a spear out of a DEAD VILLAGER, rolls forward and takes the horses legs out -- sending the demon crashing to the ground.

EXT. HOVEL

Sophia tends to the boy's wounds as...

... the Demon Lord kills at will. He spots her and raises his sword...

EXT. TROTH

... Theseus's eyes widen with horror as he sees the Demon Lord cut down his mother as he races past her.

THESEUS

NO!!!

EXT. HOVEL

Theseus hurries to his mother's side and grabs hold of her. She looks up at him as life begins to leave her.

THESEUS

No, please no...

She summons all the strength she has left.

SOPHIA

Remember the stone my son...

And with that she dies. Theseus pulls her in tight, embracing her... slowly his grief becomes overrun with anger.

INT. HOVEL - CONT.

Theseus enters, grabs his sword from beneath a goat skin and exits.

CUT TO:

THESEUS

CHARGING right into the teeth of the demon attack, fighting with a burning vengeance, swinging his sword with deadly accuracy.

Theseus spots him from the corner of his eye, but acts as if he doesn't as the Demon Lord raises his sword, about to strike when --

-- Theseus drops down, avoids the blow and SLASHES the Demon Lord's leg as he races past him.

THESEUS
Stand and fight me coward!

Furious, the Demon Lord begins to circle Theseus, when suddenly --

-- an ARROW RIPS into Theseus's thigh. The Demon Lord waves his men off. He wants to fight Theseus alone.

He dismounts and moves towards him as Theseus rips the arrow from his leg. He hobbles a bit as he squares off against the Demon Lord who...

... attacks, unleashing several strikes, all deftly blocked by Theseus but...

... it's clear that the Demon Lord is incredibly powerful as the blows' impact ripple through Theseus like a shockwave.

Theseus tries to counter but the Demon Lord matches him blow for blow. The exertion of battle and the Demon Lord's mighty counter strikes begin to take their toll on Theseus.

He feints high and swings low but his injured leg slows him. The Demon Lord takes advantage --

-- BLOCKS the strike and cuts Theseus with three precise STRIKES across the chest, arm and leg.

Theseus falls to a knee, raises his sword but the Demon Lord knocks it out of his hands and kicks him hard in the ribs.

EXT. MT. OLYMPUS

Aries goads Zeus as they look on.

ARIES
It appears his master failed him...

Zeus is furious as...

EXT. VILLAGE

... Theseus coughs up blood and the Demon Lord picks up his sword.

DEMON LORD
Where did you get this blade?

Theseus doesn't answer. The Demon Lord SMASHES him across the face.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)
 Maybe you didn't hear me.

Theseus remains defiant and doesn't respond as the Demon Lord kicks him again before handing the sword to his LIEUTENANT.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)
 Finish him.

The Lieutenant raises the sword, about to behead Theseus when --

-- a bolt of lightening CRACKS through the sky, striking the Lieutenant in the head, splitting his skull, killing him instantly.

The demons are taken aback as the Demon Lord looks up to the heavens.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)
 (pause)
 Fate doesn't smile upon you. It worsens.
 You will instead die slowly in the
 galleys. Take him away.

EXT. VILLAGE PATH

Demons clamp shackles onto Theseus and attach him to a long LINE of MEN they've captured.

Theseus can hardly stand as he is WHIPPED into motion by a DEMON. He blearily turns back, taking one last look at where his mother fell.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

The DEMONS lead Theseus and the men onto a jagged mountain trail and...

EXT. DUSTY PLAIN

... across a sun scorched plain, where they deny him water. Theseus trudges along, barely able to stand from dehydration yet somehow finds the strength to go on.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Theseus and the men are led onto a demon warship...

INT. DEMON WARSHIP - CONT.

... and down into the galley where two banks of OARSMEN line the walls. Theseus looks on with disdain as they chain him to an oar.

DEMON
 Row well, and live.

Next to Theseus are two men, STELLIOS, who bares the mark of a thief, and MEGALLOS, a big brute of a man who is mute.

STELLIOS

(to Demon)

May I use the chamber pot?

The DEMON unlocks Stellios and shoves him along. He stumbles forward, bumping into another DEMON.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

My apologies, great sir.

Stellios scurries off, pocketing the key he just lifted from the demon as Theseus takes note of his thievery.

DEMON COMMANDER

New men, know that you only live to serve this ship. Any insolence will be punishable by death.

MEN too ill to go on are pulled from their rows and run through with swords.

DEMON COMMANDER (CONT'D)

As you can see it isn't wise to test our mettle.

Theseus looks on as Stellios returns to their row.

THESEUS

(discretely)

I saw what you did.

Stellios gives him a hard look.

STELLIOS

Excuse me?

THESEUS

If you mean to escape --

STELLIOS

(cutting him off)

Listen friend, unless you want your throat slit I suggest you hold your tongue.

Stellios sallies forth a shiv.

THESEUS

It's only a matter of time before they discover it's missing.

STELLIOS

Well, that's not your problem now is it?

THESEUS

Unchain me and I'll make it mine.

The thief studies Theseus, not sure what to make of him.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

I can create a diversion for you, a ruckus beyond your wildest imagination. For I do not care if I live or die. I only endure so that I may spill the blood of demons once more.

STELLIOS

I don't doubt you my friend... But I cannot risk the company of a madman.

Megallos gestures to Stellios.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

I know what I'm doing.

Megallos gestures again. It's clear they have a shorthand.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

Don't worry, that big oaf (re: Demon) won't realize it's missing until he changes guard.

Theseus eyes the demon Stellios pickpocketed as he goes to remove a SICKLY OARSMAN.

THESEUS

I think you're mistaken.

Stellios watches the DEMON as he realizes his key is missing.

STELLIOS

Damn it...

Other DEMONS join him and they begin to look about.

DEMON COMMANDER

All of you, on your feet!

The MEN all stand in attention.

DEMON COMMANDER (CONT'D)

A key is missing. One of you maggots must know where it is! Speak up or I will kill you one by one!

He waits for a response but no one steps forward, suddenly --

-- the Demon Commander SLICES the throat of a MAN standing next to him. He CRUMBLES to the floor, spewing blood.

DEMON COMMANDER (CONT'D)

I told you not to test me.

He makes his way up and down the aisle, stopping in front of Megallos, about to make him the next victim...

... Stellios can't believe it. The Demon Commander raises his sword about to STRIKE when -- Stellios finally steps forward.

DEMON COMMANDER (CONT'D)
Do you have the key?

The Demon Commander rips him from his row.

STELLIOS
No, but I know who does.

He throws him to the ground and begins to kick him.

DEMON COMMANDER
Speak! Or it will be your neck.

STELLIOS
It was him!

He points to the first man who was cut down.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
I'll show you...

Stellios, pulls on his chain, moving to the dead man and with a slight of hand "removes" the key from the man's pocket.

DEMON COMMANDER
Give it here.

The Demon Commander rips the key from his hand and whips Stellios back to his seat.

INT. GALLEYS - LATER

Stellios is furious as he tugs at his oar.

STELLIOS
(to Megallos)
Of all the men he could have chosen, it had to be you. I should've let him slit your fat throat.

THESEUS
You did the right thing.

STELLIOS
Doing what's right is of no concern to me...

Stellios refers to Theseus by his oar number.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
... Forty-one.

THESEUS
My name is Theseus.

STELLIOS
Your name doesn't matter here. We're all
dead men.

Megallos gestures to Stellios.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
Stop with your gesturing. I'm not
talking to you. Teach Forty One your
tongue, I've had enough.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DIFFERENT DAY

DEMONS disembark the warship like wild marauders and attack a
village, scouring through it, setting it ablaze.

INT. GALLEY - SAME TIME

Theseus sees the plumes of smoke rise up through a porthole.

THESEUS
Why do they attack these river villages?

Stellios isn't in the mood for conversation so Megallos tries
to explain.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
I don't follow...

Megallos tries another gesture.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
Searching... they're searching for
something?

Megallos nods and gestures as if he's firing a bow.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
A bow? They're searching for a bow?

Stellios lets out a sigh.

STELLIOS
You two are gonna drive me mad. They're
searching for the bow of Cronos, alright.
(to Megallos) There I said it for you.

THESEUS
The bow of Cronos?

STELLIOS
Yeah, it's a legend. A myth. A fool's
tale from the third procreation of man.

THESEUS

These demons are no fools.

Megallos nods in agreement.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

Why do they seek it?

STELLIOS

(reluctant)

They say it is a weapon of great power, a
weapon forged by the gods.

Theseus looks at him piqued.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

This fool (gesturing to Megallos) told me
the story, he believes in such things.
That's why the demons cut out his tongue.
They didn't want him speaking their
stories.

Theseus turns to Megallos, who nods, "It's true."

THESEUS

Tell me this story.

STELLIOS

It'll cost you a day's ration.

THESEUS

I will give you three if I feel it's
merited.

The thief is taken aback.

STELLIOS

Your hate for the demons runs deep.

THESEUS

Just tell me the story, thief.

STELLIOS

Fair enough... the old ones say the bow
was a gift from the god Helios. They say
he gave it to the great King Argos, so
that he could rid the world of the evil
of his time. But the ancient king
realized that the bow was too powerful a
weapon for any one man to wield. So
before he died he hid the bow by a river,
unable to return it to the gods
themselves.

THESEUS

And now the demons wish to retrieve it.

STELLIOS
Yes, it's coveted by their leader.

THESEUS
(pause)
Is he the one whose armor bears the mark
of Abbadon?

STELLIOS
You've crossed paths with him, haven't
you?

THESEUS
Crossed paths... and swords.

STELLIOS
And you still live. That speaks well for
you.

THESEUS
And worse for him. For I will have my
vengeance. I swear it.

EXT. WALLS OF THEBES - DAY

The Demon Lord leads his WAR MACHINE against the city state's
defenses, breaching the gate with a giant battering ram,
forcing the MEN to fallback.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
As the fortunes of man worsened and more
kingdoms fell a last council of Kings was
ordered...

INT. HALL

A long line of KINGS and HERALDS gather around a table.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
All that could make the journey did. For
they knew they were losing this war.

CUT TO:

EXT. ISLAND OF RHODES

DEMONS toss ARCHERS from their positions atop the Colossus,
sending them crashing down to their death.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
For the demons now not only controlled
almost all of the mainland but they held
seize to the great seaways of Greece as
well.

CUT TO:

THE COUNCIL OF KINGS as they plan their strategy.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 There was only one kingdom that endured.
 Only one kingdom that pushed back the
 demon attacks.

EXT. WALLS OF MT. TARTAROS

King Petros mans the armorments with his HOPLITE WARRIORS.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 It was the realm of Mt. Tartaros. Word
 of their great resistance spread through
 all of Greece.

The King cuts down a demon as it tries to scale the wall.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 And so it was there, the last council of
 Kings decided, man would make its stand.
 They ordered all those willing to fight
 to fall back to Mt. Tartaros. And a call
 went out to the far corners of Greece.

INT. GALLEY - CONT.

Demons lead new PRISONERS onboard.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 It even reached Theseus there in the
 galleys.

ONE of the new prisoners talks with Theseus and the men.

PRISONER
 As we speak scores of men are making
 their way to Mt. Tartaros...

CUT TO:

New VOLUNTEERS and REFUGEES as they are hurriedly led through
 a hidden passage by a HOPLITE WARRIOR...

EXT. COURTYARD

... emerging behind the great walls of Mt. Tartaros. Fear
 fills the eyes of a VOLUNTEER as he takes in the scene.

VOLUNTEER
 Where is the great army that keeps the
 demons at bay?

KING PETROS
 They are here, manning the walls.

King Petros gestures to the several hundred men battling
 bravely above.

VOLUNTEER

We have raced to our doom coming here.

KING PETROS

Fear not, more men are on their way and today is not the day the our courage fails. For we will not go quietly into the night. We will fight and we will endure.

INT. GALLEY - CONT.

The new prisoner's face grows solemn.

PRISONER

The Demon Lord marches the strength of his army towards Mt. Tartaros. In two weeks time King Petros will face the full force of the demon assault.

THESEUS

(pause)

I for one have toiled here long enough. It's time to join this fight.

Megallos and Stellios shake their head in agreement.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DIFFERENT DAY

Demons load the warship with supplies as...

INT. GALLEY - SAME TIME

... Stellios trips on his way back from the chamber pot, bumping into a DEMON guard.

STELLIOS

My apologies, mighty one.

He turns and nods to Theseus and Megallos as...

EXT. DECK - DEMON WARSHIP - SAME TIME

... the hatch is lifted and DEMONS hand down a jug of water and an amphora filled with oil.

INT. GALLEY - SAME TIME

Theseus eyes the amphora as Stellios discretely unlocks their chains and they quickly spring into action.

Megallos throws a demon into a half nelson, covering his mouth as Stellios stabs him with his shiv.

Theseus grabs the demon's sword as the remaining three demons charge in. With unleashed fury, he cuts down the first demon, then the second.

The third thinks better of it, spins back around and goes to sound the alarm when --

-- Stellios CRACKS a whip, wrapping it around the demon's neck as it reaches for the alarm bell... its hand inches closer as it pulls Stellios forward when suddenly --

-- the demon stops in his tracks as Megallos grabs hold of the whip and yanks it hard, sending the demon crashing to the floor where -- Theseus finishes him.

Stellios shoots a look up to the deck. The demons above are still oblivious as they continue loading the ship.

A chorus of WHISPERS rain out from the men as Theseus tosses out the keys.

THESEUS
Free yourselves.

To his surprise they don't budge as they look at him wide-eyed with fear.

PRISONER
They will kill all of you.

STELLIOS
Cowards.

CRETAN/HERON (O.S.)
Hand it here.

Megallos tosses a key to a fearless CRETAN. He quickly undoes his chains and frees three of his fellow countrymen.

HERON
We are with you.

Theseus soaks a rag with oil, jams it into the amphora and lights it ablaze.

EXT. DECK

The amphora sails through the hatch, CRASHING onto the deck, EXPLODING into FLAMES.

The DEMONS rush to put out the fire as Theseus and the men race onto the deck and stop in their tracks.

REVEAL a LEGION of five hundred DEMONS on the river bank in front of them and a HUGE DEMON WARSHIP with a garrison of over a HUNDRED DEMONS behind them.

They're completely surrounded.

THESEUS
Well, all we can do now is die like men.

HERON

Agreed...

The men form a tight fist-like circle as the demons charge in, but Theseus and his men are a sight to behold...

... they cut down demon after demon with a flurry of blades, crushing blows and undying will.

DEMONS from the adjacent ship leap over to help their brethren quell the CHAOS as...

EXT. MT. OLYMPUS

... ATHENA, beautiful and intuitive, turns to Zeus.

ATHENA

He will fight to the death.

ZEUS

I know... Let us even the odds, one last time.

Zeus turns to POSEIDON, who nods back knowingly.

CUT TO:

POSEIDON

who emerges atop the precipice of a great mountain high above the sea. Winds whip past him as he dives off and --

-- sails down the side of the mountain, gaining speed -- the rocks behind him blur by as --

INT. SEA - CONT.

-- he BURSTS into the sea -- CUTTING through the water, SLAMMING his fist against the sea floor.

RIPPLES scatter out as the tremendous impact transfers to the water, pushing it upwards, creating a great wave.

Poseidon quickly rises to his feet and SLAPS his hands together, sending --

EXT. SEA - CONT.

-- the great wave forward, towards the ship as...

EXT. DECK - DEMON WARSHIP

... MORE and MORE demons engulf Theseus and the men. Slowly their bravery begins to succumb to the demons' numbers as...

EXT. SEA

... Poseidon's great wave RUMBLES forward, gaining intensity.

EXT. DECK

Theseus suddenly feels the warship lurches downward as...

EXT. SEA

... the water skirts back, receding into the sea as the huge wave approaches...

EXT. DECK

... sending demons stumbling backwards as an ALARM is sounded frantically.

DEMON LOOKOUT (O.S.)
BRACE YOURSELVES!

EVERYONE looks up in horror as the cresting wave blocks out the sun and SMASHES into the warship, sweeping all of them into the sea.

EXT. SEA

Theseus and the men struggle to keep their heads above water when the Demon Commander spots Theseus as he crests atop a wave. He lunges for him...

... but Theseus takes hold of the demon and plunges him underwater. It flails about but Theseus holds fast as the demon becomes listless and sinks to his doom.

THESEUS
This way men!

Theseus takes hold of Megallos and powers towards the shore.

EXT. SHORE

The men exert all their might, pulling themselves through the crashing waves... tumbling about in the white water before washing up on shore, unconscious.

TIME CUT

Water trickles onto Theseus's face. He slowly comes to and sees the Old Man standing above him.

THESEUS
Old Man...?

The Old Man hands him a goatskin water pouch.

OLD MAN
Drink...

THESEUS
What are you doing here?

OLD MAN
 Drink and I will tell you.

STELLIOS (O.S.)
 Who's the graybeard?

Stellios starts to come to.

THESEUS
 He's a friend.

Theseus turns to the Old Man.

OLD MAN
 You must go to the stone, Theseus.

THESEUS
 (taken aback)
 The stone...? What do you know of the
 stone?

The Old Man doesn't answer him.

OLD MAN
 Go there and fulfil your destiny.

STELLIOS
 If we knew our destiny, old man, we
 wouldn't be stranded here.

Theseus gestures to the thief to keep quiet as Heron and
 Megallos join them.

THESEUS
 Stop being coy with me, Old Man. Explain
 yourself.

OLD MAN
 The time has come for you to know the
 name of your father.

THESEUS
 What do you know of my father?

OLD MAN
 I know he is a brave King, but without
 the bow of Cronos he stands no chance
 against the demons. You must find it and
 place it in his hands.

STELLIOS
 You're insane, Old Man.

OLD MAN
 Why such trepidation, Stellios?

The thief is taken aback.

STELLIOS

How do you know my name?

OLD MAN

I know it as I know you bare the mark of a thief unjustly... It was your father that stole the fatted calf, yet you stood in his place, knowing that as a boy they would show you leniency. And so you began down a troubled path, eventually becoming that which you were accused of.

For the first time the veil of cynicism that cloaks the thief seems undone.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)

Stand with Theseus, help him on this journey and regain your honor... (to Theseus) You must not fail. The Demon Lord marches for Mt. Tartaros.

THESEUS

I know, I will meet him there and strike him down.

OLD MAN

No, you must find the bow first, seek the oracle of Delphi.

THESEUS

I don't understand.

OLD MAN

You will. Remember, one event begets another, my friend. Search out the Oracle.

THESEUS

But how will I know who to trust? There are three women who stand before the alter, safeguarding her identity.

OLD MAN

Fear not, the fates will guide you... But you must make haste, you have only ten days. If the resistance at Mt. Tartaros is vanquished the whole of Greece will be defeated.

The Old Man begins to walk away.

THESEUS

Old Man... don't go...

The Old Man moves behind an enormous deadfall. Theseus chases after him, rounding the bend, but to his surprise he's gone.

BEAT

Theseus stands there as the other men look on agape.

HERON

It's a message from the gods...

STELLIOS

Nonsense, he's a crazy old sage, nothing more.

THESEUS

You're wrong, Stellos. That old man is far from crazy. It was he who taught me the secret of steel.

They are all taken aback having seen Theseus' swordsmanship.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

(pause)

I will go to the stone and seek the bow.
And by the gods I will have my
vengeance... Who's with me?

Megallos steps forward and nods.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

Thank you my friend. What about you
Heron? Will you and your men join us?

The three Cretans all share a look.

HERON

We cannot return home... for we broke the
law of our people when we were captured.
There can only be victory or death for
Cretans... We are with you Theseus.

CRETAN

For glory and for Greece.

All eyes turn to Stellos.

THESEUS

How 'bout it Stellos?

STELLIOS

(pause)

The march to Delphi is a perilous one.
And now that vast waves of demon patrols
scour the countryside it only worsens...
Even if you succeed in slipping past the
demons, you still have to cross the great
gorge where many are killed.

THESEUS

Tell me something Stellos, do you want
to live forever?

STELLIOS
No, but I will not cast away my life with
careless indifference.

THESEUS
Then what of the Old Man's talk of your
father? Is it true?

The thief doesn't answer.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
Come to the stone with us. You have
nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Stellios considers it as he turns to Megallos, who gestures
to him, "Come on, let's do this."

STELLIOS
Alright... (re: Megallos) But only
because he talked me into it.

INT. FOREST

The Old Man rounds a bend and transforms into him.

ARIES (O.S.)
How long will we continue with this
charade?

Aries pushes past the thicket and approaches Zeus.

ZEUS
I will not let this one be denied his
path. He has the will to fight and the
courage to lead.

ARIES
But one man is not enough to turn the
tide, oh King of Kings.

ZEUS
We shall see. Man has surprised us
before. I pray they will tempt the fates
once more and prove you wrong.

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE - DAY

Theseus and the men move up the mountain.

HERON
Do you have a family, Stellios?

STELLIOS
No. I had a woman once but she drove me
mad. All she did was talk.

THESEUS
 (to Heron)
 And he is a man of few words.

Megallos grins.

EXT. STONE - MOUNTAIN - CONT.

The men arrive at the great stone Theseus' mother brought him to.

Theseus eyes it for a moment before pressing up against it, pushing with all his might... Slowly, the stone TOPPLES over...

... REVEALING an UNDERGROUND CAVERN

Theseus is taken aback as he enters with the men. Armaments line the walls... anything and everything a warrior would desire.

Suddenly Theseus stops in his tracks when he notices a great sword and a stack of gold coins.

He moves to the sword and examines its emblem.

STELLIOS
 (in awe)
 That's the emblem of the great King Petros... the king who makes the war on the demons. He is the one the Old Man spoke of.

Theseus is flooded with a variety of emotions as he holds the sword in his hands.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 It was in this moment that Theseus' heart became full. For as he stood there his soul ached at the thought of his mother. She was no harlot. Yet she endured that derision for him. She sacrificed the whole of her being so that he could stand there and behold this sword.

HERON
 I say to you, truly you are a prince.

Heron kneels down in front of Theseus as do the others.

THESEUS
 Rise to your feet, men. There are no princes or kings here... Fate has brought us together and now duty beckons us. We must find the bow and defeat the demons. Help yourselves to these armaments... for we will show the world what the valor of man can bring forth.

EXT. DEMON ENCAMPMENT - DAY

A HERALD brings word to the Demon Lord, who unrolls a parchment and grins.

DEMON LORD

Tell our warships to make for the port of Mt. Tartaros. Tell them we will meet them there in one week's time where we will be the hammer to their anvil. Now go!

The herald takes off as the Demon Lord clasps a small idol and a murmur of a DARK WHISPER can be heard in the wind.

EXT. ARMORY - MT. TARTAROS

Hoplites prepare for war, distributing weapons to young men and frightened boys.

HOPLITE ARCHON

Have heart men, we have no choice but to stand strong.

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE - A WAR TORN MARKET - THESEUS & STELLIOS

Theseus quickly buys horses for the men when Stellios notices several haggard VILLAGERS eyeing him.

STELLIOS

(pause)
Theseus, we should hurry.

With his back to Stellios...

THESEUS

One moment, we're almost done here.

The haggard men begin to converge around Stellios, he draws his sword when --

-- a BRUTE OF A MAN SMASHES him from behind, sending him hard to the ground.

BRUTISH MAN

I thought that was you.

The Man moves to strike Stellios with his sword when suddenly --

-- Theseus CRACKS him in the ribs with the side of his sword, PUSHING him aside, stepping between them.

THESEUS

The next one will be with the sharp of the blade.

The Man eyes Theseus as the haggard men surround them.

BRUTISH MAN

Step aside... I have a blood feud with this one.

THESEUS

What has he done?

BRUTISH MAN

He robbed my brother and then cut him down.

Theseus turns to Stelliios.

STELLIIOS

He's lying. I did no such thing.

Rage shoots through the man -- he moves to strike Stelliios but Theseus blocks it and with a quick twist of his wrist --

-- expertly brings his sword to the man's throat, spurring the haggard men to draw their swords.

THESEUS

This man rides with me. His word is bond.

Just then Megallos and the Cretans storm in.

HERON

Drop your weapons or we will end you!

The Brutish Man knows they're out matched as he eyes Stelliios furiously.

BRUTISH MAN

May your soul scorch for all eternity.

STELLIIOS

And may yours know better than to cross my path again.

The Man spits on the ground in front of him before taking off with his men.

Stelliios is furious but does his all to conceal it as...

... a RIDER, atop a black steed, discretely eyes the emblem on Theseus's sword before racing away.

EXT. MT. TARTOROS - DAY

The Rider charges towards the great acropolis entrenched on top of the mountain, sneaking past the demon encampments that lay siege to the city.

EXT. BEHIND THE WALLS OF MT. TARTOROS

The Rider weaves through the inner ward, the fear is palpable as the impending doom of the demons looms.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

While most men's hearts grew heavy, Lord Thanos was untroubled. For he was indifferent towards mankind and its suffering.

INT. MT. TARTOROS COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LORD THANOS, who looks vaguely familiar, is surrounded by his many sons as King Petros holds court.

KING PETROS

This is where we'll make our stand.

Lord Thanos makes note of the King's war plan as the Rider enters.

LORD THANOS

My king, I fear that isn't prudent. Let us not be betrayed by false courage. Think of the women and children of this land. To stay here is certain death. We must flee and take refuge in the mountains.

King Petros angrily shoots a look at him.

RIDER

(sotto to Lord Thanos)
My Lord, I have pressing word.

LORD THANOS

Please excuse us.

The two discretely move to a room where...

INT. ROOM - CONT.

... Lord Thanos closes the door behind him.

THANOS

What is it?

RIDER

I just bore witness to a man who bears the sword of King Petros... He was of the appropriate age.

THANOS

(pause)
Send word to the Demon Lord, let him know I seek his council.

The Rider nods and takes off.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

For Lord Thanos, unbeknownst to even his sons, had made the enemy of man an ally, so that he could finally sit on the throne he long desired.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Theseus and his men race out of the forest and approach the great gorge.

STELLIOS

Delphi lies on the other side.

HERON

How are we to cross?

Suddenly CRIES for help startle them. The men draw their swords and spur their horses onward...

EXT. GORGE OF DELPHI - CONT.

... stopping in their tracks when they lay eyes upon...

STELLIOS

The Giant of the Gorge.

The horses rustle about as the GIANT bends down two great trees and ties a MAN'S legs to them.

HERON

What in the name of...?

The man begs for his life as the Giant prepares to release the trees and rip the man apart when --

THESEUS

Stop, don't kill that man!

The Giant peers down at Theseus as he comes forward.

GIANT

Who are you?

THESEUS

I am Theseus, son of King Petros.

GIANT

Theseus, son of King Petros, move along.

Stellios cautiously joins Theseus.

STELLIOS

(sotto to Theseus)
He's right. Let's move on.

THESEUS

What has this man done to deserve this?

GIANT

He has answered my riddle wrong so he must pay with his life.

THESEUS

Ask me your riddle and if I answer it correctly spare him and allow us to cross.

The Giant mulls it over for a moment.

GIANT

Okay, but know this... if you answer incorrectly, all of you shall pay with your lives.

STELLIOS

You're mad, I agree to no such wager.

Theseus shoots StelliOS a look and after a long moment the thief begrudgingly concedes.

THESEUS

We agree to your terms, now ask me your riddle.

The men all look on with bated breath as the Giant asks...

GIANT

What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?

Theseus thinks... struggling with the riddle... fear begins to grow on the men's faces... StelliOS slowly reaches for his sword when --

THESEUS

A river. A river runs but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps.

BEAT

GIANT

You are correct, young sir.

The giant frees the man he was about to kill and lifts a great log, placing it across the gorge.

GIANT (CONT'D)

When you are ready to return, blow the horn on the other side and I will make the bridge anew.

EXT. TREE / GORGE

Theseus and his men quickly tie up their horses as the man they rescued approaches them.

MAN/NIKOS

I wanted to thank you for saving my life.
But I must warn you, you should not
venture to Delphi. The city has been
sacked.

THESEUS

Sacked...? How is that possible?

NIKOS

The demons rode in on winged beasts and
rained down death from above. They could
not be stopped.

THESEUS

What of the oracle? Does she still live?

That gives Nikos pause.

NIKOS

The oracle?

THESEUS

Yes, we seek her council.

STELLIOS

One moment, Theseus. What business do
you have here friend?

The man's brow furrows with despair.

NIKOS

I too was hoping to seek the Oracle.

STELLIOS

For what purpose?

NIKOS

(pause)
By telling you this I risk much.

STELLIOS

By not telling you risk more.

NIKOS

Of the three women who stand before the
altar, I know which one is the true
Oracle.

The men are taken aback.

THESEUS

How do you know?

NIKOS

Because she is my sister... The demons have taken her captive and are holding her in the mountain fortress. I gathered a regiment of men in hopes of rescuing her. But the road here from Patras is a treacherous one. I'm the only survivor.

The men all share a look as the Old Man's prophecy comes to pass.

THESEUS

Well, we must go save her then... It seems like fate has smiled down upon us both today my friend.

EXT. GREAT LOG - CONT.

Theseus and his men quickly pull themselves up and make their way across the great gorge, trying not to look down at the bottomless abyss as...

EXT. GORGE / PLAIN - CONT.

... they jump off the log and quickly make their way across a great plain. Off in the distance they can see...

... the city of Delphi as a wind whips past them, bringing with it the smell of death and destruction.

EXT. DELPHI

Stellios walks next to Theseus, out of earshot from the others, as they weave through the carnage of the sacked city.

STELLIOS

Theseus, there's something I must tell you, something I couldn't bring myself to say before.

Theseus turns to him.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

The man that confronted us... He wasn't lying. I killed his brother.

Theseus is slightly taken aback.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

I regret it dearly, but I cannot undue it... I thought you should know.

Theseus nods, when...

NIKOS (O.S.)

There.

Nikos points to a fortress that looms over the city from high atop a mountain. The men look up, daunted by the towering hike that lies ahead when suddenly --

-- a SHRIEK overhead startles them. They quickly take cover as a DEMON on a CHIMERA soars up to the mountain fortress.

HERON

Do you think we were spotted?

Theseus shakes his head, 'no.'

THESEUS

But let's move quickly.

They hurriedly make their way up the great mountain...

EXT. APEX / MOUNTAIN FORTRESS - CONT.

... and quickly take cover as they eye the fortress entrance.

STELLIOS

Remove your armor.

HERON

Why?

STELLIOS

Because we need to move with the stealth of a shadow.

He shows them the rustling sound the body armor makes when he moves ever so slightly.

HERON

Truly, you are a thief.

EXT. FORTRESS ENTRANCE - CONT.

Theseus and the men slip past DEMON CENTURIES and make their way inside...

INT. CORRIDOR

... where they discretely check the various bastilles as DEMONS lurk about.

NIKOS

(hushed tone)

She must be in the dungeon down below.

The GRUMBLING of DEMONS gives them pause.

THESEUS

Alright, let's go but be ready.

They move forward when suddenly --

-- STYMPHALIN BIRDS EXPLODE into the corridor -- WHIPPING past them -- A FLUTTERING STREAM OF BLACKNESS.

The Cretans are taken aback as they all quickly press up against the walls.

STELLIOS

Stymphalin birds... murderous fiends that heed the will of the demons... Thank the gods they don't have our scent.

They wait for the corridor to clear before quickly making their way down a flight of stairs to

THE DUNGEON

They slowly round a corner and see two DEMONS standing guard. They spring into action, quickly cutting them down...

INT. DUNGEON

... before entering and spotting a WOMAN shackled in chains.

NIKOS

That's her.

Theseus races over to the Oracle, taken aback by her beauty.

ORACLE

I knew you would come.

He looks at her curiously.

ORACLE (CONT'D)

You gave me hope when I had none.

He quickly frees her from her chains when just then --

-- DEMONS storm in. Stelliios launches a volley at them -- ARROWS ZIP through the air, finding their marks as...

... Theseus grabs hold of the Oracle and quickly rejoins the men.

THESEUS

Move!

They charge forward, right into the DEMON THRONG, carving a path through the FORAY and up the stairs.

INT. CORRIDOR

Suddenly, they see a horde of DEMONS quickly making their way towards them.

ORACLE

This way!

The men all look to Theseus.

THESEUS
Do as she says! Go.

The men follow the Oracle as she leads them down a

PASSAGEWAY

they race along, passing through two great doors when Theseus stops, turns back, goes to slam the doors shut when --

-- a pursuing demon SLAMS up against them, pushing Theseus back. The men rush over to help Theseus as MORE DEMONS pile up against the doors, forcing them ajar.

Stellios quickly takes aim, careful not to hit the men...

... ARROWS ZIP through the crack of the doors, STRIKING a DEMON between the eyes, ANOTHER in the chest... tipping the scales in the men's favor, allowing them --

-- to SLAM the doors shut and slide the CRASH BAR into place.

ORACLE
Follow me!

She leads them to a door at the far end of the passageway.

ORACLE (CONT'D)
This will lead us outside.

EXT. MOUNTAIN FORTRESS - CONT.

The men quickly emerge, spot some CHARIOTS and race to them as...

INT. PASSAGEWAY

... the CRASH BAR gives way, SPLINTERING into pieces as the doors swing open and a throng of DEMONS charge through.

EXT. MOUNTAIN FORTRESS

Theseus and the others take off as the demons funnel out and sprint after them but to no avail.

A sly grin crosses Stellios face as they pull away when suddenly his face deadens as...

EXT. ENTRANCE - MOUNTAIN FORTRESS - CONT.

... DEMON CHARIOTEERS, drawn by mighty black steeds, race out and give chase.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - CONT.

Theseus and the men spur their horses, leaving an arching spray of dust in their wake as --

-- the rising THUNDER of the DEMON CHARIOTEERS closes in on them.

EXT. ALP - CONT.

Theseus and the men funnel onto a narrow road that runs down the side of the mountain as...

... the demon charioteers continue to close ground.

EXT. NARROW ROAD - MOUNTAINSIDE

Theseus's chariot fishtails around a turn, careening near the edge. The Oracle holds him tightly as she looks down the jagged mountainside.

ON STELLIOS

he races along the narrow path, when suddenly --

-- a DEMON on a CHIMERA swoops down at him. He quickly ducks, barely avoiding the winged half-breed's strike as --

-- the Chimera Rider glides ahead, KNOCKING a Cretan off the side of the mountain.

ON THESEUS

he sees the Cretan tumble to his death as the Chimera Rider soars up and banks around.

EXT. NARROW ROAD

The men continue to race down the side of the mountain as the demon charioteers move within striking distance.

Theseus hands the reins to the Oracle, turns back and LAUNCHES a volley of ARROWS at the DEMON CHARIOTEER leading the pack --

-- ARROWS ZIP past the demon when suddenly one STRIKES him in the forehead, jerking his head back, hurtling him off the chariot, SMACK into --

-- a TRAILING DEMON CHARIOTEER, who TRAMPLES over him, loses control and FLIPS his chariot, setting off --

-- a CHAIN REACTION of CRASHES along the narrow road -- ONE DEMON CHARIOTEER SMASHING into ANOTHER while OTHERS CAREEN off the PILE UP, TOPPLING OFF the MOUNTAINSIDE.

ON THESEUS

he quickly takes back the reins and charges ahead, when he sees...

... THE CHIMERA RIDER glide up alongside the men, draw his crossbow and FIRE --

-- an ARROW PANGS against Stellios's shield as he deflects it at the last moment.

STELLIOS
Fowl bastard!

ANOTHER ARROW grazes MEGALLOS -- tearing his shoulder. He loses control of his CHARIOT as --

-- it CAREENS against the MOUNTAIN and RICOCHETS off, lurching in front of STELLIOS, who almost SLAMS into it.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
Whoa!!!

THESEUS quickly draws his bow and fires ARROWS at the CHIMERA RIDER, driving him away as...

... MEGALLOS and STELLIOS somehow manage to steady their steeds and avoid disaster.

EXT. NARROW ROAD

The road widens again as the men race down a steep straightaway, going faster and faster, bolting into

THE CITY OF DELPHI

Pillars blur into streaks of white as the men race past them.

EXT. NARROW ROAD

Demons quickly clear the road and give chase again as...

EXT. GREAT PLAIN

... Theseus and the men race out of the city and onto the great plain.

EXT. MT. FORTRESS

Demons bring STYMPHALIN BIRDS to the men's discarded armor, allowing them to latch onto their scent as...

EXT. CITY OF DELPHI

... the demon charioteers storm into the city, trying to catch up, whipping their horses mercilessly while...

EXT. GREAT PLAIN

... the Chimera Rider looms overhead as the men charge forward and the gorge comes into view.

ON THESEUS

he can almost hear the Demon Charioteers RUMBLE behind him as he races towards the gorge.

ON STELLIOS

he whips his reins when suddenly --

-- the chimera swoops down again, about to strike Heron, but this time the THIEF is ready for him --

-- he CRACKS his WHIP, WRAPS it round the chimera's front leg and yanks with all his might, wrenching the chimera down as --

-- Megallos quickly pulls up next to it and STRIKES the winged half-breed with a mighty blow. It topples to the ground and CRUSHES the RIDER as it WHIPS into a TRUNDLE -- BARRELLING towards --

-- THESEUS and THE ORACLE

THESEUS

Hold on!

Theseus's chariot hits the chimera in full stride, the impact knocks the Oracle off her feet as --

-- the chariot goes up and over the winged creature --

-- flinging the Oracle backwards. She reels off the chariot but Theseus quickly snatches her and pulls her back in.

She looks at him appreciatively as...

EXT. PLAIN / GORGE

... they make their way to the gorge and fishtail to a stop. Theseus grabs the HORN and blows it.

It ECHOES through the great gorge and sure enough goads the Giant forth.

Everyone looks on with bated breath as the Giant lumbers over to the great log while the RUMBLING behind them grows LOUDER and LOUDER. Stellios can't believe it.

STELLIOS

Come on! Come on!!!

EXT. GORGE

The Giant lifts the great log and swings it towards the gorge as the demon charioteers move in faster and faster.

Stellios draws his bow and fires ARROWS at the demons as the log drops down with a great THUD.

Theseus quickly helps the Oracle onto the log just as the demon charioteers skid to a stop.

EXT. LOG

Stellios and Theseus shoot at the DEMONS as...

EXT. GORGE

... MORE and MORE climb onto the log and chase after them.

EXT. LOG

The men race ahead when suddenly --

-- the STYMPHALIN BIRDS SWOOP down at them, casting a Cretan to his death as...

... Theseus and the men try to fight them off, charging through the FLUTTERING, CLAWING BLACKNESS when --

-- Megallos loses his balance. Stellios grabs him and pulls him back as they all manage to make their way through the chaos and crash to the ground.

EXT. GORGE

To their surprise the Giant bends down, picks up the log and begins to lift it as they take refuge underneath a ledge.

EXT. LOG

The Demons' eyes go wide with fear as the Giant raises the log. Many lose their footing and fall into the bottomless abyss while others hang on for dear life as...

EXT. GORGE

... the Giant shakes the log, sending the last remaining demons to their death. Their SCREAMS echo up the great gorge scattering the Stymphalin birds, sending them away.

Relieved, Theseus emerges.

THESEUS

Thank you.

GIANT

Thank you...? They didn't answer my riddle.

EXT. TREES / GORGE

Theseus and the men race to their horses and quickly untie them as the Oracle embraces her brother, Nikos.

ORACLE
I thought you had forgotten me...

NIKOS
Never.

He hugs her back as Theseus approaches on horseback.

THESEUS
We must hurry. (to the Oracle) You'll ride with me.

He pulls her onto his steed.

STELLIOS
(to Oracle's brother)
You can ride with Heron.

Heron shoots Stellios a look as the Oracle's brother joins him.

EXT. PLAIN

Flowing torrents of DEMONS stream across the field, marching to the DRUMS of WAR.

In the distance Mt. Tartaros comes into view, now only three days away as Lord Thanos, on top of a chimera, swoops down and lands.

INT. DEMON LORD'S TENT - CONT.

He enters and all the DEMONS kneel as he transforms into the Demon Lord. The Demon Lord and Lord Thanos are one and the same. He was the man that discovered the first Titan.

DEMON LORD
Assemble my war council.

EXT. FOREST - LATER

Heron presses a white hot blade against a cut. His skin SIZZLES but he holds fast as Stellios and Megallos look on.

HERON
Are you ready?

Stellios nods as Heron brings the blade to a gash on his arm.

STELLIOS
Ah, damn it!

Stellios pulls away.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
How the hell do you do it?

HERON
(grinning)
You just have to convince yourself it
doesn't hurt.

ON THESEUS

He notices the Oracle sitting in a clearing nearby, looking
out at nothing when Nikos approaches.

NIKOS
Tread lightly, for she's been through a
terrible ordeal... The demons tortured
her but she refused to succumb to their
will.

Theseus nods as Heron moves to Nikos.

HERON
How 'bout it friend, that's quite a cut
you have there.

NIKOS
Where I come from we suture our wounds,
we don't brand yourselves like cattle.

HERON
Really?

Heron steps forward.

NIKOS
Keep that thing away from me.

Nikos cowers back, tripping over a log. The men LAUGH as he
crashes to the ground.

EXT. CLEARING

Theseus makes his way over to the Oracle. He's not sure what
to say when...

ORACLE
Thank you for rescuing me.

THESEUS
There's no need to thank me.

ORACLE
Yes there is, such bravery always merits
gratitude.

Theseus looks at her, piqued as he wonders...

ORACLE (CONT'D)
 You need not worry, I'm fine.

He's taken aback.

THESEUS
 Can you read a man's thoughts?

ORACLE
 Not all of them, just the ones I'm
 afforded.

THESEUS
 And which are those?

ORACLE
 The ones the fates decide to give me...
 And that same providence behoves me to
 tell you this... You must go to
 Monovoshia. There you will find the bow
 hidden by a river.

Theseus is taken aback.

ORACLE (CONT'D)
 What gives you pause?

THESEUS
 Monovoshia is a three day journey from
 here. If you are mistaken, there will be
 no recourse.

ORACLE
 Fear not Theseus, I am sure. For long
 ago the order of oracles was entrusted
 with this secret, sworn to protect it
 until the day came when man would need
 the bow once more.

She turns and looks at him.

ORACLE (CONT'D)
 Only then was it meant to be revealed to
 the man it was destined for.

THESEUS
 (pause)
 What makes you think I'm that man?

She smiles at him confidently.

ORACLE
 Well, aren't you?

THESEUS
 All I know is that I seek vengeance
 against the demons.

She looks at him, slightly taken aback -- that was not the response she expected.

ORACLE

There is something else you should know.
Something I must tell all of you... Can
you gather the men?

Theseus nods as he gets up...

EXT. FOREST - CONT.

... and moves to his horse.

THESEUS

Prepare to push on.

STELLIOS

Where to Theseus?

THESEUS

We must make our way to the coast.
(pause) Where is Nikos?

Stellios looks about when just then Nikos emerges from a thicket.

NIKOS

I am here, Theseus.

THESEUS

You said you were from Patras. Is that
not the closest port?

NIKOS

It is.

Theseus nods as he sees the Oracle approach.

THESEUS

Gather 'round men. (to Oracle) They're
all yours.

ORACLE

Before you all forge ahead, know this...
In order for you to succeed in this
quest, to find the bow and win this war,
all of you but one must die.

They're all taken aback.

ORACLE (CONT'D)

Only with this sacrifice can you succeed.

THESEUS

Are you sure?

ORACLE

Yes. Are not two of the seven that set
out on this journey already dead?

They don't have to answer as they think of the dead Cretans.

ORACLE (CONT'D)

Four more must fall.

STELLIOS

Do you know which one of us will live?

ORACLE

No. But know this, if at any point you
decide to turn back, your fates will be
recast and you will be spared.

Her words hang heavily in the air.

THESEUS

I don't believe one's fate can be cast.
A man's life is what he makes it. But
there are greater forces at work here.
That I cannot deny.

Theseus shoots them all a look.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

But there are worse fates than death...
We mustn't shy away from this my friends.
For this struggle is greater than all of
us.

That resonates with the men.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

When we were slaves in the galleys would
we have not killed for a chance like
this...? I say we press on.

The air goes still as Theseus looks at the men, trading nods
with each of them, not a word is uttered, not a word is
needed.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

It's an honor to stand with all of you.

Theseus holds out his hand.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

To the death.

The men join him, stacking their hands on top of his.

ALL THE MEN

(in unison)

To the death.

EXT. DEMON LORD TENT - DAY

The Demon Lord grasps his idol and closes his eyes as the WHISPER of BLACK SPEECH murmurs in the wind when --

-- a RIDER hurriedly enters.

RIDER
Excuse me, my Lord.

The Demon Lord slowly opens his eyes, his gaze chilling.

RIDER (CONT'D)
The oracle has been freed.

Surprisingly, the Demon Lord is pleased.

DEMON LORD
Good... Were they convinced of our ploy?

RIDER
Yes, we pursued them valiantly.

DEMON LORD
Well done... Now leave me.

EXT. PORT

The men and Oracle stealthily ride towards an inlet and dismount as they eye the demon ships at dock.

THESEUS
Stellios, I'm going to need your help.

CUT TO:

EXT. BAY

Theseus and Stellios slip into the water and swim towards a small demon seacraft, daggers clenched between their teeth.

EXT. SEACRAFT - CONT.

They deftly pull themselves on board, sneaking up on two DEMON GUARDS, THRUSTING their daggers into their spines.

Stellios quietly rolls them into the water as Theseus sets sail and...

EXT. INLET - LATER

... steers the seacraft towards a sandbar where the Oracle and others await. They quickly board and take off.

EXT. IONIAN SEA - NIGHT

A storm kicks up as waves batter the seacraft but Theseus stands resolute, piloting them onwards.

EXT. SEACRAFT - MORNING

The storm breaks as Theseus eyes the horizon.

ORACLE (O.S.)
Is there no rest for the weary?

He turns to the Oracle.

THESEUS
Now is not the time to relent.

BEAT

ORACLE
Theseus, you tread a perilous path...

He doesn't respond.

ORACLE (CONT'D)
I know what drives you... I too saw your mother fall. Just as I saw that you would rescue me. But you mustn't succumb to this hate.

THESEUS
It is not hate that drives me.

ORACLE
Then what is it? Vengeance?

THESEUS
It's more than just vengeance.

He looks at her for a moment.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
A sage old man once told me that if you were to die bravely in this world Hades would award you the Elysian Fields, a vast paradise for the blessed dead. When I was young I didn't believe in such things but life has shown me the truth of this old man's wisdom.

She looks at him curiously.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
I only pray that with all the world's evil gathered against us I too can die bravely, so that I may see my mother once more and thank her for her great sacrifice... And if the fates allow me to strike down my enemies as I make my way to this end, so be it.

EXT. SEA / MONOVOSHIA

The seacraft approaches MONOVOSHIA... a great mountain peninsula flanked by tide pools and ashen black beaches.

EXT. SHORE - CONT.

They all pile out and make their way up the beach.

STELLIOS
What are we looking for?

ORACLE
We'll know when we find it.

They hurriedly scour the island, looking for any intimation that may lead them to the bow.

TIME CUT

Discouragement sets in but they push on, eventually coming across an EDIFICE SHROUDED BY PLANT GROWTH. They look at it curiously.

ORACLE (CONT'D)
It's an altar to the gods.

Theseus cuts through the foliage slowly revealing... an emblem etched in stone. Megallos gestures to Stellios.

STELLIOS
He says it's the mark of Helios... the gods' archer.

Theseus runs his hand over the emblem, carefully examining the brick before taking out his dagger and prying it loose...

... discovering an inscription on the back of the brick.

THESEUS
(reading)
Stand ready at the golden hour and look upon the gods' great flower, there you must go, for it leads to the mighty bow.

They are all taken aback as they mull over the riddle.

ORACLE
The god's great flower is the carnation.

Theseus looks up at the sun as it nears the horizon.

THESEUS
And the golden hour approaches.

EXT. MOUNTAIN TOP - MONOVOSHIA

They scour the landscape for the flower but to no avail.

They begin to lose heart as the sun sets and a golden light fills the sky, when suddenly --

EXT. RIVER

-- a fierce low tide rapidly draws the waters of the river out to sea, leaving the riverbed dry.

BACK ON MEN

They look down in awe as a SHEPHERD crosses the riverbed, weaving past several waterholes.

THESEUS
(pause)
Look there.

Theseus points to a waterhole.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
What does that look like?

They all eye it for a moment.

ORACLE
It's shaped like the gods' flower...

THESEUS
Hidden out in the open.

EXT. RIVERBED

Theseus kneels down next to the waterhole and cups some water with his hand, bringing it to his mouth.

THESEUS
This water is not from the sea.

Theseus unstraps his cuirass.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
It's probably a fresh water spring from one of the mountains nearby.

HERON
Can we swim it or do we die trying?

THESEUS
No need for all of us to risk our lives. I'll go it alone.

The Oracle steps forward.

ORACLE
I'd like to come with you.

THESEUS
No, stay here.

Concern fills her face.

ORACLE
Then take this.

She ties her dagger around his waist.

ORACLE (CONT'D)
And be careful.

THESEUS
Don't worry, I've come too far to die
here.

INT. WATER SPRING

Theseus PLUNGES through the surface and pulls himself along with powerful strokes as...

... the spring narrows and the light behind him fades. He moves along, deeper and deeper into...

... the darkness that lies ahead, doing his all to stay calm as he feels his way along the walls of the narrow, downward arching spring.

His face begins to turn blue as he forges ahead, only now reaching the lowest point of the spring.

He quickly pushes off the nadir and ascends, rapidly making his way up the other half of the arching spring...

... oxygen all but gone now as he moves faster and faster, light barely visible above as --

-- he bursts through the surface, gasping for air... right in the middle of an...

... UNDERGROUND LAKE, DEEP WITHIN THE MOUNTAIN

Theseus fills his burning lungs as he slowly makes his way to the shore, rising out of the water when...

... a FERAL GROWL makes his hairs go on end. He slowly turns towards a dark tunnel as...

... beastly eyes come into view, sizing him up. Theseus draws his sword just as the CAVERN BEAST leaps out at him --

-- closing the ground between them in an instant, attacking Theseus with a tenacity unlike any he's ever come across.

Theseus wields his sword expertly, deflecting the onslaught as best he can when --

-- the cavern beast connects with a BLOW, sending him hard to the ground.

The beast storms in as Theseus rises to his feet, dodges the beast's charge and goes on the attack, SWINGING with precision --

-- But the beast doesn't relent as it charges in again --

-- Theseus side-steps it, and is about to strike when he loses his footing on the slick algae that blankets the cavern floor, CRASHING down hard as --

-- the beast pounces on him, knocking the sword from his hand and striking him across the chest.

Blood spews as Theseus tries to get his bearings when suddenly --

-- the beast goes for the kill, striking out at his jugular just as --

-- Theseus rips the dagger from his waist and slams it in the underside of the beast's jaw, pushing it through its head and out its skull.

The cavern beast topples over and dies as Theseus slowly rises, eyeing the Oracle's dagger.

EXT. RIVERBED

The Oracle and men wait impatiently when they notice the water flowing back into the riverbed as the tide rises.

STELLIOS

Damn it... Heron, come on we have to go in after him.

Heron doesn't budge as Stellios quickly unstraps his cuirass.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

What's a matter?

HERON

I can't do it.

STELLIOS

Why not?

HERON

I just can't.

STELLIOS

Heron --

HERON

No. I cannot bare narrow passages. I'm sorry...

Stellios begins to laugh.

STELLIOS

Narrow passages? We'll drown before your
fear does us in. Come on.

Heron begrudgingly unstraps his cuirass as...

INT. UNDERGROUND LAKE

... Theseus hurriedly scours the cavern... and there in the
dark depths he finds... the Great bow of Cronos.

He picks it up and sees it is truly a work of the gods for a
stream of lightening forms a cord and BUZZES with
electricity.

THESEUS

By the gods...

He pulls on the "cord" and a bolt of lightening forms.

He lets loose, HURTLING the BOLT forward. It STRIKES a wall,
SCORCHING the STONE, EXPLODING into a mushroom cloud of
sparks, illuminating the entire cavern.

EXT. RIVERBED

Stellios prepares to dive into the waterhole as the tide
rises faster and faster around them, when just then --

-- Theseus emerges triumphantly with the bow.

STELLIOS

Is that it?

Theseus nods. Relief crosses their faces as the Oracle eyes
Theseus' wound.

THESEUS

(off look)
I'm fine.

They quickly move to flee when --

-- DEMONS pour out from the forest... tens, hundreds, an
entire LEGION.

The men form a defensive circle, swords poised when --

-- they see the great power of the bow as Theseus unleashes a
BOLT -- striking a DEMON PHALANX, hurtling a row of demons
back with a single BLAST.

STELLIOS

By the gods...

FEAR spreads through the demon rank and file as a volley of
BOLTS SLAM into them -- charring them alive as the tide
RUMBLES in behind them.

Theseus continues to FIRE AWAY, when suddenly --

-- a vast torrent rushes in like water released from a dam. The deluge SLAMS into the DEMONS and MEN, sweeping them away.

INT. DELUGE - CONT.

Theseus is throw into a swirl, tumbling head over heels -- SLAMMING up against a rock. The bow slips out of his hand.

EXT. RIVER BANK - A LITTLE LATER

Theseus washes ashore and slowly comes to, awoken by the BUZZ of the bow. He looks up and sees...

... a DEMON aiming it at him.

DEMON
You wield the power of the gods, but you
are not a god. You are only a man.

The Oracle, who has washed up nearby with the others, cries out as the Demon pulls back the cord, about to strike Theseus dead when suddenly --

-- the demon is SMASHED by the great HAMMER of ARIES, the God of War.

The DEMONS cower back as ARIES, an EIGHT FOOT TALL WARRIOR, swings his hammer, casting demons through the air.

The men look on with disbelief as Aries bends down, picks up the bow and TOSSES it to Theseus.

ARIES
(to the stunned men)
MOVE!

Together, they plow down demons as Theseus fires the bow and Aries continues to dispatches demons.

Megallos gestures to the thief.

STELLIOS
Yes, I believe you now!

The Oracle and others race behind Aries and Theseus as they quickly escape into the forest.

INT. FOREST - CONT.

They make their way to a clearing where Athena waits with ETRUSCAN HORSES.

ARIES
(to Theseus)
Hurry.
(MORE)

ARIES (CONT'D)

You must get the bow to your father...
The great battle of this time begins.

They quickly move to the horses as Athena whispers in the lead horse's ear.

ATHENA

(to Theseus)

These horses will make the three day journey in half the time. You need not give them rest. They will ride to their death.

THESEUS

We are indebted to you.

ATHENA

And we to you. Gods' speed, Theseus.

He nods as they quickly ride off.

EXT. MT. TARTAROS - DAY

LEGIONS of DEMONS position GREAT SIEGE TOWERS and CATAPULTS as the demon warships ready themselves along the shore.

EXT. PASTURE - ON HORSEBACK - MOVING

Beads of sweat form on Theseus's face as his wound becomes infected... but he fights through the pain as he leads the men past war torn hills.

EXT. HINTERLAND - ON HORSEBACK - MOVING - NEXT DAY

The Oracle takes note as Theseus's infection worsens... he struggles to keep his eyes open as he burns with fever.

ORACLE

We need to stop.

THESEUS

No, we must push on!

EXT. RIDGE - EVENING

Finally Theseus pulls his horse to a halt as a vast demon encampment comes into view in the valley below.

STELLIOS

(taken aback)

They must be ten thousand strong.

THESEUS

We can't risk crossing now. We must wait for the cover of night.

The men wearily dismount as the Oracle approaches Theseus.

ORACLE

I must tend to your wound.

He looks at her for a moment.

ORACLE (CONT'D)

I wasn't asking.

EXT. FIELD - A LITTLE LATER

Theseus leans up against a tree as the Oracle approaches with a kylix filled with herbs.

ORACLE

Here, drink this, it'll help ease your affliction.

He can't help but be taken by her as she tends to his wound. She looks up at him and he turns away...

... But it's no use, she knows how he feels. She smiles graciously.

ON THE MEN

They make preparations for a quick rest.

NIKOS

I don't sleep much. I'll stand guard.

The men nod appreciatively as Stelliios moves towards Theseus. He can't help but eye the bow.

Theseus feels his stare. He exchanges a look with the thief and pulls the bow in tight.

ON MEGALLOS

he prays, spurring on Heron to do the same.

HERON

Ancestors, have mercy upon me and bring me your solace and wisdom, for I seek your guidance. Help me honor you as I try to live with the grace you've bestowed upon me.

ON THESEUS AND THE ORACLE

She continues mending his wound.

THESEUS

So how does one become an oracle?

ORACLE

You don't become an oracle, you're born that way... whether you like it or not.

THESEUS
You say it as if it's a curse.

ORACLE
It's a curse and a blessing.

THESEUS
All gifts are...

He sees pain in her eyes as she turns away from him. He gets up and moves closer to her.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
What is it?

ORACLE
(pause)
Of all the visions I've had, this one is the most difficult to bear.

Theseus follows her eye-line and sees... Nikos standing guard, a little ways off.

THESEUS
I can't imagine what it must feel like to know that your brother may die.

She turns to him.

ORACLE
It wasn't my brother I was thinking of.

Theseus looks at her for a moment before he moves in and kisses her.

EXT. FOREST - NEAR MT. OLYMPUS

Aries and Athena race back when suddenly they come upon Helios and DIONYSUS.

HELIOS
This time you've gone too far.

Aries looks away with disdain as he pushes past them.

DIONYSUS
You were wrong to intervene so boldly, Aries.

ARIES
Were we? Do you have the gift of foresight? (to Helios) Do you?

ZEUS (O.S.)
No. But you betrayed my bidding nonetheless.

They all turn to Zeus, who emerges from the forest.

ARIES

You, most of all should agree.

ZEUS

We cannot fight for them.

ATHENA

But an evil looms my lord, something far greater than the whisper that leads the demons. I know not what it is, but I can sense it.

ZEUS

(pause)

I know what you speak of, I feel it too. It is the lingering shadow of the Titans. Iapetus, their leader, calls out to them from his prison. But we need not fear, for behind the great doors he shall remain. (pause) And if the courage of man fails, if the freedom we've given them goes astray, we'll wash them all from the face of the Earth.

EXT. RIDGE - LATER

Nikos stands silent... only the murmur of the wind can be heard as he eyes everyone, making sure they're asleep.

He deftly moves to Theseus and pulls the bow from his arms.

Sheer thrill fills him as he slips away, when suddenly --

-- a WHIP CRACKS. His eyes widen with fear as the whip rips the bow from his hand.

STELLIOS

Going somewhere with that, friend?

Nikos seethes with anger as Stellios flips himself the bow.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

As fate would have it, I don't sleep much either.

From the corner of his eye Nikos sees the others come to.

NIKOS

Help! Theseus!

THESEUS

What's going on?

NIKOS

He tried to steal the bow.

STELLIOS
I did no such thing! *He's* the one who
tried to steal it.

The others join them and take in the scene.

NIKOS
Don't listen to him Theseus, he's a liar
and a thief.

STELLIOS
Watch your tongue or I will end you.

They are at a standstill as Theseus eyes both of them.

THESEUS
Give me the bow Stellios.

Stellios looks at him with disbelief.

STELLIOS
Do you not trust me? After all we've
been through.

THESEUS
I do... but give it to me.

NIKOS
I'm telling you he tried to steal it!

Stellios shoots Nikos a look.

STELLIOS
I should kill you.

He raise the bow and takes aim.

THESEUS
Stellios, no!

An uneasy pause as Stellios lowers the bow.

STELLIOS
Something just occurred to me. It's been
troubling me for some time now...

They all eye him carefully.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
How was it that the demons were upon us
so quickly after we discovered the bow?
It was almost as if they were waiting for
us.

(beat)
Maybe they were... maybe someone led them
to us. But who? We all hate the demons.
We've all felt the crack of their whip.
All of us, except him.

Stellios gestures to Nikos as the others turn to him.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
 Ever notice how our friend here always trails behind. Maybe he's signaling to them or marking our path.

NIKOS
 I've done no such thing! He's just trying to save himself.

Theseus begins to stare at Nikos.

STELLIOS
 Am I? Then answer me this friend... do you bear the mark of fire?

He doesn't have to answer.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
 I think he's one of them.

Stellios hands the bow to Theseus.

THESEUS
 (pause)
 There's only one way to find out.

Megallos moves to grab Nikos as he cowers back.

NIKOS
 He's lying! You mustn't believe him!

Theseus lowers his sword into the fire.

NIKOS (CONT'D)
 Please Theseus! You're making a big mistake! Despina!

Theseus turns to the Oracle, who stands there torn.

THESEUS
 I'm sorry... (to Nikos) Let this test of fire reveal your true nature.

The Oracle grimaces as Nikos cowers back.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
 May the gods have mercy.

Theseus moves to press the sword onto Niko's shoulder when --

-- a terrible SHRIEK erupts from inside Nikos as he arches his back violently, hurtling Megallos through the air.

The men scramble to restrain him as he transforms into a DEMON, lashing out at them with fury.

Theseus goes to strike when --

-- a DAGGER WHIZZES past him in a VIOLENT TWIRL - STRIKING the DEMON in the FOREHEAD -- KILLING him instantly.

Theseus turns to see who cast the death blow and finds the Oracle standing there, breathing heavily, keeping emotions at bay.

ORACLE
He's no longer my brother.

She turns and walks away.

EXT. RIDGE - MOMENTS LATER

Theseus approaches the Oracle. Without looking at him...

ORACLE
I knew it... in my heart I did. But for the death of me I did not want to believe it...

THESEUS
He was lost to you long before this evening. There was nothing you could do.

She finds solace in his words.

EXT. MT. TARTAROS

Demon regiments begin to surround the base of the mountain as...

EXT. PORT OF MT. TARTAROS

... demon warships BOMBARD the great acropolis.

EXT. WALLS OF MT. TARTAROS

King Petros takes in the scene as hoplites rush about.

KING PETROS
Be ready men, soon they will make their attack on the walls.

EXT. PLAINS OF MT. TARTAROS - ON HORSEBACK - MOVING

Theseus and the others race towards the besieged acropolis.

ORACLE
There is a hidden passageway we might use to enter the city.

THESEUS
Show me.

The Oracle charges out in front and leads them down an embankment and towards...

EXT. CREEK

... a small waterway that pours out from a cave.

ORACLE
This way.

They all charge ahead when HOPLITES, camouflaged with moss, EMERGE.

HOPLITE LEADER
Who goes there?

The oracle and the men are quickly surrounded.

THESEUS
My name is Theseus.

He draws his sword, SPURRING the Hoplites into action, they thrust their spears towards them when...

... the Hoplite leader gets a better look at Theseus' sword.

HOPLITE LEADER
Stand down men, stand down!

Recognition quickly crosses the hoplites' faces as Theseus holds the sword aloft.

HOPLITE LEADER (CONT'D)
How did you come to possess the sword of Mt. Tartaros?

THESEUS
It was given to me by my father. I am the son of King Petros.

HOPLITE LEADER
Blasphemy! The King has no son. Arrest them.

The hoplites bring their spears to the men's throats.

THESEUS
Easy... (to Hoplite Leader) All I ask is that you bring me before the King.

The Hoplite Leader rips the sword from Theseus.

HOPLITE LEADER
You haven't the right to ask for anything. Take them away.

The hoplites whisk Theseus and the others into the cave and...

INT. PASSAGE WAY

... through the secret passageway...

EXT. MT. TARTAROS

... before emerging behind the walls of Mt. Tartaros. King Petros sees Theseus being lead away and freezes for a moment before rushing over.

KING PETROS
Soldier, hold fast.

The King moves to Theseus and lowers the hoplites' spears. Nothing is said for a moment.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
My son...

The hoplites are all taken aback.

THESEUS
Father.

They embrace. Theseus removes the bow from his pack, so all may see.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
In this dark hour I bring you the Great bow of Cronos.

The King looks on with the pride of a proud father.

KING PETROS
I often prayed that the gods would look over you, fearing I had failed you with my judgement. But now you have returned to take up your rightful place. And you return not just a man but as a great hero!

Theseus appreciatively places the bow in his father's hands.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
(looking at it in awe, then)
You have become more than I could ever hope, my son... And what of your mother?

THESEUS
(pause)
She fell at the hands of the Demon Lord.

The two men stand there solemnly for a moment.

KING PETROS
Let us pay tribute to her. Let us avenge her sacrifice.

To the MEN manning the WALLS

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

Let it be known, my lone heir, long cloaked in a disguise of poverty has returned! Behold, Theseus, Prince of Mt. Tartaros! (re: the Oracle and others) And his valiant companions. They have brought us the Bow of Cronos. And as the tales of old recount we will use it once more to rid the world of evil.

The King, Theseus, and the others rush up to the walls and join the men-at-arms.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

Let's give them a volley.

The King takes aim at two approaching seize towers, STRIKING them with BOLTS, setting them ABLAZE, killing scores of demons.

STELLIOS

My lord, look to the west.

The King turns and eyes several demon catapults about to fire. He lets loose another volley.

The demon armaments EXPLODE and the hoplites let out a CHEER.

KING PETROS

By the gods...

Some demons begin to fall back as King Petros rains down another barrage of bolts.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And so they battled on into the blackness of the night. Driving back the demons.

King Petros FIRES away as Theseus and the others cut down the demons who manage to reach the walls.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The dread that had hung in the air at Mt. Tartaros began to lift.

INT. TOWER OF MT. TARTAROS - SAME TIME

Lord Thanos and a DARK FIGURE watch the battle unfold below.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

For this young hero's gift breathed life into their resistance. And prayers for survival were soon replaced with dreams of victory.

EXT. MT. OLYMPUS

Zeus and the other Olympians look on, pleased as...

EXT. WALLS OF MT. TARTAROS

... the demons break rank and flee. The hoplites all let out a CHEER.

KING PETROS

The battle is far from over, men.

The King turns to Theseus.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

My son, gather your men. We must plan our counteroffensive, for the whole of their army still approaches. They will undoubtedly regroup and attack again come nightfall. Follow me.

INT. HALL OF MT. TARTAROS - LATER

King Petros holds a war council and marks a map as Lord Thanos listens intently.

KING PETROS

I will drive the demons back with the bow while a division of hoplites attack here and here.

Theseus nods as he studies the map.

THESEUS

I will lead them.

The King is hesitant.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

If I'm truly a prince, let me go about my duty. I'll face the body of the demon rank and file while you hold down our right. Agreed?

After a moment, the King nods proudly.

KING PETROS

Agreed... Once you charge, our archers will work their way outside and cut off their retreat. We'll trap them in our flanks and I'll lay waste to them with the bow.

EXT. HALL

Theseus exits with his father.

KING PETROS
I want you to have this.

King Petros lifts a DOUBLE EAGLE CHAIN PENDANT from his neck and hands it to Theseus.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)
It's from our forefathers.

Theseus takes it proudly.

THESEUS
I will wear it proudly and with honor, as you have.

They share a moment. The King notices the Oracle standing on a parapet nearby.

KING PETROS
Go, she's waiting for you.

EXT. PARAPET

Theseus approaches the Oracle. They are comfortable in each others' silence as they share a look...

THESEUS
I'm never quite sure what to say to you.

ORACLE
Why?

THESEUS
Because I don't know what you know or don't know.

ORACLE
That's just an excuse.

He grins.

THESEUS
Really?

She nods.

ORACLE
Lucky for you, I know all I need to know.

She smiles as he draws her in close.

THESEUS
As do I.

They kiss. It's tender yet intense... She looks at him as he pulls away.

ORACLE
Fear not, we have until morning.

EXT. PLAINS OF MT. TARTAROS - MORNING

The Demon Lord's vast army finally arrives. It steadies the other demon regiments and they begin to regroup.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

The Oracle lies on her side, nude under the covers as Theseus readies himself.

She turns to him and their eyes meet... he leans down and kisses her goodbye.

EXT. COURTYARD

Hoplites prepare for battle as King Petros moves towards the wall, bow in tow.

KING PETROS
(to a hoplite)
When they attack, we go as planned.

Theseus moves along when Lord Thanos joins him.

LORD THANOS
I heard what happened to your mother.
It's very sad.

Theseus nods uneasily and rushes over to his father as...

... several of Lord Thanos' SONS discretely make their way into the courtyard.

EXT. WALLS - CONT.

The King and Theseus quickly make their way up a ladder.

ON LORD THANOS

He shoots a look to the tower, where the Dark Figure stands.

ON DARK FIGURE

He lays a piece of King Petros' chainmail on an AVIARY, before undoing its latch, unleashing a flock of STYMPHALIN BIRDS.

The ravenous black FOWLS swoop down towards King Petros as he ascends the ladder, ATTACKING him with wicked ferocity.

THESEUS
Father!

Theseus tries to fend off the clawing creatures when...

... amongst the chaos, one of Lord Thanos' SONS SLAMS an oxcart into the ladder --

-- TOPPLING IT OVER, hurtling the King and Theseus downwards, where they CRASH with a THUD.

King Petros blearily looks up as Lord Thanos rips the bow from his hand and takes off.

KING PETROS

NO...

Just then the Dark Figure SWOOPS down on a CHIMERA and grabs hold of Lord Thanos, WHISKING him into the air.

THESEUS

Stop him!!!

The MEN quickly take aim and launch a volley of ARROWS just as --

-- the STYMPHALIN Birds swoop up, shielding their master, sacrificing themselves as the chimera sails into the horizon.

EXT. DEMON ENCAMPMENT - MOMENTS LATER

The chimera swoops down and lands as Lord Thanos quickly dismounts...

INT. DEMON LORD'S TENT - CONT.

Lord Thanos transforms into the Demon Lord as he approaches his war council.

DEMON LORD

It is done.

The Demon Lord raises the bow as the others look on in awe.

DEMON LORD (CONT'D)

Now the puzzle is complete. Let us begin our final attack!

EXT. COURTYARD - MT. TARTAROS

King Petros, Theseus, and the others try and make sense of what just happened as Heron rushes over.

HERON

His sons escaped through the hidden passageway... The guards there were cut down.

A terrible realization begins to set in...

KING PETROS

I never thought his treachery could run so deep...

HOPLITE (O.S.)
My lord, they approach!!!

They all turn to a hoplite atop the walls when suddenly -- EXPLOSIONS begin to erupt around them as...

EXT. PLAINS OF MT. TARTAROS - SAME TIME

... the Demon Lord lets loose volley after volley from the bow, leading his enormous army forward.

EXT. WALLS OF MT. TARTAROS

King Petros and Theseus rush up the wall as PANIC shoots through the city.

HOPLITE ARCHON
My lord, we must flee. We cannot hold the city.

The King eyes the VILLAGERS as they race about with fear.

KING PETROS
Take the women and children to the rear sanctuary and start evacuating the city. We'll hold them as long as we can.

The hoplite archon nods and rushes off.

THESEUS
Father, it is true we cannot defeat the demons with the strength of arms. Not in a full fledged battle... not against an advance like this. But there is a great equalizer in this struggle.

KING PETROS
What are you suggesting?

THESEUS
We attack. We charge out and try and take back the bow.

Just then another EXPLOSION goes off as a TOWER along the walls crumbles, raining down mortar and stone.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
The longer we wait, the more the power of the bow will weaken our defenses.

The King thinks solemnly...

THESEUS (CONT'D)
If we lead our forces into the heart of the demon line, I will cut down the one wielding the bow.

KING PETROS
And with it we beat back the others...

THESEUS
Exactly. They will never expect such an
attack.

KING PETROS
(pause)
We have no choice. Gather the hoplites.
Gather them and all the others willing to
charge.

Theseus nods and takes off as...

EXT. PLAINS OF MT. TARTAROS

... the Demon Lord focuses the thrust of his attack on the
main wall. He sends BOLTS from the bow, cracking the once
impregnable defenses.

EXT. BEHIND THE WALLS

MEN begin to assemble amongst the chaos.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
And so Theseus gathered six hundred brave
souls, all willing to charge, all
understanding the great hour of judgement
that stood before them. But none more so
than those left from the seven.

Stellios, Heron and Megallos approach Theseus. The men all
share a knowing look.

HERON
So it comes to this.

STELLIOS
Well, at least one of us will live.

They all grin.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)
I want to thank you my friend.

THESEUS
Thank me?

STELLIOS
Yes, you've given us the chance to die
with honor... We're in your debt.

THESEUS
And I yours.

Stellios, Heron and Megallos take their place along the line.
Their bravery steadies the others.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Half a league away the demon army
marched. Half a league away the end of
mankind inched out from the abyss.

ORACLE (O.S.)

Theseus.

He turns to her as she approaches.

ORACLE (CONT'D)

I hope today is not the day you take your
place in the Elysian Fields.

They share a moment as she stands strongly before him.

ORACLE (CONT'D)

I will pray for you.

EXT. COURTYARD

Theseus takes his place alongside his father, who addresses
the men one last time as the demon war machine closes in.

KING PETROS

Tonight we charge across open terrain,
into the jaws of Death, into the mouth of
Hell. Many of us will fall... Many of
us will not live through the night...
And for such bravery the entire world
gives thanks! For our charge will go
down in the annals of time as the charge
that righted man's path!!! It will be
the sacrifice that turns the tide of our
time! And our valor will be legend, for
we shall pass through the jaws of death
and escape the mouth of hell!!!

The men let out a CHEER as they are emboldened by the King.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

The men of old used to cry out, "Aera" as
they charged into battle. For so badly
did they wish to meet their enemies they
would call out to the gods to raise the
winds and carry them forward. Tonight we
invoke that same spirit! Tonight I say,
"Aera!!!"

THE ASSEMBLED MEN

Aera!!!!

The men raise their swords as King Petros leads them past the
great walls...

EXT. PLAINS OF MT. TARTAROS - CONT.

... and into the path of the demon advance... they're ten thousand strong. The men eye them for a moment as the silence before battle sets in...

KING PETROS

Aera!!!

The men break into a SPRINT and race down the mountain.

THESEUS

Aera!!!

STELLIOS

Aera!!!

ON THE DEMON LORD

He is momentarily taken back as...

... the KING and THESEUS valiantly charge forward, leading the men onwards, before...

... HE begins to let loose from the bow.

ON THE CHARGING MEN

BOLTS CRASH into them, throwing them about, killing them in scores but King Petros urges them onwards.

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

Come on men! Forward!!!

MORE and MORE MEN meet their end but THESEUS charges ahead, SMASHING into the demon line as he CUTS down demons, all the while eyeing...

... the DEMON LORD, who fires relentlessly, killing with ease... but this act of attrition begins to take hold as the men surge forward...

THESEUS

Come on men, Aera!!!

The Demon Lord eyes the surge uneasily and begins to fire on his own rank and file as they tangle with Theseus and the others.

The CARNAGE MOUNTS... but KING PETROS and THESEUS continue to fight their way forward, sheer will driving them as they cut down demon after demon when --

-- the Demon Lord fires a BOLT, inadvertently clearing a path. Theseus and the King take advantage and charge into it...

... in an instant they can see the Demon Lord launching volleys as they charge ahead.

KING PETROS

Aera!

The path begins to collapse in on them as

TIME SLOWS

and KING PETROS moves to SLING his sword at the Demon Lord when the Demon Lord spots him, takes aim and FIRES.

Theseus eyes go wide as he tries to push his father out of the way -- but to no avail.

THESEUS

No!!!

BACK TO REAL TIME

The FORCE OF THE BLAST casts Theseus and the King BACKWARDS. They sail through the air and crash to the ground.

The MEN eye their fallen leaders with grave concern... Slowly the MOMENTUM of the charge begins to shift as men begin to lose their mettle.

They start to fall back as the DEATH TOLL mounts and the sheer number of demons overwhelm them.

ON THESEUS as he comes to. He turns and looks for his father, who lies on the ground nearby.

He rushes to his side and takes in the carnage.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

Father.

Life begins to leave the king as he takes hold of Theseus' hand.

KING PETROS

Theseus...

He fights through the pain, struggling...

KING PETROS (CONT'D)

(pause)

Fight until the last gasp my son...

Theseus is still for a moment as the king dies.

BEAT

He rises to his feet, his bloodlust growing as he scours the battlefield for the Demon Lord.

EXT. WALLS

A BOLT SMASHES the great wall as the Demon Lord leads his forces into...

EXT. COURTYARD

... the INNER WARD of the courtyard.

EXT. WALLS

Theseus spots him and gives chase, fighting his way towards him...

EXT. COURTYARD - SAME TIME

... but to his surprise the Demon Lord doesn't attack the Acropolis, instead he turns the bow towards the mountain, FIRING relentlessly, breaking through to a... cavern.

CUT TO:

MOUNT OLYMPUS

The gods, who watch from atop their stone colonnade, stand at attention.

ARIES

The Titans...

DIONYSUS

No...

Concern crosses their faces.

ZEUS

Fear not, even with the bow the demons will not be able to get past the hundred handed beast.

Aries looks at Zeus, unsure, and takes up his hammer as...

INT. CAVERN

... the Demon Lord and his minions charge ahead where they discover --

-- THE HUNDRED HANDED BEAST, breathing heavy, ever ready at his post.

EXT. COURTYARD - SAME TIME

Stellios and Heron fall back and try to form a new line as the DEMONS swarm into the courtyard.

STELLIOS

Rally..!

HERON

Come on men! Stand and fight.

Stellios spots Theseus, cutting down demons, racing into the cavern as...

INT. CAVERN

... the Demon Lord fires BOLTS at the Hundred Handed Beast --
-- but the Hundred Handed Beast deflects the BLASTS with the many shields he wields and SMASHES the demons that charge at him.

EXT. CAVERN

Stellios rallies the men as they assemble around him.

STELLIOS

Hold the line!

He then quickly gestures to Heron, Megallos and a platoon of HOPLITES.

STELLIOS (CONT'D)

Follow me!

They race towards the cavern, crossing paths with a group of demons carrying a CHEST.

The men battle bravely, cutting the demons down, sending the CHEST CRASHING to the ground.

ON CHEST

It swings open and a fluorescent glow emanates out as the SHARDS of IYISIS spill onto the ground.

CUT TO:

MT. OLYMPUS

For the first time FEAR crosses the gods faces as they eye the shards. HERMES immediately races off in a BLUR as the others follow suit, racing towards...

EXT. CAVERN

... the mouth of the cavern, where the Demons overwhelm Stellios and the others and quickly regather the shards.

INT. CAVERN

Theseus fights his way forward when he sees the demons race past him, closely guarding the shards, rushing them to the Demon Lord as...

EXT. PLAINS OF MT. TARTAROS

... HERMES, the swiftest of the gods, races towards the cavern.

INT. CAVERN

The Hundred Handed Beast continues to pummel his attackers as the Demon Lord loads a shard into the bow and FIRES -- HURLING the SHARD forward --

-- it PIERCES THROUGH the Hundred Handed Beast's shields, STRIKING him in the chest.

HUNDRED HANDED BEAST

Ahhh!!!!

The beast's terrible cries echo through the cavern as the Demon Lord FIRES more and more shards at him.

EXT. CAVERN

Alarm crosses Hermes face as he races inside, wielding two swords...

INT. CAVERN

... he blows past Stelliios and the men, cutting down demons, racing towards the Demon Lord just as --

-- the HUNDRED HANDED BEAST CRASHES to the ground, bloody and wounded.

Hermes blows past Theseus, closing in on the Demon Lord --

-- but the Demon Lord spots him and begins to FIRE, finding the range -- STRIKING Hermes in the NECK with a shard.

The Messenger of the Gods CRASHES to the ground as Stelliios and the others join Theseus, all looking on.

And for the first time man sees a god die.

And just then the other OLYMPIANS arrive but they're too late, the Demon Lord turns and takes aim at the lock on the great doors -- STRIKING it.

Everyone looks on with bated breath as the doors swing open and...

... IAPETUS, the Titan leader, a dark, formidable figure, steps out.

DEMON LORD

(kneels)

My Lord... I come at your bidding.

Iapetus nods and looks at the gods at the far end of the cavern.

IAPETUS

Kill them!

The TITANS come storming out, filled with five hundred years of anger and rage.

From her one good eye, MEDUSA shoots a glare at a column of HOPLITES near Theseus. Her eye shimmers, turning the men to stone as --

-- the MINOTAUR races past her, SMASHING through them, SHATTERING them to DUST as Theseus dives out of the way.

ON ZEUS

he slings a BOLT, STRIKING the Minotaur in the chest, hurtling him back as --

-- ATLAS and HYPERION, dark renditions of Aries and Hermes, charge out, followed by the Titan giant CRYPTOS, soon...

... the earth begins to TREMBLE as the Gods and Titans clash.

ON THESEUS, STELLIOS, MEGALLOS and the rest of the HOPLITES

THESEUS

Come on men!

Theseus urges them into battle as Iapetus slings BLASTS of ENERGY, hurtling back Poseidon and Helios.

ZEUS takes note, furiously hurling BOLTS as he charges at Iapetus when --

-- the Demon Lord takes aim and strikes Zeus with a SHARD, PIERCING his shoulder, sending him backwards.

ON THESEUS

THESEUS (CONT'D)

We must kill him!

Theseus and the men charge towards the Demon Lord, cutting down demons when -- in a FLASH -- Hyperion SLASHES Theseus as he races past him.

Theseus recoils in pain as Hyperion ZIPS around, sword poised, moving for the death blow when --

-- Athena holds up a hand, concentrating, FREEZING HYPERION IN MID STRIDE. He futilely kicks and squirms when --

-- Aries SLAMS him with his hammer, sending him flying across the hall, SMACK into a pillar.

ON THESEUS

He gathers himself and charges towards the Demon Lord, who sees him and takes aim, FIRING -- but Theseus dives forward, avoids the strike and CUTS the Demon Lord, casting the bow from his hands.

DEMONS rush to pick it up when --

-- APOLLO CUTS them down with a WAVE of ARROWS as he rushes towards the bow, LAUNCHING three ARROWS at a time when --

-- Cryptos SMASHES him with his mallet, hurtling backwards as the bow skitters across the floor amongst the chaos...

ON ATHENA

Her eyes widen as a dagger pierces her side.

ARIES

NO!!!

DRAKAS, a female Titan, grins as she hurls another dagger at Athena...

... But Helios catches sight of the twirling blade and quickly incinerates it with a STREAM of FIRE, saving Athena before...

... casting a STREAM at Drakas, who falls rearward, avoiding the strike.

ON ARIES

he races towards Athena when Atlas cuts him off. The two WARRIORS square off, exchanging blows as...

... Theseus kicks the Demon Lord backwards and CUTS him with his sword.

Suddenly, the Titan FOMORIAN draws a deep breath and SCREAMS but it's not an ordinary scream -- it's an EAR PIERCING SONIC SWELL.

MAN and GOD alike cover their ears in pain as the Titans, unaffected, take advantage.

The Demon Lord STABS Theseus in the leg as Atlas SMASHES Aries with a hammer strike and Iapetus PUMMELS Zeus with a blow...

... but Theseus digs deeps and SLASHES the Demon Lord, knocking him back before summoning all his strength... hurling his sword at Fomorian --

-- it SAILS through the air and STRIKES the TITAN in the MOUTH, IMPALING him.

SILENCE RINGS out but the damage has been done. The Titans press on. Cryptos SMASHES Aries and Medusa turns Apollo and Dionysus to stone as...

... Iapetus takes aim at Zeus. Each raises their hand and FIRES. Their beams collide, pushing them back...

... they slide across the floor each straining to hold back the other's beam.

STELLIOS
Theseus!!! The bow!

Theseus turns and sees the bow on the ground near him when...

... the energy of the two clashing beams mix until they EXPLODE in a BLAST of WHITE LIGHT --

-- knocking EVERYONE to the ground as the EXPLOSION shakes the hall like an EARTHQUAKE, CRACKING the WALLS.

PILLARS CRASH DOWN, SPLASHING LARGE PLUMES of DUST into the AIR. It's absolute MAYHEM as the cavern begins to IMplode.

Theseus scours the hall for the bow only to see the Demon Lord scoop it up.

ON ZEUS

he takes in the scene, HERMES lies dead, Dionysus and Apollo are frozen in stone while the other gods stagger from their wounds. He has no choice...

ZEUS
Fall back to Olympus!

They all flee as CRUMBLED MASONRY rains down.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
And so the war of the gods was renewed.

EXT. MT. TARTOROS

Zeus hurls lightning, BLASTING a path through the legions of demons that surround Mt. Tartaros.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
For men, many of whom dismissed the tales of old...

ON THESEUS, STELLIOS and HERON as they race along in Zeus' wake.

NARRATOR (V.O. (CONT'D))
... lacked the providence to see this end. While others...

ON MEGALLOS and the ORACLE as they run out behind them.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 ... didn't do enough to spread the wisdom
 they knew to be true. But perhaps the
 gravest judgement fell upon the gods.

ON ARIES, carrying a bloody ATHENA, as HELIOS casts fire in
 front of them.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 For they too had once conspired with
 others to win victory in this struggle...
 but never did they imagine that this evil
 would arise anew.

ON ZEUS as a troubled look on his brow worsens.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 For those who champion the cause of good
 rarely foresee the depths of evil's
 wickedness and resolve.

EXT. MT. OLYMPUS - LATER

The gods haggardly race up to the stone colonnade where Aries
 lays down Athena. She gasps for air, struggling to breathe.

ZEUS
 She is passing into shadow... let her go.

Aries can't believe it as life begins to leave her. Their
 eyes meet, if only for a moment... and then she's gone.

ARIES
 (pause)
 We should have done more... We should
 have intervened sooner Zeus! You are to
 blame!!!

Rage fills Aries as he yells.

ARIES (CONT'D)
 Your misprision has allowed the Titans to
 be unleashed!

ZEUS
 I've made mistakes, Aries. That I do not
 deny. But I swore to give man free will.
 To give them the chance to choose their
 own path! If that is my greatest sin
 then I have but one regret...

Zeus looks at the remaining gods, all bloodied from battle.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
 How could I have not foreseen this
 treachery...

EXT. BASE OF MT. OLYMPUS

Streams of human REFUGEES make their way up the various hills and into the caves.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And while the gods took refuge atop Mt. Olympus, the remnants of mankind sought sanctuary in the hills nearby.

ON STELLIOS, atop a horse as he approaches Theseus and the others.

STELLIOS

They're all overcome by fear. They're breaking for the hills, they cannot be rallied.

Theseus takes in the scene, all around him is a VISTA of DEFEAT. If only for a moment he despairs as the Oracle approaches.

ORACLE

You must remain steadfast, for it is your bravery the men look to for strength.

THESEUS

My bravery got my father and countless others killed.

ORACLE

If not for you even more would have fallen.

THESEUS

What do you want from me? I'm just a man.

ORACLE

A brave man is always more than just a man... Honor your father and go about his bidding.

(beat)

Fight until the last gasp.

He looks at her, taken aback.

HERON

Theseus!

Stellios rushes over.

HERON (CONT'D)

The Demons and Titans march for Olympus.

Theseus stands in attention.

ZEUS (O.S.)
They are coming for us.

Zeus and Helios emerge from the darkness.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
You must gather what you can and leave
this place. We shall charge out and meet
the Titans in battle, one last time...
To our doom we charge. But we charge
nonetheless.

Theseus thinks for a moment.

THESEUS
No... this is our struggle as much as it
is yours. Why should we abandon you to
fight alone?

ZEUS
Because the tide has turned and a truly
dark age approaches. Some vestige of
good must live on to rise up anew.

THESEUS
Then let others do so.

He slowly regains heart.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
For to see right and not to do it is
cowardice. (to all those around) And I
see no cowards here, do you?

Stellios steps forward.

STELLIOS
No!

HERON
Nor I!

Other men begin to gather around.

THESEUS
An old man once told me about the never
ending struggle. I didn't know it then
but truer words have never been spoken.
For this conflict is everlasting, fought
on every stage imaginable... It is good
versus evil, God against Titan, man
versus man. In the end all you can do is
choose with whom you shall stand.

More and more men take heed.

THESEUS (CONT'D)

A terrible swell grows inside me and urges me forward. I cannot help but heed it. All of you know what I speak of. For the same righteousness pumps in your chest. Listen to it. Take heart and let it lead you. Let us make our stand against this evil. Let us fight for the good of the world! What do you say men? Do we run in fear or do we stand with the gods and die like men!?!

The crowd lets out a cheer as Zeus looks on.

ZEUS

If that is the will of free men, so be it... Come, join us atop Olympus, as we prepare for battle.

The men take up their weapons and follow the gods... when the Oracle takes Theseus aside.

ORACLE

Theseus, I want you to have this.

She hands him a small parchment. He reads what is written on it and is moved.

ORACLE (CONT'D)

Carry it with you.

He nods and then lifts King Petros's pendant from his neck, placing it around hers before leaning down and kissing her.

EXT. MT. OLYMPUS - LATER

The Gods and the men watch the demons and Titans amass below as Theseus joins them.

THESEUS

Zeus, may I have your council.

ZEUS

You may.

The two move aside.

THESEUS

With your blessing I would like to try something...

EXT. DEMON LORD'S TENT - BASE OF MT. OLYMPUS

Iapetus and the Demon Lord hold court with their war council as Demon regiments position themselves.

IAPETUS

They will not live past the setting
sun...

EXT. MT. OLYMPUS

Theseus looks up at the still evening sky... the QUIET before
the storm. He gives Zeus a nod as...

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE

... he sneaks down the side of the mountain with Stellios.

EXT. DEMON ENCAMPMENT - CONT.

Theseus and Stellios slip into the demon camp... moving from
post to post, weaving their way towards the Demon Lord's
tent.

EXT. MT. OLYMPUS - SAME TIME

Heron and Megallos approach the Oracle.

HERON

Are you ready?

She nods solemnly as they all take off.

EXT. DEMON ENCAMPMENT

Theseus and Stellios quietly draw their swords, about to
charge ahead when...

... DEMON ASSASSINS ambush them from behind, drawing daggers
to their throats.

DEMON ASSASSIN

Drop you weapons!

There's nothing they can do. They let their swords fall to
the ground as...

EXT. DEMON LORD'S TENT

... the demon assassins lead them away, passing the Titan
Hyperion, who eyes them for a moment.

INT. DEMON LORD'S TENT - CONT.

The men are brought forward as the Demon Lord holds court
with Iapetus.

DEMON ASSASSIN

My Lord, we captured these men trying to
sneak into the encampment.

The Demon Lord recognizes Theseus as he walks over to him,
bow of Cronos in tow.

DEMON LORD
I should have killed you a long time ago.

THESEUS
You don't have the mettle to kill me.

DEMON LORD
Such insolence... It's because of you I
stand here now.

Theseus looks at him curiously as the Demon Lord transforms
into Lord Thanos. Theseus is taken aback.

LORD THANOS
But now I will have more than just a
kingship.

He aims the bow at Theseus.

LORD THANOS (CONT'D)
I will savor your death.

Theseus prepares for the death blow when suddenly --

-- StelliOS CRACKS his whip and rips the bow out of the Demon
Lord's hand as the "DEMON ASSASSINS" TRANSFORM into ZEUS and
HELIOS...

... Iapetus is taken aback as Zeus hurls a BOLT, STRIKING him
in the chest, casting him backwards while...

... the Demon Lord barely dodges a STREAM of FIRE from
Helios.

StelliOS tries to sling the bow to Theseus but it falls to
the ground in the chaos... Theseus races for it but a DEMON
is a step ahead of him. He snatches up the bow when --

-- Theseus's DAGGER STRIKES him in the CHEST. He falls
backwards as Theseus rips the bow from his hand and scours
the tent for Iapetus and the Demon Lord when --

-- in a FLASH, Hyperion SWOOPS in, blades drawn but Zeus
STRIKES him with a BOLT, hurtling him head over heels out the
tent.

ZEUS
Move!

EXT. DEMON LORD TENT / ENCAMPMENT - CONT.

Theseus, StelliOS, Zeus and Helios race out as more and more
Titans and Demons take note and give chase.

CUT TO:

DEMONS guarding the shards of Iyisis as they notice the CHAOS at the Demon Lord's tent and rush over to help, leaving only three demons to man their post.

Suddenly, the Oracle steps out in front of them. ONE moves towards her, but he doesn't get far --

-- she hurls her DAGGER, STRIKING him in the CHEST as --

-- HERON and MEGALLOS emerge from behind a tent, LAUNCHING ARROWS, CUTTING down the other two demons.

They steal the chest of shards and take off as...

EXT. VALLEY - BASE OF MT. OLYMPUS - CONT.

... Theseus, Stellios and Zeus lead the Titans and demons into a valley when suddenly...

EXT. SEA - BASE OF MT. OLYMPUS

... Poseidon raises a great wave and --

EXT. VALLEY - SAME TIME

-- SLAMS it into the pursuers, swallowing up their PIERCING CRIES as Theseus, Stellios and Zeus race to

A RIDGE

Zeus and Theseus quickly launch BOLTS into the water -- TENDRILS of LIGHTNING WEB OUT, killing thousand of demons and wounding Titans as...

... Megallos and Heron rush to Theseus with the chest.

Theseus quickly loads shards and looks for Titans as they emerge from the water. He spots Iapetus and FIRES --

-- a shard RIPS into the Titan Leader's shoulder while OTHERS STRIKE the giant Cryptos, piecing his breastplate, killing him.

Iapetus hurls BLASTS of ENERGY at Theseus but Zeus takes them out with BOLTS of his own...

... shielding Theseus as he scours the valley for the most lethal of Titans... Medusa.

ON DEMON LORD

he rallies two LEGIONS of reenforcements, stopping them just out of Poseidon's reach... but it's a trap.

CUT TO:

THE MOUNTAINSIDE

HOPLITES and all the remaining MEN charge down the mountain, rolling logs of fire.

The demons look up as the logs CRASH into them, scorching many as the men storm in, SLASHING, HACKING, SHIELDS CLASHING...

ON HELIOS

he spots Medusa and stealthily tries to move up behind her, casting a STREAM of FIRE just as she turns to him, eye shimmering --

-- freezing the stream in mid air, turning Helios to stone.

ON ARIES

he cuts down demons, making his way towards Atlas when...

STELLIOS spots Medusa slithering along.

STELLIOS

Theseus, I see her! Hurry!

Theseus turns and tosses him the bow. Stellios quickly takes aim, pulls back, fires --

-- the BOLT ZIPS towards Medusa when suddenly a demon steps in front of her, unwittingly shielding her from the blow as it SLAMS them hard to the ground.

Stellios quickly goes to fire again when Medusa glares up at him, eye shimmering.

THESEUS

NO!!!

But it's too late. Stellios turns to stone and the bow of Cronos with him.

Theseus looks on in disbelief when --

-- in a flash, Hyperion rushes at them, SMASHING into the chest, scattering the shards about as...

... Iapetus rallies the remaining Titans, having weathered the onslaught.

EXT. MOUNTAINSIDE - SAME TIME

Grave concern crosses the Oracle's face as she looks on.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

In battle there are often men that should not be there...

ON THE RIDGE

Some men fall back as a throng of demons go on the attack... the Demon Lord urging them forward.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
... while others are merely fodder in the jaws of war's cruelty.

More and more men fall dead as the enemy surges ahead.

ON MEGALLOS AND HERON

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Some are real fighters...

They try and push back the demon charge, swinging their swords madly, hacking away.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
... and we are lucky to have them, for they honor mankind with their bravery.

HERON
To the death!

Heron pushes forward as Megallos turns to THESEUS. He can feel the tide turning against them as...

... Hyperion and Atlas get the best of Aries, striking him with swift slashes and crushing blows while Iapetus battles Zeus.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
But one out of the many thousands is a warrior and it is in him the true valor of mankind lives.

ON THESEUS

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
For it is he who brings the others home.

He realizes he must act quickly when just then --

HERON (O.S.)
Medusa...

Heron catches a glimpse of her as she approaches. The men quickly move behind a boulder as...

... Theseus uses the inside of his shield as a mirror, eyeing her. His mind races when he notices a crevice in the valley floor nearby.

ON MEDUSA

she slithers forward, amongst demons as...

... Theseus jumps out from behind the boulder and rolls into the shallow crevice, undetected amongst the chaos, a bow in tow.

He eyes Medusa's reflection in a shield Megallos holds as he pans with her from behind the boulder.

She moves towards the crevice as Theseus waits anxiously when suddenly --

-- Megallos's shield crashes to the ground as a horde of demons attack him and Heron.

ON THESEUS

he loses sight of Medusa but does his all to remain calm as he hears the rattle of her tail.

She casts her shadow on him as she stops, sensing, looking all around, not realizing Theseus...

... eyes her from below... holding his breath as he pulls back the bowstring, when suddenly --

-- she looks down at him but the arrow strikes her in the chin, JERKING her HEAD UP as her EYE SHIMMERS WILDLY --

-- he quickly rises to his feet and strikes her with his sword, slicing her head off as she thrashes about.

Medusa's wail echoes through the valley, drawing the attention of...

... Hyperion, who races towards Theseus, swords drawn, blurring past demons.

Heron spots him closing in.

HERON (CONT'D)
Theseus, watch out!!!

Theseus spins around, sees Hyperion cut down Heron and realizes he has an instant to react --

-- he lifts Medusa's head, holding it out in front of him.

Horror crosses Hyperion's face as Medusa's eye shimmers, turning him to stone just before --

-- Theseus rolls out of the way as Hyperion CRASHES against the valley floor, CRUMBLING to PIECES.

Theseus rises and looks over to Heron as Megallos quickly kneels down next to him.

ON HERON AND MEGALLOS

HERON (CONT'D)
Now there are but two...

Life begins to leave him.

HERON (CONT'D)
If you are the one, tell my family I love
them... tell them our tale.

Megallos nods before he turns to Theseus and shakes his head
gravely.

Anger shoots through Theseus as he turns to the demon army
with the head of Medusa and in an instant...

... becomes the most feared of all -- a warrior with the
power of a Titan.

He flashes Medusa's head, casting a legion of demons to
stone. Fear quickly ripples through their rank and file when
suddenly --

-- Iapetus hurls a BLAST, casting Medusa's head from
Theseus's hand, sending it off the ridge and into the ocean.

Zeus quickly responds, striking Iapetus with a BOLT, wounding
him as Atlas charges at Theseus.

Theseus snatches a spear from a fallen demon and thrusts it
at the charging Titan but --

-- Atlas cuts the spear shaft in two and slashes Theseus
across the chest as he tries to dive out of the way.

Aries charges towards Atlas as he strikes Theseus again with
a vicious blow and moves in for the kill...

... But Theseus feints being severely wounded and quickly --

-- rips a sword from the ground and rolls forward, striking
the Titan just below the knee --

-- sending Atlas toppling to the ground where Aries finishes
him with a SMASHING blow.

Theseus slowly rises.

AIRES
Well done.

Theseus nods before turning to the remaining men.

THESEUS
Come on men! Today we show the world
what the valor of men can bring forth!

They rally around him.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
Do honor to our fallen brothers!

He leads the charge. WAR CRIES ring out as the men plunge into the heart of what's left of the demon war machine.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
Aera!

Theseus spots the Demon Lord and battles his way towards him with renewed strength.

They square off, exchanging blows, but Theseus's will is unyielding.

He unleashes a flurry of strikes, cutting the Demon Lord repeatedly, overwhelming him, making him suffer for all he's done...

... before finally plunging his sword into the Demon Lord's chest... killing him with one final twist of the wrist.

Theseus stands over him for a moment, breathing heavily as Megallos joins him.

They exchange a nod, death is certain for one of them.

THESEUS (CONT'D)
Come on men!

They surge ahead as blood seeps from Theseus's many wounds.

He staggers, moving painfully forward, sheer will driving him as...

... Zeus and Aries battle with Iapetus and the few remaining Titans.

Theseus's drops to a knee, but Megallos lifts him.

Theseus can barely stand. He looks around unseeingly. Blood oozing from his wounds but he forges onwards as...

... the men form lines on both sides of him, awed by his courage.

CUT TO:

THE ORACLE

a tear streaks down her face as she looks on.

BACK TO THESEUS

he summons all he has left, for one final push...

... filling the men with a sense of inevitability as they charge ahead and break the back of Demon Army, HURTLING them into the few remaining Titans.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

So was the great victory of mankind.

Theseus leads the men as Zeus and Aries overwhelm Iapetus and the remaining Titans, casting them off the ridge to their deaths.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

For in the end Theseus' valor saved not only man... but god alike.

ON ZEUS

He is astounded by Theseus's bravery. He hurriedly rushes to his side as he crashes down to the ground, struggling for breath.

ZEUS

Fear not my friend... you have earned the Elysian Fields... a thousands times over you have earned it.

A look of calm slowly crosses Theseus' face. He glimpses at the Oracle's parchment as life begins to leave him...

ON THE ORACLE

ORACLE (V.O.)

To live in the hearts and minds of those we leave behind, is not to die...

ON THESEUS

ORACLE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Bring them home, my love.

He brings her parchment to his chest and finally finds peace as his eyes close and he drifts into the world beyond.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And with this great sacrifice man became more than the gods had ever hoped for they used their free will and valor for something greater than themselves... and renewed the world entire.

More and more people gather around Theseus' body.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And it was this that made them truly deserving of the Earth.

FADE TO BLACK...

EXT. MT. TARTAROS - DAY

Hoplites push ox carts of mortar and stone.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

So was the great sacrifice of Theseus and the heroic seven that stood with him.

The hoplites work with steadfast resolve.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

For the will and deeds of great men urges others onwards. And so began the great age of heroes.

EXT. INNER WARD - MT. TARTAROS

There is a buzz of activity as people gather.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

All of the great city states where eventually rebuilt, grander than ever. And never again would the tales of old be disregarding. Never again would they go untold.

In the center of the ward the stone statue of STELLIOS, frozen by Medusa's stare, is lifted into a place of honor.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And he who had been regarded a thief in life was forever immortalized a hero in stone.

Megallos look on proudly while...

EXT. HALL OF MT. TARTAROS

... the Oracle kneels before a grand mausoleum.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

While he who had been regarded a bastard become known as the greatest hero prince of Greece.

REVEAL a stone sculpture of THESEUS as the Oracle brings his pendant to her womb.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

For Theseus defeated not only the demons and the Titans but death itself... for even as he passed into legend his bloodline lived on, to be reared by the wisest of all women.

EXT. MOUNT OLYMPUS

Zeus, Aries and the other remaining gods look on from their stone colonnade.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
And so the gods stood proudly atop
Olympus once more.

INT. HALL

Megallos writes in a scroll of parchment.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
For even though they knew their time on
this Earth would soon pass into shadow...

As Megallos writes we realize the VOICE OVER belongs to him.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
... as long as men told the tale of the
great hero, Theseus and the brave seven
that stood with him so too would they
live on, forever embedded in the hearts
and minds of men. Forever remembered...
in the annals of time.

SLOWLY FADE TO BLACK

THE END