

THESEUS AND THE MINOTAUR



Theseus and the Minotaur

Characters:

Theseus	Androgeos	Sinus	Hercules
Clotho	King Aegeus	Philosophus	The Minotaur
Lachesis	Queen Aethra	Attikos	Teiresias
Atropos	Referee	Eirene	Athena
King Minos	Athlete 1 and 2	Apple Merchant	Poseidon
Queen Pasiphae	Darius	Cretan Bull	Bandits 1 and 2
Ariadne	Captain Actor	Small Bull	Hermes
Zeus			

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Prologue

(Lights come up on stage. Enter the Fates, the seers of everything past, present and future. They are Clotho, Lachesis and Atropos. The Fates come to the middle of the stage and addresses the audience.)

Clotho: Welcome travellers! We are the Fates, the seers of all things past.

Lachesis: Present.

Atropos: And future.

Clotho: Gather around, for we have a story to tell you about a man named Theseus and how he became a hero.

Lachesis: It is an epic tale of gods, monsters and...

Atropos: TERRY'S CHOCOLATE ORANGES!

Clotho: Oh no, it's happening again. Sometimes she sees things from the future.

Lachesis: Focus, we need to tell a story.

Atropos: Sorry...

Clotho: A long, long time ago, on the isle of Crete, there lived a King by the name of Minos!

(Enter King Minos and Queen Pasiphae.)

Minos: Ah, what a beautiful morning. The isle of Crete is certainly a magical place.

Pasiphae: It certainly is, darling. Though we could do without those hideous seagulls.

(She indicates the audience.)

Clotho: Queen Pasiphae was known throughout the land for her beauty and kindness. Every day the king and queen would walk around the town and the people would cheer.

(Enter Citizens.)

Citizens: We love you King Minos. All hail the King and Queen.

(Exit Citizens.)

Lachesis: They had two children. The youngest was Ariadne.

(Enter Ariadne.)

Minos: Ah, Ariadne there you are. How go your studies?

Ariadne: Very well father.

Minos: Your tutor tells me that you have been looking at the forbidden scrolls again. Is that true?

Ariadne: No, I just went into the library to read about...um...fishing?

Minos: Ariadne you are not allowed to learn magic. It is forbidden. Understand?

Ariadne: Yes.

Atropos: Ariadne was every bit as pretty as her mother and was always sneaking into the grand library to look at the forbidden magical scrolls. ELECTRICITY!

Clotho: What?

Atropos: It's like lightning, but tiny.

Lachesis: Anyway. King Minos hated magic. The Queen, however, was an expert in it and was secretly proud of her daughter.

Pasiphae: Oh dear, stop being so harsh on her. Now, where is that son of ours? He will miss his boat if he isn't careful.

(Enter Androgeos.)

Androgeos: Here I am. Sorry I'm late I just thought I would warm up with a quick jog around the island.

Minos: Oh son, how impressive. You are sure to win at the games this year!

Clotho: Prince Androgeos was a fierce warrior and athlete, undefeated in every contest. This year he was travelling to Athens to take part in the Olympic games.

Minos: Come back soon.

Androgeos: Have no fear, father. I will be back before you know it.

(Exit Minos, Pasiphae and Ariadne.)

Lachesis: Androgeos sailed across the sea to Athens, eager to win as many medals as he could.

(Enter Athletes 1 and 2 and referee.)

Referee: Right you lot, I want a nice, clean games this year. The first event is the Archery!

(Androgeos and Athletes compete in the Archery.)

The winner is, Androgeos!

Athlete 1: Wow, he's good.

Referee: The next event is, the long run!

(Androgeos and the Athletes race. He easily runs past them.)

The winner is, Androgeos!

Androgeos: Thank you, thank you.

Athlete 2: He won again? I don't like this guy.

Athlete 1: Yeah, he's pretty annoying.

Referee: The next event is the shotput!

(Androgeos and the Athletes throw stones.)

The winner is Androgeos. That's three medals today; well done.

Androgeos: I'm honoured. Thank you everyone, thank you.

Atropos: Androgeos kept winning. The crowd loved him, but the other athletes hated him.

Athlete 1: He's winning everything. We can't let him get away with this.

Athlete 2: I say we get rid of him. Who's with me?

(Exit Referee and crowd.)

Clotho: That night, while Androgeos was alone, the others ambushed him.

(Androgeos is attacked and killed by the Athletes. Enter King Minos and Pasiphae.)

When King Minos found out his son had died, he was furious.

Minos: NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO! Send word to Athens, I will go to war with them to get revenge.

Pasiphae: But, dear, isn't war is a little extreme? Besides, we cannot blame all the people in Athens because of what only some of them did!

Minos: Hmmm, well then, if Athens doesn't want a war then here's how we will fix this?

Lachesis: King Minos knew what to do. In the labyrinth underneath his palace lived a monster. The legends called it...the Minotaur. It had the body of a man, but the head of a bull.

Minos: Here's what we'll do! Every seven years a group of boys and girls will be brought to the Palace and attempt to defeat the evil Minotaur. If any of them can manage to do that, then I will forget about seeking my revenge.

(Minos and Pasiphae exit.)

Atropos: And so it was. From that day, a group of boys and girls were sent to Crete to face the evil beast. But no matter how many warriors went into the labyrinth, none ever came out again.

Clotho: And that, ladies and gentlemen, is where our story begins.

Atropos: MICROWAVE OVENS!

Lachesis: What now?

Atropos: It's a microwave that's also an oven.

Lachesis: What's a microwave?

Clotho: Will you ladies focus?

Scene One: Athens

Lachesis: Many years later, in the City of Athens, an apple merchant sells fresh fruit to the people.

(Enter Apple Merchant, selling apples to the audience.)

Merchant: Apples, get your fresh apples here. One for you...that'll be 100 drachma.

Lachesis: The city was a wonderful place, but not always a safe one.

(Enter Sinus, the Bandit Leader, along with two Bandits.)

Sinus: Well, what do we have here?

Merchant: Oh no, bandits!

Bandit 1: I think it's an apple merchant, boss.

Sinus: I know that. It was a rhetorical question.

Bandit 2: Looks like he's selling fruit to me, boss.

Sinus: In our neighbourhood? I don't think so. Hand over your apples.

Merchant: Help!

(Enter Theseus.)

Theseus: Stop right there! Leave that merchant alone!

Merchant: Prince Theseus, thank goodness you are here!

Lachesis: Yes, Prince Theseus had arrived..

Bandit 1: Oh no, it's the Prince.

Bandit 2: Quick, let's get out of here!

(The Bandits exit.)

Merchant: Oh, thank you for saving me. Here, have an apple.

(The Merchant gives him an apple and then exits.)

Lachesis: Theseus was known for being kind, brave and strong. He was loved by his people and lived a happy life with his mother and father, the King and Queen of Athens.

Atropos: However, more than anything else, Theseus wanted to be a hero.

(Enter Queen Aethra.)

Aethra: Ah, Theseus there you are. Where have you been?

Theseus: Mother, I was just helping a man who was being attacked by bandits.

Aethra: Oh you are brave, but we need to get back to the palace. Do you remember what today is?

Theseus: Of course. Today is the day of the choosing, where soldiers from Crete come and choose the people to go and fight the Minotaur.

Aethra: That's right, and when those soldiers come here, I don't want them seeing you.

Theseus: Why?

Aethra: Because they might take you!

Theseus: Actually, I wanted to talk to you about that Mother. I'd really like to volunteer. Athens needs a hero to defeat the Minotaur. Then we won't have to send sacrifices to Crete anymore.

Aethra: No! I won't allow it. Now Come along back to the palace.

(They exit.)

Scene Two: The Queen and the Princess

(The palace in Crete. Princess Ariadne sits with her tutor, Philosophus. They are in the middle of a lesson.)

Atropos: While Theseus volunteered to go and fight the Minotaur, Princess Ariadne was in the middle of a lesson with her tutor, the great Philosophus...and sat bored in the classroom.

Phil: And that is how you perform long division. Very exciting isn't it? Princess are you listening?

Ariadne: Hm? Oh yes you just...um...

Phil: Princess how do you expect to rule the kingdom if you don't pay attention in your lessons?

(Enter Queen Pasiphae.)

Pasiphae: Philosophus, I think that is enough for today.

Phil: Oh, your majesty. Very well. I shall be back tomorrow.

(Philosophus leaves.)

Pasiphae: Ariadne were you daydreaming again?

Ariadne: It's not my fault. His lessons are boring!

Pasiphae: A Queen must be strong and clever, darling.

Ariadne: It sounds like hard work.

Pasiphae: Of course it is, being fabulous isn't easy.

(She flourishes her hair.)

Ariadne: Perhaps I'm just not smart.

Pasiphae: You have a good heart, Ariadne and that is the most important thing.

Ariadne: But it's all so boring. What I'd really like to learn is magic; but father says it's not allowed.

(Pasiphae thinks for a moment.)

Pasiphae: Perhaps I could show you a spell? I used to practice magic too you know.

Ariadne: Really, but it's not allowed.

Pasiphae: Then we just won't tell anyone, now watch.

(Pasiphae raises her hands, closes her eyes and concentrates. She uses her magic to transform herself into a brightly coloured bird.)

Atropos: Ariadne watched as her mother used magic to change shape. Her arms became wings and her hair became feathers. Soon she was not a woman anymore.

Ariadne: Oh my goodness, you're a bird.

Pasiphae: A beautiful bird. Why don't you try?

(Ariadne does the same. After a moment she transforms into a frog.)

Atropos: Ariadne tried the same spell, but instead of wings she got webbed feet, a long tongue and long legs.

Ariadne: Ew, I'm all slimy.

Pasiphae: Not bad for your first try though. You're good at this. First time I tried I turned into a vase. It was horrible.

(She claps her hands and they change back into humans.)

Ariadne: That was amazing. Can you show me more?

Pasiphae: Later perhaps, we need to go and get ready for the sacrifices to arrive.

Atropos: Off they went to wait for the arrival of...INSTANT NOODLES!

Clotho: Atropos!

Atropos: They're like noodles that you can have right away...I mean, sorry.

Scene Three: Theseus's Decision

(The royal palace of Athens. King Aegeus awaits nervously.)

Clotho: Meanwhile, back in Athens, King Aegeus waited in his chambers for the soldiers to arrive from Crete.

(Enter Theseus and Aethra.)

Aegeus: Ah, Theseus there you are. Thank goodness.

Aethra: He's been fighting bandits again. Maybe you can talk sense into him?

Aegeus: Theseus, these are dangerous times. Those soldiers could be here any minute now. How would you feel if they took you to Crete?

Theseus: I want to go. Someone needs to defeat the Minotaur and save Athens!

Aegeus: You stop that at once! The Minotaur would crush you. No, we have to hope that someone defeat it some day, but not you. You are the Prince and you need to be here.

(Enter Darius and Cretan soldiers. They bow.)

Darius: Your majesty. We are from Crete. My name is Darius, Captain of the guard.

Aegeus: I know why you are here. Just choose who you are taking and be done with it.

Darius: My men have already selected six people to come and face the Minotaur. We just need to find one more and we will be on our way.

Aethra: Theseus, go and hide. Quickly.

Theseus: No mother. I won't hide anymore. I volunteer myself to go and fight the Minotaur.

Aegeus: Theseus, are you mad?

Theseus: Someone has to put a stop to this. I will defeat the Minotaur for everyone.

Darius: Very well, come with us then.

(Darius and the soldiers take Theseus. They all exit. We move to the harbour in Athens. Captain Actor stands with Attikos and Eirene and Royal Guards. They are waiting for the final sacrifice to arrive so that they can set sail.)

Clotho: Down in the harbour the soldiers were getting ready to set sail. They were just waiting for Captain Darius to return.

Attikos: So you're going to Crete too?

Eirene: Yeah, I heard that they throw a big feast for everyone when we arrive. I hope it's true, I'm starving.

(Enter Theseus, Darius, and Royal Guards.)

Darius: The boat is just there.

(Enter King Aegeus.)

Aegeus: Wait!

Theseus: Father, what are you doing here?

Aegeus: I just wanted to say that I think you're very brave, and that I'm very proud of you.

(They hug each other.)

Good luck, son. I will watch for your boat. If you manage to defeat the Minotaur, then sail back using a white flag. That way I will see the flag and know that you have survived.

Theseus: I promise I will.

Aegeus: But don't sail back using a black flag, otherwise it will get confusing and I might fall off the cliff in shock.

Lachesis: Atropos, tell the story properly!

Atropos: But that's what happens.

Clotho: ANYWAY, back to the story...

(Theseus goes over to the Boat Captain.)

Captain: Greetings, my name is Actor and I'm the Captain of this ship! What's your name?

Theseus: Theseus. Prince of Athens.

Captain: Nice to meet ya.

Clotho: And so Theseus and the others set sail towards Crete, and his adventure truly began.

Scene Four: Olympus

(Mt Olympus, a kingdom in the clouds: home to the Gods. It is a bright and cheerful place.)

Lachesis: As Theseus sailed towards Crete, up on Mount Olympus, Athena was waking up after a long sleep.

(Enter Athena. She stretches and looks out over the kingdom, happily.)

Athena: Ah, what a wonderful day it is. That was such a nice nap. I hope nothing bad happened while I was away.

(Hermes dashes on, running across the stage. He keeps running from one side of the stage to the other while talking.)

Hermes: Athena! Terrible news. Just terrible. You have to hear it.

(Athena watches him go backwards and forwards and finally catches him.)

Athena: Hermes, slow down. What are you on about?

Hermes: Prince Theseus! I just heard. He's going to fight the Minotaur.

Athena: What?

(Enter Poseidon.)

Poseidon: That's right. I just heard too. This is fantastic.

Lachesis: Athena is the Goddess of Wisdom and Justice, while Poseidon is the God of the Sea. The two had long been rivals and didn't like each other much. The Minotaur was actually one of Poseidon's beasts.

Athena: Poseidon, you leave Theseus alone!

Poseidon: I didn't do anything. He volunteered. Besides, why do you care?

Athena: He is Prince of Athens. That's my city!

Poseidon: Too bad for you then!

(He sticks his tongue out and leaves.)

Athena: Oh, I hate him.

Hermes: I'm sorry. What should we do?

Athena: I'll go and see Zeus. We must save Theseus!

(Hermes and Athena both leave.)

Scene Five: The Journey to Crete.

(Aegeus exits. Chorus enter with the boat and sail it across the sea.)

Clotho: They sailed far across the ocean for many days and nights.

Atropos: IMAX CINEMAS!

Clotho: What are they?

Atropos: Expensive.

Clotho: Anyway! During their travels Theseus became good friends with the captain, who would tell him stories of his time at sea.

Captain: I've sailed these waters for years. Even spent some time aboard the Argo with Jason and his pals. Fun guys, got into some hilarious adventures.

Clotho: Finally they arrived in Crete.

(Exit Chorus with the boat.)

Theseus: So this is Crete?

Captain: Yes, it's very beautiful isn't it? Shame about the Minotaur.

Theseus: Everyone seems so happy.

Captain: Well, that would be because of Princess Ariadne.

Theseus: Who?

Captain: The Princess of Crete and everyone loves her.

Darius: Hey, that's enough from you. Be off!

Captain: Very well. Goodbye Theseus...and good luck.

Theseus: Thank you Captain, hopefully I'll see you again.

(Exit Captain Actor.)

Attikos: So what happens now?

Eirene: I hope we get lunch.

Darius: Here comes the King.

Guard: Make way for the King!

(Enter King Minos.)

Minos: Greetings sacrifices... I mean volunteers from Athens. Welcome to Crete! I am King Minos, ruler of this land.

Attikos: Oh, he looks pretty fancy, doesn't he?

Eirene: Still no sign of that lunch.

Minos: Ah, you there. You must be Prince Theseus.

Theseus: That's right.

Minos: It was very brave of you to volunteer. Brave but foolish.

Theseus: We'll see.

Attikos: This feels a bit intense for me.

Eirene: When are we going to get the free lunch?

Minos: Come. We will go to the castle, for your final supper.

Eirene: Finally.

(They all exit.)

Scene Six: Zeus, God of Thunder.

(The lights come up on Mt Olympus once again. While Zeus and Athena enter, Lachesis narrates.)

Lachesis: Up on Mount Olympus, Athena had gone to speak to Zeus; the leader of the Gods and the God of thunder.

Zeus: So you're saying that Prince Theseus is going to fight the Minotaur?

Athena: Yes, we have to put a stop to this!

Zeus: Well, I understand that you're upset about this, but you know why the people go and fight the Minotaur. I don't think we can help.

Athena: But you're the God of thunder!

Zeus: Yes and I am far too busy to go around fighting everyone's battles. It's not easy commanding the Gods, you know.

Athena: You spend half your time disguised as animals playing tricks on humans.

Zeus: Everyone needs a hobby!

Athena: Zeus, please. Theseus needs your help!

Zeus: No, Athena. We cannot get involved. Sure we could go and fight the Minotaur, but it's not for us to decide. Theseus must defeat the beast alone.

Athena: Then I will go and take care of things.

Zeus: No, you are forbidden from going. Do you understand? If you interfere then I will be forced to punish you. Do you want to be thrown off this mountain? Now, no more of this. Understand?

Lachesis: Athena really wanted to help, but she couldn't disobey Zeus.

Athena: I understand.

(Zeus leaves. Hermes enters.)

Hermes: That didn't go well. So what should we do now?

Athena: We need to be clever about this. He said we weren't allowed to help Theseus...but he didn't say anything about helping others. I have an idea, but I'll need your help!

(They leave.)

Lachesis: I like the next bit of the story.

Atropos: DARTH VADER IS LUKE'S FATHER!

Lachesis: Will you please just stop?

Atropos: You can't stop the future!

Scene Seven: The Feast

(Music plays. Enter Chorus as party guests. Enter Theseus, Sacrifices 1 and 2, Darius and Guards.)

Clotho: That night there was a massive feast in the palace and everyone celebrated. The people from Athens danced with the people from Greece. Theseus sat with his friends from the boat.

Attikos: This is a nice party.

Eirene: I can't talk, I'm too full...

(Enter Pasiphae and Ariadne.)

Pasiphae: It's all going so well. I do throw a good party, don't I?

Ariadne: Mother, who is that?

Pasiphae: That's Theseus, Prince of Athens. He volunteered to come and fight the Minotaur. Now I should go and make sure the snacks are being passed around.

(Pasiphae exits. Ariadne approaches Theseus.)

Ariadne: Hello.

Theseus: Oh hi, you're Princess Ariadne. I'm Theseus.

Ariadne: Why did you come to fight the Minotaur?

Theseus: Because I want to be a hero. So many of my people have died fighting it and I want to make it stop.

Ariadne: Athens sounds like a wonderful place. I'd like to live there.

Theseus: But you're the princess here.

Ariadne: Yes but I hate being here. I don't like that people have to go and fight the Minotaur. Every year I beg my father to stop, but he never does. It makes me sad to watch everyone go down there and never come out. I can't even practice magic. Father says it is forbidden.

Theseus: You know magic? That's amazing. Well, if I defeat the Minotaur maybe you could come back with me?

Ariadne: You mean it?

Theseus: Of course. I just have to win, first.

(They exit.)

Clotho: Later that evening King Minos gathered everyone around the plaza.

(Enter King Minos.)

Minos: Before you all go and face the Minotaur, let me tell you the story of how it came to be. For many years we have sailed the seas and each year Poseidon, the God of the Sea, demanded that we give him a sacrifice.

(Enter Poseidon.)

Poseidon: I am the mighty Poseidon, God of the Seas! If you want your boats to sail safely then you must sacrifice this bull to me!

(Enter Guard and Small Bull.)

Minos: However, the bull he gave us was only a small one and so nobody could bring themselves to kill it.

Guard: I can't do it.

Poseidon: You have failed to make me happy, now you shall pay! I shall send my biggest bull to destroy your homes!

Minos: Poseidon sent a bull to attack Crete. It was bigger than any creature we had seen before and started destroying the island.

(Enter Cretan Bull. It scares away the soldiers and rampages through the city.)

Thankfully, we were saved by the hero Hercules.

(Enter Hercules.)

Hercules: Hello, I'm Hercules. I hear you have a monster problem?

Minos: Hercules battled the Cretan Bull. It was a fierce fight but using his incredible strength, the monster was finally defeated.

(Hercules fights the Cretan Bull and wins. The citizens all come on and cheer him.)

That was not the end of our troubles though. The Cretan Bull had a son, the Minotaur; who was half human and half beast. After Hercules had gone, our army battled the Minotaur and managed to trap him in a labyrinth deep beneath the palace. Now it is up to one of you to try and defeat it.

(Everyone exits.)

Scene Eight: Ariadne's Quest

Atropos: After King Minos had finished, the soldiers took the sacrifices away to prepare before being sent into the labyrinth the next morning. Ariadne stayed awake for a long time, thinking about Theseus and what he had said.

(Enter Ariadne, looking concerned. She paces back and forward. Athena and Hermes enter.)

Athena: Alright, now remember; you are the Queen.

Hermes: Right.

Hermes: Just one thing. I'm not very good at acting. What if I forget my lines?

Athena: Improvise.

(She gives Hermes a wig and pushes him in. Hermes pretends to act like Pasiphae, but he is clearly very bad at acting. Athena exits.)

Hermes: Um...Ariadne...it's me, you're mother...

Ariadne: I was just thinking about Theseus. I want him to defeat the Minotaur, but how can he? The monster is too strong. I wish I could help him. What should I do?

Hermes: Maybe you should ask the oracle for help?

Ariadne: That's a great idea! I'll go now...say Mum, you look different.

Hermes: I...um...new sandals?

Ariadne: Right. Well, thanks.

(She leaves and so does Hermes, breathing a sigh of relief.)

Atropos: So, Ariadne snuck out of the palace and through the streets of Crete to the temple where the Oracle lived, high up on the hill.

(Ariadne sneaks out of the palace past some guards. She travels to the temple of Zeus up on the hill.)

Ariadne: Hello, Oracle?

(Enter Teiresias, the blind old man. He is the Oracle.)

Teiresias: Hello there, Princess Ariadne, come in, come in.

Ariadne: Oracle, I need your help. I want to help Theseus defeat the Minotaur, but how?

Teiresias: A difficult task, my dear. No weapon can harm the Minotaur, you would need a magical one. Athena can help you; travel to her temple and ask for her assistance.

Ariadne: Thank you Oracle, I will.

Teiresias: That is not all; Theseus will need your help too to escape the Labyrinth. Use your magic.

(Teiresias exits.)

Atropos: Ariadne listened to the Oracle and then quickly made her way to the temple of Athena on the other side of the island.

Ariadne: Hello? I'm looking to speak to Athena.

(Enter Athena.)

Athena: Greetings, Princess from Crete. I am Athena, Goddess of wisdom, courage and justice. I was hoping you would come. You want to help your friend Theseus, do you not.

Ariadne: Yes! I need a magical sword to help him beat the Minotaur.

Athena: Ariadne, you have a big heart and a kind spirit. I will give you a magic sword for Theseus. In return you must help him escape Crete when the battle is over.

Ariadne: But how?

Athena: You will need to find a way for him to escape the labyrinth. Here, the magic on this scroll will help. You know how to use magic, correct?

(She hands Ariadne a scroll.)

Ariadne: I'm not that good yet...

Athena: Have faith. I believe in you. Now then...

(Athena claps her hands and the magic sword appears. Ariadne takes the sword.)

Ariadne: Thank you.

Athena: You must get that sword to him.

(Ariadne and Athena exit. Night turns to morning. Pasiphae enters.)

Atropos: Taking the sword, Ariadne quickly returned to the palace, where the Queen waited.

(Enter Ariadne with the magic sword.)

Pasiphae: Where have you been, Ariadne?

Ariadne: I got the sword mother! Now Theseus can defeat the Minotaur. Did you change your sandals again?

Pasiphae: I have no idea what you're talking about, but you're too late; they're about to go into the labyrinth. The guards won't let you near Theseus now.

Ariadne: Maybe they would if I was disguised?

(Ariadne holds up her hands and claps. She transforms into a frog again.)

How do I look?

Pasiphae: Ribbeting, dear. Well done; now go quickly.

(Pasiphae exits. Enter Theseus and guards.)

Ariadne: Pssst, Theseus. It's me.

Theseus: Ariadne, what are you doing here?

Ariadne: Here, I brought you this. It's a magical sword that can hurt the Minotaur.

Theseus: Wow, thank you.

Ariadne: And that's not all. Athena taught me a spell. Watch this.

(Ariadne claps her hands again and creates a ball of string.)

Take this ball of string. If you leave a trail of it behind then you can find your way back to the entrance.

Theseus: You're amazing. I'll see you when I return.

Guard: Come along now, you and stop talking to that frog. Oh, nice sword.

(The guard leads Theseus away.)

Ariadne: Good luck.

(She exits.)

Atropos: Hey guys, I made it through a whole scene without spoiling the future...

(Pause.)

DRIVE THROUGH RESTAURANTS!

(Pause.)

Aw man...

Scene Nine: The Labyrinth

(The stage darkens. We enter the labyrinth; the twisting maze beneath the palace. The Chorus enter and use material to create the walls of the maze. Theseus enters, looking around in the dark.)

Clotho: Deep beneath the palace of Crete, Theseus found himself in the labyrinth, an endless maze of darkness. Somewhere inside lurked the Minotaur. With Ariadne's sword in hand, and her magical ball of string, Theseus began his search for the beast.

(Theseus explores the labyrinth. From both sides, Attikos and Eirene enter.)

Attikos: Theseus, is that you?

Theseus: Yes, have you found the Minotaur yet?

Attikos: Not yet.

Eirene: I'm not sure I like it down here. It's darker and more menacing than I imagined.

Theseus: We should stick together. I will protect you both.

(There is a loud groan from in the darkness. They all jump.)

Eirene: I've changed my mind. I'm getting out of here.

Theseus: Wait!

(Eirene runs off stage. Moments later we hear a scream.)

Attikos: It got him. It's coming for us!

(Attikos runs off too and again, we hear a scream.)

Theseus: Show yourself Minotaur! Face me.

(There is a pause. The Chorus exit and take the walls with them. From the shadows, the Minotaur appears. Enter Minotaur.)

Minotaur: Who dares to come into my home?

Theseus: I am Theseus, Prince of Athens.

Minotaur: I am the mighty Minotaur! Son of the great Cretan Bull.

Theseus: I know who you are. I have come to defeat you.

Minotaur: Puny human. You insult me! I will make you regret those words. MINOTAUR SMASH!

Clotho: There, in the dark of the maze, Theseus battled the Minotaur.

(Theseus fights the Minotaur. It is an intense battle. The Minotaur is far stronger, but Theseus has the magic sword. Their battle continues until finally Theseus lands the finishing blow. The Minotaur is down, defeated.)

Lachesis: Their battle was fierce, but in the end it was Theseus that emerged the winner. Using Ariadne's ball of string, he began to find his way back towards the exit.

(The lights go down, everyone exits.)

Scene Ten: Escaping Crete.

Clotho: With the Minotaur defeated, Theseus returned to the palace, where King Minos and the others awaited. Everyone cheered as the young Prince climbed out of the labyrinth.

(Enter King Minos, Queen Pasiphae, Ariadne, Darius, Chorus as Guards and citizens.)

Minos: Well done, you have defeated the Minotaur. I didn't think it possible.

Theseus: Yes, now you must stop taking my people every year!

Pasiphae: Of course. We will leave Athens alone, as promised.

(The crowd cheer. Everyone suddenly freezes. Athena and Poseidon enter.)

Poseidon: NOOOOOO! How did he manage to win?

Athena: Who knows?

Poseidon: You did this! You helped him.

Athena: Hey, I never helped *Theseus*.

Poseidon: You will regret this, just you wait!

(She sticks her tongue out at him.)

Why you! Theseus will never escape Crete!

(Everyone unfreezes.)

Athena: Oh yeah, and why is that?

Theseus: One more thing. Ariadne comes with me!

Minos: What? Absolutely not! Guards, seize him.

Athena: Oh crumbs.

(Darius and the guards surround Theseus.)

Ariadne: No father. I want to go with him.

Minos: I will not have it! You shall stay here forever!

Darius: You are under arrest, Theseus.

Theseus: I don't think so.

(Theseus easily defeats the guards. He fights Darius and again, wins. King Minos takes up a sword and approaches as well.)

Minos: You will not have my daughter!

Ariadne: Stop!

(She claps her hands and Minos turns into a frog. Everyone is confused.)

Pasiphae: Bravo. Now darling I think you need to stop this now. It's quite embarrassing.

Minos: No, Ariadne you can't leave.

Ariadne: Father I don't want to stay in the palace forever.

Pasiphae: Don't you think you're being a bit mean, dear?

Minos: Well...maybe...but after Androgeos I didn't want to lose you. Perhaps I was wrong.

Pasiphae: Shall we turn you back into a person now?

(She claps her hands and Minos becomes a person again.)

Minos: You may go but be safe...and visit sometimes.

Ariadne: I will.

(All exit but Theseus and Ariadne, who freeze, and Athena and Poseidon.)

Athena: Well, that worked out well.

Poseidon: This isn't over, Athena. Just you wait. Next time I'll get you.

Athena: Oh course you will. Bye now.

(Poseidon growls and storms off. Hermes enters. He is still wearing his Pasiphae disguise.)

Hermes: Athena, there you are. What happened to Theseus?

Athena: Not to worry, everything worked out in the end. You can take that off now.

Hermes: I know. I kind of like it.

Athena: Well, come on, we'd best be going. I'm sure Theseus can handle the rest.

(They leave.)

Epilogue:

Atropos: And so, Theseus and Ariadne set off towards Athens once again. They sailed for many days across the sea.

(Enter Chorus with boat. Theseus holds up a black sail.)

However, Theseus had forgotten what his father had said and sailed using the black sail. When they finally reached Athens, they were greeted by Queen Aethra and a very injured looking King.

(Enter Queen Aethra and King Aegeus in bandages.)

Aethra: Theseus, I'm so glad you're safe!

Theseus: Father, what happened?

Aethra: Your father saw the black sail and thought you died. He was so shocked that he fell from the cliff and tumbled into the sea.

Aegeus: I'm fine...

(Theseus hugs Aegeus, who is in immense pain.)

...OW...

(They all exit.)

Clotho: And so it was that Theseus's story became a legend.

Lachesis: He went on to have a great many adventures.

Atropos: Theseus became a hero, as he always wanted to be.

Clotho: Ariadne would go on to have her own adventures as well, but those are stories for another time. For now we must go and continue telling our stories. Perhaps we will meet again someday?

Lachesis: What do you think?

Atropos: Oh, I couldn't possibly reveal the future.

Lachesis: Really?

Atropos: Yep, I'm not going to say anything else about the future.

(They all pause. Clotho and Lachesis look uncertainly at Atropos, who is struggling to keep quiet.

Eventually she shouts out.)

BABY SHARK DO, DO, DO DO, DO DO!

(Clotho and Lachesis sigh and exit. Atropos hovers and then notices they are gone. She chases them.)

Hey, wait for me!

(Blackout.)

