

PROMETHEUS THE GOD(FATHER)

A Radio/Stage Play

By

Eric Coble

ANNOUNCER

WE HAVE UNEARTHED A NEW RE-TELLING OF THE PROMETHEUS LEGEND,
AND HOW HUMANS CAME TO POPULATE THE EARTH. SO HERE FOR YOUR
LISTENING ENJOYMENT, THE MAFIA PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENT...
"PROMETHEUS: MYTHIC HERO OR WISEGUY?"

(THE THEME FROM "THE GODFATHER" PLAYS)

(SOUND OF A DOORBELL AND DOOR OPENING)

SECRETARY

YOUR ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY ZEUS?

ZEUS

(SOUNDING LIKE BRANDO IN "THE
GODFATHER")

YES?

SECRETARY

APOLLO THE SUN GOD IS HERE TO SEE YOU, SIR.

ZEUS

SEND HIM IN. BY THE WAY, THAT'S A VERY ATTRACTIVE TOGA
YOU'RE WEARING TODAY.

(SECRETARY GIGGLES AND LEAVES)

(THE SOUND OF A CHARIOT AND HORSES
ROLLS IN)

ZEUS (CONT'D)

AH, MY GOOD FRIEND APOLLO... WHAT, YOU COULDN'T PARK
OUTSIDE?

APOLLO

ZEUS CORLEONE, THIS ISN'T EXACTLY THE BEST NEIGHBORHOOD, YOU
KNOW.

ZEUS

IT'S OLYMPUS. IT'S THE ONLY NEIGHBORHOOD.

APOLLO

LOOK AT THESE GOLD HUBCAPS. I HAD THESE SPECIALLY MADE.
THEY'RE NOT GOIN' OUT OF MY SIGHT.

ZEUS

I UNDERSTAND.

APOLLO

AND THESE FLYING HORSES. ONE OF THEM GETS STOLEN, MY INSURANCE RATES -- FTTTT! -- THROUGH THE ROOF.

ZEUS

I UNDERSTAND-

APOLLO

LAST TIME I WAS UP HERE, SOME KID SPRAY PAINTED "NORSE GODS FOREVER" ON THE SIDE OF MY CHARIOT. I'M NOT HAVING THAT-

ZEUS

I UNDERSTAND!! LISTEN. WHY I ASKED YOU HERE. COME. LOOK OUT MY BEDROOM WINDOW.

APOLLO

THAT'S A NICE VIEW.

ZEUS

NICE VIEW. YOU CAN SEE THE WHOLE EARTH FROM HERE. IT'S THE NICEST VIEW. BUT WHAT DIRECTION DOES MY WINDOW FACE?

APOLLO

EAST.

ZEUS

EAST. AND FROM WHERE DOES THE SUN RISE?

APOLLO

EAST.

ZEUS

EVERY MORNING I AM LYING IN BED ASLEEP -- KING OF THE GODS, I DESERVE A LITTLE SHUT-EYE -- BUT WHAT HAPPENS EVERY SINGLE MORNING? WHOOM. YOU APPEAR DRAGGING THE FULL FLAMING SUN BEHIND YOU. I'M BLINKING, I'M WINKING, I'M NODDING AT THE GLARE -- THIS IS NOT THE WAY FOR THE RULER OF THE GODS TO START HIS DAY.

APOLLO

YOU COULD MOVE YOUR BED OVER TO THIS CORNER-

ZEUS

NO.

APOLLO

YOU COULD HANG CURTAINS -- A NICE PASTEL-

ZEUS

NO.

APOLLO

YOU COULD BUY THOSE LITTLE NIGHT-NIGHT EYE SHADE THINGIES --
THEY STRAP RIGHT OVER YOUR EYES-

ZEUS

OR YOU COULD TRAVEL FROM A DIFFERENT DIRECTION.

(PAUSE)

APOLLO

YOU WANT THE SUN TO RISE IN THE WEST?

ZEUS

I'M SAYING IT WOULD BE PLEASANT.

APOLLO

THE SUN CAN'T RISE IN THE WEST! THE SUN RISES IN THE EAST!
EVERYONE'S GONNA BE LOOKING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION-

ZEUS

THEY'LL ADJUST. IT TAKES TIME BUT WE ADJUST. LOOK AT THE
METRIC SYSTEM.

APOLLO

ZEUS CORLEONE, I KNOW YOU ARE THE FATHER OF THE GODS-

ZEUS

GODFATHER. PLEASE.

APOLLO

GODFATHER. BUT THIS I CANNOT DO.

(PAUSE)

ZEUS

APOLLO, MY BOY. LET ME MAKE YOU A COUNTER OFFER. THESE
STEEDS OF FLAME THAT PULL YOUR CHARIOT-

APOLLO

YES.

ZEUS

THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL.

APOLLO

YES.

ZEUS

YOU LOVE THEM.

APOLLO

YES...

ZEUS

I'M THINKING WHAT A SHAME IT WOULD BE IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO THEM.

APOLLO

ZEUS-

ZEUS

THEY GET TANGLED UP IN A FALLING LIGHTNING BOLT FOR INSTANCE. ZZZZTT. NO MORE HORSES.

APOLLO

ZEUS-

ZEUS

YOU DO NOT WANT THIS. I DO NOT WANT THIS. WHAT I WANT IS TO SLEEP IN IN THE MORNINGS.

(PAUSE)

APOLLO

I THINK THE SUN RISING IN THE WEST COULD WORK OUT PRETTY WELL.

ZEUS

YOU'RE A SMART BOY, APOLLO. NOW YOU TAKE YOUR FIREY-FOOTED STEEDS OUT OF HERE BEFORE THEY DECORATE MY CARPET AN FURTHER, AND YOU ENJOY PULLING THE SUN.

(DOOR CLOSSES, THEN A CHIME)

ZEUS (CONT'D)

YES?

SECRETARY

ALMIGHTY ZEUS. PROMETHEUS THE TITAN IS HERE TO SEE YOU.

ZEUS

SEND HIM IN. AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LUNCH?

SECRETARY

(GIGGLES)

OH, ZEUS.

ZEUS

PROMETHEUS, MY GOOD FRIEND! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO OLYMPUS?

PROMETHEUS

ALMIGHTY ZEUS, I GOT A BUSINESS PROPOSITION FOR YOU.

ZEUS

AH. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME VINO?

PROMETHEUS

SURE.

(SOUND OF A CORK POPPING AND WINE
POURING)

ZEUS

I HAD DIONYSUS MAKE THIS SPECIAL TODAY.

PROMETHEUS

(DRINKING)

MM. YOU CAN STILL TASTE HIS FEET.

ZEUS

YOU WANT A CIGAR?

(SOUND OF A ZIPPO LIGHTER CLICKING
OPEN)

PROMETHEUS

NICE LIGHTER.

ZEUS

HEPHAESTUS MADE IT FOR ME. THE FLAME CAN SHOOT UP TO THIRTY
FEET IN THE AIR. WATCH THIS.

(HUGE ROARING SOUND)

PROMETHEUS

HOLY MOLEY!

ZEUS

SEE ALL THOSE SCORCH MARKS ON THE CEILING? MY LIGHTER. NOW
WHAT IS YOUR PROPOSITION?

PROMETHEUS

CAN YOU PUT OUT THE ZIPPO FIRST?

(CLICK)

ZEUS

DONE. TALK.

PROMETHEUS

WELL, YOU KNOW MY BROTHER EPIMETHEUS-

ZEUS

EPHY. EPHY IS A VERY GOOD BOY.

PROMETHEUS

WELL, HE'S HEADING THE WHOLE "FILLING THE EARTH WITH LIVING CREATURES" ACCOUNT FOR THE FAMILY-

ZEUS

AND DOING GOOD WORK. YOU'VE SEEN THOSE LITTLE, AH, THE YAPPY BUG-EYED HAIRLESS... RAT THING?

PROMETHEUS

CHIHUAHUAS. HE'S CALLING THEM CHIHUAHUAS.

ZEUS

THOSE CRACK ME UP. HE'S GOT A SENSE OF HUMOR, EPHY DOES.

PROMETHEUS

HE DOES. BUT I'M LOOKING OVER THE WHOLE ACCOUNT, AND I GOTTA TELL YOU SOMETHING'S MISSING.

ZEUS

WHAT'S MISSING? BY THE TIME YOU'VE GOT CHIHUAHUAS, THERE'S REALLY NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.

PROMETHEUS

YEAH, YOU GOT ALL THESE ANIMALS SCAMPERIN' AROUND DOWN THERE, AND NOBODY'S RUNNING THE SHOW. WE NEED SOMEONE IN CHARGE ON THE GROUND.

ZEUS

WHAT ARE YOU PROPOSING?

PROMETHEUS

I WOULD LIKE TO CREATE A CREATURE TO MANAGE OUR AFFAIRS ON EARTH. A GO-BETWEEN BETWEEN THE GODS AND THE REST OF NATURE.

(BEAT)

ZEUS

YOU ARE SUGGESTING, IN THE MIDDLE OF PARADISE DOWN THERE... WE CREATE MIDDLE MANAGEMENT?

PROMETHEUS

I'M SAYING THERE'S NO WAY ANTS AND LLAMAS AND PUFFINS ARE GONNA PAY YOU THE KIND OF RESPECT YOU DESERVE.

ZEUS

YOU HAVE A POINT.

PROMETHEUS

SOMEONE'S GOTTA LOOK OUT FOR US AND THEM. I MEAN, LOOK AT THE DODO BIRD. WHO'S GONNA TAKE CARE OF THE DODO BIRD IF WE DON'T CREATE HUMANS?

ZEUS

"HUMANS"? THAT'S YOUR NAME FOR THE PROJECT?

PROMETHEUS

IT'S A WORKING TITLE.

ZEUS

AND WHAT ARE THESE "HUMANS" GOING TO BE MADE OF?

PROMETHEUS

I'M THINKING CLAY.

ZEUS

CLAY? YOU HAVE EVERY MATERIAL IN THE UNIVERSE TO WORK WITH, AND YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE THEM OUT OF MUD?

PROMETHEUS

IT'S CHEAP. IF WE'RE GONNA MASS PRODUCE THESE THINGS WE GOTTA KEEP OUR OVERHEAD LOW.

ZEUS

PROMETHEUS, MY BOY. HERE IS MY OFFER. YOU GO AHEAD WITH YOUR HUMAN PROJECT. IF YOU CAN MAKE THESE THINGS SELF-SUFFICIENT, SO I DON'T HAVE TO KEEP STEPPING IN TO SAVE THEIR ASSETS... THEN THEY CAN BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY. BUT IF THESE THINGS CAN'T MAKE IT ON THEIR OWN... THEY'RE OUT OF HERE.

PROMETHEUS

ZEUS. I WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN.

ZEUS

DON'T. OR I'D HAVE TO NAIL YOU TO A MOUNTAIN OR SOMETHING.

(HE LAUGHS. PROMETHEUS LAUGHS. THEY BOTH LAUGH... THEN STOP)

PROMETHEUS

I THINK I SHOULD GO.

(SOUND OF A DOOR CLOSING.)

("GODFATHER" THEME PLAYS)

(A LARGE METAL DOOR GRATES OPEN)

PROMETHEUS (CONT'D)

EPIMETHEUS?

EPIMETHEUS
(SOUNDING LIKE JOE PESCI IN
"GOOD FELLAS")

WHAT? I'M WORKIN' HERE.

PROMETHEUS

IT'S ME. PROMETHEUS. NICE LABORATORY.

EPIMETHEUS

OUT OF THE WAY. LOOK AT THIS JAR, YOU SEE THIS JAR? A WHOLE
NEW BREED OF INSECT -- FLIES AROUND, WHINES, SUCKS THE BLOOD
RIGHT OUT OF YOU, SPREADS DISEASE -- HAS ABSOLUTELY NO USEFUL
FUNCTION. A TOTAL FAILURE. I GOTTA LOCK IT AWAY BEFORE
SOMETHING- WHOA... WHOA... WHOOOOPPPSS-

(SOUND OF GLASS BREAKING AND A FLURRY
OF MOSQUITOES)

EPIMETHEUS (CONT'D)

OH NOW SEE, NOW THEY'RE LOOSE.

PROMETHEUS

(LAUGHING)

YOU'RE A BUTTERFINGERS, EPPY.

EPIMETHEUS

WHAT, ARE YOU LAUGHING AT ME? AM I FUNNY? EPPY THE FUNNY
GOD? HUH? HUH??

PROMETHEUS

NO...

EPIMETHEUS

I'M A CLOWN TO YOU? I'M A LITTLE CLOWN GOD? THE GREEK GOD
OF MIRTH AT YOUR DISPOSAL, HAH?

PROMETHEUS

I GOT NO TIME FOR THIS. I NEED YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR-

EPIMETHEUS

OH, NOW YOU WANT THE LITTLE CLOWN TO DO YOU A FAVOR? WHAT'S IN THE BAG, HERO?

(SOUND OF PAPER BAG OPENING)

PROMETHEUS

LOOK. I MADE THIS.

EPIMETHEUS

HOORAY. YOU WANT SOMEONE TO ADMIRE YOUR LITTLE POTTERY PROJECT, YOU GO TALK TO MOM-

PROMETHEUS

I CALL IT A HUMAN. I'M GIVING IT LIFE TODAY.

EPIMETHEUS

I'M ALREADY DEVELOPING SOMETHING LIKE THAT. I CALL IT A CHIMP.

PROMETHEUS

I THINK THIS ONE CAN BE SOMETHING SPECIAL-

EPIMETHEUS

ESPECIALLY DELICIOUS. I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHIN', THE LIONS ARE GONNA HAVE A FIELD DAY WITH YOUR GUY.

PROMETHEUS

THAT'S WHY I NEED YOUR HELP. THESE HUMANS ARE GONNA HAVE TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AND MAKE THEIR REPUTATIONS PRETTY FAST. I KNOW YOU'RE DOLING OUT SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES TO ALL THE CREATURES. CAN YOU SLIP THE HUMANS A LITTLE SOMETHIN' ON THE SIDE?

EPIMETHEUS

HOW ABOUT EXTRA NOSES? I GOTTA WHOLE CRATE OF NOSES SITTING BACK THERE I WAS GONNA GIVE THE WHALES -- GREAT BIG SCHNOZZES-

PROMETHEUS

NO. KEEP THE ONE NOSE. JUST GIVE THEM SOMETHING... TO SET 'EM APART.

EPIMETHEUS

FIFTEEN NOSES PER FACE -- THAT'LL SET 'EM APART.

PROMETHEUS

GIVE THEM SOMETHING THAT WE GODS HAVE THAT NO OTHER ANIMAL POSSESSES.

EPIMETHEUS

YOU WANT'EM TO BE BACK-BITING, CRASS, POWER-HUNGRY BRATS? I CAN DO THAT.

PROMETHEUS

EPPY. I'M ASKING AS A FAVOR. YOU HELP THE HUMANS... AND THE FAMILY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU OUT SOME DAY.

EPIMETHEUS

THE FAMILY. ALWAYS THE FAMILY. FINE, FINE, FINE, I'LL GIVE YOUR LITTLE GUY SOMETHING SPECIAL.

PROMETHEUS

I OWE YOU.

EPIMETHEUS

BUT IF I WAS A BETTIN' MAN, I'D STILL PUT MY MONEY ON THE DINOSAURS OUTLIVIN' YOUR PUNY HUMAN. LOOK AT THOSE TAILS, THOSE TEETH! THAT LITTLE PEANUT BRAIN! WHY, I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF SOMEONE WITH A TINY LITTLE BRAIN LIKE THAT BECAME THE LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD SOMEDAY!

(THE "GODFATHER" THEME PLAYS)

(CRICKET AND OTHER NIGHT SOUNDS. THEN A TELEPHONE RING, WHICH IS ANSWERED)

PROMETHEUS

(SLEEPILY INTO PHONE)

HULLO...?

EPIMETHEUS

(ON THE OTHER END)

PROMETHEUS? IT'S EPIMETHEUS DOWN IN THE LAB-

PROMETHEUS

IT'S THREE IN THE MORNING, EPPY. WHAT DO YOU WANT?

EPIMETHEUS

IT'S MORE WHAT YOU WANT. I KIND OF SCREWED UP.

PROMETHEUS

CUT TO THE CHASE.

EPIMETHEUS

WELL, I WAS KIND OF HANDING OUT THE LAST OF THE ATTRIBUTES, RIGHT?

PROMETHEUS

YEAH.

EPIMETHEUS

FLIGHT TO THE BIRDS. CLAWS, SPEED AND FUR TO THE TIGERS,
BLUBBER TO THE WALRUSES TO KEEP WARM -- THE ABILITY TO MATE
FIVE TIMES A DAY TO THE RABBITS, JUST 'CAUSE THEY'RE CUTE AND
I WANT TO SEE MORE OF THEM-

PROMETHEUS

WHERE ARE WE GOING, EPPY?

EPIMETHEUS

WELL, I GOT DONE HANDIN' STUFF OUT... AND THERE WERE YOUR
LITTLE HUMANS. JUST SITTING THERE NAKED AND I HAD NOTHING
LEFT TO GIVE 'EM.

PROMETHEUS

YOU RAN OUT OF ATTRIBUTES?

EPIMETHEUS

CLEANED OUT. I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN IMMORTALITY TO THE
COCKROACHES. THAT WAS A BAD CALL-

PROMETHEUS

SO WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THE PEOPLE?

EPIMETHEUS

I LET'EM GO.

PROMETHEUS

YOU WHAT??

EPIMETHEUS

I SET'EM FREE DOWN ON EARTH. FIGURED I OWED'EM A FEW HOURS
OF RUNNING AROUND TIME BEFORE THEY WENT EXTINCT.

PROMETHEUS

WHERE ARE THEY NOW??

EPIMETHEUS

THEY'RE KIND OF CORNERED IN A TREE. THE WOLVES AND LEOPARDS
AND HYAENAS ARE JUST SITTING BELOW THEM LICKIN' THEIR LIPS
AND WAITIN' FOR CHOW TIME. AND THERE'S A TICKED-OFF KOALA UP
THERE WITH 'EM, BEANIN' THEM WITH ACORNS AND STICKS AND CRAP.
THEY LOOK PRETTY MISERABLE.

PROMETHEUS

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, EPPY! I ASK FOR ONE FAVOR-

EPIMETHEUS

DON'T GO BUSTIN' MY CHOPS -- I OFFERED YOU THE EXTRA NOSES-

PROMETHEUS
WHEN ARE YOU GETTING MORE SUPPLIES?

EPIMETHEUS
THERE AIN'T NO MORE SUPPLIES! I'M DONE! THE EARTH ACCOUNT
IS CLOSED, BROTHER! AND GOOD RIDDANCE. YOU WANT TO COME
OVER FOR SOME POPCORN AND WE CAN WATCH THE PEOPLE JUMPING
AROUND AND YELLING? IT'S PRETTY FUNNY.

PROMETHEUS
I GOTTA SEE ZEUS. GOODBYE, EPPY!

EPIMETHEUS
OH, HEY, A WOLVERINE'S HEADING OUT THE BRANCH TOWARD YOUR
GUYS! ONE OF 'EM'S TRYING TO PET IT! WHOO-HOO! THIS IS
GONNA BE GREAT!

(CLICK. PROMETHEUS HANGS UP)

("GODFATHER" THEME PLAYS)

(SOUND OF RUNNING FOOTSTEPS. A QUICK
DOOR CHIME, AND A DOOR OPENING)

ZEUS
WHO IS IT?

PROMETHEUS
ZEUS, IT'S ME. PROMETHEUS. I GOTTA PROBLEM-

ZEUS
YOU BET YOU HAVE A PROBLEM. YOU BARGE INTO MY BEDROOM,
MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT-

HERA
ZEUSSY? WHO IS IT?

ZEUS
NOBODY, HERA.

HERA
PROMETHEUS? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? CAN I GET YOU SOME
AMBROSIA?

ZEUS
HE IS NOT HAVING ANY AMBROSIA. HE'S GOING HOME AND CALLING
DURING DECENT HOURS.

HERA

EVERY HOUR'S DECENT WHEN PROMETHEUS IS AROUND. AREN'T THEY,
PROMETHEUS?

PROMETHEUS

I DON'T-

ZEUS

WIFE, YOU GET BACK TO BED THIS INSTANT-

HERA

WHICH BED WOULD THAT BE? THE BED YOU HAVEN'T SLEPT IN THE
LAST THREE NIGHTS WHILE YOU WERE OUT WITH THAT LITTLE TEASE
IO?

ZEUS

THIS IS NOT THE TIME OR THE PLACE-

PROMETHEUS

CAN I JUST-

ZEUS

EXCUSE US, PROMETHEUS, THIS IS A PRIVATE DOMESTIC MATTER-

HERA

AS PRIVATE AS YOU FLAUNTING YOUR GIRLFRIEND ALL OVER OLYMPUS-

ZEUS

THAT WAS NO EXCUSE FOR TURNING HER INTO A HEIFER

HERA

JUST BRINGING OUT HER TRUE PERSONALITY-

PROMETHEUS

GUYS, LISTEN-

HERA AND ZEUS

STAY OUT OF THIS!

PROMETHEUS

ZEUS, THE HUMANS I CREATED, THEY'RE UP A TREE WITHOUT A
PADDLE. OR CLAWS OR FEATHERS OR ANYTHING. I NEED SOME GIFT
TO GIVE 'EM QUICK, BEFORE THEY'RE SWIMMIN' WITH THE FISHES-

ZEUS

THIS IS NONE OF MY CONCERN.

HERA

ASK IO WHAT KIND OF GIFTS HE GAVE HER.

ZEUS

HERA-

PROMETHEUS

ZEUS, I'M IN A CORNER HERE -- YOU GOTTA HELP ME--

ZEUS

THIS WAS YOUR ACCOUNT, PROMETHEUS. IF IT BRINGS DISHONOR TO THE FAMILY, THAT IS ON YOUR HEAD. THE DAY I GET INVOLVED WITH THOSE HUMANS IS THE DAY I TURN INTO A SWAN!

PROMETHEUS

BUT--

ZEUS

WE WILL HAVE NO FURTHER RELATIONS WITH HUMANS! PERIOD. NOW I AM GOING TO BED.

HERA

NOT WITH ME YOU'RE NOT.

ZEUS

(WALKING OFF)

LOOK AT ME. I'M WEEPING.

HERA

(EXITING WITH HIM)

I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO WEEP ABOUT--

(A DOOR SLAM)

PROMETHEUS

ZEUS, YOU FORGOT YOUR... LIGHTER. WAITAMINUTE. WHAT DO GODS HAVE THAT NO OTHER ANIMAL POSSESSES? FIRE! I GOTTA GET DOWN TO EARTH!

(SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS RUNNING AWAY)

(THE "GODFATHER" THEME PLAYS AND WE HEAR A TREE CREAKING, PERHAPS WILD ANIMALS)

MAN

AHHH!! I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE STILL STUCK IN THIS TREE!
LOOK! THAT ONE DOWN THERE HAS SHARP FANGS TOO!

WOMAN

(SOUNDING CHOKED)

AND THIS SNAKE THAT WRAPPED AROUND ME... I DON'T THINK IT'S JUST TRYING TO KEEP ME... WARM... I CAN'T... BREATHE...

(SOUND OF A LARGE WIND AND THUNDER)

MAN

LOOK! UP IN THE SKY!

WOMAN

IT'S A BIRD!

MAN

IT'S A CRANE!

BOTH

IT'S... SOMEONE WHO LOOKS LIKE US!

MAN

HE'S SCARING THE ANIMALS AWAY!

WOMAN

AND THE SNAKE! OH THANK THE GODS!

PROMETHEUS

YOU'RE WELCOME.

WOMAN

AHH! ARE YOU A GOD?

PROMETHEUS

I'M JUST VERY GOOD AT WHAT I DO. COME ON OUT OF THE TREE.
THE ANIMALS ARE GONE.

(SOUND OF TWO BODIES THUMPING TO THE
GROUND. THUD. THUD.)

PROMETHEUS (CONT'D)

YOU COULD HAVE CLIMBED DOWN.

MAN

WE DIDN'T KNOW.

PROMETHEUS

I CAN'T STAY LONG. I JUST WANT TO GIVE YOU THIS.

WOMAN

THAT'S A VERY PRETTY.. BOX.

PROMETHEUS

IT'S A LIGHTER. INSIDE THIS BOX IS WHAT WILL RAISE YOU ABOVE
THE ANIMALS AND MAKE YOU THE MOST POWERFUL CREATURES ON
EARTH.

WOMAN
GOOD THROWING ROCKS?

MAN
POINTED STICKS?

PROMETHEUS
BETTER. HERE, LET'S TAKE THIS BRANCH-

(SOUND OF BREAKING WOOD)

MAN
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT CAME OFF.

PROMETHEUS
YOU GOT A LONG WAY TO GO, YOU KNOW THAT? NOW WATCH, I OPEN
THIS LIGHTER

(CLICK)

HOLD IT TO THIS BRANCH AND... YOU MIGHT WANT TO STAND BACK,
THERE...

(WHHOOOOSHH. SOUND OF A FIRE)

FIRE.

MAN
WOW. IT'S PRETTY. CAN I PET IT?

PROMETHEUS
NO-

MAN
EEEYOOWWWW!!

PROMETHEUS
NO, SEE, YOU CAN'T-

WOMAN
WILL IT LOOK GOOD IN MY HAIR?

PROMETHEUS
DON'T-

WOMAN
EEEEEEEE!!!!

PROMETHEUS
PUT HER HAIR OUT! ROLL HER AROUND THERE. ROLL HER AROUND.
THROW DIRT ON HER HAIR. THERE YOU GO.

MAN
YOU CALL THIS A GIFT??

PROMETHEUS

YOU GOTTA USE IT RIGHT, YOU HAIRLESS APE. IT'LL WARM YOU IN WINTER, ROAST ALL YOUR FOOD, ILLUMINATE THE DARKEST NIGHT-

MAN

I BET I COULD KICK SOME SERIOUS BUTT WITH THIS STUFF.

PROMETHEUS

WELL... YEAH, I GUESS...

WOMAN

WE CAN CLEAR WHOLE SWATCHES OF FOREST WITH THIS -- BURN OUT EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE WHO GETS IN OUR WAY!

PROMETHEUS

WELL, I SUPPOSE-

MAN

LOOK, HONEY, I'M MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE! WHOO-HOOO!

WOMAN

WATCH YOU DON'T BURN YOUR ARM HAIRS.

PROMETHEUS

LISTEN, I GOTTA RETURN THE LIGHTER BEFORE ANYONE REALIZES IT'S GONE. YOU GUYS HAVE TREMENDOUS POWER NOW AND TREMENDOUS RESPONSIBILITY. USE IT TO RAISE YOURSELVES AND ALL YOUR CHILDREN BEYOND THIS WORLD AND THE NEXT. DREAM AS FAR AS YOU CAN AND LET THIS GIFT TAKE YOU THERE. FAREWELL.

(WIND AND THUNDER AS HE EXITS. THE FIRE CONTINUES BURNING)

WOMAN

ARE YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING?

MAN AND WOMAN

BARBECUE!!

(THE "GODFATHER" THEME PLAYS.)

(A DOOR CREAKS OPEN AND WE HEAR SOFT FOOTSTEPS...)

ZEUS

WELCOME BACK, PROMETHEUS.

PROMETHEUS

AHH! YOU'RE AWAKE.

ZEUS

I NEVER GOT BACK TO SLEEP, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. YOU HEAR THAT THUNDER? MY DEAR WIFE STILL STORMING AROUND. YOU BEEN VISITING YOUR LITTLE HUMANS?

PROMETHEUS

HOW'D YOU KNOW?

ZEUS

YOU SMELL LIKE THE MONKEY HOUSE AT THE ZOO. I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO CUT OFF ALL CONTACT.

PROMETHEUS

THEY WERE GETTIN' EATEN ALIVE DOWN THERE. LITERALLY.

ZEUS

AND FOR THIS YOU STOLE MY LIGHTER.

PROMETHEUS

I... I DIDN'T...

ZEUS

THE LEADER OF THE GODS MAY LOSE TRACK OF MANY THINGS -- HIS THUNDERBOLTS, HIS CLEAN TOGAS, HIS ILLEGITIMATE OFFSPRING... BUT NEVER, NEVER HIS ZIPPO.

PROMETHEUS

I WAS BORROWING IT.

ZEUS

I SEE. THEN I THINK I MUST "BORROW" YOU FOR FEW MOMENTS. BOYS?

PROMETHEUS

HEY. HEY! WHO ARE THESE TWO GOONS?

ZEUS

FORCE AND VIOLENCE. THEY ARE HERE TO ESCORT YOU TO MY CHARIOT.

PROMETHEUS

WHERE ARE WE GOING? FOR A LITTLE RIDE. GET SOME FRESH AIR. YOU'RE THE GOD OF FORESIGHT, YOU FIGURE IT OUT.

(SOUND OF CHARIOT WHEELS TURNING,
"GODFATHER" THEME, AND WINDS --
LIGHTNING AND THUNDER)

PROMETHEUS (CONT'D)

WHERE ARE WE?

ZEUS

THE CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS. I WANTED TO TAKE YOU OUT PAST THE
EDGE OF ALL CIVILIZATION. I BROUGHT YOU HERE ONLY BECAUSE
NEW JERSEY HASN'T BEEN INVENTED YET.

PROMETHEUS

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO? I'M A TITAN. YOU CAN'T KILL ME.

ZEUS

YOU STOLE MY ZIPPO. THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GETTING OFF AS
EASY AS DEATH. BOYS. CHAIN HIM TO THE MOUNTAIN.

(SOUND OF HAMMERS BANGING ROCK)

PROMETHEUS

SO YOU'RE GONNA LEAVE ME OUT HERE IN THE STORM CHAINED TO A
ROCK? THAT'S YOUR IDEA OF A CLEVER PUNISHMENT?

ZEUS

WELL, I THINK IT'S GOING TO GET PRETTY BORING OUT HERE AFTER
A COUPLE OF CENTURIES. YOU'LL NOTICE YOU DIDN'T BRING A
BOOK.

PROMETHEUS

I DON'T CARE.

(HAMMERING CONTINUES, JOINED BY A
FLAPPING SOUND)

PROMETHEUS (CONT'D)

I CAN ALWAYS DO SOME BIRD-WATCHING.

(THE HAMMERING STOPS)

ZEUS

HEH. THE BIRD'S GONNA BE WATCHING YOU. IN A MOMENT, THAT
EAGLE THERE IS GOING TO FLY OVER TO YOU AND PECK YOUR LIVER
OUT.

PROMETHEUS

YOU'RE KIDDING. WHAT KIND OF SELF-RESPECTING EAGLE WOULD FLY
OVER TO SOMEONE AND... OUCH! HEY, STOP THAT!

(BIG FLAPPING SOUNDS)

ZEUS

WHEN HE'S DONE WITH YOUR LIVER, HE'LL FLY AWAY, AND OVERNIGHT -- BEING A TITAN -- YOU WILL GROW ANOTHER LIVER. AND THEN GUESS WHO'LL BE FLAPPING BACK THE NEXT DAY TO PECK THAT ONE OUT?

PROMETHEUS

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT. "A" FOR CREATIVITY, YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT -- OUCH! -- GET OUTTA HERE! OW! THIS IS UNSANITARY!

ZEUS

AFTER A FEW MILLENNIA OF THIS, I THINK YOU WILL BE RETHINKING YOUR DECISION TO GIVE MY FIRE TO YOUR LITTLE PEOPLE. COME ON, BOYS. AND PROMETHEUS? DON'T JUST "HANG" AROUND HERE ALL DAY... "LIVER" A LITTLE! HEH HEH HEH.

(ZEUS AND THE GOONS LEAVE)

PROMETHEUS

THAT'S A GOOD ONE, ZEUS! OUCH. RULER OF THE UNIVERSE AND THAT'S THE BEST PUN YOU CAN COME UP WITH! OUCH! OW! YOU'LL SEE! WHEN THE MEMORY OF ZEUS IS JUST A DUSTY CRUSTY FOOTNOTE IN SOME LIBRARY, MY LITTLE HUMANS WILL BE LIVING AND THRIVING AND REJOICING! OUCH. OW.

(BEAT)

WELL... THIS STINKS.

(SOUND OF A CAR APPROACHING)

PROMETHEUS (CONT'D)

WHAT'S THAT? IS THAT A... A HORSELESS CHARIOT?

(SQUEAL OF BRAKES AND DOORS OPENING)

WOMAN

HEY, HONEY, LOOK! IT'S THE GOD WHO GAVE US FIRE!

MAN

OOO! OOO! GET MY PICTURE WITH HIM!

PROMETHEUS

HUMANS?

WOMAN

CAN YOU GET THAT EAGLE TO STOP FLAPPING? IT'S GONNA BE ALL BLURRY IN THE PHOTO.

MAN

SHOO! SCRAM!
 (THE FLAPPING STOPS)
 SAY GOODBYE TO THE EAGLE!

PROMETHEUS

THANK YOU.

MAN

HONEY, CAN YOU GET ME AND PROMETHEUS HERE AND HIS... AH...
 WHAT IS THAT? YOUR LIVER?

PROMETHEUS

YES.

MAN AND WOMAN

EWWWW!!!

PROMETHEUS

IT'LL GROW BACK, DON'T WORRY.

MAN AND WOMAN

EWWWW!!!

PROMETHEUS

LISTEN, HOW'D YOU GET ALL THE WAY OUT HERE? AND WHAT'S WITH
 THE HORSELESS CHARIOT?

WOMAN

IT'S CALLED AN SUV, YOUR WORSHIPFULNESS.

MAN

WE DROVE OUT HERE TO SET UP A NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. THE
 CITIES ARE JUST GETTING TOO CROWDED.

WOMAN

WHERE YOU'RE CHAINED, THERE'S GOING TO BE A BRAND... NEW...
 MALL!

MAN

A GAP KIDS STORE RIGHT WHERE YOUR LIVER IS.

PROMETHEUS

YOU WORK FAST.

MAN

WE GOT URBAN SPRAWL TO SPRAWL, YA KNOW?

WOMAN

AND WE OWE IT ALL TO YOU! WITHOUT FIRE WE NEVER WOULD HAVE
 COME THIS FAR THIS FAST.

MAN

I DON'T KNOW HOW WE CAN EVER REPAY YOU.

PROMETHEUS

YOU COULD UNCHAIN ME FROM THIS MOUNTAIN.

WOMAN

OF COURSE! WHAT WERE WE THINKING! SWEETIE, GET THE THING FROM THE TRUNK.

(SOUND OF A CAR TRUNK OPENING)

MAN

THE "CHAIN BREAKER 3000". COMING RIGHT UP!

(SOUND OF A LARGE POWER TOOL)

THERE YA GO!

PROMETHEUS

I'M FREE! I'M FREE! THANK YOU.

WOMAN

WHO DID THIS TO YOU?

PROMETHEUS

ZEUS. KING OF THE GODS. HE'S KIND OF SPITEFUL.

MAN

ISN'T THERE A LAW AGAINST THIS, SUGARLUMPS? YOU CAN'T JUST CHAIN A MAN TO A MOUNTAIN AND HAVE AN EAGLE RIP OUT HIS LIVER EVERY DAY. THAT'S JUST RUDE.

WOMAN

IT'S SO PRE-GENEVA CONVENTION.

PROMETHEUS

WELL, HE'S THE GODFATHER. WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?

MAN

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOU DO -- YOU PROSECUTE!

WOMAN

SUE THE JERK.

MAN

EMOTIONAL DAMAGES ALONE COULD TOTAL MILLIONS -- LOOK AT YOUR LIVER!

PROMETHEUS

IF I EVER TURNED ON HIM, HE'D DO WORSE THAN CHAIN ME TO A ROCK.

WOMAN
NOT IF HE CAN'T FIND YOU.

PROMETHEUS
YOU MEAN...

MAN
THAT'S RIGHT.

WOMAN
YOU CAN BE THE VERY FIRST MEMBER... OF THE WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM!

PROMETHEUS
I COULD, COULDN'T I?

MAN
COME ON. LET'S SEE THE FEDS.

PROMETHEUS
I COULD CHANGE MY HAIR COLOR, MY NAME-

WOMAN
"PAT METHIUS". HOW DOES THAT SOUND?

PROMETHEUS
I LIKE IT. LET'S DO IT! LET'S NAIL THAT CREEP!

MAN
SO TO SPEAK.

WOMAN
COME ON. CONSTRUCTION'S STARTING ON THE NEW MALL.

PROMETHEUS
AND, LOOK! THE SUN'S COMING UP! A NEW DAWN FOR THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE!

MAN
OR IS IT THE SUNSET? THAT'S THE WEST, ISN'T IT?

WOMAN
WHY WOULD THE SUN BE RISING IN THE WEST?

PROMETHEUS
WHO CARES? WE'LL ADJUST! YOU HUMANS ARE THE GREATEST!!

MAN AND WOMAN
AND WE OWE IT ALL TO FIRE.

ALL
THANK THE GODS!

WOMAN
WATCH YOU DON'T STEP IN THE LIVER, HONEY.

(BIG TRIUMPHANT FANFARE)

(APPLAUSE)