## Goddess Girls: Athena the Brain By Joan Holub & Suzanne Williams Reader's Theater adapted by Amy Young

## Hero-ology

Aphrodite: Here, sit next to me!

Athena: Okay, thanks. Hey Aphrodite, who is that green-haired girl in the back? The one that doesn't shimmer.

Aphrodite: Oh, that is Medusa. Her sisters are goddesses, but she is a mortal. Which is why she doesn't shimmer.

Mr. Cyclops: Attention class, attention. Good morning, I'm Mr. Cyclops and this is Beginning Hero-ology.

Narrator: Athena gasped. Her teacher was bald, with large, sandaled feet, and had one humongous eye in the middle of his forehead. He was holding a big, bronze soldier's helmet upside down, like a bowl.

Mr. Cyclops: I've placed figures of your heroes inside this helmet. Without looking, please choose one and pass the helmet to the person behind you. Over the course of the semester, it'll be your job to guide the hero you've selected on a quest.

Narrator: Dionysus, a boy with little horns on top of his head, pulled out a little painted statue of a person about three inches tall. He passed the helmet on to Poseidon, who pulled out another little statue.

Medusa: If we don't like who we get, can we trade?

Mr. Cyclops: No trading. Now, you'll be scored on three skills in my class: Manipulation, disasters, and quick saves. Any more questions?

Athena: Do you mean to say that these hero-guys represent real people? And our assignment is to make them do stuff down on Earth?

Mr. Cyclops: Yes, that's right.

Athena: How do we do that exactly?

Medusa: Are you for real? We learned Basic Mortal Manipulation in first grade!

Aphrodite: Hush Medusa, you know its Athena's first day. I'll help you Athena.

Mr. Cyclops: Thank you Aphrodite. This new girl is going to have some catching up to do.

Athena: (aside to Aphrodite) sheesh, I feel so dumb here. Back at home I was an A-plus student.

Aphrodite: Don't worry, you'll be fine. Oh, wait, it's my turn to choose a hero! Oh, it's Paris, a prince from the city of Troy. Who'd you get?

Athena: Some Greek guy named Odysseus.

Aphrodite: Oooh, he's cute.

Athena: I guess. I wonder what quest I should send him on?

Aphrodite: I think I'll make Paris fall in love with somebody.

Medusa: Falling in love isn't a quest.

Aphrodite: I wasn't talking to you.

Medusa: Sorry, Bubbles, my mistake.

Aphrodite: Stop it!

Athena: Why'd she call you that?

Medusa: Didn't you know? She was born from sea foam! Hahahahhha!

Aphrodite: And she never lets me forget it.

Athena: What's wrong with sea foam? It's beautiful.

Aphrodite: Think so?

Athena: Oh, yes.

Narrator: Before Medusa could respond with a snarky reply, Mr. Cyclops interrupted with a note from the office.

Mr. Cyclops: Will Athena – favorite daughter of Principal Zeus for all time and forevermore – please report to the office?

Medusa: Principal's pet.

Narrator: Will Athena ever learn to control her hero? Will Medusa learn to mind her own business? And how does Poseidon factor into the equation? Find out more by reading <u>Athena the Brain!</u>