

**CURRENT**

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

STAN.....A one eyed man.  
A one eyed monster.

GINA/FLORA.....Stan's mother, grounded.  
A redwood Tree.

OTIS/FAUNUS.....Stan's father, head in the  
clouds.  
Half Man, Half Beast with a  
giant erect phallus.

HELEN.....City Hippie Chick.  
She is home.

KEVIN.....Stan's brother.  
A tax man, tied to the  
clock.

ATHENA.....Power suited Vixen.  
A Warrior.  
Broken.

ZEUS.....Male/Female/All.  
The Universe.  
Scared.

## PLACE

A state park.  
Bedrooms.  
Tax office.  
Tartaros.  
Hades.  
Below.  
Above.  
Here.  
Eternity.

## TIME

Before.  
After.  
Now.  
Eternity.

FOR THOSE WHO SEARCH.  
FOR US.

AT RISE:

Lightning.

STAN, in full Park Ranger regalia,  
hat included, sits, resting from  
the longest day. Thunder.

STAN

Man's got a lot of time up here alone.

A lot of sitting.

A lot of walking.

A lot of thinking.

A lot of nothing.

An eternity.

I'm not lonely though.

I got my stories.

(pulls out a book)

Tall tales told by those who lived a long time ago  
and now that they're alone  
somewhere

in some other corner

of some other forest

I've found a way we can keep each other company.

(opens the book and reads)

Uranus, the God of the sky and Gaia, Goddess of the Earth, laid  
entwined on their heavenly bed. One weightless, the other grounded. A  
beautiful balance.

OTIS and GINA fuck.

OTIS

I have never known pleasure

GINA

Today.

OTIS

Not for one single solitary moment

GINA

I bought a new sweater.

OTIS

Not one

GINA

Angora.

OTIS

I have known forgetting

GINA  
I know it's summer,  
but

OTIS  
Forgetting

GINA  
But,

OTIS  
Forgetting

GINA  
But,

OTIS  
Forgetting

GINA  
It's gonna get cold.

OTIS  
That I live surrounded

GINA  
Always does.

OTIS  
And that I die

GINA  
Two pair of socks.

OTIS  
alone

GINA  
Black.

OTIS  
Hope

GINA  
And Navy.

OTIS  
I remember hope

GINA  
One skirt.

OTIS  
In that second

GINA  
Pleated.

OTIS  
of a second

GINA  
Four shoes.

OTIS  
where we

GINA  
Size eight,

OTIS  
both

GINA  
And one half.

OTIS  
hold

GINA  
Earrings.

OTIS  
hold

GINA  
Gold.

OTIS  
hold

GINA  
Tasteful.

OTIS  
our breaths

GINA  
Three blouses.

OTIS  
our skin

GINA  
Silk.

OTIS  
our arms

GINA  
Rayon.

OTIS  
our hands

GINA  
cotton,

OTIS  
our sheets

GINA  
soft against my flesh.

OTIS  
our toes curl

GINA  
Nothing

OTIS  
our fingers clamp

GINA  
is soft against my flesh.

OTIS  
our eye rolls

GINA  
Weathered,

OTIS  
our back arches

GINA  
from so many

OTIS  
our chest heaves

GINA  
Marlboros.

OTIS  
our hip thrusts

GINA  
And Camels.

OTIS  
our leg kicks

GINA  
Menthol.

OTIS  
our hair whips

GINA  
Smooth.

OTIS  
our whole body

GINA  
And delicious.

OTIS  
flips

GINA  
Like hot buttered pretzels.

OTIS  
twists

GINA  
like sushi.

OTIS  
and slides

GINA  
I'm full.

OTIS  
We die.

GINA  
I'm tired.

OTIS  
I remember dying.

GINA  
I sleep.

OTIS  
Then I forget,

GINA  
And dream

OTIS  
we

GINA  
of sweaters

OTIS  
we

GINA  
And socks

OTIS  
we

GINA  
Of shoes

OTIS  
We-

GINA  
Of Nothing.

OTIS  
I

GINA  
Nothing.

OTIS  
die alone.

They orgasm.

STAN  
Then Earth gave birth.

Lightning.  
GINA screams.

GINA  
Agggghhhh!

STAN  
The Cyclops, a hulking mass with one eye  
burst from her womb.  
He had no language.  
Hell, he barely had form.

STAN takes off hat, stands, and  
places eye patch over one eye.  
Thunder.

STAN  
Waaaaaaaaa!

The Parents do not look at him -  
They stare into the distance.

GAIA  
10 pounds.

OTIS  
Big

GAIA  
6 ounces.

OTIS  
Dreams  
For my  
Big

GAIA  
22 inches.

OTIS  
Boy,  
He' ll be  
Surrounded  
Covered  
Coveted

GAIA  
Slap the buttocks.

OTIS  
By  
Women  
Tons

GAIA  
Temperature steady.

OTIS  
of Women

GAIA  
Check the heart.

OTIS  
Envied

GAIA  
Strong pulse.

OTIS  
By  
guys  
dudes  
MEN.

STAN  
Waaaaaaa!

GAIA  
Diapers.  
Elastic.  
Pampers.

OTIS  
With their  
small hands

GAIA  
Formula.  
Soy.  
Enfamil.

OTIS  
Small feet

GAIA  
Antiseptic wipes.

STAN  
Waaaaaaa!

OTIS  
Small everything

GAIA  
Bars on the crib.

OTIS  
But not  
my big boy

GAIA  
Bars on the stairs.

OTIS  
My big dream

GAIA  
Safe.

STAN  
Waaaaa!  
Earth and Sky imprisoned their son in Tartaros,  
the Hades below Hades.  
Why?

STAN

(cont'd)

He was broken, with his one eye that saw too much  
and his voice that could not speak.

(beat)

Mom, I wanna talk.

GINA makes a shopping list.

GINA

New spoons.

Wooden.

New pots.

Copper.

Not Teflon.

Black chips

in all our food.

STAN

Dad, I'm trapped.

OTIS masturbates.

OTIS

Gina.

STAN

Mom, I'm lost.

GINA

Deodorant.

Not

Antiperspirant.

Aluminum.

Deodorant.

STAN

Dad, I wake up every morning under cold sheets.

OTIS

Oh Gina.

STAN

They do not smell like anything.

GINA

No.

Baby Powder.

GINA

(cont'd)

Better.

No.

STAN

My sweat is washed out of them.

GINA

Corn Starch.

Natural.

Yes.

STAN

Thanks Mom.

OTIS

Autumn hair

Cherry lips

Giraffe's neck

How we used to neck

STAN

I can't taste breakfast on the table.

GINA

Soup.

Healing

Nourishing

Delicious

Chicken soup.

STAN

The eggs are poached.

The bacon is crisp.

OTIS

Down

Angry nipples

Perfect nipples

Bite

Down

STAN

I can't smell my shit.

The tiles are clean

GINA  
Hormones.  
Tomato soup.  
Pesticides,  
Herbicides

STAN  
Not a speck was missed.

OTIS  
Feather skin  
Taut tummy  
Lick

GINA  
Genocide

OTIS  
(looks at wife, stops masturbating)  
No.

GINA  
Patricide

OTIS  
Not taut.

STAN  
I can't dream.

GINA  
Matricide

OTIS  
Not feather.

STAN  
The conditioned air whizzes in my ear.

OTIS  
Not perfect.

GINA  
Stop.

STAN  
And my eye don't roam.

GINA  
Soup.  
Lentil.

OTIS  
Oh, Gina.

STAN  
I can't dream.

OTIS  
(closes eyes, continues masturbating)  
Uh, Danielle

GINA  
Ointment  
Salve  
Balm  
Vaporub  
Rub

STAN  
Can't dream of a woman draped over my young body.

OTIS  
Oh, Danielle  
Button  
Undo your button  
Belly button  
Pierced  
and waiting

STAN  
Can't dream of mature lips wrapped around me.

GINA  
Rub  
Rub  
Rub

STAN  
Can't dream of her whispering,

GINA  
Soothe

OTIS  
Tongue  
Tongue your button  
Down

STAN  
"I love you, Stanley."

GINA  
Soothe

OTIS  
To Alyssa's  
mound  
of fur  
and flesh

GINA  
Soothe

STAN  
"I'm yours...for eternity."

OTIS  
And sweat

GINA  
I can't

OTIS  
Dripping

GINA  
I wish

STAN  
Cold

OTIS  
dripping

STAN  
Washed

OTIS  
Dripping

GINA  
I could

OTIS  
Down

STAN  
Crisp

Long pause.

GINA  
I can't.

She goes back to her list.

OTIS  
Down  
Ellen's thighs

STAN  
Eternity

The following should climax  
and finish in unison.

<p>GAIA Fruit. Fresh Fruit. Strawberries.</p>	<p>OTIS Muscular No Smooth Soft A woman's thigh's Freckled Yes Not too much Just enough So I know The sun has touched her Touch me Theresa Agile fingers with sharp nails running through my hair running</p>
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<p>GINA  (cont'd)  Kiwi.  Bananas.  Oranges.  Kumquats.  Nutrients.  Vitamins.  A.  B.  B12.  B6.  C.  E.  Lycopine.  Glucosamine.  Calcium.  Potassium.  Chromium.  Magnesium.Iron.  Zinc.  Toilet Paper.  Coronet.  No.  Cottonelle.  No.  Charmin.  Squeeze.  Yes.  Paper Towels.  Bounty.  Viva.  Brawny.  Plates, paper.  One ply.  Two ply.  Three ply.  Four.  Paper.  Paper.  Paper.  Tissue paper.  Tissues...</p>	<p>OTIS  (cont'd)  across  my back  running  down  my ass  down  Susan  down  Heather  down  Mary  down  Rose  turn around  Lauren  open wide  Sara  Linda  Karen  Nancy  Debra  Janet  Ann  Brenda  Liz  Zoe  Patricia  Sharon  Helen  Ashley  Megan  Hannah  Rachel  Becca  Kim  Brooke  Paige  Chloe  Nicole  Kayla  Stephaneeeeeee!</p>	<p>STAN  I don't want cold.  I don't want washed.  I don't want crisp.  I don't want clean.  I don't want eternity.  I want to wake up, hot from  dreaming.  I want to dream.</p>
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As she says, "tissues", OTIS  
orgasms.  
Lightning.

OTIS falls to floor - heart  
attack.

STAN  
Daddy!

OTIS  
Gina!

STAN  
She's dead, Dad.

GINA keeps silently making list.

OTIS  
She's right there.

STAN  
No, she's not. But I am  
Right here.

OTIS  
She looks tired.

STAN  
I'm tired.

OTIS  
She once looked fuckin' great.

STAN  
I know.

OTIS  
A goddess, sprung from the earth

STAN  
Get up, Dad.

OTIS  
Breasts like two mounds of dirt

STAN  
You're not moving.

OTIS  
legs, thick tree trunks with smooth bark

STAN  
You're not breathing.

OTIS  
Sweat, a creek of the sweetest water

STAN  
(grabs his father)  
Help!

OTIS  
She's sleeping.  
At last.

Thunder.  
GINA falls to floor. Dead.

STAN  
Gaia, The Goddess of the Earth, died. Her husband, the sky, did not weep. Did not cry. Did not try to stop the clouds from moving, the stars from twinkling, the moon from shining its mirrored light. Nope. He just went right on, as though nothing had happened. His blue hands always spread wide for day and shut tight for night. Open. Close. Open. Close. Open. Close. Open. Close. For eternity. But without the Earth, the sky's lights, his dark and bright, had nothing to bounce off, no reflections returned to his chlorine eyes. And so, he no longer tried. And then Uranus, the God of the sky, he too died.  
(pause)  
Dad?

Lightning.  
STAN hits his Father's chest.  
CPR.  
Hit.  
Breathe.  
Hit.  
Breathe.

OTIS  
Hey there, kiddo.

STAN  
I'm lost.

OTIS  
I know the feeling.

STAN  
What do I do?

OTIS  
I don't know, Stanley.  
I don't know anything.

Thunder.  
Dies in his son's arms.  
Pounding.

STAN  
A hard rain knocks at the windowsill, like it wants to come in.  
I place his body,  
Otis' body  
my father's body  
against the floor  
stand up  
and walk to the door  
Stop.  
maybe he'll cough  
maybe he'll talk  
maybe he'll know  
something  
anything  
why  
    (long pause)  
Silence.  
Keep walking.  
Keep moving  
to the solid oak  
on its brass hinges  
and open.  
Hot  
Air  
I can feel that.  
Cold  
rain.  
Cold.  
Yes.

STAN

(cont'd)

A shiver up  
up  
up  
my spine.  
Hair  
bristles  
skin  
tingles  
Oh God.  
Too much.  
Goosebumps  
pop  
my neck  
Nooo.  
Turn around.  
Inside.  
I run.

He runs.  
Lightning strikes STAN.

STAN

Aggggghhh!

Spotlight on STAN.  
Spotlight on ZEUS.

ZEUS

You're hurt.

STAN

Why?

ZEUS

Sometimes that stings.

STAN

Why?

ZEUS

Well, electricity pulses through the tender flesh, causing a burning sensation and--

Oh.

*Why?*

Well, for one thing, he wasn't in good shape.

After your mom...well, his diet consisted mostly of cheese blintzes and triangles of brie. Little rebellious, wasn't he?

STAN  
Can I see him?

ZEUS  
No.

STAN  
Come on.

ZEUS  
He's tired. The trip takes a lot out of ya'.

STAN  
What's he like now?

ZEUS  
Same as he was then.

STAN  
Oh.

ZEUS  
Disappointed?

STAN  
Yes.

ZEUS  
He misses you.

STAN  
He said that?

ZEUS  
Yes.

STAN  
He wouldn't.

ZEUS  
You don't know that.

STAN  
I do.

ZEUS

You don't know nothing. You don't know  
he never slept  
with another woman,  
Only your mother.  
You don't know  
his laughter  
could fill a room,  
his tears could empty it.  
He hated empty rooms.  
You don't know  
that.  
You don't know  
he loved you  
more  
than he loved himself,  
which actually, wasn't hard to do, because that ain't very much.  
I know.  
I know  
all.  
I know  
his words  
were short  
cause  
his life  
was long.  
Too long  
for him to bear.  
I know  
he was scared,  
scared of you,  
scared of losing you,  
scared of losing her,  
scared of losing himself.  
I have been blessed with knowledge of all things.  
I have every answer.  
    (beat)  
I'll prove it. Ask away.

STAN

Is this a dream?

ZEUS

No.

STAN

You sure?

ZEUS

Yes.

I am sure

I am flesh

and blood curdling screams

of pleasure

and laughter at

war and mutilation

of meat on a slab in a butcher shop

for all sorts of fabulous clotheslines of folks, the tall and short,

the fat and thin, the misshapen and bent, the oh God I can't pay my

rent, the daddy take me on a ride to school, to work, to flirt and

screw the light bulb in, a miracle of modern times, what a great

movies and arcades and television escapades across the fields of

corn, into the sea of sturgeon, you could be a surgeon, but somehow

it doesn't fit.

STAN

Wow.

ZEUS

Yep.

STAN

Where do I go?

ZEUS

I know.

(long pause)

but I have to go

Got another job to do

Advice:

Come see the answer man

become my biggest fan

Commune with my aura

Stroll amongst faunus and flora

Don't wanna blow your mind too soon

With my wisdom bigger than the moon.

Lightning.

ZEUS touches STAN's arm.

ZEUS disappears.

STAN

Zeus?

Come back.

Just one more question.

Please!

Thunder.

STAN on ground, arm crushed  
beneath him.

Stands, arm bent and  
limp at his side.

STAN

Turn around.

Inside.

I walk.

Walks to OTIS.

Lugs him outside.

Buries him.

STAN

The sky was planted in the Earth.

The two are now inseparable.

(beat, feels the air)

Hot

Air.

Silence.

STAN

I wait.

No rain.

No shivers.

No goosebumps.

I wait.

I wait so long

So long

this

hot

air becomes home.

Puts on the Park Ranger Hat.

Walks with purpose.

STAN

I stroll

on hallowed ground

I am the protector

of Earth

and the oxygen

it gives to sky.

I am the savior

STAN

(cont'd)

I am the cultivator  
I am the creator  
of brown soil  
of new green leaves  
of old  
red trees.

A redwood Tree.  
STAN climbs it.  
Stands at the top and stretches  
his face to the sky.

STAN

The Cyclops left Tartaros, ascending into Hades, that's hell to you  
and me, from where he could glimpse infinite vistas  
stretching  
stretching  
stretching...  
To see,  
for one glorious moment.

Lightning strikes STAN.

STAN

YEEEEEESSSSS!

Spotlights.  
STAN and ZEUS.

STAN

I'm here.

ZEUS

I know

STAN

Right.  
Why?

ZEUS

Well, you went and filled out the application and they gave you a  
nifty stiff cotton uniform and jaunty hat...

Oh.

*Why?*

It's quiet.

STAN  
Too quiet.

ZEUS  
Listen.

He does.

STAN  
Nothing.

ZEUS  
You don't listen.

Pause.

STAN  
Silent.

ZEUS  
(whispering)  
I am loud.

STAN  
Why are you whispering?

ZEUS  
My voice carries across continents.

STAN  
I don't understand.

ZEUS  
I know.  
(beat)  
Gotta bolt.

Kisses STAN'S lips.  
Thunder.  
STAN limp, on ground.  
He slowly stands, mouth twisted on  
one side.

STAN  
Zeus?

FLORA, the redwood tree, speaks.

FLORA  
No.

STAN  
Damn.

FLORA  
I'm not offended.

STAN  
Sorry.  
I'm sorry.  
Sorry.  
Forgive me.  
Didn't mean to--  
Uh, Sorry.

FLORA  
I am Flora.

STAN  
I am--

FLORA  
Sorry?  
You are small.  
You are a man with brown boots, synthetic soles, pounding on my blossoms. You crush them without a care and then when a few survive, you claim them for your own. You should be ashamed.

STAN  
No.  
I'm--

FLORA  
Shut up!  
I am majestic from my limbs' highest peaks to my planted feet.  
I have stood here for eternities and yet, no one listens.  
Water courses through every vein and no one drinks of my knowledge.  
You  
are undeserving of my aged ageless wisdom.  
You  
are nothing.  
You are less than nothing.  
You are not enough.  
And I am too too much.

FLORA

(cont'd)

You are  
twenty.  
thirty.  
forty.  
years.  
I am centuries.  
You are  
soft muscles.  
I am hard bark.  
You are  
coughs.  
and snot.  
and sneezes.  
I am  
unyielding.  
You are dying.  
I am forever.  
You are not.  
You are not.  
You are not.

Silence.

STAN

You will never leave?

FLORA

I will never leave.

STAN

Promise?

FLORA

Do I have a choice?

STAN

You will stay?

FLORA

I will stay.

STAN

Promise?

FLORA  
You said it.

STAN  
You will teach me, put me in my place,  
scold  
not ignore  
my lopsided face?

FLORA  
That's  
a promise.

Silence.

STAN  
I love you.

Wraps his arms around her  
trunk.

Lightning.

STAN  
Nooooo!

SPOTLIGHTS.

ZEUS  
What do you think you're doing?

STAN  
Just following orders.  
(beat)  
Your orders.  
(beat)  
"Stroll amongst flora..." and all that.

ZEUS  
(booming)  
I am the Lord your God, King of the Universe.  
Bow down.

STAN  
On the ground?

ZEUS  
Where else?

STAN  
On my beloved's ground?

ZEUS  
HER ground?!

STAN  
You know it.

Runs toward FLORA.

ZEUS  
Wouldn't do that if I were you.

STAN  
Why not?

ZEUS  
Every touch will burn  
I'm feeling stern  
Gotta learn real good  
The delicate nature of wood.

STAN  
Fuck you, ZEUS.  
Fuck you with your platitudes and proclamations.  
Fuck you with your cryptic bullshit.  
You ain't got no answers.  
So, I ain't got no questions.  
What I got is love  
And now it's lost  
    (pause)  
And you, Oh great King of the Universe, are to blame.

STAN hugs FLORA.  
Lightning.  
STAN freezes.  
ZEUS rubs FLORA all over.  
She shudders.

ZEUS  
I have become  
soil.  
I am moist.  
Your little toes drink my water  
Up

ZEUS

(cont'd)

Your veins carry me

Up

Your sultry stems

your gargantuan gams

Up

Your titanic torso

Up

I caress your shoulders

Suck your elbows

Lick your wrists

Drip from your fingers.

I am in every crevice

I am in every crack.

I am your life.

FLORA

Agggggghhhhhh!

Lightning.

STAN is thrown backward, leg  
crushed beneath him.

FLORA is split in two.

STAN

(beat)

Thanks for tuckin' me in.

FLORA

I am split in two.

three.

four .

and more.

STAN

Hug me.

FLORA

Roots buried deep.

Always standing.

I can't sleep.

STAN

Hold me.

FLORA  
Broken.  
My pieces  
on the forest floor.

STAN  
Too tight.

FLORA  
I can't bend.  
I can't reach.

STAN  
Too long.

FLORA  
Can't gather my broken pieces.

STAN  
Too strong.

FLORA  
I can't sleep.  
Sleep.

STAN  
Yes, mom.

FLORA  
Sleep.

STAN  
'kay, Mom.

FLORA  
Sleep.

STAN  
Goodnight  
Mom.

Thunder.  
Lights.  
STAN stands, gimpy leg.

STAN  
I walk  
No.  
I limp  
limp  
limp.  
Soles worn out.  
Arm drags, knuckles scrape.  
Mouth palsied, one side curling high, while the other hangs low.  
Maybe  
I should stop walking,  
stop moving  
stop talking  
stop  
stop  
stop  
asking  
          (beat)  
WHY!?

STAN sinks to the ground.  
FAUNUS appears.  
Man with horns, tale of one  
animal, legs of another.  
And a huge Erect Phallus.  
He rears back. Frightening.

FAUNUS  
Thousands of creatures roam these woods.

STAN  
          (jumping up, scared)  
Faunus, the God of beasts, was banished to Hades for his insatiable  
appetites.

FAUNUS stares down STAN, his prey.

FAUNUS  
Bears  
Deer  
Elk  
Squirrels  
Fireflies  
Mosquitoes  
Ants  
Each one of them  
beautiful

FAUNUS

(cont'd)

Each one of them  
with  
curves  
and bumps  
and feet  
leading  
to  
legs  
leading  
to  
God  
Thousands who have laid with me

FAUNUS leaps on STAN.  
Fucks.

FAUNUS

Thousands whose hind quarters spread wide  
while torsos push against fertilized blades

STAN

(trying to push him off)

I'm trapped.

FAUNUS

Thousands who bite  
bite  
bite  
my skin and  
suck  
suck  
suck  
my sweet blood

STAN

(flips FAUNUS over)

I'm lost.

FAUNUS

Thousands who run as far as they can from  
my rancid touch.

STAN

(fucking FAUNUS)

I don't want eternity.

FAUNUS

Thousands who only stop when I dig my horns  
into their fighting flesh.

STAN

I want to wake up, hot

FAUNUS

Thousands who crawl  
crawl  
crawl  
in my hair,

STAN

hot

FAUNUS

poison  
poison  
poison  
my brain.

STAN

hot

FAUNUS

Thousands I have laid.

STAN

from dreaming

FAUNUS

Each one of them  
scared.

STAN

I want to dream

FAUNUS

Each one of them  
alone.

Both Orgasm.

STAN

I'm sorry.

Pets him.  
Hugs him.  
Holds him.

FAUNUS

(suddenly pushing him away)  
Don't touch me.

STAN

Sorry.

FAUNUS

If I was buried  
covered in Earth  
no one could touch me  
no one could hold me  
no one could love me  
(beat)  
Kill me.

STAN

You're my hero.

FAUNUS

Please, kiddo,  
kill me.

STAN

Tell me I can do everything.

FAUNUS

You can do everything.

STAN

Tell me you got big dreams  
for little me.

FAUNUS

I got big dreams.

STAN

More.

FAUNUS

You can walk the earth, commanding every step.

STAN  
More.

FAUNUS  
You can kick up dust, loved by every creature.

STAN  
Details.

FAUNUS  
    (pause)  
You can see more with your one eye than most do with two  
You can spin lightly with a heavy body

STAN  
I'm gonna be a dancer!

FAUNUS  
You can travel farther than any man, into space

STAN  
I'm gonna be an astronaut!

FAUNUS  
Or under the sea

STAN  
Or a submarine captain. Dive! Dive!

FAUNUS  
Seeing the world  
from high above  
and far below  
you are God  
you can become he

STAN  
I am ZEUS!  
Maker of rain  
Bringer of pain  
Object of Desire  
Every person's fire  
yearns  
for  
ME!

FAUNUS  
Son,  
I need you.

STAN  
I can do everything!

FAUNUS  
You can,  
Kill me.

STAN picks FAUNUS up and climbs.

STAN  
The Cyclops crawled to the highest peak of hell, carrying his charge.  
Willing to trade anyone, save himself, for knowledge of Zeus'  
will.

FAUNUS  
I am ready.

STAN  
Really?

FAUNUS  
I don't know, Stanley.  
I don't know anything.

STAN lifts FAUNUS above his head.

STAN  
I'm sorry, dad.  
Sorry I am not the man you dreamed me to be.  
Sorry I do not spin,  
And I do not see.  
Sorry I couldn't save you  
from me.

Lightning.  
STAN freezes.

ZEUS  
I have become  
beast.  
I am flesh and fur and warm blood and instinct.

Gets on all fours.

FAUNUS jumps down and fucks  
him from behind.

ZEUS tries to reach around and  
touch FAUNUS.  
FAUNUS pushes him away.

ZEUS  
Nothing  
but instinct.

FAUNUS orgasms.

FAUNUS  
Agggghhh!

Lightning.  
FAUNUS and STAN both fall to the  
ground.

ZEUS  
I don't want him.

STAN  
I love you.

ZEUS  
I want you.

STAN  
You have me.

ZEUS  
Liar.

STAN  
The Cyclops sacrifices his body to give Zeus power.  
Lightning fashioned from every bit of tortured skin,  
every strand of bruised hair,  
every burnt nipple,  
every bent elbow,  
every twisted mouth,  
every limping limb,  
every plucked eyelash,  
every fucked up fingernail.

STAN

(cont'd)

Without him, Zeus  
is nothing,  
Bits of dust with a thunderous yell  
no one hears crackle on the wind  
No one feels electrify the rain.  
Without him,  
Zeus is silent.  
The Cyclops gives the  
god of gods his voice.  
I give you  
nothing.

ZEUS speaks, lips moving, but  
nothing comes out.  
Grabs STAN.  
Nothing.  
Shakes him  
Nothing.  
ZEUS screams!  
Still Silent.

Lights shift.  
STAN stands, now with a twisted  
torso.  
STAN buries FAUNUS.

STAN

The Cyclops, having finally rejected Zeus' advances,  
secreted himself away.  
Those who would come upon his cave,  
would  
feed  
feed  
feed  
and drink  
drink  
drink  
then  
leave  
leave  
LEAVE!

HELEN, a real Berkeley, CA kind of  
gal, walks behind STAN, who leads  
her on a tour.

STAN

And here, you see the first buds of spring.  
Under the canopy, somehow their bloom takes wing.

HELEN

That's pretty.

STAN

Just a little something I wrote.

HELEN

Are you lonely?

STAN

No.

No.

No.

HELEN

Right.

Right.

Right.

STAN

Under the soil, critters uncoil  
beneath your feet, look quick, they are quite fleet.

HELEN

Right.

This is home, after all.

STAN

Above the ground, scattered remains.  
Cleaning my boots, what a pain.

HELEN

Home

with the sun peeking through,  
lighting the darkest corners.

STAN

Shhh.

A squirrel and a doe  
step lightly, on your toes

HELEN

Home  
with snapped twigs,  
crumpled leaves

STAN

Careful.  
Poison Oak.  
Don't touch your sleeves.

HELEN

Home  
with only air to breathe  
and silence every night

She cries.

STAN

It is  
perfect out here.  
Bright.

HELEN

Are you lonely?

STAN

No.  
(beat)  
Yes.  
Yes.  
Yes.

HELEN

Home.  
Let's go home.

STAN

Yes.

They lie down, in bed together.  
A real couple.  
He tries to kiss her.

HELEN

No.

STAN

Hestia, Goddess of Hearth and Home, paid the Cyclops a permanent visit.

Only she,

with her

(disgust)

purity

chastity

virginity

could soothe the one eyed monster.

STAN tries to kiss her.

HELEN

No.

STAN

You're always tired.

HELEN

I'm not tired.

STAN

You don't want this twisted mess.

You don't want me.

HELEN

I want you home.

I want you touching my heart

not my lips.

I want you telling me truth,

not speaking to my hips.

STAN

Truth?

Fine.

I was fine.

All alone.

Didn't need to stay on my side of the bed

Didn't need to cook for two, I was well fed.

Didn't need to gaze into hazel eyes

Mine are muddy brown.

Didn't need to be seen when I cried

or frowned.

Didn't need to answer

questions:

How do you feel?

STAN

(cont'd)

My life was mine and it was fucking real.  
You are a dream  
and I can't awaken  
My time, myself, my home  
you've taken.

HELEN

You're scared.

STAN

I'm scared?  
You put up your hands when I come near.  
You push me away  
like my skin,  
my breath  
my love  
you fear.

HELEN

I'm not scared.  
I'm home.

STAN

My home.

HELEN

Yes.  
You asked  
and I said yes.

STAN

Yes.

HELEN

Yes  
to breaking the silence  
Yours was quiet  
Mine was loud  
Yours was sun rising dawn  
Mine was street lamp dusk  
Yours was walking sticks  
Mine was metro buses  
Yours was cold creek dips  
Mine was ceramic tiles  
Yours was grass and brush

HELEN

(cont'd)

Mine was brushing against too many bodies  
Yours was wooded seclusion  
Mine was hiding in plain sight  
I'm not loud  
So,  
I'm not scared.

Long pause.

STAN

I'm scared

HELEN

Yes

STAN

I'm scared

I'm nothing

but

muscles and flesh.

I'm scared

of that moment

when my brain goes empty

and

my body takes over.

I'm scared

of what I might do when I can't hear anything

but the sound of my skin tingling and my prick ringing. I'm scared

of being unbound by rules, laws or the prying eyes of a curious

public. I'm scared that the sheets are soft and I'm hard. I'm

scared that I don't really want you, I just want something warm and

wet. I'm scared that I do want you and that just won't matter. I'm

scared that I can't have you. I'm scared that I can. I'm scared

that I'm a man and nothing more and a whole lot less. I'm scared

that I will die and never touch a single human soul. I'm scared that

I will live and have to touch everybody. I'm scared that you see me

and know me and want me and hate me and might still pull me close to

you in spite of disgust because desire is much stronger. I'm scared

that I'm too small for your big world. I'm scared of yes because

everybody says it when what they mean is no, maybe, perhaps, goodbye.

I'm scared of hello because it's the beginning of an inevitable end.

I'm scared of the end because it means I'm done, finished, no more

and I can't stay because something always calls me away. Please call

me away. Gotta run. I'm scared. I'm just sc--

She kisses  
His one eye.  
Bent arm.  
Gimpy leg.  
His twisted mouth.  
Gentle.  
Longer.  
Passionate.  
Lightning strikes them!  
Lights flicker.  
Bodies shake and quake.  
Sparks fly.  
STAN freezes.  
ZEUS puts STAN's hat on.

ZEUS  
I'm scared.

She kisses him.  
Longer.  
Passionate.  
Suddenly, she pulls away.

HELEN  
Something's wrong.

ZEUS  
It's nothing.

HELEN  
Yes.  
That's it.  
Nothing.

He grabs her - kiss.

HELEN  
I feel nothing.

Silence.

Thunder.  
STAN and HELEN limp on the floor,  
entwined.  
STAN stirs.

STAN

Babe?

(shakes her)

Darlin'?

(shakes her)

Sweetheart?

(shakes her)

Love?

(shakes her)

Helen?

(shakes her, screams)

WHHHHHHHYYYYYYY!?

Silence.

STAN

I'm not scared. Not anymore.

Picks up gun.

Holds to his head.

Lightning.

Spotlights.

ZEUS

I'm scared.

STAN

You're silent.

ZEUS

You stopped listening.

Cocks it. Ready to fire.

ZEUS

(booming and echoes)

NOOO!

STAN

All alone.

You don't know what it's like.

If I disappear,

she will not hear

the shot whistle through the leaves.

No one will grieve

what happened to the crippled man.

They'll say, aw shucks, just part of some divine plan.

STAN

(cont'd)

No one will cry  
those oh how I miss him tears.  
Nope, almighty Zeus,  
you ain't got nothin' to fear.

ZEUS

I cannot touch a single human soul.

Long Pause.

STAN has no response.

ZEUS

I mean, I can become something else, something less and therefore far greater. But *ZEUS*, this God, this universe, this Earth and Sky and time and home, cannot feel.  
People are beneath me, skinny arms reaching to caress a thread of my robes.  
Reaching.  
Reaching.  
Reaching. And I bend down, as far as my shoulder will stoop, as deep as my head will bow, as strained as my fingers can fly.  
Reaching.  
Reaching.  
Reaching.  
We can see the tip of each other's tips - Yet, alas, it is not meant to be.

STAN

But they are Gods.

ZEUS

Thus, I sit alone, only other immortals to keep me company. And, let me tell ya', the conversation's lousy. Pronouncements left and right, Declarations till the cows come home. Power struggles the likes of which I hope you never know. Every one of us carving up pieces of heaven - that constellation's yours, that galaxy's mine, that dim star, so dim it can't be seen by any eye - We war for infinity to own that speck of night sky.  
And so I am alone because I am surrounded by my own.  
Maybe, just maybe, when this crash of lightning hits a mother, a brother, a sister, a friend, a person, a real live pulsating person, they won't die no, they will rise up, the current breaking the barriers of who owns what and join me here for all eternity.

(beat)

Or even for a moment.

ZEUS

(cont'd)

A moment of forgetting.

Forgetting that I've never buried my head in someone's hair and  
smelled soap covering sweat covering dirt.

Forgetting

I am a God.

Forgetting

I am surrounded.

Forgetting

I am alone.

Silence.

STAN

You touched me.

ZEUS

I hurt you.

STAN

You spared me.

ZEUS

I killed those you loved.

STAN

You saved me.

ZEUS

You're a fighter.

STAN

I know.

I'm so tired of fighting.

So tired of searching.

So tired of asking why.

ZEUS

So tired of reaching.

STAN

So tired of hoping.

ZEUS

So tired of moments.

STAN  
So tired of remembering

ZEUS  
So tired of forgetting

STAN  
So tired

ZEUS  
So tired

STAN  
Too Tired.

ZEUS  
Yeah?

STAN  
Yeah.

STAN puts the gun down.

STAN  
What now?

ZEUS  
I don't know.

STAN  
Me neither.  
I'm leaving.

ZEUS  
I'll miss you.

STAN  
Me too.

ZEUS  
I'll wait.

STAN  
Don't.

ZEUS still holds STAN's hat close.  
Thunder.

STAN stands, hair charred.

STAN

Kronos, the God of time, rose to power.

KEVIN appears, dressed in a fine suit and shiny black wing tips.

KEVIN

Come, Stanley, come work for me.

An infinitely tall skyscraper with a huge antenna at the top.

STAN

The Cyclops returned home, to Tartaros, its punishments all too familiar.

Thirst goes unquenched.

Hunger unfulfilled.

Questions unanswered

and answers constantly questioned.

Sisyphus pushes his boulder

and

it falls

falls

falls again.

For eternity.

The click clack of computer keys.

KEVIN

Inside.

Air conditioning.

Carpeted floors.

Grey felt movable walls.

Where

you

tack up

photos

of your trees.

and your high cliffs.

and your after rain rainbows.

STAN

He imprisoned the Cyclops, blocked his eye from puffs of atmosphere  
and skies of indescribable blue. We don't see blue like that  
anymore.

KEVIN

Work, Stanley.  
Fingers along  
plastic keys  
butt on fabric lumbar supported seat  
on rubber wheels  
Not that you need rubber  
Could be iron  
Could be copper  
Any kind of metal  
Here, you, my brother  
are protected  
from trees  
and high cliffs  
and rain  
rain  
rainbows  
Cause  
You are inside.  
    (beat)  
Work.

STAN works, fingers flying (as  
though tabulating on a calculator)  
in the air.

STAN

Now, its all radiation reds and methane magentas.  
Who can see heaven anyhow, with all those damn colors in the way.

KEVIN

Coworkers.  
People.  
rush by,  
offer you a word  
of hello.  
    (long pause)  
Well, go on.

ALL

    (looking disgusted)  
Hello.

STAN

And the Cyclops asked,  
why Kronos?

Why?

Why have you put me here to live when you could  
you should

leave without saying goodbye? And there came no answer. Everyday,  
the Cyclops asked this same old  
old

too old

question.

Why?

KEVIN

Let's welcome Stan to the TERRIFIC TAX FAMILY!

STAN

Silence.

KEVIN

They touch you.

ALL stand, looking at STAN's  
mangled body.

KEVIN

Shake your hand.

STAN

Why?

One tries to shake the bent arm -  
awkward.

KEVIN

Shake your shoulder.

STAN

Silence.

He claps STAN on shoulder.

KEVIN

Shake.

Another shakes STAN's whole body  
reluctantly.

STAN

Why?

KEVIN  
Shake.

Another shakes harder.

STAN  
Silence.

KEVIN  
Shake.

Another shakes violently.

STAN  
(as he's being quaked)  
Why? Why? Why?

KEVIN  
Back to work.

ALL sit at identical seats and  
calculate in the air.  
MUZAK.  
STAN calculates.

STAN  
Why?

ATHENA gets up from her "desk"

ATHENA  
*Why?*  
That is not a question. That's an excuse.  
The other day, I was at my desk and this little fucker comes up to  
me, right in my nose, hummus breath singeing my skin.  
He says,  
"I've got questions."  
And without waiting for another word I answer:  
Yes, no, maybe, The Square root of sixty four, To burn bright until  
we die. Now get out of my face.  
Questions. I'm tired of 'em.

STAN  
Athena was the goddess of war.  
And the high priestess of wisdom. I always thought these were  
mutually exclusive.

ATHENA

I don't ask why.

I do.

Do you.

Do you with my

shaved legs

spread wide

my waxed mouth

open

my lacquered nails

plunged

deep into your

ass

Pulling you close

Pushing you away

Pull

Push

Don't stop

STAN

Is this--

ATHENA

--Don't ask.

Just do.

Do me with your one eye

reflecting my two.

Your bent misshapen arm

engulfing my round head.

Your thin, stretched lips

kissing my pert pillows.

Your withered thighs

pressed against my muscled calves.

Your scorched, never to heal flesh

joined to my smooth and silky skin.

Do me.

Do me good.

Do me perfect.

They make love.

STAN

I love you?

ATHENA

That's a question.

STAN

I love you.

ATHENA

You don't know what love is.

STAN

I love you.

ATHENA

I do. It is strong and unyielding.

STAN

Athena hurls lightning bolts in underworld battles.

ATHENA

It is get away and come close.

STAN

She is the siren of storms,

ATHENA

It is pull your hair and bite your skin.

STAN

Raging and calm in all the right places.

ATHENA

It is claw your back and slap your face.

STAN

Biceps taut, breasts full, head on fire, scorched with desire.

ATHENA

It is--

STAN

Perfect.

ATHENA

Don't look at me!

STAN

She grabs a foe by the neck and drives her sharpest lightning bolt straight into his guts.

STAN jolts. They both orgasm.  
Collapses into his arm.

ATHENA  
I love you too.

STAN  
Why?

ATHENA  
I'm broken.

STAN  
But you're a goddess.

ATHENA  
I'm a girl.

STAN  
You know all.

ATHENA  
I don't know anything.

STAN  
Don't say that.

ATHENA  
It's the truth.

STAN  
Lie to me.

ATHENA  
Hold me.

STAN  
Tell me you can do everything.

ATHENA  
I can't.

STAN  
Tell me you have big dreams.

ATHENA  
Let's sleep.

Cuddles close.

STAN  
You can't sleep.

ATHENA  
I can.

STAN  
You're home.

ATHENA  
I am.

STAN  
Leave me.

ATHENA  
I'm not going anywhere.

SHE holds him tight.  
STAN suddenly stands.

STAN  
I am.  
Back to work.

ATHENA  
(strokes him)  
I'll wait.

STAN  
Don't.

STAN shoves her away.

ATHENA  
Don't.

STAN  
I'm done fighting.

STAN calculates once again.

ATHENA  
I'm not.  
(beat)  
I'll wait.

STAN  
Why?

ATHENA  
Hope stays alive.  
And so do I.

STAN keeps calculating.  
ATHENA sits next to him.  
She calculates...for the rest of  
the play.

STAN  
I've forgotten  
the sound  
of God's voice  
whispering  
along the jagged current.  
I can't  
I wish  
I could  
Break the bars of this prison  
and pieces of the clouds,  
pieces of my father  
would tear  
into my hands.  
    (looks at hands calculating)  
Hands that move  
without thought,  
without feeling.  
Motion.  
Nothing more.  
Fingers don't stop  
Can't stop  
Thrust  
Pull.  
Don't Stop  
Push  
Carve  
Can't Stop  
Whittle  
Shape  
Don't Stop  
    (beat, lays one hand on top of the other)

STAN  
    (cont'd)  
Stop.  
    (again)  
Stop.  
    (again)  
Stop.

Stops calculating.

STAN  
Kronos  
God  
Look at all I have made.  
All I have done.  
They are good, no?  
Bright, no?  
Strong, no?  
Necessary, yes?  
    (silence)  
Why did you make me..  
make these?  
Why?  
Why?  
Why?  
Silence.

Forever.

KEVIN  
Back to work.

STAN  
Why?

KEVIN  
No mistakes.

STAN  
Why?

KEVIN  
You should be grateful.

STAN  
Why?

KEVIN  
I love you.

STAN  
Why?

KEVIN  
I love that you are here.  
With me.  
I love that you are safe.  
With me.  
I love that you are my brother  
And I your home.  
No.  
Your palace.  
I am big walls  
and solid floors.  
I am safety deposit boxes  
and locked vaults.  
I am Late Night Clubs  
and pressed close against another.  
I am a King Size Bed  
and the beautiful woman who shares it.  
I am pureed banana covered bibs  
and giggling children.  
My children giggling.  
I am Bar Mitzvah Dances  
and schoolyard brawls.  
I am wedding planners  
and baby showers.  
I am trips on cruise ships  
and Barry Manilow Musical Revues.  
I am bifocals, trifocals, canes, walkers  
and wheelchairs.  
I am funerals, friends' funerals  
and the beautiful woman's funeral.  
My woman's funeral.  
I am tears.  
    (beat)  
and I am not alone.  
I am big walls  
and solid floors.

STAN  
I'm not.

KEVIN  
You could be.

STAN  
But I'm not.

KEVIN  
Give it a try.

STAN  
Why?

KEVIN  
For me.

STAN begins to exit.

STAN  
I love you.

KEVIN  
Prove it.

STAN  
I'm goin' home.  
Kevin,  
    (pause)  
Thanks.

KEVIN  
For what?

STAN  
For you.

KEVIN  
Why?

STAN  
I don't know.

KEVIN  
Me neither.

STAN throws open the door and  
climbs to the top of the  
skyscraper.

STAN  
So, finally after years  
years  
too many years  
the Cyclops took a lightning bolt, the last one he ever made, and  
plunged it deep into his heart.

Grabs the building's  
antenna.

STAN  
Take me, ZEUS.  
Take every broken  
bent  
burnt  
angry  
scared  
weeping  
laughing  
part,  
toss  
them to eternity.

Lightning strikes the antenna.

Spotlights.

ZEUS  
Five years.

STAN  
Yes.  
Five  
long  
years.

ZEUS  
A baby's lifetime.

STAN  
Why didn't you rescue me?

ZEUS

I ain't gonna beg.

STAN

Why didn't you save me?

ZEUS

I ain't gonna plead.

STAN

Why did you leave me?

ZEUS

I ain't gonna run into your limp arm  
or rip open  
your closed eye.

STAN

I'm here now.

ZEUS

You're gonna go away.

STAN

You don't know  
me.

Thunder.

STAN's body smokes and bleeds.

Long Pause.

He closes eye...jumps.

Lightning strikes him.

Jolt.

He floats.

STAN

ZEUS!

ZEUS

Open your eye!

Look!

Look down below.

Look at tops of heads

Look at smokestacks billowing

Look at windows holding machines holding people

Look at no one touching

Look at no one talking

ZEUS

(cont'd)

Look at racing, moving at indescribable speed

Look at colliding

Look at false smiles with false teeth

Look at shaming

Look at looking

Look at not seeing a goddamn thing

Here, with me, you are invisible.

Down there, you're invisible too.

STAN

I'm sorry.

ZEUS

Why?

STAN

You know.

ZEUS

Why?

STAN

Please.

Please put me down.

ZEUS

Why?

STAN

Fine.

For leaving.

For not trusting.

For not believing.

For denying

For not trying

For dreaming

of a better life

someone else's life

away

away

away

from you.

(beat)

Now, will you let me go?

ZEUS  
Why?  
          (beat)  
Open your eye.

STAN opens his eye and looks.  
He cries.

STAN  
Too far away.  
I see nothing.  
I see no one.  
I don't know what I see.

ZEUS  
Yes.

All characters, except ATHENA, who  
calculates, wave to him above.

STAN  
I see everything.

Falls closer to them.  
Lightning.  
Jolt.  
Float.  
He reaches for them.

STAN  
I see everyone.

Falls closer.  
Lightning.  
Jolt.  
Float.  
Reach.

STAN  
I am surrounded.

Falls till he's almost touching  
them.  
Lightning.  
Jolt.  
Float.

He reaches.  
They reach.  
Don't quite touch.

STAN  
I am alone.

Thunder.  
ALL, except ATHENA, catch STAN.  
Touch him.  
Hold him.  
Caress him.  
Kiss him.  
STAN looks at these people.  
Smiles.  
Dies in their arms.  
ALL silent scream.  
Silent weep.  
Place STAN on ground.  
Look at each other.  
Smile.

ALL slowly exit,  
in separate directions.  
ATHENA remains, calculating.

STAN sits up.

STAN  
Man's got a lot of time up here alone.  
A lot of sitting.  
A lot of walking.  
A lot of thinking.  
A lot of nothing.  
An eternity.  
I'm not lonely though.  
I got my stories.  
    (pulls out book)  
Tall tales told by those who lived a long time ago  
and now that they're alone  
somewhere  
in some other corner  
of some other forest  
I've found a way we can keep other company.

Opens the book.

STAN

Uranus, the god of the sky and Gaia, goddess of the Earth, laid  
entwined on their heavenly--

ZEUS places hat on STAN's head.  
Sits down.  
He waits.

STAN

Otis, my Dad and Gina, my mom, made love.  
Then Mom gave birth  
to me,  
Stanley...

ZEUS rests head on STAN's  
shoulder.  
STAN keeps reading.  
ZEUS sleeps.  
STAN rests head.  
Sleeps.  
No lightning.  
No thunder.  
Silence.  
For eternity.

END OF PLAY