

# MYTHA MUSICAL

## SYNOPSIS

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It is the age of gods. The kings of Athens and Thebes, in an attempt to bind their cities in peace and power, arrange for the marriage of the princess Acacia to the legendary warrior-prince Kallisto. But the gods deliver a dark oracle on behalf of the mysterious Fates, declaring doom for the wedding. The pious Acacia calls upon her beloved patroness Athena for help. Athena, against Zeus's wishes, leaves Olympus to confront the Fates and ask of them the impossible: the reversal of Acacia's doom. In spite of the oracle, the royals proceed with the wedding.

Unbeknownst to Athena, Zeus has taken notice of the beautiful Acacia. With Hermes' help, he eludes his suspicious wife Hera and attempts to seduce the virgin princess. His ploy ends in madcap failure. However, Kakisto – Kallisto's misshapen, manipulative twin – succeeds in kidnapping Acacia, with the aim of drawing out the prince. He plans to assassinate both Kallisto and the king, and take power for himself.

Athena arrives at the lair of the Fates, three insidious hags who weave the destiny of both men and gods into a magnificent, merciless tapestry. They balk at Athena's demand. From the lair, they look down to see Acacia held captive by Kakisto as he tells her a tale she never heard in her privileged upbringing: the story of the titan Prometheus, who fought the oppressive gods for the sake of lowly humanity. It is for humanity, Kakisto claims, that he is willing to kill his father, his brother, and her. In an instant, Athena is at Acacia's side, drawing off Kakisto at swordpoint. Acacia is alone, and Zeus is free to make his move. Acacia fearfully rejects his advances until he grows irritated and, horrifically, rapes her. Kallisto finds Acacia and, unaware of what has transpired, returns with her to the palace to consummate their marriage. The vindictive Hera appears, summoning the gods as she accuses Acacia of infidelity (with Kakisto, the mortals presume), and condemns the girl to Tartarus. Athena defends Acacia, demanding Zeus overturn this unjust verdict. Zeus explodes, declaring that he is the very standard of justice. Athena reluctantly concedes to her father, and Acacia descends into death, leaving the royals in mourning.

The tragic events leave Kallisto mad and Athens and Thebes on the brink of war. As Athena begins to question her father's judgment, Acacia and Kakisto find each other in Tartarus. Kakisto has found a place as Hades' protégé, and he chides Acacia for still believing that the gods are just and that Kallisto will rescue her—only there in Tartarus, he says, can they pursue a world of their own. As the gods wreak havoc on earth, Kallisto and a small band of mortals flee the bloodshed, looking for a path to the underworld in hopes of escape.

In Olympus, Athena learns that Zeus himself raped Acacia. She revisits the Fates, accusing them of forcing her father to commit this atrocity, but the Fates are revealed to be nothing more than Hera and the other gods, under Zeus's control.

In Tartarus, Acacia gives birth to Zeus's child, a baby girl. Hades threatens to destroy the baby, but Kakisto turns against him and, together with the damned, subdues him. The maddened Kallisto breaks through the gates of Tartarus. To Acacia's dismay, however, he isn't there to rescue her but to seek refuge. Unwilling to raise her daughter in a kingdom of death below, or a world of injustice above, Acacia does the unthinkable: she leads the damned in a revolt against Olympus itself. They accost Zeus, and with Athena's help, bind him and his pantheon. With their gods fallen, the mortals turn in worship to Acacia, their hero, the overthrower of Olympus. Realizing at last the true nature of mankind's oppression, Acacia makes a final sacrifice, setting fire to Zeus, his minions, and herself. Olympus is razed, and Kakisto and the mortals are free to build a kingdom of their own—not one of power, subjugation, and celebrity, but of justice, equality, and compassion.

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