

# Treatment

## Ideas for Your Title

**Darkness Looms on Mount Olympus**

## A Detailed Description of Your Setting (see below)

**Cavern:** The first part of the scene takes place in a cavern on Mount Olympus. Essentially, it is a large cave where the Three Fates reside, inside Zeus' palace. The cavern is dark, and most deities do not bother roaming around.

**Mount Olympus:** A row of stairs leading up to a large palace, where all the 12 Gods of Olympus reside. Essentially it is an acropolis with a hill-top and a complex of palaces, and the fortress yielded large, golden gates. A large plains area that rests on a huge cloud is the site of a small cave where mysterious lights and voices emanate.

## Brief Overview of the Scene(s) From *Macbeth* You Most Closely Adapt

Macbeth unintentionally met the three witches after being promoted as Thane of Cawdor by Duncan. The witches prophecy Macbeth's future, exclaiming that he will one day become king. When Macbeth learned about this, he resorted to devilish thoughts. He spoke with his wife about this, and with her insistence, he plans to murder Duncan and the attendees and become the king of Scotland.

## General Plot Summary of Your Adaptation (see below)

After Ares (Macbeth) fought virtuously in a war, his father Zeus (Duncan) was very impressed and made him one of the 12 Gods of Olympus. Macbeth was overjoyed of this feat, and wanted to achieve more to become one of the most powerful gods in the world. The Three Fates, who have recently watched over Ares, conspire to wreak havoc on the gods. They meet with Ares on a cold, windy night, and tell him that he'll become king of the gods, though not by peaceful means. Chilled by this prophecy, Ares becomes uncomfortable and begins to ponder murderous thoughts. He questions his need to murder Zeus but Athena (Lady Macbeth) pushes him to do it. They trick Zeus into meeting with a beautiful mortal girl, and he walks right into their trap. Without hesitation, Ares kills him with his spear. After, Ares and Athena nearly get caught by Hermes (Macduff), but they escape his sight and manage to pass as asleep. After the other ten Gods of Olympus heard about Zeus' fate, they swore vengeance on Ares and Athena.

## Character List and Detailed Descriptions

**Ares (Macbeth)** - The god of war. He brings the air of battle wherever he goes.

**Athena (Lady Macbeth)** - The goddess of wisdom and war. She takes on the form of a young female warrior who always carries a bronze shield. Athena doesn't have the power to prophesy the future but she appears to know everything. There appears to be a menacing aura around her plans.

**Zeus (Duncan)** - Ruler of the heavens and the father of Ares and Athena. He is very fond of his first-born Athena, and trusts her more than he should.

**Three Fates (Three Witches)**- Three mysterious old women who control fate and life.

#### Quotations from *Macbeth* that You Hope to Include

##### Lady Macbeth

- “Who dares receive it other, as we shall make our griefs and clamor roar upon his death” (1,7).
- “Be so much more the man” (1,7).
- “But screw your courage to the sticking-place, and we’ll not fail” (1,7)

##### Macbeth

- “To be king / stands not within the prospect of belief” (1.3) .

#### Your Closing Pitch

This new adaptation of Shakespeare’s original play “Macbeth” offers a fresh perspective on a centuries-old story. This lighthearted but dark story incorporates the classic greek mythology into the story, with the characters playing as the Olympian Gods. Within the play, each scene is thoroughly written with a good understanding of the characters, and stage directions are made accordingly. This adaptation is unique, but can easily be matched and understood by the classic Shakespearean expert and the commonfolk as well.

## Plot

Feedback?

<https://thunderredstar.typeform.com/to/BVd97O8E>

## Exposition

### Characters:

Zeus as Duncan

Ares as Macbeth

Athena as Lady Macbeth

The Three Fates as the Three Witches

## Overview

Ares ran into the Three Fates by coincidence. The Three Fates prophesied that Ares will receive one of the crowns of the Big Three. The Fates end the conversation by pulling off a thread of life, cut short and marred by blood.

Ares seeks advice from Athena, the goddess of wisdom and war. They argue over which crown Ares will receive, finally deciding on Zeus. They come up with a plan to trap Zeus, so Ares can take over.

## Actual play

### Act 1 Scene 3

Set in a time in the old ages, Mount Olympus is where the Greek Gods ruled. Ares has just been named as one of the 12 Gods of Olympus by his father Zeus, and he is now contemplating on this victorious feat. He wanders into a dark cavern, where unbeknownst to him, lie the Three Fates.

*Enter Ares, he sees the Three Fates weaving a thread.*

**Ares:**

(yells) Who's there? (pause) I was certain that no one resided in this cave until now.

*The Three Fates take notice of Ares.*

**First Fate:**

All hail, Ares! Bless you, god of war!

**Second Fate:**

All hail, Ares! Bless you, the spirit of battle!

**Third Fate:**

All hail, Ares! You shall gain one of the crowns of the three.

**Ares:**

(confused) Are you the Three Fates? Did you just say crown of the three?

**Three Fates:**

(in unison) Hail!

*The thread the Fates were weaving falls to the ground, as the three entities disappear.*

**Ares:**

Please, tell me more. "To be king / stands not within the prospect of belief" (1.3), I don't seem to understand what you have prophesied.

*Ares waits a while, but the Three Fates do not return.*

**Ares:**

*(frustrated, thinks to himself)* If I had just known how cursed this mountain was!

*Exeunt Ares, Three Fates*

## Act 2 Scene 1

Ares makes his way back to his own palace in Mount Olympus, an acropolis with a hill-top and a complex of palaces where the 12 Gods of Olympus reside.

*Enter Ares to the Palace of Olympus*

**Athena:**

What took you so long? Our father is growing more impatient by the second. He demands our presence here.

**Ares:**

I encountered the most peculiar thing. In a cave, previously uninhabited, were the Three Fates, with unsettling news.

**Athena:**

What is the news you speak of?

**Ares:**

*(lowering his voice)*

I have heard that I will obtain the crown of one of the Three.

**Athena:**

What else did the Three Fates say?

**Ares:**

Nothing much they vanished soon after and left a single thread behind.

**Athena:**

*(thinks to herself)* The Three Fates usually give clear and concise prophecies, so why did Ares receive such a vague prophecy? If the prophecy is unclear for which crown Ares will obtain, it's probable that this is a choice.

*(to Ares)* So which crown will you pick?

**Ares:**

*(confused)*

Why are you so calm about this?

**Athena:**

*(hushes Ares and speaks quietly)*

I've been envious of Zeus and his position among the gods. If the Fates say we will have the crown of *one* of the three, it means that we can take the crown of *any* of the three!

**Ares:**

Don't you think you are being too optimistic? What if this is a trap?

**Athena:**

I am the goddess of wisdom. Have I ever been wrong?

**Ares:**

How will I get the crown of heaven?

**Athena:**

*(I know a friend who knows a friend)* We have options. You can either be confined in your palace or rise to power with me.

**Ares:**

I didn't know you have this side to you. What do we do about the other Olympians though?

**Athena:**

I am not only the goddess of wisdom, but also war. I have the same title as you and I intend to represent it.

**Ares:**

*(Raising his voice)*

If we should fail?

**Athena:**

Fail? "But screw your courage to the sticking-place, and we'll not fail" (1,7). We have a foolproof plan. We'll only fail if you don't put your mind to it.

**Ares:**

This is outrageous! We are rebelling against our own father!

**Athena:**

"Who dares receive it other, as we shall make our griefs and clamor roar upon his death" (1,7).

**Ares:**

*(shocked and whispers)*

You are planning to murder Zeus?

**Athena:**

"Be so much more the man" (1,7). The Three Fates left behind a thread of life right? One of us will be dead by the end of our plan. If you die but we succeed, you'll be a martyr.

**Ares:**

"I am settled, and bend up

Each corporal agent to this terrible feat.

Away, and mock the time with fairest show:

False face must hide what the false heart doth know." (1,7)

*Exeunt Ares, Athena*