

Reference: Differentiating Apollo and Hades

Due to both characters using sarcasm in similar ways, at this time Apollo and Hades have been written to the point that their dialogue is practically identical despite having different personalities. This reference will serve to assist editors in altering or scrapping work so the two personalities can be properly represented and will help future writers differentiate the two when writing new dialogue.

PART 1: ELOQUENT HADES & RELAXED APOLLO

Emphasize Apollo as more of a relaxed god with loose dialogue and Hades as a more uptight and eloquent god with refined dialogue. Both the gods have attitude, but their mannerisms and speech are distinct.

EXAMPLE:

Apollo: "Cat exploded. Great job sport."
Protagonist: "Where did it go? What did I do?"
Apollo: "Who cares, it was cool. Let's goooooo."

Apollo is criticizing the protagonist, but his tone is nonchalant and informal, as opposed to something Hades would say:

Hades: "Syntax error, not cat. You fixed the syntax error in its speech, so it is freed."
Protagonist: "Oh good."
Hades: "I am glad that puts your mind at ease."
Hades: "I am glad you are concerned about hurting a fake cat in a game but not about making me miserable."

Hades is also criticizing the protagonist, but his sentences are more eloquent and refined. Take note of the lack of contractions; this was an active choice to make Hades sound otherworldly in this scene.

By going through the scripts and editing them so the two gods follow these guidelines better, the difference in sentence structure will make the two more distinct.

PART 2: POSITIVE APOLLO AND NEGATIVE HADES

Hades tends to be negative and wants the protagonist to fail, and Apollo has occasions of being sarcastic but positive.

EXAMPLE:

Protagonist: "Are you actually going to give me any helpful advice?"
Apollo: "What? No that's not my job."
Apollo: "I just want to see you succeed."
Protagonist: "You'll help me succeed if you tell me how to read this mess."
Apollo: "Yeah, but that's not as fun. Success only comes through struggle."
Apollo: "And struggle rhymes with snuggle, which is what I've learned the Syntax Errors hate."

In the above example Apollo is being entirely unhelpful but is lighthearted and seems to be almost cheering on the protagonist in his own way. As opposed to Hades:

Hades: "...how can I be of assistance?"
Protagonist: "What does the cat want?"
Hades: "What cat?"
Protagonist: "The cat over there."
Hades: "That is not a cat, therefore I cannot help you. Goodbye."

In this example, Hades clearly wants nothing to do with the protagonist and wants them to fail.

By emphasizing Hades' dislike for the protagonist and Apollo's unhelpful but lighthearted attitude, we can further differentiate the two in a way that feels natural. I would recommend going through and making alterations to reflect these character differences as well.