TROY

by

Guthrie Gordon

Gordon Guthrie 16/5 Hart Street Edinburgh EH1 3RN 0044 7776 251669 gordon@hypernumbers.com

1

CASSANDRA

(breaks 4th wall)
No sure what's worse, the
mahoosive war abroad or the wee
lies at hame. Secrets kill ya from
the inside oot.

2

A large mostly empty room with a couple of chairs, a sidetable and a closed door.

The door is thrown open.

MENELAUS (O.S.)

I don't care. Get in there, sort this fuckin shit out. Do what you need to do to end this. We are a family reunited now. We are Sparta.

Helen comes into the room, followed by Hermione walking backwards shouting.

HERMIONE

(sarcastically)

Fuckin off again Dad? Like ya did to Troy, Dad? See ya in a decade Pops. Luv ya, kiss-kiss.

Meneleus comes far enough into the room to slam the door shut - glaring. Hermione is wired to the moon stalking around the room, Helen turning to face her imploringly.

HERMIONE

(sarcastically)

Well isn't this nice, Mummy time.

HELEN

(pleading)

Hermione, Hermione...

Hermione sits down and crosses her legs, leans forward with her hands on her knees, big cheesy grin, and blinks several times rapidly...

HERMIONE

(sarcastically)

Yes, Mummy darling, what IS it you want to talk to me, your lovely daughter, fruit of your womb, about.

HELEN

(apologetically, crying)
I am so sorry. I don't expect you
to forgive me, but I do want you
to understand...

HERMIONE

(sarcastically)

Understand what Mummy? That'd you rather fuck your pretty boy and live the life of luxury than look after your precious first-born daughter?

Hermione pauses, puts a finger to her lip, looks around as if thinking deeply.

HERMIONE

Oh, I forgot, your precious second-born daughter.

Helen is lost for words and Hermione flutters her eyelids at her.

HERMIONE

(sarcastically)

Riddle me this, Mother, was it flashing your tits at Theseus, the tyrant of Athens, that first gave you the taste for the highlife? Or was it some other life event that made you too fuckin good for Sparta and liddle ole me?

HELEN

(despairingly)

It wasn't like that, I didn't "flash my tits" at anyone.

HERMIONE

(sarcastically)

Oh, what was it like, do tell? Do tell? A handsome older man took you out for a romantic dinner and suggested a wild marriage under the stars and you made sweet, sweet love all night? Did he make of the girl a woman?

Hermione looses control, stands up and starts raging.

HERMIONE

(angrily)

Do tell why you abandoned me, why you abandoned my sister, who nobody even told me was my fuckin sister...

HELEN

(sadly)

Yes, I left you, but I didn't abandon you.

(MORE)

HELEN (CONT'D)

I left you because I thought you would have a better life without me. I didn't think I was a good Mum, I didn't think I could ever be a good Mum, but that was then. Give me a second chance, please Hermione, darling...

HERMIONE

(trying to be sarcastic but still raging)
So after your sugar daddy rubbered you, and your pretty boy got killed, and your fancy life was burnt down, YOUR DARLING gets to be 3rd choice and you want YOUR DARLING to be grateful. Lets all play happy families. Menelaus loves Helen and Helen loves Menelaus and they both love sweet, darling Hermione THAT THEY BOTH FUCKIN ABANDONED AS A CHILD.

HELEN

(placatingly)
Hermione, he wasn't my sugar
daddy, we didn't make a wild
marriage - he forced a marriage
on me. That's why Clytemnestra
took Iphigenia...

HERMIONE

(angrily)

Oh, yeah, you made a liar of Auntie Cly, MY REAL MOTHER, the woman who tucked me up in bed and read me stories, tangled her up in your web of lies... You made a lie of my whole life...

Helen loses control, grabs both of Hermione's wrists and holds them above her head with her left hand...

HELEN

(deranged)

And with this hand...

Waves right hand in a claw in front of Hermione's face

HELEN

(Deranged)

He pulled my knickers off - and when he'd finished he held me there and said...

(puts on mock polite but threatening voice)

"Tell that sheepshagger Agamemnon, Mormaer of Mycenae, that Theseus, tyrant of Athens, says hello. And if he continues to act above his station, I will come and add his lovely wife Clytemnestra to my collection."

(sobbing)

And then he pulled himself out and off me and spat in my face.

Hermione pulls herself away

HELEN

(shouting)

And then I was pregnant and it was a choice between war and my daughter, Iphigenia being exposed on a hillside or Clytemnestra saving her...

HERMIONE

(shouting)

Well that didn't fucking work...

There is a moment of silence

HELEN

(crying)

I was 15, not much older than you, my sister had my baby and I was on auction block at a marriage games. I, lovely Helen of Sparta, could have the pick of men, even Paris of Troy, as long as I chose Menelaus - Spartans don't put spoiled goods to the mart after all - and then I was pregnant again...

(whispering)

And then my Sandy, Paris, came, and I thought you'd be happier without me, I thought I could be happy, I was happy, with Sandy, I didn't know it would end like this..

HERMIONE

(angry again)

Well I'm not happier, do I look fuckin happy? My Mum and Dad, LIARS who ABANDONED me, my Aunties, LIARS, my sister, DEAD. The only person who understands me is Orestes, and he only understands me because he watched his Dad kill my sister and his Mum kill his Dad and he's as fucked up as me...

(crying)

...and we've made a wild marriage, and when he holds me, when we fuck, I FEEL WANTED, WANTED...

(sarcastic again and

angry)

So, Mummy, while you and Daddy are playing unhappy families here, Orestes and me will take our spoilt goods to the mart and play unhappy families there.

I will let you bring the good news to Menelaus, Mormaer of Sparta, becuz you are so much, so much better at explaining than me.

Hermione storms out slamming the door behind her. Helen cries.