

THE ANNOYING OF EUROPA

by

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ACT 1

SETTING: A restaurant near Mount Olympus. A woman sits at a table nursing a glass of wine, lazily scrolling through her smartphone. She is alone, not lonely. A dignified, fit, older man in a suit - long white hair, beard, etc., - enters. He's carrying several lightning bolts. He suddenly recognizes the woman at the table and approaches.

ZEUS

(Tentative) Ro-Ro? (She's oblivious) Ro-Ro? Ro-Ro!

EUROPA

(Looking up from her phone) I'm sorry?

ZEUS

Ro-Ro! (She's clueless) You're kidding, right? Ro-Ro, c'mon, it's me! (Still nothing) C'mon, Ro-Ro. You don't recognize me?

EUROPA

(Exasperated) Look, we could do that thing where I act like I kinda/sorta know you, but why waste time, so... no.

ZEUS

(Laugh) "Kinda/sorta." Ro, you kill me. Not that anyone could, but... Seriously, Ro, it's me.

EUROPA

Sorry, you're not as memorable as you seem to think you are.

ZEUS

Ok. How 'bout this?

Strikes heroic pose with lightning bolt.

EUROPA

I don't... Apollo?

ZEUS

Apollo? He's bow and arrows! These are lightning bolts! C'mon, Ro-Ro. Look again.

Strikes pose again.

EUROPA

Eros?

ZEUS

Eros? I look like him? (Thinking) Her? They? Ro-Ro, c'mon. This classic build? Flowing hair? Lightning bolts? Piercing eyes like the dawn of new epoch?

EUROPA

I think you left out massive ego. Look, I don't...

ZEUS

Zeus! It's me. Zeus!

EUROPA reluctantly acknowledges

Seriously? You didn't recog...? C'mon... Zeus!

EUROPA

Zeus. (Slightly annoyed) It's been a while, OK?

ZEUS

What, one, two hundred...thousand years. You mind if I...

ZEUS makes a motion to sit.

EUROPA

(Rising) I was actually just about to...

ZEUS

(Sitting, ignoring her) You look great. Exactly the same.

EUROPA

(Reluctantly sitting again) You look... different.

ZEUS

(Worried) What? Heavier? Older? You know, the hair's just for effect...

EUROPA

You were a cow.

ZEUS

A what?