

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an IDOL BEACHFRONT

Written by

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(NOTE: All roles are and may be played by any ethnicity)

KINGFISHER: Female. Loves the ocean.

ATALANTA: Female. Not that one.

ANTIGONE: Female. That one.

CLOWN 1: Any gender. A little shit.

CLOWN 2: Any gender. Also a little shit.

DESMOND TYCHO: Male. An unremarkable fellow.

TIRESIAS: Male or non-binary. The local Oracle.

SETTING:

Beachfront.

TIME:

Back then.

CONTENT WARNING:

Depiction of suicide, violence.

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*"Our new Constitution is now established,
and has an appearance that promises permanency;
But in this world nothing can be said to be certain,
Except death and taxes."*

-Benjamin Franklin (1789)

"Shit."

-Gandhi (Unknown)

PRODUCTION NOTE

This story takes place on a beach
You can use an actual beach
Or bring the beach to you
Or neither of those
The water and the sand
Need not appear in their traditional forms

Myths don't change
Just the way they are told

MUSIC NOTES

- 1.) *"Fishing Song"*
Has lyrics, but no set tune
It is fluid as the ocean
And may change with each production
- 2.) *"She Moved Through the Fair"*
Is a traditional Irish folk song
Written by Padraic Colum
First published in 1909 by Boosey & Hawkes in *Irish
Country Songs* - Herbert Hughes
- 3.) *"Pie Jesu"*
More of a chant
From the final couplet of the "Dies irae"
Latin hymn traditionally credited to Thomas of Celano
Or Latino Malabranca Orsini
Viva l'Italia!

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Halcyon beachfront.

Deserted.

The cast enters and sets the stage, including an easel and placards with scene titles written on them:

FISHING SONG

As they do, a song, led by KINGFISHER.

Guitar.

Or acapella.

KINGFISHER

*I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
A hammer strapped to my back and nails in my cross*

(Ooo's underneath)

*And my feet are barer than the wounds in my breast
Make me fall on my knees when Kingdom come*

(Drum underneath)

*Zeus rapes a hundred women, I am one hundred and three
Across the battlefields and bulwarks I steal their bones
I swallow them, I chew them, I build my army
I am become your Kingdom come, now get on your knees*

Oooooo

Oooooo

*(Ooo's continue
underneath)*

*I am your nightmare
I am your drug*

*I am your best friend with wine
I am love*

*I am the walrus
I'm the frozen sea*

*All these monuments I am
Yet not I am me*

Yet not I am me

*The song ends and all exit
except KINGFISHER.*

She speaks to us.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

NOTE: Any bracketed words or phrases may be improvised.

KINGFISHER

Thank you, we are [Electric Dumpster Fire]
Believe the hype

Every myth
Every story ever told
By way of voice
Or paper and pen
Begins the same

Once upon a time

This is no exception
Minus the fact that I've chosen to take a little more of
your time to say it

Forgive me for that
It would seem
I'm greedy

(A wan smile, a
silence, taking the
environment in)

I've always loved the ocean.

*KINGFISHER steps into the
water.*

*Or perhaps she was there
already.*

*She walks out, drifting deeper
and deeper until submerged in
its depths.*

*Or dependent on the water
level, perhaps she just sits
down.*

Then goes her head.

*Taking a nap underneath the
surface.*

*CLOWN 1 and CLOWN 2 enter in
frilly floaty water gear,
frolicking to the shore and
into the water.*

Absurd comic laughing.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

They splash each other.

Bits.

Then they take off a placard:

ATALANTA AND ANTIGONE DON'T GO TO
WHITE CASTLE

*--and wade farther out into
depths.*

*ATALANTA and ANTIGONE enter
with laundry.*

*NOTE: ATALANTA walks with a
limp.*

ATALANTA

Remind me again
Why do they get to fuck around while we do all the work?

ANTIGONE

Because we have names.

ATALANTA

Fair enough.

They get to work.

ATALANTA

It would be nice, though
To go for a swim for once
Feel the cool on my skin
The wet on my hair
So fucking hot out here all the time
I'm thirsty
Can I see the canteen?

*ANTIGONE hands ATALANTA the
canteen.*

ANTIGONE

Do you even know how to swim?

ATALANTA

Yeah, you just
Move your arms.

ANTIGONE

You do that when you're drowning, too.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

I know how to swim
Wanna bet?
I bet I could beat you to those two clowns and back
Let's go.

ANTIGONE

Can you even swim? With your leg?

ATALANTA

Yeah.

ANTIGONE

It's not a fair race.

ATALANTA

Doesn't mean I still wouldn't beat you
That sounds like chicken talk to me
You chicken?
Huh?

ANTIGONE

Stop.

ATALANTA

Chicken
Chiiiiicken
Chiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiicken.

ANTIGONE

Oh my god stop.

*ATALANTA does a masterfully
semi-incorrect chicken
impression.*

ANTIGONE

Stop.

Perhaps the CLOWNS join in.

ANTIGONE

Stop

Stop

OH MY GOD, STOP IT!

ATALANTA

So wanna race?

ANTIGONE

NO! I WANT TO DO THIS SHITTING LAUNDRY AND GO HOME!

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

Awkward.

*ANTIGONE pulls out a risque
article of clothing.*

A thong or dildo or some shit.

More awkward.

She puts it back and gives up.

All right, fine. ANTIGONE

Yes. ATALANTA

To them and back? ANTIGONE

Yep! ATALANTA

They keep moving though, that's going to affect-- ANTIGONE

No, it's fine, just the general more or less. ATALANTA

But that's going make a difference. ANTIGONE

Okay, fine
We'll smack 'em. ATALANTA

Okay. ANTIGONE

Great
1
2 ATALANTA

Wait. On 3? Or after 3? ANTIGONE

Uh, which do you prefer? ATALANTA

I mean, I don't care. ANTIGONE

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

Okay, how about after?

ANTIGONE

Great.

ATALANTA

Okay

1

2

ANTIGONE

Wait, are you going to say anything after 3 or do we just go?

ATALANTA

What?

ANTIGONE

Like, are you going to "1, 2, 3, go" or just "1, 2, 3?"

ATALANTA

Which do you prefer?

ANTIGONE

Okay, do the first one.

ATALANTA

Right

1

2

Which one was the first one?

ANTIGONE

1, 2, 3, go.

ATALANTA

Right

1

2

3

*But before they can go, the
CLOWNS scream in terror and
run out of the water.*

Bits.

*As they exit, they pull off a
placard:*

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NAMES

ANTIGONE
(Perhaps smacking a
CLOWN as they exit)

I win.

ATALANTA

What the hell was that?

ANTIGONE

I don't know. I never know. Maybe something bit them.

ATALANTA

No
It looks like
There's something out there.

ANTIGONE

Really? What?

ATALANTA

I don't know

Wait here.

*ATALANTA wades out into the
water, her eye on something.*

She doesn't have to swim.

*She finds it relatively
quickly.*

And stares at it.

ANTIGONE

What is it?

ATALANTA

Uh
You better, uh
You better come out here.

ANTIGONE

What is it?

ATALANTA

It's uh
It's a dead lady.

ANTIGONE

What?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

It's a dead lady!

ANTIGONE

Goddamn it, not again.

ANTIGONE wades out into the water.

She helps ATALANTA drag a dead KINGFISHER back to the shore.

Bits?

ATALANTA and ANTIGONE stare at the body.

ANTIGONE

Okay
Well
We'll tell somebody or
Find a shovel or
Something

I can't believe this
This is

You okay?

ATALANTA

Huh?

ANTIGONE

Are you all right?

ATALANTA

Yeah
Yes
Yeah
I
I just

ANTIGONE

You've never seen one before?

ATALANTA

No

So that's what it looks like

I mean, you can imagine
In your head
But

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ANTIGONE

It's not the same.

ATALANTA

No.

A silence.

ANTIGONE

Okay. You wait here. I'll go find someone.

ATALANTA

No, I'll go.

ANTIGONE

You sure?

ATALANTA

Yeah
Yeah.

*But before she can go, the
CLOWNS enter screaming and
shouting once more, leading
DESMOND TYCHO in tow.*

TYCHO

All right
All right
Friends, calm yourselves!
(Seeing KINGFISHER)

O shit.

ANTIGONE

They win.

TYCHO

That's a dead lady.

ANTIGONE

How astute of you, sir.

TYCHO

Uh
Yes
(To the clowns)

WILL YOU SHUT UP?!
Go play or something
Let us handle this.

THEY do.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

Our savior.

ANTIGONE

Ladies
How did this, uh--

TYCHO

We found her in the water.

ANTIGONE

Right
I see

TYCHO

Shit.

ANTIGONE

Yes.

ATALANTA

We should bury her
Right?

ANTIGONE

Yes.

TYCHO

Yes
Of course
It would be inhumane to not
(Pause, then
extending his hand
to ANTIGONE)

Desmond Tycho.

ANTIGONE
(Taking it, to
ATALANTA)

A last name. Well.

ATALANTA
(Shaking hands, to
TYCHO)

Atalanta.

TYCHO

Hello.

ATALANTA

Not that one
Daughter of--
Doesn't matter, she's a bitch
Besides, you'd never catch me running in a fucking foot race

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ANTIGONE

Well, that's because you're a cripple
Antigone
That one
Daughter of--
I don't want to talk about it.

TYCHO

Antigone Antigone?

ANTIGONE

Just one, but yes.

TYCHO

But I thought--

ANTIGONE

Did you hear me just say the part where I don't want to talk
about it?

TYCHO

Yes
My apologies
I just thought that--

ANTIGONE

Okay, fine.

TYCHO

I'm sor--

ANTIGONE

No
You're right
Let's just
Get this out of the way now
So everybody isn't spending the rest of the time wondering.

*ANTIGONE crosses and removes a
placard:*

PREVIOUSLY ON ANTIGONE

*She clears her throat and
begins:*

ANTIGONE

I am everything you've ever heard about me
But you haven't heard everything

The obvious
Yes

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ANTIGONE (cont'd)

Jocasta was my mother
Oedipus was my father
And my brother

*THE CLOWNS become OEDIPUS and
JOCASTA.*

They have sex.

CLOWN 1

Unh!
Unh!
Unh!
Unh!
Unh!
Mom?!

CLOWN 2

Ewwwwwwwwwwwwww.

*CLOWN 1 screams and gouges out
their eyes.*

CLOWN 2 hangs themself.

ANTIGONE

And in the aftermath of that bullshit
My brothers
The ones that weren't my father
Fought over the vacant throne
Accounts vary
But
Eteocles controlled the city
Polyneices attacked it

*THE CLOWNS become ETEOCLES AND
POLYNEICES.*

They battle.

CLOWN 1

Unh!

CLOWN 2

Unh!

CLOWN 1

Unh!

CLOWN 2

Unh!

(CONTINUED)

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Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 13.

CONTINUED:

CLOWN 1

Unh!

CLOWN 2

Unh!

They kill each other.

BOTH

Ewwwwwwwwwwwwww.

ANTIGONE

Creon
New ruler of Thebes
Ass on the throne
My uncle
Intended father-in-law
I think
This shit gets really blurry at this point
Decreed Eteocles' body be honored
Polyneices' the opposite

I disagreed with that

So I buried my brother
Twice
And this is where the tales diverge

To you
Creon punished me and immured me in a cave
Sepulchre
What you will
I accepted

And there I hung myself
Swung from the chandelier
And my love
Haemon
Found me thus
And decided to come, too

But instead

I just
Didn't

I told Haemon I was leaving Thebes
He decided to come, too

He passed away two weeks later

Some kind of allergic reaction
To shellfish

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ANTIGONE (cont'd)

Suffice it to say, I'm getting tired of the dead finding their way into my life.

(Pause, to ATALANTA
and TYCHO)

Good enough?

TYCHO

Certainly.

ATALANTA

Gets me every time.

*ANTIGONE semi-vehemently
removes a placard:*

IF I DIE YOUNG, JUST AT LEAST BURY
ME

TYCHO

Well, I should have one or two shovels at my home.

ATALANTA

I'll come with you.

ANTIGONE

No
I'll go.

ATALANTA

You sure?

ANTIGONE

Yes
Just make sure she doesn't go anywhere.

ATALANTA

Right.

ANTIGONE and TYCHO exit.

ATALANTA is left alone.

Well.

THE CLOWNS are there.

Bits?

ATALANTA

Do you two wanna help?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

*THE CLOWNS run away into the
water or wherever.*

ATALANTA

Right. Great. Fucking useless.

A silence.

The ocean.

ATALANTA is uncomfortable.

KINGFISHER is dead.

ATALANTA

I'm sorry.

A silence.

*ATALANTA sings "She Moved
Through The Fair."*

*As she sings, THE CLOWNS may
wander back over and add
harmonies.*

*Eventually, ANTIGONE and TYCHO
re-enter with shovels and dig
a grave.*

*Once ready, they all pick up
KINGFISHER and lower her in.*

ATALANTA

*My young love said to me
My Mother won't mind
And me Father won't slight you
For your lack of kind
And she stepped away from me
And this she did say
It will not be long love
'Till our wedding day*

*She stepped away from me
And she moved through the Fair
And fondly I watched her
Move here and move there
And she turned her way homeward
With one star awake
As the swan in the evening
Moves over the lake*

[Additional verses as desired]

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

*But as the group lowers the
body into the grave,
KINGFISHER wakes up,
sputtering water and coughing.*

Not dead.

Everyone is surprised.

*THE CLOWNS, in particular,
scream in terror and run away
into the water or wherever,
taking off a placard as they
do so:*

AS NAIL IN DOOR

*KINGFISHER feebly gathers
herself.*

Takes in her surroundings.

Goddamn it, not again.

KINGFISHER

Again?

TYCHO

Again?

ATALANTA AND ANTIGONE

*A punctuation noise from THE
CLOWNS, wherever they fucking
are.*

To clarify, by "again," you mean...

ANTIGONE

Again
Yes

KINGFISHER

It seems
The gods wish that I am alive
For reasons unbeknownst to me

Beat.

Well, I'm going to say that this is not how I expected my
day to go.

ATALANTA

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

KINGFISHER

I'll second that.

TYCHO

Well, uh
I suppose that's it, then.

ATALANTA

Yeah?

TYCHO

If there is no one to bury I think we do not need a grave.

ANTIGONE

But that rids us not of every problem

What's your name?

KINGFISHER

Well, my mother often called me disappointment
But
It doesn't matter
Give me a moment to collect myself
I shan't trouble you any longer

ANTIGONE

Stay that moment
Please
If the gods have gone so far to intervene in your affairs
Perhaps we might somehow be of assistance

KINGFISHER

What's your name?

ANTIGONE

Antigone.

KINGFISHER

Antigone Antigone?

TYCHO

Just one, but yes.

ANTIGONE

I am right here.

TYCHO

Sorry.

ANTIGONE

I mean, goddamn.

(CONTINUED)

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Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 18.

CONTINUED:

TYCHO

I'm sorry.

KINGFISHER

My name is Kingfisher.

ATALANTA

Like the bird?

KINGFISHER

Like the bird

My mother was a bitch

Perhaps some vain attempt at symbolism for her

I don't know

Antigone

I

Thank you for your concern, but

You wouldn't be the first to attempt to determine my

Whatever

This is

At this rate, nor will you be the last

So

ANTIGONE

If you'll pardon my boldness

How many times?

Have you tried?

KINGFISHER

(A silence)

47.

TYCHO

47?!

ATALANTA

Fuck me running.

ANTIGONE

47?

KINGFISHER

Yes

You don't have to say anything

There aren't particularly good words for it.

ANTIGONE

The Oracle.

(CONTINUED)

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Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 19.

CONTINUED:

KINGFISHER

I've tried oracles.

ANTIGONE

Well
Not ours.

KINGFISHER

Really, it's not worth the trouble.

ANTIGONE

What could we possibly be keeping you from?

KINGFISHER

Why are you so interested?

ANTIGONE

(A silence, perhaps
she is unsure
herself, perhaps not)

May we try?

KINGFISHER

It's your life

You do you.

ANTIGONE

Thank you

(To TYCHO)

Tycho, was it?

TYCHO

At your service.

ANTIGONE

I am not familiar with you, yet you have a home nearby.

TYCHO

That is understandable
Finished building it yesterday
I just moved here from Corinth.

ANTIGONE

Congratulations
I can take that to mean, then, you are not yet aware of the
whereabouts of our local temple?

TYCHO

Only vaguely
Unfortunately.

(CONTINUED)

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Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 20.

CONTINUED:

I'll come with you.

ANTIGONE

No, I'll go.

ATALANTA

You sure?

ANTIGONE

Yes
You stay here
Just make sure she doesn't go anywhere.

ATALANTA

Good luck.

ANTIGONE

Yeah

ATALANTA

Follow me.

(To TYCHO)

Of course.

TYCHO

*ATALANTA and TYCHO cross and
remove a placard:*

LONG WALKS ON THE BEACH

Beat.

Would you guys mind fucking off? We're gonna need this
space.

ATALANTA

ANTIGONE and KINGFISHER exit.

It's all the way across town, we should get a move on.

ATALANTA

THEY walk.

A silence.

Forgive me for asking
If this is uncouth of me
Or out of place
But
Are you going to be okay on your leg?

TYCHO

(CONTINUED)

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Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 21.

CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

Oh
Yeah
I'll be fine
I'm used to it
It's
Been like this for a while
Doesn't trouble me.

TYCHO

How did it happen?

ATALANTA

Is everyone from Corinth so inquisitive?

TYCHO

I'm sorry
You're right.

ATALANTA

It was a birth defect
Just a little shorter than my other leg

Or maybe
I fell out of a tree
As a child
And it just never healed properly

Or
Maybe
I do it on purpose
And I can actually walk fine
I just like the attention

Which one do you think is true?

TYCHO

None of them.

ATALANTA

Why'd you leave? What do you do?

TYCHO

Nothing, anymore
I'm retired.

ATALANTA

What did you do?

TYCHO

I made benches.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

Did you like it?

TYCHO

Well enough
I didn't hate it
One could do a lot worse.

ATALANTA

You don't strike me as a tradesman.

TYCHO

You don't strike me as a woman who would ever fall out of a tree

Or fake an impairment just to get others to look at you

I'm already looking at you.

ATALANTA

I can see that.

TYCHO

Would you like to know what I see?

ATALANTA

Enlighten me.

TYCHO

I see no defects.

ATALANTA

Fuck off.

TYCHO

I see the most beautiful creature upon which my eyes have ever laid.

ATALANTA

Okay, keep talking.

TYCHO

You asked me why I left Corinth
I know now.

ATALANTA

And now we're back to fuck off.

TYCHO

Really?

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

Really
Really?
Nice try, though

I'll tell you what

We've still got a ways to go
Keep thinking

Bench boy.

ATALANTA and TYCHO exit.

*THE CLOWNS enter or return
from the water or wherever.*

*THEY make fun of the potential
we just witnessed.*

Perhaps they start making out.

Bits.

*ANTIGONE and KINGFISHER re-
enter.*

And watch.

ANTIGONE clears her throat.

*THE CLOWNS, startled, run away
to the water or wherever.*

ANTIGONE takes off a placard:

THE MORE YOU KNOW

KINGFISHER

That was kind of hot.

ANTIGONE

Uh huh.

KINGFISHER

Who are those two?

ANTIGONE

Trust me, it's better to not ask those questions.

KINGFISHER

It seems relevant.

(CONTINUED)

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Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 24.

CONTINUED:

ANTIGONE

I think it's just some vain attempt at symbolism.

KINGFISHER

Hmm.

A silence.

KINGFISHER

Like a chorus or something?
In the plays?

ANTIGONE

I don't know

Gods help us if they're the Chorus.

KINGFISHER

It wouldn't be the first time the gods have shit down our throats.

ANTIGONE

No

Oddly graphic and specific phrasing
But no.

A silence.

KINGFISHER

Thank you.

ANTIGONE

For what?

KINGFISHER

Because I'm the one who keeps breaking the silence

You seem perfectly content to truly just rest
And wait

You've gleaned what you've wanted and you aren't
Prying
Anymore
That's not usual for me
So
Thank you.

ANTIGONE

This isn't the first time the gods have shit down my throat
Or the 47th.

(CONTINUED)

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Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 25.

CONTINUED:

KINGFISHER

I don't know which would be better at this point
Knowing why
Or never knowing
You can imagine in your head
But
You have to wonder if you ever found out would the answer
really be good enough?
You've built it up too much
Maybe they just like fucking with you
Or maybe there is some grand design in their madness

Either way
It's tiring
Trying to supply the reasons yourself.

ANTIGONE

It is.

A silence.

KINGFISHER

I've always loved the ocean.

A silence.

*THE CLOWNS enter or return
from the water or wherever.*

They remove a placard:

WE DO A SCENE NOW!

Bits?

Bring dat dildo back.

CLOWN 1

Butts.

CLOWN 2

Doo-doo.

CLOWN 1

Penis!

CLOWN 2

Vagina hat!

CLOWN 1

Vagina penis butt hat!

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 26.

CONTINUED:

CLOWN 2

Ewwwwwwwwwwwwww.

CLOWN 1

Vagina penis...doo-doo hat?

CLOWN 2

Ooooooooooooooh!

BOTH

VAGINA PENIS DOO-DOO HAT!

VAGINA PENIS DOO-DOO HAT!

VAGINA PENIS DOO-DOO HAT!

The chant continues and morphs into a dramatic and intense "Pie Jesu."

ANTIGONE and KINGFISHER join in and remove a placard:

WEEKEND AT ORACLE'S

The chant continues as ATALANTA and TYCHO enter the imposing grandeur of the Temple of the Oracle.

CAST

(Over below ad infinitum until unnecessary)

*Pie Jesu Domine
Dona eis requiem*

*Pie Jesu Domine
Dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

TYCHO

This architecture!

ATALANTA

Yea
Our guy lives it up.

TYCHO

The detail is
Astounding.

ATALANTA

Where the shit is he?

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 27.

CONTINUED:

TYCHO

Only one man lives here?

ATALANTA

Well, he's blind
Like most of them
So he's got servants, too
I don't fucking see any of them either.

TYCHO

Well, that's promising
A good prophet is usually blind.

ATALANTA

What's that supposed to mean?

TYCHO

Well
I mean, that

ATALANTA

Are you springing some ableist shit?

TYCHO

No.

ATALANTA

Like you don't have true wisdom unless you can see without
eyes shit?

TYCHO

No, that's not
What I mean.

ATALANTA

You put your foot in your mouth a lot.

TYCHO

I like the taste

Uh, yes, it
It would seem that I do, yes.

ATALANTA

Just help me look.

TYCHO

Yes
Right

What does he look like?

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 28.

CONTINUED:

He's blind.
ATALANTA

Right
Yes.
TYCHO

THEY look.

TIRESIAS!
ATALANTA

TIRESIAS!

TIRESIAS!
TYCHO

TIRESIAS!
ATALANTA

*TIRESIAS appears in the
background in the water.*

TIRESIAS!
TYCHO

Marco!
TIRESIAS

TIRESIAS!
ATALANTA

Marco!
TIRESIAS

Tiresias!
ATALANTA
(Seeing him)

Marco!
TIRESIAS

Tiresias, it's me!
ATALANTA

Persephone!
TIRESIAS

No.
ATALANTA

Eurydice?
TIRESIAS

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 29.

CONTINUED:

Still no.
ATALANTA

Debbie?
TIRESIAS

It's Atalanta, Tiresias!
ATALANTA

Oh, Atalanta!
What brings you by?
TIRESIAS

Come over here!
ATALANTA

What?
TIRESIAS

COME OVER HERE!
ATALANTA

What?
TIRESIAS

I can't hear you!
Let me come over there!

*TIRESIAS walks in the opposite
direction.*

O my god.
ATALANTA

OTHER WAY, SIR!
TYCHO

TIRESIAS
(Turning around)

AH!
Yes!
Of course!
Yes!

Your voice
Your voice is unfamiliar to me.

TYCHO
Yes, your
Oracleness
I just arrived from Corinth.

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 30.

CONTINUED:

TIRESIAS

Oh, please

Please

Tiresias is fine

I'm not one of those cunt oracles

(Arriving, placing
his hands on TYCHO)

Ah!

Hmmmm

Interesting

ATALANTA

He's not why we're here.

TIRESIAS

No?

Hmm.

ATALANTA

Where are your servants, you old bastard?

TIRESIAS

Oh

Well

You know

I sent them

To the store

Not a few days ago

If they haven't come back

The fuckers are probably down at the beach again.

ATALANTA

Right, well, we were there, too.

TIRESIAS

And you saw them?

ATALANTA

Not really

We did meet a lady.

TIRESIAS

Was she hot?

ATALANTA

What?

TIRESIAS

You heard me.

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 31.

CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

I mean, I'd do her, look
She's having a unique issue
We're hoping you might be able to shed some light on it.

TIRESIAS

Aha
Well
No time like the present
Lead me then
Not the other one
I don't like his hands.

ATALANTA

Whatever
Just come on, ya doof.

TIRESIAS

Now
Tell me about this issue
What ails this young lady?

*ATALANTA, TYCHO, and TIRESIAS
exit, beginning an
explanation.*

KINGFISHER removes a placard:

KINGFISHER'S STORY

KINGFISHER

I always wanted to be an actor

There are layers of irony in that, but let's move past it
for now

I had to settle for telling stories to my children
Which I did
Very well
If I may disregard humility for a moment
They looked forward to bedtime with a ferocity known to few

I will not go into the specifics of how they were taken from
me

I realize that ruins the flow of the story somewhat, but
Forgive me

I'm greedy

And those details are something I'd rather keep to myself
Nor do I know if knowing them would make it better

I hung myself a week later

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 32.

CONTINUED:

KINGFISHER (cont'd)

And woke up as a chorus of men were lowering me to my grave

I have to say
That's the most confounding thing about it all

I stay dead
Until I'm literally being put into the ground
As if the earth itself refuses to accept me
I'm too dirty or
A hundred and three other synonyms

I've been to every prophet
Every oracle
A witch or two
No one has ever been able to figure it out
So the occurrences remain

I've done it all
Whatever you can imagine in your head

Stabbing
Drowning
Electrocution
Which was really fucking hard [pre-Edison]
Poison
Dismemberment
Allergic reaction to shellfish

Here I am

What am I
Who walks the earth with no more presence in it?

Maybe I am God

That would explain something at least
Although I couldn't gather the why any more than you

I would steel yourselves now

Life is less pleasant than my stories.

*KINGFISHER crosses and removes
a placard:*

POLO

*ATALANTA, TYCHO, and TIRESIAS
enter, the explanation
reaching its conclusion.*

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 33.

CONTINUED:

*It is interrupted by the
CLOWNS returning from the
water or wherever barging
straight into TIRESIAS.*

Bits?

TIRESIAS

Fuckers!

You two lazy, little shitbirds need to get back to work!

THE CLOWNS don't move.

TIRESIAS

Are they gone?

TYCHO

No.

TIRESIAS

GO!

*THE CLOWNS run off and
legitimately exit.*

TIRESIAS

Now are they gone?

TYCHO

Yes.

TIRESIAS

Right
Well
Debbie

ATALANTA

Atalanta.

TIRESIAS

Atalanta here
And
The other one
Have informed me of the general situation
Let us see
What we can dredge up.

ANTIGONE

Thank you for coming, Tiresias.

TIRESIAS

Antigone
My dear.

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 34.

CONTINUED:

ANTIGONE

Come this way.

*ANTIGONE leads TIRESIAS to
KINGFISHER.*

*KINGFISHER extends her hand
and ANTIGONE helps TIRESIAS to
take it.*

ANTIGONE

This is Kingfisher.

TIRESIAS

Hello.

KINGFISHER

Hi.

TIRESIAS

I feel a great sorrow in you

Hah!

I'm just kidding

We say that to everyone

Just a little Oracle humor.

KINGFISHER

I see.

TIRESIAS feels KINGFISHER.

Reads her.

Absorbs her.

Irrevocably takes her in.

TIRESIAS

You

O

Chin up, my brave bird

(Pause, to EVERYONE)

I got nothing.

MOSTLY EVERYONE

What?

TIRESIAS

Yep

Got nothing.

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 35.

CONTINUED:

KINGFISHER

Told you.

ANTIGONE

Nothing at all?

TIRESIAS

Nothing clear

For some reason, it just seems
The gods wish that you stay alive

KINGFISHER

Yes.

ATALANTA

There's really nothing at all you can see?

TIRESIAS

Well
The thing is
Oracles
We're much better at seeing the what is happening or has
happened or will happen
The why
Of it all
It's a little bit trickier

Yep!
Bye-bye then!

MOSTLY EVERYONE

What?

TIRESIAS

Got me a fucking nap to take
Yes, I do
Yes, I do
Haha.

TIRESIAS exits.

A silence.

*Perhaps the sun has now begun
to set.*

ANTIGONE

All right, then.

KINGFISHER

I thank you for your concern
Truly

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 36.

CONTINUED:

KINGFISHER (cont'd)

I do.

Your kindness is a rare thing.

ANTIGONE

So it would seem.

Wherever you're going
I hope you find satisfaction.

KINGFISHER

As do I

And I you

Farewell.

KINGFISHER exits.

A silence.

ATALANTA

Goddamn it, we didn't do any of this laundry.

ANTIGONE

We'll take care of it tomorrow.

ATALANTA

Yeah
Okay
Sounds good

You want me to help you clean up?

ANTIGONE

No, no
You go
I'll stay.

ATALANTA

Okay.

ANTIGONE

Mr. Tycho.

TYCHO

Miss.

ANTIGONE

Thank you for your assistance this day.

TYCHO

Anytime.

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 37.

CONTINUED:

ANTIGONE

I suppose I shall see you around.

TYCHO

You shall.

ATALANTA

See you tomorrow.

ANTIGONE

Good-bye.

*ANTIGONE and ATALANTA bid
farewell.*

ATALANTA and TYCHO exit.

*ANTIGONE, left alone with the
ocean, gathers the laundry and
cleans up.*

She listens to the water.

The silence.

*She crosses with the laundry
and takes away a placard.*

There are no more under it.

*Perhaps she takes the easel,
too, as she exits.*

ATALANTA and TYCHO enter.

TYCHO

I will echo you

This is not at all how I expected my day to go.

ATALANTA

You can say that again

TYCHO

I will echo--

ATALANTA

(Overlapping)

I still can't believe

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 38.

CONTINUED:

ATALANTA (cont'd)

I still can't believe it

Never mind the why
Never mind the how
It just doesn't make sense

TYCHO

I've been thinking.

ATALANTA

Yeah?

TYCHO

I would very much like to kiss you.

ATALANTA

That's
Not original
At all.

TYCHO

No?

ATALANTA

No.

TYCHO

I suppose I'm just
Not very original.

ATALANTA

You put your foot in your mouth a lot.

TYCHO

I'd prefer to taste you.

ATALANTA

Terrible.

THEY kiss.

It is passionate.

Charged.

Gentle.

A life-changing kiss.

*It pauses and ATALANTA steps
out of it.*

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 39.

CONTINUED:

ATALANTA

I know it's not terribly original
But
Wow

It was indescribable
Like

Haha
I'm terrible
I'm sorry

It was the singular most beautiful moment I ever experienced
The warm on my skin
The salt in my hair
My heart fluttered
It sang
Jumped
Danced
Stopped

*TYCHO stabs ATALANTA in the
back with a knife.*

Blood.

*She falls to the ground and
dies.*

A silence.

*TYCHO collects himself,
removes the knife, and
proceeds to rob ATALANTA of
her valuables.*

Her jewelry.

Clothes.

Whatever the fuck.

THE CLOWNS have entered.

They are watching.

*TYCHO stands and makes to
leave when he sees them.*

A silence.

TYCHO exits.

(CONTINUED)

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

Vignettes for an Idol Beachfront, Daniel Prillaman, 40.

CONTINUED:

*THE CLOWNS run away in the
opposite direction.*

A silence.

*THE CLOWNS return, ANTIGONE in
tow.*

She sees ATALANTA.

A silence.

ANTIGONE

Goddamn it.

END.