

AUDITION MONOLOGUES

PSEUDOLUS

1) Playgoers, I bid you welcome. The theatre is a temple, and we are here to worship the gods of comedy and tragedy. Tonight I am pleased to announce a comedy. We shall employ every device we know in our desire to divert you.

2) You don't want to be there when I tell our masters about you! I think it might be of interest to the family that their slave-in-chief, their pillar of virtue has secreted within the confines of his cubicle Rome's most extensive and diversified collection of erotic pottery.

HERO

It's better to be a slave than a slave to love. Sometimes I can see her in that window in the house of Marcus Lycus. I know my parents would be outraged if they could hear me. I would give everything to be with her. I'd even give you your freedom!

HYSTERIUM

Hero, as you know, your mother and father placed me in charge of your innocence. However, I have decided to allow you to remain with the girl until the arrival of her captain. Stop embracing her! You could hurt each other!

SENEX

Something smells divine and it's me! I just took the most luxurious bath. The oils, the essences. Oh spectators, I would love to pass among you so that each and every one of you might get a good whiff! Oh, I mustn't shout. I have to save my energy!

ERRONIUS

Ah, home at last! After years of searching for my long lost children. How good it is to see this street once more. These tired old eyes fill with tears at the sight of the little they see. Well, at least I have the comfort of my lonely house.

MARCUS LYCUS

I have traveled the world in search of beauty and I can say with modesty that I have the best assortment of courtesans in all of Rome. Surely there is one that will satisfy you.

MILES GLORIOSUS

Oh, grievous day! I cannot control my tears. I must cry. I will not leave with the comfort of a proper funeral service! I insist on conducting a funeral. We need mourners. The poor girl. To have died so young, without ever having experienced - me!

PHILIA

My name is Philia. I do not know your name but you have beautiful legs. I have beautiful legs too. I would show them to you, but they have been sold along with the rest of me to a captain. I cost five hundred minae. Is that more than three hundred. Those are the two numbers that mix me up, three and five. I hope the captain doesn't expect me to do a lot of adding.

DOMINA

Hero, your father and I are off to visit my mother in the country. What a joy it would be for you to accompany us. But, alas, the sight of anyone in good health fills my mother with rage. The time of farewell is at hand. Hysterium, in our absence, the entire household is in your care. Your word shall be absolute and your authority unquestioned.