### **CHARACTERS**

Virgo is a well-organized person. She is the head of operations at the Wish Center. She used to be a greater god but gave up her place at high court for a forever life on Earth. She is the only lesser god, who cannot be removed from Earth by any of the known gods. Her Earth body is tall and slim. She wears a white fitted suit with a purple silk vest under it. Her white hair is in a high ponytail. She wears high stilettos in different colors, even though she is already tall naturally. She holds herself straight and alert and rarely relaxes. Her body language is assuring and familiar. Her favorite Earth thing is ice cream, and she secretly gets it while she is walking on the beach alone.

Julio is the youngest of the lesser gods and works as an operator at the Wish Center. His mother is the planet god Jupiter, and her father is Zeus. His sibling is Igno. He is friendly with everyone. He tries to stay out of personal drama as much as he can. He is a fan of earth fizzy drinks and chugs about 8 cans of Fanta each day. His workstation is normally surrounded by empty cans. He Earth body is an average height man in his 20's with blonde hair and green eyes. He wears mainly flannel and dresses modern cowboy style.

Leo is a Wish Center operator. He is the typical middle child type. He cares about everyone's feelings around him and does his work in the most efficient way. Sometimes he becomes oversensitive and throws a tantrum. He tends to not talk to people who upset him for hours, or sometimes days. His favorite things on Earth are candy and chocolate. Because his Earth body is not affected by things like aging or weight gain, he stuffs his face with sweets all day. His workstation is next to Julio's, but it isn't surrounded by wrappers or cans. His Earth body is short and a bit chubby. He has a beard and a shaved head. He mostly wears skinny jeans and sleeveless tops.

Severus is the eldest of the lesser gods. He is a senior Wish Center operator. His Earth body is tall, flat and slim. He mostly wears black suits with a pop of color. His long black hair is collected in a high ponytail at the base of his head. Contrary to his looks he isn't gloomy. He is a happy and approachable person, and he cares deeply about people's feelings and opinions. He is a good debate partner. He has a separate office in the center. The door is always open, and you can see a lot of things he collected through his years on Earth. His favorite Earth thing is cigarettes and there is always a great tobacco smell coming from his office.

**Tauro** is one of the eldest lesser gods. He is a senior active god. He is calm and collected, but not cold and strict like Virgo is.

They fit each other well with Virgo because of this and they have been a couple for a few centuries. Tauro's workstation is chaotic. He periodically tidies everything to the least speck so sometimes we can actually see his desk. (It's totally not unmedicated ADHD) His Earth body is tall and muscular. He has dark long hair and a beard. His favorite Earth thing is books, and he collects them on a large shelf at the back of the center. We get to know the characters and find out why the miracles happened and who caused them.

Igno is the youngest of the known gods who is active on Earth. Their brother is Julio. Igno is also an eternal, but they agreed to play by the rules of the Wish Center, because they like the fun of competition. Igno is the best active god to connect with humans. Their favorite Earth thing is tattoos. Their body is covered in all sorts of funky designs.

Avis is the longest serving active god. She avoided getting sent back for over 5000 years. She was on Earth before the Wish Center opened. She definitely does not play by the rules at all times. She used to have wings, so now she compensates the loss by having a large wing shaped scar tattoo covering her back. Her favorite earth thing is coffee.

**Violo** is the unknown god. Xe is the secret child of Severus and Medusa. Medusa hid her pregnancy from everyone. Violo is heartbroken because xe believes that Severus abandoned xem mother. Xe wants revenge. Xem Earth body is completely up for interpretation. Xem favorite Earth thing is gadgets and tech stuff.

#### SETTING

The play is set in the Wish Center, which is an office-like space. All scenes take place in one set.

### TIME

The time of the play is today's Earth. The duration of the play is not exact, but it is around a few weeks.

# AUTHOR'S NOTE

In a nutshell the story is the following: The Wish Center is operating the religion system on Earth. There are active gods and gods who work in the Center. Active gods get to be on earth and work for prayers and wishes. After every 1000 wish or prayer addressed to them they get to perform a miracle or give an invention to humans.

If their wishes and prayers fall to zero because humans forgot about them or the religion is dead they need to leave Earth and can only come back after 1000 human years have passed. The play starts with the alarm going off for unauthorized miracles.

The appearance of characters are up for interpretation, except the tattoos I described. I would prefer as much inclusivity as possible. The point of the play if to give space for anyone and everyone. It would be fun to see Julio and Igno portrayed by twin actors. (Just imagine the confusion of the audience)

The setting is up for interpretation. I imagined each character to have a distinct workstation, however these are just guidelines.

Any quotes and inspiration taken from other works will be discussed in the appendix at the end of this document, as well as listed in the bibliography.

Inspiration for setting and character looks will also be added to the appendix. Excuse my horrible floor planning skills, I am sorry in advance.

The play contains profanity and adult themes. Trigger warnings should be given to the audience prior to viewing.

# ACT 1

# SCENE 1

SCENE STARTS IN THE WISH CENTER OFFICE. ALL CHARACTERS ARE HERE. THERE IS BACKGROUND OFFICE NOISE AND PHONE NOTIFICATION NOISES. WASH LIGHTING. SUDDENLY A RINGING SOUND ALARM GOES OFF.

**VIRGO** 

Wait what? That's impossible.

TAURO

Everybody stop what you are doing right now!

**VIRGO** 

No, no, no, no. This...noooo, this can't happen.

**SEVERUS** 

Can you both take a breath and explain how this is possible?

JULIO

What is possible? What the monkeys are you on about?

AVIS

You don't get it? Everyone is here. How is there a miracle?

(The alarm goes off a few more times while the characters talk.)

VIRGO

Ok, so basically this is impossible. There must be some mistake. All the actives are here, there can't be a miracle. This is insane!

(Julio, Leo, Igno, Tauro and Avis are visibly confused, Severus looks concerned and thoughtful.)

TAURO

Honey, calm down please. I am sure it is a mistake and it will get solved. Just try not to panic, please. Severus, can you help?

**SEVERUS** 

Alright, alright.

AVIS

Honestly, I don't think I ever seen this before. And I've been around for a while.

**SEVERUS** 

We are all going to calm down and figure this out. Tauro, Igno, Avis go out to Earth, listen, look and find abnormalities. Anything that looks suspicious, report back to me. NOW!

TAURO

Alright, let's go everyone.

(Tauro, Igno, Avis leave)

JULIO

Would you like us to do anything? Can we help?

LEO

I think we should check the system to see if we can figure something out from the automated report.

**SEVERUS** 

Yes, let's do that. Virgo, sit please, you look like you are on the verge of passing out.

(Virgo sits. The others gather around the main 'computer'. About a minute passes.)

VIRGO

So? What is it? Do you see anything?

LEO

The miracles are not authorized, but are performed lawfully. If that makes sense.

**VIRGO** 

Someone knows the system. Someone who isn't a celestial. We would see their special ID.

**SEVERUS** 

That is correct. The only time I've seen this is when...when...wait a second.

VIRGO

Severus!?

LEO

But that's... Severus that is impossible!

JULIO

What are you on about? I'm completely confused. I give up.

(Julio returns to his desk. Severus storms into his office and starts rummaging for something. In the process he lights his cigarette.)

**SEVERUS** 

(Shouting from his office and lowering his voice to normal while walking back towards the others with a report paper in his hand)

There was one instance a few hundred years ago. Lucifer was bored or whatever and he tried to mess up the system by making people believe that some events were miracles. It is similar, but not exactly the same as now because by the looks of it we actually have miracles happen now.

LEO

Right. Just as I thought. If you are a trickster god, and powerful enough you could confuse people and make them believe that something is a miracle when it's not.

(Julio pops open a Fanta loudly and turns around to face the others.)

JULIO

Wait a second. I still don't completely get what happened. Can someone englihten my smol brain please?

**VIRGO** 

(Still sitting in the chair looks at Julio)

When you reach 1000 wishes or prayers addressed to you, you get to perform a miracle. You know this.

JULIO

Yes I know that.

VIRGO

If you are a powerful trickster god you can confuse people about miracles like Lucifer did, but that is temporary. Someone broke our system and performed actual miracles. That is the only way a report would be generated.

JULIO

Why is it such a big problem?

VIRGO

It is such a big problem because those miracles are not linked to any of the active gods who operate on Earth now. So the prayers and other things that result from the miracles will be lost and at the same time the gods' popularity will fall. It completely kills our competition system and takes divine intervention to repair. And that can only be done by The One. I don't want to message The One. The One is terrifying. If you think I am scary, I'll let you know that The One is someone even I am scared of.

(Julio watches in silence and sips on his Fanta. Severus's phone rings and he picks it up.)

**SEVERUS** 

Talk to me Igno. Did you find anything?

**IGNO** 

We have someone. Coming in soon.

(End scene 1. Lights go out.)

LIGHTS COME BACK. THE OFFICE IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT, THE FOLLOWING SCENE IS A FLASHBACK. ALL CHARACTERS PRESENT.

**VIRGO** 

So, what are we going to do next? Xem did so many miracles, the numbers are completely messed up. Humans don't realize but after the miracle affected them their thanking prayers haven't gone to the right god.

**SEVERUS** 

Let Violo explain maybe. It would be great to know what exactly happened here. Violo?

**VIOLO** 

Alright, alright.

VIRGO

(Slams the table angrily, raises her voice.)

Alright?! No, I am not going to let you try make us all feel calm and collected about this. You did something...something I can't even fully comprehend yet. You broke the system so much, even the eternals are worried.

**SEVERUS** 

Virgo, please. Please take a breath and calm down a bit.

VIOLO

I am not trying to pull anything. I didn't want to screw up the system, I didn't want to...

TAURO

If we understand correctly you had a reason that currently only Igno knows. Care to enlighten all of us?

VIOLO

I did it because he's my dad.
(Points at Severus)

**SEVERUS** 

I'm what?

(The others collectively: WHAT?)

VIOLO

Yeah, he is my dad. I tried to get to him. And the only way to find out how I could get into the Center was to get caught.

**SEVERUS** 

You...are...my child? Who the hell is your mother?

VIOLO

My mother is... Medusa.

**SEVERUS** 

(Rushes to his office and slams the door)

VIOLO

Childish.

(End of scene 2. Lights go out.)

LIGHTS BACK. FLASHBACK OVER. OFFICE NEEDS TO SHOW THAT TIME PASSED. ALL CHARACTERS PRESENT.

TAURO

Basically the next step is to go back to Earth.

**VIOLO** 

What? Why?

IGNO

Because you messed up our prayers.

AVIS

Exactly. We didn't work so hard just for you to waltz in and ruin everything. Your family drama has nothing to do with us.

JULIO

You all have to go back together. The devices we received from the eternals will allow the transfer of prayers so your numbers will go back to normal, but you have to work on it.

VIRGO

Together. You need to do it, together. The key is teamwork. Avis is going to supervise. She is going to teach you both.

IGNO

I don't need teaching. I haven't done anything. So unfair.

**SEVERUS** 

You are all going out there to fix this. Violo needs to learn a lesson, Igno needs some refresher and Avis can teach. It is going to be this way and I don't want to hear another word about it.

AVIS

Alright daddy.

**SEVERUS** 

Shut up and get out of here.

(Avis, Igno and Violo leave)

JULIO

What a mess.

LEO

That's right. This is bonkers.

TAURO

What did the eternals say exactly?

**VIRGO** 

That it is our fault. We should have been more careful. Like I'm the one who designed this shitty system.

**SEVERUS** 

I honestly had no idea. I am still shook. I don't even know how I could reach Medusa. She's gone off radar for over 200 years.

TAURO

You should find her. This is her mess. Honestly, what was she thinking? Releasing Violo like some hound.

**SEVERUS** 

Remember, she is a trickster god.

JULIO

So why did you have a kid with her?

**SEVERUS** 

Did I say, that I wanted it?

(He lights a cigarette and goes quiet.)

VIRGO

I'm so sorry Severus. You should have talked to someone.

**SEVERUS** 

You don't need to be sorry for anything. It's not your fault.

(Severus returns to his office and shuts the door.)

TAURO

Do you think we can fix this?

LEO

I hope so.

VIRGO

We are not active, so we don't have the power to fix it. We can supervise the actives and see what they can do.

JULIO

This is like leaving the repair for a 4-year-old.

VIRGO

Something like that.

(End of scene 3. Lights go out.)

LIGHTS COME BACK. DIM SPOTLIGHT. SEVERUS AND VIOLO ARE TALKING. THE OTHERS ARE NOT PRESENT.

**SEVERUS** 

Why didn't you try to find me some other way?

VIOLO

Why didn't you try to find me at all?

**SEVERUS** 

I didn't know about you. I know you don't believe it.

VIOLO

Of course I don't believe it, you are not willing to say anything about how Medusa became pregnant.

**SEVERUS** 

I will not talk about it. I am sorry. I failed you without even knowing it.

VIOLO

Look, I understand...kind of. I am young but I am not completely stupid. It's just hard. Really hard. Medusa is awful.

**SEVERUS** 

Trust me, that's one thing we definitely agree on.

(End of scene 4. Lights go out.)

LIGHTS COME BACK. TAURO AND VIOLO ARE IN THE OFFICE. IT IS EARLY MORNING.

TAURO

(Arranging his bookshelf)
You look exhausted. Did you not sleep well last night?

**VIRGO** 

Honestly, no. I am trying to rest. But this incident really messed me up. I am getting more messages from the eternals.

TAURO

I heard your phone buzz all night.

VIRGO

It's insane. What else am I supposed to do?

TAURO

I am not sure. You tried everything. Violo is doing better, xe is becoming part of the group now.

VIRGO

Because we had no other choice. Am I supposed to kick Severus's child out?

TAURO

No, but xe is not supposed to be your problem.

VIRGO

I know. I am doing it for Severus's sake.

(Igno bursts in and Julio follows)

JULIO

Can you stop for a second and talk about this?

IGNO

No, we can not talk about it, it is non of your fucking business!

TAURO

Good morning to both of you.

VIRGO

Care to explain what the heck is going on?

JULIO

My dunderhead twin here had Violo walk out of their room this morning. Considerably naked.

IGNO

(Speaking through their teeth)

It is non of your business.

JULIO

Alright, alright. We'll see what Severus thinks about it.

(Severus's office opens and he appears with a cigarette in his mouth.)

IGNO

Fuuuuck...

**SEVERUS** 

What is the commotion about?

**VIRGO** 

Wait, you slept here?

**SEVERUS** 

That's not the main concern right now. What did you do Igno?

IGNO

I might have...khmm...slept with Violo

**SEVERUS** 

Might have? Are you not sure? Maybe we need to teach you about the bees and the birds?!

IGNO

No, no, definitely not, thank you.

**SEVERUS** 

You know what?

(Leans on door frame)

I don't actually care. Do whatever you want. I am leaving.

(Violo bursts in)

VIOLO

Igno, where are you?

IGNO

Bad. Bad timing.

VIRGO

Severus, wait!

(Severus leaves. Leo and Avis enter.)

LEO

What's with him?

(Everyone looks grim)

(The others tell Leo and Avis what happened. Igno cries, Violo leaves.)

(End of scene 5. Lights slowly go out and we can hear the chatter of the group.)

LIGHTS COME BACK. LEO, VIOLO, JULIO AND IGNO ARE CHATTING.

**VIOLO** 

Where "s Virgo and Tauro? Usually they're here by now.

LEO

Oh, they took a holiday. Virgo really needed it.

JULIO

So, who is the manager now? Because normally it's Severus if Virgo is not here.

LEO

Virgo left everything to me and Avis. She looks after everything outside and I'll deal with the office.

**VIOLO** 

I see. Do we know anything about Severus by the way?

IGNO

I've heard some news about him. He was seen around but he doesn't communicate with anyone. I think we should give him more time.

VIOLO

You are right. I just feel bad about the whole thing.

LEO

Look, we all made mistakes. Really stupid mistakes. It happens. You are young, you'll learn. Severus will come back. Everything will be fine.

VIOLO

I hope so. I didn't mean to hurt anyone. I panicked.

JULIO

Maybe next time if you are trying to find someone just ask.

VIOLO

Sure. Good advice.

**IGNO** 

Leo, what do we do now? What's the plan?

LEO

Until Virgo and Tauro come back, we do everything as usual. Just do your work. Try not to be stupid. Avis should be here soon to pick you up and go out to field. It is human observation again. I hope you enjoy.

IGNO

(Sarcastically)

Sure we will.

(A minute passes with everyone getting ready, sitting around, and chatting. Avis arrives and takes Violo, and Igno with her. Leo and Julio stay and get to working. Lights slowly go out. End of scene 6.)

LIGHTS BACK. SEVERUS IS ALONE IN THE OFFICE, HE IS PACKING AND WALKING IN-AND-OUT OF HIS OFFICE. HE IS MUMBLING TO HIMSELF. THIS LASTS ABOUT 1 MINUTE OR 1.5 THEN HE LEAVES WITH A BAG. HE LEAVES A NOTE ON VIRGO'S DESK. LIGHTS GO OUT.

SCENE 8

LIGHTS BACK. MORNING LIGHT. EVERYONE IS COMING TO THE OFFICE - EXCEPT SEVERUS OF COURSE. HAPPY CHATTER.

VIRGO

Alright, alright, that was funny.

**VIOLO** 

For real, I told you, this TikTok thing is so cool.

(Everyone settles down in the office. Virgo notices the note on her desk, picks it up and start reading it.)

VIRGO

No. No, no, no, no.

TAURO

What happened?

VIRGO

Severus left.

JULIO

We know he left. That was weeks ago.

VIRGO

No, you don't understand, he was here. He picked up his stuff and left.

JULIO

What? How do you know that?

**VIRGO** 

(Holding up Severus's note)

He left a note.

**VIOLO** 

What does it say?

VIRGO

(Reading the note)

Dear friends, I am sorry I have left without saying goodbye. I am hoping that I didn't hurt anyone. I went to find Medusa, but she was nowhere. I found out that she went to Creon after Violo left her. I need to see her and correct things. I deserve closure. I am going to the underworld. I may not return, but I must do this. I hope you understand. If I don't come back, just sell my stuff. Your friend, Severus

TAURO

Wow. I don't even know what to say.

**IGNO** 

He...he left because of you!

(Points at Violo)

VIOLO

Because of me? Didn't you listen? He left to find Medusa. I have nothing to do with that. We had a discussion here a few weeks ago, right before he left. He seemed fine. Then Julio found out about us, Severus found out about us and he left. So if he left because of someone, that someone is you!

AVIS

Oi, oi, oi, kids, stop.

IGNO

Oh shut up Avis. This doesn't concern you.

VIRGO

This doesn't concern any of us, so why don't you two take this fight somewhere else?

**VIOLO** 

Right, don't mind me then.

(Violo leaves quickly, Igno follows xem.)

TAURO

What the fuck is wrong with kids these days?

**VIRGO** 

I don't know, honestly. I am sad that Severus left. I hope he is going to be ok. I wish I could help him.

JULIO

It's not good the get involved in business like this.

AVIS

Oh yeah, we all know well that you'd rather die than get into drama.

JULIO

And I am very clever for that.

LEO

Sure you are kid. I am just not sure why Severus went alone. I get it, it's family business, but he could have asked us. I would have helped. Don't mind visiting good old Creon.

**VIRGO** 

I am not sure either why he didn't ask us. Reminds me of the time when he was a young god. He used to be very introverted. Maybe this situation stirred him up inside. I'll ask around to see if anyone heard about him. Maybe we can help him without him knowing. I'll see.

LEO

It's not a bad idea. Until then, let's get back to work.

AVIS

Yes. The system is still a mess, let's fix it together.

JULIO

Such team spirit.

(Lights go out. End of scene.)

LIGHTS BACK. EVERYONE - EXCEPT SEVERUS - IS PRESENT.

IGNO

We are leaving.

VIRGO

Who is 'we'?

**VIOLO** 

Igno and me. We don't want to do this anymore so we are going to travel around Earth, see it for ourselves and then return to Etheria.

**VIRGO** 

I understand. It's just sad to lose more people. Especially after Severus left for good. I still can't wrap my head around it.

LEO

It is weird. I was so used to this team.

AVIS

I have been thinking about leaving too. I've spent over 5000 years here, it's time to go.

TAURO

You too? Well, looks like we'll need to recruit new gods. Can't leave a religion without a deity.

**VIRGO** 

And can't leave me without annoying kids to looks after.

JULIO

Hey! We are NOT annoying.

**TAURO** 

Sure sure, specially you Julio.

VIOLO

What about holding a party?

VIRGO

Sounds like a good idea. Not like we aren't going to see each other, but we could do a disband party.

LEO

I'll take care of the sweets!

JULIO

Don't forget the Fanta!

LEO

Don't worry, I won't.

(Everyone laughs. Light slowly fades out. End of scene.)

LIGHTS COME UP, ADD COLORFUL LIGHTING BEAMS. OFFICE IS SET UP FOR PARTY. ALL CHARACTERS PRESENT - EXCEPT SEVERUS.

VIRGO

(With a drink is hand, raising the glass)

Thank you all for coming. As I mentioned this isn't going to be the last time we see each other, but it's still a good opportunity to get together and say thanks. I wanted to say this, because despite the way we got to know Violo, xe turned out to be a valuable part of our team, however short time it was.

TAURO

It was definitely an interesting journey.

**IGNO** 

Sure, didn't think of falling in love with the enemy.

**VIOLO** 

The enemy? Hah, what an insult.

**IGNO** 

You can punish me for it later.

JULIO

Alright, alright, go find a room or something.

**IGNO** 

Hmm... I know a spacious room in my house.

JULIO

Don't you dare go near my room!

(Everyone laughs. Severus bursts in.)

VIRGO

Severus! What are you doing here?

**SEVERUS** 

Sounds like I am not welcome anymore. Sorry to ruin the party.

TAURO

You are always welcome here, you know that. And you didn't ruin everything. But what's wrong?

**SEVERUS** 

Have you looked at the wish board?

VIRGO

Not today, we just came to party. But why? And where have you been?

**SEVERUS** 

Let's talk about that later. Look at the console and you'll see.

**VIRGO** 

(Walks to the console and checks the wish board)

Oh my! What is happening?

JULIO

(Looking at his phone)

Don't mean to be rude, but why is everyone so popular all of a sudden?

**SEVERUS** 

War.

VIRGO

No...

**VIOLO** 

Wait, I don't get it. What do you mean 'war'?

TAURO

The humans are having a war. That's why there are so many wishes and prayers.

LEO

Which country is it?

**SEVERUS** 

Seems like Russia and Ukraine. But many smaller neighboring countries are in trouble. They mostly belong to Avis and Tauro.

AVIS

Oh, I know those countries pretty well. I actually used one of my inventions to give humans this language. What was it? I can't remember.

VIRGO

It was Hungarian I think. Those were fun times. But this doesn't look like fun at all.

**VIOLO** 

So, what do we do? We need to help them right?

TAURO

It's not that easy. We can't intervene on this level.

VIOLO

So, we...watch?

JULIO

We watch.

**SEVERUS** 

We watch them. Again. Murdering each other.

End of scene 10 and Act 1. Lights go out.)

END OF ACT 1

### Commentary

In this play, I explored a few different themes and characters which I will introduce and explain in this commentary.

First of all, I would like to briefly talk about the story and its meaning. This academic year I have met many people and through people, I got introduced to many new religions I was unaware of. The story of this play explores a more modern, industrialised point of view of religions in connection with social media and what I call the "popularity culture". Centralised, systematic religion in my opinion has many weaknesses and removes most charitability and humanity from religions. A little more about the religious aspect of the play; my family is traditionally a mixture of Ashkenazi Jewish and Christian religions, however, none of my family members is actively religious and I regard myself to be agnostic. Although I did not intend for the play to have such deep meaning it turned out to be otherwise. In essence, the play is focusing on human relationships and reactions.

The inspiration and the idea of the play came from 'The Count of Monte Cristo' by Alexandre Dumas. I was reading this book in my free time and I have enjoyed it immensely. The scene that inspired me was the following:

" [...] 'And you, count, have made this match?' asked Beauchamp.

'I? Silence, purveyor of gossip, do not spread that report. I make a match? No, you do not know me; I have done all in my power to oppose it.' - 'Ah, I understand,' said Beauchamp, 'on our friend Albert's account.' 'On my account?' said the young man; 'oh, no, indeed, the count will do me the justice to assert that I have, on the contrary, always entreated him to break off my engagement, and happily it is ended. The count pretends I have not him to thank; so be it - I will erect an altar Deo ignoto.' [...] " - (Alexandre Dumas and Wren, 2002, pp. 672.)

I have always been fascinated by languages and by Latin the most. I adore Latin phrases. I find them witty and meaningful. It is amusingly easy to express a lot by saying so little. I use Latin phrases as titles for many of my poems and the phrase "Deo ignoto" inspired me to write this play. I felt a connection with the mysteriousness of this expression and I felt that I had to use it as the title for my piece. The research and development of this play started from this short Latin phrase. I fell down the rabbit hole of religious study and character building.

I wanted to talk to religious leaders about prayer and the daily doings of religion so I ventured out into my neighbourhood and visited a Mosque, a Shinto temple, a Hindu temple, a Synagogue and Anglican and Christian churches.

The inspiration for my characters came from the mythology of the various religions I have looked at. I tried to give myself more characters so that I would have more space to work with in terms of dialogue. My biggest weakness in terms of writing skills is dialogue and I felt that in my previous script I didn't give myself enough characters to have a varied dialogue play out. The most helpful book that I found while writing this script was 'Developing Characters for Script Writing' by Rib Davis. I tried to give personality to my characters and reflect that personality in the way they speak and behave on stage. That is the reason why each character has a specific thing they like from Earth. This item or hobby gives the characters some base I could work with.

The variedness of characters also helps with broadening the target audience of the play. If more people are able to relate to the characters it is more likely they will watch the play.

# Bibliography:

Alexandre Dumas and Wren, K. (2002). The Count of Monte Cristo. Ware: Wordsworth Editions.

Davis, R. (2004). Developing characters for script writing. London: A. & C. Black.

Dowley, T. (2018). Atlas of World Religions. Lion Hudson.

Ertman, T. (2017). Max Weber's Economic ethos of the world religions: an analysis. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

floorplanner.com. (n.d.). Floorplanner - Example House. [online] Available at: https://floorplanner.com/demo.

Frederick Denison Maurice (n.d.). The Religions of the World and Their Relations to Christianity. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Maxis. (2014) The Sims 4 [Video Game] Electronic Arts.

Mcconnell-Ginet, S. (2020). Words matter meaning and power. Cambridge, Uk New York Cambridge University Press.

Supergiant Games. (2020) Hades [Video Game] Supergiant Games.