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Concord Theatricals Acting Edition

The Lightning Thief

Theatre for Young Audiences Edition

Book by Joe Tracz

Music & Lyrics by
Rob Rokicki

Adapted from the book
The Lightning Thief by
Rick Riordan

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THE LIGHTNING THIEF debuted in 2014 as a one-hour musical at the Lucille Lortel Theatre off-Broadway. After a national tour, an expanded version of the show returned to the Lucille Lortel Theatre in 2017. The show toured again, and on October 16, 2019, *The Lightning Thief* opened on Broadway at the Longacre Theatre. The original Broadway production was produced by TheaterWorksUSA, Martian Entertainment, Victoria Lang, Lisa Chanel, Jennifer Doyle & Roy Lennox, Meredith Lucio, Van Dean, O'Hara, Rae, Zurcher, Wei-Hwa Huang, Stewart F. Lane, Bonnie Comley, Leah Lane, Tosha Martin, Cara Talty, Fisher, Jacobs Baker, Masotti, Prince, Schroeder Shapiro Productions, Retsios Boghosian, and SJGH Productions. The performance was directed by Stephen Brackett, with choreography by Patrick McCollum, Music Supervisor/Musical Director of Orchestrations Wiley DeWeese, scenic design by Lee Savage, costume design by Sydney Maresca, lighting design by David Lander, sound design by Ryan Rumery and Production Manager Brian Lynch. The cast was as follows:

PERCY JACKSON	Chris McCarrell
ANNABETH	Kristin Stokes
GROVER / MR. D	Jorrel Javier
LUKE & OTHERS	James Hayden Rodriguez
SALLY JACKSON & OTHERS	Jalynn Steele
MR. BRUNNER AKA CHIRON & OTHERS	Ryan Knowles
CLARISSE & OTHERS	Sarah Beth Pfiefer
UNDERSTUDIES / SWINGS	Izzy Figuero, Sam Leicht, T. Shyvonne Stewart

CHARACTERS

PERCY JACKSON – son of Poseidon, a good kid with a teenage temper.

ANNABETH – daughter of Athena, smarter than you.

GROVER – a happy-go-lucky satyr, like a hippie kid with hooves.

***MR. D** – aka Dionysus, god of wine, snarky camp director.

LUKE – son of Hermes, cool camp counselor.

***GABE UGLIANO** – Percy's foul stepfather.

***ARES** – god of war, rock star in leather pants.

***MINOTAUR** – half-man half-bull.

***CHARON** – ferryman to the Underworld.

SALLY JACKSON – Percy's hard-working mother.

***MRS. DODDS** – a Fury posing as a substitute algebra teacher.

***CLARISSE** – tough jock girl, daughter of Ares.

***THE ORACLE** – a hippie mummy.

***AUNTY EM** – aka Medusa, avid sculptor.

***THALIA** – daughter of Zeus, brave.

***BIANCA** – a mysterious girl in 1930's clothes.

***CHIMERA**

MR. BRUNNER – aka **CHIRON** – wise centaur, part-time Latin teacher.

***POSEIDON** – god of the sea, salty beach bum.

***HADES** – god of the dead, aging rock-star type.

***KRONOS** – a voice in a pit.

***CYCLOPS**

***BUS DRIVER**

***UBER DRIVER**

*Characters with an asterisk are played by the primary cast: Percy, Annabeth, Grover, Luke, Sally Jackson, and Mr Brunner. Doubling is not required but this cast breakdown can be used as a cast for doubling.

SETTING

Camp Half-Blood, Long Island, NY;
New York; Los Angeles; and places in between.

TIME

Present Day.

AUTHORS' NOTE

For productions where cast size isn't a concern, we encourage you to cast as many actors as you wish, and experiment with doubling based on your own needs. We also encourage you to look beyond traditional casting "types" when it comes to the characters' race, gender, and physical ability. Above all, the characters in *The Lightning Thief* are gods and heroes – and gods and heroes can look like any of us.

Our production used imaginative, suggestive props and costuming to bring Percy's world to life. Part of the joy of Rick Riordan's books is the way they mash together Greek mythology and modern sensibilities in fun and surprising ways – for example, Poseidon, the sea-god, doesn't wear a toga but a Hawaiian shirt. We let that mash-up spirit guide our vision, finding creative, minimalist solutions to the challenge of staging a big, fantastical world. In your own production, we encourage you to rely on theatricality and imagination whenever possible, taking cues from the show's irreverent, rock-and-roll, DIY tone.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

- Music 01: "Prologue/The Day I Got Expelled" . . . Percy, Company
- Music 02: "Strong" Sally, Percy
- Music 03: "The Minotaur!/The Weirdest" Percy, Company
- Music 04: "Another Terrible Day" Mr. D
- Music 04A: "She Fought Bravely"
- Music 05: "Their Sign" Chiron, Percy, Luke
- Music 06: "Put You In Your Place" Clarisse, Annabeth,
Company
- Music 06A: "Clarisse Makes A Splash"
- Music 06B: "The Trident Appears/Thunder"
- Music 07: "The Oracle" The Oracle, Company
- Music 08: "Good Kid" Percy, Company
- Music 09: "Killer Quest!" . . . Percy, Grover, Annabeth, Company
- Music 10: "The Tree On The Hill" Grover, Luke,
Annabeth, Thalia
- Music 10A: "A Visit With Aunty Em"
- Music 11: "My Grand Plan" Annabeth
- Music 12: "Drive" Grover, Percy, Annabeth, Ares, Ensemble
- Music 13: "The Weirdest Dream (Reprise)" Percy
- Music 13A: "Hellevator"
- Music 13B: "It's The Pits"
- Music 13C: "Hello Hades"
- Music 13D: "Sally Appears"
- Music 14A: "Poseidon Finally Shows Up"
- Music 14B: "Reunited"
- Music 15: "The Last Day Of Summer" Percy, Luke, Company
- Music 16: "Bring On The Monsters" Company
- Music 16A: "Bows/Exit Music"

(Sound Effects: Thunder! The Half-Bloods enter: LUKE, ANNABETH, GROVER, and CLARISSE.)

[MUSIC NO 01 – PROLOGUE/THE DAY I GOT EXPELLED]

LUKE.

THE GODS ARE REAL.
LIKE THE GREEK GODS.

ANNABETH.

LIKE THE ONES YOU LEARNED ABOUT
BUT WEREN'T PAYING ATTENTION TO.

GROVER.

WELL, THEY DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO YOU, EITHER.

CLARISSE.

ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE THEIR KID.

ALL HALF-BLOODS.

YEAH, THE GODS ARE REAL.
AND THEY HAVE KIDS.
AND THOSE KIDS HAVE ISSUES!
ISSUES!

LUKE & GROVER.

DADDY DOESN'T LOVE ME
AND MOMMY IS A GOD.

ANNABETH & CLARISSE.

MOMMY CAN'T PROTECT ME
AND DADDY IS A GOD.

ALL HALF-BLOODS.

MOMMY IS TOO BUSY
AND DADDY IS TOO BUSY.
BUSY, BUSY, BUSY, BUSY
BEING A GOD, YEAH!
YOU NEVER LISTEN TO ME
YOU NEVER LISTEN.
YOU NEVER LISTEN
BUT NOW YOU'RE GONNA LISTEN,
'CAUSE IT'S TIME YOU HEARD OUR SIDE OF THE STORY.
IT'S TIME YOU HEARD OUR STORY.

(**PERCY JACKSON** *enters.*)

PERCY.

LOOK.
I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A HALF-BLOOD.
I DIDN'T ASK TO BE A HERO, SEEKING PRAISE.
BEING A HALF-BLOOD IS SCARY,
IT MOSTLY GETS YOU KILLED IN VERY NASTY WAYS.
I DIDN'T WANT TO CAUSE TROUBLE, TROUBLE,
I'M LESS A PLAYER AND MORE THE PLAYED
AND HONESTLY, I'D TOTALLY BE FINE,
IF I COULD MAKE IT TO THE NEXT GRADE,
NEXT GRADE.
WASN'T THE NASTY BREATH OF MY STEPDAD,
IT WAS DANGER THAT I SMELLED,
THE DAY IT ALL WENT DOWN.
THE DAY I GOT EXPELLED!

Maybe you don't know what a half-blood is, because
your life is normal and happy and not constantly in
danger. But my life...?

(*The **CHORUS** creates the tableau of a class
field trip at a history museum.*)

Let me set the scene:

WE WERE ON THIS FREAKY FIELD TRIP.

CHORUS.

FREAKY TRIP...

PERCY.

THAT'S WHEN THIS STORY SHOULD PROBABLY START,

CHORUS.

OOH

ALL.

WE WERE GEEKING OUT ON ANCIENT GREEK,
AT THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART!

PERCY.**CHORUS, GROVER, &
MR. BRUNNER.**

WE STOPPED BY ALL THE	STATUES
AND LEARNED ABOUT THE	GODS,

PERCY.

FROM MR. BRUNNER
AND MY SUBSTITUTE, MRS. DODDS,

PERCY.**CHORUS, GROVER, &
MR. BRUNNER.**

HADN'T DONE, NOTHIN'	OOH, OOH
WRONG,	AHH!
WASN'T RUDE, HADN'T	ON THE DAY IT ALL WENT
REBELLED!	DOWN
ON THE DAY IT ALL WENT	
DOWN:	
THE DAY I GOT EXPELLED!	

(MR. BRUNNER, a distinguished Latin teacher in a wheelchair; lectures. MRS. DODDS, the weird substitute, lurks like a vulture by his side.)

MR. BRUNNER. The Greek Gods! Almighty titans of earth, sea, and sky! But even they were children once. And they didn't have it easy! Their father, Kronos feared the day his children would inherit the earth. So what did he do? Anyone? Anyone?

MRS. DODDS. (*Gleefully.*) He ate them!

MR. BRUNNER. Ah... thank you, Mrs. Dodds. But! One child, Zeus, escaped, and devised a plan to rescue his brothers and sisters! He tricked Kronos into eating a rock. And what did Kronos do? Anyone? Any *student*?

MRS DODDS. He vomited them up!

PERCY.

WHAA?!

I DIDN'T REALLY GET THE STORY.

AT LEAST IT WASN'T BORING, AS I'D FEARED.

BUT IS IT ME, OR IS GREEK MYTHOLOGY

NOT DEEPLY WEIRD?

(**GROVER** lets out a goat bleat that he covers with a cough. **PERCY** throws him a strange look.)

Dude, why do you have peanut butter in your hair?

GROVER. Ask Nancy Bobofit.

PERCY. She threw a peanut butter sandwich at you?

GROVER. She threw a peanut butter sandwich at YOU.
I stopped it. With my head.

PERCY. Grover, you're a good friend.

GROVER.

DUDE. I'M YOUR ONLY FRIEND.

MRS. DODDS.

PERCY JACKSON!!!

(**GROVER** gives **PERCY** a sympathetic look as **MRS. DODDS** leads him away.)

PERCY. Look... if this is about Nancy Bobofit, she only hates me because I stopped her from setting fire to those first graders –

MRS. DODDS. I have heard much about you... *Percy Jackson*. Kicked out of five schools in six years. One might question your parentage.

PERCY. Hey, don't talk about my mom –

MRS. DODDS. And your father? That's right... you don't know who he is.

(MRS. DODDS lurches towards him, as a pair of bat wings emerge from her back.)

PERCY. Uh, Mrs. Dodds? You have something growing on your...

CHORUS & PERCY. AAH!

(MRS. DODDS shrieks and dives at PERCY. Sound effects: Whoosh! MR. BRUNNER appears and tosses PERCY a pen.)

MR. BRUNNER. What ho, Percy!

PERCY. Mr. Brunner? What am I supposed to do with a pen –

(PERCY clicks the pen, and suddenly it expands into a sword.)

Sword! Whoa!

(He blocks with the sword. It strikes MRS. DODDS, who shrieks and dissolves.)

... Mr. Brunner? ... Mrs. Dodds?

(But they both have vanished, and the sword in his hand is now a pen again.)

UM...

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT JUST HAD HAPPENED
WAS THAT ALL A CREEPY CRAZY DREAM?
MY TEACHER WAS A CREATURE,
THEN SHE VANISHED IN THE ETHER

WITH A DEMON SCREAM.
THE NEXT THING THAT I KNEW,
I WAS WHERE DETENTION WAS HELD,
THE DAY IT ALL GOT REAL.
THE DAY I GOT –

(**PERCY** *is with* **GROVER** *and* **MR. BRUNNER**.)

Expelled?!?

MR. BRUNNER. I tried, Percy, but the headmaster stands firm in his decision.

PERCY. But it wasn't my fault, it was Mrs. Dodds! She attacked me, and... *you* saw it!

(**MR. BRUNNER** *and* **GROVER** *exchange a look.*)

MR. BRUNNER. Did I?

PERCY. You gave me that pen! Only it wasn't a pen, it was a sword, and... what?

GROVER. Percy... we've never had a teacher named Mrs. Dodds.

MR. BRUNNER. Perhaps it's for the best. This wasn't the place for you. It was only a matter of time before –

PERCY. I got kicked out?

MR. BRUNNER. That's not what I ...

PERCY. You think I'm trouble. Just like everyone else.

MR. BRUNNER. No, but... that is to say... I can only accept the best from you, Percy. Someday you'll understand why. I'm truly sorry.

(**MR. BRUNNER** *exits with* **GROVER**. **PERCY** *slumps.*)

PERCY. Yeah well, I'm sorry I let you down...

PERCY.

SO IF YOU THINK YOU ARE A HALF-BLOOD,
 BETTER GET HEADIN' TO THE EXITS NOW.
 'CAUSE FOLKS WILL THINK YOU'RE LYIN',
 BETTER RUN AND DON'T START CRYIN'
 'CAUSE YOU'RE MONSTER CHOW
 OR STICK AROUND
 AND MAYBE YOU'LL LEARN FROM ME.
 THIS AIN'T ODYSSEUS'S ODYSSEY,

PERCY.

SO HEAR ME OUT,
 IF YOU'RE SO COMPELLED.
 BUT, NOBODY LISTENS TO
 ME,
 THEY NEVER LISTEN.

NOBODY LISTENS TO ME!
 THEY NEVER LISTEN, OH.

I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A
 HALF-BLOOD.
 I DIDN'T ASK TO BE A
 HALF-BLOOD

EXPELLED!

**CHORUS, GROVER, &
MR. BRUNNER**

OOH,
 OOH AHH
 OOH

OOH

DUDE! YOU GOT
 EXPELLED!

EXPELLED!

CHORUS

EXPELLED!

(**PERCY's mom, SALLY JACKSON** *appears.*)

I tried to stay out of trouble, Mom. I swear.

SALLY. I don't understand, Percy, what happened on this field trip? (*Off PERCY's look, she softens.*) You know what, it doesn't matter. We'll find another school. Again.

PERCY. I'm not a bad kid on purpose.

SALLY. Oh, baby, I know. (*Beat, then.*) How would you like to take a trip? Just the two of us.

PERCY. Is that okay with "Smelly Gabe?"

SALLY. I'll deal with your stepfather.

(**PERCY's** *stepdad*, **GABE UGLIANO**, *enters.*)

GABE. Sally! Where's my bean dip?

SALLY. Gabe, there you are... (*This is hard to say.*) ...dear. How would you like a weekend without Percy and I in your way?

GABE. Who's gonna cook for me? Who's gonna clean?

SALLY. I'll give you a back rub (**GABE's** *still not sold.*) A ... (*This is gonna be gross.*) foot rub?

GABE. (*Giving in.*) Both feet. (*Then, as he exits.*) Bean. Dip.

(*He's gone.* **SALLY** *exhales.*)

PERCY. Mom... you don't have to put up with him like that.

SALLY. It's complicated, Percy.

PERCY. You always say that. Why?

SALLY. Because the truth might mean saying goodbye to you. For good.

[MUSIC NO. 02 – STRONG]

SALLY. But maybe it's time.

I CAN'T TELL YOU ALL MY SECRETS...

PERCY.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD START WITH ONE:

SALLY.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE I MET YOUR DAD,

HE'D BE PROUD OF HIS SON.

PERCY.

WHO CARES?

WE'RE BETTER OFF WITHOUT HIM.

SALLY.

NO!

IT'S TIME YOU FOUND OUT MORE ABOUT HIM.

(They move to the beach. Sound effects: Ocean waves.)

PERCY. Look at the size of those waves!

SALLY. Fire's going. Someone needs a marshmallow.
(Playful.) They're blue.

PERCY. You met Dad on this beach?

SALLY.

I FIRST SAW HIM IN THE WATER,

COMING OUT OF THE MORNING MIST.

HE WAS HANDSOME, STRONG, AND BEFORE TOO LONG
YOU CAME TO EXIST.

PERCY.

AND HE DITCHED US.

NO COMING HOME FOR DINNER,

YEAH, HE SOUNDS LIKE A REAL WINNER...

SALLY. He wanted to meet you. And he warned me things
might be hard if you were... like him.

PERCY. Was he a screw up too? I'm sorry, Mom, if I was
only normal –

SALLY. Hey!

NORMAL IS A MYTH,

EV'RYONE HAS ISSUES THEY'RE DEALING WITH.

PERCY.

MOM –

IF YOU'RE WEIRD, YOU'RE WEAK.

SALLY.

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG:
THE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU DIFF'RENT
ARE THE VERY THINGS THAT MAKE YOU
STRONG.
SO BE STRONG.

You'll see. You're destined for great things.

PERCY. The only thing I seemed destined for is detention.

I CAN'T FOCUS.
I SUCK AT SCHOOL.
MY A.D.D. GETS THE BEST OF ME.
DYSLEXIA? NOT COOL.

SALLY.

JUST HANG ON, SON, ONE DAY YOU'LL FIND
YOU'LL LEAVE THAT BORING LITTLE LIFE BEHIND.

SALLY & PERCY.

NORMAL IS A MYTH,
EV'RYONE HAS ISSUES THEY'RE DEALING WITH.

SALLY.

AND THERE'S A PLACE YOU NEED TO GO
WHERE YOU'LL BELONG,
WHERE THE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU DIFF'RENT
ARE THE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU SPECIAL,
SPECIAL LIKE YOUR FATHER,
YES, PERCY, YOU ARE SPECIAL.

(Beat.)

LIKE FOOD THE COLOR BLUE,
ALL THE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU, YOU
ARE THE THINGS THAT WILL MAKE YOU
STRONG.

SALLY & PERCY.

SO BE STRONG.

PERCY. So what is this place? Are you sending me to summer school?

SALLY. More like summer camp. But not any ordinary summer camp. Percy, your father is...

(Sound effects: Twig snap. GROVER appears, rear-first: we can't see his face.)

GROVER. Baaaaah!

PERCY. Oh look, a goat. Hey little guy –

(GROVER stands up and turns around.)

GROVER. Paaaa-ercy!

**[MUSIC NO 03 – THE MINOTAUR!/
THE WEIRDEST DREAM]**

PERCY. AAAH! Grover? What are you doing here? ... and what happened to your legs?

GROVER. I've been searching everywhere for you guys.

SALLY. What is it? What's wrong?

GROVER. *(To PERCY.)* You didn't tell her about the field trip?

SALLY. *(To PERCY.)* What happened on the field trip?

PERCY. *(To SALLY.)* You said it didn't matter!

GROVER. *(To SALLY.)* He met a Fury.

PERCY. *(To GROVER.)* YOU'RE all furry! What happened to your legs?

GROVER. I'm a Satyr! I'm half-goat?

PERCY. *And you couldn't have mentioned that sooner?*

SALLY. Grover... is a Fury after Percy right now?

GROVER. A Fury? Oh, no no no –

SALLY. Oh thank god.

GROVER. It's a Minotaur.

SALLY. Oh no. Grover, you need to get Percy to the border.

PERCY. What about you?

SALLY. You're the one it's after, Percy. *(She kisses him.)*
I love you so much.

*(Lightning flashes. Enter: The **MINOTAUR**.
Half-man, half-bull. Sound effects: Minotaur
roar!)*

Run!

*(**SALLY** stands, drawing the **MINOTAUR**'s
attention, as **GROVER** tries to pull **PERCY** to
safety.)*

GROVER. You heard your mom!

PERCY. I'm not leaving her!

*(But **PERCY** sees the **MINOTAUR** has trapped
SALLY. He pulls out the pen he got from **MR.**
BRUNNER.)*

If Mrs. Dodds was really a monster, I hope you're really
a sword...

(The pen expands into a sword.)

Awesome!

*(**PERCY** runs to the **MINOTAUR**, wielding the
sword. The **MINOTAUR** turns its attention
from **SALLY** to **PERCY**...)*

*(**PERCY** swings the sword. The **MINOTAUR**
blocks with his horns. For a tense moment,
the two are locked in this position... But the*