

ELEVATOR TO HELL

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INT. ASPHODEL, A HELLISH CAVERN FULL OF STONE AND MAGMA

ZAGREUS, a young-looking man who is the son of the gods HADES and PERSEPHONE, jogs onto a floating stone cubicle. Zagreus stares at the ceiling, noticing a strange, metallic and stone fused eye looking back at him. Suddenly, Zagreus's confusion at the object is interrupted by a sharp swinging sword at his head.

SENUA

AAAARGHHH!

Zagreus, quick footed, dodges in time and pulls out his sword.

ZAGREUS

Oh, this is new. Is my father sending yet another champion from Elysium to stop me? This is beginning to get predictable.

SENUA, a young woman dressed in Celtic warrior attire and make-up, staggers back, exhausted but deeply focused on Zagreus. Zagreus appears unmoved and gets into a fighting stance. A beat passes, when suddenly a robotic and feminine voice emanates from the ceiling.

GLADOS

What are you waiting for, if you don't attack him, you'll never get out of this room.

ZAGREUS (CONFUSED - GUARD DOWN)

What, no hello?

SENUA VOICE 1 (WHISPER - CONFIDENT)

Don't hesitate.

SENUA VOICE 2 (WHISPER - AFRAID)

She doesn't have the strength.

SENUA VOICE 3 (WHISPER - FIERCE)

Kill him, now!

Senua grabs her sword by both hands and takes a long sweep for Zagreus's torso, but he smoothly steps back.

GLADOS

Do you enjoy failing? I think you have a real knack for it.

ZAGREUS

Well that's just rude.

GLADOS

Do you know what else is rude? Walking into someone's home with no shoes.

ZAGREUS(ANNOYED)

Fair, but unnecessary.

GLADOS(TO SENUA)

Did you know war heroes are more likely to return home when they have a strong comrade? Well, I guess you wouldn't know that.

SENUA(DESPERATE)

I tried to protect him! Just help me find him!

GLADOS

You tried to protect him? Like how you try to look sinister, but instead look like a bird rolled around in mud?

Senua screams and flails her sword around the room, unable to find the taunting voice. Zagreus faces shifts to compassion, and then jumps towards GLaDOS and smacks the eye with his fist. Senua appears stunned at his strength and backs away with her sword ready.

GLADOS

Was that suppose to hurt? I'm made of stone and metal. Idiot.

ZAGREUS

That's enough out of you for now.

(to Senua)

I think I'm beginning to understand. You're not a dead spirit summoned here by my father to thwart my escape, but just someone looking for a lost soul they loved. Humans shouldn't really be here, but then again, neither should I...

SENUA(SCARED BUT STANDING HER GROUND)  
What are you? Are you a god? Is that  
why you can hear the voices?

SENUA VOICE 1(WHISPER - SCARED)  
We can't trust gods.

SENUA VOICE 2(WHISPER - FRUSTRATED)  
We knew she was too weak.

ZAGREUS  
Voices... do you normally hear voices?

SENUA  
Yes. But this one is different... it  
taunts me more, it's crueler.

GLADOS  
The only voices I hear are the  
screaming souls that listen to you  
speak. You can hear them too?

ZAGREUS  
Oh, that one talking about screaming  
souls?

SENUA  
Yes! That one, it's new.

ZAGREUS  
That's probably just one of my  
father's new toys to distract me from  
escaping hell. Feel free to ignore it,  
I will.

SENUA  
This is hell!? Is that why it tortures  
us?

ZAGREUS  
Torture is a bit of a strong word for  
whatever this is doing, but yes. There  
is far worse in the deeper depths of  
hell, some creatures who do it for  
their own entertainment like this one.

GLADOS  
I do not torture for fun. Only for  
educational purposes.

ZAGREUS

(to Senua)

I think you should return to the surface before you find yourself in a worse situation.

Senua and Zagreus have both relaxed now, with their swords pointed down.

SENUA

Please, my husband is lost somewhere in hell. Help me find him, then I'll leave.

ZAGREUS (KINDLY)

No need to beg. I'm looking for someone too, and maybe you can help me. They're on the surface, and I might need your expertise on how to navigate what's above.

GLADOS

Well this has all been truly charming, but I think I can help too. The person you are looking for is just below us.

SENUA

Please take, us to him.

ZAGREUS

This sounds like a trap...

The floor beneath them begins crumble apart, with spewing magma beneath them. Zagreus leaps and grabs Senua before they go tumbling down. GLaDOS can be heard laughing maniacally, but soon stops as see Zagreus and Senua standing unharmed on molten rock.

ZAGREUS

And that is why I never wear shoes.

(to GLaDOS)

See you next time I visit Asphodel, Florence.

Fade to black.