

Pandora's Box Script

Script by Victoria Redfearn Cave

Some text taken from *Greek Modes* by Danai Gagne and Judith Thomas; Beaten Path Publications

Hope is a Thing with Feathers (by Liz Keefe)

Hailey: Welcome to our Winter Music Celebration. Hope is a wonderful part of the holidays. We dream about possibilities and believe in the magic of people and their power to change the world. Have you ever felt like hope was gone? Sometimes it feels as if things are hopeless. At these times you wait, wait for hope, wait for something or someone to change your fate.

Vaya: Sit back as we weave a tale for you about calamity. But don't worry, just when you think hope is far away, it comes in unexpected ways!

Vaya: Once upon a time, there were mythological tales that told stories about gods and goddesses. Get ready to witness what once happened in the ancient world.

Ancient Dance: All fourth grade ("Nigun Atik" from *Shenanigans, Vol. 2*)

Hunter: Zeus was the leader of all of the gods and very powerful. Unfortunately, there were often fights between the mortal world and the world of the gods. This created many difficulties, especially for us mortals on Earth.

Chant: Help us, someone help us, we have no warmth and light. Help us, please help us, give us hope tonight!

We are the gods, all powerful and strong, we control the universe and we can do no wrong!

Zach: One such fight once broke out about how fire came to the Earth. Prometheus was a titan. A titan is an elder god who ruled Earth before the Olympians overthrew them. Prometheus was a trickster and also a champion of mankind. He decided that he would steal the celestial fire and bring it to the people of Earth. He brought great innovation to Earth and her people, but he did not ask Zeus's permission.

Chant: Thank you Prometheus, fire can do so much! Warmth, light, food and more, it's hot to the touch!

Who stole this fire? Someone shall pay! You think there's hope, but there is not, calamities all day!

Hailey: Zeus punished Prometheus by chaining him to a mountain. He then created another punishment for the people of Earth. He created a woman named Pandora. Her name means "full of virtue." (Enter Pandoras)

Hailey: She was graced with all the virtues by the Olympian gods. They gave her beauty, skill, and the power of persuasion.

Hailey: Hermes also added some non-virtuous qualities to Pandora: slyness, curiosity, lying and jealousy.

Katherine: Zeus also gave Pandora a box, several actually. These boxes, his “gifts” to the world contained every conceivable calamity mortals could experience. The gods liked to trick mortals, so he disguised these boxes as Christmas presents.

Katherine: Now Zeus had told her not to peek at her presents, but he counted on Pandora’s curiosity to overcome her better judgment. And now, here is what happened when Pandora opened her box.....

This is a Great Rondo (*Music for Children, Vol. 1, p. 111*): Oh no it’s Pandora, she’s curious and bright! Oh no it’s Pandora, please keep the box shut tight! (Pandora’s rip box)

Zach: Pandora could not resist and opened the box! Inside was the calamity of “no squibbing.” What if there was a world where nobody picked up trash? What if everybody did that?

Fish Alive (Arrangement by Matt Mccoy): Recorders (Pandoras off stage, 4J on)

Johnston’s class calamity: Movement, chant, xylophones

This is a Great Rondo (*Music for Children, Vol. 1, p. 111*): Oh no it’s Pandora, she’s curious and bright! Oh no it’s Pandora, please keep the box shut tight! (4J off and Pandoras on)

Zach: Pandora could not resist and opened the box! Inside was the calamity of “being left out.” What if there was a world where nobody was included? What if there was a nightmare of people being mean to others? What if everybody did that?

Fish Alive (Arranged by Matt Mccoy): Recorders (4R on, Pandoras off)

Raffinan’s class calamity: Movement, chant, xylophones

This is a Great Rondo (*Music for Children, Vol. 1, p. 111*): Oh no it’s Pandora, she’s curious and bright! Oh no it’s Pandora, please keep the box shut tight! (4R off and Pandoras on)

Zach: Pandora could not resist and opened the box! Inside was the calamity of extreme weather. What if there was a world where extreme weather happened all the time? What if everybody had to experience that?

Fish Alive (Arranged by Matt Mccoy): Recorders (4G on and Pandoras off)

Grant’s class calamity: Movement, chant, xylophones

This is a Great Rondo (*Music for Children, Vol. 1, p. 111*): Oh no it’s Pandora, she’s curious and bright! Oh no it’s Pandora, please keep the box shut tight! (4G off and Pandoras off)

Hailey: Pandora could not resist and opened the box! Inside was the calamity of no education for women. What if there was a world where women and girls could not go to school? What if everybody had to experience that?

Fish Alive (Arranged by Matt Mccoy): Recorders (Women's dance and Pandoras off)

Special calamity: Movement, chant, xylophones

Katherine: So you are probably thinking things look pretty bad. (calamities enter) There is a world where trash is everywhere, no one is included, weather is terrible, and women cannot go to school. Wait, look, it's Pandora again, oh no! What is this, there is one last box to open. Brace yourselves!

Katherine: Look, hope is the last to free itself from the box. (hope enters with buckets in hand) In its escape, it has endowed all mortals with the power to overcome any calamity which might befall them.

Teacher: I want to teach you.

Girls: We want to learn.

Teacher and Girls: Together we have hope.

Mark: I want to raise money for my family and other's in the Phillipines who lost their homes.

Hope: We want to help you.

Mark and Hope: Together we have hope.

Hope: I want to help squib and help pick up trash.

Hope: We want to help you.

Hope: Together we have hope.

Hope: I want to be your friend.

Meredith: Thank you!

Meredith and Hope: Together we have hope!

Katherine: When someone thinks that all is lost, it is often a single act of simple kindness that can change everything! Perhaps someone picks up the trash. Perhaps a friend invites someone who is sad to join them. Perhaps a parent comforts a child's nightmare. Perhaps a child offers to help a cause or someone in need. Perhaps a teacher offers to change someone's life.

Katherine: Do you want to know the best thing about Hope? It doesn't cost anything. There are several stories from Christmas lore that feature hope and the joy of simple gifts. Like the animals in the story about the Christ child, they had nothing to offer the newborn baby except a manger, a ride, wool for warmth, or a song to sing. These simple acts of kindness can change everything. During this season of Hope, remember that you can make a difference. Every smile counts, every act counts. Even a child who has no money or fancy things can offer hope. We can make a difference!

Everyone: Together we have hope!

Friendly Beasts: all singing