The Story of Baucis and Philemon Play Script

Cast List and Costume Ideas

Zeus – long cloak with hood, white robe and a golden crown

Hermes – long cloak with hood, white robe, golden winged sandals and a golden winged hat

Baucis (wife) – old and ragged long dress

Philemon (husband) – old and ragged tunic

Greek man – tunic

Narrator

Scene 1

Lights go up to show a track road with homes along one side. It is beginning to get dark.

Outside one of the houses, Zeus and Hermes are stood on the track road. They are dressed in disguise.

Hermes: Father, I shall knock on the next door.

(Hermes knocks on the door and the men wait for a response.)

Zeus: *(disappointed)* Come along, let's try another door.

(The men move to the house next door. Zeus knocks.)

Greek man: *(narrowly opening the door and peeking out)* Can I help you?

Zeus: Good evening. Please can you help us? We are two very weary travellers, who need shelter for the night.

Greek man: We do not know you well enough to let you into our home. Go away!

(Greek man shuts the door.)

Hermes: *(looking at Zeus)* I'm so disappointed with these mortals. That was the eighth house in the valley to turn us away.

(The men walk further down the track and are heading for an old, rickety, wooden hut. They stand by the front door.)

Hermes: Let's try this door.

(Hermes knocks on the door. An elderly lady answers dressed in old clothes.)

Baucis: Yes?

Hermes: Kind lady, we are two very weary travellers, who are desperately in need of shelter and food. Please can you help us?

Baucis: Of course. It is getting cold and dark, and a storm is coming. We don't have much, but what we have, we will share with you.

Zeus: Thank you. You will be rewarded for your kindness and generosity.

Baucis: Think nothing of it. Please, come this way and I'll introduce you to my husband.

(Baucis welcomes the men into the house and the men walk inside.)

Lights down.

Scene 2

Lights go up to show inside Baucis and Philemon's home. Zeus and Hermes are sat at a small, wooden table. Baucis and Philemon are standing.

Baucis: Let me introduce you to my dear husband, Philemon.

Philemon: You are most welcome in our humble home, gentlemen. You have been walking and must be thirsty, would you take some wine?

(Philemon points to the only jug on the table.)

Hermes: We couldn't drink your last jug of wine.

Baucis: You are our guests and we will offer you whatever we have. Please, take some wine.

(Zeus and Hermes nod in acceptance. Philemon pours the wine out for the men whilst Baucis disappears into the kitchen area, returning with a platter of meat and bread, placing it down on the table.)

Baucis: It isn't much, but please enjoy this bread and meat.

Zeus: This is a wonderful feast. Some stale bread would have sufficed. We are so hungry that we wouldn't have noticed.

(The two men begin to eat and drink as Philemon and Baucis sit down at the table. Once they are seated, there is a freeze frame as the lights go down.)

Lights down

Scene 3

Lights go up and give the impression that time has passed. Seated around the table, Baucis, Philemon, Zeus and Hermes are talking, laughing and enjoying each other's company.

Philemon: I apologise but we have no more wine for you gentlemen. It is late and you have been walking all day. You must be very tired. Baucis has prepared a comfortable space for you to sleep by the fire.

(Philemon points at where the men will be sleeping.)

Zeus: That is more than we require, thank you.

Hermes: Philemon, did you say there was no wine left? Why, there's plenty! Look for yourself...

(Baucis and Philemon look inside the jug which has been refilled. They have a look of disbelief on their faces.)

Baucis: *(surprised)* But...but this jug was empty. This can only mean one thing. You...you must be....

Philemon: *(loudly)* GODS!

Hermes: I am Hermes. *(Stands and removes his cloak to reveal his true identity.)*

Zeus: I am Zeus. *(Stands and removes his cloak to reveal his true identity.)*

You have shown us great kindness tonight. We must rest now.

Lights down

Scene 4

Lights go up and it is a new day. Baucis, Philemon, Zeus and Hermes are stood on the track road next to the homes of the people that turned them away.

Hermes: The people in this valley were happy to think we would be sleeping in the road. They must be punished.

Philemon: We plead with you that you show mercy on the people. They know no better.

Zeus: The people turned us away while we were tired and hungry. My word is final.

(Zeus raises his hands and a torrent of water washes away every house except Baucis and Philemon's home. Baucis and Philemon look on in horror until the flood subsides.)

Zeus: That will teach the people a lesson. Now, Baucis and Philemon, we must repay you.

Philemon: Zeus, we have all that we need. However, you are all powerful. My wife and I are devoted to each other and we never want to be parted.

Zeus: I shall grant your wish. You will also have a new home. Look towards the hills... *(pointing)*

Baucis: I only see a white temple.

Zeus: That is your new home and you are now the priest and priestess. You can live out your final years in comfort, together.

Baucis/Philemon: *(in disbelief)* Thank you!

Hermes: Go to your new home.

(Baucis and Philemon leave the stage.)

Lights down

Scene 5

Lights go up and the narrator enters the stage. Baucis and Philemon walk on stage together as the narrator begins speaking. They stop in the centre of the stage, looking out into the audience, wearing fine clothes.

Narrator: Baucis and Philemon lived out their days as priest and priestess and enjoyed a contented life together. The day came when their elderly bodies could take no more. As they died in each other's arms, they became oak and linden trees. The branches of the trees were entwined forever. Zeus had kept his promise.

(Baucis and Philemon link arms and close their eyes.)

The End

The Story of Baucis and Philemon Play Script

Cast List and Costume Ideas

Zeus – long cloak with hood, white robe and a golden crown

Hermes – long cloak with hood, white robe, golden winged sandals and a golden winged hat

Baucis (wife) – old and ragged long dress

Philemon (husband) – old and ragged tunic

Greek man – tunic

Narrator

Scene 1

Lights go up to show a track road with homes along one side. It is beginning to get dark.

Outside one of the houses, Zeus and Hermes are stood on the track road. They are dressed in disguise.

Hermes: Father, I'll knock on the next door.

(Hermes knocks on the door and the men wait for a response.)

Zeus: *(disappointed)* Let's try another door.

The men move to the house next door. Zeus knocks.

Greek man: *(narrowly opening the door and peeking out)* Can I help you?

Zeus: Good evening. Please can you help us? We are two very weary travellers who need shelter for the night.

(Greek man shuts the door without responding.)

Hermes: *(looking at Zeus)* I'm disappointed. That was the eighth house to turn us away.

(The men walk further down the track, heading for an old, wooden hut. They stand by the front door.)

Hermes: Let's try this door.

(Hermes knocks on the door. An old lady answers dressed in old clothes.)

Baucis: Yes?

Hermes: We are two very tired travellers that are in need of shelter and food. Please can you help us?

Baucis: Of course. We don't have much, but what we have, we will share with you.

Zeus: Thank you. You will be rewarded for your kindness and generosity.

Baucis: Think nothing of it. Please, come this way...it is getting dark. Come and meet my husband. *(Baucis welcomes the men into the house and the men walk inside.)*

Lights down

Scene 2

Lights go up to show inside Baucis and Philemon's home. Zeus and Hermes are sat at a small, wooden table. Baucis and Philemon are standing.

Baucis: Let me introduce you to my husband, Philemon.

Philemon: You are most welcome in our home. You have been walking and must be thirsty, would you take some wine?

(Philemon points to the only jug on the table.)

Hermes: We couldn't drink your last jug of wine.

Baucis: You are our guests and we will offer you whatever we have. Please, take some wine.

(Zeus and Hermes nod in acceptance. Philemon pours the wine out for the men whilst Baucis disappears into the kitchen area, returning with a platter of meat and bread, placing it down on the table.)

Baucis: It isn't much, but please enjoy this bread and meat.

Zeus: This is a wonderful feast, thank you.

(The two men begin to eat and drink as Philemon and Baucis sit down at the table. Once they are seated, there is a freeze frame as the lights go down.)

Lights down

Scene 3

Lights go up and give the impression that time has passed. Seated around the table, Baucis, Philemon, Zeus and Hermes are talking, laughing and enjoying each other's company.

Philemon: I apologise but we have no more wine for you gentlemen. It is late and you have been walking all day. You must be very tired. Baucis has prepared a comfortable space for you to sleep by the fire.

(Philemon points at where the men will be sleeping.)

Zeus: That is more than we require, thank you.

Hermes: Philemon, did you say there was no wine left? Why, there's plenty! Look for yourself...

(Baucis and Philemon look inside the jug which has been refilled. They have a look of disbelief on their faces.)

Baucis: *(surprised)* But this can only mean one thing. You must be....

Philemon: *(loudly)* GODS!

Hermes: I am Hermes. *(Stands and removes his cloak to reveal his true identity.)*

Zeus: I am Zeus. *(Stands and removes his cloak to reveal his true identity.)*

You have shown us great kindness tonight. We must rest now.

Lights down

Scene 4

Lights go up and it is a new day. Baucis, Philemon, Zeus and Hermes are stood on the track road next to the homes of the people that turned them away.

Hermes: The people in this valley were happy to think we would be sleeping in the road. They must be punished.

Philemon: We plead with you that you show mercy on the people. They know no better.

Zeus: The people turned us away while we were tired and hungry. My word is final.

(Zeus raises his hands and a torrent of water washes away every house except Baucis and Philemon's home. Baucis and Philemon look on in horror until the flooding stops.)

Zeus: That will teach the people a lesson. Now, Baucis and Philemon, we must repay you.

Philemon: Zeus, we have all that we need. However, you are all powerful. We wish never to be parted.

Zeus: I shall grant your wish. You also have a new home. Look towards the hills... *(pointing)*

Baucis: I only see a white temple.

Zeus: That is your new home and you are now the priest and priestess. You can live out your final years in comfort, together.

Baucis/Philemon: *(shocked)* Thank you!

Hermes: Go to your new home.

(Baucis and Philemon leave the stage.)

Lights down.

Scene 5

Lights go up and the narrator enters the stage. Baucis and Philemon walk on stage together as the narrator begins speaking. They stop in the centre of the stage, looking out into the audience, wearing fine clothes.

Narrator: Baucis and Philemon lived out their days as priest and priestess and enjoyed a happy life together. When they died, they became oak and linden trees, and their branches were entwined forever.

(Baucis and Philemon link arms and close their eyes.)

The End

The Story of Baucis, Philemon, Zeus and Hermes Play Script

Cast List and Costume Ideas

Zeus – long cloak with hood, white robe and a golden crown

Hermes – long cloak with hood, white robe, golden winged sandals and a golden winged hat

Baucis (wife) – old and ragged long dress

Philemon (husband) – old and ragged tunic

Greek man – tunic

Narrator

Scene 1

Lights go up to show a track road with homes along one side. It is beginning to get dark.

Outside one of the houses, Zeus and Hermes are stood on the track road. They are dressed in disguise.

Hermes: Father, I'll knock on the next door.

(Hermes knocks on the door and the men wait.)

Zeus: *(disappointed)* Let's try another door.

(The men move to the house next door. Zeus knocks.)

Greek man: *(narrowly opening the door and peeking out)* Can I help you?

Zeus: Good evening. Please can you help us? We are two very tired travellers that need shelter for the night.

(Greek man shuts the door without responding.)

Hermes: *(looking at Zeus)* That was the eighth house to turn us away.

(The men walk further down the track and head for an old, wooden hut. They stand by the front door.)

Hermes: Let's try this door.

(Hermes knocks on the door. An old lady answers dressed in old clothes.)

Baucis: Yes?

Hermes: We are two very tired travellers that are in need of shelter and food. Please can you help us?

Baucis: Of course. We don't have much, but what we have, we will share with you.

Zeus: Thank you.

Baucis: Think nothing of it. Please, come this way...it is getting dark.

(Baucis welcomes the men into the house and the men walk inside.)

Lights down

Scene 2

Lights go up to show inside Baucis and Philemon's home. Zeus and Hermes are sat at a small, wooden table. Baucis and Philemon are standing.

Baucis: Let me introduce you to my husband, Philemon.

Philemon: You are most welcome in our home. You have been walking and must be thirsty, would you take some wine?

(Philemon points to the only jug on the table.)

Hermes: We couldn't drink your last jug of wine.

Baucis: You are our guests and we will offer you whatever we have. Please, take some wine.

(Zeus and Hermes nod in acceptance. Philemon pours the wine out for the men whilst Baucis goes into the kitchen area, returning with a platter of meat and bread and placing it down on the table.)

Baucis: It isn't much, but please enjoy this bread and meat.

Zeus: This is a wonderful feast.

(The two men begin to eat and drink as Philemon and Baucis sit down at the table. Once they are seated, there is a freeze frame as the lights go down.)

Lights down

Scene 3

Lights go up and give the impression that time has passed. Seated around the table, Baucis, Philemon, Zeus and Hermes are talking, laughing and enjoying each other's company.

Philemon: I apologise but we have no more wine for you gentlemen. It is late and you have been walking all day. You must be very tired. Baucis has prepared a space for you to sleep by the fire. *(Philemon points at where the men will be sleeping.)*

Zeus: That is more than we require, thank you.

Hermes: Philemon, there's plenty of wine left...look!

(Baucis and Philemon look inside the jug which has been refilled.)

Baucis: *(surprised)* But this can only mean one thing. You must be....

Philemon: *(loudly)* GODS!

Hermes: I am Hermes. *(Stands and removes his cloak to reveal his true identity.)*

Zeus: I am Zeus. *(Stands and removes his cloak to reveal his true identity.)*

You have shown us great kindness tonight. We must rest now.

Lights down

Scene 4

Lights go up and itis a new day. Baucis, Philemon, Zeus and Hermes are stood on the track road next to the homes of the people that turned them away.

Hermes: The people in this valley were happy to think we would be sleeping in the road. They must be punished.

Philemon: Please show mercy on the people as they know no better.

Zeus: The people turned us away, tired and hungry. My word is final.

(Zeus raises his hands and a torrent of water washes away every house except Baucis and Philemon's home. Baucis and Philemon look on in horror until the flooding stops.)

Zeus: That will teach the people a lesson. Now, Baucis and Philemon, we must repay you.

Philemon: Zeus, we have all that we need. However, you are all powerful. We wish never to be parted.

Zeus: I shall grant your wish. You also have a new home. Look towards the hills... *(pointing)*

Baucis: I only see a white temple.

Zeus: That is your new home. You can live out your final years in comfort, together.

Baucis/Philemon: *(shocked)* Thank you!

Hermes: Go to your new home.

(Baucis and Philemon to leave the stage.)

Lights down.

Scene 5

Lights up and the narrator walks onto the stage. Baucis and Philemon walk on stage together as the narrator begins speaking. They stop in the centre of the stage, looking out into the audience, wearing fine clothes.

Narrator: Baucis and Philemon lived out their days together. When they died, they became oak and linden trees and their branches were entwined forever.

(Baucis and Philemon link arms and close their eyes.)

The End