

# **Monologues for summer 2021**

Incoming Seniors

Below, you will find some material to prepare for Advanced Acting, which we will apply to Suzuki training. This kind of training utilizes heightened text and pairs it with heightened, physical exercises. You will engage your mind, body, voice, and spirit with this work. Take care of your bodies this summer. The better shape you are in come September, the more accessible the training will be.

Before we can begin, you will need to memorize the following texts by the beginning of classes this Fall. I have included 1 text each for boys and girls. Align with whatever gender you identify with. You may also opt learn both of them if you are non-binary or fluid. There is also 1 included text for all to learn. We will learn additional texts as the year progresses, but this is where we will start. Learn these **solidly**; you will not have the option to be on-book once we begin.

Reach out to me this summer if you have questions.

~Mr. Cantelmi

## **ALL (everyone learn this one)**

Menelaus

from *The Trojan Women* by Euripides

O splendor of Sunburst breaking forth this day  
whereon I lay my hands once more on Helen my wife. [*breath*]  
And yet it is not so much as men think  
for the woman's sake I came to Troy, [*breath*]  
But against that guest proved treacherous,  
who like a robber, carried the woman from my house.

## **Females**

## Cassandra

The Oresteia by Aeschylus

This house is full of demons.  
The loathsome retinue  
Of the royal blood.  
Under these painted ceilings they flitter and jabber.  
They huddle on every stair.  
They laugh and rustle and whisper  
Inside the walls.  
They shift things, in darkness  
They squabble and they scream in the cellars.  
And they sing madness  
Into the royal ears. Madness.  
Till the royal brother defiles the bed of his brother.  
Did that happen?  
The foundations of the house of Atreus  
Split open when that happened,  
And the evil poured out, up and out.

## **Males**

### Orestes

*The Oresteia* by Aeschylus

I am like a man in a chariot  
Losing control of the horses  
Plunging towards I do not know what  
I am hanging onto the reins without the strength  
To do more than merely hang on  
My brain in a whirl, my heart crouching in terror.

While I am still sane and among you, let me declare this  
You who are loyal will understand me  
It was not a sin to kill my mother  
From head to foot she was polluted with my father's blood  
The gods detested her.