



MONOLOGUES

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Antigone: 3021 by Nina Mansfield

CHANCELLOR CREAM

(Fixing her hair, not realizing her camera is on, and talking to her assistant off-screen:)

Phoebe, the hair. The hair...is it...oh, I'm...you need to tell me these things... *(Changing demeanor and smiling for the camera:)* Good afternoon people of Thebes. I join you today from the Octagon Room, in my first address as the leader of this great city. I can see there are so many of you watching right now... These numbers are amazing. And I have great news. We are finally at peace. Our great city, which was once ruled by Chancellor Laius, and then by my brother-in-law, Chancellor Oedipus, is now in my hands. And I want to assure you that my hands are neither too large, nor too small, but extremely capable.

Until recently, Chancellor Eteocles—or Eddie as so many of you liked to call him—led the way for you. His rule, I assure you, was legitimate, and you shouldn't trust anyone who says it wasn't. But his brother, that traitor, that anarchist—yeah, that's a big word, and that's what he was—Polyneices wanted to destroy this city. Do away with the Public Cloud. Prevent you from seeking advice from the Oracle. Take your children from you. But those who sought to wipe out our way of life have been driven out. Our city is once again free, and it is once again great.

As the sons of Oedipus are now dead, and his daughters just teenagers, I have assumed the chancellorship. I want you all to know, I take this duty very seriously. After all, a leader who is too afraid to speak, too unwilling to listen to council, is doomed. Anarchists will not set foot in our city while I am in charge. I shall be strong. I shall be fair. I shall keep you safe.

You should know, I have honored the late Chancellor Eteocles with our highest honor, the Golden Fleece. And he will be buried with a full state funeral, as befitting a former head of state, and hero.

But his brother, and I do say this with a heavy heart, because he was my nephew—but the ties of blood are not stronger than the ties I have to this city. Only an unjust ruler would put the bonds of her family above those of this city. So yes, even a nephew must pay for his crime if he was a traitor.

The body of Polyneices will be left out to rot. No one is to mourn him. No one is to bury him. No one is to weep. Anyone who does, will pay with their lives.

ANTIGONE: 3021 by Nina Mansfield

Length: 75-90 minutes (a one-act version is also available)

Cast Size: 14-29 actors (suggested casting 2F, 1M, 21+ any)

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: It's the year 3021 and Thebes has just been through a bloody civil war. Chancellor Cream has decreed that anyone who buries the body of the traitor Polyneices will face the death, but Antigone is determined to bury her brother, no matter the penalty. She brazenly breaks Cream's law and broadcasts her crime on the public cloud. Now Cream must decide if she will bend to the will of the people or punish Antigone for her crime.