

# ANTIGONE!

The **MUSICAL VERSION** of SOPHOCLES' TRAGEDY

## WHY YOU HATE YOUR JOB

As a Hollywood director, you're often called upon to create movies that you absolutely loathe. This is one of those cases. Hollywood has been trying to come out with a new musical every year, and some big-shot idiot (one of your many bosses) has decided that *Antigone* will be the newest subject of a Hollywood makeover. Not only are you called upon to make *Antigone* into a film, but the big-shot idiot's wife has had the brilliant idea of making it a musical. Everyone loves musicals about mass suicide, don't they? Well, too bad. You're stuck with it. But the bad news is that the last few films you've made have been stink bombs as well. You better make this one as good as you can, or it's back to filming *Jenny Craig* commercials.

## CASTING

Your first job is to round out your cast with Hollywood's hottest actors. If the big-shot idiot (your boss) has plenty of one thing, it's money, so he's sparing no expense. Of course, you have to rationalize your choices.

**ANTIGONE**

**(REMEMBER: THIS IS THE ACTOR WHO WILL HAVE TO CARRY YOUR FILM. ANTIGONE SHOULD BE YOUNG AND REASONABLY ATTRACTIVE AND A BIT ANGSTY.)**

**CHOICE:**

**REASONING:**

**CREON**

**(REMEMBER: CREON IS MUCH OLDER AND VERY IMPORTANT TO THE PLOT. A GOOD ACTOR IS NECESSARY)**

**CHOICE:**

**REASONING:**

**ISMENE**

(ISEME IS VERY WEAK, AN OPPOSITE TO ANTIGONE.ROUGHLY THE SAME AGE.)

**CHOICE:**

**REASONING:**

**TIRESIAS**

(TIRESIAS IS VERY OLD AND MYSTERIOUS. HE SHOULD BE PLAYED BY A "VETERAN" ACTOR.)

**CHOICE:**

**REASONING:**

**HAEMON**

(HAEMON IS ANTIGONE'S FIANCE. THINK CHEMISTRY HERE.)

**CHOICE:**

**REASONING:**

**GUARD**

(THE MESSENGER/GUARD IS THE ONE TINY BIT OF COMEDY RELIEF IN THIS STORY. TRY TO CAST SOMEONE WHO CAN PULL OFF "FUNNY" WHILE STILL REMAINING CREDIBLE.)

**CHOICE:**

**REASONING:**

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

This is the part you've been dreading. How can you add musical numbers to something as thematic and depressing as *Antigone*? Well, you aren't the composer, but you do have to come up with some titles of songs. Then you can give them to the composer, and he'll work out all the details. Come up with song titles to match the situations. A line from the play could make a good song title if you can't think of anything else. Hint, hint. Remember: when people have a problem in their soul, what do they do? They sing!

### SITUATION

### SONG TITLE

Antigone is angry with Ismene for being weak

The "funny" messenger tells Creon what he saw

Antigone and Creon argue over Polyneices' body

Haemon pleads with Creon to release Antigone

Tieresias argues with Creon

Creon returns after witnessing the death of, well, everyone

*(If you want, you can chose your own situation from the play to make a song from.)*

## PUBLICITY (choose ONE of the following)

**SOUNDTRACK:** To boost publicity for the movie, the film company is going to release a CD of the songs your composer has written. Design a colorful cover that represents something from *Antigone!* with your song titles listed on the back. (No stick figures please; push yourself)

OR

**MOVIE POSTER:** Create a movie poster depicting a few key scenes from the movie. You may include your actors' and actresses' names. Make it colorful, and put the title on it as well. (No stick figures please; push yourself)