

## ANTIGONE AUDITION SCRIPT

ANTIGONE: Now, dear Ismene, my own blood sister,  
do you have any sense of all the troubles  
Zeus keeps bringing on the two of us,  
as long as we're alive? All that misery  
which stems from Oedipus? There's no suffering,  
no shame, no ruin—not one dishonor—  
which I have not seen in all the troubles  
you and I go through. What's this they're saying now,  
something our general has had proclaimed  
throughout the city? Do you know of it?  
Have you heard? Or have you just missed the news—  
dishonors which better fit our enemies  
are now being piled up on the ones we love?

## ISMENE AUDITION SCRIPT

ISMENE: O dear. Think, Antigone. Consider  
how our father died, hated and disgraced,  
when those mistakes which his own search revealed  
forced him to turn his hand against himself  
and stab out both his eyes. Then that woman,  
his mother and his wife—her double role—  
destroyed her own life in a twisted noose.  
Then there's our own two brothers, both butchered  
in a single day—that ill-fated pair  
with their own hands slaughtered one another  
and brought about their common doom.  
Now, the two of us are left here quite alone.  
Think how we'll die far worse than all the rest,  
if we defy the law and move against  
the king's decree, against his royal power.  
We must remember that by birth we're women,  
and, as such, we shouldn't fight with men.  
Since those who rule are much more powerful,  
we must obey in this and in events  
which bring us even harsher agonies.  
So I'll ask those underground for pardon—  
since I'm being compelled, I will obey  
those in control. That's what I'm forced to do.  
It makes no sense to try to do too much.

# ISMENE AND ANTIGONE AUDITION SCRIPT

Ismene Your eyes Antigone... they frighten me.

Antigone Frighten you. Better for you to be fearful of your lack of duty!

Ismene Our duty now is to the king. He has issued a decree. We are women. Daughters of the slain. We have to obey and honour the King's rule.

Antigone Our brother will have a burial and I will honour the Gods not man's rule. Love is not simply something to behold, it is something to be done, believe in and uphold.

Ismene So.. I am bound to learn the intricacies of loneliness, of horror, the roar of silence

Antigone In that silence lies an eternity, the death of time and a loneliness so profound and it will be a constant presence for you and those who are not willing to challenge the new king

Ismene There is still time now Antigone. You have to be willing to live. You are free. Nothing and nobody is obliged to save you but you. I loved my family, my brothers... but I love you also

Antigone Love... love is divine only and difficult always

Ismene Love alone protects us from the scariness of things with no names.

Antigone And so it must be. As the stars have written. Devotion and honour.

Ismene Foolishness and outbursts

Antigone There is an innocence in blind admiration of a King; it is found in those to whom it has never occurred that they, too, might be admired some day.

Ismene And when the head is too weak to comply to the rules our our leader, our hearts answer by casting suspicion on the motives behind his objections.

Antigone And a mindless king can persuade brave people to participate in an action by representing it as being more dangerous than it is.

Ismene Whoever fights monsters should see to it that in the process they do not become monsters.

Antigone I see clearly now

Ismene And when you look long into an abyss also know that the abyss looks into you. Your eyes frighten me Antigone

Antigone Our shortcomings are the eyes with which we see the ideal... the truth...

## CREON AUDITION SCRIPT 1

CREON:

But you should know the most obdurate wills  
are those most prone to break. The strongest iron  
tempered in the fire to make it really hard—  
that's the kind you see most often shatter.  
I'm well aware the most tempestuous horses  
are tamed by one small bit. Pride has no place  
in anyone who is his neighbor's slave.

## CREON AUDITION SCRIPT 2

Creon: No. We must obey  
whatever man the city puts in charge,  
no matter what the issue—great or small,  
just or unjust. For there's no greater evil  
than a lack of leadership. That destroys  
whole cities, turns households into ruins,  
and in war makes soldiers break and run away.  
When men succeed, what keeps their lives secure  
in almost every case is their obedience.  
That's why they must support those in control,  
and never let some woman beat us down.  
If we must fall from power, let that come  
at some man's hand—at least, we won't be called  
inferior to any woman.

## CREON AUDITION SCRIPT 3

CREON: blind fool, you're all like archers shooting at me—  
For you all I've now become your target—  
even prophets have been aiming at me.  
I've long been bought and sold as merchandise  
among that tribe. Well, go make your profits.  
If it's what you want, then trade with Sardis  
for their golden-silver alloy—or for gold  
from India, but you'll never hide that corpse  
in any grave. Even if Zeus' eagles  
should choose to seize his festering body  
and take it up, right to the throne Zeus,

not even then would I, in trembling fear  
of some defilement, permit that corpse  
a burial. For I know well that no man  
has the power to pollute the gods.  
But, old Teiresias, among human beings  
the wisest suffer a disgraceful fall  
when, to promote themselves, they use fine words  
to spread around abusive insults.