

TYCHIA: A CITY-STATE OF PANIC

A peasant family in Ancient Greece deals with their everyday lives and the wraths/gifts inflicted by the (very much real) Greek gods.

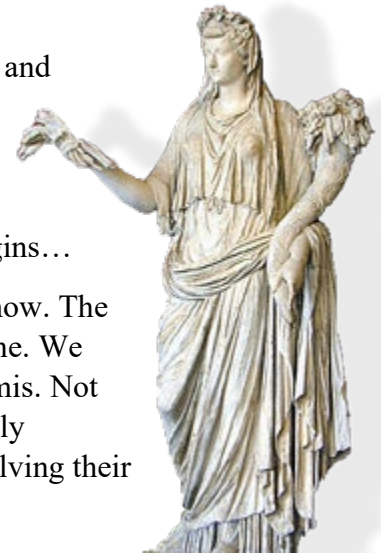
In *Tychia: A City-State of Panic* the women do not need saving and the men are not heroes. It is not your typical Greek epic. It deals with the extraordinary on an ordinary level. Although the storyline follows the whole family, the women are the center of our story.

On the modern island of Kythira, Greece is where our story begins...

Tychia, a made-up Greek city-state, is the setting of our Epic show. The city is named after the goddess of fortune and prosperity of a city, Tyche. We follow the lives of a peasant family which resides in the House of Themis. Not only do they have to deal with the everyday challenges of life and family conflict, but the **real** Greek Gods take a special liking to them; thus, solving their immortal conflicts through this “ordinary” family.

The show highlights the family dynamic which in some ways resembles my own. I grew up in a large chaotic family where I was the product of the same mother but a different father than my other siblings. This show will explore the dynamic between the siblings and the way they interact with one another reflects how I often spoke with mine. Calisto, Efimia, and Alec are reflections and are largely influenced by my own siblings. There is nothing I know how to deal with better than a rambunctious troublemaker of a little sister. I think that many shows highlight what it is like to have siblings close in age who are very close but, in my house, it was not like that. I am six years older than my oldest sibling and 13 years older than my youngest this creates a unique dynamic that makes this show different from all the rest. The dysfunctional family is something that I live through to this day and I am sure many others can relate.

By the end of the show, each family member will have gone their own way, but they always come back to the house, back to Maia (their mother) or Calisto which later represents the family. I think that your family by blood is important, but I believe with every fiber of my being that blood does not make a family, love does. I want this show to embody this idea to show that a family through all the drama, all the chaos, and all the problems are there for one another.



The Greek Goddess Tyche



The Modern Island of Kythira

CHARACTERS

Efimia

Efimia aka. Effy, by all those that know her, is not the child Themis and Maia wanted but, in all fairness, she is not really their child. Her sharp features, light skin and dark blue eyes set her apart from her family. A daughter of the goddess *Athena*, her peculiar sense of intelligence and way of looking at the world is seen as arbitrary. Her true father is unknown for Athena is supposed to be a virgin goddess, it would be a scandal throughout Greece and among the gods.... if they find out.



A Statue of the Goddess Athena

Often getting in trouble, Effy is the rambunctious scamp that most shows would have a boy play. She wishes to be taken seriously by her father, Themis, who would rather pay attention to his disappointment of a son rather than to Effy who embodies the son he wanted. Efimia is the black sheep of the family and never truly feels she belongs. She is aware that she is different than them but does not find out until later that she is not their daughter.



An idea of what Efimia would look like.

Although Effy is only 10 years old, her genealogy makes her extremely intelligent. She is an expert strategist, and her mind sees things beyond any regular mortal. She does not want to live the typical life of a woman in Ancient Greece, she wants to become a respected leader, not a housewife. As she gets older, she begins to realize that her ideas are not the only trait she shares with her “father”, but she begins falling in love with her best friend, Zela.

Alec

Alec, your typical middle child, is often put to the side in contrast to his sisters. He is the only biological child of Themis causing his father to be enraged when he is not the son he wants. He is overlooked by his father but is adored by his mother. He is the light of her life. Alec has a deep-rooted sadness and anger toward his father that is never resolved. This anger fuels his later escapades and gives him the rage to become a dictator.

Alec becomes a strong leader except he becomes too hungry for power and will do *anything* to obtain it. Alec is your typical



Idea of how I envision Alec.

scoundrel, a ladies' man with a heart of gold, he flirts with every girl he encounters but he has a quite literal infatuation with Efimia's best friend, Zela. Zela is Nike the goddess of victory which is why Alec is so obsessed with her. He desires victory but Effy always wins in the end.

Calisto

Calisto, the pearl of Tychia, envied by all women and wanted by all men. Think the opposite of Effy. Calisto lives in the clouds. She wants to be in love but throughout the show she is brought down into reality, mostly by Leto and her failed relationships. Her dreams of romance often get her in trouble, think Helen of Troy or Belle from *Beauty and the Beast*.



Calisto is a romantic. She plans to marry for love instead of social status and she plans on creating a *real* school for girls that teaches them art, reading, and writing. The male gods constantly fall for her but they loose to a level-headed blacksmith, Leto. Although Calisto longs for love she is her own person and does not believe that a husband should own his wife but rather they are partners. She is not defined by the men she has as lovers but by her pure heart.

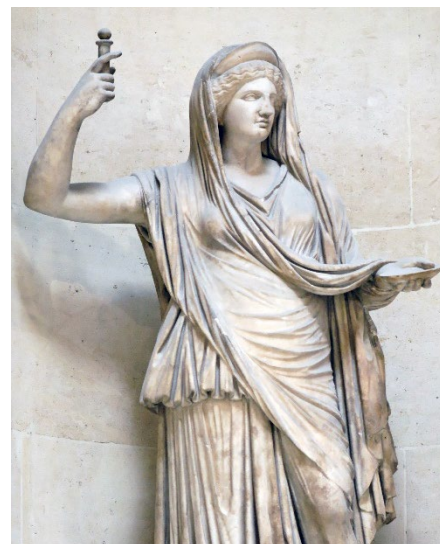
Maia

A mother that would put the goddess Hera to shame. She adores all her children, even Effy although she makes her life harder. Maia often wishes for her youth but does not regret the decisions she has made. She wants someone who will love her since she married a man, she knew from the beginning, could never love her the way she wanted.



My idea of Maia.

Since young girls cannot go to the school with the boys, she has taken it upon herself to educate them. At a young age her father taught her how to read and write unlike the other girls, she learned alongside her brothers. She tries reasoning with The Assembly (their government) for a small girl's school but is unsuccessful. She is a natural storyteller, often retelling the stories she knows about the Greek gods by memory. As the



A Statue of the Goddess Hera

show carries on Maia would become more independent of her husband and venture out to explore what she wants as a woman.

Nella

In ancient Greece, families of every status had a slave. Nella is the slave of their household, but Maia did not grow up with a slave like Themis did and treats her like any other member of the family. Nella earns the respect of the children and becomes like a second mother to them. They love her more than their own father who is often not around.

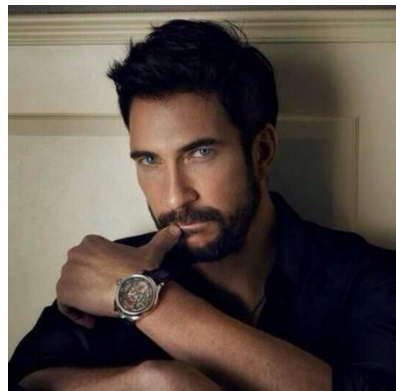


Of course, without the makeup and jewelry, this would be Nella

Nella is quiet and takes pleasure in the small things. Sold by her own family at 10 years old she did not know what it was like to be a part of a family until Maia became her “master.” Nella grew up in the colder and higher points of Greece. She has a special bond with Alec that shapes Alec’s future ideas of slavery and labor.

Themis

As the father of the household, he by nature owns everyone and everything that lives there. He expects respect but does not deserve or receive it. He loves Maia and his family but is constantly abandoning them for his lover, Iason. He is a respectable member of the government assembly but the people on the middle/lower level find him to be elitist.



Although Themis does a lot of bad, he is a good man with wavering intentions when it comes to his family. The only truly well-developed relationship he has in his house is with Calisto. She absolutely adores him but continues to be disappointed by what she learns of him. Even though she is not biologically his child he loves her dearly.

THE FIRST SEASON

Each episode will begin with a teaser which shows the audience a part of the family's past.

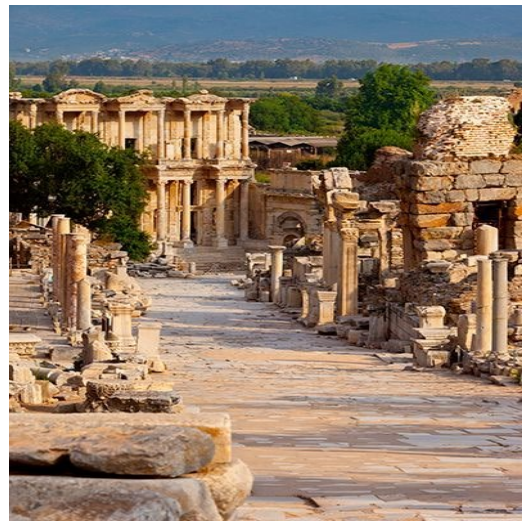
Episode One (Pilot): “The House of Themis”

Efimia the youngest child is brought to the House of Themis; she is the daughter of a god left on their doorstep. We meet the family which resides in the House of Themis. Effy seeks an



Ancient Greek Water Well

education that she is denied of as a young girl. Calisto struggles to find love amongst the men of Tychia. Alec shows us his inner demons and desire to please his father. Themis and Maia try to have another child, but their crumbling marriage makes it difficult.



Episode Two: “The Secret God”

A young Alec, 4, is being taught to read by Themis but it turns sour when Alec throws a fit and expresses that he wants to be a soldier. We see Alec



Statue of the God Apollo

at the sports arena, he is the best fighter there.

Themis finally gives his son the gift he brought for him. Calisto and Maia confront Zoe and just in time to stop her from killing herself. Calisto knows her from her childhood. Effy begins her tutoring, and we get a glimpse into Zela's life and Alec's love for her. We begin to see the relationship between Nella and the kids.

Episode Three: “The Romantic”

Calisto and Ollo as children play along the beach, Calisto sings Ollo a beautiful song, this is where his infatuation begins. Haemon asks Themis for Calisto's hand in marriage. Calisto runs into Ollo once again which leads their romance to bloom. Effy and Zela bother the three old ladies but find a collection of creepy tapestries. Alec continues to try to win Zela's affection, but she is stone

cold. Zoe finds out that Maia is the mother of Alec, the kid that saved her from Haemon and agrees to give Maia her baby.

Episode Four: “The Mother”

Maia, 14, gets thrown an apple from Themis, 16 we see a glimpse of their young friendship where she already knows he is gay. Calisto begins to form a friendship with Leto. The conflict between Maia and Themis grows, they have a huge fight. Efimia continues to blackmail



The Moirai (The Three Fates)

her father this time asking for shorts and shirts instead of her dresses. We see Themis at assembly, quiet but strong. Effy tells Alec about Themis’ relationship and Alec begins underground fighting to save up money. Maia forms a friendship with Zoe treating her as her own child.

Episode Five: “The Bastard”

Themis, 20, and Maia, 18, make a deal to get married and have a family to conceal both of their secrets. Zoe now in her third trimester moves into the house. Alec and Effy hatch a plan to get revenge on Haemon after finding out about what he did to Zoe. At the end of the episode, we find out that Calisto is not Themis’s child, that is why Themis and Maia rushed to get married, Calisto also finds out. One of the older men on the upper tier begin to take interest in Calisto after finding out that she rejected Haemon.



Zoe

Episode Six: “The Slave”

Nella, 10, is sold to Themis’ family by a slave trader. Iason decides to move to Athens and wants Themis to come with him. Alec finds out that he is going to the Olympics in Olympia. We get a glimpse into Nella’s daily life outside of the House of Themis, she has a relationship with a woman on the lower tier, Maia knows this. Themis becomes aggravated that his children treat Nella with more affection than him, he punishes her for listening to Maia rather than him. Alec interferes and tells his father that if he wants to harm Nella, he must go through him.

Episode Seven: “The Found Orphan”

Zoe, losing both of her parents and becoming an orphan; she learns to survive by selling herself to men (and women) around Tychia. Zoe gives birth in the House of Themis. Iason convinces Themis to run away to Athens with him where they can live happily together. Efimia discovers that her best friend, Zela, is a minor goddess (Nike) by spying on her. Alec contemplates if he should go to the Olympics since he is now the man of the family. Zoe dies during childbirth.



The Goddess Nike

Episode Eight: “The House of Maia”

We see Themis and Iason when they first meet and fall in love. The family deals with Themis disappearing and leaving them, Alec is enraged. Maia takes care of the newborn baby. Calisto finds out that Ollo is the god Apollo. Iason dies, which prompts a depressed Themis to head home. Effy confronts Zela (Nike).

The season ends with Themis begging for Maia to take him back. He is on his knees on the front porch begging. It ends with a cliffhanger we do not know if Maia takes him back, but we now see that Maia is the head of the household, Themis has lost the love of his life and his power.



IDEAS FOR FUTURE SEASONS

- I. Calisto and Leto become friends, but they obviously have a romantic tension which will pay off around season three
- II. Maia is reunited with Calisto's birth father, who she thought was dead because he was a lost soldier
- III. In the second season, Calisto will have a romance with the older gentleman from the upper level which she is advised to do by Leto. The older gentleman ends up being Zeus and evidently Calisto gets pregnant from him. After learning about the child, he vanishes. This whole situation prompts Hera to release a wrath onto Calisto and the rest of the family.
- IV. Effy, after learning that Zela is the goddess Nike, decides to spy on her and finds out that everything she knew about her best friend was a lie
- V. Maia decides to try a little of what Themis has done for the past 20 years, she goes to a female gym and converses with other women. She finds her way to a sexual underground club and begins an affair with a handsome younger man.
- VI. Effy realizes that she likes women and in later seasons Zela falls in love with her
- VII. The baby will be named Kara and will grow up to be the most normal of the children
- VIII. Effy will begin to experiment with her powers that she has from being the daughter of Athena. She uses her voice and her intelligence to become Greece's strongest hero.
- IX. Alec will soon realize his craving for power which will become more apparent through his time in war.
- X. Calisto's birth father returns to Tychia and starts an affair with Maia, later she leaves Themis to be with him.
- XI. I think it would be interesting for the last season to show all the children in the future:
 - a. Calisto would be married to Leto with a large family including her first child, Aeneus, which would be a demi-god and the beginning bloodline of the founders of Rome. She would also become the inherent mother of Kara after the death of Themis and Maia.
 - b. Effy with the help of Athena and Nike becomes the first woman in assembly and then becomes the leader of the assembly bringing much peace and prosperity to Tychia.

- c. Alec will become a “lost soldier”, but we know he is not lost but on a journey like Odysseus trying to get home. Before he can find his way home, he takes over a small city-state and creates an empire from it. He comes in confrontation with his sister when he plans to conquer his home state. She refuses to yield to him. This feud prompts the entirety of the conflict throughout last season.

ADDITIONAL CONCEPT NOTES

The story is based in a fictional world and would best be told with a diverse cast although it may not be completely historically accurate. The success of this concept can be seen in the show *Bridgerton* on Netflix. Like *Bridgerton*, *Tychia: A City-State of Panic* appeals to a more feminine demographic and invites the viewer into a modern twist on historical fiction. *Tychia: A City-State of Panic* should be more about the family drama and Greek mythology than the little historical nuances.

Regarding the Greek gods and goddesses, the design elements for them are endless. It should be fun and mystical while staying relatively real. Each god should reflect their characteristics on the outside. They are what bring the added twist and excitement to the story unlike any show I have seen on streaming or television.