

Armchair Adventures: A Join-in Story Podcast For Kids

A Greek God's Olympic Adventure!

Connie: Welcome to the Armchair Adventures Travel Agency, journeys of the imagination. I'm Head Travel Agent and Host, Connie!

[Music: Armchair Adventures theme.](#)

Connie: Good morning, good afternoon, or good evening, wherever you're listening from, adventurers! And a big shout-out to Skyler and her little sister Millie, our latest fan club members on Patreon. I hope you're ready for an Adventure! The voices of today's join-in-at-home Adventurers are...

The Adventurers say their names

Connie: Hi, everyone!

Adventurers: Hi, Connie!

Connie: You can be a fan club member too! All you need to do is ask your grown-up if you can join the 'Armchair Adventures Fan Club' on Patreon. Head to [patreon.com](https://www.patreon.com/armchairadventures) and search 'Armchair Adventures' for more info.

Scene 1

Connie: Hello, adventurers! I'm playing Hera, Queen of the Gods, in my school play about ancient Greece. My Uncle Chris runs a community theatre company, so he's brought his costume bag to help kit me out for it.

SFX Uncle Chris unzipping the costume bag.

Unc. Chris: Hi adventurers! I know the Hera costume is in here somewhere, Connie! Bear with me!

SFX Uncle Chris sorting through costumes.

Connie: The thing is, I'm not sure I want to do it anymore.

Unc. Chris: (still rummaging) Why not Connie?

Connie: I don't do well under pressure, and I've been freezing up in rehearsals. Going completely blank.

Unc. Chris: Don't worry about that, Connie, you'll be alright on the night. I've been acting for years, and you're my niece! Acting is in our blood.

Connie: I'm not sure, Uncle Chris... hang on, what's that belt you've got on?

SFX A gleaming belt.

Unc. Chris: Oh, this is Aphrodite's belt. Aphrodite was the Goddess of love, and this belt has the power to charm anyone! I found it while I was digging around for your Hera outfit in my giant costume bag, and I fancied trying it on! It makes me feel really powerful! Adventurers, can you pretend to be a mighty Greek God or Goddess with me?

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: I'm so powerful, nobody messes with me!

Adventurer: Make statues of me because I'm the best there is.

Adventurer: Bow down to me or go to Hades.

Adventurer: My clothes are made of pure gold!

Connie: Great impressions, adventurers.

SFX big dress being pulled out of the bag. The sound of the heavy fabric.

Unc. Chris: Oh, here's the Hera costume! Connie, catch!

SFX throwing and the costume flying throw the air.

Connie trying to catch the costume

SFX The costume landing on Connie and her falling over under it with a thud.

Connie: Whoa! Eeeek! That was a terrible throw, I couldn't catch that! The costume's knocked me over!

Unc. Chris: Whoops! Sorry Connie. Well, I did come last in the javelin contest at school!

Connie: This *is* a lovely costume...buuuuut... I'm playing Hera, *Queen of the Gods*. I don't think I'll do it justice. Even just looking at this costume, feels like too much pressure. Thanks for bringing all this stuff over, Uncle Chris, but I think it's best I tell Miss I'm not going to do it.

Unc. Chris: I definitely believe you can do it, though Connie. Maybe an adventure would help you believe that, too.

Connie: What did you have in mind, Uncle Chris?

Unc. Chris: Well, if you're worrying about getting the part right, why don't we adventure to ancient Greece and meet Hera and the Gods themselves!

Connie: That does sound like fun! Ok, let's do this, Uncle Chris!

Unc. Chris: Then it's time to get my Community Theatre Company on the line and get to ancient Greece on the double!

Because with an armchair adventure, we can go anywhere we like from the comfort of where we are right now! So, they're perfect for everyone. No matter what age you are...

Connie: Start call now!

SFX phone ringing.

Unc. Chris/Connie: Hi Everyone.

Com theatre say hello

Chris: Are we off adventuring, Uncle Chris?

Unc. Chris: We sure are, Chris!

Connie: I'm playing Hera in my school play about ancient Greece, but I've been freezing under pressure in rehearsals and thinking of quitting.

Katie: We've all felt like that, Connie, but it gets easier.

Com Theatre agree!

Unc. Chris: So, we're off to ancient Greece to meet the gods themselves to see if it will help Connie out!

Roz: Wow! Are we going to Mount Olympus?

Unc. Chris: We sure are! It's the home of the gods, after all!

John: I wonder what Zeus, king of the Gods, is like in real life.

Ushiku: The birthplace of theatre, how exciting.

Connie: Thanks for coming along, everyone! A journey of the imagination, here we come!

Everyone cheers

Scene 2

Music: Short Armchair Adventures theme.

SFX Mount Olympus atmosphere. Harps playing, waterfalls lapping. The sound of the breeze in a wind chime. This underscores the following dialogue until we open the doors and the argument takes over.

Unc. Chris: Welcome, everybody, to Mount Olympus, ancient Greece!
Roz: Wow, we're so high in the sky...
Ann: You can see all of Greece from here.
Louise: You can tell Gods live here, there's loads of fresh food everywhere.
Gary: Harps that play themselves.
Jonathan: Waterfalls raining down to the earth below.
Connie: It's so grand here; everything looks like it's made of gold and white marble! What can you see in the home of the Gods Adventurers?

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: Wow, there are loads of marble statues!
Adventurer: Piles of grapes and nice foods.
Adventurer: The Gods eat well!
Adventurer: They've even got rainbow unicorns.
Adventurer: So cool!
Unc. Chris: But where are Hera and Zeus? King and Queen of the Gods? It's their house after all...
Connie: Well, I can hear voices coming from behind that big gold door.

SFX muffled arguing Gods underscoring this exchange.

John: It sounds like an argument to me...
Dan: Maybe we should come back later...
Unc. Chris: Oh no, I'm sure it's fine. I bet Gods just have really loud voices. Let's go in!
Kim: I don't think that's a good idea Uncle...

SFX big gold door thrown open the argument is suddenly in full volume.

Hera: Zeus! You care more about the lives of mortals than life here on Olympus!
Zeus: That's not true, Hera...I play the harp with you...sometimes...
Hera: Ha, what a joke! You've just spent 10 years messing about with the Trojan War! And missed my birthday on every one of them.
Zeus: Oh well...I...

Hera: Not to mention leaving all the lawmaking and rules for me to sort out. I've even had to prepare absolutely everything for the Olympics today! Oh you, Zeus are a terrible partner, a lazy, lightning-filled oaf!

Unc. Chris: Hiyaaaaaa, sorry to interrupt, but we're here from Earth and we'd love to ask you some questions.

Zeus: Mortals, trespassing in the home of the Gods! How dare you!

SFX a crack of lightning.

Com theatre react scared

Unc. Chris: Whoops, ever so sorry, it's just that my niece Connie here...

Zeus: And how much of my private conversation did you just hear...

Chris: Mostly, just all the stuff about what a rubbish husband you are...mostly...

Zeus: Then, even more how dare you! I shall vaporise you all with lightning where you stand!

SFX a crack of lightning, followed by loads of arrows of lightning flashing as if he's throwing them.

Chris: He's throwing lightning bolts at us! Argghh!

Habib: Dodge them, everyone!

Com theatre dodging.

Unc. Chris: Dodge the lightning Bolts with us, Adventurers!

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: One has just melted my trainers!

Adventurer: You can't catch me!

Adventurer: Stop zapping me!

Roz: Please, Zeus, let us explain!

Gary: Stop it!

John: We're just here to help Connie with her play at school.

Katie: She's been getting terrible stage fright.

Unc. Chris: Please, your most mightiness, stop trying to vaporise us!

Com theatre all plead.

Hera: Enough Zeus!

SFX the lightning abruptly stops at her command.

Hera: There's a much better way to settle this. Zeus, you love a tale about mortals, and it's time for the Olympics celebration. Why not challenge them to a special event? Gods vs Mortals!

Zeus: Yes, excellent. If you win all four events, you may leave! But if you lose just one to the Gods...it's frying time!

SFX lightning bolt.

Hera: Not quite the wager I had in mind...but it does add a bit of fun! What do you say, mortals? Up to the task?

Unc. Chris: Well, I guess we don't have a choice...

Zeus: Well that's settled it then! An Olympic games to the death! Zeus out!

SFX a clap of thunder and lightning to mark his exit.

Jonathan: I'm not sure how we can win four in a row, everyone.

Habib: The Gods are very powerful...

Julia: We'll just have to do our best.

Connie: I was worrying about doing a school play, and this adventure was supposed to help. But now this feels like the most pressure ever! I'll definitely freeze up, like I do in rehearsals. I just know it.

Dan: We're all here with you, Connie, we'll figure it out.

Unc. Chris: Or my name's not Uncle Chris!

Com theatre reassure

Hera: Psst, you lot, stop worrying, will you? I shall use my powers to help you win, I'm Hera, Queen of the Gods, remember? Let's see how much he likes mortals when they beat him at his own games! Ha! Now, shall we? Down to Olympia, the home of the games!

SFX magical sounds as they are transported to the Olympic stadium.

Scene three

SFX a huge crowd, a stadium atmosphere. People chanting. Music in the background.

Connie: This stadium is huge, so many people everywhere, Mount Olympus towering over us...

Unc. Chris: The Olympics were a big deal in Ancient Greece. It was a religious festival where thousands of people from across the country would gather to watch.

Ushiku: They were made to honour Zeus.

Chris: No wonder he loves them then!

Kim: Look at that massive statue of him.

Com Theatre react. What a big head etc.

John: But unlike the Olympics in our time, there were only four or five events.

Jonathan: And if you won one of them, you became super famous.

Julia: Quiet everyone, Zeus is announcing the events.

Zeus: Loyal subjects of ancient Greece, today you will witness something incredible! I, Zeus, and the Gods you worship shall compete against these mortals in the four events of the Olympic games!

SFX fanfare and roaring of the crowd.

Connie: Eek! There are about 50 thousand people here. I'm so nervous...

Zeus: These weak mortals shall go against Athena in the Pankration!

SFX a cheer from the crowd.

Chris: Pank what?

John: That's like wrestling and boxing combined...

Chris: Oh cool.

Zeus: Chariot racing versus my brother Hades.

SFX Hades evil laugh followed by a cheer.

Gary: Oh no, he's God of the underworld...very scary.

Zeus: Test their might against Poseidon in the Pentathlon.

SFX 'that's me baby!' a wave crashing followed by a cheer.

Chris: That's five events against the God of the sea!

Katie: Babsy, not me...

Zeus: And if by some miracle they make it that far...they shall face me in the holiest of events, the Stadion!

SFX the crowd goes wild.

Connie: What's the Stadion, Uncle Chris?

Unc. Chris: It's like the 200 hundred meters back in our time, Connie.

Jonathan: And in the ancient Greek Olympics, people thought winning it made you a favourite of the Gods.

Dan: You'd be famous for years if you won!

Connie: Which Ancient Olympic event would you like to do adventurers?

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: I'd do the chariot racing, because I'm dead good at driving games.

Adventurer: I'm the fastest in my school, so I'm doing the Stadion.

Adventurer: I'd pick the javelin because I'm really good at throwing.

Adventurer: I'd do the boxing and wrestling because I'm super strong.

Adventurer: Ugh, this feels too much like sports day for me!

Zeus: Are you ready to be entertained? Then let's see how these mortals do in the Pankration! To the ring!

SFX Huge cheer from the crowd.

promo swap

Connie: While we make our way to the wrestling ring, let's pause our journey of the imagination and hear about another podcast I think you might like.

SFX Ad plays.

Connie: Let's get back to our journey of the imagination and our first event!

promo swap ends

Scene four

SFX atmosphere of a wrestling match, crowd chanting etc.

Unc. Chris: Sheesh, that ring is really small...only about 3 and a half meters each side...

Chris: That'll be some close quarters boxing and wrestling!

Roz: And it's just a stone floor...

Gary: Don't fancy getting slammed down onto that!

Roz: Ouch!

Com Theatre agree.

Connie: A huge jeering crowd and a tiny ring...that's so much pressure.

Zeus: Facing the mortals in the Pankration is my daughter Athena! Goddess of war and wisdom! (aside) Good luck, mortals ha!

SFX entrance music.

Connie: Wow, she's huge...look at her golden armour.

Unc. Chris: Is she floating into the ring on an owl?!

John: Yes, that's her symbol Uncle Chris, the owl of wisdom!

SFX owl wings beating and Athena landing on the ground.

Athena: I am the mighty Athena! Born from an axe wound in Zeus's head, a fully formed Goddess! I won many wars and even turned Medusa into a snake-headed monster! You mortals are no match for me! Have at you!

SFX the crowd cheer.

Zeus: And which mortal shall be smashed into dust by my daughter?

Unc. Chris: Now's your chance to face your fears, Connie. Get in there!

Connie: Err.

John: Connie, are you alright?

Connie: I...I...

Katie: Oh dear, she's got stage fright!

Zeus: Ha! Giving up already, are you! Well that was easy...

Chris: No we are not Zeusy! I, Chris the 'Manchester Matchstick', will take you down Athena! Cue my music!

SFX Chris intro music.

Chris: I'm a black belt in Karate where I come from! So, you're no match for me!

SFX a karate kick, and a cheer from the crowd.

Connie: Thanks so much for going in for me Chris. The pressure got to me, I completely froze!

Chris: Don't worry, Connie, you can do the next event! Here goes nothing...

Zeus: Mortal ready, Goddess ready, FIGHT!

SFX feet scuffing around as Athena trash-talks in the ring. The crowd in the background enjoying the show.

Athena: Come at me, weak mortal, I'm waiting...

Chris: Ok then, take this...Manchester Matchstick punch!

SFX we hear Chris throw a punch and miss; there is a zipping noises as Athena easily dodges Chris's attack.

Athena: Ha, too slow. Try harder.

SFX a bonk on the head.

Chris: Ow! She hit me on the head!

SFX we hear Chris trying to get Athena with 'take this, come here! Etc.' and the sounds of Athena zipping round, laughing and bonking him on the head, underscoring the rest.

Connie: Oh no, she's running rings around him...

John: Poor Chris, he can't get a hit in.

Roz: She's so powerful...

Unc. Chris: Look, she's picking him up now! And spinning him round on her little finger!

Dan: Like a basketball!

SFX cartoon like spinning.

Chris: Arrrgh no fair, put me down! Everything's a blur! Pretend to be getting spun around by Athena with me, Adventurers!

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: Woahhhh I feel like my head's going to fly off!

Adventurer: Is this how clothes feel in the washing machine?!

Adventurer: I think I'm going to be sick....

Adventurer: Can you stop it please? It's too much!

Athena: And now it's time for a slam dunk! Take this...Chris!

SFX a big slam.

Chris: Ooooooh, me back!

Connie: Athena is just too fast. We have to help him out, everyone!

Ann: I wish we could turn her into stone,

Kim: That would slow her down...

John: Hera? Are you there? We need your help!

SFX A magical poof sound.

Hera: Oh sorry, I was having so much fun watching I forgot I said I'd help! Funny you mention turning her to stone, Medusa would have loved to get her own back by doing that...

Jonathan: Oh yes, one look at Medusa and you're a stone statue...

Katie: Her hair was made out of snakes!

Hera: (bitter) Too bad, one of Zeus's little mortal obsessions, Perseus, killed her in one of his stories...cut her head clean off.

Unc. Chris: Well, we sort of only need her head Hera...

Hera: Good thinking, I'm sure I'll have it in my handbag.

SFX Hera, rummaging in her handbag. The sounds of throwing things away she doesn't want.

Hera: No, that's my golden fleece...ornamental mini kraken...that won't do. My harp! How did that get in there?! Adventurers, can you see Medusa's head in my bag?

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: I can see it, it's right there at the bottom of your bag...

Adventurer: I can hear snakes hissing...

Adventurer: I don't want to touch it!

Hera: Ah ha, right you are, adventurers! It's there at the bottom.

SFX Hera picking up the head.

Hera: Here you go everyone! Medusa's head.

SFX snakes hissing.

Unc. Chris: Urgh, thanks...Chris, show her this, but don't look at it! Catch!

SFX Medusa's head flying through the air. Then a catch.

Chris: Got it! Hey, Athena, look here!

SFX hissing snakes.

Athena: Is that Medusa's head...oh no...I looked at it....

SFX Athena turning to stone.

Chris: Well, when push comes to shove, you lose Athena...

SFX Chris pushes her over, and we hear the stone Athena hit the floor with a thud!

Zeus: The Mortals have won?! HOW? Grrrr, right then, it's on to the chariot race, Hades! Get to the starting line! Now!

Scene five

SFX we hear the growling of a dog and it is pawing at the earth. The atmosphere of a race track.

Zeus: It's time for the Chariot race! First cart across the line shall be victorious! You shall face my rather creepy brother, Hades!

SFX Hades' intro music.

Hades: Nyessss, I am Hades! God of the underworld! When I win and you die, I shall capture you all there...and my trusty three-headed guard dog Cerberus will make sure you stay there...meh-ha ha ha ha haaaa!

SFX three barks one for each head.

With him pulling my Chariot, there is no way you will win me in this race!

SFX the crowd cheers.

Louise: That Hades is a bit scary.

Dan: Why is he all grey?

Unc. Chris: It's because he's the God of the underworld. That's where ancient Greeks believed people went when they die. There's no colour there at all, even the flowers are grey.

Com theatre reacts. Sounds horrible, etc.

Zeus: And which mortal shall face him and his mighty dog?
Connie: I'd like to try again, everyone, if that's ok.
Louise: As long as you're sure, Connie?
Connie: Yes, I'm sure, Louise. If I want to do this play, I need to try and step up.
Me...errrm corn-ie, no sorry Connie, I'm Connie...errm

SFX the crowd start to boo.

Katie: Oh no, she's freezing up again...
Roz: That's ok, I'll step in, I know what it can be like when you get nervous... Don't worry, Connie, I'll sort this one.
Connie: Oh, thank you, Roz. I'm sorry the pressure got me again.

SFX music for Roz intro.

Roz: I 'Rapid Roz' shall take on Hades! I'm the speediest driver on the planet, and I'll take this chariot race, no problem!

SFX cheers from the crowd.

Zeus: How confident you are, foolish mortal. Oh, did I mention... your chariot will be pulled by a donkey! Ha ha ha!

SFX donkey bray.

Connie: A donkey! How will Roz ever win now?
Zeus: On your marks, get set, race!

SFX a gong, followed by the pounding of dogs' feet, panting and wheels spinning as they shoot away. The crowd in the background.

Hades: Ny-he he he he! You are no match for us...eat our grey dust, fools!
Roz: Oh no, he's getting away...and this Donkey won't move...come on, little donkey...come on...please!

SFX donkey snorting and doing a bray.

Connie: Can you help us get the donkey going, adventurers?

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: Come on, donkey... there's loads of carrots at the end!
Adventurer: Why are you being so grumpy?

Adventurer: Come on, little donkey, it's not that far!

Adventurer: Go, donkey, go! Oh, it's not going.

Connie: Thanks for trying adventurers...

Ann: That donkey isn't going anywhere...

Habib: And Hades is storming ahead...

John: Well, if we don't think of something, we're for it!

Connie: Hera? Are you there? Help!

SFX magical sounds of Hera appearing.

Hera: You called?

Connie: Zeus gave us a donkey to race with, and it won't budge!

Louise: And Hades is winning!

Gary: We need to catch up!

Hades: (in the distance) Ne he he he he!

Hera: What a rotten sport he is...not to worry, we Gods all have animal symbols and mine is a magical and super speedy peacock, he will take the reins and catch that grey fool in no time. Donkey to peacock!

SFX transformation sounds.

Hera: Now, off you go!

SFX the peacock zooming speed like Road Runner.

Roz: Wow, this Peacock is so fast!! I feel like I'm gliding through the air!

Adventurers, pretend to ride in the peacock chariot with me.

SFX Ding.

Adventurer: Whoa! This is so fast!

Adventurer: Wow, the colourful feathers are making a trail of light behind us.

Adventurer: We're going so fast, but the ride is smooth!

Adventurer: Feels like my hairs going to fly off.

Adventurer: This peacock is amazing!

Connie: Your peacock is awesome, Hera! Roz is flying ahead, she's zoomed past Hades already!

Hades: How is this possible? Nooooooooo!

Unc. Chris: She's about to cross the finish line! ... She's won!

Com theatre cheer!

SFX the crowd goes wild.

Hera: (to herself) Ha, take that, Zeus, mortals beating you again... how do you like them now?

Scene six

SFX the sound of the stadium in the distance.

Zeus: What! The mortals have won? I said a donkey, not a shapeshifter! They should all be dead by now! (realising) Oh, wait a minute...Hera...your mascot is a peacock...have you been helping the mortals...

Hera: (caught out) How dare you? Of course not!

SFX rageful lighting flashes.

Zeus: A likely story, I shall be keeping a close eye on you during this next event!

Hera: Do what you like...

Kim: Oh no, she won't be able to help us out now, Zeus is suspicious...

Habib: We'll need the best person for the job in the next event.

Connie: That's ever so much pressure...

Zeus: You mortals will now face Poseidon, God of the sea, in the pentathlon! There are usually five sports in this event, but we won't need all those to beat you. Therefore, we will only be competing in Poseidon's best category, the javelin! Good luck throwing against him and his mighty trident, he's had years of practice throwing that thing around!

SFX dun dun dun.

Katie: That's not very fair...

Dan: You can't change the events last minute...

Com theatre agree!

Zeus: Have you forgotten that I am the GOD OF GODS! I can do whatever I like!

SFX a crack of lightning.

Customers a bit scared

Zeus: Now, which of you puny mortals shall take him on?

Dan: How are you feeling about the javelin, Connie?

Connie: Honestly? Not great...But I need to overcome this...

Zeus: Hurry up! I hate waiting...you've got until I count to three or it's over! You're dead! Finished! Finito! Done for!

Hera: Alright, Zeus, we get the picture...

Zeus: One...

Connie: Oh, I don't know, I'm not so good at the javelin.

Gary: She's getting in her head again.

Zeus: Two...

Connie: What if I let you all down again? You've all been so great.

Katie: Come on Connie you can do this...

Zeus: Three...

Connie: But what if I freeze again...

Zeus: Times up...time to die...

Unc. Chris: You take that back!

SFX fanfare.

Unc. Chris: I, Uncle Chris, will take this challenge!

Zeus: Very well! Go and prepare...and while you're at it, prepare to lose! Zeus out!

SFX a thunderclap and a puff of smoke to mark his exit.

Connie: Oh, I'm so sorry, Uncle Chris, I didn't realise how long I had spent worrying, he counted to three before I knew it.

Unc. Chris: No problem, Connie, we've always got your back, haven't we, everyone?

Com theatre - of course we have etc.

Unc. Chris: You just keep trying your best.

Connie: But hang on, didn't you say you lost the Javelin event at school, Uncle Chris?

Hera: And with him watching me, I won't be able to help you out.

Unc. Chris: Hera, Connie... *honestly*, it's fine. I won't let that hold me back.

Connie: I wish I had your confidence...

Unc.. Chris: Right, better sort my kit! Sweat bands, check, bouncy shoes, check. Athletes belt...hmmm not check...be right back, everyone! I need to see a God about a belt.

John: You can't just leave Uncle Chris!

Julia: You're up soon!

Unc. Chris: I'll be back in time, don't worry!

Connie: Will Uncle Chris be able to save us in the javelin without Heras' help? I hope he can come through, or it might be the end for us Adventurers! Join us for part two and see if we can beat Poseidon and hold onto our lives! Until next time...

[Music: Armchair Adventures theme](#)

Credits: Armchair Adventures is a Made by Mortals Production.