

Libuše, a character that leads us through the plot and announces every scene and what happens in that scene walks onto the stage. She introduces herself to the audience and walks to the desk where she finds a laptop and a glass of juice.

LIBUŠE: Hi people! I'm Libuše. People often ask me: "Are you Krok's little girl?" And I answer: "Yes, he's my old man." And I've got this amazing ability (points at laptop): I can see far in the past, and even further in the future. And when I see where this world is going, I feel like giving up on this power. Considering the things that are happening nowadays, this future is approaching us fast. Have you heard what happened in the Czech Republic? Here come boys and girls to tell you about it themselves.

1st SCENE (the Czech Republic)
(3 boys and 3 girls walk onto the stage)

BOY No1: What's up babe? What's that duckface image on your profile picture?

ŠARKA: My profile picture is better than your girlfriend's. Oh, wait, you don't have a girlfriend. (giggling)

VLASTA: Anyway, who would want him lookin' like that? (*laughs mockingly*)

BOY No2: What are you talkin' about? He can have any girl he wants. And how many guys have you had? (*asks while looking at Šarka*)

ŠARKA: That's none of your business.

BOY No3: So, none.

(*boys are laughing, Šarka is embarrassed and bows her head*)

GIRL No3: Why are you listening to him at all? We all know he's just a...

VLASTA: (*interrupts the girl*) ...fool. (*knocks the BOY No1 on the head*)

ŠARKA: But I like that fool. (*flicks her fingers*)

BOY No1: Sorry babe, I was just kidding. You're okay. (*touches her shoulder and winks*)

ŠARKA: Hahaha, I can't believe you fell for that. (*claps several times*)

(*boys and girls are leaving, but only BOY No1 and ŠARKA stay*)

BOY No1: So, maybe we could grab a coffee once?

ŠARKA: Are you asking me out?

BOY No1: Not like a date, just hanging out, you know.

ŠARKA: Oh, too bad, I thought you like me. (*bows her head*)

BOY No1: (*speaks like he wants to apologize*) It's not that I don't like you, it's just...

ŠARKA: (*interrupts him*) Oh please, you're acting like a girl, I'm just kidding you. Let's grab a coffee, I'm buyin'. (*leaving the stage*)

LIBUŠE: *(sitting on a chair with a laptop in her lap)* I'm just reading news from Croatia. The Croatians are celebrating the Independence day, the day they became a free, independent nation. Can you imagine how valuable it is to a person?!

2nd SCENE (Croatia)

(2 veterans meet on the stage, Ilija and Jože. Ilija is dragging his leg because he got shot in the leg during war. The scene takes place on a square in one Croatian city. Not far from them is a cafe called BALTAZAR)

JOŽE: Ilija, is that you?

ILIJAJA: Am I seeing who I think am seeing? Are my eyes deceiving me?

JOŽE: Ilija, my good old friend. I haven't seen you in years! *(they hug)*

ILIJAJA: Where are you going wearing those army clothes?

JOŽE: I was at church, there was a mass to celebrate the Independence Day. Where have you been?

ILIJAJA: At the Independence Day ceremony. Do you have some time? Let's go to that cafe and have something to drink.

JOŽE: I'm not really in for coffee, I'll have some good wine.

ILIJAJA: Oh Jože! You haven't changed a bit. You can't go without some wine.

(they enter BALTAZAR cafe, sit at the table, order drinks and coffee and get served)

ILIJAJA: How's life been treating you? How are your wife and children?

JOŽE: I'm getting old, my friend...My wife is fine and the kids are growing up...asking for more and more. I can't pay for everything they need with one pension.

ILIJAJA: We shouldn't be unsatisfied despite the crisis. My pension feeds me and my wife.

JOŽE: It might be better if I had no problem with this leg.

ILIJAJA: You should be glad that you're alive. Do you remember what it was like when you got wounded in the war? How I dragged you to the car...and then through the woods...to the hospital... You were lucky.

JOŽE: Yes, yes... I remember everything like it was yesterday. We were ready to give our lives for freedom.

ILIJAJA: Well, it's all behind us now. It's nice to be alive and free. It's good that I ran into you. Are you farming that land and those vineyards of yours?

JOŽE: No, my friend. Everything is covered in weeds. The two of us could redo it and then we would have wine to drink and to sell. That's a great idea.

(Ilija's phone rings, he answers it)

ILIJAJA: Hello! Oh, it's you? ...I'm not at the doctor's, but at BALTAZAR's. Guess who I ran into, you won't believe this – Jože... Yeah, yeah... Okay, okay...

(speaks to Jože)

Listen, my wife invited you over to have lunch with us. She has just finished cooking.

(Jože hesitates, but accepts)

Then, let's go. We can discuss the vineyards in peace, then ask for subvention and roll up our sleeves...

(they pay for their drinks and leave the stage talking)

LIBUŠE: *(browsing the net)* And now let me see the latest news. What a scandal in Turkey! *(reads)* Imagine! One twenty-year-old man named Delu Dumrul was earning money by charging the visitors admission to enter the old town. But "What goes around, comes around" is not said in vain - the newspaper said. After discovering the fraud, an unidentified group of young men beat him up.

3rd SCENE (TURKEY)

on stage: Delu Dumrul, Azrail, the Dumrul's father, mother and a girlfriend

(the walls of the old town can be seen in the background)

DELU DUMRUL: *(looks at the bruise on his eye in the mirror)* Oh mirror, mirror, my eye is blue-purplish color.

AZRAIL: Well, my friend, I told you not to do that. You are paid too well for greeting two or three tourists who come to see the remains of the old city.

DELU DUMRUL: When they come on a tour of the old town, then there are two or three of them. Yesterday when they came to beat me up, there were six of them.

AZRAIL: You were lucky. But how will you go to work with that black eye?

DELOS DUMRUL: Don't ask. Don't know.

(Delu Dumrul walks to his father)

DELU DUMRUL: Hey paps, I need a favor.

FATHER: I don't have any money.

DELU DUMRUL: It's not about that. Tomorrow someone needs to give a tour of the old town, and I, with this bruise, am not the prettiest sight.

FATHER: And you think that I can do your work and mine?

DELU DUMRUL: Don't blame me for asking.

FATHER: I am not, but ask someone else.

(Delu Dumrul goes to his mother)

MOTHER: *(gets scared by Delu Dumrul)* Dear Allah, you scare me every time I see you. *(takes a closer look at the bruise)*

DELU DUMRUL: Yap, yap, my eye will change all the rainbow colours till it's gone. I wanted to ask you something.

MOTHER: I don't have any money.

DELU DUMRUL: It's not about that. Tomorrow someone has to welcome the tourists and give them a tour of the old town, and I can't go with this bruise, I'll scare them off.

MOTHER: You realize that I have to go to work tomorrow?

DELU DUMRUL: Interesting. Whenever I want some privacy, you're home, and when I need a favor, you're not.

MOTHER: You have a girlfriend, right?

(Delu Dumrul goes to his girlfriend)

DELU DUMRUL: Babe, you're my last hope. If tomorrow someone doesn't replace me, I'll lose my job.

GIRLFRIEND: Oh my love, you should've thought about that sooner.

DELU DUMRUL: So, you won't help me.

GIRLFRIEND: Oh okay, I will. But if I get beaten too, it'll be your fault.

DELU DUMRUL: Yeeeeeey! I have the best girl ever!

(they hug)

GIRLFRIEND: *(towards the audience)* And what should I do with him?

(leaves the stage)

DELU DUMRUL: *(towards the audience)* However, when this bruise is gone, I should find a real job.

(leaves the stage)

LIBUȘE: (drinks some juice and browses the net again) What do we have here? In Bacau in Romania, the traditional festival is to begin to celebrate the Day of the city. Although it has been famous for a long while, this year will be specially marked with a wide selection of drinks and food. Mayor Dracula will open the celebration. So let's see what it's going to be like.

4th SCENE (Romania)

(takes place on the main square, on the stage there are: Dracula, a girl, a young man, 2 thieves, 2 police officers and a few citizens)

(on the opening Dracula first gives a toast)

DRACULA: Listen, folks! I have arranged free food and drinks for this festival again this year because our city is rich and you deserve it. Let's all make a toast to this important day! Cheers! *(everyone raises their glasses and the party continues)*

(There comes a young man with a bicycle and parks it on the side. He approaches one girl and they visit the stalls. After that, they come forward on the stage, closer to the audience)

YOUNG MAN: Have you ever been on those wine, cheese and dried food products tastings? I end up with my stomach full every year.

GIRL: You mean you walk from a stall to stall and eat everything that they offer?

(laughs)

YOUNG MAN: Let me take a picture of you! *(tries to take a photo of her)*

GIRL: No, my hair's a mess!

(While they're talking, a thief comes along and steals the bike. Two citizens notice that and point at the thief, whispering something. The young man also notices that his bike is gone.)

YOUNG MAN: Where's my bicycle? Who took it?

GIRL: Let's report this to Dracula.

(they complain about the theft to Dracula)

DRACULA: Citizens, listen to me! There's been a theft, someone stole this young man's bicycle! Whoever saw anything, may come here and report it!

(two citizens approach Dracula and tell what they had seen)

DRACULA: (addresses the officers) Now bring me that geek who dares to steal before my very eyes.

(police officers leave and soon come back with two thieves)

THIEF: I didn't want to steal it. He put me up to it. He had promised to give me a cell-phone if I stole that bike and took it to him.

DRACULA: "The thief is also the one holding the ladder." – the proverb says. Take them both to jail!

(police officers take them to jail and others are leaving)

LIBUŠE: *(sitting and browsing the net) I've got a mail, I've got a message from a friend. So let's see what it says. "This is a story about the wisdom of the Greek gods, the skill and confidence needed to achieve each goal. Send this email to 20 friends, but do not interrupt the chain. Send me back if you like me. "*

5th SCENE (Greece)

(coming to the stage: Zeus carries his throne – the chair and sets it in the middle, Mars, Aphrodite, Athena, Poseidon and some other gods...)

ZEUS: People, at the today's session of Parliament we will finally name that village.

MARS: Well, it's about time.

APHRODITE: And how will we choose the name?

GODS: *(talking to each other)* We have no idea!

ZEUS: Well, here's the idea. Two Gods will draw on their desks. The one who makes a better drawing will name the village.

GODS: Good idea. Who's going to draw?

ZEUS: Let it be Athena and Poseidon. They draw the best, it'll be interesting to watch them.

(Gods prepar chart paper on two desks. As they draw, other gods walk and observe. Poseidon shows a drawing of a horse.)

GODS: *(shouting)* Squirrel! Dragon! Polar bear!

POSEIDON: *(rolls his eyes offended)*

(then Athens shows her drawing)

GODS: Plum! Nut! Cherry!

proverb GODS: Olive Oil!

ATHENS: *(nods and circles the tree)*

GODS: Olive tree!

ATHENS: *(smiles and puts both hands in the air)* Victooooory!

ZEUS: Well done kid, you chose well. Olive tree will be a symbol of wisdom and victory of life. Therefore, the village will be named after you. We will call it Athens!

(the villagers enter the stage celebrating and singing a song about life and love)

6th

LIBUŠE: All these stories carry their messages. We no longer have to bother with the past events. The future has already begun, and as for the past ... we're not heading in that direction anyway.

(all actors come to the stage to greet the audience)