

GREAT MOMENTS IN HISTORY

THE GREAT FISH OF GIZA

THEME UP & UNDER

1 ANNC:           The One Act Players present: Great Moments in History!

THEME OUT

2 ANNC:           Egypt: 2516 BC

3 FX:             Large crowd making anticipatory noises

4 PRIEST:         Behold the Great Pyramid of Tootenhotep!

5 FX:             Enormous canvas screen falls; Gasps of horror, suprise, astonishment

6 PHAROAH:       (echoing) That's not a pyramid! That's not a pyramid! Priest, where is my pyramid? etc.

7 FX:             Uproar

8 PRIEST:         Your Highestness, please, you disturb your people.

9 PHAROAH:       They are right to be disturbed! We were all expecting a pyramid but this ... this ...

10 PRIEST:        Actually, Your Most Excellent Hugeness, according to the the royal decree, you ordered ...

11 FX:             "Clapper" claps; Scroll rustles.

12 FLUNKY:        (reading) "A tomb unlike any that has gone before."

13 PHAROAH:       Yes, bigger. I wanted it bigger!

14 PRIEST:        And you insisted we hire Picasso to do it.

15 PHAROAH:       Yes.

(BEAT)

16 PRIEST:        A painter.

17 FLUNKY:        He's not just a painter.

(CONTINUED)

18 PRIEST: Shut up.

19 PHAROAH: Well he was available and what were the chances of that?

20 PRIEST: Almost zero.

21 FLUNKY: Almost what?

22 PHAROAH: Exactly. Ordained by the Gods I say. And I told him, I distinctly remember, I said, "Picasso make it bigger!"

23 PRIEST: Well, it is big.

24 PHAROAH: It's not that big. Not as big as Daddy's.

25 PRIEST: I believe it is, Your Spaciousness.

26 PHAROAH: No, it's not.

27 PRIEST: Well maybe not from here. But from down there, where the masses are, I assure you it looks far bigger than dad-- your father's.

28 PHAROAH: Really?

29 PRIEST: Yes, yes. But let us focus on the main question, which is: Can you be buried in it?

30 PHAROAH: Hmm, it is bigger than me.

31 PRIEST: Quite a lot bigger, in fact.

32 PHAROAH: Even from up here.

33 PRIEST: What? Oh yes, quite.

34 PHAROAH: But it's not a pyramid. A pyramid's a ... a ... (snaps fingers!!)

35 FX: Scroll rustles

36 FLUNKY: (reads) A solid polyhedral edifice contained by a plane rectilinear polygonal base and several triangles whose faces form the sides and whose apexes share a common vertex.

37 PHAROAH: The pointy top!

38 FLUNKY: Yes, the pointy top.

39 PRIEST: No, no, All Most Sizeable One.  
Pyramid comes from the Latin *Piru*  
meaning "to encapsulate" and *Midiro*  
meaning "the glorious one".

40 PHAROAH: So what is this?!

41 FLUNKY: I think it looks like a fish.

42 PHAROAH: Ahhh ...

43 PRIEST: It is NOT a fish ...

44 PHAROAH: ... A Fish. Yes. A magnificent Fish  
o' the Desert. We shall pray to  
it!

45 PRIEST: Your Extraordinary Bigness --

46 PHAROAH: Priest, what be the great fish's  
name?

47 PRIEST: What?

48 PHAROAH: Surely so grand a fish as this has  
a name befitting its glory?

49 FX: (in background) Scroll rustling

50 PRIEST: Your Exhalted Highestness, I'm  
really not ...

51 FX: Rustling stops.

52 FLUNKY: Mona Lisa. Picasso said it was to  
be called Mona Lisa.

53 PRIEST: What's that supposed to mean?

54 FLUNKY: Well it's from the Latin ...

55 PRIEST: Oh don't you start.

56 PHAROAH: Mona Lisa. So let it be written!

57 FX: Staff strikes ground twice

58 FX: Very restless crowd

59 PRIEST: Your Loftiness, the people the grow  
restless. You must profess your  
satisfaction.

60 PHAROAH: Oh. Right.(coughs). Flunky, hand me  
the ... you know.

(CONTINUED)

61 FLUNKY: Oh. Are you sure?

62 FX: Metallic clunking.

63 PHAROAH: (boomy PA type voice). People of Egypt, before you stands the Great Fish of Toottenhotep.(normal voice) There. All done.

64 FX: Quietly restless crowd

65 PRIEST: (whispering) Is that it?

66 PHAROAH: Do I need to say more?

67 PRIEST: Well ...

68 PHAROAH: (boomy, PA) And I love it!

69 FX: Silence, followed by some "what?"s and rowdiness builds under

70 PRIEST: Perhaps Your Most Elevated Largeness could simply announce how it reflects the greatness of the Kingdom, how it builds a bridge to the future, how from this time forward prosperity will reign ..

71 PHAROAH: (boomy, PA) So very much that I will marry it!

72 FX: Silence the happy jubilation

73 PRIEST: What? No! You can't ...

74 PHAROAH: Daddy always said, "If you like it so much, why don't you marry it?"

75 PRIEST: He was being ...

76 PHAROAH: (boomy, PA) Behold: Queen Mona Lisa!

77 FX: Continued adulation

78 ANNC: And so in the year 2516 BC King Toottenhotep married Queen Mona Lisa

79 PERSON: (yelling) I like how you can't tell what the fish is thinking.

80 PERSON 2: (yelling) Yeah, sorta sphynx-like ain't it?

One Act Audio Theatre

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81 ANNC: Tune in again for another: Great  
Moment in History!

THEME UP

END CREDITS