

“Forum” Audition Scene #10: Miles Gloriosus and Pseudolus

*(As Roman captain Miles Gloriosus arrives to claim his bride, Pseudolus masquerades as Marcus Lycus to stall the captain, so Hero and Philia can escape.)*

Pseudolus *(Saluting)*: Hail, Miles Gloriosus!

Miles: You are?

Pseudolus: Marcus Lycus, sir. I am dazzled by your presence.

Miles: Everyone is.

Ps *(Indicating Senex’s house)*: Welcome to my house, great captain. Your bride waits you.

MG: My bride!

Ps *(With great fanfare)*: Present the bride! Pay homage all! Here, in one being is Juno, Diana, and Venus.

*(All kneel)*

Present the bride!

*(Pseudolus and Miles Gloriosus wait uncomfortably and impatiently for a bride who does not arrive)*

Ps *(Rises)*: Captain, forgive the girl. She primps and preens. She wants to be worthy of so great a warrior. *(Pseudolus exits into Senex’s house)*

MG *(Rises)*: Understandable. I am a legend in my own time.

*(Pseudolus re-enters)*

Where is my bride?

Ps: Did she not come through this door?

MG: No! What are you saying, man?

Ps: The virgin has escaped!

MG: Oh, no! The beautiful bride I bargained for!

Ps: Vanished!

MG: This is monstrous!

Ps: It certainly is. But look at it this way. Since I cannot deliver her to you, you do not have to pay me the 500 minae.

MG: I paid you the 500 minae!

*(Pseudolus reacts)*

The money has escaped as well?

Ps *(laughs weakly)*: There has been a little mistake.