

Scene Two: Mesopotamia

Taki - Athena

Tut - Simon P

Lucy - Gracie

Worker - Izzy

Gilgamesh - Lulu

Enkidu - Lena

Wheel Inventor - Nina

Money Maker - Abadie

Mesopotamians

1 Loki

2 Chasity

3 Hadia

4 Avahh

Lucy: There is a lot we can learn from the past.

Taki: I see what you mean!

Tut: Who are those people over there, Lucy?

Lucy: Ahhhh, good question, Tut! Those are the Sumerians from the land of Mesopotamia. What you're looking at there is pretty typical for 3000 BC. That guy is the famous Gilgamesh.

Gilgamesh: People! People! Work with me now. We've got to work together.

One worker to another: Who died and made him King?

Gilgamesh: I heard that. Now look, I know you're all used to working independently and that's just fine. But, it's 110 degrees here and this land is as dry as a desert.

Enkidu: Sir! Sir!

Gilgamesh: What is it, Enkidu, my valiant friend and servant?

(Enkidu whispers in his ear)

Gilgamesh: Okay. So it IS a desert. But if we just work together a little bit, I think we can survive here and maybe even create one of the great civilizations.

Enkidu: Gilgamesh is right, everybody. Working together, we can make sure that nobody messes with Mesopotamia.

Gilgamesh: Well put, Enkidu, well put.

Enkidu: Thank you sir!

Gilgamesh: Now, look, we've got rivers on both sides of this plain. And what are they called?

All: (with conviction) RIVERS!

Gilgamesh: I know that! But what are the names of these rivers?

All: (as though reciting something they've said a hundred times) The Tigris and Euphrates.

Gilgamesh: A plus. They've allowed our production of farm goods to go way up. So what's the problem?

Enkidu: The problem, sire, is that we need a more efficient way to transport these goods to market.

Gilgamesh: Right! Right! Right you are, Enkidu! Well, who's got a suggestion?

Wheel Inventor: Sir, if I might suggest: I've been working on a small round invention that I think might have great possibilities.

Gilgamesh: Hmmmm, I can't see it myself, but let's go ahead and give it a try. Now what's next?

Money Maker: (*Holding a bulla ~ a football shaped vessel with tokens inside*) Well, sir, I've been working on a system of currency that I think might help us keep track of what we trade and what we owe.

Gilgamesh: A capital idea! Write it down!

All: Write it down?

Enkidu: Write it down, sir?

Gilgamesh: Figure it out, Enkidu! I can't do everything! I'm so proud of all of you! At this rate, we should be able to build a civilization that lasts for thousands of year, right here between our own two beautiful rivers.

SONG 2: THE LAND BETWEEN TWO RIVERS

(During the song interlude:)

Mesopotamian 1: In the land between two rivers, the creative and intelligent Sumerians built farming villages and irrigation systems from as early as 5000 BC.

Mesopotamian 2: Archaeologists have even found evidence of great cities and a very complex civilization as early as 3500 BC. Farmers produced food.

Mesopotamian 3: City dwellers were brick layers, canal builders, butchers potters and more. The Mesopotamian plain gave rise to one of the first great civilizations.

Mesopotamian 4: And it all happened on the Land between Two Rivers.