

# Heroes of Troy

## 4: The wonder of war

DAVID Hello! David Grant here and welcome back to Heroes of Troy. Today we're on song number 4, to be sung by the superhero Achilles and it's a tongue in cheek look at how arrogant he is. You see, Achilles is half man, half god, so pretty much unbeatable in battle. But boy, does he know it! If he was a chocolate, he'd eat himself! Before we begin, we need to warm up...and actually, I hope you're already warmed up for the warm-up, because this is what we're going to sing.

SONG *Paris and Ulysses they are a few of the Ancient Greeks*

DAVID You try after my count. 3, 4:

**ALL Paris and Ulysses they are a few of the Ancient Greeks**

DAVID Now listen to the next line. It's got different words.

SONG *Hector and Achilles fought in a battle of Ancient Greeks*

DAVID Try that. 1, 2, 3, 4:

**ALL Hector and Achilles fought in a battle of Ancient Greeks**

DAVID Again. 3, 4:

**ALL Hector and Achilles fought in a battle of Ancient Greeks**



DAVID We need to speed it up a bit, but let's speak the words of both lines first. Ready? Ready and:

**ALL Paris and Ulysses they are a few of the Ancient Greeks**

DAVID And:

**ALL Hector and Achilles fought in a battle of Ancient Greeks**

DAVID Now, let's sing all that up to tempo – take a good breath as I count you in. Ready? 2, 3, 4:

**ALL Paris and Ulysses they are a few of the Ancient Greeks**

**Hector and Achilles fought in a battle of Ancient Greeks**

DAVID That's it! Same again! This time really exaggerate the words. Get your lips around them. Ready? 1, 2, 3, 4:

**ALL Paris and Ulysses they are a few of the Ancient Greeks**

**Hector and Achilles fought in a battle of Ancient Greeks**

DAVID Great work! Let's learn Achilles's song. Let's listen to the whole of verse 1 first. All listening?

*SONG I'm the champion of the Greeks.*

*I'm the one they'll never beat.*

*At the end of the day*

*I'll blow you away,*

*That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID Right now, stand up and listen to the first line and sing after the count. Here we go!

SONG *I'm the champion of the Greeks.*

DAVID 2, 3, 4, 1:

**ALL I'm the champion of the Greeks.**

DAVID Listen to the next line.

SONG *I'm the one they'll never beat.*

DAVID Your turn. 3, 4, 1:

**ALL I'm the one they'll never beat.**

DAVID Now listen to this bit. It changes a little bit.

SONG *At the end of the day*

*I'll blow you away,*

DAVID Got that? Okay. Your turn. 1, 2, 3:

**ALL At the end of the day**

**I'll blow you away,**

DAVID And the pay-off line...

SONG *That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID Your turn to sing that now. And 1:

**ALL That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID Let's recap from 'At the end of the day'. Are you ready? 1, 2, 3:

**ALL**                    **At the end of the day**

**I'll blow you away,**

**That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID                And now, from the top after 3, 4, 1. Are you ready? 3, 4, 1:

**ALL**                    **I'm the champion of the Greeks.**

DAVID                3, 4, 1:

**ALL**                    **I'm the one they'll never beat.**

DAVID                And 1, 2, 3:

**ALL**                    **At the end of the day**

**I'll blow you away,**

**That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID                Straight to the next verse. Listen to it first.

*SONG                And when I'm on the battlefield,*

*Looking good behind a shield,*

*Fortune and fame,*

*That's the name of the game,*

*That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID                This verse has the same tune as the first, so you should find it fairly straightforward. Listen to the first line and then sing it back after the count. Listen up.

SONG *And when I'm on the battlefield,*

DAVID 3, 4, 1:

**ALL And when I'm on the battlefield,**

DAVID Listen on!

SONG *Looking good behind a shield,*

DAVID Ready...3, 4, 1:

**ALL Looking good behind a shield,**

DAVID Now here are the last two lines. Listen first.

SONG *Fortune and fame,*

*That's the name of the game,*

*That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID Your turn now. Ready and:

**ALL Fortune and fame,**

**That's the name of the game,**

**That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID Whole verse after the count...3, 4, 1:

**ALL And when I'm on the battlefield,**

**Looking good behind a shield,**

DAVID 1, 2, 3, 4:

**ALL** **Fortune and fame,**

**That's the name of the game,**

DAVID And 1:

**ALL** **That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID Right! We'll sing the first two verses from the top now. I'll count you in at the beginning but try it on your own after that. Here's the intro.

Are you ready? 3, 4, 1:

**ALL** **I'm the champion of the Greeks.**

**I'm the one they'll never beat.**

**At the end of the day**

**I'll blow you away,**

**That's the wonder of war.**

**And when I'm on the battlefield,**

**Looking good behind a shield,**

**Fortune and fame**

**That's the name of the game,**

**That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID Right! Now it's time to move on to the bridge - that's a bit of music that takes us from one part of the song to somewhere else - just like a bridge does!

I want you to listen first before you sing. Take it to the bridge...!

SONG

*And when I'm lonely*

*And oh so sad*

*And blue,*

*Once in a while, I manage a smile*

*I know just what to do.*

DAVID

Okay! We'll do it a line at a time just like before. Listen first and be ready to sing straightaway without any break.

SONG

*And when I'm lonely*

DAVID

And sing:

**ALL**

**And when I'm lonely**

DAVID

Listen again!

SONG

*And oh so sad*

*And blue,*

DAVID

And after my count...1, 2:

**ALL**

**And oh so sad**

**And blue,**

DAVID

Listen again.

SONG

*Once in a while, I manage a smile*

*I know just what to do.*

DAVID            You sing now. And:

**ALL                Once in a while, I manage a smile**  
**I know just what to do.**

DAVID            Well done! That's the whole bridge. We're going to put it all together  
now from 'And when I'm lonely.' After my count...3, 4, 1:

**ALL                And when I'm lonely**  
**And oh so sad**  
**And blue,**  
**Once in a while, I manage a smile**  
**I know just what to do.**

DAVID            Yeah! We've already learnt two verses and the bridge, so let's move  
on to the next verse. Listen!

*SONG              Sudden death to every foe.*  
*That's the only thing I know.*  
*I do what I can*  
*Half-god, half-man,*  
*That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID            Now listen to the first line and sing after my count.

*SONG              Sudden death to every foe*

DAVID            4, 1:

**ALL** **Sudden death to every foe.**

DAVID And on we go!

SONG *That's the only thing I know*

DAVID 4, 1:

**ALL** **That's the only thing I know.**

DAVID Next part of the song. Have a listen first.

SONG *I do what I can*

*Half-god, half-man,*

*That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID Your turn! 3, 4:

**ALL** **I do what I can**

**Half-god, half-man,**

**That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID Sing that verse all the way through now followed by the bridge -  
from 'Sudden death'...3, 4, 1:

**ALL** **Sudden death to every foe.**

**That's the only thing I know.**

**I do what I can**

**Half-god, half-man,**

**That's the wonder of war.**

**And when I'm lonely**

**And oh so sad**

**And blue,**

**Once in a while, I manage a smile**

**I know just what to do.**

DAVID That leaves just the last verse which sounds like this.

SONG *I'm the writing on the wall.*

*I came, I saw, I conquered all.*

*It's easy to see*

*Why they want to be me,*

*I'm the wonder of war.*

DAVID You know the tune by now, so let's have a go at it all. After the count! 3, 4, 1:

**ALL I'm the writing on the wall.**

**I came, I saw, I conquered all.**

**It's easy to see**

**Why they want to be me,**

**I'm the wonder of war.**

DAVID We're not quite finished! The song ends with a turnaround in the last line. Listen –

SONG            *I'm the wonder of war.*

*I can't be beat,*

*That's the beauty of war,*

*There's no retreat,*

*That's the wonder,*

*The lightning and the thunder,*

*That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID            That last line just keeps turning around before it reaches the end.

                  Listen - but be ready to come straight in.

SONG            *I can't be beat,*

*That's the beauty of war,*

DAVID            And sing:

**ALL            I can't be beat,**

**That's the beauty of war,**

DAVID            Going on! Listen.

SONG            *There's no retreat,*

*That's the wonder,*

*The lightning and the thunder,*

*That's the wonder of war.*

DAVID            Your turn. And:

**ALL**

**There's no retreat,  
That's the wonder,  
The lightning and the thunder,  
That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID

Let's recap the turnaround from 'I can't be beat' right to the end.  
Here we go - after the count. 1, 2:

**ALL**

**I can't be beat,  
That's the beauty of war,  
There's no retreat,  
That's the wonder,  
The lightning and the thunder,  
That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID

Let's try through the whole last verse from 'I'm the writing on the wall'. 3, 4, 1:

**ALL**

**I'm the writing on the wall.  
I came, I saw, I conquered all.  
It's easy to see  
Why they want to be me,  
I'm the wonder of war.**

**I can't be beat,  
That's the beauty of war,  
There's no retreat,  
That's the wonder,  
The lightning and the thunder,  
That's the wonder of war.**

DAVID

Wayhey! Nice one! That song is so quirky and catchy but the lyrics are really serious. After the programme I'd love you to sing it through again - and if you have time to talk with your teacher here's a question for you. Does the composer of this song really mean us to think war is wonderful? Till next time - bye from me!