

GOD OF WAR 2 - TEASER

Written by

Danny Homan

Based on *God of War* (2018)

EXT. ANCIENT FOREST - DAY

Massive trees, centuries old if not millennia. And gloomy. A few shafts of light permeate the canopy.

As Kratos, we navigate a worn path. Atreus runs ahead. While the trees tower over Atreus, he's no longer a boy. A man of 18, Atreus is lithe and agile, like his mother.

ATREUS

Are you sure this is the same forest you saw in your dream?

KRATOS

Yes. But it was no dream, Atreus. It was a vision.

ATREUS

What's the difference?

KRATOS

A dream is a plaything. Of one's hopes or fears. This was neither. I would not dream of him. Thor summons me.

We encounter a pack of Draugr. But Atreus is no longer under our control. Yet his powers have clearly grown. His bow tears through Draugr quickly and efficiently. In fact, we can hardly land a blow.

KRATOS (CONT'D)

Atreus, save your arrows.

ATREUS

Why? I can take them down before they even get to you. I'm doing you a favor.

KRATOS

Denying me a chance to sharpen my skills is no favor.

ATREUS

Then get faster. Bet I can take out more than you!

KRATOS

A competition, then. So be it!

We attempt to finish off Draugr before Atreus's bow can down them, back and forth, each commending the other for successful kills.

At the end of this sequence, we encounter a troll.

ATREUS

We'll take him out together.

We defeat the troll. It falls with a thud.

ATREUS (CONT'D)

There he goes. Guess you do remember how to fight.

KRATOS

What are you implying?

ATREUS

Well, we haven't gone hunting in awhile. I thought your axe might be a bit rusty.

KRATOS

This axe does not rust, Atreus.

ATREUS

Father. Everything rusts, sooner or later.

We descend into a cavernous, tight-knit section of the forest. Very little light permeates the canopy.

ATREUS (CONT'D)

I don't like this place. I thought we'd be traveling to Asgard. Why would Thor meet us here?

KRATOS

That is not for us to decide. We go where we are summoned.

ATREUS

Since when do we do what the Gods tell us?

KRATOS

The Gods are one thing, Atreus. Thor is another.

Eventually, it becomes too dark to see. Atreus produces two orbs of soft, blue light. He tosses it playfully towards us.

KRATOS (CONT'D)

Impressive.

ATREUS
It's not so hard. You want me to
teach you?

KRATOS
I have no need of such tricks.

ATREUS
(mocking)
I have no need of such tricks.

KRATOS
Boy...

ATREUS
No longer, Father -- and it's not a
trick. It's a spell. Come on, try
and catch me. I wanna try something
I've been practicing.

We run towards Atreus. As we near, he vanishes. Then appears
some distance ahead.

KRATOS
Atreus, who taught you that?

ATREUS
Gersemi...

KRATOS
Freya's daughter? We spoke of this.

ATREUS
Magic saved my life -- and yours.
And I'll learn it from whoever can
teach me, Father. Besides, she's my
friend.

KRATOS
I have no quarrel with Gersemi. It
is her mother I do not trust.

HALL OF STATUES

Atreus passes through a grand archway, covered in dead vine.
On either side are statues of various warriors. Atreus
inspects their faces.

ATREUS
What does Thor wants with us?

KRATOS
Did you also see the vision?

ATREUS

No.

KRATOS

Then it is not clear he wants anything of you.

There's a clear break in the trees up ahead, and a wide shaft of light with a familiar-looking statue in its center. All around, the trees appear to have been struck by lightning.

In the center is a pedestal with the statue of Thor, standing on top a stone basin. One of Thor's hands is holding Mjölfnir to the sky. *

KRATOS (CONT'D)

This is the place I saw in my vision.

ATREUS

Guess we got here first.

Atreus inspects the statue, noting the other hand, pointing to a portion of the stone basin, covered in scorched vines.

ATREUS (CONT'D)

What's he pointing to?

As we inspect. Atreus crouches beside us.

KRATOS

In my vision, Thor offered me a map. Perhaps it is here.

Atreus reaches towards the basin, but Kratos grabs his wrist.

ATREUS

Let go!

KRATOS

Not until you --

Atreus vanishes, appearing on the other side of the statue, opposite Kratos.

ATREUS

Your vision, got it.

Kratos reaches towards the basin, his hands ripping away the dead vines. Sure enough, there's a stone slat that can be pulled aside.

We do, revealing a rolled-up parchment.

KRATOS

This is it.

But as Kratos' fingers near the parchment, something hisses. Suddenly an ASP strikes, coiling around Kratos' arm and sinking its fangs.

Kratos tries to pry the asp off, but it turns to stone.

ATREUS

Father!

The petrification spreads quickly. Atreus attempts to inspect the wound, but Kratos blocks him with his other hand, which holds his axe Leviathan.

KRATOS

Stay back!

As Kratos, we bring the full force of the ax down on his arm, over and over sparking against the stone. It will not break. His arm petrifies completely.

ATREUS

Let me help you!

Desperately, Atreus tries to pry the asp off with his dagger. The gray begins to spread from Kratos' chest to his other arm and his legs.

ATREUS (CONT'D)

Why would Thor do this?

KRATOS

He didn't. This is not his way...

ATREUS

Who, then?

The petrification spreads up through Kratos' chest towards his throat.

Atreus places his hand at his father's throat, attempting to stop the petrification with magic from his hand.

KRATOS

Atreus...

ATREUS

I can stop it!

KRATOS

(softly)

Atreus. It is too late.

Atreus locks eyes with his father. Reluctantly, Atreus removes his hand just before the asp's poison begins to petrify. Both understand Kratos' fate.

Slowly, the camera shifts from Kratos' stony shoulder towards Atreus, his eyes flooded with dark tears, until we are behind him, looking upon his father's face, his mouth nearly consumed by stone.

ATREUS

What should I do?

KRATOS

Find Thor...

Something CLANGS against the stone basin.

Atreus looks to the ground, finding Leviathan. All around him, we hear hissing. Creatures come out from behind the trees.

Atreus picks up his father's axe, gripping it tightly, testing its weight, ready to fight.