

ACT I

**Basil: Hey Jack, here we are
together again for another
Athena Society meeting**

**Jack: Yes Basil. I almost thought
that we would cancel the
meeting this year**

Basil: Cancel it? why? are you sick or something?

Jack: No Basil. I feel great; I thought that the Greek economy is sick; and people may want to concentrate more on figuring out their financials instead of going around ...

the Greek Islands or Costa Navarino.

**Like us, having fun, drinking, dining as
if nothing is happening. Should we be
ashamed?**

Basil: Greek economy is sick? I did not know that!! Sorry. In Miluawkee and Florida, everybody is saying that the American economy is sick; very sick. You can buy a house in Florida for the price of a good dinner.

Jack: Come on Basil; are you deaf or something ? They say that Greece is going bankrupt; they owe sooooo much money, they cannot pay their debt. They are going to default basil; it is just a matter of time

Do you know what I heard on TV the other Day? That Standard and Poor's downgraded their borrowing rating again

Basil: How could they downgrade

**Jack? Their borrowing rating was in
the “garbage” category**

Is there a lower category than that?

Jack: Yes there is

Basil: What is it then?

Jack: “Shit” category

Basil: HAHAAHAAHAAHAAHHA (*a kind of continuous and loud laugh (hahahahahahahahaha) that will become the signature of this feature movie*)

**Basil: Jack, go out at midnight or later
in Greek taverns and you will see
who is sick or bankrupt; you won't
find a table to get in; they eat; they
drink; they break plates and they
drive Bimmers and Mercedes in the
evening (and motorcycles in the day)**

ACT II

Jack: So you are saying no crisis eh?

Basil: Jack you know what a famous economist said?

Jack: What?

Basil: If I owe you a dollar I have a problem; but if I owe you 1,000 dollars YOU have a problem

Jack: I have a problem? Why?

Basil: Easy Jack. Because when I need a dollar I will beg you to give it to me; but if you are greedy, and you lend me 1,000 dollars, with the hope of getting 1,200 next year, with 20% interest, what are you going to do if I do not have them? YOU are going to start begging ME. And you know what I will do?

**I will ask you to lend me 2,000
dollars, give you back the 1,200 and
keep the rest for my own expenses.
And when next year comes, same
story, you lend me, I pay you, and
keep some until the next time**

ACT III

Jack: Ok; ok; I am getting it Basil; but when am I going to get all my money back?

Basil: Hahahahahahahahaha; all your money back? Never Jack. I am in default; you said that a minute ago. Money has been spent; best I can give you isa statue. For example, I will tell the French ...

you have the Aphrodite of Milos at Louvre Museum (*he holds a small statue of Aphrodite*). You display it for 200 years. You have the Nike of Samothrace at Louvre (*he holds a small statue of Nike of Samothrace*). This is the time to pay rent. One billion euros per year which comes to 200 billion euros for 200 years; What do you say?

**Jack: I say; pardon monsieur je ne
pas pay (I am not paying in French)?**

**Basil: Hahahahahahahahahah Ok –
and I say – je ne pas pay monsieur
either; that's it!**

**Jack: And how is this going to be
resolved Basil?**

**Basil: Hahahahahahahahaha
resolved? It is resolved already;
there is no money anywhere Jack**

ACT IV

Basil: The Europeans will get something that is called haircut Jack

Jack: Haircut? what does haircut has to do with the economic crisis Basil? And besides, since everybody seems to be continuously on strike in Greece; are you sure that the barbers work these days?

Basil: It is not about real hair cut jack; this is the term the economists use to describe the losses of a lender; if the lender cannot get his money back in full, they say he is going for a hair cut; like, you cut half of your hair ;or get half of your money back instead of all of it. They only thing they do not know is that in Greece's case, the hair cut will be more like a head-shave; there will be no hair left Jack

ACT V

Jack: I would like to speak to a simple Greek citizen Basil; to ask why they do not pay their taxes; at least everybody is saying that

Basil: Sure – here is one coming; let me introduce you to him (*UROS COMING*)

Jack: Hi Mr - what is your name?

Uros: My name is Taxevasionopoulos;

John Taxeveasionopoulos (*LIKE*

***BOND, JAMES BOND*)**

Jack: Long name. Do you mind if I

just call you tax?

Uros: Yes sure

Jack: So, Mr tax; everybody is saying that you Greeks are not paying your taxes. Is that true?

Uros: I am not paying my taxes? (*“Taxes” should sound more like “taxis”*) Come on man. I just came from home to this place and I paid the taxi driver 20 euros. How come you say that I do not pay my taxis?

Jack: No sir – you misunderstood. I

said taxes not taxis

Uros: ahhhh taaaaxes! and what is

“taxes” anyway? I never heart of this

word before

Jack: It is like you pay the Government a percentage when you have an income, get a salary.... Or.... sell something.... Or..... buy something...

Uros: Hahahahahahahahahah...And why I should do that? do you do this in America? What are you guys stupid or something?

ACT VI

Jack: You should do it because the government is giving you services and somebody has to pay for them

Uros: What services?

Jack: Like when you go to the doctor when you are sick; the government pays the doctor for you

Uros: Hahahahahahahahahahahah;

**serious? I go to my doctor once in a
while and every time I get in his office I
give him an envelope; a small envelope.**

And you know what is in the envelope

Jack: *(thinking)*.....Chestnuts?

Uros: Hahahahahahahahaha; No!!

euros; 100 euros per visit

Jack: But what about other services then

**Uros: Like? I wanted to get my daughter
married the other day and I went to the
priest with a little envelope; and what
do you think was in the envelope ?**

Jack: *(thinking)*.... Cookies for the priest's wife?

Uros: Hahahahahahahahahh. No!!
euros. The priest said: no euros, no wedding.

Now, let me ask you. How much do you say you pay for taxes in America?

Jack: I pay 30%. I make \$200,000 per year and I give back \$60,000

Uros: So you pay back 30% eh? Well, let me tell you what I make and what I pay. I am a full professor at the University of Athens, with 30 years of service, like you. I make \$20,000 per year and here is what I give back per year...

\$2,000 envelope to my doctor

\$1,000 envelope to my dentist

\$1000 envelope to my tax inspector

\$1,000 envelope to my police chief

\$1000 envelope to my financial advisor

\$500 to my priest

**That sums to \$6500; exactly 30% of my total
salary**

Jack: And why don't you give all these money to your government?

Uros: What are you crazy? I do not trust them; they are all corrupt to the bone. Our previous prime minister, when he died he left a luxurious villa to his 40 years younger girlfriend. ...

And you should see our ministers. They are all overweight; over 300 pounds each. And with a girlfriend half their age; who do you think pays for all these?

I better give my money direct. If they were honest, I would not mind giving them and I could save some envelopes.

But excuse me, I have to go now

ACT VII

Jack: Basil this guy had a point; I am now getting it. But they must find a solution. They simply cannot go far like this

Basil: Well Jack ,they decided to have a general meeting of Europe's big guys to see what they could do . It is called the Eurogroup's Commission

**Jack: Do you want to see what they
said?**

Basil: Why not; let's go.

**Jack: They are coming now and you
could even ask them questions
yourself**

ACT VIII

Jack: And who is this guy Basil? He looks like an Italian Mafioso

Basil: You guessed right. This is Sylvio Berlusconi – the Prime Minister of Italy

Jack: I have heard the name; and why is he going in with this woman? Who is she? How old is she? Maybe his grand daughter?

**Basil: No Jack. I asked Mario Plebani
earlier. This is his girlfriend; 14
years old, from Morocco**

**Jack: Good looking eeh? Is she an
economist?**

Basil: HahahahahaahaahaNo

**Jack; she is a special advisor to the
Prime Minister**

**Jack: Special advisor on what? do you
know what she is advising?**

**Basil: Me? No! He knows better – ask
him**

ACT XI

Jack: Excuse me Senior. My friend told me that this young lady is your advisor. What kind of advise is she giving you sir?

Berlusconi: Who are you anyway? But since I know that my friend Mario Plebani is with you, I will tell you. She is choosing my clothes. Don't you see how good I look?

This is Giorgio Armani suit my friend!

--- Wait for a bit of silence here --

**Berlusconi: And you did not see my
underwear yet!**

**Jack: It is ok sir; I much prefer to see
her underwear but I guess is not
possible; right?**

Berlusconi: Shame on you old brat!

**Shame on you. I will tell Maria you
said this!!!**

*Berlusconi Walks Away With His
Girlfriend*

ACT X

Jack: What about this guy Basil; who is he?

(Putin Walks In With A Blonde)

Basil: Putin my friend. The Prime Minister of Russia. He is a very religious man. They say he has a church in his backyard. To pray !! ...

**He also left his wife for a GOOD
LOOKING young Russian . But be
careful; he is tougher than he looks
and maybe even dangerous**

Let us see what he said to the Greeks

(Speaks in Russian – the following will be translated and have English subtitles)

Мои греческие друзья, русские здесь, чтобы Вам помочь. Вы знаете, что у нас нет большого количества свободных денег. Но у нас есть другие богатства, такие как наши лучшие в мире кадры **(points to Daniela)**. Посмотрите, чего мы добились на Кипре. Спросите об этом

господина Диамандиса. Наши лучшие
кадры основались там в большом
количестве, и теперь все киприоты
ДОВОЛЬНЫ. ...

Это было сделано с уверенностью и силой .
Большинство из киприотов оставили своих
жен ради наших блондинок. Конечно,
некоторые говорят, что это плохо для
семьи, но я говорю, что это хорошо для
ЭКОНОМИКИ.

Стимуляция, мои друзья. Поверьте мне, стимуляция работает. Я приехал сюда, чтобы таким же образом стимулировать греков и заставить их снова показать чудеса.

Jack: Did he say stimulation Basil; what does he mean?

Basil: Come on Jack; You are a clinical chemist. You should know about stimulations! Like... the growth hormone releasing hormone stimulation test. You give something to the patient and then you see what happens. ...

**It is like you give Viagra to
somebody and you see the effect;
same thing. I believe Putin was
thinking more about Viagra
stimulation this time**

ACT XI

**Jack: I wonder what Angela Merkel
said Basil; Was she kind to the
Greeks?**

**Basil: German and kind is an oxymoron
Jack. But here you have her; listen
carefully**

*(Lisa Speaks in German – to be
translated)*

Dear Greeks

You have a big debt. But Germany has a debt to pay to you, too. We should have paid a long time ago and now the time has come. You remember 1940, when Mussolini came to grab you? We were the ones who sent him and you beat the hell out of him. But when we came, we won. ...

We killed only 1 million Greeks at that time; You guys did not listen .You should have surrendered without a fight. Like the Turks did. Anyway, here is what I offer today I will pay you back 10,000 euros per Greek head; That makes 10 billion euros for 1 million heads. It will help your debt and keep you going until the next war. ...

**I know you wanted more per head
but you should call me generous. I
paid nothing to Israel for the 6
million Jews!!**

**And learn your lesson please. Next
time we come, surrender. ok?**

ACT XII

Sarkozy speaks in French (Whispers)

Chers freres et soeurs,

Je suis le president de la republique **franceZ et
vous **savE tus** que ma famille **et** originaire de la
Gres. Comment puis-je **restE** de glace sans rien
faire? Je voudrais **vouz_aide** mais cette dame
allemanD m'y interdit!**

Sarkozy speaks in French (Whispers)

Je la deteste, vous **savE**; mais ne lui en dites rien!
Vous voyez, c'est que j'en ai **un pyr** bleau, donc je
fais ce qu'elle me dicte. A propos, si elle vous
demanD ce que j'ai dit, dites lui que j'ai **affirmE**
que je l'aime encore plus que ma femme Carla!
D'accord?

**Jack: Hey Basil, is that Obama? I
did not know he cares. Let us listen
his speech**

(Obama speaks in English)

Fellow Greeks

**In the 1940s there was one superpower;
The United States of America. After the
second world war, the Soviet Union
tried to compete with us; and we went
through the cold war. But we prevailed.
We got these Reds to go out of business**

...

and then let them come begging us
for help. After the cold war, we saw
another threat coming to us
from the Europeans. They got
jealous of our unity and strength
and decided to compete with us.
They created the European Union
and the *(huh)* euro.

We didn't like it, but these guys were our friends; Only one truly friendly nation stood by us; The Great Britain. But now, my Greek friends, we admire you for what you did. Yes, you are bringing down the euro to its knees; Euro's days are counted. And soon, there will be once again, one super power with one global currency – the great, ...

green Benjamin or US dollar.

**You did a great job my friends; maybe
without even knowing it; You
bankrupt the Banks; you bankrupt
Europe; now that you are so good in
this, I will ask you to advise us on
how we could bankrupt the Chinese.
Can you borrow some billions from
them too? You know how to do it!!**

May God damn the European Union!

May God damn the Chinese!

**And may God bless the United States
of America!!!**

ACT XIII

Jack: But Basil, you Greeks are very clever people. You built the Parthenon; you invented medicine, physics, mathematics, literature, philosophy – how come you end up in such a mess?

Basil: Well, we invented everything

Jack; but not economics. the Jews invented that? ...

But I told you Jack. We are NOT in a mess - you guys are. Let me now finally explain how this happened

First, the Greek politicians said - how do we win an election? Here is how -by giving out benefits and Government jobs to the voters. But where is the money? we do not have them. And one brilliant modern Greek said ...

The Germans have the money, and the French and the Americans have the money; but they won't give them to us

And another brilliant Greek politician said: Yes they will, if we promise them 10% interest in 4 years

And we got into this wonderful euro currency - instead of our poor drachma!!

Jack: And who pays in 4 years?

Basil: Hahahahahahahaha....Who do you think pays in 4 years? We do! we borrow some more money from them, we pay back the interest and tell them we want to borrow some more for 4 years with more interest

Jack: And who pays in the next 4 years?

Basil: Hahahahahahaha.... we pay; after we borrow again from them and give them back what they gave us before...plus some more for us

Jack: And who pays the additional money for the next 4 years?

**Basil: Hahahahahahaha.... we pay
again with their money**

**Jack: Come on Basil; are the
Europeans and Americans so stupid
to lend all this money for all these
years?**

Basil: You bet you they are!! ...

**Now we owe them only 500 billion
and they say, read my lips, no more
lending!!**

**And the Greeks say – kiss my ass! We
do not care and we do not pay!**

**Jack: I can't believe the International
Monetary Fund is so stupid!**

**Basil: You don't? Look at this guy DSK -
Dominic Strauss Kahn. Do you know
who this guy is? He was the Chief
Executive of the International
Monetary Fund - going for President of
France. He was in New York the other
day and he suddenly got wild and
sexually abused a house keeper at his
hotel. ...**

What a moron eh? and a stingy guy too! He could have called an escort for a fistful of dollars. Go figure! This is the guy who was controlling 1 trillion dollars but he could not control his....thing

Jack: Who is going to pay now basil?

Basil: Did you say pay? ...

**Hahahahahahahaha.... not the
Greeks Jack; that's for sure! Do you
know what King Leonidas said when
the Persians came to conquer
Sparta?**

Jack: What?

Basil: Molon lave!

Jack: Molon lave! What does this mean? Maybe pay next year?

Basil: No Jack. It means come and get them - the money that is

Jack: And where is the money Basil?

**Basil: Which money Jack? They are in
the same place as the money your
Lehman Brothers and your Merrill
Lynch and your Enron guys have them
In ships, in houses, in villas,
restaurants and good looking girls
Go and find them Jack and when you
find them let me know**

**Jack: I guess the Europeans will not
lend money to Greece again right?**

**Basil: Yes at least for another 10
years; and then all will be forgotten;
until all these guys are dead and
then, here we go again ...**

**But let me promise something jack;
this time the greeks will pay
with interest**

**Hahahahahahahahahahahahahah
ahahahahahaha**

THE END

ADDITIONS

Jack: Basil, I have heard in the news that there are over 200,000 blind Greeks. Is there an epidemic in Greece causing blindness?

Basil: Yes, it is really terrible. The first symptom is that you do not have Euros to buy food.

Jack: And how does no food or no

Euros cause blindness? May I guess

Vitamin A deficiency?

Basil: In this case, it is the opposite.

In order become blind, you have to

spend some Euros first

**Jack: How? Are these Euros
infected with a blindness virus?**

**Basil: No, No! If you go to a doctor
with a good dose of Euros, you can
get blinded. It is a special kind of
blindness; the doctor gives you a
certificate that you are blind ...**

**then, you submit the certificate to
the Government, and you get your
monthly subsidy; you are a certified
blind**

Jack: Oh, but do you see anything?

Basil: Do you see anything?!? Most of these blind people go hunting and come back with lots of game; others are taxi drivers; Somebody told me that one of these certified blinds won a Gold medal in Archery at the last Olympic games!!

Jack: A blind archer? Would this be dangerous?

Basil: Only on paper; I told you; he is a certified blind with a great vision and a good salary. In a similar token, you can find a lot of deafs who are musicians, mute who are...

**top notch singers and many dead
who are still voting or collecting a
pension!**

**Jack: Holy smokes; they say beware
of Greeks carrying gifts; I would say
beware of Greeks who are blind,
deaf, mute or even dead!**

THE END