

PROLOGUE: FOUNDATION

START

YOU rush in, looking dapper, carrying a large CANVAS TOOL BAG that is splattered with spackling paste.

YOU

*Attenzione, tutti, attenzione!
Benvenuti alla Galleria dell'Accademia.
Sono la tua guida turistica....*

*You plop the tool bag down out of the way and immediately switch to a **BRITISH ACCENT**.*

YOU

I'm kidding, I'm totally kidding. I speak English! Obviously.
Oh my god, could you imagine?!
Paying all this money for a "special private tour" of Michelangelo's masterpiece and your guide only speaks Italian!?

Awkward pause.

Anyway... just a fun little ice breaker.
As you'll come to learn, I'm not the typical tour guide.
And this. Is. Not. The typical. Tour!

(with a bit of a maniacal laugh)

Ah-haaa!

[pointing to someone near the front]

[This guy gets it.]

But now that I have your *attenzione* --
fellow art enthusiasts and history buffs --
I want to tell you a story.
Not only about the history of this exquisite work of art...
But about me.
Because isn't every work of art a story about how it effects each of us uniquely?

...And also because I like to make things about me.

(walking among the audience)

~~This is not to say that you can just sit here and listen passively.
No, no, no. This is very much an interactive tour.
It's a conversation, a back-and-forth.
So should the occasion rise,~~

I ask you all to be ready, willing and able to participate.

Uh-oh. I see some scared faces, but not to worry.

It will be relatively painless.

And so much more memorable than just *“looking at some art, then going home to veg out in front of the TV.”*

Where’s the fun in that? The sense of occasion?

Isn’t more exciting to know that whatever happens today, here, now... you will be the only ones to witness it?

A unique, curated adventure. Just for you.

Because here, you’ll be part of the experience, and therefore... part of the art itself.

Beat. You take them in.

But before we get into all of that! Let us begin at the beginning. With...

END

~~*You make your way to wherever “centerstage” is as the house lights go down and You point dramatically toward “David’s right ankle.”*~~

~~YOU~~

~~A flaw in the foundation!~~

~~That’s what everyone said:~~

~~*“There was a fundamental flaw in the foundation from the beginning.”*~~

~~Tiny cracks hidden deep inside the marble,~~

~~inside what would become the statue’s ankles.~~

~~Very small. Hardly noticeable. Won’t amount to much.~~

~~*(pompous old-man voice)*~~

~~*It’s lasted this long, hasn’t it?*~~

~~*How could a tiny flaw bring down this 500-year-old creature?*~~

~~But only now are we seeing the true nature of these cracks.~~

~~The breaks. The, the, the imperfections.~~

~~And that’s the thing with flaws.~~

~~Just because you don’t see them right away...~~

~~doesn’t mean they don’t exist.~~

~~...doesn’t mean they don’t exist.~~