

This was an assignment I was given in The Narrative Department’s Game Writing Masterclass. We were prompted to write a creative brief for a point of interest, NPC, or enemy for an existing IP. I chose Hades and developed a unique point of interest. Included in this document is the original piece and a revised version informed by the comments I received from my classmates and an industry professional.

A couple of critiques focused both on improving the specificity of enemy types and a desire for a reward befitting this one-off location (i.e. something more significant than a boon). I went with pushing a story reward, as adding any new gameplay item other than a boon to this stage could conflict with the laid-out mechanics and keepsakes in the full game. I also added clarification on the enemies (If you haven’t played Hades, the Exalted are sword wielding spirits) as well as some extra enemy behavior.

Here’s the original:

Game	Hades
Asset Type	POI
Asset Name	Clay Field
Asset Description	In Elysium, this enemy-infested field is speckled with the clay figures of proto man. Prometheus used this field for practice when tasked with creating man, and these are the sculptures which were deemed unworthy of receiving the breath of life. Piles of mud remain on the shores of the river Lethe which flows nearby. Littered around the figures are sculpting tools and old, mossy worktables. Here, after clearing the enemies – and probably breaking a few of the sculptures while he’s at it – Zagreus can earn a boon from Zeus, who may comment on the field, claiming responsibility for the creation of man.

Revised:

Game	Hades
Asset Type	POI
Asset Name	Clay Field
Asset Description	In Elysium, this rare Exalted-infested field is speckled with the clay figures of proto-man. Prometheus used this field for practice when tasked with creating man, and these are the sculptures which were deemed unworthy of receiving the breath of life. Exalted use them as training dummies, littering clay limbs and heads around the field. Piles of mud remain on the shores of the river Lethe which flows nearby. Sculpting tools and old, mossy worktables rest in the grass. Here, after clearing the enemies – and probably breaking a few of the sculptures while he’s at it – Zagreus can earn titan’s blood and a boon from Zeus, who comments on the field, claiming responsibility for the creation of man and denigrating Prometheus, telling of his defiance of the gods and subsequent punishment.