



The Mysteries

BOOK for the Musical

by Ann Mortiffee with David Feinstein

www.mysteriesmusical.com
THE MYSTERIES © Eskova Enterprises Ltd. 2017

CONTACT eskova@annmortiffee.com
Eskova Enterprises Ltd.
16 E. Cordova Street, Suite B,
Vancouver, BC, V6A 1K2, Canada

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system without expressly written permission from Eskova Enterprises, Ltd. Any unauthorized reprint or use of this material is prohibited.

THE MYSTERIES

Book
Ann Mortifee
in collaboration with
David Feinstein

Lyrics
Ann Mortifee

Music
Ann Mortifee
in collaboration with
Edward Henderson

OVERVIEW

*A 3500-year-old myth imprinted in the Western psyche
has led us to a world on the brink of disaster.*

Ancient Greece, known as the cradle of Western Civilization, nurtured an explosion of ideas and advances in literature, science, art, theatre, athletics, health, and democratic governance that has never been equaled in any other time or place.

These great leaps in consciousness were due in part to a deep and powerful initiation, known as the Eleusinian Mysteries. For over 2000 years, for nine days every autumn, all normal activity in Greece would stop; shops would close; civil wars would pause; senator and slave would meet as equals in the Temple of Demeter.

An ancient myth, believed to be the center of these rites, tells of how Persephone, the Goddess of Spring, is abducted by Hades into the Underworld. The Great Mother, Demeter, helpless in her grief, loses all power. Finally, in a rage, she demands that her voice be heard and withdraws her essence from the world. The world begins to die.

The Mysteries, enacted in both ancient Greece and modern time, is a story of betrayal, loss of feminine power, redemption and ultimately transformation. It reveals how this ancient myth both predicted the environmental cataclysm into which the world has fallen and how the story might be rewritten if we hope to survive in these dangerous times.

THE MYSTERIES

CHARACTERS

FEMALE CHARACTERS:

PERSEPHONE: (soprano) Goddess of Springtime, who through adversity becomes the Queen of the Underworld. She has presence, grace and beauty and in the end - strength. She is that aspect of self that must face the shadow or remain forever a naive child.

DEMETER: (soprano) Great Mother Goddess of the Grain and all living things, tall, regal and full of feeling. She is the maternal aspect of the feminine, nurturing, fecund and valuing other above self, forced through grief to confront her powerlessness to control events and eventually to reclaim her sovereignty.

HEKATE: (alto) Goddess of the night, the moon, witchcraft and of the Crossroads where the three roads meet. She is the wise old Crone who can travel between the realms. She is self-generating, humorous, multi-faceted and transformative.

MALE CHARACTERS:

ZEUS: (bass) King of Heaven, expansive, jovial and arrogant in his feelings of entitlement and power, who will only transform when he understands he will lose all control and privilege if he does not change.

HADES: (baritone) Lord of the Underworld, powerfully charismatic and passionate. He is complex, forceful, sensitive, lonely, greedy and vulnerable. He is of the subconscious realm.

HERMES: (tenor) Messenger of the Gods, who can travel between the realms. He is mercurial, intelligent, athletic and lithe, a flamboyant, humorous figure giving insight and perspective to the events through his ability to be detached.

CHORUS: who play ...

INITIATES (of the Eleusinian Mysteries)

SHADES (spirits of the dead)

ACROBATS

GREEK CHORUS
TOWNSPEOPLE (of Eleusis)
TANGO DANCERS
GOSPEL CHOIR
PHANTOMS

From the chorus several solo characters play:

HIEROPHANT (High Priest or Priestess of the Mysteries), who also plays ...
CHARON (ferryman across the River Styx)
PASSENGER (one of the dead)
BACKGROUND SINGERS (hip performers in outrageous gowns)
HELIOS (the Sun God)
FISHERMEN
MAIDS
PRINCESS of ELEUSIS
QUEEN of ELEUSIS
ZEUS (also could double as chorus)

Although at times the audience will be encouraged to participate, the encouragement will be so subtle that should the audience choose not to participate, neither the music nor the action will suffer, or, in fact, even appear to be other than intended.

THE MYSTERIES

MUSIC PROGRESSION LIST

ACT I

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <i>Overture</i> | |
| 2. <i>We are Going to the Temple</i> | - Hierophant, All |
| 2a. <i>Coins for the Ride</i> | - Hierophant, All |
| 3. <i>Come with Me</i> | - Charon, Hermes, Hades
Persephone, Chorus |
| 4. <i>Who Cares for Them?</i> | - Demeter, Persephone |
| 5. <i>Something's Stirring in my Kingdom</i> | - Zeus |
| 6. <i>Brother Zeus</i> | - Zeus, Hades, Chorus |
| 7. <i>Backroom Deals</i> | - Hekate, Chorus |
| 8. <i>Gaia</i> | - Hades |
| 9. <i>The Abduction ... (reprise) Who Cares for Them</i> | - Persephone, Demeter, Hades |
| 9a. <i>Hades is the Master Here</i> | - Hades, Persephone, Chorus |
| 10. <i>This is Going to be Juicy</i> | - Hermes, Chorus |
| 11. <i>Don't you Think it Strange</i> | - Hekate, Hermes |
| 11a. <i>Wise Crone ... (reprise) Who Cares for Them?/Gaia</i> | - Hekate, Demeter, |
| 11b. <i>Gaia Made a Flower ... (reprise) Gaia</i> | - Soleil, Zeus, Demeter, Hekate |
| 12. <i>How can this Be?</i> | - Persephone, Chorus, Demeter |
| 13. <i>Why is this a Problem?</i> | - Zeus, Hermes |
| 14. <i>Demeter Lost all Power ... (reprise) Gaia</i> | - Chorus |
| 15. <i>Small One</i> | - Demeter |
| 16. <i>Song by the Well</i> | - Demeter, Chorus |
| 16a. <i>You Must be Tired... (reprise) Come with Me</i> | - Demeter, Princess, Queen, Chorus |
| 16b. <i>And so the Goddess ... (reprise) Song by the Well</i> | - Chorus |
| 17. <i>Am I Forsaken ... (reprise) Who cares for Them?</i> | - Persephone, Hades |
| 17a. <i>Come out. Come out.</i> | - Persephone, Shades, Hades |
| 18. <i>My Love for You</i> | - Hades |
| 19. <i>As Time went By ... (reprise: Song by the Well)</i> | - Chorus |
| 19a. <i>Settling Down</i> | - Zeus |
| 19b. <i>In the Blackness ... (reprise) Gaia</i> | - Chorus |
| 19c. <i>The Fire ... (reprise) Brother Zeus</i> | - Chorus |
| 19d. <i>Stop! Stop! ... (reprise) Gaia</i> | - Demeter, Queen, |
| 19e. <i>Great Goddess, Please ... (reprise) Who Cares for Them?</i> | - Demeter, Queen |
| 20. <i>Build me a Temple ... (reprise) Going to the Temple</i> | - Demeter, Queen, Chorus |

INTERMISSION

ACT II

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 21. <i>Entr'acte ... (reprise) Going to the Temple</i> | - Orchestra, Chorus |
| 22. <i>I am the Mother</i> | - Demeter |
| 23. <i>Everything's Changed ... (reprise) Who Cares for Them</i> | - Persephone, Shades |
| 24. <i>What's to be Done?</i> | - Zeus, Hades |
| 25. <i>I Won't Stay Silent any Longer</i> | - Persephone |
| 26. <i>Why won't you Sit?... (reprise) My Love for You</i> | - Hades, Persephone |
| 26a. <i>The Pomegranate</i> | - Persephone, Shades, Hekate |
| 26a. <i>You're not Meant to be a Victim</i> | - Persephone, Hekate, Shades |
| 27. <i>Surrender</i> | - Hermes Hekate Chorus Persephone |
| 28. <i>Alone</i> | - Hades |
| 29. <i>What is the World</i> | - Demeter |
| 30. <i>The Forest Fades ... (reprise) Song by the Well</i> | - Chorus |
| 30a. <i>Hermes Harang</i> | - Hermes, Zeus |
| 31. <i>Wake Up</i> | - Hekate, Hermes, Chorus |
| 32. <i>Must I Bow? (reprise) Something Stirring in my Kingdom</i> | - Hermes, Zeus |
| 33. <i>Let Go, Lord of Death</i> | - Hades, Persephone |
| 33a. <i>There is a Way ... (reprise) What do they Mean by Love?</i> | - Persephone |
| 33b. <i>What Brings you Here... (reprise) Come with Me</i> | - Hades, Hermes, Hekate |
| 34. <i>What Love is all About</i> | - Hekate, Hermes |
| 35. <i>What do they Mean by Love?</i> | - Hades |
| 35a. <i>Anger is a Fever</i> | - Demeter, Hekate, Chorus |
| 35b. <i>Let the Mother's Voice be Heard</i> | - Demeter, Hekate, Chorus |
| 36. <i>I Watched you from the Shadows ... (reprise): Come Out</i> | - Hades |
| 37. <i>Finale' ... (reprise) Going to the Temple</i> | - All |

THE END

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| 38. <i>All Hands on Deck</i> | - All |
|------------------------------|-------|

THE MYSTERIES

BOOK
Ann Mortifee
with
David Feinstein

LYRICS
Ann Mortifee

MUSIC
Ann Mortifee
with
Edward Henderson

THE EXPERIENCE BEGINS THE MOMENT THE AUDIENCE ARRIVES AT THE DOOR TO THE THEATRE. THE INNER LOBBY HAS THE DECOR AND AMBIENCE OF A TEMPLE. USHERS DRESSED AS **PRIESTS** AND **PRIESTESSES** FROM ANCIENT GREECE TAKE EACH PERSON'S TICKET.

USHER: Thank you for heeding the call. Your position in the temple is . . . (second door, third row down on your left).

1. MUSIC:

Overture

A GONG STRIKES. LIGHTS DIM. THE **INITIATES (CHORUS)**, DRESSED IN WHITE GRECIAN TUNICS ENTER AND MOVE DOWN THE AISLES LEADING TO THE STAGE. CARRYING THE DECEASED **PASSENGER** ON A STRETCHER. A GRIEVING **YOUNG WOMAN** WALKS BEHIND HIM.

2. MUSIC:

...

We Are Going to the Temple

INITIATES

Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-way ...

Ow-wah-ah-ow-whey ...

Wah-ah...uh... Wah-ah ... uh ... uh

Wah-ah...uh... Wah-ah ... uh ... uh

Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-whey

AS THEY MOVE TOWARD THE STAGE, THE PILLARS OF A TEMPLE WITH WIDE STAIRS LEADING UP TO LARGE TEMPLE DOORS APPEAR. THEY ARE SITUATED TO THE FRONT OF A REVOLVING STAGE. THE DOORS OPEN AND **HIEROPHANT** DRESSED IN PURPLE, STEPS OUT.

THE **INITIATES** COME TO REST AT THE FOOT OF THE STAIRS.

ALL

We are going to the temple

To the temple of stone

We are going to the temple

To the Great Mother's throne

We will bow at her feet

We will drink sacred waters

And enter the mystery

Of death and rebirth

HIEROPHANT DECENDS DOWN THE STAIRS UNTIL HE STANDS FACING THE AUDIENCE.

HIEROPHANT

*Thank you for heeding the call
I come to you from ancient times
And whether you know or not
Destiny... has placed you here*

INITIATES

Wa ... ah, Wa ... ah, Wa ... ah,

Destiny... has placed you here

(spoken) A deep pattern embedded in the western psyche, traces back to an ancient Greek myth ... and we are here tonight (today), my friends, to re-envision that story and release the pattern that is holding us captive.

Wa ... ah, Wa ... ah, Wa ... ah,

HIEROPHANT AND INITIATES

*The seven sounds
The seven rays
The seven wheels
The seven ways
The seven doors
The seven seals
The seven truths
Light reveals....*

HIEROPHANT: Our culture, having abandoned the feminine heart, no longer honors the Great Goddess. And make no mistake, my friends, we are paying a terrible price for it.

*The world grows dangerous and dark
Greed seeks to triumph over heart
And you, my friend, you have a part
Destiny has placed you here*

INITIATES

Destiny has placed you here

HIEROPHANT TURNS AND LEADS THE **INITIATES** UP THE STAIRS INTO THE TEMPLE. THE STAGE BEGINS TO REVOLVE, BRINGING THE DOORS TO A HALT AT THE BACK OF THE STAGE. AS **HIEROPHANT** AND **INITIATES** PASS THROUGH, THE DOOR, A SOUND EFFECT IS HEARD AS IF THEY ARE PASSING THROUGH A VEIL INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION. LIGHTS CHANGE.

AS THEY DESCEND DOWN THE STAIRS THAT STAND ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE DOORS, THE INTERIOR OF THE TEMPLE IS REVEALED

ALL

*We are going to the temple
Of the Great Mystery
We are going to the temple
To awaken and see*

*To pierce through the veil
To reclaim and renew
The heart of the Goddess
Of death and rebirth*

ALL

*Demeter, Great Mother,
Meet us here tonight
Wa-ah, wa-ah, wa-ah, wa-ah
Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-whey
Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-whey ... Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-whey ... Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-whey
Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-way*

THE STAIRS DISAPPEAR. THE STAGE DARKENS AND FILLS WITH MIST. A RIVER APPEARS AS AN EMPTY BOAT DRIFTS ACROSS TOWARD **HIEROPHANT**.

TWO **INITIATES** CARRY THE BODY OF THE **PASSENGER** TO THE BANKS OF THE RIVER AND THE **YOUNG WOMAN** STEPS FORWARD AND PLACES A COIN IN HIS MOUTH.

2a. MUSIC:

... *Coins for the Ride*

YOUNG WOMAN

*This coin will pay for your ride
Across the great dark divide*

INITIATES

*Glide, River Styx
To where the shadow world hides*

THEY PLACE THE **PASSENGER** IN THE BOAT.

*Gone is your life
All your dreams, all your strife
All you once owned
The world you have known*

HIEROPHANT, BY REVERSING HIS CAPE AND COVERING HIS HEAD WITH HIS BLACK HOOD, TRANSFORMS INTO **CHARON**, THE OLD FERRYMAN. HE STOOPS AND STEPS INTO THE BOAT, TAKES THE COIN FROM THE **PASSENGER'S** MOUTH AND TUCKS IT INTO HIS PURSE. AS HE STANDS, **HERMES**, IS REVEALED IN THE BOAT IN HIS SHIMMERING MERCURIAL BODY SUIT. HE ACKNOWLEDGES **CHARON** IN UNUSUAL FLUID MOTIONS AS THE BOAT LEAVES THE SHORE.

THE **INITIATES**, EXCEPT FOR THE **YOUNG WOMAN** WHO REMAINS GAZING AFTER THE BOAT, EXIT. THEIR CHANTING FADES AS THE TEMPLE DISAPPEARS.

AS THE BOAT MOVES THROUGHT THE MIST, THE ONLY SOUND HEARD IS THE LAPPING OF WATER AS **CHARON** POLES HIS BOAT ACROSS THE RIVER.

3. MUSIC:

...

Come With Me

CHARON

*To every life must come an ending
To every birth must come a death
The being born
And then the leaving
A baby's cry
A final breath*

PERSEPHONE, THE BEAUTIFUL YOUNG DAUGHTER OF **DEMETER**, IS REVEALED IN A WHITE DRESS SLEEPING ON THE FAR BANK OF THE RIVER. SHE STIRS AS IF SUSPENDED IN A DREAM AND WATCHES AS THE BOAT PASSES.

THE WALLS OF THE UNDERWORLD APPEAR WHERE THE **SHADES**, STRANGE SHADOWED CREATURES, ARE SEEN PEERING OUT OF THE CRACKS AND CREVICES. **CHARON** AND **HERMES** NOD THEIR HEADS TOWARD THEM IN GREETING. **HERMES** AWAKENS THE **PASSENGER**, WHO SLOWLY STIRS, AS IF WAKING FROM A DREAM. HE GAZES IN FEAR ACROSS THE RIVER.

HERMES

*When standing at the silent threshold
Gazing through to world's unknown
Nothing now is what it once was
And oh, the pain of letting go*

THE **SHADES** CLIMB DOWN.

CHARON AND HERMES

*Come with me
Be not afraid
Come with me
Be not afraid
Come with me
Be not afraid
Come into this moment*

AS THE BOAT REACHES THE FARTHER SHORE, **HADES**, THE FEARSOME GOD OF THE UNDERWORLD, STEPS OUT AND STANDS AT THE GATES TO HIS KINGDOM. HE IS DARK AND BROODING, POWERFUL AND CHARISMATIC.

THE **SHADES** MOVE CAUTIOUSLY OUT OF HIS WAY WITH STRANGE CRAB-LIKE SCURRYING GESTURES. THE **PASSENGER** SHRINKS BACK FROM THEM IN TERROR.

HADES

*Moment by moment you can't stem the tide
The winds will toss. The waves will ride
If, moment by moment you yield to the sea*

HADES, HERMES AND SHADES

She will teach you her strange ways of harmony

HERMES HELPS THE **PASSENGER** FROM THE BOAT AND BIDS FAREWELL TO **CHARON**, WHO EXITS THE SCENE.

*Come with me
Be not afraid
Come with me
Be not afraid
Come with me
Be not afraid*

HADES IS ABOUT TO LEAVE WHEN HE NOTICES **PERSEPHONE** WATCHING HIM FROM ACROSS THE RIVER AND TURNS TOWARD HER. THE **SHADES**, NOTICING THE INTEREST OF **HADES**, TURN IN UNISON TO PEER AT **PERSEPHONE**.

THE **PASSENGER** TURNS BACK AND SEES THE **YOUNG WOMAN** WHO STILL STANDS ON THE FAR SHORE BARELY VISIBLE, AND THOUGH SHE CANNOT SEE THE **PASSENGER**, SHE SENSES HIM AND THEIR LOSS AND LONGING IS APPARENT.

SHADES (women)

*The song of love
It binds us always
To the ones that we hold dear
When we know we soon must leave them
The heart fills up with dark despair*

SHADES (men)

*Deep within there lies a landscape
Hidden when the sun is bright*

HADES

*But when the moon is soft and silent
A path appears within the night*

HADES GESTURES AND A SHIMMERING PATHWAY APPEARS CROSSING THE RIVER STYX. HE BECKONS FOR **PERSPHONE** TO COME TO HIM. SHE IS DRAWN HELPLESSLY TOWARD **HADES**. THE MUSIC SWELLS.

HADES

*Come to me
Be not afraid
Come to me
Be not afraid
Come to me
Be not afraid
Come ...*

SHADES

*Come...

Come...

Come...

Come...*

SUDDENLY, THE VOICE OF **DEMETER**, GODDESS OF THE GRAIN AND ALL THAT GROWS, IS HEARD CALLING FOR HER DAUGHTER.

DEMETER:

Persephone!

IN AN INSTANT, THE **YOUNG WOMAN, HADES, THE SHADES** AND THE UNDERWORLD DISAPPEAR.

LIGHTS BRIGHTEN. **PERSEPHONE** AWAKENS WITH A START IN THE MEADOW, CONFUSED AND TERRIFIED.

4. MUSIC:

...

Who Cares for Them

DEMETER, DRESSED IN A LONG FLOWING RED DRESS ENTERS AND **PERSEPHONE** RUNS TO HER.

PERSEPHONE

Mother, I dreamed I saw the dead

Their eyes bowed down with endless sorrow

*I dreamed them lost within the night
No light to guide, no warmth to soothe them*

And when his eye he fixed on me

It was so cold, so black, so hollow

*He beckoned me to follow where
His voice like caverns deep
Filled me with so much fear*

PERSEPHONE

*Who cares for them?
These spirits lost beyond the grave
In a nether world of haze
Their days so bleak, so dark, so bare
Who cares for them?
The lost, the lonely and afraid
As they wander through a maze alone*

I hear them still, their cries, their moans

So cold, so cold to be alone

DEMETER

*There ... there, my child
I'm here, my love
'Twas just a dream
You need not fear*

*Be still, my love
You're safe with me*

*'Twas but a dream
Now dry your tears*

DEMETER

*Forget the dead, my child
They are but mortals
What's lost is gone
Let go your fears
Speak not of death, my child
Let Hades have them*

My daughter, leave the dead alone

*Their lives are done
Their lives are over*

Let Hades worry for their souls

HADES APPEARS, GAZING ACROSS AT **PERSEPHONE**. SHE IS TERRIFIED AS SHE SEES HIM AGAIN.

Can you not see him beckoning

*Your place is here
Where you need never feel alone*

PERSEPHONE CLINGS TO HER MOTHER. **HADES** DISAPPEARS.

*Who cares for them?
The lost, the lonely and afraid
As they wander through a maze*

*Forget the dead, my child
Let Hades have them*

They are ... alone

You're not alone

They are ... alone

*You're not ...
... alone*

THE ATMOSPHERE DARKENS. THERE IS A CLAP OF THUNDER, A FLASH OF LIGHTENING, A WIND BEGINS TO BLOW. **PERSEPHONE** AND **DEMETER** LOOK UP AND HURRIEDLY EXIT.

ZEUS, THE GOD OF HEAVEN, ARROGANT AND JOVIAL, APPEARS.

5. MUSIC:

...

Something's Stirring in my Kingdom

ZEUS

*Something's stirring in my Kingdom
I can feel it in my bones
Someone's seeking for a favor
Don't let it be another loan ...*

*I'm not keen on supplications
They put one in a jam
But that's the point for being at the top
Which is precisely where I am*

*Ah, to be the King of Heaven
To have power, to be in the know
To show my strength and glory
To all the peons down below*

*Ah, to be the King of Heaven
To wield my Olympian control
To stroll about the firmaments
While others gaze at me from far below*

HE IS ABOUT TO CONTINUE WHEN **HADES** APPEARS AT THE GATES OF THE UNDERWORLD.

6. MUSIC:

...

Brother Zeus

HADES

Brother Zeus

I want your daughter

Brother Zeus

I need your daughter

*I have watched her in the meadow
I'm imprisoned by her spell
Tormented in my darkness
Her beauty stirs my blood
Could this be love?*

I made that very clear

What would I have left to fear?

*I am the god who dwells in darkness
In my kingdom far below
No one will know you've bargained
No one will know we've schemed
Here - take my gold ...*

ZEUS (exasperated)
Here it comes. ... Yes?

What is that you want?

She is not mine to give

*Brother Hades
So you want my daughter?*

*Brother Hades
Have you no fear?*

*If Demeter, her mother
Should hear what you have planned
There'd be hell to pay for Hades
There'd be hell to pay for me
There'd be no peace in the Kingdom
No peace in the Kingdom*

HADES OFFERS **ZEUS** A BASKET OF GOLD AND JEWELS FROM THE UNDERWORLD.
ZEUS PAUSES, PRETENDING TO BE UNCOMFORTABLE.

ZEUS

*I'm not keen on supplications
They put one in a jam
But that's the point for being at the top
Which is precisely where I am*

ZEUS SHRUGS AND TAKES THE BASKET.

BLACKOUT.

7. MUSIC:

...

Backroom Deals

HEKATE, GODDESS OF THE MATURE FEMININE, OF MAGIC AND THE NIGHT, IS SEEN BEHIND A SOMEWHAT TRANSPARENT VEIL, WEARING A BLACK GRECIAN DRESS. SHE BEGINS TO MOVE HER HANDS, AS IF TO PUSH THE VEIL.

HEKATE: (spoken)

Double, Double toil and trouble

Lead me through this time-warp bubble

SHE BEGINS TO STRUGGLE TO GET THROUGH THE VEIL. IT STRETCHES AND BULGES, WHILE A STRANGE BUBBLING, GURGLING SOUND EFFECT ACCOMPANIES HER EFFORTS.

FINALLY SHE BREAKS THROUGH THE VEIL. LIGHTS CHANGE. THE BACKDROP DISAPPEARS. COMICALLY, SHE REGAINS HER COMPOSURE.

(spoken) I love New York. (London, Tokyo, Chicago, Sydney, etc.)

SHE THEN BEGINS TO WRESTLES TO PUT ON AN OLD BAGGY GREY SWEATER. SHE SHUFFLES TO THE FRONT OF THE STAGE, PEERS INTENTLY OUT AT THE AUDIENCE AND THEN SHE SPEAKS TO THEM WITH A BROAD BRONXS ACCENT.

(spoken) They been doin' this for thousands of years.

*Back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys*

*Bargaining over what they don't own
These power mongers who run the show
It makes me sick
It gives me hives
I'd like to smack their bottoms
Open their eyes
And don't look at me that way
You ain't so smart
You ain't so free
We ain't just talking about gods here, baby
You mortals are asleep and it's drivin' me crazy
Ya politicians like Zeus on high
They're sellin' ya out
Robbin' ya blind
To fat corporations and CEO's
Because the power goes where the money flows
And the money goes where the power flows*

BACKGROUND SINGERS (CHORUS) ENTER THROUGH THE VEIL, DRESSED IN HIP HOP CLOTHING.

HEKATE AND BG SINGERS

*Back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys
Watch those back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys
We see you. We see you.
Don't think that we don't see you
And ya backroom deals ...*

*I mean, what's a little theft?
What's a little plunder?
What's a little rape to plough you under?
Rape of the rivers, rape of the seas
Rape of the ozone, the birds and the bees
Rape of your daughters, the forests, the, land
Rape of anything for anything
Anything for anything.
It's all for sale
It's all for them*

HEKATE AND BG SINGERS

*Back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys
Watch those back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys
We see you. We see you.
Don't think that we don't see you
And your backroom deals ...*

HEKATE

*So keep your eyes wide open
Keep your mind real sharp
They will stop at nothing to feed their greed
These sociopathic tyrant boys
With their pathological power toys
And their small pathetic pompous pride
That will stop at nothing, not even genocide*

HEKATE AND BG SINGERS

*Back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys
Watch those back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys*

*We see you. We see you.
Don't think that we don't see you*

HEKATE AND THE **CHORUS** EXIT IN A CHORUS LINE, BUT WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT THE VEIL THEY ALL STRUGGLE TO SQUEEZE BACK THROUGH IT.

*Back room deals between the big boys, baby
Watch those back room deals between the big boys
Back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals between the big boys
Watch those back room deals between the big boys, baby
Back room deals*

BLACKOUT.

8. MUSIC:

...

Gaia

HADES IS SEEN IN THE DARK OF THE UNDERWORLD, PACING UP AND DOWN IN A FRENZY, CALLING OUT TO **GAIA**, THE EARTH GODDESS. THE **SHADES** ARE SEEN HIDING IN THE SHADOWS.

HADES

Gaia ... Gaia ... Gaia ...

*Gaia, make a flower to seduce her
Gaia, grow a bloom to steal her heart
As you grew a tree for Adam
With an apple meant for Eve
To beguile her in her hunger
To eat knowledge from the tree*

*Gaia, make a flower that will tempt her
Gaia, paint its petals red as blood
Let her innocence deceive her
She is young and needs my hand
I will split the ground she walks upon
Drag her captive to my land*

Gaia ... Gaia ... Gaia ...

*Gaia, I live alone in darkness
Gaia, the nights are cold and bare
In the caverns of my Kingdom
I will take her as my Queen
I will grant her wealth and power
But she'll have to bow to me*

Gaia, give me a flower

*Gaia, make me a bloom
Gaia, I must have her
I will have her for my own*

A SINGLE BLOOD RED POPPY RISES UP THROUGH THE CENTRE OF THE UNDERWORLD AND DISAPPEARS ABOVE.

THERE IS A SWIRL OF LIGHTS IN THE DARKNESS. THE UNDERWORLD, THE **SHADES** AND **HADES** DISAPPEAR.

THE MEADOW IS REVEALED AS THE SAME RED POPPY RISES UP OUT OF THE GROUND BELOW.

9. MUSIC:

... *The Abduction ... (Reprise) Who Cares for Them*

PERSEPHONE IS GATHERING FLOWERS. SHE SEES THE POPPY AND IS IRRESISTIBLY DRAWN TOWARD IT. SHE BENDS OVER TO PICK IT. THE WORLD GROWS MOMENTARILY DARK AND THE VOICE OF **HADES** IS HEARD.

HADES

I will have you for my own ...

IN SURPRISE, **PERSEPHONE** PULLS BACK FROM THE FLOWER. AFTER A MOMENT THE WORLD RESUMES ITS USUAL BRIGHTNESS AND THINKING SHE HAS IMAGINED THE VOICE, SHE AGAIN REACHES FOR THE FLOWER.

I must have you for my own ...

AGAIN DARKNESS DECENDS AND **PERSEPHONE** PULLS BACK.

THE WORLD ONCE MORE RESUMES ITS BRIGHTNESS. BUT IN SPITE OF THE SENSED DANGER, **PERSEPHONE** IS UNABLE TO RESIST. SHE REACHES OUT ONCE MORE AND PLUCKS THE FLOWER. INSTANTLY ALL GROWS DARK AND A VIOLENT STORM WITH WIND AND LIGHTENING BREAKS OUT.

THERE IS A SUDDEN RIPPING SOUND. THE GROUND SPLITS OPEN AND **HADES** ON HIS CHARIOT THUNDERS OUT FROM THE DEEP. HE SEIZES **PERSEPHONE**, THROWS HER OVER HIS SHOULDER AND WHIPPING HIS HORSES, CARRIES HER BACK INTO THE UNDERWORLD. **PERSEPHONE'S** SCREAM REVERBERATES THROUGHOUT THE THEATRE.

PERSEPHONE: ... Mother!!

LIGHTENING FLASHES AS **DEMETER** RUSHES IN, THE WIND WHIPPING HER RED DRESS AS SHE CALLS DESPERATELY THROUGH THE STORM FOR HER DAUGHTER.

DEMETER

Persephone! ... Persephone!

THE **GREEK CHORUS** APPEAR SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE FLASHING STORM.

GREEK CHORUS

DEMETER

*Destiny ...
The dark night comes to one deemed ready
To leave behind a life grown small
And fall in darkest ... Hades*

Persephone ...

9a. MUSIC:

...

Hades is the Master Here

DRUMS BEGIN TO BEAT. THE MUSIC BECOMES DARK AND MENACING. **DEMETER** EXITS, SEARCHING DESPERATELY.

THE **GREEK CHORUS** TRANSFORM INTO **SHADES** AS THE UNDERWORLD IS SUDDENLY REVEALED. THEY SCURRY AMONG THE SHADOWS. THE **PASSENGER** IS AS TERRIFIED AS **PERSEPHONE**. WE SEE THE PARALLEL BETWEEN THEM.

SHADES

*Hades rules with iron fist
Hades breaks all who resist
Hades cries, "You must submit"
Hades is the master here*

HADES ENTERS PULLING THE RESISTANT **PERSPHONE** THROUGH THE DARK PASSAGEWAYS.

HADES

*I will have you
You will be my Queen*

And in the end your love will come to me

PERSEPHONE

Hades, let me go home

SHADES

*Hades takes what Hades needs
When Hades hungers, Hades feeds
Hades will not heed your pleas
Hades is the master here*

HADES

*You are mine now
You belong to me
You will never see the light of day again*

*Let me go home
Leave me alone*

HADES DRAGS **PERSEPHONE** INTO A CHAMBER WITH A BED.

HADES

*You are mine now
You belong to me
I will have you for my own*

Let me go home

Leave me alone

SHADES

*Hades rules with iron fist
Hades breaks all who resist
Hades cries, 'You must submit'*

HADES

You must submit

HADES PULLS PERSOPHONE ONTO THE BED. SHE STRUGGLES. AS HE MOVES ONTO HER THEY DISAPPEAR.

DEMETER IS HEARD BUT NOT SEEN.

DEMETER

*Hades takes what Hades needs
When Hades hungers, Hades feeds
Hades will not heed your pleas
Hades is the master here*

*Persephone!
Persephone!
Where are you?*

PERSEPHONE

Mother!

BLACKOUT.

THE SOUND REVERBERATES INTO THE DARKNESS UNTIL ALL GROWS SILENT.

IN THE SILENCE, A SMALL SPOT OF LIGHT BEGINS TO MOVE ABOUT THE STAGE. IT FOCUSES ON A ROPE HANGING DOWN FROM ABOVE. THE SOUND OF SOMEONE MOVING THROUGH THE VEIL IS HEARD.

A PAIR OF WINGED FEET APPEAR, HERMES, GOD OF COMMUNICATION, MESSENGER BETWEEN THE REALMS, TRICKSTER, JESTER, FOOL, TUMBLES AND SOMERSAULTS DOWN THE ROPE WITH STRANGE, SINUOUS, SOMETIMES HUMOROUS GESTURES, HE UNDULATES TO THE EDGE OF THE STAGE AND PEERS AT THE AUDIENCE.

10. MUSIC:

... *This is Going to be Juicy*

HERMES

*This is going to be juicy
This is going to be good
I love it when there's action in the neighborhood
This is going to be splendid
This is going to be fine
And this will need an expertise just like mine*

ACROBATS IN STRANGE BODY SUITS ENTER THROUGH THE VEIL ONE AT A TIME WITH EACH 'POOR CHILD, POOR GIRL.'

HERMES

*Poor child
Poor girl
No one likes to go into the underworld
Poor child
Poor girl
No one likes to go into the underworld*

ACROBATS

*Poor child
Poor girl
No one likes to go into the underworld
Poor child
Poor girl
No one likes to go into the underworld*

(spoken to the audience) What can you do? Life isn't fair, is it? ... But still it would be good to acknowledge what's happening to the poor girl ... Don't you think? ... and to women all over the world? ... Good. ... We all go have to go through a dark night of the soul sometime. It is the way we evolve.

... I don't often have an opportunity to make music with mortals. What do you say? I'll sing a phrase. You repeat it. It's not too complicated. Doesn't take much courage. Won't take much time. You do your part. I'll do mine ...

HERMES CONDUCTS.

HERMES

Poor child

Poor girl

No one likes to go into the underworld

ACROBATS AND AUDIENCE

Poor child

Poor girl

No one likes to go into ...

(exasperated) Stop! Stop! Oh dear, you are a sorry lot.

Poor child. Poor girl. No one likes to go into the underworld.

(spoken) Not too difficult really. Again ... one ... two... three

Poor child

Poor girl

No one likes to go into the underworld

Poor child

Poor girl

No one likes to go into the underworld

Poor child

Poor girl

No one likes to go into the underworld

Poor child

Poor girl

No one likes to go into the underworld

None of us want to die

To lose our earthly place

None of us want to wake

In a dark and barren space

All of us defend

We distort, we slightly bend

The truth that we pretend not to see

So . . . this is going to be golden

This is going to be great

I love the tangled webs we weave of love and hate

This is going to be peachy

This is going to be keen

And this will need a mind as fine as mine, indeed

Poor child

Poor girl

Poor child

Poor girl

*No one likes to go into the underworld
Poor child
Poor girl
No one likes to go into the underworld*

DANCE BREAK.

*This is going to be juicy
This is going to be good
I love it when there's action
In the neighborhood
This going to be splendid
This is going to be fine
And this will need an expertise
Just . . . like . . . mine.*

*No one likes to go into the underworld
Poor child
Poor girl*

No one likes to go into the underworld

*This is going to be juicy
This is going to be good
I love it when there's action
In the neighborhood
This going to be splendid
This is going to be fine
And this will need an expertise*

THE SOUND OF MOVING THROUGH THE VEIL IS HEARD AS THE **ACROBATES** EXIT.
JUST BEFORE **HERMES** STEPS THROUGH, HE LOOKS BACK BRIEFLY.

HERMES: (spoken) I did enjoy you. And I like London. (New York, Tokyo ... etc.)

ONCE THROUGH, **HERMES** MEETS **HEKATE** AS SHE ENTERS.

HEKATE: (spoken) How was your trip?

HERMES: (spoken) Excellent.

HEKATE: (spoken) I loved my last trip to New York. I kept the accent.

HERMES: (spoken) Really?

11. MUSIC:

. . . Don't You Think it Strange?

HEKATE

*Don't you think it a little strange
That it was Gaia ... the Earth Mother
Who grew the flower?
Don't you think it a little odd
That she'd help Hades
Drag the feminine into the Underworld*

HERMES

*Actually I do
But I always have admired
Gaia's creative flare
When it comes to evolution
She simply is the best*

*And if something should have to die
Why she simply says ... Bye, Bye.*

HEKATE: (sarcastically) Your detachment is so appealing, Hermes.

HERMES: (spoken) Detachment has definite advantages, my dear. You can observe what's goin' on without gettin' too involved.

HEKATE: (spoken) But attachment creates connection. It's a feminine quality ...

HERMES: (spoken) ... in men as well as women.

HEKATE: (spoken) I know ... That's what I like about you, Hermes. You've developed your feminine qualities in a most exquisite way.

HERMES: (spoken) Why thank you, my dear. And you have evolved your masculine powers magnificently. You're becoming very balanced, Hekate.

HEKATE: (spoken) It comes from centuries of practice. I can tell ya ... it ain't easy.

HERMES: (spoken) Take poor Demeter. She's much too attached to Persephone to ever allow her to mature beyond her reach.

HEKATE: (in sudden recognition) Ohhh ... So that's why Gaia stepped in!

HERMES: (spoken) She used Persephone's naivety, Hades' lust, Zeus' greed, created a poppy and took the whole situation right out of their hands. It's really quite pristine.

HEKATE: (spoken) It is!!!!!! ...

A DISTRAUGHT **DEMETER** ENTERS. SHE APPROCHES THEM..

HERMES: (spoken) Look who's coming ...

11a. MUSIC: ... *Wise Crone ... (Reprise: Who Cares for Them?)*

HEKATE: (spoken) When a mother runs out of options, she always comes to me.

HERMES SOMERSAULTS OUT OF THE SCENE.

HEKATE (spoken)
You're not looking so good, sweetheart

DEMETER

*Wise crone, I'm lost within the dark
My head bowed down with endless sorrow*

*You're pale, all right
You've had a fright*

*The deepest treasure of my heart
Is lost in mists
Where I can't follow
I've searched the meadow high and low*

*Calm down, my girl
Let's take it slow*

*Wise crone, oh, where
Where is my daughter?*

*We'll ask the sun god
Helios*

*Please, hurry quick
I need to know*

*Patience, my girl
These bones are growin' old*

DEMETER AND HEKATE WALK OUT INTO THE SUNSHINE. THE SUN GOD, **HELIOS** APPEARS.

HEKATE

*Oh, Helios
You are so awesome and so bright
This here poor mother's had a fright
Won't you, please, tell us what you've seen?*

*Oh, Helios
The girl was lost around midday
She disappeared without a trace
Do you have anything to say? ...
(spoken) ... Hey? ... Helios!!! (yelling up to him)*

11b. MUSIC:

... *Gaia Made a Flower* ... (Reprise) *Gaia*

HELIOS

*Gaia made a flower that seduced her
For Hades, it was the way he used to woo her
The poppy lured your daughter
To the meadow all alone
Where Hades in his chariot
He stole her for his own*

DEMETER

No! ...

*No! No! Say it isn't so
Tell me
That my daughter will come home*

*Hades said "I want to have her for my own"
Zeus said, "What I don't see, I don't know"*

*No!
No! No!
Zeus would not deceive us
No! No!*

*I can't believe her father
Zeus! Zeus!
Get off your high and mighty throne
Tell me, what he's told me is not so
Zeus! Zeus!
I demand that you come down
Tell me
How our daughter will be found*

THERE IS A RUMBLE OF THUNDER. **HELIOS** DISAPPEARS BEHIND THE CLOUD ON WHICH **ZEUS** IS REVEALED SITTING.

ZEUS

*Lady, you're being very foolish
Hades would make any mother proud*

*She'll be the Queen of all his kingdom
In the Nether lands below*

*The Underworld will kill her
How could you betray us so?*

No!

BLACKOUT.

12. MUSIC:

... *How Can This Be?*

PERSEPHONE APPEARS IN THE UNDERWORLD SITTING ALONE ON HER BED.

PERSEPHONE

*How can this be?
What's happening to me?
How can this be?
Tell me that it's just a dream and I'll awaken
Tell me I'll awaken in the morning light*

*I always thought I'd have tomorrow
I thought today would never end
I always thought I could lend
Or borrow time
I always thought I would find
The years would be mine
To live, to taste, to hold, to waste
I thought there would always
Always be time*

THE **SHADES** WATCH HER COMPASSIONATELY FROM THE SHADOWS.

*What do I think now?
What do I feel?
So many thoughts*

*But none of them seem real
So many longings
Locked so deep in my heart
They call, they wake
They burst, they break
I thought there would always
Always be time*

*All the things I've left undone
All the dreams that wanted the sun
All the hopes that fade too soon
Lost on the tide of an ebbing moon*

*All the life I've left unlived
All the love I still have to give
All the songs I've left unsung
Like bells on a hill that have never rung ...
Ah
Ah.....*

WHILE PERSEPHONE CONTINUES IN VOCALISE, DEMETER ENTERS, CARRYING A TORCH THROUGH THE WORLD, SEARCHING FOR HER.

THE GREEK CHORUS APPEAR.

GREEK CHORUS

*For nine long days, nine long nights
Demeter searched for her
Afraid for her daughter
Lost in her grief
For nine long days, nine long nights
Lost in her sorrow
Afraid that tomorrow
She would not find ... Persephone*

DEMETER

*Persephone! ... Persephone! ...
Where are you? Where are you?
Persephone! ... Persephone! ...
Where are you?
Persephone*

PERSEPHONE, DEMETER AND GREEK CHORUS SLOWLY FADE AS ZEUS IS REVEALED ABOVE, WATCHING THEM FADE.

13. MUSIC:

... Why is This a Problem?

HERMES ENTERS WITH A FLOURISH AND WITHOUT DEFERING TO ZEUS PLOPS HIMSELF IN A SEAT BESIDE HIM.

HERMES: (spoken) So ... your little exchange with Hades has been exposed, has it?

ZEUS

*Well, why is this such a problem?
I can't make sense of it
One day I'm in her boudoir
Next day ... well ... I'm in shit*

HERMES: (spoken) Fancy that ... and you only sold your daughter.

ZEUS

*Our daughter's getting older
She can't stay innocent for life
Who cares if he's her uncle
Thank god, Demeter's not my wife*

HERMES (spoken)
Zeus? ...

*I have a universe to run here
With Gods and men to lead
I don't have time to bother
With every little person's need*

I notice that.

*Why can't I turn a blind eye
When Hades comes to call
Sometimes you have to compromise
It can't be good for all*

(spoken) I run the world quite nicely, don't we all agrees!

ZEUS AND HERMES DISAPPEAR.

14. MUSIC: ... *Demeter Lost all Power* ... (Reprise) *Gaia*

THE **GREEK CHORUS** IS SEEN AS **DEMETER** ENTERS, LOST AND EXHAUSTED.
NATURE IS SLOWLY FADING AS SHE PASSES.

GREEK CHORUS

*Demeter, lost all power in her agony
Demeter, her beauty gone, her light grown dim
At the shoreline on a hillside
By a well beneath a tree
In the kingdom of Eleusis
She falls helpless in her grief*

A WELL UNDER A TREE IS REVEALED. **DEMETER** SITS EXHAUSTED.

THE **GREEK CHORUS** SLOWLY EXIT.

15. MUSIC: ... *Small One*

NIGHT DESCENDS AND STARS COME OUT.

DEMETER

Small one

Small one

Hidden away from the eye

A flower that bloomed

And then sighed on a wisp

And was gone

And was gone

And was gone

Small one

Small one

Maker of laughter and dreams

Always panning for gold

And for wishes in streams

You were lost

You were lost

You were lost

No ... I should have walked you to the shore

I should have kept you warm and safe

When it grew late

And dark-winged shadows crossed your face

I might have helped you to be brave.

Oh ... the sadness sweeps

Like dust along the street

When the wind blows down from the north

Oh, the memories seep

Like sap from the maple tree

That sickens with sweetness

The snow at my feet ...

PERSEPHONE IS SEEN ALONE IN THE UNDERWORLD AS **DEMETER** GRIEVES IN
VOCALIZE.

Small one

Small one

Hidden away from the eye

A flower that bloomed

And then sighed on a wisp

And was gone

And was gone

And was gone ...

Before we said good-bye

DAWN BEGINS TO BREAK. TWO **FISHERMEN** ENTER CARRYING FISHING NETS BUT **DEMETER** PAYS NO HEED.

16. MUSIC:

...

Song by the Well

FISHERMAN 1

The fish no longer fill the nets

FISHERMAN 2

There's hunger in the land

MAIDS ENTER TO FETCH WATER FROM THE WELL. LIGHT BRIGHTEN.

MAID #1

Our crops are dying in the fields

MAID #2

The soil now turns to sand

ALL (except Demeter)

Thank gods this well holds water

When there is drought both far and near

Yet we know not what now plagues the earth

There is famine everywhere

THE **PRINCESS OF ELEUSIS** WITH HER **MAID** ENTERS.

MAID #1

The princess and her maid now come

To fetch water from the well

MAID #2

I hear the young prince sickens still

Since the goats have lost their milk

MAID #1

She may need to hurry homeward

MAID #2

Draw her a bucket from the well

THE **PRINCESS** NOTICES **DEMETER**.

PRINCESS

My thanks to you, who's that stranger there?

MAID #2

Never seen her, she's not from here

THE **MAIDS** GATHER THEIR BUCKETS AND THE **FISHERMEN** THEIR NETS,
PREPARING TO LEAVE.

ALL

*The sun shines on the water
But no boat sets out to sea
We will meet again tomorrow morn
At our well here beneath the tree*

THE **PRINCESS** IS ABOUT TO EXIT WHEN SHE AGAIN LOOKS TOWARD **DEMETER**
AND IS TOUCHED WITH COMPASSION. SHE APPROACHES HER AS THE OTHERS
EXIT.

16a. MUSIC:

... You Must Be Tired ... (Reprise) Come with Me

PRINCESS

*You must be tired. You must be thirsty
Here drink this water from the well
Have you no bed? Have you no shelter?
Have you no home in which to dwell?*

*The Queen, my mother, needs a nursemaid
To tend the infant newborn prince
Come home with me before the day's heat
Our palace lies not too far hence*

THE WELL DISAPPEARS AS THE **PRINCESS** LEADS **DEMETER** TOWARD THE
PALACE. THE STAGE REVOLVES AS THEY WALK.

*Come with me, be not afraid
Come with me
Come with me*

DEMETER

Thank you, kind maid

THE **QUEEN** APPEARS.

*Come with me
Meet my mother, the Queen of Eleusis*

DEMETER GREETES HER.

THE **GREEK CHORUS** ENTERS. THE ACTION BETWEEN THE **QUEEN** AND
DEMETER IS ENACTED.

GREEK CHORUS (spoken)

The Goddess seemed to be a mortal
The Queen did not think to beware

And so she offered her the young prince
To be his nurse, to give him care

THE **QUEEN** PLACES THE YOUNG PRINCE INTO THE ARMS OF **DEMETER**, WHO IMMEDIATELY BEGINS TO CARE FOR HIM.

16b. MUSIC: ... *And so the Goddess ... (reprise: Song by the Well)*

GREEK CHORUS (women)

*And so the Goddess took the boy
She held him within her arms
She knew his life was fading fast
And swore she would keep him from harm*

THE **QUEEN** AND **DEMETER** FADE SLIGHTLY AS **PERSEPHONE** IS REVEALED IN THE UNDERWORLD. ALTHOUGH SHE CANNOT SEE HER MOTHER, SHE SENSES THAT SOMETHING HAS CHANGED.

GREEK CHORUS

*If she could not save her daughter
She would save the mortal son
While Persephone lost in caverns dark
Knew all hope was gone*

THE LIGHTS FADE ON **DEMETER** AS SHE CARES FOR THE **YOUNG PRINCE**.

THE **GREEK CHORUS** AND THE **QUEEN** EXIT.

17. MUSIC: ... *Am I Forsaken ... (Reprise) Who Cares for Them?*

THE **SHADES** AND THE **PASSENGER** ARE SEEN IN THE UNDERWORLD AS **HADES** ENTERS. **DEMETER** IS SEEN FAINTLY IN THE BACKGROUND.

PERSEPHONE

*Mother, I cannot feel you near
Where are you now? Am I forsaken?*

HADES SEES DEMETER.

HADES

*See how she tends the newborn prince
Her love's moved on to serve another*

PERSEPHONE TURNS TO SEE **DEMETER** AND THE PRINCE.

Mother, I'm here, I'm lost, alone

*I would not count on her devotion
My subjects need a mother now
But like your mother you forsake them*

(to Hades) *She cares for me*

She has forgotten you

Mother, tell me it's not true

She knows you now belong to me

The boy means more to her than you

HADES BEGINS TO EXIT IN FRUSTRATION, BUT STOPS WHEN JUST OUT OF SIGHT OF **PERSEPHONE**. HE TRIES TO PULL HIMSELF TOGETHER.

THE **QUEEN** AND **DEMETER** FADE.

PERSEPHONE BEGINS TO WEEP. THE **SHADES** AND **PASSENGER** PEER OUT OF THE SHADOWS IN SYMPATHY. THEY SPEAK TO HER FOR THE FIRST TIME.

SHADES

Persephone, don't weep

We know how you feel ...

Persephone, we know how you feel ...

PERSEPHONE LOOKS UP IN SURPRISE. THE **SHADES** ANXIOUSLY RETREAT FURTHER.

17a. MUSIC:

... Come out. Come out.

REALIZING THEIR FEAR, SHE REACHES OUT TO THEM.

PERSEPHONE (to the Shades)

I've watched you in the shadows

I've glimpsed you in the dark

And once when I was young and free

I dreamed you in my heart

So now that we are here

With sorrow all around

Hear the sound of my voice calling you

ONE BY ONE THE **SHADES** TENTATIVELY COME OUT OF THE CRACKS. **HADES** WATCHES UNNOTICED.

I haven't much to offer

I'm lonely just like you

But if you'd trust that I mean well

I know I could love you

So now that we're together

Let what was lost be found

Hear the sound of my voice calling you

Come out, come out, wherever you are

Come out, I'm waiting for you

Come out and see if you and I might

Invite the sadness to flee

*Come out. Come out, whoever you are
Come out. Come closer to me
And we will find our way through the dark
You and me*

SHADES

*Who cares for her?
This goddess lost beyond the grave
In this nether land of haze
Her days so bleak so dark so bare
Who cares for her?
So lost, so lonely and afraid*

PERSEPHONE

*Come out. Come out
Come out. Come out
Come out. Come out

Come out. Come out
Come out. Come out*

SHADES AND PERSEPHONE

Don't wander through this maze alone Don't wander through this maze alone

THE **SHADES** HAVE COME DOWN AND GATHERED AROUND **PERSEPHONE**. THE MUSIC SWELLS, AS SHE GENTLY WELCOMES THEM. THE **SHADES** SEEM TO STAND MORE ERECT.

HADES, TOUCHED BY WHAT HE SEES, STEPS OUT AND THE **SHADES** SCURRY BEHIND **PERSEPHONE**.

HADES (to Persephone)

*I watched you from the shadows
You have a way with them
Come - walk with me a little while ...*

HADES EXTENDS HIS HAND TO **PERSEPHONE**, BUT SHE TURNS UNCOMFORTABLY AWAY AND EXITS.

THE **SHADES** AND **PASSENGER**, NOT KNOWING WHAT TO DO, CROUCH BACK ONTO ALL FOURS AND EXIT BACK INTO THE SHADOWS.

HADES IS LEFT ALONE, TORMENTED BY THE REJECTION.

18. MUSIC:

... *My Love for You*

HADES

*My love for you
Is like the river
Forever flowing
Forever new ...*

*My love for you
Forever haunts me
How can I win you?
What must I do?*

HADES COMES TO THE RIVER.

*My love for you
Is but a prison
It holds me fast when
I want to fly
It holds me
Won't let me go
Then leaves me hungry
Empty, and oh so hollow*

*My love for you
It twists and haunts me
This burning hunger
Forever lures me
But when I follow down that dark unknown
You're gone ... gone ... gone ...*

*My love for you
Is like this river
Forever flowing
What must I do?*

THE LIGHT FADES ON HADES.

DEMETER IS REVEALED TENDING THE YOUNG PRINCE IN THE PALACE.

THE GREEK CHORUS ENTER. HEKATE AND HERMES ARE OBSERVING DEMETER FROM ABOVE.

19. MUSIC: ... *As Time Went By (reprise: Song by the Well)*

GREEK CHORUS

*As time went by with ambrosia sweet
The Goddess fed the child
He grew most beauteous, fair and strong
And no one but she knew why*

HEKATE: (spoken) I know why!

GREEK CHORUS

*But from that moment all was altered
The balance of the world was lost
As the boy took favor o'er the girl
Harmony was the cost*

HEKATE, ANNOYED, TURNS TO HERMES.

HEKATE (whispering) She's doin' what women have been doing for centuries, Hermes, not standing up for her own daughter, accepting the status quo and giving all her sweet juices to a boy ... a boy. So he can grow up to be a schmuck just like his father.

HERMES: (spoken) Hekate. ... Don't blame the father when in this case it's the mother that's out of balance.

HEKATE: (spoken) I stand corrected.

ZEUS PASSES HEKATE AND HERMES. HE LOOKS TOWARD DEMETER.

19a. MUSIC:

... *Settling down (Reprise) I am the King of Heaven*

ZEUS

*Ah ... She's settling down quite nicely
It all turns out in the end
They soon forget their wants and fears
I always count on them to bend*

ZEUS SMILES QUITE SATISFIED. HEKATE GIVES HIM A WITHERING LOOK AS HE EXITS AND THEN RETURNS TO WATCHING DEMETER.

HEKATE: She's takin' the boy out of his room. The Queen's gonna' love this.

HERMES JOINS HER TO VIEW THE SITUATION.

DEMETER BEGINS TO WALK THROUGH THE PALACE WITH THE BABY IN HER ARMS.

GREEK CHORUS

*As the palace slept in darkness
She would steal him from his bed
And secret him into the night ...*

DEMETER BEGINS TO CONJURE A FIRE FROM THE OTHER WORLD.

19b. MUSIC:

... *In the Blackness (reprise: Gaia)*

GREEK CHORUS

*Demeter, in the blackness of the darkest night
Demeter, conjures high the sacred fire*

DEMETER LIFTS THE CHILD ABOVE THE FIRE.

*She dips him in the flame
His burning body lights the sky
When his earthly life is burned to ash
He'll be a god, he'll never die*

19c. MUSIC:

DEMETER

*Let the fire
Purify and cleanse him
Let his cells
Be awoken and reborn
Let the fire
Grant him life immortal
Let him live
Live forevermore*

... *The Fire ... (Reprise) Brother Zeus*

GREEK CHORUS

*Let the fire
Purify and cleanse him
Let his cells
Be awoken and reborn
Let the fire
Grant him life immortal
Let him live
Live forevermore*

HERMES, HEKATE, CHORUS

*Demeter forgets
She steals another woman's son
As Hades stole her daughter
She repeats the crime he's done*

THE FIRE BLAZES MORE INTENTLY. THE **QUEEN** ENTERS INTO THE BOYS BEDROOM. SEEING HER SON IS NOT THERE, SHE BEGINS FRANTICALLY SEARCHING FOR HIM.

DEMETER

*Let the fire
Purify and cleanse him
Let him live
Live, forevermore*

GREEK CHORUS

*Let the fire
Purify and cleanse him
Let him live
Live, forevermore*

19d. MUSIC:

... *Stop! Stop! ... (Reprise) Gaia*

THE **QUEEN** TURNS A CORNER AND SEES **DEMETER** DIPPING THE BOY INTO THE FIRE

THE QUEEN

*Stop! Stop!
What are you doing to my babe?

Stop! Stop!
Have you gone completely crazed?

How could you take my son?
How could you betray me so?
Give me back my infant boy
Leave my palace. Go!!*

DEMETER

*Silence! Do not disturb the magic now

Move back. You have no say.
You must allow.*

DEMETER THROWS OFF HER NURSES VEIL TO REVEAL HERSELF IN ALL HER POWER AND GLORY.

DEMETER

*You do not know to whom you speak
You do now know what I can offer him
I am the Goddess of the Grain
I am offering the gift of life eternal to your son*

THE QUEEN DROPS TO HER KNEES, SHEILDING HER EYES.

19e. MUSIC:

... Great Goddess, Please ... (Reprise) Who Cares for Them?

QUEEN

*Great Goddess, please, I beg, forgive
My eyes were blind
They did not know you*

You are the Mother of us all

I love him so

Surely you know a mother's grief

He is my only son

Don't take my child away from me

DEMETER

Beyond all time your son could live

One meager life is all he'll know

Then let me grant him life

I lost my child

She was my life

THE LIGHTS DIM ON ALL BUT **DEMETER**, HOLDING THE **YOUNG PRINCE**.

*What have I done?
I have become the thing I hate?
I take her child as he did mine
It is my daughter I must find*

DEMETER GIVES THE CHILD BACK TO THE **QUEEN**. LIGHTS RESTORE.

GREEK CHORUS

Wah-ah ...

Wah-ah ...

Wah-ah ...

(spoken) Thank you, Great Mother

What can I do to honor you?

20. MUSIC:

... Build me a Temple ... (Reprise) Going to the Temple

DEMETER REGAINS HER AUTHORITY AND COMPOSURE.

DEMETER

*Build me a temple
Build it here where I stand
Build me a temple
Stately and grand
In return I will teach you
How to reap, how to sow
How to tend, how to harvest
The grain as it grows*

Wah-ah ...

ONE BY ONE, THE **GREEK CHORUS** TRANSFORM INTO THE **PEOPLE OF ELEUSIS**
AND BEGIN TO BUILD THE TEMPLE WITH ITS GRAND STAIRCASE AND DOORS
THAT WE SAW AT THE BEGINNING OF ACT I.

PEOPLE OF ELEUSIS

*We are building Her a temple
We are building of stone
We are building a temple
For the Great Mother's throne
We will bow at Her feet
We will honor Her always
Great Mother of Mystery
Great Goddess of Grain*

*Ow-wa-ah-ow-whey
Ow-wa-ah-ow-whey
Wah-ah ... Wah-ah
Wah-ah ... Wah-ah
Ow-wa-ah-ow-whey*

WHEN THE OUTSIDE OF THE TEMPLE IS BUILT, **DEMETER** CLIMBS THE STAIRS
AND PULLS OPEN THE DOORS.

*We have built you a temple
We have built it of stone
We have built you a temple
For your sacred throne
We bow at your feet
We will honor you always
Great Mother of Mystery
Great Goddess of Grain
You will teach us the mystery
Of death and rebirth*

*Wah-ah ... Wah-ah
Wah-ah ... Wah-ah
Ow-wa-ah-ow-whey*

DEMETER STEPS THROUGH THE DOOR, TURNS BACK TO FACE THE **PEOPLE OF ELEUSIS** AND THE AUDIENCE. ON THE LAST NOTE, SHE PULLS THE DOORS CLOSED IN FRONT OF HER. THEY SHUT WITH A REZOUNDING CLANG, WHICH REVERBERATES THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE THEATRE.

BLACKOUT.

INTERMISSION

ACT II

21. MUSIC:

Entr'acte (Reprise) Going to the Temple

AT THE END OF THE ENTR'ACTE **DEMETER** IS REVEALED STANDING UPSTAGE AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS IN EXACTLY THE SAME POSITION AS AT THE END OF ACT I. BUT NOW, SHE IS SEEN WITH HER BACK TO THE AUDIENCE, THE OPEN DOORS IN FRONT OF HER.

ON THE LAST NOTE OF THE ENTR'ACTE, SHE PULLS THE TEMPLE DOORS CLOSED AS SHE DID AT THE END OF ACT I. THE SAME LOUD CLANG REVERBERATES THROUGHOUT THE HALL.

SHE WAITS UNTIL SILENCE FALLS AND THEN TURNS SLOWLY AS THE INNER PILLARS OF THE TEMPLE ARE REVEALED. SHE DESCENDS DOWN THE STAIRS AND STANDS ALONE IN THE DARK TEMPLE.

22. MUSIC:

....

I am the Mother

DEMETER

*Be still, my soul
Let silence find me
Let all the sorrows of the past
At last flow through me
Like a cleansing, healing rain*

*The pain, my soul
I could not hold it
I turned away
I lost my place
Lost my power and my grace
I lost my way*

A **WOMAN** APPEARS AS IF SHE IS A THOUGHT IN **DEMETER'S** MIND, STANDING ALONE, BARELY VISIBLE AMONG THE SHADOWS OF THE TEMPLE.

DEMETER AND WOMAN

*I am the mother like so many mothers
Whose daughter was kidnapped
While playing alone in a garden
The love of my life is lost in the night
And alone I am left to endure*

ANOTHER **WOMAN**, BARELY VISIBLE, APPEARS.

DEMETER AND WOMEN

I am the mother watching my baby

*Dying of hunger while suckling
On my withered breast
While others feast on the fat of the land
I stand empty handed with dread*

DEMETER TRIES TO BANISH THE THOUGHTS. THE **WOMEN** MOMENTARILY FADE.

DEMETER

*Be still, my soul
Let silence find me ...*

THE **WOMEN** RE-APPEAR WITH OTHERS

DEMETER AND WOMEN

*I am the mother whose young girl was stolen
And sold in the shadows
To be a trinket for men
Night after night her sobs can be heard
In a heart that cannot forget*

*Nowhere to turn
No one to heed me
I must go inward
Find my power
Find my way*

*Right here and now
I do resolve
I will not leave this temple
Until my daughter's free*

BLACKOUT.

23. MUSIC: ... *Everything's Changed ... (Reprise) Who Cares for Them*

THE SHORE BY THE RIVER STYX APPEARS. **PERSEPHONE** IS SITTING WITH THE **PASSENGER**, WATCHING THE **YOUNG WOMAN** ON THE FARTHER SHORE. **PERSEPHONE** IS HELPING HIM ACCEPT HIS SEPARATION FROM THE **YOUNG WOMAN**.

PERSEPHONE (to the Passenger)

*Can you see across the river
As she wonders where you are
You can send her love and comfort from
This land where you now are
And when her time is ready
She will come and meet you here
Never fear, those we love are always near*

SHADES

*Everything's better
Since you came to stay
Promise you won't go away ...*

24. MUSIC:

... *What's to be Done*

ZEUS ENTERS ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE RIVER.

PERSEPHONE AND THE SHADES PULL BACK INTO THE SHADOWS. THE YOUNG WOMAN DISAPPEARS.

ZEUS CALLS ACROSS TO HADES.

ZEUS

Brother Hades ... A word with you

HADES ENTERS. THEY SPEAK ACROSS THE WATER.

HADES

Brother Zeus ... What brings you here?

ZEUS

*I was simply wondering
How it's going with your wife ... with my daughter ... with your niece ... you know ...
Persephone*

HADES

*I might as well be honest
I'm really at a loss
She's always filled with sadness
And she's sometimes even cross*

ZEUS

*Oh, tell me about anger
I've surely had my fill
Her mother's in a rage
And her voice is, oh, so shrill*

BOTH

What's to be done?

ZEUS

With a Goddess lost in fury

HADES

With a Goddess lost in grief

BOTH

*Why can't they just be happy
With whatever we decree
What's to be done?*

ZEUS

They're perplexing

They're confusing

*So annoying
Not to mention intruding*

They're demanding

And so brooding

It's enough to drive one insane

They're exhausting

They're frustrating

*Did I mention
The endless debating
And the fuming*

And the fainting

It's enough to drive one insane

BOTH

*What is it we do not understand?
What in all worlds do they want?
What do we lack that they seems to need?*

HADES

They are an enigma

ZEUS

*A problem
A pain*

BOTH

*Yet in spite of myself
I come back again*

HADES

Don't know how to act

*Don't know what to do
Don't know what I
should be saying and so ...*

I don't know what to hide

*Don't know what to show
It's enough to drive one insane*

Don't know what she wants

*Don't know what she needs
I don't know how
I can please her ... and so*

Don't know when to rant

*Don't know when to plead
It's enough to drive one insane*

And again and again and again ...

What's to be done?

*These Goddesses have changed the game
I've become like them, unstable
Could I be wrong?
Is she as strong?
Or should she stay where she belongs?
Good gods, what's to be done?*

ZEUS AND HADES EXIT.

PERSEPHONE, THE SHADES AND THE PASSENGER COME OUT OF THE SHADOWS.

25. MUSIC:

...

I Won't Stay Silent any Longer

PERSEPHONE

*If I told them what to do
Would they listen?
They don't listen ... but ...*

*I won't stay silent any longer
This may be the last chance for me
I won't pretend that I'm not feeling
All the feelings deep in me*

*I won't pretend that I'm not hurting
When I'm hurting, when I'm afraid
I won't deny the things I need to speak of
No, I won't let the fear get in the way*

*All the times I've held my heart in hiding
All the times I've tucked away the pain
To give all the things I thought were wanted
While the hidden heart of loneliness remained*

PERSEPHONE WALKS THROUGH THE PASSAGEWAYS.

*I won't stay silent any longer
This may be the last chance for me
To speak the truth that is unwanted
The truth that's always haunting me*

*I'm going to live as if tomorrow never comes
I'm going to sing my song as if beneath the sun
I'm going to take a risk*

*I'm going to take a chance
I'm going to open up and be all that I am*

*I'm going to open like I've never done before
I'm going to swing wide the windows and the door
I'm going to take the risk
I'm going to take the chance
I'm going to open up and show him ...
Open up and be all that I am*

26. MUSIC:

... Why Won't you Sit? ... (Reprise) My Love for You

PERSEPHONE ENTERS **HADES'** CHAMBER. THE **SHADES** HIDE WHERE THEY CAN WATCH.

HADES LEADS **PERSEPHONE** ACROSS TO WHERE TWO STATELY CHAIRS ARE STANDING. HE OFFERS HER ONE, WHICH SHE REFUSES.

HADES (in exasperation)
*Why won't you sit?
This is the throne I built for you
Sit down I say!*

PERSEPHONE
*Why speak this way
Where is your kindness?
You treat us harshly
And then you wonder
Why I don't want
To spend my time with you*

HADES (shocked)
*How dare you speak
As if I don't know what I do
You are my subjects
This is my kingdom
But when I offer you my throne to share
You shun me ...
Ignore me ...
Spurn me ...*

PERSEPHONE
*And what did you expect?
No more than you do me
Have you no thought for how I feel?*

PERSEPHONE (gathering courage)
*My life with you
Is but a prison
It holds me fast
When I want to fly
It holds me*

*Won't let me go
Then leaves me hungry
Empty and oh, so hollow*

HADES

*My need for you
Is not just for me
It's for my Kingdom
It's for them all
They wander
Shades lost in shadow
Somehow you reach into their darkness
And they answer your call*

PERSEPHONE

*Then hear me now
My need is equal to your own
I am a Goddess
I'm not a slave
If you won't free me
How could you love me?
I was not born to just obey
To be your subject night and day
To do your bidding
Warm your bed
Be your trophy for the dead*

HADES EXITS IN FRUSTRATION.

THE **SHADES**, EXCITED BY HER COURAGE, COME OUT OF THE SHADOWS. BUT AS SOON AS **HADES** IS GONE, **PERSEPHONE**'S ANGER DEFLATES INTO TEARS. THE **SHADES** IMMEDIATELY EMPATHIZE WITH HER.

26a. MUSIC:

.... *The Pomegranate*

SHADES

*Persephone, your sadness
Is our sadness too
We're locked in the shadows with you*

PERSEPHONE (to the Shades)

*If I have no choice
But to stay here with you
My light will dwindle
What good would I be
With a heart grown bitter with grief?*

*You lifted the darkness
You made this a home*

You're our Queen with rights of your own

*If I were Queen
I would be free to stay or go away
Free to speak, not only just obey*

THE **SHADES** TRY TO CONSOLE **PERSEPHONE** BY OFFERING A POMEGRANATE, HOLDING IT IN THE SAME LOCATION ON THE STAGE WHERE THE POPPY APPEARED WHICH FIRST SEDUCED **PERSEPHONE**.

SHADES

*This sweet fruit grows plentiful here
We'll serve you with love and with care
You're hungry. You're thirsty
You don't eat a thing
Here, eat of this fruit that we bring*

PERSEPHONE REACHES FOR THE POMEGRANATE. **HEKATE** SUDDENLY ENTERS AND STOPS HER.

HEKATE: (spoken) Wait! ...
*If you even take but one bite of that fruit they kindly offer
You'll forfeit for all time your chance to return to the light
It's the law in these caverns below
Those who eat here can never go home
Somehow you must find
Deep within your own bones
The strength to stand up on your own*

PERSEPHONE PULLS BACK FROM THE POMEGRANATE.

26b. MUSIC:

... *You're not Meant to be a Victim*

*You're not meant to be a victim
You're meant to be a Queen
It's ya destiny, ya fate
Ya dharma in this cosmic dream
Ya don't get to choose
What life throws ya way
But ya do get to say
How you live every day
So what will it be?
A victim ... or a Queen?*

*Surrendering to life is not giving in
It's accepting where you find yourself to be
From here in this moment you can find your next step
On your journey toward being free*

PERSEPHONE

*But all the things I've left undone
All the dreams that wanted the sun
All the hopes that fade too soon
Lost on the tide of an ebbing moon ...*

HEKATE

*Ya gotta drop the self-pity
It just don't become ya
Being a victim is no fun at all
Now, surrendering
To ya destiny
Acceptin' who you are
Where your work lies
How ya respond
Now that's what I call ...*

27. MUSIC:

... *Surrender*

*Surrender
There is something 'bout surrender
It is so ruthless yet so tender ...*

LIGHTS CHANGE. **HERMES** ENTERS WITH A GRAND FLOURISH.

HERMES: (spoken) Oh, Hekate, my darling, please, please, let me do this. You never quite give it the justice it deserves, my dear ... Lights! Action! Camera!

A TANGO BEGINS TO PLAY. THE **SHADES** TRANSFORM INTO STRANGE **TANGO DANCERS**.

*Surrender
There is something 'bout surrender
It is so ruthless yet so tender
First you strive for what you need
Then you have to let it be
Surrender*

*The very last thing you want to do
Is to accept the pain life brings to you
It is a paradox you see
You must accept the joy, the grief
You must surrender*

*Surrender
There is something 'bout surrender
It is such a mind bender*

**HEKATE, PERSEPHONE,
AND TANGO DANCERS**

*Surrender
Surrender*

*First it drops you to your knees
Then gives you strength to rise and be
Surrender*

AS THE SCENE PROGRESSES, **HADES** ENTERS AND WATCHES FROM THE SIDE LINES, UNNOTICED BY THE OTHERS.

*It is the hardest thing you'll ever learn
To just let go and let the Great Wheel turn
You cannot know where life will lead
But to align with Mystery
You must surrender*

Surrender

HERMES MIME'S SQUEEZING THROUGH THE VEIL, (SOUND EFFECT) WHEN THROUGH, HE ADDRESSES THE **AUDIENCE**.

(spoken) I'm giving you another chance, my mortal friends. All you have to do is sing the one word that truly matters. And what is it? ...

HE CUPS HIS EAR AS IF LISTENING FOR A REPLY.

What? ... What? ... Ah, yes ... 'Surrender'!

HERMES CONDUCTS THE **AUDIENCE** WHILE THE **TANGO DANCERS** AND **HEKATE** SING ALONG WITH COMPLETE ABANDON.

(spoken) Are you ready?

1, 2, 3

What's that you have to do? -

What's that you say? ...

Sing with gusto now ...

Keep it up, my friends ...

**HEKATE, PERSEPHONE
TANGO DANCERS &
AUDIENCE**

Surrender

Surrender

Surrender

Surrender

Surrender

HERMES MOTIONS TO **HEKATE**.

Come on, my dear Hekate ...

Surrender

Let's show these mortals how it's really done ...

Surrender

HEKATE THROWS OFF HER OLD CAPE REVEALING A FABULOUS GOWN. THEY AND THE **TANGO DANCERS** DANCE.

AT THE END OF THE DANCE, **HERMES** AND **HEKATE** TURN TO THE **AUDIENCE**.

HERMES: (spoken) Sing on my friends! ...

Surrender

HEKATE: (spoken) Just follow the bouncing ball ...

A SCREEN APPEARS WITH THE WORDS ON IT WITH A BOUNCING BALL FOR THE **AUDIENCE** TO FOLLOW.

ALL

*We each of us have our own destiny
How it arrives is just a mystery
You did not choose what came before
But you can use it as door
If you surrender*

*It is the hardest thing you'll ever learn
To just let go and let the Great Wheel turn
You may not know where it will lead
But to align with Mystery
You must surrender ...
You must surrender ...
You must ... surrender*

ALL BUT **HADES** EXIT. HE WATCHES THEM LEAVE.

28. MUSIC:

... *Alone*

HADES WALKS TO THE BANKS OF THE RIVER. THE MOON IS JUST RISING. AS IT RISES A PATHWAY SHINES ACROSS THE WATER.

HADES

*Alone at a bridge cross a river
A river made of sand
Alone with the hourglass sifting
My heart a foreign land
Alone with the whispers of twilight
Alone at the bridge way I stand
Alone with my soul in the moonlight
Alone with my heart in my hand
Alone I am ...*

*Alone with the rhyme of the river
Winding through my soul
Alone where a bell is still ringing
No mortal hand did toll
Alone with the gate swinging silent
Alone in the darkness I stand
Alone, a king lost in shadow
Alone with my heart in my hand
Alone I am ...*

HADES EXITS. THE RIVER FADES.

DEMETER, WRESTLING INWARDLY, APPEARS IN HER TEMPLE.

29. MUSIC:

... *What is This World*

DEMETER

*What is this world so full of pain so full of sorrow?
Who are these men, these gods so lost in lust and greed?
What is this need to feed on another soul's misfortune?
What is this sickness of the heart that breeds such grief?*

*It's always been some ancient fear holds us captive
We can't move on, we're shackled to our worn out ways
If we could raise the will to live a different story
The force of life's own urge would come to lead the way*

*Oh, wisdom, come, let every heart remember deeply
We all are weaved within this web of space and time
Help us to find the strength our ancestors bequeathed us
Oh, wisdom, come, come now, come quick, while still there's time*

THE MUSIC SWELLS AS THE LIGHTS FADE ON **DEMETER**.

HERMES AND **ZEUS** APPEAR ON OLYMPUS. **HERMES** IS TRYING TO TALK SENSE INTO HIM. THE **GREEK CHORUS** IS SEEN.

30. MUSIC:

... *The Forest Fades* ... (Reprise) Song by the Well

HERMES AND GREEK CHORUS

*The forest fades, trees they wilt
Deer die within the wood
I've stood beside a babbling stream
Fouled and clogged with soot
Beneath the waves the dolphin flounders
The wolf howls a parting knell
And we who love the earth cry out
'Let the Mother's voice be heard'*

ZEUS: (spoken) I hate when you exaggerate so.
*Give up my power?
Give up my place?
Give up control of the whole human race?
Give up my status?
And let her rule too?
Do you think me an absolute fool?*

30a. MUSIC:

... *Hermes' Harang*

HERMES

*There's more poverty, anxiety, repression, depression
More loneliness, homelessness, helplessness, stress*

*There's more madmen, jailbirds, corruption, anger
More pestilence, tornadoes, dead animals 'n strife
There's more flooding, garbage, storms, more war
More hunger, violence, despair and greed
And there are a few of us here who think you should heed
'Let the Mother's voice be heard'*

ZEUS: (spoken) No ... and, why should I care about all this?

HERMES: (spoken) Because ...
*Without the plants, the animals
The mortals will be gone
There'll be no one left to worship you
No life ... all of it gone*

ZEUS: (spoken) ... Oh ... no one to worship me?

HERMES
*Come to your sense
Just admit it
You've been misguided
You've been misled
You made a mistake
Say you're sorry*

ZEUS: (spoken)... Never!

THE ACTION FREEZES. LIGHTS CHANGE.

HEKATE APPEARS STRUGGLING TO SQUEEZE THROUGH THE VEIL (SOUND EFFECT). ONCE THROUGH, SHE WALKS TO THE EDGE OF THE STAGE AND ADDRESSES THE AUDIENCE.

HEKATE: (spoken) So ... this is where we're stuck in the story. We got a problem here. ... We got a problem ... We need an intervention ... The weather's goin' to pot, things are dyin' all over the place, and the Great Mother is not so happy ... Meanwhile those power mongers, those gold diggers, those down and dirty deal makers are more concerned about their ... back room deals, lookin' good and stayin' on top ... Am I missing somethin' here? ... I mean ... hey ... am I missing somethin'?

HERMES SQUEEZES THROUGH THE VEIL, (SOUND EFFECT), HE COMES TO HER SIDE AND CALLS TO THE AUDIENCE.

HERMES: (spoken) Ladies! ...

HEKATE: (spoken) Men of good heart! ...

HERMES AND HEKATE: (spoken) Take your places!

WITH SOUND EFFECT, A **CHOIR** SQUEEZES THROUGH THE VEIL.

31. MUSIC:

... *Wake Up*

HEKATE

People, We call you here (Sound Effect)

'Cause those in power have gone all astray ... (Sound Effect)

CHOIR

That's true what you say

I don't know how to stop 'em

Don't know what to do

HERMES AND HEKATE

But we gotta do something

Or we won't make it through

HERMES

I'm talking about disasters in the world

Yes!

HEKATE

Talkin' 'bout suppression of women and girls

Yes!

People, wake up

HERMES AND HEKATE

We got to think what to do

What's it gonna take to wake

Up?

What's it gonna take to wake

What's it gonna take to wake

Up?

What's it gonna take to wake

HEKATE

It ain't gonna be just power

No

HERMES

It ain't gonna be just brains

No, no, no

HERMES AND HEKATE

It ain't gonna be no politic

ALL

That gonna get the world rearranged

HERMES

What's it gonna take to wake

Up?

*What's it gonna take to wake
What's it gonna take to wake
What's it gonna take to wake*

Up?

HEKATE

We gotta find something to unite us all

ALL

In one great family

HERMES

We gotta have a banner to lead us on

ALL

On to victory

HEKATE

We can't ignore the danger

No

HERMES

We can't say that we don't know

No, No, No

HEKATE AND HERMES

*It gonna take a whole lotta hard work
And it gonna take a whole lotta 'No'*

No, No, No

No, No, No

We say –

No, No, No, No

ALL

*What's it gonna take to wake
What's it gonna take to wake
What's it gonna take to wake
What's it gonna take to wake*

Up?

Up?

HERMES AND HEKATE

*The time here
The time is now
We gotta get ready
And move somehow*

ALL

*People of the world unite
We gotta stand up for what is right*

*What's it gonna take to wake up?
What's it gonna take to wake?*

HEKATE

*What's it gonna take?
What, what, what?*

*What's it gonna take to wake up?
What's it gonna take to
What's it gonna take to
What's it gonna take to
Wake !!!!*

What's it gonna take?

HERMES SQUEEZES BACK THROUGHT THE VEIL TO WHERE **ZEUS** HAS BEEN
WATCHING. THE **CHOIR** AND **HEKATE** EXIT THROUGH THE VEIL AND DISAPPEAR.

32. MUSIC: ... *Must I Bow? ... (Reprise) Something's Stirring in my Kingdom*

ZEUS: (spoken) Oh!... all right ... so I've made the odd mistake.

HERMES: (spoken) ... The odd mistake?

ZEUS

*Must I bow before my subjects and lay bare what I have done?
My secrets and my barterers, must I confess them every one?*

HERMES (spoken) You might say ...
*'A God without the wisdom of a Goddess at his side
Loses his compassion and is tumbled by his pride'*

ZEUS

*You mean listen to the Mother - say 'without her all is lost'
Good gods, I could not bear it ... regardless of the cost*

HERMES: (spoken) ... Zeus ... !?

ZEUS

*How could I handle such embarrassment?
How can I spin this to look good?*

HERMES

*Give Demeter equal billing
In the neighborhood?*

ZEUS: (spoken) Good Gods ...

HERMES: (spoken) Zeus?! ...

ZEUS: (spoken) Never! ...

LIGHTS OUT ON **ZEUS** AND **HERMES**.

HADES AND **PERSEPHONE** ARE REVEALED. THEY ARE QUARRELING.

33. MUSIC: ... *Let Go, Lord of Death*

PERSEPHONE

*I have died by your hand before
As I stood by each closing door
Of each dream as it vanished
Of each hope as it fled
Of each love unrequited
Where I bowed down my head
And surrendered to loss in the night
My eyes black and blinded
My heart sunk so low
That there was nothing to do
But to simply let go*

THE **SHADES** APPEAR INCONSPICUOUSLY TO LISTEN.

*In the heat of a hot summer storm
I bathed in your sweat 'till the dawn
As the serpent uncoiled his eye fixed on me
With my innocence lost a new strength was set free
Which gave me the will to endure
As the bite of your small death
Coursed through my soul
I vowed to myself
You would one day let go*

*So let go, Lord of Death
Let me go free
Let go, Lord of Death
Let go*

HADES

*I have walked for so long at your side
That by now I have nothing to hide
I have wept my transgressions
I have raged at the dark*

PERSEPHONE

I have hollered out freedom

BOTH

*As I rattled the bars
And wrestled with fate in the night*

HADES

If love, the heart's passion is ever to grow

BOTH

*To win this last battle
Why won't you let go? ...*

PERSEPHONE

*So ... let go, Lord of Death
Let go...
Let me go free*

Because I am not free

HADES

*So ... Let go ...
Let go, Persephone
Let go,
Let go, Persephone
Love me, Persephone
Why can't you love me?*

BOTH

*This is the wall
That keeps us apart
My heart*

PERSEPHONE

*is not ...
... for sale*

HADES

*is torn ...
... apart*

PERSEPHONE WALKS ANGRILY AWAY AND SEATS HERSELF IN ONE OF THE TWO CHAIRS IN WHICH EARLIER SHE HAD REFUSED TO SIT. SHE DISTRACTEDLY TAKES A POMEGRANATE FROM THE BOWL ON THE TABLE BESIDE HER AND AS SHE LOOKS AT IT SHE HAS A SUDDEN REALIZATION.

33a. MUSIC:

... There is A Way ... (reprise) What do They Mean by Love?

PERSEPHONE:

*There may be a way
To do exactly what I need to do
(to the Shades)
And also do what would be best for you ...
I now can see a path that I could follow*

PERSEPHONE LOOKS AT THE POMEGRANATE IN HER HAND.

*As enticing as you may be
My freedom means more to me*

SHE DROPS THE POMEGRANATE IN THE BOWL AND EXITS THE ROOM GIVING INSTRUCTIONS TO THE **SHADES**.

*Bring me my royal robe of finest silk ...
Bring gems and jewels for my long black hair ... (red, blond etc. hair)*

*... Light the candles. Stoke the fire
I will choose what I desire ...*

HADES IS LEFT ALONE. HE IS ABSOLUTLEY BEWILDERED.

33b. MUSIC: ... *What Brings You Here? ... (Reprise) Come with Me*

HERMES ENTERS THE CHAMBER ON TIPTOE, OBVIOUSLY AWARE OF ALL THAT HAS TRANSPIRED.

HADES (angrily)
*What brings you here?
No ... let me guess ...*

HERMES
*Your abduction of Persephone
Has not gone over very well ...
What once was living, now lies dying
Her Mother's grief cannot be quelled*

HADES
*And why, pray tell, should this concern me
It all ends up here in the end*

HERMES
If everything on earth lies dying ...

HEKATE HUSTLES IN, OUT OF BREATH.

HEKATE: (spoken) It's gonna get awful crowded around here. You're gonna have to remodel.

HADES: (spoken) Hekate, how many times have I asked you not to barge in like this? And stop putting thoughts in Persephone's head!

HEKATE: (spoken) It's my job, Hades. I'm an old crone. That's what we do.

34. MUSIC: ... *What Love is all About*

HERMES:
*Hekate and I have seen this story
From every point of view*

HEKATE
*From the Heaven of Zeus
Your Underworld*

HERMES

And the dying world of Demeter too

HEKATE AND HERMES

*So we've come to give you a little advice
We suggest you heed it well ...
Give her freedom
Treat her well ...*

HEKATE, HERMES, AND SHADES

*Give her freedom
Treat her well ...*

HEKATE: (spoken) They've been talking about this for centuries, Hades ...

HERMES GIVES HEKATE A LOOK. SHE COMPOSES HERSELF.

HEKATE, HERMES, SHADES

*Give her freedom
Treat her well ...*

*And you might get to know what love is
You might even win her heart
You might get to know what love is
What love is all about ...*

HEKATE

*You can't take someone's freedom
And think she will love you, my friend.*

HERMES GESTURES WITH AFFECTION TO HEKATE.

HERMES

*Do you think I could control a being like her?
She's complex to the core*

HEKATE

*I've got 64 dakinis blazing
Maybe even more*

HERMES

*I have learned from her
Travelled far with her*

HEKATE AND HERMES

And I'll adore her/him evermore! ...

HEKATE AND HERMES STOP AFTER THE CRESENDO AND TURN TO HADES.

HEKATE, HERMES, SHADES

*Give her freedom
Treat her well
Give her freedom
Treat her well*

*And you might get to know what love is
You might even win her heart
You might get to know what love is
What love is all about ...*

*You might get to know what love is
You might even win her heart
You might get to know what love is
What love is all about ...*

Love, Hades, Love ...

ARM IN ARM, **HERMES** AND **HEKATE** EXIT, LEAVING **HADES** ALONE.

35. MUSIC:

... *What do They Mean by Love?*

HADES

*What do they mean by love?
I give to her my passion
What do they mean?
I take her to my bed
I've even begged
For her to be my Queen*

*What do they mean by love?
I give her wealth and comfort
What do they mean?
I'm at a loss of what to say
My heart would break
If I let her walk away*

*I have seen her face aglow by candlelight
I've heard her voice
Come drifting through the night
I've held her close
While she lay sleeping with her face so pure*

*If she goes from me
These empty chambers would devour me
I'd wander aimless for eternity*

And they are asking me to let her go

*If she goes from me
Beyond the gates where I can't follow her
The light of day would burn my life away
I could not bear to watch her leaving me*

*If I set her free
I'd grieve for her for all eternity
And she would leave without a thought for me
How could they ask of me to let her go?*

THE LIGHT FADES ON **HADES**.

DEMETER IS REVEALED ALONE IN HER TEMPLE, COMPLETELY DISHEVELLED,
PACING BACK AND FORTH IN A FURY.

35a. MUSIC:

Heard

... *Anger / Let the Mother's Voice be*

DEMETER

*I cannot wait another day
Is there a better way to reach them?
My grief is not what's needed now
Where is the door that I must open?*

THE LIGHTS FLASH RED. THE TEMPLE BEGINS TO GLOW LIKE A SMOLDERING
VOLCANO. **HEKATE**, IN HER FULL STATURE AS AN UNDERWORLD GODDESS,
APPEARS WITH HER **ALLIES**.

HEKATE

*You are the Mother of us all
Let your pain be their curse
They must hear you when you say ...*

HEKATE AND ALLIES

'Let the Mother's voice be heard'

HEKATE

*Anger is a fever burning in the soul
Anger is emotion that you cannot hold
When anger's in the body
And becomes a ghostly flame
When like a phantom fist it grabs you
And it calls you by your name
There is nothing you can do or say
To make it go away*

ALLIES

*There is nothing you can do or say
To make it go away*

*You've got to look down deep inside the burning furnace
You've got to walk down deep inside
You've got to find out what's in the burning furnace
To know what lies inside*

Anger!

*Anger is a fever raging in the blood
Anger is a power rising like a flood
When anger like a serpent
Strikes you in the heart
Fear not that the poison will make your spirit dark
There is healing in the serum's fire
It's fighting for your life*

*There is healing in the serum's fire
It's fighting for your life*

*You've got to look down deep inside the burning furnace
You've got to walk down deep inside
You've got to find out what's in the burning furnace
To know what lies inside*

Anger ...

HEKATE AND ALLIES

*If the passion of a fever is suppressed or is ignored
Illness will flame unchecked and burn forevermore
If a fever is allowed to rage with no measure of control
If no healing balm is ministered it will consume the whole
Anger ... Anger ... Anger ...*

DEMETER IS SUDDENLY INFUSED WITH POWER AND JOINS HEKATE.

HEKATE, DEMETER AND ALLIES

*Anger is a fever burning in the night
Anger is an energy reaching for the light
When anger like a volcano breaks from deep within
The pressure rising skyward has messages to bring
They urge us to stand and say – 'I will not turn away'*

*I've got to look down deep inside the burning furnace
I've got to walk down deep inside
I've got to find out what's in the burning furnace
To know what lies inside*

*I've got to look down deep inside the burning furnace
Got to walk down deep inside
I'm going to a rise up from this burning furnace
Like the phoenix I will take flight ...*

35b. MUSIC:

... Let The Mother s' Voice Be Heard

DEMETER

*From this day, forever more
Until you honor this my voice
No trace of life will I bestow*

ALL

*No root shall grow! No leaf shall live!
No grass nor tree shall come to birth
It's up to you to break this Curse
Let the Mother's voice be heard!*

DEMETER

Lord of Death

IN A FLASH, **HADES** APPEARS.

King of Heaven

ZEUS APPEARS.

*Until my daughter's home with me
No life shall pass these temple doors*

AN INTENSE SWIRL OF LIGHTS, WIND AND SOUND RISES AS **DEMETER** DRAWS ALL HER POWER AWAY FROM THE EARTH. WITHIN THE MAELSTROM, IMAGES OF HURRICANES, EARTHQUAKES, DEAD FISH IN STREAMS, FLOODS, FIRES, TORNADOES, ETC. ARE SEEN IN QUICK FLASHES OF LIGHTENING SUPERIMPOSED UPON THE STORM.

*I pull my favour
I pull my life force
I pull my power back to me ...*

ALL

'Let the Mother's voice be heard!'

THE LIGHTS FADE ON ALL BUT **HADES**, WHO IS LEFT STANDING AS FLASHES OF IMAGED-LIGHTENING CONTINUES SPORADICALLY THROUGH THE NEXT SCENE.

PERSEPHONE, WEARING THE ROBE OF A QUEEN, ENTERS. SHE STILL CARRIES THE POMEGRANATE. AS THE MUSIC SWELLS, SHE IS ABOUT TO SPEAK WHEN **HADES** BEGINS.

36. MUSIC: ... *I Watched you from the Shadows ... (reprise: Come Out, Come Out)*

*I watched you from the shadows
When my world was bleak and dark
And you were lovely, young and free
But I broke your tender heart*

*I have no words to tell you
The remorse I feel within
For my sin, for your pain, for my shame*

THE **SHADES**, WATCHING THE SCENE, ARE SEEN IN THE RANDOM FLASHES OF LIGHTENING, WHICH GRADUALLY CEASE.

*The world above lies dying
For my selfish lust, my greed
But as a mother you have healed the Shades
With your kind and loving ways
There is a choice that must be made
I cannot trust what I might do
You are wise
I will leave the choice with you*

You're free to stay

HADES OFFERS **PERSEPHONE** A POMEGRANATE AND SHE TAKES IT.

*Or you're free to go
I have no claim over you
I ask for nothing more ...
But that you'll ... forgive ... me*

THERE IS A MOMENTS PAUSE.

37. MUSIC:

Finale' ... (Reprise) We Are Going To The Temple

PERSEPHONE

*We will have to see
A purpose calls greater than you or me
We each must play out our own destiny*

PERSEPHONE RETURNS THE POMEGRANATE TO **HADES**.

*I am going to the temple
By no choice but my own
As Queen of this Kingdom
I here claim my throne
I will cross o'er the river
When my sight bids me go
For the work we have done
A new era has come*

LIGHTS CHANGE. THE **SHADES** COME FORWARD AND PLACE A ROBE ON **HADES**.

PERSEPHONE AND **HADES** PROCEED IN STATE THROUGH THE UNDERWORLD TO THE SHORE OF THE RIVER WHERE **CHARON** AND **HERMES** ARE WAITING TO

ESCORT **PERSEPHONE**. THE **SHADES**, NOW MORE UPRIGHT, WALK BEFORE THEM WITH PRIDE.

SHADES

Ow-wah-ah-ow-whey ...
Ow-wah-ah-ow-whey ...
Wah-ah...uh... Wah-ah ... uh ... uh
Wah-ah...uh... Wah-ah ... uh ... uh
Ooo-wah-ah-ooo-whey

PERSEPHONE TAKES LEAVE OF **HADES** AND STEPS WITH **HERMES** INTO THE BOAT. **CHARON** POLLS THEM ACROSS THE RIVER.

43. MUSIC:

Finale ... (Reprise) We are Going to the Temple

She is going to the temple
To the Great Mother's throne
To bring forth the wisdom
Of the deep, dark unknown
The people of earth
Are beginning to rise
For the sake of their future
She will stand at their side

THE UNDERWORLD, ALL BUT **HADES**, FADES AS THE WORLD OF **DEMETER** IS REVEALED, BROWN AND BARREN.

PERSEPHONE STEPS FROM THE BOAT, SHE TURNS AND LIFTS HER HAND TO SALUTE **HADES**, WHO LIFTS HIS IN RESPONSE.

CHARON TRANSFORMS BACK INTO **HIEROPHANT** AS HE STEPS FROM THE BOAT. THE TEMPLE APPEARS. **SHADES** TRANSFORM INTO **INITIATES** AND FOLLOW **HIEROPHANT**.

DEMETER, RESPLENDENT IN FULL REGALIA, THROWS WIDE THE DOORS AND STEPS THROUGH.

Praise to the Mother
The Maiden, the Crone

ZEUS ENTERS, BOWS TO **DEMETER**, WHO BOWS IN RETURN AND INVITES HIM TO STAND AT HER SIDE. SHE PLACES HER HAND ON HIS ARM.

Praise to the gods
Who welcome them home
Praise for the healing
The gain and the loss
Praise for the Mystery
Of death and rebirth

HEKATE STEPS OUT OF THE TEMPLE. SHE IS STILL IN FULL POWER.

PERSEPHONE CLIMBS THE STAIRS AS **DEMETER** DECENDS TO MEET HER IN THE CENTRE. AS THE TWO GODDESSES EMBRACE, THE STAGE TRANSFORMS INTO SPRING, TREES LEAF, EARS OF CORN APPEAR, ETC.

PERSEPHONE AND **DEMETER** MOVE TO STAND ON EITHER SIDE OF **ZEUS**.
HERMES AND **HEKATE** STAND TOGETHER ON THE STAIRS AND **HADES** WATCHES FROM THE FAR SIDE OF THE RIVER.

A HUGE HARVEST MOON BEGINS TO RISE BEHIND THE TEMPLE.

Wah-ah ... Wah-ah ...

ALL

*We give thanks to the Mother
To the Father as one
We give thanks for the journey
That has just begun*

THEY ALL TURN UPSTAGE TO FACE THE MOON.

*We lift up our hearts
We have drunk sacred waters
Transformed by the Mystery
Of death and rebirth ...*

IN AN INSTANT, THE TEMPLE FALLS INTO RUIN. THE MOON TRANSFORMS INTO THE FAMOUS PHOTO OF THE EARTH FROM SPACE, THE CAST DROPS THEIR CAPES AND ARE NOW IN MODERN CLOTHING. LIGHTS CHANGE. IN SILOUETTE, THEY ALL LIFT THEIR ARMS TO HONOUR THE EARTH, SHINING LIKE A BLUE PEARL IN SPACE.

'The Mother's voice is heard!'

BLACKOUT.

THE END

THE CAST APPEARS IN STREET CLOTHES. THEY BOW. THE SCREEN DROPS DOWN WITH THE LYRICS WRITTEN ON IT AND THE BOUNCING RED BALL.

38. MUSIC:

... (Bows) All Hands on Deck

ALL

*There is a wild wind blowing 'cross the seas
A storm is brewing that could shatter all our dreams
I am the voice of people everywhere, saying
... All hands on deck!*

*This precious blue pearl, the only home we have
Is calling out ... 'Don't waste this cosmic chance'
I am the voice of people everywhere, saying
... All hands on deck !*

*We rise up, hold firm,
Sing out and be heard
We're calling on all nations
In every corner of the world
... All hands on deck!
... All hands on deck!*

*There is a fire burning deep inside
It's my desire to be a beacon in the night
I am the voice of people everywhere, saying
... All hands on deck!*

*There is compassion wailing in my bones
Every man, woman, and child deserves a home
I am the voice of people everywhere, saying
... All hands on deck!*

*We rise up, hold firm,
Sing out and be heard
We're calling on all nations
In every corner of the world:
... All hands on deck!
... All hands on deck!*

*There is a spirit moving through this land
And with one heart we rise and take a stand
I am the voice of people everywhere, saying
... All hands on deck!
We've got to turn this ship around
Don't waste this cosmic chance !
... All hands on deck!*

BLACKOUT, EXCEPT FOR THE EARTH SHINING IN THE BLACKNESS OF SPACE.