



BOOK
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with
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LYRICS
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MUSIC
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with
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THE MYSTERIES © Eskova Enterprises Ltd. 2017

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SYNOPSIS

The Mysteries portrays the ancient Greek myth which was enacted every year for over 2000 years in the temple of Demeter at the town of Eleusis, 14 miles from the Parthenon in Athens.

A father sells his daughter in a shady backroom deal; a mother's grief and rage devastates the earth; a young victim claims her power and becomes Queen of the Underworld; and the Lord of Death is transformed by it all.

Through haunting contemporary melodies, beat box ranting's, comic tangos and passionate drama, the *Mysteries*, enacted both in ancient Greece and modern times, tells a story of betrayal, loss of feminine power, redemption and transformation. It reveals how an ancient myth foreshadowed our present environmental crisis and suggests how that story might be rewritten if we hope to survive in these dangerous times.

CHARACTERS

3 women / 3 men / 8-16 chorus

WOMEN 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.

DEMETER: (soprano) Great Mother Goddess of the Grain and all living things. She is regal and full of feeling.

HEKATE: (alto) Goddess of the night, the moon and witchcraft. A wise old Crone, humorous, multi-faceted and transformative, who travels in time and space.

MALE CHARACTERS

ZEUS: (bass) King of Heaven: expansive, jovial and arrogant in his feelings of entitlement and power.

HADES: (baritone) Lord of the Underworld, powerfully passionate charismatic and complex.

HERMES: (tenor) Messenger of the Gods, who travels between the realms. He is mercurial, intelligent, athletic and lithe, a flamboyant, humorous figure.

CHORUS: who play ...

INITIATES (of the Eleusinian Mysteries)

ACROBATS

TOWNSPEOPLE (of Eleusis)

GOSPEL CHOIR

SHADES (spirits of the dead)

GREEK CHORUS

TANGO DANCERS

PHANTOMS OF THE NIGHT

Solo characters doubling from the Chorus:

HEIROPHANT (High Priest or Priestess of the Mysteries), who also plays ...
CHARON (ferryman across the River Styx)
BACKGROUND SINGERS (hip performers)
PASSENGER (one of the dead) **HELIOS** (Sun God)
FISHERMEN **MAIDS**
PRINCESS of ELEUSIS **QUEEN of ELEUSIS**

RECORDING TRACK LISTING

(Listen on Soundcloud from <http://www.mysteriesmusical.com/sign-in/> - password NewMysteries2017))

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NOTE:

The lyrics in this script and the lyrics on the demo recording vary, sometimes considerably. When there is a discrepancy, please follow the script's lyrics. There are times when Stage Directions are spoken over the music. We were unable to remove some of these from the live recording. Track 8 (Small One) was taken from a different recording.

ACT ONE

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 THE **HIEROPHANT** STEPS OUT.

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

THE **HIEROPHANT** DESCENDS THE STAIRS AND FACES 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

THE **HIEROPHANT** LEADS THE **INITIATES** UP THE STAIRS AND THROUGH THE DOOR AS THE STAGE REVOLVES. A STAIRWAY ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE DOORS ALLOWS THE **INITIATES** TO DESCEND AS 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 THE **HIEROPHANT**.

TWO **INITIATES** CARRY THE BODY OF THE **PASSENGER** TO THE BANKS OF THE RIVER AND THE **YOUNG WOMAN** STEPS FORWARD AND PUTS A COIN IN HIS MOUTH AS THEY PLACE THE **PASSENGER** IN THE BOAT.

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*

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

THE **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.

HERMES, GOD OF COMMUNICATION, MESSENGER BETWEEN THE REALMS, IS REVEALED IN THE BOAT. HE IS A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE IN HIS SHIMMERING MERCURIAL BODY SUIT.

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

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

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 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. THE **SHADES**, STRANGE SHADOWED CREATURES, PEER OUT OF THE CRACKS AND CREVICES. THE **PASSENGER**, STIRS, AS IF WAKING FROM A DREAM.

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*

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, ENTERS. HE IS DARK AND BROODING, POWERFUL AND CHARISMATIC.

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

HADES

*Moment by moment you can't stem the tide
The winds will toss, the waves will ride*

HADES, HERMES AND SHADES

*If moment by moment you yield to the sea
She will teach you her strange ways of harmony*

THE **PASSENGER** IS HELPED FROM THE BOAT. **CHARON** POLE **HERMES** BACK ACROSS THE RIVER.

*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. THE **SHADES** AND **HERMES**, NOTICING THE INTEREST OF **HADES**, TURN IN UNISON TO PEER AT **PERSEPHONE**.

THE **PASSENGER** SEES THE **YOUNG WOMAN** WHO STILL STANDS ON THE FAR SHORE BARELY VISIBLE.

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*

CHARON AND HERMES EXIT.

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

<< **Track 1** >>

DEMETER, DRESSED IN A LONG FLOWING RED DRESS ENTERS. **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

HADES, UNSEEN BY DEMETER, MOMENTLY RE-APPEARS GAZING ACROSS THE RIVER.

Can you not see him beckoning

HADES DISAPPEARS.

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

They are ... 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

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

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

You're not alone

They are ... alone

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

THERE IS A CLAP OF THUNDER, A FLASH OF LIGHTENING. **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* << **TRACK 2** >>

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 AND INTERRUPTS HIM.

6. MUSIC: ... *Brother Zeus* << **TRACK 2-con't** >>

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*

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

What is that you want?

She is not mine to give

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 ...*

HADES OFFERS ZEUS A BASKET OF GOLD AND JEWELS.. ZEUS PAUSES, PRETENDING TO BE UNCOMFORTABLY.

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*

<< Track 3 >>

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: (mumbling to herself)
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. A NEW YORK SKYLINE APPEARS. SHE COMICALLY REGAINS HER COMPOSURE AND LOOKS AROUND.

(spoken) I love New York.

SHE PUTS ON AN OLD BAGGY SWEATER, SHUFFLES FORWARD AND PEERS OUT AT THE AUDIENCE, SPEAKING 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, DRESSED IN HIP MODERN 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*

BG SINGERS

Back room deals

BLACKOUT.

8. MUSIC:

... Gaia

<< Track 4 >>

IN THE UNDERWORLD **HADES** IS PACING UP AND DOWN IN A FRENZY, CALLING OUT TO **GAIA**, THE EARTH GODDESS. WHILE THE **SHADES** PEER FROM 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 GROUND. THERE IS A SWIRL OF LIGHTS IN THE DARKNESS. THE POPPY APPEARS TO GROW AS THE UNDERWORLD DISAPPEARS.

THE MEADOW IS REVEALED. THE POPPY RISES UP OUT OF THE GROUND.

9. MUSIC:

... The Abduction

<< Track 5 >>

PERSEPHONE ENTERS GATHERING FLOWERS. SHE SEES THE POPPY AND IS IRRESISTIBLY DRAWN TOWARD IT. AS SHE BENDS 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. 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.

BUT IN SPITE OF THE SENSED DANGER, AS THE WORLD RESUMES ITS BRIGHTNESS ONCE MORE, **PERSEPHONE** IS UNABLE TO RESIST. SHE PLUCKS THE FLOWER AND INSTANTLY A VIOLENT STORM ERUPTS. DARKNESS DECENDS.

SUDDENLY THE GROUND SPLITS OPEN AND **HADES** ON HIS CHARIOT THUNDERS OUT FROM THE DEEP. HE SEIZES **PERSEPHONE**, THROWS HER OVER HIS SHOULDER AND DISAPPEARS BACK INTO THE UNDERWORLD.

PERSEPHONE: ... Mother!!

LIGHTENING FLASHES. **DEMETER** RUSHES IN, THE WIND WHIPPING AROUND HER AS SHE CALLS DESPERATELY.

DEMETER

Persephone! ... Persephone!

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

GREEK CHORUS

Destiny ...

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

DEMETER

Persephone ...

9a. MUSIC: ... *Hades is the Master Here* << Track 5 – con't >>

DEMETER EXITS.

THE UNDERWORLD APPEARS AS THE **GREEK CHORUS** TRANSFORM INTO **SHADES** AND MOVE AMONG THE SHADOWS.

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

SHADES

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

Hades is the master here

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

AS PERSOPHONE IS PULLED ONTO THE BED., THEY DISAPPEAR.

SHADES

Hades rules with iron fist

Hades breaks all who resist

Hades cries, 'You must submit'

HADES

You must submit

DEMETER IS HEARD BUT NOT SEEN.

DEMETER

Persephone!

Persephone!

Where are you?

Hades takes what Hades needs

When Hades hungers, Hades feeds

Hades will not heed your pleas

Hades is the master here

PERSEPHONE

Mother!

BLACKOUT.

IN THE SILENCE THAT FOLLOWS, A SMALL SPOT OF LIGHT BEGINS TO MOVE ABOUT THE STAGE. IT FINALLY FOCUSES ON A ROPE HANGING DOWN FROM ABOVE.

A PAIR OF WINGED FEET APPEAR, **HERMES**, IN HIS SHIMMERING BODY SUIT, 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* << **Track 6** >>

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 UNUSUAL BODY SUITS ENTER.

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 then we all have to go through a dark night of the soul at sometime, don't we. It's just the way of 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 ... 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
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*

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.*

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

HERMES: (spoken) Hello, my dear.

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. Take poor Demeter. She's much too attached to Persephone to ever allow her to mature beyond her reach. So Gaia steps in, uses Persephone's innocence, Hades' lust, Zeus' greed, creates a poppy and takes the whole situation right out of their hands. It's really quite pristine.

A DISTRAUGHT **DEMETER** ENTERS.

Oh ... 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 LOOK UP AS 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!!!

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*

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

DEMETER

No! ...

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

*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 SITTING.

ZEUS

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

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

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

No!

BLACKOUT.

12. MUSIC:

...

How Can This Be?

<< Track 7 >>

PERSEPHONE APPEARS ALONE IN HER ROOM.

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, OBSERVING THE SCENE.

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, DEMETER AND GREEK CHORUS SLOWLY FADE, ZEUS APPEARS WATCHING THEM FROM ABOVE.,

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*

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 BESIDE A TREE IS REVEALED. **DEMETER** SITS EXHAUSTED.

14a. MUSIC: ... *Small One* << **Track 8** >>

NIGHT DESCENDS, THE **GREEK CHORUS** EXIT 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 ...*

*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.

15. 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 LEAVE WHEN SHE AGAIN LOOKS TOWARD **DEMETER**. SHE APPROACHES HER AS THE OTHERS EXIT.

15a. 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.

*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 THE **QUEEN** AS THE **GREEK CHORUS** ENTERS.

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**.

15b. 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 **GREEK CHORUS** AND THE **QUEEN** EXIT.

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

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

HADES ENTERS.

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
She knows you now belong to me*

Mother, tell me it's not true

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.

DEMETER DISAPPEARS.

PERSEPHONE BEGINS TO WEEP. THE **SHADES** 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.
REALIZING THEIR FEAR, SHE REACHES OUT TO THEM.

16a. MUSIC: ... *Come out. Come out.* << Track 9 >>

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 GATHER AROUND PERSEPHONE.

HADES STEPS OUT. THE SHADES SCURRY OUT OF HIS WAY.

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, BUT PERSEPHONE 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.

17. MUSIC:

...

My Love for You

<< Track 10 >>

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?

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?*

LIGHTS FADES ON **HADES**. HE EXITS.

DEMETER APPEARS TENDING THE **YOUNG PRINCE** IN THE PALACE.

THE **GREEK CHORUS** ENTER.

HEKATE AND **HERMES** ARE OBSERVING **DEMETER** FROM ABOVE.

18. MUSIC: ... *As Time Went By (reprise: Song by the Well)* << **Track 11** >>

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
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 ... forsakin' her own daughter, 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. It's the mother who's doing the forgetting.

HEKATE: When ya power is stripped away, ya give what she can to who ya can.

ZEUS PASSING **HEKATE** AND **HERMES**, LOOKS TOWARD **DEMETER**.

18a. 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. THEY GIVE HIM A WITHERING LOOK. HE EXITS AND THEY RETURN TO WATCHING **DEMETER**.

DEMETER BEGINS TO WALK THROUGH THE PALACE WITH THE BABY IN HER ARMS AS **HERMES** AND **HEKATE** SLOWLY DISAPPEAR.

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.

18b. MUSIC:

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

GREEK CHORUS

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

DEMETER DIPS THE CHILD INTO 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*

18c. MUSIC:

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

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
Let him live*

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*

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

AS THE FIRE BLAZES, THE **QUEEN** ENTERS INTO THE BOYS BEDROOM. SEEING HIM GONE, SHE BEGINS FRANTICALLY SEARCHING FOR HIM.

DEMETER

Let the fire

GREEK CHORUS

Let the fire

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

*Purify and cleanse him
Let him live. Let him live
Live, forevermore*

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

18d. MUSIC:

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

THE QUEEN

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

DEMETER

Silence! Do not disturb the magic now

*Stop! Stop!
Have you gone completely crazed?*

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

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

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

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.

18e. 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*

DEMETER

Beyond all time your son could live

You are the Mother of us all

One meager life is all he'll know

I love him so

Then let me grant him life

Surely you know a mother's grief

I lost my child

He is my only son

She was my life

Don't take my child away from me

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*

LIGHTS RESTORE AS **DEMETER** RETURNS THE CHILD TO THE **QUEEN**.

GREEK CHORUS

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

What can I do to honor you?

19. MUSIC: ... *Build me a Temple ...* (Reprise) *Going to the Temple* << **TRACK 12** >>

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*

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*

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

WHEN THE OUTSIDE OF THE TEMPLE IS BUILT UPSTAGE, **DEMETER** CLIMBS THE STAIRS.

*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 PULLS OPEN THE DOORS AND STEPS THROUGH. SHE 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 THEATRE.

BLACKOUT

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

21. MUSIC:

Entr'acte (Reprise) Going to the Temple

AT THE END OF THE ENTR'ACTE **DEMETER** IS REVEALED STANDING BACKSTAGE 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. LIGHT DARKEN.

SHE WAITS UNTIL SILENCE FALLS AND THEN TURNS SLOWLY. THE INNER TEMPLE IS 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 STANDING ALONE, BARELY VISIBLE AMONG THE SHADOWS OF THE TEMPLE., AS IF SHE IS A THOUGHT IN **DEMETER'S** MIND.

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** 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

<< Track 13 >>

THE YOUNG WOMAN DISAPPEARS AS ZEUS ENTERS.

PERSEPHONE AND THE SHADES PULL BACK INTO THE SHADOWS.

ZEUS CALLS ACROSS TO HADES.

ZEUS

Brother Hades ... A word with you

HADES ENTERS.

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 very cross*

ZEUS

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

*When your ruler of your kingdom
And there's rumbling in the realm
We treat them both so nicely
Could they do better at the helm?
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 seem to need?*

HADES

They are an enigma

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*

ZEUS

A problem

A pain

BOTH

Yet in spite of myself

I come back again

And again and again and again ...

What's to be done?

These Goddesses have changed the game

Like them I grow 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 WITH THE PASSENGER COME OUT OF THE SHADOWS.

25. MUSIC: ... *I Won't Stay Silent any Longer* |<< **Track 14** >>

PERSEPHONE

If I tell him what I feel

Would he listen?

He won'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 long 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 AND THE SHADES WALKS THROUGH THE PASSAGES.

*I won't stay silent any longer
This may be the last chance for me
To sing the song I always wanted
The song 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 you ...
Open up and show you who I am*

26. MUSIC:

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

PERSEPHONE, WITH GREAT RESOLVE, ENTERS **HADES'** CHAMBER. THE **SHADES** HIDE WHERE THEY CAN WATCH.

HADES IS SURPRISED TO SEE HER. HE LEADS HER 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 we don't want
To spend our 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 ...*

PERSEPHONE
And what did you expect?

*Ignore me ...
Spurn me ...*

*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**.

*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*

<< Track 15 >>

*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 **TANGO DANCERS**.

*Surrender
There is something 'bout surrender
It is so ruthless yet so tender
First it knocks you off your feet
Then it makes your life complete
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
First it drops you to your knees
Then gives you strength to rise and be
Surrender*

**HEKATE, PERSEPHONE,
AND TANGO DANCERS**
*Surrender
Surrender*

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

*Surrender
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.

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* << **Track 16** >>

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 APPEARS IN HER TEMPLE. SHE IS DISTRAUGHT.

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 most men 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 DEMETER DISAPPEARS.

HERMES, ZEUS AND THE GREEK CHORUS APPEAR. THEY ARE TRYING TO TALK SOME SENSE INTO ZEUS.

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)Sorry? ... 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 ain't 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'?

Ladies! ...

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

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

HERMES AND HEKATE: (spoken) Take your places!

THE **GREEK CHORUS** BECOME THE **CHOIR** AND JOIN THEM.

31. MUSIC: ... *Wake Up* << **Track 17** >>

HEKATE

*People, we call you here
'Cause those in power are going all astray*

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
People, wake up*

Yes!

HERMES AND HEKATE

We got to think what to do

*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?

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

Up?

What's it gonna take to wake

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

Up?

What's it gonna take to wake

What's it gonna take to wake

Up?

What's it gonna take to wake

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?
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 !!!!*

HEKATE

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

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

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

ZEUS: (spoken) All right. 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 barter, 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?! ...

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

HADES AND **PERSEPHONE** ARE REVEALED QUARRRELING.

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, LISTENING INCONSPICUOUSLY.

*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*

HADES

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

Because I am not free

BOTH

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

PERSEPHONE

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

*... 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 PICKS UP A POMEGRANATE. AS SHE LOOKS AT IT AND 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 must follow

PERSEPHONE LOOKS AT THE POMEGRANATE IN HER HAND.

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

SHE PLACES THE POMEGRANATE BACK 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, BEWILDERED, IS LEFT ALONE.

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

HERMES ENTERS THE CHAMBER ON EXAGGERATED 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 winds 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 just an old crone. That's what we do.

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) We've been talking about this for centuries, Hades ...

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 ...*

ARM IN ARM, **HERMES** AND **HEKATE** BEGIN TO WALK. JUST BEFORE EXITING
THEY TURN TO **HADES**.

Love, Hades, Love ...

THEY EXIT. **HADES** IS ALONE.

35. MUSIC: ... *What do They Mean by Love?* << **Track 19** >>

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 hair aflame*

*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 set her free?*

THE LIGHT FADES ON **HADES**.

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

35a. MUSIC: ... *Anger / Let the Mother's Voice be Heard* << **Track 20** >>

DEMETER

*I cannot wait another day
I will not wait another moment
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 surging toward 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

A LIGHT FLASHES ON **HADES**. HE LOOKS UP STARTLED..

King of Heaven

ZEUS IS REVEALED IN THE SAME WAY..

*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 THE QUICK FLASHES OF LIGHTENING SUPPERIMPOSED UPON THE STORM.

*I pull my favor
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**. IT SLOWLY GROWS SILENT WHILE INTERMITTANT FLASHES OF IMAGED-LIGHTENING CONTINUES SPORADICALLY THROUGHOUT THE NEXT SCENE.

PERSEPHONE, WEARING THE ROBE OF A QUEEN, ENTERS. SHE IS ABOUT TO SPEAK WHEN **HADES** BEGINS.

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

HADES: (spoken) Please ... please, let me speak ...

*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
A new era will birth
For the seeds we have sown*

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

THE **SHADES**, NOW STANDING UPRIGHT, WALK BEFORE THEM WITH PRIDE AS
AND **HADES** PROCEED IN STATE THROUGH THE UNDERWORLD TO THE SHORE OF
THE RIVER WHERE **CHARON** AND **HERMES** ARE WAITING TO ESCORT
PERSEPHONE.

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

DEMETER, RESPLENDENT IN FULL REGALIA, THROWS WIDE THE TEMPLE 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
The cost of the Mystery
Of death and rebirth*

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

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.

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 ...*

ON THE LAST NOTE, IN ONE SIMULTANEOUS MOVEMENT: THE TEMPLE FALLS INTO RUIN, THE CAST DROP THEIR CAPES TO REVEAL MODERN CLOTHING, THE MOON TRANSFORMS INTO THE FAMOUS PHOTO OF THE EARTH AS SEEN FROM

SPACE, AND THEY ALL TURN TO FACE THE EARTH SHINING LIKE A BLUE PEARL IN SPACE.

'The Mother's voice is heard!'

BLACKOUT.

CURTAIN

THEY BOW. THE SCREEN DROPS DOWN WITH THE LYRICS WRITTEN ON IT.

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, calling
... 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, calling
... 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!*

*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, calling
... 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, calling
... 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!*

*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, calling
... 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.