

# OLYMPUS



Summer 2017

# Olympus

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of pages for rehearsal and/or for siblings in the program)

CD of the songs for the show or mp3.savailable at  
<http://rovainenmusicals.com>

(This version slightly different than those who received printed scripts by mail. It has the  
three songs that were not included in the earlier printed version and a few revisions to the  
text and dialogue)

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And less damaging environmental practices

# Cast

## Olympians

Aphrodite	Goddess of Love	
Zeus	Ruler of the Gods	
Ares	God of War	
Athena	Goddess of Wisdom	
Hera	Goddess of Marriage	
Artemis	Goddess of Hunting	
Hermes	Messenger of the Gods	
Hephaestus	Blacksmith of the Gods	
Apollo	God of Poetry; Sun God	
Demeter	Goddess of Agriculture	Estranged
Poseidon	God of the Sea	Estranged
Hades	God of the Underworld	Cast Out

Heracles	Demigod Hero
Hero	Demigod in training
Cymone	Demigod in training

Dionysus	God of Wine and Revelry
Morpheus	God of Dreams
Hypnos	God of Sleep
Persephone	Daughter of Persephone
Amphitrite	Wife of Poseidon

## Page

Daedalus

Adonis, Nerites

Charon      Ferryman of the Dead

## Titans:

The Graeae		Pallas	
Deino (dread)		Perses	Brother to Menoetius
Enyo (horror)		Menoetius	Brother to Perses
Pempredo (alarm)		Metis	
Graeae Chorus		Rhea	Queen of the Titans

Students (Demigods)

Olympians

Titans

Hades Chorus /Servants

Undersea Creatures

## List of Songs

<u>Song</u>	<u>Singers</u>
Olympus (text not in script)	Company
To Be a God	Olympic Gods
School Songs	Various
Athena—To Be A God Reprise	
Artemis—Huntress Power	
Hephaestus—Hammering Song (wordless)	
Hypnos—The Science Of Sleep	
Hermes—Let No Time Go By	
Remember Me (text not in script)	Hero, Students
Son Don't Fly So High	Apollo, Daedalus
Aphrodite—The Power of Words (School Song)	
Zeus—Time For War (School Song)	
How I Still Love Him	Hera
The Me Inside	Aphrodite
Remember Me 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reprises (text not in script)	Hero
The Graeae	The Graeae, Graeae Chorus
What In the World is This? (text not in script)	Sea Creatures
The Me Inside 1 <sup>st</sup> Reprise	Aphrodite
The Me Inside 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reprise	Aphrodite
Intermission	
We Need A Bride	Olympic Gods
Slap On A Sash	Olympians, Ares
You Never Saw Me	Aphrodite, Zeus
Come Back Persephone	Demeter
The Other Side	Charon, Servants of Hades
Remember Me Final Reprise	Hero
Come Back Persephone Echo	Aphrodite
Paean (Curtain Call) (text not in script)	Company

This script includes the text for three possible shows:

-The full-length show, which has all the lines and songs in the play

This show includes the normal text and text in boldface (though there is a chance some sections or songs will be cut in the final production)

-An edited version that is about ¾ of the full show's length

This version has all the normal text **\*\*\*plus the boldfaced text that is preceded and proceeded by three stars\*\*\*** It does -not- use the text in boldface that has no stars around it.

-A shortest version that is about 60% of the full show's length.

This version only uses the normal text, and has none of the text in boldface.

--*Songs and stage directions are in italics (whether in normal italic or **boldfaced italics**)*

Depending on the enrollment we will be doing one of these three, or possibly one of the shorter versions with a few add-ons. No matter what, I will communicate with folks what version we will be doing for your child's experience.

### Rhyme and Meter

There is a rhythm to all dialogue save that off the museum scenes at the beginning and the end, although when we perform we won't be in exact (read, boring) timing. For reference, there are mp3.s of many of the scenes being read at our website. Syllables underlined in text let folks know where the downbeats of phrases are, and the numerology describes the meter. For instance,

#### Moderato (1:1) 8/4

--This means a medium pace, each syllable is a relatively equal beat, and 8 beats per line.

Aphrodite:            Could we find a way to bring about a reconciliation?

Her line, with emphases, would be heard

'da- da -DAH- da- da- da- Da- da- da- da- DAH -da- da- da- Da- da'  
Could we find a way to bring a- bout a re - con-cil - i - a - tion?  
[major emphasis]        [minor]                    [major]                    [minor]

With two syllables representing one of the beats in a line. Occasionally the beat in some lines is in triplet time (marked by 1:3). In the line below, there are 4 beats a line, not 8.

Hero (1:3) 4/4: To bring them together and parley a truce

These lines would sound

da- DAH- da - da - Da -da - da DAH da da Da  
To bring them to - ge -ther and par - ley a truce  
[major]            [minor]            [major]        [strong minor]



*Here dreams are made*

*Here dreams become undone!*

*Poseidon and Amphitrite have entered the stage, though they are not in the same realm as the Olympians*

*Olympians: The Olympus...Gods will fight for you*

*Poseidon: At least that's what they say*

*Olympians: In Olympus...Gods do right by you*

*Poseidon: Unless you're cast away!*

*Olympians: The Greeks sing our praise songs of glory  
songs of shame*

*Until the end of our days they'll know us by name*

*All of Greece will know us by name!*

*Olympians: Artemis! Is the huntress goddess*

*Apollo! God of the sun*

*Athena! Goddess of wisdom*

*Ares: Pfuh! What battles has she won?*

*Olympians: Zeus, king of the gods, rules Olympus from above*

*Aphrodite*

*Ares: Who needs a goddess of love?*

*Olympians (not Aph, Hera, Apo, or Ath): Who needs a goddess of love?*

*Aphrodite walks off a few paces, and we sense the others on stage don't hear her*

*Aphrodite: If they could only see the light I try to bring*

*Then I wouldn't have to hide*

*One day I'll share my heart, I'll proudly sing*

*Of the magic each one here holds inside*

*We all could stand here, strong and free*

*The gods we are inside*

*The Olympians resume their focus in the song, Aphrodite rejoins them*

*Olympians: Hermes! Is our messenger*

*Hephaestus! Hammers strong*

*Demeter! Goddess of agriculture*

*But now she is gone!*

*Demeter (from another place onstage, or off): Come back, Persephone; please come home*

*Demeter exits*

*Olympians: Hera! Goddess of Marriage  
And god of war Ares*

*Olympians, save Zeus: (Now) the one who commands the Kraken,  
The God of the Sea*

*The God of the Sea*

*The God of the Sea*

*Poseidon is speaking (singing) to his wife Amphitrite, Zeus to the Olympians*

*Zeus & Poseidon: Don't! Mention his name; he's dead to me  
I won't take the blame, for what he said to me*

*Zeus: He questioned my rule Let him rot there in the sea*

*Zeus & Poseidon: If he wanted a duel, he shouldn't be fighting me,  
But the Titans!*

*Olympians: Nasty terrible beasts who want to kill us all  
Yes the Titans!*

*They will never cease until Olympus falls*

*Fear the titans Fear the titans*

*Fear the titans*

*Fear the titans*

*(Fear) the titans*

*The titans!*

*Some Olympians: Now!*

*Other Olympians, Titans: The titans!*

*Titans: We were born in Greece, but Olympus cast us down*

*Some Olympians, some Titans: Yes, the titans*

*Other Olympians, Other Titans: Fear the titans*

*Titans: We will never cease till we reclaim our crown*

*Aphrodite: We should find a truce, work for peace, right now*

*Metis: We should find a truce, work for peace, we could start right now*

*Aphrodite: We can find a way*

*Some Olympians & Titans: A truce will never be found!*

*Other Olympians & Titans: We will stand our ground!*

*Some Olympians & Titans: With the titans!*

*Other Titans: We're the titans!*

*Pallas, Perses, and Menoetius: We will find a way to spy upon their lands*

*Olympians: Fear the Titans!*  
*Titans: Yes, the titans!*  
*Pallas, Perses, and Menoetius: There will come a day we make our stand!*  
*Olympians & Titans: We all take our stand!*

*Olympians & Titans: This injustice can never be undone*  
*Soon their fallen will all meet the one*  
*meet the one*  
*meet the one*  
*meet the one,*  
*Their fallen will all meet the one*  
*Called Hades!*

*Olympians and Titans fade to sides as the Servants of Hades enter, along with Hades. Persephone might be in shadow near his side*

*Hades: In your life you might have been king*  
*But see now you tremble inside*  
*The vanquished dreams that you cling to*  
*Will soon be cast aside*

*Servants of Hades: In Hades!*  
*Hades: All your sordid tales you'll sing*  
*Your darkest secrets, soon confide*  
*To the man who you'll bow to as king*  
*When you cross to The Other Side!*

*Some Servants of Hades: In Hades!*  
*Other Servants of Hades: There's no winter or spring*  
*You'll face your fear and pride*

*Some Servants of Hades: In Hades!*  
*Other Servants of Hades: His glory you'll sing*  
*O'er the land of the dead he presides*

*Servants of Hades: In Hades!*  
*Hades: Titans and gods, feel my sting*  
*For none of you can hide*  
*From the doom it's my honor to bring*  
*When you cross*  
*To the Other Side!*

*Servants of Hades: Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades*

*Some Servants: Yes, The Other Side*

*Other Servants: Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades*

*Some Servants: The Other Side*

*Other Servants: Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades, Hades*

*Hades: See you soon!  
On The Other Side*

*Hades and Hades' Servants exit; Olympians and Titans slowly refill the stage*

*Some Olympians: In Olympus...*

*Some Titans: We're the Titans...*

*Some Olympians, Some Titans: Fear the Titans...*

*Other Olympians, Other Titans: Beware those horrid beasts who want to kill us all*

*Some Olympians: In Olympus...*

*Some Olympians, Some Titans: Yes, the Titans...*

*Other Olympians: They will never cease until Olympus falls!*

*Other Titans: They will never cease until the Titans fall!*

*Some Olympians, Some Titans: We'll claim the prize*

*Ares, Heracles, Artemis, Pallas, Perses, Menoetius: Hear the call*

*Aphrodite, Metis: Open your eyes*

*All: Soon we all*

*Some: Learn who will rise*

*A Group: And who will fall!*

*Some: See who will rise*

*Others: And who will fall!*

*All: Olympus!*

*[Alt. Ending:]*

*Some Olympians: Olympus!*

*Some Titans: The Titans!*

*Others: Now!*

*Titans, Poseidon, Amphitrite, Apollo leave the stage*



Zeus: Treat with Metis? Nevermore! I will not speak to her again.  
Artemis (to Athena): She rejected him; he knows her love will never be regained.

Artemis: All the titans blame us for the dying of their lands.  
With Demeter...as she is, nothing will grow, no crops will stand.

Ares: We're not to blame! And they must know that our lands aren't any better.  
Why don't we send a party to Demeter, \_\_\_ just go and get her?  
Bring her back here to Olympus, and demand she end this drought!

Hera: She's still angry at...(a look to Zeus, who gives a warning scowl) us all,  
that's why she brought this all about.

Aphrodite: She's mourning for her daughter, but perhaps she will hear reason.  
I can go and treat with her, ask her to bring back the seasons  
That bring growth, that bring harvest, that bring food—to right this course.

Zeus: Aphrodite, if you went to her you'd just make matters worse.  
I forbid it; and you'd be better fit to keep your thoughts on flowers  
Leave these matters of importance (*pause*) to those with greater powers.  
As to the titans: we'll be vigilant, but won't provoke their ire;  
But if they should cross our border, they will feel our wrath and fire.

Hermes: It's time now for our demigods to have their instruction.

Ares: Must we?

Athena: Yes; and remember, no fights, and no seductions!

*She looks to both Ares and Zeus on 'seductions'. Perhaps for humor we'll have her also look at some innocuous god like Hermes who raises his arms in question. We also have two random Olympians look at each other knowingly and point to Aphrodite from behind her back.*

**Scene II** School All 9 Olympian Gods present, plus Hypnos, Morpheus

Zeus: Demigods! You're here to learn a god's role and station:  
All that matters, what's important, and your divine obligations.  
(To Olympians) Let them know our godly ways, how to rule, what is right  
So that they begin to cultivate their wisdom and their might.

### **To Be A God**

Hephaestus: To be a god you must be clever

Ares: To be a god you must be brave

Zeus: You must follow all the rules, and must never misbehave:

*Heracles:* (as Zeus says 'never') *Always!*  
*Athena:* *As a god you act with wisdom*  
*Aphrodite:* *As a god, try to be kind*  
*Ares:* *As a god, act courageous*  
*Hera:* *Loyal!*  
*Artemis:* *Keen, and refined*  
*Artemis:* *To be a god, you must be watchful, stealthy*  
*Hera:* *steadfast and true*  
*Aphrodite:* *As a god find your own pathway, for it's all up to you!*  
*Zeus:* *Nonsense! I command the gods, all give obedience to me!*  
*I bring order to Olympus, I'm the one who keeps us free*  
  
*Zeus:* *From the titans!*  
*Sub-Chorus:* *Nasty terrible beasts who want to kill us all*  
*Chorus:* *Yes, the titans!*  
*Sub-Chorus:* *They will never cease until Olympus falls*  
*Chorus Groups:* *Fear the titans Fear the titans*  
*Fear the titans Fear the titans*  
*Fear the titans*  
*The titans! Now!*  
  
*Zeus:* *Now. Everyone, together:*  
*To be a god ...To be a god,*  
  
*Hera:* *You must be loyal You do not stray*  
*Aphrodite:* *You are loving You do not hate*  
*Artemis:* *You are observant You also play*  
*Athena:* *You are reasoned You have your say*  
*Hephaestus:* *You are resourceful You hammer straight*  
*Hermes:* *You are efficient You can't delay*  
*Ares:* *You are valiant You get your way*  
  
*Zeus:* *As a god*  
*Olympic Gods:* *the other gods will always get in your way*  
  
*Student (to another student):* *If this is what a god is, maybe I should take a pass!*  
  
*Zeus:* *Enough! We'll divide up our instruction,*  
*And you'll each get your own class.*  
  
*Hermes:* *Here is our order; see the schedule on your scrolls*  
*Heracles:* *They have class with Aphrodite?*

Ares: (audibly enough for Aphrodite to hear) God have mercy on their souls.

Scene II School; School Songs various teachers, scenes.

Scene IIA: Athena

Andante (1:1) 8/4 (this song is a reprise of To Be A God, up to 'we're late')

Athena: There are times you must be clever, and times you must be strong  
There are times when you aren't sure if you are doing right or wrong  
At times you must hold fast, but there are times for compromise

Student 1: (To Student 2) How are we to tell?

Student 2: You've got to wait until you're wise.

Cymone: How do we discover what is wise, or what to do?

Athena: With wisdom there are times it ends up being up to you

*Athena leaves*

Hero: She did not answer your question, but you didn't make a fuss.

Cymone: With wisdom, there are times it ends up being up to us.

Student 3: We're late! It's time for Artemis, Apollo—

Student 4: There's the bell!

Student 1: This brother-sister pair will make our lives a living hell!

Student 2: They're in charge of Music, archery!

Student 1: The forests!

Student 4: And the Moon!

Student 3: Hunting! Healing!

Student 1: Poetry!

Student 2: The plague!

Student 4: We're all doomed.

Scene IIB: Artemis

*Enter Artemis*

(1:3) and (1:1) 4/4

Athena: *The forest's moods give the huntress power*

*Its rhythms you embrace  
Moonlight's shadows reveal the hour  
You perch with stealth and grace  
The deer is sighted; your eyes you narrow,  
Then stand in your place  
Draw back on your bow and arrow*

Student 2 (about Student 3): The deer would run if they saw his face!

Student 4:            Where is Apollo? Is he coming at all?  
Artemis:            Apollo still mourns his son Phaeton's fall

*Exit Artemis*

*\*\*\* Transition to Scene IIC: Hephaestus Hephaestus' lair, with much clashing and clanging \*\*\**

*Afterwards it's to Scene IID: Hypnos and Morpheus Hypnos and Morpheus. This next piece is either a song or spoken.*

Lullaby 1:1 8/4

*Hypnos:            Here we learn the art and science of sleep  
                         We delve right to the heart of this mystery so deep  
                         The visions in the sleep-world are not always what they seem  
                         To explain, here's Morpheus, the king of dreams  
   The king of dreams, the king of dreams  
   The king of dreams, the king of dreams (etc.)*

*The Students have all fallen asleep during Hypnos' last few lines. Morpheus steps forward and looks around, disgusted*

Presto (1:1) 8/4

Morpheus:            Wake up, forthwith! There'll be no more sleeping here!  
                         Let's see what stuff of dreams you all've come up with—as if I care.

*He has collected their sheets as he says these lines, and now reads from them. Each new set of quotations represents a different sheet.*

Staccato (1:3) 4/2

Morpheus:            “Shipwrecks, volcanoes;” “Stars, and streams;”  
                         “Waterfalls, nymphs” —The stuff of dreams!

“Hydras, cyclops;” “Caves; —butter?!”  
“The Kraken!” “Titans;” “Graves; —your mother?!”

Student 4: What have we next upon our schedule? What foul punishment awaits?  
Student 2: ‘Hermes, Olympus’ messenger;’ (*pause*) but in five seconds, he’ll be—

*Enter Hermes in a flash.*

Scene IIE: Hermes

Student 2: —Late?

*Hermes: As a messenger, you must fly straight and true  
The message getting there is all up to you!*

*When Hermes sings 'Now go!' here, the students all run off on their course*

*Hermes: Now go! With haste! Let no time go to waste!  
You've a message to deliver, you can't nap now, it's a race,  
Yes, you must hurry, go, fly! Let no time go by!  
Your messages should be delivered here by NOW!*

*Students enter at different times, all later than Hermes would have liked, one especially late.*

Hermes: ...Sigh. *Exit Hermes*

Scene IIF: Hera Hera's class

Legato (1:3) 4/4

Hera: Olympus has its sacred twelve  
Who defend and rule this realm.  
With mighty Zeus leading at our helm,  
The titans we repel.

Legato (1:3) 8/4

Student 2: Twelve? Zeus, Artemis, Aphrodite; Hera, Apollo, Ares.  
Athena, Hermes, Hephaestus—the other three? Are they adversaries?  
Student 4: And why are there ten banners there, instead of twelve, or nine?  
Student 3: Are the other gods evil?  
Student 1: Lost?  
Student 2: Or are they all benign?

Legato (1:3) 4/4

Hera: I have not the elocution to  
Share that tale of grief  
But; know one's a victim, one's a thief  
...And one will get his retribution.

*Hera exits* Scene IIG: Students

Crisp (1:1) 8/4

Student 1: One's named Poseidon—Zeus' brother, banished now for evil deeds.  
Student 3: God of the Ocean, guards the Kraken—the mightiest being on land or sea.  
Student 2: And -I- heard Zeus was more to blame, that he began their feud.  
It's possible—he can't be flawless!  
Student 4: (*'speak' starts on Student 2's 'be'*) Speak only what you -know- is true.

Moderatro (1:1) 8/4;

Cymone: The second was their brother Hades, who lives beneath the earth.  
He presides o'er the dead; where none can leave: that is his curse.  
When he went down, he stole a maiden, fair Persephone, I'm told;  
Now she lives there, by his side, and helps him rule the Underworld.  
Persephone was Demeter's daughter  
Student 1: The god of agriculture!  
Cymone: But now the fields all are dead, save for the rats and for the vultures.  
Demeter, now in mourning, walks with a dying branch clutched in her hand;  
Until Persephone returns, nothing will grow upon the land.  
Student 3: It sounds pretty bleak; Olympus' day now turned to night.  
Student 4: They need a hero to shine forth, to take these wrongs and make them right.  
Hero: 'They need a hero to shine forth, to take these wrongs and make them right.'

Scene IIIH *Apollo and Daedalus approach and listen as the Students speak here*

Student 1: I'll learn how to fight with every weapon; with axe, sword and spear!  
Student 2: I'll study ancient magic; I'll be a famous sage, a seer!  
Cymone: I'll help those who have fallen, help them find their place again  
Student 3: Soon they all will sing my song!  
Student 4: They'll sing my song -and- my refrain!

Scene II I: Apollo and Daedulus

Apollo: You speak of seeking glory, to rise as high as you can.  
 Daedalus: We're here to tell our story, and other ways to be a man.  
 I'll tell you of Icarus, and how he wished to fly.  
 Apollo: And I of my son Phaeton, who tried to reach for the sky.

### Son, Don't Fly So High

*Apollo: I told my son he could have anything; he only had to say  
 He said to rise up as high as the sun  
 I want to ride your golden horses up and bring forth the day  
 I said please; not that one  
 They could throw you; you could fall; please ask anything else at all  
 But he was off; and as he climbed, he heard me call  
 I said Son, don't fly so high  
 Don't go so close to the sky  
 I need you here; please stay near  
 Son, don't fly so high*

*Daedalus: I gave my son his wings so he could be free  
 He asked to fly as high as the sun  
 He said I want to feel its warmth as I look down upon the sea  
 I said what have I done?  
 The wings could melt; you could fall; please ask anything else at all  
 But he was off; and as he climbed he heard me call  
  
 I said son, don't fly so high  
 Don't go so close to the sky  
 I need you here; please stay near  
 Son, don't fly so high*

*Apollo: The horses couldn't be held  
 Daedalus: The wings started to melt  
 Both: I saw him tumble from the sky  
 Apollo: I rushed to his side  
 Daedalus: He was barely alive  
 Both: I only had a moment before he \_\_\_ died... (4 beat pause before 'died')*

*I said Son, don't fly so high  
 Don't go so close to the sky  
 I need you here; please stay near  
 Daedalus: Son, don't fly  
 Apollo: Son, don't fly*

*Both: Son, don't fly so high*

Allegro (1:1) 8/4 (no 4<sup>th</sup> on 8 beat)

\*\*\*Student 3: Who's next?

Student 4: Aphrodite. \*\*\*

Student 2: Woohoo, I can't wait!

Student 1: I wish I could gather her up and then put her on a plate!

Cymone: She has a lot to share, she's caring, and in relations, she is wise.

*The other students repeat this back with mocking gestures*

Student 3: 'She has a lot to share!'

Student 4: 'She's caring!'

Students 1 and 2: 'And in relations, she is wise!'

*Enter Aphrodite, who the audience sees hearing this last line*

### Scene II J: Aphrodite

*Aphrodite: Words can cut like any weapon  
But words can also heal  
Like honey or like venom  
The power of words is real  
So be kind to each other  
It won't hurt your pride  
Show everyone the love you hold inside  
From now on, show them that you can be  
Who you are insi—*

*Enter Zeus, Ares, and Heracles, interrupting Aphrodite*

*Zeus: Go, now, it's time for war  
What are you all waiting for?  
No more pillow talking here  
Learn what moves the world—war and fear!*

Flowing (1:1) 4/4 (beat on last 4)

Aphrodite: It's still my class time, they should learn of love  
To balance well their warriors' might

Ares: This twaddle that you're speaking of  
Would best be shared far out of sight

*Zeus motions Aphrodite off; Aphrodite withdraws a few steps, visibly upset*

Flowing (1:1) 4/4 (beat on last 3)

Ares: When she's that uppity, I don't know  
Whether to love her or to hate her.  
Zeus: She's just that flighty, even so;  
It's just part of her nature.  
As a woman— (*we don't hear the rest of this sentence as they exit*)

*All leave save Aphrodite; enter Hera* **Scene II K: Aphrodite and Hera**

Adagio (1:1) 4/4

Hera: Aphrodite, lovely child  
Tell; What brings these tears?  
Aphrodite: It's nothing; a strong soul reveres  
The wisdom of her trials.  
Hera: With me you safely can confide  
The sorrows in your heart  
Woe and worry soon depart  
By sharing what's inside

Variable: (1:1) 8/4

Aphrodite: It's Zeus, your husband, with his foul banners unfurled!  
His childish degradations are ravishing our world!  
First he ignores you, then he's rude, then he'll talk and never stop  
He condescends, then he's crude; treats me like candy in a shop  
With all the women that he's wooed, you'd think at least he'd act with grace  
Instead his actions are imbued with condescension and disgrace.

Hera: Cruel storms (will) fair skies bring(s)  
Time all woe absolves  
Aphrodite: Soothing mottoes will not solve  
The torment that he brings.

Variable: (1:1) 8/4

Because of his foul temper, his brother Poseidon is now gone;  
Towards people of our gender, he's the king and we're the pawns  
His not admitting when he was wrong led to Hades being cast down  
He's weak, he isn't strong—he's not deserving of that crown.  
Hera, how do you endure all of his lies, his insanity?  
As a man, he's a cur; as a god, he's a calamity!

Adagio (1:1) 4/4

Hera:                   When you've known the man as long as I  
You see both his faults and strengths  
He's flawed, but also goes great lengths  
To help Olympus rise

How I Still Love Him

*\*\*\* Hera:                   I was so young when I met the man; he was handsome, daring dashing,  
He was the strongest man in all the land, and of all the gods,  
He choosing me to be his bride; rule Olympus by his side  
It's been quite a ride, and still I love him;*

*Yes, I know he can be passionate; always says what's on his mind,  
He is as fiery as the day we met, and sometimes he is blind  
To the ways that he can hurt you; the times that he deserts you  
I sometimes wish it were true that he'd change;  
That he could mellow with age;  
That he would learn to control his rage  
But still I love him*

*When you commit to a man I believe it's for life  
You take what you can, the joy and the strife  
Though it may be hard to see, he's caring and he's tried  
That's how I still love him; I try to see the man he is inside  
Try to help him be the man he is inside*

*Enter Zeus and a demigod student he is berating*

Zeus:                   Nonsense! Rubbish! Claptrap! Blather!  
You don't choose which class you'd rather  
Be in! Off; before I show  
My wrath! And Hera, you need to go!  
The council chamber needs attending!



Allegro (1:1) 8/4

Olympian 3: I wish I was born with Aphrodite's hair!  
Olympian 2: Or if I had her pretty face!  
Olympian 1: Or her radiant stare!  
Olympian 3: Still, she doesn't have to flaunt it 'round Olympus.  
Olympian 4: I know!  
Like she's the queen of the land, the only star in the show.

Olympian 1: Don't you know, Aphrodite goes with, I've heard, every man!  
Olympian 2: Every woman too?  
Olympian 3: Who knows? I think everyone's a fan!  
Olympian 4: 'Look at my dress! Look at my face! Ooo! -I'm- Aphrodite!

*Olympian 4 approaches one of the others*

But which of you to choose? Oh! — I'm just so flighty!

*They walk off laughing, leaving Aphrodite alone on stage.*

**The Me Inside**

*Aphrodite:* A pretty face, a lovely smile  
A sparkling dress, the latest style  
They see this, but see right through me  
Like some painting on the wall

Such gorgeous hair, and looks to sigh for  
A winning pair of eyes to die for  
They see this and think they knew me  
But they don't see me at all

Don't they know I love to laugh and play  
To be silly, and run on the sand?  
I sometimes read all night, then sleep all day,  
Or sing as loud as I can

And when I choose to love, I love with all my heart  
Let them know how special they are  
But what do they see in me?  
This face, these arms  
These girlish charms

*Do they see me at all?  
Could someone, somewhere, someday please see me...*

*They say 'Be mine! For my heart's aflame.'  
But then they won't even remember my name  
They're just here when they're trying to woo me  
Want me to come at their beck and call*

*When these robes twirl, they call me a flirt  
The other girls treat me like dirt  
Don't they know what they're doing to me  
When they don't see me at all?*

*It's Aphrodite, look! Such a stunning figure,  
Carve her statue; yes, come and stare!  
It's Aphrodite, don't look! Don't go near to her!  
She's a temptress; a siren; beware...*

*A pretty face, and looks to die for;  
'You know your place;' what do I try for?  
I have power and strength inside of me,  
But they just see a bride  
Just a figure for their daydreams,  
Nothing more; why do I still care?  
How many days I've spent alone,  
How many nights I've cried  
Could someone, somewhere, someday  
Please see me here inside?*

*Could someone, somewhere, someday  
See the me inside?*

**Scene IIM: Maidens from Athens** *Ares, Heracles, and Demigods are walking to their class  
and come across several Maidens from Athens*

**Allegro (1:1) 4/4**

**Heracles:** **Maidens from Athens, sent by their king,  
Deferential, obedient and worshiping.**

**Ares:** **To their shallow, empty lives we gods offer a night  
Of passing, fleeting, greatness in the shadow of our light.**

***He and Ares pass by the Maidens. Enter Athena, Artemis, Apollo, Aphrodite, and Hera***

Athena: They should not have been brought here; release them now  
This shame and repugnance I will not allow.

Heracles(1:3): Time spent with a god all mortals crave,  
A god who is handsome, passionate, brave!

Hera(1:1): These women might be looking for a husband strong  
If they want to be with Ares, then that isn't wrong.

Apollo(1:3): A woman in her power would bow to no man.

Artemis(1:3): (to Ares) You want them to cower—I know your plan.  
I'll take these maidens under my care.  
Come, let's all seek fresher air.

*All go off, including maidens, save Ares and Heracles and the demigods. Ares and Heracles welcome the students directly into swordfighting without words. Likely A and/or H adding a few comments, jumping in, showing both gallant and cheap moves. Class then assembles, A&H higher than the others if we can muster it.*

### IIN: Ares & Heracles' class

#### Allegro (1:1) 2/4

Ares: Now, besides your swordfighting, you also must accomplish  
Valiant deeds to boast of, worthy foes to vanquish!  
How will they remember you after you're gone?  
As a king? As a coward? Or a lowly peon?

Heracles: You must outshine all the others, be the last one to die!  
Take note of my great Labours that I'll be remembered by!

Ares: We will test you now, class, to see what you've learned  
Repeat now the accolades that Heracles has earned

*In this next part Heracles says the parts that are [in brackets]*

#### March (1:1) 2/4 even with Heracles' interjections

Students: Heracles [Singlehandedly!] caught the Erymanthian Boar  
And [Gallantly!] stole apples from the Hesperides  
He [Bravely!] slayed the Stymphalian Birds

And stole the [Wild!] horses of Diomedes  
[Alone!] He captured the Cretan Bull  
And [Valiantly!] Slayed the Nemean Lion  
He [Doggedly!] captured the Geryneain Deer  
Stole the cattle from the [Wicked!] Geryon  
[Heracles!] slayed the Lernaean hydra!  
And brought back Cerberus [from Hades!]

Ares: ...And?

Students: "...” *A few giggles*

Ares: AND?! You had best answer here quickly;  
Don't cower like a bunch of babies!

Student 1: He took the Queen of the Amazons, Hippolyta's...girdle.

*Some giggles and laughter*

Ares: That is only eleven. He faced one more hurdle.

Student 3: You haven't taught us that one; we really don't know

Heracles: I think we're done here! Get out! Time to go!

Ares: All your great deeds must come forth to the light  
To reflect your strength, your bravery, your might.  
Come Heracles, tell them of this last brave Labour  
They will be the wiser, and you all the greater.

*Heracles maintains a stoic silence*

Allegro (1:3) 4/4

Ares: Augeas had many cattle, a thousand times three  
For thirty years their stables had never been cleaned  
Till came brave Heracles, noble and sure;  
Who was tasked with removing thirty years of manure.  
And mightily he dove in! That shovel he swung!  
Now across all of Greece his name will be sung!  
Parades held in his honor! Banners proudly hung!  
For brave Heracles overcame all of that du—

Heracles: Done! We are done here! For your homework, study war!  
How it's planned, how it's fought, how it's won, what it's for

Ares: Yes, and each of you consider what your labours might be  
What will you be remembered for? What will it be?

Heracles: Wrestling? Conquests! War!

Ares: Swordplay? War!



With Poseidon's trident in our hands—  
 Cymone: That idea is the worst!  
Steal Poseidon's trident? From down in the deep?  
 His trident is guarded by the Kraken  
 Hero: I will creep in  
 And bring forth the trident, more glory to my name!  
 Cymone: More likely, start a war—with only you to blame.

<<If no song Remember Me 1<sup>st</sup> Reprise, we have the two spoken lines below>>

Cymone: Hear me now—this is folly; nothing good will come from this.  
 If you go through with this action, I can not assist.

*Cymone exits*

Hero: If she won't help me, I'll consult the Graeae—  
 Those three wise sisters will help show me the way.

### Remember Me 1<sup>st</sup> Reprise

*Cymone: You could still come back it's not too late  
 No one would ever know  
 Keep your head down, Hero; Sit and wait, stay low*  
*Hero: I know;  
 Or I could go, face the Kraken! What could possibly go wrong?*  
*Cymone: Hero, this is folly; this battle can't be won  
 If you go through with this, I'm done*

*Cymone exits*

*Hero: If she won't help, I'll ask the Graeae how to find the Kraken below  
 Those three wise sisters will show the way, I know  
 I will go claim the trident  
 The gods themselves will sing my song  
 And they'll all remember me when I'm gone  
 Yes they'll all remember me, they'll all remember me  
 They'll remember me! When I'm gone!*

**Scene III: Hero meets the Graeae** *We see the Graeae at work over a cauldron, with their minions here and there. As they shuffle about, we notice they only have one Eye to see among the three, which they pass about, sometimes good-naturedly, sometimes with irritation or scuffle.*

Mustily (1:1) 4/4

Pemphredo: Hand me the bloodworm, and the scallions

*(Deino, who has the one eye they share among them, hands the ingredients to her)*

Enyo: Shall we add some lizard tongue,  
Or the ears of a stallion?

Deino: I do like them when they're young!

Pemphredo: *(Like Poseidon's)* No! That brew was for a northern chief who went to war  
He says he needed it to be valiant, and brave.

Deino: A shame he couldn't foretell his battle wouldn't go well

Pemphredo: We all saw that he'll be heading to his grave.

Enyo: (4/4 again) Perhaps we should tell him;  
Call him back here, once again!

Deino: She just wants to smell him  
Smell his fear, and smell his pain.

Enyo: If you hadn't hogged The Eye  
I could have seen him instead!

*Deion and Enyo scuffle for the Eye. In the conflict, Pemphredo snags it.*

Pemphredo: Sisters! A new one draws nigh! *The other two stop fighting*

Enyo: *(grabbing the Eye)* Is he pretty?

Deino: *(herself stealing the Eye)* Or soon dead?

*(If Hero female, change all pronouns to female)*

### The Graeae

*Deino: Come now dearie, don't slink  
What would people think?  
Watch the toad there on the floor,*

*Enyo: And the owl 'bove the door*

*Pemphredo: Here, have a hearty drink*

*Enyo: Don't mind her, she's just a snake  
Dear, you are in a ruffled state!*

*Deino: Just relax—have a prawn!  
Tell us what is going on*

*Graeae & Chorus: Why you're here to see the Graeae*

*Graeae Of course, we could tell you why you came*





Hero:                   So far this potion's working well.  
                          As I approach the Kraken's citadel  
                          I must swim with fish-like perfection  
                          I don't want to attract attention.

*The various sea creatures approach Hero, some quizzical, some imitating him, some giggling.  
Hero is trying to appear unremarkable, to no avail*

### What In the World Is This?

Sea Creatures:       *What in the world just swam through here  
                          We've not seen that before!  
                          A squid? A whale? A lobster?  
                          We're curious! I'm furious! This is serious,  
                          It just swam through my front door!*

*It's got four legs instead of eight  
                          It weaves instead of swimming straight  
It's got no pincers on the end of its arms? Legs? Fins?  
How come its scales are so flat?*

*Yucky!*

*It has no tail! And it's too fat! (says "How's it" in line below)*

*I think it's lucky (says "it's" in line below)*

*It's survived this long, / How's it survived this long?  
What is this?*

*It has no gills, no dorsal fin  
                          I think it tried to shed its skin  
And it keeps making this awful hiss*

*(Short break as we Hero 'breathing' in and out 7 times)*

*It isn't long, it isn't round  
                          I'm surprised it hasn't drowned,  
We ask you what in the world;  
                          What in Poseidon's name?*

*What in the world?  
                          I'll never be the same,  
What in the world is this?  
                          world is this?*

Aged Sea Creature: *I've heard tales of a creature full of strange exotic features*

*That comes from that great desert, air! Above  
They have no fins, no spines, no tails!*

*Other Sea Creatures: No shell? No claws? No scales?*

*Sea Creatures: Could this be the creature they were speaking of?*

*Aged Sea Creature: They're stuck there to the ground don't know how to swim around  
It's said they bring their mouths together!*

*Another Sea Creature: ... Why?*

*Aged Sea Creature: To Kiss!*

*Other Sea Creatures: Eyuuuuhhhh!!*

*Sea Creatures: Do you think it makes a sound? Whatever have we found,  
Astounding! Confounding!*

*Oh, what in the world is this?*

*(Instrumental as they all go to investigate Hero. He tries to look unobtrusive)*

*Sea Creatures: It's tentacles aren't curled  
Look! Inside there is no pearl  
In a crowd it would be hard to miss*

*Wherever is it from? Whyever did it come here?*

*Dear me! Here*

*What in the world is this?*

*What in the world; What in the world?  
Is it wild or is it tame; What in Poseidon's name,  
Oh, What in the world is this?*

*All the sea creatures lean in, looking inquisitively at Hero. Not moving, he looks left, right, then says 'Boo!' (or something like that) and the sea creatures flee.*

**Scen IVB** *Poseidon and Amphitrite (his wife) walking. We see Hero creeping along out of sight, observing*

**Andante (1:1) 8/4 + 5/4**

**\*\*\* Poseidon:** **Again** the titans creep near our oceans, near the deep  
I **fear** they seek the trident, and a **war**  
If they were to **command** the Kraken's might, Olympus **then** has no respite  
It would be **conquered**, and its gods would be no **more**.

**Amphitrite:** Husband, **why** not reunite with your **brother**, with his might?  
He could **protect** the trident, and never would be **cowed**.

Poseidon: Zeus has crossed a final bound'ry; a truce cannot be found, he  
 Won't repent, and I  
 Amphitrite: (*Amphitrite's 'Yes' on Poseidon's 'I'*) Yes I know, you're too proud  
 To say you're sorry. [*'Proud' is the first beat of this new stanza*]  
 Poseidon: 'Twasn't me who was in folly  
 Amphitrite: He'd say the same.  
 Poseidon: 'Twas he who started this whole feud.  
 Amphitrite: Be mature enough to end it; show your strength, agree to mend it  
 (*a brief pause*) Or, just sulk, sigh, seethe, mope, and brood!

*Amphitrite exits*

Poseidon: Perhaps she's right; I don't desire to add fuel to the fire  
 That exists between myself and Zeus, my brother  
 Yet; if I say I was wrong, he'll go on sinning, he'll never change, but keep on winning  
 And he'll just wreak the same foul mischief on another.  
 For now I'll just keep silent. After all, I have my trident  
 And this underwater kingdom serves me well.  
 If the titans wage their war, I'll bring the Kraken to their door  
 Will it come to that? I suppose time will tell. \*\*\*

*Poseidon has come to gate of the Kraken, with Hero still near, but hidden. Poseidon looks around to see that he is unobserved, then plays the Kraken's sleeping song. Once the Kraken is slumbering, he opens the gate, and puts his trident inside. He then plays the Kraken's waking song, and goes off.*

Moderato (1:1) 8/4

Hero: Now I wait until Poseidon is far away from here.  
 I know the Kraken's tune; I have nothing to fear.  
 If I can bring Poseidon to Olympus, all will see  
 A truce between the gods again, and all because of me.

*Lights out to show time passing; Lights up, and Hero draws near to the Kraken's gate. He brings out his fife and plays the Kraken's sleeping song, then creeps in and gets the trident. He closes the gate then plays the waking song. Perhaps we hear the Kraken roar.*

Scene V Titans and Hero      *Hero onstage by himself first, in transit towards Olympus*

Hero: Perhaps Zeus will promote me to a god for this brave action  
 And Heracles and Ares? I can't wait for their reaction!

*Hero hears noises, and hides. Titans enter. They stop, with Hero unfortunately stuck behind a rock.*

Moderato (1:1) 8/4

Menoetius: Skulking 'bout in hiding's neither brave, nor is it pleasing  
Hell we should be raising! And their gold we should be seizing!

Perses: The four of us alone could bring Olympus to its knees  
Titans Menoetius, Pallas, Metis—and myself, Perses.

Metis: Our queen Rhea sent us to find out if Poseidon's truly gone  
We're here as spies, not to fight—until that's known.

Menoetius: If Poseidon is alone, then we can take him, four to one.

Pallas: Have you forgotten the Kraken? If it's unleashed, then we are done.  
Metis speaks a-right: we're only here to gather clues  
Of/For whether now's the time the titans rise up and conquer Zeus.

Perses: They've cursed the lands; now nothing grows. They mean to starve us out!  
'Tis evil, and an act of war.

Metis: Of that, there is some doubt.  
Their lands too, are in decay.

Perses: A ruse, meant to trick us!  
They want us to think they're weak.

Menoetius: To be sure; then they'll stick us!

Pallas: The agriculture goddess is Olympian. (-'pian' spoke very quickly)

Perses: That's the truth!

Pallas: She could fix this all, but doesn't; now we starve.

Perses: There's your proof.

*Throughout this scene the Titans have walked about the rock behind which Hero is hiding. Up until now, he has managed to elude them by being on the opposite side. Here though, the titans go different ways around the rock, and he is discovered by Perses.*

Perses: What's this? Look here! It's an Olympian, no doubt!

Menoetius: You spied on us—you'll die!

Metis: Hold on! Hear me out!  
If he dies, his disappearance will be noticed; what comes then?  
Rhea would not have us start a war without her ken.

Pallas: Besides, there could be more of them. Here! Are you alone?

Hero: Yes sir, it's just me!

Perses: What's that you've got behind that stone?

*Hero, to his credit, struggles to prevent the titans from discovering the trident. However, he is far outmatched.*

Pallas: Poseidon's trident, by the stars!  
Metis: No, it can't be!  
Menoetius: Where'd you get it?  
Oh, won't talk? How 'bout now?  
Perses: Stop, forget it!  
Don't you see? If we've the trident, then Zeus won't be safe on land;  
The sharks, the whales, the hurricanes, the Kraken we'll command.

*As the titans take this in, they've forgotten about Hero. He sprints off; Menoetius notices him and gives chase.*

Metis: Menoetius! Come back! If you spill his blood, you know  
That then to Olympus, a great boon we will owe.  
Pallas: Forget him! The trident we will place in Rhea's hands.  
With her wielding its might, then Olympus cannot stand.

*They run off*

**Scene VIB: Hero and Cymone** *A hallway in Olympus. Hero is there by himself first*

Hero: The titans hold the trident now; what am I to do?  
In Olympus we must form a band, those titans to pursue!  
But if I tell, what will become of me? \_\_ I would be blamed!  
All Olympus hating me, the gods cursing my name!  
If I don't tell, the titans will soon command the Kraken.  
But if I do?—Zeus will not look kindly down upon this infraction:  
(imitating Zeus) 'You betrayed Olympus! Now feel my wrath, and my might!  
I know! I'll tell Cymone. She'll know just how to make this right.

*Enter Cymone (and Hero 4 seconds later in shorter version)*

Cymone: Where have you been? You were almost late again.  
At least I see you didn't steal the trident \_\_ you have some brains.  
Hero: I did! But now it's gone! The titans took it from me.  
I can't tell anyone—all Olympus then would shun me.

*The scene ends with Hero and Cymone speaking to each other voicelessly as lights out*

**Scene VII: Olympic Council II** *All are present, including Students In rushes Hermes*

Allegretto (1:3) 4/4

Hermes: My lord, the titans are in our midst  
They steal now homewards, rash and swift  
Worse still, they had with them a prize  
A trident—

Zeus: Poseidon's?!

Hermes: The same look and size

Hephaestus(1:1): If they've the trident in their hands  
The Kraken's power they'll soon command.

Heracles(1:1): To arms, to arms! We'll hunt them down  
Remind them who wears Greece's crown.

Moderato: (1:3) 8/4

Aphrodite: If we attack, our own hands we'd burn; first let's send a delegation  
to discuss the trident's swift return, and avoid this warlike provocation.

Ares(1:1) 4/4: 'Tis not the time for bedtime parley,  
We need warriors, hale and hearty  
To show the titans we won't stand  
Their theft or trespass in our lands.  
I say to battle!

Heracles: Aye!

Artemis(1:3): Tonight  
They'll feel Olympus' wrath and might!

Ares: Who's with me?

Artemis: I!

Heracles(1:3): And me as well  
These titans' journey will end in hell

[[these next lines have their rhymes hit the downbeat of the 4, (as opposed to the more common 3), with a 1 2 1 2 rhymescheme on the two lines]]

Aphrodite (1:3) 8/4: Diplomacy should be our first course; at least try to end this peacefully.  
If they're defiant, only then use force; none then would die needlessly.  
Again I say: we give them back their mace; perhaps they'll trade the trident  
We'll make things worse if we attack

Olympian: (*we don't know who*): I only wish that she'd be silent!

Ares(1:1) 8/4: Aphrodite, talk of love we know you hold in your dominion  
This conflict that we're speaking of can't be helped by your opinion.

Aphrodite(1:1): I'm trying to save lives!  
 Ares: As I!  
 Zeus(1:1): Enough! We'll send a battle squadron  
 Demand the trident, if they defy you, give them no quarter, take no pardon.  
 And you—from now on, hold your tongue in matters far above your ken  
 When we want pretty flowers hung, we'll ask your council, only then.  
Love and pleasure, dainty robes, silent awe, you know your place.  
 Ares(1:1): Save your words for pleasing odes, or when we need a pretty face.

*Zeus, the battle group, and others walk off, leaving Aphrodite **and** Hera*

### How I Still Love Him Reprise

*Hera: I know this may not help you; you're angry, you've every right to be  
 It hurts when he yells at you; still you can fight to be  
 The person that you are; a bright shining star  
 Show us who you are inside...*

### \*\*\* The Me Inside (1<sup>st</sup> Reprise)

*A pretty face and looks to die for  
 'You know your place;' What do I try for?  
 I want to share my strength and spirit; I have so much love to give  
 But they'll never want to hear it; as long as I may live  
 They'll just see me as a rag doll, submissive and resigned;  
 Some day I'll stand here, strong and free, the me inside  
 From now on—! \*\*\**

*In the instrumental immediately following, she still has momentum, but she stops, and we see her lose her steam over the course of six seconds or so. The music finishes the reprise finale meekly, yet with a hint of the strength there inside*

### Scene VIII Confrontation with Titans

*We see Menoetius, Perses, Pallas, and Metis going forth with the trident. Ares, Heracles, and Artemis confront them.*

### Andante (1:1) 8/4

Ares: Stop ye titans, stand ye down—return what you have stolen.  
 Perses: Well! Ares, in the flesh—his words are large, his ego swollen.  
 Artemis: We've been sent from Olympus to avert a larger war.

Return to us the trident, and we'll speak of this no more.  
Menoetius: I like this new accoutrement—it goes well with my beard.  
Come closer, and you'll find out what it feels like to be sheared.  
Metis: Brothers! And Olympians; none of us want bloodshed.  
Let's give their trident back, and each withdraw  
Menoetius: Not till they've bled!  
Heracles: Ruffian!  
Pallas: Rapsallion!  
Ares: Scoundrel!  
Perses: Human-lover!  
Menoetius: Your next step will be your last!  
Ares: Ares' wrath you'll soon discover!

*A few fights come to be—Heracles with Perses, Artemis with Pallas, and Ares with Menoetius, the titan who is carrying the trident. Metis labors to break some of the pairs apart, without success. Each pair has their own scuffle, but in the middle, Ares and Menoetius both end up seizing the trident. They struggle, and as they do so Menoetius is stabbed. He falls to the ground. Perses and Pallas break off and go to him as he dies, still clutching the trident.*

Perses: You killed my brother. For that you will die.  
Pallas: Wait! By the ancient law, a boon they now will owe us.  
Artemis: Fie!  
It was to the death—Ares acted in his own defense.  
Pallas: Still, for Menoetius' death, you now owe recompense.  
Perses: I want his life!  
Metis: That's not allowed, another offering is needed  
What we say, under law, by all Olympus must be heeded.  
Pallas: You must send to us a bride, tomorrow evening we'll collect her.  
And it must be one of the twelve, yes an Olympian, forever.  
If you send this token, then perhaps we won't wage war.  
Ares: How can we trust your word?

Perses: You can't; and what is more,  
With this trident in our keeping, now Olympus soon will learn  
That the titans are the rulers here; Olympus soon will burn.

*The Titans leave, still in possession of the Trident; Heracles and Ares make to go after them, but they are stopped by Artemis*

### Scene IX Olympic Council III

*We see Olympians in council, all in a very tense mood.*

Moderato (1:1) 8/4

Heracles: The titans stole the trident, which CUT [[you]] Ares tried to reclaim;  
In the heat of the moment, a titan fell.

Zeus: Who was to blame?

Ares: We were fighting for our lives—it was either him or me.

Artemis: He speaks a-right. But they also said—

Zeus: Silence! Don't you see?  
If they wield the trident, all the ocean they will rule  
That means the Kraken, with all its powers—colossal, fell, and cruel.

Aphrodite: I have a way that could avert a war, that deadly cancer;  
With diplomacy, we could divert their wrath, and find an answer.

Apollo: Tell us more.

Heracles: No time! Even now, they steal away  
To the foulness of their lair to plan their war, without delay.

Hephaestus: We could call upon Poseidon; he could help us in our need.

Zeus: My brother?! We don't need his cowardice, his selfishness, his greed.

Artemis: The trident is a weighty matter, a solution must be found.  
But; to prevent a war right now, there is a doom they've handed down.  
For Menoetius' death, they now demand from our side  
A boon: we must send them an Olympian as a bride.

*Mayhem, as everyone in the room talks at once*

Zeus: **SILENCE, BY THE GODS, BEFORE I CAST YOU ALL TO HADES!**  
Here's what we'll do: Athena, you'll go consult the Fates  
To see if they have any insight on the matter of the trident.  
For the war, we will ready; our preparation must be silent  
So they don't suspect. For all they know, we're passive and we're fearing;  
But we'll have power in our ranks when the enemy is nearing.  
Now: to show them that we think that -they- are powerful and mighty,  
We'll meekly send to them a bride.

Artemis: Who?

Zeus: (*Sort of a 'Who do you think?' gesture*) \_\_\_\_\_ Aphrodite.

Apollo: **You certainly can not mean it: to them, a bride is a slave.  
If you send her to the titans, you all but send her to her grave.**

Heracles: **She claims to be Goddess of Love; let's have her prove it now.**

Artemis: **And she'd be helping out Olympus if she took that wedding vow.**

Ares: Then it's settled. For war, we will ready and prepare.  
Aphrodite can distract them with her gowns, and with her hair.

Aphrodite: I won't do it.

Zeus: What did you say?

Aphrodite: \_\_\_\_\_ I will not go.  
 I tell you, with diplomacy, then ALL of this—

Ares: I know, I know,  
 'We'll charm them with love.' Well, heh!—as bride, you'll get your chance!  
 Those titans may be dumbstruck by your flowery romance

Aphrodite: As an envoy I will go, but they won't parley with a bride.  
 I can help prevent this war, show the powe—

Ares: You are not qualified.

Zeus: You'll go as a  
Bride!—tomorrow, for the titans to collect.  
 Your duty's to Olympus, which you know you can't neglect.

*Athena and Apollo begin to speak up to object. Zeus silences them.*

None question my judgment, lest you share the fate of Hades:  
Condemned to the Underworld, because he didn't know his place.  
Hermes, tell the titans: Aphrodite is their bride.  
 They can pick her up tomorrow, and we'll appear to have complied;

*Hermes exits*

But Ares, Heracles, Artemis; we now go plan our war:  
 We'll show the titans just what grisly fate they have in store.

*(To Aphrodite, as others exit) We need a bride, and of us all you have the prettiest face.  
 Aphrodite begins to speak; Zeus interrupts*

My command, Goddess of Love, is that you'll go—you know your place.

### **The Me Inside 2<sup>nd</sup> Reprise**

*Aphrodite: A pretty face, and looks to die for  
 'You know your place!' What do I try for?  
 I have power and strength inside of me  
 But they just see a bride  
 Goddess of Love, they say I have to be  
 No more—I don't care!  
 Too long I've been their puppet;  
 Well, no more, I'd rather die!  
 From now on, I stand here strong and free,  
 The me inside  
 From now on, I swear I'll always be  
 The me inside!*



*The bride we need is Athena!*

*Athena:*

*Me?*

*Heracles:*

*Just wear this bridal veil, I'm sure it's just the right size*

*Olympians:*

*Goddess-bride of Wisdom! A feast for their eyes!*

*Olympians:*

*Do it for Olympus*

*Athena:*

*No, I would never do*

*The bride we need is.....*

*Olympians:*

*Who?*

*Athena:*

*We need a bride who is watchful, yes a bride with a keen eye*

*A bride who could hunt the Titans' dinner if she tried;*

*We need a bride who is rugged, yes a bride who has gall*

*One who's comfortable outdoors in the winter, spring or fall,*

*We need a bride who is a huntress; for the Titans, food is key*

*The bride we need is Artemis!*

*Artemis:*

*Me?!*

*Artemis:*

*I'm the Goddess of the Moon, I don't have time to be a bride!*

*Olympians:*

*Just wear this bridal veil, then smile, nice and wide!*

*Be the Goddess of Glamour for this Titanic rendez-vous!*

*Artemis:*

*Not me! The bride we need is*

*Olympians:*

*Who?*

*Artemis:*

*We need a bride who is clever, yes a bride who is skilled*

*A bride who is handy with a hammer, who can build*

*A bride who can make tools, weapons, horseshoes at their need!*

*The bride we need is Hephaestus*

*Hephaestus:*

*Me?!*

*I'm the blacksmith of the gods, not some blasted blushing bride!*

*Olympians:*

*Just wear this bridal veil; look! It's just the right size!*

*We'll fit you in a corset, what a fetching bride you'll be!*

*Hephaestus:*

*-Anybody- else here is a better bride than me; you see,*

*Apollo's skilled in medicine, poetry, and art*

*Apollo:*

*Dionysus' wine and revelry is sure to win their heart*

*Dionysus:*

*Athena has her wisdom*

*Athena:*

*Hermes has his lyre*

*Hermes runs away very quickly to avoid being the focus*

*Hermes:*

*We'll send Hypnos, who can put them all to sleep, when they're tired!*

*Gods look to Hypnos, who himself is sleeping*

Ares: Enough talk! Warriors don't think, they act! If we send any Olympians to the Titans besides Aphrodite, it will soon be discovered. When that happens, we'll need a bride who...

Olympians: Who...?

Ares: *We need a bride who is strong; yes, a bride who is brave  
A bride who'd send those scoundrels to their cursed, rotten grave*

Athena: *A bride who is valiant?*

Ares: *Yet vicious to the core!*

Artemis: *One who's trained in arts of dalliance*

Ares: *But also arts of war*

Ares: *We need a bride who could bring those cursed titans to their knees!  
This bride needs to be a warrior!*

No...no wait, I...(all gods look at Ares; Heracles backs away)

Olympians: *Yes, our bride, Ares!*

Zeus: *Thank you for volunteering for this most important task  
But he needs to look endearing*

Hephaestua: *He could always wear a mask!*

Zeus: *Gods, you have two hours, make him as pretty as can be  
[as an aside] And if it's within your power, teach him manners*

Heracles: *I agree!*

Zeus: *But it's too dangerous alone, even for God of War, Ares  
You'll take with you to the Titans an attendant—Heracles!*

*Exit Zeus*

**Scene XA: Gods with Ares** *Ares and Heracles begin on one side of the stage as the Gods consult among themselves, out of earshot.*

### **We Need A Bride Reprise**

Hera: *A bride should be conscientious*

Apollo: *Yes, considerate and kind*

*A bride should be compassionate*

Artemis: *And share what's on their mind*

*Sometimes they should be flexible*

Hephaestus: *Sometimes staid and true*

*We'll just teach these things to Ares!*

Hermes: *In two hours!?*

Athena: *You have*

*Got to teach him what -he- thinks a bride ought to be:  
A pretty dainty thing, who sighs and blushes!*  
*Artemis:*  
*Athena:* *Let's see*  
*What we have to work with! Here, walk across the floor!*  
*Show us class, and elegance!*

*Ares walks across stage with anything but these qualities*

*Artemis:* *I think there's going to be a war.*

**Slap on A Sash** (When it says 'All,' it does not include Ares or Heracles, except where noted)

*Athena:* *Such a wretched posture!*  
*Artemis:* *Such ungainly arms!*  
*A&A:* *We'd have more to work with here if he were made of stone!*  
*Hermes:* *Such a rigid torso!*  
*Artemis:* *Such a lack of charms!*  
*All:* *How can -this- one ever be a bride? We bemoan*  
*Apollo:* *His lack of proper etiquette*  
*Artemis:* *His chilling lack of grace*  
*Hermes:* *His walk is an impediment*  
*Artemis:* *His bow is a disgrace*  
*All:* *With all he's got against him, we are now his only hope*  
*Artemis:* *We'll just cover up his detriments with good old-fashioned*

*Formerly hidden, they approach Ares with necklaces, wigs, scarves, lacy frills, etc.*

*Ares:* *Nope!*

*Artemis:* *Oh yes, we'll*  
*Slap on a sash or two*  
*And then clap on some pearls*  
*It could happen that he'd appear to be*  
*The best bride in the world, oh yes we'll*  
  
*Make up his face a bit*  
*And shake up his stride*  
*Then here, titans, is your blushing bride*

*Artemis & Athena:* *But then at meal times he needs to be refined*

*Others:* *Demure and lovely!*

*A&A:* *Show proper manners, and cultured taste in wine*

*Others:* *Brush up on your vintages!*

A&A: *A conversationalist for every situation*  
 Apollo: *Gardens!*  
 Hermes: *Curtains!*  
 Heracles: *Math!*  
 All (including Heracles): *Then be ready to fulfill your bridal station*

A&A *Get ready to*  
 A&A: *Whip on a smile at any time*  
 Others: *When he wants to*  
 A&A: *Strap on a cravat*  
 Others: *How dashing!*  
 A&A: *Then slip on your wedding gown*  
 Others: *Now flaunt it!*  
 A&A: *And they'll know where it's at*  
 Others: *He's smashing!*

A&A *Now just give those new curls a shake*  
 Others: *Jing-jing-a-ling*  
 A&A: *Then walk the aisle with pride*  
 Others: *walk the aisle with pride!*  
 All: *And here, titans, is your blushing bride!*

*Heracles and Hera go off with Ares, others say on*

Others: *But then at times he needs a certain flare*  
 A&A: *A fire inside*  
 Others: *You must be winsome and fetching with your stare*  
 A&A *But those eyelashes*

Others: *And with those Titans on your wedding day*  
 A&A: *Ah-ah-ah-ah!*  
 Mix: *When they see you they'll have nothing more to say!*  
 Mix: *Ah..... Ah..... Ah, ah, ah, ah!*  
 (Mix: *Ah, ah, ah, ahhhhhhh!*) *(song might not include this line)*

*Enter Hera, Heracles, and Ares, who is now in full bridal splendor. Heracles has on his bridal attendant outfit.*

<i>(A few Olympians sing with Ares, subbing 'he' for I, etc.)</i>		Others:
Ares:	<i>Oh, I'll just slap on a sash or two</i>	<i>Style and elegance</i>
	<i>And then clap on some pearls</i>	<i>How dashing!</i>
	<i>It could happen that I could be</i>	<i>Dresses with intelligence</i>
	<i>The best bride in the world</i>	<i>He's smashing!</i>







Zeus: My conscience I will not impugn. I choose (now) my own path.  
 You'll reap my vengeance!

Aphrodite: And hear now what is really galling: we all pledged to a higher calling.  
 It's you whose actions are appalling and bring Olympus shame.

Zeus: ENOUGH! Daughter, I have seen the goddess that you might have been.  
 Instead, you've turned out crass and mean, a shrew who can't be tamed.  
 (1:1) 8/4 You're not love; but filled with hate. Prepare now to meet your fate.

Aphrodite: You think -you've- seen the goddess I might have been?

### You Never Saw Me / You Will Pay

**\*\*\* Aphrodite:** *You never saw me I don't think you can  
 The only way you'd see me is if I were a man  
 So go now, yes leave me; or do what you will  
 The spirit inside me can't be killed  
 And I'll never bow down just to feed your pride  
 From now on, I swear I'll always be the me inside*

**Zeus:** *As God, I command you all  
 Or else Olympus falls  
 All must pay obedience to me  
 If each god had their say  
 Don't you know the price we'd pay  
 I alone can keep us safe and free  
 You'll pay now for your insolence to me! \*\*\**

*Zeus turns, and, with his staff, is about to smite Aphrodite down. She is standing there, waiting for it, but with a look that is neither defiant, nor angry, nor meek: it is focussed, loving, and firm. Zeus hesitates, has an inner storm wrestling with his sense of duty, outrage, and a deeper conscience emerging that will not let him strike her down. Also, in a moment he sees her and all that he has done in the past and how blind he's been. He is caught in his emotion, casts down his staff, turns away, and for one of the first times in his life weeps.*

*Aphrodite, for her part, though she had a very strong moment of pure focus standing up to Zeus, has a mixture of emotions: she is still scared from what has just happened; one side of her drawn to comfort Zeus, as is her nature; and one side is still incredibly angry at him. She does eventually pick up Zeus' staff, come over to him, and put her arm on his shoulder. When he looks up, she offers him his staff.*

Zeus: I'm—I—Can you forgive me?

Free Andante (1:1) 8/4

Aphrodite: I hate it that I still can love you, even with what you've done to me.  
But—it matters not what I think of you, your inner light I strive to see.  
My devotion I will not forsake, for that, I've found (*pause*) can not die.  
But there are changes that you need to make, even if it wounds your  
pride.

Zeus: What must I do?

To each one that you've neglected, you must try to make amends;  
If we all felt we were respected, how high Olympus could ascend!  
We'd still look to you to rule—the final call? you'll need to make it.  
But when you're tempted to be cruel; just act with love.

*Zeus looks doubtful*

Aphrodite: ...You might have to fake it.

*Enter Apollo, who imagines that Zeus is still angry and might hurt Aphrodite.*

Apollo: My lord, I urge restraint; Show your mercy and your grace!  
I—(*downbeat on pause*) my lord, you're weeping!

Zeus: No tears upon my face!  
I was feverish; to relieve me, Aphrodite threw some water.  
'Twas quick thinking, but that's expected—after all, she is my daughter.

*Enter Poseidon*

Poseidon (8/4,5/4): At last I've found you, brother; Send away these others:  
If they stay, there's a good chance they'll get hurt.  
It staggers all belief that you would stoop to be a thief:  
Return my trident; I'll forget that this occurred.

Zeus: (8/4,8/4) You accuse -me- of theft? You dare? Poseidon, you had best beware:  
Your folly and your blindness caused the failure of our pact.  
I need not remind us that I banished you with kindness  
Those who challenge me prepare to meet their maker. Time to act!

*Zeus raises his staff, Poseidon his (staff?). During the last line of this speech Artemis has entered, and is hastening towards Poseidon. Aphrodite has entered into Zeus' field, and gives him a withering yet caring stare. Zeus sees her.*

Zeus: (8/4) But 'tis not seemly to argue here in public. I stand down.

*Aphrodite nods. Zeus then takes an aggressive stance and a step forward on the next words*

Zeus: For now!

*Artemis, Apollo, and Aphrodite all step in to intervene—Apollo and Aphrodite to Zeus, Artemis to Poseidon. Zeus and Poseidon belatedly calm down. Enter Hero and Cymone, closely followed by Athena and Hephaestus.*

Hero: 'Twas I who stole the trident! I'm the one, I'm to blame!

*A moment of silence, then a bit of chaos. Again Zeus and Poseidon charge forth, this time at Hero. Apollo, Aphrodite, and Hephaestus restrain Zeus, Athena and Artemis restrain Poseidon. Calm once again achieved as Aphrodite keeps things in check.*

Zeus: Hero—we'll deal with this transgression later. Now we must prepare for war.

(to Poseidon) For the time being, let's put aside our feud: later we can right that score.

Help us to reclaim your trident—that is what we're fighting for.

Poseidon(8/4, 5/4): If the titans reach the Kraken, then our land and seas they'll blacken I will give all I can to win this war.

After we're finished, Zeus, I'll pardon you if you admit your folly

*Zeus is about to explode again, but Aphrodite lays a hand on his shoulder*

Poseidon: For Olympus! We won't forget the vow we've sworn!

*All Olympians raise their arms (including Hero and Cymone); Aphrodite doesn't speak*

Olympians: For Olympus! For Olympus! To Olympus we have sworn!

*All exit; Hero takes Aphrodite aside. Cymone stays behind as well.*

Hero: I want to end this, but I don't know how—can you think of a plan? Find a way to stop the fighting, take things back where they began?

Aphrodite: There might just be a way we can avoid bloodshed, and pain.

If it works, none would perish; and peace might be regained.

**Hero:** I'll help any way I can.

**Cymone:** As will I, to make things right.

*(Alt line, if just Hero:)* Hero: I'll help any way I can; do what I must, to make things right.

**Aphrodite:** We must tread a path towards darkness 'fore we make it to the light.

*She huddles with them, conversing, as the lights go out*

### **Scene XIII.0 Just Outside The Titans' Lair**

*Lights up on Aphrodite, Hero, and Cymone in titan garb.*

**Aphrodite:** Now remember; we act like titans. It is Metis whom we seek.  
When we're among them, don't stand out; don't stare; try not to speak.  
I am praying that Metis and I can organize a truce.  
If the titans can agree, I only hope that so can Zeus.

*They now go off, or weave around to enter Titanville proper.*

**Scene XIII The Titans' Lair** *Ares and Heracles are in the titans' lair in their bride and hand-  
maiden outfits, their hands and feet confined by ropes. Other titans are milling about, in-  
cluding Pallas and Perses. Several titans approach Ares.*

### **Pallas' lines Moderato (1:1) 8/4,5/4 (like Poseidon)**

**Pallas:** Back off! It's been decided; for Queen Rhea we've provided  
This Olympian bride; let's hope that she approves.  
'Tis a step down for her, but she's passionate, and sure  
This is the best way to get back at Zeus.

**Perses: (8/4)** Yet we'll still march for war, with this bride in our hands  
When we command the Kraken, we will gain back our lands.  
All of the Olympians will soon be our slaves.  
—Save, of course, those who go early to their graves.

*We notice that Cymone, Hero, and Aphrodite have been mingling among the Titans during  
this interchange.*

**Aphrodite:** There's Metis; she alone can help us stop this ghastly war.  
Remain here, by this stone—and try to stay in titan form.

*Aphrodite goes to Metis, and draws her to a nook where the titans can't see them.*

Aphrodite: Metis—here! 'Tis I, Aphrodite; hear me out,  
I'm here in peace!

Metis: You lie; I knew that spies were about!

Aphrodite: I'm in your power, and unarmed—give me a moment; I insist.  
If you want to have me harmed after that, I won't resist.

Metis: Speak your peace, but know that you're caught, you're not escaping.

Aphrodite: War is not the path to go. This conflict is now shaping  
Up to be annihilation for both sides—no one meant this.  
Let's stop the provocation; you and I, we can prevent this.

Metis: I certainly don't want fighting; but we can't avoid this war.  
Perses won't yield unless his brother is restored.  
And with Menoetius in his grave, I don't see a way out.

(5<sup>th</sup> beat downbeat on pause) There's nothing we can do, and—\_\_\_ what was that shout?

*In the Titans' room, Perses and Pallas have gone off, leaving Ares, Heracles, and the titans from before, with Cymone and Hero trying to blend in. Some titans have again gone over to Ares and Heracles, and are poking at them. Ares and Heracles fight them off, but the many titans overcome Ares and Heracles (who are bound hand and foot). **Cymone rushes from where she was standing; As she does so, Aphrodite and Metis enter, near where Hero is.***

Cymone: **STOP THAT! STOP! You leave them alone!**

*Cymone has flown in among the crowd, yanking Titans out. As she does so, her disguise has fallen off. The titans do stop when they see there is an invader among them. Pallas and Perses have now entered. As the titans descend upon Cymone, we see Ares and Heracles, to their credit, trying to break their restraints to help, but they are quickly held by other Titans.*

Titan 2: What's this?

Titan 1: An Olympian!

Titan 4: Those scoundrels sent a spy!

Titan 3: Have at her!

Pallas: Stand back! Rhea will want to know why  
This one was sent: what's she's plotting, what her plan is, what she  
knows.

Perses: We have ways to make her talk that we save for our foes.

*They start to take her off. Aphrodite and Hero begin to run towards her, but Metis holds them back*

Metis: *(in loud whisper)* Stay back! If you go, you can't free her; you'll be caught!  
I know Rhea; she won't kill her. But this war will soon be fought,  
Now sooner, since they believe that Olympus was aggressive.

We have a day, maybe two, before the titans' march progresses.  
 Hero: What can we do? Should we head back to Olympus with a warning?  
 Aphrodite: One way remains. I'll go down to Hades, and see if I can bargain  
 For Menoetius' life.  
 Metis: You're mad! From Hades, none return again,  
 And certainly not Menoetius; what then would be gained?  
He'd still be a prisoner, and you'd be caught as well:  
Trapped there, forever, in that fiery realm of hell.  
 Hero: I'll go with you. Perhaps together, we can take a stronger stand.  
 Metis: Good luck to you—I only hope it goes as you plan.  
 \*\*\* Hero: How to get there? It is said that -no- one knows the way to Hades.  
 Aphrodite: There is one we can ask, who has been up to its gates. \*\*\*

\*\*\* Scene XIV Fields—Demeter *Scene opens on Demeter walking alone in the fields, singing. When Aphrodite first speaks to her, Demeter seems dazed, and doesn't always seem to know they're there. When she sings her song she's more focussed.*

*Demeter: Come back Persephone so long away  
 I need you next to me please don't stray  
 Come back to my side I called to you; I tried  
 But you're gone now I just sing your song  
 Come back Persephone Please come home*

*Aphrodite and Hero approach closer to Demeter. Demeter doesn't notice them, but goes on in her very slow wander.*

Aphrodite: Demeter? Demeter?  
 Demeter: *...Come back Persephone so long away (she doesn't seem like she sees them)*

Aphrodite: Goddess fine, we ask your aid  
*(no response from Demeter)*  
 'Tis only you who once has made the pilgrimage towards Hades.  
*Demeter recoils from the name.*

Demeter beats (out of 16:) 1; 3; 5; 9; 13. Rhymes on 1 3 (A A), 7, 15 (B B)

Demeter: Hades?! Shades! My daughter writhes and burns!  
Never to be mine again, never to return!  
 Aphrodite (1:3) 8/4: We travel there to free another. We ask you show the way.  
 If we see her, we will ask your brother to send her back your way.  
 Demeter: My brother. Another life he'd then have in his power.

Your body would be his, and your soul he would devour.  
 Your spirit would be vanquished by his henchmen, cold and black.  
None can ever venture there and hope to journey back.

Aphrodite: Demeter, we seek out Hades, we go there with your help or no  
 Tell us of the way to get there; please, tell us what you know.

Demeter: What I know? What can I show? Persephone, don't go!  
 Come back to my side, my dear; come back to what you know!

Aphrodite: For your daughter, you fear; you've been dealt a heavy blow.  
 How did she disappear? Which way did she go?

### Come Back Persephone

*Demeter: We would gather the flowers, she'd run off for hours  
 She would always disappear  
 At the end of the day, if she still were away  
 I would never have to fear  
 I'd sing to her and she would reappear*

*I'd say Come back Persephone so long away  
 I need you next to me come back and stay  
 Then she'd run across the meadow  
 Right to my side  
 And I'd say welcome home*

*Then one day on the land she encountered a man  
 A cape and crown he wore  
 He talked to her kindly, she followed him blindly  
 They were off, across the moor  
 They began to go far, so far away  
 But I knew she'd come to me if she heard me say*

*Come back Perspehone so far away  
 Come back here next to me, please don't stray  
 But she didn't come running  
 Then I heard her scream  
 Some devil, cool and cunning  
 Had taken her from me*

*I followed that man through great caverns they ran  
 To a river, dark and cold  
 They boarded a ship, she was caught in his grip  
 As across the river he poled  
 Then I saw my daughter try to break away*

*I realized then that man was Hades*

*Come back Persephone; please don't go  
Bring her back to me I love her so  
As they vanished in the darkness  
I screamed, Don't go!*

*But she's gone  
Now I just sing her song  
Come back Persephone please come home*

Aphrodite(1:3): We will do whatever we can to bring your daughter home.  
Show us the way you ran, down through those catacombs.

*Demeter hesitates, but then nods and leads them off. \*\*\**

### Scene XV River Styx

*Enter \*\*\* Demeter, \*\*\* Aphrodite, and Hero*

\*\*\* Demeter: The river. I shiver to remember how she cried.  
How you cross it, I know not; it's cold, dark and wide.  
I leave you, I grieve you; I won't see you again.  
But if you see Persphone, tell her (*dips out of time here*)  
...tell her I love her...and her mother is all but slain.

*Exit Demeter. \*\*\* Aphrodite and Hero look around, unsure of what to do.*

Aphrodite: I know not what to do. We've no boat, nor means to build one.  
Our journey is now through; we must return where we came from.

Hero: Wait! The Graeae! They said upon a river's shores  
To blow this horn. (*a pause*) Shall we see what it has in store?

*Hero lifts the horn and blows a long, lonely note. They wait, attentive, until out of the darkness rows Charon, the ferryman. He comes to the shore and, staying in his boat, stands before them.*

Aphrodite: We seek to go to Hades. Can you take us there?

*Charon holds out his hand. Neither Hero nor Aphrodite know what to do.*

I do not understand.

Hero: (downbeat before we) I know—we pay the fare.

*Hero takes the two obol coins the Graeae had given him from his pocket, and gives them to Charon. Charon receives them, and they begin to board, but Charon puts his hand up in warning.*

Charon: Are you sure?

Hero: What do you mean?

Charon: Are you sure you want to cross to the other side?

### The Other Side

*Charon: The Other Side is a lonely place  
It's dark and wide a silent waste  
You can not hide though many souls have tried  
You'll find you can't escape from the Other Side*

*All three are now on the boat, wending their way*

*\*\*\* On the Other Side all will be seen  
You'll face your pride be you beggar or queen  
All you held inside will be held up to your eye  
Were you kind? Or base and mean? The Other Side*

*They are now near enough to Hades' shores that we see (and hear) some of Hades' minions*

*Charon & Minions: You'll come face to face with your darkness and your light  
In a land where there is no day or night  
It won't matter if you're rich, revered, or clever  
When you cross to the Other Side*

*Charon: It's forever!*

*Charon: On the Other Side you'll quickly learn  
Your passions hide until they're burned*

*Charon & Minions: Only then will you find it's up to you to decide  
Will you find the Light? Or stay on the Other Side \*\*\*  
The Other Side  
You can't hide*

*Charon: We're here...the Other Side*

### Scene XVII Hades



Hades: Menoetius! Our new arrival! Bring him forth to share the stage!  
You wish for his revival? Wait until you hear his rage!  
In a flash, he'd take your head—and more, if he had time.  
Hades: But hear from him instead—here he is, caring and kind!  
Menoetius, we have guests! Olympians, you see!  
Tell them your requests for this prospective jubilee!  
Menoetius: Every Olympian I see will know the taste of pain.  
The rupturing of flesh, the tearing of their veins.

*Menoetius is about to go on, but a look from Hades stops him.*

Hades: He could go on, he could go on—it's all we've heard for days!  
Now—you want him in the living, instead of here in Hades?

*Aphrodite is about to speak, but Hades continues.*

Hades: I think not. He amuses me—most new arrivals do.  
For some it takes years, others aeons, 'fore they're through  
With their passions and their anger, their wants and their desires.  
People think they burn in hell? Wrong! It's here you quench your fires.  
There's nothing you can say that will persuade me to release that man.  
I wish that I could keep -you- here, but I can't take Olympians  
Who haven't died a natural death. Sadly, you are free to go.  
But good luck crossing back again, unless you brought an extra boat.

Aphrodite: Take me instead.

Hades: (*A pause*) You would assume his place in Hades?

Hero: Aphrodite, no!

Aphrodite: Will you agree to this trade?  
His life, for mine. Release him; and this Olympian is yours.  
Swear to his safe return, and I will stay upon these shores.

Hades: It would be forever.

*Aphrodite thinks for a moment, looking down, and nods.*

Aphrodite: I do this for love.

<<90% likely we do the song instead of the dialogue here>>

Hades: Prepare yourself; for never will you live again above.  
Whomsoever this staff smites joins the ranks of the dead.  
Menoetius is returned, another takes his place instead.

## Hades Reprise

Hades:                    *Whomsoever this staff smites  
Joins the ranks of the dead  
You lose all your rights  
Become my prisoner instead  
Your life you're freely giving  
The promise has been made;  
Menoetius, join the living  
You take his place in Hades*

*Aphrodite kneels down during the whomsoever line. Hades takes out a great staff, and strides forth over Aphrodite. Hades wields it behind him, and at the last moment Hero darts forth and places himself between Hades and Aphrodite, taking the blow at 'in Hades' '(in-stead' if we do the dialogue version. Immediately, the Servants of Hades zoom out to take Hero, and bring forth Menoetius. Aphrodite realizes what is happening and tries to stop it.*

Aphrodite:            Hero! No! Hades, -I'm- the one to take!  
Hades:                The staff struck him, he's now with me. \_\_\_ It's his mistake.  
Aphrodite:           I will take -his- place, then—you have to agree!  
Hades:                I said 'whomsoever this staff smites;' 'twasn't you, but he  
Who took its death-blow—it's final. There is no exemption.  
He begins now his atonement, his penance, his redemption.

*Aphrodite goes over to Hero, who is now in the same pose that Meoetius was—a sense that he is bound.*

Aphrodite:           Why did you do this? You had your whole life to live!  
Hero:                'Twas I who put us through this. It must be me who gives  
His life to right these wrongs. Of that now I'm sure.  
I hope some good can come of what I now will endure.

## Remember Me Final Reprise

Hero:                    *I wanted to be remembered  
For them all to know my name  
Wanted glory, wanted conquests; I wanted fame  
I'm to blame for all that happened  
I hope you can right these wrongs  
Maybe now they'll all remember me when I'm gone*

*Instrumental as Hades' Servants start to take Hero away*

*Please; remember me when I'm gone*

Persephone: Their actions have moved me, husband—grant me one boon:  
Let her pick one to release back to the living. (*Hades shows resistance*)  
Even if you do, then you know that soon  
They will return here to Hades—show that you can be giving.

Hades: My wife finds my soft side. I will do as she commands.  
Aphrodite, you may pick one to take back to your lands.  
But not him! The staff is final; that cannot be undone.  
You can take another back; you may only pick one.

Aphrodite: I have your word?

Hades: (*Nods, or says 'Yes' in time*)

Aphrodite: I choose one who hasn't been long here  
Was taken 'gainst her will, one who doesn't belong here:

### **Come Back Persephone Reprise**

*Aphrodite: Come back Persephone, please come home*

Hades: The daughter of Zeus is as devious and as clever  
As her father. (*To Persephone*) You'll go; and you're right: 'twon't be forever.

*Persephone and Aphrodite turn to go on their journey. Menoetius joins them; we notice that he has transformed since he was freed—he appears puzzled, and thoughtful, no longer rabid to attack.*

Hades: Charon will give you passage; but take these seeds for your journey.  
Pomegranate seeds—for when you're hungry or you're thirsty.

*Persephone takes the seeds.*

**Scene XVII: In Transit to the World of the Living** *Persephone, Aphrodite and Menoetius in passage between the River Styx and Olympus.*

Moderato (1:3) 8/4 1-1-2

Menoetius: I can't understand why you did what you did.  
I'm a titan, your enemy; and I've sworn that I'd rid  
All the lands of Olympians. Yet your life you'd have given  
To save me; and would spend all your days in that prison.

Aphrodite:(1:1) Perses, your brother, said that as long as you were dead

He'd bring about our ruin; Olympian blood would be shed.  
I wanted you alive again to help prevent a war.  
Then, we could strive again for peace, and fight no more.

### **Scene XVIII Olympian-Titan Battlefield Before the Fight**

*Titans and Olympians in battle formation. Ares and Heracles are on the Titans' side, still in disguise. Zeus and Rhea approach the front lines.*

Zeus: It's come to this. A trident stolen, a bride secured—what more?  
How many here must die for you to even up the score?  
Rhea: Your guard-dog took Menoetius' life; your treaties you have broken.  
Your goddess Demeter starves us out: war's the path -you- have chosen.  
Zeus: If fight we must, beware; for we will never slacken.  
You won't conquer Olympus, and you'll never have the Kraken.

*The two sides start to yell, brandish their weapons, and advance. As Zeus and Rhea fall back. Aphrodite rushes into the middle of the battlefield.*

Aphrodite: STOP! Stand down, I say! We do not have to fight!  
There are ways without weapons we can still make this right!  
Random Titan: Send away your harlot; We're not playing here with dolls!  
Perses: Out of the way, you harpy, or like your soldiers, you will fall!  
Random Olympian: Aphrodite, move!  
Another: You're just making things worse!  
Titan: Dragon!  
Another Titan: Hellcat!  
Yet Another Titan: She-devil!  
Still Another Titan: Witch!  
Olympian: She's a curse!

*The two sides begin to come towards each other, still yelling, both at Aphrodite and each other. On the Titans' side, Perses is at the vanguard, and is approaching Aphrodite to attack. Enter Menoetius between the two lines, shielding Aphrodite from Perses' attack.*

Menoetius: **HOLD, YE! LEAVE HER ALONE! OR FACE MENOETIUS' WRATH!**  
Whoever tries to harm her, I will fight you to the death!  
Random Titan: Menoetius?  
Another: Couldn't be, he's dead!  
Menoetius: Aye, I was in Hades  
I'm back in the living only because this brave lady  
Would have given up her life for -me- —a stranger, and a titan!

All to help prevent this war. Perses, give me that trident.  
'Twas I who stole this in the first, and set this course in motion.  
Poseidon, this belongs to you—you command the ocean.

**(Alt line for short show: This belongs to Poseidon, the true ruler of the ocean)**

I've conquered armies, brought down kings, but never had the courage  
To do what Aphrodite's done, as steadfast or determined.  
Let Aphrodite guide us towards a truce and restoration  
Of the days when all of us were kin, and formed one peaceful nation.

Zeus: A path to peace is one that I am willing to explore.  
(*stepping forth*) Rhea, I will work with you to set a new accord.

Rhea: (*comes forth*) I can also work towards peace, and put away the sword.

*She motions to the Titan's side with a gesture for Cymone to be released. Cymone crosses to the Olympian side, greeted by the demigods. Perhaps she slaps Zeus on the shoulder knowingly on the shoulder before this next line*

And titans: know with Zeus around, we never will be bored!

Hera: Titans: I must now confide  
We're guilty of deception,  
And a false wedding reception:  
Aphrodite was not your bride.

Zeus: At risk of reigniting war, look closely who you've married.  
Underneath's the god of war: your blushing bride was Ares.

*During this Ares (and Heracles) were pushed to the forefront, but not near Rhea. Rhea's 'Anyone' comes in as Zeus is saying 'Ares,' so we don't think she's heard him.*

Rhea: ANYONE who lies to me gets spiked and barbecued!

*As Rhea walks over to Ares after this line, there is a tense moment when both sides assume a ready stance, should Rhea react angrily or call for renewed fighting. Rhea pulls off Ares' disguise and looks at him: we don't know if she's angry, disgusted, or who knows what; Ares himself looks a bit afraid for the first time in the play.*

Rhea: But truth is, he rocked my world.

Ares: As did she!

Rhea: Let's make a brood!

*Ares nods enthusiastically.*

Zeus: Then it shall be! *[this is one of the few lines in the play not in rhyme]*  
Ares, in Olympus you are free to come and go.  
 Bring Rhea if you like; now, let's all make for home.

Aphrodite: 'Fore I return to Olympus, I have one more task.  
Demeter will be pleased to learn Persephone is back.

Zeus: You persuaded Hades to release Demeter's daughter?  
 How did you do it? And how—

Hera: *(Beat on pause)* Later. \_\_\_ For now, applaud her.

*Both sides, Titans and Olympians alike, turn to Aphrodite and applaud her with claps and cheers, slowly building from Hera to Zeus and Menoetius to all the others. She looks from side to side, and gives a nod, bow or curtsy to all.*

### \*\*\* Scene XIX Fields outside Olympus

*Silent scene; we see Demeter walking alone in the fields, with 2 lines of Aphrodite's school theme playing in the background, ending in a C (rather than Ab), which transforms to the cascading chords upwards in Demeter's song, going to the Finale version of Demeter's Come Back Persephone chorus*

*Persephone and Aphrodite enter on the opposite side, and stop once Persephone sees Demeter. Demeter looks up, sees her daughter, and Persephone runs to her, Aphrodite staying where she is. (Perhaps after the embrace, we have Persephone and Demeter walk back towards Aphrodite, and just before the lights go out, Demeter reaches into her pocket and eats a few pomegranate seeds, which, as we know from legend, will have her spend ~4 months in Hades of every year, and during that time, Demeter mourns, and all the earth is in winter. \*\*\**

### Scene XX Olympic Council

*Council in session. Aphrodite is next to Zeus near the top of the dais. Poseidon is among the Olympians, as are Demeter and Perspehone. We'll have a few titans scattered about the crowd.*

*(This rhyme scheme has 3 lines)*

Hera: The naiads gave their solemn vow to leave the dryads be;  
 Now their pools flood their roots, and their storms shake off their leaves.

Athena: Have the Aerae blow the naiads back into the sea

Hephaestus: This all sounds quite familiar...

Zeus: but this time we're prepared.

We have with us a peacemaker whose skills now can be shared.

Aphrodite, what advice have you? How should we proceed?

Aphrodite: We should help the naiads understand the dryads can't exceed  
 Having a certain cap for moisture; that the dryads are like trees.

Once that understanding's there,

<<possible that we go straight from here to Ares and Athena's lines at the end of the scene>>

I'm certain they'll agree

To be less...wet...to them.

Zeus: Done! See that that's conveyed.

What is next on the scroll?

Page: A mother asks for our aid.

Mother: My daughter, now thirteen, wants to learn the art of swordfighting.  
I'm scared what it could bring; but I don't want to sound frightening.  
Should I dissuade her or encourage her? Have her wait one more year?  
What if she comes back from training one day missing her left ear?

Ares: I vote for training! I say, start them from day one!

Apollo: I invite restraint; what once unleashed, can't be undone.

Artemis: It depends upon the daughter,

Athena: Has she thought this training through?

Zeus: Let's ask Aphrodite—here, what would love do?

*All turn to listen attentively, including Ares*

Aphrodite: I recommend going first yourself to the training.  
Watch the instructors; are they truly demonstrating  
What it means to be a warrior? Are they vigilant, or rash?  
Do they have the proper safety measures when the students clash?  
Mothers know it can be challenging (*pause*) to give their kids what's required:  
Do you push them out the nest, which could help them fly higher?  
Or shelter them from storms that could damage their young wings?  
And as your child ages, new challenges they bring.  
No firm answers here, but a few things that you can be thinking of  
To help you make your best decisions as you raise your child with love.

Athena: Things sure flow more smoothly now that Aphrodite's here.

Ares: She was here before!

Athena: I know; but her words we didn't hear.

(*downbeat on pause*) We all had been blinded; she'd been... \_\_\_ objectified.

Now we truly see the beauty that she always held inside.

**Scene XXIA: Transition to Museum** *Council freezes into museum places again. Hero joins, in his pose, along with Hades and the Graeae*

**Scene XXII Museum;** *Olympus (in museum) is now frozen. In walk the two Doofs from scene I.*

Doof #2: Schneeze! Mom isn't done yet—and the museum's about to close!  
Doof #1: Where are we now—God! That toga place again. And look—they're all  
-still- looking at Aphrodite! Hubba hubba hubba!

*Doof #1 goes up to the dais and makes aping gestures around Aphrodite. Doof #2 joins him.*

Doof #2: 'Look at me! I'm Aphrodite, the Goddess of Looooo-oove! Woo woo!'  
Doof #1: 'Hey, you want to watch me shoot my bow?'  
Doof #2: 'Don't use such big words; I'm just a floozy-doozy!'

*They both laugh; During these last three lines their Mother has entered the chamber, and hears what they are saying.*

Mother: Jason! Alexander! Come down now!  
Alexander (Doof #1): Aw Mom, we were just beginning to have fun!  
Jason (Doof #2): Yeah—we were studying ancient Greece  
Alexander: And Aphrodite!  
Jason: I hear she's kind of flighty!  
Alexander: I hear she wears no nightie!

*Doofs laugh again*

Mother: *(not unkindly)* Haven't you heard the story of Aphrodite, Hero, and the theft of Poseidon's trident? Aphrodite showed more courage than any warrior, journeyed down to the Underworld with no thought of return, and helped rescue Persephone, who had been kidnapped by Hades. She tamed the temper of Zeus, king of the gods, so he could rule Olympus with more care and wisdom; and it's said she even prevented a war between Olympus and the titans, bringing them to peace. She showed the Greeks the power of love—not romantic love, but the love of trying to truly see another with as much compassion as we can. That's why we remember and honor her—the Goddess of Love.

*Jason and Alexander look interested*

Jason: She sounds pretty wicked.

*Mother gives Jason a withering look.*

Jason: Mom, that means cool.  
Alexander: Can you tell us the story?  
Mother: They're closing the museum now; but I can tell you as we go. It all started back in ancient Greece, where a young Olympian named Hero wanted to find a task so that their name would be remembered. Well, he got it into his head that he would steal Poseidon's trident, and—

*The lights fade as we hear the Mother continue the story, out of earshot. She is already mostly off when she gets to the 'Well, he got it—' line*

**Exeunt Omnes**