

THE CURSE OF MEDUSA

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ON SCREEN TEXT:

*"Heaven hath no rage like love to hatred turned,
Nor Hell a fury like a woman scorned."
-William Congreve.*

A harmony of female voices speak in the darkness. THE FATES.

THE FATES (V.O.)
How could something so beautiful
come to this?

FADE IN:

EXT. ANCIENT GREECE - ATHENA'S PALACE - DAY

Athens, Greece. The most powerful and advanced city-states in the world, is now in ruins. High above the city sits Athena's Palace, located atop the mighty Acropolis. The city is covered with the remains of Athenian soldiers, men, women, and children.

An imposing army from the underworld of HADES lays waste to the city of Athens, killing all those who oppose. Legions of DEMON SOLDIERS race towards the palace.

On the far side of the palace, a giant CYCLOPS plows its way through Athenian soldiers and towards the great Parthenon. Another cyclops climbs the towering walls.

Large GRIFFINS, beasts with the head and wings of an EAGLE and the body of a LION, soar above the battle. They occasionally swoop down, snatching men and flying them high into the sky, only to drop them to their deaths.

The Fates speak over the action.

THE FATES (V.O.)
Athens, Greece. Once viewed as the most illustrious and prominent cities in the eastern world, is now under attack by one of the world's most feared monsters. A monster so powerful, even the gods themselves could not stop her.

EXT. ATHENA'S BALCONY - DAY

High ranking OFFICIALS and PALACE GUARDS gather around to witness the carnage.

Within moments, the evil soldiers begin climbing over the walls and onto the balcony. The palace guards quickly engage in battle.

THE FATES (V.O.)
Fueled by a driving force and
hunger that can never be satisfied;
Revenge.

An athletic and muscular man emerges from the shadows on the balcony. A long scar runs across his chin. His sword and armor are stained with blood.

He is PERSEUS. He speaks to someone OFF SCREEN.

PERSEUS
It is her. She has come for you.

He dives from the balcony and back into the battle, fighting demons on his way down.

For a moment, the balcony is quiet. Seconds later, a dark creature flies from the sky with a shrieking HOWL. Then, a loud THUD, as it grasps onto the side of the palace.

We hear it as it scales its way up the palace walls. The top of a head, filled with hissing SNAKES, slowly rises over the side of the balcony, followed by two large reptilian claws.

The creature then LEAPS into our POV. CUT TO BLACK.

THE FATES (V.O.)
A name and beauty that was once
worshipped, is now feared. This is
the tale of Medusa.

EXT. ANCIENT LIBYA - NIGHT

On Screen Text: Libya, Africa. Three Months Prior...

CREDITS as we slowly FADE IN on an ancient map of Neolithic Libya. We PUSH IN on the map, eventually through it, and fall into a dark cloud.

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

We soar through the clouds and a large landmass is revealed. It is Libya, Africa nearly five thousand years ago.

THE FATES (V.O.)

Her tale begins nearly five thousand years ago. It was prophesied to Athena, virgin goddess of wisdom, justice, and war, that she would come into possession of a great power. A power that would strike fear into the hearts of her enemies and defeat all those who dared oppose her. Her esteemed Athenian army scoured the globe in search of this power but it was not until the Athenian troops arrived in the dark lands of Libya, Africa, that this legendary power was unearthed. Athena's quest would end here, but the events that would eventually lead to the destruction of Athens, had only just begun.

Covered with dangerous mountains, volcanos and vast deserts, the aphotic countryside is ruled by darkness.

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Below, the vast Athenian army battles with the Libyans. While resolute, the Libyans are no match for the powerful Athenians.

Towards the shores, the Athenian troops lock something into a massive steel cage. The cage is over ten feet tall and just as wide.

Their capture is deadly. The surrounding area looks as if a tornado swept through with dozens of large trees destroyed and ripped from the ground. Soldiers are scattered about, having lost the battle of subduing their capture.

From a nearby hill, a powerful man sits atop his horse and watches this all. His hands and armor are soiled with blood and dirt. He has already dealt enough death for the evening.

He bears the symbol of an OLIVE TREE on his breastplate. Athena's symbol. He is ARTEGUS, commander of the Athenian army.

Another soldier, a tracker named HOMER, approaches.

HOMER

The last of the Libyan army awaits within the forest ahead. They are surrounded.

Artegus says nothing. He stares at a small temple in the distance. King Phorcys's temple.

PLAXIO, Artegus' second in command, steps in from behind. He wears an impressive gold breast-plate and grips an equally deadly sword. The handle, carved into the beak of an eagle, curves around his hand.

Standing beside him is THERON. A tall, silent, and deadly warrior. Half of his face is covered by a mask. The exposed half is hideously distorted and scarred.

PLAXIO

Awaiting word from their pathetic King, no doubt. We should destroy them now.

ARTEGUS

No.

(a beat)

Send word to King Phorcys. I wish to speak to him.

Homer nods and rides towards the temple.

PLAXIO

Why waste time reasoning with these barbarians? This only jeopardizes the mission. They have nothing left to offer.

No reply. Artegus steers his horse down the hill and towards the temple.

I/E. KING PHORCY'S TEMPLE - UPPER LEVEL - SAME TIME

A woman steps outside on a ledge overlooking the dark valley. She watches as the Athenian General and his troops approach.

She is BEAUTIFUL. Gorgeous in fact. She has long black hair bound in unique DREADLOCKS. Her eyes are a deep piercing BLUE. Hypnotizing. She is MEDUSA.

A beautiful Libyan necklace hangs from her neck. Her older sister, EURYALE, and younger sister, STHENO, stand behind her.

EURYALE (O.S.)
Perhaps father will listen to
reason.

MEDUSA
Our father is far from a reasonable
man. He is a tyrant and deserves
the same fate as this land.

STHENO
What will we do?

MEDUSA
(quietly)
We will leave. We will find a new
life. Far from here. Far from
Libya.

EURYALE
Father will never let us leave
Libya.

MEDUSA
His rule has come to an end. After
the Athenians leave, he will have
no power over us any longer.

Artegus looks up to see Medusa watching him as they enter the temple. Medusa turns and re-enters the room.

INT. THROWN ROOM / TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

Seated at the head of an EMPTY thrown room is the large and barbarous tyrant ruler, KING PHORCYS. His people have forsaken him but he still refuses to show weakness.

KING PHORCYS (CONT'D)
IF YOU THINK THAT I WILL GIVE UP MY
LANDS TO ATHENA WILLINGLY, YOU ARE
GRAVELY MISTAKEN. I do not believe
in your gods. Nor do I fear them.

ARTEGUS
It is not your land that we have
come for. Your war is over. I am
here, only to spare the lives of
the rest of your people. I will
only offer this once.

King Phorcys stands. His tall and imposing frame advances towards Artegus. Artegus remains untroubled.

KING PHORCYS

Spare me your favors, Athenian! I know why she has sent you here and I would rather see my people dead, burned in flames, before I succumb to her will. The beast will forever be a curse to Athena. She will regret ever coming to Libya.

ARTEGUS

(a long beat)

As you wish, King.

Plaxio slowly stalks behind King Phorcys. His armor and sword begin to pulsate and emit a golden shadow. He can take this idle chat no longer and, in one swift move, pulls his sword and decapitates the King. Discussions are concluded.

Artegus glares at Plaxio. Plaxio wipes the King's blood on his armor and exits.

EXT. TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

The Athenian troops exit the temple to the stares and bewilderment of the Libyan people. Their king is dead.

ARTEGUS

Prepare the beast for transport.

We leave for Athens in the morning.

The soldier does as he is told. Artegus grabs Plaxio and shoves him against the temple.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)

What the hell do you think you are doing?! I did not order the assassination of their king.

Plaxio's armor slowly begins to pulsate. Not yet at full force yet, however.

PLAXIO

I serve a higher power. Our orders were clear. Time for idle talk and understanding is over, General.

Artegus releases his grip. Plaxio walks off. The golden glow in his armor slowly fades.

INT. ATHENIAN CAMP - LATER THAT NIGHT

Campfires are put out as the soldiers retire for the evening. Artegus returns to his tent. CADIUS, stands guard.

CADIUS
General Artegus, Sir.

ARTEGUS
At ease Cadius. Spend this last night with the others.

CADIUS
Very good, Sir.

Cadius heads towards the rest of the camp. Artegus enters his tent.

EXT. ATHENIAN CAMP - CONTINUOUS

Cadius joins the soldiers at the center of their camp area.

SOLDIER 1
Have you seen the beast?

SOLDIER 2
What could Lady Athena possibly want with such an ancient creature?

Plaxio and Theron enter.

PLAXIO
What does anyone with power seek.
Even a god?
(a beat)
More power.

INT. GENERAL'S TENT - CONTINUOUS

Artegus removes his armor and clothing. He hangs his sword. As he does, a hooded silhouette slowly moves in the darkness.

Seeing the reflection in the sword, he turns quickly, but recognizes the intruder. It is MEDUSA. Medusa walks towards Artegus, removing her hood.

ARTEGUS
I did not intend for that to...

Medusa stifles his words with a long kiss.

MEDUSA

My sisters and I have lived in fear
our whole lives. Father would have
never let us go. We knew this day
would come.

ARTEGUS

The war is over. And tomorrow you
will return to Athens with me.

MEDUSA

I have long waited for the day to
be free from my father. My sisters
are hesitant to leave, but they
know there is nothing left for us
in Libya.

(a beat)

You will risk it all? Your loyalty
to Athena? The safety of your men?
Just so we can be together?

ARTEGUS

I will do whatever it takes.

MEDUSA

If we are caught, they will kill us
all.

ARTEGUS

You will all be safe in Holloway.
That is where I spent my childhood.
Far from Athena's watchful eye.
Once in Athens, I will resign as
general of Athena's army and we
will be together.

MEDUSA

Promise me. Tell me you love me.

ARTEGUS

I promise. And I love you, Medusa.

(a beat)

Get some rest. The journey home
will be long.

They kiss one final time. Medusa sneaks out of the tent. As
Medusa slips into the darkness, Plaxio approaches. He
faintly sees the silhouette of a woman before she is
completely concealed by the night.

EXT. SHORES OF LIBYA - DAWN OF THE NEXT DAY

Morning has come. Hundreds of warships sail away from the shores of Libya. Artegus boards his ship.

Our POV slowly travels down the long ship and eventually to the lower decks. There, in the dark corner, Medusa and her two sisters hide and await passage to Athens.

EXT. WARSHIP - SEA - MORNING

The ships travel through rough seas where unusual prehistoric SEA CREATURES rise in and out of the water.

THE FATES (V.O.)
Searching for a new beginning,
Euryale and Stheno followed their
beloved sister Medusa to Athens.

In the dark corner, Medusa lays asleep next to her sisters.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SHORES OF LIBYA - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)

A younger Euryale and Stheno run through the fields of Libya looking for places to hide. A younger Medusa stands with her hands over her eyes. Her dreadlocks are shorter.

She opens her eyes and searches for her sisters. She runs towards the shore.

CHILD MEDUSA
Euryale?

Suddenly the SCREAMS of an infant are heard. Medusa turns to see a large chest floating out to sea. A young BABY BOY cries helplessly from inside of the chest. He has a small scar along his chin. Medusa cries out to her sisters for help, but they do not come.

CHILD MEDUSA (CONT'D)
Euryale help! Stheno!

The strong waves rock the chest back and forth, sending it further away from the shore. Medusa runs out into the water.

CHILD MEDUSA (CONT'D)
Here! I'll save you!

A large wave crashes down on Medusa, swallowing her.

INT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS (DREAM SEQUENCE)

A FULLY GROWN Medusa emerges in the middle of the ocean as a heavy downpour of rain falls.

She reaches the chest, but it is empty. She looks to the shore to see a FULLY GROWN MAN, covered in shadows, watching her. He bears the same scar across his chin. He is PERSEUS.

She slowly sinks towards the bottom. Something then catches her eye. A light from beneath her grows closer and then flashes in front of her. She sees blurry images of: a city, unfamiliar faces, an Olive Tree, a large temple, two people sitting on a large balcony of the temple...

Medusa struggles even more. She swims up and almost reaches the surface, her legs kicking frantically in the water. Suddenly, a grotesque HAND, with scales and claws reaches up and grabs her leg. Medusa screams again, as the hand pulls her deep down into the dark depths of the water.

EXT. WARSHIP - SEA - DAWN

Medusa bolts awake from her dream SCREAMING. Euryale quickly goes to her to comfort and quiet her.

EURYALE
(whispering)
Shh...it is okay, Medusa. I am
here.

STHENO
Was it the same dream?

Medusa nods, finding comfort in here sister's arms.

EXT. WARSHIP - SEA - DAY

Artegus stands at the bow of his ship, deep in thought. His friend and fellow soldier, ANGELO, approaches.

ANGELO
Poseidon truly favors us today.

Artegus continues to stare out into the sea. The two friends stand in silence for a moment.

ANGELO (CONT'D)
How long have you and I been
friends?

Artegus musters a smile.

ARTEGUS
Too long, I'm afraid.

ANGELO
How long do you plan on keeping
your Libyan lover a secret?

ARTEGUS
(a beat)
You knew?

ANGELO
I've seen that look about you
before. When you met Andromeda's
mother.

(a beat)
But she is still the daughter of
the enemy. As long as you serve
Athena, she will never let this
happen.

ARTEGUS
I will be stepping down. I want
you to take my place as General.

ANGELO
(laughing)
I am merely a pawn of the gods.
And Plaxio is highly favored by the
goddess herself.

ARTEGUS
Plaxio is too eager to kill.
Without shield and sword from
Athena, he would be nothing more
than a field warrior. He cannot
lead.

A beat.

ANGELO
I suppose there's no sense in me
telling you that this is an
absolutely terrible idea.

ARTEGUS
(smiling)
You just did.

ANGELO
This Libyan, Medusa. Is she worth
it?

Artegus gives Angelo a look that is undeniable.

ANGELO (CONT'D)
Of course.
(then)
Careful, my friend. Love and
sorrow are mirrored brothers.

ARTEGUS
Keep this secret.

ANGELO
You have my word.

INT. WARSHIP - LATER

Artegus steps down into the cargo section of the ship. Medusa waits behind some crates. They share a passionate kiss.

ARTEGUS
We are nearing Greece. Do you
remember what we discussed? There
will be a lot of commotion...

MEDUSA
(cutting him off)
Once the soldiers exit the boat,
exit through the stern. Wait for
you at the docks. I remember.

Medusa gives Artegus a reassuring smile.

MEDUSA (CONT'D)
We will be fine.

Artegus hears the horn from above. Land has been spotted.

EXT. SHORES OF ATHENS, GREECE - DAY

The warships approach the magnificent shores of Athens. The desolate lowly land of Libya is no more.

Now there is golden brown earth. Fertile greens. Areas that were once covered in shadows are now filled with people.

EXT. WARSHIP - CONTINUOUS

Angelo stands on the bow.

ANGELO

Now there is a sight I have truly missed.

EXT. ATHENS, GREECE - DAY

The city is MASSIVE. A prominent icon of structural design and advancement. Colossal buildings held up by intricately designed columns can be seen for miles throughout the city. Tall statues devoted to the Gods tower above the incessant crowd.

Artegus' ship is the first to dock. The citizens of Athens welcome their warriors home with cheers and blessings.

ARTEGUS

(to Cadius)

These citizens need not be alarmed.
When it is clear, take the beast to
the rear of the palace and make
certain it is secure inside of the
vault.

RODIMUS, a former warrior turned religious man, emerges from the crowd. He hugs Artegus.

RODIMUS

Welcome home, Artegus! It is good to have you back.

ARTEGUS

Rodimus. It is good to be back.
Where is Andromeda?

RODIMUS

Your daughter still shies away from
the large crowds. She waits for
you at our home.

(pointing to the parade)

But go. They are here to welcome
you. Go!

EXT. WARSHIP - DOCKS

Medusa, Euryale and Stheno exit the boat without being seen. They all take in the site of the city.

STHENO

It is breathtaking.

THEN, something catches Stheno's attention. Intrigued, she casually wanders off. Medusa and Euryale fail to notice.

EXT. PARADE TO THE ACROPOLIS - CONTINUOUS

Flower petals fall from the upper levels as the soldiers approach the mighty Acropolis. Its many levels are home to museums and shops. Thousands gather to wave and cheer for their returned family members. Statues and artwork decorate the ascending steps and walkways. The legendary Parthenon, lies at the very top. The palace of ATHENA.

The parade leads to the gates of the Parthenon and the mighty gates open to the sound of trumpets and horns.

Artegus and the troops are ushered through the gates. In the center of the Parthenon, sits a grand sized OLIVE TREE growing atop a beautiful water fountain.

Trumpets sound one last time, marking the end of the parade. From inside the grandeur hall of the palace, a figure approaches the high staircase. It is ATHENA.

She is BEAUTIFUL, POWERFUL, CONFIDENT, and is surrounded by a radiant GLOW. Her movements are fluent. Her appearance is impeccable. High level officials gather around her. She raises her hands and the crowd silences.

ATHENA

I welcome you, sons and daughters of Greece. Your victory has ensured our great land safety once again. Athens salutes you!

The crowd cheers. Artegus does not.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

General Artegus. Come, join me.

Artegus climbs the high staircase. KATINA, Athena's personal assistant, hands Artegus a medal.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

You have proven your valor once
again.

The crowd cheers. Athena glances at the pile of discoveries from the war.

ATHENA

And what of the beast?

ARTEGUS

Underground in the vault.
Tranquilized.

ATHENA

You serve me well, Artegus. I see your reign as commander lasting for many years as did your father before you.

EXT. DOCKS - SAME TIME

As the Athenians celebrate, Medusa and Euryale wait near the docks, out of sight. But Stheno is nowhere to be found.

MEDUSA

Where is Stheno?

EXT. ATHENS - MARKETPLACE - A LITTLE LATER

Medusa searches for her younger sister. She and Euryale quickly maneuver through the crowd. They eventually find themselves in the middle of the Agora; Athens' bustling and seemingly endless marketplace.

Merchants and dealers handle their daily business. As well as thieves and hustlers lurking about the busy market.

Medusa finally spots Stheno. Stheno speaks to an OLD MAN near a tent.

MEDUSA

Stheno! We were supposed to...

She is interrupted as the old man reveals himself. He is cloaked in a dark garment. A cryptic presence surrounds him. He is POLYDEGMON.

POLYDEGMON

I was offering your sister this fine fur. A welcoming gift!

STHENO

Medusa, it is beautiful! Feel!

POLYDEGMON

Medusa, is it? Your beauty is of the rarest kind. For you, I have my finest fur tunic.

He hands Medusa a very unique and elegant fur. Medusa looks at him skeptically.

MEDUSA

Beautiful. But I cannot accept this.

POLYDEGMON

Please, I insist. Here, one for each of you.

He hands a similar fur to Euryale as well.

EURYALE

Thank you.

POLYDEGMON

Now go. There is much to see within the Agora. You never know what you'll find...

The sisters look forward, taken aback by the busy market.

MEDUSA

And you? What is your name...?

Medusa turns but he is gone.

Throughout the Agora, slaves and donkeys carry most of the purchases. In a nearby tent, a SNAKE CHARMER subdues three SNAKES wrapped around his head and arms.

STHENO

I did not know places like this existed.

MEDUSA

We shouldn't be here. We must stick to our plan.

EURYALE

This is not our plan. This is your plan. We do not belong here. How do you know you can even trust this general?

MEDUSA

Sisters, I have kept much of my plan secret. But soon it will all be explained, I promise.

EURYALE

There, we had power. Here we are nothing.

MEDUSA

Libya has crumbled, Euryale. You have to trust me. This will be better for all of us. Here, we have a chance to start over.

STHENO

I think I am going to like it here.

Stheno notices the citizens watching them. Medusa, in particular.

STHENO (CONT'D)

Do you see how the men look at us?

Men gawk at them as their beauty is unmatched. As the sisters continue, a man in black quietly falls in behind them.

Perched high on a balcony, someone watches.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - BALCONY - DAY

A servant carries a tray of fruit and wine onto the balcony. We see the back of a LARGE and POWERFUL man leaning over the ledge. His broad shoulders sit above a muscular frame. The servant places the tray down and exits. Moments later, Athena steps out onto the balcony.

ATHENA

The Oracle has proven useful once again. With the beast now under Athenian rule, Athens will forever be...

He pays no attention to Athena.

ATHENA

Poseidon!

He turns around. He is LORD POSEIDON. His eyes are an intense green. Very sharp. His powerful TRIDENT lays beside him. He stares at her without speaking.

ATHENA

Sometimes I wonder why Father sends
you here.

Poseidon turns back and resumes looking over the balcony. A crowd slowly gathers around the three sisters.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE- DAY

Stheno and Euryale enter another tent. Medusa waits outside near a corner of Athena's palace. She looks up, noticing Poseidon watching her. They stare at each other until Athena joins him at the ledge of the balcony.

Athena looks down at Medusa who quickly turns away. Medusa stops a local man next to her.

MEDUSA

Who is that man?

LOCAL MAN

(whispering)

He is no man. He is Lord Poseidon,
god of the sea. The lady is
Athena, the divine ruler of Athens.
Goddess of wisdom and war.

Stheno and Euryale exit the tent and rejoin Medusa.

MEDUSA

Now we have seen enough. We must
get back to the docks...

The man in black makes his move. He lunges at Medusa, forcefully snatching her fur.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Poseidon notices this robbery. He opens his hand and his Trident flies to him and in one swift move, he gracefully LEAPS over the balcony. When he lands, the earth SHAKES.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - CONTINUOUS

He stands up, mighty and tall, with a calm yet ferocious look in his eyes. He hurls his mighty Trident at the thief. It sails over the thief's head, inches in fact, landing directly where his next footfall would have.

The thief freezes in his tracks. He turns to see Poseidon bearing down on him. Poseidon snatches the thief by the neck. He dangles from Poseidon's mighty arm like a rag doll.

THIEF
(gasping)
Please...please...

Poseidon smoothly SNAPS his neck in two. The lifeless body hangs for a moment. Poseidon then effortlessly flings the body towards the depths of the ocean.

He approaches Medusa with the stolen belongings. The nearby merchants either shy away or bow down to him. Poseidon speaks in a DEEP, soothing voice.

POSEIDON
I believe this belongs to you
(a beat)
Are you hurt?

MEDUSA
No...no. Thank you.

Poseidon's sharp eyes gaze over Medusa's entire body.

POSEIDON
You are not from here. What is
your name?

MEDUSA
Medusa. These are my sisters,
Euryale and Stheno.

POSEIDON
(seductively)
Medusa...

A whisper of Medusa's name quickly spreads through the marketplace. In the distance, Artegus searches for Medusa and her sisters. He finally spots them, cornered by Poseidon. Athena also makes her way towards the women. Artegus rushes to them.

Athena calmly approaches the women and stands next to Poseidon. She notices how Poseidon takes in these new women.

ATHENA
What seems to be the problem?

POSEIDON

Your *perfect* city is infested with
thieves. My intervention was
required. As usual

Athena turns and quickly, yet thoroughly, surveys Medusa.

ATHENA

What are you women doing in the
agora unaccompanied?

MEDUSA

We...

Artegus quickly approaches.

ARTEGUS

Lady Athena. Lord Poseidon. These
women... were the royal servants to
the Libyan king. I thought they
could be of use to you in regards
to the beast.

Athena studies the three women. ALTAIR, her trusted owl,
swoops down from the balcony and lands on her shoulder.

ATHENA

Very well, Artegus.

(a beat)

Come. You three will stay in the
maiden's quarters. Katina will
show you everything.

Athena turns and heads back towards the palace. Medusa and
her sisters follow hesitantly.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - CONTINUOUS

The interior of the palace is exquisite. Unlike the busy
marketplace, the palace is clean, peaceful, and serene.

The ceiling; vaulted and over fifty feet high, is detailed
from corner to corner with flawless hand paintings. There
are hundreds of rooms on the first, second, and third,
floors.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - SERVANTS QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

Katina escorts them to their sleeping quarters, a room filled
with women servants divided into sections.

KATINA

This is where you will sleep. You will be informed of your duties daily.

POSEIDON

(to: Medusa)

I hope this suits you. If you should need anything...

ATHENA

They will want for nothing. If I require information on the beast I will call upon you at that time.

POSEIDON

Welcome to Athens.

Poseidon looks at Athena and then seductively at Medusa once more before he exits.

Athena sees all this. She follows Poseidon out of the room. Artegus follows. He gives Medusa a reassuring look.

FADE OUT.

EXT. ATHENS - WARRIOR TRAINING ARENA - AFTERNOON

Metal clanking. Swords fly across the screen. Reveal Artegus masterfully defending each attack. He trains a group of younger Athenian soldiers.

ARTEGUS

Good work. That is enough for today.

The men gather their belongings. Angelo approaches.

ANGELO

Is it me, or do the soldiers seem to be getting younger and younger?

ARTEGUS

You are just getting older.

ANGELO

Ahh yes.

ARTEGUS

I am off to my summer home in Holloway. To see Andromeda.

ANGELO
Excellent. Send her my best.

Artegus hops on a horse drawn wagon. He rides off towards the palace. Angelo picks up one of the swords and pulls off a few moves of his own, smiling all the while.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - SERVANTS QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

A large room full of maidens are in the middle of their daily chores. Medusa and her sisters fold linens.

MEDUSA
Euryale. I have an errand to run outside of the palace.

EURYALE
Where are you going?

Medusa quiets as Katina walks by.

MEDUSA
I cannot speak of it here. If anyone asks my whereabouts, please cover for me. I'll return tonight.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - AFTERNOON

Artegus arrives at the rear of the palace. He pulls up next to a small exit door.

He looks around to make sure he's not being watched. When the coast is clear, Medusa sneaks from the palace and under a cover on the back of the wagon.

EXT. HOLLOWAY VILLAGE - LATER

The two travel a dirt road towards the village of HOLLOWAY. They pass a small pond where a SWAN floats on the water. The SWAN watches as the wagon passes.

EXT. ARTEGUS' HOME - HOLLOWAY - LATER

The wagon pulls up to Artegus' small home. The village mostly consist of farmers and croppers. They smile as Artegus approaches. Medusa is nervous.

ARTEGUS

These people don't care if I am general or not. Only that I am happy. Most have known me since childhood. If there is anywhere in Greece that our secret is safe, it is here.

Rodimus' wife ARCEE steps outside. She approaches Artegus and Medusa. A young girl watches from the window.

ARCEE

Artegus.

ARTEGUS

Arcee. I cannot thank you and Rodimus enough for this. Again.

ARCEE

The pleasure was ours. She is just as you were at that age. Eager and inquisitive. Sometimes stubborn.

A twelve year old girl exits the home. She is ANDROMEDA. Hesitant at first, she soon approaches her Father.

ANDROMEDA

Father...

ARTEGUS

Yes Andromeda. I am home.

He hugs her, as if it has been years.

ANDROMEDA

For how long?

ARTEGUS

For good this time.

Andromeda's eyes widen. Then, they settle on Medusa.

ARTEGUS

Andromeda. I'd like you to meet someone. This is Medusa.

MEDUSA

Your father has told me much about you.

Andromeda looks to her father.

ARTEGUS

She is a very good friend. She is staying in Athens now, but soon, she will be joining us in Holloway.

Unsure how to feel, Andromeda turns back to Medusa.

ANDROMEDA

I like your hair.

EXT. FIELD - SUNSET

Artegus sits on a blanket. Andromeda lets Medusa help her feed the horses. Medusa then joins Artegus on the blanket.

ARTEGUS

(smiling)

Even the horses like you.

MEDUSA

My father would never let us ride. So my sisters and I used to sneak out in the night and take his best horses and just...ride. We'd sneak back in. He never knew that we had taken them out.

ARTEGUS

Make sure you sneak away tomorrow night for the festival here in Holloway. You'll enjoy it. The festival brings out the best of the village. Are you still bringing your sisters?

MEDUSA

I feel it is safe now to tell them everything. About us. Euryale is starting to get suspicious.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE / SERVANTS QUARTERS - NIGHT

Euryale watches out of the window, waiting for Medusa. By the door, Stheno sees Katina coming by the rooms for the evening's roll call. She rushes to Euryale at the window.

STHENO

Where could she be?

EURYALE

She will be the death of us all.

Katina enters.

KATINA
The three Libyans...

MEDUSA (O.S.)
All accounted for, lady Katina.

Euryale and Stheno turn to find Medusa sitting in her bed, next to the blowing curtains of the second window.

Katina exits. Stheno is relieved, Euryale is not. She turns to the window, as Artegus's wagon rides off into the night.

EXT. VILLAGE OF HOLLOWAY - THE NEXT DAY

The three sisters walk the dirt road leading to Holloway. Ahead, the villagers are waiting for something to commence.

MEDUSA
Isn't it peaceful out here?

EURYALE
Medusa, where are you taking us?

STHENO
Who are those people?

MEDUSA
Will you stop with your barrage of questions, sisters? There is much to see outside of the city. We won't be gone long. Katina will never know we're gone.

The people of Holloway drink wine and celebrate. Local men play instruments, others dance. Unlike Athens, the sisters walk freely without the stares and looks of the people. They are welcomed here.

A small group of whimsical SATYRS perform on stage. Goat-like creatures with puck noses, small horns, and tails. Some entertain from the stage. Some, to the crowd's excitement, frolic through the spectators.

A Satyr on stage hands a woman a basket, covered by a cloth. The crowd grows excited. She pulls back the cloth and a group of BIRDS fly out to everyone's amusement.

Another ensures that everyone's cup is filled with wine. He runs up to Medusa and her sisters and hands them goblets of wine. Another runs by and drapes beads around their necks.

STHENO

My goodness, what are these creatures?

ARTEGUS (O.S.)

They are Satyrs. Servants of Dionysus, they celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of the winter vegetation.

Euryale turns, and in shock, sees Artegus. A moment of hatred for the man who killed her father flashes across her face. She immediately grabs her sisters' arms and backpedals. Stheno follows. Medusa does not.

MEDUSA

It is okay, Euryale. You wanted to know what my plan was, here we are. This is where we will live one day.

EURYALE

With him? The Athenian General?! That man killed our father!

Euryale grabs Stheno's arm and pulls her back towards the dirt road.

MEDUSA

You despised that man, Euryale.

EURYALE

He was still our Father.

MEDUSA

Father wouldn't listen to reason and you know that. Artegus is not who you make him out to be.

EURYALE

You are tempting fate, Medusa. Come, Stheno. We are leaving.

Euryale glares at Artegus over Medusa's shoulder. They turn and leave Holloway. Artegus approaches with a goblet of wine.

ARTEGUS

I take it you didn't tell them about us.

MEDUSA

Euryale is quick tempered and slow to trust. Give her time.

(MORE)

MEDUSA (cont'd)

(then, more upbeat)

Enough of that. Come, show me a good time.

He hands her the goblet of wine. Artegus grabs her hand and leads her back to the festival.

Ahead, Andromeda and a group of kids run through the festival laughing and playing with wooden swords. Andromeda and her friend stop to have a fake duel. Andromeda is efficient with the sword.

MEDUSA

She is her father's child.

Andromeda looks up to see to her father and Medusa.

ANDROMEDA

Father. Medusa. Did you see me?!
I am getting better.

MEDUSA

Very impressive.

ARTEGUS

Yes. Now go. Catch up with your friends.

Andromeda smiles and runs off.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)

She seems to be warming up to you.

MEDUSA

It is just the sweets. They will wear off soon.

Rodimus approaches with a full goblet of wine, slightly drunk.

RODIMUS

My friend, Artegus. Let us toast!
To Dionysus! May his grace grant us a fine winter harvest and his wine grant us warm bellies.

Artegus laughs. Rodimus turns to Medusa.

RODIMUS (CONT'D)

You must be the one who has tamed Athens' fierce general. You are even more stunning than Artegus described.

ARTEGUS

Medusa, this is my good friend
Rodimus. Forgive him. He has had
a few too many.

Rodimus drunkenly toasts his goblet of wine with Medusa's.

MEDUSA

(smiling)

As he should. But in our country,
it is bad luck not to look one in
the eye during a toast.

She locks eyes with Rodimus. They toast again.

MEDUSA

And it is even worse to let a woman
out drink you!

Medusa turns back her goblet of wine and finishes it.
Artegus and Rodimus both smile and follow suit.

The musicians play a new song. Medusa takes Artegus by the
hand and leads him out where others are dancing. Artegus
fumbles at first but then gets the hang of it.

Medusa then takes the lead. She is an excellent dancer. The
crowd stops and watches with amusement. They clap,
encouraging the couple to keep it up.

Off to the side, Andromeda watches with a smile.

Medusa then gently pulls Andromeda into the circle to dance
as well. The song ends. Everyone claps.

MEDUSA

(to Andromeda)

Who knew you had so many talents?
A talented dancer and swordsman.
Swords-woman, rather.

ANDROMEDA

I'm out of breath now.

Andromeda's young friends call for her to join them. She
waves goodbye and runs off.

MEDUSA

(to Artegus)

You weren't so bad yourself.

ANGELO (O.S.)
The General has a strict dancing
regiment he rehearses before every
battle.

Angelo appears, wearing Athenian clothing.

ARTEGUS
Angelo. Glad you could make it.

Medusa pauses.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)
It's fine. He is my oldest and
most trusted friend.

ANGELO
(jokingly)
What do you mean by "oldest"?
(then)
No worries. I have suspected
something for some time now as
Artegus is never this happy. Your
secret is safe with me. You have
found yourself a great man. Just
not a great dancer.

MEDUSA
It is a pleasure to meet you,
Angelo.
(to Rodimus and Angelo)
You all are wonderful friends. But
tonight, he belongs to me. Excuse
us, won't you?

Angelo smiles and lifts his glass.

ARTEGUS
I trust Rodimus and Angelo with my
life.

MEDUSA
Then I shall trust them as well.
(a beat)
I cannot remember the last time I
felt this happy.

They kiss. Just then, a Satyr runs up and tosses some powder
into the air. It explodes into bright FIREWORKS above their
heads.

INT. ARTEGUS' HOME - LATER

The festivities have slowed down as Medusa, Artegus and Andromeda are back at home. Medusa braids Andromeda's hair into dreadlocks while Artegus lights the fireplace.

ANDROMEDA

How does it look?

ARTEGUS.

It looks great.

MEDUSA

I hope you like it because...

She finishes up one last twist of Andromeda's hair.

MEDUSA

...I am finished.

Her hair is now twisted into dreadlocks. They resemble Medusa's, only shorter. Andromeda can't stop smiling.

ARTEGUS

Very beautiful Andromeda. Just in time for bed.

ANDROMEDA

Thank you Medusa.

MEDUSA

You are very welcome.

Andromeda runs off into her room.

ARTEGUS

Must you go?

MEDUSA

Yes. Katina will be doing her count of the maidens just before midnight.

(off Artegus' disappointed look)

But, perhaps I can stay a little longer.

She smiles. They share another passionate kiss.

INT. ARTEGUS' ROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Medusa slowly awakens to discover the sunlight pouring in through the open window. Artegus slumbers next to her. She quietly gets up and exits the home.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - ATHENA'S TEMPLE - SAME TIME

CLOSE UP of a large glass bowl filled with water. The still water slowly begins to move. It then rises from the bowl and hovers in the air. The water takes the form of a ball and floats across the temple. ZOOM OUT to see two hands receive the water ball. Poseidon's hands.

Athena's temple is white with massive statues in the corners. ZEUS, POSEIDON, and HADES.

The distinguished SHIELD of AEGIS sits on a ledge. Delicate silk draperies hang from a white canopy bed in the center of the room. This is Athena's sanctuary. Pure.

Poseidon manipulates the liquid ball, turning it into different shapes. He then turns the water back into the shape of a ball and it begins to glow. He leans forward, staring into the ball.

The light pours over Poseidon's face. The inside of the ball begins to swirl and eventually settles into a vividly clear image of the outside world. Poseidon sees the past, present and future.

He sees Medusa. She walks along a dirt trail smiling to herself. The vision then changes to Artegus watching her as she leaves.

The vision changes to the island of Crete where the Minotaur ravishes the land. It wields a deadly WAR HAMMER. The Minotaur devours men and children alike with no remorse.

Athena walks into the temple. The light inside of the ball fades away.

ATHENA

Poseidon. I have told you before.
This is a pure and holy sanctuary.
You are neither.

POSEIDON

You should not have brought it
here.

Athena doesn't respond.

POSEIDON (CONT'D)
You know of what I speak. The
Minotaur.

ATHENA
Have you already grown tired of
your own creation?

POSEIDON
If Zeus would allow us to kill
those we curse, I would have rid
the lands of the beast years ago.
On the isle of Crete, it grew out
of control. You will not be able
to contain it.

ATHENA
Is it jealousy or guilt that fuels
your anger? Jealousy of losing the
city to someone like me or the
guilt of seeing your own cursed
creation go on to kill hundreds of
innocent men, women and children.

POSEIDON
It is easy to boast of your
accolades now. But beware. You
are close to crossing the line
between your duty... and your
obsession. And cross it you will.
Then we will see who is ridden with
guilt.

ATHENA
We shall see, now won't we?
(then, nonchalantly)
Don't you have some sea affairs to
attend to? Leave me.

The liquid ball continues to hover between Poseidon's strong hands.

POSEIDON
Seventy percent of this planet is
under my control. Trust me young
one, I have better things to be
doing. If Zeus believed you alone
could handle everything, he would
not have asked me to be here.
(MORE)

POSEIDON(cont'd)

In the meantime, I'll turn my attention to another Libyan discovery.

The ball flashes a vision of Medusa and then fades away. He looks at Athena, and lets the water drop to the floor. He leaves with a grin.

EXT. SEA - MORNING

The ocean glistens in the bright sun as Medusa walks along the shore. She looks out to see a fleet of fishing boats sail smoothly across the water. They all bear the symbol of the Olive Tree. Athena's boats.

EXT. DECK, FISHING BOAT #1 - CONTINUOUS

There are supplies along with a large haul of fish in a net.

FISHERMAN #1
Athena will be pleased.

Suddenly, the boat sways back and forth, but the ocean remains calm. Something is coming. They can only feel it.

The water slowly RISES into a gigantic figure. It is Poseidon. Body forged completely of water, protruding fifty feet above the surface. He moves towards the shore, causing massive waves in the process. The fishermen hang on for their lives. Their supplies tumble helplessly overboard.

Once Poseidon passes, the water slowly settles. Their boat is damaged but they are still alive.

Medusa sees Poseidon's large godly form over the horizon. He slowly contracts back into his normal, yet powerful body.

POSEIDON
Good evening, Medusa... Do not be frightened.

Medusa can only stare at Poseidon. Scared and mesmerized simultaneously. Poseidon looks over Medusa's body as if he were a child with a new toy.

POSEIDON (CONT'D)
Would you like to take a ride across the sea? I can show you wonders.

Behind him, the sea rises and turns into a scene of magic. Wonders and images are created from water. Vast cities, dolphins, wealth and riches... a glimpse of Libya.

MEDUSA

I... I must get back to the Palace.
I am sorry.

She manages to maneuver around him and once she does, she quickly walks off. She tries not to look back.

Poseidon smirks and turns to the sea. With the flick of his wrist, the water obeys its master and ROLLS into a giant tidal wave that shakes the city.

EXT. DECK, FISHING BOAT #1 - SAME TIME

The fishermen finish picking up their scattered equipment. Darkness suddenly blankets them. They look up to see a WAVE towering over their heads.

In a flash, the wave engulfs the figuratively small boats as it tears through to the other end of the sea.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

An agitated Athena steps outside onto her balcony, overlooking her impressive city. Poseidon has destroyed two of her ships.

ATHENA

Poseidon's childish rivalry is
beginning to tire me.

Suddenly, the sounds of VOICES.

Athena hears her citizens. Thousands and thousands of voices and conversations. She can hear each one of them distinctly. In the midst of these countless conversations, she repeatedly hears a specific name. MEDUSA.

The voices grow louder and begin to blend together until they are undecipherable. Athena slowly begins to get angry. The walls begin to tremble. Some of the smaller statues fall over and break.

Athena shuts her eyes. When she opens them and it all stops. The voices. The trembling. The earth is completely quiet once again.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - SERVANTS QUARTERS - LATER

Euryale and Stheno weave material for Athena. Medusa enters.

STHENO

Medusa. Katina has been for
looking for you...

Suddenly, Altair SWOOPS into the doorway of the quarters. His eyes, wide and penetrating. He stares directly at Medusa.

Then, Katina steps into the entryway.

KATINA

Lady Athena awaits you in the
courtyard.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - COURTYARD - EVENING

Medusa follows Katina to the courtyard. A large group of Athenian citizens have gathered around the fountain as Athena speaks to them individually.

The citizens bring flowers and other small items as gifts of appreciation to the Goddess. Athena senses Medusa. She signals her guards. They politely close off the service to the remaining citizens waiting in line.

SOLDIER

The Lady will see to your needs
tomorrow.

The soldiers escort the citizens out and close the gates. Katina follows, leaving Medusa and Athena alone.

ATHENA

Medusa. Please, join me.

Medusa approaches the goddess, slightly intimidated. She stares at the beautiful fountain surrounding the olive tree. Her reflection sways on the surface.

ATHENA

Many years ago, a patron deity was
needed to govern this city.
Poseidon wanted rule, as did I. We
both presented gifts to determine
who would preside. Poseidon struck
the ground with his trident and
presented this fountain.

(MORE)

ATHENA (cont'd)

But the water sprung forth was salty and of no use. I presented the olive tree. It symbolizes peace and prosperity for the people. They come to me with their prayers, and I try to give them what they desire.

A beat. Athena gently touches Medusa's dreadlocks.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

You truly are beautiful. It must be difficult acting as a maiden when you come from royalty.

MEDUSA

I'm sorry?

ATHENA

I have known who you were from the moment you arrived in Athens. No need for secrets any longer.

(then)

Now, I retrieved what I desired from Libya. But the beast has proven slightly...complex. Your father was able to control it and I need you to enlighten me on his methods.

MEDUSA

I don't know much about it. Only that my father used it to keep my sisters and I bound to Libya, afraid of an old prophesy told to him by a witch in the mountains. That is all I can tell you about the beast.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

That disappoints me. I was hoping your presence would be more useful than just a distraction to my people and Lord Poseidon. Poseidon may seem enticing but be mindful of your place here. My palace and servants are pure. Do not interfere with the ways of the gods.

A beat. Medusa is taken aback.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

It is late. Hopefully your memory
will serve you better in the
morning. Otherwise, there is no
reason to allow your stay.

Altair flies in and lands on Athena's shoulder. Medusa
leaves the courtyard.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - DAY

A large room full of maidens wash clothes, linens, and other
chores for the goddess. Medusa enters with a basket and sets
it down.

MAIDEN

We need more hot water.

MEDUSA

I'll go.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - HALLWAY - DAY

Medusa walks down a long corridor. A low haunting moan
echoes throughout the halls. She places her ear against the
wall.

As she follows the sound, she comes to a STATUE of Athena.
She touches the statue, accidentally TRIGGERING a secret
passage behind it to open.

She peers into the passageway at a case of stairs winding
down into a dark, secret place.

INT. DUNGEON - DARKNESS

The staircase leads into a dungeon below the palace. Medusa
slowly walks down the stairs, her curiosity leading her
deeper towards the sound. She approaches a corner and slowly
peeks around it...

Two GUARDS walk past but they do not see her. They speak to
each other in passing.

GUARD #1

The tranquilizers should keep it
sedated long enough for the
transport.

Medusa walks in the shadows. The guards walk up the stairs and exit through the secret entrance.

Medusa slowly backpedals into the main chamber of the dungeon. She pauses. She can feel hot thick air on her neck. The silhouette of something massive rises behind her. She turns around.

She finds herself looking up into a tall, dark, steel-barred cage...directly into the eyes of a ferocious beast.

It is THE MINOTAUR. The ancient mythical beast with a colossal body of a man and the head of a bull. A large nose-ring protrudes from its snout.

Its furry body is concealed in the darkness, imprisoned within a large cage on wheels, awaiting transportation.

Medusa notices something within nose-ring. Unique SYMBOLS are carved in, what resembles a blue CRYSTAL. They GLOW in the darkness.

Her gaze then moves up into the beasts' eyes. Medusa steps forward. Unafraid. She is drawn to this beast. His eyes study her, not as a mindless brute, but as an intelligent being. She places her hand inside of the cage and slowly traces her hands across his face.

SUDDENLY, two tall heavily enforced doors slowly open, shining bright light into the dark dungeon.

Medusa and the Minotaur look back at one another. The Minotaur quickly lowers its head and closes its eyes. Medusa steps back into a crevice in the wall. A group of soldiers enter from a steep ramp and secure the prison to a large chain.

After the chain is secure, they walk back up the ramp and outside. Medusa keeps her eyes on the Minotaur. One of his eyes OPEN, briefly looking back at Medusa, before closing once more.

EXT. ATHENS - DAY

Artegus directs his men while they prepare to haul the Minotaur's cage. Plaxio stands nearby. Once secure, the Minotaur's cage is towed up the ramp by two large BULLS.

Poseidon and Athena watch from the balcony.

EXT. PALACE BALCONY - SAME TIME

POSEIDON

Where are you taking it?

ATHENA

The shores of Crete for further tests.

(off Poseidon's look)

When you have a city to oversee, you may do as you wish. Until then, I believe there is still some use in this creature.

EXT. PALACE - DAY

Medusa exits the palace. Ahead of her, Plaxio stands awaiting the beast.

MEDUSA

What is happening? Where will you take it?

Plaxio grabs her.

PLAXIO

What happens to this beast is none of your concern.

(pulling her closer)

But what happens between you and I...has yet to be decided...

ARTEGUS

Leave her be, Plaxio...

Suddenly a huge ROAR breaks from the cage. The steel doors FLY off, sending the soldiers in front of it sprawling into the side of the palace.

Our attention is pulled back to the cage as it is ripped open by an emerging beast. THE MINOTAUR stands over ten feet tall. Heavy dark fur covers its body and two extremely sharp HORNS grow from atop its head.

He breaks free from the cage and quickly disposes of the small group of soldiers. He then charges towards the hills of Athens. Directly towards Medusa.

ARTEGUS

MEDUSA!

The Minotaur SNATCHES Medusa and throws her over his shoulder. Soldiers aim their arrows. Artegus intervenes.

ARTEGUS
IN FRONT. FIRE IN FRONT! CUT OFF
ITS PATH TO THE LEFT!

The soldiers carefully fire their arrows in front of the Minotaur, altering his direction of escape. Artegus grabs a spear and chases after the beast.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)
Flank him at the end of the market
before he reaches the plains!

A group of soldiers confront the charging Minotaur. With his free arm, The Minotaur simply BATS the soldiers a hundred feet into the air and out of his way.

Artegus races down a parallel street. More THUDS as soldiers are sent FLYING into nearby walls.

The end of the city opens up into the vast hills of Athens. Plains with mountains and trees run parallel to the ocean. The Minotaur is almost free.

Just as the Minotaur approaches the last shop in the market, Artegus LEAPS onto a wagon, then to a wooden ledge, and finally to the roof of the small building. He HURLS the spear at the Minotaur's free shoulder. As the Minotaur turns to the pain, Artegus LEAPS off of the roof and grabs Medusa. They fall to the ground, rolling a few yards from the Minotaur.

But their success is short lived.

The Minotaur pulls the spear out of its shoulder and breaks it in half. It swings at Artegus but misses. But when its fist slams the ground, it sends Artegus and Medusa tumbling to the ground. The Minotaur reaches for Medusa when we hear a BOOMING voice from behind.

POSEIDON (O.S.)
That is far enough.

The Minotaur turns and is met by its greatest threat. Poseidon. A beat. To everyone's surprise and amazement, the Minotaur SPEAKS. In a low, DEEP voice...

MINOTAUR
You!

POSEIDON
I should have killed you long ago.

The Minotaur's nose ring begins to GLOW a deep blue. It then rushes into Poseidon at full speed, knocking him into a building. The building collapses on Poseidon, burying him under the rubble. Medusa watches in shock.

MINOTAUR (CONT'D)
You should never have created me.

The Minotaur is swift and powerful. Poseidon BURSTS through the rubble. The Minotaur quickly charges him again, horns first. It thrusts Poseidon through yet another building.

The two continue to fight inside the building. Medusa, now separated from Artegus, is trapped as the debris collapses around her.

BRUTAL BLOWS from within the building as the two SMASH each other into the walls. The building eventually is nothing but debris and dust with them both underneath.

The Minotaur rises from the destruction holding Poseidon above his head. He SLAMS Poseidon into the base of a mountain only yards away from the collapsed building. It moves towards Medusa and picks her up as she screams.

POSEIDON
We're not finished yet...

Poseidon stands. The Minotaur drops Medusa and attacks again! It is relentless in its attack, charging forward again. Poseidon dodges and counters with a powerful strike to The Minotaur's chest. He continues to pummel the beast, driving it to the ground.

Poseidon grabs the Minotaur by its horns and begins spinning around. He finally releases it, HURLING the beast towards the mountains. It lands over a mile away. Once the Minotaur is a safe distance away from Poseidon, its nose ring STOPS glowing.

The Minotaur recovers and begins to break large boulders from the side of the mountain. It HURLS them back at Poseidon.

The Minotaur charges again. Poseidon pulls out a small golden staff. He thrusts it forward, TRANSFORMING it into his mighty TRIDENT and drives his Trident into the ground.

Powerful Geysers begin SHOOTING up in the path of the charging beast.

The Minotaur is agile, able to avoid most of them. It gets within twenty yards of Poseidon, enough for the nose ring to glow again, but that is as close as it gets.

A water geyser BLASTS The Minotaur into the air. While it is airborne, Poseidon TWISTS his Trident into the ground and a large crevice forms under the free-falling beast. The beast ROARS as it lands with an enormous THUD into the newly formed cavern.

Poseidon twists his Trident once again and the ground quickly SLAMS SHUT on the Minotaur below.

Soldiers gather in awe at the death of The Minotaur.

A beat. Then, the gargantuan hand of The Minotaur BURSTS through the ground to everyone's surprise.

The Minotaur struggles to pull himself out of the earth, still alive, but succumbs to exhaustion and passes out. Poseidon, tired of this battle, storms towards the wounded beast. He raises his Trident above his head for a final blow when a BRIGHT LIGHT shines in front of him, blinding him.

Athena emerges through the light.

ATHENA

That is enough Poseidon!

POSEIDON

Out of my way, Athena. This is personal...

ATHENA

The creature is far more powerful than I could have imagined.

POSEIDON

Making it all the more deadly. It must be destroyed once and for all.

ATHENA

Need I remind you of the severity of Zeus's punishment? Our plans will remain the same. Transport the beast to Crete for further testing.

POSEIDON

God or no god, you are fortunate my brother favors you.

Poseidon recalls his Trident and storms away. The look of concern across his face is undeniable. The Minotaur was far stronger than he had anticipated.

ATHENA

Where are you going?

POSEIDON

Someone else will have to watch over his prized city. For I am done.

Poseidon glares at Athena and then storms away. The crowd of soldiers quickly opens, allowing the furious god to pass.

Athena motions to the nearby warriors and they drag the Minotaur out of the hole. It is unconscious, but alive.

In the distance, Athena sees Artegus riding away with Medusa. Rage flashes in her eyes as she realizes what has happened.

PLAXIO (O.S.)

Your General has betrayed you, my lady. He has abandoned his duties...for her.

Athena turns to Plaxio.

ATHENA

Perhaps it is time for a change amongst the ranks.

(a beat)

General Plaxio...take my Palace Guards. Find Medusa and bring her back to Athens at once.

PLAXIO

And what of Artegus?

ATHENA

I will deal with him later. Bring the Libyan to me.

INT. ARTEGUS' HOME - VILLAGE OF HOLLOWAY - THAT EVENING

Artegus and Medusa rush into the house.

INT. ARTEGUS' HOME - ANDROMEDA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Artegus peers in on Andromeda. She sleeps peacefully. Her dreadlocks spilling over her pillow.

INT. ARTEGUS' HOME - MAIN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Artegus quickly runs through the house, grabbing clothes and other items.

MEDUSA

Athena saw us together. She knows, Artegus. What is going to happen?

ARTEGUS

She has most likely dispatched her guards. We must leave Greece. Tonight.

MEDUSA

And go where?

ARTEGUS

I know of an island. Once used by the Greeks but they have long gone. We can settle there. Start over.

MEDUSA

What of my sisters? I cannot leave them.

ARTEGUS

I'll find a way to get them. But right now, we must pack. Quickly. We don't have a lot of time.

Medusa reluctantly starts to help Artegus pack. Artegus goes back towards Andromeda's room.

INT. ARTEGUS' HOME - MAIN ROOM

Medusa grabs belongings from the main room. A light passes by the window.

She looks to the window to see ATHENIAN PALACE GUARDS holding torches. They march to the front of Artegus' home.

MEDUSA

Artegus...ARTEGUS!

Artegus rushes into the room. He sees the torches.

ARTEGUS

Go to Andromeda's room. I will take care of them. Go!

EXT. ARTEGUS' HOME - SAME TIME

Plaxio, Cadius, and a small troop of the Palace Guards BANG on Artegus' door.

PALACE GUARD #1
General! General, open the door
immediately!

Artegus opens the door.

ARTEGUS
Plaxio? What is going on here?!

PALACE GUARD #1
I am sorry General, we must search
the premises.

ARTEGUS
In search of what?...

PLAXIO
Did you think she would not find
out? Lady Athena has ordered us to
search the premises for the Libyan
princess Medusa.

ARTEGUS
What have you done, Plaxio?

Plaxio and the Athenian guards barge past him, searching the small house. Artegus watches Plaxio move through the house, enraged at the betrayal.

One of the palace guards heads towards Andromeda's room. Artegus stops him.

ARTEGUS
My daughter is asleep.

The guard peers into the room.

INT. ANDROMEDA'S ROOM - NIGHT

In the dark room, the light slowly spills over Andromeda who is fast asleep. Andromeda stirs.

Medusa hides on the other side of the bed in the darkness. The guard steps into Andromeda's room for a closer look as the light from the main room continues to illuminate the room. He almost sees Medusa...

Artegus grabs the guard by the back of his neck, yanking him out of the room.

ARTEGUS
Perhaps I was misunderstood. My daughter is asleep!

The guard reaches for his sword. Artegus quickly disarms the guards, and knocks out another preparing to strike. Artegus stands, holding his sword towards the other three guards.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)
Soldiers. You come here in the middle of the night with accusations. Threaten my family. Threaten me?! Leave my home, or I will kill you where you stand. Decide.

CADIUS
(to Plaxio)
There is nothing here.

PLAXIO
Leave him be. Lady Athena will deal with you. And for Medusa... she will most certainly be killed.

The Palace Guards slowly back pedal from the home. Artegus fumes with anger.

Artegus opens the door to his daughters room to find Andromeda alone. Andromeda looks towards the open window.

Medusa's Libyan necklace lays on the desk next to her bed.

ARTEGUS
Oh no.

EXT. ROAD TO ATHENS - LATER

Medusa sneaks through darkness back towards the palace. The palace guards' torches can be seen in the distance behind her.

Suddenly the earth SHAKES. Not much. But a small tremor.

We ZOOM OUT RAPIDLY away from Medusa. The earth SKIMMING by us. We continue to travel away from them until...

EXT. ATHENS - NIGHT

We stop in another person's POV. He watches. Out of view from any mere mortal. Even at this far distance he can still see clearly.

It is Poseidon. Watching. Staring. From here, we partially see the side of his massive frame. The bottom of his Trident has been driven into the ground. He stares off into the darkness.

EXT. ROAD TO ATHENS - CONTINUOUS

Medusa continues to run towards the palace ahead.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - A LITTLE LATER

Medusa arrives to the palace and hurries up the long staircase.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - NIGHT

Medusa has just entered the palace. She heads towards the maidens quarters. She hears another whispering voice.

VOICE (O.S.)

Medusa...

She stops.

VOICE (O.S.)

Medusa. It is me. Artegus.

Confused, she rushes back to the palace doors.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - CONTINUOUS

Artegus is there at the doorstep.

MEDUSA

(quietly)

What are you doing?

He steps into the palace and kisses her. Slightly rougher than before. Medusa, surprised at this, kisses back. Artegus enters the palace.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - HALLWAY - LATER

Artegus leads Medusa deep into the palace to Athena's sacred temple. It is enclosed by two large stone doors.

ARTEGUS

In here.

MEDUSA

Athena doesn't permit anyone in the temple...

Without hesitation, Artegus opens the door and enters. She nervously follows him in.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - ATHENA'S TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

The room is dim, lit only by candles. The four Olympian statues create a haunting ambiance. Constantly staring.

MEDUSA

(whispering)

We shouldn't be in here...what are you doing?

He kisses her again stifling her last comments. She kisses back, reluctantly. She knows that they should not be in this holy place but she cannot help herself.

There is something very different about Artegus. He is more aggressive. Less sensitive.

MEDUSA

Wait...Artegus...we should...

The water from the large glass bowl slowly begins to rise. Scattered about in the air into thin sheets of water. It hovers in the air.

He effortlessly lifts her off her feet and carries her over to the bed.

In the midst of the sexual energy, Medusa feels as if something is terribly wrong. As if she is being watched.

She is. Altair sits high above the two in a corner. Medusa attempts to looks around, but Artegus overpowers her.

As she kisses him, she opens her eyes and notices something far stranger. She immediately dismisses the thought, for it is too farfetched.

Artegus' eyes do not look like Artegus' eyes. They look familiar, but Medusa cannot put a finger on it. They remind her of something else...someone else. They are sharp. GREEN...

She quickly forgets as Artegus removes the rest of her clothing. He kisses her all over her naked body.

But still, looking into his eyes, she can't shake the feeling. As he kisses her, she grabs his face and stares directly into his eyes.

MEDUSA
...Poseidon?!

He ENTERS her. She arches her back as a bolt of electricity rushes through her body. Her veins BULGE as they are filled with the god's power.

She is intoxicated by his magic and has absolutely no energy to stop this act. Her eyes and limbs become heavy. They have wild sex. She on top of him. He on top of her. This is not ordinary sex. He feels much more...powerful.

The water and has now expanded and turned into a clear mist, cast throughout the temple. It sways rhythmically.

Altair still sits and watches her as they continue to have sex. We ZOOM IN on Altair's wide staring eyes and into...

CUT TO:

ATHENA'S PALACE - ATHENA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Athena's eyes. She sits upright in her bed staring straight ahead. Her eyes fume with surprise and anger. It would look like she was staring at the wall, but she sees much more. She sees what Altair sees.

She rises out of bed and FLOATS...

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Outside to her balcony. She stands at the ledge, facing the West. The night is still and quiet.

ATHENA
You dare defile my holy temple?!
You shall feel the wrath of a power
that truly has no end. You will
forever be a walking plague to
those who lay eyes on you.
(MORE)

ATHENA(cont'd)

If beauty is your gift, it shall
also be your curse.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - ATHENA'S TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

The room is calm once again. Medusa lays next to Artegus sleeping. Artegus, wide awake, moves Medusa to the other side of the bed and gets up.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Artegus exits Athena's temple shutting the doors behind him. He turns and begins walking away from the room. As he does, he MORPHS back into his true body. POSEIDON.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - BALCONY - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Athena looks to the sky and calls upon her infinite godly powers. She begins to speak in an unidentifiable ancient language and tone. She holds her hands up to the sky and her eyes begin to GLOW.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The clouds darken and swarm together. Large raindrops begin pouring down onto the earth. As the cursed drops hit the ground, snakes mutate from their puddles and slither towards the temple.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - ATHENA'S TEMPLE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Medusa sleeps alone in the bed as if she were drugged.

A long black snake peeks out from under her pillow. It slowly slithers across her face. She swats at it unconsciously. The snake crawls across her body. It finally springs forth, gorging its teeth into her wrist.

She wakes up in terror grabbing at the snake. The snake slides under the covers and across her legs. She lifts the cover to discover a dozen snakes crawling across her bed. She SCREAMS.

Blood spills from her wounded wrist. She peels back the silk drapery but the floor is gone. What replaces it are THOUSANDS of hissing snakes.

The snakes rush the bed from every direction, completely covering Medusa. They lunge at her, hissing and biting until they've totally consumed her.

We ZOOM OUT of the canopy to the horrid SCREAMS of Medusa.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - ATHENA'S ROOM - THAT NIGHT

Poseidon enters the room. He eats an apple but finds no joy in it. Athena stares at him. Completely calm and collected.

Poseidon sarcastically offers the fruit to Athena. A beat.

ATHENA

You are like a pestering gnat,
yearning for attention. You've
succeeded.

Poseidon says nothing. Continues to chew on his apple.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

But I do find it quite ridiculous.
A god...reduced to sorcery to
ravish a mere human.

Athena removes her robe, revealing her flawless body and slips into a long white peplos sleeping gown. Poseidon takes another bite, but Athena's got his attention.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

She was beautiful, wasn't she. We
shall see how much enjoyment you
receive from your fixation now.

Athena blows out the candle, leaving Poseidon in the dark.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - ATHENA'S TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

We cut back to Athena's temple. The room which was just filled with snakes is now empty. Medusa drags herself across the floor. She makes her way into the bathing room where she grabs a robe and puts it on.

She struggles to find her footing, but falls down again, leaving trails of blood over everything she touches.

CLOSE UP of Medusa's eyes. They turn from their beautiful blue hue to STONE. Then, they turn black. Lifeless, hollow, endless, black eyes.

She agonizes as no human body should ever endure this type of pain. For a moment, her body hovers above the ground as her very SOUL is torn from her body.

HORRID VISIONS flash before her eyes. She sees hundreds and hundreds of DEATHS of people whom she has made eye contact with through the years. It is EXCRUCIATING both mentally and physically for her to witness these horrors.

She cries with her hands covering her face. Large wings pierce her skin and BREACH from her back.

Her hair begins to change. One by one, her once beautiful dreadlocks BURST into FLAMES, with each one giving birth to a grotesque snake growing from her scalp.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - SERVANTS QUARTERS - NIGHT

Euryale and Stheno sleep peacefully in the maidens quarters.

Suddenly, Euryale's eyes SHOOT open. Then, they roll back into her head. She begins to choke on her tongue. The maidens awake at the sound to see Euryale convulsing uncontrollably. Then, a new serpent-like tongue flickers out of her mouth. She begins to morph into a hideous creature. Her teeth change into sharp tusks. Wings burst from her back and her hands change into bronze CLAWS. In the bed across from her, Stheno turns into a monster as well. The two sisters writhe in pain during their transformation.

A maiden jumps out of the bed and rushes through the double doors...

Only to run into a monster worse than the other two.

We see the back of a hooded figure, looking down on the unsuspecting maiden. FEAR flashes across her face.

Something under the hood continuously moves, unnaturally. A moment of uncertainty. Then, a loud SHRIEK and the screen QUICKLY CUTS TO BLACK.

A few moments pass and then...

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - MAIN HALL - CONTINUOUS

The sisters flee the temple, all cloaked in dark blankets. They have no real answer of what has recently happened to them. They bolt through the maze-like palace, turning corner after corner until two guards approach them.

Euryale and Stheno react with newly discovered animal instincts and strength as they throw the guards against the walls.

Medusa looks into the EYES of one of her pursuers. Before he can react, his body immediately stiffens as his entire body turns to STONE. He falls over and his torso BREAKS in half.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - NIGHT

Plaxio and the palace guards approach to see a group of villagers gathered outside of the palace. The three cloaked sisters burst through the doors and outside. Only parts of their beastly, disgusting bodies can be seen.

A nearby villager grabs a torch and thrusts it at the three sisters.

MALE VILLAGER
Beasts! Beasts have invaded the temple...

He is quickly trampled as they rush past him and make it into the forest. The palace guards approach, but the sisters are gone. Plaxio and the guards enter the gates of the palace.

Artegus arrives on his horse soon after. He quickly dismounts the steed and runs towards the front gates of the palace. Debris is scattered about. Soldiers tend to the wounded and dead.

Artegus looks around, but there is no sign of Medusa, Stheno or Euryale. He rushes to a palace guard.

ARTEGUS
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?!

The palace guard has no answers. Artegus moves past him and into the gates.

INT. PALACE COURTYARD - DAY

Inside the gates of the palace, guards quickly cover up bodies with sheets. Artegus sees Homer. But Homer turns his back on Artegus.

ARTEGUS (cont'd)
Homer, what happened?

Suddenly Plaxio's voice intervenes.

PLAXIO
WHAT IS HE DOING HERE?

ARTEGUS
Where is she? Where is Medusa?!

PLAXIO
Seize him!

Two guards approach Artegus with swords drawn. They grab Artegus.

PLAXIO
(reaching for his sword)
You are a traitor to your country.
You will never see Medusa again.

Artegus lunges at Plaxio but is restrained by the guards. Plaxio's vest and sword begin to glow. He snatches Medusa's Libyan necklace from Artegus' neck.

PLAXIO (CONT'D)
You are pathetic.

ARTEGUS
WHERE IS SHE?!

ATHENA (O.S.)
She is gone.

Athena's voice TOWERS over all other conversation. Plaxio and Artegus turn to see the Goddess standing behind them.

ATHENA (CONT'D)
I am truly disappointed in you,
Artegus. Risking the security of
Athens for a Libyan slave. Or
should I say...Princess. Speak her
name no more. She is dead.

ARTEGUS
You LIE!

EVERYTHING STOPS. Athena casually steps towards Artegus.

ATHENA
(whispers)
I assure you. The woman you knew
is gone. Forever.

Athena casually places her hand on Artegus' chest, and he immediately SAILS backwards and THROUGH the palace doors outside. He CRASHES down into some supplies against another building.

Athena raises her hand and Artegus is lifted off of the ground. He floats over to her. He is semi-conscious.

ATHENA

You deserve death. But I will be merciful. You will forever wear the symbol of a traitor to your country. Artegus, shamed son of Agregos. You are hereby banished from Athens.

As he hovers in the air, Athena's eyes GLOW. Suddenly, the skin on Artegus' neck GLOWS as well. It BURNS an ancient symbol into his skin, the mark of a traitor.

He drops to his knees. Medusa's necklace dangles in front of him. He looks up just as the butt of Plaxio's sword SLAMS against his head, knocking him out.

FADE OUT.

EXT. ATHENA'S BALCONY - NIGHT

Over black.

THE FATES (V.O.)
Ignited by Poseidon's antagonism,
Athena's wrath was powerful...But
never had it been so vicious.

FADE IN:

We fly over the country of Greece. We see the natural shaping of the land. We angle towards a dark isolated part of the earth.

THE FATES (V.O.)
And the three sisters, all cursed,
left the city of Athens never to
return. Turned into repulsive
lurid Gorgons. Hands of large
bronze claws. Powerful wings
spread across their scaly backs.
However, the one who received the
most punishment from Athena's
curse...was Medusa.

(MORE)

THE FATES (cont'd)

Euryale and Stheno, furious at what their beloved sister had caused, took to the skies and flew off to a far away island.

A massive WING FLAPS onto the screen. We then see Euryale and Stheno FLYING away towards the moon.

EXT. ISOLATED CAVE - NIGHT

ANGLE ON a dark cave. Medusa drags herself inside.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Medusa crawls until she can crawl no further and passes out.

THE FATES (V.O.)

Medusa; who had finally found love, was betrayed by the lord Poseidon, cursed by the goddess Athena, and shunned by her sisters, was now forsaken. Scarred, bloody, and maimed, she made her way to a desolate cave.

IMAGES. FADE IN and OUT as Medusa struggles with her new cursed state. She clumsily bumps about her cave, eyes closed, afraid of her new power. She weeps heavily in the corner. Her body shivers from the cold, her wings eventually wrapping around her. Time has passed. She settles into her cursed form. She's stronger now. Lifeless, stoned, animals surround the cave. She tosses a dead deer inside. She feeds.

THE FATES (V.O.)

And this is where she would lay.
Until she found a new strength.
And power. And a thirst for
revenge.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - NIGHT

A heavy rain falls across Greece.

Still cloaked, Medusa returns to her cave. A small fire burns in the distance. A silhouette of someone sits near the flames. She stops.

MEDUSA
Who's there?!

A closer look reveals an elderly man. He etches something into the walls of the cave.

MAN
I seek shelter from the storm. I mean you no harm.

Medusa stalks near this man in her cave. Her snake hair continuously moves under her hood.

MEDUSA
You should not be here if you value your life.

MAN
Oh, I've been to hell and back.
You can do no worse to me than the gods already have.

The man turns to Medusa and we see that he has no eyes. Just HOLLOW crevices. His face is hard and wrinkled. It is clear this man has been through much in his long life.

MAN (CONT'D)
(re: his eyes)
Don't be alarmed. I wish I could see your face.

MEDUSA
No. No you don't.

Medusa looks to the crude etchings on the rock. Carvings of the TITAN CRONOS, as well as ZEUS. They are surrounded by unique SYMBOLS. Symbols that Medusa has seen before. In the glowing nose-ring of The Minotaur.

A beat.

MAN
(sensing her curiosity)
Ah, the symbols. Ironic I suppose.
Despite being blind, this is all that I see. Over and over again.

MEDUSA
What do they mean?

MAN

I do not know. I believe they are all that is left, of a forgotten language. They tell of the one great being ever to render the Gods powerless.

(a beat)

The Titan CRONOS.

Medusa looks to the etchings as they seem to come to LIFE. The old man's words speak as the etchings animate along the cave's walls.

MAN (V.O.)

CRONOS. Legendary ruler of the Titans. The first of the great Deities to inhabit our world. Fearing a prophecy, he swallowed all of his children, rendering them powerless inside of his body. Save for one.

The crude drawing of Cronos swallows his tiny children. They are trapped within his stomach. One, however remains. He is marked distinctly with a BOLT OF LIGHTNING.

MEDUSA (V.O.)

Zeus...

MAN (V.O.)

Yes. Zeus fulfilled the prophecy, and grew to be more powerful than them all. He destroyed his father's body...freeing his siblings in the process.

Zeus's body morphs into a lighting bolt and zaps the much larger body of Cronos. The body of Cronos EXPLODES. Fragments scatter throughout the world.

MAN (V.O.)

Any remains of the body of Cronos were scattered throughout the earth. Presumed destroyed, or lost forever.

(a beat)

But I know fragments exist. Their location, hidden within the symbols. I have yet to decipher them completely, but soon...I will have the only source of power to weaken the Gods. To make them susceptible to our pain...

MEDUSA (V.O.)
What is it to you?

MAN
To do to Hades what he did to me.

He takes his finger and rubs around his hollow eye sockets.

MEDUSA
Hades did this to you?

MAN
He found me. At my most desperate
moment. He saved me... but not
without a price.

MEDUSA
Saved you? Perhaps he can save me?

MAN
He manipulates. Always working
towards his own benefit. I pray
that you never meet him. For your
sake.

MEDUSA
How do I find him?

The man stops, hearing something in the wind.

MAN
I'm afraid he has already heard
your call. He will find you.

The man drops the chalk, making his way out.

MEDUSA
Where will you go?

MAN
As far from here as I can...

He exits the cave. Medusa is alone.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - LATER THAT NIGHT

The rain has lightened. Medusa sleeps near the ashes of the
fire. Suddenly, a deep RASPY voice echoes in the darkness.
She opens her eyes.

HAUNTING VOICE (O.S.)
 Medusa. Cursed and shunned by the
 Gods of Olympus. A mere pawn in
 their selfish games.

MEDUSA
 Who are you?!

HAUNTING VOICE (O.S.)
 Someone one who also knows what it
 is to be disregarded by the
 Olympians.

Medusa rises to her feet.

MEDUSA
 Show yourself!

Red hot FLAMES emerge from the cave. A large frame appears within them. He is towering and wide, in the process of removing a helmet. The source of his invisibility. Once removed, we see the full body of HADES.

MEDUSA
 Hades?

HADES
 One of my names, yes.
 (a beat)
 Your power is impressive. Far more than Athena imagined. But you have yet to embrace it. Harness it. Do not fight that which consumes you.

MEDUSA
 Power? I care not of power.
 All I wanted was...

HADES
 (cutting her off)
 HE will never love you now.

Enraged, Medusa turns to the dark Lord. She CHARGES forward but Hades BURSTS into FLAMES. The blaze spreads out and surrounds her and the entire cave. The flames GROW, consuming everything.

EXT. UNDERWORLD OF HADES - SAME

Suddenly Medusa finds herself in the underworld of HADES. An endless cavern with a burning red sky. Ancient structures lie in ruins surrounded by sharp rocks and stalagmites.

Several rivers of LAVA flow throughout the dark realm, all small in comparison to the size of the winding river which cuts its way through the middle of this underworld... THE RIVER STYX. A hooded figure steers a boat in the distance.

Watching Medusa are six beastly eyes from the darkness. The three-headed beast CERBERUS preys from the shadows.

Then, thousands and thousands of restless souls are revealed in the ruins. Constantly building onto an already massive castle.

HADES

I can help you. Your desire for death and revenge is undeniable...

MEDUSA

I do not want this! I never deserved this fate!!

HADES

Then do something about it. Soon, you will be consumed. Leaving you in darkness forever. You have little time...

MEDUSA

I can never get close to Artegus again. Not without killing him. I just want my life back.

Several snakes slither out of the river STYX towards Medusa. Medusa sees her former BEAUTIFUL self in the reflection of the dark river. Her snake hair is gone and her beautiful dreadlocks have returned. She touches her face.

HADES

Expect no one to simply give it back. You must take that which you desire.

MEDUSA

(a beat)

How? What must I do?

HADES

Destroy the source of the curse. The gods did this to you. SHE did this to you.

MEDUSA

Athena. But...how can I defeat a god.

HADES

The best way to hurt a God is to
attack those they favor.

MEDUSA

And once I do this...my curse shall
be reversed?

HADES

Your power will grow with each
kill. And in the end, there will
be only one soul left to claim.
Then, your true self will be
revealed.

The flames of Hades burn BRIGHT once again. The intimidating
God has gone, but his voice echoes throughout the cave one
final time.

HADES (O.S.)

You have work to do.

CUT TO BLACK

INT. PARTHENON - THE NEXT DAY

Katina walks with purpose through the halls. She stops at
two large double doors. She takes a breath before knocking.

POSEIDON (O.S.)

Enter.

Katina enters to find Poseidon standing naked in front of
her. She immediately stops.

Three women lay in the bed behind him. He stands before her.
Unashamed. Katina turns away from the perfect god.

POSEIDON (CONT'D)

Have you come to join me, Katina?

KATINA

My lord. Athena would like to
speak with you in her quarters
whenever you... are available.

Poseidon continues to gaze at Katina. He grows bored and
gets back in the bed.

POSEIDON

Tell Athena I am busy. Get out.

Katina quickly leaves.

EXT. PALACE STEPS - DAY

A group of Palace Guards gather near the steps. Katina exits the Palace and descends the stairs. The Guards fall into proper form as she passes.

Ahead, Katina notices some soldiers ahead harassing a tent owner. The two soldiers take fruit without payment.

TENT OWNER

Please, I have a family.

SOLDIER 1

Quiet! This is merely our tax for keeping you citizens safe.

Katina intervenes, still frustrated from her Poseidon encounter.

KATINA

That is enough! Lady Athena would not approve of this behavior.

SOLDIER 2

Our apologies, Lady Katina.

She turns and heads towards the garden. The two soldiers ease their stance. A dark hooded figure approaches them from behind.

Medusa has returned.

MEDUSA

(re: Katina)

She can be a thorn, can't she?

The guards turn to her. Her eyes, covered by the hood.

SOLDIER 2

And you are?

MEDUSA

An old acquaintance of Lady Athena.
Could you deliver a message for me?

Near the garden, Katina hears SCREAMS from the citizens out front. She looks up, as what appears to be TWO rather large stones SKIDDING across the ground. They come to a stop at the steps. They are the severed HEADS of the two soldiers, turned completely to STONE!

The soldiers gaze on in horror. They draw their swords and look ahead to see the hooded Medusa standing several yards away. Snakes rise out of her hood, taunting the soldiers.

KATINA
Medusa! Kill her!

They charge Medusa. The snakes WHIP Medusa's hood back, finally revealing her cursed FACE.

Soldiers and citizens alike stop at the sight of Medusa. The ones that are not caught in her legendary gaze run for their lives.

For the DOZENS less fortunate, they are killed within a matter of minutes. The curse quickly spreading through their bodies leaving them dead and turned to complete stone.

Katina hurries down a nearby alley.

EXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Katina rushes through an alley of the Parthenon's exterior courtyards and comes to a fork. One direction leads to the market, where citizens run for safety. Katina turns into a tall, hedge-like path. A maze of sorts, eventually leading to the rear of the Palace.

She moves with familiarity until the sunlight is eclipsed by the winged form of the Gorgon above. She stops as Medusa flies ahead and drops into the maze. Katina is not alone.

Katina takes another route within the maze. She hears movement and stops with her back against the hedge wall. She's unaware as we see Medusa's hooded silhouette following her from the other side of the wall.

Katina moves ahead, blindly turning corners. Katina quietly runs through a brief opening where a statue of Athena lies. The statue has been CLAWED in half. She hears guards shouting from beyond the maze.

GUARDS (O.S.)
It's in the maze! Here!

She moves towards their voices, turning a corner and ALMOST runs directly into Medusa eye line. She stops and covers her mouth as not to scream. Medusa doesn't see her and rounds another corner.

Katina leans back against the hedge wall to rest. After a deep breath, she notices a single snake slithering through the hedge. It rubs against her shoulder. Her eyes open wide with fear. Within seconds, Medusa's reptilian-like arms BREACH through the hedge and snatches Katina!

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - CONTINUOUS

Athena emerges through the palace doors. She speaks to a guard.

ATHENA
What is happening? Where is
Katina?!

No answer from the guard. He is nothing but STONE.

A nearby maiden SCREAMS at something in the sky! Athena looks above to see KATINA'S STONE BODY falling to the ground.

ATHENA (CONT'D)
Katina?!

The body of Katina SHATTERS into several of chunks of stone as it hits the ground.

The FLAP of a wing is heard. Athena looks up to see Medusa soaring far off into the sky, away from the Palace.

EXT. HOLLOWAY VILLAGE - DAY

To the north of holloway begins a vast forest. Cutting through the quietness, is a constant THUD.

I/E. FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Artegus chops away at a massive tree. His beard is scruffier and his face, hardened. The mark of ATHENA is still visible on his neck. The mark of a traitor.

EXT. HOLLOWAY VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Artegus hauls a bundle of wood toward his hut. Andromeda comes out on the porch. She tries to help her father.

ANDROMEDA
Here. Let me help...

ARTEGUS
I've got it.

ANDROMEDA
You're about to drop...

ARTEGUS
I said I've got it!...

He mishandles the logs and they tumble the ground. Andromeda hurts for her heavyhearted father.

He picks up one of the heavier logs and THROWS it, releasing his frustration.

ARTEGUS
DAMNIT!
(then, to Andromeda)
I'm sorry.

ANDROMEDA
It's okay. Come. Dinner will be ready soon.

Andromeda, trying to stay strong for her father, holds his hand and walks him inside.

Artegus suddenly stops. He looks back towards the forest, sensing something. But sees nothing but the woods. They go inside.

I/E. FOREST - SAME TIME

We see a cloaked Medusa watching Artegus from the trees.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - COURTYARD - THAT NIGHT

A group of artists paint an entire side of a Palace wall. They depict legendary Greek gods and Titans who have been cursed.

-Atlas - the Titan who was cursed and confined to holding the sky on his shoulders.

-Prometheus - The Titan who stole fire from Zeus and was cursed by being bound to a rock while an eagle ate his liver every day, only to have it grow back to be eaten again the next day.

-Sisyphus - the king who was cursed to roll a huge boulder up a hill, only to watch it roll down again and again throughout eternity.

Athena oversees the creation of the mural with Altair perched on her shoulder. Plaxio enters.

ATHENA
General, Plaxio.

PLAXIO
My Goddess. It is an honor to be
back in your graces.

Plaxio looks to the mural.

ATHENA
(re: the mural)
Devoted to those souls who have
crossed the Gods. And the
punishments they have been doomed
to live with.
(turns to Plaxio)
The day draws near when we gods
will leave this earth and mortals
will walk alone. But the world
must stable enough to stand on its
own.

One of the artists begins to paint a head with several snakes coming out of its scalp.

ATHENA (CONT'D)
Leave us now.

They bow and exit, leaving Athena and Plaxio alone. As they exit, they pass Angelo. Angelo notices Plaxio speaking with the goddess Athena. He stops and listens.

ATHENA
She is still alive. And has
returned from exile. She is here.
In Athens.

PLAXIO
Medusa?

Angelo can't believe his ears.

PLAXIO (CONT'D)
Why would she return to Athens?

ATHENA
 To kill me.
 (a beat)
 No god can kill those that they
 curse. Which is why you are going
 to do it.

Plaxio smirks.

ATHENA (CONT'D)
 No one is to know of this. She
 dwells in the eastern forest. Hunt
 her down and kill her swiftly.

PLAXIO
 Yes, goddess.

Plaxio exits. Angelo emerges from the shadows.

EXT. ATHENS - MARKETPLACE - THE NEXT DAY

Artegus walks with Andromeda through the market in Holloway. They shop for fresh produce and meat.

Andromeda picks up a melon and holds it up to her father.

ANDROMEDA
 What about this one?

ARTEGUS
 The one next to it.

Andromeda grabs the other melon and hands it to her father. A few shops over, Andromeda notices the hooded Medusa, watching from the distance. Her face is hidden by a veil, which blows ever so slightly.

ANDROMEDA
 (softly)
 Father...

Artegus does not hear her as he speaks to Rodimus who is shopping as well. Andromeda slowly wanders towards the hooded figure. Medusa quickly turns and walks away.

Artegus turns back to see Andromeda gone.

ARTEGUS
 Andromeda?

His pace quickens as he grows more and more frantic. The old man from the Agora, Polydegmon, bumps into Artegus.

ARTEGUS

Excuse me. I am trying to find my daughter...

POLYDEGMON

Artegus, son of Agregos. Your daughter will soon die.

ARTEGUS

What did you say?

POLYDEGMON

You have unknowingly brought a great evil to this land and your daughter will suffer because of it.

Without hesitating, Artegus ferociously GRABS the old man by the cloak and yanks him closer.

ARTEGUS

What have you done with my...

Suddenly Artegus' hands begin to BURN from gripping the old man's cloak. Artegus quickly releases him and looks at his singed hands.

ARTEGUS

What form of demon are you?

Polydegmon chuckles.

POLYDEGMON

(whispering in his ear)

The cursed one grows stronger. The only way to save your daughter is to seek the blood of the cursed. You must face your greatest fear. Only then will your daughter be saved, and the transformation complete.

Artegus stares at the old man.

ARTEGUS

If you've harmed her in any way! I will kill you.

Polydegmon backs away calmly as if nothing happened. He takes a step to the side, and Andromeda is now clearly in view a few feet behind where the old man just was.

Artegus rushes over to his daughter. The old man disappears into the crowd.

ARTEGUS

Andromeda? Are you alright? Are you hurt?

ANDROMEDA

There was a woman...

ARTEGUS

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!

ANDROMEDA

(snaps out of it)

Yes. Yes, father.

ARTEGUS

What have I told you about wandering off like that? Never do that again!

ANDROMEDA

I'm sorry. I was just...

ARTEGUS

I don't care what you were doing. Don't let it happen again. We are leaving.

Andromeda is on the brink of tears. They start to leave the market when Andromeda turns back.

ANDROMEDA

(remembering)

Our melon...

She goes back to pick up the forgotten fruit. As she grabs it, a red SCORPION crawls out from beneath. It STINGS Andromeda's wrist.

ANDROMEDA (CONT'D)

Owwwww!

She immediately becomes dizzy, and soon falls to the ground. Artegus rushes over to her.

ARTEGUS

Andromeda! Andromeda. What's wrong? Wake up, sweetheart. Wake up!

(looks around)

SOMEONE HELP ME!

Rodimus runs to help. He feels her neck and examines her body, trying to diagnose her sudden illness.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)
Rodimus! What's wrong with her.

RODIMUS
She's been poisoned. Bitten.

Rodimus turns and looks around. He spots the RED SCORPION which quickly bursts into a small flame. It is gone. Rodimus' eyes open wide. He looks to Artegus.

RODIMUS (CONT'D)
Something wicked is at work here.
We must get her home. Quickly. I
have medicine.

Artegus lifts her up. They quickly carry her towards the village.

EXT. FOREST - A LITTLE LATER

Plaxio, Homer, Angelo and Theron search for Medusa. Homer notices a blood stain on a nearby tree. He rubs his finger on it, then licks it.

ANGELO
That's disgusting.

HOMER
I think we're heading in circles.

ANGELO
You're the tracker. You should
know these woods more than anyone.

HOMER
Something's different now.

ANGELO
The village of Holloway is not far.
Maybe some of the villagers there
have seen the Gorgon.

Plaxio thinks it over. He looks at Homer who, seems lost.

PLAXIO
Perhaps.

EXT. ARTEGUS' HOME - EVENING

The sun begins to set. Artegus paces, nervously. Rodimus emerges from the home.

ARTEGUS

How is she?

RODIMUS

I have tried every form of medicine. That is all I can do to slow the poison. I've never seen an illness like this.

ARTEGUS

(a beat)

There was an old man in the market.

(looks at his hands)

He told me this would happen. He spoke of the cursed one. And that only the blood of the cursed would save her. His voice keeps repeating in my head. I try to make sense of it but...

There is a commotion at the entrance of the village.

Plaxio and his men enter Holloway. Homer questions the villagers while children stare at Theron's face. Other parents quickly grab their kids and take them inside.

Artegus sees Plaxio and is immediately angered. Artegus starts his way, but Rodimus stops him.

RODIMUS

Don't do it. You have more important things to worry about.

They watch as Plaxio and Theron enter the local tavern to question villagers.

After a moment, Angelo approaches Artegus and Rodimus on his horse.

ANGELO

Artegus.

ARTEGUS

What is he doing here? How can you serve him? After what he's done?

ANGELO

I am a servant of Athens, Artegus. You know this better than anyone.

Artegus turns to walk away.

ANGELO (CONT'D)
She is still alive, Artegus.
(a beat)
Medusa.

Artegus slowly turns. Shocked.

ARTEGUS
What did you say?

ANGELO
Things are not what they seem,
Artegus.

ARTEGUS
Medusa...she is alive? How can
this be? I looked everywhere...

ANGELO
She was cursed by Athena. Turned
into this... monster. I'm afraid
she is not the Medusa you remember.
She killed Katina and dozens of
Palace Guards and citizens alike.
Turned them to solid stone just by
looking at them. By orders of
Athena, we have been ordered to
track her down and kill her.
(a beat)
I'm sorry, Artegus.

INT. TAVERN - SAME

Plaxio and Theron enter the local pub. Conversations
immediately diminish as the general orders an ale.

PLAXIO
(to the villagers)
We are here on official orders from
Athena, Goddess of Wisdom and War.
We are looking for the creature
that attacked the palace yesterday.
If you have any information of her
whereabouts...speak now.

The room is silent. Suddenly the door swings open revealing
a figure in a dark robe. The figure proceeds towards Plaxio.
Theron reaches for his sword, however, the figure removes his
hood, revealing the old man, POLYDEGMON. Plaxio nods to
Theron to lower his guard.

POLYDEGMON
 Pardon me, General, could I bother
 you for a coin piece?

Plaxio stares at this odd, old man.

POLYDEGMON (CONT'D)
 I have only one, and I would like a
 cold ale. I have been traveling
 for many moons.

Plaxio nods to Theron, who tosses the man another coin.

POLYDEGMON (CONT'D)
 Thank you, kindly. Now I have
 two...

He holds them up, covering his eyes.

POLYDEGMON (CONT'D)
 One for each eye.

He chuckles.

PLAXIO
 You have your change, old man, now
 leave us be. Before I grow angry.

POLYDEGMON
 As you wish, General. You should
 save your strength for the
 creature.

PLAXIO
 What do you know of the creature?

POLYDEGMON
 It is what you seek, is it not? I
 know where it dwells. I can show
 you the way.

INT. ARTEGUS' HOME - CONTINUOUS

Arcee hovers over Andromeda, who falls in and out of consciousness. Artegus sits in a chair, blankly staring at her. Angelo and Rodimus hover over him.

RODIMUS
 Perhaps this is the only way,
 Artegus. Her cursed blood may be
 the only cure.

A beat.

ARTEGUS

My daughter is poisoned. You now tell me that Medusa is still alive, but now a monster, terrorizing Athens. And the only way to save my daughter is to kill the one I love? Is that it?

ANGELO

If we...
(a beat)
If there is any blood, I will bring it to you. I promise you.

No response.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

I cannot imagine how difficult this must be. But I felt you deserved to know the truth.

Artegus slowly nods. Angelo looks to the window. He sees Plaxio and the others mounting their horses.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

I must go.
(a beat)
What will you do.

Artegus stands and hugs his friend.

ARTEGUS

Please be careful, old friend.

Artegus turns and walks to Andromeda. Angelo wants to say something, but doesn't. He leaves.

A beat. Artegus slowly pats his daughters forehead. He whispers.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)

Wake up Andromeda. I need to take you with me. I'm going to make you all better. I promise.

Artegus wakes Andromeda. He picks her up and carries her towards the door. She is weak, but responds.

ANDROMEDA

Where are we going Father?

ARTEGUS
A dark place, of last resort.

EXT. ARTEGUS' HOME - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT

Artegus carries Andromeda outside. He looks to the entrance of the village where Plaxio, Angelo, Theron and Homer ride off on their horses. The old man rides with Homer.

Artegus walks to the other side of his home. His horse waits inside a small stable. He places Andromeda atop the horse. Rodimus and Arcee come outside.

RODIMUS
You're going, aren't you?

ARTEGUS
I have to, Rodimus. I have to save her.

RODIMUS
Which one?

A beat. Artegus mounts his horse without answering. Rodimus realizes that Artegus has no sword.

RODIMUS (CONT'D)
You do not have your sword.

ARTEGUS
If it truly is Medusa, then I do not need a sword.

Artegus pauses. He looks to Andromeda.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)
I have to do this.

Artegus guides his horse towards the eastern forest, following at a far distance behind Plaxio, Angelo, Theron and Homer.

EXT. EASTERN FOREST - NIGHT

Homer, riding with the old man, leads the way down a hill and into the forest. Plaxio, Theron, and Angelo, follow.

After a full evening of travel, Plaxio and the others reach a small opening in the trees.

HOMER

What is your name, old man?

OLD MAN

I have been called many things in
my lifetime. But you can call
me... Polydegmon.

Theron whispers to Plaxio.

THERON

I do not trust him.

PLAXIO

You only have to deal with him a
little longer. He will lead us to
the creature, and that will be the
last thing he ever does.

Homer stops. The temperature is noticeably colder now.
Their breath mists in front of their faces.

ANGELO

What is it?

HOMER

This is the first stretch where I
can see or hear nothing.

(a beat)

No birds, animals, insects.
Nothing. Where have you brought
us?

POLYDEGMON

Not much further.

Ahead in their path is a large bear that has been turned to
stone. They pass the lifeless animal.

POLYDEGMON (CONT'D)

We are here.

As they draw nearer, the amount of lifeless stoned beasts
increases. The temperature is incredibly colder. Ahead is a
large cave opening at the foot of a mountainside.

POLYDEGMON (cont'd) (CONT'D)

There it is.

Polydegmon points to a dark opening in the mountain.

PLAXIO

Dismount.

The men dismount their horses and tie them up along the trees. They walk to the opening, weaving their way between the plethora of deceased animals.

The opening to the cave sits atop a hill, connected to the roots of the mountain. Two tall decaying statues of men support the opening. Both statues have tormented expressions and their hands claw at their faces.

The old man stops and allows the soldiers to pass him.

POLYDEGMON

Ahead lies your destiny, General.

I will go no further.

(a beat)

I suppose you will need these more than I.

The old man tosses the two coins from earlier back at the general. They land in the grass near Plaxio's feet.

PLAXIO

You are correct. Because now that you have fulfilled your purpose, there is really no need for you to exist...

He turns, SLINGING a knife at the old man. But it finds nothing but the bark of a tree. The old man is GONE! The other men turn and look for him but he is nowhere to be found.

HOMER

Where...?

ANGELO

Never mind him. We must move on.

PLAXIO

I WILL BE BACK FOR YOU, OLD MAN.
DO YOU HEAR? NO ONE TAUNTS ME!!

Plaxio lights a long torch in one hand and draws his sword in the other. He turns to his men.

PLAXIO (cont'd) (CONT'D)

When we find her. Remember, the kill is mine.

The men enter the cave. In the forest, HADES' sinister laugh is heard once again.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - DARKNESS

The cave is a dark, hollow, wicked place. The cave begins as a short narrow tunnel and then opens up into a round dome. A small fire throbs in a metallic bowl in the center of this room.

They each light a torch of their own. Homer notices an inscription carved crudely into the rocks.

ANGELO
What does it say?

HOMER
(reading)
Only...the cursed...shall pass.

The men arise out of the tunnel into another room. A fork in the darkness divides the cave into four different passageways.

PLAXIO
Each of us will take a path. If you reach her first, signal for backup.

The men look at each other before they embark on their paths. This will be the last time they see each other alive.

Our POV switches back and forth from each warrior. QUICK SHOTS as the men, swords unsheathed, search the cave for Medusa. But they find nothing.

Homer is startled as he bumps into something. He quickly waves his torch to reveal a tormented STATUE. What was once a man, is now nothing but stone. He quickly exits the room, only to bump into Angelo.

ANGELO
Anything?

HOMER
(shaking his head)
Nothing alive at least...

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Artegus arrives to the clearing that Plaxio and his men stopped at, moments earlier. He notices the drop in temperature.

He guides Andromeda and his horse to another area, back further from the cave. Keeping her far enough away from any danger. He whispers to her.

ARTEGUS

Andromeda. We're here. Under no circumstances are you to leave this horse.

(a beat)

I love you. Just hang on a little longer. I'll be back. I promise.

He kisses Andromeda on the forehead and re-situates her so she's comfortable. He looks to the cave's entrance.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

Inside the cave, Plaxio discovers Medusa's chamber. It is large with columns supporting the cave throughout the room. Torches are lit throughout the room, making it much brighter than the rest of the cave.

Still, no sign of Medusa. Plaxio has had enough.

PLAXIO

(Shouting)

Come forth Gorgon! I know you are here! I can smell your fear.

No response. Just a constant drip of water, a chilly breeze, and Plaxio's echoing voice.

PLAXIO (CONT'D)

Afraid to face me, MEDUSA?

(a beat)

Yes, I know who you are, Libyan. Or who you were. You are an abashment. Abandoned by those you thought loved you. Your sisters. Artegus.

QUICK SHOTS: Angelo, Theron and Homer have all paused in their separate paths. Listening for a response.

PLAXIO (CONT'D)

You are a coward. Just as Artegus was.

Suddenly the air appears to be sucked out of the cave. An eerie silence fills the cave.

He reaches into his vest and reveals MEDUSA'S NECKLACE, having taken it from Artegus.

PLAXIO (CONT'D)

(prodding)

You hold on to an idea that is no longer possible. Artegus is dead, Medusa! And this pathetic necklace of yours is all that is left of him. Come out, so you may join him in Hades.

THEN, out of the darkness... There is a deep inhale followed by a shrieking SCREAM! It BELLOWS throughout the cave.

EXT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - SAME

Even outside the cave, Artegus hears the horrid shriek.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - CONTINUOUS

SUDDENLY, the cave is filled with the sounds of movement. The wind has picked up and the temperature drops more and more. The sounds draw closer, booming louder and louder.

Plaxio's armor begins to glow.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - PATH OF HOMER - DARKNESS

Homer waves his torch in every direction. Trying to get a grasp on the impending sounds.

A quiet SLITHERING noise startles him.

Homer turns around. He raises his torch high in the air, but sees nothing. The SOUND returns, however he still cannot place it.

HOMER

I hate snakes.

Then, a snake lowers itself down from behind Homer. It sniffs him with its serpent tongue.

Homer quickly turns around and seizes the snake! He pulls his torch towards the snake.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Got you, you little...

Suddenly the snake draws unnatural strength from its source and pulls itself back up, raising Homer off of his feet. Homer SCREAMS as he is pulled above.

Above, his torch reveals MEDUSA, clinging to cave's ceiling. The snake emanating from her head. The other snakes quickly rise to the attention of Homer. They all LUNGE towards him, DIGGING into his flesh!

We hear Homer's final scream as it echoes throughout the different corridors of the cave.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - PATH OF THERON - DARKNESS

Homer's scream makes its way into the path of Theron. Theron turns around as a gust of wind accompanies the sound.

THERON

Homer?

Theron quickly retraces his path back to the source of the scream. He follows the path to the same chamber. Homer's torch rolls to a stop at Theron's feet.

He walks further into the chamber. He shines his light across the entire room. There is blood splattered all over the walls of the cave.

He turns to discover a statue staring directly at him. This startles him and he almost strikes it with his sword. He leans closer to the statue... revealing that it is Homer, or what is left of him. Chunks of flesh have been gouged from his face. He misses an arm as well. Theron's torchlight reveals dozens of statues of warriors from the past.

He lodges his torch in the wall to free his other hand. Theron removes his mask, revealing the other half of his disfigured face. He then removes his armor and draws another sword.

THERON (CONT'D)

I sense your presence, foul beast.

A HISSING sound echoes off the walls. He stays close to the flame, rotating slowly to cover all angles. Nothing.

Silence. After a moment, a demonic voice whispers out over him.

MEDUSA (O.S.)

I see your future... It ends now.

From above, we see Medusa crawling along the ceiling above Theron. She lunges down on him as he swipes at her with his sword, barely missing.

Medusa lunges at Theron giving him a quick glance of her eyes! Theron, however manages to kick Medusa, knocking her back into the shadows. He looks around, waiting for the creature to return.

He begins coughing.

THERON

I am not like the others, you will
not slay me as easily.

Her voice speaks from the darkness.

MEDUSA

You are just like the others. No
different.

Theron pinpoints the Gorgon and attempts to move forward, however his FEET have turned to STONE. He looks down with the torch as they slowly begin to solidify. The curse slowly makes its way up his body.

Furious, he refuses to give up. He tries to move forward causing his leg to BREAK AWAY from his foot. He GROWLS in pain. He continues forward and breaks away his other leg as well. This causes him to collapse to the ground. He looks up. Medusa stands in front of him.

A light emerges from the far corner. It is Angelo, running into the room.

ANGELO

Theron...is that you?

He shines his light towards the center of the room, where the lifeless body of Theron lies. Medusa kneels over him.

Snakes WHIP VIOLENTLY from the back of her head. She stands up and turns towards Angelo. Angelo immediately turns and runs in the opposite direction.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

PLAXIO! SHE'S HERE. SHE'S COMING!

Medusa chases Angelo down yet another corridor lit with torches. She is abnormally fast, crawling along the walls. Just as she is within striking distance, Angelo FALLS DOWN a secret passageway within the ground. He tumbles down hitting the ground below.

Medusa stands at the top of the passageway. Her face is still obscured from our view. We hear Plaxio cry out from far off screen.

PLAXIO (O.S.)
ANGELO? WHERE ARE YOU?

Medusa turns towards Plaxio's voice.

INT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - PATH OF PLAXIO - CONTINUOUS

We return to Plaxio, who stands waiting. He clutches the eagle headed handle of his sword.

PLAXIO
ANGELO!

Plaxio drops his torch and arms himself with his shield. There is a constant shadow that moves, just beyond the candlelight.

A loud SHRIEK is heard as Medusa DIVES at Plaxio from the shadows. Plaxio's armor pulsates as it senses the danger. He jumps out of the way and counters with a swipe at Medusa, barely missing her. Medusa SCREAMS in anger and backhands Plaxio, sending him hurling into the cave's wall.

Her wrath is out of control! She charges at him with shrieking rage. Plaxio is able to rise to his feet and dodge her attack.

He strikes again, this time slicing her arm. She steps back into the shadows in pain.

PLAXIO (CONT'D)
Your emotions have the best of you.
I will enjoy killing you, almost as
much as I did him.

His armor glows, he knows where she is. He turns and swipes with his sword. This time, Medusa grabs his arm, stopping the sword only inches away from her face. With her other arm, she grabs Plaxio by the throat, lifting him off the ground. He drops his sword as he tries to pry himself free of her deathly grasp. The snakes under her hood slowly push her hood back to reveal her face. A WRATHFUL Medusa speaks as she slowly crushes his neck.

MEDUSA
I will destroy you, General. And
this world will crumble.

Plaxio tries NOT to look. Despite her Gorgon curse, there is still a part of her that is still irresistible to man.

MEDUSA (CONT'D)
Look at me. You know you want to.

Plaxio is intoxicated almost. Unable to fight it... Plaxio slowly begins to look. He is entranced.

PLAXIO
(weakly)
NOOOO!

Angelo arrives, but it is too late. He can do nothing.

As Plaxio stares into her beautiful, yet wicked eyes, he sees horrid FLASHES of death and screaming. Past and present as the eyes of Medusa destroy Plaxio's very soul.

A QUICK FLASH of a pre-cursed Medusa. Her eyes are shut. She is beautiful. But within seconds her hair burns into flames. Her eyes OPEN, revealing a dozen men and women. Their tormented souls scream, reaching for help.

BACK TO SCENE: Plaxio's eyes fill up with a grey liquid, quickly drying into STONE. The curse then spreads like a plague from his eyes outward towards the rest of his face. Soon his entire face is consumed, followed by his neck, and then down through the rest of his body.

Medusa snatches her necklace from his dying hand. Within seconds, where a man once knelt, now lays a lifeless statue of Plaxio.

Angelo catches a glimpse of Medusa's face and immediately begins to vomit. He turns and runs away, retracing the way he came.

As he runs, he develops a noticeable limp which slows his stride. His breath also begins to shorten, but he struggles on.

EXT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Artegus approaches the cave. Then suddenly, Angelo stumbles into the night. He is out of breath and limping badly.

ARTEGUS
Angelo!

Artegus runs to his friend who collapses in front of him. Angelo drops his sword as Artegus embraces him.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)

Angelo. You're hurt. Where?

ANGELO

(coughing)

It is too late...

Artegus looks to his body as it slowly turns to stone. By now, Angelo can hardly speak. His lips are solid and just before his entire body and face turn, he utters his last words.

ANGELO (CONT'D)

She's coming Artegus. She's...

(a beat)

Her eyes. Don't look into her eyes!

Angelo lets out one final breath as he succumbs to the curse. His body turns to stone in Artegus's arms. Artegus quickly backs off. He checks his hands and body, realizing that the curse does not spread.

He hears something from within the cave. Andromeda who watches from the distance. Her eyes open wide as something emerges into the night.

A hooded Medusa stands at the cave's entrance.

MEDUSA

Athena sends another soldier to die.

ARTEGUS

I am not here on behalf of Athena.
I seek the blood of the cursed one.

MEDUSA

You have found her.

ARTEGUS

Medusa.

(a beat)

Is...is that you?

Medusa raises her head slightly at the sound of his voice.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)

It is me. Artegus...

MEDUSA

Artegus?! NO. It cannot be. He killed you. ANOTHER TRICK OF THE GODS?!? SENT TO TAUNT ME!?!?

Medusa grows furious. But Artegus is shocked as he realizes that this truly is Medusa.

ARTEGUS

It is me, Medusa. And I know that it is you. Somehow...that is you. I...I can't believe it.

MEDUSA

YOU LIE! YOU ARE NOT ARTEGUS!!

ARTEGUS

Medusa! Listen to me. It is me, Artegus. Father of Andromeda. And she is sick and you are her only hope...

Her eyes PIERCE through her veil. The snakes begin to pull back her hood.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)

The eyes...

Medusa LUNGES into the air, wings fully extended. Artegus quickly pulls out a large knife as Medusa descending upon him!

Medusa descends on Artegus. He closes his eyes and thrusts his knife and STABS Medusa in the right side of her chest. She swats him with her powerful tail, sending him crashing into a tree. She howls in pain and stumbles backwards.

Medusa tries to pull the knife from her body but breaks the handle from the blade. She then pulls the blade out of her body and tosses it.

Artegus lay face down. Andromeda can only watch with wide eyes from behind a nearby tree. She grows anxious. She sees the blade that Artegus stabbed Medusa with only moments before. It lies on the ground only a few feet away, covered in the Gorgon's blood.

Medusa prepares to attack again.

MEDUSA

How dare you take *his* form! You will pay for this deception!

Her snakes prepare to feast. With the last of her strength, Andromeda leaps up from behind her and STABS Medusa in the back. Medusa SHRIEKS as the blade pierces through her skin.

ANDROMEDA
Father!!

Medusa turns and backhands Andromeda, knocking her to the ground. This abrupt action causes the bloody blade to SLICE Andromeda's hand wide open. Andromeda cries in pain.

His daughter's screams causes Artegus to regain consciousness.

ANGLE ON Andromeda's hand. The blood from Medusa merges with Andromeda's own and Medusa's blood enters Andromeda's body. The veins from Andromeda's neck begin to subdue. She already begins to heal.

Artegus runs and LEAPS on Medusa's back. Suddenly...Medusa crouches and then LAUNCHES them both into the sky!

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

With each powerful flap of her wings, she flies them both higher and higher into the sky.

Once they are high enough, Medusa decides to drop Artegus. She releases him, but he does not fall. He grabs a hold of her necklace!

From that, Artegus quickly grabs onto her legs. As he secures his grip, the necklace breaks free and falls to the Earth below.

We FOLLOW the necklace as it lands, sticking in the ground next to a frightened Andromeda.

BACK TO the action in the air. Artegus draws another knife, STABBING through Medusa's right wing. She HISSES in pain as the two begin to lose altitude. He climbs higher onto her back, forcing her other wing to succumb. With that, the two begin to FREE FALL towards the ground below.

EXT. GROUND - CONTINUOUS

Andromeda, with necklace in hand, looks up at the air-born struggle, as they begin to fall with gaining momentum.

ANDROMEDA
FATHER!!!

EXT. SKY - CONTINUOUS

As they fall, the two battle with one another in the air, exchanging PUNCHES and STABS as they fall faster and faster to the ground.

Medusa is able to turn herself and fight Artegus face to face. He closes his eyes and at that moment, a vision flashes across the screen.

It is a VISION of memories past as her eyes PIERCE his soul. We see a vision of Artegus and Medusa in Libya. They kiss passionately in secret.

Back to the battle. The two continue to fight in the air. Her snake hair snaps at Artegus!

Another VISION. Medusa and Artegus laugh as they watch Andromeda play with a group of her friends.

Back to the battle. Medusa is able to break one wing free and slow their decent, but only mildly. Artegus struggles to the top of Medusa as they free fall.

Another VISION flashes. Medusa dances with Artegus in Holloway. Another VISION shows the two of them kissing, unclothed on the floor of Artegus' home.

In the air, Artegus' eyes open and he has no other choice but to look directly into Medusa's eyes. We cut to another VISION.

This time, we are surrounded by a faint white glow. Heaven-like. Medusa and Artegus are both human and unscathed. Naked and pure. They stand looking at each other. Finally, they realize the unimaginable; that they stare into the eyes of the one they ONCE loved. The one they will always love.

This vision slowly fades and we are brought back to reality as Artegus and Medusa still realize who the other is. They end their struggle and let gravity take them towards the earth. A moment of peace.

Medusa's cave is directly beneath them now. Her wing still manages to slow their fall, but not enough...

Time slows. Only the winds are heard as Artegus and Medusa CRASH through the cave's ceiling.

EXT. CAVE - NIGHT

Andromeda is in shock. She watches from outside the cave as the dust settles. Something moves in the rubble.

She backs up, in fear of the creature but to her surprise, it is her father. Artegus stumbles out of the cave, barely alive and covered in dust. He stumbles towards Andromeda. He drops to his knees.

ANDROMEDA

Father! I thought you were dead.
We must hurry home...

ARTEGUS

...Andromeda...there is not much time.

As Andromeda hugs her father, she realizes his body begins to get cold and stiff. His arms are beginning to slowly turn to stone. She looks up to his face, as he is already well aware of what is transpiring. He looks up to her, and forces a smile.

ARTEGUS (cont'd)

It is alright Andromeda.
Everything will be alright.
(a beat)
Go...you must go...now.

ANDROMEDA

Father, please... I...

ARTEGUS

(weakened)

Go, Andromeda. Have no fear. I will always watch over you. I love you. I always have.

ANDROMEDA

I love you, father.

Andromeda hears another noise from the cave. She tearfully stands up and runs back to her horse, hidden in the trees.

Medusa emerges from the cave. She is battered and bruised, but already she begins to heal. She slowly walks towards Artegus.

She leans over her former love. She watches him, regretfully knowing she cannot avoid the inevitable.

MEDUSA
(softly)
Artegus...

ARTEGUS
It's okay. I understand now.
(a beat)
I always knew you were alive...

MEDUSA
...I love you.

ARTEGUS
We will be together again...

Then, Artegus' eyes fill up with the grey liquid that will eventually spread through his body.

ARTEGUS (CONT'D)
I love...

Our POV pushes INSIDE his body. We watch as the curse turns his organs, bones, and all other bodily fluids to stone. The last thing to go is his heart. His heart slows its beating as it succumbs to the curse as well. Finally, it stops beating and is completely stone. With one final pump of his heart, it produces a small crack in the stone. We move out of his body to see his face breathe its last and final breath.

Artegus is gone.

Medusa looks to the sky and SCREAMS. She then takes to the sky!

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - SAME TIME

Medusa's scream travels all the way to Athens. Altair swoops down to Athena's shoulder, who is alarmed.

EXT. FOREST - SAME TIME

Andromeda, now healed, races through the forest on her Father's horse. She races towards Holloway.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - COURTYARD - A LITTLE LATER

Palace Guards patrol the entrance to the palace. Suddenly, Medusa lands on the grounds in front of the Parthenon. Palace Guards immediately engage.

PALACE GUARD
You! Identify yourself at once!

MEDUSA
(loud whisper)
MEDUSA!

She smashes through them, sending a few of them CRASHING into the doors of the Palace. More soldiers attack.

ANOTHER PALACE GUARD
ATTACK!

Medusa closes her eyes for a moment. When she opens them, concentrated beams shoot from her eyes. The beams strike the men immediately, turning them to stone. She marches on, crushing any statue in her way. A second blast to the now lifeless statues destroys them.

Soldiers from all sides of the palace converge on her. Medusa centers herself near the fountain. Soldiers continue to attack, but to no avail. Most are BLASTED to stone and dust by her cursed vision. Others are clawed and hurled through the air.

SUDDENLY, a gust of wind forms into a cyclone and engulfs Medusa. She is trapped.

ATHENA (O.S.)
THAT IS ENOUGH, MEDUSA!!

Medusa looks around but the constant winds dwarfs her perspective.

EXT. ATHENA'S BALCONY - SAME

Athena stands on her balcony, controlling the cyclone with her hands.

ATHENA
YOU HAVE CHALLENGED ME FOR THE LAST
TIME! YOU MUST BE DESTROYED!

MEDUSA
Destroy me? YOU CREATED ME!

ATHENA
SILENCE! Your reign of terror has come to an end.

EXT. COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

The spiraling walls of the cyclone begin closing in on Medusa. She screams in wrath and channels even MORE POWER from within. She BLASTS her cursed beam at the fountain below.

ATHENA
THE FOUNTAIN! NO!!

Athena loses concentration for a slight moment, and Medusa breaks THROUGH the engulfing winds. The cyclone spirals out of control and travels through a group of soldiers before Athena can stop it.

MEDUSA
I SHALL HAVE MY REVENGE!

Medusa soars into the sky. Athena raises her arm as a BLAST of WHITE ENERGY shoots out from her palm. The blast ZAPS Medusa from the sky. She crashes into the woods just outside of the city.

ATHENA
I will put an end to this once and for all!

EXT. FOREST - A LITTLE LATER

Medusa CRASHES into the ground. As she collects herself, the winds suddenly begin to pick up.

ATHENA (O.S.)
You are powerful. But not nearly as powerful as I.

Medusa turns to find ATHENA standing through a gathering of trees. Athena's eyes start to glow and the winds gain speed. The TREES start to BOW outward, making a tunnel towards Medusa. They continue to curve until a clear path forms between the two rivals.

The winds force Medusa backwards. She digs her claws into a nearby tree as not to blow away.

Then, a single tree RIPS itself from the ground, followed by another. And another. Athena motions towards Medusa and the trees are hurled through the air at the Gorgon. Medusa gracefully dodges the attacks.

Athena continues to hurl trees towards Medusa. Medusa tries to fly to the sky but the winds are too strong. She falls on her back. A large tree descends upon her. Medusa closes her eyes....

SUDDENLY the tree BURSTS into flames and disintegrates into ash.

The two women turn to discover LORD HADES. He steps in front of Medusa.

HADES

There will be no more of that,
Athena. She belongs to me now...

ATHENA

Stand aside, Lord Hades. This is
none of your concern.

HADES

Oh, but it is. I've got plans for
this one. And if you desire her,
you will have to get through me.

The body of Hades begins to glow with fire. Soon his entire body is engulfed in flames. Medusa backpedals to escape the heat.

The flames from Hades move with life. Like a living serpent of fire it grows larger and larger. The flames begin to spread to the surrounding trees, igniting them.

ATHENA

I will NOT back down from you!

A light emerges from her two hands. Her SWORD and SHIELD form from the light.

HADES

You should.

Athena's entire body glows as a cyclone of wind forms around her.

Hades HURLS powerful balls of fire towards Athena, who blocks them with her shield. She stumbles with each powerful block. The deflected flames ignite the forest behind her.

Athena directs her winds towards Hades, slowly suffocating his flames. With a nod of her head, Athena rips several trees out of the ground and SLAMS them down atop Hades. Medusa watches from behind a rock.

Then, in a FIERY EXPLOSION, Hades frees himself. The explosion sends out a fiery SHOCK WAVE which travels throughout Athens. Athena is knocked back, causing her sword to fly out of her hands, landing near Medusa.

She crashes and lands roughly thirty feet away. She looks to Hades, fatigued. Hades looks to her, wanting more. Medusa looks to Athena, and then to the glowing sword that lies within reach. The moment is still. Quiet.

Athena CHARGES at Hades and Hades at her! Medusa leaps up, ripping the sword from the ground. She HURLS it at Athena! The entire scene SLOWS to a crawl as the two Gods draw closer to one another. The same goes for the sword, aimed directly at Athena. The three come within a couple feet of each other before a faint cracking surge of WHITE LIGHT appears between them. The white light branches out like a root more and more until it is revealed to be BOLT OF LIGHTNING!

Resuming full speed, the bolt of lighting CRASHES DOWN electrocuting the two Gods as well as the sword. The sword deflects into the ground while Hades is sent tumbling backwards, slamming into a massive boulder. Athena is thrown back as well, however the bolt mysteriously seems to place her gently onto the ground.

A massive CLASH of thunder echoes throughout the land. All goes quiet. The call of a lone EAGLE is heard from above. The three stop and look to the sky to see a massive eagle descend from the clouds as LIGHTNING crashes all around it. The entire countryside sees this lightning. It is like no other ever to come before or after.

Medusa escapes during the commotion.

Meanwhile the eagle descends closer to the ground. It is then STRUCK by a bolt of lighting! The flash of light is blinding. It then fades to reveal a BEHEMOTH man. He has broad shoulders with a thick long beard. He is ZEUS. Supreme ruler of both gods and men.

ATHENA
Father...

ZEUS
That is enough from the BOTH of you.

HADES
You expect me to listen to...

ZEUS
(cutting him off)
I EXPECT YOU TO OBEY!
(a beat)
Your involvement in this matter
troubles me.

HADES
Medusa will be mine. And even you
brother, with all your great power,
can do nothing to stop it.

Within an instant, Hades combusts into a flame and disappears into the ground. Zeus SLAMS his fist into the earth, but it too late. Hades is gone. He turns to Athena.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
The powers granted to you are not
to be used selfishly and
carelessly. We are not here to
interfere with what destiny has in
store. As gods, we are to oversee
the world. Not change it.

ATHENA
Father, I...

ZEUS
You have created a problem that you
can no longer control. Mortals
must now deal with the monster you
have unleashed upon them. Men will
answer the call. They will bring
an end to this problem.

Zeus VANISHES into a bright white light. Just as he does, a group of rugged men arrive through the trees

One man emerges. He rides a jet black horse, radiant as it is powerful. The man who rides the beautiful steed is strong and handsome, with DEEP BLUE eyes. We have seen him before. The man from Medusa's nightmare. He is PERSEUS.

PERSEUS
Lady Athena. I bring greetings
from King Polydectes. He has sent
me here to serve you.
(a beat)
I am Perseus. I fight for Athens.

EXT. CRETE CAMP - NIGHT

A DARK presence makes its way through the quiet camp of Crete. Most of the warriors are asleep. We travel through the camp to an underground prison.

INT. UNDERGROUND PRISON - NIGHT

Moonlight shines through small vents from above. The subtle light reveals a large prison cell. It is heavily bound by thick steel bars. INSIDE, the Minotaur is chained up.

Two guards stand to the right of the cage. A NOISE is heard from the dark corner of the prison. The guards immediately turn to the sound.

GUARD #1 (cont'd)
Is someone there?

Out of the darkness, two deadly snakes FLY through the air, immediately latching onto the guards, BITING and CHOKING them. They fall to the ground.

A cloaked Medusa emerges from the shadows. She walks past the men and towards the cell, pausing to pick up a set of keys from one of the fallen guards. She stops in front of the cell and the two snakes slither up Medusa's cloak and back onto her scalp, rejoining the rest of the snakes.

She turns the key, unlocking the first phase of the cage. A lever lying beyond that, opens the cage more. She uses her strength to turn it completely. The massive steel bars slowly rise up, allowing access to the beast.

She enters. Another level releases the chains. She places her hand on it, but waits.

MEDUSA
I come here tonight to summon your
help.

Medusa's eyes change to GREEN. The Minotaur stares into her eyes, yet does not turn into stone. Its eyes take on the color of Medusa's. The crystals in his nose ring pulsate.

MEDUSA
The gods must pay for what they
have done to us. There is talk of
a power. A power that can kill the
very Gods themselves.
(MORE)

MEDUSA(cont'd)

And I believe you hold the key to
that power.

CLOSE UP on the ancient SYMBOLS within his nose-ring.

EXT. CRETE CAMP - MOMENTS LATER

The Greek guards sleep in their quarters. One slowly awakens only to see the Minotaur's large WAR HAMMER smashing down on him.

EXT. ISLAND OF CRETE / CAVE - LATER

The Minotaur leads Medusa into a massive cave hidden within the side of a volcanic summit on the island.

INT. ISLAND OF CRETE / CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Medusa follows The Minotaur down an extremely long winding staircase built into the rocks. They travel deeper and deeper into the cave.

INT. ISLAND OF CRETE / GLOWING CAVE - CONTINUOUS

They enter a section of the cave that radiates with a blue glow. The walls are littered with tiny fragments of blue crystals lodged into the rock. The same substance that is in The Minotaur's nose ring.

Towards the middle of the wall, a larger piece of this crystal is lodged deep within the wall.

Medusa leans into it. Under her hood, her eyes sparkle as the reflection of the crystal flickers in her eyes.

MEDUSA
The body of Cronos...
(a beat)
Is mine.

EXT. GORGON ISLAND - SUNRISE

Euryale and Stheno, both cloaked, fly and land at their sanctuary. A small island, just east of Athens.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

The two sisters enter. Euryale stops. She senses someone.

EURYALE

(a beat)

I knew you would come.

MEDUSA (O.S.)

I need your help, sisters.

STHENO

Medusa?

EURYALE

Haven't you done enough? Leave us be.

Medusa emerges from the darkness.

MEDUSA

They... they made me kill him.
Artegus is dead because of me. You have been cursed because of me.

(a beat)

The only way I can make this right is by killing Athena. But I cannot do it alone.

STHENO

But we are not powerful enough to defeat Athena alone, Medusa.

MEDUSA

We will not be alone.

A figure moves towards the entrance. The Minotaur enters the cave. His eyes, still green.

MEDUSA (CONT'D)

Soon I will be so powerful, all of Athens will fall.

Medusa raises the crystal from the Minotaur's nose ring. And with that, the power to weaken the gods.

MEDUSA (CONT'D)

Will you join me?

EXT. MEDUSA'S CAVE - SUNRISE

Plaxio's lifeless statue has been dragged outside. The two coins from before have been placed over his eyes.

MEDUSA (V.O.)

In order to enter Hades, one must first be led. It is said no living soul can find its entrance. Only the dead can guide you.

A slender carrier DEMON approaches the body. He wears a black robe and carries walking stick. He takes out a small wooden flute and begins to play a dark melody. As he does this, the transparent soul of Plaxio RISES up from his deceased body.

MEDUSA (V.O.)

That is when I will make my move.

The demon hears something behind him. He turns and looks directly into the eyes of Medusa. The crystal from the Minotaur's nose ring now hangs around her neck. It GLOWS. The demon cannot move, or speak as he is under her spell.

Medusa's eyes beam rays of GREEN light at the demon's eyes.

MEDUSA

You will lead me to the gates of HADES.

Medusa turns to the soul of Plaxio, which calmly hovers in the background. She BLASTS it with rays from her eyes, causing it to disperse into the air, forever lost.

The demon plays his flute again. Suddenly, the ground begins to RUMBLE! The Earth cracks and breaks, opening a doorway built within the Earth. The demon slowly walks down the slope and towards the entrance. Medusa follows.

The ground covers up behind them.

INT. HADES - SAME

We follow the silhouette of Medusa as she is led through the darkness and out into a massive RED cavern of epic proportions.

She looks to the sky of fire, the endless caverns, and the river Styx. She has seen this before, the vision from Hades.

The demon turns to Medusa.

DEMON

This is as far as I go.

(pointing)

He will lead you in.

Medusa KICKS the demon into the river of lava. The demon quickly burns.

A small boat emerges from a dark section of the river Styx. A robed and hooded figure rows towards the shore. Although mostly covered by the robe, his body consists of twisted bones and rotten flesh. CHARON, the ferryman.

Charon comes to a stop. His head slightly nods upwards. He extends his skeleton-like hand, then speaks with a deep haunting whisper.

CHARON
(a beat)
...Toll please...

MEDUSA
I will pay no toll. My business is with Hades.

Medusa looks to Charon and BEAMS her cursed power directly into his hood. The beam blows back his hood. REVEALED is a horrific SKULL with horns. Charon's face is nothing but bone. No skin, no hair...no eyes.

Medusa's beam enters his decaying eye sockets, but has no affect. With this, Charon grins and laughs MANIACALLY!

CHARON
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!!

Medusa then tries to leap over the river but is quickly blown back by a powerful and unknown source. Her entire body is singed.

CHARON
TOLL PLEASE!

INT. RIVER STYX / HADES - MOMENTS LATER

CLOSE UP on Charon's skeleton hands as he juggles two gold COINS back and forth between his bony fingers.

Medusa sits hunched over at the bow. A dark mist has come over the river.

Tiny mysterious and beautiful orbs of light float through the air. They pulsate with energy. Oddly enough, this stretch of the journey is almost peaceful. Each orb appears to have its own soothing, innocent whisper as they float past Medusa. The souls of the dead. One particular orb hovers in front of her.

A QUICK FLASH reveals Artegus surrounded by a white background. He speaks.

ARTEGUS
Medusa.

In a flash, the vision is gone. The orb is left behind as the ferryman continues to row forward.

MEDUSA
Artegus?

The orb disappears in the mist. The boat docks and Medusa exits.

CHARON
From this point on, you may never leave.

MEDUSA
We shall see about that.

Medusa looks up to see a mountainous castle. Thousands of dead souls continue to work on the dark castle. Decaying men and women, and creatures work like slaves.

A small herd of MINOTAUR, each with a grotesque yet powerful carcass, stack boulders. Three GIANT CYCLOPES emerge from the shadows carrying large stone columns. Each standing over FIFTEEN FEET TALL and a SINGLE EYE protruding from the middle of their foreheads.

HADES (O.S.)
Is it everything you hoped it would be?

MEDUSA
...Hades.

He circles Medusa. Clapping.

HADES
You have come a long way. Never before has a living soul made it this deep into my realm.
(a beat)
And to think, the last time we spoke, you were weak and in despair. Now you are stronger than ever. All you needed was a little...push in the...

MEDUSA

You used me.

HADES

I guided you. You were a desolate
and weak martyr but look at what
you've become.

Medusa notices that all of the tortured souls and demons have stopped what they were doing to watch her. CERBERUS, the infamous three headed BEAST, emerges. It slowly moves towards Medusa and sniffs her.

MEDUSA

You've been behind this all along.
Why?!

HADES

Mortals pray to the gods, but not to the ones that can truly help them. A god like me. I can end all of their pointless suffering, yet they continue to praise Poseidon. Athena...Zeus. FOR WHAT?! Look at the power that I have shown you!

(a beat)

Soon my vision will be complete.

Cerberus moves to his masters' side. Hades pets the beast. The souls of the dead begin to form a circle around Medusa.

Hades laughs. Medusa then reveals the CRYSTAL from the Minotaur. Hades suddenly stops.

HADES

Where did you get that...?

Medusa steps towards Hades. He backs up. The legions of dead soldiers watch the two intensely.

MEDUSA (CONT'D)

What's wrong, my lord? Was this not part of your vision?

HADES

That power is centuries old. You will never learn to control it.

MEDUSA

Believe me, I do. And it would be best not to test me right now, Hades.

HADES

(a beat)

What do you want then?

MEDUSA

Them.

(she points to the legion
of the dead)

They will fight for me. And I will
burn Athens to the ground.

HADES

And if I choose not to give you my
army?

MEDUSA

Who said you had a choice?

With that, the crystal RADIATES with power. Blue energy
travels up Medusa's body and into her EYES. Medusa closes
them.

A beat.

When she opens them, an intense blue light engulfs the
screen. We hear Hades SCREAMS in pain.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HILL, JUST OUTSIDE ATHENS - DAY

A lone deer stands atop a green hill nearby Athens. A moment
of peace. Then...

The ground begins trembles. A skeleton hand BREAKS through
the ground.

The deer runs away as more and more horrific demon hands rip
through the dirt. The top of the hill then tears open. The
ARMY OF HADES emerges from the depths of the earth.

EXT. EAST ATHENS - CONTINUOUS

Near the entrance of Athens, people go about their normal
routine. Merchants handle their daily business. A group of
young soldiers walk through the city.

Suddenly, one of the soldiers feels the impending rumble in
the ground. He turns to see the evil armada advancing
towards the city in the distance.

YOUNG SOLDIER
My God...

He turns to the other soldiers, not yet aware of the attack.

YOUNG SOLDIER (cont'd)
SOUND THE ALARM! WE ARE UNDER
ATTACK!!

But everyone is in shock as they watch the approaching herd of bodies. The young soldier snaps out of it and rushes up to the large bell atop the unattended watchtower.

EXT. WATCHTOWER - CONTINUOUS

The young soldier hurries up the stairs.

EXT. EAST ATHENS - DAY - SAME TIME

One of the Cyclops rips a boulder from the ground with ease. He then HURLS it towards the watchtower.

EXT. WATCHTOWER - CONTINUOUS

The young soldier grabs the large hammer to ring the bell. Realizing this will be his death, he swings the hammer just as the large boulder tears through the tower and his body.

EXT. ATHENS - CONTINUOUS

His efforts were not in vain. The sounds of the bell ECHO through the kingdom, alerting Athens to the attack.

INT. ATHENA'S PALACE - CONTINUOUS

Athena is surrounded by senators and high ranking officials. She hears the sound of the bell. Athena rushes outside to the balcony.

EXT. ATHENA'S BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

She looks over her balcony. Far off in the distance, she is astonished to see Hades' army advancing on the city.

A senator looks through a telescopic device.

SENATOR

The army of Hades?! How can this be?!

ATHENA

(a beat)

It is not Hades.

EXT. EAST ATHENS - SAME

The Attack on Athens has begun.

The dark army BREAKS through the walls and towers along the entrance of the city, destroying any and everything in their path. Buildings collapse. Soldiers are FLUNG through the air like rag dolls while Athenian citizens flee.

The Athenian Army is not prepared for battle. The guards and soldiers who are stationed at the edge of the city, rush into battle but they are hopelessly outnumbered.

The demon soldiers make their way through the alleys and roads of the city.

EXT. ATHENA'S BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Athena turns to her Palace Guards.

ATHENA

Summon every warrior and have them defend the city. Do not let them reach the palace!

PALACE GUARD

Where is Lord Poseidon?

ATHENA

Worry not about Poseidon right now. Summon Perseus! We must defend Athens on our own.

BELOW, Athena's armada charges towards the battle at the entrance of Athens.

EXT. EAST ATHENS/BATTLE - DAY

Meanwhile, CADIUS, is stationed at the outskirts of the city. He stands with just a small fleet of troops at his disposal.

CADIUS
BAND TOGETHER! WE MUST DEFEND THE
CITY!!

SUDDENLY, the loud SHRIEKS of the GRIFFINS are heard.

The beasts SWOOP down from the sky, grabbing soldiers with their talons and lifting them off the ground. For those not instantly killed by their razor sharp claws, they are soon DROPPED from hundreds of feet in the air to their death.

Cadius fights diligently, killing beasts as they near his troops.

ARCHERS then arrive on the scene, and begin firing at the Griffins. They fire into the sky, able to push back the aerial attack.

CADIUS(cont'd) (CONT'D)
Yes! Push them back!

Their victory is only a temporary one, as one of the cyclops SLAMS through a nearby wall. With one SWIPE of its powerful arm, the front line of archers are knocked into a air.

The death toll mounts as the fighters try to hold back the attack.

Homes are burnt to the ground as the army of Hades forges towards the Acropolis.

EXT. HILLTOP - SAME

Atop a nearby hill overlooking the city, Medusa watches as the assault on Athens continues. Her sisters Euryale and Stheno stand by her side.

EURYALE
They are no match for your army,
Medusa.

STHENO
The city is yours for the taking.

Medusa pulls out the power of Cronos. It continues to radiate.

MEDUSA
Unlike Hades, I do not desire the city. I only care about Athena.

Just then, THE MINOTAUR emerges. It towers next to Medusa.

MEDUSA (CONT'D)

This is the day of reckoning. They will pay for what they've done to us. And with the power of the Titans...I will kill her.

The Minotaur ROARS and charges into battle. Medusa tucks the crystal into her robe. She and her two sisters spreads their wings and head into the battle.

EXT. ATHENS - ALLEYS - DAY

A mother runs through an alleyway with her infant child. She turns to see the demon soldiers running past the alley.

The mother closes her eyes and looks to the sky for prayer. She quickly discovers three demon soldiers CRAWLING over the top of the building and down the walls towards her and her baby!

One of the demons LEAPS down towards her! To her shock and surprise, a young boy shoves her out of the way!

YOUNG BOY

GO! GO!

The demons pursue them along the walls like a spider to its prey. They rush out of the alley and into the open, deserted market place. The young boy backs up, fearing the end, when SUDDENLY...

THE ATHENIAN ARMADA FINALLY REACHES THE MARKETPLACE!

Hundreds of soldiers begin pouring out from behind buildings and alleyways. The Athenian armada quickly disposes of the two demon soldiers and make their way to the battle.

EXT. BATTLE - CONTINUOUS

Cerberus feasts on soldiers as the demonic army continues to advance! Cadius continues to lead his troops against the onslaught.

CADIUS

They mustn't reach the Parthenon.
For Athens!

His soldiers nod and prepare for attack. They charge attempting to flank them. Suddenly, the three GORGON SISTERS swoop down from the sky.

Medusa lands and immediately begins fighting the Athenian warriors. As they rush her, she turns them to stone and maneuvers through her pursuers.

ATHENIAN SOLDIER
It is her. MEDUSA! COVER YOUR
EYES!!

EURYALE swoops in and GRABS a soldier with her claws, hoisting him off of the ground and flies him high into the sky.

A Cyclops has made it all the way to the palace and begins climbing the wall. A little further behind, a second Cyclops makes its way towards the Palace as well. The city of Athens is in FLAMES.

Then, the ground breaks. A host of HARPIES emerge from the fires of the underworld. Their scrawny bodies crawl out of the ground. They quickly spread their decaying wings and take flight.

MEDUSA
(to the Harpies)
Converge on the Palace!

The Harpies each grab a Demon-soldier by the shoulders and LIFTS them off of the ground. They fly upwards towards the higher levels of the Acropolis!

EXT. ATHENS - BALCONY - SAME TIME

The senators back pedal away from Athena as the army of Hades gets closer.

SENATOR
Lady Athena, the creatures are...

SUDDENLY sharp claws come out of nowhere and GRAB the senator. Blood GUSHES out as the claws LIFT him into the air.

The entire balcony finds itself under attack by a flock of Griffins.

Athena steps forward. Her EYES LIGHT with power. She extends her arm as powerful BEAMS of light BLASTS outward from her palm. The rays of light BURN the flying Griffins into smoldering ash!

One by One, she destroys the Griffins.

Perseus soon arrives with this rugged band of warriors. Athena turns to him.

ATHENA

Perseus. Your destiny awaits you.
I shall secure the Palace. Make
safe my city!

Perseus nods to his men. They exit the room, heading to the ground level. Perseus doesn't follow. Instead, he leaps up onto the ledge of the balcony. He looks down to the Cyclops, climbing the towering wall.

Perseus LEAPS overboard. He free falls past the many levels of the Parthenon towards the Cyclops. He GRABS onto the body of a Griffin soaring through the sky.

The Griffin wails as Perseus weighs it down. Slowing his fall, Perseus unsheathes his sword and flings himself onto the back of the Cyclops. He stabs it into the monsters back, then repels himself down the back of the Cyclops, carving his sword deeper into its flesh.

Perseus leaps onto the rocks of the Acropolis as the creature falls and CRASHES to the ground. The ground trembles with a large THUD. Perseus lands.

Perseus unsheathes his sword and swiftly destroys the winged beast. He then begins to dispose of several demons, followed by a decaying Centaur. He is fearless. He charges into battle

INT. PARTHENON - LOWER LEVEL - SAME

The harpies begin to drop the demons onto the palace balconies and windows. They demons crawl inside and attack from within. A Palace Guard destroys a demon with his sword. Suddenly, the guard feels a quake. He rushes to an open window only to find the massive hand of a Cyclops reaching in and grabbing him!

A disgusting CRUNCH is heard.

EXT. ATHENS - BATTLE - SAME

Medusa is in the middle of the war.

She stops for a moment, watching as her army burns its way through the great city. She hears the screams of innocent women and children.

She looks to see a woman PULLED away from her husband. They reach for one another but the demons show no mercy.

A fiery explosion consumes her view. Bodies continue to fall at the hands of her army.

The revenge in her eyes is replaced with remorse. Her head quickly swells with images of the violence. Athens will fall all because of her. She hears her own voice from the past within her head.

MEDUSA (V.O.)

(in her mind)

I want nothing to do with power / I
never deserved this fate / I just
want my life back! / Artegus!!!

She snaps out of it as she feels the EARTH TREMBLE! As does the rest of the battle. Everyone turns to see a massive TIDAL WAVE approaching the shores of the city.

EXT. ATHENA'S PALACE - BALCONY - SAME

Athena sends out a BLAST of wind, knocking a dozen demons from her balcony. She turns to see the impending wave heading towards her city.

This epic tidal wave crashes down on the shores and quickly POUNDS its way through the docks and past the beaches. The flooding water makes its way into the city where the battle lies.

EXT. ATHENS - BATTLE - SAME

The brave YOUNG BOY from before is about to be hit by the massive wave. Cadius quickly rushes in and grabs the boy, holding him before impact. But impact does not come. They look up to find the water miraculously flowing AROUND them.

The water flows around the Palace. The last remaining CYCLOPS clings onto the Palace walls as the wave approaches.

The massive flooding continues to head ONLY in the direction of the evil invaders. Hundreds of demon soldiers are WASHED AWAY by the water as it continues to avoid innocent civilians. The flooding even manages to target the buildings that have been set on fire.

The water does not stop until every single demon from the underworld has been washed off of its feet. Save for Stheno and Euryale who fly out of the way, avoiding the flood.

THEN...BURSTING through the ocean's surface POSEIDON leaps into the sky, eclipsing the sun and lands emphatically on the ground below!

EXT. ATHENA'S BALCONY - SAME

ATHENA

He came.

EXT. ATHENS - CONTINUOUS

Poseidon moves towards the City. The demons begin to regain their footing as Poseidon advances through them.

A large Centaur stands up with a chain weapon. Poseidon quickly RIPS the creature in half. He takes its chain and holds it against his legendary TRIDENT. The chain melts itself into the Trident, becoming one with it.

Poseidon HURLS his Trident into the air towards the Cyclops. It PUNCTURES the Giant's head. Poseidon then recalls his trident and HURLS the Cyclops in the air, away from the palace.

Poseidon looks up to see Athena. Suddenly Athena's eyes open wide. Before she can react Poseidon is RAMMED in the back by the powerful Minotaur. It's nose ring glows with power. Poseidon looks to his side, bleeding. He feels the blood, having never seen his own before. He looks to the Minotaur.

POSEIDON

Let's finish this.

The Minotaur surprises Poseidon with several powerful punches to the head. Each punch rattles Poseidon's entire body.

Medusa takes to the skies to join the fight.

Poseidon fights back. He retaliates with several powerful hits, sending the Minotaur crashing to the ground.

The Minotaur gets up and RAMS Poseidon, puncturing his godly skin once again. The two then lock together, neither showing an advantage. They are face to face.

MINOTAUR

I have been waiting for this day...

POSEIDON

You're an abomination. A mistake that I will now correct!

MINOTAUR

You cannot kill me. Your laws
forbid it, but you desire nothing
greater...

POSEIDON

There are other ways of ridding the
world of your stench...

Poseidon turns his arms into WATER and blasts the Minotaur
with the force of a rampaging river. This pushes him back
several feet.

Poseidon then WHIPS out his trident and SLAMS it into the
ground. A deep crevice begins to form under the Minotaur.
In this crevice, a complicated maze of twists and turns
quickly forms thousands of feet below the city. The Minotaur
falls down into this never ending labyrinth.

Poseidon looks down to the beast.

POSEIDON

Consider this curse broken.

MINOTAUR

(falling)

Noooo!

Poseidon then CLOSES the crevice into the Earth, locking The
Minotaur underground forever.

The Minotaur is gone. Poseidon slowly regains his composure.
In the distance, we see a hooded Medusa THROW something at
the god.

Poseidon stops. He can't move. He looks down and we see the
large jagged fragment of the CRYSTAL protruding from his
chest. He suddenly struggles to breath. Medusa approaches
the wounded god. She breathes heavily.

Poseidon's chest bleeds. Medusa looks down at the god and
directly into his eyes. Wounded from the crystal, Poseidon's
skin begins to turn to stone.

Poseidon falls to his knees as the virus consumes him.
Everyone watches, shocked.

Medusa's emotions come to a head. Anger, rage and
satisfaction. The god who raped her now dies before her
eyes.

She approaches the godly statue. She prepares to destroy the
statue with her powerful tail...

Suddenly a white light BLASTS her to the ground. She looks up to find Athena standing before her.

Medusa is wounded and no longer possesses the power of Cronos. Somehow, she gets up again.

Athena is slightly taken aback at the resolution of Medusa. There is no quit in the Libyan.

ATHENA

You should have stayed in exile.
None of would have happened.

MEDUSA

(weak)

I wanted none of this. You disgust me. I only desired love. Artegus. And you took that away from me.

An archer fires an arrow into Medusa's side. She falls to one knee. She pulls the arrow out and THROWS it at the archer. It lodges in his throat.

QUICK VISION of Artegus. Beautiful orbs surround him. He stands at the top of a hill. Peaceful. At rest. Waiting.

BACK TO SCENE

Another archer fires. Medusa's blocks it with her wing.

ATHENA

Enough people have died today,
Medusa.

MEDUSA

No. Not yet. You are still alive.

ATHENA

Are you so blinded by revenge that you do not see death staring at you? You cannot defeat me.

MEDUSA

You took my life away. You have to pay for what you've done. And I will spend my last breaths seeing that you do.

Although wounded, Medusa continues forward towards the god.

From the shadows, Perseus and two of his men approach. Perseus' hands are stained with blood. He stands next to Athena.

PERSEUS

It is her. She has come for you.

ATHENA

Kill her!

Two of Persus' men charge Medusa. She dodges some of the attacks but she is eventually cut by one of the swordsmen. Still, she fights back.

She is able to disarm one of the men and claws his throat. The other man makes the mistake of getting too close. Medusa pulls him close to her hood. Suddenly his body stiffens and he, too is taken by her curse. She tosses the stoned body aside.

She again sees tiny orbs of light in her vision. She whispers...

MEDUSA

(whisper)

Artegus...?

The last thing standing between Medusa and Athena is Perseus. He stands with his back to her, yet watching through the reflection his sword.

Medusa's only weapon are her legendary eyes. She chooses to leave her hood up, however.

A long beat.

Medusa SCREAMS and then CHARGES towards Athena. Athena's eyes grow wide. Perseus stands prepared.

She LEAPS at Athena, claws extended. Perseus times his jump and, in one swift move, swings his sword. Just before Medusa gets to the god, Perseus' sword lands on Medusa's neck.

The cut is clean and through. No blood. Perseus' swing was exact.

Medusa's body crumbles to the ground. Her head rolls to a stop at the feet of Athena. The once beautiful and radiant princess lies dead at the feet of Athena.

Every remaining demon from the underworld, alive or dead, BURSTS into ash and returns to the underworld of Hades.

Now, free of imminent danger, the Athenian soldiers breath sighs of relief.

I/E. HADES - SAME TIME

The souls of the dead pour into the dark realm of Hades.

Hundreds of souls gathered around the throne of Hades. The stoned body of the god begins to crack. The stone over his eyes breaks off, revealing his red FIERY eyes. Hades lives.

EXT. ATHENS - SAME TIME

The stoned body of Poseidon is also freed of Medusa's curse. He slowly regains his form. The jagged crystal falls from his chest. Perseus grabs it, removing it from the god's presence.

A lone butterfly trickles through the air. It flies in front of Medusa's lifeless eyes. A BEAM or power surprisingly blasts out from the eyes, turning the small insect to stone. The lifeless head of Medusa still retains its legendary power.

ATHENA

The great power from Libya. It was her all along.

(surveys the destruction)

But at what cost? Perhaps our time is nearing its end. Perhaps mankind is ready.

After a beat, she nods to Perseus.

With an entire city watching, Perseus carefully lifts up Medusa's head. Striking what will be a legendary pose for centuries to come.

THE FATES (V.O.)

And thus, the tragic life of Medusa had drawn to its end. Love led her. Fate found her. Revenge consumed her. And death, would now free her. For in the legend of Medusa, death is but yet another chapter.

We pull back from the destruction and into the white clouds. Then, two little white orbs fly through the air. They are inseparable as they dance and float their way into the sky.

Medusa and Artegus, together at last.

THE END