

SCENE III

Electra and Chorus

Enter CHORUS
Piu allegro 120
p
with Ped.

CHORUS *Strophe I*
 O sad Electra, child of a wretched

mother, Wherefore wilt thou flow with more For him, who through her treachery
 lamen - ta - tion ev - er - beguiled, Thy

father Agamemnón, by an evil death? May he who wrought this deed soon
 hand Was led to an un-time-ly

per-ish! If this be a law-ful prayer—

ELECTRA

1

O daughters of a noble line, Ye come to soothe woe. I see, I know: Your
me from my troublous

Andante $\text{♩} = 63$

p

love is not unrecognized of mine. But yet I will not seem as I for -

got, Or cease to mourn my hapless father's lot.

Oh, of all love Tha

p

without Ped.

ever you may move, This only boon I crave—Leave me alone to rave!

Piu allegro $\text{♩} = 120$

mf

rit

Antistrophe I

But never from the gulf of Death pass, Thy father canst thou raise by
whose threshold all must litanies or

p Moderato

groans, And boundless grief, in- Will on-ly wear thy pin-ing heart a-way And
dulged without restraint

bring thee no re-lief from all thy woe. Why yield-est thou to thy dis-tress

cresc.

ELECTRA Senseless were he who lost from slain! I love thy
thought A noble father, lamentably

Andante $\text{♩} = 68$

marc.

strain, Bewildered mourner, bird divinely taught, For

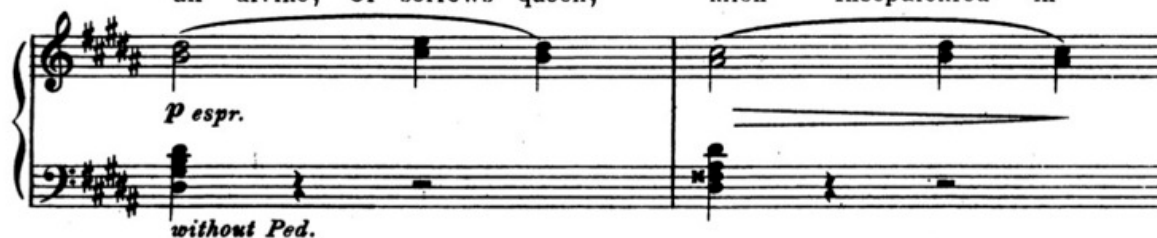


'Itys,' 'Itys,' ever heard to pine.



O Niobè, I hold thee
all divine, Of sorrows queen,

Who with all tearful
mien Insepulchred in



stone Makest unending moan.



CHORUS

Strophe II ♩ = 56

mf

Not un - to thee a - lone of mor - tals, child, hath sor - row

p

come, That thou shouldst car - ry grief so far be - yond The

oth - er in - mates of th'an - ces - tral home.

accel.

Più mosso ♩ = 72

mf

What of Chry - so - the - mis and what of Iph - ian - as - sa, And

f

what of him, who, hid - den in his youth, Shall one day for - tun - ate ar -

without Ped.

rive . At fair My - ce - nae's glo - rious town,

Des-tined by the fav-oring-will of Zeus, Home-ward his steps to

turn, thy broth-er, O - res - tes?

ELECTRA Awaiting him I Unwed and childless With tears in
endlessly endure; still I go, constant flow,

Andante

marcato

Girt round with cure. But he for - gets his wrong and all my
misery that finds no

marcato *espr.* *accel.*

teaching. What message have I sent beseeching, But baffled flies back idly

$\text{♩} = 96$

Zeus, who be-hold-eth all and rul-eth well; — Com-mit thy

mount-ing grief un-to his care, And nei-ther o-ver-blame nor yet ig-nore thine

espr.

en-e-mies; For Time is a be-nig-nant god. Nor shall A-ga-mem-non's

son Fail to come from Cri-sa's strand, Where his an-ces-tral

8

line has pas-tured flocks and herds.—

Nor shall the god who dwells be- low by A-cher-on for- get.

ELECTRA Meanwhile my life falls from me in despair. Years pass, and pa- tience naught avails; My spirit in me fails:

Andante = 63

p *tenor marcato* *with Ped.*

Orphaned I pine without protecting care; And like a sojour- ners all unre- garded At slave-like labor unrewarded I

mf *espr.* *

toil within my fathers' hall Thus meanly at -

f
Ped. each half measure

tired, and starved, a table-serving thrall.

r.h.
f

accel.

CHORUS
Strophe III

A voice of woe re - sound - ed When he re -

mf
Agitato $\text{♩} = 88$

turned and went to rest, When the bra - zen axe with swift, sure

marc.

stroke Brought thy sire to his de - struc - tion. By de -

cresc. sempre

cresc. - ceit it was planned and by lust per - formed;

ff Dread pa - rents they of a dread - ful shape!

ff

mf Though doubt - ful wheth - er a mor - tal or a

mf

f
god _____ Wrought this deed of

ELECTRA. O day beyond all days that yet have
hor - ror.

Allegro con fuoco ♩ = 88

Ped. each measure

rolled To me most hateful in thy course of light! O horror of that

ac - cel

night! O hideous feast, abhorred, not to be told! How could I bear it, when my

ff sempre *f sempre*

without Ped. *Ped. each measure*

father's eye Saw death advancing from the ruthless pair,

Piu lento, marziale ♩ = 108
Stridendo

Closely conjoint in cruel villany, By whom my

accel.

life was plunged in black des - pair? Oh, to the workers of such deeds as these

accel. e molto cresc.

ten. rit.

May great Olympus' Lord Dire penalty of sorrow still afford,
Moderato ♩ = 60

mf

ten.

marcato

with Ped.

Nor let them wear the gloss of sovran ease!

dim. e rit.

pp

CHORUS

Antistrophe III

Agitato ♩ = 88

Be wise and rave no lon - ger! Doth not thy

cresc.

mind ad-mon-ish thee, How thy con-duct brings thee mis-er-y,

marc.

Self-bred to bit-ter tor-ment? Thou hast

great-ly in-creased thy share of woe By

cresc. *sempre*

cresc.

brood-ing thus with sul-len heart Thy plan for re-

venge. With the strong _____ it is best to a -

void o - pen war. _____

ELECTRA 'Twas dire oppression taught me my com-plaint. I know my passion an unquenched

Piu Allegro ♩ = 88

rit. *p*

fire: But nought, however dire, Shall visit

Piu mosso ♩ = 116

this my frenzy with re - straint, Or check my

accel.

lamentation while I live. Dear friends, kind women of true Argive.

p *meno mosso* $\text{♩} = 96$

rit. *espress.*

breed, Say, who to me can timely counsel give Or word of comfort suited to my

espress.

need? Beyond all cure shall this my cause be known. No counsels more! Ah

poco rit. *without Ped.*

leave, Ye bootless comfort-ers, and let me grieve With ceaseless pain, unmeasured in my moan.

rit. *Più Allegro* $\text{♩} = 120$

rit.

*Epode**CHORUS*Moderato, free tempo $\text{♩} = 72$

At least in love I urge thee, True-heart-ed, like a

moth-er, Add not to grief by moun-a-ing.

ELECTRA: But have my miseries a measure? well To pour forgetfulness upon the dead? Hath mortal
Tell. Can it be

p

Ped. each half measure

head Conceived a wickedness so bold? brightness shine for me, Nor let me
O. never may such peaceful be With

aught of good my life may still en- fold, If from wide echoing of my

father's name The wings of keen lament I must withhold.



Sure holy shame And pious care would vanish among



men, If he, mere earth and nothingness, must lie In



darkness, and his foes shall not again Render him blood for blood



in ample penalty.



Dialog

Cue: CHORUS LEADER. Such as old custom yields to those below.