

1

00:00:01,680 --> 00:00:07,550

This film is based on a script by  
Carl T. Dreyer and Preben Thomsen

2

00:00:07,760 --> 00:00:13,710

...after Euripides' drama MEDEA. Carl  
T. Dreyer never realized his script

3

00:00:15,680 --> 00:00:23,030

This is not an attempt to make his  
film, but due with reverence,

4

00:00:23,280 --> 00:00:28,991

a personal interpretation and homage  
to the master. (Lars Von Trier)

5

00:02:33,280 --> 00:02:36,670

Medea!

6

00:02:41,040 --> 00:02:45,716

What seeks Aigeus  
in these hospitable wastes?

7

00:02:48,720 --> 00:02:52,554

I am bound for the oracle

8

00:03:01,440 --> 00:03:06,070

But tell me about you and Jason

9

00:03:06,320 --> 00:03:11,997

Promise me that I may always seek  
refuge in your country!

10

00:03:13,800 --> 00:03:16,553

You know you may

11

00:03:18,840 --> 00:03:22,230

How serious you look

12

00:03:25,800 --> 00:03:29,110

You know you may, Medea

13

00:03:57,160 --> 00:04:04,032

Jason built his vessel Argo and sailed  
to Colchis to fetch the golden fleece

14

00:04:04,280 --> 00:04:08,671

which he won with the help of Medea,  
the beautiful and wise,

15

00:04:08,920 --> 00:04:14,392

who gave him her love

16

00:04:14,640 --> 00:04:21,990

Her love has now turned to hatred

17

00:04:22,880 --> 00:04:35,714

Jason betrays Medea and the two  
sons she has borne him

18

00:04:36,160 --> 00:04:44,397

Together they fled from Colchis and  
arrived in Corinth as outlaws

19

00:04:44,640 --> 00:04:48,553

Medea left her distant country

20

00:04:48,800 --> 00:04:53,794

Jason left her here

21

00:05:33,360 --> 00:05:36,158

The king!

22

00:05:53,160 --> 00:05:54,559

Long have we waited

23

00:05:58,160 --> 00:05:59,878

I am coming

24

00:06:17,440 --> 00:06:22,833

We will go on ahead.

Come when you are ready

25

00:06:53,240 --> 00:06:57,916

Our city has prospered.

Our ships have brought us riches...

26

00:06:58,160 --> 00:07:00,958

from distant ports

27

00:07:01,200 --> 00:07:06,320

We have won respect and admiration

28

00:07:11,000 --> 00:07:14,959

The gods have shown us favour...

29

00:07:15,200 --> 00:07:19,273

and you have shown us the way

30

00:07:28,360 --> 00:07:33,229

I thank you for agreeing to transfer  
the burdens of state...

31

00:07:33,480 --> 00:07:36,313

to this young man

32

00:07:36,720 --> 00:07:41,669

It would be wise now to give him  
even more authority

33

00:07:41,920 --> 00:07:45,037

Even more responsibility

34

00:07:46,120 --> 00:07:50,477

I am convinced he will meet the  
demands placed upon him

35

00:07:50,720 --> 00:07:55,475

I believe the gods have anointed him  
and sent him to us...

36

00:07:55,840 --> 00:07:59,389

to perform great deeds

37

00:07:59,640 --> 00:08:01,995

Jason!

38

00:08:06,440 --> 00:08:10,035

What have you to say?

39

00:08:13,440 --> 00:08:20,630

Thank you, Creon, and all of you for  
the trust you show in me

40

00:08:31,560 --> 00:08:37,192

It is not good for one man

to rule alone

41

00:08:45,960 --> 00:08:52,354

Neither is it good when the masses  
assume power

42

00:08:53,480 --> 00:08:57,393

The state is a ship,  
Creon her captain...

43

00:08:57,640 --> 00:09:00,871

you, her trusty crew

44

00:09:01,120 --> 00:09:07,559

I shall do my utmost to be  
a good helmsman

45

00:09:09,760 --> 00:09:17,189

I know my responsibility to you  
and every citizen, rich or poor

46

00:09:23,440 --> 00:09:27,752

I will teach your people  
to live in peace...

47

00:09:28,000 --> 00:09:32,152

even if the price is death  
with dignity

48

00:10:23,160 --> 00:10:28,359

To prove my faith in Jason,  
I shall bind his fate to mine...

49

00:10:28,600 --> 00:10:32,479

and to our country, by giving him

my daughter in marriage

50

00:10:33,600 --> 00:10:39,197

Jason and Glauce will be your future  
king and queen

51

00:11:10,960 --> 00:11:14,999

Tonight, the wedding contract  
shall be sealed

52

00:11:28,440 --> 00:11:31,750

Hear me, Medea!

53

00:11:32,000 --> 00:11:37,393

King Creon has summoned  
the elders to his palace

54

00:11:38,160 --> 00:11:42,836

They speak of Jason  
and Creon's daughter

55

00:11:45,120 --> 00:11:52,071

Answer me, Medea, or laugh!  
Jason is worth no more

56

00:14:56,120 --> 00:15:02,832

You had many words for the elders,  
and yet now none for me!

57

00:15:03,080 --> 00:15:08,234

- Glauce...

- It is only my name

58

00:15:12,600 --> 00:15:15,637

Your name means "nymph"

59

00:15:20,240 --> 00:15:23,949

What is your promise to this nymph?

60

00:15:25,240 --> 00:15:30,314

To treat her as a woman.

The woman I love

61

00:15:30,560 --> 00:15:33,358

Your queen?

62

00:15:40,440 --> 00:15:42,556

Glauce!

63

00:15:48,200 --> 00:15:53,433

How soft your lips!

How warm your mouth!

64

00:15:53,680 --> 00:15:56,069

My beloved!

65

00:16:05,520 --> 00:16:08,034

What of Medea?

She is still here...

66

00:16:08,280 --> 00:16:10,396

Does it matter?

67

00:16:10,640 --> 00:16:13,950

Medea and Glauce

cannot both remain here

68

00:16:14,200 --> 00:16:17,112

Are you afraid of her?

69

00:16:28,160 --> 00:16:32,517

No, I fear not Medea,  
though they say she's dangerous

70

00:16:38,040 --> 00:16:41,828

Then let her be.  
You are the one I love

71

00:16:42,080 --> 00:16:45,595

Give me proof that Glauce  
is the one you love

72

00:16:45,840 --> 00:16:50,595

No, Jason. Not until my father  
exiles Medea tomorrow

73

00:16:50,840 --> 00:16:53,877

I too shall see her tomorrow

74

00:17:13,720 --> 00:17:17,395

Tonight you must sleep in there

75

00:18:30,640 --> 00:18:33,154

Would I were dead!

76

00:18:33,400 --> 00:18:35,789

Death would bring peace

77

00:18:36,040 --> 00:18:39,191

My life is as empty as this bed...

78

00:18:39,440 --> 00:18:44,195

that we used to share when I was



still of use to him. He was my all

79

00:18:45,960 --> 00:18:49,714

Why must women bear so much?

80

00:18:49,960 --> 00:18:55,114

Wordlessly submissive  
in body and deed?

81

00:18:55,920 --> 00:18:58,434

What rights have women?

82

00:18:58,680 --> 00:19:04,676

A man may seek new friends.  
She has nobody but him

83

00:19:04,920 --> 00:19:10,950

He claims she enjoys security  
while he lives on the battlefield

84

00:19:11,200 --> 00:19:14,192

- You'd rather be a man?  
- Yes...

85

00:19:14,360 --> 00:19:15,998

Even in times of war?

86

00:19:16,640 --> 00:19:20,758

I'd rather bleed behind a shield  
than bearing a man's children

87

00:19:21,000 --> 00:19:25,915

You are a stranger here, like me:  
but you have me

88

00:19:26,160 --> 00:19:31,359

I no longer have the man I helped

89

00:19:32,040 --> 00:19:35,589

I was but his prey

90

00:19:36,640 --> 00:19:41,760

I long to return to my native land!

91

00:19:44,120 --> 00:19:52,152

I long for my mother,  
my sisters, everyone

92

00:19:57,240 --> 00:20:00,949

I long for revenge

93

00:20:29,120 --> 00:20:34,274

Creon is on his way

94

00:22:35,800 --> 00:22:38,951

Medea...

95

00:22:40,040 --> 00:22:43,157

you must leave the country

96

00:23:20,000 --> 00:23:23,197

I banish you and your children

97

00:23:23,440 --> 00:23:28,833

I shall not return to the palace until  
the city gates close behind you

98

00:24:57,640 --> 00:25:00,757

Are you afraid of me, King Creon?

99

00:25:01,000 --> 00:25:03,275

Yes

100

00:25:03,680 --> 00:25:06,240

Why?

101

00:25:08,160 --> 00:25:14,315

You are wise. You know the evil arts

102

00:25:14,680 --> 00:25:17,148

You can harm people

103

00:25:20,280 --> 00:25:23,238

Whom?

104

00:25:23,480 --> 00:25:26,153

My daughter

105

00:25:26,520 --> 00:25:29,193

Me.

Jason

106

00:25:31,600 --> 00:25:36,276

I will have to take the necessary  
steps

107

00:25:45,280 --> 00:25:50,832

I am too weak to oppose you,  
and neither have you wronged me

108

00:25:51,080 --> 00:25:55,232

Whom to give your daughter to

is your decision

109

00:25:55,480 --> 00:25:59,996

Let me remain here!

I shall cause no trouble...

110

00:26:00,240 --> 00:26:04,950

if you let me remain in my house

111

00:26:21,320 --> 00:26:24,949

No, Medea.

You must leave at once

112

00:26:28,200 --> 00:26:30,998

Why?

113

00:26:31,520 --> 00:26:35,195

My daughter takes precedence over you

114

00:26:35,440 --> 00:26:37,954

And my children?

115

00:26:38,200 --> 00:26:41,954

You love yours...

and I, mine

116

00:26:42,200 --> 00:26:47,752

There is no greater sorrow than love

117

00:26:50,720 --> 00:26:56,556

Leave of your own accord, or my men  
will send you across the border

118

00:27:10,800 --> 00:27:15,828

All I ask is one single day,  
King Creon

119  
00:27:16,080 --> 00:27:19,197  
For the sake of my children

120  
00:27:22,400 --> 00:27:25,039  
I grant you that one day

121  
00:27:25,280 --> 00:27:30,229  
But if you are still here tomorrow,  
your life is forfeit

122  
00:28:10,680 --> 00:28:13,638  
You have your day

123  
00:28:13,880 --> 00:28:16,633  
Use it!

124  
00:28:17,480 --> 00:28:20,597  
Yes, use it...

125  
00:28:21,720 --> 00:28:24,951  
And hope for good fortune

126  
00:28:25,800 --> 00:28:28,155  
Good fortune!

127  
00:28:28,400 --> 00:28:30,868  
Yes!

128  
00:30:41,680 --> 00:30:44,592  
Shall I let him in?

129

00:31:12,280 --> 00:31:16,353

I married her for your sake

130

00:31:22,760 --> 00:31:26,116

For your sake?

131

00:31:34,880 --> 00:31:39,749

To secure your future  
and the children's

132

00:31:59,360 --> 00:32:03,672

Your pride is your misfortune, Medea

133

00:32:06,400 --> 00:32:09,710

And your pride, Jason...

134

00:32:11,000 --> 00:32:13,992

is your good fortune

135

00:32:14,240 --> 00:32:19,189

My weakness and blindness lead to me  
encourage your vanity

136

00:32:19,440 --> 00:32:22,796

You want it to look  
as if I have left you

137

00:32:23,040 --> 00:32:27,431

You are betraying your own children!

138

00:32:36,360 --> 00:32:40,876

I have thought about it  
but it is too late

139

00:32:43,200 --> 00:32:46,749

Have you really thought  
about your children?

140

00:32:48,960 --> 00:32:52,316

Women are not the only ones  
to think about their children

141

00:32:52,560 --> 00:32:54,232

Have you really thought about it?

142

00:32:55,000 --> 00:32:59,630

If only men could have children  
without the agency of women!

143

00:33:07,400 --> 00:33:12,110

You do not deny yourself,  
King Jason...

144

00:33:12,600 --> 00:33:16,639

You have forgotten much  
that I remember

145

00:33:16,880 --> 00:33:20,236

You yearn for your young  
wife's embrace

146

00:33:20,480 --> 00:33:25,600

Enjoy your good fortune! I wish you  
a marriage you will remember!

147

00:33:45,160 --> 00:33:49,392

Tell Medea we are passing by

148

00:33:51,200 --> 00:33:54,510  
Tell her we sail tomorrow!

149  
00:34:17,040 --> 00:34:19,554  
What did you ask the oracle?

150  
00:34:19,800 --> 00:34:23,190  
A demon has made us childless

151  
00:34:24,360 --> 00:34:29,388  
- What was the oracle's reply?  
- Who understands such words?

152  
00:34:29,640 --> 00:34:35,556  
- Perhaps I'd understand  
- That's why I rode by today

153  
00:34:35,800 --> 00:34:40,635  
The vagueness of the oracle  
requires the wisdom of Medea

154  
00:34:40,880 --> 00:34:43,599  
What was the oracle's reply?

155  
00:34:43,840 --> 00:34:49,790  
Keep the wine in the bag  
"until you get home"

156  
00:34:50,040 --> 00:34:52,235  
We're coming!

157  
00:34:54,480 --> 00:34:57,552  
The boys were chased out of town

158



00:34:59,200 --> 00:35:01,111  
What's the matter, Medea?

159  
00:35:02,240 --> 00:35:06,791  
My children and I  
are being sent to exile

160  
00:35:07,040 --> 00:35:09,713  
Why?

161  
00:35:11,320 --> 00:35:14,551  
Jason has cast me off

162  
00:35:17,480 --> 00:35:20,233  
For another woman?

163  
00:35:24,440 --> 00:35:29,036  
He has married Creon's daughter

164  
00:35:29,600 --> 00:35:33,354  
He has broken his oath to you?

165  
00:35:33,600 --> 00:35:37,912  
His only ambition was to be  
the king's son-in-law

166  
00:35:38,160 --> 00:35:42,358  
Can Jason really be so hungry  
for power and yet so cowardly?

167  
00:35:45,440 --> 00:35:47,590  
Yes

168  
00:35:54,880 --> 00:35:58,077

I know a cure for childlessness

169

00:35:58,320 --> 00:36:02,029

If I may sail with you tomorrow,

I promise you children

170

00:36:02,280 --> 00:36:06,068

My house is always open to you

171

00:36:08,080 --> 00:36:10,878

You have my word

172

00:36:11,120 --> 00:36:14,192

We sail at high water

173

00:37:17,200 --> 00:37:22,832

No man will accept childlessness.

Glauce will hear no children

174

00:37:23,080 --> 00:37:25,833

- What are you going to do?

- Fetch Jason! No, wait...

175

00:37:26,520 --> 00:37:29,717

- What is your plan?

- I trust you, you are a woman

176

00:37:30,560 --> 00:37:34,439

- Make no more enemies!

- I will have no more enemies

177

00:37:34,680 --> 00:37:40,755

Don't torture yourself!

Think of your future!

178

00:37:41,520 --> 00:37:44,193

I know my future

179

00:37:44,960 --> 00:37:48,111

Think of your children!

180

00:37:48,600 --> 00:37:52,991

They are the ones I'm thinking of

181

00:39:48,040 --> 00:39:49,996

What do you want?

182

00:39:50,240 --> 00:39:53,789

Forgive my words spoken in bitterness

183

00:39:54,040 --> 00:39:58,875

I see now that it was I  
who was hard and relentless

184

00:39:59,840 --> 00:40:02,354

So you have seen sense...

185

00:40:02,600 --> 00:40:05,433

Yes, I have changed my mind.  
Why not be friends?

186

00:40:05,680 --> 00:40:09,355

Did we not live together  
in love and understanding?

187

00:40:09,600 --> 00:40:12,910

By marrying Glauce you gain  
sufficient power and wealth

188

00:40:13,160 --> 00:40:16,391

to secure the future  
of our children and I

189

00:40:16,640 --> 00:40:21,794

- It is only wisdom  
- So is your change of heart

190

00:40:23,200 --> 00:40:27,796

How stupid of me not to have  
helped you realize your plan!

191

00:40:29,440 --> 00:40:32,557

But we women can be stupid,  
sometimes

192

00:40:34,480 --> 00:40:37,040

Do you remember, Jason?

193

00:40:37,280 --> 00:40:40,795

That question is always on your lips

194

00:40:41,040 --> 00:40:46,239

Now for the last time.  
Do you remember, Jason?

195

00:44:08,240 --> 00:44:10,071

Whore!

196

00:44:15,320 --> 00:44:17,754

I know you, Jason!

197

00:44:18,000 --> 00:44:20,355

You have sold yourself to her

198

00:44:20,600 --> 00:44:24,479

Your body was enough for her!

199

00:44:34,520 --> 00:44:38,513

When I see myself

I understand you, Jason

200

00:44:38,760 --> 00:44:43,436

I will leave. But of our sons?

201

00:44:45,400 --> 00:44:48,551

Can't they stay with you?

202

00:44:49,120 --> 00:44:52,078

Can't you persuade Creon?

203

00:44:58,240 --> 00:45:00,470

I will try

204

00:45:00,680 --> 00:45:04,593

But I don't think it will work

205

00:45:23,240 --> 00:45:26,073

Let them stay with you!

206

00:45:26,320 --> 00:45:30,791

It will be easier for me

if I know you have them

207

00:45:31,040 --> 00:45:35,670

- I will try, but...

- Get Glauce to ask her father

208

00:45:35,920 --> 00:45:40,152

Yes, I can persuade her

209

00:45:41,080 --> 00:45:44,675

It will work if you do as I say

210

00:45:45,680 --> 00:45:48,035

Do what?

211

00:45:48,440 --> 00:45:52,718

Let our sons bear this gift to her

212

00:45:52,960 --> 00:45:56,032

Go with them

213

00:45:56,400 --> 00:45:59,597

Yes, I will

214

00:45:59,840 --> 00:46:03,355

What is the gift?

215

00:46:29,240 --> 00:46:33,472

Your bridal crown, Medea!

216

00:49:25,880 --> 00:49:28,440

Mother, she kissed us!

217

00:49:28,680 --> 00:49:31,831

- Me, too

- Please let's stay!

218

00:49:32,360 --> 00:49:34,635

We'll stay with you Mother, won't we?

219

00:49:34,880 --> 00:49:37,110

With your father

220

00:49:37,360 --> 00:49:40,796

- And the gift?

- She liked it

221

00:49:42,200 --> 00:49:43,792

Good

222

00:49:51,760 --> 00:49:54,991

What are you going to do, Medea?

223

00:49:56,160 --> 00:49:59,789

I am thinking of the children...  
and myself

224

00:50:00,040 --> 00:50:02,838

How?

225

00:50:04,760 --> 00:50:10,357

I had hoped they would sprinkle  
dust on me when I was dead

226

00:50:11,600 --> 00:50:14,956

Then take them with you

227

00:50:16,280 --> 00:50:20,034

By their death

I can strike their father

228

00:52:54,440 --> 00:52:57,398

Where is Medea?

229

00:52:57,840 --> 00:53:01,037

- Not here

- And the boys?

230

00:53:01,600 --> 00:53:05,149

Not here. She took them

231

00:53:06,640 --> 00:53:10,030

Glauce has been poisoned

232

00:53:10,280 --> 00:53:16,515

The king went to help her,  
and he, too, was scratched

233

00:53:23,320 --> 00:53:26,995

Medea killed them

234

00:55:04,480 --> 00:55:07,199

Mummy...

235

00:55:23,880 --> 00:55:28,749

Mummy, why are we here?

236

00:55:38,480 --> 00:55:40,118

Quiet, now...

237

00:55:52,480 --> 00:55:54,675

Jason!

238

00:55:55,280 --> 00:55:58,238

Jason, where are you?

239



00:55:58,480 --> 00:56:04,191  
Will you not follow  
your queen to the grave?

240  
00:58:44,760 --> 00:58:46,955  
I know what has to happen

241  
01:00:07,960 --> 01:00:09,439  
Where are they?

242  
01:00:13,920 --> 01:00:18,436  
- What will you hang from the branch?  
- Something which I love

243  
01:03:18,360 --> 01:03:19,679  
Help me, mummy

244  
01:14:36,360 --> 01:14:43,118  
Human life is a journey in the dark  
where only a god can find the way

245  
01:14:43,280 --> 01:14:50,072  
That which nobody dares believe,  
God can make happen