

**I UNDIR ORION'S BELT**  
*A Mythical Musical Stage Production*  
Michaela Foster Marsh ©2025

# I Undid Orion's Belt

*A Mythological Rock Opera*

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## Scene List – By Song

### ACT I

**Prologue — Under the Belt of Stars**

(Artemis' spoken prologue — setting up the mythic tone.)

**Scene 1 — Great Gods**

(The gods watch, comment, and begin the game.)

**Scene 2 — Queen of the Underworld**

(Persephone's transformation and her invitation to descend.)

**Scene 3 — Universal Journey**

(First appearance of the soul's evolutionary theme.)

**Scene 4 — Shadow**

(Artemis and Orion meet their shadow selves.)

**Scene 5 — Eros**

(Desire awakens — a hypnotic duet.)

**Scene 6 — Eve**

(Temptation, choice, and the edge of the fall.)

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### ACT II

**Scene 7 — Disastro**

(The collapse — passion turns push pull.)

**Scene 8 — Vanity's Altar**

(Their illusions are stripped bare.)

**Scene 9 — I Must Confess**

(Orion spirals into rage, lust, and regret.)

**Scene 10 — Not in This Life**

(Soul recognition — but they cannot be together.)

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**ACT III**

**Scene 11 — The Betrayal and the Fall**

(Apollo's trap. Artemis' fatal mistake.)

**Scene 12 — Blame**

(Artemis' breakdown and full self-reckoning.)

**Scene 13 — Weeping Virgin of the Zodiac**

(A celestial farewell and Artemis' first steps toward rebirth.)

**Scene 14 — Forgiveness**

(The final act of grace — forgiving herself.)

**Scene 15 — Orion**

(Finale — transcendence, eternity, love set free.)

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# I UNDIR ORION'S BELT

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## PROLOGUE — *Under the Belt of Stars*

*(Spoken voiceover. Music slow and reverent.)*

### ARTEMIS (voiceover, low and luminous):

They warned me of monsters —  
Of beasts with claws and teeth.  
Of gods.

But no one warned me of love.  
Real love.

They said love was light.  
But real love...  
It lives in shadow first.

It is the ache you fear will split you wide open —  
And wound you in ways you may never recover.  
And still... it draws you in.

Irresistible.  
Like a spell. Or a curse.

There is no pill.  
There is no cure.  
You can try to avoid it —  
But either way, it will cost you.

Go toward it, is my advice.  
You are pulled there for a reason.

But I had to die into life  
To be able to offer you that advice.

Before the sacred can rise,  
You must break the illusions of self.  
Before the soul remembers itself,  
You must see what lies beneath the mask.

Oh, we all have one.  
Trust me on that.

It is the fracture that opens the veil —  
So the gods within can awaken.

I was untouched —  
Not by strength,  
But by expectation.  
By myth.  
By the vow they placed in me  
Before I even learned to speak.

I had no choice.  
They named me virgin.  
Pure. Distant. Divine.  
But they never asked what I wanted —  
Only what I must be.

And then came Orion.

Wild. Mortal. Unruly. Handsome.

He did not bow.  
He did not flinch.  
But he feared me.

Not for who I was —  
But for what he saw in himself  
When he looked at me.

And I feared him the same.

In him —  
I met the mirror  
Of all I was told never to become:

Desire.  
Chaos.  
Heat.  
Hunger.

He ran toward the world.  
I ran from it.  
And yet...  
We wanted each other.

I did not lose him all at once.  
I lost him in moments.

Like I had done with myself —  
In the spaces between my lies.  
My silence.  
My mask.

In the parts of me I dared not name.  
Dared not visit.  
Dared not love.

This is the story of Orion —  
Hunter. Lover. Flame.  
Constellation of the sky.

And me —  
Artemis.  
Goddess. Huntress. Shadow. Seeker.

This is not a story of endings.  
It is a story of return.

A tale of death... and resurrection.  
Of love that refused to die —  
even when I thought I'd killed it.

A tale of healing  
that begins only in the dark —  
In our shadow.  
When we surrender.

Undo the belt.  
Let the stars realign as they will.  
Let us begin.

# ACT I, SCENE 1 – THE GREAT GODS AND THE MORTAL HUNT

## Song: "Great Gods"

*(A cosmic orchestral-rock anthem, setting fate in motion.)*

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## SETTING:

A vast Greek amphitheatre beneath the night sky. The celestial tapestry above shifts in real time—constellations aligning, foretelling destiny. A towering altar stands in the background, flickering with an ethereal fire—**Vanity's Altar**, where mortals have fallen before.

At opposite ends of the stage stand two figures who do not yet know they are bound together—**Orion**, virile, wild, the hunter who sees himself as untouchable; **Artemis**, poised, untamed, a goddess who answers to no man.

The **Chorus of Shadows**, a 12-member force of fate, weaves among them, neither seen nor unseen, both mortal and divine.

From the heights, the gods watch, unseen but felt.

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## SCENE BEGINS: THE GODS DECREE THE FATE

A deep chime resounds—a celestial echo of fate being sealed. A mist rolls over the stage, swirling at the feet of the mortals. Music builds—bells toll, the chorus hums.

## THE GODS SPEAK – THE COSMIC ORDER IS SET

From the unseen heights, divine voices emerge, layered, echoing from beyond the mortal realm.

**ZEUS** *(booming, an immutable force)*

*"The hunter and the huntress..."*

**HERA** *(a whisper, laced with amusement)*

*"Prideful. Blind. Bound by their own hands."*

**APOLLO** *(jealous, foreboding)*

*"She belongs to no man."*

**EROS** *(seductive, ominous)*

*"Ah... but love does not obey."*

The constellations shift subtly, aligning in the shape of **Orion's Belt**. The **Chorus** steps forward, their voices rising.

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## PERSEPHONE ENTERS – THE WARNING

### Song – Great Gods

A lone figure steps forward—**Persephone, Queen of the Underworld.**

**PERSEPHONE** (*singing, prophetic, an invocation to fate*)

"There's you and I, and the great gods in the sky..."

"Do they conspire, and then playfully watch us fall?"

The **Chorus** hums beneath her, their voices layered, almost whispered, like the voices of fate itself.

**CHORUS** (*softly, ominous, circling the altar*)

"If heaven is above us..."

"Does hell sit below us?"

"Can you rest our worried minds?"

A sudden celestial shift—the stars quiver.

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## ORION ENTERS – THE PRIDE OF A HUNTER

A shadow moves. A presence takes shape.

**Orion** steps forward—powerful, confident, adorned in furs and tattoos, his bow slung casually over his shoulder. He moves with the reckless arrogance of a man who believes he is immortal.

**ORION** (*singing, bold, self-assured, testing the gods*)

"When I am in the earth, and my bones have turned to dust..."

"Will I be reminded of my all-too-human lust?"

A smirk. A challenge.

He spreads his arms, lifting his face toward the sky, laughing at the heavens.

**ORION** (*mocking the gods, amused*)

"Do you watch me fall?"

The **Chorus** watches him, their faces unreadable. Do they pity him? Admire him? Or do they already know how this ends?

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## ARTEMIS ENTERS – THE HUNTRESS, THE UNTOUCHABLE

From the opposite side of the stage, a second shadow emerges.

**ARTEMIS** (*singing, fierce yet restrained*)  
"Will I be reminded of the times when I felt powerless?  
Just like the way I am with love...  
Always obsessing, then regretting, and with far too little trust."

**CHORUS** (*looking to the gods, pleading*)  
"Oh, can you be kind to us?"

Artemis—fierce, her **red hair catching the torchlight**, her bow gripped tightly in her hands. She moves like the **moon**—distant, radiant, untouchable. Unlike Orion, she does not mock the gods.

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## **THE FIRST GLIMPSE – A MEETING OF FATE**

**CHORUS, ARTEMIS, ORION, PERSEPHONE** (*haunting, building*)  
"There's you and I, and the great god in the sky..."  
"Do they conspire, and then playfully, carelessly..."  
"Playfully watch us fall?"

**CHORUS** (*echoing, weaving through the shadows*)  
"Do they watch us fall?"  
"Watch us fall?"  
"Do they watch us fall... fall... fall?"

A sudden silence. The moment is brief, electric, fated.  
They do not speak. They do not approach. Not yet.

Orion smirks. Artemis does not smile.

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## **THE HUNT BEGINS**

**ARTEMIS** (*singing, defiant yet controlled, laced with warning*)  
"And when you hear my prayers...  
"Oh, do you know I tame my thoughts?"

Her voice does not entwine with Orion's. They sing the same words, but they are not yet one.

**CHORUS** (*dark, prophetic, an undercurrent of truth*)  
"Oh, thoughts are just enough to penetrate the sky...  
"Oh, they can hear the lies."

Orion and Artemis circle each other, their gazes locked, an unspoken challenge.

**ORION & ARTEMIS** (*in unison, intense, inevitable*)  
"There's you and I!"

The **Chorus** moves, forming a circle around them, a physical manifestation of the unseen forces binding them.

**ARTEMIS, ORION** (*building, crescendo*)

"There's you and I, and the great god in the sky..."

"Well, do they conspire, and then playfully, carefully..."

"Playfully watch us fall?"

**CHORUS**

"Do they watch us fall, playfully watch us fall!!!"

A final, powerful moment.

**PERSEPHONE** (*operatic note, haunting, layered over the final chord*)

A deep bell tolls.

A huge crescendo with everyone on stage—then, sudden silence.

The tension vibrates in the air.

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## **THE AFTERMATH – A GAME BEGUN**

Orion smirks. Artemis does not smile.

She turns sharply on her heel, vanishing into the shadows.

Orion watches her go. Something in his chest tightens. He doesn't understand it. Not yet.

The Chorus slowly fades into the darkness. The only sound left is the flickering torches at the altar.

And then—a final whisper from the Chorus.

**CHORUS** (*soft, chilling*)

"The hunt has begun."

## ACT I — SCENE 2

### QUEEN OF THE UNDERWORLD

**Setting:**

A vast, cavernous space that suggests the underworld — dark yet shimmering with the glow of unseen embers. The Chorus of Shadows moves like mist across the stage, their forms shifting between ghostly figures and ancient spirits. Heavy chains dangle from the unseen heights above, swaying gently, as if they once bound souls now struggling to be free. The throne of Persephone stands at the centre, wreathed in ghostly light, its presence both regal and sorrowful. The air is thick with whispers of lost souls, unseen but felt.

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**Scene Begins:**

The Chorus of Shadows steps forward, their movements slow and ritualistic. They begin an eerie chant, narrating Persephone's journey.

**CHORUS** (whispering, layered voices, weaving through the chains):

"Trapped beneath the weight of time,  
The Queen who walks where mortals die.  
A goddess once, a captive turned,  
She learned the truth where shadows burn."

**PERSEPHONE** (slowly, as if waking from a trance, stepping forward):

"I have walked the corridors of death, not as a prisoner, but as a guide.  
Where others tremble, I have learned — the heart must break to be revived."

Persephone reaches out, touching one of the chains that still hangs heavy. The Chorus of Shadows pulls back, as if afraid of what she might unleash.  
The music swells as she begins to sing.

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### SONG: *QUEEN OF THE UNDERWORLD*

**PERSEPHONE** (singing, reflective, growing in power):

*"Full of grace and innocence, I danced upon my feet,  
I picked a flower from the earth's womb, arose a lord of shadows..."*

The Chorus hums like spirits calling from the abyss, filling the space with an ethereal echo.

*"A wedding ring, a childhood dream,  
He bound around my finger tight,  
Oh but in my kingdom, below the earth, my ambivalence would reign supreme."*

**PERSEPHONE & CHORUS** (whispering, then swelling into melody):

*"I am, I am Persephone, and I am the Queen,  
I am the Queen of the underworld..."*

**PERSEPHONE** (gathering strength, as if addressing unseen souls trapped in shadow):  
*"In my dark womb when you are stripped of your old self,  
there the mysteries of life will unfold,  
and you will see that life is but a journey into death and back, into life again."*

Chains begin to rattle faintly. Shadows twist and contort, some reaching upward, others still bound.

*"Away from home, a lonely grave, it seemed was my misfortune.  
Oh, but light and dark did attract my heart,  
but I could not live like some walking shadow."*

Persephone lifts her arms — the first of the bound souls breaks free, stepping into the dim glow.

*"I'd live out life with my earth mother,  
then return to earth's dark womb,  
Where I would glance on eyes and hear the cries,  
of spirits barely born."*

**CHORUS** (whispering, then swelling into melody):  
*"I am, I am Persephone, and I am the Queen,  
I am the Queen of the underworld."*

**PERSEPHONE** (lifting the chains, freeing more souls):  
*"In my dark womb when you are stripped of your old self,  
there the mysteries of life will unfold,  
and you will see that life is but a journey  
Into death and back, into life again."*

**PERSEPHONE** (speaking over the music, as the Chorus sways like restless spirits):  
"Do you know what it is to descend?  
To watch your innocence be buried in the ground?  
Love is not only light; it is the dark, the shadow, the trial.  
Until you face it, you will never truly love.  
You must look into the mirror of love and see yourself in the other."

She gestures outward — chains shatter, and souls rise, unburdened.  
The torches flicker. The Chorus responds, moving in waves, reflecting the eternal cycle of life, death, and rebirth.

**PERSEPHONE** (singing again, this time stronger, freer):  
*"In narrow corridors all alone,  
I found demons and spirit fiends,  
to navigate and help release,  
So that from their death they could come forth shining!"*

**PERSEPHONE & CHORUS** (swelling, triumphant yet mournful):  
*"I am, I am Persephone, and I am the Queen,  
I am the Queen, I am the Queen of the underworld."*

*Well, I am Queen, Oh yeah, I am, Oh I am the Queen,  
I am the Queen of the Underworld."*

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### **Ending the Scene:**

As Persephone reaches the climax of her song, we hear an eerie wail of a soul crying. Then the music quiets. The Chorus falls silent. The final chains drop to the ground, the last bound soul stepping into the light.

Only the sound of a distant wind and a single, lingering wail of a lost soul remains.

**PERSEPHONE** (soft, chilling, prophetic, to the audience):

"They think they know love, these mortals...

But love demands a sacrifice — death.

The death of the old self.

Life, death, and rebirth."

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### **The Underworld's Warning:**

The flames grow brighter — the souls around her reach out, their hands trembling with unspoken truths.

Persephone lifts her gaze, addressing the unseen gods who toy with fate.

**PERSEPHONE** (to the heavens, almost mocking):

"You great gods above —

You weave your threads, you set your traps.

But tell me, do you weep when the hunt is done?"

A sudden silence.

Then — a single celestial chime.

**PERSEPHONE** (lower, almost a whisper):

"The gods do not answer.

They never do."

Persephone smiles, knowing this game all too well.

She turns to face the Pool of Truth, watching as the constellation of Orion shines brighter beneath the water's surface.

She knows what is coming.

But still — she lets it come.

**LIGHTS FADE. SCENE ENDS.**

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### Psychological Depth & Mythological Themes:

- **Persephone is not a victim**—she is the embodiment of transformation, descent, and rebirth. She is the guide through shadow, teaching souls (and by extension, Orion and Artemis) that only by facing their darkness can they emerge whole.
- The chains represent unconscious projections and illusions—what we refuse to see within ourselves, the fears we repress, and the love we sabotage.
- Her role foreshadows Orion’s fall and Artemis’ grief. She understands the cycle of destruction and creation—a lesson the lovers will soon endure.

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### Staging & Visuals for the Amphitheatre:

- **Lighting shifts** from cold, spectral blues to deep, fiery reds—signifying Persephone’s transformation from an abducted maiden to a queen who commands the underworld.
- Chorus movement is fluid and shadow-like, mirroring fate itself.
- **Projected constellations and falling leaves** represent Persephone’s duality—the living and the dead, the eternal and the transient.
- **The chains fall as souls ascend**—symbolising freedom from unconscious burdens.

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### Why This Opening Works:

- **Establishes Persephone** as the overseer of fate—not just a Queen, but a liberator of souls.
- **Sets up the love story** as something doomed yet transformative.
- **Introduces the theme of shadow work**—facing one’s darkness before finding true love.
- **Uses classic Greek tragedy elements**—Chorus, prophecy, symbolism, and grandeur.

# ACT 1, SCENE 3 – UNIVERSAL JOURNEY

## Setting:

A vast, celestial amphitheatre beneath the open night sky. The stage is bare except for towering, ancient columns, evoking a forgotten temple of the gods. The **Chorus of Shadows** stands in clusters, veiled in darkness, their forms illuminated only by flickering torches. Above them, a canopy of stars shimmers—Orion's Belt is distinctly visible, glowing ominously.

In the centre of the stage, **Persephone** stands as the gatekeeper between worlds, dressed in flowing dark robes, her presence both commanding and ethereal. She gazes skyward as if reading the fates woven into the constellations.

A deep drum beat echoes across the amphitheatre—low, slow, like the pulse of the universe beginning to awaken. The sound of a distant wind howls through the columns.

Then—silence.

A single note swells from the orchestra, growing into the haunting, celestial opening of Universal Journey.

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## SCENE BEGINS

### Song – Universal Journey

#### **CHORUS OF SHADOWS (whispering, echoing like ancient voices in the wind):**

*"The debt has come... The debt has come..."*

#### **PERSEPHONE (singing, haunting and low, drawing the audience into the myth):**

*"The debt has come, it is your soul's survival..."*

*Unlock your clues, instinct is your link...*

*Seek your truth on the universal journey...*

*That takes you back, again to love, to truth..."*

The **Chorus of Shadows** begins to move, shifting like waves of fate. Figures emerge from the darkness—**Orion and Artemis**, unseen by each other, but pulled by some invisible force.

#### **ORION (singing, stepping forward, his voice strong yet uncertain):**

*"I love you, I hate you, and the paradox draws us back..."*

*This is our crusade and we will be guided...*

*Until we work it out..."*

#### **PERSEPHONE (whispering like fate itself):**

*"Until you work it out..."*

**ARTEMIS (singing, her voice resisting but yearning):**

*"Far beyond the grave...  
The confines of the body...  
Take me, take me, this is my debt to you..."*

The **Chorus of Shadows** spreads across the stage, forming a living constellation—each performer carrying a small, glowing orb, representing the scattered fragments of fate. They sway, shifting their positions to resemble a **star map forming Orion's Belt**.

**CHORUS (swaying, calling forth the prophecy):**

*"An overwhelming sensation...  
Many lives have passed between us...  
Our hearts have waited...  
Centuries endured..."*

**ARTEMIS (softly, almost afraid of the words leaving her lips):**

*"I know you know me..."*

**ORION & ARTEMIS (unison, their voices intertwining like cosmic threads):**

*"And we never had a grave..."*

The **orchestra builds**, swelling into a powerful crescendo. The torches flicker wildly—Persephone raises her hands.

**PERSEPHONE (singing, commanding and eternal):**

*"The debt has come, it is your soul's survival...  
Unlock your clues, instinct is your link...  
Seek your truth on the universal journey..."*

**ORION & ARTEMIS (desperate, powerless against fate):**

*"That takes me back, again to love, to truth..."*

The **Chorus of Shadows** now moves in a spiralling formation, surrounding Orion and Artemis. They whisper the past, the present, the future.

**CHORUS (voices rising like a celestial storm):**

*"Don't accept you are fools...  
Well, you don't need physic proof...  
We are not strangers... But the past gets in the way...  
Your conversations are speechless... And your words can hold no meaning...  
The past dissatisfactions, they return to us...  
But human blindness refuses the soul's guidance."*

**ORION & ARTEMIS (pleading, surrendering to the truth in their hearts):**

*"Take me, take me .....back to you..."*

The orchestra climaxes—a blinding burst of golden light erupts from the centre of the stage. The constellations shift. Orion and Artemis freeze.

**PERSEPHONE (singing, commanding and eternal with chorus joining in):**

*"The debt has come, it is your soul's survival...*

*Unlock your clues, instinct is your link...*

*Seek your truth on the universal journey..."*

**ORION & ARTEMIS (desperate, powerless against fate):**

*"That takes me back, again to love, to truth..."*

The Chorus of Shadows lifts their hands toward the heavens—Orion's Belt burns brighter than ever.

As the music fades into eerie silence, Orion and Artemis remain locked in a moment of eternity, their fate sealed by forces beyond their control.

**BLACKOUT.**

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**WHY THIS SCENE WORKS FOR THE AMPHITHEATER SETTING:**

**Projection of the Stars:** The celestial canopy above the stage allows for live projection mapping—Orion's Belt shifting as the story unfolds.

**Chorus as Fate:** The Chorus of Shadows becomes a visual representation of destiny, their movements aligning with the mythic storytelling.

**Universal Journey as a Cosmic Prayer:** This song acts as both an incantation and a prophecy, setting the tone for the entire musical.

**Epic Theatricality:** The torches, celestial formations, and swirling choreography bring the ancient myth into a visually stunning, modern performance.

# ACT I, SCENE 4 – SHADOW (The Battle Between Desire & Control)

## SETTING:

A dark and mythical dreamscape where time bends and shadows whisper. The setting is neither the world of mortals nor Olympus—it is a liminal space where Artemis battles herself. A twisted grove of trees looms at the edges of the stage, their branches reaching like skeletal fingers.

The sky is a deep, unnatural indigo, pierced by an oversized moon. A pool of black water glistens at centre stage, reflecting not just reality, but desire and fear. The Chorus of Shadows moves like spectres, weaving around Artemis and Orion, unseen but deeply felt.

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## SCENE BEGINS:

The low hum of a hypnotic, Bond-esque motif begins to build. Artemis stands alone—cloaked in moonlight, her breathing uneven, almost erratic. She stares at the reflection in the black water—not of herself, but of Orion, who steps forward from the darkness. His tattoos flicker under the light, his furs barely concealing the rawness of his form. He is a force of nature, a storm that has found its prey. He does not need to speak. His presence alone is an unspoken challenge.

## THE FIRST MOVE – ORION SPEAKS WITHOUT WORDS

Orion walks slowly around Artemis, measuring her, his eyes locked onto hers. She stands her ground, but her hands clench into fists—not in rage, but in restraint.

The Chorus of Shadows whispers around them, their voices caressing the stage like silk.

The music pulses—a slow, hypnotic rhythm. The bass throbs like a heartbeat, the strings coil with tension.

Orion smirks, tilting his head, daring her.

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## SONG: *SHADOW*

*(The music builds, intoxicating, shifting between seduction and defiance. Artemis sings first—she is composed, but barely.)*

## ARTEMIS (singing, slow, like a warning):

*"There I stood, and I felt like I was draped in gossamer,"  
"Lit from behind by Venus and the moon at night..."  
(Her voice falters—her body betrays her.)  
"But don't you ever speak to me of love,"  
"I cannot reciprocate..."*

(She turns sharply, as if breaking the spell. But Orion doesn't move.)

**(low, magnetic, stepping closer):**

*"There you stood like some mystic Dionysus,"  
"Portraying depths that no woman had ever met,"*

(She touches his face, gently) *"And all I wanted was to discover—what torments ..you."*

(He leans in—closer than she allows anyone. She exhales sharply, almost shoving him away, but her hands remain at her sides.)

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## **THE CONFLICT – SHE WANTS HIM BUT CANNOT SURRENDER**

The Chorus of Shadows intensifies, their presence  
Orion circles her, his movements slow and deliberate.

Artemis keeps moving away, but not far. They are locked in a dance, in a fight neither can define.

He reaches for her wrist—she snatches it back.

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**ARTEMIS (cold, commanding, but wavering):**

*"But if you ever speak to me of love..."  
"I cannot reciprocate."*

(She steps away. He follows.)

## **ORION PUSHES HER LIMITS – THE TEMPTATION DEEPENS**

(Orion moves are slick, dangerous and knowing. He sees her resistance. He does not believe it.)

**ARTEMIS (singing, seductive but with vulnerability):**

*"You insist on starting this..."  
"Do you think, do you really think ...do you really think.....we would recover?"*

*(He takes another step. Replying to her vulnerability. She exhales sharply, her hands shaking—but from rage or desire? She does not know.)*

CHORUS

*"She would make sure you carried her shadow on your back."*

*(The words land like an arrow. The music swells—dark, intoxicating, almost forbidden.)*

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Artemis falters. She grips the hilt of the dagger strapped to her side, but she does not draw it. She is a goddess of war. A warrior. She does not run. But she also does not surrender.

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**ARTEMIS (defiant, desperate, fighting herself more than him):**

*"I took you aside, to clarify my position,"  
"There was no need to lie, it was not an inquisition,"  
"How unrelenting you have become..."  
"You're really quite explicit."*

*(She tries to end it. She tries to regain control. But her breath hitches. The music does not slow but builds.)*

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**THE FINAL STRUGGLE – A LOVE THAT CANNOT EXIST**

Orion moves closer than ever before—within a breath of her. She raises a hand to push him away. He catches it and her in his arms. For a moment, time stops. The music holds its breath.

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**ARTEMIS (a whisper, almost broken):**

*"But if you ever speak to me of love..."  
"I cannot reciprocate."*

*(Orion looks right through her. His grip on her wrist does not tighten, but it does not let go.)*

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**Chorus (soft, dark, victorious but mournful):**

*"She would make sure you carried her shadow on your back."*

*(The words fall between them. An unspoken truth. A war neither can win.)*

*(The music shifts—lower now, winding down, but the tension does not leave.)*

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## **THE IMAGE – A STANDOFF BETWEEN LOVE AND POWER**

Artemis jerks her hand away.

She turns her back on him.

Orion watches, his smirk gone. This was not victory. This was something else.  
The Chorus hums, eerie, layered, wrapping their words around the air like smoke.

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### **ORION**

*"Here I stand so full, virile with desire,"*

*You're as consumed with passion, yet loathing your desire..."*

### **ARTEMIS**

*(Artemis' shoulders tense—the words strike too close.)*

*"Oh don't you ever speak to me of what I feel..."*

*"With all of my shame, I'm Artemis..."*

*"You cannot buy me, you cannot try me..."*

*"I'm not some whore."*

*(She turns—Orion is still watching her. But this time, he does not move to follow.)*

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### **ARTEMIS (final line, sharp, defiant, and deeply wounded):**

*"So if you ever speak to me of love..."*

*"I cannot reciprocate. I'm Artemis!"*

*I would make sure you carried my shadow on your back!"*

*(The final note lingers. The lights **fade**. Only the moon remains.)*

### **BLACKOUT.**

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### **WHY THIS SCENE WORKS:**

It is more than seduction—it is a war.

The power dynamics shift constantly—neither truly wins.

The tension is hypnotic—pulling the audience into the battle between desire and control.  
The James Bond/Tolstoy-inspired music creates an intense and cinematic effect.  
Orion is not just a pursuer—he is as bound by fate as she is.  
The ending leaves the tension unresolved, making the next encounter inevitable.

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## ACT I, SCENE 5 – Eros Strikes

### Setting:

A moonlit clearing deep within the sacred forest. The air hums with an unseen energy, the tension palpable. The Chorus of Shadows sways like ghosts in the distance, whispering, waiting.

Suddenly, a shift in the air—Eros appears, unseen by Orion and Artemis. He moves like a shadow made of fire, his presence magnetic, his purpose divine.

### Scene Begins

**Eros circles them**, unseen but powerful, weaving his unseen magic. Orion stands tall, his body tensed as if sensing an approaching storm. Artemis grips her bow tightly, as if she can ward off something she cannot see.

### **EROS (smiling, almost teasing, his voice smooth like silk):**

"Love is a thing of trickery. It seduces, it wounds. It makes fools of hunters and turns gods into mortals."

### STAGING NOTE:

Eros moves between them, an unseen force, flickering in and out of light like a god shifting between realms. He extends a hand—his fingers trail through the air as if pulling invisible strings, linking Orion and Artemis together.

Suddenly, they both flinch, as if struck by something unseen.

The music shifts—a haunting melody blending Universal Journey and Great Gods in the background, signalling the gods' intervention.

### SONG - EROS

### **ORION & ARTEMIS (singing, caught in an unseen force):**

*"My sleeping heart... This was against my will...  
And this was against all of my reason..."*

They step toward each other without meaning to, as if gravity itself is pulling them closer.

### **ORION (soft, desperate, overwhelmed, stepping forward):**

*"But I was called forth by beauty...  
My heart was frozen mire...  
Until Eros breathed his fire..."*

### **ARTEMIS (singing, resisting and surrendering at once, gripping her bow like a lifeline):**

*"Eros, you have won...  
My heart has finally come undone...  
You lit that fire and you have watched me burn..."*

**STAGING NOTE:**

Artemis raises her bow as if to push Orion away, but her hands shake—her control is slipping. Orion reaches toward her, but stops just inches away, caught between his pride and his desire.

**CHORUS (like fate whispering in the wind):**

*"And now the face I feared... I have finally seen..."*

With a sudden burst of unseen energy, an arrow of golden light flies from the darkness—striking both Orion and Artemis in the chest.

**STAGING NOTE:**

Orion stumbles back, gripping his chest as if wounded by something invisible. Artemis gasps, dropping her bow for the first time in her life.

The Chorus of Shadows gasps and moves forward, encircling them in an undulating mass.

**ORION (staggering, singing softly):**

*"And it was soulless... and I had been so afraid to roar..."*

**ARTEMIS (almost in a trance, mirroring him):**

*"And below my skin, you knew none had been before...  
You knew that none had been before..."*

They **step toward each other**, as if **drawn by forces beyond their will**.

**ORION & ARTEMIS (duet, voices breaking, filled with longing and fear):**

*"Our appearance was stripped away, there was nothing left  
But hope, for what we might become.  
I'm led down and then up just like Saturn,  
Straight to my grave, into the heart of my darkness."*

**CHORUS (chanting, echoing fate's decree, Persephone swaying with torch in hand):**

*"Lust, shed your potency,  
Free the imagery and the fantasy,  
Eros, penetrate their souls..."*

**STAGING NOTE:**

The torches flicker violently as the Chorus chants. The stars above shift—Orion's constellation begins to flicker. Artemis' shadow stretches long behind her, as if she is being pulled into darkness.

**ORION & ARTEMIS (desperate, powerless to resist, in full duet):**

*"Eros, you have won...  
My heart has finally come undone...  
You lit that fire and you have watched me burn...  
And now the face I feared, I have finally seen..."*

They are breathless, caught in something larger than themselves.  
Eros steps back, satisfied. The deed is done.

**EROS (smirking, folding his arms, his voice like prophecy):**

“My job here is done. Let the real hunt begin”

**PERSEPHONE (from the shadows, her voice filled with quiet sorrow):**

"And now, they shall feel what they both fear... love without control."

**EROS (smirking, triumphant, raising his hands):**

“They have no idea what has been awakened and its power to transform."

**BLACKOUT.**

**ENHANCEMENTS & WHY THIS WORKS**

**Staging & Physicality:**

- Eros remains an unseen force, making his actions mystical rather than physical.
- Orion and Artemis' movement mirrors their inner battle—they are drawn in but resist.
- The Chorus uses torches to symbolise fate and the gods' presence.

**Symbolism & Visual Impact:**

- Eros' golden arrow becomes a physical representation of their fated love.
- Artemis dropping her bow for the first time is her first sign of true vulnerability.
- The stars flicker above, foreshadowing Orion's tragic fate.

**Musical Intensity:**

- The blending of Universal Journey and Great Gods motifs ensures continuity.
- The song swells and breaks, mirroring Orion and Artemis' emotional collapse.