

The Yarns
By
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DRAMATIC PERSONAE

Salome: a woman of 16. Her manners are really gentle. She seems emotional, attractive and fragile. She has something magical about her, something captivating. She is dressed in a long dress, ethereal and semi-transparent. It is made from seven different pieces. She has bare feet.

Eve: a woman of 23. She is dressed in black leather and has a strange hair cut. She is smoking a cigar. She doesn't speak too much she is more of an observer. She has a mysterious and restless nature and seems a little bit confused. She has a wonderful body, even if she is not very thin. With numerous feminine curves, she is the epitome of woman. She is wearing black boots.

Medousa: a woman of 30. She looks like a woman who knows exactly what she wants and how to get it. She is mature, she has beautiful face, long black hair. She knows more than you think she does. Instinctive, dark, her confidence is disconcerting. She is wearing a short dress and high heels.

Medea: a woman of 40. She is dressed like a man. Black clothes, heels. She is neither beautiful nor attractive. She has the scars of time on her face. She is a goddess, a witch. Her face is full of wisdom. She looks like she is not part of this world.

ACT 1PROLOGUE

On the wall there is a big clock that is visible throughout the duration of the play. From the beginning of the play, it will count down from 30 seconds.

A man sweeps an empty railway carriage. He is sleepy, the broom falls from his hands. He bends over and picks it up from the floor. He continues to sweep. This happens again and again until at last, he leaves the scene. The women appear from the four cardinal points, one after the other in turn of their speech, whispering in the beginning and gradually increasing their voices. At the end they almost shout.

MEDUSA :

The night that I met Him, I had never seen a god before, I was sitting in the place I used to call home, that used to be my home till that night, when a snake came close to me, it whispered something in its ancient language, something I was not supposed to understand and I followed it. I don't know why, all the way down to the river because the moon was yellow and full,

SALOME:

the moon was red, as if it was made from fire. I stared out of the window watching its movement, it seemed to me as if it was dancing in the sky, creating a fire line behind every step, I felt empty,

MEDUSA:

my clothes, my white dress didn't fit me anymore I took it as a bad sign, but it was not enough to stop me from moving, because the moon was full, and my head was empty, just walking in His calling with a snake showing me the way,

SALOME:

I closed the window, I looked elsewhere but everywhere I turned my eyes I saw flames, flames everywhere as though my whole House was made from fire, because he, because Johanan didn't want me, I closed the window, gently, I was trained to be gentle, the way I walk, the way I talk but my dance, was nothing I was trained about, my dance is the most ancient part of me I keep in my soul, the steps I take, have been made ages ago, are written in human nature, I am an animal more than a human when I dance, I close the window, try to keep the flames outside, my burning Home, I got prepared,

(CONTINUED)

MEDUSA:

that night everything was meaningful and my heart was beating loudly, and I sat by the edge of the river alone in the middle of the night I don't remember why anymore I was just laughing and playing with the reflection of the moon in the water, I tried to catch it, but it slipped out of my hands, I can't recall what the snake said to me, but at that time, it was so clear, it said what was about to happen, about. to. happen. and. I. couldn't. resist., I took off my clothes and I tried to swim in the water the only way to catch the illusion of the moon, the only way to touch it in my naked body, to learn its secrets, the secrets of the world, I'll play with it in my hands, I thought, and got undressed, folding my clothes by the bank of the river, I was about to meet a god that night, a god who was expecting me, I looked out of the corner of my eye, the snake on the bank of the river,

EVE:

and I followed it. It was so difficult for me to walk on my two feet, I remember crawling on the ground, as it did. I followed it, I did exactly what it did, same movements, same sounds, crawling on the same ground as it did, gradually my body became too heavy for me to carry, gradually my belly grew bigger and bigger, I was transformed, I could feel it, but I kept following it, kept crawling on the ground and following it, while inside me, the seeds of my children began to grow, I could feel as if I was the box, the Ark I was, for all that was about to happen, for days, for months, for years, for ages, kept following and following, the same creature, till the day succeeded the night, and the night succeeded the day and I was sure, something unique was about to happen, something for which I was responsible,

SALOME:

Downstairs, they are waiting for me, I've got to get dressed for this night, this moon, this moon is mine, I own the fire tonight. I'll kiss his lips, he can't resist me tonight, I hear his voice in my head, I know it's wrong but I can't do it otherwise, I'll. dance. for. him. only. for. him., I say, in front of the mirror, brushing my hair so hard that it hurts, no other choice, I'll do whatever for a kiss, his kiss, I'll get undressed, I'll get prepared, his lips on my lips, because the moon is red, seems like it's made of blood and I am about to dance on its surface, tonight, I'll dance on its blood, his blood, I say, I feel, I am prepared,

(CONTINUED)

EVE:

and I do not hesitate not for a second, if this is the right path to choose, because my belly has grown so big, till I become only this, the.belly., double helix, ready to be unfolded. They gave me different names as the years were passing, and I learned how to walk when they learned how to walk, I could dance for my guide from time to time, and I learned how to speak when they learned how to speak, I could sing to him during our travels. I'm still following this creature, imitating its movement, I will, follow it, for ages and ages to come because that's my fate and my fate still hasn't come to its end.

MEDEA:

The sky. The sky is expecting me. What had to be done it's done, there is nothing left here, no place on earth to which I belong. The sky is pushing Thiva aside, the people I loved disappear. My family is dead, now, only sky for people like me. I'm turning my gaze towards it, Heavens are waiting, waiting for me, waiting for me to prepare myself correctly, and I can hear them calling my name, and I pack my belongings, prepare my vehicle, paramana, I'm leaving, because love was so deep, paramana, I couldn't stand it, oh, gods, prepare the vehicle for me, Ekati, the time is now, to leave, the sky is calling, the air will be my partner, after all I am not a human being anymore, the love I felt inside, not a man nor a woman, I'm ready, I say, and wash my hands, I'm ready, I say, my human nature is dead, only sky for me now, I am prepared, I wash my hands, again,

MEDUSA:

I was prepared. I entered the water, and I knew it would hurt, it was cold in His arms, I knew it would hurt, so cold, my teeth were trembling, I couldn't resist anymore, when He, He came inside me in the form of the water, and I, I was still playing with a moon made of water and illusion. He, didn't speak, but I could hear a sentence in my head, words clear and separate, I heard Him say you're. beautiful. so. beautiful. it. makes me. want. so. badly. to destroy. you. , and I don't know if he did said those words, but the way that water entered me, the sound of its movement, placed these words so deeply in my head that I can still recall them, whatever I do, wherever I am because that night before the sunlight when I returned naked and wet back to the House, Athena already knew it all, she knew what had happened, she cursed me, she cursed me so much, she cursed me three times, before I realised what had happened, before my laugh or my cry, she stole the only weapon that I had, the weapon of my

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MEDUSA: (cont'd)
nature, she stole, oh, Poseidon, she exchanged my
beauty for my pregnancy.

*At the same time, voices intermingle into one
another.*

EVE:
in the beginning there was chaos

SALOME:
I'm speaking of (pause) a dance

MEDUSA :
(long pause)... the most powerful weapon of the evil
(pause) that was beauty

MEDEA :
(very long pause) the day of the birth (pause) of
language

*The four women are now sitting in the train
carriage. The inspector asks for their tickets.
They speak in order but never look at each other.*

Voices in order

EVE:
I never speak on my own free will

SALOME:
instincts are showing me the way,

MEDUSA:
somebody else had spoken for me Medusa he called me

MEDEA:
he played with me in his hands he gave me shape

EVE:
as if I was made from clay

SALOME:
they call him

ALL:
the Creator

MEDEA:
they call him

MEDUSA:

the Poet

MEDEA:

oh how poor his translation was

MEDUSA:

A translation

SALOME:

that took place ages ago

EVE:

A long time before everything got in order

SALOME:

Hand in hand in a dance, no one does remember
anymore...

MEDUSA:

I've never been anything more than words

MEDEA:

never existed in any other way. Full I am, completely,
with words

SALOME:

...that's the dance I speak for in my dance the one
that was called "Salome's dance"

EVE:

Curses. Curses of all mankind. I carry them on my back,
like the bones of somebody I've loved who is dead.

MEDUSA:

who drew me so ugly in their memory

SALOME:

he is dead.

EVE:

'Eve', the first mother I am

MEDEA:

at least, a dignified end, Jason

MEDUSA:

What is written is written forever, cannot escape from
...words.

EVE:

How much older I am than the words that describe me

(CONTINUED)

SALOME:

Older than the sound itself.

EVE:

My sin was the ability to taste. His flesh, my own
flesh.

SALOME:

My sin...

MEDEA:

I was a mother for my invisible children.

EVE:

Mother I was and he, the father.

MEDUSA:

How can you destroy something so beautiful?

EVE:

I couldn't,

(PAUSE)

SALOME:

resist.

MEDEA:

My. children. They were the proof, the Human proof of
his betrayal.

SALOME:

My. Soul. My whole existence for his head. My. Lover's.
Head. My. Sin

MEDEA:

Oh I would repeat the same mistake again and again

SALOME:

for the taste of his flesh

EVE:

unto the age of the ages, amen.

SALOME:

was my hearing, and my ability to move on it,
correctly.

MEDEA:

Time moves slowly so slowly

(CONTINUED)

SALOME:

it has created a hole to fit me in

EVE:

it has shown me the steps and how to repeat them

SALOME:

again and again.

MEDUSA:

Because nobody wants me anymore

MEDEA:

not even death

MEDUSA:

and time moves quickly, so quickly.

SALOME:

It has stretched so much to make me able to walk on it.

EVE:

Time, real time never had it ever existed.

MEDUSA:

I feel something inside

SALOME:

a horror so deep

MEDEA:

mother, I was.

SALOME:

Do you... I mean do we really...

MEDUSA:

Circles around my name again and again.

MEDEA:

Circles around the same, never changing words.

SALOME:

...really exist?

EVE:

My legs, my face, my will

(PAUSE)

EVE:

my whole body is made from words.

(CONTINUED)

MEDUSA:

I'll be waiting for the time when the circle will
transform into something else

MEDEA:

An open door

SALOME:

so as to exit, in a way.

MEDEA:

I was called a witch, a barbarian, because I knew...

EVE:

so cold in here

(PAUSE)

MEDEA:

...There is no existence

MEDUSA:

nor is there an exit

MEDEA:

I knew exactly who I was from the beginning, and all I
was were

MEDUSA:

words

EVE:

neither a man nor a woman.

MEDEA:

Just words

MEDUSA:

that somebody had recounted for me.

EVE:

Were those the truth?

MEDUSA:

When there's no truth about me.

SALOME:

Even though

MEDEA:

I'll always

(CONTINUED)

EVE:
bite it in the end

MEDUSA:
I'll always look through your mirror

(PAUSE)

SALOME:
I'll always dance,

(PAUSE)

SALOME:
a bewailing dance, for his beloved head.

MEDUSA:
Not even death could ever

SALOME:
make him mine.

(PAUSE)

MEDEA:
Some creatures, death, he loves them so much,

EVE:
he is begging for them from the day they were born.

MEDUSA:
Death...

SALOME:
...who was in love with my lover,

EVE:
was the only one who could make me taste

SALOME:
but I befooled Death, asking for my lover's head before
he did

MEDEA:
or not?

MEDUSA:
Now that even death has died,

EVE:
for creatures like me

(CONTINUED)

MEDEA:

...Mother, how many times do we have to be killed for his love...

MEDUSA: (WHISPERING)

you'll never look at my face

SALOME:

...as many times as my lover is going to die for His love

MEDUSA: (WHISPERING)

Perseus. you'll always raise your mirror

MEDEA:

...as many times as I have to kill you with my own bare hands.

(PAUSE)

MEDUSA:

That's not the beginning nor is it the end

SALOME:

for everything that is moving in circles

MEDEA:

Represent the same story again and again

(PAUSE)

EVE:

if somebody could erase me from their memories

MEDEA:

If only I could own ...

SALOME:

If only I could have...

MEDEA:

...love

EVE:

...justice

SALOME:

...body

My own this time, not a borrowed one.

(CONTINUED)

MEDEA:

Oh! I would make the same mistake again and again

EVE:

as if my life is moving in circles.

(PAUSE)

SALOME:

And I would give everything

MEDUSA:

to break this circle

MEDEA:

the repetition

EVE:

of my acts

MEDEA:

my words

MEDUSA:

my thoughts

MEDEA:

and I hate this place, this place is full of memories.

MEDUSA:

This time, it feels like, my words sound different.

EVE(SLOWLY):

And I know this place. And I've been here before.

MEDEA:

Here my children and my husband live.

EVE:

There is no bed in here, there is no window. medea:
Outside my son is playing.

SALOME:

Outside the moon is red

MEDEA:

My daughter is upstairs trying on her new dress Jason
gave her for her birthday.

SALOME:

Downstairs they are waiting for me to prepare myself
correctly.

(CONTINUED)

MEDEA:

My daughter, she is now 6 and...

SALOME:

Are we before or after the. Day.

EVE:

We should have asked for a window, it would be nice to have a window.

MEDEA:

These walls have a piece of me.

EVE:

Wasn't I supposed to be on my own?

MEDEA:

A hair of my hair, a piece of my body.

EVE:

I thought I was going to be on my own.

MEDEA:

Pieces of me everywhere. I collect them gradually. From paintings representing me, my fear, my agony, from places I've been. From people trying to be me.

EVE:

For whom has this table been prepared?

MEDEA:

Sometimes, I try to collapse my pieces together, to create a unit. But the legs don't fit with each other, one is thin, the other is fat, but the hands don't fit with each other, the one is woman's the other is man's.

SALOME:

Oh! you're so beautiful Medusa.

MEDEA:

I am a living monument. A statue. How many sculptors have experimented on me.

SALOME: (ALWAYS TO MEDUSA)

Let me look at your eyes, deep into your eyes

MEDEA:

I have never walked on a different ground, everything I have ever experienced, the love, the passion, his betrayal, appear and disappear inside this theatre's four walls. This floor, my god, the ground, it has my footsteps on it, it has my footsteps, the sound of my footsteps.

(CONTINUED)

She is walking slowly, so as to be able to listen to the sound as if there is something magical in the sound.

SALOME:

Look into my eyes.

MEDEA:

The sound of my footsteps. on. it.

SALOME:

Let me get lost in the depth of your eyes, I'll clean the white ponds, the receptacle of your tears in your eyes,

MEDUSA: (ALWAYS TO SALOME WITHOUT LOOKING HER IN THE EYES)

You were the wrist of golden rain, Perseus.

SALOME: (WHISPERING)

I will make space to fit your grief, to fit me, in your eyes,

MEDUSA:

and sometimes I envy you, Perseus. Because you became a star in the sky, Perseus.

SALOME: (WHISPERING)

Look me in the eyes, deep into my eyes do not deprive this pleasure from me...

MEDUSA:

With her, your lover by your side, Perseus. And me, I am still here, Perseus.

SALOME:

Let me hang by your look on a thread, let me run by your nose, play along your thick lips, until I reach your stomach, and then, I will become, deep red, diving in your blood, and I,

MEDUSA:

There is no sky to stare at my gaze when I search for you, Perseus. But I am still alive, Perseus.

SALOME:

I will not speak, I'll do whatever you want, whatever you ask for, come on now, and raise your eyes and look into my the eyes, I say, I am ready, I feel, I am ready.

(PAUSE)

(CONTINUED)

MEDEA:

Look, how. I talk. I move, in this place, only in this place

EVE:

this place

MEDUSA:

here

EVE:

in here

MEDEA:

there is no room to spread my wings nor fresh air for me to breathe

EVE:

I can't breathe.

MEDEA:

Two clothes pegs keep my lips on the floor.

SALOME:

You are so beautiful Medusa.

MEDEA:

My chains, my chains

EVE:

the past

MEDEA:

are made by these hands

EVE:

there must be an exit

MEDEA:

My hands,

MEDUSA:

their hands,

MEDEA:

they determine my movement.

SALOME:

Look into my eyes.

MEDUSA:

I'll break these chains

(CONTINUED)

MEDEA:

my chains

EVE:

I'll find the exit.

MEDEA:

Or I'll be a housewife in a while, a mother to my
invisible children. Again

SALOME:

I say, I'm ready, I feel I'm ready

EVE:

if the clock, the clock, if it won't stop counting down

MEDEA:

I'll be silently stroke my gun in the darkness.

EVE:

How much time do we have?

MEDEA:

I'll put it on my naked body. Again feeling its cold
touch the shiver it causes, going down my body again

MEDUSA:

if the clock, the clock, if it won't stop counting down

EVE:

The minutes, the hours, of my life

MEDEA:

it won't be me, not me anymore.

MEDUSA:

What did you say?

MEDEA:

Where is my husband, the man who vows of love unites
us.

EVE:

How much time do we have?

MEDEA:

I've got no husband nor have I children. Jason, who is
Jason?

MEDUSA:

Three pages left.

(CONTINUED)

MEDEA:
Paramana..

(PAUSE)

MEDEA:
Pieces of me everywhere. Fragment memories of my past.
My phantoms. Shadows of the people I loved.

EVE:
Three pages left.

MEDUSA:
Our time is precious.

MEDEA:
My children's cry. His betrayal. That's what I am.

EVE:(ON HER OWN)
Please, count your words.

MEDEA:
I am everybody. I am everywhere.

MEDUSA:
Our time is being counted in seconds.

MEDEA:
I am. never. complete.

(PAUSE)

EVE:
We have to find the way, we have to find the exit,
every word that I speak is from someone else's mouth, I
cannot stand it anymore, we have to find the way to
leave our past behind, the phantoms, the words, the
tongues, speak differently this time,

MEDUSA:
my tongue speaks differently this time, something
inside me has changed this time. Are those my words,
are those my acts, my hands, my willing? Sometimes I
feel like I do not own my destiny, sometimes I feel
that someone else is speaking through me. He shows me
what to do and I follow,

EVE:
The clock, the clock is always there, counting down the
minutes, measuring our words,

(CONTINUED)

MEDUSA:

Sometimes I feel like being inside His hand, seeing the world with His eyes, expressing His feelings not mine, sometimes I see me, with His eyes. The way I act, my performance, my transformation in the ages of the ages. Sometimes I know what's going to happen next, I know what is in front of me because the clock didn't stop. it. didn't stop. counting. down.

SALOME:

But when it stops I will be losing myself in the streets with my shadow linking the walls. From every place that I'll pass I'll leave something behind

MEDEA:

When it stops, I will go back home. Jason will be waiting for me, the dinner will be ready. The kids by the table. I will be ready, I will forgive. Kreonta's daughter will be dead already in my mind. I will choose again, I will open the door of my house,

EVE:

every minute in here is precious, the past is in a gaze with the present, the line between them disappear, we are in the present, we are in the future, we are in the past,

SALOME:

I will forget about my past I'll buy new clothes, I'll stand by a shop window, one day you will see me passing next to you, I will fade out in the corner of a street an ordinary person like you, I'll spend a smile when you look into my eyes, a smile, I will be dancing for you in the darkness, me, the body that I own, my body, will go back home and drink some wine from the open bottle, it will lay down in the carpet for hours until the time I will prepare it, I will prepare it for the nights, the nights I'll spend inside a bar, dancing and meeting strangers in a bar,

EVE:

How much time do we have? We have to hurry. We have to undress the words from our bodies, we have to change the beginning, we have to change the end, we have to change our story.

MEDEA:

I will use my keys, Jason will be waiting. The king, the king of Thiva will be waiting for me. I will be moving towards him, nothing had happened even though I know what had happened. I will go close to him, he will take my hand and he will kiss it, he will not speak,

(CONTINUED)

EVE:

How much time do we have ?

MEDEA: (AT THE SAME TIME WITH THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN EVE AND SALOME)

I will kneel because that's what I have to do if I want to touch the sky. I will kneel and kiss him on his mouth and he, he will be real he will be smiling, he will take me by the hand, dinner will be ready, already served, but I won't care, because he will be real, he will kiss me on the mouth again, he'll take my hand, we will go upstairs slowly,

EVE:

Salome

(PAUSE)

dance your dance once more. Salome, undress the words from your body, Salome, our body, our sins,

SALOME: (LAUGHING)

How can you ask me to repeat the same mistake?

EVE:

You'll dance for us and not for him, Johanan, is dead. Only for us this time, our sins, you'll dance to break the circle,

MEDEA:

his hand, Jason's hand with mine,

EVE:

dance for us just once more, Salome, there's no one else, in here,

MEDEA:

his hand it leads me to this room this white room,

SALOME:

there are no memories,

EVE:

We have to stop the clock its sound the repetition. Come on and break the circle.

SALOME:

What does the clock say?

EVE:

Wash the words off your skin, our skin

(PAUSE)

(CONTINUED)

SALOME:

I'll do it for her, only for her not for our sins or for the circle I'll do it for her, only for her if she looks me in the eyes.. if Medusa looks into my eyes, deep into my eyes.

Medusa gradually raises her gaze, and looks Salome in the eye.

SALOME:

This look of yours! This look of yours could turn a person into stone, now, I know, now, I see why, it's just because you are so beautiful, Medusa, this look of yours, even a god would fall in love with you, so keep looking into my eyes, deep into my eyes and I'll do what you want, I'll dance for you, only for you. Ask me for it, just say it. I want to hear you whispering these words. Say you want me to dance for you, say it Medusa, say it..

(PAUSE)

MEDUSA: (LOOKING INTO SALOME'S EYES)

I. want. you. to. dance. for. me. only. for. me.

(PAUSE)

MEDEA:

and he, he closes the door behind him.

Salome laughs and is directed towards the middle of the scene. She starts moving, not exactly dancing in the beginning. Then Salome dances the dance of the seven veils. Every time a veil falls down, Eve is clearly saying a word. Seven words-seven deadly sins:

EVE:

For our wrath and our greed for our sloth and our envy, for our gluttony and lust, for our pride.

When the dance is over, Salome is naked in the middle of the stage. She is moving towards the front of the stage. She is staying exactly at the edge of the scene. Eve goes right behind her, carrying something to cover her naked body. She is standing right next to Salome. They both stare straight ahead.

SALOME:

See this darkness? The emptiness? I have been always wondered what's behind it. What's standing there? Who is looking at us right now? What does this darkness

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SALOME: (cont'd)

have for me.? What's next? Who is expecting me?
Sometimes I wish I could cross this line.

She points with her foot to the edge of the stage.

SALOME:

The border. To see what's on the other side. To go down there. And sit. To watch for once. Not to be watched. To watch for once the play of my life. To know for once, that my life is for real. To live for once.

(to Eve)

When this day comes, because I am sure, this day will come, you'll see, this day will come, this day will come, this day

Eve grabs Salome by the shoulder, pulls her from the edge, and covers her naked body.

EVE:

There's nothing there but darkness.

MEDUSA:

How much time do we have?

They pause at their positions and they all stare at the clock together, until there is just one second left, for the play to finish, hoping that the clock will stop counting down. But when this second passes, the clock starts counting down again from 30 seconds. The women slowly go back to the positions they had at the beginning of the play.

Eve lights a cigarette, Medusa is hugging Eve by the shoulder and slowly whispers in her ear:

MEDUSA :

The night that I met Him, I had never seen a god before, I was sitting in the place I used to call home, that used to be my home till that night,

EVE: (SLOWLY)

It is starting again.

MEDUSA:

when a snake came close to me, it whispered something in its ancient language, something I was not supposed to understand and I followed it I don't know why, all the way down to the river because the moon was yellow and full,

EVE: (SHE IS SPEAKING UNTIL THE BLACKOUT)

I followed it. It was so difficult for me to walk on my two feet, I remember crawling on the ground, as it did, I followed it, I did exactly what it did, same movements, same sounds, crawling on the same ground as it did, gradually my body became too heavy for me to carry, gradually my belly grew bigger and bigger, I was transformed, I could feel it, but I kept following it, kept crawling on the ground and following it. Inside me, the seeds of my children, began to grow, I could feel as if I was the box, the Ark I was, for all that was about to happen, for days, for months, for years, for ages, I kept following and following, the same creature, till the day succeeded the night, and the night succeeded the day and I was sure, something unique was about to happen, something for which I was responsible...