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Title	Prologue
Subtitle	The Nurse explains the reason for Medea's pain
Author	Euripides
Date / Historical era	Classical
Theme(s)	Revenge & Justice
Character(s)	The Nurse

Excerpt / reproduction

'How I wish that the ship named Argo had never sailed towards Colchis! Medea would never have sailed towards the towers of Iolcus, madly in love with Jason!

Now everything has turned to hostility, and things are going badly, because Jason has betrayed his children and my mistress, choosing to take a princess as his bride, while Medea, his poor wife, stripped of her honour, appeals to the oaths made and recalls the strong promise of fidelity and loyalty she made to Jason, giving him her right hand.

She lies fasting, abandoning her body to pain, consumed by tears since she learned that she had been treated without honour by her husband, never raising her eyes or her face from the ground.

Now that she hates her children and feels no joy in seeing them, I fear she is planning something unheard of; for her spirit is violent, and she will not tolerate the outrage: I know her, and I fear her.

She is a fearsome woman; whoever her enemy may be, he will not easily prevail over her.'



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