

**EVIDENCE: SEN\_0003\_EN**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Act 3, scene 2, lines 447-489</b>
<b>Subtitle</b>	<b>Medea responds to Jason</b>
<b>Author</b>	<b>Seneca</b>
<b>Date / Historical era</b>	<b>Antiquity</b>
<b>Theme(s)</b>	<b>Betrayal, exile, justice, sacrifice</b>
<b>Character(s)</b>	<b>Medea</b>
<b>Language</b>	<b>EN</b>
<b>Translation</b>	<b>Translated by Ella Isabel Harris (1899)</b>

## Excerpt

### Medea

Jason, I flee! I flee, it is not new to change my home, The cause of banishment alone is new;

I have been exiled hitherto for thee. I go, as thou compellst me, from thy home, But whither shall I go? Shall I, perhaps, Seek Phasis, Colchis, and my father's realm Whose soil is watered by a brother's blood?

What land dost thou command me seek? what sea? The Euxine's jaws through which I led that band Of noble princes when I followed thee, Adulterer, through the Symplegades? Little lolchos? Tempe? Thessaly?



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# MEDIA SUM

Whatever way I opened up for thee I closed against myself. Where shall I go? Thou drivest into exile, but hast given No place of banishment. I will go hence. The king, Creusa's father, bids me go,

And I will do his bidding. Heap on me Most dreadful punishment, it is my due. With cruel penalties let royal wrath Pursue thy mistress, load my hands with chains, And in a dungeon of eternal night

Imprison me—'tis less than I deserve! Ungrateful one, recall the fiery bull; The earth-born soldiers, who at my command Slew one another; and the golden fleece Of Phrixus' ram, whose watchful guardian,

The sleepless dragon, at my bidding slept; The brother slain; the many, many crimes In one crime gathered. Think how, led by me, By me deceived, that old man's daughters dared To slay their aged father, dead for aye!

(...)

I left My country, father, brother, maiden shame: This was my marriage portion; give her own To her who goes an exile.



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