

**EVIDENCE : SEN\_0013\_EN**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Act 4, Scene 1, lines 670-739.</b>
<b>Subtitle</b>	<b>The nurse observes Medea's spells.</b>
<b>Author</b>	<b>Seneca</b>
<b>Date / Historical era</b>	<b>Antiquity</b>
<b>Theme(s)</b>	<b>Magic, hubris</b>
<b>Character(s)</b>	<b>The nurse</b>
<b>Language</b>	<b>EN</b>
<b>Translation</b>	<b>Translated by Ella Isabel Harris (1899)</b>

## Extract

### The nurse

I shrink with horror! Ruin threatens us! How terribly her wrath inflames itself! Her former force awakes, thus I have seen Medea raging and attacking god, compelling heaven. Greater crime than then she now prepares, for as with frantic step she sought the sanctuary of her crimes, she poured forth all her threats; and what before she feared she now brings forth; lets loose a host of poisonous evils, arts mysterious; (...)

These other herbs at dead of night were reaped; and these were gathered with the enchanted hook. Death-dealing plants she chooses, wrings the blood of serpents, and she takes ill-omened birds, the sad owl's heart, the quivering entrails cut from the



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Project number :  
2024-2-FR01-KA210-SCH-000295678

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

# MEDIA SUM

horned owl living;—sorts all these. In some, the eager force of flame is found, in some the bitter cold of sluggish ice; to these she adds the venom of her words as greatly to be feared. She stamps her feet; she sings, and the world trembles at her song.



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Project number :  
2024-2-FR01-KA210-SCH-000295678

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.