

Everybody Writes!

Vol. III

We Write the Myths

6th Grade & Teachers

Winter 2017-2018

Bronx Park Middle School, X556

Principal Rinaldi

Assistant Principal Hammack

Ms. O'Neil

Ms. Sonneborn

Ms. Mercedes

Erika Luckert, Writer-in-Residence

Teachers & Writers Collaborative

Introduction

From November 2017 to March 2018, I had opportunities to work with each and every member of the Bronx Park community. We called this program “Everybody Writes!” because the focus was on giving every student and every teacher a chance to explore creative writing and develop as creative learners. I worked with Bronx Park teachers in professional development sessions, creating space and time for them to experiment as writers and articulate their own philosophies of teaching and writing. I also visited ELA classrooms in each grade (6th, 7th, and 8th), working directly with the students to support their creative writing and reading. I even had a chance to work with English Language Learner students on writing that blends languages and embraces linguistic diversity. In the process, I got to know a vibrant and committed community of learners and educators, and an inspiring group of creative minds.

This is one of three anthologies that gather the creative work that Bronx Park students and teachers created during this residency; it features the work of 6th-grade students and Bronx Park teachers.

I visited the 6th-grade classes during their unit on Mythology. We talked about the way that myths are passed through time, the way they change, and take different forms. We learned that myths were passed down through oral storytelling, poems, plays, even through pottery, and that every time the stories were retold, they shifted form. In that spirit, we focused our creative work on rewriting and recasting those myths.

We began by creating erasure poems of some of the myths that students had read—taking the text from myths like “Pandora’s Box” and “Medusa,” and selecting words that would form a poem. Some students uncovered poems that retold the myths with incredible concision and clarity, while others recast the myth into a new tale entirely.

We also considered the depth and complexity of mythical characters. We read two poems addressed to Medusa, one by Sylvia Plath, and one by Lynn Schmeidler called “Goodbye Letter to the Medusa That Was My BFF.” Students took inspiration from these poems, and wrote their own letters to Medusa, taking a myriad of approaches. Some students saw her as ugly, others as beautiful. Some thought she was a villain, others thought she was simply misunderstood.

As I read these mythical retellings, I am struck by the human complexity that students uncovered in these age-old tales, and the way that they were able to understand and engage with these myths as they would a friend—playfully creating a conversation across time.

This anthology also includes erasure poems that Bronx Park teachers created, inspired by the work of 6th-grade students. They used texts and handouts from their own classrooms as source material, and discovered that poems can be found in any subject area.

I'd like to thank Principal Rinaldi and Assistant Principal Hammack for making this residency possible, along with the 6th-grade teachers—Ms. O'Neil, Ms. Sonneborn, and Ms. Mercedes—who welcomed me into their classrooms, and collaborated in this creative writing experience. Thanks also to the whole staff at Bronx Park, for building such a positive and creative environment for learning. And above all, thank you to the students and teachers whose words are contained within these pages. To everyone at Bronx Park: keep on writing!

Erika Luckert

March 2018

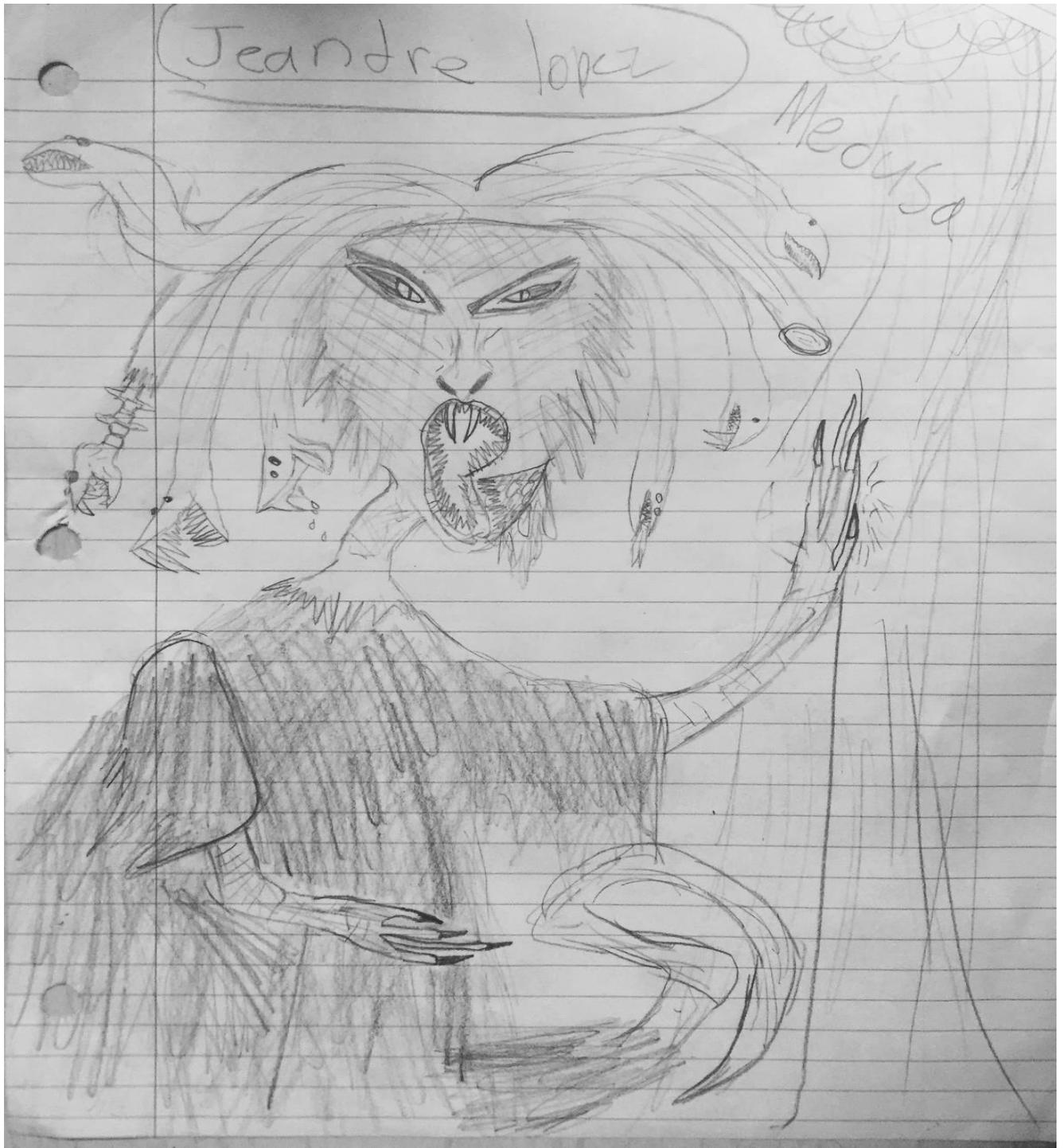
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ANTHONY B.

R.I.P

Dear Medusa...

Medusa you got what you deserved.
you deserved to get snakes in your hair
you were a show-off about your hair
and your prettiness and you would
make people feel bad and now you
should too. Please fix yourself.

CHRISTOPHER J.

Dear Medusa

You are ugly and you are never going to have a friend because you are ugly.
You look more better than Donald Trump and his wife.

CLOE C.

Dear Medusa,

You are more beautiful now; if you wouldn't show off your beauty you wouldn't be a monster. You got what you deserved you turn in to what you are in the inside. So I don't think that you are a monster; I think that you are misheard. I hope you learned your lesson for being a hideous monster.

N1: Prometheus takes a torch from the sun and brings it to the humans. MAN (lightened): What madness is this? PROMETHEUS: Fear not. This is called fire. Use it to warm your caves, cook your food, and make tools. N2: The man reaches out and burns his hand. MAN: Aaaaah! PROMETHEUS: You must be careful. Fire can give life, but it can also take life. I will show you how to share fire and keep it burning. MAN: We thank you. N3: Back on Mount Olympus, Zeus looks down and sees small fires lit across the land below. ZEUS (enraged): Man dares to thrive without my consent? Prometheus has defied me! N2: Sparks fly from Zeus's lightning bolt as he raises it over his head. Hera watches delightedly. HERA: Are you going to smite him? N1: Zeus thinks for a moment. ZEUS: No, he deserves a more memorable punishment... something that causes his precious humans to suffer—and reminds them all that I am the ruler and protector of all things! HERA: Think, Zeus. Won't humans think ill of you for making them suffer? ZEUS: Oh, they will not blame me for the torrent of afflictions that rains upon them. No, dear wife, they will blame someone else entirely. Scene 4 N2: The gods stand around a statue. ZEUS: Gods of Olympus, behold. This is the finest statue ever made. And she will be the first human woman. N1: Zeus calls the Four Winds to blow life into the statue. ZEUS: Ah, and now she lives! Gods of Olympus, bestow gifts upon this lady. APHRODITE: I give her beauty and charm. ATHENA: I give her cleverness. HERMES: I give her persuasion and cunning. HERA: And I give her (winking at Zeus) ... the gift of insatiable curiosity. ZEUS: We will call her Pandora, "all-gifted." And she will be irresistible. Scene 5 N2: Meanwhile, on Earth... PROMETHEUS: Zeus cannot be pleased with my actions. We must beware. EPIMETHEUS: We? You disobeyed him, not I! PROMETHEUS: Still, he is spiteful, and you are my brother. Perhaps if you won't accept any gifts from the gods... EPIMETHEUS: I am not a fool, brother. Perhaps ZEUS: Just be careful. I will be away helping him clear the land for farming. He's made astonishing progress since I gave him fire. N1: Prometheus leaves. Zeus appears with Pandora. ZEUS: Epimetheus, I want to introduce you to someone. This is Pandora. N2: Prometheus turns to see a beautiful woman with sapphire eyes. EPIMETHEUS: Hello, good lady. PANDORA: It is a pleasure to meet you. N1: Pandora smiles charmingly. ZEUS: She has just arrived and doesn't know a soul. I thought you could show her around. EPIMETHEUS:

Dear Medusa

Medusa, you are the coolest goddess in the world. They call you hideous, but you can't lie; your hair looks kind of freaky, but your eyes are really cool. I can't stand when you turn people into stone, and we both know that you need to go get some new clothes. I want to know why you turn people into stone, and I think that you should not continue turning people into stone.

DIMITRI B.

A Quick One

Street disciples, my raps are trifle, I shoot slugs from my brain just a rifle,
Stampede the stage, I leave the microphone split, playing Mr.Tuffy while I'm on some pretty tone shit
Verbal assassin, my architect please when I was 7 I went to hell for snuffing Jesus
I'm a rebel to America, police murder, I'm causing hysteria
My troops roll up in a strange force, I was trapped in a cage and let out by the main source
Swimmin' in women like a lifeguard, put on a bullet-proof nigga I strike hard,
Kidnap the president's wife without a plan and hanging niggas like the Ku Klux Klan
I melt mics till the sound is over, before stepping up to me you better step up to Jehovah
Slamming MC on Cement, cause verbally I'm iller than an AIDS patient
I move swift and uplift your mind, shoot the gift when I riff in rhyme
Rapping Sniper, speaking real words, thoughts react like Steven Spielberg's
Poetry attacks, paragraph punch hard
My brain is insane, I'm out to lunch, god
Science is dropped, My raps are toxic
My voice box locks and excel like a rocket

Pandora's Box, Scenes 1-2

N1: Prometheus lights a torch from the sun and brings it to the humans. MAN (frightened): What madness is this? PROMETHEUS: Fear not. This is called fire. Use it to warm your caves, cook your food, and make tools. N2: The man reaches out and burns his hand. MAN: Aaaaaiii! PROMETHEUS: You must be careful. Fire can give life, but it can also take life. I will show you how to share fire and keep it burning. MAN: We thank you. N1: Back on Mount Olympus, Zeus looks down and sees small fires lit across the land below. ZEUS (enraged): Man dares to thrive without my consent. Prometheus has defied me! N2: Sparks fly from Zeus's lightning bolt as he raises it over his head. Hera watches (delightedly). HERA: Are you going to smite him? N1: Zeus thinks for a moment. ZEUS: No, he deserves a more memorable punishment . . . something that causes his precious humans to suffer—and reminds them all that I am the ruler and protector of all things! HERA: Think, Zeus. Won't humans think ill of you for making them suffer? ZEUS: Oh, they will not blame me for the torrent of afflictions that rains upon them. No, dear wife, they will blame someone else entirely. Scene 4 N2: The gods stand around a statue. ZEUS: (Gods of Olympus, behold. This is the finest statue ever made. And she will be the first human woman.) N1: Zeus calls the Four Winds to blow life into the statue. ZEUS: Ah, and now she lives! (Gods of Olympus, bestow gifts upon this lady.) APHRODITE: I give her beauty and charm. ATHENA: I give her cleverness. HERMES: I give her persuasion and cunning. HERA: And I give her (winking at Zeus) . . . the gift of insatiable curiosity. ZEUS: We will call her Pandora, "all-gifted." And she will be irresistible. Scene 5 N2: Meanwhile, on Earth . . . PROMETHEUS: Zeus cannot be pleased with my actions. We must beware. EPIMETHEUS: We? You disobeyed him, not I! PROMETHEUS: Still, he is spiteful, and you are my brother. Promise me you won't accept any gifts from the gods. EPIMETHEUS: I am not a fool, brother. PROMETHEUS: Just be careful. I will be away helping man clear the land for farming. He has made astonishing progress since I gave him fire. N1: Prometheus leaves. Zeus appears with Pandora. ZEUS: Epimetheus, I want to introduce you to someone. This is Pandora. N2: Epimetheus turns to see a beautiful woman with sapphire eyes. EPIMETHEUS: Uh . . . hello, good lady. PANDORA: It is a pleasure to meet you. N1: Pandora smiles charmingly. ZEUS: She has just arrived and doesn't know a soul. I thought you could show her around. EPIMETHEUS

(stammering) I . . . yes . . . of course. N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 3-5

N1: On their wedding day, Zeus appears. He hands Pandora a box that shimmers with a mysterious energy. ZEUS: I have brought you a present.

PANDORA: Thank you, O Zeus. It is beautiful. ZEUS: Yes. Its contents are quite extraordinary. They are so costly, in fact, that you must never open it.

PANDORA: Never? ZEUS: Never. I am trusting you to keep this rare treasure safe. N2: Later, Epimetheus and Pandora take the box home and place it on a high shelf.

N1: As the days go by, Pandora finds herself wondering about it.

PANDORA: What do you think is inside? EPIMETHEUS: I know not. Zeus said it was extraordinary. PANDORA: Is it gold? Jewels? Something magical?

EPIMETHEUS: It will remain a mystery. N2: Meanwhile, Zeus and Hera have been watching Pandora from above. HERA: Isn't it adorable how every day she reaches for the box and at the last minute changes her mind? She is absolutely

tormented! ZEUS: Clearly, she will not be able to resist temptation for long.

Scene 4. N1: One day, when Epimetheus is out, Pandora takes the box off the shelf. N2: Holding it to her ear, she shakes it gently. She hears fluttering and

whispering. EPIMETHEUS: How could you? Zeus asked you to do one simple thing, and you failed! PANDORA: I'm sorry, I . . . I didn't mean to—

PROMETHEUS: Your apology is useless. These ills can never be contained. Everything I have done for man has been ruined by your foolishness! N2: Pandora weeps, clutching the box. Suddenly, a golden light shines through its cracks.

PANDORA: Something is still inside. I feel the DECEIT: Pandora, we need you! Save us! N1: Shivers run up Pandora's spine. DISEASE: My dying wish is to fly among the trees. PANDORA: Who is in there? ENVY: Open the box and find out. PANDORA: It is forbidden. DECEIT: Aren't you curious?

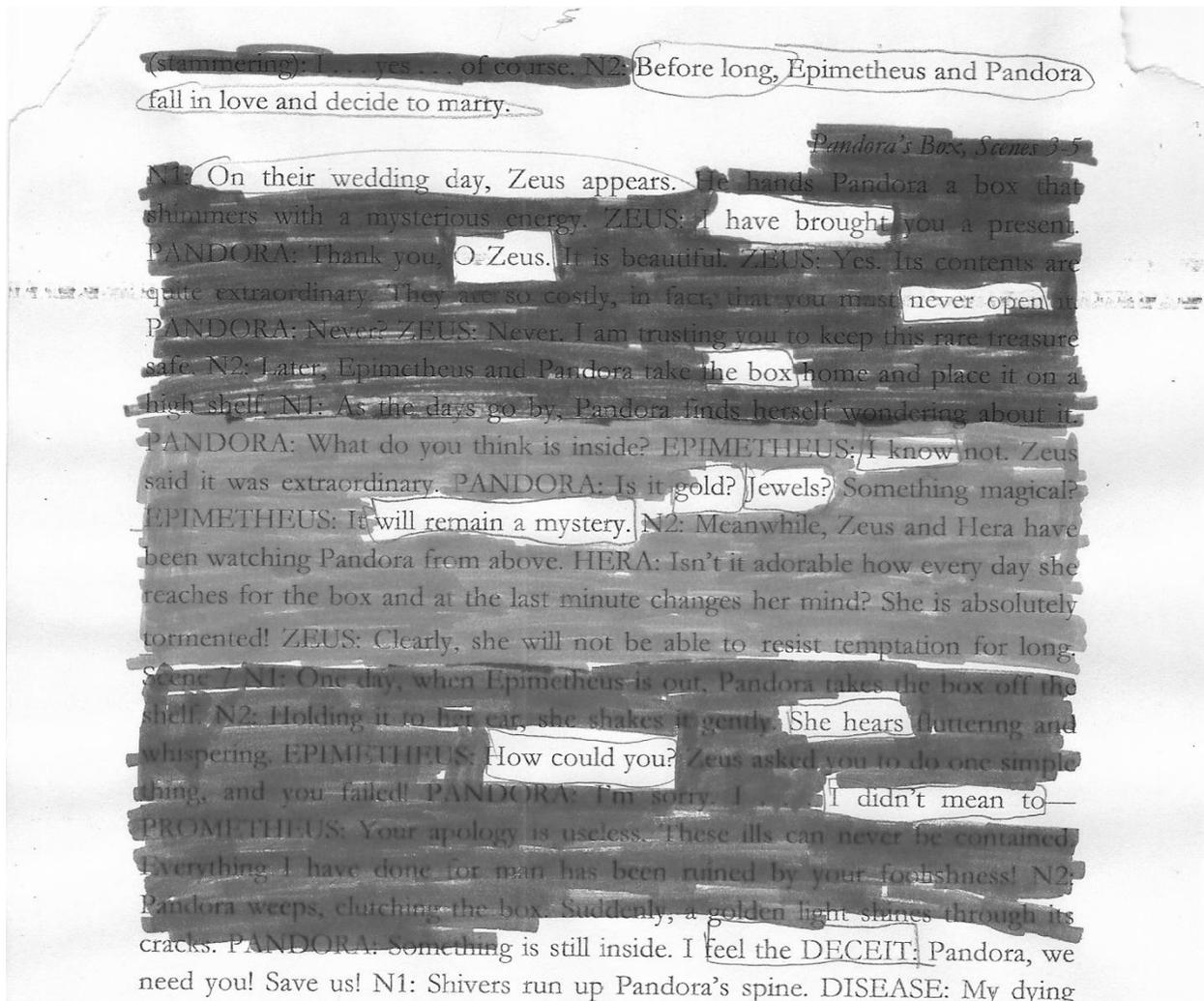
PANDORA: Yes! DISEASE: Then go ahead. PANDORA: I suppose it cannot hurt to open it . . . just a little. ENVY: That's right. No one will know. N2: Pandora releases the golden latch and cracks the lid ever so slightly. An awful

hissing sound and a horrible foul smell emerge. N1: The lid flies open as dark-winged creatures with devilish faces fly out. PANDORA: Aaaaaah! DECEIT: We're free! DISEASE: At last! PANDORA (horrified): Who . . . (who are you?

ENVY: I am Envy. That's Deceit. And that's Disease. DECEIT: Over there are Greed, Grief, and Hate. PANDORA: Noooo! N2: Pandora slams the lid shut, but it is too late. The awful creatures cackle as they swoop around the room.

Dear Medusa

Medusa you're so ugly that you make people turn into stone. I think you and IT should be dating. You look so weird and scary and a crackhead. But I only like the crazy snakes on your head. Your forehead is so big I can write on it.

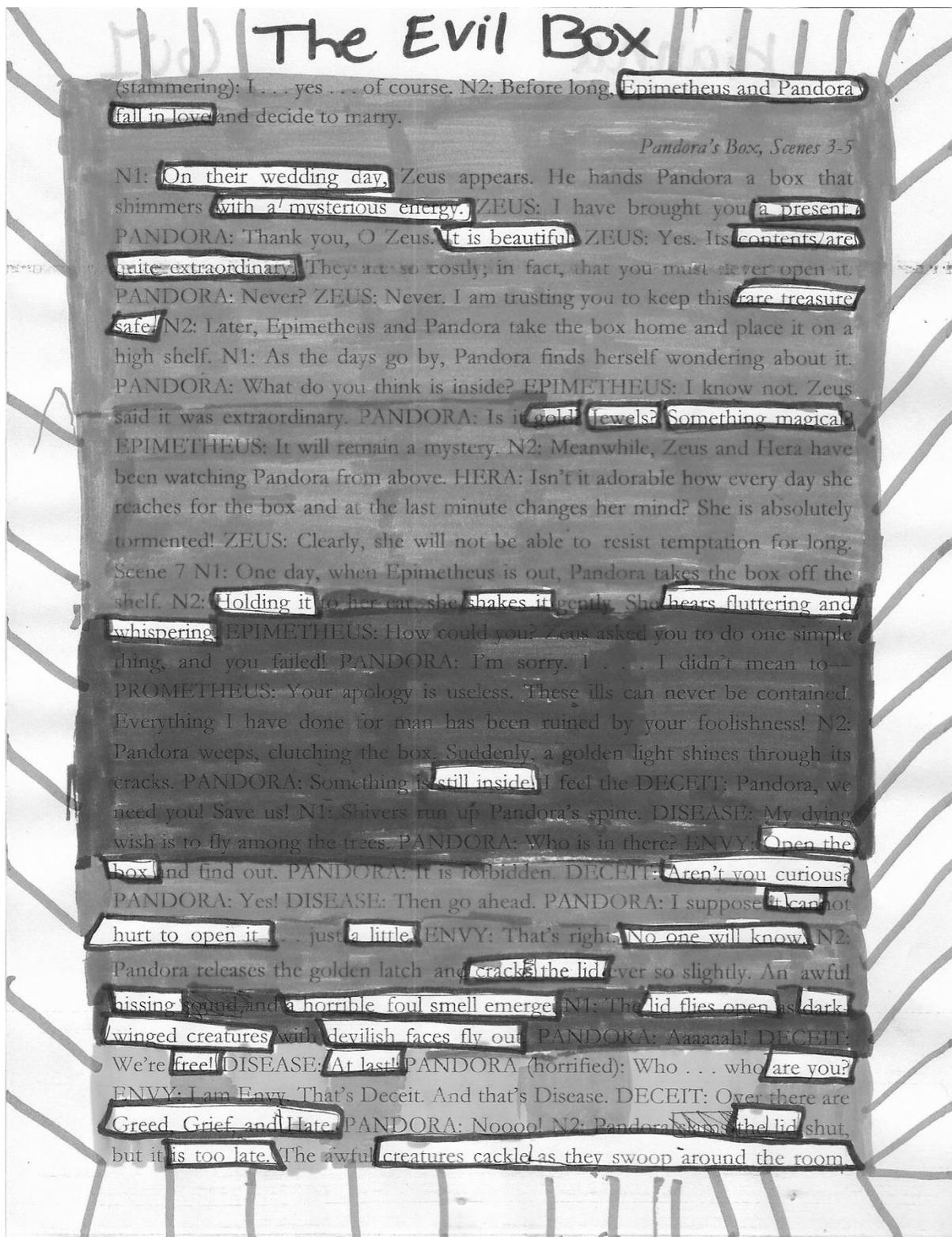


MADNESS IS FUN

Isabella
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Pandora's Box, Scenes 1-2

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polluting the air with their vile stench. N1: Prometheus and Epimetheus hear Pandora's screams and come running in. They gasp in horror as the creatures fly out the window, leaving a trail of black smoke.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 6-7

Narrator: Once upon a time, there lived a beautiful girl named Medusa. She lived in the city of Athens in a country named Greece — and although there were many pretty girls in the city, Medusa was considered the most lovely. At Medusa's house. Medusa: (looking at herself in the mirror) I am the prettiest of them all! Everybody knows that, and I am proud of that. My skin is more beautiful than fresh fallen snow. Narrator: Every day of the week, she told everybody something about her beauty. On Monday, she told the cobbler. At the cobbler's shop Medusa: My hair glows brighter than the sun. Cobbler: I know that! It brightens every room and every place you enter. The sun is nothing compared to you. Narrator: On Tuesday, she said it to the blacksmith's son. At the blacksmith's shop Medusa: My eyes are greener than the Aegean Sea. Blacksmith's Son: Yes, you have the most beautiful eyes I have ever seen. The sea is nothing compared to you! Narrator: On Wednesday, she boasted to everyone at the public garden. At the public garden Medusa: My lips are redder than the reddest rose. People in the garden: Oh, Medusa, roses are nothing compared to you! Narrator: When she wasn't busy sharing her thoughts about her beauty with all who passed by, Medusa would gaze lovingly at her reflection in her hand mirror. In her room Medusa: (to hand mirror while brushing her hair) I admire myself, I am so beautiful. Even my reflection in the window and in the water shows my beauty. Narrator: On and on Medusa went about her beauty to anyone and everyone who stopped long enough to hear her — until one day when she made her first visit to the Parthenon with her friends. At the Parthenon Friend 1: The Parthenon is the largest temple to the goddess Athena in all the land. Friend 2: Yes, the decoration looks amazing with those sculptures and paintings. Narrator: Everyone who entered was astonished by the beauty of the place and couldn't help but think of how grateful they were to Athena, goddess of wisdom, for inspiring them and for watching over their city of Athens. Everyone, that is, except Medusa. Medusa: (whispering) I could have made a much better subject for the sculptor than Athena. Narrator: When Medusa saw the artwork, she had something to say. Medusa: The artist did a fine job considering the goddess's thick eyebrows.

Poetic

Dear Medusa

You're beautiful in movies
but not in real life. If you weren't
showing off your beauty and talking about people
then you wouldn't have turned into a monster.
You should be locked away for turning people to stone and basically killing them.
One day I hope you find something to turn you back to a normal human.

PRESTON P.

shimmers with a mysterious energy. ZEUS: I have brought you a present.
PANDORA: Thank you, O Zeus. It is beautiful. ZEUS: Yes. Its contents are
quite extraordinary. They are so costly, in fact, that you must never open it.
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We're free! DISEASE: At last! PANDORA (horrified): Who . . . who are you?
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Greed, Grief, and Hate. PANDORA: Nooooo! N2: Pandora slams the lid shut,
but it is too late. The awful creatures cackle as they swoop around the room,

medusa & athena fight story

This story started all because of medusa. She was acting like she was all that but she really is not. This is because athena told her that she wasn't all that.

Prometheus and Epimetheus hear Pandora's screams and come running in. They gasp in horror as the creatures fly out the window, filling the room with black smoke.

Prometheus: What is this?

Epimetheus: I don't know.

Narrator: One upon a time, there lived a beautiful girl named Medusa. She lived in the city of Athens, a beautiful place — and although there were many beautiful girls in the city, Medusa was considered the most lovely. A Medusa's name, Medusa, looking at herself in the mirror: I am the prettiest girl in Athens. Everybody knows that, and I am proud of that. My skin is more beautiful than fresh fallen snow.

Narrator: Every day of the week, she told everybody something about her beauty. On Monday, she told the cobbler. At the cobbler's shop Medusa: My hair glows brighter than the sun. Cobbler: I know that! It brightens every room, and every place you enter. The sun is nothing compared to you. Narrator: On Tuesday, she said it to the blacksmith's son. At the blacksmith's shop Medusa: My eyes are greener than the Aegean Sea. Blacksmith's Son: Yes, you have the most beautiful eyes I have ever seen. The sea is nothing compared to you! Narrator: On Wednesday, she boasted to everyone at the public garden. At the public garden Medusa: My lips are redder than the reddest rose. People in the garden: Oh, Medusa, roses are nothing compared to you! Narrator: When she wasn't busy sharing her thoughts about her beauty with all who passed by, Medusa would gaze lovingly at her reflection in her hand mirror. In her room Medusa: (to hand mirror while brushing her hair) I admire myself, I am so beautiful. Even my reflection in the window and in the water shows my beauty. Narrator: On and on Medusa went about her beauty to anyone and everyone who stopped long enough to hear her — until one day when she made her first visit to the Parthenon with her friends. At the Parthenon Friend 1: The Parthenon is the largest temple to the goddess Athena in all the land. Friend 2: Yes, the decoration looks amazing with those sculptures and paintings. Narrator: Everyone who entered was astonished by the beauty of the place and couldn't help but think of how grateful they were to Athena, goddess of wisdom, for inspiring them and for watching over their city of Athens. Everyone, that is, except Medusa. Medusa: (whispering) I could have made a much better subject for the sculptor than Athena. Narrator: When Medusa saw the artwork she had something to say. Medusa: The artist did a fine job considering the goddess's thick eyebrows.

(stammering) I . . . yes . . . Of course. N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 3-5

N1: On their wedding day, Zeus appears. He hands Pandora a box that shimmers with a mysterious energy. ZEUS: I have brought you a present.

PANDORA: Thank you, O Zeus. It is beautiful. ZEUS: Yes. Its contents are quite extraordinary. They are so costly, in fact, that you must never open it.

PANDORA: Never? ZEUS: Never. I am warning you to keep this rare treasure safe. N2: Later, Epimetheus and Pandora take the box home and place it on a high shelf. N1: As the days go by, Pandora finds herself wondering about it.

PANDORA: What do you think is inside? EPIMETHEUS: I know not. Zeus said it was extraordinary. PANDORA: Is it gold? Jewels? Something magical?

EPIMETHEUS: It will remain a mystery. N2: Meanwhile, Zeus and Hera have been watching Pandora from above. HERA: Isn't it adorable how every day she reaches for the box and at the last minute changes her mind? She is absolutely tormented! ZEUS: Clearly, she will not be able to resist temptation for long.

Scene 7 N1: One day, when Epimetheus is out, Pandora takes the box off the shelf. N2: Holding it to her ear, she shakes it gently. She hears fluttering and whispering. EPIMETHEUS: How could you? Zeus asked you to do one simple thing, and you failed! PANDORA: I'm sorry. I . . . I didn't mean to—

PROMETHEUS: Your apology is useless. These ills can never be contained. Everything I have done for man has been ruined by your foolishness! N2: Pandora weeps, clutching the box. Suddenly, a golden light shines through its cracks. PANDORA: Something is still inside. I feel the

DECEIT: Pandora, we need you! Save us! N1: Shivers run up Pandora's spine. DISEASE: My dying wish is to fly among the trees. PANDORA: Who is in there? ENVY: Open the box and find out. PANDORA: It is forbidden. DECEIT: Aren't you curious? PANDORA: Yes! DISEASE: Then go ahead. PANDORA: I suppose it cannot hurt to open it . . . just a little. ENVY: That's right. No one will know. N2: Pandora releases the golden latch and cracks the lid ever so slightly. An awful

hissing sound and a horrible foul smell emerge. N1: The lid flies open as dark-winged creatures with devilish faces fly out. PANDORA: Aaaaaah! DECEIT: We're free! DISEASE: At last! PANDORA (horrified): Who . . . who are you? ENVY: I am Envy. That's Deceit. And that's Disease. DECEIT: Over there are Greed, Grief, and Hate. PANDORA: Noooo! N2: Pandora slams the lid shut, but it is too late. The awful creatures cackle as they swoop around the room.

Dear Medusa

You look like a crackhead with snakes on your head. You are more ugly than the snakes on your head. If you come near my house I will cut off your head with a sword, then I will feed you to my komodo dragon.

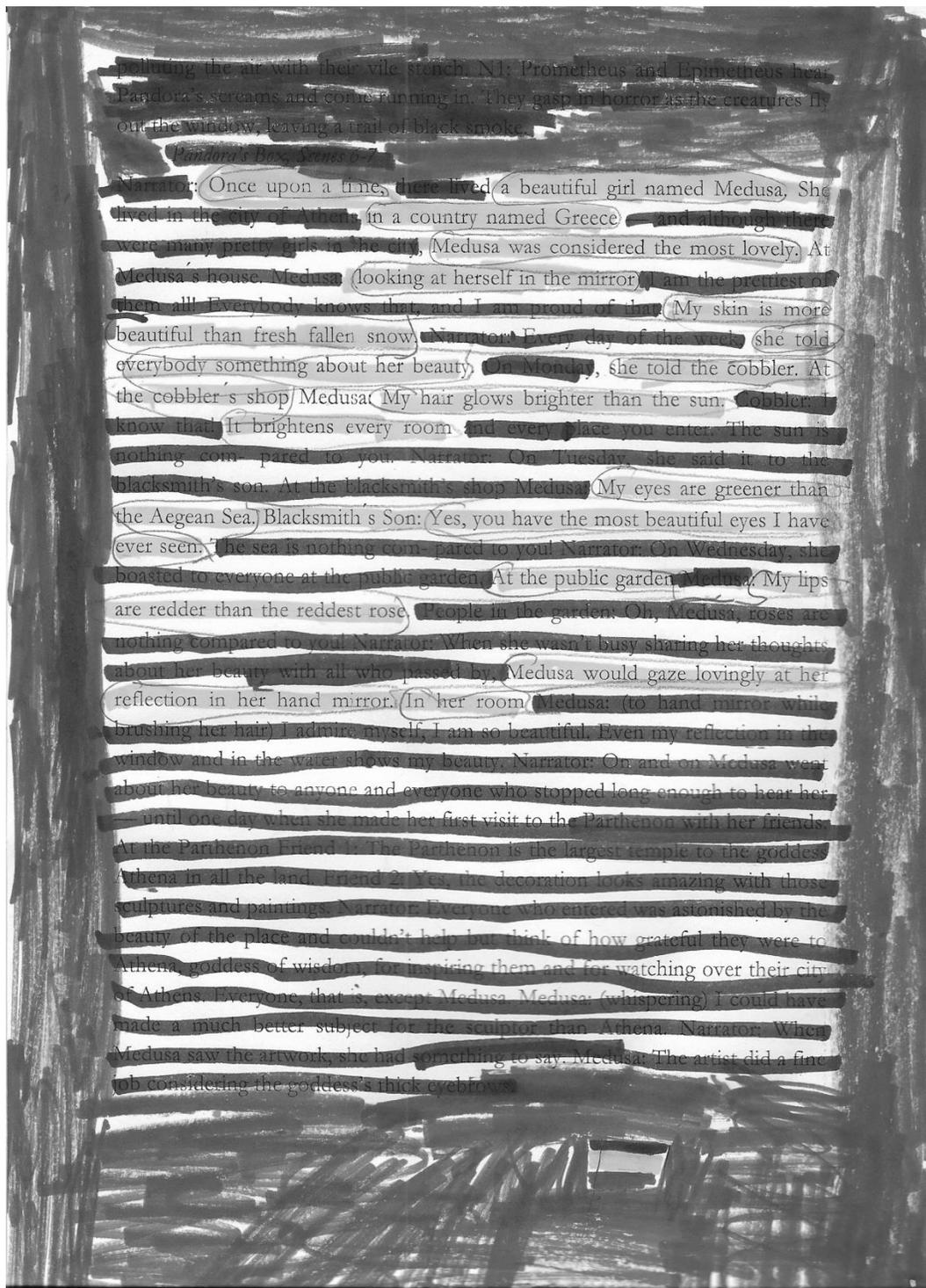
YOELVIN V.

Dear Medusa

You are very selfish because you only think about yourself.
Even if you were pretty you could have talked about something else but that.
Also, with the snakes in your hair, you look worse.
I don't know why you are always gassing yourself.
I just have to let you know that you are not the prettiest girl in the world.
You are ugly and no one likes you.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 1-2

N1: Prometheus lights a torch from the sun and brings it to the humans. MAN (frightened): What madness is this? PROMETHEUS: Fear not. This is called fire. Use it to warm your caves, cook your food, and make tools. N2: The man reaches out and burns his hand. MAN: Aaaaaii! PROMETHEUS: You must be careful. Fire can give life, but it can also take life. I will show you how to share fire and keep it burning. MAN: We thank you. N1: Back on Mount Olympus, Zeus looks down and sees small fires lit across the land below. ZEUS (enraged): Man dares to thrive without my consent? Prometheus has defied me! N2: Sparks fly from Zeus's lightning bolt as he raises it over his head. Hera watches delightedly. HERA: Are you going to smite him? N1: Zeus thinks for a moment. ZEUS: No, he deserves a more memorable punishment... something that causes his precious humans to suffer, and reminds them all that I am the ruler and protector of all things! HERA: Think, Zeus. Won't humans think ill of you for making them suffer? ZEUS: Oh, they will not blame me for the torrent of afflictions that rains upon them. No, dear wife, they will blame someone else entirely. Scene 4 N1: The gods stand around a statue. ZEUS: Gods of Olympus, behold. This is the finest statue ever made. And she will be the first human woman. N1: Zeus calls the Four Winds to blow life into the statue. ZEUS: Ah, and now she lives! Gods of Olympus, bestow gifts upon this lady. APHRODITE: I give her beauty and charm. ATHENA: I give her cleverness. HERMES: I give her persuasion and cunning. HERA: And I give her (winking at Zeus)... the gift of insatiable curiosity. ZEUS: We will call her Pandora, "all-gifted." And she will be irresistible. Scene 5 N2: Meanwhile, on Earth... PROMETHEUS: Zeus cannot be pleased with my actions. We must beware. EPIMETHEUS: We? You disobeyed him, not I! PROMETHEUS: Still, he is spiteful, and you are my brother. Promise me you won't accept any gifts from the gods. EPIMETHEUS: I am not a fool, brother! PROMETHEUS: Just be careful. I will be away helping man clear the land for farming. He has made astonishing progress since he was born. N1: Prometheus leaves. Zeus appears with Pandora. ZEUS: Epimetheus, what do you think of your new companion? This is Pandora. N2: Epimetheus runs toward a beautiful woman with glistening eyes. EPIMETHEUS: Oh, she's so beautiful. PANDORA: It is a pleasure to meet you. N1: Pandora smiles charmingly. ZEUS: She has no mind, but she doesn't know a soul. I thought you would show her some mercy. EPIMETHEUS





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(stammering): I . . . yes . . . of course. N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 3-5

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Dear Medusa,

I honestly don't even like you at all.
Your hair is snakes, and you harm people just because you think your all that and the most beautiful girl in the world.

That is exactly what you get, Athena did the right choice. I hope you learned your lesson.

ADRIAN S.

Dear: MEDUSA

Medusa you are ugly and a BLOOD MONSTER
Medusa they call you hideous, but I admire your looks PSYCH!
Nobody likes you just deal with your ugliness ALONE
And I don't know why they call you a her you're just an IT.
Medusa I don't know why anyone can stand you
Every time I see you your ugliness come I have to
TURN THE OTHER WAY.
Cover your mouth that stinkyness comes and I'm moving out
GOOD LUCK TO YOU IN JAIL SNAKE MONSTER.

But imagine how much more wonderful the palace of Athena was than one as delicate as Medusa. When Medusa reached the temple, she smiled happily and said, Medusa: My hair is so beautiful that everyone who looks at it will build an altar to my beauty. Narrator: Medusa's hands grew pale. Her chest and stomach began to vibrate. Whispers ran through all the people in the temple who quickly began to leave, except for Medusa who was so busy looking proudly at her reflection in the large bronze doors that she did not notice the departure of everyone else. Suddenly, instead of her own features, it was the face of Athena that Medusa saw reflected back at her. Athena: (to Medusa) Vain and foolish girl. You think you are prettier than I am! I doubt it to be true, but even if it were — there is more to life than beauty alone. While others work and play and learn, you do little but boast and admire yourself! Medusa: But, Athena, my beauty is an inspiration to those around me. I make their lives better by simply looking so lovely. Narrator: But Athena silenced her with a frustrated wave. Athena: Nonsense. Beauty fades swiftly in all mortals. It does not comfort the sick, teach the unskilled or feed the hungry. And by my powers, your loveliness shall be stripped away completely. Your fate shall serve as a reminder to others to control their pride. Narrator: And with those words, Medusa's face changed to that of a hideous monster. Her hair twisted and thickened into horrible snakes that hissed and fought each other atop her head. Athena: Medusa, for your pride, this has been done. Your face is now so terrible to behold that the mere sight of it will turn a man to stone! Even you, Medusa, should you seek your reflection, shall turn to rock the instant you see your face.. Now, with your hair of snakes, go live with the blind monsters — the gorgon sisters — at the ends of the earth, so that no innocents would be accidentally turned to stone at the sight of you. Medusa: (shouting) Nooo, what have you done to me, Athena? I am the most beautiful! You are jealous of me! I will be beautiful forever, and you will not change that!

ANASTACIA V.

Dear Medusa

At first you thought you had it all
until Athena struck you like a bowling ball.
She got you back with snakes in your hair
which you thought was totally unfair.

ARIANA P

Dear Medusa

You have a different look now I see
I always thought you were always better than me
Your eyes shine like the moon and stars
And then when I try to see them they seem too far
I am behind bars I need to escape
I have belief in you and I have trust in you, I have faith
I'm home and I'm wondering about you
I don't know where you're at, I have no clue.

I stare into the moon thinking of you
And I stare only when the sky is blue
Sitting there while I make my brew
Still have a red scar
If I drive away in my car
I need you to get me out of here
With help from your beautiful hair
And I think it is fair
To always share.

Narrator: But imagine how much more wonderful the painting would be if it was of someone as delicate as Medusa. When Medusa reached the altar she sighed happily and said: Medusa: My, this is a beautiful temple. It is a shame it was wasted on Athena, I am so much prettier than she is — perhaps some day people will build an even grander temple to my beauty. Narrator: Medusa's friends grove nile. The priestesses who overheard Medusa gasped. Whispers ran through all the people in the temple who quickly began to leave, except for Medusa who was so busy looking proudly at her reflection in the large bronze doors that she hadn't noticed the departure of everyone else. Suddenly, instead of her own features, it was the face of Athena that Medusa saw reflected back at her. Athena: (to Medusa) Van and foolish girl! You think you are prettier than I am! I doubt it to be true, but even if it were — there is more to life than beauty alone. While others work and play and learn, you do little but boast and admire yourself. Medusa: But, Athena, my beauty is an inspiration to those around me, I make their lives better. By simply looking so lovely. Narrator: But Athena silenced her with a frustrated wave. Athena: Nonsense. Beauty fades swiftly in all mortals. It does not comfort the sick, teach the unskilled or feed the hungry. And by my powers, your loveliness shall be stripped away completely. Your fate shall serve as a reminder to others to control their pride. Narrator: And with those words, Medusa's face changed to that of a hideous monster. Her hair twisted and thickened into horrible snakes that hissed and fought each other atop her head. Athena: Medusa, for your pride, this has been done. Your face is now so terrible to behold that the mere sight of it will turn a man to stone! Even you, Medusa, should you seek your reflection, shall turn to rock the instant you see your face. Now, with your hair of snakes, go live with the blind monsters — the gorgon sisters — at the ends of the earth, so that no innocents would be accidentally turned to stone at the sight of you. Medusa: (shouting) Nooo, what have you done to me, Athena? I am the most beautiful! You are jealous of me! I will be beautiful forever, and you will not change that!

A beautiful face of a girl is
more beauty, loveliness, and control
is so terrible with hair of
the earth. and you will not
change that.

ATHENA V

Dear Medusa

Medusa, Medusa you're my best friend, I promise to get you beauty
You might have a head full of snakes but I'll always think you're pretty
Athena can be mean but it's true that you only think about yourself

Medusa, Medusa you're my best friend and I hope when people look at you
They don't see an ugly person and they see a beautiful girl with very nice-looking hair

DANE P.

The curse upon pandora

Zeus appears as the days go by something magical been watching pandora from above at the last minute she will not be able to resist pandora takes the box she shakes it gently. Suddenly a golden light shines through its crack.

Pandora releases the golden latch and a horrible foul smell emerges. Creatures with devilish faces fly out. Aaaaaah! We're free! DISEASE at last pandora who are you? I am envy that's deceit. And that's disease.

(stammering): I . . . yes . . . of course. N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 3-5

N1: On their wedding day, Zeus appears. He hands Pandora a box that shimmers with a mysterious energy. ZEUS: I have brought you a present. PANDORA: Thank you, O Zeus. It is beautiful. ZEUS: Yes. Its contents are quite extraordinary. They are so costly, in fact, that you must never open it. PANDORA: Never? ZEUS: Never. I am trusting you to keep this rare treasure safe. N2: Later, Epimetheus and Pandora take the box home and place it on a high shelf. N1: As the days go by, Pandora finds herself wondering about it. PANDORA: What do you think is inside? EPIMETHEUS: I know not. Zeus said it was extraordinary. PANDORA: Is it gold? Jewels? Something magical? EPIMETHEUS: It will remain a mystery. N2: Meanwhile, Zeus and Hera have been watching Pandora from above. HERA: Isn't it adorable how every day she reaches for the box and at the last minute changes her mind? She is absolutely tormented! ZEUS: Clearly, she will not be able to resist temptation for long.

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Dear Medusa

I have bought you a present I'm trusting you to keep
This rare treasure. As days go by, Zeus and Hera
Been watching you from above.

(stammering): I . . . yes . . . of course. N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

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DESIREE F

A box that is beautiful
It's extraordinary you must
never open it. This rare
Treasure box place it
Wondering about what
Is inside? Is it gold?
Something magical?
It will remain a mystery.
The box will not be able
To do one simple thing.
These can never be contained.
I have done foolishness!
Clutching the box
Golden light shines through
its cracks. We need you!
Save us! Aren't you supposed
To open it, just a little
But it is too late.

(stammering) I... yes... of course! N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

Pandora's Box, Act 3, 5

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N2: Pandora slams the lid shut, but it is too late. The awful creatures cackle as they swoop around the room,

DESTINY D.

Imagine someone prettier than my beauty.
Who overheard whispers
Through people in the temple

Narrator: But imagine how much more wonderful the painting would be if it was of someone as delicate as Medusa. When Medusa reached the altar she, sighed happily and said. Medusa: My, this is a beautiful temple. It is a shame it was wasted on Athena, I am so much prettier than she is – perhaps some day people will build an even grander temple to my beauty. Narrator: Medusa's friends grew pale. The priestesses who overheard Medusa gasped. Whispers ran through all the people in the temple who quickly began to leave, except for Medusa who was so busy looking proudly at her reflection in the large bronze doors that she hadn't noticed the departure of everyone else. Suddenly, instead

HENRY P.

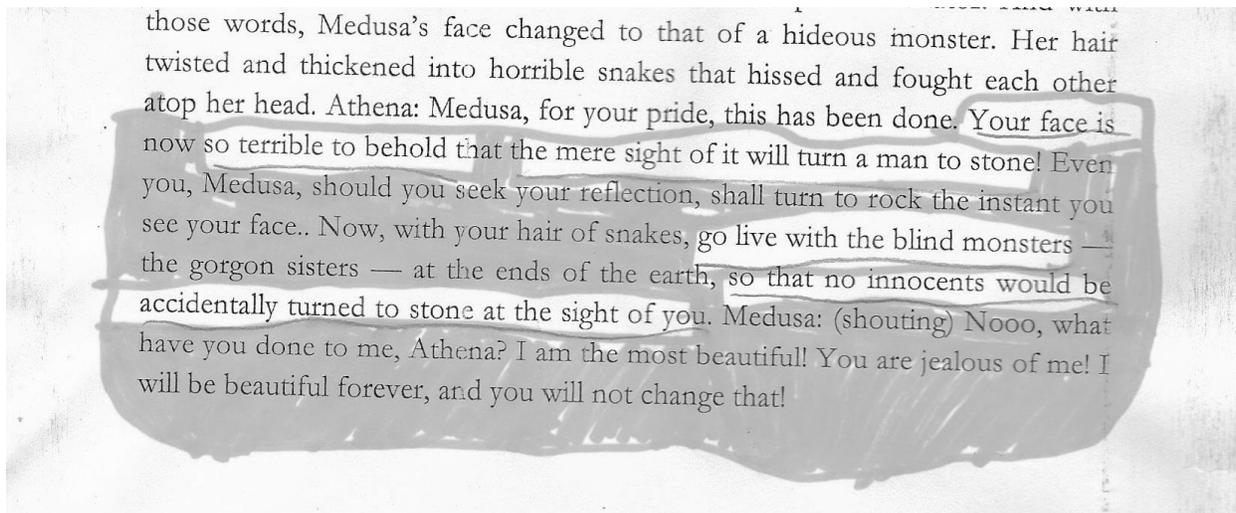
Dear Medusa

You were once beautiful, but by now you have snake hair.
You may be slick, but you always make other people sick.
Why Medusa, must you have fought with the wonderful goddess Athena?
Medusa, your snakes look like a bowling ball, but I hope you get hit by a wrecking ball.
Oh Medusa, you should put some makeup on, before you make some people gone!
Oh Medusa, you had a punishment like Pandora, but why you must watch Dora The Explorer?
Medusa, you have to act like a child, but why do you always have to be vile?
Medusa, you were always unpleasant, but now everything is so pleasant.
But Medusa, I have to say goodbye, and have a good goodnight!

(stammering): I . . . yes . . . of course. N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 3-5

N1: On their wedding day, Zeus appears. He hands Pandora a box that shimmers with a mysterious energy. ZEUS: I have brought you a present. PANDORA: Thank you, Zeus. It is beautiful. ZEUS: Yes, its contents are quite extraordinary. They are so costly, in fact, that you must never open it. PANDORA: Never? ZEUS: Never. I am trusting you to keep this rare treasure safe. N2: Later, Epimetheus and Pandora take the box home and place it on a high shelf. N1: As the days go by, Pandora finds herself wondering about it. PANDORA: What do you think is inside? EPIMETHEUS: I know not. Zeus said it was extraordinary. PANDORA: Is it gold? Jewels? Something magical? EPIMETHEUS: It will remain a mystery. N2: Meanwhile, Zeus and Hera have been watching Pandora from above. HERA: Isn't it adorable how every day she reaches for the box and at the last minute changes her mind? She is absolutely tormented! ZEUS: Clearly, she will not be able to resist temptation for long. Scene 7 N1: One day, when Epimetheus is out, Pandora takes the box off the shelf. N2: Holding it to her ear, she shakes it gently. She hears fluttering and whispering. EPIMETHEUS: How could you? Zeus asked you to do one simple thing, and you failed. PANDORA: I'm sorry. I . . . I didn't mean to— PROMETHEUS: Your apology is useless. These ills can never be contained. Everything I have done for man has been ruined by your foolishness! N2: Pandora weeps, clutching the box. Suddenly, a golden light shines through its cracks. PANDORA: Something is still inside. I feel the DECEIT: Pandora, we need you! Save us! N1: Shivers run up Pandora's spine. DISEASE: My dying wish is to fly among the trees. PANDORA: Who is in there? ENVY: Open the box and find out. PANDORA: It is forbidden. DECEIT: Aren't you curious? PANDORA: Yes! DISEASE: Then go ahead. PANDORA: I suppose it cannot hurt to open it . . . just a little. ENVY: That's right. No one will know. N2: Pandora releases the golden latch and cracks the lid ever so slightly. An awful hissing sound and a horrible foul smell emerge. N1: The lid flies open as dark-winged creatures with devilish faces fly out. PANDORA: Aaaaaah! DECEIT: We're free! DISEASE: At last! PANDORA (horrified): Who . . . who are you? ENVY: I am Envy. That's Deceit. And that's Disease. DECEIT: Over there are Greed, Grief, and Hate. PANDORA: Noooo! N2: Pandora slams the lid shut, but it is too late. The awful creatures cackle as they swoop around the room,



Medusa

Medusa they call you
Hideous but I admire
The way you stay
Beautiful in your
Own way.

Medusa you are beautiful
In your own unique way.
We both sometimes don't
Admire ourselves.

Medusa I think you should
Admire yourself like you
Used to even though
People call you hideous.
Forget what all the haters
say.

JADEN M.

I grew pale.
I ran through
All the people
In the temple
Except...
Medusa, who
Was so busy
Looking at
Her reflection.
I think you are
Prettier than I
Am I work play
And learn I boast
And admire you.
You look so lovely
I hid. You seek your
Reflection live
With the blind
Monsters. **NO!**
YOU ARE MOST
BEAUTIFUL.
YOU ARE MOST
BEAUTIFUL.

Narrator: But imagine how much more wonderful the painting would be if it was of someone as delicate as Medusa. When Medusa reached the altar she sighed happily and said. Medusa: My, this is a beautiful temple. It is a shame it was wasted on Athena. I am so much prettier than she is — perhaps some day people will build an even grander temple to my beauty. Narrator: Medusa's friends grew pale. The priestesses who overheard Medusa gasped. Whispers ran through all the people in the temple who quickly began to leave, except for Medusa who was so busy looking proudly at her reflection in the large bronze doors that she hadn't noticed the departure of everyone else. Suddenly, instead of her own features, it was the face of Athena that Medusa saw reflected back at her. Athena: (to Medusa) Vain and foolish girl. You think you are prettier than I am. I doubt it to be true, but even if it were — there is more to life than beauty alone. While others work and play and learn, you do little but boast and admire yourself! Medusa: But, Athena, my beauty is an inspiration to those around me. I make their lives better by simply looking so lovely. Narrator: But Athena silenced her with a frustrated wave. Athena: Nonsense. Beauty fades swiftly in all mortals. It does not comfort the sick, teach the unskilled or feed the hungry. And by my powers, your loveliness shall be stripped away completely. Your fate shall serve as a reminder to others to control their pride. Narrator: And with those words, Medusa's face changed to that of a hideous monster. Her hair twisted and thickened into horrible snakes that hissed and fought each other atop her head. Athena: Medusa, for your pride, this has been done. Your face is now so terrible to behold that the mere sight of it will turn a man to stone! Even you, Medusa, should you seek your reflection, shall turn to rock the instant you see your face.. Now, with your hair of snakes, go live with the blind monsters — the gorgon sisters — at the ends of the earth, so that no innocents would be accidentally turned to stone at the sight of you. Medusa: (shouting) Nooo, what have you done to me, Athena? I am the most beautiful! You are jealous of me! I will be beautiful forever, and you will not change that!

Delicate people looking quickly perhaps
Doubt it to be true but frustrated for your pride
to teach a beautiful lovely unskilled monster

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PANDORA: Thank you, O Zeus. It is beautiful. Zeus: Yes. Its contents are quite extraordinary. They are so costly that you must never open it.

PANDORA: Never? Zeus: Never. Don't trust me to keep this rare treasure safe. N2: Later, Epimetheus and Pandora take the box home and place it on a high shelf.

N1: As the days go by, Pandora finds herself wondering about it.

PANDORA: What do you think is inside? EPIMETHEUS: I know not. Zeus said it was extraordinary. PANDORA: Is it gold? Jewels? Something magical?

EPIMETHEUS: It will remain a mystery. N2: Meanwhile, Zeus and Hera have been watching Pandora from above.

HERA: Isn't it adorable how every day she reaches for the box and at the last minute changes her mind? She is absolutely tormented! ZEUS: Clearly, she will not be able to resist temptation for long.

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PANDORA: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to—

PROMETHEUS: Your apology is useless. The evil that was never be contained. Everything I have done for man has been ruined by your foolishness! N2: Pandora weeps, clutching the box. Suddenly, a golden light shines through its cracks.

PANDORA: Something is still inside. I feel the DECEIT: Pandora, we need you! Save us! N1: Slaves run up Pandora's spine. DISEASE: My dying wish is to fly among the trees. PANDORA: Who is in there? ENVY: Open the box and find out.

PANDORA: It's forbidden. DECEIT: Aren't you curious? PANDORA: Yes! DISEASE: Then go ahead. PANDORA: I suppose it cannot hurt to open it . . . just a little. ENVY: That's right. No one will know. N2: Pandora releases the golden latch and cracks the lid ever so slightly. An awful hissing sound and a horrible foul smell emerge. N1: The lid flies open as dark-winged creatures with devilish faces fly out. PANDORA: Aaaaaa!

DECEIT: We're free! DISEASE: At last! PANDORA (horrified): Who . . . who are you? ENVY: I am Envy. That's Deceit. And that's Disease. DECEIT: Over there are Greed, Grief, and Hate. PANDORA: Nooooo!

PANDORA: Pandora slams the lid shut, but it is too late. The awful creatures cackle as they swoop around the room.

JUSTICE J.

Imagine, Medusa sighed happily
A beautiful temple, it is a shame it was wasted on Athena.
While others work, Medusa boast and admire
Athena silenced with frustrated wave
Your loveliness shall be stripped away
Medusa's face changed to
A hideous monster

Narrator: But imagine how much more wonderful the painting would be if it was of someone as delicate as Medusa. When Medusa reached the altar she, sighed happily and said. Medusa: My, this is a beautiful temple. It is a shame it was wasted on Athena, I am so much prettier than she is — perhaps some day people will build an even grander temple to my beauty. Narrator: Medusa's friends grew pale. The priestesses who overheard Medusa gasped. Whispers ran through all the people in the temple who quickly began to leave, except for Medusa who was so busy looking proudly at her reflection in the large bronze doors that she hadn't noticed the departure of everyone else. Suddenly, instead of her own features, it was the face of Athena that Medusa saw reflected back at her. Athena: (to Medusa) Vain and foolish girl. You think you are prettier than I am! I doubt it to be true, but even if it were — there is more to life than beauty alone. While others work and play and learn, you do little but boast and admire yourself! Medusa: But, Athena, my beauty is an inspiration to those around me. I make their lives better by simply looking so lovely. Narrator: But Athena silenced her with a frustrated wave. Athena: Nonsense. Beauty fades swiftly in all mortals. It does not comfort the sick, teach the unskilled or feed the hungry. And by my powers, your loveliness shall be stripped away completely. Your fate shall serve as a reminder to others to control their pride. Narrator: And with those words, Medusa's face changed to that of a hideous monster. Her hair twisted and thickened into horrible snakes that hissed and fought each other atop her head. Athena: Medusa, for your pride, this has been done. Your face is

Dear Medusa □

You look like a
Deer they call □
You ugly but you □
Are Oh Medusa
Do you sing like Camila? □□
Oh Medusa Today!
Oh Medusa you have
Snakes in your hair □
And maybe in your brain! □
Oh Medusa Today!
Oh Medusa you're as
Smart as a bird, bird, bird, bird □
Oh Medusa Today!
Oh Medusa your legs
Are as hairy has a bear □
Oh Medusa Today!
Oh Medusa your arms
Are as long as a tree □
Oh Medusa Today!
Oh Medusa your eyes □
Look like crabs! □
Oh Medusa Today!

Dear Medusa

Medusa, you were a very pretty girl
until you started talking about Athena.
Medusa, they call you hideous, but
I admire your personality because I
understand you were just jealous.
I can't stand your snakes on your
hair, I can't lie. Medusa, we both
get a type of jealous of some
people. I want to know why
Were you so jealous about
Athena ? Because you were
great the way you were.
Never compare yourself
To someone else because
You're great the way you are.

Narrator: But imagine how much more wonderful a painting would be if it was of someone as delicate as Medusa. When Medusa reached the altar she sighed happily and said. Medusa: My, this is a beautiful temple. It is a shame it was wasted on Athena, I am so much prettier than she is — perhaps some day people will build an even grander temple to my beauty. Narrator: Medusa's friends grew pale. The priestesses who overheard Medusa gasped. Whispers ran through all the people in the temple who quickly began to leave, except for Medusa who was so busy looking proudly at her reflection in the large bronze doors that she hadn't noticed the departure of everyone else. Suddenly, instead of her own features, it was the face of Athena that Medusa saw reflected back at her. Athena: (to Medusa) Vain and foolish girl. You think you are prettier than I am! I doubt it to be true, but even if it were — there is more to life than beauty alone. While others work and play and learn, you do little but boast and admire yourself! Medusa: But, Athena, my beauty is an inspiration to those around me, I make their lives better by simply looking so lovely. Narrator: But Athena silenced her with a frustrated wave. Athena: Nonsense. Beauty fades swiftly in all mortals. It does not comfort the sick, teach the unskilled or feed the hungry. And by my powers, your loveliness shall be stripped away completely. Your fate shall serve as a reminder to others to control their pride. Narrator: And with those words, Medusa's face changed to that of a hideous monster. Her hair twisted and thickened into horrible snakes that hissed and fought each other atop her head. Athena: Medusa, for your pride, this has been done. Your face is now so terrible to behold that the mere sight of it will turn a man to stone! Even you, Medusa, should you seek your reflection, shall turn to rock the instant you see your face. Now, with your hair of snakes, go live with the blind monsters — the gorgon sisters — at the ends of the earth, so that no innocents would be accidentally turned to stone at the sight of you. Medusa: (shouting) Nooo, what have you done to me, Athena? I am the most beautiful! You are jealous of me! I will be beautiful forever, and you will not change that!

Imagine wonderful painting if it was Medusa.
This is beautiful to my beauty. Athena
and the priestesses quickly began to
leave. But Athena is an inspiration to
those around.

Narrator: But imagine how much more wonderful the painting would be if it was of someone as delicate as Medusa. When Medusa reached the altar she sighed happily and said. Medusa: My, this is a beautiful temple. It is a shame it was wasted on Athena. I am so much prettier than she is — perhaps some day people will build an even grander temple to my beauty. Narrator: Medusa's friends grew pale. The priestesses who overheard Medusa gasped. Whispers ran through all the people in the temple who quickly began to leave, except for Medusa who was so busy looking proudly at her reflection in the large bronze doors that she hadn't noticed the departure of everyone else. Suddenly, instead of her own features, it was the face of Athena that Medusa saw reflected back at her. Athena: (to Medusa) Vain and foolish girl. You think you are prettier than I am! I doubt it to be true, but even if it were — there is more to life than beauty alone. While others work and play and learn, you do little but boast and admire yourself! Medusa: But, Athena, my beauty is an inspiration to those around me. I make their lives better by simply looking so lovely. Narrator: But Athena silenced her with a frustrated wave. Athena: Nonsense. Beauty fades swiftly in all mortals. It does not comfort the sick, teach the unskilled or feed the hungry. And by my powers, your loveliness shall be stripped away completely. Your fate shall serve as a reminder to others to control their pride. Narrator: And with those words, Medusa's face changed to that of a hideous monster. Her hair twisted and thickened into horrible snakes that hissed and fought each other atop her head. Athena: Medusa, for your pride, this has been done. Your face is now so terrible to behold that the mere sight of it will turn a man to stone! Even you, Medusa, should you seek your reflection, shall turn to rock the instant you see your face.. Now, with your hair of snakes, go live with the blind monsters — the gorgon sisters — at the ends of the earth, so that no innocents would be accidentally turned to stone at the sight of you. Medusa: (shouting) Nooo, what have you done to me, Athena? I am the most beautiful! You are jealous of me! I will be beautiful forever, and you will not change that.

LISHAWN M.

Dear Medusa

Hello, Medusa, how are you?
You look stunning with an ugly face.

MICHAEL N.

Confusion with Medusa

You're wicked with scaly skin I'm confused how did this happen?
Question not answered she heard me? Following me? Here's
my chance to strike. Slash! What happened no one knows...

He played tricks but people no longer looked
To him for advice and protection conceived
Creation to punish. This is maddening.
Do you have any idea
Curiosity my hunger cannot be so easily
Satisfied. Create, strength, speed, bravery.

GREEK CHORUS 1: Long ago, when the gods ruled from Mount Olympus, Zeus treated humans as playthings. He favored them one day and ignored them the next. He played tricks on them and held petty grudges against them.

GREEK CHORUS 2: But as long as humans praised the gods, Zeus was satisfied.

GREEK CHORUS 1: So, when one day it seemed that people no longer looked to him for advice and protection—

GREEK CHORUS 2: —

Zeus conceived a most calamitous creation to punish the entire human race.

Scene 1 N1: Pandora stares intently at an ornate box on a shelf. Epimetheus lounges on a couch nearby.

PANDORA: This is maddening! Day after day, this box calls to me.

EPIMETHEUS (lazily): Don't think about it.

PANDORA: Don't think about it? Do you have any idea how hard it is for a person to "not think"?

EPIMETHEUS: Zeus told us never to open it, and so we shall not.

PANDORA: Husband, aren't you dying of curiosity?

EPIMETHEUS: I am not in the habit of disobeying the king of the gods.

N2: Pandora sighs, exasperated.

EPIMETHEUS: Turn your attention elsewhere, dear wife. Try these grapes; they're delicious.

PANDORA: My hunger cannot be so easily satisfied.

Scene 2 N1: Many months earlier, Epimetheus and Prometheus had visited Zeus's temple.

PROMETHEUS: What have you done, brother?

EPIMETHEUS (defensive): Zeus asked us to create animals, and he asked ME to give them gifts.

So I did. I gave them the gifts of strength and speed and bravery. And coats of fur and feathers to keep warm.

PROMETHEUS: But you did not give any gifts to man!

EPIMETHEUS: That wasn't intentional. I ran out of gifts before I got to man.

PROMETHEUS: You could have done a better job planning. The poor humans have nothing.

EPIMETHEUS: At least they can walk upright.

PROMETHEUS: That will not help them run away from the animals that want to eat them.

EPIMETHEUS: Quiet. Here comes Zeus.

N2: Zeus sits on his throne.

PROMETHEUS: O Zeus, I have been living among the humans, and I fear for their future.

ZEUS: You are a god. Humankind is not your concern.

PROMETHEUS: The humans have no fur to keep them warm through winter.

N1: Prometheus takes a deep breath.

PROMETHEUS: Zeus, I want to give them the gift of fire. It is their only chance.

ZEUS: Fire is for the gods, and the gods only.

PROMETHEUS: We created humans but gave them no way to survive!

ZEUS: Imagine if man had fire: He would praise the flames rather than the gods.

PROMETHEUS: If humans are to flourish, they must have fire.

ZEUS: I want no more talk of this!

N2: Prometheus stomps out of the temple.

~~GREEK CHORUS 1: Long ago, when the gods ruled from Mount Olympus, Zeus created humans as playthings. He favored them one day and ignored them the next. He played tricks on them and held petty grudges against them.~~
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Dear Medusa

You were once a beautiful maiden.
But after your encounter with Athena,
you soon became a monster. You thought
you were so full of it, but it turns out you're
not even worth it!! Medusa you are literally
the snake princess now..... Which you
know is a fact. BOOM Medusa!! What's
your comeback?

NUZHAT A.

Dear Medusa

With your hair full of lively snakes, no one would dare look at your horrible face.
A mere stare can turn anyone to stone. You don't act proud, now that we left you
alone. You lived your days full of greed and regret. Now when you think back
You wish you could forget. To human life, you're a horrible shame. But your
Heart is uglier than your face and name.

(whispering). I . . . yes . . . of course. N2: Before long, Epimetheus and Pandora fall in love and decide to marry.

Pandora's Box, Scenes 3-5

N1: On their wedding day, Zeus appears. He hands Pandora a box that shimmers with a mysterious energy.

PANDORA: Thank you, O Zeus. It is beautiful. Zeus: Yes. Its contents are quite extraordinary. They are so costly, in fact, that you must never open it.

PANDORA: Never? ZEUS: Never. I am trusting you with this rare treasure safe. N2: Later, Epimetheus and Pandora take the box home and place it on a high shelf.

N1: As the days go by, Pandora finds herself wondering about it.

PANDORA: What do you think is inside? EPIMETHEUS: I know not. Zeus said it was extraordinary. PANDORA: Is it gold or jewels? Something magical?

EPIMETHEUS: It will remain a mystery. N2: Meanwhile, Zeus and Hera have been watching Pandora from above. HERA: Isn't it adorable how every day she reaches for the box and at the last minute changes her mind? She is absolutely tormented!

ZEUS: Clearly, she will not be able to resist temptation for long.

Scene 7 N1: One day, when Epimetheus is out, Pandora takes the box off the shelf. N2: Holding it to her ear, she shakes it gently. She hears fluttering and whispering.

EPIMETHEUS: How could you? Zeus asked you to do one simple thing, and you fail! PANDORA: I'm sorry. I . . . I didn't mean to—

PROMETHEUS: Your apology is useless. These ills can never be contained. Everything I have done for man has been ruined by your foolishness!

N2: Pandora weeps, clutching the box. Suddenly, a golden light shines through its cracks. PANDORA: Something is still inside. I feel the DECEIT: Pandora, we need you! Save us!

N1: Shivers run up Pandora's spine. DISEASE: My dying wish is to fly among the trees. PANDORA: Who is in there? ENVY: Open the box and find out.

PANDORA: It is forbidden. DECEIT: Aren't you curious? PANDORA: Yes! DISEASE: Then go ahead. PANDORA: I suppose it cannot hurt to open it . . . just a little.

ENVY: That's right. No one will know. N2: Pandora releases the golden latch and cracks the lid ever so slightly. An awful hissing sound and a horrible, foul smell emerge.

N1: The lid flies open as dark-winged creatures with devilish faces fly out. PANDORA: Aaaaah! DECEIT: We're free!

DISEASE: At last! PANDORA (horrified): Who . . . who are you? ENVY: I am Envy. That's Deceit. And that's Disease. DECEIT: Over there are Greed, Grief, and Hate.

PANDORA: Noooo! N2: Pandora slams the lid shut, but it is too late. The awful creatures cackle as they swoop around the room,