

The Chronicles of Diana Marsson
Chapter 4: First Impressions

By

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A "Hercules: TLJ" / "Highlander: The Series" Crossover

1998

7 MONTHS LATER

1

EXT: HERCULES' PLACE - FRONT PORCH

1

DIANA and HERCULES are sitting outside, when a screaming man comes running towards them.

MAN

Hercules! Hercules!

HERCULES stands up. The man approaches.

HERCULES

What is it?

MAN

There's a monster...

The man pauses, trying to catch his breath.

MAN

...it is destroying all the villages in my area. I...

HERCULES

Calm down.

HERCULES turns to DIANA.

HERCULES

Get him a glass of water.

DIANA gets the man a glass of water from the jug on the table. She brings it over and hands it to him. He takes it.

MAN

Thank you.

The man drinks his glass of water. HERCULES signals DIANA to refill it. She does. The man drinks some more, and then continues.

MAN

I was sent to get help.

(beat)

The first village that was attacked, had one survivor. He ran to the next village to warn of the danger. He got there just in time to evacuate the village before the creature got there. Then, the fastest man in the village was sent to warn the next village. By the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAN (cont'd)
time someone reached our village, 3
of the 7 villages between the first
one and my one had been completely
destroyed.

(beat)
I was sent to find you. Please you
have to help.

HERCULES looks at the man.

HERCULES
How far is it to your village?

MAN
10 days.
(beat)
We must leave now!
(beat)
Before it is too late.

HERCULES thinks to himself that they might already be too
late. By the time they get back to the village, 20 days will
have passed. A lot can happen in 20 days. HERCULES looks to
DIANA.

HERCULES
I'll be back in about 3 weeks.
(beat)
Think you can stay out of trouble
til then?

DIANA flashes HERCULES a smile.

DIANA
I'll try, Herc.

HERCULES smiles back. He wraps his arm around her, and gives
her a kiss goodbye.

HERCULES
Love you.

DIANA
And I you.

HERCULES removes his arm from around her.

DIANA
Be careful, okay?

HERCULES smiles and winks at her.

HERCULES

Always.

HERCULES turns to the man.

HERCULES

Come on let's get going.

HERCULES and the man set out.

JUMP TO:

1 WEEK LATER

2

EXT: HERCULES' PLACE (BACKYARD)

2

DIANA is writing her book. By now she is well into the biography of Hercules. She is thinking about how to phrase something, when she senses someone is watching her. She looks up and sees a woman standing there. The woman has a bow in her hand, and a quiver of arrows draped over her shoulder. The woman is ARTEMIS, only DIANA doesn't know that yet.

DIANA

Can I help you?

ARTEMIS

Diana, right?

DIANA

(raise eyebrow)

Yes. Do I know you?

ARTEMIS

Not personally.

(beat)

My little brother asked me to come here.

DIANA

Brother?

ARTEMIS

Yes.

Momentary pause. DIANA is curious as to who she is.

ARTEMIS

I'm Artemis.

DIANA is shocked and surprised at the same time.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
Artemis? Really?

ARTEMIS
Yes.

DIANA
Please, sit down.

DIANA offers ARTEMIS a chair.

ARTEMIS
Thank you.

ARTEMIS sits at the table.

DIANA
Would you like a drink?

ARTEMIS
I'd love one.

DIANA pours ARTEMIS a drink from the jug on the table.
ARTEMIS takes it.

ARTEMIS
So, Herc says you wish to learn to
shoot.

ARTEMIS takes a drink of her drink.

DIANA
Yes.
(beat)
Will you teach me?

ARTEMIS
I've thought about it.

DIANA
And?

ARTEMIS takes another drink of her drink.

ARTEMIS
I'm here, aren't I?

DIANA
So you are.
(beat x2)
When do we start?

ARTEMIS
When would you like to start?

DIANA
Can we start now?

ARTEMIS
Sure.

ARTEMIS finishes her drink.

ARTEMIS
You ready?

DIANA
I guess so.

ARTEMIS
Good.

ARTEMIS rises from the table, and indicates that they should head to the backyard.

ARTEMIS
Shall we?

DIANA smiles and rises from the table. They head to the backyard.

CONTINUE TO:

3 EN-ROUTE TO THE BACKYARD

3

DIANA stops.

DIANA
Wait, I don't have...

ARTEMIS snaps her fingers, and a bow appears in DIANA's hand. DIANA is startled at first.

DIANA
Wow. I...

ARTEMIS snaps her fingers again, and a quiver of arrows appear draped over DIANA's shoulder.

ARTEMIS
Come on. Let's get started.

ARTEMIS continues to the backyard. DIANA looks at her bow and quiver of arrows.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
(mutter)
I wish I could do that.

DIANA continues walking.

CONTINUE TO:

4 TIME FLIES MONTAGE 4

ARTEMIS spends the rest of the day trying to teach DIANA to shoot. DIANA is lousy at first, but after a couple of hours she gets better. After a couple of days she has improved a lot.

CONTINUE TO:

5 TIME RESUMES (BACKYARD) 5

ARTEMIS looks at DIANA with a smile on her face.

ARTEMIS
You have improved a lot since we started.

DIANA
Thanks.

Momentary pause.

ARTEMIS
I have to leave now, so keep practicing.
(beat)
It was nice meeting you.

DIANA
You too.

ARTEMIS
I'll see you later.

ARTEMIS waves her hand in a "bye" gesture, and vanishes.

DIANA
Wait, I...
(beat)
That's two for two. Who's gonna be next?

DIANA heads back to the house and enters it.

CUT TO:

2 DAYS LATER

6

EXT: HERCULES' PLACE (BACKYARD)

6

DIANA is out back. She is sitting on the ground looking up at the stars - thinking. APHRODITE appears behind her. APHRODITE watches DIANA for a few moments wondering if she should disturb her. APHRODITE decides that she will interrupt. DIANA, not having heard APHRODITE arrive in the first place, is startled when a voice sounds from behind her.

APHRODITE

What are you thinking about, Diana?

DIANA turns her head to see who is talking to her. She sees a beautiful woman, wearing what looks like a pink negligee. APHRODITE approaches DIANA and sits down beside her.

DIANA

And who might you be?

APHRODITE

Isn't it obvious?

DIANA

No, I...

APHRODITE runs her hand through her hair - acting like a beauty queen.

DIANA

Wait.

(beat)

Let me guess.

(beat)

Aphrodite, right?

APHRODITE

(smile)

How'd you guess?

Momentary pause.

DIANA

Do you guys make it a habit of just dropping in on people?

APHRODITE

Us guys?

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Sorry. I meant... Do you and your people make...

APHRODITE

People? We're not people. We're Gods!

DIANA

Of course you are.

(beat)

I mean...

APHRODITE

I know what you mean.

(beat)

The answer is yes.

(beat)

We can do what we want, when we want. That includes dropping in on whoever, whenever!

DIANA

I see.

(beat)

And the purpose of your visit?

APHRODITE

Do I need one?

DIANA

I guess not.

(beat x2)

But I'm sure there are a million other things you could be doing at the moment.

APHRODITE

True.

DIANA

So why am I so lucky?

Momentary pause.

APHRODITE

I've been watching you since you moved here.

DIANA

You have?

(CONTINUED)

APHRODITE

I've noticed that you don't have many friends.

DIANA

Don't need any. As long as I've got Herc...

APHRODITE

Oh please!

(beat)

Don't you ever wish you had another woman to talk to?

Momentary pause.

DIANA

I guess.

Momentary pause. APHRODITE looks at her as if she is looking through her.

DIANA

Sometimes.

APHRODITE

I knew it.

Momentary pause.

DIANA

So what did you want?

APHRODITE

I'd like to be your friend.

DIANA looks at her with raised eyebrows.

DIANA

Why?

(beat)

What's in it for you?

APHRODITE

Nothing.

DIANA

Nothing?

APHRODITE

Yes. Nothing.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

You guys never do anything without a reason. Without some hidden agenda. Why should...

APHRODITE

Diana.

Momentary pause. APHRODITE gives DIANA a look. A look that says she is being truthful.

DIANA

Okay. If you really want to be my friend, then I accept your offer of friendship.

APHRODITE

Good.

APHRODITE offers her hand, DIANA takes it. They shake hands and then let go. DIANA looks back up at the stars. APHRODITE looks up to the sky as well. After a few moments, APHRODITE turns to DIANA.

APHRODITE

So, tell me about yourself.

DIANA

What do you want to know?

APHRODITE

Everything.

DIANA

Everything?

APHRODITE nods. Momentary pause.

DIANA

Like what?

APHRODITE

Where you were born. Who your parents are. How you met Hercules.

(beat)

Tell me your life story.

DIANA

Okay. Um, let's see.

(beat)

I don't know where I was born, or who my real parents are.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DIANA (cont'd)

You see, I was abandoned in the woods as an infant, and was found by a centaur named Deric. He raised me.

(beat)

When I turned 16, I set out on my own to see if I could learn who I really was.

(beat)

I roamed around for a long time. Went from city to city. And, finally, without realizing it, I'd left Greece.

APHRODITE

How'd you know you'd left Greece?

DIANA

I was standing by a stream praying to one of the Gods. I forget which one, it was so long ago. I think it might have been Apollo.

(beat)

Anyway, a woman was passing by and overheard me. She said to me "You're from Greece aren't you?" to which I promptly replied, "You mean I'm not in Greece anymore?". She said no. She said I was in a place called Highlandria.

APHRODITE is intrigued. She's never heard of Highlandria.

APHRODITE

Highlandria? Never heard of it. Where is it?

Momentary pause.

DIANA

I don't know really.

(beat)

I found it by accident.

(beat)

But that's another story.

(beat)

Where was I?

(beat x2)

Ah yes. The woman.

DIANA takes a breath, then continues.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

She brought me back to her place,
and introduced me to her young son
Duncan.

(beat)

It was love at first sight. For
both of us. Here I was, a young
woman of 18, falling in love for
the first time.

(beat)

We got married, and Duncan built a
house for us by a nearby lake. We
lived very happily for about 5
years.

APHRODITE

What happened then?

DIANA

A warrior came to our house. He
challenged Duncan to a fight.
Duncan and the warrior fought for
what seemed like forever, but was
probably only a couple of hours.

Momentary pause.

APHRODITE

And?

DIANA

Duncan lost.

APHRODITE

I'm sorry.

DIANA

The last thing Duncan said was, "I
love you, D"

APHRODITE looks at DIANA with a raised eyebrow.

APHRODITE

D?

DIANA

Yes. It was his pe...

DIANA is about to say "pet name" but changes her mind.

DIANA

...special name for me.

(CONTINUED)

APHRODITE

I see.

APHRODITE waits for DIANA to continue. After a few moments, when DIANA doesn't continue, APHRODITE prompts her to continue.

APHRODITE

Please, go on.

DIANA

Anyway, the warrior then looked at me and said, "You, are mine. You are my prize."

(beat)

He advanced on me. I picked up Duncan's sword, and stabbed him with it. He fell to the ground.

(beat)

I ran out of the house, and into town. I ran to Duncan's mother, and told her what had happened.

(beat)

I stayed with her for a while. At the time, I wasn't sure how long I'd been at her place. Was it days, weeks, months, years... I wasn't sure. Time seemed to stand still after Duncan was killed.

(beat)

I eventually recovered, and learned from his mother that only 7 months had passed since Duncan's death.

(beat)

I decided I had to go back to that house by the lake. The house Duncan had built.

(beat)

It was exactly 3 years after Duncan's death that Hercules landed in the lake.

(beat)

I was inside when I heard a splash.

(beat)

I ran outside and saw him. I invited him inside after he told me who he was.

(beat)

He said he had to get to Corinth. I told him Corinth was a great distance away. He asked me if I knew how to get there. I told him I'd show him in the morning.

(CONTINUED)

(beat)
So, the next morning we headed for Corinth. We got there two months later. And, well, you know the story from there.

APHRODITE

Wait.

(beat)
Your meeting with my brother...
That's not how I heard it.

Momentary pause. DIANA is curious.

DIANA

Oh?

(beat)
And, how have you heard it?

APHRODITE

In the version I heard, you were outside. Not inside. You were sitting under a tree when he landed in the lake.

(beat)
You looked at him as he walked out of the lake, and headed to him. He saw you, and headed to you. His eyes locked with yours, and when you met... You kissed in a passionate embrace. And then, after a few moments, you both fell to the ground and made love for hours.

DIANA looks at APHRODITE with raised eyebrows.

DIANA

What?

(beat)
That's not how it happened at all.
(beat)

I mean, we were half way to Corinth before he even kissed me!!

APHRODITE

So, tell me, what's he like?

DIANA is confused.

DIANA

Who?

(CONTINUED)

APHRODITE

Hercules.

DIANA

I don't know what you mean. He's your brother. Don't you know him?

APHRODITE

1/2 brother. And that's not what I meant.

DIANA is curious.

DIANA

Oh? What did you mean?

APHRODITE smiles and gives DIANA a look.

APHRODITE

Everyone knows about Hercules the Hero, how he performs incredible feats, I want to know about Hercules the man, and how he performs in the bedroom.

DIANA can't believe that APHRODITE just asked her that.

DIANA

What?

APHRODITE

What type of lover is he?

(beat)

Is he soft and gentle? Does he make you melt? Is it all hot, and steamy? Can he make you...

DIANA says line as she stands up.

DIANA

This conversation is over.

DIANA looks at APHRODITE, who is still sitting.

DIANA

What goes on between me and Hercules, stays between me and Hercules.

(beat)

I don't kiss and tell. And I'm not going to discuss our sex life with you!!!

APHRODITE says line as she stands up.

(CONTINUED)

APHRODITE

Ah, so you admit that you are
sleeping with him!?!

DIANA

I think you should leave. NOW!!!

APHRODITE

You can't tell me what to do!

DIANA

Fine! Then I'm leaving. Goodnight
Aphrodite.

DIANA storms off back to the house. APHRODITE watches her
retreat into the house.

APHRODITE

Well, I didn't learn very much. Did
I?

(beat)

Maybe next time.

APHRODITE vanishes.

JUMP TO:

2 DAYS LATER

7 INT: BEDROOM

7

DIANA awakens and looks out the bedroom window. She sees a
man sitting out back, under a tree. He seems to be waiting
for someone.

DIANA

Great.

(beat)

I wonder who it is now?!?

DIANA gets dressed and exits the room.

JUMP TO:

8 EXT: BACKYARD

8

The man stands as she approaches him. She looks him over. He
is tall, has dark-hair, is well built, very well built, and
is wearing a sword on his waist. The man looks at her and
smiles. She finds herself smiling back, admiring him as they
get closer and closer. She figures he must be a God. His
very presence demands attention, respect. But which one is
he? He gets to about an arms distance from her, then speaks
her name.

(CONTINUED)

ARES

Diana.

The sound of his voice goes straight through her. DIANA has to almost force her voice to work. But she does. She hopes he doesn't notice.

DIANA

Yes.

(beat)

And you are?

ARES

Ares.

DIANA

(mutter)

Figures.

DIANA looks to ARES and addresses the God Of War.

DIANA

What can I do for you?

ARES

Ah, you got that wrong.

(beat)

It's what I can do for you!

DIANA

Which is?

ARES smiles, and pulls another sword out of thin air. He offers it to her.

ARES

I once heard that you wished to learn how to use a sword, am I right?

DIANA

Yes.

DIANA takes the sword and looks it over. She thinks to herself, that Mac would love to see this sword.

ARES

And, that you wanted me to teach you.

DIANA

I guess I did say that.

Momentary pause. DIANA admires the sword.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
This is a beautiful sword.

ARES
Thank you.

ARES smiles, and says the next line in an almost seductive tone.

ARES
I had Hephaestus make it just for you.

DIANA is surprised. Was he serious? She looks up from the sword, and at ARES.

DIANA
Really? For me?

ARES
You sound surprised?

DIANA
No one has ever had a sword made for me before. I hope it didn't cost...

ARES
Cost?
(beat)
Diana, I'm a God!
(beat)
Hephaestus is my brother. Well, 1/2 brother.
(beat)
It didn't...

DIANA
Right. Gods. I forgot.

ARES raises an eyebrow in curiosity.

ARES
Forgot?

DIANA
Never mind.
(beat x2)
So, when can we start?

ARES
When ever you want.

DIANA looks at him.

DIANA
How about now?

ARES
(smile)
Eager, aren't we.

DIANA
You know what they say.
(beat)
"No time like the present".

DIANA points the sword at ARES.

DIANA
En Garde.

ARES flashes her a playful smile.

ARES
I think I'm gonna like you.

DIANA smiles back at him.

CONTINUE TO:

9 TIME FLIES MONTAGE

9

ARES shows DIANA how to hold the sword, and how to move the sword. He spends about a week and half teaching her different moves. By the end of the week, ARES is totally captivated with her. No other mortal has ever picked up his fighting techniques so fast. Not even Xena.

CONTINUE TO:

10 TIME RESUMES (BACKYARD)

10

The sun is setting.

ARES
I'm impressed.
(beat x2)
Only one other women learned so fast.

DIANA
Oh? And who might that be?
(beat)
Artemis? Athena?

(CONTINUED)

ARES

Please, don't insult me. Those two
couldn't...

(beat)

Never mind.

(beat)

No. The one I thinking of, was
Xena.

DIANA is surprised.

DIANA

Xena?

(beat)

You're comparing me to Xena?

ARES

Yes. And, coming from me, that's a
compliment.

DIANA

Thanks.

(beat x2)

You know Xena?

ARES

Yes.

(beat)

She was one of the best.

(beat)

I'd taught her how to be a great
warrior.

(beat)

And she never let me down. That is
until she met Hercules.

DIANA

Oh.

Momentary pause.

ARES

So, what's your secret?

DIANA raises an eyebrow in curiosity.

DIANA

Secret?

ARES

Yeah.

(beat)

What drives you to fight like you
do?

(CONTINUED)

DIANA breathes a sigh of relief.

DIANA
I'm not sure I know what you mean.

ARES
Well, Xena had the thirst for
revenge. You...

DIANA
I've just always been a fast study,
Ares.

ARES
That's it?

DIANA
That's it.

Momentary pause. ARES gives her a look that says he doesn't quite believe her. He tries to probe her thoughts, read her mind, but he can't find any sign that she is lying. DIANA smiles at him and draws her sword.

DIANA
So, teach.
(beat)
Shall we see how much I've learned?

ARES
(laugh)
Are you challenging me?

DIANA
(smile)
Do you accept?

ARES responds by drawing his sword. They fight. ARES admires her. The more time he spends with her, the more he likes her. And he's starting to like her a lot. As she shows him what she's learned, and just how good she has become, he can't stop wondering what she would be like in bed. What sort of moves she'd have between the sheets. The thought of taking her in his arms, is turning him on. Their fight gets more intense. But, she handles it. She handles it like a pro. ARES is really getting turned on now. He wants to just take her, make love to her, and show her some moves that she won't easily forget.

PAN TO:

11 UP AND AROUND 11

The CAMERA PANS up and then around to the front of the house.

PAN TO:

12 FRONT OF HOUSE 12

HERCULES is approaching the house. He hears the sound of clashing swords, and runs to the house. He can tell the sound is coming from the backyard, so he goes around back.

PAN TO:

13 BACKYARD 13

HERCULES sees ARES and DIANA fighting. His first instinct, is to run to her defense, but something holds him back. He watches, and realizes they are only play fighting. He is amazed at how well she is handling herself. CAMERA focuses on fight (positioned behind HERCULES, so we can see him watching them.)

CONTINUE TO:

14 FOCUS ON DIANA AND ARES 14

DIANA counters every move ARES makes. ARES tries a few moves that he thinks will trip her up, but they don't. He was right. She's a natural. If only she wasn't with his stupid brother. If only he, the God of War, could find some way to make her his. She could be the one. The fight lasts a while longer, but in the end, she wins. She manages to knock his sword out of his hand, trip him, straddle him, and bring her sword to his neck.

DIANA

Gotcha.

(beat)

Looks like I win, teach.

ARES

(smile)

This time.

(beat)

You're good, Diana.

(beat)

Really good.

DIANA flashes him a smile.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Thanks.

(beat)

I learned from the best.

ARES smiles back at her.

ARES

That you did.

He stares at her. She looks at him. He decides to leave before things get out of hand.

ARES

See ya later.

DIANA

You're leaving?

ARES doesn't answer. He just vanishes from underneath her. His sword vanishes with him. HERCULES approaches from behind DIANA. He reaches her as she says "okay sort of...". DIANA mutters the next line as she is raising from her position.

DIANA

(quietly)

Gods he's cute.

(beat)

I don't see why Herc hates him so much.

(beat)

He seems like an okay sort of...

HERCULES

Very good.

DIANA, startled by the sound of HERCULES' voice, drops her sword.

HERCULES

I'm impressed.

DIANA turns. HERCULES is smiling. She runs to him.

DIANA

Herc.

(hug him)

I've missed you.

HERCULES

I've missed you, too.

HERCULES brings his hand to the side of her face and kisses her.

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES
How long has Ares been...

DIANA
8 or 9 days. I lost count.

HERCULES
I saw that fight.

DIANA
You did?

HERCULES
Yeah.

Momentary pause. DIANA wonders if she should be worried.

HERCULES
You're really good.
(beat)
There's only one other woman I know
who can handle a sword like that.

DIANA
Xena, right?

HERCULES wonders how she knew he was going to say that.

HERCULES
Yeah. How'd you...

DIANA
That's what Ares said too.

HERCULES is surprised that Ares would compare DIANA to Xena.
After all, Xena meant a whole lot to Ares.

HERCULES
Really?!?

DIANA
Yes.
(beat)
But...

DIANA pulls HERCULES close.

DIANA
Let's not talk about Ares, or
fighting, right now.

DIANA smiles at him.

DIANA

I haven't seen you in so long. I
can think of something else I'd
rather do right now.

HERCULES raises an eyebrow, as if he didn't know what she
was talking about.

HERCULES

Oh, and what might that be?

DIANA

(smile)

Show you how much I've missed you.

DIANA kisses him. HERCULES picks her up, and carries her to
the house, kissing her all the way there. They get to the
house and enter.

CONTINUE TO:

15 INT: HOUSE 15

HERCULES carries her to the bedroom and they make love.

JUMP TO:

16 BEDROOM (LATER) 16

DIANA and HERCULES are lying in bed. She is resting her head
on his chest.

HERCULES

If you're going to welcome me home
like that every time, maybe I
should go away more often.

DIANA looks at him.

DIANA

Don't even think about it, mister!

DIANA rolls on top of him and looks down at him.

DIANA

Besides, who says you have to go
anywhere to get that sort of
treatment?

HERCULES smiles at her. DIANA kisses him. HERCULES wraps his
arm around her neck, and pulls her close. They make love
again.

CUT TO:

3 WEEKS LATER

17

INT: ARES' ROOM

17

ARES is sitting on his throne, lost in thought. The doors to the room open, and DIANA walks in. She is dressed in an outfit that just turns ARES on high. ARES looks at her. She seductively makes her way to him. He watches her approach. Their eyes lock. He straightens up in his throne. She walks right up to him, and straddles him. They never, not even for a moment, break eye contact. DIANA places her hands on the arms of the throne. You could say she has him trapped. Not that he's complaining.

DIANA

You turn me on, Ares.

(beat)

Every time I'm with you, I just want to...

ARES

I know.

(beat)

I feel it too. I felt it the first time we met. I feel it now.

(beat)

I...

DIANA leans in closer.

DIANA

I want you, Ares.

ARES

You don't know how I've longed to hear you say that.

DIANA

Then what are you waiting for, Mr. God of War! Show me what you've got.

ARES kisses her hungrily. She returns the kiss. Every part of him aches for her. He wants her so bad. He wants her more than he's ever wanted any other. And, with a mere thought, he moves them from the throne to a bed, which appeared out of nowhere. He is laying on top of her. With another thought, he removes their clothing. ARES breaks the kiss. DIANA looks at him, he can tell she wants him, the fire is burning in her eyes as much as it is burning within him. He takes a moment to admire her naked body under him. Then he looks back into her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Take me, Ares.

(beat)

Make me yours. Show me what a God can do. Do to me only that which a God can do. I want to be your chariot. Ride me to paradise, Ares. Ride me.

ARES can't believe she is saying these things. She is saying everything he wants to hear. He kisses her neck, as his hands stroke her sides.

DIANA

Ah, ah, yes.

He covers her neck with kisses, then moves to her breasts. He fondles them with his hands. Making them firm, and hard, and then suckles on them like a Bacchae on a victim. She gasps as he suckles her breasts. After he has given ample time to each one, he brings his lips to hers. Her lips accept his, instantly. She pulls him to her, tightly, pressing her body up against his. He brings his hands down her body, resting them between her thighs. He touches her, she is wet already. He starts to finger her. Gently inserting first one, then two fingers. Her kiss gets more intense. He decides he can't take it anymore. He wants her, he wants her bad. He wants to take her hard, take her fast. Without any indication to her that he is about to take her where no mere mortal can, he thrusts into her. She responds with a moan, and wraps her legs around his waist. She pulls him closer to her. As he pumps, and pushes himself deeper and deeper into her, he releases her from the kiss. All she can do now is gasp, and moan. She cries out his name, begging him to go faster, asking him to push harder. ARES lets his hands play with her breasts, squeezing them, fondling them. As he senses he is about to explode within her, he grabs a breast. He erupts inside of her, as he suckles hard on her breast. She cries out in double pleasure. He knows she's never been loved this hard before. He looks at her, ready to tell her that this is only the beginning, now that she has realized that he is the one for her, they can do great things together. DIANA looks at him and smiles. He is about to say something, when a voice sounds from behind him.

APHRODITE (VO)

Okay, big brother.

(beat)

What's the emergency?

The sound of APHRODITE's voice, startles ARES. He turns towards the sound of her voice, and the fantasy disappears.

(CONTINUED)

He is back on his throne. No bed. No Diana. No Nothing. It was just a daydream. ARES rises from the throne and walks to the window. ARES mutters the following line to himself. Ignoring APHRODITE for the moment.

ARES
(mutter)
If only she'd...

APHRODITE
Ares?

ARES says the next line in a sort of snappy tone.

ARES
What?

APHRODITE is momentarily taken aback by the tone in his voice.

APHRODITE
Hermes said you just had to see me.
Immediately.

ARES still seems kind of out-of-it. APHRODITE slinks seductively up to him. She places her hands on his chest, and runs them up it.

APHRODITE
Could it be, that you've finally
decided that...

ARES grabs her hands and removes them from him.

ARES
Is that all you ever think about,
sis?

APHRODITE
Is there anything else?

ARES pauses and walks away from her.

ARES
Maybe this was a mistake.

APHRODITE is still confused.

APHRODITE
Maybe what was a mistake?

ARES is silent, thinking. APHRODITE can tell his mind is elsewhere, and is curious.

APHRODITE

What has you so enchanted, big
brother? I've never seen you so...

Momentary pause. APHRODITE tries to search for the right
word.

APHRODITE

...preoccupied.

Momentary pause.

ARES

You're friends with Diana, right?

APHRODITE

Diana?

(beat)

Which Diana?

(beat)

I know so many people.

ARES turns and looks at her.

ARES

Diana Diana.

(beat)

Herc's Diana, little sis. Herc's
Diana.

APHRODITE

Oh, that Diana.

(beat)

Yes, I am. Why?

ARES gives her a look. A look she's not sure she quite
understands.

ARES

Has she ever mentioned me?

APHRODITE

She's mentioned your sword-fighting
lessons, and claims you're a
wonderful teacher.

ARES

No, I mean...

(beat)

Has she ever mentioned *me*?

(CONTINUED)

APHRODITE

I don't...

APHRODITE understands that look now. And thinks she understands what's going on with him.

APHRODITE

Oh, she's what's troubling you,
isn't she?

ARES is silent.

APHRODITE

And just what is it about her that
captivates you so?

ARES

I wish I knew, sis.

ARES pauses and then starts pacing.

ARES

I mean, I've known her for about a
month now, but I know nothing about
her.

ARES looks at APHRODITE.

ARES

I'm a God, sis! I see everything. I
know everything. I know everyone!
But I don't know her.

ARES gets a look of deep thought on his face. He stops
pacing.

ARES

No, something's not right with her.
I know nothing about her before she
met our brother. Nothing.

Momentary pause. ARES starts pacing again.

ARES

And, I don't know of anyone who
knew her before then either. No
friends. No family. No old lovers.
No one. It's like she just appeared
out of nowhere!

APHRODITE

That's unlikely.

Momentary pause. ARES looks to APHRODITE.

(CONTINUED)

ARES

What can you tell me about her? Do you know anything that might...

Momentary pause as APHRODITE thinks.

APHRODITE

Have you spoken to Deric yet?

ARES is confused.

ARES

Deric?

APHRODITE

Yeah, Deric.

Momentary pause. ARES appears to be thinking. APHRODITE gets the feeling he doesn't know who she is talking about.

APHRODITE

The centaur. He lives just outside of Athens.

ARES looks at her sort of confused.

APHRODITE

He raised her.

ARES

Ah, yes. I too heard that story.

APHRODITE looks at him with a raised eyebrow.

APHRODITE

Story? You don't believe it?

ARES

I'm not sure.

APHRODITE

Have you asked him?

ARES

Who? Deric?

APHRODITE

No, Uncle Hades. Of course Deric.

ARES

Not yet.

APHRODITE

Well, what are you waiting for? If you want to know if the story is true, confront him.

ARES looks somewhat happier.

ARES

Thanks sis. I will.

ARES flashes her a smile and vanishes. APHRODITE mutters to herself.

APHRODITE

If I didn't know better, I'd think Ares was actually falling for Diana.

Momentary pause. APHRODITE rethinks what she just said.

APHRODITE

Nah, not possible.

(beat)

Besides, if Ares laid a finger on her, Herc would kill him.

Momentary pause. APHRODITE rethinks her statement again. She remembers how preoccupied ARES was.

APHRODITE

Then again...

APHRODITE wonders just what ARES' intentions really are. She thinks for a few more moments, then vanishes from the room.

JUMP TO:

A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER

18

INT: DERIC'S PLACE - KITCHEN

18

ARES, in the disguise of Teiresias the poet, is sitting at the table with DERIC. ARES and DERIC are drinking. ARES has spiked DERIC's drink with a truth drug. Not that he needs one. His godly powers alone could hypnotize any mortal. But Centaurs aren't "any" mortals. ARES turns the conversation over to the topic he came to discuss - Diana.

ARES

I just met Hercules' new woman.

(CONTINUED)

DERIC

Diana?

ARES

Yeah. She's something else.

DERIC

You can say that again.

ARES

I wanted to write an epic poem about her life before she met Hercules. But, I can't seem to find anyone who knew her before she met him. No family. No friends.

DERIC

And you won't.

ARES

What do you mean? Everyone has...

DERIC

And I'm sure she does. But you won't find them here.

ARES

Oh? Where can I find them, then?

DERIC

You can't.

ARES

You're not making sense!

DERIC leans over and almost whispers line.

DERIC

You won't find them, because they haven't been born yet.

ARES

What?

DERIC

She's from the future.

ARES

The future?

DERIC

Yeah. About 3000 years from now. That's where you'll find the people you're looking for.

(CONTINUED)

ARES

But I heard a story about you finding her as an infant in the woods?

DERIC

Herc made that story up when he brought her here.

ARES

Hercules brought her here?

DERIC

Yep.

ARES

How?

DERIC

Hera decided to punish Herc a while back, and banished him.

ARES says the following line to himself. DERIC doesn't hear it.

ARES

(mutter)

I remember that.

DERIC

He landed 3000 years in the future in her backyard. They found a way back, and you know the story from there.

ARES

That's interesting. You've been a big help. Thank you.

DERIC

No problem.

ARES

I'll be leaving now.

ARES heads to the door.

CONTINUE TO:

19 EXT: DERIC'S PLACE

19

ARES still in disguise, exits the house. LYLA is on her way to the house, from a side path. She sees the man exit the house. But, she sees him for who he really is. She sees ARES. ARES doesn't see LYLA. He looks back at the house, smiles, and says next line.

ARES

Thanks Deric. This might just be the leverage I need.

ARES vanishes.

PAN TO:

20 FOCUS ON LYLA

20

LYLA

Ares? I wonder what he wanted?

LYLA continues down path to house. She reaches the front door, opens it, and enters.

CONTINUE TO:

21 INT: KITCHEN

21

LYLA enters the kitchen. DERIC is finishing his mug of ale. The effects of the truth drug have almost worn off.

LYLA

What did Ares want?

DERIC looks at LYLA like she's lost it.

DERIC

Ares? What are you talking about?
Ares hasn't been here!

LYLA

Then who just left?

DERIC

Teiresias.

LYLA

Teiresias?

DERIC

Yep. He's a poet.

LYLA wonders if she could have been wrong.

(CONTINUED)

LYLA

A poet? What did he want?

DERIC

He wanted to know about Diana?

LYLA

Why?

DERIC

He's working on an epic poem.

LYLA

Oh. And you told him the story
about finding her in the woods,
right?

DERIC

No I...

The drug wears off. DERIC realizes he told him the truth.
LYLA doesn't like the pause.

LYLA

Deric?

DERIC

I told him the truth.

LYLA

The truth? What truth?

(beat x2)

Deric? Tell me you didn't tell that
guy she was from the future?

DERIC

I... I think I did.

LYLA

Why?

DERIC

I don't know.

(beat)

I just opened my mouth and out it
came. I couldn't stop it.

LYLA

Oh no.

DERIC

It might not be so bad. He's just
an old poet. Who's going to believe
him?

(CONTINUED)

LYLA
Deric, that wasn't Teiresias.

DERIC
What?

LYLA
It was Ares.

DERIC
No, you're mistaken.

LYLA
Have you forgotten that ever since Zeus gave me back my life that I can see the Gods for who they are? That I can see through any disguise they may be wearing?

DERIC
If that really was Ares...

LYLA
Oh it was Ares.

DERIC
That means that he now knows she is from the future. He's sure to use that to his advantage.

LYLA
Or tell Hera.

DERIC
Hercules has to be told that Ares knows the truth.

LYLA
I just saw him in town. If you hurry you might be able to catch him.

DERIC exits.

LYLA
What have you done Deric? What will the fall out be?

JUMP TO:

22 EXT: HERCULES' PLACE (BACKYARD)

22

DIANA is in the yard. ARES approaches from behind.

ARES

I just came from an interesting, if
not enlightening, conversation with
your friend Deric.

DIANA

Oh?

ARES leans over her shoulder and whispers in her ear.

ARES

I know who you are, and when you're
from.

DIANA pretends not to care.

DIANA

So?

ARES

So...

ARES walks around and stops in front of her.

ARES

...unless you give me what I want.
I'll just have to tell mother.

DIANA

And what exactly do you want, Ares?

ARES flashes her a smile, and looks her over, admiring the view. After giving her the "once over", he looks into her eyes.

ARES

Isn't it obvious?

(beat)

Haven't you noticed the way I look
at you?

DIANA

I...

ARES

Can't you feel the connection
between us?

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

I...

ARES places his hands on her shoulders and looks at her.

ARES

I want you.

(beat x2)

Give me one night.

ARES runs his fingers through her hair, and alongside of her face.

ARES

One night to show you that I am better than Hercules. I can make you feel better. He is only 1/2 God. I am 100% God. Therefore, I am better.

ARES leans over and whispers in her ear seductively.

ARES

In everything.

Momentary pause. ARES circles her.

PAN TO:

23 FOCUS SHIFTS TO PATHWAY

23

IOLAUS is heading down the path. He sees DIANA and ARES. He decides to advance slowly and try to hide. He finds a bush, and hides behind it. He watches them.

PAN TO:

24 FOCUS SHIFTS BACK TO DIANA AND ARES

24

ARES stops behind DIANA.

ARES

Why don't you let me show you how I can make you feel?

Momentary pause. ARES brings his head to her shoulder, and whispers in her ear.

ARES

Do you know what it's like when a mortal is taken by a God?

Momentary pause. ARES runs his hands along her sides. He continues talking into her ear.

(CONTINUED)

ARES

Do you have any idea how it feels?

Momentary pause. ARES brings his hands up along her front, and lets them rest on her breasts.

ARES

When a god makes love to a mortal,
they both...

DIANA removes ARES' hands and turns to face him.

DIANA

Love?

(beat)

You are the God of War! What do you
know about love?

ARES is surprised. He pretends that he only wants one thing from her.

ARES

Who said anything about love?

DIANA

I thought you...

ARES grabs her and pulls her close.

ARES

Love has nothing to do with it.
Besides...

ARES spins her around in his arms. He is now behind her again. His arms are around her waist, his head is on her shoulder, and his voice is in her ear.

ARES

...don't they say, that "the badder
you are, the better you are"?

Momentary pause. ARES nuzzles her neck.

ARES

Let me show you Diana.

ARES starts to move his hands up her body again.

ARES

Meet me tomorrow. At sundown. By
the lake.

DIANA finds that his touch is starting to get to her. She is starting to enjoy it. His touch is electrifying. He whispers into her ear.

ARES

If your answer isn't yes, it's over.

(beat)

Mommy dearest will learn the truth about you, and she'll send you home.

(beat)

You'll lose Hercules, forever.

(beat)

It's your choice Diana.

ARES spins her again. They are face to face.

ARES

Make the right one, and we all win.

ARES runs his fingers alongside of her face, then lets her go.

ARES

Make the wrong one and...

ARES vanishes. DIANA looks at the spot where ARES was. She takes a deep breath, turns, and heads back to the house.

PAN TO:

25 FOCUS SHIFTS BACK TO IOLAUS

25

He couldn't hear what DIANA and ARES were saying. But, from what he saw, it looked like ARES was trying to seduce her. Once ARES leaves, IOLAUS comes out of hiding. He approaches DIANA.

PAN TO:

26 FOCUS SHIFTS BACK TO DIANA

26

IOLAUS approaches her from behind.

IOLAUS

What did Ares want?

DIANA turns to IOLAUS, and just collapses on his shoulder, crying. IOLAUS is stunned. He tries to comfort her.

(CONTINUED)

IOLAUS
What's wrong?

DIANA
Everything!

IOLAUS
What do you mean?

DIANA
Ares learned the truth about who I
am, and...

IOLAUS pries her off his shoulder by putting his hands on her shoulders and pushing her back. He holds her like that and looks at her.

IOLAUS
The truth?
(beat)
What do you mean?

DIANA
It's a long story, Iolaus.

DIANA stops crying, and looks at him. He has a very puzzled look on his face.

DIANA
But you are his best friend. I
think it's time you heard the real
story.

IOLAUS
What are you...

DIANA
Let's go inside.

They enter the house.

CONTINUE TO:

27

TIME FLIES MONTAGE

27

They enter the house and go to the living room. They sit on the sofa. DIANA tells IOLAUS everything. The whole story. Everything that happened from the time HERCULES left him in Cyzicus til the day they arrived in Corinth.

CONTINUE TO:

IOLAUS is trying to absorb what DIANA has just told him.

IOLAUS
That's some story.

DIANA
And now Ares knows, and he's
threatening to go to Hera unless...
(beat)
Damn!! Why didn't I listen to Herc
in the first place?
(beat)
He told me to avoid Ares. That he
couldn't be trusted. But no, I
thought I could handle him.
(beat)
Now look at what's happened?!?
(beat)
I'm going to lose Hercules.

IOLAUS
No you're not.

DIANA
Yes. I am.
(beat x2)
Either way I'll lose him.
(beat)
If I give Ares what he wants, Herc
will never look at me the same way
again.
(beat)
And if I don't give Ares what he
wants, I'll be sent home.

IOLAUS
We'll think of something, Diana.

DIANA
We only have until sun down
tomorrow.
(beat)
And Herc won't be back from Athens
for another 3 days.
(beat)
I can't even discuss this with him.
I won't even get to say goodbye.

DIANA starts crying again. IOLAUS starts thinking. After a few moments, DIANA stops crying, and IOLAUS thinks of something.

(CONTINUED)

IOLAUS
Maybe Ares is bluffing.

DIANA
What?

IOLAUS
I mean, if he really wants you,
what good would sending you home
do?
(beat)
If you're 3000 years in the future,
he'll never get you.

DIANA
Maybe he's saying, "If I can't have
her, neither will Hercules!"

IOLAUS
Good point.

Pause. DIANA and IOLAUS think.

IOLAUS
You could always give Ares what he
wants. Herc would never have to
know.

DIANA
What?
(beat)
How do you expect a secret like
that to stay a secret?
(beat)
Herc would find out. Ares would
probably even tell him himself.
Then matters would be worse.

Momentary pause.

IOLAUS
Who says Ares will keep his word
anyway?
(beat)
What's stopping him from
blackmailing you forever? Or going
to Hera?
(beat)
He'll have nothing to lose. He'll
have gotten what he wanted.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
Ares isn't bluffing.

IOLAUS
How can you be sure?

DIANA
I just am. I know him.
(beat)
Besides, Ares is immortal. He can afford to wait. He'll still be around when the future becomes the present.

Momentary pause.

IOLAUS
You know, I'm surprised you and Herc have managed to keep the secret for so long. I mean, what has it been, 6, 7, months?

DIANA
7 months, 3 weeks, 17 hours, and 45 minutes.

IOLAUS
Right.

Momentary pause.

DIANA
It hasn't been as easy as it looks. The first three months were the hardest.

IOLAUS
Did you really think it could stay a secret forever?

DIANA
Yes.
(beat)
No one else knew.
(beat)
Except for Deric & Lyla.

IOLAUS
But you can't hide something like this from the Gods!
(beat)
They'll find out, Diana. They always do.

(CONTINUED)

(beat)
They know everything. And, sooner
or later, Hera will find out.
(beat)
Whether it's from Ares or not.

DIANA
That's what I thought.
(beat)
But, the more time that passed
without anything happening...
(beat)
The more I thought it never would.

DIANA pauses for a moment then continues.

DIANA
The first time I met Hercules, I
knew I loved him.
(beat)
But I couldn't let myself fall for
him. He was going to be coming back
here, and leaving me.
(beat)
But when I was brought back with
him, I thought that maybe he was my
destiny. Maybe the reason I was so
drawn to the study of Ancient
Greece was because I belonged
there.
(beat)
Now, I love him with all my heart.
I love him more than life. I'd do
anything for him, Iolaus, anything.
(beat)
I can't lose him. Not like this.
(beat)
I have to find some way to keep
Ares from going to Hera without
jeopardizing my relationship with
Hercules.

DIANA looks to IOLAUS.

DIANA
I will not lose him. Not now. Not
ever.

DIANA rises from the sofa, and goes to the bedroom. IOLAUS
looks up at the ceiling.

(CONTINUED)

IOLAUS
 Zeus, if you're listening...
 (beat)
 ...we could really use your help.

IOLAUS looks from the ceiling to the bedroom door.

JUMP TO:

NEXT DAY

29

EXT: HERCULES' PLACE (1 HR BEFORE SUNDOWN)

29

DIANA and IOLAUS are standing in the doorway. She is about to leave.

DIANA
 I hope you're right about this.

IOLAUS
 Trust me. Just do what we discussed
 and you'll be fine.

DIANA
 Okay then. I guess I should be
 going.

IOLAUS
 Do you *know* where you are going?

DIANA
 Yeah. He told me to meet him by the
 lake.

IOLAUS
 Did he say *which* lake?

DIANA
 I know which lake he means.

IOLAUS
 I'll wait here for you.

DIANA
 Thanks.

Momentary pause. DIANA walks off. IOLAUS watches her leave,
 then goes back inside.

JUMP TO:

30 EXT: CLEARING BY THE LAKE - SUN IS SETTING 30

ARES is waiting. DIANA approaches. ARES hears her coming, and turns to her. As he turns, the surroundings change.

FADE IN TO:

31 ARES' ILLUSIONARY ROOM 31

The open space turns into a castle-like bedroom. There is a fireplace alongside one wall, and a big bed with red satin sheets in the middle. There are lit candles throughout the room. He has also changed her clothing. She is now wearing a beautiful peacock blue, silk dress, with spaghetti straps. DIANA is awed at the room. It is beautiful. As she is taking in the room, ARES approaches her.

ARES
Do you like it?

DIANA
I... I...

ARES goes behind her, running his fingers across her bare neck and shoulders.

ARES
You should. The room is designed
from your mind.
(beat)
Your fantasies.

ARES nuzzles her neck, then starts to gently massage and caress her shoulders, and neck. DIANA feels herself relaxing under his touch. She thinks to herself.

DIANA (VO)
Don't.
(beat)
Don't give in to him.
(beat)
Stay tense, still, like a statute.
(beat)
Remember what Iolaus said. Remember
the plan.

DIANA tries to tense up again. By now, ARES has moved his hands from her shoulders to her waist, and is slowly running them up her side. He feels her body tense up. He leans over her shoulder, and seductively whispers in her ear.

(CONTINUED)

ARES

You know, you'll have more fun if
you relax. You'll enjoy it more.

ARES' hands move from her sides to her breasts. He cups them in his hands. She gasps as he squeezes them. ARES is stirring feelings in her. Things she shouldn't be feeling. She tries to push the feelings down. ARES holds her breasts, caressing them, as he softly kisses her neck. His kiss sends tingles down her spine. She feels her body giving in to his touch. Her body is saying yes, but her mind is saying no. She forces herself to speak the words she knows he won't believe. She doesn't even believe them. Part of her wants nothing more than to give in to him. He is a God after all. He can have whatever, whoever, he wants.

DIANA

Let's get one thing straight, Ares.
I'm not planning to participate in
this.

ARES senses the conflict within her. He whispers in her ear.

ARES

You don't mean that.

DIANA knows he's right. She doesn't mean it. At least not completely. Part of her means it. But part of her doesn't. She can't let him know that though. She has to pretend he isn't getting to her.

DIANA

Yes I do.

ARES

I can feel your body surrendering
to my touch. I know you're enjoying
it.

ARES kisses her neck again, sending shivers through her body.

ARES

Give in to your desires, Diana.
(beat)
Give in.

DIANA

If you really want me, Ares...
(beat)
Then just take me.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA manages to get out of ARES' grasp, and walks over to the bed. ARES watches her. She undoes the straps on her dress, and it falls to the floor. ARES stares at her naked body. She lies down on the bed.

DIANA

Here.

(beat)

This is what you want, right?

ARES walks over to her. She looks at him. He sits at the edge of the bed, and runs his fingers alongside of her body, from the tip of her toe, to her ear, and then starts back down.

DIANA

Then just do it.

(beat)

Get it over with.

DIANA tries to summon up enough strength and conviction to make the next line believable.

DIANA

But don't think for one minute that
I will enjoy it.

ARES plays with her for a few more moments. Covering her body in kisses. Suckling her breasts. He knows her body is enjoying it. He caresses her body, running his hands up and down her torso. She closes her eyes. She can't believe how gentle he is. Could she have been wrong? Maybe she was brought back so she could meet Ares. Maybe Ares was her destiny? He is stirring things in her that no one else ever has. ARES' hands descend down her body one hand at a time. This time he runs his hands down along her legs. He can tell she is enjoying this. Whether she wants to or not. He slowly runs his right hand up her leg, and lets it rest between her thighs. He cups her in his hand. She's hot. He inserts one finger inside of her. She moans. He thinks the next line to himself.

ARES (VO)

Oh yeah. She's gonna love this.

ARES slides another finger into her, and starts to work her up. DIANA can't believe she is enjoying this. Oh Gods how she is enjoying this. She wants him. She really wants him. Part of her wishes he would quit playing with her and just take her. She thinks the next line to herself.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA (VO)

No. I... I can't.

(beat)

Oh Gods, he's so...

(beat)

Stop it. Don't let him think for one moment that you are enjoying this. Don't...

(beat)

Damn, it feels so good. It feels soooo good. I wish he'd... I want him to...

(beat)

No. No. I can't let him. I...

ARES is enjoying himself. He wants her so bad. He knows the conflict she is having. He's been reading her thoughts. He knows what she wants him to do, but he also knows that part of her doesn't want him at all. He fingers her faster, real fast. So fast that he causes her to cum. And not only once, but three times. He wants her so bad, he looks at her. She has her eyes closed, and her hands are clenching the bed covers. He lets his mind enter hers. Wondering if the part of her that wants him has finally dominated over the part that doesn't.

DIANA (VO)

Oh Gods... Oh... He's good. Really good. And he's only fingering me. I wonder what he could do to me if his...

(beat)

No. No. Stop it. Don't. Don't let him in. You can't let him in.

(beat)

But I want him in. Gods how I want him in. I want him to ride me hard and fast. I need to feel...

(beat)

No. Don't let him in. I can't let him in. I... I don't love him. I won't let him in.

(beat)

Oh, oh, it feels so good, he feels so good. Oh, oh, oh Gods. I... I...

(beat)

No. No. Stop. Please. You can't let Ares do this D, you can't.

(beat)

I... don't... love him. I... love... Hercules. I...

(CONTINUED)

At the mention of Hercules' name, ARES stops. DIANA opens her eyes and looks at him. ARES removes his fingers from inside of her and realizes that he can't do this. He can't take her. He wants her so bad, and he knows part of her wants him too. But he knows that now is not the time. He looks at her. He sees the look of confusion in her eyes.

DIANA

What are you waiting for, Ares? Do it. Take me!

ARES says line as he turns away from her.

ARES

I can't do this.

DIANA is stunned. Was he serious?

DIANA

What?

ARES says line as he gets off the bed and goes to the fireplace.

ARES

I said... I can't do this.

DIANA is still laying on the bed. She is shocked, really shocked. She can't believe he is backing off. ARES leans on the fireplace mantle. His back is to DIANA.

DIANA

But... this is what you wanted, isn't it?

The dress ARES gave her, appears back on her body. She sits up. She can't believe he's doing this. Who does he think he is?

ARES

Yes.

(beat)

I want you more than I've ever wanted any other. But...

(beat)

I don't want you like this. I want you to want to be here. I...

(beat)

I thought that by threatening you, you would... I don't know. Come here and...

ARES pauses. DIANA finishes the sentence.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
...give myself to you?

DIANA rises off of the bed and walks over. ARES turns to her. He looks at her.

ARES
You are a very complicated women,
Diana.
(beat)
There are hundreds who would love
to be in your shoes.
(beat)
Hundreds who would jump at the
chance to be chosen by me. ME. The
God of War. I can have any woman I
want. But...

DIANA can see the sadness in ARES' eyes.

ARES
I don't get it.
(beat)
I could give you anything.
Everything you could ever want.
(beat)
Why don't you like me?

DIANA
I never said I didn't like you,
Ares. I do. As a friend. You're...

ARES
Ah. Friend.

Momentary pause.

DIANA
Ares, I...

ARES
Go. Just go, Diana. Before I change
my mind.

The illusionary room vanishes.

FADE BACK TO:

Everything is as it was before they entered the room. ARES and DIANA are wearing what they were wearing before. DIANA turns to leave, then thinks of something. She turns and looks at ARES.

DIANA

Ares?

ARES

Yes?

DIANA wonders how she should say what she has to say, without offending him.

DIANA

About Hera...

ARES

Don't worry. She won't hear it from me.

ARES turns his back to her. She turns to walk away, then stops. She goes to him, and taps him on the shoulder. He turns to her. She kisses him. ARES is stunned. She breaks the kiss.

ARES

What was that for?

DIANA looks at him and smiles.

DIANA

Thank you.

DIANA walks off. ARES watches her go. As she walks off, a smile crosses his face. He can still taste her kiss on his lips.

ARES

This isn't over, Diana.

(beat)

One day we will be together.

(beat)

One day you will come to me willingly. And when that day comes... You will be regretting all the time we spent apart.

ARES watches her walk off for a few more moments, then vanishes.

CUT TO:

33 INT: HERCULES' PLACE (KITCHEN) 33

IOLAUS is sitting at the table, waiting for Diana to come back.

IOLAUS
Where is she? She should have been
back by now. Unless...

IOLAUS hears the front door open.

PAN TO:

34 FRONT HALL 34

HERCULES comes charging into the house, yelling for Diana.

HERCULES
Diana?

HERCULES looks into the living room.

HERCULES
Diana, where are you?

Momentary pause. HERCULES is about to head upstairs when he hears something in the kitchen. He heads to the kitchen.

CONTINUE TO:

35 KITCHEN 35

HERCULES enters the kitchen while saying line.

HERCULES
Di...

HERCULES notices IOLAUS sitting at the table, and stops.
HERCULES looks at IOLAUS.

HERCULES
Where is she?

IOLAUS
She's not here.

HERCULES says line while heading to table. When he reaches the table, he sits.

HERCULES
What? Where is she? I have to find
her! I...

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES notices the look on IOLAUS' face, and realizes that something is wrong. Really wrong.

HERCULES
Iolaus, what is it?

IOLAUS doesn't answer. He doesn't know what to say.

HERCULES
It's Diana, isn't it?
(beat)
Where is she?

IOLAUS still doesn't answer.

HERCULES
Iolaus?!? Where is...

IOLAUS
(mutter)
She's with Ares.

HERCULES didn't hear what IOLAUS said.

HERCULES
What?

IOLAUS repeats what he said, only a little louder this time.

IOLAUS
I said... She's with Ares.

HERCULES is confused.

HERCULES
Ares?
(beat)
What do you mean she's with Ares?
(beat)
It's too late for a fighting
lesson, and...

IOLAUS
Well, he told her he knew the
truth, and...

HERCULES looks at IOLAUS with a raised eyebrow.

HERCULES
The truth?
(beat)
The truth about what?

IOLAUS

The truth about her. And *when* she
is from.

HERCULES makes a fist.

HERCULES

If he hurts her, I'll...

IOLAUS

He won't hurt her, Herc.

HERCULES

How can you be so sure? This is
Ares! He...

IOLAUS

...is in love with her.

(mutter)

I think.

HERCULES

Love? Ares?

(beat)

Ares in love? That'll be the day.

I...

HERCULES stops, as he realizes what IOLAUS is saying, or not
saying.

HERCULES

Wait you said she was with him.

What did you mean?

IOLAUS

I...

IOLAUS is cut of at the sound of the front door opening.

DIANA (VO)

Iolaus?

HERCULES rises from the table. DIANA enters the kitchen. She
is surprised to see HERCULES.

DIANA

Herc?!?

(beat)

How long have you be...

IOLAUS

What happened with Ar...

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Nothing.

IOLAUS

Nothing?

DIANA

You were right. He let me go.

DIANA goes to HERCULES. She kisses him and holds him tight. IOLAUS says the following line more to himself than to DIANA or HERCULES.

IOLAUS

I was right?!? Wow!

HERCULES and DIANA kiss for about 7 seconds. Then they break the kiss, but keep their arms around each other. DIANA looks into HERCULES' eyes.

DIANA

I love you, Herc.

HERCULES gets the feeling he really missed something. He smiles at DIANA.

HERCULES

I love you, too.

IOLAUS takes that as a cue to leave, and rises from the table.

IOLAUS

Well, I guess I should be going.
I...

HERCULES

Wait.

IOLAUS stops.

HERCULES

Before you leave...
(beat)

I would like to know just what went on here.

IOLAUS

I don't know what you mean?

HERCULES

Iolus, I'm not stupid. I can tell something happened.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA and IOLAUS exchange a look.

HERCULES
And I want to know what!
(beat)
All of it. The whole story.

DIANA
Can't we just drop it? I mean...

HERCULES
Diana, if Ares did something that I
should...

DIANA raises an eyebrow at the mention of Ares' name.

DIANA
Ares? What makes you think...

HERCULES
Iolaus mentioned that...

DIANA gives IOLAUS a "you didn't" look. IOLAUS gives her a "sorry" look.

DIANA
Ares didn't do anything. He just...

HERCULES
Ever since I can remember, Ares has
been trying to undermine me.
(beat)
Trying to destroy me.

DIANA
Undermine you? Destroy you?
(beat)
Listen to yourself! He's your big
brother, Herc. Can't you two just
learn to get along?

IOLAUS flinches when DIANA says "big brother". He knows how much HERCULES hates it when people remind him they are brothers.

HERCULES
1/2 brother. He's my 1/2 brother.
(beat)
And I want to know what happened. I
know something did. You two look
guilty of something. I mean it
guys. One of you better start
talking or...

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Or what?

(beat)

What is the great Hercules gonna do? Go ahead, break something if it will make you feel better.

(beat)

Nothing happened. That's all you need to know.

With that said, DIANA leaves the room. HERCULES calls after her.

HERCULES

Diana! Diana! Wait, I...

DIANA answers from outside the room.

DIANA (VO)

Good night, Hercules.

HERCULES and IOLAUS hear the bedroom door slam shut. HERCULES slams his fist on the table.

HERCULES

Urgh!!!!

IOLAUS decides to get out. Fast. He hasn't seen HERCULES this worked up in a long time.

IOLAUS

I, umm, I, I guess I should go.

IOLAUS starts to leave. IOLAUS says next line in his head.

IOLAUS (VO)

Please let me get out before he...

HERCULES looks to IOLAUS.

HERCULES

Wait.

IOLAUS says next line in his head.

IOLAUS (VO)

Damn!

IOLAUS turns back.

HERCULES

Please. I have to know.

(CONTINUED)

IOLAUS

Herc, I...

IOLAUS sees the look in HERCULES eyes. Should he tell him? Could he handle it? IOLAUS says line while heading back to table.

IOLAUS

Okay. Okay.

(beat)

Sit down, and I'll tell you...

IOLAUS takes a deep breath and prepares to tell HERCULES what happened.

CUT TO:

36

INT: BEDROOM

36

DIANA is lying on the bed, starrng at the roof. She places her hands over her eyes and sighs. ARES materializes in the room, and looks at her. ARES says his line as he advances to the bed.

ARES

You okay?

DIANA looks at ARES.

DIANA

What do you want?

ARES sits on the edge of the bed and looks at her.

ARES

I'm sorry. I never meant...

DIANA looks at him. She can't deny her feelings anymore. She kisses him. Really kisses him. He is at first surprised, but then returns the kiss. She wraps her arms around his neck, pulling him closer. ARES breaks the kiss and looks at her. He is confused.

ARES

What are you...

DIANA looks at him seductively and smiles.

DIANA

I give up Ares.

(beat)

I want you.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DIANA (cont'd)

Take me.

DIANA kisses him again. He rolls onto her. With a mere thought, their clothes vanish. She pulls him close, pressing her body against his. He hungrily kisses her. His hands explore her body. He releases her lips and kisses her neck, as his hands continue their journey down her body. She gasps.

DIANA

Oh.

He brings his lips to her breast and kisses it. She moans. His hands reach their target. He touches her and is surprised to find that she is already wet. He inserts a finger into her, probing her, causing her to get wetter. She gasps as his fingers work their way inside of her. He suckles a breast as his fingers explore her, working her up.

DIANA

Oh...

(beat)

Oh, Ares...

(beat)

I... I... Oh...

She cums for him. He lets his fingers work on her, making her cum again and again. She begs him to take her. She wants to feel him inside of her. And he wants to be inside her. His body too is begging for internal contact.

DIANA

Oh, Ares.

(beat)

Take me.

(beat)

Take me now.

(beat)

Oh, Oh, I want you.

(beat)

I want to feel you inside of me.

(beat)

I want to know what you can... can do to me.

(beat)

Oh, oh. Show me.

(beat)

Show me.

(beat)

Oh, oh. Now, Ares.

(beat)

Do it. Do it.

(CONTINUED)

(beat)
Take me. Take me.

ARES readies himself to take her, and on the next "take", he thrusts himself in, hard and fast.

DIANA
Take...
(beat)
Oh. Oh. Oh.

He's in. She cums again, almost instantly upon his entry. He pushes into her. Pumping her up. His hands caress her body, as he pumps himself inside of her.

DIANA
Yes.
(beat)
Oh Gods, yes.
(beat)
Faster.
(beat)
Faster Ares.
(beat)
Faster.

ARES pumps faster. She cums again.

DIANA
Oh God.
(beat)
Yes.
(beat)
Yes.
(beat)
Push it.
(beat)
Push it, Ares.

ARES pushes himself in, going deeper into her. She arches her back.

DIANA
Oh.
(beat)
Harder, harder...
(beat)
Push harder.

ARES pushes harder.

DIANA

Oh.
(beat)
Oh Gods!
(beat)
Pump me. Pump...

ARES returns to pumping her up.

DIANA

Oh.
(beat)
Oh.
(beat)
Yes.
(beat)
Yes.
(beat)
Yes.

She cums again. He kisses her neck as he continues pumping her up.

DIANA

Faster. Faster.

ARES pumps her faster. He cups a breast in each hand, and squeezes them, hard.

DIANA

Oh. Yes. Yes.

ARES suckles a breast. She moans.

DIANA

Oh, Ares.
(beat)
Push it. Push it.
(beat)
I want to...

ARES knows that the next thrust in will take him over the edge. The next thrust will be the one that causes him to erupt.

DIANA

Ares.
(beat)
I want to feel you flowing...
(beat)
I want your...
(beat)
Oh God.
(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DIANA (cont'd)

Please. Do it.

(beat)

Push Ares. Push hard.

ARES pushes in, hard and fast.

DIANA

Ares. Oh...

He erupts inside of her. He thrusts in hard again, and erupts again.

DIANA

Oh...

He rams himself in, and pulls out, in and out, in and out. Every thrust causes her to cry out. ARES can't get enough of her. He's taking her to the limit. Over the limit. On the fifth ram thrust, she cums so strong, that she hits an orgasmic high. She screams out his name. He pushes in, and holds the push as long as he can, letting her ride out her orgasm. Then, he slowly stops. He doesn't exit her though. Not yet. He kisses her neck as he withdraws from her. He then brings his lips to hers, and kisses her as he rolls off of her. DIANA looks at him. She has a very satisfied look in her eye. She smiles at him.

DIANA

Wow.

(beat)

I've never...

ARES turns on his side, and looks at her. With a thought, he positions her so that her back is flat up against his chest. He wraps his arms around her. She leans back against his chest. His head rests on her shoulder. He moves the hair away from her neck with his tongue. She gasps and closes her eyes. She keeps them closed, never opening them. He brings his hands to her breasts. He cups one in each hand, holding them. She sighs at his touch. He kisses her neck, and squeezes her breasts. She moans and presses herself further back against his chest. She lets him fondle her breasts. She is in heaven. She never wants to leave his arms. He wants her. He wants to take her again. His body is crying out for her. He probes her mind. Searching for an answer to his question. He wants to just ram himself up her a-hole, but he wants to know if she's ever had anyone do it to her before. He learns she hasn't. The fact that he will be the first one to take her that way, turns him on even more than he already is. He really wants her now. He knows, that since no one has ever entered her a-hole, it will be tight. Very tight. And he doesn't want to hurt her by forcing himself in. After

(CONTINUED)

all, he will be trusting a very big item into a very small hole. He considers not doing it. But realizes he can't not do it. The very thought has him too excited. He knows she will enjoy it. So, using his godly powers, he shrinks it. Small enough so that he can easily slip in, without her even knowing it. He inserts himself slowly while nuzzling her neck. She sighs. He fondles her breasts, rubbing them. Squeezing them, as he slowly enlarges himself inside of her. She gasps. She's not sure what he is doing, but she likes it. He gets larger, and larger, forcing her a-hole to expand to the point where he can really do her like he wants to. His hands are caressing her body. She is gasping and moaning. He brings his hands down the front of her body. She brings her hands to his, and guides them down to the area between her legs. She places his hands on her frontal area, making him touch her. He does. He smiles to himself as he touches her. She is wet. Oh so wet. He massages her area. He fondles her frontal hole, while he is still enlargening himself in her a-hole. She gasps.

DIANA

Oh, Ares.
(beat)
Don't stop.
(beat)
Whatever it is you are doing...
(beat)
Please, don't stop.

He's ready. He has returned to his proper size. Well, maybe larger. He brings his arms up to her waist. He nibbles on her ear.

ARES

Are you ready to experience total ecstasy?

DIANA

Yes.
(beat)
Oh yes.

ARES

Then hang on tight.

ARES pulls her back to him, and pushes into her, hard and strong.

DIANA

Ah...

ARES pumps her, ramming himself in, pulling out, in and out, in and out.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Ah...

She cums. Her juices flow from her. He pulls her back, tighter, for a more forceful thrust. He rams himself in, and pushes harder, real hard. He erupts inside her, sending his godly seed up into her a-hole.

DIANA

Ah... Oh...

He kisses her neck as he withdraws from her. She leans her head back on him. She has her eyes closed.

DIANA

Ares?

ARES

Ummm.

DIANA

Kiss me.

ARES brings one hand to her chin, and brings his lips to hers. She kisses him, slowly turning in his arms. They are now facing each other. The kiss lasts for about 30 seconds. ARES breaks the kiss. DIANA rests her head on his chest and closes her eyes. After a few moments, she opens them. She raises her head to look at him, and what she sees has her confused. HERCULES is in the bed beside her. ARES is gone. And it's morning.

DIANA

Hercules?

DIANA is confused. She wonders where HERCULES came from, and where ARES went.

HERCULES

Were you expecting someone else?

DIANA figures it must have been a dream. A very real dream.

DIANA

Hunh?

HERCULES wonders just what she is thinking, feeling.

HERCULES

Are you okay? You seem...

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
I'm fine. Fine.

DIANA gets out of bed, wrapping a bed cover around her.
HERCULES is confused.

HERCULES
Where are you going?

DIANA
Breakfast.

DIANA looks to HERCULES.

DIANA
Aren't you hungry?

HERCULES
Well, I...

DIANA exits the bedroom.

CONTINUE TO:

37

INT: MAIN ROOM

37

DIANA closes the bedroom door.

DIANA
(mutter)
Why was I dreaming of Ares? Why?

Momentary pause. DIANA remembers how Ares made her feel.

DIANA
And it felt so real. So... So good.
(beat)
He's really something.
(beat)
I...

Momentary pause. DIANA tries to forget about Ares.

DIANA
Stop.
(beat)
Just stop it.

DIANA shakes her head back and forth and continues to the kitchen.

JUMP TO:

38

INT: MORPHEUS' PLACE

38

MORPHEUS is doing his thing, when ARES appears in the room.

MORPHEUS

Well cous, how'd it go?

ARES

Better than I could ever have
imagined.

Momentary pause. ARES corrects his statement.

ARES

Correction. Better than I *have* ever
imagined.

MORPHEUS

So it worked?

ARES

(smile)
Like a charm.

MORPHEUS

I still don't understand why you
wanted to take her in a dream.
(beat)
Wouldn't the real thing have
been...

ARES

The real thing?
(beat)
She'd never let me.

MORPHEUS

(raise eyebrow)
Let you?
(beat)
Since when did you need permission?
(beat)
When you see something you want,
you normally just take it.
Especially women.

ARES

True.
(beat)
But she's different. Unique.

(CONTINUED)

MORPHEUS
Just remember the deal, cous.

ARES
I know, I know.

MORPHEUS
Can you do it?
(beat)
I mean, now that you've had her...
(beat)
Can you let her go?

ARES
I never go back on my word, cous.

Momentary pause. ARES reflects on the events of last night.

ARES
Besides I learned something from my
little adventure to the dreamscape
last night.

MORPHEUS
Oh, and what might that be?

ARES
She does love me.

MORPHEUS can't believe he heard correctly. Did Ares just say
"love"?

MORPHEUS
Love?

ARES either doesn't hear, or just ignores, MORPHEUS'
comment.

ARES
She just can't admit it.

MORPHEUS
What makes you think she...

ARES
She came on to me.
(beat)
She was practically all over me
from the moment I appeared.
(beat)
I didn't have to do anything.

MORPHEUS' is surprised.

MORPHEUS

Are you saying she gave herself to you?

ARES

Yes.

MORPHEUS

Willingly?

ARES

Oh yes. She was very willing.

MORPHEUS ponders this. He wonders if this fact could later be used to negate the deal he made with Ares. He wonders if Ares has even thought of it. It could be a loophole. MORPHEUS decides to see if ARES has thought of it.

MORPHEUS

That still doesn't change the deal.

(beat)

As long as she remains here...

(beat)

You can't...

ARES

I know, I know.

Momentary pause. MORPHEUS looks at ARES.

MORPHEUS

Was she worth it?

ARES

(smile)

Oh yeah. She was worth it all right. I've never been so...

Momentary pause. ARES composes himself and changes the subject.

ARES

Anyway.

(beat)

I just came by to say, thank you.

MORPHEUS

You're welcome, cous.

ARES

I won't forget this.

ARES vanishes.

(CONTINUED)

MORPHEUS

I know you won't, cous. I just hope
you can live with our deal.

MORPHEUS returns to what he was doing before ARES arrived.

JUMP TO:

3 YEARS LATER

39

EXT: HERCULES' PLACE - BACKYARD

39

DIANA is alone out the back. ARES appears and approaches her
from behind.

ARES

Diana.

DIANA turns around.

DIANA

Ares! What are you doing here? What
do you want?

ARES

Do I have to want something?

DIANA crosses her arms over her chest, and gives him a look.

DIANA

You usually do.

ARES

True. But not this time.

DIANA looks at him puzzled.

DIANA

So, you just decided to pop in for
old times sake?

ARES

Hunh?

DIANA moves closer to him.

DIANA

I haven't seen you in three years.

(beat)

Three Years!!!

(beat)

Now, out of the blue, you stop by.

(CONTINUED)

ARES

You missed me. See, I knew you cared.

DIANA

Ares! Get to the point.

(beat)

Why, after all these years, have you decided to...

ARES

Okay.

Momentary pause. DIANA looks at him, waiting.

ARES

I came to warn you.

DIANA raises an eyebrow.

DIANA

Warn me? About what?

ARES

Hera.

DIANA

Figures. What's she done now?

ARES

She's found out.

DIANA

Found out! Found out what?

ARES

About you.

(beat)

She knows, Diana. And she's not happy.

DIANA

So, you've come to gloat. To say "I told you so"!

ARES looks shocked she would say that.

ARES

No. I told you. I just wanted you to know that she knows.

ARES gives her a look that is almost sad. A look like he is really sorry for something.

(CONTINUED)

ARES

She's planning on sending you back,
Diana. I don't know when.

DIANA realizes that ARES is not kidding he is being serious.
Deadly serious.

DIANA

You're serious.

ARES

Yes.

(beat)

I just thought you should know.

(beat)

I thought I'd warn you so that...
you and my little brother can make
the most of whatever time you have
left.

(beat)

As much as I despise him, I know
that if you were to leave without
saying goodbye...

DIANA looks sad as ARES' words sound through her head.

ARES

Let's just say, I'd know how he'd
feel.

(beat)

It will affect me too, Diana. I
just wanted to give you the chance
to say goodbye to him.

(beat x2)

When mother took Deianeira and the
kids from him, he regretted not
being able to say goodbye.

(beat)

He has since made peace with that,
as he has seen her in the
Underworld.

(beat)

He's always doing favors for Hades,
and he can see her whenever he
wants. He won't of course. It would
hurt too much.

(beat)

But with you, he won't have that
option. Once you're gone, you're
gone. He'll have to wait a long
time to see you again.

DIANA looks at ARES.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Why are you doing this, Ares?

ARES stares at her. He strokes the side of her face. He finds his buried feelings for her, raising. He wants her. His body is getting so aroused just looking at her. He remembers the deal with Morpheus, and hears Morpheus' voice in his head.

MORPHEUS (VO)

You can have one night of bliss with her on the dreamscape. In exchange, you must promise that as long as she remains here, you will never touch her again.

ARES composes himself.

ARES

I don't know how far in the future you come from, but...

(beat)

...just know this.

(beat)

I love you. I'll wait for you. Forever if I have to.

Momentary pause.

PAN TO:

40

PATHWAY

40

CAMERA PANS, to show HERCULES approaching the house. He sees DIANA and ARES. He is too far away to hear what they are saying, he just sees them together.

PAN TO:

41

ARES AND DIANA

41

CAMERA PANS back to DIANA and ARES.

ARES

One day, Diana. One day we will meet again. Maybe then you can love me.

DIANA

Ares, I...

ARES kisses her on the cheek.

(CONTINUED)

ARES
 Goodbye, D.
 (beat)
 For now.

ARES vanishes. DIANA raises an eyebrow. Did he just call her "D"? No one has ever called that. No one except Mac. But how could he have known that.

DIANA
 Ares!
 (beat)
 Get back here!
 (beat)
 ARES!!!!!!

Momentary pause. DIANA realizes what ARES has just done. She realizes that he could be putting himself in a lot of trouble if Hera finds out that he warned her.

DIANA
 Thank-you. Wherever you are.

PAN TO:

42 HERCULES

42

CAMERA pans back to HERCULES who is approaching DIANA. HERCULES says line to himself.

HERCULES
 (mutter)
 I wonder what that was all about?

HERCULES approaches DIANA from behind. DIANA is daydreaming, and doesn't hear him approach.

HERCULES
 Diana?

DIANA turns at the sound of his voice.

DIANA
 Hold me, Herc. Please. Just hold me.

DIANA embraces him and starts crying on his chest. He wraps his arms around her, comforting her.

HERCULES
 What is it?
 (beat)
 What's wrong?

(CONTINUED)

(beat)(mutter)
Ares.

HERCULES realizes that ARES must have said, or done, something to upset her.

HERCULES
What did Ares say? Did he...

DIANA
Ares didn't say anything really.
(beat)
At least, not in the way you mean.

HERCULES
Oh? Then what did he want?

DIANA
He just came to deliver a message.

HERCULES
A message? Since when did Ares start doing Hermes' job?

DIANA tries to laugh at that statement between her tears.

DIANA
It wasn't really a message, per say.
(beat)
It was more of a warning actually.

HERCULES
A warning? What was he warning...

DIANA
Not what. Who.

HERCULES
I don't.

DIANA
It's Hera.

HERCULES
Hera? Figures. What's she...

DIANA
She knows, Herc. She found out.
Somehow she found out.

HERCULES figures that Ares hold Hera, and starts to get mad.

HERCULES

The next time I see Ares, I'm gonna kill him. He...

DIANA

Ares didn't tell her.

HERCULES

How do you know he didn't?

DIANA

He promised me he wouldn't.

HERCULES

And you believed him?

(beat)

Diana, how many times do I have to tell you...

(beat)

You can't trust him? He...

DIANA pushes herself out of his embrace.

DIANA

For the love of the gods, Herc.

(beat)

Listen to yourself. Can't you take him at his word? Just this once?

HERCULES

Ares?

(beat)

Never. He can't be trusted. None of them can. He never does anything without a reason. He's always after something. He...

DIANA

He's never lied to me. Never.

(beat)

Like it or not, I trust him. I believe him.

(beat)

He told me he didn't tell her, and I believe him. You didn't see the look in his eyes when he got here. I did. He wasn't lying.

(beat)

He didn't have to come here and tell me that Hera plans to send me back, he could have...

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES
Wait. Back?

DIANA
Yes.

HERCULES
When?

DIANA
That, he didn't know.

DIANA looks at HERCULES.

DIANA
Promise me one thing?

HERCULES
Anything.

DIANA
Promise me you won't leave again.
(beat)
No matter what. Promise me, that
we'll spend whatever time remains
together?

HERCULES
I promise.

DIANA
(smile)
I love you.

HERCULES
I love you too.

DIANA
The thought of losing you, it...

HERCULES brings a finger to her lips.

HERCULES
Sh. I know.

HERCULES runs his fingers alongside of her face, and kisses her. After about 8 seconds, they break the kiss.

DIANA
Herc?

HERCULES

Yeah?

DIANA

Can we go somewhere tomorrow?
Somewhere romantic? Somewhere where
no one can find us?

(beat)

It's been so long since we did
anything romantic.

HERCULES flashes her a smile.

HERCULES

Sure.

DIANA

We can spend the whole day
together. Alone. Just the two of
us. No distractions.

Pause. He seems to be thinking about her suggestion.

HERCULES

And how do you suggest we spend the
day?

DIANA

Oh, I can think of a few things.

HERCULES

Like?

DIANA smiles and kisses him.

HERCULES

That's it?

DIANA

No. That's only the beginning.

HERCULES

(raise eyebrow)

What comes next?

DIANA

(smile)

Take me inside and find out.

HERCULES swoops her up into his arms. She kisses him. He carries her back to the house, kissing her all the way.

JUMP TO:

LATER THAT NIGHT

43

INT: BEDROOM

43

DIANA awakes. HERCULES is still fast asleep. She gets out of bed, and goes over to the window. She looks out it - up at the stars.

DIANA

Athena, if you are listening, I wish to ask a favor of you.

Momentary pause. DIANA tries to figure out how to say what she wants to say.

DIANA

I would like to borrow Pegasus tomorrow.

(beat)

I want tomorrow to be perfect.

DIANA looks over at the sleeping HERCULES.

DIANA

A day Herc will never forget.

She looks back at the stars.

DIANA

I want to go the most isolated, beautiful, romantic, spot on the face of the earth.

(beat)

If you consent to lending me Pegasus, ask him to take us to that spot. I don't know how much longer I'll be around, and I want what time I have left to be memorable.

DIANA pauses for a moment, then returns to bed. She rests her head on HERCULES' chest, and goes back to sleep.

JUMP TO:

NEXT MORNING

44

BEDROOM

44

DIANA wakes up. She looks at HERCULES, who is still sleeping, and decides to wake him up. She kisses his chest, then his neck. HERCULES awakes, wraps his arms around her neck, rolls over, and pins her to the bed. He then looks down at her.

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES
What are you doing?

DIANA gives him a seductive look.

DIANA
Waking you up. We have a big day
ahead of us.

HERCULES returns the look.

HERCULES
Oh. Well, in that case, now that
I'm awake, let's start the day off
right.

HERCULES kisses her. They make love. DIANA is resting her head on his chest, when they hear the sound of a horse neighing outside the window.

HERCULES
I wonder who that could be?

DIANA hopes that Athena granted her wish, and sent Pegasus. HERCULES grabs one of the bed covers, wraps it around himself, and goes to the window. He looks out, and sees PEGASUS.

DIANA
Who is it?

HERCULES
It's Pegasus.

DIANA
(smile)
Really?!?

HERCULES
I wonder what...

DIANA
Call him over.

DIANA wraps herself in another bed cover, and goes to the window. HERCULES whistles for PEGASUS.

HERCULES
Pegasus, c'mer boy!

PEGASUS comes over. DIANA reaches the window, and stands beside HERCULES.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
He's beautiful.

PEGASUS arrives at the window. He has a note around his neck. HERCULES sees it, and takes it.

DIANA
What's it say?

HERCULES reads it. DIANA strokes PEGASUS.

HERCULES
Hercules, I have instructed Pegasus to take you and Diana to the most romantic spot I know. When you return home, just tell him to come back to me. Have fun, Athena.

DIANA
Well, what are we waiting for?
(beat)
Let's get dressed and get out of here.

HERCULES is thinking. He looks from the note, to PEGASUS, and then back at the note.

HERCULES
How did Athena know that we...

HERCULES looks at DIANA.

HERCULES
You. You asked her for Pegasus, didn't you?

Momentary pause. DIANA flashes him a smile.

DIANA
Sort of.

HERCULES smiles. They get dressed and then go outside.

JUMP TO:

45

EXT: BACKYARD

45

They go to PEGASUS. HERCULES mounts PEGASUS, then helps DIANA up. DIANA sits behind HERCULES, with her arms wrapped tightly around his waist. HERCULES pats PEGASUS' head.

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES

Okay, Pegasus. Let's go.

PEGASUS flies off.

CONTINUE TO:

46 EXT: AIR

46

PEGASUS takes them to the top of a very high mountain.

CONTINUE TO:

47 EXT: TOP OF MOUNTAIN - NEAR A STREAM

47

PEGASUS lands. They are in a "Garden of Eden". There is a running stream on the right hand side. There are lots of trees, and flowers, and berry bushes. DIANA and HERCULES dismount PEGASUS. HERCULES gets off first, then helps DIANA down.

DIANA

Oh, Herc! This is beautiful!

HERCULES

Yeah.

DIANA

Look at that stream! The water is so clear, it's like crystal.

DIANA walks over to the stream. She steps into it. She is surprised at how warm the water is.

DIANA

And so warm. I wonder how it can be so warm this high up?

DIANA goes under the water. HERCULES is worried.

HERCULES

Diana?!?

DIANA comes back up. She turns to him.

DIANA

Come on, Herc! Join me.

(beat)

We can have some fun.

HERCULES looks at her. DIANA starts to remove her clothes, and throws them to him.

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES

What are you...

DIANA

We can even have more fun, if we
leave our clothes on the shore.

HERCULES flashes her a smile. He removes his clothes, then joins her in the water. He heads out to her, but, on the way, disappears under the water. After a few seconds, DIANA starts to worry.

DIANA

Herc?

(beat)

Hercules?

(beat)

This isn't Funny, Herc! I...

She screams as he grabs her from behind. He kisses her neck, then picks her up, and turns her around to face him.

HERCULES

You're right.

(beat)

This is fun.

DIANA

I ought to...

He shuts her up with a kiss.

CONTINUE TO:

48

TIME FLIES MONTAGE

48

He moves his hands up and down her side. She wraps her arms tightly around his neck, pulling him to her. He brings his arms to the back of her legs, and lifts her up. He wraps her legs around his waist and makes love to her. Then they frolic in the water for a bit. They have a huge water fight, which ends with DIANA running ashore. He follows, catches her, and knocks her to the ground. He manages to get himself on top of her, pinning her to the ground. He looks down at her, and kisses her. They make love again.

CONTINUE TO:

They are sitting under a tree, fully clothed, eating some berries and other fruit that HERCULES found.

DIANA

So, are we having fun yet?

HERCULES

What sort of question is that?

DIANA

A sarcastic, rhetorical one.

HERCULES

A what?

DIANA

A joke, Herc.

HERCULES

Oh.

(beat)

But seriously, yeah. This is great.

DIANA

I wonder where Pegasus got to?

HERCULES

Oh, he's around.

(beat)

Why, you want to leave already?

(beat)

All I have to do is whistle for him, and he'll...

DIANA

No. I don't want to leave yet. You promised me the whole day. And I know the great Hercules would never break a promise.

HERCULES

Oh, is that so?

DIANA

Yes.

HERCULES

Well, if I remember correctly, you promised to make love to me as much as possible today.

DIANA says the next line with an innocent tone to her voice.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA
I did?

HERCULES
Yeah, you did.

DIANA
Well, then I guess we better stop
wasting time.

DIANA kisses him. They make love.

JUMP TO:

50

EXT: PATH

50

DIANA and HERCULES are walking. They have their arms around each other.

DIANA
Oh, Herc. I wish every day could be
like this.
(beat)
I don't want it to end.

HERCULES
Me either.

He kisses her. The kiss is broken by the sound of someone clearing his or her throat. It's ZEUS.

HERCULES
Father. What are you...

ZEUS
Good day son. Diana.

DIANA nods a "hello" to ZEUS, ZEUS looks upset. DIANA wonders why he's here. She figures that whatever the reason, it can't be good.

HERCULES
What is it?

ZEUS
Hera has decided that Diana has to
leave. Tonight.

DIANA
Tonight?

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES

Can't you do something?

ZEUS

She wanted to send her home last night. She was supposed to be gone when you woke up.

HERCULES

I see.

(beat)

I suppose you got her to wait?

ZEUS

Yes. But I wasn't alone. A few others helped.

DIANA wonders who those "few others" were. She's sure one of them would have been Ares, but who else would be on her side?

HERCULES

Thank you, I guess.

ZEUS

Hera says that Diana's being here could alter the course of time as it should be. Who knows how much damage has already been caused. How much she has caused events to change since...

DIANA

He's right, Herc.

HERCULES

I don't care about time, Diana. I love you. The future hasn't happened yet. Things can...

DIANA

I love you, too.

DIANA turns to ZEUS.

DIANA

Did, um, Hera say when she'd be sending me back?

ZEUS

As soon as the sun sinks below the horizon.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA, HERCULES, and ZEUS, all look at the sun and the horizon. DIANA thinks, then looks at HERCULES.

DIANA

That gives us three hours, Herc.

HERCULES looks at DIANA.

HERCULES

Three Hours.

(beat)

What is three hours compared to...

DIANA turns to ZEUS.

DIANA

Thank you.

ZEUS

Good-bye, Diana.

(beat)

It was nice to know you.

DIANA flashes a smile.

DIANA

You too.

ZEUS looks at HERCULES.

ZEUS

I'll see you later, son.

ZEUS vanishes.

HERCULES

Diana, I can't lose you.

(beat)

I don't think I could face losing another...

DIANA

Herc, can we spend the next three hours loving each other, instead of arguing over something we can't change? I...

HERCULES realizes she is right, and kisses her.

JUMP TO:

51 UNDER A TREE - NEAR CLIFF

51

DIANA and HERCULES are under a tree, which is near a cliff. They can see the horizon line. They are laying in each other's arms. Both have tears in their eyes. The sun is almost set. DIANA stands up. HERCULES stands up.

DIANA

Well, I guess this is it.

HERCULES

I love you.

DIANA

And I you.

HERCULES kisses her. The sun sets. The vortex that appeared over DIANA's pool at the beginning, appears again. HERA's eyes appear in the sky. The sound of HERA's voice breaks the kiss.

HERA

Diana.

(beat)

You have been judged, by me.

(beat)

I find your presence here no longer tolerable.

HERA raises DIANA off of the ground, as a strong gust of wind blows around DIANA and HERCULES.

HERCULES

Hera! Don't do this!!!

HERA

Stay out of this, Hercules.

HERA sends HERCULES flying backwards, into the tree. DIANA is being drawn towards the vortex.

DIANA

Hercules!!!!

HERCULES gets up, and tries to reach for DIANA, but she is out of reach.

DIANA

I love you.

HERCULES

I love you, too.

(CONTINUED)

As HERCULES finishes his line, DIANA is sucked into the vortex. HERA's eyes disappear. The vortex stays a few moments, then it also disappears. HERCULES falls to the ground on his knees.

HERCULES
NOOOOOO!!!!

PAN TO:

52 NEARBY GROUP OF TREES

52

CAMERA PANS to the nearby group of trees. A figure can be seen watching. Zoom in on the figure. It's ARES.

ARES
Take care my love. Till we meet
again. And we will meet again. I
will find you. One day. That I
promise.

ARES vanishes.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

53 EXT: HERCULES' PLACE

53

IOLAUS is sitting in HERCULES' front yard. Waiting.

IOLAUS
I wonder where they could be?
(beat)
I...

IOLAUS sees something flying directly towards the house. It takes a few moments, but then he realizes that it's PEGASUS.

IOLAUS
Pegasus?
(beat)
What could he want?

PEGASUS lands. HERCULES dismounts, sends PEGASUS home, and then heads for the house. He sees IOLAUS, but ignores him. IOLAUS heads over to HERCULES. HERCULES walks tight past him.

IOLAUS
What, not even a hello?

IOLAUS follows HERCULES towards the house. Momentary pause.

(CONTINUED)

IOLAUS

Herc?

(beat)

Herc?

HERCULES

Whatever it is, it's going to have to wait. I'm in no mood right now to...

IOLAUS

All I wanted was...

Momentary pause. IOLAUS realizes DIANA's not with him.

IOLAUS

Wait.

(beat)

Where's Diana?

(beat)

Wasn't she with you?

HERCULES stops. He is about to turn and say something, but changes his mind. He continues to the house.

IOLAUS

Herc?

(beat)

Herc, what is it?

(beat)

Something's wrong? Something's happened?

(beat)

Where is she?

(beat)

Where's Diana?

HERCULES

I don't want to talk about it.

HERCULES reaches the door and opens it.

IOLAUS

Herc!

HERCULES turns and faces IOLAUS.

HERCULES

I said, I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT!!!

(CONTINUED)

HERCULES enters and slams the door. IOLAUS stares at the door. He wonders if he should go in and see what's troubling his friend. It's obvious it has to do with Diana. But what happened? IOLAUS stands, staring at the door, debating what to do. After a few more moments, he decides to leave.

JUMP TO:

SATURDAY JUNE 14th 1997

54

EXT: DIANA'S BACKYARD

54

The vortex appears in the sky above her pool, just like it did before. DIANA comes flying through it, and lands in the pool, just like Hercules did before. DIANA stands in the pool and looks around. She notices the signs of summer all around her. She hears the sound of the traffic, and it takes a moment for her to remember what that noise is. It's been so long since she's heard it. DIANA starts to move, and stops. She feels kind of dizzy, light headed. Her hand instinctively goes to her stomach. After a moment, her eyes drift to where she placed her hand. She gets a very funny feeling. (She is pregnant, only she doesn't know it yet. She does, however, suspect it.)

DIANA

No. I couldn't. Could I?

DIANA gets out of the pool. The weather is fairly cool, and she is dripping wet. She looks to the house.

DIANA

I hope I didn't lock the door.

DIANA tries to make it to the house as fast as she can.

CONTINUE TO:

55

SIDE DOOR

55

DIANA

Please, tell me I didn't lock it.
Please.

DIANA reaches the house. She places her hand on the doorknob and turns it. It opens. DIANA breathes a sign of relief, and raises her eyes to the sky.

DIANA

Thank you.

DIANA goes inside.

CONTINUE TO:

56 TIME FLIES MONTAGE 56

DIANA changes out of her wet clothes, then goes to the phone. She calls her doctor, and makes an appointment. She is about to hang up the phone, when she gets a feeling that there is an important message on her voice mail.

CONTINUE TO:

57 TIME RESUMES (LIVING ROOM) 57

DIANA checks her voice mail.

VOICE (VO)

Hello. Today is Saturday, June
14th, 1997. Time is 1:00pm.

DIANA is shocked. Did only a year go by while she was gone?

DIANA

1997?

VOICE (VO)

Enter your password now.

DIANA

I hope I remember this.

DIANA enters her password.

VOICE (VO)

Thank-you.
(beat)
You have 500 messages.

DIANA

500?

CONTINUE TO:

58 TIME FLIES MONTAGE 58

DIANA goes through her messages. All 500. She deletes the ones that are either not important, hang-ups, or no longer apply. There are at least 10 messages from Mac. After listening to all the messages, she hangs up and calls Mac.

CONTINUE TO:

59 TIME RESUMES (LIVING ROOM)

59

DIANA finishes dialing Mac's number. She gets his machine.

DIANA
Great. Phone-tag.

Momentary pause. Mac's message plays, and DIANA waits for the beep. At the beep she leaves the following message.

DIANA
Hi Mac, it's me. ... Sorry I took
so long to get back to you. But
I've been...

Momentary pause. DIANA tries to figure out what to say.

DIANA
...out of town. ... Call me when
you get this message. Bye.

DIANA hangs up the phone. She stares at the stairs leading to the basement, and descends them.

CONTINUE TO:

60 BASEMENT

60

The basement is pretty much as she left it. She goes over to the shelf where HERCULES found Nemesis' pendant, and is surprised to see that it's still there. Under the pendant, are the two books she wrote while in Ancient Greece.

DIANA
I don't believe this? How...

She picks up the biography she was working on, and turns to the end.

DIANA
Wait, I didn't write this!
(beat)
Herc must have continued writing it
after I left.

She keeps flipping back, till she finds the first entry that she didn't write. She reads it.

DIANA (VO)
It been three weeks now since I
lost Diana. I never thought I could
ever love another woman as much as
I loved Deianeira, but Diana...

(CONTINUED)

