

Bo Lundby-Jæger

# Aphrodite and Psyche

Opera for 2 sopranos  
and piano  
2005



# Aphrodite and Psyche

## An introduktion

A greek tragedie sung bye two sopranoes

Music by :Bo Lundby Jæger

Lyrics by : Michael Hall

Sop.1:  
Let's start in this,  
The real world, in real time.  
[ Small pause ] Once, long ago.....

Sop 2 : There was a kingdom,  
A king, a queen...

Piano

$\text{♩} = 60$

*pp*

Sop 1 :  
And three daughters.  
the first two...

Sop2 :  
Were ordinary. Well,  
as ordinary as two princesses can be.  
But the third...

Sop1 :  
... Psyche was so beautiful,  
so regal in speech and bearing,

Pno.

Sop 1.  
So God like in demeanour  
people cried

Pno.

Sop1 :  
' Here.  
Here is a new Goddess.  
One to rival Aphrodite.'

Pno.



# 1. Aphrodite and Psyche

Music Bo Lundby Jæger

Text Michael Hall

Aphrodites first song

$\bullet = 92$

Soprano 1

Piano

*Furioso*

*ff*

S 1

Pno.

3

S 1

Pno.

5

*Furioso*

*ff* Not pleased at all at all, at all *f* in

*sfz*

*sfz*

8

S 1

fact — dis pleasure most extreme such

Pno.

*mf* *ff*

9

10

S 1

talk is blas - phe-my blas-phe-my blas-phe-my

Pno.

10

3

3

3

14

S 1

14

*Furioso*

*ff*

3

3

3

17

S 1 *mf* since wo-man first ap - peared I have been their go - dess

Pno.

20

S 1 their i - deal Their spi - rit The mo - del for their lives \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

25 *Furioso*

S 1 *f* Ah-phro-di - te reigns! un - chal - langed *f* su - preme

Pno.

29 *dolce* *mf* one god-des for wo-man kind *mp* re-mem-ber, you men you wo-man *rubato* how Ah-phro-di-te was con-

S 1

Pno. *mf* *mp*

32 ceived My fa-ther o-ver po-wered by

S 1

Pno. *ff*

35 Cro-nus and his gang ca-stra-ted, his ge-ni-tals, —

S 1

Pno.



39 *f* *mp*

S 1 flung from the hea-ven, fell, not on land but in the sea There from such a union was

Pno. *f* *p*

45 *Furioso* *f*

S 1 Aphrodite born of gods, of pain, of

Pno. *cresc.* *f*

50 *mf*

S 1 vi - o - lence in union with the o - ce - a - nic force and now I have to witness

Pno. *mf*

54

S 1

blas - phe-my

54

Pno.

*mp*  
*con pedale*

*mp*

The image shows a musical score for Soprano 1 (S 1) and Piano (Pno.). The Soprano part begins at measure 54 with the lyrics "blas - phe-my". The Piano part also starts at measure 54 and features a right-hand staff with chords and a left-hand staff with octaves. The piano part is marked "mp con pedale" and ends with "mp".

# 2. Such loneliness

Music Bo Lundby Jæger

Text Michael Hall

Psyche  
Sop 2

$\text{♩} = 50$

Psyche

*mp* Such lone - li - ness —

Piano

S 2

such lone - li - ness — is hard to bear by na - ture I am

Pno.

S 2

not to fast  
*Colla parte*

kind *mf* but — this cru - el dis - tance — from life it self — cre - ates in me a

Pno.

14

S 2

long - ing \_\_\_\_\_ so pain - ful in its ache *f* *p* its

Pno.

17

S 2

ache *mf* that when the cy - pres - ses \_\_\_\_\_ and o - live - trees \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

*mf*

20

S 2

throw long sha dows on the dy - ing days \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

*dim*

23

S 2

*mp* watch a top the pa - lace-walls

Pno.

26

S 2

Restless

*mf* young lo-vers hur-ry past with shy bright eyes their

Pno.

29

S 2

*parlando* bo - dies taut with ur-gent ten-der-ness

*f* I

Pno.

*Poco rit.*

S 2

ache I ache I yearn with all my heart to be as they *mp* so

Pno.

*f*

*Poco rit.*

S 2

full with lifes re - ne - wall

Pno.

S 2

*mf* Three sea - sons — my

Pno.

*mp*

45

S 2

sis - sers both are wed but no young prince — has sought my hands — no

Pno.

49

S 2

mar - riage planned — no... sum - mers smile is wan an emp - ty

Pno.

Narrators :  
But the King too had watched and saw the need to act.  
'I will consult the Oracle'  
( And so he did. )

53

Pno.

*Poco rit.*

58

Pno.

# 3. The Gods

Bo Lundby Jæger

Michael Hall

The king  
Sop. 1

The King  $\text{♩} = 60$

*f* The gods have blessed me

Piano *ff*

The king

with three daughters Two are wed with I

Pno.

The king

give much thanks for But Psy che Psy che no fai rer

Pno.



25

The king

mai den Treads this earth, a dored, ad mired,

Pno.

32

The king

worshipped

*rit.*

Pno.

*rit.*

*ff*

38

The king

Pno.

43

The king

But al ways from a far from a far great O ra cle

Pno.

*mp*

50

The king

I ask You

Pno.

59 *Poco piu mosso*

The king

please find a hus band for our Psy che.

Pno.

# 4. oracel

Bo Lundby Jæger

Oracel  
Sop. 2

Michael Hall

with an old crumbling voice

♩ = 80

♩ = 56

Soprano 2

Piano

*f* *mf* God king

S 2

Pno.

Psy-che shall ma - ry — to - - night- - - - Go now. Take her to

S 2

Pno.

Death [th] moun - tain Chain her to a rock, and there, a -

*Lunga* *loco*

11

S 2

lone she shall a-wait her hus band d d d de - ath d d d de

Pno.

14

S 2

- - ath, dea - th, yes death shall be her hus - band The

*Like glass*

Pno.

16

S 2

Gods have ruled Fare-well!

Pno.

# 5. Thank You

Aphrodite Sop. 1

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

♩ = 120

Aphrodite

Thank you \_\_\_\_\_ my loy - al

*p* *mf*

Measures 1-5: Aphrodite vocal line and Piano accompaniment. The piano part features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand. Dynamics range from piano (*p*) to mezzo-forte (*mf*).

S 1

o - ra - cle \_\_\_\_\_ thank you \_\_\_\_\_ to night our

*p* *mp*

Measures 6-9: Soprano 1 vocal line and Piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the triplet motif. Dynamics range from piano (*p*) to mezzo-piano (*mp*).

S 1

psy - che joins her life - long bond with death *f* Won - der - full won - der - full

*mf*

Measures 10-13: Soprano 1 vocal line and Piano accompaniment. The piano part features a crescendo leading to a forte (*f*) dynamic. Dynamics range from mezzo-forte (*mf*) to forte (*f*).

S 1

14

joined in death un - til she dies \_\_\_ Ah, but What

Pno.

S 1

18

if the mar - riage fails what then? \_

Pno.

18

*Dim.*

# 6. Hello, hello

Eros  
Sop. 1

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael hall

$\text{♩} = 84$  Should be sung extremely affected and lisp[ing] Sop 1

Eros

*f* Hel-lo hel-lo hel-lo

Piano

*f*

Eros

hel-lo E-ros Cu-pid A-mor that's me \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

Eros

[ disappointed ]  
Oh, Mum-sie Its You

Pno.

16

Eros *mf* My ar-rows? are they sharp? — Why su - per hy - per sharp

Pno. *mp*

20

Eros Me - ga pwick - ly mum - sie! —

Pno.

23

Eros Listens  
one touch from these your gone, gone, gone, gone

Pno. *f*

28

Eros Death — moun-tain | a girl

Pno.



31 *Straight*

Eros  
yes yes a - ny - one who feels my ar - rows —

Pno.

34 *Straight*  $\text{♩} = 50$

Eros  
feels loves po wer — *mp* Pro - mise Mum - sie one pwick theyll

Pno.

*rit.* *mp*

39

Eros  
love the next per - son they see for - - e - - -

Pno.

46

Eros  
ver — for - e - - - - ver ver for - e - ver for - e - ver for e -

Pno.

55 *Straight Senza misura i rubato*

Eros

ver E-ven if it's death Mum-sie e-ven if it's death she'll lo-ve him death

*p* *Swing*

Pno.

*f*

61  $\text{♩} = 84$

Eros

Pro-mise mum-sie

*Dim.* -----

Pno.

*Dim.* -----

66

Eros

right a - way Mum - sie

Pno.

# 7. Flies to Death mountain

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

Eros and Psyche

Soprano 1

Eros  $\text{♩} = 60$

*mp* Right first take your bow

Takes bow

Piano

*mp*

S 1

no pro - blem now the

Pno.

S 1

ar - row.....

Takes aim, releases but bow and arrow collapse in an incompetent heap. He picks up bow and, with eyes on Psyche, instead of inserting arrow in bowstring, he pricks his arm. Sudden change. Eros becomes a true God, ennobled by love.

Pno.

13  $\text{♩} = 90$

S 1

*f* Dear Gods Great Zeus The pa-no-ply of Hea -

Pno.

21

S 1

ven ne-ver looked more fair \_\_\_\_\_ than this *p* no

Pno.

26

S 1

an-gel more de-li-cate \_\_\_\_\_ Kind vi sion you are the

Pno.

30

S 1

fai - rest crea - ture e - ver born a - wake to me, a God a - wake, be mine,

Pno.

30

evt. 16dels bev.

*sfz*

34

S 1

no, don't look

Pno.

34

*mf*

38

S 1

Who are you — I was ex - pec - ting Death

Pno.

38

Psyche

42 Eros

S 1

I am life and love \_\_\_ come \_\_\_ be with me in pa-ra-dise \_\_\_ come \_\_\_ be my bride be my bride, will you?

Pno.

48 Psyche Eros Psyche

S 1

— I will i will That valley there, \_\_\_you see it? I see it —

Pno.

55 Eros

S 1

— It's para-dise To live with me in pa-ra-dise

Pno.

Psyche

59

S 1

I ask two things *mf* Two things of

Pno.

Eros

64

S 1

course \_\_\_\_\_ of course You ne-ver question me \_\_\_\_\_ You ne - ver

Pno.

Psyche

69

S 1

see my face You pro-mise I pro-mise I will not

Pno.

73

S 1

que-stion you \_\_\_\_\_ I will not see your face I

Pno.

Eros

76

S 1

pro-mise pro-mise pro - mise \_\_\_\_\_ Then we are wed. —

Pno.

*ff*

81

Both

S 1

— Now blow West - wind \_\_\_\_\_ and lift us up to pa - ra - dise \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

Sop 2 : But we've forgotten Psyche's sisters.  
 Sop 1 : Now who could for get them well, Psyche had.  
 Sop 2 : So..... when they called down the valley  
 from the rock.....  
 Sop 1 : In the spirit of sisterly concern,  
 of course .....



# 8. Coo-ee Psyche darling

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

**Sop 2**  $\text{♩} = 84$  **Sop 1** **Sop 1**

*f* Coo-eee Coo-eee Coo-ee Psy-che dar-ling *mf* She can't hear \_\_\_\_\_

Piano

**Sop 2**

6 of course she can. If she want's to \_\_\_\_\_ it's ap-

Pno.

**Sop 1 - 2**

10 pa - ling ut - ter - ly ap - pa - ling there she is \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

14

Sop 2 Sop 1 Sop 2

in pa - ra - dise mar-ried to a God a bea - ti - ful God a

Pno.

14

Straight

19

to - tal - ly de - li - cius lip smac - king sort of God who's wea - ring just a bow and ar row

Pno.

19

Swing

Straight

23

and that sil - ly hel - met well i'm shocked it's not

Pno.

23

26 Sop 1

right it's just not right Psy - che dar - ling

Pno.

30 Weeping

it's your si - ster we miss you so Psy - che dar - ling we

Pno.

34 Sop 1

are so hap - py you landed in pa - radise so happy hap - py so happy we'd like to vi - sit you

Pno.

Weeping in the voice

41 ♩. = 50

Sop 2

coo-ee Psyche dar-ling may we vi-sit look she's em-bra-cing him

mf

Piano accompaniment (Pno.) with triplets and straight markings.

49

Sop 1 - 2

ap - pa - ling ap - pa - ling

Piano accompaniment (Pno.)

56

Sop 2

for e - - - - - ver

Sop 1

But they're

Piano accompaniment (Pno.)

62 Sop 1

mar - - - ried that makes it worse and with a God it's not

Pno.

68 Sop 2 Sop 1

right it's not hu man that's right it's not hu - man hu - man

Pno.

74 Sop 2 Sop 1 - 2

hu - man hu - man hu - man

*Straight*

Pno.

80

Psy - che

Pno.

87

dar - ling we'd so like to vi - sit you we've

Pno.

94

ne - ver seen pa-ra-dise well on - ly from a

Pno.

101

di - stance a di stance — but up close \_\_\_\_\_ *p* well who knows?

Pno.

107

May we? *p* was that a yes? Psy-che

Sop 1 - 2

Pno.

113

dar - ling was that a yes does that <sup>3</sup>mean a yes does it? it does! it

Swing  $\text{♩} = 84$  Sop 1 Sop 2

Pno.

118

does! it's not right — her be - ing in pa - ra - dise just not right —

Pno.

122

Sop 1

Sop 2

shall we go ? of

Pno.

126

course we'll go dear would'nt — miss it for the world not that I ap - prove of course

Pno.



131 Sop 1

Psy - che dar - ling We are co - ming to vi - sit you!

Pno.

the sisters descend to the valley.  
Sop 2 removes her wigs and dons Psyche's mask

# 9. Psyche , darling

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

**Sopr.**

*mf* Psy-che, dar - ling how love-ly. ly how love\_\_\_\_\_ ly.

**Piano**

*mf*

**sopr.**

9 Sop 1

But... Now that we're a - lone I have to say I real-ly must

**Pno.**

**sopr.**

16 Sop 1 - 2 Real - ly, - must real-ly must real-ly must Sop 1

real - - - ly - must real-ly must real-ly must that hus-band you can-not look at,

**Pno.**

22 Sop 2 Sop 1 Sop 1 - 2 *molto rit.* -----

sopr. *look at, look at, you can-not ques - tion you know why? \_ My dear, dear*

Pno. *molto rit.* -----

29 Sop 1 - 2 *a tempo* -----

sopr. *Psy-che He's a mon - ster a ser - pent hehas de - ceived you*

Pno. *a tempo* -----

36 Sop 2

sopr. *and what's more \_\_\_ that child you bear yes we heard it from the ser-pents mouth when the child is*

Pno.

41 Sop 2

sopr. born he will de - vour you both you both, you both, — you both, you both yes. He plans to kill

Pno.

48 Sop 1 Sop 2 Sop 1 Sop 2

sopr. — you both When we heard that We where so — ap-palled ap - palled ap-palled ap-

Pno.

55 Sop 2

sopr. palled. — So Psy - che dea - rest to -

*mp*

*molto rit.*

Pno. *mp*

63

sopr.

night you take the shar-pest knife, you take a lamp and

Poco accel.

Pno.

67

sopr.

when he sleeps \_\_\_\_\_ s *f* cut off his head \_\_\_\_\_ his head

Pno.

*ff*

72

sopr.

Yes dear it is the on - ly way \_\_\_\_\_ The beast must be be - hea-ded.

Pno.

78

sopr.

It's him or you, it's him or you And now, my dear, \_\_\_\_\_ we must be gone \_\_\_\_\_ we

Pno.

*p*

84

sopr.

care for you so much \_\_\_\_\_ dear Psy - che so much...

Pno.

Sop 1 moves away, removes her wig....

So Psyche took a knife, The sharpest knife,  
An oil lamp, and waited for her God to sleep.

As Psyche waits sop 1 dons Eros' wings and bow and  
arrows and lies down. Music depicts sleep syche approaches.

# 10. Now I will look at you

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

♩ = 69  
Lullaby

Soprano 1

*p* Now I will look at You look at You

Piano

Lullaby

*p*

S 1

5

Now i will see your face You — you are no ser-pent

Pno.

5

*f*

S 1

8

You — you are no mon - ster — You are the God of love. the

Pno.

8

*v*

12

S 1

fai-rest of the fair m-m-my si - - sters m-m-my si - sters\_\_ lied to me\_\_

Pno.

*ff* *p*

15

S 1

*mf* Oh. E - ros\_\_ for - give me\_\_ I was de - ceived\_\_ I was a -

Pno.

*mf*

19

S 1

fraid\_\_ a - fraid you kill\_\_ me\_\_ and our child child I did not

Pno.



23

S 1

know \_\_\_\_\_ know \_\_\_\_\_ How could I know un - til I saw

Pno.

27

S 1

You Oh, E - - - ros My

Pno.

30

S 1

Hus-band for - give me for - give me \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

She weeps over the sleeping Eros  
and some hot oil from the lamp falls on Eros.

# 11. Oh, Psyche

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

Eros and Psyche

Soprano 1

$\text{♩} = 120$

Eros *Poco accel.*

*mf* Oh, Psy - che oh no no no no no no no no

Piano

*ff*

S 1

no You look on me. Oh no The spell is bro - ken

Pno.

S 1

You have be trayed our pa - ra dise — oh Psy - che,

Pno.

*ff*

16  $\text{♩} = 100$

S 1  
Psy-che, now we must leave or die.

Pno.

*ff*

21  $\text{♩} = 50$  Psyche

S 1  
Quick, my ar-rows. Oh E - ros wait, wait

Pno.

*mp*

26

S 1  
Love sur - gess trough my heart I

Pno.

30

S 1

o-ver-flow \_\_\_\_\_ I am the fount of love it - self \_\_\_\_\_ of love it self

Pno.

34

S 1

oh E - ros \_\_\_\_\_ for - give me that I broke your trust To late there is no time to waste time to waste

Sop 1 Eros

Pno.

39

S 1

time to waste quick my Psy-che we must fly \_\_\_\_\_

[ They fly to the river and look back. ]

Pno.

42

S 1

*sfz* See \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

44

S 1

*Sad*  
Pa - ra - dise dis-solves \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

47

S 1

bro - ken with a glance \_\_\_\_\_ that's all it takes \_\_\_\_\_ my love,

Pno.

51

S 1

now I go too A-phro-di-te calls

Pno.

*Poco rit.*

56

Sop 2 Psyche

By the river

S 1

Oh E - ros You can-not

Pno.

60

S 1

leave I have looked on You and felt love's ar - row.

Pno.

63

S 1

So have You we've joined in love I have a child within

Pno.

67

S 1

You can-not leave \_\_\_\_\_ Yes pa-ra-dise is gone but

Pno.

71

S 1

here, be-side the ri-ver we'll build our home.

Pno.

74 Sop 1 Eros

S 1

Oh E-ros stay be with me in pa-ra-dise stay oh stay with me my

Pno.

80

S 1

love I can-not The Gods have called \_\_\_\_\_ and I must

Pno.

84

S 1

join them fare - well my love \_\_\_ I fly to Mt. Olym - pos

Pno.



88

S 1

Pno.

90

S 1

Pno.

92

Sop 2 Psyche

S 1

Pno.

*rit. back to tmp*

10

So cru-el life is to see the face of love \_\_\_ to stare it in the

99

S 1

face, to feel love's full - ness \_\_\_\_\_ surge \_\_\_\_\_ with - in your heart, \_

Pno.

102

S 1

\_\_\_\_\_ To have with-in your grasp \_\_\_\_\_ the one \_\_\_\_\_ you love... *p* in

Pno.

106

S 1

pa-radise, then lose him in a flash.... \_\_\_\_\_ Oh in a flash \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, \_\_\_\_\_ so cru-el life is

Pno.

110

S 1

So cru - el So cru - el

Pno.

113

S 1

But wait I hear the gen tle

Pno.

115

S 1

ri ver song \_\_\_\_\_ come. Stay be \_\_\_\_\_ neath \_\_\_\_\_ my

Pno.

117

S 1

rip pling waves — Rest sleep long

Pno.

*mp*

*sfz*

119

S 1

*Poco rit.*

Share with me e - ter - nal breath. oh, ri - ver, —

Pno.

*Poco rit.*

123

S 1

— yes, her I come. — Em - brace me till the end.

Pno.

Goes to drown herself. Pan appears with a goat's horns and cloven hooves.

126

S 1

Pno.

*sfz* *f*

3

130

S 1

Pno.

*f* pan

Stop! a god com - mands You! —

*sfz*

134

S 1

Pno.

*Dolce*

*mp* you seek still-ness peace — but not like this.

*Dolce* *mp*

3

138

S 1

No ri-ver grave for You. find peace through prayer. Pan knows.

Pno.

3

Like glass

142

S 1

But first,

Pno.

143

S 1

feet \_\_ on \_\_ ground. Yes Con - nect with motther earth Now Pray! To whom? Youfeellove's pain?

Psyche Pan

Pno.

9

147 Psyche Pan

S 1  
 Oh, a thou-sand knives with - in \_\_\_\_\_ Then pray to E - ros \_\_\_\_\_ He's love's God

Pno.

151 Psyche Pan

S 1  
 Kind Pan, I \_\_\_\_\_ can-not. he is the cause. then his mo-ther \_\_\_\_\_ A-phro-

Pno.

154 Psyche Pan

S 1  
 di - te Oh no. I can't. She is a-against me. Dear Psy - che \_\_\_\_\_ on-ly they can

Pno.

S 1

157

help. some-times that's how things are. \_\_\_\_\_ And now these hooves have earth to tread. Fare -

Pno.

S 1

160  $\text{♩} = 56$  Pan removes disguise to be narrator once again.

well Fare - well kind God. \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

S 1

So Pyche prayed.....  
not to Eros or Aphrodite,  
but to every female God there was,  
To Hestia.....

Dear He - stia God - dess of Home and

Pno.

164



168

S 1

Hearth Great Ce - res, god - dess of Gol - den corn..... Im -

Pno.

173

S 1

mortal Diana Greathun - tress..... *rit.* -----

Pno.

To no avail.  
 Truth was these lesser gods  
 feared Aphrodite's wrath,  
 and so, not to offend,  
 gave no help. No help at all.  
 Unanswered prayers.  
 So Psyche... suffered.  
 No peace.  
 No easing of the ache until.....  
 in despair... just once ...  
 she prayed to Aphrodite.

178

S 1

A - phro - di - te, Great Mo - ther of us all Great O - ce - a - nic force.....

Pno.

*8vb* *loco* *8vb*

181

S 1

Pno.

*ff*

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system, labeled 'S 1', contains three measures, each with a whole rest on a treble clef staff. The second system, labeled 'Pno.', contains five measures. The first measure is marked with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The first four measures of the piano part feature a treble clef with a sharp key signature and a bass clef with a double flat key signature. The fifth measure features a treble clef with a sharp key signature and a bass clef with a double flat key signature. The piano part consists of chords in each measure, with a whole rest in the fifth measure.

# At Aphrodites place

**Soprano 1**

**Aphrodite**

**Sop 2 Psyche**

$\text{♩} = 92$

So worth-less wo-man Why so long? I was....

**Piano**

**S 1**

**Aphrodite**

A - fraid. With cause. — So

**Pno.**

*mf*

**S 1**

**Psyche**

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

what — do you want? *pp* Pea - ce an end to an - guish, pain and

**Pno.**

*pp*

14 Aphrodite

S 1  
loss. A lot. You want a lot. So... lit - tle wretch, com-plete four

Pno.  
*sfz*

19

S 1  
tasks and I will give you peace. Ag - gree... or suf-fer. You un-der - stand?

Pno.

24

S 1  
Your choice, my dear. well? An-swer girl! — *p* i ag-

Pno.  
*f* *p*

*♩* = 56 Psyche

27 Aphrodite Psyche Aphrodite

S 1  
gree. I di-dn't hear. i ag - gree. Ex - eHent, ex - eHent, ex - eHent, this I will en -

Pno.

31

S 1  
joy. —

Unfurls a banner reading:  
The four tasks  
A thoughtful pause  
then unfurls another banner:  
Four impossible tasks  
signed Aphrodite.

Pno.

35

S 1

Pno.

# 13. The Tasks

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

Soprano 1

$\text{♩} = 50$

Aphrodite Task 1

The first is this.

Piano

*pp*

S 1

These seeds; Corn, bar-ley, grass and herbs,

Pno.

S 1

sort them all by night - fall... Or die.

Aphrodite exits

Pno.

11

S 1

Pno.

*pp*

*A tmp*

14

S 1

Psyche

How can I? \_\_\_\_\_ This \_\_\_ is im-pos-sib-ble \_\_\_

Pno.

17

S 1

A \_\_\_\_\_ mil - lion, \_\_\_\_\_ A hun-dred mil - lion seeds. To -

Pno.

20

S 1

sort them is... Im pos - sib - ble Im

Pno.

*sfz*

22

S 1

Im pos - si - ble Im - pos - si - ble dear - E - ros

Pno.

24

S 1

Taler til sig selv ?  
What can i do? Be - still. Pray. Pray for help. wait... and watch

Pno.

*pp*



27

S 1

the seeds... Oh, look, \_\_\_\_\_ al - rea - dy in - sects come ,You hun - - -

Pno.

29

S 1

- gry beast but wait Seeds car-ried here and there in order. \_\_\_\_\_ So ma-ny

Pno.

32

S 1

ants, each with a seed

Pno.

34

S 1

in or - der for me Oh, thank You thank You Who is this? Pan E - ros?

Pno.

Nar. sop 1: At dusk came Aphrodite.....

39

S 1

*Donning Aphrodites mask*

Aphrodite Psyche Aphrodite Psyche [ Inspects them ]

*p* ThankYou Oh ThankYou Thseeds?... Are sor- ted \_\_\_Imosite It's done. I see..... Don't

Pno.

45

S 1

Task 2

thinkyouwon, mydear, notfor ament the seond task's for hoes, And you areno \_\_\_Hero, areyoudear?

Pno.

50

S 1

See. Across the ri - ver In that field li - ve the rams

Pno.

53

S 1

with gol - den flee - ces. Bring me of their gol - den wool

Pno.

55

S 1

Ordie. This task means death. I seethem now Strong fierce rams,

Pno.

60

S 1

With tight cur-led horns their flashing eyes Glare with male a-

Pno.

64

S 1

gres-sion Each one a warrior. No, I will not die like that. I'll die a-lone Ri-ver....

Pno.

Nar. Sopr. 1 : Once more Psyche went to the river... to die.

69

S 1

Oh, ri-ver take me as your bride. Hold me long and deep, Se-

Pno.

Nar. Sop. 1 , At this the reeds  
beside the river spoke.  
[ Dons mask of river reeds ]

75

S 1

cure in your em - brace My hair will flow a - mongst your Reeds.

Pno.

79

S 1

The river  
No, the ri-ver will not take you

Pno.

82

S 1

but swim<sup>3</sup> a-cross, — Then look a-round. The bushes and the trees The twigs and bark, — All have tufts of wool

Pno.

85 [ Removes reed mask ] Psyche went .....

S 1 Gathered all the wool she could,  
from tree and twig and bush,  
And came to Aphrodite.

— Ga-ther these, — e-nough to fill your task. But 3 go not near the — Rams.

Pno.

90 Donning Aphrodite's mask ----- task 3

S 1

how can this be? — Yet wool it is - and gol 3 - den — gol 3

Pno.

93

S 1

den. No Fleece — but... e - nough So you've learnt to cir-cum-vent the strong —

Pno.

96

S 1

\_\_\_\_\_ and still succeed. Cunning Wretch \_\_\_\_\_ the next task will break you break you. laughter

Pno.

99

S 1

From the ri - ver Styx that runs from high \_\_\_\_\_ u - pon the

Pno.

101

S 1

moun-tain, Down to the depths of Hell \_\_\_\_\_ and back That ne-ver ending stream,

Pno.

104

S 1

guar-ded ev - ry inch by mon - sters from there bring me... one gob-let of wa-ter

Pno.

107

S 1

Exits Psyche

Bring me, - or die. How can I? Guar-ded by ev - ry inch Steep banks,

Pno.

112

S 1

Fast run - ning ra - pids rocks,

Pno.



114

S 1

She sends me to my de - - de - - - de - - - ath

Pno.

116

S 1

She sends me to my Death.

**Entering**  
Just then...  
An eagle sent from Zeus appeared.  
And Zeus? He's eros' father,  
chief amongst the Gods.  
the bright, gold eagle said,

**Holding an eagle puppet.**  
'Give me the crystal goblet.'  
And with it flew straight to the river at its widest part,  
beyond the grasp of monsters,  
swooped down, filled the goblet,  
and returned.

'Task Done'

Pno.

120

S 1

Greta Zeus, hea-ven-ly fa - ther Howcan i thank You? So..... when Aphrodite returned...  
Donning Aphrodites mask.

**And Zeus,  
he answered silently:  
' In life, one goblet at a time.  
As with the wool,  
know when you've enough...'**

Pno.

125 Aphrodite  
♩. = 50

S 1  
i see... I see... when help is

Pno.

127

S 1  
of - fered, you accept. Not bad.

Pno.

129

S 1  
So, my dear, time for the hardest task,

Pno.

S 1

131

the lon<sup>3</sup> - gest task some would say im - pos - si - ble. Go now to the un - der - world and from Per

Pno.

S 1

135

se - pho - ne who rules there, take<sup>3</sup> one beau - ty oint - ment Bring to me or

Pno.

S 1

138

die. take instruc-tions from the To - wer

Pno.

140

S 1

140

Pno.

# 14. The underworld

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

♩ = 69

So Psyche  
prepared for the underworld.

Piano

Pno.

Narrator sop.1

Psyche

You have the coins and bread I

9 So Psyche left.  
At the river...

do Fer-ry man \_\_\_ I have a coin. Will you

Pno.

11

take me?

Pno.

12 Narrator sop.1

What fer-ry-man would not? Mid stream a drow-ning man called out,

ansk akk

Pno.

*mf*

14 Psyche

'Help me, or I drown' N... n... n.. - n no

Pno.

16 Narrator sop.1

The fer-ry-man rowed on and and smiled A long the path, a woun-ded

Pno.

18 Wounded traveller Psyche

tra vel - ler. 'Help me with my load.' No.

Pno.

Narrator sop.1

20

Past the ca-vern where the three Norns Weaved the threads of fate.

Pno.

*mp*

Narrator sop.1  
As Three Norns

23

'A kind, — kind tra-vel-ler — We need your wis-dom in life's ta-pes-try —

Pno.

*Poco accel.*

27

Nar. : Psyche paused. Temptaton here.  
Up surged her need to give, to help.

Help cre - ate the world.' —

Pno.

*8va*



29 3 A pause, then...

Make a dif - ference dear \_\_\_\_\_ con - tri - bute

Pno. *loco*  
*f*

31 Psyche 3 Narrator sop.1

No. I can-not leave my path. On she went un - til \_\_\_\_\_ Fie -

Pno. *f*

34 At the gates of Hell.

Narrator

- ce \_\_\_\_\_ bar-king \_\_\_\_\_ of the dogs anounced... The gate - way in-to hell. Ce-re-bus, \_\_\_\_\_ Hell'snastiff

Pno. *loco*

38

Cerebus

Psyche

With three heads, Six rows of shining teeth. — Wet jowls, six piercing eyes. 'Stop, stop where you are' Here pooch...

Pno.

43

Narrator

And threw a loaf of barley bread. — What dog could refuse? And entered into Hell... And sweet Persephone —

Pno.

47

Persephone

Psyche

Persephone Annoyed

My dear, Hælesandne, We were expecting you. Comjoithbaquet. I cannot *ff* Canot What word is that?

Pno.

evt. lad akkpgnm. afspejle r elation til søstrenes tema 3/4 ?

54 *dolce* *mp* Foodshared is sweetcom-panionship I thank you, no. Aphro-di-te... Yes? Make it good, dear.

Psyche Persephone

Pno.

60 Re-requests the cask of beau-ty ointment Ah. ah - - Ah... Ah - -

Psyche Persephone

Pno.

64 In-secure is she? Here. tell her it's from me. I thank you. Now, before you go. A

Psyche Persephone

Pno.

evt. lad akkpgnm. afspejle r elation til søstrenes tema 3/4 ?

69

prawn cock-tail? Ve-ni-son steak? Hu - - - Hu - hum-ming bird on toast?

Pno.

73

Psyche

Nar.  
And Psyche left.  
Outside the gates of hell,  
wild Cerebus was hungry once again.

Thank you no. On this jour-ney I must eat but bread and water. Here. Catch.

Pno.

78

Psyche

Ah, Ce-re-bus, —he loved his bar-ley bread. once more the fer-ry-man. 'Kind Sir, a - nother coin?

And Psyche landed on earth's shore.

Pno.

# 15. Home and a trap

Bo Lundby Jæger  
Michael Hall

**Soprano 1**

$\text{♩} = 60$

released

*f* Home. Sweet mother earth. Thank you, To -

**Piano**

*f*

**S 1**

7

Gratefull proud

wer. Your wis-dom was my guide. I stayed fo - cussed

**Pno.**

7

**S 1**

13

I said no, no I ate spar-ring - ly. Though temp - ted, I did not leave my path.

**Pno.**

13

17

S 1

Now I'm home \_\_\_\_\_ Home.

Pno.

22

S 1

to curius  
What beau - ty does this cas - ket hold? What wo-man's trea - sure \_\_\_\_\_ what

Pno.

25

S 1

se - cret? Now if some went mis - sing... would A-phro-di - te know? \_\_\_\_\_ Who'd

Pno.

28

S 1

tell her? See, \_\_\_\_\_ The cas-ket's gen-tle curve \_\_\_\_\_ in-vites... A

Pno.

31

S 1

look. Just a look.

Pno.

35

S 1

Pno.

39 Psyche

S 1

A trap! The urn con - tained not beau - ty but... the

Pno.

42

S 1

So aphrodite won.  
And Psyche lay, as dead.

sleep of Death.

$\bullet = 56$

Pno.

*mp*

45

S 1

But.... but look.....  
Love is such,  
Love's arrows are so strong.....  
for Eros this was more  
than he could bear.

Sop 1 dons helmet, bow and arrows to become Eros.

Pno.



49 *Eros*

S 1  
Oh Psy - che, \_\_\_ to see you dead \_\_\_ I can-not I can-not bear. \_\_\_

Pno.

52 *Prays*

S 1  
\_\_\_ Sweet love I \_\_\_ I fly to you Ah... Death's sleep.

Pno.

57 *Desperat*

$\text{♩} = 56$

S 1  
Dear Gods on Mount O - lym-pus Give death no free - dom here. Please - Please \_\_\_ help me pour Death's

Pno.

62

S 1

sleep back in the cask. Dear Gods, hear E-ros prayer: \_\_\_ 'May love pre-vail on Earth

Pno.

66

S 1

Not \_\_\_ Death'. \_\_\_ Thank you. Thank you, thank you \_\_\_ Back \_\_\_ Back \_\_\_

Smal pause....recieves reply  
*relief*

Eros gathers the mist of sleep that surronds  
Psyche and pours it back into the casket.

84

Pno.

72

S 1

Back \_\_\_ the Gods com-mand you. d d d deaths sleep \_\_\_ re-turn to sweet Per - se pho ne

And seals the casket.  
Psyche stirs

72

Pno.

77  $\text{♩} = 60$  *Waking* Psyche  $\text{♩} = 100$  Eros

S 1  
oh E - ros I thought I'd died \_\_\_\_\_ No no no \_ no no \_ my love,

Pno.

82 *Psyche*

S 1  
you slept. And now we fly \_\_\_\_\_ to Mt. O-lym - pus, Where on-ly Gods may go. But

Pno.

86 *Eros Determined*

S 1  
E - ros I'm no God. Yes. For me the fi - nal task. \_\_\_\_\_ I must ne-go-ti-ate... \_\_\_\_\_ With Zeus, with A-phro-

Pno.

The fly and land on Mt. Olympus.  
Sop.2 removes her Psyche mask to become narrator.

90

S 1

di - te, come. And ne-go-ti-ate he did. First with Zeus Great Fa-ther of the Gods, I im-

Eros

Pno.

95

S 1

plore you, hear E-ros' heart-felt plea: 'Let Psy-che Stay a-mongst the Gods And E-ros' ar-rows will serve you

3

Pno.

99

S 1

Un-to e-ter-ni-ty. — For you, great Zeus, un-ending plea-sure at will... — Ah Zeus he liked the thought of

3

Narrator

Pno.

But that left Aphrodite...  
with her he used the charm of little Mumsie's boy wich,  
long ago, before love's arrow,  
he used to be...

104 Zeus

S 1

that 'All right. we have a deal. She stays But Mum-sie, All her tricks are done — She's

Eros

Pno.

110

S 1

done them. Done — Done — Done — Let her stay — Sweet Mum-sie,

Pno.

115

S 1

I Love you. I real - ly real - ly do Real - ly, real - ly

Pno.

Nar.:  
It worked... and so,  
at last, was Psyche made a God  
a minor God!

Sop.2 puts on Psyche's mask  
wich she wears until the end.  
Psyche

S 1

121

I do... Our daugh - ter? \_\_\_ We named... Pleasure Joy. great Zeus \_\_\_ was all be-

Pno.

S 1

128

ne - vo - lence Full \_\_\_ cir - le Smiled the God.

Pno.

S 1

134

$\text{♩} = 100$

Ape to an - gel. Girl to God.

Pno.

*f*

141

S 1

Fol - low it good peo - ple, — if you can if you can. —

the path of life. — Fol - low it if you can if you can. —

Pno.

147

S 1

Nar:  
Ah Zeus, he knows. The two falls into a loving embrace. hold.  
Then they look up. And back to a loving embrace...

Good night Fadeout.

Pno.

147

End.