

# ELECTRA'S REVENGE

A Dramatic Reading

By the Greek dramatist, Euripides  
Arranged by Luella E. McMahon



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The Greek dramatist, Euripides

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Electra is the daughter of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, King and Queen of Sparta.

While King Agamemnon is away, fighting in the Trojan War, Clytemnestra falls in love with Aegisthus, a citizen of Sparta. When Agamemnon returns, Clytemnestra kills him and marries Aegisthus, who thus becomes King.

Electra grows up in the household of her mother and stepfather, living only for revenge for her father's death--and revenge can mean only one thing--the murder of Clytemnestra and Aegisthus.

Now the day has come. Electra has lured Aegisthus into the Court Yard and killed him, then sends a messenger for her mother. As Electra waits for Clytemnestra with knife drawn, she bitterly recalls her father's death.

ELECTRA: Oh, Mother, thou didst kill  
My soul within. What hard didst I do thee  
That thou shouldst make me fatherless?

Aegisthus--  
'Twas thou didst bend my mother to her shame.  
Thy weak hand murdered him who led to fame  
The hosts of Greece.  
Thou--Aegisthus--that never crossed  
O'er seas to Troy!  
Thou--a lord so little true--  
Who took my father's place  
And heard men whisper--  
"Lo, the Queen's husband yonder,  
Not--The King."

Cruel wast thou in thine hour, Aegisthus,  
Lord of a great King's house--  
But not the King!--  
(Starts and looks up, hearing something)  
But, hold!  
'Tis my mother comes!  
Straight into the snare  
All unknowing of Aegisthus' death.  
Aye--there she comes--  
(Electra bows to her mother in the chariot)  
Welcome in thy rare chariot!  
Welcome in thy brave array!  
(Steps toward chariot)  
Here, Mother, descend from thy chariot--  
Let me help thee.

--- END OF FREE PREVIEW ---