

I *The war-lord, the hero returns.
Returns, to his home, victorious
From the endeavour for justice.*

*The ship's in the harbour
The sword waits at the hearth*

*And I am his whore, his prize brought
Back from the city he destroyed
- In the endeavour for justice,*

*The ship's in the harbour
The sword waits at the hearth.*

II *Curse of the earth*

- Apollo

Violation

- Apollo

My destruction

My destruction

- Apollo

- Apollo

*You deliver me, here,
To die*

*You burn me
You damn me*

- Apollo

- Apollo

*You send me,
Predestined,
A consort
Here to be
Sacrificed
On the pyre.*

III *The Feast, the children served up for
For their father to eat and
He, innocent, fills himself
With the flesh of innocence.*

*A daughter, a sacrifice
Slain by her father to save
The endeavour for justice.*

*Vengeance stalks the halls waiting
To wield to sword for justice.*

IV *A womb*
Bearing murder
The lust for vengeance
The earth red with blood

Curses of victims - *Death for death*
Curses of heroes - *Death for death*
Cry for vengeance
To fall on the house

A tomb
Bloody slaughter
Witness destruction
The earth runs with blood

Curses of infants - *Death for death*
Curses of daughters - *Death for death*
Cry for vengeance
To fall on the house

Altar
The blade strikes
The hero, brings him down
The water swirls red

Curses of victims - *Death for death*
Curses of heroes - *Death for death*
Justice will come
To clean out the house.

The text, after Aeschylus's *Agamemnon*, deals with four themes from Cassandra's *kommos*. Each text follows a similar trajectory: starting from different points but tracing the same path to the murders of Cassandra and Agamemnon and the avenging of these deaths.

Text I – Cassandra's plight, her story. 'Ordinary,' simple narrative of events

Text II – Cassandra as Prophet, through her evocation of Apollo, foretells her own death. 'Fantastic'

Text III – Cassandra as seer, traces the events which will lead to her death

Text IV – Cassandra foretells the next act of murder in the 'vendetta,' tracing the history of the curse which has befallen the house of Atreus

The work cuts between texts, with the exception of the first text which acts as a prologue. The two sections of the work follow a similar path, ending with the refrain from text IV. This division is marked by the extended tape interlude (rehearsal no. 16 of the score) which returns to the material of the opening prologue.