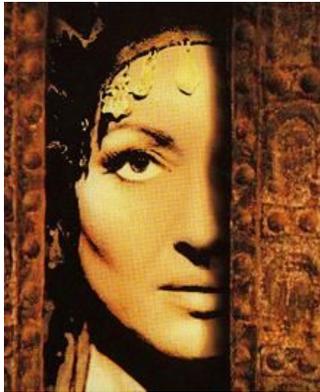


# *Medea* Summer Reading & Writing Assignment: 10<sup>th</sup> Grade 2019

*Medea*, Euripides (Hackett Publishing), ISBN 13: 978-0872209237

[https://www.amazon.com/Medea-Hackett-ClassicsEuripides/dp/0872209237/ref=sr\\_1\\_5?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1494436063&sr=1-5&keywords=medea+euripides](https://www.amazon.com/Medea-Hackett-ClassicsEuripides/dp/0872209237/ref=sr_1_5?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1494436063&sr=1-5&keywords=medea+euripides)



## Reading

Before you arrive back on campus in the fall, read and annotate *Medea* by Euripides (the Hackett Classics edition translated by Diane Arnson Svarlien). Please make sure you have the correct translation. Use the questions below to guide your reading and annotations.

## Writing

Your two assignments should be typed in MLA Format (double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, and one-inch margins). They are due on the first day of class and will count as your first assignment grades. **Due: Wednesday, August 29 (1st day of**

**classes).**

**I. Greek Tragedy Terms:** Research the following terms and write definitions for each in your own words.

tragic hero

empathy

*deus ex machina*

*hubris hamartia*

sympathy

oracle

catharsis

chorus

pathos

*nuntius*

**II. Short Answer Questions:** Answer the following questions, **using specific examples and quotations from the text to support your thoughts, and cite page numbers for your quotations in MLA format.** Thorough and complete answers should be approximately one paragraph (at least 4-5 sentences) in length.

- In the introduction to our text, Robin Mitchell-Boyask explains, “Either Euripides was an exponent of traditional Greek values and beliefs, or he was a radical who subjected all aspects of his society to a withering critique” and asks, **“Do the experiences of Medea expose the oppressiveness of patriarchal Greek culture, or do they affirm every negative Greek stereotype about women?”** (xviii).
- How would you answer Mitchell-Boyask’s question?
- Does Medea fit the definition of a tragic heroine? Why or why not? What is Medea’s *hamartia*?
- Is Medea insane? If she were just a crazy lady who killed her kids, would the play still be a tragic drama? (You may need to do some research about the traditional elements of a tragic drama to provide context for your answer.)
- What is Medea’s primary reason for killing her children?