

Athena, Arcadian Awakening
By: Olivia Robertson

CHAPTER 11: CRETE

"THE MIRAGE OF DECEPTION"

A VISION QUEST

PART ONE: THE NARRATION

"EVERY STEP MATTERS:

THE TRUE SHAMAN DOES NOT LOSE SIGHT OF HIS GOAL."

THE RESIDENT GOD IS MINOS, THE TWO-FACED BULL, PAINTED IN A SMALL PRIVATE TEMPLE NEAR KNOSSOS. VISITANTS: NARRATOR AND NEOPHYTE, PERCY. ARIADNE, ELAINE. LUCIFER-HERMES, AIDEN. ORACLE, DEIRDRE. SET-EROS, LOCAL FOI PRIEST. ALCHEMICAL FOI GROUP.

ELAINE (TO PERCY): You beg for initiation of the Labyrinth by Ariadne. You say the situation is desperate. Why?

PERCY: You have not penetrated my esoteric disguise. I am the poet Shelley, come back to have the Supreme Awakening.

ELAINE: I see. May I be Ariadne?

PERCY: No. My tiresome wife drowned herself. I think it's her fault I failed the initiation, though Byron gave a nice funeral oration by the sea. You see the sea did not take me. I just stood there like an ass frozen with terror.

ELAINE: As a Guide, I am going to be your second intellectual wife, who wrote the Frankenstein horror story. The first wife was just silly. The second was unscrupulous and took you off by cunning. She will be a good Ariadne, teller of tales of the Jekyll and Hyde dual personality.

AIDEN: I want a good part. I will be both mad scientist Frankenstein and the monster.

DEIRDRE: We see the compulsive magic of Greek mysteries. We are all involved. Let me speak.

AIDEN: So it is. You have the right of choice.

PERCY: As you gather, I am still a neo-romantic. These days I belong to the Golden Dawn, and have been filmed acting in one of their secret rituals for Facebook. I was the Imperator like Yeats. My hair curled round my mask and black hood. It is glorious that Byron is with us as romantic as ever - one of the Officers. He is busy re-doing the Wagner Ring cycle, to make it politically correct. How on earth can you do that?

PRIEST: It is beyond you! You are not an initiate!

PERCY: How can I become an initiate?

PRIEST: By joining the Fellowship of Isis that is especially suited to naïve idealists. You are taken in by everyone. Your father is an Earl, and you are rich. You always tell every secret you hear, and FOI has no secrets so you won't be punished for divulging! FOI is for psychic people like A.E. and yourself. Yeats and I were not psychic so we needed secrecy and the occult to give us status.

PERCY: So here I am, ready for any trial or ordeal you have lined up.

ELAINE: We don't give ordeals. We don't try people. Only life itself works through the Law of Balance. Every action has an equal and opposite reaction. It is the Law of Fate, ordained by the Divine Mother, who insists on all her children being saved. And so they are, by Grace if not by Virtue.

AIDEN: Life is its own antidote. Birth vs. Death, Matter vs. Spirit. We teach how to control Cause and Effect through the Labyrinth which the Deities created for the Cretans, the last of the Atlantean colonists. It kept their ancient ways. They are so old fashioned after being submerged!

DEIRDRE: Let us meet this evening and bathe in the light of the moon by the sea.

PART TWO: DISSOLUTION OF THE MIRAGE OF DECEPTION.

DEIRDRE: Friends! The Great Hoax, created by Pallas Athena and Minos as a Path of Learning – a vision quest - a shaman journey. To look in the Mirror of Truth is to banish the Mist of Deceit with your own breath.

ELAINE: Let us hear the Oracle.

ORACLE OF THE GODDESS MEDUSA

Children, you are deceived! You see my terrifying head covering the Shield of Pallas Athena, my daughter, and do not realise I am the Balancing Power of Love. My Divine Head includes Mind and Heart. You need both. The Ordeal of the Labyrinth is to travel the path of the blue, eight-pointed Star, and the double axe of the moon. The star rays permit you to pass. Moon rays forbid. Each time you have to choose. Mine is the Alchemical Gold which flows in the Deities: Ichor - the Divine Blood in each one of you. I guide you in many guises. Hear my voice. I am Conscience and Wisdom. In Truth, you loved your drowned wife. You wish for her to forgive. When you have forgiven yourself, you have passed the test of the Labyrinth.

TRIAL OF THE LABYRINTH TRANCE JOURNEY

ELAINE: It is necessary for you to enter trance. We will be with you.

PERCY: I find myself in a temple of Medusa. Two beautiful Gods are before me. The fair one says he is Lucifer-Hermes. The Dark one says he is Set-Eros.

LUCIFER-HERMES: Yes! I suppose you are astonished. I am a fallen Angel. As an intellectual, one needs to be periodically disillusioned. (*TALKING TO SET*) You create the illusion!

SET-EROS: So do you! In reality, neither of us does.

LUCIFER-HERMES: We tempt initiates with their own folly.

SET-EROS: I create sirens.

LUCIFER-HERMES: And I abstract causes.

PERCY: Hey! Don't talk over my head! I am the candidate. It is my soul you are fighting for.

LUCIFER-HERMES: Wrong! Only you create your own Divided Soul. We just help to give you discrimination.

ARIADNE: Excuse Me! Or do you just ignore women? I am Ariadne. I was divided between my husband Baccus and Theseus! And yet you ignore me!

SET-EROS: You have to learn to be interesting to get our attention.

ARIADNE: You have the arrogance of Byron and the conceit of Don Giovanni.

SET-EROS: Ariadne –You are like Melusine - half fairy, half dragon.

PERCY'S INITIATION TRIAL OF SPIRITUAL CLIMBERS

LUCIFER-HERMES: You hope for a better world.

PERCY: I always have.

LUCIFER-HERMES: Look at these cloud pictures. What wonderful visions of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity in action!

SET-EROS: You cover your eyes!

PERCY: Oh horror. What trick is this? The clouds are covered on blood. I see the slaughter of thousands!

SET-EROS: You are the fool. Sir Percival the pure of the Holy Grael.

PERCY: But where are my friends? Why don't they help? I cannot find them!

SET-EROS: Where were they in the reign of terror? Absent. Avoiding horror.

LUCIFER-HERMES: They were busy repairing the Temple of Lies.

PERCY: I see men, women and children slaving in factories. I see false villages, schools and universities. They are all dissolving.

LUCIFER-HERMES: While they are killing millions, they do not allow people free will to choose their own path.

PERCY: There is hope. Pallas Athena has unveiled the Medusa's Head. All deception vanishes. Hardly anyone passes the test.

PERCY: I see how I rebelled to spite my father - revenge for abuse, for flogging by my tutor. I could not cope with my wife, let alone two of them. The first punished me by suicide. The second described me as both Frankenstein and the monster. I created the monster myself.

LUCIFER-HERMES: Do you mind?

PERCY: Mind? Thank you. I am happy to fall with Lucifer if it is to fall from self-created delusions. But something strange is happening. Pallas Athena has put on the Mask of Medusa and now she is my second wife, laughing. She gives me her book Frankenstein, and I can laugh as well. She has forgiven me! I was both the professor and the monster. I created both!

PERCY ENTERS INTO ECSTASY SURROUNDED BY GOLDEN CLOUDS.

MEDUSA: Your initiation is not complete. You may not yet undertake the Trial of Passion. You are from a sphere of angelic reality and do not feel passion. You have come to share the Holy Grail of the New Aeon, the elixir of life.

PERCY RETURNS FROM TRANCE. THEY REALISE IT IS TRUE. THEY ALL DRINK FROM THE HOLY WELL AND SHARE IN PERCY'S ECSTASY. THEY GIVE THANKS TO THE DEITIES, AND BATHE IN THE SEA.

End of Rite.

Note: This was the last chapter written by Olivia Robertson for the book "Athena" before she passed to Spirit Sphere on November 14, 2013.

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