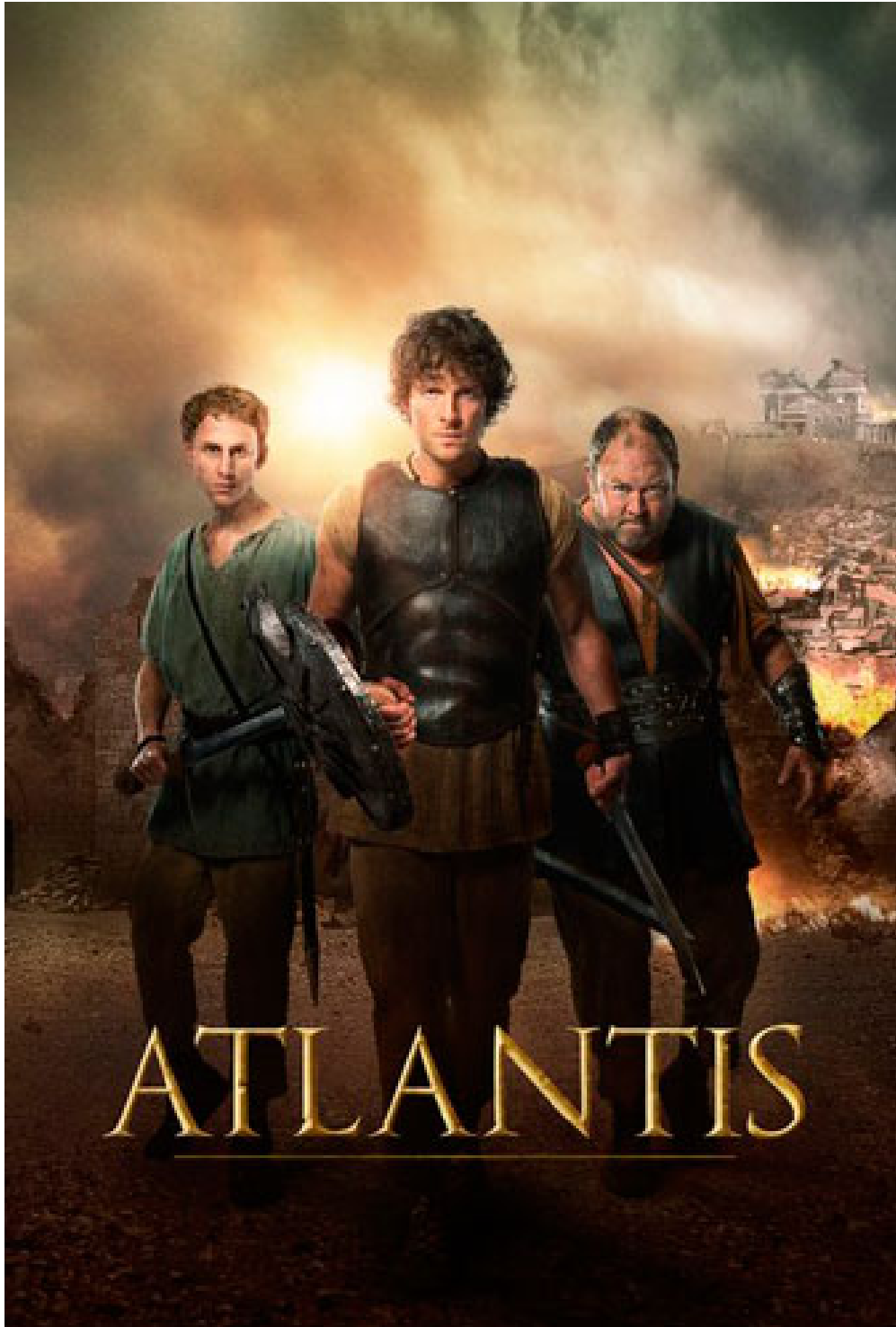


ATLANTIS Episode Guide

Episodes 001–026

Last episode aired Saturday May 16, 2015





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Season One

The Earth Bull

Season 1

Episode Number: 1

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired: Saturday September 28, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Mark Addy (Hercules), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle)
Guest Stars: Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Alexander Siddig (Minos), Hannah Arterton (Korinna), Joe Dixon (Ramos), Charlie De Melo (Guard), Faye Brooks (Helen), Ken Bones (Melas), Louis Maskell (Alcaeus), Mark Lewis Jones (Mac), Ron Donachie (Theos)
Summary: In the present Jason goes in search of his father's missing vessel and finds himself washed up on the shores of a mysterious land — a world of mythical creatures, soothsaying oracles and palaces so vast it is said they were built by giants: this is the city of Atlantis but it seems the newcomer has chosen the wrong time to arrive in the fabled realm and Jason soon finds himself at the mercy of a deadly ritual, from which there can be no escape.



We start the series looking out over the waters of the Mediterranean Sea with Jason. He is on a hunt for his father, who took a submarine down under the surface after leaving his son a necklace with bull horns, and never came back up. He is about to take a submarine down himself and look for his dad, something the boat captain does not find a comforting thought.

The boat captain turns out to be right; Jason reaches the bottom of the sea and shines his one person submarine light on

a piece of metal with the words 'the oracle' on it in funky typeface. I am assuming this is a part of his father's submarine as well as a major dose of foreshadowing.

As soon as Jason's light hits the metal, another light appears, speeding towards him with such force that it cracks the window of the submarine. Jason realizes his life is over and shields his face with his arms as the water rushes in.

When Jason wakes up on a beach, he seems to have misplaced his clothes, but he still has his necklace. That is never how it works for me in the swimming pool, but whatever, right? Jason does not care: he is still alive, so while covering his manhood, he tries to wave over some fishermen for help.

It seems the fishermen fish in the nude because when Jason reaches the place their boat left, there is a pile of (what I assume to be the hollywood version of) Hellenic clothing. Naturally, Jason takes the clothes and heads off to find civilization.

Civilization comes in the form of a huge city just past the dunes, which definitely does not look modern. It does, however, look pretty and the music swells in an impression of Greek music to set a mood that reminds me most of Xena: The Warrior Princess.

Once he wanders into the city, Jason finds himself in a market place where there are actually people who wear something resembling ancient Hellenic clothing (although most aren't) and are

selling everything from chickens to fruits, to more fruits, and even more fruits. In the shade is something that finally seems to convince Jason that he is not in Kansas anymore: a two-headed lizard that I am assuming to be a Hydra. He tries to pet it and the Hydra snaps at him before chasing him through the market square. As a note, this scene had so many shots of fruit—either remaining stationary or rolling about after Jason knocks them over—that I figured there must be some hidden meaning or other relevance to it. Sadly, I have not been able to find out what.

After a long chase from the Hydra and then the city guards wherein Jason shows he was a gymnast in a (past) life, he ends up dangling from a building and being pulled up by a scrawny young man so adorable, I immediately end up shipping Jason and the young man, who—it turns out—is Pythagoras. Yes, that one. Pythagoras—like everyone in Atlantis—speaks posh English, and while I had not expected otherwise, it still irks me a little.

At any rate, Pythagoras is quite smitten with his guest, but his housemate isn't. Much to Jason's surprise, Pythagoras' housemate is no other than Hercules. I really want to type 'Herakles' here, but it seems that is a bit too difficult for the common watcher, so 'Hercules' it is. Hercules is not exactly as he might have been portrayed in ancient Hellenic art, and I am quite sure he is supposed to be the comic relief, but I chuck any hope of authenticity out of the window just to be sure.

Jason shares a bit of his story with his new sidekicks and they wisely tell him to visit the temple of Poseidon and ask the Oracle his many questions. Pythagoras also tells Jason that his necklace represents the bull horns of Poseidon. To the show's credit, the temple is beautiful. It does, however, house the statue of a bull instead of a statue of Poseidon. As far as I am aware, Poseidon's only link to bulls is the myth of the Minotaur. Minos, king of Krete, requested Poseidon raise a bull from the sea, which the king promised to sacrifice; but when Minos refused to do so, Poseidon caused his wife Pasiphaë to fall in love with the bull. The child that came from this union was deformed in such a way that he had the head of a bull and the body of a man. Why the enormous link with bulls in Atlantis exists, I do not know.

At any rate, Jason sees Hercules leave the temple with a heavy heart and doesn't seem too happy to look for the Oracle now. He does, however, and the Oracle turns out to be the wonderful and underrated Juliet Stevenson for whom I am very happy she got another acting gig. In the most un-Hellenic thing of the episode, a chicken is slaughtered, its blood added to a bowl of water, and the Oracle tells Jason that his father 'walks amongst the dead'. She also hints that Jason is actually from Atlantis, and so was his father. She also hints that his destiny will cause a lot of danger to him. People want him dead; it seems only Jason can 'bring an end to the people's fear and suffering'.

After Jason leaves, the Oracle's helper asks her why she withheld information from Jason. She tells him she did it to keep Jason safe. In all my years reading books, watching TV, and playing games, never, ever, has withholding information led to a safer situation for the person involved, but we'll see what happens next.

Pythagoras meets Jason on the steps of the temple and the two bond over the message the Oracle had for Jason. Pythagoras then tells Jason to come home with him as there is a curfew tonight. Tomorrow, lots will be drawn amongst all Atlantians to see which seven citizens will be shipped off to be sacrificed to the Minotaur (Ah! Now the bull thing makes sense! (sort of)). Anyone caught outside tonight will be shot on sight, as it will be assumed they are trying to flee the will of Poseidon.

Later that night, Hercules begrudgingly allows Jason a place to sleep in the house he owns, but Pythagoras helped him keep by paying his gambling debts, and then tries to sneak out of the house. Jason wakes up and wakes Pythagoras. The two sneak out after Hercules and manage to catch up to him before he climbs down the city wall, which would make him an exile for life. It seems he was fleeing because the Oracle predicted he would draw a black rock tomorrow and be shipped off to the Minotaur.

The trio manages to get back home safely, despite being discovered by the guards and being hunted by hunting lions. Jason shows the two some spectacular gymnastics and seems to be clueless as to how he suddenly developed this talent.

The next day, king Minos—played by Alexander Siddig whom I only know as Dr. Julian Bashir in 'Star Trek: Deep Space Nine' but who has done a lot of acting afterwards—oversees the drawing of lots after a half-assed speech about honor in sacrifice. Hercules draws a white stone and is thus safe, as is Jason who cares a lot more about the king's daughter Ariadne than the stone.

Pythagoras, however, draws a black stone and is stunned.

That night, Pythagoras babbles about triangles to hide his fear of dying and the trio makes plans to save his life that never go anywhere. It isn't until the morning that a brilliant idea comes to Jason: take the stone and take Pythagoras' place, never mind that he can't handle a sword, nor any other weapon available in Atlantis. So said and done. No one seems to mind—or realize—that Jason took Pythagoras' place. The only one who does notice that Jason is not a scrawny, curly haired, math geek is Ariadne, who has fallen head over heels for our strapping hero and thus offers him her locket, which holds an unbreakable and/or unending chord of marvelous awesomeness which will lead him out of the labyrinth she used to play in as a kid.

Fast forward to the entrance to the labyrinth where Pythagoras and Hercules show up to bring weapons to their newfound friend at Pythagoras' insistence. They get found out, obviously, and end up taking the place of two of the women who drew black stones. Now they are all in a world of hurt.

Seven people enter the labyrinth and only one gets a name—a girl named Helena – so I figure the others are Minotaur food. In the end, I think I'm right as I counted at least two (completely bloodless) deaths amongst the tributes. It takes a while of waving torches around and looking past the camera with fear on their faces, but eventually Jason ends up in the lair of the Minotaur who—as it turns out—was a man, turned into a Minotaur, and is a beautiful feat of CGI, especially as he turns back into a man after a bit of a lackluster fight where Jason only needs to hold out a sword to let the Minotaur run into.

It seems the man was turned into a Minotaur by the Gods as punishment for doing 'a great wrong' that 'betrayed his [Jason's] father', and was told that one day a kid named Jason would come along to lift the curse. I wonder if the dying part was included in the prophecy, but at least the man dies in the form of a man, and in the arms of a young stud. Before he dies, though, the Minotaur-man tells Jason that Minos must never know who he is, and that 'this is just the beginning' of his great destiny.

Outside of the labyrinth, the Oracle sees her prophecy come true as Jason slays the Minotaur. She and her sidekick see their faith in Jason rewarded and start plotting the next steps to Jason's greatness and their end goal, of which we are most certainly not certain. They also spell more doom for Jason.

Once the tributes are recovered from the labyrinth and presented to the king, queen, and princess, king Minos makes another speech which is just about as sincere as the previous one. He congratulates Jason, Pythagoras and Hercules for their efforts and Hercules gladly takes the credit for the kill. Jason lets him for now, but teases Hercules about his very limited help—it seems Hercules ran in the other direction when the Minotaur fell upon the group and never even saw the beast—once they are outside of the palace.

Jason returns Ariadne's necklace, which her mother—Queen Pasiphaë—sees and does not seem to approve of. Watch out for that one, Jason. Pasiphaë looks like a woman who could pose a problem, and not just to your love life.

A Girl By Any Other Name

Season 1
Episode Number: 2
Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Saturday October 5, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Mark Addy (Hercules), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle)
Guest Stars: Karl Johnson (Itheus), Hannah Arterton (Korinna), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Shelley King (Celandine), George Savvides (Karpos), Frances Tomelty (Anysia), David Lloyd (I) (Nereus), Naomi Everson (Eris), Stephanie Langton (Demetria)
Summary: Despite their newfound fame after slaying the Minotaur, the boys are still penniless and hungry. When an old man asks them to find his missing daughter things seem on the up, but it soon becomes clear that their task isn't going to be an easy one: she has been taken by the Maenads, fanatical worshippers of the god Dionysus. With the hopes and life of the old man fading, it's a race against time that Jason cannot turn his back on. But just when their perilous task seems at an end, he comes face-to-face with a stranger named Medusa.



We're in a dark forest and part of every woman (and man)'s worst nightmare: running away from danger, all alone and barefoot. This time it's a young girl, running away from the noise of a horrible animal or monster until she trips and falls. Realizing this is the end, she covers her head with her arms and waits to be mauled... only nothing happens. Just when she thinks she is safe, a hairy ape-like monster raises itself up over a rock, and the girl screams.

Before we can find out what happened to the girl, we cut to the intro, which we haven't seen yet. It consists of a montage of CGI water and aerial shots with a vaguely Hellenic-inspired theme song in the background. I think I approve.

Anyway, Jason is sulking in the shadows, throwing pebbles into a well when a drunk Hercules tries to sneak up on him, spooking Jason who is a little bit on edge. It seems the two are making some money by guarding a shipment of Frankincense. Jason leaves Hercules to it as he visits the Oracle again.

The Oracle is not happy to see him. I guess she is still worried about Jason's safety. Jason throws a deserved temper tantrum and questions the Oracle about his father, about his death and how he got here. I'm glad he doesn't ask about his mom again, because I have the feeling he is looking at her. Pure speculation on that one, though. The Oracle tells him she only sees fragments of the future and past, and that the Atlantians have been waiting for him for a very long time. He asks what she wants from him, and she goes on about destiny. Jason doesn't quite feel guided by destiny, and the Oracle tries to reassure him. It doesn't really work as all she can tell him is to give it time and to be careful.

Hercules has predictably fallen asleep on the job and gets awoken by a goat. The Frankincense is gone. Pythagoras and Jason put all blame on Hercules and when the merchant comes for his

goods, Hercules hides. It's not a merchant, however, it's an old man looking for his daughter Demetria, who worked in the palace kitchens... but who has been missing for three days. The old man asks the slayer(s) of the Minotaur for help—and Hercules jumps at the chance... to get money for a rescue attempt. The old man does not have much, so Hercules walks away. Jason, however, promises to find Demetria.

Jason is being led into the palace by a servant named Korinna. Ariadne happens upon them and tells him to leave and not get caught. She wishes him well on his quest and the two share puppy-dog smiles. Awww...

In the kitchen, Jason finds out that Demetria went out into the forest looking for herbs and that no one went to look for her when she didn't come back. Servants aren't of much value, he gets told. Please read here why I don't agree with this. At any rate, Celandine, the cook who provided the information, agrees to show Jason where Demetria would have picked her herbs in return for a good word to Ariadne from Korinna.

Meanwhile, at the home of Hercules and Pythagoras, the merchant does indeed show up. Hercules and Pythagoras make a break for it and manage to evade the merchant for now.

Celandine, all the while leads Jason out into the woods with ominous music playing in the background and it seems she is not to be trusted, especially when she pulls a knife out of her robes and creeps up on Jason with it. Our nimble hero, however, hears her coming and is fast enough to slap the knife away. He asks if Celandine killed Demetria and now it's Celandine who runs... into the arms of Hades; she poisons herself and dies in Jason's arms, but not before assuring Jason that Demetria is in a better place now and her God will provide for her. From behind a tree, the monster looks on.

Back home, Pythagoras quickly determines the poison was hemlock, and the vial belongs to the followers of the cult of Dionysos, the Maenads. It would appear Celandine was one of them and she would rather take her own life than reveal cult secrets. It seems Satyrs guard the sacred temple of Dionysos high up the mountains, in the Forest of Nysa, where the Maenads meet. A man who goes to this place is killed, young girls initiated into the cult. The two sidekicks warn Jason to stay away but I doubt that's going to happen.

In what is presumably the dungeon of the temple in the forest of Nysa, the girl we saw running through the forest in the opening scene and who is most likely Demetria is trying to find a way out of her cell. She can hear the drums of the Maenads outside and then her door opens. The next thing we know, Demetria is chanting along with the Maenads who seem to have captured a man in their territory. All the women have a symbol drawn on their chests with what looks like blood and the man is looking terrified as he is about to be thrown into a well filled with a good few monsters of the same type we saw out in the woods. The head priestess—whose name is Anysia—addresses the man who apparently came here to learn the secrets of the cult. She tells him they will show him, and then he will die. Before he can say a thing lithe initiates kick the shit out of him as others utter Xena-esque war cries, and then he gets tossed into the well. Demetria looks on, not seeming to grasp what just happened.

Back at the oikos, Jason tells Demetria's father about their discoveries and the old man nearly needs a coin to pay Kharon, he is that upset. Jason and Pythagoras go off to find Demetria, and are joined by Hercules just to get out of paying his debt to the merchant. I have to admit, I am getting a bit tired of the running gag of Hercules' cowardice, but that is just because I am so familiar with the myths of Herakles.

That night, the three share campfire ghost stories about the Maenads, who are rumoured to have talons, bath in blood and more of such horrors. When they hear a rustling in the brushes, the three get up to check. Behind their backs, the monster throws something in the cooking pot sitting over the campfire. This does not bode well for our heroes...

Hercules, who has first watch, finishes just about the entire pot of food and is soon hallucinating a woman in a white dress. He follows her through the woods and when he catches up to the woman, it is the monster in the white cloak. Out of nowhere the high priestess and a few other Maenads and monsters appear and consecrate Hercules so Dionysos may accept him as sacrifice. Hercules runs as if his life depends on it and gets dragged into the brushes by Demetria, who is not out of it now. She cuts her own hand, smears the blood on her mouth and walks out to tell the high priestess that the Satyrs got to Hercules before she could. She tells them she drank of his blood and then gave his body to Dionysos in sacrifice.

The next morning, Jason and Pythagoras discover Hercules is gone and frantically look for him.

He comes falling out of a tree, recounts his story, and Pythagoras shares that the monsters are actually the Satyrs. Huh. Alright, I will admit I had not made that connection yet.

Hercules, now motivated to rescue his drop dead gorgeous saviour, leads the group into the fray. They infiltrate the temple and Hercules spots Demetria... or at least he thinks he does. He casually says 'hey' to a random Maenad and the guys are soon captured... and Demetria in a world of trouble. Demetria gets called in front of Anysia who orders her to be thrown down the well. Jason jumps in after her and lo and behold... the Satyrs back off, at least long enough to reveal that Demetria is not Demetria at all, but Medusa. Oops!

Jason knows his Hellenic mythology and gasps like a fish on dry land. Medusa doesn't get it, but the Satyrs are equally scared of Medusa: they won't attack her. It might be Jason, though, who they fear. At this point, I'm not sure.

Medusa has been with the Maenads for ten days now and has been stuffing her ears with candlewax so she doesn't fall under the influence of the Maenads. A Maenad comes into the cave at the bottom of the well to collect whatever remains of the bodies and is startled to find two living people down there. She asks how this is possible and Medusa can't help but rub it in; "maybe your God is not as powerful as you believe", she says as Jason sneaks up on the Maenad and knocks her out.

In their cell, Pythagoras and Hercules hug it out over their impending doom when the cavalry arrives. Jason insists on getting Demetria out, even though she has been initiated and reluctantly, the group agrees. As Jason tries to reason with Demetria—who is very much unwilling—Hercules knocks her out with a pot.

On the way back through the woods, Hercules flirts with Medusa while Jason tries to find out if Medusa is, perhaps, a common name. It isn't. Meanwhile, Anysia has sworn vengeance and the Satyrs hunt for the group. Demetria wakes up and tries to scream for help. Hercules clasps his hand over mouth and she promptly bites him, causing him to make much more noise than she could possibly have made herself. He releases her and she runs. Jason runs after her and gets led right into an ambush. The high priestess is there, as are all the Satyrs. They won't attack, however, and Jason—Slayer of the Minotaur—bluffs his way out of the situation... well, after he stabs the high priestess and punches out a few other priestesses. Demetria looks on in shock and fear, and still does not want to come. Jason tries to tell her about her father's impending death—the old man who they left all alone in their house for at least 36 hours now, by the way—but all it does is make Demetria want to drink poison.

While Jason tries to get her to stop, the high priestess hits him on the head from behind and speaks something to him in what I hope is (ancient) Greek and which does not sound pleasant. Before the high priestess can do what she planned to do, however, Medusa stabs her in the back, saving Jason's life. It seems, however, that Anysia has cursed Medusa with her dying breath. Medusa, all the while, can't quite believe what she just did.

Back at the oikos, Medusa looks on as Jason tries to tell Demetria's father that Demetria is dead/with the Maenads. She stops him from saying so and tells the old man that Demetria is living happily with a boy in Helios, a nearby city. She swears that Demetria is happy, in love, and that Demetria asked her to care for him in her place.

While Medusa cares for Demetria's father, Jason visits the Oracle again. He tells her he has failed, and the Oracle assures him that while he may have failed with Demetria, he brought Medusa home. Jason asks her what will become of her, as he knows the stories they tell in the other world. The Oracle tells him he already knows the answer to that question. He vows that he will not see her hurt, and the Oracle tells him that his faith is then bound to hers, and that his fate is very important, indeed, because the fate of Atlantis rests in his hands. She leaves him with a few last words: "you are not like other men, you will realize that soon enough".

A Boy of No Consequence

Season 1
Episode Number: 3
Season Episode: 3

Originally aired: Saturday October 12, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Mark Addy (Hercules), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Recurring Role: Alexander Siddig (Minos), Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Oliver Walker (Heptarian), Karl Johnson (Itheus)
Guest Stars: Frances Tomelty (Anysia), Emily Taaffe (Elpis), Richard Dillane (Palos), Ciaran Griffiths (Cyrus), Christopher Obi (Shabaka), Lynne Wilmot (Sophia), Harry Dickman (Gallus)
Summary: Jason's hasty actions have dire consequences for the trio as they are forced to compete in the parlous sport of bull-leaping. After crossing a young nobleman, Jason and his friends find themselves at the mercy of King Minos, who declares Poseidon will decide their fate: they are to become bull leapers. To survive they must jump the charging beast. With their lives on the line, it's up to Jason to pull his motley team together in this ultimate test of bravery but watching from the crowds is a dark force, who hopes to turn the favour of the gods against them.



Atlantis opens with Pythagoras and Jason asking Hercules—who is oogling Medusa from a distance—if the woman is not 'a little young for you'. Hercules denies that they are age-incompatible as well as waste-line incompatible, and says their bond goes beyond physical appearance, even though Medusa seems to be oblivious to his affections. Their light banter halts when they come across a cart on the road which has shed a wheel, and a bully of a man who hits the elderly owner of the cart for it being in his way.

Jason jumps up to defend the man and while he manages to win over the bully, he is also captured by city guards—along with Pythagoras and Hercules. Turns out the man he punched down to defend the cart driver is Heptarian, who has the 'protection of Poseidon'—which means he is wealthy, powerful, and the Queen's nephew. Didn't I tell you to watch out for her, Jason?

Before long, the three are on their knees in front of the king, his wife, his daughter, Lord Heptarian, and the entire royal court. Minos asks if Jason struck Heptarian and there is only one answer to give: yes. He's screwed, even more when Jason speaks up about the cause of the assault and Heptarian lies. Jason yells at him and Minos threatens to kill him where he kneels. Hercules in his first heroic action yet—speaks up to remind the king of the Minotaur that Jason slew, and Minos decided that Poseidon will rull over their lives instead: they will be 'called before the bulls'.

Ariadne—as well as Pythagoras and Hercules—don't take the news well, and Queen Pasiphaë notices. She confronts her daughter about her feelings for Jason, but Ariadne denies them, and reminds Pasiphaë that she is, in fact, not her mother. Pasiphaë reminds Ariadne that she is,

in fact, promised to Heptarian. Uh-oh. Ariadne tries to get Pasiphaë to speak to her father on Jason's behalf, but Pasiphaë says there is nothing she can do. His faith is in the hands of the Gods—and so Ariadne vows to pray for his well-being every day.

Pellos, master of the bull court, explains what happens next: the three friends will be trained as 'bull leapers', which means they will enter the arena with a very big bull in seven days. There will be a team of them—which we are introduced to after this dialogue—and only if all of them are alive at the end of the ordeal, will they walk away with their freedom. Pythagoras doesn't see this happening, and even optimistic Jason does not look convinced.

Time to meet the others. From left to right: Cyrus, a thief, Elpis, and Shabaka, a barbarian prince with three wives and seven children. They don't seem to get along, and Heracles eats their stew.

Queen Pasiphaë and Heptarian appear to have plans for the future; plans which involve Ariadne marrying Heptarian. She invites him into her chambers and warns him that if Heptarian can't get the job done of wooing Ariadne, she will find another in his place. Heptarian vows he will get the job done.

At the bull court, Pellos explains the rules of bull leaping, which are deceptively simple: the match ends when every person on the team has vaulted over the bull. If anyone dies, they all die. That is problematic. Hercules is told to jump the wooden training bull first but stumbles before he even gets there—to great amusement of the crowd. The King and Queen come to assess the team, looking to see if they should place a bet. Pythagoras reveals that Pasiphaë may possess the power of witchcraft, and an already weary Jason becomes even wearier of the Queen.

Jason vaults the bull easily, and even Pasiphaë is worried. She speaks to Heptarian in private, saying she does not trust the Gods to kill Poseidon, but must instead take matters into their own hands. The next thing we know, Elpis is sneaking up to Jason with a knife in her hands as he sleeps. She cuts a lock of his hair while Cyrus looks on. She passes the lock off to someone and it eventually ends up with Pasiphaë, who will use it to sabotage Jason during the competition.

As a bit of reverse motivation, the new team watches how a leaper from another team gets mauled by the bull. Jason says they must pull together if they want to survive, but Shabaka and Cyrus would rather throw insults at each other. Next thing we know, we are in a practice match between the team and the bull. Jason draws the bull away from Hercules and gets hurt while jumping it. Elpis makes a decision: she draws the bull away from the defenceless Jason and before long, everyone joins in distracting the bull; Pythagoras and Hercules get Jason out of the arena. It seems Jason is just fine: he faked getting hurt so the team would band together. Pythagoras seems impressed.

The group does seem to bond: mostly over Hercules' fear in the face of the bull. Hercules denies everything, of course. They go on to bond over missing wives (Shabaka) and lovers they did not visit again after a night (Hercules), and Jason goes to bring some food to Elpis, who is grateful to Jason, and being eaten by guilt. One look by Cyrus, however, and she quiets down. The power dynamics in this group are still a mystery to me.

Back in the castle, it appears that Pasiphaë is, indeed, a practitioner of some form of magic. She makes a 'voodoo doll', which is a practice native to hoodoo (not Voodoo), and if I remember well, only entered Europe around 1800-something AD. While I can't be sure some of the ancient Hellenes did not practice some form of sympathetic magic, I am quite sure 'voodoo' dolls were most likely not it. *Katadesmoi* would have been much more true to the time. At any rate, Pasiphaë rejoins Heptarian to tell him they are ready for their plans to move forward as soon as Jason faces the bull.

In the dungeons, Elpis is not sleeping. She's huddled in the shade, wondering if she can keep her mouth shut much longer. Cyrus goes to confront her. Elpis tries to run away, but realizes she has to come clean. Before she can, however, Pellos swoops in. Elpis fears him, but Cyrus trusts him; he tells Pellos what he saw, and gets a knife in the back for it. He's found in the bull's pen the next morning. Someone wanted to make it appear as if the bull attacked him when he went to bring it a treat. Elpis feels even guiltier, but Pythagoras doesn't believe it; Cyrus was lazy, he wouldn't have gone down to feed the bull at dawn. Something is up, and Cyprus just lost his life over it.

Jason goes to talk to a distraught Elpis. It seems she and Cyrus had a history; when they were taken as slaves and brought to Atlantis, they weren't cared for very well. Cyprus stole food for her from the guards. He kept her alive. Finally making a decision, Elpis tells Jason that

Pellos most likely killed Cyrus, and that she stole a lock of Jason's hair for the Queen, through Pellas. Heptarian promised her her freedom if she did, but she says she does not want it if this is the cost. Jason comforts her, as a good hero should.

At meal time, Jason, Pythagoras and Hercules discuss the situation. Pythagoras guesses correctly what the lock of hair can be used for, and how she came to wanting Jason die. Jason is at a loss for words. Meanwhile, Heptarian again strikes out with Ariadne. His failure is even amusing to Pasiphaë.

Back in the group, everyone is now up-to-date. Pythagoras has a plan, and it's a crappy one. It's also the only one that seems to have any chance of succeeding. A former sweetheart of Hercules works in the dungeons, and Hercules must sweettalk her into giving Medusa a note. Medusa must then steal back the lock of hair so the Queen can't curse Jason during the bull fight, and in that way they at least have a shot at getting out there. It seems Medusa now works in the kitchens of the castle, and she does, indeed, receive the note. She only has a short time to get the job done, however, and there is no way to get a message back to the group. As everyone prepares to face the bull, they have no idea if Medusa was successful or not. Meanwhile, Medusa is on a mission for a lock of hair and searches the Queen's chambers.

Elpis gets pulled aside by Pellos; whatever the outcome of the dance, she is free to go. All she has to do is keep herself away from the dance. Elpis' stress levels are almost as high as Medusa's. She can't find the lock of hair and she is running out of time and options. Before she can escape the chambers, however, the Queen and Princess come walking up. Medusa overhears their conversation, which comes down to Ariadne saying that she thinks Heptarian is a sadistic ass, and while she will show up to the dance as she is supposed to, she will not pretend to enjoy it for her stepmom's sake. Pasiphaë remains sweet and civil for a while but then reminds Ariadne of her impending marriage to Heptarian in a forceful manner. That will happen, after all. No matter how she longs for Jason.

In both the most stupid and the most brave thing a person can ever do, Medusa then follows Pasiphaë into a hidden part of her chambers where she practices her magic. The Queen has started her chanting as Jason and the others walk to the arena. Medusa tries to decide what, by all the Gods, she is supposed to do now; what can she do to save her friends while keeping her life?

The arena is packed and Jason reminds the group to never show fear. Ariadne looks on dismayed as her father announces the coming dance, and the group performs a well-practiced feat of synchronised talking to proclaim that if they die, they are an offering to Poseidon. Then they find their marks and the bull is released. The Queen begins her attack on Jason and he falters. The group saves him by calling the bull and Shabaka is the first to successfully jump the bull. Pasiphaë inserts the second pin and Jason cumbles to the ground. Hercules—miraculously and without grace—jumps the bull. Elpis sees the bull charging Jason once more, who is being helped by Pythagoras. She looks back at Pellos and then makes a choice: her freedom is not worth her newfound friends dying. She challenges the bull, rushes him, and jumps.

Three down, two to go. Bull leaping, by the way, was an actual thing in bronze age Minoan Crete. The rules were similar but differed a little in that the leaper had to rush the bull from the front, jump, grab the horns and let the momentum of the bull throwing his head back propel him further. Alternatively, he was allowed to jump over the head, but had to land with his hands on the bull's back for a backwards summersault. Actually touching the bull seems to have been a requirement.

Anyway, now only Pythagoras and Jason are left, and Medusa really, really has to hurry. She buys them a reprieve by opening the door, worrying the Queen. Medusa sneaks past her to get the doll and when Pasiphaë sees a fire in front of her door, with the only fuel source being a piece of clothing, she realizes something is up. As she returns to her work table, she sees the doll missing, and Medusa escapes with the doll carefully in hand. Pasiphaë is furious, but Jason realizes he can breathe again, and stand. It's time to leap a damn bull. Pythagoras goes first, and while it's not pretty, he makes it.

Heptarian is not pleased; he realizes what has happened. Jason doesn't care, though. All that stands between freedom and his friends is the bull, and he leaps it easily. Everyone is overjoyed and while we don't actually see it happen, the bull must have been returned to his pen, because no one gets mauled as they stand before the king who declares them free men and woman. He seems genuinely happy that Poseidon has spared them, and so is Ariadne. The only one not happy

is Heptarian, but who cares about him, right? Medusa makes it to the games in time to call out to Hercules, who applauds her.

Pasiphaë and Ariadne meet up again in the castle. It seems Ariadne did not grant Heptarian an audience with her; she says this is true, because she went to the temple of Poseidon to give an offering of thanks. Pasiphaë warns Ariadne that the King must never know about her love for Jason, and Ariadne promises to give the King no reason to suspect anything. Pasiphaë tries to convince Ariadne that she is on her side and only looking out for her, but Ariadne is having none of it. Dejected, the Queen watches Ariadne stride away.

Outside the dungeons, the group hugs it out and says goodbye. Hercules is sure that Medusa's efforts mean that she has fallen for him as well, but the others remain unconvinced. She is still too young for him, they say, and too slim. Then they are on their way home, and it's all good, no matter Medusa's feeling and Hercules' waistline: they are alive and free.

Twist of Fate

Season 1

Episode Number: 4

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired:	Saturday October 19, 2013
Writer:	Richard McBrien
Director:	Alice Troughton
Show Stars:	Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Robert Emms (Pythagoras)
Recurring Role:	Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Oliver Walker (Heptarian), Donald Sumpter (Tiresias), Jimmy Johnston (Critias)
Guest Stars:	Alexander Siddig (Minos), Tristan Gemmill (King Laius), Elen Rhys (Jocasta), Bill Thomas (Andreas), Jordan Long (Soldier), Nicholas McGaughey (Biton), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Rhodri Miles (Kallias), Ethan James (Baby), George James (II) (Baby)
Summary:	While hunting in the mountains, the boys stumble across an abandoned baby. Jason refuses to leave the child to die and insists he return home with them to Atlantis but this charitable act has far-reaching implications and our gang soon find themselves embroiled in a complicated web of secrets and lies. With their own lives now on the line, as well as the child's, it seems they may well pay the ultimate price for interfering with fate.



Everyone is on the hunt, Jason with a bow and arrow, Hercules with a spear and Pythagoras with what looks like a butter knife. Something tells me he's not making a kill today. A sound appears from a bunch of conveniently placed dead branches and Hercules throws his spear—which is expertly caught by Jason, I must say. Turns out it wasn't a teeny tiny boar in the bushes, but a baby.

Jason insists on saving it. In a surprising twist of historical accuracy, Hercules and Pythagoras don't want to inter-

fere with the child's fate: it was give to the Gods to die, so let it die. Jason—who was raised in our time—will hear none of it and scoops up the baby. Hercules takes it and plans to put it back, but then the baby turns all happy and bubbly, and Hercules can't put it back anymore. It's simply too cute.

So, with the wrath of the Gods looming over them, the three return home where they turn—quite literally—into '3 men and a baby'. Especially when the baby poops... and the boy—as they are now able to determine—pees in Jason's face. Their examination of the baby reveals something else: a swollen or deformed right foot. That might be the reason the baby was abandoned.

In the market square, Medusa comes to Jason's aid when he tries to decide between sardines and olives for the baby's first meal of solids ever. Medusa tells him he is at the wrong stall and like any good woman in ancient Hellas swoops to the rescue of a member of the oikos. Before they can move over to the stall with goat's milk, however, men on horseback thunder by and Medusa and Jason kneel so as not to get in trouble. Medusa explains that the men riding past were Laius of Thebes and his men who have been visiting king Minos for the last few weeks. Minos rides with them to the palace where Queen Pasiphaë proceeds to stand so close to him to congratulate him on a succesful hunt that you just know they are sleeping together—or really, really want to.

Ariadne is not amused by her stepmother's actions and desires and tells her so. She also informs the audience that the young blond thing standing to the side looking like she is about to cry is, in fact, Laius' wife, who—if my mythology serves me right—should be Jocasta. Pasiphaë blames Jocasta's discomfort on her age and brushes off. May I just say that I am enjoying Ariadne more and more each week?

Meanwhile, Medusa rattles off a list of items Jason surely already has for the baby and Jason draws blanks on nearly all of them. Medusa's heart goes out to the baby already. Poor thing. She is sure that the baby stood more chance to survive on the mountain than with the three of them. Jason, who is carrying arms full of supplies remains wisely silent.

Hercules is overjoyed to see Medusa again, but Medusa only has eyes for the baby. He pretends it was his idea all along to save the baby and the boys just roll their eyes and passively aggressively disagree. The two of them head out to the mountainside to look for clues while Hercules remains home with Medusa and the baby to play oikos. In another surprisingly accurate display of history, the bottle Medusa uses to feed the baby actually looks like the ancient ones, although they were usually shaped like animals.

New dad Hercules is rather awful at entertaining babies, unfortunately, and I get the feeling that Medusa is somewhat over Hercules. Gods knows I am by now. She leaves after putting the baby down—who promptly starts crying with only clueless Hercules at his disposal. When Medusa returns for her scarf, she oversees and overhears Hercules talking about Medusa's beauty to the baby, who is enjoying his goat's milk in Hercules' arms. Medusa suddenly sees the softer side of Hercules, but I'm just hoping for the scene to play out fast. Sorry, but I'm not shipping Hercules/Medusa (do they have a portmanteau yet?).

Out in the forrest, Jason reveals the true reason he's so adamant to help the baby: he grew up without a mother as well, and he feels no child should grow up without a mother. At the scene of the abandonment, Pythagoras and Jason find pottery shards and grains and go about finding as many shards as they can to see if the reconstructed piece of pottery can tell them anything. From behind a tree, a man looks on with a mixture of despair and hope.

Hercules has fallen asleep with the baby on top of him—who really is very cute—and wakes up grumpy and lovesick. Pythagoras, meanwhile, reconstructs the baby rattle in the form of a pig. It's beautifully made and thus he promptly deduces the baby is from a wealthy family. In one of the cutest things to ever grace your TV screens, the baby squeezes the rattle to its chest when Pythagoras places it in his crib with him.

Back in the castle, it turns out that the Atlantians really are polytheistic because king Minos pours a libation to Artemis in thanks of a successful hunt. It's close enough to accurate that I will not pick on the scene. Next thing we know, we are at dinner with a miserable Jocasta, a spunky Ariadne, and two flirting members of the royal court. Three guesses. If you guessed Laius and Pasiphaë, you would be right, as the latter invites herself to tomorrow's hunt, saying that Artemis Herself is a woman, so why shouldn't she join? Ariadne snarks on Pasiphaë's non-existent hunting skills, indicating she sees right through Pasiphaë flimsy attempt at a cover-up for being with another King.

That night, the man from the woods, Andreas, reports to Pasiphaë and an elderly gentleman by the name of Tiresius, advisor to the King and Queen of Thebes, that the baby is gone, not dead. There was also no blood. He followed 'some boys' back to Atlantis but lost them in the streets. Pasiphaë is less than amused, to say the least. The area will be combed by the guards and Laius—who has come sneaking up—says the baby must be found and 'dealt with'. The Queen promises it will be so by nightfall and that her husband will be none the wiser.

The baby, all the while, has finally fallen asleep when Hercules knocks over a bunch of pottery Jason with his lightning reflexes manages to catch. The next morning, a rooster wakes the baby, who is promptly placed in bed with Hercules and settles contently while Jason goes out to get more milk. He spots guards in the marketplace who are checking out every baby in sight. News has traveled fast and Medusa—who has most likely arrived with said news—informs Jason of the baby's family tree: the baby was fathered by Laius. Jason doesn't understand and Medusa explains that the baby was born out of wedlock—not to queen Jocasta.

Everyone rushes to pack some things and leave: the baby is not safe here. That said, the guards and Tiresius are at the door, banging. Medusa tells Pythagoras, Hercules, and Jason to take the baby and make it to a tavern on the Sacred Way. The landlord is a friend of hers. By now it's clear that Medusa is by far the most capable character on this show, which is only added

to when she goes through the house like a whirlwind to hide any evidence of the baby and then opens the door as if nothing ever happened. She does, however, miss the reconstructed baby rattle lying on the floor.

The boys rush to safety while Medusa goes through the third degree with Tiresius. She spots the rattle and manages to push it behind some baskets while she rambles on about laundry. She goes off and takes a moment to collect herself while Tiresius pushes the baskets away and finds the rattle. Oh boy... Medusa is in trouble now...

Meanwhile, the boys have reached the city walls only to find themselves cornered. With his awesome athletic prowess, Jason leaps from the wall onto a nearby building with the baby strapped to his chest. Hercules throws Pythagoras across the chasm and then runs the other way himself, knowing full well he would not be able to make the leap. He outsmarts the guards and wanders off contently. Jason and Pythagoras almost make it to the inn when the baby squeals within earshot of a pack of guards. When the guards eventually move off, Pythagoras tells Jason he really can't take too much more of this. Thankfully, they make it to the tavern where the owner is willing to shelter them. He warns them to be quiet, though, as the walls are 'thinner than they look'. Funny, the walls look like thirty to forty centimeter blocks of solid stone to me, but what do I know, right?

Back in the palace, Laius has received the rattle from the guards and holds it wishfully. He's acting tough, but somewhere deep down, the King realizes this is still his son and is having trouble with the whole affair. The rattle was a gift from him, after all. Tiresius and Pasiphaë squash Laius' hopes of parenthood, however, and the hunt is back on. Tiresius, meanwhile, pays someone to track Medusa and when she leads him to the child, kill him. Medusa realizes she is being followed out of the palace, however, and I hope she will lead him on a wild goose chase.

At the inn, the baby is hungry and screaming his bloody face off. Someone comes in and the two men hide. The baby screams again... but it's just Hercules, and he doesn't have food. Great. Medusa, indeed, tried to lead her followers astray but a band of soldiers along with Tiresius and Locasta must have caught up with her because she regretfully leads them right into the basement where the boys are hiding the baby. Locasta begs for her baby back and Hercules sneers at her she can hardly still call the baby hers, with her terrible parenting skills so far.

It turns out that the boy wasn't born out of wedlock after all; after his birth, Laius took him to see the Oracle and the Oracle told him that once the boy grew up, he would kill his father. So the King made Tiresius get rid of the child. Now Jocasta's sadness and anger towards her husband makes a lot more sense. Emotional, Hercules gives Jocasta the child.

Jocasta is overjoyed but Tiresius warns that Jocasta must leave now if she wants the child to live. Jason—for his heroic deed of the week—offers to take the child outside of the city gates. Knowing that a relatively unknown young male has a far better chance of getting out of a city flooded with guards than the Theban Queen or her old advisor, Tiresius entrusts the child to Jason but warns him that if he gets caught, there is nothing he can do for him. Jason understands. His friends are less understanding, although they want the child to be well.

Jocasta does not want to give up the child again, but has to, eventually. Hercules and Pythagoras offer to go as well and Tiresius gives them the battle plan: sneak out of the city at the least fortified gate and take the boy to the neighboring kingdom where Jocasta's father's men will be to take the child from them. Tiresius gives one more bit of information to Pythagoras: the Oracle has also foretold that the child will grow up to marry his mother. For who the swollen foot, his family line and the murder of his father were not enough clues, this final one must ensure you know the name of the child: Oedipus. With one last kiss, the three are off; a last kiss from Jocasta for Oedipus and one from Medusa to Hercules who asks what that was for. "For being a good man," she says, and I admit, I swooned a little. That woman can act.

What follows is a long climb through the city by three men and a baby, and several close calls with the city guard. They get stopped once, but the baby's incessant pooping helps scare them off. Even covered in drool and poop, the baby is adorable. At the city gates, Jason lures the guards away so the rest can escape the city. Jason himself one-handedly takes down many of the guards and then uses his athletic prowess to escape the guards.

By daytime, Pythagoras and Hercules are waiting in the forest for Jason to catch up. They are worried for him, but know that if anyone could outrun the guards, it's Jason. Jason is special, different, and they both know it. And they made the right decision with the baby. Oedipus, meanwhile, is being so cute on Hercules' lap that I must share.

Jason catches up to them and they make a fire to signal to Tiresius that they are safe and sound outside of the city walls. It sounds like a rather obvious sign to me but you know, if it works... Jocasta, meanwhile, questions Tiresius on why he helped her with the baby; he is, after all a faithful servant to her husband. He says he hopes to be a faithful servant to her husband for many more years but that sometimes, you have to follow your conscience over your duty. He also assures Jocasta that her husband is not a bad man; Laius is just scared of the words of the Oracle.

The three friends reach the border and name the boy Oedipus, which literally means 'swollen foot'. They leave him with the guards—hard as it may be. Tiresius assures Laius and Pasiphaë that the baby is dead and that he did not suffer. Laius asks him to make libations to the Gods, to which Tiresius agrees. Pasiphaë doesn't look convinced of the death of the child but leaves it be.

The King and Queen of Thebes leave and again, the interactions between Laius and Pasiphaë are a bit too intimate. Ariadne asks if her stepmother is going to miss a man with the King's 'talents' and Pasiphaë questions why they must always quarrel; she means Ariadne well, after all. Ariadne tells her she wishes she could believe that and the two head inside for another cosy night at the palace. I'm actually starting to feel sorry for Minos.

Back in the city, Hercules wonders if he should go to the baths first or Medusa first. After their kiss/peck (the opinions of Hercules and Pythagoras differ on the subject), Hercules is convinced Medusa must be anxiously waiting for his manly body. If he goes to her right away, he will smell bad, but it will show he cares about her above all, but if he goes to the baths first, he will smell better, which is also considerate. In the end, Hercules decides on heading straight for Medusa. Pythagoras fears the worst for his friend, but Jason is less concerned... until they start talking about four kids, pigs, and chickens which Hercules will gamble or drink away. By that time the boys agree this will, indeed, not end well at all.

White Lies

Season 1
Episode Number: 5
Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Saturday October 26, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Alice Troughton
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Recurring Role: Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Oliver Walker (Heptarian)
Guest Stars: Alexander Siddig (Minos), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Darwin Shaw (Therus), Hannah Atherton (Korinna), Joe Dixon (Ramos), Daniel Adegboyega (Stolos), Thomas Aldersley (Mikos)
Summary: When a clandestine messenger brings unexpected news from outside the city, Ariadne calls on Jason and his friends to help guide her to the source. Yet leaving the citadel without raising the suspicions of the Queen seems an insurmountable task, especially with the revelation that it is Ariadne's exiled brother Therus who has sent for her. As Heptarian and the King's guards close in on his hiding place, Ariadne must decide where her loyalties lie, in Atlantis or with her royal sibling. But Therus is determined his sister learns the truth behind his exile, exposing a plot that could overshadow the power of King Minos and bring the royal family to its knees.



a dark skinned man is climbing the walls of Minos' palace. He manages to get in and goes by fairly unnoticed until he reaches out to a passing Ariadne, clamps a hand over her mouth, puts her in a chokehold and tells her he is not going to hurt her. Ariadne—to say the least—is mildly sceptical. It seems the man has a message for her and releases her. Then, guards spot her and the man and Ariadne tells him to run—which he does, straight into Queen Pasiphaë serfs and rooms. Lets just say, the window sounds like the

best option and he takes it. This earns him a couple of very sore legs, an arrow in the back and a whack with the blunt of a sword. I feel sorry for him.

Queen Pasiphaë is not amused. She and Heptarian go to Ariadne for more information on the now-unconscious man. Ariadne lies through her teeth and says that the man demanded her jewelry and would have hurt her if she hadn't. The queen looks uncertain but she can't do anything about it. Ariadne gets an escort to her chambers and Queen Pasiphaë hatches another evil plot to get the man (or Ariadne) to talk.

Meanwhile in an inn, Jason, Hercules, Pythagoras and Medusa are out to bet the last of their money on a beetle Hercules trained to race. The boys (all but Hercules) are sceptical, but Medusa trusts Hercules' skills in beetle training. The beetle actually manages to win and instead of flying into Hercules' arms in relief and joy, Medusa flies into those of Pythagoras. Needless to say, Hercules is not amused.

Also not amused is the intruder, who is chained up in some dungeon and who is now awake. Queen Pasiphaë is about to put the (magical) thumbscrews on him. He says he did come here

to rob Ariadne but she won't believe it. She offers him jewels or pain—his choice—for the truth. The man sticks to the story. The pain begins right away at the hands of the guards. Meanwhile, Ariadne asks her loyal servant girl Korinna for a favor.

Hercules scoops up some dung from the street for his beetle Astrabakos, named pretentiously after a minor Spartan hero. Jason does not exactly feel like the beetle deserves such high praise, but Hercules says—rightly so—that Astrabakos is the most valuable possession they have. This depresses Jason, obviously.

Korinna finds Jason in the marketsquare and asks to speak to him. She tells him that the man she loves will meet her at a bridge outside of the city tonight; he can't come into the city because he was charged with a crime he did not commit. She asks Jason to accompany her into the mountains and he—as any hero who sees a damsel in distress would—agrees.

Ariadne, in the palace, gets painted with bull's horns on her forehead so she can make an offering to the Gods; 'for all she cares for' she tells a prying Pasiphaë and there are so many layers to those few words. Pasiphaë tries to trip Ariadne up by saying she knows the true intentions of the man were not to rob Ariadne but the princess doesn't fall for it. Pasiphaë is convinced she will know soon enough.

The next day, Jason, Korinna, Hercules, Pythagoras and Astrabakos (in a pot) go out into the woods. Korinna teases Hercules about his love for Medusa, but does so kindly. Hercules is still not amused.

Back in the palace, two other someones are not amused at all either: both the intruder and Queen Pasiphaë are having a particularly crummy time. The intruder because he is being tortured, Queen Pasiphaë because she is not getting any results. Time to end the stalemate: Pasiphaë wipes the brow of the intruder, gathering blood and sweat, and mutters a spell while holding the cloth over an open flame. The intruder—whom I'm not sure they are ever going to name so I'm just going to tell you—whose name is Stolos writhes in pain. Eventually he gives in: he delivered a massage to Ariadne... from her brother. That spooks Pasiphaë enough to stop her torture. It seems the prince was supposed to be dead. He isn't however, and is waiting for Ariadne. He gives Pasiphaë the location.

Pasiphaë, now on the war path, races to the temple where the Oracle is praying over her bowl of blood; a bowl of blood the queen angrily tips over. It seems the Oracle didn't actually say the words 'he's dead' to the queen, but hinted at it enough to make the queen believe so. The Oracle warns Pasiphaë that her hunger for power will lead to bloodshed and suffering. Pasiphaë just snarls and laughs. The Oracle then says that she is not the one who will bring Pasiphaë down, and Pasiphaë replies in kind: deceive her again and the Oracle won't have a future to divine.

Heptarian gets charged with the ungrateful task of murdering Ariadne's brother Theros and burning his body. He, however, is hesitant: the boy is of royal blood, after all. The queen makes him by saying Ariadne will never marry him if she learns the truth about her brother. Funnily enough I also don't think she will marry him when she finds out he actually killed the brother she already thought dead. Might just be me, though.

Back in the forest, the group happens upon a group of men who were killed by robbers. Heptarian, meanwhile, has assembled a large group of soldiers to hunt down Theros, and Ariadne looks on with worry and fear for her brother. Heptarian lies to his second in command about the mission and says that there will be no prisoners. Pasiphaë materializes next to Ariadne and tells her that she has learned the truth: that the man was sent by Ariadne's brother. Ariadne, obviously, doesn't believe Theros is a traitor. Pasiphaë tries to console Ariadne by saying her brother will soon be dead. Somehow, I don't think that'll work to cheer Ariadne up.

Back in the forest, the group reaches a ruined temple. Korinna goes on ahead and promptly gets a knife to the throat by Theros. Pythagoras is worried and goes after her. Korinna is fine, though, and ready to go home. As night is falling, Pythagoras this is impossible. Awkward.

Back in Atlanta, Minos seeks out his troubled daughter. she brings up Theros and Minos recounts his pain over his son's betrayal. It seems there was a plot and those who stood with Theros confessed. Ariadne still doesn't buy it. Minos has a bonding moment with his daughter—which is really very sweet—but Pasiphaë who overhears is not too happy.

Back at Theros' camp, it's become painfully obvious Korinna and Theros are not lovers. They sit apart, barely speaking, and the group is worried. They should be, but for a whole different reason: the soldiers have caught up with them. They don't have the element of surprise, however; Jason saw them coming and warns the others. They flee—including Hercules who went back for

his beetle and almost got himself killed and Therus who had the perfect opportunity to shoot Heptarian's right hand man but didn't take it. Instead, he helps Korinna onto his horse while everyone else figures out why the soldiers are here: they are after Therus. Therus comes clean and with a heavy heart the group follows him: they are now traitors as well, after all.

Pasiphaë hears the king's son got away and is livid... until she realizes that Ariadne will take them to him. Jason, meanwhile, offers to go and collect Ariadne—much to Hercules and Pythagoras' dismay. Jason has a plan. She will smuggle Ariadne out of the palace, and Jason will escort her further. The girl is as stealthy as an elephant, though, and Heptarian is on her like white on rice within seconds. Ariadne is excited to see her brother and shows she is perfectly capable of derailing Heptarian's plans: she manages to sneak out. Now it's up to Jason to do the rest.

Jason intimately manhandles the princess to get her to safety and sparks fly. Jason tells her to trust him next time she needs his help and she says it's hard for her to know who to trust. He takes her home and gives her clothes to borrow. She changes in a bedroom while Jason cleans up like a madman and is otherwise adorable. Unfortunately, the bowl of horse dung (without beetle) is in the bedroom and Ariadne is not very amused, although impressed. Ariadne looks younger in her peasant clothes, but equally beautiful, and Jason stumbles over every other word. It's positively adorable, and Ariadne thinks so too.

Minos worries about his daughter and blames himself for everything that has happened to his children. He weavers he is right for the throne, but Pasiphaë will hear nothing of it. While Minos worries about his kingdom, Hercules worries about his beetle, who won't live too long but is still the fastest beetle out there.

Jason is having trouble getting out of the city but the guard who Therus did not shoot finds them and helps them get out, saying he serves the king; emphasis on king. Ariadne understands and smiles. Back in the camp, Pythagoras unfortunately drops the jar with Astrabakos and they have a scare as Pythagoras steps on something that crunches. It's only a spider, however. The beetle is fine. The two cradle Astrabakos in their hands as Therus comes back from fetching water and the scene looks so romantic, Therus decided to fully ignore it. Smart man.

Jason and Ariadne make it to the cabin where Therus doesn't run to them with joy but spikes a drink with something instead. Maybe he is a traitor after all. Ariadne is overjoyed to see her brother again and hugs him tight. He then thanks Jason who is dismissed by the man. The two siblings share a drink and I'm sure you can guess who gets the spiked one. Ariadne questions Therus about what happened. It seems Pasiphaë made plans to kill Therus after he became of age and so Therus was forced to flee. Pasiphaë then spun the tale of his betrayal and desire to kill his father and there was no way Therus could come back to explain himself; Pasiphaë would have had his head before he was two steps into the city. Therus warns Ariadne that as she is coming to age soon and that Pasiphaë will want her dead too. He tells her to run away with him but she refuses. That is the point the drugs kick in.

Jason finds Hercules and Pythagoras who were gathering wood and when they return, Ariadne and Therus are gone. Pythagoras identifies the poison added to Ariadne's drink as Belladonna and Hercules questions why Therus would do such a thing. Jason spots Therus and Ariadne on horseback and goes after them. The horse spooks by a bird and the two fall off. Jason catches up and sword fights Therus, saying Ariadne should have a choice in the matter and that he won't let Therus take her because she means too much to him. Ariadne wakes up just in time to stop Therus from killing Jason.

Ariadne again refuses to leave, saying it is her duty to keep Pasiphaë from ruling, and that if she has to be away from the people she cares for, she would rather be dead. Therus finally relents. Jason steps away to allow them privacy and brother and sister hug it out before Therus goes off, leaving a distraught Ariadne. Jason comes to her side and they make it back to Atlantis and the palace safely. They almost kiss and Ariadne fibs that she didn't hear Jason's declaration of affection in the forest when Jason asks if she heard.

Barely three steps into the palace, Pasiphaë stumbles upon her and confronts her about being gone. Ariadne again pulls out the white lies and says she was in the temple consulting with the Oracle. The queen asks her what the Oracle told her. Ariadne says that the Oracle told her to be careful as there are those who plot against her. Pasiphaë growls that she does not believe Ariadne went to visit the Oracle but Ariadne blows her off. I really, really, like the strength Ariadne is showing.

Minos interrupts the scene and tells her he was worried sick about her and that he loves her

more than anything in this world. Pasiphaê looks like she swallowed a bug. Speaking of which, Hercules is sweet talking his beetle in the inn as they prepare for another race. He recounts their adventures the last few days and then puts him in the box. This time he loses, though, spectacularly. Pythagoras muses that perhaps this was not Astrabakos at all but an entirely different beetle. Meanwhile, Hercules takes off his shirt and hands it over to the winner. Medusa (hi Medusa! I missed you!) looks slightly shell shocked. Also, there is elastic in both the waistband of Hercules' pants and his shirts and it's distracting me to no end. Hercules renounces any claim to the beetle that just lost the race, saying he is slow and useless. Pythagoras knows exactly what to name this little fellow if that is the case: Hercules. It seems like the others agree.

The Song of The Sirens

Season 1
Episode Number: 6
Season Episode: 6

Originally aired: Saturday November 2, 2013
Writer: Lucy Watkins
Director: Declan O'Dwyer
Show Stars: Mark Addy (Hercules), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Robert Emms (Pythagoras)
Recurring Role: Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), Jemima Rooper (Medusa)
Guest Stars: Lucy Cohu (Circe), Jeffery Kissoon (Elias), Hannah Arterton (Korinna), Ken Bones (Melas), Dave Garrick (Lysis)
Summary: Desperate to win over Medusa's heart, Hercules pays a visit to a powerful witch, Circe. But events take a malevolent turn when Hercules realises he has unleashed a potent but toxic enchantment that threatens to turn his burgeoning hope into unbearable grief. With a bitter chain of events rapidly unfolding, it is up to Jason to undo history before it is too late. As he re-traces Hercules's steps into the mountains he is unaware that a deadly trap has been set for him; one with far-reaching consequences beyond the fate of just his friends.



In today's episode, the fun starts with a shot of a half naked Hercules being scrubbed down and oiled up by Pythagoras. Is anyone shipping these two? Because I still have minor Jason/Pythagoras feels. Anyway, there is not enough oil to fully cover Hercules' impressive body, but Hercules doesn't care: he is about to fight Lysis, who looks like he'd make an awesome WBA fighter and he is not the least bit worried. Not even because the guy's nickname is 'The Destroyer'. Medusa is plenty worried for

him, though, and when they try to figure out a nickname for Hercules, she volunteers 'The Hero' Cough.

Anyway, the 'Horrid Smelling' one eventually fights The Destroyer and while he makes it through the first few rounds of wrestling quite nicely, eventually gets destroyed. Medusa is shouting wonderful encouragements along the way like 'rip his head off', but it's no good. Hercules looses and has a nasty shoulder injury to boot. The friends rush to his side and Medusa tells him it was noble to let the other guy win. Hercules' heart soars for a minute, but then The Destroyer swoops Medusa up like she weighs nothing (and as if the loser's girlfriend automatically becomes yours when you beat him, which I am assuming is not the case) and Medusa laughs while Hercules asks his buddies to take him home. Enough stabs to the ego for the day.

Once at the oikos, Jason and Pythagoras wonder if there isn't an easier way for Hercules to get Medusa's attention; ones that do not involve the risk of bodily harm. Hercules says that was not at all why he did it, but no one believes him. While Hercules rests, the boys quietly discuss the situation: they had hoped Hercules' infatuation would pass, but Hercules is like a bull; he's not giving up so easily. They both feel Medusa is out of his league, and they hate it. Hercules, unfortunately, overhears.

In the morning, Jason is out on the town when the Oracle's right hand man finds him. He asks Jason to come with him to visit the Oracle, and he does. There is more chicken blood in

water divining and the Oracle is annoyed because the dreams and visions she has been having for the last couple of days aren't clear enough for her to tell Jason more than that a powerful woman will come into his life, and it won't be a good thing. Jason wonders if the woman is Queen Pasiphaë, but while the Oracle warns him about her as well, that is not the woman from her visions. Jason is worried.

Back at the oikos, Hercules wakes up in a suspiciously good mood and indicates to Pythagoras he overheard last night's discussion. Pythagoras tried to apologize but Hercules will have none of it. He's far too chipper to listen. Instead he heads out to the temple, making a small offering, but not before eating all of Pythagoras' breakfast except for a single black olive. Those he doesn't like apparently. Once he comes out, a vendor who seems to know Hercules pretty well warns him that with his lack of appealing offerings to women, Aphrodite may never answer his prayers. Unless, of course, he is willing to try something different... One moment here to say that ancient Hellas had arranged marriages, so that while Medusa may not have been in the cards for Hercules, a wife surely would have been.

The salesman, named Elias tells him about the witches of Colchis, who create enchantments for the right price: the person's most prized possession. And one of their numbers can currently be found in the nearby mountains, living in a cave. I am fairly certain this is the woman Jason was just warned about, but who knows.

Jason returns to the oikos to find that Pythagoras has bought and made Hercules a proper I'm-sorry-for-talking-behind-your-back-meal, but Hercules has no intention of coming home: He's out in the hills, looking for a cave. Which he finds. Along with Circe of Colchis who not only promises not to hurt him, but knows his name. This—rightfully—freaks Hercules out. He's sticking with his quest, though, and declares he wishes to capture the heart of the woman he loves. She says she can't help him with that but he offers her a gift: the last remaining link to his father, a tooth from Cerberus ('or so he said'). Circe accepts the offering but questions why Hercules came here alone. Circe—who lets Hercules see the disfigured right side of her face—offers Hercules a jar that holds 'the song of the Sirens' (which she conveniently has on hand next to her cooking utensils). The sound will make Medusa fall for the first person she sees. She warns him, though; the enchantment is a powerful one.

A short time-out for the mythological Circe—or in the Greek: Kirkê—who was a pharmakeia, a sorceress, on the island of Aiaia. If her name sounds familiar, it's probably because she plays an important role in the *Odyseia* by Hómros, where she turned Odysseus' men into pigs and forces Odysseus to stay with her for a year before he can convince her to turn them back. She is most often regarded as the daughter of Helios by the Oceanid Perse, but may have been the daughter of Hyperion as well, or even Hekate. The Argonauts on their way home also encountered her and she prayed to Zeus in their name to get the miasma of murder off of Iásn and Mdeia. By Roman times, her actions became a lot more spiteful and she was often depicted as jealous and petty—a view not shared by Hellenic predecessors. Just something to keep in mind.

Hercules returns to Atlantis and his home, and digs into his still available meal, still happy. Korinna (who I really like, by the way) allows Hercules to visit Medusa in the palace of king Minos. This sounds like the absolute worst of plans, by the way. Why not visit her at home? Or drag her into some dark alley on the way to it? Chances are, both locations would be a lot more private than the palace kitchens. Anyway... Medusa is making bread in a conveniently abandoned kitchen and Hercules releases the Siren song. He steps into the kitchen and into her field of vision. She doesn't fall instantly into his arms—which throws Hercules quite a bit—so he has to find a way to answer her question of why he came here. He warns her about a storm that is most likely not coming and then asks her out. She agrees and Hercules becomes a rambling idiot, which Medusa seems to find endearing. He lays her hand on Hercules' cheek for a moment, leaving a flour stain, and he rushes out of the kitchen, happy as a clam.

That night, Hercules prepares for his big date while Jason and Pythagoras fuss over him. Hercules blames them for his nerves so it's only right one of them sniffs his armpits. Pythagoras gets drafted for that one, and Jason looks on in horror. Hercules' scent must be quite nice, though, because Pythagoras rattles off a list of herbs and fruits to describe the scent. Huh, good on Hercules. Medusa shows up on the doorstep looking lovely with her hair down and a dark dress on, and Pythagoras and Jason are shocked beyond words at the current turn of events.

Out on the town, Medusa twirls the flower she has gotten from Hercules and asks after his injuries. He assures her he is fine and she is relieved to hear it. They banter back and

forth for a while and then visit the (walls of the) palace courtyard, completely deserted at night. In the distance, the sea can be seen. They're bonding and it's cute in a very mind bending a la Willow sort of way. Jemima Rooper delivers some of the strongest acting to date as she relates how lonely she has been in the city and how she almost didn't stay. Her ability to convey Medusa's vulnerability as spurned on by the enchantment is wonderful to watch, and Mark Addy's performance is spot on as the guy whose dreams have just come true while trying to convince himself he did not do something awful to make it so. This is especially true after the two share a kiss in front of Medusa's home.

In the morning, Jason is rudely awoken by Medusa, who is pounding on the door. I have a feeling Helios has barely left the gates at this point. She's carrying the world's largest basket of food and soon the gang is gathered about the table where Hercules eats like a king, Medusa fawns over him in fan girl fashion and the boys are trying to decide if they are actually awake or not. It seems Medusa stole the food from the palace and also has a rash on her hands. Both are not exactly good signs. An even worse sign is when Medusa and Hercules are out on the town and Medusa collapses. The rash has spread to her shoulders and chest and Hercules takes her home so Pythagoras can have a look at her. She's still completely out—never a good sign.

Pythagoras is worried, but not as worried as Hercules whom Pythagoras sends on an errand for herbs. By the time night falls, Medusa is still sick—perhaps even sicker—and the boys are devastated. Hercules sits by her bedside throughout the night and Pythagoras shares his fears with Jason: she is getting worse and witchcraft is to blame. If this is the case, only an enchantment will be able to heal Medusa. Medusa, meanwhile, has woken up but looks horrible. She says she wouldn't change anything about the past few days—anything—and Hercules finally can't stand the lies anymore. He comes clean to his friends as Medusa rests.

The rash has spread to Medusa's face and Hercules cares for her rapidly wilting body while Jason and Pythagoras go through notes and herbs like madmen, trying to figure out a way to save Medusa. Another night passes with Hercules by Medusa's bedside and when the boys find nothing to cure Medusa, he visits Circe again in the morning. Circe toys with him for a while and then divulges her true plan: get Jason to her. Korinna comes to take care of Medusa while the boys go after Hercules.

En route to the cave, Jason and Pythagoras realize they are being followed... by a pig. Which continues to follow them, despite Pythagoras trying to get the pig to sod off. Jason muses that it almost seems like the pig is trying to tell them something...

At night, in the camp, Jason tells Pythagoras about the Oracle's warning and Pythagoras nearly orders him to go home. Jason, obviously, does not. In the mean time, the pig drinks all the wine and eats all the food. Save for one, black, olive. Realization suddenly dawns on Pythagoras and he tries to convince Jason that that pig is, in fact, Hercules. Jason doesn't buy it until the pig farts. He'd recognize that smell anywhere. Jason is a little amused at the situation, but it is worrying.

The tree of them—pig first—head to Circe's cave. Circe sees them coming, obviously, and awaits them after enchanting the water to reveal a freaking dragon! She sends a dragon after them! A flying one! I'd be into it if a flying dragon was not completely outside of Hellenic lore. Jason makes short work of it though—in a very impressive manner—and I try to scrub the affair from my brain. Pythagoras is injured, forcing Jason to go on alone—exactly what the Oracle warned him against.

In the dark of the cave, Circe and Jason converse. She tried to convince Jason that they are allies. She will heal both Medusa and Hercules if Jason fulfills a request. She explains she once had a home and husband, before it all got taken away and she was reduced to living in a cave. She wants Jason to kill her sister—the woman who took everything away from her. She ensures Jason that this is the only way to save Hercules and Medusa. Back in the camp, Pythagoras understands if Jason will not do it.

Circe is not surprised when Jason returns to her. Circe lays an oath on Jason in name of Hekate, ensuring that he will fulfill his end of the bargain, and she will hers. I'm not sure how, exactly, but it looks like it hurts. The kicker comes afterwards, though: Circe's sister? None other than Pasiphaë. Aren't you glad I saved that bit of family history for the big reveal?

Back home, Medusa's illness is going away and Hercules is back to his human self. Even in her weakened state, Medusa is livid at Hercules for what he has done and made her go through, and Hercules is heartbroken. He understands, though; he can hardly blame her. He's eternally hopeful for a happy ending.

Jason, trapped in his oath, visits the Oracle for guidance. She sits with him and gets him to tell the whole story. He shows her a burn on his arm, which the Oracle rightly interprets as an oath, and he tells her what he promised Circe. The Oracle is distraught, knowing full well that this can only end badly. She covers his hand with both of hers in a sign of sympathy and Jason can only look on—spooked.

The Rules of Engagement

Season 1
Episode Number: 7
Season Episode: 7

Originally aired: Saturday November 9, 2013
Writer: Richard McBrien
Director: Declan O'Dwyer
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Recurring Role: Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Oliver Walker (Heptarian), Ken Bones (Melas), Hannah Arterton (Korinna)
Guest Stars: Alexander Siddig (Minos), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), David Sterne (Dymas), Gary Oliver (Alytarch), Gary Kane (Harmon), Danny Midwinter (Codros)
Summary: When Jason learns of Ariadne's betrothal to Heptarian, he is broken-hearted. With nothing to lose and everything to gain, he enters into a brutal fighting tournament to honour the nuptials — lining up with a bevy of terrifying contestants including the undefeated Heptarian. Determined to beat the husband-to-be and show his worthiness, it is up to Jason's loyal friends to guide him through the contest, where there are more than just broken hearts at stake.



We kick the episode off with a libation to Poseidon in the palace of King Minos. He is announcing Ariadne's betrothal to Heptarian—who tries valiantly to convince Ariadne this is a good thing. Ariadne looks about ready to cry. Minos announces 'a pankration' in honor of the two while Pasiphaë gives it the barest minimum of effort to convince Heptarian that Ariadne will come around. When his spirits don't lift instantly, she informs him that it doesn't really matter what Ariadne thinks, feels, or wants: this is hap-

pening. The queen is certain that Ariadne is isolated, without friends or allies, and by herself she does not have the strength to oppose her father (and stepmother).

Pankration, by the way, is a rough contact sport; a combination of boxing and wrestling. The only things you could not do were biting and gouging an opponent's eyes, nose, or mouth with fingernails. Everything else was allowed. Deaths happened. Pankration was not a free-for-all, though; fighters were in excellent form, and there were a large variety of fighting stances and techniques. In fact, many of these are still known, or have been reconstructed and especially in modern Greece, pankration is a sport you can take part in today. The terminology 'a pankration' is grammatically incorrect, simply because it would indicate one fight, not a competition. As a bonus bit of information: it is said that Herakles and Theseus invented pankration, and that Theseus used it to defeat the Minotaur. I see what you did there, Atlantis.

Anyway... on the other side of town, in the oikos currently shared by Pythagoras, Hercules and Jason, Hercules delivers the good news: there will be 'a pankration', which means free food and booze! It's the happiest day of his life! Pythagoras—knowing full well what the occasion is, and about Jason's feelings about said occasion—tries to shush Hercules, but it's too late: Pythagoras

is forced to break the bad news to Jason and Jason is heartbroken. This short exchange also reveals some of the 'Atlantis' rules of pankration: 'two bareknuckle fighters, one knife in the sand, and the first to draw blood, wins'. I have a feeling anyone practicing pankration today is not going to recognize anything of their sport in the coming scenes.

Hercules reminds Jason he is insanely out of Ariadne's league—to which I say: he is one to talk—before Pythagoras gets him to shut the hell up and engages in some damage control with his friend. He's not very effective: there is not much to say, after all.

The next morning, Hercules awakes from hibernation to find Jason and Medusa exchanging a note in the agora. The note makes its way to Korinna, who takes the note to Ariadne, who is in her chambers. I'm happy to see Medusa and Jason are still talking, and also: yay, Korinna. Welcome back to my TV screen. Ariadne accepts and reads the note, asking if anyone else knows about this and Korinna says no one does. Ariadne hands the note back and whispers 'Jason wants to meet me' just as the queen enters the room. That was so close to being busted, it wasn't even funny anymore. Korinna tries to sink through the floor while Ariadne tries for normalcy, and Pasiphaë sees through the ordeal in a second. She demands to see what is in Korinna's hand, and the poor girl just about dies on the spot. She hands the note over to Pasiphaë—there is no other choice. Korinna gets taken into custody for treason and a tearful Ariadne tries to get Pasiphaë to show leniency towards Korinna. Pasiphaë says she will: if Ariadne cuts Jason out of her life for once and for all. It is not proper for a betrothed woman to skulk about with a boy like this. Ariadne is shattered.

That night, Jason visits the temple of Poseidon and the Oracle's right hand man—and priest of Poseidon—shows Jason to Ariadne. Jason fumbles through a declaration of love, which Ariadne cuts off, knowing full well what she has to do to save her friend, Medusa, and Jason himself. She cries as she tells him that she has a duty to her people and Poseidon, and Jason asks her if that duty is to marry someone she does not love. Yes, Jason. That's the way it was in ancient Hellas—especially for women, and especially for women of royalty. Ariadne tells him that she only agreed to meet him so she could try to make him understand that she has to bow to her fate as he should to his. Whatever the cost. In what is probably the sweetest declaration of love I have seen in a while, Ariadne tells Jason that 'if the choice had been hers alone, she would not leave him for one moment'. Yet, as it stands, the choice belongs to everyone but her and Jason, so she will do as she must. She tells him to leave, and tells him that if he truly loves her, he will not make this harder. He hands her his father's bull's horn necklace and she tells him she needs no token to remember him before accepting the necklace and running out.

Once she gets to her room, she breaks down into tears and cries into the door, only to be spooked by Pasiphaë, who was waiting for her to return. The queen is satisfied that Ariadne did the right thing, and promises to release Korinna right away. Ariadne fingers the necklace and cries. When Pasiphaë invites her into her embrace, Ariadne runs into her open arms and clings to her for dear life. Pasiphaë tells her it will get better, but Ariadne can only cry. As a personal note, I think Ariadne realizes her stepmother is right about one thing: as a princess, Ariadne is obligated to do what is right by her people, no matter the cost to her person. While she—and I—may not agree with Pasiphaë's choice of a husband (mostly because he is only there to ensure Pasiphaë will have an influence on the throne when her husband steps down or dies), Pasiphaë knows the rules of royalty well, and as a mother, it is part of her job description to teach these rules to Ariadne.

The next morning, Pythagoras tries to sleep through Jason's work-out. He eventually fails and goes into the living room annoyed, taking the knife Jason's been throwing into a table from him with a death glare. Jason takes it back after telling Pythagoras about the disastrous meeting he had with Ariadne. When Pythagoras says it's good that it is now a closed chapter, Jason throws the blade into the table once more. "Not yet," he says, and we cut to a bunch of impressive looking men dropping an olive branch into a bowl in front of the king and queen and swearing before Poseidon they will fight fairly and until the end. They get sprinkled with water—which I am just going to take as khernips—and King Minos accepts their pledge. It seems we are swearing in men to fight in the Pankration competition. I can see where this is headed, and indeed—there is Jason, making the same oath. Pasiphaë is worried, and pissed off.

Back at the oikos, Jason has told his friends what he has done, and they are far more worried and pissed off than Pasiphaë. They tell him this will not win him Ariadne, and that it might cost him his life. Jason explains he isn't doing this for Ariadne: he says he is doing it for the

money. Pythagoras tells Jason the startling truth: Heptarian has been a pankration fighter since he was a little boy, and he has never lost a match—not one. That prize money (and Ariadne's heart/hand/rest of her body) is truly a long shot.

The friends agree that if Jason is, indeed, going through with this stupendous plan of his, he will at least need the proper training. Out in the forest, Hercules throws down a knife and he, Pythagoras and Jason circle it. Pythagoras explains that the goal is to get to the knife first. Jason thinks this is going to be a cakewalk, but within seconds, he has had his hand whipped, gotten distracted by Pythagoras yelling to look behind him, and a swift kick in the groin by Hercules. While Jason sinks to his knees in anguish, clutching his privates, the two men stand by, worried about the 0-3 score Jason can note down. Before long, it's 0-9... but then he manages to at least get the knife once. Ten percent success is not going to be enough in the competition, though.

In the palace, an old man named Stymas has a delivery for Pasiphaë. You can tell this is not going to be a good thing by the fact that it is night. Also: just as a note, an Hellenic queen without her serfs or husband, meeting a man in her chambers would have been completely unheard of in ancient Hellas. Heck; her own husband would have most likely never seen the inside of her chambers while she was around. That's the least of my worries though—Stymas comes to deliver a slow working poison: one dose and within weeks, the subject will develop headaches, within months, hair loss and confusion, and eventually, an irrevocable coma. Pasiphaë accepts the poison and makes sure Stymas will never, ever, tell anyone about this. I hate on Pasiphaë a lot, but Sarah Parish—the actress who plays her—is excellent. In this episode especially. She is making the stereotypical evil stepmother/queen into a three dimensional woman—and while part of that is thanks to the writers, most of it is due to Parish' acting abilities.

The next morning, the pankration competition starts. Medusa, Pythagoras, and Hercules are in the audience, but far apart. Pythagoras spots Medusa and waves, upon which Medusa leaves. Hercules is crestfallen. In the arena, lots are being drawn to see who will fight whom in the first round. A knife is placed in the center of the area and we get our first fight between Heptarian and an unnamed fighter. Heptarian is a good fighter, a strong wrestler and overall a smart opponent. When his enemy grabs the knife, he breaks his wrist and takes the knife. He stabs the poor sod and leaves the battlefield. Hercules calls him a cheat, and the audience clearly doesn't like Heptarian much.

In the second battle, Jason fights another unnamed fighter, who is stupendously fast. The man grabs the knife before Jason can even come close, and Jason has to pull out his best moves not to get cut. What follows is a struggle for the knife for Jason, and a struggle to keep it for the other man. Jason gets lucky; he manages to win... but then falls down in the sand with a badly injured arm.

Back at the oikos, Pythagoras tries to assess the damage when there is a knock on the door. Medusa is there with some herbs for Pythagoras to heal with. Hercules opens the door and it is awkward. Very awkward. Medusa is stiff and sad, and Hercules stands in the doorway like a mute fool, which only serves to make the situation worse. He does know how to fix Jason's dislocated shoulder, which earns him some credit with everyone, including Medusa. She does, however, make it clear that they are not on speaking terms yet.

In the palace, Pasiphaë and Heptarian are plotting Jason's demise and discussing today's pankration fight. The queen tells him to reign it in with the needless stabbing, but Heptarian doesn't seem too bothered. They happen upon Ariadne, who treats Heptarian with the respect a betrothed deserves, and Pasiphaë tells Heptarian that she knew the girl would come around eventually. Now, if Heptarian will just get a grip on his anger and jealousy until he is king (read: until she has poisoned the current king into an early grave), their plan will work out just fine.

Pasiphaë brews Minos a death cocktail, which he drinks in one go while worrying if the people—and his daughter—are enjoying the pankration competition. Poor, naive, king... he thinks his wife is looking out for him. I actually feel for Minos.

At the oikos, Hercules takes care of a feverish and sleeping Jason, while Medusa keeps an eye out. The two bond over Jason's injury and his desire to fight. When Hercules tells her of Jason's delusion of winning Ariadne's hand through winning the competition, Medusa agrees that it's never going to happen. It's hopeless. Hercules says that when you are in love, there is no such thing as hopeless. Medusa—realizing this is no longer about Jason and Ariadne—shifts her weight and tone of voice, and tells Hercules to get some rest while she takes over. Hercules says he shouldn't leave him, and Medusa's spunk comes back a little when she questions if Hercules

doesn't trust her. He quickly assures her that is not what he meant and she says she knows while giving him the first smile in days. Medusa decides to keep Hercules company if he refuses to leave.

Hercules covers Jason up and Medusa asks why he is doing all of this. Hercules says that when he was Jason's age, he thought he was the best, the fastest, the strongest... but he never was. Hercules says that Jason is actually the real deal, and he has to do everything in his power to ensure Jason lives up to that potential. It's a sweet moment, and Medusa obviously appreciates the honest and kind Hercules more than the jovial one.

The next morning, Heptarian kicks the living daylight out of another poor opponent, but manages to restrain himself from going in for the kill after he wins. He neatly cuts the man and then helps him up. The crowd appreciates it. Jason's next fight is a bit of a struggle, but he makes it through. Jason and Heptarian fight time and time again, and both continue to win. Jason's sore, though. Very sore, and Ariadne can see he's punishing himself. She goes to visit him in the dungeons under the arena. She begs him to bow out. She doesn't want him to die. He plainly refuses. Knowing there is nothing she can do, she tells him that she hopes the Gods will be with him and leaves.

In the arena, Heptarian is having a really, really, hard time winning his match. He makes it through, eventually, but is so mad at his opponent that he kills him on the spot. The crowd chews him out, while they love Jason. It's clear that in Jason's next fight, they are rooting for him. That said, Jason's opponent is huge and made of pure muscle. Jason is struggling—really, really struggling—but managed to get a cut in eventually. Hercules is overjoyed and hugs Medusa who is standing next to him. He realizes right away what he is doing and releases her. Hugging Pythagoras instead, Medusa looks a little wobbly.

In the arena, there are only two people left: a battered Jason, and an equally battered but much more prepared Heptarian. Both get purified with khernips and it is announced that tomorrow at dawn, the fight between them will take place.

At home, Hercules and Medusa make dinner while Jason and Pythagoras talk battle strategy—well, Jason talks battle strategy, Pythagoras tries to get it through Jason's thick skull that Heptarian simply cannot lose. Not because Jason can't win, but because Heptarian is the servant of Poseidon, and betrothed to the king's daughter. Yes, the prize is the hand of the princess—as is customary—but if Jason does not throw the fight, all of them will be dead before sunset tomorrow. This is a fight Heptarian was always supposed to win. There is no way Jason will be allowed to marry Ariadne; this fight was to show Heptarian's worth as a future king, nothing more. Jason must lose.

Ariadne is praying in the temple of Poseidon with Jason's necklace in hand. She comes upon the right hand man of the Oracle. I am starting to feel really guilty for having no clue what the character is called, but Ariadne finally informs us that his name is Melas. At any rate, Melas asks Ariadne for whom she was praying and after a little fib, she tells him she was praying for Jason and asks him to do the same. He says he already has.

In the dungeons before the fight, Medusa and Pythagoras look on as Hercules helps Jason prepare for his final combat. Medusa smiles when she realizes Hercules really does care about Jason. Pythagoras agrees and they watch as Hercules gives Jason the last bit of mental preparation he can get in. Jason is looking a bit worse for wear, but shakes Pythagoras' hand, hugs Medusa, and steps into the arena. Ariadne looks like she is sitting on hot coals when the knife is planted and then they are off.

Jason literally bites the dust the second they come for each other, and endures a horrible beating at the hands of a far more skilled Heptarian. The adrenaline kicks in eventually, and he manages to overcome a shocked Heptarian. Instead of cutting him, though, Jason does what he knows is the right thing: he gets off of his opponent, drops the knife, and turns his back to Heptarian and his eyes towards Ariadne. Heptarian, enraged, grabs the knife, gets up, and longs to plant it in Jason's neck. Jason—rightfully so—says that if he does that, the crowd will hate him forever. Realizing he can't kill Jason, Heptarian drops the knife and raises Jason's hand in triumph. It's a draw.

Ariadne finally exhales the breath she has been holding in, Pasiphaë looks like she swallowed a bug, and it seems King Minos is finally realizing something more is going on than a nice contest of men beating the snot out of each other. Heptarian warns Jason that his luck will run out eventually and stalks off, leaving Jason in front of a confused king, an angry queen, and an

overcome princess.

Thankfully he does not have to remain there for long: the next scene takes place in the dungeons and Jason is sitting on a bench, depressed, with his friends around him taking care of his injuries—Hercules the physical ones, Pythagoras the mental ones. Ariadne shows up to check up on Jason and the men make themselves scarce. She gives him back his necklace—because she must, not because she wants to. She questions why he did not kill Heptarian and thanks him once he explains. She says he has given her strength and kisses him fleetingly. It seems the next step is up to Ariadne—something foreshadowed at the start of the episode.

It's a step she takes right away: she visits her father, who is walking the halls with Pasiphaë and Heptarian. She comes out with the news: she can't marry Heptarian. She says the Gods made their will clear today. Pasiphaë tries to shush her, but her father lets her go on. Ariadne explains how losing a fight he was set up to win—with his experience, track record, and the favor of the Gods—showed that the Gods do not look favorably upon this union. Heptarian is livid but holds it in. King Minos asks Ariadne if this is what she sincerely believes. She says it is, and manages to keep a straight face through it. King Minos then says that they need to bow to a wisdom greater than their own: the engagement is off. Pasiphaë tries to sway her husband, but the role of women in ancient Hellas finally shows and the king brushes her off without a second thought. Right away, he goes to fetch the priest of Poseidon to make all of this right. Heptarian runs after him, but with his lower status, I doubt he'll get much accomplished. This leaves Ariadne and a flabbergasted Pasiphaë in the hallway—a woman who has just seen her carefully laid plans smashed into smithereens. Ariadne looks a little pale. Pale, but happy. Ariadne warns Pasiphaë that she is not afraid of her, that she is not afraid of anyone. The queen calls her stupid—even more stupid than she had always imagined—and Ariadne walks off.

Jason, Pythagoras, Hercules and Medusa are walking home through the Streets of Atlantis, discussing Hercules' prowess as a pankration fighter. Pythagoras and Jason are convinced Hercules has never actually entered a fight, but Medusa is sure he has. She has heard many times of the strong, fast, and agile Hercules who won match after match and was the greatest fear of all the contestants. She grabs Hercules' hand and drags him off. Hercules says he doesn't deserve her and Medusa says "life's not fair, is it?" and does not let go of his hand. It seems those two are on!

In the palace, Queen Pasiphaë has taken her revenge on Ariadne: as Ariadne is drawn to the window by the sound of gathering people in the courtyard, she sees a group surrounding a figure on the floor. It's Korinna. Ariadne tries to hold back tears while Pasiphaë explains to her that Korinna took her own life. For a second, Ariadne believes her in her grief, but then her brain kicks in and she realizes that Korinna would have felt no guilt at doing what was the best for the woman she served. She would never have killed herself. Putting two and two together, Ariadne sets her jaw and walks off while Pasiphaë looks smugly out the window at the dead servant girl who I am really going to miss. Bye Korinna, you were really sweet, and loyal, and I am sure Ariadne and Jason won't let Pasiphaë get away with your murder.

The Furies

Season 1

Episode Number: 8

Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Saturday November 16, 2013
Writer: Julian Jones
Director: Alice Troughton
Show Stars: Robert Emmms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Recurring Role: Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle)
Guest Stars: Will Merrick (Arcas), Fintan McKeown (Medios), Hacina Haque (Baucis), Darren Morfitt (Nilas), James Rastall (Philemon), Ryan Oliva (Otus)
Summary: The boys gain an unexpected addition to their workforce with the arrival of Pythagoras's feisty younger brother, Arcas. Charged with escorting a valuable cargo across the desert, the gang travels into the unknown with a ramshackle caravan of strangers. It is not long before their journey takes a decidedly spooky turn; after spending a night in a temple dedicated to the Furies, it soon becomes clear that one amongst their number has something to hide. As danger closes in and a dark secret is exposed, our heroes are forced to confront some uncomfortable truths as they fight for their lives under the desert sun.



Hercules is looking for work again. This time, he is asked to escort a treasure through the desert and on to Helios. Hercules rattles off a list of dangers he might encounter, and the man he is negotiating with calls him on the fact that he is not exactly living up to his reputation right now. Hercules sticks with the dangers and so, the reward is upped: a thousand drachma in advance, and a thousand when he returns. Hercules gives in. They leave at dawn, and if anything happens to the cargo, they all lose all their

fingers. Gulp.

It seems the son of the man, whose name is Philemon, is getting married, and this is the 'bride-price'. I'm going to pause for a history lesson here, so skip to after the picture below if you just want to get on with things. The bride-price was known pretty much only in Homeric society, meaning that by the time Homer wrote his *Odysseia* and *Iliad*, the practice had already gone extinct. The bride-price was quite literally the price a groom had to pay to his bride—paying it to the family of the bride to let him take her away. Even in the *Iliad*, for example, this practice was replaced by the tradition of providing a dowry. In book IX of the *Iliad*, Agamemnon promises Achilles: "You shall lead whichever you wish to Peleus' house, without bride-price, and he will add a dowry, greater than any man yet gave with a daughter." [222 - 306]

The tradition of paying a dowry was most practiced in non-mythical ancient Hellas, and meant that the family of the wife provided the future husband of their daughter with a sum of money and/or goods which remained in the possession of the woman. This meant that, in the case of a not-often-practiced divorce, the dowry returned to (the family of) the ex-wife as they/she was entitled to it. Alright, back to Atlantis.

It's the middle of the night when the boys sneak out of the house of their employer (who I think is named Nilas (Darren Morfitt)) with the chest full of goodies. The three boys are pretty freaked out as they try to get home and they are sure they are being followed... which they are. As Jason jumps the man, it turns out it's Pythagoras' brother Arcas (Will Merrick). As far as I know, the real Pythagoras had two brothers and a sister (Eunomus, Tyrrhenus, and Themistocleia, respectively), but Arcas is also a good name.

At any rate, Pythagoras' brother is a good gambler, a smooth talker, and it is obvious Pythagoras is worried/feels old childhood insecurities bubbling up. Especially when Hercules declares his brother 'more useful with a sword' than him and tells all of them that the new guy is coming with them to Helios. Nice move, dude.

The next morning, Jason wakes Hercules whom—as we know—is not a morning person. He deduced the hand on his arm belongs to Medusa and kisses it repeatedly. Jason pulls it back, annoyed, and tells Hercules to get up. Hercules has been dreaming about Medusa—which Jason cuts off right away. He does not need to know that. Also, he is naked. Good Gods. I have never appreciated a yellow blanket more.

It seems, by the way, that Jason did realize Pythagoras wasn't too happy about his brother's return. Pythagoras was up already, and off to see the Oracle. It seems he's never been to her. Pythagoras is acting weird; he wants to know if he will cross the desert safely, and she tells him he will travel much further than that, and that he has every right to be worried. It seems it's in his hands how the situation will be resolved. It seems Pythagoras is running from something... or someone... and he can no longer avoid it. The Oracle offers her ear to listen to his story, but Pythagoras says it's his burden to live and die with.

In the market square, Hercules is clearing the way for Arcas—who is carrying the heavy trunk on his own—so they can get out of the city. Jason is with them, as is Pythagoras, even though he still doesn't look very certain he should join. They meet Philemon (James Rastall) in the Agora, and he seems like a nice, young, lad. Somehow, I fear for my favorite myth. He doesn't appreciate Hercules sucking up to him like his father would have like to hear and instead tells Hercules to hand the chest over to a burly helper. Hercules refuses and says the chest is not leaving his side. He kind of likes his fingers. Pythagoras' brother (who really, really, really, does not look like him) is looking on as Hercules hands over the chest.

A young woman pulls Jason aside to help with her horse (or something), and in the agora, Arcas suddenly attacks the burly helper because he 'has the mark of a murderer'. Good grief, I really do not like this guy. The helper—whose name is Otus (Ryan Oliva)—only holds off Arcas, and it is his supervisor Medios (Fintan McKeown) who pushes Arcas off of him. Pythagoras helps in restraining his brother, who is yelling something about murderers and not wanting to travel with him. I just roll my eyes. Medios gives the group a speech about them all being brothers in the desert and not wanting to hear any more of this. Everyone looks ashamed of what just happened. Medios gives Otus a supportive slap on the shoulder and tells him to finish packing up.

Jason questions Pythagoras about the situation. It seems Pythagoras' father was killed when Arcas was very young and now, he has it out for all murderers. It seems, though, that Pythagoras' father wasn't a very good man and his death might have been deserved.

As they ride out, Medios asks Pythagoras if he has spoken to his younger brother. He has. Medios then shares Otus' story: he was a chattel-movable personal property—on the island of Samos. It's where Pythagoras grew up, incidentally. One day, he spoke up and his owners cut out his tongue. Otus took his revenge and paid the price afterwards. Medios says he's good people and that if Arcas touches him again, he will have Medios himself to deal with. I do like Medios, by the way.

The group that leaves the gates consists of Jason, Hercules, Pythagoras, Arcas, Medios, Otus, and the woman we saw asking Jason for help earlier. They are all on horseback. By the time they stop for lunch, Pythagoras seeks out his younger brother. Arcas says he's sorry and Pythagoras forgives him. he gives him some words of advice and says he has put the past behind him. Arcas doesn't exactly look convinced.

Hercules questions the young woman on her business. For once, Atlantis gets it right when Hercules says it's unusual to see a woman out on the road alone. She has family in Helios, it seems. Philemon is sure she's going to bring misfortune upon them. the young woman is scared and fidgety, glancing about all the time. Whoever she is, she is hiding something. Hercules deduces that last bit by the woman's eating habits, by the way.

The desert is deserted and dusty, and it doesn't look like the best place to be. Hercules longs for a bath and complains about everything. Jason reminds him this whole trip was his idea in the first place, and he pipes down. At night, Jason and Pythagoras talk about Arcas. It seems they don't have a good relationship. Pythagoras brushes it off, but Jason prods a little more. "Pythagoras, I know you," he says and the 'Jagoras'-ship launches anew. Pythagoras still refuses to talk, though, and says Jason should get some sleep.

While everyone but Otus is asleep, bandits attack. Fortunately they are loud enough to wake everyone in an instant and they manage to fight the bandits off fairly easily. In a shocking turn of events, Philemon gets knocked down by a bandit while feeling, and the young woman who is traveling with them knocks out his attacker with a few well-placed blows. I like this woman already!

The group enters the 'cave of the Furies', who would kill the bandits but should leave them safe. Medios says he has slept here plenty of times, and so everyone files into the cave system. While the group rushes ahead, Philemon and the mystery woman lag behind a little due to their final encounter with the bandits. He thanks her for her help and admits he was wrong to doubt her. she says he is welcome, happy he can admit he was wrong, and that he owes her a drink. she takes his wineskin and takes a swig from it. Obviously enamored, Philemon asks her name. "Baucis", she says, and a match is made in ancient Greek heaven—at least if we stick to the myth. Hercules doesn't trust Baucis as far as she can throw him, however.

Insert another mythology lesson: the Furies—better known around these parts as the Erinyes—are female khthonic deities of vengeance. Although there are other stories about Their birth, the most common is the one where these three Khthonic deities were born from Gaea, from the blood of Ouranos, as Kronos cut off His testicles and threw them over His shoulder, into the ocean. According to ancient Roman poet Virgil, They are three sisters: Alecto ('the angry'), Megaera ('the grudging') and Tisiphone ('the avenger'). They can be petitioned by victims—or family of victims—of homicide, unfilial conduct, crimes against the gods, perjury and crimes committed by a child upon their parent(s). They are famous for continuing their unrelenting punishments until the perpetrator shows remorse. Due to their ability to enter and leave the Underworld at will, they will even continue Their punishment after the perpetrator is dead.

In Atlantis, however, they are spirits, not Gods. They are the 'daughters of the night' (which, in Hellenic Mythology would actually make them divine, just saying), born from the blood of those who have been murdered. Once summoned, they hound murderers 'till the end of the earth. Raise your hand if you think Arcas is going to do something stupid again.

That night, the village idiot, indeed, petitions the Furies with an apple, some water, and a plea. He asks them to go after his father's murderer... and as a reply, the torch he brought with him blows out and Jason wakes up... but Arcas is there, looking at him sweetly, and tells him to go to back to sleep.

In the morning, a dead bird outside of the cave rattles everyone but Medios, who says it was placed there by the bandits to accomplish exactly this. Hercules is convinced it is a sign from the Gods, however, and the day is off to a rocky start.

Back on the road, Arcas tells Pythagoras he's ready to leave the past behind them, and Pythagoras is relieved. Just you wait, Py, just you wait... And indeed, something shoots up from the desert ground, a weird trick of the wind, Medios ends up explaining, but it is powerful enough to spook Philemon's horse enough to cast him off. No one feel any better about this situation, and they are starting to drive themselves and each other nuts.

At an oasis, everyone takes a breather and a drink... until Baucis steals a horse and the chest with treasures. Hercules curses her, but Philemon looks a little impressed. Hercules blames Jason for the entire situation, but it seems Jason realized something was up; he switched the gold with the contents of his saddlebags. The treasure is al there. And in the one sentence that launched a thousand ships—Jercules, to be precise—Hercules tells Jason: "I'm going to kiss you... you don't have to kiss me back!"

Back in the saddle (no on-screen kiss, unfortunately—another sandstorm appears near their location. Jason goes to check it out but is held back by Medios. As Pythagoras shifts his horse into gear, another sandstorm barely misses him. Lucky.

At a rocky pass, Medios gets off of his horse and arms up, followed by Otus and Jason. It looks like the perfect place for an ambush... but the bandit is already dead. And not that long either. they hear a sound and follow it down a slope, finding a wineskin banging against the rocks... as

well as Baucis, who begs them for a horse. She was ambushed by bandits, and is sorry for what she did. Philemon offers to let her ride with him. Jason also takes her side. Medios is against it, but he is outnumbered. She joins Philemon on his horse, and the favor she paid him is repaid.

As the sun goes down, the group finds shelter for the night in another cave... which means they are trapped as another sandstorm rushes their way. It doesn't come close enough to do anything but freak them out, but they don't sleep very restfully that night. Every single sound indicates an ambush—even when it's just Hercules with firewood. And then there is another sandstorm—in the cave, and Jason has to fight to prevent Pythagoras from being sucked up into it as blood chilling screams emerge from the cyclone. As the group recovers from the ordeal, Medios shares his fears: that these are the furies and that they were summoned last night by one of the group.

Arcas right away pipes up and proudly says it was him, because his incredibly faulty logic has determined that, because Otus is a killer, he must have murdered his father too. Otus is a good man: he backs up as Arcas goes after him again and Pythagoras pulls him away, telling him to stop. It was him. He killed their father. Suffice to say, everyone is stunned. It was an accident; he didn't mean to kill him. At that point, the furies return and suck up Medios. It seems the Furies are unconcerned with collateral damage. The Furies vanish and Pythagoras says to leave him: they won't pursue the group, but if Pythagoras stays with them, they will keep coming until everyone of them is dead.

Arcas proves himself a real jackass and refuses to call off the Furies. Pythagoras explains that he was protecting their mother from one of his father's alcohol induced abuse sessions. He came after young Pythagoras and fell on something that cracked open his skull. Pythagoras tried to help him, but it was too late. Arcas doesn't care; all he hears is that his brother lied to him for years and that their father is dead because of him. Good grief, I am not looking forward to the last fifteen minutes. I really need Arcas to be sucked up by Furies this instant. What a mess.

Jason tries to get Arcas to reconsider but gets punched in the face. Hercules also says he believes Pythagoras. While the others go after Arcas who ran away, Jason vows to stay with Pythagoras. Pythagoras, everyone. The moment is shattered by Hercules eating an apple and then suddenly getting sucked up by the vortex that houses the Furies. He's spat out by it again, and smashes into the rock face. By the way Jason has to carry him to a slightly softer spot on the floor, it seems Hercules is definitely hurt. His leg's a little mangled, and all Pythagoras can think is 'it's my fault'. He says the two of them should go while they still can. He says friends don't have to die for each other. Jason says that friends save each other. Pythagoras is touched, but realizes the effort is futile, and he doesn't want to drag his best friends into this any further. He walks off. My hat off to Robert Emms this episode. He plays Pythagoras' pain spot on.

Jason calls after him, and eventually follows him, leaving a complaining Hercules behind. Meanwhile, Baucis tries to talk some sense into Arcas. Philemon tries to help, but it's no good. Arcas rushes off, saying he has made his decision. So has Pythagoras. He is about to walk into the whirlwind when Jason wrestles him to the ground. He asks what the hell Pythagoras thinks he's doing and that that they just need to hold on until daybreak. "For what?" Pythagoras asks. "For the next night? And the next?" the Furies will never stop. Jason doesn't know what to say but Hercules crawls out from behind the rocks, and as Jason rushes over to take him back to safety and back on his back, Pythagoras follows and helps him. That was Hercules' plan. Jason tells Pythagoras that without his help, he won't be able to get Hercules to Helios and he will surely die. Pythagoras resigns to staying alive for a day longer and agrees to help.

At that moment, the whirlwind is back and Pythagoras is nearly dragged into it. Jason tries to grab him but can't reach him without being sucked in as well. Then, Arcas is there, telling the Furies he has forgiven the man who killed his father, but their attack does not stop. Jason says Arcas has to fully forgive him, in his heart. Arcas says he can't, and Jason pleads for him to try. "He is the kindest man I know..." He says and Pythagoras again tells Arcas how sorry he is. He loses his grip on the rock he has been clinging to and is about to be sucked into the vortex when Arcas rushes forward and grab his arm. The wind dies down instantly and Pythagoras smacks into the ground, exhausted but alive.

The next morning, Jason wakes up to the sight of Philemon, Baucis, and Otus. He smiles and says "you came back" in the cutest way possible. Big, strong, silent, Otus lifts his closed fist to his chest and taps it. Jason repeats the gesture. Brothers in the desert.

It seems it was Baucis who convinced the group to return for the boys. Her character is a

little... random, but I will never say no to a woman who breaks the mold. Hercules is eating, and Arcas and Pythagoras are already at the 'lets-joke-about-this'-stage of their processing. It must have been quite the long night.

The group reaches Helios without another (on-screen) hitch. Philemon and Baucis haven't let go of each other's hands yet, and Hercules can only think of his stomach. Arcas and Pythagoras hug it out and have a brotherly talk about Arcas needing to make his own life. It seems all is right between those two.

Philemon and Baucis are going to make a run for it: he's not getting married to the woman his father chose for him. Jason congratulates him; Hercules has a fit when he hears the news. They have to take the cargo back, and leave the same day. It was all a long trip for nothing, but Pythagoras' dark secret is out and no one—besides Medios, of course, but no one seems to remember that at the moment—died

Pandora's Box

Season 1
Episode Number: 9
Season Episode: 9

Originally aired: Saturday November 30, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Declan O'Dwyer
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Recurring Role: Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle)
Guest Stars: Gemma Jones (Campe), Anton Lesser (Kyros), Julian Glover (Eunapius), John Conroy (Thaddeus), Bernice Stegers (Hestia), Trevor Allan Davies (Charon)
Summary: Romance is at last in the air for Hercules and Medusa until she is kidnapped by a cruel moneylender, Kyros. In exchange for her life, Kyros demands that Hercules retrieves a precious and powerful artefact from the Underworld - a task which can only mean certain death. With only one day to fulfill the ransom, Hercules and his loyal friends face a race against time. Will they find another way to descend to Hades and return with the artefact, or be forced to walk among the dead forever? Whatever the outcome, the Gods have spoken and someone, somewhere is about to pay a terrible price.



Medusa is sneaking through the market square... or maybe over a rooftop, or somewhere else with a lot of scarves... or are those rugs? I'm confused. She looks worried, though, and I've heard such terrible things about this episode, my heart is already in my throat. When she gets yanked out of frame, I panic, but it's just Hercules who gently throws her down onto some rugs? A bed? Details, people, details! It doesn't matter, though: Medusa is happy and so am I. Hercules leans in for the kiss, but Medusa turns her head

away. She tells him she has 'such feelings for him' and he's happy to hear it. It's not really a positive comment, though. She says she's heard so many stories about him and—goof that he is, Hercules totally misses this isn't about all his good deeds and general awesomeness. It's about all the women he bedded, his drinking, his gambling, and all the other wonderful things that make Herc, Herc.

Finally catching on to the fact that this conversation requires more than his continued attempts to kiss Medusa, he calls all the rumors lies and goes in for the kiss again. BBC, I am really trying to root for Hercules and Medusa, but if you keep this up, I will fail.

Medusa makes him promise to speak the truth and he says he does drink, and gamble, and all the other things, but that it's all in the past now. Now there is only Medusa, because he's in love. She promises to put the stories from her mind and all is well. Then, before Hercules can claim his kiss, he gets hits over the head by something and someone, and Medusa screams in terror.

Hercules is brought to on his knees in front of Kyros (Anton Lesser), somewhere in a hallway or tunnel. Seriously, Atlantis, what is it with the vagueness this week? It seems Hercules still

owes Kyros a debt, and now it's time to pay up: with his life. Or, you know, by braving the Underworld to retrieve 'a box' he is not to open. After all, the man who boasts about slaying the Minotaur should have no problem figuring this task out. Hercules is not really feeling it, but when Kyros' thugs bring out Medusa, there is really not a lot he can say but 'deal'. He has until midnight tomorrow. Hercules tries to attack Kyros but is once more knocked out for his trouble. Sigh.

The next morning, Pythagoras discovers they are all out of non-moldy bread and ushers Jason towards the door so they can visit the market. They find Hercules on the doorstep, bound and gagged, and he tells him about Medusa, the box, and the deal. He also drops the 'Hades'-thing, and Pythagoras would like to point out that rescuing Medusa is probably wiser. Unfortunately, Kyros already told Hercules that if he tries that, she will die. Jason wonders how to actually get into the Underworld. Hercules tells them there are a few ways, actually: dying is the least preferable one, and he knows no other. Pythagoras has a lead, however: Eunapius (Julian Glover), a servant of Persephone, who sometimes divulges the way into Hades to the most loyal of Her subjects.

Eunapius is praying at the shrine to Persephone when the boys shake him out of it. As a note, Hellenic praying is done standing up, not kneeling down. The boys ask for a way into Hades and Eunapius (whom I take an immediate liking to) says there are many ways to die and many people willing to kill. When Hercules describes he would also like to come back out, Eunapius agrees that that is, indeed, a bit more difficult. He also says he can't help them and Hercules pulls a sword on him. If my girlfriend was held hostage, I would most likely also be beyond reason, but it still irks me to see him talk to a priest like this. That said, the priest can take excellent care of himself: out of nowhere a couple of archers appear and suddenly the boys are far outnumbered and outgunned. Nicely played, my dear priest. Nicely played. As a sidenote, Pythagoras' hair is wonderfully fluffy today.

Jason has another verbal go at it but is nearly shot for his efforts. His awesome swordsmanship allows him to deflect the arrow and the priest is impressed enough to at least hear him out. He takes a bit of convincing—something that comes with a lot of warnings against the plan—but eventually Eunapius agrees. They must purify themselves first, then burn a lock of hair as an offering to Persephone, and then sip down a kykeon potion that will put them in a state of near-death. Once they are ready to leave the underworld, they must sound a horn Pythagoras—who is going to stay behind—won't hear but he will be 'alerted by crows'. At that time, Pythagoras must feed both Jason and Hercules his own blood and they will awaken. Pythagoras must also provide both Hercules and Jason with a coin to pay for their way into the Underworld. So said, so done in the comfort of their oikos, and it sounds like a terrible plan.

A note to say that both washing as a way to cleanse and offering locks of hair are authentic traditional practices tied to burial customs, although not exactly tied to journeys into the Underworld. Perhaps even more interesting to note is that kykeon—a barley beverage preferred by Demeter, and drunk by peasants—was used to break a sacred fast within the Eleusinian Mysteries. Kykeon was also used in preparatory rites for some of the most sacred—and secret—rites within Eleusis, and tied to Persephone, Demeter and Hades. The kykeon was made of barley, water, herbs, and ground goat cheese. Sometimes honey was added. Herbs that are described as part of the kykeon are mint, pennyroyal and thyme, although it seems any herb that was found to flavor the drink was acceptable. It wasn't lethal, and it also didn't put you into a coma, but at least it existed and had ties to the Eleusinian Mysteries.

The plan works: the boys end up at a pretty dreadful place: misty, full of boulders, and a little blue. Dead tree trunks and animal carcasses are everywhere. Greeting them is Charon (Trevor Allan Davies), who pushes his boat towards the shore and holds out his hand for coins. Both boys pay and they are off. Pythagoras is stupendously worried and suddenly hears a bird—just three seconds or so after the boys drift off to sleep. Thankfully he goes to check what kind of bird it is first, though. It isn't a crow and Pythagoras is relieved—only to fall off of the building, get a crate thrown upon him, and then the house is set on fire. What, by Hades, is happening?!

Meanwhile in the land of dreary mist, the boat ride is taking forever. It seems the dead are usually not in a hurry. They arrive eventually and wade to shore. It looks pretty much the same as where they left from and Hercules is not looking forward to returning here for all eternity one day. Suddenly, they are visited upon by husks of people, looking very much like mindless wanderers. They boys are worried enough to grab swords, but Cyrus (Ciaran Griffiths), who got

mauled by a bull in episode three, chases the dead off. He says he will be their guide into Tartaros where the box is supposed to be.

Pythagoras is awoken by a neighbor and rushes inside when he hears the word 'flames'. The fire is out, but it seems the corpse bearers have taken the bodies to be buried. Oops! Pythagoras rushes off to stop the burial, because that would make things very, very, complicated.

In the mean time, Hercules, Pythagoras, and Cyrus are on their way. They are following the 'crack in the sky' to get there. Sky? In the Underworld? Alright, suspension of disbelief is a powerful thing. There is a lot of ominous talk as the men make torches to light their way. Once the boys reach a pit, they light their torches and descend... for a long, long time.

Pythagoras rushes through the streets of Atlantis to retrieve the bodies of his friends. He finds the corpse bearer's place and rushes in. Unfortunately, it's the wrong one. He has to cross the entire city again.

The boys finally reach the deepest part of the pit and come upon a grave-like contraption and a staircase leading further down. They make it in with their everburning torches still brightly burning and move on into low and dark tunnels. This does not look like a place where you would want to spend eternity, which is why it's a place reserved for the worst of the worst... and they are not alone in the tunnels. They come upon... something I can't identify. Whatever it is, it/they mustn't be awakened, so I'm sure we will find out soon.

Eventually, the boys reach Campe's lair, where the box should be. Campe—who is better known to us as Kampê—actually resides/resided in the Underworld. She is a Drakaina, a she-drakon, who guards the Hekatonkheires and Cyclopes. In Hellenic mythology, she is described as having the body of a serpentine-haired woman from waist up, and the body of a scaly drakon with a thousand vipers for feet from the waist down. Sprouting from her waist are the heads of fifty of the most terrifying of beasts, and dark wings rise from her shoulders and above her head she lifted a furious scorpion's tail. Good luck, boys!

The box is easily located; it sits on a pillar in the middle of the cave. So far no she-drakon, but Jason doesn't trust this. It's too easy. As soon as he reaches out towards the box, he hears something... on the ceiling. And I must say: Campe's appearance doesn't quite fit the myth, but it's close enough and very, very, scary.

Cue the mandatory epic fight that ends with a game of 'toss the box' and the rather anti-climactic defeat of Campe—who shares that this box is actually the fabled Pandora's Box (which wasn't a box at all, by the way), and it must not be opened under any circumstances. If someone opens it, the entire world is doomed. Campe, by the way, is voiced very effectively by Gemma Jones, and she won't let the boys leave; the temptation to open the box is simply too great for human beings. Before dying (or passing out), Campe screams and awakens the things that should not have been awakened. Cyrus freaks the hell out.

Cyrus shouts at Hercules and Jason to sound the damn horn. They don't want to leave him alone, but Cyrus says that if they don't, the life will be sucked out of them and Medusa will be dead. Jason sounds the horn... but Pythagoras has just heard that the bodies of his friends have already been send off to burial... on the far side of town. Poor guy. The speed with which burials seem to take place in Atlantis actually is not reflective of general Hellenic practices, as you can read here. While on his way to his next waypoint, Pythagoras sees a raven and double-times it.

The guys realize they need to start running again. Pythagoras discovers the bodies were buried already and while he desperately digs, Jason and Hercules desperately blow the horn. I'm still not entirely sure what is coming for the boys, but it's not going to be good, that is for sure. Pythagoras has opened the graves and cuts his hand. He feeds the both of them a drop of blood and Jason and Hercules quickly say goodbye to Cyrus before being transported into their bodies.

Back at the (charred) oikos, the three of them debate what to do now. The box can't be given to Kyros (who will open it on the spot) so what then? Jason says they will have an identical box made with a surprise inside to give them time to get Medusa out. Hercules thinks it's too dangerous but Jason reminds him that Medusa would never want them to unleash terror upon the world in her name by having the box opened. Hercules can't argue with that, but he is very unhappy.

The fake box is done quickly (like seriously, how many hours are in this day?) and Jason promises Hercules no harm will befall Medusa. They hit the streets and are intercepted by Kyros' thugs. They ask to get taken to him. In the underground tunnels (hallways?), Hercules has Kyros produce Medusa and he hands her over unharmed. Jason then hands over the box—and Kyros

happily accepts it. Of course, he opens it right away... and there is a snake in it that is not so much a distraction as a... sorry, I have no idea what use that snake was. What happened to explosions? Angry wasps? Chocolate? All would have been more effective, honestly.

Hercules sends Medusa out of the hallways (tunnels?) and towards home before rejoining his friends in the fight. Medusa does not want to leave but eventually does go. Hercules says that after this, they will be together forever and I watch enough television to know that never ends well. Fighting ensues and the hero of the day is Pythagoras, who manages to down not one but two of the thugs by hitting them over the head with a jug. Jason kills Kyros and wishes him a fond farewell into the dark of Hades.

As soon as Jason hears Medusa is on her way to the house, he realizes the box is there, hidden under a floorboard under the table. Medusa, indeed, is called to it. It's not so much a call but a whisper of something... a promise, an attraction. As the boys rush through the streets, Medusa finds the box. She takes it out and runs her hand over it, enchanted by its whispers. Overcome, she opens the lid.

The boys come home to find the box closed on the floor and Medusa gone. They hear a scream and rush out, finding a bunch of human-looking statues on the way towards the sound. Pythagoras is worried, and so is Jason. Jason is from our world and knows the myth of Medusa—he told the Oracle so before—so he knows that it has happened: Medusa has been turned into the monster she was destined to become.

Hercules demands to know what has happened, but doesn't wait to find out. Jason runs after him, because he knows that if he lays eyes on Medusa, he'll turn into a statue too. He instructs Pythagoras never to look at Medusa while picking up a shiny shield. Hercules finds Medusa, who is hidden in the darkest corner she can find. She's terrified but Hercules doesn't understand how bad the situation is—and how dangerous. Thankfully, Medusa has covered her head, and Jason is in time to hand Hercules the shield. He pleads her to show him what has happened but she takes a lot of convincing. Again, my hat off to Jemima Rooper for selling Medusa's terror. She eventually shows him her head—covered in snakes.

Medusa says she is running away. She says Hercules must forget about her, think she is dead. Hercules tells her he can't, he won't. He says it's his fault and he will find a way to lift the curse. Medusa runs away and Hercules is heartbroken.

Jason takes the box to the Oracle and says she must store it somewhere no one will ever find it. She says it will be done and picks up the box. Before she can leave, however, a tearful Jason grabs her arm and asks if she knew this was going to happen. She reminds him they both knew what would happen to Medusa, but tells him she didn't know how or when it would happen. Jason asks her how the curse can be lifted and she says it can't be. She reminds Jason that he knew the box contained a great evil and that this is Medusa's faith. Destiny can't be escaped... because Medusa's fate is tied to his. Jason catches her slip-up and questions her on it. Realizing she has said too much, the Oracle tries to think before speaking this time and decided not saying anything is the best course of action. Jason doesn't allow her. The Oracle formulates her next words very carefully. Eventually she tells Jason a terrible truth: there will come a time when he will have no other choice than to kill Medusa. If he doesn't, thousands will die and Atlantis will be destroyed. Jason says he will let Atlantis be destroyed if it means breaking this fate decided for him. He curses her and the Gods and heads out of the temple, leaving a shocked Oracle behind. "Do your worst." He tells the sky, and thunder and lightning roll overhead.

The Price of Hope

Season 1
Episode Number: 10
Season Episode: 10

Originally aired: Saturday December 7, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Alice Troughton
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Recurring Role: Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle)
Guest Stars: Daedalus Robert Lindsay (Daedalus), Jason Watkins (Crios), Nora-Jane Noone (Atalanta), Grahame Fox (Sabas), Spencer Wilding (Doros)
Summary: After the tragic events surrounding Medusa's disappearance, the boys pay a visit to the inventor Daedalus, whose genius offers hope of a cure. But, unwilling to wait for answers, Hercules acts on information from the unscrupulous Crios and sets off in search of his lost love. His decision soon sees the boys literally running for their lives as they become the prey in a brutal manhunt. With hopes of an escape fading fast, their courage is tested to its limit, until a lifeline comes from an unexpected source.



Hercules walks into a bar to meet a man about Medusa. The man, Crios, makes a story out of it but only for as long as he dares to keep an obviously agitated Hercules on edge. Medusa is in a cave at the coast.

Hercules excitedly finds his friends at the agora. It seems like Hercules has been on a non-stop campaign to find Medusa since we last saw her, but I have no idea how long ago that actually was. Long enough, at least, for Pythagoras to completely strike out on finding a cure.

He hasn't had the heart to tell Hercules that, however, and so said Herc prances off to the baths to get himself washed up before his big journey.

Back at the oikos, Jason and Pythagoras discuss not telling Hercules. Jason thinks Pythagoras should, Pythagoras thinks that when he does, he will take away the only thing that is keeping Hercules going right now. He says that there is one more thing they could try but that Jason won't like it... mostly because it'll mean visiting the Oracle, the woman whom he basically told to fuck off at the end of the last episode.

With his friend's life in danger and his other friend's sanity in danger, Jason visits the Oracle. She greets him with such warm joy on her features, she has to be his mother... or at least a very cool aunt. Jason isn't very impressed; he asks her for Pandora's Box back and she denies him, saying it's too dangerous. Jason brings up his mother again, and she visibly recoils. She forces some BS story out of her mouth about 'how she doesn't know anything else', and not even Jason believes it. I swear, the scenes between Juliet Stevenson and Jack Donnelly are the best scenes of the entire show. The Oracle once more tells him-heart breakingly so-that she cannot give him the knowledge he seeks... but she does give him the box.

Once acquired, Pythagoras and Jason visit scientist and inventor Daedalus. At the sight of all of Daedalus' inventions, Jason turns into a three year old kid right away. Even Daedalus

remarks on it. Jason says to stop poking him when Daedalus repeatedly pokes him in the chest, and it is one of the best lines on this show, ever. Daedalus seems mightily intrigued by the box and I become a little bit skeptical about handing Pandora's box over to the man destined to take a running leap off of a building with home-made wings.

Daedalus eventually agrees to lock the box and then calls Jason a goat before running him off by bleating to him. I like Daedalus. After Jason is gone with the only key that can open the box, Pythagoras and Daedalus get to work. They examine the box and find such obvious markings on the bottom I am shocked they needed a magnifying glass at all. It seems it was written in 'the ancient tongue', which Daedalus can help decipher. The inscription reads: "When all seems lost, only hope remains". Pythagoras asks if this means Medusa can be saved, to which Daedalus basically says 'there is always hope', and it does nothing for my feels at the moment. He then has a brainwave: it seem the box tells the story of Alcestis and Admetos, and that does not bode well for everyone involved.

For those who drew a blank on the obscurest of myths ever, think Magera in Disney's 'Hercules'; Alcestis was the wife of king Admetos who won her hand with the help of Apollon. Alcestis' father insisted that the only one who could marry his daughter was the man who would come for her hand in a chariot pulled by a lion and a boar (or bear), so Admetos prayed to Apollon for aid and He yoked the chariot. Admetos then became aware of the day he is to die and asked Apollon for aid, because he did not want to die yet. Apollon advised him to make the Fates drunk and once he had done so, they told him that if he can find someone else to take on his death, they will let him live. When Admetos couldn't find anyone to take his place, Alcestis agreed to die in the place of her husband. The story ended happier, though; like in the Disney movie, she was rescued by Hēraklēs and both king and queen lived happily ever after.

Back at the oikos, a blissfully unaware Jason is forced to smell an equally blissfully unaware Hercules' armpit. Jason resists but eventually gives in. Lavender oil. Hurray. The mood is drowned out when Pythagoras returns and tells the boys they have not found anything. Hercules is devastated, but Pythagoras refuses to give up his secret. He doesn't want his friend to die to cure Medusa—because that is the only way to save her.

That night, Jason comes to find him while he sits outside. They talk about Hercules and how he's doing: not well. He feels very guilty, as does Pythagoras. Jason senses something's up but doesn't grasp the full scope of Pythagoras' emotions. They decide to cheer up Hercules, but once they arrive back home with wine, Hercules is gone. He's off to see Medusa.

Pythagoras and Jason find Crios and get the location of Medusa's hide-out... and Crios also tells them about a group of bandits in the woods—something that he neglected to tell Hercules. After a slight... altercation with Crios' bodyguard, the two hurry on their way to catch up with Hercules before it's too late.

It seems the bandits are a little creepy: once they rob you, they release you so you can run through the woods until they hunt you down and kill you. Fun times, lets not do that. The boys come across a temenos (and they actually use the word!) for Artemis. It seems to be well-used, and also seems more like it's almost solely a bōmos, but oh well. Walking on, they hear something—the whimpering of a 'woman' lying on the ground in the middle of the woods. No way this is not a trap.

Turns out, it is a trap; it's the bandits, and before Jason can even do a gender-check, the boys are captured by a group of burley men. Looking on, however, is the drop dead gorgeous woman from the promo's—bow poised—and I admit that I swooned a little. I do love a woman with a bow.

In the Scythians—as this lovely band of brothers is called—camp, Jason and Pythagoras get dumped in a cage where Hercules is already waiting. It seems he stumbled into the Scythian camp and ate their lunch. Unfortunately, he neglected to be gone by the time the bandits returned.

At that point in time, the Scythian manhunt is about to begin and bandit leader Sabas has the honor of telling them that the last surviving member of their little party gets to live. The three of them run off as fast as they can when the horn sounds, but Hercules soon has to give up. Jason tells his friends to hide while he draws the bandits away. Unfortunately, the Scythians are not that stupid and Hercules and Pythagoras still have to fend off attackers. What follows is a lot of running, awkward fighting, and men shouting. Jason and Pythagoras manage to find each other in the woods while Hercules is on his own for a while and takes the Katniss approach to the Hunger Games: he climbs a tree.

There is a cute moment where Jason and Pythagoras bond, but unfortunately, it is over Jason getting stabbed. Hercules, unfortunately, falls out of the tree and gets a face full of bird poop for his troubles while Jason bleeds all over the darn forest.

Jason and Pythagoras reach the clearing but they are soon visited by a large group of Scythians. Jason can't fight, so Pythagoras picks up the sword. He stands up against Sabas bravely, but the bandit leader knows that this puny excuse for a fighter is not going to keep him from his goal. Pythagoras desperately lunges at Sabas, but before he has to do anything, Sabas falls to the ground after having been shot in the back. All around them, bandits drop like flies as a certain someone does the rounds. The woman—who I think can only be two people at this point (Artemis Herself, but this show has kept the Gods pretty much non-material, or Atalanta)—takes out the last of the bandits and stands before the boys in all her glory. She is a thing of pure beauty and skill... and her name is, indeed, Atalanta.

Atalanta was usually considered the daughter of Iasus, king of either Tegaea or Maenalos, by Klymene, daughter of Minyas. Her father wanted a son, so he abandoned her in the forest where a bear suckled her until Artemis sent hunters to rescue her. She could outshoot anyone with the bow and was also the most fleet-footed mortal alive with the exception of Euphemos and Iphiklos of Phylake. When still young, she killed two centaurs, Rhoecos and Hyaelos, who had attempted to rape her. She also took part in the Kalydonian boar hunt and was a member of the Argonautai who went out to retrieve the Golden Fleece. As a personal note, I absolutely adore Atalanta, so excuse me while I fangirl through the rest of this recap.

Atalanta fixes Jason up a healing balm and applies it to his wounds. It doesn't look quite sanitary, but it's accompanied by prayer (and/or witchcraft) so all should be good from here on out. Atalanta tells Jason that Artemis sent her to rescue them, and Jason asks why. Atalanta says that their paths are destined to cross again in the future (so unless they kill her off in this episode, I think that means she will be back in a future episode, so yay!) and that is enough for Jason.

After Jason falls asleep, Atalanta puts her healing powers to good use on Pythagoras, even though his pain is psychological, not physical. She tells him there is a chance Hercules is still alive as she did not see the Scythians make a kill. Pythagoras is a little comforted, but mostly still very worried and feeling even guiltier. To get his mind off of things, Pythagoras tells Atalanta she's a very gifted healer. It seems this Atalanta was not picked up by hunters but survived in the woods by herself, protected by the Goddess Artemis; she had to learn how to heal quickly. The two talk a bit about the situation with Hercules and Medusa and we cut to the male in the couple who is currently alive and heading to camp.

Jason finishes his story but Atalanta can tell there is more. Pythagoras looks at Jason who is fast asleep and Atalanta follows his gaze, realizing this is quite the secret, indeed. Keep in mind that Hercules is currently heading towards them so this should go very well. Pythagoras tells Atalanta about the cure and, of course, Hercules overhears Jason tell a summary of the myth of Alcestis and Admetos. He storms off but Atalanta hears him. She jumps up, grabs her weapons, and heads off into the woods. I swoon again.

She catches up in an instant and trains an arrow on Hercules, who introduces himself with a weak excuse of having missed the clearing. Atalanta realizes something is up right away but doesn't say anything. Pythagoras is very happy to see him but they hug a little awkwardly because of all the poop Hercules has managed to acquire during his track through the woods. Hercules is a little stiff but allows Pythagoras to get away with what he has just overheard.

After their initial hello's the two sit by the site together and Pythagoras again says he's sorry he can't find a cure. He hopes Hercules isn't mad. Hercules does look a little mad, but that's because of something completely different. He says he's never angry at him but Pythagoras disagrees. They debate all the times Hercules has been angry with Pythagoras but it's a true bonding moment for the men and it's wonderful to watch. It also makes Pythagoras feel ten times as bad.

The next morning Jason's leg is doing much better, Atalanta is gone but left roasting pigeons, and Hercules is happily eating. Hercules tells the boys they should head back, but they outright refuse. They leave and Atalanta watches them go. The team soon reaches the shoreline and a dozen caves. This is going to be a long search...

Jason and Hercules are walking over to the next cave together and Jason asks why Hercules doesn't seem more excited about seeing Medusa. He says he is, but was just thinking about all

the trouble Jason got them in since he came to Atlantis. Jason apologizes, but Hercules says he wouldn't have changed it for the world. It takes me this long to realize that the cute bonding moments Hercules is orchestrating are actually his way of saying goodbye to his friends. I may still resent Hercules for not being Hēraklēs, but Hercules is a good man sometimes.

Pythagoras interrupts the talk because he found petrified sea creatures at the mouth of one of the caves. Hercules goes inside alone with a final goodbye that the boys miss the significance of. Hercules finally finds Medusa, and even her voice is enough to make my heart break. They tell each other how much they miss each other and it is very, very, sad.

Outside of the cave, Pythagoras comes clean to Jason about the cure. Jason understands Pythagoras' reasoning and realizes something else: Hercules knows. Pythagoras doesn't know how that can be true, but Jason realizes now that Hercules said goodbye to them just now and will most certainly be giving up his life for Medusa's.

Inside the cave, Hercules tells Medusa that he has found a cure and tells her that, if she loves him, she will promise him she will do exactly as he says. She tells him she loves him with all her heart and she will do anything, yet when he asks her to turn around and look at him, she is terrified. He tells her he loves her and she turns around. She draws back her hood right as Jason jumps between them and presses Hercules face-first into a wall. Jason looks straight at Medusa... and nothing happens. Both of them are shell-shocked at the recent turn of events, and Hercules is not faring any better.

Jason explains what Hercules' plan was and Medusa nearly cries. That is not what she wants at all. She could never live with herself if she did that, if they could never be together. She turns around and Pythagoras slowly moves into the cave—eyes closed—asking if anyone has been turned to stone yet.

Around a torch, Pythagoras again says he's sorry but this time it's for lying to his best friend. Hercules understands why he did it and forgives him on the spot. Hercules says goodbye to Medusa, vowing he will never stop looking for a cure. Medusa says that will be her reason to live...

Hunger Pangs

Season 1
Episode Number: 11
Season Episode: 11

Originally aired: Saturday December 14, 2013
Writer: Julian Jones
Director: Alice Troughton
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Guest Stars: Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Alexander Siddig (Minos), Joe Dixon (Ramos), Lou Broadbent (Ione), Oliver Walker (Heptarian), Dermot Keaney (Aias), Josh Sneesby (Evandros), Michael Jenn (Eos), Simon Nehan (Maro)
Summary: Penniless and starving, Jason cannot believe his luck when he stumbles across an abandoned feast. Temptation proves too much and he helps himself to the bounty, savouring his first proper meal in days. . . But it soon becomes clear that Jason's gluttony has come at a price as he begins to exhibit some seriously strange behaviour. As things spiral out of control, it falls to Hercules and Pythagoras to save their friend before Heptarian and the palace guards bring his exertions to heel for good.



Jason is hungry. Very hungry. In a world where no one seems to do anything for a living but sell fruit (and bread), it seems money does run out eventually. Jason is trying to wrangle a loaf of bread from a seller, but seeing as the oikos still owes him for the last three loafs, the seller isn't having any of Jason's rain check ideas so Jason is forced to look elsewhere for sustenance... or steal a loaf. Call me crazy, but I think we're going for 'filler episode' today.

Jason ruses though the streets with a loaf of bread, drops it in a fountain, fishes it out, breaks an entering and ends up in this creepy little oikos with skulls mounted on the walls, and animal parts and blood everywhere. Also, a creepy three-faced statue. Jason, I'm not sure you are supposed to be here. I am definitely sure you were not supposed to steal a pre-cooked goat's leg, which is exactly what he has done. He arrives home triumphantly, but no one's there. As such he is 'forced' to eat goat alone—he doesn't mind and munches away on the leg after restraining himself from doing so for the barest minimum of time.

Hercules and Pythagoras are drinking in a bar—well, Hercules is drinking in a bar while Pythagoras is trying to keep him from drinking more. Hercules is wallowing in his sadness and blaming Pythagoras for the fact he isn't dead. This is the quietest bar in the history of bars, by the way. The two friends bicker about love and friendship, and Pythagoras leaves in a huff. Hercules really is being an ass.

Back at the oikos, Jason has finished an entire leg of goat and if forced to smuggle away the remains of the meat while Pythagoras laments his hunger. Jason guiltily swallows the huge bite of said food still in his mouth. Best friend material, right there. Pythagoras says he can almost smell the meat... and then realizes he can actually smell it. Jason is saved by a drunk Hercules

who comes home and apologetically stumbles into his arms, giving Jason a chance to throw the carcass out of the window.

That night, a hooded man prowls the streets. He draws a knife and enters the creepy hut. He sniffs the air and realizes his leg of goat is gone—at that point in time he throws his head back and screams, baring pointy monster teeth and cultic tattoos. Oh boy.

Pythagoras wakes Jason, who seems to have fallen asleep on the floor instead of his bed. Jason is foggy on how he got there, but as far as odd things go, this is hardly the worst of it, so no one is too worried. Everyone but one of them is very hungry, though, and there is a solution: Pythagoras has gotten them a job protecting a food storage against rats. Their job: kill rats, all and any rats. While the boys eat, Jason gets down on all fours and literally sniffs out a rat. This is definitely a new skill for him. Wreaking things in pursuit of said rat, however, is not. Let us say that they are fired—especially when Jason punches down the merchant Maro. They make a run for it and Jason is having a bit of a hard time; he scratches his head like he's got fleas, and walks off, slight dazed.

In the night that follows, Pythagoras is awoken by something in their home—a sound of an animal walking around and a growl. Once he gets up and outside, though, whatever it was is gone... until it suddenly pounces on him. It's a huge hound... and when he rushes back inside, he sees Jason is gone, his bed turned over.

Chickens reign in the new day and a nude and dirty Jason is laying between them, feathers in his mouth, sound asleep. He wakes with a start and spits out said feathers. That the hell happened? Carefully placed bits of straw, pottery, and a chicken keep Jason's privates private as he makes his way home in a panic. Said chicken, by the way? Yeah, he pecked there.

Hercules and Pythagoras are waiting for Jason once he returns. Hercules covers Pythagoras' eyes, but with the little boy-crush Pythagoras is nursing, he has to sneak a peek, of course. Hercules questions what the hell happened. Jason has no clue. Pythagoras puts two and two together and asks if Jason has done or been somewhere out of the ordinary. Jason tells about the creepy oikos and Pythagoras goes to explore. Entering the described oikos, he discovers it's actually a shrine... and he realizes they are in a heap of trouble—especially when it's revealed the creepy fellow from before has seen him.

Back in the oikos, Pythagoras reveals that the shrine is a shrine to Hekate and Hercules grumbles. No one really seems to like Hekate. I could write an essay about how inaccurate this is but—oh, wait, I already did once! Anyway, Atlantis!Hecate is pretty terrible, it seems, and solely the Goddess of witchcraft. Too bad no one on this show picked up a copy of Hesiod's work. For those of you not looking to read the essay about Hekate I wrote, let me suffice with the TL;DR version which basically goes: Hekate is and was a household Goddess who every ancient Hellen prayed to at least once month during the dark of the moon. Yes, witchcraft was in her portfolio, but it does not mean what you think it does. Now, please excuse me while I suspend disbelief to get through the rest of this recap.

Jason tries to hide the fact he stole Hekate's sacrifice but he eventually has to come clean. The boys are not sure what happens now, but whatever it is, it is not good. Hercules is under strict orders not to let Jason go anywhere as Pythagoras tries to find some answers. It's all rather uncomfortable. In the next scene, Pythagoras rushes through scrolls in the library and finds something that upsets him greatly. He checks the position of the sun and sees it's almost dusk. At this, he rushes home.

The house is turned up-side-down, and Hercules is lying on the floor, out cold. He mumbles something about Medusa before Pythagoras dumps water on him and he wakes up with a start. Pythagoras rushes to explain: according to some sources, the hounds that accompany Hekate are not actually hounds at all, but her priests turned into monsters. Hercules doesn't believe, but Pythagoras is adamant that Jason has been cursed by Hekate.

Hound!Jason, meanwhile, is stalking goats—and he kills one while the owner wakes up and looks one, frightened out of his skull. the next morning, he returns home naked again, and is promptly knocked out with a frying pan by Hercules. It wasn't exactly necessary, but Hercules is a little bit freaked out by all of this. To keep Jason—and himself—safe, he dumps Jason into the hatch they previously used for Pandora's box. Pythagoras, meanwhile, is making a mess of the library.

The owner of the goat has ran to the palace guards—and Ramos, captain of the City Guard, in particular who then rushes to Heptarian—and tells his tale. Heptarian asks to be kept in the loop.

Elsewhere in the palace, Minos is ill, and keeps getting sicker because Pasiphaë keeps poisoning him.

Pythagoras has—sort of—found a cure. It may kill him, but at least it is a chance. It also requires silver—a precious metal they are not actually in possession of right now. So, they turn to the one person they know who can get it: Ariadne, who comes to the temple of Poseidon to pray at the same time every day. She's even in the correct position to do so—hands raised to the sky, palms up, and standing. At least this episode got one thing right.

Seeing as there are guards around Ariadne, the boys think of a plan: Pythagoras sets his cloak on fire, rushes out, and gets the guards to follow him while Hercules rushes up to Ariadne with a note and a message: 'it's for Jason'. Ariadne looks shocked and I cannot blame her. The guards save Pythagoras, Hercules smiles sweetly at Ariadne and the boys are off, mission accomplished. Ariadne reads the message—which says to bring a pouch of silver to the temple at dusk—and looks worried.

On the way home, Maro, the merchant who they were supposed to catch rats for but who they ended up wrecking the warehouse of catches up to them with a couple of friends and they are dragged to the warehouse. They will be let go when they have cleaned up the mess and taken care of the rats. Worried they will not be done in time, they get to work. Meanwhile at the oikos, Jason has woken up and is none too pleased by being locked up.

At the palace, Ariadne gathers anything silver she has and wraps it into a bundle that promptly falls to the floor as she bumps into her new Korinna Ione. The young woman says to trust her and Ariadne reveals that she is helping out a friend. I'm quite sure I don't trust the Ione as far as I can throw her.

Hercules is eating while Pythagoras works and worries. Herc does, however, figure out that baiting the rats will actually get them the rats. Ariadne meanwhile takes a secret passageway out of the palace and makes it to the temple. Sadly, Pythagoras and Hercules aren't there yet and at the oikos, Jason has broken his way out of his tiny cell—just in time for dusk to fall.

Ariadne can't wait anymore; she leaves while Pythagoras and Hercules enter. The two realize that Ariadne might have gone to the house and that she does not know what's wrong with Jason. This is, indeed, the case—a very naked Jason opens the door to a shocked Ariadne. He throws the door shut and covers himself before opening the door again. As they talk, the sun sets and Jason starts changing into the wolf while Pythagoras and Hercules are still rushing towards the oikos.

Ariadne worries about water while Jason changes further. Before Jason can fully change and attack Ariadne, Hercules rushes in and tackles Jason into a spare room. While the boys try to come up with an explanation for Jason's weird behavior to Ariadne, it sounds like Jason is fully transforming. Ariadne hands over the silver and the boys rush into the room. They are, however, too late; Jason is out the window.

A patrol spots Hound!Jason and Heptarian is informed. The garrison takes off on the hunt while Pythagoras and Hercules melt the silver. They fix the cure and now they only have to find Jason—who will be where Hekate's presence is strongest: her temple.

It's a rush against time and the garrison and they manage to win it. They lure Hound!Jason into the temple and he miraculously remains quiet enough for the garrison to pass by. While Pythagoras and Hercules wait for the sun to come up, Pythagoras realizes they need some way to measure time—something the person he's based upon is famous for.

The next morning, they unbar the door to the temple and find something for Jason to wear. Jason has, indeed, changed back. Jason only has enough time to pull on pants before Hekate's priest Eos attacks him. Jason gets bitten by him but the three of them manage to kill the priest—by dropping Hekate's statue on him and squashing him between the altar and the statue. Ouch, and that is both for the man and the horrible desecration to my beloved Hekate's 'temple'.

Back at the oikos, Jason drinks the potion and manages to survive it. The first thing he asks is if Ariadne knows he was a dog for a while. He's very worried about his future love life, and the boys aren't helping matters any. Poor Jason, at least he's not a dog anymore.

Touched by the Gods — Part 1

Season 1
Episode Number: 12
Season Episode: 12

Originally aired: Saturday December 21, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Jeremy Webb
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Guest Stars: Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Lucy Cohu (Circe), Alexander Siddig (Minos), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Oliver Walker (Heptarian), Joe Dixon (Ramos), Lou Broadbent (Ione)
Summary: Jason is reminded of his promise to Circe and her grim warning should he fail to honour their pact. With her threat hanging over him, he has no choice but to act - he must kill the queen. Infiltrating the palace will not only be mortally dangerous but also nigh on impossible. The heroes set out under the cover of night, but soon Jason's intentions start to unravel. As the alarm is raised, it will take more than just courage and chemistry to save his life - he needs the help of someone on the inside.



It's night-time and Jason is washing himself in a fountain when someone creepy passes him by. Feeling his spidey senses tingling, he hurries to catch up to the cloaked figure and when he rushes around a corner, they're suddenly just standing there. The figure is revealed to be Circe and as if Jason does not know the answer, he asks what she is doing here. Circe reminds him of the vow he took and says he has three days to get it done. He asks what happens if he refuses and she basically says that she will

kill him and all of his friends if he chickens out. At that point, Circe makes a break for it and runs. Jason follows her into an alleyway where he finds a figure lying on the floor, covered by a sheet. He swallows and inches forward. When he pulls the sheet off, it's Hercules—corpsefied and very much dead. With a start, Jason wakes up in his own bed and Hercules is just fine.

His night-time adventure seems to have reminded Jason of the responsibility he took on, especially because the mark of the unbreakable vow he took is firmly burned into his wrist—and has now also appeared in the dining table. This freaks Jason and Pythagoras out, but Hercules completely blows past the fact that this is actually a fairly serious situation. Jason is not amused. All I can think is 'this is your fault, ass hat. Start being helpful!'; instead of doing that, Hercules suggests his usual trick: run away. Jason says that would be useless, Circe's magic is too strong. Does that mean no one will be running through the woods this episode... or running at all? Because that would just be swell.

Hercules does eventually realize he is to blame, and volunteers to help, and then proceeds to volunteer Pythagoras, who was always going to volunteer himself, regardless. Herc sets out the basic plan: get in, sneak past the guards, kill the Queen, sneak out. Easier said than done, however.

In the palace, Pasiphae and Ariadne sit with Minos on what Minos has concluded will be his deathbed. He talks slowly and brokenly about his coming end and about the preparations that

need to be taken care of for the event. Mostly he wants for his daughter and wife to be united, to which they both subconsciously react in the 'hell no'-manner. He makes them swear that they will protect and care for each other and both do. What else can you say to a dying man? Ariadne takes her leave with a kiss to his temple, and Pasiphae goes to prepare another death cocktail.

At the oikos, Jason and Pythagoras are plotting over schematics when Hercules comes back triumphantly: he's found someone willing to smuggle them all into the palace and is mighty smug about it. He goes on another joking spree and I get the urge to fast-forward. I have issues with Hercules on the best of days, but on days when his friend is about to be forced to commit murder because of something he did out of lust love... let's just say Hercules needs to get with the program, stat.

The plan now is to get Jason into the palace with a seaweed knock-out potion that works sort of like chloroform. Hercules, again, takes the idiot-route to stardom and has Pythagoras—the only one who could help in case his calculations on the strength of the tranquilizer were, indeed, off—test it. It's a good thing Pythagoras is good at what he does. Too bad, though, that plotting is on pause until he wakes up, leaving Jason to sharpen his sword. Personally, I would have gone with a dagger—swords are slashing weapons, and terrible for stabbing—but you know, whatever works.

Pythagoras—who is already up again?—joins him, saying that he doesn't need to do this whole murder thing. Jason insists he does, because else they all die. Pythagoras is aware of this; he meant to say that perhaps it is better to die with clear conscience than live with a tainted one. It doesn't work like that for Jason; he says he would then die in the knowledge he did not do everything in his power to save his friends. Sighing, Pythagoras watches him go.

They wait until nightfall and are rolled into the palace by way of barrel. Pasiphae and Heptarian are having a heart-to-heart about the king's imminent demise—which would be a good thing if Heptarian had kept up his end of the bargain and had wooed Ariadne. Now the throne will pass to Ariadne, who is obviously not under the control of the Queen in the way Heptarian is. He asks if she wants him to have Ariadne killed, but she rolls her eyes and says they will need to be a bit more subtle than that if they want Pasiphae in the good graces of the people of Atlantis. Heptarian is firmly in the dog house.

The three friends emerge from their barrels and Hercules makes enough noise to wake the dead. How no one has caught them after that is beyond me; that must be some far-off storage area. The three friends creep through the hallway and manage to overcome the guards with seaweed chloroform (and so much noise the roleplayer in me can only scream 'move silently checks, people! Move silently checks!'). I'm sorry, I'm no fun this episode.

Aaaanyway, the guards eventually go down and they are on their way. They hit the roof and Jason descends into the rooms which Pythagoras hopes are the Queen's bedchambers. Hercules lowers Jason down and struggles to hold his weight as a pack of guards marches past under him. It's a close call, but they make it through—mostly because the guards move off just before Herc lets go of the rope. Now how, exactly, is Jason supposed to get back up, up, and away?

Jason moves through the palace, taking out guards left and right. He actually manages to find Pasiphae's chambers and she is lying on her back, perfectly asleep. It's the perfect opportunity, but he can't do it. At that point, Pasiphae wakes up and yells for her guards. The alarms go off, and Pythagoras and Hercules panic. In the latest of a long string of things that make me want to wrangle Hercules' neck, he tries to convince Pythagoras to leave Jason behind and make a break for it. Pythagoras will have none of it.

Jason, meanwhile, is dodging guards left and right. Too bad he is not able to dodge the arrow that one of the guards shoots at him. Hercules, meanwhile, is wearing Pythagoras down on his escape plan. He tells Pythagoras that they are no use to Jason if they are caught, and they leave—seconds before Jason shows up and calls on them to get him out. There had better be some character redeeming for Herc soon.

Jason realizes he is in big trouble and tries to get out. Pasiphae is frantic and speaks to Heptarian and a guard captain. She realizes this was an assassin, although she has no idea on their identity. She can only wonder why her attacker did not go for the kill; she knows she should be dead right now. She imprints on the guards that she wants this man alive.

Jason has gone to the only person in the palace he can go to for help: Ariadne. Unfortunately, he does this by grabbing her from behind, covering her mouth, and dragging her into her chambers. Ariadne displays why she is awesome and bites his hand until his grip weakens, stomps

on his foot with her heel, and nearly stabs him before she realizes it is Jason. They don't get much chance to speak; Heptarian is at the door and Ariadne fakes ignorance while Jason hides. Heptarian tells her an attempt was made on the Queen's life and once she closes the door, she turns to Jason to question him about that.

He doesn't deny anything; he tells her the truth and Ariadne spots his injury. At least Jason is safe for now. Jason and Hercules manage to get out through the garbage shoot. Herc throws down Pythagoras first, to check if it's safe. Grumble.

Back in the palace, Jason is shirtless again, and Ariadne is tending to the arrow wound on his side. It hurts, but Ariadne is touching him so everything is fine, really. I do really like these two together. There is a lot of tension between them, but the mood is broken when Ariadne asks why he did not go through with killing Pasiphae. He says he couldn't, that something stopped him. Ariadne confesses she has thought about killing Pasiphae before, but she couldn't take a life in cold blood either. It's a bonding moment. Jason realizes he should get out of here, but Ariadne convinces him to stay—for his own safety. She says she will gladly risk her life for him, and Jason is stunned. She will smuggle him out in the morning. Jason agrees 'reluctantly'.

Hercules and Pythagoras come home and realize that Jason is not here. Pythagoras is worried; Hercules suggests wine.

Ariadne watches Jason sleep in her bed as the sun comes up. It's cute. When Jason wakes us, she urges him to dress. Ariadne laments her faith in being born royalty, but in the 'I know I am privileged, I'm just so in love that I would gladly give I all up for you'-way. She calls Jason 'a simple boy', and he makes her squirm about it. She rushes to assure him she does not mean stupid and he laughs while she helps him dress. Jason says he has had the best night of his life, and Ariadne confesses she feels the same. They are about to kiss when sounds from the hallway interrupt them. Time to get out.

Ariadne leads him through the palace onto her secret passage out and they linger to lament that they wish they could spent more time together. Ariadne realizes she has no idea what the next days will bring for her, so she doesn't make any promises for the future. Jason just promises he won't let anything hurt her. They kiss and then he really has to run. Ariadne rushes to her rooms. Pasiphae is informed about the whole failed search attempt, and she is not happy. Everyone is to be questioned.

Jason makes it home to two hung-over friends sleeping on the table. Now he has to come clean about failing in his mission. Hercules is an ass about it, asking why he couldn't just, you know, stab her a little. Jason says he just couldn't. The next bit makes me want to slam Herc's head into a wall -again-:

Hercules: "I suppose it is not -entirely- your fault."

Pythagoras: "No, that is because it's mostly yours."

Hercules: "Well, you have to keep bringing that up, don't you? Even I'm allowed to make -some- mistakes."

Jason & Pythagoras: -eye roll-

Anyway, Pythagoras says they will think of something, but Jason is not convinced. Cut to an unknown time later where Hercules is being useless at the table and the rest is pacing. They still have a day, so Jason postpones making a decision on what to do until after he's gotten some sleep. Hercules makes a crude remark about Ariadne I'm not even going to capture. Seriously, Atlantis writers, seriously?

It seems Jason was still bleeding when he went through the trap door; Pasiphae, Heptarian, and Ramos have found blood smeared on the wall near it. The problem is: only members of the royal court have keys to that passageway...

That night, Jason can't sleep and heads outside. By the morning, Pythagoras wakes up and literally falls out of bed, finding Jason's bed empty. He wakes up Hercules—which takes forever because Jason drugged them both with wine. They realize Jason went to face Circe alone, and try to shake their drunkenness enough to go after him.

Ariadne is visiting her father, who looks really, really, crappy. He's not waking up anymore, and Ariadne worries about him greatly. Pasiphae joins them while Ariadne speaks tearfully to him. She tells Ariadne about the passing of her own father and how much it affected her. She tries to bond with Ariadne, but Ariadne does not allow her; she says she finds it hard to imagine Pasiphae inconsolable, but Pasiphae insists she was, not unlike Ariadne when she was younger.

As Ariadne gets up to leave, Pasiphae casually drops the bombshell: they know how the intruder escaped the palace. Ariadne falters and asks how the intruder escaped. Pasiphae tells her, and says Ariadne does not look surprised. Ariadne gives a vague reply and turns back to Pasiphae, who has fully turned to her now, dying husband and the promise they made to him completely forgotten. Pasiphae asks if she has told the location of the passageway to anyone.

Ariadne: "I was always led to believe it was a closely guarded secret?"

Pasiphae: -looks at her intently- "Be careful Ariadne, it seems there is a traitor amongst us."

Ariadne: -standing up under the scrutiny- "there are very few people you -can- trust in this world."

The words cannot do this scene justice; the underlying conversation between these two women was simply brilliant.

As Ariadne leaves, Minos comes to. He asks for Ariadne, but Pasiphae tells him he isn't here, nor was she here. She tells him Ariadne has not come to him all day, and Minos is heartbroken. Low blow, Pasiphae, low blow.

Jason has returned to Circe's cave. She asks if it's done, and he says he couldn't do it. She asks why that was, and he answers he does not know. He offers up his own life, but asks her to spare his friends. That wasn't the bargain, though, Circe reminds him. He goads her on, and she lashes out with her magic, sending two sharp sticks flying. He dodges them and pulls his sword on her. Rushing forward, he strikes but hits nothing but air; the cloak Circe was wrapped in is suddenly empty and she stands behind them—triplicate—telling him he truly is touched by the Gods. He throws his sword at number one, but it hits nothing but air.

Circe plays with him and launches another pointy stick. Then, however, he throws a dagger at her and hits her square in the gut. She dies, but not before throwing -something- down into the ground; beans or bones, or something similar, and they burrow down into the ground.

Hercules and Pythagoras rush in and everyone is happy. Yay, bad guy vanquished! At that moment, however, the ground shakes and from the ground, three armed skeletons rise. Everyone's weapons come up and there is a fight, hampered by the fact that swords—again!—are slashing weapons and skeletons are not exactly vulnerable to being slashed. Blunt weapons and force it is. Thankfully, they make it through.

In the palace, serf Ione is making Ariadne's bed and finds a bloody rag. Ariadne comes clean about the source of the blood and Ione offers to make the rag go away; she will burn it. Ariadne—obviously thinking she is talking to Korinna—tells her Ione is a good friend. Ione smiles and I am absolutely positive she is going to rush straight to Pasiphae. And yes, she does. Surprise, surprise.

Pasiphae is pissed, but proud of the serf. She will be rewarded handsomely. Ariadne is summoned to the counsel chambers where the entire court is assembled. She spies Ione and shoots her daggers with her eyes. This is of later concern, though, because right now, Ariadne is charged with treason—and if she is found guilty by a court, she will be put to death. Ariadne swallows heavily, but realizes there is nothing she can do.

Jason has gotten them food and is happy when he joins his friends at the oikos. His friends, however, have just heard about Ariadne's predicament. His world shatters when he is told.

At the trial, Ione shares verbatim what Ariadne told her, and Ariadne does not deny it. She stands before her stepmother and the court, trying not to appear affected, but absolutely terrified none the less. At the oikos, the Hercules and Jason are looking at each other over the table. Pasiphae passes the judgment upon Ariadne, and she goes off, demanding to see her father. Pasiphae says that he is not well enough for that, regrettably, and that he has not been conscious for two days. Twisting the knife, she tells Ariadne that she is glad he will never have to hear about her betrayal to the royal family and the people of Atlantis. Ariadne shouts she has not betrayed anyone, and has always been loyal to the king. She tries get the court to believe that it's Pasiphae who always conspires against everything and everyone, but in the positions she is in now, no one is really going to believe her. Pasiphae give her a final out: give up the name of the intruder. She says she never asked it, and Pasiphae laughs at that.

Pasiphae: "You expect the court to believe you harboured a complete stranger?"

Ariadne: "I would help anyone who would see you dead!"

Pasiphae looks hurt, but it is also all she needs to convict her step-daughter. Ariadne will be killed by the 'brazen claw', whatever that is. Ariadne panics while Pasiphae prays to the Gods. Everyone in attendance is shocked, but there isn't a damn thing they can do. Back at the

oikos, Pythagoras comes back looking shell-shocked. Jason asks what the verdict was. Death, Pythagoras tells him. She will be killed tomorrow at midnight. Jason is dying inside when he hears the news.

Touched by the Gods — Part 2

Season 1
Episode Number: 13
Season Episode: 13

Originally aired: Saturday December 28, 2013
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Jeremy Webb
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules)
Guest Stars: Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), John Hannah (Tychon), Alexander Siddig (Minos), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Ken Bones (Melas), Oliver Walker (Heptarian), Joe Dixon (Ramos), Lou Broadbent (Ione)
Summary: Minos' health continues to fade as Pasiphae's scheming reaches its zenith. She sentences Ariadne to a gruesome execution not even the worst of enemies would deserve. Now that the court's loyalty is with the queen, Jason is Ariadne's last hope. He will need all the help he can get if he and his friends are to save her life. Fortunately, there are a few in Atlantis who remain loyal to the king. . . As the series reaches a thrilling climax, the battle lines are drawn in Atlantis once and for all. But just as the odds seem stacked against Jason, a shocking revelation is made that exposes the past and changes the course of the future forever.



Last episode, Pasiphae foreshadowed that Ariadne would be put to death in 'the brazen bull', and we are now looking at it. It's huge, shaped like a standing bull with proud horns, and it's standing in the middle of a pyre. Ariadne will be locked in and the fire will be lighted. At that point, the metal will heat until the person inside roasts to death. It sounds like one of the worst ways possible to die... and it's 100 percent authentic: the brazen, or Sicilian, bull was a torture device created by Perillos of Athens. In the head was a complex

mechanism that converted the screams of the dying person into the bellowing of an infuriated bull, and released incense smoke from the nostrils. Phalaris, tyrant of Akragas, Sicily, ordered the bull and made Perillos the first to test it out on. Before he could die, however, he was taken from the device and tossed off of a cliff where he died anyway. Phalaris himself was killed with the brazen bull after being overthrown.

Pythagoras is a little impressed with the device, but you know, his best friend's girl is about to be executed in it, so he restrains himself. Jason can't carry the burden of the guilt anymore and goes to confess what he did, hoping Pasiphae will spare Ariadne's life if he does. Pythagoras rightly says that that will never happen: with Ariadne out of the way, Pasiphae will have the throne once Minos dies. All handing himself in will do is have him be executed alongside Ariadne. Jason says he's willing to do that. Hercules says it's not going to happen that way; they will free Ariadne.

Ariadne, all the while, is stuck in a dungeon and then what I hoped would happen, happens: Melas, the priest of Poseidon, is back and he comforts a terrified Ariadne. Ariadne is aware she is responsible for handing Pasiphae all the ammunition she needs, and she fears for the people

of Atlantis far more than she fears for herself. Melas tries to get her to pray to Poseidon, but she is afraid The Gods have abandoned her. Melas hates to hear that from a priestess of Poseidon, but eventually lets it rest. Ariadne asks Melas to take care of her father after she is gone, and he promises he will. Ariadne looks so small in her jail cell, it's breaking my heart.

In the temple of Poseidon, Pasiphae is praying to the Gods when the Oracle comes up to her. She is pissed, and says the Gods will never forgive Pasiphae for what she is doing: as a member of the royal house, Ariadne is like a Goddess on earth and her fate is not to be decided upon by mortals. Pasiphae will hear none of it, but the Oracle says it's a breach of the most sacred of laws and—while we're on the subject of awful things—that the king's rapid run towards death has left some people... wondering about the nature of his condition. It seems the Oracle is well aware of Pasiphae schemes... and she also informs Pasiphae that 'her nemesis' draws near. Pasiphae insists the Oracle's riddles don't care her, but she looks shell-shocked at least. He's touched by the Gods, after all, and he won't be easy to kill. At this, Pasiphae finally gives into her fear. she asks the Oracle who she is speaking of, but in true badass form, the Oracle will only say 'you will find out. Soon enough'. Pasiphae is not happy.

At the oikos, swords are being sharpened when there is a knock on the door. It's the captain of the guard, Ramos, and he is willing to help. He serves the king, after all, and what the queen is doing is certainly not what the king would want.

In this hour of need, Jason goes to visit the Oracle. She is praying for Ariadne, and Jason seems relieved by that. He tells her of the rescue plan and she smiles, throwing Jason. She is proud he has gotten to the point where he doesn't ask for her advice but informs her of his decision. Jason thanks her for everything she has done, and she takes his hand, saying she is the one who is grateful. They say goodbye a bit tearily and she informs him of old silver mines where he can hide with Ariadne if he does manage to rescue her. It seems it's a place of the dead, but it should offer refuge.

It's time. The drums sound and Ariadne quivers in her cell, dressed in a white robe. She manages to pull herself together as she is escorted down the halls and onto the square in front of the palace. Jason has managed to sneak into the castle, and Hercules is wandering around with an amphorae filled with some liquid he keeps sloshing about while pretending to be drunk. Pasiphae looks ready to do a little dance at her shot at the throne being so close by, but Ariadne gives her nothing extra to gloat about; she absolutely refuses to show weakness. You go girl!

As the bull looks in front of her, though, she does falter. Confronted with eminent and excruciating death, she tries to wrestle free but fails. Meanwhile, Jason readies a burning arrow and shoots, setting ablaze the flammable liquid Hercules has been spilling. People scream as the entire square becomes a blazing inferno. Ramos takes command over Ariadne in the chaos and pushes her in Jasn's arms, telling her to trust her friends. Ariadne is completely overcome but wraps herself up in a cloak and lets herself be dragged away while Ramos fights the guards.

Heptarian is quickly in pursuit, but the rescue party is on their way out of the city already. A tearful Ariadne hugs Jason close a hurried moment before rushing on. They are not safe yet. Everyone catches up and Ramos is hurt. Not too hurt to lead them through the sewers of Atlantis. He's hurting, though, and Ariadne wishes to stop to tend to his wounds. He refuses. By joining forces, everyone gets out of the sewers, but the guards are onto them. Ramos will hold them off once more, and he will die. Everyone is aware of that, and they thank him for his sacrifice before hurrying on. Ramos fights bravely and takes out a good few of the guards. He buys the others time to get out. He is, however, hurt badly, and Heptarian kills him.

In the morning, Ariadne changes into the traveling clothes brought to her by the three men as they turn around and promise not to peek while peeking (except for Pythagoras). Ariadne does look lovely in her tunic, pants, and cloak. While happy to be out of the city, Ariadne also feels very guilty for leaving; although she has her life, she has still left the fate of Atlantis—and her father—in the hands of Pasiphae. Jason reminds her she once wished to have a simpler life; this could be her chance.

Herc and Pythagoras have a bonding moment over Medusa, and it only serves to make me sadder. While traveling, Jason shares the bit the Oracle told him about the mines and the dead. No one is very happy about the current course. In the mean time, Pasiphae—wearing a breastplate!—and her men have found the campsite and some tracks leading west. She wants our heroes captured before sundown.

In the palace, our untrustworthy chambermaid gives the king his daily dose of poison while

Melas looks on. Once Ione is gone, Melas goes into the room and checks the chalice. He soon discovers the poison and tells the Oracle. It seems the oracle wasn't really a fan of Minos taking the throne, but she is a lot more fearful of Pasiphae, and so they intend to save the King. Melas questions the Oracle's decision to send Jason to the silver mines, but the Oracle doesn't share his doubt. 'who better to keep him safe than his father?' she says and suddenly I get very excited.

Jason and the gang reach the mines and it doesn't really look inviting. For one, it's dark as night inside, and they keep seeing things... and hearing things. Lets not spend the rest of your lives here, guys. At that point, a bunch of men in white robes show up from every crevice. It seems they are sick; they have leprosy, and so they hide. Jason explains why they are here and who sent them, and the man who speaks for the group steps forward upon spotting his bull horns necklace. Something flickers in his eyes and he asks for Jason's name. He gives it and asks for help. the male gives it, and while I feel a daddy-vibe, he doesn't say anything.

A bit later, dinner is served and until that moment, Hercules is moaning about his current situation. Dinner is pleasing, though, so all is good. The leader of the lepers—whose name is Tychon, and who is played by John Hannah (they will only tell you his name about ten minutes later, but I'm already tired of finding descriptions for him) is speaking quietly with Jason. He has recognised Ariadne, and Jason tells him about her current predicament, and the health of Minos. Tychon is worried. Jason asks about the man's disease and he says he's had it many years and that it brought him the best friends he has ever had. The man questions Jason on his love for Ariadne, and Jason says he loves her more than he can express.

Back in the palace, Melas interrupts Ione's next dose of force fed poison feeding, and she's not too happy about it. the Queen left instructions, after all. Melas is not impressed and Ione rushes off. Good riddance. Melas gives Minos a potion to drink, and I hope it's a miracle cure, because Minos looks about to keel over.

At the silver mines, Pasiphae's army has caught up with our heroes. She sends them in with clear instructions: kill anyone but Ariadne; she will be executed in front of her people. Tychon tells them there is another way out, and he takes them a large portion of the way before returning to his people, who are doing a damn good job at killing soldiers and delaying them with smoke bombs. Heptarian takes a knife in the gut and he doesn't look too well.

Jason, Ariadne, Hercules, and Pythagoras reach the other side of the mountain and emerge into blinding daylight. Jason wants to go back for Tychon and his men, but Ariadne pulls him along; the lepers know the caves like the back of their hands and they will be just fine, she assures him. Then, the choice is taken from them as an archer on horseback spots them. Everyone runs, but Jason and Ariadne, and Hercules and Pythagoras get separated while the soldiers search for them in the woods. Pasiphae is still looking damn good in her breastplate. Unfortunately, she still wants her men to kill Ariadne and Jason whom she spots through the trees.

Jason tells Ariadne to run while he holds off the soldiers, and she does so reluctantly. Jason does a good job in fighting the soldiers, but Ariadne still happens upon one. she trips and lays sprawled on the ground in her cute tunic and the guard carefully comes a little to close. Before he knows what's happening, he is on his knees, clutching his stomach in pain. Ariadne took some self-defence classes, it seems. unfortunately, A fleeing Ariadne runs straight in the arms of another guard and this time she is not getting away. She screams for Jason, who gets distracted and is hit in the back of the head, causing him to pass out. He's soon at the mercy of Pasiphae.

Before Pasiphae can slid his throat, however, Tychon literally comes out of the woodworks and stops her. It seems it was Pasiphae who made him the way he is, and after a while, she remembers him. she asks why he cares about Jason, and Tychon says the thing that drops my jaw: 'he is our son'. OUR son. Well, I will freely admit I did not see that one coming. Neither did Pasiphae, by the way. She turns to Jason, stares at him, engraves his face into her memory. She thought he was dead; it seems she betrayed Tychon with Minos, and in retaliation, Tychon took Jason away, to safety, out of her reach.

She asks if Jason knows who she is, and he says Jason does not. She asks why Tychon did not tell him. Tychon's reasons are simple: he will not let Jason become as corrupted by power as his mother is, and it clearly hurts Pasiphae. Tychon says that it is better this way, that Jason will not try to take the throne from her if he does not know. Pasiphae makes him swear Jason will never know his true identity and Tychon agrees. Pasiphae watches the Tychon wake Jason until the latter stirrs, then turns away with tears in her eyes, once more loosing her son. My heart breaks for her a little, no matter how evil she is.

In a two second intermezzo, we learn Heptarian is still alive, still hurting, and mighty pissed off.

Jason wakes up and the first thing he does is inquire about Ariadne. Tychon has to tell him Pasiphae took her. Jason tries to get up but can't; he needs to heal first. He passes out while Tychon watches over him. Once he has recovered a little, Tychon tries to get Jason to give up trying to save Ariadne, but fails miserably. The talk is cut short by Heptarian, who swings a miss but still tries to kill Jason. The fight that follows is brutal and desperate, and it hurts to watch. When Jason finally manages to kill Heptarian, it doesn't feel like a victory at all; it feels like these two men who were forced into this situation have finally reached the end and there are no winners here, just losers.

The next morning, Tychon leads them out of the woods. Jason thanks him for his help, and expresses his hope that they will meet again one day. Tychon shares this hope and they hold hands for a bit. Tychon says he should be proud of the man he has become and Jason sighs.

At the palace, Pasiphae orders the guards to prepare Ariadne for the sacrifice, but Minos will have none of that—Minos who is looking very well, I might add, and walking down the steps into the courtyard absolutely livid. He enforces his rights as King and Ariadne is released. She hugs him for dear life while Pasiphae trembles in her breastplate. This was not part of the plan—at all.

That night, Jason and the boys rush home to prepare for a desperate gamble to free Ariadne, but Melas is waiting for him with a note from Ariadne herself. Jason can't believe his eyes, but he trusts Melas and reads the note quickly. Apparently it says to meet her in the temple, because he rushes over there. The two lovebirds stare at each other across the large hall and Jason is about to go over to her when Minos appears, flanked by two guards. He is there to express his gratitude, though, not make Jason's life any harder than it's already been these last few days. While Ariadne prays, Minos compliments Jason and wants to give him a reward, which Jason turns down. Just knowing she is safe is enough for him, though.

Minos does have ulterior motives: he warns Jason to forget about any possible feeling he may have for Ariadne because she is of royal blood and he isn't (well, as far as he knows, anyway), and because of that, they will never be together. Jason is crestfallen, but not exactly impressed.

It's a busy night in the temple; Pasiphae is there as well, visiting the Oracle. This time, she is not there to pick a fight. She quietly questions the Oracle; had she known all along who Jason was? To her? The Oracle is vague as always but does predict that Jason will eventually destroy Pasiphae.

Hercules is not happy Jason turned down gold for saving Ariadne, but then proceeds to do the cute bonding thing that happens when Jason, Hercules, and Pythagoras are together and no one is trying to kill them. It's a breeze of air in a very emotional episode and very welcome. Pasiphae watches them from a hiding spot, dressed to disguise. It seems she is having a very hard time letting her boy out of her sight now she knows the son she thought she had lost is, indeed, alive and in Atlantis.

Season Two

A New Dawn: Part One

Season 2

Episode Number: 14

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired: Saturday November 15, 2014
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Josef Altin (Rizon), Thomas Coombes (Critias), Steven Cree (Miras), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Ian Drysdale (Derian), Amy Manson (Medea), Robert Pugh (Sarpedon), Vincent Regan (Dion), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle)
Summary: A year has passed and much has changed. With her father dead, Ariadne is queen and finds herself at war with her old adversary, Pasiphae. As the kingdom stands on the brink of collapse, the struggle for power is both bloody and brutal. With the future looking bleak, there is only one person Ariadne dares turn to for help: Jason. The time has come for the young warrior to fulfill his destiny. The battle for Atlantis has begun.



We start off with drumming and a tearful Ariadne. A year has passed and a pyre is lit. A person is burned; King Minos. Jason, Hercules, and Pythagoras watch on. It seems Ariadne is now Queen and Pasiphae has been outcast—and is on the war path. In the wake of her father's death, Ariadne has a war to fight and she carries the burden heavily. For those of you—like me—wondering when Minos died, he didn't die last season. He'd gotten that miracle cure from Jason's dad and was doing quite well. No worries, I am sure it

will all make sense soon. By the way, Ariadne has a new head guard, Dion.

By the way, Pasiphae in dark clothes, wearing a scowl, sitting astride a huge horse is now my favourite thing to ever happen. Normally I would recap the scene first but will you look at this? Exile becomes you, my dear!

It seems war really has come to the world. Thera, a seemingly small settlement, burns and everyone in it is getting slaughtered. Ancient Thera, by the way, was a city on a ridge of the steep, 360 meter high Messavouno mountain on the Hellenic island of Santorini (where the myth of Atlantis has its home). It was named after the mythical ruler of the island, Theras, and was inhabited from the 9th century BC until 726 AD.

A very skilled warrior is tearing through villagers like they are ragdolls. In one of the few houses not yet ablaze, someone with wealth is locking a chest. He jumps when three men enter. Don't worry, they say, Queen Ariadne sent us to escort you back to Atlantis. It's our heroes: Jason, Pythagoras, and Hercules. Sarpedon is not exactly convinced, but as long as they take the chest, he'll come. Pythagoras and Hercules end up carrying the backbreakingly heavy thing through the streets of the crumbling city. They have to fight through hoards of the former Queen's soldiers, but eventually they make it; even Pythagoras, who is getting better with a sword but still needs rescuing. Jason makes a detour to save a woman in distress from Pasiphae's soldiers

while the others flee. To Hercules' credit, he does stick around to see if Jason needs help—he doesn't.

Pasiphae's new right hand Goran tells her that Atlantis won't fall as easily as Thera. Pasiphae isn't worried; there is a legend that says 'as long as the palladium is within the walls of Atlantis, it will never fall'. She knows the city better than anyone; the plan is to get the palladium out, and them in to seize the city. Goran is not convinced, but he's a soldier, so he'll do as told.

In Hellenic and Roman mythology, the palladium (or palladion) was a cult image of great antiquity on which the safety of Troy and later Rome was said to depend. It was a wooden statue (called a xoanon) of Pallas Athena that Odysseus and Diomedes stole from the citadel of Troy and which was later taken to the future site of Rome by Aeneas. The Roman story is related in Virgil's *Aeneid* (amongst others).

In the daylight, Sarpedon and our heroes reach Atlantis, and Sarpedon is happy to be home. Now, I don't want to be a spoil sport, but when you've read enough ancient Hellenic mythology, the name 'Sarpedon' means quite a bit to you. I'm calling it now: this man was Minos' brother who was banished by him.

Ariadne greets him with joy and love, and it seems there was, indeed, trouble between Sarpedon and Minos. Ariadne says that is all in the past now, and that she needs his counsel. He agrees.

Relieved from rescue duty, Hercules gambles his time away in some dodgy bar. He is actually winning tonight, as Jason and Pythagoras look on, until the dice betray him.

Miles away, in the palace, a guard gets taken out and some keys stolen. A signal is given to Sarpedon, who—as it turns out—had a woman stuffed in that chest of his; a woman with a dagger and a very angry scowl. Sarpedon tells her that 'everything is ready', and although she seems conflicted, she sets out to do what she was smuggled into the city to do. Her name is Medea, and she sneaks into the palace, avoids the guards, and enters the vaults.

Since Medea (or, classically written, *Mēdeia*) was not a thief, I'm not sure if this is related, but the Classical Medea helped Iásōn (Jason), recover the Golden Fleece. According to playwright Euripides, Iásōn betrayed *Mēdeia*, and wedded Kreousa, daughter of king Kreon of Korinth, instead of her. *Mēdeia* recounted all the help she had given him, and reminded him of his vow to marry her, but he told her that she should not be angry at him, but at Aphrodite, who had made her fall in love with him. Angered and ashamed, *Mēdeia* enchanted the dress Kreousa would wear for her wedding, and it caught fire as soon as she put it on. The fire killed both her and her father. Out of fear for retaliation, or out of a desire to hurt Iásōn even further, *Mēdeia* killed the two sons she had with Iásōn and fled. So, I'd say we are in for some fun times.

Medea is petrified as she takes to the vaults with a torch, but she perseveres. She descends far down into the earth and prays to Hekate for magical aid when she comes upon a door. The locks burst off and Medea is free to claim the icon. Sadly for her, as soon as she picks it up from the treasury, the ceiling starts to cave in. She secures the palladium and runs as fast as the wobbly earth will allow her while up top the citizens of Atlantis run for their lives as well. In the temple, the Oracle looks up at the ceiling and prays to Poseidon for aid.

Eventually the shaking stops and Medea catches her breath a moment too long: she is discovered by the guards and is forced to flee. In the distance, a large... something approaches. It screeches and flies, and when Medea summer saults off of the palace walls down to the cliffs below, it catches her and carries her off. I uh... it's not a sphinx, I think, nor a Pegasus, or even a drakon. I have no idea what it is, but then again, it wouldn't be the first time on this show that I have no idea what a mythical creature is supposed to be. Point is: Medea is a badass and I want her and Atalanta to become friends.

In the city, Jason, Pythagoras and Hercules are picking up the pieces after the earthquake. Since Poseidon is also the God of earthquakes, they think he must be mad to have caused this. Ariadne is equally worried and summons them to the palace. She tells them of the stolen palladium and they decide to keep the theft a secret. Ariadne asks them to retrieve the icon, and Jason agrees. She tells them of a valley where Pasiphae has her encampment; the icon must be there.

Sarpedon questions if she is sure the boys can do it and she says they have never failed her before. He is not exactly happy to hear that and taunts her about her feelings for Jason. She vows that her feelings for Jason have nothing to do with it; when her father died, Atlantis became her sole responsibility. Ariadne refuses to be distracted; she wants everyone in the palace questioned.

No way in Hades did the thief get in without insider help. Sarpedon watches the three go with hate in his eyes.

Jason visits the Oracle, who has been expecting him. The Gods have spoken, she says; 'a new dawn is beginning'. It seems she can give others visions as well, and she feeds him Kykeon. Kykeon was a barley beverage said to be preferred by Demeter, and drunk by peasants in ancient times. It was used to break a sacred fast within the Eleusinian Mysteries as well as in preparatory rites for some of the most sacred—and secret—rites within Eleusis.

Although the actual recipe has been lost, kykeon was made with barley, water, herbs, and ground goat cheese. Sometimes honey was added. Herbs that are described as part of the kykeon are mint, pennyroyal and thyme, although it seems any herb that was found to flavour the drink, was acceptable. For some of the rites, hallucinatory herbs may have been added to heighten the experience of what was about to unfold.

Jason sure hallucinates: he sags into the Oracle's arms, who chants over him as he catches glimpses of the future: a dagger in someone's chest, battles, the ship Argo, a show-down with Pasiphae. Blood, dripping into a basin from Ariadne's hands as she shouts at the sky, a warrior sliding down to the depths of the ocean where a sunken city lies. When he comes to, he gasps for air and clings to the oracle who holds him lovingly. She assures him that what he saw was, indeed, the future but that he can stop it from coming to pass. He is a hero, and he must embrace his destiny. Only then will he be able to stop this.

The creature flies Medea to a forest and she cuddles with it for a while as she speaks Greek to it. Anyone care to translate? As it flies off, I think the thing may be a griffon. Huh.

Anyway, far more interesting things are happening: the griffon brought Medea to Pasiphae's encampment, and she flies into the older woman's arms, clinging to her in desperation. Pasiphae says she was beginning to worry, but while Medea assumes she was worried about her, I think Pasiphae mostly worried about the palladium. Medea tells her what happened when she took the icon and Pasiphae tells her that princesses shouldn't fear anything. Medea is still afraid enough to cry, though, because the icon is very powerful and Pasiphae is definitely in love with it.

In the daytime, our heroes have taken horses into the wilderness and Hercules isn't happy about it. He reminds Jason that he and Ariadne will never be together, no matter how often he risks his life. He tells the boys about his destiny; that's why he is doing this, not Ariadne. He spurs his horse onwards—towards the destiny he now feels in his bones.

Ariadne is engaged in ritual to honour her father when Sarpedon walks in. They talk of the past, of how Minos was brave, even as a boy, and how Sarpedon's unjust exile (according to him) hurt him. Ariadne tells him that Minos came to regret his decision. Their heart-to-heart is interrupted by Dion, who announces they have found the accomplice.

Chained in a dungeon is the man who took out the guard and flashed the light at Sarpedon. He's bloody and seems pretty hurt. He's, however, not talking. Sarpedon, who has come down to the dungeons with Ariadne, gives the man a stern look, and I am fairly certain that no amount of torture is going to pry those lips apart; that man is scared shitless.

In the forest, our heroes are suddenly ambushed. They run, dodging arrows, and manage to not get impaled before they jump into a ditch. They fight and manage to win out; it's a very heroic feat, actually, and everyone carries their weight. They are all getting very good, especially Pythagoras. The horses, however, are gone.

Right when they are about to celebrate, they hear something in the shrubbery. It's one of Pasiphae's soldiers, hurt and cowering. Hercules tells Jason to kill him, but he can't. The soldier refuses to pick up a sword so they can kill him, and so they have a problem: if they let him live, he could jeopardise the entire mission. None of them can kill him, and so they send him off, well aware of the danger.

Sarpedon goes to visit the prisoner. He's far more bloody than before, but he hasn't said anything. Sarpedon poisons him, making sure he will forever stay silent.

Around a campfire in the woods, Pythagoras and Hercules talk about how their lives have change since meeting Jason, and if they think Jason can fulfil his destiny. Jason has proven himself quite the hero, but the two are a little worried that their involvement with him is going to have them both end up dead. So why do they do it? Hercules follows Jason to become the man he always boasted to be before Jason came along... Pythagoras does it out of love; he loves both Jason and Hercules, and while it is quite illogical, it's also very true. Hercules is touched by that revelation.

In the palace, Dion tells Ariadne the bad news about the prisoner. Even worse, it seems the man told the guards that the palladium has been stolen, and Dion doubts the guards will be able to keep that to themselves.

Meanwhile, Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras spy upon tenths of thousands of soldiers camped out along the coastline. Somewhere amongst them is the palladium. This is not going to be easy.

The boys manage to make it into the encampment. I truly wonder why they don't just disguise themselves as soldiers and walk through the encampment instead of leaving bodies all over the place, but ey, I wasn't there so who am I to argue. They do realize that the palladium is undoubtedly with Pasiphae. Pythagoras walks up to the guards guarding her tent as a distraction, and they get taken out from behind by Jason and Hercules. While Jason and Hercules rifle through Pasiphae's things for the palladium, Pythagoras stands guard and is forced to kill a soldier with what is pretty much a butter knife. He manages it, though.

On the way out, they get spotted and Pasiphae orders them to be captured. The boys manage to evade the soldiers, but it takes a fair bit of doing, and a fair bit of killing. It also takes a catapult: they slingshoot themselves into the ocean and manage to get away—with the palladium.

The guards pursue them, and in the following struggle, Jason gets injured; an arrow in the side, shot by the one guard they let go in the woods before. This time, Hercules kills him gladly. It's a pretty bad wound and Jason tries to force the boys to leave him behind—but they refuse. They make it into a cave where they hope the guards will pass them. Unfortunately, there is a huge chasm between them and the cave. They take a teeny tiny rope bridge over it and then—like smart people should—cut the damn thing down so the soldiers won't be able to follow them. Then they run for the barrage of arrows that the soldiers fire off in retaliation. They make it into the cave, and Pasiphae's magic makes sure they stay there while the army marches on Atlantis.

Dion informs Ariadne of the bad news; the army will be at Atlantis tonight. In the cave, Pythagoras manages to stop Jason's bleeding, but things look dire—even more so when the route deeper into the cave reveals bats and something far more sinister... something monstrous.

Equally monstrous is Pasiphae's army: over 40.000 strong. Ariadne watches them march upon Atlantis while Sarpedon tries to convince her to just surrender. Without the palladium, they don't stand a chance, he says. Pasiphae will be merciful, he says. She doesn't believe him and says she would rather die with her men while they wait for Jason to save the day. Pasiphae, meanwhile, releases every soldier that flees the city—and she lets it be announced that any Atlantian soldier who follows their example will be given free passage.

In the cave, it turns out there is a monster, a Cyclops, and he's not happy to have people invade his home...

A New Dawn: Part Two

Season 2

Episode Number: 15

Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Saturday November 22, 2014
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Thomas Coombes (Critias), Steven Cree (Miras), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Amy Manson (Medea), Robert Pugh (Sarpedon), Sam Redford (Alastor), Vincent Regan (Dion), Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), Kemal Sylvester (Cleon)
Summary: Pasiphae lays siege to Atlantis and without the Palladium to protect it, the city looks set to fall. The last remaining hope rests with Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras, but far from home they are fighting a desperate battle of their own. As the conflict reaches its thrilling climax, nothing could have prepared Hercules for what he discovers — it throws into doubt everything he once knew to be true and is set to change the course of the future forever.



The war has begun. With catapults and arrows, Pasiphae's army unleashes the first volley, then she has her men storm the walls with long ladders and sharp swords. From their encampment, Pasiphae and Medea look on. Medea questions the folly of fighting; they should have surrendered while they had the chance. Pasiphae blames Ariadne's youth and says she'll come around soon enough.

The fight is bloody and lethal, and Dion is earning his keep defending the wall. He needs more men, though, because they are dropping like flies. Ariadne gives him the palace guards, because if Atlantis falls, she will fall with it anyway. Ariadne's evil uncle/her father's former counsellor Sarpedon is not amused. I think he wants Atlantis to fall, but not for Ariadne to get killed. Well, dude, should have thought of that before you arranged affairs so that the palladium could get stolen.

Back in the cave of one eyed wonders, Jason is all but passed out and Hercules and Pythagoras are pretty much pissing their pants because whatever is growling in the tunnels behind them—they don't know about the Cyclops yet—is getting closer. things are not looking good.

In Atlantis, the outer doors are breached and the fight is on for real. Dion is a good fighter, a strong fighter, but even he struggles against Pasiphae's hordes. He gets jabbed in the arm and nearly killed, but a young man saves him and takes him to a field hospital to bandage his wounds. Dion tries to recruit him, but the boy says he's a coward. His name is Critias, by the way, and we already saw him last week when he beat Hercules in a dice game—by cheating.

Back in the cave, Jason is slowly getting worse and the boys run into a dead end. The growling is getting closer. They head back—they have to, they still have the palladium and Atlantis needs it. Once they track back to the nearest crossroads with their delightfully ever burning torches, there is a moment of suspense as they wait to see if the monster found them—it did, but Hercules

beats it over the head with his torch and it stumbles and falls, momentarily distracted by the lump forming on its head. Ouch.

The boys run, but eventually Hercules realizes he has to head back because the Cyclops is tracking them. Pythagoras stays behind in the dark, with Jason, and the Cyclops nearly finds them because Jason decides to wake up enough to moan at that exact moment. Hercules calls out, draws it away, and this time, it's the Cyclops who hits him over the head. The two fight and Hercules manages to jab a dagger into its one eye before knocking it over. He makes a break for it, very proud of himself. They soon discover, however, that there is more than one, and that is a definite problem.

Back in the city, the fighting has reached Dion and Critias. Dion tells him to flee, but Critias says he won't. This is his city, too, and he will fight for it. He grabs a sword and jumps into the fray. This dude is greener than Pythagoras in season one, though, so I can't see this ending well.

In the cave, Jason wakes up enough to question why he's being hauled about like a sack of flour. The boys don't have time to explain: they have reached a cavern with a rather unfortunate chasm in the middle of it. They will have to jump into the water below, but it's a height that could easily kill them. Hercules doesn't really worry about little things like the lives of his friends and pushes Pythagoras off of the cliff. Nice move, asshole. Please don't resort to your infuriating season one ways or I will have to start skipping your scenes again.

Pythagoras is fine, by the way, but that is besides the point. Jackass. Now Hercules knows it's safe, he pushes Jason in as well, and then jumps after them. Ugh, I cannot with this guy.

Back in the palace, Ariadne is operating on no sleep at all, bandaging wounded soldiers while Sarpedon looks on. He tries to get her to rest but Dion returns, and Ariadne is wide awake again. Dion informs her that the barricades are holding and that Pasiphae's army has retreated for the time being. Ariadne is relieved, but the death toll, the number of injured, and the number of deserters eats at her conscience. Besides, she knows that tonight, the army will come back stronger than ever—and there are too few of them left. Dion asks if she wants some caught deserters made an example of, but he already knows the answer (and agrees with it): Ariadne will not become a tyrant. The deserters are free to go and the dead on the side of the enemy armies will be returned to Pasiphae. I really, really like Dion, by the way. I hope he survives.

Pasiphae rides into the outer ring of the city, the part under her control. Atlantis is a mess. Her right hand Goran informs her that they will only attack by nightfall after they can regroup. Pasiphae barely hears him; on the street lies a young man who looks strikingly similar to Jason from the back, and for a moment, Pasiphae is terrified she has killed her son. It's not Jason, but she does come clean with Medea, who watches her mentor's odd behaviour with heaps of confusion. It's pretty obvious Medea had no idea she has a son.

Back outside of the cave, our heroes wade out of the water and collapse onto the bank. Jason tries to get up—he looks remarkably better—but collapses right away. His wound and the long swim have exhausted him—and the other boys as well.

In the palace, Sarpedon visits the temple of Poseidon so the show can fulfil its contract to Juliet Stevenson when they made her a series regular. The Oracle obviously knew Sarpedon before he was banished, and she carefully asks him what he has come to do. He's there to pray for the city, he says. She's not buying it for a second. "Not even the Gods can spare us from our own conscience," she warns him, and he just nods. "Minos misjudged you", she continues. "But don't let his mistake poison your heart." He says it's too late. She promises him that in the eyes of the Gods, it is never too late. Sarpedon leaves with an even heavier heart than he had when he arrived.

Outside of the cave, Jason is getting patched up again. He thanks the boys for not leaving him behind in the cave, and they say that saving him so he can save all of Atlantis has become their job. Neither seems to mind much. Jason walks off again, wobbly but determined. The boys give him a hand, carrying him so he can fulfil his destiny. It's very touching, and Jason is very grateful. Completely unrelated, where are these 'woods'? I must have seen them in at least six episodes now—this exact same bit of it.

Ariadne, Dion, and Sarpedon attend the greatly deminished war counsel. The news is not good—most of Atlantis is lost to Pasiphae or burned to the ground. She asks Dion if she should surrender, then asks Sarpedon. Neither is willing to offer an opinion. She tells the men she has faith in Jason and to fight on. Dion follows her order proudly. Even Sarpedon is proud of the

girl he knew when she was so very young. She breaks down when they are alone, though, and Sarpedon can't take it anymore: he comes clean. Pasiphae came to him while he was bitter and in exile, and told him he could bring down the city. He took the opportunity.

Ariadne goes from shock to sorrow to anger in the span of a few second and good Gods, Aiysha Hart is growing by leaps and bounds as an actress. I am so happy they gave her some real material to work with this season. Ariadne orders Sarpedon to be captured, and nearly drowns in the pain of the betrayal of the man she once trusted. Because of him, Atlantis may fall, thousands are dead, and she welcomed him into the city with open arms. The guilt is weighing heavily upon her.

Garon asks Pasiphae what he is supposed to do with the royal court once they invade the palace. Pasiphae tells him that anyone who surrenders will be spared but that Ariadne is to be killed while 'deserting'. Garon isn't a fan of the plan; Ariadne is a servant of Poseidon and he's not about to make a God mad at him. Pasiphae threatens him into cooperating, but he isn't happy about it.

In the forest, the boys move as fast as they can and they come upon a village that was entirely ransacked. It is the army's way, Pythagoras explains, to leave no survivors of these raids. The boys hurry a bit more.

In the palace, Sarpedon asks for an audience with Ariadne. She grants it to him. Sarpedon tells her he knows how to shatter the enemy's army's moral: kill Pasiphae. He offers to do it for her; Pasiphae will let him come close. Ariadne ponders the request, unsure if she can trust a traitor.

Back in the forest, the boys find themselves surrounded by archers all of a sudden. They drop their weapons and a group of Atlantian deserters comes forth. They say they refused to give their lives without hope of victory, but once Jason shows them the palladium, their loyalties realign to the side of good. Miras, leader of the deserters vows to return with them to Atlantis to fight after Jason gives them a hero's speech.

Sarpedon is sent out with four guards and a note. Pasiphae believes he is a messenger for Ariadne's surrender. Pasiphae takes him to her tent and takes the scroll from him while Medea looks on. Pasiphae asks him how it feels to be back in Atlantis, and how Ariadne is doing, but he remains silent for the most part. Medea realizes something is up when Serpedon suddenly reaches for a sword. In a magical feat born out of pure emotion, she tosses Sarpedon through the air. He lands head first on a heavy trunk and lies dizzily on the ground. Pasiphae plants a dagger into his chest for his betrayal.

Dion tells Ariadne that Sarpedon has failed and that the army gathers. She tells them she can't order them to fight to the death, but Dion tells her every man under his command volunteers. They will fight until the last man falls. She vows to fall alongside him.

Our heroes watch the armies trade the dead so they may be properly buried. It seems they have finally made it to Atlantis, but getting in is going to be one hell of a chore. The exchange of the dead gives Pythagoras an idea: they will 'die' so they will be taken into the city by wagon. It works, although they are nearly coup de grace'd for their trouble.

Jason finally-finally-makes it to Ariadne, who is suffering terribly under the burdon of her reign. She falls into his arms with a gasp, crumbling now hope has returned to Atlantis. Despite her earlier promise that they will never be together, she kisses him, so relieved to see him alive.

Hercules breaks them up with a cough and the palladium. Ariadne fears it's too late, even with the palladium, but Jason tells her it will be alright: the soldiers just need hope. Ariadne gives them that hope, appearing in public, palladium raised high, and the soldiers cheer. Regular men volunteer to fight en mass. Hercules spots Cretias and forgives him for cheating at dice. Ariadne and Jason say goodbye with pain in their hearts.

At the front, Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras wait for Pasiphae's army to attack already. The wait is killing Hercules, who resorts to teasing Jason about his kiss with ariadne to pass the time. Jason tells him to shut up so instead Hercules focusses on Miras and the deserters. Where are they? Jason says he's optimistic they will come while Pythagoras crunches the numbers and tells them they are all going to die. Hercules is not amused.

Finally the battle cries rise up and Pasiphae's army attacks. It's a massacre; arrows and spears fly, then swords swing, and both sides take heavy casualties. Pythagoras is getting really deathly with a bow, Jason and Dion stand strong with swords, and Hercules and Critias do

anything they can to fight off the army. It's not enough, though: the deserters haven't showed up and the army will soon take the palace. Dion sends Jason to convince Ariadne to leave.

Needless to say, she won't go. Or, more accurately, she will only leave if Jason does. He can't abandon the city however, and so she won't either. Jason hates it, but he understands. He vows to protect her as long as he can and Ariadne goes back to bandaging the wounded.

The battle rages on in the streets of Atlantis, and Jason kills many. Critias is also doing a really good job staying alive but there are so many of Pasiphae's soldiers, the battle is hopelessly lost—and then the deserters return. There are so many of them that they swarm the square in front of the palace and suddenly the odds even out. Pasiphae—who has thrown herself into the heat of the battle, expecting victory—spots Jason and is frozen to the spot. One of her archers takes aim at her son but she can't let him kill Jason. She shoves a dagger into his back before he can loosen his arrow. Medea looks on in shocked disbelief—and so does Hercules, who has seen it all and doesn't understand what has just happened.

One of Pasiphae's lieutenants, Alastor, tells her the battle is lost and she has to leave. She hisses at him that they will fight to the last man. She realizes that he is right, though, and lets him escort her out of the city while Jason asks Hercules why he looks so grim. He doesn't tell Jason what he saw.

The day is won, but Ariadne mourns the dead. She looks down at the bodies of the fallen and wounded on the square below her window and asks Jason if it was worth it. They died for what they believed in, he says. In her, their queen. She thanks him for all he has done and says she will be forever in his debt. He says there is no debt to repay. None at all.

Ariadne tells Jason that before his death, Minos told her she would have to sacrifice all she holds dearest. It's only now that she understands what he meant, and she isn't just talking about the lives of the people of Atlantis, nor her fading innocence in the face of life or death decisions—she is talking about Jason, and it is killing her that they can't be together. Once more, she reminds Jason that he is not of royal blood and that because of that they can never be. I want to bang my head into a wall because we all know that Jason is Pasiphae's son, and that his dad was special in some way as well, so this is all bullshit and ughhhh... just get together already, guys! I'm rooting for you two!

Ariadne knows that the nobles will turn against her if she weds someone not of royal blood, and so they can't be together. They vow that they will be united in the protection of Atlantis, if nothing else, and Jason leaves while Ariadne cries and tells him she is sorry. Obviously, this is killing her as much as it is Jason, and my poor heart can't take scenes like this too often.

In the temple of Poseidon, it seems another chicken is about to bite the dust, but Hercules interrupts the Oracle's rituals. He questions her about Pasiphae's odd behaviour and the Oracle realizes she has to tread very carefully here. She lies through her teeth and tells him she doesn't know what's going on in Pasiphae's mind. Hercules doesn't buy it, however. "I cannot help you," she says, and Hercules threatens to ask Jason why Pasiphae—his sworn enemy—would stop one of her soldiers from killing him. The Oracle gets up and tells him to stop. Hercules—who is proving to have a fair bit of intelligence after all—asks who Pasiphae is to Jason and the Oracle falters a moment. "She is his mother," she finally confesses and tells him that he must have known already; Jason is not like other men, after all. He is touched by the Gods. Hercules guesses correctly that Jason does not know and the Oracle confirms it. He asks after the Oracle's prophecy. Is that true? Yes, she says. It is. Only Jason can save them—and the Gods chose Hercules to protect Jason. The Oracle makes Hercules swear never to tell him, because if Jason learns the truth, his heart will blacken. He will be consumed by hatred and lost to them forever.

In the hills, Pasiphae and what remains of her army flee. Dion informs Ariadne. She tells Dion to hunt her down; there will be no hiding place for her. She must be killed to protect Atlantis from her forever. As always, Dion simply bows and leaves. On her throne, Ariadne sucks in a deep breath and lets the hatred consume her. She is now queen, and she must be as ruthless as Pasiphae or Atlantis will fall. That can never happen. Not ever. She has given up too much already.

Telemon

Season 2

Episode Number: 16

Season Episode: 3

Originally aired: Saturday November 29, 2014
Writer: Richard McBrien
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Clive Standen (Telemon), Vincent Regan (Dion), Lashana Lynch (Areto), Philip Correia (Leonidas), Gary Oliver (Alytarch)
Summary: Ariadne is formally crowned queen, but with Pasiphae still at large and the city struggling in the aftermath of battle, Atlantis remains vulnerable indeed. So when an enigmatic stranger arrives offering salvation, he proves hard to resist. But his proposal is far from straightforward — will the cost be too much for Ariadne to bear? As Jason fights for glory on the tournament ground, Ariadne embarks on her own private battle. Her's is a contest of head over heart, but which will win out only she can decide.



In the temple of Poseidon, Ariadne is finally being crowned queen for realzies. Dion announces it to the people who go wild; they really like their new Queen! Our heroes watch on; Hercules happily, Pythagoras with pride at seeing his little girl all grown up, and Jason as if he's just swallowed a bug. Ariadne looks at him, raises her chin high, and leaves him to his temper tantrum.

In her chambers, Ariadne and Dion talk about Pasiphae; she still hasn't been caught and Ariadne is worried. Dion says

it's only a matter of time. There is more bad news: not only does no one want to be allies with the city who just barely scraped through a war, but the coronation games are coming up. Ariadne wonders if now is really the time for such trivialities, but Dion reminds her that the city needs a hero to represent it, and the custom is that the title is won through the games. To not do so would worry the rabble. Ariadne agrees and Dion suggests Jason for the job. She refuses flat out, but he says that Jason is the logical choice and the people would rally behind him. Apparently she gives in, because at their oikos, Jason gears up for battle while Hercules and Pythagoras warn him to guard his frail heart. This is not a flirtation method, these are games that could very well cost him his life. Jason doesn't care, he is 'doing it for Atlantis'.

At the oikos, that little circle around the secret we just discussed up top gets a little bigger: Hercules tells Pythagoras that Pasiphae is Jason's mother. For a moment there, I thought Hercules was conflicted because of a certain snake-haired woman in a cave somewhere but ey, absence makes the heart grow fonder and all that jazz. Pythagoras takes the news the logical way: tell the boy! But Hercules explains what I explained up top and Pythagoras agrees to keep his mouth shut.

In the woods, three friends practice Jason's battle techniques when Jason hears something off into the woods. they rush to see if their aid is needed and it looks like it is: one man is singlehandedly taking on a group of bandits. With help, the men get dispatched quickly and our

hunky new addition Telemon thanks the three for their help. It seems he was on his way to Atlantis to compete in the games. Jason, meet your competition.

Hercules seems a bit smitten with Telemon, especially when Hercules offers him a room in the oikos in exchange for expensive wine. Pythagoras doesn't trust him and I am confused why Hercules does. Maybe he's just looking for an ally for Jason during the games—Catching Fire-style. Whatever the case, the deal is done.

Fast forward to the games: loads of hunky men and a deliciously hunky lady are introduced to Ariadne. The warrior woman is Areto. The only other two who need mentioning are Corian and Leonidas, the rest are obvious canon fodder. Oh—it seems that Telemon is a prince, by the way. Even Ariadne is shocked by the revelation.

Back at the oikos, everyone broods about the fact that Telemon is a prince. Hercules feels he should have charged for the room and Pythagoras is just really confused why Telemon didn't have an entourage, nor proper bedding, nor spare clothes. He repeats he doesn't trust Telemon and in the palace, the sentiment is shared by Dion who introduces Telemon to Ariadne as if he's introducing her to the gallows. Dion ships Jason and Ariadne pretty exclusively and this little hiccup is threatening to mess up his OTP. Ariadne invites him to stay at the palace and she inquires why he's alone—but subtly so. Telemon's father doesn't agree with his decision to enter the games, but Telemon didn't just do it to become the hero of Atlantis; he wants to wed Ariadne and he is not afraid to lay it on thick. Ariadne isn't exactly happy with that but if she got married, that would at least close the door with Jason forever... and it would secure a powerful ally for Atlantis. Ariadne turns on the charm and flirts back.

It's game day! Jason beats Corian with relative ease and Dion is very happy for the male half of his OTP. Ariadne is a little worried. Not as worried as Telemon, though; Areto comes up to him with the one question everyone who has something to hide dreads: 'don't I know you from somewhere?'. Nope, he says. Never seen you, and you are black and beautiful and very muscular and I would have remembered that, I am sure. Well, he just says 'no', but the rest was obvious. Anyway, she's able to name a date, place, and time, and it was a prison. He smiles and says she was wrong but I am thinking she is very right—as does Pythagoras who overhears.

Back in the arena, Areto deliciously dispatches Leonidas and it's glorious. Can she please win this thing and not die a horrible, horrible death? I'm even going to ignore that women were not allowed to compete in any games in ancient Hellas.

Dion is delighted, by the way. Have I mentioned yet that I really, really like Dion? Because I do. A lot.

Pythagoras comes to find Areto in the catacombs. She is stitching a wound she sustained in the fight and asks Pythagoras for help. He asks if she knows prince Telemon and she says that apparently she doesn't. She then proceeds to show him a mark on her wrist; a brand from the salt mines of Hydra. All prisoners got one. She says she is sure she saw him there, even if he denies it. Pythagoras has a new mission in life, but unfortunately Telemon has overheard the entire conversation. Watch your back, my friend.

Telemon fights... someone. I don't think he got a name during the name game. Telemon fights like a peacock, emphasis on the latter part of the word. He keeps showing off for the audience. He also fights rough and without mercy. It's not pleasant to watch but he gets the job done quick.

Back in the catacombs, Telemon tells Jason he's vying for Ariadne's hand and that he has hope. He thanks Jason for his life so that he may marry the queen eventually, and it's a dagger to the heart. That evening, Jason is wallowing in his sorrow. He won't eat, just stares dead ahead. Pythagoras and Hercules are worried but when Hercules says he wants to try to do something to cheer her up, Pythagoras reminds Hercules of how he was when Medusa rejected him and I nearly fall off of the couch. They do remember her! God! Come on, guys! Get your act together and fix that mess!

Pythagoras tells Hercules about his conversation with Areto and the mark on her right wrist. Hercules tells Pythagoras that Telemon wears an archer's brace on his right wrist for no good reason at all; he is not an archer and the cuff doesn't go there anyway.

Back in the palace, Ariadne is laying it on thick: the two of them are laying leisurely near a fountain, drinking wine and complimenting each other about how wonderful they are and expressing how much Telemon wants to make her happy. It makes me want to throw up in my mouth a little.

Dion, too, when Ariadne tells him that Telemon has asked for her hand in marriage. He tells her that it would be wise from a business point of view but that, if she is in love with Telemon, she most likely would not be seeking out his counsel. She says he is a wise man, and that he is right about the business side of things. Yet, she does not want to do this. Dion swallows his OTP heart and tells her he must accept the proposal—for Atlantis.

Oh—hey, remember what I said about not killing Arato? No? Well, the writers obviously didn't either. she is found conveniently murdered in the catacombs. Convenient for Telemon, of course. Hey, people who make this show, would you be so kind as to stop killing of people of colour? And more specifically women of colour? Especially by white men? Thanks!

Areto was killed by a very thin blade, by the way, but Telemon blames her weak, female heart. Pythagoras is sure Telemon killed her, though. Hercules doesn't. Speaking of murder by a very thin blade: Telemon goes on and on about the upcoming marriage and Ariadne's beauty to Jason who is completely rattled. So much so that he has a lot of trouble getting through his next fight. He makes it, but barely. His skill is enough to pull him through. Telemon doesn't watch the fight, he watches Ariadne and when Ariadne nods at Jason, he knows what's up. He wins his next fight with ease and when his brace slips a moment, he hurries to correct it.

In the catacombs, Pythagoras goes in for the kill. He congratulates Telemon on a good fight, then asks if he would be so kind as to remove his brace. Telemon doesn't see the need so Pythagoras calls him out on the brand he suspects to be there. Everyone in attendance looks confused and suspicious and Telemon removes his brace; there is a brand; he has been in prison. He ran away from home at eighteen, fell in with pirates, and his father made an example of him by sending him to prison. Pythagoras says that this doesn't prove he is actually a prince, or back in his father's good graces, but Leonidas steps up and says he fought at the royal court a year ago and saw Telemon there, at his father's side. Pythagoras is shell-shocked. Telemon 'forgives' him and Hercules gets Pythagoras out there before he can end up murdered by a thin blade as well.

That evening Pythagoras still can't let it go. He and Hercules talk and Hercules admits that he doesn't trust Telemon either, but that there is nothing they can do. The story could be true, after all; unlikely but true.

At the palace, Ariadne shows Telemon her favourite view but Telemon is more interested in talking about Jason. She explains that they can never marry so Telemon should not be worried. He hopes one day, she will feel for him as she feels about Jason. She says 'perhaps' and he is not entirely happy.

Back in the arena, Jason takes out another opponent, but it takes some doing. He also gets poked in the side by a spear. Ouch. Pythagoras patches him up in the catacombs when Ariadne comes to visit him. she says he did the Gods proud and the makes it clear once more they can never be together, even though she still loves him. She tells him in no uncertain terms that she hopes he wins. Telemon looks on and is jealous as heck.

In the arena, Telemon and Leonidas fight; it's tense and there is obvious history there. Leonidas has a reputation of never losing, even though he does now. I suspect he didn't actually lose in so much that he threw the match.

Hercules suspects the same and questions Leonidas in the catacombs. He points out all the rookie mistakes he made during the game and reminds him of Leonidas' father with whom Hercules competed multiple times: a man with honour. Leonidas comes clean: Telemon made it worth his while; enough money to never have to compete in another tournament ever again. Hercules finally connects the dots: Telemon needed to be sure he would face Jason in the final so he can kill him, the one man who stands in the way between his and Ariadne's marriage.

Hercules and Pythagoras warn Jason, who doesn't believe it. None of the evidence they present can convince him. He will fight Telemon, end of discussion.

Telemon requests an audience with Ariadne, who is reserved. He asks if she has an answer for him yet, concerning the marriage. She holds off—again—even when he brings up Jason and their impossible love. Ariadne promises that she will give him her answer tomorrow and dismisses him, not in the mood to hear him go on and on about the will of the Gods and some such nonsense.

The day of the big fight, Jason is still adamant and Telemon slips a long, thin blade into his grave—the kind that could easily have killed Arato. Wine is spilled to the Gods and the match begins. They dance about each other carefully, but they go full force once they connect. Jason lands the first blow, Telemon the second, Jason the third, and then Telemon throws sand into

Jason's eyes and nearly stabs him in the armpit with the thin blade. Jason manages to catch his wrist before he connects and subdues him. He says it was an unworthy move of Telemon, who says that the objective was to win. He was lucky this time, but he won't always be. As Telemon looks on, Jason is crowned as hero of Atlantis and Telemon's sure is jealous. You have gained an enemy today, Jason. Watch your back.

Back in the catacombs, Jason realizes he was an idiot for not believing Pythagoras. The boys aren't mad, though, just worried.

Telemon seeks out Ariadne while she is pouring libations to the Gods/Poseidon and requests his answer. She buys herself all the time she can, but then she finally accepts his proposal of marriage.

The Marriage of Two Minds

Season 2
Episode Number: 17
Season Episode: 4

Originally aired: Saturday December 6, 2014
Writer: Lucy Watkins
Director: Declan O'Dwyer
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Ronald Pickup (Orpheus), Clive Standen (Telemon), Amy Manson (Medea), Vincent Regan (Dion), Sian Thomas (Eurydice), Peter De Jersey (Goran), John Light (Diagoras), Lorenzo Allchurch (Nicias), Abigail Rose (Rhea)
Summary: As plans progress for the royal wedding, Ariadne must undertake a journey to Telemon's homeland of Aegina. With the kingdom still beset by Colcheans, Jason is not the only one who fears for the queen's safety.



Pasiphae and Medea are praying and another hen bites the dust. Seriously, people, cut it out with the chickens already. Yes, animal sacrifice was a thing, but cutting off the head and then rubbing blood all over some guy's hairy chest is definitely more Voudon/hoodoo than ancient Hellenic worship. Anyway, the bloody guy is Telemon and while I am not surprised, I am a little shocked. It seems the wedding was all part of Pasiphae's plan; just like with Heptarian last season, Pasiphae is trying to marry her way to the throne

(again).

The wedding will be in two days, Telemon has never reconciled with his father (which means that Leonidas lied last episode when he said he saw them together), and the two are planning bloody murder: on the road to the wedding (or home from the wedding?), there will be an ambush. Ariadne will get killed and Pasiphae will claim the throne. Telemon will get a place in the court. By the way, there is enough sexual tension in this scene to make Medea blush, and I don't blame her. She's not too fond of the plan, though, but Pasiphae tells her not to worry; Telemon is desperate to find a home again, he'll do anything to belong.

Hercules has (over)paid off kids to keep an eye out for Telemon. One of them spots the man and runs to tell that Telemon has been out of the city all night. Hercules, Jason and Pythagoras wonder why.

In the palace, Telemon tries to convince Dion and Ariadne to take the route he wants them to take—and for them to leave for Aegina (Telemon's home city) at all. Telemon makes up some sob story that he really needs his daddy's approval and Ariadne gives in. Wisely, Dion says he'll be the only one to know the exact route they'll be taking—as per Ariadne's orders. Telemon is forced to agree.

In the city, Jason refuses to let Ariadne go on this journey without warning her of the dangers. Hercules reminds him that he has no proof and that Telemon is not only a prince but Ariadne's betrothed; he'll look desperate and pathetic—oh, and jealous. He still goes, and Ariadne, indeed, does think he's jealous. She doesn't dismiss him out of hand, though: she accepts him as an

escort for the journey. Ariadne confesses that she waited for a sign to see if she should marry Telemon, and Minos respected Telemon's family greatly. She had to accept. Her heart, however, is still with Jason.

Once home, Jason tells Pythagoras and Hercules to pack: they will be escorting the queen to her wedding. The boys are not exactly thrilled, but there is nothing they can do. They leave at dawn the next day. Dion is very happy to see them coming along. While Jason sharpens his weapons, Ariadne has her appearance sharpened for her. Serfs get her ready for the journey and she looks stunning. It kills Jason to see her come down the steps with Telemon.

The entire royal guard, staff, and house marches through the woods for the duration of the day. They make camp at night and Ariadne tries to get some information on Telemon's father out of him. she asks what makes his father happy, and he says that seeing the changes Ariadne has caused in him will do that. she says she cannot claim that honour and he praises her some more. This man is more slippery than an eel. He makes my skin crawl. Ariadne seems smitten though.

Jason keeps a close eye on them until Pythagoras takes over. They'll sleep in shifts. Pythagoras watches Dion tell Telemon the coming route. Jason, meanwhile, escorts Ariadne back to the fire—she has wandered off. Telemon is instantly jealous when he watches them. He carves a little harder on the stick he's been carving up.

At their fire Pythagoras tells Jason and Hercules that it doesn't seem like Telemon is up to anything and that if this journey does turn out well, they should find another woman for Jason. Jason grins at that. They make fun of everyone's love life and for a few minutes, the mood is lightened. then the watch of Telemon resumes—it seems he just slept through the night. Dion warns them not to leave a trace of the camp, but of course Telemon makes sure to mark the spot.

Once back on the road, Jason questions the route, but Dion says he thinks it's the path Pasiphae will least expect them to take. Behind them, at the former camp site, Pasiphae's right hand man Goran finds the stick Telemon has left behind and hands it over to Pasiphae and Medea. He divines from the markings on the stick that they are heading south, to a gorge—exactly like Dion had told him.

Back with the group, Jason once more tries to dissuade Dion from taking this route. He refuses, saying he truly thinks this is the safest route. They walk the gorge slowly, carefully. Everyone is on edge, though. Telemon holds Ariadne's hand. Tension is high, and then the proverbial shit hits the proverbial fan: arrows start flying and death befalls them. The group hurries to find shelter—all except for Ariadne, who watches her beloved serf get shot and covers her, attempting to help her while she is clearly beyond helping. Telemon comes up behind her, knife in hand, and when she spots him and it, she asks: "is this what you wanted all along? What are you waiting for?" He searches her face, her eyes, and falters. "forgive me," he says and rushes off. He grabs a horse and makes a break for it, leaving the men to shoot the others like fish in a barrel. How no one managed to hit the princess with an arrow is beyond me.

Anyway, our heroes make it out: Jason, Ariadne, Pythagoras, Hercules, and Dion. The rest get slaughtered by Pasiphae's men. Ariadne says she shouldn't have doubted Jason and they embrace; Ariadne is completely shell-shocked.

Back with Pasiphae, Telemon has to explain why he didn't kill Ariadne. Pasiphae is not amused—at all. Telemon tries to defend himself, but of course he ends up with a dagger to the chest for his trouble. It doesn't kill him; because he's royalty, that would anger the Gods. she gives him her wineskin and leaves him to die—or, you know, lets 'the Gods decide his fate'. Nice loophole, that one. Medea throws him a sword—right into his wineskin, making the decision of the Gods even easier.

By nightfall, our heroes are trying to find their way to safety by crawling through the gorge. They soon hear the enemy coming and Ariadne asks for Jason's bow. He gives her a few pointers—which she obviously does not need. Ariadne is a skilled marksman and the first death goes on her tally. She's also good with a sword. She saves the day with great skill. Good on you, Ariadne. Jason, by the way, got injured again somewhere along the way and Ariadne tends to his wounds while they chat a bit about her father. In order to escape unnoticed, they leave everything behind but their weapons. All of Ariadne's jewellery and fancy dresses end up in a ditch somewhere. Seeing as she is now dressed in bright white undergarments, I would have let her keep her blue robes; she lights up like a beacon in the night.

They make it a long way, until a lone archer spots them. Dion takes an arrow to the side and Ariadne's undergarments become a bit shorter to bandage him. The lone archer gets a sword in the back for his trouble. Dion is struggling, but like a good soldier, he powers through. They walk through the night and well into the day—deep into the desert. Pasiphae, meanwhile, discovers that Ariadne escaped.

Out in the dessert, the group is out of water and energy. Dion is at the end of his rope. Ariadne says they should rest but Dion orders Jason to take her away. H refuses, and Ariadne thanks him for not doing it. They are in dire straits, though: without water, survival will be hard for all of them, not just Dion. While Hercules pees, Ariadne wonders if she really deserves this level of loyalty.

Goran finds Dion's blood trail and Medea says they can't be far behind them now. Pasiphae orders that Ariadne is left for her to deal with.

While relieving himself, Hercules spots a group of travellers in the distance. they aren't soldiers, so the group risks alerting them. they make a signal fire and the travellers come closer; two men and a woman—two horses. The group pleads their case and the travellers allow them to join them on their journey to the chantry of Isis. On the journey there, Jason lies to their new companions, telling them they are merchants who were en route to Paros to sell their wares when they were robbed of them. The elder of the males—a (partially?) blind man—seems to doubt the story, but swallows it, regardless.

Pasiphae, obviously, is less than amused when there are suddenly horse prints in the sand along with the trail. It doesn't matter, they will catch the runaways soon.

The blind man trips and Jason catches him. we finally hear his name when he reveals that he knows Ariadne is the queen: it's Orpheus. I am assuming the woman next to him is his wife, Eurydice.

In ancient Hellenic mythology, Orpheus was a legendary musician, poet, and prophet who lost his wife and travelled to the Underworld to fetch her. He lost her again when he broke his deal with Hades. After being forced to leave Eurydice in the Underworld, he travels the world with his lyre. He renounces both women, and many of the Theoi, pained as he is by the loss of his beloved wife. This Orpheus definitely is not there, though, and it seems he is gifted in seeing the truth, even though he can't see with his regular eyes.

Orpheus talks to Ariadne about Minos and Pasiphae; he knew Minos, and is acquainted with Pasiphae. He was saddened to hear Minos passed away, and fears that Pasiphae is truly pure evil. The burden Ariadne carries n her shoulders, he says, is a terrible one and he sympathises with her. She wonders why Minos could not see the evil in Pasiphae and Orpheus says that sometimes we can't see the truth in the people we hold dearest.

The journey continues. For our heroes it's a slow one, for their pursuers a quick one. Still, the heroes make it to the cover of darkness without being caught. Dion is not doing well, but he is alive. Ariadne is no doing well either, but her pain is of a different nature: she feels guilty for Pasiphae's actions.

Orpheus finds Jason in the dark as the younger male gazes up at the stars. Jason thanks Orpheus for all his help and expresses that he is worried that he will endanger him. Orpheus says not to worry; their paths were destined to cross and that whatever happens was meant to happen. He also tells Jason that he thinks his journey is not beginning, and that he does not know how it will end. It's a gift of the Gods and Jason should see it like that.

Eurydice finally (finally!) provides some actual clothes for Ariadne, who must be freezing by now. It's hot in the desert during the day, but they are in a forest now and it's night time, so she must be beyond cold. Anyway, Eurydice teases that Ariadne's suitor surely is not allowed to keep her warm. Once more, Ariadne says that Atlantis comes first. Eurydice says she has much to learn yet: love is a force that cannot be denied.

It seems no one kept watch during the night because Pasiphae's men sneak up on them. It's a brutal fight, but they manage to flee. Ariadne didn't put on her new outfit, by the way. Maybe it was just a blanket. Sigh. Anyway, Hercules, Pythagoras and Dion make it out as a team (and refuse to enter a cave), Ariadne makes it out alone with her bow and saves Jason's life. They are reunited and soon they find Hercules' group. Jason orders them into the cave, much to Hercules' chagrin. Orpheus and Eurydice, as well as the unnamed man (whose name is Diagoras, by the way), join them as they stumble upon the remains of an ancient Necropolis.

A Necropolis is a 'city of the dead', an elaborate tomb monument which were common in various places and periods of history. It's not a good place to hang around. They move on as swiftly as they can with a blind man and one who is badly wounded. Outside, the men refuse to enter the Necropolis; legend says that any who enter, will not come out. Pasiphae is furious and kills one of the men to make an example of. Death can just as swiftly be acquired outside of the Necropolis, after all. They still don't come with her, though, and Medea and Pasiphae go on alone.

Inside the Necropolis, Dion is at the end of his journey. He breaths his last breath just before Pasiphae and Medea come upon them. Ariadne, bitter and angry, shoots an arrow straight into Pasiphae's stomach, after which Medea unleashes her innate magic again, dragging both herself and Jason down a very, very steep cliff. Ariadne is forced to look on, horrified, calling Jason's name.

The Day of the Dead

Season 2

Episode Number: 18

Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Saturday December 13, 2014
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Declan O'Dwyer
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Ronald Pickup (Orpheus), Amy Manson (Medea), Vincent Regan (Dion), Sian Thomas (Eurydice), John Light (Diagoras)
Summary: As the dust settles, the gang find themselves dispersed around the ancient necropolis. And they soon realize they are not alone - the space is crawling with a magical army of the undead. The race is on to find Jason before he falls prey to the flesh-eating monsters. Elsewhere in the cave system, as Jason battles for his life, he finds an unlikely ally in the mysterious Medea. But can he really trust her?



Pasiphae is still alive. She's on the floor, crumpled up, and when she wakes up she realizes she has an arrow pretty much all the way through her body. Like any good movie person, she yanks the thing out and immediately partakes in strenuous action by dragging herself over the ground to a sarcophagus of some sort. More strenuous activity: Pasiphae casts a curse with what may very well be her dying breath. As she falls back down to the ground, a rotting hand punches out of the brittle stone sarcophagus. Uh-

oh.

Hercules and Pythagoras are staring down into the abyss. They throw torches down to see if they can spot Jason (and Medea). there is no sign of them. They report back to Ariadne who refuses to believe Jason (and Medea) could be dead. Eurydice agrees with her. Quickly, they pack up and leave Dion behind as they start looking for a way down.

Below in the chasm, there are two people very lucky to still have hair. In the glow of the torches Hercules and Pythagoras threw down, Jason and Medea lie sprawled out on the ground, not moving a muscle.

In the tunnels, Orpheus' bat ears pick up on a sound no one else can hear. Ariadne hopefully says it might be Jason. Hercules wisely guesses it's probably something else—something a lot less friendly. After a while, the others hear it as well.

Meanwhile, Dion's body slowly comes to life. It's him the group heard and when Diagoras goes in for the hug, he gets bitten quite terribly in the arm. Dion is not looking very healthy and Ariadne—very rightfully—freaks the fuck out. She's also the wisest of the lot, though, because she orders Hercules to kill him—errr... again. Obviously Hercules skipped *Zombie Slaying 101* because he stabs him, which does absolutely nothing. I don't blame him, there is literally not a single zombie in ancient Hellenic lore so how could he possibly know that zombies only die and stay dead when you lop off their heads? Hercules stabs him again then tries to punch him out when a horde of undead befalls them. They run.

Jason, meanwhile, wakes up. His shoulder hurts but for someone who just fell off of a very high cliff, he's pretty well off. He gets up without much difficulty and grabs his sword. Medea is

still out cold. He pokes at her with his sword and she wakes up. He has the opportunity to kill her but refuses to take it. Instead he walks off silently.

Pythagoras is obviously well-read because he guesses what's going on: the dead have been brought back to life; necromancy. Orpheus says that the king who was buried here had his entire army slaughtered so he had guards in Hades. I'm not touching that bit of wobbly ancient Hellenic thinking with a ten foot pole, if you don't mind. Anyway, the group rightfully concludes Ariadne did not kill Pasiphae (instantly). They also concluded that the undead seek to eat their flesh. Diagoras—in the infinite wisdom of many minor TV-characters before him—says his would 'is nothing' and refuses treatment.

Jason is making his way through the tunnels with a sword and a torch, calling out loud enough to draw the undead. He freaks out but manages to fight it off. Back where they landed, Medea screams. Jason realizes these things have also found her and despite his anger he goes back to save the girl—who is being swarmed down on by a dozen or so undead. The same is true for the other group. Hercules keeps stabbing the bastards and it doesn't work at all—until he pierces the heart(?!). I... I am just going to go with this. These are undead zombie creatures raised from their graves by magic which can be killed by stabbing them in the heart. By the Gods...

Our heroes don't have time to ponder this idiocy either: one of the zombies grabs Pythagoras.

Now he knows what to aim for, Hercules fights the zombie off of his friend fairly easily and Ariadne can kill them too now she knows that all she has to do is hit the heart. When Dion goes after her, though, she has trouble sending an arrow into his chest. This show needs an anatomy lesson, though, because when she finally does stab him with an arrow, it's in his gut and he keels over—again. There is no time to mourn the death-that-should-not-be: the king obviously took a lot of men with him in death.

In the tunnels, Medea shows great knowledge when she, too, says that this must be the undead. She is shocked Jason came back for her and he tells her he nearly didn't. Jason eventually asks the question we have all been trying to get answered for weeks now: who is Pasiphae to Medea? She says she is 'my blood'. Ooookay, Jason, no falling for this woman. I mean it. They don't have time to get into bloodlines: the undead are too numerous and they are coming closer. Together they go on the hunt for Pasiphae—the only one who could have made the dead come back to life.

The other group finds the tombs—there are hundreds of them. Surprise, surprise, Diagoras' wound has become infected at an alarmingly quick rate. They need to hide so they can tend to the wound. Eventually they settle on making use of one of the tombs; the previous inhabitants have no need for it now anyway.

Medea questions why Jason fights so hard for Ariadne and he says he swore an oath to his queen. she knows there is more to it than that. He says there can't be. Medea knows about his feelings for her. Jason doesn't engage her in the subject. Instead, he asks her why she is loyal to Pasiphae. It seems that Medea's powers have always made her an outcast. Pasiphae accepted her, loved her, and in return Medea gave her her loyalty. Jason doubts Pasiphae can even show kindness. Medea says that there is more to Pasiphae than that. Jason tries to convince Medea that Pasiphae's motives are flawed, but he's not getting through quite yet.

In the tombs, the wound is tended to and Ariadne and Eurydice bond about love at first sight. When Eurydice and Orpheus cuddle up, Ariadne watches and I am damn sure she is imagining her and Jason when they are old and grey.

The sounds of the dead make Hercules and Ariadne uncomfortable. Hercules is staring out, waiting, wondering when the monsters will find them. Ariadne can't stop thinking about Jason who is out there amongst the dead. Hercules sees that as a personal failure. Ariadne blames herself. At the same time, though, they know Jason is strong and skilled. If anyone can survive this it's him. Meanwhile, Diagoras' wound is getting worse.

The ever burning torches carry Jason and Medea down the hallways where they come upon slaughtered warriors. There are wounds to the heart and they are very relieved to have found a way to kill them. Besides, dead zombies means the others came this way. A new group of undead stumble upon them and Jason kills a few before he gets topped over. He struggles to fight one of the monsters off until Medea picks up a sword and kills it. A life for a life. Jason has broken his leg, though. Medea immediately kneels down and heals it, telling Jason to 'trust her'. He does. Medea says he is still wrong about Pasiphae. Jason counters that Pasiphae raised the dead—sacrificing Medea as well—and that she doesn't care about Medea. Medea refuses to hear it—she

has no one else who cares, she needs Pasiphae to care.

The group is asleep but a bit of noise wakes Pythagoras up. Just in time because Diagoras has turned and is going after Eurydice. He rushes to pull the monster off and Ariadne comes to help. She gets tossed aside like a ragdoll. With quick instructions, Pythagoras helps Orpheus kill Diagoras for good and Pythagoras draws the logical conclusion: if you get bitten, you get sick, die, and turn. Hercules is not amused by this even darker turn of events. Everyone has a great big scare when they spot a wound on Ariadne's arm. Thankfully it's just a cut from the fall.

Orpheus and Eurydice take a moment to process the loss of their friend. Meanwhile, Hercules spots the horde—they have returned to the tombs.

Self-preservation is finally kicking in in Medea. Once they find the others, Queen Ariadne will have her killed on the spot. Jason swore an oath to her so... what will he do then? Jason promises he won't let any harm come to Medea. She asks why he would. He says she saved his life and she warns him that doesn't change anything—she won't betray Pasiphae. He says she already did by saving his life. She makes a few lame excuses but it's clear she is inherently good and getting confused.

Meanwhile, Orpheus realizes something is wrong with Eurydice: she has a fever. There is a wound on her arm: Diagoras bit her. Orpheus refuses to believe it but he knows she is doomed. Pythagoras has noticed Eurydice is not doing too hotly either but Hercules waves it off when he mentions it.

Jason and Medea have a problem: in order to get to Jason's friends, they have to go through the horde. Jason extinguishes the torches and pulls Medea along. It seems he's going to sneak past the zombies in the very-very-narrow passageways. Medea is not exactly convinced by the plan but the first of the zombies pass them without spotting them. It seems hiding until they walk by is actually a sound strategy.

Once more, Pythagoras tries to convince Hercules something is wrong with Eurydice. One more, Hercules waves it off. Orpheus refuses to leave Eurydice's side, however, and Pythagoras comes straight out and asks what is wrong. Orpheus says to just leave them alone. Pythagoras finally realizes the truth. He says he is so sorry and leaves them be. All Orpheus wants is for them to die together. Pythagoras delivers the bad news to Hercules and Ariadne. They know there is only one thing to do: kill her before she turns. Hercules refuses but Ariadne volunteers for the gruesome task. She demands a dagger, saying that as queen, she can't shy away from what needs to be done.

She approaches the pair carefully and Orpheus knows what she has come to do. She says she's sorry, that there is no other way. Orpheus says that she is her entire world, that he can't live without her. Ariadne tells him that Eurydice wouldn't want him to die too, and that is what will happen when she turns. Orpheus knows this. He slowly peels his wife away from his chest where she has been resting. If anyone is to end his wife's life, he says, it will be him. As Ariadne, Hercules and Pythagoras look on, Orpheus lays his wife down on the ground, vows he will come for her in Hades, and requests the dagger. Ariadne gives it to him and then withdraws. Orpheus kills her and then lays at her side. I am not ashamed to say that when Ariadne cries, I cry a little too.

Jason and Medea are getting closer to the tombs. They spot the only one with a light in them and Jason assumes it's his friends. In the tomb, Ariadne hopes that one day someone will love her as much as Orpheus loves Eurydice. Hercules says someone already does, then awkwardly covers for his slip of the tongue by saying she must be beating men off with a stick, pretty girl like her. For a moment, everyone tenses, then Ariadne shrugs it off and goes to comfort Orpheus. Before she can reach him, however, they all scramble for weapons because Jason is making a Gods awful ruckus climbing up. Ariadne falls into his arms.

When Medea appears, the happy reunion is shattered. Hercules threatens to cut her head off, Ariadne jumps back with something between fear and hate on her features, Pythagoras is just confused and Jason says Medea is with him and under his protection. Ariadne is shocked Jason promised anything like that. The entire group wants her dead but Medea says she knows how to vanquish the dead. It saves her life. Medea says they must return to the site where the curse was cast. No one is happy about the arrangement.

Orpheus covers his dead wife while Jason makes his condolences. Orpheus says it won't be the end. Jason is spared from answering when Hercules ties Medea's hands behind her back. He tries to stop them but Medea says it's alright, if this is what it takes for Jason's friends to feel

safe then so be it. Before they leave, Ariadne pulls Jason aside. She says she was dying when she thought he was dead. She says he shouldn't accept that she is queen and that therefore they can't be together—both of them shouldn't. She was scared, but seeing Orpheus and Eurydice made her realize that she is and always has been deeply in love with Jason. She breaks down and asks him to say something. He doesn't, instead he takes her into his arms and kisses her deeply.

The group makes their way through the tunnels, fighting the undead at every turn. Jason's main focus is keeping a defenceless Medea alive. Once they reach the spot where Pasiphae must have ended up, Medea tells them to look for the ancient symbols Pasiphae carved into something to complete her curse. They must destroy them. Pythagoras asks how she knows these symbols even exist. Medea valiantly stops herself from rolling her eyes as she says that that is how magic works.

Jason and Hercules walk along the narrow strip Jason previously fell down from and Hercules nearly takes a tumble down the cliff face himself. Jason manages to pull him up just in time. When they round the bend, it's all zombies, all the time: hundreds of them. In the one ray of light that miraculously shines down into this cavern the guys spot the tomb. There is no other solution than fight their way through. Hercules finds the symbols on the sarcophagus cover and shatters it. All the soldier zombies crumple into bone piles. A ways off, Medea notes that Ariadne really loves Jason. Ariadne refuses to share her feelings, just watches anxiously for Jason's return. Jason and Hercules make it back in one piece and Jason cuts Medea loose. Ariadne loosely remarks that they are all in Medea's debt and Medea promptly repays their trust with treachery. She steals Jason's dagger and wraps herself around Ariadne, dagger to her throat.

Jason asks what Medea thinks she is doing and with obvious pain in her voice, Medea says she is only doing what she intended to do all along. She plunges the dagger into Ariadne's side and shoves her into Jason's arms. Instead of running, though, she watches with shocked horror and fear on her features. Jason stares up at her with so much anger that if looks could kill, Medea would drop dead on the spot.

The Grey Sisters

Season 2
Episode Number: 19
Season Episode: 6

Originally aired: Saturday December 20, 2014
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Declan O'Dwyer
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), Ronald Pickup (Orpheus), Amy Manson (Medea), Ken Bones (Melas), Lorcan Cranitch (Cilix), Sally Dexter (Deina), Ellie Haddington (Enyo), Susan Brown (Pemphredo), Peter De Jersey (Goran)
Summary: As Ariadne lies on her deathbed, Jason's guilt is almost too much to bear. He resolves to do all he can to save her and embarks on a dangerous quest into the unknown.



Medea is fleeing through the woods—running for her life with Jason hot on her heels. Someone is out for a little vengeance. He loses her, though, as she hides behind a tree. He swears that he will hunt her down and kill her but that day will not be today: Ariadne isn't doing well and she needs to be brought to Atlantis. Jason gives up the pursuit and carries Ariadne home where she is immediately swarmed by serfs—attendants, priests, and doctors alike. Everyone but Pythagoras must wait outside.

The oracle sets to work while outside Jason is beating himself up over trusting Medea in the first place. It's a long wait—and Hercules makes it a little worse by trying to be a good friend and telling him that his trust in people is one of his good qualities. It doesn't feel like it while Ariadne is still dying just a door away. The Oracle does all she can—begs for Poseidon's help and has applied herbs and any cure she knows. It's in the hands of the Gods and for someone from our world, that isn't really enough for Jason. He questions Pythagoras when he emerges: the bleeding has stopped but Ariadne is very weak. Pythagoras encourages Jason to go see her while Hercules goes to find something to munch on. In her chamber, Ariadne wakes up for a moment—long enough for Jason to tell her he's not going anywhere.

At the oikos, Hercules has treated Orpheus to a meal (of which he eats the leftovers himself). Orpheus will be leaving tomorrow to take care of Eurydice's funeral. Hercules says he knows what it feels like to lose your true love and I roll my eyes emphatically. At any rate, Orpheus merrily announces that he's getting his wife back, even if he has to travel to Hades. As someone who has been to Hades, Hercules isn't exactly amused to hear that. He also doesn't really believe Orpheus will do it. I just hope he's thinking of a certain woman with snakes for hair making sandcastles day after day to alleviate the boredom while she waits for that heroic rescue she was promised.

Anyway, moving on. The next morning, Jason has taken up half of Ariadne's bed and they are holding hands as they both rest. Her wound has started bleeding again during the night and she is not doing well at all. Something is wrong—the wound is not healing. The Oracle checks for curses on the blade and yep! There is definitely a curse on it. Medea is powerful and she has

placed a death curse on it. The Oracle can't break it so she encourages Jason to visit the Grey Sisters—powerful seers who can see 'even into the minds of the Gods'. They will know if there is a cure. She reluctantly tells Jason where to find them.

In the woods, Hercules *finally* blames himself for not finding a cure for Medusa yet. Good, you asshole! You made her a promise. Not even Pythagoras wants to tell him he's right in giving up on his supposed true love so easily. Then, my fury subsides a moment when we are greeted by a very welcome sight: Pasiphae is alive! And of course she is still scheming to take over the throne of Atlantis. That's my evil queen!

Goran, Pasiphae and Medea are holed up in an old temple in the woods. Lilix (Lorcan Cranitch) is telling them about how the rumours of Ariadne's nearing end are spreading throughout Atlantis. Pasiphae says that as soon as Ariadne is dead, she will claim the throne. According to Lilix, most citizens will support her. Pasiphae does not trust Lilix but they come to an... understanding with veiled threats on both sides. Oh yes, this is going to end well.

Somewhere in what are probably the same woods, the boys come to a cave. Nature holds its breath here—no birds, no animals, no nothing. It's creepy and they proceed with extreme caution—especially when they come upon skulls on sticks—totems. The Grey Sisters are of course the Moirai and their appearance has been jacked straight from Disney's 'Hercules'.

The Moirai are the Goddesses of fate. Their names are Klotho (spinner), Atropos (unturnable), and Lachesis (Alotter) and They assign to every person his or her fate or share in the scheme of things. They are Goddesses who preside over both birth and death and under the counsel of Zeus determine the time in-between. That whole 'one eye'-business, by the way? Not a part of their mythology.

After a round of 'pass the eye around', the Moirai say they know why Jason is here and ask for a gift in return for their counsel. Instead, he grabs the eye and promises to return it in exchange for their advice. They agree: Medea's blood needs to be applied to the wound. She can be found in the temple of Hekate. Now if he would pretty please give the eye back? Oh, and he can't kill Medea because their fates are entwined. If he kills her, the future is doomed. No one leaves this exchange happy, let me tell you.

Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras travel to the forest where the temple of Hekate is located. It's said to be cursed and the horses refuse to enter it. They move on on foot. Hercules and Pythagoras do a bit of expositioning while walking, talking about how no one can kill Medea and then a Stymphalian bird suddenly flies overhead and no one is too concerned. Uh... guys, those things are pretty lethal. It's just another day in ancient Greece.

Without incident, they make it to the temple and decide to wait until nightfall because I don't have enough dark screencaps for this series already. In what may be the silliest turn of events I have seen on my TV screen in a long time (and I watch 'Once Upon a Time' with above average loyalty), Hercules gets pricked by a mosquito. His one drop of blood draws the Stymphalian birds to him and everyone has to run for their lives. These things look like Pterodactyls, by the way.

The boys run, find a hiding spot under an overhanging rock where the birds can't reach them and have to wait until Hercules' wounds by mosquito and bird have healed. Jason is not going to wait for that. After a bit of back and forth, Hercules and Pythagoras are going to stay behind to patch up Hercules while Jason and a bottle for Medea's blood go on ahead. Awesome plan.

Jason makes it to the temple without being spotted and without falling down a very steep cliff. He gets spotted once but takes out the guard fairly easily. After that, it's just a short search for Medea—who seems to have earned a bit of prestige by her actions. She senses his presence in one of the hallways but he manages to hide. Then Goran spots him while he tries to sneak up on her.

Medea knows he's there and asks him why he hasn't killed her yet. She moves closer saying he feels it too—they are linked and they have both been touched by the Gods. Jason obviously does, but still knocks her out. He hesitates between taking blood and killing her one more time, then does the sensible thing. Of course, by that time Goran and his men are upon him and he gets knocked out while Pasiphae rushes to Medea's side.

In the cell where Jason is being kept, Pasiphae watches him as he lies unconscious. Medea goes to check up on him as well. Pasiphae wants to know what Jason said to her but she lies, saying he said he came to kill her and that was it. Pasiphae doesn't trust it—she is still alive, after all. Medea questions what she will do to him, if she is going to kill him, and Pasiphae says it's not that simple because he is her son. Medea looks stricken; she knew Pasiphae has a son, but that it's Jason is obviously news to her. Well, now some things are falling into place for her: they

are related—and both of them to Pasiphae. That must be part of why they are so drawn to each other.

Back in the overhang, Hercules and Pythagoras realize they should never have let Jason go. He could have been killed—or worse, have been told the truth.

Jason wakes up and tries to go after Pasiphae who is still in his cell. He is chained up well, though, and he can't get to her. She makes sure to stay out of her reach. I love it when these two interact; it allows both of these characters to stretch their characters and test their range. They discuss ethics and politics and establish that there is a lot of grey between two strong points of view. Pasiphae says they need to work together for the good of Atlantis and while Jason does not believe her, you can see that there is a shift taking place inside his head: Pasiphae was the enemy but she has humanized herself again and now there is all this squishy, uncomfortable grey and he isn't happy about it.

Hercules has dried up, it seems, so they risk a few steps outside. They only draw the attention of a crow. So far, so good.

In the cell, Pasiphae is watching Jason eat, saying she wishes to understand him—and for him to understand her. All I see is a mother soaking in the presence of her son, but Jason does not know that, of course. He says he came to Atlantis to look for his father and that his mother died shortly after he was born. His father is dead now, too. There is obvious pain of Pasiphae's face. She asks if he has memory of her or if his father ever spoke of her. He says no to both. She is clearly in pain, anxious, trying to decide if she should tell him the truth. It would stop them being enemies... but she knows the words of the Oracle. She can't tell him, he isn't ready. She tries to flee the cell, but eh begs her to stop, to explain what she is talking about.

She hesitates, stops, turns. "I am not who you believe me to be," she says and in her emotional state she forgets she shouldn't get within reach of him. He takes instant advantage, wrapping his chains around her neck and pulling, trying to suffocate her. He works her down to the ground, gritting out that she is exactly who he thinks she is. It's only a quick acting Goran who saves her life by knocking Jason over the head with the pommel of his sword. Pasiphae is just in time to stop them from killing Jason. What a Gods damned mess...

In the woods, Hercules and Pythagoras are making their way to temple without being seen by a patrol on their lunch break. They settle in for the wait.

Back at the temple, Pasiphae is trying to process what has just happened. She was shocked by the hate in his eyes and Medea tells her that it might change one day. Pasiphae knows she can't permit herself to have these feelings for Jason anymore. With a sure hand, she poisons his drink. He was dead to her the moment his father took him away, she says, and Medea is shocked. Besides, she knows that there is something special between her and Jason and that she can't let him die. On the other hand, Pasiphae has been her only family, her only friend, and she can't betray her. Talk about being stuck between a rock and a hard place...

Hercules and Pythagoras make it to the temple and hurry to find Jason while Pasiphae and her men journey down to the cell he is being held in, chalice with poisoned wine in hand. Hercules and Pythagoras get there just before though—just before. They have to rush to escape. Medea spots them—and Jason sees it. They stare at each other a few moments, then Jason runs and Medea keeps her mouth shut.

When they get far enough away, Hercules congratulates Jason on killing Medea. He says he didn't do it; he couldn't kill her. He sensed something inside of her and in Pasiphae—neither killed him while they had the chance. Come on, dude. Connect the dots already. Somehow I don't think this secret is going to be kept in the next season of Atlantis...

As it is, the three men hurry back to Atlantis, have the Oracle rub blood and herbs onto the wound of a nearly deceased Ariadne, and wait. Then wait some more. And some more. Then the Oracle emerges with good news: Ariadne is doing better and is even awake. She is very grateful to Jason who still feels all sorts of guilty. Ariadne is a very happy queen and asks Jason to stay with her. She tells him that she meant what she said in the necropolis. She then proceeds to ask Jason to marry her—and he says yes, yes, yes, yes, yes... well, he kisses her, which is pretty much the same thing. Hurray!

A Fate Worse Than Death

Season 2

Episode Number: 20

Season Episode: 7

Originally aired: Saturday April 11, 2015
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Lawrence Gough
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Juliet Stevenson (The Oracle), Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Amy Manson (Medea), Emmett J Scanlan (Delmos), Lorcan Cranitch (Cilix), Ken Bones (Melas), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Daniel Easton (Lycidas)
Summary: When news reaches Pasiphae of Ariadne and Jason's impending marriage, she is terrified that Atlantis will be lost to her forever and resolves to do all she can to stop the union, no matter the cost. But Pasiphae's pursuit of power has far-reaching and devastating consequences, and as the battle for Atlantis continues, it seems no-one is immune to her touch.



The second Pasiphae hears of the upcoming wedding, she hardens her heart and decides Jason needs to die. After all, if he takes the throne, 'Atlantis will be lost to her forever'. She's not the only one against the wedding; Ariadne's general Delmos is also not happy about the prospect. Since Jason is supposedly not of royal blood, everyone and their mother is going to make a fuss if he marries the queen. Ariadne enjoys lala-land far too much to let that disturb her, though. She is going to ask the Gods.

The oracle agrees to see Ariadne and Jason for a blood offering to the Gods. The ceremony itself is quite beautiful. Jason is led to the steps of the palace by guards, and Ariadne by her own. The Oracle cuts their palms and takes their blood to the sacred groves of Dodona. They will have their answer by morning.

Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras nervously drink wine as they wait for dawn while the Oracle makes it to Dodona in record time. She pours the collected blood on an altar, burns leaves and lets the remnants of the leaves fall onto the blood as she prays, hoping for a sign. The wind picks up and obviously a sign is given. The Oracle and her guards return home. Meanwhile, in Atlantis it's a bad day to be a guard because assassins are crawling through the streets, taking out guards and infiltrating what I assume to be the palace.

The Oracle returns to the temple and is very, very happy: the omens were good! The Gods bless the union! That would be about the time when a bunch of assassins pounce on her. Jason finds the remnants of a scuffle and fight and rushes out to rescue the unconscious Oracle from the ninjas. Too bad he gets punched in the face and goes out like a light. The Oracle is gone.

Ariadne is quite convinced that not even Pasiphae would be stupid enough to kill a servant of the Gods, and Pythagoras logically deduces that it's more likely she will just keep her prisoner so she can't proclaim that the marriage is blessed. Hercules does his own deducing and comes to the conclusion that someone in the palace helped the assassins.

Pasiphae has, indeed, captured the Oracle and she goes to visit her in her cell. I love these two together on screen; they are both brilliant actresses and their characters have so much history.

They throw insults at each other, take stabs at each other's virtue and emotional well-being, and the Oracle is getting through to Pasiphae on one front: Pasiphae loves her child. Angered by the conclusion to their verbal cat-fight, Pasiphae wraps her hand around the Oracle's throat and backs her up against a pillar. She makes a bunch of threat and—finally remembering that a) she actually likes this woman and b) that she is a servant of the Gods—releases her. The Oracle watches her go with a mixture of fear and worry on her features.

Medea has made it to a fort under guard escort. She must go in alone, she tells Goran. Assumingly, it's a magic thing. Ariadne and Melas, The Oracle's assistant/priest of Poseidon, agree that there must be someone in the palace working for Pasiphae.

Pasiphae tries to torment the Oracle with food and harsh words. She's not buying it, but she is starting to get worried—Pasiphae is threatening to kill her. She won't do it herself, so the Oracle tells her to bring whomever Pasiphae has gotten to kill her into the cell so she can tell him about the terrible things that will happen to him if he kills an oracle of the Gods. Pasiphae plays coy. She taunts the Oracle because she can't see her own future, and sneers at her over laughing at all the (bad) prophecies the Oracle has proclaimed about Pasiphae. It's a brilliant and dark exchange that leaves the Oracle truly afraid for the first time since this started.

Medusa goes into the fort with an empty crate and returns with a filled one. Goran tries to sneak a peek but Medea magics him away just in time. Some things are best left unseen, she tells him and I am quite sure I know what is in that crate.

Hercules, Pythagoras and Jason are back in the woods with the Stymphalian birds and pondering the timing of events. Why wait to kidnap the Oracle until she got back to the city? Why not take her while in the woods? Pythagoras can't figure it out and it's bugging him.

The Medusa-express arrives at the palace and all the men are told to leave the building. It seems, by the way, that Medusa's powers don't work on Pasiphae and Medea which is very handy because Medusa is dying for a talk, for companionship. She was abandoned in that cave and when she was promised salvation by Pasiphae, she took the chance with two hands. It's Medusa who will kill the Oracle, and in return, Pasiphae will 'end her suffering'. She looks broken, scared, and out of her mind with loneliness.

As the boys sneak closer to the temple, they come upon the encampment of soldiers. They decide to go around as they wonder why the heck everyone has left their comfy beds for twigs and ants. Pasiphae, meanwhile, shows Medusa to the Oracle's cell. The Oracle knows something's up and slowly gets up, telling Pasiphae the Gods will have their vengeance. She hears Medusa's snakes and slowly—slowly she turns. At that moment, Medusa realizes whom she is about to kill.

The boys wisely catch on that they are walking into a trap. They're not—well, the soldiers weren't put out as a lure for them—but it's still good they realize they are not exactly being restrained from rescuing the Oracle. It wouldn't matter anyway: the Oracle is too busted up to serve even as a garden ornament.

Pythagoras is the one who draws the obvious conclusion: only Medusa could have done this. Hercules says she would never do that and rushes out to follow her while I mentally rip him a new one for being the idiot he is.

Jason is having a hard time with the Oracle's death. She was always there for him—and he vows to avenge her.

Hercules searches for Medusa and finds her—eventually. She's gott her regular hair back; Pasiphae kept her word. She explains to Hercules what she did and why she did it, that she couldn't stand another moment alone in that cave. She wanted to be with him again. She only found out it was the Oracle she was supposed to kill when she laid eyes on her. Hercules blames himself and she says there was nothing he could have done. I'll not repeat what I said to my screen. Hercules sends her away because somehow Jason and Pythagoras have turned into Neanderthals out for blood. Uhhh... guys? Remember who the real enemy is? Victim blaming does not look good on anyone, I promise you.

Back in the palace, Jason breaks the bad news to Ariadne, who nearly crumbles. Like Jason, the Oracle was very close to her and not only has she lost her, but without the Oracle, chances of their marriage not causing war are slim to none. Jason has to tell Ariadne about Medusa's involvement and I need to take a moment because even Ariadne decides to blame her. I will spare you another rant. Hercules is shocked and heartbroken, and hopefully consumed with shame and guilt.

Back at the oikos, Pythagoras is trying to get Hercules to eat and give up on Medusa; both to no avail. Medusa must be punished for what she did, he feels, and Hercules refuses to see Medusa as anything less than a victim, even though he doesn't realize how big his share is in this killing—none of them do. Pythagoras says she must have changed, that Hercules is not to blame. I... never mind.

Jason, meanwhile, is on his own guilt trip (that Pythagoras tries to talk him out of, too): if he hadn't agreed to marry Ariadne, none of this would have happened. He goes out to stop the ripples from spreading any further and tries to get Ariadne to reconsider the marriage. Ariadne says that if they give up now, the Oracle gave up her life for nothing. They love each other with all their heart, but everyone feels responsible for everyone else's heart, too. Long story short: the marriage is on. Melas is not amused when Ariadne tells him to go ahead and prepare for the big day, but he's just a lowly servant. He agrees to do it.

Hercules is packing a bag with food and supplies. Pythagoras catches him but Hercules waves him off. He's on his way to the cabin he told Medusa to wait for him back in the temple.

In the palace, we find out the identity of the mole: it's Melas, who has been talking to Cilix, whom I think I forgot to mention in the recap of last episode because he added absolutely nothing to the plot but mope about and tell Ariadne the noblemen would never accept their marriage. Since everyone was already saying that, adding him did not feel like a great addition. Now, though, it's very clear he's on the side of the queen-in-exile, and that Melas is working with him. Killing the Oracle? He didn't know about that part, by the way. Oh sweet summer child... It's now up to you to stop the wedding.

Back at the oikos, Hercules returns sans supplies and Pythagoras knows something is up. He doesn't have a chance to get to the bottom of it, though: a bunch of guards led by Cilix burst in. Jason is arrested and accused of murdering the Oracle. Pythagoras realizes what is going on: Pasiphae only needed to take the Oracle if the Gods' verdict was positive, and in order to find that out, she needed to return to the city and tell someone—namely Melas. Melas then told Pasiphae's men and got the Oracle kidnapped.

Jason is dragged into the palace and Delmos informs the queen that Jason has been charged with murder by Melas. She falls out of bed, dresses, and rushes to the chamber where Melas is holding court. She demands to hear his reasoning and Melas tells her that the Oracle said the oracles did not look favourable on the union. Jason found out and murdered her to keep her silent so he could still marry Ariadne and become king. Needless to say, Jason says it's a lie, but it's his word against a witness of the attack and Poseidon's high priest.

Ariadne tries to stop all of this from happening, but Melas goes on and on about how she dares to speak for the Gods while he is the priest. Melas manages to talk Ariadne into a corner and she has to concede to sentencing Jason to death—but she makes a few unveiled threats at Melas' address while she is at it.

The Madness of Hercules

Season 2

Episode Number: 21

Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Saturday April 18, 2015
Writer: Richard McBrien
Director: Lawrence Gough
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Amy Manson (Medea), Emmett J Scanlan (Delmos), Lorcan Cranitch (Cilix), Anya Taylor-Joy (Cassandra), Ken Bones (Melas), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Thomas Coombes (Critias), Sam Swainsbury (Nestor), Jason Baughan (Patrol Guard), John Draycott (Tavern Owner), Jason Cheater (Soldier)
Summary: Jason has been sentenced to death for killing the Oracle and it looks like there is anything anybody can do to save him including Ariadne. Pasiphae tightens her grip over Atlantis and the future does not look good.



Hercules is heading to Medusa and the cottage he told her to go to. She's there, sobbing in a corner. She feels guilty, and so very scared: she killed the Oracle and now she has cursed herself forever. Back in Atlantis, someone else is feeling the heat: Jason will be killed by the Bronze Bull in two days time. He'll be killed as a traitor to Atlantis.

It seems Melas didn't work for Pasiphae out of his own free will: they have the new Oracle of Poseidon, Cassandra, who is like a daughter to him, and

his responsibility. Pasiphae and Medea know very well that Melas will do everything in his power to keep Cassandra safe. Melas does, however, try to save Jason's life by pleading with Pasiphae to spare the boy. Pasiphae says she can't and won't spare him. He'll eventually be a threat and she can't risk his future interference, even if he is her son. Cassandra will be released to Melas when Pasiphae is on the throne, and for that to happen, Jason needs to die. It's as simple as that.

Hercules returns to the oikos and finds Pythagoras up and awake. Pythagoras wonders where he's been and Hercules lies. They should get some sleep, Pythagoras says. Tomorrow they will be seeing Ariadne: she has finally granted their request for an audience.

Speaking of which, Ariadne is playing to Poseidon, and Melas watches her pray. She is there to ask for clemency for Jason, but Melas knows he can't. He turns her request down, but it pains him. He tells Ariadne that he isn't her enemy and that they can't question the will of the Gods. Problem is: Ariadne knows that Jason's death is not the will of the Gods but the will of men. She just can't prove it.

In the morning, Pythagoras and Hercules petition Ariadne for clemency for Jason... which she can't give. Without Medusa's testimony that she killed the Oracle, there is nothing Ariadne can do. She turns them down. The boys are shocked—and rightfully so Everyone is trapped in their roles.

Jason is shattered. He wonders if it was all a lie, if Ariadne ever did love him if she can send him to his death as easily as this. When Pythagoras and Hercules are alone, Hercules confesses

he knows where Medusa is, but he refuses to offer her up in exchange for Jason's life. He needs there to be another way—but Pythagoras says there isn't one. And so Hercules goes to fetch Medusa... who is still faithfully waiting at the cabin.

Medusa says she will earn Hercules love again—which he says she already has. She will do better, make amends. Hercules brought flowers and a guilty conscience. She says she's the luckiest woman alive for having found Hercules and Hercules can't make himself take her to Atlantis. Instead, he watches her sleep peacefully while time runs out.

Jason tried to get an audience with Ariadne through Delmos, who reluctantly agrees to ask her. Melas and Ariadne are busy, however—preparing the Bull for the sacrifice. Cilix says she is doing the right thing, and she agrees—but it's obviously killing her. She refuses Jason's request for an audience when Delmos asks her. She bows to the will of the Gods.

In the morning, Hercules flat out lies to Medusa about the people's views of her—he tells her that they blame Pasiphae for the Oracle's death—and leaves to either go on a foolish rescue attempt of his friend, or his execution. Or, you know, a bar. He gets shit drunk and then gets himself (and Critias, the guy who cheated him at gambling ages ago) locked up in jail.

It seems Critias is in on it—whatever 'it' is. They break out of their jail cell, grab the guard's sword, and Hercules sends Critias off to save him. Then, Hercules sets the prison on fire and takes out the guards in the fog. He frees Jason—who grabs a sword and follows Hercules through the castle. They run into a few guards, and then a few more, and then the entire platoon.

Delmos summons Pythagoras to tell him that now both Jason and Hercules will be sacrificed through the Bronze Bull, and Pythagoras can't say goodbye to either of them because they are being purified. Pythagoras walks out and eyes the Bull as he goes. He's shell-shocked.

In the cell, Hercules says it's all his fault and Jason forgives him. He's been a good, loyal friend. When they walk to the temple of Poseidon to make peace with him, Ariadne watches them. For a moment it looks like Jason will act out, but he submits to Melas and the will of the Gods. Ariadne is barely keeping it together but she is doing as she must: be a good queen and servant of Poseidon. She does, however, leave. Instead, she stares at the Bull, knowing what will happen soon.

Another person who is barely keeping it together is Pythagoras, who all but thrashes the oikos in his sorrow. When there is a knock on the door, he opens it to find a note. He rushes out and to the cells, where he finds a few guards unconscious. He enters. Meanwhile, Delmos frees Hercules and Jason—because sometimes even the Gods need some help—and sends them on their way with clothes and provisions. Another guard helps them descend down the wall. Pythagoras is there with swords and they run. They'll meet up at the sacred grove of Artemis, because Pythagoras has to lead the guards onto a wild goose chase through the city.

Ariadne was in on the plan, by the way. Delmos informs her the plan worked. Ariadne is ecstatic, but they both know it's far from over. The guards are going to sweep the street and they are appearing to do all they can to apprehend the fugitives. Cilix, meanwhile, brings Pasiphae up to speed, and she is not fooled for a minute by this 'escape'. She knows Ariadne orchestrated it, and she is going to use it to dethrone her. Medea is worried but Pasiphae isn't concerned. She has a plan now.

Cilix summons Melas for a walk. He all but orders Melas to tell the people of Atlantis that Poseidon is angry with the escape. That way there will be panic and Ariadne's position will weaken. Melas is shocked, but with Cassandra in their hold...

Out in the forest, Jason wakes Hercules. There are men in the forest—Delmos' men. Hercules questions Pythagoras loyalty but Jason refuses to budge: Pythagoras told them to wait, and so they will wait.

Melas has meanwhile received a 'negative' oracle from the Gods—and Ariadne knows that he's betrayed them. Ariadne and Delmos strategize, but they have very little wiggle room. Cilix is talking to the Counsel, who believe his story about angry Gods and runaway blasphemers. Delmos tries to lessen Cilix's story, but well... all mortals are afraid of Poseidon. And when Cilix says the people think Ariadne helped Jason and Hercules escape, the counsel is hesitant. Cilix is a smart man: he tries to get her to re-swear her oath to Poseidon on the Golden Bull, but she refuses. She tips her hand and gives Cilix exactly what he needs. With Melas in his back pocket, he can arrest Ariadne for blasphemy.

Delmos immediately sends a messenger to Pythagoras with the news and the request to tell Jason. The only way to save Ariadne from going into the Bronze Bull is to turn themselves in.

Pasiphae played her game well: Ariadne is Jason's weakness, just like he is hers. They would die for one another, and with a little bit of 'luck', they will now die together.

Pythagoras makes it out of the city with great difficulty. He catches up to the boys and tells them what has happened. As predicted, Jason wants to go back, but Pythagoras knows there is another way: Medusa. She can save them all—except herself.

Delmos, meanwhile, has been tortured and beaten, and thrown in jail with Ariadne. He's still loyal and he would till do anything to protect his queen. I really, really like that man. Cilix is now in control of the army.

Hercules tells Medusa what has happened, and she immediately wants to return to Atlantis and make this right. Hercules wonders how the Gods can let this happen, but Medusa knows that as soon as she opened the box that gave her her snake hair, her fate was sealed. She's brave for the both of them and I can't say I am not a little pissed off at the world for letting it come down to this.

Atlantis is deserted—no, not deserted, under martial law. Everyone is in their houses, the only ones in the street are guards. Jason, Hercules, Pythagoras, and Medusa make their way to the palace just in time to catch a shocking sight. Standing on the steps to address the soldiers is not Cilix—it's Pasiphae. She has reclaimed the throne, and all the guards follow her. She's won.

The Gorgon's Gaze

Season 2
Episode Number: 22
Season Episode: 9

Originally aired: Saturday April 25, 2015
Writer: Julian Jones
Director: Lawrence Gough
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Jemima Rooper (Medusa), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne), Amy Manson (Medea), Emmett J Scanlan (Delmos), Lorcan Cranitch (Cilix), Anya Taylor-Joy (Cassandra), Ken Bones (Melas), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Sam Swainsbury (Nestor), Ben Adams (Patrol Guard)
Summary: Pasiphae has seized Atlantis and Ariadne's life hangs in the balance, but our heroes are unable to help. As wanted men, they have been forced to seek refuge in the mountains high above the city and are fighting for survival themselves. As nightmares become reality, only one thing is certain — it will take a sacrifice of unimaginable proportions to set things straight.



Cassandra, the new Oracle, is passionately praying. She's calling to the Gods. Literally everyone who hears her pray—Pasiphae, Melas, Medea, Ariadne, and Delmos most of all—is anxious of what she's perceiving. The Gods are angry. fucking angry. Not just a little bit angry, but 'we will fuck up your city'-angry, because 'the rightful heir of Atlantis is not recognised'. Pasiphae is not at all happy to hear that, but even though she is scared, she still has Cassandra taken away and tries to discredit her vision.

This will not end well, I promise you that.

Once in private, Pasiphae freaks out. Medea tries to calm her, but Pasiphae knows that when word of the Oracle's vision gets out, the people of Atlantis will turn against her. Thankfully, Cilix has an even more devious mind than her, and he spins the story: the Gods did not tell Cassandra who, exactly, the rightful heir is, so it could be Pasiphae since she has not officially been crowned queen. It could work, Pasiphae realizes, especially if the bribed priests tell the world all is well in the world.

Wasting no time, Pasiphae goes to work in manipulating Ariadne to step down and make Pasiphae queen in return for her life. She refuses, and Pasiphae takes Delmos to torture until she can.

At the temporary oikos in the woods, Jason wants to go back to free Ariadne and fight for Atlantis. Pythagoras wisely says they can't. With Pasiphae back, there is no way they will even be able to get into the palace, let alone to Ariadne. Jason is not happy. Someone else who is not happy is Medusa. She's sitting out in the sun, enjoying the sounds of the birds best she can. Pythagoras comes to find her. He shares his blanket (and a hug) with her. She tells him she's cursed, that she hurts everyone in her life. She'd just... damned. And she doesn't want Hercules to suffer because of her.

Ariadne's getting an update from (who I think to be) Nestor (Sam Swainsbury): Pasiphae is killing everyone who opposes her, he doesn't have news on Delmos, nor Jason. She forces him

to look for Jason outside of the city and the poor boy—because he’s no more than a boy—doesn’t really have a choice than to go into the mountains to the hunting lodge where Jason once took her to meet her brother.

At said lodge, Jason is experiencing epic amounts of manpain and even Hercules, King of Manpain, is done with it. He gets him some food, tries to cheer him up, taunts him, teases him, and tries to get him to react in every way possible. But, of course, it doesn’t work. Jason haz a sad, and it can’t be taken away with kind words, taunts, or food. Then Hercules brings up how Jason told him to keep faith and to keep fighting for Medusa and look now: they are together. Jason will have to do the same for Ariadne. It restores a little but of his old spirit.

Nestor has made it to the cabin! Hurray! He tells Pythagoras that Ariadne is still alive and that she needs them. He tells them everything that has been going on, and it’s not pretty. Pythagoras sends him back to Ariadne to protect her and they will tell Jason. Medusa tells Pythagoras as soon as he is gone that they can’t tell Jason. He’ll just run into the fray like a lunatic and get himself killed. She has a plan to get Ariadne out of the city, but he can’t tell the others. Medusa tells him to trust her.

They announce the plan (well, whatever part of it Medusa feels comfortable of sharing): Pythagoras is going back to the city. He’s the only one they won’t execute on the spot and he has friends who can help him. This way, they can get an update on the situation. The boys take some convincing, but they agree eventually.

Meanwhile Melas visits Cassandra in the dungeons. She’s cold and shit scared. She clings to him in desperation. Melas tells her that he knows her gift came with the condition she always tell the truth, but that she has to learn how to deliver that message carefully. In other words, to lie in order to save her life. He hates to do it, and she hates hearing it even more. But she knows that he is only doing the things he’s doing to keep her safe. the Gods will punish those who deserve punishment—he taught her that, and he mustn’t forget that now.

Pythagoras packs up and leaves. Jason tells him to get word to Ariadne, Hercules to get himself wine and pie. Medusa just tells him to be strong and stay safe. He leaves.

Returning to their cell is Delmos, who has been brutally tortured. He’s bloody and broken, and yet the first thing he says is that she must never, ever, give in to Pasiphae’s wishes, no matter what they do to him. She promises him, but when he turns his head away, she cries bitter tears out of guilt.

Pythagoras has reached the city and has snuck back in. It’s not the city he knows though: there are bodies hanging in the street and the only people out are guards on patrol. He’s not heading home, he’s heading to the inventor Daidalos. Ikaros is also there, and neither of them enjoys Pasiphae rule very much. the plan, by the way, is to retrieve Pandora’s Box from the temple of Poseidon. Daidalos is in, instantly.

Ikaros goes to scout and finds out there is a group of lepers scheduled to seek Poseidon’s aid. He thinks that Daidalos and Pythagoras will be cursed alongside them if they hide amongst them, but Daidalos thinks that’s just superstition and refuses to entertain the thought. Meanwhile, Daidalos is making gunpowder bombs.

That night, Pythagoras and Daidalos join the lepers and enter the temple. the guards check a few of the leper to see if they are actually afflicted, but before the guards can get to them, Daidalos tosses his bomb into a fire and BOOM! No one gets seriously hurt, and no one spots Pythagoras as he sneaks into the temple to retrieve the box. Well—no one but Melas, who spots him on the way out. He wants to call the guards, but Pythagoras reminds him that this is basically all his fault and Melas guides him out of the temple by a safer route. Meanwhile Pasiphae orders the perpetrators found and hung in the streets for all to see.

Delmos is pretty much at the end of his rope. Ariadne tries to keep him alive with words alone, but he’s not doing well. He tells her he believes in her and trusts in all she will accomplish in the future. His words give her the strength she needs to turn Pasiphae’s offer down once more, even when she promises her a physician to tend to Delmos’ injuries. She stands strong, she defies Pasiphae. When Pasiphae takes a sword and treathens to kill Delmos, she has a harder time, but he nods to tell her it’s okay and she stands strong. Pasiphae kills Delmos and tells her that if Ariadne defies her again, she will be begging for sucha swift death. She leaves Delmos’ corpse in Ariadne’s cell.

Pythagoras, meanwhile, has gotten out of the temple with Melas’ help and out of the city with Ikaros’. He journeys back to the cabin with Pandora’s box in his backpack and a heavy heart

in his chest. He delivers the box to Medusa, who is waiting anxiously. He tells her she does not have to go through with this, but she reminds him that she is cursed and to not tell Hercules about any of this. Or Jason. In the hunting lodge, Pythagoras tells them of the state of affairs in Atlantis, and as expected, Jason immediately grabs his sword to charge the windmill. Pythagoras cools him down, but just barely.

Back in prison, Ariadne has been hung from the ceiling and she's livid. When Pasiphae comes to once more threaten her into giving up the throne, she just snarls. That is until Pasiphae introduced Medea, whose special brand of magic is apparently very well suited for interrogation. Pasiphae leaves the two alone to get to work.

At the lodge, Medusa shares what she knows to be her last meal with Hercules. She tells him she loves him with such intensity that she almost gives herself away, but she manages to cover it up well enough for Hercules buys it. Pythagoras has spiked the food: he falls asleep after a few bites and she holds him tightly for long seconds before slipping from their bed and involving Jason in their plan: she wants to get back to rocking her snakes so they can use her as a weapon. I do wonder why the snakes would suddenly work on Pasiphae and Medea now, while they so clearly did not before but hey, details, right?

Jason won't have it. He says it's madness. She tells him she cannot live with what she's done. She killed the Oracle, and her curse for that is not physical, but that the guilt is killing her. This way, her death can do some good: she wants to turn back into the Gorgon, and then she wants Jason to chop off her head. Her body will only slow them down, and her head will continue to turn people to stone after her death. She rushes out in tears, and tells him to come to a nearby cave soon, because he is the only one immune. Jason rushes to wake Hercules, but Pythagoras stops him: it's the only way to save Atlantis—and by extension, Ariadne. In the cave, Medusa gathers her strength and opens the box.

Medea has done her work well. Ariadne is a ragdoll, lolling in Pasiphae's arms when she turns her over on the ground. She whimpers and shudders. But when she blinks her eyes open, she tells Pasiphae that there is only one true queen of Atlantis, and that it is not Pasiphae. That's my girl! Pasiphae says it's okay, that they will go another round tomorrow. It's only a matter of time now.

Jason comes to the cave, and the sound of serpents greets him. Medusa waits for him. She's so happy he came. She begs him to do this for her, for all of them, and while Jason cries bitter tears, he beheads her...

Hercules wakes up and finds Pythagoras waiting for him. Pythagoras tells him of the decision Medusa made and he is... beyond anger, beyond sadness. He throws Pythagoras around the cabin and then sags into a heap to cry like no man should ever have to cry in their lives—like no person should. Meanwhile Jason returns to Atlantis and turns an entire squadron of guards to stone.

Goran rushes to Pasiphae to tell her about the one man army with the Gorgon's head and she panics. She tells him to keep the men away, takes his sword, and waits for Jason to come to her. Because he will. She knows he will. They play a game of cat and mouse in the palace halls and eventually, they stumble upon each other. She is still not affected by the snakes, but he doesn't need them to: he has his sword, and he will kill her. The struggle is very quick: Pasiphae is not a trained fighter, and he is. She tells him why he won't kill her: because she's his mother. He's shocked, amazed, and indeed removes his sword from her neck. Then he knocks her unconscious with the pummel of the sword. He tries to kill her again, but he can't. He tosses his sword and Medea shows up. She tells him it's true, that Pasiphae is his mother. That he is touched by the Gods. That this is why he can look upon the Gorgon without turning to stone. That is when she drops the other bomb: they feel this way about each other because they are both touched by the Gods. He snarls that he doesn't feel anything for her.

Jason rushes to free Ariadne and he hands her a blindfold. She ties it around her head instantly and takes his arm. With the Gorgon's head in hand, he guides her out of the dungeons, out of the palace, and out of Atlantis.

The Dying of the Light

Season 2
Episode Number: 23
Season Episode: 10

Originally aired: Saturday May 2, 2015
Writer: Lucy Watkins
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: John Hannah (Aeson), Robert Lindsay (Daedalus), Amy Manson (Medea), Joseph Timms (Icarus), Anya Taylor-Joy (Cassandra), Ken Bones (Melas), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Stephen McCole (Galenos), Sam Swann (Keos), Ross Waiton (Curfew Soldier)
Summary: Pythagoras seeks to help Jason, whose heart has been blackened, but not everyone is keen to protect him.



There are two people in pain right now: Hercules and Jason. Hercules is grieving his dead girlfriend, so he's allowed, but Jason is feeling that darkness the Oracle warned him for. He's got his girl, he's got his friends, but all he wants is to go one on thirty with the Atlantian patrol combing the woods where the group has been staying. His friends are not amused. Ariadne, especially, is not amused and tries to rally the boys. But Hercules is done: they have risked everything for him, Medusa is dead by his hands, and

all Jason does is run headlong into danger. This time, Hercules is not going to help. Ariadne with her bow and arrows, and Pythagoras with his sword do come to the rescue, and they manage to take out the patrol. All but one, who throws himself at Ariadne's feet. Ariadne vows he will not be harmed, and about two seconds later, Jason skewers him like shishkabab.

Needless to say, absolutely no one takes kindly to that. Ariadne calls him out on his shit—not just as his fiancée but also as his queen he tells her: 'who are you to give me orders?'. Not cool, Jason. Not cool at all. Also not a fan: Hercules, who says the sensible thing: all Jason accomplished was kill a bunch of men and give the people of Atlantis—top of all a bunch of grieving mothers—a reason to hate them. also: the bodies will lead Pasiphae straight to their location. He tells Jason to use his brain, for once, and gets a punch to the face for his troubles. Not backing down, Hercules taunts him into a punch to the gut and then nearly into cutting off his head. Whatever friendship their was between them, Medusa's death and Jason's recent behaviour have withered it to the point of non-existence.

Back in the palace, Medea informs Pasiphae the patrol has not returned. Pasiphae is in quite a state: Jason knows she's his mother, and thus that he is the rightful heir to the throne (how does that work, exactly? Midas was king, he is a bastard son of the Queen. Ariadne is the daughter of the King and the first Queen, correct me if I am wrong, but doesn't that make Ariadne first in line, then Jason? All his bloodline grants him is royal blood, which is good for them, but they'd still have to take the palace first in order to get Ariadne on the throne, and then marry with the support of the neighbouring city states now she isn't marrying a peasant anymore. But I digress). Medea says that he now also knows he's touched by the Gods and that that will draw him back to them as it always has. Pasiphae agrees, after Medea reminds her of the fear they both felt once

their powers first manifested. Jason will seek them out for guidance and aid. He will. Anyway, Medea almost convinces Pasiphae to call off the hunt on Jason, but Pasiphae won't be convinced. Jason remains a threat.

As a good Hellenist, I have to interject here with something that has been bothering me lately. 'Atlantis' is treating magic as a dark force that consumes and overtakes. It's darkness, and it's overtaken Pasiphae, as well as Medea. It is now overtaking Jason. It's a nice plot point, but while the ancient Hellenes frowned upon, and were quite scared of superhuman powers, they also viewed magic (in mythological people) as divine. Pasiphae is the daughter of Helios, and Jason is her son. 'Touched by the Gods' literally means that they are part divine. There is no darkness and evil in the source. If anything, it's in the views of others.

Back at his one-man campfire in the woods, Jason continues to be a jerk to Ariadne, who is seriously starting to wonder what she ever saw in Je tells her to leave him alone, that he's tired of taking orders. When she tried to sympathise with him, he sends her away again, and Hercules mutters that 'he doesn't deserve to be loved'. He'd rather join Medusa than endure this any longer. She sacrificed her own life so they might live in peace and nothing good happened. And Jason is lost to them forever.

Jason has nightmares now. Bad ones where he walks through the woods and there are crow calls to guide him to Medea. Ariadne wakes him up, and he gets up right away. I don't know what he's feeling guilty about. The fact that Ariadne still cares enough to keep an eye on him is a miracle.

The corpses have been found, by the way, and Pasiphae sends another patrol after him.

The boys discuss Jason and his future. Pythagoras and Ariadne are convinced this is not the same man they always knew and that he needs help. Hercules is done, saying he was the old Jason when he killed Medusa. Pythagoras knows this cannot go on any longer and volunteers to go back to Atlantis to get help from Melas. Good, because I could really use a *deux ex machina*-solution on this whole darkness business.

Atlantis is still a shitty place to be: hanged men and women in the streets, bag searched, patrols everywhere. It's bad. It's really bad. In her madness, Pasiphae is running Atlantis into the ground. Ikaros takes him under his wing and guides him deeper into the city to a friend who might be persuaded to help. He's the ancient Atlantian version of a garbage man: he scoops up animal dung during the night—so after the curfew. He buries the boys in crap (literally) and pulls them through the city in his cart. Galenos (Stephen McCole), the dung hauler, gets stopped by a patrol. But when he says he's under orders of the queen, he's indeed let through. The plan works.

Ariadne and Hercules talk about Medusa and Jason. Hercules blames Jason for her death—not Ariadne—and Ariadne says she understands but that she hates seeing the two friends so estranged. He mustn't let hate consume him. If that happens, Pasiphae has already won. Hercules says she already one, and good luck to her. Ariadne realizes just how depressed and angry he is.

Galenos guides our heroes Pythagoras and Ikaros into the city, and to the palace. They scale the palace wall and kill a guard just before he kills them. Ikaros leaves as Pythagoras enters the palace, searching for Melas.

He finds him in the temple, of course, and Melas asks why he is here. He says Jason needs his help and Melas correctly guesses he knows about Pasiphae. He will be drawn to the dark side now. Melas decides to help and guides him to Cassandra. Cassandra casts rose petals in water and gets a vision (which is not how divination works, but ey...). She feels Jason's pain as he stands on the threshold between darkness and light. She tells Pythagoras he must find Jason's father (whom Pythagoras believes to be dead but which we know, is not). Melas tells him where to find him, and that he is a leper—one who walks amongst the dead.

Ikaros gives Pythagoras supplies for the journey to the silver mines where the lepers live. He ventures through the woods on his own, pushing on as he knows he doesn't have much time. Meanwhile, Ikaros visits his father in prison—after he told Pythagoras his father was just a little ill. Sunrise tomorrow, Daedalos will be hanged for the bomb he tossed into the fire to help the boys. Ikaros promises his father he will get him out and heads straight to Goran, Pasiphae's general. He has information about Queen Ariadne that he wants to barter with. He tells him everything he knows. Daedalos will not be hanged, but because Ikaros didn't broker a very good deal, he also will not be freed. Unless, of course, Ikaros can discover more...

In the silvermines, Pythagoras tries to find the lepers. They are still there, and no one seems disturbed by an outsider wandering in. Aeson, Jason's father, is indeed still there. Pasiphae, meanwhile, learns the news from Goran and somehow figures it's good. That it means that Jason drawn nearer.

In the mines, Aeson is livid that Pasiphae pulled a fast one over him. He trusted her not to tell him, and Pythagoras says she only told him when he was about to kill her. Pythagoras wishes he had, because now he's damned. Aeson agrees that those who are touched by the Gods carry the darkness in them. I still do not get how finding out about his mother actually changes anything—as if the knowledge kick-started his divine powers—but I'm going to let that go. Aeson is not ready to come with Pythagoras. One, he was a strong man and a good father, but now, like this? Afflicted? No. He can't have Jason know that.

In the palace, Medea listens as Goran and his men make plans about following Ikaros to Pythagoras and then to Ariadne and Jason (and Hercules, but no one mentions him). Although she's on the side of evil, she seems very unwilling to see Jason die.

Back in the land of doom and gloom, Hercules wonders what's keeping Pythagoras and Jason says he's probably dead. Hercules all but rolls his eyes and I don't even bother trying. Aeson, come fix you son, stat! Hercules doesn't believe Jason anyway, he pats his chest and says he'd know if Pythagoras were dead. Ariadne chooses to believe him, it's as good a speculation as any. She asks how long Hercules and Pythagoras have been friend. Long enough to believe it's been forever, Hercules tells her. I like these two bonding a bit more.

Inevitably, the subject returns to Jason and the death of Medusa. Ariadne says he did it to save her. That he thought it was the right thing to do. Hercules says that Jason always thinks whatever he is doing is the right thing, that doesn't make it automatically true. Ariadne asks if Medusa knew what she was doing, and Hercules says she damn well did, and that he is just as angry with Medusa as with Jason. She begs him not to let Medusa's sacrifice be in vein, and for him to not let his anger destroy the living. 'Talk to him,' she says, in hopes that maybe he can find a way through.

In the mines, Pythagoras gears up to leave. He will do what he can to help Jason. 'And I haven't?' Aeson asks. Pythagoras tells him he hasn't, not by any stretch of the word. He holds a passionate speech about being a father and a decent human being, and by the end, Aeson has a lot to think about.

Jason has another dream about the woods and Medea. He follows her through the underbrush until she stops and tells him she means him no harm. Then she guides him onwards, only to disappear. Jason wakes up confused.

Pythagoras has left the mines, and through another exist, Aeson has caught up and is waiting for him. He is coming with him to help Jason.

While Ariadne makes breakfast, Hercules talks to Jason. He says he doesn't want to stay angry. He asks if Medusa wanted it to happen, and Jason says she did, that she begged him. That there was no struggle. Hercules asks if there really was no other way. Icily, Jason tells him there wasn't and that he should move on. Hercules does—away from Jason.

Pythagoras and Aeson are only a few hours away from the camp, but with Ikaros' instructions, they walk smack into the view of one of Pasiphae's sentries, who quickly races off to warn the self-proclaimed queen. Pasiphae saddles up to ride immediately, but Medea is not on board. She runs along with Pasiphae, Goran, and a bunch of guards, but doesn't let them see her.

Back in the camp, Hercules packs. He can't stay, he is too angry. He wants to kill Jason, and he can't do that. He leaves Ariadne alone with him. Meanwhile, Pythagoras and Aeson find signs of previous camps. Aeson wonders if Jason will even want to know him, and Pythagoras doesn't have an answer. Instead, he leads him to camp—along with a dozen soldiers, Goran, and Pasiphae. Ariadne shoots and hits a good few guards, and Jason fights as if his life depended on it—it does, after all. He tries to draw the guards away from the others, but quickly becomes overwhelmed. Ariadne shoots guard after guard, but there are too many. Everyone scatters and Medea keeps a close eye on everything that is happening, keeping well out of sight.

Jason gets injured and is stunned for a moment. When a soldier attempts to make use of that, Medea casts a spell to kill the him. Then she helps him get away. Hercules does the same for Ariadne—well, the getting away part. Medea does even more: she uses her magic to heal Jason as she hold him in her arms. She tells him to sleep and he asks her if he should keep an eye open. Medea just smiles lovingly.

Ariadne and Hercules catch up with Pythagoras, who has managed to get Aeson out of the fray as well. Pythagoras tells them who Aeson is, and everyone is shocked, to say the least.

Jason wakes up in the dirt, and for a second, he thinks he's alone. Then he pulls up and Medea is sitting a little way's off, back to him. She asks him how he is as he tries to get up silently. Defeated, he sits next to her and asks her the million drachma question: why is she helping him? She tells him that all who are touched by the Gods are drawn towards each other. That is why they see each other in their dreams: they are more alike than Jason knows. Medea says they have to go, and Jason asks her where they could go. Back to his mother? And how can he trust her? He grabs her by the hair roughly and holds her close as he searches her eyes. Her gaze dips to his lips, and his to hers... and then they're kissing, hard and deep. Desperately.

Kin

Season 2

Episode Number: 24

Season Episode: 11

Originally aired: Saturday May 9, 2015
Writer: Julian Jones
Director: Justin Molotnikov
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: John Hannah (Aeson), Robert Lindsay (Daedalus), Amy Manson (Medea), Joseph Timms (Icarus), Lorcan Cranitch (Cilix), Henry Garrett (Diocles), Ken Bones (Melas), Anya Taylor-Joy (Cassandra), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Vincent Haquin (Xanthos), Jason Cheater (Cells Guard), Paul Jacobs (Soldier 1), Jason Baughan (Soldier 2)
Summary: When our heroes discover that Jason has been caught by Pasiphae's troops, they know they must do all they can to rescue him before he is lost forever. Aeson embarks on a brave and dangerous mission into Atlantis to save his son. But he is one man — and with traitors at every turn, can he really succeed?



Pasiphae's troops are still looking for Jason. When one of the soldiers stumbles upon a bit of plum pit, Goran figures the fugitives must be close by. And he's right—Jason is right there, hiding in the bushes. Just before Goran can find the wounded Jason, he gets called away by a soldier who has found a freshly put out fire. It seems three days have passed—three days in which Medea has returned to the palace and is awaiting news of Jason's fate as much as Pasiphae, but for entirely different reasons. Even Pasiphae is having sec-

ond doubts at this point: she wishes he were her ally so they can rule Atlantis side by side. She doesn't want to allow that type of weakness, but Medea says she feels Jason thinks of the same things; that the bond they all share becomes stronger by the day. She tells Pasiphae to have patience. That he will come to them.

Aeson, Ariadne, Pythagoras and even Hercules have been trying to find Jason for days now, too. Hercules is feeling guilty he deserted Jason when he needed him most. Pythagoras tells him not to blame himself, and I'm just confused. Wasn't Hercules semi-legitimately angry at Jason last episode? Pythagoras manages to get Hercules' head back in the game and the group splits up: Hercules and Pythagoras will follow the river west, and Ariadne and Aeson the river east.

Back in Atlantis, Pasiphae and Medea are watching the games. Gladiators hit the snot out of prisoners while Pasiphae defends the necessity of the practice to Medea while two prisoners get slaughtered and the crowd goes wild.

Ariadne and her future father-in-law are having a heart-to-heart about Jason and his actions as of late. Ariadne always thought she knew everything there was to know about Jason, but now she isn't so sure. Aeson tries to convince her that Jason's actions 'are not his own' right now. At least Ariadne still loves Jason as much as possible. Just wait until you find out who he swapped spit with... Aeson wishes he had been there for his son from the beginning. Ariadne tells him that hopefully, he will be able to rebuild some of their relationship. then they notice the guards are withdrawing: Jason has been caught.

As soon as Jason is tossed into a cell, Pasiphae is there, hands around the bars. she gets all emotional and motherly, and Jason feels the bond between them too. He allows her to stroke his face, to kiss him, and says he wants to be with her. He wants to be her son. She promises to let him live. Medea has heard the whole exchange but doesn't let on, not even when Cilix tries to get Pasiphae to execute Jason for murdering the Oracle—a crime of which he has been found guilty, after all. Pasiphae makes excuses, but Cilix doesn't buy it. Then Medea speaks up about a completely make-belief sign from the Gods she saw when Jason was captured; a bad omen. They must consult the Oracle about Jason's guilt. Cilix has no choice but to agree.

Cassandra is put to work again, and she huffs away over a bowl of water and rose leaves. The Gods do not want Jason sacrificed (duh!). Cilix is furious: as much as he doesn't think himself above the Gods, he is the one who has to explain the certain turnabout to the people, who have been made terrified by Pasiphae's reign of terror. He demands Cassandra tells them why Jason must be spared. Reluctantly Pasiphae agrees, and Melas warns her that Cassandra can only tell the truth. There is no choice, though, so Cassandra speaks: there is no greater shame than a mother killing her child. Cilix is beyond shocked—obviously he hadn't gotten the memo about the family tree yet. Melas either.

Back in the throne room, Cilix has gotten over his shock and tries to reason with Pasiphae: if the people don't get their culprit, their sacrifice, they will burn the city down once the games are over. So... Pasiphae has to think quick. She tells Cilix to enter Jason into the games so the Gods can decide his fate right in front of the eyes of the people. If he dies, then so be it (and his blood isn't on her hands), and if he lives, everyone will know the Gods spared him. Cilix agrees and corners Medea, accusing her of meddling. She tells him to fuck off. Politely.

Jason's friends and loved ones have discovered Jason has been captured and are planning to go to the city to free him. Aeson says he should be the only one to take the risk: the oracle was clear, he's his father and only he can 'unlock Jason's heart'. So he returns as the leper that he is—and goes to Ikaros. Seems he hasn't heard the news that Ikaros sold them out to save his father. Ikaros tells Aeson to meet him at midnight.

Meanwhile, Medea goes to visit Jason. Jason is still badly injured—in no shape to fight anyone. she informs him that he is no longer sentenced to death, but that the arena is in his future. She hates to say the words, and he hates to hear them. Aeson hears the news, too, from Ikaros, who also tells Aeson he can't smuggle him in. There may be another way, though: lepers help the corpse bearers who work in the arena...

Jason is thrown in with the other contestants. Well—with prisoners. Right away he sits down and right away Diocles tells him to move. Not keen on getting into a fight, Jason moves. Picking order established.

The gladiator Xanthos cuts through prisoners as if they're blades of grass and he tends to taunt them mercilessly before he does. Of course, the fight isn't exactly fair when the poor farmer he's up against is blindfolded... The audience loves it.

Jason and Diocles are chained together by the wrist, with about six feet of chain between them, and given a sword. Then they are put up against Xanthos while Aeson and another leper enter the arena to pick up the remains of the poor farmer. Jason doesn't even see him, but Aeson barely manages not to run to Jason for a hug.

As soon as the fight starts, Jason tosses the sword at Xanthos' feet and refuses to move while Diocles fights for his life. Pasiphae and Medea are very concerned, especially when Diocles gets knocked down. But just before Xanthos can finish him off, Jason pull Diocles to safety, wraps the chain around his hand, and gives Xanthos a bloody nose. They manage to trip him up with the chain and he goes down like a log. Now the brute is angry—which makes him dangerous, but also stupid. In his anger, he cuts the chain between Jason and Diocles with his sword, freeing them. Now Jason is free to fight—and so is Diocles. Not that Jason needs help: he is still in 'dark Jason'-mode and he overpowers Xanthos easily.

Pasiphae already gives him the signal to finish Xanthos off when Xanthos pulls out a hidden knife and Jason only survives because Diocles warns him. After another messy fight, Xanthos is dead and Jason has a nasty chest wound for his collection. For a moment, the crowd is shocked their favourite has been defeated by the Oracle slayer, then they cheer. Pasiphae and Medea are infinitely relieved.

Jason sinks down to the ground and Aeson and another leper carry him out of the arena. when they finally have a moment alone, Jason recognises Aeson as the man who saved his life in

the silver mines. Aeson tells him to look beyond the scars, to search his own heart for the truth. then he tells Jason that he is his father. Jason doesn't believe him, and they aren't granted more time, but at least the seed has been planted.

Back in the forest, Ariadne tries to cheer Hercules up with a hand full of sees and gets chewed out for it. Deflated, she heads for the fire where Hercules find her to make an apology. He tells her he's just going stir crazy and she tells him that she thinks she's lost Jason. She doesn't think she can go on if that is the case. Hercules understands the feeling all too well. He promises her that he will do everything he can to bring Jason back alive.

When Aeson gets to bring back another corpse, he goes right over to Jason again and tries to convince him he was telling the truth. He tells him about the necklace around his neck, and that he gave it to Jason for protection. Jason says he does believe him but that he simply does not care. Aeson is dead to him. Of course, Aeson doesn't lighten up. he warns him against giving in to Pasiphae lure. Jason calls the guards on his ass, so he has to go. Before he does, he begs Jason to remember the people who love him.

Hercules abandons the group in the night to head to Atlantis and make good on his promise.

The morning comes early for Jason, who gets another fight. Diocles helps him up, and they obviously respect each other. Diocles tries to psyche Jason up for the fight, but he is wounded and tired, and his two opponents have better armour, better weapons, and more energy. Jason loses. Then Medea breaks one of the guards' legs with magic and Jason manages to overpower them. He collapses as for dead on the floor.

Aeson tries to get Jason to wake up. He tells Jason about how, when Jason was born, he finally saw Pasiphae for who she really was. And that beyond her beauty, beyond her power, she was dark. And he saw how alike mother and son were. Pasiphae gave in to power and magic, and she was lost to him. He tells Jason he couldn't bare to see Jason go down the same road. Again, he reminds him of all the people who love him. Including him. And Jason lets the words in. He cries a little and Aeson gives him a potion that will slow down his heart until he doesn't appear to have one. Aeson tells him to take the potion at midnight.

Ikaros visits his father in jail. Daidalos wonders why he is not dead and he knows Ikaros did something to safe him. He tells Ikaros to leave the city now. Of course, he can't, because Ikaros has made another deal with Goran.

Jason takes the potion and Diocles watches in horror as he collapses. Aeson carries him out on a cart with other corpses and murders a guard when he gets stopped. Jason wakes up again within view of Ikaros, which does not bode well. Once out of the city, guards await them, and Jason has to fight for their lives. In the fight, Aeson gets stabbed in the gut, but Heracles finds them on time to at least take out the remaining guards and help Jason and Aeson get to safety. Hercules wonders how the guards managed to find them, but Aeson blames it on his own actions: he killed a guard.

Hercules and Jason make up, both taking blame for their own parts in the affair. Then they carry Aeson to the camp. Ariadne is happy to see him but Jason has to deal with his dying father for a whie first. Aeson says he failed Jason, that he never should have left him alone. But Jason realizes that all the good in him comes from Aeson. Aeson says how proud he is of Jason-Pasiphae's beauty but his heart. He makes Jason promise to stick to the light, and then he dies. Jason is beyond devastated.

Meanwhile, Goran has to break the news of Jason's escape to Pasiphae, who snidely remarks to Medea that Jason chose his father over her. Where is that bond Medea promised now? Medea tries to convince Pasiphae things will work out, but Pasiphae sends her away. She will burn her with Jason if she doesn't leave. Shocked, Medea flees the room and a heartbroken Pasiphae collapses in tears. Meanwhile, Jason and the group make a memorial for Aeson and prepare for the battle to come.

The Queen Must Die — Part 1

Season 2
Episode Number: 25
Season Episode: 12

Originally aired: Saturday May 16, 2015
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Julian Murphy
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Robert Lindsay (Daedalus), Amy Manson (Medea), Joseph Timms (Icarus), Lorcan Cranitch (Cilix), Henry Garrett (Diocles), Ken Bones (Melas), Anya Taylor-Joy (Cassandra), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Chris Reilly (Leon), Jason Baughan (Straton), Jason Cheater (Linos)
Summary: Jason is determined to rescue his fellow prisoners from the amphitheatre. But this means returning to Atlantis, the heart of Pasiphae's power and, with traitors at every turn, this is more dangerous than ever. As events come to a head it becomes clear that while Pasiphae lives, there will never be peace. For Jason and his friends only one thing is certain — the Queen must die.



Ikaros is meeting with Pythagoras in an Atlantian back ally. They duck away for a patrol. Atlantis most definitely is not a safe place yet. Ikaros guides them through the street but the patrols are everywhere and they have to flee. Eventually they escape by climbing onto a roof. I have no idea which side Ikaros plays for, but he helped Pythagoras here, anyway.

Back in some shed, Hercules is pacing and Jason is sulking. Pythagoras should have been back by now and Hercules is worried. It seems the errand Pythagoras

is on his way to do with Diocles, the fighter who Jason bonded with last week when he was tossed into the arena. Hercules—obviously—is not a big fan of the plan.

Pythagoras asks after Daedalus, and just like before, Ikaros lies. They are lying on their back, looking up at the sky, stargazing as they wait and it's all very cute. I swear they were about to kiss there for a moment. Too bad Jason's father is dead because of Ikaros. They eventually make it back to the shed and Jason makes sure they weren't followed by asking very sternly. They leave for a suicide mission.

The suicide mission takes them down into the sewers—another thing Hercules is not at all amused about. Now he will be dead and smelly. The two lovebirds say goodbye and Pythagoras tells Ikaros to wait for them at the hunting lodge in three days time.

In the palace, Pasiphae is asked about state things in which she has absolutely no interest right now—especially when Goran tells her his informant told him that Jason is heading to the arena prison to break out a prisoner. She hesitates, though. She still doesn't want to kill Jason—not anymore. But Cilix is adamant. Medea pleads Jason's case again, but she tells her she has no choice. Medea looks like a woman who doesn't give up so easily, though.

Jason and the boys make it to the arena. It is eerily quiet—and that is never good. The entire arena is empty. The hallways are empty. And then a whole platoon barges in, watched on by a very guilty Ikaros. But Jason is a good fighter, and so is Hercules. They end the fight swiftly

and free the prisoners. Goran leads an entire platoon of archers onto the lowest portion of the arena stands where they hide until Jason and the group have to cross the sand below to get back to the sewer entrance. They wait until the group is in the centre and bring on the rain. Needless to say, it's a massacre. Most of the prisoners die on the spot or are left to be killed later. The soldiers jump down and everyone with fighting skills fights to save their very lives. Jason, Hercules, Pythagoras, and Diocles are amongst the ones who make it, and Jason mentions that the soldiers were waiting for them. Pythagoras puts two and two together...

There are more soldiers waiting for the when they emerge from the sewers. Pythagoras is almost too shocked to move. Jason dispatches with the guards, but more and more and more come. Then Medea appears and magics the soldiers to death. She hides before Jason can talk to her, but Goran saw her and he rushes to tell Pasiphae. Medea makes it back to the palace, realizing she got herself into major trouble.

At least her efforts helped to get Jason and the boys out of the city. In the forest, they meet up with about a dozen of the ex-prisoners, the rest was killed. Now they should make a camp. Pythagoras is staring off into the distance when Hercules comes over and asks him if he's thinking about Ikaros. "Don't worry," he says. "Ikaros will join them soon." Of course Hercules hasn't figured it out yet.

Ikaros is back in the prison, visiting his very sick father. He offers him some medication. Daedalos wonders—again—why he is still alive. He knows Ikaros is keeping a secret and asks what it is. Ikaros comes clean and Daedalos is shocked and sad—disappointed. Daedalos tells them that he would rather die than have a traitor for a son. He has never been so ashamed. He sends Ikaros away.

In the palace, Medea wakes up and realizes Pasiphae has been sitting there, watching her. It seems she used to do that when Medea was a child, when she has nightmares. It seems Medea was calling for Jason in her sleep and she says she can't help it, that she is drawn to him, that she can almost feel what he feels, that they are a part of each other. Pasiphae asks if that is why she saved him and after a moment of hesitation, she says she did. Pasiphae sighs. She underestimated the bond between them. She should have protected Medea more. But Medea doesn't want to be protected: she's in love. Pasiphae tells her to banish her feelings. He has turned her. If she sees Jason again, Pasiphae will have no choice but to kill Medea as well.

Ariadne sits by the fire and makes arrows. I think that by now, she could supply an entire army. The princess has definitely turned into a warrior, and this life in the woods suits her well. Jason tries to surprise her, but her reflexes have become too good. They hug and then Ariadne realizes she is being watched. All the ex-prisoners look on, mightily embarrassed and fall to their knees. Right away, she tells them to get back up. They shouldn't kneel for her: Jason is the rightful heir. Aeson was king before Minos and Jason is his son. The ex-prisoners are all shocked, but very willing to accept Jason as their king. He did right by them, after all.

A little while later, Hercules realizes Pythagoras worried about something. And Pythagoras is. He walks off to 'stand guard' (read: pout and ponder). Meanwhile Ariadne tells Jason he has a new army and that he 'inspires loyalty'. She brings up the wedding proposal and Jason says he would say yes again. At that, she proposes again and says she wishes to be married right now, here in the forest. And they are. In a quickly—but beautifully—put together ritual with Hercules presiding, Jason and Ariadne are married.

At that moment, Medea wakes up and flees the palace, eluding a guard to do so—and then killing him. Medea really is a bad enemy to have. And she is very crafty and lethal. She dispenses of every guard that stands in her way.

Cilix and Goran have a pissing contest about who is more loyal to Pasiphae while trying to see if—should they betray her—the other will follow. I get the impression they both would in a heartbeat.

The next morning, Jason and Ariadne wake up on a blanket on the forest floor. Their wedding night was cosy but not very private. It's only Jason who wakes up, though: he senses Medea. She found him easily—they always find each other. She wanted to see him before she left for home. She has realized Pasiphae has been grooming her and she can't do it. She can't become like Pasiphae. But she couldn't leave without seeing Jason one more time and that tonight, the night of the winter solstice, Pasiphae must travel and while she will be well protected, she will be vulnerable when she prays at the temple of Hekate. Only those touched by the Gods may enter. She gives him another gift: the nectar of the passion flower. It will bind Pasiphae's power.

She says she should leave and she valiantly holds back her emotions. But when Jason pulls her back and tells her that part of him doesn't want her to leave, she cracks. She kisses him and for a long moment, he drowns in her before pulling back. He can't, he's married. She gasps when she hears, and tells him this is goodbye. Heartbroken, she flees.

Ariadne is not stupid. We all know that. When she woke up alone in the morning, she knew something was up. So she asks Jason if something is troubling him. To his credit, he tells her that Medea came to see him. Hercules overhears and freaks out. The last time Jason trusted her, Ariadne got stabbed. Jason goes to bat for Medea, saying she is not who she thinks she is. It becomes an argument where Hercules and Ariadne refuse to be convinced by Jason who says that Medea has seen Pasiphae for who she really is and she wants nothing more to do with her. He tells them about the plan Medea presented her with and Ariadne demands to know why Jason puts so much stock in her words after Medea nearly killed her. He doesn't have an answer.

Pasiphae, meanwhile, gets ready to travel, with a boatload of men. The ex-prisoners and the boys travel to the temple behind them. Hercules takes the opportunity to inquire after Pythagoras' state of mind. Pythagoras tries to shake her off, but Hercules is like a dog with a bone. He drops Ikaros' name and Pythagoras looks up in shock. Hercules says he remembers how he felt when he fell for someone the first time. Again, Pythagoras brushes him off, saying he has no idea how Pythagoras feels right now.

By nightfall, they reach the temple of Hecate and the small group stays behind. Jason has to go alone just like Pasiphae has to go alone. He drops the potion into the basin at the temple and waits as Pasiphae prays and drinks. She sacrifices her blood and afterwards, she washes the cut with the water. Jason steps into the light. He says he pities her, that everyone she has ever loved has deserted her. He drops Medea's name and Pasiphae asks if he has seen her. He says that she realized the extent of Pasiphae's darkness and that she told him he would find Pasiphae here, alone. She tries to bewitch him, but the potion worked. She says he can not kill her and he agrees. He knocks her out instead. Jason carries her out of the temple and while his men quickly clear a path for him, they escape into the woods with Pasiphae for luggage.

Back at the camp, everyone gathers around an unconscious Pasiphae. Ariadne can't believe the day has come. Cilix and Goran can't believe the day has come either. Well, Cilix can and says that if Pasiphae ever returns, she will have Goran's head on a stick for failing her. Maybe it's time he jumps ship. He says he is a soldier and leaves the politics to people like Cilix.

in the camp, Pasiphae has been put into a makeshift cage. When Ariadne comes to visit, she is sure the former queen is there to gloat, but Ariadne isn't. With one to the ex-con's, she gets Pasiphae to swallow down another potion. Pasiphae asks if Ariadne loves Jason, and she says she loves him more than Pasiphae will ever understand. Then Pasiphae taunts her by telling her Jason has been unfaithful. She asks what Pasiphae means and Pasiphae asks her if Jason hasn't told her about his feelings for Medea. Ariadne says that isn't true and Pasiphae asks if she truly believes that. Medea wouldn't betray Pasiphae for anything other than love.

Jason and Hercules sit close together, and tearfully Jason says he must ask something important of Hercules. Hercules takes up his sword. Jason doesn't have to ask, he knows. Jason requests a moment with Pasiphae first and says it's over. It's never be open, Pasiphae replies instantly. He comes to say goodbye to her. She says the Gods won't allow it, but he says she doesn't serve the Gods. He says a part of him will love her forever and he hopes that she will find peace in death. She sobs and tells him he will regret it forever if he goes through with this and he agrees. He will. They are both crying now, and when Jason gets up and leaves, she starts to beg and scream for him not to go through with this.

The next morning, Pythagoras and Hercules take Pasiphae out of her cage and into the woods. Jason is crying as he watches her go and Ariadne supports him. The men force her onto her knees and she begs to pray to Hekate. Pythagoras says they have to let her or risk angering Poseidon. As she prays, the scene cuts to Ariadne, who ponders what Pasiphae told her. Then Pasiphae finishes praying and Hercules quickly and quietly runs her through with his sword. She dies instantly. They leave her on the forest floor. Once they return, Ariadne and Jason wait for the confirmation and they are both equal parts sad and relieved.

The conversation topic changes quickly, though, to Jason and his claim for the throne. Jason thinks he can just walk into the city and claim it, but Hercules knows that the people in power will never go for that. Ariadne agrees. Cilix is the key, they need to get to him. So they will try to lure him out... through Ikaros. Everyone is shocked by the reveal that Ikaros is the mole. They

won't believe it at first, but they see how sure Pythagoras is—how heartbroken—and they have no choice but to believe.

When Ikaros gets to the lodge, Pythagoras is already there, waiting. They hug and it's painful for Pythagoras to touch the man he loves. They eat and talk. Pythagoras is open about pretty much everything, including that Jason and Ariadne are alive and that Pasiphae isn't. When Ikaros brings up that he heard Jason and Ariadne want to make peace with Cilix, Pythagoras agrees with that as well. The trap is set and they walk part of the way to the city together. They exchange another hug and Pythagoras is dying...

The Queen Must Die — Part 2

Season 2
Episode Number: 26
Season Episode: 13

Originally aired: Saturday May 16, 2015
Writer: Howard Overman
Director: Julian Murphy
Show Stars: Robert Emms (Pythagoras), Jack Donnelly (Jason), Mark Addy (Hercules), Sarah Parish (Pasiphae), Aiysha Hart (Ariadne)
Guest Stars: Robert Lindsay (Daedalus), Amy Manson (Medea), Joseph Timms (Icarus), Lorcan Cranitch (Cilix), Henry Garrett (Diocles), Ken Bones (Melas), Anya Taylor-Joy (Cassandra), Peter De Jersey (Goran), Chris Reilly (Leon), Jason Baughan (Straton), Jason Cheater (Linos)
Summary: As Jason and Ariadne prepare to return to power in Atlantis, they must decide who they can trust. Anxieties run high as our heroes form new alliances with old enemies, whilst questioning those they love. As they enter the city for the first time since Pasiphae's death, only one thing is certain — nothing will ever be the same again.



Ikaros runs straight to Goran and Cilix. He tells them what Pythagoras said about the peace meeting and begs for the release of his father. Goran agrees, as promised. This is the time where Cilix speaks up about his desire to claim the throne. They will kill Jason and Ariadne at the peace talks and that will be that: Cilix will take the throne and Goran will be his general. They will rule together. Goran tells him that Cilix doesn't have the support of the people in political power, but he brushes the concerns off.

He who is in charge of the army has the power to lead, after all.

Ikaros goes to get his father out of prison. Daedalus tells him he will never forgive him for what he did and once more tries to send Ikaros off, but Ikaros pushes to take him home and Daedalus—at the gates of Hades—accepts. He lets his son guide him out of the Atlantian prison he willingly went into to aid Jason, Pythagoras, and the efforts to free Atlantis.

The time of the meeting is now. The soldiers checked out the area surrounding the forest and everything looks as agreed. Cilix brought a huge army presence though—and Goran—so I have to admit to being a little worried. Cilix isn't. Not at all. He saunters up to Ariadne and Jason, soldiers on stand-by. He has also hidden a regiment in the woods, though, bows in hand, and doesn't wait long with the betrayal. He says they do both want peace, but that Jason won't be there to see it. That's when Jason's men come out of the literal woodworks and shoot and stab the hiding Atlantian soldiers in the back before they can kill Jason and Ariadne. They do so quietly, though, so Cilix is left calling for an execution that never happens. When that fails, he calls on the guards he brought to finish the job but Goran tells them to stand down. It seems that he who controls the army truly does have the power, and Cilix is left to stand alone. Instantly, Cilix becomes the weasel he is and tries to talk his way out of it. When that fails as well, he runs and Jason throws a knife into his back. Goran finishes him off.

Goran says he has seen too many people die and that Atlantis needs peace. He and the army will stand down in exchange for one thing: that there are no reprisals against his men. They

followed orders, that's it. Jason says that all who swear loyalty to him will be spared and the rest will be given the opportunity for exile. It's enough. Goran says he will make arrangements in Atlantis while Jason gets the consent of the Gods for him to take the throne. They will have to trust each other's word on all of it. Jason realizes it's the best deal he is going to get and agrees.

In the camp, everyone packs up. Ariadne is worried and ponderous, but Hercules misinterprets why. Ariadne has Medea on her mind, Hercules has Goran. He does give her a valuable piece of advice: they made their choice and they need to put their faith in it. And so they all leave the woods together to go back to Atlantis. Once they arrive, Ariadne is shocked at the sorry state of it, of the torture and cruelty.

Guards await the small group of Ariadne, Jason, Hercules, Pythagoras, and Diocles as they enter the Palace square, and on the steps is Melas, who throws himself at Ariadne's feet. He says he is beyond forgiving for his betrayal and Ariadne forgives him anyway. His loyalty is now bought for life. All the guards here have sworn a similar oath and Goran hands them over to Jason and Ariadne. Diocles remains behind as the rest walk into the palace Ariadne never thought she would see again.

In the woods, Pasiphae's prayer to Hekate pays off: something large and flying lands and scoops her up.

Back in the palace, Jason comes up behind Ariadne and kisses her neck. she freezes. He asks her what is wrong and she says this place no longer feels like home. They have retaken Atlantis, Jason says, but he realizes there is more troubling Ariadne. She just tells him Pasiphae said some things to her that she is pondering about. He tells her not to believe a word from that woman's mouth and reluctantly, she agrees. Jason realizes he's losing her.

The whatever-it-is that took Pasiphae drops her onto the altar in Hekate's temple and after a few moments, she blinks. Dead people are not supposed to blink, damn it!

Back in the Palace, Hercules is giving in to the temptation of sweet wine, but Pythagoras can't relax. There is something he must do, and that 'something' is talk to Ikaros. Hercules takes out more wine. Pythagoras appears in Ikaros' home and tells Ikaros of what has happened. Ikaros is so happy, so relieved, but Pythagoras can't be. Then he notices Daedalos and Ikaros finally comes clean about what happened to his father. "That's why you betrayed us," Pythagoras whispers and Ikaros swirls back around.

He asks how he knew, when. Pythagoras tells him there could have been no one else who had betrayed the plans to infiltrate the arena prisons and Ikaros realizes they played him from that moment on. He is shocked, ashamed. He tells Pythagoras he would never have done it if there had been another way to save his father, and while Pythagoras understands it, the pain over his betrayal is very real. Other would have died instead of Daedalos. He would have died instead of Daedalos. Pythagoras says he means nothing to Ikaros, and Ikaros breaks down. He takes his hand and holds it. "You mean everything to me," he says into the minimal space between them. Pythagoras, in tears, says he can't say that after almost getting him killed to save his father. Ikaros whispers that he had no choice and Pythagoras, openly crying, says there always is a choice—he just made the wrong one. When Ikaros tries to kiss him, Pythagoras stops him and Ikaros steps back, shattered. Pythagoras says he understands why Ikaros did what he did, but he will never forgive him for it. Then he leaves. Ikaros beg him to come back, but when Daedalos wakes up and gets up, Ikaros just mutters that he had to, that he couldn't see his father die. Daedalos finally offers him the hug he so desperately needs.

Back in the palace, Hercules is staring off in the distance at a fire when Ariadne comes up to him. Hercules asks where Jason is, and Ariadne says he's sleeping. Hercules admits that Jason is a constant worry for him and Ariadne relates. she laments that she wishes she had friends like Hercules and Pythagoras. Someone to talk to. Without missing a beat, Hercules asks her if everything is alright with her. She hesitates a moment, then says she can't sleep. He thinks it's logical to be nervous, but she corrects him, saying it isn't nerves. Just as she needs, he asks her what it is then, and she crumbles a little. She fears that the memory of Jason's with his blackened heart will haunt them forever. Hercules tells her that it's all in the past and suddenly she can't keep it in anymore. She tells Hercules about what Pasiphae told her. Hercules, too, says she shouldn't put any stock into Pasiphae's words, but Ariadne knows Jason is hiding something when he talks about Medea. she knows their bond is special. Hercules says that whatever that bond is, Jason married her, not Medea. But Ariadne knows something has changed in Jason and things will never be the same.

Someone really needs to tell me what the flying thing sent by Hekate is (didn't I decide it was a Griffon somewhere in the past?) because it just flew by the palace, just as Goran and a bunch of guards trail the hallways. They either hear or see something because they enter the throne room with their swords drawn. It seems our overgrown stork came to deliver a package fit for its size: a very much alive, and worse for wear, Pasiphae, deposited on the throne.

Goran is shocked, but tells her the throne isn't hers anymore. She doesn't give a shit about what he thinks and her magic is stronger than ever. When he tells the guards to capture Pasiphae, she makes an example out of one of the guards by tossing him backwards into a wall that he dies instantly. The choice is easy: swear loyalty to her or die. Goran steps forward and asks her how many more will die to sate her thirst for power. "As many as it takes," she hisses. He refuses to kneel before her ever again and she starts to choke him with her magic until he is on his knees. She gloats, but he gets back up again. For his defiance, she snaps his neck. The guards sink to their knees and swear loyalty. They can't stand up against so much power.

By morning, all the palace guards have been recruited and they will strike at Ariadne and Jason before the Gods can give their blessing in a ceremony. The guards guide Ariadne to the ceremonial hall where Jason is already waiting. They walk a whole line of guards who are about to stab them in the back and enter the temple where the priests of Poseidon, Melas, and Cassandra await. Hercules and Pythagoras are also there. The ceremony begins and Cassandra prays to Poseidon. Meanwhile the guards loyal to Pasiphae kill all the guards they didn't recruit on the steps of the temple. Others guide Pasiphae to it. Screams and shouts reach inside the temple and Jason and Ariadne look up, shocked. There is a whole regiment of guards behind them that I worry about. Jason reaches for his sword and at that time, the temple doors open and the guards storm in. It seems the regiment remained loyal, though, making the fight moderately fair.

Melas—shocked by the bloodshed inside a holy sanctuary—steps forward slowly, telling the men to put down their swords. No one listens. As Hercules and Pythagoras get an unarmed Ariadne to safety, Jason takes on the guards. Then Melas spots Pasiphae and a look of sheer terror settles on his face. Pasiphae stabs him and with his dying breath, he tells Cassandra to run. She does, to Ariadne, who is still being guarded by Hercules and Pythagoras. Then Jason sees Pasiphae and he freaks the fuck out. Everyone runs from the temple, leaving Pasiphae in control of it. They cut through guards to get to freedom and hide in someone's home as the guards search the city. Somewhere in the struggle, Hercules got hurt at least enough to draw blood.

Hercules swears to Jason that he killed Pasiphae. Jason doesn't doubt it, but the fact remains that she is alive and searching the city for them. So they have to wait out the day here and then try to escape the city. Cassandra isn't doing well; Melas' death hit her hard. She impresses upon Jason that what Melas did was to protect her. He was a good man. Jason knows that, too.

Ikaros tells his father about Pasiphae's return, and that everyone is hunting for Jason and Ariadne. "What about Pythagoras?" he asks, and a very worried Ikaros says he doesn't know what happened to him. He says he has to try to help them and he grabs his sword. Daedalos tells him he will be cut down before he even reaches a guard. He'll help him make an impact, through.

In the palace, a very vengeful Pasiphae tells the guards that anyone helping the fugitives will be hanged in the streets. Daedalos and Ikaros couldn't care less, anyway. They are carrying a large package through the streets, dodging guards at every corner. By some miracle, the group hasn't been discovered yet, but going out is suicide. They know it. Jason comes to sit with Ariadne and she says that if this is the end, she needs to know about Medea. He comes clean: there was a moment between them in the darkness. But it's over, he is never going to see her again. And then the sounds of the soldiers come closer. They need to arm up. Their talk is cut short and the guards hack down the door.

On the city walls, Ikaros finally gets his mythological wings. While I am no aerospace engineer, I think I can say with absolute safety that there is no way in hell real life wings like that will carry you anywhere but down very swiftly. The show makes a lovely pun about the wax melting if he comes too close to the sun, though, and I have to laugh when Ikaros tells his dad that, uh, it's the middle of the night. It seems the wings work, because he glides out over the city like an eagle—after a bit of a rough descent.

The rest of the group has no wings, though. They just arm up and wait for the inevitable—and then Ikaros starts throwing fire powder bombs down on the soldiers and they all die instantly.

Ikaros saved Jason, Hercules, Pythagoras, Ariadne, and Cassandra. It's glorious. One of the few surviving guards manages to get an arrow off, though, and rips Ikaros' wing. He crash-lands hard in a courtyard and Pythagoras rushes to see if he's alright, breaking away from the group to do so. When it seems like Ikaros didn't make it, Jason is devastated. But Ikaros opens his eyes, whispers he's sorry, and Pythagoras kisses him as he cries with relief. Yessss!!! I fully admit to yelling that out loud, by the way.

Hercules breaks them up by clearing his throat. They have a city to flee, damn it. Pythagoras and Ikaros claim another moment, then they all leave the city together.

The next morning, the familiar feeling of waking up on the forest floor is back. Cassandra is missing, through. She is praying for Melas a little way's off. Jason asks her if they will ever be rid of Pasiphae, and she tells him it will be difficult. Pasiphae will only be vanquished if he can find the source of her power and destroy it: the Golden Fleece... in Colchis (Kolkhis), where Medea is. And she is the one person destined to help him.

Jason tells Hercules and Pythagoras and they are not pleased, not even so much because of Medea, but because Colchis is the home of witches and black magic. Well, actually, Colchis was located on the eastern coast of the Black Sea, centred on present-day western Georgia. According to the Hellenic mythology, Colchis was a fabulously wealthy land situated on the mysterious periphery of the heroic world. Here in the sacred grove of the war god Ares, King Aeëtes hung the Golden Fleece until it was seized by Jason and the Argonauts. Colchis was also the land where the mythological Prometheus was punished by being chained to a mountain while an eagle ate at his liver for revealing to humanity the secret of fire. Amazons also were said to be of Scythian origin from Colchis. But, of course, I digress again.

Hercules tries to convince him not to go, but Jason won't be dissuaded. He goes to tell Ariadne who—naturally—is not pleased. She offers to go with him, but he won't let her. She says she is coming, that someone needs to protect him from himself. Cassandra watches the proceedings with sorrow and guilt. She has to tell the truth, that is the curse that comes with her amazing ability. But it deeply hurts her to hurt others.

We get a few more shots of Atlantis being brought to its knees under Pasiphae rule. She has claimed the throne and her rule of the city is like an iron grip, choking the life out of it slowly but surely. Our group of heroes reaches the coast and out at sea awaits them the ship that will carry them to their destiny: Argo, carrier of the Argonauts.

During the night, while everyone sleeps, Cassandra prays for a vision of the future. She sees the Argo, plowing through the waves. Medea and Jason, kissing passionately against the bars of a cell. Ariadne, standing in the gull of an island, abandoned.

And Medea, in Colchis, knows Jason will be heading her way soon.

Actor Appearances

A

Ben Adams	1
0209 (Patrol Guard)	
Daniel Adegboyega	1
0105 (Stolos)	
Thomas Aldersley	1
0105 (Mikos)	
Lorenzo Allchurch	1
0204 (Nicias)	
Josef Altin	1
0201 (Rizon)	
Hannah Arterton	4
0101 (Korinna); 0102 (Korinna); 0106 (Korinna); 0107 (Korinna)	
Hannah Atherton	1
0105 (Korinna)	

B

Jason Baughan	4
0208 (Patrol Guard); 0211 (Soldier 2); 0212 (Straton); 0213 (Straton)	
Ken Bones	12
0101 (Melas); 0106 (Melas); 0107 (Melas); 0113 (Melas); 0206 (Melas); 0207 (Melas); 0208 (Melas); 0209 (Melas); 0210 (Melas); 0211 (Melas); 0212 (Melas); 0213 (Melas)	
Lou Broadbent	3
0111 (Ione); 0112 (Ione); 0113 (Ione)	
Faye Brooks	1
0101 (Helena)	
Susan Brown	1
0206 (Pemphredo)	

C

Jason Cheater	4
0208 (Soldier); 0211 (Cells Guard); 0212 (Linos); 0213 (Linos)	
Lucy Cohu	2
0106 (Circe); 0112 (Circe)	
John Conroy	1
0109 (Thaddeus)	
Thomas Coombes	3
0201 (Critias); 0202 (Critias); 0208 (Critias)	
Philip Correia	1
0203 (Leonidas)	
Lorcan Cranitch	7
0206 (Cilix); 0207 (Cilix); 0208 (Cilix); 0209 (Cilix); 0211 (Cilix); 0212 (Cilix); 0213 (Cilix)	
Steven Cree	2
0201 (Miras); 0202 (Miras)	

D

Trevor Allan Davies	1
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0109 (Charon)	
Sally Dexter	1
0206 (Deina)	
Harry Dickman	1
0103 (Gallus)	
Richard Dillane	1
0103 (Palos)	
Joe Dixon	5
0101 (Ramos); 0105 (Ramos); 0111 (Ramos); 0112 (Ramos); 0113 (Ramos)	
Ron Donachie	1
0101 (Theos)	
John Draycott	1
0208 (Tavern Owner)	
Ian Drysdale	1
0201 (Derian)	

E

Daniel Easton	1
0207 (Lycidas)	
Naomi Everson	1
0102 (Eris)	

F

Grahame Fox	1
0110 (Sabas)	

G

Henry Garrett	3
0211 (Diocles); 0212 (Diocles); 0213 (Diocles)	
Dave Garrick	1
0106 (Lysis)	
Tristan Gemmill	1
0104 (King Laius)	
Julian Glover	1
0109 (Eunapius)	
Ciaran Griffiths	1
0103 (Cyrus)	

H

Ellie Haddington	1
0206 (Enyo)	
John Hannah	3
0113 (Tychon); 0210 (Aeson); 0211 (Aeson)	
Hacina Haque	1
0108 (Baucis)	
Vincent Haquin	1
0211 (Xanthos)	
Aiysha Hart	9
0101 (Ariadne); 0102 (Ariadne); 0104 (Ariadne); 0105 (Ariadne); 0107 (Ariadne); 0111 (Ariadne); 0112 (Ariadne); 0113 (Ariadne); 0209 (Ariadne)	

J

Paul Jacobs 1
 0211 (Soldier 1)
 Ethan James 1
 0104 (Baby)
 George James (II)..... 1
 0104 (Baby)
 Michael Jenn 1
 0111 (Eos)
 Peter De Jersey 11
 0201 (Goran); 0202 (Goran); 0204 (Goran); 0206
 (Goran); 0207 (Goran); 0208 (Goran); 0209 (Goran);
 0210 (Goran); 0211 (Goran); 0212 (Goran); 0213
 (Goran)
 Karl Johnson 2
 0102 (Itheus); 0103 (Itheus)
 Jimmy Johnston 1
 0104 (Critias)
 Gemma Jones 1
 0109 (Campe)
 Mark Lewis Jones 1
 0101 (Mac)

K

Gary Kane 1
 0107 (Harmon)
 Dermot Keaney 1
 0111 (Aias)
 Shelley King 1
 0102 (Celandine)
 Jeffery Kissoon 1
 0106 (Elias)

L

Stephanie Langton 1
 0102 (Demetria)
 Anton Lesser 1
 0109 (Kyros)
 John Light 2
 0204 (Diagoras); 0205 (Diagoras)
 Daedalus Robert Lindsay 1
 0110 (Daedalus)
 Robert Lindsay 4
 0210 (Daedalus); 0211 (Daedalus); 0212 (Daedalus);
 0213 (Daedalus)
 David Lloyd (I) 1
 0102 (Nereus)
 Jordan Long 1
 0104 (Soldier)
 Lashana Lynch 1
 0203 (Areto)

M

Amy Manson 12
 0201 (Medea); 0202 (Medea); 0204 (Medea); 0205
 (Medea); 0206 (Medea); 0207 (Medea); 0208
 (Medea); 0209 (Medea); 0210 (Medea); 0211
 (Medea); 0212 (Medea); 0213 (Medea)
 Louis Maskell 1
 0101 (Alcaeus)
 Stephen McCole 1
 0210 (Galenos)
 Nicholas McGaughey 1
 0104 (Biton)
 Fintan McKeown 1
 0108 (Medios)

Charlie De Melo 1
 0101 (Guard)
 Will Merrick 1
 0108 (Arcas)
 Danny Midwinter 1
 0107 (Codros)
 Rhodri Miles 1
 0104 (Kallias)
 Darren Morfitt 1
 0108 (Nilas)

N

Simon Nehan 1
 0111 (Maro)
 Nora-Jane Noone 1
 0110 (Atalanta)

O

Christopher Obi 1
 0103 (Shabaka)
 Ryan Oliva 1
 0108 (Otus)
 Gary Oliver 2
 0107 (Alytarch); 0203 (Alytarch)

P

Sarah Parish 6
 0104 (Pasiphae); 0105 (Pasiphae); 0107 (Pasiphae);
 0111 (Pasiphae); 0112 (Pasiphae); 0113 (Pasiphae)
 Ronald Pickup 3
 0204 (Orpheus); 0205 (Orpheus); 0206 (Orpheus)
 Robert Pugh 2
 0201 (Sarpedon); 0202 (Sarpedon)

R

James Rastall 1
 0108 (Philemon)
 Sam Redford 1
 0202 (Alastor)
 Vincent Regan 5
 0201 (Dion); 0202 (Dion); 0203 (Dion); 0204 (Dion);
 0205 (Dion)
 Chris Reilly 2
 0212 (Leon); 0213 (Leon)
 Elen Rhys 1
 0104 (Jocasta)
 Jemima Rooper 10
 0103 (Medusa); 0104 (Medusa); 0105 (Medusa); 0106
 (Medusa); 0107 (Medusa); 0109 (Medusa); 0110
 (Medusa); 0207 (Medusa); 0208 (Medusa); 0209
 (Medusa)
 Abigail Rose 1
 0204 (Rhea)

S

George Savvides 1
 0102 (Karpos)
 Emmett J Scanlan 3
 0207 (Delmos); 0208 (Delmos); 0209 (Delmos)
 Darwin Shaw 1
 0105 (Therus)
 Alexander Siddig 8

0101 (Minos); 0103 (Minos); 0104 (Minos); 0105 (Minos); 0107 (Minos); 0111 (Minos); 0112 (Minos); 0113 (Minos)	
Josh Sneesby	1
0111 (Evandros)	
Clive Standen	2
0203 (Telemon); 0204 (Telemon)	
Bernice Stegers	1
0109 (Hestia)	
David Sterne	1
0107 (Dymas)	
Juliet Stevenson	11
0105 (The Oracle); 0106 (The Oracle); 0107 (The Oracle); 0108 (The Oracle); 0109 (The Oracle); 0110 (The Oracle); 0113 (The Oracle); 0201 (The Oracle); 0202 (The Oracle); 0206 (The Oracle); 0207 (The Oracle)	
Donald Sumpter	1
0104 (Tiresias)	
Sam Swainsbury	2
0208 (Nestor); 0209 (Nestor)	
Sam Swann	1
0210 (Keos)	
Kemal Sylvester	1
0202 (Cleon)	

T

Emily Taaffe	1
0103 (Elpis)	
Anya Taylor-Joy	6
0208 (Cassandra); 0209 (Cassandra); 0210 (Cassandra); 0211 (Cassandra); 0212 (Cassandra); 0213 (Cassandra)	
Bill Thomas	1
0104 (Andreas)	
Sian Thomas	2
0204 (Eurydice); 0205 (Eurydice)	
Joseph Timms	4
0210 (Icarus); 0211 (Icarus); 0212 (Icarus); 0213 (Icarus)	
Frances Tomelty	2
0102 (Anysia); 0103 (Anysia)	

W

Ross Waiton	1
0210 (Curfew Soldier)	
Oliver Walker	7
0103 (Heptarian); 0104 (Heptarian); 0105 (Heptarian); 0107 (Heptarian); 0111 (Heptarian); 0112 (Heptarian); 0113 (Heptarian)	
Jason Watkins	1
0110 (Crios)	
Spencer Wilding	1
0110 (Doros)	
Lynne Wilmot	1
0103 (Sophia)	