

(Lights come up gradually on a stage that is bare except for a small grassy mound down-center. After a moment, Oedipus and Antigone enter from the right, both very shabbily dressed. He is blind and weak, and she leads him gently toward the grassy mound.)

1 Adagio ♩ = 60

Piano

*mp* *mf*

rit. -----

8 ♩ = 48

Antigone

*mp*

A qui-et grove,

Oedipus

Tell me, my child, what place is this we have come to?

Pno.

11 rit. --- ♩ = 44

Antigone

sha-dy with vines, lau-rel, and stur-dy ol-ive trees.

Oedipus

The air smells sweet here.

Pno.

14 rit. -----

Antigone It does in-deed.

Pno.

16  $\bullet = 36$  (Gesturing at the mound)

Antigone Come, sit. Rest those wear - y bones.

Pno.

17

Oedipus How wear - y yours must be, car - ing all these years

Pno. *mf*

18

Antigone I live for noth - ing else.

Oedipus for this poor blind out - cast.

Pno. *mp*

(She eases him down on the mound, but he  
 20 quickly jumps up and gestures off right.) Poco piu  $\bullet = 40$

Oedipus

Foot-steps. Some-one's com-ing.

Pno.

*ff*

Antigone

*mf*  
 I see no one.

Oedipus

For a blind man,

Pno.

*mf*

(Crossing right and  
 looking off)

Antigone

And you're right. There are men

Oedipus

sounds are the things he sees.

Pno.

*f* *mf*

Poco meno  $\text{♩} = 36$

Antigone  
head - ing this way. May they be friend - ly ones.

Pno.

(Two men enter right.)

Poco piu  $\text{♩} = 40$

First Man  
Hel - lo.

Oedipus  
Un - like oth - ers — else - where.

Pno.

(Crossing back to Oedipus)

Antigone  
On - ly a place to rest.

First Man  
What do you want here?

Pno.

33

First Man

Well that you're wel - come to.

Second Man

But see that you go no fur - ther.

Pno.

*mf*

(Gesturing  
off left)

35

Second Man

For that way lies sa - cred ground \_\_\_\_\_ which no strang - er may en - ter.

Pno.

37

First Man

To those we call the Eu - men - id - es.

Oedipus

Sa - cred to whom?

Pno.

39

Second Man

Known else - where as the Fu - ries. Tor - men - ters of those who trans - gress

Pno.

*f*



*(Gesturing off left again)*

49

Second Man

And that grove there is where we wor-ship them.

Pno.

51

First Man

8

It is called Co - lo - nus.

Second Man

It is called Co - lo - nus.

Oedipus

And what is the name of this place? Co - lo - nus!

Pno.

*mf* *f* *mp*

53

Oedipus

Famed for its ol - ive trees fer - tile in ev - 'ry field and grove!

Pno.

*mf*

55  
8

First Man

Trees that need no plant-ing.

Second Man

From whose ab-un-dant fruit

Pno.

57  
8

First Man

And oil to light the dark-ness.

Second Man

— we draw food that nour-ish-es.

Pno.

59

Second Man

*f* And its branch-es, sym-bol-ic of peace,

Pno.

60 *Poco meno* ♩ = 36

Second Man  
can mock the swords-man in his rage.

Oedipus  
(To Antigone)  
Can this be where our wand-er-ings may end?

Pno. *f* *mp* *f*

62 *Poco piu* ♩ = 40

Antigone  
My name is An-tig-o-ne,

First Man  
But who are you? And where do you come from?

Pno. *mp* *mf*

65

Antigone  
my birth-place Thebes.

Oedipus  
*mf*  
I too was born in Thebes.

Pno.

67

Oedipus

But my name is one all The - bans ab - hor.

Pno.

68

Oedipus

And so may you, when you rec - og - nize it Man - y years a - go,

*rit.* ----- ♩ = 44

Pno.

*mp*

70

Oedipus

at a fat - al cross - roads near Thebes, I killed a man I felt was treat - en - ing me,

Pno.

*mf*

72

Oedipus

not know - ing he was Lai - us, king of Thebes,

Pno.

*f*

73 *ff*  
 First Man Oed - i - pus!  
 Second Man *ff*  
 Oed - i - pus!  
 Oedipus  
 and my own fath - er. That same Oed - i - pus

Pno. *ff* *mf*

75  
 Oedipus  
 who mar - ried the queen Jo - cas - ta, not know - ing she was his moth - er.

Pno. *f*

77 *ff*  
 First Man Hor - rib - le!  
 Second Man *ff*  
 Hor - rib - le!  
 Oedipus *mf*  
 And sired child - ren with her, a - mong them

Pno. *mf*

79

Oedipus

the one at my side, both daught - er and sis - ter.

Pno.

*f* *ff*

81

Second Man

You must leave this place at once! Your pres-ence here — is a pol-lu - tion!

Pno.

*ff* *mp*

*Piu mosso*  $\bullet = 52$

(Antigone crosses to the men and kneels before them.)

83

Antigone

Please sirs, do not drive us a-way. What he did

Pno.

*mf* *mf*

*Piu mosso*  $\bullet = 40$

*Meno mosso*  $\bullet = 32$

86

Antigone

was done un-know - ing - ly. And see how he has suf - fered for that.

Pno.

88

Antigone

When the truth came to light, he stabbed out both those eyes\_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

*f*

90

Antigone

— in pun - ish - ment! And ev - er since

Pno.

*mf*

92

Antigone

he has wand - ered from place to place, with on - ly me to guide him,

Pno.

94

Antigone

hop - ing a place can be found where he may do some fi - nal good

Pno.

*rit.* ----- ♩ = 36

Antigone

96

be - fore death o - ver - takes him.

Pno.

96

*f*

First Man

97

8

Some fi - nal good you say?

Oedipus

97

I might have died then,

Pno.

97

*mf* *mp* *mf*

Oedipus

99

by my own hand, as she did, my wife \_\_\_\_\_ and moth - er,

Pno.

99

*f*

Oedipus

101

when she learned \_\_\_\_\_ the truth. But some - thing in - side me

Pno.

101

*mp*

103

Oedipus

said that I must go on liv - ing, must suf - fer fur - ther, and fur - ther,

Pno.

*mf*

105

Oedipus

be - fore I could ful - fill some pur - pose des - tined for me.

Pno.

*f*

107

First Man

*f* What kind of pur - pose?

Second Man

*f* What do you mean? \_\_\_\_\_

Oedipus

I do not know.

Pno.

*mp*

109

Oedipus

But some - thing in - side me says that *this* is where it may hap - pen.

Pno.

*mf* *f*

111 (To the first man) *f*

Second Man

What should we do? Let them stay and risk pol - lu - tion?

Pno.

*mp*

(The first man stares hard at Oedipus, then down at Antigone.) (To the second man)

113

First Man

8 If it was un - know - ing - ly

Pno.

*mf*

115

First Man

8 that he did what he did, might not we con - sid - er him blame - less?

Pno.

*ff*

117

First Man *mf*  
But here they've be-come the Eu-men - i - des,

Second Man *f*  
To the Fu - ries, though, he is *not*.

Pno. *mp*

119

First Man  
their wrath re - placed by com - pas - sion. So why should we fear them?

Pno. *mf*

121

Second Man  
Well may - be you're right. And we too should be com - pas - sion - ate.

Pno.

(Lifting Antigone to her feet  
and addressing Oedipus)

123

Second Man

You may re-main here, till that pur- pose,

Pno.

123

123

*mf*

125

Antigone

Poco piu  $\bullet = 40$

Oh may the gods re-ward you!

Second Man

what - ev - er it may be, is ful-filled.

Pno.

125

125

*f*

127

Antigone

(She crosses to Oedipus and takes his hands.)

Now you may rest se - cure - ly.

Pno.

127

127

*mp*

129

Antigone

Come, lay your head on this mound and try to sleep a-while.

Pno.

*mf*

131

Antigone

And wth none of those e - vil dreams. *(Sitting by the mound)*

Oedipus

I thank you, kind gent - le - men,

Pno.

*mp*

*(Antigone eases his head back on the mound, kneels beside him and strokes his forehead as he slowly falls asleep.)*

133

Oedipus

for your for - bear - ance.

Pno.

(The two men cross to stage center and stand looking down at them with sympathy.)

rit. -----

136  $\bullet = 72$

Pno.

143  $\bullet = 36$

Second Man

I have heard it said that nev - er to have been born

Pno.

145

Second Man

should be one's fond - est wish, if that were pos - sib - le.

Pno.

147

Second Man

And that the sec - ond best is to have seen the light,

Pno.

*mf*

149

Second Man

and then to turn back quick - ly to where one came from.

Pno.

*mp*

151

Second Man

For as the years pass, the end - less hours

Pno.

*mf*

153

Second Man

pile up a drift of pain mor un - re - lieved each day.

Pno.

155

Second Man

And pleas - ure comes less and less.

Pno.

*mp*

rit. -----

A tempo

157 *mf*

First Man

8 Yet there is vir - tue in en - dur - ing, as this man has,

Pno.

159

First Man

8 in hope of some - thing still in store for him. Though

Pno.

161

First Man

8 some may rise on - ly to fall, oth - ers may fall on - ly to rise a - gain.

Pno.

(A Theban officer  
rushes in from the  
right and sees  
Oedipus.)

Poco piu  $\text{♩} = 40$   
*ff*

(The two men turn  
quickly to him.)

163

Officer

Ah there he is at last!

Pno.

163

163

*ff*

165

First Man

Who are you?

Second Man

Who are you?

165

165

Officer

An of - fic - er from Thebes

Pno.

165

165

*f*

167

Antigone

Back home?

Officer

or - dered to track down Oed - i - pus and take him back home.

Pno.

167

167

*mf*

170

Officer

I have fol - lowed his tra - ces from place to place and fin - al - ly found him.

Pno.

*f* *mf*

173

Antigone

But why? Why would a place where his name is ab - horred

Pno.

175

Antigone

want him back a - gain?

Officer

175

Be - cause of a pro - ph - cy.

Pno.

177 *mf*  
 First Man What kind of pro-phe-cy?  
 Second Man *mf*  
 What kind of pro-phe-cy?

Pno. *f* *mp*

179  
 Officer One which sta - ted that he, great - est of sin - ners

Pno.

181  
 Officer and great - est of suf-fer-ers, has the pow - er to bring great bles - sing

Pno. *mf*

Poco meno  $\text{♩} = 36$

183

Second Man

183

Officer

A mys - ter - i - ous proph - e - cy!

wher - ev - er his bod - y is bur - ied.

Pno.

(To the second man)

185

First Man

8 But could that be the pur - pose he spoke of?

(To the officer)

Second Man

If so, it is here he should be bur - ied.

Pno.

*f*

187

Officer

*f*

That must not be! Thebes is his cit - y, and to Thebes he must re - turn!

Pno.

*mp*

189

Antigone

Thebes was his cit - y. But now it is Co - lo - nus.

Pno.

*mf*

191

Antigone

I will not let you take him!

First Man

Nor will we!

Second Man

Nor will we!

Pno.

*f*

**Poco piu** ♩ = 40

193

Officer

There are those wait - ing near - by who will take him by force if they must.

Pno.

195

First Man  We are a peace - ful peop - le.

Second Man  We do not be - lieve in force.

Pno.  *mp*

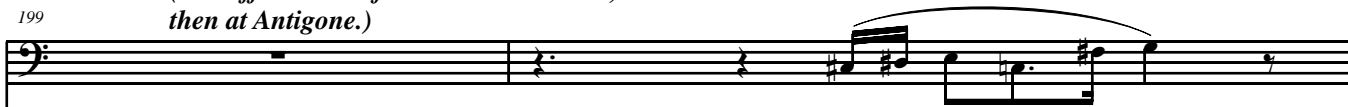
197

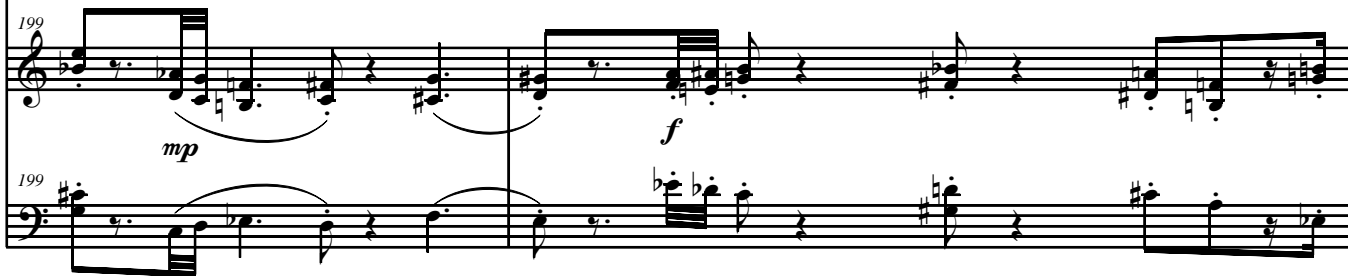
First Man  But if it is used a - gainst us, we will re - sist.



Pno.  *f* *ff*

(The officer looks from one to the other,  
then at Antigone.)

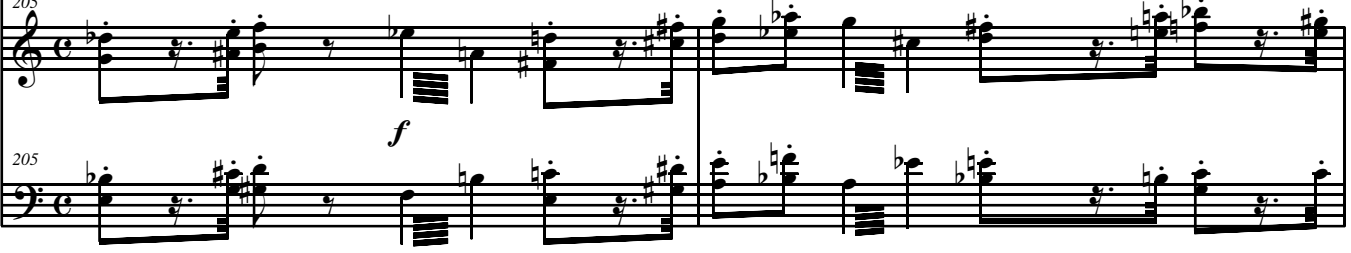
199

Officer  Then you give me no choice

Pno.  *mp* *f*

201 *f*  
 First Man   
 Second Man *f*  
 Officer *f*  
 but to go and sum-mon those oth-ers. You may re-gret re-sist-ing them.  
 Pno. 

203 *f* *(The officer rushes off right.)*  
 First Man *f*  
 you may re-gret bring-ing them here.  
 Second Man *f*  
 you may re-gret bring-ing them here. rit. -----  
 Pno. *mf* *ff*  


*(Oedipus, still asleep, shivers violently and cries out.)*  
 205 *ff*  
 Oedipus *ff*  
 Oh cursed cross-roads! Cursed mar-riage bed!  
 Pno. *f*  


207

Antigone *f*  
*(Re-encing the stabbing out of his eyes)*  
 That dream a - gain!

Oedipus  
 Cursed eyes that did not see!

Pno. *mf*

*(She kneels and shakes him gently.)*

209 *Meno mosso* ♩ = 44

Antigone  
 Fath - er, wake up! And see where you are now.

Pno.

*Meno mosso* ♩ = 36

211 *(Oedipus opens his eyes and stares at her dazedly.)*

Antigone  
 Not Thebes, but Co - lo - nus!

Oedipus *mp*  
 Co - lo - nus.

Pno. *f* *mp*

(Sitting up)

213

Oedipus

Famed for its ol - ive trees,

Pno.

214

Antigone

And where the venge - ful Fu - ries

Oedipus

fer - tile in ev - 'ry field and grove.

Pno.

*mf* *f*

216

Antigone

have be - come the gent - le Eu - med - i - des.

Oedipus

Ah yes.

Pno.

*mp* *mf* *f*

**Piu mosso**  $\bullet = 44$

218 *f*

Second Man  
A man was here, from Thebes, who want - ed to take you there.

Pno. *mf* *f*

*(Struggling to his feet)* *f*

Antigone  
But these good men

Oedipus  
Take me back to Thebes? Nev - er!

**Poco meno**  $\bullet = 40$  *(Rising and holding him steady)*

Pno. *ff* *mp*

222

Antigone  
sent him on his way.

First Man  
Oth - ers may come though,

Pno. *mf* *f*

224

First Man *8* to try and take you by force.

Second Man But if they do, be as-sured

Pno.

226

Second Man we will sum-mon a force of our own to pre-vent that. *ff*

Oedipus No!

Pno. *ff*

228

Oedipus *mf* I can-not al-low lives to be risked for my sake!

Pno. *mp* *mf*

230

Oedipus

I take this as a sign \_\_\_\_\_ that my time has come.

Pno.

232

Oedipus

Oh men of Co - lo - nus, I have one last fa - vor to ask.

Pno.

234

Oedipus

Per - mit me to en - ter that grove sa - cred to the Eu - men - i - des.

Pno.

236

Oedipus

For it is there, now, that I must reach my prom - ised end.

Pno.

*f*

238 *Poco piu* ♩ = 44 *f* *Poco meno* ♩ = 40

Second Man: But you know that is for - bid - den!

Oedipus: To the stran - ger, yes.

Pno. *mp*

240 *rit.* ----- ♩ = 36

Oedipus: But I am no stran - ger here now. I am one of you.

Pno. *mf*

242

Oedipus: As I will be for - ev - er.

Pno. *mp*

244 **Piu mosso** ♩ = 44

Antigone *mp*  
We thank you \_\_\_\_\_

First Man  
8 Let it be so.

Second Man  
Then let it be so. \_\_\_\_\_

Oedipus *mp*  
We thank you. *(He turns to take Antigone's hand.)*

Pno. *mf* *f*

246 **Meno mosso** ♩ = 36

Oedipus  
Come An-ti-go-ne, we will en-ter that grove to-geth-er.

Pno. *mp* *mf*

248

Oedipus  
Now I shall be your guide, as you have been mine all these years.

Pno. *f*

(As though instinctively knowing  
the way, he leads her off left.)

(The men watch them go in solemn silence.)

Pno.

250  $\bullet = 66$  *mp* *mf* rit. -----

First Man

256  $\bullet = 40$  *mf*

8 Oh bless - ed Eu - men - i - des, do not re - sent this in - tru - sion,

Pno.

256

First Man

258 rit. -----  $\bullet = 36$

8 for in - deed he is one of us now.

Second Man

*mf*

And you, Per - seph - o - ne,

Pno.

258

260

Second Man

queen of the af - ter - world, wel - come him to your do - main

Pno.

262

Second Man

as we have wel - comed him to ours. rit. -----

Pno.

264

First Man

And let his des - cent be pain - less, and his sleep with - out e - vil dreams.

Pno.

*mf* *mp*

266

Pno.

rit. -----  $\text{quarter note} = 66$  (*Antigone slowly re-enters, transfixed.*) rit. -----

*mf* *f*

271  $\bullet = 48$  *mp*

Antigone Friends, Oed - i - pus — is no more.

Second Man So quick - ly!

Pno. *mp* *mf*

274 *Piu mosso*  $\bullet = 66$  *rit.* -----

First Man Can you tell us how it hap - pened?

Pno. *mp* *mf*

279  $\bullet = 36$  *mf*

Antigone First, — to the Eu - men - i - des he made o - bei - sance.

Pno. *mp*

281

Antigone

Then he turned to me, took both my hands in his, and said these words:

Pno.

283

Antigone

"Dear child, from all the pain of this world,

Pno.

*mf*

285

Antigone

one thing a-lone can free us. That thing is love.

Pno.

287

Antigone

No man has ever re-ceived more of it than I have, from you.

Pno.

289

Antigone

And none will ev - er feel more of it than I have for you."

Pno.

291

Antigone

Then he turned from me,

Pno.

*f*

*mp*

293

Antigone

laid him - self, face down, \_\_\_\_\_ on that sa - cred ground,

Pno.

295

Antigone

and in an in - stant the life went out of his bod - y,

Pno.

*mf*

297

Antigone

as though the doors of the af - ter - world — had o - pened be - neath it, to let his soul

Pno.

*f*

299

Antigone

en - ter in glor - y. Or so it ap - peared to me.

Pno.

*mf*

First Man *mf*  
Oh just re-ward for all he has en-dured!

Second Man *mf*  
On that ve-ry spot

Pno. *f* *mf*

First Man *mf*  
A bless-ing for all time

Second Man  
shall his bod-y be bur-ied.

Pno.

First Man *mf*  
to all who live in this place.

Pno. *mp* *mf*

307 **Poco piu** ♩ = 40

Second Man

And you, An - tig - o - ne? Will you stay and en - joy that bless - ing?

Pno.

309 rit. -----

Antigone

I can - not.

First Man

But why?

Second Man

But why?

Pno.

*mp* *mf* *f*

311 ♩ = 36 rit. ----- ♩ = 44

Antigone

I must go back, of my own free will,

Pno.

*mp* *mf* *f* *mf*

314 *Poco meno* ♩ = 40

Antigone  
to Thebes.

First Man  
8 *f*  
To Thebes?

Second Man  
*f*  
To Thebes?

Pno.  
*f* *mp*

316

Antigone  
It is there, I feel, that I am des - tined to die.

Pno.  
*mf* *f*

318

Antigone  
How, and for what pur - pose, I can - not say.

Pno.  
*mp* *mf*

320

Antigone

But I know my fath - er would want it so.

Pno.

321

Second Man

That is be - yond my un - der - stand - ing. But then, you a - lone \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

323

First Man

If we can't per - suade you to stay,

Second Man

— can de - cide that.

Pno.

*mf*

*mp*

First Man

325

8

let us at least pro - vide trans - port and pro - tec - tion for the jour - ney there. —

Pno.

*mf*

*f*

Antigone

327

*mf*

For that, as for all else you've done for us,

Pno.

*mp*

Antigone

329

I am for - ev - er in your debt.

Pno.

*mf*

*mp*

331

Second Man

But first, we must go to - geth - er to in - form the pop - u - lace here

Pno.

*mf*

333

First Man

8

Then

Second Man

of the won - ders we have wit - nessed this day.

Pno.

335

First Man

8

see that the bur - i - al rites are per - formed with all due rev - er - ence.

Pno.

337 *mf*

Antigone — With all due rev - er - ence to him, —

First Man — to him, —

Second Man *mf* — With all due rev - er - ence to him, —

Pno. *f*

*Meno mosso* ♩ = 32

(Each man takes a hand of Antigone, and the three slowly exit right as lights fade to black.)

340

Antigone — and to the pow - ers that have brought this to pass.

First Man — and to the pow - ers that have brought this to pass.

Second Man — and to the pow - ers that have brought this to pass.

Pno. *mf*

Pno.

342

342

This system contains two staves of music. The upper staff (treble clef) begins with a measure of sixteenth-note chords, followed by a measure of eighth-note chords, and then a measure with a half-note chord. The lower staff (bass clef) features a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, including some accidentals like sharps and flats.

Pno.

rit. -----

344

*mp* *p*

344

This system contains two staves of music. The upper staff (treble clef) starts with a measure of eighth-note chords, followed by a measure with a half-note chord, and then a measure with a half-note chord. The lower staff (bass clef) features a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking with a dashed line is positioned above the first measure of the upper staff. Dynamic markings '*mp*' and '*p*' are placed below the first and second measures of the upper staff, respectively.