



GUTHRIE
THEATER

Metamorphoses

KEY CHARACTERS AND SENSORY MOMENTS

Characters



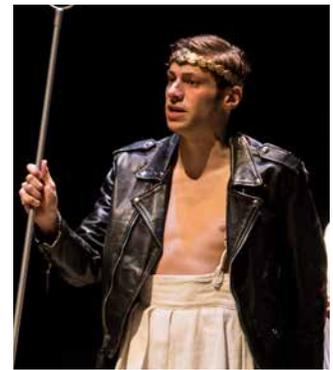
Erysichthon
and others



Midas
and others



Phaeton
and others



Hermes/Vertumnus
and others



Alcyone
and others



Aphrodite
and others



Ceyx
and others



Myrrha
and others



Therapist
and others



Eurydice
and others

Sensory Moments

Below is a chronological summary of the key sensory moments in the prologue and each story. Visual, dialogue or sound cues indicating dramatic changes in light, noise or movement are in **bold**.

As each story unfolds, there is music and changes in lighting and scenery.

Throughout the play, actors enter from behind and above the sky backdrop and splash, jump and fight in the pool of water.

Preshow

- A preshow announcement plays over the loudspeaker.

Prologue

- Music plays, the lights black out and then slowly become brighter.
- When the scientist says, "**A god sparked,**" Zeus lights a match and smokes a cigarette.
- When the woman says, "**In their constellations,**" the chandelier pulls up into the ceiling.

Midas

- When the woman says, "**Perhaps nostalgia,**" a laundress drops her basket.
- When a laundress says, "**Net worth,**" there is a sound effect of a cash register and the spotlight focuses on Midas.
- When Midas says, "**By God do I have a lot of it,**" his daughter enters bouncing a ball. When he says, "**Cost a pretty penny,**" his daughter enters swinging and jumping through a jump rope.
- When Silenus says, "**Thank you for being a friend,**" he falls face down in the pool.
- When the laundress says, "**Night fell,**" the lights darken and brighten.

- When Bacchus says, "**All right then,**" a chime sounds. Chimes continue to sound as Midas touches items and walks around the pool.
- **When Midas' daughter enters,** the lights darken and a spotlight focuses on Midas.
- When a laundress says, "**Here's another,**" music plays.

Alcyone and Ceyx

- When the narrator says, "**Consented to his going,**" music plays and the lights darken. When she says, "**To wave at her,**" a spotlight focuses on Alcyone.
- When Ceyx says, "**The vessel cleared the harbor,**" sailors loudly paddle their oars in the water.
- When the narrator says, "**Until now,**" a low rumbling begins. When Poseidon and his henchman enter, they kick and splash water, wrestle with Ceyx and throw him in the pool.
- When the narrator says, "**The end of the world,**" thunder rumbles and the lights darken. Music plays and gongs sound.
- **When Iris falls asleep,** an alarm clock rings.
- When the narrator says, "**But as she ran,**" the lights darken and a spotlight focuses on Alcyone.

Erysichthon

- Music plays as actors enter singing. When the narrator says, “**And he tore the tree down,**” there is a sound effect of a tree falling. The tree speaks from offstage.
- When the narrator says, “**He begins to eat everything in sight,**” Erysichthon splashes the water with Hunger on his back.
- When Ceres says, “**Bon appétit,**” the lights darken and music plays. A spotlight focuses on the narrator.

Orpheus and Eurydice

- When the narrator says, “**Unluckiest of wedding days,**” wedding bells sound. The lights darken as bells ring.
- When the narrator says, “**To the underworld,**” music plays and there are sound effects of car alarms, jackhammers and telephones. A spotlight focuses on Orpheus.
- When the narrator says, “**Without impatience,**” music plays and the lights darken.

Pomona and Vertumnus (With Narcissus Interlude)/Myrrha

- When the narrator says, “**And he began to tell her,**” the lights darken.
- When Cinyras says, “**Good, sweet girl,**” music plays. Myrrha and Cinyras dance in the pool, and he places her in the water.
- When the narrator says, “**The solution,**” Pomona enters with a noose.
- When Aphrodite says, “**Down the hallway,**” an owl screeches.
- When Vertumnus says, “**Unnamable,**” Cinyras lifts Myrrha into the air and places her in the water.
- When Myrrha says, “**Father,**” Cinyras grabs Myrrha’s shoulders and tries to force her head underwater. She kicks and splashes in the water.

- When Aphrodite says, “**Her body melted,**” music plays and the lights darken.

Phaeton

- When Phaeton says, “**So I set out,**” Apollo begins to sing.
- When the Therapist says, “**These days,**” the lights darken and a spotlight focuses on the Therapist. When she says, “**Privately and publically,**” music plays and a chandelier descends from the ceiling.

Eros and Psyche

- **Eros enters in the nude.** (In student matinee performances, he is wearing a loincloth.)
- When character A says, “**The appearance of things,**” Psyche enters carrying a candelabra.
- When character A says, “**The soul wanders,**” the lights darken.
- When Psyche says, “**If you will,**” the lights brighten and music plays.

Baucis and Philemon

- When Philemon says, “**Such a simple meal,**” the lights darken.
- When Zeus says, “**Thought to do,**” the lights brighten and narrators enter with candles.
- When Philemon says, “**Producing leaves and bark,**” the lights darken and focus on the pool.
- When Midas’ daughter enters, the lights darken. The actors blow out the candles, the lights black out and the play ends.

Curtain Call

- House lights go up and music plays as the actors come back onstage for the curtain call.