

THE ARGONAUTS

By

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The original animation screenplay

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FADE IN:

EXT. THE OLD GREEK TOWN SQUARE - DAY

JASON is in the center of people. There are young men: TESEUS, ARGADUS, the old man - TIDAUS and others. Jason speaks to them.

JASON

My uncle Pelias wants me to bring The Golden Fleece from Aia-Kolkhety. He says only when I bring it to Greece I can think about the royal throne.

TESEUS

Jason, then, we should go there. Please, Tideus, tell us about this country.

TIDEUS

Oh, Aia-Kolkhety is West Georgia, a very beautiful country of The Sun - Heloise. It's in Caucasus, at east to the Black sea. There are the rivers of milk and honey in the green fields and fairy-tale forests of Kolkhety. There are very high snow mountains and the blue lakes full with golden sand and blossomed wine trees... Oh, this is a very rich country.

JASON

What about people?

TIDEUS

They are beautiful, brave and kind people with nice traditions of hospitality.

TESEUS

Then I don't see the reason why
not to go there.

ARGADUS

Could you please tell us the
history of Golden Fleece.

EXT. THE NICE FIELD AND THE SKY - DAY

NEPHELE opens her hands widely and the golden sheep with its big wings flies from the sky to THE TWO CHILDREN about 10, a boy and a girl. They sit down on the sheep and it flies away in the sky taking them. Nephele covers the sheep and her children with clouds. THE STEP-MOTHER with evil face is looking for them around, She looks at the sky too, but she can't see them.

The sheep flies over the sea. The girl falls down from the ship into the sea. The boy reaches a new land.

TIDEUS

Yes, sure. Many years ago She-God of clouds Nephele sent the golden sheep to her children to save them from their evil step-mother, who was going to kill them. Nephele covered the sheep and her children with clouds and sent them to Aia-Kolkhety. Unfortunately, Hele felt down into the sea, but Prixe could get Kolkhety. Then he married one of Aiet's daughters and the golden sheep was sacrificed to the God. Now The Golden Fleece is near the river Phasisi, guarded by the very dangerous dragon.

TESEUS

It's not easy to get it.

TIDEUS

Of course, it's very
difficult. I'd say almost
impossible.

(CONTINUED:)

CONTINUED:

Actually, The Golden Fleece means the richness and power for the country. So, it is very important for Greece. Jason, you should know, it's a very important to bring it here. Remember, Jason, if you do it the future generations will keep the legends about you.

JASON

So, I must do it. I have many brave friends and we can get it.

TIDEUS

Jason, if you marry beautiful Medea, her father Aiet - the king of Aia-Kolkhety may give you The Golden fleece as a dowry.

JASON

We will go and bring The Golden Fleece to our country. I'll do it. Teseus, are you with me?

TESEUS

Sure.

Teseus turns to the people around.

TESEUS

Hey, brave Greeks, this will be the voyage of heroes. Who wants to go with us to Aia-Kolkhety?

PEOPLE

(Rising their hands up)

I do...

I'm coming...

Me...

NESTOR - a small boy of 7, jumps on the back to Jason, hanging with his arms around his neck.

NESTOR
I'm coming too.

JASON
No, Nestor, you're too small.

NESTOR
Well, I'm small, but I'm brave.
I'm coming.

JASON
(Laughing)
No, I can't take you. This
would be a very difficult
voyage.

NESTOR
I'm your best friend, how can
you go without me?

JASON
You'll wait for me here and
I'll be back with The Golden
Fleece and beautiful Medea.

Nestor doesn't answer. He looks at Jason and runs away.

EXT. THE SEA BEACH - DAY

Jason and his friends are building a big boat - with written name - "ARGO". They work hard. Nestor comes to them watching them smiling. He helps them by passing the nails. Nestor reads the name.

NESTOR
ARGO - What does Argo mean?

TESEUS
It means fast.

NESTOR
I see.

EXT. THE SEA BEACH - NIGHT

"Argo" is ready. It is on the beach. Nestor approaches it with candles.

EXT. THE SEA BEACH - MORNING

THE ARGONAUTS are in "Argo". Many people are on the beach seeing them off. They wave their hands good-bye. Argonauts also wave their hands and "Argo" is filling with water and going down to the bottom downing slowly. The water covers the Argonauts up to shoulders, then heads, then their waving hands. Nestor rolls on the grass laughing and waving his legs. Jason realizes the situation. He jumps out "Argo" and runs after Nestor. Nestor runs away.

JASON

Oh, Nestor, it's you! I know..
What have you done with "Argo?"

Jason reaches Nestor and catches him. Nestor laughs.

JASON

Nestor, what did you do?

NESTOR

Nothing...

JASON

Oh, Nestor!

NESTOR

A small secret! I'll open it if
you promise me to take with
you.

JASON

No way!

NESTOR

Then your "Argo" can never go
far...

JASON

Look, Nestor...

NESTOR

Look, Jason, I couldn't let you go without me... You may need me very much. Who knows?

JASON

Ou - Kay... okay.

NESTOR

Hey, I'm coming! Hey, hey...

Nestor jumps from Jason's knees and runs towards "Argo".

EXT. THE SEA - DAY

The Argonauts are rowing. "Argo" sails between the blue sea-waves towards the shining sun. Nestor plays with the fish from the boat and he falls down in the water. Jason takes him from the water.

JASON

Nestor, this wasn't a good idea to take you to this voyage.

EXT. THE SEA - NIGHT

The storm and big wind is on the sea. "Argo" sails on the dark black waves. "Argo" goes up and down. The Argonauts are rowing. Nestor seems afraid.

JASON

Nestor, don't be afraid. You're a brave sailor. Aren't you?

NESTOR

Yes... Oh...

Nestor falls down. Jason takes him and ties him to the boat, so he couldn't fall out. The Argonauts are rowing.

EXT. THE LIBRARY ROOM AT AIET'S PALACE - MORNING

Beautiful young MEDEA has a lesson with her Chinese teacher - CHIN LEE.

CHIN LEE

The Golden Fleece is the wisdom. But wisdom is nothing without love. Love is more than word. Care without love has no results, honor without love is haughtiness. Can you continue, Medea?

MEDEA

Yes, Sir. Here we go. Riches without love is greediness, friendship without love is flattery, Order without love -trifles of life.

CHIN LEE

Justice without love is coolness, knowledge without love is useless... Come on, Medea, continue!

MEDEA

Intellect without love is cunning, religion without love is fanaticism. Love increases only with faith.

CHIN LEE

Good! And love is God...

Suddenly something blows up. Medea laughs.

CHIN LEE

Oh, Medea! Look, if you do your best people give your name to this science. They will call it MEDICINE and doctors will be MEDICS. OK. Now, the lesson is over. Bye.

MEDEA

Of course I'll do my best. Good-bye, dear Chin Lee.

Medea runs out laughing. She runs out of the palace and runs to the forest.

EXT. THE FOREST - DAY

She sings and collects the plants. She boils them on the fire and making some medicine. She helps to little hare to jump over the big tree. Then she takes a hand of a small bear from trap. The bear cries with tears and passes her his hand. She cleans his hand from the blood, puts the medicine and ties it with some grass.

MEDEA

Oh, my poor boy. Ok, Now you'll
be all right.

The bear goes happy. The colored butterflies fly over her head. The squirrel jumps on her shoulder and kisses her on her cheek.

EXT. THE SEA - DAY

The Argonauts are rowing. "Argo" sails to the dangerous dark colored rocks.

TESEUS

Oh, seems, we have a problem,
Jason. I know those rocks.
Nothing can sail or swim
between them. The rocks will
kill anything which can get
between.

JASON

How can we get trough?

TESEUS

I have no idea. Stop the boat!

The Argonauts stop rowing. They watch the rocks and they see the rocks bumping to each-other with a big noise killing the flying bird between them.

NESTOR

I know what to do. Jason, you made a very good decision to take me. I'll help you.

JASON

How?

NESTOR

Let's my pigeon fly first. We must very quickly follow it. The rocks will crush the pigeon and we'll have a very few seconds to get trough.

JASON

Right! Nestor, you're so smart!

Jason embraces Nestor. They let the pigeon to fly between the rocks. The rocks bump to each-other with a big noise crushing the pigeon. "Argo" follows the pigeon very fast and it sails trough the rocks.

THE ARGONAUTS

We did it! We did it!

EXT. AIA-KOLHKETY. THE BLACK SEA - DAY

"Argo" reaches the beach. Many people meet the boat. They give to the Argonauts some fruit, water and wine. People meet them with songs and dances.

INT. THE PALACE OF AIET - DAY

AIET is sitting in his armchair with king's crown on his head. Chin Lee is near Aiet. Jason and other Argonauts are standing in front of the king.

AIET

Ok. Jason, you can marry Medea and take The Golden Fleece if you fulfill the three tasks.

CHIN LEE

The first task is - you should go to the dragon and bring the water of immortality from that source.

JASON

I'll try. I'll do my best.

Suddenly a young man with unpleasant severe face, dressed in black cloth - AMANHA appears together with the old and ugly witch LEMAYA.

AMANHA

Wait for a moment. My name is Amanha. I came from the east part of the word just for the same reason. Will you please let me to try my destiny?

AIET

Sure. You can.

CHIN LEE

Both of you can go and we'll see who is better.

AIET

Now I invite my guests for royal dinner party.

INT. THE PALACE OF AIET - DAY

Medea is in her room. She dresses her dog BARKY speaking to him.

MEDEA

Hey, Barky, look, you shouldn't say a single word

(CONTINUED:)

CONTINUED:

and of course, you mustn't bark. Do you understand me? It's too boring to stay at long royal dinner parties. So, you'll be Medea in my cloth... Ha, ha, ha... Remember, you must walk like me! Oh, you look fantastic! But you must cover your face.

INT. THE PALACE OF AIET - DAY

THE DINNER PARTY, ROYAL FEAST.

The guests and hosts are sitting at the big full table in the big hall. There is some space in the middle. People are sitting at only one side of the table so they can watch the show in front of them. Aiet is a toast-master leading the table.

AIET

Dear guests, I'm a tamada - a toast-master and I'd love to make a toast to my guests.

He drinks wine from the horn and passes it to Chin Lee. Chin Lee takes the horn, fills with wine and drinks it with a toast.

CHIN LEE

To brave Argonauts and to Amanha and his grandmother.

AIET

(To his servants)

Now, songs and dances for our guests!

Georgian polyphonic folk songs and dances are performed. Everybody applaud. Then Jason takes the horn and makes the toast.

JASON

I'd love to make a toast to our hosts! Thank you very much for your hospitality. To Aiet! Long live Aiet and his nice country! And we'll also try to sing and dance for you.

The Argonauts dance and sing Greek. Then Amanha drinks a toast filling the horn with wine and rising it up.

AMANHA

To Aiet! The powerful king of Aia-Kolkhety and to The Golden Fleece! This is a dream of many countries.

Amanha invites a few women and they sing and dance the oriental dances.

Instead of Medea, Barky sits at the table together with other guests. He doesn't eat. Jason wants to see Medea's face. He turns to Teseus.

JASON

We even can't see her face.

Chin Lee looks at Medea.

CHIN LEE

Medea, why did you close your face and why don't you want to have something? Are you Okay?

Barky stands up and goes. Chin Lee follows Barky and sees right over the corner, Barky falls on his legs, taking off the cloths and running away. Chin Lee nods his head and comes back to the guests.

CHIN LEE

I'm sorry, but Medea is tired. She went to her room.

EXT. THE FOREST - EVENING

Jason and Nestor walk in the forest and they see Medea. Medea brushes the tail of the fox. The fox makes a general bow to her and kisses her hand saying "Thank you". Then Medea helps one small bird to fly. A baby-deer with tied cheek because of toothache comes to Medea. She puts some medicine into his mouth and then the baby-deer smiles free from the pain. Medea sings and dances with the birds. Jason and Nestor are watching her. Jason likes her.

JASON

(To Nestor)

What a lovely beautiful girl!
If Medea is like her...

NESTOR

Don't worry, as I know, Medea
is also very beautiful.

Medea notices them and comes to them.

MEDEA

Hello!

JASON

Thank you for a nice beautiful
song.

MEDEA

What are you doing in my
forest? I will not allow you
to hunt here.

JASON

Oh, my dear fairy, we aren't
hunters. We are the Argonauts.
I'm Jason and this is my best
friend Nestor. I came here to
marry Medea and to take The
Golden Fleece to my country.
Tomorrow morning I'm going to
the dangerous dragon, to bring
the water of immortality.

MEDEA

Seems, you're a brave man,
Jason. Do you know, that is a
magic source: even if someone
kills the dragon, if he is not
really brave the source will
not give him the water. It
fills the pots with immortal
water only in brave hands.
Good luck to you, Jason.

NESTOR

Will we meet again?

MEDEA

(Smiling)

May be.

She leaves very quickly.

INT. THE WITCH'S WOODEN HOUSE - DAY

Lemaya and Amanha have dinner.

AMANHA

Lemaya, I have to go now.

LEMAYA

Hey, Amanha, how foolish you
are! You shouldn't go now. Let
Jason fight the dragon and
then you can easily take the
water from that source.

AMANHA

You're right. That's a very
good idea.

He rises a glass of wine.

LEMAYA

But you shouldn't drink much!

AMANHA

That's a toast to my clever
grandma! My Lemaya...

LEMAYA

Actually that's a good toast,
but it's enough. Stop
drinking.

She takes the wine away.

EXT. THE FOREST - DAY

Jason walks and reaches the source of immortality. The dragon with firestorms from his nose and mouth and with a few heads is near the source. Amanha comes down from the broomstick of the witch Lemaya.

AMANHA

Thanks Grandma...

LEMAYA

You're welcome! Now wait!

Lemaya flies away by her broomstick. Amanha watches Jason. Jason bravely fights with his knife and kills dragon. Dragon's heads have the fire stream. Jason fills the pot with water and leaves.

Amanha comes to the source to fill his pot, but the source closes itself and doesn't give him the water. Amanha gets angry. He secretly follows Jason.

Jason goes. He is tired and sits down at the tree for a rest. Jason sleeps. Amanha goes to him and changes the pots. The two pots look the same. Amanha laughs and leaves with fast steps. Some animals and birds see this and they make noise and run to Medea.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - NIGHT

Nestor goes to the yard and sees Medea on his way. The birds and animals are talking to her. She listens to them.

NESTOR

HI, It's nice to meet you here!

MEDEA

Oh, Nestor, your friend Jason
has a problem.

NESTOR

Did dragon kill him?

MEDEA

No, hi won dragon, but the
evil man - Amanha changed the
pots and now Jason doesn't
know it.

NESTOR

What can we do?

MEDEA

You can go and meet Amanha.
Touch him with this branch and
he'll fall a sleep. Then you
can change the pots. You are
brave like your friend. So you
can do this? Can't you?

NESTOR

Sure, I'll do it.

Medea calls Barky and shows him something in the mirror.

MEDEA

(To Barky)

Look, Barky, you know what to
do. Do you see where Jason is
now? You must take his pot and
bring it to Nestor.

Barky nods his head assent to Medea. He barks
friendly to Nestor.

MEDEA

Nestor, as you understand,
this is Barky. He'll help you.
He will find Jason and bring
the pot from him while you are
with Amanha. You must hurry.

NESTOR

Thank you so much.

Medea gives to Nestor a branch. Suddenly Chin Lee hears barking and appears.

CHIN LEE

Medea, it's too late. You must be in bed.

MEDEA

I'm going. Good night.

NESTOR

Oh, You're Medea.

MEDEA

Can I ask you not to tell this to Jason? Please...

Nestor puts his hand on his mouth and smiles.

NESTOR

Yes...

EXT. THE FOREST - NIGHT

Nestor walks, he is a bit afraid. Barky runs in the forest, finds sleeping Jason and takes the pot. Nestor meets Amanha and he runs near him touching him with the branch. Soon Amanha sits down under a big tree and sleeps.

NESTOR

Sweet dreams...

Nestor takes the pot from Amanha's hand. Amanha almost awakes! Soon Barky runs to Nestor with the pot. Nestor puts the changed pot near Amanha. Nestor and Barky run to Jason. They find him sleeping. They put the pot in his hands and leave the place. They run to the palace. Suddenly Nestor falls down and breaks his left leg. He cries. Barky helps him to reach the Aiet's palace.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - NIGHT

Medea meets Barky and Nestor. She puts some medicine on Nestor's leg and ties it with some grass. Then she gives something to drink to Nestor.

MEDEA

Oh, poor Nestor, you're the best friend in the world! Don't worry. You'll be absolutely all right tomorrow morning.

NESTOR

Oh, Thank you Medea. Will you kiss me for good-night?

MEDEA

Yes, sure. Good-night and sweet dreams, dear Nestor.

She kisses Nestor and puts him to sleep. Nestor sleeps with a happy smile. Barky stays near Nestor. Medea leaves the room.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - MORNING

Aiet, Chin Lee, and many others are there. Jason and Amanha are standing in front of the king with the pots in their hands.

CHIN LEE

Show us what you bring. Jason, please, pour out the water.

Jason pours out the water from his pot. The colored blossomed flowers are appearing on the floor and blooming.

CHIN LEE

Yes. Well-done! Thank you, Jason. You did it well. Now, please, Amanha, show us your water.

Amanha pours out the water and snakes, frogs and bad smelling insects come out from the pot.

AMANHA

Oh, no! Somebody changed our pots. I have the immortal water. Jason had this one.

CHIN LEE

But how do you know that Jason didn't have the immortal water too?

Amanha makes a step behind.

AIET

Chin Lee, tell them the second task.

CHIN LEE

The second task is more difficult. You should go to the fire garden for the apples of youth and beauty.

JASON

Is it a task for bravery.

CHIN LEE

Not only.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Medea cleans the oranges and gives them to the two small monkeys in the cage. Nestor watches her. Medea cleans one orange and gives it to Nestor showing him by gests to give it to the monkeys. Nestor eats it. One monkey rolls on the floor laughing.

NESTOR

Medea, the fire garden is all in fire?

MEDEA

Yes.

NESTOR

And it's burning?

MEDEA

Yeah, Nestor.

NESTOR

Then how Jason can get the apple from that garden? He will die in the fire!

MEDEA

He will not die. I'll help him. Nestor, go to Jason and tell him that I want to see him and I'll be near the river in the forest. But remember don't tell him that I'm Medea.

NESTOR

No, I've promised you! I'm a man and I can keep the secrets.

EXT. GARDEN IN FRONT OF AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Jason and Teseus talk walking near peacocks and pheasants.

TESEUS

I met Medea in the palace this morning. She is very beautiful.

JASON

If she is so beautiful why she covers her face? Even if she is the most beautiful in the earth, Teseus, I can't marry Medea.

TESEUS

Jason, what are saying? This is impossible! Why?

JASON

I met a beautiful and kind fairy in the forest.

TESEUS

And?

JASON

And I'm in love with her. I'm thinking only about her. I hope she also loves me. Nestor told me that she helped me with my first task. When I was sleeping Amanha changed the pots and if she wouldn't change them back again, I wouldn't have the immortal water in my pot when I came to Aiet.

TESEUS

I see. But, how can you explain it to Aiet? Or what can we do? How can we get The Golden Fleece?

JASON

I have no idea.

TESEUS

I guess Aiet will become very angry. He may kill all of us. We can't even dream about The Golden Fleece.

Nestor comes to them.

NESTOR

Jason, your fairy wants to see you.

JASON

Thank you, Nestor, for such good news. Where can I see her?

NESTOR

She will be in the forest waiting for you.

JASON

Teseus, I must run.

Happy Jason leaves them.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Medea meets Jason. They look at each other and they feel love to each other.

JASON

Oh, dear fairy. Nestor told me that you helped me changing the pots while I was sleeping. Thank you very much.

MEDEA

You're welcome.

JASON

I even don't know your name.

MEDEA

I can be just a kind fairy for you.

JASON

I wish Medea would be like you.

MEDEA

You are going to marry her. Do you love her?

JASON

I even never have seen her face.

Jason becomes very sad. He sits down and hangs his head.

JASON

Tomorrow morning I have to go to the fire garden for the apples of youth and beauty.

MEDEA

Are you afraid?

JASON

I'm not afraid, but I feel that
I'm in love...

MEDEA

Do you? So what?

JASON

I do need The Golden Fleece
very much, but I feel that I
love somebody else and I'm
afraid I can't marry Medea.

MEDEA

You can't marry Medea? Whom do
you love so much?

JASON

I love you with all my heart.
Since I met you my heart
belongs only to you.

MEDEA

What about Golden Fleece?

JASON

I'll go and fulfill all the
tasks. I'll do everything what
Aiet tells me. Then I'll ask
him only The Golden Fleece.
I'll tell them about my love...
Or I don't know what to do... I
love you so much...

He kisses Medea. Medea blushes and runs away.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - MEDEA'S ROOM - LATE EVENING

Medea speaks with Chin Lee.

CHIN LEE

How do you know that he really
loves you?

MEDEA

I do. Please, tell him to come
here.

CHIN LEE

Medea, Aiet may not like your deals...

MEDEA

I understand, dear Chin Lee, please. I know you understand me: I love him. I don't want him to die...

CHIN LEE

But you mustn't tell him everything or you'll never know his real face.

MEDEA

I do realize.

Chin Lee goes and soon he comes back together with Jason. Medea is with covered face.

MEDEA

Good evening, Jason.

JASON

Good evening.

MEDEA

You are a brave man, Jason. Tomorrow you must go to the fire garden. I don't want you to die for me and I'll teach you something.

JASON

I appreciate very much any kind of help you can do for me.

MEDEA

Listen, Jason, you can enter the fire garden without any fear only with faith - If you believe in love. As you probably know love is God. God will be with you. The fire can't do anything with you. But you must be very fast.

JASON

I see. I have heard a lot about your kindness and wisdom. Now I see this is right. Thank you very much.

MEDEA

Do you have love in your heart?

JASON

Yes, I do. Dear Medea, I want to tell you about my love. I hope we can be good friends.

MEDEA

I'm listening.

JASON

When I came to your country I meet here one very nice fairy... I fall in love with her...

MEDEA

Do you want to tell me that you love another woman and you are not going to marry me?

JASON

Well, I'm very sorry, but...

MEDEA

You don't want to marry me?

JASON

No.

MEDEA

Are you sure?

JASON

Absolutely.

MEDEA

Aiet can kill you!

JASON

I'm not afraid of death.

MEDEA

What if I - Medea, the daughter of powerful king Aiet promise you to get The Golden Fleece?

JASON

Dear Medea, I appreciate very much your help. I really need The Golden Fleece. Many people in my country are waiting for me and I can't be back without The Golden Fleece, but still, my love is so big. I'm sorry, to say this to you. I do believe one day you'll find also your love.

MEDEA

I have already found it.

JASON

Oh, how nice! So you can understand me!

MEDEA

Yes, I found it in the forest.

She takes away her head cloth and Jason sees her face.

JASON

Oh, my God! Medea, it's you!
Oh, my love...

They tenderly kiss each-other being very happy.

EXT. THE FIRE GARDEN - DAY

The trees have the fired leaves. Everything is orange-red in fire. The stream reaches the sky. The big apple tree has three big red apples. Jason comes to the garden, he stops and looks then he enters it. He picks two apples and quickly leaves the garden.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Medea puts something on the mirror. Medea and Nestor are looking in the mirror.

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MEDEA

Here we are! Here is Jason.

NESTOR

He has the apples in his hands.
He did it! He did it!

MEDEA

Yes, he did it!

They continue watching.

EXT. THE ROAD FROM THE FIRE GARDEN - DAY

Jason walks. The witch is sitting on her broomstick and she is watching Jason from the sky hiding behind the clouds. Suddenly he sees the old and very weak woman. She walks and then falls down. Jason comes to her and helps her to rise and sit down.

THE WOMAN

Thank you, dear. Thank you. I'm
so hungry, that I'll die if I
don't have something right now.

Jason sees, she is dying.

JASON

Oh, no! Wait! I have two
apples, they can help you.

He passes her the apples. She is eating them. Through the mirror - Nestor and Medea watching this being in Medea's room in Aiet's palace.

NESTOR

Oh, no! He gave his apples! He wouldn't do this! Now he will come without them or he has to go back and to pick last one? He must hurry, or Amanha will take that last apple...

MEDEA

I think Amanha has already taken it.

NESTOR

What can we do?

MEDEA

Nothing. This was a task for kindness and faith. So, Jason did all right. He was to give away his apples. If he comes here with them then he wouldn't fill the task.

NESTOR

Oh, I see now. What bout Amanha?

MEDEA

I guess he puts the third one. Nestor you must go and tell Jason, that he doesn't need to go for the third apple.

NESTOR

Sure. I'm on my way to Jason.

He runs.

INT. THE WITCH'S WOODEN HOUSE - DAY

Amanha has a dinner and a few women in oriental clothes are dancing for him. Suddenly the door opens and the witch Lemaya flies in on her broomstick.

LEMAYA

Hey, Amanha, we must hurry.

AMANHA

What is going on?

LEMAYA

Jason took two apples and there is one left.

AMANHA

If I were him, I'd take all of them.

LEMAYA

But it was Jason. Besides we needed to see how he was going to do it. I guess Medea helps him.

AMANHA

Do you think so?

LEMAYA

Yes. I think so.

AMANHA

How did he do it? How did he enter the fire garden?

LEMAYA

I was very surprised. He just entered it. I don't know if there were some magic things, which I even couldn't smell. He just entered it. Nothing! He did nothing! He had not anything special! You know I was watching him very carefully from the sky.

AMANHA

You probably missed something. He couldn't just enter the burning garden.

LEMAYA

I'm saying he did! I didn't miss anything. How could I? You know I think may be this garden is just an illusion and nothing is burning indeed... Anyway, you must go.

AMANHA

Why didn't you steal the
Jason's apples as you promised?

LEMAYA

I was going to, but he gave it
to an old woman.

AMANHA

What?

LEMAYA

Yes. He is so naïve. He gave
them to an old woman, who was
dying from hunger.

AMANHA

I can't believe this. You say
he gives the magic apples and
that woman eats them. Oh... So,
we must hurry. Jason would
probably decide to go back for
the third one.

LEMAYA

Yes. You must hurry.

Amanha quickly rises, pushing the women from his way. He runs out. The Witch follows him. He reaches the fire garden and looks from out. Then he enters and his cloths are burning. He picks the apple, but he is burning. He tries to win the fire and to extinguish it, but he can't. He is burning, he rolls on the grass. The grass is burning too. This is the fire grass. Lemaya can't enter. She is sorry for him, but she doesn't enter the garden. Suddenly an old woman appears.

THE WOMAN

I can help him if he gives me
the apple. I'm dying from
hunger.

LEMAYA

Help him if you can. Of course,
he will give you the apple.

THE WOMAN

I need his answer.

LEMAYA

I'm giving you my word.

THE WOMAN

But I need his word.

LEMAYA

Okay. Look, what if I give you another apple?

THE WOMAN

No, I need this one.

LEMAYA

OK.

Lemaya cries to Amanha.

LEMAYA

Hey, Amanha, do you hear me?
There is an old lady who
promises to help you if you
give her this apple.

Amanha cries from the fire.

AMANHA

Oh, Lemaya! Of course, I'll
give her this apple. Why do I
need it if I die here? Couldn't
you tell her this?

LEMAYA

I did. But she needs to hear it
from you.

AMANHA

Does she hear me?

LEMAYA

Yes! She is here.

AMANHA

I'll give you this apple.
Please, help me! Help me...

The woman enters the garden and comes to Amanha, she helps him to walk. They leave the garden. The woman puts Amanha on the green grass, brings some plants and puts them on his body. Soon Amanha becomes to himself. He absolutely recovers and looks as before. The old woman takes the apple and puts in her mouth eats a very small part of it. Amanha punches her head taking the apple away from her. The woman falls down. Amanha and The Witch leave.

LEMAYA

Actually, I offered her another apple.

AMANHA

It's interesting what will Jason say to Aiet, when he comes without the apple.

They laugh.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - LATE EVENING

Medea and Chin Lee are speaking.

CHIN LEE

The Golden Fleece is wisdom and as you know, we must give it to other people. It's like the candles of knowledge as many candles are shining the more light is in the room. But we can give it to a man who has a real love. Medea, I understand that you love Jason and you help him.

MEDEA

I...

CHIN LEE

Yes, I know that you helped him in these two tasks, but you mustn't say a word about the third task.

MEDEA

I don't know anything about the third task.

CHIN LEE

The third task is for love. We'll see if he really loves you.

MEDEA

How?

CHIN LEE

We have two dolls of your size with your face and we also have two magic copies of The Golden Fleece. You must stay here till they make their choice.

MEDEA

I don't understand.

CHIN LEE

You'll see. Now good-bye.

Chin Lee goes from the room closing the door by the key.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - MORNING

Aiet, his servants, Chin Lee are in the room of the King. Jason and Amanha are standing in front of Aiet. Jason is with empty hands and Amanha has an apple with its small part missing.

AMANHA

Here you are the apple from the fire garden. I brought it for you.

He passes it to Aiet. Aiet smiles shaking his head saying "no". The old woman enters. She makes a general bow to Aiet and begins to speak. When she speaks she becomes younger and younger, more and more beautiful.

THE WOMAN

Jason gave me his apples and saving me from death. But I saved Amanha from fire. He promised me to give the apple, but then he almost killed me and took away this apple.

AMANHA

She lies! I never have seen her before.

THE WOMAN

Look at his apple! It doesn't have a small part. I was eating this apple and he took it away from me.

CHIN LEE

Amanha, please show us your apple.

Amanha holds the apple hiding the missing part, but Chin Lee takes it and everybody see it.

CHIN LEE

Amanha, this woman never lies! Besides, it was a just part of the second task, which was for kindness and we didn't expect you to come here with these apples. You were to give the apples to this old woman to save her life. So, Jason did all right.

Aiet stands up and leaves.

JASON

What's the third task?

CHIN LEE

There will be no third task.

JASON

Why? What did we do wrong?

CHIN LEE

Nothing. Jason, you did everything fine, but we have another problem, which I can't tell you.

AMANHA

What problem? Aren't you going to change Aiet's words or?

JASON

Could you please tell us.

CHIN LEE

Aiet's word never will be changed! But I mean you can't marry Medea.

JASON

Why?

CHIN LEE

I'm very sorry to say, but she is dead.

JASON

Oh, no! When? How? It's impossible...

AMANHA

I'm so sorry.

Jason covers his face with his hands. He cries with tears.

JASON

Oh, my God!

CHIN LEE

I'm sorry.

JASON

Can I see her body?

CHIN LEE

I'll take you to her soon. Now some special rituals are there. I'll call you.

JASON

Oh, my God! Why? Chin Lee,
please, tell me what happened
to her?

CHIN LEE

I can't tell. We found her dead
in her bedroom an hour ago.
Nobody knows the reason.

JASON

Oh, my love...

EXT. THE GARDEN IN FRONT OF AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Jason, Nestor and Teseus are walking.

JASON

Oh, dear friends, I can't find
a place... Now the life is
nothing for me. It's just
nothing...

NESTOR

I'm so sorry for her. Oh, my
poor friend. I can't help you.

TESEUS

Jason, you're a man and you
must be strong!

JASON

I can't... I just can't live
without her...

NESTOR

Oh, my poor Medea...

Chin Lee appears and calls to Jason. Jason goes to him.

INT. A DARK ROOM IN AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Medea-doll is in the coffin. Chin Lee takes Jason to the
room and leaves him alone. Jason falls down on his knees

and cries. There is the Golden Fleece on the floor near the coffin. Jason even doesn't notice it. He cries hardly. Chin Lee watches him.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Chin Lee takes Amanha to the room where another Medea-doll is in the coffin. Chin Lee leaves Amanha alone, but he secretly watches him. The Golden Fleece is near the coffin. While Chin Lee is there Anamha cries trying to show to Chin Lee, that he is very sorry. As soon as Chin lee leaves Amanha smiles. He takes the Golden Fleece and looks at Medea.

AMANHA

Oh, poor young lady... poor Medea! You were a beautiful woman. I could marry you even I already have a few wives. But what can I do now? I'm sorry for you.

He takes The Golden Fleece, smiling happily and rolls it. Suddenly the white pigeon flies through the open window. The pigeon comes to Amanha.

THE PIGEON

Hello, Amanha, I'm the spirit of Medea. You can help her.

AMANHA

How?

THE PIGEON

If you really love her, you can save her.

AMANHA

So interesting, what can I do for her?

THE PIGEON

You must burn this Golden Fleece and put its ashes on her body.

AMANHA

What? Are you crazy? I was going to marry her for this Golden Fleece and you say I must burn it? How can I reduce it to ashes? No, never...

THE PIGEON

But if you love her...

AMANHA

Oh, don't ask it! She was a nice lady, but still... I can't do it. Even if I'm so foolish and I do it, how can I explain this to my grandma? What will I say? Oh, no, no, never!

THE PIGEON

Please, you can help her.
Please, please...

AMANHA

Oh, no! By the way, if it helps her why nobody did it?

THE PIGEON

Only a man who loves her can save her.

AMANHA

Not me.

THE PIGEON

Seems, you didn't love her.

AMANHA

I've told you, she was pretty nice and I could marry her for this Golden Fleece. Actually, I have a few wives.

THE PIGEON

You even don't want to save her?

AMANHA

I'd save her. But it's too much price!

THE PIGEON

Seems, the things mean more for
you than people and there is no
love in your heart.

AMANHA

I don't care much about your
opinion.

THE PIGEON

It's too bad.

Amanha hides The Golden Fleece under his cloth. The pigeon
flies away. Amanha looks at Medea.

AMANHA

Good-bye, poor Medea. You'll
never marry your Jason. Bye.

He leaves the room and then the palace. Lemaya meets him
outside.

LEMAYA

Hi, Amanha! Do you have good
news or bad news?

AMANHA

Good news.

LEMAYA

Go!

AMANHA

Medea is dead..

LEMAYA

(Interrupting)

I know it. You've told this to
me a few hours ago. Don't you
remember? But this is not so
good. Who will give you the
Golden Fleece without Medea?

AMANHA

Look! Here is The Golden
Fleece. I have it!

LEMAYA

Oh! Really?

Amanha takes The Golden Fleece and shows it to the witch.
The Golden Fleece becomes into snakes.

LEMAYA

Oh, Amanha, what is this?

AMANHA

I don't know. I had The Golden Fleece. I took it. It was near Medea's coffin. It was The Golden Fleece! Didn't you see it?

Suddenly Chin Lee appears.

CHIN LEE

Amanha, don't you recognize this is your result.

AMANHA

What?

CHIN LEE

Your done deals...

LEMAYA

Oh, those Kolhks... I hate them. I knew they wouldn't give us The Golden Fleece... I just knew it!

CHIN LEE

Kolhks are great people. I'm from China and Kolkhs are my hosts during many years. I feel here just fine. Tell me, please, why should they give you The Golden Fleece? What for? Here you see your deals...

INT. A DARK ROOM IN AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Medea-doll is in the coffin. Jason cries standing on his knees in front of her coffin. The pigeon flies through the open window. It comes to Medea and sits down at her coffin.

JASON

Oh, dear pigeon... if you know...
how much I love her...

THE PIGEON

I see, Jason.

JASON

Oh, do you speak human
language?

THE PIGEON

Yes, I do. I'm Medea's spirit.

JASON

Oh, really? My dear, Medea...
I'll never see her beautiful
face again... Oh... I wish to die!
I can't live without her...

THE PIGEON

Jason, you can help her.

JASON

How?

THE PIGEON

If you really love her, you
can.

JASON

Tell me, please, how can I help
her? What can I do for her?

THE PIGEON

Look! Do you see this Golden
Fleece?

JASON

Yes, I do. So, what? Tell me!
Please, please...

THE PIGEON

You must burn it and put its
ashes on her body.

JASON

And she will come back to
life?

THE PIGEON

Yes, she will.

Jason takes The Golden Fleece and quickly puts it into the
fire, which is in the fire place. The Golden Fleece is
burning. Then he turns the candles on.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - MEDEA'S ROOM - DAY

Medea is in her room. Nestor comes to her. He knocks. Medea
comes to the door.

NESTOR

Hi, Medea. May I come in?

MEDEA

You can't. The door is closed.

NESTOR

Why?

MEDEA

We can speak so.

NESTOR

Who locked you? How can we
help Jason now?

MEDEA

The third task is absolutely
secret.

NESTOR

And you aren't going to help
Jason.

MEDEA

No. By the way, that's why I'm
locked here.

NESTOR

Who knows that you help us?

MEDEA

I guess everyone does.

NESTOR

How?

MEDEA

I don't know. They just may assume Jason couldn't do these tasks without my help.

NESTOR

Now, what can we do?

MEDEA

Nothing. We can just wait.

NESTOR

Wait for what?

MEDEA

See if we smell the fire...

NESTOR

What?

MEDEA

If we smell the fire, I mean the stream of fire from the room down stairs, the first left one from here...

NESTOR

So, what?

MEDEA

If we smell the stream, I mean if something is burning there, that means - Jason loves me and we'll be happy together!

NESTOR

I don't understand well.

MEDEA

I can't tell you more. Let's just wait.

NESTOR

I can't smell.

MEDEA

But I smell. Yes, I smell.
This is a fire! He burned The
Golden Fleece. How nice!

She is happy. She claps her hands.

NESTOR

Did he burn The Golden Fleece?
So, Aiet will kill him!

MEDEA

No, dear Nestor, don't worry.

INT. A DARK ROOM IN AIET'S PALACE - DAY

Medea-doll is in the coffin. Jason looks at Medea. The
white pigeon shakes its wings.

THE PIGEON

Oh, seems, you really love
her. You even didn't think it
over.

JASON

What was to think?

THE PIGEON

What would your people say
when they learn that you
burned The Golden Fleece?

JASON

I hope they will understand
me. But if not, I don't care
much. I will have my Medea.
That's the most important!

THE PIGEON

Now I see, you really love
Medea.

JASON

Of course I do love her. I
love her with all my heart.

Jason takes the ashes from the fire place and carefully puts it on Medea's body. Then he waits expecting her to open her eyes.

JASON

When will she open her eyes?
Soon?

The pigeon doesn't answer. It flies away.

JASON

Hey, dear pigeon stay here for
some time, please.

The pigeon disappears. Medea-doll doesn't open her eyes.

JASON

Oh... My love... Please, please,
open your eyes... Please... Oh,
seems it did not help.

Jason sits down on the floor and hangs his head. The door opens and Chin Lee appears.

CHIN LEE

Jason, you passed all exams.
You won!

JASON

Dear Chin Lee, I don't care
about anything... Medea is all I
want. According to the
pigeon's advice, I even burn
The Golden fleece, but it
didn't help her.

CHIN LEE

You said - Medea is all you
want. So, you will have her.

JASON

Pardon me?

CHIN LEE

Yes, you can marry Medea and
take The Golden Fleece to your
country.

JASON

How can I marry her?

CHIN LEE

This was the third task for
love and you proved that you
really love her. Come on,
follow me.

Chin Lee goes and Jason follows him. They walk in the
corridor and enter the central hall of the palace.

INT. THE CENTRAL HALL OF AIET'S PALACE - DAY

The king - Aiet is sitting in his armchair. His servants
are around. The Argonauts are in the hall.

Chin lee and Jason enter the hall. They approach Aiet.

AIET

Jason, you are a brave and
kind man with love in your
heart. I'm giving you my
blessings. You can marry Medea
- my favorite daughter and
take The Golden Fleece to your
country.

The door widely opens and Medea comes dressed in
beautiful white breeding-dress with a long tail. Nestor
cares the long tail of the dress. Jason smiles from
happiness.

Nestor notices a small beautiful girl and follows her
with Medea's dress in his hands. He goes too far. Medea
wants to make a step towards Jason, but she can't. She
goes back. Then Teseus stops Nestor. Nestor realizes his
mistake.

NESTOR

Oh, I'm so sorry...

MEDEA

That's Okay, Nestor.

JASON

Medea, my love!

He comes to Medea and takes her hand. They come together in front of Aiet. He blesses and embraces both of them. Two servants bring The Golden Fleece and give it to Jason.

AIET

Here you are The Golden Fleece. I hope it will bring the glory and power to your country. Now, I invite my guests to celebrate the wedding of Jason and Medea!

People applaud them.

EXT. AIET'S PALACE GARDEN - DAY

Wedding rituals: Flowers are falling on the heads of Medea and Jason. They pass through the crossed knives over their heads. The animals from the forest come to Medea and Jason. Everyone is there except Amanha and his grandmother.

INT. THE WITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

Lemaya and Amanha sitting at the table. Lemaya is opening the cards.

LEMAYA

I'll tell you your future...

AMANHA

I don't think so.

LEMAYA

Oh, I hate this card... This is just the worst one!

She throws the cards.

AMANHA

What can we do?

LEMAYA

I have a plan.

AMANHA

Do you?

LEMAYA

Yes. We couldn't get The Golden Fleece from Aiet, so we'll get it from Jason.

AMANHA

How?

LEMAYA

We kidnap Nestor and ask The Golden Fleece in change...

AMANHA

Who the hell is Nestor?

LEMAYA

It's a small Argonaut.

AMANHA

I see, a guy, who runs around... Well, but why will Jason give us The Golden Fleece for him?

LEMAYA

Nestor is the best friend of Jason and Jason loves him.

AMANHA

Oh, yeah?

LEMAYA

Tell me how does my plan sound to you?

ANAMHA

Oh, grandma, this is just
great!

LEMAYA

We must do it tonight.

AMANHA

Yeah, sure! Tonight during the
wedding party.

LEMAYA

This is the best time.

INT. AIET'S PALACE - EVENING

The wedding table with Georgian songs and dances are
performed by Kolkhs. Teseus comes to Jason.

TESEUS

Jason, two Argonauts want to
stay here. They say they like
this country very much and if
you let them stay here,
they'll be very happy.

JASON

I have all I need. I'm very
happy now. How can I say "No"?
Let them to find their
happiness here. Why not? Tell
them that they can stay.

Teseus calls and two Argonauts come and say thank you to
Jason.

EXT. THE SEA - NIGHT

The wedding party is on the sea in the boats with candles.
Medea and Jason put the candles on the cloud. It goes to
the sky and the candles become the stars.

Nestor watches the sky. Lemaya sends the crow, which pushes Nestor aside. Amanha comes to Nestor fast, puts his hand on his mouth and takes him to the dark forest. Barky sees it and follows Amanha.

EXT. THE FOREST - NIGHT

Amanha, Lemaya are at the fire. Nestor is in the big ceramic pot which is in the ground.

NESTOR

Hey, Amnaha, what is it? Where am I?

AMANHA

Oh, dear Nestor. You are in kvevri.

NESTOR

Kvevri?

AMANHA

Yes. The local people use these pots for keeping wine. Don't you smell it? Tell me thank you that I put you in the empty one. Ha, ha, ha...

NESTOR

I don't want to see impolite or bad-mannered, but I don't see any reasons to tell you thank you.

AMANHA

If I put you in the full wine pot, you'll see then... ha, ha, ha...

Barky sees everything and runs away.

EXT. THE WEDDING PARTY IN THE PALACE - NIGHT

A nice dance is performed for Medea and Jason. Barky runs to Medea. He takes her by her dress. Medea stands up and goes aside.

MEDEA

Jason, excuse me for a moment...

JASON

Are you tired?

MEDEA

No, I'll be back in a minute.

She goes. Barky barks. Medea listens to Barky.

MEDEA

Bravo, Barky. You're a good friend. We can help Nestor. Now go and call my friends from the forest, please. Do you understand me?

Barky nods his head assent and runs. Soon he comes back together with bear, baby-deer, fox and a few birds. Medea sees them and comes to them.

MEDEA

My dear friends thank you for coming. You know what to do. Please, bring Nestor here.

The animals leave together with Barky, the birds fly.

EXT. THE FOREST - NIGHT

Amanha, Lemaya are at the fire. The birds fly and pour something on their faces. They sleep. The bear comes to the pot with Nestor and passes him his hand. But Nestor is afraid and doesn't trust him. Suddenly Barky appears at the pot. Nestor sees Barky and takes the hand of the bear and climes up on his hand. They all run to the palace.

Medea is happy to see them.

EXT. THE WEDDING PARTY IN THE PALACE - NIGHT

A polyphonic song is performed for Medea and Jason. Medea sees Nestor with her friends from the forest. She invites them to the table.

MEDEA

I'd love to make a toast to
friendship.

JASON

What a wonderful toast.

Suddenly the crow flies with a letter in his beak. He puts the letter in front of Jason. Jason reads it.

JASON

Where is Nestor?

Medea tells something to Jason in the ear. Jason laughs. Jason turns to the crow.

JASON

OK. Tell Amanha and Lemaya,
that I agree and I'll see them
near the river tomorrow early
morning.

EXT. THE RIVER SIDE - SUNRISE

Amanha and Lemaya are waiting to Jason. Jason, Medea and many others come. Nestor is hiding under Medea's dress. Jason rises up The Golden Fleece.

JASON

Hey, Amanha, I have The Golden
Fleece and where is Nestor?

AMANHA

He is in the pot.

JASON

I wouldn't say so...

Nestor puts out his head and smiles. Amanha and Lemaya see him.

JASON

Well, I even don't know what to do with you.

MEDEA

I know! I can't leave them in my country. They are very evil, so they have to go to the hell!

She turns to the river.

MEDEA

Please Pasis, you're powerful river, take them away!

The river grows its waves taking Amanha and Lemaya. The ground at their feet opens and they fall down shouting.

EXT. THE SEA - MORNING

Aiet, Chin Lee and many other people are seeing off the Argonauts. Jason takes Medea to "Argo". In one hand he holds Medea's hand and in another hand he has The Golden Fleece. Barky appears. He runs and jumps in the boat. Then he smiles happily waving good-bye.

Medea and Jason wave good-bye. People from the beach also wave good-bye. The Argonauts are rowing. "Argo" goes far and far in the sea.

FADE OUT: