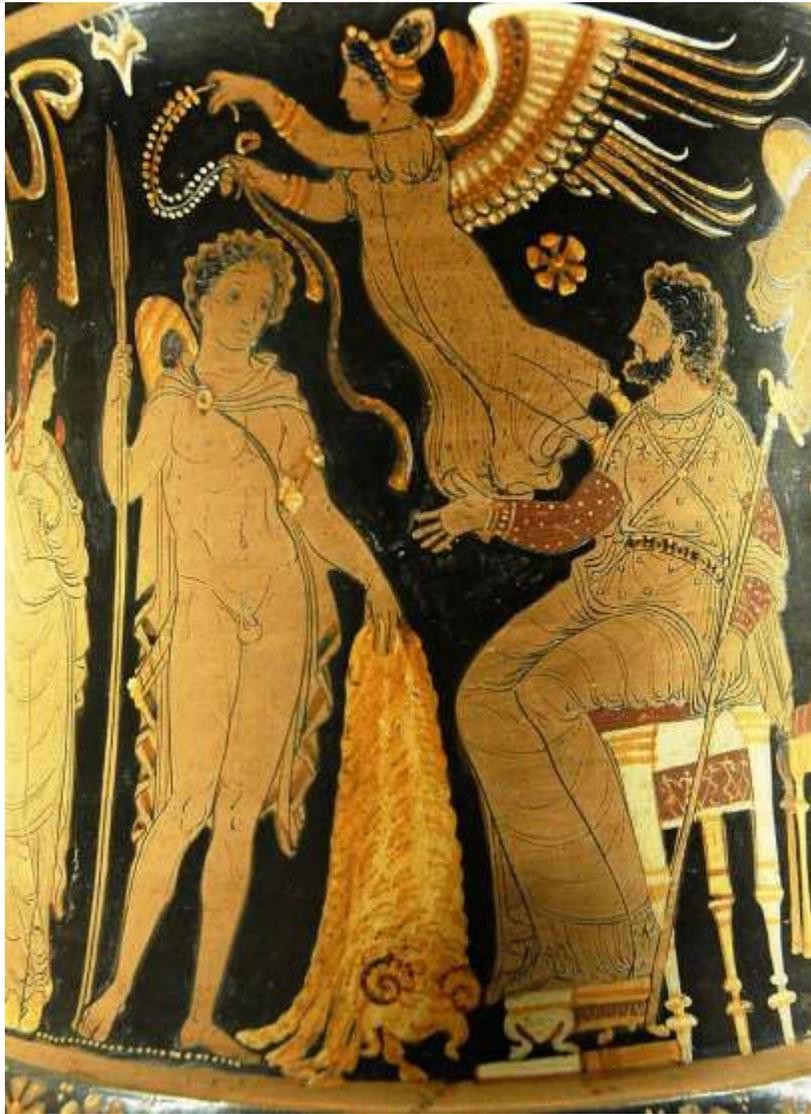


# Medea by Euripides

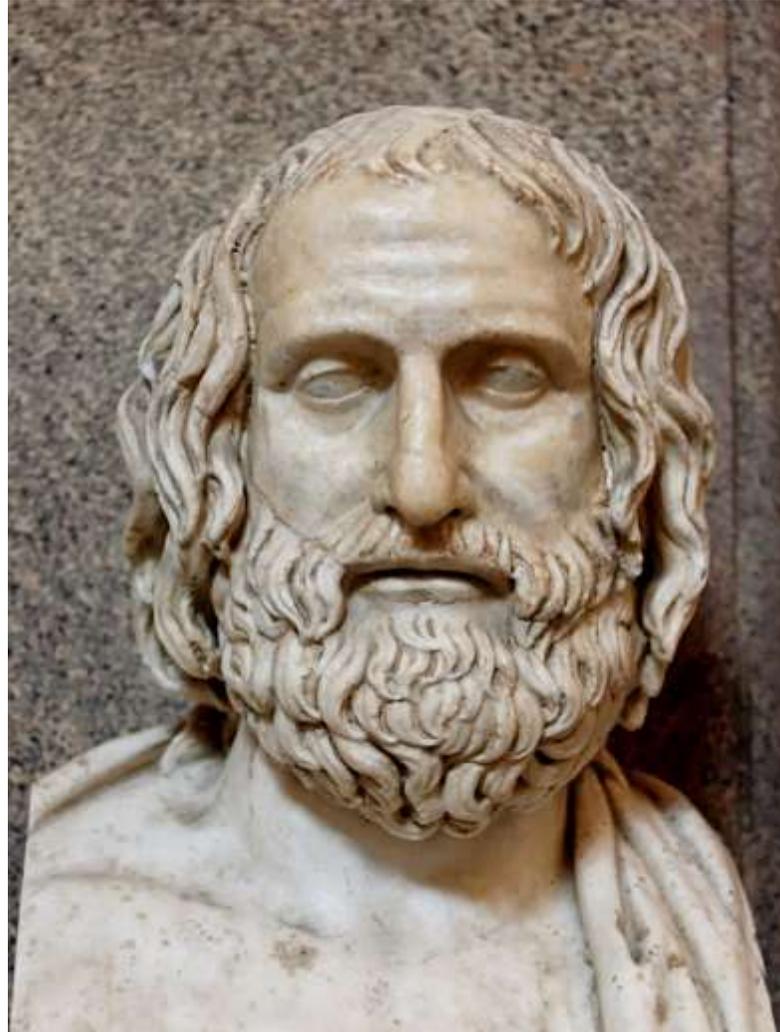








# Euripides, 480 B.C. – 406 BC



# Peloponnesian War, 431–404 B.C.



# Medea, 431 B.C.



# Prologue, In front of Medea's house

## Nurse and Tutor

(1) Nurse: I wish the Argo never had reached the land of Colchis  
Nor would she have persuaded the daughters of Pelias to kill their  
father

But now there's hatred everywhere, Love is diseased.

For, deserting his own children and my mistress,

Jason has taken a royal wife to his bed,

The daughter of the ruler of this land, Creon.

She [Medea] lies without food and gives herself up to suffering,

Wasting away every moment of the day in tears

Moans to herself, calling out on her father's name

[...] She has turned from the children and does not like to see them.

I am afraid she may think of some dreadful thing,

For her heart is violent.

[...] Or even kill the king and the new-wedded groom,

And thus bring a greater misfortune to herself.

She is a strange woman.

**(67) Tutor:** I heard a person saying,  
That Creon, ruler of the land, intends to drive  
These children and their mother in exile from Corinth.

**Nurse:** And will Jason put up with it that his children  
Should suffer so, though he's no friend to their mother?

**Tutor:** Old ties give place to new ones. As for Jason, he  
No longer has a feeling for this house of ours.

(89) **Nurse:** Go indoors, children. That will be the best thing.

And you, keep them to themselves as much as possible.

Don't bring them near their mother in her angry mood.

For I've seen her already blazing her eyes at them

[...] She'll not stop raging until she has struck at someone.

May it be an enemy and not a friend she hurts.