

Medea Again

by Mary Jones

ANDREA: around 30.

MEDEA: around 30.

MEDEA's actions all take place while ANDREA is speaking, not alternating.

Single light up on ANDREA, sitting on the couch. Against the wall is a table with a goblet and bottle of liquid in it.

ANDREA

When I got pregnant, daddy made sure that Bobby an' me got married—he said it was the only thing that'd make the sin alright. I wasn't even sure if I wanted to marry Bobby—but daddy said it was the only way outta hell, and I knew that daddy was right. Daddy was a preacher. Daddy was always right. Bobby didn't believe, though—he'd laugh at me, every time I went to church. But I knew—I knew that each time he'd laugh, that was one more chain 'round his feet.

MEDEA in a red robe enters. She is carrying a child, which she rocks back and forth.

First came Charlene. Then Bobby Junior. Then the twins, Tammy an' Joey. When the doctor said I was gonna have another, I couldn't take it. I couldn't have another baby—I was only twenty-eight years old!

MEDEA reveals a knife in her hand, and stabs the child. She lays it in ANDREA's lap. She then crosses to the table, and proceeds to pour from the bottle into the goblet, adding powder from a pouch around her neck. ANDREA rocks the child.

When Bobby found out... He broke three of my ribs. He was right. It was a sin, I know it. An' I looked at my children, an' I realized that the whole world is drownin' in sin, an' can't escape. Each child grows into a sinful adult, each child loses innocence an' is unable to keep from sinnin'—because it is so easy, so simple to fall into.

MEDEA drinks from the goblet, then crosses to ANDREA, who takes the goblet.

I had to save them from sin. I had to make sure they wouldn't burn in hell. Because I already know I'm lost.

ANDREA looks at the goblet, drinks, as MEDEA places her hands on ANDREA's head. Lights down.