

Your ears are blind,  
Your mind is blind.  
Blind, blind,

TIRESIAS      Your fate is not in my power.  
                  Apollo's seen to that.  
                  He's taking special care of you.  
                  You're in his hands.

OEDIPUS      Whose plan is this?  
                  Yours or Creon's?

TIRESIAS      Creon cannot harm you.  
                  You alone do that.

OEDIPUS      I trusted Creon, my friend from the start.  
                  He plans to be rid of me.  
                  Plots with this prophet, this crafty chancer –  
                  Blind when he so chooses –  
                  Sharp when it's his interest.  
                  The two of you will regret this –  
                  Attempting to take the throne.

TIRESIAS      You do not know who you are.  
                  You have spat on your kith and kin.  
                  Look at your happy marriage,  
                  It will drench you in sin –  
                  Drown you in sin after sin –  
                  You are your own children.  
                  Face up to that fate.  
                  You are mortal.  
                  You will be removed.

OEDIPUS      Go and die.  
                  Do it quickly.

TIRESIAS        You think me foolish –  
                      Your parents thought me wise –

OEDIPUS        Which parents?  
                      Who were my parents?

TIRESIAS        This day you'll see your real self,  
                      And it will destroy you.  
                      That man you look for is here!  
                      He will be blinded, beggered,  
                      Tripping his way to a strange land,  
                      Pointing to earth with a stick.  
                      To his children he's father and brother,  
                      To his mother he's husband and son.  
                      His father he killed, he's filthied his bed.  
                      I've said what I've come here to say.

[*TIRESIAS leaves.*]

*CREON enters.*

CREON            Oedipus the king condemns me –  
                      An innocent, I stand accused.  
                      Tiresias was lying,  
                      Lying at my prompting –  
                      That's what he clearly said.

OEDIPUS        Do you dare show your face?  
                      Do you dare stand here?  
                      You did kill that man –  
                      You'd steal my kingdom.

CREON            Are you listening to yourself?

OEDIPUS        Don't dare claim you're innocent –

CREON            You argue without reason.

OEDIPUS        If that prophet and you were not working as one,  
He would never speak of my killing Laius.

CREON            I am no traitor nor do I tell lies.

OEDIPUS        You are foul as filth –

CREON            I would hang terrorists from the trees.  
Ask the oracle – did I speak as I found?

OEDIPUS        I must still rule –

CREON            Not if you rule badly –

OEDIPUS        Thebes, my love – my city, Thebes –

CREON            It is also mine –  
Not yours alone.

*JOCASTA enters.*

CHORUS         I see Jocasta come from the palace –

JOCASTA         Why do you indulge in this inane quarrel,  
Raising your voices to the roof of heaven?

[*OEDIPUS turns to CREON.*]

OEDIPUS        Get out of my sight.

JOCASTA         Why are you so angry?  
Tell me.

OEDIPUS        Some say I stand here –  
The killer of Laius.  
The wicked, preaching prophet,  
That's who delivers the verdict –