

SCENE 1

EXT - AERIAL OF BEACH, AFTERNOON*

*Stock

(Fade in from black)

Sounds of waves crashing and seagulls squawking. Title fades in as calming orchestral music grows then booms.

CUT TO black.

SCENE 2

EXT - HILLTOP, AFTERNOON

CUT TO Patroclus's hand. Heavy pants ensue.

CUT TO wide shot of Patroclus from behind standing over the BODY

CUT TO close-up of the rock on the ground.

ECHOING VOICES

Coward. (Overlapping ominous voices, a lot of reverb)

PATROCLUS

I am no coward.

SCENE 3

INT - CORRIDOR TO ACHILLES'S ROOM, AFTERNOON

CUT TO close-up of Patroclus's chained feet walking to Achilles, a servant by his side.

CUT TO close-up of Achilles's fingers plucking a few ominous notes on his lyre.

CUT TO another close-up of Patroclus stopping in the doorway of Achilles's room. Achilles is blurry in the background between Patroclus's feet.

SCENE 4

CUT TO board that reads: "A terrific novel" -Bookbag

SCENE 5

EXT - DAY

ACHILLES

Why did you not say you were defending yourself?

PATROCLUS

I don't know.

ACHILLES

Or you could have lied. Said you found him already dead.
CU shot of bloody rock.

PATROCLUS

You would not have lied.

ACHILLES

No.

PATROCLUS

What would you have done?

ACHILLES

I don't know. I can't imagine it. The way the boy spoke to you. (beat) No one has ever tried to take something from me.

PATROCLUS

Never?

CU of dice clacking in one hand.

ACHILLES

Never.

(beat)

I think I would be angry.

CU of hand grasping dice.

Fade out.

CUT TO ACHILLES

ACHILLES

I hoped you would come.

CUT TO PATROCLUS smiling.

SCENE 6

CHIRON

Men will hear of your skill, and they will wish for you to fight their wars. What will you answer?

CUT TO CU of ACHILLES.

ACHILLES

I do not know.

CHIRON

That is an answer for now. It will not be good enough later.

SCENE 7

Board: "Well-paced, engaging and tasteful." - The Times Literary Supplement

SCENE 8

ACHILLES

Is it true?

THETIS

It is true, and worse than he said. If you go to Troy, you will never return. You will die a young man there.

CUT TO THETIS staring at Achilles. CUT TO a nervous looking PATROCLUS, looking between Thetis and Achilles.

ACHILLES

(defeated)

What should I do?

THETIS

Do not ask me to choose.

LATER...

ACHILLES

I will go. I will go to Troy.

(beat)

CUT TO PATROCLUS staring at the floor.

Will you go with me?

PATROCLUS

(looking up at Achilles)

Yes. Yes.

*CUT TO CU of swaying ship mast**

*CUT TO CU of view of the deck**

SCENE 9

INT - CAVE, RAINING

Wide Shot, both sitting on opposite sides of the cave, leaning against the wall. Shot from the interior looking out.

ACHILLES

Name one hero who was happy.

(beat)

CUT TO PATROCLUS

You can't.

*CUT TO loud shot of crashing waves.**

PATROCLUS

I can't.

CUT TO WIDE SHOT

ACHILLES

CUT TO ACHILLES

They never let you be famous and happy.

I'll tell you a secret.

PATROCLUS

CUT TO PATROCLUS

Tell me.

CUT TO a scene of PATROCLUS waking up in the war tent.

ACHILLES

I'm going to be the first.

*CU of fire crackling**

SCENE 10

CUT TO black.

ACHILLES

Are you ready?
(exhale)

PATROCLUS

I'm ready.

CUT TO CU of Patroclus twisting a spear in his hands.

Fade to black.

CU of Patroclus biting a fig

(beat)

CUT TO CU of Thetis.

THETIS

I have seen.