**FIRST WOMAN OF LEMNOS SIDE 1**

**THIRD WOMAN OF LEMNOS**:

We can’t tell them that.

**FIRST WOMAN OF LEMNOS**:

No. But sisters, nonetheless we need these men,

If only temporarily—

[JASON*,* IDMON*, and* POLLUX *approach.*

*The women can barely disguise their excitement.*]

Gentlemen!

We see you carry the olive branch and welcome you:

please enter our city in friendship.

**JASON**:

We are honored, madame.

**FIRST WOMAN OF LEMNOS**:

We are the women of Lemnos. May we enquire

as to who you are and where you came from?

**JASON**:

Jason of Iolcos, the leader of our crew. That is

the *Argo* you see in your harbor. Madame, we

have had rough sailing and we wish to know

whether we might beg shelter for the night.

**FIRST WOMAN OF LEMNOS**:

Only one? Sailors, this is no season for being on the sea.

The storms are frequent now. Why not stay with us a while?

**THIRD WOMAN OF LEMNOS**:

Bring the whole crew.

**FIRST WOMAN OF LEMNOS**:

Enjoy our hospitality. Only one thing—we hope you

will not mind—there are no men here at all, not

one to welcome you and entertain you as they should.

They abandoned us long ago for the sake of some captive girls

they took from Thrace, and they stole our children too.

It’s only us. Alone.