

He's listening.

XENA

Tell her...no, you won't remember all I want to say.

(she swallows hard)

Just tell Gabrielle I love her.

DINONICUS

Gabrielle?

XENA

And if you get back safely please see she gets home and in better condition than you brought her, you bastard.

DINONICUS

Defiant to the end.

He makes a decision, grasps a coil of rope and tries to fling it to her. He can't throw it hard or far enough.

XENA

Throw it hard as you can up in the air and out towards me.

When he does she throws her chakram and threads it like the eye of a needle bringing the rope into her hand with the returning ring. It has landed over the top of some supporting structure (columns, whatever) for the crystal, the source of Circe's strength. He hurriedly ties it off on his side. Xena begins to swing over the lava flow but the knot lets go and Dinonicus grabs for it. As Xena swings to safety she takes his place and he swings out and is left high and dry on top of the structure, the rope slipping from his hands as he grabs for a handhold.

DINONICUS

Traded places at last.

The structure tilts and settles again.

DINONICUS

Well, you'll be the death of me after all. We risk a lot for love, don't we? But just who loves who? It's rarely what we wish for. You love someone, they want someone else. Return the favor. Tell Scilla I love her.

XENA

Tell her yourself.

Xena, muttering imprecations under her breath ties her

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