

*Ariadne - A New Musical*

Music, Book, and Lyrics by Michael Oosterhout

Libretto (Updated 4/5/2018)

## ACT I

### PROLOGUE - empty stage (Ari, Chorus: Minos, Aegea, Dion, Theo, Phoebe)

\*Chorus number, where tone is set

Chorus walks out and speaks individually to start, before music enters\*

Chorus member 1/Theo:

Imagine an ancient author

Sitting at his writing desk

His wooden stylus carving into a wax tablet

Literally creating from scratch

A poem about a lonely, lost young girl

Chorus member 2/Phoebe (dialogue):

Imagine the words, the images

That flow from his mind

As he recalls a story

That everyone knows

That everyone has heard a thousand times before

A legend, a fairytale, a myth

Chorus member 3/Dion (dialogue):

This story, this myth is adapted over time

It's played out onstage, it's set to music, it's novelized

It shows up as a plotline in 1950s B-movies and direct-to-video Disney sequels

It evolves, it alters, it reverts back again

Chorus member 4/Minos (dialogue):

It's plastic, moldable

Like a deck of cards

That you can shuffle, reshuffle, deal out, and then shuffle again

Chorus member 5/Aegea:

But still, the roles remain the same

Boy meets girl

Girl gives up everything, everything for the boy

And girl ends up left alone

Chorus/Theo (dialogue):

What is this story, this myth?

Why do people keep telling it?

What is so appealing about some guy who can wield a sword

Throw it at some mythical monster

And then sweep the girl off her feet

Whisking her away to happily ever after?

(Pause) Or...not so happily ever after?

Chorus/Phoebe (dialogue):

We should ask ourselves:  
Do these characters even have a choice?  
Do they just behave with no will of their own  
Existing only for our own feeble moral instruction?

Chorus/Dion (dialogue):  
Some sort of Aesop's fable  
Where the tortoise beats the hare  
And we learn the lifelong lesson  
To never run too fast, never jump too high  
Never reach out for what we really want,  
Because if we do, we'll fail?

Chorus/Minos (dialogue):  
And who gets to tell this story?  
Who gets to shuffle the cards  
Change the text with the stroke of a pen  
Or even etch the tale into stone?

Chorus/Aegea:  
Is it the ancients?  
People who died long ago?  
People who there's hardly a trace of  
Left in the world?

Chorus/Theo (dialogue):  
Is it stuffy Latin professors?  
Or that kid in your philosophy class  
Who's read Plato in the original Greek  
And won't shut up about it?

Chorus/Phoebe (dialogue):  
Or those Drama majors  
That put on ancient tragedies  
That no one really wants to go to  
But it's your freshman roommate's first acting role in college  
And you feel like you have to go  
And you sit through it and it's like, just okay  
But you have to pretend for your roommate that it was the best show you've ever seen?

Chorus/Dion (dialogue, as Ari enters and places herself on the floor of the room, with her guitar case, taking out her guitar and staring at it):  
Or is it us? The people here, now?  
Are we bound to the past?  
Is there something out there that traps us  
Like an unseen force  
To the things that came before us  
To the things that come after us

Chorus/Minos (dialogue):  
Things we had no control over then  
Things we have no control over now  
Things we never, ever will be able to control

Chorus/Aegea (dialogue):  
Do we  
Get to choose our story?

\*Music enters  
Mystical, atmospheric kind of feel (open 5ths, creepy, choral-esque, ancient)  
Underscoring, building up  
The moment where Ari realizes she's been ghosted unfolds  
We see everything building up\*

Song: Sing in Me, Muse

Chorus/Phoebe (dialogue, music begins underscoring, crescendo volume):  
Sing in me, Muse  
And tell the story of that girl  
Abandoned on a beach long ago  
By her forgetful lover  
So tied up in his own ambition  
That he threw away the only thing he ever loved

Chorus/Minos (dialogue):  
Say how she aided him  
Gave him the key to his success  
Winding him like a ball of string  
Through a maze of troubles  
Describe how she exalted him to new heights  
Paved the way for his rule over others  
All while giving up her family  
Her legacy of power

Chorus/Aegea (sung, in the background, the other two chorus members overlap, singing softly and then building "Ariadne", along with the other characters, who have entered and joined in):  
Tell us how even so, one betrayal was exchanged for another  
How she, enraged at his faithlessness  
Cursed him to the heavens above  
That he should feel the same pain which she felt  
That he might taste defeat  
(dialogue) That one day, she might not be equal to him  
But that he might be equal to her

Chorus/Dion (sung):  
Share with us how she, when she was at her lowest point  
Was spotted by a wandering god  
And was swept up, rescued in his arms

Taken away to everlasting life in the heavens  
Away from the earth  
From her family  
From her love, Theseus

Chorus/Theo (sung):  
Tell us, Muse  
Say again the name of the one who was pushed aside  
Let us be part of the tale  
One with the story  
Join us here  
And tell us her name

Chorus/Phoebe (dialogue):  
Tell us her name!

Chorus/Minos (dialogue):  
Tell us her name!

Chorus/Aegea (dialogue):  
Tell us her name!

Chorus/Dion (dialogue):  
Tell us her name!

Ensemble: (singing and overlapping at its greatest height)  
Ariadne...Ariadne...  
Ariadne...Ariadne...  
Ariadne...Ariadne...  
Ariadne...Ariadne...

### **SCENE 1 - Ari's room at home (Ari, Minos)**

\*The whole number builds to an alarm clock  
Sudden string tremolo as the clock goes off, moves to silence  
Chorus exits  
Ari wakes up in her room, at the beginning of the story, as if from a nightmare or a daydream  
Slowly starts to get ready for the day\*

#### **Break Me Free**

Ari: (sung)  
The morning sun creeps in my bedroom  
Every day at 6 AM  
Dawn awakens me with her gentle touch  
And the swift North wind blows past my door  
As a shiver crawls up my skin  
Day by day it never changes all that much

And as the harvest season rounds the fields  
All the cities rush through time  
Life's routines carry on, and so do mine

Boxes packed, the car is full  
As my room stands clean and bare  
Just dust off the shelves and move along  
My time has come, I'm nearly off  
And I take one final stare  
My boring daily life is nearly gone

'Cause there's sights to see, I'm built for more  
Let my life spring open wide  
It's time to burst the gates and turn the tide

'Cause I long for adventure, a place to be free  
A place to exist on the open sea  
And be me, I live to explore  
Home when I'm homeless, I long to be  
There in that place, where I truly can see  
All the things that were meant to be  
That I was built to achieve  
I feel it touch deep in my soul  
Fate spins my life all beyond my control  
It's coming to rescue me  
From this hole, from this hell, from my home  
Come, break me free

(Dialogue, talking to self)

Okay, Ari. This is great. You're off to college, you get to be on your own in New York City, you're going to learn cool things, play music, make friends...hopefully make friends... Well, at the very least, you never have to talk to anybody from the last four years ever again. Except when you have to see all of them posting on Instagram about their parties and sororities and spring break trips and all their life-changing experiences that are better than yours... God, high school sucked.

(Sung)

But there's life out there I haven't seen  
I'll leave this all behind  
I'm stepping forward, taking what is mine

'Cause I long for adventure, a place to be free  
A place to exist on the open sea  
And be me, I live to explore  
Home when I'm homeless, I long to be  
There in that place, where I truly can see  
All the things that were meant to be  
That I was built to achieve  
I feel it touch deep in my soul  
Fate spins my life all beyond my control

It's coming to rescue me  
From this hole, from this hell, from my home  
Come, break me free

I'm done with the past  
And I know that the future's my own  
Goodbye to my family  
Goodbye to the life that I've known  
I've shown my strength, all my efforts, they topple the walls  
And I know with each moment I'll prove to them all  
There's more to my life than the things that they say  
And I won't let anyone stand in my way

\*Minos enters room\*

Ari (surprised, dialogue):  
...Dad.

Minos (dialogue):  
Ari.

Recit (Ari/Minos)

Minos (sung):  
I see you've cleaned out your room

Ari (sung, hurrying to put away guitar in its case):  
Yes, everything's packed, I'm ready to go  
Aunt Carol is here  
She's driving me into the city  
So you don't have to do a thing...

Minos (interrupting):  
I see you're bringing that guitar  
I hope you haven't signed up for any of those frivolous music classes

Ari (sung):  
No, Dad...Father  
I haven't

Minos:  
(Spoken) Good  
They're no place for you  
Your position in this world is elsewhere

Ari (sung):  
I know, Father...  
But, listen, I should get...

Minos (interrupting):  
There's something I want to talk to you about

Ari: (spoken)  
Oh  
(sung) But, can it wait?  
See, I really have to...

Minos (interrupting):  
Something I've been meaning to tell you

Ari: (spoken)  
To tell me?

Minos:  
(Pause, Ari thinks it's going to be a big emotional moment)  
I've decided to run for Congress

Ari: (spoken)  
Oh, I see  
(sung) Well. that's exciting, but...

Minos (interrupting):  
I've decided to run for Congress  
For the 17th district of New York  
I'm going past the bounds of City Hall  
Beyond this city, to the nation's center  
I'm announcing in February  
And now that you're at school  
I won't be watching you all the time  
You'll be on your own

Ari: (sung)  
On my own

Minos:  
So, there's something important you must remember  
Yes, you must remember

Ari (dialogue):  
What do you mean?

### Play Your Cards Right

Minos (sung):  
You're going to school, you're off there on your first try  
Your mother would be proud of you, and, I suppose, so am I  
But I know you, Ari, I see in your heart and your mind  
You'd better not leave this chance I grant you behind

You shoulder our legacy with every movement you make  
Remember that all eyes are on you, each step that you take  
Our history, all I have taught you, hold it in tight  
Your future is golden, if you play your cards right

I expect you to check in with us every day with a call

Ari (dialogue):  
What? Every day? Father, that's ridiculous

Minos (ignoring):  
Stop by my office, keep me informed of it all

Ari (dialogue):  
I will, Father, I promise, just give me a little space

Minos (ignoring):  
If I hear you've left off your studies, I will be displeased

Ari (dialogue):  
Dad, I'm a straight A student, I always have been, that's not going to change

Minos (ignoring):  
Stay on your toes, I expect that we'll see you succeed

Ari (sung):  
Yes, Dad, I will, Father, listen, just please let me breathe

Minos:  
You shoulder our legacy with every movement you make

Ari:  
Yes, I know that, but Dad, can you listen, just wait

Minos:  
Remember that all eyes are on you, each step that you take

Ari:  
I'm taking my own steps for once, can't you give me a break?

Minos:  
Our history, all I have taught you, hold it in tight

Ari:  
I've always held tight

Minos:  
Your future is golden, if you play your cards right

Ari:  
I'm trying, all right?

Minos:  
And in my mind's eye, our legacy starts to unfold  
Our family is born to make history, such is foretold  
Plant the seeds in your learning and water their flowers to show  
That together we'll rule over this garden, we'll watch it grow

But beware, daughter, those who'd distract you, lead you astray  
Let trust be your anchor, let Father show you the way  
Stick close to us, check yourself, don't ask for more  
Play your cards right, and all of this world can be yours

You shoulder our legacy with every movement you make

Ari (losing herself, going along with it, simultaneously):  
Shoulder with the moves I make

Minos:  
Remember that all eyes are on you, each step that you take

Ari (simultaneously):  
I watch their eyes, I step, I take

Minos:  
Our history, all I have taught you, hold it in tight

Ari (simultaneously):  
I build your history with me

Minos:  
Your future is golden, if...

Ari:  
If...

Minos:  
You play your cards right

\*Minos leaves, leaving Ari deflated, down, and depressed\*

### Break Me Free (Reprise)

Ari:  
I long for adventure, a place to be free  
A place to exist on the open sea  
That's not me, keep it inside of me

Homeless at home where I'm trapped under siege  
I longed for escape, but now I can see  
That nothing is meant to be  
I'm just not built to achieve  
I feel it touch deep in my soul  
Fate spins my life all beyond my control  
Someone please rescue me  
From this hole, from this hell, from my home  
Come, break me free

\*Scene transitions to school\*

## **SCENE 2 - Theo's dorm room (Theo, Aegea)**

\*Transition to song, upbeat  
Song has transitions between slow moments with Aegea to upbeat moments with Theo's excitement  
Theo enters, moving into her room\*

Song: Back Here Where I Belong/I'll Miss You, Hon'

Theo:  
Back at school, back one more time  
Back at it full and strong  
Back to write, back here from home  
I've missed it all along

Back to life as it should be  
Back like I'd never gone  
Summer's over, back to work  
Back here where I belong

\*Aegea enters, helping move\*

Aegea (dialogue):  
Are you sure I can't help you set all this up?

Theo (dialogue):  
No Mom, it's okay. You've been more than enough help, really. (pause) Hey, I'm glad you came with me today.

Aegea (dialogue):  
Me too, Theo, me too.

\*Transition to slow\*

Aegea (sung):  
I'll miss you while you're gone, hon'

Theo (sung):

I'll miss you too, Mom  
You're not the only one  
You're not the only one

Will you be fine without me?

Aegea:  
Maybe, more or less

Theo:  
I could go back

Aegea:  
I'll be just fine, Theo, you'll see  
But still, I'll miss you hon'

Theo: (spoken)  
Are you sure?  
(sung) It hasn't been that long since...

Aegea:  
Yes, I'm sure, hon'  
It's time for you to go  
It's time for you to go

I'm on the path, the light's ahead  
And it's all thanks to you  
So time for your turn, Theo, you're the one (takes out a gift from her bag)  
But still, I'll miss you, hon'

Aegea (dialogue):  
I got something for you

Theo (dialogue):  
Oh, Mom, you didn't have to...

Aegea (dialogue):  
It's just a reminder for you  
To always follow your dreams

Theo (opens gift, sees it's a pen, reads inscription, dialogue):  
The pen is mightier than the sword...  
I love it

Aegea (dialogue):  
Listen, Theo, ever since your father left...

Theo:  
Mom, no, don't...

Aegea (interrupting):

Since your father left, you've been my rock. Just...know how happy it makes me to see you getting to do what you love. Just know that you *can* make a difference in this world...

Aegea and Theo (simultaneously):

One article at a time

Theo:

Thanks, Mom

\*They embrace\*

Aegea:

Now go, get unpacked. I'll double check the car.

Theo:

Okay, I will.

(Sung while Aegea exits, building back up to uptempo)

I'm here, I'm starting back again

My senior year has come

I'll find my way, I'll get a job

Go beyond where I am from

And I'll show my mom, I'll prove to her

She can rely on me

I'll make my mark, I'll light a spark

I'll fight my way out from the dark

I'll take my chance, I will advance

To where I'm supposed to be

Back at school, back one more time

Back at it full and strong

Back to write, back here from home

I've missed it all along

Back to life as it should be

Back like I'd never gone

Summer's over, back to work

Back here where I belong

\*Slow transition again\*

Aegea (re-entering, aside):

She doesn't know the truth

I've lied about my cries

I've done the things I must to hide

The way I feel inside

Sometimes it's all too much  
The overwhelming tide  
There's mornings I wake up from sleep  
Just wishing I had died

But there's no way I'm keeping her  
From where she's meant to be  
I'll hide my needs and stay  
So, Theo, go, and live for me

Back at school, back one more time  
Back at it, I'll be strong  
Back to write, away from me  
I'll miss her, but I'm wrong

Back to life as it should be  
Back like he'd never gone  
Summer's over, back to work  
Back here where she belongs

Theo (dialogue):  
Hey, I promise I'll call every day to check in, all right?

Aegea (dialogue):  
Oh, Theo, you don't have to do that for me...

Theo (spoken):  
Yes, I do... I mean, I want to. I want to make sure you're all right.

Aegea (spoken):  
Okay. I really appreciate that, hon'. It'll mean a lot to hear your voice.

Theo (spoken):  
Same, Mom. I'll talk to you soon.

Aegea (spoken):  
Bye, Theo  
(while walking off, sung) But still, I'll miss you, hon'

\*Aegea and Theo walk off separately, song ends\*

### **SCENE 3 - Ari/Phoebe's dorm room (Ari, Phoebe)**

\*Scene transitions to Ari's new dorm room  
Phoebe is unpacking, Ari enters with stuff\*

Recit

Ari (shyly, spoken):  
Knock, knock  
(Sung) Hi there

Phoebe (sung):  
Hi

Ari:  
I'm Ari

Phoebe:  
I'm Phoebe  
(spoken) We talked on Facebook

Ari:  
(spoken) I remember  
(sung) It's good to meet you in person

Phoebe:  
(sung) Same

Ari:  
(pause, searching for something to say)  
I...like what you've done with the room

Phoebe:  
Oh, thanks  
My inspiration was the cover of the "Bed, Bath, and Beyond" catalog  
(both laugh, awkward pause)  
So...what are you planning to study?

Ari:  
Oh God, not you too  
Sorry, it's just, like, everyone asks me that  
My teachers, my family, my dad...

Phoebe:  
I know, I know  
But what else are you supposed to say? (pause)  
Look, I'm thinking about Psychology  
Do you have any thoughts at all?

Ari:  
Not really...

Phoebe: (noticing guitar)  
What about music?  
(spoken) You play guitar?

Ari:

(spoken) Oh, this?

(sung) Oh, that's just for fun

(spoken) I'm not very good...

Phoebe:

(sung) No way, I bet you're great

Come on, play me something

Ari: (quickly)

(sung) No!

I mean, no thanks...

I, um...haven't played in a while

I just kinda brought it...just in case, you know?

Phoebe: (a little weirded out)

Just in case, yeah...

Ari:

I'm sorry, uh...I feel weird

I just like...have never really been on my own before like this and...

I'm just kinda worried about this whole college thing

I've been really excited all summer

(spoken) But now that I'm here...

Phoebe:

(sung) Hey, I get it, really

I've been feeling the same way

You know what I think?

I think we need to dive into this place

With both feet first

I heard some seniors talking about this party off-campus tonight

And you and I are gonna go

Ari:

What? On our first night here?

Phoebe:

(spoken) Yep!

Ari:

(spoken) Oh, I don't know...

Phoebe:

(sung) Come on, Ari, it'll be fun, I promise

We'll pick out some great outfits

Meet some cute guys (pause)

Or girls, if that's what you're into, which is totally cool, by the way...

Ari: (interrupting, dialogue)  
Oh no, I...  
I'm straight...I mean, uh, yes  
Straight  
Very much into guys  
Yes...guys...yes

Phoebe (dialogue):  
OK...  
(sung) Well, let's get you settled  
And we'll get ready for this party...

Ari (interrupting):  
Wait, but my dad...

Phoebe:  
What about him?

Ari:  
What if he finds out?  
He'd be super mad...

Phoebe: (interrupting)  
Look, Ari, you've gotta loosen up  
Everyone's gotta grow up sometime  
Be your own woman  
Stand up for yourself  
Screw the patriarchy!  
Do something crazy  
You're in college now, that's what it's for

Ari (gaining enthusiasm):  
Yeah...yeah  
You're right  
I'll go

\*Phoebe helps Ari begin to unpack\*

#### **SCENE 4 - Dion's apartment (Ari, Phoebe, Theo, Dion, Chorus: Minos/Aegea)**

\*Scene transition to party  
Heavy rock music/synthesizer club beat-type music, played over the speakers  
Chorus returns as students at the party\*

Song: Maze of Pain

Vocalist (in the background, repeating):  
There's a maze of hurt and feeling here

And I'm lost, nowhere to go  
And I hear your voice, I hear you cry  
That there's something I don't know

My heart is blind, my eyes can't see  
The monsters creep behind  
The darkness holds me  
I cry for you, and still I wonder why

Yes, I'm lost inside a maze  
A labyrinth insane  
You throw me in the dark  
Yes, I'm in a maze of pain when I'm with you

Ari (shouting over noise):  
There's a lot of people here

Phoebe (shouting):  
Yeah, I can't believe we got in  
This party is lit!

Ari (shouting):  
Yeah, it's great, I guess  
It's just weird because we don't know anybody

Phoebe (shouting):  
Well, what else are parties for?  
(To a passing person, flirtatiously) Hey  
See, it's that easy

Ari (shouting):  
Well, I don't know...

Phoebe (shouting, interrupting):  
Hey, it takes practice  
Look, I'll show you

\*Phoebe taps Theo, standing nearby, on the shoulder  
Theo turns around, Phoebe shoves Ari towards her and runs away  
Music suddenly changes to string soft tremolos, world stops for a moment\*

Theo/Ari (together):  
Hi

\*Band suddenly comes back in, crashing back to reality\*

Ari (shouting):  
Yeah, so, um, hi  
Sorry, my roommate...she...ah, never mind

Theo (shouting):  
That's all right  
I'm Theo (seeing Ari's quizzical look)  
It's short for Theodora  
I used to go by Dora  
But you get called "Dora the Explorer" enough times... (both laugh)  
What's your name?

Ari (shouting):  
Ari

Theo (shouting):  
Nice  
So, are you a first year?

Ari (shouting):  
Yeah  
You too?

Theo (shouting):  
(Laugh) Nope, I'm a senior  
Journalism major

Ari (shouting):  
Oh, that's cool  
I'm taking Intro to 21st Century Journalism this semester

Theo (shouting):  
Oh, that's awesome  
With Professor Bernstein?

Ari (shouting):  
Yeah  
Is she any good?

Theo (shouting):  
Oh yeah, she's great  
It's funny you mention it  
I'm actually TAing for that class

Ari (shouting):  
Really?

Theo (shouting):  
Yeah  
I think you'll really enjoy it

Ari (shouting):

I mean, with you there I definitely will  
I mean...yeah, um, yeah

\*Ari, embarrassed again  
She takes a moment to breathe  
Remembering what she and Phoebe talked about  
That she's trying to break free and find herself\*

Ari (to self, singing along with song):  
Come on, Ari, come on  
Live for a minute, come on

Ari (shouting to Theo):  
Hey, um, so look  
I know we just met and all  
But, um, is there any chance you might want to...  
You know...

\*Dion suddenly rides in on a scooter between the couple, carrying a glass of red wine  
They trip and fall off, drunk\*

Dion: (shouting)  
Whoa, sorry...didn't see you there  
(Seeing Theo) Theo, my gal, what's up?

Theo: (shouting)  
(exasperated) Hey, Dion, not much  
(looking for conversation topic) This is Ari  
She's a first year

Dion: (shouting)  
Hey, that's great  
I'm Dion, pronouns they, them, theirs

Ari: (shouting)  
Oh...um...that's cool

Dion: (shouting)  
What about you?

Ari: (shouting)  
Oh, um...she...I guess?

Dion: (shouting)  
Lit, lit...  
Hey, so I'm president of our LGBTQ affinity group  
You should totally come check us out

Ari: (interrupting, shouting)

Oh, no, no...I mean, um  
I'm not...I mean  
Of course I support...but I'm...

Dion: (shouting, a little disappointed)  
Well, that's okay  
You can totally come as an ally, or whatever  
Or you could check out our animal rights activist club  
Or come to our sex positivity club  
Or vegan/vegetarian awareness coalition

Ari: (shouting while Dion continues):  
Well, I mean, I don't know  
I just got here  
I'm not really sure what...

Dion: (shouting)  
Or ultimate frisbee team  
Or dungeons and dragons guild  
Or...or...or...

Friend/Aegea: (shouting, poking head in)  
Or chess club...

Dion: (shouting)  
Or chess club!

\*Dion suddenly stumbles and spills red wine onto Ari inadvertently\*

Dion: (drunkenly, shouted)  
Oh my god, I'm so sorry (sees someone else carrying white wine glass)  
Wait, I hear white wine gets out stains...

\*Dion grabs the glass and pours it on Ari  
The music stops suddenly\*

Ari: (shouting)  
Hey!

Dion: (spoken)  
Whoops, never mind  
Here, let me get that for you...

\*Dion starts to try to clean her up  
But Ari throws them off her\*

Ari (disgusted, spoken):  
Get off me, asshole

\*Theo catches Dion\*

Theo (annoyed, spoken):  
Hey, hey, Dion, get out of here  
Go find some bathtub to throw up in

\*Theo shoves Dion away\*

Dion (spoken):  
Hey, hey...I'm sorry, I'm sorry  
Yeesh, I'm sorry about the shirt...  
Sorry...

\*Dion stumbles off  
Ari is completely embarrassed  
Everyone begins to go back to their conversations  
The band underscores softly a bit\*

Theo (sung, to Ari):  
Hey, are you okay?

Ari:  
(sung) Yeah, I'm fine  
(spoken) Just a regular Saturday night at college, right?  
(sung) Um, I'm just gonna go and clean this up  
Sorry about all that

Theo:  
Hey, not your fault  
I guess I'll see you in Intro, then?

Ari:  
Um, yeah, see you then

Theo (as Ari runs quickly away):  
Nice meeting you...(spoken) Ari

\*Another moment of string tremolos as Ari looks back for a moment and everything stops  
Then she runs off quickly again\*

### **SCENE 5 - Ari's dorm room/Theo's dorm room (Ari, Theo)**

\*Music transitions as scene retransitions to her dorm room  
Ari cleans herself up while singing to herself\*

Song: "Something"

Ari:  
When you find yourself after your first night out

Or more probably, the last  
And you're covered in shit, and you're not even drunk  
And your heart's still beating fast

What are you supposed to think, to feel  
When you miss your chance  
And you try to steel  
Your mind and heart from what you saw  
And decide if it was real

I felt something...  
Something...

(spoken) Oh God, I am never going to live this down...

\*Theo enters on the other side of the stage, walking home from the party\*

Theo:  
When you find yourself after your first night out  
When your senior year begins  
And you had a plan, a final course  
That you thought would help you win

What are you supposed to think today  
When you meet someone  
Who looks at you that way  
And you know the time to focus is now  
But there's something calling, "stay"

I felt something...  
Something...

Ari/Theo:  
And I can't say what it means or where it'll go  
But if I try to just forget it, I'll never know  
Maybe what I'm meant to think  
Maybe what I'm meant to feel  
Is something...something...  
It's not real

\*Theo exits\*

Ari:  
When you find yourself after your first night out  
Or more probably, the last  
And you think you might have figured something out  
But you can't forget the past

What are you supposed to think, to feel

When you pretend like your thoughts  
Just aren't real  
And the biggest thing that holds you back  
Is what you guess will never heal

I felt something...  
Something...  
(spoken) Something...

**SCENE 6 - Journalism lounge (Aegea, Theo, Ari, Minos, Dion; Chorus: Aegea/Dion/  
Minos/Phoebe)**

\*Ari exits, Theo enters, music transitions  
Theo is in the journalism lounge for her office hours  
She's talking to her mom on the phone  
Aegea enters on the other side, also on the phone  
It's taking a lot of effort to get through this conversation\*

Song: Still, I'll Miss You, Hon' (Reprise)

Aegea:  
I've missed you while you're gone, hon'

Theo:  
I miss you too, Mom  
I'm glad that you're okay  
I'm glad that you're okay

Aegea:  
I'm taking things one day at a time

Theo:  
Are your appointments okay?

Aegea:  
Oh sure, they help a bit, you know  
But still, I miss you, hon'

(spoken) I've been going to a few things around town  
An art show, a slam poetry reading...  
I've...been trying to have some fun

Theo: (sung)  
But you know that if you're feeling down  
You can give me a call?

Aegea: (sung)  
It makes me better just to hear your voice  
(to self) I'll keep making my choice

You go, I love you, hon'

\*Ari enters, carrying her bag and guitar  
Dion is following her\*

Theo:  
(spoken) Okay, bye, Mom

\*Theo hangs up  
Aegea sighs, tears up, and then exits  
Ari and Dion are continuing a conversation as Theo finishes talking\*

Ari: (spoken, irritated)  
It's fine, Dion, really, it's fine

Dion: (spoken)  
Are you sure? Because I could come help...

Ari: (sung, irritated)  
Yes, I'm sure  
Just go off to your volleyball practice or whatever

Dion: (sung)  
Actually, it's my improv sketch comedy group right now...

Ari: (interrupting)  
Whatever, just let me handle this  
(aside) Like I've been handling everything else with this project...

Dion:  
Well, thanks Ari, you're the greatest  
(As she is about to leave, spoken) Hey...  
(sung) I meant to tell you...you look...nice today

Ari:  
Um...thank you?

Dion: (spoken)  
Oh, and also you should totally come to this cool lecture I'm organizing next week...

Ari: (interrupting, spoken, pushing Dion towards the door)  
Okay, bye, Dion

Dion: (spoken)  
It's going to be really great...

Ari: (spoken)  
Bye!

\*Dion, forced out door, exits  
Ari slams door on them, sighs, then composes herself  
She sees Theo, who hasn't noticed her yet  
She is still in thought after talking with her mom  
Ari smooths herself down real quick, then tries to be casual\*

Ari (sung):  
Hey, Theo, how's it going?

Theo (sung):  
I'm...  
(suddenly coming to herself) I'm doing great, Ari  
(spoken) What can I help you with today?

Ari:  
I, um, just have a question about my journalism project  
We're doing our midterm presentation next Thursday  
And I was hoping you could look at it

Theo:  
Are you sure?  
I mean, we've already looked at your research four times together  
It looks great

Ari:  
(Embarrassed, spoken) Oh, um, thanks  
(sung) It's, uh...just that  
My partner is being no help  
I got stuck with Dion  
And she...they...  
Are so busy with all of their clubs and jobs and parties and protests and...

Theo (interrupting):  
Say no more, I get it  
We can review your points again  
But only because you're my favorite customer

Ari: (spoken)  
Thanks (grinning a little too much)  
Here, let me find it...

\*Takes out her computer, searches for the file  
In the meantime, Theo sees her guitar\*

Theo:  
Hey, I didn't know you played guitar

Ari:  
Oh, um, yeah...I do

Theo:  
That's great!  
I used to be able to play ages ago, but I gave it up  
(spoken) What kind of music do you do?

Ari:  
(spoken) Oh you know...  
(sung) Like...indie, singer-songwriter type stuff...  
I, um...actually write some of my own songs sometimes

Theo:  
(spoken) Really, that's so cool!  
(sung) I've always wanted to be able to do that

Ari:  
(spoken) Not really  
(sung) I mean, I can only play like four chords...

Theo:  
Well, that's four more than I can remember  
Hey, would you play something for me?

Ari:  
(spoken) Oh no, you don't wanna hear...

Theo (interrupting):  
Sure I do

Ari (interrupting):  
No, no...  
I mean, I haven't practiced in months...

Theo (interrupting):  
That's okay  
I'd love to just hear you (pause)  
I bet you're great

Ari:  
...Really?

Theo:  
Yeah, really  
Come on, play one of your songs

Ari:  
I...okay  
(spoken) Okay, sure

\*Ari gets out guitar  
Strums a couple chords\*

Song: I've Been Thinking (short)

Ari:  
I've been thinking about the place I am  
And who I'm meant to be  
I've been thinking about the time I've spent so far

I've been thinking about the role I play  
And the way life's set the scene  
And the one who makes me feel it doesn't matter at all

And I've been thinking about what might be next...

\*Suddenly Ari's phone rings; Ari looks, it's her dad calling\*

Recit

Theo:  
Who is it?

Ari:  
Oh, it's my Dad...(hesitates) I'll just call him back

\*Ari hangs up, starts to play again, but suddenly  
Phone rings again, Ari looks and hesitates\*

Theo:  
Do you wanna take it? It might be important

Ari:  
Oh, it's probably not  
He just wants to...check in on me  
(Hangs up) But I'm my own person now  
I'll call him after we're done...

\*Phone rings again, Ari hesitates again\*

Theo:  
Look, it's okay if you answer it, I'll just...

Ari (interrupting and picking up phone, trying to be casual, spoken):  
Hi Dad, what's up?

Minos (entering other side of the stage, taking on phone himself, sung):  
Why didn't you answer my first two calls, Ari?

Ari:  
Um, I was in class, I had to step out...

Minos:  
No you weren't  
Your last class finished at 4:30  
Stop lying to me  
(spoken) Where are you?  
Are you at school?

Ari:  
(sung) Yes, I am, Dad...Father...of course I am  
(spoken) But wait, how did you know that...?

Minos: (interrupting)  
What are you doing?

Ari:  
I'm with Theo...I mean, I'm with an instructor...

Minos: (Interrupting)  
Theo? Who's Theo?

Ari:  
Nobody, um...no, I mean, the TA for my Intro to Journalism course  
(spoken) I'm at office hours

Minos:  
(sung) Really? I thought you were in class

Ari:  
(sung) I...I don't know why I said that, Father, I'm sorry...

\*Ari gets up and accidentally strums the guitar\*

Minos:  
What was that?

Ari:  
Nothing, Father, I swear...

Minos:  
Was that a guitar?

Ari:  
No, Dad, I mean, Father, it was just...

Minos:  
Stop lying to me, Ari

Are you getting sucked into some band?

Ari:

(spoken) No, no, Dad, it's nothing like that....

Minos: (interrupting, sung)

Because a band is not how my daughter should be spending her time  
My daughter should be focusing on her academics  
Getting the 4.0 GPA that she promised she could maintain  
Which proves to the world that she is worth something

Ari:

(spoken) No, Dad...

(sung) I haven't joined a band, I promise...

Minos:

Then what is it?

Are you dating this boy, Theo?

Ari:

(spoken) What? No, no, Theo's a girl...

Minos:

A girl? You're dating a girl?

Ari:

No! No, I mean...

No... (spoken) not really, um, I mean...I'm not...

Minos (interrupting):

Ari, I've told you countless times

You are not to be dating

You are not to be going to parties

You are not to associate with these people who throw their lives away

(spoken) Squandering their educations

Getting drunk on a bottle of vodka every Saturday...

Ari: (interrupting, spoken)

Dad, Theo's not...

Minos (interrupting, sung)

You are at college to study

You are there to get good grades

And to graduate with a useful degree...

Ari: (interrupting, spoken)

Dad, I...

Minos: (interrupting)

So that you may keep up the legacy of your family name  
(spoken) Do I make myself clear?

Ari (sung):  
Dad...

Minos (interrupting, shouting):  
Do I make myself clear?

Ari (after a pause, speaking):  
...Yes, Father

Minos (speaking):  
Thank you.  
(Sung) Now leave this...girl  
And go back to your room and study  
Do you understand?

Ari (sung):  
Yes, I do

Minos:  
Excellent  
Good night, Ari

\*Ari hangs up, Minos leaves  
Theo is embarrassed to have overheard the conversation  
Ari is almost comatose, she doesn't answer any of Theo's questions  
She goes to sit in the corner by herself\*

Theo (sung):  
Are you okay, Ari?  
That sounded like it was a big fight  
(spoken) Did I have...I mean...  
(sung) I heard my name...  
Is everything okay?  
Ari? Ari?

\*Theo goes over to Ari, starts singing a song\*

Song: Something (Reprise)

Theo:  
When I've found myself after that first night out  
Asking why and how we met  
There was something that you made me feel  
Though I can't say what just yet

But what I feel is something strong

And it's deep and strange and might be wrong  
But I'm here for you, I'm trying to say  
It's more than just a song

You are something...something...

And I'm here now, Ari, hear me, please let me see  
I just want to stay here by you, help you to be...

Ari: (interrupting)  
Maybe what we're meant to think  
Maybe what we're meant to feel

Ari and Theo:  
Is something...something...  
Something...  
Here for real

\*Ari, comforted by Theo's song, kisses her passionately as the song ends  
They laugh, then cuddle together for a moment in the corner where Ari has sat  
They sing in recit form\*

Ari:  
God, I can't believe this is happening right now  
I...I've never felt this way before  
(spoken) I mean, we hardly know each other...

Theo:  
(sung) Well, let's solve that problem  
(spoken) Hmm...  
(sung) What's a secret you've never told anyone before?

Ari (pausing, then deciding):  
My name

Theo:  
(spoken) Wait, what do you mean?

Ari:  
(spoken) I mean, my full name  
(sung) It's not Ari

Theo:  
(spoken) Oh, I figured that  
(sung) I always assumed it was short for Arianna or something

Ari:  
No, that would've been a lot better  
It's short for...

Ariadne

Theo: (speaking)  
That's beautiful

Ari:  
(spoken) No it's not

Theo:  
(sung) No seriously, it is  
(spoken) It's mystical, otherworldly-sounding  
Much better than Theodora

Ari (interrupting):  
No, I hate it  
It sounds like I'm some character in a fairytale  
Like I have some destiny I have to fulfill...  
I hate that  
(Pause) But enough about me  
What's something you've never told anyone?

\*Theo is silent for longer than she should be\*

Ari:  
Look, if you don't want to tell me, that's okay...

Theo:  
No, no, I want to tell you this  
...I resent my mom

Ari:  
Oh, well I get that...

Theo:  
No, no...I mean, I love her, but...  
See...my mom has been in a rough place for a while  
My dad left us a few years ago, and...  
(spoken) Mom took it really badly  
(sung) He doesn't talk to us anymore

Ari:  
(spoken) I'm really sorry

Theo:  
(sung) It's okay, he was an asshole  
We're better off without him  
But Mom...she doesn't see that all the time  
She really struggles with it all  
I've had to take care of her for a while

Especially this summer...she had an...episode  
She had to be in the hospital for a while  
And I had to stay to make sure she was okay

Ari:  
That was really good of you

Theo:  
There are just so many things I wish I could be doing  
Internships, summer jobs at newspapers  
But because of Mom...I can't  
I know it's not her fault...  
And she can't help it...  
And I love her...  
But sometimes...I...

\*Chorus enters, begins to sing soft harmonies in the background  
They slowly build\*

Theo:  
(pause, spoken) I just wish I could get some sort of big break  
Like write a really important article  
Get a lead, do some investigative journalism  
Write something important, that people will notice

Ari:  
(sung) Something important...  
That people will notice...

Theo:  
(spoken) But there's no way that'll happen  
I'll probably get a job at the local convenience store after graduation  
It's all I qualify for...

Ari:  
(Ari builds up to make a momentous decision, interrupts, the chorus suddenly stops, spoken)  
Theo, I think I can help you

Theo: (spoken)  
Help me?

Ari: (sung)  
You know how my dad is a city councilman?  
He's running for Congress

\*Chorus exits\*

Theo:  
(spoken) Really?

(sung) They've been speculating that for months  
I could write an article  
Say I have insider confirmation...

Ari: (interrupting)  
Wait, wait, there's more  
...There's more

My dad claims to be pro-life  
But...I know that's not true  
Because...  
When I was 6...  
(Speaking) My dad made my mom get an abortion

Theo: (speaking)  
What?

Ari:  
I was going to have a little brother  
Apparently he was going to have a birth defect  
My dad thought he was going to be...a monster

So he made Mom get the abortion  
And...something went wrong  
She got a serious infection and...  
She died 6 months later

Theo: (speaking)  
Ari, I...

Ari: (interrupting)  
Dad hushed it all up  
He paid off the attending nurse  
Told everyone else that she died from her other health problems  
(spoken) And that's what I always believed...

Until three years ago  
When I found the paperwork from the clinic in our house...  
He has no idea I know

Theo:  
(spoken) Ari...I...I can't write a story about this  
It'd ruin your dad's career

Ari:  
(sung) He deserves it!  
He's a hypocrite!  
My mother is dead because of him

Theo:  
I know...I just...

Ari: (interrupting)  
And this is it! This is the big break you were talking about  
Imagine what people would say  
If you published a story like this  
(spoken) You'd be hired in an instant

Theo:  
(sung) Ari, we don't even have proof...

Ari: (interrupting)  
I can get proof  
He still has all the paperwork  
He keeps it in his office at home  
(spoken) I'll make copies for you

Theo:  
(spoken) Ari...I...

Ari:  
(sung) Theo, please...please...please  
(Slowing down, speaking) Please  
I want to do this for you  
I...I really care about you  
I want you to succeed

(Sung) There's so much more to you  
Than what meets the eye  
The rest of the world deserves to see it  
(spoken) Please, let me help

Theo:  
(After a long pause, speaking) All right

\*They kiss\*

Ari:  
(Looks at watch, sung) Oh shit  
It's almost 2:00  
I can't believe we've been here this long

Theo:  
Same  
(spoken) I should get some sleep  
(sung) I've got a 9:00 am tomorrow

\*Theo packs up, then pauses and remembers Ari—but it's a second thought\*

Theo:  
Can I walk you back to your dorm?

Ari: (spoken)  
I'd like that

Theo: (sung)  
Okay, let's go

\*Ari and Theo kiss again, get up, and walk hand-in-hand offstage  
As they exit, Dion runs on excitedly\*

Dion: (Shouting)  
Hey Ari, so I didn't think you should work on our presentation all by yourself  
So I wrote some stuff, I thought we could look at it...

\*Dion sees Ari and Theo leaving together\*

Dion: (sung)  
Together...

\*Dion stands alone onstage  
Sings about what they've been feeling but haven't been able to admit before  
As if they're talking to Ari\*

Dion: (sung)  
Okay, so that wasn't completely true  
I wrote you something else  
I'm not...super great with words  
But it helps when I write them down  
So...I wrote you a poem  
I hope you... (spoken) like it

Song: Unwritten

Dion:  
I'm waiting here, I'm feeling things I've never felt before  
Things I can't pretend, I can't ignore  
Still I can't help but watch you there and feel myself pulled through  
Do you see in me the things I see in you?

I wish I had the strength to tell you how I feel  
I wish I knew if the things I felt were even real  
'Cause in all my thoughts, I see you smile  
You're lying next to me  
You whisper ancient words to help me sleep

There's something about you that always makes me smile

Your presence keeps me warm for a little while  
But I wonder if the me you see is even me at all  
Would you take me as I am, if I could fall...

But it's only in my dreams that you are there  
A vision I can't reach from anywhere  
And all my life, a thousand love poems  
Will stay unwritten  
As I wonder if I'll ever let you in

There have been times I've seen the way you look at me  
When a yearning breaks my walls and starts to grow  
And I notice that my lungs forget to even stop and breathe  
But when it ends, I still can't let it show

I wish I had the strength to tell you how I feel  
I wish I knew if the things I felt were even real  
'Cause in all my thoughts, I see you smile  
You're lying next to me  
You whisper ancient words to help me sleep  
But it's only in my dreams that you are there  
A vision I can't reach from anywhere  
And all my life, a thousand love poems  
Will stay unwritten  
As I wonder if I'll ever let  
I wonder if, I wonder  
Ooh, I wonder  
If you'll ever...

\*Song ends, Dion exits\*

### **SCENE 7 - Ari/Phoebe's dorm room (Theo, Ari, Phoebe)**

\*Phoebe enters, she is in her and Ari's room  
Ari and Theo walk in\*

Theo: (speaking)  
Well, I guess this is it

Ari: (speaking)  
I guess so  
I'll see you tomorrow in class?

Theo: (speaking)  
And for lunch after?

Ari: (speaking)  
I'd like that  
See you then

\*She and Theo kiss  
Theo leaves  
Ari squeals as she closes the door  
Phoebe is intrigued\*

Phoebe: (spoken)  
Well, well, well, Miss “I’m Definitely Straight”  
(sung) Looks like someone’s been doing something  
Other than all this so-called “studying”  
So spill, who was that?

Ari:  
Theo...

Phoebe:  
And who, pray tell, is Theo?  
(spoken) You have class together?

Ari:  
(spoken) Well, sort of  
(sung) She’s my TA for Intro to Journalism

Phoebe: (surprised, sung)  
What? You’re sleeping with your TA?  
(spoken) First of all, that’s incredibly cliché...

Ari:  
(sung) What? No no no, we haven’t slept together  
At least, not yet...

Phoebe: (interrupting, sung)  
Ari, that’s great and all  
Really, I’m happy for you  
But what if your professor finds out?  
You both could be in trouble  
They’d say it was cheating, or favoritism

Ari:  
(spoken) What? No way

Phoebe:  
(sung) Yeah, they can be really uptight about this kind of shit  
(spoken) You have to be careful

Ari:  
That’s ridiculous  
I mean, Theo doesn’t even grade our papers

Phoebe:  
I'm just saying...

Ari: (interrupting)  
I appreciate the concern, Phoebe  
Really, I do  
But it's all fine, I promise

Phoebe:  
Okay, if you're sure...  
(spoken) Well hey, I need to take a break  
Softball practice really wore me out today  
(sung) Want to come down to the common room with me?

Ari:  
(sung) I would, but I kinda need to get back to studying  
(spoken) I have a big homework assignment due tomorrow

Phoebe:  
(sung) Okay, I understand  
I guess I'll see you later, then...

\*Phoebe leaves, a little sad, but Ari doesn't notice\*

Ari:  
(Contently to herself)  
Something...

### **SCENE 8 - Minos' home office (Ari, Minos, Chorus: Aegea/Dion/Theo/Phoebe)**

\*Ari walks offstage, there is a transition moment  
She returns, now in her home  
She sneaks into her dad's dark office in her house\*

Ari: (singing to calm herself)  
Okay, it's fine  
It's no big deal  
It's no big deal  
I just stole my dad's keys  
And I'm breaking into his office  
In our house  
But it's no big deal...  
I won't be arrested...  
Probably...  
I hope...  
It's no big deal...  
It's no big deal...  
It's a big deal  
But it's no big deal...

\*The chorus returns and sings a new version of the song the band was playing at the party earlier  
A much creepier, ancient-sounding, ominous version  
Ari searches through the maze of Minos' files, trying to find the right paperwork\*

Song: Maze of Pain (Reprise)

Chorus/Aegea:  
There's a maze of hurt and feeling here  
And I'm lost, nowhere to go

Chorus/Phoebe:  
And I hear your voice, I hear you cry  
That there's something I don't know

Chorus/Theo:  
My heart is blind, my eyes can't see  
The monsters creep behind

Chorus/Dion:  
The darkness holds me  
I cry for you, and still I wonder why

Chorus:  
Yes, I'm lost inside a maze  
A labyrinth insane  
You throw me in the dark  
Yes, I'm in a maze of pain when I'm with you

Chorus (trading off):  
Ariadne...Ariadne...  
Ariadne...Ariadne...

\*As the music crescendoes to a height, Ari finally finds the files\*

Ari: (shouting)  
Yes, I found it!

Minos (speaking, from the darkness):  
Found what?

\*The lights from the corner turn on, we realize Minos has just arrived  
Chorus music stops suddenly, chorus exits  
Ari immediately hides the file, Minos doesn't see it\*

Ari: (speaking)  
Dad...I...

Minos (sung):

Found what, Ari?

Ari (wildly searching, sung):  
I...I found...I found...your...  
Schedule!

\*Minos is surprised\*

Ari:  
Yes, your schedule! I was looking over here and I found it  
(Picking another piece of paper off the desk and showing it to him)

Minos:  
What did you need my schedule for?  
(spoken) And why are you here?

Ari:  
(sung) I was...um...I was...waiting for you  
And your office door was open...  
And I had to find your schedule  
Because...um, because...  
I...was...  
Trying to surprise you!  
By finding out when your campaign announcement was!

Minos:  
(spoken) My campaign announcement?  
Why?

Ari:  
(sung) Because I wanted to...be there  
I wanted to, you know...  
Be a supportive daughter...  
(spoken) You know...help with your legacy

Minos (surprised, spoken):  
Really?

Song: Play Your Cards Right (Reprise)

Ari: (sung)  
I shoulder your legacy with every movement I make

Minos:  
Yes you do, Ari, you've heard me now, for goodness' sake

Ari:  
I know now that all eyes are on me, each step that I take

Minos:  
You'll take each step with me and aid me, and make no mistake

Ari:  
Our history, all you have taught me, I hold it in tight

Minos: (simultaneously)  
You're our future, yes, I need you here in my sight

Ari:  
My future is golden

Ari and Minos:  
If I/you play my/your cards right

Minos: (spoken)  
Ari, I am so proud of you  
You are important to this family  
This will make all the difference  
And together...

(sung)  
Our future is golden if you play your cards right...

\*Minos leaves, still daydreaming to himself\*

Ari: (guiltily looking after him, speaking)  
I'll play them, Father

\*Ari exits\*

### **SCENE 9 - Journalism Lounge (Ari, Theo, Dion, Chorus: Aegea/Minos/Dion/Phoebe)**

\*Theo enters, the scene changes to the journalism lounge  
Theo is working, until Ari bursts in\*

Ari: (shouting)  
Theo, Theo!  
(Sung)  
I have everything, it's all here

\*Ari hands Theo the paperwork  
She searches through it all, getting more and more excited\*

Theo:  
Yes, yes, it's all here...it's all here...  
(spoken) Yes, this is perfect! (Laughs)  
(Turning back to Ari)  
This is perfect, you're perfect...

Thank you, thank you, thank you, Ari...  
(Theo kisses Ari quickly)  
(sung) I'll start writing now...  
I'll finish a draft by Friday, start doing some auxiliary research...

\*As Theo has been getting so excited, in the inverse Ari has been getting more nervous  
Theo is about to run off  
Suddenly, she stops her\*

Ari:  
(spoken) Wait!  
(sung) Wait...Theo...wait...  
I...I...just suddenly thought...  
What if he finds out...  
That I got you the information...

Theo:  
(spoken) Oh he won't, I would never give away a source...

Ari: (interrupting)  
(sung) I know, I know, I know...I just...  
I had to...I had to tell him...  
I just...I can't...I just...can't...

\*Ari starts to panic again\*

Theo:  
(sung) Hey, hey, hey, Ari, are you okay?

Ari:  
No...I mean yes...I mean...

\*Ari's panic attack gets worse\*

Ari:  
What if he...what if he...finds out...what if...  
Theo...Theo...

Theo:  
Ari, Ari, please calm down, Ari...

\*Theo sits Ari down and calms her\*

Theo:  
It's okay, it's okay...it's fine  
I...I...I won't...  
(spoken) I won't write the article...I won't write it

Ari: (spoken)

No...No Theo...Your big break...

Theo: (spoken)

No, it's okay...It's fine...

It's...it's fine

(Gives back paperwork, sung)

You should take this back...

Ari:

(Breathing easier under her calm influence)

Are...are you sure...?

Theo: (though she is less sure than she's admitting)

Yes...

If you don't...

I have to...

You're...more important than any article

Ari:

(Sung) You...you really mean that?

Theo: (not sure)

Yes...

Ari:

I...Theo, I...

You're the only one who's ever...

Understood...cared about me...

I've never felt...I...

(spoken) I love you

Theo: (spoken)

I...I... (hesitating far too long)

I love you too

\*Ari (not noticing that Theo may not have meant it fully) kisses her

She kisses her back, it gets more and more passionate

They end up on a couch in the office

Ari begins to try to take off her shirt

Theo stops her\*

Theo (speaking):

Ari, wait...

(Sung) Are you sure you want to do this?

Ari:

(spoken) Yes, yes

(sung) I'm more sure than I've ever been about anything

I love you, I want to do this

\*Ari starts kissing her again, but Theo stops her\*

Theo:

Wait, wait...I don't know about this...

I mean, have you ever...you know...

Been with a girl before?

Ari:

Well, no...but so what?

Theo:

Well, maybe if this is going to be a long-term thing we should wait...

Ari:

No, no...I'm ready now...

I want you now...

I love you, Theo...

Theo:

I...don't know

\*Suddenly Theo's phone rings, she looks at it quickly\*

Theo: (Speaking)

It's my mom...

I should...

Ari: (speaking)

Theo...

\*She puts her hand on the phone before she can answer it, it's still ringing\*

Ari: (sung)

If you don't want to, then we don't...

Theo: (interrupting, sung)

No

If you want this then...

(Shuts off phone, spoken) So do I

\*Theo goes in and kisses Ari again passionately

She's officially decided to sleep with her

They disappear behind the couch

Aegea enters sadly, doesn't see the scene, music transitions

The voicemails Aegea's left for Theo start to play\*

Song: Still I'll Miss You Hon' (Reprise #2)

Aegea:  
(Spoken) Hey, hon'

(sung, "Still I'll Miss You" theme)  
I'm sorry to bother you, hon'  
I know you're busy, I wanted to hear your voice  
I want to hear your voice

I had a hard time waking up today  
Sometimes it's tough  
When I am on my own out here  
I guess I'll talk to you later, hon'

\*Music underscores  
While Aegea was singing, Theo wakes up, gets dressed, looks at phone  
She plays the next voicemail\*

Aegea:  
(spoken) Hey, hon', it's me again

(sung)  
You never called me back last night  
And I just want to know you're fine  
So call your mom before she gets undone  
I really need you, hon'

\*Theo cuts off the voicemail, and plays another one\*

Aegea:  
I'm sorry to keep on calling  
I think I just need to talk...(realizing) you're having fun  
I'm sorry to interrupt

That Ari girl you mentioned  
She seems really nice, I hope she's nice...

\*Theo cuts off the voicemail again, plays another\*

Aegea:  
Theo, it's your mother here  
I hope I'm coming through...

\*Theo continues to do this, replaying voicemail after voicemail  
Music grows darker underneath\*

Aegea:  
I really miss you, Theo...

Aegea:

I hope you get this, Theo...

Aegea:  
I miss you...

Aegea:  
I miss you...

Aegea:  
I miss you...

Aegea:  
Please call me...

Aegea:  
Please call me...

Aegea:  
I'm sorry...

\*At the height of the voicemails, Theo throws down the phone angrily  
Aegea leaves out the other side of the stage  
Theo takes a moment to compose herself, then sings\*

Song: "I Lose it All"

Theo:  
There are times I sit down at my desk  
And the page stands clean and bare  
And no matter how I try my mind goes white

Because all my thoughts and memories cloud  
My mind, there's nothing there  
But the things I've lost to time, try as I might

And at night I see that memory  
Of the day my father walked out  
His bags packed up, his car it drives away  
And I see my mother fall and cry  
Break down like there's nothing left  
And my life, it changed forever from that day

Every time I think I know my path  
Every time I think it's clear  
Every time I start to run, I lose it all

Every time I think I can prove my worth  
Every time I've got it made  
Every time I see my chance, I lose it all

And when I met her, my mind was clear  
But the time for choices is drawing near  
The things she needs are what I can't provide

When the cards are played, when the clock has struck  
Will my life's success be even close to enough?  
I tried a path, but it just doesn't feel right

Every time I live on my own terms  
Every time I try things out  
Every time I bare my heart, I lose it all

Every time I think I've found my course  
Every time it feels sincere  
Every time I do my best, I lose it all

And each stroke of my pen  
Weaves a story that's only for one  
And I'm tired of crumpling pages  
Until I've got none

So what do you do when that girl sleeping there's  
Held you back before you've begun?  
I promised myself, I'm for nobody else  
I'll do whatever I must to be someone

Every time I think the weights are gone  
Every time I make my choice  
Every time I push ahead, I lose it all

Every time I leave the past behind  
Every time I make the grade  
Every time I find myself, I lose it all

I lose it all, I lose it all  
I lose it all, I lose it all  
I lose it all  
But this time  
I'm gonna win

\*Theo grabs the paperwork about Ari's dad  
And leaves  
The song ends, underscoring continues, string tremolos  
After a few moments  
Ari wakes up alone, half-dressed, silently at first\*

Ari: (speaking)  
Theo?

Theo?  
...Theo?

\*She tries texting her, waits for a little bit, no answer  
Slowly, the background noise starts to increase  
Overtime it gets louder and louder\*

\*Ari tries calling Theo  
Still no answer  
Ari looks around for the paperwork, and suddenly realizes it's not there\*

\*Ari searches around as the sound gets louder  
Her pace gets more and more frantic  
She calls Theo again, texts again  
There's still no answer  
The truth of what's going on begins to dawn on her  
Theo's ghosted her, abandoned her, betrayed her\*

\*The chorus returns, and echoes the beginning  
Giving us a full sense of "in medias res"  
Returning back to where we were  
Everything full begins to build  
When not speaking, the other chorus members sing "Ariadne"\*

Song: Sing in Me Muse (Reprise)

Chorus/Phoebe (dialogue):  
Sing in me, Muse  
And tell the story of that girl  
Abandoned on a beach long ago  
By her forgetful lover  
So tied up in *her* own ambition  
That she threw away the only thing she ever loved

Chorus/Minos (spoken):  
Say how at the moment  
That lover could see her success ahead  
Could feel it burning, almost taste it  
She made a promise  
To give it all up  
For love

Chorus/Aegea (sung):  
Tell us how even so, one betrayal was exchanged for another  
A promise broken long ago  
By a thoughtless, faithless man  
Now a promise broken by a young woman  
Ripping into the heart of yet another  
Solitary, lonely little girl

Chorus/Dion (sung):  
And so, past becomes present  
Man becomes woman  
And time after time  
The same old story  
Echoes on into the future  
Unchanging, unflinching  
Unbearable to hear

Chorus: (sung, trading off)  
Ariadne...Ariadne...  
Ariadne...Ariadne...  
Ariadne...Ariadne...  
Ariadne...Ariadne...

\*Sudden moment of silence\*

Ari: (screams at the top of her lungs into a pillow, completely losing it)

\*The music stops for several moments  
Ari stands still, in tears, until she too is silent  
Eventually, the piano picks up, playing Ariadne's Theme  
Transition into Act I Finale  
Ari stands still, unbelieving\*

Song: An Endless War

Ari: (sung)  
There's an island out across the sea  
With a bare deserted shore  
A land untouched by mortal life  
No one dared go there before

And the waves, they crash upon the sand  
With an unrelenting roar  
The horizon sets the empty scene  
The shrouding on the tapestry  
A ship is calmly woven there  
Against Dawn's gentle gleam

And a girl stands upon that shore  
With her clothes and hair gone wild  
Her bare feet buried in the sand  
Her ecstasy exiled

And the girl stares across the sea  
As the ship sails out the isle  
Her eyes must lie at what they see

Her heart's desire, what she needs  
It drifts away, her destiny  
It's taken back the key

It's happened a thousand times before  
The woman left alone on a distant shore  
You'd think she would learn to shut the door  
On everyone who wins her trust  
And satisfy her own heart first  
To wait until she was sure  
She's another casualty of an endless war

And the girl thinks of what she's left  
The family left behind  
The flame that burns within her breast  
In her soul and in her mind

And she thinks of what she promised her  
When she spoke to her so kind  
A shimmering kind of fantasy  
A mythic, twisted memory  
It shatters with reality  
When she sails across the sea

It's happened a thousand times before  
The woman left alone on a distant shore  
You'd think she would learn to shut the door  
On everyone who wins her trust  
And satisfy her own heart first  
To wait until she was sure  
She's another casualty of an endless war

\*During the last chorus, Dion enters  
They see her moment of pain, feel for her  
They begin to express their feelings, but Ari doesn't notice them\*

Dion:  
I hear the drums sound through the night

Ari:  
She stands there in the morning light

Dion:  
I hear the shouts, the song takes flight

Ari:  
Her heart races, tears leave their traces, and nothing is right

Dion:

Her face, her body take their toll

Ari:  
She's left alone with no control

Dion:  
She overwhelms my total soul

Ari:  
Her gaping chest, an empty hole

Dion:  
She's unlike anyone I've met

Ari:  
She gave her a night that they'd never forget

Dion:  
She might be the best thing that I'll ever get

Ari:  
The only promise that she kept

Dion:  
The time has come to pass the test

Ari:  
And she cries here for her, who broke the rest

Dion:  
I'll leave behind any regret

Ari:  
For the girl who said, "I love you," and then, left

And the girl there upon that shore  
With no help or hope in sight  
Though she's weak and worn and out of breath  
She won't give up the fight

And she sends a prayer up to the sky  
That rings across the sea:  
That the same things here which she can flee  
Every pain and promise equally  
May curse her, strike her endlessly  
As she sails away from me

\*As the final chorus plays out  
Ari finally begins to notice Dion\*

It's happened a thousand times before

Dion: (simultaneously)  
I long for adventure, a place to be free  
A place to exist on the open sea and be me

Ari:  
I've been here alone on a distant shore

Dion: (simultaneously)  
It's here standing next to me  
Open the gates to my heart, and then I will see

Ari:  
I've finally learned to shut the door

Dion: (simultaneously)  
No next escape, I'm finally free  
I feel it whenever I look in her eyes, I can breathe

Ari:  
No one will ever win my trust  
I'll satisfy my own heart first  
I feel it here deep in my core

Dion:  
I am finally sure

Ari:  
I'm finally getting out

Dion:  
This is what it's about

Ari:  
I'm finally getting out of this endless war

Dion: (simultaneously)  
I'll take her far away from this endless war

\*In the last line, Ari finally approaches Dion  
They look at each other, and there is a moment of possibility  
The song ends, lights out  
End Act I\*

## **ACT II**

### **SCENE 1 - Ari's dorm room (Ari, Chorus: Aegea/Minos/Dion/Theo/Phoebe)**

\*Chorus enters\*

Chorus/Theo:

What do you say  
When all the words have already been said?  
When the text leaves off  
And all that's left is a blank page  
As empty as the open sea?

Chorus/Phoebe:

Do you have a chance at freedom?  
To write your own words there  
Just as you want them?  
Or do you slip back into old patterns  
Let someone else take the pen  
And lose yourself  
In the bounds of the narrative  
They have written?

Chorus/Dion:

And what do you feel  
When the story plays out  
Just as it always has?  
All your life  
Your role cinched in place  
You speak your lines  
Even though they were written by someone else  
For someone else  
And never for you

Chorus/Minos:

And what do you do  
When even so, you're forced to carry out  
This duty?  
This commitment to something, someone  
That you never even asked for?  
Just because the story said it should be so?

Chorus/Aegea:

And when it all comes down to it  
I suppose there's only one question left to ask:  
What comes next?

\*There is a moment of silence as Ari enters

She carries and places her computer in front of her  
She sings into a recording of herself, which sings back to her in harmonies  
She loops and echoes over herself\*

Ari:  
Lonely, lonely

Recording:  
Lonely, lonely  
Lonely, lonely  
Lonely, lonely...

Ari: (simultaneously)  
Who am I?  
I am that girl who's left behind  
Who am I?  
Who has been trapped here in her mind  
Who am I?  
I am a spring you can't unwind

I...I...I am

Recording:  
Lonely, lonely

Ari: (simultaneously, as the band comes in in the recording)  
Where am I?  
I cannot recognize this place  
Where am I?  
I've lost myself inside this space  
Where am I?  
I've disappeared without a trace

I...I...I am

Ari (in harmony):  
Sometimes there are moments I forget  
When I move on from the things that I regret  
But those times last only for the blink of an eye  
Because I see your face inside my mind  
And I remember why I am...

Recording  
Lonely, lonely  
(Add Ari) Lonely, lonely  
Lonely, lonely

Ari: (alone, cutting out recording, band stops)  
Lonely, lonely

## **SCENE 2 - College hallway (Dion, Ari, Friend: Aegea)**

\*Chorus exits, Ari exits with her computer, scene transitions

Dion enters, sees their friend across the way, they approach each other and embrace\*

Dion: (speaking)  
Hey! How it's going?

Friend/Aegea: (speaking)  
Hey, hey! I haven't seen you since last semester.  
(sung) So, how's the new year going so far?

Dion:  
Not bad, not bad  
I've got a bunch of club meetings this week  
A couple of activism conferences to prep for  
A few essays I'm procrastinating on, stuff like that  
Oh, and I've got the second half of this Gen Ed journalism class too

Friend/Aegea:  
Oh yeah, that's right  
How's it going?

Dion:  
(spoken) It's going well, actually  
(sung) I passed last semester  
Thanks to Ari, anyway

Friend/Aegea:  
(Spoken) Hey, yeah  
(Sung) That's the freshman you've been seeing, right?  
The one who was your project partner?

Dion:  
Yeah, that's her

Friend/Aegea:  
Awesome, how's that been going?

Dion:  
(spoken) Great, great  
(sung) She's really awesome  
She's super nice, super sweet  
I've never really dated anyone like her before  
But I really like her  
She just got out of this relationship though, apparently  
She won't tell me a lot about it

Friend/Aegea:  
Oh, that's not great  
No one wants to be the rebound

Dion:  
Ah, it's fine  
I can handle it  
Besides, she's super into me, I can tell

\*Ari enters on the other side of the room  
She's talking on the phone with her dad\*

Ari: (Faking excitement)  
Yeah, Dad, I'm really excited about the event  
I know, this is the biggest event of your career  
It's really important to you  
Yes, Father, I know  
I know  
Yes, I'm going to study now  
Bye...Father

\*Ari hangs up, sees Dion and Friend\*

Dion:  
Hey, Ari  
You still on to come to my apartment for that party this weekend?

Ari: (unenthused)  
Um, actually, I don't think I can come  
(spoken) I have a big test to study for

Dion:  
(spoken) Aw, I'm sorry  
(sung) For what class?

Ari: (trying to get away, sung)  
For, um, Physics...

Dion:  
(Interrupting) Oh, well, what about Valentine's Day next week?  
I was thinking we could go to this protest down by the campus library  
Then stop for some pizza at this place down the street  
Maybe go on a walk through Central...

Ari: (interrupting)  
Yeah, um, maybe  
Depends on if I have class the next morning  
Look, I've got to go  
(spoken) But, um, I'll see you at your room tomorrow night, OK?

Dion:  
OK, see you then  
Cant wait

Have a great...day

\*Ari hurries away before Dion can finish, friend is confused\*

Friend:

Hey, uh, are you sure she likes you?

Dion:

(spoken) Oh yeah, completely, completely

(sung) Completely...

\*Although they're not really that sure, they try to hide it  
Friend and Dion walk off together\*

### **SCENE 3 - Ari/Phoebe's dorm room (Ari, Phoebe)**

Scene transitions to Phoebe and Ari's room

Phoebe enters, pacing around, waiting for Ari to return

Eventually Ari comes in

Phoebe launches into conversation

Music throughout the scene builds up faster and faster as they argue\*

Phoebe:

Ari, where have you been?

I've been trying to get a hold of you

Ari: (putting things away, not paying attention, spoken)

Sorry, I've been busy

Phoebe: (sung)

Look, I heard you've been dating this senior

Dion, that girl who throws all those off-campus parties?

Ari: (not paying attention still, sung)

They use they, them, theirs pronouns, actually

Phoebe:

Fine, they

But is it true?

Ari:

Yes, okay, I am

(spoken) What's the big deal?

Phoebe:

(sung) Well, what happened to that other girl you were into?

The one who was your TA?

Ari:

Well, she quit being the TA  
And she's probably busy writing her big break article for the school newspaper  
And I haven't seen her in a month, so...

Phoebe: (pause)  
(spoken) I'm sorry, that's really shitty...  
(sung) I thought you really liked her

Ari:  
(spoken) Hey, you were the one who told me  
I shouldn't be dating her if she was my TA, right?  
(sung) So I stopped, okay?  
Happy now?

Phoebe:  
Well, do you think that dating some party-crazy loudmouth  
That's graduating in a month is a better idea?

Ari:  
They're not a...I mean, I...  
Who said you had the right to tell me who I should date anyway?  
Why do you care so much?

Phoebe: (interrupting, spoken)  
Hey, I'm just trying to be a friend  
(sung) I mean, you're jumping into dating this random person after a big breakup...

Ari: (interrupting)  
They're not some random person  
And it wasn't a big breakup  
I didn't really care about her, okay?

Phoebe:  
Really, because that's not what you told me last semester...

Ari: (interrupting)  
Well, maybe I lied, okay?

Phoebe:  
Why would you lie about that?  
Ari, are you sure you're okay?

Ari:  
(spoken) Yes, I'm fine...

Phoebe: (interrupting, sung)  
Are you sure, because...

Ari: (interrupting)

Yes, I'm fine, would you...?

Phoebe: (interrupting)  
Because I'm trying to help you as a friend...

Ari: (interrupting, loudest, shouting)  
Stop! Stop saying you're trying to be my friend! You're not my friend!  
(music holds, after a moment of pause, spoken) Fuck you, Phoebe!  
(sung) You don't know anything about me  
Just...fuck you

Phoebe: (shocked, music back after a moment, theme "I Lose It All," sung)  
Every time I think we're getting close  
Every time I reach on out  
Every time I try to help, you run away

Every time I think I've made a friend  
Every time I start to hope  
Every time I start to care, you run away  
And I'm done today

\*Phoebe walks around, starts packing up stuff\*

Ari: (spoken)  
What are you doing?

Phoebe: (spoken)  
I'm leaving

Ari: (spoken)  
What?

Phoebe: (spoken)  
I'm going to the RA  
Asking for a roommate transfer

Ari: (sung)  
Wait, Phoebe, I...

Phoebe: (continuing packing, sung)  
No, fuck you, Ari  
Fuck you  
All I've ever tried to do is...  
All I've ever wanted is...  
(spoken) Fuck you

Ari: (sung)  
Phoebe...

Phoebe: (shouting)  
Fuck you!

\*Phoebe slams the door and leaves  
There is a moment of silence\*

Ari:  
Lonely, lonely...

\*Ari bursts into tears and leaves\*

#### **SCENE 4 - City Hall press room (Ari, Minos, Staffer: Phoebe, Reporter: Theo)**

\*Minos enters, getting ready for his campaign announcement event  
He is giving directions to a staffer, played by Phoebe, as Ari slinks in sadly\*

Minos:  
(Spoken) Make sure the cameras are positioned  
So they can get both wide shots and close-ups  
And make sure the lights cover either side of the podium  
(Sung) I want this moment to be perfect

(Noticing Ari, spoken) Ah, Ari  
(Sung) I'm so glad you're here

Ari: (trying to get out of it)  
Dad, look, I...

Minos (not noticing, directing her):  
You will stand  
Behind me, at the podium  
You'll be right there on camera  
Proving I have the support of my family  
That we're creating our legacy together...

Ari: (interrupting)  
Dad, I don't know if I can do this after all...

Minos: (interrupting)  
Of course you can  
Just stand there and look pretty  
That's all you have to do

Ari:  
Dad, I...Father...

Staffer:  
You're on in fifteen seconds, sir

Minos:  
(Spoken) Thank you  
Are you ready, Ari?

Ari:  
No...

Minos: (interrupting)  
Fantastic  
Let's show the world who we are

\*Minos shoves Ari out in front of him and they walk to the podium  
The hall is filled with excited applause  
Excited campaign music plays  
It continues as a theme underneath Minos' recit speech  
Minos takes the podium and stations Ari behind him\*

Minos: (shouting)  
Thank you  
Thank you all

(Applause dying down, sung) You know  
It's moments like this that make me proud to be a New Yorker  
I look out into this crowd  
I see so many dedicated Americans  
Striving to be their best selves  
Not taking what is handed them  
But lifting themselves up by their bootstraps  
Living the epitome of the American dream  
New York is a symbol of that dream  
And I have been proud to represent that dream  
On City Council for the past 11 years

But it's time to take our dreams further  
Therefore, I am thrilled today  
To announce my candidacy  
For Congressional Representative of the 17th District of New York

I believe that as your voice in Congress  
I can make a real difference in the lives of everyday New Yorkers like...

Journalist in crowd: (interrupting)  
Sir, sir, sir  
An important question, sir

Minos: (irritated but trying to calm himself)  
Yes, I'll take your question when the time comes...

Journalist: (waving phone, interrupting)

Sir, but would you be willing to respond to a breaking story  
About your commitment to family values?

Staffer (rushing over, trying to stop him, waving phone):  
Sir, don't answer that

Minos: (interrupting)  
Well, absolutely  
I am the most committed candidate of anyone in this race  
To restoring the important values of traditional families into our society...

Staffer: (simultaneously)  
Sir, sir, we need to take a break and go over...

Minos: (ignoring and continuing)  
I believe firmly in limiting those who would  
Stand against the rights of unborn children...

Journalist: (interrupting)  
Well, sir  
Then how would you respond to allegations  
That 12 years ago  
You forced your late wife to have an abortion  
Would you consider that an example of your commitment to family values?

Staffer: (interrupting)  
The councilman is no longer taking questions...

Minos: (interrupting, confused, shocked as the noise of the crowd builds)  
What...what...that's preposterous, I...  
Who would dare make such an accusation...?

Journalist: (interrupting)  
There is a breaking story in a local university paper  
Which cites a paper trail of evidence from your own files  
That proves your wife  
Terminated the pregnancy of a fetus that displayed birth defects  
Haven't you always spoken out against pro-choice advocates, sir?

Staffer: (underneath)  
Sir, please...  
Everyone, please calm down...  
The councilman will release a statement at a rescheduled rally...

Minos: (as the voices grow louder in the crowd)  
I, I...how is that possible, I...  
It's not true, I...  
How could anyone know...  
That was all kept in my...home office...

\*Noise slows down and stops at the last sentence  
Realization dawns on him of what Ari did, he whips around and turns on her  
Noise builds again slowly as he speaks\*

Minos:  
Ari, that night when I caught you in my office  
What were you doing there?

Ari: (Panicking)  
(spoken) Father, I told you  
I was looking at your calendar...

Minos:  
(spoken) Lies!  
(sung) You stole from me...  
You gave it to the university  
So they could publish it!

Ari:  
No! No, I swear...  
Maybe it was the nurse, or the clinic, or...

Minos: (interrupting)  
No, I silenced them!  
You did this to me!

Ari: (interrupting)  
Dad, no, no...

Minos: (interrupting)  
You've ruined my career

Song: Play Your Cards Right (Reprise 2)

Minos: (interrupting)  
You've stolen my legacy  
With every choice that you've made

Ari:  
(spoken) Dad, I didn't, I swear, I didn't I...

Minos (interrupting, sung):  
You've shattered the things that I've built  
All to take your own gain

Ari:  
(spoken) No, no, no, it wasn't that, I promise...

Minos: (interrupting, sung)  
My history's nothing, this dynasty's  
Been made worthless in yourself

Ari:  
(spoken) No, I told her not to, but...

Minos: (interrupting, hearing the "her," sung)  
Get out of my sight!  
I don't know you!  
Get away from me!  
(Shouting as the music stops, the crowd hushes) You are not my daughter!

Ari: (speaking, backed into a corner, in tears)  
Dad, I...I'm sorry, I...

Minos: (shouting)  
GET OUT!

\*Ari bursts into tears and runs away  
Minos looks out at the crowd  
Has a short moment of realization about what he's done\*

Minos: (speaking)  
I...I...

\*Minos doesn't finish speaking and hurries off, his staffer follows  
The reporter tries to follow after him\*

Journalist (spoken):  
Sir, sir, a few more questions, sir...

\*All exit  
The music transitions and dies down as Ari comes back onstage alone\*

### **SCENE 5 - Dion's apartment (Dion, Ari, Phoebe)**

Ari: (trembling, sung)  
Lonely, lonely...

\*Ari finds herself at Dion's door and knocks  
They open it, surprised\*

Dion:  
Ari? What are you doing here?  
I thought you said you were busy until Tuesday...

Ari:  
I...I don't even know why I'm here

(spoken) I'm sorry...I'll go...

Dion:

No, hey, wait  
It's okay, come in

\*Dion ushers her inside\*

Dion:

What's going on?

Ari:

I...I...

\*Ari can't even finish and bursts into tears  
Dion rushes to cuddle and comfort her\*

Dion:

Hey, hey, it's okay

Ari:

No, it's not  
I...I...ruined everything...

Dion:

(spoken) No you haven't...

Ari (waking up a bit, sung):

Yes I have!

I've ruined my dad's career

He's disowned me

He'll never talk to me again... (pause)

I got everything I wanted

I showed up my dad

I've gotten him out of my life...

And I feel terrible...

I...don't deserve anything

Dion:

Shh, shh, yes you do

Of course you do...

\*Ari cries for a little while

Dion continues to comfort her\*

Ari:

Why are you being so nice to me?

Dion:

(spoken) What do you mean?

Ari:

All I...all I've done is...used you...

Dion:

No you haven't...

Ari:

Yes I have...

(spoken) I'm awful...

Dion:

No you're not, Ari

You're something special

Ari:

(spoken) How?

Dion:

You're the first person

To make me look at myself differently

Make me question who I am

Why I fill my life with things

That aren't even important to me

Why I behave like this person that I'm not

Ari:

(spoken) Really?

Dion:

Really

You're special, Ari

You're...you

Song: I've Been Thinking (full)

Dion: (band cuts out, Dion starts a cappella)

I've been thinking about the place I am

And who I'm meant to be

I've been thinking about the time I've spent so far

I've been thinking about the role I play

And the way life's set the scene

And the one who makes me feel it doesn't matter at all

\*Dion continues as the band enters slowly\*

And I've been thinking about what might be next

In this circle here of life and death  
And of all the things I know that still ring true  
I've been thinking I might spend it all with you  
I've been thinking I might spend it all with you

I've been thinking about how far we've come  
From the place we started out  
I've been thinking how you've stayed here by my side

I've been thinking how you gave me a chance  
And the times you've let things slide  
And you're the one who makes me feel that I matter most of all

And in this endless, churning whirl of time  
Your face is all that comes to mind  
And even through the dark, it still rings true  
I've been thinking I might spend it all with you  
And no matter what, I'll always see you through  
I hope you'll let me spend it all with you

\*As Dion finishes, Ari embraces them, moved\*

Ari: (sung)  
You learned my song  
But...how?

Dion:  
I may have gone through your phone  
And sent myself some recordings  
So I could learn it  
(spoken) ...But I didn't look at anything else, I swear!

Ari:  
(sung) It's okay  
I'm...I'm glad you liked it

Dion:  
Of course I liked it  
You're an amazing singer  
(spoken) You should sing your songs more often  
(sung) For other people besides me

Ari:  
I don't know...

Dion:  
I promise  
People would love you  
And I think you'd have a lot of fun

Ari:  
(meaning it) Okay, I'll think about it

\*Suddenly, there's a knock on the door  
And Phoebe peeks her head in\*

Phoebe: (speaking)  
Knock knock...  
(sung) Hey, can I come in?

Ari: (sung, drying tears)  
Phoebe? What are you doing here?

Phoebe: (sung)  
Dion messaged me  
They said you were upset  
And needed a friend

Ari:  
And you came?  
Even after...I mean, after...

Phoebe:  
Yes, of course I came  
(Pause) What else are friends for?

\*After a moment, Ari bursts into tears again  
Phoebe comforts her along with Dion\*

Ari:  
I'm so sorry for all the things I said, Phoebe  
I've completely ignored you all this time  
I've been a horrible friend

Phoebe:  
It's okay, Ari, it's okay  
I'm sorry too...  
I think I misjudged Dion here...  
They're not so bad  
They really care about you  
That's all I was worried about

Ari (to Dion):  
You do?

Dion:  
I do

\*In response, Ari cries a little more and hugs them both closer  
After slowing down a little, they continue\*

Ari:  
I don't know what to do about the article, guys  
I gave Theo everything she needed to write it  
I asked her not to...and she wrote it anyway  
(spoken) And now I don't know what to do

Dion:  
Well, can I give you a piece of advice?

Ari:  
Okay

Dion:  
I think you should try everything you can  
To get some closure with Theo

Ari:  
(spoken) But how?

Phoebe:  
You should talk to her  
See if you can get her to retract it, take it down

Ari:  
She hasn't talked to me for over a month...  
What would she even say?

Phoebe:  
Who cares what she'll say?  
She supposedly cared about you  
And then completely ghosted you out of the blue  
She doesn't deserve your consideration  
What you deserve is answers  
A bit of respect

Ari:  
I don't know...  
What if it's too late?

Dion:  
Well, maybe it is too late  
But it can't hurt to try

Ari:  
... You're right, I...  
I'll try

\*Ari gets up, and is about to leave  
She comes back and kisses Dion suddenly\*

Ari: (speaking)  
Thank you...Dion

Dion: (speaking)  
Anytime

Ari: (to Phoebe, sung)  
Phoebe...is there any chance the RA will let you switch back roommates?

Phoebe:  
Definitely  
You go, I'll see you when you get back tonight

Ari:  
Thanks...thank you both

### **SCENE 6 - College hallway (Ari, Aegea, Friend: Minos)**

\*Ari run out, Aegea enters, standing on her own to the side  
Music raises slowly in tension  
Dion and Phoebe exit\*

Aegea:  
I've missed you while you're gone, hon'  
Things here are not the same  
Things here just aren't the same

\*Ari searches around for Theo  
She's calling her, texting her, to no avail\*

Ari: (simultaneously, on phone, spoken)  
Theo...Theo...pick up the phone...

Aegea:  
I promise I still love you  
It's just I'm feeling...it's all too much  
I need to set me free  
I'm going to miss you, hon'

\*Ari notices one of Theo's friends, played by Minos  
She runs up to them  
Music continues underneath\*

Ari: (spoken)  
Hey, hey

You're friends with Theo, right?  
Do you know where I can find her?

Friend/Minos: (spoken)  
You mean, you don't know?

Aegea (sung):  
You're on the path, the light's ahead  
So don't worry for me

Ari: (irritated, spoken, simultaneously)  
No, I don't know, that's why I'm asking you  
Look, this is really important  
I have to talk to her as soon as possible

Friend/Minos: (simultaneously, spoken)  
Well, that might be a little hard...

Ari: (irritated even more, interrupting, simultaneous with Aegea)  
Why? What could possibly be so important  
That after she ghosts me out of the blue  
And ignores me for a month and a half  
She can't even pick up the goddamn phone  
When I have to talk to her about...

Aegea: (simultaneously)  
I'm headed to someplace where I can run  
You'll outshine everyone...

Friend/Minos (interrupting):  
Her mom died last week, okay?

\*Aegea stops singing  
The music stops\*

Ari: (spoken, after a shocked pause)  
What?

Friend/Minos:  
(After Ari pauses, shocked, speaking) Her mom died

Aegea: (a cappella)  
But still, I'll miss you, hon'

\*Aegea slowly exits  
Ari pauses for a minute, suddenly runs off, trying to get there\*

**SCENE 7 - Graveyard (Chorus: Minos/Phoebe/Dion; Ari, Theo)**

\*Ari and friend exit while talking  
Chorus enters, underscoring happens beneath\*

Song: Sing in Me, Muse (Reprise 2)

Chorus/Phoebe (speaking):  
Sing in me, Muse  
Of that ancient hero  
Who, after betraying his lover  
Had one betrayal exchanged for another  
And lost again the only thing he ever loved

Chorus/Minos (sung):  
Say how he, in his mindlessness  
Moved by the will of the gods  
Forgot to raise the white sails  
As he entered his harbor at home  
And his parent, thinking that all was lost  
Jumped into the sea  
And was gone

Chorus/Dion (sung):  
Tell us, explain to us mere mortals  
What to do when we lose someone  
When a character is lost to time  
Struck from the story  
Where does it end?  
Tell us when it stops mattering  
When do you get to give up?

Chorus/Phoebe:  
Sing in me, Muse, again

\*Chorus disappears  
Theo is standing alone at her mother's grave  
Ari runs on, Theo doesn't turn around  
This whole next section is SILENT AND SPOKEN\*

Theo:  
I saw your missed calls  
I'm sorry I didn't answer

Ari:  
No, no, it's okay  
I didn't realize that...that you were here

Theo:  
How did you find me?

Ari:  
I...I asked one of your friends  
I borrowed their car  
And drove three hours to get here  
(Pause) What...what happened?

Theo:  
(Pause) Mom killed herself last week

Ari:  
(Pause) Theo...I'm so sorry...

Theo: (interrupting)  
That night  
The night you and I slept together  
I kept ignoring all of her phone calls

And afterwards  
I was so wrapped up in myself  
Writing the article  
It was all I could focus on  
I kept writing and writing and writing  
And she kept calling  
And I wouldn't answer  
I barely talked to her for a month

Because I knew  
I knew she would be so disappointed in me  
That I stole those papers from you  
That I wasn't everything she thought I was  
The ethical journalist, who would never steal, or lie, or abandon anyone  
Who she could always rely on  
Who was trying to be just like her  
I knew...she would hate me

And so I kept not answering the phone  
I just kept writing and writing and writing  
And I never thought  
About how she would feel  
When her husband left her  
And now her daughter  
Wouldn't even talk to her anymore  
And she didn't know why

So last week, she took some pills...and she never woke up

Ari:  
Theo...I'm so sorry...  
Why didn't you tell me?

I could've helped  
Or talked you through it  
Done something...

Theo: (whirling around, interrupting, shouting)  
Don't you think you've done enough?

Sorry...I...I didn't mean that  
This...this isn't your fault  
It's mine

Ari:  
No, Theo, no  
Of course it's not your fault  
You did everything you could for your mom  
You always took such good care of her...

Theo: (interrupting)  
I got a job offer at the New York Times

Ari:  
What?

Theo:  
They read the article  
They said it was a caliber of investigative journalism  
That they had never seen outside a professional news organization

Ari:  
Theo, that's...that's incredible...

Theo: (interrupting)  
I'm going to turn them down

Ari:  
What? No, Theo...

Theo: (interrupting)  
There's too much...too much associated with it  
I don't want it anymore

Ari:  
No, Theo, this is huge  
You have to take it  
Offers like this only come around once in a lifetime...

Theo: (interrupting, shouting)  
Didn't you hear me? I don't want it anymore!  
(Pause) I'm sorry...I...I don't want it anymore

Ari:

(Pause) Theo...think of what you're giving up  
It's what you've always wanted

Theo (pause):

No more...  
No more guilt, no more ruining lives  
No more hurting anyone...  
No more...I don't want it anymore

Ari:

Theo, you were just trying to follow your dream...

Theo (interrupting):

And look what good it's done me  
My mom's dead  
My dad's got another family  
My ex-girlfriend hates me...

Ari: (interrupting)

I don't hate you...

Theo: (interrupting)

Yes you do  
...I don't have anyone anymore

Ari:

Theo, there are so many people who care about you...  
Who want you help you...Who love you...  
Who...still love you...no matter what you've done

(After a long pause) Theo, why...

Why did you leave that night?  
Why did you ignore me all this time?

Theo:

Would you believe me if I said I don't know?  
(Pause) ...Yeah, I wouldn't believe me either

I guess I...I was just so afraid  
Confused...  
Lost in my own problems...  
I think I slept with you because...

You were this symbol of...freedom  
Or someplace new and unexplored  
Or just something that I could finally choose for myself for once  
And I didn't have to explain it, or justify it, or feel guilty

For doing something I wanted for once  
And...I forgot that you wanted things too  
Things I...couldn't give you

There was something between us  
But...I don't think it was...love  
I think it was...we wanted the same thing  
To...break free

(Pause) But I made a fool of myself  
And I broke free the wrong way  
And after all this time, everything I tried  
I fucking lost it all...again

Ari:  
Theo...

Theo:  
(starts to walk away, pause, turns back) One thing, Ari

Ari:  
What, Theo?

Theo:  
Do me a favor and fix things with your dad

Ari:  
Theo, I...

Theo: (interrupting)  
Just do it  
Family...family is all anyone has  
(Pause) And you never know when you're going to lose it

\*Theo leaves  
Ari stands a moment alone in silence, then exits herself\*

### **SCENE 8 - Minos' office in City Hall (Ari, Minos, Chorus: Aegea, Theo, Phoebe, Dion)**

\*Scene transitions to City Hall  
Minos enters, he is packing up his office  
Ari enters cautiously\*

Ari: (spoken)  
Hi, Dad

\*Minos pauses to look at her, before going back to packing up boxes\*

Minos: (spoken)

Hello, Ari (pause, sung)  
Well, you'll be happy to know  
I've just sent in my letter of resignation to the committee, effective immediately

Ari:  
(spoken) You resigned?

Minos:  
(spoken) Yes  
(Pausing, sung) It's...it's time I was done here  
I've failed as a politician  
(Not looking at Ari, spoken) I've...failed as a father

Ari: (spoken)  
Dad, I...

Minos: (sung, interrupting)  
I've failed  
(spoken) I...I owe you the truth, Ari

Ari: (sung)  
Dad, you don't have to...

\*As Minos speaks, chorus enters, watching\*

Minos: (interrupting, spoken)  
When your mother was pregnant with your younger brother  
She had so many health problems...  
She'd had them for years  
We were worried the baby wouldn't be healthy  
But your mother, she...she was so brave  
She wanted to have him anyway  
I loved her so much...I told her I'd do whatever she wanted  
I'd love my son...no matter what

But she was afraid to get tests  
We waited too long...he...your brother...had defects  
But that wasn't the worst of it  
We found out that if she were to carry to term...because of her health...  
The birth could kill her

I tried to tell her it wasn't worth it  
That she had her whole life ahead of her  
That we could try to conceive again  
She was distraught  
I told her that even our son...wasn't worth losing her  
She eventually agreed to get the procedure

And then she got that infection

It wasn't anyone's fault  
She wouldn't let me blame the doctors  
She was...so kind...so understanding...  
And it happened, six months later  
(sung) I lost her

I'm sorry...I hid it from you all these years  
That I never told you the truth  
I...I am so deeply ashamed of myself

I was **arrogant**...selfish...I wouldn't listen...  
It was the height of hubris  
I thought I could change Fate...  
And Fate found me anyway  
(spoken) I was so wrong  
Because of me...I...we...lost her  
We lost them both

(sung) And I covered it up  
I hid my shame  
And every time I see you, Ari...I...  
I see your mother  
(spoken) I see her strength, her resolve  
(sung) And it's been a reminder ever since  
Of how wrong I was

I've let my shame...my guilt...hurt you  
Tear us apart all these years  
I...I have failed  
(spoken) And I am so...so...sorry, Ariadne  
(sung) I am so sorry

\*Minos cries and Ari hugs and comforts him  
This whole time, the chorus has come up and approached Ari/Minos slowly  
Doing background oohs/aahs\*

Ari:  
(spoken) It's okay...it's okay, Father...Dad...  
It's okay...  
(sung) There's something you should know...

\*The chorus stops, and slowly, over the course of the song, they exit\*

Song: Taking Back My Story

Ari:  
Sometimes it feels like the wheels of time  
Have spun out of my control  
Like the threads of Fate weave me out and then back in

My mistakes surround me, tear me apart  
There's times they've swallowed me whole  
Sometimes it feels like there's no way I can win

But so what if the wheels of time keep turning?  
So what if there's destiny?  
So what if our legacy's predetermined?  
I'm standing here anyway, I'm finding me

No matter what my story says  
I've decided I'm here now  
The legends might speak different words  
But I'll choose my own anyhow  
I'll play my role, I'll act my part  
But it's time I found my own true art  
No matter what has been, or what will be  
I'm taking back my story

Minos:  
Sometimes it feels like throughout my life  
I have failed at every turn  
And each time it's gotten further beneath my skin

When I've done my best to shape a new world  
I've forgotten to stop and learn  
I've lost the reasons why I even wanted to begin

Ari:  
But so what if the past has been imperfect?

Minos:  
So what if it's out to sea?

Ari:  
There's a new chance every minute, take it  
Seize the moment here and just break free

Minos:  
I'll live a new life on forward and now I can see

Ari:  
And of course there will always be things in life  
That are out of our control  
The twists we don't see coming, we can't contain

Minos:  
But we control what we can, we forgive what we can't  
We let go, but don't fall in

Ari:  
And what we know is true, we let remain

Minos:  
I'll let go of the pain

Ari and Minos together:  
No matter what our story says  
I've decided I'm here now  
The legends might speak different words  
But we'll choose our own anyhow  
I'll play my role, I'll act my part  
But it's time we found our own true art  
No matter what has been, or what will be  
No matter what has been, or what will be

Ari:  
No matter what has been, I'm going to see

Minos:  
It's up to you to tell what your future will be

Ari and Minos:  
Let's take back our story

\*The chorus recedes all the way now  
Minos and Ari finally cry together, embrace, and reconcile\*

Ari: (spoken)  
Dad, there's something else you should know...  
I'm... I'm gay  
I think I've known... I've known for a long time  
I just have never known how to say it  
But I want to tell you now

Minos: (pause, sung)  
Ari, I support you  
I will always support you  
Thank you for telling me  
(pause) I love you, Ari

Ari:  
(spoken) I love you too, Dad

\*They tear up and embrace again\*

Ari: (speaking, both of them standing and beginning to walk to door)  
You know, Dad

Now that you're resigning  
You're going to need a job

Minos: (speaking)  
Yes, that's true

Ari: (speaking)  
You know, I hear there's an open position  
In my college's Political Science Department  
Might be worth looking into...

\*Minos and Ari laugh together as they walk off stage\*

**SCENE 9 - College graduation reception hall (Ari, Theo, Dion, Phoebe, Minos, Friend:  
Aegea; Chorus: Theo, Dion, Phoebe, Minos, Aegea)**

\*The chorus comes back onstage, but becomes university students  
Graduation has arrived, celebratory music  
Dion and his friends are celebrating together\*

Friend/Aegea: (shouting over music)  
Hey Dion, we did it!  
Congrats on passing all your Gen Eds

Dion: (shouting over music)  
Thanks!

Friend (shouting):  
Hey, want a beer?

Dion: (shouting, almost grabs it then thinks better of it)  
No thanks, trying to stay away from alcohol for a bit  
(Ari and Phoebe enter on the other side of the room) I'll catch up with you later

\*Dion goes over to talk with Ari, they kiss\*

Ari: (sung)  
Hey, graduate, congrats  
You looked good up there

Dion: (sung)  
Thanks  
I couldn't have done it without you  
(spoken) There's no way I would've passed Bernstein's class  
If you hadn't helped me study for all those hours

Ari:  
(sung) Well, you probably would've done even better  
If we'd done a little more studying during those hours

Dion:  
(spoken) Ah, live and learn

\*They kiss again, but Ari pulls away\*

Ari:  
(sung) Dion...there's something I want to talk to you about

Dion:  
Oh boy, here it comes...

Ari:  
It doesn't have to be right now...

Dion:  
(spoken) No, no, it's okay, I knew it was coming  
(sung) You're breaking up with me

Ari:  
(spoken) No! No, no, no...  
(sung) Well...yes  
It's not that I don't...

Dion: (interrupting)  
Shh, shh...Ari, it's okay  
I get it  
(spoken) You don't want to deal with long distance  
(sung) It's all good

Ari:  
Well, it's not just that  
It's just...you're moving to a new phase in your life  
You have that job in California...

Dion: (interrupting, spoken)  
Which I wouldn't have without your help, by the way...

Ari: (interrupting)  
And I just...I just have so much more to do here at school  
I just wouldn't...want to hold you back

Dion:  
(spoken) I get it  
Really, I do  
It's okay  
(sung) I always knew we had an expiration date  
It's not like I was going to be able to write your name in the sky or anything  
But at least we had some fun, though, right?

Ari:

(spoken) It was more than that, really  
I...I learned a lot from you  
(sung) You're a great person, Dion  
You're going to make someone really happy someday  
Thank you...for everything  
Keep in touch, Dion

Dion:

I will, I promise  
Thank you...for letting me into your life  
(spoken) And hey, if we're both single in 20 years, h-m-u

\*Ari laughs as Dion walks out, Phoebe approaches her\*

Phoebe: (spoken)  
Hey girl, I'm proud of you  
It was hard, but you did the right thing

Ari: (spoken)  
I know  
Thanks for helping me through it all  
I'm...really lucky to have a friend like you, Phoebe

Phoebe: (spoken)  
You and me both

\*They embrace  
Ari sees Theo standing behind Phoebe\*

Ari: (pulling back, surprised, spoken)  
Theo!...Hi

Theo: (not sure what to say, spoken)  
Hi

Phoebe: (after a moment of awkward silence, spoken)  
I'll give you guys a moment

Theo: (sung)  
Ari...I...  
I want to tell you...

Minos (suddenly, having entered from behind, sung):  
How sorry you are for ending her father's political career?

Theo (whirling around, spoken):  
Sir! I...I...sir, I...didn't know...didn't...sir...I...

\*Minos cuts her off, and after a moment reaches out to grab her hand and shake it  
Theo is confused and amazed\*

Minos:

I owe you a debt, Theo  
For saving my relationship with my daughter  
Which means more to me than any political race in the world  
If it hadn't had been for your article  
I would never have gotten the shock I needed  
To remember what's important in life

Plus, you also proved that I would've been a terrible congressman  
So for that, I am forever thankful

\*Minos laughs and shakes Theo's hand again\*

Theo: (spoken)

I...I...thank you, sir

Minos: (spoken)

No, Theo, thank you  
(Looking at Ari, sung) Now pardon me for interrupting  
I'll give you a moment alone

\*Theo and Ari look at each other awkwardly for a minute, laugh\*

Theo:

(After pause) So, I never asked you...  
Have you decided what to major in?  
Journalism? (spoken) You did great in that class

Ari:

No...  
Actually...I'm thinking music  
A couple of wise people have told me  
I should get out there and sing more  
So, I'm taking some lessons...writing some more songs...  
I'm giving it a shot

Theo:

I'm really glad to hear that  
I'm...glad you're putting yourself out there  
(spoken) You'll be great

Ari:

(spoken) Thanks

Theo:

(Pause) Look, there's something I wanted to tell you

Ari:  
Okay

Theo:  
(After a pause) When you came to see me  
At my mom's grave  
I...I was in a dark place  
I didn't think...I didn't think I'd ever get out

Ari:  
Theo...

Theo: (interrupting)  
But you...you stopped me  
You...reminded me there's more in life to look forward to  
There's...other people out there who care about me  
There's something worth living for...something bigger  
I went straight to the mental health office  
I've been having weekly therapy sessions since then  
They put me on some medication  
And...it's really been helping

Ari:  
Theo, I...  
You have no idea  
How relieved it makes me to hear that

Theo:  
(After a pause) And...I decided to take the job at the New York Times after all

Ari:  
You did?

Theo:  
(spoken) Yeah...  
(sung) I've thought a lot  
About those moments when my mother was happiest  
And it was always when I told her  
(spoken) That I had written an article  
Or was studying for an exam or something

(sung) She was really happy when she saw me striving  
When she saw me  
Trying to make a difference in the world  
(spoken) One article at a time

Ari:

I'm really happy for you, Theo  
You're going to do great

Theo:  
(spoken) Thanks  
(Pause, sung) I also just wanted to...  
I don't really know how to say this, but...  
I'm really sorry...  
For everything I put you through  
I should've been honest with you from the start  
Told you what I was really feeling...  
(spoken) or what I wasn't  
(sung) I messed up  
I...I know I hurt you  
(spoken) And...I'm so...so sorry

Ari:  
(spoken) Theo...  
(sung) I forgive you

Theo:  
(spoken) Really?  
Ari, that means so much  
I can't believe you'd do that for me...

Ari: (interrupting)  
(sung) Oh, no  
I'm not forgiving you for you  
You ghosting me was heartless  
(spoken) One of the worst things that's ever happened to me  
I don't know if I'll ever be able to forget it

Theo:  
I...I...

Ari:  
But...I've lived with being angry for a long time  
(spoken) I've been stuck in the past my whole life  
(sung) I can't live like that anymore  
I need to move on  
So, I forgive you  
For me

Theo:  
(spoken) I...I understand  
Thank you...for your forgiveness (pause)  
(sung) Do...do you ever think we might be friends again? (pause)  
More than friends?

Ari:  
Maybe...one day

Ari:  
There's so much more to you  
Than what meets the eye

There's...something...something...

\*There is a pause, and Ari almost kisses Theo  
But then holds back at the last minute\*

Theo:  
I'm sorry...I...

Ari:  
No...I'm sorry

Even after everything  
I still care about you, though  
I still want the best for you  
But...I think we need to take things slow  
Maybe wait a while  
Before we can be...friends again  
Time will tell

Theo:  
I understand  
You're right  
(spoken) Well, here... (Theo takes out a notebook, jots down a number, gives it to her)  
I have a new phone number now...  
Just in case you want to...get together sometime  
I'm looking at renting this apartment in Brooklyn  
So I won't be too far away

Ari:  
(spoken) Thanks  
(sung) I should say...I don't know if I'll call this number just yet  
But one day...  
Maybe one day I will  
College is another three years after all...

Theo:  
Well, I guess I'll see you around  
Ariadne...

\*Theo walks off  
Chorus gathers together as Ari stands alone  
Looks at Theo's phone number

Puts it in her pocket  
Theo reverts to being part of the chorus  
Chorus speaks while she thinks  
In a new, more thoughtful tone\*

Chorus/Theo (dialogue):  
Imagine an ancient author  
Sitting at his writing desk  
His wooden stylus carving into a wax tablet  
Literally creating from scratch  
A poem about a lonely, lost young girl

Chorus/Phoebe (dialogue):  
Or...don't imagine him  
Instead, ask yourself  
Whose story is this?  
Who gets to speak these words  
Decide what they mean?

Chorus/Dion (dialogue):  
Is it the authors?  
Is it the actors?  
Is it me?  
Is it...you?

Chorus/Minos (dialogue):  
Ask yourself  
What happens if we set down the book  
Reshuffle the deck  
Throw away the scraps of pages  
Send the Muse back to her ancient haven

Chorus/Aegea (dialogue):  
What happens if we take a chance  
And let those characters...  
Our characters...  
Speak for themselves?

\*Chorus slowly exits  
To a moment of silence, where Ari stands alone  
Then sings a cappella, slowly, with instruments adding in slightly over time\*

Ari:  
I long for adventure  
A place to be free  
A place to exist on the open sea  
And be me  
I live to explore  
Home where I'm homeless

I long to be

There in that place  
Where I truly can see  
All the things that were meant to be  
That I was built to achieve

I feel it touch deep in my soul  
Fate spins my life, but it's mine to control  
It's coming to rescue me  
Take this love, take my life, I am home  
Come, let's break free

\*Final chord  
Lights out\*

**CURTAIN**