

## Side 5

### Oedipus

#### Scene 10

OEDIPUS: (*Very still. Speaks to audience. Same costume; same eyes gouged out, dripping blood.*) You can't know how my heart did dances when I got the news. At last there was a reason...for our calamity. We knew we were looking for a killer now. The air reeked from corpses piling up. The sky black with vultures. Dogs skulked around in bony packs dragging ragged legs and arms. Fights broke out over every tiny morsel. Eyeballs. Noses. Ears. Shanks of hair and lips. The haunted faces of naked citizens seeing their death before them. Picking through scraps and burning heaps of carnage. Smoke streaked the sun. Now, at least, we knew. We had the answer. A deathly thing, beyond cure. The murderer at large in our very midst. This human beast had brought the disease upon us. Murder of a former king, way before my time. Slaughtered on the common highway by some vagabond maniac of the outskirts. We had only now to root him out. Blood for blood. He was our one salvation.