Illustration 11

[Orfeo walks ahead of Euridice out of the Underworld:]

ORFEO

But what do I hear?

Woe is me! Perhaps the enraged Furies are taking up arms with such frenzy against me to snatch my treasure from me? And I allow it?

Orpheus turns round.

O sweetest eyes, now I see you, now I ... but alas! what eclipse obscures you?

THIRD SPIRIT

You have broken the law and are unworthy of mercy.

EURYDICE

Ah, sight too sweet and too bitter!
Thus, then, through excess of love you lose me?
And I, unhappy one, lose
the power any longer to enjoy
either light or life, and lose you too,
O my husband, more precious than all else.

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