

Diapراسi of the Roses

"Pilot"

Written by

Anthony Thaete

Ext. Greek Coast-Early Morning

Characters in Order:

Polyphus: A giant clam covered in purple growth lines who harbors the goddess Diaprasi.

Diaprasi: A Greek goddess born out of the anthropomorphic clam Polyphus

Taking place in the early morning off the coast of ancient Greece, the yellow sands blair with illumination from the sun beaming off of them and the turquoise water froths with soapy white foam. In the distance, the salty foam of the ocean begins to lather and slowly, a giant purple clam bursts out from beneath and floats on top of the mellow azure waves.

From this lilac hued mollusk, its commissure begins to unlatch and the upper valve flips outward. A young woman begins to emerge from the clam's fleshy oral mantle. She has an olive complexion, wavy brown hair and her nakedness is covered by seaweed and myrtle. The girl stands on a layer of pink tissue and gazes off into the distance. She has no luck in sighting out any other living being besides herself.

The girl's addressed as Diaprasi, daughter of the goddess Aphrodite and the River spirit Acis. The details of her birth are revealed to her in the long run.

Diaprasi

Hello! Is there anyone out there? I need to know where I am! I need to reach the shore!

Diaprasi scans the blue waves, the heavens, and the eroded sand thinking to herself that with no hope, she will never reach dry land.

Out of nowhere, Polyphus the clam begins to swish back and forth like a halibat and Diaprasi loses her balance, crashing into the ocean. The mollusk emits a low voice calling her to stop screaming out.

Polyphus
Be quiet! Use the brain your parents gave
you and find a solution.

Diaprasia looks at the mollusk in astonishment.

Diaprasia
No way! It actually talks!

Polyphemus
Of course I talk! I'm not an "it"! I'm a
functioning and living creature like you
lady.

Diaprasia looks at the anthropomorphic clam completely weirded
out.

Diaprasia
I think I drank too much sea water.

Polyphus
Nope, what happened was that your mother
Aphrodite, being as polygamous as she is,
recently spawned you with your father, Acis
the river god.

Diaprasia
Wait, I was spawned? Is that bad? Slow down,
where did I come from? And why are you
talking? You're an oyster!

Polyphus
It's like I said, Aphrodite and Acis are
your parents and just so you could be
concieved, you were conjured out of a
mollusk. I am that mollusk that gave you
life.

Diaprasia
Oh cool! So you're my dad then cause you
were pregnant with me!

Polyphus looks up at Diaprati confused and weirded out.

Polyphus

Wait, What? No! It's like I said, your mother is Aphrodite and your father is Acis the river god. You were born out of me but you were intended to be an infant. Not a twenty-something year old.

Diaprasi

How old am I then?

Diaprasi foolishly counts her fingers to figure out her age.

Polyphus

You might be twenty-two years of age. I have twenty-two grooves carved on to my mantle and your age should reflect my number of grooves As I've been alive for twenty-two years.

Diaprasi

Really, that's interesting but I need to know how we can get to the shore. I'm worried about being attacked by lions.

Polyphus

Lions do not dwell in the waters foolish one. However, I know a tale of Scylla. A nymph turned sea monster. She's a wretched fowl creature that taints the waters with her murderous tendencies.

Diaprasi looks at Polyphus in confusion.

Diaprasi

Ohh sounds scary. Is she hot?

Polyphus is weirded out by Diaprati's strange comment.

Polyphus

Um...No...Not necessarily. She was cursed by the jealous enchantress Circe who poured a poisonous concoction into her bath. Her loins were transformed into ravenging hounds that cannibalize the innocent.

Diaprasi

Hounds? You mean dogs right? Ohh can we pet her dogs?

Polyphus

Um...No. Remember, we need to get to dry land Diaprasi. Now how do we do that?

Diaprasi looks off into the distance and notices an immense scaly flipper reaching out from the ocean's surface. Eventually, a colossal periwinkle whale cavorts and causes an enormous foamy splash that drenches Diaprasi and Polyphus.

Diaprasi

Wow! It's a mermaid!

Polyphus

No you idiot! That's the whale Porphyrios It will kill us! We're doomed!

Diaprasi

No Polyphus, we can get Porphyrios to give us a ride to shore.

Polyphus

Are you crazy it will eat us. We need to fly outta here before he thinks we're calamari.

Diprasi

Here I think it's fine. Please, let me get his attention. Maybe he can help us.

Polyphus

Okay then, but if he tries to eat me, I'll have you chained to a boulder and your flesh will be fed on by the harpies.

Diaprasi looks surprised by Polyphus' warning.

Diaprasi

(Naive)

Fair enough. I'll get his attention right now. You'll see.

Diaprasi starts waving her arms in the air and grabs onto the seaweed covering her chest.

Diaprasi

Hey you! You wanna see me take my top off!

Polyphus

What! No! Not like that you moron! You need to tell him we need his help getting to the surface.

Diaprasi

Oh, so it's that kind of attention.

Diaprasi tries an alternative technique to get the whale's attention.

Diaprasi

Hey you! The giant goldfish! If you can take me and this clam-thing to dry land I'll take my top off for you!

Polyphus makes an exhausted face clearly tired of Diaprasi's stupidity.

Polyphus

You know Diaprasi, I really want to feed you to the harpies now.

Porphyrios notices Diaprasi trying to get its attention and the whale begins swimming towards the mollusk and goddess swift like a jet ski.

Diaprasi

Look Polyphus! It's working! We'll be on dry land in no time.

Porphyrios advances toward Diaprasi and stares her down. The behemoth cetacean scopes her from top to bottom and licks its thick purple lips. Diaprasi attempts to speak to the whale at a leisurely pace to test its ability to comprehend her and Polyphus' situation.

Diaprasi

(Speaking Slowly)

Hey you, Mr.Porphyrios. We are going to need a ride to the shore. Can you help us?

Porphyrios' eyes are glued onto Diaprasi, the whale shakes with adrenaline, its gums salivate with gooey froth, and its jaws unbolt with aggressive exertion ready to devour Diaprasi and Polyphus. However, the whale does the unexpected and begins to articulate in proper English with Diaprasi.

Porphyrios

Oh, why yes of course! I would love to deliver you and your grimy boyfriend to your destination of choice.

Diaprasi

He's not my boyfriend! He's my dad.

Polyphus

For the last time Diaprasi! I am not your father!

Diaprasi turns over to Porphyrios

Diaprasi

Well, can you take us to the shore?

Porphyrios

Yes Of course! Please, just climb into my warm mouth and go to sleep. I will transport you two majestic creatures to the land of Hellas.

Diaprasi

Oh you mean Greece?

Porphyrios

Greece? Where's that at?

Polyphus gets Diaprasi's attention

Polyphus

Diaprasi, Hellas is a fancy word for Greece. Just like how Scotland can also be called Caledonia.

Diaprasi

Oh okay.

Diaprasi and Polyphus climb into Porphyrios' mouth and sit inside as the whale slowly folds its jaws together, sealing them shut. Porphyrios begins his temporary journey to the shore.

Diaprasi

Are you proud of me Polyphus?

Polyphus

Diaprasi, what you did was adequate enough to help us reach dry land but believe me, this is only the beginning of the journey.

Diaprasi

Like what in particular? Oh am I gonna have to kill someone for you?

Polyphus

Wait what? No! Of course no- No! What are you thinking!

Diapراسي

Oh, I thought we were on the same page.

Polyphus

No! We do not kill anyone. Your job as a goddess is to assist the subjects of Hellas with their everyday tasks and to introduce to them new ways of sourcing the natural world.

Diapراسي tries to follow along.

Polyphus

Grant them fire, bring them a bountiful harvest, nourish them with milk and honey. But if they fail, punish them severely. Send lightning, rain brimstone and sulfur onto their homes, Introduce blight and famine if they disobey.

Diapراسي is horrified by these revelations. Suddenly, there is an abrupt stop and Porphyrios collides with the shoreline.

Porphyrios

Were here my pastoralist companions, please exit my mouth right now.

Porphyrios smacks Diapراسي and Porphus with its colossal tongue and the two stowaways are flung into the wet sand and both land face first into mud damp from washed up seafoam.

Diapراسي

Hooray! We successfully reached dry land!
And I thought we were gonna die.

Polyphus

Yes Diapراسي, we're here on dry land but the mission isn't over yet.

Diapراسي
Mission? What else is there to do?

Polyphus
Well we need a multitude of essentials to survive.

Diapراسي
But I'm a god, can't I just conjure up some food and shelter with my awesome powers.

Polyphus
It's not going to work, for you to earn your powers, you need to commit deeds of good to have supernatural abilities bestowed upon you by your parents. You were just born, remember?

Diapراسي
Well, what do you expect me to do now?

Polyphus
You can serve in the military of one of the Greek polities and earn respect that way.

Diapراسي
Military? Wait but you told me not to kill people!

Polyphus
No, within the context of war you are allowed to defend yourself and your nation. If you help the Hellenic empire strive for greatness and assert its dominance over the world, you will be blessed with ultimate power.

Diapراسي
Really, will I be able to fly?

Polyphus looks at Diapراسي confused.

Polyphus
Um...No you will-
Diaprasi cuts off Polyphus' speech.

Diaprasi
Ooohh, what if I could turn invisible or
change into a griffith?

Polyphus
Um, no. Diaprasi I think you're getting a
little off topic.

Diaprasi
No wait, I wanna see through walls! No! I
wanna conjure baklava whenever I want!

Polyphus gets annoyed with Diaprasi at this point.

Polyphus
Okay! Diaprasi when you are granted your
powers, you will have the ability to
manipulate flower petals.

Diaprasi
What! Flowers! What kind of power is that!

Polyphus
No Diaprasi, fragrant roses and myrtle were
symbolic of your mother Aphrodite because
she's the goddess of beauty! Your powers
will be a manifestation of what symbolizes
her.

Diaprasi
Oh, well can I choke my enemies with roses
or can I trap them in flowers or something.

Polyphus
Well um... Lets just say that there is a lot
that we need to work on for you. And I mean

a whole heap of work for you. It will be a total truckload of labor. Are you ready?

Diaprasi
Yeah!

Polyphus
I'm sorry I didn't hear you! Are you ready!

Diaprasi
Oh yeah! I'm ready to do whatever it takes. Enlist in the army or sell pottery or whatever! But, there's one thing I wanna do first though.

Polyphus
What on earth is that Diaprasi?

Diaprasi
I wanna get some baklava and experience it for the first time!

Polyphus
Um yes, I guess there's no harm in delighting ourselves in that succulent flaky pastry that oozes with viscous golden syrup.

Diaprasi
Exactly, Let's go on our way to the nearest baklava vendor. Oohhh! Instead of buying it, Let's just steal!

Polyphus
No um, I don't think stealing is exactly the proper demonstration for our first interactions. We must-

Before Polyphus can finish his sentence, Diaprasi grabs the mollusk and drags him off in search of a baklava vendor close by.

Polyphus
Hey Wait! Let me go, you lunatic!

Diaprasi
Hold on, if I let go, you'll never try
baklava!

Diaprasi and Polyphus go on their journey in search of sugary honey-infused baklava layered with fragrant aromas and gooey yellow butter. Diaprasi has much to learn about being a proper god if she wants to one day rule all the realms and peoples of Greece.

(End of Scene)

