

# The World I Knew

## Hello World

© Crowley-Bartsch 2010

~context~

The world used to be a pleasant and peaceful place – but that was before the Miseries (cruel creatures causing death, disease, and destruction) were unleashed by the first woman, Pandora. Prometheus – a God sympathetic with the humans – is distraught to see all the suffering around him and sings longingly for the older world he once knew.

PROMETHEUS

(Singing.)  
THE WORLD I KNEW  
HAS SLIPPED AWAY  
WITHOUT A WHERE OR WHY.

THE WORLD I KNEW  
PACKED UP ONE DAY  
AND NEVER SAID GOODBYE.

IT NEVER WROTE  
A FAREWELL NOTE  
TO TELL US WHY IT FLED.  
NO "LOVE TO YOU"  
OR "BLESSINGS TO..."  
BUT JUST A RUMPLED BED.

THE WORLD I KNEW  
WALKED OUT THE DOOR  
AND TURNED MY MEMORIES TO LORE.

SO NOW I HAVE WORLD NUMBER TWO.  
BUT IT'S NOT THE WORLD I KNEW.

The LIGHTS RISE on the HUMAN VILLAGE  
across the stage. Timidly, daintily,  
PANDORA strolls on looking utterly

defeated in face and posture. Like  
PROMETHEUS, to whom SHE remains  
invisible, PANDORA examines the world  
around HER:

PANDORA

(Singing.)  
THE WORLD I KNEW  
HAS FLED THIS PLACE  
AND UP ITS SOUL HAS FLOWN.

THE WORLD I KNEW  
LEFT NOT ONE TRACE  
OF ALL THE TIMES WE'D KNOWN.

EACH VITAL SIGN  
TURNED TO A LINE  
AS FLAT AS FLAT CAN BE.  
THE DEATH REPORT  
WAS DEATHLY SHORT  
AND SAID IT DIED FROM ME.

OH, WORLD I KNEW,  
I CRINGE BECAUSE  
I MADE YOU FROM AN 'IS' TO 'WAS.'

THAT LEAVES US WITH WORLD NUMBER TWO.  
BUT IT'S NOT THE WORLD I KNEW.

Still oblivious to EACH OTHER,  
PROMETHEUS and PANDORA sing:

PROMETHEUS

(Singing.)  
NO PICTURE BOOK  
OF SHOTS WE TOOK  
IS THERE FOR ME TO KEEP.

PANDORA

(Singing.)  
I'LL ONLY VIEW  
THE WORLD I KNEW  
WHEN IT COMES TIME TO SLEEP.

PROMETHEUS, PANDORA

(Singing.)  
SO BID ADIEU  
AND FARE THEE WELL  
TO WHERE I DAILY USED TO DWELL.

FOR NOW I HAVE WORLD NUMBER TWO.  
BUT IT'S NOT THE WORLD I KNEW.  
NO, IT'S NOT THE WORLD I KNEW.