



Mortimer, John Hamilton, artist. *Portrait of Cassandra*. Eighteenth century. Folger ART Box M888 no.13 (size L)

Varied interpretations of the tragic figure Cassandra have appeared from Homer to ABBA, including this engraving by John Hamilton Mortimer. After refusing his affections, the god Apollo curses Cassandra with a gift of accurate prophecy that would remain unheeded by those who hear her. Always right but ever-ignored, Cassandra eventually goes mad. In Shakespeare's play, Cassandra appears with various warnings about the demise of the Trojans.

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