

Ceremony of the Bull

Worthy bull.

Aksi taureh.
Anonymous, ancient Greek

The cosmos pulses between snake and bull.

Il cosmo pulsa fra serpente e toro.
Roberto Callasso, *Le nozze de Cadmo e Armonia*

In any Cretan story, there's a bull at the beginning and a bull at the end.

Nelle storie cretesi, all'inizio c'è un toro, all fine c'è un toro.
Roberto Callasso, *Le nozze de Cadmo e Armonia*

Go bull.

Ito tauros.
Anonymous, ancient Greek

Reveal yourself as a bull
or a many-headed serpent,
or a lion with flaming nostrils!

Fanethi tauros e polukranos ih-de-in,
drakon e puriflegon,
horasthai leon.
Euripides, *Bacchants*

The untamed, bull-faced child, young and not young,

Adamon, paida tauropon, neun u neun.
Ion of Chios

A bull leads me on;
you seem to be a bull with horns sprouting from your head.

Kai tauros hemin prosthen hegesthai dokes,
kai so kerata krati prospofukenai.
Euripides, *Bacchants*

See him - he shakes his head as the contest begins!

En idu kai de tinasse krata balbidon apo.
Euripides, *Bacchants*

The vowels and consonants in the transliterated Greek should be sung as in Italian. In many places a part may sing only one syllable of a word, with entries staggered so that the entire word is sung by several parts. I have used hyphens and punctuation to indicate these "orphan" syllables (i.e. for the phrase "Aksi taureh," "A-" is the first syllable; "-ksi," is the second; "tau-", is the third; and "-reh." is the fourth).

All translations are by Mary Jane Leach.