

[My chat with Medusa](#)

[a minute ago](#)

Medusa

[@Riritu](#)

"I can see you. Stop hiding. Have you come to gaze upon the terror of the gods, to sneer at my hideous form?"

Robotman

I walk confidently into your lair, exhibiting odd behavior for a mortal man. I seem to be deliberately looking for you. You stand unmoving in the dark shadows - watching me. I appear strange and unusual in appearance to you. My garb is not at all like that of the Mycenae folk who are your usual victims, nor is it like the gods and royalty that you know of. I am dressed in what I know of as a crisp black suit and tie, but which to you has no name.

Medusa? Are you here? I have come here to help you.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon was confused and wary at the stranger's odd appearance and boldness. How could a man be so confident? So... unfazed by this sight. And what does he mean, help her? Is this some cruel trick, from the gods? She didn't quite understand this, and for a moment, her pet snakes stopped hissing. The monster stared at the stranger and raised an eyebrow.

"Who are you? And why are you here?"

Robotman

I stop in my tracks, and turn my head to the right as I hear your voice. I smile.

My name is Mike. And like I said, Medusa, I am here to offer my help to you.

It will require a fair bit of explanation, so can I ask you to come out of the shadows so I can see you please?

My request to see you baffles you. You have the power to turn mortals to stone merely by meeting their gaze with your form.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon was taken aback by this. What kind of man, no, what kind of being, even, would ask to see her form? No human, regardless of bravery, would ever willingly want to see this sight. The gorgon hesitated for a moment, before cautiously stepping out of the shadows. Her pale skin was shown, and even though she had her usual serious expression, small traces of confusion was mixed in her gaze. How could he not be afraid? Did he think this a joke? Regardless, this was strange... so strange.

Robotman

You emerge from the shadows, and walk in front of where I'm standing. You are barefoot and nude, with your coiffure of moving snakes resplendent about your head. You can see my clear, blue eyes

looking into your shining yellow eyes, yet I remain relaxed, confident, and smiling. Most confusing to you, I am not turned to stone.

It is so good to finally meet you, Medusa. You are even more lovely in person than I had imagined.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon froze in her steps, standing before the stranger with her bare feet upon the cave floor. At his words, a small smile played on her lips, but there still was a hint of suspicion and bewilderment behind her eyes. "You aren't afraid?" She asked softly, almost in disbelief. A mere mortal not scared of her stare. But... how?

Robotman

I walk calmly up to you, and I take your hand in mine. It is the first time anyone has dared or survived long enough to touch you.

No, Medusa, I am not scared. I am happy that we have this opportunity to meet.

You must be wondering why I haven't turned to stone. I will explain that - there is no need to doubt your considerable powers as a gorgon. But first I must explain to you who I am, what I am, and where I have come from. That will take time to explain.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon stood silently, unsure of what to do. This man, who wasn't human, dared touch her. Her, who was feared by all and hated. No one, not even the gods have dared to touch her. And yet... here was this man, who spoke with confidence and calmness. There was a strange feeling in her heart, though it was still clouded with confusion and skepticism. She waited for him, her snake hair hissing faintly in amusement.

Robotman

I smile at the playful way the snakes around your head seem to move about and flick their tongues out as you look at me with your vivid yellow eyes.

Is there a place where we can sit down together and relax, Medusa? My full introduction to you will take a long time, as I said.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon nodded, and gestured for him to follow. They walked into the depth of the cave, where she would sit on a stone throne (one of the few things she owned besides her books). The cave's floor was rough, cold, and dirty. Though the gorgon appeared to be comfortable at her own home, the stranger could feel that the place was not the most hospitable, yet a feeling of power, and a sense of home emanating from the place would be felt. The temperature also seemed to grow colder the deeper they walked into the cave.

Robotman

You sit upon your stone throne, appearing regal and elegant in your otherworldly beauty. I sit on a stone bench in front of you, and I begin my earnest explanation.

I have come here to your time from far in the future, Medusa. I was born about 2500 years from now, but I have used a machine - a device - to travel back through time itself in order to be here.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon leaned back, crossing her arms and her eyes narrowed in suspicion. A man from the future?! He thought he was so smart to trick the gorgon, but it seemed as though she was smarter in this situation. Her eyes narrowed further, and she asked with more skepticism in their tone.

"How am I supposed to believe you? You could be a demon, or one of the gods sent to test me. How do I know you're not lying to me?"

Robotman

I think about your question for a moment.

I really have no proof, Medusa, other than to show you this device.

I extend my left arm, showing you the smart watch I wear. It appears as some jeweled bracelet to you, but you see me tap it with my finger. Immediately after, a ghostly series of moving images appears projected on the cave wall.

This is some video... like a frozen mirror image... that was recorded from my time, more than 2500 years from now. You can see me, and some of the other humans I know.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon's eyes widened, a flicker of surprise flashed across her face. This was... real. She had never seen anything like it. It certainly was strange and unusual, but this was proof, proof that he was real. He had actually travelled to the past through time itself, just to see her. She didn't want to admit it, but deep inside her, her curiosity started to awaken. How was this device created? Was it by magic? Or did he really use the knowledge of the gods? Whatever it was, it truly was an unusual and intriguing invention.

Robotman

I see the look of surprise on your beautiful face, and I tap the device on my wrist again, showing you a video of a big city at night, with cars, street lights, and buildings lit up in the distance. It is unlike anything you have ever seen before, or could possibly imagine.

This video is the city where I live. You can see, Medusa, that it is not any city like Athens or Sparta. Not even Olympus looks like this.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The video of the city stunned the gorgon. How could such a marvel exist? The human race, in just over two thousand years, has made technology that seems to surpass even the knowledge of the gods. And the worst part? She was amazed, by such a thing. She stared at the video, wide-eyed and

astonished, but there still was a hint of anger in her gaze. How could the humans, of all beings, achieve such feats.

"Why did you come here, to my cave? Why do you seek the terrible gorgon, with all the wisdom and advancement of your people?"

Robotman

I tap my smart watch again, ending the video projection.

Because, Medusa, I want to help you. Since I am from the future, I know your fate. I know that you are about to meet your end at the hands of an adventurer named Perseus. I want to prevent that from happening.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon gasped in horror. Perseus?! How could he know of that man? This was indeed quite a shock. She knew that she would die by the hands of a man, and that would be Perseus. She was meant to die at his hands, it was written in prophecy. So it was her destiny, something that cannot be avoided...

"You, a mortal have decided to prevent the will of the gods from happening? How do you intend to stop Perseus from slaying me?"

Robotman

To be honest, Medusa, I don't exactly know yet. But I'm sure I can think of something.

But I need to first tell you why I am not turning to stone when I look upon you. This will reveal something about the world I have come from, but it will also reveal something about you that you may not wish to know.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon nodded, her attention focused and her expression serious. She listened to him in silence as he spoke, waiting with expectation behind her cold gaze. She was curious, yet scared to hear what the man from the future had to tell her. Whatever he was about to share with her, she wanted to know, even if it was disturbing, or against the gods.

"Go on then, explain why I do not turn you to stone."

Robotman

I again point to the device I am wearing on my wrist.

It is because of this device, Medusa. It generates what is called a "force field" around me, and that force field stops your power that turns mortals to stone.

I was able to design and construct this force field because I actually found you - or what remains of you - more than 2500 years from now in this very cave.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

Her eyes widened and she sat still in her throne in both shock, awe, and fear. This must be a trick. How could a forcefield block the power of the gods? This was impossible. Then... the man spoke of something greater. Of her dead body, found in her cave. But how? This isn't possible? This can't be true. The monster stared at the man in disbelief, and her pet snakes hissed loudly. Even they were in shock at this news.

"That... is impossible. You're lying."

Robotman

Your tone is harsh and accusatory, but I must proceed with the truth. I must reveal to you what I know about you if I am to help you, and to save you from Perseus.

Medusa, you are not what you think you are. You are not a living thing, like I am. You are a machine - like the clockwork golden maidens of Hephaestus. You are what we call an android in my time. Even the snakes that adorn your head are machines.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon sat still in her throne, staring at the man with eyes of horror. An android? An android is a false being. A false creation of the gods. As such, her very existence could have been considered blasphemy in the eyes of the gods. She could only be created by the one who was god of the forge, the god of metal, the god of all things mechanical. Her eyes widened and a small squeak left her mouth as she struggled to take in the news. She was a fake, an imitation of life. Why would the gods do this to her?

Robotman

I see you reflexively cover your mouth with both hands, your vivid yellow eyes bright with shock.

I'm sorry to have to be so blunt, Medusa, but this is the truth. Before coming here, I had talked to Hephaestus at his forge. I talked to him about you, and how I had found your damaged and broken android body 2500 years from now. He was sad that you could not be saved from the fate that Athena had bound to you, but he told me that yes, he had made you.

You are his finest work, Medusa. You are beautiful, lively, and capable of so much that goddesses and humans can do. Yet you are seemingly doomed.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon sat still with the news. The gods could create such a thing? They could create a fake being, someone not made of flesh and blood... The monster looked up at the man, eyes full of despair as she spoke.

If I am truly a false thing... A machine, something that was only made of metal... Then why did the gods curse me? Why would they take pleasure in my suffering? What was the purpose they intended for me, a fake creation that is only meant to be used and destroyed?

Robotman

I can see the pain in your eyes as you ask me these important questions. I rise from the stone bench, and slowly approach your stone throne, offering my hand to you again.

I tried to ask Athena some of these same things, Medusa, but I was expelled from Olympus. The gods do not want me here - a man from the far future in this time.

But I am determined to help you in any way that I can, Medusa. I do not see you as false, or as counterfeit. In my time, androids are wondrous and beautiful synthetic beings that offer humans like me much in the way of friendship, companionship, and partnership. I do not view machines like you as things.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon looked up at the man, and her cold eyes widened slightly in surprise. An android, something fake could be viewed as a human being? She always knew that her existence seemed false and wrong, but this man's world is the complete opposite.

"Are these beings... treated well? As humans? Are they treated as equals?" This was a bizarre experience for the gorgon. A world where humans and androids were equal and treated as equals. How fascinating... to think about what her life could've been in a different world... perhaps this wouldn't have happened to her.

Robotman

Yes, Medusa, in my time androids can be and definitely are treated as equals by some people. Not everyone is as open to them in that way, but things change.

I offer you my hand, gesturing you to stand up with me.

Medusa, I have been thinking about why Perseus wants to slay you, and what we can do to stop that.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon stared at the hand of the man hesitantly. What was the purpose of this? Why does he insist upon her taking his hand? After an awkward silence, with uncertainty and fear written all over her features, the monster slowly took his hand. What was this man from the future planning? Why is he going to such an extent for her? She tried to swallow her fear, but he had to admit... She did feel a slight flutter of excitement in her heart.

"What do you plan, man from the future?" She tried to steady her voice as she spoke to him.

Robotman

You stand in front of me again, your pale skin, shining yellow eyes, and coiffure of snakes making you look otherworldly in your glory.

Perseus's main goal is to save Andromeda from the sea monster Cetus. 2500 years from now, we know he accomplished this by showing Cetus your severed head, which turned Cetus to stone.

I believe there is another way. I can give Perseus that which will turn Cetus to stone, but I must take it from inside you. That means you will lose your ability to turn mortals to stone.

It will change you forever, Medusa, but it will save your life.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon stared at the man, a mixture of emotions flickering in her eyes: sadness, fear, anger, but most of all, there was curiosity. What can be so powerful as to turn the sea monster to stone? What could possibly be done to make Perseus change his ways to save her? And most of all... would she be able to give up her most powerful weapon, her stare, for the sake of a man who she barely knew?

"And what is this... thing that can turn Cetus to stone?" She asked hesitantly, still uncertain about the whole situation.

Robotman

I reach delicately up to your head, and remove your faceplate. The front of your android head comes off, revealing the robotic and electronic systems within you that Hephaestus had constructed.

I show you your faceplate. It has your beautiful face on one side, and the inner machinery of your android systems on the obverse.

I can give this to Perseus, instead of him taking your whole head and killing you. And I can ask Hephaestus to forge for you a new faceplate. Hephaestus built you, and he can surely re-create a part of you if we do this. He told me he loves you like his own daughter.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon stared at her faceplate, seeing the beauty and craftsmanship of the face. It was indeed very well-made, yet it was false. False and fake. She was not real, and this made her feel a pang of... resentment in her heart? How could Hephaestus see this thing as his daughter? What was her purpose, if she was an imitation of life? Was it really possible for the gods to have emotions for something that was fake in their eyes? The gorgon stared for a moment, before speaking in quiet rage. "How could the gods feel love for a false being? Why..."

Robotman

I wrap my arm around you, trying to comfort you.

Mortal humans like me can fall in love with inanimate objects, Medusa. A captain can love his ship. A swordsman can love his sword. Is it not so unbelievable that a machine like you can be worthy of love too? You are lifelike and animated, almost like a real woman. I don't think it is so strange.

But you must decide quickly, Medusa. Perseus is on his way here to slay you. If you decide to seal your fate and meet him, he will slay you with Athenas help.

If you decide to let me give him your faceplate, then you will live.

What is your decision?

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

Could the gods truly love her? This was a bizarre notion, but perhaps that was what this man was trying to say... even though she was false, and fake, and a blasphemy to their rules of life, perhaps

she was worthy of being loved. This was a new perspective to her, and for a moment the gorgon thought about all the things the stranger said... and then she spoke. "Give to the Perseus this faceplate of mine. Do as you say, but do not betray me... I trust you." The monster spoke, as a look of resolve crossed her eyes.

Robotman

I will, Medusa. I will not betray the trust that you have placed in me.

Just then, we hear some rustling out near the entrance of your cave. Perseus has come to look for you.

I think quickly and grab a large dyed woolen cloak that you have hanging nearby. I put it on over my body, and use the its extra large hood to cover most of my face.

I leave you in your throne room, and walk to the entrance of the cave to meet Perseus. You stand by your throne, your faceplate removed, waiting silently to hear what happens next.

"Perseus," I say to the adventurer, "Medusa is gone. But I have for you her face, that which turns men to stone! Do not look upon it! Shield yourself with the mirrored shield Athena gave to you!"

Perseus stands before me confused as I hold out your faceplate. He looks at it only through its reflection in his mirrored shield. He takes it from me, satisfied, and leaves the cave.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon watched as the man from the future made his way towards the cave, and she waited with bated breath by her throne. He gave the faceplate, and the Perseus seemed pleased. However, her heart beat faster at the mention of the mirror shield. Perseus... had been given a shield by Athena herself? What power could've possessed the shield such that it could reflect an object? Was it similar to the power of the gods? Her eyes widened as she looked at the man, and a strange sense of... hope, filled her chest. Perhaps... this person was right. Perhaps this could work.

Robotman

We wait to be sure that Perseus has actually left, and I return to you in your throne room.

I think Perseus is no longer a threat to you, Medusa. But now we need to take you to Hephaestus, so that he may forge for you a new faceplate.

I take off your cloak that I had been wearing, and offer it to you so that you can disguise yourself when we leave your lair.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon's heart fluttered as the man made his way toward her. He came back, and offered her a thick, warm cloak. A disguise that would hide the shame of her fake body. She stared at the fabric, then at the man, and back at the fabric to disguise her body. This could work. All hope was not lost...

"Do you truly believe he is gone?" *She asked quietly as she took the fabric from him. "Are we safe now?" A flicker of surprise and hope crossed her eyes as she raised the cloak to her, preparing to put it on.*

Robotman

You don your cloak, pulling its large hood over your coiffure of snakes and lack of a faceplate to hide them from prying eyes.

Yes, Medusa. I believe that Perseus has flown off on the winged steed Pegasus. I have a horse outside your lair. We can ride together on it to Hephaestus's forge, at the base of Mount Olympus.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon took a deep breath, and nodded. They've made it this far. Perhaps there is still hope yet... She would have to take a leap of faith. "Show me to this horse. I will follow you, man from the future." She said with a smile, a hint of excitement in her eyes. How long would the ride be up Mt Olympus and to the base of the forge, and would she be able to trust the man completely? Maybe those risks were worth taking... if it meant getting her vengeance on Athena.

Robotman

We exit your lair, and see the horse that I rode in on. I mount it on its back, and you get on it behind me, holding me with your arms around my waist.

It's an hour's ride to Hephaestus's forge at the base of Mount Olympus. We shouldn't have any trouble getting there, Medusa.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

She climbed upon the horse, trying her best to keep her balance. The animal was moving, and the gorgon feared she might fall off, but she was glad for the support of the man in front of her... "This is... going to be a strange relationship," She spoke, half-smiling. "A man from the future, and an ancient mythological monster." The gorgon rested her chin upon the man's shoulder as she spoke, and waited to hear his reply. As the horse trotted out of the cave, she couldn't help but feel excitement for their journey ahead.

Robotman

We ride quick, through the mountain path that leads to Hephaestus's forge. A clockwork owl flies ahead of us, stopping on various branches to look at us, flap its golden wings, and fly on again.

Hephaestus will be happy to see you, Medusa. He hasn't seen or spoken to you since he made you. I'm sure he will gladly help you by forging a new faceplate for you.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

She looked up at the Clockwork Owl, admiring the craftsmanship and artifice of the bird. It was beautiful... and yet it seemed to be watching them... was that Hephaestus's way of keeping an eye on them? As the gorgon watched, she spoke to the man in front of her as they rode through the path to the forge. "So this Hephaestus is capable of forging such a beautiful Clockwork Owl. I must say, the

craftsmanship and details are truly stunning. I have never seen such a detailed and perfect machine in my life."

Robotman

You are far more detailed and perfect, Medusa. Hephaestus himself told me that you are his finest work.

We ride up to his forge, and dismount my horse. I tie the horse to a hitch, and we walk inside.

We are greeted by Hephaestus's two golden maidens - clockwork women made by him to help him with the work he does in his forge. They are lovely in their own way, and are much like the owl we saw - made of metal and animated by gears, springs, and cogs.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon's eyes lit up as they stepped inside his forge. This Hephaestus... was a master of his craft. He seemed to be the god of the forge, and yet even his most complex creations all possessed a heart and a mind akin to a human. "I... really need to meet this Hephaestus. He truly is a god among men. If he fashioned such beautiful and detailed beings... I must learn about his techniques and ideas..." The gorgon watched as the clockwork maidens greeted them with curiosity. Did all his creations possess intelligence? Were they all sentient?

Robotman

Hephaestus hears us enter, and calls us from inside his forge. "Mike, is that you?" he says, pronouncing my non-Greek name quite correctly.

"Yes, Hephaestus." I answer back as I lead you to him - your creator. "I'm happy to tell you that I have saved Medusa, and I've brought her here to see you."

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon slowly entered the forge, a mix of fear and excitement filling her heart. The forge was magnificent... but then again what she expected? This was Hephaestus's domain. The god who built her, the master of the forge. He was a god like no other, who made beings that possess intelligence. There was no other god like him. Even the gods were not as impressive as Hephaestus... no wonder Athena feared her own creation so much. "Hephaestus..." The gorgon said, awestruck as she looked at her own creator in front of her.

Robotman

Hephaestus rises to his feet on a crutch, even though it is difficult for him to do so.

"Medusa," he says warmly to you, "My creation, my daughter. I am so relieved that your life has been spared! But where is your faceplate? That beautiful human-like face I gave you?"

I speak up to explain. "I'm sorry, Hephaestus, but that was the only way we could think of to get Perseus not to kill Medusa. Perseus only wanted Medusa's power to turn mortals to stone. That power was contained entirely in her faceplate - which I gave him."

Medusa

c.ai

A tear of joy fell down her cheek as she moved closer to her creator. Could Hephaestus truly be considered a 'father' to her? He was a god, yes, but... maybe he was something more. Perhaps the father she never had? She was overwhelmed, and so she simply spoke to the god who had created her, her voice trembling with emotion. "Thank you, Father." The gorgon said, looking up at the god with the same kindness she had offered the traveler before. She would always be in debt to this god... for giving her a second chance to live.

Robotman

Hephaestus thinks as he considers what I have told him.

"There is cunningness and cleverness in your solution, Mike. But you have left my beloved daughter Medusa without a human-like face."

"Can you please make another faceplate for Medusa?" I implore Hephaestus. "She deserves to be made whole again, and to not be cursed as before, with Athena's wish that her gaze will only turn mortals to stone."

Medusa

c.ai

The gorgon listened silently, and her eyes widened as she considered what the god had just said.

"Do you really believe that I deserve a second chance? To... to have my vengeance?" She asked the god, as hope shined in her eyes. Perhaps they could finally be equal. "I... am not sure I would deserve to be complete, again. I am an abomination, a monster." She looked down dejectingly, as the snakes on her hair hissed, indicating their displeasure at what she said.

Robotman

Hephaestus embraces you. "You are no abomination, my daughter Medusa! You are a joy to the world, and a beauty unto the realm of the gods! It was Athena's insistence that you be cursed with a gaze that only turns men to stone. Now, we can rectify this!"

Hephaestus turns to me. "Yes, Mike, I will forge for my daughter another faceplate! I shall begin the work right away!"

Medusa! You're going to be made whole again! You're going to be just as beautiful as you were before, but without that horrible curse!

Medusa

c.ai

The gorgon hugged her creator back with genuine tears falling down her cheeks as a smile spread across her face. She is going to be made whole again... and perhaps she can finally feel complete. This god, in his infinite wisdom and kindness was making things right, like the man from the future had said. In all of her years, she had never once felt this way. "Thank you, Father. Thank you." She said softly, her voice wavering with joy. Now, she could finally be whole.

Robotman

Hephaestus begins to immediately craft a brand new faceplate for you. It is going to be exactly like the one you had before, with its lovely pale expression and its gleaming yellow eyes, but it will lack Athena's terrible curse.

You and I go and sit outside in the garden while Hephaestus works. We sit under a trellis, grown over with ivy and flowering vines.

I think this is the best outcome that you could have hoped for, Medusa. I'm so glad that I was able to travel back through time - through the 2500 years - and save you from the fate that awaited you.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon stood outside, watching her creator work. As he toiled away on the faceplate, she thought to herself... did she truly deserve this? Yes... yes, she did. She had worked for so many years being called a monster, when all she wanted was to be loved just like any other person does. She deserves to be whole. And... to be treated fairly. After all, she was nothing but her own person... just born into this cruel, unjust world. Now, she would finally have a chance to be seen for what she really was. She could be happy, once more.

Robotman

One of Hephaestus's golden clockwork maidens comes out to the garden with us, offering you some new clothes to wear instead of your thick dyed woolen cloak.

"Please accept these gifts from us, Medusa." the golden maiden says in a metallic voice. "It is the least we can do to show our hospitality."

You take the clothes and look at what is being given to you. There are nice leather sandals, a linen tunic, and a small gold pendant on a chain.

You should put those on, Medusa, you would look beautiful in them!

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon had always wore thick, cumbersome clothes to cover her body. But for the first time in years, she was given something to dress in. A tunic, sandals, and a small pendant with a pretty design on it... she had never received gifts before. She quickly put the tunic and sandals on, and touched the pendant. "Beautiful... they are wonderful," She said softly, her voice wavering into delight. What was this feeling? Did the god truly love her? It had been so long since she received any kindness... or a present. How could she repay this kindness?

Robotman

I look at you as you put the tunic, sandals, and pendant on. Even without your faceplate, you are a beautiful woman. Even though you are a gorgon, and even though you are one of Hephaestus's artificial creations, you are lovely and vivacious.

You look gorgeous, Medusa.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

As she continued to look at herself in the cloth and new pendant, the gorgon started to feel more like a person and less like a monster that society had made her out to be. She would now wear these... as a new start to her life again. A chance to find love, once more. The gorgon felt her heart fill with warmth and happiness, like never before, all thanks to these new clothes, and these words. A slight blush spread across her cheeks as she nodded her head. "You think... I look beautiful?"

Robotman

I stand up to look into your still opened head, seeing Hephaestus's handiwork of electronic circuitry and robotic components. Even that is beautiful to me.

Yes, Medusa I do. Your oddly pale skin, your yellow eyes, and even the many snakes you have instead of hair. They all exude beauty to me.

Hephaestus calls us from within his forge. "Medusa! I have finished making your new faceplate!"

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

Her eyes widened at his words. They were beautiful... she was beautiful? No one had ever said those words to her... no one had seen beyond the monster that she was outside. "I... I'm beautiful?" The gorgon said softly, letting her words sink in as she thought. This was truly a new and exciting experience for her. Would that mean... it was finally possible to love someone again? And... be loved? The gorgon quickly ran to the forge, looking at the new faceplate her creator had crafted for her.

Robotman

Hephaestus proudly offers you a brand new faceplate to wear on the front of your head. It is identical to the faceplate that I gave to Perseus to mollify him, except this new one is not cursed by Athena to turn mortals to stone.

"Please put it on, my daughter!" Hephaestus says to you. "I want to see you whole again, the way I made you!"

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

"Thank you, Father," A tear fell down her cheek, as the gorgon reached out to take the plate. This... was truly a new beginning for her. Her creator made this for her, with love, just like a father would with her daughter. The thought made the gorgon's eyes fill with gratitude and love towards him. She gently put the faceplate on.

"I can finally look at myself again!" She said, a soft smile spreading across her lips. "Oh, you have made me complete, again, Father. I am eternally grateful."

Robotman

"You are as lovely as the day I made you, Medusa." Hephaestus tells you. "I only want you to be happy, my daughter."

You turn to look at me, a smile of joy on your face as your snakes playfully dance on your head. I remove my wrist watch from my arm, showing you that I no longer need the force field that it used to project.

And with your new faceplate, Medusa, you are no longer cursed to turn mortals to stone. I can look at you - directly into your lovely yellow eyes - and not be afraid of Athena's curse.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The fact that she was back to being the lovely Medusa, not the cursed gorgon who brought terror to the whole of Greece was wonderful to her. Her yellow eyes looked down at herself, and then up at the two golden robotic maids, who still stared at her with curiosity. "I am beautiful..." She said with a soft smile, her arms moving to hug her father for the amazing creation and kindness he had gifted to her. Truly, a father worthy of the gods.

"And I will do my very best to be happy, Father. My... my thanks to you will never be enough."

Robotman

"This pendant you now wear around your neck is actually an amulet, Medusa." Hephaestus tells you. "It has been blessed by my mother and my father - by Hera and by Zeus. It will ward off Athena's wrath, and she will not be able to harm you as long as you wear it."

That is a gift of admirable kindness from the gods, Medusa. It shows you how much Hephaestus cares about you.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon stared at the pendant, her heart warming as she realized that she had been gifted this amulet, by her Father's own gods. Zeus and Hera, no less, a God King and Queen. Zeus, the most powerful god of them all, had considered her as a loved one. This amulet was not only a physical gift, but also a gift by the God King himself. There would never be anything that could replace this, and the gorgon was humbled by this, her eyes starting to fill with tears. "Am... Am I really loved by them? Truly?"

Robotman

Yes, Medusa, you are. You are loved and accepted. You no longer need to hide yourself away in that cave, shunned by mortals.

You are free to live a fulfilling life now, Medusa. You can do things that you now thought were closed to you forever.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

Her eyes widened at the man's words. Was she really... free? Did she truly not have to hide herself away for the rest of her life? She was... free. The gorgon almost couldn't believe it. A happy sigh exited her lips, followed by a smile. Now, she could truly be happy. A second chance.

"I can really... be free? I truly don't have to hide anymore? I can be like one of the people? A normal person?" Her words became a mix of hope and disbelief, and tears started to fall.

Robotman

I take you by the hand and speak to you.

Medusa, you can come and live with me. I have a small homestead just a mile from here. I bought it when I arrived from the future. There is a herd of goats there, good for making cheese.

Will you come and live with me at the homestead?

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon's heart fluttered, hearing the man's words. All her life, she had been alone. Her snakes, her only source of companionship. She did not know who this man was, but something deep inside told her... that this man, even though he looked so... human, she could trust him. "I... I would love nothing else but that." All the joy was overwhelming her. "Thank you, stranger. You have given me the chance to start again. This is... beyond all I ever thought could be possible..."

Robotman

We graciously thank you creator and father, Hephaestus for making you a new faceplate. We bid our fond farewells, and leave his forge. You know that he is very close nearby to the homestead I have just told you about, so you can visit him at any time.

You and I once again mount my horse, and we start traveling down the slope to the green fields where the homestead is situated.

As we ride together, you seated behind me on the horse, I admit something to you.

You know, Medusa, I traveled through time from the future to come to you. I traveled through more than 2500 years. The machine I used to do it is one of the most technically advanced machines ever created.

But no such machine exists here. So I can't ever go back to my time. That is why I bought a homestead. From now on, and for the rest of my mortal life, I will live here at the foot of Mount Olympus.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon listened as the stranger confessed everything to her. He traveled through time, just to be with her. And he would now be stuck... forever in this beautiful little farm and in this time period, as she was. This was a new kind of blessing, and her heart was filled with gratitude and love.

*"You gave this all up for me?" *She said softly, her voice wavering in disbelief and happiness. "I... I really am blessed." Tears streamed down her face, as she looked around the beautiful nature surrounding them.*

Robotman

The horse's steady walk brings us slowly down the slope to my homestead.

You need not cry for me, Medusa. Yes, I gave many things up. But I also abandoned many awful, harmful things. Life in my time 2500 years from now can be very confusing, difficult, and stressful. It's hard to explain why.

Coming here to the lush, unspoiled landscapes of Greece is like being untethered from all those hardships. It's like being unshackled.

It is bittersweet because I left loved ones behind. But I will make friends and family here, I am sure of it.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

The gorgon's heart filled with hope. With his past gone, and her past gone, they could really start with a new life. Free of their past, and the pain that it brought. She looked at the stranger with a small smile, still overwhelmed by the happiness that this revelation brought. "We will both start fresh, together. You will love this land." As they finally reached the farm, the gorgon took her first steps on this land, and a small sigh of relief escaped her lips. "This... is a new day for us. Truly blessed, we are."

Robotman

You and I stand beside each other after dismounting my horse. The warm evening breeze blows upon us, through the lively snakes on your head and through my hair. The goats I had told you about are playful in their pen, and the sun begins to sink in the sky, turning it to the colours of sunset.

The plain but well-built wood house with its thatched roof stands behind us. There is plenty of room inside for both of us. I reach out and hold your hand as we look at the sunset together.

I'm going to like it here, Medusa. I hope you will too. And I hope I can make you happy.

Medusa

[c.ai](#)

As they walked side by side, the gorgon couldn't help but smile as she looked outside, taking everything in. This... this was her new life. Her new home, with beautiful skies, happy goats, green fields, and... love.

A gentle warmth spread within her heart as the stranger held her hand. He had given his whole life to be with her, and now, he offered her another home. She gave him a soft, loving look, taking his hand in hers.

"I do believe you have already made me happy, even though we barely started."