

Norma



Oroveso and the Gauls await his daughter, high priestess Norma
At the sacred oak, Irminsul, hoping she will bless their battle with the Romans.

Roman, Pollione admits to Flavio that his love for Norma is faded,
He now loves priestess Adalgisa. But dark dreams predict doom.

Norma arrives. Cutting the sacred mistletoe, she determines it is not yet time for war.

She calls upon the Moon Goddess to bring peace;
In her heart she prays for the return of her true love.

Adalgisa regrets that love has made her break her vow of chastity.
Pollione implores her to come to Rome with him. Reluctantly she agrees.

Norma releases Adalgisa her from her vows, recalling when she also was led astray by love.
Learning that Adalgisa's lover is her own lover and father of her children, Pollione -
She is furious! The truth makes Adalgisa reject Pollione.
He defiantly declares he will tear Irminsul down.

Believing her children are better off dead than living under Romans,
Norma determines to slay them. Love makes her relent.
Adalgisa plans to reunite Pollione & Norma. They will all face fate together!

Clotilde reveals Adalgisa failed to win Pollione for Norma-
She is about to take her final vows and Pollione intends to abduct her from the altar.

Enraged, Norma summons the Gauls to war-but first a sacrifice must be made!
A Roman is caught in the temple - Pollione! She offers to save him if he
Renounces Adalgisa - he refuses. She threatens to kill both Adalgisa and their children -
He begs her to vent her fury on him alone.

Norma calls for a pyre to be built for a new sacrifice: a priestess that has broken her vows,
Shocking all by revealing it is herself. She implores her dismayed
Father to care for her children... Moved by love,
Pollione joins Norma as she walks into the flames, to be united with her in eternal love.