Euripides' *Alcestis*: A Tragi-Comedy

I. *Alcestis* as a Comedy-- External Evidence

II. Comic (?) Elements within the Play
   A. Death as the Heavy
   B. The Wrestling Match
   C. The Drunken Heracles
   D. The Quarrel
   E. The Statue

III. The Riddle of Being and Not-Being

IV. Mythological Background of Alcestis—Who *Are* These Guys?
   A. Admetis
      1. Apollo and Admetis
      2. *a-damatos* (unconquerable)
      3. *poly-xeinos* (all-welcoming)
   B. Alcestis
      1. Daughter of Pelias
      2. *alk-estia* (strength of the hearth)
   C. Their Marriage
      1. Yoking
      2. Snakes in the Bridal Chamber
      3. Son: Eumelos (beautiful melody), the horseman (*Iliad* XXIII)

V. Love and Death/ Comedy and Tragedy