

Heroes, Gods, and Goddesses

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Theseus

- Theseus son of Aegus.
- Killed the minotaur.
- Page 55 shows plate picture depicting Theseus doing labours.
- Theseus did justice, the exact amount of justice you deserve.
- Only temples in Athens, not worshipped elsewhere.
- Either Theseus or Heracles (Hercules) (who were together) captured Antiope, who fell in love with Theseus. People were angry and sieged Athens and Antiope died.

What is a hero?

- Character traits of heroes are:
 - Deeds of strength and courage
 - Sometimes a son of a God and mortal
 - Worshipped after death as chthonic deity with libations
 - Hero, Heracles, became a God.
- Chthonic deity, is under the ground. Worshipped through libations (pouring a liquid, usually wine or olive oil, into the ground). With the Olympic gods you sacrifices were burned and the smoke rose into the sky.
- 3 basic themes of hero myths:
 - 1) War
 - 2) Search or quest
 - 3) Labours feats of strength or courage.

Pre-Trojan War Myths: Thebes

Oedipus and the Sphinx

Seven Against Thebes

- After Oedipus realises he has married his mother, and had kids. He gets his sons to rule jointly, rotating who is king. One son decides he doesn't want to give up his throne, attacks city.
- Return of the Seven

Search of Quest Myth: Jason and the Argonauts

- Divine association
- Jason sets out in the Argo, one plank was made of Zeus' tree, so it has the power of prophesy.
- When they reach the fleece, Jason realizes he has no chance of getting this, so the gods interfere and he eventually gets it after all this complex shit and man this TA talks fast.
- Centaur. A good centaur Chiron was a tutor to Jason, who represents the two key elements: civilization (man half) and the uncivilized world (horse bit).
- The golden fleece belonged to a fly ram.
- The Argo is a ship, means swift. Fleece is in Colchis. Jason sailed from Thessaly to Colchis.

Heracles: Labour #1: Nemean Lions

- Son of Zeus

- 12 labours (see page 152-3)
- Herakles strangled it with the help of Athena.
- Wears a pelt of a lion after defeating it.

Stymphalian Birds

- In the Peloponnese
- Really popular God after he became one. Especially in Peloponnese
- Possible meaning has to do with Mycenae water management (the birds lived in swamp which may symbolise purification of swamp water)

Cerberus

- Eurythesus king of Tiryns
- Cerberus dog of Hades
- Neck of water jug named hydria. (page 153)
- Hera put Heracles in a fit of rage and he kills 6 of his sons. He goes to the Delphic oracle who sends him to Eurythesus king of Tiryns who sends him on the 12 feats.
- Heracles becomes a god when he has successfully completed his 12 feats.
- Worshipped everywhere, especially in Peloponnese, where many of his feats took place.
- No major temples, only small altars

Hesiod: Theogony

- Primary source of gods
- Generation of the gods
- Anthropomorphic
- Mt. Olympus home of the Olympian Gods, it is not Olympia!! Completely different places.

Who are the Olympus Gods and Goddesses?

- 12 gods and goddesses (Zeus, Hera, Poseidon, Demeter, Athena, Artemis, Apollo, Aphrodite, Hermes, H, Ares, Hestia)
- Dionysus not O.G.
- Hades: chthonic
- Hestia often not included even though she O.G.
- Pan: never included.

Gods and Goddesses

- Zeus: sky god, attribute: thunderbolt, sacred tree: oak, sacred bird: eagle. King of Gods, his major sanctuary is in Olympia. One of the ancient wonders of the world. (page 13).
- Hera: sister and wife of Zeus. Goddess of marriage, seen as mother of Gods. M. Sanctuary in Olympia, Argos, Samos (page 13) and page 146
- Ares and Hephaistos: sons of Zeus and Hera.
- Ares: God of war, most scornful of all the gods. No one likes him :(He has no major sanctuaries :(
- Hephaistos: God of craftsmanship, forge, metallurgy, lame god (limp). Hera cast him out of Olympus when he was born. Made Achilles' armour. Shares Athena's sanctuary overlooking the Athenian Agora in Athens.
- Hestia... Not always considered to be one of the 12 o. Sister of Zeus and Hera goddess of hearth, household, she is the prytaneoin. Every Greek city has a town hall with an eternal flame which represented Hestia.
- Poseidon: sea, horses, earthquakes. Brother of Zeus, Hera, Hestia. Linear B referenced a lot in it, Ruler of the sea. Attribute trident. Dolphin or hippocampus pulled carriage. Major temple

in Cape Sounion (just south of Athens)

- Hades: underworld. Brother of Zeus and Poseidon. Not an Olympian god (since he lives under the ground he is chthonic. Not that popular, no major sanctuaries either. Cerberus is his 3 headed dog.
- Hades (Pluto) and Persephone (daughter of Demeter). He fell in love with Persephone and kidnapped her, brought her to the underworld. Demeter came looking for and they have a truce and Hades and Persephone marry, who can leave for 6 months... This is why we have our seasons. When Persephone is with Hades, Demeter is so upset she can't grow stuff.
- Demeter (page 147) Mother of P. Goddess of Vegetation, agriculture, attribute: wheat, torch (looking for p)
- Apollo (page 149): Light, music, prophecy. Temple at Delphi, Delos, Didyma. Son of Zeus. Page 145. Attributes, bow, lyre, tripod. Tree laurel (Daphne tree, sometimes).
- Myth of Apollo and Daphne. Apollo loafs D, she hates him run away. One of the gods turned her into a laurel tree so she can escape Apollo. (page 13).
- Artemis: sister of Apollo, bow, goddess of hunting, childbirth (page 101; not breasts, maybe eggs, no one knows). Different versions of Artemis. We want to know Artemis of Ephesos is the one we want to know (page 13).
- Hermes: messenger of the gods. Thieves, commerce, athletes. Conducting souls to the underworld. Caduceus (the wand in his hand). He doesn't have temples, he has herms (altars with a head and an erect penis).
- Aphrodite (Venus): Born when her father was castrated and thrown in the ocean, and the foam created Venus. Love, not really true... More like sexual attraction/desire.
- Aphrodite, Eros, Pan:
 - Wife of Hephaistos.
 - Lover of Ares
 - Mother of Eros (Love; like Cupid)
 - Pan: man/goat, non-Olympian minor god usually of Shepards, accompanied by nymphs. (page 151)
- Athena: warrior goddess (page 130, 17) amphora (water jug with Athena and her shield)
- Athena daughter of Zeus and Metis (wisdom) afraid of smarter kid. He swallows Metis whole, this is why he considered to be wise (cause he ate Metis). He gets headaches and Dionysus gets him drunk and Hephaistos whacks him on the head and Athena jumps out.
- Arts and crafts, symbolized by the owl and olive tree
- Parthenon: Athena Parthenos (virgin goddess).
- Dionysus: wine, theatre, good times. Wears an ivy crown, non Olympian. Kantharos (mug; drinking cup), panther skin tied around his neck.
- Often with maenads (drunk and ripping live animals to people) and satyrs (sexual, musical and dancing creatures).
- Dion's mother was Semele. Hera found out Zeus got a lady preggo again, so she disguised herself as one of Semeles friend and convinced her that Zeus was not the father. Semele kept asking Zeus to go in god form which caused her to burn, but he saved fetus Dion and sewed him to his thigh and Dion is ready in two months
- Page 149, Hermes with baby Dionysus (identified from description by Pausanias).
- Lame Heph returns to Olympus by constructing a throne for his Mom (Hera). She got stuck to the throne, they sent for Hephaistos and he eventually got back to Olympus and he told them how to free Hera.