

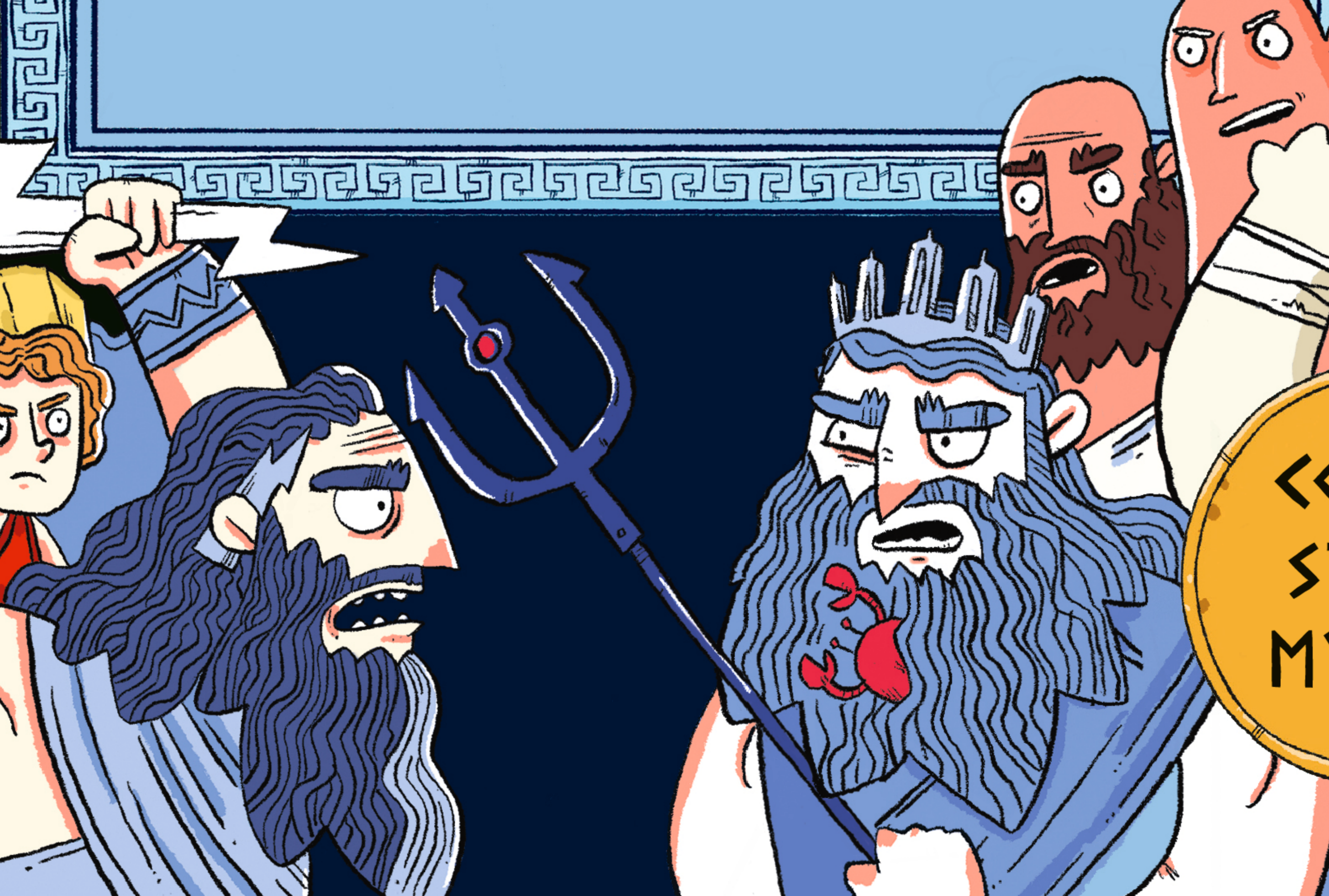


MYTHS, MONSTERS  
AND MAYHEM

IN

# ANCIENT GREECE

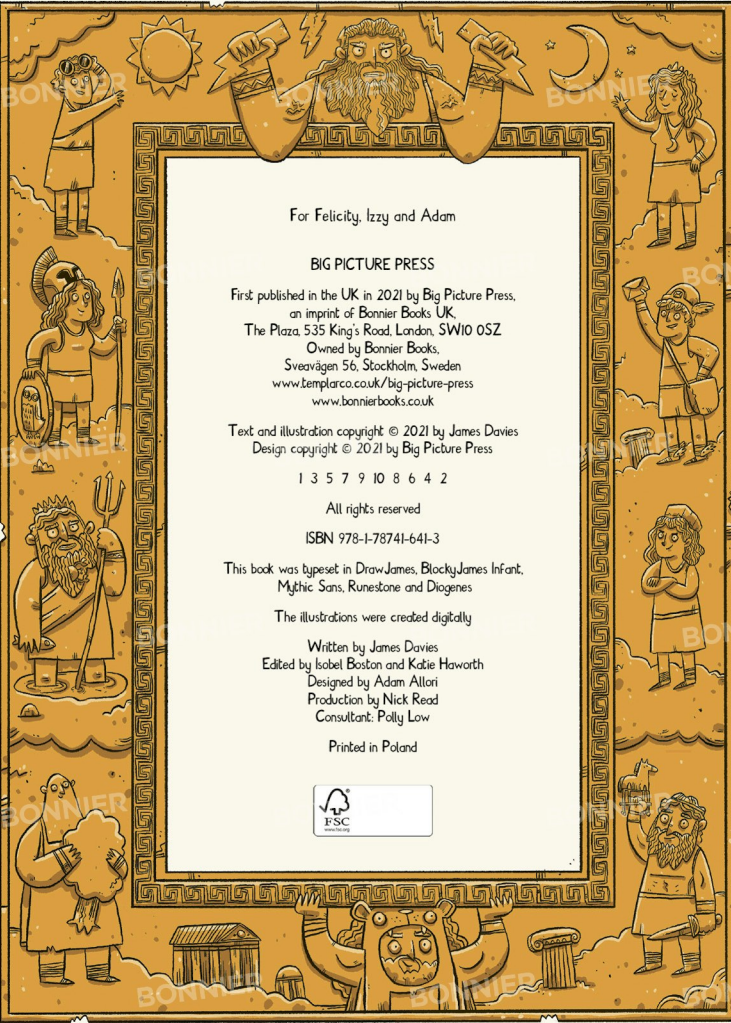
JAMES DAVIES



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For Felicity, Izzy and Adam

BIG PICTURE PRESS

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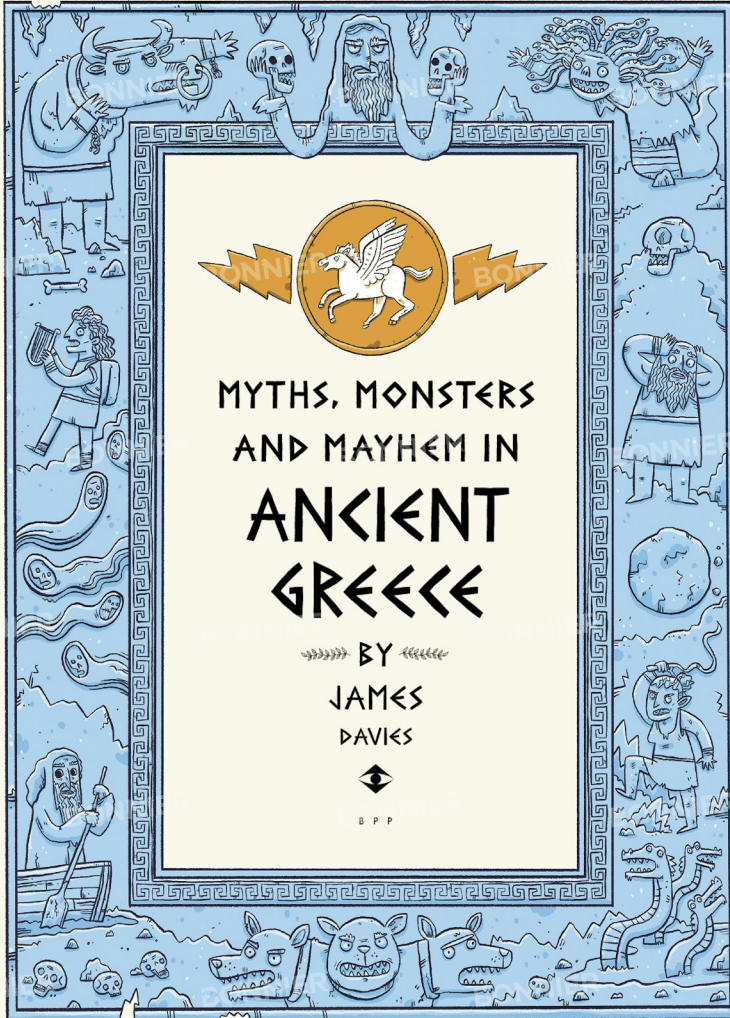
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BY

JAMES  
DAVIES



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# TABLE OF

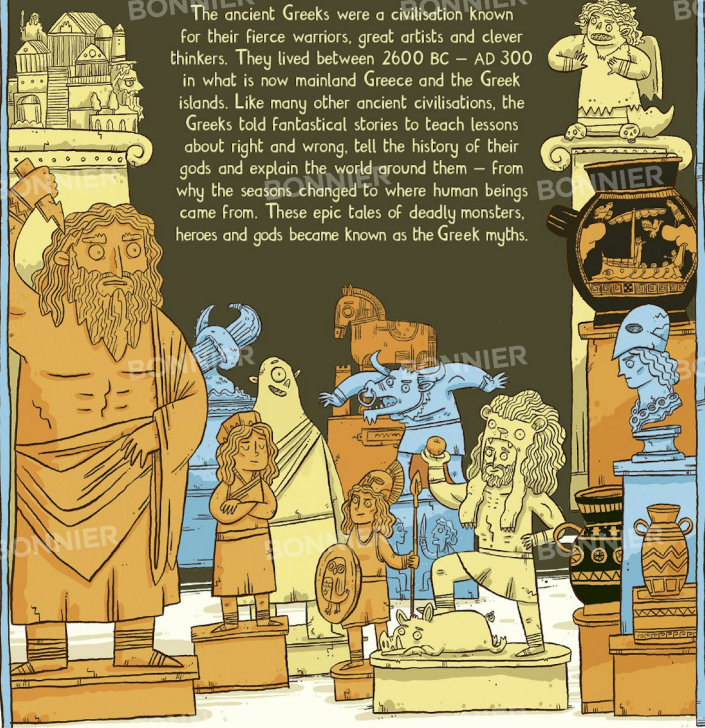


# KONTENTS

WHAT ARE THE GREEK MYTHS? P8	CHAOS AND CREATION P10	MEET THE GREEK GODS P12	PANDORA'S BOX P14	HOW THE GREEK MYTHS EXPLAINED THE WORLD P20	THESEUS AND THE MINOTAUR P22	CHIRON'S GALLERY OF HEROES AND HEROINES P28	PERSEUS AND MEDUSA P30	MYTHICAL CREATURES AND DEADLY BEASTS P36	ORPHEUS AND EURYDIKE P38	A JOURNEY THROUGH THE GREEK UNDERWORLD P44	THE TROJAN HORSE P46	THE HAND OF FATE P52	THE TWELVE LABOURS OF HERACLES P54	A MYTHIC MAP OF ANCIENT GREECE P60
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# WHAT ARE THE GREEK MYTHS?

The ancient Greeks were a civilisation known for their fierce warriors, great artists and clever thinkers. They lived between 2600 BC – AD 300 in what is now mainland Greece and the Greek islands. Like many other ancient civilisations, the Greeks told fantastical stories to teach lessons about right and wrong, tell the history of their gods and explain the world around them – from why the seasons changed to where human beings came from. These epic tales of deadly monsters, heroes and gods became known as the Greek myths.



# SO WHO WERE THE ANCIENT GREEKS?

The Greeks developed one of the most influential civilisations in the ancient world. Surrounded by the sea, they became wealthy through trade and built impressive cities and grand temples to honour their many gods. It was an innovative society – they founded the first democracy, built the first theatres and held the first Olympic Games! Even today, their culture still influences our everyday lives.

The ancient Greeks were wonderful craftsmen and created many beautiful things – including brightly painted sculptures of their gods and goddesses. Ancient Greece is also well known for its pottery, with intricate patterns and paintings decorating the clay. These works often tell the stories of the Greek myths, and give us valuable clues into what Greek life was like.

Greek myths were originally passed around by word of mouth. The famous poet Homer is known for his epic poems about the Trojan War – *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. To keep a record of their history, teachings and stories for future generations, the Greeks developed their own alphabet. Today, their tales of brave heroes and impossible quests still captivate readers around the world.



# CHAOS AND CREATION

Every culture has a creation story about how the world began, and the ancient Greeks were no different. Here is the wild and chaotic story of how the Greeks believed the world came into being.

Before the world began, there was only chaos. Out of this swirling void came the first beings.



Together, Gaia and Uranus brought many unusual children into the world.



Gaia loved her little monsters, so full of energy and heads. Uranus felt a little differently – he feared the cyclopes and the hecatoncheires.



So he cast them into the fiery pits of Tartarus, the Underworld.

Gaia was mortified. She asked one of her Titan sons, Kronos, to take care of her mean husband.



Kronos was only too happy to help. He chased down his father with a scythe (a weapon with a curved blade) and took Uranus's crown.



Kronos and his wife, Rhea, took to their thrones. Kronos enjoyed being in charge and they quickly settled into royal life.



But Kronos was afraid. He'd heard a prophecy that one of his children would overthrow him – just as he had done to his own father. So, naturally, he started to eat them.



Kronos ate and ate and ate. Soon, he needed a nap. Disgusted with her husband's actions, Rhea saw her opportunity and swapped her youngest child, Zeus, for a rock.



While Kronos tucked into his next course, the queen fled with baby Zeus hidden under her cloak.



Rhea took Zeus to Mount Ida, and hid him in the mountain's deep, dark caves.



There the young god grew up brave and strong.



He grew clever. He grew a giant bushy beard.



And together, Zeus and Rhea plotted to overthrow Kronos.



On his return to Mount Olympus, Zeus disguised himself as a servant and presented Kronos with a delicious glass of wine.



Of course, the wine was poisoned. Zeus watched as Kronos vomited up all of his brothers and sisters. It was a very smelly family reunion.



Kronos was furious, but young Zeus had all the rage of a lightning storm. Zeus rolled his brothers and sisters and together they declared war on their father. For ten long years the world shook as gods, Titans, monsters and giants fought in brutal combat. This epic series of battles became known as Titanomachy.



At last, the dust settled on a battleground full of giant bodies and moaning monsters. It was over. Zeus had won. Kronos was captured and imprisoned in the Underworld.



Zeus shared the world with his friends. He rewarded those who had been loyal to him...



...and punished his enemies. The Titan, Atlas, was forced to hold the sky up on his shoulders for all eternity.



The gods returned to the peace and beauty of their home on Mount Olympus. From their golden city they sat back to watch the world flourish – and to occasionally meddle in the lives of humankind.



## MEET THE

The ancient Greeks believed that many gods and goddesses watched over them from their palace above Mount Olympus, the tallest mountain in Greece. In many ways the gods behaved a bit like humans – they fell in love, married and often argued – but they were also very powerful and lived forever.



## GREEK GODS

The Greeks believed that their gods controlled every aspect of their lives and they built many impressive temples where they left the gods offerings of money, flowers or even food. There were 12 main gods and goddesses who lived on Mount Olympus – let's meet them...



### ZEUS

The King of the Gods, and god of thunder and the skies. Zeus was famous for throwing thunderbolts at anyone who disobeyed him.



### HERA

Hera, Queen of the Gods and wife of Zeus, was the goddess of marriage and children. She had a terrible temper – when she failed to win a beauty contest, she helped the Greeks destroy a whole city (946).



### ATHENA

Goddess of wisdom and war, Athena was known to help heroes who found themselves in dangerous situations. The capital city of Greece, Athens, is named after her.



### DIONYSUS

Dionysus was the god of the grape harvest, wine, festivity and theatre. Wine was an important part of ancient Greek life and was often used in religious ceremonies.



### APHRODITE

Aphrodite was the beautiful goddess of love. She wore a magical golden belt that made people fall in love with her.



### POSEIDON

Poseidon was the god of the sea. He carried a big fork called a trident and could send storms and earthquakes near anyone who annoyed him!



### HEPHAESTUS

Hephaestus was the god of fire and sculpture. He forged weapons and armour for the gods and goddesses of Mount Olympus. His wife was the beautiful goddess, Aphrodite.



### DEMETER

Demeter, the goddess of the harvest, controlled the grains and crops that fed the people of ancient Greece.



### ARES

The bloodthirsty god of war, Ares, was known for his quick temper and violent outbursts. He was always getting into trouble and wasn't the most popular god on Mount Olympus...



### ARTEMIS

Artemis was the goddess of hunting and was very skilled at archery. She cared for the natural world and protected wild animals.



### APOLLO

Apollo was the twin brother of Artemis. He was the god of light and healing, and a famous shrine was built to honour him in the city state of Delphi.



### HERMES

Hermes was the light-footed messenger of the gods. He was able to travel between the mortal world and Mount Olympus, delivering news and guidance.

# PANDORA'S BOX

In the beginning, the Earth was a beautiful, but very quiet place. The only sounds were the croaking of the toads and the wind whistling through the trees.

The only living creatures were the Titans, the children of the gods Gaia and Uranus.

From his home on Mount Olympus, Zeus watched over Earth. But Zeus was not content – he felt that something was missing. So he tasked two Titan brothers called Prometheus and Epimetheus with creating living creatures to fill the land and the oceans.



In their workshop, the twin Titans went wild. They created the strangest creatures they could imagine.



When their work was complete, and life breathed into their magnificent sculptures, the world was full of howling and stomping and biting. It was amazing.

Zeus was pleased with their work, but he had one final request. He wanted Epimetheus and Prometheus to create the most perfect, beautiful being. Naturally, it was to look like him.

Prometheus rested while Epimetheus got to work. This was going to be tricky.



At last, Prometheus completed his creation. He named it mankind!

As a final touch, he reached up to the Sun, plucked down a flame and gave it to man.

With the power of fire, men could have heat and light. They could explore, hunt and cook.



For many years, harmony reigned on Earth. That is, until Prometheus suggested that mankind play a trick on the gods. Each year, mankind prepared a delicious feast to show their respect for the gods. Except this year, Prometheus had a different kind of a feast in mind...



Instead of rich, delicious meat, the feast was made up of bone, gristle and guts... it was disgusting.



Zeus was furious. With a snap of his fingers, he extinguished every spark of fire on Earth.



Prometheus felt guilty that mankind had been punished for his trick. Sneaking as quietly as a Titan can, he slipped into Zeus's private chambers and stole the fire back.



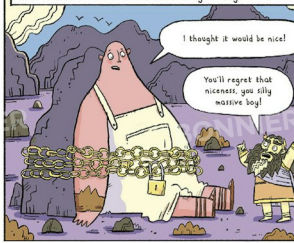
Mankind were delighted. Once again, they could eat by roasting fires and cook their meals. Prometheus knew he'd done the right thing.



But of course, Zeus found out.



Outraged that Prometheus had disobeyed him, Zeus chained the Titan to an enormous rock and threw away the key.



At Zeus's call, three mighty eagles swooped down from the sky. They circled over the helpless Prometheus.



Zeus's punishment was brutal. Each day the eagles tore out Prometheus's liver. And each night, his liver grew back again. The pain was endless.



Epimetheus was very lonely without his brother. He wandered the Earth and cried a lot.



Zeus asked Hephæstus, god of fire and sculpture, to create something very special. The first mortal woman.



He wanted Hephæstus to make the first woman the most charming and beautiful of all his creatures.



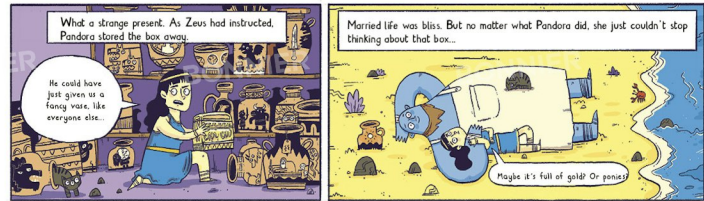
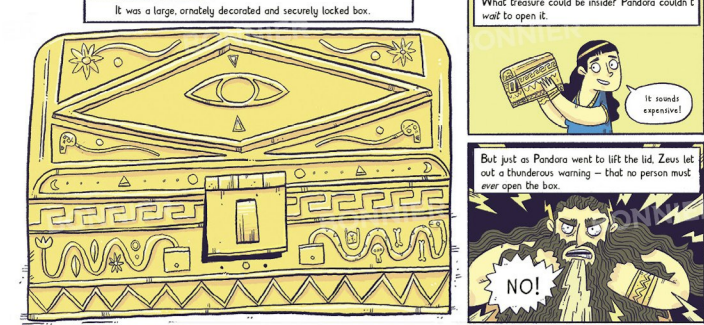
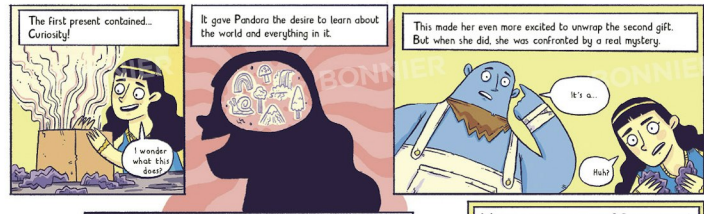
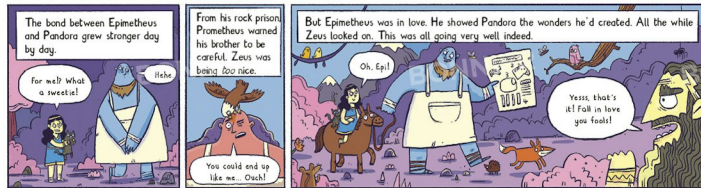
PANDORA



But Zeus had more plans. Big, mean plans to punish Epimetheus and mankind for the trick.









BIG mistake.

At once, a cloud of evil spirits swarmed out of the box and flew around Pandora. She tried to lure the terrors back inside the box, but it was too late.



Please come back!

Pandora!



The damage was done.

What's all this noise...

I may have made a small mistake.

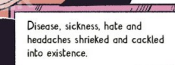


Together, Pandora and Epimetheus watched as a swirling cloud of chaos swept around the world.

I made that tree...

Sorry, darling.

ARGH!



Disease, sickness, hate and headaches shrieked and cockled into existence.



Epimetheus comforted poor Pandora, who felt such terrible guilt.

I've ruined everything!

I'm sure it'll be fine...



The box was the worst present ever. Pandora couldn't understand why Zeus would give them such a cursed object. Epimetheus was just about to destroy it, when they heard a faint sound...

Carefully Pandora and Epimetheus lifted the lid once more...

Well it can't get any worse.



It doesn't sound like pure chaos...

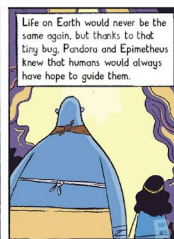


Out of the box hopped a tiny, shining bug - it was hope.

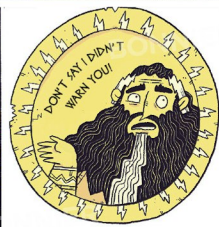
It's so cute!



The little insect fluttered off after the swirling chaos, spreading light wherever there was darkness and hope wherever there was despair.



Life on Earth would never be the same again, but thanks to that tiny bug, Pandora and Epimetheus knew that humans would always have hope to guide them.



DON'T ANY DIDN'T WARN YOU!

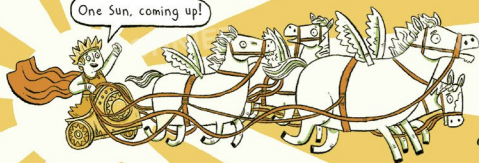
# HOW THE GREEK MYTHS

# EXPLAINED THE WORLD

The Greek myths weren't just tales to entertain children, they provided ways for people to understand the world around them. In ancient Greece, stories about gods, goddesses, heroes and monsters were an important part of everyday life. Before science, explanations of the world were based on superstition.

No one knew why the Sun rose every morning and where it came from, or why the stars were in the sky. Through the myths, the ancient Greeks explained everything from the seasons to the planets. Let's take a closer look at some of the most famous examples.

One Sun, coming up!



Every day, the god of light, **APOLLO**, drove his magnificent chariot across the sky. He pulled the Sun behind him and brought light and warmth to the world.

**ZEUS** is King of the Gods and when he was angered the sky would darken and lightning would rain down on the world.



ARGH!



Thunderstorms and sunken ships were all the work of **POSEIDON**. The moody god of the sea could create waves by pounding his trident against the ground.

The goddess **IRIS** created beautiful rainbows and clouds to provide water to hungry plants.



When heroes and beasts found favour with the gods, they were rewarded with a place among the stars.



The night sky was lit up by the glowing Moon, driven across the heavens by the goddess of the Moon, **SELENE**.



Look at what Mummy model!



**GAIA**, goddess of the Earth, covered the world in rolling hills and lush vegetation. She also made her fair share of monsters, too.



Crops were looked after by **DEMETER**, the goddess of agriculture. When Hades kidnapped her daughter, **PERSEPHONE**, and stole her away to the Underworld, the world was plunged into an icy winter. Each year, **PERSEPHONE** was allowed to return to world of the living for six months, bringing spring with her.

Wild **NYMPHS**, **FAUNS** and **SATYRS** all helped the gods to build the natural world!





With Minos out of sight, Theseus put Ariadne's plan into action and tied one end of the ball of thread to the gate.



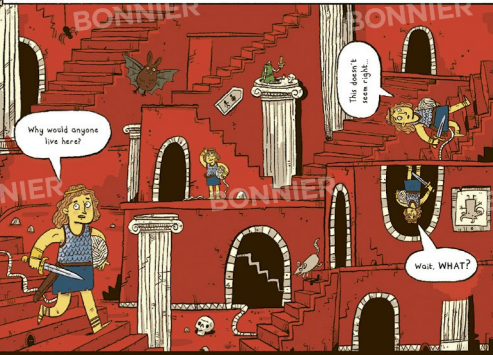
The other tributes watched in horror as the young hero drew his sword and set off into the maze...



At times, the walls shook with the ferocious roars that could only come from a giant man-bull.



What followed was a maddening journey through endless, impossible corridors. On and on Theseus travelled, past many dead ends and past many dead people. But every step of the way, Ariadne's thread unravelled and marked a path back to the exit.



It took all of Theseus's strength not to give up and go back. He didn't want to be eaten. He tried to think happy thoughts.



He was there.



He saw it.



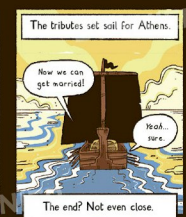
The furious red eyes.

The blood-stained horns.

THE MINOTAUR

The sharp yellow teeth.

The fabulous nose ring.



The Athenians and Ariadne sailed for several days, but supplies were low and everyone was hungry. So they took a detour and landed on the island of Naxos.



What! Time to get me some food!

The leafy island was so calm. Ariadne, who wasn't a huge fan of sailing, enjoyed the stillness. Under the gently swaying branches of a group of trees, she fell asleep.



Mmmh... That's... My love...

Theseus didn't want to marry the daughter of his enemy, but he was too cowardly to tell her so. Leaving Ariadne asleep on the sand, the tributes quietly climbed back onto their ship and set sail.



WAIT! You've forgotten your princess! Theseus! Oh...



As they sailed away, Theseus couldn't help feeling a bit guilty.

She'll be okay, won't she? Yeah. She'll probably be okay.

But as the sun set on Naxos, Ariadne wasn't sure anything would ever be okay again. She sat and watched the shadows turn into darkness, and listened to the sound of the waves, the insects, and the singing.



He... he promised!

Wait... SINGING?

Following the sound of joyful music, Ariadne came upon a very strange crowd: wildly dancing women, goat-legged fauns and horse-tailed satyrs, all singing songs of wine harvest and glory. In the centre of the party Dionysus, the god of wine and dance, was moving with tremendous grace for someone with such a huge beard. Ariadne instantly fell in love (again).



Welcome!

You're all crazy - I love it!



But this time, Ariadne was loved in return.



The couple were soon married.

You are more beautiful than any forest flower, any forest, or even my hairiest beard. Please be my wife!



Oh my love! Isn't it so lucky that Theseus deserted me!

HE WHAT?!



Dionysus was furious when he learned what Theseus had done. Nobody treated the wife of a god so terribly...

That absolute monster!

He'll pay dearly for this.

After one more party...

# THESEUS RETURNS



Meanwhile, Theseus sailed onwards. It had been a wild and trying adventure, and he was ready to go home.

I'm sure I've forgotten something.



But in his sneaky rush to dump Ariadne, Theseus had forgotten his promise to his father to change the ship's sails to white.

Heeh, oh well. I can't be that important: Daasud I'm home!



High above the crashing seas around the shores of Athens, King Aegeus waited for his son.

Is that... it's a ship! It's the ship! Oh, my brave son is back!

Careful, sir...



But wait...



NO! It can't be!



Believing that his son was dead inside the belly of the Minotaur, King Aegeus cast himself into the sea below.



Theseus hopped triumphantly from the ship, only to discover that his father was dead.

Oh Daasud! It's your brave son! Stronger than an arse bud!

Dad...

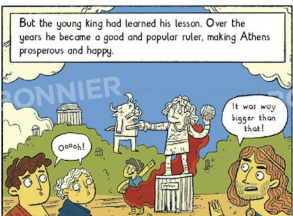


The death of his father was the worst thing to ever happen to young Theseus. How could he have been so thoughtless?

Oh, Dad.



As the heir to the throne, Theseus became the sad king of Athens.



But the young king had learned his lesson. Over the years he became a good and popular ruler, making Athens prosperous and happy.

It was way bigger than that!



Stell, he couldn't say no to a little adventure now and then...

BACK SOON! x



From deadly descents into the Underworld...

Always with the darkness!



To battles with Amazons - fearsome warrior women who loved war and cllobbering.

So you think you can just kidnap our princess, huh?

Err... I didn't mean to.



Though all his mistakes, Theseus became one of the greatest and noblest of Athenians.

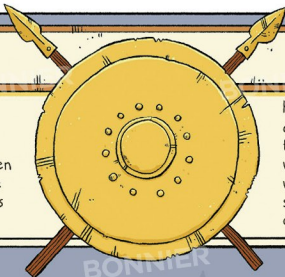


# CHIRON'S GALLERY OF

# HEROES AND HEROINES

The Greek myths are full of tales of heroes and heroines who set out on deadly adventures and performed extraordinary deeds. Heroes were usually individuals whose daring personalities and superhuman abilities made them stand out from other mortals. They faced immense struggles in life and often died young and in battle. However, these challenges usually resulted in fame and glory in death – many myths were written about them and some heroes were even invited to live among the gods on Mount Olympus.

Heroes and heroines had to train hard if they were to succeed in their quests. Chiron, a wise old centaur (a creature with the head, arms and torso of a man and the body and legs of a horse), was a renowned teacher who mentored many of the greatest Greek heroes, including the famous warriors Achilles and Jason. Chiron taught his students everything from skills in archery to the art of medicine and healing. Let's take a closer look at some of the most famous Greek heroes and heroines.



Although he wasn't a pupil of Chiron, **BELLEROPHON** earned a reputation as a monster-slaying hero from a young age. He succeeded in taming the winged horse, Pegasus, and together they fought in many battles and even slayed the fire-breathing Chimera (a monster with a lion's head and a serpent's tail). Unfortunately, Bellerophon got a bit big for his sandals and tried to fly to Mount Olympus so he could live as a god himself. During the flight, he slipped from Pegasus's back and fell back to the mortal world. He lived the rest of his life without his magical steed.

Train hard, class, and one day you'll be a statue too!



Perhaps the greatest of all the Greek heroes, **ACHILLES** was Chiron's star pupil and was blessed with almost supernatural abilities in combat. But Achilles had one weakness: his heel. When Achilles was a baby, his mother had dipped him in the River Styx, which she believed would make him immortal. But she had forgotten to dip his left heel in the water. During the Trojan War, a prince called Paris shot an arrow into his heel and Achilles was fatally wounded.



Beautiful, determined and ferocious **PENTHESILEA** was queen of a fierce tribe of warrior women called the Amazons. She was a passionate fighter and defeated many Greek soldiers while defending Troy in the Trojan War. She was eventually killed by Achilles, who felt terrible remorse upon seeing her dead body.



**JASON** is famous for his quest to retrieve the fabled Golden Fleece. If Jason was successful, he would win back the throne of Thessaly from his uncle. To help him in his mission, Jason assembled a group of 50 heroes called the Argonauts. Together, they encountered many deadly obstacles before they eventually found the Golden Fleece guarded by a dragon. Jason retrieved the fleece with the help of a sorceress called **MEDEA**, who concocted a potion to put the dragon to sleep.



After fighting in the Trojan War, **ODYSSEUS'S** journey home took a turn when a storm blew his ship off course. What followed was ten years of wild adventures filled with raging sea monsters, a cyclops, wind gods, nymphs and shipwrecks. Odysseus's long quest was chronicled by the poet Homer in an epic poem called *The Odyssey*.



**ATALANTA** was abandoned by her father and was left to die in the woods. She was adopted by a bear and learnt to fight from the animals who lived with her in the wild. Atalanta was famous for her incredible survival skills and was a deadly hunter. At the funeral games of King Pelias, Atalanta wrestled and defeated the warrior **PELEUS**, who was the father of Achilles.

Let's go!



# PERSEUS AND MEDUSA

In the city of Argos, Acrisius desperately wanted a son.

He already had a beautiful daughter, but apparently that wasn't good enough.

So he travelled to the temple at Delphi, where the wise Oracle spoke to the gods. Surely she'd be able to tell him if he'd have a son.

Hello beautiful Oracle, hello lovely god. Could you possibly tell us if I'll ever have a son please? Sorry, thanks, sorry...

Oh, if I only had a son!

I'm right here!

Ohaaa! Just a second...

The answer was disappointing.

Ohaaa! NO.

But!

Your daughter will have a son...

...but he will kill you, Ooooooohhh!!!

Just as the Oracle had predicted, Acrisius's daughter, Danae, gave birth to a son. Perseus was a kind and loving child, adored by everyone. Well, almost everyone.

THAT IS IT!

Oh, Perseus!

Acrisius wasn't a fan. He had no idea when Perseus might kill him, but he was taking no chances. So he made a plan.

\* ACRISIUS'S GET-RID-OF-PERSEUS-QUICK-SCHEME \*

Put Danae and Perseus in a box, and seal it shut.

Drop the box into the sea.

Sink the box to the sea floor. No more Perseus!

Good plan, old man!

But guess what? It wasn't a good plan. It was actually a bit rubbish.

Getting them into the box wasn't difficult.

Yah! Wait.

Yah!

But the box didn't sink!

The Mediterranean current picked the box up and carried it away.

Drat.

Bye, Grandd!

COOKIES

But Dad!

Inside the box, Perseus and Danae flopped along for days and days.

We'll never know how many boring games they endured.

But despite the cramped conditions and no toilet, their bond grew stronger every day. Until...

THUNK!

The box washed up on the island of Seriphos, where it was found by a kind fisherman named Diktys.

Argh! It is treasure! Oh...

Freedom!

I need a wee!

Perseus grew very fond of the fisherman. They spent every day out at sea, where going Perseus learned all the secrets of the vast blue ocean.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the island Diktys's brother, Polydectes, was feeling extra greedy. He wasn't a lowly fisherman though, he was the ruler of all Seriphos! And with great power comes lots of stuff.

Let me see... I've got gold, I've got priceless vases, I've got cats.

What kind of fish is this, Diktys?

Argh, that'd be a noodle, lad.

...but something is still missing.

When Polydectes spotted Danae, he decided to add her to his collection.

Argh! If the thing's fishy, Diktys is cool, but what use! The next lot!

Well hello! It is I, Polydectes, the handsomest, wealthiest and best man 'ere.

WILL YOU MARRY ME!

I really think you should marry me, though.

Oh! Danae, please be my wife, or I'll sing at you for the rest of your life.

Ere.

NO!

No, no, no!

I said NO!

## THIS CONTINUED FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS.

So it's a 'no', is it?

But, unfortunately for Polydectes, Perseus had grown a lot in those 17 years...

I don't think so!

Sorry boss! It was that lad Perseus, he's got fish muscles now!

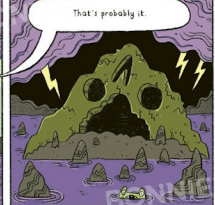
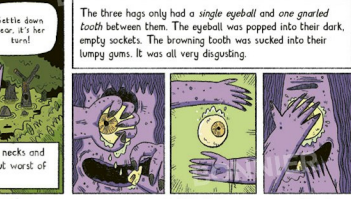
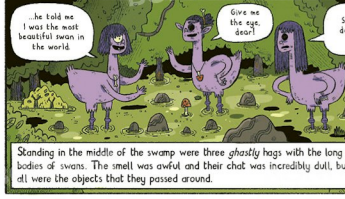
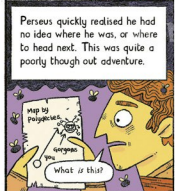
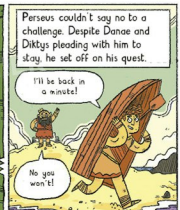
Guard! Bring me Danae! There's going to be a wedding whether I like it or not.

We've come to take your aun!

Perseus sent Polydectes's guards packing without Danae and with far fewer teeth than they'd arrived with.

Must I do EVERYTHING myself? Fine, I'll go and see the boy then, shall I?









# ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE

A ROCKIN' EVENING WITH...  
**ORPHEUS**

IT'S GREECE'S GREATEST  
**ROCK GOD!**  
HE'LL WOW YOU WITH HIS  
FACE-MELTING LYRE SOLOS!

It seemed that Orpheus was born to be a star. His mother, Calliope, was a muse. She shared beautiful, moving stories through her music. His father, Apollo, was also a confident showman and god of the Sun.

Look at what Daddy can do!

As soon as he could talk, Orpheus started to sing. His angelic voice and enthusiastic lyre playing tamed even the wildest of beasts.

OH WA YEAH YEAH

Orpheus's love of music grew as he got older. Crowds flocked from far and wide to see him perform.

AND I!!!

But life on the road wasn't always fun. The night of Orpheus's biggest show yet, he lost his lucky headband.

There mistakes!

I can't go out there like this!

Orpheus was just about to call off the concert, when a beautiful wood nymph named Eurydice came to his rescue. With her nimble woodland fingers, she made him the most extraordinary new headband. Orpheus fell in love with her at once.

I hope it fits!

It's perfect.

From then on, every song Orpheus wrote was about his love for Eurydice. And his music went from strength to strength.

Before long, Orpheus and Eurydice were married. The ceremony was beautiful and everyone was delighted for the happy couple. That is, everyone except Hymen. The god of marriage had made a strange and horrifying prediction during the service – that the relationship was doomed to fail.

It's so beautiful!

It'll never last.

I'm so proud of how she's perfect!

I love you.

Oh, cheer up Hymen!

Eurydice and Orpheus were blissfully happy. It seemed that nothing could come between them.

You inspire every song, my love.

Back on tour, Orpheus continued to wow the crowds. Backstage, his radiant bride danced along to the music.

ARE YOU READY?

WOOL!

But during one concert, Eurydice accidentally tread on a deadly snake. The viper instantly sank its fangs into her foot and she cried out in pain.

As the deadly serpent venom spread through her body, Eurydice collapsed to the ground. Hearing her cry, Orpheus rushed off stage. He found his new wife on the ground, pale and gasping for breath.

Oh, sweet baby! What's happened?

AAAAH.

There was nothing he could do. Orpheus wept as he watched the life pass out of his beloved.

Stay with me... EURYDICE!

Orpheus was inconsolable. For days he would neither eat nor drink and his friends feared for his life. He cancelled his tour, retreated from public life and refused to see anyone.

Apollo hated to see his son in such pain. He tried to console Orpheus, but nothing worked. Eventually, tired of all the wailing and bed songs, he led his son that all hope might not be lost. He had a plan.

There, there.

Apollo told Orpheus that if he dared to venture into the Underworld, the land of the dead, he might be able to find Eurydice's spirit, and bring her back to life. But it wouldn't be an easy journey.

With renewed hope, Orpheus set off to rescue his lost love.

BRAND THE KEY

It was a long scramble down into the Underworld. Each time he stumbled, Orpheus was pummeled with the boogies of evil spirits.



"I'm coming to save you, Eurydice."



After many tumbles, Orpheus reached the banks of the River Styx – the edge of the world of the dead.



Attempting to swim across the river would be foolish – it was impossible to know what lurked in its murky depths. Orpheus's only hope was to hitch a ride with the old boatman, Charon, whose job it was to ferry the lost souls of the dead into the Underworld.

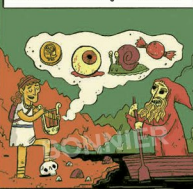
At first, Charon refused to take a living passenger across the river.

You know this is the world of the DEAD, right?



Tax!

But Orpheus managed to charm the skeletal boatman with his music. His songs of love and hope made Charon think of all the beautiful things in the world.



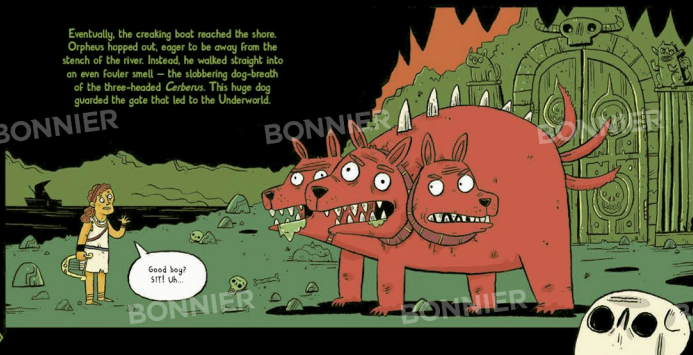
Charon rowed Orpheus across the river with surprising speed. All around them, the shadowy souls of dead people were drifting down into the Underworld. Orpheus shivered; this wasn't going to be an easy journey.

So first there's the three-headed dog...



Yikes!

Eventually, the creaking boat reached the shore. Orpheus hopped out, eager to be away from the stench of the river. Instead, he walked straight into an even fouler smell – the stobbering dog-breath of the three-headed Cerberus. This huge dog guarded the gate that led to the Underworld.



Good boy? SIT! Uh...

Orpheus took out his lyre once more. His music lulled the monstrous mutt into dreams of three-headed puppyhood. Soon the beast was fast asleep, and the brave bard loped onward towards his goal.



That's it.

With a mighty heave, Orpheus pushed the gate open and passed into the world of the dead.



It was a long and difficult journey through the Underworld. First, Orpheus had to travel through the Asphodel Fields – which were haunted by ghosts. Spirits swept around him, shrieking and wailing in mourning for the lives they'd left behind. Pushing through the madness, Orpheus strode on.



Next, Orpheus had to find his way through the flaming pit of Tartarus, where evil people were punished. The haunting wails of the ghosts of Asphodel were replaced by screams of terror and complaints about the temperature.



Get to work, hoes!

I'm just visiting! I have what you've done with the place.

On the top of a steep hill, above the flames, Orpheus met a giant, sweaty man leaning on a boulder. He introduced himself as Sisyphus and explained that Zeus had cursed him to roll a boulder up this hill for the rest of eternity.



Hey, you're Orpheus! I love your music, man!

Thank!

Orpheus hadn't expected the Underworld to be quite so big. He knew he'd never find Eurydice on his own, so he asked Sisyphus for directions.



Yeah. Follow that boulder.

After a few more miles of hellish trudging, Orpheus finally reached the heart of the Underworld – the palace of Hades.



The job's not real!



It was the greatest show Orpheus had ever performed. He leapt around Hades's throne room and his music made even the ghostly Underworld seem inviting. He sang about his love for Eurydice, and how generous and sweet she was. In a land where all anyone felt was pain and anger, Orpheus's passionate performance stirred up long-forgotten feelings of joy and of love.



The citizens of the Underworld were soon on their feet. This was the best entertainment they'd had in years.



But then Orpheus's song turned slow and mournful. He sang about the tragedy of Eurydice's death and how his life had no meaning without her. He couldn't contain his emotions. There wasn't a dry eye in the house.



And then, with a final haunting note, the performance was over. Orpheus was exhausted and the Underworld was eerily silent.



Even Hades, the grumpiest ghoul of all, found himself moved by Orpheus's tale of love and loss.



After some thought, Hades agreed to release Eurydice. But he had one condition: Orpheus couldn't look back to see if she was following him until he reached the world of the living. If Orpheus so much as glanced behind him, Eurydice would be lost forever.



Orpheus travelled back through Tartarus, where his new fans returned to the normality of their torture-filled lives.



He struggled back through the Asphodel Fields, where the dead forgot the show instantly.



He sneaked past the sleeping Cerberus and crossed the River Styx with Charon. But as he reached the final exit to the Underworld, Orpheus hesitated. If Hades had tricked him, this was his last chance to go back. Surely one glance wouldn't hurt. He had to be sure Eurydice was following him.



For just one fleeting moment, Orpheus saw his beloved. They were in touching distance and he could see the sunlight bringing life back into her ghostly face.



But Orpheus had broken his promise. With a scream, Eurydice was pulled back into the Underworld. The laughter of Hades echoed around Orpheus as he watched Eurydice disappear from view.



Orpheus rushed back down to the River Styx. He sang a new song to charm Charon into taking him across the river, but the new material was poorly thought out, his rhymes were weak and his throat sore. It was too late - this time he had lost Eurydice forever.



Orpheus travelled far and wide, singing beautiful but tragic songs about lost love. He lived out the rest of his days alone and was finally reunited with Eurydice in death.



# A JOURNEY THROUGH

# THE GREEK UNDERWORLD



The ancient Greeks believed that death was not the end. Instead, it was the beginning of a strange journey — a journey into the afterlife. It was thought that when someone died, Hermes, the messenger of the gods, led them to the entrance of the Underworld. This vast realm was ruled over by Hades, the god of the dead, and it was up to him and his fiendish friends to decide where you would

spend eternity. The Underworld could be a very scary place indeed, but it wasn't necessarily bad. Depending on how good you'd been in life, you were rewarded or punished in death. Elysium was a paradise for those who'd lived a good life, but the torture-filled, burning pits of Tartarus were designed to punish those who had committed bad deeds. Welcome to the Underworld. We hope you enjoy your time here...

## DEATH IS ONLY THE BEGINNING...

Have you been eaten by the Hydra? Have you been turned to Stone by a Gorgon? Well, lucky you! Now you're dead, it's time to take your place in the Underworld!



With four different entrances throughout ancient Greece, the Underworld is dead easy to get to!



HERMES



THANATOS

### H & T TRAVEL AGENCY

We'll take care of everything! Thanatos (the god of death) will even cut off a lock of your hair as you die — you've got to look good for Hades!



However you get here, you can be sure to travel across the famous River Charon in style on board Charon's luxury ferry!

SINGLE TICKET: 1 GOLD COIN  
RETURN TICKET: IMPOSSIBLE

## MEET CERBERUS!

This giant three-headed dog guards the gates to the Underworld, making it a very safe place to live. Just don't get too close!



Our friendly staff are on hand to judge your entire existence! They'll decide which of our three glamorous realms you'll be sent to. Let's take a look at the options...



## ELYSIUM

If you've been good, you can relax in the glorious paradise of Elysium — where you will live in luxury among gods and nobles.



Here you can lunch with horses like Hercules. It's genuinely very nice!

## FIELDS OF ASPHODEL

Have you lived a normal life? Have you been quite ordinary? Well, welcome to the Fields of Asphodel!

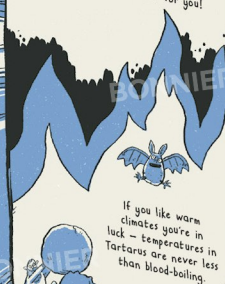


Here, you'll instantly forget any memories of your past life. You'll spend the rest of your days in blissful ignorance.



## TARTARUS

Ah. So you've been a bit bad. Well, not to worry — the staff of Tartarus will have just the punishment for you!



If you like warm climates you're in luck — temperatures in Tartarus are never less than blood-boiling.

An after-life of torture awaits!



ENTERTAINMENT EVERY NIGHT!

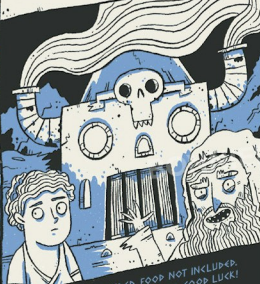


NEXT! THE GODDESS OF NIGHTMARES SHE'LL MAKE ALL YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!



THE SISTERS OF FURY! THESE WINGED CREATURES SURE CAN SCREECH!

A most-wisest — Hades's palace sits in the heart of the Underworld. Home to the god of the dead himself and his lovely queen, Persephone.



FUN NOT INCLUDED. FOOD NOT INCLUDED. YOU CAN NEVER EVER LEAVE. GOOD LUCK!

# THE TROJAN HORSE

It was a lot of work being King of the Gods. When a rare break was interrupted, Zeus was understandably furious.



Getting up to investigate, Zeus found Athena, his wife Hera and Aphrodite in the middle of a heated discussion. The goddesses were arguing over which of them deserved a golden apple inscribed with the words: 'For the fairest'.



Zeus soon regretted getting involved. But the three goddesses demanded he make the final call.



Keen to pass this impossible task on to someone else, Zeus looked around for help. Poor Hermes happened to be passing...



Hermes couldn't decide between the goddesses either, so he journeyed from city to city to find a suitable judge. He needed someone noble, someone intelligent and – most importantly – someone good at making decisions.



In the glorious walled city of Troy, Hermes found his man. Paris was perfect.



Paris was unsure at first. Judging between the goddesses seemed a bit risky, and choosing unwise might get him in some serious trouble. But with a bit of gentle coaxing from Hermes and Zeus, he eventually agreed.



Hermes and Paris travelled to Olympus, where the judging began.



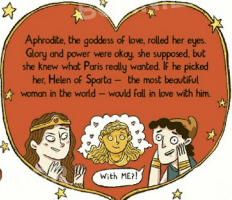
The goddesses began bribing Paris immediately. Athena, the goddess of war, told Paris if he picked her, she'd give him incredible fighting powers.



Hera scoffed at Athena's pathetic offer. Why would Paris choose glory in battle when he could rule all of Asia and Europe? Surely, he'd pick her.



Aphrodite, the goddess of love, rolled her eyes. Glory and power were okay, she supposed, but she knew what Paris really wanted. If he picked her, Helen of Sparta – the most beautiful woman in the world – would fall in love with him.



It was a lot for Paris to think about.



Wondering how an earth Paris could find the decision so difficult, the three goddesses made some final, desperate attempts to impress their young visitor.



At last, the decision was made. Paris handed the precious apple to Aphrodite, for the love of Helen was a greater prize than anything Paris could imagine.



Back at home in Troy, an excited Paris waited for his true love to arrive. But after a few days, he received a very troubling letter.



Dear Paris,  
We're getting married!  
Come and celebrate the best day ever with us!  
Yeg!  
Helen & King Menelaus

On the evening before the royal wedding, King Menelaus organised a feast for his beautiful bride. Helen stood in the centre of the party and nobody in attendance could take their eyes from her, least of all her hulking fiancé. Paris stood glumly alone in the corner, feeling very sorry for himself. Curse that sneaky Aphrodite for tricking him like that. Helen was so beautiful, so amazing, so clever... and so about to marry someone else.



But then their eyes met across the room. All of the other guests seemed to disappear and, just as Aphrodite had promised, Helen fell madly in love with Paris.



In a rush of passion, the happy couple fled the palace and headed back to Troy. Little did they know the trouble they would cause...



Menelaus couldn't believe it. When he discovered where his fiancé had been taken, he gathered an army of the most muscular Spartan warriors to get her back.



To help in his quest, Menelaus called on his brother, King Agamemnon, and a whole host of powerful Greek kings. Together, they gathered a four-some army unlike any seen before.





On the way to Troy, the Greek army called on the famous general, Odysseus. But Odysseus saw them coming, and he really, really didn't want to go. The gods had warned him that if he went to war, he wouldn't return for 20 years.

Wait until you meet him!

Dad, look! A king!

Oh, please no! I need to lie down.

So Odysseus devised a clever and complicated plan to get out of going with Menelaus to war. He pretended to be mad.

It's a bit different than I remember.

Mello! I'm Captain Raz-mataz. How nice to have a guest!

Ha-ha!

Here-ee!

I'm too bonkers for guests!

Menelaus tried to talk to the famous leader, but could only get the most confusing replies.

Bring me a gift!

No, can I do it've got to plough for gold!

Share!

Something didn't add up. Menelaus suspected that Odysseus was tricking him. This really had to stop. He had a queen to rescue!

ARGH!

Menelaus had an idea. He convinced Odysseus's going on to lie down in front of his horse. If Odysseus was so mad, he wouldn't mind his own child being trampled, would he?

I know it!

Err... doo-be-doo!

The trick worked! As if by magic, Odysseus snopped out of his madness and rescued his son.

So Odysseus reluctantly joined the Greek soldiers in their journey to Troy. When they finally arrived, however, they were met with the most impossibly high wall, protecting the city from attack. And protecting Paris and Helen from ever being separated.

ARGH!

That's quite a wall!

I'll save you my darling!

You'll have to get through that!

A giant gate was the only way into the city. And nothing the soldiers tried could convince the Trojans to open up.

Oh, Troogy, we've asked you a cake!

Can I use your toilet?

For ten long years, the Greek forces tried to get into the city of Troy. But nothing worked. Poetic attempts turned into anger, anger turned to war. Arrows flew, swords sliced and many brave soldiers fell. But even through a decade of constant attacks, the city stood strong.

Let... us... in!

My hee! My beautiful hee!

It was all very tiring. Odysseus started to wonder if there might be a sneaker way into the city.

There *must* be a better way I want to go home!

With a little help from a vengeful Athena (who hadn't quite forgiven Paris), Odysseus's plan began to take shape. A very unusual shape.

Yes... yes...

Odysseus suggested that the Trojans might like a giant gift. A wooden animal, perhaps. A big wooden animal full of goodies. Menelaus was starting to wonder if Odysseus had actually gone mad, but after several explanations, the genius of the plan became clear.

I love it, but could we try something more... horsey!

Have you ever tried drawing a horse?

Odysseus and Menelaus wasted no time in getting to work. Far from the battle and the eyes of the armoured city, the Spartans sawed, hammered and fitted until construction was finally complete. What they'd built was truly spectacular.

Phew. I'm sure a wooden mose or snail would have been fine...

Well, it beats fighting.

Do you mind?

I think it's supposed to be bigger!

Ah, I see the problem here.

How about a giant wooden Menelaus on top?

How about no.

WELCOME ABOARD

Bishius Boshius Boshius Construction

Proud of their ridiculous creation, the Greek army could hardly contain themselves as they wheeled the giant wooden horse towards the gate that had caused them so many headaches over the last ten years. As the Sun set, the Greeks got into their boats and appeared to set sail for home. The Trojans thought that it was a bit suspicious how few soldiers were on those boats, but what a beautiful gift the Greeks had left behind after all that mayhem.

Aren't we nice!

Meanwhile, behind the city walls, Paris's sister Cassandra slept restlessly. She was dreaming of her beloved Troy burning in flames and of an enormous hoofed beast crushing buildings and people alike. And all on her brother's wedding day...



No... Paris?

I do.

I do.

When a sleepy Cassandra headed for breakfast after her fitful night's sleep, Paris and Helen were waiting, and they had wonderful news. Now that the Greeks had sailed away, they were going to get married! Cassandra wasn't as pleased as the happy couple had expected.



NO! You can't!

How thanks! I thought you'd be happy for us...

You could say congratulations!

Slightly annoyed at his sister's lack of enthusiasm, Paris tried to convince her that there was nothing to worry about. The cowardly invaders had given up and gone home.



See! They do sail very slowly though!

The Greeks had even left a present behind! While Paris might have preferred money instead, he couldn't deny that it was a spectacular offering. A note attached to the horse explained everything.



Isn't it great!

don't think this is a good idea

Dear Paris,  
We give up! Sorry about all this war. Here's a horse for you - it's a greek trotter, honest! See you soon, Odysseus

It was so kind. Paris ordered his men to wheel the horse into the city. At last, Troy's gates were opened.



What should we call it?

Ralph!

The citizens of Troy had a lot to celebrate. The war was finally over and the Greek brutes had fled. Their beloved Paris had a beautiful new bride-to-be - and now they had a giant wooden horse! That night, the whole of Troy feasted together and celebrated their long-awaited victory.



RALPH MERCH, GET YER RALPH MERCH!

I'm sure it's talking...

A toast to our special guest, wooden Ralph!

No one ever listens to me!

So, anyway...

The festivities continued well into the night. As the people of Troy eventually stumbled off to bed, the wooden horse stood standing in the centre of the city. It seemed to be waiting for something.



Uggghhh. Too much food.

Night, horses!

OH!

WHEEY!

Once even the most dedicated of revellers had settled down, a hatch under the belly of the horse quietly opened and a rope was lowered to the ground. Down the rope came several suspicious-looking figures. The Greek soldiers had finally entered Troy.



TORCH IT ALL, BOYS!

Err...

Finally, some legroom!

Let's go!

Treading quietly through the city, the soldiers opened the gates that had for so long kept them at bay. Then the whole of the Greek army swarmed into the city - Odysseus's ambitious plan had worked.



Hurry it up, loads!

Torches were lit, swords were drawn and spears were raised.



Hearing the roar of flames and the cries of the horrified Trojans, Paris woke up. He, Cassandra and Helen looked on in horror as the city was enveloped in flames. Taking Helen's hand, Paris tried to escape.



Menelaus?

Oh no...

Paris! I warned you.



But before they could reach the gates, Paris was killed by a Greek arrow.



With pesky Paris dead, Menelaus could finally find his beautiful Helen and whisk her away.



At last!

Dear Paris!

After ten long years, Helen sailed home with the Greeks, while Paris's beloved Troy - and everything in it - went up in flames. As the gods had predicted, Odysseus still had ten years of travelling ahead of him. But that's another story...





# THE HAND OF FATE



The power of fate hangs over the lives of all characters in the Greek myths, even the gods themselves. The ancient Greeks believed that there was no escaping fate or destiny and this theme is represented in almost all of the well-known tales. A person's life could take many different paths, but unseen powers made sure that they ended up exactly where they were supposed to.

The ancient Greeks believed that the power to control destiny was in the nimble hands of three sisters known as the Fates. Clotho, the spinner of life's thread, began the course of a person's life and Lachesis ensured that their life eventually followed the correct path. The third sister, Atropos, cut the thread when it was time for the person to die. Together, the Fates controlled the puppet show of life.



**OEDIPUS** was abandoned as a baby after his father heard a prophecy that his child would kill him. Years later, Oedipus accidentally killed his father, believing him to be a stranger.

It was prophesied that **ACHILLES** would be given the choice to either die fighting in the Trojan War and be remembered as a hero, or to live a long life without glory. Achilles chose to go to war and died when Paris shot an arrow into his heel.

**SARPION**, the son of Zeus, was fated to die in the Trojan War. Zeus understood that even as King of the Gods he could not stand in the way of fate – and watched his son die.

The **ORACLE OF DELPHI** spoke to the gods, and connected mortals to the divine. She delivered warnings and prophecies to those seeking a glimpse of their fate. Often, it wasn't news they wanted to hear.



# THE TWELVE LABOURS OF HERACLES

Heracles was astonishing from the moment he was born. His bouncing baby boy was adored for his cuteness and his god-like strength.



His mother, Alcmene, was a beautiful mortal. His father was Zeus, the King of the Gods and was very proud of his clever little son. Zeus's new wife, Hera, wasn't so adoring.



Hera didn't understand why her silly stepson should get more attention than her. She found herself getting more and more irritated by him as he got older.



One night, Hera came up with a cunning plan. She sent a pair of deadly snakes to eat Heracles while he slept.



But Heracles wasn't eaten. In fact, he was delighted! The snakes were just the excitement he needed to distract him from sleeping.



Hera's plan had failed, but she wasn't going to give up just yet. She'd get rid of Heracles, even if she had to bide her time...



As Heracles grew up, he got bigger and stronger. His achievements were numerous and shiny and he was loved by all who met him.



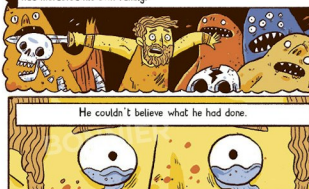
Hera watched Heracles grow up from Mount Olympus. With each year that passed, she grew more and more jealous. When Heracles eventually married and had a family, Hera decided that enough was enough – it was time to get revenge on Zeus's pesky son.



That night, Hera cast a spell on Heracles that caused him to have a terrible nightmare. In this tortured night vision, Heracles found himself attacked from all sides by the most horrific monsters he could imagine.



Night after night this continued, until the hideous dreams got too much for Heracles and he lashed out at the monsters in his sleep. The next morning, Heracles woke to find that in his madness he had murdered his own family.



So he travelled to see Apollo, the god of the Sun and of healing. Heracles had faith that Apollo would decide a fair punishment for his crimes.



Heracles had done a terrible thing, but Apollo was fair and kind. He knew the tragedy couldn't have been entirely Heracles's fault. To make amends, Apollo told his muscular visitor that he must complete ten heroic tasks for the Mycenaean king, Eurystheus. This would be difficult for Heracles – Eurystheus was an old enemy.



If Heracles was able to complete the king's tasks, he'd be forgiven for his crimes. Squinting through Apollo's glaring sunlight, Heracles saw the luxurious Mycenaean palace in the distance. With a sigh, he accepted Apollo's offer.



So Heracles journeyed to see King Eurystheus and vowed to complete whatever chores he might have in store for him. Unfortunately, the cunning Hera had already visited the palace and had filled the king's mind with all manner of impossible, deadly missions for the young hero.



When Heracles came to collect his list of tasks, the king was suspiciously cheerful. As Heracles set out on his mission, he wondered what was in store for him...







### THE CRETAN BULL

The snorting, stinking *Cretan Bull* was the father of the *Minotaur*, and just as fearsome. When Heracles landed on Crete to capture the bull, the Cretan king, *Minos*, was eager to help. Not wanting to give any reason for Eurystheus to deny him this task, Heracles declined. He fought the bull with his bare hands and carted the unconscious beast back to King Eurystheus.



### MARES OF DIOMEDES

The famed King, *Diomedes*, loved his man-eating horses, and he wasn't going to let anyone take them away. When Heracles arrived to do just that, a vicious argument broke out between the two. After a bitter fight, Heracles defeated Diomedes and watched in disgust as the horses ate their former owner.



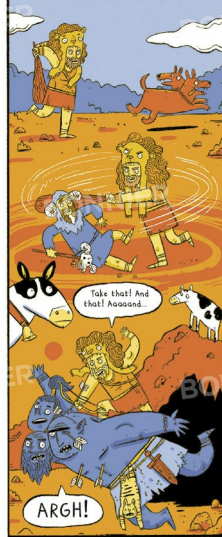
### THE BELT OF HYPPLYTA

Next, Heracles was sent to steal a belt belonging to *Hippolyta*, the queen of the Amazon warriors. But Hera wasn't going to make this easy — she disguised herself as an Amazon and warned *Hippolyta* that Heracles was in fact coming to kill her. As a cheerful Heracles arrived, the Amazons attacked. In the brawl, the queen was killed. Heracles, epistemologically took her belt and ran away.



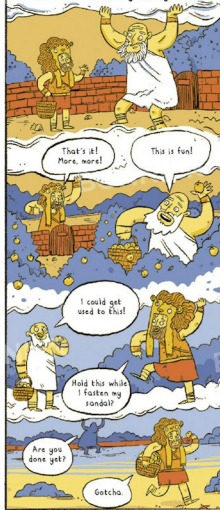
### THE CATTLE OF GERON

It was a long, hot journey to find the three-headed giant called *Geryon* and his herd of cattle. The blistering sun was so unbearably hot that Heracles fired an arrow into it, darkening the sky and cooling the earth. In these colder conditions, he clubbed the two-headed guard dog, *Orthus*, battered the evil herdsman, *Eurion*, and found the awful cow keeper, *Geryon* put up a great fight, but he was no match for Heracles.



### THE GOLDEN APPLES

As Eurystheus had deemed two of Heracles' challenges as failures, the King set two final tasks. For one, Heracles was sent to the garden of *Hesperides*, where golden apples grew that granted immortality. There, Heracles met *Atlas*, who was tasked with holding up the sky. Heracles asked the god if he might like a rest, and suggested he could take over if Atlas wouldn't mind fetching some of the golden apples. Atlas had such a nice time that Heracles had to trick him into taking the sky back!



### CEERBERUS

In his final and darkest task, Heracles journeyed into the depths of the Underworld. There, he met the spirit of *Theseus* — trapped in the land of the dead for trying to free *Persephone*. Heracles fired the spirit, and headed deeper into the Underworld until he found the creature he'd been sent to retrieve — the three-headed dog, *Cerberus*. Heracles tamed the demon dog with his bare hands before carrying it back to King Eurystheus.



King Eurystheus couldn't help but be impressed with the brave and heroic acts he'd seen Heracles complete. Even Hera, who'd spent years wishing misery on Heracles, begrudgingly admitted he'd done well. With an unusual display of heartfelt emotion, she promised she'd leave Heracles alone from now on.

At last, Heracles was pardoned for his crimes. He became famous all over ancient Greece for his bravery and strength. When Heracles died, Athena took his body to Mount Olympus, where he lived forever among the gods.



# A MYTHIC MAP OF

# ANCIENT GREECE



What a wonderful world!

I think it needs some lightning!

**MOUNT OLYMPUS**  
The home of the gods and central to the ancient Greek world.

**RIVER STYX**  
Where Charon ferried unfortunate souls into the Underworld.

**DELPHI**  
The Oracle of Delphi delivered messages and warnings from the gods.

**ATHENS**  
Named after the goddess of war, this was once the largest and most powerful city state. It was the centre for arts and learning.

**ITHACA**  
Home of Odysseus, and the final destination of his epic odyssey.

**ARGOS**  
Where the hero Perseus was born.

**SPARTA**  
The second largest city state, famed for its powerful army.

Jason and his crew of Argonauts set sail on the Argo on their quest to steal the Golden Fleece.

Here, Heracles captured the vicious man-eating horses of Diomedes.

**TROY**  
This great walled city was at the centre of the ten year Trojan War.

The ancient Greeks lived in what is now mainland Greece and the surrounding islands, but had colonies dotted all around the Mediterranean Sea. Ancient Greece was divided up into small city states, like Athens and Sparta. Each city state ruled itself and had its own government, laws and army. Although they were scattered across different islands, the people of ancient Greece all spoke the same language, worshipped the same gods and shared the same stories. Many of the most famous myths were set in real places - from the towering Mount Olympus, to the island of Crete.

**NAXOS**  
Theseus abandoned Ariadne on the island of Naxos after defeating the Minotaur.

Trapped in the Labyrinth, the Minotaur awaited its next meaty meal.

Didn't we do well?

I prefer the Underworld.

