



PERCY JACKSON & THE OLYMPIANS

Explore Greek Mythology at the Met!

KEEPSAKE
CARDS
INSIDE



➤ FOLLOW PERCY'S FOOTSTEPS TO MEET THE CHARACTERS
WHO INSPIRED THE BOOK AND FILM **THE LIGHTNING THIEF!**

FOLLOW PERCY'S ADVENTURES

Greek mythology lives on at the Metropolitan Museum. Use this map and quotes from *The Lightning Thief* to seek out the characters Percy Jackson encounters on his quest.

The gods are closer than you think. If you recognize yourself in any of these mythological characters—as Percy did—you might be one of them.

HAVE FUN AND DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T WARN YOU!

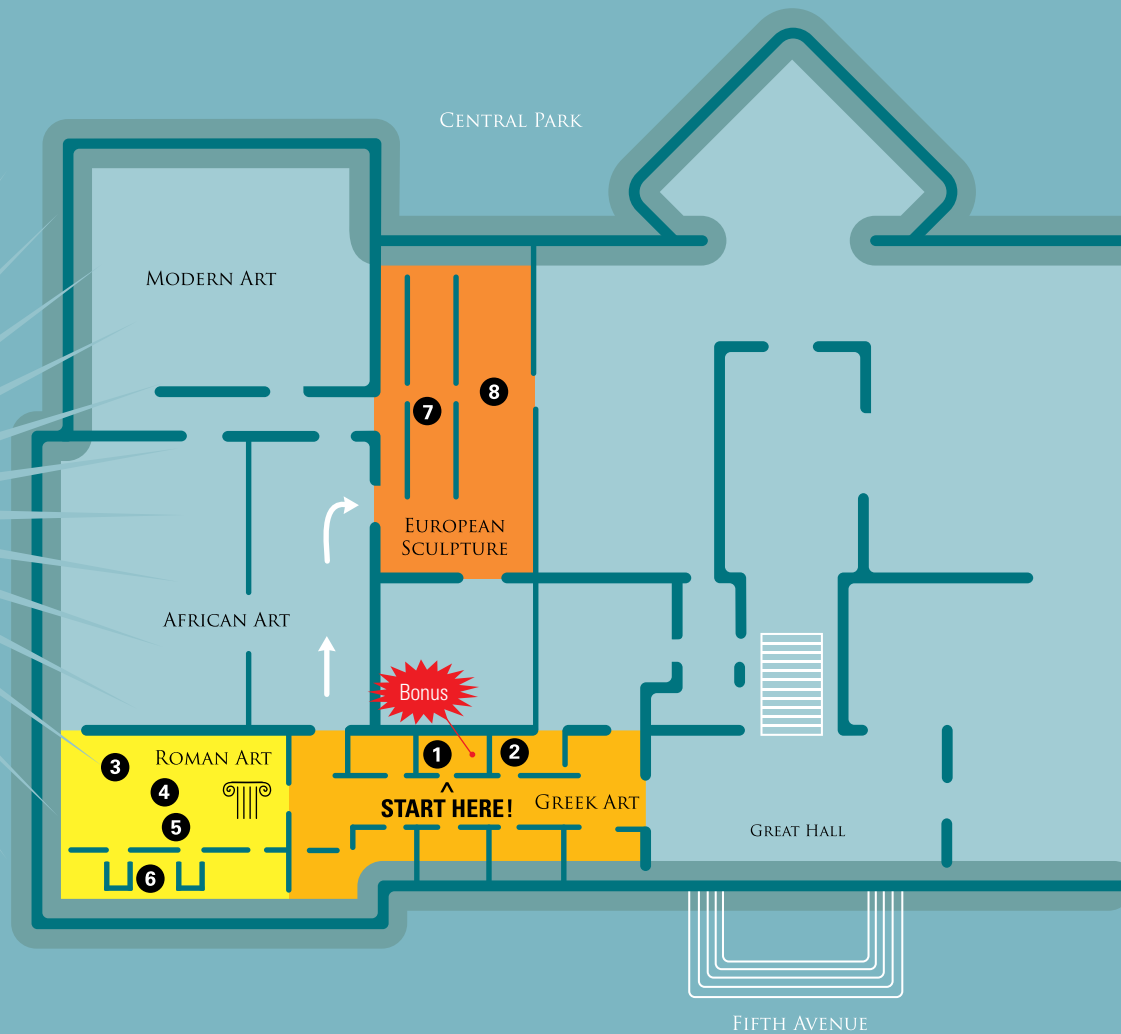


Bonus Gallery 157. On the outside of this drinking cup (on the cover), Theseus bids goodbye to his father, Poseidon, as he leaves for Crete to kill the Minotaur. Inside, you can see him saying goodbye to his stepmother, Amphitrite.



Do you have other favorite books? Did you enjoy this *Art Adventure*? Let us know! Write us at education@metmuseum.org and inspire the next one!

Please keep in mind! Sometimes we have to move works of art or even close some galleries to renovate them or install special exhibitions. See the Family Map or Museum Map or ask a guard for help!



Education
The Metropolitan Museum of Art
1000 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10028-0198
www.metmuseum.org

On the cover:
Gallery 157. *Kylix (drinking cup)*, attributed to the Briseis Painter; Greek, Attic, about 480 b.c.; terracotta; Purchase, Joseph Pulitzer Bequest, 1953 (53.11.4)

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ARMOR

GREEK
ART



CUIRASS Historical armor, often with breast and back plates fastened together. Soldiers were outfitted with a helmet, cuirass, shield, spear, sword, and greaves to protect the shins.

Gallery 155. *Cuirass (body armor)*, Greek, Apulian, 4th century B.C.; bronze; Gift of Estée Lauder Inc., 1992 (1992.180.3)

ZEUS

GREEK
ART



ZEUS (Roman: Jupiter) King of the Olympian gods. His symbols include an eagle, shield, and thunderbolt.

HERA (Roman: Juno) Wife of Zeus. She was the protector of marriage, childbirth, and the home.

Gallery 157. *Stamnos (jar)*, attributed to the Berlin Painter; Greek, Attic, about 490 B.C.; terracotta; Gift of Christos G. Bastis, in honor of Dietrich von Bothmer, 1988 (1988.40)

NEREID

ROMAN
ART



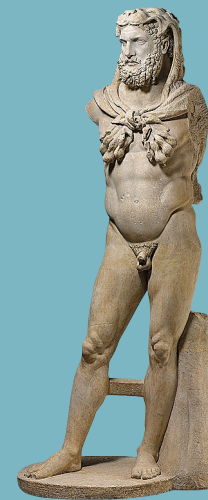
NEREID [pron. NEER-ee-id] A sea nymph, attendant of Neptune, often depicted reclining on the back of a dolphin or mythical sea monster.

POLYPHEMUS A one-eyed giant who loved the sea nymph Galatea. He was later blinded by Odysseus (Roman: Ulysses).

Gallery 166. *Landscape with Polyphemus and Galatea: From the "Mythological Room" of the Imperial Villa at Boscorecase*, Roman, Augustan, last decade of 1st century B.C.; wall painting, fresco; Rogers Fund, 1920 (20.192.17)

HERCULES

ROMAN
ART



HERCULES (Greek: Herakles) A great hero who had to complete twelve missions (Labors). The last involved his descent to the underworld to bring back the three-headed dog Cerberus.

Gallery 162. *Statue of a bearded Hercules*, Roman, Flavian period, A.D. 68–98; marble; Gift of Mrs. Frederick F. Thompson, 1903 (03.12.14)

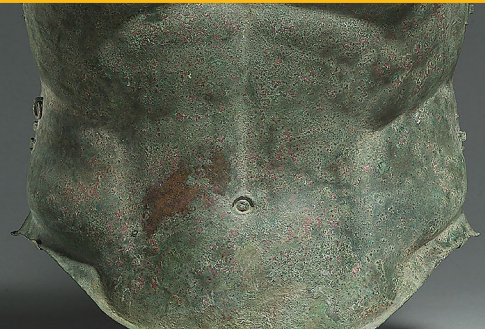


1

"What you may not know is that...the forces you call the Greek gods...are very much alive."... "Zeus," I said. "Hera, Apollo. You mean them." And there it was again—distant thunder on a cloudless day. "Young man," said Mr. D, "I would really be less casual about throwing those names around, if I were you."

Speaking of the gods, can you name the three divine characters who are painted on one side of this stamnos?

DID YOU KNOW? A stamnos is a type of jar to store liquids, like wine. See how Athena fills Zeus's drinking bowl to honor him.

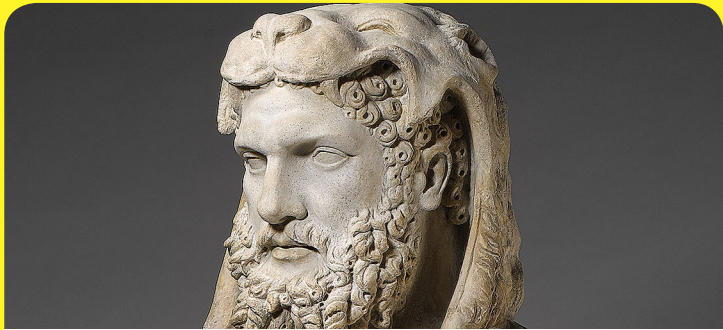


2

...three days after I'd arrived at Camp Half-Blood, I had my first sword-fighting lesson...We started with basic stabbing and slashing, using some straw-stuffed dummies in Greek armor.

Suit up for your adventures in our galleries. Don't worry, you won't have to wear 70 pounds of armor as the Greek foot soldiers did.

DID YOU KNOW? Cuirass [pron. kwi-RAHS] comes from *corium*, the Latin word for skin or leather.



5

"I know you journey to Hades's realm," she said. "Few mortals have ever done this and survived: Orpheus, who had great music skill; Hercules, who had great strength; Houdini, who could escape even the depths of Tartarus. Do you have these talents?"

Here is another one wrapped in fur. His first Labor was to fetch the skin of the Nemean lion. Can you see the lion's head here?

DID YOU KNOW? Hercules's father was Zeus and his mother was Alcmena, a mortal.



6

"...You're the woman who spoke to me in the Mississippi River." "Yes, child. I am a Nereid, a spirit of the sea. It was not easy to appear so far upriver, but the naiads, my freshwater cousins, helped sustain my life force..."

There is a love story here. Find the one-eyed man who gazes upon his adored one, the Nereid Galatea.

DID YOU KNOW? Polyphemus was a Cyclops, a member of a race of savage one-eyed giants.





3

Glancing back, I got my first clear look at the monster...His neck was a mass of muscle and fur leading up to his enormous head...As if on cue, the bull-man bellowed in rage.

Can you find the Minotaur? Seven young men and women were sacrificed to this scary beast each year before Theseus accepted the challenge to kill him.

DID YOU KNOW? Stone coffins were called sarcophagi, meaning "flesh-eaters."



4

I ran through D names from Greek mythology. Wine. The skin of a tiger. The satyrs that all seemed to work here..."You're Dionysos," I said. "The god of wine."

Five heads are better than one. Can you find them all carved in this statue?

DID YOU KNOW? Dionysos had many attributes. This statue shows three: an ivy wreath, soft laced boots, and a feline skin.

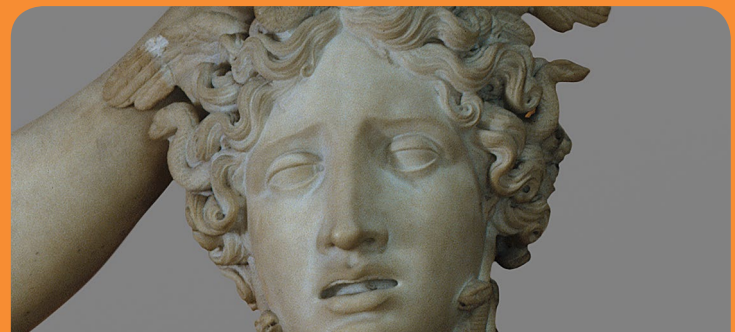


7

Annabeth nodded. "Your father isn't dead, Percy. He's one of the Olympians."..."Who's your mom, then?"...Annabeth straightened. "Athena. Goddess of wisdom and battle."

Speaking of battles, what objects link Athena to Perseus's slaying of Medusa? Can you find a representation of Medusa's head?

DID YOU KNOW? Athena armed Perseus for battle against the Gorgon, Medusa.



8

I could see Aunt Em's dark reflection in the orange glass; her headdress was gone, revealing her face as a shimmering pale circle. Her hair was moving, writhing like serpents.

Perseus needed the gods' help to kill the evil Medusa. With Athena's advice, he got a cap of invisibility; Hermes's sandals gave Perseus the ability to fly.

DID YOU KNOW? Anyone who looked at Medusa's face was instantly turned to stone.



DIONYSOS

ROMAN
ART



DIONYSOS (Roman: Bacchus) Greek god of wine. Theater festivals and athletic competitions were held in his honor. He rescued Ariadne from the island of Naxos.

Gallery 162. *Statue of Dionysos leaning on a female figure ("Hope Dionysos")*, Roman, Augustan or Julio-Claudian, 27 B.C.–A.D. 68; restored by Vincenzo Pacetti; Roman copy of Greek original; marble; Gift of The Frederick W. Richmond Foundation, Judy and Michael Steinhardt, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Alfred Taubman, 1990 (1990.247)

In the galleries, you'll notice that Dionysos has his missing nose. This is a restoration.

MINOTAUR

ROMAN
ART



MINOTAUR Half-bull, half-human who lived in the Labyrinth; killed by Theseus.

THESEUS Son of Poseidon; famous for defeating the Minotaur of Crete.

ARIADNE Daughter of King Minos of Crete. She helped Theseus escape after he killed the Minotaur. She was rescued by Dionysos after Theseus abandoned her.

Gallery 162. *Sarcophagus with garlands and the myth of Theseus and Ariadne*, Roman, Hadrianic or early Antonine, about A.D. 130–150; marble, Luni and Pentelic; Purchase by subscription, 1890 (90.12a,b)

PERSEUS

EUROPEAN
SCULPTURE



PERSEUS A celebrated Greek hero. His father was Zeus and his mother Danaë was a mortal princess. Perseus killed the Gorgon Medusa.

MEDUSA A female monster, one of the three Gorgon sisters.

Gallery 548. Antonio Canova (Italian [Rome], 1757–1822), *Perseus with the Head of Medusa*, 1804–6; marble; Fletcher Fund, 1967 (67.110.1)

ATHENA

EUROPEAN
SCULPTURE



ATHENA (Roman: Minerva) Goddess of wisdom, war, and the arts. She is depicted fully armed, and the owl is her symbol. Sometimes she holds an olive branch and shield.

Gallery 552. Claude Michel, called Clodion (French, 1738–1814), *Minerva (Athena)*, 1766; terracotta; Purchase, Charles Ulrick and Josephine Bay Foundation, Inc. Gift, 1975 (1975.312.6)