



Deep European CULTOUR



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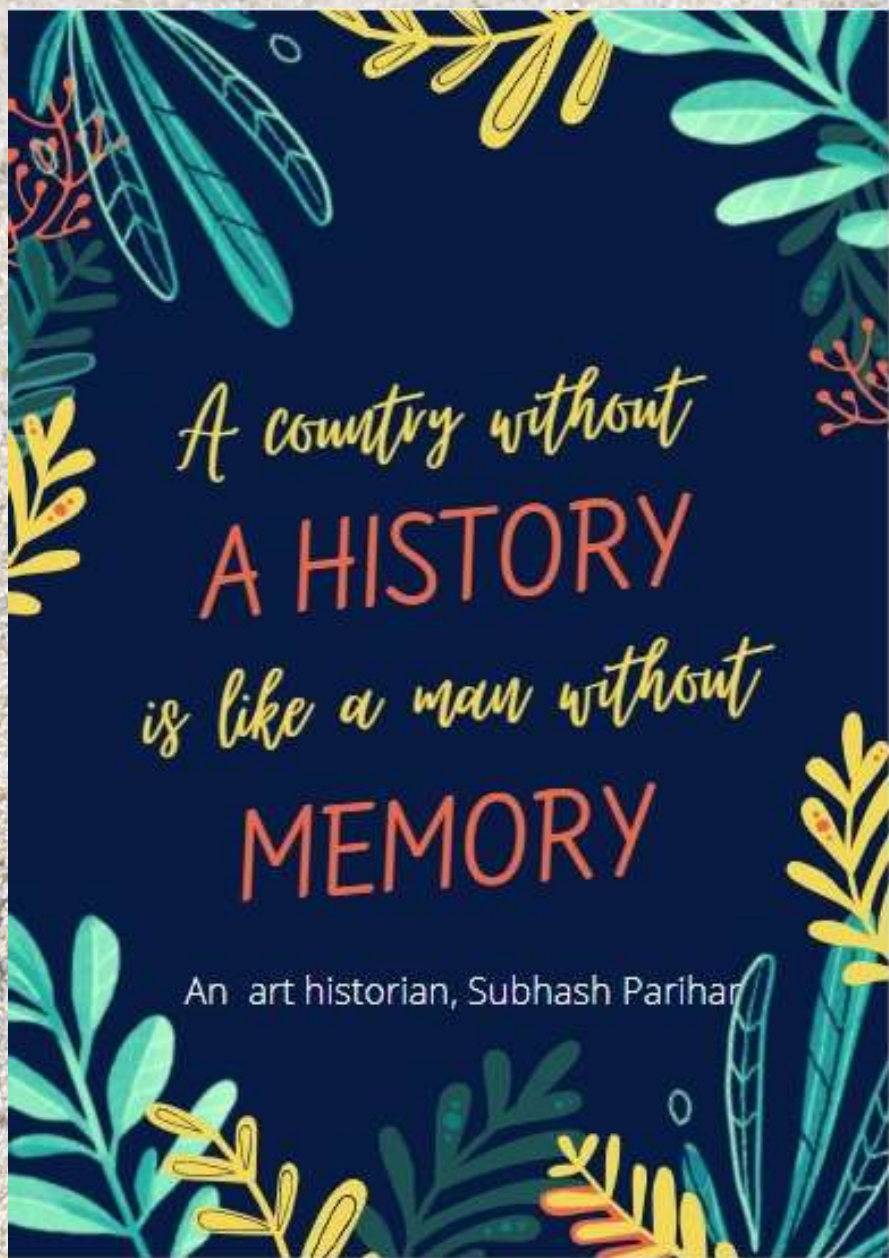
ΠΣ
ΠΕΙΡΑΜΑΤΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟΥ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ

DWUJĘZyczna TYNIECKA
Szkoła Podstawowa nr 157
im. Adama Mickiewicza w Warszawie



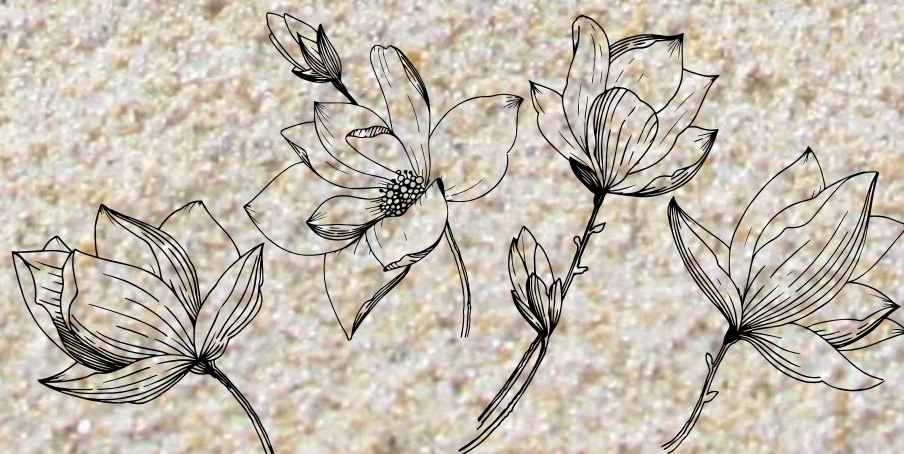
National myths and legends

Our cultural and historical roots are in the history of Europe itself, but taking into account the fact that the differences stem from the relation of each individual to the heritage and history of his people.



This is important because it gives a solid basis of ideas and values to a group of people. Moreover, it can mean that people recognise their need to preserve the past and pass it on to future generations.

Our history and cultural heritage are the basis of the way of life reflected in literature, art, beliefs, mythology, stories, crafts and traditions



Myths from Turkey

Murderous ghoul, sleepy ghost and a gateway to hell - these are just some of the ghostly Turkish legends.



BABA JAGA



The figure of Baba Yaga originally came from Slavic mythology, but has only survived in a degraded form as an element of folklore. She appears there as an old, repulsive witch, living in a hut on a chicken foot deep in the forest.

RUSAŁKA



Rusalki could be forest or water. They usually appeared as beautiful, naked girls with loose, long hair. Less often they appeared as old and disgusting women, for example it was popularly believed that maidens who died before the wedding became mermaids.

LESZY

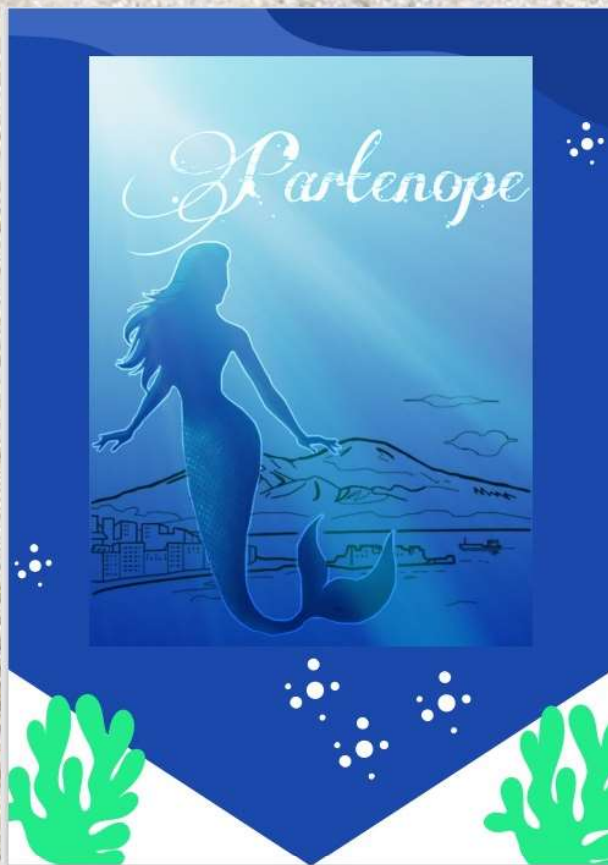


Leszy was a guardian of the forest and all the animals living in it. If a man in the woods behaved appropriately Leszy would tolerate him and could even help to find a lost path. However, he was unfavourable to woodcutters, hunters and people who had no respect for nature.



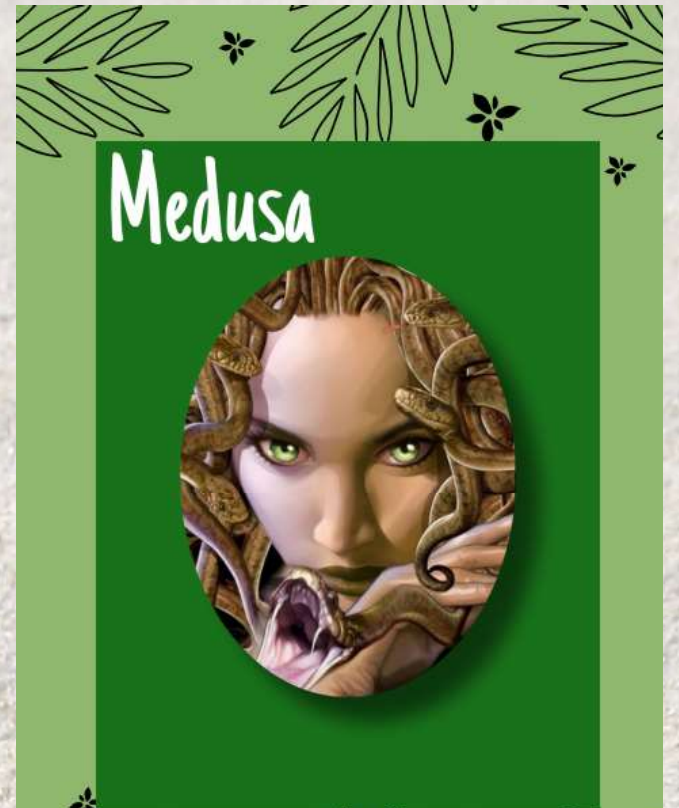
Myths from Italy

Let's read
Roman
myths and
legends



THE MYTH OF PARTHENOPE, THE MERMAID

Neapolis (Naples), founded by the Greeks, is closely linked to the mythological figure of Parthenope, the mermaid, mentioned in the *Odyssey*. She uttered a melodic chant, which attracted men and then killed them. Clearly, the legend is connected to Ulysses, who got tied to the mast of the ship, in order to be able to hear it. However, at the same time, he escaped from the clutches of the mermaids. The mermaids, disappointed, killed themselves by throwing themselves against the cliffs. Accordingly, the body of Parthenope reached the rocks of Magaride, later found by the sailors, who venerated her, as a goddess. Today we know that Parthenope's body has taken the morphology of its splendid landscape, and the citizens of Naples are still used to be called "Partenopei".

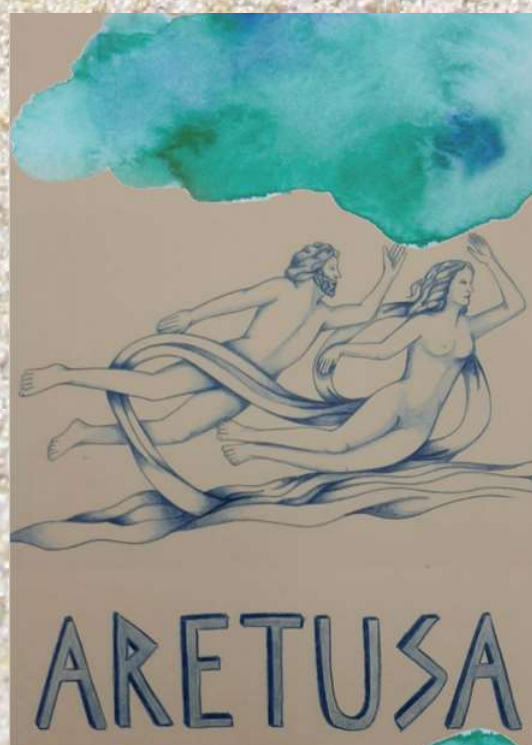


TRINACRIA IS THE SYMBOL OF SICILY, WHICH IS REPRESENTED BY MEDUSA'S HEAD WITH THREE LEGS, IN ORDER TO VENERATE HER. THE ANCIENT ROMANS CHANGED THE SNAKES IN HER HEAD INTO EARS OF WHEAT, BECAUSE THEY CONSIDERED THE ISLAND THE BARN'S EMPIRE.

LEGEND STATES THAT MEDUSA WAS ONCE A BEAUTIFUL, AVOWED PRIESTESS OF ATHENA, WHO WAS CURSED FOR BREAKING HER VOW OF CELIBACY. SHE IS NOT CONSIDERED A GODDESS OR OLYMPIAN. WHEN MEDUSA HAD AN AFFAIR WITH THE SEA GOD POSEIDON, ATHENA PUNISHED HER. SHE TURNED MEDUSA INTO A HIDEOUS HAG, MAKING HER HAIR INTO WRITHING SNAKES AND HER SKIN WAS TURNED INTO A GREENISH HUE. ANYONE WHO GAZED AT MEDUSA WAS TURNED INTO A STONE. THE HERO PERSEUS WAS SENT ON A QUEST TO KILL MEDUSA. HE WAS ABLE TO DEFEAT THE GORGON BY LOPPING OFF HER HEAD, AFTER SEEING HER REFLECTION IN HIS HIGHLY POLISHED SHIELD. HE LATER USED HER HEAD AS A WEAPON TO TURN HIS ENEMIES INTO STONES. AN IMAGE OF MEDUSA'S HEAD WAS EITHER PLACED ON ATHENA'S OWN ARMOUR OR SHOWN ON HER SHIELD.



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THE LEGEND TELLS THAT RIVER GOD ALPHEUS FELL IN LOVE WITH ARETHUSA, NYMPH OF ARTEMIS, AND HE TRIED TO SEDUCE HER IN EVERY WAY. ARETUSA INVOKED THE INTERVENTION OF THE GODDESS THAT TURNED HER INTO A SPRING. SANK BENEATH THE IONIAN, ARETUSA WAS TO LEAD TO ORTIGIA.

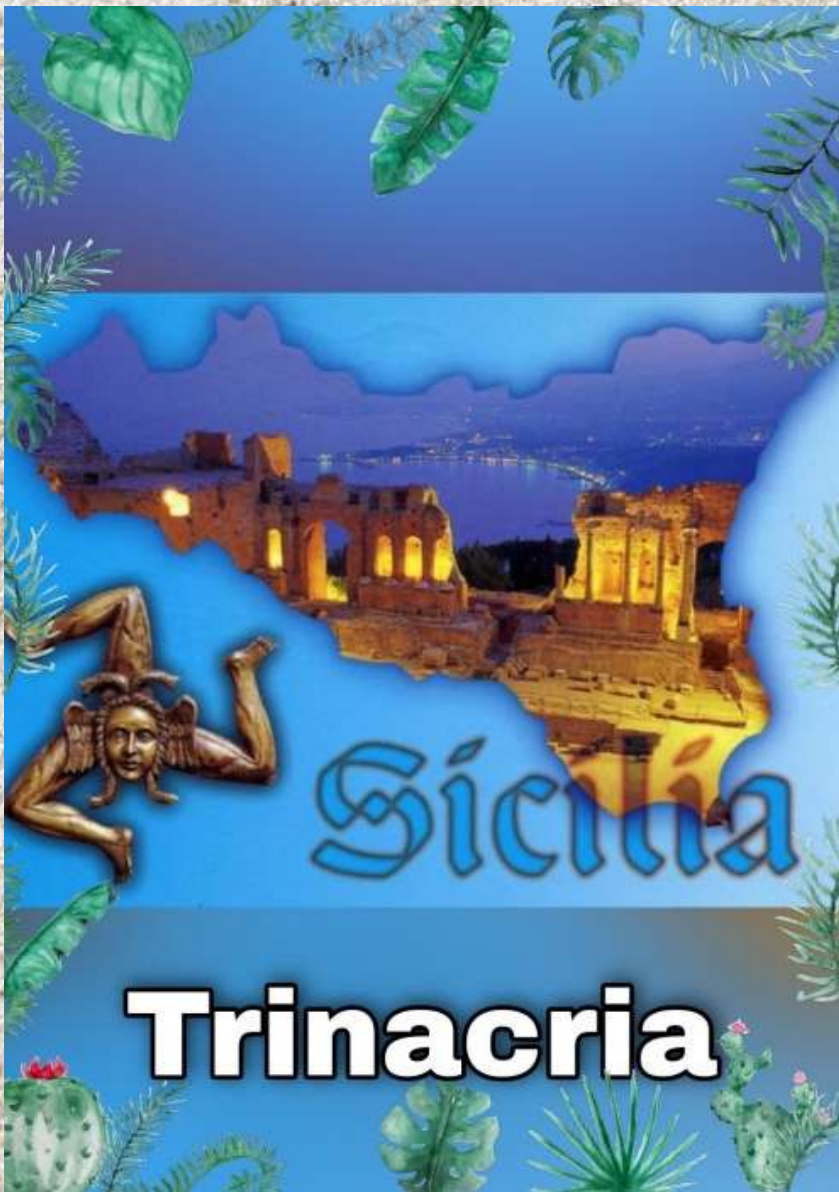
ALFEO, NOT WILLING TO RESIGN HIMSELF, RELIED TO THE WAVES HIS DREAM OF LOVE: HE RAN THROUGH THE UNDERGROUND TO REEMERGE NEXT TO THE BELOVED IN THE GREAT HARBOR. IT IS THE SO-CALLED EYE OF ZILLICA: POLLUTION THAT STILL CAN BE SEEN IN THE HARBOR NEAR THE SPRING. OVER THE CENTURIES THE SPRING HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED; IT WAS OUTSIDE THE CITY'S FORTIFICATIONS AND WAS ACCESSED BY A STEEP STAIRCASE TO THE SEA LEVEL.

THERE STOOD A DOOR, CALLED "SACCARIA" FROM WHICH THE ROMANS ENTERED THE CITY TO CONQUER IT. IN 1540 THE SPRING, WHEN CHARLES V STRENGTHENED THE MILITARY STRUCTURES OF ORTIGIA, WAS ENCLOSED IN THE FORTIFICATIONS. RELEASED IN 1847, THE RESERVOIR TOOK ITS PRESENT SHAPE. THE BELVEDERE NEAR THE SPRING IS WHAT REMAINS OF THE BASTION DEMOLISHED IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.



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Sicily is a land full of myths and legends but above all of places that have inspired the birth of fascinating mythological events: cyclops, Greek gods and nymphs are the main protagonists of these stories handed down for centuries..



Trinacria is a female head with three bent legs connected directly to the head.
It is the symbol of Sicily and is represented in its official coat of arms.


Its history is shrouded in mystery. It is thought that the head is that of the Gorgons: Medusa, Steno and Euriale, with a monstrous appearance, boar fangs, golden wings and snakes instead of hair, able to petrify men with a single glance. As for the spikes on the Medusa's head, these represent abundance and fertility.


According to another version on the origin of the name Trinacria and its symbol, it is said that the three promontories at the three vertices of the island would have arisen thanks to three nymphs. These three splendid creatures danced around the world taking handfuls of earth, small stones and fruit from the most fertile areas.

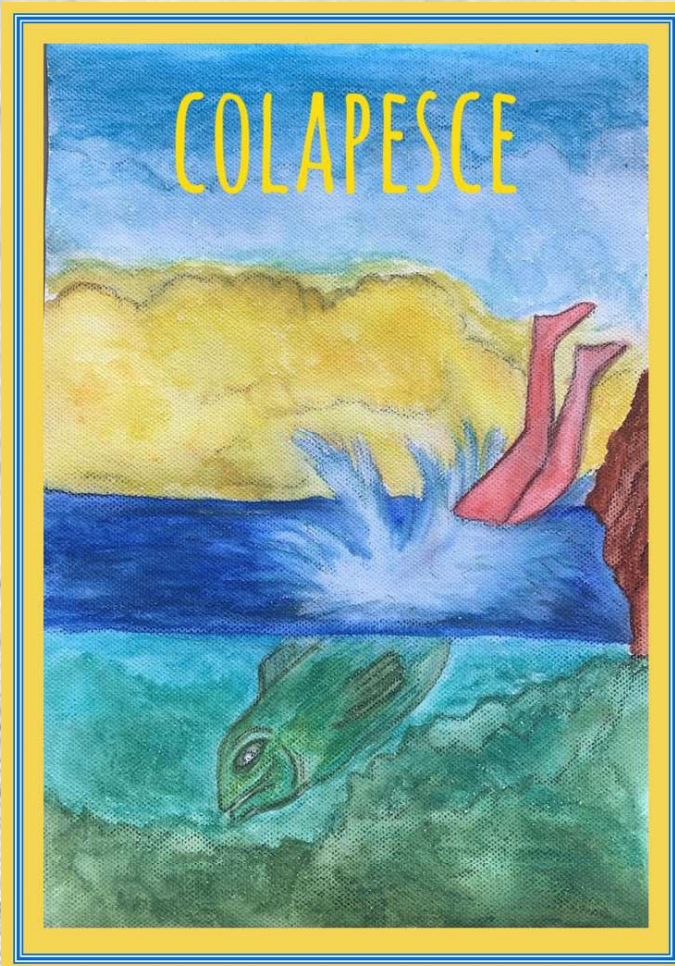
At a certain point, they stopped and the dance became more elegant, so that the three nymphs could throw everything they had collected for the world into the sea. The sea lit up like a rainbow and a whole new land emerged from the waves, rich, fragrant, shining with a triangular shape

As already said, it has three folded legs, arranged in a circular way, which could stand for a possible rotation that could go back to the oriental religious symbology or to that of the moon. Trinacria is also present in the coats of arms of various noble dynasties and has been at the centre of the flag of Sicily since 2000.

Its name derives from the Odyssey, precisely from the Greek treis and akrà (three promontories) and refers to the triangular shape of the island.



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Italian Myths and Legends

This is the story of a Sicilian boy named Cola. He loved the sea and spent his days swimming and diving.

Cola lived in Messina, a beautiful city on the east coast of Sicily, with his mother. She didn't like Cola's strange habits and she used to tell him: "Sooner or later you will turn into a fish"!

Colapesce used to go out and tell all the wonderful treasures he saw while diving.

One day Frederick II, king of Sicily, learned of Colapesce and his strange adventures. The king was curious and asked him to take a look into the deepest sea to find out what can hold the Sicilian back. Both the inhabitants and the king were scared. They begged him to help them. Colapesce, even though he knew diving that deep was extremely dangerous, decided to go.

Everyone said that Colapesce had become half man and half fish and had remained under the sea helping the third column to remain stable.

Until now he holds Sicily and prevents it from being submerged by the sea.



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HEPHAESTUS



ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THE FORGE OF HEPHAESTUS WAS LOCATED ON THE SLOPES OF ETNA. FOR THIS REASON THE VOLCANO GRUMBLED AND THREW LAPILLI. HEPHAESTUS IS REPRESENTED WITH ANVIL, HAMMER, PINNERS, SOMETIMES WITH PART OF AN AX. HEPHAESTUS IS A CHARACTER OF THE ILIAD, WHO WAS RAISED BY THE NEREIDS AFTER HIS MOTHER HERA HAD REPUDIATED HIM. HEPHAESTUS TOOK REVENGE ON HIS MOTHER,, BY BUILDING A MAGICAL GOLDEN THRONE, SO THAT, ONCE THE GODDESS SAT ON IT, SHE WOULD REMAIN IMPRISONED. HEPHAESTUS AGREED TO FREE HIS MOTHER, BUT, IN EXCHANGE, HE DEMANDED TO MARRY APHRODITE. THE MARRIAGE BETWEEN THE UGLIEST OF GODS AND THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DIVINITY OF OLYMPUS CERTAINLY COULD NOT BE THE HAPPIEST. THEREFORE, APHRODITE SOON BEGAN A LOVE AFFAIR, UNKNOWN TO HER HUSBAND, WITH THE MOST HANDSOME ARES. WARNED OF THE BETRAYAL, HEPHAESTUS PREPARED AN INVISIBLE NET AND PLACED IT ON APHRODITE'S BED. WHEN ARES REJOINED APHRODITE, THE NET CLOSED AGAIN, IMMOBILIZING THE TWO LOVERS. HEPHAESTUS SUMMONED ALL THE GODS OF OLYMPUS, SHOWING THEM THE VIEW OF THE NAKED AND TRAPPED BODIES OF THE TWO LOVERS, CAUSING GREAT HILARITY. AS SOON AS SHE WAS FREED, APHRODITE RUN AWAY IN SHAME.



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DWUJĘZYCZNA TYNIECKA Szkoła Podstawowa nr 157 im. Adama Mickiewicza w Warszawie



Myths from Romania


Illustration of a decorative border with a repeating geometric pattern in red and white.

Romanian Mithology



BABA DOCHIA

Cofinanțat prin programul Erasmus+ al Uniunii Europene



In Romanian mythology, Baba Dochia, or The Old Dochia, is a figure identified with the return of spring.

She is sometimes imagined as “an old woman” who insults the month of March when she goes out with a herd of sheep or goats.


The legend of Dragomir

Baba has a son called Dragomir, who is married. Dochia treats her daughter-in-law badly by sending her to pick up berries in the forest at the end of February. God appears to the girl as an old man and helps her in her task. When Dochia sees the berries, she thinks that spring has come back and leaves for the mountains with her son and her goats. She is dressed with twelve lambskins, but it rains on the mountain and the skins get soaked and heavy. Dochia has to get rid of the skins and when frost comes she perishes from the cold with her goats. Her son freezes to death with a piece of ice in his mouth as he was playing the flute.




We've all heard of Dracula but do you know any of the other fascinating legends and myths of Romania?
For example Baba Dochia.....

And others.....



Romanian Mithology



SÂNZIENELE

The legend says that Sânziennele are amazingly beautiful girls, fairies, who live in forests or in the fields. They are said to be part of the Iele family, gracious fairies with magical powers. Unlike the most of Iele, who can be mean and evil, Sânziennele are always good and kind to humans.

They start a round dance called 'hora' while bringing flowers and weeds to life, turning them into miraculous medicinal plants, good for healing all diseases.




This happens on the night before June 24, when they are flying over meadows, smelling and touching the wildflowers, enriching them with special healing properties. The dance is performed by a group of 5-7 young girls, with a chosen one called Drăgaica. She is dressed as a bride, wearing a wheat wreath on her forehead, while the other girls are dressed in white. According to ancestral tradition, on Sânzienne's Eve, it is said that the fairies bless the animals and the fountains, strengthen the marriages, heal people of different diseases and then like to dance and sing until dawn.

On the eve of June 23, girls used to pick yellowweed flowers on the fields and made wreaths that they threw over the roofs. At night, the girls who want to get married join the young men who want to wed.


Older people are also throwing garlands over the roof to find out when they'll die.

There's the belief that when the garland will fall from the roof, death is near.

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Romanian Mithology



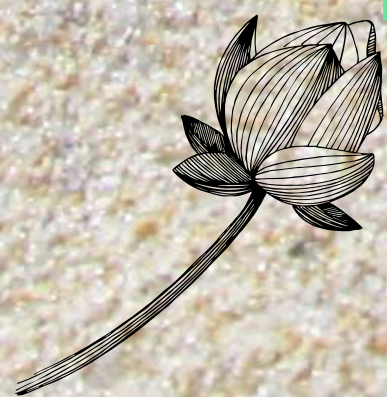


LUCEAFĂRUL

Luceafărul it's the popular name of several stars, or planet Venus.

Luceafărul appears in Bible and Romanian folklore as different characters


- **In Bible :**
In the Old Testament The Babilon king say: "How you fall from the sky Luceafăr/Lucifer...".
In the New testament Saint Peter is referring to Jesus as Luceafărul : "When the new day will come out Luceafărul will rise in your hearts".
In the Apocalypse, Jesus is known as the Bright Star of the Morning which is associated as Luceafăr
- **In Romanian folklore :**
Luceafărul is associated with some demons, or with the Titan Hyperion, from the Greek mythology.

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ROMANIAN MITHOLOGY

ZAMOLXIS



SUPREME
GETO-DACIAN
GOD

ZAMOLXIS IS SUPREME DIVINITY OF DACIAN DESCENDENTS OF ROMANIAN PEOPLE. HE IS A DISCIPLE OF PYTHAGORAS, WISE, PHILOSOPHER AND SCHOLAR. HE HOLDS BANQUETS TO TRAIN THE KING AND HIS SERVANTS. HE LIVES IN A CAVE INACCESSIBLE TO ORDINARY PEOPLE ON MOUNT KOGAIONON. HE DISAPPEARS UNKNOWINGLY INTO THE UNDERGROUND WORLD HE BUILT HIMSELF. ZAMOLXIS HAS MAGICAL HEALING POWERS THROUGH POWERFUL SPELLS. FAITH IN HIM MAKES THE DACIANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS IMMORTAL FOREVER. HE IS DEIFIED AND LOVED BY THE PEOPLE FOR HIS POWER TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE. WHEN HIS PEOPLE ARE OPPRESSED, ZAMOLXIS CRIES AND HIS TEARS ARE THE CRYSTALLINE RIVERS OF THE CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS.



Romanian Mithology




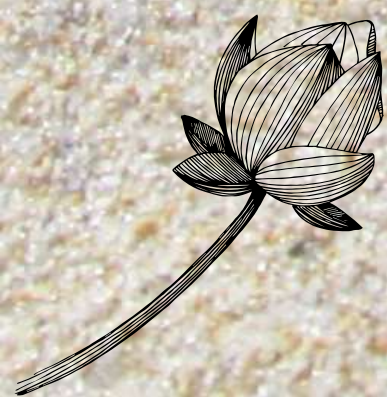
ZMEUL



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The Zmeu is a fantastic creature of Romanian folklore and Romanian mythology. Sometimes compared to other fantastic creatures, such as the balaur or the vârcolac, the zmeu is nevertheless distinct, because it usually has clear anthropomorphic traits: it is humanoid and has legs, arms, the ability to create and use artifacts such as weapons, and has the desire to marry young girls. In some stories, Zmeu appears in the sky and spits fire. In other stories, it has a magical precious stone on its head that shines like the sun. It likes beautiful young girls, whom it kidnaps, usually for the purpose of marrying them. It is almost always defeated by a daring prince or knight-errant. Its natural form is that of a dragon or balaur.

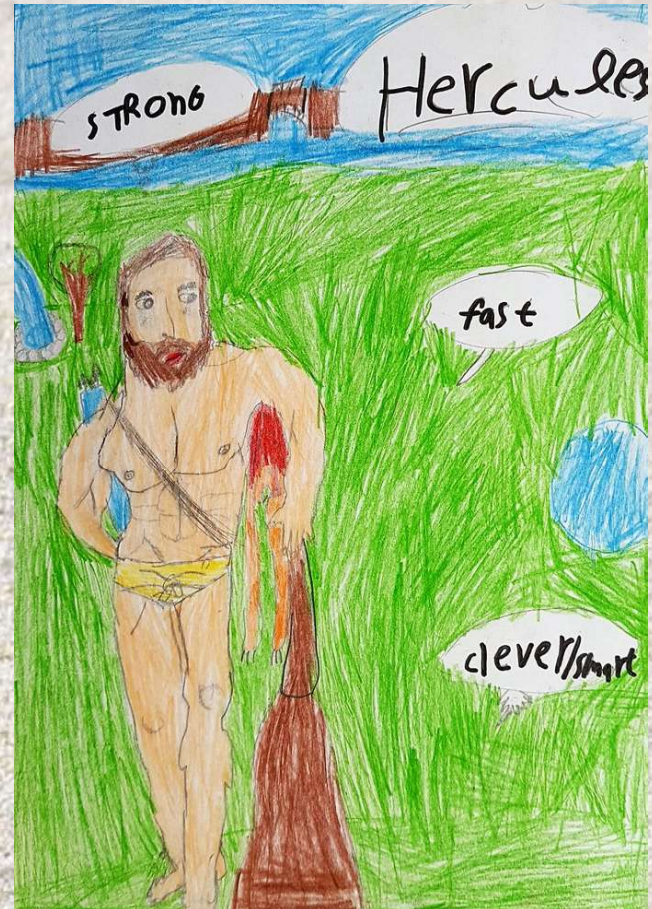
Myths from Greece

in
children's
eyes



Myths from Greece

Hercules

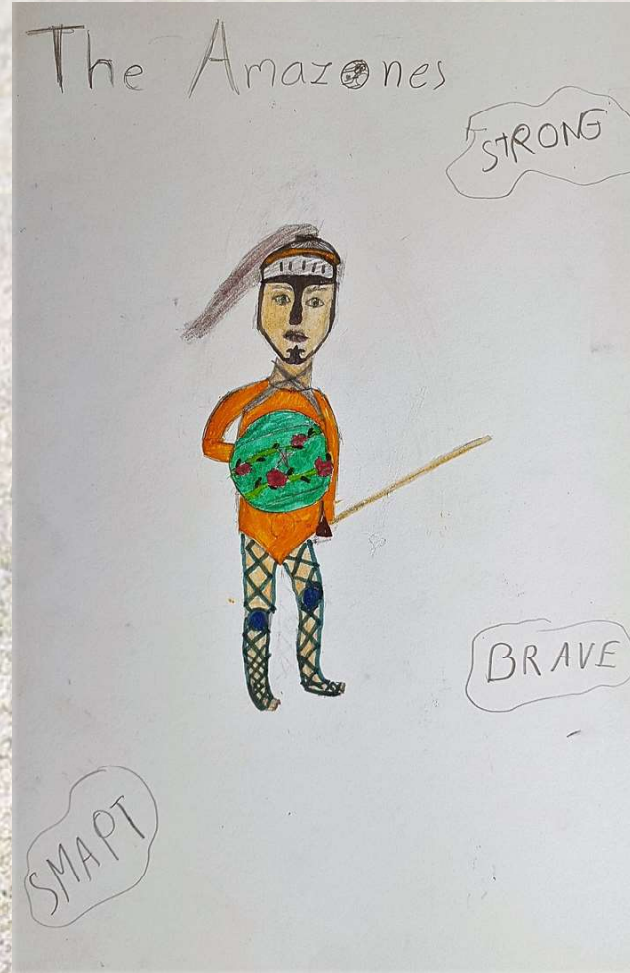


Achilles

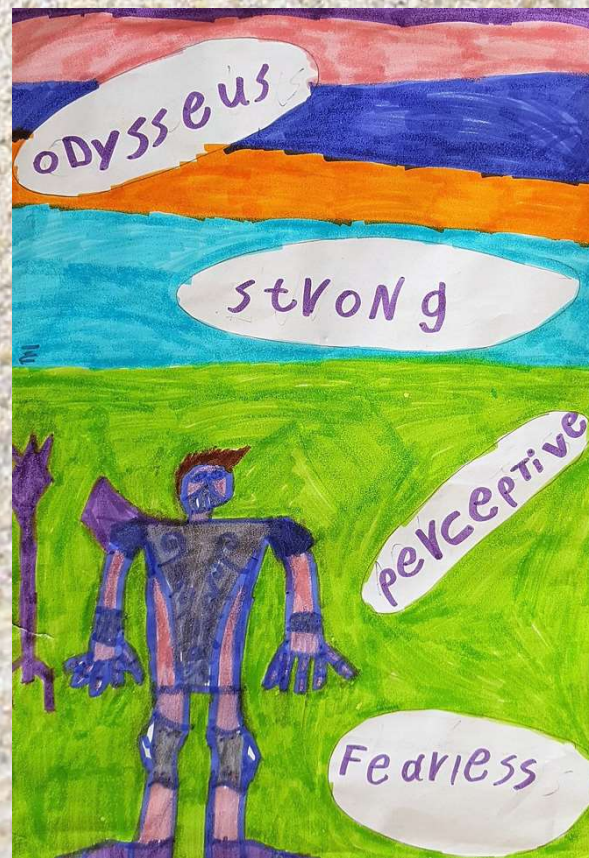
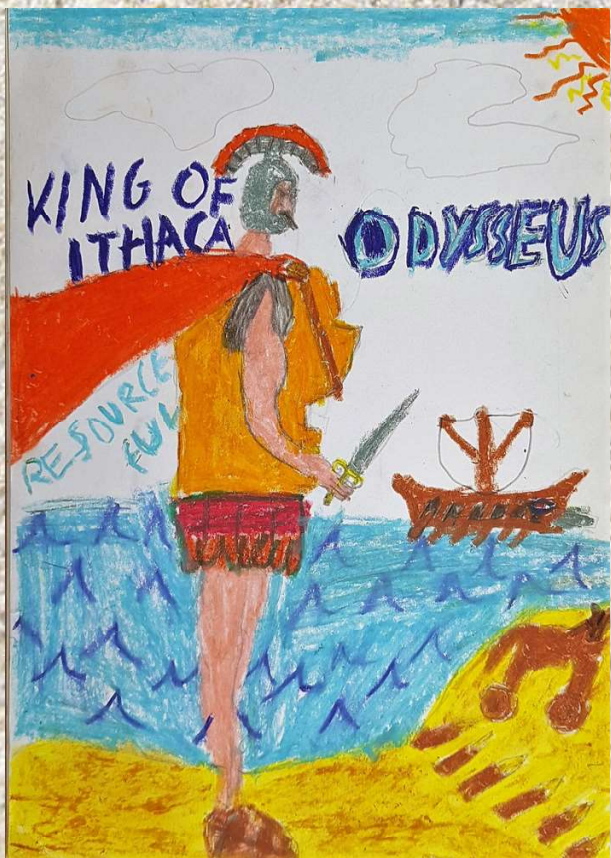


Myths from Greece

Amazon



Odysseus



Myths from Greece

Theseus



Perseus

