Metamorphoses Myth Compendium

In this random piece of paper we will be looking some random Greek people who totally got unlucky endings.. The best reason about reading this piece of paper is to make yourself feel better because when you find out how these people ended up you will feel a bit better because you will (probably) be surprised how miserable their lives were. In this document didn’t happen to you. Ummm, let’s choose four of them, that we be enough for this project. We’ll be going back a four thousand years to decapitate monsters, shoot a few gods in the butt, loot the underworld and steal loot from evil people. Ready? Let’s go!

Theseus and the Minotaur

Once their was a guy called Theseus, before the events of this piece of paper he slaughtered a few monsters, freed a few towns and princesses from evil monarch’s and destroyed a few tacky malls on the journey from Troezen to Athens. When he arrived at Athens he killed a white bull and sacrificed it a a temple of Zeus then made his way up to the castle to meet his father, he freed his father of all his enemies and his evil wife, Medea. Then, went to Crete because Minos (evil king supreme) as a payment for something Aegeus (Theseus’ dad) did in the past. When Theseus sailed away from Athens, Aegeus said “When you get back from Crete can you change your sail to white so I know you survived.”

“I will!” Theseus called “I plan of Minotaur slaying!’

Then he set course to Crete.

Crete was a giant city with lots of stone temples and statues to the gods. The city bustled with noise and chatter, traders were setting up stands, forges flashed with light and the market bustled with people. On a hill far east of the city screams could be heard and a loud rumble could be heard, basically the average city backdrop back in the day. When they docked, Minos and a few henchmen there waiting up the path, tapping their feet on the floor and their weapons at the ready.

“We’ve been waiting all day!” A soldier complained “we’ve been waiting all day and-“

“Silence!” Minos ordered. “They’re here now and if you complain again I will feed you to the Minotaur!”

Instantly the soldier stood up straight, his weapon by his side. Theseus noticed someone or something lurking behind one of the houses and as instinct he pulled his bronze club out.

“Stop right there!” Minos called “You will not be allowed weapons in the challenge, you’ll have to use your hands!”

Swiftly his men ran down the hill and disarmed him.

“Now follow me!” Minos shouted “You can’t do the challenge with a empty stomach!”

Theseus and a couple of young men followed Minos to his palace, their stomachs groaning as Minos described what food he eats every day of the week.

Meanwhile, do you remember that Theseus had spotted someone behind a house? That was Ariadne, Princess Ariadne and she fell in love with Theseus was soon as she saw him, you know the phrase ‘love at first sight? That was how Ariadne felt about Theseus and she couldn’t watch him just die at the hands of that monster… So she went to the smartest person on earth, Daedalus and asked for his help.

“Well you go into the Labyrinth with no weapons but the Minotaur has to perfectly good weapons on the top of his head, so you can break off one of the Minotaur horns and use it to kill him,” Daedalus described. “If you use his actual name Asterion that may confuse the Minotaur for a few seconds.”

Ariadne hugged him and set off for the palace to tell Theseus.

When Theseus arrived at the palace, seven wooden chairs were placed under the table and the same amount of plates were set on the table already with the most delicious of food. They wolfed down the food as Ariadne arrived at the table. Once Theseus was finished with his meal he told jokes and what happened on his adventure from Troezen to Athens. Minos hated Theseus because he was getting all of the attention, he was the king, he should have the attention. Minos quickly pulled off his gold and bronze ring and flung it out the window, Theseus chased after it. Theseus was very fast but a ring rolling down hill at 50mph is faster and soon the ring dropped on a beach 10 meters down. He did a quiet prayer to Poseidon and flung his a spare chicken drumstick into the sea where it devolved into sea silt and Theseus jumped off the cliff.

The sea caught him in mid-air and he slid to the bottom, unharmed. He picked up the ring and the sea pushed him up onto the cliff. He ran as fast as he could to the palace, when he was back at the palace the princesses gasped and King Minos’ chair broke under him and he tumbled onto the floor.

“OW!” Minos screamed. “I will see you in the garden tomorrow morning at 05:00.”

Then the king scurried off clutching his badly bruised head like he had a headache.

It was 05:00 Theseus had already brushed his teeth (with his sword) and took a bath in the hot spring, he was just drying off when Princess Ariadne found him and told him what Daedalus said. Theseus thanked her, quickly put on his clothes behind a tree and ran off to join the others. When he arrived Minos was already sending people in one by one.

“You’re late.” Minos said. “But too late to change my mind now, in you go!”

Theseus was shoved into the Labyrinth and the gates were slammed behind him. After a while of wandering in the Labyrinth’s cold stone walls, he found the Minotaur.

“Hey ugly!” Theseus shouted “Over here!”

The Minotaur turned around a dead body still in his mouth.

“You look like livestock!”

The Minotaur charged (after swallowing the body whole). Theseus rolled and karate chopped at the Minotaur dodging all attacks the Minotaur used until he remembered what Ariadne said.

“I will chop you up into beef! Theseus shouted. “Your horns look like a ram’s horn!”

The Minotaur was mad he was cruelly tortured by humans he wanted revenge, plus he was hungry. So he put his head down and launched himself down the tunnel towards our hero. If you know about the Minotaur, the Minotaur can go up to 100mph on the highway and not get a speeding fee but the downside is that he can’t stop. So Theseus used this tactic, the Minotaur kicked off the ground at 100mph and again Theseus dodged and the Minotaur slammed into the wall. Swiftly, Theseus climbed onto the beasts back and snapped one of his horns off.

“Mooooooo!” The Minotaur roared in agony.

“Asterion!” Theseus called.

The Minotaur stopped in his tracks, that name reminded him of something, something before he was cruelly trapped in this maze. A woman, maybe his mother? Theseus darted to the Minotaur and stabbed him in the gut with his own horn. The Minotaur roared something about being a bull and dissolved into yellow powder.

Theseus had done, it he had killed the Minotaur, with his own hands (which now where covered in blood) tried to remember his way back but the Labyrinth kept on moving. After a few hours he found the gates.

“Hellooo Minotaur gone bye bye now can I come back out now?” Theseus called

Ariadne quickly ordered the guards to open the gate and they hugged, they should have a happy ending now right? Well, the creators of this myth are very tragic and want a different ending, a sad ending.

Princess Ariadne wanted to leave Crete with Theseus and when her younger sister found out she yelled

“I want to come too!”

So both princess went to join the Athenians in Athens and all Minos could do about it was smash stuff and scream and that was what he did. They set off at noon (this is the messed up part) and arrived to sleep at a beautiful island called Naxos and when Ariadne woke up Theseus was already sailing away and shouting how he never loved her. Luckily for her Dionysus spotted her crying and begging for Theseus to come back he made her his immortal wife on Olympus so thing turned out good for her and anyways she wouldn’t wanted to marry him anyway because he did a bad job at the whole ‘husband’ thing.

After Theseus dumped off Ariadne off at Naxos he started to date Ariadne’s younger sister and married her. You know at the start Aegeus said about the white sail? Well, he forgot that and when Aegeus saw that the ships sails weren’t white he killed himself, flinging himself off a 10 metre cliff so Theseus had to take over. Theseus was miffed about his father’s death but in town, King Theseus was a hero! In a few villages next to Athens there was a jerk called Pirithous and challenged him to a duel. Furious, Theseus stormed to the duelling area to meet Pirithous, and kill him but they were just as fast strong and durable and became friends instead. This is what I would call a bad friend. They went pillaging, destroying entire nations and visited the Amazons where Theseus had a son called Hippolytus until one day Pirithous had a very bad idea

“Let’s go and raid the underworld and kidnap Persephone so I can marry her,” Pirithous said. “It will be fun!”

Theseus agreed to this (why does he have to agree?) and they went to the underworld, bullying Charon until he let them across the River Styx and torturing souls until they give them directions. Then they sat down for a rest but Theseus’ eyes were a little too heavy and he had a short nap.

The three furies cackled with laughter, Theseus tried to move but couldn’t and found his entire body up to his neck turned to stone.

“Pirithous!” Theseus called. “Help!”

He looked at his friend, but only to find that he was fully frozen to stone.

“Enjoy the resssst of your life!” one of the Furies said, “In the Underworld.”

He was stuck like that until Hercules went to the underworld for his 12th labour and he freed Theseus , he went back to Athens but they didn’t like him anymore as they were tired of him acting like a jerk and he found out that his own son Hippolytus had married his wife and he flew into a rampage and killed his son. To escape punishment he escaped to Scyros where the people didn’t like him ether and they voted him to be executed and he flung him down a cliff and this time Poseidon did not save him and he died. I think the moral is don’t make bad friends and don’t get involved with the bad things they do

The Very Beginning

In Greek and Roman myths there is a tale about how the universe is made and this is the tale where I tell you what Greeks and romans believed what happened at the beginning. At the start, there was nothing and the only thing you would find was only one thing, the gloomy void of Chaos. Then Chaos made the Earth, I don’t know why, maybe Chaos got bored of being gloomy, who knows? Unfortunately, when Chaos made the Earth it developed a living personality which called itself Gaia or Gaea, take your pick and that living personality could take on human shape and could walk on the Earth (which is basically walking on itself).

One day, Gaia got bored and said that she would like a sky which she could marry and soon a sky formed over the earth. No one knows how the sky formed over the earth -maybe Chaos heard her prayer or she just willed it to happen- but all we do know is that the sky could also take on human shape and could walk on the earth as well , which was good because long distance relationships don’t work out, and called himself Uranus. Other primordial forces formed like Tartarus and Pontus and they also wanted to marry Gaia which put a strain on her relationship with Uranus. They had three types of children, the Elder Cyclopes, the One-Hundred Handed Ones and the Titians. The Elder Cyclopes had one eye and this didn’t work out well with Uranus so, he threw them into Tartarus the only place where he didn’t have to look at them. The One-Hundred Handed Ones, we’ll have one hundred hands and again Uranus hated them, so it was down to the pit for them as well. The Titians were lucky, they didn’t have any strange features so the got to stay. When Gaia found out she had a massive earthquake tantrum.

“Your father is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ “ Gaia screamed.

That probably was the first cuss word ever invented and after about a millennia she found a solution, a wicked solution.

She invented the scythe.

“My children, may I present this scythe, because your father is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ one of you must kill him!” Gaia shouted

There were 12 Titians, 6 girls 6 boys, the girls had no interest for killing their father and they made excuses and left and that left only the six boys. The six boys were named Oceanus, Polus, Krios, Hyperion, Iapetus, and Kronos but Oceanus also had no interest in killing his father and made his excuse before going to the ocean to do so watery stuff. Kronos pushed his way to the front.

“I would be honoured to kill Uranus, mother.” Kronos said calmly

“That’s my boy, ummm… what your name?” Gaia said

“Kronos!”

“Ok Kronos, how do you plan to kill your father?”

Then Kronos told her the plan.

Uranus immediately showed up for the fancy dinner party.

“I heard you’re planning on making up,” Uranus said.

“Yes,” Gaia said coolly.

“And you are totally not trying to kill me.”

“Yes, totally.”

As the dinner party went, on the five Titians had hidden behind giant cheese plant pots.

“Psst, get ready.” Kronos whispered.

 Vines curled up Uranus’ chair and flipped him over laying him eagle-spread on the floor.

“Gaia!” Uranus called. “Help!”

The Titians dashed to him growing in side to approximately 30 feet and pinned his arms and legs on the floor. Iapetus got hit in in the face by one of Uranus’ feet and he went sprawling into a wall before zooming back to pin the leg back down. Kronos approached Uranus, raising his scythe.

“What have you’d done Gaia?” Uranus shouted.

“You didn’t show mercy to our children, husband.” Gaia bellowed. “Now we won’t show mercy to you!”

“If you do this … what’s your name?” Uranus screamed.

“Kronos!” bellowed Kronos.

“If you do this, Kronos I will curse you!” Uranus shouted with fury. “Your own children will do the same to you, you will be chopped down like I am!”

“Whatever,” Kronos said, then brought down the scythe.

Do you know where Kronos brought down the scythe? Just image the most painful place to hit a man. Yes, that the place. Uranus howled as Kronos chopped and chopped and chopped him into a million pieces, only leaving the place he first chopped, he wrapped it in the bloody loincloth, then threw it in the sea, as an insult to his brother Oceanus for not helping out with the murder. Then they partied, Gaia made cookies with sprinkles and squash for all of them, Kronos put on the music which was called ‘Murder with Kronos’ which consisted of Uranus screaming as he was chopped in the place and blood splattering everywhere. He gave the Titans who helped out in the murder one of the four corners of the Earth, North, East, South and, West and afterwards freed the Elder Cyclopes and the One-Hundred Handed Ones to make mom happy. As Gaia saw the Titians rule she was happy, very happy so she settled for a quick nap, which would be for a few millennia.

If this was a children’s story it would end with ‘and they lived happily ever after’ but that never happens in Greek myths so it goes on. Prometheus was just modelling clay buy the river one day and he thought,’ hmmm this one looks a lot like me! Then he breathed life into the clay and if became a minor life force, you may have heard of it, it was called ***humans.*** Some Titans like the humans but they lived very short lives and some Titans didn’t mind humans because they mostly were hiding in there caves, others thought they were repulsive rodents but it doesn’t matter too much in this story anyway. Then one day the Titans thought “if mom married Uranus who are we going to marry and they looked at the girl titans and thought hmmmm”

I know, disgusting right. It’s probably because they didn’t have the law back then. Here’s the run down, Oceanus and Tethys married each other under the sea,  Hyperion and Theia married each other because they both liked sparkly stuff and Coeus and Phoebe ended up together for a reason I am not sure of. Seeing all the other Titans getting married, Kronos was getting jealous but he was too scared because of the curse Uranus put on him. Before I can tell you who Kronos married I have to tell you this, at 4:00am in the morning Kronos heard a Elder Cyclops hammering a piece of metal outside his room, on a weekend! So he got some goons together and chained the Elder Cyclopes and One-Hundred Handed Ones and threw them back in Tartarus under the guard of the most fearsome monster, Kampe.

Now I will tell you who Kronos married, and it was his doom. Rhea, beautiful Rhea, and if Kronos saw any of the other Titans flirting with her he would pull them aside and had a quick talk with them, his scythe in hand. Eventually, after many months of tense relationship, Rhea and Kronos had a baby girl called Hestia and as a tradition Rhea gave Kronos the baby to hold, the baby radiated power more powerful then any Titan then he remembered the curse that one of his children would overthrow him, I guess he thought that it’s because she was more powerful them him, she would fulfil the curse. So Kronos did the one thing Rhea would never have forgiven him for, he swallowed the baby. Rhea’s scream was so loud that Tartarus could hear her as the palace ringed with noise.

“Why-did-you-do-that” Rhea screamed.

“Well there was this prophecy-“ Kronos started

“I never want to see your face again!”

Then Rhea stormed out of the palace.

There were a lot to times where they made up but the same event’s happened again, another beautiful girl named Demeter, swallowed.

Another girl name Hera, also swallowed. Then a boy named Hades, every father wants to play catch with their mate, right? Nope down the hatch to you my lad! Then again another boy named Poseidon, same story. Until the last child, every child was devoured into Kronos’ big, fat mouth and Rhea went to pray for help from Gaia.

“Go to Crete, you will find sanctuary there!” Gaia said sleepily.

“Where is Crete?” Rhea questioned.

“You got North and at 50 miles and turn East, never mind you’ll find it!”

After a few days of searching Greece she found a small island and she guessed it was Crete so she went there and gave birth there. You remember the Kronos murdered Uranus, well Uranus’ blood splattered everywhere and created nymphs and satyrs and to Rhea’s surprise there were already two nymphs and a magical goat there.

“I was told by Mother Gaia to-“ Gaia began

“We know, we were sent by Gaia too,” one of the nymphs interrupted. “We came here with our goat which has milk, chocolate, tea, coffee, slushy and baby formula flavours!”

“We suppose you are here to give birth?” The other nymph continued. “To a baby?”

The next day, Rhea gave birth to a son and he was named Zeus. Then Rhea consulted Gaia.

“Gaia, what should I do?” Rhea moaned. “Kronos will get suspicious if I don’t bring him another baby to swallow!”

Then, out of the ground popped a stone. The exact same weight and size as a newborn baby, so Rhea picked the stone up and wrapped it in some spare clothes she bought for Zeus at *Costco* and went back to the palace.

“I have come back with another baby!” Rhea said cheerfully. “His name is… Rocky!

Kronos snarled. “Give it to me then.”

“No!”

It one expert move, Kronos swiped up the rock and (without looking) swallowed it whole.

“What have you been feeding this baby?” Kronos questioned. “ He was very filling.”

“Why should you care?” Rhea cried. “ I will never have another baby again!”

Then Rhea ran out of the palace fake tears streaming down her face. Kronos sat on his throne grandly, he had won, he had thwarted Uranus’ curse! There was no more children to take over is throne! He had won! Meanwhile, Rhea visited Crete as often as she could and told Zeus a lot of tales about his siblings, waiting to be rescued from inside the evil king’s stomach.

Rhea watched as little Zeus grew up to be a handsome man and one day went to Kronos’ palace and took his place as the royal cup bearer. Then Rhea told his a plan, Zeus put poison into all the Titans drinks and set them off for a ‘who can drink the most wine’ challenge and after a few minutes all the Titans were incapacitated and Kronos vomited all the children plus the rock. They escaped before the Titans could come to their senses and decapitate them and Rhea gave them some advice as the Titans were much more experienced warriors them.

“Adventure to Tartarus and find the Elder Cyclopes and One-Hundred Handed Ones, they are good weapon-makers.” Rhea told them.

So they did, Hades leading the way because he found out he was really good at finding his way around caves and it was not long before they found the prison and the evil Kampe.

Kampe lashed her whip, “Stop slaking!”

Then quickly disappeared into the bathroom to check up on her makeup. They quickly snuck in and talked with the lead One-Hundred Handed One, Briarus.

“Pssst, we’re here to save you!” Zeus whispered.

“How?” Briarus whimpered.

Then Zeus told him the plan.

He ordered the sender Cyclopes and the One-Hundred Handed Ones to make three super powered items, the Master Bolt for Zeus, A Trident for Poseidon and a Helm of Darkness for Hades.

“Why do I get a stupid helmet?” Hades moaned.

He puts it on and immediately disappeared.

“Where are you?” both Poseidon and Zeus said simultaneously.

“Your lucky that you even get a stupid item,” Hera said. “We don’t get one.”

“Boo!” Hades appeared behind them and they both jump a metre off the ground

“Now that’s better!” Hades said coolly

Zeus and Poseidon tried their weapons, Zeus’ Bolt blasted the prison cells to small pieces of bronze and Poseidon’s Trident created a massive blast of water that made the handcuffs on the Elder Cyclopes and One-Hundred Handed Ones to slide off.

“Who goes there?” Kampe bursted out of the bathroom looking rather menacing because her makeup had smudged on her scales. “I sssshall sssslice you into pieces!

Zeus immediately pointed his Master Bolted and blasted Kampe into dust, the only remaining signs that she existed was her two poisonous swords and a barm of *Permanent Makeup: Ideally for Scales* in the bathroom and they made it back to surface ground with the Elder Cyclopes and One-Hundred Handed Ones. Then they went back to Crete to find their mother.

“The Titans are very well prepared, they’ve got the glossiest of armour and the fanciest of shoes!” Rhea warned them.

The gods took a few years to figure out their game plan and when they were ready they ascended Mount Olympus, the mountain opposite to Mount Etna, the base of the Titans. The battle is hard to describe but a old philosopher told how it was fought, Zeus shot his Master Bolt at Mount Etna and, BOOM the old king fell from his throne. Then shortly after, they invaded Mount Etna’s ruins with the help of the Elder Cyclopes and the One-Hundred Handed Ones, crushing any little resistance tying up all of the bad Titans. They cast the Titans into Tartarus then Atlas, son of Iapetus told them this.

“Without the Titans of the East, West, North and South the sky would fall, the sky is longing to reunite with the Earth”

So the gods made Atlas stand on a mountain above the Garden of Hesperides, holding up the sky. While, Zeus grabbed Kronos scythe and chopped him into a hundred bits, before casting his remains into Tartarus along with the other Titans.

After the war, they built their own palace on Olympus and flipped a coin to see who got what domain. Zeus got the sky, Poseidon the Sea and Hades the Underworld and called themselves gods. To rule over these ‘*humans’* you may have heard of.

Orpheus

Once the was a man called Oeagrus, he was a soldier in the army and when he was marching into battle he raised the other soldiers morals by launching into some nice humming songs. Fortunately, that caught the eye of the muse Calliope and she fell in love with him and had a son called **Orpheus.** Shortly after, Calliope left him and Oeagrus was left with alone with Orpheus. Then, Oeagrus tried to teach Orpheus sword fighting or archery but Orpheus wasn’t the ‘fighting kind’, when held a sword he would drop it and yell,

“I hate sharp edges!”

And when he was given a sword he would strum the string playing a random song.

When he got to the age 13, Calliope invited him to Olympus for music lesson where he would learn to become an very talented musician, soon the student outshone the teachers because of his mother’s divine powers and his fathers mortal edginess. They made him try various different types of musical instruments (the Flute, the Piano, the Guitar, the French Horn) and he was amazing at everything and soon they found the instrument that would make him famous. The only problem was, it belonged to a god. Often after his music lessons, he stayed behind to avoid being shouted at by his father, nagging him that he couldn’t even hold a sword properly and one time, when Apollo was doing a preparing for a five-hour long party, preparing to do ‘One Million Handsome Features About Apollo’ with the Muse that he picked up the Lyre.

Of course, at that time that was the only lyre ever made, made by the god Hermes as a peace offering between them. **Do not ask me later.** Then Apollo jumped out of his chair, kicking the stool into one of the Muses faces, preparing to incinerate this mortal when Orpheus launched into the beautiful solo in history. Apollo hesitated, how could a mortal play god-level music? Even he couldn’t have made a song like that with his divine skills, what made this mortal so good? After a few hours Orpheus stopped,

“I’m so sorry Apollo, you may kill me now,” Orpheus said calmly. “My life is complete, I played the lyre.”

“You can keep it.” Apollo smiled.

“Excuse me?” Orpheus looked shocked.

Apollo cleared his throat, “I said you could keep it, play this lyre and spread it’s music across the world! Just don’t let people play ‘Stairway to Heaven’ I’m so tired of that song.”

A smile appeared on Orpheus’ face, “Thank you sir!”

Then Orpheus descended from Olympus and travelled all over the world playing songs. His songs were so good that if he simply passed through a village, the whole villages population followed Orpheus and would walk miles to hear him play. They would wake up thinking,

‘I like in Crete, what am I doing in Egypt?’ before their ears filled with the amazing music Orpheus produced from scratch and they re-joined the crowd. Soon, his music could change the environment, trees moved on their roots to hear his music, rocks moved out of the way when they block his path and birds listened silently, probably trying to get some tips for their songs. If Orpheus saw someone trying to learn ‘Stairway To Heaven’ he took their instrument and smashed it against a wall, soon Orpheus had millions of followers from around the world, if he posted a one GreekTwitter musical video he would get the whole world to like is Tweet in under a month.

Orpheus traveled on many other adventures, such as going on the Argo, and soon Orpheus travelled back to his hometown, Pieria and constructed the Dionsion Mysteries before going back home. When he got home he said to his dad,

“I am back home to escape from my millions of fans.” Orpheus stated.

“What fans? Old Oeugrus grumbled. “You don’t have fans

Orpheus sighed, “Yes, I do dad.”

“You still can’t hold a sword properly.”

Orpheus burst out of the house, it’s very weird, whatever you are to the world, your hometown still thinks that you are a useless pebble in a garden a giant stones. Eventually, he found a beautiful woman called Eurydice whom in a few week got married to, they were the perfect pair, beauty to Orpheus’ music, love to Orpheus’ heart. One day they were sitting on a bench near the woods and Orpheus decides to practise because even the best of musicians need to practise and Eurydice decides to take a stroll in the woods, a very bad idea. So Eudydice went for that stroll. Meanwhile, Aristaeus was jealous, he wanted to marry Eurydice, he wanted to propose to her one day after Orpheus snatched her away and who would marry the best musician in the world if they could marry a cheese god. So did a really stupid thing, he jump out and screamed,

“Marry me!”

Of course, Eurydice did the obvious thing and she ran, screaming for help, but Aristaeus kept on jumping in front of her shouting ‘Marry me!’

Then she fell into a nest of venomous snakes and they bite her, killing her. Aristaeus was shocked, if everyone knew he killed Eurydice no one would buy his cheese or milk from the market, so he did the cowardly thing and ran.

When Orpheus saw his dead love he said to the snakes,

“Kill me too!”

 He was heartbroken and he launched into the saddest, longest solo ever recorded, trees oozed tears of sap, rocks destroyed themselves and wolves howled. After he finished his solo it was already 70CE and he decided,

“Eurydice’s death was not fair, I will go to the underworld to claim her back.”

So he went to the deepest point in earth and used his **super** sad music to split open the earth, revealing a staircase to the underworld. So he descended into the dark world meeting Charon to get across the River Styx,

“Halt Demigod!” Charon commanded. “I will have to kill you by-“

Then Orpheus played ‘Boat of the Riverside’ sad version.

“That was so-“ Charon sobbed. “Fine, I’ll take you across the Styx, but no sad music along the way!”

Orpheus arrived at the other end of Styx and waved Charon farewell and went to the gates of the palace, the guard dog Cerberus ready of action until Orpheus played the theme tune of ‘Old Yeller’ and Cerberus rolled aside and Orpheus stepped inside the palace, in the dinning room he found Hades and Persephone and they were eating ‘Cerberus’ Cereal’ which costed 10 pounds per box.

Hades was wearing a ‘snappy crabby’ bib and his mouth was drooling with saliva and Persephone was turning her cereal into flowers before turning them back into cereal. When Hades saw the intruder he order the guards to kill him but is was hard to look menacing with a crab on your bib then Orpheus launched into ‘Summertime’ and Hades slumped back into his chair.

“It’s our song!” Persephone said clapping. “We made it along with-“

“Silence, Hades bellowed. “Demigod, want bring you to this hall?”

“It’s my wife,” Orpheus whispered. “I believe that her death was unfair so I am here to plead for her life, or at least kill me, then I could be at peace, with my lover.”

“Well, killing you I could arrange,” Hades said coolly.

“My darling-“ Persephone had a quick talk with Hades.

“I will let you return to the world with your wife.” Hades chattered. “But you must not look at your wife until you get into sunlight, agree?”

For once, Orpheus felt like playing a happy tune, “ Thank you sir!”

And Orpheus left the palace, and went back across the River Styx with Charon.

“Is she there?” Orpheus questioned.

“Telling you would be cheating,” Charon answered. “Now come along now!”

When he was ascending the stairs Orpheus thought, what is this is all a trick? It would be the kind of trick Hades would play, yes. What is Eurydice was not behind him? So he turned around.

He saw his love, Eurydice like a shadow, like a ghost evaporating in the icy air.

I love you so much Eurydice!” Orpheus cried. “ I can’t lose you-“

Like that she was gone. Orpheus wailed as he was flung out of the passageway, it closing behind him, firmly shut.

Orpheus tried killing himself, he jumped of a cliff but the winds would simply float him down, if he slammed his head into the rock, the rock would have been obliterated if he tried to stab himself the blade would smash against his chest, life would not let him die. Everyone wanted him to be alive and play music until this.

He was playing one of his **very** sad songs next to a river where the Maenads lived and this night, they were drunk.

“I hate this guy,” one of the Maenads said. “Let’s kill him!”

“I agree, he doesn’t want to flirt with us anymore!” the another Maenad continued.

So they fly to the spot where Orpheus was playing and Orpheus didn’t stop them as he was ripped limb by limb by the Maenads.

The moral of the the story is to be patient and keep one’s faith because when Orpheus looks back at Eurydice he was did not do that, so that’s that.

Arachne

Once there was a girl called Arachne and she was very good at weaving, I mean **very** good. It was god-level tapestries and every rich person in town went to her to get the most beautiful toga or a silk hanky so they could flex with their friends or blow their nose on something silk-y. Then, Arachne said once day, I am better than that little god, Athena and spread rumours around that she beat Athena in a weaving contest but unfortunately the rumours spread to Olympus where Athena heard about the lie.

She went down from Olympus in the form of a old lady, even the stench was detected from the costume. Then travelled to the town where Arachne lived.

“Are you sure you can beat a god?” Athena grumbled. “You can be squashed like a ant!”

“Yes!” Arachne claimed. “I can beat her as I beat her before!”

Then Athena revealed her true self.

“You dare challenge me, mortal?” Athena asked. “This is what you get!”

So they had a weaving competition with the Muses as the judges. Athena weaved the assembled gods in all their power but Arachne weaved the gods being fool, they were both equally beautiful but Arachne’s weaving was full of mortal anguish and pain, guilt (like Orpheus) so Arachne was selected at the winner, well Athena couldn’t let a puny mortal spread the word that Athena was so weak that she could beat her. Then Athena turned Arachne in the first spider, the biggest the meanest and the most ugliest so Arachne and her children could weave, forever! Arachne turned bitter and now takes revenge on Athena and her (demigod) children by haunting, bitting and putting cobwebs on their eyes .

The Moral of this story is most likely, never be selfish or believe you can do everything because that’s what Athena did and turned Arachne into a spider so the lesson for children: don’t raise them to be smarty pants who brag, ok?

That wraps up out four tales, I hope you enjoyed. Have a good day!