

UNVEILING GREEK MYTHOLOGY

MP3

邂逅希腊神话

英文
读本

2

James Baldwin —— 著
罗慕谦 —— 译

世界图书出版公司



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著 者 James Baldwin

译 者 罗慕谦

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Preface

Perhaps no other stories have ever been told so often or listened to with so much pleasure as the classic tales of ancient Greece. For many ages they have been a source of delight to young people and old, to the ignorant and the learned, to all who love to hear about and contemplate things mysterious, beautiful and grand.

They have become so incorporated into our language and thought, and so interwoven with our literature, that we could not do away with them now if we would. They are a portion of our heritage from the distant past, and they form perhaps as important a part of our intellectual life as they did of that of the people among whom they originated.

I have here attempted to tell a few stories of Jupiter and his mighty company and of some of the old Greek heroes, simply as stories, nothing more. I have carefully avoided every suggestion of interpretation. Attempts at analysis and explanation will always prove fatal to a reader's appreciation and enjoyment of such stories.

To inculcate the idea that these tales are merely



Homer and His Guide

descriptions of certain natural phenomena expressed in narrative and poetic form, is to deprive them of their highest charm; it is like turning precious gold into utilitarian iron; it is changing a delightful romance into a dull scientific treatise. The wise teacher will take heed not to be guilty of such an error.

It will be observed that while each of the stories in this volume is wholly independent of the others and may be read without any knowledge of those which precede it, there is nevertheless a certain continuity from the first to the last, giving to the collection a completeness like that of a single narrative.

In order that the young people of our own country and time may be the better able to read these stories in the light in which they were narrated long ago, I have told them in simple language, keeping the supernatural element as far as possible in the background, and nowhere referring to Jupiter and his mighty company as gods.

I have hoped thus to free the narrative still more from everything that might detract from its interest simply as a story.

J.B.

前言

希腊神话故事恐怕是世人传述最频繁、也听得最津津有味的故事了。几千年来，这些故事为男女老少、凡夫智者、为所有为神秘、美丽和宏伟事物着迷思索的人们带来无穷的欢乐。



希腊神话故事已经融入我们的语言和思想，与我们的文学紧密交织在一起，成为我们心中无法割舍的一部分。它们是远古时代遗留下来的文化遗产，在现代知性生活当中所占的重要性恐怕与当时并无二致。

我在书里叙述朱比特与众神的故事，还有其他希腊英雄的故事，我说的就是故事，仅此而已。我很小心避免暗示任何阐释意义，因为意图分析和解释，最后只会破坏读者看故事的兴致。

反复强调这些故事只不过是叙事体或诗体描述某些自然现象，只会夺走故事的魅力，就如同把珍贵的黄金变成了实用的钱，把浪漫的传奇变成枯燥的科学论文。

明智的老师会小心避免这样的错误。

本书每篇故事都各自独立，可以不照顺序阅读，但是篇篇故事之间还是存在一定的连续性，因此也可以把整本书视为一篇完整的故事。

为了让现代的青少年更容易了解这些故事，我特意选用简单的语言，并尽量淡化超自然的成分，不把朱比特和众神突出为宗教神明。

希望这样的做法，能更增加故事的趣味性。

詹姆斯·鲍丁

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God and Goddess in Greek and Roman Mythology

	Greek	Roman	
1	Zeus	Jupiter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › principal god of the Greek pantheon › ruler of the heavens › king of the sky and the earth
2	Hera	Juno	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › principal goddess of the Pantheon › queen of the Gods › goddess of marriage
3	Poseidon	Neptune	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › king of the sea, earthquakes and horses
4	Hades	Pluto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › god of the dead › ruler of the underworld
5	Persephone		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › queen of the Dead, grain-goddess
6	Demeter	Ceres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › goddess of the earth, flowers, plants and harvest
7	Prometheus		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › a Titan, brother of Atlas
8	Heracles	Hercules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › a divine hero

9	Dionysus	Bacchus	› god of wine and sensual pleasures
10	Pan	Faunus	› god of woods, fields and flocks
11	Ares	Mars	› god of war
12	Hermes	Mercury	› god of commerce, invention, travelers and shepherds › messenger of the gods
13	Hephaestus	Vulcan	› god of fire and metalworking
14	Athena	Minerva	› goddess of wisdom and war
15	Aphrodite	Venus	› goddess of love and beauty
16	Apollo	Phoebus Apollo	› god of the sun, poetry, music, dance, medicine and oracles
17	Artemis	Diana	› goddess of the hunt, the moon, virginity, animals and childbirth
18	Eros	Cupid	› god of love
19	Muses		› sisterhood of goddesses › embody the arts, inspire the creation
20	Hebe	Juventas	› goddess of youth and spring
21	Pandora		› the first woman

1

The Story of Perseus

柏修斯的故事

Danae and the Golden Shower

黛妮和黃金雨



There was a king of Argos who had but one child, and that child was a girl. If he had had a son, he would have trained him up to be a brave man and great king; but he did not know what to do with this fair-haired daughter.

When he saw her growing up to be tall and slender and wise, he wondered if, after all, he would have to die some time and leave his lands and his gold and his kingdom to her.

So he sent to Delphi and asked the Pythia about it. The Pythia told him that he would not only have to die some time, but that the son of his daughter would cause his death.

This frightened the king very much, and he tried to think of some plan by which he could keep the Pythia's words from coming true. At last he made up his mind that he would build a prison for his daughter and keep her in it all her life.

So he called his workmen and had them dig a deep round hole in the ground, and in this hole they built a house of brass which had but one room and no door at all, but only a small window at the top.



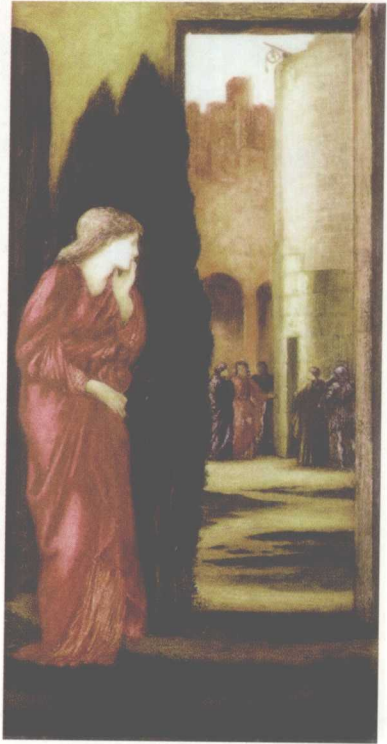
When it was finished, the king put the maiden, whose name was Danae, into it; and with her he put her nurse and her toys and her pretty dresses and everything that he thought she would need to make her happy.

“Now we shall see that the Pythia does not always tell the truth.” he said.

So Danae was kept shut up in the prison of brass. She had no one to talk to but her old nurse; and she never saw the land or the sea, but only the blue sky above the open window and now and then a white cloud sailing across.

I do not know how many years passed by, but Danae grew fairer every day, and by and by she was no longer a child, but a tall and beautiful woman; and Jupiter amid the clouds looked down and saw her and loved her.

One day it seemed to her that the sky opened and a shower of gold fell through the window into the room; and when the blinding shower had ceased, a noble young man stood smiling before her.



Danae and the Brazen Tower



Danae



She did not know that it was mighty Jupiter who had thus come down in the rain; but she thought that he was a brave prince who had come from over the sea to take her out of her prison-house.

After that he came often, but always as a tall and handsome youth; and by and by they were married, with only the nurse at the wedding feast, and Danae was so happy that she was no longer lonesome even when he was away.

But one day when he climbed out through the narrow window there was a great flash of light, and she never saw him again.