

THE PROBLEM WITH POMEGRANATES

The Myth of Persephone

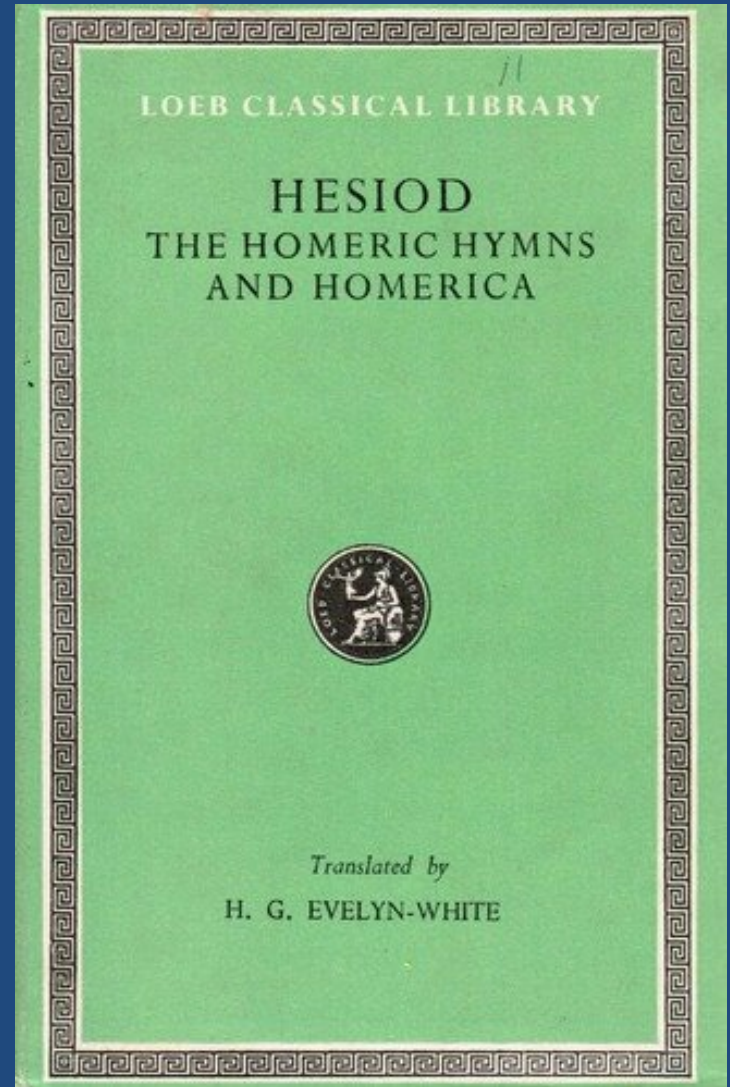
Joe Student
1st Period



THE HOMERIC HYMNS

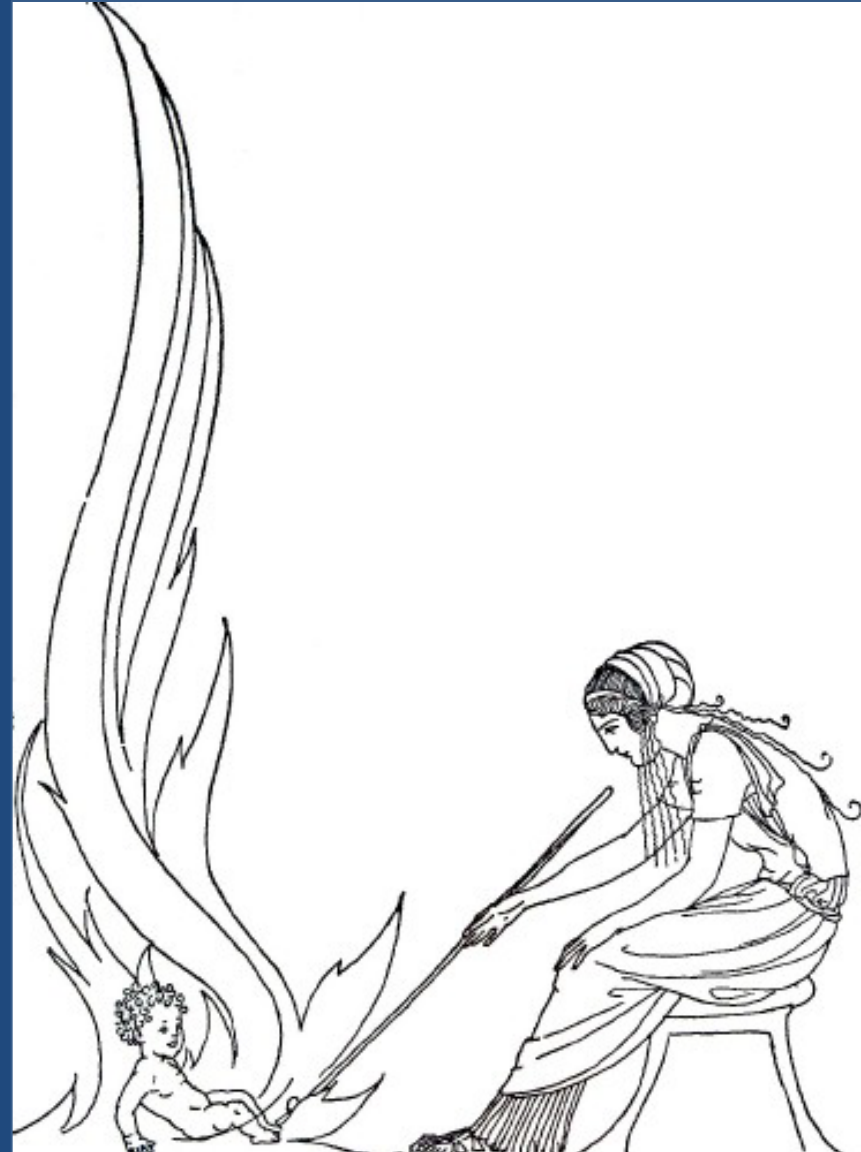
- Not written by Homer
- 33 anonymous poems, each dedicated to one of the gods
- Written in the same verse as *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*
- Typically dated from 7-6 B.C.

Faulkner, Andrew. "Homeric Hymns." *Oxford Bibliographies*. Oxford Bibliographies, 2014. Web. 15 Oct. 2014.



HOSPITALITY

- Metaneira's daughters insistent on Demeter visiting their home
- Demeter honors hospitality by attempting to make Demophoon immortal



Willy Pogány. 1921.

VISITATION FROM THE GODS

- Demeter in disguise at Eleusis
- Story of being abducted by pirates
- Blessing: Demeter establishes her temple there
- Curse: the entire Earth suffers as she withdraws

Pinax (Votive Relief) of
Persephone and Hades Enthroned.
500-450 BC. Greek. Terracotta.



MYTH ANALYSIS: The Myth of Persephone

PERIL OF THE GODS' "LOVE"

- tricked (twice) and abducted by Hades
 - Lured away by the narcissus
 - Tricked into eating a pomegranate seed
- must spend one-third of the year in the land of the dead

Proserpine.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti. 1874



MYTH ANALYSIS:

The Myth of Persephone

EARLY SCIENCE

Explains the Seasons

- Pomegranate seed
- Winter: the third of the year when Persephone is in the Underworld
- Spring: when she returns

The Return of Persephone.
Frederic Leighton. 1890-1





MYTH ANALYSIS: The Myth of Persephone

THEME

Topics

- Grief and Loss
- Deceit
- Compromise

Theme

- Compromise is sometimes required, even when justice is not served.

Demeter Mourning for Persephone.
Evelyn De Morgan. 1906

ART REVIEW: The Myth of Persephone

ROMAN SARCOPHAGUS FRONT PANEL, 3 B.C. (VIENNA MUSEUM OF ART)



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