Greek mythology, in context

A companion for reading the collection and observing how Meridian behaves. Start with a question, follow a named source, then record what you find.

ONE COLLECTION. SEVERAL WAYS THROUGH IT.

01 **Origins and relationships**

Begin here > Origins and Titans > Olympian family tree > a god's dossier. Read the parentage note before treating a line as universal. Follow partners and descendants as narrated relationships.

02 **Epic, one book at a time**

Open The Iliad or The Odyssey. Use the overview, then the six four-book canvases. Keep the speaker, time of narration and remembered events distinct. A reading order is not a modern geographic itinerary.

03 **Hesiod's two questions**

Read Theogony for origins and the settlement of divine power; read Works and Days for labor, justice and human vulnerability. Compare Prometheus and Pandora across the two works without merging their details.

04 **Greek and Roman comparisons**

Move from a Greek dossier to Roman gods and counterparts, then Roman ritual and household. Ask what a pairing explains and what it leaves out. Mars, Vesta, Liber and the Lares expose the limits of a rename table.

05 **Objects, files and experiments**

Visit Museum image gallery, Documents and media tests, and References and Boolean lab. An artifact has a date and provenance; a test fixture has an expected behavior. Neither supplies missing ancient evidence.

Navigation: Fit gives an overview; zoom in to read. Use the canvas list or launch cards. Download long TXT attachments for complete reading; their previews are limited. This guide is original editorial material, not an ancient source.

Keep the versions visible

Myth is a set of tellings, rituals and images transmitted through time. A clear comparison preserves those differences instead of manufacturing one seamless canon.

PASSAGE
Work + book or lines

→

CONTEXT
Speaker + genre + date

→

COMPARISON
Agreement + difference

01 The Iliad has a deliberate boundary

It begins with Achilles' anger and ends with Hector's funeral. The fall of Troy and Achilles' death are not its narrated ending. Locate remembered or anticipated events inside the speaker's account. [1]

02 The Odyssey changes narrative level

Books 9-12 are Odysseus' retrospective story to the Phaeacians. The poem's book order therefore differs from the travel sequence within that speech. The wooden horse is recalled in Books 4 and 8. [2]

03 The two Hesiodic poems do different work

The Theogony's first woman is unnamed; Works and Days names Pandora and tells the jar episode. Its five human races include the heroic race. Do not reduce this to Ovid's four-metal sequence. [3, 4]

04 A Roman counterpart is an argument

A shared story or attribute can support an identification without erasing a local cult. Compare the named poet, rite or object: Ovid's literary Mars and Cato's farm prayer answer different questions. [4, 5]

Before drawing a conclusion

Record the work and ancient locator; distinguish a character's statement from the narrator's; preserve alternative parentage as a variant; identify coercion when a story describes it. For an image, record its museum number, date, culture and proposed identification. Later reception is evidence of later interpretation.

READING ANCHORS / FULL REFERENCES LIVE IN THE SOURCE REGISTER

[1] Homer, Iliad 1 and 24

[2] Homer, Odyssey 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

[3] Hesiod, Theogony 535-616; Works and Days 42-201

[4] Ovid, Metamorphoses 1.89-150; Fasti 3.1-42

[5] Cato, On Agriculture 141.1-4

A small, repeatable experiment

Use a working copy in the editor for save tests. The Lab is an explicitly invented Boolean model of voyage preparation; it does not compute the meaning of a myth.

01 Run across canvases

Choose Run, change canvas, then return to the Lab. Run and Stop apply across all canvases in this viewer instance. Stop must preserve positions and wiring. A publication initially opens stopped.

02 Compare live and saved

Toggle Crew prepared: its live mirror follows immediately. In the editor, change Archive reviewed on Begin here without saving. The Lab's saved reference stays unchanged until a successful explicit save. Viewer controls cannot refresh that snapshot.

03 Observe Unknown

Open the Enable voyage switch: Voyage ready becomes Unknown. Close it to restore evaluation. The deliberately unwired output remains Unknown while running. Missing information is not false.

04 Collapse, then inspect

Record Voyage ready. Collapse Voyage preparation: its children hide while the sibling output stays visible with its computed result. Expand again and verify the wiring and inputs remain. Collapse changes presentation, not the circuit.

05 CHECK EVERY DEFINED INPUT COMBINATION

While running, compare the seven exercises with this table. T = true; F = false. NOT uses only A; the other gates use A and B.

A	B	AND	OR	NOT A	NAND	NOR	XOR	XNOR
F	F	F	F	T	T	T	F	T
F	T	F	T	T	T	F	T	F
T	F	F	T	F	T	F	T	F
T	T	T	T	F	F	F	F	T

Optional editor checks: attempt a functional cycle on a disposable copy and record the rejection. The Lab's Warning / Choice / Consequence loop uses visual links, so it remains valid. Do not convert a decorative relation into a signal accidentally.

What travels, what previews

Preserving original bytes and displaying a preview are separate capabilities. Use the labelled files in Documents and media tests to observe both.

FORMAT	EDITOR	PUBLISHED VIEWER
PNG / JPEG / WebP	Native image	Native image
GIF (imported image)	Supported image	Supported image
TXT	Full text on open	Text preview (3,000 chars)
PDF	Browser PDF preview*	Browser PDF preview*
Markdown (.md)	Download fallback	Text preview
SVG / WAV / JSON	Download only	Download only

* PDF display depends on the browser. Original-file open/download remains the fallback. TXT node cards stop at 3,000 characters. The editor's Open attachment dialog shows the full TXT; the published viewer's TXT dialog stops at 3,000. Download the original for complete text anywhere. The WAV is an original test motif, not reconstructed ancient music. GIF support describes the imported image fixture.

01 Round-trip an editable project

Save a working copy, export .meridian, and import it. If its identity is already in the library, choose the explicit copy workflow. Compare canvas and attachment counts, then open representative images, text and PDF. For byte fidelity, compare original and re-exported asset hashes.

02 Publish and open from disk

Publish to a single .html file. Open it directly with the host stopped, then exercise navigation, exposed controls, Run/Stop and downloads. Also test it in the supplied iframe example at a narrow viewport. Publishing itself does not upload the collection.

03 Check the external fixture

Publish once with Download External References selected and once without. The pinned curator note should be included in the first and explicitly unavailable in the second. Owned project canvases still travel with both. This note is a test fixture, not a mythology source.

04 Import the publication as new

Import the HTML in the editor and confirm a fresh project identity. Included identities are remapped; published data is imported without executing its HTML. In the viewer, Reset restores authored values. Save a copy downloads the authored publication, not the visitor's temporary control changes.

Make the result reproducible

Complete one sheet per reading question or behavior test. Record what actually happened; an unchecked expectation is a plan, not a passed test.

CASE ID / DATE

EDITOR OR VIEWER / BROWSER + VERSION

PROJECT REVISION / FILE NAME

VIEWPORT / ZOOM / RUN STATE

1 LOCATE THE EVIDENCE

Canvas + node, or ancient work + book/lines. For an image, add museum object number and date.

2 WRITE THE STARTING STATE

Input values, reference type, last explicit save, switch position, and any relevant file or asset hash.

3 REPEAT THE ACTIONS

Use a short numbered sequence. Change one variable at a time; identify when a save or reload occurred.

4 COMPARE EXPECTED AND ACTUAL

State the expected value or source claim, then the observed value, notice, preview, or difference. Attach evidence IDs.

5 CLASSIFY THE RESULT

Behavior: pass / fail / not observed. Reading: supported / variant / uncertain. Add the next discriminating check.

Evidence discipline: distinguish a literary variant from an error, and a download fallback from data loss. For software, retain the smallest repeatable case. For interpretation, retain the exact passage and its context.