

# CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	xii
<b>PART 1</b>	
<b>1 The myth-kitty</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>The ancient sources of the myths</i>	5
<i>The myths in English literature</i>	9
<b>2 A rough guide to the gods</b>	<b>20</b>
<i>The Olympian gods</i>	21
<i>The gods of the underworld</i>	29
<i>Other gods</i>	31
<b>3 A mythical history of the world in one chapter</b>	<b>35</b>
<i>Myths of origin</i>	36
<i>Gods and mortals</i>	38
<i>The age of heroes</i>	42
<i>The Trojan War and after</i>	53
<b>PART 2</b>	
<b>4 Orpheus</b>	<b>61</b>
INTRODUCTION	61
<i>The ancient Orpheus</i>	61
<i>The medieval Orpheus: allegory and romance</i>	64
<i>Orphic harmony in the Renaissance</i>	65
<i>Orpheus in the eighteenth century: translations and travesties</i>	67
<i>Romantics and Victorians: from Orphic song to the melancholy lyre</i>	68
<i>The twentieth century: Eurydice sings her own song and Orpheus remembers himself</i>	70

## CONTENTS

### TEXTS

- 01 *Apollonius of Rhodes, from Argonautica, c. 250 BC* 75
- 02 *Virgil, from the Georgics, c. 29 BC* 76
- 03 *Horace, from The Art of Poetry, c. 10 BC* 80
- 04 *Ovid, from the Metamorphoses, c. AD 10* 81
- 05 *Boethius, from The Consolation of Philosophy, c. AD 520* 88
- 06 *Medieval mythographers* 90  
     (a) *Pierre Bersuire, c. 1330* 90  
     (b) *Thomas of Walsingham, c. 1405* 91
- 07 *from Sir Orfeo, c. 1330* 91
- 08 *Robert Henryson, from Orpheus and Eurydice, later fifteenth century* 96
- 09 *Edmund Spenser on Orpheus* 101  
     (a) *from The Shepherd's Calendar, 1579* 101  
     (b) *from The Faerie Queene, 1596* 103
- 010 *George Puttenham, from The Art of English Poesy, 1589* 104
- 011 *Philip Sidney, from Astrophil and Stella, 1591* 105
- 012 *George Chapman, from Ovid's Banquet of Sense, 1595* 106
- 013 *William Shakespeare* 107  
     (a) *from The Two Gentlemen of Verona, c. 1589* 107  
     (b) *from The Merchant of Venice, c. 1596* 107  
     (c) *from Henry VIII or All Is True, 1613* 109
- 014 *Francis Bacon, from The Wisdom of the Ancients, 1609* 109
- 015 *Giles Fletcher, from Christ's Victory and Triumph, 1610* 111
- 016 *William Strode, Song: 'When Orpheus Sweetly Did Complain', 1620s?* 113
- 017 *George Sandys, from Ovid's Metamorphoses Englished, 1632* 114
- 018 *Thomas Carew, from 'An Elegy upon the Death of . . . Dr John Donne', 1633* 116
- 019 *Alexander Ross, from Mystagogus Poeticus, 1647* 118
- 020 *John Milton on Orpheus* 118  
     (a) *from 'L'Allegro', c. 1631* 119  
     (b) *from 'Il Penseroso', c. 1631* 120  
     (c) *from Lycidas, 1637* 120  
     (d) *from Paradise Lost, 1667* 121
- 021 *John Dryden, 'On the Death of Mr Purcell', 1696* 123
- 022 *Alexander Pope, 'Ode for Music on St Cecilia's Day', 1713* 124
- 023 *Anne Finch, Countess of Winchilsea, 'To Mr Pope', c. 1714* 128
- 024 *R.M., 'A Song', 1724* 130
- 025 *John Gay, from Fables: 'The Monkey Who Had Seen the World', 1727* 131
- 026 *Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, 'Impromptu, to a Young Lady Singing', 1736?* 133
- 027 *Henry Fielding, from Eurydice, 1737* 134
- 028 *William Collins (?), from 'On the Use and Abuse of Poetry', c. 1750* 136
- 029 *Anna Seward, from 'Elegy on Captain Cook', 1780* 137
- 030 *William Wordsworth, from The Prelude, 1805* 138
- 031 *Lord Byron, from 'Hints from Horace', 1811* 139
- 032 *Thomas Love Peacock, from 'The Four Ages of Poetry', 1820* 140

## CONTENTS

- 033 *Percy Bysshe Shelley, 'Orpheus', c. 1820* 141
- 034 *Robert B. Brough, from Orpheus and Eurydice, 1852* 144
- 035 *Robert Browning, 'Eurydice to Orpheus', 1864* 147
- 036 *Richard Watson Dixon, 'Orpheus', 1864* 148
- 037 *Edward Dowden, 'Eurydice', 1876* 153
- 038 *Lord De Tabley, from 'Orpheus in Hades', 1893* 157
- 039 *H.D., 'Eurydice', 1917* 159
- 040 *W. H. Auden, 'Orpheus', 1937* 163
- 041 *Sydney Goodsir Smith, from 'Orpheus', 1948* 163
- 042 *Mary Renault, from The King Must Die, 1958* 165
- 043 *Muriel Rukeyser* 167
- (a) *from 'Orpheus', 1962* 167
- (b) *'The Poem as Mask: Orpheus', 1968* 168
- 044 *Rolfe Humphries, 'Fragment of a Legend', 1965* 169
- 045 *Michael Hamburger, 'Orpheus Street, SE5', 1967* 171
- 046 *Russell Hoban, from Kleinzeit, 1974* 173
- 047 *Lauris Edmond, 'Orpheus without Music', 1975* 176
- 048 *Elaine Feinstein, 'The Feast of Eurydice', 1980* 177
- 049 *Margaret Atwood, three poems, 1984* 183
- (a) *'Orpheus (1)', 183*
- (b) *'Eurydice', 184*
- (c) *'Orpheus (2)', 185*
- 050 *Sandra M. Gilbert, 'Bas Relief: Bacchante', 1984* 186
- 051 *John Heath-Stubbs, 'The Story of Orph', 1985* 187
- 052 *A. D. Hope, 'Orpheus', 1991* 190

OTHER VERSIONS OF ORPHEUS 191

## 5 **Venus and Adonis**

196

INTRODUCTION 196

*The ancient Adonis* 196

*Spenser, Milton, and Renaissance allegory* 200

*Shakespeare and the Ovidian tradition* 201

*'Soft Adonis': the eighteenth century* 203

*Romantic revival: Shelley and the pastoral elegy* 204

*'The grief of gods': Victorian and Edwardian Adonises* 206

*Frazer and the dying god in the twentieth century* 207

TEXTS

A1 *Theocritus, Idyll 15: The Festival of Adonis, third century BC* 211

A2 *Bion, 'Lament for Adonis', c. 100 BC* 217

A3 *Moschus, from 'Lament for Bion', c. 100 BC* 221

A4 *Ovid, from the Metamorphoses, c. AD 10* 225

A5 *Apollodorus, from The Library of Greek Mythology, first or second century AD* 230

## CONTENTS

- A6 *Edmund Spenser, from The Faerie Queene, 1590* 231  
 (a) *from Book 3, canto 1: Malecasta's Tapestry* 231  
 (b) *from Book 3, canto 6: The Gardens of Adonis* 232
- A7 *William Shakespeare, from Venus and Adonis, 1593* 241
- A8 *Richard Barnfield, Sonnet 17 from Cynthia, 1595* 262
- A9 *Bartholomew Griffin, Sonnet 3 from Fidessa, 1596* 263
- A10 *Thomas Heywood, from The Fair Maid of the Exchange, 1607* 264
- A11 *William Browne, Song, from Britannia's Pastorals, 1616* 266
- A12 *George Sandys, from Ovid's Metamorphoses Englished, 1632* 267
- A13 *Alexander Ross, from Mystagogus Poeticus, 1647* 268
- A14 *John Milton on Adonis* 269  
 (a) *from Comus, 1637* 269  
 (b) *from Paradise Lost, 1667* 270
- A15 *John Oldham, from 'Bion: A Pastoral', 1680* 271
- A16 *Thomas Andrews, from 'On the Death of Mr John Oldham', 1684* 272
- A17 *Richard Savage, 'Valentine's Day', c. 1740* 273
- A18 *Samuel Derrick, 'Venus and Adonis: A Cantata', 1755* 278
- A19 *Erasmus Darwin, from The Botanic Garden, 1791* 280
- A20 *John Keats, from Endymion, 1818* 282
- A21 *Percy Bysshe Shelley, Adonais, 1821* 288
- A22 *Robert Bulwer-Lytton, 'Adon', 1855* 305
- A23 *Lord De Tabley, 'A Lament for Adonis', c. 1865* 306
- A24 *Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, 'Adonis', 1892* 308
- A25 *Sir James George Frazer, from The Golden Bough, 1906* 309
- A26 *H.D., 'Adonis', 1917* 315
- A27 *T. S. Eliot, from The Waste Land, 1922* 316
- A28 *Archibald MacLeish, from 'The Pot of Earth', 1925* 319
- A29 *W. B. Yeats, 'Her Vision in the Wood', 1926* 327
- A30 *Kenneth Rexroth, 'Adonis in Winter', 1944* 328
- OTHER VERSIONS OF VENUS AND ADONIS 329

## 6 **Pygmalion**

**332**

INTRODUCTION 332

*From Ovid to Caxton* 332

*Dotage and idolatry: Pygmalion in the Renaissance* 334

*Eighteenth-century interlude* 337

*The Romantic artist: Pygmalion/Frankenstein* 338

*Loving a statue: the sexual fable* 341

*Pygmalion the educator: the Shavian tradition* 343

TEXTS

P1 *Ovid, from Metamorphoses, c. AD 10* 346

P2 *Clement of Alexandria, from Exhortation to the Greeks, c. AD 200* 348

P3 *Arnobius of Sicca, from Against the Pagans, c. AD 300* 349

CONTENTS

- P4 *John Gower, from Confessio Amantis, c. 1390* 350  
 P5 *William Caxton, from Six Books of Metamorphoseos, c. 1480* 352  
 P6 *George Pettie, from 'Pygmalion's Friend and his Image', 1576* 353  
 P7 *John Marston, 'The Metamorphosis of Pygmalion's Image', 1598* 358  
 P8 *William Shakespeare, from The Winter's Tale, c. 1610* 366  
 P9 *Richard Brathwait, from 'The Fifth Satire: On Dotage', 1621* 371  
 P10 *Edmund Waller, 'On the Discovery of a Lady's Painting', 1630s?* 373  
 P11 *Tobias Smollett, from The Adventures of Peregrine Pickle, 1751* 374  
 P12 *Thomas Tickell, 'On a Lady's Picture', early eighteenth century* 378  
 P13 *Soame Jenyns, 'The Choice', mid-eighteenth century* 379  
 P14 *Hannah Cowley, from The Town Before You, 1795* 381  
 P15 *Jean-Jacques Rousseau and William Mason, 'Pygmalion', 1762/1811* 385  
 P16 *Mary Shelley, from Frankenstein, 1818* 390  
 P17 *Thomas Lovell Beddoes, 'Pygmalion, or The Cyprian Statuary', 1825* 391  
 P18 *Nathaniel Hawthorne, 'Drowne's Wooden Image', 1846* 398  
 P19 *Elizabeth Barrett Browning, from Aurora Leigh, 1856* 408  
 P20 *Robert Buchanan, from 'Pygmalion the Sculptor', 1864* 409  
 P21 *William Morris, from 'Pygmalion and the Image', 1868* 413  
 P22 *W. S. Gilbert, from Pygmalion and Galatea, 1871* 417  
 P23 *Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, 'Galatea', 1885* 424  
 P24 *Bernard Shaw, from Pygmalion, 1912* 425  
 P25 *H.D., 'Pygmalion', 1917* 437  
 P26 *Robert Graves* 439  
     (a) *'Pygmalion to Galatea', 1925* 439  
     (b) *'Galatea and Pygmalion', 1938* 440  
 P27 *C. Day Lewis, 'The Perverse', 1928* 441  
 P28 *Angela Carter, from 'The Loves of Lady Purple', 1974* 441  
 P29 *Michael Longley, 'Ivory and Water', 1994* 446
- OTHER VERSIONS OF PYGMALION 447

<i>Bibliography</i>	450
<i>Index of mythological names</i>	453