

WINE AND BLOOD

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Credits

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A ΠΩ ΟΠΤΕΠΙΔΕΡ

*The Nymphs told me when I was young
that I was born a superstar,
so daintily I danced and so prettily I sung
I was cool cause I was bizarre.
There's nothing wrong with drinking up many jars,
in wine you'll find your truth, babe.
So hold your head up, Hero, and you'll go far.
Listen to me when I say,
I am beautiful in my way,
cause Zeus makes no mistakes.
I am the god of orgies,
I was reborn this way.*

- The Muse Euterpe, Zagreus Song

Hail, noble hero!

My name is Hesiod, Poet of Epic Deeds. If I'm not mistaken, we've already met before. Many things changed since our last meeting: follow me and I will tell you the news of Hellas, where every day the heroes immolate themselves to the gods for immortal glory.

ΔΕΑΤΗ ΑΠΙΔ ΡΕΒΤΙΠΗ ΘΕ Α ΓΟΔ

The Heavenly Contest really calmed things down on Mount Olympus. Since it began, many deities stopped plotting against Zeus and focused on acquiring as many followers as possible. Zeus's plan had worked, and the god of thunders could finally relax and devote himself again to his favorite sport: flirting.

His attentions were driven towards Persephone, his brother Hades' bride, but the queen of the Underworld was not so easy to conquer. Zeus asked his son Dionysus to help him, and the God of Revels brewed for his father a very powerful mix of wine and ambrosia. With it, Persephone became incredibly aroused and Zeus could finally lay with her.

Goddess Hera immediately noticed her husband's infidelity and plotted revenge. She went to the serpent-goddess Echidna and asked her to send the most powerful among her sons against Dionysus, the illegitimate son of Zeus who took active part in her husband's infidelity. Hideous Echidna spawned three giants with a lion head and serpents' feet; they immediately rushed on Dionysus' trail. The three giants attacked Dionysus when the god was alone, so he fled, changing into various animal forms in his attempt to escape. Finally he took the form of a bull, and in that form the giants caught him, tore him to pieces, and devoured him.

Zeus, discovering the crime, hurled a thunderbolt at the giants, turning them to ashes, and managed to recover Dionysus' heart, which was still beating. He went immediately to Persephone, asking her to bring his beloved son back to life. The Queen of the Underworld, feeling guilty for what happened, mixed the ashes of the