

# Mythology in Modern Fiction

Many works of modern fiction draw on characters from mythology. Read the brief description of each mythological character below. Can you identify an example of each in modern fiction?

MYTHOLOGICAL CHARACTER	EXAMPLE IN MODERN FICTION
<p><b>ZEUS:</b> The king of the Gods, and a fairly scary father. He rules over the bickering, jealous and scheming Gods and Goddesses on Mount Olympus.</p>	
<p><b>CUPID:</b> Son of Aphrodite. He carries a bow and a quiver of arrows, which have the power to make mortals fall in love.</p>	
<p><b>HERA:</b> The goddess of marriage, mothers and families. She is impatient and considers some of the demigods her enemies.</p>	
<p><b>DEMETER:</b> The goddess of agriculture. She spends half of her time in the upper world, where she presides over the harvest, and the other half in the underworld with her daughter Persephone (who is married to Hades.)</p>	
<p><b>HADES:</b> God of the Underworld. He rarely ventures aboveground. He has an invisible helmet.</p>	
<p><b>ATHENA:</b> The goddess of wisdom and war. She was born directly out of Zeus' skull. She has an owl for a companion.</p>	
<p><b>HYPNOS:</b> The god of sleep, brother to Thanatos, the god of death. He lives in the underworld and can often be found napping.</p>	

Now choose one of the mythological characters that you identified in modern fiction and write a short essay that analyzes how the modern work is both representative of the classic mythological character, and how the material is rendered new.

