

Circe

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In Greek mythology, Circe (; Ancient Greek: Κίρκη, romanized: Kírke, pronounced [kírke]) is an enchantress, sometimes considered a goddess or a nymph. In most accounts, Circe is described as the daughter of the sun god Helios and the Oceanid Perse. Circe was renowned for her vast knowledge of potions and herbs. Through the use of these and a magic wand or staff, she would transform her enemies, or those who offended her, into animals.

The best known of her legends is told in Homer's *Odyssey* when Odysseus visits her island of Aeaea on the way back from the Trojan War and she changes most of his crew into swine. He manages to persuade her to return them to human shape, lives with her for a year and has sons by her, including Latinus and Telegonus. Her ability to change others into animals is further highlighted by the story of Picus, an Italian king whom she turns into a woodpecker for resisting her advances. Another story tells of her falling in love with the sea-god Glaucus, who prefers the nymph Scylla to her. In revenge, Circe poisoned the water where her rival bathed and turned her into a dreadful monster.

Depictions, even in Classical times, diverged from the detail in Homer's narrative, which was later to be reinterpreted morally as a cautionary story against drunkenness. Early philosophical questions were also raised about whether the change from being a human endowed with reason to being an unreasoning beast might not be preferable after all, and the resulting debate was to have a powerful impact during the Renaissance. Circe was also taken as the archetype of the predatory female. In the eyes of those from a later age, this behaviour made her notorious both as a magician and as a type of sexually free woman. She has been frequently depicted as such in all the arts from the Renaissance down to modern times.

Western paintings established a visual iconography for the figure, but also went for inspiration to other stories concerning Circe that appear in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. The episodes of Scylla and Picus added the vice of violent jealousy to her bad qualities and made her a figure of fear as well as of desire.

Circe (novel)

as told from the perspective of the witch Circe. The novel explores Circe's origin story and narrates Circe's encounters with mythological figures such

Circe is a 2018 mythic fantasy novel by American writer Madeline Miller. Set during the Greek Heroic Age, it is an adaptation of various Greek myths, most notably the *Odyssey*, as told from the perspective of the witch Circe. The novel explores Circe's origin story and narrates Circe's encounters with mythological figures such as Hermes, the Minotaur, Jason, and Medea and ultimately, her romance with Odysseus and his son Telemachus.

Circe (character)

Circe is a fictional character appearing in DC Comics publications and related media. Based upon the eponymous Greek mythological figure who imprisoned

Circe is a fictional character appearing in DC Comics publications and related media. Based upon the eponymous Greek mythological figure who imprisoned Odysseus in Homer's *Odyssey*, she is a wicked sorceress and major recurring adversary of the superhero Wonder Woman. She has been presented variously

since first appearing in 1949's Wonder Woman #37, though her characterization has consistently retained a key set of features: immortality, stunning physical beauty, a powerful command over sorcery, a penchant for turning human beings into animals (like her mythological antecedent) and often, a delight in humiliation.

Though she first appeared as a Wonder Woman villain, Circe would spend the next 43 years as an antagonist for other DC Comics heroes, such as Rip Hunter, the Sea Devils, and particularly Superman and Supergirl, for whom she was a persistent foil (and sometimes ally) throughout the late 1950s and 1960s. In 1983, at the tail-end of the Bronze Age of Comics, Circe would be returned to her roots as a member of Wonder Woman's rogues gallery, and would rise to become one of the hero's most significant Modern Age foes, appearing frequently in Wonder Woman stories throughout DC Comics' post-Crisis, New 52 and Rebirth continuities.

Circe has been adapted into several Wonder Woman and DC Comics-related animated TV and video game projects, in which she has been voiced by Michelle Forbes, Laura Post, Rachel York, and Anya Chalotra.

Circe (disambiguation)

Circe was a goddess or sorceress in Greek mythology. Circe or Circé may also refer to: Mount Circe, a mountain peak in Antarctica 34 Circe, a large, main-belt

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Circe chess

Circe chess (or just Circe) is a chess variant in which captured pieces return to their starting positions as soon as they are captured. The game was invented

Circe chess (or just Circe) is a chess variant in which captured pieces return to their starting positions as soon as they are captured. The game was invented by French composer Pierre Montréal in 1967 and the rules of Circe chess were first detailed by Montréal and Jean-Pierre Boyer in an article in *Problème*, 1968. It is named for the enchantress Circe, who in the *Odyssey* instructs Odysseus on how to enter the Underworld and return, just as pieces in Circe chess can return after being killed.

Circe is rarely played as a variant game (when it is, it is usually combined with progressive chess), but very often employed in composed fairy chess problems.

Circe Sturm

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HMS Circe

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Six ships of the Royal Navy have been named HMS Circe, after the Greek goddess Circe.

The first HMS Circe (1785) was a 28-gun sixth rate launched in 1785 and wrecked in 1803.

The second HMS Circe (1804) was a 32-gun fifth rate launched in 1804 and sold in 1814.

The third HMS Circe (1827) was a 46-gun fifth rate launched in 1827, confined to harbour service in 1866, renamed HMS Impregnable in 1916 and sold 1922.

The fourth HMS Circe (1892) was a torpedo gunboat in service from 1892 to 1920.

The fifth HMS Circe (1939) was an auxiliary minesweeper requisitioned in 1939 and transferred to the Royal Australian Navy as HMAS Medea in 1942.

The sixth HMS Circe (1942) was a minesweeper launched in 1942 and broken up 1967.

Madeline Miller

1978) is an American novelist, author of The Song of Achilles (2011) and Circe (2018). Miller spent ten years writing The Song of Achilles while she worked

Madeline Miller (born July 24, 1978) is an American novelist, author of The Song of Achilles (2011) and Circe (2018). Miller spent ten years writing The Song of Achilles while she worked as a teacher of Latin and Greek. The novel tells the story of the love between the mythological figures Achilles and Patroclus; it won the Orange Prize for Fiction, making Miller the fourth debut novelist to win the prize. She is a 2019 recipient of the Alex Awards.

Circe in popular culture

Circe, an enchantress and minor goddess in Greek mythology, appears often in 20th and 21st century popular culture, either under her own name or as a

Circe, an enchantress and minor goddess in Greek mythology, appears often in 20th and 21st century popular culture, either under her own name or as a sorceress with similar powers under others. Post-Classical amplifications and reinterpretations of that story and others involving her are dealt with in the main article. The instances mentioned here are more recent allusions and adaptations.

Telemachus

gathered around Penelope. According to later tradition, Telemachus married Circe after Odysseus's death. The first four books of the Odyssey focus on Telemachus's

In Greek mythology, Telemachus (t?-LEM-?-k?s; Ancient Greek: ?????????, romanized: T?lemakhos, lit. 'far-fighter') is the son of Odysseus and Penelope, who are central characters in Homer's Odyssey. When Telemachus reached manhood, he visited Pylos and Sparta in search of his wandering father. On his return to Ithaca, he found that Odysseus had reached home before him. Then father and son slay the suitors who had gathered around Penelope. According to later tradition, Telemachus married Circe after Odysseus's death.

The first four books of the Odyssey focus on Telemachus's journeys in search of news about his father, who has yet to return home from the Trojan War, and are traditionally given the title Telemachy.

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