

SUMMARY OF TRANSFORMATIONS

* cross-reference to main entry

ANIMALS

Ant. *Myrmex, by Athena, to punish her for revealing the goddess' invention of the plough to the Athenians as if it had been her own invention. (The **Myrmidones* were 'ant people' because of their industry and diligence.)

Apes. The *Cercopes, by Zeus, to punish them for their lying and cheating.

Bats. The *Minyads, by Dionysus, for scorning the god and his rites (in Ovid's version only; in other accounts one of the sisters becomes a bat and the other two become birds). *See* Birds, multiple transformations.

Bear. *Callisto, by Artemis, to punish her for having become pregnant; or by Hera, in anger at Zeus' love for her; or by Zeus, to conceal her from Hera. **2.** When Cronus visited Crete while searching for the young Zeus, Zeus turned himself into a snake and his nurses *Helice and *Cynosura into bears to conceal their presence.

Bee. *Melissa, by Zeus, in unknown circumstances.

Bulls. The *Cerastae, by Aphrodite, to punish them for sacrificing human victims to Zeus.

Cicada. *Tithonus, by his lover *Eos, when he was incapacitated by old age.

Cow. *Io, by Zeus, to conceal their love affair from Hera, or by Hera, to prevent her from having intercourse with Zeus. Zeus returned her to her original form after her arrival in Egypt.

Deer. 1. *Actaeon, by Artemis, to cause him to be hunted down by his own dogs, because he had seen the goddess naked, or had boasted that he was a better hunter than her, or had angered Zeus by courting Semele. **2.** *Taygete temporarily, by Artemis, to save her from being raped by Zeus. **3.** *Arges, by Helios (the Sun), for saying that she would catch a stag that she was hunting even if it ran as fast as the Sun.

Dog. *Hecuba, after the fall of Troy; an enigmatic story.

Dolphin. Some Tyrrhenian pirates, by the young god Dionysus, to punish them for trying to abduct him.

Fish. 1. *Pompilus, by Apollo, to punish him for trying to save a Samian maiden, Ocyrhoe, from the god's attentions. **2.** *Scylla, daughter of Nisus, was changed into a 'ciris' after she had caused the death of her father. In one version, she was turned into the fish (rather than the bird) of that name. **3.** Ovid alludes to an otherwise unknown story in which a naiad used herbs and incantations to turn some boys into fishes, and finally became a fish herself.

Fly. *Muia, by Semele, because Muia competed with her for the love of Endymion and tried to wake him from his perpetual sleep.

Frogs. 1. Some Lydian herdsmen, by *Leto, to punish them for driving her away from a spring when she wanted to bathe her new-born children. **2.** Some nymphs on Melos, by Zeus, because they buried *Euphion after the gods had struck him with a thunderbolt.

Gecko. *Ascalabus, by Demeter, to punish him for mocking her when she was quenching her thirst with a barley-drink.

Horse. 1. *Hippe (or Hippo, or Ocyrhoe), by Artemis, to save her from being discovered by her father while pregnant, or to punish her for ceasing to join the goddess in the hunt, or for revealing the plans of the gods to mortals, or for using charms to cure mortals. **2.** Odysseus, by Artemis, in unknown circumstances.

Lions. *Atalanta and her husband *Melanion or *Hippomenes, by Zeus or Cybele, to punish them for having intercourse in a sacred precinct.

Lynx. *Lyncus, king of the Scythians, by Demeter, to punish him for trying to kill *Triptolemus.

Mole. According to Oppian, Helios caused moles to arise from the blood of the dead *Phineus.

Seal. The grandson of Cephisus, by Apollo, in unknown circumstances.

Sea-snail. *Nerites, by his lover Aphrodite, for refusing to abandon the sea to accompany her to Olympus, or, in an imperfectly preserved story, by Helios because he drove his chariot so swiftly.

Shape-shifters. There were two mortals who could transform themselves into different animals at will, *Mestra and *Periclymenus. Both acquired this power from their father Poseidon.

Sheep. *Theophane, by Poseidon. After Poseidon had abducted her to the island of Crumissa, her suitors arrived in pursuit; the god turned her and the islanders into sheep and himself into a ram. When the suitors began to feed on the transformed islanders, he transformed them into wolves.

Snakes. *Cadmus and *Harmonia, at the end of their life in Illyria. The original significance of the transformation is uncertain, although late authors suggest that this was to punish Cadmus for having killed the Theban dragon.

Spider. *Arachne, by Athena, to punish her for challenging the goddess as a weaver, or else Athena turned Arachne and her brother Phalanx into spiders to punish them for committing incest.

Stag-beetle. *Terambus (or Cerambus), by local nymphs, to punish him for insulting them.

Tortoise. *Chelone, by Hermes, to punish her for choosing to remain at home when invited to the wedding of Zeus and Hera.

Weasel. *Galinthias, by the Moirae (Fates), to punish her for her deception in preventing them and Eileithyia from continuing to hinder the birth of Heracles.

Wolf. 1. *Lycaon, by Zeus, to punish him for serving human flesh to the god or for sacrificing a child on his altar. **2.** The suitors of *Theophane; *see* Sheep.

BIRDS

Bee-eater. *Botres, by Apollo, out of pity for the grief of his family after his father had struck him in anger and killed him because he had misbehaved at a sacrifice,

Ceux. *See* Halcyon (1).

Chalchis. When *Harpalyce was forced into an incestuous union by her father, she served the flesh of her brother to him and then prayed to be removed from human company; she was turned into the nocturnal bird of prey of this name.

Ciris. *Scylla, daughter of Nisus, was turned into this mythical bird after she had caused the death of her father. The transformation was usually regarded as a punishment by the gods. In some accounts, her father pursued her afterwards as a sea-eagle.

Cock. *Alectryon, by Ares, for failing to warn Ares of the coming of the dawn when the god was making an illicit visit to Aphrodite.

Combe. *See* Crow (2).

Crane. A *pygmy woman named Gerana or Oenoe, by Hera, for failing to honour Hera and Artemis.

Crow. 1. A daughter of Coroneus in Phocis (perhaps named *Coronis), by Athena, to save her from being raped on the sea-shore by Poseidon. **2.** *Combe was transformed into a *combe* (identified as a crow by Hesychius), apparently to save her from being killed by her children in unknown circumstances.

Diver. According to Ovid, *Aesacus was transformed into a diver (*mergus*) by Tethys when he threw himself into the sea after accidentally causing the death of a nymph he loved.

Dove. 1. *Ctesilla, in a story explaining the origin of a local cult. **2.** The *Pleiades. Zeus took pity on them when they were pursued by Orion, and in one version of the story, he transformed them into doves before transferring them to the sky. **3.** Pelia, by Aphrodite, out of

pity when she hanged herself after the suicide of her husband *Melus. **4.** The nymph *Peristera, by Eros, for helping Aphrodite to defeat Eros in a flower-gathering contest.

Eagle. 1. *Merops, by Rhea or Hera, out of pity because he so mourned for his dead wife. **2.** *Periphas, by Zeus, in anger because his subjects had been honouring him as Zeus. **3.** *Aetus, a beautiful young man who had been a companion of Zeus during the god's childhood in Crete, was later turned into an eagle by the jealous Hera. *See* Sea-eagle.

Guinea-fowl. The *Meleagrides, by Artemis, because they so mourned the death of their brother Meleager.

Halcyon. 1. When *Alcyone threw herself into the sea after her husband *Ceux was killed in a shipwreck, the gods or Thetis took pity on them and transformed them into halcyons, or, in an earlier version of their story, Zeus turned Alcyone into a halcyon and Ceux into a semi-mythical bird, the *ceux*, to punish them for calling one another Zeus and Hera. **2.** The daughters of *Alcyoneus, by Aphrodite, when they threw themselves into the sea after their father was killed by Heracles. **3.** The daughters of *Cinyras, when they threw themselves into the sea after the death of their father, here said to have been killed by Apollo after the god had defeated him in a musical contest. **4.** *Alcyone, daughter of Sciron, when her father threw her into the sea because she had offered herself to any man who asked her, after he had told her to seek a husband.

Hawk. 1. *Hierax, by Poseidon, to punish him for helping the Trojans when the god caused a famine in their land. **2.** *Daedalion, by Apollo, out of pity when he threw himself from a mountain after the death of his daughter Chione.

Hoopoe. *Tereus. *See* Multiple bird transformations (1).

Jackdaw. *Arne, to punish her for betraying her native island.

Kite. Ictinus, as a punishment, after his incestuous desire for his daughter *Side had caused her to kill herself.

Magpies. According to Ovid, the *Pierides were turned into magpies by the Muses, because they insulted the Muses after being defeated by them in a singing contest. *See* Multiple bird transformations (3).

Nightingale. 1. *Aedon, wife of Zethus, by Zeus. She prayed to become a bird after she accidentally killed her son Itylus while trying to kill a son of her sister-in-law Niobe. **2.** Procne (or Philomela). *See* Multiple bird transformations (1). **3.** *Aedon, wife of Polytechnus, as part of a multiple transformation – a Hellenistic adaptation of (2) set in Asia Minor. **4.** *Aedon, wife of Zetes. When she killed her son because she suspected that he was helping her husband to conduct a love affair, Aphrodite felt pity for her and transformed her.

Owl. 1. *Ascalaphus, by Demeter or Persephone, to punish him for revealing that Persephone had eaten a pomegranate in the Underworld. **2.** *Nyctimene, by Athena, out of pity after her father Epopeus had committed incest with her. **3.** *Nyctaea, who contrived to sleep with her father Nycteus with the help of her nurse. She was transformed when her father realized her identity and tried to kill her. *See* Chalchis, Multiple bird transformations (2).

Partridge. *Perdix, by Athena, to save him when his uncle Daedalus, who was jealous of his inventions, threw him from the acropolis.

Peacock. 1. *Argus Panoptes. After his death, a peacock rose up from his blood, or he was turned into a peacock, or Hera put his many eyes into the tail of the peacock. **2.** *Erinona temporarily, by Artemis, out of pity after she had been raped by Adonis.

Pheasant. *Itys, in some Latin sources, after his mother had fed him to his father Tereus. *See* Multiple bird transformations (1).

Sea-eagle. *Nisus. His daughter *Scylla was turned into a ciris (either a bird or a fish) after killing him; in some accounts, Nisus himself was transformed into a sea-eagle which pursued her afterwards.

Shearwater. *See* Unidentified birds (4).

Stork. *Antigone, daughter of Laomedon, by Hera, to punish her for claiming to rival the goddess in beauty, or by the gods out of pity for her after Hera had punished her by turning her hair into snakes.

Swallow. Philomela (or Procne). *See* Multiple transformations (1).

Swan. 1. *Cycnus, son of Apollo, by Apollo, out of pity when he drowned himself after his suitor Phylus had deserted him. In one version, his mother Thyris drowned herself after his death and was also transformed into a swan. **2.** *Cycnus, son of Ares, by Ares, after he was killed by Heracles. **3.** *Cycnus, king of the Ligurians, by Apollo, because he so mourned the death of his friend *Phaethon. **4.** According to Ovid, *Cycnus, son of Poseidon, was turned into a swan by his father, after he was killed by Achilles.

Woodpecker. *Picus, by Circe, to punish him for rejecting her advances.

Wryneck. *Iunx, by Hera, for bewitching Zeus into having intercourse with Io *or* with herself.

Multiple Bird Transformations. 1. *Tereus. After Tereus had raped Philomela, the sister of his wife Procne, the two women fed his son Itylus to him; as he was pursuing them, they prayed to the gods to be transformed – Philomela was turned into a swallow, Procne into a nightingale (or *vice-versa* in some Latin sources) and Tereus into a hoopoe. Some said that Itylus was turned into a pheasant. **2.** The *Minyads were turned into creatures of the night by Dionysus to punish them for rejecting his rites. They became a bat, a *glaux* and a *byssa* (two forms of owl) or a bat, a *glaux* and a crow; in Ovid's version, all three became bats. **3.** The *Pierides were turned into birds of nine kinds by the Muses to punish them after they were defeated by the Muses in a singing contest, or, in Ovid's version, they were turned into magpies. **4.** The other multiple transformations are highly artificial stories ascribed to the Hellenistic author 'Boios'. Many of the birds mentioned cannot be identified with any certainty, if at all. The tales are summarized in the main text under the titles given to them by our source, Antoninus Liberalis. *See* Aedon, wife of Polytechnus, Aegyptius, Anthus, Clinis, Polyphonte and Honey-thieves (originally simply as Thieves).

Unidentified Birds. 1. The followers of *Diomedes were changed into birds. **2.** After the death of *Memnon, his companions were transformed into birds which fought an annual battle above his tomb, or the birds arose from the ashes on Memnon's pyre. *See* Memnonides. **3.** According to Apollodorus, *Aesacus so mourned the death of his wife Asterope that he was turned into an unnamed bird (but in Ovid's version he became a diver in different circumstances). **4.** According to Ovid, some of the companions of *Ino were transformed into birds by Hera for reviling the goddess after the disappearance of Ino. A Greek catalogue of transformations from a papyrus suggests that they were turned into *aithuiai* (possibly shearwaters). **5.** The king and Queen of Calauria in unknown circumstances. **6.** In Ovid's account, *Caeneus was transformed after his death into a yellow bird, the only one of its kind.

PLANTS AND FLOWERS

Almond. In one account, *Phyllis was turned into a leafless almond tree when she hanged herself in grief after she was deserted by *Demophon; when Demophon later returned and embraced the trunk of the tree, it put out leaves (*phylla*, hence their name).

Anemone. As a flower with blood-red petals which are blown off by the slightest wind, it was associated with *Adonis who died a bloody and premature death. The anemone first sprang from the blood of the dead Adonis, or, in Ovid's version, his lover Aphrodite caused it to arise by sprinkling his blood with nectar, or anemones sprang from the tears of Aphrodite as she

mourned his death (and roses from the blood of Adonis), or the anemone's petals were first turned red by the blood of Adonis.

Apple. When *Melus hanged himself from an apple-tree (*melos*, named after him) in grief at the death of his friend Adonis, Aphrodite transformed him into its fruit.

Bindweed. *See* Crocus.

Crocus. *Crocus and Smilax (or Milax) were two lovers who were transformed into the flowers that bore their names, the autumn or saffron crocus and bindweed respectively.

Cypress. 1. *Cyparissus, a Cean. When he accidentally killed a tame stag which he greatly loved he prayed to the gods to be allowed to mourn forever, and his lover Apollo turned him into a tree associated with mourning. **2.** *Cyparissus was a beautiful Cretan youth who was transformed into a cypress after he fled to Syria to escape the advances of Apollo or Zephyrus.

Fir. 1. *Elate, because she so mourned the death of her brothers, the *Aloads. **2.** Two unnamed girls who told the local people that *Dryope had been abducted by nymphs were turned into fir trees by the nymphs.

Fruit. *Carpus was turned into the fruit of all things by Zeus after his premature death.

Heliotrope. When *Clytia was spurned by her former lover Helius (the Sun), she refused to eat or drink and finally turned into a heliotrope, a plant which always turns its flowers towards the sun.

Hyacinth. The Greek hyacinth may have been a form of iris. The AIAI marking on its petals could be interpreted as an expression of sorrow (*cf.* 'ah me!'). After Apollo accidentally killed *Hyacinthus, the god caused the flower to spring from his blood or ashes, or, according to one late source, he even turned him into the flower. Alternatively, it was said that the flower commemorated *Ajax, or that it sprang from his blood. In that case, the marking on its petals spelt out the first letters of his name (Aias in Greek).

Incense-tree. In anger at her love affair with Helius, *Leucothoe's father buried her alive; after her death, Helius sprinkled her body and the surrounding soil with nectar, causing an incense-tree to grow from it.

Ivy. *Cissus, a young man from the retinue of Dionysus, was turned into ivy, a plant closely associated with Dionysus, after his premature death.

Laurel. *Daphne, by Zeus, to save her from being raped by Apollo, or she prayed to the earth for help – it swallowed her up and sent up a laurel in her place.

Lime. *Baucis. *See* Oak. (The Oceanid *Philyra was also transformed into a lime in one version of her story.)

Lotus. *Lotis, by the gods, to save her from being raped by Priapus.

Marjoram (*Ama'ra*). Amaracus, a mixer of unguents, was transformed into this herb which was named after him.

Mint. *Minthe (or Menthe), a former mistress of Hades, transformed by the jealous Persephone, or else Demeter trampled her into the earth and the plant sprang up in her place.

Myrrh-tree. *Myrrha (or Smyrna), by Zeus. She prayed to be removed from human sight when her father realized her identity (and in some accounts, pursued her with a sword) after she had contrived to sleep with him.

Myrtle. 1. Myrsine, an athlete and favourite of Athena, transformed by the goddess after she was murdered by fellow athletes. **2.** Myrene, a virgin priestess of Aphrodite. When someone wanted to take her in marriage, Aphrodite killed him and turned her into a myrtle (a plant sacred to the goddess).

Narcissus. After the death of *Narcissus, his body vanished and a narcissus was found in its place, or the flower sprang from his blood, or he was transformed into it.

Nut-tree. When Dionysus fell in love with *Carya and her sisters tried to obstruct him, he turned them to stone and transformed Carya herself into a nut-tree (*karya*, a vague term covering hazels, walnuts and the like).

Oak. As the wish granted to them by Zeus, *Philemon and *Baucis asked to die together; when the time of death came for them in their old age they were transformed into intertwined trees, an oak and a lime respectively.

Olive. 1. When Elaea, an athlete and favourite of Athena, was murdered by fellow athletes, Athena transformed her into an olive-tree (a plant closely associated with the goddess). **2.** An unnamed shepherd who insulted the nymphs of Messapia (Calabria) and mocked their dancing was transformed by them into a wild olive tree.

Pine. The nymph *Pitys. Various sources imply that she was transformed when fleeing from Pan, or that the earth sent up a pine after she was killed by Boreas, who had competed with Pan for her love.

Plane-tree. Platanus and her sister *Elate were turned into a plane and a fir respectively because they mourned inconsolably for their dead brothers, the *Aloads.

Pomegranate. When *Side killed herself to escape the incestuous advances of her father Ictinus, a pomegranate tree sprang up from her blood, and her father was turned into a kite, a bird which was said to avoid pomegranate trees.

Poplar. 1. When nymphs abducted *Dryope to make her one of their companions. they caused a poplar to spring up in her place. **2.** The *Heliades so mourned the death of their brother *Phaethon that Zeus or the gods took pity of them and turned them into poplars. They still weep tears of amber. **3.** When *Leuce died, her lover Hades caused the white poplar to spring up in the Elysian Fields.

Poppy (*Μήκων*). Mecon, an Athenian favourite of Demeter, was transformed by Demeter into this flower which was given his name.

Reed. 1. *Syrinx, by water-nymphs, to save her when she was pursued by Pan. **2.** Calamus, by Zeus, when he prayed to join his dead beloved *Carpus in death.

Rose. In one late account, *Adonis was transformed into a rose by Aphrodite after his premature death, or roses sprang from the blood of the dead Adonis

Tamarisk. Myrike, a daughter of *Cinyras, so mourned the death of Adonis that she was turned into a tamarisk, presumably by Aphrodite. [

Vine. 1. *Ampelus, a favourite of Dionysus, by Dionysus, after his premature death. **2.** Ambrosia, a nurse of Dionysus, when the god and his attendants were pursued by *Lycurgus.

Unnamed Trees. 1. When some Messapian (Calabrian) shepherds boasted that they were better dancers than the local nymphs, the nymphs defeated them in a dancing contest and then transformed them into some trees which could be heard to lament at night. **2.** According to Ovid, the Thracian woman who killed Dionysus were turned into trees by Dionysus.

STONES, including islands, mountains and statues

Aconteus. When Perseus used the Gorgon's head against *Phineus and his company, they were all turned to stone, including Aconteus, Perseus' companion, who looked at it inadvertently.

Aglaurus. When the jealous *Aglaurus tried to prevent Hermes from entering her sister *Herse's bedroom, Hermes turned her to stone.

Alcmena. According to a tradition associated with her cult at Thebes, Hermes secretly transferred *Alcmena to the Isles of the Blessed after she died at Thebes, substituting a stone for her in her coffin.

Anaxerete. When the hard-hearted *Anaxarete spied on the funeral of Iphis, who had hanged himself because she had spurned him, Aphrodite turned her to stone.

Arsinoe. Another version of the Anaraxete story, in which *Arsinoe's rejected suitor, Arceophon, starved himself to death and was turned to stone by Aphrodite.

Aspalis. After *Aspalis had hanged herself to escape rape by the local ruler, her body vanished and a statue appeared in place of it, next to an image of Artemis.

Atlas. In some accounts, Perseus used the Gorgon's head against *Atlas, here a local ruler or shepherd, because he tried to block his way, and so turned him into the African mountain of that name.

Battus. Although *Battus had sworn not to reveal Hermes' theft of Apollo's cattle, he betrayed the secret when Hermes returned in disguise to test him, and the god turned him to stone.

Britomartis. When a fisherman tried to rape *Britomartis after bringing her to Aegina she jumped overboard and hid in a grove there. She then vanished, and a statue appeared in her place in the sanctuary of Artemis.

Cadmus and Harmonia. Some said that they were petrified after they were transformed into snakes.

Cercopes. Zeus turned the *Cercopes to stone because they were liars and cheats or because they had tried to deceive Zeus himself, or they were turned into apes.

Cinyras' daughters. According to Ovid, Hera turned them into the steps of her temple in Cyprus.

Cragaleus. When asked to arbitrate in a dispute between Apollo, Artemis and Heracles over the possession of Ambracia, Cragaleus judged in favour of Heracles, much to the anger of Apollo, who turned him to stone.

Daphnis. *Daphnis was blinded by his lover, a nymph, because he was unfaithful to her, and in one account, she then turned him to stone.

Haemon. *Haemon and *Rhodopis were turned into two Thracian mountains named after them because they called one another Zeus and Hera.

Hecuba. In one late account, she was turned to stone after being transformed into a dog.

Ino's companions. When they reviled Hera after the disappearance of *Ino, the goddess turned some of them to stone and others into unnamed birds.

Iodama. *Iodama was turned to stone by the Gorgon's head on Athena's aegis when the goddess showed herself to Iodama in her temple near Coroneia in Boeotia.

Lethaea. Ovid alludes to an otherwise unknown story in which a certain Lethaea was turned to stone because she had boasted of her beauty, with her lover Olenus, who tried to take the blame.

Lichas. When *Lichas was hurled to his death by Heracles, he turned to stone and became a rock off the coast of Euboea.

Lyc0 and Orphe. When these jealous sisters of *Carya tried to obstruct her lover Hermes, the god turned them to stone.

Niobe. After she had lost her many children, Zeus transferred *Niobe into a rock on Mount Sipylus in Asia Minor.

Olenus. See Lethaea.

Pandareus. Zeus turned *Pandareus to stone to punish him for stealing a golden dog from a shrine of Zeus in Crete.

Perimele. She was turned into the island of that name by Poseidon at the request of *Achelous – her father had thrown her into the sea after her rape by Achelous.

Phineus. When *Phineus tried to rob Perseus of his bride Andromeda, Perseus used the Gorgon's head to turn him and his companions to stone.

Polydectes. Perseus used the Gorgon's head to petrify *Polydectes and his company because Polydectes had mistreated his mother and was plotting against him.

Proetus. According to Ovid, Perseus used the Gorgon's head against *Proetus because he had banished Acrisius, the Perseus' father.

Propoetides. Aphrodite turned the *Propoetides to stone because they denied her divinity.

Pyrrhus. An otherwise unknown figure who tried to rape the goddess Rhea and was turned into a stone which stood next to that of Niobe on Mount Sipylus.

Rhodopis. *See* Haemon.

Unnamed. **1.** Some nymphs who forgot *Achelous when making offerings to local deities were swept out to sea by Achelous and apparently became the Echinadian islands. **2.** According to Ovid, a man was turned to stone when he saw Cerberus (brought by Heracles from the Underworld as his last labour).

SPRINGS AND RIVERS

Acis. After *Acis was killed by Polyphemus, his lover Galatea caused the river Acis beneath Mount Etna to spring from his blood and Acis himself to become the god of the river, or else Acis was transformed into the river.

Alope. *After Alope was killed by her father for giving birth to a bastard child, her lover Poseidon transformed her into the spring near Eleusis which took her name.

Alpheius. In one version of the story of *Alpheius and *Arethusa, he was originally a Peloponnesian hunter, and was transformed into the river of that name after Arethusa had fled to Sicily to escape his advances.

Arethusa. Artemis transformed *Arethusa into the Syracusan spring of that name to save her from the pursuit of the Peloponnesian river-god Alpheus.

Aura. When *Aura went mad, and ate one of her children and then jumped into the river Sangarius, Zeus transformed her into an unnamed spring.

Byblis. When *Byblis tried to throw herself from a cliff in shame at her passion for her brother, she was rescued by nymphs who turned her into a nymph, and a spring (the Tears of Byblis, at Miletus) appeared in place of her, or the spring was formed from her tears when she hanged herself, or else she wept ceaselessly when spurned by her brother and so turned into the spring.

Clite. The spring of that name at Cyzicus in Asia Minor was formed from the tears of *Clite as she wept for the death of her husband Cyzicus, or from the tears of the local nymphs who wept for her after she hanged herself in distress.

Cyane. When *Cyane, the nymph of the Sicilian spring of that name, tried to prevent Hades from abducting Persephone, he rode into the Underworld through her spring, and she wept so bitterly that she dissolved into her own waters.

Daphnis. In one version of the story of *Daphnis, his father Hermes took him up to heaven after he was blinded, and caused the Sicilian spring of that name to rise up in his place.

Dirce. According to some late sources, *Dirce was transformed into the Theban spring of that name (rather than merely thrown into it), or it was formed from her blood.

Egeria. *Egeria wept ceaselessly for the dead Numa until Diana took pity on her and transformed her into a spring at Aricia near Rome.

Hyria. In Ovid's account, Hyria, the mother of *Cycnus by the god Apollo, wasted away with weeping after the death of her son and turned into a lake which bore her name (or she became a swan.)

Lamia. *See* Sybaris.

Manto. There was a spring at Claros in Asia Minor which was said to have been formed from the tears of *Manto.

Marsyas. The Phrygian river of that name was formed from the blood of the dead *Marsyas, or from the tears of the local people and the nymphs and satyrs who mourned his death, or he was transformed into the river.

Pirene. *Pirene so mourned the death of her son that she turned into the spring of that name at Corinth.

Pyramus. *See* Thisbe.

Rhodopis. When *Rhodopis (or Rhodope), a companion of Artemis who had sworn to remain a virgin, broke her oath, Artemis transformed her into the spring known as the Styx at Ephesus.

Sangas. *Sangas was transformed into the river Sangarius in Asia Minor because of his insult to Rhea.

Selemnus. Aphrodite took pity on *Selemnus when he was deserted by his lover, a sea-nymph, and turned him into the river Selemnus in the northern Peloponnese.

Sybaris. When Sybaris (also known as Lamia) was thrown to her death, she vanished, and the spring of that name under Mount Parnassus appeared in her place.

Thisbe. In one version of the story of *Pyramus and *Thisbe, they were both transformed after their suicide, Pyramus into the Cilician river of that name, and Thisbe into a spring which flowed into it.

SEX CHANGES

Caineus. *Caineus was originally a girl, Cainis, who asked her lover Poseidon to transform her into an invulnerable warrior.

Coronides. According to Ovid, the *Coronides, the two daughters of Orion, were cremated after they had killed themselves to save their city, and two young men known as the Coronae rose up from their ashes, or, according to the earlier Greek version, the two were turned into comets.

Hermaphroditus. *Hermaphroditus was originally a beautiful youth who aroused the love of the water-nymph Salmacis. She drew him into her spring, clung to him, and prayed to the gods that they should never be separated; they were therefore fused into the bisexual hermaphrodite.

Iphis. The mother of *Iphis pretended that she was a boy because her husband had told her that they could not afford to raise a girl; when he chose a bride for his supposed son, Isis changed her sex to male in answer to her mother's desperate prayers in their dilemma.

Leucippus. Another version of the previous story. *Leucippus was originally a girl whose mother prayed to Leto to transform her into a male when she was an adult, and it seemed likely that the deception would be discovered.

Mestra. *Mestra was sometimes said to have taken the form of a man to escape back to her father; in Ovid's account, Poseidon turned her into a fisherman to enable her to escape when her father first sold her into slavery, and then gave her powers as a shape-shifter.

Siproetes. A Cretan who was turned into a woman because he happened to see Artemis bathing while he was out hunting.

Sithon. According to Ovid, *Sithon (a figure associated with Macedonia or Thrace) used to change sex and lived alternately as man and woman. Although the nature of Ovid's allusion suggests that this was a famous story, nothing further is known of it.

Teiresias. *Teiresias was turned into a woman when he struck a pair of copulating snakes with his staff, and was turned into a man again some years later when he struck another pair

of snakes. The gods asked in which form he had had the greater pleasure from sex, and, when he replied that it was nine times as good as a woman; Hera promptly blinded him for this answer, and Zeus countered with the gift of prophecy in compensation.