

PERSEUS

FINALLY A GIRL LOOKS AT HIM



MEDUSA

BIRTH OF PERSEUS

- Acrisius, King of Argos, has a problem. A big one.
- His daughter, Danae, is really beautiful, but a daughter just isn't going to cut it for the King.
- To try and get a little advice on the situation, Acrisius goes to the Oracle of Delphi.
- What the Oracle tells him definitely doesn't make him feel better.
- His daughter is going to have a son who will kill him.
 - (Bummer)
- To try and stave off his fate, the King locks Danae in a brass tower with no doors and only one small window.
- Unluckily for Acrisius, Zeus peeks down from the sky and sees the lovely young princess in the chamber.

BIRTH OF PERSEUS

- Never one to pass an innocent young maiden by, Zeus streams through the sky-hole as a shower of gold.
- A few months after her golden moment with Zeus, Danae gives birth to a bouncing baby boy, named Perseus.
 - Perseus is Greek for avenger
- Acrisius is more than a little cheesed off.
- Angry, he puts her and the baby in a wooden boat and casts them out to sea.
- Danae's boat drifts to an island where, and she sees Dictys, the fisherman.
- Dictys takes Danae and her son to King Polydectes who takes her in as a daughter.
- Everything is going great for Danae and Perseus on Serifos, until...

PERSEUS AND MEDUSA

- Polydectes, the king, totally has a thing for Danae.
- Polydectes is worried that Perseus will interfere with him marrying Danae.
- To get Perseus out of the way, Polydectes hatches a scheme.
- He gathers a bunch of his friends (Perseus included) and claims that he's collecting presents to win the hand of another lovely lady (though the king really has his eye on Danae).
- Polydectes asks each man to give him some horses.
- Perseus doesn't have a horse to give, but he brags that he will bring Polydectes the head of Medusa.
- "Oh really?" says Polydectes. "Great, bring me the head of the Gorgon."
- At this point, Perseus probably pees in his pants a little bit. The Gorgons are three monstrous sisters with snakes for hair, claws, wings, and fangs. They're so hideous that anyone who looks at them turns to stone.

PERSEUS AND MEDUSA

- With the help of the gods Athena and Hermes, Perseus locates the Gray Sisters, three nasty old hag sisters who share one eye and one tooth between them.
 - (Gross. There are some things you just shouldn't share with your siblings – *teeth* and *eyeballs* are near the top of that list.)
- Perseus steals the eye and the tooth from the Gray Sisters (ew).
- Our noble hero won't let the old ladies have their precious eye and tooth back until they tell him the location of the Nymphs of the West, who have some of the gods' treasures in their safekeeping.
- The hags do as Perseus asks, and he gives them back their body parts.

PERSEUS AND MEDUSA

- Following the Gray Sisters' directions, Perseus finds the Nymphs of the West, who let him borrow some awesome items:
 - A shield of polished bronze
 - A sickle-shaped sword
 - Hades' Cap of Darkness(a.k.a. Helm of Darkness), which makes him invisible
- Perseus puts on all his new toys and flies off to face the Gorgons.
- Eventually, Perseus reaches the seaside cave of the three Gorgon sisters, whose names are Stheno, Euryale, and... Medusa.
- Luckily for Perseus, the Gorgons are asleep when he gets there.

PERSEUS AND MEDUSA

- Perseus sneaks up to Medusa. He raises his sword, taking aim by looking at the monster through the reflection in his shield, and chops off Medusa's head.
- As Medusa's head flies from her body, Pegasus, the winged horse, and Chrysaor, a giant, jump out of her neck. (This is not quite as random as it sounds. There's a good explanation, but that's another story.)
- Perseus plops Medusa's head in the pouch and starts make his getaway.
- At this point Medusa's sisters, Stheno and Euryale, wake up, and they are not happy. They chase after Perseus.
- The hero puts on Hades' Cap of Darkness and escapes the crazy snake ladies.
- On the way back to the island of Sephiros, Perseus runs into Atlas, the Titan doomed by Zeus to hold up the sky forever.
- Atlas gets upset because Perseus is flirting with his daughters the Nymphs of the West and eating the golden apples from Hera's tree.
- Hotheaded Perseus whips out Medusa's head and turning Atlas into stone.
 - (It is said that Mt. Atlas, in Africa, is the petrified remains of the Titan.)

PERSEUS AND ANDROMEDA

- With Medusa's head tucked into his pouch, Perseus soars above a desert (many stories will call this Ethiopia) with his trusty winged sandals.
- When he gets to the ocean, he notices a girl chained to a rock in the crashing waves.
- Perseus instantly falls in love with the beautiful maiden, as is always the case in these kinds of stories.
- He streaks down from the sky to find out why such a pretty girl is chained to such a big nasty rock.
- Our hero learns that the girl's name is Andromeda. She's the daughter of Cepheus, who is the king of Joppa.
- It turns out that Cepheus has chained Andromeda to the rock to feed Cetus a giant, maiden-eating sea monster. Why? Good question. Here's the story:

PERSEUS AND ANDROMEDA

- Not long ago, Andromeda's mother, Cassiopeia, bragged that she and her daughter were far more beautiful than the Nereids, minor goddesses of the sea. This claim seriously ticked off the Nereids, so they complained to Poseidon, the great god of the sea.
- Poseidon decided to punish Joppa for Cassiopeia's boast. He swore to send a sea monster, Cetus, to destroy the land. The only thing that will make Poseidon chill out is if Andromeda is offered up as a sacrifice to the hungry sea monster.
- When Perseus learns all this, an epic battle ensues, and Perseus kills the monster.
- In some versions, Perseus uses Medusa's head to turn the Cetus into stone, while in others he just uses a sword.
- Some versions also say that Perseus sets Medusa's head down while battling the monster, and that, when the Gorgon's blood drips into the water, it petrifies the seaweed, making the first coral reefs.

PERSEUS AND ANDROMEDA

- After defeating the monster, Perseus and Andromeda head back to the palace.
- When Perseus finally makes it back home to Sephiros, he finds out that his mother is about to marry king Polydectes.
- Polydectes is all, "Hey, what are you doing here? Where's Medusa's head?"
- Perseus says, "Here it is, jerk," and he turns his face away and reveals Medusa's severed head.
- Polydectes and his buddies are all turned to stone. Including Acrisius, Perseus' grandfather
- Danae is now safe.
- After this, Perseus returns all his godly artifacts – but keeps the sandals and sword.
- Perseus throws Medusa's head into the seas where it makes coral as it is pushed by the tides

HERO'S JOURNEY

Stage 1: The Ordinary World

- We start the story on the island of Sephiros, the home of Perseus and his pretty mother Danae. Though Perseus doesn't know it yet, Polydectes, the king of Sephiros, has the hots for Danae, but he needs to get Perseus out of the way before he can marry her.

Stage 2: The Call to Adventure

- Perseus tells King Polydectes that he will bring back the head of Medusa. (That sounds like a pretty effective way to get Perseus out of the way – permanently.)

Stage 3: Refusal of the Call

- There's no refusal in this story. Though he might be inwardly freaking out a bit, Perseus hops to it.

Stage 4: Meeting with the Mentor

- Athena and Hermes help Perseus to the home of the Gray Sisters and give the guy some advice.

HERO'S JOURNEY

Stage 5: Crossing of the Threshold

- Perseus really commits to his adventure when he blackmails the Gray Sisters into telling him how to find the Nymphs of the West. At this point, he has entered the mythological world of strange creatures and gods.

Stage 6: Tests, Allies, Enemies

- Perseus' main test is finding out the location of the Nymphs of the West. To do this, he has to trick and blackmail the Gray Sisters, which he successfully does.
- Next, Perseus gains an important ally. The Nymphs of the West loan Perseus lots of useful stuff.
- With his borrowed magical gear, Perseus flies off to find the Gorgons' cave. The Gorgons will certainly be his enemies.

Stage 7: Approach to the Inmost Cave/Journey to Hell

- How convenient – the Gorgons actually live in a cave. When Perseus reaches the Gorgons' lair, he's about to embark on the most dangerous part of his adventure.

HERO'S JOURNEY

Stage 8: Ordeal

- Perseus finds Medusa sleeping and chops off her head. The other two Gorgons chase him, but Perseus escapes with the help of Hades' Cap of Darkness (a.k.a. Helm of Darkness).

Stage 9: Reward

- Perseus has got Medusa's head, which is certainly a kind of reward. While flying home to Sephiros, though, he also wins Princess Andromeda's hand in marriage.

Stage 10: The Road Back

- Perseus flies back home with Medusa's head packed away in his pouch.

HERO'S JOURNEY

Stage 11: Resurrection

- This stage has a kind of funny name, because it isn't necessarily about death and resurrection: "This is the climax in which the Hero must have his final and most dangerous encounter with death. The final battle also represents something far greater than the Hero's own existence with its outcome having far-reaching consequences to his Ordinary World and the lives of those he left behind."
- What's at stake for Perseus is his mom's freedom. Perseus' last battle is with King Polydectes, who has been trying to force Danae to marry him. Perseus takes care of Polydectes by using Medusa's head to turn him into stone.

Stage 12: Return with the Treasure

- Perseus has returned home and saved his mom. His quest is over. He came home with the cure to his mom's desperate situation, and now he returns his magical artifacts.

THEME: COURAGE

- Like pretty much every great hero, Perseus is incredibly brave. No matter how dangerous the monsters in his path, Perseus boldly marches forward. He is unstoppable – Gorgons, sea monsters, wicked kings – nothing can intimidate our noble hero. Perseus is part of a long line of legendary heroes that extends all the way to today. All of Hollywood's superheroes and action heroes owe a little something to Perseus. It seems like human beings just never get tired of hearing stories about brave heroes courageously facing down impossible odds.

Questions About Courage

- Who is the most courageous person you know? Why do you think of them that way?
- What does it mean to be brave? Why do you think so?
- Just to play devil's advocate, is it really that brave of Perseus to chop off Medusa's head while she's asleep? Why, or why not? In most movie versions of this scene, Medusa is awake and fighting. Why do you think that is?

THEME: WOMEN AND FEMININITY

- The issue of women and femininity in Perseus' stories are kind of problematic. As we see it, women are either beautiful and helpless damsels in distress (Danae, Andromeda) or ugly monsters (the Gorgons, the Gray Sisters). Perseus saves the damsels and defeats the monsters either through might (Medusa) or clever tricks (other Gorgons, icky sisters). In other words, in this myth, we don't see any strong female characters – at least not any that survive.

Questions About Women and Femininity

- Why do you think we don't see any strong female characters in this story? How might this story reflect the role of women in ancient Greek society?
- Many feminists have taken on Medusa as a symbol. Why do you think that is? What about Medusa is appealing?
- Does Athena offer a strong female presence in the story, or is she too minor of a character?
- How did you feel about Perseus' treatment of the female "monsters" in this story?
- Is it significant that Medusa doesn't get a chance to fight Perseus?

THEME: LOVE

- Superman has Lois Lane, Spiderman has Mary Jane, Mario has Princess Peach, and Perseus has Princess Andromeda. Like pretty much every hero ever, Perseus has a ladylove who he's willing to face down any villain for. No adventure story is complete without a little romance thrown in, and the episode of Perseus and Andromeda is one of the most famous love affairs of all time, a classic story of love at first sight. This story also brings in questions of familial love, when King Cepheus decides to sacrifice his daughter in order to save his kingdom.

Questions About Love

- What is it about Andromeda that attracts Perseus?
- Do you believe in love at first sight? Why, or why not?
- Compare and contrast the tale of Perseus and Andromeda to a "damsel in distress" story from a recent movie.
- Do we get any hints about whether Andromeda loves Perseus?

THEME: CLEVERNESS

- Perseus may hack Medusa's head off with a sword, but in most cases his success comes from quick, clever thinking rather than through mad fighting skills. Just think about it: he blackmails the Gorgon Sisters by threatening not to return their eye and tooth; he defeats the sleeping Medusa by looking at her only through a reflection; and he hides from the other two Gorgons with the Cap of Darkness. Perseus isn't the only clever guy in the story, though. King Polydectes is pretty cunning himself, setting Perseus up to go on Mission Impossible. His trickery is repaid in kind when Perseus surprises Polydectes and turns him into stone using his handy-dandy Gorgon head.

Questions About Cunning and Cleverness

- Do you think it's more admirable to defeat an opponent through strength or through cleverness? Which quality is more entertaining for a hero to have in a story?
- Is there a difference between Perseus' cleverness and Polydectes'?
- When Perseus defeats an enemy through cleverness, do you feel like he's won fair and square? Why or why not?

DANAE

- Danae totally fulfills all the requirements for the position of damsel in distress. For one, she's drop dead gorgeous--like stupid, ridiculously hot.
- Here's a question: why do all damsels in distress have to be pretty? Why can't they ever be moderately attractive young ladies, with a sparkling personality? (Just sayin')
- Also, like so many damsels in distress to follow after, Danae is getting locked up all the time.
 - First, her dad, King Acrisius, locks her in a bronze chamber because the Oracle of Delphi told him that she'd give birth to a son who would kill him.
 - Later, when Zeus impregnates her with Perseus as a shower of gold, Acrisius throws her on a boat and tosses her out to sea. In other versions of the myth, she is locked in a box and thrown out to sea (Sounds like this damsel has good reasons to be distressed.)

ZEUS

- The King of the Gods once again shows his incredible talent for finding creative ways to seduce young maidens. We really have to hand it to him. Cascading through the skylight of Danae's locked chamber as a shower of gold is pretty darn creative. Not long after, little baby Perseus comes along. (Of course, it's not that Zeus ever takes no for an answer anyway.)
- You could see Zeus's behavior in this myth as pretty revealing of his character. Here, he spies a beautiful maiden imprisoned against her will. Does he use his godly power to free her? Nope.
- He uses his godly power to impregnate her, and then he uses godly power to make a break for it.
- If you want to think better of Zeus, you could choose to believe that he knew Perseus would be born from his encounter with Danae, and he did it all to give the world a hero. (Hm, do you buy that?)
 - In some versions, it's Zeus who makes sure that the boat makes it to Serifos, so maybe he's not all bad.

ACRISIUS

- There's no getting around the fact that Acrisius is the bad guy in this story.
- When the Oracle tells him that Danae will give birth to a son who'll kill him, he locks her in a room and throws away the key.
- When she gives birth anyway, he throws his daughter and grandson on a boat in the ocean.
 - Yeah, so this guy doesn't exactly have a lot of redeemable qualities.
- Like a bunch of other dudes in Greek mythology (Oedipus!), Acrisius does everything he can to avoid his fate.
- The joke's on him, though. He does all these horrible, inhuman things to his own family, but in the end Perseus does kill him.
 - Unfortunately for Acrisius, the Fates never get it wrong.

PERSEUS

- Perseus is one of the most famous of all Greek heroes and he's still popular today. Both versions of the *Clash of the Titans* films (1981 and 2010) are based on his legendary exploits. Just like pretty much every action hero of today, he is brave, daring, and handsome, defeating all the villains with ease.
- Perseus is the mortal son of the god Zeus and the beautiful Danae. Zeus has a *loooooong* history of cheating on his wife with pretty mortal girls, and the missus has an equally long history of punishing the girls and their children. Somehow, Danae and Perseus got off easy. Hera, Zeus' wife, doesn't seem to know about them. Maybe it's because, when Zeus impregnated Danae, he was disguised as a shower of gold. Who knows? At any rate, Perseus should thank his lucky stars that he didn't end up like his half-brother Heracles, who was harassed by Hera.
- Though Perseus is Zeus's son, he's still mortal and doesn't seem to have any obvious superpowers. However, he's brave and skilled, and the gods seem to like him. We can't imagine that Athena and Hermes would help out just any mortal guy. It probably helps that he has some Olympian blood.

PERSEUS

- Perseus may be determined and pretty clever, but he's still young and inexperienced.
 - It's a good thing, then, that Perseus gets some help from the gods.
- Like many other questing heroes (we're thinking of Odysseus, Heracles, and Jason), Perseus gets a bit of advice and guidance from the god and goddess Athena (his half-sister) and Hermes (his half-brother). Though he's pretty awesome, don't bet on Perseus getting very far without a some of divine assistance. Yeah, imagine him showing up at the cave of the Gorgons only to be turned to stone.
- Luckily, Perseus has some gods on his side to offer advice. Also, like Batman, he has all sorts of useful gadgets for his mission. But unlike Batman, he's only borrowing them. These gadgets are also a form of assistance from the gods. He's got Hades' Cap of Darkness (a.k.a. Helm of Darkness), winged sandals that are like Hermes', and a fancy sword.
- Part of what makes Perseus likeable is that he's a good son.
 - Who doesn't love a guy who protects his mom from nasty suitors?
- Perseus may not know that while he is on his suicide mission, King Polydectes is trying to woo Danae, but once Perseus finds out, he's not happy.
- In a moment of total awesomeness, the king is turned to stone and Danae is safe.

MEDUSA

- Medusa is the monstrous lady whose head Perseus chops off. She is a Gorgon and, like her sisters, Stheno and Euryale, she has snakes for hair, wings, and tusks. Medusa is so hideous that she will turn anyone she looks at into stone.
- Perseus' whole quest is about decapitating Medusa. Though we know this monstrous lady is scary, we never see her in action because Perseus kills her while she's sleeping. In the movie adaptations, Perseus fights Medusa while she's awake and kicking – which is way more exciting, if you ask me.
- Do you feel kind of sorry for Medusa? Perseus just waltzes up and murders her in her sleep. What did she ever do to hurt him? Nothing. He doesn't even defeat her in fair combat.
- Still not feeling sympathetic for this snake-haired lady? Maybe it will help if there was an explanation of Medusa's history. She was once a very pretty girl who was unfortunate enough to catch the eye of the god Poseidon. He forced her to sleep with him in the sacred temple of Athena, which really ticked off Athena. Did she punish her Uncle Poseidon? Nope. Instead, Athena went after Medusa and turned her into a hideous Gorgon, so ugly that her mere glance would turn a man to stone. Does that seem fair to you?

MEDUSA

- Now that you know Medusa's background, how do you feel about her death? And how do you feel about Athena helping Perseus defeat Medusa?
- When you think about it, Medusa has a key similarity to Danae, Perseus' mom. Medusa was turned into a monster after earning the unwanted attention of the god Poseidon. Danae caught the eye of Poseidon's brother, Zeus. So both women slept with gods, but they had pretty different outcomes.
- You could just as easily imagine Danae being turned into some kind of awful creature by Hera, Zeus' vengeful wife, if she had found out about the affair. That's why it's pretty interesting that Perseus kills Medusa and uses her hideous head to destroy Danae's unwanted suitor, Polydectes. In that way, it seems that after her death, Medusa is protecting women who could fall victim to other bad men.

POLYDECTES

- Polydectes is the King of Sephiros, who decides he wants to go “frolicking” with Perseus' mother, Danae.
- In the end, Perseus brings him the head of the Gorgon – but the hero uses it against Polydectes and turns him into stone.
- Sure, he's another bad guy in the story, but if it weren't for him, Perseus wouldn't be the legendary hero that he is.

HERMES

- Hermes, the messenger god, shows up to give Perseus a pair of winged sandals like the ones he wears.
- Hermes, guides the young hero to the Gray Sisters, where he gets information that leads him to the Nymphs of the West, who provide him with essential magical tools.

ATHENA

- Athena, the goddess of wisdom and war, appears in just about every Greek hero myth. She's kind of a hero groupie. Athena was Odysseus' special divine friend and also provided key advice and assistance to Heracles, Jason, and, of course, Perseus.
- Really, where would Perseus be without Athena? Probably hanging out the in the Gorgons' cave – as a statue. But why does Athena help Perseus? That's a good question. It could be that:
- Athena is the goddess of heroic endeavors, and Perseus is definitely setting off on a heroic mission.
- Athena and Perseus actually have the same dad, so she's his half-sister. But, hey, Zeus sleeps around *so much* that maybe it doesn't mean much to Athena that she's related to the mortal hero.
- Athena has an old grudge against Medusa. She's actually the one who turned Medusa into a hideous Gorgon
 - Why do you think Athena helped Perseus out?

GRAY SISTERS

- The Gray Sisters (A.K.A Graeae) are the three old, unhygienic sisters who share an eye and tooth. (All together now: eewwww!)
- These supernatural ladies know the location of the Nymphs of the West, who possess the supernatural tools that Perseus needs to kill Medusa.
- The Gray Sisters don't want to help Perseus, but he steals their precious eye and tooth and refuses to return them unless the Sisters spill the beans.
- Perseus is one persuasive guy.

NYMPHS OF THE WEST

- The daughters of Atlas
- These supernatural ladies possess some key equipment that Perseus would really like to use to defeat the Gorgon Medusa.
- Perseus learns the secret location of the Nymphs of the West (A.K.A. Nymphai) from the Gray Sisters, and the Nymphs are kind enough to let the young hero borrow the magical gear.

ANDROMEDA

- Andromeda is the drop-dead gorgeous princess whom Perseus rescues from the sea monster. We don't get to hear much about her personality or anything in the story. She's not really much more than a pretty face, but that face is pretty enough to make Perseus kill a monster.
- Andromeda is a fitting wife for Perseus, a heroic son of Zeus. Applicants for the position of wife of a Greek hero generally must meet two qualifications:
 - Is she from a royal family? Check. Andromeda is a princess.
 - Is she pretty? Check. She's so beautiful that Perseus drools all over her and fights a monster to win her hand in marriage.
- Well, everything seems to be in order. Application accepted.
- For modern readers, Andromeda can bet a bit... well... disappointing. She's just a passive damsel in distress, a reward for Perseus' heroic deeds. We suppose that reflects the ancient time period the story comes from, but maybe you were still hoping for more.
- One interesting way to look at Andromeda is to compare her to Psyche, Eros's beloved wife. In some ways, these women have very similar stories. Both are so beautiful that goddesses get upset. In the case of Psyche, her good looks really irk Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty. Psyche's parents also abandon their daughter to be eaten by a monster, but then her story becomes different.

CASSIOPEIA

- Cassiopeia is the Queen of Joppa and the mother of Andromeda.
- She starts all the trouble by boasting that she and her daughter is more beautiful the Nereids, the goddesses of the sea.
- Today, the name of Cassiopeia lives on as the name of a constellation.

CEPHEUS

- Cepheus is the King of Joppa and the father of Andromeda.
- He decides to sacrifice his daughter to the sea monster in order to save his kingdom from the wrath of Poseidon.
- However, he agrees to let Perseus marry his daughter in return for the hero slaying the monster.
- Like many of the other characters in the story, Cepheus has a constellation named for him today.

CETUS

- Release the Kraken!
- Actually, Release Cetus!
- Cetus is the giant sea monster who is coming to chow down on Andromeda.
- Unfortunately (for Cetus at least), Perseus slays him before he gets to have his tasty dinner.
- The sea monster Heracles killed was also called Cetus.
- Today Cetus is the name of a constellation, which is usually represented by a whale.

NEREIDS

- The Nereids are minor goddesses of the sea.
- They get really ticked off when Cassiopeia brags that she and her daughter Andromeda are more beautiful than they are.
- When they complain to Poseidon, the great god of the sea threatens to destroy Joppa with a giant sea monster.
- The Nereids aren't the only goddesses to fly into a tizzy over a mortal girl's beauty.
 - Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty, did the same thing.

POSEIDON

- Poseidon is the brother of Zeus, and he's the great god of the sea.
- When Cassiopeia offends the Nereids, he threatens to send a flood and a sea monster to destroy the kingdom of Joppa.
- Is Poseidon being especially grumpy in this story? Well, not really. He's known for throwing temper tantrums, especially when mortals offend him.
 - Just ask Odysseus.

SOME MYTHS MENTION—PHINEUS

- Phineus is the Andromeda's uncle and her fiancé (umm... gross).
- He gets all mad when Perseus marries Andromeda.
- When he challenges Perseus, the hero turns him to stone with the help of his handy-dandy Gorgon head.

STORIES THAT MATTER

- The story of Perseus is by far one of the most famous in Greek mythology. He's actually thought to be the oldest of all the Greek heroes. Theseus, Heracles, and Odysseus were all trying to step to the awesomeness that was the P-dog (as his friends called him). The tale of his miraculous conception in a shower of gold was told by bunch of the heavy hitters in ancient poetry scene. The three big dogs of Athenian tragedy—Aeschylus, Euripides, Sophocles— all wrote plays about it as well, but unfortunately the scripts have been lost. Maybe they're floating around in a box at sea somewhere.
- The image of Zeus coming to Danae, mother of Perseus, in a shower of gold has also been a continual inspiration for painters. Gustav Klimt's "Danae" is particularly awesome, but his isn't the only painting to do an amazing job of capturing this miraculous conception. Rembrandt, and other artists kicked out their version of the scene. John William Waterhouse actually painted a picture of Danae and baby Perseus arriving on Sephiros, which was so cool that somebody stole it. Now, all we have is a black and white picture to remember it by.
- The story has of Perseus has continued to be popular even today. In 1981, it was turned into a movie called *Clash of the Titans*, which featured the amazing stop-motion animation of special effects pioneer Ray Harryhausen. *Clash of the Titans* was remade in 2010 starring Liam Neeson, Ralph Fiennes, and other Hollywood stars. Because people just couldn't get enough Perseus action, the remake was recently followed up with *Wrath of the Titans*. Even if Hollywood loses interest in Perseus, all you have to do is look up to the constellation named after him to know he's a star.