



Medusa
Revenue
circa 1820



Athena
School Book Revenue
1946



Parthenon
Commemorative Issue
1987



Poseidon
Color Essay - 1947

The mortal child of two gods, Medusa was a beautiful woman with hair the envy of other Greek women. Her beauty attracted many men including the god Poseidon, ruler of the seas. However, as an acolyte of the goddess Athena, she maintained her purity to serve in Athena's temple.

When asked to consummate a relationship with Poseidon, she ran into the Temple of Athena. Begging for help in repelling Poseidon's attentions. She found none and Poseidon seduced her in the temple. Found afterwards, Athena became outraged at the defilement of her temple.

Being unable to punish Poseidon, Athena punished Medusa for being party to the transgression and cursed her. Medusa's once treasured hair changed into horrid poisonous serpents and her gaze turned innocents and soldiers into stone.



Head of Medusa in advertising slug of machine cancel - 1987

Greek heroes attempted to capture Medusa for her actions but she fled Athens. She hid in a secret and concealed cave on a desolate island to prevent turning more people to stone, sadly, without success.

The Tragedy that was Medusa

Fran Adams



Postage meter with name *Medusa* in the advertising slug, domestic printed matter rate Prague to Lüneburg-Hagen, Czechoslovakia, 17 September 1930



Sailor's Fear of Medusa
Revenue Block of 4 - 1942

Danaë, the mother of Greek hero Perseus was desired by king Polydeces. In an effort to protect her from him, Perseus agreed to bring him Medusa's head.

The gods of Olympia gave Perseus weapons to perform this gruesome task - winged shoes, a sacred bag, a sword, a cloak of invisibility and a mirrored shield.

Looking only at Medusa's reclining figure in the mirrored shield's reflection, he cut off her head as she slept and slipped it into the sacred bag.

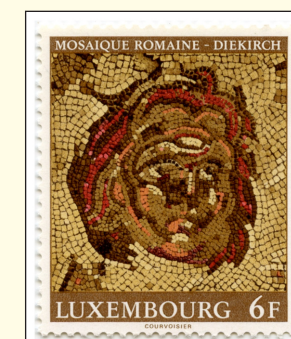


Death of Medusa
Liebig Advertising Card - circa 1932

Perseus returned, turned Polydeces to stone, freed his mother and presented the head to Athena.



Perseus
with Head - 1950



Medusa
Mosaic - 1942