



Myth and Persephone

The ~~month~~ of the abduction of Persephone

The many many many versions of the
abduction of Persephone

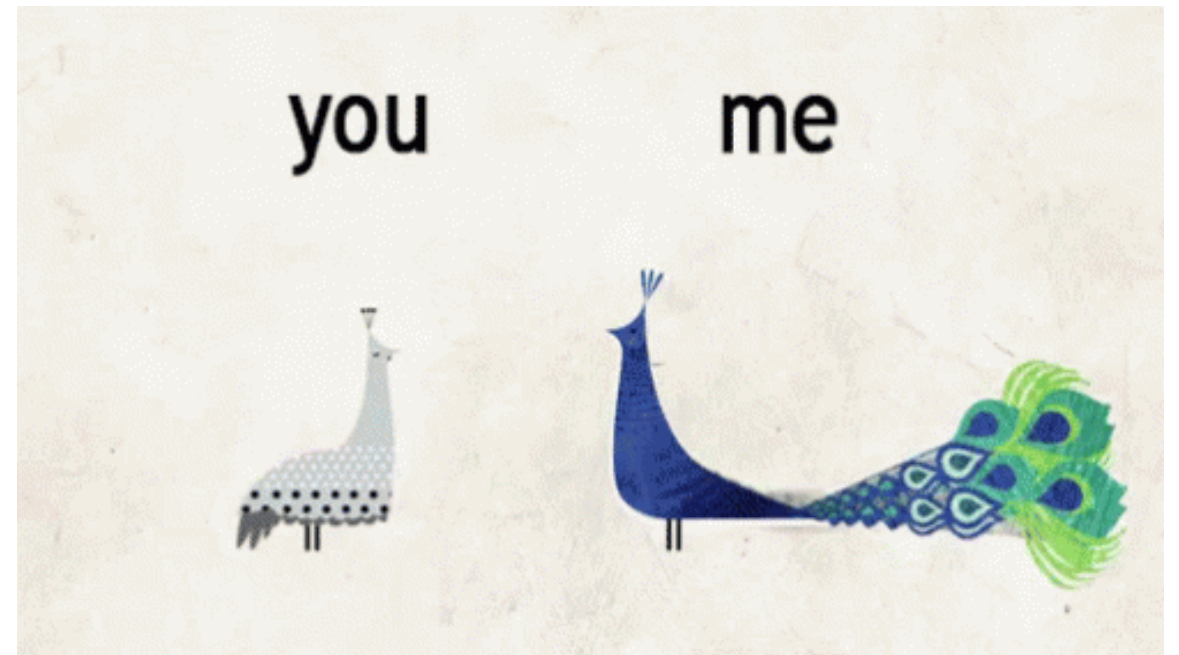


Instantiation

- Meaning: “something that represents or is an example of something else, or the act of producing something like this” (CED)
- In mythology that means EACH version/expression of a “myth”.
- Do we know the MYTH? NO! – all we have are separate instantiations

The problem of the MYTH

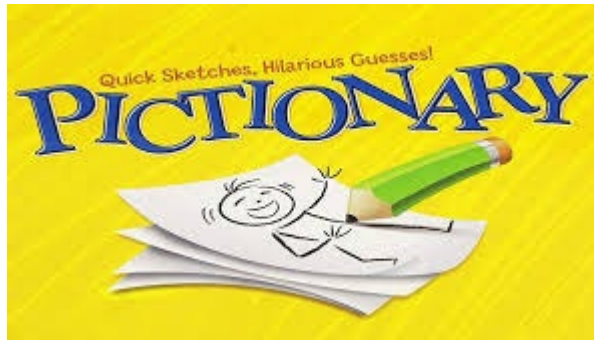
- The problem of COMPENDIA (partic. Modern ones) is that they try to present the MYTH, mainly by combining instantiations, or privileging one over others.
- Hence we are creating our own instantiation!



Instantiation = limits and views

The medium

- Text
- Iconography
- Ritual/cult
- Architecture



The context/purpose



Every instantiation
has a context

In time
In place
In genre
In event
In culture



Every instantiation
has a purpose

To educate
To entertain
To explain

The goddess
of Spring
1934
Disney Silly
Symphonies



Stephen
Fry
Mythos:
The
Greek
Myths
Retold
2017



Considering the modern instantiations

What do they tell you about
the reception of Persephone
and her abduction?

How much and what do they
tell us about MODERN
perceptions and expectations?



Let's take
our
discussion
to the
ancient

Instantiations in SURVIVING LITERATURE

- Hesiod Theogony 912-15
- [Homeric Hymn to Demeter]
- Bacchylides F47
- Orphic Hymn 18 to Pluton & Orphic Hymn 41 to Demeter
- Apollonius Rhodius Argonautica 4.892-7
- Diodorus Siculus 5. 2. 3 - 5. 5. 1
- Strabo 6.1.5
- Pseudo-Apollodorus, Bibliotheca 1. 29
- Pausanias 1.38.5, 2.35.7, 6.21.1 , 9.31.8
- Oppian Halieutica 3.485

- Think:
 - Time
 - Genre
 - Audience – Expectation
 - Type of information