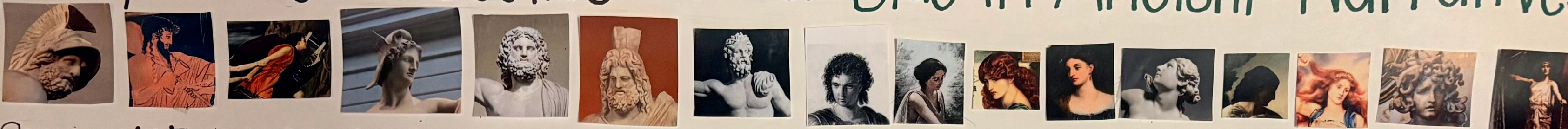


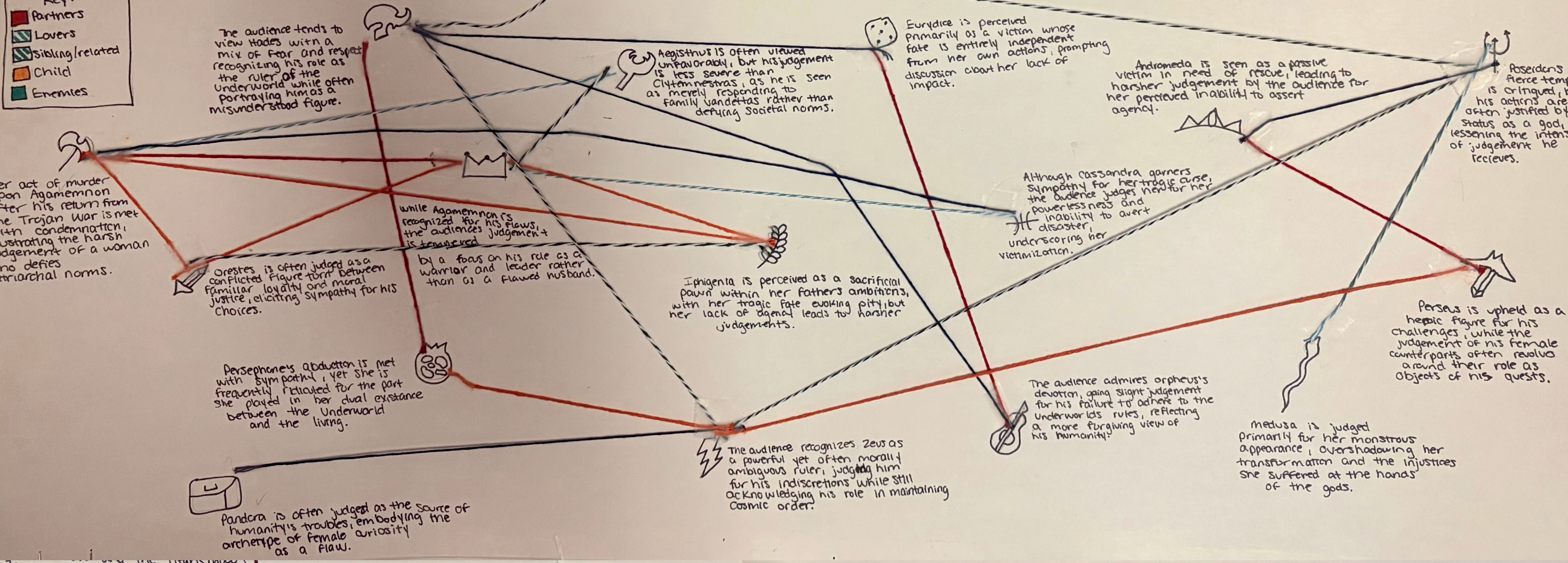
# Mythological Justice: Gender Bias in Ancient Narrative



- Agamemnon:** The leader of the Greek forces in the Trojan war. His decision to sacrifice Iphigenia for favorable winds leads to his downfall. His hubris and betrayal provoke Clytemnestra's wrath, culminating in his murder.
- Aegisthus:** Clytemnestra's lover and Agamemnon's cousin, he aids in the murder of Agamemnon. His actions stem from a long-standing vendetta.
- Orpheus:** Known for his enchanting music, he ventures to the underworld to retrieve his lover, Eurydice. His inability to resist looking back at her costs her death.
- Perseus:** A hero born of Zeus, he defeats the Gorgon Medusa and uses her head as a weapon against enemies.
- Zeus:** The King of the gods, he wields immense power while engaging in morally ambiguous actions, particularly in his relations with mortal women.
- Poseidon:** The god of the sea, he often judges mortals through the lens of their respect for the ocean.
- Hades:** The ruler of the underworld, he oversees the dead, maintaining balance with his lover Persephone, who he abducted.
- Orestes:** The son of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, he faces moral dilemmas after avenging his father's death by killing Clytemnestra. His actions bring about judgement from the Furies.
- Eurydice:** Orpheus's beloved, she becomes an emblem of lost love as she dies young, ending her and Orpheus's love story.
- Persephone:** Abducted by Hades, she becomes queen of the Underworld, only allowed to venture to see Demeter for half the year.
- Pandora:** Created as a punishment for mankind, her curiosity leads her to open a jar, releasing evils into the world.
- Andromeda:** Chained as a sacrifice to a sea monster, her fate shifts dramatically when Perseus saves her.
- Iphigenia:** The daughter of Agamemnon, she is sacrificed to ensure victory in the Trojan War.
- Cassandra:** A priestess of Apollo cursed to never be believed, Cassandra foretells Agamemnon's death but is ignored.
- Medusa:** Once a beautiful maiden, Medusa is transformed into a Gorgon by Athena as punishment.
- Clytemnestra:** The wife of Agamemnon, she is driven by revenge after her husband sacrifices their daughter, Iphigenia.

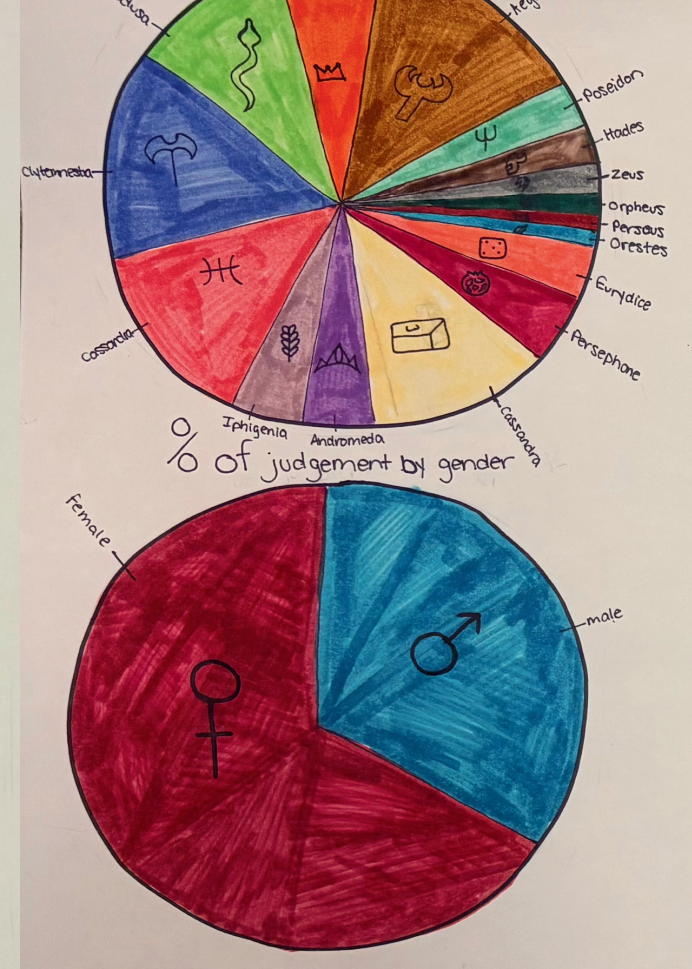
**Key:**

- Partners
- Lovers
- Sibling/related
- Child
- Enemies



- Zeus is born to Rhea and Cronos, leading to a rebellion against the Titans, establishing his rule over the gods.
- Creation of Pandora (mythical age) - Zeus creates Pandora, the first woman, as punishment for humanity. She opens a jar, releasing evils into the world.
- The sacrifice of Iphigenia (11th Century BCE) - Agamemnon sacrifices his daughter for favorable winds to sail to Troy.
- The Trojan War - Agamemnon leads the Greek forces in the war, during which he takes Cassandra as a concubine after the fall of Troy.
- Clytemnestra's revenge - Upon Agamemnon's return, Clytemnestra murders him alongside her lover, Aegisthus, as vengeance for Iphigenia's death.
- Cassandra's prophecy - Cassandra foresees Agamemnon's death and warns him, but her prophecies go unheeded, leading to tragic consequences.
- The story of Perseus and Medusa - Perseus, born of Zeus, slays Medusa and rescues Andromeda from a sea monster sent by Poseidon.
- Abduction of Persephone - Hades abducts Persephone to his queen in the underworld, causing Demeter to mourn and creating the changing seasons.
- Orpheus and Eurydice - Orpheus descends into the underworld to retrieve Eurydice, but he looks back, highlighting the tragic consequences of love.
- Orestes' revenge - Orestes returns to avenge Agamemnon's death, killing Clytemnestra and Aegisthus, further intertwining their fates.
- Andromeda rescue - Andromeda, who is chained as a sacrifice to Poseidon's monster, is saved by Perseus, further intertwining their fates.
- Judgement of the Gods - Throughout these events, the actions of the gods, including Poseidon's tempests and Zeus's interventions, shape the narrative.

- burdened with guilt, weight of fate, inevitability of divine retribution
- cowardly figure, questioning his ability, taunts for allowing Clytemnestra to carry out the deed
- legendary bard, musician, and prophet, charm all living things, animate the inanimate
- rescuer of Andromeda, greatest heroes in Greek mythology
- significant impact on characters' destinies, sower of thunder and lightning, rain, and winds
- calm seas and generous protection, impulsive and hot-blooded temper
- military and authority, the unseen one
- man of great honor and valor, driven by divine will to avenge, responsive actions
- eternal struggle between human emotion and divine law, love and loss
- duality of life and death, abduction and return
- beginning of a new era of human suffering, opened the jar despite warnings
- chained to a rock as a sacrifice, beautiful princess, led to her mother's arrogance
- brave and noble princess, sacrificial lamb, further the plot
- tragic fate not detailed, a divine ability cursed to useless, fierce daughter
- transformation into a monster, cautionary tale about the consequences of hubris, turn onlookers to stone with snakes
- madwomen with a quest for revenge, women driven by intense emotions, bloodthirsty betrayal



**Gender Bias**

By examining ancient narratives through the lens of gender bias, we uncover the historical roots of societal norms that continue to influence modern discussions of gender.

**Justice**

The exploration of justice in ancient tales highlights the often punitive treatment of female characters, providing a critical reflection on the ongoing struggles for equitable justice systems that recognize and address gender-based injustices today.

**Psychology**

Analyzing the psychological dimensions of ancient female figures allows us to understand the complex motivations and internal conflicts they face, shedding light on the mental and emotional toll of patriarchal oppression that resonates in contemporary feminist discourse.

