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The Beautiful Stories Of Life: Six Greeks Myths, Retold
Newbery Medal-winner Cynthia Rylant retells her favorite stories from Greek mythology, breathing fresh life into the tales of Pandora, Persephone, Orpheus, Pygmalion, Narcissus, and Psyche. The writing is lyrical and understated, a perfect tone for stories that introduce young readers to themes of love and loss, pride and forgiveness. Carson Ellis's elegant black-and-white illustrations lend an aura of beauty and mystery.

**Book Information**

Hardcover: 71 pages  
Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (May 4, 2009)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0152061843  
Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.5 x 7 inches  
Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)  
Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars  
Best Sellers Rank: #276,322 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  
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Age Range: 9 - 12 years  
Grade Level: 5 - 7

**Customer Reviews**

I read this book to my children aged 6-11. What I like the most about Rylant’s work is how she appeals to both adults and children. My children loved this book for its story-telling, and I loved it because it reframed these familiar stories. I recommend Rylant’s books because they are entertaining to children and interesting to the adults who read them to children. Rylant has a wonderful ability to write something profound, then explain it through story, which is beautifully expressed in this book.

In the versions of Greek mythology read to me as a child, male gods and heroes were given more attention. Here, the author has given women equal time and focus, a welcome improvement. These are indeed beautiful stories. Kids will enjoy them, happily unaware they are learning about the foundations of literature. I am reading it with my adult ESL students, some of whom are conversant
with the stories in their first languages. Here and there the syntax is difficult, but the students are finding the stories entertaining and full of useful vocabulary.

As a fan of Carson Ellis I knew I would love this book. Her artwork has a way of reaching your heart and coupled with the eloquent retellings of these classic myths but Cynthia Rylant I couldn’t have asked for a better gift to give my niece on her first birthday.

This is a great little book for students in middle school to get a first glimpse of some Greek mythological creatures. It is an easy read with some colorful pictures.

I bought this book for my daughter to read with her grandparents. Great stories. I enjoyed listening to them, as well. Brought me back to my 8th grade mythology class!

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