

Honors 9th Grade Literature and Composition Summer Reading Assignment 2024 - 2025

Lore by Alexandra Bracken



Lore by Alexandra Bracken has been described as Greek mythology meets *Hunger Games*. Every seven years, nine of the 12 Olympians are turned mortal and sent to earth for one week, in an event called the Agon. During the Agon, the mortal bloodlines of infamous Greek heroes such as Perseus, Odysseus, and Achilles hunt the gods, and if they kill one, they assume the gods' immortality and power. Lore Perseous left that life many years ago, but when her friend Castor (whom she assumed was dead) and a gravely injured Athena both turn up in her life at the beginning of the Agon, she is thrust back into the world she truly hoped she had left for good.

The plot of *Lore* is based on mythology. The plotlines, character motivations and underlying mythological background are interwoven throughout this book in order to create an intricate balance of modern life, ancient beliefs, and an epic hunt. The book brings ancient myths, gods, and beliefs into an urban setting, making mythology more interesting for young adult readers.

Greek mythology can be seen as violent because it reflects the harsh realities of the ancient world and the human condition. Many of the stories involve themes of power, betrayal, and the struggle between gods and mortals. These stories were also used to explain natural phenomena and human behavior, often through the lens of divine intervention and punishment. Additionally, the ancient Greeks used mythology to explore complex moral and philosophical questions, which sometimes resulted in brutal or violent narratives. The same can be said for the stories of today.

Much of the literature you will read in school will contain allusions to Greek, Roman, or Norse mythology. For example, a character in a novel may be described as narcissistic, as an Adonis, or as undertaking Herculean tasks; all of these are references to Greek myths. Recognizing the myth leads to greater understanding of the character. As Western culture traces its political, philosophical, and social roots back to Greek culture, mythological stories also serve as the subject for works of art, commercial products and advertisements, comic books, and much more.

- **You will also need a copy of Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* beginning the first week of school.**
- **It would be a good idea to purchase *Lore* and *Mythology* together so that you have both books when school starts.**

Assignment:

- *Lore* is divided into five parts.
- As you read the book, complete the graphic organizer for each part of the book.
- **TYPE EVERYTHING IN THE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER!**
- **Be careful to do your own work. You will submit this assignment to Turnitin.com the first week of school as a measure of academic honesty.**
- Write in complete sentences!
- Be specific!