

Name _____



Mythological Tale: Persephone and the Seasons

Long ago, in the ancient land of Greece, there was a beautiful goddess named Persephone. She was the daughter of Demeter, the goddess of agriculture, and Zeus, the king of the gods. Persephone was known for her radiant smile and her love for nature.

One sunny day, while Persephone was frolicking in a meadow filled with flowers, a sudden earthquake shook the earth, and a crack opened up in the ground. From that crack emerged Hades, the god of the underworld. Hades was struck by Persephone's beauty and decided to carry her away to his dark realm.

Demeter, heartbroken and worried for her daughter, searched the world for her, neglecting her duties as the goddess of agriculture. As a result, the earth turned barren, crops withered, and famine swept across the land.

Zeus, the king of the gods, seeing the suffering of mortals and the effects of Demeter's sorrow, decided to intervene. He commanded Hades to return Persephone to her mother. Hades agreed but gave Persephone a pomegranate seed before she left.

Persephone was reunited with Demeter, and her mother's joy brought warmth and life back to the earth. However, because she had eaten the pomegranate seed in the underworld, Persephone was bound to spend part of each year with Hades. During this time, Demeter grieved, and the earth experienced winter, but when Persephone returned to her mother, spring blossomed.

And so, the cycle of the seasons was born, with the earth flourishing in the spring and summer when Persephone was with Demeter and withering in the fall and winter when she returned to the underworld.