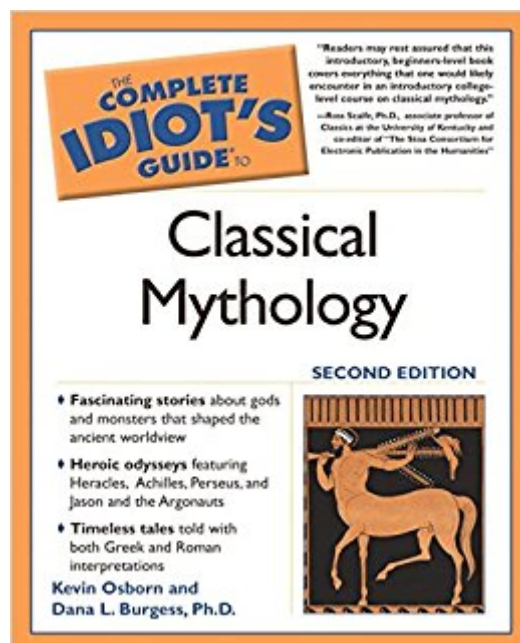




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# The Complete Idiot's Guide To Classical Mythology, 2nd Edition (Complete Idiot's Guides (Lifestyle Paperback))



## Synopsis

An exploration of timeless legends. First told centuries ago, the ancient myths of the Greeks and Romans continue to fascinate and influence the world today. The expanded edition of this popular guide examines why these legends remain an integral part of human history, citing their literary value, and their presence throughout popular culture in such works as J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels, and the Coen brothers' film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*. • Features a 50-page •who's who• glossary of classical mythological characters• from both the Greek and Roman versions • An updated look at recent movies and television series• based on mythology, including *Helen of Troy*, HBO's animated *Odyssey*, and the Disney Channel's *Hercules*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There are scads of reasons why *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Classical Mythology* is a great reference text and a worthwhile addition to your home, but its primary appeal lies in its accessible tone. The legends of mythology are fascinating and fun--they wouldn't have lasted this long if they weren't high in entertainment value--but that sometimes gets lost in the drive to be "educated" and the fear of appearing ignorant. When folks allude to *Phaedra*, does your brain draw a blank? When conversation turns to the works of *Pindar*, do you wax noncommittal while waiting for a clue? That kind of trepidation puts a real pall on enjoying the humanity, magic, and humor of classic myths;

taking you past that is what the Idiot's Guide series does best. They explore the roots of mythology, introduce the Greek and Roman gods and heroes, and tell a lot of great stories. A nonthreatening introduction for students, it renews a love of a tale well told, revitalizes an interest in reading stories aloud, and dusts off some lively yarns. And if reading up on Theseus and Heracles makes you better educated and more conversationally versatile, that's just icing on the cake. --Stephanie Gold  
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

You're no idiot, of course. You can find Greece on a map, know that Kevin Sorbo stars as Hercules on TV, and have heard of Freud's Oedipus theory. But when it comes to classical mythology, you feel like you've been foiled by the gods. Don't curse Zeus yet! The Complete Idiot's Guide to Classical Mythology has all you need for a working knowledge of the timeless world of Greek and Roman myths. In this complete Idiot's Guide, you get: --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Meh...I wanted to reintroduce myself to this topic, but I'm absolutely plodding through the early chapters - so boring. I'm hoping it turns into a better read once I get through the introductory/background stuff...otherwise it's off to the Humane Society Thrift Shop! I feel like the author is trying too hard to be funny in a lot of it. Guess I prefer a more subtle humor...or maybe I needed the "Partial Idiots Guide..."

Certainly a complete book about all the ancient "gods" and "goddesses" along with their associated myths. This was the most informative and organized book I have read on this topic. My only "negative" comment would be the authors seem to approach this subject matter from a modern day Christian perspective and, as such, discount any reality or hidden meaning or symbol that may be contained in these "fairytales". Other works are available that highly research these hidden meanings, but that was not the purpose of this work-nonetheless, this work is well worth having as a valuable asset that will save one hours of personal research. Easy to read.

Good condition and complete. I had hope it would have more of where myths came from.

Like most books in the "Idiot's Guide" series, this guide to classical mythology is an excellent and comprehensive resource book for fans of Greek and Roman mythology. There are several mythology reference books available in the market today but more serious and 'seasoned' fans and

scholars will likely prefer THE COMPLETE IDIOT'S GUIDE TO CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY by Kevin Osborn. We're not idiots, of course, but this book is meaty, entertaining and has more background information on the various gods/goddesses, heroes and stories. At over 350 pages, it has loads of information on various topics and stories in mythology. For instance, an entire chapter is dedicated to the Trojan War and Achilles and Odysseus also have their own chapters. With other mythology books, you would be lucky to have a few pages dedicated to Achilles alone. Fans who want more than classical mythology will want to explore MYTHOLOGY FOR DUMMIES by Christopher Blackwell. This book also delves into the Arthurian legend, Norse myths, Beowulf, as well as world mythology in general (Chinese, Jewish, Hindu, etc). These 2 books are all excellent. The choice lies on the readers' level of interests. I would recommend the "Complete Idiot's Guide" to those who enjoy Roman and Greek mythology or those who want to learn more about the Trojan War, Perseus, Jason and the Argonauts, Zeus, Hercules and the many other fascinating gods/goddesses and heroes of classical mythology.

I love Greek Mythology, I studied that subject when I was going to school in my country, and I found it fascinating. Thanks Castilla

I enjoyed the whole book, yet at times, became slightly confused, due to all the different relationships and occurrences. I would, especially, recommend this book to lovers of Greek/Roman mythology.

For anyone who feels that mythology is just too complicated and boring, this is the perfect book to change your mind. A multitude of mythological topics are covered succinctly and with a great deal of humor. Information is neatly categorized and easy to follow. This would be a great book for students newly exposed to mythology or teachers needing a refresher course! And the real clincher for me? It was co-written by Dana Burgess, who was one of my favorite professors at Whitman College and instilled in me a passion for classics nearly equalling his own.

One time book as stated in description, I would buy from seller again. The book has good information. If you want to save money the information can be found online but for those who like to read out of a book can't go wrong if you need to learn more about classical mythology.

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