CLASSICS LIBRARY · STORY MAP

The Library (Bibliotheca)

Apollodorus (attributed) · *1st–2nd century AD · Sir James George Frazer (1921)*

Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world. And having wedded Earth, he begat first the Hundred-handed, as they are named: Briareus, Gyes, Cottus, who were unsurpassed in size and might. So Sir James George Frazer's 1921 English begins this Library, as transcribed from the Theoi Classical Texts Library, complete as hosted. For grades 9–12. A handbook of myths, not a single story. Some later myths are violent; no gore spectacle on the map. Name Frazer. One map cannot teach the whole Library.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

How should a school read Apollodorus's Library as Frazer's 1921 handbook—opened by Sky, who first ruled the whole world, and by Earth and the Hundred-handed—rather than as a single tale, or as a later popular retelling only?

"Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world."
The opening of the Library

The hosted file is Apollodorus, The Library, translated by Sir James George Frazer (Loeb Classical Library, 1921), as transcribed by the Theoi Classical Texts Library, complete as hosted. It opens: Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world. And having wedded Earth, he begat first the Hundred-handed, as they are named: Briareus, Gyes, Cottus, who were unsurpassed in size and might. Teach that opening, for grades 9–12. This is a handbook of many myths, not a single story and not Bulfinch's Age of Fable (a separate hosted book). Name Frazer. Some later myths are violent; do not make a gore spectacle. Quote this English, not a later popular wording only. One map cannot teach the whole Library.

KEY CHARACTERS

Sky, and Earth
Who open the Library: Sky first ruled the whole world, and, having wedded Earth, begat the Hundred-handed

Briareus, Gyes, and Cottus
The Hundred-handed, unsurpassed in size and might, as this English names them first

Sir James George Frazer
The translator of this 1921 English; name him

HOW TO BEGIN THIS LIBRARY

> *"Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world."*
> Opening

> *"And having wedded Earth, he begat first the Hundred-handed, as they are named"*
> Opening

Grades 9–12
Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01
Sky Was the First Who Ruled
THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY

Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world. The handbook begins with a first rule, named as Sky.

- Keep "Sky" and "the whole world," as Frazer prints them.
- 9–12.
- Not a later popular name only, if this file says Sky.
- Quote Frazer.

> *"Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world."*
> The opening of the Library

02
Having Wedded Earth
THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY

And having wedded Earth, he begat first the Hundred-handed, as they are named. Earth is named next, and a first begetting.

- Keep "wedded Earth" and "Hundred-handed."
- 9–12.
- A handbook opening, not a single novel.
- Quote this English.

> *"And having wedded Earth, he begat first the Hundred-handed, as they are named"*
> The opening of the Library

03
Briareus, Gyes, Cottus
THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY

Briareus, Gyes, Cottus, who were unsurpassed in size and might. The first names in the Library are given as a list, in this spelling.

- Keep this file's spellings.
- 9–12.
- The later myths each have their own places in the handbook.
- No gore spectacle later.

> *"Briareus, Gyes, Cottus, who were unsurpassed in size and might, each"*
> The opening of the Library

04
A Handbook, Not a Single Tale
THE EDITION

The Library is a handbook of many myths, complete as hosted in Frazer's 1921 English. It is not Bulfinch, not Colum, and not a later popular retelling only. Name Frazer. For grades 9–12. One map cannot teach the whole Library.

- Name Frazer, 1921, and a handbook.
- 9–12.
- Quote this English.
- Later violent myths: tact, no spectacle.

> *"Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world."*
> The opening of the Library

05
Frazer, 1921, Complete as Hosted
THE EDITION

Sir James George Frazer, Loeb, 1921, via Theoi, complete as hosted. For grades 9–12. Quote this wording. Some later myths are violent; no gore spectacle on the map. One map cannot teach the whole Library.

- Name Frazer.
- 9–12. Tact.
- A first sentence: Sky ruled the whole world.
- A handbook, honestly sized.

> *"Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world."*
> The opening of the Library

Sky first, over the whole world | Earth, and a first begetting | The Hundred-handed, named | A handbook, not a single tale | Frazer's English, named

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 9–12

1. It opens: "Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world." Having wedded Earth, he begat first the Hundred-handed: Briareus, Gyes, Cottus, unsurpassed in size and might. Keep Frazer's wording.
2. Sir James George Frazer, 1921, complete as hosted (Theoi transcription of the Loeb Library). Name him.
3. A handbook of many myths, not a single tale, and not Bulfinch or Colum. For grades 9–12. One map cannot teach the whole Library.
4. Some later myths are violent; tact, no gore spectacle. Quote this English, not a later popular wording only.

Quotations are verbatim from the Sir James George Frazer (1921), Apollodorus, The Library, translated by Sir James George Frazer (Loeb Classical Library, 1921), as transcribed by the Theoi Classical Texts Library, the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/apollodorus-library/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.