CLASSICS LIBRARY · STORY MAP

The Homeric Hymns

Anonymous (Homeric) · *Evelyn-White's translation, 1914 · Hugh G. Evelyn-White (1914), Project Gutenberg #348 (hymns only)*

I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess—of her and her trim-ankled daughter whom Aidoneus rapt away. So the hymn to Demeter begins, in Hugh G. Evelyn-White's 1914 English. The hosted file is the Homeric Hymns (I–XXXIII) from that Loeb/Gutenberg volume; Hesiod and the epic-cycle fragments in the same volume are not included. The first hymn, to Dionysus, is fragmentary. This is not the Iliad or the Odyssey. For grades 9–12. Teach with respect. Tact later; no prurience. Quote Evelyn-White.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

How should a school read this file as Evelyn-White's Homeric Hymns, a collection that can open with Demeter, Apollo, or Aphrodite, rather than as the Iliad, the Odyssey, or the Hesiod of the same Gutenberg volume?

"I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess—of her and her trim-ankled"

II. To Demeter

Hugh G. Evelyn-White, 1914, the Homeric Hymns I–XXXIII. Hesiod and the epic-cycle fragments in Project Gutenberg #348 are not in this file. The hymn to Demeter begins: I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess. Apollo: I will remember and not be unmindful of Apollo who shoots afar. Aphrodite: Muse, tell me the deeds of golden Aphrodite the Cyprian. The first hymn, to Dionysus, is fragmentary. Not the Iliad or the Odyssey. For grades 9–12. Teach with respect. Tact; no prurience. Quote Evelyn-White.

KEY CHARACTERS

Demeter, and her daughter
Named at the beginning of the hymn to Demeter, in this English

Apollo who shoots afar
Whom the singer will remember, and not be unmindful of

Hugh G. Evelyn-White
The 1914 translator; name him

HOW TO BEGIN THESE HYMNS

> *"I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess—of her and her trim-ankled"*
> II. To Demeter

> *"I will remember and not be unmindful of Apollo who shoots afar. As he goes"*
> To Apollo

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

01

A Fragment First, to Dionysus

I. TO DIONYSUS

For some say, at Dracanum; and some, on windy Icarus; and some, in Naxos. The first hymn is already fragmentary; name that, and do not pretend a complete birth-story is here.

- Keep the place-names, as this English prints them.
- 9–12.
- A fragment; the Demeter hymn is more nearly whole.
- Quote Evelyn-White.

> *"For some say, at Dracanum; and some, on windy Icarus; and some, in Naxos, O Heaven-born"*
> I. To Dionysus

02

I Begin to Sing of Demeter

II. TO DEMETER

I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess—of her and her trim-ankled daughter whom Aidoneus rapt away. A mother and a daughter are named at the start.

- Keep "rich-haired Demeter" and "awful goddess."
- 9–12. Teach with respect.
- A longer hymn, after a fragment.
- Quote this wording.

> *"I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess—of her and her trim-ankled"*
> II. To Demeter

03

Not Unmindful of Apollo

TO APOLLO

I will remember and not be unmindful of Apollo who shoots afar. Memory is promised as a not-forgetting.

- Keep "not be unmindful" and "who shoots afar."
- 9–12.
- One hymn, not the Iliad.
- Quote Evelyn-White.

> *"I will remember and not be unmindful of Apollo who shoots afar. As he goes"*
> To Apollo

04

Muse, Tell Me the Deeds

TO APHRODITE

Muse, tell me the deeds of golden Aphrodite the Cyprian. A muse is asked to tell; later lines will need tact.

- Keep "golden Aphrodite the Cyprian."
- 9–12. Tact; no prurience.
- One hymn among many.
- Quote this wording.

> *"Muse, tell me the deeds of golden Aphrodite the Cyprian, who stirs up"*
> To Aphrodite

05

Evelyn-White, 1914, the Hymns Only

THE EDITION

Hugh G. Evelyn-White, 1914. The hosted file is the Homeric Hymns I–XXXIII; Hesiod and the epic-cycle fragments in PG #348 are not included. Not the Iliad or the Odyssey (those already have maps). For grades 9–12. Teach with respect. Tact; no prurience. The first hymn is fragmentary. Quote this English. One map cannot teach every hymn.

- Name Evelyn-White, and hymns only.
- 9–12. Respect, and tact.
- Demeter, Apollo, Aphrodite, after a fragment.
- Quote this English.

> *"I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess—of her and her trim-ankled"*
> II. To Demeter

A fragment, honestly named

A mother, and a daughter, sung

A promise not to be unmindful

A muse, asked to tell

Hymns, not the Iliad or Odyssey

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 9–12

1. The hymn to Demeter begins: "I begin to sing of rich-haired Demeter, awful goddess."
2. This file is Hugh G. Evelyn-White's 1914 English of the Homeric Hymns I–XXXIII. Hesiod and the epic-cycle fragments in the same Gutenberg volume are not included. Not the Iliad or the Odyssey. Name the limit.
3. The first hymn, to Dionysus, is already fragmentary: "For some say, at Dracanum; and some, on windy Icarus; and some, in Naxos."
4. For grades 9–12. Teach with respect. Tact in later hymns; no prurience. Quote Evelyn-White. One map cannot teach every hymn.

Quotations are verbatim from the Hugh G. Evelyn-White (1914), Project Gutenberg #348 (hymns only), Project Gutenberg #348, Hesiod, the Homeric Hymns, and Homerica, the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/homeric-hymns/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.