

Percy Jackson's Greek Gods

Rick Riordan

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Percy Jackson's Greek Gods is a collection of myths about the Greek Gods told through the lens of the character Percy Jackson, from Rick Riordan's prior series "Percy Jackson & The Olympians". The book covers the Greek creation myth and the origins of the twelve Greek Olympians, and then goes through the myths for each Greek god in the order that they were born in.

I think this book does an excellent job of taking a collection of Greek myths that were written and recorded over the course of hundreds of years by many different authors, and combining them into one central canon that follows like a story. It also serves as a terrific introduction into Greek mythology for people who want to learn more about the myths but don't quite have the patience or desire to slog through the original translated mythos. My only complaints of the book are that it might give a wrong impression in people's minds on what mythology is - there is no central 'canon', and ancient myths reflect ancient attitudes which often don't match with modern ones. However, the book does an excellent job at what it was made to do - creating an engaging story about the Greek gods that introduces kids to Greek mythology.

The most appropriate target audience for this book would be middle grade readers (ages 8-12), or people who read at the middle grade level. This book functions as an excellent gift, because it is a collection of small stories that can be re-read or read over a period of multiple days or weeks.

I think it is also worth noting that this book clearly takes place in the world that Rick Riordan had previously established in his series "Percy Jackson & The Olympians" and its' sequel series "House of Olympus". It certainly functions as a stand-alone book, but there are some references that might leave some people confused if they haven't read those series. On the other hand, this also serves as an excellent introduction to Rick Riordan's novels which are numerous, widely popular, and well written. On the whole, I would absolutely recommend this book for somebody in the target audience or to anybody who enjoys Riordan's other novels.

Recommended Titles:

The Percy Jackson & The Olympians Series, Rick Riordan

The Song of Achilles, Madeline Miller

Artemis Fowl Series, Eoin Colfe