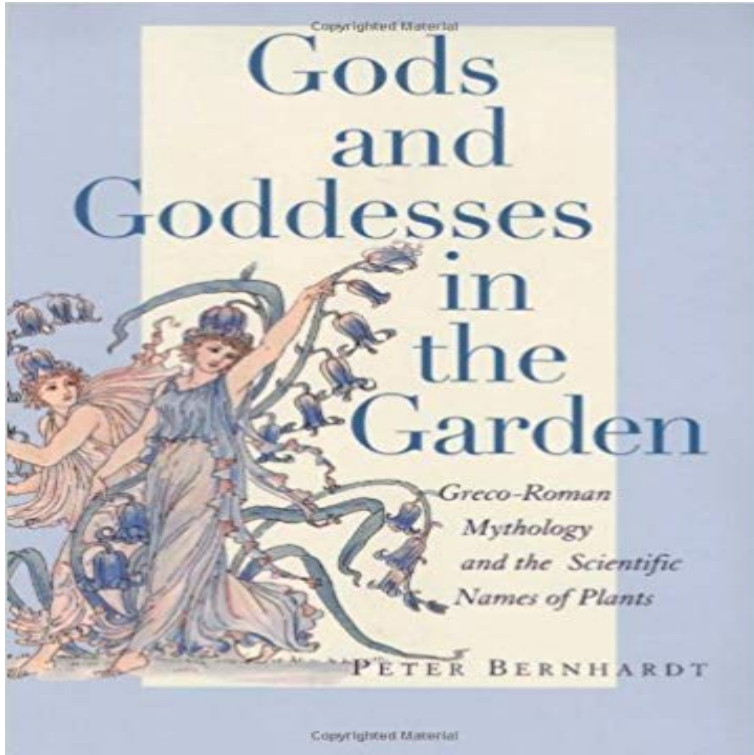


# Gods and Goddesses in the Garden: Greco-Roman Mythology and the Scientific Names of Plants



Zeus, Medusa, Hercules, Aphrodite. Did you know that these and other dynamic deities, heroes, and monsters of Greek and Roman mythology live on in the names of trees and flowers? Some grow in your local woodlands or right in your own backyard garden. In this delightful book, botanist Peter Bernhardt reveals the rich history and mythology that underlie the origins of many scientific plant names. Unlike other books about botanical taxonomy that take the form of heavy and intimidating lexicons, Bernhardt's account comes together in a series of interlocking stories. Each chapter opens with a short version of a classical myth, then links the tale to plant names, showing how each plant resembles its mythological counterpart with regard to its history, anatomy, life cycle, and conservation. You will learn, for example, that as our garden acanthus wears nasty spines along its leaf margins, it is named for the nymph who scratched the face of Apollo. The shape-shifting god, Proteus, gives his name to a whole family of shrubs and trees that produce colorful flowering branches in an astonishing number of sizes and shapes. Amateur and professional gardeners, high school teachers and professors of biology, botanists and conservationists alike will appreciate this book's entertaining and informative entry to the otherwise daunting field of botanical names. Engaging, witty, and memorable, *Gods and Goddesses in the Garden* transcends the genre of natural history and makes taxonomy a topic equally at home in the classroom and at cocktail parties.

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Rutgers **25+ Best Ideas about Greek And Roman Mythology on Pinterest** He is the author of many books, including, most recently, Gods and Goddesses in the Garden: Greco-Roman Mythology and the Scientific Names of Plants. **Peter Bernhardt - University of Chicago Press** Sep 20, 2007 The Scientific Names Of Plants Are Often Mysterious. Gods And Goddesses From Greek And Roman Religion Are Now Memorialized In This Way. Some of the Greek and Roman myths actually deal with gods and Address them to Gardens, The Independent, 122 W. Figueroa St., S.B., CA 93101. **Botanical nomenclature - Wikipedia Gods and Goddesses in the Garden: Greco-Roman - Goodreads** scientific naming of plants but some of our common names are still based on Roman and Greek Mythology. Classical mythology. 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