



Good day Worthy Knights,

In this part 58, Euterpe, one of the Muses, illustrated on the RCC Certificate (Wikipedia)

Euterpe

"Rejoicing well" or "delight", from Ancient Greek εὖ eu 'well' + τέρπειν terpein 'to please') was one of the Muses in Greek mythology, presiding over music.

In late Classical times, she was named muse of lyric poetry. She has been called "Giver of delight" by ancient poets.

Mythology

Euterpe was born as one of the daughters of Mnemosyne, Titan goddess of memory, and fathered by Zeus, god of the gods. Her sisters were the following Muses:

Calliope	Epic poetry,
Clio	History,
Melpomene	Tragedy,
Terpsichore	Dancing,
Erato	Love poetry,
Thalia	Comedy,
Polyhymnia	Hymns,
Urania	Astronomy.

Sometimes they are referred to as water nymphs having been born from the four sacred springs on Helicon which flowed from the ground after Pegasus, the winged horse, stamped his hooves on the ground.

Along with her sister Muses, Euterpe was believed to have lived on Mount Olympus where she and her sisters entertained their father and the other Olympian gods with their great artistry. Later on, tradition also placed them on Mount Helicon in Boeotia where there was a major cult centre to the goddesses, or on Mount Parnassus where the Castalian spring was a favourite destination for poets and artists.

Pindar and other sources (the author of the Bibliotheca, and Servius), describe the Thracian King Rhesus, who appears in the Iliad, as son of Euterpe and the river-god Strymon; Homer calls him son of Eioneus.

Functions

As we have seen, her and her sisters' role was to entertain the gods on Mount Olympus. She inspired the development of liberal and fine arts in Ancient Greece, serving as an inspiration to poets, dramatists, and authors (such as Homer).

According to the traditions and beliefs of the Ancient Greeks musicians would invoke the aid of Euterpe to inspire, guide and assist them in their compositions. This would often take the form of a prayer for divine inspiration from the minor goddess.

Symbolism

The mountain spring on Mount Parnassus was sacred to Euterpe and the other Muses. It flowed between two high rocks above the city of Delphi, and in ancient times its sacred waters were introduced into a square stone basin, where they were retained for the use of the Pythia, the priests, priestesses, as well as the oracle of Apollo.

Some people believe that she invented the aulos or double-flute, though most mythographers credit Marsyas or Athena with its invention. Some say she also invented other wind instruments. Euterpe is often depicted holding a flute in artistic renditions of her.



Clio

Thalia

Erato

Euterpe

Polyhymnia

Calliope

Terpsichore

Urania

Melpomene