

## APPENDIX I SUMMARY OF CIRCE

"*Circe*" by Madeline Miller is a retelling of Greek mythology that focuses on the life and experiences of the titular character, Circe. Circe is a nymph and the daughter of the sun god Helios and the nymph Perse. Unlike her powerful and immortal family, Circe possesses the ability of witchcraft, which sets her apart from the other gods and immortals.

The novel begins with Circe's childhood in the halls of her father's palace, where she is often neglected and overlooked. She discovers her powers of witchcraft and becomes fascinated with mortals. However, her experiments with magic go awry when she transforms her first love, a mortal fisherman named Glaucus, into a sea creature.

Exiled by her father to the island of Aiaia as punishment, Circe begins her solitary life. On the island, she hones her magical skills and encounters various figures from Greek mythology, including the cunning Odysseus, the hero Jason and the witch Medea, and the minotaur.

Throughout her journey, Circe faces challenges, personal growth, and the complexities of relationships. She grapples with her identity as a witch and a woman in a patriarchal society, defying societal norms and challenging the gods themselves. Circe's encounters with mortals and immortals alike provide insight into human nature, love, power, and the consequences of one's choices.

The novel delves into themes of feminism, agency, transformation, and the power of storytelling. Circe's narrative highlights her resilience, determination, and the gradual realization of her own worth and strength. Ultimately, "*Circe*" is a tale of self-discovery, empowerment, and finding one's place in a world of gods and mortals.

## **APPENDIX II BIOGRAPHY OF MADELINE MILLER**

Madeline Miller is an American author known for her novel "Circe" and her retelling of another Greek myth, "The Song of Achilles." She was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and grew up in New York City and Philadelphia. Miller studied Latin and Ancient Greek at Brown University, where she also earned her Master of Arts in Teaching. Miller's passion for mythology and classical literature is evident in her works. Her debut novel, "The Song of Achilles," was published in 2011 and received critical acclaim. It tells the story of the Greek hero Achilles and his relationship with Patroclus.

In 2018, Miller released her second novel, "Circe," which focuses on the life of the mythological character Circe, known as a powerful witch in Greek mythology. The book became a bestseller and was praised for its feminist perspective and nuanced exploration of mythology. Miller's writing style combines meticulous research with a modern and accessible approach, breathing new life into ancient stories and characters. Her novels explore themes of love, heroism, identity, and the power of storytelling.

"Circe" won numerous awards, including the Goodreads Choice Awards for Best Fantasy and the Orange Prize for Fiction. The novel's success solidified Miller's reputation as a talented writer and storyteller. Madeline Miller continues to write and is known for her captivating and imaginative retellings of classical myths. Her work has garnered a dedicated fan base and has contributed to the resurgence of interest in mythology among contemporary readers.