

APPENDIX I

Synopsis of the Novel

The novel *Hera* (2024) is a retelling of classic Greek Mythology, revolving around some of the most important divine figures. The novel opens with young Hera surveying the aftermath of the battle against the Titans, more specifically, her father, Cronus. Hera notes that Gaia's Earth has started to heal. The Era of Titans has come to an end, and the children of Cronus begin to establish a new era, the Olympian Gods era.

After Cronus and the other titans lose their thrones, Zeus imprisons them. But not all titans are locked up in Tartarus, some titans swear their loyalty to Zeus and take on his side, and in return, Zeus honors each of their oaths. Zeus first honors the Styx, the first Titaness who swears her loyalty to Zeus, and he honors her river. The stream will be where the gods swear their oath.

As time goes on, more deities are born, and Zeus uses the opportunity to form alliances with the other deities, thus strengthening his influence. When mortals begin to occupy the earth, Zeus offers a human king named Ixion a sanctuary in Mount Olympus. However, his stay in Mount Olympus is short-lived after the gods find out that the mortal king is looking forward to rape Hera.

Zeus goes on to authorize the division between three realms: the sky, the sea, and the underworld. He lets his brothers draw lots to maintain fairness, resulting in Poseidon ruling over the sea, Hades ruling the underworld, and Zeus ruling the sky. This angers Hera because while her brothers get to own a land, Hera is not given one, and her name is not even mentioned. When Hera demands a realm from Zeus, he denies her request, and instead, he asks Hera to marry him and be his queen, which leaves Hera appalled. Hera consults her sisters about Zeus' proposal, but when her sisters' answers disappoint her, she flees to Crete, her first home.

In Crete, Hera reunites with her caretaker, Tethys. Tethys reveals to Hera that when Hera was still a baby, her mother, Rhea, begged Cronus to spare her life, arguing that Hera was incapable of overthrowing Cronus because of her gender. Hera overhears a conversation between Oceanus and Helios, who are discussing the storm that reached their palace. Curious, Hera goes outside to inspect the storm, but only to meet Zeus and was raped by him, resulting in Hera vowing to avenge herself. Hera becomes aware that without power, she will not be able to fight Zeus, so she decides to marry him and stalls her revenge until she is ready to overthrow Zeus from heaven.

After Hera's marriage to Zeus, she gives birth to a violent war god, Ares. Hera plans her revenge by bearing Zeus' children, in hopes she can convince their children to fight alongside her. But her wish does not come true, Ares devotes his life to

overseeing the humans. Hera then gives birth to another son, Hephaestus, the blacksmith god. Similar to Ares, Hephaestus chooses not to take Hera's side. Later, Hera finds out that Zeus is pursuing a titaness, Asteria. When confronted, Zeus brushes her away. Frustrated, Hera pleads and throws a tantrum. Gaia hears Hera's desperate prayer, and she gifts Hera a fatherless baby in her womb.

Hera's third child is unlike the rest of the gods, this one is grotesque, it is a manifestation of her anger and fury. Not wanting the other gods to find out, she gives her monster baby, Typhon, to an ancient serpent-goddess, Ekhidna. Ekhidna hates the Olympians, but she lets Hera trust Typhon to her arms. When Typhon grows up, Hera convinces him to overthrow Zeus. Hera, Typhon, and Ekhidna form an alliance and begin to make a plan to fight Zeus.

Typhon strikes Mount Olympus without Hera's permission. Although Hera was distraught because Typhon broke his promise, Hera did attempt to prevent Zeus from raising his thunderbolt against the monster, only for Athena stops her mid-action. When Zeus manages to fend off the attack, Hera swoops down to check on her son. There lies the body of her fallen son, his body oozes black liquid that burns her skin. The other Olympian Gods gather around Hera, gazing down at her as they struggle to comprehend Hera's betrayal. In the end, Zeus punishes Hera. Her limbs are tied up to a rocky cliff.

When Hera returns from her banishment, the other gods are wary of her. Wary that she might plot to defy Zeus once again. Hera tries to deceive the gods by convincing them that she will mend her mistake. After Hera's betrayal, her life can never be the same. Zeus is only convinced after Hera gives birth to two daughters, Hebe the Cupbearer and Eileithyia, the goddess of childbirth.

Although Hera keeps trying to play her role as a submissive wife to everyone, Zeus remains an unfaithful husband. Hera inflicts harm on those who submit to him or help his conquests. This act teaches women the lesson to stay safe and to be wary of Zeus.

Time passes, and Hera still has not had her revenge yet. But, to Hera's surprise, her sister, Hestia, leaves Mount Olympus. This is not the first time a god has abandoned their throne, but to Hera, her sister's departure takes a toll on her. One by one, god leaves their thrones in the Megaron to reside with the mortals. Hera tries to dwell among mortals, she finds out that without divine expectations, she thinks that this is what she needs. When Hera returns to Mount Olympus, she sees Zeus alone on his throne, drunk with wine. Hera tests Zeus' patience, and when Zeus is about to unleash his wrath, both of them are surprised to see that Zeus' feet are becoming one with the floor. Zeus' power and influence are slowly dissipating, and Hera takes the chance to face her pent-up emotions.

Hera then returns to the mortal world, and she comes to the realization that she much prefers to be among the mortals. The story ends with Hera embracing her new life, even if she is no longer embracing her divinity, she is free to live out new experiences in the mortal realms.

APPENDIX II

Jennifer Saint's Biography

Jennifer Saint is a British writer renowned for her novels that reinterpret the narratives of characters from Greek mythology. She was born on March 18, 1983, in Leeds, England, where her interest in mythology began early, particularly focusing on the lesser-known tales hidden within ancient myths. She studied Classical Studies at King's College London and spent thirteen years teaching English at the high school level. Her first novel, *Ariadne* (2021), was nominated for the Waterstones Book of the Year, selected as a Waterstones Book of the Month, and achieved bestseller status in the Sunday Times. She released *Elektra* (2022) and *Atlanta* (2023) afterward, both of which reached the top of the Sunday Times bestseller list. Her latest retelling of mythological tales is titled *Hera* (2024). Saint is well-recognized as a bestselling novelist according to the Sunday Times.



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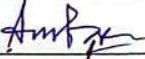
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PENGESAHAN REVISI

Judul Skripsi : Female Characters' Resistance Against Patriarchal Practices in Saint's Hera

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