

Greek Mythology - Outline #3
Creation Myth

Chaos	1 st element; shapeless mass of darkness and meaningless
Primordial	The First Ones First 5 deities; immortal and fully formed at creation
Nyx	goddess of night (more of a place than character)
Erebus	god of darkness (more of a place)
Eros	god of youth and desire; a sense of order begins. Perpetual youth with wings <i>Romans called him Cupid, son of Aphrodite</i>
Perpetual	Forever; never changing
Tartarus	god of the lowest region of the world (place) prison-like cave, destination of evil souls; more order to the universe
Gaea	goddess of Earth; Mother Earth. Like Chaos, Gaia could recreate on her own. She also had the power of prophecy.
Gaea gives birth; first she recreates 2 sons on her own:	
Uranus	(Father Sky) and he later becomes her mate; he is the first ruler
Pontus	(the life-giving water) god of the sea
Gaea with Uranus populate the earth with three sets of children:	
Hecatoncheires:	50 heads & 100 hands 3 brothers, giants Briareus eventually becomes the guard of Tartarus
Hect	100
Cyclopes:	“wheel-eyed,” large giants three brothers:

	<p>Arges – thunderbolt Brontes – thunder Steropes – lightning These were the first blacksmiths for the gods and made all the tools, weapons, and jewelry.</p>
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Did you notice the significance of the number 3 in Greek Mythology? Three represented Harmony since 1 meant Unity, and 2 meant Disorder. Add the two together and you reach a harmonious conclusion. Nine represented Triple Perfection – or Harmony x 3 which is why there are 9 Muses.

Titans:	<p>12 in all; the powerful ones or elder gods 6 boys and 6 girls Resemble humans only much larger</p>
Cronus	<p>Personifies Father Time. He is usually portrayed as old and wise with the scythe at his side. With his father weakened, Cronus seized power to become the ruler of the universe.</p>
Rhea	<p>Wife of Cronus Titaness of fertility</p>
Oceanus	<p>River God; circles the earth</p>
Hyperion	<p>Titan of light</p>
Themis	<p>Titaness of Justice Holds the scales of justice Mother of the Fates and Seasons</p>
Iapetus	<p>Father of Prometheus, Atlas, and Epimetheus</p>
<p>First Deceit - Uranus feared the Hecatoncheires and the Cyclopes and their destructive nature. He locked them away in Tartarus.</p>	
Deceit	<p>A lie or dishonest action.</p>

Second Deceit - Gaia asked for her children's help to release those left in Tartarus. She went behind Uranus' back to release her children.	
Scythe	A sickle made from stone; used for harvesting
Second Deceit cont.	Only Cronus helped his mother and received a scythe to use to strike his father and thereby relinquish his power. While his father slept, Cronus struck him with the scythe and made him bleed. From the blood, came more offspring:
From the blood of Uranus	
Aphrodite	From the blood which fell to the sea, a foam emerged and then a large clam shell which opened up with Aphrodite fully grown. Goddess of love and beauty
Erinyes (Furies)	The furious ones – 3 sisters Their role is to avenge those who commit sin. They will haunt and torment them. Snakes for hair, dog-face, bat wings – hideous creatures. (Man's conscience). Even the gods feared their presence.
Avenge	To seek justice for a wrong committed
Gigantes (Giants)	From the blood which fell to the rocks arose numerous creatures which were man-like with serpent feet (torsos). They were dressed in armor and said to be the first "foot soldiers."

Big Picture Question: Why would love and hate come from the blood of Uranus?