

THE MYTH OF PERSEUS AND MEDUSA

Three old sisters, dressed in rags,
Almost blind and toothless hags -
They had one eye that they all shared -
Not quite blind, but visually impaired.

They did not see Perseus tiptoe by,
Not until he reached out and grabbed their eye.
Above the chorus of protestation,
He said that he wanted information.
So they told him where to find the Gorgon,
And Perseus gave back the stolen organ.

He found the place, and was surprised to see
It was filled with statues. Why should that be?
He said to himself "Well, I do suppose
These must have all once been the Gorgon's foes."

So into the monsters' lair he crept,
And into the room where Medusa slept.
He held up the shield, polished and shiny,
And used the reflection so he could see.
He then used his sword to kill the old hag,
And put her severed head into his bag.
The sisters awoke, and saw what he'd done,
And Perseus thought he had better run.

Our hero made it back to Seriphos.
When the king saw him he was pretty cross.
He had thought the young man would have been killed,
But he had not, and the king wasn't thrilled.

"You must let my mum go!" Perseus said,
"I've killed Medusa and brought you her head."
The king said "No, I don't care, I command
That Dinae agrees to give me her hand."

Perseus snarled "Here's your wedding present!"
And plucked from the bag something quite unpleasant.
He held Medusa's head up in the air,
Its eyes fixed the king with a cold dead stare.

The king gasped and gave out a little moan,
The he went quiet - he had turned to stone.
And so, this tale of danger and violence,
Ends with just a stony silence.