

DIONYSUS

Greek name Διόνυσος / Βάκχος

Latin name Bacchus / Liber

Name in your language

Parents Zeus and Semele

Role god of the grape harvest, winemaking and wine

Home Mount Olympus

Attributes thyrsus, grapevine, masks, chalice

Pets bull, panther

Dionysus was the God of wine, festivity, madness, theatre... in short, he was pure freedom and fun. Dionysus' birth is a peculiar story. Being Dionysus, how could he have done it otherwise? His father, Zeus, used to visit different women on Earth. Sometimes, new heroes or gods were born from these unions. One day, it was Selene, princess of Thebes, to receive Zeus' visit. The god appeared to her in the form of an eagle (his favourite pet!). Hera, of course, became very jealous. She tricked Zeus into appearing to Selene in his true form, as the bright god of thunder. Unfortunately, Selene could not survive the vision, because the god was too dazzling to be seen by a mortal. Zeus managed to save the child Selene was bearing. He sewed the child up into his thigh to replace the mother's womb. After a very strange pregnancy, the god Dionysus was born... emerging from Zeus' thigh.

