





The painting depicts the mythological scene where Hades abducts Persephone. On the left, a dark, winged figure representing Hades is shown carrying Persephone on his golden chariot. They are moving through a landscape filled with jagged rocks and sparse vegetation under a hazy sky.

THE MYTH OF PERSEPHONE

IN UNIVERSAL LITERATURE



Outline



A digital illustration of a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a simple white robe with a yellow belt. She is standing in profile, looking up at a large tree whose branches are bare and covered in fallen orange and yellow leaves. The background is a soft-focus landscape with a bright sun in the upper left corner.

Outline

1. What Is A Myth?



Outline

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2. The Myth of Persephone



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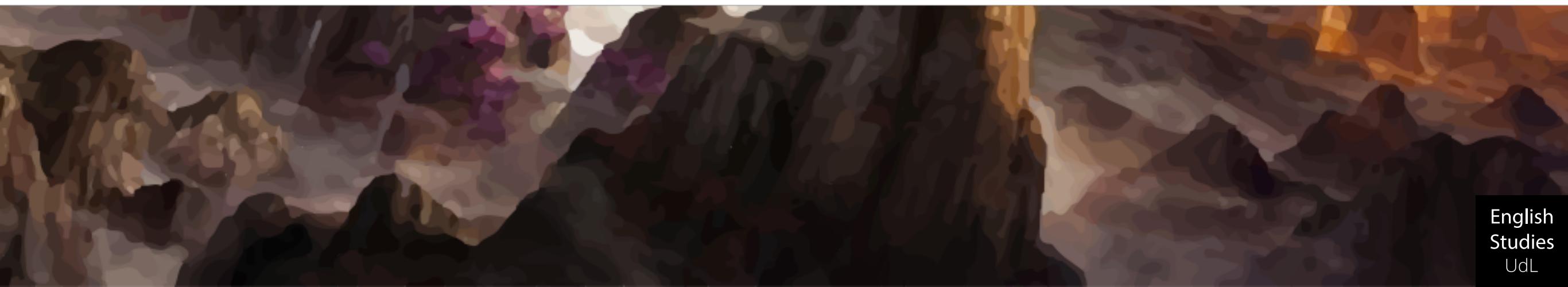
1. What Is A Myth?
2. The Myth of Persephone
3. Modern Works



What Is A Myth?

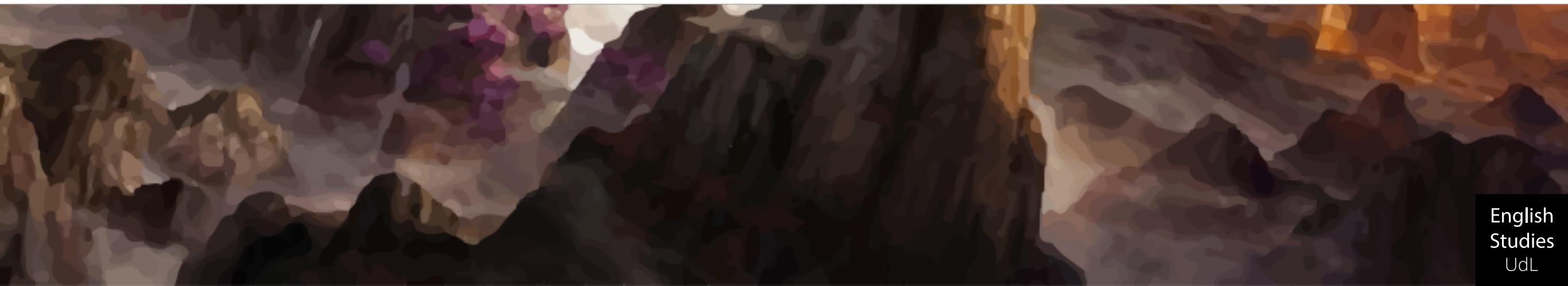


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❖ Divine or heroic characters



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- ❖ Divine or heroic characters
- ❖ Try to give explanations and answers to transcendental questions





from fantastic beasts . . .

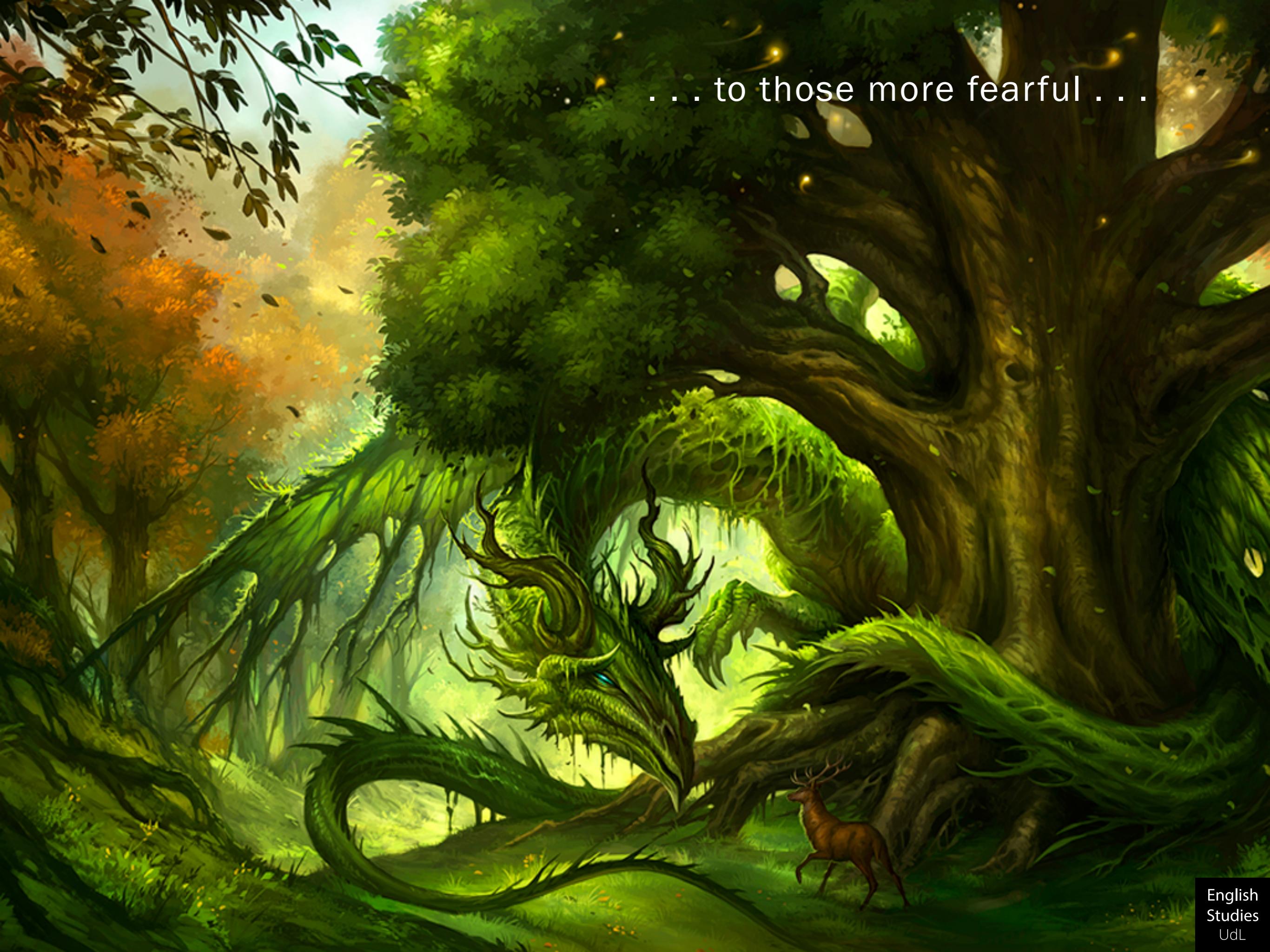






..., wild creatures ...





... to those more fearful ...

. . . and **human ones.**

THE
MYTH
OF

PERSEPHONE



THE
MYTH
OF
PERSEPHONE





PERSEPHONE



PERSEPHONE Περσεφόνη



PERSEPHONE Περσεφόνη

was first known as Κόρη (maiden) until the things we will see in this myth happened. After that she was renamed as 'the one who brings death'



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DEMETER

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PERSEPHONE



























“Where is my dear daughter?”



























Modern Works

FEATURING PERSEPHONE

PERSEPHONE, FALLING

BY RITA DOVE

One narcissus among the ordinary beautiful flowers, one unlike all the others! She pulled,
stooped to pull harder—
when, sprung out of the earth
on his glittering terrible carriage, he claimed his due.
It is finished. No one heard her.
No one! She had strayed from the herd.

PERSEPHONE, FALLING

BY RITA DOVE

(Remember: go straight to school.
This is important, stop fooling around!
Don't answer to strangers. Stick
with your playmates. Keep your eyes down.)
This is how easily the pit
opens. This is how one foot sinks into the
ground.





Persephone, Falling

by Rita Dove

A painting depicting the mythological scene of Persephone's descent into the underworld. In the upper left, Persephone, dressed in a white robe, is shown falling through a dark, turbulent sky filled with swirling clouds and small white birds. Her mother, Demeter, stands on the right, her body angled towards her daughter with a look of concern and grief. She wears a long, flowing red dress that billows out behind her. The background is a deep, somber red, suggesting fire or the underworld.

Persephone, Falling

by Rita Dove

- ❖ Title (double meaning)



Persephone, Falling

by Rita Dove

- ❖ Title (double meaning)
 1. She is kidnapped by Hades



Persephone, Falling

by Rita Dove

- ❖ Title (double meaning)
 1. She is kidnapped by Hades
 2. She fell from grace and from innocence without her mother's protection



Persephone, Falling

by Rita Dove

- The poem points at the relationship between mother and daughter.

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❖ Persephone's isolation and vanity

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- ❖ Persephone's isolation and vanity
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→ flower (symbol of female sexuality)

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- ❖ Persephone's isolation and vanity
 - ❖ She has the desire to be unique and special
→ flower (symbol of female sexuality)
 - ❖ She becomes insulted from her community
and wants to be different from anyone else
 - ❖ She is overly anxious to grow up and be free

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BY RITA DOVE

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¶ Demeter is giving pieces of advice

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- ❖ Demeter is giving pieces of advice
- ❖ On the last lines the mother explains the consequences of that action

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- ❖ Demeter is giving pieces of advice
- ❖ On the last lines the mother explains the consequences of that action
- ❖ Persephone, falling → growth as a change which affects relationships
 - Persephone and Demeter = stand-ins for the typical mother-daughter relationship

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Persephone & Arts



A classical statue of Persephone, the Greek goddess of the underworld, is the central focus. She is shown in a three-quarter view, leaning forward with her head down, her hands clasped near her feet. Her hair is styled in a bun, and she wears a simple, flowing garment. The statue is set within a stone niche. Behind her is a wall decorated with various relief carvings, including figures and geometric patterns. The lighting creates strong shadows, emphasizing the form of the statue.

Persephone In Sculpture



Gian Lorenzo Bernini

(1621-1622)













Persephone In Paintings



Dante Gabriel Rossetti

(1874)



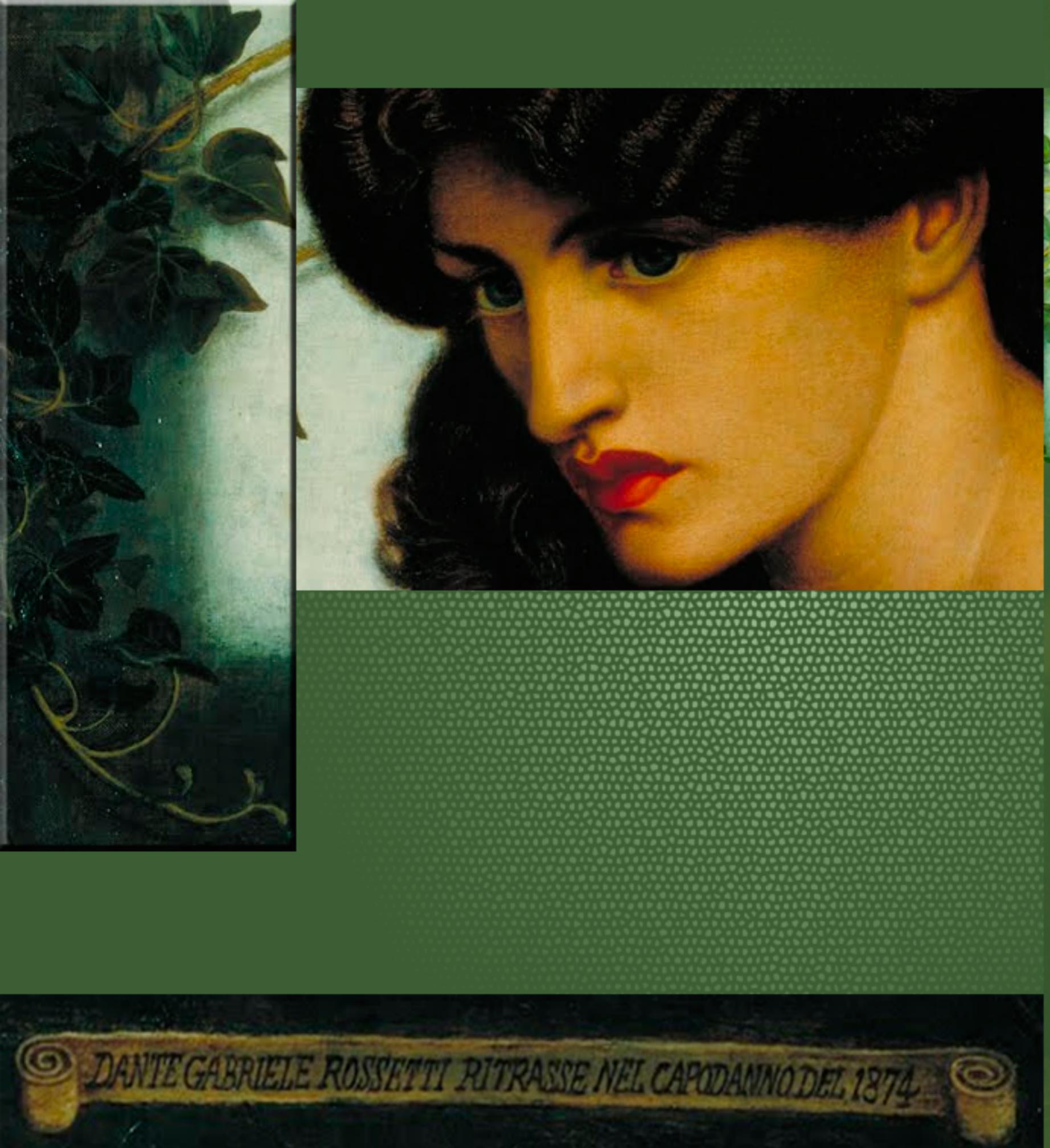
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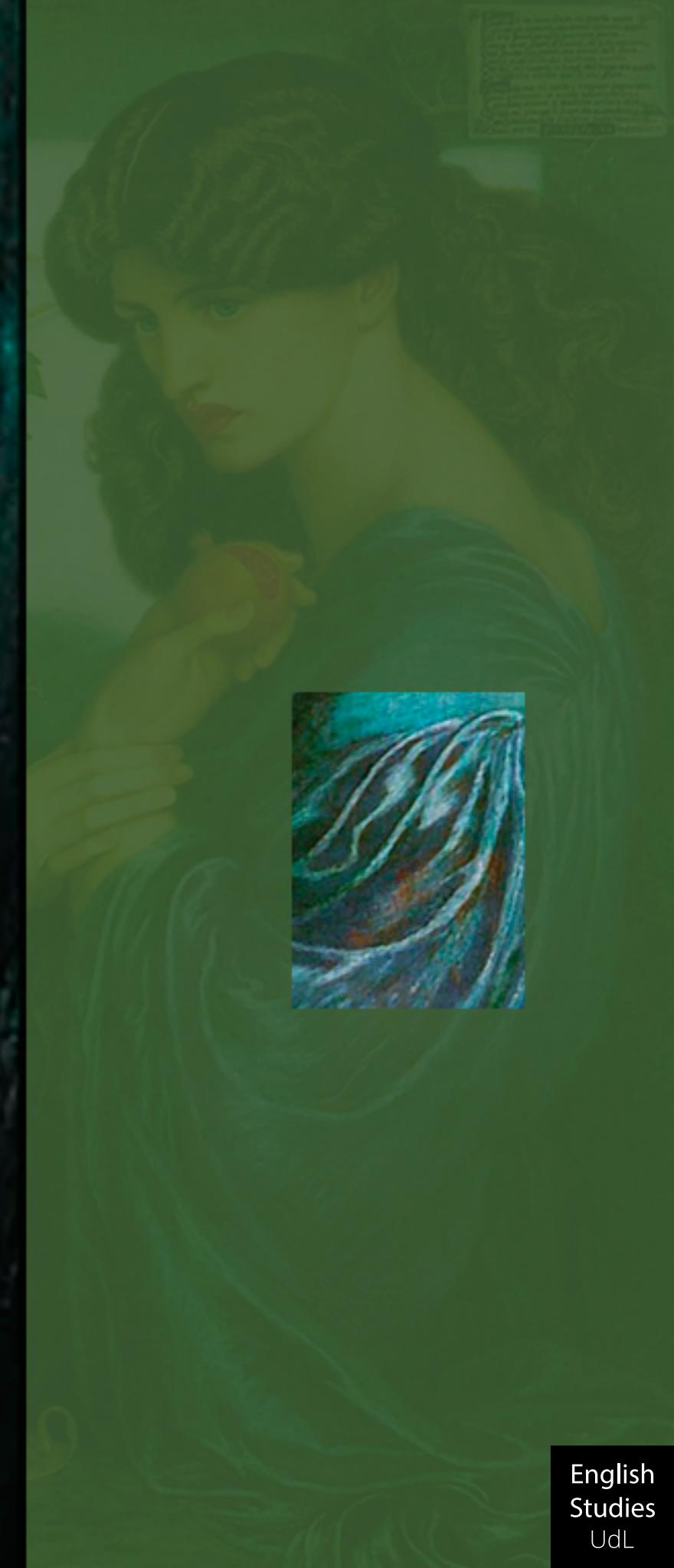


DANTE GABRIELE ROSSETTI RITRASSE NEL CAPODANNO DEL 1874



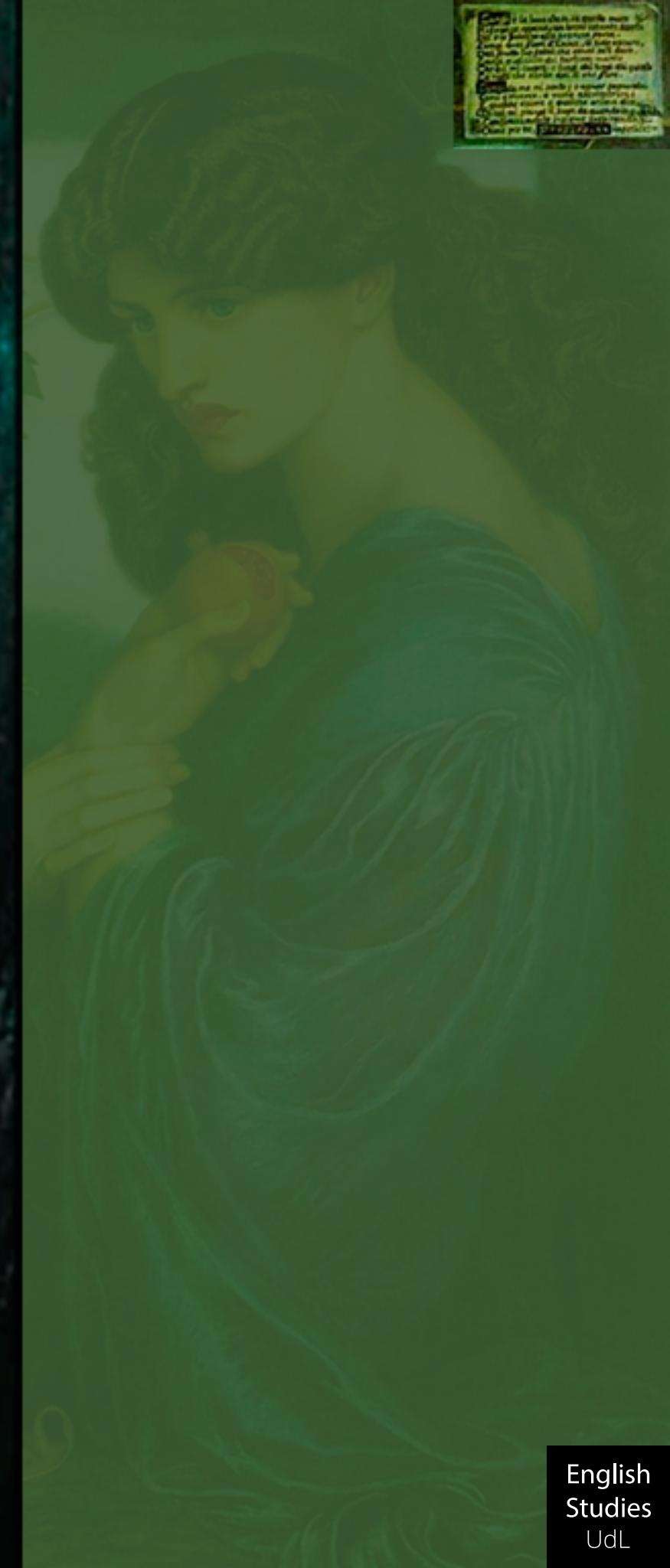






Lungi è la luce che in sul questo muro
Rifrange appena, un breve istante scatta
Del rivo palazzo alla Sopraa porta.
Lungi quei fiori d'Enna, O lido oscuro,
Dal frutto duo fatal che omai m'è duro.
Lungi quel cielo dal tartaro manto
Che qui mi cuopre: e lungi chi lungi chi giunge
Le notti che saran dai di che furo.

Lungi dame mi sento; e ognor segnando,
Cerco e ricocco, e resto ascoltrice;
E qualche cuore a qualche anima dice,
(Di cui mi giunge il suon da quando in quando,
Continuamente insieme sospirando,) —
Oimè per te, Proserpina infelice!"







Persephone In Music





Proserpina

by Martha Wainwright



Proserpina

by Martha Wainwright



LISTEN ON
YouTube

PROSERPINA

Martha Wainwright

Proserpina! Proserpina!

Come home to mama, come home to mama

Proserpina! Proserpina!

Come home to mother, come home to mama now

I shall punish the earth

I shall turn down the heat

I shall take away every morsel to eat

I shall turn every field into stone

Where I walk, crying alone

Crying for Proserpina

Proserpina, come home to mama

Come home to mama now

PROSERPINA

Martha Wainwright

Proserpina! Proserpina!
Go home to your mother
 Go home to Hera
Proserpina! Proserpina!
Go home to your mother
 Go home to Hera now

She has punished the earth
She has turned down the heat
She has taken away every morsel to eat
She has turned every field into stone
Where she walks, crying alone
 Crying for...

PROSERPINA

Martha Wainwright

Proserpina! Proserpina!

Come home to mama, come home to mama

Proserpina! Proserpina!

Come home to mama, come home to mama now

She has turned every field into stone

Where she walks, crying alone

Crying for...

Proserpina! Proserpina!

Come home to mama, come home to mama

Proserpina! Proserpina!

Come home to mama, come home to mama now





Persephone In A Film





Persephone

(2013)

by Louis Mandylor

Persephone

(2013)

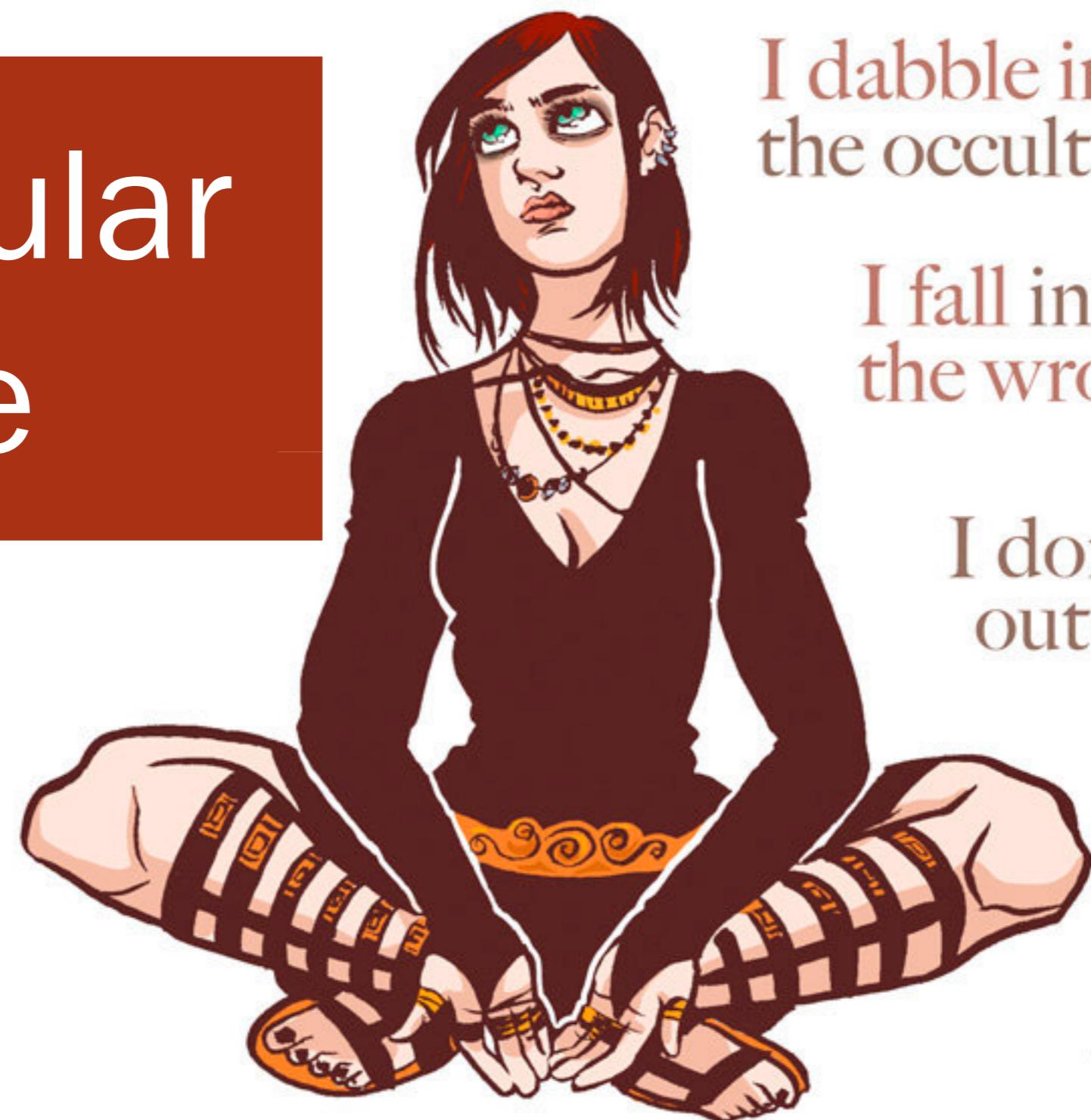
by Louis Mandylor

WATCH ON
[YouTube](#)

In Popular Culture

In Popular Culture

I'm a Persephone.



I dabble in
the occult.

I fall in love with
the wrong people.

I don't get
out much.









THANK YOU
FOR LISTENING



English
Studies
UdL

