



Hera is also called Juno. She is the wife of Zeus and queen of the gods. She is also the goddess of marriage, women, and the sky. Peacocks and cows are precious to her.

Hera hated Heracles (the hero) from birth. He was the son of her husband, Zeus, and a mortal (human) woman. She hated him so much that she sent poisonous snakes to attack him while he slept in his crib. The baby Heracles grabbed them with his chubby hands and choked them and saved himself. Heracles later married Hera's daughter, Hebe, the cup bearer. She was a servant to the gods and brought them wine.

Another myth about Hera explains why she loves the peacock. One day, Zeus met a beautiful princess named Io, and they fell in love. When Hera found out about this secret love, Zeus tried to hide himself on earth by wrapping it in clouds. Hera made the clouds go away, so Zeus turned Io into a cow so Hera would not hurt her. He said the cow was a real cow but Hera knew better. She had a hundred eyed man watch her. Hermes bored the man, so he would sleep. Hermes killed him but Hera put her mans eyes into her favorite animal, the peacock, and loved it forever.