

Persephone



Persephone is the maiden of the spring. She is the daughter of Demeter. She is the wife of Hades. She has to spend 3 months of the year in the underworld with Hades. She spends the other 9 months with Demeter in Mt. Olympus.

One day, Persephone was walking in a meadow of flowers with her friends. She saw some unusual flowers, so she went to pick them. Hades, the lord of the underworld, was watching her. He decided he wanted her as a wife, so he took her. A hole opened through the earth to the underworld and Hades rode up on his chariot and took her down to the underworld. Her mother, Demeter—the goddess of the weather, searched for her for many months. While she searched the earth grew cold and the plants did not grow. Demeter was very frantic and begged Zeus to find her. So Zeus sent Hermes, the messenger of the gods, down to the lord of the underworld and Hermes found her. Persephone came back from the underworld, but only for nine months. She ate three pomegranate seeds, so she has to spend three months in the underworld with Hades as the Queen of the Dead. Those are the months when the world is cold and no plants grow.