



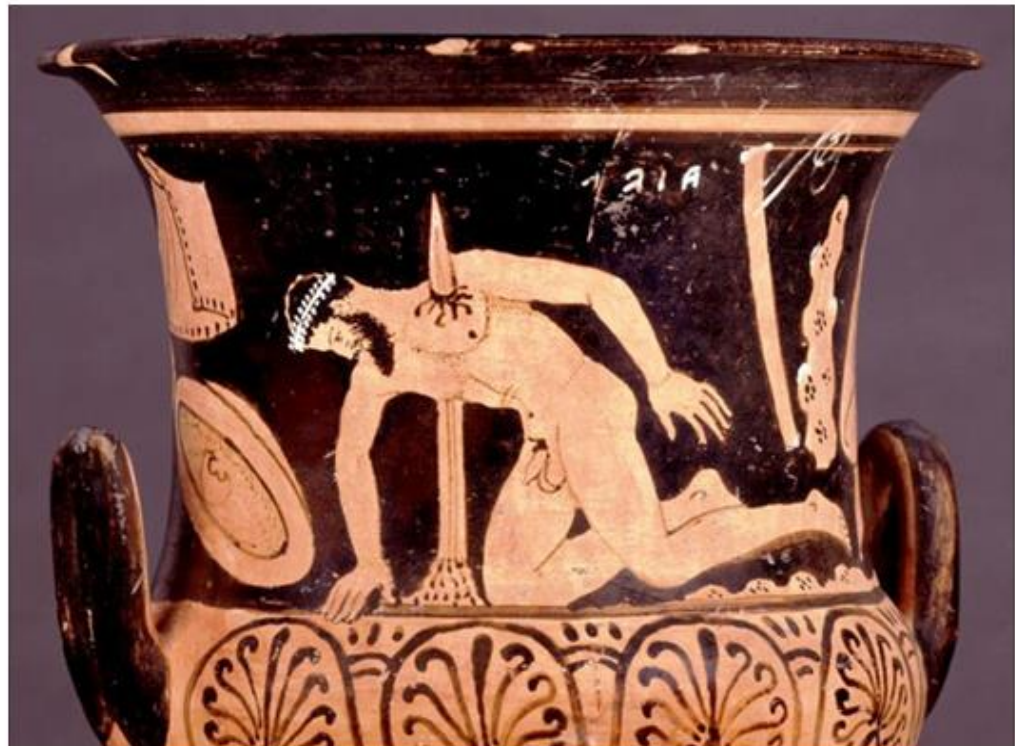
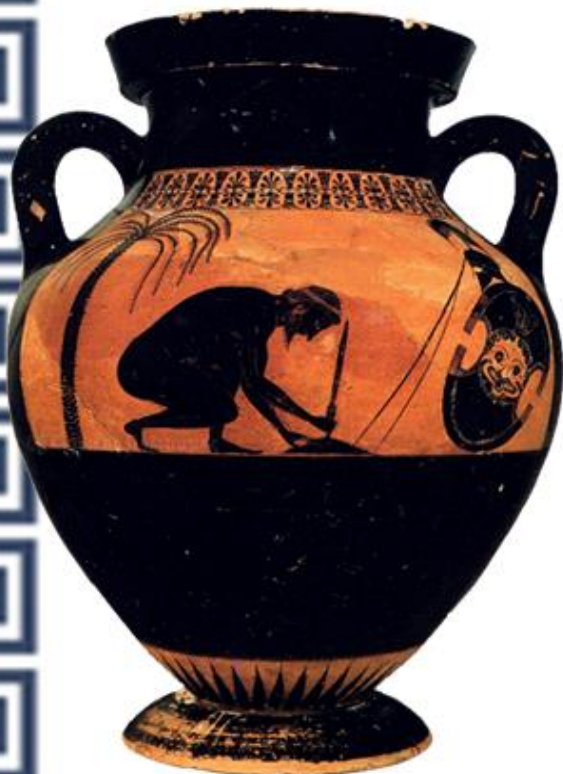
**THE MYTH OF
TEUCRUS**

In Greek mythology Teucus, was the son of King Telamon (of Salami Island) and Hesione. He fought alongside his half brother, Ajax, in the Trojan War and was considered to be the greatest one among the sagittarius.



After his half-brother's Ajax suicide, Teucros returned to Salamis. He brought the news from Ajax's death to his father.

Telamon banished his son, because he believed that Teucros wanted to become the next King of Salamis, and that's why he abandoned Ajax in his time of need, doing nothing to prevent his death. As a result, he was dishonoured by his father, wasn't allowed back on Salamis Island, and set out to find a new home.





Teucros founded the city of Salamis on Cyprus, which he named after his home state.

This legend is related to the foundation of this city from Teucros, introducing a number of Greek stories, which explain the existence of greek identity, culture and language in Cyprus. Naturally, this seems to be based more on the suspicions that Greek traders might have arrived to that area in ancient times. The city is sometimes poetically called "The City of Teucros" and its inhabitants teucrinos.



**THE MYTH OF
HELEN**



In Greek Mythology , Helen of Troy was the daughter of Zeus . In Greek myths, she was considered the most beautiful woman in the world. By marriage she was Queen of Laconia and wife of King Menelaus.



Around this time there was a great event among the Olympians: the marriage of the goddess Thetis to the mortal Peleus. All the gods were invited to attend except for Eris, whose name means “discord.” Furious at her exclusion, Eris comes to the party anyway and dropped an apple to the goddesses Hera, Athena, and Aphrodite on which is written “for the most beautiful.” Each goddess claims the apple is meant for her.



Zeus appoints the Trojan prince Paris to judge who is most beautiful of the three. To sway his vote, each goddess offers Paris a gift. From Hera, Paris would have royal power, while Athena offers victory in battle. Aphrodite promises him Helen, the most beautiful woman in the world as his wife, and Paris names Aphrodite as the winner of the competition.



Paris, a prince of Troy, traveled to Sparta on the advice of the goddess Aphrodite.

When Paris saw Helen, he knew that Aphrodite had kept her promise. While Menelaus was away in Crete, Paris took Helen back to Troy. Some stories say Helen went willingly, seduced by Paris's charms. Others claim that Paris kidnapped her and took her by force.



When Menelaus returned home and discovered Helen gone, he called on the leaders of Greece, who had sworn to support him if necessary. The Greeks organized a great expedition and set sail for Troy. Their arrival at Troy marked the beginning of the Trojan War.



At least three Ancient Greek authors denied that Helen ever went to Troy; instead, they suggested, Helen stayed in Egypt during the duration of the Trojan War. Euripides, in his play *Helen*, claims that Hera fashioned a likeness of Helen, an illusion, a cloud. Hermes took the real Helen to Egypt, and Helen never went to Troy.



THE NARRATOR USES THE MYTHOLOGICAL METHOD

- She symbolizes the reason/the excuse to begin a war.
- Also she symbolizes things that humans want to obtain and do everything to win them.
- The lie/the illusion that Aphrodite used to convince Paris to choose her as the most beautiful goddess.



THE NARRATOR USES THE MYTHOLOGICAL METHOD



Helen : -> The excuse for the Trojan war

-> the pretext for freedom and democracy for the nations of the Second World War. Great Britain used this excuse for its own intentions in Cyprus. After the Second World War, Great Britain forgot it and refused to give freedom and democracy to the people of Cyprus, who were asking for it.

TEUCRUS

- Is the narrator of the poem
- Symbolizes people who were forced to leave their homes and countries and go to the war, and in the end of it they realized that they lost everything: their home, family and even their own lives.
- Finally Teucros symbolizes the person who is thinking and he is not sleeping. His consciousness meditates on serious questions.



The poem...

George Seferis writes the poem "Eleni" influenced by the sound of nightingales.

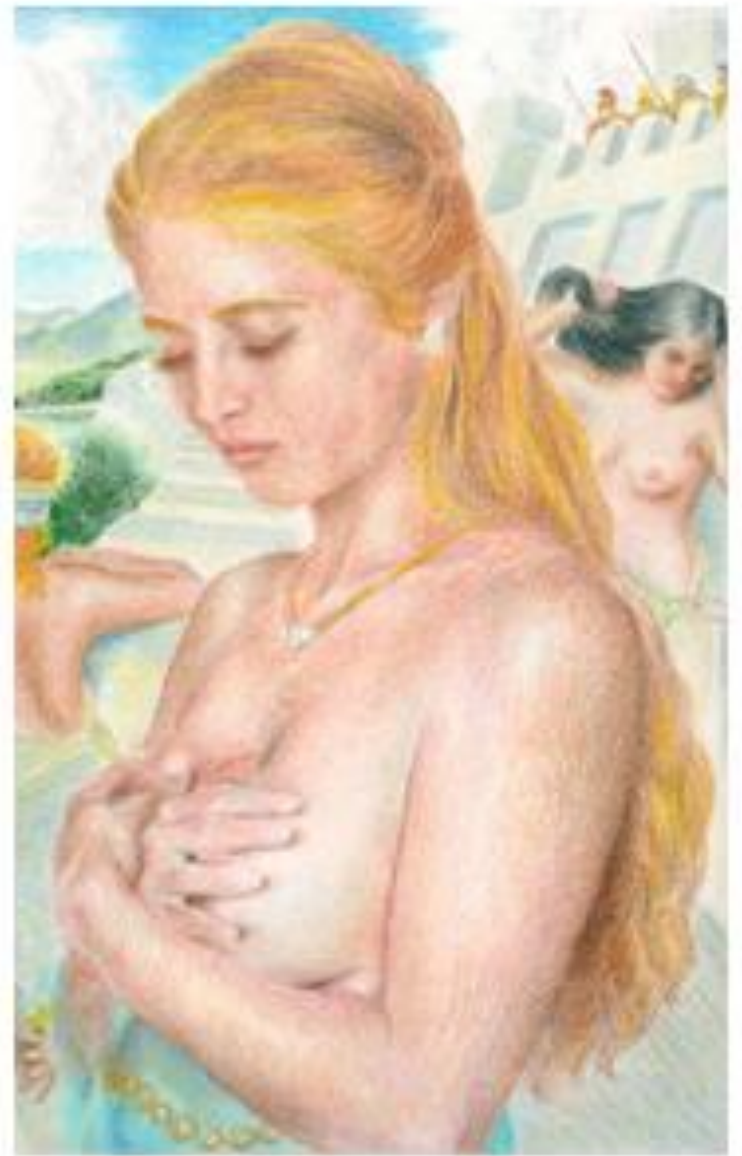
The poet is awoken from the song of birds which transfer his mind into Teucros and makes him talk as if he was him.

The poet states that as reality can change under the moonlight, Helen stands out for her beauty and on the other hand for her deception and fraud



• He gives emphasis to her feminine beauty and he describes her facial and body features like her blonde hair, ample bosom, seductive curves and intense look ,which make her very attractive .

• Paris thinks that he has her next to him, but that is just a fraud as next to him there is just an idol.



Lyrics : “...that so much suffering, so much life, went into the abyss all for an empty tunic, all for a Helen”

Helen has always been an excuse for the disastrous wars between nations.

Helen represents the qualities for which people get fanaticized and fight, hoping for justification. However these qualities are proved to be nothing important, nothing worth fighting for, an illusion, a fraud, a lost of hope.

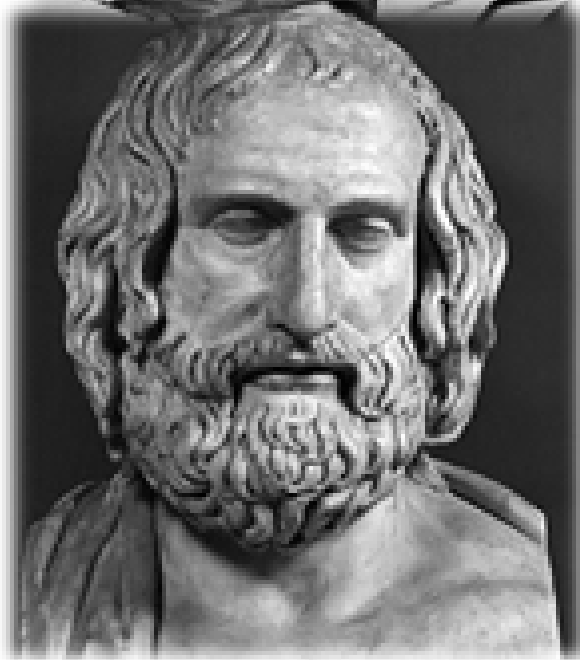


**Τι είναι θεός;
Τι μη θεός;
Και τι τ' ανάμεσό τους;**

- Τι είναι θεός; Τι μη θεός; Και τι τ' αναμεσό τους;

- Ό.τι θεός ή μη θεός ή το μέσον. τις φησ' ερευνησας βροτών; Euripides

- What is God? What is not God? And what is in between them?



- Teucros realized that for so long, Greeks fought for, sacrificed themselves for a lie, an illusion. Teucros himself lost his brother, lost his homeland, "for a cloud" "for a shadow".



What is God? What is not God? And what is in between them?

- Teucros in the lyrics above **is wondering**: Who does control our lives? Are we in charge of our own fate? Are we puppets of the Gods and of the most powerful people in this earth?
- This specific lyric is one of the most important in the whole poem as it has many extensions that have to do with people's lives and the fate of other nations.