

# THE STORY MUSEUM

## The birth of Wisdom

Soon after Zeus became king of the gods he got married.

Soon after that, his wife became pregnant.

Soon after that, someone whispered in his ears. "The child in your wife's womb will be greater and wiser than you." Zeus did not like that. "I am the king of the gods," he thought. "No one should be greater and wiser than me."

Soon after that, he came up with a plan to stop his child being born. "Wife," he said, "let's play a game. Let's turn ourselves into the smallest thing." His wife turned herself into a fly. Zeus grabbed her and swallowed her. "That's the end of that," he thought.

A few months later Zeus's head started to ache. The pain got worse and worse until it felt as if a spike was pressing hard into his brain from the inside of his skull. And there were voices too, inside his throbbing head. "Let me out! Let me out!" they cried.

Zeus wasn't sure what to do but his son took a hammer and chisel and cracked open his father's skull. Out leapt a goddess with a helmet on her head and a spear in her hand. She was the Goddess of Wisdom.

And that is how wisdom came into the world.

So, if you ever find yourself experiencing a really bad headache, don't worry, it might just be wisdom trying to come out.

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