



Cassiopeia

Queen Cassiopeia was the wife of King Cephus and the mother of the beautiful Andromeda. She boasted that she was the most beautiful woman in the kingdom. As time passed, she began to proclaim that she was the most beautiful woman in the entire world. Eventually, she boasted that she was even more beautiful than the revered goddesses of Mount Olympus. This greatly offended Poseidon, for as the god of the sea, he had created the world's most beautiful beings ever in the form of his sea nymphs.

In his anger, Poseidon created a great dragon-like sea monster named Cetus. The monster ravaged the seas, sank ships, killed sailors, and destroyed towns and villages along the coast of Cassiopeia's country. In an effort to put an end to this terrible beast, the people of Cassiopeia's country pleaded with Poseidon to free them from the Cetus. Poseidon's response was simple, "All Queen Cassiopeia must do is admit that my sea nymphs are more beautiful than she. Once she utters the words, I shall put an end to the Cetus one and for all." Cassiopeia's people went to her, begging her to admit the sea nymphs were more beautiful, but she coldly refused to do so. Cassiopeia's people then returned to Poseidon, asking him if there was any other way to rid them of the sea monster since their queen refused to comply. Poseidon told them that if Queen Cassiopeia were to sacrifice her beautiful daughter, Andromeda to the sea monster he would put an end to it. Cassiopeia's people stormed the palace, and stole the innocent Andromeda away. They chained her to a rock that jutted out into the great sea to be sacrificed to Cetus. However, Andromeda was saved by the hero, Perseus (a demigod and son of Zeus) who was passing through her country on his way home after killing the dreaded Medusa. He turned the Cetus to stone, and freed and married the beautiful princess, Andromeda.

Poseidon and Zeus decided Cassiopeia's punishment would be to be placed in the sky forever as a constellation. For being so conceited about her looks, Poseidon placed her head facing the North Star, so that from Earth she would appear upside down for part of the year. This was meant to humiliate her. If you glance up into the night sky, you can see Cassiopeia holding a mirror, sitting on her throne upside down, her punishment for defying the gods and being vain.



Story Map		
Characters – Who		Setting – When & Where
Problem		
Event	Event	Event
Solution		