CHARACTER LIST

Jason and the Argonauts

Apollonius of Rhodes · Penguin Classics, trans. Aaron Poochigian

JASON AND THE ARGO

Jason · son of Aeson; leader of the quest for the Golden Fleece

Aeson · Jason's aged father, half-brother of Pelias

Alcimede · Jason's mother

Argus · son of Arestor; builder of the Argo with Athena's guidance

Tiphys · son of Hagnias; helmsman of the Argo

Ancaeus · son of Poseidon from Samos; a skilled seaman

The Argo · the ship itself; a timber from Dodona's oak lets it speak

NOTABLE ARGONAUTS

Heracles · son of Zeus; the strongest of the heroes

Hylas · Heracles' young companion and squire

Orpheus · Thracian singer and lyre-player, son of the Muse Calliope

Castor and Polydeuces · twin sons of Leda; Polydeuces is a champion boxer

Zetes and Calais · winged sons of Boreas, the North Wind

Peleus · son of Aeacus; husband of Thetis, father of Achilles

Telamon · Peleus' brother, from Salamis; father of Ajax

Idmon · a seer, son of Apollo

Mopsus · a seer taught by Apollo; reads the omens of birds

Meleager · son of Oeneus, from Calydon

Idas and Lynceus · sons of Aphareus; Idas the boaster, Lynceus the keen-eyed

Euphemus · son of Poseidon; so swift he can run across the sea

Polyphemus · son of Elatus, an older Lapith warrior

Augeas · son of Helios from Elis; half-brother of Aeetes

Acastus · son of Pelias, who joins the crew against his father's wishes

Aethalides · son of Hermes; herald of the expedition

Admetus · king of Pherae in Thessaly

COLCHIS

Aeetes · king of Colchis, son of Helios; keeper of the Fleece

Medea · Aeetes' daughter; priestess of Hecate, skilled in drugs and spells

Chalciope · Medea's elder sister, widow of Phrixus

Apsyrtus · Aeetes' son, Medea's half-brother

Idya · Aeetes' wife, mother of Medea and Chalciope

Phrixus · son of Athamas, carried to Colchis by the ram of the Golden Fleece

Sons of Phrixus · Argus, Cytissorus, Phrontis, and Melas; Chalciope's sons

The Serpent · the unsleeping guardian of the Fleece

ALONG THE WAY

Pelias · king of Iolcus and Jason's uncle

Hypsipyle · queen of Lemnos, daughter of Thoas

Cyzicus · young king of the Doliones

Amycus · Bebrycian king and boxer

Phineus · blind prophet plagued by the Harpies

Lycus · king of the Mariandyni, who hosts the Argonauts

Circe · enchantress of Aeaea, sister of Aeetes

The Sirens · singers whose song lures sailors to ruin

Alcinous and Arete · king and queen of the Phaeacians

Triton · sea god met in Libya

Talos · bronze giant who guards Crete

THE GODS

Hera · queen of the gods, Jason's protector

Athena · goddess of craft; helps build the Argo

Aphrodite · goddess of love, mother of Eros

Eros · Aphrodite's son, the archer god of desire

Zeus · king of the gods

Apollo · god of prophecy and patron of the voyage

Thetis · sea nymph, wife of Peleus

Hecate · goddess of night and magic, served by Medea

Helios · the Sun, father of Aeetes and Circe