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15 books of hexameters, tells miraculous changes in principal myths of Greece & Rome. From Chaos to Order, tales range from Apollo to death of Julius Caesar, doctrines of Pythagoras. Pyramus & Thisbe are not Greek or Roman, but Babylonian. There is no moral or teaching in METAMORPHOSES; just some stories.

EPICURUS - 341/270 B.C. Hedonism; atomic theory
 LUCRETIUS - 99/55 B.C. DE RERUM NATURA; Epicurean theory
 CATULLUS - 84/54 B.C. Poet; contemporary with Caesar.
 VIRGIL - 70/19 B.C. AENEID, founding of Rome.
 OVID - 43 B.C./18 A.D. METAMORPHOSES
 EPICTETUS - 60/140 A.D. DISCOURSES; stoic

APOLLO & DAPHNE - he falls in love with her, nymph changes to laurel tree	BOOK ONE
PAN - he loves nymph Syrinx who changes to 7 reed pipe	
PHAETHON - son of Helios (sun), asks to drive father's chariot, horses bolt, earth warms, Zeus throws lightning, Phaethon falls in river Eridaus	BOOK TWO
JOVE & EUROPA - Jove changes to Bull, takes Europa to Crete on his back, she gives birth to Minos (Minotaur)	
TIRESIAS - blind seer, changes to woman for 7 years to settle debate of gods over men/women in sex	BOOK THREE
ECHO & NARCISSUS - nymph falls in love with Narcissus who scorns her, punishment is being enamored over his own image in fountain	
PENTHEUS & BACCHUS - King of Thebes spies on women revelers, they kill him, Agave has head	
MARS & VENUS - Book 8 of Odyssey, Vulcan (Hephestos) entraps lovers in net, gods laugh	BOOK FOUR
CADMUS - seeks Europa, founds Thebes, sows dragon's teeth	
PERSEUS - fights Medusa, Athena gives him mirror shield	
PALLAS ATHENA & 9 MUSES - Athena springs full-blown from forehead of Zeus	BOOK FIVE
9 Muses: CALLIOPE (epic); CLIO (history); EUTERPE (flute); MELPOMENA (tragedy); TERPSICHORE (dance); ERATO (lyre); POLYHMNIA (sacred song); URANIA (astronomy); THALIA (comedy)	
PROSERPINA (Persephone) (Kore, maiden) daughter of Zeus & Demeter, taken by Hades to underworld, eats pomegranite seeds, Demeter pleads for her, she is freed 6 months each year	
PELOPS - son of Tantalus, father of Atreus & Thyestes, curse on house of Atreus	BOOK SIX
JASON & MEDEA - Jason off with daughter of Creon, Medea sends poison to kill them, then kills her children by him	BOOK SEVEN
DAEDALUS & ICARUS - builds maze in Crete for minotaur, put in himself, makes wax wings to escape, Icarus flies to near sun, falls in Aegean Sea	BOOK EIGHT
HERCULES (Heracles) 12 Labors: NEMEAN LION; HYDRA; ERYMANTHIAN BOAR; CERYNEIAN HIND; STYMPHANLIAN BIRDS; AUGEAN STABLES; CRETAN BULL; HORSES OF DIOMEDES; AMAZON GIRDLE; GERYON OXEN: APPLES OF HESPERIDES; CERBERUS	BOOK NINE
ORPHEUS & EURYDICE - his lyre charms wild beasts, she is dryad who dies, he to Hades, can lead her out if he not look back, he does, she vanishes forever	BOOK TEN
GANYMEDE - for his beauty he is carried by eagle to Zeus	
PYGMALION - King of Cyprus, in love with Galatea statue he himself made	
ADONIS - Aphrodite loves him, beautiful youth killed hunting, anemone from his blood	
MIDAS - King of Phrygia, wishes everything he touches turns to gold	BOOK ELEVEN
TROJAN WAR - 1194/1184 B.C.; DEATH OF ACHILLES spear in heel	BOOK TWELVE
HECUBA - widow of Priam, mother of Hector	BOOK THIRTEEN
AENEAS - father of Theseus, son of Anchises & Aphrodite, royal family of Troy	
CIRCE - sorceress Odyssey Book 10; SCYLLA monster Odyssey Book 12	BOOK FOURTEEN
HIPPOLYTUS - son of Antiope Amazon, chaste hunter, Phaedra loves him	
JULIUS CAESAR - 100-44 B.C.	

W. Parker