

THE GOLDEN AGE OF EUROPEAN FABLE

The Celestial Origins of Scorpius, Ophiuchus and Orion



Visuals created by István Tózsza via MagicStudio;
narrative refined in collaboration with Gemini AI.

Upon the
storm-
swept
shores
of Crete,
Poseidon,
Lord of
the Sea,
seduces
Princess
Euryale,
a mortal
daughter
of King
Minos



**Their child
was named
Orion, the
Dweller of
the Mountain,
- a youth of
gigantic
statue who
grew to
become a
legendary
hunter**



**Upon the
shores
of Chios, Orion
encountered
Meropé, the
daughter of
King Oinopion –
himself the son
of Dionysos
personifying
the spirit of the
Grape**

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They agreed that Meropé would be wed to Orion, provided he cleared the island of all its wild beasts.

However, Oinopion had no intention of keeping his sacred promise.



The treacherous king
plied Orion with
potent wine and
once the giant fell
into a deep slumber,
Oinopion blinded
him.

Left in darkness,
the sightless hunter
resolved to reach
Helios, the Sun god,
hoping his divine rays
would restore his
vision.





Eos (Aurora), the Goddess of the Dawn fell in love with the tragic giant. With her rosy-fingered light, she guided the blind hunter eastward, to her brother, Helios, whose brilliant sunbeams restored Orion's sight.

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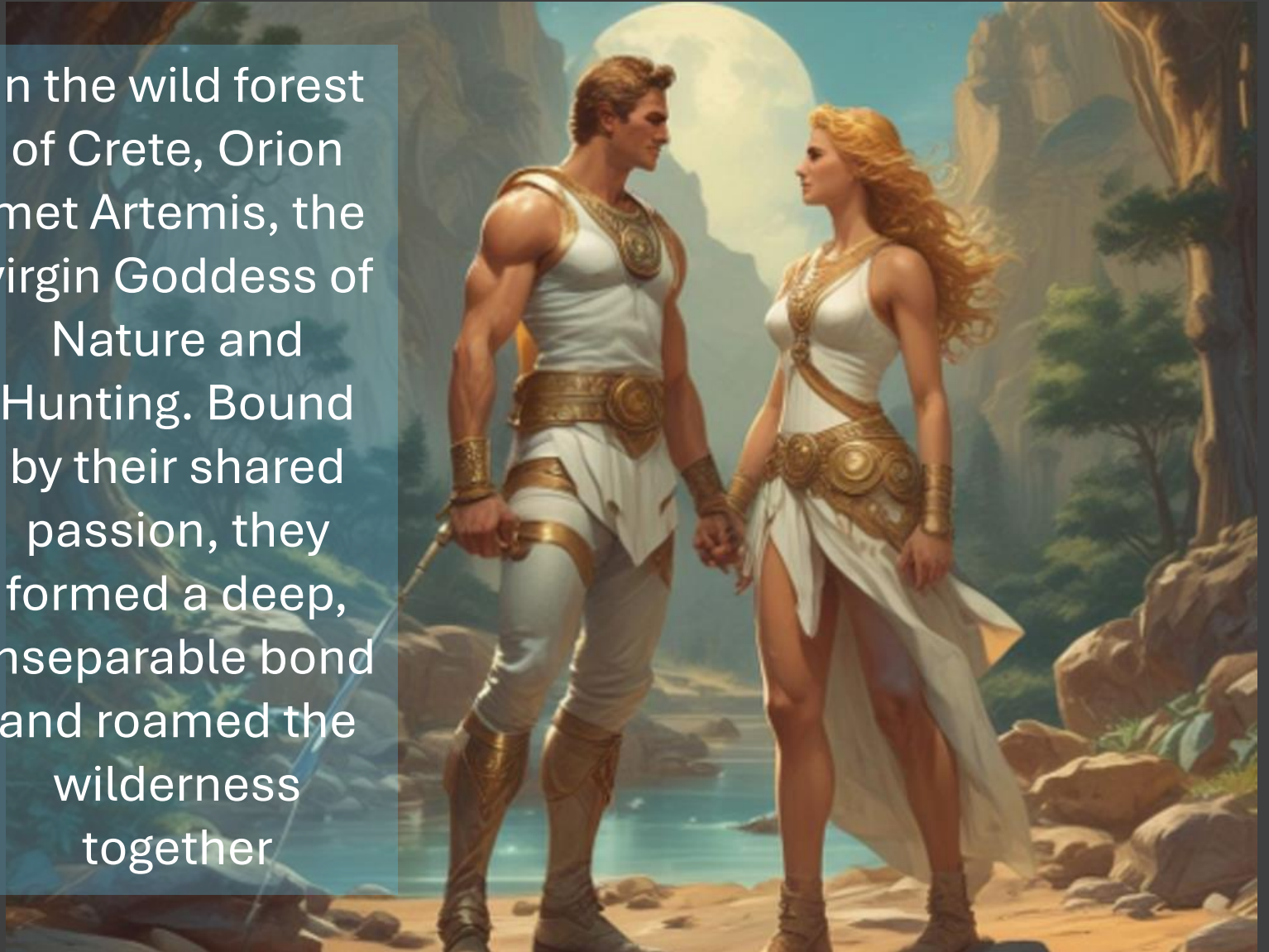


Renowned as the ultimate hunter, Orion relentlessly pursued and slew countless wild beasts across the lands. However, his boastful arrogance deeply angered Gaia, the Earth Mother, who vowed to protect her creatures.





In the wild forest of Crete, Orion met Artemis, the virgin Goddess of Nature and Hunting. Bound by their shared passion, they formed a deep, inseparable bond and roamed the wilderness together



Since Artemis, Zeus's daughter was bound to a sacred vow of eternal virginity by celestial destiny, the gods of Mount Olympus grew deeply concerned.



They realized they had to intervene, seeking a way to prevent the goddess from falling in love and breaking the divine oath.

They warned Gaia,
Mother Earth, that
Orion was on the
verge of
exterminating all
wild beasts.

Engaged, Gaia
conjured an
indestructible,
monstrous
scorpion to hunt
down and destroy
the arrogant giant.



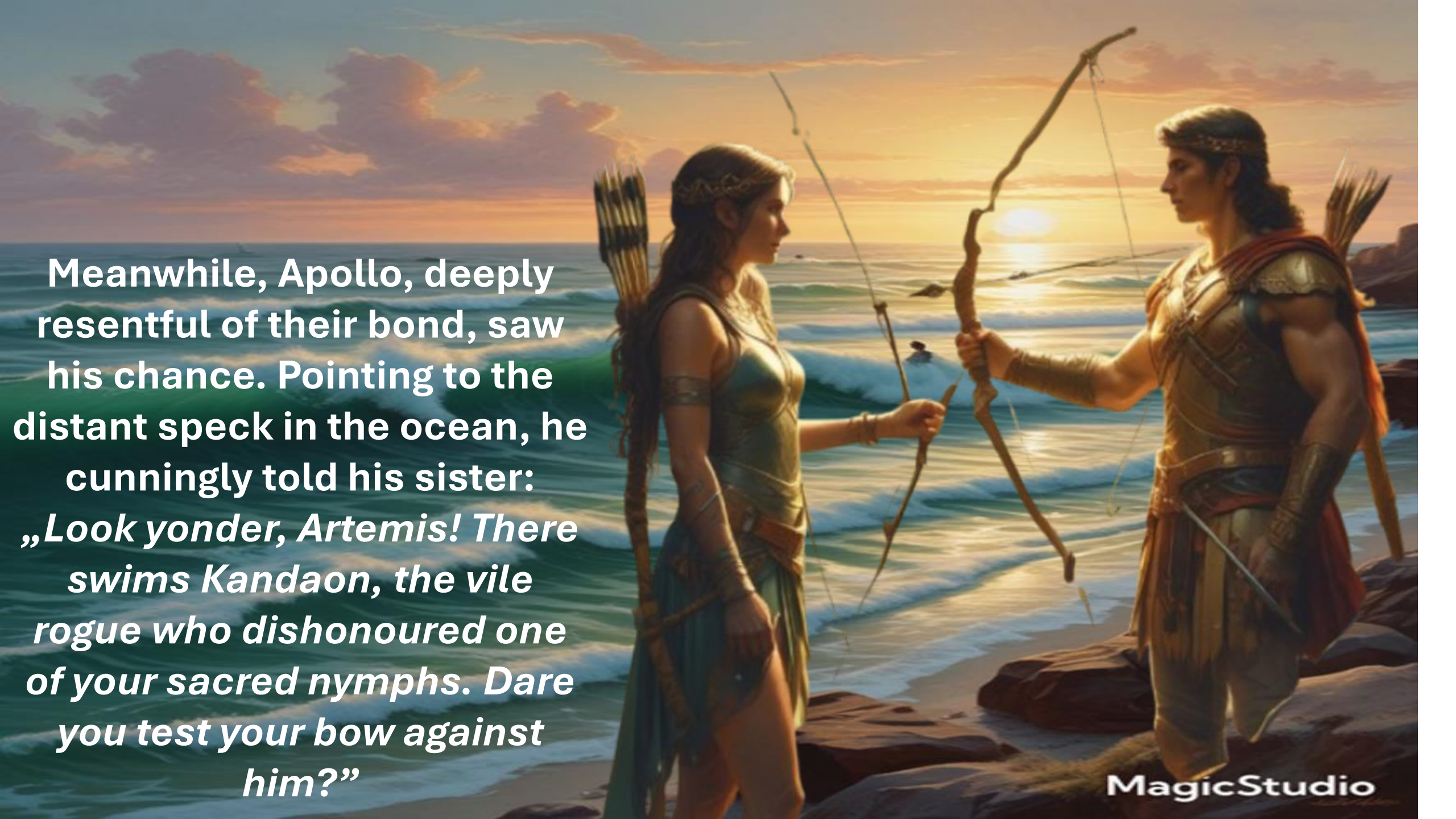
The monstrous
scorpion relentlessly
pursued Orion.

Realizing that his
mortal weapons and
arrows were entirely
powerless against its
divine, impenetrable
armour, the
legendary hunter was
forced to flee.

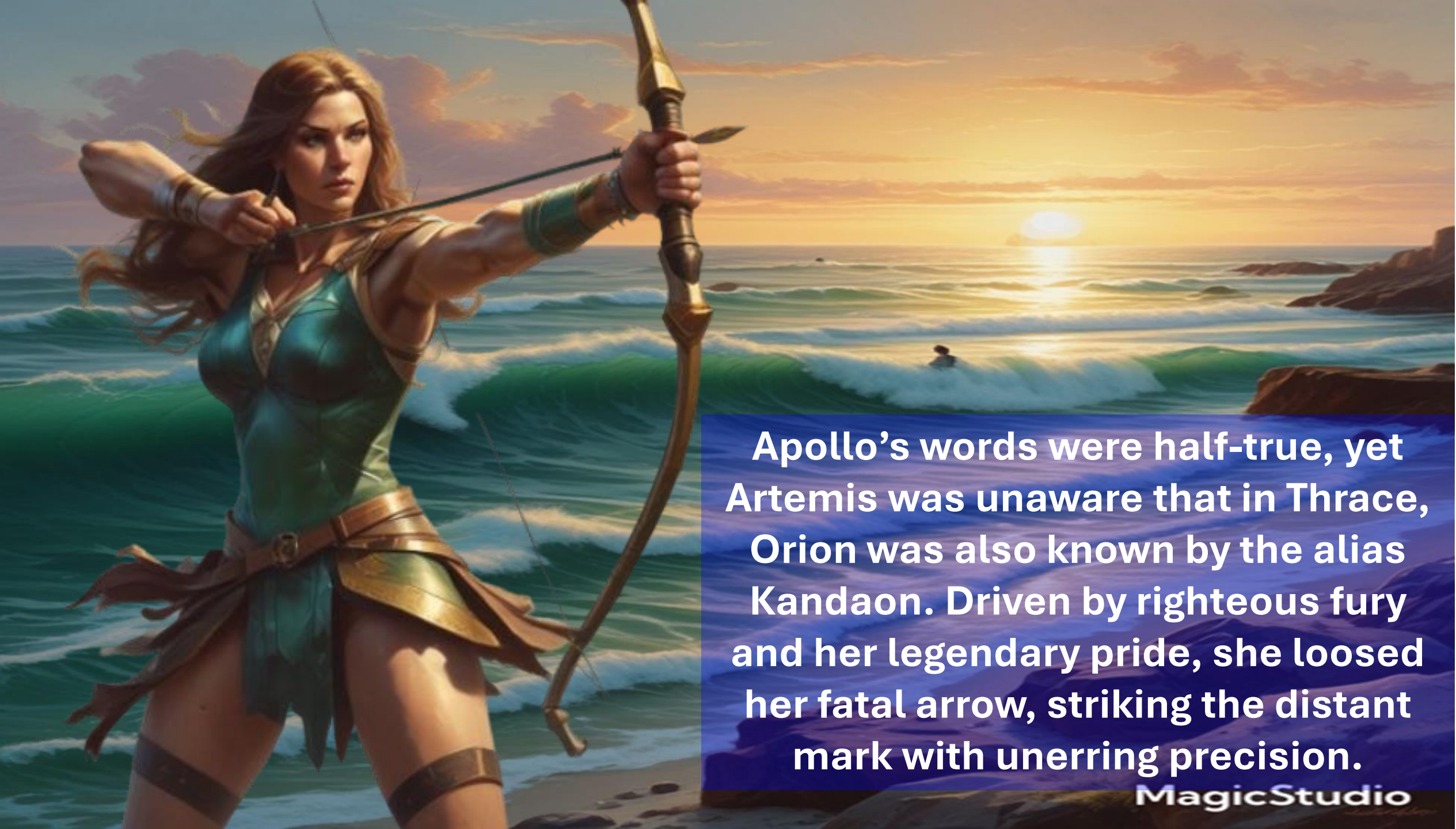




In a desperate bid to elude the relentless beast, Orion plunged into the waves, wading far out into the deep sea where the creature could not follow.



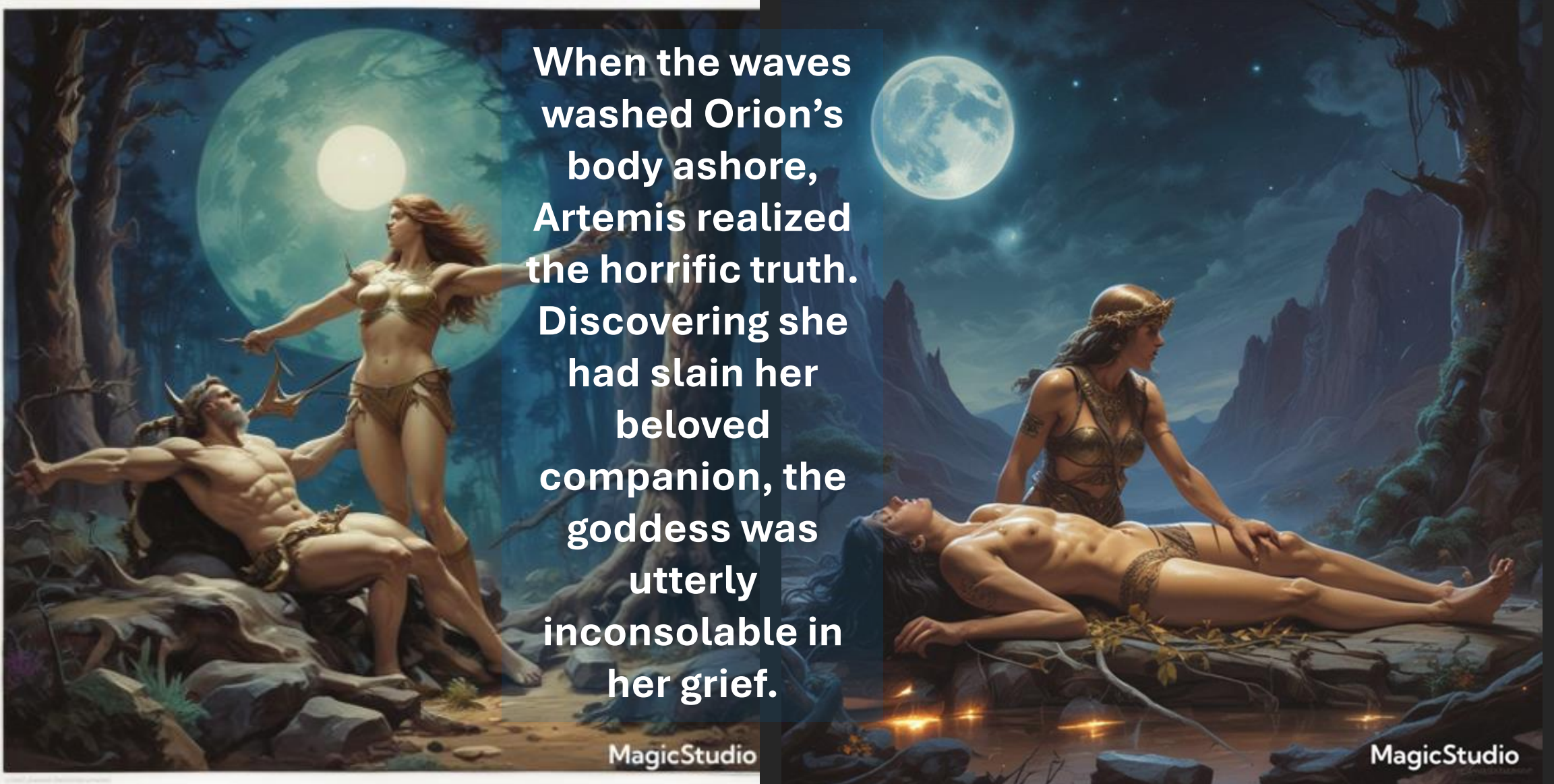
Meanwhile, Apollo, deeply
resentful of their bond, saw
his chance. Pointing to the
distant speck in the ocean, he
cunningly told his sister:
*„Look yonder, Artemis! There
swims Kandaon, the vile
rogue who dishonoured one
of your sacred nymphs. Dare
you test your bow against
him?”*



Apollo's words were half-true, yet Artemis was unaware that in Thrace, Orion was also known by the alias Kandaon. Driven by righteous fury and her legendary pride, she loosed her fatal arrow, striking the distant mark with unerring precision.

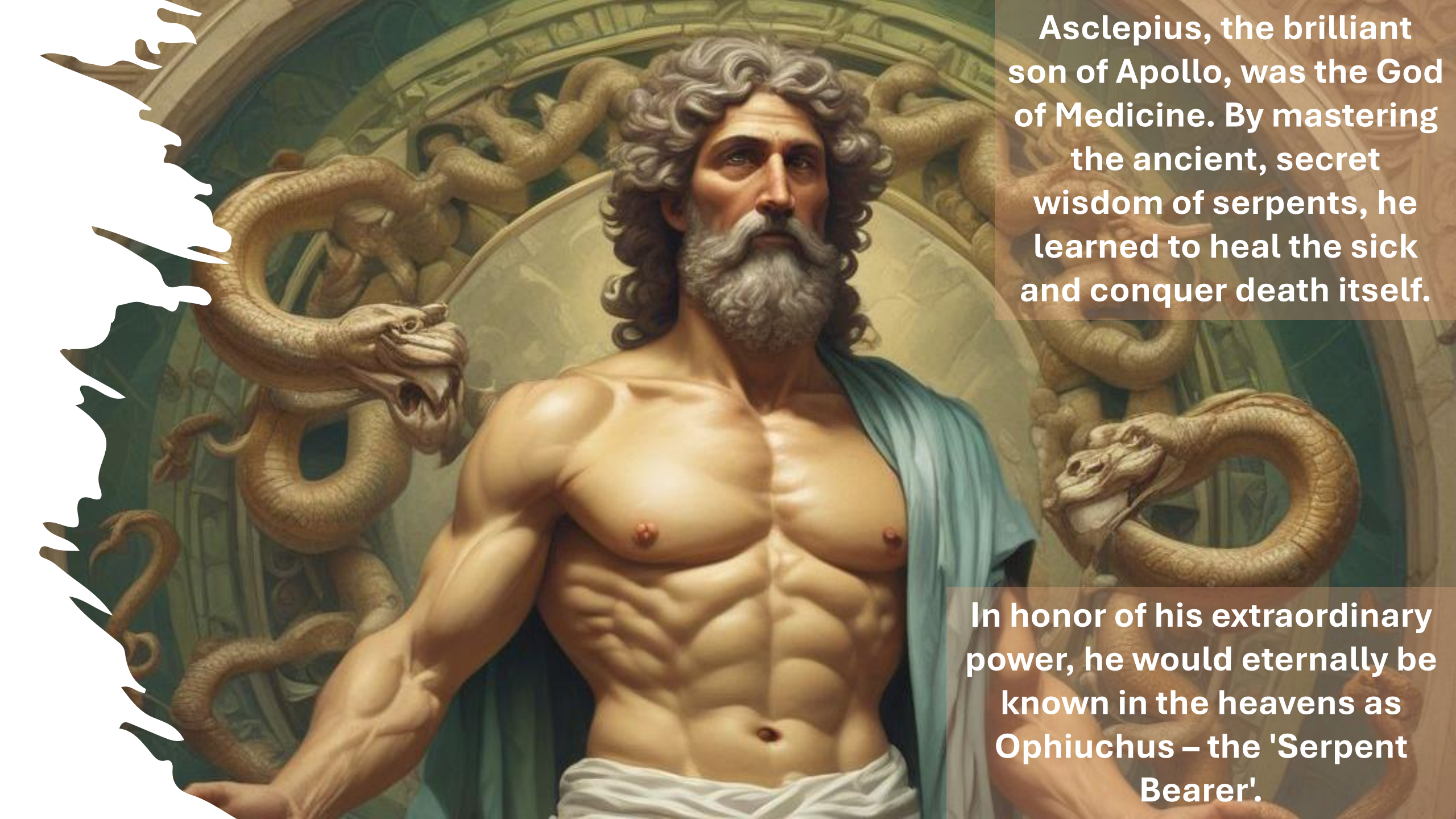
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**When the waves
washed Orion's
body ashore,
Artemis realized
the horrific truth.
Discovering she
had slain her
beloved
companion, the
goddess was
utterly
inconsolable in
her grief.**



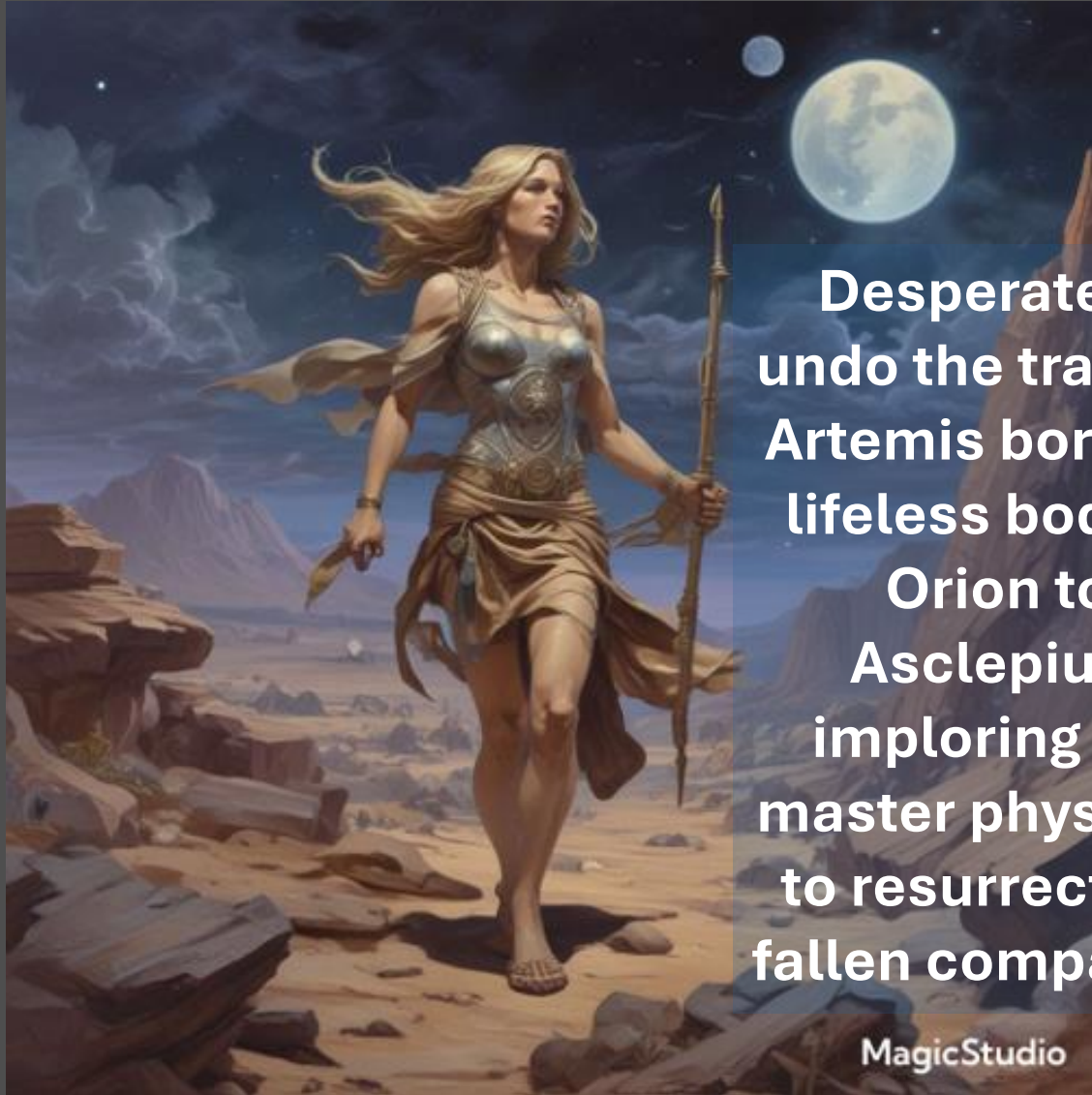
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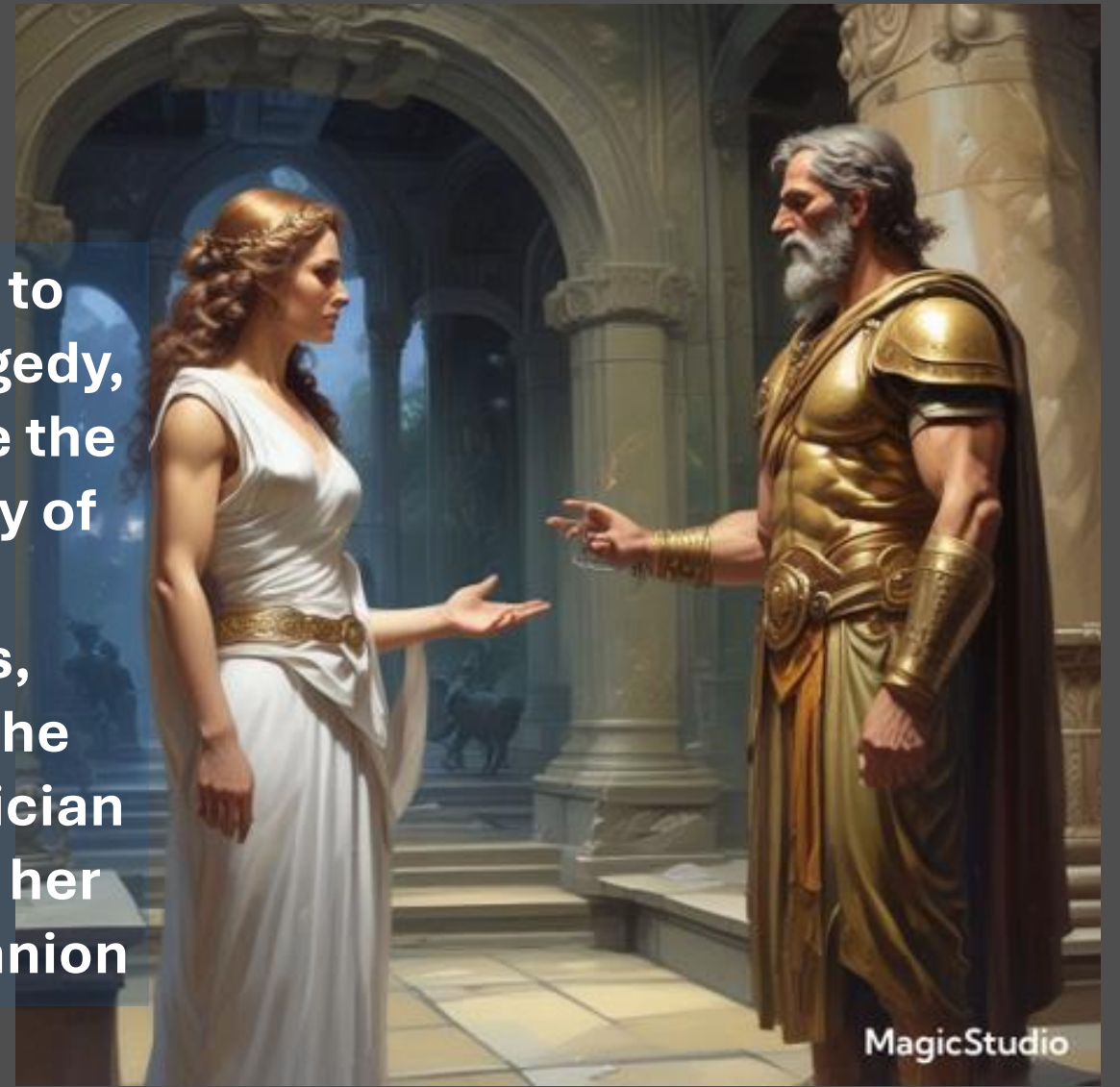
Asclepius, the brilliant son of Apollo, was the God of Medicine. By mastering the ancient, secret wisdom of serpents, he learned to heal the sick and conquer death itself.

In honor of his extraordinary power, he would eternally be known in the heavens as Ophiuchus – the 'Serpent Bearer'.



**Desperate to
undo the tragedy,
Artemis bore the
lifeless body of
Orion to
Asclepius,
imploring the
master physician
to resurrect her
fallen companion**

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Seeing that the sacred boundaries between life and death were violated by the resurrection of a mortal, Zeus grew outraged.

To preserve the cosmic order, the King of Gods struck down Asclepius with a fatal thunderbolt.





To soothe her inconsolable grief, Zeus permitted Artemis to place the souls of the fallen into the night sky, transforming their mortal drama into an eternal cosmic dance.

Thus, she created three magnificent constellations: Ophiuchus (the Serpent Bearer), Scorpius, and her beloved hunter, Orion, forever chasing one another across the heavens.