



Danaë and her Son Perseus, Arthur Rackham, ca. 1903, woodcut print

Myth: Danaë

Danaë was a princess of Argos in the southern Greece, a daughter of King Acrisius. When her father learned a prophecy that he was destined to be killed by a son of his daughter, he locked Danaë away in an underground, bronze chamber. Her prison, however, was easily infiltrated by the god Zeus who impregnated her in the guise of a golden shower. She conceived and bore him a son named Perseus. As soon as her father learned of this, he placed Danaë and the baby in a chest and set them afloat at sea. The Gods made sure they drifted safely to the island of Seriphos, where a fisherman brought them ashore and welcomed them into his house.

Source:

<http://www.theoi.com/Heroine/Danae.html>