



Eole, ancient marble

Myth: Eole

Aeolus: (also known as Eole)

Aeolus is a figure in Greek mythology who controlled the winds, letting powerful storm winds out only when the most important gods (for example Zeus or Poseidon) told him to cause destruction and chaos. He plays a role in the *Odyssey*, when Odysseus, the hero, makes landfall on his island. Aeolus lends Odysseus a bag containing favorable winds, so that the hero can use them to bring the ship back home. The sailors, though, were greedy and thought that the treasure Odysseus was keeping from them was gold, so they opened the bag and caused a storm that sent the ship back to Aeolus' island.