

# THE MUSES

by

**Campbell M Gold**

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## The Muses

The Muses are the nine daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne; and are identified with each of the individual liberal arts and sciences:

- 1) **Calliope** - Muse of EPIC-POETRY.  
Her symbols are a tablet (sometimes a scroll), and stylus.
- 2) **Clio** - Muse of HISTORY.  
Her symbol is a scroll' or an open chest of books.
- 3) **Erat** - Muse of LOVE-POETRY.  
Her symbol is a lyre.
- 4) **Euterpe** - Muse of LYRIC-POETRY.  
Her symbol is a flute.
- 5) **Melpomene** - Muse of TRAGEDY.  
Her symbols are a tragic mask, the club of Heracles, or a sword. She wears the cothurnus (the high boot or buskin worn by actors in Greek and Roman tragedies), and her head is wreathed with vine leaves.
- 6) **Polyhymnia** - Muse of SACRED-POETRY (hymn).  
She sits pensive, but has no attribute, because deity is not to be represented by any visible symbol.
- 7) **Terpsichore** - Muse of CHORAL-SONG and DANCE.  
She is usually represented by a lyre.
- 8) **Thalia** - Muse of COMEDY. Her symbols are a comic mask, a shepherd's crook, and a wreath of ivy.
- 9) **Urania** - Muse of ASTRONOMY.  
Her symbol is a staff pointing to a globe.

End

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