

Gemini - The Twins

The Twins represents the two brothers, Castor and Pollux.

Their mother was Queen Leda of Sparta. Castor was the mortal Twin and the son of King Tyndareus. Pollux was immortal. Castor and Pollux were identical twins, in spite of the fact that they had different fathers. They were inseparable and devoted to each other.

Both twins excelled at the hunt and at the arts of war. Pollux was a champion boxer and Castor was a famous horseman. He was skilled with the sword as well and taught the art of sword fighting to the young Hercules.

The Twins sailed with Jason and the Argonauts in search of the Golden Fleece. They had many adventures together on the voyage.

Castor's life ended as the result of an encounter with another pair of twins. Some say that the quarrel was over women, others, over cattle, but in the ensuing battle Lynceus ran Castor through with the sword, whereupon Pollux killed Lynceus. Idas attacked Pollux, but Zeus killed him with a thunderbolt. Pollux was inconsolable at the loss of his twin. He prayed to Zeus that he might share his immortality with his brother. Zeus took mercy upon the twins and set them together eternally among the stars as the constellation of the Gemini.

