

CONTENTS

Note on the Author	13
Acknowledgements	15
Introduction	17
<i>The What, Why, and How of the Volume</i>	25
Chapter I The Audiovisual Series: A Prequel	39
<i>Episodic Storytelling: Its Diversity and Themes</i>	42
<i>Episodic Storytelling: A Roadmap</i>	43
<i>The Evolution of Episodic Storytelling</i>	49
Ancient Epic	49
Greek and Roman Romance	51
Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles	53
Greek Hagiographies	55
Latin Hagiographies	59
<i>Bestiaria</i>	63
<i>Exempla</i>	67
Medieval Epic: <i>Chansons de geste</i>	71
Ancient Themes	74
Arthuriana	79
Narrative Lays	84
Fabliaux	85
Twelfth-Century Byzantine Revival of the Greek Romance	88
Vernacular Byzantine Romance	89
Novellas and Frame Stories	91
Sixteenth-Century Picaresque or Rogue Novel	102
Fairy Tales	106
Seriality in the Age of the Novel	111
Episodic Narratives in Radio and Television	114
Television Series	115

Chapter 2 Chronological Survey of Twenty-First-Century Audiovisual Series and Films
Inspired by Classical Antiquity **121**

The Purpose and Design of the Survey **123**

*Chronological Survey of Audiovisual Series and Films Inspired by Classical Antiquity
(2000–2023)* **126**

Chapter 3 Handling the Data **227**

A Personal Perspective **229**

The Status of Audiovisual Reception Scholarship: Overviews **230**

Genres, Heroes and Heroines, Monsters, Specific Ancient Authors and Shows **252**

Epic **252**

Tragedy **255**

Comedy **256**

Heroes **257**

Heroines **259**

Heroes and Heroines *ad usum Delphini* **259**

Antiquity for Children and Younger Adults **260**

Mythological Monsters and Creatures **262**

Ancient Authors and Their Versions of Myths **264**

Monographs on Individual Shows **265**

Conclusion **266**

Chapter 4 Classical Antiquity in the Twenty-First-Century Audiovisual Series:
An Overview in Numbers (and Words) **269**

Leading Up to the Twenty-First Century **271**

Mapping Mythological Content **294**

Collections of Myths **296**

Mythology in the Present **297**

Parallels and Allusions to Specific Ancient Authors and Myths **308**

Immortals? “We Can Be Killed if You Try Hard Enough” **330**

Which Gods and Where? **332**

Comparing It All **337**

Chapter 5 In the Guise of a Conclusion **341**

Classically Inspired Witch Shows **345**

Classically Inspired Quests **348**

More about a Few Selected Classically Inspired Shows **351**

Supernatural (2005–2020) **352**

Lost Girl (2010–2015) **353**

<i>Sleepy Hollow</i> (2013–2017)	355
<i>The Magicians</i> (2015–2020)	356
<i>Shadowhunters: The Mortal Instruments</i> (2016–2019)	357
<i>American Gods</i> (2017–2021)	358
<i>A Discovery of Witches</i> (2018–2022)	360
<i>The Order</i> (2019–2020)	363
<i>Legacies</i> (2018–2022)	365
<i>Final Thoughts</i>	366
References	375
Index of Audiovisual Productions	447
Index of Mythological Figures	457
Index of Names	461