

Long ago when Greek gods and goddesses roamed the Earth, there lived a young maiden by the name of Arachne. "Your skill as a weaver is renowned, and I can see that you do your craft well. However, it would serve you to be more humble and not set yourself above the gods and goddesses. You should yield the goddess Athena's place to her and take back your boastful words. I'm sure Athena would pardon you if you made amends to her." Arachne replied, "I don't need anyone's advice, telling me what to do. Athena is welcome to try and match my skills." Athena had turned Arachne into a spider to pursue her skill as a weaver by making and remaking spider webs. The cloths she wove had such magnificent images that women came from all over to see them. To give Arachne a chance to apologize, or say she was sorry, for her boasting, Athena disguised herself as an old lady and used a stick to walk. Those who saw her work said that Athena, the goddess of weaving, must have taught her. Athena was displeased when she heard of Arachne's claims. Athena approached Arachne and spoke to her. With those words, Athena sprinkled a magic juice upon Arachne. Arachne's body shrank, her limbs changed, and her fingers turned into legs. People knew her for her skillful weaving. When Arachne heard this, she laughed and said she had taught herself. She decided to pay the maiden a visit