

A classical painting depicting the mythological figure Narcissus. He is shown from the waist up, leaning over a small pond. He is shirtless, wearing a red cloth draped around his waist. He holds a bow in his right hand and an arrow pointing towards his reflection in the water. To his right, a dog with brown and white patches is lying down, and another dog with black and white patches is sitting upright. The background is a lush, green forest with large trees and a rocky outcrop on the left. The overall style is detailed and realistic, characteristic of 18th-century painting.

# Narcissus

Beiza, Julia, Glara & Anna





# *Tiresias*

The blind prophet

# *The story of tiresias*

## About Tiresias

- The main character is Tiresias.
- Other characters are Hera, Athena and zeus.

## The story

- Hera the god of marriage and birth turned him (tiresias) to a female.
- He was a female for seven years.
- Becomes a male.

## Two different stories.

### **The blind prophet**

- Athena struck him blind.
- Zeus and Hera arguing which gender enjoyed sex more. →
- Becomes blind
- Prophecy







*Narcissus*

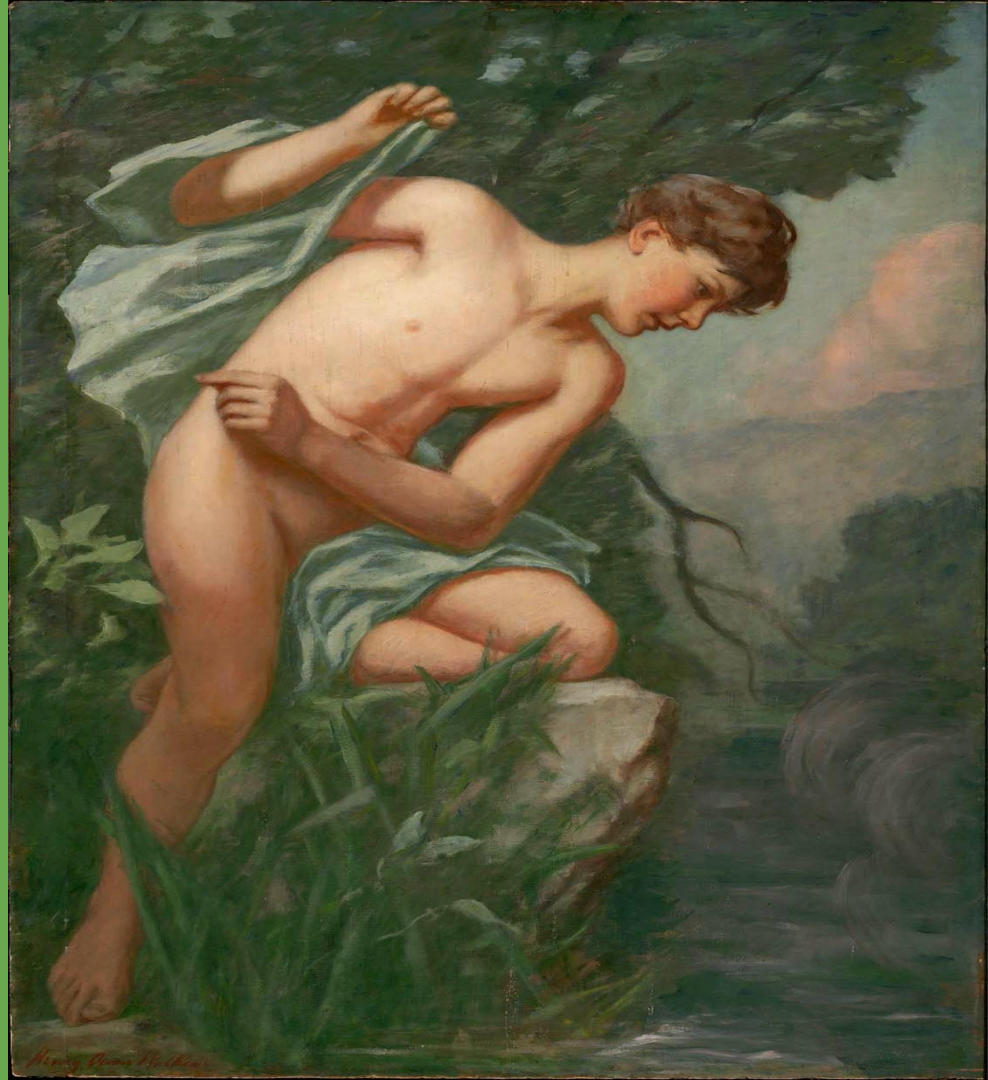
# Story of Narcissus

## About Narcissus

- The main character is Narcissus
- Other characters are Narcissus's mom Cephissus, the father named Liriope and Tiresias the prophet.

## The story

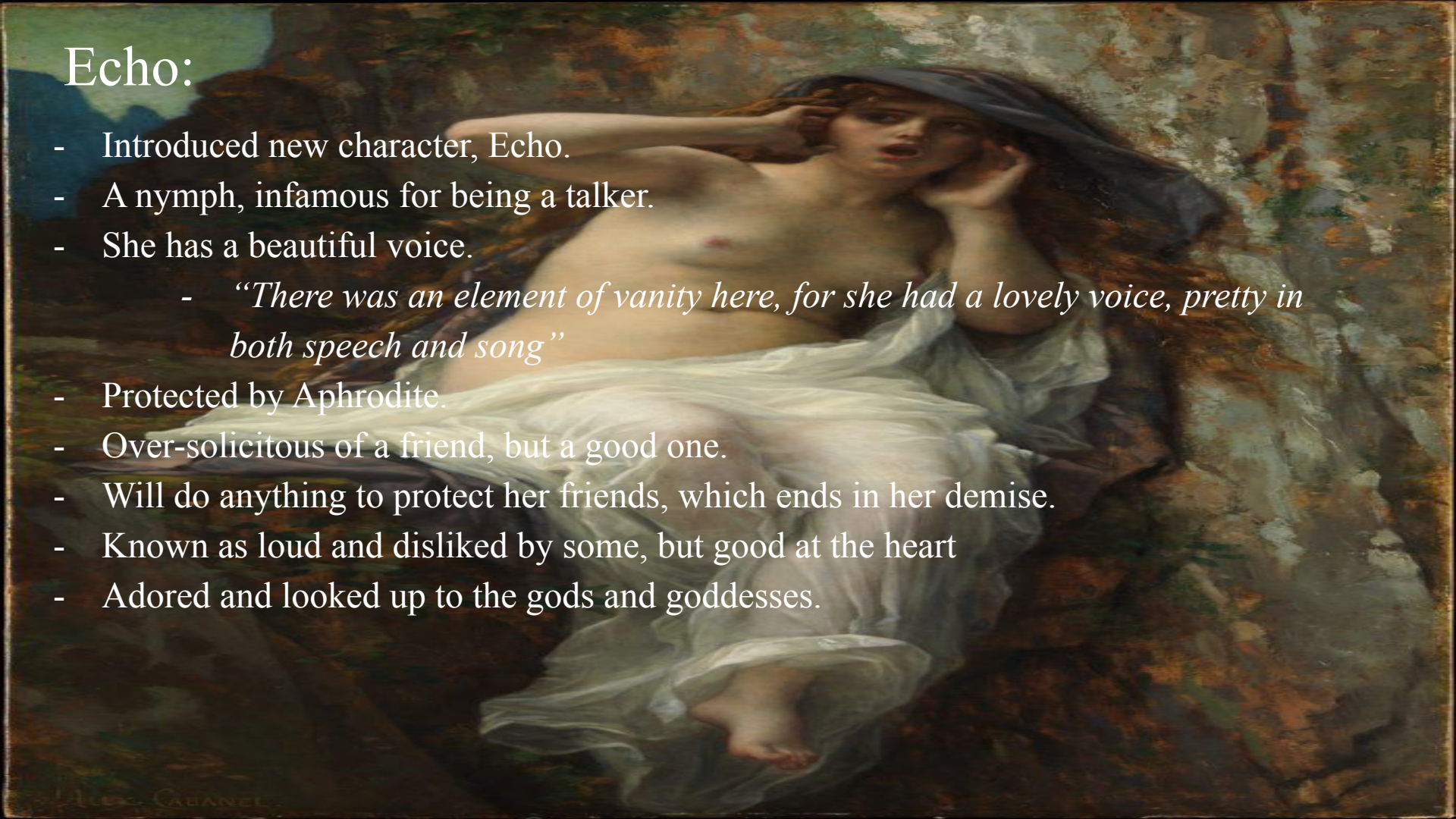
- Cephissus gave birth to Narcissus.
- He gained unwanted attention already in a young age.
- Cephissus was scared for Narcissus's future.
- They went to see Tiresias to know Narcissus's future.
- Tiresias said that his son will have a long and a happy life as long as he doesn't see his own reflection.





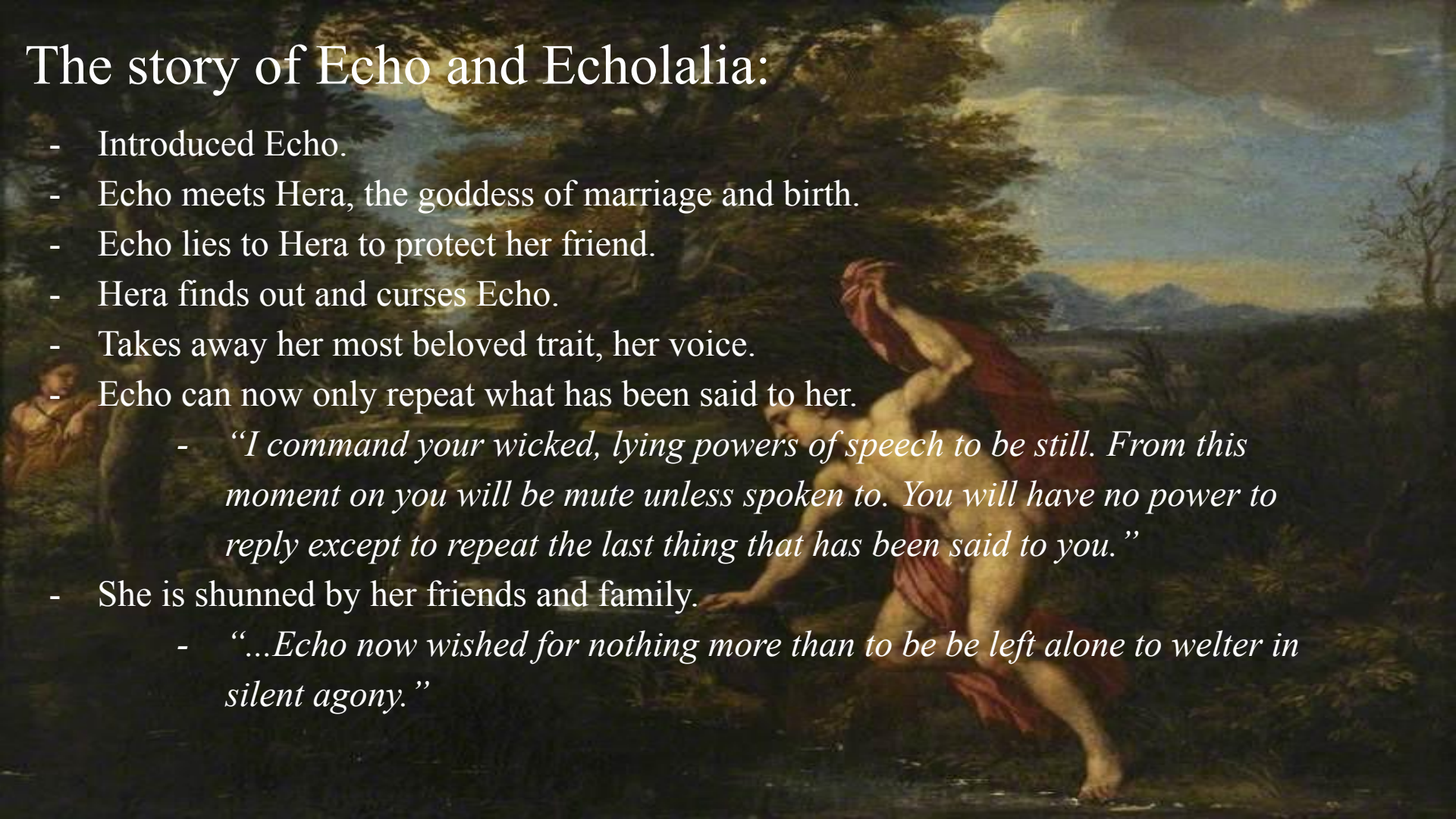
# Echo:

- Introduced new character, Echo.
- A nymph, infamous for being a talker.
- She has a beautiful voice.
  - *“There was an element of vanity here, for she had a lovely voice, pretty in both speech and song”*
- Protected by Aphrodite.
- Over-solicitous of a friend, but a good one.
- Will do anything to protect her friends, which ends in her demise.
- Known as loud and disliked by some, but good at the heart
- Adored and looked up to the gods and goddesses.



# The story of Echo and Echolalia:

- Introduced Echo.
- Echo meets Hera, the goddess of marriage and birth.
- Echo lies to Hera to protect her friend.
- Hera finds out and curses Echo.
- Takes away her most beloved trait, her voice.
- Echo can now only repeat what has been said to her.
  - *“I command your wicked, lying powers of speech to be still. From this moment on you will be mute unless spoken to. You will have no power to reply except to repeat the last thing that has been said to you.”*
- She is shunned by her friends and family.
  - *“...Echo now wished for nothing more than to be left alone to welter in silent agony.”*



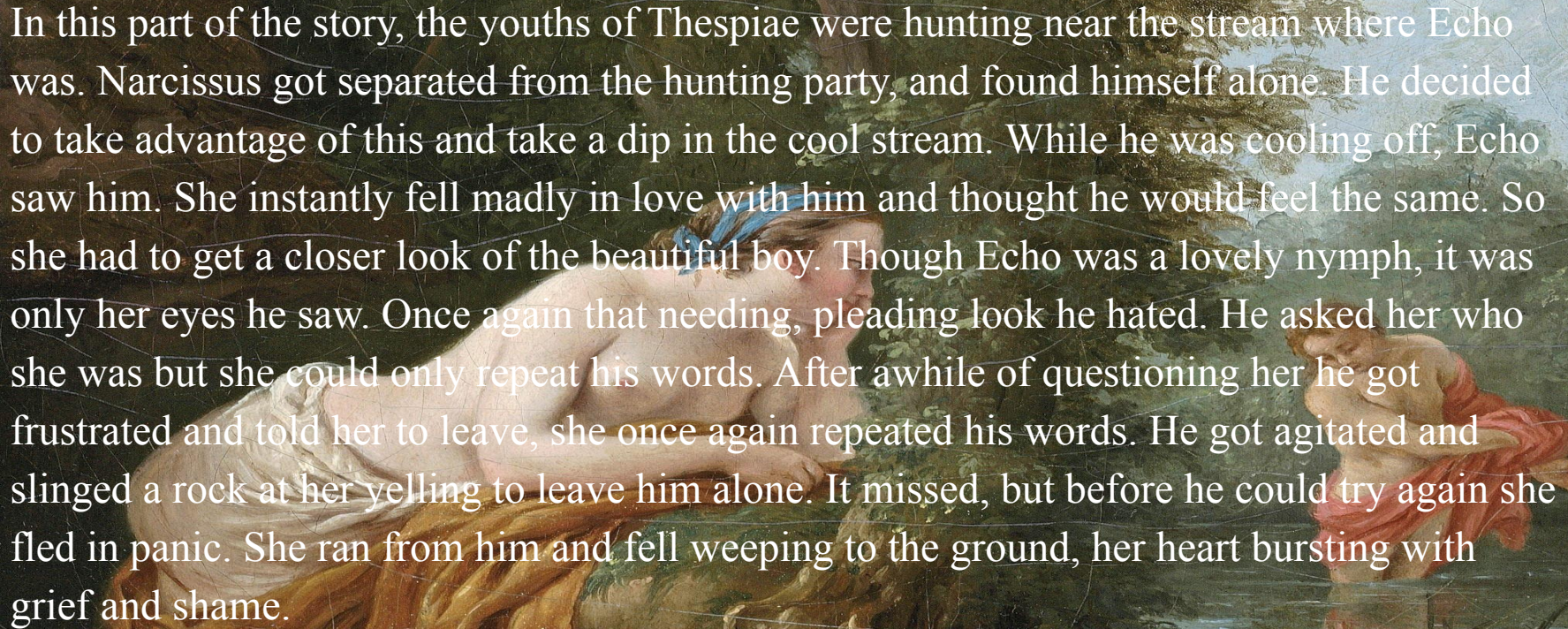
# Discussion questions: Echo and Echolalia

1. Why does Echo get in trouble with Hera?
2. Why did Echo lie?
3. What resulted in Echo being isolated from her loved ones?



# Echo and Narcissus:

In this part of the story, the youths of Thespieae were hunting near the stream where Echo was. Narcissus got separated from the hunting party, and found himself alone. He decided to take advantage of this and take a dip in the cool stream. While he was cooling off, Echo saw him. She instantly fell madly in love with him and thought he would feel the same. So she had to get a closer look of the beautiful boy. Though Echo was a lovely nymph, it was only her eyes he saw. Once again that needing, pleading look he hated. He asked her who she was but she could only repeat his words. After awhile of questioning her he got frustrated and told her to leave, she once again repeated his words. He got agitated and slung a rock at her yelling to leave him alone. It missed, but before he could try again she fled in panic. She ran from him and fell weeping to the ground, her heart bursting with grief and shame.





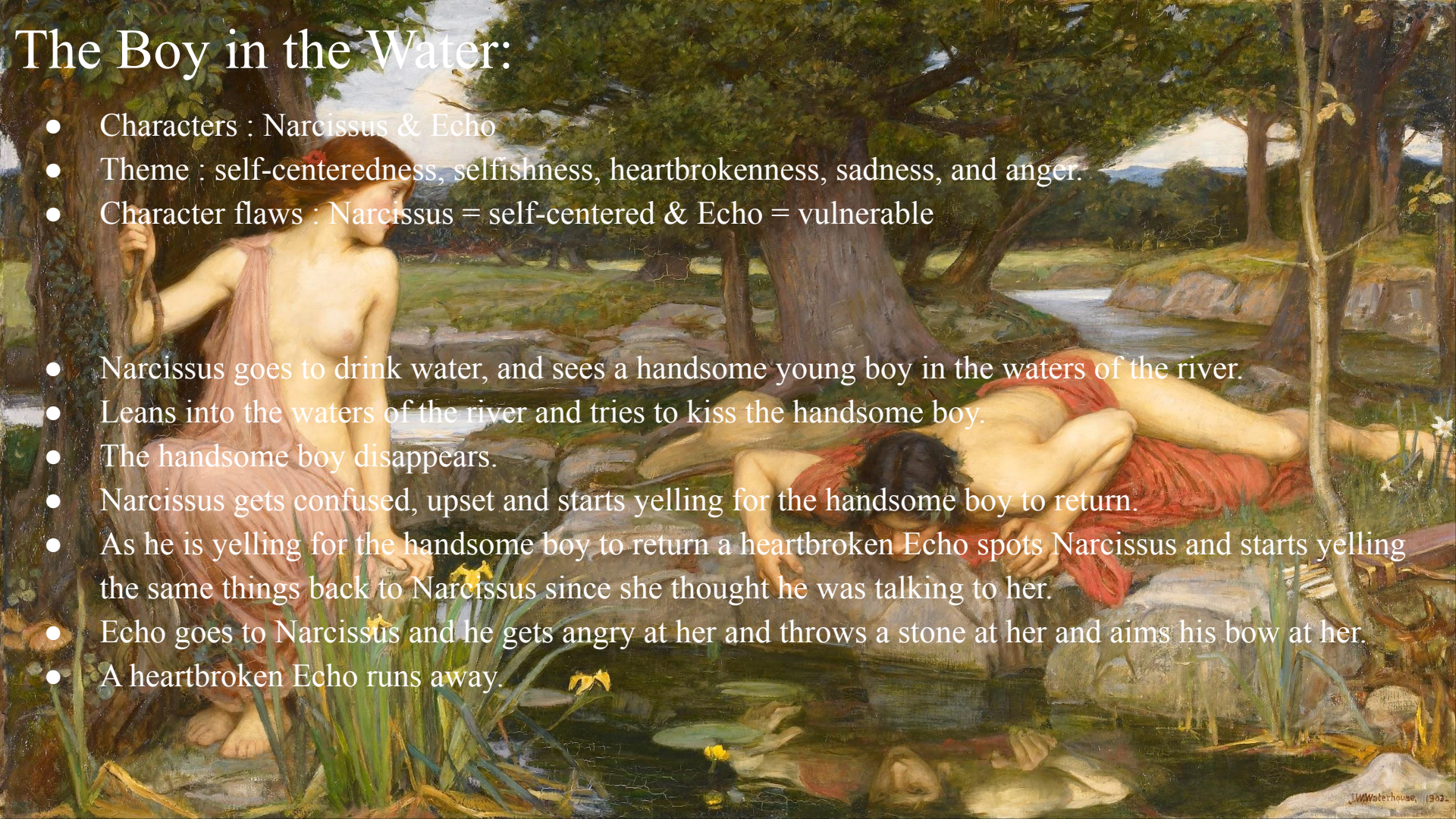
# Discussion questions: Echo and Narcissus

1. Why did Narcissus not even consider getting to know Echo, and instantly wanted her to leave.
2. Why couldnt Echo answer Narcissuses questions?
3. Why was Echo so heartbroken and embarrassed?



# The Boy in the Water:

- Characters : Narcissus & Echo
- Theme : self-centeredness, selfishness, heartbrokenness, sadness, and anger.
- Character flaws : Narcissus = self-centered & Echo = vulnerable
- Narcissus goes to drink water, and sees a handsome young boy in the waters of the river.
- Leans into the waters of the river and tries to kiss the handsome boy.
- The handsome boy disappears.
- Narcissus gets confused, upset and starts yelling for the handsome boy to return.
- As he is yelling for the handsome boy to return a heartbroken Echo spots Narcissus and starts yelling the same things back to Narcissus since she thought he was talking to her.
- Echo goes to Narcissus and he gets angry at her and throws a stone at her and aims his bow at her.
- A heartbroken Echo runs away.



# Discussion Questions:

## The Boy in the Water:

1. Why was Narcissus at the river in the first place?
2. What did Narcissus pick up and throw at an heartbroken Echo?

## The God's Take Pity:

1. Where did Echo run to and hide?
2. What happened to Narcissus in the end of the story?

1. What are the similar themes between the two stories “The Boy in the Water” and “The God's Take Pity”?
2. Do you think things would of ended differently for Narcissus if he would've understood that he was looking at his own reflection through the waters of the river?



# The Gods Take Pity:

- Characters : Echo, Narcissus, & Aphrodite
- Theme : sadness, misery and heartbrokenness.
- Character flaws : Echo = vulnerable & Narcissus = self-centered
- A heartbroken Echo runs up a hill and hides in a cave and starts crying.
- Echo prays to her favorite Goddess, Aphrodite.
- She prays that Aphrodite to stop her pain of love and misery.
- Aphrodite frees the nymph from Echo's body but can't free Hecas curse.
- Echo was left heartbroken and miserable.
- Narcissus goes to the same river again and goes into the river and stays there until the Gods turned him into a beautiful daffodil.



# The portrait of Dorian Gray:

Oscar Wilde's "The portrait of Dorian Gray" is slightly influenced by the myth of Narcissus.

A young man falls in love with himself and wants to preserve his beauty and youth. So he makes a deal with the Devil, and gets his way. A special portrait of him will age instead of him. The painting reveals his inner ugliness in the end.

The stories don't have that much in common, but that both Narcissus and Dorian Gray fall in love with themselves and their outer beauty. And they both risk their lives for their obsession with themselves.

Links to clips of the movie: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPuunA\\_NLb4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPuunA_NLb4)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BZkqt4dK6mM>





**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING AND WATCHING:)**