

*By Katie Howells*

## **And it was their love that lasted**

Apollo and Hyacinth  
A discus, thrown  
A temple, bloodied  
Flowers, blooming  
And it was their love that lasted

Achilles and Patroklos  
Their glory, everlasting  
They surpassed romantic love  
One prideful, dignified, ruthless  
The other kind, good, sweet and gone  
Achilles' rage, not bound by fate  
And it was their love that lasted

Orpheus and Eurydice  
A lethal snakebite  
Risking demise, music stronger than death  
Turned too quick  
And it was their love that lasted

Hades and Persephone  
A willing descent  
Hands clasped, pomegranate juice running  
A cold love reigning supreme, the heartbreak of spring  
And it was their love that lasted

Pyramus and Thisbe  
Warring families, a crack in the wall  
Ill-fated and tragic  
The end came too soon  
And it was their love that lasted

Artemis and Callisto  
Huntress, beloved of Artemis  
Violated by Zeus  
Eternalised, deified, commemorated in the Ursa Major  
And it was their love that lasted

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Eros and Psyche

Love and the soul: everything humane

Tragic and elegant

Sharing a bond that disregards reason and time and rationality

And it was their love that lasted

Perseus and Andromeda

A hero and a beautiful maiden chained to a rock

A sacrifice saved and a love devised

Immortalised in the stars

And it was their love that lasted

Hero and Leander

Cold swim, warm lips

A god, angered

Drowning, watching for one who would never arrive

And it was their love that lasted

Baucis and Philemon

Together for timeless years

A welcoming home

Undamaged and loving in the chaos that was

And it was their love that lasted

Pygmalion and Galatea

Sculptor fallen in love with his own creation

Enchanting and lifeless

Tender Aphrodite granting a wish

And it was their love that lasted

Nyx and Erebus

Night and day

Eternal, deathless

And it was their love that lasted

Troilus and Cressida

Undying love

A Trojan, taken

A betrayal, avenged

And it was their love that lasted

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Theseus and Adriande  
A monster, threatening and fatal  
A forbidden love  
A roll of string and a daring escape  
And it was their love that lasted

Hector and Andromache  
A vow and clear, sweet hearts  
A promise of "I'd be dead before I heard them taking you"  
A father dead and dragged, a child thrown from the battlements, a mother broken  
And it was their love that lasted

Castor and Pollux  
Brothers  
Constellations lighting the night, the darkness  
A sister looking over the battlements for faces she would never see  
And it was their love that lasted

Romulus and Remus  
Raised by wolves  
A claim staked  
One brother victorious, his city everlasting  
And it was their love that lasted

Apollo and Artemis  
The sun and the moon  
Two sides of the same coin  
A siblingship for eternity, for hope and for always  
And it was their love that lasted

Theseus and Aegeus  
A son living against their sacrifice  
A promise forgotten  
Black sails, a father's grief too strong  
And it was their love that lasted

Daedalus and Icarus  
Everlasting wings  
Shining and living and dying and young and desperate and tangible

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Burning sparks, mortal fearlessness, young and doomed  
And it was their love that lasted

Thetis and Achilles

A mother's pride

A son's love lost and a son's heart fragmented

His everything came crashing down, perhaps it was better

But a mother was left with only the tainted memory of her son's glory

And it was their love that lasted

Priam and his children

Paris, the foolish and the senseless

Hector, the noble and the good

Cassandra, the unheard and the forgotten

Helen, the beautiful and the more, loved like his own

Polydorus, the young and the yearning

And it was their love that lasted

Poseidon and Zeus and Hades

Fallen stars whispering their names, the bond of brotherhood they share

To the sky, the oceans and what is underneath

The rulers, the fights that echoed across Atlas' shoulders

And it was their love that lasted

The Muses and their Arts

Twilight and the sunset and the dawn

Everything good and beautiful and dark and chaotic and unseen was embodied in them

Ageless and boundless and defying

And it was their love that lasted