

The lucky few, who had led good and blameless lives, were allowed to enter the Elysian Fields: a happy place full of sunshine, warmth and laughter.

The wicked ones were flung into Tartarus, where they were condemned to eternal punishment, pain and misery.

Most people ended up in the Asphodel Fields, a drab and misty place, where the inhabitants drifted around aimlessly. The only relief from boredom came when they received offerings from their living relatives.



#### INTERNET LINK

For links to websites where you can play an Underworld myth game and see a movie about gravestones, go to [www.usborne-quicklinks.com](http://www.usborne-quicklinks.com)



This is a Roman mosaic from Turkey, showing Orpheus, a character from a Greek myth, playing his lyre to some wild animals.

A well-known Greek myth tells of two lovers, Orpheus and Eurydice, who were separated and then joined by death. Orpheus was famed as the best musician in all of Greece. When Eurydice died from a snake bite, he went to the Underworld to beg Pluto to give her back. The god was so impressed when Orpheus played his lyre that he agreed to free Eurydice - but on one vital condition: Orpheus must

not look at her - even once - on their journey back to the land of the living. But the temptation was too much for him. As Orpheus turned to gaze at her, Eurydice disappeared forever. He was so upset that he refused to play any more happy music. This made the gods so angry they sent creatures called Maenads to tear him to pieces. So, he was finally able to join his beloved in the Underworld.

