



HAGNODICE

Date of birth: IV sec. a.C. - IV sec. a.C

Places of birth and living: Athens, Greece

Family, Husband(s) and/or romantic relationship: She was born in a wealthy family

Physical characteristics: Hagnodice was described as a good-looking woman with a slim, delicate figure. She was tall, with fair, glowing skin, and had long, flowing brown hair that reached her shoulders. Her eyes were large and bright, a beautiful color, and he had thin, well-shaped lips. His face was harmonious and symmetrical, with a straight nose and a delicate chin. She had small, graceful hands and feet, and she walked with elegance and grace. In general, Hagnodice was considered a very attractive and charming woman..

(Rossana)

Personality: Hagnodice is a figure from ancient Greek legends. The accounts highlight her courage and determination in challenging gender norms to pursue a career in medicine. She was a girlboss, who inspired a lot of women with her intelligence and bravery .

Hobbies: Agnodice had wanted to study medicine and practice midwifery since she was little. When they closed doors on her for being a woman, she cut her hair, put on men's clothes, and left Athens for Alexandria to study with one of Hippocrates' followers.

And then she was an Athenian doctor, midwife and gynecologist, considered the first known female gynecologist

Experiences: **In order to gain the trust of her female patients, she would undress enough to prove to her prospective patients that she was indeed a woman. As her reputation grew, she quickly became the most**



in-demand physician of ancient Greece.

This, of course, brought her undue attention, and the broader medical community became suspicious of her success. Male physicians were so threatened by this new doctor that they accused him of seducing women.

In court, Agnodice then revealed herself to be female to disprove the accusations of lewdness, only to then be tried for breaking the law that prohibited women from studying and practicing medicine.

As the story goes, Agnodice did not back down, and she was victorious in her case. After her trial, women in ancient Greece were allowed back into the dominion of midwifery, and doors began to open for them throughout other medical disciplines as well.

[Texts where she appears \(Tittle, author, date\):](#) The figure of Hagnodice lies on the borderline between reality and myth. She is said to have been the first Greek woman to become a doctor. The only non-authoritative source that mentions her existence in his Fabulae(II A.D.) is the Roman mythographer Hyginus (known as the Astronomer), although others attribute the authorship of this work to the Roman writer Gaius Julius Hyginus (known as the Librarian). (Valentina)

[How did she change the life of antic women?:](#) Hagnodice was a woman who, according to ancient sources, disguised herself as a man in order to practice medicine and later became the first female physician in ancient Athens. Her actions challenged the traditional roles and restrictions placed on women in ancient society. While the historical details are debated, her story has been used to exemplify the struggle for women to enter male-dominated professions and to advocate for gender equality.

[We root for the sisterhood as they subvert inequality, help each other, and generally get things done. Agnodice is a fantastic heroine, who has inspired women in medicine for millennia](#)

Aphorisms and quotes related to her (+ Sources):

Hagnodice, the legendary woman who disguised herself as a man to practice medicine in ancient Greece:

"Hagnodice, a courageous and pioneering woman, broke the barriers of time to bring the light of knowledge into medical practice."

"Hagnodice demonstrates that courage and determination know no gender boundaries."

"Hagnodice's businesses teach us that knowledge and passion can overcome any obstacle, even those imposed by society."

Communication: Artworks where she appears (Title, artist, year)



Agnódice muestra su condición de mujer ante el Aerópago para que la autorice a seguir ejerciendo la ginecología. Medallón de la Facultad de Medicina de París.

Sitography

<https://riot-room.com/agnodice-female-physician-from-athens/>

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agnodice>

<https://greekreporter.com/2023/08/06/agnodice-first-woman-doctor-ancient-greece/>

(sources <https://it.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agnodice>) (valentina)

Questions for a kahoot : (don't forget the suggested answers)

What was her appearance like?
a- A woman with light colours

b-her characteristics are not well known ☒

C - we don't have much information but it was high

Hagnodice was a :

- A) A fighter
- B) Dragon rider
- C) Medical ☒
- D) Politician .

Who wrote about her?

- A. Hyginus
- B. a Roman writer
- C. Gaius Julius Hyginus
- D. It's not sure ☒

(Valentina Huzyuk)

According to Hagnodice's description, what is her hair like?

- A.blonde
 - B.red
 - C.brown ☒
 - D.blacks
- (Rossana)