



Ancient Greek Life

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- **Earliest Greek civilizations thrived nearly 4,000 years.**
 - **Their culture still impacts us today**
 - **arts**
 - **philosophy**
 - **math**
 - **science**
 - **literature**
 - **politics**



Gifts the ancient Greeks gave to the world

- Trial by Jury
- Greek Myths
- Democracy
- Tragedy and Comedy
- Theatre
- The Olympics

A detailed illustration of a bustling ancient Greek city square. The scene is filled with numerous figures in traditional Greek attire, including tunics, chitons, and various styles of head coverings like the petasos and chiton. The crowd is dense, with people engaged in various activities, some holding objects or gesturing. In the center, a figure holds a glowing torch, casting a warm light. The overall atmosphere is one of a vibrant, active community. The background shows architectural elements like columns and arches, suggesting a well-developed urban environment.

To be a citizen of a city-state:

- **Ancient Greeks referred to themselves as citizens of their individual city-states**
- **Each city-state, or POLIS, had its own personality, goals, laws, and customs.**
- **Ancient Greeks were very loyal to their city-state.**

Greek men

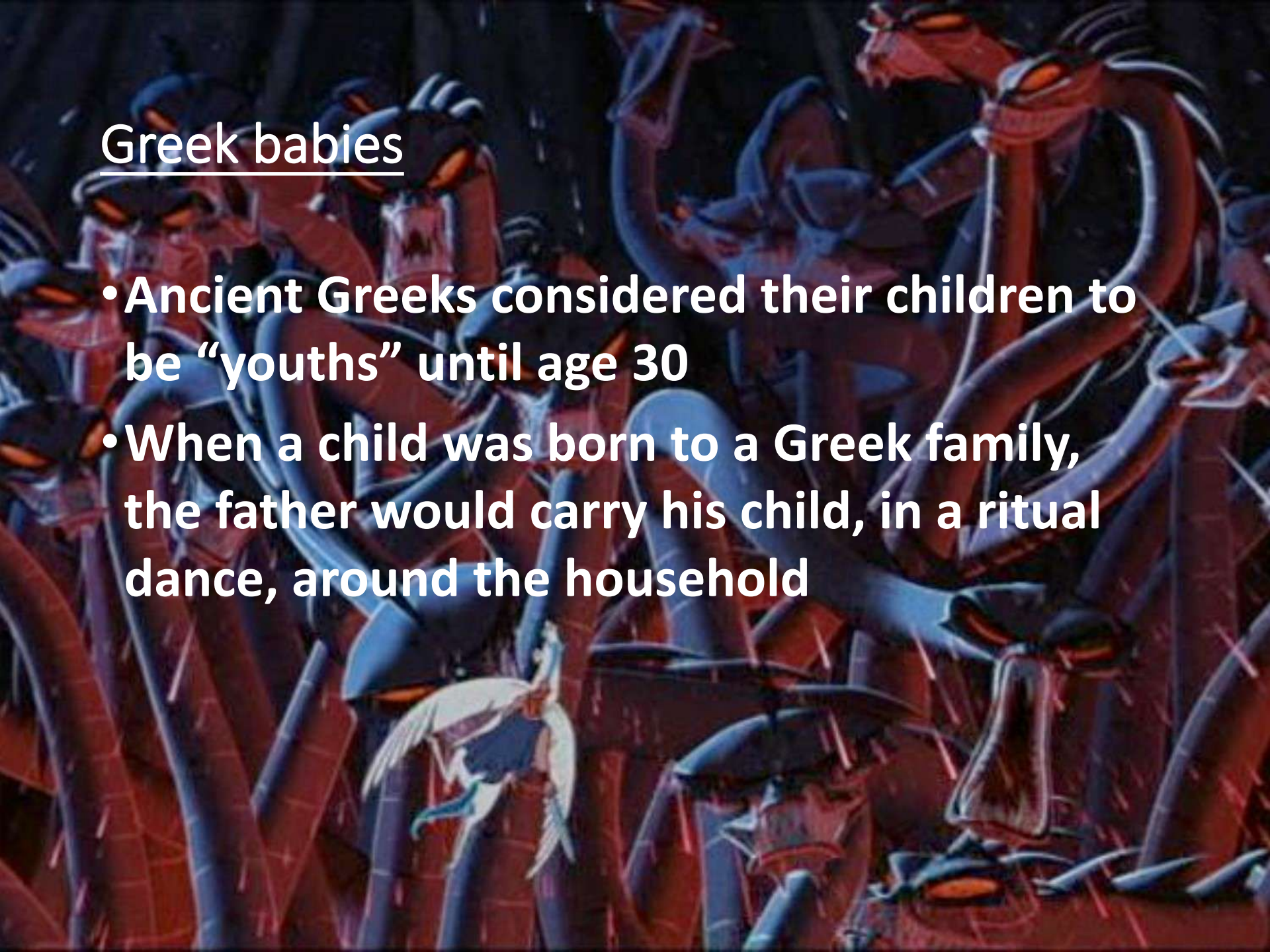
- Men ran the government
- Spent a great deal of time away from home
- When not busy with government, they spent their time in fields, sailing, hunting, in manufacturing, or in trade
- For fun, they enjoyed drinking parties, wrestling, horseback riding or the Olympic games

Greek women

- **With the exception of Sparta, Greek women had very limited freedom outside the home**
- **In the home, however, Greek women were in charge**
- **Most Greek households had slaves to do the cooking and cleaning**

Greek babies

- Ancient Greeks considered their children to be “youths” until age 30
- When a child was born to a Greek family, the father would carry his child, in a ritual dance, around the household



A dense crowd of Greek soldiers in bronze armor, with a woman in a white dress in the center. The soldiers are holding spears and shields, and the scene is lit with a dramatic, low-key light, possibly from a fire or torch, creating a sense of chaos and battle.

Greek girls

- With the exception of Sparta, girls in Athens and all other city-states stayed home until they were married
- Their job was to help their mother and to help in the fields, if necessary

Greek boys

- In most city-states, very young boys stayed at home helping in the fields, sailing, and fishing
- At age 6 or 7, they went to school

Slaves

- Slaves were very important to ancient Greek life
- Slaves cleaned and cooked, worked in the fields, factories, shops, mines, and on ships
- The police force in ancient Athens was made up of slaves



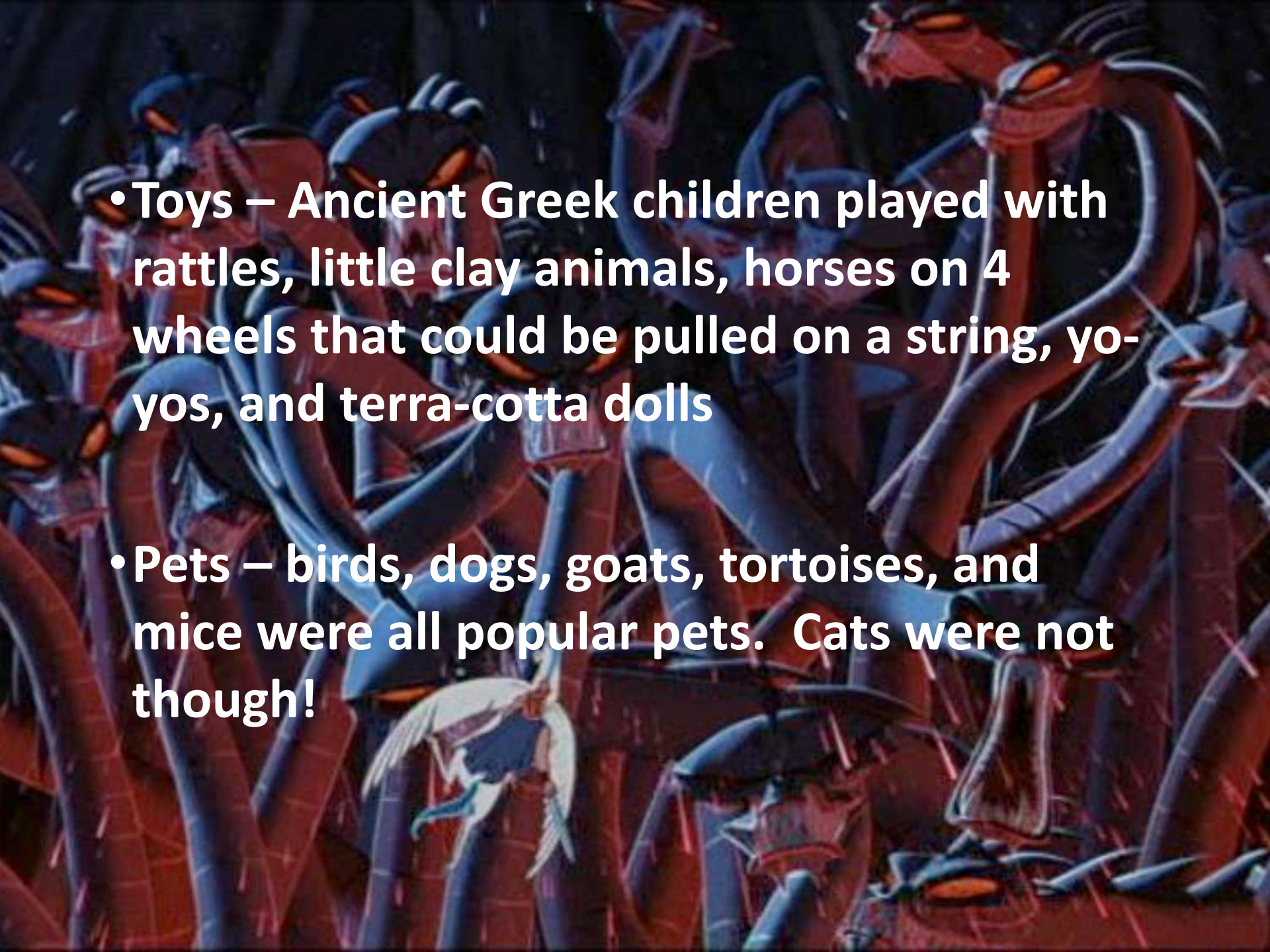
Slaves could not:

- go to school
- enter politics
- use their own name
- they were the property of their owner, not citizens of ancient Greece



How did people become slaves?

- When captured in battle
- Some were the children of slaves
- Greek infants abandoned & left to die
- Some children were sold into slavery by poor, desperate families
- Some children were kidnapped into it

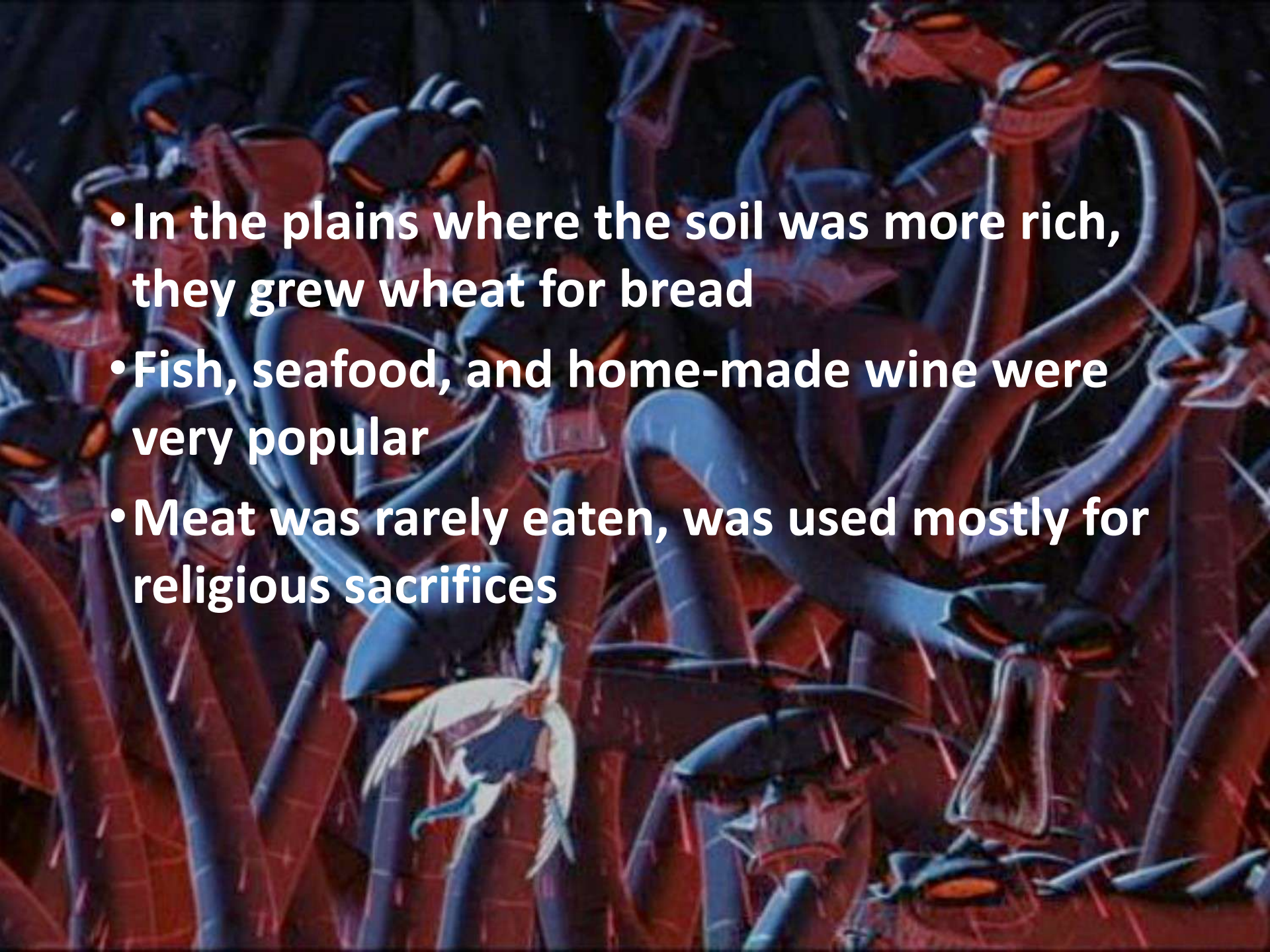
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- The background of the slide is a dense, overlapping collection of ancient Greek terracotta figurines and toys. These include several four-wheeled horse figurines, some with intricate details like harnesses and wheels. There are also various bird figurines, some with spread wings, and other abstract or animal-like forms. The colors are primarily earthy tones of brown, tan, and reddish-brown, with some darker areas. The lighting is somewhat dramatic, highlighting the textures and forms of the clay objects.
- **Toys – Ancient Greek children played with rattles, little clay animals, horses on 4 wheels that could be pulled on a string, yo-yos, and terra-cotta dolls**
 - **Pets – birds, dogs, goats, tortoises, and mice were all popular pets. Cats were not though!**

Greek houses

- Made up of 2 or 3 rooms, built around an open air courtyard
- Women could enjoy fresh air in the privacy of their courtyard
- Much of ancient Greek life centered around the courtyard

Ancient Greek Food

- Along the coastline, the soil was not very fertile
- Ancient Greeks used systems of irrigation and crop rotation to help solve the problem
- They grew olives, grapes, and figs
- They kept goats for milk and cheese

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- In the plains where the soil was more rich, they grew wheat for bread
 - Fish, seafood, and home-made wine were very popular
 - Meat was rarely eaten, was used mostly for religious sacrifices

Clothing

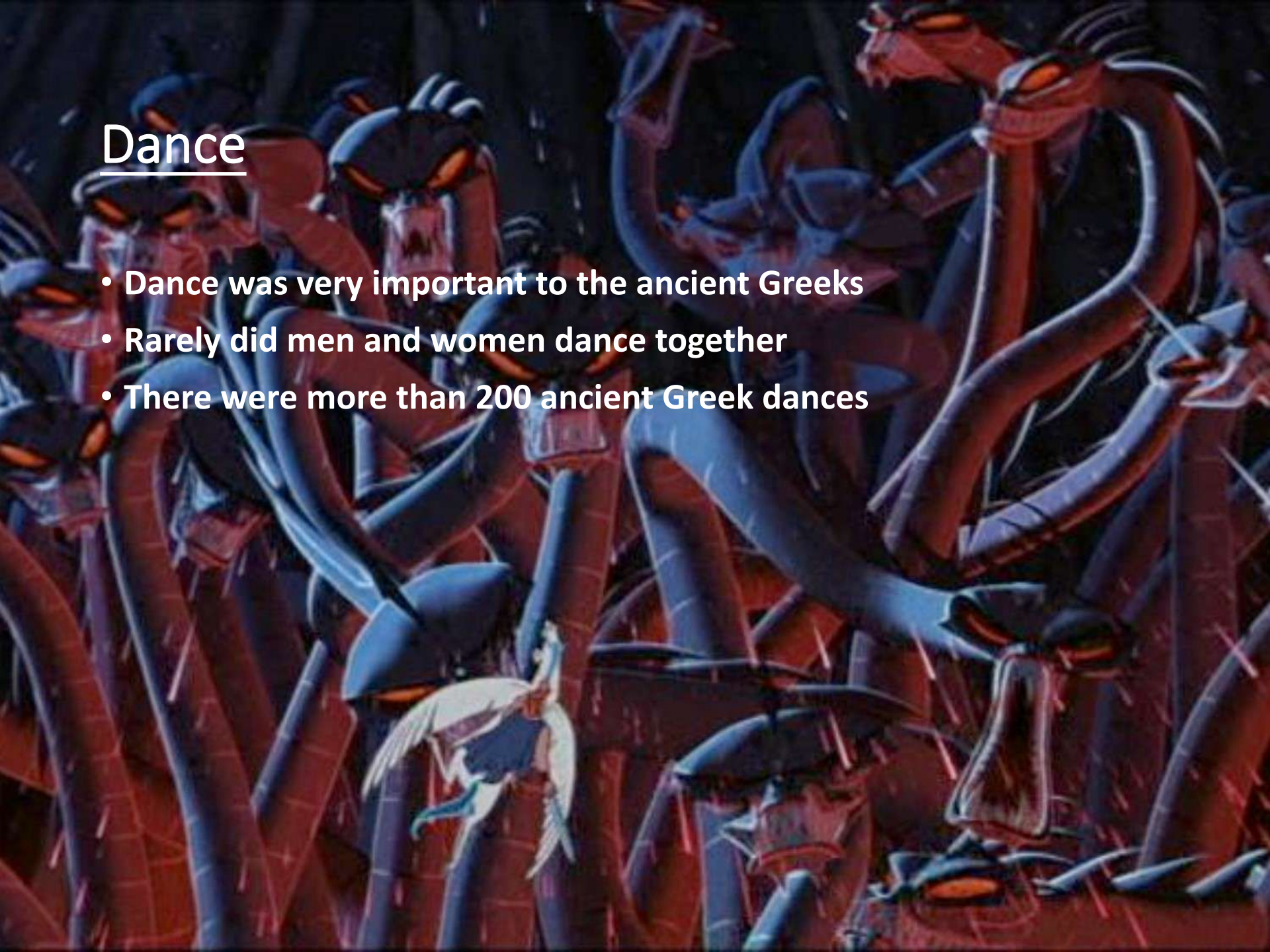
- Greek clothing was very simple
- Men and women wore linen in the summer and wool in the winter
- Ancient Greeks could buy clothes in the agora, the marketplace, but that was very expensive
- Most families made their own clothes

Hairstyles

- Both men and women enjoyed using mirrors and hairbrushes
- Women kept their hair long at all times
- Men cut their hair short, and unless they were soldiers, wore beards

Dance

- Dance was very important to the ancient Greeks
- Rarely did men and women dance together
- There were more than 200 ancient Greek dances



Athens & Sparta

- In ancient Athens, the purpose of education was to produce citizens trained in the arts.
- In ancient Sparta, the purpose of education was to produce a well-drilled, well-disciplined marching army

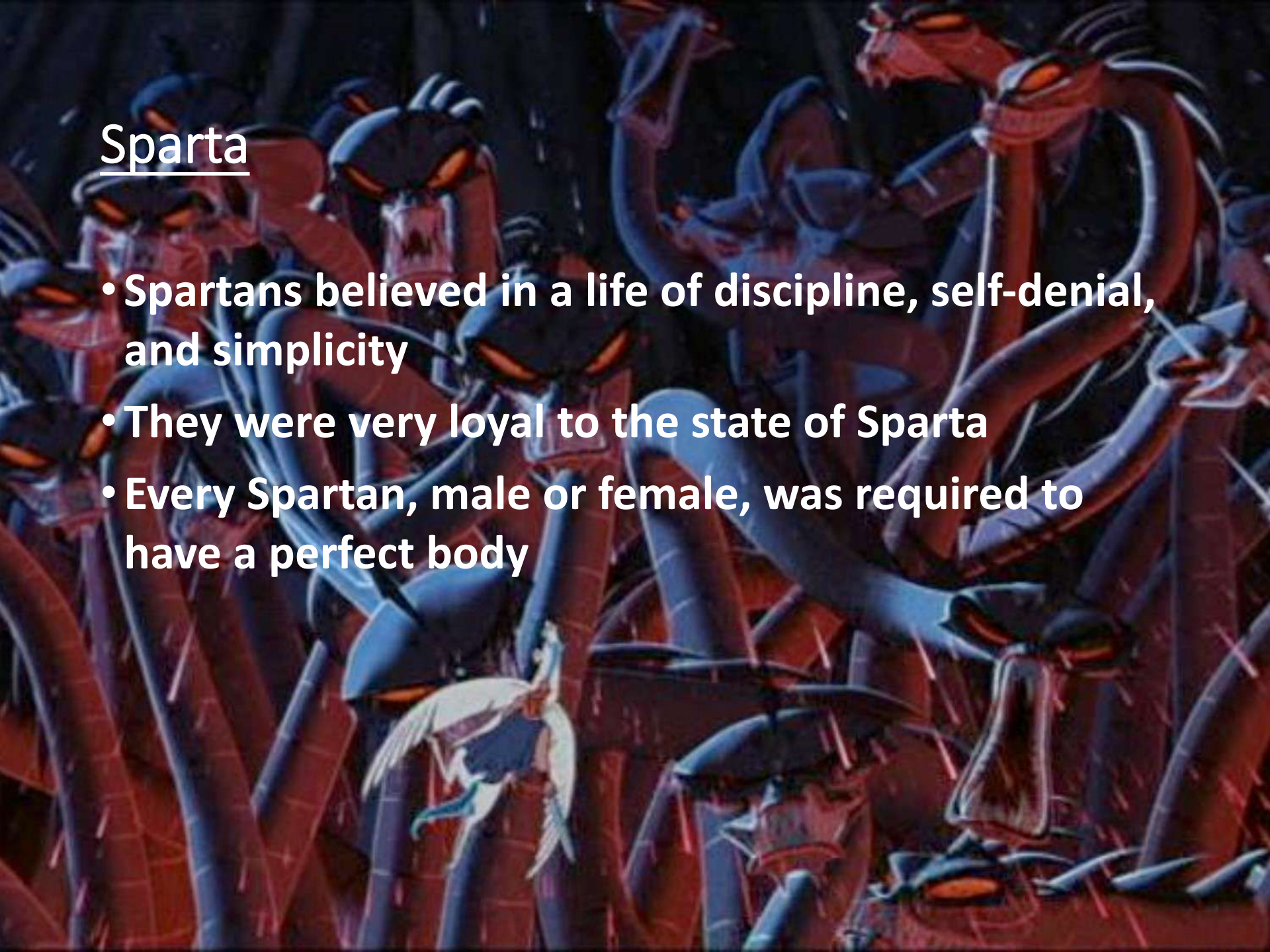
Athens

- **Girls were not educated at school**
- **From age 8 – 14, they went to a primary school or private school in the neighborhood**



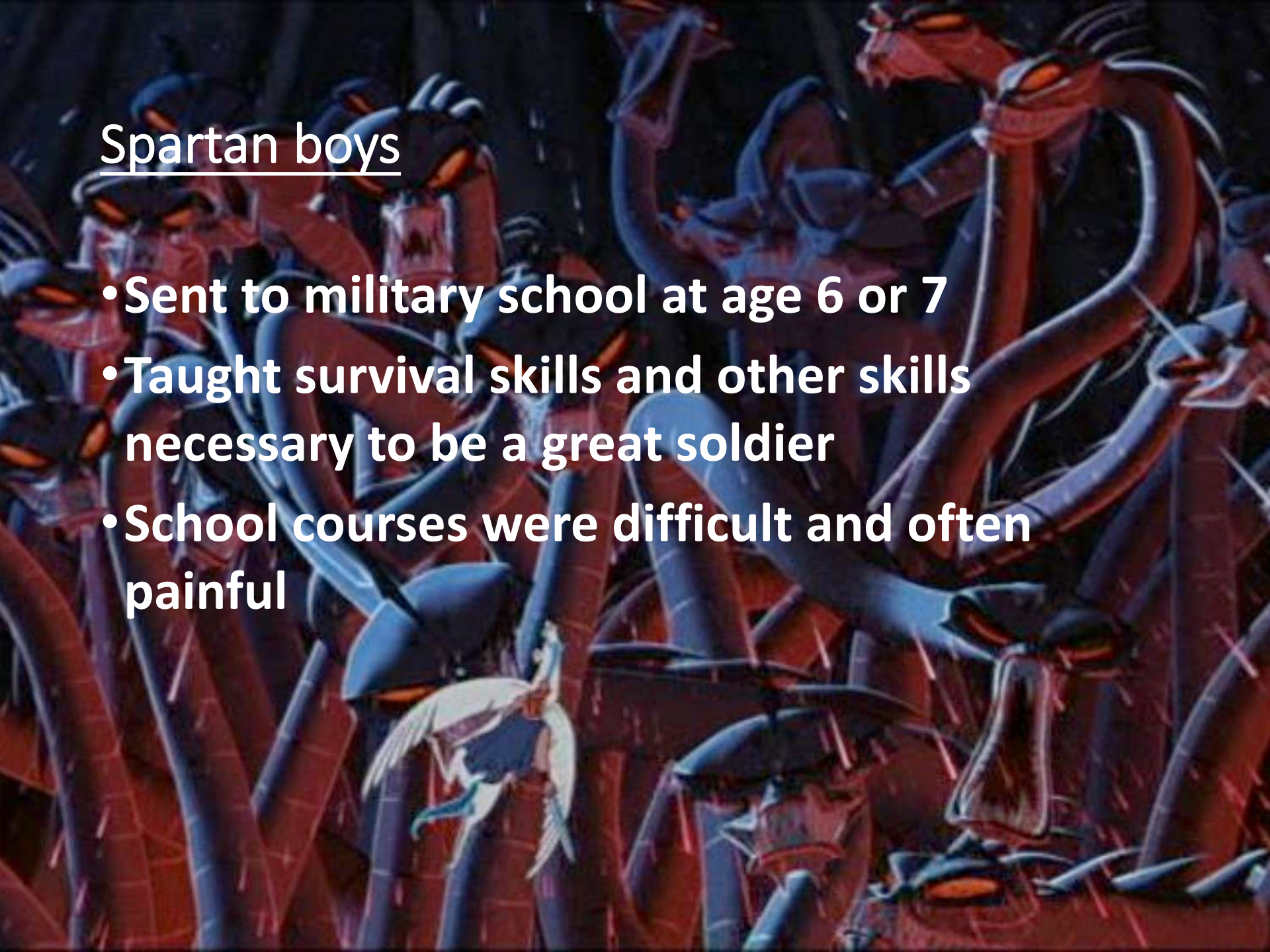
Sparta

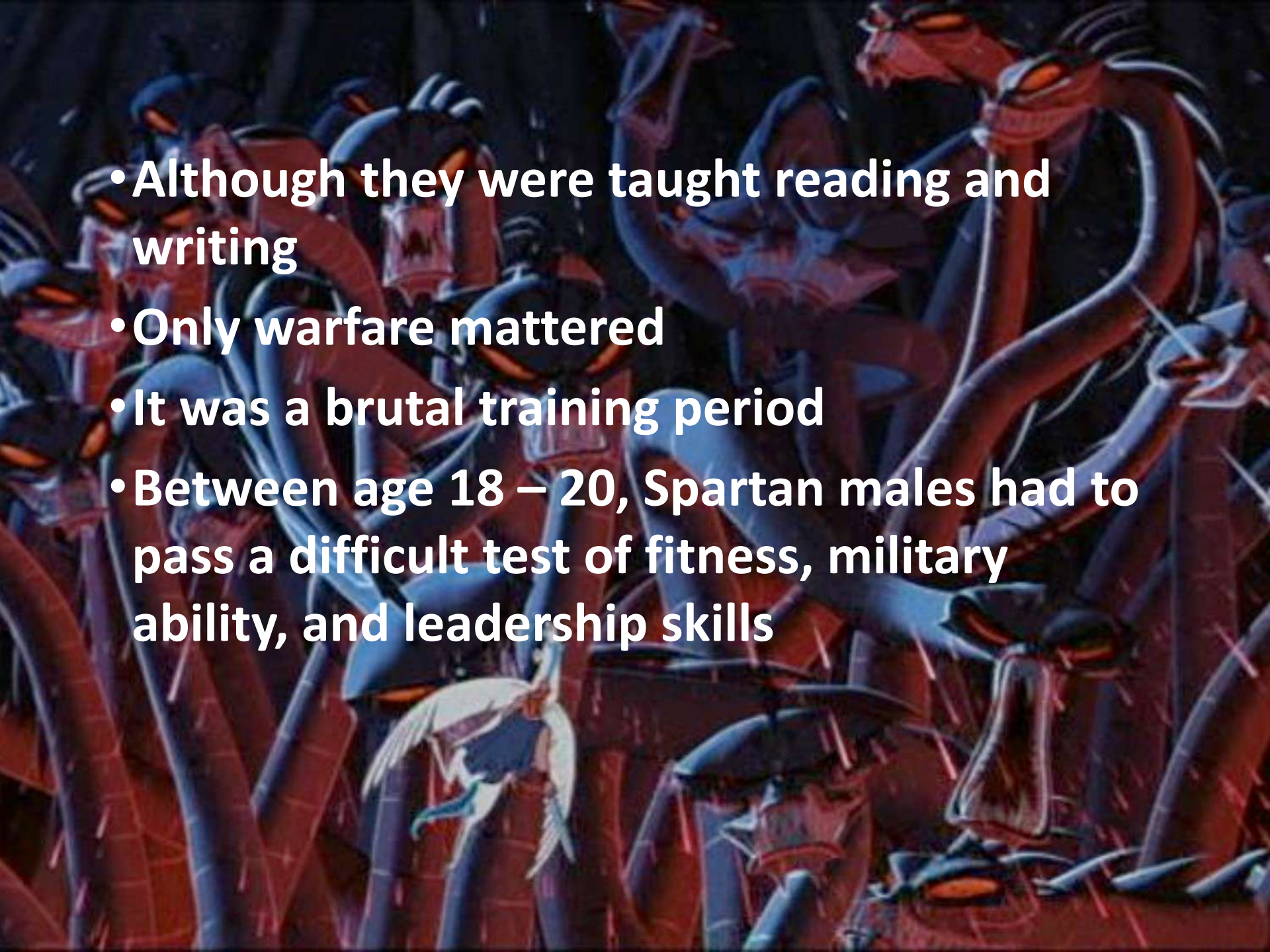
- Spartans believed in a life of discipline, self-denial, and simplicity
- They were very loyal to the state of Sparta
- Every Spartan, male or female, was required to have a perfect body



Spartan boys

- Sent to military school at age 6 or 7
- Taught survival skills and other skills necessary to be a great soldier
- School courses were difficult and often painful



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- Although they were taught reading and writing
 - Only warfare mattered
 - It was a brutal training period
 - Between age 18 – 20, Spartan males had to pass a difficult test of fitness, military ability, and leadership skills



If they passed:

- They became a full citizen and a Spartan soldier
- Spartan soldiers spent most of their lives with fellow soldiers
- They ate, slept, and continued to train with the others
- If married, they did not live with their wives and families

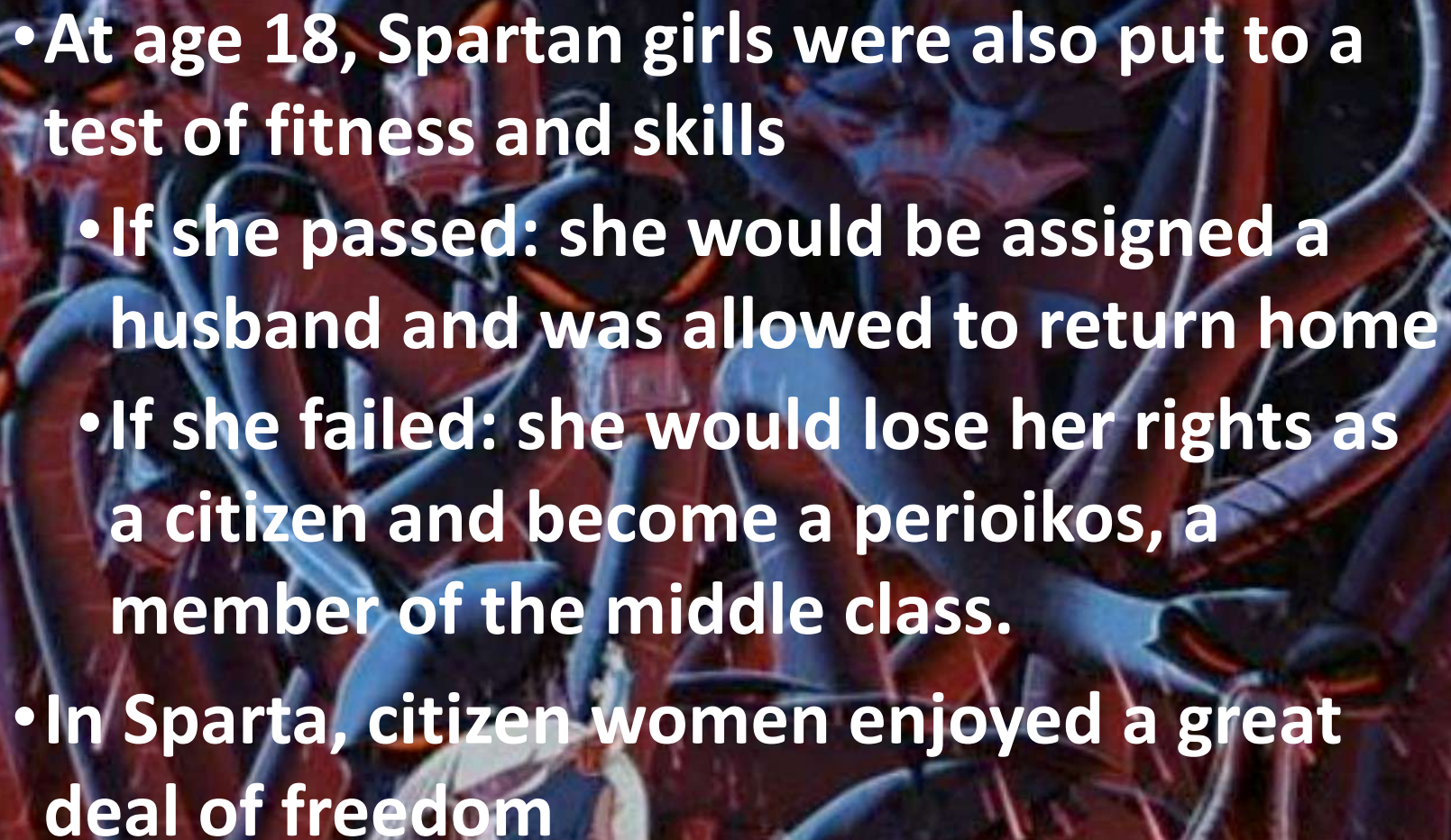


If they failed

- They became a perioikos, a middle class member.
- Were allowed to own property and have business dealings, but had no political rights and were not citizens.

Spartan girls

- In Sparta, girls went to school at age 6 or 7
- They lived, slept, and trained in their sisterhood barracks
- Girls were taught wrestling, gymnastics, and combat skills
- Spartans believed that strong women would produce strong babies

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- A group of Spartan warriors in a dark, red-toned environment, possibly a battlefield or training ground. The warriors are wearing traditional Spartan armor, including helmets with plumes and breastplates. They are holding spears and shields, and some are looking towards the camera. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows, creating a sense of intensity and focus.
- At age 18, Spartan girls were also put to a test of fitness and skills
 - If she passed: she would be assigned a husband and was allowed to return home
 - If she failed: she would lose her rights as a citizen and become a perioikos, a member of the middle class.
 - In Sparta, citizen women enjoyed a great deal of freedom