Caissa-

**Caïssa** (ka-is-sa) is a [fictional](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fictional_deities) ([anachronistic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anachronistic)) [Thracian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thrace) [dryad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dryad) portrayed as the goddess of [chess](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess). She was first mentioned during the [Renaissance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renaissance) by Italian poet [Hieronymus Vida](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marco_Girolamo_Vida).

**Thrace** ([/θreɪs/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA/English), *[thrayss](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Pronunciation_respelling_key" \o "Help:Pronunciation respelling key)*; [Bulgarian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulgarian_language): Тракия, [romanized](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romanization_of_Bulgarian" \o "Romanization of Bulgarian): *Trakiya*; [Greek](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_language): Θράκη, [romanized](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romanization_of_Greek" \o "Romanization of Greek): *Thráki*; [Turkish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish_language): *Trakya*) is a geographical and historical region in [Southeast Europe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Europe). Bounded by the [Balkan Mountains](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balkan_Mountains) to the north, the [Aegean Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aegean_Sea) to the south, and the [Black Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Sea) to the east, it comprises present-day southeastern Bulgaria ([Northern Thrace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Thrace)), northeastern Greece ([Western Thrace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Thrace)), and the European part of Turkey ([East Thrace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Thrace)), roughly the Roman Province of Thrace.

A **dryad** ([/ˈdraɪ.æd/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA/English); [Greek](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_language): Δρυάδες, [sing.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grammatical_number) Δρυάς) is a [tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tree_(mythology)) [nymph](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nymph) or tree spirit in [Greek mythology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_mythology); *Drys* (δρῦς) signifies "[oak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oak)" in Greek. Dryads were originally considered the [nymphs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nymph) of oak trees specifically, but the term has evolved towards tree nymphs in general.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dryad#cite_note-Graves862-1) Often their life force was connected to the tree in which they resided and they were usually found in sacred groves of the gods.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dryad#cite_note-2) They were considered to be very shy creatures except around the goddess [Artemis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artemis), who was known to be a friend to most nymphs.

The concept of Caïssa originated in a 658-line poem called *Scacchia Ludus* published in 1527 by [Hieronymus Vida](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marco_Girolamo_Vida) (Marco Girolamo Vida), which describes in Latin Virgilian [hexameters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hexameter) a chess game between [Apollo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo) and [Mercury](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercury_(god)) in the presence of the other gods, and among them a dryad of chess named Schacchia. In it, to avoid unclassical words such as *rochus* (chess rook) or *alfinus* (chess bishop), the [rooks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rook_(chess)) are described as towers (armored [howdahs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howdah)) on [elephants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elephant)' backs, and the [bishops](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bishop_(chess)) as [archers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archery):

The young English orientalist [William Jones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_William_Jones) re-used the idea of a chess poem in 1763, in his own poem *Caïssa or The Game at Chess*[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ca%C3%AFssa#cite_note-2) written in English [heroic couplets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heroic_couplet). In his poem, Caïssa initially repels the advances of the god of war, [Mars](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars_(mythology)). Spurned, Mars seeks the aid of Euphron, God of Sport (Jones's invention), brother of [Venus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venus_(mythology)), who creates the game of chess as a gift for Mars to win Caïssa's favor.

In Latin, the game was not named after the killing of the king, but after the attacks themselves—the checks. It was called ludis scaccorum (game of checks) or, when shortened, scacchi. The Latin word for check later gave us the Middle French eschec, which became échecs in the plural and chess in English.Jan 8, 2017

ludis scaccorum = Game of Checks in Latin

Scacchia Ludus= Game of Chess