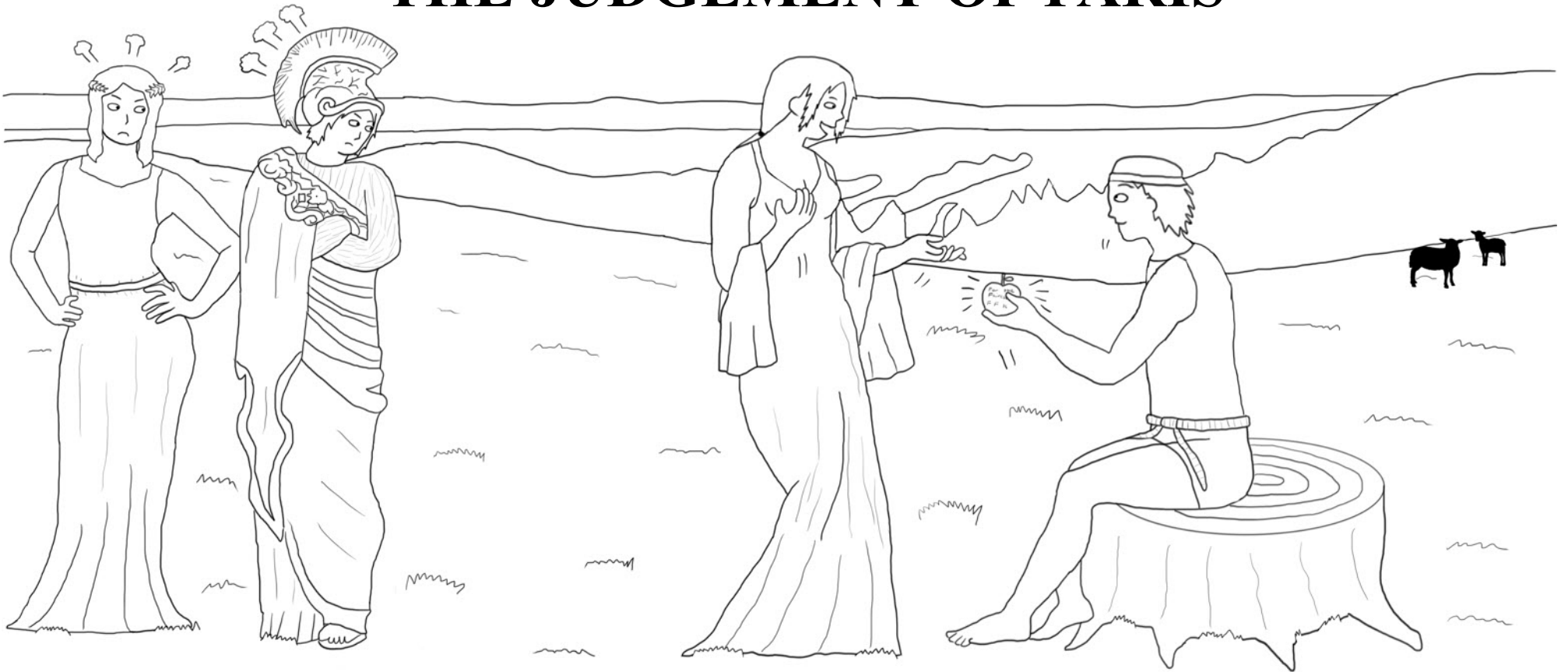


THE JUDGEMENT OF PARIS



Eris, the Goddess of Discord, was upset that she had not been invited to a wedding that many other Gods had been invited to. In revenge, she went anyway with a golden apple inscribed “For the Fairest”. Hera, Athena and Aphrodite all claimed it as theirs. Zeus did not want to decide so he chose Paris, a mortal long-lost prince raised by herdsmen, to decide. They all appeared before him while he attended his flock and tried bribing him. Hera offered him power and wealth, Athena offered him wisdom and glory in battle, and Aphrodite offered him the most beautiful woman in the world as his bride: Helen of Troy. Paris chose Aphrodite but this not only turned Hera and Athena against him but also started the Trojan War because Helen was already married to King Menelaus of Sparta.