

Leo - The Lion

Leo is the Nemean Lion slain by Hercules as the first of his Labors. The Lion lived in a cave near the town of Nemea southwest of Corinth.

This was no ordinary Lion. The Lion was a monstrous animal with a hide like armor. It could be pierced by neither sword nor spear. Not even the strongest warrior of Nemea could defend himself against the Lion. The countryside was in terror. This was the animal that Hercules had to kill.

Hercules battled the Lion for a full month. Eventually he was able to grab the animal and strangle it to death. Using the Lion's own sharp claws, Hercules was able to cut off the animal's tough hide, which he wore as a cloak, with the Lion's head serving as his helmet. The gaping mouth of the terrible Lion made Hercules look formidable indeed. The Lion's hide became Hercules' armor. He could not be injured by either spear, sword, or arrow.

