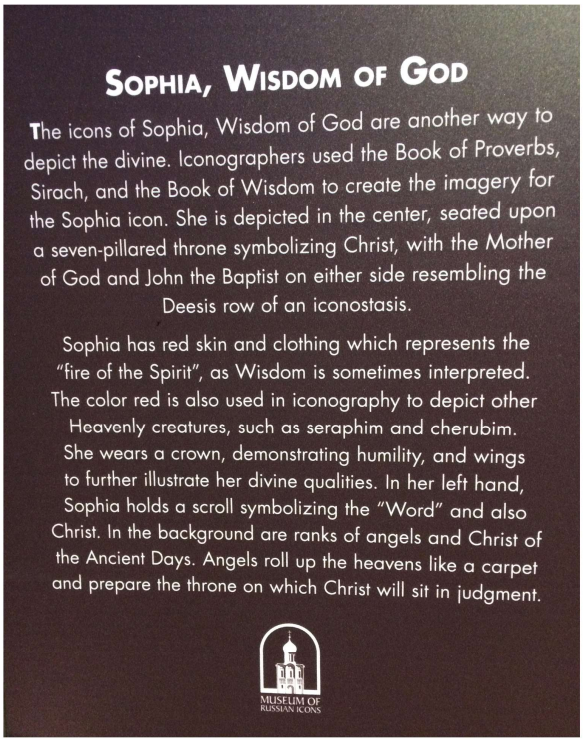
SHE
Photographs by Claudia Ruiz Gustafson

Thunder, Perfect Mind is one of many early Christian and Gnostic texts discovered in 1945 by Arab brothers near the upper Egyptian town of Nag Hammadi. Most of the items were sold in Cairo's antiquities black market, and then eventually re-collected. To read the complete poem please visit: http://gnosis.org/naghamm/thunder.html

In 1979, Elaine Pagels wrote a best-seller, The Gnostic Gospels, which was based on the Nag Hammadi treasures. The book examines the divisions in the early Christian church, and the way that women have been viewed throughout Jewish and Christian history.

To launch Prada's new fragrance, Miuccia Prada asked film director Ridley Scott and his daughter Jordan Scott to collaborate with her on the project. In response to Miuccia Prada's desire to portray the complexities of being a woman, Jordan presented Prada with the poem, "Thunder Perfect Mind". You can view the video here: https://www.prada.com/us/en/pradasphere/films/2005/thunder-perfect-mind.html

In recent years, several contemporary female artists like Leslie Marmon Silko, Toni Morrison, Julie Dash and Kara Walker have loved this ancient poem and incorporated it into their art.

After researching for ancient depictions of Sophia in local churches and museums, I found a beautiful painting of Sophia (Wisdom of God) at the Museum of Russian Icons located in Clinton, Massachusetts.