

# Καθρέφτης

*An on-line journal*

*Special Issue*

**UNSW Greek Studies, 2010**

Dear all,

Welcome to the fourth and last issue of the journal *Mirror*.

It is a special issue based on an online group work written by students who attended this year seminar on Homer's *The Odyssey*. The characters listed can serve as a guide for the reading of the poem. They are published here with very special thanks to all who contributed.

Mirror Journal was almost exclusively based on texts created by students of the Greek program who attended the courses that I taught at UNSW in the years 2006-2009. Its primary aim was to explore alternative approaches to teaching Greek language and culture, and to serve as a stepping stone for students to presenting their works on and outside campus.

Best regards,

Kyriaki Frantzi

UNSW Greek studies

Το τέταρτο και τελευταίο τεύχος του ηλεκτρονικού περιοδικού Καθρέφτης είναι αφιερωμένο στην ομηρική Οδύσσεια. Θα βρείτε σ' αυτό ένα λεπτομερή κατάλογο με τους περισσότερους χαρακτήρες των 24 ραψωδιών του ποιήματος που γράφτηκαν σε ηλεκτρονική ομαδική εργασία σε αντίστοιχο φετεινό μάθημα του ελληνικού τμήματος.

## Θέμα

### Who is who in the Odyssey

Συλλογικό κείμενο

# BOOK 1

## *Tran Brook*

➔ Book 1 begins with a preface of Odysseus' journey since the Trojan War up to the point where he is detained by Calypso and unable to return to Ithaca.

## Characters

- **Odysseus**
  - Currently trapped on the Island by Calypso
- **Poseidon**
  - Is mentioned having gone to the Ethiopians to receive offerings “bulls and rams by the hundred” at a feast
  - “seething against the Great Odysseus until he reach his native land” → because Odysseus blinded Poseidon’s son Polyphemus
  - Consequently “drives him (Odysseus) far off course form native land (Ithaca)”
- **Zeus**
  - At Olympian talks about how the ignorance of humans
    - “How shameless –the way these mortals blame the gods, From us alone, they say, come their miseries, yes, But they themselves, with their own reckless ways” using the affair between **Aegisthus & Agamemnon**’s wife (Queen **Clytemnestra**) as an example
      - Where Aegisthus ignores warnings sent from Zeus through Hermes of what would happen if he were to “don’t murder the man...don’t court his wife”
      - And is thus murdered by Prince **Orestes** who avenges Agamemnon’s death
  - We learn that Zeus is not against Odysseus from returning home, it is Poseidon (see Poseidon)
  - However, after Athena speaks about Odysseus, Zeus relents
    - “But come, all of us put our heads together now And work out his journey home so Odysseus can return”
- **Athena**
  - There is dialogue between Zeus and Athena –she asks Zeus if he has “no care for him (Odysseus) in your (his) lofty heart” and if he is “dead set against Odysseus”
  - Devises a plan for Odysseus’ journey home
    1. To send Hermes to Ogygia Island to tell Calypso to free Odysseus
    2. Athena will go to Ithaca to inspire Telemachus “with courage” (Odysseus’ son)
      - “to summon the flowing-haired Achaeans to full assembly, speak his mind to all those suitors...”
    3. sending him to Sparta, then Pylos
  - Disguises herself as Mentos (lord of the Taphians and Odysseus’ old friend) when visiting Telemachus in Ithaca

- **Mentes (Athena)**
  - Mentions Laertes
  - Tells Telemachus that Odysseus still alive and
  - Athena uses Mentes as a disguise to tell him her own message:
    - “Wait, I’ll make you a prophecy, one the immortal gods have planted in my mind-it will come true, I think, though I am hardly a seer or know the flights of birds. He won’t be gone long from the native land he loves”
  - Instructs Telemachus to do the following things
    1. Gather the “island’s lords to full assembly”
    2. “tell the suitors to scatter, each to his own place. As for your mother, if the spirit moves her to marry, let her go back to her father's house, a man of power.”
    3. Sail out and find news of Odysseus
      - a. First to Pylos where King Nestor rules
      - b. Then to Sparta where Menelaus is
      - c. Once Telemachus returns home, to kill the suitors
  - Stirs courage in Telemachus by comparing him to Orestes
  
- **Telemachus**
  - “sitting among the suitors, heart obsessed with grief.”
  - Displays hospitality and treats Mentes warmly

“Greetings, stranger!  
Here in our house you’ll find a royal welcome.  
Have supper first, then tell us what you need”
  - Predicts that the suitors will plot against him
    - “Soon-you wait-they’ll grind *me* down as well.”
  - Tells the suitors of the assembly at dawn & to go home, or feast elsewhere
  
- **The suitors**
  - Are drunk, feasting in Odysseus’ home
  - Are shocked and offended by Telemachus’ orders in particular Antinous and Eurymachus
  
- **Penelope**
  - Appears after Mentes has left and is angry & upset that the Bard is singing songs fit for celebrations
  - Returns to her room, once Telemachus puts “sense” into her & Athena puts her to sleep

# BOOK 2:

## TELEMACHUS SETS SAIL

*Tuki Attquayefio*

**Dawn (LINE 1):** a character referring to goddess Eos, who is referred to continually as a motif to represent the beginning of a new day and a new adventure

**Telemachus (LINE 2):** son of Odysseus; in this book he is inspired to remove the suitors from his palace, and search for his father

**Athena (LINE 12):** here she intervenes and inspires Telemachus to find his father

**Aegyptius (LINE 15):** an Ithacan elder, friend of Telemachus and Odysseus, whose son was killed by a Cyclops; used here to support Telemachus' quest for his father

**Odysseus (LINE 17):** the hero, lost and his whereabouts unknown to Ithacans; referred here as King Odysseus to the assembly

**Antiphus (LINE 19):** Son of Aegyptius, a spearman who went to war with Odysseus but was trapped and killed by the Cyclops; lamenting over his son, Aegyptius uses this to appeal to the assembly

**Cyclops (LINE 19):** monster known for their one eye; depicted here as brutal, but in other books as rural folk

**Eurynomus (LINE 22):** Another son of Aegyptius. Who has mixed with the suitors in the temple for the hand of Penelope

**Zeus (LINE 34):** God of Gods; invoked here as wishful prayer for Telemachus' adventure

**Pisenor (LINE 39):** Father of Ops and father of Eurycleia – the long time nurse of Telemachus and Odysseus; another elder supporting Telemachus

**Icarius (LINE 57):** was expelled from Lacedaemon by Hippocoon, along with his brother [Tyndareus](#), later father of [Helen](#). Both were received as exiles by the Aetolian ruler Thestius, who gave his daughter [Leda](#) to [Tyndareus](#). Icarius and [Tyndareus](#) were afterwards restored by [Heracles](#), after the latter had killed Hippocoon, son of Oebalus and Batia. Refer's to union between Leda and Zeus, and hence Helen

**Themis (LINE 73):** a Titaness, who delivered oracles, laws and the ways of obedience to the gods, and peace; used here to invoke the law-abiding citizens to support their cause

**Antinous (LINE 90):** the most assertive of the suitors of Penelope, he continually mocks Odysseus and Telemachus throughout the epic, and pays the price with a spear in the throat; used to represent the defiance and recklessness of the suitors

**Laertes (LINE 109):** Father of Odysseus, an old man who does not seem to concern himself with the civil matters but instead retires to his farm; used here to show disrespect to Telemachus, by saying that Laertes will die before a suitor is chosen

**Tyro (LINE 133):** married to Cretheus but loved Enipeus, who refused her amorous advances. One day Poseidon, filled with lust for Tyro, disguised himself as Enipeus and from their union was born Pelias and Neleus, twin boys. Tyro exposed her sons on a mountain to die, but they were found by a herdsman who raised them as his own. When they reached adulthood, Pelias and Neleus found Tyro and killed her stepmother.

**Alcmena (LINE 133):** the last mortal woman with whom Zeus lay, disguised himself as her husband Amphytrion

**Penelope (LINE 134):** Wife of Odysseus; described here as so beautiful that the suitors are willing to devour her wealth in order to take up her marriage bed

**Furies (LINE 152):** goddesses associated with weaving the fate of men

**Halitherses (LINE 175):** Son of Mastor, and soothsayer from Ithaca who warned the suitors of their doom in later books, and was a friend of Odysseus

**Eurymachus (LINE 199):** This suitor is said to have surpassed all other SUITORS in generosity. He consorted with Melantho, a maid in the House of [Odysseus](#) who had been brought up by [Penelope](#). Melantho was daughter of Dolius, the old servant that [Penelope](#) had received from her father. Melantho's brother Melanthius was a goatherd and a servant; he scorned [Odysseus](#) and [Telemachus](#), but later [Odysseus](#) killed him together with the suitors of Penelope, after slicing his nose and ears off. Eurymachus, whom [Odysseus](#) slew, was the son of Polybus ([Telemachus](#) believed this suitor to be the best man in Ithaca and the keenest bidder for [Penelope's](#) hand and [Odysseus'](#) rights)

**Mentor (LINE 250):** Mentor was an old friend of [Odysseus](#). To him [Odysseus](#) entrusted his household when he joined the coalition that sailed against [Troy](#). [Athena](#), assuming several times the shape of Mentor, became the guide of Odysseus' son Telemachus, giving him prudent counsel

**Leocritus (LINE 273):** One of the suitors of Penelope from Zacynthos. Leocritus, whom [Telemachus](#) had killed, was son of Euenor; seen here to be very insolent

**Eurycleia (LINE 383):** the long time entrusted nurse of the house of Odysseus, and the servant whom Laertes had procured for the price of twenty oxen. Euryclia was daughter of Ops, son of Pisenor

**Pallas (LINE 423):** Another name for Athena referring to when she played with Pallas when they were small girls, but the goddess accidentally killed her playmate while playing. Being grieved for her death, Athena made a wooden image in her likeness, which was called the Palladium. Pallas was daughter of Triton

**Noëmon (LINE 427):** prominent Ithacan who provided the vessel in which Telemachus sailed in search for his father. His father was Phronius

# BOOK 3

## TELEMACHUS WITH NESTOR

Jennifer Barrett

- **Poseidon** – pursued the heroic *Odysseus* with relentless malice til the day when he reached his own country (Book 1, Line 20). The only God to dislike *Odysseus*.
- **Athena** (as *Mentor*) - **Mentor** – an old friend of *Odysseus*, and to whom the king had entrusted his whole household when he sailed (book 2, line 228)
- **Telemachus** – *Odysseus*' only son. Longs for his father to return in order to drive the suitors from the palace.
- **Nestor** – King of *Pylos*. One of the men who fought alongside *Odysseus* at *Troy*.
- **Peisistratus** – *Nestor*'s son. Prince of *Pylos*. Travels with *Telemachus* to *Sparta*.
- **Thrasymedes** – *Nestor*'s son. Prince of *Pylos*.
- **Priam** – King of *Troy*.
- **Ajax** – a hero of *Troy*. Also known as *Ajax the great*. Died at *Troy*.
- **Achilles** – One of the great heroes and leaders of *Troy*. Died at *Troy*.
- **Patroclus** – *Achilles*' cousin. Died at *Troy*.
- **Antilochus** – *Nestor*'s son. Died at *Troy*.
- **Menelaus** – King of *Sparta*. The husband of *Helen* and a hero from *Troy*. *Agamemnon*'s brother.
- **Agamemnon** – leader of the Greeks in the *Trojan* war. Murdered by *Aegisthus* upon his return from the war. King of *Mycenae*
- **Diomedes** – King of *Argos*. A hero of *Troy*. Was a great warrior.
- **Philoctets** – son of *Poias*.
- **Idomeneus** – king of *Crete*.
- **Aegisthus** – usurped *Agamemnon* and married his wife. Was murdered by *Orestes* several years later.
- **Orestes** – *Agamemnon*'s son. Avenged *Agamemnon*'s death. Was lauded by man and God alike.
- **Clytaemnestra** – *Agamemnon*'s wife. Had an affair with *Aegisthus*. Was murdered by *Orestes*, her son, as an act of vengeance.
- **Eurydice** – *Nestor*'s wife. Daughter of *Clymenus*.
- **Polycaste** – Daughter of *Nestor*.
- **Diocles** – son of *Ortilochus*. Houses *Peisistratus* and *Telemachus* on their journey to *Sparta*.

# BOOK 4

## *MENELAUS & HELEN*

*Angelika Skaltsounis*

- **Menelaus** – King of Sparta, brother of Agamemnon
- **Helen** – wife of Menelaus, Queen of Sparta. The face that launched a thousand ships. She ran off with Paris, and was the main reason of the Trojan War.
- **Pisistratus** – son of Nestor
- **Telemachus** – son of Odysseus
- **Odysseus**
- **Proteus** – the divine old man of the sea, aids Menelaus in leaving the area in which he is stranded. He is a shape-shifter, who tried many tricks in order to throw Menelaus off him. He is also a profit, as he tells Menelaus all he wants to know.
- **Eidothee** – Proteus' daughter, comes to Menelaus' rescue how tells him how to get out of Egypt
- **Agamemnon** – former king of Mycenae
- **Ajax**, another Greek hero who survived Troy only to perish back in Greece
- **Noemon** – a suitor. The owner of the boat that Telemachus used to visit Nestor and Menelaus.
- **Antinous** – a suitor. Eupheithes' son. The leader of the suitors who rowed out to greet Telemachus on his return journey with the intention of killing him.
- **Penelope** – wife of Odysseus
- **Medon** – the herald that informs Penelope of the suitors plans to kill Telemachus upon his return from Pylos.
- **Eurycleia** – nurse of both Odysseus and Telemachus. The most loyal of Odysseus' servants.
- **Iphthime** – Penelope's sister (sent in the form of a phantom by Athena)

# BOOK 5

## CALYPSO

*Rita Azar*

- **Gods around Zeus-** only mentioned to describe the setting at the meeting.
  - At this meeting, **Athena** raises awareness of Odysseus and Calypso, where they as well as Telemachus were mentioned.
  - **Zeus** commands that it his plan to set Odysseus free now.
  - **Hermes** was introduced as the ‘messenger..sent on all missions’ who went to tell Calypso Zeus’ wishes.
- **Calypso-** the goddess who lifted her breathtaking voice as she glided back and forth before her loom. Upon facing Hermes she mentions Orion and Artemis and Iasion in her argument.
- **Odysseus-** son of Laertes, sits and cries on the rocks about his misfortunes situation
- **Earth and Sky** were personified as witnesses, and therefore characters
- **Poseidon-** God of the earthquake, wanted to give Odysseus ‘his swamping fill of trouble!’
- **Ino, Cadmus’ daughter-** a once mortal woman who now lives in the seas salt depths...now named Leucothea. She gives him a scarf to help him from Poseidon.
- **Athena** reappears with a more active role; she hushes the seas and commands them to sleep. This is one of the first times she interferes with Odysseus journey home in his favour.
- **Pallas-** bright eyed goddess mentioned as an inspiration for Odysseus.

Καθρέφτης



## BOOKS 6, 7 & 8

*Jacqui Butterworth*

### *THE PRINCESS & THE STRANGER*

Odysseus, Athena, Princess Nausicaa and two handmaids, her father King Alcinous and mother Arete.

### *PHAEACIA'S HALLS & GARDENS*

Odysseus, Nausicaa, Eurymedusa (chambermaid), Athena (disguised as a young girl), Alcinous, Arete, Echeneus

### *A DAY FOR SONGS & CONTESTS*

Arete, Odysseus, Alcinous, Athena, Demodocus (muse), Laodamus, Broudsea, Halius, captains

# BOOK 9

## THE CYCLOPS

*Anthony Constanti*

*Olga Constantinova*

*Jennifer Diyaolu*

*Jessica Egan*

*Valeria Esteruelas*

<b>King Alcinous</b>	King of the Phaeacians, listening to Odysseus story
<b>Calypso</b>	Beautiful witch goddess who falls in love with Odysseus, and keeps him in her cavern.
<b>The Cicones</b>	In his way back from Troy, Odysseus and his crew attack and sack the city of the Cicones. However these ask for help from their neighbours and are able to fight back. Odysseus and his ships have to flee the place.
<b>Zeus</b>	God of the Sky. He brings a terrible gale that tatters Odysseus' sails. The crew is forced to stay in land.
<b>The Lotus-eaters</b>	Race that eats the flowery Lotus fruit. Who tastes the plants has no other desire than to eat it forever; loses all strength and will to return home.
<b>The Cyclopes</b>	Fierce and lawless people. Giant herdsmen.
<b>Polyphemus</b>	Cyclops, captures Odysseus and other comrades. One by one he keeps eating the men. But is outsmarted by Odysseus

	who plays a trick on him and blinds him to escape. .
<b>Poseidon</b>	God of the sea, wants revenge on Odysseus for blinding his son the Cyclops

# BOOK 10

## CIRCE

*Anthony Constanti*

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*Jessica Egan*

*Valeria Esteruelas*

<p><b>King Aeolus</b></p>	<p>Hippotas' son, resides at the Aeolian island, the ruler of the winds. He gives Odysseus a tightly closed bag full of winds so he could sail easily home to Ithaca on the gentle West Wind. When Odysseus' crew was blown back to Aeolia due to unwittingly mishandling the bag, he refused to give them a second chance.</p>
<p><b>Odysseus</b></p>	<p>Protagonist of The Odyssey, which is about his journey home to Ithaca after being away at Troy for 10 years. It takes Odysseus 10 years to return home, which has been ravished by suitors who plan to wed his wife and kill his son, Telemachus. Odysseus' journey is filled with challenges of which he has to overcome using his wit and strength</p>
<p><b>Antiphates</b></p>	<p>King of the Laestrygonians, a tribe of gigantic cannibals. He ate one of the men on the spot and raised a chaos to ensure most of the rest of Odysseus' company would be hunted down.</p>

<b>Artacia</b>	Antiphates' daughter assisted her father with the process of capturing Odysseus' men.
<b>Circe</b>	A nymph living on the Aeaeon island, the daughter of Helios and Perse. She lives in the woods and transforms her enemies or those who offend her into animals. So, she invited Odysseus' crew to a feast and by feeding them her magical potions turned them into pigs. Odysseus followed Hermes' advice and freed his fellows and escaped turning into an animal himself. He and his crew spent 1 year on Circe's island.
<b>Aeetes</b>	Circe's brother.
<b>Cyclops</b>	In the earlier chapters Odysseus encounters a Cyclops by the name of Polyphemus, who is the son of Poseidon and a nereid. Polyphemus is a giant cannibal that only has one eye
<b>Eurylochus</b>	Appears to be a second-in-command on Odysseus' ship. In Circe's palace, he suspects of Circe's treachery and escapes being turned into a pig with the rest of the crew. He warns Odysseus of the misfortune, and suggests that they leave the unfortunate men on the island. He is portrayed as an unpleasant cowardly individual who undermines Odysseus and causes trouble. Later he encourages the crew to eat the cattle of the sun.

<b>Hermes</b>	An Olympic god. He protects Odysseus from Circe by bestowing upon him a herb, moly, which protects him from her soporific spell.
<b>Persephone</b>	The queen of the underworld, where Circe sent Odysseus, as part of his journey home.
<b>Teiresias</b>	The son of Thebes who was a seer. He was visited in the underworld by Odysseus, to whom he gave valuable advice concerning the rest of his voyage, specifically concerning the cattle of Helios, advice which Odysseus' men did not follow, to their peril.

<b>Erebus</b>	Was the son of a primordial god, Chaos, and represented the personification of darkness and shadow, which filled in all the corners and crannies of the world.
	Was a comrade of Odysseus. While Odysseus was staying on Aeaea, Circe's island, Elpenor became drunk and climbed onto the roof of Circe's palace to sleep. The next morning, waking upon hearing his comrades making preparations to travel to Hades, he forgot he was on the roof and fell to his death. Odysseus and his men apparently noticed his

<b>Elpenor</b>	absence, but they were too busy to look for him. When Odysseus arrived in Hades, Elpenor was the first shade to meet Odysseus, and pleaded with him to return to Aeaea and give him a proper cremation and burial. After finishing his task in the underworld, Odysseus returned to Aeaea and cremated Elpenor's body, then buried him with his armour and marked the grave with an oar of his ship. Elpenor's death in a careless accident is very much a symbol for the foolish behaviour of the men throughout the book.
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# BOOK 11

## *THE BOOK OF THE DEAD*

*Anthony Constanti*

*Olga Constantinova*

*Jennifer Diyaolu*

*Jessica Egan*

*Valeria Esteruelas*

<b>Odysseus</b>	In this chapter he tells the Phaeacians the story of his travel to the Halls of Hades to question the dead prophet Teiresias about his return to Ithaca.
<b>Circe</b>	Goddess of the lovely tresses. She sends Odysseus and his crew favourable winds so that they can arrive to the Halls of Hades.
<b>The Cimmerians</b>	People that live at the furthest parts of the River Ocean, always under mist and fog; they cannot see the Sun or the stars. Always deep Night in the region.
	Part of Odysseus crew; they keep the sacrificial victims (sheep) while Odysseus is preparing the

<p><b>Perimedes and Eurylochus</b></p>	<p>ritual that will enable him to talk to the dead. He digs a trench where he pours libations for the dead with honey, milk, sweet wine, water and barley; then, he prays and sacrifices the sheep pouring their blood in the hole as well. Any spirit who drinks from the blood will be able to communicate with Odysseus.</p>
<p><b>The spirit of Elpenor</b></p>	<p>One of Odysseus comrades dead by falling from the roof of Circe's palace. It's the first spirit Odysseus talks to in the Halls of Hades. He begs Odysseus not to leave him unburied, to burn his body and built him a mound where his oar must be planted as a remembrance of his life.</p>

<p><b>The spirit of Teiresias</b></p>	<p>The Theban prophet. He tells Odysseus his voyage of return is going to be very hard because Poseidon is still furious with him for having blinded his son Polyphemus. However, Odysseus and his crew can still reach Ithaca if they can control their greed. The prophet tells them that when they arrive at the island of Thrinacie, not to touch the cattle of the Sun god. If they do Odysseus crew will perish and never return home, and if Odysseus survives he will arrive home late and in a wretched state. He also informs Odysseus about the suitors and their misdeeds in his own palace. He prophesizes how Odysseus will kill the suitors and finally, explains him the offering he has to produce to appease Poseidon's wrath.</p>
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<b>The spirit of Anticleia</b>	Odysseus' dead mother, daughter of Autolycus. She informs Odysseus about Penelope and Telemachus (still waiting for his return, still in possession of the royal lands) and about his father, Laertes (living a lonely and miserable life in his farm, yearning for Odysseus' return). She explains she died of heartache, waiting for her son's return.
<b>The spirit of Tyro</b>	The daughter of Salmoneus, wife of Cretheus. She fell in love with the god of the River Enipeus, and wondered by its stream. One day, Poseidon disguised as the river-god made love to her. From this relation she bore two sons: Pelias and Neleus, powerful servants of Zeus. She also bore other sons from Cretheus: Aeson, Pheres and Amythaon, the dashing charioteer.
<b>The spirit of Antiope</b>	Daughter of Asopus. Lover of Zeus, she had two sons: Amphion and Zethus, founders of Thebes, the city of the Seven Gates.
<b>The spirit of Alcmene</b>	Amphitryon's wife. Zeus made love to her disguised as his husband and from that relation Heracles was born.
<b>The spirit of Megare</b>	Creon's daughter and wife of Heracles.

<p><b>The spirit of Epicaste</b></p>	<p>Mother of Oedipus. In her ignorance she married her own son. Oedipus killed his father and took his mother as wife. When the truth was known, Epicaste hang herself in remorse and Oedipus blinded himself and was left to reign in Thebes, suffering the torment of the Avenging Furies.</p>
<p><b>The spirit of Chloris</b></p>	<p>The youngest daughter of Amphion, son of Iasus the Minyan King of Orchomenus. She married Neleus and became Queen of Pylos. Their children were: Nestor, Chromius, Periclymenus, and beautiful Pero. Neleus announced that he would give his daughter's hand to no one except the man who succeeded in the dangerous task of driving away the cattle of the mighty Iphiclus from Phylace. Only the seer Melampus undertook the venture. But ended up as a prisoner of savage herdsmen. Not after one year had passed, did Iphiclus set him free by command of Zeus.</p>
<p><b>The spirit of Leda</b></p>	<p>Wife of Tyndareus. Zeus made love to her disguised as a Swan. She bore two sons: Castor and Polydeuces. Singled out by Zeus, each is a living and a dead man on alternate days. They are honoured like the Gods.</p>
<p><b>The spirit of Iphimedeia</b></p>	<p>Consort of Aloeus. She slept with Poseidon and bore the god-like twins Otus and Ephialtes, the largest men Earth ever nourished. Apollo destroyed</p>

	them both at a very young age.
<b>The spirit of Ariadne</b>	Daughter of Minos. Theseus tried to carry her off to Athens, but Artemis killed her on their voyage.
<b>The spirit of Eriphyle</b>	She bartered her own husband's life for gold.
<b>The spirits of Pocris, Maera and Clymene</b>	Other great men's wives and daughters.
<b>Persephone</b>	Goddess and Queen of the Underworld. She has summoned and afterwards, dispersed all the spirits of the women that have visited Odysseus.
<b>Arete</b>	The white-armed Queen of the Phaeacians. She praises Odysseus, and tells the Phaeacian lords what an honour it is to have known him. She entails them to be generous with their guest.
<b>Echeneus</b>	A venerable lord, the oldest man among the Phaeacians. He recognises the truth in the Queen's words and is keen to obey.
<b>Alcinous</b>	The King of the Phaeacians. He has arranged a safe passage home for Odysseus but presses him to stay one night more so that he can prepare farewell gifts.

<b>The spirit of Agamemnon</b>	<p>Son of Atreus, king of Mycenae. He explains Odysseus how he and his companions (including Cassandra, the seer and daughter of Priam, king of Troy, whom Agamemnon took as a slave/consort) were murdered by Aegisthus and Clytemnestra, Agamemnon's wife. He curses all women and advises Odysseus to beware and come home secretly, to not trust his wife. Finally, in great sorrow he asks Odysseus for his son Orestes, hoping one day he will avenge his father.</p>
<b>The spirit of Achilles</b>	<p>Son of Peleus, King of the Myrmidons. He is in deep sorrow in the World of the Dead and would prefer to live as a humble serf than to be a great honoured hero in the Halls of Hades. He asks for his father Peleus and his son Neoptolemus. Odysseus knows nothing of Peleus but he explains Achilles the story of the wooden Horse of Troy and how his son was beside him hidden inside the horse when they entered the city of Troy and conquered it. He describes Neoptolemus as a great fighter and a proud man.</p>
<b>The spirit of Ajax</b>	<p>Son of Telamon. Great hero and fighter in the War of Troy. He refuses to talk to Odysseus because he is angered by the defeat he inflicted to him in the fight for the arms of Achilles.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>King Minos</b></p>	<p>Son of Zeus. With his golden sceptre he imparts judgement and is revered in the Halls of Hades.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Orion</b></p>	<p>The giant hunter.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tityus</b></p>	<p>Son of the goddess Earth. Two vultures pluck at his liver. It is Zeus' punishment for assaulting his glorious consort, Leto.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tantalus</b></p>	<p>Son of Zeus. Punished by the gods to be immersed in a pool of water he is unable to drink. Suffering terrible thirst. And living under trees unable to grasp the fruit, Suffering eternal hunger.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sisyphus</b></p>	<p>King of Corinth, who twice tricked the god Death. Suffering the punishment of pushing eternally a giant rock up a hill.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The wraith of Heracles</b></p>	<p>Son of Zeus. Mighty hero. He feasts with the gods in Olympus, but his wrath wanders in Hades. He compares Odysseus quest with his own famous labours. He recalls his capture of the Hound of Hell when, he too went alive into Hades.</p>



# BOOK 12

## *THE SIRENS*

*Meghan Flanagan*

*Erica Hocking*

*Patrick Grierson*

### **Odysseus**

- Returns to see Circe one last night and give Elpenor proper burial as he requested in the underworld
- Follows all of the instructions of Circe in order to reach home successfully
- Hears the Sirens and begs to be released, but his men keep him bound as he asked
- Arrives in Thrinacia, the island of the Sun, where Circe told him to prevent his men from attacking the cattle of Helios
- Survives Zeus' punishment for the cattle of Helios but loses all of his men

### **Circe**

- Informs Odysseus of the dangers and obstacles he will face on his journey home
- Tells him to plug his crew's ears with beeswax as they pass the Sirens and have them bind him to the mast of the ship
- Instructs him to stay on Scylla's side of the strait so that they only lose 6 men rather than the entire ship

### **Scylla**

- Six-headed monster who swallows six of the crew members when they pass the strait

### **Charybdis**

- Whirlpool capable of swallowing the entire ship

### **Eurylochus**

- One of the crew members who persuades Odysseus to stop at the island of Helios to take a rest despite Odysseus' wishes against it
- When the food on the ship runs out, he convinces the other crew members to disobey Odysseus and slaughter the cattle of Helios

### **Helios**

- Sun God
- Orders Zeus to punish Odysseus and his men for killing his cattle

**Zeus**

- As a response to Helios' wishes, he sends a storm to crash the ship and kill all of Odysseus' men

**Dawn**

- Goddess of the morning

**Elpenor**

- Shipmate of Odysseus
- His body is finally buried after the men return from Hades

**Sirens**

- Singing women who transfix men and draw them to their island where they proceed to kill them

**Phaethusa and Lampetie**

- Nymph daughters of Helios
- Herd the cattle of Helios

**Neaera**

- Mother of aforementioned nymphs

**Tiresias**

- Mention is made of the blind Theban prophet

# BOOK 13

## *ODYSSEUS REACHES ITHACA*

*Seth Gregory*

**Odysseus**- protagonist of story, finishes his story to Phaeacians and then sets off with them to Ithaca that night

**Alcinous**- King of the Phaeacians on the island kingdom of Scheria. Extremely hospitable to Odysseus and provides him with safe passage back to Ithaca

**Athena**- God of Wisdom and basically Odysseus Patron God in this story, dresses up as a common human to talk to Odysseus when he first arrives back on Ithaca

**Poseidon**- Turns Phaeacians ship into stone as punishment for helping Odysseus. Fulfills a prophecy and the Phaeacians decide to not help anymore seafarers

**Zeus**- Talks to Poseidon in book 13, allows him to punish the Phaeacians but still makes sure Odysseus is not harmed and allowed to continue

**Arete**- Alcinous Wife

Καθρέφτης

# BOOK 14

## ODYSSEUS & EUMAEUS

*Meghan Flanagan*

*Erica Hocking*

*Patrick Grierson*

### **Odysseus**

- Goes to Eumaeus' hut
- Makes up a story about his travels in order to maintain his disguise
- Eats dinner with Eumaeus and the other swineherds
- Says he has news of Odysseus' return home

### **Athena**

- Goddess of wisdom and war
- Disguised Odysseus as a beggar
- Showed Odysseus the way to Eumaeus' home
- Gave Odysseus courage (in the fake story of his past)

### **Eumaeus**

- Loyal swineherd
- Gave Odysseus food and shelter (although he thought he was just an unfortunate old man)
- Believes 'the real' Odysseus to be dead
- Worried about false tales of Odysseus' return home

### **Laertes**

- Odysseus' father
- Previous king of Ithaca

### **Suitors**

- Overrunning Odysseus' palace and eating all of his livestock
- Plotting to kill Telemachus on his return home

### **Zeus**

- Ruler of the Olympian gods
- God who protects strangers and beggars
- Killed Odysseus fellow soldiers (in his fake story) because they plundered the Egyptian farms
- Wrecked the ship of the Phoenician swindler, saving only Odysseus

### **Helen**

- Her elopement with Paris was a catalyst for the Trojan War

**Agamemnon**

- Leader of the Achaean army in the Trojan War
- Brother of Menelaus

**Penelope**

- Wife of Odysseus

**Telemachus**

- Son of Odysseus
- Travelling home from his search for news of his father

**Castor**

- In Odysseus story about his travels, this is his father (although Odysseus says he was an illegitimate child, born of a slave)

**Hylax**

- Castor's father

**Ares**

- God of War
- Gave Odysseus courage (in the fake story of his past)

**Idomeneus**

- King of Crete

**Priam**

- King of Troy

**Phoenician 'swindler'**

- In Odysseus' fake history, he tricked Odysseus into sailing with him, although he truly intended to sell Odysseus as a slave

**Cronus**

- Zeus' father

**Phidon**

- King of Thesprotia (where Odysseus was beached after escaping the wreckage of the Phoenician ship)

**Acastus**

- King of Dulichion (the place that Phidon directed Odysseus to go next)

**'some Aetolian'**

- A wanderer and murderer who had once convinced Eumaeus that he had seen Odysseus

**Other swineherds**

- Share dinner with Eumaeus and Odysseus

**Forest nymphs**

- The swineherds and Odysseus offer a piece of their meal to the nymphs as sacrifice

**Hermes**

- Messenger God
- The swineherds and Odysseus offer a piece of their meal to Hermes as sacrifice

**Maia**

- Hermes mother

**Mesaulius**

- Eumaeus' own servant

**Atreus**

- Father of Menelaus and Agamemnon

**Menelaus**

- Helen's husband (whom she left for Paris)
- Persuaded Agamemnon (his brother) to fight the Trojan War in order to retrieve Helen

**Thoas**

- One of Odysseus men (in the fake story of his past)

**Andraemon**

- Thoas' father

**Dawn**

- Personification of the morning

# BOOKS 12-14

*Mary Freislich*

## Book 12

After return from Hades.

### **Odysseus**

His companions: fairly shadowy, hardly ever named. Here, Eurylochus speaks, and they have come to give a ritual burial to Elpenor.

**Circe:** magical power, female; no power over Odysseus because Hermes helped him  
Query representing the female deities of the older religion.

Other magical monsters, all female:

**Sirens**

**Scylla**

**Charybdis**

Gods and messengers

**Hyperion** – sun god

**Lampetie** – messenger

**Zeus**, who takes vengeance on behalf of Hyperion

## Book 13

Back to Phaeacia:

**Odysseus**

**Alcinous** – king

**Demodocus** – bard

**Phaecian nobles and sailors**

Gods negotiating power

**Poseidon**

**Zeus**

Landing on Ithaca

**Odysseus**

**Athene** – protector and planner

## Book 14

**Odysseus**

**Eumaeus** the swineherd, showing ultimate loyalty to Odysseus as a good master.

**Eumaeus** has companions, but only his own slave, Mesaulius, is named.

Several stories told, nesting of narratives, but their characters are not on stage in the *Odyssey*.

# BOOK 15

## *TELEMACHUS RETURNS TO THACA*

(a)

<b>Corrine</b>
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A woman whose father is Arybas

Amphiaraus: son of Oicles, has two son himself – Alcmaeon and Amphilochus

Apollo & Artemis

Athena

Ctesius: Ormenus' son, Eumaeus's father

Dawn

Atrides

Eumaeus: as a story teller in the book

Eurymachus

Helen: Menelaus' wife

Hephaestus & Phaedimus: ones who made the mixing-bowl, solid silver

Laertes

Megapenthes: son of Menelaus

Melampus with two sons: Antiphates & Mantius

Menelaus

Neleus' daughter Pero: Melampus avenged himself on Neleus by assorted Pero home as his brother's bride

Odysseus: mentioned

Oicles: son of Antiphates

Penelope: Telemachus' mother

Piraeus: son of Clytius

Pisistratus: Nestor's son

Polyhides (the greatest seer on earth) and Clitus: sired by Mantius

Telemachus and his shipmates

Theoclymenus: son of Polyhides

Zeus: mentioned

(b)

### *Fladi Myrteza*

**Athena** is the Greek goddess of wisdom, war, the arts, industry, justice and skill. She was the favorite child of Zeus. She had sprung fully grown out of her father's head. Her mother was [Metis](#), goddess of wisdom and Zeus' first wife. In fear that Metis would bear a son mightier than himself, Zeus swallowed her and she began to make a robe and helmet for her daughter. The hammering of the helmet caused Zeus great pain in the form of headaches and he cried out in agony. Skilled Hephaestus ran to his father and split his skull open and from it emerged Athena, fully grown and wearing her mother's robe and helmet.

**Nestor** is the son of [Neleus](#), king of Pylos, and [Chloris](#). He was the only one who was spared when [Heracles](#) slew his father and his brothers. Nestor helped fight the [centaurs](#), participated in the hunt for the [Calydonian boar](#) and was one of the [Argonauts](#). When he was already of advanced age, he still participated in the expedition against Troy, where he, as oldest of the Greek heroes, excelled in wisdom, eloquence, and bravery.

**Odysseus** (called Ulysses in Latin) was the son of Laertes and was the ruler of the island kingdom of Ithaca. He was one of the most prominent Greek leaders in the Trojan War, and was the hero of Homer's *Odyssey*. He was known for his cleverness and cunning, and for his eloquence as a speaker.

**Telemachus** is the son of Odysseus and [Penelope](#). With Athena's help, he sailed to Pylos and then to Lacedaemon, to inquire after his father's fate; there he was royally entertained by Nestor and Menelaus respectively. On the journey back to Ithaca, Athena advised him to return by a different route, in order to avoid an ambush planned by the disgruntled suitors.

**Menelaus** is the son of Atreus and the brother of Agamemnon. He was married to Helen, and became the ruler of Helen's homeland, Lacedaemon; the couple had a daughter, Hermione. Helen's abduction by Paris, the son of King Priam of Troy, was the cause of the Trojan War.

**Helen** (often called "Helen of Troy") is the daughter of [Leda](#) and [Zeus](#), and was the sister of the [Dioscuri](#) and [Clytemnestra](#). Since Zeus visited Leda in the form of a swan, Helen was often presented as being born from an egg. She was reputed to be the most beautiful woman in the world and was believed to be the catalyst of the Trojan War.

**Penelope** is the daughter of Icarius and a first cousin of Helen of Troy. She was the wife of Odysseus and was famous for her cleverness and for her faithfulness to her husband.

**Eurymachus** is an [Ithacan](#) nobleman and the son of [Polybus](#), was, by the reckoning of the goddess [Athena](#), one of the two leading suitors of [Penelope](#) in [The Odyssey](#), by the great Greek poet [Homer](#). He, along with all the [suitors](#), plot Telemachus' death as he goes out of Ithaca, to King Nestor and King Menelaus. Eurymachus was killed by Telemachus's father, [Odysseus](#), on his long-awaited return. Eurymachus was the son of [Antenor](#) and [Theano](#). He was engaged to [Priam](#)'s daughter [Polixeni](#).

**Pisistratus** is the youngest son of Nestor. He accompanied Telemachus on his journey from Pylos to Sparta.

**Atrides** is the son of Atreus in Greek mythology. He was a great hero.

In Greek mythology, **Megapenthes** was a son of Proetus. He exchanged kingdoms (Argos for Tiryns) with his cousin Perseus, whom he killed much later. He was the father of Argeus and possibly Anaxagoras. Also in Greek mythology, **Megapenthes** was a son of Menelaus, who ruled after his father's death and sent Helen into exile. In some legends, Helen was his mother; in most, however, he was Menelaus's son by a concubine and was born during the

Trojan War. His name means "great sorrow" and it is likely a reference to the unhappiness of Menelaus and Helen, even though the Trojan War was won and the royal couple had come back home safely.

**Zeus** is the king of the gods, the ruler of Mount Olympus and the god of the sky and thunder. His symbols are the thunderbolt, eagle, bull, and oak.

**Hera** was the wife and older sister of Zeus. Hera is the Goddess of Childbirth and Marriage. In Roman mythology, Juno was the equivalent mythical character. Hera, wanting to set a good example to the gods, goddesses, and mortals, chose the cow as one of her emblems, because they are the most motherly of animals. Not wanting to be viewed as plain-looking like the cow, she chose the peacock and the lion.

**Hephaestus** was a Greek god whose Roman equivalent was Vulcan. He was the god of technology, blacksmiths, craftsmen, artisans, sculptors, metals, metallurgy, fire and volcanoes. Like other mythic smiths but unlike most other gods, Hephaestus was lame, which gave him a grotesque appearance in Greek eyes.

**Apollo** is one of the most important and many-sided of the Olympian deities. The ideal of the kouros (a beardless youth), Apollo has been variously recognized as a god of light and the sun; truth and prophecy; archery; medicine and healing; music, poetry, and the arts; and more. Apollo is the son of Zeus and Leto, and has a twin sister, the chaste huntress Artemis.

**Phaedimus** is the name of two mythical personages, the one a son of Amphion and Niobe, and the other a king of the Sidonians, who hospitably received Menelaus on his return from Troy.

**Eteoneus** was the son of Boethous, and King Menelaus of Sparta's weapon-carrier during the Trojan War. He helped Odysseus in his trials getting back home.

**Diocles** was one of the first priests of Demeter and one of the first to learn the secrets of the Eleusinian Mysteries. He is said to have died in battle while defending his male lover.

**Ortilochus** was the son of King Idomeneus of Crete and scion of Minos. A great runner, he was the fast man on Crete. Orsilochus is mentioned in Book 13 of Homer's Odyssey, when Odysseus makes use of his little-known status in Ithaca to construct an elaborate lie for the benefit of the disguised, claiming that he had killed him.

**Melampus** was a legendary soothsayer and healer, originally of Pylos, who ruled at Argos. He was the introducer of the worship of Dionysus, according to Herodotus, who asserted that his powers as a seer were derived from the Egyptians and that he could understand the language of animals.

**Phylacus** found the city of Phylace, Thessaly. He was the son of Deioneus and Diomedes, husband of Clymene, and the father of Alcimedea.

**Pero** was a daughter of Neleus and Chloris, and the wife of her cousin Bias. The story of Pero is mentioned in Book XI of Homer's Odyssey. Pero's beauty attracted many suitors, but Neleus, her father, refused to give his daughter to any man unless he could raid the cattle of Iphicles from Phylace.

**Antiphates** was one of the Greek warriors who hid in the Trojan horse.

**Mantius** (Antiphates's brother) was the son of Melampus and Lysippe and the father of Clitus and Oicles.

**Amphiaras** was the son of Oecles and Hypermnestra, and husband of Eriphyle. Amphiaras was the King of Argos along with Adrastus, the brother of Amphiaras' wife, Eriphyle- and Iphis. Amphiaras was a seer, and greatly honored in his time. Both Zeus and Apollo favored him, and Zeus gave him his oracular talent. In the generation before the Trojan War, Amphiaras was one of the heroes present at the Calydonian Boar Hunt.

**Alcmaeon** was the son of Amphiaraus and Eriphyle. As one of the Epigoni, he was a leader of the Argives who attacked Thebes, taking the city in retaliation for the deaths of their fathers, the Seven\_Against Thebes, who died while attempting the same thing.

**Amphilochus** was the younger son of Amphiaraus and Eriphyle and the brother of Alcmaeon.

**Theoclymenus** is the son of Polypheides, was a prophet from Argos, who, in the Odyssey, had been taken from that city after killing one of his relatives being captured by pirates. He fled to Pylos and sought refuge aboard the ship of Telemachus, who had come to inquire about the fate of his father, Odysseus.

**Eumaeus**, was Odysseus's swineherd and friend before he left for the Trojan War. He was brought up with Odysseus and his sister Ctimene as a family slave, although he was treated by Anticleia, their mother, almost as Ctimene's equal.

**Laertes** was the son of Arcesius and Chalcomedusa. He was the father of Odysseus (who was thus called Λαερτιάδης) and Ctimene by his wife Anticlea, daughter of the thief Autolycus. **Ctimene** was the younger sister of Odysseus, the legendary Greek king of Ithaca, and daughter of Laertes and Anticlea, who raised her alongside the servant Eumaeus, who was treated almost as her equal. She was married off to a suitor from Same for a massive price.

**Ormenus**, a Trojan warrior killed by Polypoetes during the Trojan War.

**Ctesius** was Ormenus' son.

**Arymbas** was the king of Epirus, succeeding his brother Neoptolemos in the year 360\_BC. Both Arymbas and Neoptolemos claimed to be descendants of another Neoptolemos, the son of Achilles. Arymbas was the son of Alcetas I of Epirus.

**Polybus** was the father of a suitor, Eurymachus, who was killed by Odysseus once he returned. Polybus himself was one of the suitors of Penelope, the wife of Odysseus.

**Clytius** was man who attended Telemachus. **Piraeus** was his son

## BOOK 16

### *ODYSSEUS & TELEMACHUS*

*Mary Michalow*

Odysseus

Eumaeus, the swineherd

Telemachus

Athena

Penelope

Eurymachus, Polybus' son and one of the lead suitors

Amphinomus, son of Nisus and grandson of Aretias, a lead suitor

Antinous, a lead suitor

Medon, a herald



# BOOK 17

## *THE BEGGAR AT THE MANOR*

*Rebecca Murphy*

Odysseus

Telemachus

Eumaeus (the swineherd)

Eurycleia- Odysseus' nurse since he was young, and also Telemachus' nurse.

Penelope

Athena

Mentor, Antiphus and Halitherses- Old friends of Odysseus.

Peiraeus- Member of Telemachus' crew

Theoclymenus- Tells that Odysseus is in his native land.

The Suitors

Melanthius- Odysseus' goatherd.

Phemius- A musician who is forced to entertain the suitors.

Argus- Odysseus' dog- who recognises Odysseus and then dies.

Antinous- The main suitor

-

# BOOK 18

## *ODYSSEUS & IRUS*

*Rebecca Riley*

- ❖ Arnaeus/Irus – the beggar of Ithaca challenges Odysseus to a fight and loses after the suitors bet on him
- ❖ Odysseus – in the form of the Beggar-King of Ithaca an old man to hide his true self
- ❖ Antinous – one of the suitors leaders goads Odysseus' into fighting the beggar thinking Odysseus will lose
- ❖ Telemachus – Prince of Ithaca tries to dissuade the suitors from their taunting of Odysseus, citing the rules of hospitality
- ❖ Eurymachus – leader of the suitors
- Athena – goddess of wisdom, arts & crafts etc helps Odysseus with his fight against Arnaeus
- ❖ Amphinomus – suitor watches the fight between Irus and Odysseus
- ❖ Penelope – inspired by Athena to display herself to the suitors
- ❖ Eurynome – Penelope's loyal maid
- ❖ Pisander – suitor brings Penelope a choker necklace
- ❖ Melanthe – disloyal maid who mocks Odysseus in his beggar form, raised by Penelope
- ❖ Other disloyal maids
- ❖ Mentes the herald

### Mentioned in passing

- ❖ Laertes – mentioned as Odysseus' father
- ❖ Miscellaneous Suitors also goad Odysseus
- ❖ Zeus – ruler of the gods
- ❖ Echetus – King who "wrecks all men alive" (P379, line134 – yellow version)
- ❖ Nisus of Dulichion -father of Amphinomus
- ❖ Icarius - Penelope's father
- ❖ Autonoe and Hippodameia –additional maids of Penelope
- ❖ Aphrodite – goddess of love mentioned in reference to application of oil
- ❖ Artemis – Penelope wishes Artemis would send her an easy death
- ❖ Apollo – invoked by Telemachus along with Zeus and Athena in exclamation over the suitors
- ❖ The Achaeans in relation to the Trojan War
- ❖ Polyctor – Pisander's father
- ❖ Dolius – father of Melanthe

# BOOK 19

## *PENELOPE & HER GUEST*

*Grace Orchard*

*Odysseus*

*Athena*

*Telemachus*

*Penelope*

**Eurycleia-** Aged and loyal nurse/ servant to Telemachus, Odysseus and Penelope. She took care of Telemachus and Odysseus as babies. Eurycleia always knows what is going on; and informs Odysseus of the maids and suitors behaviour. Eurycleia recognises Odysseus when he is the beggar.

**Melantho-** Maid; She is having an affair with Eurymachus. Treats Odysseus badly when he is disguised as a beggar.

**Eurynome-** Penelope's Housekeeper.

**Autolycus-** An excellent thief and grandfather to Odysseus, he named his grandson. It is on a hunting expedition with Autolycus that Odysseus gets the scar on his foot: the scar which unveils his disguise as a beggar to Eurycleia; when she washes his feet.

**Amphithea-** Odysseus' Grandmother

# BOOK 20

## PREPARATION FOR REVENGE

Tejas Shah

### Key characters

- Odysseus- the protagonist, in this chapter he is disguised as a beggar. In this chapter he meets the cowherd and the goatherd who are new additions to the palace. He also begins to deduce who was faithful to him in his absence. He has food thrown at him by one of the suitors as a sign of disrespect to Odysseus as a beggar but also his kingdom.
- Suitors'- taken over Ithaca and are in pursuit of Penelope's affections. Are quite subdued in this chapter and simply feast and make sly remarks. One particular suitor however takes it upon himself to insult and abuse the beggar.
- Athene- serves as a guide for Odysseus and favours him, assisting him in returning back to Ithaca. In this book she is disguised as a woman. Reassures Odysseus.
- Zeus- king of the gods. He favours Odysseus and wills him to kill the suitors. He decided that Odysseus should be allowed to return home after he was held captive by the goddess Calypso. Zeus sends a clap of thunder as a sign to Odysseus that it was Zeus's will that he returned to Ithaca.
- Penelope- wife of Odysseus, prays to Artemis to stop the reign of the suitors
- Artemis- goddess of women, prayed to by Penelope to end the reign of the suitors
- Eurycleia- nurse of the household who raised Odysseus from birth. Discusses Odysseus as a beggar and takes care of him
- Telemachus- son of Odysseus. Addresses Eurycleia in reference to the care taken of the beggar (Odysseus).
- Melanthius- the goatherd. He makes sly comments towards Odysseus and suggests that he has overstayed his welcome and may have to be forced to leave.
- Eumaeus- the swineherd, talks to Odysseus about how he wishes for Odysseus to return and reclaim the kingdom and rid it of the suitors.
- Philoetius- the cowherd. Greets Odysseus and comes across as genuinely concerned for Odysseus' safety. Shows compassion to Odysseus as a beggar.
- Ctesippus- one of the suitors. He insults Odysseus (as a beggar) and throws a cow hoof at him. Disrespects the house of Telemachus.
- Agelaus- A suitor who tries to convince Telemachus that Odysseus will never return and hence he and his mother should move on by her marrying a suitor
- Theoclymenus- a prophet who foretells the death of the suitors

### **Characters mentioned in passing**

- Amphinomus-Urges suitors to put their plot of killing Telemachus aside and focus on the feast
- Ops(Eurycleia's father) and Peisenor (Grandfather of Eurycleia)
- Antinous- leading suitor
- Eupeithes- Antinous' father
- Laertes- father of Odysseus
- Hera, Aphrodite, Storm-Fiends, Avenging Furies
- Dawn-goddess of the morning
- Pandereus-father of the nightingale
- Cyclops-devoured Odysseus' men
- Eurynome-Penelope's housekeeper
- Hades,Apollo the Archer
- Eurymachus



## **BOOK 22** (a)

### *SLAUGHTER IN THE HALL*

*Patrick Stewart*

#### **Athena**

Inspires Penelope

#### **Penelope, Icarius' daughter**

Sets out the axes and bow as a challenge to the suitors

#### **Suitors**

#### **Odysseus**

- For most of the book is still disguised as a beggar – reveals himself only in the last paragraph when he addresses Telemachus as his son.
- Endures the mockery of the Suitors throughout.
- Strung the bow, obviously. At the same time directed Telemachus to hide the weapons, the cowherd to bar the gate, etc.
- Shot through the axe heads.
- Announces that it is time to serve the suitors right...

#### **Iphitus, Eurytus' son**

- Gave Odysseus the back sprung bow when he went visiting him
- Met retrieving stolen livestock in Messene

-Killed by Heracles while a guest in Heracles' house

### **Ortilochus**

His house was in Messene? The people who stole Odysseus' sheep

### **Zeus**

### **Heracles**

### **Eumaeus**

- The swineherd – acting as, initially, Penelope's loyal servant
- Odysseus reveals his true identity to him, and some of his plan for revenge.
- Cowherd & swineherd given their roles and all sneak back inside to lay the trap for the suitors
- Has to bring Odysseus his bow

### **Antinous, Eupithes' son**

- Effectively the leader of the suitors
- As always is feeling superior and has a go at the swineherd
- Will be the first to die at Odysseus' hands
- Avoids actually trying to draw the bow after he sees everyone else has failed – wants to avoid the embarrassment and still be able to claim superiority because he hasn't failed.
- Claims that because it is the feast day of Apollo, the archer, it is an inauspicious day to attempt to string the bow and thus they should make offerings and try again later.

### **Telemachus**

-Amazes everyone by setting out the axes... fails to string Odysseus' bow because

Odysseus warns him not to

**Leodes, Oenops' son**

-First to fail – declares that they'll all end up marrying other women because it's too tough

**Melanthius**

-The goatherd. Essentially a lackey to the suitors i.e. seems to be the only servant who has become disloyal to Odysseus while he was away. Attempts to stoke the fire to heat & grease the bow.

**Philoetius, the cowherd**

-Odysseus reveals his true identity to him, and some of his plan for revenge.  
-Cowherd & swineherd given their roles and all sneak back inside to lay the trap for the suitors  
-Has to bolt/lash shut the gates so the suitors can't escape

**Eurymachus, Polybus' son**

-One of the 2 ringleaders of the suitors, though generally defers to Antinous. Also fails at bending the bow, even after heating it. Says what truly pains him is how far short of Odysseus they all fall.

**Apollo**

The god... among other things a famous archer, hence the relevance to this scene

### **Eurytion, the Centaur**

Driven mad by wine in the house of Pirithous

### **Pirithous**

Incidental mention in the centaur story

### **Echetus**

- Mainland king who wrecks all men alive
- Used frequently towards the end of the book by the suitors as a threatened punishment

### **Eurycleia**

- Odysseus' old nurse. First to recognise him while bathing his legs.
- Had to go lock all the women in their quarters in preparation for the slaughter.
- Reports to Odysseus which of the maids have remained faithful.

(b)

*Stephanishin, Kristine*

Most of the characters mentioned are the suitors who are only mentioned once

- Odysseus
- Apollo
- Antinous- Most arrogant suitor, first to be killed by Odysseus
- Eurymachus- Manipulative suitor killed by Odysseus
- Zeus
- Amphinomus- suitor, speaks up for Odysseus and Telemachus, but is killed in the slaughter by Telemachus when he charges Odysseus with his sword drawn
- Telemachus
- Agelaus- Damastor's son
- Melanthius- Melanthe's brother, Dolius' son, goatherd who supports the suitors, abuses Odysseus when he is disguised as a beggar, was slaughtered and cut into pieces
- Eumaeus- loyal swineherd who gives Odysseus food and shelter when he is in disguise
- Laertes- Odysseus' father
- Athena
- Mentor- Old comrade of Odysseus, Athena in disguise
- Helen
- Alcimus- Mentor's father
- Eurynomus
- Demoptolemus- suitor killed by Odysseus
- Amphimedon- nicked Telemachus' wrist, killed by Telemachus
- Pisander- Polyctor's son, killed by Elatus
- Polybus
- Euryades- swineherd, killed by Telemachus
- Elatus- cowherd
- Ctesippus- son of Polytherses, through spear at Eumaeus, killed by Eumaeus and Polybus
- Eurydamas- suitor killed by Odysseus
- Leocritus- suitor killed by Telemachus
- Leodes- pleaded to Odysseus for his life, but was not forgiven and killed
- Phemius- Terpis' son, the bard who preformed for the suitors, one of only two saved
- Medon- Tended to Telemachus when Odysseus was away, one of two who were saved

- Philoetius
- Eurycleia- Loyal old nurse
- 12 unfaithful servants- Not named, hung for being unfaithful to Odysseus

## BOOK 23

### *ODYSSEUS & PENELOPE*

*Stephanie Togias*

- Penelope's chief maid **Eurycleia**,
- Odysseus' faithful wife **Penelope**,
- **Odysseus** (still 'dirty' and dressed in 'rags')
- Odysseus and Penelope's son **Telemachus**
- The cowman **Philoetius**
- The swine- herd **Eumaeus**,
- The divine **bard/minstrel Phemius**,
- The housekeeper **Eurynome**
- The faithful **maids**
- The goddess **Athene**

## BOOK 24

***FIND THE THEME & THE REST OF THE CHARACTERS AFTER READING THE ODYSSEY YOURSELF!***

Καθρέφτης