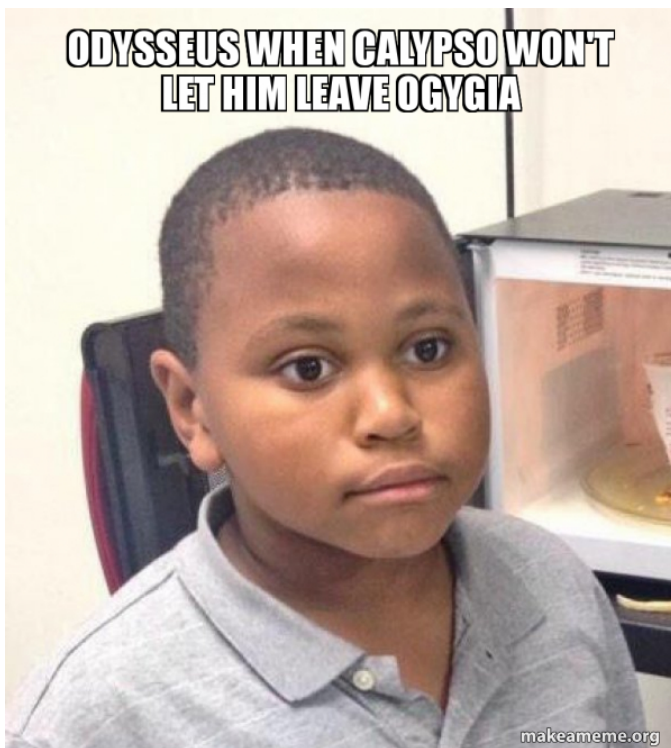


EPIC MYTHOMEMOLOGY

Book One

In book one of the odyssey, the timeline starts 10 years after the Trojan War ending. To begin, Homer invokes the Muse and asks for inspiration for the story of Odysseus. It simultaneously starts with two storylines, one in Ithaca and on the island of Ogygia. In Ithaca, suitors are taking over Odysseus' estate and are trying to get his wife. Odysseus being trapped on the island Ogygia with the goddess, Calypso. Calypso falls in love with him and does not let him leave the island. However, in both situations, his son does not help him because he thinks he is dead. Athena tells his son, Telemachus that Odysseus is still alive by taking the form of an old friend of Odysseus. She tells his son to tell the suitors to leave and tells him to go to Sparta and Pylos. Penelope was crying because she was sad about the music the Bard was playing and then her son went and told her to look at suitors. He tells the suitors that there is a visitor coming, like Athena in disguise had told him.



This quote describes how Calypso held Odysseus on her island and wanted him to be her husband.

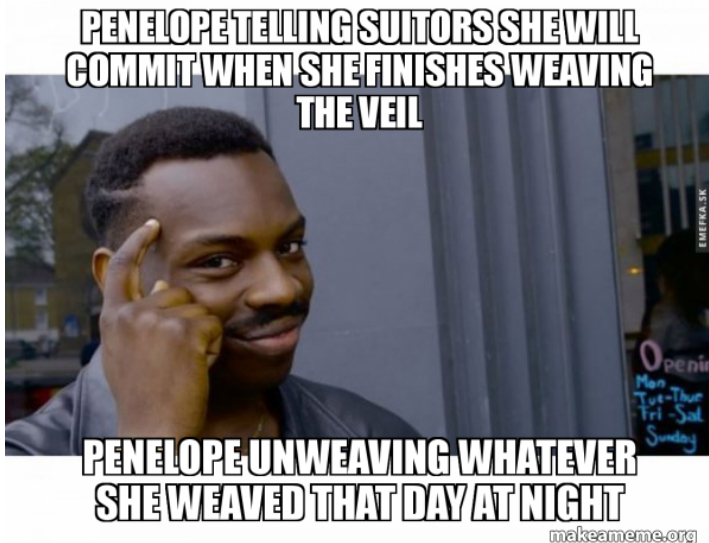
“Now all the rest, as many as had escaped sheer destruction, were at home, safe from both war and sea, but Odysseus alone, filled with longing for his return and for his wife, did the queenly nymph Calypso, that bright goddess, keep back in her hollow caves, yearning that he should be her husband.”

Odyssey, 1.11

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Two

When the suitors meet each other the next day, Aegyptius talks first. Aegyptius is an old and wise elder from Ithaca. He told Telemachus that he was doing great because this was the first time that someone called an assembly since Odysseus had left Ithaca. His son gave a long speech about his father being gone and his home being taken over by his mom's suitors. He talks down upon them and gets mad about how the suitors are trying to court Penelope. The suitors blame Penelope because she would seduce each of the suitors but not court them. Penelope told them that she would pick a suitor when she finishes weaving her bridal shroud but then she would unravel whatever she knit every the previous day so she never finishes. One of the suitors says if she doesn't choose, then Penelope should be taken back to Icarus. Then, Halitherses interrupts the meeting and told the suitors that if they don't leave they would face a massacre. When Telemachus is about to leave, Athena visits him in the form of Mentor and tells him that his journey would give him reward. She also gets a loyal crew and Telemachus leaves with his ship and does not tell anyone so that his mother is not sad. The only person he told was Eurycleia, the nurse.



The quote describes how Penelope would fool the suitors by weaving the veil and then unraveling it at night

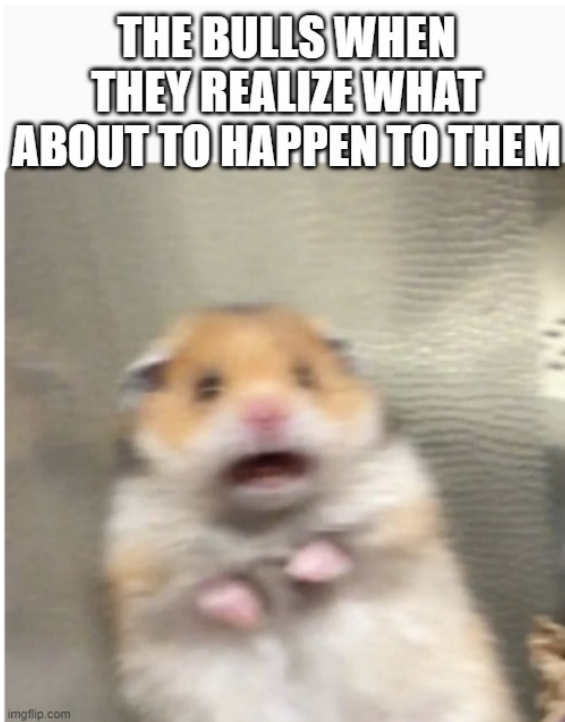
“‘Young men, my wooers, since goodly Odysseus is dead, be patient, though eager for my marriage, until I finish this robe -- I would not that my spinning should come to naught—a shroud for the lord Laertes, against the time when the fell fate of grievous death shall strike him down; lest any of the Achaean women in the land should be wroth with me, if he, who had won great possessions, were to lie without a shroud.’ So she spoke, and our proud hearts consented. Then day by day she would weave at the great web, but by night would unravel it, when she had let place torches by her.”

Odyssey, 2.90

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Three

When they reach Pylos, Telemachus and Athena under the disguise of Mentor both see a ceremony in which 81 bulls are being sacrificed to Poseidon. Telemachus then goes to Nestor, the king of Pylos, and inquires him about Odysseus. All that Nestor told him was that after the fall of Troy, Agamemnon and Menelaus, the leaders of the expedition, had a fight and it ended with Menelaus setting sail for Greece and Agamemnon continuing to sacrifice at Troy, with whom Odysseus had stayed. Telemachus then asks about what happened to Agamemnon and Nestor told him that he had returned from Troy to fight Aegisthus. Aegisthus has not gone to battle and instead seduced Agamemnon's wife. Agamemnon's wife had told Aegisthus to murder Agamemnon. Orestes then came back and killed both Aegisthus and his wife because they were about to take over Agamemnon's kingdom. Nestor sends Pisistratus along with Telemachus to Sparta. Athena also changes into an eagle and protects his ship and crew.



The following quote describes the sacrifice of the bulls that Telemachus witnessed.

“Here the townsfolk on the shore of the sea were offering sacrifice of black bulls to the dark-haired Earth-shaker. Nine companies there were, and five hundred men sat in each, and in each they held nine bulls ready for sacrifice. Now when they had tasted the inner parts and were burning the thigh-pieces to the god, the others put straight in to the shore, and hauled up and furled the sail of the shapely ship, and moored her, and themselves stepped forth.”

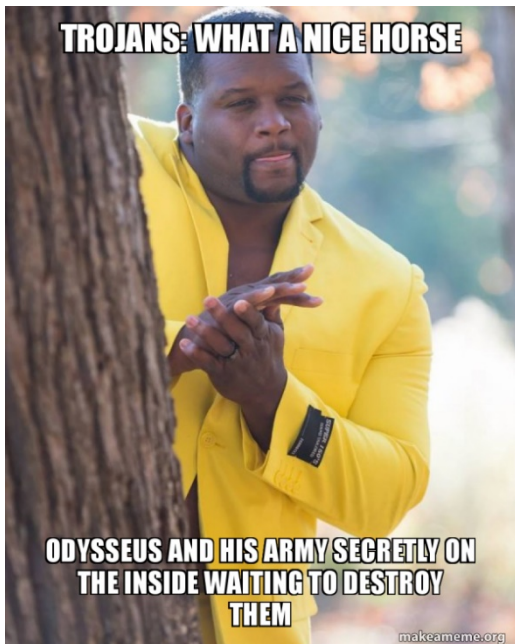
Odyssey, 3.4

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Four

When they reach Sparta, they meet Menelaus and Helen. Menelaus and Helen are both celebrating marriages of their children. When Telemachus meets Menelaus, he recognizes him as Odysseus' son. At the feast, Menelaus and Helen talk about the ways Odysseus fought with cleverness at Troy. One time, Odysseus had dressed as a beggar to get into the walls of the city. Menelaus also tells about the story of the Trojan Horse. In the story he talks about how Odysseus mastered the plan and allowed Greeks to sneak into Troy. Menelaus also talked about how he was left alone in Egypt and had to capture Proteus. Proteus was the Old Man of the Sea. Proteus had told Menelaus about Odysseus and how he was alive but imprisoned by Calypso. Thus, Telemachus go back to Pylos and sail towards Ithaca next. Because Penelope

was sad about her son and husband being gone, Athena sends a message to Penelope that she will protect Telemachus.



The quote describes how Odysseus and the army waited in the Trojan Horse to overthrow the Trojans.




“What a thing was this, too, which that mighty man wrought and endured in the carven horse, wherein all we chiefs of the Argives were sitting, bearing to the Trojans death and fate! Then thou camest thither, and it must be that thou wast bidden by some god, who wished to grant glory to the Trojans, and godlike Deiphobus followed thee on thy way.”

Odyssey, 4.234

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Five

The gods are gathering around Mount Olympus, but Poseidon is not there. They are deciding about the fate of Odysseus. Athena tells a speech in favor of Odysseus and thus Zeus gets involved and intervenes with Odysseus. He tells Hermes to tell Calypso that Odysseus is allowed to leave so that he can go back home. Although Calypso was against it because the gods' double standards, she agrees to the will of Zeus. Calypso helped Odysseus build a raft to leave the island. After many days, Odysseus sees Scheria and he sails towards it. Poseidon, who is against Odysseus, spots Odysseus and almost drags him under the sea, but Ino comes to rescue him. Athena also comes to his rescue because he was heading towards the coast where there were a lot of rocks. A river on the island lets him swim safely by going into its waters and ends up resting in the forest.

Odysseus escaping Ogygia	 Kalm
Poseidon attacking Odysseus	 Panik
Athena and Ino saving Odysseus	 Kalm

The following quote describes how Ino saved Odysseus from the rage Poseidon was bringing down upon him.

“But the daughter of Cadmus, Ino of the fair ankles, saw him, even Leucothea, who of old was a mortal of human speech, but now in the deeps of the sea has won a share of honor from the gods. She was touched with pity for Odysseus, as he wandered and was in sore travail, and she rose up from the deep like a sea-mew on the wing, and sat on the stoutly-bound raft, and spoke, saying: “Unhappy man, how is it that Poseidon, the earth-shaker, has conceived such furious wrath against thee, that he is sowing for thee the seeds of many evils? Yet verily he shall not utterly destroy thee for all his rage. Nay, do thou thus; and methinks thou dost not lack understanding. Strip off these garments, and leave thy raft to be driven by the winds, but do thou swim with thy hands and so strive to reach the land of the Phaeacians, where it is thy fate to escape. Come, take this veil, and stretch it beneath thy breast. It is immortal; there is no fear that thou shalt suffer aught or perish. But when with thy hands thou hast laid hold of the land, loose it from thee, and cast it into the wine-dark sea far from the land, and thyself turn away.””

Odyssey, 5.333

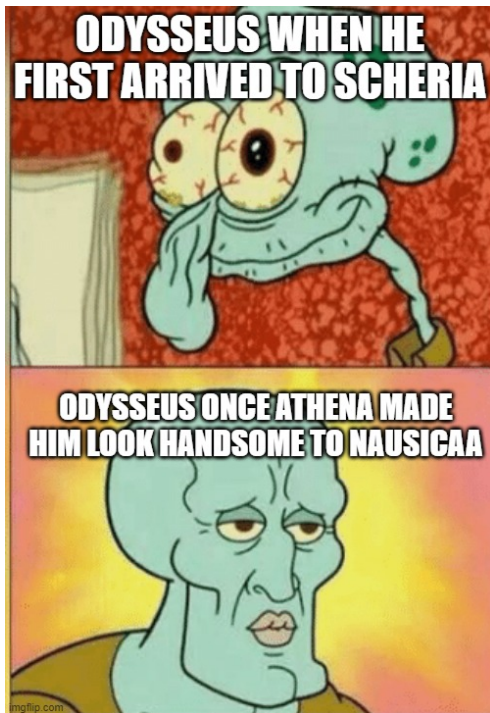
Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Six

Athena appears the dream of the Nausicaa, a Phaeacian princess. She is under the disguise of the Nausicaa’s friend and tell the princess to go wash her clothes by the river. She said it would help her seem more attractive to the men that wanted to court her. When Nausicaa goes to the river with hand maidens, they are fully naked and play while their clothes dry.

Odysseus, who was also nude, approaches them and asks for their help. Athena helps Odysseus look handsome and Nausicaa starts to fall in love with Odysseus. Nausicaa tells

Odysseus to go to the palace and talk to Arete, who was the queen. Odysseus then goes towards the palace to talk to her and hopes that he can stay in the city and that she will help him.



This quote describes how Athena changed Odysseus to make him look more desirable to Nausicaa and she took Odysseus under her wing.

“But when he had washed his whole body and anointed himself with oil, and had put on him the raiment which the unwedded maid had given him, then Athena, the daughter of Zeus, made him taller to look upon and mightier, and from his head she made the locks to flow in curls like unto the hyacinth flower. And as when a man overlays silver with gold, a cunning workman whom Hephaestus and Pallas Athena have taught all manner of craft, and full of grace is the work he produces, even so the goddess shed grace upon his head and shoulders. Then he went apart and sat down on the shore of the sea, gleaming with beauty and grace; and the damsel marvelled at him, and spoke to her fair-tressed handmaids, saying: “Listen, white-armed maidens, that I may say somewhat. Not without the will of all the gods who hold Olympus does this man come among the godlike Phaeacians. Before he seemed to me uncouth, but now he is like the gods, who hold broad heaven. Would that a man such as he might be called my husband, dwelling here, and that it might please him here to remain. But come, my maidens; give to the stranger food and drink.””

Odyssey, 6.238

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Seven

On his way to the palace, Odysseus is blessed by Athena and she puts a mist over him that will let him go to the palace without being harassed by the citizens of the city. After Odysseus goes to the palace, Athena leaves. When he gets to the palace, a ceremony for Poseidon was being held. When he sees the queen, he pleads to her to help him. To the people in the palace he seems suspicious because no one knew him. Odysseus tells everyone that he is a mortal and tells them about how he lost on his way home. Later that night, Arete realizes that the clothes Odysseus was wearing were Nausicaa's and asks him about it. To make sure the Nausicaa doesn't get in trouble, Odysseus tells her the whole story and told her that it was his idea for the Nausicaa to not come with him to the palace. The king offers Nausicaa's hand in marriage to Odysseus.



The following quote describes Odysseus begging the Queen for mercy and hospitality.

“Queen, Arete, daughter of godlike King Rhexenor!

Here after many trials I come to beg for mercy,

your husband's, yours, and all these feasters' here.

May the gods endow them with fortune all their lives,

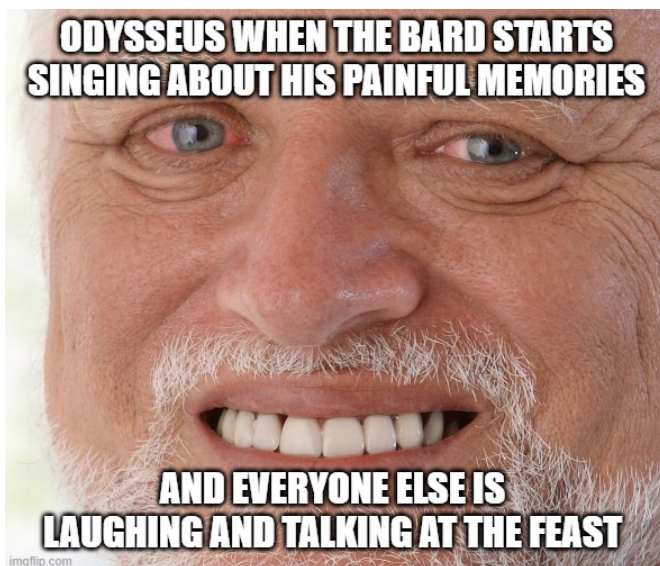
may each hand down to his sons the riches in his house
and the pride of place the realm has granted him.
But as for myself grant me a rapid convoy home
to my own native land. How far away I've been
from all my loved ones—how long I have suffered!”

Odyssey, 7.146

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes.
Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Eight

Alcinous, the king of Athens, calls an assembly of his counselors and Athena makes sure that people will attend by telling everyone that they are going to be talking about the new visitor on the island. Alcinous and his counsel approve giving Odysseus a ship and invite him to the palace for a feast and games. At the feast, Demodocus, the blind bard kept singing about the troubles Odysseus had faced before. Although everyone else would laugh, Odysseus would get very sad and start crying because it brought back painful memories. When the king sees Odysseus crying, he ends the feast and starts the games. Even though, Odysseus is invited to participate, he is still sad but participates because Broadsea enticed him to do so. When he plays the games, Odysseus easily wins the discuss toss. When the games started to become heated, Alcinous starts another feast. Demodocus again sings about the troubles of Odysseus, but this time mentions his tryst between Ares and Aphrodite. Odysseus once again becomes sad. Afterwards, he sings about the Trojan Horse and when Odysseus cries a third time, the king stops the music and asks Odysseus who he is and where he is from.



The following quote describes how Odysseus was very sad from what the minstrel was singing but everyone else was happy.

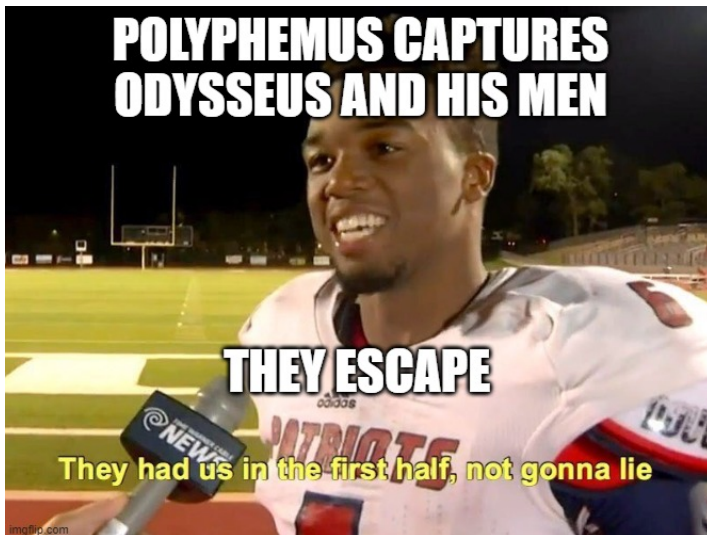
“Ever since we began to sup and the divine minstrel was moved to sing, from that time yon stranger has never ceased from sorrowful lamentation; surely, methinks, grief has encompassed his heart.”

Odyssey, 8.541

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Nine

Odysseus tells the Phaeacians who he is at the feast and tells them the story of how he got there. He tells them how after he left Troy, him and his crew set sail towards Ismarus, where the Cicones were found. Although, his men easily took hold of the city and enslaved the women, Odysseus told his men to leave at once. His men ignored what Odysseus said and instead stayed at Ismarus, which allowed the Cicones time to counterattack and take over Odysseus' men. After leaving the island, the remaining men and Odysseus set sail and this time come to the land of the Lotus- eaters. If the men eat the fruits of the lotus, then they will never want to go home and will get stuck on the island forever. Odysseus barely got his men back on the ship and locked them up so that they can leave the island. Once they finally set sail again, they end up at the land of the Cyclopes. The cyclopes are one-eyed giants. Once they eat, they go towards the mainland they get in trouble because Polyphemus, the Cyclops who is also the son of Poseidon, takes ahold of Odysseus and his men and imprisons them in his cave. Odysseus and his men get out because they tricked Polyphemus into calling Odysseus “Nobody” and made him blind. Once they are on board the ship, Odysseus tells Polyphemus his name and Polyphemus tells Poseidon to get revenge.



The quote describes how the crew got free and ran back to his ship.

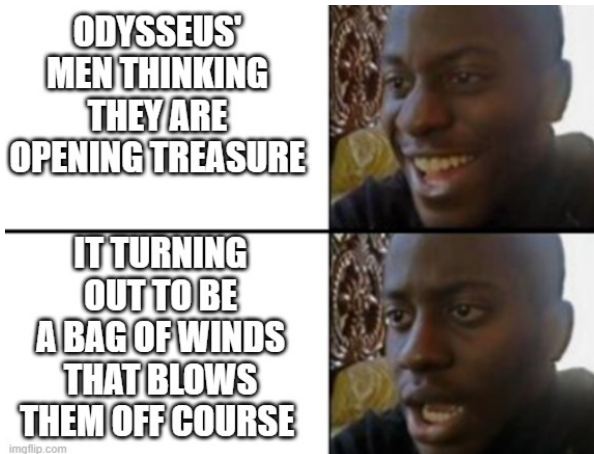
“So saying, he sent the ram forth from him. And when we had gone a little way from the cave and the court, I first loosed myself from under the ram and set my comrades free. Speedily then we drove off those long-shanked sheep, rich with fat, turning full often to look about until we came to the ship. And welcome to our dear comrades was the sight of us who had escaped death, but for the others they wept and wailed; yet I would not suffer them to weep, but with a frown forbade each man.”

Odyssey, 9.177

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Ten

In book ten of the *Odyssey*, Odysseus continues the recollection of his events. He tells of how once him and his men sailed away from the land of the Cyclops, they end up at the home of Aeolus, who is the God of winds. Aeolus gives Odysseus the western winds to allow him to sail towards Ithaca. When they were close to Ithaca, Odysseus' men opened up a bag of winds and accidentally stir up a storm which brings them back to Aeolus. Without the wind this time, Odysseus' men sail towards the Laestrygonians, who end up eating some of Odysseus' men. As the others try to leave, the giants throw rocks at them and only Odysseus' ship ends up escaping. Odysseus and his men then end up traveling to the land of Circe. Circe turns Odysseus' men into pigs and when Odysseus goes to rescue his men, he is intervened by the Gods. This time, Hermes shows up and tells Odysseus to eat an herb so Circe can't drug him. This allows Odysseus to beat Circe and change his men back. Odysseus and Circe end up falling in love and they stay there for a year. When they finally end up leaving, Circe tells them that they must sail towards Hades and speak to Tiresias, the prophet, in order to know how to return home.



The following quote describes when his crewmen opened the bag of winds that blew them back to Aeolus.

“So they spoke, and the evil counsel of my comrades prevailed. They loosed the wallet, and all the winds leapt forth, and swiftly the storm-wind seized them and bore them weeping out

to sea away from their native land; but as for me, I awoke, and pondered in my goodly heart whether I should fling myself from the ship and perish in the sea, or endure in silence and still remain among the living. However, I endured and abode, and covering my head lay down in the ship. But the ships were borne by an evil blast of wind back to the Aeolian isle; and my comrades groaned.”

Odyssey, 10.46

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Eleven

In book eleven of the *Odyssey*, Odysseus continues recalling to the Phoenicians. He traveled to the River of Ocean. Once there, he performs sacrifices as Circe had told him to in order to attract souls. He is finally able to speak with Tiresias who tells him why Poseidon is punishing him. He tells Odysseus that in the future he will return home and get his wife back and then go and get revenge on Poseidon. However, he also tells Odysseus to not touch the flocks of the Sun. Odysseus also speaks with his mother before he leaves. Then Odysseus is told by the king and queen to tell him about if he had met the Greeks who were destroyed in Troy. Odysseus tells them that he met Agamemnon and Achilles. Odysseus also spoke with Ajax, who refused to speak. He also saw other heroes and kings on his journey. He saw Sisyphus, who must eternally push a boulder up the hill. He also saw Tantalus who was forever hungry and thirsty. Then he becomes scared, and he sailed away.



The quote describes how Odysseus ran away from the souls because he got scared:

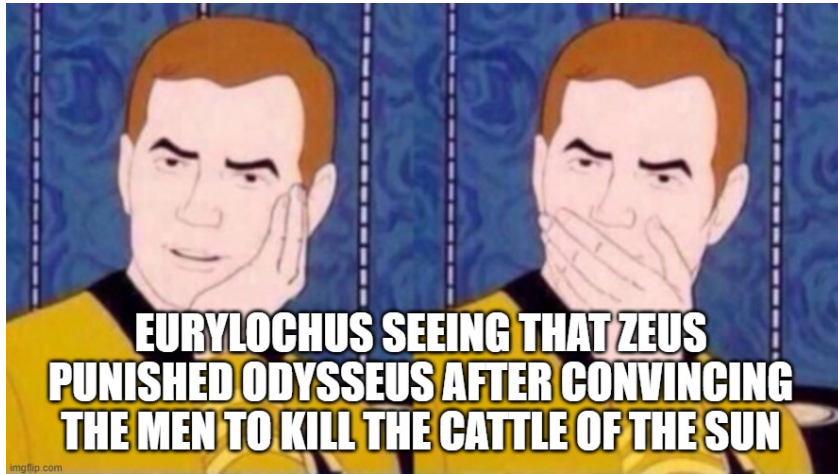
“Straightway then I went to the ship and bade my comrades themselves to embark, and to loose the stern cables. So they went on board quickly and sat down upon the benches. And the ship was borne down the stream Oceanus by the swelling flood, first with our rowing, and afterwards the wind was fair.”

Odyssey, 11.637

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Twelve

In book 12, Odysseus goes back to Aeaea, as instructed by when he met Elpenor and attends his burial. He also meets Circe on the island who tells him the obstacles he will face as he returns home. He uses Circe's advice on the journey home and he when he passes the Sirens, he makes sure to plug his men's ears. Then he meets Scylla, a 6-headed monster, who swallows some of the men. Charybdis, a giant whirlpool, is also one of the obstacles he encounters. His ship finally sails next to Thrinacia. Against his judgement, he lets his crew rest there because Eurylochus persuades them to. Eurylochus also persuades the crew to kill the cattle of the Sun. When the Sun realizes what they did, Zeus punishes Odysseus and his men and that ends up killing all the men and causing his ship to sink. He then arrives on Ogygia, where he found Calypso.



The following quote describes Eurylochus telling Odysseus' men to kill the cattle.

“And meanwhile Eurylochus began to give evil counsel to my comrades: ‘Hear my words, comrades, for all your evil plight. All forms of death are hateful to wretched mortals, but to die of hunger, and so meet one's doom, is the most pitiful. Nay, come, let us drive off the best of the kine of Helios and offer sacrifice to the immortals who hold broad heaven.’”

Odyssey, 12.399

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Thirteen

In book thirteen, Odysseus finishes telling the Phaeacians his stories from the past and how he ended up at Scheria. He sets sail the next night with the crew of Phaeacians manning the ship and Odysseus sleeps at the night. However, Poseidon spots the ship and gets mad at the Phaeacians for helping Odysseus and punishes the Phaeacians. Odysseus reaches Ithaca and doesn't recognize it because Athena has the mist over it. Athena comes to Odysseus, under a disguise, and tells him he is in Ithaca and Odysseus also uses a disguise when he talks to Athena. She then tells Odysseus about the suitors and also tells him how to get rid of them. She also disguises Odysseus so no one will know who he is.



The following quote shows Odysseus when he finally realizes he is in Ithaca.

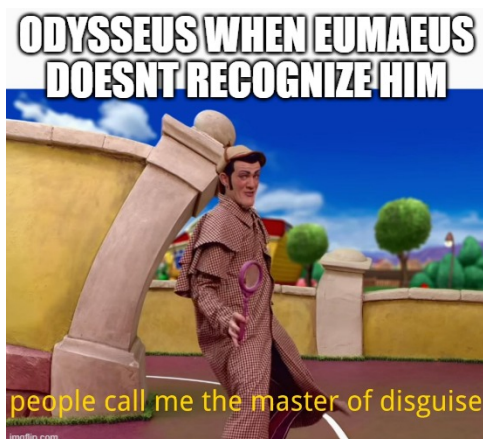
“Glad then was the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus, rejoicing in his own land, and he kissed the earth, the giver of grain.”

Odyssey, 13.352

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Fourteen

Odysseus goes to Eumaeus’ hut and Eumaeus does not recognize him. Odysseus has a meal with Eumaeus and listens to him about his complaints about his new masters, the horrible suitors. He also says how he misses his old master, Odysseus. Odysseus tells Eumaeus that he will soon see his old master, who was Odysseus, and lets Odysseus stay the night. When Eumaeus asks him about himself, Odysseus says he’s from Crete and just came back from Troy. He also said that on his way home he ended up in Egypt where he heard that Odysseus is still alive.



The following quote describes how Eumaeus did not realize it was Odysseus who he was talking to and says how he misses his old master, who was Odysseus.

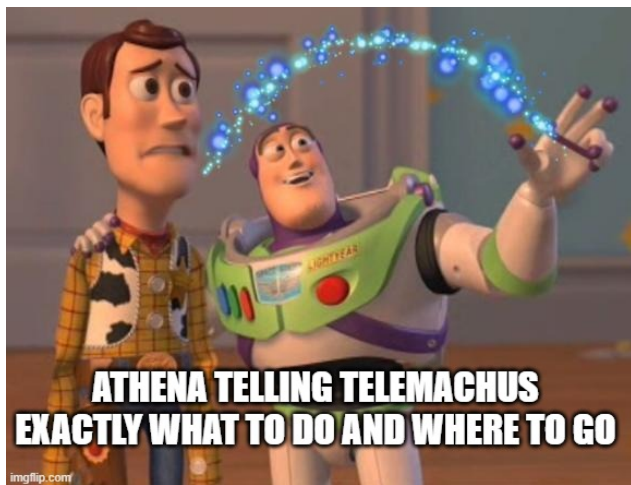
“Aye, and the gods have given me other griefs and sorrow. It is for a godlike master that I mourn and grieve, as I abide here, and rear fat swine for other men to eat, while he haply in want of food wanders over the land and city of men of strange speech, if indeed he still lives and sees the light of the sun. But come with me, let us go to the hut, old man, that when thou hast satisfied thy heart with food and wine, thou too mayest tell whence thou art, and all the woes thou hast endured.””

Odyssey, 14.41

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Fifteen

In book fifteen, it starts with Athena traveling to Sparta and tells Telemachus that he should go back to Ithaca because the suitors were about to take Penelope’s hand and tells him to go to Eumaeus, who can tell Penelope about Telemachus. Telemachus leaves the next day in his chariot and heads towards Pylos. At Pylos, he tells Pisistratus to leave him on his ship and doesn’t go to see Nestor. Meanwhile, while Odysseus is with Eumaeus, he tells him that he will leave in the morning and tells Eumaeus that the suitors will be good to him. Eumaeus also tells Odysseus his story of how he ended up on Ithaca. When Telemachus reaches Ithaca that next morning, he tells Theoclymenus to go with Piraeus. Theoclymenus sees a hawk carrying a bird and says that it is positive sign towards Odysseus.



The following quote describes Athena as she was telling Telemachus to go back to Ithaca and meet the swineherd.

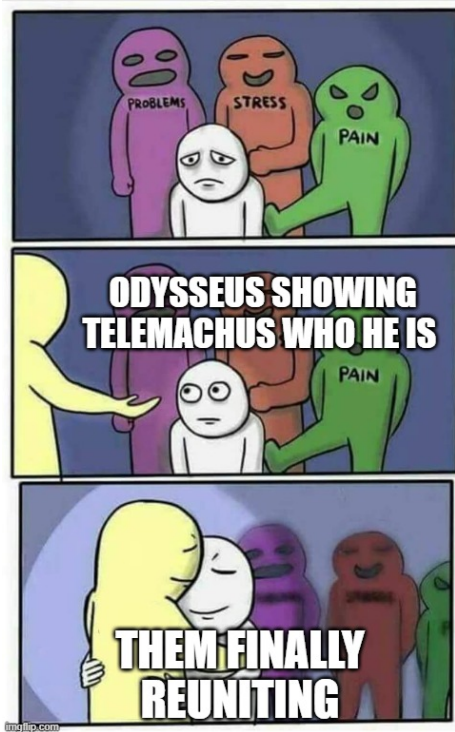
“But when thou hast reached the nearest shore of Ithaca, send thy ship and all thy comrades on to the city, but thyself go first of all to the swineherd who keeps thy swine, and withal has a kindly heart toward thee. There do thou spend the night, and bid him to go to the city to bear word to wise Penelope that she has thee safe, and thou art come from Pylos.””

Odyssey, 15.35

Homer. The Odyssey. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes.
Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Sixteen

In book sixteen, Telemachus finally reaches Eumaeus' hut and sees him with Odysseus, who is under disguise. Eumaeus tells Telemachus that the stranger he was hosting, Odysseus, should go to Telemachus' home with him. Eumaeus goes to tell Penelope about the return of Telemachus. Telemachus does not go with Odysseus because he is scared of suitors. Athena comes to the hut and removes Odysseus' disguise. Telemachus then recognizes his father and Odysseus tells him about his stories. They start to think about how to defeat the suitors and suggests that Telemachus and he ambush them. The suitors learn from a visitor that Telemachus has returned so they start to formulate an attack against him. They decide to wait for a sign from the Gods before they do anything. Penelope comes to Eurymachus because she realizes that he was plotting against her son but Eurymachus calms her down.



The quote describes Odysseus and Telemachus finally reuniting.

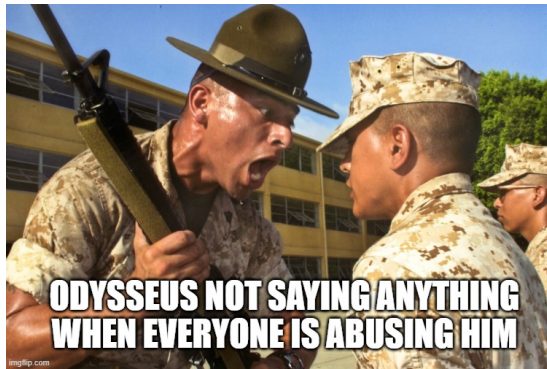
“So saying, he sat down, and Telemachus, flinging his arms about his noble father, wept and shed tears, and in the hearts of both arose a longing for lamentation. And they wailed aloud more vehemently than birds, sea-eagles, or vultures with crooked talons, whose young the country-folk have taken from their nest before they were fledged; even so piteously did they let tears fall from beneath their brows.”

Odyssey, 16.40

Homer. The Odyssey. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Seventeen

Telemachus goes to his house without his father and meets Penelope and Eurycleia. When Telemachus and Penelope eat, he doesn't tell her that his father is back, just that he heard no news of him when he went to Pylos and Sparta. At the same time, Eumaeus and Odysseus went towards the city behind Telemachus. As they are going there, they see Melanthius who kicks Odysseus. When Odysseus gets to his house, the suitors do not greet him well and Antinous hurts him by hitting him. However, they do not recognize him as Odysseus. Penelope asks that the visitor be brought to her room and Eumaeus returns to his hut.



The following quote describes how Odysseus got abused but he did not say anything to keep his disguise.

“So he spoke, and as he passed he kicked Odysseus on the hip in his folly, yet he did not drive him from the path, but he stood steadfast. And Odysseus pondered whether he should leap upon him and take his life with his staff, or seize him round about, and lift him up, and dash his head upon the ground. Yet he endured, and stayed him from his purpose.”

Odyssey, 17.233

Homer. The Odyssey. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Eighteen

In book eighteen, it starts with a beggar named Arnaeus comes into the palace and challenges Odysseus to a boxing match. As they are fighting, Athena gives Odysseus power and then Arnaeus tries to back out. The fight ends with Odysseus killing Arnaeus. Amphinomus gives Odysseus food when he wins the fight and Odysseus tells him about how they are about to try and kill the suitors. However, Amphinomus doesn't leave because Athena has already decided that Telemachus will kill him. Athena then visits Penelope and tells her that she should visit the suitors and blesses her with beauty. Penelope tells the suitors that Odysseus had told her to choose a suitor when Telemachus has a beard and tricks them into bringing gifts. Athena is trying to get everyone to be mad at Odysseus in order to inspire rage and keeps telling people to

insult Odysseus. First, Melantho, the maidservant, insults Odysseus and then Eurymachus insults him.



The following quote shows Odysseus being relentlessly insulted by the maidservant.

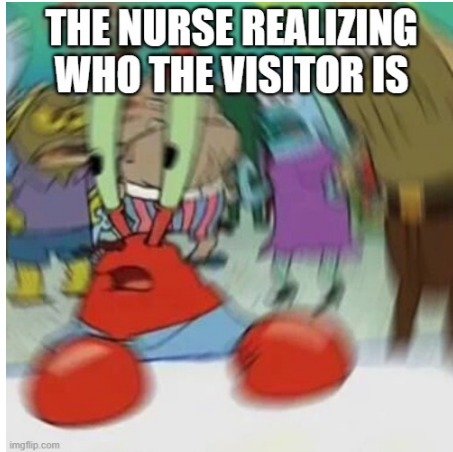
“She then rated Odysseus with reviling words: “Wretched stranger, thou art but a crack-brained fellow, unwilling to go to a smithy to sleep, or to a common lodge, but pratest here continually, unabashed in the company of many lords, and hast no fear at heart. Surely wine has mastered thy wits, or else thy mind is ever thus, that thou dost babble idly. Art thou beside thyself because thou hast beaten that vagrant Irus? Beware, lest presently another better than Irus shall rise up against thee to beat thee about the head with heavy hands, and befoul thee with streams of blood, and send thee forth from the house.””

Odyssey, 18.320

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Nineteen

When the suitors sleep, Telemachus and Odysseus start preparing the arms and Athena makes the room full of light. Telemachus tells the nurse that they are preparing the arms to keep them from getting damaged. Once they finish, Odysseus meets Penelope and Penelope asks about Odysseus. Odysseus describes himself and Penelope starts to cry because his details were very accurate. Odysseus then tells her that Odysseus is still alive and is sailing but should be back home soon. Odysseus allows the nurse to wash his feet and she recognizes him. He tells her to not tell anyone anything because he does not want anyone to know its him. Penelope has a dream in which she gets a vision that her husband killed 20 geese in a row. Penelope says that she does not know the meaning of the dream and says that her husband is the one who can shoot an arrow through 12 holes in axes at once.



The following describes Odysseus telling the nurse to not tell anyone his secret.

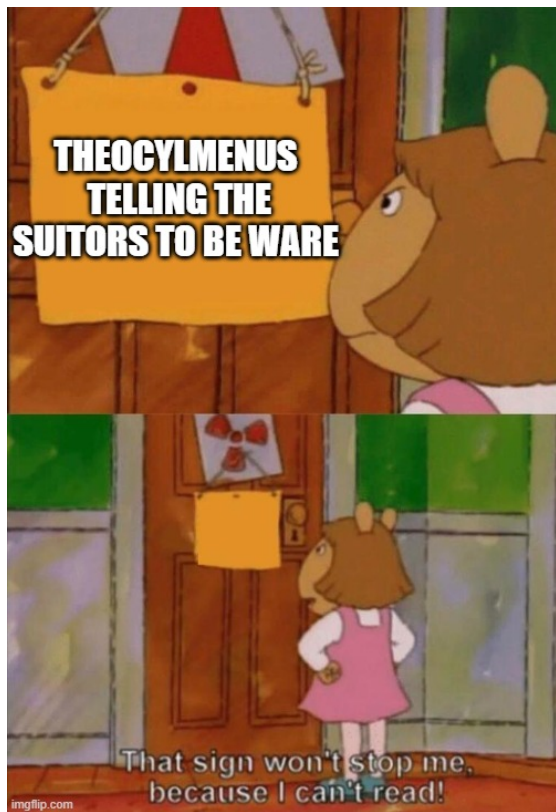
“Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: “Mother, why, pray, wilt thou speak of them? Thou needest not at all. Of myself will I mark them well, and come to know each one. Nay, keep the matter to thyself, and leave the issue to the gods.””

Odyssey, 19.499

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Twenty

In book twenty, it starts with Odysseus not being able to sleep because he is worried about having to kill the suitors. He also sees that the servants in the house were going to meet their lovers, who are amongst the suitors, in the night. Athena also visits him and tells him that the gods are helping him, and everything will end up with a positive turnout. Penelope prays for Artemis to kill her because she still believes Odysseus is lost and now she has to take someone else's hand in marriage. Odysseus also wishes for a good omen from Zeus. In the morning, the suitors start talking about wanting to kill Telemachus and Odysseus and Telemachus meet Eumaeus. Amphinomus tells the suitors to not murder Telemachus. Later on in the evening, Ctesippus eggs on Odysseus and throws an oxhoof at him. Telemachus gets mad in response and threatens him. The suitors continue to laugh and don't notice that the room is bloody and their faces seem as though they are doomed. Theoclymenus sees all of this as an omen that they are about to perish.



The following quote describing Theoclymenus telling the suitors to be aware of the danger but them ignoring it.

“ Then among them spoke godlike Theoclymenus: “Ah, wretched men, what evil is this that you suffer? Shrouded in night are your heads and your faces and your knees beneath you; kindled is the sound of wailing, bathed in tears are your cheeks, and sprinkled with blood are the walls and the fair rafters. And full of ghosts is the porch and full the court, of ghosts that hasten down to Erebus beneath the darkness, and the sun has perished out of heaven and an evil mist hovers over all.”So he spoke, but they all laughed merrily at him. ”

Odyssey, 20.347

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Twenty-One

Penelope gets Odysseus' bow and says that whoever can string the bow and shoot it through the 12 axes gets her hand in marriage. Telemachus himself first tries to string the bow but fails, and when he is about to do it, Odysseus says to him to back down. As the suitors each try to string it, they all fail; regardless of them trying to grease the bow. As this is happening, Odysseus reveals who he is to Euameus and Philoetius by using his foot. He gets their support in the fight against the suitors. Antinous says the contest should be held the next day because none of them have succeeded and they want to give a sacrifice to Apollo first. Odysseus says he wants to try to

string it and Penelope agrees. Odysseus is successful in completing Penelope's challenge and then him and Telemachus face the suitors.



The following quote describes Odysseus shooting the arrow and winning the contest.

“ . This he took, and laid upon the bridge of the bow, and drew the bow-string and the notched arrow even from the chair where he sat, and let fly the shaft with sure aim, and did not miss the end of the handle of one of the axes, but clean through and out at the end passed the arrow weighted with bronze. But he spoke to Telemachus, saying: “Telemachus, the stranger that sits in thy halls brings no shame upon thee, nor in any wise did I miss the mark, or labour long in stringing the bow; still is my strength unbroken--not as the wooers scornfully taunt me. But now it is time that supper too be made ready for the Achaeans, while yet there is light, and thereafter must yet other sport be made with song and with the lyre; for these things are the accompaniments of a feast.””

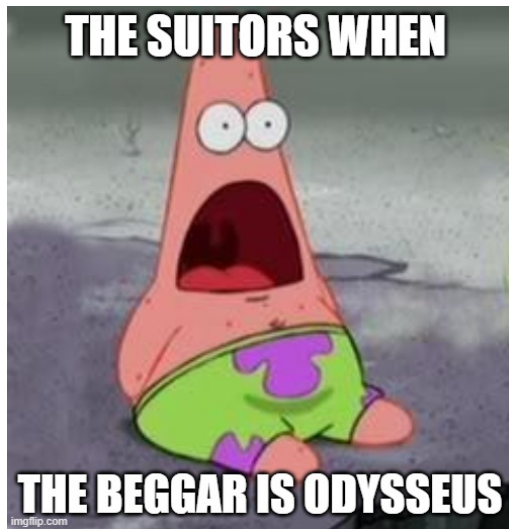
Odyssey, 21.414

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Twenty-Two

While the suitors are still in shock because Odysseus won the contest, Odysseus impales Antinous with an arrow. Then he reveals himself to the suitors by taking his rags off, who are scared because it's Odysseus. Eurymachus tries to leave because he realizes the danger of the situation he is in. However, there is no way out because Euramius and Philoetius have trapped them inside. Odysseus says he will kill all of the men because of what they had done. Telemachus kills Amphinomus with this spear. When Telemachus tries to go and get more armor, Melanthius realizes that they have a storeroom of arms and he brings the suitors back reinforcements. Eumaeus and Philoetius catch him and tie him up. Athena comes again, again disguised, and tells Odysseus to fight. She also starts to battle when she Odysseus' strength and

the battle ends. The only people left were Phemius and Medon and Odysseus and his supporters had killed everyone else.



The following quote shows Odysseus revealing himself to the suitors.

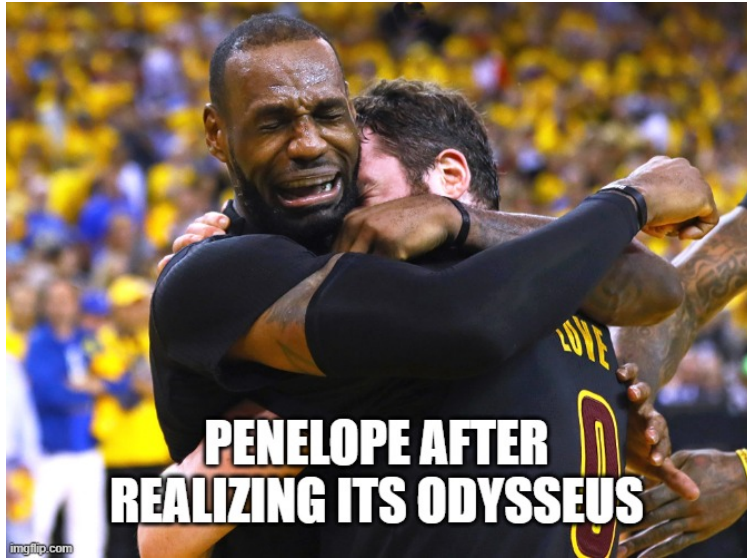
“Then with an angry glance from beneath his brows Odysseus of many wiles answered them: “Ye dogs, ye thought that I should never more come home from the land of the Trojans, seeing that ye wasted my house, and lay with the maidservants by force, and while yet I lived covertly wooed my wife, having no fear of the gods, who hold broad heaven, nor of the indignation of men, that is to be hereafter. Now over you one and all have the cords of destruction been made fast.” So he spoke, and thereat pale fear seized them all, and each man gazed about to see how he might escape utter destruction”

Odyssey, 22.36

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Twenty-Three

While the fight was going on, Penelope was sleeping and didn't realize that the fight had happened. When Eurycleia told Penelope what happened, she didn't believe her. Then Penelope sees Odysseus and meets her husband again. Odysseus realizes what he has done by killing of the noble men, he tells Telemachus to leave his parents and to gather the servants and stage a feast so no one realizes what happened. Penelope tests Odysseus to make sure it is really him and tells him to move her bed. Because Odysseus was the one who built the bed, he knew it couldn't be moved and passes Penelope's test. Athena visits Odysseus and Penelope and gives them more time to be together by elongating the night. Afterwards, in the morning Odysseus and Telemachus go towards Laertes' orchard and Odysseus tells Penelope to not leave her room. Athena also makes sure that Odysseus and Telemachus get to the Laertes' Orchard.



The following quote describes Penelope realizing who Odysseus is after he passed the test.

“So he spoke, and her knees were loosened where she sat, and her heart melted, as she knew the sure tokens which Odysseus told her. Then with a burst of tears she ran straight toward him, and flung her arms about the neck of Odysseus, and kissed his head,”

Odyssey, 23.205

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.

Book Twenty- Four

Book twenty-four, the last book in the *Odyssey* starts with Hermes leading the souls of the suitors to Hades. The souls pass many great Greek heroes and tell them about how they died because they were trying to court Penelope and Odysseus returned and killed them. Meanwhile, on Ithaca, Odysseus finally gets to his father's, Laertes', farm. He meets with his father alone and he realizes how old Laertes has gotten. As they talk, his father does not know it is his son speaking to him and Odysseus doesn't tell him his identity. He then tells his father who he is and proves it by showing his scar and telling him memories from his past. Then they eat with Telemachus and Dolios. Rumor, the goddess, spreads the message of the suitors being killed throughout Ithaca and one of the suitor's father wants revenge. He raises support and goes to Odysseus' house but Athena, once again disguised, steps in and put an end to the uprising against Odysseus. She restores peace in Ithaca and announces Odysseus as the king.



The following quote describes Athena spreading peace and making the noblemens' fathers forget that their sons died.

“And now would they have slain them all, and cut them off from returning, had not Athena, daughter of Zeus, who bears the aegis, shouted aloud, and checked all the host, saying: “Refrain, men of Ithaca, from grievous war, that with all speed you may part, and that without bloodshed.””

Odyssey, 24.524

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Murray, A T. Loeb Classical Library Volumes. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press; London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1919.