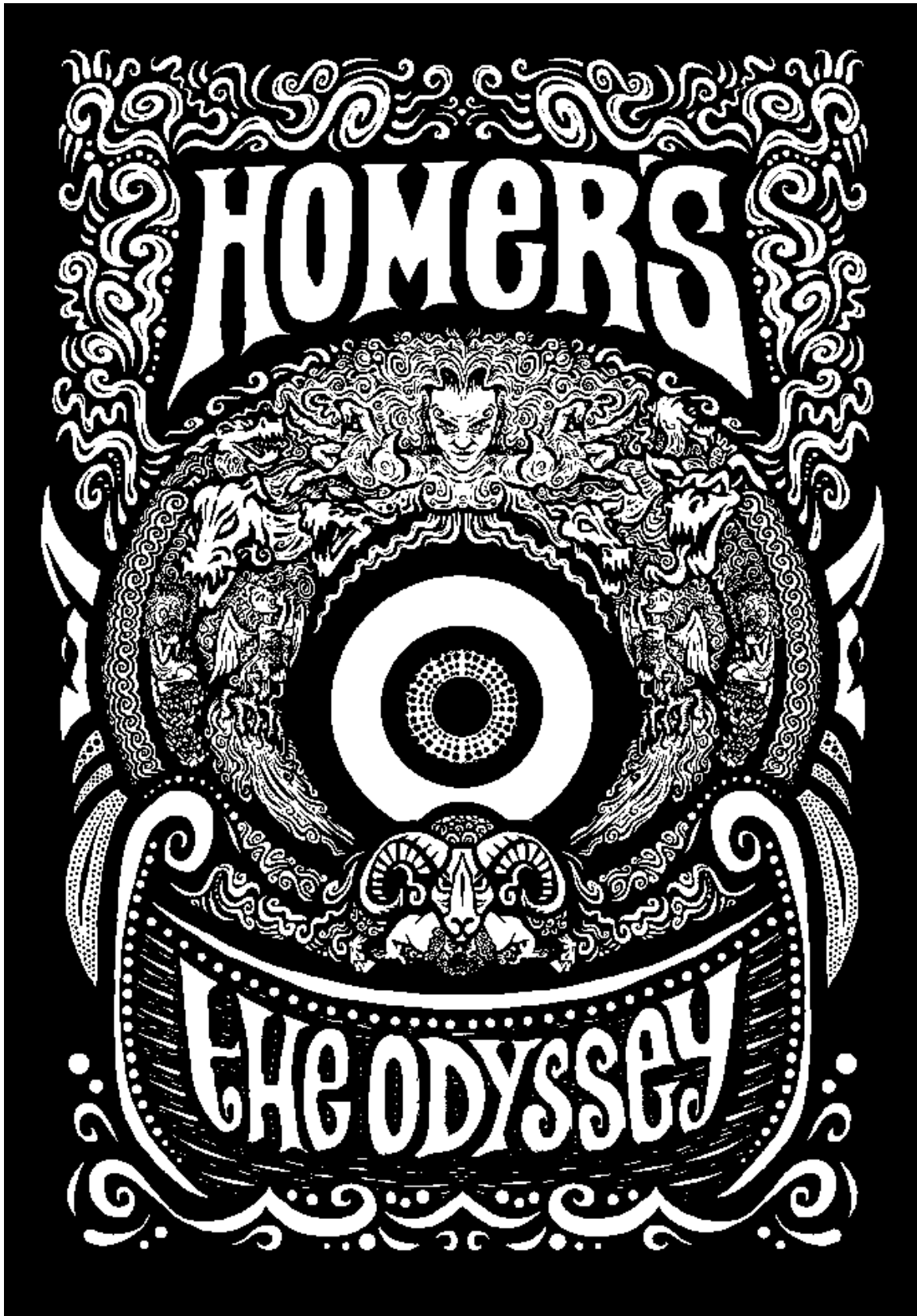


Name

Hour



*The Homecoming
Book's Twenty-one, twenty-two, and twenty three*

Name

Hour

The Homecoming

1. Who helps Odysseus home?
2. Who does he meet and what do they tell Odysseus?
3. What does Odysseus disguise as? What type of irony is being used?
4. Who are two of the suitors and how would they be described?
5. Who does Odysseus reunite with and what do they do?
6. Explain Penelope's role and what has she proposed?

Book Twenty-one

7. What is Penelope doing at the beginning of the book?
8. What do you think it meant by "the quiver spiked with coughing death,"?
9. Explain Penelope's speech to the suitors.
10. What must the suitors do?
11. Why do you think she has choose an archery contest?

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12. How does Eumaeus and the cohered Philoetius react when they are reminded of their master?

13. What is your impression of Antinous?

14. What is Antinous' fate?

15. Describe the effect of learning Antinous' fate so soon. Explain why Homer might have chosen to "spoil the suspense" with this foreshadowing?

16. Who are the most able suitors?

17. Who does Odysseus enlist to help him?

18. What does Odysseus ask them? What is their response?

19. What is the quality that Odysseus values so highly in these two servants?

20. What does Odysseus tell his men will be the rewarded for helping them?

21. How does Odysseus prove who he is?

22. Why does Odysseus anticipate that the swineherd will get into a conflict with the suitors?

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23. What is Odysseus's plan?

24. Why is Eurymachus frustrated? What does he say is worst than losing women?

25. How does Antinous react to the beggar's request?

26. What does Penelope say and how does this characterize Penelope?

27. How do the suitors treat the old swineherd?

28. What does Telemachus do? How do people react towards him?

29. Lines 199-103, explain the epic simile. What qualities of Odysseus does this comparison emphasize?

30. What does Zeus do and what is this a sign of?

31. Is Odysseus able to string the bow?

32. What is the irony in lines about cooking the lordships' meal?

33. How does the book end?

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Twenty-Two

34. Why does Odysseus kill Antinous first? Why does he do it in such a sudden, terrible way?

35. Why do you think Homer describes Antinous' golden cup in such detail?

36. Describe how Antinous dies.

37. How does Antinous' men react?

38. When Odysseus reveals his true identity and announces that he plans to kill all the suitors, what reasons does he give for killing them?

39. What is Eurymachus's strategy? How does Eurymachus try to prevent the slaughter of the suitors? How does he hope to save himself and the remaining suitors?

40. Why do you think Odysseus rejects Eurymachus' explanation and offer of restitution?

41. How is Eurymachus' similar to Odysseus?

42. How does Eurymachus die?

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43. Eurymachus' death is physically painful, but he also has "revulsion, anguish in his heart," why do you think cause his emotional pain?

44. How does Amphinomus die?

45. Explain what makes the setting of the battle favorable to Odysseus and makes in unfavorable to the suitors.

46. What does Athena do while Odysseus is battling?

47. What scares the suitors?

48. What is Odysseus and his men compared to while battling?

Book Twenty-Three

49. Describe how the goddess Athena has changed Odysseus' appearance.

50. How is Penelope treating Odysseus now that they are reunited?

51. Why is Penelope reluctant to accept that this man is Odysseus?

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52. Explain Odysseus and Penelope's bed. Why do you think Penelope asks the servant to move the bed?

53. Explain Penelope's speech to her husband once she realizes it is him, what do we know about the troubles she's had to endure while Odysseus was gone?

54. Who does Penelope compare herself to? Was Penelope faithful to Odysseus?

55. In the last stanza, explain the epic simile and who is Odysseus being compared to?

Critical Thinking:

1. Whose pain and suffering do you think has been greater Odysseus' or Penelope's? Defend your choice.

2. Do you think Odysseus is right to kill all the suitors? Why or why not?

3. Do Odysseus's actions in these excerpts seem consistent with what you have come to expect from an epic hero?