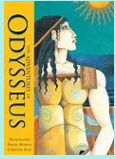


The Adventures of Odysseus - helpful guide

Lots of you have been listening to The Adventures of Odysseus, but are you following it all?
Here is a handy guide to who's who and what's what so far!
This will explain what's happened up to the end of Chapter 2 - The Cyclops



May 6-10:34



Prologue

The Prologue tells you what happened before The Adventures of Odysseus begin.

Odysseus was King of Ithaca, an island which is now part of Greece.

He was known as a clever, brave warrior and so was called upon to fight with other Greeks against the Trojans.

He didn't want to go because he wanted to stay with his wife Penelope and his new born son Telemachus. So, he pretended to be mad, but the messengers sent to get him realised he was pretending and he had to go.

May 6-10:38


The story you hear in the Prologue explains why the Trojan war started.

Paris was a mortal (human) who lived in Troy. He was forced to choose one of 3 goddesses (immortals). They all promised to give him a precious gift.

Hera (queen of the gods) promised him power
Athena (goddess of wisdom) promised him wisdom
Aphrodite (goddess of love) promised him the most beautiful woman in the world.

Paris chose Aphrodite.

The problem was that the most beautiful woman in the world was Helen. She was married to a Greek King! He was not happy when she went back to Troy with Paris and started a war against the city of Troy!
The war lasted 10 years!




May 6-10:43

Chapter 1 - The Stranger

This picks up Odysseus on his journey home. He is washed up on a beach, his ship wrecked and all alone. He is found by Nausicaa, the daughter of King Alcinous. They provide him with food, but when he reveals he is Odysseus, they ask him what happened to him and his crew.

The rest of the story, starting with Chapter 2 - The Cyclops is Odysseus telling his story, how he ended up alone, with no ship and no crew, nearly dead.

He explains that he has been trying to get home to Ithaca and his wife and son for 8 years. All that time, his wife has waited for him, refusing to marry anyone else and refusing to accept that he might be dead.




May 6-10:49

Chapter 2 - The Cyclops

Having left the Trojan War and sailing for home, Odysseus and his men found a beautiful island and stopped to try to get some more supplies.

But the cyclops lived there and ... well you can probably recall the rest!

Another important point to note is that the Cyclops were sons of Poseidon, the god of the sea. What might happen if the god of the sea got angry with you?



May 6-10:54

Recap

Prologue - the reason why the Trojan War started - Odysseus fought for the Greeks

Chapter 1 - The Stranger - Odysseus washes up on a beach and tells the king he is Odysseus on his way home. Starts telling the story of his journey and what brought him here.

Chapter 2 - start of Odysseus telling his story - encounter with the cyclops

HOPE THAT ALL MAKES SENSE! Next stop Chapter 3 - The Sack of Winds

May 6-11:09