

Paraphrasing *THE ODYSSEY*

Book 1: *A GODDESS INTERVENES*

Paraphrase (put into your own words) each stanza in Book 1. Use complete sentences.

The narrator wants the Muses to sing the story of Odysseus.

Odysseus wanted to protect both his life and his shipmates' lives. Shipmates are fools, reckless, throw caution to the wind. They ate the sun god's cattle, which made the sun god angry.

Muse, daughter of Zeus, tells the story of Odysseus' adventures.

Sum up what occurs in Book 1 in one or two sentences:

The author wants the Muses to tell the tale of the story of Odysseus.

The Muse is the narrator and the shipmates at the cows of Helios.

The Muses sing a story about how Odysseus sets sail with a bunch of idiots and eats a god's cattle, which makes him angry.

Odysseus wants to protect his people but he can't, and the Muses tell the story.

Book 9: *NEW COASTS AND POSEIDON'S SON - "I AM LAERTES' SON"*

Summarize in complete sentences what Odysseus says in lines 1-28 (pgs. 372-373)

Odysseus arrives to a strange house and tells a stranger about his story. He doesn't know who Odysseus is.

Odysseus is now narrating his own story.

Odysseus shared to a stranger his story.

NEW COASTS AND POSEIDON'S SON - THE CYCLOPS (beginning on pg. 374)

Paraphrase each page (374-385). Use complete sentences.

pg. 374

- The Cyclops are careless and they don't plant anything they just grow thing.

- Cyclops' race is being described negatively as lawless, meaningless, ignorant, and unfriendly. Odysseus is with a large company of men and tells them that they're going to the Cyclops to see if it's hospitable or not.

- They were basically a old-fashioned anarchy.

- Odysseus went to check out the island with the thought of getting gifts, but what he doesn't know is there are beasts there, and he is liking the island so far, but the Cyclops are going to ruin it for him.

pg. 375

- Odysseus was telling his past about the liquor.

- Odysseus was going to explore the island. He has very strong wine/liquor.

- Odysseus has become wary and brings some reinforcements to go see the Cyclops, along with wine.

- Odysseus and his 12 best fighters went to explore the island, with his goatskin full of sweet liquor.

- Odysseus was obsessed with the liquor.

- Odysseus and his men were going to explore the island. He was talking about how to make the liquor.

pg. 376

- Ok so: Odysseus and his men chilled out inside the Cyclops cave and ate his food in the process. The Cyclops comes back to his cave with his ewes that he needed to milk, and found Odysseus and his men hiding.
- There were kids and goats and he lives off lambs. Odysseus wants to release all the animals to steal them.
- He and his men went into a Cyclops cave to eat cheese and milk. The Cyclops traps them and then sees them.

pg. 377

- Odysseus lies to the Cyclops about where his ship is.
- Odysseus and his crew introduce themselves to the Cyclops (BUT Odysseus doesn't his name)
- The Cyclops is angry and might eat them.
- Odysseus commands the Cyclops to give him a gift, or the gods will avenge him. Odysseus lied to the Cyclops.

pg. 378

- The Cyclops eats 2 men for dinner and 2 men for breakfast and leaves again. He kept them trapped.
- The Cyclops has eaten 4 people. Odysseus and his men are creating a plan to get themselves out of the cave.
- The Cyclops ate 4 of Odysseus' men. He's making a spear for some reason, we don't know yet. The Cyclops is keeping everyone inside of his cave for safe-keeping.

pg. 379

- Sooo...Odysseus and his men made a spear that they plan to blind the Cyclops with, and they buried it in his poop. He offered the Cyclops his liquor and they gave him three more bowls of it.
- The Cyclops ate 2 more of Odysseus' men. Odysseus weirdly is trying to reward him by giving him wine.

pg. 380

- Odysseus says his name is "Nohbdy", and when the Cyclops falls asleep, they stab him in his eye. He wakes up screaming and tries to call for help from the other Cyclopes. They probably won't come because they're lazy and they don't really care for each other.
- Odysseus lied to the Cyclops again, and the Cyclops gave Odysseus the gift of being the last to be eaten. Odysseus and his men finally stabbed the Cyclops.
- Odysseus tells the Cyclops his name was "Nohbdy". The Cyclops falls asleep. They heat up the spear and stab him in the eye. He wakes up screaming.

pg. 381

- Polyphemus woke up the other Cyclopes, who asked why he was crying. He said "Nohbdy" tricked me.
- Odysseus still has the Cyclops tricked. The Cyclops' fam were woken by his loud screaming, and asked why they were woken. Polyphemus said "Nohbdy" tricked me. They went back to sleep.
- Odysseus and his men are trying to figure out a way to escape without the Cyclops' knowing.

pg. 382

- Polyphemus felt that the leader sheep was falling behind, so he got suspicious. Then Odysseus and his men got out under the bellies of the sheep and got back to the ship. Odysseus starts shouting.

pg. 383

- Odysseus escaped from the island and wanted to be Billy Bad (wanted to show off), and shouted back to Polyphemus, who doesn't even know he's gone. Polyphemus took a hilltop and threw it at them, which pushed them back to shore.

- Odysseus taunts the Cyclops, who throws a hilltop at them, which washes them back to shore. They start rowing again and Odysseus is about to start shouting but his crew tries to stop him.

pg. 384

- The Cyclops invited Odysseus back to his cave and to tell his dad (Poseidon) to be nice to him.
- Odysseus and the Cyclops are going back and forth. The Cyclops low-key apologizes, and Odysseus, being the egotistical person he is, tells the Cyclops “go to hell”. The Cyclops starts praying to curse Odysseus.
- Odysseus finally tells Polyphemus his info and Polyphemus offers friendship and no death if he comes back. Odysseus says no. Polyphemus prays to his father to make Odysseus’ life H E double hockey sticks.

pg. 385

- Odysseus was beached and tries to get help from Zeus by sacrificing the giant ram.
- The sacrifice did not work.

Summarize in two or three sentences what occurred when Odysseus and his men came across the Cyclops: Odysseus and his men went to the island of the Cyclops and got stuck inside Polyphemus’ cave and they blind Polyphemus after getting him drunk. He escapes by hiding under the big sheep. Polyphemus puts a curse on him and makes his life HE double hockey sticks.

Book 10: *CIRCE, THE GRACE OF THE WITCH*

Summarize in complete sentences what Odysseus says in lines 1-45 (pg. 386-387)

Odysseus and his men are caught under Circe’s spell and are there for a year.

- Odysseus and his men come upon Circe’s island. Odysseus stays on the ship but sends half the men to check it out. The men see animals at the beginning of the island, but the animals didn’t attack. They went in the palace. Circe turns the men into pigs. Odysseus goes to the palace, where she puts a spell on him. They stay for a year.
- Eurylochus and half of his men went to the island of Circe and his men were turned into pigs. Eurylochus tells Odysseus and he got a plant from Hermes on the way to the palace that will stop the witch’s powers from affecting him. She finally turned them back to humans, but they stayed for a year.

Book 21: *THE TEST OF THE BOW* (beginning on pg. 403)

Paraphrase each page (403-407). Use complete sentences.

pg. 403

- Odysseus comes home disguised (by Athena) as an old man. He goes to talk to Penelope and tells her the “Odysseus” is on his way home. She gets out the bow and a basket of axe heads and starts crying out of grief.

pg. 404

- Odysseus starts thinking of a plan.
- He talks to 2 men that he trusts.
- The suitors are getting ready for the archery contest that Penelope made up.
- They have to string the bow, then shoot an arrow through 12 axe heads.

pg. 405

- Odysseus tells 2 of his most trusted servants to lock the gates, tell the maids to go in their rooms, and hand Odysseus the bow. Then he goes to the suitors and asks to try the bow. They don’t let him. Penelope and Telemachus want to let “the beggar” try.

pg. 406-407

- Odysseus completes the challenge.
- Odysseus wins the challenge for his woman and Zeus is finally on his side.
- Telemachus is behind him and is ready to battle the suitors.