

# Who's Who in The Odyssey

## Achilles (Akhilleus)

The most handsome and bravest warrior in the Greek army at the siege of Troy; the son of King Peleus and the Nereid, Thetis; Odysseus encountered the “shade” of Achilles when he went to the entrance to the Underworld

## Adreste (Adraste)

One of the handmaids of Helen; Alkippe and Phylo were the other two

## Agamemnon

The king of Mycenae and leader of the Achaean army at the siege of Troy; the son of Atreus and the brother of Menelaos; Agamemnon was killed after his return from Troy by his wife's lover, Aegisthus

## Agelaos

The son of Damastor; Agelaos was one of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by Odysseus when he returned home to Ithaka

## Aeakus (Aiakos)

One of the many sons of Zeus; the father of Peleus and the grandfather of Achilles

## Aias

1) The son of Telamon and one of the fiercest Achaean soldiers at the siege of Troy; after Achilles was killed at Troy, Odysseus and Aias argued over his armor but it was awarded to Odysseus; Aias was killed after leaving Troy by the god, Poseidon; when Odysseus encountered the “shade” of Aias in the Underworld, the dead hero would not even acknowledge Odysseus; 2) the son of Oileus and Eriopis and half-brother of Medon; also called Lesser Aias.

## Aietes

The brother of Kirke and the king of Kolchis, where the Golden Fleece was hidden

## Aegisthus (Aigisthos)

The son of Thyestes and the cousin of Agamemnon; when Agamemnon returned from the siege of Troy, Aegisthus killed him without the assistance of Klytemnestra; Aegisthus was later killed by Agamemnon's son, Orestes

### Aeolus (Aiolos)

1) The lord of the Winds; Odysseus spent a month on the island of Aeolia as the guest of Aeolus; finally Aeolus gave Odysseus a favorable wind to get him home but members of his crew disobeyed Aeolus' instructions and they were blown back to Aeolia; Aeolus refused to assist them a second time; 2) the father of Kretheus; Odysseus met the wife of Kretheus, Tyro, at the entrance to the Underworld

**Aeson (Aison)** The son of Kretheus and Tyro; the brother of Pheres and Amythaon

### Aigyptios

An elder of Ithaka who had been a hero in his younger days; when Telemachos called an assembly, Aigyptios was the first to speak; he showed respect for Telemachos and praise for their long absent king, Odysseus; Aigyptios had four sons: 1) Antiphos went with Odysseus to Troy but was killed by the Cyclops, Polyphemos, on the voyage home; 2) Eurynomos became one of the suitors of Penelope and was finally killed by Odysseus; the other two sons tended the estates of their father

### Aithon

A false name assumed by Odysseus; while he was in disguise, Odysseus wanted to question Penelope so he used the name Aithon

### Akastos

The king of Doulichion in western Greece

### Akroneos (Tipmast)

One of the young Phaiakian men who participated in the athletic contests given in honor of Odysseus

### Aktoris

One of Penelope's maids, i.e. a slave; Aktoris was given to Penelope by her father when she married Odysseus; Aktoris would guard the bedroom doors at night while Odysseus and Penelope slept

### Alektor

A Spartan whose daughter married Menelaos' son, Megapenthes; Megapenthes was the result of the union of Menelaos and a slave woman, not his wife, Helen

### Alkandre

The wife of King Polybos of Thebes, Egypt; while Menelaos and Helen were in Thebes, Alkandre gave Helen a golden distaff and a silver basket trimmed with gold

### Alkimos

The father of Odysseus' most trusted advisor and teacher, Mentor

### Alkinoos

The king of the Phaiakians and father of Nausikaa and Laodamas; Alkinoos and his wife, Arete, welcomed Odysseus when he was washed ashore; they gave him many gifts and a ship to carry him home to Ithaka

### Alkippe

One of the handmaids of Helen; Adreste and Phylo were the other two

**Alkmaeon (Alkmaon)** The son of Amphiaraus and brother of Amphilochos

### Alkmene

The wife of Amphitryon and consort of Zeus; the mother of Herakles and Iphikles; while Amphitryon was away from home avenging the murder of his Alkmene's brothers, Zeus disguised himself as Amphitryon and made Alkmene pregnant, their son was Herakles; Iphikles was the son of Alkmene and Amphitryon

**Aloeus** The husband of Iphimedeia and acknowledged father of the giants, Otos and Ephialtes

### Amphialos (Seabolt)

A young man from Phaiakia who competed in the athletic contests held in honor of Odysseus; Amphialos won the jumping contest

### Amphiaraus

The son of Oikles and father of Amphilochos and Alkmaeon; Amphiaraus was one of the Seven Against Thebes where he died while trying to capture the city

### Amphilochus (Amphilokhos)

The son of Amphiaraus and brother of Alkmaeon

### Amphimedon

One of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by Telemachos; after his death, Amphimedon met the "shade" of Agamemnon in the Underworld and told him how Penelope had tricked the suitors by pretending to weave a shroud for her father-in-law, Laertes, and how, when Odysseus came home, he outwitted the suitors and then killed them

### Amphinomos

One of the suitors of Penelope; the son of Nisos from Doulichion; of all the suitors, Penelope liked Amphinomos best; when Odysseus returned to his home in disguise, he advised Amphinomos to leave before justice was meted out to the reckless suitors but

Amphinomos ignored the warning and was killed by Telemachos

### Amphion

1) The husband of Niobe; Amphion and his brother, Zethos, were sons of Zeus and Antiope; Amphion presumably built the foundations and bulwarks of the city of Thebes by moving the stones with the enchanting music from his kithara; 2) the king of Orchomenos; the son of Iasos and the father of Chloris

### Amphithea

The wife of Autolykos and mother of Antikleia; the grandmother of Odysseus

### Amphitrite

A Nereid; one of the fifty daughters of Nereus and Doris; collectively called the Daughters of the Sea

### Amphitryon

The husband of Alkmene and father of Iphikles; while Amphitryon was away from home avenging the murder of his Alkmene's brothers, Zeus disguised himself as Amphitryon and made Alkmene pregnant, their son was Herakles; Iphikles was the son of Alkmene and Amphitryon

### Amythaon

The son of Tyro and Kretheus; the brother of Aeson and Pheres

### Anabesineus

A young man from Phaiakia who competed in the athletic contests held in honor of Odysseus

### Anchialos (Beacher)

1) A young man from Phaiakia who competed in the athletic contests held in honor of Odysseus; 2) the father of Mentos; the goddess, Athene, assumed the guise of Mentos to secretly speak to Telemachos in front of the suitors of Penelope

Andraemon (Andraimon) The father of the Achaean soldier, Thoas

### Antikleia

The daughter of Autolykos and the wife of Laertes; the mother of Odysseus; when Odysseus was at the entrance to the Underworld, he saw the "shade" of Antikleia

### Antiklos

One of the Achaean soldiers who was hiding in the Wooden Horse when it was used to gain entry to the city of Troy

### Antilochos (Antilokhos)

An Achaean soldier; one of the sons of Nestor; Antilochos was killed by Memnon at the siege of Troy

### Antinoos

The son of Eupheithes; Antinoos was one of the suitors of Penelope and was the first to be killed by Odysseus in the final confrontation with the suitors

### Antiope

The daughter of the river god, Asopos, and the consort of Zeus; Antiope's sons, Amphion and Zethos, built the foundations of the city of Thebes

### Antiphates

1) The king of the giant cannibals, the Laistrygones, encountered by Odysseus; 2) the son of Melampous; Antiphates was the brother of Mantios and the father of Oikles

### Antiphos

1) The son of Aigyptios; Antiphos accompanied Odysseus to Troy but was killed by the Cyclops, Polyphemos, on the voyage home; 2) one of the elders of Ithaka and a trusted friend of Odysseus

### Apheidas (King Allwoes)

A name used by Odysseus while hiding his true identity from his father, Laertes

### Aphrodite

The goddess of Love; the wife of Hephaistos; Aphrodite was caught being unfaithful to her husband while she cavorted with the god of War, Ares, and was humiliated in front of the other Immortals

### Apollo

The son of Zeus and Leto and the brother of Artemis; when Odysseus returned to Ithaka, he attacked and killed the suitors on a festival day of Apollon

### Ares

The god of War; he was caught in an ingenious trap when he entered the bed of the wife of Hephaistos, Aphrodite; Ares and the goddess of Love were humiliated in front of the other Immortals when Hephaistos demanded an adulterers fee

### Arete

The daughter of Rhexenor and queen of the Phaiakians; Arete was the wife of King Alkinoos and the mother of Nausikaa and

Laodamas
<b>Aretos</b> One of the sons of Nestor
<b>Argeiphontes</b> An epithet for the god, Hermes, meaning Slayer of Argos; Argos was the many-eyed creature who was set to watch over the Heifer-Maiden, Io
<b>Argives</b> A general term for the Greeks who laid siege to the city of Troy
<b>Argos - the dog</b> The faithful dog of Odysseus who recognized his master after Odysseus had been gone for twenty years
<b>Ariadne</b> The daughter of King Minos of the island of Crete; the Athenian hero, Theseus, took Ariadne from her home but abandoned her on the island of Dia where she was killed by the goddess, Artemis; Odysseus encountered the “shade” of Ariadne when he was at the entrance to the Underworld
<b>Arkeisios</b> A son of Zeus and the father of Laertes and grandfather of Odysseus
<b>Arnaios</b> The name of the beggar, Iros; he was called Iros (the masculine form of the name Iris) because he earned his bread by being a messenger and was thus compared, insultingly, to the messenger of the Immortals, Iris; he was beaten and broken by Odysseus for his insults and abuse
<b>Artemis</b> The daughter of Zeus and Leto; Artemis is the sister of Apollon; after the daughter of King Minos of Crete, Ariadne, was abandoned on the island of Dia, Artemis killed her
<b>Arybas (Arubas)</b> A wealthy man from Sidon; Arybas was the father of the nurse who was taken prisoner by pirates and, in exchange for her freedom, promised to kidnap young Eumaios and let the pirates sell him as a slave; after many years of slavery, Eumaios became a swineherd for Odysseus
<b>Asphalion</b> The attendant who served Menelaos at his home in Sparta when Telemachos called on the king for news of his father, Odysseus

**Athene (Athena)**

The daughter of Zeus; goddess of Wisdom; she was the constant defender and protector of Odysseus and Telemachos

**Atlas**

A son of the Titan, Iapetos, and the Okeanid, Klymene; Atlas is the father of the nymph, Kalypso, who held Odysseus captive on her island

**Atreus** One of the sons of Pelops and Hippodamia; Atreus was king of Mycenae and the father of Agamemnon and Menelaos

**Atrytone (Unwearied Child of Royal Zeus)**

Another name for the goddess, Athene; the name literally means, Unwearied or Tireless One

**Autolykos (Autolykus)**

The father of Antikleia and maternal grandfather of Odysseus

**Autonoe** One of the handmaids of Penelope; Melantho and Hippodamia were the other two

**Charybdis (Kharybdis)**

A daughter of Gaia (Earth) and Poseidon (lord of the Sea); Charybdis would alternately suck down the waters into her maw and then spew them out causing gigantic waves; passing ships were in double jeopardy as they passed Charybdis because in order to avoid the surging waters, they had to sail dangerously close to the six-headed monster, Skylla, who occupied the other side of the Strait of Messina

**Chloris (Khloris)**

The youngest daughter of Amphion and Niobe and the only one to survive the wrath of Apollon and Artemis when Niobe insulted Leto by bragging that she had many children and Leto had only two; Chloris married Neleus and became the queen of Pylos; she and Neleus had three sons and one daughter: Nestor, Chromios, Periklymenos and beautiful Pero

**Chromios (Khromios)**

A son of Neleus and Chloris; Chromios was the brother of Nestor, Periklymenos and beautiful Pero

**Cyclops (Kyklops)**

The one-eyed creatures encountered by Odysseus and his crew; the Cyclops, Polyphemos, trapped and ate several of Odysseus' men before they could blind him and make their escape

**Damastor** The father of one of the suitors of Penelope, Agelaos

<b>Danaans</b> A name used to denote all Greeks
<b>Deiphobos</b> One of the sons of King Priam of Troy; after the death of Hector, Deiphobos commanded the Trojan army and after the death of Alexandros (Paris), he became the consort of Helen
<b>Demeter</b> The goddess of the harvest; the consort of Zeus and the mother of Persephone; Demeter is the sister of Zeus, Poseidon, Hades, Hestiaia and Hera; Demeter was also the consort of Iasion
<b>Demodokos</b> The blind singer of the Phaiakians; when the Muse gave him the gift of song, she took away his sight
<b>Demoptolemos</b> One of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by Odysseus
<b>Deukalion</b> The father of Idomeneus and the king of the island of Crete
<b>Diokles</b> The son of Ortilochos; Diokles was the king of Pherae, which is located between Pylos and Sparta on the Peloponnesian Peninsula; when Telemachos was seeking news of his father, Odysseus, Diokles offered the hospitality of his home
<b>Diomedes</b> The son of Tydeus and one of the Achaean commanders at the siege of Troy
<b>Dionysos</b> The god of wine; also called Bacchus; the son of Zeus and Thyone (a.k.a. Semele)
<b>Dmetor</b> The son of Iasos and king of the island of Cyprus
<b>Dolios</b> An aged manservant of Penelope who was given to her as a wedding gift from her father; Dolios was working on an orchard wall on the estate of Laertes when Odysseus visited there; Dolios was the father of Melanthios and Melanthe, who were also slaves of Odysseus
<b>Dorians</b> A group of people who are commonly thought to be the peaceful, pre-historical conquerors of Greece; Odysseus mentioned that he encountered the Dorians while he was on the island of Crete
<b>Dymas</b>

The father of one of Nausikaa's friends; the goddess Athene took the guise of Dymas' daughter when she wanted to speak to Nausikaa

### Echeneos (Ekheneos)

The oldest of the Phaiakian elders; when King Alkinoos met Odysseus, it was Echeneos who chided the king for not being more gracious to their guest

Echephron (Ekhephron) One of the sons of Nestor

### Echetos (Ekhetos)

A renowned tyrant; when the suitors were trying to get the disguised Odysseus and the scoundrel Iros to fight, Antinoos threatened to send Iros to Echetos where he was sure to be maimed and tortured

### Eidothea

A sea nymph; the daughter of the Old Man of the Sea, Proteus; Menelaos encountered Eidothea after he left Troy; she advised Menelaos to catch Proteus while he was sleeping if he wanted the Old Man to help him find his way back to Sparta

### Eileithyia (Eileithuia)

The goddess of Childbirth; in one of his pretended adventures, Odysseus said that he was on the island of Crete and that there was a cave of Eileithyia near Amnisos

### Elatos

One of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by the swineherd, Eumaios, in the final confrontation between those loyal to Odysseus and the suitors

Elatreus (Sparwood) One of the young Phaiakians who participated in the athletic contest held in honor of Odysseus

### Elpenor

The companion of Odysseus who was killed when he fell from the roof of the palace of the Dread Goddess, Kirke; when Odysseus went to the entrance of the Underworld to seek the advice of the seer, Teiresias, he encountered Elpenor's "shade" and was moved to promise "the barrow and the burial" for his fallen companion

### Enipeus

The god of a river in Thessaly; he was the most handsome of all the rivers; the lord of the Sea, Poseidon, took the likeness of Enipeus when he seduced Tyro

### Eos (Dawn)

The goddess of the Dawn; when Hermes conveyed the message from Zeus to the nymph, Kalypso, to release Odysseus, she used Eos as an example of an Immortal who was allowed to make a mortal their consort
<b>Epeians (Epeioi)</b> The people of Elis on the northwestern Peloponnesian Peninsula
<b>Epeios (Quarrelman)</b> The man credited with building the Wooden Horse which was used to trick the Trojans and allow the Achaeans to conquer the city
<b>Eperitos</b> A pseudonym used by the disguised Odysseus when he questioned his father, Laertes
<b>Ephialtes</b> The giant son of Poseidon (lord of the Sea) and Iphimedeia; Ephialtes and his brother, Otos, were both killed by Apollon when they threatened to pile the mountains Ossa and Pelion against Mount Olympos and attack Zeus and the other Immortals
<b>Epikaste</b> The mother of Oedipus; Odysseus saw the “shade” of Epikaste when he was at the entrance to the Underworld
<b>Erechtheus (Erektheus)</b> The mythical king of Attica; his name literally means, The Render
<b>Eretmeus (Pullerman)</b> One of the young Phaiakians who participated in the athletic games held in honor of Odysseus
<b>Eriphyle</b> The wife of Amphiaraus; when Odysseus was at the entrance to the Underworld, he saw the “shade” of Eriphyle; she is referred to as “the hateful” because she accepted gold for the life of her husband
<b>Erinys (Fury)</b> The goddess of Fury; the punisher of the unfaithful
<b>Eteoneus</b> The attendant of Menelaos who announced the arrival of Telemachos and Peisistratos at Sparta
<b>Eteokretans (Kretan Hillman)</b> A people of the island Crete, i.e. the True Cretans
<b>Ethiopians (Sun Burnt Races)</b> A “divided” people said to live at the rising and setting of the sun; Poseidon is the only Immortal mentioned in relation to the Ethiopians
<b>Euanthes</b> The father of one of Odysseus’ companions, Maron
<b>Euenor</b> A native of Ithaka and the father of Leokritos
<b>Eumaios</b>

The swineherd of Odysseus; Eumaios was kidnapped as a child and finally forced into slavery, he was none the less devoted to Odysseus and fought valiantly to help Odysseus kill the suitors and reclaim his property
<b>Eumelos</b> The brother-in-law of Penelope and husband of Iphthime
<b>Eupeithes</b> The father of Antinoos; Eupeithes was killed in the final confrontation with the suitors by Odysseus' father, Laertes
<b>Euryades</b> One of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by Telemachos
<b>Euryalos (Eurylokhos)</b> One of the young Phaiakians; Euryalos insulted Odysseus before he knew his true identity; Euryalos said that Odysseus looked more like a man of business and profits than a man of action
<b>Eurybates</b> The herald of Odysseus; while still in disguise, Odysseus had a conversation with Penelope and described Eurybates to convince her that he had once met Odysseus
<b>Eurydamas</b> One of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by Odysseus
<b>Eurydike</b> The wife of Nestor and daughter of Klymenos
<b>Eurykleia</b> An attendant of Penelope and the nurse of Odysseus and Telemachos; King Laertes paid twenty oxen for Eurykleia when she was a young woman but, at the time of this story, she was an old woman; when Odysseus returned to Ithaka in disguise, Eurykleia recognized him by the scar on his leg that he had incurred as a young man
<b>Eurylochos (Eurylokhos)</b> One of the crewmen who accompanied Odysseus to and from Troy; when they reached the island of the Dread Goddess, Kirke, Eurylochos led twenty men to explore the dangerous terrain; when they encountered Kirke, she turned most of the men into swine; Eurylochos returned to the ship to tell Odysseus what had happened; after leaving the island of Kirke, Eurylochos and Perimedes lashed Odysseus to the mast of the ship so that he could hear the voices of the Sirens and not be driven to madness and hurt himself or the ship
<b>Eurymachos (Eurymakhos)</b> One of the more aggressive suitors of Penelope; the son of Polybos; Eurymachos was finally killed by Odysseus

### Eurymedon

The king of an ill fated race of Giants; the father of Periboia and the ancient ancestor of the Phaiakians

### Eurymedusa (Eurymedousa)

An old servant assigned to princess Nausikaa of the Phaiakians; Eurymedusa was taken as a prize from her home in Apeire and given to King Alkinoos; he, in turn, gave Eurymedusa to his daughter Nausikaa

### Eurymos

The father of Telemos; Telemos was a prophet who told the Cyclopes, Polyphemos, that a man named Odysseus would blind him; Polyphemos was expecting a large and bold man and, when Odysseus refused to identify himself by name, Polyphemos was completely unprepared for an attack and thus the prophecy came true

### Eurynome

The elderly servant of Penelope who made no secret of her contempt for the suitors who were such unruly guests

### Eurynomos

One of the suitors of Penelope; Eurynomos was one of the sons of Aigyptios; his brother, Antiphos, went to Troy with Odysseus and was eaten by the Cyclops, Polyphemos, on the voyage home; Eurynomos was a good fighter but when Odysseus confronted him in the final battle the goddess, Athene, deflected Eurynomos' spear and allowed Odysseus to kill him

**Eurypylos (Eurypulos)** The son of Telephos; Eurypylos was killed at Troy by Achilles' son, Neoptolemus

### Eurytion

One of the Centaurs who ravaged the home of Peirithoos in the war between between the Lapithae and the Centaurs; Eurytion got drunk and was so stupefied that he was captured and had his ears and nose cut off

### Eurytos

The father of Iphitos and the king of Oichalia; Eurytos was killed by Apollon for flaunting his archery skills

**Gaia (Earth)** The goddess, Earth; mentioned in The Odyssey as the mother of Tityos

**Gerenian (Nestor of Gerenia)** An epithet of the aged warrior, Nestor

### Gorgon

One of the three sisters known as Gorgons; each had snakes sprouting from her head and body; Medusa is usually considered to be The Gorgon; one look at a Gorgon would turn any living creature to stone

## Graces

The Charites; the daughters of Zeus and Eurynome; their names are Aglaia (Splendor), Euphrosyne (Festivity), and Thalia (Rejoicing)

## Hades

The lord of the Underworld; the son of of the Titans, Kronos and Rheia; Hades is one of the Olympians gods and is the brother of Zeus, Poseidon, Hestia, Demeter and Hera

**Halios** A Phaiakian; one of the sons of King Alkinoos who competed in the athletic games held in honor of Odysseus

## Halitherses

One of the elders of Ithaka; Halitherses was the son of Mastor and gifted in reading the prophetic signs of birds; when two eagles began fighting in the sky above the assembled men of Ithaka, Halitherses predicted that Odysseus would soon return and bring doom to the suitors

## Harpies (Whirlwinds)

Okypete and Aello; the winged women who were sent to torment the blind seer, Phineus, on the island of Thynia; Okypete and Aello are the daughters of Thaumastos and Elektra

**Hebe** The goddess of Youth; the daughter of Hera and Zeus; Hebe married Herakles after he became immortal

## Helen

Helen of Argos; the daughter of Zeus and Leda; when Helen was a young woman and ready to marry, she had many suitors; Helen's stepfather, Tyndareus, made all the suitors swear that they would respect her final choice and come to her defense if she was ever taken from her rightful husband; Helen married Menelaos and lived in Sparta until she was induced by Aphrodite to leave Menelaos and go to Troy with Alexandros (Paris); true to their oath, the suitors gathered an army and attacked Troy

## Helios

The Sun; when Odysseus and his men landed on the island of Thrinakia where Helios pastured his flocks, they ignored the warning of the prophet, Teiresias, and the goddess, Kirke, and feasted on the oxen and sheep; for this transgression, Zeus smashed their ship in the middle of the sea where all were drowned, except Odysseus

## Hephaistos

The lame son of the goddess, Hera; artificer of the Olympians and husband of Aphrodite; when Ares and Aphrodite were having a secret affair, Hephaistos devised a clever trap and made Aphrodite's infidelity known to all the Immortals

## Hera

One of the six original Olympians, i.e. a daughter of Kronos and Rheia; Hera is the wife (and sister) of Zeus and considered to be the queen of the Immortals; Hera is the sister of Zeus, Poseidon, Hestia, Demeter and Hades

## Herakles

The son of Zeus and Alkmene; killer of Iphitos; Herakles was immortalized after his mortal death and married the goddess of Youth, Hebe

## Hermes

The wing-shod messenger of the Olympians; the son of Zeus and the nymph, Maia; Hermes assisted Odysseus when he encountered the Dread Goddess, Kirke; Hermes showed Odysseus a secret plant which would make him immune to Kirke's drugs; Zeus sent Hermes to the nymph, Kalypso, to demand that she release Odysseus and allow him resume his journey home

## Hermione

The only child of Menelaos and Helen; after the birth of Hermione, the Immortals denied Helen any more children

**Hippodamia** One of the handmaids of Penelope; Autonoe and Melantho were the other two

**Hippotades** The father of the lord of the Winds, Aeolus

**Hylakos** A name that Odysseus made up as his grandfather

**Hyperion (Sunset)** A name used as an epithet of the Sun, Helios, and also as the father of Helios

## Iasion

A lover of the goddess, Demeter; Zeus objected to the relationship and struck Iasion down with a thunderbolt

## Iasos

1) The father of Amphion and the grandfather of Chloris; when Odysseus was at the entrance to the Underworld, he encountered the "shade" of Chloris; 2) a name that Odysseus made up; Odysseus said that Iasos was the father of Demeter

## Idomeneus

The son of Deukalion; Idomeneus was the lord of the island of Crete and one of the Achaean heroes during the Trojan War

**Ikarios** The father of Penelope and Tyndareus

**Ikmalios** The craftsman who built the chair that Penelope sat upon; the chair was inlaid with silver and ivory

**Ilos** The son of Mermeros

**Ino**

A sea goddess who rescued Odysseus from drowning by giving him a magic veil that would keep him afloat in the raging sea; Ino had once been a mortal but, for unknown reasons, was made into a sea-goddess; she was called Leukothea, i.e. the White Goddess; she is the daughter of Kadmos and Harmonia and the sister of Thyone (a.k.a. Semele), Agaue, Polydoros and Autonoe

**Iphikles** The son of Alkmene and Amphitryon; the half-brother of Herakles

**Iphimedeia** The mother of the giants, Otos and Ephialtes

**Iphitos**

The son of Eurytos; Iphitos inherited a bow from his father and gave it to Odysseus when they met as young men; Iphitos was killed by Herakles and, in honor of the needless death of his friend, Odysseus did not take the bow with him to Troy but left it at his home on Ithaka; when Odysseus returned home in disguise, he challenged the suitors to string the magnificent bow but none were strong enough to attach the bowstring; Odysseus put the string in the notch and proceeded to kill the suitors

**Iphthime**

The wife of Eumelos and the sister of Penelope; Athene assumed the guise of Iphthime to speak to Penelope in a dream and assure the troubled woman that the Immortals were watching over her son and husband

**Iros**

The by-name of the beggar, Arnaios; he was called Iros (the masculine form of the name Iris) because he earned his bread by being a messenger and was thus compared, insultingly, to the messenger of the Immortals, Iris; he was beaten and broken by Odysseus for his insults and abuse

**Ithakos**

One of the builders of a well on the island of Ithaka; Neritos and Polyktor also participated in the construction of the well, which was very ornate with a circle of trees and an altar for the nymphs

**Itylos** The son of Zethos and the nightingale, Prokne; he was killed by his mother in a fit of madness

**Jason (Iason)** Leader of the Argonauts and beloved by the goddess Hera

## Kadmos

The son of Agenor and the brother of the maiden, Europa, and the blind seer, Phineus; with his wife, Harmonia, Kadmos had five children: Autonoe, Ino, Agaue, Polydoros and Thyone (a.k.a. Semele)

## Kalypso

A nymph; following the deaths of his crewmates, Odysseus was washed ashore on Kalypso's island, Ogygia; after Odysseus had been with Kalypso for seven years, Zeus sent Hermes to order Kalypso to free Odysseus and send him on his way home; Kalypso and Odysseus had three sons: Nausithoos, Nausinoos and Telegonos

## Kassandra

The daughter of King Priam of the city of Troy; Cassandra was given the power of prophecy by Apollo but, when she rejected his romantic advances, he cursed her so that no one would believe her prophecies; after the fall of Troy, Cassandra was taken as a concubine by Agamemnon and, when he returned home after the Trojan War, she was murdered by Agamemnon's wife, Clytemnestra, and her lover, Aegisthus

## Kastor

1) The son of Leda and Zeus; the brother of Polydeukes, Clytemnestra and Helen; 2) a name made up by Odysseus while he was in disguise; Odysseus pretended that Kastor was his father when he was talking to the swineherd, Eumaios

## Kaukonians

A group or tribe of people from the southwestern Peloponnesian Peninsula near the city of Pylos; Athene, disguised as Mentor, announced that she was on her way to visit the Kaukonians to collect a old and large debt

## Kephalenians (Kephallenia)

The people of the island of Kephallenia which is located west of the island of Ithaka; the Kephalenians were subjects of Odysseus

## Keteians

The nationality of the soldiers who were commanded by Eurypylos during the Trojan War

## Kikonians (Kikones)

The people of Ismaros in Thrace; Odysseus sacked their city, killed their people, took their possessions and enslaved their women

## Kimmerians (Men of Winter)

A community and people near the entrance to the Underworld; the land is always shrouded in fog and Helios, the Sun, never shows his light on the Kimmerians

**Kirke**

The Dread Goddess; the daughter of Helios, the Sun, and the Okeanid, Perseis; when Odysseus and his crew landed on Kirke's island, Aiaia, many of the men were drugged and turned to swine by Kirke; Hermes gave Odysseus an antidote for Kirke's drugs and he was able to subdue the goddess and force her to restore his men to their human form

**Kleitos** The son of Mantios who was abducted by the goddess, Eos (the Dawn), because he was so handsome

**Klymene** A woman Odysseus encountered at the entrance to the Underworld

**Klymenos** The father of Nestor's wife, Eurydike

**Klytemnestra (Klytaimnestra)**

The daughter of Tyndareus and Leda; Klytemnestra was the sister of Kastor and Polydeukes and half-sister of Helen; when her husband, Agamemnon, returned from the Trojan War, he was ambushed and killed by Klytemnestra's lover, Aegisthus; Klytemnestra then killed Agamemnon's captive concubine, Kassandra

**Klytios** The father of the friend and companion of Telemachos, Peiraios

**Klytoneos** One of the sons of King Alkinoos and Queen Arete of Phaiakia

**Krataios (Blind Force)** The mother of the six-headed monster, Skylla

**Kreon** The father of the ill-fated wife of Herakles, Megara

**Kretheus**

The son of Aeolus and husband of Tyro; Odysseus met the shade of Tyro in the Underworld and she told him of her love for the river Enipeus; Poseidon (lord of the Sea) took the guise of Enipeus and mated with Tyro; from their union Pelias and Neleus were born but Kretheus and Tyro were the parents of Aeson, Pheres and Amythaon

**Kronos** The son of Ouranos (the Heavens) and Gaia (Earth); one of the Titans and father of the Olympians

**Ktesios** The father of the swineherd, Eumaios

**Ktesippos** One of the suitors of Penelope; Ktesippos was killed by the oxherd, Philoitios

**Ktimene** The younger sister of Odysseus

**Kydonians** A group of people who live on the island of Crete

<b>Kythereia</b> An epithet for the goddess of Love, Aphrodite, meaning Lady of (the island) Kythera
<b>Laerkes</b> The goldsmith from Pylos; Nestor had Laerkes cover the horns of the bull that was to be sacrificed to the goddess, Athene, with gold
<b>Laertes</b> The father of Odysseus; the son of Arkeisios and the grandson of Zeus; Laertes was the husband of Antikleia; during the final battle with the suitors, Athene invigorated Laertes so that he could fight alongside the younger men
<b>Laistrygones (Laistrygon)</b> The giant cannibals encountered by Odysseus and his shipmates; the giants stood on the cliffs and hurled boulders at the helpless sailors when they tried to escape; only the ship that Odysseus commanded was able to survive the attack of the Laistrygones and make it open water, all the other ships were sunk and the sailors drowned
<b>Lampetia</b> A nymph; the daughter of Helios and Nearea; the sister Phaethousa; Lampetia and her sister tend the flocks of their father on the island of Thrinakia
<b>Lamos (Firebright)</b> One of the chariot horses of Eos (the Dawn); her other horse was named Phaethon
<b>Laodamas</b> A young Phaiakian; the son of King Alkinoos
<b>Lapithae (Lapithai)</b> The people of King Peirithoos; the Centaur, Eurytion, got drunk and attacked the Lapithae, he started an unending feud between the Lapithae and the Centaurs
<b>Leda</b> The wife of Tyndareus; the mother of Kastor, Polydeukes and Klytemnestra; Leda was also the consort of Zeus, Helen was the result of their union
<b>Leodes</b> One of the suitors of Penelope; Leodes had prophetic abilities but that did not prevent his death at the hands of Odysseus; when Odysseus' bow was brought out for the suitors to try, Leodes was the first to try, and fail, to string the bow
<b>Leokritos</b> One of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by Telemachos
<b>Leto</b> The consort of Zeus and the mother of Apollon and Artemis

### **Leukothea**

A sea goddess who rescued Odysseus from drowning by giving him a magic veil that would keep him afloat in the raging sea; she had once been a mortal named Ino but, for unknown reasons, was transformed into a sea-goddess; she was thereafter called Leukothea, i.e. the White Goddess; she is the daughter of Kadmos and Harmonia; the sister of Thyone (a.k.a. Semele), Agaue, Polydoros and Autonoe

### **Lotus Eaters (Lotos Eaters )**

A group of people who existed in a state of languorous forgetfulness induced by eating the fruit of the lotus plant; after leaving the island of the sorceress Kirke, Odysseus found himself in the land of the Lotus Eaters; after several of his men had eaten the lotus, Odysseus fled so that no one else would eat the lotus fruit and forget the way home

### **Maia**

One of the seven daughters of Atlas known as the Pleiades; Maia was the consort of Zeus and the mother of Hermes; she lived in a cave on Mount Kyllene in Arkadia

**Maira** One of the women Odysseus encountered at the entrance to the Underworld

### **Mantios**

The son of Melampous and brother of Antiphates; the father of Polyphoides and Kleitos and grandfather of the wanderer that Telemachos met in Pylos, Theoklymenos

### **Maron**

The priest of Apollon who gave Odysseus the potent black wine he used to subdue the Cyclops, Polyphemos; Maron was the son of Euanthes and lived in the grove of Phoibos Apollon on the river Ismaros

**Mastor** The father Halitherses; Halitherses was an elder of Ithaka who was gifted in reading the prophetic signs of birds

### **Medon**

The servant and herald of Odysseus who remained on the island of Ithaka when Odysseus went to Troy; Medon was not killed with the other servants when Odysseus returned home

### **Megapenthes**

The son of Menelaos and an unnamed slave woman; after Menelaos' wife, Helen, had one daughter, Herminie, the Immortals denied her any more children

**Megara (Megare)** The daughter of Kreion and the wife of Herakles; when Odysseus was at the entrance to the Underworld, he saw the “shade” of Megara

### **Melampous**

Melampous was the seer who wanted to marry the daughter of Neleus, Pero, but when he tried to steal the cattle of Iphikles as her dowry, he was captured and forced to serve as a prophet for Iphikles for one full year; upon returning to Pylos with the cattle of Iphikles, Melampous married Pero and had two sons, Antiphates and Mantios; Melampous was the ancestor of the wanderer that Telemachos encountered named, Theoklymenos

**Melaneus** The father of one of the suitors of Penelope, Amphimedon; Amphimedon was killed by Telemachos

### **Melanthios**

The son of Dolios and father of Penelope’s handmaid, Melanthis; Melanthios was a goatherd on the island of Ithaka under the authority of Odysseus; Melanthios incorrectly assumed that Odysseus would never return home and began to do the bidding of the suitors as they squandered Odysseus’ property; when Odysseus returned in disguise, Melanthios kicked him and finally guaranteed his own death when he sided with the suitors in the final battle with Odysseus, Telemachos and the loyal servants

### **Melanthis**

The daughter of the disloyal goatherd, Melanthios; Melanthis was one of the handmaids of Penelope; Melanthis was the secret lover of the suitor, Eurymachos, and when she scolded the disguised Odysseus she angered Penelope; Hippodamia and Autonoe were Penelope’s other two handmaids

### **Memnon**

One of the Achaean soldiers at the siege of Troy; Memnon was inside the Wooden Horse that was used to trick the Trojans to gain entry to the city

### **Menelaos**

The king of Sparta and the husband of Helen; Menelaos was the son of Atreus and the brother of Agamemnon; when Telemachos went in search of news of his long overdue father, Odysseus, he visited Menelaos and was told of the Trojan War and his father’s role in the victory

**Menoetius** The father of the Achaean soldier, Patroklos

**Mentes** The son of Anchialos; the goddess, Athene, assumed the guise of Mentes to secretly speak to Telemachos in front of the suitors of Penelope

**Mentor**

The tutor and companion of Odysseus and his son, Telemachos; the goddess, Athene, took the guise of Mentor to influence and encourage Telemachos

**Mermeros (Mermeris)**

The father of Ilos; the goddess, Athene, mentioned him when she spoke of Odysseus and his many travels

**Mesaulios** The servant of the swineherd, Eumaios; when Odysseus went to Eumaios' house, Mesaulios served the two men their meal

**Minos**

The son of Zeus and Europa; Minos was the king of the island of Crete and, after his death, became a judge in the Underworld

**Minyan (Minyai)** The descendants of Minyas; a man or woman from Orchomenos in eastern-central Greece

**Moulios (Moulios)** The companion of Amphinomos; a hero in his own right and called the "Doulichian Herald"

**Muse**

Any one of the nine daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne (Memory); they provide divine inspiration for all creative arts

**Myrmidons**

The inhabitants of the island of Aegina which is located in the Saronic Gulf mid-way between Attica on mainland Greece and Argolis on the Peloponnesian Peninsula

**Naubolos (Launching Master)** A Phaiakian; the father of Euryalos

**Nausikaa**

A young Phaiakian woman; the daughter of King Alkinoos and Queen Arete; Nausikaa found Odysseus on the beach and took him to her parents as a supplicant

**Nausithoos**

The founder of the Phaiakian settlement in Scheria; Nausithoos led the migration to Scheria when the Phaiakians were forced to leave their home in Hypereia because of the Cyclopes became too overbearing; Nausithoos was the son of Poseidon and the father of Rhexenor and Alkinoos

**Nauteus (Hullman)** A young Phaiakian man who participated in the athletic contests held in honor of Odysseus

**Nearea (Neaira)**

The wife of Helios (the Sun) and mother of the nymphs, Phaethousa and Lampetia, who tended the flocks of their father on the island of Thrinakia

**Neleus** The son of Poseidon and Tyro; the father of Nestor and former king of Pylos

**Neoptolemus (Neoptolemos)**

The son of Achilles; when Odysseus met the “shade” of Achilles at the entrance to the Underworld, he gave a full account of Neoptolemus and his bravery at the final battle for the city of Troy

**Neritus (Neritos)**

One of the builders of a well on the island of Ithaka; Ithakos and Polyktor also participated in the construction of the well, which was very ornate with a circle of trees and an altar for the nymphs

**Nestor**

The king of Pylos; Nestor distinguished himself as a brave fighter and wise advisor during the siege of Troy; when Telemachos was seeking news of his father, Odysseus, he visited Nestor

**Nisos** The king of Doulichion and the father of one of the suitors of Penelope, Amphinomos

**Noemon**

The son of Phronios; the goddess, Athene, took the guise of Telemachos and persuaded Noemon to provide a ship so that Telemachos could travel and seek news of his father, Odysseus

**Odysseus**

The king of the island of Ithaka and the only son of Laertes and Antikleia; Odysseus was the husband of Penelope and the father of Telemachos; The Odyssey is the story of Odysseus after he left Troy and faced ten years of wandering before he was able to return home and forcibly reclaim his kingdom from the suitors who sought to marry his presumed widow; during his travels, Odysseus faced many dangers, fathered several children and went to the entrance of the Underworld

**Oedipus (Oidipous)** The legendary king of the city of Thebes who inadvertently killed his father and married his mother

**Oikles (Oikleies)**

The son of Antiphates and father of Amphiaraus; Amphiaraus was one of the Seven Against Thebes where he died while trying to capture the city

<b>Oinops</b> The father of one of the suitors of Penelope, Leodes
<b>Okyalos (Tiderace)</b> One of the young Phaiakian men who participated in the athletic contest held in honor of Odysseus
<b>Onetor</b> The father of the helmsman of Menelaos, Phrontis
<b>Ops</b> The father of the house servant, Eurykleia; King Laertes paid Ops twenty oxen for Eurykleia when she was a young woman but, when Odysseus returned home she was quite old
<b>Orestes</b> The son of Agamemnon and Klytemnestra
<b>Orion</b> The most renowned hunter of all time; Orion was the consort of Eos (Dawn) but was finally killed by Artemis for his egotistical boasting and senseless killing; after his death, he was placed in the sky as a constellation; when Odysseus was freed from the island of the nymph, Kalypso, he steered his small boat by constellations such as Orion, the Pleiades, Bootes and the Bear
<b>Ormenos</b> The father of Ktesios and grandfather of Odysseus' faithful swineherd, Eumaios
<b>Orsilochos (Orsilokhos)</b> The son of Idomeneus; Odysseus told the disguised goddess, Athene, that he had killed Orsilochos while he was on the island of Crete
<b>Ossa - the Immortal</b> Rumor; the messenger of Zeus
<b>Otos</b> The giant son of Poseidon (lord of the Sea) and Iphimedeia; Otos and his brother, Ephialtes, were both killed by Apollon when they threatened to pile the mountains Ossa and Pelion against Mount Olympos in order to attack Zeus and the other Immortals
<b>Paieon (Paian)</b> The immortal healer from Mount Olympos; when Telemachos was the guest of Menelaos and Helen, she put a potion in the wine to ease the sorrows of the two anguished men; the drug came from Egypt; the Egyptian men were all doctors and had many such drugs because they were descendants of Paieon
<b>Pallas</b> A name for the goddess, Athene; her name is often rendered as Pallas Athene or simply Pallas

**Pandareos**

The father of the “greenwood nightingale”; her name was Prokne and she sang a mournful song because she had murdered her son, Itylos, in a fit of madness; Pandareos had other daughters too; they were orphaned as children and raised by Aphrodite, Artemis and Athene; while Aphrodite was asking Zeus to arrange marriages for the girls, the storm winds carried them away and delivered them into the hands of the Furies

**Patroklos** The son of Menoetius and lifelong companion of Achilles; Patroklos was killed by Hector at Troy

**Peiraios**

The son of Klytios; Peiraios was a native of Ithaka and a companion of Telemachos when he went to Pylos to seek news of his long lost father, Odysseus; upon returning home from Pylos, Telemachos requested that Peiraios take the stranger, Theoklymenos, into his home and treat him like an honored guest

**Peirithoos**

King of the Lapithae and companion of the Athenian hero, Theseus; when Odysseus was at the entrance to the Underworld, he was disappointed that he did not get to see Peirithoos and Theseus; when the Centaur, Eurytion, got drunk and disrupted Peirithoos’ household, Peirithoos had him mutilated by cutting off his ears and nose, thus causing an everlasting feud between men and Centaurs

**Peisandros** The son of Polyktor; one of the suitors of Penelope who was killed by the oxherd, Philoitios

**Peisenor**

1) The father of Ops and the grandfather of the elderly servant, Eurykleia; 2) a herald on the island of Ithaka; when Telemachos rose to speak to the assembly, Peisenor placed the scepter in his hands to signify Telemachos’ authority

**Peisistratos** One of the sons of King Nestor; Peisistratos accompanied Telemachos to Sparta as his traveling companion

**Pelasgians** A people encountered by Odysseus while he was on the island of Crete

**Peleus** The mortal husband of the Nereid, Thetis, and the father of Achilles

**Pelias** The son of Poseidon and Tyro; the brother of Neleus and king of Iolkos

**Penelope** The daughter of Ikarios of Sparta; the faithful wife of Odysseus and mother of Telemachos; her name literally means Weaver; while Odysseus was thought to be lost after the Trojan War, she delayed the choice of a new husband by saying that she would not make a decision until she had woven a funeral shroud for Odysseus’ aged father, Laertes; each day she would weave the shroud and each night she would undo a portion of that days work; the trick worked well enough to delay her irascible suitors until Odysseus returned home to reclaim his wife and property

**Periboia (Periboia)**

The daughter of the Giant, Eurymedon; Periboia was the consort of Poseidon (lord of the Sea) and the mother of the first king of the Phaiakians, Nausithoos

**Periklymenos** One of the sons of Neleus and Chloris; Periklymenos was the brother of King Nestor of Pylos

**Perimedes**

One of the crewmen who sailed with Odysseus when he left Troy; Perimedes and Eurylochus lashed Odysseus to the mast of the ship so that he could hear the voices of the Sirens and not be driven to madness and hurt himself or the ship

**Pero** The daughter of Neleus and Chloris and the wife of the seer, Melampous

**Perse** A nymph; the consort of Helios (the Sun) and the mother of the Dread Goddess, Kirke, and King Aietes

**Persephone**

The daughter of Zeus and Demeter; the wife of Hades; when Odysseus was at the entrance to the Underworld, he was afraid that Persephone would appear in her terrible beauty

**Perseus** One of the sons of the king of Pylos, Nestor

**Phaethon (Daybright)** One of the chariot horses of the goddess of the Dawn, Eos; her other horse was named Lampos

**Phaethousa (Phaethousa)**

A nymph; the daughter of Helios (the Sun) and Nearea; Phaethousa and her sister, Lampetia, tend the flocks of their father on the island of Thrinakia

**Phaiakians**

The people of Phaiakia; a race founded by Nausithoos, a son of the lord of the Sea, Poseidon; when Odysseus arrived at Phaiakia, the people were ruled by King Alkinoos and Queen Arete; after a brief stay, the Phaiakians gave Odysseus passage home to the island of Ithaka

**Phaidimos**

The king of the Sidonians; when Telemachos was in Sparta seeking help from Menelaos, he was given a treasured mixing bowl which Phaidimos had once given to Menelaos

**Phaedra (Phaidra)** The doomed wife of Theseus; Odysseus saw Phaedra while he was at the entrance to the Underworld

**Pheidon** A king of the Thesprotians; in one of his false explanations, Odysseus claimed to have been the guest of Pheidon

### **Phemios**

A singer at Odysseus' home on the island of Ithaka; Phemios was the son of Terpias; he sang for the suitors but his life was spared when Odysseus returned home and killed all those who had betrayed his trust

**Pheres** The son of Kretheus and Tyro; the brother of Aeson and Amythaon

### **Philoitios**

A herdsman on the island of Ithaka; Philoitios was a servant of Odysseus and helped Odysseus and Telemachos kill the suitors

**Philoktetes** The son of Poias; Philoktetes was the second best archer at the siege of Troy, surpassed only by Odysseus

### **Philomeleides**

A wrestler on the island of Lesbos who was bested by Odysseus; when Telemachos visited Menelaos in Sparta, Menelaos recounted the story of how Odysseus defeated Philomeleides

**Phoenicians (Phoinikians)** Renowned seafarers from Phoenicia on the coast of Syria; the Phoenicians traded in slaves and cargo

**Phoibos (Apollo)** An epithet for the god Apollon meaning Pure or Bright

### **Phorkys**

The son of Pontus (the Sea) and Gaia (Earth) and the brother of Thaumatas and Eurybia; Phorkys is the father of the nymph, Thoosa; Thoosa was the consort of Poseidon (lord of the Sea) which would make Phorkys the grandfather of the Cyclops, Polyphemos; when Odysseus returned to his island home of Ithaka, the Phaiakians put him ashore in a secluded harbor sacred to Phorkys and he hid the treasure the Phaiakians had given him in a nearby cave sacred to the nymphs of the Wellspring

**Phronios** The father of Noemon; when the goddess, Athene, disguised herself as Telemachos, she asked Noemon to provide a fast ship so that the real Telemachos could go in search of news of his father, Odysseus

**Phrontis** The son of Onetor; Phrontis was the helmsman of Menelaos as he sailed home from Troy; when their ship reached Cape Sunium, Apollon shot Phrontis with an arrow and killed him

### **Phylakos**

A former ruler in Thessaly; when the seer, Melampous, tried to steal the cattle of Iphikles, he was held captive in the stronghold of Phylakos

**Phylo** One of the handmaids of Helen; Adreste and Alkippe were the other two

**Poias** The father of the famed archer, Philoktetes

**Polites** One of the shipmates of Odysseus; when Odysseus' men encountered the Dread Goddess, Kirke, Polites was transformed into a swine

**Polybos**

1) The father of the suitor, Eurymachos; Eurymachos was killed by Odysseus; 2) an Egyptian; the king of Thebes who entertained Menelaos and Helen while they were in Egypt; 3) the Phaiakian craftsman who made the red ball that Halios and Laodamas used in a dance to entertain Odysseus; 4) one of the suitors of Penelope; Polybos was killed by the swineherd, Eumaios

**Polydamna**

The wife of the Egyptian, Thon; while Menelaos and Helen were in Egypt, Polydamna gave Helen the drug which she later administered to Menelaos and Telemachos to ease their sorrows

**Polydeukes**

The son of Leda and Tyndareus; the brother of Kastor and Klytemnestra and half-brother of Helen; after death, Zeus made Kastor and Polydeukes immortal with the condition that while one of them lived on the surface of the earth, the other would reside in the Underworld

**Polykaste**

The youngest daughter of Nestor; while visiting Nestor in Pylos, Telemachos was bathed by Polykaste before being entertained by Nestor and his sons

**Polyktor**

One of the builders of a well on the island of Ithaka; Ithakos and Neritos also participated in the construction of the well, which was very ornate with a circle of trees and an altar for the nymphs

**Polyneos (Grandfleet)** A Phaiakian; the son of Tekton and the father of Amphialos

**Polypemon (King Allwoes)**

A name made up by Odysseus when he was still in disguise and speaking with his father, Laertes; Polypemon was, according to Odysseus, the father of a man named Apheidas

**Polypheides** The son of the seer, Mantios, and father of the wanderer Theoklymenos

### **Polyphemos**

The Cyclops who was blinded by Odysseus; Polyphemos was the son of the nymph, Thoosa and Poseidon (lord of the Sea); when Polyphemos captured and ate several of Odysseus' crewmen, Odysseus tricked him into drinking a potent wine and then blinded him while he was unconscious; for harming his son, Poseidon punished Odysseus with ten years of wandering before he could return to his home and family

**Ponteus (Bluewater)** One of the young Phaiakian men who participated in the athletic games held in honor of Odysseus

**Pontonoos** A Phaiakian; the herald of King Alkinoos

### **Poseidon**

One of the Olympian Immortals; the lord of the Sea; Poseidon is the son of Kronos and Rheia and brother of Zeus, Hades, Hestia, Demeter and Hera; when Odysseus blinded Poseidon's son, Polyphemos, the enraged god punished Odysseus with ten years of hardship before he could return to his home and family

### **Pramnian Wine**

When some of Odysseus' shipmates encountered the Dread Goddess, Kirke, she mixed a potion with barley, cheese, pale honey and Pramnian Wine to turn the men into swine

**Priam** The last king of the city of Troy

**Prokris** One of the "shades" that Odysseus encountered when he was at the entrance to the Underworld

**Proreus (Shearwater)** One of the young Phaiakian men who participated in the athletic games held in honor of Odysseus

### **Proteus**

The Old Man of the Sea; an ancient sea god and a thane of Poseidon (lord of the Sea); the son of Okeanos (Ocean) and Tethys; Proteus was noted for his ability to assume different forms and to prophesy; when Menelaos and his crewmen were stranded on the Egyptian island of Pharos, he aroused the sympathy of Proteus' daughter, Eidothea; she told Menelaos how he could catch Proteus and induce him to answer questions; Menelaos did as she suggested and caught Proteus unawares; Menelaos asked about his companions who had fought with him at Troy and in which direction he should travel in order to reach his kingdom; Proteus complied

**Prymneus (Sternman)** One of the young Phaiakian men who participated in the athletic games held in honor of Odysseus

### **Rhadamanthys (Rhadamanthos)**

The son of Zeus and Europa; after his death, Rhadamanthys dwelled in the home of the Blessed Dead, the Elysian Fields

### Rhexenor

The brother of the king of the Phaiakians, Alkinoos; Rhexenor and Alkinoos were the sons of the founder of the Phaiakian settlement in Scheria, Nausithoos; Rhexenor was the father of the queen of the Phaiakians, Arete

### Roving Rocks (Prowling Rocks or Drifters)

Two monstrous rocks in the sea which Odysseus had to pass after surviving the temptation of the Sirens; the Dread Goddess, Kirke, told Odysseus that, in a generation past, the Argonauts were the only ones to pass safely through the Roving Rocks but now they were stationary and housed the six-headed monster, Skylla

**Salmoneus (Salmoneus)** The father of Tyro; Tyro was the mother (by the lord of the Sea, Poseidon) of Pelias and Neleus

### Sicilian (Sikel)

The people of the island of Sicily; referred to as slavers when the suitors of Penelope suggested that the disguised Odysseus would fetch a good price from the Sicilians

### Sidonians

The people of the city of Sidon located on the coast of the eastern Mediterranean Sea in what is now Lebanon

### Sintians

Inhabitants of the island of Lemnos who were noted for their savage or raucous speech; when Aphrodite and Ares were having a secret love affair, Aphrodite told Ares that her husband, Hephaistos was visiting the Sintians

### Sirens (Sirenes )

Sea nymphs who are part woman and part bird and inhabit the island of Anthemoessa; the Sirens lure mariners with their seductive singing to the rocky shore where the heedless sailors die in their wrecked ships; the Dread Goddess, Kirke, warned Odysseus about the irresistible lure of the Sirens so when he came near their island, he had his sailors put wax in their ears so that they could not hear the enchanted singing but he had himself lashed to the mast and did not plug his ears so that he could hear the Siren's song

### Sisyphus (Sisyphos)

A son of Aeolus and the ruler of the city of Corinth; noted for his cleverness; when Sisyphus was finally taken to the Underworld, he was punished by being compelled to roll a stone to the top of a slope where it always escaped him and would roll down the slope again; Sisyphus would begin the task again and thus continues forever

**Skylla** Skylla and Charybdis are almost always mentioned together because they live on opposite sides of the Straits of Messenia between Italy and the island of Sicily; Skylla is a six-headed, snake-like monster that will swoop down and snatch sailors from the decks of passing ships

### Solymoi (Mountains of Asia)

A people of the mountainous region in Lykia in Asia Minor; as Poseidon (lord of the Sea) was flying from the land of the Ethiopians, he passed over the high ground of the Solymoi and was angered to see Odysseus nearing the island of the Phaiakians; Poseidon staggered the sea with his trident and splintered Odysseus' small boat

**Stratios** One of the sons of Nestor

### Styx

Although she is called The Oath River, Styx is actually an Okeanid, i.e. one of the three thousand daughters of Okeanos (Ocean) and Tethys; Styx resides near the halls of Hades and Persephone and is also called The Hateful because she is the body of water in the Underworld over which the souls of the dead are ferried by Charon and by which the Immortals swear their most solemn oaths

### Tantalos

One of the "shades" that Odysseus encountered when he was at the entrance to the Underworld; Tantalos was condemned to suffer eternal hunger and thirst by having to stand in a pool of water that was overhung with fruit trees; the water would recede when he tried to bend and drink and the fruit trees would always be just out of his reach

### Taphians

The people of the land of Taphos which is assumed to be located on, or near, the western coast of Greece; the goddess, Athene, disguised herself as a man named Mentos who was a leader of the Taphians; the swineherd, Eumaios, bought his slave, Mesaulios, from the Taphians

### Teiresias

A blind prophet from the city of Thebes; after Teiresias died, the nymph, Kirke, advised Odysseus to go to the entrance to the Underworld evoke the "shade" of Teiresias so that he might tell Odysseus how to find his way home; Teiresias told Odysseus that his homecoming would be fraught with hardships but that he would eventually overcome the wrath of Poseidon (lord of the Sea) and return to his home on the island of Ithaka

**Tekton (Shipwrightson)** A Phaiakian elder; the father of Polyneios and grandfather of Amphialos

**Telamon** The grandson of Zeus and Aegina; most notably, the father of Aias, who was commonly known as Telamonian Aias

### Telemachos (Telemakhos)

The son of Odysseus and Penelope; not knowing whether his father was dead or alive after a twenty year absence, Telemachos went to Sparta and Pylos for the advice of Menelaos and Nestor; Telemachos always had the protection and guidance of the goddess, Athene; when his father returned home, Telemachos helped him kill the suitors of Penelope

### Telemos

The son of Eurymos; Telemos was a prophet who told the Cyclopes, Polyphemos, that a man named Odysseus would blind him; Polyphemos was expecting a large and bold man but when Odysseus refused to identify himself by name, Polyphemos was completely unprepared for an attack and thus the prophecy came true

**Telephus (Telephos)** The father of the young man, Eurypylos, who was killed at Troy by Achilles' son, Neoptolemus

**Terpias (Telephos)** The father of the singer, Phemios

**Themis (Holy Justice)** One of the Titans, i.e. one of the children of Gaia (Earth) and Ouranos (the Heavens); the goddess of Law and Order

**Theoklymenos** The son of Polyphoides; a wanderer from Argos who was befriended by Telemachos

### Theseus

Theseus was the son of the legendary Athenian king, Aegeus and his consort, Aethra of Troezen; Theseus took the daughter of King Minos, Ariadne, from her home on the island of Crete but abandoned her on the island of Dia where she was killed by the goddess, Artemis

### Thesprotians

The people of Thesprotia which is located in northwestern Greece; Odysseus claimed to have washed ashore on Thesprotia and was cared for by King Pheidon

### Thetis

A Nereid; one of the fifty daughters of Nereus and Doris; collectively called the Daughters of the Sea; Thetis was the wife of Peleus and the mother of Achilles

### Thoas

The son of Andraimon; Thoas commanded the Aitolians at the siege of Troy; while still in disguise, Odysseus reminisced about the Trojan War and how he had warmed himself with the cloak that Thoas had put aside when he went as a messenger to Agamemnon

### Thon

An Egyptian; the husband of Polydamna; while Menelaos and Helen were in Egypt, Polydamna gave Helen the drug she administered to Menelaos and Telemachos to ease their sorrows

### Thoon (Runningwake)

One of the young Phaiakian men who participated in the athletic contests held in honor of Odysseus

<b>Thoosa</b> A sea-nymph; the daughter of Phorkys and the consort of Poseidon (lord of the Sea); Thoosa was the mother of the Cyclops, Polyphemos
<b>Thrasymedes</b> One of the sons of Nestor
<b>Thyestes</b> The brother of Atreus and father of the murderer of Agamemnon, Aegisthus
<b>Tithonos</b> The husband of Eos, the Dawn
<b>Tityos</b> One of the sons of Gaia (Earth); when Odysseus was at the entrance to the Underworld, he saw Tityos as he was being tormented; Tityos had manhandled Leto and Zeus inflicted a severe and eternal punishment; Tityos was stretched over nine acres of land and vultures were eternally tearing at his liver
<b>Tritogeneia</b> ( <i>The Glorious Daughter of Zeus</i> ) A name given to Athene because, after she sprang from Zeus' head, she was taken to the Libyan lake, Trito, and nurtured by the nymphs of the lake; in this way she is also referred to as Tritonian Athene
<b>Trojans</b> The people of the city of Troy
<b>Tyndareus</b> The husband of Leda and the father of Kastor, Polydeukes and Klytemnestra; Tyndareus was Helen's stepfather; when Helen was a young woman and ready to marry, she had many suitors; Tyndareus made all the suitors swear that they would respect her final choice and come to her defense if she was ever taken from her rightful husband; Helen married Menelaos and lived in Sparta until she was induced by Aphrodite to leave Menelaos and go to Troy with Alexandros (Paris); true to their oath, the suitors gathered an army and attacked Troy
<b>Tyro</b> The daughter of Salmoneus and husband of Kretheus; Odysseus met the "shade" of Tyro in the Underworld and she told him of her love for the river Enipeus; Poseidon took the guise of Enipeus and from their union Pelias and Neleus were born; Kretheus and Tyro were the parents of Aeson, Pheres and Amythaon
<b>Zethos</b> The father of Itylos and consort of the nightingale, Prokne; Itylos was killed by his mother in a fit of madness
<b>Zeus</b> The son of Kronos and Rheia; the king of the Olympian Immortals; Zeus is the brother of Hades, Poseidon, Hestia, Demeter and Hera

Stewart, Michael and others. "Mythagora." < <http://mythagora.com/> > Updated 8.28.2013. Web/ Accessed 8.30.13.