

Notes

QUALITIES OF AN EPIC HERO

QUALITIES	DEFINITION	STORY EXAMPLE
Noble Birth	The hero is typically a King, Prince, Demigod, or someone of high rank within their culture.	
Supernatural abilities or qualities	The hero possesses qualities of greatness, such as bravery, cunning, humility, or wisdom.	
Vast Traveller	The hero's travels take him to exotic or supernatural locations, often to battle against evil.	
Unmatched Warrior	The hero is a great warrior, in some capacity.	
Cultural Legend	The hero is well known in his own culture, before going out on his quest.	
Humility	A true hero completes heroic actions for their own sake. Heroes that choose to boast are often punished and humbled.	
Battles Supernatural Forces	The hero faces supernatural beings of some sort.	

The Who's Who of Homer's The Odyssey



<p><i>Odysseus</i> (oh DIS ee us) King of Ithaca--one of Greece's islands</p>	<p><i>Penelope</i> (pah NEL lo PEE) the wife and queen of Odysseus</p>	
<p><i>Telemachus</i> (tell ah MAHK us) the son of Odysseus; was born right before Ody left for the Trojan War (20 years ago)</p>	<p><i>Polyphemus the Cyclops</i> (pah lee FEE mus / SIGH klops) the Cyclops whose cave Ody and his men broke into</p>	<p><i>Poseidon</i> (poh SIGH dun) the god of sea and earthquakes--Zeus' brother</p>
<p><i>Zeus</i> (ZOOS) the head god</p>	<p><i>Athena</i> (ah THEE nah) the goddess of war and wisdom</p>	<p><i>Hermes</i> (HER mees) the messenger god</p>
<p><i>Circe</i> (SER see) a seductive sea witch</p>	<p><i>Calypso</i> (kah LIP so) a seductive nymph* (*a spirit of nature)</p>	<p><i>Eurylochus</i> (yur ee LOH kus) Ody's brother-in-law and fellow crewmen</p>
<p><i>Elpenor</i> (EL pah nor) Ody's very young crewman</p>	<p><i>Tiresias</i> (tah REE see us) a blind, dead prophet whose spirit is in the underworld</p>	<p><i>Eumaeus</i> (you MAY us) a loyal servant and swine herder on Ody's Ithaca estate</p>
<p><i>Antinous</i> (ANN tih oh us) an arrogant suitor of Penelope</p>	<p><i>Eurymachus</i> (yur ee MAHK us) a suitor of Penelope who speaks to Ody for the other suitors</p>	<p><i>Scylla</i> (SIH la) a cave monster with 6 heads and 12 octopus arms</p>
<p><i>Charybdis</i> (kah RIB dis) a ginormous whirlpool in the sea</p>	<p><i>Achaea</i> (ah KEE ah) another name for Greece</p>	<p><i>Ilium</i> (IH lee um) another name for Troy (modern-day Turkey)</p>