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MSC

# Ordinary world

- · Item
- Stuff

• King Odysseus is at home in Ithaca, with his wife, Penelope, and newborn son, Telemachus.

# Call to adventure

- · Item 1
- Stuff

 $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Odysseus sets out for the war in Troy.

Refusal of the call

- · Item
- Stuff

• He does not want to leave his family and sail to Troy; he knows it will be a long trip.

Meeting with the mentor

- · Item
- Stuff

 Athena, the Goddess of wisdom, crafts, and battle is Odysseus' guide. She wants to help Odysseus, though she has been instructed not to. She takes pity on him while other gods forsake Odysseus, constantly saves him from death, and gives him guidance.

# Crossing the threshold

- · Item
- Stuff

 After the war, the gods become angry with the Greeks for their prideful ways. A great storm emerges and throws them off course.

Tests, allies, enemies

- · Item
- Stuff

- Odysseus is thwarted with many tests as he travels back to Ithaca:
  - Polyphemus
  - Circones
  - · Lotus Eaters
  - Lastrygonians
  - Sirens
  - · Scylla & Charybdis
  - · Cattle of the Sun God

Approach to the innermost cave

- · Item
- Stuff

 Odysseus nearly makes it home, but his crew opens a bag that had been given to Odysseus by Aeolus, god of the winds. When the bag is opened, it releases a wind that blows them far away from Ithaca.

# Supreme ordeal

- Item
- Stuff

 Odysseus is sent to the underworld seeking information to guide him home. This quest brings him to the verge of death.

### Reward

- · Item
- Stuff

• The King of Phaeacia gives Odysseus passage home.

The road back

- · Item
- Stuff

 Unlike other heroes, Odysseus was not in search of treasure. Instead, he was desperately trying to reach his home. Once he returns, he finds out that his house has been overrun with suitors trying to steal his wife and palace.

## Resurrection

- · Item
- · Stuff

 Instead of rushing in and killing the suitors, Odysseus is patient. He wishes to learn if his wife has been faithful. With the help of his son and a loyal swineherd, he devises a plan. Athena disguises him as an old beggar so that he can enter his house undetected. Telemachus steals all the suitors' weapons, and a final test is proposed. Penelope will marry the man who strings Odysseus' bow and shoots an arrow through a line of small circles; a seemingly impossible task.

Return with the elixir

- Item
- Stuff

 Odysseus, still dressed as a beggar, completes the task and is restored to his original state. He and his son expel the suitors from their home by force. Penelope, seeing how Odysseus has changed, tests him to make sure it is actually him. She tells him she moved their bed. He replies, correctly, that this would have been impossible, and all is returned to normal.