

Polyphemus' POV Final Copy

*The glaring sun strikes my resting eye, disrupting my mid-day slumber. I wake up to find my herd of sheep gazing at me from my side, telling me they are satisfied with their morning forest-graze. I, however, am Hungry and need something to eat. Famished, I get up and begin to gather my herd to prepare for the hike home. "What should I eat today? Devour yet another unlucky weakling from my flock? Consume a chunk of my delicious sheep cheese?" My stomach pleads to be fulfilled, I decided to focus on bringing my flock and firewood home for now and determine my choice of food later.*

*I come back home and begin my routine chores. Not long after, I pick up an unusual scent—something I have ever smelled before. I head towards the smell and spot dozens of hairless creatures going through my belongings. Their close resemblance to that of myself scares me. They look exactly like me and the other cyclops, the only difference being our eyes and size. Enraged by their unwelcome presence in my house, I scream "Strangers! Who are you and what are you doing in my house? How dare you come into a cyclops' home and try to make away with my belongings."*

*All of the men turn their heads, frozen in fear by the sight of a towering cyclops. All except for one who I assume is their leader. This man steps up to greet me. "O great Cyclops, we are in hopes of a warm welcome and perhaps even a gift for us, the sort that a host would give to their guests. That is the custom for you must respect the god's great Cyclops."*

*"Puny mortal, you believe that I, Polyphemus, son of the great Poseidon, shall follow the ways of your god? Who do you think you are? Barging into my home without asking, touching my belongings and demanding gifts thinking I fear the gods? This is a direct insult towards me. For your actions, I shall trap you in my cave, until you and your men meet the warmth of my stomach." I go over to make sure the boulder covering the cave entrance was sealed tight to block any possible chances to escape. Admittedly, their small arms can do nothing to move the rock no matter how many men try.*

*Feeling the vast void my stomach has become, I pick up two of the men and devour them. I can tell that they are now scared to death, praying to the gods for help, trying to escape the inevitable death that they deserve. Satisfied with my meal, I quickly fall asleep, knowing that there is nothing the powerless men can do.*

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*I wake up, once again greeted by hunger. I swallow two more men and head out to herd my sheep, making sure the boulder behind me sealed the entrance tightly. "These men are truly delicious; it is a blessing receiving such delicacies all to myself, without having to fight with the other darn cyclops for a share of this prize. I never thought such meat could be more delicious than that of sheep."*

*A few hours pass by and once again, I gather up all of my sheep, eager to taste another two men. I lift the boulder covering my cave and let my sheep in; the men are nowhere to be seen. Could they have escaped? Surely not. I cover the entrance and finally spot the remaining few men in the back corner. I grab two of the men and bite off their heads. Their crunchy skull when opened, reveal the succulent juices hidden beneath them.*

*Before I could grab another one of the men to eat, the leader of the group came up forth and brought me a wooden bowl, filled with a strange dark liquid. The man begins to speak: "Here great Polyphemus, try this wine—perfect for topping off all of that flesh you have just guzzled down. I have brought this treasure from lands far beyond your imagination. It is a true delicacy from that land, see for yourself and drink as much as you want. It is a gift from me, the human called Nobody, a gift that a guest would give a host."*

*My mouth begins to water. "I must taste some of this wine you speak of." I grab the bowl out of Nobody's hand and start chugging it down. I can feel the cold refreshing wine flowing through my throat, pleasing me greatly. I have never felt such satisfying yet short-lived feeling before. "Nobody, bring me more... More! I need more of this wine!" I quickly finish another two bowls before my stomach becomes filled. "Thank you, Nobody, for such a blessing. For this, my gift in return is to eat you last out of all of your friends." All of a sudden, an urge compels me to sleep. Being full and satisfied, I happily comply with this desire.*

*I am woken up once again by the pain of hunger overtaking my stomach... no, this is a different pain. The sudden jolt of immense pain from my eye takes control of me. I scream in agony trying to understand what is going on. "Nobody is killing me! My eye, Nobody stabbed me in my eye!" I continue to scream, trying to notify the other cyclops until I gain control over my thinking and realize that they cannot escape my cave without moving the boulder. "They must pay for what they have done, and once I catch them, they will regret coming here to*

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*begin with!"*

*I remain at the entrance of my cave, while I let out my sheep, carefully inspecting everything that exit. I pick up the scent of Nobody nearby, indicating his presence. However, it began to weaken as if he had left without my knowledge. I did not feel or hear him or his men trying to escape. How could this be?*

*All of a sudden, I hear Nobody's all too familiar voice: "You stupid cyclops! I have outsmarted you!" I pick up the surrounding boulders and throw it in the direction of his voice, hoping to hit him and his crew. He continues, "I am Odysseus, son of Laertes and King of Ithaca! I tricked you, and you can't do anything to stop us!" I am infuriated; Odysseus tricked me by lying about his name, blinding me and then somehow escaping. How foolish I was to believe that his name was Nobody honestly. No wonder none of the other cyclops came to help me. I feel so much humiliation, outwitted by mere humans; I mustn't let them escape.*

*I continue to throw boulders towards his taunting voice, only to stop, realizing how stupid I was not to remember Telemus' prophecy which warned me that I was destined to be blinded by the hands of Odysseus. Ever since the prophecy, I have always expected a giant, posing as a formidable foe, and yet Odysseus was a coward, intoxicating me with wine and blinding me while I was asleep.*

*Odysseus has ruined my life by tricking me; I must have revenge. If I trick Odysseus into coming back on land, I could snatch him up and kill him there. I call out for Odysseus once again "Come back Odysseus, allow me to return the gift to you as a host would to a guest. If you come back, I can make my father, Poseidon, send you back home immediately." Odysseus rejects my offer and continues with his prideful offenses.*

*I am outraged at Odysseus and have had enough of his boasting ego. I call out to my father and begin to pray "Hear me out father, if I am truly your son then curse Odysseus so that he shall never return home and will live the rest of his life, suffering for what he has done to me."*