


Module 7: The Epic – the *Odyssey*
Topic 5 Content: Books XVIII - XX of the *Odyssey* Notes

Introduction

Books XVIII - XX of the *Odyssey*

Introduction

In this interactivity, find out what happens in Books XVIII - XX of the *Odyssey*. Click on each of the vertical bars to learn about the content of each book, and prepare yourself to read Book XXI, Book XXII, and Book XXIII.



Book XVIII

Book XIX

Book XX

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Book XVIII

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Book XVIII



Disguised as a beggar, Odysseus gets into a fight with Iros, another beggar in his home. The fight is cheered on by the suitors, especially Antinous. Odysseus wins the argument. Penelope receives gifts from the suitors and then goes to bed with her maids following her to her room. The suitors continue to party in front of Odysseus.

Book XIX

Book XX

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Book XIX

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Book XVIII

Book XIX



Assisted by Athena, Odysseus and Telemachus remove all of the weapons from the suitors in the great hall. Still disguised as the beggar, Odysseus talks to Penelope and tells her that Odysseus will be returning on that day. One of Penelope's maids, Eurykleia, washes the beggars feet and recognizes that it is Odysseus from his scar. He makes her take a vow not to reveal this information. Penelope decides that she will have a contest for the suitors. The one of them that is able to restring an old bow that belongs to Odysseus, will be allowed to marry her.

Book XX

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Book XX


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Athena visits Odysseus to help him prepare to battle the suitors. Doubtful of his success, Odysseus asks Zeus for a sign that he is supposed to be home, and Zeus sends a thunderclap. The suitors eat breakfast and harass Odysseus, who is still disguised as a beggar.

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