

## THE ODYSSEY – PART 2

1. “Twenty years gone, and I am back again...”  
Odysseus and Telemachus reunited. Odysseus has a plan to defeat the suitors. He’ll appear at the palace as a beggar. He warns Telemachus not to say anything if the suitors taunt him. He warns Telemachus not to tell Laertes, or Penelope that he is back. He wants to discover whether or not she can still be trusted. The only one he trusts for sure is his son.
2. Argus  
The loyalty of pets is examined here. Argus, Odysseus’ faithful dog, is so old he hasn’t moved in years. Upon seeing Odysseus, he wags his tail, closes his eyes and dies.
3. The Suitors  
Suitors are men who try to date and flatter women in order to marry them. Penelope, Odysseus’ wife, has many suitors who are living at her house trying to win her hand in marriage since her husband has been gone for over 20 years. Antinous, the meanest of them all, strikes Odysseus with a stool for talking back to him. Remember, Odysseus is still disguised as a beggar. Telemachus is furious, but does not reveal his anger.
4. Penelope  
Penelope asks to speak privately with Odysseus. His identity remains unknown to her. She tells the beggar that she is miserable. She has fended off the advances of the suitors for as long as she can, but now there is considerable pressure on her to remarry. He tells her that Odysseus will return within the month.
5. The Challenge  
Penelope announces that the first suitor to shoot an arrow through the target will become her husband. All fail. Then Odysseus, still disguised as a beggar, asks for a turn. The suitors mock him, but Telemachus demands he get a turn. After taking his time preparing, he shoots an arrow right through.
6. Odysseus’ Revenge  
While the suitors are still stunned, Odysseus shoots another arrow through Antinous’ neck, killing him instantly. He then reveals his true identity. Eurymachus tries to blame everything on Antinous, but Odysseus won’t hear it. A battle begins between Odysseus and Telemachus and the suitors. With Athena’s help, all the suitors are killed.
7. Penelope’s Test  
Penelope still can’t believe it is really Odysseus. She tests him by claiming their bed has been moved. Odysseus knows this is impossible because their bed is built into the foundation of the palace itself. The bed is carved from a oak tree that is rooted into the palace floor. Satisfied, Penelope embraces her estranged husband.
8. The Ending  
Athena commands peace between Odysseus and the families of the dead suitors. Odysseus reclaims his family and his kingdom.