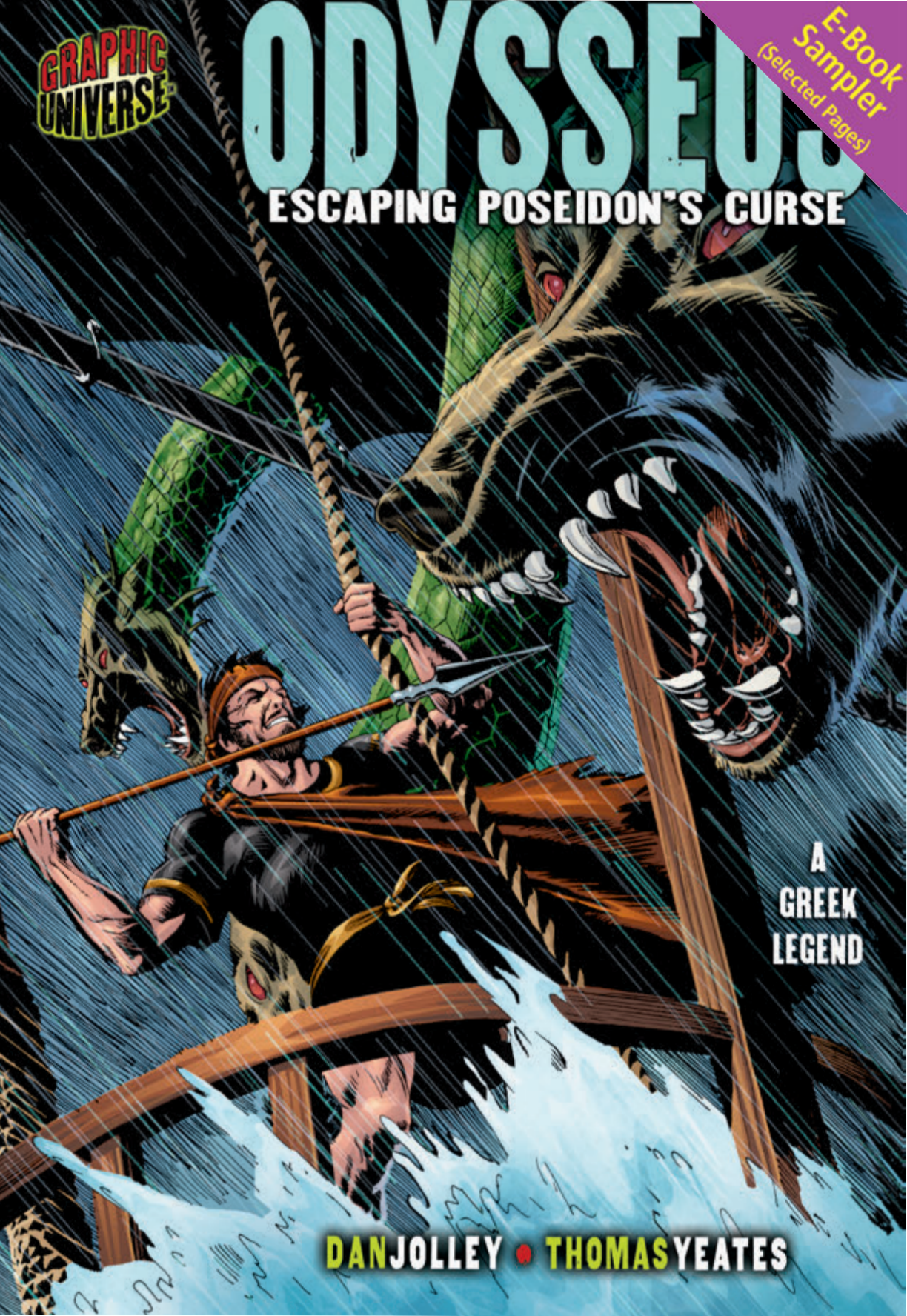


**GRAPHIC  
UNIVERSE**

# ODYSSEY

ESCAPING POSEIDON'S CURSE

E-Book  
Sampler  
(Selected Pages)



A  
GREEK  
LEGEND

**DAN JOLLEY • THOMAS YEATES**

THIS PAGE  
INTENTIONALLY  
LEFT BLANK

# ODYSSEUS

ESCAPING POSEIDON'S CURSE



A  
GREEK  
LEGEND

STORY BY  
DAN JOLLEY

PENCILS AND INKS BY  
THOMAS YEATES



THE FOLLOWING SITES AND MYTHICAL ENCOUNTERS ARE LOCATED ON THIS MAP, WHICH SHOWS SOME MODERN BORDERS AND PLACE NAMES.

- 1 TROY
- 2 THE LOTUS EATERS
- 3 CYCLOPES
- 4 CIRCE
- 5 SIRENS
- 6 SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS
- 7 HELIOS
- 8 CALYPSO
- 9 ITHACA

# ODYSSEUS

ESCAPING POSEIDON'S CURSE

A  
GREEK  
LEGEND



GRAPHIC UNIVERSE™ • MINNEAPOLIS

**T**HIS BOOK IS BASED ON THE *ODYSSEY*, AN EPIC POEM BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN AROUND 700 B.C. TRADITION HAS IT THAT THE STORY WAS WRITTEN BY HOMER, A BLIND GREEK POET. BUT HISTORIANS CANNOT CONFIRM THIS, AND EVEN HOMER'S EXISTENCE HAS BEEN QUESTIONED. REGARDLESS, THE EPIC STORY OF ODYSSEUS' JOURNEY HOME AFTER THE TROJAN WAR (c. 1200 B.C.) IS ONE OF THE GREATEST WORKS IN ALL OF WORLD LITERATURE.

AUTHOR DAN JOLLEY ADAPTED THE STORY TO FIT THE GRAPHIC MYTHS AND LEGENDS FORTY-PAGE FORMAT, REFERENCING SEVERAL TRANSLATIONS OF THE GREEK CLASSIC. ARTIST THOMAS YEATES USED HISTORICAL AND TRADITIONAL SOURCES FOR VISUAL DETAILS—FROM IMAGES ON ANCIENT GREEK VASES TO SCULPTURE AND OTHER ARTWORK. PROFESSOR DAVID MULROY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MILWAUKEE ENSURED HISTORICAL AND VISUAL ACCURACY.

**STORY BY DAN JOLLEY**

**PENCILS AND INKS BY THOMAS YEATES  
WITH SAM GLANZMAN AND KEN HOOPER**

**COLORING AND LETTERING BY  
HI-FI COLOUR DESIGN**

**CONSULTANT: DAVID MULROY, PH.D.,  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MILWAUKEE**

Copyright © 2008 by Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.

Graphic Universe™ is a trademark of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.

All rights reserved. International copyright secured. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise—without the prior written permission of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc., except for the inclusion of brief quotations in an acknowledged review.

Graphic Universe™  
A division of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.  
241 First Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55401 USA

For reading levels and more information, look up this title at [www.lernerbooks.com](http://www.lernerbooks.com).

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Jolley, Dan.

Odysseus : escaping Poseidon's curse : a Greek legend / story by Dan Jolley ; pencils and inks by Thomas Yeates.

p. cm. — (Graphic myths and legends)

Includes index.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8225-6208-5 (lib. bdg. : alk. paper)

ISBN-13: 978-1-58013-631-0 (eb pdf)

1. Odysseus (Greek mythology)—Juvenile literature. 2. Poseidon (Greek deity)—Juvenile literature. I. Yeates, Thomas. II. Title.

BL820.O3J65 2008

741.5'973—dc22

2007001827

Manufactured in the United States of America  
6-43018-5251-10/11/2016

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE JOURNEY BEGINS. . . 6

THE FURY OF THE CYCLOPS. . . 12

THE MAGIC OF THE ISLAND WITCH. . . 21

AN ORDEAL OF MONSTERS. . . 29

A TEMPTATION TOO GREAT. . . 35

CALYPSO'S EMBRACE. . . 39

GLOSSARY AND PRONUNCIATION GUIDE . . . 46

FURTHER READING, WEBSITES, AND MOVIES. . . 47

CREATING *ODYSSEUS: ESCAPING POSEIDON'S CURSE* . . . 47

INDEX . . . 48

ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND THE ARTIST . . . 48

# THE JOURNEY BEGINS

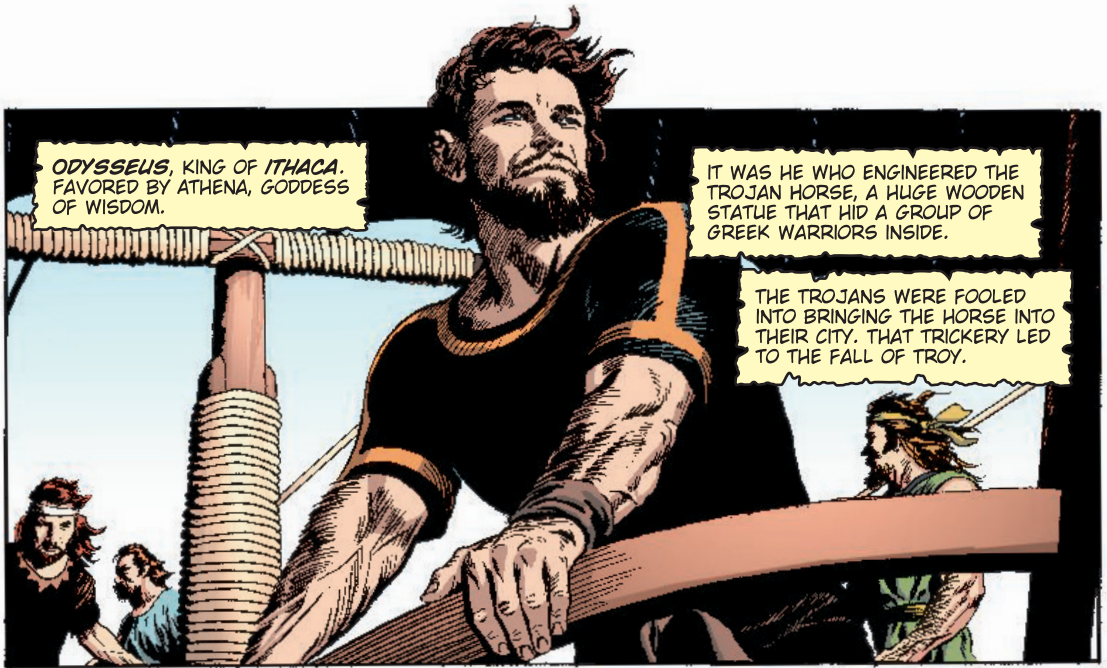
THE TROJAN WAR. AN EPIC STRUGGLE, SPANNING YEARS.

COUNTLESS BATTLES, FILLED WITH STAGGERING DEATH AND DESTRUCTION ALL FOUGHT FOR THE BEAUTY OF ONE WOMAN.

THE LEGENDARY HELEN OF TROY

IT WAS A WAR WAGED BY HEROES ... FIERCE WARRIORS, BRILLIANT STRATEGISTS. THEIR NAMES, TOO, HAVE BECOME LEGEND.

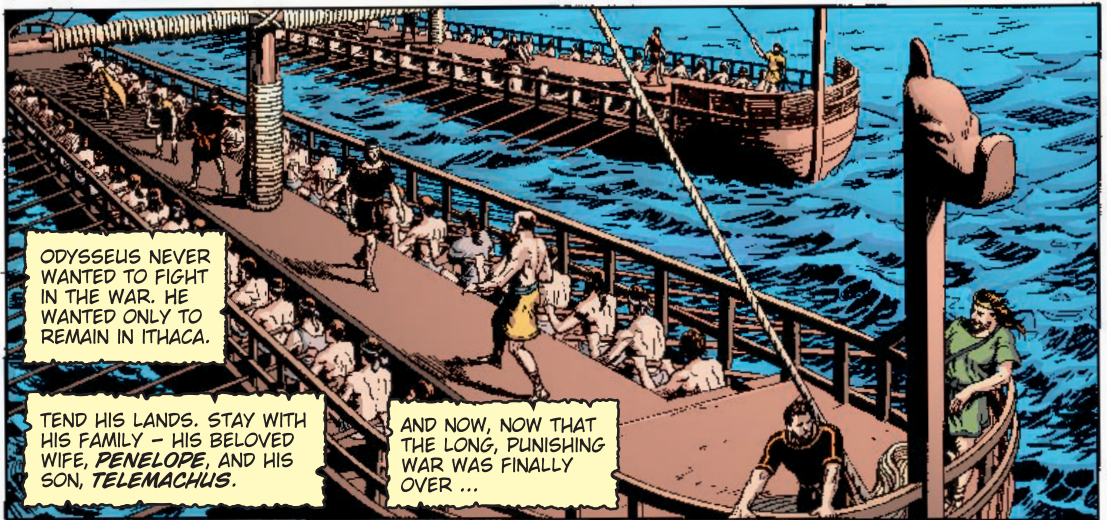
HECTOR. ACHILLES. PARIS. AND THE MOST CUNNING FIGHTER OF ALL ...



**ODYSSEUS, KING OF ITHACA.**  
FAVORED BY ATHENA, GODDESS  
OF WISDOM.

IT WAS HE WHO ENGINEERED THE  
TROIAN HORSE, A HUGE WOODEN  
STATUE THAT HID A GROUP OF  
GREEK WARRIORS INSIDE.

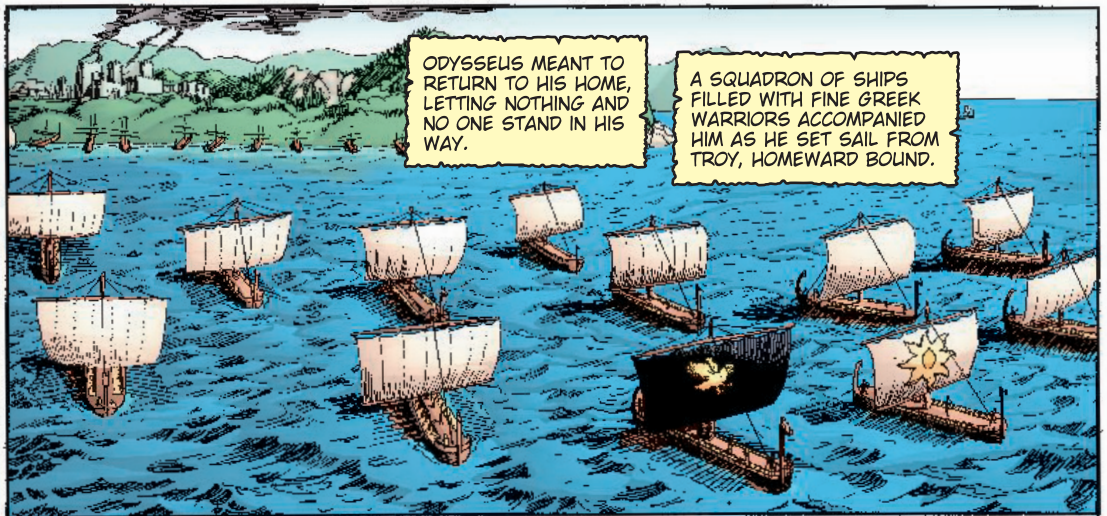
THE TROIANS WERE FOOLED  
INTO BRINGING THE HORSE INTO  
THEIR CITY. THAT TRICKERY LED  
TO THE FALL OF TROY.



ODYSSEUS NEVER  
WANTED TO FIGHT  
IN THE WAR. HE  
WANTED ONLY TO  
REMAIN IN ITHACA.

TEND HIS LANDS. STAY WITH  
HIS FAMILY - HIS BELOVED  
WIFE, **PENELOPE**, AND HIS  
SON, **TELEMACHUS**.

AND NOW, NOW THAT  
THE LONG, PUNISHING  
WAR WAS FINALLY  
OVER ...



ODYSSEUS MEANT TO  
RETURN TO HIS HOME,  
LETTING NOTHING AND  
NO ONE STAND IN HIS  
WAY.

A SQUADRON OF SHIPS  
FILLED WITH FINE GREEK  
WARRIORS ACCOMPANIED  
HIM AS HE SET SAIL FROM  
TROY, HOMEWARD BOUND.

BUT ODYSSEUS WAS UNAWARE THAT HIS ACTIONS IN THE WAR HAD ANGERED SOME OF THE GODS ...

... NAMELY **ZEUS**, LORD OF LIGHTNING, AND SEA-DWELLING **POSEIDON**, GOD OF EARTHQUAKES. ATHENA'S FAVOR COULD NOT PROTECT ODYSSEUS FROM THEM.

SHORTLY AFTER THE SHIPS LEFT TROY, THE DISPLEASURE OF THE GODS MADE ITSELF FELT ...

... WITH SAVAGE FURY.

ROW, MEN, ROW FOR YOUR LIVES!

ROW UNTIL YOUR MUSCLES RIP AND YOUR BONES CRACK!



THERE!  
WE CAN MAKE LANDFALL!  
NOW ROW!

IN THEIR DESPERATION TO ESCAPE THE STORM'S WRATH, ODYSSEUS AND HIS CREW HAD ARRIVED IN THE LAND OF THE LOTUS EATERS.

NOT MUCH WAS KNOWN OF THE INHABITANTS OF THIS LAND ...

... THOUGH ODYSSEUS WOULD SOON LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM THAN HE EVER WANTED TO KNOW.

WITH HIS MOST TRUSTED CAPTAIN, EURYLOCHUS, ODYSSEUS SPOKE TO TWO SCOUTS AND A RUNNER ...

... SENDING THEM TO EXPLORE THIS UNFAMILIAR LAND AND REPORT THEIR FINDINGS TO HIM.

THE SUN WAS HIGH IN THE SKY WHEN THE MEN LEFT.

BUT LONG AFTER NIGHTFALL, THEY STILL HAD NOT RETURNED.

THE NEXT DAY, ODYSSEUS LEFT EURYLOCHUS IN COMMAND AND HEADED INLAND, SEARCHING FOR HIS MISSING MEN.

# GLOSSARY AND PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

**ATHENA** (uh-*thee*-nuh): the Greek goddess of wisdom

**CHARYBDIS** (kuh-*rib*-duhs): a violent whirlpool that sucks up ships, destroys them, and spits them out

**CIRCE** (*sur*-see): a witch whom Odysseus and his men encounter on their journey home to Ithaca

**CYCLOPS** (*sy*-klops): one of a race of mythical giants with a single eye in the middle of their foreheads. The plural form is Cyclopes.

**DESERT:** to flee or abandon one's duties without permission

**EURYLOCHUS** (yur-*ril*-eh-kus): Odysseus' trusted second-in-command

**HELIOS** (*hee*-lee-us): the Greek god of the sun

**HEPHAISTOS** (heh-*feh*-tus): the blacksmith god

**HERMES** (*bur*-meez): the messenger of the gods on Mount Olympus

**ITHACA:** Odysseus' homeland; a Greek island

**LAISTRYGONIANS** (ly-struh-*go*-nee-uns): a race of fierce giants that Odysseus and his men encounter on their journey home to Ithaca

**ODYSSEUS** (oh-*dis*-see-uhs): king of Ithaca

**PENELOPE** (peh-*nel*-oh-pee): wife of Odysseus

**POLYPHEMUS** (pahl-*ee*-*fee*-muhs): the fearsome Cyclops whom Odysseus and his men encounter on their journey home to Ithaca

**POSEIDON** (poh-*sy*-duhn): the Greek god of the sea

**PROVISIONS:** a stock of supplies, such as food and water

**SCYLLA** (*si*-luh): a six-headed monster that can devour six sailors in one stroke

**STRAIT:** a narrow passageway connecting two large bodies of water

**SUITORS:** one who courts a woman or seeks to marry her

**TALISMAN:** an object that is believed to defend against evil or bring good fortune

**TELEMACHUS** (tel-*lem*-ah-kus): Odysseus' son

**TROJAN WAR:** a brutal ten-year war fought between the Trojans and the Greeks around 1200 B.C.

**ZEUS** (*zoos*): king of the Greek gods

## FURTHER READING, WEBSITES, AND MOVIES

Bolton, Lesley. *The Everything Classical Mythology Book: Greek and Roman Gods, Goddesses, Heroes, and Monsters from Ares to Zeus*. Avon, MA: Adams Media Corporation, 2002. This who's who guide introduces young readers to Greek and Roman mythology.

Day, Nancy. *Your Travel Guide to Ancient Greece*. Minneapolis: Twenty-First Century Books, 2001. Day prepares readers for a trip back to ancient Greece, including which cities to visit, how to get around, what to wear, and how to fit in with the locals.

Fontes, Ron, and Justine Fontes. *The Trojan Horse: The Fall of Troy*. Minneapolis: Graphic Universe, 2007. Learn more about the Trojan War, the exciting story that precedes the *Odyssey*.

*MythWeb*. <http://www.mythweb.com/index.html>. This site, with a searchable encyclopedia, provides readers with information on gods, goddesses, and places in Greek myth, as well as ample information about Homer's *Odyssey*.

*The Odyssey*. DVD. Directed by Andrei Konchalovsky. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada: Lions Gate Entertainment, 1997. This made-for-TV movie stars Armand Assante as Odysseus and uses excellent special effects to portray the thrilling tale of Odysseus' adventures.

## CREATING ODYSSEUS: ESCAPING POSEIDON'S CURSE

To retell this ancient story for modern readers, Dan Jolley consulted several translations of the *Odyssey*, both prose and verse versions. Artist Thomas Yeates used historical and traditional sources to shape the story's visual details—from images on ancient Greek vases to sculpture and other artwork. David Mulroy of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee ensured the accuracy of the story's historical and visual details. Together, the text and the art bring to life this story from ancient Greece.

*original pencil from page 28*



# INDEX

- Aiaia, 21, 27  
Athena, 7, 8, 24, 41
- Calypso, 39-43  
Charybdis, 28, 33, 37  
Circe, 22-29, 32, 34, 40  
Cyclopes, land of, 13
- Eurylochus, 9, 12, 21-24, 27, 29, 31, 35
- Helios' cattle, 34-36  
Hermes, 24, 26, 41, 42
- Laistrygonians, 21  
lotus eaters, 9-11
- Penelope, 7, 45  
Polyphemus (cyclops), 15-21  
Poseidon, 8, 19, 20
- Scylla, 28, 32, 33  
sirens, 28-31
- Telemachus, 7, 45  
Trojan Horse, 7  
Trojan War, 6, 7
- Zeus, 8, 10, 15, 16, 36, 41, 42

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND THE ARTIST

**DAN JOLLEY** began his writing career in the early 1990s. His limited series *Obergeist* was voted Best Horror Comic of 2001 by *Wizard Magazine*, and his DC Comics project *JSA: The Unholy Three* received an Eisner Award nomination (the comics industry's highest honor) for Best Limited Series of 2003. In recent years, he has co-written two novels based on licensed properties: *Star Trek SCE: Some Assembly Required*, and *Vengeance*, from the television series *Angel*. May of 2007 will see the debut of Dan's first solo novel series, an original Young Adult sci-fi espionage story called *Alex, Unlimited*, published by a joint venture of TokyoPop and HarperCollins. Dan lives in Cary, North Carolina, where he spends way too much time playing video games.

**THOMAS YEATES** began his art training in high school and continued at Utah State University and Sacramento State University. Subsequently, he was a member of the first class at Joe Kubert's School, a trade program for aspiring comic book artists in New Jersey. Yeates has worked as an illustrator for DC Comics, Marvel, Dark Horse, and many other companies, drawing Tarzan, Zorro, the Swamp Thing, Time Spirits, Captain America, and Conan. For the Graphic Myths and Legends series, he illustrated *King Arthur: Excalibur Unsheathed*, *Robin Hood: Outlaw of Sherwood Forest*, and *Atalanta: The Race against Destiny*. Yeates lives in northern California with his wife and daughter.

THIS PAGE  
INTENTIONALLY  
LEFT BLANK



SOURCE™

GO  
BEYOND  
THE PRINTED BOOK.

Download FREE  
educational resources at  
[www.lernerresources.com](http://www.lernerresources.com)

## AN ANCIENT GREEK HERO EMERGES FROM WAR VICTORIOUS . . . BUT MUST FIGHT NEW ENEMIES ON A LONG JOURNEY HOME.

AFTER FINALLY WINNING THE DECADE-LONG WAR AGAINST THE TROJANS, ODYSSEUS ONLY HAS TO GUIDE HIS MEN BACK HOME ACROSS THE SEA. YET THE JOURNEY WILL PROVE JUST AS PERILOUS AS THE BATTLES THEY HAVE JUST WON, AS THEY ENCOUNTER THE MONSTROUS, MAN-EATING CYCLOPS, THE IRRESISTIBLE SONG OF THE SIRENS, AND THE WRATH OF AN ANGRY POSEIDON, GOD OF THE SEA. ARE HE AND HIS MEN DESTINED TO DIE AT SEA? OR CAN ODYSSEUS'S CUNNING, STRENGTH, AND COURAGE BRING THEM SAFELY HOME?



### GRAPHIC MYTHS AND LEGENDS TITLES:

ALI BABA: FOOLING THE FORTY THIEVES

AMATERASU: RETURN OF THE SUN

ATALANTA: THE RACE AGAINST DESTINY

BEOWULF: MONSTER SLAYER

DEMETER & PERSEPHONE: SPRING HELD HOSTAGE

GUAN YU: BLOOD BROTHERS TO THE END

HERCULES: THE TWELVE LABORS

THE HERO TWINS: AGAINST THE LORDS OF DEATH

ISIS & OSIRIS: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

JASON: QUEST FOR THE GOLDEN FLEECE

KING ARTHUR: EXCALIBUR UNSHEATHED

MARWE: INTO THE LAND OF THE DEAD

ODYSSEUS: ESCAPING POSEIDON'S CURSE

PERSEUS: THE HUNT FOR MEDUSA'S HEAD

PIGLING: A CINDERELLA STORY

PSYCHE & EROS: THE LADY AND THE MONSTER

SINBAD: SAILING INTO PERIL

THE SMOKING MOUNTAIN: THE STORY OF

POPOCATÉPETL AND IZTACCÍHUATL

SUNJATA: WARRIOR KING OF MALI

THESEUS: BATTLING THE MINOTAUR

THOR & LOKI: IN THE LAND OF GIANTS

TRISTAN & ISOLDE: THE WARRIOR AND THE PRINCESS

THE TROJAN HORSE: THE FALL OF TROY

WILLIAM TELL: ONE AGAINST AN EMPIRE

YU THE GREAT: CONQUERING THE FLOOD

GRAPHIC  
UNIVERSE™

A DIVISION OF

LEARNER PUBLISHING GROUP

[WWW.LEARNERBOOKS.COM](http://WWW.LEARNERBOOKS.COM)

009-014 ATOS:4.5 Lexile:640

Guided Reading:V