

odyssey fagles

odyssey fagles is a phrase that has become synonymous with one of the most celebrated modern translations of Homer's epic poem, "The Odyssey." This article explores the enduring significance of Robert Fagles' translation, its unique qualities, and why it is considered essential reading for both students and enthusiasts of classical literature. Readers will discover the background of Robert Fagles, the characteristics that distinguish his version from others, the impact of his translation on contemporary understanding of the ancient text, and useful tips for reading and analyzing "The Odyssey" in the context of Fagles' work. Whether you are a scholar, a teacher, or a curious reader, this comprehensive guide will equip you with valuable insights about "odyssey fagles" and its place in the world of literary translations.

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- The Legacy of Robert Fagles
- Key Features of the Odyssey Fagles Translation
- Comparing Fagles' Odyssey with Other Translations
- The Cultural and Academic Impact of the Odyssey Fagles Edition
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The Legacy of Robert Fagles

Robert Fagles was an esteemed American scholar, translator, and academic whose translations of ancient Greek classics have had a profound impact on modern readers. His rendition of "The Odyssey," published in 1996, quickly became a standard in both educational and literary circles. Fagles was known for his ability to preserve the spirit and rhythm of the original Greek while making the text accessible and engaging for contemporary audiences. His background as a professor of comparative literature at Princeton University allowed him to approach Homer's works not only as a linguist but also as a literary craftsman.

Throughout his career, Fagles received numerous awards for his translation work, including the Harold Morton Landon Translation Award and the PEN/Ralph Manheim Medal for Translation. His contributions extend beyond "The Odyssey," as he also translated "The Iliad" and "The Aeneid," creating a trilogy of epic works that are widely praised for their clarity, poetic energy, and scholarly integrity. The legacy of Robert Fagles lives on through the continued use of his translations in classrooms, book clubs, and personal libraries around the world.

Key Features of the Odyssey Fagles Translation

The "Odyssey Fagles" translation stands out for several distinct reasons. Fagles' approach to Homer's epic combines accuracy with readability, providing an engaging and authentic experience. His translation delivers the narrative with a balance of poetic language and clear storytelling, which has made it a favorite among both new readers and those familiar with ancient texts.

Accessibility and Readability

One of the most celebrated aspects of the Odyssey Fagles translation is its accessibility. Fagles uses modern English that remains faithful to the original's tone and style, ensuring that readers are not alienated by archaic language. His phrasing is natural and fluid, allowing the story's momentum and emotional depth to resonate.

Faithfulness to the Original

Fagles maintains a strong commitment to Homer's original Greek text, capturing the nuances and subtleties of the epic. He preserves the repetition, epithets, and formulaic expressions characteristic of ancient epic poetry, which helps retain the unique flavor of the original work.

Poetic Rhythm and Structure

Unlike many prose translations, Fagles' "Odyssey" is rendered in a poetic form that echoes the meter and rhythm of Greek verse. This structure enhances the musical quality of the language and mirrors the oral tradition in which the "Odyssey" was first shared.

- Modern and engaging language
- Lyrical structure echoing the original Greek verse
- Retention of Homeric similes and epithets
- Extensive introductions and notes for context
- Balance between literal translation and literary artistry

Comparing Fagles' Odyssey with Other Translations

Over the centuries, "The Odyssey" has been translated by numerous scholars, each bringing a unique

approach to Homer's masterpiece. The Odyssey Fagles translation is often contrasted with those of Richmond Lattimore, Robert Fitzgerald, and Emily Wilson, among others. Each version offers different strengths, whether it be literal accuracy, poetic fluency, or contemporary relevance.

Fagles vs. Lattimore

Richmond Lattimore's translation is renowned for its literal fidelity to the Greek text, often at the expense of readability. Fagles, on the other hand, aims for a more dynamic and engaging narrative, making the story more accessible to modern audiences while preserving the essential qualities of the original.

Fagles vs. Fitzgerald

Robert Fitzgerald's translation is praised for its elegance and charm but occasionally takes creative liberties with the source material. Fagles strikes a balance by maintaining poetic integrity without straying far from Homer's intentions.

Fagles vs. Wilson

Emily Wilson's recent translation of "The Odyssey" is noted for its contemporary language and fresh perspective, especially regarding gender dynamics. Fagles' work remains more traditional but continues to be appreciated for its blend of poetic resonance and accuracy.

The Cultural and Academic Impact of the Odyssey Fagles Edition

The Odyssey Fagles translation has become a staple in educational settings and popular culture. Its user-friendly introduction, comprehensive notes, and accessible language have made it the preferred choice in many high school and university curricula. Fagles' ability to breathe new life into an ancient text has inspired countless readers and scholars to engage with "The Odyssey" in meaningful ways.

Beyond academia, the Odyssey Fagles edition has influenced modern literature, theater, and film. Its vivid imagery and emotional depth offer a gateway for artists and creators to reinterpret Homer's epic for new audiences. As a result, Fagles' translation has helped maintain the relevance of "The Odyssey" in a rapidly changing world.

Tips for Reading and Understanding Odyssey Fagles

To fully appreciate the Odyssey Fagles translation, readers should approach the text with a spirit of

curiosity and openness. Understanding the historical and cultural context of the original can deepen one's appreciation of Fagles' choices. Supplementary materials, such as the introduction and notes provided in his edition, offer valuable background information and explanations of key concepts.

Strategies for Engaged Reading

- Read the introduction to gain insight into Fagles' translation philosophy and the epic's context.
- Refer to the notes and glossary for explanations of unfamiliar terms and cultural references.
- Pay attention to the use of repeated phrases and epithets, which are hallmarks of Homeric poetry.
- Consider reading aloud to experience the musicality and rhythm of Fagles' verse.
- Engage in discussions or join book groups for diverse interpretations and richer understanding.

Notable Themes in Odyssey Fagles

Fagles' translation highlights the universal themes of "The Odyssey," such as heroism, loyalty, hospitality, and the struggle between fate and free will. His rendition emphasizes the humanity of Odysseus and the emotional complexity of his journey, making these ancient stories relevant to the modern reader.

Frequently Asked Questions About Odyssey Fagles

The following section addresses common questions about the Odyssey Fagles translation, its features, and its significance in the world of classical literature.

Q: Who is Robert Fagles and why is his Odyssey translation so popular?

A: Robert Fagles was an acclaimed translator and professor known for his accessible and poetic translations of ancient Greek texts. His "Odyssey" is popular because it combines readability with fidelity to the original, making Homer's epic approachable for modern readers while preserving its literary beauty.

Q: What makes the Odyssey Fagles translation different from

others?

A: The Odyssey Fagles translation stands out for its engaging modern language, poetic rhythm, detailed notes, and careful balance between literal accuracy and literary artistry. It provides context and clarity without sacrificing the emotional depth of the original.

Q: Is the Odyssey Fagles edition suitable for academic study?

A: Yes, the Odyssey Fagles edition is widely used in academic settings due to its scholarly introduction, helpful notes, and faithful translation. It is recommended for both introductory courses and advanced study of classical literature.

Q: How accurate is the Fagles translation compared to the original Greek?

A: Fagles' translation is respected for its accuracy and attention to the spirit of the Greek text. While he adapts the language for clarity and flow, he remains true to the structure and themes of the original work.

Q: Does the Fagles translation include additional resources?

A: Most editions of the Odyssey Fagles translation include an introduction by Bernard Knox, explanatory notes, and a glossary, providing readers with context and deeper understanding of the epic.

Q: How long does it take to read the Odyssey Fagles?

A: The time required to read the Odyssey Fagles varies depending on reading pace and engagement with supplementary materials. Most readers complete it within a few weeks if read consistently.

Q: What are some key themes emphasized in the Odyssey Fagles translation?

A: Key themes include the hero's journey, the nature of hospitality, the power of cunning and intelligence, the role of the gods, and the importance of home and family.

Q: Can the Odyssey Fagles translation be enjoyed by general readers?

A: Absolutely. The accessible language and engaging style make it suitable for general readers, not just students or scholars of classical literature.

Q: Are there differences between print and digital editions of Odyssey Fagles?

A: The main content remains the same, but digital editions may offer additional features such as searchable text or interactive notes, enhancing the reading experience.

Q: What other works has Robert Fagles translated?

A: In addition to "The Odyssey," Robert Fagles has translated "The Iliad" by Homer and "The Aeneid" by Virgil, both of which are highly regarded for their quality and readability.

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Diving Deep into Fagles' Odyssey: A Comprehensive Guide

Are you ready to embark on a literary journey unlike any other? This post delves into the world of Robert Fagles' acclaimed translation of Homer's Odyssey. We'll explore what makes this particular translation so lauded, its impact on modern readers, and provide insights to help you appreciate the epic poem to its fullest. Whether you're a seasoned Homeric scholar or just beginning your exploration of this classic, this guide will equip you with a deeper understanding of Fagles' Odyssey and its enduring power.

Why Fagles' Translation Stands Out

Robert Fagles' translation of the Odyssey, published in 1996, isn't just another rendering of the ancient Greek epic. It's considered by many to be a masterpiece in its own right. Its success stems from several key factors:

Accuracy and Accessibility:

Fagles masterfully balances fidelity to the original Greek text with readability for a modern audience. He avoids overly archaic language, opting for a vibrant and accessible style that captures the energy and drama of Homer's original. This allows readers to engage with the story without being bogged down by obscure vocabulary or complex sentence structures.

Poetic Power and Rhythm:

Fagles' translation isn't simply prose; it's poetry. He meticulously crafts his language, employing vivid imagery and a powerful rhythmic structure that evokes the epic scope and grandeur of Homer's work. This poetic quality breathes new life into the ancient text, making it resonate with contemporary readers.

Capturing the Epic's Essence:

Beyond mere accuracy, Fagles successfully captures the emotional core of the Odyssey. He conveys the intensity of Odysseus's struggles, the loyalty of his companions, and the complex relationships that drive the narrative. He masterfully renders the emotional depth and psychological intricacies of the characters, making them relatable despite the vast cultural and temporal distance.

Key Themes in Fagles' Odyssey

Exploring Fagles' translation reveals key themes that remain powerfully relevant today:

The Journey Home:

The Odyssey is fundamentally a story about homecoming. Odysseus's arduous journey, filled with trials and tribulations, embodies the universal human desire for belonging and the yearning to return to one's roots. Fagles' translation emphasizes the emotional weight of this yearning, making Odysseus's struggle resonate deeply with readers.

Loyalty and Betrayal:

The epic explores the complex bonds of loyalty and the devastating consequences of betrayal. The relationships between Odysseus and his men, Penelope and her suitors, and even the gods themselves, highlight the fragility of trust and the lasting impact of broken promises. Fagles' prose effectively underscores these dynamics, making the emotional stakes clear.

The Power of Fate and Free Will:

The Odyssey grapples with the tension between fate and free will. Odysseus's destiny is intertwined with the prophecies of the gods, yet he actively makes choices that shape his journey. Fagles' rendition allows the reader to engage with this inherent tension, considering the role of both predetermined destiny and individual agency in shaping the narrative.

The Importance of Hospitality:

Throughout the poem, hospitality plays a crucial role, both as a source of aid and a potential danger. The treatment received by Odysseus and his men reflects societal values and the consequences of both generosity and cruelty. Fagles' translation effectively brings to life this cultural nuance of ancient Greece.

Why You Should Read Fagles' Odyssey

Reading Fagles' Odyssey is more than just experiencing a classic; it's an encounter with a powerful and deeply human story that continues to resonate across millennia. His translation makes this ancient epic accessible and engaging, allowing readers to connect with the characters, themes, and narrative in a way that few other versions achieve. It's a reading experience that will stay with you long after you turn the final page.

Conclusion

Robert Fagles' translation of Homer's Odyssey is a remarkable achievement, a testament to both scholarly precision and artistic brilliance. Its accessibility, poetic power, and emotional depth make it an ideal introduction to the epic for modern readers, while also offering a fresh perspective for seasoned Homeric enthusiasts. This translation not only accurately conveys the narrative but also captures the heart and soul of Homer's timeless masterpiece.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: Is Fagles' translation the only good translation of the Odyssey?

A1: No, there are many excellent translations of the Odyssey, each with its own strengths and weaknesses. Fagles' translation is highly regarded for its accessibility and poetic quality, but other translations, such as those by Emily Wilson or Richmond Lattimore, also offer valuable interpretations. The best translation for you will depend on your personal preferences.

Q2: What makes Fagles' translation so popular?

A2: Fagles' translation's popularity stems from its successful blend of accuracy and readability. It captures the epic's grandeur while remaining accessible to a modern audience. Its poetic style adds to its appeal, making it a captivating read.

Q3: Is Fagles' translation suitable for beginners?

A3: Yes, Fagles' translation is considered relatively accessible even for readers unfamiliar with the Odyssey. His clear prose and engaging style make the epic easier to follow than some more archaic translations.

Q4: Are there any study guides available for Fagles' Odyssey?

A4: Yes, numerous study guides and companion volumes are available to enhance your understanding and appreciation of Fagles' translation. These often provide context, analysis of themes, and insights into Homeric culture.

Q5: Where can I find Fagles' translation of the Odyssey?

A5: Fagles' translation of the Odyssey is widely available in bookstores, both physical and online, as well as through various ebook platforms. Libraries also typically carry multiple copies.

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Knox's superb introduction and textual commentary provide insightful background information for the general reader and scholar alike, intensifying the strength of Fagles's translation. This is an Odyssey to delight both the classicist and the general reader, to captivate a new generation of Homer's students. This Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition features French flaps and deckle-edged paper. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

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odyssey fagles: *The Iliad & The Odyssey* Homer, 2013-04-29 The Iliad: Join Achilles at the Gates of Troy as he slays Hector to Avenge the death of Patroclus. Here is a story of love and war, hope and despair, and honor and glory. The recent major motion picture Helen of Troy starring Brad Pitt proves that this epic is as relevant today as it was twenty five hundred years ago when it was first written. So journey back to the Trojan War with Homer and relive the grandest adventure of all times. The Odyssey: Journey with Ulysses as he battles to bring his victorious, but decimated, troops home from the Trojan War, dogged by the wrath of the god Poseidon at every turn. Having been away for twenty years, little does he know what awaits him when he finally makes his way home. These two books are some of the most import books in the literary cannon, having influenced virtually every adventure tale ever told. And yet they are still accessible and immediate and now you can have both in one binding.

odyssey fagles: *The Odyssey of Homer* Homer Fagles, 2017-08-21 Literature's grandest evocation of life's journey, at once an ageless human story and an individual test of moral endurance, Homer's ancient Greek epic The Odyssey is translated by Robert Fagles with an introduction and notes by Bernard Knox in Penguin Classics. When Robert Fagles' translation of The Iliad was published in 1990, critics and scholars alike hailed it as a masterpiece. Here, one of the great modern translators presents us with The Odyssey, Homer's best-loved poem, recounting Odysseus' wanderings after the Trojan War. With wit and wile, the 'man of twists and turns' meets the challenges of the sea-god Poseidon, and monsters ranging from the many-headed Scylla to the

cannibalistic Cyclops Polyphemus - only to return after twenty years to a home besieged by his wife Penelope's suitors. In the myths and legends retold in this immortal poem, Fagles has captured the energy of Homer's original in a bold, contemporary idiom. Seven Greek cities claim the honour of being the birthplace of Homer (c. 8th-7th century BC), the poet to whom the composition of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* are attributed. The *Iliad* is the oldest surviving work of Western literature, but the identity - or even the existence - of Homer himself is a complete mystery, with no reliable biographical information having survived. If you enjoyed *The Odyssey*, you might like Robert Fagles' translation of *The Iliad*, also available in Penguin Classics. 'Wonderfully readable ... Just the right blend of roughness and sophistication' Ted Hughes 'A memorable achievement ... Mr Fagles has been remarkably successful in finding a style that is of our time and yet timeless' Richard Jenkyns, *The New York Times Book Review* 'His translation of *The Odyssey* is his best work yet' Garry Wills, *New Yorker* Okay, so here's what happened. I went out after work with the guys, we went to a perfectly nice bar, this chick was hitting on me but I totally brushed her off. Anyway we ended up getting pretty wrecked, and we might have smoked something in the bathroom, I'm not totally clear on that part, and then this gigantic one-eyed bouncer kicked us out so we somehow ended up at a strip club. The guys were total pigs but not me, seriously, that's not glitter on my neck. And then we totally drove right by these hookers without even stopping and here I am! Only a little bit late! By the way, I crashed the car and six of the guys are in jail. Ask for Officer Scylla.

ABOUT HOMER: In the Western classical tradition, Homer is considered the author of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, and is revered as the greatest of ancient Greek epic poets. These epics lie at the beginning of the Western canon of literature, and have had an enormous influence on the history of literature. When he lived is unknown. Herodotus estimates that Homer lived 400 years before his own time, which would place him at around 850 BCE, while other ancient sources claim that he lived much nearer to the supposed time of the Trojan War, in the early 12th century BCE. Most modern researchers place Homer in the 7th or 8th centuries BCE. The formative influence of the Homeric epics in shaping Greek culture was widely recognized, and Homer was described as the teacher of Greece. Homer's works, which are about fifty percent speeches, provided models in persuasive speaking and writing that were emulated throughout the ancient and medieval Greek worlds. Fragments of Homer account for nearly half of all identifiable Greek literary papyrus finds.

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odyssey fagles: *Aeneid* Virgil, 1889

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odyssey fagles: *Odyssey* Homer, 2019 Since their composition almost 3,000 years ago the Homeric epics have lost none of their power to grip audiences and fire the imagination: with their stories of life and death, love and loss, war and peace they continue to speak to us at the deepest

level about who we are across the span of generations. That being said, the world of Homer is in many ways distant from that in which we live today, with fundamental differences not only in language, social order, and religion, but in basic assumptions about the world and human nature. This volume offers a detailed yet accessible introduction to ancient Greek culture through the lens of Book One of the *Odyssey*, covering all of these aspects and more in a comprehensive Introduction designed to orient students in their studies of Greek literature and history. The full Greek text is included alongside a facing English translation which aims to reproduce as far as feasible the word order and sound play of the Greek original and is supplemented by a Glossary of Technical Terms and a full vocabulary keyed to the specific ways that words are used in *Odyssey* I. At the heart of the volume is a full-length line-by-line commentary, the first in English since the 1980s and updated to bring the latest scholarship to bear on the text: focusing on philological and linguistic issues, its close engagement with the original Greek yields insights that will be of use to scholars and advanced students as well as to those coming to the text for the first time.

odyssey fagles: *The Odyssey* Homer, 2020-02-08T01:55:23Z The *Odyssey* is one of the oldest works of Western literature, dating back to classical antiquity. Homer's epic poem belongs in a collection called the Epic Cycle, which includes the *Iliad*. It was originally written in ancient Greek, utilizing a dactylic hexameter rhyme scheme. Although this rhyme scheme sounds beautiful in its native language, in modern English it can sound awkward and, as Eric McMillan humorously describes it, resembles "pumpkins rolling on a barn floor." William Cullen Bryant avoided this problem by composing his translation in blank verse, a rhyme scheme that sounds natural in English. This epic poem follows Ulysses, one of the Greek leaders that brought an end to the ten-year-long Trojan war. Longing for home, he travels across the Mediterranean Sea to return to his kingdom in Ithaca; unfortunately, our hero manages to anger Neptune, the god of the sea, making his trip home agonizingly slow and extremely dangerous. While Ulysses is trying to return home, his family in Ithaca is also in danger. Suitors have traveled to the home of Ulysses to marry his wife, Penelope, believing that her husband did not survive the war. These men are willing to kill anyone who stands in their way. This book is part of the Standard Ebooks project, which produces free public domain ebooks.

odyssey fagles: *The Odyssey* Homer, 2006-11 Robert Fagles' stunning modern-verse translation is now available in this Penguin Classics edition.

odyssey fagles: *The Odyssey* Homer, 2010-05-25 Penelope has been waiting for her husband Odysseus to return from Troy for many years. Little does she know that his path back to her has been blocked by astonishing and terrifying trials. Will he overcome the hideous monsters, beautiful witches and treacherous seas that confront him? This rich and beautiful adventure story is one of the most influential works of literature in the world.

odyssey fagles: *Homer - The Iliad - The Odyssey* Homer, 1996 A boxed set of the classic books 'The Iliad' and 'The Odyssey' by Homer. Translated by Robert Fagles, with an introduction and notes by Bernard Knox.

odyssey fagles: *The Odyssey* Homer, 2018-03-28 The *Odyssey* is vividly captured and beautifully paced in this swift and lucid new translation by acclaimed scholar and translator Peter Green. Accompanied by an illuminating introduction, maps, chapter summaries, a glossary, and explanatory notes, this is the ideal translation for both general readers and students to experience The *Odyssey* in all its glory. Green's version, with its lyrical mastery and superb command of Greek, offers readers the opportunity to enjoy Homer's epic tale of survival, temptation, betrayal, and vengeance with all of the verve and pathos of the original oral tradition.

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odyssey fagles: *THE ILIAD* Homer, 2017-04-20 ♦ Sing, O goddess, the anger of Achilles son of Peleus, that brought countless ills upon the Achaeans. Many a brave soul did it send hurrying down to Hades, and many a hero did it yield a prey to dogs and vultures, for so were the counsels of Jove fulfilled from the day on which the son of Atreus, king of men, and great Achilles, first fell out with one another. And which of the gods was it that set them on to quarrel? It was the son of Jove and Leto; for he was angry with the king and sent a pestilence upon the host to plague the people, because the son of Atreus had dishonoured Chryses his priest. Now Chryses had come to the ships of the Achaeans to free his daughter, and had brought with him a great ransom: moreover he bore in his hand the sceptre of Apollo wreathed with a suppliant's wreath and he besought the Achaeans, but most of all the two sons of Atreus, who were their chiefs.

odyssey fagles: *The Odyssey* Homer, 2016-10-20 'Tell me, Muse, of the man of many turns, who was driven far and wide after he had sacked the sacred city of Troy' Twenty years after setting out to fight in the Trojan War, Odysseus is yet to return home to Ithaca. His household is in disarray: a horde of over 100 disorderly and arrogant suitors are vying to claim Odysseus' wife Penelope, and his young son Telemachus is powerless to stop them. Meanwhile, Odysseus is driven beyond the limits of the known world, encountering countless divine and earthly challenges. But Odysseus is 'of many wiles' and his cunning and bravery eventually lead him home, to reclaim both his family and his kingdom. The Odyssey rivals the Iliad as the greatest poem of Western culture and is perhaps the most influential text of classical literature. This elegant and compelling new translation is accompanied by a full introduction and notes that guide the reader in understanding the poem and the many different contexts in which it was performed and read.

odyssey fagles: *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, 1973-10-25 Gilgamesh, King of Uruk, and his companion Enkidu are the only heroes to have survived from the ancient literature of Babylon, immortalized in this epic poem that dates back to the 3rd millennium BC. Together they journey to the Spring of Youth, defeat the Bull of Heaven and slay the monster Humbaba. When Enkidu dies,

Gilgamesh's grief and fear of death are such that they lead him to undertake a quest for eternal life. A timeless tale of morality, tragedy and pure adventure, The Epic of Gilgamesh is a landmark literary exploration of man's search for immortality.

odyssey fagles: The Odyssey of Homer Andrew Lang, Samuel Henry Butcher, 2000

odyssey fagles: *Reading Homer* Kostas Myrsiades, 2009 These nine new essays on Homer's epics deal not only with major Homeric themes of time (honor), kleos (fame), geras (rewards), the psychology of Homeric warriors, and the re-evaluation of type scenes, but also with Homer's influence on contemporary film. Following the introduction and an essay which sets the historical background for the epics, four essays are devoted to fresh analysis of key passages and themes while another four turn to a discussion of the film *Troy* and Homer's influence on two other genres of American cinema.

odyssey fagles: *The Iliad* Homer, Caroline Alexander, 2015-11-24 With her virtuoso translation, classicist and bestselling author Caroline Alexander brings to life Homer's timeless epic of the Trojan War. Composed around 730 B.C., Homer's *Iliad* recounts the events of a few momentous weeks in the protracted ten-year war between the invading Achaeans, or Greeks, and the Trojans in their besieged city of Ilium. From the explosive confrontation between Achilles, the greatest warrior at Troy, and Agamemnon, the inept leader of the Greeks, through to its tragic conclusion, *The Iliad* explores the abiding, blighting facts of war. Soldier and civilian, victor and vanquished, hero and coward, men, women, young, old—*The Iliad* evokes in poignant, searing detail the fate of every life ravaged by the Trojan War. And, as told by Homer, this ancient tale of a particular Bronze Age conflict becomes a sublime and sweeping evocation of the destruction of war throughout the ages. Carved close to the original Greek, acclaimed classicist Caroline Alexander's new translation is swift and lean, with the driving cadence of its source—a translation epic in scale and yet devastating in its precision and power.

odyssey fagles: *The Odyssey (Annotated)* Homer Homer, 2020-02-05 Sing to me of the man, Muse, the man of twists and turns driven time and again off course, once he had plundered the hallowed heights of Troy. So begins Robert Fagles' magnificent translation of the *Odyssey*, which Jasper Griffin in *The New York Times Review of Books* hails as a distinguished achievement. If the *Iliad* is the world's greatest war epic, then the *Odyssey* is literature's grandest evocation of everyman's journey through life. Odysseus' reliance on his wit and williness for survival in his encounters with divine and natural forces, during his ten-year voyage home to Ithaca after the Trojan War, is at once a timeless human story and an individual test of moral endurance. In the myths and legends that are retold here, Fagles has captured the energy and poetry of Homer's original in a bold, contemporary idiom, and given us an *Odyssey* to read aloud, to savor, and to treasure for its sheer lyrical mastery. Renowned classicist Bernard Knox's superb Introduction and textual commentary provide new insights and background information for the general reader and scholar alike, intensifying the strength of Fagles' translation. This is an *Odyssey* to delight both the classicist and the public at large, and to captivate a new generation of Homer's students. --Robert Fagles, winner of the PEN/Ralph Manheim Medal for Translation and a 1996 Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, presents us with Homer's best-loved and most accessible poem in a stunning new modern-verse translation

odyssey fagles: Odysseus Unbound Robert Bittlestone, James Diggle, John Underhill, 2005-09-19 Extraordinary story of the exciting discovery of the true location of Odysseus' homeland of Ithaca.

odyssey fagles: *Mythology of the Iliad and the Odyssey* Karen Bornemann Spies, 2014-09 Follow Odysseus as he hides in the Trojan horse and retakes Troy, fights the Cyclops, or fights enslavement by the sorceress Circe. In *MYTHOLOGY OF THE ILIAD AND THE ODYSSEY*, author Karen Bornemann Spies details the heroic adventures in both the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, and includes informative interpretation and expert commentary, as well as a Question and Answer section. This book is developed from *THE ILIAD AND THE ODYSSEY IN GREEK MYTHOLOGY* to allow republication of the original text into ebook, paperback, and trade editions.

odyssey fagles: Freedom Libraries Mike Selby, 2019-10-01 Freedom Libraries: The Untold Story of Libraries for African-Americans in the South. As the Civil Rights Movement exploded across the United States, the media of the time was able to show the rest of the world images of horrific racial violence. And while some of the bravest people of the 20th century risked their lives for the right to simply order a cheeseburger, ride a bus, or use a clean water fountain, there was another virtually unheard of struggle—this one for the right to read. Although illegal, racial segregation was strictly enforced in a number of American states, and public libraries were not immune. Numerous libraries were desegregated on paper only: there would be no cards given to African-Americans, no books for them read, and no furniture for them to use. It was these exact conditions that helped create Freedom Libraries. Over eighty of these parallel libraries appeared in the Deep South, staffed by civil rights voter registration workers. While the grassroots nature of the libraries meant they varied in size and quality, all of them created the first encounter many African-Americans had with a library. Terror, bombings, and eventually murder would be visited on the Freedom Libraries—with people giving up their lives so others could read a library book. This book delves into how these libraries were the heart of the Civil Rights Movement, and the remarkable courage of the people who used them. They would forever change libraries and librarianship, even as they helped the greater movement change the society these libraries belonged to. Photographs of the libraries bring this little-known part of American history to life.

odyssey fagles: *Circe and the Cyclops* Homer, 2015-03-19 'You must be Odysseus, man of twists and turns...' The tales of Odysseus's struggle with a man-eating Cyclops and Circe, the beautiful enchantress who turns men into swine. Introducing Little Black Classics: 80 books for Penguin's 80th birthday. Little Black Classics celebrate the huge range and diversity of Penguin Classics, with books from around the world and across many centuries. They take us from a balloon ride over Victorian London to a garden of blossom in Japan, from Tierra del Fuego to 16th-century California and the Russian steppe. Here are stories lyrical and savage; poems epic and intimate; essays satirical and inspirational; and ideas that have shaped the lives of millions. Next to nothing is known about Homer's life. His works available in Penguin Classics are The Homeric Hymns, The Iliad and The Odyssey.

odyssey fagles: Odysseus Don Nardo, 2015-09-01 Odysseus was one of the ancient Greeks' most famous and beloved heroes. The ancient Romans, who admired and eagerly copied Greek culture, were fond of him too. They called him Ulysses. Also beloved by the Greeks and Romans was the great Greek poet and story-teller Homer. He wrote at length about Odysseus in two superb epic poems. The first, the Iliad, tells about the tenth year of the siege of Troy, a wealthy city in western Anatolia (what is now Turkey). The rulers of several Greek kingdoms made war on and eventually captured Troy. Among those kings was Odysseus, who ruled the Greek island realm of Ithaca. Homer called him a very capable man who journeyed across the world after seizing the proud fortress of Troy.¹ That fateful, ten-year-long sea voyage is the subject of Homer's other masterpiece, the Odyssey. During the journey, Odysseus endured numerous hardships, Homer said. He fought to stay alive and to bring his shipmates home. In this retelling of some of the famous tales of Odysseus, author Don Nardo brings these myths to young readers.

odyssey fagles: The Oresteia Aeschylus, 1984-02-07 One of the founding documents of Western culture and the only surviving ancient Greek trilogy, the Oresteia of Aeschylus is one of the great tragedies of all time. The three plays of the Oresteia portray the bloody events that follow the victorious return of King Agamemnon from the Trojan War, at the start of which he had sacrificed his daughter Iphigeneia to secure divine favor. After Iphigeneia's mother, Clytemnestra, kills her husband in revenge, she in turn is murdered by their son Orestes with his sister Electra's encouragement. Orestes is pursued by the Furies and put on trial, his fate decided by the goddess Athena. Far more than the story of murder and ven-geance in the royal house of Atreus, the Oresteia serves as a dramatic parable of the evolution of justice and civilization that is still powerful after 2,500 years. The trilogy is presented here in George Thomson's classic translation, renowned for its fidelity to the rhythms and richness of the original Greek.

odyssey fagles: *The Iliad* Homer, 1991-03-23 Homer's Iliad is one of the great epics of the Western world. The poem unfolds near the end of the ten-year-long Trojan War, detailing the quarrel between the great warrior-hero Achilles and King Agamemnon, the battle between Paris and Menelaus for Helen of Troy, the Greek assault on the city and the Trojan counterattacks, the intervention of the gods on the part of their favorites, and numerous other incidents and events. Vast in scope, possessing extraordinary lyricism and poignancy, this time-honored masterpiece brilliantly conveys the inconsistencies of gods and men, the tumultuous intensity of conflict, and the devastation that results from war.

odyssey fagles: Odysseus Returns Home Homer, 2006 After war and strife, a mighty king's troubles are only just beginning . . . After ten years at war and ten years wandering the world, Odysseus has finally returned home. But he cannot reveal his identity to his faithful wife Penelope. A gang of would-be lovers are pestering her to marry one of them - and are prepared to kill anyone who claims to be her husband. Now Odysseus must use all his cunning and ingenuity to get rid of them, if he is to reclaim his wife and his rightful place as King of Ithaca once and for all.

odyssey fagles: The War That Killed Achilles Caroline Alexander, 2009-10-15 Spectacular and constantly surprising. -Ken Burns Written with the authority of a scholar and the vigor of a bestselling narrative historian, *The War That Killed Achilles* is a superb and utterly timely presentation of one of the timeless stories of Western civilization. As she did in *The Endurance* and *The Bounty*, New York Times bestselling author Caroline Alexander has taken apart a narrative we think we know and put it back together in a way that lets us see its true power. In the process, she reveals the intended theme of Homer's masterwork-the tragic lessons of war and its enduring devastation.

odyssey fagles: Sympathy for the Traitor Mark Polizzotti, 2018-04-20 An engaging and unabashedly opinionated examination of what translation is and isn't. For some, translation is the poor cousin of literature, a necessary evil if not an outright travesty—summed up by the old Italian play on words, *traduttore*, *traditore* (translator, traitor). For others, translation is the royal road to cross-cultural understanding and literary enrichment. In this nuanced and provocative study, Mark Polizzotti attempts to reframe the debate along more fruitful lines. Eschewing both these easy polarities and the increasingly abstract discourse of translation theory, he brings the main questions into clearer focus: What is the ultimate goal of a translation? What does it mean to label a rendering “faithful”? (Faithful to what?) Is something inevitably lost in translation, and can something also be gained? Does translation matter, and if so, why? Unashamedly opinionated, both a manual and a manifesto, his book invites us to sympathize with the translator not as a “traitor” but as the author's creative partner. Polizzotti, himself a translator of authors from Patrick Modiano to Gustave Flaubert, explores what translation is and what it isn't, and how it does or doesn't work. Translation, he writes, “skirts the boundaries between art and craft, originality and replication, altruism and commerce, genius and hack work.” In *Sympathy for the Traitor*, he shows us how to read not only translations but also the act of translation itself, treating it not as a problem to be solved but as an achievement to be celebrated—something, as Goethe put it, “impossible, necessary, and important.”

odyssey fagles: The Odyssey of Political Theory Patrick J. Deneen, 2000 This path-breaking and eloquent analysis of *The Odyssey*, and the way it has been interpreted by political philosophers throughout the centuries, has dramatic implications for the current state of political thought. This important book offers readers original insights into *The Odyssey* and it provides a new understanding of the classic works of Plato, Rousseau, Vico, Horkheimer, and Adorno. Through his analysis Patrick J. Deneen requires readers to rethink the issues that are truly at the heart of our contemporary 'Culture Wars,' and he encourages us to reassess our assumptions about the Western canon's virtues or viciousness. Deneen's penetrating exploration of Odysseus's and our own enduring battles between the dual temptations of homecoming and exploration, patriotism and cosmopolitanism, and relativism and universality provides an original perspective on contentious debates at the center of modern political theory and philosophy

odyssey fagles: The Homeric Epics and the Gospel of Mark Dennis Ronald MacDonald,

Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins Dennis R MacDonald, 2000-01-01 In this groundbreaking book, Dennis R. MacDonald offers an entirely new view of the New Testament gospel of Mark. The author of the earliest gospel was not writing history, nor was he merely recording tradition, MacDonald argues. Close reading and careful analysis show that Mark borrowed extensively from the Odyssey and the Iliad and that he wanted his readers to recognise the Homeric antecedents in Mark's story of Jesus. Mark was composing a prose anti-epic, MacDonald says, presenting Jesus as a suffering hero modeled after but far superior to traditional Greek heroes. Much like Odysseus, Mark's Jesus sails the seas with uncomprehending companions, encounters preternatural opponents, and suffers many things before confronting rivals who have made his house a den of thieves. In his death and burial, Jesus emulates Hector, although unlike Hector Jesus leaves his tomb empty. Mark's minor characters, too, recall Homeric predecessors: Bartimaeus emulates Tiresias; Joseph of Arimathea, Priam; and the women at the tomb, Helen, Hecuba, and Andromache. And, entire episodes in Mark mirror Homeric episodes, including stilling the sea, walking on water, feeding the multitudes, the Triumphal E

odyssey fagles: Why Homer Matters Adam Nicolson, 2014-11-18 Adam Nicolson writes popular books as popular books used to be, a breeze rather than a scholarly sweat, but humanely erudite, elegantly written, passionately felt...and his excitement is contagious.—James Wood, The New Yorker Adam Nicolson sees the Iliad and the Odyssey as the foundation myths of Greek—and our—consciousness, collapsing the passage of 4,000 years and making the distant past of the Mediterranean world as immediate to us as the events of our own time. Why Homer Matters is a magical journey of discovery across wide stretches of the past, sewn together by the poems themselves and their metaphors of life and trouble. Homer's poems occupy, as Adam Nicolson writes a third space in the way we relate to the past: not as memory, which lasts no more than three generations, nor as the objective accounts of history, but as epic, invented after memory but before history, poetry which aims to bind the wounds that time inflicts. The Homeric poems are among the oldest stories we have, drawing on deep roots in the Eurasian steppes beyond the Black Sea, but emerging at a time around 2000 B.C. when the people who would become the Greeks came south and both clashed and fused with the more sophisticated inhabitants of the Eastern Mediterranean. The poems, which ask the eternal questions about the individual and the community, honor and service, love and war, tell us how we became who we are.

odyssey fagles: The Trojan War Carol G. Thomas, Craig Conant, 2007 Surveys the historical underpinnings of the Heroic Age in ancient Greek tradition.

odyssey fagles: The Oxford Guide to Literature in English Translation Peter France, 2000 This book, written by a team of experts from many countries, provides a comprehensive account of the ways in which translation has brought the major literature of the world into English-speaking culture. Part I discusses theoretical issues and gives an overview of the history of translation into English. Part II, the bulk of the work, arranged by language of origin, offers critical discussions, with bibliographies, of the translation history of specific texts (e.g. the Koran, the Kalevala), authors (e.g. Lucretius, Dostoevsky), genres (e.g. Chinese poetry, twentieth-century Italian prose) and national literatures (e.g. Hungarian, Afrikaans).

odyssey fagles: The Odyssey Geraldine McCaughrean, 2015-06-04 THE ODYSSEY retold by Geraldine McCaughrean is the epic journey of Odysseus, the hero of Ancient Greece... After ten years of war, Odysseus turns his back on Troy and sets sail for home. But his voyage takes another ten years and he must face many dangers - Polyphemus the greedy one-eyed giant, Scylla the six-headed sea monster and even the wrath of the gods themselves - before he is reunited with his wife and son. The Puffin Classics relaunch includes: A Little Princess Alice's Adventures in Wonderland Alice's Adventures Through the Looking Glass Anne of Green Gables Black Beauty Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales Heidi Journey to the Centre of the Earth Little Women Peter Pan Tales of the Greek Heroes The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn The Adventures of King Arthur The Adventures of Tom Sawyer The Call of the Wild The Jungle Book The Odyssey The Secret Garden The Wind in the Willows The Wizard of Oz Treasure Island

odyssey fagles: Oedipus at Thebes Bernard Knox, 1998-01-01 Examines the way in which Sophocles' play Oedipus Tyrannus and its hero, Oedipus, King of Thebes, were probably received in their own time and place, and relates this to twentieth-century receptions and interpretations, including those of Sigmund Freud.

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