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**Book 16: Father and Son**

*In book 5, Calypso helps him build a raft and he ended up in King Alcinous's kingdom where he began his story in Book 9 (ending his story at book 12). In Books 13–15, King Alcinous and his friends send Odysseus on his way home (after he finished the story). Odysseus sleeps while the rowers bring him to Ithaca. When he awakens, he fails to recognize his homeland until Athena appears and tells him that he is indeed home. She disguises him as an old man, so that he can surprise the suitors, and then urges him to visit his faithful swineherd, Eumaeus. The swineherd welcomes the disguised Odysseus like a father would and tells him about what has been happening in Odysseus’ home. Athena goes to Telemachus and tells him to return home. She warns him of the suitors’ plot to kill him and advises him to stay with the swineherd for a night. Telemachus does as she bids.*

Who is disguised a the old man?

Who arrives at the door? Where did he return from? (Do you remember why he was there?)

Why doesn't Telemachus want the suitors to know of his return?

Who helps Odysseus reveal his true identity to Telemachus by transforming him from the old man?

What is Telemachus's first reaction when he sees Odysseus transformed?

Why are Odysseus and Telemachus worried about facing the suitors at home who are after his wife?

What is Odysseus and Telemachus's plan to beat the suitors?

How does Penelope (Odysseus's wife) react to the news that Odysseus might be back on Ithaca?

**Book 17: The Beggar at the Manor/Stranger at the Gates**

*Telemachus returns home, and Odysseus and the swineherd soon follow.. Odysseus is still disguised as a beggar.*

How do people treat Odysseus when he is disguised as a beggar? What do the suitors do to him?

What is Argos' condition when Odysseus sees him? How does Odysseus feel about the condition of his old dog?

In telling us how Odysseus's dog is kept, what is Homer also telling us about conditions in Ithaca?

Why does Penelope ask to see the beggar?

How does Odysseus respond to Penelope's call? Why does Penelope think he did this?