

Nathaniel Pinkhasov

Mrs. Cruz

English 9A

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I really loved the part of *The Essential Odyssey* by Homer translated by Stanley Lombardo where Odysseus returns home and plots against the suitors. I enjoyed this part because I was very invested in the story and wanted to see Odysseus get revenge on the suitors. I remember especially wanting Antinous to get his comeuppance since he was especially mean to Odysseus while disguised. I also couldn't wait until Odysseus revealed himself to Penelope. Odysseus revealing himself to Penelope would lead to the resolution of the plot and all the tension would be gone.

Compared to Other books that I've read in school *Nine Muses: Modern Plays from Classic Myths* by Wim Coleman was very enjoyable to read. The book was split up into multiple 1 act plays. These small plays made the book go by very quickly. The portrayal of the gods as anthropomorphic and as main characters was very interesting since many times in books based on Greek mythology gods are not given strong personalities and are side characters. Being that each play was short it was easy to comprehend what was going on. When it came time to write my essay it was very convenient to find quotes.

If I could William Shakespeare one question about *Julius Caesar*. I would ask how he decided when to add plot points made by his creativity to the factual events. I'd want to know how he'd thought of these fictional plot points, and how he integrated them so well into his story. Shakespeare's additions were written very well and stitched together flawlessly with the real

parts of the story. His additions also gave us an insight into how his characters were thinking during the play.

It brings a smile to my face when I remember all the fun stuff I did this summer. This summer every single day was so much fun (obviously not as fun as the joy I experience in Mrs. Cruz's class). Each day I would wake up and go to St. John's with my friends from Hartorah and we would play soccer in camp. Then I got to go home and see my family for 2 hours. At around 2 I would head over to the park to play some basketball then from the park my friends and I would go to Dunkin or Crazy Meats. Finally, I would go home and I would get to see my parents. Every day was so much fun and I can't wait for this summer.

Today I feel so grateful for my family because of the situation in Israel I realized that I am so lucky to have all of them. This week we all watched the news and we were so sad to hear that the Bibas family had been killed. When I went to bed that night I thought about how many times God has saved me and the people I care about from dangerous situations. I saw how I am blessed and shouldn't take a single moment for granted. I hope this Shabbat everyone can spend some time with the people they love.