Classical Mythology – Morford

- From Chaos came Ge, Tartarus, Eros, Erebus, and Night
- Gaia produced Uranus and married him producing the Cyclopes, the Hecatonchires, and the Titans
    - Uranus placed the Hecatonchires and the Cyclopes in Tartarus, where Campe the dragon guarded them.
- Oceanus is the father of the Oceanids
- Hyperion and Theia were parents of Helios, Selene, and Eos.
- Selene (sometimes Artemis) loved the hunter Endymion (son of Calyce and Zeus or Aethlius), and he was granted eternal sleep and eternal youth.
- Apis was a king of Argos, son of Phoroneus and Teledice who was killed by Thelxion, a son of Endymion.
    - Another version of this story is that Apis never ruled and just gave his kingdom to Argus, his brother, and went to Egypt and ruled there.
- Uranus hated his children, and Cronus, last born, castrated his father.
- Cronus and Rhea had several children, whom Cronus devoured. Rhea hid Zeus from Cronus.
    - The nymph daughters of Melisseus (Melissus), Adrasteia and Ide (Aega), nursed the infant Zeus on Crete. The god was fed on honey and the milk of the goat-nymph Amaltheia. When Zeus reached maturity, he gave Adrasteia and Ide the horn of Amaltheia, the cornucopia or horn of plenty that is always full of food and drink.
- Iapetus and Clymene (Asia) birthed the Titans Prometheus, Atlas, Epimetheus, and Menoetius.
- Zeus' consort, Metis, gave him an emetic drug that forced Cronus to vomit out his other children.
- Danaus had 50 daughters, the Danaeids, whom Aegyptus wanted his 50 sons to marry. Danaus built the first ship and took his daughters and fled to Argos from Egypt. There Pelgasus gave him protection. Aegyptus followed and demanded his daughters. He acquiesced to save the Argives a battle, but instructed his daughters to kill their husbands on their wedding night. All did so except for Hypermnestra, because her husband, Lynceus, agreed to let her remain a virgin. The two began a new dynasty of Argive kings.
- The Titans were defeated by the Olympians and imprisoned in Tartarus, guarded by the Hecatonchires.
- Otus and Ephialtes attempted to storm heaven by stacking Ossa, Olympus, and Pelion. They were called the Aloadae and were the sons of Poseidon and Iphimedia. The Aloadae were giant brothers who grew a cubit in breadth and a fathom in height each year. They imprisoned Ares in a jar for 13 months, but he was freed by Hermes. Artemis tricked them into killing each other.
- Zeus took the form of a man to find out how wicked mortals really were. He visited the form of Lycaon and announced that a god was present. Lycaon did not believe him, and

served him his son Nyctimenus as a meal. Zeus transformed him into a werewolf and decided to flood the earth and start over.

- Deucalion and Pyrrha had a son named Hellen. With the nymph Orseis, he had Aeolus, Dorus, and Xouthous.
- Xuthus married Creusa and had Ion (founder of Ionians), Achaeus (founder of Achaeans), and Diomede (mother of Cephalus).
- Iphimedia (sister of Erisychthon) married Poseidon and had Otus, Ephialtes, Cercyon, and Sciron.
- Chiron's parents were Philyra and Cronus. He frequented Mt. Pelion, where he married Chariclo (not the same as Tiresias' mother) who bore him Hippe, Endeis, Ocyrhoe, and Carystus.
- Asteria was the daughter of the Titans Coeus and Phoebe and sister of Leto. She flung herself into the Aegean Sea as a quail to escape Zeus and turned into the "quail island" of Ortygia. With Perses she begat Hecate.
- The sky tides of Zeus, children of Pallas and Styx, were Kratos (strength), Nike (victory), Bia (force), and Zelus (zeal).
- Eileithya was a daughter of Zeus and Hera and goddess of childbirth
- When Hephaestus was cast down to Earth, he landed on Lemnos, where the Sintians cared for him and taught him to be a master craftsman.
- Zeus and Mnemosyne produced the Muses
    - Calliope – Epic Poetry (who bore Orpheus and Linus (killed by Heracles) by Apollo)
    - Euterpe – Lyric Poetry
    - Thallia – Comedy
    - Urania – Astronomy
    - Polyhymnia – Sacred Music
    - Terpsichore – Dance
    - Clio – History (who bore Hyacinth by Pierus)
    - Melpomene – Tragedy
    - Erato – Love Poetry
- The son of Philammon and Argiope who challenged the Muses and lost was Thamyris. He was blinded and made unable to write poetry or play the lyre.
- The giant son of Zeus and Elara was Tityus. He attempted to rape Leto and was slain by Artemis and Apollo. As punishment he was stretched out in Tartarus and 2 vultures feed on his liver, which grew back every night.
- The Fates were either fathered by Zeus and Themis or by Night and Erebus
    - Clotho spins out the thread of life
    - Lachesis measures the thread
    - Atropos cuts the thread
- The Furies were spawned from Uranus' genitalia after he was castrated. They are Alecto, Tisiphone, and Megaera
- The Graces were the daughters of Zeus and the Oceanid Eurynome. They are Aglaea, Euphrosyne, and Thalia.

- The Hecatonchires were the children of Ge and Uranus. They were Briareus (Aegaeon), Cottus, and Gyges (Gyes).
- The Horae were the children of Zeus and Themis.
- Pontus was created by Ge in the initial steps of creation. Oceanus and Tethys bore thousands of Oceanids. Pontus married Ge and begat Nereus. Nereus united with Doris (an Oceanid) and begat 50 Nereids, the three most important of whom are Galatea (see Acis and Galatea in Metamorphoses notes), Thetis (wife of Peleus), and Amphitrite (wife of Poseidon).
- Ovid says that Circe transformed Scylla into a sea monster. Others say that when Poseidon made advances to Scylla, Amphitrite threw magic herbs into her bathing place.
- In addition to Nereus, Pontus and Ge had other children.
    - Thaumas married Electra and begat Iris and the Harpies
    - Phorcys and Ceto were both children, married each other, and begot the Graeae (Deino, Enyo, Pemphredo, and sometimes Perso was added), Gorgons (Stheno, Euryale, and Medusa), and Ladon.
        - When Medusa was beheaded, she begat Pegasus and a son, Chrysaor.
- Chrysaor wedded Callirhoe (a naiad) and begat Geryon and Echidna.
    - Callirhoe begat Minyas by Poseidon and Ganymede by Tros
- Echidna married Typhon and begat Orthrus (a two headed dog owned by Geryon), Cerberus, Hydra, and Chimaera.
- Orthrus mated with Echidna and begat the Theban Sphinx and the Nemean Lion.
- Cybele was sprung from the earth, originally a bisexual deity but then reduced to a female. The severed organ spawned an almond tree. Nana, the daughter of the River god Sangarios, picked a blossom from the tree and put it in her bosom. The blossom disappeared and she was pregnant. She bore a son, Attis, who was cared for by a he-goat. Cybele fell in love with him, but he loved another. Her jealousy drove him mad, and he killed himself. Cybele repented and prayed that Zeus would not allow the body to rot.
- Zeus mated with Leto who bore the twins Artemis and Apollo on Delos.
- Apollo rewarded Cassandra with the power of prophecy when she gave herself over to him. She changed her mind, however, and he forced her prophecies to never be believed.
- The daughter of Evenus, son of Ares, was Marpessa. She was wooed by Apollo and Idas, one of the Argonauts. Idas took Marpessa away, and Evenus, realizing that he could not catch them, committed suicide, and Apollo stole Marpessa from Idas. The two rivals quarreled over the girl, and Zeus then gave Marpessa the choice. She chose Idas because she feared that Apollo, as an immortal, would abandon her as she grew old. Idas and Marpessa had a daughter, Cleopatra, who married Meleager.
- Apollo was able to mate with one mortal, Cyrene, and she bore him a son, Aristaeus.
- Apollo's music talent was challenged by Marsyas, a satyr, son of Olympus. The flute was invented and discarded by Athena. He became proficient with it and challenged Apollo. Apollo imposed the condition that the winner could do whatever he liked with the loser. Apollo won and flayed Marsyas alive.

- Zeus mated with Maia and had Hermes.
- Admetus was the son of Pheres, brother of Aeson, and Periclymene. He was one of the Argonauts and took part in the Calydonian Boar hunt. When Apollo was sentenced to a year of servitude for killing Delphyne, or perhaps the Cyclops, he chose Admetus' house, who treated him very well. Apollo then helped him win the hand of Alcestis, daughter of Pelias. The greatest thing that Apollo did for him was to change his fated day of death. He got the Fates drunk on the day, and they were later angry. They said that someone else must immediately die in his place if he is to remain alive. Alcestis did this. Heracles later wrestled Thanatos and forced him to release Alcestis, whom he led back into the mortal world. His son, Eumelus, fought in the Trojan War.
- While Acastus was purifying Peleus of the murder of Eurytion, his wife Astydamia fell in love with Peleus. He married Antigone, Acastus' daughter, and Antigone hanged herself when she learned of this. Peleus rejected Astydamia, who told Acastus that he had tried to rape her. During a hunting trip, Acastus hid Peleus' sword and left him there right before a group of centaurs attacked. Either Chiron or Hermes returned Peleus' sword to him with magical powers. He returned to Iolcus, dismembered Astydamia, marched on Iolcus and killed Acastus. The kingdom then fell to Jason's son Thessalus.
- While Demeter (in the guise of an old woman named Doso) was searching for her daughter Persephone, who had been abducted by Hades, she received a hospitable welcome from King Celeus. He asked her to nurse Demophon—"killer of men", a counterpart to Triptolemus — and Triptolemus, his sons by Metanira. As a gift to Celeus, in gratitude for his hospitality, Demeter secretly planned to make Demophon immortal by burning away his mortal spirit in the family hearth every night. She was unable to complete the ritual because Metanira walked in on her one night. Instead, Demeter chose to teach Triptolemus the art of agriculture and, from him, the rest of Greece learned to plant and reap crops. He flew across the land on a winged chariot while Demeter and Persephone, once restored to her mother, cared for him, and helped him complete his mission of educating the whole of Greece in the art of agriculture.
    - Antheias stole his chariot but could not control it and died.
    - Lyncus offered hospitality but then tried to kill him and was turned into a lynx.
    - Carnabon tried to imprison him but he was killed by the gods.
- Ascalaphus was the son of Acheron and Orphne (Styx, Gorgyra) who bore witness to the fact that Persephone ate a pomegranate. He was punished by being turned into a screech owl.
- Ascalabus laughed at how Demeter drank, and she turned him into a salamander.
- In addition, an old woman, Iambe, made Demeter laugh at Eleusis by telling dirty jokes.
- Alcyoneus was a giant that was immortal as long as he remained in Sicily.
- Porphyrion, king of the giants during the gigantomachy, tried to rape Hera.
- Typhon fought Zeus, stole his tendons, and entrusted them to the dragon Delphyne. Hermes later stole these and returned them to Zeus.
- Sisyphus was the son of Aeolus and Enarete and founded Ephyra (Corinth) and was the father of Glaucus, Thersander, Almus, and Ornytion by Merope.
- Bellerophon was the son of Glaucus and Eurynome, daughter of Nisus.

- Magnes was the father of Dictys, Polydectes, Pierus, and Eioneus, and identified with the father of Perseus. Dictys and Polydectes colonized Seriphos.
- Salmoneus, son of Aeolus and Enarete, ordered his subjects to worship him as Zeus. For this, Zeus killed him with a thunderbolt. With Alcide, he begat Tyro. Tyro was married to a mortal man, Cretheus, by whom she begat Aeson, Pheres, and Amythaon, but fell in love with the river Enipeus. Poseidon, filled with lust for Tyro, disguised himself as Enipeus and by him Tyro begat Pelias and Neleus. Amythaon and Idomene begat Bias, Melampus, and Aeolia.
- Pheres begat Lycurgus and Admetus.
- Pelias and Neleus found and killed Sidero, stepmother of Tyro, for mistreating her. Neleus married Chloris and fathered Nestor, Pero, and Periclymenus, whom Poseidon gave the power to shape shift. Heracles killed all of Nestor's brothers at Pylos but spared Nestor, who married Eurydice. They begat Antilochus and Thrasymedes, who both fought in the Trojan War.
- Pero had many suitors, but Neleus said that the man who could raid the cattle of Iphicles, son of Phylacus and Clymene and father of Protesilaus and Podarces, from Phylace would be the victor. Melampus wins and gives Pero to his brother Bias. Melampus cured Iphicles of infertility to win the cattle. He also cured the women of Argos from madness. Bias and Pero begat Talaus, father of Adrastus by Lysimache.
- After the death of Pentheus, grandson of Cadmus, a new dynasty was founded by Labdacus, who died in the same way. His successor was Laius, an infant son. Lycus, a great-great-uncle of Laius, assumed the regency and then made himself king. Lycus was the son of Chthonius, one of the Spartoi.
- Lycus' brother, Nycteus, had a daughter, Antiope, who was impregnated by Zeus. She fled to Sicyon. Nycteus killed himself and Lycus attacked Sicyon to retrieve Antiope. Somewhere in Boeotia, Antiope gave birth to twin sons, Amphion and Zethus (see Meta notes). They drove Laius into exile.
- After the deaths of Amphion and Zethus, Laius returned from exile and finally became king. In exile, he was hospitably received by Pelops, king of Elis. Laius brought down a curse upon himself by abducting Chrysippus, son of Pelops. He married Jocasta, granddaughter of Pentheus, and heard the infamous oracle about Oedipus.
- Plot of *Seven Against Thebes*: When Oedipus blinded himself, he cursed his sons to divide the kingdom by the sword. The two sons, Eteocles and Polynices, in order to avoid bloodshed, decided to alternate ruling the kingdom yearly. After the first year, Eteocles refused to relinquish rule, so Polynices built up an army (captained by the eponymous seven) of Argives to take the city by force. The attack was repelled, but Eteocles and Polynices were both killed.
    - Adrastus was joined by six other heroes, Polynices, Tydeus, Amphiaraus, Capaneus, Hippomedon, and Parthenopaeus. Adrastus alone survived, due to the swiftness of his horse, Arion.
    - Adrastus fought Megareus
    - Tydeus fought Melanippus
    - Capaneus fought Polyphontes
    - Hippomedon fought Hyperbius

    - Parthenopaus fought Actor
    - Amphiaraus fought Lasthenes
    - Polynices fought Eteocles
- Adrastus was the son of Talaus and a varied mother. He was one of the three kings at Argos, along with Iphis and Amphiaraus, the husband of his sister Eriphyle. Adrastus was married either to Amphithea, daughter of Pronax, or to Demonassa. His children include Aegiale (wife of Diomedes), Argea (wife of Polynices), Deipyle (wife of Tydeus), Aegialeus (one of the Epigoni), Cyanippus (fought in the Trojan War), and Eurydice (wife of the Trojan King Ilus, son of Tros).
- Amphiaraus killed Talaus in a power struggle, and banished Adrastus. Soon, the two were reconciled, and Amphiaraus married Eriphyle. At this point, Tydeus (who had been banished by Agrius) and Polynices were having a heated argument. Adrastus had heard a prophecy that his daughters would marry a boar and a lion. Adrastus saw these two animals on the shields of these warriors, and the marriages were conducted, and Adrastus promised to help the princes be restored to their cities. They prepared to march on Thebes, even though Amphiaraus predicted that all would die except Adrastus. The war did end as such, and Creon, the king of Thebes, ordered that none of the six be given funeral rights. Antigone buried Polynices, and Adrastus convinced Theseus, king of Athens, to march on Thebes and get the other five back. This was done.
- Capaneus was the son of Hipponous. Extremely arrogant, he shouted that not even Zeus could stop him from invading Thebes, and Zeus struck him down as he was scaling the walls. His wife, Evadne, with whom he begat Sthenelus, threw herself on his funeral pyre. Megareus was the son of Creon whom Creon did not want to fight. However, he did fight and was immediately killed by Capaneus.
- Hippomedon was one of Adrastus' relatives; his parents vary. In the *Seven Against Thebes*, he fights Hyperbius. According to the *Bibliotheca*, he is killed by Ismarus. In the *Thebaid*, he engages in the fight over the body of Tydeus. He kills the son of Pan and a nymph, Ismenis. She implores the river to drown Hippomedon. When he prays to not die so dreadfully, he is saved from drowning, but immediately is killed by several arrows.
- Parthenopaus was the son of Atalanta by either Hippomenes, Meleager, or Ares. He fought Actor, and was killed either by Periclymenus or Amphidicus, a son of Astacus.
- Amphiaraus knew that he would die, but his wife, Eriphyle, was bribed by Polynices with the necklace of Harmonia for her advocacy. Aware of this, Amphiaraus told his sons, Alcmaeon and Amphilocus, to kill their mother should he not return. Some say that he killed Melanippus, and attempted to flee from Periclyemenus, but Zeus struck the ground in front of his chariot and he fell into the earth.
- The Epigoni were the sons of the Seven against Thebes, and were convinced by Adrastus to attack Thebes 10 years later to avenge their fathers. The Delphic Oracle said that the Epigoni would see victory if they chose Alcmaeon as their leader, so they did. Aegialeus was killed by Laodamas, son of Eteocles, but Alcmaeon killed him.
    - Aegialeus, son of Adrastus
    - Alcmaeon, son of Amphiaraus
    - Amphilochus, son of Amphiaraus

    - Diomedes, son of Tydeus
    - Euryalus, son of Mecisteus
    - Promachus, son of Parthenopaeus
    - Sthenelus son of Capaneus
    - Thersander son of Polynices
    - Polydorus son of Hippomedon
- Aegialeus was the only one to die, though his father was the only to live. Adrastus died of grief at his son's death.
- Alcmaeon was unwilling to go to war, but Thersander bribed Eriphyle with the robe of Harmonia, and she convinced him to go. Once he returned, he killed his mother. King Phegeus purified him of this murder and he married his daughter Arsinoe.
- Amphilochus helped Alcmaeon kill their mother.
- Euryalus fought also at the Trojan War, where he lost a boxing match against Epeius at Patroclus' funeral games.
- Thersander took over Thebes after the attack. He joined the Greeks for the Trojan War, but was killed by Telephus on Mysia.
- Two sons of Pelops, Thyestes and Atreus, quarreled over the Mycenean throne. It was decided that the owner of a golden fleeced ram would become the next king. Pan gave it to Atreus, but Thyestes convinced Atreus' wife to give it to him. Atreus went into exile, returned later, became king, banished Thyestes, learned of his adultery, recalled him, forced him to eat his children, then sent him back into exile.
- In exile, Thyestes mated with his daughter, Pelopea, and had Aegisthus. Atreus' son, Agamemnon, succeeded his father. He married Clytemnestra and their children were Iphigenia, Electra, and Orestes. He sacrificed Iphigenia before the Trojan expedition. He took Cassandra as prisoner and returned home. Clytemnestra and Aegisthus killed both of them. These make up the events of *Agamemnon.*
- Orestes was away from Mycenae at the time of this murder. While the two murderers usurped the throne, he grew to manhood in exile at the court of Strophius, king of Phocis. It was now his duty to avenge his father's murder, and Apollo urged him to proceed. He returned to Mycenae, and with the encouragement of Electra, murdered both Clytemnestra and Aegisthus. These make up the events of *The Libation Bearers.*
- He is pursued by the Fates for matricide, and the Dioscuri prophesy that he will go into exile, appeal to Athena, and be acquitted of the charge by the court of the Areopagus at Athens. This makes up the events of the *Eumenides*, the third drama in the *Oresteia.* After his acquittal, the Erinyes are appeased and given the name Eumenides (Kindly Ones) and are worshipped then after in Athens.
- Leda, wife of Tyndareus, king of Sparta, bore 4 children to Zeus, who visited her in the shape of a swan. They were born from 2 eggs. One egg hatched Polydeuces (Pollux) and Helen. The other hatched Castor and Clytemnestra.
- Helen bore a daughter, Hermione, to Menelaus.
- Priam fathered 50 sons and either 12 or 50 daughters. His first wife, Arisbe, is not important.

- Paris left Oenone for Helen. Years later, when Paris was wounded by Philoctetes, she refused to heal him, but when he died, she killed herself.
- Dardanus was the son of Zeus and Electra (daughter of Atlas). He fathered Erichthonius with Batea, who fathered Tros by Astyoche. Tros fathered Ilus, Assaracus, and Ganymede. Ilus fathered Laomedon, and Assaracus fathered Capys, who fathered Anchises.
- Priam's son Helenus had the gift of prophecy, for when he was a child serpents had licked his ears. In the last year of the war, the prophet Calchas advised the Greeks to capture him. He was caught by Odysseus and honorably treated, so that he alone of Priam's sons survived the war.
- Antenor, brother of Hecuba, advised returning Helen to the Greeks. The Greeks spared him in the sack, and he and his wife, Theano, were allowed to sail away. They reached Italy where they founded Patavium (Padua).
- The most prominent Trojan allies were the Lycians, led by Glaucus and Sarpedon. When Glaucus and Diomedes were about to fight, they discovered that their ancestors had been best friends. They exchanged armor and parted amicably. Glaucus was eventually killed by Telamon Ajax in the fight over the corpse of Achilles.
- Sarpedon was the son of Zeus and Laodamia, daughter of Bellerophon. He is killed by Patroclus. Zeus has Apollo save his body afterwards.
- Diomedes was the son of Tydeus, one of the 7 Against Thebes. Tydeus was the son of Oeneus and Periboea and husband of Deipyle, daughter of Adrastus. He was mortally wounded by Melanippus in the Battle of the 7 Against Thebes.
- Other allies of Troy included the Thracians led by Rhesus (son of Strymon and one of the Muses). Their arrival coincided with a night patrol led by Diomedes and Odysseus, during which they caught and killed a Trojan spy, Dolon, who told them of the Thracians. They went on to kill Rhesus and 12 Thracians.
- Nestor, son of Neleus and Chloris and king of Pylos, was the oldest and wisest of the Greeks. Like Priam, he had become king after Heracles sacked his city. In the sack Neleus and all his sons except Nestor were killed. His son Antilochus was killed by Memnon in the war.
- Ajax, son of Telamon, was second only to Achilles as a warrior. He is the rival to Odysseus.
- Ajax the Lesser, prince of the Locrians and son of Oileus, is less prominent than the other Ajax. His sacrilegious violation of Cassandra during the sack of Troy led to his death on the voyage back to Greece.
- Idomeneus was son of Deucalion and leader of the Cretans. He is most prominent with regard to the legend of his return home.
- Palamedes was the envoy who thought to use Telemachus to prove that Odysseus was not mad.
- Thetis tried to prevent Achilles from joining the war by disguising him as a girl and taking him to the island of Scyros, where he was brought up with the daughters of Lycomedes, king of the island. One of them was Deidamia, with whom Achilles fell in love; their child, born after Achilles left Scryos, was Neoptolemus (Pyrrhus), who took part in the capture of Troy after his father's death.

- Phoenix, at the instigation of his mother, lay with his father's mistress. His father cursed him with childlessness, and Phoenix sought refuge from his wrath with Peleus, who made him the tutor and companion of Achilles.
- Patroclus was a great warrior. He was the son of Menoetius (an Argonaut, not the Titan) and Sthelene. Peleus took him in and brought him up as the companion of Achilles.
- When the Greeks left for Troy, they did not immediately sail there. They were guided by Philoctetes, son of Poeas, to the island of Chyrse to sacrifice to its goddess. There, Philoctetes was bitten in the foot by a snake. As the fleet sailed on, the stench from the wound became so powerful that the Greeks abandoned him on Lemnos, where he remained alone and in agony for 10 years. Poeas had lit the funeral pyre of Heracles and had in return been given Heracles' bow and arrows, which Philoctetes later inherited. In the last year of the war, the Greeks captured Priam's son, Helenus, who prophesied that only with the aid of Heracles' bow and arrows could Troy be captured. Odysseus and Diomedes fetched Philoctetes from Lemnos. The sons of Asclepius, Podalirius and Machaon, healed his wound, and with the arrows he shot Paris.
- On the way to Troy the Greeks landed in Mysia. In the battle against the Mysians, Achilles wounded Telephus, the son of Heracles. When the wound did not heal, he consulted the Delphic oracle. Learning that "he that wounded shall heal," he went to the Greek army disguised as a beggar and asked Achilles to cure his wound. Achilles said that he could not, as he was not a doctor, but Odysseus pointed out that it was Achilles' spear that caused it. Scrapings from it were applied, and Telephus was healed.
- When the Greeks reached Troy, the first to leap ashore was Protesilaus, who was immediately killed by Hector. His wife, Laodamia, could not be comforted in her grief. Hermes brought back her husband from Hades for a few hours, and when he was taken away again, she killed herself.
- Cycnus, a Trojan, son of Poseidon, is killed by Achilles and turned into a swan.
- Agamemnon took Chryseis, daughter of Chryses, and Achilles took Bryseis, with whom he fell in love. Apollo sends a terrible plague upon the Greeks, wrought by Chryses' prayers. Calchas prophesies that the only way to abate this is to return Chryseis.
- After the events of the *Iliad,* Hector's funeral takes place.
- After Hector's funeral, the fighting resumed, and Achilles kills the leaders of two contingents that came from the ends of the earth to help the Trojans. From the north came the Amazons, led by Penthesilea. It is said that right before he killed her, he fell in love with her, and thus mourned her death. Thersites taunted him, and Achilles killed him.
- The second contingent was that of the Ethiopians, led by Memnon, son of Eos and Tithonus. After Memnon's death by Achilles, his followers were turned into birds that fought around his tomb.
- Achilles was soon fatally wounded by an arrow shot by Paris and guided by Apollo. After a fierce fight, his corpse was recovered by Telamon Ajax and buried at Sigeum, the promontory near Troy.
- After the deaths of Paris and Priam by Philoctetes and Neoptolomus, respectively, Epeus built the Trojan horse.

- In Euripides' tragedy *The Trojan Women*, the results of the fall are seen through the eyes of Hecuba, Cassandra, and Andromache.
- The returns of the Greek leaders, excluding Odysseus, from Troy were narrated in an epic called *Nostoi*, of which only a prose summary and three lines of verse are extant.
- Agamemnon and Menelaus quarreled over the departure and so parted company. Agamemnon sailed for Greece with part of the fleet, including the Locrians. Near the island of Mykonos, Athena, in her anger at the sacrilege committed at Troy by Ajax Lesser, caused a storm to wreck many of the ships. Ajax swam to a nearby rock, where he boasted that not even the gods could kill him. For this Poseidon struck the rock with his trident, and Ajax was drowned.
- Menelaus, Nestor, and Diomedes set sail together from Troy. Nestor returned to Pylos safely. He tells Telemachus how Menelaus lost all his fleet save five ships in a storm off of Crete and eventually reached Egypt. 7 years later he and Helen returned to Sparta, and resumed their rule.
- Diomedes reached Argos quickly, but he found that his wife, Aegialia, daughter of Adrastus, had been unfaithful. Her adulteries were caused by Aphrodite, angry because Diomedes wounded her at Troy. Diomedes left Argos and came to Italy, where the Apulian king, Daunus, gave him land.
- Idomeneus returned to Crete to find that his wife, Meda, had committed adultery with Leucus, who had then murdered her and her daughter and made himself king over 10 cities of Crete. Idomeneus was driven out by Leucus and came to Calabria in southern Italy, where he was worshipped as a hero.
    - Another legend is that Idomeneus vowed to Poseidon that he would sacrifice the first thing he saw if he returned home safely. The first thing he saw was his son, whom he duly sacrificed. For this murder, a plague was sent by the gods on Crete, and Idomeneus was driven into exile.
- Philoctetes returned to Thessaly but was driven out by his people. He came to southern Italy and founded a number of cities.
- Neoptolemus, warned by Thetis not to return by sea, took the land route back to Greece, accompanied by Helenus and Andromache. With them and his wife, Hermione (daughter of Meneleus), he returned to Phthia and came to Molossia in Epirus, where he ruled over the Molossi.
- *The Odyssey* begins in the middle of Odysseus' adventures, where he is detained on Ogygia, the island of Calypso.
- When Odysseus left Troy, they came to the Thracian city of Ismarus, home of the Cicones, which they sacked before being driven off. They spared Maron, priest of Apollo, and he in return gave them 12 jars of fragrant red wine. They were driven southward by a storm to the land of the lotus eaters. They were eventually able to escape.
- Odysseus and 12 others entered the cave of Polyphemus. He ate 6 of them in 3 meals. Odysseus intoxicated Polyphemus with the wine of Maron. He told Polyphemus that his name was Nobody (Outis) and the Cyclops promised to eat him last. Odysseus sharpened a wooden stake and heated it in the fire, and he and his companions drove the stake into the eye of the Cyclops. Next morning, Polyphemus removed the boulder blocking the entrance of the cave to let his flock out, feeling each animal as it passed.

Odysseus and his men tied themselves to the undersides of some sheep, so they escaped.

- Odysseus next reached the island of Aeolus who gave him a leather bag containing all the winds and showed him which one to release to reach home. He sailed back to Ithaca and was in reach of land when he fell asleep. His men opened the bag and all the winds rushed out and blew the ships back to Aeolus, who refused to help them again, reasoning that they must be hated by the gods.
- Odysseus and his men sailed on to the land of the Laestrygonians. They sank all Odysseus' ships except his own and ate the crews.
- He then reached the island of Aeaea, the home of Circe, daughter of Helios. He divided his men into 2 groups and stayed behind with 1. The men that went forth were turned into pigs when they ate her food. As Odysseus went to rescue his men, Hermes told him how to counter Circe's charms. Circe made love to him and he stayed for a year and begot a son, Telegonus.
- Odysseus' men urged him homeward. Circe agreed, but told him that he first had to go to the underworld and learn the way home from Tiresias.
- After he had done this, they went on their way. First they got around the Sirens. Next they had to get through the Planctae, two wandering rocks between only the Argo has ever safely passed. They also had to get by either Scylla or Charybdis. Charybdis would spell out doom for the entire ship, so they went by Scylla, who snatched up 6 men to eat. The rest went by unharmed.
- They then stopped at the island of Thrinacia, where Helios pastured his herds of cattle. Circe had strictly warned Odysseus not to touch a single one of the cattle should he and his men wish to return home. The men killed most of the cattle out of hunger. Zeus struck the ship with a thunderbolt when they set sail, killing everyone except Odysseus, who floated away on the mast to Ogygia.
- He lived with Calypso for 7 years. She loved him and offered to make him immortal, but he could not forget Penelope. Hermes brought strict orders from Zeus telling Calypso to help Odysseus leave, so she built him a raft and he was off.
- As he approached Scheria, the island of the Phaeacians, Poseidon shattered the raft. Helped by the sea-goddess Leucothea (formerly Ino) and by Athena, he reached land. The king of the Phaeacians was Alcinous, and his daughter was Nausicaa. Odysseus related his stories to the king's court and was welcomed. They brought him back to Ithaca on one of their ships, in a deep sleep. After dropping off Odysseus, they returned home. Just as they were returning, Poseidon turned the ship and the crew to stone for helping Odysseus.
- Perseus and Andromeda begat Perses, Alcaeus (who begat Amphitryon), Electryon (who, with Anaxo, begat Alcmena), Sthenelus (who, with Menippe, begat Eurystheus), and Mestor.
- Before Amphitryon lay with Alcmena, Zeus did it first. Alcmena began twins, Heracles, by Zeus, and Iphicles, by Amphitryon.
- Other than his labors, Heracles fought and killed a number of harmful beings.
    - Cycnus, son of Ares, used to rob men passing on their way through Thessaly to Delphi

    - Syleus, another robber, who lived by the Straits of Euboea.
    - Cercopes had been told by their mother to beware the black-bottomed man. They found Heracles sleeping and tried to steal his weapons. He was about to kill them, when they saw that his bottom had been burned black by the sun. They joked about it so much that even Heracles was amused and he let them go.
- On the Argo, Hylas, a beloved friend of Heracles, was drinking from the sea, when the water nymphs, so entrance by his beauty, took him under. Heracles spent so long looking for him that the Argo left without him.
- Theseus was the son of Aegeus and Aethra. He had six labors on the way to Athens from Troezen.
    - At Epidaurus he killed the brigand Periphetes, son of Hephaestus, who was armed with a club and generally called Corynetes (club man).
    - At the Isthmus of Corinth, he killed the robber Sinis, called Pityocamptes (Pine Bender) from the way in which he killed his victims.
    - On the border of the Isthmus and the Megarid he killed a monstrous sow near Crommyon.
    - Next he found the brigand Sciron barring his way at the Cliffs of Sciron. He would force all passers to stoop and wash his feet. He would then kick them into the sea, where a gigantic turtle ate them.
    - Drawing closer to Athens, Theseus met Cercyon at Eleusis. He compelled travelers to wrestle with him to the death.
    - Finally, between Eleusis and Athens, Theseus met Procrustes (the stretcher). He possessed a hammer, a saw, and a bed. He compelled travelers to lie on the bed. Those who were too long he would cut down to size, and those who were too short he would hammer out until they fit exactly.
- Theseus made it to Athens, and was threatened by Medea and Pallas (see Meta notes).
- His next labor was to catch the bull of Marathon, said to be the Cretan bull of Heracles' labors. On his way, he met an old woman named Hecale who promised that she would sacrifice to Zeus if Theseus returned. Theseus mastered the bull and drove it back to Athens, where he sacrificed it to Apollo. He then returned to Hecale, whom he found dead.
- Theseus joined with Heracles in his expedition against the Amazons, and as his share of the spoil received the Amazon Antiope by whom he became the father of Hippolytus. The Amazons invaded Attica and were defeated by Theseus, but Antiope died during the attack.
- Theseus and Pirithous pledged to carry off daughters of Zeus. Theseus chose Helen of Sparta and together they kidnapped her when she was 13 years of age and decided to hold onto her until she was old enough to marry. Pirithous chose a more dangerous prize: Persephone herself. They left Helen with Theseus' mother, Aethra, and traveled to the underworld domain of Persephone and her husband Hades. When they stopped to rest, they found themselves unable to stand up from the rock as they saw the Furies appear before them.

- Heracles was able to save only Theseus. When Theseus returned home, he found that Castor and Pollux had returned Helen to Sparta, as well as having captured Aethra to be Helen's servant.
- Theseus was also married to Phaedra, a daughter of Minos, and fathered Demophon and Acamas. She fell in love with Hippolytus. Once, the maid learned the secret, and told Hippolytus. In shame, Phaedra hanged herself, leaving a letter stating that Hippolytus had attempted to seduce her. Theseus banished Hippolytus and called upon Poseidon to destroy him. His horses ran him over, but carried him back to Theseus, where the two reconciled before Hippolytus died.
- The Boeotian king Athamas (son of Aeolus and Enarete) took as his first wife Nephele. After bearing Athamas two children, Phrixus and Helle, she returned to the sky. Athamas then married Ino, one of the daughters of Cadmus, who attempted to destroy her stepchildren. She also persuaded the Boeotian women to parch the seed grain so that a famine would ensue.
- In the resulting famine, Athamas sent to Delphi for advice, but Ino told the envoys to report that the god advised Athamas to sacrifice Phrixus. As he was about to perform the sacrifice, Nephele snatched Phrixus and Helle up to the sky and set them on a golden fleeced ram, Callimachus, that Hermes had given her. Above the straits between Europe and Asia (the Dardanelles), Helle fell off and drowned. Phrixus continued his flight and came to Colchis, at the eastern end of the Black Sea, where King Aeetes (son of Helios and the Oceanid Perseis and brother of Circe and Pasiphae) gave him his elder daughter, Chalciope, as wife.
- Phrixus sacrificed the golden ram to Zeus and gave the fleece to Aeetes, who hung it up on an oak tree in a grove sacred to Ares, where it was guarded by a never sleeping serpent.
- Cretheus, brother of Athamas, was king of Iolcus. At his death his stepson Pelias (son of Poseidon and Tyro, wife of Cretheus) usurped the throne and deposed the rightful heir, Aeson, son of Cretheus and Tyro. Jason's mother, Polymede, sent Jason to the hills to be educated by Chiron and cared for by Chiron's mother, Philyra.
- After 20 years Jason returned to reclaim the throne. Pelias knew that he was fated to be killed by a descendant of Aeolus (son of Helen, not king of the winds), and the Delphic oracle warned him to "beware of the man with one sandal." On the way down from the hills, Jason had carried Hera disguised as an old woman across the river Anaurus. Pelias promised to yield the throne as soon as Jason brought him the Golden Fleece, which Phrixus, appearing to him in a dream, had ordered him to obtain.
- The Argo was built by Argus, son of Arestor, with the help of Athena. In its bows she put a piece of wood made from an oak of Dodona, which had the power of speech.
- After leaving Iolcus, the Argonauts sailed to Lemnos, where they found only women led by the queen Hypsipyle. Aphrodite had punished them for failing to worship her by making them unattractive to their husbands. The men therefore took Thracian concubines, and the Lemnian women murdered every male on the island, with the exception of the king, Thoas, son of Dionysus and father of Hypsipyle. They received the Argonauts, who stayed on the island for a year.
- Jason and Hypsipyle bore twin sons, Euneos and Thoas.

- They then went to Samothrace, and then to Propontis and put in at Cyzicus, where the Doliones lived under King Cyzicus. In return for their hospitality, Heracles killed the giants who lived nearby. The Argonauts were forced back to Cyzicus by contrary winds, and had a war with the Doliones, who mistook them for bandits. They killed the king, and helped bury him the next day.
- Next they went to Cios so that Heracles could repair his broken oar. Here Hylas was lost and Heracles left the expedition.
- Next the Argonauts passed into the Black Sea and came to the land of the Bebryces, whose custom it was to compel strangers to box with their king, Amycus, a son of Poseidon, who had never lost a boxing match. Pollux fought with him and killed him.
- Next they came to Salmydessus of Thrace, where they were received by King Phineus, a blind prophet. He was tormented by the Harpies. When the Harpies next appeared, Zetes and Calais, the winged sons of Boreas, pursued them to the Strophades Islands, where Iris put an end to the chase by making them return and the Harpies swear never to go near Phineus again. In return, Phineus told them of the dangers ahead. He told them of the Symplegades, the crashing rocks, through which nothing had ever passed. He advised them to release a dove, and if it succeeded in flying between the rocks, they could go through.
- They then came to a deserted island, Thynias, where they saw Apollo passing overhead to visit the Hyperboreans. They erect an altar there. Next they go to Lycus, king of the Mariandynians, who receives them hospitably. Things go badly when Idmon is killed by a boar and Tiphys dies of illness.
- Ixion was king of the Lapiths, son of Phlegyas. He was the first to shed kindred blood. He invited his father-in-law Eioneus to come and collect the price that Ixion was to pay for his bride, Dia. Eioneus came, but fell into a pit of burning coals that Ixion had dug and camouflaged. Since this was a new crime, no mortal was able to purify him of it, and Zeus himself purified him. Yet Ixion repaid him with a second crime, attempting to seduce Hera, and he was punished with his infamous flaming wheel.
- The Dorian Invasion was begun by Heracles' son by Deijanira, Hyllus. Eurystheus demanded that the Heraclidae surrender, attacked Athens, and was killed. The Heraclidae then invaded the Peloponnese, but a plague drove them back. They went to Thessaly, where Aegimius gave Hyllus the land that Heracles was offered. Heracles had assisted Aegimius in defeating the Lapiths, but when Aegimius attempted to pay him in land, Heracles had him preserve it for his sons.
- Hyllus consulted the Delphic oracle, which told him to wait for 3 years. He did, then attacked, but was killed in single combat by Echemus, king of Tegea. This second attempt was followed by a third led by Cleodaeus and by a fourth under Aristomachus, both unsuccessful.
- Finally, Temenus, Cresphontes, and Aristodemus, sons of Aristomachus, were able to understand that the "third fruit" meant by the Oracle when told to Hyllus was not the "third year" but the "third generation." Now that this generation had arrived, the Heraclidae could attack. They built a fleet at Naupactus, but killed an Acarnian soothsayer. For this, Apollo killed Aristodemus and destroyed the fleet.

- Temenus consulted the oracle again. It told him to make a sacrifice, banish the murderer for 10 years, and look for a man with 3 eyes to help him on his way home. Temenus met Oxylus, a man with 1 eye, riding on a horse, thus 3 eyes. Temenus took Oxylus with him back to Naupactus. The Heraclidae rebuilt their ships, sailed to the Peloponnese and defeated Tisamenus, son of Orestes, in battle, ending the conflict.