



The Odyssey

By Gillian Cross



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A bold re-envisioning of The Odyssey, told with simplicity and style — perfect for fans of graphic retellings and mythology enthusiasts alike.

Odysseus faces storm and shipwreck, a terrifying man-eating Cyclops, the alluring but deadly Sirens, and the fury of the sea-god Poseidon as he makes his ten-year journey home from the Trojan War. While Odysseus struggles to make it home, his wife, Penelope, fights a different kind of battle as her palace is invaded by forceful, greedy men who tell her that Odysseus is dead and she must choose a new husband. Will Odysseus reach her in time? Homer's epic, age-old story is powerfully told by Carnegie Medalist Gillian Cross and stunningly illustrated by rising talent Neil Packer.

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The Odyssey By Gillian Cross Bibliography

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Editorial Review

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While several graphic novels based on Homer's *Odyssey* have appeared in recent years, this substantial volume retells the tale in a more traditional narrative, illustrated with idiosyncratic artwork. The book's handsome design features broad pages, heavy paper, and generous use of space to set off the type and illustrations. While Cross' text is more plainspoken than earlier versions for young people, such as Geraldine McCaughrean's *The Odyssey* (1995) or Rosemary Sutcliff's *The Wanderings of Odysseus* (1996), the power of the story lives on in her retelling. An appended note offers the writer's perspective on what Homer accomplished and why the tale still moves readers today. Created using gouache, pen, and wash, Packer's highly individual illustrations range from richly colored, intricately detailed paintings to silhouettes and monochromatic drawings. With elements that are often stylized, sometimes ornate, and occasionally grotesque, the artwork may not have broad appeal, but many will be drawn to its intensity and originality. A welcome new retelling of the epic poem. Grades 4-7. --Carolyn Phelan

Review

Every image seems to have been created with unhurried care; it's a quiet but monumental piece of work.
—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

Gorgeous.

—The Huffington Post

While Cross and Packer are not asking us to replace Homer on the bookshelf, their addition is certainly worthy of sharing shelf space.

—New York Daily News online

Interesting and imaginative.

—School Library Journal

About the Author

Gillian Cross is the Carnegie Medal–winning author of *Wolf*. She lives in England.

Neil Packer is the illustrator of several classic books, including *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. His illustrations for *The Odyssey* took many years — "Nearly as long as Odysseus's journey!" he says. He lives in London.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Barry Upshaw:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or maybe read a book eligible *The Odyssey*? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have other

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Evan Reyes:

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