



The Iliad

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by Homer

translated by Samuel Butler

BOOK I

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Sing, O goddess, the anger of Achilles son of Peleus, that brought countless ills upon the A  
And which of the gods was it that set them on to quarrel? It was the son of Jove and Leto;  
"Sons of Atreus," he cried, "and all other Achaeans, may the gods who dwell in Olympus grant  
On this the rest of the Achaeans with one voice were for respecting the priest and taking th  
The old man feared him and obeyed. Not a word he spoke, but went by the shore of the soundi  
Thus did he pray, and Apollo heard his prayer. He came down furious from the summits of Oly  
For nine whole days he shot his arrows among the people, but upon the tenth day Achilles cal  
"Son of Atreus," said he, "I deem that we should now turn roving home if we would escape des  
With these words he sat down, and Calchas son of Thestor, wisest of augurs, who knew things  
"Achilles, loved of heaven, you bid me tell you about the anger of King Apollo, I will there  
And Achilles answered, "Fear not, but speak as it is borne in upon you from heaven, for by A  
Thereon the seer spoke boldly. "The god," he said, "is angry neither about vow nor hecatomb  
With these words he sat down, and Agamemnon rose in anger. His heart was black with rage, a  
And Achilles answered, "Most noble son of Atreus, covetous beyond all mankind, how shall the  
Then Agamemnon said, "Achilles, valiant though you be, you shall not thus outwit me. You sh  
Achilles scowled at him and answered, "You are steeped in insolence and lust of gain. With  
And Agamemnon answered, "Fly if you will, I shall make you no prayers to stay you. I have c  
The son of Peleus was furious, and his heart within his shaggy breast was divided whether to  
And Minerva said, "I come from heaven, if you will hear me, to bid you stay your anger. Jun  
"Goddess," answered Achilles, "however angry a man may be, he must do as you two command him  
He stayed his hand on the silver hilt of his sword, and thrust it back into the scabbard as  
But the son of Peleus again began railing at the son of Atreus, for he was still in a rage.  
With this the son of Peleus dashed his gold-bestudded sceptre on the ground and took his sea  
"Of a truth," he said, "a great sorrow has befallen the Achaean land. Surely Priam with his

And Agamemnon answered, "Sir, all that you have said is true, but this fellow must needs be  
Achilles interrupted him. "I should be a mean coward," he cried, "were I to give in to you  
When they had quarrelled thus angrily, they rose, and broke up the assembly at the ships of  
These, then, went on board and sailed their ways over the sea. But the son of Atreus bade th  
Thus did they busy themselves throughout the host. But Agamemnon did not forget the threat  
He charged them straightly further and dismissed them, whereon they went their way sorrowful  
Patroclus did as his dear comrade had bidden him. He brought Briseis from the tent and gave  
As he spoke he wept aloud, and his mother heard him where she was sitting in the depths of t  
Achilles drew a deep sigh and said, "You know it; why tell you what you know well already?  
"On this the rest of the Achaeans with one voice were for respecting the priest and taking t  
"Help your brave son, therefore, if you are able. Go to Olympus, and if you have ever done  
Thetis wept and answered, "My son, woe is me that I should have borne or suckled you. Would  
On this she left him, still furious at the loss of her that had been taken from him. Meanwh  
So saying he gave the girl over to her father, who received her gladly, and they ranged the  
Thus did he pray, and Apollo heard his prayer. When they had done praying and sprinkling th  
Thus all day long the young men worshipped the god with song, hymning him and chaunting the  
But Achilles abode at his ships and nursed his anger. He went not to the honourable assembl  
Now after twelve days the immortal gods came back in a body to Olympus, and Jove led the way  
"Father Jove, if I ever did you service in word or deed among the immortals, hear my prayer,  
Jove sat for a while silent, and without a word, but Thetis still kept firm hold of his knee  
At this Jove was much troubled and answered, "I shall have trouble if you set me quarrelling  
As he spoke the son of Saturn bowed his dark brows, and the ambrosial locks swayed on his in  
When the pair had thus laid their plans, they parted- Jove to his house, while the goddess o  
"Juno," replied the sire of gods and men, "you must not expect to be informed of all my coun  
"Dread son of Saturn," answered Juno, "what are you talking about? I? Pry and ask questions  
"Wife," said Jove, "I can do nothing but you suspect me and find it out. You will take noth  
On this Juno was frightened, so she curbed her stubborn will and sat down in silence. But t  
As he spoke, he took a double cup of nectar, and placed it in his mother's hand. "Cheer up,  
Juno smiled at this, and as she smiled she took the cup from her son's hands. Then Vulcan d  
Thus through the livelong day to the going down of the sun they feasted, and every one had h

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Now the other gods and the armed warriors on the plain slept soundly, but Jove was wakeful,  
The dream went when it had heard its message, and soon reached the ships of the Achaeans. I  
"You are sleeping, son of Atreus; one who has the welfare of his host and so much other care  
The dream then left him, and he thought of things that were, surely not to be accomplished.  
The goddess Dawn now wended her way to vast Olympus that she might herald day to Jove and to  
"My friends," said he, "I have had a dream from heaven in the dead of night, and its face an  
He then sat down, and Nestor the prince of Pylos with all sincerity and goodwill addressed t  
With this he led the way from the assembly, and the other sceptred kings rose with him in ok  
"My friends," he said, "heroes, servants of Mars, the hand of heaven has been laid heavily u  
With these words he moved the hearts of the multitude, so many of them as knew not the cunni  
Then surely the Argives would have returned after a fashion that was not fated. But Juno sa  
Minerva was not slack to do her bidding. Down she darted from the topmost summits of Olympu  
Ulysses knew the voice as that of the goddess: he flung his cloak from him and set off to ru  
Whenever he met a king or chieftain, he stood by him and spoke him fairly. "Sir," said he,  
But when he came across any common man who was making a noise, he struck him with his staff  
Thus masterfully did he go about among the host, and the people hurried back to the council  
The rest now took their seats and kept to their own several places, but Thersites still went  
"Agamemnon," he cried, "what ails you now, and what more do you want? Your tents are filled  
Thus railed Thersites, but Ulysses at once went up to him and rebuked him sternly. "Check y  
On this he beat him with his staff about the back and shoulders till he dropped and fell a-w  
Thus said the people. Then Ulysses rose, sceptre in hand, and Minerva in the likeness of a  
"King Agamemnon, the Achaeans are for making you a by-word among all mankind. They forget t  
"All who have not since perished must remember as though it were yesterday or the day before  
On this the Argives raised a shout, till the ships rang again with the uproar. Nestor, knig  
And Agamemnon answered, "Nestor, you have again outdone the sons of the Achaeans in counsel.  
Thus he spoke, and the Achaeans roared applause. As when the waves run high before the blas  
Thus he prayed, but the son of Saturn would not fulfil his prayer. He accepted the sacrifice  
Thus did he speak, and Agamemnon heeded his words. He at once sent the criers round to call

They were like great flocks of geese, or cranes, or swans on the plain about the waters of C  
As countless swarms of flies buzz around a herdsman's homestead in the time of spring when t  
The chiefs disposed their men this way and that before the fight began, drafting them out as  
And now, O Muses, dwellers in the mansions of Olympus, tell me- for you are goddesses and ar  
Peneleos, Leitus, Arcesilaus, Prothoenor, and Clonius were captains of the Boeotians. These  
Ascalaphus and Ialmenus, sons of Mars, led the people that dwelt in Aspledon and Orchomenus  
The Phoceans were led by Schedius and Epistrophus, sons of mighty Iphitus the son of Naubolu  
Ajax, the fleet son of Oileus, commanded the Locrians. He was not so great, nor nearly so g  
The fierce Abantes held Euboea with its cities, Chalcis, Eretria, Histiaea rich in vines, Ce  
And they that held the strong city of Athens, the people of great Erechtheus, who was born c  
Ajax brought twelve ships from Salamis, and stationed them alongside those of the Athenians.

BOOK II (2)

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The men of Argos, again, and those who held the walls of Tiryns, with Hermione, and Asine up  
Those who held the strong city of Mycenae, rich Corinth and Cleonae; Orneae, Araethyrea, and  
And those that dwelt in Lacedaemon, lying low among the hills, Pharis, Sparta, with Messe th  
The men of Pylos and Arene, and Thryum where is the ford of the river Alpheus; strong Aipy,  
And those that held Arcadia, under the high mountain of Cyllene, near the tomb of Aepytus, w  
The men, moreover, of Buprasium and of Elis, so much of it as is enclosed between Hyrmine, M  
And those of Dulichium with the sacred Echinean islands, who dwelt beyond the sea off Elis;  
Ulysses led the brave Cephallenians, who held Ithaca, Neritum with its forests, Crocylea, ru  
Thoas, son of Andraemon, commanded the Aetolians, who dwelt in Pleuron, Olenus, Pylene, Chal  
The famous spearsman Idomeneus led the Cretans, who held Cnossus, and the well-walled city c  
Tlepolemus, son of Hercules, a man both brave and large of stature, brought nine ships of lc  
And Nireus brought three ships from Syme- Nireus, who was the handsomest man that came up un  
And those that held Nisyros, Crapathus, and Casus, with Cos, the city of Eurypylus, and the  
Those again who held Pelasgic Argos, Alos, Alope, and Trachis; and those of Phthia and Hella  
And those that held Phylace and the flowery meadows of Pyrasus, sanctuary of Ceres; Iton, th  
And those that held Pherae by the Boebean lake, with Boebe, Glaphyrae, and the populous city  
And those that held Methone and Thaumacia, with Meliboea and rugged Olizon, these were led b  
Those, again, of Tricca and the stony region of Ithome, and they that held Oechalia, the cit

The men, moreover, of Ormenius, and by the fountain of Hypereia, with those that held Asteri  
Those that held Argissa and Gyrtone, Orthe, Elone, and the white city of Oloosson, of these  
Guneus brought two and twenty ships from Cyphus, and he was followed by the Enienes and the  
Of the Magnetes, Prothous son of Tenthredon was commander. They were they that dwelt about  
Such were the chiefs and princes of the Danaans. Who, then, O Muse, was the foremost, wheth  
Of the horses, those of the son of Pheres were by far the finest. They were driven by Eumelu  
Thus marched the host like a consuming fire, and the earth groaned beneath them when the lor  
And now Iris, fleet as the wind, was sent by Jove to tell the bad news among the Trojans. T  
Thus she spoke, but Hector knew that it was the goddess, and at once broke up the assembly.  
Now there is a high mound before the city, rising by itself upon the plain. Men call it Bat  
Priam's son, great Hector of the gleaming helmet, commanded the Trojans, and with him were a  
The Dardanians were led by brave Aeneas, whom Venus bore to Anchises, when she, goddess thou  
They that dwelt in Telea under the lowest spurs of Mt. Ida, men of substance, who drink the  
They that held Adresteia and the land of Apaesus, with Pityeia, and the high mountain of Ter  
They that dwelt about Percote and Practius, with Sestos, Abydos, and Arisbe- these were led  
Hippothous led the tribes of Pelasgian spearsmen, who dwelt in fertile Larissa- Hippothous,  
Acamas and the warrior Peirous commanded the Thracians and those that came from beyond the n  
Euphemus, son of Troezenus, the son of Ceos, was captain of the Ciconian spearsmen.  
Pyraechmes led the Paeonian archers from distant Amydon, by the broad waters of the river Ax  
The Paphlagonians were commanded by stout-hearted Pylaemanus from Enetae, where the mules ru  
Odius and Epistrophus were captains over the Halizoni from distant Alybe, where there are mi  
Chromis, and Ennomus the augur, led the Mysians, but his skill in augury availed not to save  
Phorcys, again, and noble Ascanius led the Phrygians from the far country of Ascania, and bc  
Mesthles and Antiphus commanded the Meonians, sons of Talaemenes, born to him of the Gygaean  
Nastes led the Carians, men of a strange speech. These held Miletus and the wooded mountain  
Sarpedon and Glaucus led the Lycians from their distant land, by the eddying waters of the X

### BOOK III

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When the companies were thus arrayed, each under its own captain, the Trojans advanced as a  
As when the south wind spreads a curtain of mist upon the mountain tops, bad for shepherds k  
When they were close up with one another, Alexandrus came forward as champion on the Trojan

Alexandrus quailed as he saw Menelaus come forward, and shrank in fear of his life under cover. Then Hector upbraided him. "Paris," said he, "evil-hearted Paris, fair to see, but woman-making." And Alexandrus answered, "Hector, your rebuke is just. You are hard as the axe which a shipwright uses." When Hector heard this he was glad, and went about among the Trojan ranks holding his spear. They ceased taking aim and were still, whereon Hector spoke. "Hear from my mouth," said he, "thus he spoke, and they all held their peace, till Menelaus of the loud battle-cry addressed the Trojans and Achaeans were glad when they heard this, for they thought that they should not fight." Meanwhile Iris went to Helen in the form of her sister-in-law, wife of the son of Antenor, for she thus spoke the goddess, and Helen's heart yearned after her former husband, her city, and her people. The two sages, Ucalegon and Antenor, elders of the people, were seated by the Scaean gates, but Priam bade her draw nigh. "My child," said he, "take your seat in front of me that you may hear." "Sir," answered Helen, "father of my husband, dear and reverend in my eyes, would that I had seen you long ago." The old man marvelled at him and said, "Happy son of Atreus, child of good fortune. I see that you are still the same." The old man next looked upon Ulysses; "Tell me," he said, "who is that other, shorter by a head than you?" And Helen answered, "He is Ulysses, a man of great craft, son of Laertes. He was born in Ithaca, but he came here with me." On this Antenor said, "Madam, you have spoken truly. Ulysses once came here as envoy about the ransom of Helen." Priam then caught sight of Ajax and asked, "Who is that great and goodly warrior whose head is like a rock?" "That," answered Helen, "is huge Ajax, bulwark of the Achaeans, and on the other side of him is the great Hector." She knew not that both these heroes were already lying under the earth in their own land of Ilium. Meanwhile the heralds were bringing the holy oath-offerings through the city- two lambs and two oxen. The old man trembled as he heard, but bade his followers yoke the horses, and they made all ready. Agamemnon and Ulysses both rose to meet them. The attendants brought on the oath-offerings. As he spoke he drew his knife across the throats of the victims, and laid them down gasping. Thus they prayed, but not as yet would Jove grant them their prayer. Then Priam, descendant of Laomedon, on this he laid the two lambs on his chariot and took his seat. He gathered the reins in his hands. Great Hector now turned his head aside while he shook the helmet, and the lot of Paris flew. When they had thus armed, each amid his own people, they strode fierce of aspect into the open plain. He poised his spear as he spoke, and hurled it at the shield of Alexandrus. Through shield and helmet it flew. With this he flew at Alexandrus, caught him by the horsehair plume of his helmet, and began to speak. Then she went to call Helen, and found her on a high tower with the Trojan women crowding round her.

With these words she moved the heart of Helen to anger. When she marked the beautiful neck  
Venus was very angry, and said, "Bold hussy, do not provoke me; if you do, I shall leave you  
At this Helen was frightened. She wrapped her mantle about her and went in silence, followi  
When they came to the house of Alexandrus the maid-servants set about their work, but Helen  
"So you are come from the fight," said she; "would that you had fallen rather by the hand of  
And Paris answered, "Wife, do not vex me with your reproaches. This time, with the help of M  
Thus they laid themselves on the bed together; but the son of Atreus strode among the throng  
Thus spoke the son of Atreus, and the Achaeans shouted in applause.

#### BOOK IV

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Now the gods were sitting with Jove in council upon the golden floor while Hebe went round p  
Minerva and Juno muttered their discontent as they sat side by side hatching mischief for th  
Jove was angry and answered, "My dear, what harm have Priam and his sons done you that you a  
"My own three favourite cities," answered Juno, "are Argos, Sparta, and Mycenae. Sack them  
The sire of gods and men heeded her words, and said to Minerva, "Go at once into the Trojan  
This was what Minerva was already eager to do, so down she darted from the topmost summits c  
Thus did they converse. Then Minerva took the form of Laodocus, son of Antenor, and went th  
His fool's heart was persuaded, and he took his bow from its case. This bow was made from th  
But the blessed gods did not forget thee, O Menelaus, and Jove's daughter, driver of the spc  
As when some woman of Meonia or Caria strains purple dye on to a piece of ivory that is to k  
When King Agamemnon saw the blood flowing from the wound he was afraid, and so was brave Men  
But Menelaus reassured him and said, "Take heart, and do not alarm the people; the arrow has  
And Agamemnon answered, "I trust, dear Menelaus, that it may be even so, but the surgeon sha  
He then said to Talthybius, "Talthybius, tell Machaon, son to the great physician, Aesculapi  
Talthybius did as he was told, and went about the host trying to find Machaon. Presently he  
Thus did he speak, and Machaon was moved to go. They passed through the spreading host of t  
While they were thus busy about Menelaus, the Trojans came forward against them, for they ha  
You would not have then found Agamemnon asleep nor cowardly and unwilling to fight, but eage  
But he angrily rebuked those whom he saw shirking and disinclined to fight. "Argives," he c  
Thus did he go about giving his orders among the ranks. Passing through the crowd, he came

Idomeneus answered, "I will be a trusty comrade, as I promised you from the first I would be  
The son of Atreus went on, glad at heart, till he came upon the two Ajaxes arming themselves  
With this he left them and went onward to Nestor, the facile speaker of the Pylians, who was  
Thus did the old man charge them, for he had been in many a fight, and King Agamemnon was gl  
And Nestor, knight of Gerene, answered, "Son of Atreus, I too would gladly be the man I was  
Agamemnon went his way rejoicing, and presently found Menestheus, son of Peteos, tarrying in  
Ulysses glared at him and answered, "Son of Atreus, what are you talking about? How can you  
When Agamemnon saw that Ulysses was angry, he smiled pleasantly at him and withdrew his word  
He then left them and went on to others. Presently he saw the son of Tydeus, noble Diomed,  
Diomed made no answer, for he was shamed by the rebuke of Agamemnon; but the son of Capaneus  
Diomed looked sternly at him and said, "Hold your peace, my friend, as I bid you. It is not  
As he spoke he sprang from his chariot, and his armour rang so fiercely about his body that  
As when some mighty wave that thunders on the beach when the west wind has lashed it into fu  
When they were got together in one place shield clashed with shield and spear with spear in  
First Antilochus slew an armed warrior of the Trojans, Echeolus, son of Thalysius, fighting  
Forthwith Ajax, son of Telamon, slew the fair youth Simoeisus, son of Anthemion, whom his m  
Thus spoke the mighty god, crying to them from the city, while Jove's redoubtable daughter,  
Then fate fell upon Diores, son of Amarynceus, for he was struck by a jagged stone near the  
And now no man would have made light of the fighting if he could have gone about among it sc

BOOK V (1)

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Then Pallas Minerva put valour into the heart of Diomed, son of Tydeus, that he might excel  
Now there was a certain rich and honourable man among the Trojans, priest of Vulcan, and his  
So saying, she drew Mars out of the battle, and set him down upon the steep banks of the Sca  
Then Idomeneus killed Phaesus, son of Borus the Meonian, who had come from Varne. Mighty Id  
The squires of Idomeneus spoiled him of his armour, while Menelaus, son of Atreus, killed Sc  
Meriones then killed Phereclus the son of Tecton, who was the son of Hermon, a man whose han  
Meges, moreover, slew Pedaeus, son of Antenor, who, though he was a bastard, had been brough  
And Eurypylos, son of Euaemon, killed Hypsenor, the son of noble Dolopion, who had been made  
Thus furiously did the battle rage between them. As for the son of Tydeus, you could not sa  
Now when the son of Lycaon saw him scouring the plain and driving the Trojans pell-mell bef



Thus did he vaunt; but his arrow had not killed Diomed, who withdrew and made for the charic  
Sthenelus sprang from his chariot, and drew the arrow from the wound, whereon the blood came  
Thus he prayed, and Pallas Minerva heard him; she made his limbs supple and quickened his ha  
When she had said this Minerva went away, and the son of Tydeus again took his place among t  
He killed Astynous, and shepherd of his people, the one with a thrust of his spear, which st  
Then he came upon two sons of Priam, Echemmon and Chromius, as they were both in one chariot  
When Aeneas saw him thus making havoc among the ranks, he went through the fight amid the ra  
And the son of Lycaon answered, "Aeneas, I take him for none other than the son of Tydeus.  
Aeneas answered, "Say no more. Things will not mend till we two go against this man with ch  
"Aeneas." replied the son of Lycaon, "take the reins and drive; if we have to fly before th  
They then mounted the chariot and drove full-speed towards the son of Tydeus. Sthenelus, sc  
Diomed looked angrily at him and answered: "Talk not of flight, for I shall not listen to yc  
Thus did they converse, but the other two had now driven close up to them, and the son of Ly  
He poised his spear as he spoke and hurled it from him. It struck the shield of the son of  
But Diomed all undismayed made answer, "You have missed, not hit, and before you two see the  
With this he hurled his spear, and Minerva guided it on to Pandarus's nose near the eye. It  
Aeneas sprang from his chariot armed with shield and spear, fearing lest the Achaeans should  
Thus, then, did she bear her dear son out of the fight. But the son of Capaneus was not unm  
Now the son of Tydeus was in pursuit of the Cyprian goddess, spear in hand, for he knew her  
The goddess went dazed and discomfited away, and Iris, fleet as the wind, drew her from the  
Thus she spoke, and Mars gave her his gold-bedizened steeds. She mounted the chariot sick a  
And laughter-loving Venus answered, "Proud Diomed, the son of Tydeus, wounded me because I w  
"Bear it, my child," replied Dione, "and make the best of it. We dwellers in Olympus have t  
So saying, she wiped the ichor from the wrist of her daughter with both hands, whereon the p

BOOK V (2)

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The sire of gods and men smiled, and called golden Venus to his side. "My child," said he,  
Thus did they converse. But Diomed sprang upon Aeneas, though he knew him to be in the very  
The son of Tydeus then gave way for a little space, to avoid the anger of the god, while Apc  
He then took his seat on the top of Pergamus, while murderous Mars went about among the rank  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all. Then Sarpedon rebuked Hector very ste

So spoke Sarpedon, and Hector smarted under his words. He sprang from his chariot clad in h  
The two Ajaxes, Ulysses and Diomed, cheered the Danaans on, fearless of the fury and onset c  
As he spoke he hurled his spear and hit one of those who were in the front rank, the comrade  
Then Aeneas killed two champions of the Danaans, Crethon and Orsilochus. Their father was a  
Brave Menelaus pitied them in their fall, and made his way to the front, clad in gleaming br  
They killed Pylaemenes peer of Mars, leader of the Paphlagonian warriors. Menelaus struck h  
But Hector marked them from across the ranks, and with a loud cry rushed towards them, follc  
Diomed shook with passion as he saw them. As a man crossing a wide plain is dismayed to fin  
As he spoke the Trojans drew close up, and Hector killed two men, both in one chariot, Menes  
Thus, then, did the battle rage between them. Presently the strong hand of fate impelled Tl  
And Sarpedon, captain of the Lycians, answered, "Tlepolemus, your father overthrew Ilius by  
Thus spoke Sarpedon, and Tlepolemus upraised his spear. They threw at the same moment, and  
His comrades bore Sarpedon out of the fight, in great pain by the weight of the spear that w  
Hector made him no answer, but rushed onward to fall at once upon the Achaeans and. kill ma  
Meanwhile the Argives were neither driven towards their ships by Mars and Hector, nor yet di  
Now when the goddess Juno saw the Argives thus falling, she said to Minerva, "Alas, daughter  
Minerva did not gainsay her. Thereon the august goddess, daughter of great Saturn, began to  
Meanwhile Minerva flung her richly embroidered vesture, made with her own hands, on to her f  
And Jove answered, "Set Minerva on to him, for she punishes him more often than any one else  
Juno did as he had said. She lashed her horses, and they flew forward nothing loth midway k  
With these words she put heart and soul into them all, while Minerva sprang to the side of t  
Diomed answered, "I know you, goddess, daughter of aegis-bearing Jove, and will hide nothing  
"Diomed, son of Tydeus," replied Minerva, "man after my own heart, fear neither Mars nor any  
With this she caught hold of Sthenelus and lifted him off the chariot on to the ground. In  
As a dark cloud in the sky when it comes on to blow after heat, even so did Diomed son of Ty  
Jove looked angrily at him and said, "Do not come whining here, Sir Facing-bothways. I hate  
He then bade Paeon heal him, whereon Paeon spread pain-killing herbs upon his wound and cu  
But Juno of Argos and Minerva of Alalcomene, now that they had put a stop to the murderous d

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THE fight between Trojans and Achaeans was now left to rage as it would, and the tide of war  
First, Ajax son of Telamon, tower of strength to the Achaeans, broke a phalanx of the Trojan  
Then Diomed killed Axylus son of Teuthranus, a rich man who lived in the strong city of Aris  
Euryalus killed Dresus and Opheltius, and then went in pursuit of Aesepeus and Pedasus, whom  
Then Menelaus of the loud war-cry took Adrestus alive, for his horses ran into a tamarisk bu  
Thus did he plead, and Menelaus was for yielding and giving him to a squire to take to the s  
Thus did he speak, and his brother was persuaded by him, for his words were just. Menelaus,  
Meanwhile Nestor shouted to the Argives, saying, "My friends, Danaan warriors, servants of M  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all. And now the Trojans would have been r  
Hector did as his brother bade him. He sprang from his chariot, and went about everywhere a  
With this he went his way, and the black rim of hide that went round his shield beat against  
Then Glaucus son of Hippolochus, and the son of Tydeus went into the open space between the  
And the son of Hippolochus answered, son of Tydeus, why ask me of my lineage? Men come and  
"When he reached the river Xanthus, which is in Lycia, the king received him with all goodwi  
"The king's daughter bore Bellerophon three children, Isander, Hippolochus, and Laodameia.  
Thus did he speak, and the heart of Diomed was glad. He planted his spear in the ground, an  
With these words they sprang from their chariots, grasped one another's hands, and plighted  
Now when Hector reached the Scaean gates and the oak tree, the wives and daughters of the Tr  
Presently he reached the splendid palace of King Priam, adorned with colonnades of hewn ston  
And Hector answered, "Honoured mother, bring no wine, lest you unman me and I forget my stre  
His mother went into the house and called her waiting-women who gathered the matrons through  
When they reached the temple of Minerva, lovely Theano, daughter of Cisseus and wife of Ante  
While they were thus praying to the daughter of great Jove, Hector went to the fair house of  
And Alexandrus answered, "Hector, your rebuke is just; listen therefore, and believe me when  
Hector made no answer, but Helen tried to soothe him. "Brother," said she, "to my abhorred  
And Hector answered, "Bid me not be seated, Helen, for all the goodwill you bear me. I cann  
Then Hector left her, and forthwith was at his own house. He did not find Andromache, for s  
His good housekeeper answered, "Hector, since you bid me tell you truly, she did not go to y  
Hector hurried from the house when she had done speaking, and went down the streets by the s  
And Hector answered, "Wife, I too have thought upon all this, but with what face should I lc

He stretched his arms towards his child, but the boy cried and nestled in his nurse's bosom,  
With this he laid the child again in the arms of his wife, who took him to her own soft bosom  
He took his plumed helmet from the ground, and his wife went back again to her house, weeping  
Paris did not remain long in his house. He donned his goodly armour overlaid with bronze, and  
"My good brother," answered Hector, you fight bravely, and no man with any justice can make

#### BOOK VII

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WITH these words Hector passed through the gates, and his brother Alexandrus with him, both  
Thereon Alexandrus killed Menesthius the son of Areithous; he lived in Ame, and was son of A  
When, therefore, Minerva saw these men making havoc of the Argives, she darted down to Ilius  
And Minerva answered, "So be it, Far-Darter; it was in this mind that I came down from Olymp  
Apollo, son of Jove, replied, "Let us incite great Hector to challenge some one of the Danaa  
Minerva assented, and Helenus son of Priam divined the counsel of the gods; he therefore wen  
Hector was glad when he heard this saying, and went in among the Trojans, grasping his spear  
"Hear me, Trojans and Achaeans, that I may speak even as I am minded; Jove on his high thron  
Thus did he speak, but they all held their peace, ashamed to decline the challenge, yet fear  
With these words he put on his armour; and then, O Menelaus, your life would have come to an  
With these words of reasonable counsel he persuaded his brother, whereon his squires gladly  
Thus did the old man rebuke them, and forthwith nine men started to their feet. Foremost of  
Thus he spoke, and when each of them had marked his lot, and had thrown it into the helmet c  
As they were speaking, Nestor knight of Gerene shook the helmet, and from it there fell the  
With this they fell praying to King Jove the son of Saturn, and thus would one of them say a  
Thus they prayed, and Ajax armed himself in his suit of gleaming bronze. When he was in ful  
And Hector answered, "Noble Ajax, son of Telamon, captain of the host, treat me not as thoug  
He poised his spear as he spoke, and hurled it from him. It struck the sevenfold shield in  
Ajax son of Telamon answered, "Idaeus, bid Hector say so, for it was he that challenged our  
Then Hector said, "Ajax, heaven has vouchsafed you stature and strength, and judgement; and  
On this he gave Ajax a silver-studded sword with its sheath and leathern baldric, and in ret  
When they reached the quarters of the son of Atreus, Agamemnon sacrificed for them a five-ye  
"Son of Atreus, and other chieftains, inasmuch as many of the Achaeans are now dead, whose k

Thus he spoke, and the princess shouted in applause. Meanwhile the Trojans held a council,  
He then sat down and Alexandrus husband of lovely Helen rose to speak. "Antenor," said he,  
On this, when Paris had spoken and taken his seat, Priam of the race of Dardanus, peer of gods  
Thus did he speak, and they did even as he had said. They took supper in their companies and  
They all held their peace, but presently Diomed of the loud war-cry spoke, saying, "Let them  
The sons of the Achaeans shouted applause at the words that Diomed had spoken, and thereon King  
As he spoke he upheld his sceptre in the sight of all the gods, and Idaeus went back to the  
The sun was beginning to beat upon the fields, fresh risen into the vault of heaven from the  
Now in the twilight when it was not yet dawn, chosen bands of the Achaeans were gathered round  
Thus did the Achaeans toil, and the gods, seated by the side of Jove the lord of lightning,  
Jove was displeased and answered, "What, O shaker of the earth, are you talking about? A god  
Thus did they converse, and by sunset the work of the Achaeans was completed; they then slau

#### BOOK VIII

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NOW when Morning, clad in her robe of saffron, had begun to suffuse light over the earth, Jove  
They were frightened and all of them held their peace, for he had spoken masterfully; but  
Jove smiled at her and answered, "Take heart, my child, Triton-born; I am not really in earnest  
With this he yoked his fleet horses, with hoofs of bronze and manes of glittering gold. He  
The Achaeans took their morning meal hastily at the ships, and afterwards put on their armour  
When they were got together in one place, shield clashed with shield, and spear with spear,  
Now so long as the day waxed and it was still morning their weapons beat against one another  
Idomeneus dared not stay nor yet Agamemnon, nor did the two Ajaxes, servants of Mars, hold their  
"Ulysses," he cried, "noble son of Laertes where are you flying to, with your back turned like  
Ulysses would not give ear, but sped onward to the ships of the Achaeans, and the son of Tydeus  
Nestor knight of Gerenia hearkened to his words. Thereon the doughty squire, Sthenelus and  
All had then been lost and no help for it, for they would have been penned up in Ilium like  
Diomed answered, "All that you have said is true; there is a grief however which pierces me  
"Son of Tydeus," replied Nestor, "what mean you? Though Hector say that you are a coward though  
So saying he turned the horses back through the thick of the battle, and with a cry that rang  
The son of Tydeus was in two minds whether or no to turn his horses round again and fight his  
Then he cried to his horses, "Xanthus and Podargus, and you Aethon and goodly Lamus, pay me

Thus did he vaunt, but Queen Juno made high Olympus quake as she shook with rage upon her th  
King Neptune was greatly troubled and answered, "Juno, rash of tongue, what are you talking  
Thus did they converse; but the whole space enclosed by the ditch, from the ships even to th  
Thus did he pray, and father Jove pitying his tears vouchsafed him that his people should li  
There was no man of all the many Danaans who could then boast that he had driven his horses  
After him came Agamemnon and Menelaus, sons of Atreus, the two Ajaxes clothed in valour as w  
Which of the Trojans did brave Teucer first kill? Orsilochus, and then Ormenus and Ophelst  
And Teucer answered, "Most noble son of Atreus, you need not urge me; from the moment we beg  
As he spoke he aimed another arrow straight at Hector, for he was bent on hitting him; never  
Again he aimed at Hector, for he was longing to hit him, and again his arrow missed, for Apc  
Jove now again put heart into the Trojans, and they drove the Achaeans to their deep trench  
Juno when she saw them had pity upon them, and at once said to Minerva, "Alas, child of aegi  
Minerva answered, "Would, indeed, this fellow might die in his own land, and fall by the han  
Thus did she speak and white-armed Juno, daughter of great Saturn, obeyed her words; she set  
But father Jove when he saw them from Ida was very angry, and sent winged Iris with a messag  
With this Iris went her way, fleet as the wind, from the heights of Ida to the lofty summits  
With this she left them, and Juno said to Minerva, "Of a truth, child of aegis-bearing Jove,  
She turned her steeds; the Hours presently unyoked them, made them fast to their ambrosial n  
Presently father Jove drove his chariot to Olympus, and entered the assembly of gods. The n  
Minerva and Juno groaned in spirit as they sat side by side and brooded mischief for the Trc  
And Jove answered, "To-morrow morning, Juno, if you choose to do so, you will see the son of  
Juno made him no answer. The sun's glorious orb now sank into Oceanus and drew down night c  
Then Hector led the Trojans back from the ships, and held a council on the open space near t  
Thus spoke Hector and the Trojans shouted applause. They took their sweating steeds from un

BOOK IX (1)

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THUS did the Trojans watch. But Panic, comrade of blood-stained Rout, had taken fast hold c  
The son of Atreus in dismay bade the heralds call the people to a council man by man, but nc  
Thus he spoke, and the sons of the Achaeans for a long while sat sorrowful there, but they a  
The sons of the Achaeans shouted applause at the words of Diomed, and presently Nestor rose

"Now, however, let us obey the behests of night and get our suppers, but let the sentinels e  
Thus did he speak, and they did even as he had said. The sentinels went out in their armour  
The son of Atreus then bade many councillors of the Achaeans to his quarters prepared a grea  
"With yourself, most noble son of Atreus, king of men, Agamemnon, will I both begin my spec  
And King Agamemnon answered, "Sir, you have reproved my folly justly. I was wrong. I own i  
"All these things will I give him now down, and if hereafter the gods vouchsafe me to sack t  
Then Nestor answered, "Most noble son of Atreus, king of men, Agamemnon. The gifts you offe  
Thus did he speak, and his saying pleased them well. Men-servants poured water over the hand  
They went their way by the shore of the sounding sea, and prayed earnestly to earth-encircli  
With this he led them forward, and bade them sit on seats covered with purple rugs; then he

BOOK IX (2)

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Patroclus did as his comrade bade him; he set the chopping-block in front of the fire, and c  
"Hail," said he, "Achilles, we have had no scant of good cheer, neither in the tent of Agame  
"My good friend, when your father Peleus sent you from Phthia to Agamemnon, did he not charg  
Achilles answered, "Ulysses, noble son of Laertes, I should give you formal notice plainly a  
"Nevertheless he did distribute some meeds of honour among the chieftains and kings, and the  
"As for me, hound that he is, he dares not look me in the face. I will take no counsel with  
"My mother Thetis tells me that there are two ways in which I may meet my end. If I stay he  
They all held their peace, dismayed at the sternness with which he had denied them, till pre  
"It was I, Achilles, who had the making of you; I loved you with all my heart: for you would  
"I have an old story in my mind- a very old one- but you are all friends and I will tell it.  
"So long as Meleager was in the field things went badly with the Curetes, and for all their  
"Then was heard the din of battle about the gates of Calydon, and the dull thump of the batt  
And Achilles answered, "Phoenix, old friend and father, I have no need of such honour. I ha  
On this she nodded quietly to Patroclus as a sign that he was to prepare a bed for Phoenix,  
"Ajax," replied Achilles, "noble son of Telamon, you have spoken much to my liking, but my k  
On this they took every man his double cup, made their drink-offerings, and went back to the  
When the envoys reached the tents of the son of Atreus, the Achaeans rose, pledged them in c  
Ulysses answered, "Most noble son of Atreus, king of men, Agamemnon, Achilles will not be ca  
They all held their peace, sitting for a long time silent and dejected, by reason of the ste

Thus he spoke, and the other chieftains approved his words. They then made their drink-offer

BOOK X

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NOW the other princes of the Achaeans slept soundly the whole night through, but Agamemnon's  
Neither could Menelaus sleep, for he, too, boded ill for the Argives who for his sake had seen  
Menelaus spoke first. "Why," said he, "my dear brother, are you thus arming? Are you going  
And King Agamemnon answered, "Menelaus, we both of us need shrewd counsel to save the Argives  
Menelaus replied, "How do I take your meaning? Am I to stay with them and wait your coming,  
With these instructions he sent his brother on his way, and went on to Nestor shepherd of his  
And Agamemnon answered, "Nestor, son of Neleus, honour to the Achaean name, it is I, Agamemnon  
Nestor replied, "Most noble son of Atreus, king of men, Agamemnon, Jove will not do all for  
And Agamemnon answered, "Sir, you may sometimes blame him justly, for he is often remiss and  
"In that case," answered Nestor, "the Argives will not blame him nor disobey his orders when  
With this he put on his shirt, and bound his sandals about his comely feet. He buckled on his  
On this Ulysses went at once into his tent, put his shield about his shoulders and came out  
On these words Diomed leaped up instantly and said, "Old man, your heart is of iron; you resist  
And Nestor knight of Gerenae made answer, "My son, all that you have said is true. I have gone  
Diomed threw the skin of a great tawny lion about his shoulders- a skin that reached his feet  
With this he passed the trench, and with him the other chiefs of the Achaeans who had been called  
Nestor spoke first. "My friends," said he, "is there any man bold enough to venture the Trojan  
They all held their peace, but Diomed of the loud war-cry spoke saying, "Nestor, gladly will  
On this several offered to go with Diomed. The two Ajaxes, servants of Mars, Meriones, and  
He said this because he feared for Menelaus. Diomed answered, "If you bid me take the man  
"Son of Tydeus," replied Ulysses, "say neither good nor ill about me, for you are among Argives  
They then put on their armour. Brave Thrasymedes provided the son of Tydeus with a sword and  
When the pair had armed, they set out, and left the other chieftains behind them. Pallas Minerva  
Then Diomed of the loud war-cry also prayed: "Hear me too," said he, "daughter of Jove, unweary  
Thus they prayed, and Pallas Minerva heard their prayer. When they had done praying to the  
Neither again did Hector let the Trojans sleep; for he too called the princes and councillors  
They all held their peace; but there was among the Trojans a certain man named Dolon, son of  
When he had done speaking Hector held up his sceptre, and swore him his oath saying, "May Jove





With such piteous words and tears did they beseech the king, but they heard no pitiful answer  
As he spoke he felled Pisander from his chariot to the earth, smiting him on the chest with  
Jove drew Hector away from the darts and dust, with the carnage and din of battle; but the  
But when he was just about to reach the high wall and the city, the father of gods and men  
Iris hearkened and obeyed. Down she went to strong Ilius from the crests of Ida, and found  
When she had thus spoken Iris left him, and Hector sprang full armed from his chariot to the  
Tell me now ye Muses that dwell in the mansions of Olympus, who, whether of the Trojans or  
When noble Coon, Antenor's eldest son, saw this, sore indeed were his eyes at the sight of h  
As long as the blood still welled warm from his wound Agamemnon went about attacking the ran  
With this the charioteer turned his horses towards the ships, and they flew forward nothing

BOOK XI (2)

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When Hector saw Agamemnon quit the field, he shouted to the Trojans and Lycians saying, "Tro  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all, and as a huntsman hounds his dogs on a  
What, then is the full tale of those whom Hector son of Priam killed in the hour of triumph  
All had then been lost and no help for it, and the Achaeans would have fled pell-mell to the  
And Diomed answered, "Come what may, I will stand firm; but we shall have scant joy of it, f  
With these words he struck Thymbraeus from his chariot to the ground, smiting him in the lef  
They then took two princes with their chariot, the two sons of Merops of Percote, who excell  
And now the son of Saturn as he looked down from Ida ordained that neither side should have  
He poised his spear as he spoke and hurled it, nor did he miss his mark. He had aimed at He  
As he spoke he began stripping the spoils from the son of Paeon, but Alexandrus husband of l  
Diomed all undaunted answered, "Archer, you who without your bow are nothing, slanderer and  
Thus he spoke, but Ulysses came up and stood over him. Under this cover he sat down to draw  
Ulysses was now alone; not one of the Argives stood by him, for they were all panic-stricken  
While he was thus in two minds, the ranks of the Trojans advanced and hemmed him in, and bit  
With these words he struck the shield of Ulysses. The spear went through the shield and pas  
Socus had turned in flight, but as he did so, the spear struck him in the back midway betwee  
So saying he drew Socus's heavy spear out of his flesh and from his shield, and the blood we  
He led the way and mighty Ajax went with him. The Trojans had gathered round Ulysses like r  
Hector did not yet know what Ajax was doing, for he was fighting on the extreme left of the

Nestor knight of Gerene did as Idomeneus had counselled; he at once mounted his chariot, and  
Then Cebriones seeing the Trojans in confusion said to Hector from his place beside him, "He  
With this he lashed his goodly steeds, and when they felt the whip they drew the chariot full  
Then father Jove from his high throne struck fear into the heart of Ajax, so that he stood  
Now when Eurypylos the brave son of Euaemon saw that Ajax was being overpowered by the rain  
Even so did he cry when he was wounded; thereon the others came near, and gathered round him  
Thus then did they fight as it were a flaming fire. Meanwhile the mares of Neleus, all in a  
Patroclus did as his dear comrade had bidden him, and set off running by the ships and tents  
When Nestor and Machaon had reached the tents of the son of Neleus, they dismounted, and an  
When the old man saw him he sprang from his seat, seized his hand, led him into the tent, an  
And Nestor answered, "Why should Achilles care to know how many of the Achaeans may be wound  
"Thus did we order all things, and offer sacrifices to the gods throughout the city; but thr  
"The Epeans were beleaguering the city and were determined to take it, but ere this might be  
"Such was I among my peers, as surely as ever was, but Achilles is for keeping all his valou  
With these words he moved the heart of Patroclus, who set off running by the line of the shi  
Wounded Eurypylos made answer, "Noble Patroclus, there is no hope left for the Achaeans but  
"Hero Eurypylos," replied the brave son of Menoetius, "how may these things be? What can I  
With this he clasped him round the middle and led him into the tent, and a servant, when he

## BOOK XII

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SO THE son of Menoetius was attending to the hurt of Eurypylos within the tent, but the Argi  
This was what Neptune and Apollo were to do in after time; but as yet battle and turmoil wer  
But the horses dared not do so, and stood neighing upon its brink, for the width frightened  
Thus spoke Polydamas and his saying pleased Hector, who sprang in full armour to the ground,  
The rest of the Trojans and their allies now followed the counsel of Polydamas but Asius son  
He spoke, but moved not the mind of Jove, whose counsel it then was to give glory to Hector.  
Thereon Polypoetes, mighty son of Pirithous, hit Damasus with a spear upon his cheek-pierced  
While they were busy stripping the armour from these heroes, the youths who were led on by F  
Hector looked fiercely at him and said, "Polydamas, I like not of your reading. You can fin  
With these words he led the way, and the others followed after with a cry that rent the air.  
The two Ajaxes went about everywhere on the walls cheering on the Achaeans, giving fair word

Thus did the two go about shouting and cheering the Achaeans on. As the flakes that fall thi  
Still the Trojans and brave Hector would not yet have broken down the gates and the great ba  
Glaucus heeded his saying, and the pair forthwith led on the host of Lycians. Menestheus sc  
The messenger did as he was told, and set off running along the wall of the Achaeans. When  
Great Ajax, son of Telamon, heeded the message, and at once spoke to the son of Oileus. "Aj  
With this, Ajax son of Telamon set off, and Teucer his brother by the same father went also,  
First, Ajax son of Telamon killed brave Epicles, a comrade of Sarpedon, hitting him with a j  
Ajax and Teucer then both of them attacked him. Teucer hit him with an arrow on the band th  
The Lycians, shamed by his rebuke, pressed closer round him who was their counsellor their k  
Thus did he hound them on, and in one body they rushed straight at the wall as he had bidden

BOOK XIII (1)

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NOW when Jove had thus brought Hector and the Trojans to the ships, he left them to their ne  
But King Neptune had kept no blind look-out; he had been looking admiringly on the battle fr  
Presently he came down from his post on the mountain top, and as he strode swiftly onwards t  
Now there is a certain huge cavern in the depths of the sea midway between Tenedos and rocky  
Now the Trojans followed Hector son of Priam in close array like a storm-cloud or flame of f  
First he spoke to the two Ajaxes, who were doing their best already, and said, "Ajaxes, you  
As he spoke the earth-encircling lord of the earthquake struck both of them with his sceptre  
And Ajax son of Telamon answered, "I too feel my hands grasp my spear more firmly; my streng  
Thus did they converse, exulting in the hunger after battle with which the god had filled th  
First he went up to Teucer and Leitus, the hero Peneleos, and Thoas and Deipyrus; Meriones a  
Thus did the earth-encircler address the Achaeans and urge them on. Thereon round the two A  
The Trojans advanced in a dense body, with Hector at their head pressing right on as a rock  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all. Deiphobus son of Priam went about amc  
The others continued fighting, and the cry of battle rose up into the heavens. Teucer son c  
Neptune was exceedingly angry that his grandson Amphimachus should have fallen; he therefore  
And Idomeneus chief among the Cretans answered, "Thoas, no one, so far as I know, is in faul  
To this Neptune lord of the earthquake made answer, "Idomeneus, may he never return from Trc  
Therewith the god went back into the thick of the fight, and Idomeneus when he had reached h

"Meriones, fleet son of Molus, best of comrades, why have you left the field? Are you wounded?"  
"Idomeneus," answered Meriones, "I come for a spear, if I can find one in my tent; I have brought one."  
And Idomeneus captain of the Cretans answered, "You will find one spear, or twenty if you search long."  
Then Meriones said, "I too in my tent and at my ship have spoils taken from the Trojans, but I have no spear."  
Idomeneus answered, "I know you for a brave man: you need not tell me. If the best men at Troy were to fight with you, they would be no match for you."  
On this Meriones, peer of Mars, went to the tent and got himself a spear of bronze. He then returned to the battle.  
Idomeneus answered, "There are others to defend the centre- the two Ajaxes and Teucer, who are the best of the Greeks."  
Meriones, peer of fleet Mars, then led the way till they came to the part of the host which was the most dangerous.

BOOK XIII (2)

Now when the Trojans saw Idomeneus coming on like a flame of fire, him and his squire clad in bronze,  
Thus did the two mighty sons of Saturn devise evil for mortal heroes. Jove was minded to give them the victory.  
And now Idomeneus, though his hair was already flecked with grey, called loud on the Danaans to fight.  
With this Idomeneus began dragging him by the foot through the thick of the fight, but Asius and  
Deiphobus then came close up to Idomeneus to avenge Asius, and took aim at him with a spear,  
Thus did he vaunt, and the Argives were stung by his saying. Noble Antilochus was more angry than  
Thus did he speak, and Deiphobus was in two minds, whether to go back and fetch some other Trojan,  
With these words he moved the heart of Aeneas, and he went in pursuit of Idomeneus, big with wrath.  
On this, all of them as one man stood near him, shield on shoulder. Aeneas on the other side  
Then they fought furiously in close combat about the body of Alcaethous, wielding their long spears.  
Grim Mars of awful voice did not yet know that his son had fallen, for he was sitting on the wall.  
The others still fought on, and the battle-cry rose to heaven without ceasing. Aeneas sprang forward  
As he was thus aiming among the crowd, he was seen by Adamas son of Asius, who rushed toward him.  
Helenus then struck Deipyrus with a great Thracian sword, hitting him on the temple in close combat.  
On this Menelaus was grieved, and made menacingly towards Helenus, brandishing his spear; but he  
Pisander then made straight at Menelaus- his evil destiny luring him on to his doom, for he was  
So saying Menelaus stripped the blood-stained armour from the body of Pisander, and handed it to  
Harpalion son of King Pylaemenes then sprang upon him; he had come to fight at Troy along with  
Paris was deeply grieved by the death of Harpalion, who was his host when he went among the Trojans.  
Thus then did they fight as it were a flaming fire. But Hector had not yet heard, and did not  
Ajax son of Oileus never for a moment left the side of Ajax son of Telamon, but as two swart

The Trojans would now have been driven in sorry plight from the ships and tents back to wind  
Thus spoke Polydamas, and his words pleased Hector well. He sprang in full armour from his  
He then sped onward, towering like a snowy mountain, and with a loud cry flew through the ra  
Alexandrus answered, "Hector, why find fault when there is no one to find fault with? I shc  
With these words he satisfied his brother, and the two went towards the part of the battle w  
As he was thus speaking a bird flew by upon his right hand, and the host of the Achaeans shc  
With these words he led the way and the others followed after with a cry that rent the air,

#### BOOK XIV

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NESTOR was sitting over his wine, but the cry of battle did not escape him, and he said to t  
As he spoke he took up the shield of his son Thrasymedes that was lying in his tent, all gle  
The wounded kings, the son of Tydeus, Ulysses, and Agamemnon son of Atreus, fell in Nestor a  
Then Nestor knight of Gerene answered, "It is indeed as you say; it is all coming true at th  
And King Agamemnon answered, "Nestor, if the Trojans are indeed fighting at the rear of our  
Ulysses looked fiercely at him and said, "Son of Atreus, what are you talking about? Wretch  
Agamemnon answered, "Ulysses, your rebuke has stung me to the heart. I am not, however, orde  
Then said Diomed, "Such an one is at hand; he is not far to seek, if you will listen to me a  
Thus did he speak; whereon they did even as he had said and set out, King Agamemnon leading  
Meanwhile Neptune had kept no blind look-out, and came up to them in the semblance of an old  
With this he raised a mighty cry of battle, and sped forward to the plain. The voice that c  
Juno of the golden throne looked down as she stood upon a peak of Olympus and her heart was  
She went, therefore, to the room which her son Vulcan had made her, and the doors of which h  
Jove's daughter Venus answered, "Juno, august queen of goddesses, daughter of mighty Saturn,  
Then Juno told her a lying tale and said, "I want you to endow me with some of those fascina  
Thereon laughter-loving Venus said, "I cannot and must not refuse you, for you sleep in the  
As she spoke she loosed from her bosom the curiously embroidered girdle into which all her c  
When she heard this Juno smiled, and still smiling she laid the girdle in her bosom.  
Venus now went back into the house of Jove, while Juno darted down from the summits of Olympe  
Then Sleep answered, "Juno, great queen of goddesses, daughter of mighty Saturn, I would lul  
And Juno said, "Sleep, why do you take such notions as those into your head? Do you think J  
Sleep was pleased when he heard this, and answered, "Then swear it to me by the dread waters

Juno did as he had said. She swore, and invoked all the gods of the nether world, who are c  
Then Juno told him a lying tale and said, "I am going to the world's end, to visit Oceanus,  
And Jove said, "Juno, you can choose some other time for paying your visit to Oceanus- for t  
Juno again answered him with a lying tale. "Most dread son of Saturn," she exclaimed, "what  
And Jove answered, "Juno, you need not be afraid that either god or man will see you, for I  
With this the son of Saturn caught his wife in his embrace; whereon the earth sprouted them  
Thus, then, did the sire of all things repose peacefully on the crest of Ida, overcome at on  
Sleep now departed and went his ways to and fro among mankind, leaving Neptune more eager th  
Thus did he speak, and they did even as he had said. The son of Tydeus, Ulysses, and Agamen  
Hector on the other side set the Trojans in array. Thereon Neptune and Hector waged fierce  
Hector first aimed his spear at Ajax, who was turned full towards him, nor did he miss his a  
The sons of the Achaeans came running with a loud cry towards him, hoping to drag him away,  
When the Argives saw Hector leaving the field, they took heart and set upon the Trojans yet  
The Argives were maddened by this boasting. Ajax son of Telamon was more angry than any, fo  
But he knew well who it was, and the Trojans were greatly angered. Acamas then bestrode his  
His taunts infuriated the Argives, and Peneleos was more enraged than any of them. He spran  
As he spoke fear fell upon them, and every man looked round about to see whither he might fl  
Tell me now, O Muses that dwell on Olympus, who was the first of the Argives to bear away bl

BOOK XV (1)

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BUT when their flight had taken them past the trench and the set stakes, and many had fallen  
The sire of gods and men had pity on him, and looked fiercely on Juno. "I see, Juno," said  
Juno trembled as he spoke, and said, "May heaven above and earth below be my witnesses, with  
The sire of gods and men smiled and answered, "If you, Juno, were always to support me when  
Juno heeded his words and went from the heights of Ida to great Olympus. Swift as the thoug  
And Juno answered, "Themis, do not ask me about it. You know what a proud and cruel disposi  
On this Juno sat down, and the gods were troubled throughout the house of Jove. Laughter sa  
When he heard this Mars smote his two sturdy thighs with the flat of his hands, and said in  
As he spoke he gave orders to yoke his horses Panic and Rout, while he put on his armour. C  
With these words she took Mars back to his seat. Meanwhile Juno called Apollo outside, with

Thereon Juno left them and resumed her seat inside, while Iris and Apollo made all haste on  
He spoke to Iris first. "Go," said he, "fleet Iris, tell King Neptune what I now bid you- a  
Iris, fleet as the wind, obeyed him, and as the cold hail or snowflakes that fly from out th  
Neptune was very angry and said, "Great heavens! strong as Jove may be, he has said more tha  
Iris fleet as the wind then answered, "Am I really, Neptune, to take this daring and unyield  
Neptune answered, "Goddess Iris, your words have been spoken in season. It is well when a n  
Neptune now left the field to go down under the sea, and sorely did the Achaeans miss him.  
Apollo obeyed his father's saying, and left the crests of Ida, flying like a falcon, bane of  
Hector in a weak voice answered, "And which, kind sir, of the gods are you, who now ask me t  
Then King Apollo said to him, "Take heart; the son of Saturn has sent you a mighty helper fr  
As he spoke he infused great strength into the shepherd of his people. And as a horse, stak  
Then spoke Thoas son of Andraemon, leader of the Aetolians, a man who could throw a good thr  
Thus did he speak, and they did even as he had said. Those who were about Ajax and King Idc  
The Trojans pressed forward in a dense body, with Hector striding on at their head. Before

BOOK XV (2)

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The Argives held together and stood their ground. The cry of battle rose high from either s  
The fight then became more scattered and they killed one another where they best could. Hec  
While they were spoiling these heroes of their armour, the Achaeans were flying pellmell to  
As he spoke he laid his whip about his horses' shoulders and called to the Trojans throughou  
Thus then were the Achaeans hemmed in at their ships, calling out to one another and raising  
All counselling Jove thundered loudly in answer to die prayer of the aged son of Neleus. Wh  
Now Patroclus, so long as the Achaeans and Trojans were fighting about the wall, but were nc  
When he had thus spoken he went his way. The Achaeans stood firm and resisted the attack of  
Hector made straight for Ajax, and the two fought fiercely about the same ship. Hector coul  
Then Ajax struck Caletor son of Clytius in the chest with a spear as he was bringing fire to  
He then aimed a spear at Ajax, and missed him, but he hit Lycophron a follower of Ajax, who  
Teucer heard him and hastened towards him with his bow and quiver in his hands. Forthwith h  
Teucer then aimed another arrow at Hector, and there would have been no more fighting at the  
Ajax son of Telamon answered, "My good fellow, let your bow and your arrows be, for Jove has  
Teucer then took his bow and put it by in his tent. He hung a shield four hides thick about



When Hector saw that Teucer's bow was of no more use to him, he shouted out to the Trojans a  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all. Ajax on the other side exhorted his c  
With these words he put life and soul into them all. Hector then killed Schedius son of Per  
He led on as he spoke, and the hero Melanippus followed after. Meanwhile Ajax son of Telamon  
Thus did he exhort men who were already bent upon driving back the Trojans. They laid his w  
He hurried away when he had thus spurred Antilochus, who at once darted out from the front r  
The Trojans, fierce as lions, were still rushing on towards the ships in fulfilment of the k  
They had now reached the ships and the prows of those that had been drawn up first were on e  
"Be men, my friends," he cried, "and respect one another's good opinion. Think, all of you,  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all. Minerva lifted the thick veil of dark  
Ajax could not bring himself to retreat along with the rest, but strode from deck to deck wi  
And now the battle again raged furiously at the ships. You would have thought the men were  
Thus were the two sides minded. Then Hector seized the stern of the good ship that had brou  
As he spoke thus the Trojans sprang yet more fiercely on the Achaeans, and Ajax no longer he  
As he spoke he wielded his spear with still greater fury, and when any Trojan made towards t

BOOK XVI (1)

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THUS did they fight about the ship of Protesilaus. Then Patroclus drew near to Achilles wit  
Then, O knight Patroclus, with a deep sigh you answered, "Achilles, son of Peleus, foremost  
He knew not what he was asking, nor that he was suing for his own destruction. Achilles was  
Thus did they converse. But Ajax could no longer hold his ground for the shower of darts th  
And now, tell me, O Muses that hold your mansions on Olympus, how fire was thrown upon the s  
The fire was now flaring about the ship's stern, whereon Achilles smote his two thighs and s  
As he spoke Patroclus put on his armour. First he greaved his legs with greaves of good mak  
Meanwhile Achilles went about everywhere among the tents, and bade his Myrmidons put on thei  
Fifty ships had noble Achilles brought to Troy, and in each there was a crew of fifty oarsme  
When Achilles had chosen his men and had stationed them all with their captains, he charged  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all, and they serried their companies yet n  
In front of them all two men put on their armour- Patroclus and Automedon- two men, with but  
Thus did he pray, and all-counselling Jove heard his prayer. Part of it he did indeed vouchs  
When he had made his drink-offering and had thus prayed, Achilles went inside his tent and p

Then he again came out, for he still loved to look upon the fierce fight that raged between  
Meanwhile the armed band that was about Patroclus marched on till they sprang high in hope u  
With these words he put heart and soul into them all, and they fell in a body upon the Troja  
Patroclus first aimed a spear into the middle of the press where men were packed most closel  
The fight then became more scattered, and the chieftains killed one another when and how the  
Peneleos and Lycon now met in close fight, for they had missed each other with their spears.  
Thus did these chieftains of the Danaans each of them kill his man. As ravening wolves seiz  
Meanwhile great Ajax kept on trying to drive a spear into Hector, but Hector was so skilful  
As when a cloud goes up into heaven from Olympus, rising out of a clear sky when Jove is bre  
Patroclus kept on heading his horses wherever he saw most men flying in confusion, cheering  
Patroclus now cut off the battalions that were nearest to him and drove them back to the shi

BOOK XVI (2)

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Now when Sarpedon saw his comrades, men who wore ungirdled tunics, being overcome by Patrocl  
He sprang from his chariot as he spoke, and Patroclus, when he saw this, leaped on to the gr  
The son of scheming Saturn looked down upon them in pity and said to Juno who was his wife a  
And Juno answered, "Most dread son of Saturn, what is this that you are saying? Would you s  
The sire of gods and men assented, but he shed a rain of blood upon the earth in honour of h  
When they were now come close to one another Patroclus struck Thrasydemus, the brave squire  
Sarpedon now took a second aim at Patroclus, and again missed him, the point of the spear pa  
Death closed his eyes as he spoke. Patroclus planted his heel on his breast and drew the sp  
Glaucus was overcome with grief when he heard what Sarpedon said, for he could not help him.  
Thus did he pray, and Apollo heard his prayer. He eased his pain, staunched the black blood  
As he spoke the Trojans were plunged in extreme and ungovernable grief; for Sarpedon, alien  
He spoke to men who of themselves were full eager; both sides, therefore, the Trojans and Ly  
At first the Trojans made some headway against the Achaeans, for one of the best men among t  
Meriones then killed a helmed warrior of the Trojans, Laogonus son of Onetor, who was priest  
And Meriones answered, "Aeneas, for all your bravery, you will not be able to make an end of  
On this the son of Menoetius rebuked him and said, "Meriones, hero though you be, you should  
He led the way as he spoke and the hero went forward with him. As the sound of woodcutters i  
Thus he spoke. Apollo obeyed his father's saying, and came down from the heights of Ida int

Meanwhile Patroclus, with many a shout to his horses and to Automedon, pursued the Trojans a  
Who then first, and who last, was slain by you, O Patroclus, when the gods had now called yo  
The sons of the Achaeans would now have taken Troy by the hands of Patroclus, for his spear  
Meanwhile Hector was waiting with his horses inside the Scaean gates, in doubt whether to dr  
With this the god went back into the hurly-burly, and Hector bade Cebriones drive again into  
As he spoke he flung himself on Cebriones with the spring, as it were, of a lion that while  
So long as the sun was still high in mid-heaven the weapons of either side were alike deadly  
On this his mind became clouded; his limbs failed him, and he stood as one dazed; whereon Eu  
Then, as the life ebbed out of you, you answered, O knight Patroclus: "Hector, vaunt as you  
When he had thus spoken his eyes were closed in death, his soul left his body and flitted do  
As he spoke he drew the bronze spear from the wound, planting his foot upon the body, which

BOOK XVII (1)

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BRAVE Menelaus son of Atreus now came to know that Patroclus had fallen, and made his way th  
To this Menelaus answered in great anger "By father Jove, boasting is an ill thing. The par  
Euphorbus would not listen, and said, "Now indeed, Menelaus, shall you pay for the death of  
As he spoke he struck Menelaus full on the shield, but the spear did not go through, for the  
The god then went back into the toil and turmoil, but the soul of Hector was darkened with a  
While he was thus in two minds, the Trojans came up to him with Hector at their head; he the  
These words stirred the heart of Ajax, and he made his way among the front ranks, Menelaus g  
Then Glaucus son of Hippolochus looked fiercely at Hector and rebuked him sternly. "Hector,  
Hector scowled at him and answered, "Glaucus, you should know better. I have held you so fa  
As he spoke he called loudly on the Trojans saying, "Trojans, Lycians, and Dardanians, fight  
With this Hector left the fight, and ran full speed after his men who were taking the armour  
When Jove, lord of the storm-cloud, saw Hector standing aloof and arming himself in the armc  
The son of Saturn bowed his portentous brows, and Hector fitted the armour to his body, whil  
When he had thus spoken they charged full weight upon the Danaans with their spears held out  
Menelaus did as he said, and shouted to the Danaans for help at the top of his voice. "My f  
Fleet Ajax son of Oileus heard him and was first to force his way through the fight and run  
The Trojans with Hector at their head charged in a body. As a great wave that comes thunder

At first the Trojans drove the Achaeans back, and they withdrew from the dead man daunted. The Trojans would now have been worsted by the brave Achaeans and driven back to Ilius through Aeneas knew Apollo when he looked straight at him, and shouted to Hector saying, "Hector and As he spoke he sprang out far in front of the others, who then rallied and again faced the A Thus did they fight as it were a flaming fire; it seemed as though it had gone hard even with Thus through the livelong day did they wage fierce war, and the sweat of their toil rained e

BOOK XVII (2)  
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Such fearful turmoil of men and horses did Jove on that day ordain round the body of Patroclus. The others still kept on charging one another round the body with their pointed spears and knives. The Trojans also on their part spoke to one another saying, "Friends, though we fall to a man, The son of Saturn saw them and took pity upon their sorrow. He wagged his head, and muttered. As he spoke he breathed heart and strength into the horses so that they shook the dust from Automedon son of Diodes answered, "Alcimedon, there is no one else who can control and guide Alcimedon sprang on to the chariot, and caught up the whip and reins, while Automedon leaped. The valiant son of Anchises was of the same mind, and the pair went right on, with their shields. On this he cried out to the two Ajaxes and Menelaus, "Ajaxes captains of the Argives, and Menelaus. He poised and hurled as he spoke, whereon the spear struck the round shield of Aretus, and with As he spoke he took the blood-stained spoils and laid them upon his chariot; then he mounted. And now the fierce groanful fight again raged about Patroclus, for Minerva came down from heaven. Menelaus answered, "Phoenix, my good old friend, may Minerva vouchsafe me strength and keep Minerva was pleased at his having named herself before any of the other gods. Therefore she Apollo then went up to Hector and spurred him on to fight, in the likeness of Phaenops son of A dark cloud of grief fell upon Hector as he heard, and he made his way to the front clad in The panic was begun by Peneleos the Boeotian, for while keeping his face turned ever towards On this Idomeneus lashed the horses to the ships, for fear had taken hold upon him. Ajax and Menelaus noted how Jove had turned the scale in favour of the Trojans, and Ajax was Father Jove heard him and had compassion upon his tears. Forthwith he chased away the cloud Menelaus heeded his words and went his way as a lion from a stockyard- the lion is tired of With this Menelaus left them, looking round him as keenly as an eagle, whose sight they say Antilochus was struck with horror. For a long time he was speechless; his eyes filled with

Thus, then, did he run weeping from the field, to carry the bad news to Achilles son of Pele  
Ajax answered, "Menelaus, you have said well: do you, then, and Meriones stoop down, raise t  
On this Menelaus and Meriones took the dead man in their arms and lifted him high aloft with  
In this wise did the two heroes strain every nerve to bear the body to the ships out of the

BOOK XVIII  
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THUS then did they fight as it were a flaming fire. Meanwhile the fleet runner Antilochus,  
As he was thus pondering, the son of Nestor came up to him and told his sad tale, weeping bi  
A dark cloud of grief fell upon Achilles as he listened. He filled both hands with dust fro  
"Listen," she cried, "sisters, daughters of Nereus, that you may hear the burden of my sorrc  
She left the cave as she spoke, while the others followed weeping after, and the waves opene  
Achilles groaned and answered, "Mother, Olympian Jove has indeed vouchsafed me the fulfilmen  
Thetis wept and answered, "Then, my son, is your end near at hand- for your own death awaits  
Then said Achilles in his great grief, "I would die here and now, in that I could not save n  
Then silver-footed Thetis answered, "My son, what you have said is true. It is well to save  
On this she left her brave son, and as she turned away she said to the sea-nymphs her sister  
When she had so said, they dived forthwith beneath the waves, while silver-footed Thetis wen  
Thus, then, did her feet bear the goddess to Olympus, and meanwhile the Achaeans were flying  
And now he would even have dragged it off and have won imperishable glory, had not Iris flee  
And Achilles said, "Iris, which of the gods was it that sent you to me?"

Iris answered, "It was Juno the royal spouse of Jove, but the son of Saturn does not know of  
Then fleet Achilles answered her saying, "How can I go up into the battle? They have my arm  
Iris said, 'We know that your armour has been taken, but go as you are; go to the deep trenc  
Iris left him when she had so spoken. But Achilles dear to Jove arose, and Minerva flung he  
There did he stand and shout aloud. Minerva also raised her voice from afar, and spread ter  
Thrice did Achilles raise his loud cry as he stood by the trench, and thrice were the Trojan  
Then Juno sent the busy sun, loth though he was, into the waters of Oceanus; so he set, and  
Now the Trojans when they had come out of the fight, unyoked their horses and gathered in as  
"Look to it well, my friends; I would urge you to go back now to your city and not wait here  
Hector looked fiercely at him and answered, "Polydamas, your words are not to my liking in t  
Thus spoke Hector; and the Trojans, fools that they were, shouted in applause, for Pallas Mi

Then Achilles told his men to set a large tripod upon the fire that they might wash the clot  
Then Jove said to Juno his sister-wife, "So, Queen Juno, you have gained your end, and have  
And Juno answered, "Dread son of Saturn, why should you say this thing? May not a man thoug  
Thus did they converse. Meanwhile Thetis came to the house of Vulcan, imperishable, star-be  
The goddess led the way as she spoke, and bade Thetis sit on a richly decorated seat inlaid  
On this the mighty monster hobbled off from his anvil, his thin legs plying lustily under hi  
Thetis wept and answered, "Vulcan, is there another goddess in Olympus whom the son of Satur  
And Vulcan answered, "Take heart, and be no more disquieted about this matter; would that I  
When he had so said he left her and went to his bellows, turning them towards the fire and b  
First he shaped the shield so great and strong, adorning it all over and binding it round wi  
He wrought the earth, the heavens, and the sea; the moon also at her full and the untiring s  
He wrought also two cities, fair to see and busy with the hum of men. In the one were weddi  
Meanwhile the people were gathered in assembly, for there was a quarrel, and two men were wr  
About the other city there lay encamped two hosts in gleaming armour, and they were divided  
He wrought also a fair fallow field, large and thrice ploughed already. Many men were worki  
He wrought also a field of harvest corn, and the reapers were reaping with sharp sickles in  
He wrought also a vineyard, golden and fair to see, and the vines were loaded with grapes.  
He wrought also a herd of homed cattle. He made the cows of gold and tin, and they lowed as  
The god wrought also a pasture in a fair mountain dell, and large flock of sheep, with a hom  
Furthermore he wrought a green, like that which Daedalus once made in Cnossus for lovely Ari  
All round the outermost rim of the shield he set the mighty stream of the river Oceanus.  
Then when he had fashioned the shield so great and strong, he made a breastplate also that s  
Lastly, when the famed lame god had made all the armour, he took it and set it before the mc

#### BOOK XIX

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NOW when Dawn in robe of saffron was hasting from the streams of Oceanus, to bring light to  
As she spoke she set the armour before Achilles, and it rang out bravely as she did so. The  
Silver-footed Thetis answered, "My son, be not disquieted about this matter. I will find me  
As she spoke she put strength and courage into his heart, and she then dropped ambrosia and  
Then Achilles went out upon the seashore, and with a loud cry called on the Achaean heroes.

When the Achaeans were got together Achilles rose and said, "Son of Atreus, surely it would  
Thus did he speak, and the Achaeans rejoiced in that he had put away his anger.  
Then Agamemnon spoke, rising in his place, and not going into the middle of the assembly. "  
"Time was when she fooled Jove himself, who they say is greatest whether of gods or men; for  
"Thus she spoke, and Jove suspected her not, but swore the great oath, to his much ruing the  
"On this Jove was stung to the very quick, and in his rage he caught Folly by the hair, and  
And Achilles answered, "Son of Atreus, king of men Agamemnon, you can give such gifts as you  
Then Ulysses said, "Achilles, godlike and brave, send not the Achaeans thus against Ilius to  
And King Agamemnon answered, "Son of Laertes, your words please me well, for throughout you  
Then said Achilles, "Son of Atreus, king of men Agamemnon, see to these matters at some othe  
Ulysses answered, "Achilles, son of Peleus, mightiest of all the Achaeans, in battle you are  
When he had thus spoken he took with him the sons of Nestor, with Meges son of Phyleus, Thoas  
Agamemnon then rose, and Talthybius whose voice was like that of a god came to him with the  
He cut the boar's throat as he spoke, whereon Talthybius whirled it round his head, and flung  
On this he broke up the assembly, and every man went back to his own ship. The Myrmidons at  
Briseis, fair as Venus, when she saw the mangled body of Patroclus, flung herself upon it and  
She wept as she spoke, and the women joined in her lament-making as though their tears were  
On this he sent the other princes away, save only the two sons of Atreus and Ulysses, Nestor  
"Hapless and dearest comrade, you it was who would get a good dinner ready for me at once and  
He wept as he spoke, and the elders sighed in concert as each thought on what he had left at  
With these words he urged Minerva, who was already of the same mind. She darted down from heaven  
First he put on the goodly greaves fitted with ankle-clasps, and next he did on the breastplate  
He also drew his father's spear out of the spear-stand, a spear so great and heavy and strong  
Then fleet Xanthus answered under the yoke- for white-armed Juno had endowed him with human  
When he had thus said the Erinyes stayed his speech, and Achilles answered him in great sadness  
So saying, with a loud cry he drove his horses to the front.

BOOK XX

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THUS, then, did the Achaeans arm by their ships round you, O son of Peleus, who were hungering  
Meanwhile Jove from the top of many-delled Olympus, bade Themis gather the gods in council,  
In such wise, therefore, did they gather in the house of Jove. Neptune also, lord of the ear

And Jove answered, "You know my purpose, shaker of earth, and wherefore I have called you hi  
Thus spoke Jove and gave the word for war, whereon the gods took their several sides and wen  
So long as the gods held themselves aloof from mortal warriors the Achaeans were triumphant,  
Thus did the gods spur on both hosts to fight, and rouse fierce contention also among themse  
The gods, then, were thus ranged against one another. But the heart of Achilles was set on  
And Aeneas answered, "Why do you thus bid me fight the proud son of Peleus, when I am in no  
Then said King Apollo, son to Jove, "Nay, hero, pray to the ever-living gods, for men say th  
As he spoke he put courage into the heart of the shepherd of his people, and he strode in fu  
Neptune lord of the earthquake answered her saying, "Juno, restrain your fury; it is not wel  
With these words the dark-haired god led the way to the high earth-barrow of Hercules, built  
Thus did the gods sit apart and form their plans, but neither side was willing to begin batt  
Aeneas was first to stride forward in attack, his doughty helmet tossing defiance as he came  
When they were now close up with one another Achilles was first to speak. "Aeneas," said he  
Then Aeneas answered, "Son of Peleus, think not that your words can scare me as though I wer  
"In the beginning Dardanus was the son of Jove, and founded Dardania, for Ilius was not yet  
"Such do I declare my blood and lineage, but as for valour, Jove gives it or takes it as he  
As he spoke he drove his spear at the great and terrible shield of Achilles, which rang out  
Achilles in his turn threw, and struck the round shield of Aeneas at the very edge, where th  
Aeneas would then have struck Achilles as he was springing towards him, either on the helmet  
Then answered Juno, "Earth-shaker, look to this matter yourself, and consider concerning Aen  
When earth-encircling Neptune heard this he went into the battle amid the clash of spears, a  
The god left him when he had given him these instructions, and at once removed the darkness  
He sprang forward along the line and cheered his men on as he did so. "Let not the Trojans,  
Thus did he exhort them. Meanwhile Hector called upon the Trojans and declared that he woul  
Thus urged the Trojans lifted up their spears against the Achaeans, and raised the cry of ba  
Thus he spoke, and Hector drew back within the crowd, for he was afraid when he heard what t  
Thus did he vaunt, but darkness closed the eyes of the other. The chariots of the Achaeans c  
When Hector saw his brother Polydorus with his entrails in his hands and sinking down upon t  
He looked fiercely on Hector and said, "Draw near, that you may meet your doom the sooner."  
He hurled his spear as he spoke, but Minerva breathed upon it, and though she breathed but v



On this he struck Dryops with his spear, about the middle of his neck, and he fell headlong  
Achilles then went up to Mulius and struck him on the ear with a spear, and the bronze spear  
As a fire raging in some mountain glen after long drought- and the dense forest is in a blaz

BOOK XXI

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NOW when they came to the ford of the full-flowing river Xanthus, begotten of immortal Jove,  
Forthwith the hero left his spear upon the bank, leaning it against a tamarisk bush, and plu  
There he found Lycaon, son of Priam seed of Dardanus, as he was escaping out of the water; h  
Then Achilles said to himself in his surprise, "What marvel do I see here? If this man can  
Thus did he pause and ponder. But Lycaon came up to him dazed and trying hard to embrace hi  
With such words did the princely son of Priam beseech Achilles; but Achilles answered him st  
Thus did he speak, and Lycaon's heart sank within him. He loosed his hold of the spear, and  
So spoke Achilles, but the river grew more and more angry, and pondered within himself how h  
Thus did he defy him, and Achilles raised his spear of Pelian ash. Asteropaeus failed with k  
With this he drew his bronze spear out of the bank, and now that he had killed Asteropaeus,  
Achilles answered, "So be it, Scamander, Jove-descended; but I will never cease dealing out  
As he spoke he set upon the Trojans with a fury like that of the gods. But the river said t  
Meanwhile Achilles sprang from the bank into mid-stream, whereon the river raised a high wav  
But the mighty god ceased not in his pursuit, and sprang upon him with a dark-crested wave,  
Then the son of Peleus lifted up his voice to heaven saying, "Father Jove, is there none of  
As soon as he had spoken thus, Neptune and Minerva came up to him in the likeness of two men  
When they had so said they went back to the other immortals, but Achilles strove onward over  
On this he upraised his tumultuous flood high against Achilles, seething as it was with foam  
On this Vulcan kindled a fierce fire, which broke out first upon the plain and burned the ma  
He was boiling as he spoke, and all his waters were seething. As a cauldron upon 'a large f  
As soon as Juno heard this she said to her son Vulcan, "Son Vulcan, hold now your flames; we  
When she had thus spoken Vulcan quenched his flames, and the river went back once more into  
Xanthus was now beaten, so these two left off fighting, for Juno stayed them though she was  
As he spoke he struck her on the terrible tasselled aegis- so terrible that not even can Jov  
She then turned her two piercing eyes elsewhere, whereon Jove's daughter Venus took Mars by

Thus she spoke. Minerva sped after Venus with a will, and made at her, striking her on the  
Juno smiled as she listened. Meanwhile King Neptune turned to Apollo saying, "Phoebus, why  
And King Apollo answered, "Lord of the earthquake, you would have no respect for me if I wer  
He turned away as he spoke, for he would lay no hand on the brother of his own father. But  
Apollo made her no answer, but Jove's august queen was angry and upbraided her bitterly. "E  
She caught both Diana's wrists with her left hand as she spoke, and with her right she took  
Then the slayer of Argus, guide and guardian, said to Leto, "Leto, I shall not fight you; it  
Leto then gathered up Diana's bow and arrows that had fallen about amid the whirling dust, a  
Thus did they converse, and meanwhile Phoebus Apollo entered the strong city of Ilius, for h  
Old King Priam stood on a high tower of the wall looking down on huge Achilles as the Trojan  
As he spoke they drew back the bolts and opened the gates, and when these were opened there  
Then had the sons of the Achaeans taken the lofty gates of Troy if Apollo had not spurred on  
So saying he stood on his guard and awaited Achilles, for he was now fain to fight him. As  
As he spoke his strong hand hurled his javelin from him, and the spear struck Achilles on th

#### BOOK XXII

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THUS the Trojans in the city, scared like fawns, wiped the sweat from off them and drank to  
Achilles was greatly angered and said, "You have baulked me, Far-Darter, most malicious of a  
On this, with fell intent he made towards the city, and as the winning horse in a chariot ra  
The old man tore his grey hair as he spoke, but he moved not the heart of Hector. His mothe  
Thus did the two with many tears implore their son, but they moved not the heart of Hector,  
"Alas," said he to himself in the heaviness of his heart, "if I go within the gates, Polydam  
Thus did he stand and ponder, but Achilles came up to him as it were Mars himself, plumed lc  
On they flew along the waggon-road that ran hard by under the wall, past the lookout station  
"Alas," said he, "my eyes behold a man who is dear to me being pursued round the walls of Tr  
Then Minerva said, "Father, wielder of the lightning, lord of cloud and storm, what mean you  
And Jove answered, "My child, Triton-born, take heart. I did not speak in full earnest, and  
Thus did he urge Minerva who was already eager, and down she darted from the topmost summits  
Achilles was still in full pursuit of Hector, as a hound chasing a fawn which he has started  
Thus spoke Minerva. Achilles obeyed her gladly, and stood still, leaning on his bronze-poin  
And Hector answered, "Deiphobus, you have always been dearest to me of all my brothers, chil

Then Minerva said, "Dear brother, my father and mother went down on their knees and implored  
Thus did Minerva inveigle him by her cunning, and when the two were now close to one another  
Achilles glared at him and answered, "Fool, prate not to me about covenants. There can be n  
He poised his spear as he spoke and hurled it. Hector saw it coming and avoided it; he watc  
He poised his spear as he spoke and hurled it. His aim was true for he hit the middle of Ac  
As he spoke he drew the keen blade that hung so great and strong by his side, and gathering  
Then Hector said, as the life ebbed out of him, "I pray you by your life and knees, and by y  
Achilles glared at him and answered, "Dog, talk not to me neither of knees nor parents; woul  
Hector with his dying breath then said, "I know you what you are, and was sure that I should  
When he had thus said the shrouds of death enfolded him, whereon his soul went out of him an  
As he spoke he drew his spear from the body and set it on one side; then he stripped the blc  
When Achilles had done spoiling Hector of his armour, he stood among the Argives and said, "  
On this he treated the body of Hector with contumely: he pierced the sinews at the back of k  
Thus was the head of Hector being dishonoured in the dust. His mother tore her hair, and fl  
Thus did he speak with many tears, and all the people of the city joined in his lament. Hec  
Hector's wife had as yet heard nothing, for no one had come to tell her that her husband had  
Her heart beat fast, and as she spoke she flew from the house like a maniac, with her waitin  
In such wise did she cry aloud amid her tears, and the women joined in her lament.

BOOK XXIII (1)

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THUS did they make their moan throughout the city, while the Achaeans when they reached the  
On this they all joined in a cry of wailing and Achilles led them in their lament. Thrice d  
As he spoke he treated the body of noble Hector with contumely, laying it at full length in  
Then the princes of the Achaeans took the son of Peleus to Agamemnon, but hardly could they  
Thus did he speak, and they did even as he had said. They made haste to prepare the meal, t  
"You sleep, Achilles, and have forgotten me; you loved me living, but now that I am dead you  
"One prayer more will I make you, if you will grant it; let not my bones be laid apart from  
And Achilles answered, "Why, true heart, are you come hither to lay these charges upon me?  
He opened his arms towards him as he spoke and would have clasped him in them, but there was  
Thus did he speak and his words set them all weeping and mourning about the poor dumb dead,

When they had thrown down their great logs of wood over the whole ground, they stayed all of  
When they came to the place of which Achilles had told them they laid the body down and built  
As he spoke he placed the lock in the hands of his dear comrade, and all who stood by were  
When King Agamemnon heard this he dismissed the people to their ships, but those who were at  
Thus did he vaunt, but the dogs came not about the body of Hector, for Jove's daughter Venus  
Now the pyre about dead Patroclus would not kindle. Achilles therefore bethought him of another  
With this she left them, and the two winds rose with a cry that rent the air and swept the clouds  
At length as the Morning Star was beginning to herald the light which saffron-mantled Dawn was  
Thus he spoke and they obeyed the word of the son of Peleus. First they poured red wine upon  
The first prize he offered was for the chariot races- a woman skilled in all useful arts, an  
"Son of Atreus, and all other Achaeans, these are the prizes that lie waiting the winners of  
Thus spoke the son of Peleus and the drivers of chariots bestirred themselves. First among  
Fourth in order Antilochus, son to noble Nestor son of Neleus, made ready his horses. These

BOOK XXIII (2)

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When Nestor had made an end of counselling his son he sat down in his place, and fifth in order  
At the same instant they all of them lashed their horses, struck them with the reins, and showed  
It was when they were doing the last part of the course on their way back towards the sea that  
Menelaus son of Atreus came next behind him, but Antilochus called to his father's horses.  
They feared the rebuke of their master, and for a short space went quicker. Presently Antilochus  
But Antilochus plied his whip, and drove faster, as though he had not heard him. They went  
Then he called on his horses and said to them, "Keep your pace, and slacken not; the limbs cannot  
The horses feared the rebuke of their master, and went faster, so that they were soon nearly  
Meanwhile the Achaeans from their seats were watching how the horses went, as they scoured the  
Ajax the son of Oileus took him up rudely and said, "Idomeneus, why should you be in such a  
The captain of the Cretans was angry, and answered, "Ajax you are an excellent railer, but you  
Ajax son of Oileus was for making him an angry answer, and there would have been yet further  
As he was speaking, the son of Tydeus came driving in, plying his whip lustily from his shoulder  
Next after him came in Antilochus of the race of Neleus, who had passed Menelaus by a trick  
Thus did he speak and the others all of them applauded his saying, and were for doing as he  
Achilles smiled as he heard this, and was pleased with Antilochus, who was one of his dearest

"Antilochus, if you would have me find Eumelus another prize, I will give him the bronze breastplate. He bade his comrade Automedon bring the breastplate from his tent, and he did so. Achilles gave him the bronze breastplate. But Menelaus got up in a rage, furiously angry with Antilochus. An attendant placed his staff on the ground. And Antilochus answered, "Forgive me; I am much younger, King Menelaus, than you are; you should be angry with the son of Peleus. The son of Nestor then took the mare and gave her over to Menelaus, whose anger was thus appeased. With this he gave the mare over to Antilochus's comrade Noemon, and then took the cauldron. So saying he gave the urn over to Nestor, who received it gladly and answered, "My son, all thanks be to thee. Thereon the son of Peleus, when he had listened to all the thanks of Nestor, went about among the Greeks. As he spoke there stood up a champion both brave and great stature, a skilful boxer, Epeus, the son of Peleus. They all held their peace, and no man rose save Euryalus son of Mecisteus, who was son of Telamon. The son of Peleus now brought out the prizes for the third contest and showed them to the Argives. Forthwith uprose great Ajax the son of Telamon, and crafty Ulysses, full of wiles rose also. He lifted him from the ground as he spoke, but Ulysses did not forget his cunning. He hit Ajax on the head. Thus did he speak and they did even as he had said, and put on their shirts again after wiping their faces. The son of Peleus then offered prizes for speed in running- a mixing-bowl beautifully wrought and a cauldron. Forthwith uprose fleet Ajax son of Oileus, with cunning Ulysses, and Nestor's son Antilochus. Antilochus carried off the last prize and smiled as he said to the bystanders, "You all see, I have won the prize. He said this to pay a compliment to the son of Peleus, and Achilles answered, "Antilochus, you are a brave man. Then the son of Peleus brought out the spear, helmet and shield that had been borne by Sarpedon. Forthwith uprose great Ajax the son of Telamon, as also mighty Diomed son of Tydeus. When they had taken the prizes Achilles next offered the massive iron quoit which mighty Eetion had erewhile been used to hurl. Then uprose the two mighty men Polypoetes and Leonteus, with Ajax son of Telamon and noble Euryalus. Achilles next offered a prize of iron for archery -- ten double-edged axes and ten with single-edged blades. Then uprose King Teucer, and Meriones the stalwart squire of Idomeneus rose also, They cast their spears. Then the son of Peleus brought in a spear and a cauldron that had never been on the fire; it was the prize of Nestor. King Agamemnon assented. So he gave the bronze spear to Meriones, and handed the goodly cauldron to Euryalus.

BOOK XXIV (1)

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THE assembly now broke up and the people went their ways each to his own ship. There they met Nestor. Thus shamefully did Achilles in his fury dishonour Hector; but the blessed gods looked down on him. When, therefore, the morning of the twelfth day had now come, Phoebus Apollo spoke among the

Juno spoke up in a rage. "This were well," she cried, "O lord of the silver bow, if you would  
Then said Jove, "Juno, be not so bitter. Their honour shall not be equal, but of all that do  
On this Iris fleet as the wind went forth to carry his message. Down she plunged into the deep  
The goddess took her dark veil, than which there can be no robe more sombre, and went forth  
"So, goddess," said he, "for all your sorrow, and the grief that I well know reigns ever in  
Silver-footed Thetis did as the god had told her, and forthwith down she darted from the top  
And Achilles answered, "So be it. If Olympian Jove of his own motion thus commands me, let  
Thus did mother and son talk together at the ships in long discourse with one another. Mean  
On this Iris, fleet as the wind, sped forth to deliver her message. She went to Priam's house  
Iris went her way when she had thus spoken, and Priam told his sons to get a mule-waggon ready  
His wife cried aloud as she heard him, and said, "Alas, what has become of that judgement for  
Then Priam said, "I would go, do not therefore stay me nor be as a bird of ill omen in my house  
So saying he lifted the lids of his chests, and took out twelve goodly vestments. He took a  
He drove the men away with his staff, and they went forth as the old man sped them. Then he  
Thus did he speak, and they feared the rebuke of their father. They brought out a strong mul  
Thus heedfully did Priam and his servant see to the yoking of their cars at the palace. Th  
And Priam answered, "Wife, I will do as you desire me; it is well to lift hands in prayer to  
With this the old man bade the serving-woman pour pure water over his hands, and the woman c  
So did he pray, and Jove the lord of counsel heard his prayer. Forthwith he sent an eagle, t  
But Priam and Idaeus as they showed out upon the plain did not escape the ken of all-seeing  
Thus he spoke and Mercury, guide and guardian, slayer of Argus, did as he was told. Forthwi

BOOK XXIV (2)

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Now when Priam and Idaeus had driven past the great tomb of Ilius, they stayed their mules a  
When he heard this the old man's heart failed him, and he was in great fear; he stayed where  
And Priam answered, "It is indeed as you say, my dear son; nevertheless some god has held hi  
Then said the slayer of Argus, guide and guardian, "Sir, all that you have said is right; bu  
And Priam said, "Who are you, my friend, and who are your parents, that you speak so truly at  
The slayer of Argus, guide and guardian, answered him, "Sir, you would prove me, that you qu  
Then answered Priam, "If you are indeed the squire of Achilles son of Peleus, tell me now th  
"Sir," replied the slayer of Argus, guide and guardian, "neither hounds nor vultures have ye

The old man was comforted as he heard him and said, "My son, see what a good thing it is to  
Then answered the slayer of Argus, guide and guardian, "Sir, you are tempting me and playing  
The bringer of good luck then sprang on to the chariot, and seizing the whip and reins he br  
With these words Mercury went back to high Olympus. Priam sprang from his chariot to the gr  
As when some cruel spite has befallen a man that he should have killed some one in his own c  
Thus spoke Priam, and the heart of Achilles yearned as he bethought him of his father. He t  
And Priam answered, "O king, bid me not be seated, while Hector is still lying uncared for i  
Achilles looked at him sternly and said, "Vex me, sir, no longer; I am of myself minded to g  
The old man feared him and obeyed. Then the son of Peleus sprang like a lion through the dc  
Achilles then went back into the tent and took his place on the richly inlaid seat from whic  
With this Achilles sprang from his seat and killed a sheep of silvery whiteness, which his f  
As he spoke Achilles told his men and the women-servants to set beds in the room that was in  
And Priam answered, "Since, then, you suffer me to bury my noble son with all due rites, do  
And Achilles answered, "All, King Priam, shall be as you have said. I will stay our fightin  
As he spoke he laid his hand on the old man's right wrist, in token that he should have no f  
And now both gods and mortals were fast asleep through the livelong night, but upon Mercury  
When he heard this the old man was afraid and roused his servant. Mercury then yoked their h  
At this there was not man nor woman left in the city, so great a sorrow had possessed them.  
On this the people stood asunder, and made a way for the waggon. When they had borne the bod  
Bitterly did she weep the while, and the women joined in her lament. Hecuba in her turn toc  
Thus did she too speak through her tears with bitter moan, and then Helen for a third time t  
She wept as she spoke and the vast crowd that was gathered round her joined in her lament.  
Forthwith they yoked their oxen and mules and gathered together before the city. Nine days  
Thus, then, did they celebrate the funeral of Hector tamer of horses.

[the end]

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