

Books Available for Report/Review

Whichever book you choose, you will be comparing the source material and answering a series of questions posed by me, as relates to the ancient material. You will read the reviews others have published and then review the book as a modern work, again, with questions posed by me.

~~During our “literature” days you will present your literary work with other students reading the same volume.~~

***The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller**

A reimagining of the relationship between Patroclus and Achilles over the course of the *Iliad*.

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***Home Fire* by Kamila Shamsie**

A retelling of Sophocles’ *Antigone* set in London, focusing on two immigrant Pakistani families.

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***Circe* by Madeline Miller**

A retelling of the life of Circe, as she is banished to an island by Zeus and encounters many famous mythological figures.

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***The Silence of the Girls* by Pat Barker**

A feminist reimagining of the story of Briseis, a Trojan woman captured and made the concubine of Achilles, who becomes the object of a power struggle between Achilles and Agamemnon.

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***Here, the World Entire* by Anwen Hayward**

A retelling of the myth of Medusa and Perseus, from Medusa’s point of view.

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Wake, Siren: Ovid Resung by Nine Maclaughlin

Reclaiming the voices of raped and abused women in the *Metamorphoses*, through song, therapy sessions, whispers, and lyrics.

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Lavinia by Ursula Le Guin

A retelling of the second half of the *Aeneid* from the point of view of Lavinia, the Latin princess who never speaks and only blushes in Vergil's work.

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Penelopiad by Margaret Atwood

The story of Penelope from the *Odyssey* retold as an epic of her own. Also contemplates the fate of the other women in the *Odyssey* from a feminist point of view.

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The War Nerd Iliad by John Dolan

A modern pseudo-translation of the *Iliad*, made accessible through 20th century prose and style.

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Ransom by David Malouf

A rumination on the grief that brings together Achilles and King Priam at the end of the *Iliad*.

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The Lost Books of the Odyssey by Zachary Mason

A reimagining of the *Odyssey* that incorporates fragments, other tales, lost threads, and reinvents the original with new tangents.

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***Nightingale* by Paisley Rekdal**

Poems that rewrite and modernize Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*, where it is not the gods that dramatically change people, but human events. Ends with a series of poems contemplating the ongoing consequences of rape and assault on survivors.

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***The House of Names* by Colm Tóibín**

A humanized telling of the horrors of the House of Atreus with the gods removed to make humans fully accountable for their choices.

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A more difficult option: This is a book of poems that engage with mythology more subtly, and will require much more work to unpack, but it is a very valuable work from an underrepresented voice.

***The Tradition* by Jericho Brown**

Wherein the poet contemplates rape and myth, particularly with poem “Ganymede,” as well as the intersections of queerness and blackness.

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