

The suitors fail

185 So he spoke, and Melanthios quickly kindled the wearless
 fire, and brought out the chair, and laid the fleeces upon it,
 and brought out from the inside stores a great wheel of tallow.
 The young men heated the bow and tried it, but were not able
 to string it. They were not neatly strong enough. All this time
 Antinoo's still held back, as did godlike Eurymachos,
 those lords of the suitors, out and away the best men among them.

195 Beggar Odysseus notices Eumaios and Philoitios leaving
 the hall. He rushes after them again if they would fight for
 Odysseus (he's a little insecure), and asks them if they can
 keep a secret. They say they can, then they pinky-promise

205 But when Odysseus had recognized the infallible temper
 of these men, then he spoke to them again and answered them
 "I am he (I am the man) whose house After many suitors
 I have come home in the twentieth year to the hand of my father
 And now I see that of all my men it was only you two
 who wanted me to come, I have not heard one of the others
 praying that I should return again and come to my own house
 therefore I will tell you the truth, and as it shall be
 by my hand the god overmasters the lordly suitors
 then I shall get wives for you both, and give you possessions
 and houses built next to mine and think of you in the future
 always as companions of Eurymachos, and his brothers.

215 But come now, let me show you a proof that shall be manifest,
 so that you may know me for sure and trust my identity;
 that scar, which once the boar with his white tooth inflicted
 on my father, Telemachos, who is a brother with
 me, shall be a sign to you.

220 In book 21 of Homer's Iliad, Odysseus reveals himself as reclaiming his territory and using forceful words to win a false world where nothing changed.

Odysseus reveals himself to Eumaios

220 on me, when I went to Parnassos with the sons of Antolykos.
 So he spoke, and pushed back the rags that covered his great scar.
 When these two had examined it and recognized everything,
 they burst out weeping and threw their arms around wise Odysseus,
 and made much of him, and kissed him on his head and his shoulders,
 and so Odysseus also kissed their heads and hands. Now
 the sun would have gone down while they were still thus dismoring,
 had not Odysseus stayed them from it and said a word to them:
 "Now stop your lamentation and wailing, or someone may come out
 from the hall and see us, and tell about it inside. So rather
 let us go in severally, not all together,
 I first, you after me, but let us have this as a signal
 arranged; for all the others there, who are lordly suitors,
 will not say that you can give me the bow and the quiver;
 but you must carry the bow through the house, noble Eumaios,
 and put it into my hands, and then you must tell the women
 to bar the tightly fitted doors that close the hall; tell them,
 if any of them hears from inside the crash and the outcry,
 of men who are caught within our toils, that they must not peep in
 from outside, but simply sit still at their work, in silence.
 Noble Philoitios, your task is to make fast the courtyard
 door with the bolt, and tie the fastening quickly upon it,
 So he spoke, and went into the established palace,
 and went back and sat in the chair from which he had risen,
 and after him the two thralls of godlike Odysseus entered.
 Eurymachos by now had taken the bow, and handled it,
 turning it round and round by the blaze of the fire, but even
 so he could not string it, and his proud heart was harrowed.
 Deeply vexed he spoke to his own great-hearted spirit:
 "Oh, my sorrow. Here is a grief beyond all others;
 it is not so much the marriage I grieve for, for all my chagrin.
 There are many Achaian women besides, some of them close by
 in seagirt Ithaka, and some in the rest of the cities;
 but it is the thought, if this is true, that we come so far short
 of godlike Odysseus in strength, so that we cannot even
 string his bow. A shame for men unborn to be told of."

230 Then in turn Antinoo's, son of Eupitheos, answered:
 "It will not happen that way, Eurymachos. You yourself know this.
 Now there is a holy feast in the community
 of the suitors, and knowledge of power
 is under standing → knowledge → power
 Odysseus reveals himself as reclaiming his territory and using forceful words to win a false world where nothing changed.

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connected by blood
 land of fathers and home
 still still considering to be
 related to son, Telemachos, who is a brother with me, shall be a sign to you.

