

Odyssey Book 1 (α)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Short Clauses and Phrases

#1 (308) [Athena to Telemachus ≈ father to son]

#2 (320) [Athena ≈ bird]

1 (308) τὴν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἠΐδα:
'ξεῖν', ἦ τοι μὲν ταῦτα φίλα φρονέων ἀγορεύεις,
ὥς τε πατὴρ ᾧ παιδί, καὶ οὐ ποτε λήσομαι αὐτῶν.

Then wise **Telemachus** answered **her** <Athena>: / 'Stranger, in truth you speak these things with kindly thought, / **as a father to his son**, and never will I forget them.'
[Athena to Telemachus ≈ father to son] Telemachus

2 (320) ἡ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς εἰποῦσ' ἀπέβη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,
ὄρνις δ' ὥς ἀνόπαια διέπτατο. 320

So spoke the goddess, flashing-eyed **Athena**, and she departed, / flying upward **like a bird**.

[Athena ≈ bird] Narrator

The term ἀνόπαια, translated here as "upward", is of uncertain meaning. For a full discussion of the possibilities, including "a smoke vent", see *A Commentary on Homer's Odyssey, v. 1. Introduction and Books I-VIII* ed. Alfred Heubeck, Stephanie West, J.B. Hainsworth, 115-116. They suggest the possibility that this may be a transformation rather than a simile.

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

1:50* νήσῳ ἐν ἀμφιρύτῃ, ὅθι τ' ὀμφαλός ἐστι θαλάσσης. 50

on an **island** surrounded by water, which is **navel** of the sea
[island ≈ navel] Athena

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

This is an example of what might be called a similetic metaphor in that both parts of the comparison are expressed (i.e., "island" and "navel").

1:64* 'τέκνον ἐμόν, ποῖόν σε ἔπος φύγεν ἕρκος ὀδόντων.

'My child, what a word has escaped the **barrier of your teeth**'
[row of teeth (implied comparison) ≈ barrier] Zeus

1:183* οἴνοπα πόντον wine-dark sea

1:238* εἰ μετὰ οἷς ἐτάροισι δάμη Τρώων ἐνὶ δήμῳ,
ἤ ἐ φίλων ἐν χερσίν, ἐπεὶ πόλεμον τολύπευσεν.

'if [Odysseus] had been killed among his comrades in the land of the Trojans, / or had died in the arms of his friends, when he had **wound up the skein of war**'
[finish the war (implied comparison) ≈ wind a skein] Telemachus

Transformations and Disguises:

1:105* εἰδομένη ξείνῳ, Ταφίων ἡγήτορι Μέντη

Appearing like a stranger, the leader of the Taphians, **Mentes**
[Athena ≈ Mentès] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

1:21* ἀντιθέῳ Ὀδυσῆι god-like Odysseus

1:65* Ὀδυσῆος θεῖοιο divine Odysseus

1:113* Τηλέμαχος θεοειδῆς god-like Telemachus

1:324* ἰσόθεος φῶς god-like man

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

1:371* ...ἐπεὶ τόδε καλὸν ἀκουέμεν ἐστὶν ᾄδοῦ
τοιοῦδ' οἷος ὄδ' ἐστὶ, θεοῖς ἐναλίγκιος αὐδῆν.

'For it is a good thing to listen to such a **singer** / who is **like to the gods** in voice'
[singer ≈ gods] Penelope

Odyssey Book 2 (β)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1* (47) [Odysseus ≈ father of his subjects]

#2* (234) [Odysseus ≈ father of his subjects]

1* (47) τὸ μὲν πατέρ' ἐσθλὸν ἀπώλεσα, ὅς ποτ' ἐν ὑμῖν
τοῖσδεσιν βασίλευε, πατῆρ δ' ὡς ἦπιος ἦεν:

'I have lost my noble father <Odysseus> who was once / king among you here and was gentle **as a father**'

[Odysseus ≈ father of his subjects] Telemachus

2* (234) ὡς οὔ τις μέμνηται Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο
λαῶν οἴσιν ἀνασσε, πατῆρ δ' ὡς ἦπιος ἦεν.

'For none of his subjects has remembered god-like **Odysseus**, / who ruled them and was gentle **as a father**.'

[Odysseus ≈ father of his subjects] Mentor, comrade of Odysseus

Note: Book 2, lines 233–234 are the same as Book 5, lines 11–12.

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

2:1* ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥως rosy-fingered dawn

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

2:269* ἔπεα πτερόεντα winged words

Transformations and Disguises:

2:268* Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἡμὲν δέμας ἠδὲ καὶ αὐδὴν,

Appearing like Mentor in body and voice

[Athena ≈ Mentor] / Narrator

2:383* Τηλεμάχῳ εἰκυῖα κατὰ πόλιν ὄχετο πάντη

In the **likeness of Telemachus**, she went everywhere through the city

[Athena ≈ Telemachus] Narrator

2:401* αὐτὰρ Τηλέμαχον προσέφη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη
ἐκπροκαλεσσαμένη μεγάρων εὐ ναιεταόντων, 400
Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἡμὲν δέμας ἠδὲ καὶ αὐδὴν:

But flashing-eyed **Athena** spoke to Telemachus, / calling him out before the stately hall,
/ having **likened** herself to **Mentor** both in form and in voice: [Athena ≈ Mentor] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

2:5 βῆ δ' ἴμεν ἐκ θαλάμοιο θεῷ ἐναλίγκιος ἄντην. 5

And [**Telemachus**] went forth from his chamber **like a god to look upon**.

[Telemachus ≈ a god] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

2:352* διογενῆς Ὀδυσσεὺς Zeus-born Odysseus

Odyssey Book 3 (γ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1* (73) [Telemachus and shipmates ≈ pirates]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#2 (290) [waves ≈ mountains]

1* (73) ἦ τι κατὰ πρῆξιν ἦ μασιδίως ἀλάλησθε,
οἶά τε ληιστήρες, ὑπεῖρ ἄλλα, τοί τ' ἀλόωνται
ψυχὰς παρθέμενοι κακὸν ἄλλοδαποῖσι φέροντες;

'Is it on some business, or do **you** <Telemachus and shipmates> wander at random / over the sea, **like pirates**, who wander, / risking their lives and bringing troubles to foreigners?'

[Telemachus and shipmates ≈ pirates] Nestor

Note: Book 3, lines 72–74 are the same as Book 9, lines 253–255

2 (290) κύματά τε τροφέοντο πελώρια, ἴσα ὄρεσσιν. 290

And the **waves** were swollen to huge size, **like mountains**.

[waves ≈ mountains] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

3:2* οὐρανὸν πολύχαλκον all-bronze sky

3:142* εὐρέα νῶτα θαλάσσης wide back of sea

3:156* ποιμένι λαῶν shepherd of people

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

Transformations and Disguises:

3:372* ὥς ἄρα φωνήσασ' ἀπέβη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη
φήνη εἰδομένη:

So flashing-eyed Athena spoke and departed, / **appearing like an osprey**
[Athena ≈ osprey] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

3:109* Αἴας ἀρήιος Ares-like Ajax

3:246* ὥς τέ μοι ἀθάνατος ἰνδάλλεται εἰσοράσθαι.

He <Nestor> seems to me to be **like an immortal** to look on'
[Nestor ≈ immortal] Telemachus

3:416* Τηλέμαχον θεοεἰκελον god-like Telemachus

3:468 ἔκ ρ' ἀσαμίνθου βῆ δέμας ἀθανάτοισιν ὅμοιος:

Out of the bath [**Telemachus**] came **in form like the immortals**.
[Telemachus ≈ an immortal] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

Odyssey Book 4 (δ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#3 (335) [Odysseus lets loose a cruel doom on suitors ≈ lion lets loose a cruel doom on fawns]

#5 (535) [Aegisthus kills Agamemnon after a feast ≈ one kills an ox at the trough]

#7 (791) [Penelope ≈ lion]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1 (32) [Eteoneus ≈ child]

#2 (45) [gleam over Menelaus' house ≈ gleam of sun or moon]

#4 (413) [Proteus among seals ≈ shepherd among flock of sheep]

#6 (662) [Antinous' eyes ≈ blazing fire]

1 (32) 'οὐ μὲν νήπιος ἦσθα, Βοηθοΐδῃ Ἐτεωνεῦ,
τὸ πρῖν: ἀτὰρ μὲν νῦν γε παῖς ὧς νήπια βάζεις.

'You were not a fool in the past, **Eteoneus**, son of Boethous, / but now **like a child** you talk folly.'

[Eteoneus ≈ child] Menelaus

2 (45) ὥς τε γὰρ ἠελίου αἶγλη πέλεν ἠὲ σελήνης 45
δῶμα καθ' ὑπερεφές Μενελάου κυδαλίμοιο.

For there was a **gleam as [the gleam] of the sun or moon** / throughout the high-roofed house of glorious Menelaus.

[gleam over Menelaus' house ≈ gleam of sun or moon] Narrator

Note Book 3, line 45 is the same as Book 7, line 84.

3 (335) ὥς δ' ὀπότη' ἐν ξυλόχῳ ἔλαφος κρατεροῖο λέοντος 335
νεβροῦς κοιμήσασα νεηγενέας γαλαθηνούς
κνημοὺς ἐξερέησι καὶ ἄγκεα ποιήεντα
βοσκομένη, ὃ δ' ἔπειτα ἐὼν εἰσήλυθεν εὐνήν,
ἀμφοτέροισι δὲ τοῖσιν ἀεικέα πότμον ἐφήκεν,
ὧς Ὀδυσσεὺς κείνοισιν ἀεικέα πότμον ἐφήσει. 340

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

‘Even as when in the thicket-lair of a mighty **lion** a deer / has laid to sleep her new-born suckling **fawns**, / and roams over the mountain slopes and grassy vales / seeking pasture, and then the lion comes to his lair / and **lets loose a cruel doom upon the two**, / **so will Odysseus let loose a cruel doom upon these men** <suitors>.’

[Odysseus lets loose a cruel doom on suitors ≈ lion lets loose a cruel doom on fawns]

Menelaus

4 (413) λέξεται ἐν μέσσησι νομεὺς ὡς πώεσι μῆλων.

‘He <Proteus> will lay himself down in their <his seals> midst, **as a shepherd among his flocks of sheep**.’

[Proteus among seals ≈ shepherd among flock of sheep] Eidothea, daughter of Proteus

5 (535) τὸν δ’ οὐκ εἰδὸτ’ ὄλεθρον ἀνήγαγε καὶ κατέπεφνε
δειπνίσσας, ὥς τίς τε κατέκτανε βούν ἐπὶ φάτνῃ. 535

‘So he <Aegisthus> brought **him** <Agamemnon> up unaware of his doom / and when he had provided a feast for him he slew him, **as one slays an ox at a trough**.’

[Aegisthus kills Agamemnon after a feast d provided a feast for him he s] Proteus, the old man of the sea

6 (662) μένεος δὲ μέγα φρένες ἀμφιμέλαιναι
πίμπλαντ’, ὅσσε δὲ οἱ πυρὶ λαμπετόωντι ἐίκτην.

With rage was **his** <Antinous, son of Eupheithes, a suitor> black heart / filled, and **his eyes were like blazing fire**.

[Antinous’ eyes ≈ blazing fire] Narrator

7 (791) ὅσσα δὲ μερμήριξε λέων ἀνδρῶν ἐν ὀμίλῳ
δείσας, ὀππότε μιν δόλιον περὶ κύκλον ἄγωσι,
τόσσα μιν ὀρμαίνουσιν ἐπήλυθε νήδυμος ὕπνος:

And **even as a lion** is seized with fear and broods amid a throng of men, / when they draw their crafty ring about him, / **so was she** <Penelope> pondering when sweet sleep came upon her.

[Penelope ≈ lion] Narrator

See Turkeltaub 2015

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

4:477* δειπέτος ποταμοῖο heaven-fed river

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

4:180* θανάτοιο μέλαν νέφος black cloud of death

4:208* ὄλβον ἐπικλώσῃ spin the web of happiness

4:435* θαλάσσης εὐρέα κόλπον wide fold of sea

4:708* αἶθ' ἀλὸς ἵπποι horses < ≈ ships > of sea

4:724* πόσιν θυμολέοντα lion-hearted husband

4:739* μῆτιν ὑφίνας weave a plan

4:809* ὄνειρεῖσι πύλῃσιν gates of dreams

Transformations and Disguises:

4:247* ἄλλω δ' αὐτὸν φωτὶ κατακρύπτων ἦισκε,
δέκτη, ὅς οὐδὲν τοῖος ἔην ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.

'He <Odysseus> hid himself under the **likeness** of another, / a **beggar**, who was in no way such as one at the ships of the Achaeans.'

[Odysseus ≈ beggar] Helen

4:279* ἐκ δ' ὀνομακλήδην Δαναῶν ὀνόμαζες ἀρίστους,
πάντων Ἀργείων φωνὴν ἴσκουσ' ἀλόχοισιν.

'She <Helen> called out by name to the best of the Danaans / making her **voice like** to the **wives** of all the Argives.'

[Helen's voice ≈ voices of Argive wives] Menelaus

4:456* ἀλλ' ἦ τοι πρώτιστα λέων γένετ' ἠυγένειος,
αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα δράκων καὶ πάρδαλις ἠδὲ μέγας σῦς:

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

γίγνεται δ' ὑγρὸν ὕδωρ καὶ δένδρεον ὑψιπέτηλον:

'At first **he** <Proteus> turned into a bearded **lion**, / and then into a **serpent**, and a **leopard**, and a huge **boar**; / then he turned into **flowing water**, and into a **tree**, high and leafy;'

[Proteus ≈ lion, serpent, leopard, boar, water, tree] Menelaus

4:654* ... ἐν δ' ἄρχον ἐγὼ βαίνοντ' ἐνόησα
Μέντορα, ἥ ἐ θεόν, τῷ δ' αὐτῷ πάντα ἐώκει.

'And among them I noted one going on board as their leader, / Mentor <Athena in disguise>, or a **god**, who was in all things **like Mentor**.'

[god ≈ Mentor] Noemon, who provided Telemachus his ship

4:796* εἶδωλον ποίησε, δέμας δ' ἤικτο γυναικί,
Ἰφθίμη, κούρη μεγαλήτορος Ἰκαρίοιο,

She <Athena> made a **phantom** and she **likened** it in form to a woman, / **Iphtime**, daughter of great-hearted Icarius

[phantom ≈ Iphtime] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

4:14*

4:27* ἄνδρε δύω, γενεῇ δὲ Διὸς μέγαλοιο ἔικτον.

'These **two men** <Telemachus and Peisistratus, son of Nestor> — **like to the race of Zeus**'

[Telemachus and Peisistratus ≈ race of Zeus] Eteoneus, squire of Menelaus

4:122 ἐκ δ' Ἑλένη θαλάμοιο θυώδεος ὑψορόφοιο
ἦλυθεν Ἀρτέμιδι χρυσηλακάτῳ ἐικυῖα.

Out of her fragrant high-roofed chamber / came **Helen, like Artemis of the golden arrows**.

[Helen ≈ Artemis] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

4:160 ἄντα σέθεν, τοῦ νῶι θεοῦ ὡς τερπόμεθ' αὐδῆ. 160

'In **whose** <Menelaus> **voice** we both take delight **as in a god's.**
[Menelaus' voice ≈ a god's voice] Peisistratus, son of Nestor

Lee counts this as a simile.

4:310* βῆ δ' ἴμεν ἐκ θαλάμοιο θεῶ ἐναλίγκιος ἄντην, 310

And **he** <Menelaus> went forth from his chamber **like a god to look upon.**
[Menelaus ≈ a god] Narrator

Note: Same as Book 2, line 5

Odyssey Book 5 (ε)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

- #2 (51) [Hermes ≈ seabird]
- #3 (249) (ὄσσον/τόσσον) [Odysseus ≈ man skilled in carpentry]
- #5 (328) [winds carry raft over sea ≈ north wind carries thistle stalks over the plain]
- #6 (368) [wave scatters planks of raft ≈ wind scatters heap of chaff]
- #8 (394) [land and trees appears welcome to Odysseus ≈ father's recovery appears welcome to his children]
- #10 (432) [skin torn off on rocks ≈ octopus' suckers held on pebbles]
- #11 (488) [Odysseus covered with leaves ≈ fire brand hidden in ashes]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

- #1 (12) [Odysseus ≈ father of his subjects]
- #4 (281) [land of the Phaeacians ≈ shield]
- #7 (371) [Odysseus astride plank ≈ riding a race horse]
- #9* (400) [distance from Odysseus to shore ≈ distance a man's voice carries]

1 (12) ὡς οὐ τις μέμνηται Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο
λαῶν οἴσιν ἄνασσε, πατὴρ δ' ὡς ἦπιος ἦεν.

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

'For none of his subjects has remembered god-like **Odysseus**, / who ruled them and was gentle **as a father**.'

[Odysseus ≈ father of his subjects] Athena

Note: Same as Book 2, line 234

2 (51) σεύατ' ἔπειτ' ἐπὶ κύμα λάρῳ ὄρνιθι ἐοικώς,
ὅς τε κατὰ δεινοὺς κόλπους ἀλὸς ἀτρυγέτοιο
ἰχθύς ἀγρώσσων πυκινὰ περὰ δεύεται ἄλμη:
τῷ ἴκελος πολέεσσιν ὀχήσατο κύμασιν Ἑρμῆς.

Then **he** <Hermes> skimmed over the waves **like** a **seabird** / that, in the dread rollers of the barren sea, / seeks fish and drenches its thick plumage in the spray. / **Similar to it, Hermes** sailed over many waves.

[Hermes ≈ seabird] Narrator

3 (249) ὅσον τίς τ' ἔδαφος νηὸς τορνώσεται ἀνὴρ
φορτίδος εὐρείης, ἐὺ εἰδὼς τεκτοσυνάων, 250
τόσον ἐπ' εὐρείαν σχεδίην ποιήσατ' Ὀδυσσεύς.

Much as a man skilled in carpentry curves the inner bottom / of a broad merchant ship, / **so Odysseus** made the raft broad.

[Odysseus ≈ man skilled in carpentry] Narrator

4 (281) ὀκτωκαιδεκάτῃ δ' ἐφάνη ὄρεα σκιόεντα
γαίης Φαιήκων, ὅθι τ' ἀγχιστον πέλεν αὐτῷ: 280
εἶσατο δ' ὡς ὅτε ῥινὸν ἐν ἡεροειδέι πόντῳ.

On the eighteenth [day], there appeared to him the shadowy mountains / of the **land of the Phaeacians** where it was nearest; / it seemed **like a shield** on the misty sea.

[land of the Phaeacians ≈ shield] Narrator

Note: The standard interpretation of the simile is that the low land of the Phaeacians appeared as the rim of a shield and the mountains as the boss.

5 (328) ὡς δ' ὅτ' ὀπωρινὸς Βορέης φορέησιν ἀκάνθας
ἄμ πεδίον, πυκιναὶ δὲ πρὸς ἀλλήλησιν ἔχονται,
ὡς τὴν ἄμ πέλαγος ἄνεμοι φέρων ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα: 330

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

As the north wind of Autumn carries **thistle stalks** / **over the plain** and they are held closely to one another, / **so** the **winds** carried it <Odysseus's raft> **over the sea** here and there.

[winds carry raft over sea ≈ north wind carries thistle stalks over the plain] Narrator

- 6 (368) ὥς δ' ἄνεμος ζαῆς ἠΐων θημῶνα τινάξει
καρφαλέων: τὰ μὲν ἄρ τε διεσκέδασ' ἄλλυδις ἄλλη:
ὥς τῆς δούρατα μακρὰ διεσκέδασ'. αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς 370
- 7 (371) ἀμφ' ἐνὶ δούρατι βαῖνε, κέληθ' ὥς ἵππον ἐλαύνων,
εἶματα δ' ἐξαπέδυνε, τὰ οἱ πόρε δῖα Καλυψώ.

As the stormy **wind** tosses about a **heap of dry chaff** / and scatters it here and there, / so **it** <Poseidon's wave> scattered its <the raft's> long **planks**. But Odysseus / went *astride* a **plank as though riding** on a race **horse**; / he then took off the clothes divine Calypso had provided him.

#6 (368) [wave scatters planks of raft ≈ wind scatters heap of chaff]

#7 (371) [Odysseus astride plank ≈ riding a race horse] Narrator

- 8 (394) ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἀσπάσιος βίोटος παίδεσσι φανήη
πατρός, ὃς ἐν νούσῳ κεῖται κρατέρ' ἄλγεα πάσχων, 395
δηρὸν τηκόμενος, στυγερὸς δέ οἱ ἔχραε δαίμων,
ἀσπασίον δ' ἄρα τόν γε θεοὶ κακότητος ἔλυσαν,
ὥς Ὀδυσσεὶ ἀσπαστὸν εἰσατο γαῖα καὶ ὕλη,
νήχε δ' ἐπειγόμενος ποσὶν ἠπείρου ἐπιβῆναι.

Then, as the **recovery of a father** *appears welcome to children* / [after] he lay suffering great pain in sickness, / wasting away a long time — some hateful power afflicted him, / but the gods deliver him thankfully from the evil — / **so** the **land and trees** seemed **welcome to Odysseus**; / he swam on with all his strength to set foot upon dry land.

[land and trees appears welcome to Odysseus ≈ father's recovery appears welcome to his children] Narrator

- 9* (400) ἀλλ' ὅτε τόσσον ἀπῆν ὅσσον τε γέγωνε βοήσας, 400
καὶ δὴ δοῦπον ἄκουσε ποτὶ σπιλάδεσσι θαλάσσης:

But when **he** <Odysseus> **was as far away as a man's voice carries** when he shouts, and heard the boom of the sea upon the reefs.

[distance from Odysseus to shore ≈ distance of man's voice carries] Narrator

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

10 (432) ὡς δ' ὅτε πουλύποδος θαλάμης ἐξελκομένοιο
πρὸς κοτυληδονόφιν πυκιναὶ λαίγγες ἔχονται,
 ὡς τοῦ πρὸς πέτρησι θρασειάων ἀπὸ χειρῶν
ῥίνοι ἀπέδρυφθεν: τὸν δὲ μέγα κύμα κάλυψεν. 435

As, when the octopus is pulled from its bed, / numerous **pebbles are held on its suckers**, / **even so** the **skin** from his <Odysseus> strong hands were torn off **on the rocks**, / and then a large wave covered him.

[skin torn off on rocks ≈ octopus' suckers held on pebbles] Narrator

11 (488) ὡς δ' ὅτε τις δαλὸν σποδιῇ ἐνέκρυψε μελαίνῃ
 ἀγροῦ ἐπ' ἐσχατιῆς, ᾧ μὴ πάρα γείτονες ἄλλοι,
 σπέρμα πυρὸς σώζων, ἵνα μὴ ποθεν ἄλλοθεν αὔοι, 490
ὡς Ὀδυσσεὺς φύλλοισι καλύψατο:...

Then, [consider] a man in the farthest part of a farm for whom other neighbors are not nearby — / **as** he hides a **brand in the dark ashes**, / saving a seed for fire so that he need not kindle [it] from somewhere else — even so **Odysseus** covered himself **with leaves**;

[Odysseus covered with leaves ≈ fire brand hidden in ashes] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

5:191* θυμὸς σιδήρεος heart made of iron

Transformations and Disguises:

5:337* ἢ ῥ' Ὀδυσῆ' ἐλέησεν ἀλώμενον, ἄλγε' ἔχοντα,
αἰθυίῃ δ' ἐικυῖα ποτῇ ἀνεδύσετο λίμνης,

She <Ino> took pity on Odysseus, as he wandered and suffered, / and **she** rose up from the deep **as a seabird** on the wing,

[Ino ≈ seabird] Narrator

5:353* αὐτὴ δ' ἄψ ἐς πόντον ἐδύσετο κυμαίνοντα
αἰθυίῃ ἐικυῖα: μέλαν δὲ ἐ κύμα κάλυψεν.

And **she** <Ino> plunged again into the surging deep, / **as a seabird**; and the dark wave hid her

[Ino ≈ seabird] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

5:36* ἀλλ' ὄ γ' ἐπὶ σχεδῆς πολυδέσμου πήματα πάσων
 ἥματί κ' εἰκοστῷ Σχερίην ἐρίβωλον ἴκοιτο,
 Φαίηκων ἐς γαῖαν, οἳ ἀγχίθεοι γεγάασιν, 35
 οἳ κέν μιν περὶ κῆρι θεὸν ὥς τιμήσουσιν.

'But, suffering troubles on a firmly bound raft, / on the twentieth day, he <Odysseus> is to reach fertile Scheria, / the land of the Phaeacians, who are closely related to the gods, / and will honor **him** deep in their hearts **as a god**'

[Odysseus ≈ a god] Zeus

Odyssey Book 6 (ζ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#2 (102) [Nausicaa conspicuous among handmaids ≈ Artemis easily recognized among wood-nymphs]

#3 (130) [Odysseus approaches girls ≈ lion prowls for cattle, sheep, deer]

#4 (162) [admiration of Nausicaa ≈ admiration of shoot of a palm]

#6 (232) [Athena pours grace over Odysseus's head and shoulders ≈ artist overlays silver with gold]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1 (20) [Athena ≈ breath of wind]

#5 (231) [Odysseus hair ≈ hyacinth blossoms]

#7* (294) (τόσσον/ὄσσον) [distance from park to city ≈ distance a voice carries]

1 (20) ἦ δ' ἀνέμου ὥς πνοιῆ ἐπέσσυτο δέμνια κούρης, 20
 στῆ δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς, καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν,

She <Athena>, **like a breath of wind**, hastened to the bed of the girl <Nausicaa>, / stood over her head and spoke to her.

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

[Athena ≈ breath of wind] Narrator

- 2 (102) οἴη δ' Ἄρτεμις εἴσι κατ' οὔρεα ἰοχέαιρα,
ἢ κατὰ Τηύγετον περιμήκετον ἢ Ἐρύμανθον,
τερπομένη κάπροισι καὶ ὠκείης ἐλάφοισι:
τῇ δέ θ' ἅμα νύμφαι, κοῦραι Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο, 105
ἀγρονόμοι παίζουσι, γέγηθε δέ τε φρένα Λητώ:
πασάων δ' ὑπὲρ ἣ γε κάρη ἔχει ἠδὲ μέτωπα,
ῥεῖά τ' ἀριγνώτη πέλεται, καλαὶ δέ τε πᾶσαι:
ὥς ἢ γ' ἀμφιπόλοισι μετέπρεπε παρθένος ἀδμής.

As the archer **Artemis** goes through the mountains / of lofty Taygetus or Erymanthus / enjoying the wild boars and swift deer, / and **nymphs**, daughters of Aegis-bearing Zeus, / play in the countryside with her — then Leto rejoiced / [at seeing that] her daughter has a higher forehead than the others, / and *is easily recognized* [amid] a whole bevy of beauties — / even so the untamed **maiden** <Nausicaa> *was conspicuous among her handmaids*.

[Nausicaa conspicuous among handmaids ≈ Artemis easily recognized among wood-nymphs] Narrator

For discussion of this and the following simile see Watrous 1999.

- 3 (130) βῆ δ' ἴμεν ὥς τε λέων ὀρεσίτροφος ἀλκί πεποιθώς, 130
ὅς τ' εἶσ' ὑόμενος καὶ ἀήμενος, ἐν δέ οἱ ὅσσε
δαίεται: αὐτὰρ ὁ βουσί μετέρχεται ἢ οἴεσσιν
ἠὲ μετ' ἀγροτέρας ἐλάφους: κέλεται δέ ἐ γαστήρ
μῆλων πειρήσοντα καὶ ἐς πυκινὸν δόμον ἐλθεῖν:
ὥς Ἄδουσεὺς κούρησιν εὐπλοκάμοισιν ἔμελλε 135
μίξεσθαι, γυμνός περ ἐών: χρεῖω γὰρ ἴκανε.

As a mountain-bred **lion** goes his way trusting in his strength / and defying both wind and rain — his eyes / glare as he prowls among cattle or sheep, / or after wild deer, for he is famished, / and, tries to get at the **sheep** by going into a *compact* homestead — / **even so Odysseus** was about to approach the fair-haired **girls** <Nausicaa and handmaids>, / although he was naked, for great need came [on him].

[Odysseus approaches girls / although he was naked, for great n] Narrator

- 4 (162) ' Δῆλῳ δὴ ποτε τοῖον Ἀπόλλωνος παρὰ βωμῶ
φοίνικος νέον ἔρνος ἀνερχόμενον ἐνόησα:
ἦλθον γὰρ καὶ κείσε, πολὺς δέ μοι ἔσπετο λαός,
τὴν ὁδὸν ἦ δὴ μέλλεν ἐμοὶ κακὰ κήδε' ἔσεσθαι. 165

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

ὡς δ' αὐτως καὶ κείνο ἰδὼν ἐτεθήπεα θυμῷ
 δὴν, ἐπεὶ οὐ πῶ τοῖον ἀνήλυθεν ἐκ δόρου γαίης,
 ὡς σέ, γύναι, ἄγαμαί τε τέθηπά τε,...

'Once I <Odysseus> saw at Delos beside the altar of Apollo **such a thing**, / a young shoot of a palm tree coming up — / for I went there, and the people followed me, / on the journey which was likely to be [the source of] my troubles. / So, seeing that one, I marveled / a long time since never has such a tree come up out of the ground, — / **even so**, lady, I now admire and wonder at **you** <Nausicaa>,...' [admiration of Nausicaa ≈ admiration of shoot of a palm] Odysseus

For discussion of this simile see Glenn (1998) and Karakantza (2003).

	...κάδ δὲ κάρητος	230
5 (231)	οὐλας ἦκε κόμας, ὑακινθίνῳ ἄνθει ὁμοίας.	
6 (232)	ὡς δ' ὅτε τις χρυσὸν περιχεύεται ἀργύρῳ ἀνήρ ἴδρις, ὃν Ἥφαιστος δέδασεν καὶ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη τέχνην παντοίην, χαρίεντα δὲ ἔργα τελείει, ὡς ἄρα τῷ κατέχευε χάριν κεφαλῇ τε καὶ ὤμοις.	235

She <Athena> also made the **hair** grow thick on the top of his <Odysseus's> head, **like hyacinth blossoms**; / **as** an **artist** overlays **silver with gold** — / a skilled artist whom Hephaestus and Athena have taught / every sort of art, — and his work is full of beauty, / **so she** poured down **grace over his head and shoulders**.

#5 (231) [Odysseus hair ≈ hyacinth blossoms]

#6 (232) [Athena pours grace over Odysseus's head and shoulders ≈ artist overlays silver with gold] Narrator

Note: see Irwin 1990 concerning Bk 6 #5 (231). This simile also is at Bk 23 #3 (158).

	ἔνθα δὲ πατρὸς ἐμοῦ τέμενος τεθαλυῖά τ' ἀλώη, 7* (294) <u>τόσσον ἀπὸ πτόλιος, ὅσσον τε γέγωνε βοήσας.</u>
--	--

'There is my father's park and fruitful vineyard, / **as far from the city as a man's voice carries** when he shouts.'

[distance from park to city ≈ distance a voice carries] Nausicaa

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

6:90*	ἄγνωστιν μελιθῶα	honey-sweet grass
-------	------------------	-------------------

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

Transformations and Disguises:

6:22* στῆ δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς, καί μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν,
 εἰδομένη κούρη ναυσικλειτοῖο Δύμαντος,
 ἢ οἱ ὀμηλική μὲν ἔην, κεχάριστο δὲ θυμῷ.
 τῆ μιν εἰσαμένη προσέφη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη:

She <Athena> stood above her head, and spoke to her, / **taking the form** of the **daughter of Dymas, famed for his ships**, / a girl who was of like age with Nausicaa, and was dear to her heart. / Likening herself to her, the flashing-eyed Athena said:
[Athena ≈ seabird] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

6:16 βῆ δ' ἴμεν ἐς θάλαμον πολυδαίδαλον, ᾧ ἔνι κούρη 15
 κοιμᾶτ' ἀθανάτησι φυὴν καὶ εἶδος ὁμοίη,
 Ναυσικάα, θυγάτηρ μεγαλήτορος Ἀλκινόοιο,

She <Athena> went to the beautifully decorated bedroom in which a girl / slept — in shape and appearance **like the immortal goddesses** — / **Nausicaa**, daughter to King Alcinous.

[Nausicaa ≈ goddesses] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

6:152* εἰ μὲν τις θεός ἐσσι, τοῖ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσιν,
 Ἄρτεμιδί σε ἐγὼ γε, Διὸς κούρη μέγαλοιο,
 εἶδος τε μέγεθός τε φυὴν τ' ἄγχιστα εἴσκω:

'If you <Nausicaa> are some goddess, one of those who hold wide heaven, / to Artemis, the daughter of great Zeus, I liken you most nearly in appearance and in stature and in form.'

[Nausicaa ≈ Artemis] Odysseus

6:243* πρόσθεν μὲν γὰρ δὴ μοι ἀεικέλιος δέατ' εἶναι,
 νῦν δὲ θεοῖσιν ἔοικε, τοῖ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσιν.

'Before he <Odysseus> seemed to me <Nausicaa> to be ugly, / but now he is **like the gods** who dwell in heaven.'

[Odysseus ≈ gods] Nausicaa

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

6:309 ἔνθα δὲ πατρὸς ἐμοῖο θρόνος ποτικέκλιται αὐτῇ,
τῷ ὅ γε οἴνοποτάζει ἐφήμενος ἀθάνατος ὤς.

‘The seat of my <Nausicaa's> **father** <Alcinous> lies by her's <Arete's> — / a seat on which he sits and drinks wine **like** an immortal **god**.’
[father ≈ god] Nausicaa

Lee counts this as a simile.

Odyssey Book 7 (η)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1 (36) [ships ≈ wing or thought]

#2 (84) [gleam of palace ≈ gleam of sun or moon]

#3 (106) [servants at work ≈ leaves of poplar tree]

1 (36) νηυσὶ θοῆσιν τοί γε πεποιθότες ὠκείησι
λαῖτμα μέγ' ἐκπερόωσιν, ἐπεὶ σφισι δῶκ' ἐνοσίχθων: 35
τῶν νέεες ὠκεῖαι ὤς εἰ ππερὸν ἢ νόημα.

‘They <the Phaeacians> rely on their quick, swift ships / and cross the immense sea since the earth shaker <Poseidon> granted them [this capability] — / the **ships** are swift **like** [a bird on] **wing** or a **thought**.’

[ships ≈ wing or thought] Athena

2 (84) ὤς τε γὰρ ἡελίου αἴγλη πέλεν ἢ ἐ σελήνης
δῶμα καθ' ὑψερεφές μεγαλήτορος Ἀλκινόοιο. 85

There was a **gleam as [the gleam] of the sun or moon** / throughout the high-roofed **palace** of proud Alcinous.

[gleam of palace ≈ gleam of sun or moon] Narrator

Note: Same as Book 4, line 45

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

3 (106) αἰ δ' ἰστοὺς ὑφόωσι καὶ ἠλάκατα στρωφῶσιν 105
 ἤμεναι, οἷά τε φύλλα μακεδνῆς αἰγείροιο:

Some <of the 50 servants> work at the loom, or sit and turn the spindles, **like the leaves of a tall poplar tree**.

[servants at work ≈ leaves of poplar tree] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

7:182* μελίφρονα οἶνον honey-hearted wine

Transformations and Disguises:

7:20* ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ἄρ' ἔμελλε πόλιν δύσεσθαι ἔραννῆν,
 ἔνθα οἱ ἀντεβόλησε θεά, γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,
παρθενικῇ εἰκυῖα νεήνιδι, κάλπιν ἐχούσῃ. 20

But when he <Odysseus> was about to enter the lovely city, / then the goddess, flashing-eyed **Athena**, met him / **as a young maiden** carrying a pitcher, and she stood before him;

[Athena ≈ a young maiden] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

7:5 ...κασίγνητοι δέ μιν ἀμφὶς
 ἴσαντ' ἀθανάτοις ἐναλίγκιοι, οἳ ρ' ὑπ' ἀπήνης 5
 ἡμιόνους ἔλυον ἐσθῆτά τε ἔσφερον εἴσω.

Her **brothers** / — **resembling the immortal gods** — gathered round her <Nausicaa>; / they took the mules out from under the wagon, and carried the clothes inside.

[brothers ≈ gods] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

7:11* Ἀλκινόω δ' αὐτὴν γέρας ἔξελον, οὔνεκα πᾶσιν 10
 Φαίηκεσσιν ἀνασσε, θεοῦ δ' ὡς δῆμος ἄκουεν:

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

They chose her <servant Eurymedousa> as a prize for Alcinous because / he ruled all the Phaeacians, and the district obeyed [**him**] **as though a god**.

[Alcinous ≈ god] Narrator

ὥς κείνη περὶ κῆρι τετίμηταί τε καὶ ἔστιν
ἔκ τε φίλων παίδων ἔκ τ' αὐτοῦ Ἀλκινόοιο
7:71* καὶ λαῶν, οἳ μὴν ῥά θεὸν ὥς εἰσορόωντες
δειδέχεται μύθοισιν, ὅτε στείχησ' ἀνὰ ἄστῳ. 70

'Thus she <Arete> has been, and still is, respected deeply in the heart / by her children, by Alcinous himself, and by the people, who look on **her as a goddess**, / and greet her whenever she goes about the city'

[Arete ≈ goddess] Athena

... οὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ γε
7:209* ἀθανάτοισιν ἔοικα, τοὶ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσιν,
οὐ δέμας οὐδὲ φυήν, ἀλλὰ θνητοῖσι βροτοῖσιν. 210

'For I <**Odysseus**> / am **not like** the **immortals**, who hold the wide heaven, / in stature or form, but I am **like mortal men**.'

[Odysseus NOT ≈ immortals; Odysseus ≈ mortal men] Odysseus

7:291 ἀμφιπόλους δ' ἐπὶ θινὶ τεῆς ἐνόησα θυγατρὸς
παιζούσας, ἐν δ' αὐτῇ ἔην εἰκυῖα θεῆσι:

'I <Odysseus> saw your daughter's maid servants playing upon the beach, / and **she** <Nausicaa> was among them, **resembling the goddesses**.'

[Nausicaa ≈ goddesses] Odysseus

Lee counts this as a simile.

Odyssey Book 8 (θ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1* (124) (ὄσσοι/τόσσοι) [lead of Clytoneus ≈ range of a team of mules]

#3* (161) [Odysseus ≈ captain of merchant ship]

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

#6 (523) [Odysseus shedding tears ≈ woman crying]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#2* (159) [Odysseus NOT ≈ skilled in athletic contests]

#4* (164) [Odysseus NOT ≈ athlete]

#5 (280) [Hephaestus' chains ≈ spider's webs]

1* (124) τῶν δὲ θέειν ὄχ' ἄριστος ἔην Κλυτόνηος ἀμύμων:
ὄσσον τ' ἐν νειῶ οὖρον πέλει ἡμιόνοιιν,
τόσσον ὑπεκπροθέων λαοὺς ἴκεθ', οἱ δ' ἐλίποντο. 125

But among them noble Clytoneus was by far the best at running, / and **by as far as** is the range of a team of mules in fallow land, / **by so far he shot to the front** and reached the crowd, and the others were left behind.

[lead of Clytoneus ≈ range of a team of mules] Narrator

2* (159) 'οὐ γάρ σ' οὐδέ, ξεῖνε, δαήμονι φωτὶ εἴσκω
ἄθλων, οἷά τε πολλὰ μετ' ἀνθρώποισι πέλονται, 160
3* (161) ἀλλὰ τῷ, ὅς θ' ἅμα νηὶ πολυκλήιδι θαμίζων,
ἀρχὸς ναυτῶν οἷ τε πρηκτῆρες ἕασιν,
φόρτου τε μνήμων καὶ ἐπίσκοπος ἦσιν ὁδαιῶν
4* (164) κερδέων θ' ἀρπαλέων: οὐδ' ἀθλητῆρι ἔοικας.

'No, stranger, for I **do not liken you** <Odysseus> to a **man that is skilled** / in athletic **contests**, such as are numerous among men, / but **to** one who comes frequently with his benched ship / and is a **captain of** sailors who are **merchantmen**, / one who is mindful of his freight, and has charge of a home-borne cargo, / and the gains of his greed. **You do not look like an athlete.**'

#2* (159) [Odysseus NOT ≈ skilled in athletic contests]

#3* (161) [Odysseus ≈ captain of merchant ship]

#4* (164) [Odysseus NOT ≈ athlete] Euryalus, a Phaeacian nobleman

5 (280) βῆ ῥ' ἴμεν ἐς θάλαμον, ὅθι οἱ φίλα δέμνι' ἔκειτο,
ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' ἐρμῖσιν χεε δέσματα κύκλω ἀπάντη:
πολλὰ δὲ καὶ καθύπερθε μελαθρόφιν ἐξεκέχυντο,
ἥύτ' ἀράχνια λεπτὰ, τά γ' οὐ κέ τις οὐδὲ ἴδοιτο, 280
οὐδὲ θεῶν μακάρων: πέρι γὰρ δολόεντα τέτυκτο.

He <Hephaestus> went into the bedroom, where his lovely bedding lay, / and festooned the bed-posts all around with **chains**; / many were hung down from the roof beams, /

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

like delicate spider's webs. No one could see them, / not even the blessed gods, for they were made very subtly.

[chains ≈ spider's webs] Narrator paraphrasing the story of the bard Demodocus
See Holmberg (2003) for the significance of the spider's web simile.

6 (523)	<u>ὥς δὲ γυνὴ κλαίῃσι φίλον πόσιν ἀμφιπεσοῦσα,</u> ὅς τε ἐῆς πρόσθεν πόλιος λαῶν τε πέσῃσιν, ἄστει καὶ τεκέεσσιν ἀμύνων νηλεὲς ἦμαρ:	525
	ἢ μὲν τὸν θνήσκοντα καὶ ἀσπαίροντα ἰδοῦσα ἀμφ' αὐτῷ χυμένη λίγα κωκύει: οἱ δὲ τ' ὀπισθε κόπποντες δούρεσσι μετάφρενον ἠδὲ καὶ ὦμους εἴρερον εἰσανάγουσι, πόνον τ' ἐχέμεν καὶ οἰζύν:	
	τῆς δ' ἐλεεινοτάτῳ ἄχεϊ φθινύθουσι παρειαί:	530
	<u>ὥς Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐλεεινὸν ὑπ' ὀφρύσι δάκρυον εἶβεν.</u>	

As a woman cries when she throws herself around her husband, / who has fallen before his city and people, / defending against the merciless day for his home and children — / when she sees him gasping for breath and dying, / she flings her arms around him and screams aloud, / but they <the enemy> beat her with spears from behind, about the back and shoulders, / and carry her off into slavery, to a life of labor and sorrow, / and her cheeks are wasted with very pitiable grief — / **even so Odysseus shed tears** pitifully from under his brows.

[Odysseus shedding tears ≈ woman crying] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

8:579* ἐπεκλώσαντο ὄλεθρον spun the skein of ruin

Transformations and Disguises:

8:8* ἢ δ' ἀνὰ ἄστῳ μετώχετο Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη
εἰδομένη κήρυκι δαίφρονος Ἀλκινόοιο,
νόστον Ὀδυσσῆι μεγαλήτορι μητιώσα,

And Pallas **Athena** went throughout the city, / **in the likeness of the herald** of wise Alcinous, / devising a return for great-hearted Odysseus.

[Athena ≈ a herald] Narrator

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

8:194* ...ἔθηκε δὲ τέρματ' Ἀθήνη
ἀνδρὶ δέμας ἐικυῖα, ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἕκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν:

Athena, in the likeness of a man, set the mark, / and she spoke and addressed him
<Odysseus>:

[Athena ≈ man] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

8:14* δευτ' ἄγε, Φαιήκων ἡγήτορες ἠδὲ μέδοντες,
εἰς ἀγορὴν ἰέναι, ὄφρα ξεινοιο πύθησθε,
ὃς νέον Ἀλκινόοιο δαίφρονος ἴκετο δῶμα
πόντον ἐπιπλαγχθεῖς, δέμας ἀθανάτοισιν ὁμοῖος.

'Here now, leaders and town councilors of the Phaeacians, / come to the assembly to
hear of the stranger <Odysseus> / who has just come to the house of fiery-hearted
Alcinous / after wandering over the sea, **in form like an immortal god.**'

[Odysseus ≈ gods] Athena

8:115 ἂν δὲ καὶ Εὐρύαλος, βροτολογῶ ἴσος Ἄρηϊ,
Ναυβολίδης, ὃς ἄριστος ἔην εἶδος τε δέμας τε
πάντων Φαιήκων μετ' ἀμύμονα Λαοδάμαντα. 115

[There] also [rose] up **Euryalus** son of Naubolos, who was **like man-destroying Ares** /
and was the best in body and appearance / of all the Phaeacians except faultless
Laodamas.

[Euryalus ≈ Ares] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

8:174* ἄλλος δ' αὖ εἶδος μὲν ἀλίγκιος ἀθανάτοισιν,
ἀλλ' οὐ οἱ χάρις ἀμφιπεριστέφεται ἐπέεσσιν, 175
ὥς καὶ σοὶ εἶδος μὲν ἀριπρεπές,...

'**Another** may be **like to the immortal gods** in appearance, / but he is not crowned
with gracefulness of words. / So your <Euryalus> appearance is conspicuous.'

[Another (alluding to Euryalus) ≈ gods] Odysseus

...ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἀσπασίως ἴδε θυμῷ 450

θερμὰ λοέτρ', ἐπεὶ οὐ τι κομιζόμενός γε θάμιζεν,
ἐπεὶ δὴ λίπε δῶμα Καλυψοῦς ἠυκόμοιο.
8:453* τόφρα δέ οἱ κομιδὴ γε θεῶ ὥς ἔμπεδος ἦεν.

He <Odysseus> was very glad / of a warm bath, for in no way had he been cared for / ever since he left the house of fair-haired Calypso, / so long [as he remained with her] there had been care for **him as though for a god**.

[Odysseus ≈ god] Narrator

τῷ κέν τοι καὶ κείθι θεῶ ὥς εὐχετοώμην
8:467* αἰεὶ ἦματα πάντα: σὺ γάρ μ' ἐβίωσαο, κούρη.

'Then will I even there pray to **you** <Nausicaa> **as to a god** / all my days, for you, maiden, gave me life.'

[Nausicaa ≈ god] Odysseus

ἄλλον δ' ἄλλη ἄειδε πόλιν κεραιζέμεν αἰπήν,
αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσῆα προτὶ δώματα Δηϊφόβοιο
8:518 βήμεναι, ἦ ὕτ' Ἄρηα σὺν ἀντιθέῳ Μενελάῳ.

He <Demodocus> sang of how others variously sacked the lofty city, / and specifically of how **Odysseus** went to the house of Deiphobos, / **like Ares**, along with god-like Menelaus.

[Odysseus ≈ Ares] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

Odyssey Book 9 (I)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1* (51) (ῥοα) [number of Cicones ≈ number of leaves and flowers]

#2 (190) [Polyphemus NOT ≈ bread-eating man; Polyphemus ≈ wooded peak]

#3* (241) (τόσσην) [rock in doorway of Polyphemus cave NOT ≈ load carried by twenty-two wagons]

#4* (254) [Odysseus and his men ≈ pirates]

#7 (314) [stone put in doorway ≈ lid put on a quiver]

#8* (322) (ῥοσον/τόσσον) [size of club ≈ length and thickness of a mast]

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

#9 (384) [spinning sharpened stake in Polyphemos's eye ≈ spinning drill into ship's timber]

#10 (391) [hissing around stake in the eye ≈ hissing around axe or adze in cold water]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#5 (289) [two of Odysseus men ≈ puppies]

#6 (292) [Polyphemos ≈ mountain lion]

#11* (473) (τόσσον ἀπῆν, ὅσσον) [distance from Odysseus ship to Cyclops ≈ distance a man's voice carries]

1* (51) ἦλθον ἔπειθ' ὅσα φύλλα καὶ ἀνθεα γίγνεται ὥρη,
ἤεριοι: τότε δὴ ῥα κακὴ Διὸς αἴσα παρέστη
ἡμῖν αἰνομόροισιν, ἴν' ἄλγεα πολλὰ πάθοιμεν.

'So **they** <Cicones> came early in the morning, **as many as the leaves and flowers** come in the spring; / and then an evil fate from Zeus came / on us <Odysseus and his men> luckless men, that we might suffer many troubles.'

[number of Cicones ≈ number of leaves and flowers] Odysseus

2 (190) καὶ γὰρ θαῦμ' ἐτέτυκτο πελώριον, οὐδὲ ἐώκει 190
ἀνδρὶ γε σιτοφάγῳ, ἀλλὰ ῥίῳ ὑλήεντι
ὑψηλῶν ὀρέων, ὃ τε φαίνεται οἶον ἀπ' ἄλλων.

'For **he** <Polyphemos> was a prodigious monster, and he did **not seem like / a bread-eating man**, but **like a wooded peak** / of lofty mountains, which appears alone, apart from the others.'

[Polyphemos NOT ≈ bread-eating man; Polyphemos ≈ wooded peak] Odysseus

3* (241) ...οὐκ ἂν τόν γε δύω καὶ εἴκοσ' ἄμαξαι
ἐσθλαὶ τετράκυκλοι ἀπ' οὕδεος ὀχλίσειαν:
τόσσην ἠλίβατον πέτρην ἐπέθηκε θύρησιν.

'**Not even twenty-two** stout four-wheeled **wagons** / could lift it from the ground, / **such a towering mass of rock** he <Polyphemos> set in the doorway.'

[rock in doorway of Polyphemos cave NOT ≈ load carried by twenty-two wagons]

Odysseus

ἦ τι κατὰ πρῆξιν ἦ μασιδίως ἀλάλησθε,

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

4* (254) οἶά τε ληιστῆρες, ὑπεῖρ ἄλα, τοί τ' ἀλόωνται
ψυχὰς παρθέμενοι κακὸν ἄλλοδαποῖσι φέροντες; 255

'Is it on some business, or do **you** <Odysseus and his men> wander at random / over the sea, **like pirates**, who wander, / risking their lives and bringing troubles to foreigners?'

[Odysseus and his men ≈ pirates] Polyphemus quoted by Odysseus

5 (289) ὧς ἐφάμην, ὁ δὲ μ' οὐδὲν ἀμείβετο νηλεί θυμῷ,
ἀλλ' ὃ γ' ἀναίξας ἐτάροις ἐπὶ χειρας ἴαλλε,
σὺν δὲ δύω μάρψας ὧς τε σκύλακας ποτὶ γαίῃ
κόπτ': ἐκ δ' ἐγκέφαλος χαμάδις ῥέε, δεῦε δὲ γαῖαν. 290
6 (292) τοὺς δὲ διὰ μελεῖστί ταμῶν ὠπλίσσατο δόρπον:
ἦσθιε δ' ὧς τε λέων ὄρεσίτροφος, οὐδ' ἀπέλειπεν,
ἔγκατά τε σάρκας τε καὶ ὀστέα μυελόντα.

'So I <Odysseus> spoke, but he <Polyphemus> did not answer me with his pitiless heart, / but sprang up and reached out his hands to my men. / He seized **two** of them and dashed them to the earth **like puppies**, / and the brain flowed out on the ground and wetted the earth. / Then **he** cut them limb from limb, prepared his supper, / and ate them, **like a mountain lion**, leaving nothing — / he ate the guts, the flesh, and the marrow-filled bones.'

#5 (289) [two of Odysseus men ≈ puppies]

#6 (292) [Polyphemus ≈ mountain lion] Odysseus

7 (314) δειπνήσας δ' ἄντρου ἐξήλασε πίονα μῆλα,
ῥηιδίως ἀφελὼν θυρεὸν μέγαν: αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα
ἄψ ἐπέθηχ', ὧς εἶ τε φαρέτρη πῶμ' ἐπιθείη.

'And, when he <Polyphemus> had dined, he drove his fat flock out of the cave, / easily moving away the great door-stone; and then / he **put it back in place**, **as** one might **put the lid on a quiver**.'

[stone put in doorway ≈ lid put on a quiver] Odysseus

8* (322) Κύκλωπος γὰρ ἔκειτο μέγα ῥόπαλον παρὰ σηκῷ,
χλωρὸν ἐλαίνεον: τὸ μὲν ἔκταμεν, ὄφρα φοροίη
αὐανθέν. τὸ μὲν ἄμμες ἐίσκομεν εἰσορόωντες 320
ὄσσον θ' ἰστὸν νηὸς ἐεικοσόροιο μελαίνης,
φορτίδος εὐρείης, ἥ τ' ἐκπεράα μέγα λαίτμα:
τόσσον ἔην μῆκος, τόσσον πάχος εἰσοράασθαι.

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

‘Beside a pen lay a great club of the Cyclops <Polyphemus>, / [a club of] green olive-wood, which he had cut in order to carry / when it had dried; and, as we looked at it, we **likened / it in size** to the **mast** of a black ship of twenty oars — / a merchantman, broad of beam, which crosses over the great sea — / **it was so large in length** and in **thickness** to look on.’

[size of club ≈ length and thickness of a mast] Odysseus

9 (384) οἱ μὲν μοχλὸν ἐλόντες ἐλάινον, ὄξυν ἐπ’ ἄκρῳ,
ὄφθαλμῷ ἐνέρισαν: ἐγὼ δ’ ἐφύπερθεν ἐρεισθεὶς
δίνεον, ὡς ὅτε τις τρυπῶ δόρυ νήιον ἀνήρ
τρυπάνῳ, οἱ δὲ τ’ ἐνερθεν ὑποσσείουσιν ἰμάντι 385
ἀπάμενοι ἐκάτερθε, τὸ δὲ τρέχει ἐμμενὲς αἰεὶ.
ὡς τοῦ ἐν ὄφθαλμῷ πυρήκεα μοχλὸν ἐλόντες
δινέομεν,...

‘They <Odysseus’s men> took the olive-wood **stake**, sharp at the point, / and thrust it into his <Polyphemus’s> eye, while I <Odysseus>, throwing my weight on it from above, / spun **it** around, **as** a man bores a ship’s **timber** / with a **drill**, while those below keep **it** spinning with a strap, / which they lay hold of by either end, and the drill runs around unceasingly. / **Even so** we took the fiery-pointed stake and spun it around in his eye,...’

[Spinning sharpened stake in Polyphemus’s eye ≈ Spinning drill into ship’s timber]

Odysseus

10 (391) ὡς δ’ ὅτ’ ἀνήρ χαλκεὺς πέλεκυν μέγαν ἢ ἐ σκέπαρνον
εἰν ὕδατι ψυχρῷ βάπτῃ μεγάλα ἰάχοντα
φαρμάσων: τὸ γὰρ αὔτε σιδήρου γε κράτος ἐστίν
ὡς τοῦ σίζ’ ὀφθαλμὸς ἐλαϊνέῳ περὶ μοχλῷ.

‘And **as** a smith dips a great **axe** or an **adze** / in **cold water** with loud hissing to temper it — for this is [the source of] the strength of iron — / **even so** his **eye** hissed around the olive-wood **stake**.’

[Hissing around stake in the eye ≈ hissing around axe or adze in cold water] Odysseus

11* (473) ἀλλ’ ὅτε τόσσον ἀπῆν, ὅσσον τε γέγωνε βοήσας,
καὶ τότε ἐγὼ Κύκλωπα προσηύδων κερτομίοισι:

‘But when **I was as far away as a man’s voice carries** when he shouts, / then I spoke to the Cyclops with mocking words’

[distance from Odysseus ship to Cyclops ≈ distance a man’s voice carries] Odysseus

Note: In line 491–492, the comparison of distance from the shore continues:

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

9:491* ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ δις τόσσον ἄλα πρήσσοντες ἀπῆμεν,
καὶ τότε δὴ Κύκλωπα προσηύδων:...

'But when we passed over the sea and were twice as far, I was then calling out to Cyclops ...'

This is the third time this simile has been used in the *Odyssey* (cf. Bk 5 #9* (400) and Bk 6 #7* (294)). Here it seems to be inconsistent with 9:473 in that Odysseus at 9:491 would be twice as far as a voice carries. Note Heubeck-Hoekstra 1989 on this line.

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

9:27* τρηχεῖ, ἀλλ' ἀγαθὴ κουροτρόφος: οὐ τοι ἐγὼ γε
ἦς γαίης δύναιμι γλυκερώτερον ἄλλο ἰδέσθαι.

'A rugged place <Ithaca>, but a good **nurse of the young**; and for myself no / other thing can I see sweeter than one's own land.'

[Ithaca's productivity (implied comparison) ≈ nurse of the young] Odysseus

9:125* νέες μιλτοπάρηοι red-cheeked ships

Divine Comparisons:

9:4* ἦ τοι μὲν τόδε καλὸν ἀκουέμεν ἐστὶν ἀοιδοῦ
τοιοῦδ' οἷός ᾽ ἐστὶ, θεοῖς ἐναλίγκιος αὐδήν.

'Indeed, this is a good thing, to listen to a singer / such as this **man** <Demodocus> is, **like the gods in voice**.'

[Demodocus ≈ gods] Odysseus

Odyssey Book 10 (κ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

- #4 (216) [wolves and lions wag their tails around Eurylochus's group ≈ dogs wag their tails around master]
#8 (410) [men around the returning Odysseus ≈ calves around their returning cows]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

- #1* (113) (ὄσην) [size of wife ≈ size of peak of a mountain]
#2* (120) [Laestrygonians NOT ≈ men; Laestrygonians ≈ Giants]
#3 (124) [spearing Odysseus's men ≈ spearing fish]
#5 (283) [Odysseus's companions penned ≈ pigs penned]
#6* (304) [flower of herb ≈ milk]
#7* (378) [Odysseus ≈ speechless person]

- 1* (113) οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ εἰσήλθον κλυτὰ δῶματα, τὴν δὲ γυναῖκα
εὐρον, ὄσην τ' ὄρεος κορυφήν, κατὰ δ' ἔστυγον αὐτήν.

'Now when they <Odysseus's men> had entered the glorious house, they found there his <Laestrygonian Antiphates's> **wife**, / **as big as** the **peak** of a mountain, and they were aghast at her.'

[size of wife ≈ size of peak of a mountain] Odysseus

- 2* (120) αὐτὰρ ὁ τεύχε βοὴν διὰ ἄστεος: οἱ δ' αἰόντες
φοίτων ἴφθιμοι Λαιστρυγόνες ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος,
μυριοί, οὐκ ἄνδρεσσιν εἰκότες, ἀλλὰ Γίγασιν. 120
οἳ ῥ' ἀπὸ πετράων ἀνδραχθέσι χερμαδίοισιν
βάλλον: ἄφαρ δὲ κακὸς κόναβος κατὰ νῆας ὀρώρει
ἀνδρῶν τ' ὄλλυμένων νηῶν θ' ἅμα ἀγνυμενάων:
3 (124) ἰχθύς δ' ὡς πεῖροντες ἀτερπέα δαῖτα φέροντο.

'Then he <Antiphates> raised a cry throughout the city, and as they heard it / the mighty **Laestrygonians** came thronging from all sides, / [a crowd] past counting, **not like men** but **like the Giants**. / From the cliffs, they hurled at us with rocks huge as a man could lift, / and at once there rose throughout the ships an ugly din, / alike from men that were

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

dying and from ships that were being crushed. /And spearing **them like fishes** they bore them home, a disgusting meal.'

#2* (120) [Laestrygonians NOT ≈ men; Laestrygonians ≈ Giants]

#3 (124) [spearing Odysseus's men ≈ spearing fish] Odysseus

4 (216) ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἀμφὶ ἄνακτα κύνες δαίτηθεν ίοντα
σαίνωσ', αἰεὶ γάρ τε φέρει μειλίγματα θυμοῦ,
ὥς τοὺς ἀμφὶ λύκοι κρατερώνυχες ἠδὲ λέοντες
σαῖνον: τοὶ δ' ἔδρισαν, ἐπεὶ ἴδον αἰνὰ πέλωρα.

'And as **dogs** wag their tails **around** their **master** as he comes from a feast, / for he always brings them treats, / so the <Circe's> stout-clawed **wolves and lions** wagged their tails **about them** <Eurylochus's group>; / but they were seized with fear, as they saw the dread monsters.'

[wolves and lions wag their tails around Eurylochus's group ≈ dogs wag their tails around master] Odysseus

5 (283) πῆ δὴ αὐτ', ὦ δύστηνε, δι' ἄκριας ἔρχεται οἶος,
χώρου αἰδρις ἐών; ἔταροι δέ τοι οἶδ' ἐνὶ Κίρκης
ἔρχεται ὥς τε σύες πυκινούς κευθμῶνας ἔχοντες.

'Where now, unlucky one, do you <Odysseus> go alone through the hills, / although you are ignorant of the land? Your **companions** there are penned at Circe's, / **like pigs** in crowded sties.'

[Odysseus's companions penned ≈ pigs penned] Hermes quoted by Odysseus

6* (304) ὥς ἄρα φωνήσας πόρε φάρμακον ἀργεῖφόντης
ἐκ γαίης ἐρύσας, καί μοι φύσιν αὐτοῦ ἔδειξε.
ρίζη μὲν μέλαν ἔσκε, γάλακτι δὲ εἴκελον ἄνθος:

'So saying, Argeiphontes <Hermes> gave me <Odysseus> the herb, / drawing it from the ground, and showed me its nature. / At the root it was black, but its **flower was like milk**.'

[flower of herb ≈ milk] Odysseus

7* (378) τίφθ' οὕτως, Ὀδυσσεῦ, κατ' ἄρ' ἔζει ἴσος ἀναύδω,
θυμὸν ἔδων, βρώμης δ' οὐχ ἄπτεαι οὐδὲ ποτήτορ;

'Why, **Odysseus**, do you sit this way **like a speechless person**, / eating your heart, and you do not touch food or drink?'

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

[Odysseus ≈ speechless person] Circe quoted by Odysseus

8 (410) ὡς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἄγραυλοι πόριες περὶ βοῦς ἀγελαίας, 410
ἐλθούσας ἐς κόπρον, ἐπὴν βοτάνης κορέσωνται,
πᾶσαι ἅμα σκαίρουσιν ἐναντία: οὐδ' ἔτι σηκοὶ
ἴσχουσ', ἀλλ' ἀδινὸν μυκώμεναι ἀμφιθέουσι:
μητέρας: ὡς ἔμ' ἐκεῖνοι ἐπεὶ ἴδον ὀφθαλμοῖσι,
δακρυόεντες ἔχυντο: δόκησε δ' ἄρα σφίσι θυμὸς 415
ὡς ἔμεν, ὡς εἰ πατρίδ' ἰκοίατο καὶ πόλιν αὐτὴν
τρηχεῖης Ἰθάκης, ἵνα τ' ἔτραφεν ἠδ' ἐγένοντο.

‘And **as when calves** in the homestead [come about] the herd of **cows** / who are returning to the farm yard, when they have had enough grazing — / all together the [calves] frolicked before them, and the pens no longer / hold them, but with constant mooing they run about their / mothers — **so**, when those men [Odysseus’s followers] saw me, **they** / thronged about **me** <Odysseus> weeping, and it seemed to their hearts / as though they had got to their native land, and the city / of rugged Ithaca itself, where they were bred and born.’

[men around the returning Odysseus ≈ calves around their returning cows] Odysseus

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Transformations and Disguises:

...αὐτίκ' ἔπειτα

10:239* ῥάβδῳ πεπληγυῖα κατὰ συφείοισιν ἐέργνυ.
οἱ δὲ συῶν μὲν ἔχον κεφαλὰς φωνὴν τε τρίχας τε
καὶ δέμας, αὐτὰρ νοῦς ἦν ἔμπεδος, ὡς τὸ πάρος περ. 240

‘Then presently / she struck them [Eurylochus’s men] with her wand, and penned them in the sties. / And **they** had the **heads, and voice, and bristles**, / and **shape of pigs**, but their minds remained unchanged even as before.’

[Eurylochus’s men ≈ pigs] Odysseus

10:278* ἔνθα μοι Ἑρμείας χρυσόρραπις ἀντεβόλησεν
ἐρχομένῳ πρὸς δῶμα, νεηνίη ἀνδρὶ εἰοικώς,
πρῶτον ὑπηγήτη, τοῦ περ χαριεστάτη ἦβη:

‘Then **Hermes**, of the golden wand, met me / as I went toward the house, **in the likeness of a young man** / with the first down upon his lip, in whom the charm of youth is fairest.’

[Hermes ≈ young man] Odysseus

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

Divine Comparisons:

10:222* Κίρκης δ' ἔνδον ἄκουον ἀειδοῦσης ὀπί καλῆ,
ἰστὸν ἐποιχομένης μέγαν ἄμβροτον, οἷα θεάων
λεπτά τε καὶ χαρίεντα καὶ ἀγλαὰ ἔργα πέλονται.

'Within they heard Circe singing with sweet voice, / as she went from side to side at the large, imperishable web, **such as** [is the handiwork] **of goddesses** — / finely-woven and beautiful, and glorious.'

[Circe's web ≈ goddess's handiwork] Odysseus

Odyssey Book 11 (λ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

- #5 (411) [Aegisthus kills Agamemnon after a feast ≈ one kills an ox at the trough]
- #6 (413) [killing of Agamemnon's companions ≈ slaughter of pigs]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

- #1 (207) [flitting of spirit of Odysseus's mother ≈ movements of shadow or dream]
- #2 (222) [spirit ≈ dream]
- #3 (243) [wave ≈ mountain]
- #4 (368) [Odysseus ≈ bard]
- #7 (605) [clamor of dead ≈ clamor of birds]
- #8 (606) [Heracles ≈ dark night]

1 (207) ...αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ γ' ἔθελον φρεσὶ μερμηρίξας
μητρὸς ἐμῆς ψυχὴν ἐλέειν κατατεθνηύϊης. 205
τρὶς μὲν ἐφωρμήθην, ἐλέειν τέ με θυμὸς ἀνώγει,
τρὶς δὲ μοι ἐκ χειρῶν σκιῆ εἴκελον ἦ καὶ ὄνειρῳ
ἔππατ'. ἐμοὶ δ' ἄχος ὄξυ γενέσκετο κηρόθι μᾶλλον

'But I pondered in my heart / and wanted to grab the **spirit of my dead mother** <Anticlea>. / Three times I <Odysseus> sprang [towards her], and my heart urged me to

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

grab her, / and three times **she** flitted from my arms **like a shadow or a dream**, / and pain grew ever sharper in my heart.'

[flitting of spirit of Odysseus's mother ≈ movements of shadow or dream] Odysseus

2 (222) ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν τε πυρὸς κρατερὸν μένος αἰθομένοιο 220
δαμνῶ, ἐπεὶ κε πρῶτα λίπη λεύκ' ὄστ' ἄρα θυμός,
ψυχὴ δ' ἤύτ' ὄνειρος ἀποπταμένη πεπότηται.

'But the strong might of burning fire / destroys these, as soon as the life leaves the white bones, / and the **spirit, like a dream**, flies away and hovers about.'

[spirit ≈ dream] Odysseus

3 (243) πορφύρεον δ' ἄρα κύμα περιστάθη, οὐρεῖ ἴσον,
κυρτωθέν, κρύψεν δὲ θεὸν θνητὴν τε γυναῖκα.

'And the dark **wave** stood about them **like a mountain**, / arched over, and hid the god <Poseidon in the form of river god Enipeus> and the mortal woman <Tyro>.'

[wave ≈ mountain] Odysseus

4 (368) μῦθον δ' ὡς ὅτ' ἀοιδὸς ἐπισταμένως κατέλεξας,
πάντων τ' Ἀργείων σέο τ' αὐτοῦ κήδεα λυγρὰ.

'**You** <Odysseus> have told your story skillfully **as a bard** [would] — / the bitter troubles of all the Argives and of yourself.'

[Odysseus ≈ bard] Alcinous

5 (411) ἀλλὰ μοι Αἴγισθος τεύξας θάνατόν τε μόρον τε 410
ἔκτα σὺν οὐλομένη ἀλόχῳ, οἰκόνδε καλέσσας,
δειπνίσσας, ὡς τίς τε κατέκτανε βουὴν ἐπὶ φάτῃ.
6 (413) ὡς θάνον οἰκτίστῳ θανάτῳ: περὶ δ' ἄλλοι ἐταῖροι
νωλεμέως κτείνοντο σύες ὡς ἀργιόδοντες,
οἳ ῥά τ' ἐν ἀφνειοῦ ἀνδρὸς μέγα δυναμένοιο
ἦ γάμῳ ἦ ἐράνῳ ἦ εἰλαπίνῃ τεθαλυῖη. 415

'But **Aegisthus** inflicted death and fate on me <Agamemnon>, / and he with my accursed wife <Clytemnestra> **killed [me]**, when he had invited me to his house / and made me a feast, **even as one kills an ox** at a trough. / So I died by a most pitiful death, and around [me] the rest of my **companions** / were killed unceasingly **like** white-toothed **pigs**, / which [are slaughtered] in the house of a rich man of great might / at a wedding, a picnic, or a rich banquet'

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

#5 (411) [Aegisthus kills Agamemnon after a feast ≈ one kills an ox at the trough]

#6 (413) [killing of Agamemnon's companions ≈ slaughter of pigs] spirit of Agamemnon quoted by Odysseus

7 (605) ἀμφὶ δέ μιν κλαγγὴ νεκύων ἦν οἰωνῶν ὥς, 605
8 (606) πάντοσ' ἀτυζομένων: ὃ δ' ἐρεμνῆ νυκτὶ ἐοικώς,
γυμνὸν τόξον ἔχων καὶ ἐπὶ νευρῆφιν ὀιστόν,
δεινὸν παππαίνων, αἰεὶ βαλέοντι ἐοικώς.

'About him <Heracles> rose a clamor from the **dead, as of birds** / everywhere in terror; and **he like dark night**, / with his bow bare and with an arrow on the string, / glared about him terribly, always seeming to be shooting.'

#7 (605) [clamor of dead ≈ clamor of birds]

#8 (606) [Heracles ≈ dark night] Odysseus

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Similetic Metaphor:

11:125* οὐδ' εὐήρε' ἐρετμά, τά τε πτερὰ νηυσὶ πέλονται.

'[They do not know] well fitted **oars, which are wings** for ships.'

[oars ≈ wings] spirit of Teiresias quoted by Odysseus

This is a similetic metaphor in that both parts of the comparison ("oars" and "wings") are expressed.

Transformations and Disguises:

11:241* καί ῥ' ἐπὶ Ἐνιπέης πωλέσκετο καλὰ ῥέεθρα. 240
τῷ δ' ἄρα εἰσάμενος γαιήοχος ἐννοσίγαιος
ἐν προχοῆς ποταμοῦ παρελέξατο δινήεντος:

'And she <Tyro before entering Hades> used to visit the fair waters of Enipeus. But the **Enfolder and Shaker of the earth** <Poseidon> made himself **like him** <Enipeus>, and lay with her at the mouths of the eddying river.'

[Poseidon ≈ the river Enipeus] Odysseus

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

Divine Comparisons:

11:304* ἄλλοτε μὲν ζώουσ' ἕτερήμεροι, ἄλλοτε δ' αὖτε
τεθνήσιν: τιμὴν δὲ λελόγγασιν ἴσα θεοῖσι.

'One day they <Castor and Polydeuces> live in turn, and one day / they are dead; and **they** have won honor **like that of the gods.**'

[Castor and Polydeuces ≈ gods] Odysseus

11:484* πρὶν μὲν γάρ σε ζῶν ἐτίομεν ἴσα θεοῖσιν
Ἀργεῖοι, νῦν αὖτε μέγα κρατέεις νεκύεσσιν 485
ἐνθάδ' ἔων: τῷ μή τι θανῶν ἀκαχίζευ, Ἀχιλλεῦ.

'Before, we Argives honored **you** alive **like the gods**, / and now you rule powerfully among the dead / by being here. Therefore, do not be sorry at all that you are dead, Achilles.'

[Achilles ≈ gods] Odysseus quoting himself

Odyssey Book 12 (μ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#3 (251) [Odysseus' writhing men ≈ writhing fish caught by a fisherman]

#7* (439) (ἦμος/τῆμος) [time spars appeared out of Charybdis ≈ time for supper]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1* (86) (ᾠση)[voice of Scylla ≈ voice of a new-born puppy]

#2 (237) [Charybdis ≈ cauldron on a big fire]

#4 (413) [the pilot of the ship ≈ a diver]

#5 (418) [Odysseus' comrades ≈ sea-crows]

#6 (433) [Odysseus clinging to the fig-tree ≈ a bat]

1* (86) ἔνθα δ' ἐνὶ Σκύλλῃ ναίει δεινὸν λελακυῖα. 85
τῆς ἦ τοι φωνὴ μὲν ᾠση σκύλακος νεογιλῆς
γίγνεται, αὐτῆ δ' αὖτε πέλωρ κακόν: οὐδέ κέ τίς μιν
γηθήσειεν ἰδών, οὐδ' εἰ θεὸς ἀντιάσειεν.

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

‘Scylla dwells within, yelping terribly. / Her **voice** is indeed **as [the voice] of a new-born puppy**, / but she herself is an evil monster, nor would anyone / be glad at sight of her, not even if a god might meet her.’

[voice of Scylla ≈ voice of a new-born puppy] Circe quoted by Odysseus

Note the similarity of the name Scylla (Σκύλλη) and the word for puppy (σκύλαξ). See also Stanford 1959: Vol I 409.

2 (237) ἦ τοι ὄτ' ἐξεμέσειε, λέβης ὡς ἐν πυρὶ πολλῷ
πᾶσ' ἀναμορμύρεσκε κυκωμένη, ὑψόσε δ' ἄχνη
ἄκροισι σκοπέλοισιν ἐπ' ἀμφοτέροισιν ἔπιπτεν:

‘Verily whenever **she** <Charybdis> belched it <salt water> forth, **like a cauldron on a great fire** / she would seethe and bubble in utter turmoil, and high over head the spray / would fall on the tops of both the cliffs.’

[Charybdis ≈ cauldron on a big fire] Odysseus

3 (251) ὡς δ' ὄτ' ἐπὶ προβόλῳ ἀλιεὺς περιμήκει ῥάβδῳ
ἰχθύσι τοῖς ὀλίγοισι δόλον κατὰ εἶδατα βάλλων
ἐς πόντον προΐησι βοὸς κέρας ἀγραύλοιο,
ἀσπαίροντα δ' ἔπειτα λαβὼν ἔρριψε θύραζε,
ὡς οἷ γ' ἀσπαίροντες ἀείροντο προτὶ πέτρας:

255

‘And **as (when) a fisherman on a jutting rock** with his long pole / casting down food [as] bait for the little fishes, / lets down into the sea the horn of an ox of farmstead, / and then as he catches [a fish] flings it writhing ashore, / **thus were they drawn** writhing up towards the cliffs.’

[Odysseus' writhing men ≈ writhing fish caught by a fisherman] Odysseus

Sluiter 2014 compares similes relating fish to Odysseus' men in Bk 12 #3 (251) and to the suitors in Bk 22 #3 (384).

4 (413) ὁ δ' ἄρα πρυμνῆ ἐνὶ νηὶ
πλήξε κυβερνήτεω κεφαλὴν, σὺν δ' ὅστέ' ἄραξε
πάντ' ἄμυδις κεφαλῆς: ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἀρνευτῆρι ἐοικῶς
κάππεσ' ἀπ' ἰκριόφιν, λίπε δ' ὅστέα θυμὸς ἀγήνωρ.

‘On the stern of the ship [the mast] / struck the head of the **pilot** and crushed all the bones / of his skull together, and **like a diver** / he fell from the deck and his proud spirit left his bones.’

[the pilot of the ship ≈ a diver] Odysseus

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

πέσον δ' ἐκ νηὸς ἑταῖροι.
5 (418) οἱ δὲ κορώνησιν ἴκελοι περὶ νῆα μέλαιναν
κύμασιν ἐμφορέοντο, θεὸς δ' ἀποαίνυτο νόστον.

'My **comrades** fell from out the ship. / **Like sea-crows** they were borne about the black ship / on the waves and the god took from them their returning.'
[my comrades ≈ sea-crows] Odysseus

αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ ποτὶ μακρὸν ἐρινεὸν ὑψόσ' ἀερθεῖς,
6 (433) τῷ προσφύς ἐχόμεν ὡς νυκτερίς.

'But I, springing up to the **tall fig-tree**, / laid hold of it, and **clung to it like a bat**.'
[I/Odysseus clinging to the fig-tree ≈ a bat] Odysseus

7* (439) ...ἦμος δ' ἐπὶ δόρπον ἀνὴρ ἀγορήθεν ἀνέστη
κρίνων νείκεα πολλὰ δικαζομένων αἰζηῶν, 440
τῆμος δὴ τά γε δοῦρα Χαρύβδιος ἐξεφαάνθη.

'**At the hour when a man rises** from the assembly for his supper, / one that decides the many quarrels of young men that seek judgment, / **even at that hour those spars appeared** out of Charybdis.'

[time spars appeared out of Charybdis ≈ time for supper] Odysseus

Odyssey Book 13 (v)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1 (31) [Odysseus ≈ a tired farmer looking forward to the end of day]

#3 (81) [ship ≈ four yoked stallions]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#2 (80) [sleep ≈ death]

1 (31) ὡς δ' ὅτ' ἀνὴρ δόρποιο λιλαίεται, ᾧ τε πανήμαρ

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

νειὸν ἀν' ἔλκητον βόε οἴνοπε πηκτὸν ἄροτρον:
 ἀσπασίως δ' ἄρα τῷ κατέδου φάος ἡελίοιο
 δόρπον ἐποίχεσθαι, βλάβεται δέ τε γούνατ' ἰόντι:
 ὡς Ὀδυσῆ' ἀσπαστὸν ἔδου φάος ἡελίοιο.

35

And as [when] a man longs for supper, for whom all day long / a yoke of wine-dark oxen has drawn the jointed plough through fallow land, / and gladly for him does the light of the sun sink, /that he may go to supper, and his knees grow weary as he goes; / **thus gladly for Odysseus did the light of the sun sink.**

[Odysseus ≈ a tired farmer looking forward to the end of day] Narrator

	εὐθ' οἱ ἀνακλινθέντες ἀνερρίπτουν ἄλα πηδῶ, καὶ τῷ νήδυμος ὕπνος ἐπὶ βλεφάροισιν ἔπιπτε, νήγρετος, ἡδιστος, θανάτῳ ἄγχιστα εἰκῶς.	80
2 (80)		
3 (81)	ἢ δ', ὡς τ' ἐν πεδίῳ τετράοροι ἄρσενες ἵπποι, πάντες ἅμ' ὀρμηθέντες ὑπὸ πληγῆσιν ἰμάσθλης, ὑψὸς ἀειρόμενοι ῥίμφα πρήσσουσι κέλευθον, ὡς ἄρα τῆς πρύμνη μὲν αἰίρετο, κύμα δ' ὄπισθε πορφύρεον μέγα θύε πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης.	85

Then leaning back they tossed the sea with their oar blades, / and sweet **sleep** fell upon his eyelids, / unawakening, most sweet, and **most like to death**. / And **as on a plain four yoked stallions / springing forward all together** beneath the strokes of the lash, / and leaping on high swiftly accomplish their way, / **thus the stern of that ship leapt on high**, and in her wake a wave / dark [and] large of the loud-sounding sea surged.

#2 (80) [sleep ≈ death]

#3 (81) [ship ≈ four yoked stallions] Narrator

Note the comparison to a hawk in the sequel to this simile:

13:86* ἢ δὲ μάλ' ἀσφαλέως θέεν ἔμπεδον: οὐδέ κεν ἴρηξ
 κίρκος ὀμαρτήσειεν, ἐλαφρότατος πετεηνῶν.
 ὡς ἡ ῥίμφα θέουσα θαλάσσης κύματ' ἔταμνεν,
 ἄνδρα φέρουσα θεοῖς ἐναλίγκια μῆδε' ἔχοντα:

And she sped safely and surely on her way; **not even a hawk, / the hawk, swiftest of winged things, could have kept pace with her. Thus she sped on swiftly** and cut the waves of the sea, / bearing a man the peer of the gods in counsel.

[the ship NOT ≈ a swift hawk] Narrator

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

13:32* βόε οἴνοπε wine-dark oxen

13:388* Τροίης κρήδεμνα head-dress of Troy

Transformations and Disguises:

13:157* ὀππότε κεν δὴ πάντες ἐλαυνομένην προΐδωνται 155
λαοὶ ἀπὸ πτόλιος, θεῖναι λίθον ἐγγύθι γαίης
νηὶ θοῇ ἴκελον,...

‘When all the people are looking from the city on her <Phaeacian ship> advancing, / then turn her into stone near the land — / a **stone like** a swift **ship**,...’
[stone ≈ ship] Zeus quoted by Odysseus

13:222* σχεδόθεν δέ οἱ ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη,
ἀνδρὶ δέμας εἰκυῖα νέω, ἐπιβώτορι μῆλων,
παναπάλω, οἰοί τε ἀνάκτων παῖδες ἕασι,

And Athena drew near him / in the form of a **young man**, a herdsman of sheep, / one most delicate, **as** are the **sons of kings**.
[Athena ≈ herdsman; delicacy of disguised Athena ≈ delicacy of king’s sons] Narrator

13:288* ὣς φάτο, μείδησεν δὲ θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,
χειρὶ τέ μιν κατέρεξε: δέμας δ’ ἦϊκτο γυναικὶ
καλῇ τε μεγάλῃ τε καὶ ἀγλαὰ ἔργα ἰδυίη:

So he <Odysseus> spoke, and the goddess, flashing-eyed **Athena**, smiled, / and stroked him with her hand, and made herself **like to the form of a woman**, / beautiful and tall, and skilled in glorious handiwork.
[Athena ≈ beautiful woman] Narrator

13:430* ὣς ἄρα μιν φαμένη ράβδῳ ἐπεμάσσατ’ Ἀθήνη.
κάρψεν μὲν χροὰ καλὸν ἐνὶ γναμφοῖσι μέλεσσι, 430
ξανθάς δ’ ἐκ κεφαλῆς ὄλεσε τρίχας, ἀμφὶ δὲ δέρμα

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

πάντεσσι μελέεσσι παλαιοῦ θῆκε γέροντος,
 κνύζωσεν δέ οἱ ὅσσε πάρος περικαλλέ' ἐόντε:
 ἀμφὶ δέ μιν ῥάκος ἄλλο κακὸν βάλεν ἠδὲ χιτῶνα,
 ῥωγαλέα ῥυπόωντα, κακῶ μεμορυγμένα καπνῶ: 435
 ἀμφὶ δέ μιν μέγα δέρμα ταχείης ἔσσ' ἐλάφοιο,
 ψιλόν: δῶκε δέ οἱ σκῆπτρον καὶ ἀεικέα πήρην,
 πυκνὰ ῥωγαλέην: ἐν δὲ στρόφος ἦεν ἄορτήρ.

So saying, Athena touched him <Odysseus> with her wand. / **She withered the fair skin** on his supple limbs, / and destroyed the flaxen hair from off his head, / and about all his limbs she **put the skin of an aged old man**. / And she dimmed his two eyes that were before so beautiful, / and clothed him in other raiment, / a vile ragged cloak and a tunic, / tattered garments and foul, begrimed with filthy smoke. / And about him she cast the great skin of a swift deer, / stripped of the hair, and she gave him a staff, and a miserable pouch, / ragged, slung by a twisted cord.

[Odysseus ≈ aged old man] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

13:89* ὡς ἡ ῥίμφα θεούσα θαλάσσης κύματ' ἔταμνεν,
 ἄνδρα φέρουσα θεοῖς ἐναλίγκια μήδε' ἔχοντα:

Thus she <ship of Phaeacians> sped on swiftly and cut the waves of the sea, / bearing a man <Odysseus>, the peer of the gods in counsel.

[Odysseus ≈ gods] Narrator

13:231 ἀλλὰ σάω μὲν ταῦτα, σάω δ' ἐμέ: σοὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ γε 230
 εὐχομαι ὡς τε θεῶ καὶ σευ φίλα γούναθ' ἰκάνω.

'Nay, save this treasure, and save me; for **to you / do I pray, as to a god**, and I come to your dear knees.'

[you ≈ a god] Odysseus to Athena in disguise

Lee counts this as a simile. Lee also lists a 5 line simile associated with Book 13 line 231, but this simile can not be found.

Odyssey Book 14 (ξ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1 (21) [dogs ≈ wild beasts]

#2 (175) [Telemachus ≈ a tree sapling]

#3 (254) [Odysseus fictitious trip ≈ on a current]

#4 (308) [Odysseus' crew ≈ sea-crows]

1 (21) πὰρ δὲ κύνες, θήρεσσιν ἐοικότες αἰὲν ἴαυον
τέσσαρες, οὓς ἔθρεψε συβώτης, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν.

By these [boars] ever slept four **dogs**, [**savage**] **as wild beasts**, / which the swineherd had reared, a leader of men.

[dogs ≈ wild beasts] Narrator

2 (175) νῦν αὖ παιδὸς ἄλαστον ὀδύρομαι, ὃν τέκ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
Τηλεμάχου: τὸν ἐπεὶ θρέψαν θεοὶ ἔρνεϊ ἴσον. 175

'Now then I weep without stopping for the boy, whom Odysseus fathered, / Telemachus, since **the gods raised him like a sapling**.'

[Telemachus ≈ a tree sapling] Eumaeus

3 (254) ἑβδομάτῃ δ' ἀναβάντες ἀπὸ Κρήτης εὐρείης
ἐπλέομεν Βορέῃ ἀνέμῳ ἀκραεῖ καλῶ
ῥῆϊδίως, ὡς εἶ τε κατὰ ῥόον

'Embarking on the seventh day we sailed from broad Crete / on a favorable, brisk Boreas (North) wind / easily **as if with a current**.'

[Odysseus fictitious trip ≈ on a current] Odysseus

4 (308) οἱ δὲ κορώνησιν ἴκελοι περὶ νῆα μέλαιναν
κύμασιν ἐμφορέοντο: θεὸς δ' ἀποαίνυτο νόστον.

'**Like sea-crows they were borne** about the black ship / **on the waves**, and the god took from them their returning.'

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

[<Odysseus' crew> ≈ sea-crows] Odysseus

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

14:447* αἴθοπα οἶνον flaming wine

Divine Comparisons:

14:203* ...ἐμὲ δ' ὠνητὴ τέκε μήτηρ
παλλακίς, ἀλλὰ με ἴσον ἰθαιγενέεσσιν ἐτίμα
Κάστωρ Ἰλακίδης, τοῦ ἐγὼ γένος εὐχομαι εἶναι
14:205* ὃς τότε ἐνὶ Κρήτεσσι θεὸς ὥς τίετο δῆμῳ
ὄλβῳ τε πλούτῳ τε καὶ υἰάσι κυδαλίμοισιν.

'...but the mother that bore me <fictional Odysseus> was bought, / a concubine. Yet [my father <Castor>] honored **me even as his true-born sons** — / [my father] **Castor**, son of Hylax, whose family I claim to be from and who was honored as a god among the Cretans for his good estate, and his wealth, and his glorious sons.'

[fictional Odysseus ≈ true born sons of Castor; Castor ≈ god] Odysseus

Factual Comparison:

14:476 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἰκόμεσθα ποτὶ πόλιν αἰπύ τε τεῖχος,
ἡμεῖς μὲν περὶ ἄστου κατὰ ῥωπήϊα πυκνά,
ἂν δόνακας καὶ ἔλος, ὑπὸ τεύχεσι πεπτηῶτες
κείμεθα. νύξ δ' ἄρ' ἐπῆλθε κακὴ Βορέας πεσόντος, 475
πηγυλὶς: αὐτὰρ ὑπερθε χιῶν γένετ' ἠύτε πάχνη,
ψυχρὴ, καὶ σακέεσσι περιτρέφετο κρύσταλλος.

'Now when we had come to the city and the steep wall, / around the town in the thick brushwood / among the reeds and swamp-land, crouching beneath our arms, / we lay and night came on, foul, when Boreas <the North Wind> had fallen, frosty, and **snow** came down on us from above, covering us **like frost**, / bitter cold, and ice formed upon our shields.'

[snow ≈ frost] Odysseus in disguise talking to Eumaeus

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

Lee counts this as a simile. The comparison of snow to frost is not figurative; therefore, this is not a simile.

Odyssey Book 15 (ο)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#3* (174) [Odysseus takes vengeance ≈ eagle snatches goose]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1 (108) [a robe shone ≈ a star]

#2* (153) [Nestor ≈ father to Menelaus]

#4 (479) [the Phoenician woman fell ≈ a sea tern plunges]

1 (108) τῶν ἔν' ἀειραμένη Ἑλένη φέρε, δίᾳ γυναικῶν,
ὃς κάλλιστος ἔην ποικίλμασιν ἠδὲ μέγιστος,
ἀστὴρ δ' ὡς ἀπέλαμπεν: ἔκειτο δὲ νεΐατος ἄλλων.

One of these [robes] Helen, the beautiful lady, lifted out and took, / the one that was fairest in its broideries, and largest. / **It shone like a star**, and lay beneath all the others.

[a robe shone ≈ a star] Narrator

2* (153) ...ἦ γὰρ ἐμοί γε πατὴρ ὡς ἦπιος ἦεν,
ἦος ἐνὶ Τροίῃ πολεμίζομεν υἴες Ἀχαιῶν.

'For indeed he <Nestor> was **gentle as a father** to me, / while we sons of the Achaeans warred at Troy.'

[Nestor ≈ father to Menelaus] Menelaus

3* (174) ὡς ὄδε χῆν' ἤρπαξ' ἀπιταλλομένην ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
ἐλθὼν ἐξ ὄρεος, ὅθι οἱ γενεή τε τόκος τε,
ὡς Ὀδυσσεὺς κακὰ πολλὰ παθὼν καὶ πόλλ' ἐπαληθεῖς
οἴκαδε νοστήσει καὶ τίσεται: ἦε καὶ ἦδη
οἴκοι, ἀτὰρ μνηστήρσι κακὸν πάντεσσι φυτεύει.

175

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

‘**Even as this [eagle] snatched up the goose** that was bred in the house / when he came from the mountain, where are his family, and where he was born, / **even so**, after many toils and many wanderings, **Odysseus** / shall return to his home and **shall take vengeance**; or even now he is / at home, and is sowing the seeds of evil for all the suitors.’

[Odysseus takes vengeance ≈ eagle snatches goose] Helen interpreting flight of eagle past Telemachus

4 (479) ἄλλ’ ὅτε δὴ ἔβδομον ἡμαρ ἐπὶ Ζεὺς θῆκε Κρονίων,
τὴν μὲν ἔπειτα γυναῖκα βάλ’ Ἄρτεμις ἰοχέαιρα,
ἄντλῳ δ’ ἐνδοῦπησε πεσοῦσ’ ὡς εἰναλίη κήξ.

‘But when Zeus, son of Cronus, brought [upon us] the seventh day, / then Artemis, the archer, hit the [Phoenician] woman, / and **she fell** with a thud into the hold, **as a sea tern [plunges].**’

[the Phoenician woman fell ≈ a sea tern plunges] Eumaeus

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

15:178* κακὸν φυτεύει sow evil

15:329* σιδήρεον οὐρανὸν iron sky

15:348* γήραος οὐδῶ threshold of old age

Divine Comparisons:

15:181* οὕτω νῦν Ζεὺς θεΐη, ἐρίγδουπος πόσις Ἥρης:
τῷ κέν τοι καὶ κείθι θεῶ ὡς εὐχετοώμην

‘So may Zeus grant, the loud-thundering lord of Hera; / then will I <Telemachus> even there ever pray to **you** <Helen>, **as to a god.**’

[Helen ≈ god] Telemachus

Note: Line 181 is the same as *Odyssey* Book 8, 467

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

15:414* ἔνθα δύο πόλιες, δίχα δέ σφισι πάντα δέδασται:
τῆσιν δ' ἀμφοτέρησι πατήρ ἐμὸς ἐμβασίλευε,
Κτήσιος Ὀρμενίδης, ἐπιείκελος ἀθανάτοισιν.

'There are two cities, and everything is divided between them, / and over both my <Eumaeus> father ruled — / [my father,] Ctesius, son of Ormenus, a man like to the immortals.'

[Ctesius ≈ immortals] Eumaeus

15:520 ἀλλά τοι ἄλλον φῶτα πιφαύσκομαι ὃν κεν ἴκοιο,
Εὐρύμαχον, Πολύβοιο δαίφρονος ἀγλαὸν υἱόν,
τὸν νῦν ἴσα θεῶ Ἰθακήσιοι εἰσορόωσι: 520
καὶ γὰρ πολλὸν ἄριστος ἀνὴρ μέμονέν τε μάλιστα
μητέρ' ἐμὴν γαμέειν καὶ Ὀδυσσῆος γέρας ἔξειν.

'But I will you <Theoclymenus> of another man to whom you may go, / **Eurymachus**, glorious son of wise Polybus, / whom now **the men of Ithaca look upon as equal to a god**. For he is by far the best man, and is most eager / to marry my mother and to have the honor of Odysseus.'

[men of Ithaca look upon Eurymachus ≈ a god] Telemachus

Lee counts this as a simile.

Odyssey Book 16 (π)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1 (17) [the swineherd kissed and greeted Telemachus ≈ a loving father greets his own son after many years away]

#2 (216) [Telemachus and his father wailed ≈ birds (ospreys or vultures)]

1 (17) ὡς δὲ πατήρ ὃν παῖδα φίλα φρονέων ἀγαπάζη
ἐλθόντ' ἐξ ἀπίης γαίης δεκάτῳ ἐνιαυτῷ,
μοῦνον τηλύγετον, τῷ ἔπ' ἄλγεα πολλὰ μογήσῃ,
ὡς τότε Τηλέμαχον θεοειδέα δῖος ὑφορβὸς 20

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

πάντα κύσεν περιφύς, ὡς ἐκ θανάτοιο φυγόντα

And as a loving father greets his own dear son, / who comes in the tenth year from a distant land / — his only son and well-beloved, for whose sake he has borne much sorrow— / **thus did the goodly swineherd then clasp in his arms godlike Telemachus**, and kiss him all over as one escaped from death.

[the swineherd kissed and greeted Telemachus ≈ a loving father greets his own son after many years away] Narrator

2 (216) κλαῖον δὲ λιγέως, ἀδινώτερον ἢ τ' οἰωνοί,
φῆναι ἢ αἰγυπιοὶ γαμψώνυχες, οἷσί τε τέκνα
ἀγρόται ἐξείλοντο πάρος πετεηνὰ γενέσθαι:
ὡς ἄρα τοί γ' ἐλεεινὸν ὑπ' ὀφρύσι δάκρυον εἶβον.

And they <Telemachus and his father> **wailed aloud more vehemently than birds, / sea-eagles, or vultures** with crooked talons, whose young / the country-folk have taken from their nest before they were fledged; / **thus piteously** did they let tears fall from beneath their brows.

[Telemachus and his father wailed ≈ birds (ospreys or vultures)] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Transformations and Disguises:

16:157* ἀλλ' ἦ γε σχεδὸν ἦλθε: δέμας δ' ἦϊκτο γυναικί
καλῆ τε μεγάλη τε καὶ ἀγλαὰ ἔργα ἰδυίῃ.

But she <Athena> drew near **in the likeness of a woman**, / **beautiful** and tall, and **skilled** in glorious handiwork.

[Athena ≈ beautiful, skilled woman] Narrator

16:174* ἦ καὶ χρυσεῖη ράβδῳ ἐπεμάσασατ' Ἀθήνη.
φᾶρος μὲν οἱ πρῶτον ἐϋπλυνὲς ἠδὲ χιτῶνα
θῆκ' ἀμφὶ στήθεσσι, δέμας δ' ὠφελλε καὶ ἦβην.

With this, Athena tapped **him <Odysseus>** with her golden wand. / A well-washed cloak and a tunic she first of all / putt about his breast, and she **increased** his **stature** and his **youthful bloom**. [Odysseus ≈ increased stature and youthful bloom] Narrator

ἦ γάρ τοι νέον ἦσθα γέρων καὶ ἀεικέα ἔσσο:

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

16:200* νῦν δὲ θεοῖσιν ἕοικας, οἳ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσι. 200

‘Indeed just now you <Odysseus> were an old man and clothed , / whereas now **you** are **like the gods**, who hold broad heaven.’

[Odysseus transformed by Athena ≈ gods] Telemachus

16:209* αὐτὰρ τοι τόδε ἔργον Ἀθηναίης ἀγελείης,
ἧ τέ με τοῖον ἔθηκεν, ὅπως ἐθέλει, δύναται γὰρ,
ἄλλοτε μὲν πτωχῶ ἑναλίγκιον, ἄλλοτε δ’ αὖτε
ἀνδρὶ νέῳ καὶ καλὰ περὶ χροῖ εἴματ’ ἔχοντι. 210

‘But this surely is the work of Athena, driver of the spoil, / who makes me such as she will—for she has the power—/ **now like a beggar**, and now again / **like a young man**, and one wearing fair raiment about his body.’

[Odysseus ≈ a beggar or a young man] Odysseus to his son Telemachus

16:456* ...αὐτὰρ Ἀθήνη,
ἄγχι παρισταμένη, Λαερτιάδην Ὀδυσῆα
ράβδῳ πεπληγυῖα πάλιν ποίησε γέροντα,
λυγρὰ δὲ εἴματα ἔσσε περὶ χροῖ,

Then Athena / came close to Odysseus, son of Laertes, / and struck him with her wand, / and again **made him an old man**; and mean raiment she put about his body,

[Odysseus ≈ old man] Narrator

Odyssey Book 17 (ρ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

- #1 (111) [Nestor welcomed Telemachus ≈ a father would welcome son coming from afar]
#2 (126) [Odysseus > a cruel doom on the suitors ≈ a lion > cruel doom on 2 fawns]
#6 (518) [Odysseus charmed Eumaeus ≈ a minstrel sings to mortals]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

- #3* (416) [Antinous ≈ king]
#4 (463) [Odysseus ≈ a rock]
#5* (500) [Antinous ≈ black fate]

- 1 (111) ὤχόμεθ' ἔς τε Πύλον καὶ Νέστορα, ποιμένα λαῶν:
δεξάμενος δέ με κείνος ἐν ὑψηλοῖσι δόμοισιν 110
ἐνδुकέως ἐφίλει, ὡς εἴ τε πατὴρ ἐὼν υἱὸν
ἐλθόντα χρόνιον νέον ἄλλοθεν: ὡς ἐμὲ κείνος
ἐνδुकέως ἐκόμιζε σὺν υἰάσι κυδαλίμοισιν.

'We went to Pylos and to Nestor, the shepherd of the people, / and **he received me** in his lofty house / and gave me kindly welcome, **as if a father [might receive] his own son who after a long time had newly come from a far: even so kindly he tended me** with his glorious sons.'

[Nestor welcomed Telemachus ≈ a father would welcome son coming from afar]
Telemachus to his mother

- 2 (126) ὡς δ' ὀπότη' ἐν ξυλόχῳ ἔλαφος κρατεροῖο λέοντος
νεβροῦς κοιμήσασα νεηγενέας γαλαθηνούς
κνημοῦς ἐξερέησι καὶ ἄγκεα ποιήεντα
βοσκομένη, ὃ δ' ἔπειτα ἐὼν εἰσήλυθεν εὐνήν,
ἀμφοτέροισι δὲ τοῖσιν ἀεικέα πότμον ἐφήκεν, 130
ὡς Ὀδυσσεὺς κείνοισιν ἀεικέα πότμον ἐφήσει.

As when in the thicket-lair of a mighty lion a deer / has laid to sleep her new-born suckling **fawns**, / and roams over the mountain slopes and grassy vales / seeking

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

pasture, and then the lion comes to his lair / and **lets loose a cruel doom upon the two, / so will Odysseus let loose a cruel doom upon these men.**

[Odysseus > a cruel doom on the suitors ≈ a lion > cruel doom on 2 fawns] Narrator

3* (416) δός, φίλος: οὐ μὲν μοι δοκέεις ὁ κάκιστος Ἀχαιῶν 415
ἔμμεναι, ἀλλ' ὠριστος, ἐπεὶ βασιλῆϊ ἔοικας.

'Friend <Antinous>, give [me something]; you do not seem to me <Odysseus> to be the basest of the Achaeans, / but rather the noblest, for **you are like a king.**'

[Antinous ≈ king] Odysseus

4 (463) θρῆνυν ἐλὼν βάλε δεξιὸν ὦμον,
πρυμνότατον κατὰ νῶτον: ὁ δ' ἐστάθη ἡύτε πέτρη

He seized the footstool and flung it, / and struck <Odysseus> on the base of the right shoulder, where it joins the back. **But he stood firm as a rock.**

[Odysseus ≈ a rock] Narrator

5* (500) μαῖ', ἐχθροὶ μὲν πάντες, ἐπεὶ κακὰ μηχανόωνται:
Ἀντίνοος δὲ μάλιστα μελαίνῃ κηρὶ ἔοικε. 500

'Nurse <Eurynome>, they <the suitors> are all enemies, for they devise troubles. / But **Antinous especially seems like black fate.**'

[Antinous ≈ black fate] Penelope

6 (518) ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἀοιδὸν ἀνὴρ ποτιδέρκεται, ὅς τε θεῶν ἔξ
ἀεῖδει δεδαῶς ἔπε' ἱμερόεντα βροτοῖσι,
τοῦ δ' ἄμοτον μεμάσιν ἀκούεμεν, ὀππότε' ἀεῖδη: 520
ὥς ἐμὲ κείνος ἔθελγε παρήμενος ἐν μεγάροισι.

'**As when a man gazes upon a minstrel** who sings to mortals / lovely words that the gods have taught him, / and their desire to hear him has no end, whensoever he sings, / **thus he charmed me as he sat in my hall.**'

[Odysseus charmed Eumaeus ≈ a minstrel sings to mortals] the swineherd Eumaeus

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

17:57* ἄπτερος μῦθος unwinged <unspoken> word

17:82* εἰ δέ κ' ἐγὼ τούτοισι φόνον καὶ κῆρα φυτεύσω,

'If I will **sow death and fate** for them,'

[sowing seeds (implied comparisons) ≈ causing death and fate] Telemachus

Transformations and Disguises:

17:337* ἀγχίμολον δὲ μετ' αὐτὸν ἐδύσετο δώματ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
πρωχῶ λευγαλέω ἐναλίγκιος ἠδὲ γέροντι,

Right after him Odysseus entered the palace / in the **likeness of a woeful and aged beggar**

[Odysseus ≈ beggar] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

17:37 ἢ δ' ἴεν ἐκ θαλάμοιο περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
Ἄρτεμιδι ἰκέλη ἠὲ χρυσεῆ Ἄφροδίτῃ

Then wise **Penelope** came forth from her bedroom / **like Artemis** or golden **Aphrodite**
[Penelope ≈ Artemis or Aphrodite] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

Factual Comparison:

17:133* αἶ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίη καὶ Ἄπολλον,
τοῖος ἔων οἴός ποτ' ἐϋκτιμένη ἐνὶ Λέσβῳ
ἔξ ἔριδος Φιλομηλείδῃ ἐπάλαισεν ἀναστάς,
κάδ δ' ἔβαλε κρατερῶς, κεχάροντο δὲ πάντες Ἀχαιοί, 135
τοῖος ἔων μνηστήρσιν ὁμιλήσειεν Ὀδυσσεύς:

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

‘O father Zeus, and Athena, and Apollo, I <Menelaus> wish / that in **such strength, as** when once in well-built Lesbos he <Odysseus> rose up and **wrestled** a match with **Philomeleides** and threw him mightily, and all the Achaeans rejoiced, / **even in such** strength Odysseus **might come among the suitors.**’

[strength of Odysseus against suitors ≈ strength of Odysseus against Philomeleides]
Menelaus quoted by Telemachus

17:397* Ἄντινο', ἦ μευ καλὰ πατήρ ὡς κήδεαι υἱός,
ὄς τὸν ξείνον ἄνωγας ἀπὸ μεγάροιο διέσθαι
μύθῳ ἀναγκαίῳ: μὴ τοῦτο θεὸς τελέσειε.

‘Antinous, truly **you care well for me** <Telemachus>, **as a father for his son**, / seeing that you order me to drive the stranger from the hall / with a word of compulsion. May the god never bring such a thing to pass.’

[Antinous cares for Telemachus ≈ father cares for a son] Telemachus

Odyssey Book 18 (σ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1 (27) [greedy fellow (Odysseus) ≈ an old hag at the oven]

#2 (29) [greedy fellow (Odysseus) ≈ a sow wasting corn]

#3* (196) [Penelope ≈ whiter than new-sawn ivory]

#4 (240) [Irus ≈ a drunk]

#5 (296) [amber beads of chain ≈ the sun]

1 (27) ὦ πόποι, ὡς ὁ μολοβρὸς ἐπιτροχάδην ἀγορεύει,
γρηῖ καμινοῖ ἴσος: ὃν ἂν κακὰ μητισαίμην
κόππων ἀμφοτέρησι, χαμαὶ δέ κε πάντα ὀδόντας
2 (29) γναθμῶν ἐξελάσαιοι σοὺς ὡς ληϊβοτείρης.

‘Now see how glibly the **greedy fellow** talks, / **like an old hag at the oven**. But I will devise evil for him, / smiting him left and right, and will scatter on the ground all the teeth / from his jaws, **as though he were a sow wasting the corn.**’

#1 (27) [greedy fellow (Odysseus) ≈ an old hag at the oven]

#2 (29) [greedy fellow (Odysseus) ≈ a sow wasting corn] vagrant Irus

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

3* (196) λευκοτέρην δ' ἄρα μιν θῆκε πριστοῦ ἐλέφαντος.

[Athena] made [Penelope] whiter than new-sawn ivory.

[Penelope ≈ whiter than new-sawn ivory] Narrator

Note: This simile is a part of the description noted below under Transformations and Disguises.

	αἶ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίη καὶ Ἄπολλον, οὔτω νῦν μνηστήρες ἐν ἡμετέροισι δόμοισι νεύσιεν κεφαλὰς δεδμημένοι, οἱ μὲν ἐν αὐλῇ, οἱ δ' ἐντοσθε δόμοιο, λελύτο δὲ γυῖα ἐκάστου, ὥς νῦν Ἴρος κείνος ἐπ' αὐλείησι θύρησιν	235
4 (240)	<u>ἦσται</u> νευστάζων κεφαλῇ, μεθύοντι <u>ἑοικώς</u> , οὐδ' ὀρθὸς στήναι δύναται ποσὶν οὐδὲ νέεσθαι οἴκαδ', ὅπη οἱ νόστος, ἐπεὶ φίλα γυῖα λέλυνται.	240

'I wish, O father Zeus, and Athena, and Apollo, / that now the suitors were thus subdued in our halls, / and were hanging their heads, some in the court / and some within the hall, and that each man's limbs were loosened, / as **Irus** now sits there by the gate of the court, / **hanging his head like a drunken man**, and cannot stand on his feet, or go home / wherever it is, because his limbs are loosened.'

[Irus ≈ a drunk] Telemachus to his mother

	<u>ὄρμον</u> δ' Εὐρυμάχῳ πολυδαίδαλον αὐτίκ' ἔνεικε. 5 (296) <u>χρῦσεον</u> , ἤλεκτροισιν ἐερμένον <u>ἠέλιον ὥς</u> .	295
--	--	-----

And **a chain** of intricate workmanship did [another] immediately bring to Eurymachus, / wrought of gold, strung with **amber beads**, **like [bright as] the sun**.

[amber beads of chain ≈ the sun] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Transformations and Disguises:

...αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
ζώσατο μὲν ράκεσιν περὶ μήδεα, φαῖνε δὲ μηρούς
καλοὺς τε μεγάλους τε, φάνεν δὲ οἱ εὐρέες ὦμοι

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

18:70* στήθεά τε στιβαροί τε βραχίονες: αὐτὰρ Ἀθήνη
ἄγχι παρισταμένη μέλε' ἤλδανε ποιμένι λαῶν. 70

But Odysseus / wrapped his rags about his loins and showed his thighs, / attractive and great, and his broad shoulders appeared, / and his chest and mighty arms. And Athena / drew nigh and **made greater the limbs** of the shepherd of the people.

[Odysseus ≈ stronger person] Narrator

18:193* κάλλει μὲν οἱ πρῶτα προσώπατα καλὰ κάθηρεν
ἀμβροσίῳ, οἷῳ περ ἔϋστέφανος Κυθήρεια
χρίεται, εὐτ' ἂν ἴη Χαρίτων χορὸν ἱμερόεντα:
καί μιν μακρότερην καὶ πάσσονα θῆκεν ἰδέσθαι, 195

She <Athena> first made her <Penelope's> face **beautiful**, / with **ambrosial balm, such as that which Cytherea** <Aphrodite>, of the fair crown, / **anoints herself** when she goes into the lovely dance of the Graces; / and she made her taller, too, and statelier to look on, ...

[Penelope made beautiful ≈ Cytherea made beautiful] Narrator

Note: This transformation continues with Penelope being described as whiter than new-sawn ivory as shown in simile #3 at line 196 listed above.

Factual Comparison:

18:323 τὸν δ' αἰσχρῶς ἐνένιπε Μελανθῶ καλλιπάρηος,
τὴν Δολίος μὲν ἔτικτε, κόμισσε δὲ Πηνελόπεια,
παῖδα δὲ ὡς ἀτίταλλε, δίδου δ' ἄρ' ἀθύρματα θυμῷ:

And fair-cheeked **Melantho** rated him shamefully, / [Melantho] whom Dolius begot, but [whom] **Penelope** had reared / and **cherished as [her own] child**, and gave her playthings to her heart's desire.

[Melantho ≈ Penelope's child] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

Odyssey Book 19 (τ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

- #2 (109) [Penelope's fame ≈ the fame of some blameless king]
- #3 (205) [Penelope's cheeks melted as she wept ≈ snow melting on mountains]
- #8 (518) [Penelope's heart sways ≈ a nightingale sings sadly]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

- #1 (39) [Odysseus' hall glow ≈ a blazing fire]
- #4 (211) [Odysseus' eyes were unmoving ≈ horn or iron]
- #5 (233) [Odysseus' tunic glistened ≈ skin of a dried onion]
- #6 (234) [Odysseus' tunic ≈ sun]
- #7 (494) [Eurycleia ≈ silent as a stone or iron]
- #9 (574) [twelve axes ≈ keel-blocks]

- 1 (39) ἔμπης μοι τοῖχοι μεγάρων καλαί τε μεσόδομαι,
εἰλάτιναι τε δοκοί, καὶ κίονες ὑψόσ' ἔχοντες
φαίνοντ' ὀφθαλμοῖς ὡς εἰ πυρὸς αἰθομένοιο.

'Certainly **the walls** of the hall and the fair **beams** / and **cross-beams** of fir and the **pillars** that reach on high, / **seemed to my eyes** [to glow] **as if from blazing fire.**'
[Odysseus' hall glow ≈ a blazing fire] Telemachus

- 2 (109) ὦ γυναῖ, οὐκ ἄν τις σε βροτῶν ἐπ' ἀπείρονα γαῖαν
νεικέοι: ἦ γάρ σευ κλέος οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἰκάνει,
ὥς τέ τευ ἦ βασιλῆος ἀμύμονος, ὅς τε θεουδῆς
ἀνδράσιν ἐν πολλοῖσι καὶ ἰφθίμοισιν ἀνάσσων
εὐδικίας ἀνέχησι, φέρησι δὲ γαῖα μέλαινα
πυροῦς καὶ κριθάς, βρίθησι δὲ δένδρεα καρπῶ,
τίκτη δ' ἔμπεδα μῆλα, θάλασσα δὲ παρέχη ἰχθύς
ἐξ εὐηγεσίης, ἀρετῶσι δὲ λαοὶ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.

'Lady, no mortals upon the boundless earth / could find fault with you, for **your fame** goes up to the broad heaven, / **as does the fame of some blameless king**, who, god-fearing, / rules over many mighty men, / and upholds justice; and the black earth bears / wheat and barley, and the trees are laden with fruit, / the flocks bring forth young

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

unceasingly, and the sea provides fish, / [all] from his good leading; and the people prosper under him.'

[Penelope's fame ≈ the fame of some blameless king] Odysseus

ἢ in line 109 is a problem. See Stanford 1959 Vol. II: 319 for a discussion.

- 3 (205) τῆς δ' ἄρ' ἀκουούσης ῥέε δάκρυα, τήκετο δὲ χρώς:
ὡς δὲ χιῶν κατατήκετ' ἐν ἀκροπόλοισιν ὄρεσσιν, 205
ἦν τ' Εὐρος κατέτηξεν, ἐπὴν Ζέφυρος καταχεύῃ:
τηκομένης δ' ἄρα τῆς ποταμοὶ πλήθουσι ῥέοντες:
ὡς τῆς τήκετο καλὰ παρήϊα δάκρυ χεούσης,
κλαιούσης ἐὼν ἄνδρα παρήμενον. αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
θυμῷ μὲν γοώσαν ἐὼν ἐλέαιρε γυναῖκα, 210
4 (211) ὀφθαλμοὶ δ' ὡς εἰ κέρα ἔστασαν ἢ ἐσίδηρος
ἀτρέμας ἐν βλεφάροισι: δόλω δ' ὅ γε δάκρυα κεῦθεν.

And as she [Penelope] listened her tears flowed and her face melted / **as the snow melts on the lofty mountains**, / which Eurus [the East Wind] thaws when Zephyrus [the West Wind] has poured [it], / and as it melts the rivers flow full: / **so her fair cheeks melted as she wept** / mourning for her husband, who [even then was] sitting by her side. And Odysseus / in his heart had pity for his weeping wife, / but **his eyes stood fixed** between his lids / **as though they were horn or iron**, and with guile he hid his tears.

#3 (205) [Penelope's cheeks melted as she wept ≈ snow melting on mountains]

#4 (211) [Odysseus' eyes were unmoving ≈ horn or iron] Narrator

See Stanford 1959 Vol. II: 324 for discussions of possible emendations of κέρα.

- 5 (233) τὸν δὲ χιτῶν' ἐνόησα περὶ χροὶ σιγαλόεντα,
οἶόν τε κρομύοιο λοπὸν κάτα ἰσχαλέοιο:
6 (234) τῶς μὲν ἔην μαλακός, λαμπρός δ' ἦν ἡέλιος ὡς:

'And I noted the **tunic** about his body, **all shining** / **like the skin of a dried onion**, / so soft it was; and **it glistened like the sun**.'

#5 (233) [Odysseus' tunic glistened ≈ skin of a dried onion]

#6 (234) [Odysseus' tunic ≈ sun] Odysseus

See Stanford 1959 Vol II: 326–327 for discussion of the effect of possible change in the accent on κάτα.

- 7 (494) οἶσθα μὲν οἶον ἐμὸν μένος ἔμπεδον οὐδ' ἐπιεικτόν,
ἔξω δ' ὡς ὅτε τις στερεὴ λίθος ἢ ἐσίδηρος.

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

'You <Odysseus> know how firm my spirit is and unyielding: / I <Eurycleia> will be **like some hard stone or iron.**'

[Eurycleia ≈ silent as a stone or iron] Eurycleia

- 8 (518) ὡς δ' ὅτε Πανδαρέου κούρη, χλωρηὶς ἀηδών,
καλὸν ἀείδῃσιν ἔαρος νέον ἵσταμένοιο,
δενδρέων ἐν πετάλοισι καθεζομένη πυκνοῖσιν, 520
ἢ τε θαμὰ τρωπῶσα χέει πολυηχέα φωνήν,
παῖδ' ὀλοφυρομένη Ἴτυλον φίλον, ὃν ποτε χαλκῶ
κτείνει δι' ἀφραδίας, κοῦρον Ζήθοιο ἀνακτος,
ὡς καὶ ἐμοὶ δῖχα θυμὸς ὀρώρεται ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα,
ἢ ἐ μὲνω παρὰ παιδί καὶ ἔμπεδα πάντα φυλάσσω, 525

'As when the daughter of Pandareus, the pale-green songstress [nightingale], / sings sweetly, when spring is newly come, / sitting on the thick leaves of trees, / and with many trilling [notes] pours forth her rich voice / in wailing for her child, dear Itylus, whom she had one day / slain with the sword unwittingly, / the son of king Zethus; / **thus also my heart sways to and fro** [in doubt], / whether I should remain with my son and keep all things safe etc.'

[my heart sways ≈ a nightingale sings sadly] Penelope

See Anhalt 2002 and Levaniouk 2008 for a discussion of this simile.

- 9 (574) νῦν γὰρ καταθήσω ἄεθλον,
τοὺς πελέκειας, τοὺς κείνος ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐοῖσιν
ἵστασ' ἐξεΐης, ὀρυόχους ὡς, δώδεκα πάντας:
στάς δ' ὅ γε πολλὸν ἄνευθε διαρρίπασκεν ὀϊστόν. 575

'For now I shall set up for a contest / **those axes** which he was accustomed to erect in his halls, / **like keel-blocks** in line with one another, twelve in all, / and standing afar off he would shoot an arrow through them.'

[twelve axes ≈ keel-blocks] Penelope

See Pocock 1961 for a discussion of the alternatives of how the axes were arranged in a manner that would allow an arrow to be shot through them.

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphor:

19:446* πῦρ ὀφθαλμοῖσι δεδορκώς - flashing fire with eyes

Parable:

19:563* ξεῖν', ἦ τοι μὲν ὄνειροι ἀμήχανοι ἀκριτόμυθοι 560
γίγνοντ', οὐδέ τι πάντα τελείετα ἀνθρώποισι.
δοιαί γάρ τε πύλαι ἀμενηνῶν εἰσὶν ὄνείρων:
αἱ μὲν γὰρ κεράεσσι τετεύχεται, αἱ δ' ἐλέφαντι:
τῶν οἳ μὲν κ' ἐλθῶσι διὰ πριστοῦ ἐλέφαντος, 565
οἳ ῥ' ἐλεφαίρονται, ἔπε' ἀκράντα φέροντες:
οἳ δὲ διὰ ξεστῶν κεράων ἐλθῶσι θύραζε,
οἳ ῥ' ἔτυμα κραίνουσι, βροτῶν ὅτε κέν τις ἴδῃται.
ἀλλ' ἐμοὶ οὐκ ἐντεῦθεν οἴομαι αἰνὸν ὄνειρον
ἐλθέμεν: ἦ κ' ἀσπαστὸν ἐμοὶ καὶ παιδὶ γένοιτο.

'Stranger, dreams are are truly baffling and unclear of meaning, / and in no way are they all accomplished for men. / For there are **two gates** of **shadowy dreams**, / and some are made with **horns** and some with **ivory**. / Those dreams that pass through the gate of sawn ivory / deceive men, bringing words that are unfinished. / But those that come out through the gate of polished horn / are truly accomplished, when any mortal sees them. / But in my case it was not from there, I suppose, that my strange dream / came. Ah, truly it would then have been welcome to me and to my son.'
[gates of dreams ≈ ivory and horn] Penelope

Divine Comparisons:

19:54* ἦ δ' ἴεν ἐκ θαλάμοιο περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
Ἄρτεμιδι ἰκέλη ἠὲ χρυσῆι Ἀφροδίτῃ.

Then wise **Penelope** came forth from her bedroom / **like Artemis** or golden **Aphrodite**
[Penelope ≈ Artemis or Aphrodite] Narrator

19:267* καὶ γὰρ τίς τ' ἀλλοῖον ὀδύρεται ἄνδρ' ὀλέσασα 265
κουρίδιον, τῷ τέκνα τέκη φιλότῃ μιγεῖσα,
ἦ Ὀδυσῆι, ὃν φασὶ θεοῖς ἐναλίγκιον εἶναι.

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

'For any woman weeps when she has lost her wedded husband, / to whom she has borne children in her love, / though he were a different man from **Odysseus**, who, they say, is **like the gods**.'

[Odysseus ≈ gods] Odysseus in disguise

19:280* τὸν δ' ἄρ' ἐπὶ τρόπιος νεὸς ἔκβαλε κύμ' ἐπὶ χέρσου,
Φαιήκων ἐς γαῖαν, οἳ ἀγχίθεοι γεγάασιν,
οἳ δὴ μιν περὶ κῆρι θεὸν ὥς τιμήσαντο 280

'But a wave threw him <Odysseus> [riding] on the keel of his ship onto the dry land, / the land of the Phaeacians, who are near of kin to the gods. / These heartily honored **him, as a god**,...'

[Odysseus ≈ god] Odysseus in disguise

Factual Comparison:

19:203* ἴσκε ψεύδεα πολλὰ λέγων ἐτύμοισιν ὁμοῖα:

Speaking he <Odysseus> made many falsehoods [of his tale] seem like the truth [falsehoods ≈ truth] Narrator

Odyssey Book 20 (u)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1 (14) [Odysseus growls with indignation ≈ a dog growls at a stranger]

#2 (25) [Odysseus turned from side to side thinking ≈ both a cook and a cooking sausage being turned from side to side]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#3* (194) [Odysseus as beggar ≈ royal king]

#4* (362) [conditions in hall of suitors ≈ night]

1 (14) κραδίη δέ οἱ ἔνδον ὑλάκτει.
ὥς δὲ κύων ἀμαλῆσι περὶ σκυλάκεσσι βεβῶσα

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

ἄνδρ' ἀγνοίησας ὑλάει μέμονέν τε μάχεσθαι, 15
ὥς ῥα τοῦ ἔνδον ὑλάκτει ἀγαιομένου κακὰ ἔργα.

His heart *growled* within him <Odysseus>, and **as a dog** walking around [her] tender puppies / not recognizing a man, **growls** and wants to fight, **so** his [heart] within **growled** with indignation at their evil deeds.

[Odysseus growls with indignation ≈ a dog growls at a stranger] Narrator

See Rose 1979 for a discussion of the unusual use of ὑλάκτει in this simile and its relationship to other similes related to Odysseus' mental state.

2 (25) ἀτὰρ αὐτὸς ἐλίσσετο ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα.
ὥς δ' ὅτε γαστέρ' ἀνὴρ πολέος πυρὸς αἶθομένοιο, 25
ἐμπλείην κνίσης τε καὶ αἵματος, ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα
αἰόλλη, μάλα δ' ὦκα λιλαίεται ὀππηθῆναι,
ὥς ἄρ' ὃ γ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα ἐλίσσετο, μερμηρίζων
ὅπως δὴ μνηστήρσιν ἀναιδέσι χεῖρας ἐφήσει
μοῦνος ἐὼν πολέσι. 30

But *he turned himself from side to side*. / And **as when a man** with a large fire burning **turns** a sausage, / filled with fat and blood, **rapidly from side to side**, / and he longs for it to be cooked very quickly / **thus he turned himself about from side to side**, pondering all the time /how he would put his hands on [attack] the wicked suitors, being one against many.

[Odysseus turned from side to side thinking ≈ both a cook and a cooking sausage being turned from side to side] Narrator

Note: On Odysseus as both cook and sausage, see Rutherford (1992) 206.

3* (194) ...ποῦ δέ νύ οἱ γενεὴ καὶ πατρὶς ἄρουρα;
δύσμορος, ἧ τε ἔοικε δέμας βασιλῆϊ ἄνακτι:

'Where are his family and his native field? / Unlucky man <Odysseus in disguise>! Yet truly **in form he is like a royal king**;

[Odysseus as beggar ≈ royal king] Philoetius, a herdsman

4* (362) ἀλλὰ μιν αἶψα, νέοι, δόμου ἐκπέμψασθε θύραζε
εἰς ἀγορὴν ἔρχεσθαι, ἐπεὶ τάδε νυκτὶ εἴσκει.

'Quick, young men, send him <Theoclymenus> out of doors / to go to the assembly place, since these **conditions here are like night** [to him].'

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

[conditions in hall of suitors ≈ night] Eurymachus, a suitor

The comparison of the conditions in the hall to night picks up on the imagery of night and darkness in the dire figurative prediction of Theoclymenus in lines 352–358 (see metaphor 20.352 below). Perhaps Eurymachus is facetiously suggesting that the cure for the darkness Theoclymenus sees is to be taken outside to the light.

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Transformations and Disguises:

20:31* ...σχεδόθεν δέ οἱ ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη 30
οὐρανόθεν καταβάσα: δέμας δ' ἦϊκτο γυναικί:

Then **Athena** came down from heaven and drew near to him **in the likeness of a woman**

[Athena ≈ woman] Narrator

Metaphor:

20:352* ἄ δειλοί, τί κακὸν τόδε πάσχετε; νυκτὶ μὲν ὑμέων
εἰλύαται κεφαλαί τε πρόσωπά τε νέρθε τε γούνα.
οἰμωγῇ δὲ δέδηε, δεδάκρυνται δὲ παρειαί,
αἶματι δ' ἔρράδαται τοῖχοι καλαί τε μεσόδμαι: 355
εἰδώλων δὲ πλέον πρόθυρον, πλείη δὲ καὶ αὐλή,
ἰεμένων Ἔρεβόσδε ὑπὸ ζόφον: ἥελιος δὲ
οὐρανοῦ ἔξαπόλωλε, κακὴ δ' ἐπιδέδρομεν ἀχλύς.

‘You poor wretches, what a trouble is this that you are suffering? Your / heads, faces and knees below are **shrouded in night**. / Cries **blaze**, your cheeks have been [drenched in] tears, and the walls and rafters besprinkled with blood. / The porch and courtyard are full of ghosts, / going down to Erebus below the darkness. The sun / has been erased from the sky. An evil mist has run over [all].’

[suitors' unawareness > intensity of cries (implied comparisons) ≈ shrouded with night > blaze] Theoclymenus

Mythical Story or Parable:

Ἄρτεμι, πότνα θεά, θύγατερ Διός, αἶθε μοι ἤδη
ἰὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι βαλοῦσ' ἐκ θυμὸν ἔλοιο
αὐτίκα νῦν, ἣ ἔπειτα μ' ἀναρπάξασα θύελλα
οἶχοιτο προφέρουσα κατ' ἠερόεντα κέλευθα,

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

20: 66	<p>ἐν προχοῆς δὲ βάλοι ἀψορρόου Ὠκεανοῖο. 65 ὥς δ' ὅτε Πανδαρέου κούρας ἀνέλοντο θύελλαι: τῆσι τοκῆας μὲν φθίσαν θεοί, αἱ δ' ἐλίποντο ὄρφαναι ἐν μεγάροισι, κόμισσε δὲ δι' Ἀφροδίτη τυρῶ καὶ μέλιτι γλυκερῶ καὶ ἠδέϊ οἴνω: Ἥρη δ' αὐτῆσιν περὶ πασέων δῶκε γυναικῶν 70 εἶδος καὶ πινυτήν, μῆκος δ' ἔπορ' Ἄρτεμις ἀγνή, ἔργα δ' Ἀθηναίη δέδαε κλυτὰ ἐργάζεσθαι. εὐτ' Ἀφροδίτη δῖα προσέστιχε μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον, κούρης αἰτήσουσα τέλος θαλεροῖο γάμοιο— ἐς Δία τερπικέραυνον, ὃ γάρ τ' εὖ οἶδεν ἅπαντα, 75 μοῖράν τ' ἀμμορίην τε καταθνητῶν ἀνθρώπων— τόφρα δὲ τὰς κούρας <u>ἄρπυιαι ἀνηρείψαντο</u> καὶ ῥ' ἔδοσαν στυγερῆσιν ἐρινύσιν ἀμφιπολεύειν: ὥς ἔμ' <u>ἀϊστώσειαν</u> Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχοντες, ἥε μ' ἐϋπλόκαμος βάλοι Ἄρτεμις, 80</p>
--------	---

‘Artemis, mighty goddess, daughter of Zeus, would that now / you would shoot an arrow in my <Penelope> breast and take away my life / immediately now, or later a **storm would come and seize me** / taking me away over the murky paths, / and cast me forth at the mouth of backward-flowing Oceanus, / **as when storm-winds bore away the daughters of Pandareus.** / The gods killed their parents, and they were left / orphans in the halls, and fair Aphrodite took care [of them] / with cheese and sweet honeyed pleasant wine, / and, beyond all women, Hera gave them / beauty and wisdom, and chaste Artemis gave them stature, / and Athena taught them to make glorious handiworks. While fair Aphrodite was going to high Olympus, / asking for completion of a happy marriage for the maidens — / going to Zeus who delights in thunder and knows well all things, / both happiness and unhappiness of mortal men — / meanwhile the spirits of the storm snatched up the girls / and gave them to Erinyes to take care of. / Would that **even so those who have dwellings on Olympus might obliterate me**, or that fair-haired Artemis might hit me.’

[winds and gods sweep away Penelope ≈ Harpies snatch up daughters of Pandareus]
Penelope

This is counted as a simile by Lee.

* * *

Odyssey Book 21 (φ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1 (48) [doors bellowed ≈ a bull bellows]

#2 (406) [Odysseus strung the bow ≈ a musician strings a lyre]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#3 (411) [string of Odysseus bow ≈ the voice of a swallow]

1 (48) αὐτίκ' ἄρ' ἢ γ' ἰμάντα θοῶς ἀπέλυσε κορώνης,
έν δὲ κληῖδ' ἦκε, θυρέων δ' ἀνέκοπτεν ὀχῆας
ἄντα τιτυσκομένη: τὰ δ' ἀνέβραχεν ἠῦτε ταῦρος
βοσκόμενος λειμῶνι: τόσ' ἔβραχε καλὰ θύρετρα
πληγέντα κληίδι, πετάσθησαν δὲ οἱ ὤκα. 50

Immediately she released the thong from the handle / and inserted the key, and she shot back the bolts / aiming straight. And **they bellowed as a bull [bellows] / when grazing in a meadow, so loudly the fair doors bellowed,** / struck by the key; and quickly they flew open before her.

[doors bellowed ≈ a bull bellows] Narrator

Note: see Anhalt 1997.

2 (406) ὡς ἄρ' ἔφαν μνηστήρες: ἀτὰρ πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς,
αὐτίκ' ἐπεὶ μέγα τόξον ἐβάστασε καὶ ἶδε πάντη, 405
ὡς ὅτ' ἀνὴρ φόρμιγγος ἐπιστάμενος καὶ ἀοιδῆς
ῥηϊδίως ἐτάνυσσε νέψω περι κόλλοπι χορδῆν,
ἄψας ἀμφοτέρωθεν εὖστρεφές ἔντερον οἴος,
ὡς ἄρ' ἄτερ σπουδῆς τάνυσεν μέγα τόξον Ὀδυσσεύς.
3 (411) δεξιτερῇ ἄρα χειρὶ λαβὼν πειρήσατο νευρῆς: 410
ἦ δ' ὑπὸ καλὸν ἄεισε, χελιδόνι εἰκέλη αὐδῆν.

So spoke the suitors, but Odysseus of many wiles, / as soon as he had lifted the great bow and scanned it on every side / **as when a man well-skilled in the lyre and in song / easily stretches the string about a new peg,** / making fast at either end the twisted sheep-gut / **so** without effort **did Odysseus string the great bow.** / And he held

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

it in his right hand, and tried the **string, which sang sweetly beneath his touch, like to a swallow in tone.**

#2 (406) [Odysseus *strung* the bow ≈ a musician strings a lyre]

#3 (411) [bow string ≈ the voice of a swallow] Narrator

See Ready 2010 for a discussion of the significance of the comparison of a musician repairing his lyre to Odysseus repairing his position in his household through the use of the bow.

Simile Book 21 #3 (411) is repeated at 22:240; the latter has been included in the Transformation and Disguise category below.

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Divine Comparisons:

21:14* ἔνθα δὲ τόξον κεῖτο παλίντονον ἠδὲ φάρετρα
ἰοδόκος, πολλοὶ δ' ἔνεσαν στονόεντες ὄϊστοί,
δῶρα τὰ οἱ ξείνος Λακεδαίμονι δῶκε τυχῆσας
Ἴφιτος Εὐρυτίδης, ἐπιείκελος ἀθανάτοισι.

And the back-bent bow and the quiver that held the arrows lay there, / and many grief-laden arrows were in it — / gifts which a friend of Odysseus had given him when he met him once in Lacedaemon — Iphitus, son of Eurytus, a man **like the immortals**.

[Iphitus ≈ immortals] Narrator

21:37* ...οὐδὲ τραπέζῃ 35
γνώτην ἀλλήλων: πρὶν γὰρ Διὸς υἱὸς ἔπεφεν
Ἴφιτον Εὐρυτίδην, ἐπιείκελον ἀθανάτοισιν,
ὅς οἱ τόξον ἔδωκε...

...yet the two never knew one another at the table, for before that the son of Zeus <Heracles> had killed / Iphitus, son of Eurytus, a man **like the immortals**, / who gave Odysseus the bow.

[Iphitus ≈ immortals] Narrator

Odyssey Book 22 (χ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

- #1 (299) [suitors routed by Athena's aegis ≈ a herd of cattle driven by a gadfly]
- #2 (302) [Odysseus and Telemachus > the suitors ≈ vultures > smaller birds]
- #3 (384) [the suitors ≈ fish on a beach]
- #4 (402) [Odysseus bloodied amid the bodies of the slain suitors ≈ a lion after feeding on a ox]
- #5 (468) [the women who had consorted with the suitors being hanged ≈ thrushes or doves in a snare]

1 (299)	δὴ τότε Ἀθηναίη φθισίμβροτον αἰγίδ' ἀνέσχευ ὑπόθεν ἐξ ὀροφῆς: τῶν δὲ φρένες ἐπποίηθεν. οἱ δ' ἐφέβοντο κατὰ μέγαρον βόες ὡς ἀγελαῖαι: τὰς μὲν τ' αἰόλος οἴστρος ἐφορμηθεὶς ἐδόνησεν	300
2 (302)	ῶρη ἐν εἰαρινῇ, ὅτε τ' ἤματα μακρὰ πέλονται. οἱ δ' ὡς τ' αἰγυπιοὶ γαμψώνυχες ἀγκυλοχεῖλαι, ἐξ ὀρέων ἐλθόντες ἐπ' ὀρνίθεσσι θόρωσι: ταὶ μὲν τ' ἐν πεδίῳ νέφεα πώσσοισαι ἴενται, οἱ δέ τε τὰς ὀλέκουσιν ἐπάλμενοι, οὐδέ τις ἀλκὴ γίγνεται οὐδὲ φυγὴ: χαίρουσι δὲ τ' ἄνδρες ἄγρη: <u>ὡς ἄρα τοὶ μνηστήρας ἐπεσσύμενοι</u> κατὰ δῶμα τύπτον ἐπιστροφάδην.	305

Then Athena held up the man-destroying aegis / from the roof above. Their <the suitors'> minds were terrified, / and **they fled through the halls like a herd of cattle** / that a darting **gadfly** falls upon and drives along / in the season of spring, when the long days come. / And **as vultures of crooked talons and curved beaks** / coming forth from the mountains **dart upon smaller birds**, / which go over the plain avoiding the clouds, / and the vultures pounce upon them and slay them, nor is there any defence / or escape, and men rejoice at the chase; / **thus did they <Odysseus and Telemachus> set upon the suitors** throughout the house / and strike them left and right.

#1 (299) [suitors routed by Athena's aegis ≈ a herd of cattle driven by a gadfly]

#2 (302) [Odysseus and Telemachus > the suitors ≈ vultures > smaller birds] Narrator

τοὺς δὲ ἴδεν μάλα πάντας ἐν αἵματι καὶ κονίησι

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

- 3 (384) πεπτεῶτας πολλούς, ὥστ' ἰχθύας, οὐς θ' ἀλιῆες
 κοῖλον ἐς αἰγιαλὸν πολιῆς ἔκτοσθε θαλάσσης 385
 δικτύῳ ἐξέρυσαν πολυωπῶ: οἱ δέ τε πάντες
 κύμαθ' ἀλὸς ποθέοντες ἐπὶ ψαμάθοισι κέχυνται:
 τῶν μὲν τ' Ἥελιος φαέθων ἐξείλετο θυμόν:
 ὣς τότε ἄρα μνηστήρες ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισι κέχυντο.

But he saw them one and all fallen in the blood and dust / **many, like fish that fishermen** / have drawn forth upon the curving beach from the grey sea / in the meshes of their net, and they all / lie heaped upon the sand, longing for the waves of the sea, / and bright Helios (Sun) takes away their life; / **thus** then the suitors lay heaped upon each other.

[the suitors ≈ fish on a beach] Narrator

Sluiter 2014 compares similes relating fish to Odysseus' men in Bk 12 #3 (251) and to the suitors in Bk 22 #3 (384).

- 4 (402) εὐρεν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα μετὰ κταμένοιισι νέκυσσι,
 αἵματι καὶ λύθρῳ πεπαλαγμένον ὥστε λέοντα,
 ὅς ῥά τε βεβρωκῶς βοὸς ἔρχεται ἀγραύλοιο:
 πᾶν δ' ἄρα οἱ στήθος τε παρήϊά τ' ἀμφοτέρωθεν
 αἱματόεντα πέλει, δεινὸς δ' εἰς ὦπα ἰδέσθαι: 405
 ὥς Ὀδυσσεὺς πεπάλακτο πόδας καὶ χεῖρας ὑπερθεν.

There she <Eurycleia> found **Odysseus** amid the bodies of the slain, / **befouled with blood and filth, like a lion** that comes from feeding on an ox of the farmstead, / and all his chest and cheeks on either side / are stained with blood, and he is terrible to look upon; / **thus** Odysseus was befouled on his feet and his hands above.

[Odysseus bloodied amid the bodies of the slain suitors ≈ a lion after feeding on a ox]

Narrator

- 5 (468) ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἡ κίχλαι τανυσίπτεροι ἢ ἐπέλειαι
 ἔρκει ἐνιπλήξωσι, τό θ' ἐστήκη ἐνὶ θάμνῳ,
 αὐλὶν ἐσιέμεναι, στυγερόν δ' ὑπεδέξατο κοῖτος, 470
 ὥς αἴ γ' ἐξείης κεφαλὰς ἔχον, ἀμφὶ δὲ πάσαις
 δειρηῆσι βρόχοι ἦσαν, ὅπως οἴκτιστα θάνοιεν.
 ἦσπαιρον δὲ πόδεσσι μίνυνθά περ οὐ τι μάλα δῆν.

And **as when long-winged thrushes or doves / fall into a snare** that is set in a thicket, / as they seek to reach their resting-place, and hateful is the bed that gives them welcome, / **thus** the [women] held their heads in a row, and round the necks of all /

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

there were nooses, so that they might die most piteously. / And they writhed a little while with their feet, but not very long.

[the women who had consorted with the suitors being hanged ≈ thrushes or doves in a snare] Narrator

See Fulkerson 2002.

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

22:33* ὀλέθρου πείρατ' cords of destruction

Transformations and Disguises:

22:206* τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' ἀγχίμολον θυγάτηρ Διὸς ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη, 205
 Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἡμὲν δέμας ἠδὲ καὶ αὐδὴν.

Then **Athena**, daughter of Zeus, drew near them, / **like Mentor** in form and voice,
[Athena ≈ Mentor] Narrator

22:240 αὐτὴ δ' αἰθαλόεντος ἀνὰ μεγάροιο μέλαθρον 240
 ἔζετ' ἀναίξασα, χελιδόνι εἰκέλη ἄντην.

She <Athena> flew up to the roof-beam of the smoky hall, / and sat there **in the likeness of a swallow** to look upon

[Athena ≈ swallow] Narrator

Lee counts this as a simile.

Divine Comparisons:

22:349 αὐτοδίδακτος δ' εἰμί, θεὸς δέ μοι ἐν φρεσὶν οἶμας
 παντοίας ἐνέφυσεν: ἔοικα δέ τοι παραίδειν
 ὥς τε θεῶ: τῷ με λιλαίεο δειροτομήσαι.

'Self-taught am I, and a god has planted in my heart all manner of lays, / and I would sing **to you / as to a god**; wherefore be not eager to cut my throat.'

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

[you <Odysseus> ≈ a god] Phemius the minstrel

Lee counts this as a simile.

Odyssey Book 23 (ψ)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#4 (159) [Athena poured grace over his head and shoulders ≈ a cunning man overlays silver with gold]

#6 (233) [Odysseus was welcome to Penelope ≈ land to ship-wrecked sailors]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#1 (48) [Odysseus bloodied amid the bodies of the slain suitors ≈ a lion]

#2* (103) [Penelope's heart ≈ harder than stone]

#3 (158) [Odysseus' hair ≈ a hyacinth flower]

#5 (191) [olive tree ≈ a pillar in girth]

1 (48) κείατ' ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν: ἰδοῦσά κε θυμὸν ἰάνθης
αἵματι καὶ λύθρῳ πεπαλαγμένον ὥστε λέοντα.

'They lay one on the other; your <Penelope's> heart would have been warmed, seeing / him <Odysseus> befouled with blood and filth, **like a lion.**'

[Odysseus bloodied amid the bodies of the slain suitors ≈ a lion] Eurycleia

Note: Line 48 of Book 23 does not appear in the Perseus text. The Stanford 1959 text shows line 48 as being identical to Book 22 line 402, which is listed above as simile #4 in Book 22 above. Many editors consider the line spurious here (23.48) and omit it.

2* (103) σοὶ δ' αἰεὶ κραδίη στερεωτέρη ἐστὶ λίθοιο.

'Your <Penelope's> **heart** is ever **harder than stone.**'

[Penelope's heart ≈ harder than stone] Telemachus

αὐτὰρ κακὸν κεφαλῆς κάλλος πολὺν χεῦεν Ἀθήνη
μεῖζονά τ' εἰσιδέειν καὶ πάσσονα: καδὲ δὲ κάρητος

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

- 3 (158) οὔλας ἤκε κόμας, ὑακινθίνῳ ἄνθει ὁμοίας.
 4 (159) ὡς δ' ὅτε τις χρυσὸν περιχεύεται ἀργύρῳ ἀνήρ
 ἴδρις, ὃν Ἥφαιστος δέδαεν καὶ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη 160
 τέχνην παντοίην, χαρίεντα δὲ ἔργα τελείει:
 ὡς μὲν τῷ περίχευε χάριν κεφαλῆ τε καὶ ὤμοις.

And over his head **Athena shed abundant beauty**, / making him taller to look upon and mightier, and from his head / **she made locks to flow in curls like the hyacinth flower. And as when a man overlays silver with gold**, a cunning [workman] whom Hephaestus and Pallas Athena have taught / all manner of craft, and he produces works full of grace, / **thus [the goddess] poured grace on his head and shoulders**

#3 (158) [Odysseus' hair ≈ a hyacinth flower]

#4 (159) [Athena poured grace over his head and shoulders ≈ a cunning man overlays silver with gold] Narrator

Note: #3 (158), which repeats Bk 6 #5 (231), seems less suited to the context here and is rejected by some editors.

- 5 (191) θάμνος ἔφου τανύφυλλος ἐλαίης ἔρκεος ἐντός, 190
 ἀκμηνὸς θαλέθων: πάχετος δ' ἦν ἡύτε κίων.

There was a bushy long-leaved **olive tree** within the court, / strong [and] vigorous, and **in girth it was like a pillar.**

[olive tree ≈ a pillar in girth] Narrator

- 6 (233) ὡς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἀσπασίος γῆ νηχομένοισι φανήη,
 ὦν τε Ποσειδάων εὐεργέα νῆ' ἐνὶ πόντῳ
 ραΐση, ἐπειγομένην ἀνέμῳ καὶ κύματι πηγῶ: 235
 παῦροι δ' ἐξέφυγον πολιῆς ἀλὸς ἠπειρόνδε
 νηχόμενοι, πολλή δὲ περὶ χροῖ τέτροφεν ἄλμη,
 ἀσπασίοι δ' ἐπέβαν γαίης, κακότητα φυγόντες:
 ὡς ἄρα τῇ ἀσπαστὸς ἔην πόσις εἰσοροώση.

And as when a welcome land appears to swimming men, / whose well-built ship on the sea Poseidon / has struck as it was driven on by the wind and a swollen wave, / and few have escaped from the gray sea to the shore / by swimming, and much brine has crusted on their skin / and gladly have they set foot on land escaping from their misfortune; / **thus welcome to her was her husband** as she <Penelope> gazed upon him <Odysseus>.

[Odysseus was welcome to Penelope ≈ land to ship-wrecked sailors] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Metaphors:

23:172* σιδήρεον ἦτορ heart made of iron

Divine Comparisons:

23:163* ἐκ δ' ἀσαμίνθου βῆ δέμας ἀθανάτοισιν ὅμοιος.
And **he** <Odysseus> went forth from his chamber **like the immortal gods to look upon**.

[Odysseus ≈ a god] Narrator

23:339* οἱ δὴ μιν περὶ κῆρι θεὸν ὥς τιμήσαντο
καὶ πέμψαν σὺν νηϊ φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν, 340
χαλκὸν τε χρυσὸν τε ἄλις ἐσθῆτά τε δόντες.

Then how he came after many troubles to the Phaeacians, / who heartily honored **him** <Odysseus>, **as a god**, / and sent him in a ship to his dear native land, / after giving him bronze and plenty of gold and clothing.

[Odysseus ≈ god] Narrator

Odyssey Book 24 (ω)

SIMILES

SUMMARY

Scenes:

#1 (6) [the spirits of the suitors squealing ≈ bats squealing]

Short Clauses and Phrases:

#2 (148) [the web ≈ sun or moon]

#3 (538) [Odysseus ≈ an eagle]

1 (6) ὥς δ' ὅτε νυκτερίδες μυχῷ ἄντρου θεσπεσίῳ
τρίζουσαι ποτέονται, ἐπεὶ κέ τις ἀποπέσησιν

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

ὄρμαθοῦ ἐκ πέτρης, ἀνά τ' ἀλλήλησιν ἔχονται,
ὥς αἱ τετριγυῖαι ἄμ' ἦϊσαν: ἦρχε δ' ἄρα σφιν
Ἑρμείας ἀκάκητα κατ' εὐρώεντα κέλευθα.

10

As when bats in the hollow of a prodigious cave, / fly squealing when one of them has fallen / out of the cluster from a rock, and they are held by one another, / **thus they** went squealing together and Hermes the deliverer led them down moldy paths.
[the spirits of the suitors squealing ≈ bats squealing] Narrator

2 (148) εὐθ' ἢ φᾶρος ἔδειξεν, ὑφήνασα μέγαν ἱστόν,
πλύνασ', ἠελίω ἐναλίγκιον ἢ σελήνῃ,
καὶ τότε δὴ ῥ' Ὀδυσῆα κακός ποθεν ἤγαγε δαίμων
ἀγροῦ ἐπ' ἐσχατιήν, ὅθι δώματα ναίει συβώτης.

150

'When she had shown [us] the robe, after weaving **the great web** / [and] washing it, **resembling the sun or the moon**, / also then some cruel god brought Odysseus from somewhere / to the border of the field, where the swineherd dwelt in his home.'
[Penelope's web ≈ sun or moon] Amphimedon, the son of Melaneus

3 (538) σμερδαλέον δ' ἐβόησε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
οἴμησεν δὲ ἀλείς ὥς τ' αἰετὸς ὑψιπετήεις.

Terribly shouted the much-enduring, divine **Odysseus**, / and gathering himself together he **swooped upon them like an eagle of lofty flight**.

[Odysseus ≈ an eagle] Narrator

Similar Rhetorical Figures

Transformations and Disguises:

24:446* αὐτὸς ἐγὼν εἶδον θεὸν ἄμβροτον, ὅς ῥ' Ὀδυσῆϊ
ἐγγύθεν ἐστήκει καὶ Μέντορι πάντα ἔώκει. 445

'I <Medon> myself saw an immortal **god** <Athena>, who stood near Odysseus, / and seemed in all things **like Mentor**.'

[Athena ≈ Mentor] Medon, herald in Odysseus's house

24:503* τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' ἀγχίμολον θυγάτηρ Διὸς ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη
Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἡμὲν δέμας ἠδὲ καὶ αὐδὴν.

Then **Athena**, daughter of Zeus, drew near them / **like Mentor** in form and in voice,

* asterisked similes not listed in Lee List A

[Athena ≈ Mentor] Narrator

24:548* Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίη, κούρη Διὸς αἰγίοχοιο,
Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἡμὲν δέμας ἠδὲ καὶ αὐδὴν.

Pallas Athena, daughter of aegis-bearing Zeus, // **like Mentor** in form and in voice,

[Athena ≈ Mentor] Narrator

Divine Comparisons:

24: 371* ἐκ δ' ἄσαμίνθου βῆ: θαύμαζε δέ μιν φίλος υἱός,
ὥς ἴδεν ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖς ἐναλίγκιον ἄντην:

Then he <Laertes> came forth from the bath, and his dear son <Odysseus> was amazed at him, / as he saw **[him]** in person **like the immortal gods**.

[Laertes ≈ immortal gods] Narrator

Factual Comparison:

24:377* 'αἰ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίη καὶ Ἄπολλον,
οἷος Νήρικον εἶλον, εὐκτίμενον πολίεθρον,
ἀκτὴν ἠπείροιο, Κεφαλλήνεσσιν ἀνάσσω,
τοῖος ἔων τοι χθιζὸς ἐν ἡμετέροισι δόμοισιν,
τεύχε' ἔχων ὤμοισιν, ἐφεστάμεναι καὶ ἀμύνειν
ἄνδρας μνηστήρας: 380

'O father Zeus, and Athena, and Apollo I would, / that in **such strength, as** when I took Nericus, the well-built citadel / on the shore of the mainland, when I ruled the Cephallenians, / **even I were in such strength** with you <Odysseus> yesterday in our house with my armor on my shoulders and I would have defended against the suitors.'

[Laertes prayed for strength against suitors ≈ Laertes strength when Nericus captured] Laertes
