



EPIC AND EPIC HEROES

What is an Epic?

- A long story in poem form
- An epic has a hero.
- The epic is the story of the hero's travels and his fights with monsters.

- Epics

- were originally sung

- often to a harp

- contain information about the culture that created them

- religion, dress, home's, weapons and war, roles of men and women, and values and moral standards.

- contain clues to what the people who created them feared or did not understand

- such as natural disasters, death, heavens, storms, etc.

What do they all have in common?



EDWARD ARTEMYEV
THE ODYSSEY
music from motion picture



directed by Andrei Konchalovsky

Traits of an Epic Hero



Noble Birth

- The hero is typically a King, Prince, Demigod, or someone of high rank within their cultures.



Supernatural Abilities

- The hero possesses qualities of greatness, such as bravery, cunning, humility, or wisdom.



Vast Traveller

- The hero's travels take him to exotic or supernatural locations, often to battle against evil.



Unmatched Warrior

- The hero is a great warrior, in some capacity.



Cultural Legend

- The hero is well known in his own culture, before going out on his quest.



Humility

- A true hero completes heroic actions for their own sake. Heroes that choose to boast are often punished and humbled.



Battles Supernatural Forces

- The hero faces supernatural beings of some sort.



QUALITIES OF AN EPIC HERO

BATTLES
SUPERNATURAL
FORCES

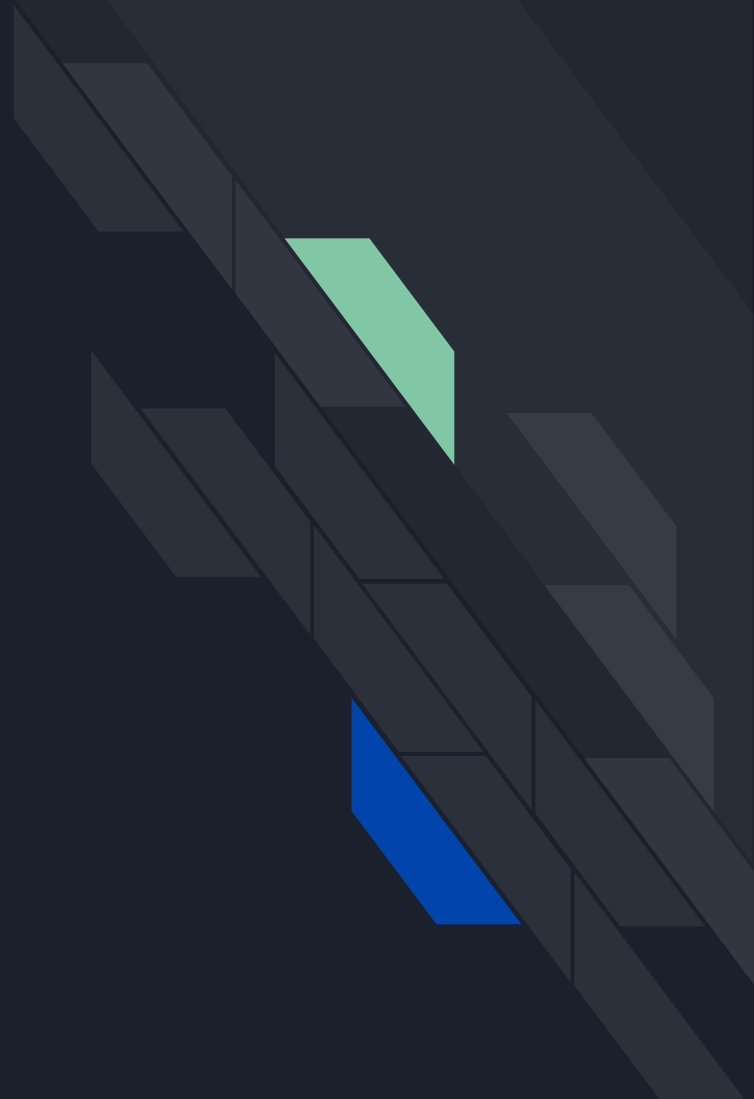
UNMATCHED WARRIOR

HUMILITY

NOBLE BIRTH



Answers



Noble Birth

Odysseus is King of Ithaca

Supernatural Abilities

Odysseus is a great warrior, known for his bravery and cunning.

Vast Traveller

Odysseus travels to several exotic and supernatural locations on his journey home to Ithica

Unmatched Warrior

Odysseus is a well known warrior and hero from the Trojan War

Cultural Legend

Odysseus is well known for his heroic deeds during the Trojan War.

Humility

Odysseus shows his pride, and is punished for it by the gods, who make it very hard for him to return to Ithaca.

Battles Supernatural Forces

Odysseus is challenged by several monsters and supernatural forces throughout the story.