

The Odyssey

Charybdis and Scylla or Literally Between a Rock and A Hard Place

by Kinsey Kunkel

Based upon Homer's "The Odyssey"

THE ODYSSEY: EPISODE 6: CHARYBDIS AND SCYLLA OR DANGER WITH
A SIDE OF DANGER

INT. ODYSSEUS'S ROOM-NIGHT

ODYSSEUS sits in an armchair, dressed for bed. ALCINOUS sits next to him in a rocking chair, book propped open in his lap.

ODYSSEUS
Alright, where were we?

ALCINOUS
Charybdis and Scylla.

ODYSSEUS
Ah, yes, Charybdis and Scylla. The
whirlpool, and the giant,
many-headed monster.

EXT. HOMER-DAY

The men sail peacefully over the sea.

ETESIAS
Whirlpool ahoy!

The men man their stations. Suddenly the whirlpool makes a very loud popping noise followed by a guttural sucking noise. The men yelp, cower, and drop their tasks.

ODYSSEUS
(from the bow)
What the heck are you all doing?

ETESIAS
(stammering)
The whirlpool made a noise!

ODYSSEUS
Oh for the love of...

Odysseus steps over to where he can be better seen by his crew.

ODYSSEUS
Seriously? We've seen our comrades
murdered by savage locals, eaten by
Cyclopes, sunk in ships, turned
into pigs, and you're freaking out
because the whirlpool made a
noise?!

The men look shamefully at their toes.

ODYSSEUS
Pull yourselves together men!

He turns to Etesias at the wheel.

ODYSSEUS
Special orders: avoid the
whirlpool.

ETESIAS
(sarcastic)
Ah gee, I was really hoping to take
a stroll down there.

ODYSSEUS
With you I can never be sure.

Etesias shrugs: it's true.

As they navigate around the whirlpool Scylla emerges from
the water right in their path and roars.

ODYSSEUS
That's unfortunate.

ETESIAS
What do I do?

ODYSSEUS
Keep going.

ETESIAS
Are you crazy?!

ODYSSEUS
Yep!

ETESIAS
Cool, bro!

The ships sails toward Scylla. They're just about to escape
when they skim the edge of the whirlpool. It rockets them
toward Scylla. The men scream. They get close and two of
Scylla's heads snap up two men.

BARYPOS
No!

Etesias tries to steer away, but they're careening
uncontrollably. Scylla snaps up three more men. Odysseus
barks orders at his men, trying to take back control of the
ship. Suddenly there's a shout behind him. He turns to see
Etesias being pulled away by Scylla.

ODYSSEUS
Etesias!

INT. ODYSSEUS'S ROOM-NIGHT

Alcinous is nodding off in his chair. Odysseus takes the book
from where Alcinous laid it on the nightstand and throws it
at him. Alcinous jerks awake.

ODYSSEUS
 (highly offended)
 This is the saddest part!

ALCINOUS
 I'm paying attention! Just resting
 my eyes.

ODYSSEUS
 Alright, so we screamed for
 Etesias.

ALCINOUS
 What happened to him again?

ODYSSEUS
 Dude, I literally told you what
 happened a second ago.

ALCINOUS
 Remind me.

Odysseus glares at him.

ODYSSEUS
 Context: big scary monster,
 screaming for Etesias. You figure
 it out.

ALCINOUS
 (embarrassed)
 Ah.

ODYSSEUS
 Anyway...

EXT. HOMER-DAY

Odysseus runs to the wheel just as the men regain control of
 the ship. Odysseus spin the wheel and begins turning it in
 the other direction.

BARYPOS
 What about Etesias?

ODYSSEUS
 Nopenopenopenopenope!

Barypos considers.

BARYPOS
 Fair point.

INT. ODYSSEUS'S ROOM-NIGHT

A tea tray is laid out before Odysseus. He takes a sip and
 drops his cup.

ODYSSEUS

Ah, gods!

Alcinous stares mournfully at the cup, too resigned to even be upset.

ALCINOUS

That china has been in my family for two centuries.

ODYSSEUS

Hey were you the one who lost his favorite companion?

ALCINOUS

You had a favorite?

ODYSSEUS

Of course. Who doesn't?

ALCINOUS

Well, you don't need to be so open about it.

ODYSSEUS

Oh come on. Everyone liked Etesias.

ALCINOUS

I'm sorry. That must have been hard.

Odysseus shrugs.

ODYSSEUS

Yeah, well, I got over it.

ALCINOUS

(smirking)

How long did that take?

ODYSSEUS

Well, when the rest of my men died a few days later it was hard to mourn for just one. Too many grieving rituals. You know how it is.

ALCINOUS

How did the rest of your men die?

ODYSSEUS

(grumpily)

Their own stupidity.

Alcinous leans forward.

ALCINOUS
(skeptical)
THEIR stupidity?

ODYSSEUS
Okay, no, this one was entirely on
them.

ALCINOUS
Go on.

The end.

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