

Theseus: The Mighty and Brave

Heroes. What would we do without them? There are many stories and myths that have heroes in them that always save the day. In this one, Theseus is the hero to all the people for killing the Minotaur. After a curse was set on Minos' wife to fall in love with the bull her husband didn't kill, a monster was produced. Every nine years, 7 maidens and 7 youth were sent into the Labyrinth to be feasted upon by the Minotaur (Hamilton 157). The story of Theseus killing the Minotaur is related to other stories in Greek mythology by the way these men or even women were sent to conquer the impossible.

Some of the Heroes sent to complete these tasks often had help. Like the story of Bellerophon and Pegasus. Bellerophon had to kill the Chimaera, which was a fire breathing lion. Pegasus helped him a lot by being able to fly him over the beast so he could throw his spear right into the monster's throat (Skidmore "Bellerophon"). Theseus also had help from Minos' daughter who gave him the clue to take the string into the Labyrinth with him so he could find his way out (Hamilton 158). Without this, he would be lost in the Labyrinth. Lots of times we think that we can do things on our own but many times we need someone's help to overcome the problem. In certain situations, some of the heroes didn't get help but were set up to do conquer the impossible by evil people with hard feelings towards them.

Men were sometimes set up to go and face the hardships of certain tasks. As Theseus went on an impossible mission, Perseus was also set up to kill one of the Gorgons, Medusa. Perseus was invited to a wedding celebration in honor of a guy who wanted nothing more than to have one of the heads of Medusa. At the celebration, everyone brought a gift for him except Perseus. So he stood up and declared that he would set off to kill Medusa. This is exactly what the King wanted him to do, thinking he would be killed (Skidmore "Perseus"). Many times in Greek Mythology, men were set up to go do these things because of another's feelings toward someone. A lot of times however, these men conquered the mission and surprisingly arrived home safely. Now sometimes, others were tricked into doing things that they didn't want to.

Often, men or even women were tricked into doing certain things that they didn't want to face. Atalanta, a great women hero was tricked into marrying a man after she had lost a race. No one could beat her so she said that whoever beat her in a race she would marry. So a man, under the direction of Aphrodite was sent to race her. Of course, he wasn't as fast as her but he came up with a plan. He brought with him three golden apples that no one would ever resist. As they began running she was ahead so he threw an apple down. She stopped to pick it up so that gave him time to catch up. After, he threw another one and she had to swerve off to grab it. He gained his lead but of course she caught up. The last apple, he threw off into the grass so Atalanta went and got it so it gave him enough time to cross the finish line before her (Hamilton 184). As you can see, she was tricked into that and then she had to marry the guy. I think plenty of times people were tricked or maybe forced into doing things they did not intend to do.

Most of the missions that men were sent out on were meant to be for them to fail. The great story of Theseus killing the Minotaur is related to other stories in Greek Mythology by the way these men were sent to conquer the impossible. And lots of them came back successful and that is what makes them heroes. Even if they did have help, they were set up to do it, or tricked into the task, that doesn't matter. They accomplished the very hard things they were sent to do, and that is what makes them a Hero.

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