Dr. Attis

9th Literature

10/4/16

*The Sirens* - Central Idea

It is obvious that the central idea of *The Odyssey: The Sirens; Scylla and Charybdis* is overcoming obstacles. To begin, information provided by the text, declares that Scylla devoured six of Odysseus’s men from the ship (Homer, lines 817). This shows that Scylla, a great sea monster, has made the jump on Odysseus by effortlessly grabbing and eating some of his best men. She has become a powerful obstacle that Odysseus must somehow overcome. Additionally, according to the text, Charybdis, a typhoon creating monster, made a funnel that Odysseus’s crew feared of being devoured by (Homer, lines 810-816). This clearly demonstrates that Charybdis is yet another sea monster Odysseus and his crew must attempt to avoid getting eaten by, which is yet another obstacle he must overcome. Furthermore, the text declares that Odysseus was bound to meet the Sirens, winged creatures, whose singing lured sailors to rocks (Homer, lines 660- 664). This confirms that Odysseus also must escape from the clutches of The Sirens before they put his crew and him in a trance. Because of the risk of being eaten by The Sirens, Odysseus needs to overcome this obstacle so that he and his crew may persevere. Ultimately, the central idea of The *Sirens; Scylla and Charybdis* is overcoming obstacles.