

Poseidon Against Odysseus, from *The Iliad*, by Homer

I called this meeting of the gods today

Because I stand here as the lone soul among us

Able to clearly see this... haughty, arrogant, vile king of Ithaca for who he really is.

He blinded and mutilated my son!

My son!

The son of a god lay crippled, his wound still fresh, and blood still wet.

And the brute dared mock him!

Yet no punishments have been dealt.

Even you, Pallas, the supposed goddess of wisdom

Help a man so bold as to tease us!

The rest of you are worse, refusing to take any side at all!

You despicable lot!

Cowards!

Scum!

Won't you help me seek justice?

Why must you betray me now when I need help the most?

Your cowardice will not be forgotten,

And I will not allow any of you to tip-toe around this situation.

Can't you see?

He shows us no respect and never will.

No one is above the law,

And he must be punished for what he has done,

Just as anyone else would be for such a crime.

Mark my words, I will get my revenge,

And he will pay for his arrogance.