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| Thematic Focus: Leadership and Rule  Thematic Focus: Kleos versus Nostos  Thematic Focus: Fathers and Sons |
| **Odysseus Speaks to Dead Achilles**   * The *Odyssey*, Book XI, lines 486-567 * Translator: Stanley Lombardo |
| Note: For this longer selection, please consult the handout.   |  | | --- | | **PASSAGE QUESTIONS** | | * Throughout the epic, Odysseus has longed for home, in stark contrast to Achilles in the previous work the Iliad, who has desired fame undying. Here, we bring the two personifications of kleos and nostos face-to-face. * Which evidence does this scene provide that Homer was decisively in favor of one value over another? That is, does this scene prove that Homer was arguing in favor of kleos? Of nostos? Why? * Why does Odysseus tell Achilles about the fate of his son? What are his motivations for doing so? * In choosing nostos, has Odysseus given up kleos? | |