

Does Repetition Make it True? Strategies of (Dis-)Honesty in Homer's *Odyssey*

1. Requests for truth/claims of truth in the *Odyssey*

Book 1: 4R, 3C	Book 3: 4R, 1C	Book 4: 5R, 3C	Book 5: 1C	Book 7: 1C
Book 8: 1C	Book 11: 4R, 3C	Book 12: 1R	Book 13: 1R	Book 14: 1R, 1C
Book 15: 2R, 2C	Book 16: 1R, 3C	Book 17: 2R, 4C	Book 19: 1C	Book 21: 1C
Book 22: 1R, 1C	Book 23: 1R, 1C	Book 24: 5R, 2C		

2. *Odyssey* 1.169 (Telemachus asks Athena who she is): ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον
1.174 (T. asks A. if she is his *xenos*): καί μοι τοῦτ' ἀγόρευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἐν εἰδῶ
1.179 (A. promises to speak truthfully): τοιγάρο ἐγώ τοι ταῦτα μάλ' ἀτρεκέως ἀγορεύσω
1.206 (A. asks if T. is really Odysseus's son): ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον
1.214 (T. truthfully says that he's not sure): τοιγάρο ἐγώ τοι, ξεῖνε, μάλ' ἀτρεκέως ἀγορεύσω
1.224 (A. wants to know who the suitors are): ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον

3. *Odyssey* 3.19 (A. instructs T. to ask Nestor for the truth): λίσσεσθαι δέ μιν αὐτός, ὅπως νημερτέα εἴπῃ
3.101 (T. asks N. about O.'s deeds at Troy): τῶν νῦν μοι μνῆσαι, καί μοι νημερτές ἐνίσπες
3.247 (T. asks N. about Agamemnon): ὃ Νέστορ Νηληϊάδη, σὺ δ' ἀληθὲς ἐνίσπες
3.254 (N. promises to tell the truth about Ag.): τοιγάρο ἐγώ τοι, τέκνον, ἀληθέα πάντ' ἀγορεύσω
3.327 (N. instructs T. to ask Menelaus for the truth): λίσσεσθαι δέ μιν αὐτός, ίνα νημερτές ἐνίσπη

4. *Od.* 4.157 (Peisistratus affirms that T. is O.'s son): κείνου μέν τοι ὅδ' υἱὸς ἐτήτυμον, ὡς ἀγορεύεις

5. *Od.* 24.256 (O. asks Laertes who he is): ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε ἐιπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον
24.258 (O. asks L. if this is really Ithaca): καί μοι τοῦτ' ἀγόρευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἐν εἰδῶ
24.287 (L. wants to know how long since the stranger saw O.): ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε ἐιπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως
κατάλεξον
24.297 (L. asks who the stranger is): καί μοι τοῦτ' ἀγόρευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἐν εἰδῶ
24.303 (O. claims to be Eperitus of Alybas) τοιγάρο ἐγώ τοι πάντα μάλ' ἀτρεκέως καταλέξω

6. *Od.* 16.61 (Eumeus tells T. what he thinks he knows about O.): τοιγάρο ἐγώ τοι, τέκνον, ἀληθέα πάντ'
ἀγορεύσω

- 16.113 (T. tells O. about his own family history): τοιγάρο ἐγώ τοι, ξεῖνε, μάλ' ἀτρεκέως ἀγορεύσω
16. 226 (O. tells T. about his loot from the Phaeacians): τοιγάρο ἐγώ τοι, τέκνον, ἀληθείην καταλέξω

7. *Od.* 17. 154-57

ἀτρεκέως γάρ σοι μαντεύσομαι οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω·
ἴστω νῦν Ζεὺς πρώτα θεῶν, ξενίη τε τράπεζα
ἴστή τ' Ὁδυσῆος ἀμύκονος, ἦν ἀφικάνω,
ώς ἡ τοι Ὁδυσεὺς ἥδη ἐν πατρίδι γαίῃ...

For I will prophesy truly to you, nor will I conceal.

Now of the gods let Zeus be my witness first, and the table of hospitality,
and the hearth of blameless Odysseus, which I've come to,
that Odysseus is actually already in his fatherland...

8. *Od.* 19.269-71

νημερτέως γάρ τοι μυθήσομαι οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω
ώς ἥδη Ὁδυσῆος ἐγώ περὶ νόστου ἀκουσα
ἀγχοῦ...

For I will tell you truly, nor will I conceal,
that already I've heard about the return of Odysseus,
that it's close...

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