

ADAPTED FROM THE EPIC POEM BY HOMER

HELLAD

The Story So Far:

When Helen, queen of Sparta, fled across the sea to the city of Troy with its prince, Paris, her husband Menelaus raised a large Achaean (Greek) force to bring her back. Troy (also called Ilium) was besieged by an army led by Menelaus' brother, Agamemnon. In the war's ninth year, Agamemnon offended Achilles by seizing his prize of war, the maiden Briseis. His pride stung, Achilles vowed to fight no more until the matter was redressed. His goddess-mother Thetis persuaded Zeus, king of the gods, to favor the Achaeans in battle, even though all the immortals knew that Troy was eventually doomed to fall.

Paris and Menelaus met in single combat, to decide which should keep Helen and her treasure. But when Paris lost, Aphrodite, goddess of love, whisked him off behind Troy's walls. Menelaus demanded Helen be returned to him, but the goddesses Hera and Athena arranged for the fighting to break out anew. The Olympians took sides in the combat, with Apollo and Aphrodite favoring the Trojans, Hera and Athena the Argives (Greeks). Ares, god of war, fought first for one side, then for the other. After Athena drove him from the field, all the gods temporarily departed the field of battle, leaving the war between the Trojans and Achaeans to rage as it would....

The Achaeans



Agamemnon King of Mycenae



Menelans King of Sparta



Achilles Mightiest Achaean Warrior



Ajax the Greater Foremost Achaean Warrior after Achilles



Odysseus King of Ithaca



Diomedes Youngest Achaean Commander

The Trojans



Priam King of Troy



Paris Son of Priam



Hector **Greatest Warrior** of Troy





Helen Trojan Nobleman Once Queen of Sparta now Helen of Troy

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THE GLOSSARY OF THE ILIAD

Augur – one of a group of ancient Roman religious officials who foretold events by observing and interpreting signs and omens (see page 2)

Chide - to express disapproval of; scold (see page 2)

Covenant - a formal sealed agreement or contract (see page 13)

Crest - the highest part of a hill or mountain range; summit (see page 15)

Hades - the god of the dead and the name of the underworld inhabited by departed souls (see page 5)

Javelin - a light spear, usually thrown by hand (see page 1)

Mail-clad - wearing protective chain-mail (see page 15)

Omen – anything perceived or happening that is believed to portend a good or evil event or circumstance in the future (see page 2)

Phalanx – a group of heavily armed infantry formed in ranks and files close and deep with shields joined and long spears overlapping (see page 1)

Plume - a soft, fluffy feather (see page 4)

Prodigious - extraordinary in size, amount, extent, degree, force (see page 11)

Puny - of less than normal size and strength; weak (see page 9)

Rebuke - to express sharp, stern disapproval (see page 2)

Shaft – a projectile suggestive of a spear or arrow in appearance or configuration (see page 19)

Shirking - to avoid work or duty (see page 2)

Smite - to strike down, injure, or slay (see page 9)

Sovereign – a group or body of persons or a state having authority (see page 15)

Stay – to hold back, detain, or restrain, as from going further (see page 6)

Summit - the highest point or part; the top (see page 6)

Surge – a strong, wavelike, forward movement, rush, or sweep (see page1)

Tartarus – a sunless abyss, below Hades, in which Zeus imprisoned the Titans, a place in Hades for the punishment of the wicked (see page 15)

Trench – a long, narrow excavation in the ground, the earth from which is thrown up in front to serve as a fortification from enemy fire or attack (see page 14)

Valiant - boldly courageous; brave (see page 12)



LOOK WHO'S TALKING! AND SHUBAKER & INTERVIEW PRO, ED BRUBAKER

MARVEL: Ballpark, how many interviews have you done regarding Cap since Captain America #25?

ED BRUBAKER: I would guess a few hundred, probably. The vast majority of them coming in that first week or two from the time the book hit. It was pretty intense, really, to be in the eye of the storm like that.

MARVEL: Since starting your run on the book, you've really put a focus on Captain America, garnering industry and mainstream attention for some incredibly controversial moves. Was that intended from the onset?

EB: All I ever intended was to just write a Captain America book that would be the kind of superhero/espionage comic that I'd personally like to read. I just wanted people to take the book seriously on its own terms and do some epic comic book action and drama. I was a bit nervous about how the reaction would be when the Winter Soldier was revealed to be Bucky, but I knew I had a good story, and hoped that would win over any controversy.

MARVEL: You've done the impossible so far in your Captain America run at every turn. Are there any ideas that you've pitched for Cap that have been shot down?

EB: Uhh... This is kind of scary, but no. Tom Brevoort's said yes to everything I've wanted to do.

MARVEL: Moving to Daredevil, you have your second year wrapping up. After putting Matt in jail, busting him out, and driving his wife crazy, what can you possibly do to top yourself?

EB: Wait, I have to top all that? I thought I'd just let Foggy take up the mantle for a while and see how he does while Matt cries in his coffee.

Or... maybe I'll bring in a few more villains and have a lot of murder and mayhem instead. I haven't decided yet.

MARVEL: Daredevil has existed in his own comer of the Marvel Universe (Hell's Kitchen) for a while now. If you could integrate him into any part of the rest of the Universe, where do you think he'd best fit?

EB: I think it might be time for Matt to branch out a bit and not just care about one "hood" as it were, actually. I think maybe he needs to move around in the city more, and maybe even go to Jersey now and then. Aren't all the mobsters in Jersey now? The one coolest thing about Daredevil is that he fits in any urban environment, the grittier the better, generally. I enjoy that aspect of the book a lot, and I like that in many ways Daredevil is its own little world.

MARVEL: Along with Matt Fraction, you also brought a "cool" factor to a character many thought was a joke for a while – Iron Fist. What is it about your take that seems to have really finally clicked with audiences?

EB; I think it must be all the crazy over-the-top pulp era kung fu. It's mostly on Matt Fraction and David Aja, really. I started out as a co-writer and plot-master on Iron Fist, and have slowly moved back more and more and let those guys just go nuts. I do work on every issue, still, and sometimes there's a line of dialogue that people think is from Matt that is actually from me, but Matt and David really deserve most of the credit. I co-plotted and sort of script-doctored or edited the second arc here and there, at most. All the new Immortal Weapons were invented by Matt. I just said there should be six other cities with their own heroes and we should have a big tournament.

MARVEL: After 2 years on Uncarny X-Men, you now have the door wide open to take the team in your direction. Anything you can tease us on?

EB: Let's just say, I don't think we'll be seeing them in class anytime soon, or rebuilding Xavier's Institute. I've probably said too much, haven't I?

MARVEL: Finally, you have an Eisner-winning book, Criminal, under the loon line. For those who know your work from the Marvel U but are not familiar with Criminal, can you give us a few words on the premise?

EB: Criminal is me and Sean Phillips (the award-winning artist of Marvel Zombies) just tapping into our love of noir and crime fiction and bringing it to comics in our own way. We've created a huge cast of characters, most of them thieves and murderers, but sometimes just people forced into bad situations out of desperation and a need to survive. It's a bit like Sin City, in that you can read any of the stories and not know anything about the previous ones, but in Criminal, when people fall off rooftops and land on cars, they die a horrible death. I'd really urge readers who are fans of my or Sean's work to check it out, since we both think it's the best stuff we've ever done, and we won a bunch of awards for it last summer, including Best New Series.

'Nuff Said!

Archangel



