



THE SIEGE OF TROY

MOMUN2026
CHARACTER GUIDE

The Siege of Troy:
Achaean War Assembly

Authored by: Sese Smith

Table of Contents

Menelaus	3
Odysseus	4
Great Ajax	5
Little Ajax	6
Patroclus	7
Nestor	8
Diomedes	9
Teucer	10
Idomeneus	11
Machaon	12
Podalirius	13
Phoenix	14
Antilochus	15
Calchas	16
Tlepolemus	17
Meriones	18
Polypotes	19
Sthenelus	20

Menelaus

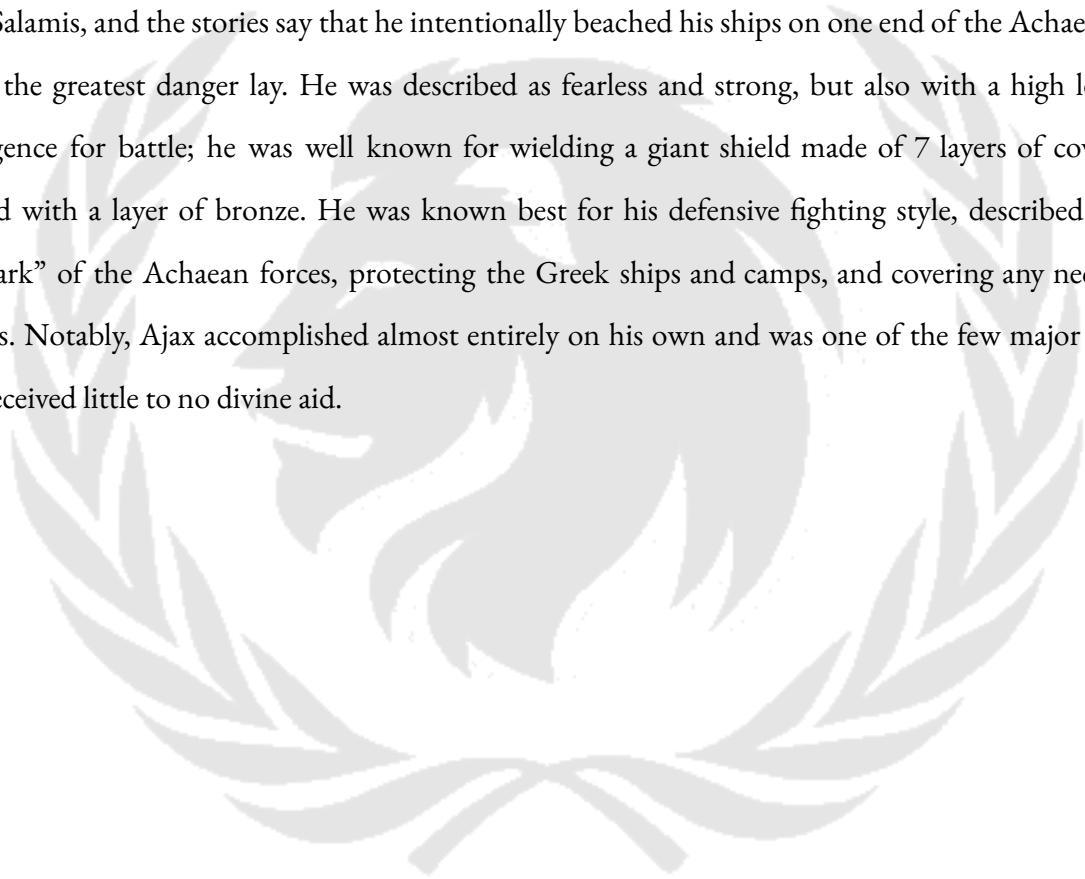
Menelaus is the King of Sparta and the original initiator of the entire conflict, as his wife, Helen, was kidnapped by Paris. The younger brother of Agamemnon served as a prominent general under the High King and brought 60 ships from his homeland of Sparta; each ship was thought to carry roughly 120 men. The red-haired King was often described as more moderate and level-headed when compared to the other Greek heroes; his motivation in the conflict was driven not by a want for glory but a deep personal grievance. Menelaus was aware that the war was being fought on his account, making him much more empathetic and aware of the toll that his own feud had caused. He acts as a moral anchor for the rest of the army, often preferring single combat or other methods to avoid further bloodshed. Despite his generally more tempered personality, he still has a deep-set rivalry with Paris, the original cause for the entire war. To Menelaus, the sacking of the city is less important than settling his own feud and reclaiming his honour. While tempered Menelaus is still a great and capable warrior, known sometimes as Menelaus of the war cry, he is often overshadowed by the greatest of the Achaean fighters.

Odysseus

Odysseus is the King of Ithaca and was renowned as the greatest strategic mind the Argives had to offer. He was known not for his physical strength despite being an accomplished warrior, but instead for his wily and cunning nature; his mind is his greatest weapon; this also makes him an extremely inspiring leader and excellent diplomat, as he is highly skilled with words. From Ithaca, he brought a small force of 12 ships. Despite being known for trickery and strategy, using deceit and stealth to attain key information and disrupt Trojan forces, Odysseus was still well known for his physical prowess and ability to hold his own on the battlefield. His cunning and quick wits were so well renowned that he is the chosen favorite of Athena, Goddess of Wisdom, who has been known to directly intervene on his behalf more often than other heroes. Odysseus is less devoted to the glory and honor of the war than many of the other heroes. While extremely loyal, he takes a much more strategic and logical approach to fighting, in contrast to other fighters. In fact, when Agamemnon was first recruiting the Greek kings, Odysseus tried to trick his way out of joining the fight by pretending to be insane to stay with his wife and infant son.

Great Ajax

Ajax the Great, known as the tallest and most skilled of the Achaean warriors, was second in fighting prowess only to the legendary Achilles. The son of King Telamon was renowned for his colossal size and strength, described as towering above the other Argives. He brought a force of 12 ships from Salamis, and the stories say that he intentionally beached his ships on one end of the Achaean line where the greatest danger lay. He was described as fearless and strong, but also with a high level of intelligence for battle; he was well known for wielding a giant shield made of 7 layers of cow hide covered with a layer of bronze. He was known best for his defensive fighting style, described as the “bulwark” of the Achaean forces, protecting the Greek ships and camps, and covering any necessary retreats. Notably, Ajax accomplished almost entirely on his own and was one of the few major heroes who received little to no divine aid.

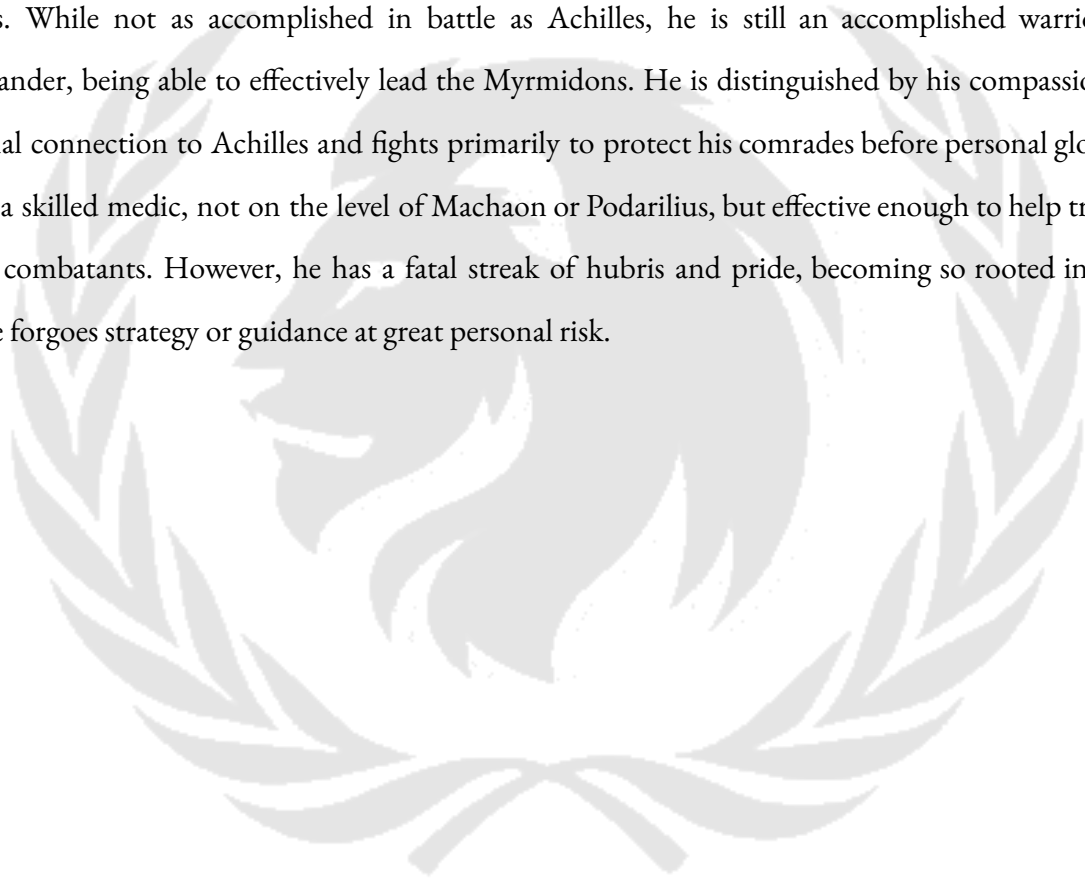


Little Ajax

“Little” Ajax, son of Oileus, led the Locrians and often fought alongside his much larger counterpart, Great Ajax. The moniker “little” was used to differentiate between the two warriors. He leads a force of 40 ships, and while smaller by comparison to the giant Ajax, he was a quick warrior, the fastest Greek, and the most skilled spear fighter of all the Argives. Both Ajaxes fought together often, and were seen as inseparable; in fact, Homer refers to both of them collectively as the “Aiantes”. Little Ajax was a highly skilled and brave but hot-headed warrior. Homer portrays him as boastful, arrogant, and quarrelsome, unlike his larger counterpart little Ajax over-valued his abilities and boasted endlessly, even showing contempt for the Gods. His combative nature was present not only on the battlefield but among his peers, where he was quarrelsome and constantly in dispute with the other Achaeans, he also lacked an “honor code” that many of even the most aggressive Argives held themselves to, making him volatile and difficult to control. Little Ajax is an undisputed genius when it comes to speed and combat prowess, but his arrogance and hubris makes him self centred and un-reliable, acting as a stark contrast to his battle brother Ajax the greater.

Patroclus

Patroclus is the closest companion of Achilles, acting as a friend, moral anchor, and second in command of the Myrmidons. Patroclus acts as a foil to the rage of Achilles and helps act as an anchor for the legendary warrior, despite their contrasting personalities they are depicted as the closest of friends. While not as accomplished in battle as Achilles, he is still an accomplished warrior and commander, being able to effectively lead the Myrmidons. He is distinguished by his compassion and personal connection to Achilles and fights primarily to protect his comrades before personal glory. He is also a skilled medic, not on the level of Machaon or Podarilius, but effective enough to help treat his fellow combatants. However, he has a fatal streak of hubris and pride, becoming so rooted in battle that he forgoes strategy or guidance at great personal risk.

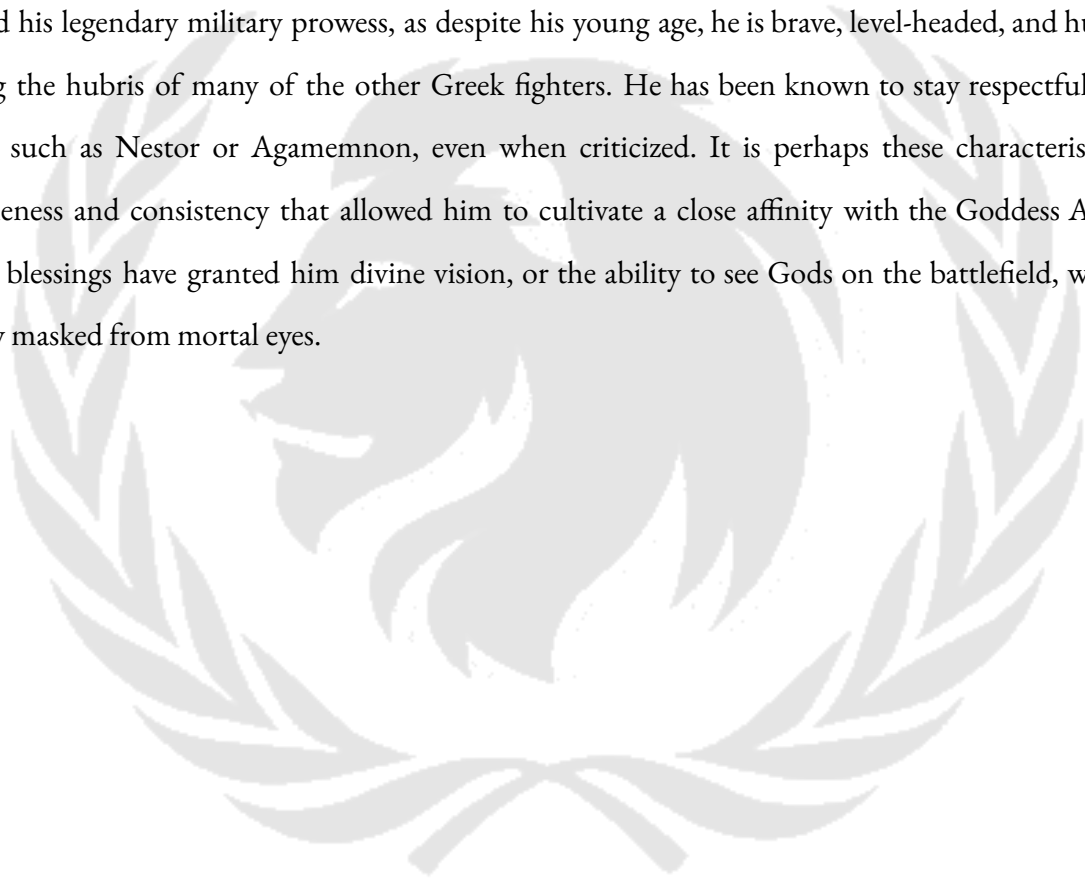


Nestor

Nestor is the aged King of Pylos and the oldest of the Achaeans; although no longer a physically threatening warrior, he brings with him the experience of age to aid the Achaean offensive. Nestor, sometimes known as the “Gerenian Horseman” for his legendary skills as a charioteer, brings with him 90 ships from his home country. Nestor has lived through 3 generations of men and has access to a near bottomless well of knowledge and experience, which he shares with the other fighters. This knowledge allows him to serve as a key motivator and figurehead of strategy in the Achaean war effort, organizing fortifications and employing spies. Nestor is also often known to help mediate conflicts within the Greek ranks in order to maintain peace and morale for the fighters. However, while his age and wisdom are valuable tools, Nestor is too old for constant hand-to-hand combat and acts primarily as a strategist and councilor rather than a frontline soldier. Despite this, he is still often seen on the field utilizing his legendary charioteering skills to maneuver around the battlefield and inspire his soldiers.

Diomedes

Diomedes, the king of Argos, is one of the greatest Greek fighters, on the level of the likes of Ajax the Great and Achilles. The young king is one of the greatest Greek champions and brought with him a force of 80 ships from Argos. Diomedes is often referred to as the “perfect” soldier; this goes beyond his legendary military prowess, as despite his young age, he is brave, level-headed, and humble, lacking the hubris of many of the other Greek fighters. He has been known to stay respectful to his elders, such as Nestor or Agamemnon, even when criticized. It is perhaps these characteristics of humbleness and consistency that allowed him to cultivate a close affinity with the Goddess Athena, whose blessings have granted him divine vision, or the ability to see Gods on the battlefield, who are usually masked from mortal eyes.

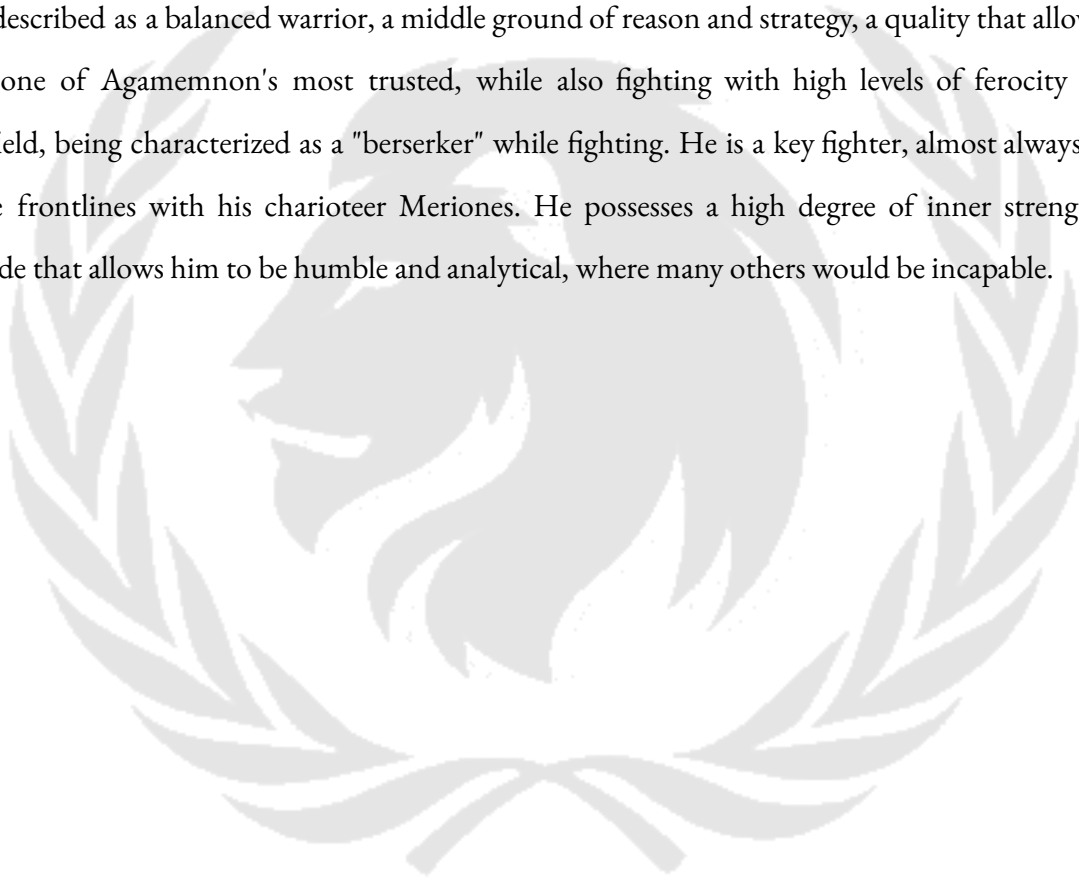


Teucer

Teucer is the half-brother of Ajax the Great and helped command the Salamian troops, as well as fought alongside him often in battle. Teucer was best known for his skill with a bow, being renowned as the greatest Greek archer. He and his half-brother Ajax fought together to great effect, with Teucer taking cover behind the giant's massive shield. Teucer, however, often stood out within the Achaean ranks as he is cousins with the enemy generals Hector and Paris; he and Ajax share the same father, Telamon, but his mother, Hesione, is a Trojan princess, making his position within the Argives tenuous. Teucer was often referred to as "bastard" due to his tainted lineage, pushing him to a harsh rivalry with Hector in an attempt to prove himself and gain the full trust of his fellow fighters, however despite his dedication to the Achaean cause some of the other Argives still view him as untrustworthy or as an outsider. This conflict of identity results in Teucer being especially loyal and selfless to his comrades that support him, a prominent example being his half brother Ajax the great, where he prioritizes success in battle over personal glory or status.

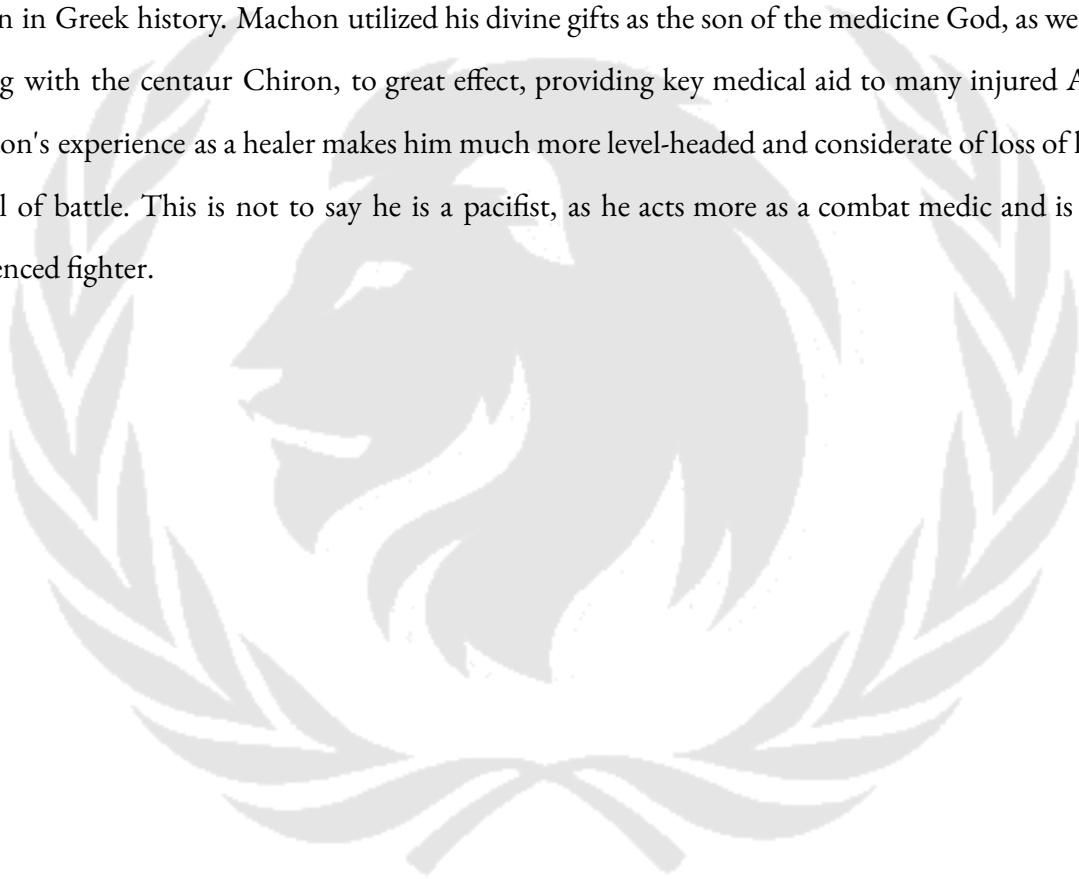
Idomeneus

Idomeneus, the King of Crete, was one of the Danes' most senior and respected commanders. From Crete, he led a substantial force of 80 ships. Idomeneus is one of Agamemnon's closest and most trusted advisors, utilizing his more advanced age to provide key wisdom to the high king. Idomeneus is often described as a balanced warrior, a middle ground of reason and strategy, a quality that allows him to be one of Agamemnon's most trusted, while also fighting with high levels of ferocity on the battlefield, being characterized as a "berserker" while fighting. He is a key fighter, almost always found on the frontlines with his charioteer Meriones. He possesses a high degree of inner strength and fortitude that allows him to be humble and analytical, where many others would be incapable.



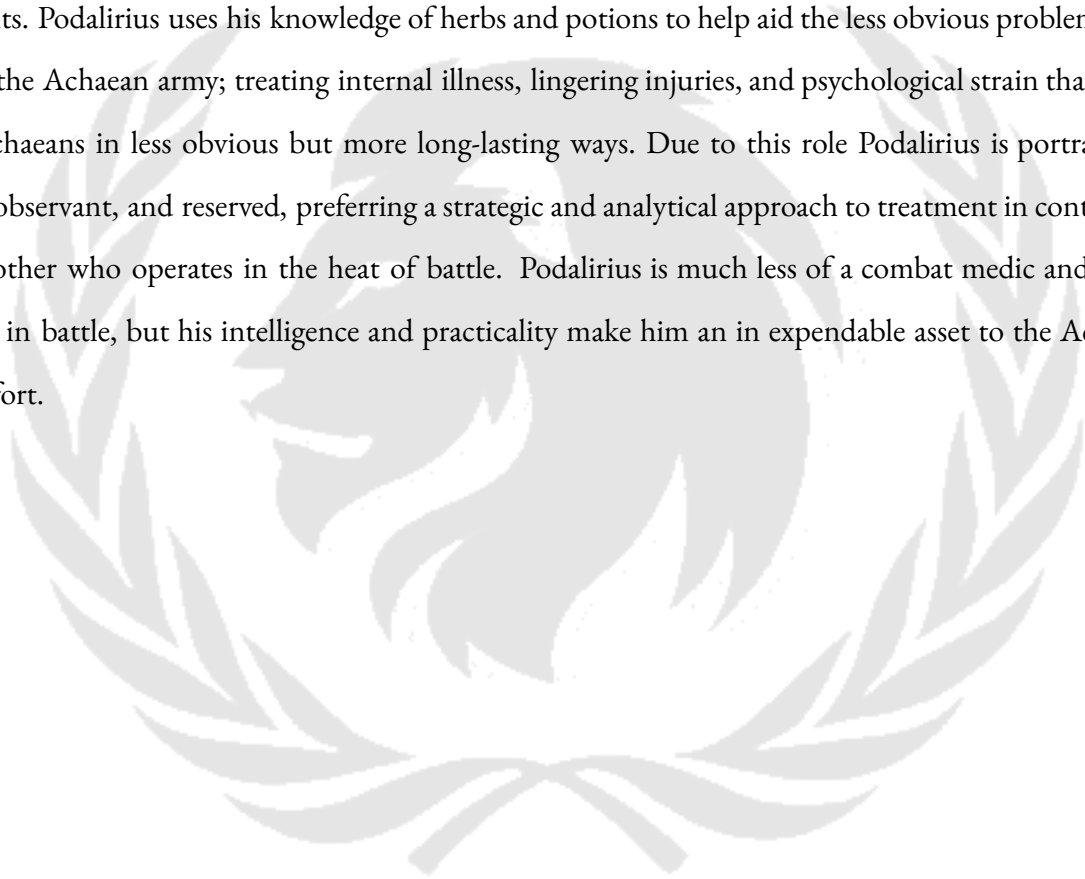
Machaon

Machaon, the king of Thessaly, was the Achaeans' chief surgeon and healer, and the son of Asclepius, the God of medicine. Machon, alongside his brother Podlarius, led a contingent of 30 ships from their homeland. Machaon was known as the “father of surgery” as he was the first documented surgeon in Greek history. Machon utilized his divine gifts as the son of the medicine God, as well as his training with the centaur Chiron, to great effect, providing key medical aid to many injured Argives. Machaon's experience as a healer makes him much more level-headed and considerate of loss of life and the toll of battle. This is not to say he is a pacifist, as he acts more as a combat medic and is still an experienced fighter.



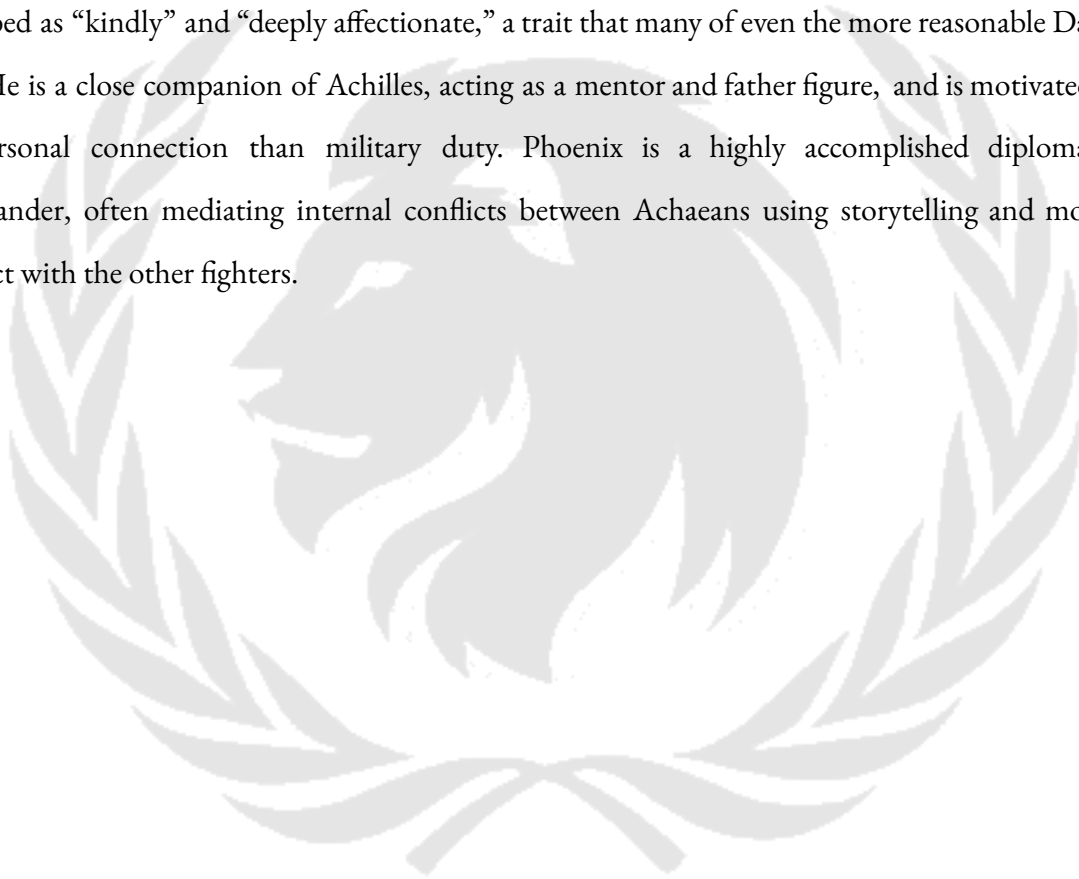
Podalirius

Podalirius is the brother of Machaon and the other divine son of the God Asclepius. Podalirius is the co-leader of the Thessaly contingent and another expert medic; he stands out from his brother as Machaon focuses more heavily upon physical surgeries, while Podalirius treats internal and mental ailments. Podalirius uses his knowledge of herbs and potions to help aid the less obvious problems that afflict the Achaean army; treating internal illness, lingering injuries, and psychological strain that affect the Achaeans in less obvious but more long-lasting ways. Due to this role Podalirius is portrayed as calm, observant, and reserved, preferring a strategic and analytical approach to treatment in contrast to his brother who operates in the heat of battle. Podalirius is much less of a combat medic and is less skilled in battle, but his intelligence and practicality make him an in expendable asset to the Achaean war effort.



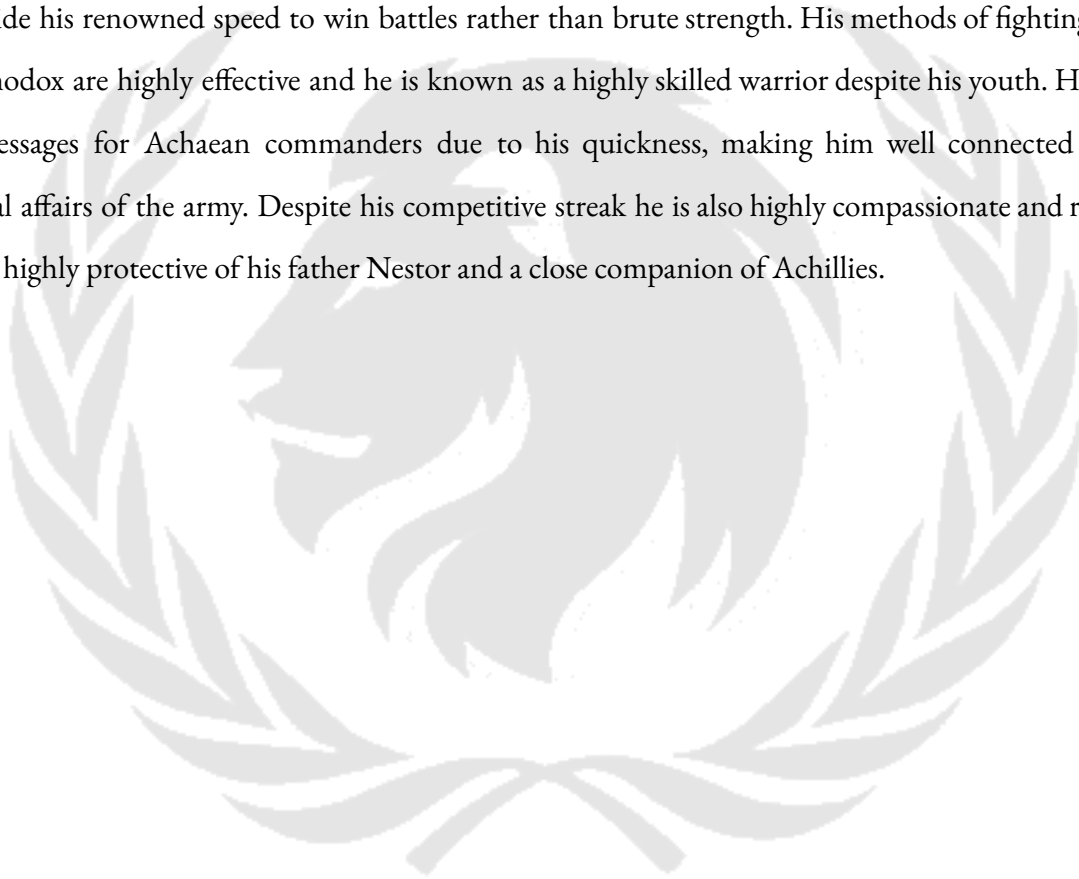
Phoenix

Phoenix is a veteran warrior who acts as an emotional anchor for the Achaeans and is a mentor figure for the estranged Achilles. While a skilled commander, Phoenix is best known for his skilled speech and sensitivity when compared to the harsh and unforgiving Greek commanders. He is described as “kindly” and “deeply affectionate,” a trait that many of even the more reasonable Dannans lack. He is a close companion of Achilles, acting as a mentor and father figure, and is motivated more by personal connection than military duty. Phoenix is a highly accomplished diplomat and commander, often mediating internal conflicts between Achaeans using storytelling and morals to connect with the other fighters.



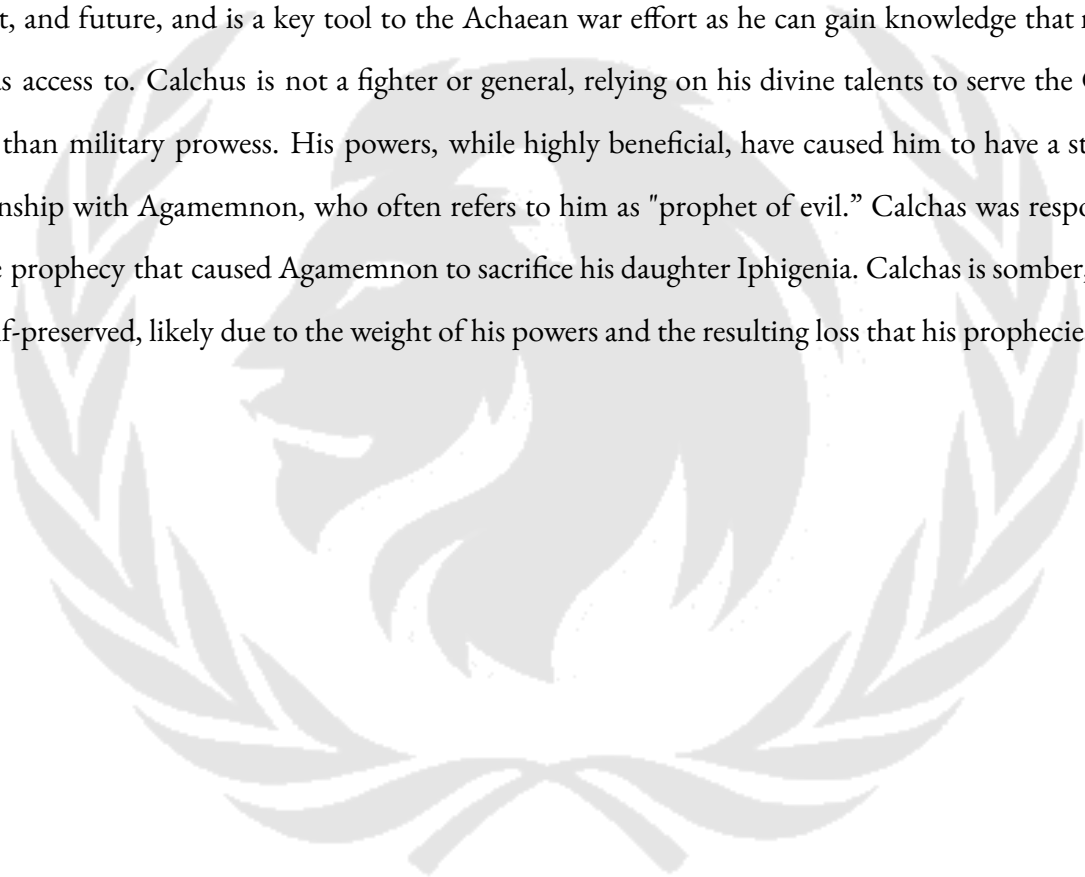
Antilochus

Antilochus, the son of Nestor, was one of the youngest princes at Troy and was characterized by his speed and strategic cunning. He is defined primarily by his youth, being depicted as loyal and compassionate, but also as cunning, tricky, and thirsty for glory. He utilizes his innovative tactical mind alongside his renowned speed to win battles rather than brute strength. His methods of fighting while unorthodox are highly effective and he is known as a highly skilled warrior despite his youth. He often ran messages for Achaean commanders due to his quickness, making him well connected to the internal affairs of the army. Despite his competitive streak he is also highly compassionate and reliable, he was highly protective of his father Nestor and a close companion of Achilles.



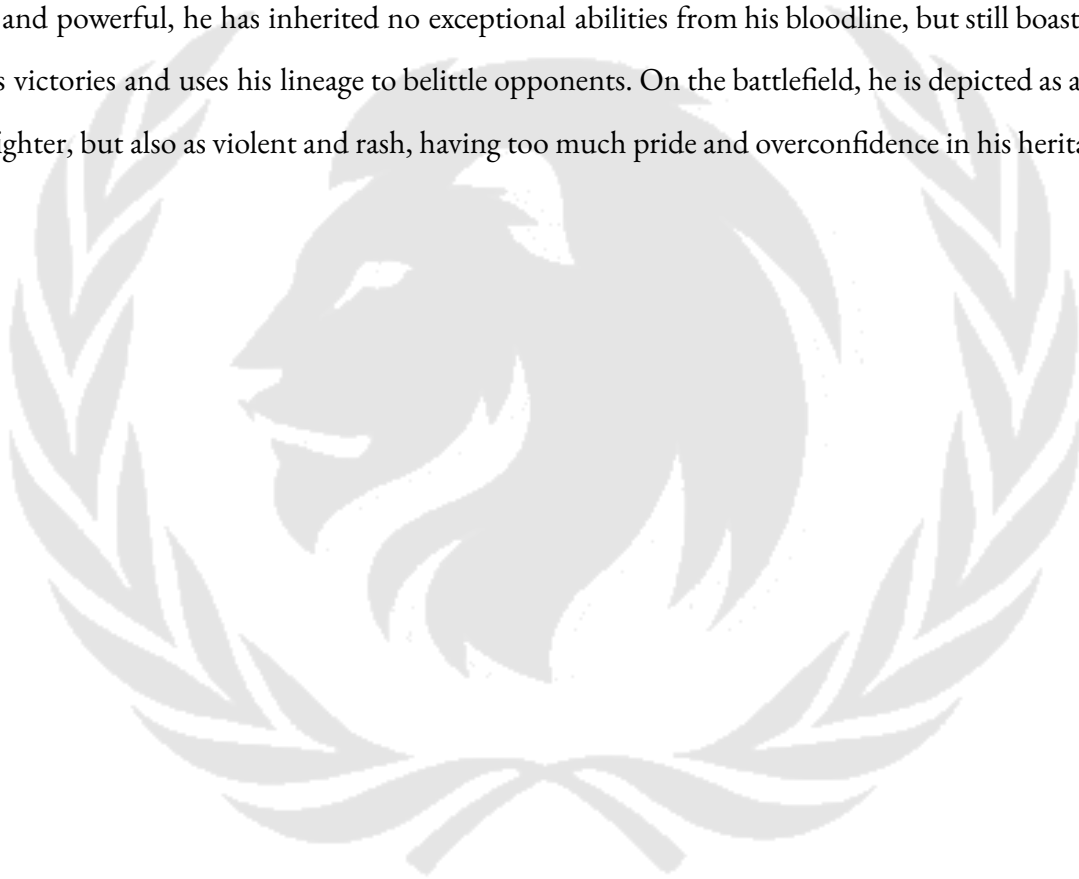
Calchas

Calchas is an augur or seer who provides information gleaned using his gifts granted to him by the God Apollo. He is depicted as a skilled prophet, a “*oinópolos*” or “bird savant,” meaning he interprets the flight patterns of birds to discern the will of the Gods. He has knowledge of the past, present, and future, and is a key tool to the Achaean war effort as he can gain knowledge that no one else has access to. Calchus is not a fighter or general, relying on his divine talents to serve the Greeks rather than military prowess. His powers, while highly beneficial, have caused him to have a strained relationship with Agamemnon, who often refers to him as “prophet of evil.” Calchas was responsible for the prophecy that caused Agamemnon to sacrifice his daughter Iphigenia. Calchas is somber, grave, and self-preserved, likely due to the weight of his powers and the resulting loss that his prophecies often bring.



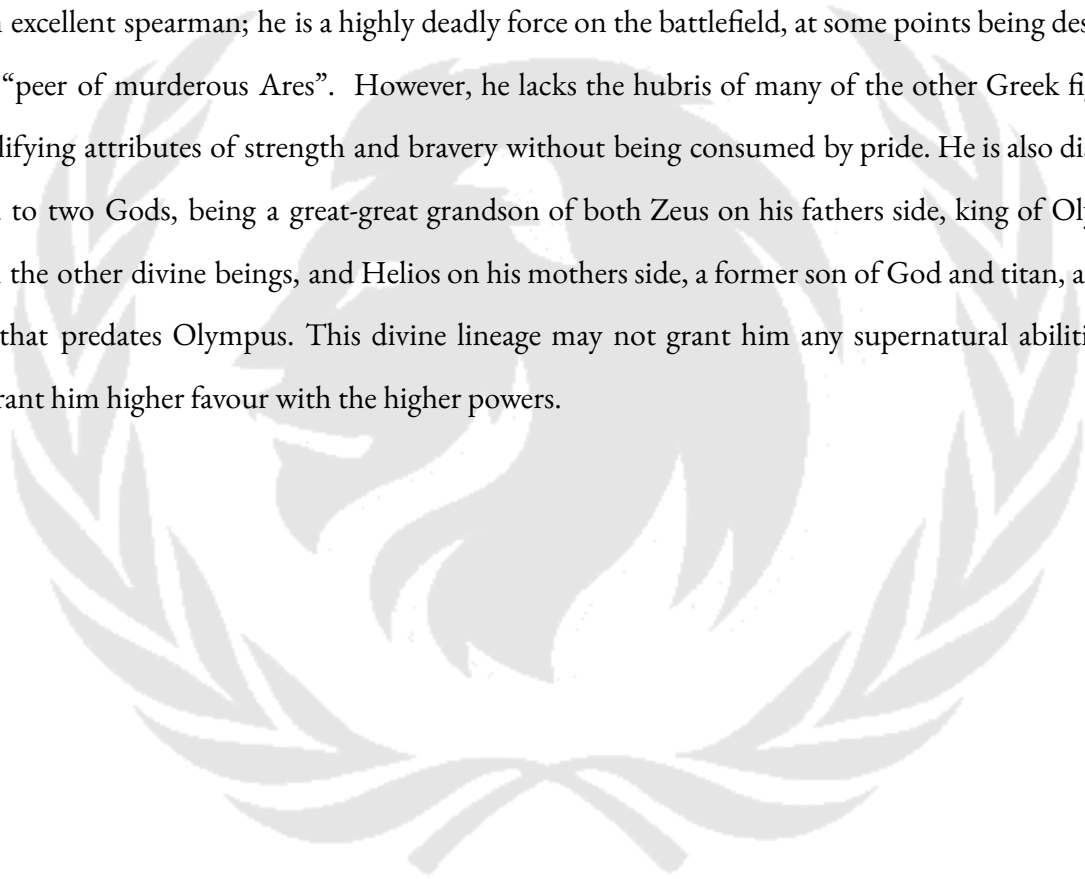
Tlepolemus

Tlepolemus, the king of Rhodes, is a significant Achaean hero and son of the legendary Hercules. He led a small contingent of 9 ships. He was known as arrogant and boastful, gaining status and power from his heroic lineage and connection to his legendary hero of a father. While highly skilled and powerful, he has inherited no exceptional abilities from his bloodline, but still boasts of his father's victories and uses his lineage to belittle opponents. On the battlefield, he is depicted as a skilled spear fighter, but also as violent and rash, having too much pride and overconfidence in his heritage.



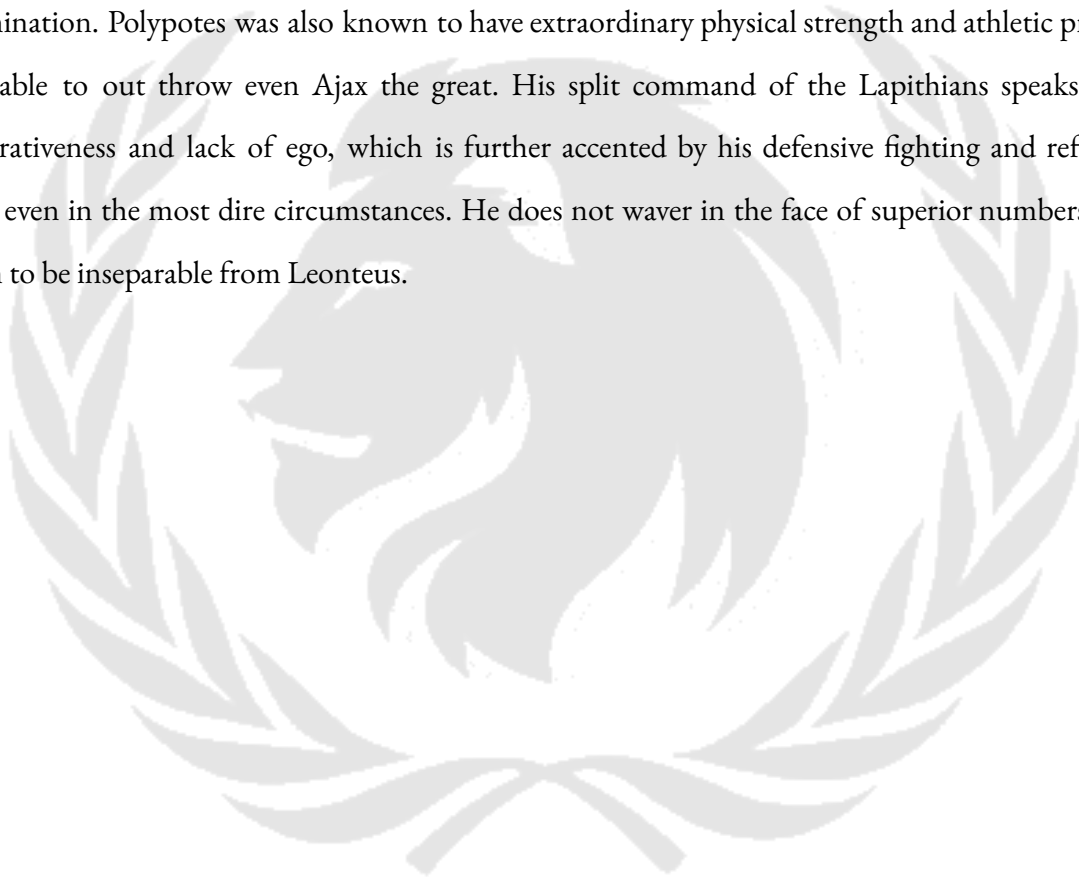
Meriones

Meriones is the nephew of King Indomeneus and a well-renowned warrior for his skill on the battlefield. He acted as the charioteer and right hand of Indomeneus, but was also extremely capable on his own. He is depicted as a highly versatile warrior, a skilled charioteer, a highly competent archer, and an excellent spearman; he is a highly deadly force on the battlefield, at some points being described as the “peer of murderous Ares”. However, he lacks the hubris of many of the other Greek fighters, exemplifying attributes of strength and bravery without being consumed by pride. He is also distantly related to two Gods, being a great-great grandson of both Zeus on his fathers side, king of Olympus and all the other divine beings, and Helios on his mothers side, a former son of God and titan, a divine being that predates Olympus. This divine lineage may not grant him any supernatural abilities but does grant him higher favour with the higher powers.



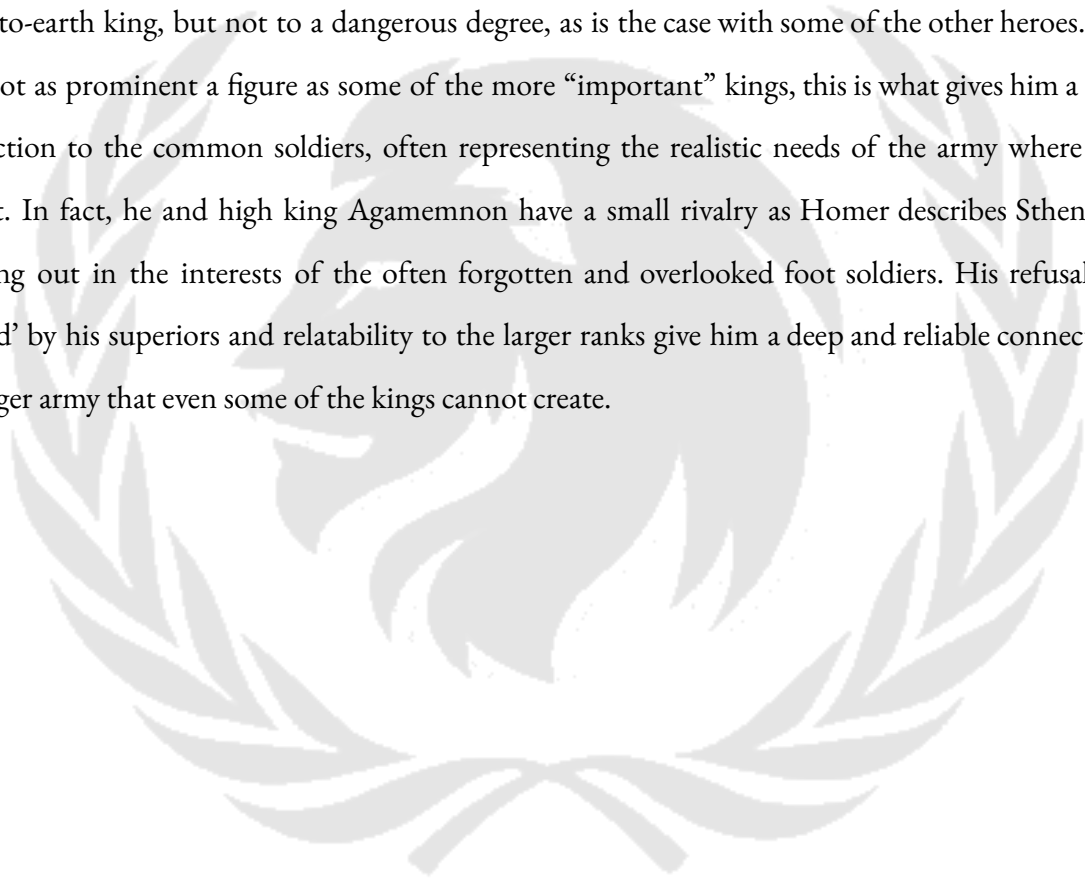
Polypotes

The king of Lapiths co-led his forces and was depicted as a steadfast and persevering warrior. He, along with his companion Leonteus, co-led a force of 40 ships from their homeland. Homer compares him and his co-commander Leonteus to mighty oaks due to their valiance, strength, and determination. Polypotes was also known to have extraordinary physical strength and athletic prowess, being able to out throw even Ajax the great. His split command of the Lapithians speaks to his co-operativeness and lack of ego, which is further accented by his defensive fighting and refusal to retreat even in the most dire circumstances. He does not waver in the face of superior numbers and is known to be inseparable from Leonteus.



Sthenelus

Sthenelus was a valiant and loyal warrior and charioteer of Diomedes, acting also as one of the king's major generals. Sthenelus is known for his legendary skills as a charioteer as well as his steadfast loyalty to Diomedes. He is sometimes described as hot-headed and prideful in contrast to his more down-to-earth king, but not to a dangerous degree, as is the case with some of the other heroes. While he is not as prominent a figure as some of the more “important” kings, this is what gives him a deeper connection to the common soldiers, often representing the realistic needs of the army where others cannot. In fact, he and high king Agamemnon have a small rivalry as Homer describes Sthenelus as speaking out in the interests of the often forgotten and overlooked foot soldiers. His refusal to be ‘bullied’ by his superiors and relatability to the larger ranks give him a deep and reliable connection to the larger army that even some of the kings cannot create.



Eurbaytes

Eurbaytes was the closest herald and squire of Odysseus; while not as physically or politically powerful as some of the other heroes, he played a uniquely important role in the Iliad. He was described as highly professional and pragmatic, while his loyalty to his king is absolute, it is not “blind”, focusing on the logistics and messy work that comes with war rather than glory in battle. His unassuming status as a mere herald to the legendary Odysseus allows him a certain freedom within the camp, he is more well informed with the goings on within the ranks than the bigger picture focused generals, additionally as a herald he is often privy to the private information passed between the heroes, allowing his perceived lack of power and “unimportance” to be used as a tool for silently collecting information on even the most important Achaeans. Finally, Eurbaytes is a sacred herald of Zeus, granting him diplomatic immunity and protection from harm when carrying messages, allowing him to pass between quarreling Achaean camps and, potentially, to communicate with the Trojans due to his divine protection.

Philoctetes

Philoctetes was the king of Meliboea, bringing seven ships from his homeland, and was known as a master archer, wielding the legendary bow of Hercules, a weapon foretold to be essential to bring about the fall of Troy. Philoctetes has only recently made it to the front as he was abandoned by Odysseus and the other generals on the island of Lemnos after receiving a snake bite that rendered him unable to fight. However, after regaining his strength, he finally made his way to the battlefield, reclaiming command of his forces and bringing the advantage of his legendary archery skills and a divinely blessed weapon. Philoctetes returns ready to fight but highly bitter and cynical, having been left stranded and wounded on an island for almost 9 years by his allies. Philoctetes holds a deep grudge, especially for Odysseus, who was the main deciding force that resulted in his being abandoned. He views many of the other heroes as shallow and untrustworthy, especially Odysseus, whose cunning seems to him more as a cover for deception. Due to his complicated history with the Achaeans, he is highly prone to take the moral high ground and cares not for status or rank when calling out the flaws of his fellow Greeks.