



The hero's journey

A MILLENNIA OF MONOMYTHS

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MVIS 5706.01: Capstone II

All art is connected.

“We drove past swiftly, but when we were within hail of the shore, the Sirens could not fail to see our speeding vessel, and began their clear singing: “Famous Odysseus, great glory of Achaea, draw near, and bring your ship to rest, and listen to our voices. No man rows past this isle in his dark ship without hearing the honeysweet sound from our lips.”

The Odyssey, Homer
725–675 BCE



Ulysses and the Sirens, John William Waterhouse
1891 CE

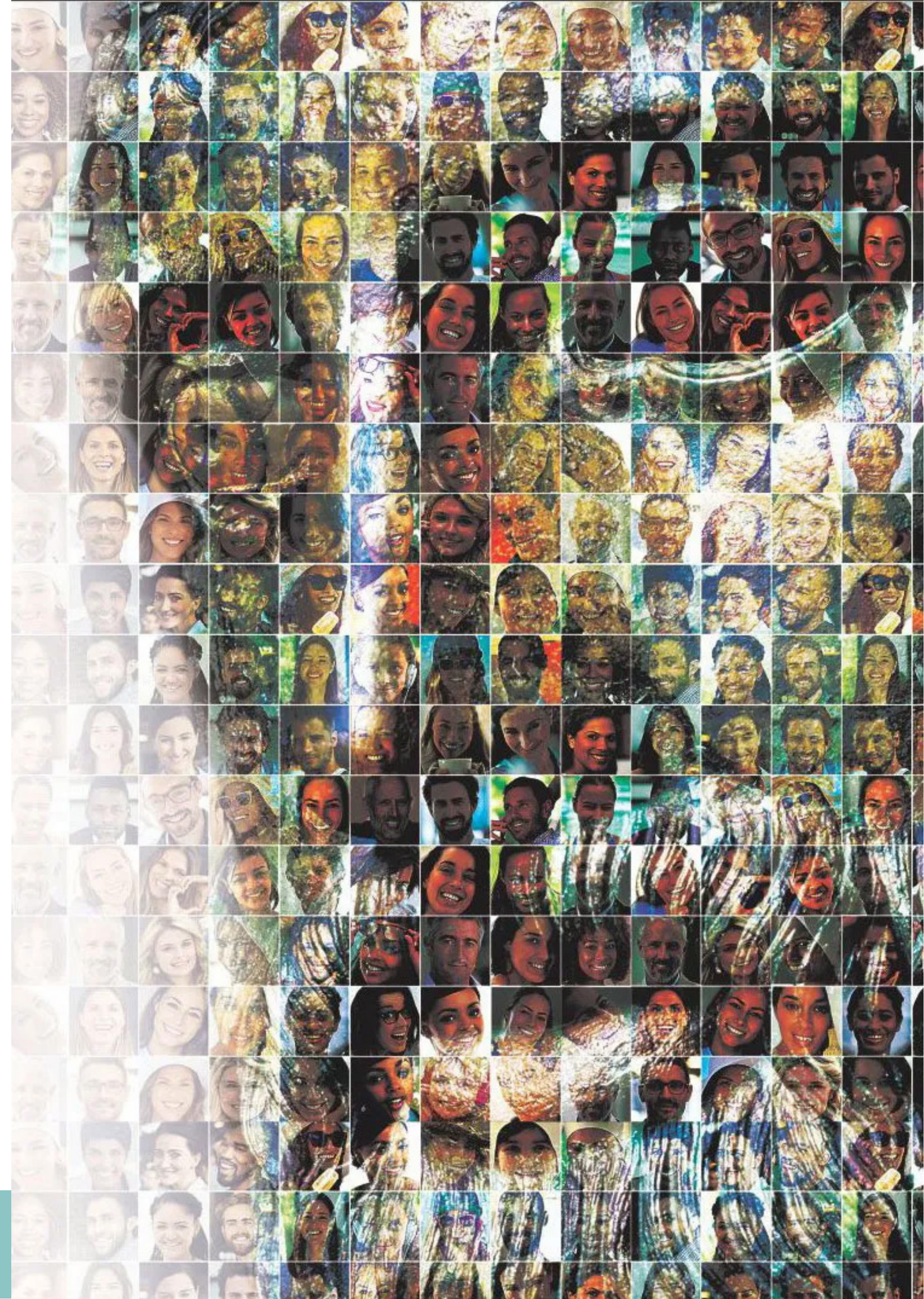


The Sirens, Auguste Rodin
1887 CE

The hero's journey

It received an official name in the 1940s in Joseph Campbell's *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*.

It is present in films and literature, influencing the original Star Wars trilogy and films of Disney's Renaissance, such as *Aladdin*.



But what is it?

Structure of a monomyth



- 1 The ordinary world
- 2 The call to adventure
- 3 The refusal of the call
- 4 Meeting with the mentor
- 5 Crossing the threshold
- 6 Tests, allies, & enemies
- 7 Approach to the innermost cave
- 8 The supreme ordeal
- 9 Seizing the sword
- 10 The road back
- 11 Resurrection
- 12 Return with the elixir

The literary works analyzed

Book Name	Year Written
<i>The Odyssey</i>	725–675 BCE
<i>The Ramayana</i>	700 BCE–300 CE
<i>Beowulf</i>	700–750
<i>Sundiata</i>	1200 ¹
<i>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz</i>	1900
<i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i>	1954
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	1960
<i>Harry Potter & the Philosopher’s Stone</i>	1997
<i>The Hunger Games</i>	2008
<i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i>	2009

¹ This work was first published in 1960. However, it originated in the thirteenth century and circulated through oral tradition.

Data analysis

Gathered using the books

- Page count
- Book length
- Narrative time
- Geographic locations
- Plot points
- Characters

Journals and study websites¹ referenced to identify consistent

- Plot points associated with the steps of the hero’s journey
- Major character listings

¹ Including, but not limited to Cliffs Notes, SparkNotes, Shmoop, and Quizlet.

AutoSaveOff

TheOdyssey.xlsx

FileHomeInsertPage LayoutFormulasDataReviewViewDeveloperHelpAcro

Cut

Copy

Format Painter

Clipboard

Arial

9

A

A

B

I

U

A

Font

Wrap Text

Merge & Center

Alignment

General\$9

AG25

	A	B	C	D	G	
	The step number	The step title	Description*	Location	Page number	Page
1	1	The ordinary world	Odysseus is the king of Ithaca. He is married to Penelope and they have an infant son named Telemachus.	Ithaca	106	0
2	2	The call to adventure	After Paris abducts and weds Helen, Odysseus is called upon to fight the Trojans.	Ithaca	106	0
3	3	The refusal of the call	Odysseus plows his fields with salt in an attempt to prove his insanity, but fails when Palamedes places Telemachus in front of the plow.	Ithaca	106	0
4	4	Meeting with the mentor	Athena, the goddess of war and practical reason, advocates for Odysseus' release from Ogygia, mentors his son, and oversees his		106	0
5	5	Crossing the threshold	Odysseus agrees to honor his oath and leaves Ithaca to fight the Trojan War. The war lasts 10-years.	After Troy, to	106	0
6	6	Tests, allies, and enemies	Odysseus and his men must go through several tests. Odysseus fights the cyclops, Polyphemus, then suffers the consequences of Poseidon's	Island of the	242	136
7	7	Approach to the innermost cave	Odysseus' crew opens the bag of winds when they are nearly home, sending them away again.	Close to Ithaca	260	154
8	8	The supreme ordeal	Under Circe's instruction, Odysseus goes to the underworld to get advice that will help protect him and his men on their way home.	Underworld	280	174
9	9	Reward, or seizing the sword	Odysseus receives passage home.	Ithaca	306	200
10	10	The road back	Odysseus returns to Ithaca to find his wife courted by many suitors.	Ithaca	327	221
11	11	Resurrection	Odysseus dresses as a beggar to test his wife's fidelity.	Ithaca	389	283
12	12	Return with the elixir	Odysseus learns Penelope was faithful, and their union is restored.	Ithaca	500	394
13			Total adventure	10%	N/A	664
14			Total journey		N/A	156
15						
16						
17	Step attributed to be part of the adventure					
18	*As sourced from https://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-each-stage-of-a-hero-s-journey.html					
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						

The Steps

Character demographics

Anatomy of a hero

ReadyAccessibility: Good to go

Journals & gender

hostess, helpers

peaceweaver, helpers

monster, hindrance

active helper
passive helper
hindrance

Audience

Skills

- Recently read or actively reading these works, so there is a familiarity with the topic
- Cogent reasoning and collection skills

Their goals

- Critically analyze the texts
- Enhance comprehension of the reading material
- Compare multiple works

Challenges

There is a need to gather information and process it quickly

8–12th
graders

10% of students have
ADHD

15% of the population has
a form of dyslexia

Accessibility

Designing for ADHD & dyslexia

- Minimalism
- High contrast
- Sans serifs
- +12 pt if using serifs

Additional notes for color blindness

- Shades of a single color
- High contrast

Design

Colors

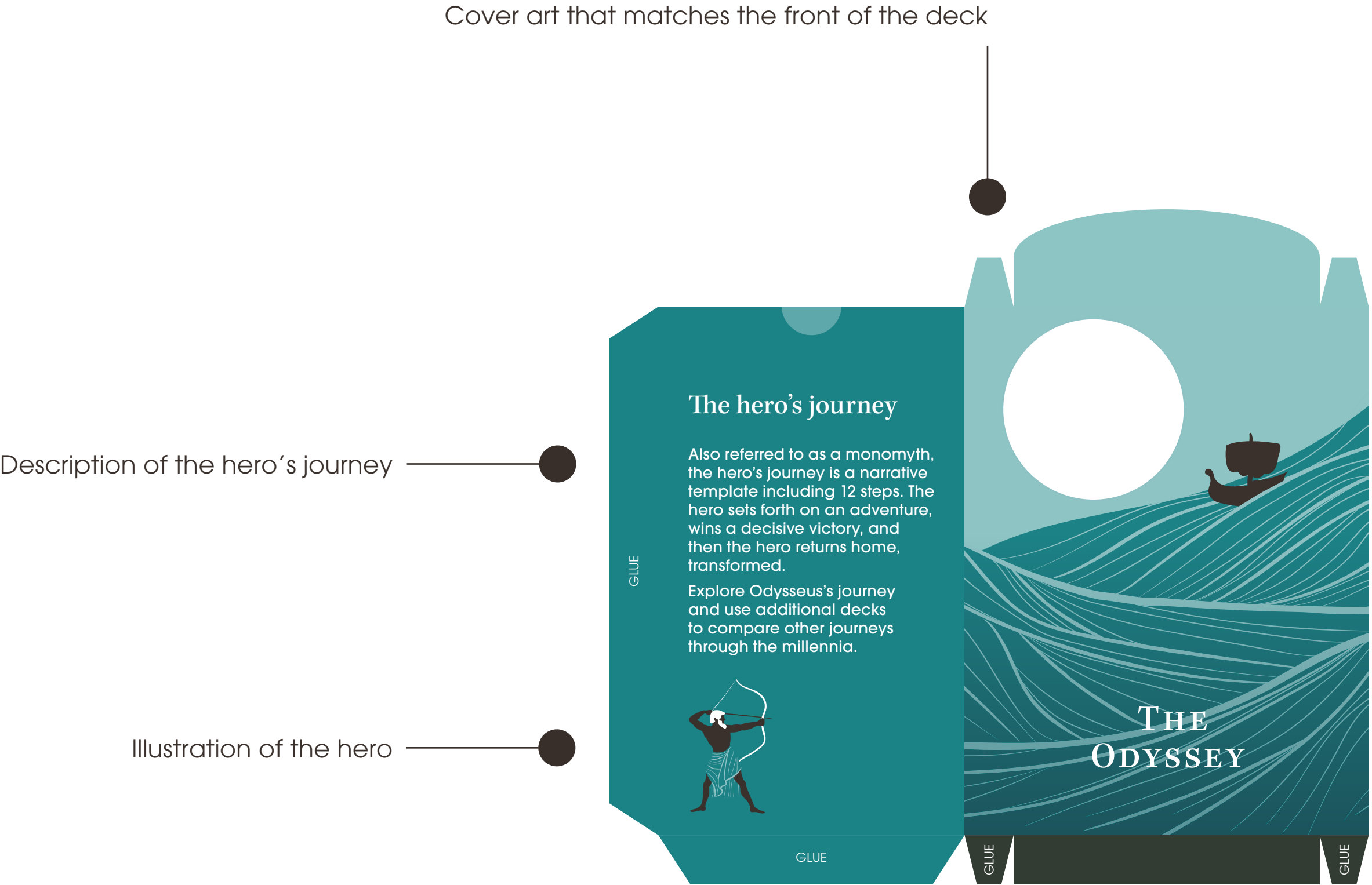
<i>The Odyssey</i>	
<i>The Ramayana</i>	
<i>Beowulf</i>	
<i>Sundiata</i>	
<i>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz</i>	
<i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i>	
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	
<i>Harry Potter & the Philosopher's Stone</i>	
<i>The Hunger Games</i>	
<i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i>	

Fonts

Header, Kepler Std, Medium, #FFFFFF / White, 18pt
Body, ITC Avant Garde Gothic, Book, #3C2E2A / Black Coffee, +10pt

The prototype:

The packaging



The reference sheets

References

Bronzite, D. (n.d.). The Hero's Journey - Mythic Structure of Joseph Campbell's Monomyth. Movie Outline. Retrieved December 3, 2022, from <https://www.movieoutline.com/hero-journey-mythic-structure-of-joseph-campbell-monomyth.html>

Miller-Wilson, K. (n.d.). The Hero's Journey: Examples of Each Stage. YourDictionary. Retrieved December 3, 2022, from <https://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-each-hero-s-journey.html>

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Structure of a monomyth



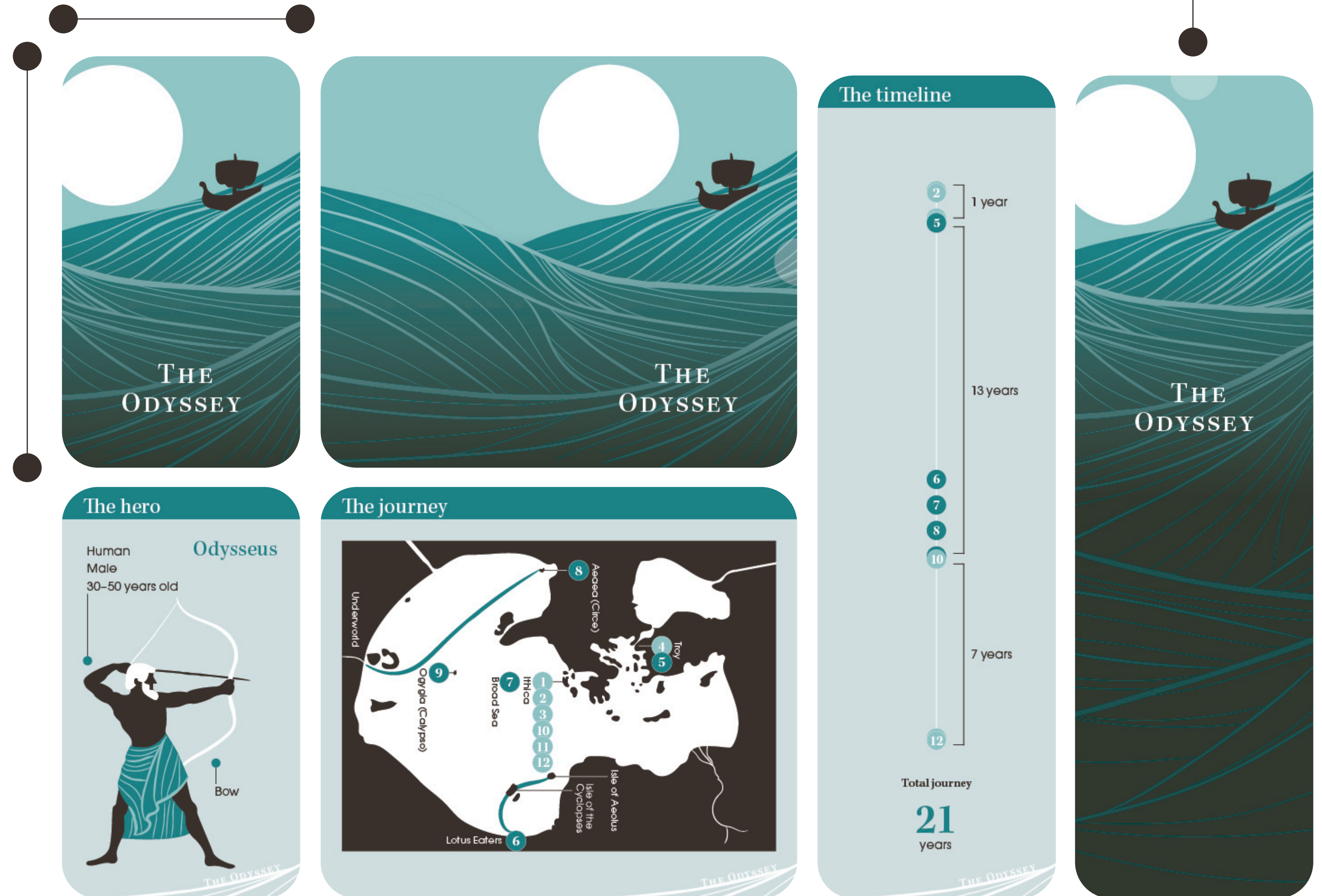
- Known or ordinary world
- Unknown world or adventure

- 1 The ordinary world**
This is the hero's original, known world. The hero is incomplete, something lacking or stolen.
- 2 The call to adventure**
A challenge or call to action presents itself. This stage establishes a goal for the hero.
- 3 The refusal of the call**
The hero avoids the path. An additional catalyst must occur to motivate them to proceed.
- 4 Meeting with the mentor**
The hero encounters a wise figure who prepares them for the journey. This figure gives advice, guidance, or items but cannot proceed with the hero.
- 5 Crossing the threshold**
The hero proceeds, entering the unknown world or adventure.
- 6 Tests, allies, & enemies**
The hero undergoes trials, collects allies, and overcomes enemies to prepare themselves for their ultimate ordeal.
- 7 Approach to the innermost cave**
The cave is where an external or internal conflict will take place. The hero makes final preparations before their ultimate trial.
- 8 The supreme ordeal**
The hero faces physical or psychological danger, often life or death.
- 9 Seizing the sword**
After surviving, the hero takes possession of a reward, typically treasure, weapon, knowledge, or reconciliation.
- 10 The road back**
They deal with the consequences of their actions and decide whether to return to the ordinary world.
- 11 Resurrection**
This is the final test before the rebirth of the hero. Alternatively, there may be a miraculous transformation.
- 12 Return with the elixir**
Victorious, the hero returns to the ordinary world bearing the elixir. Standard elixirs are treasure, love, freedom, wisdom, or knowledge.

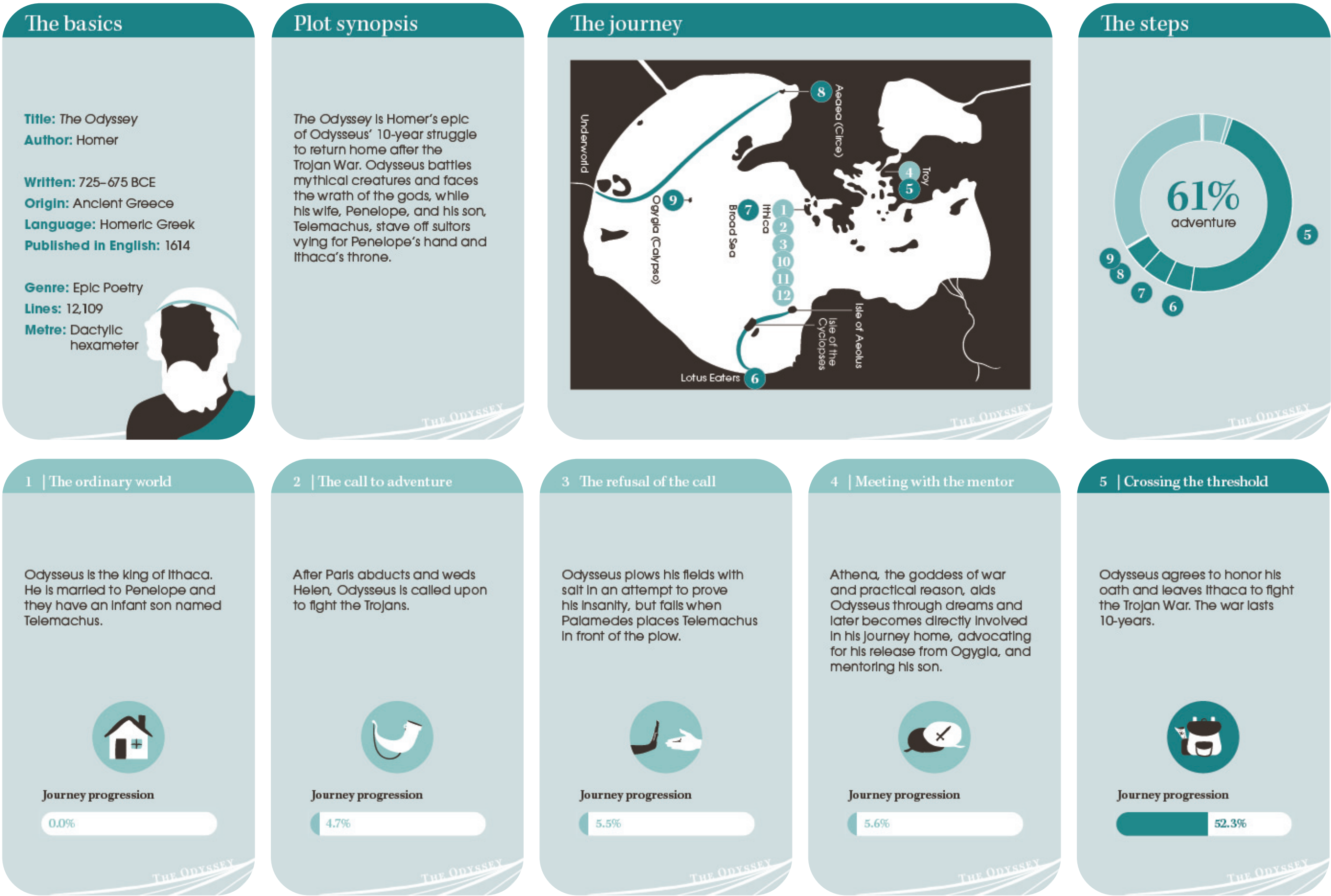
The dimensions

The standard dimension is 2.75" x 4.75"
For foldable content, this is multiplied.

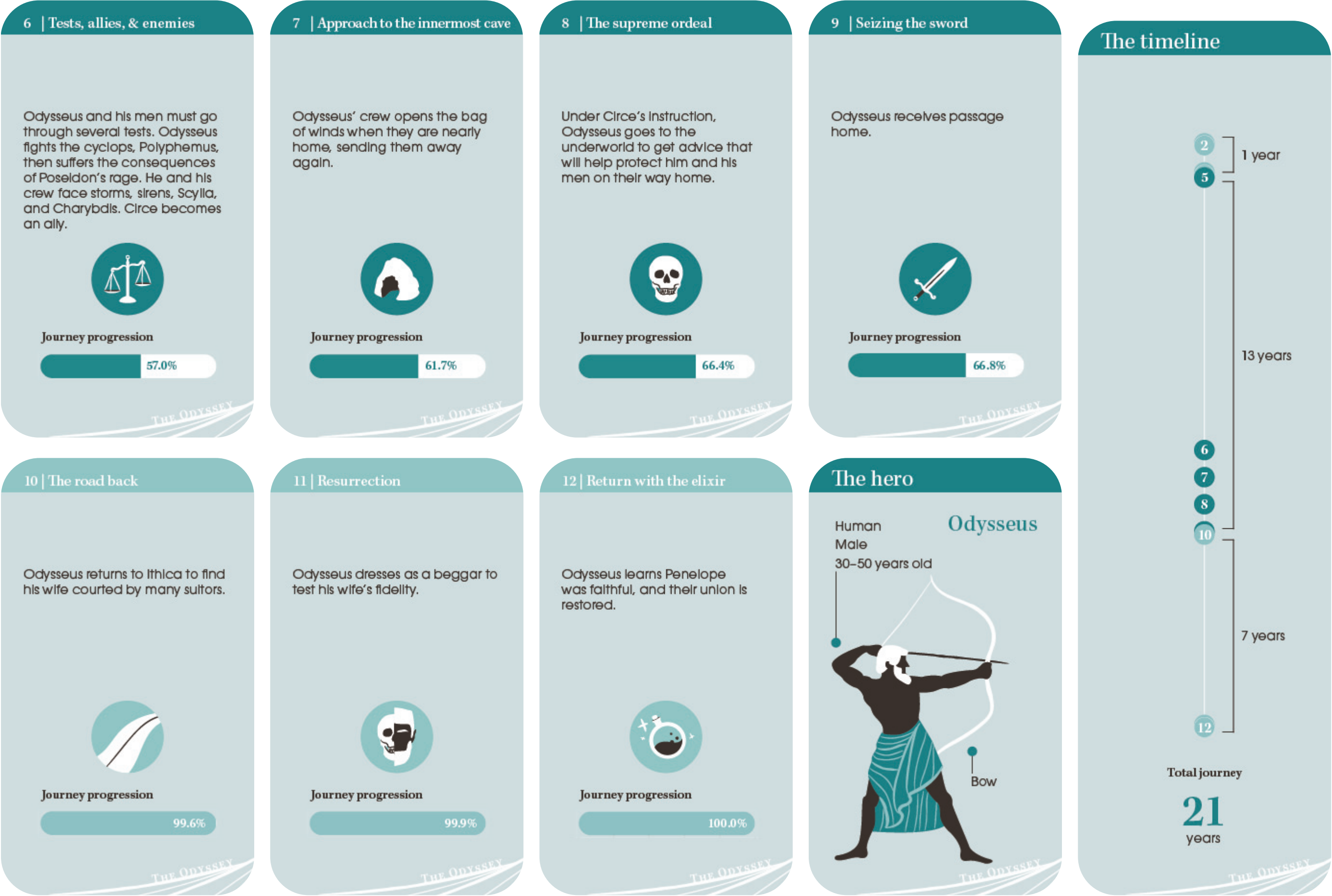
Tabs are cut out in the printed materials
to signal foldable content



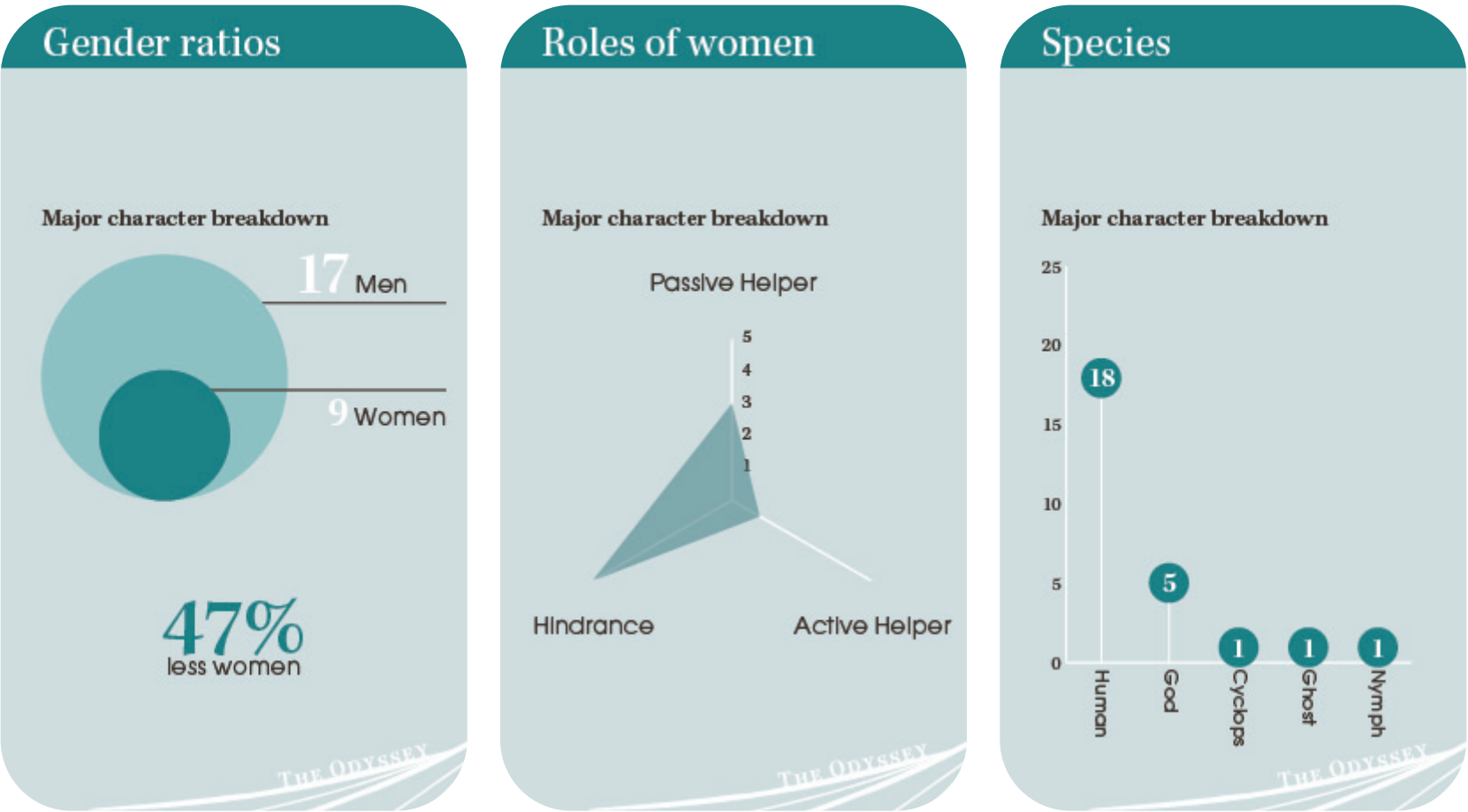
The exhibits



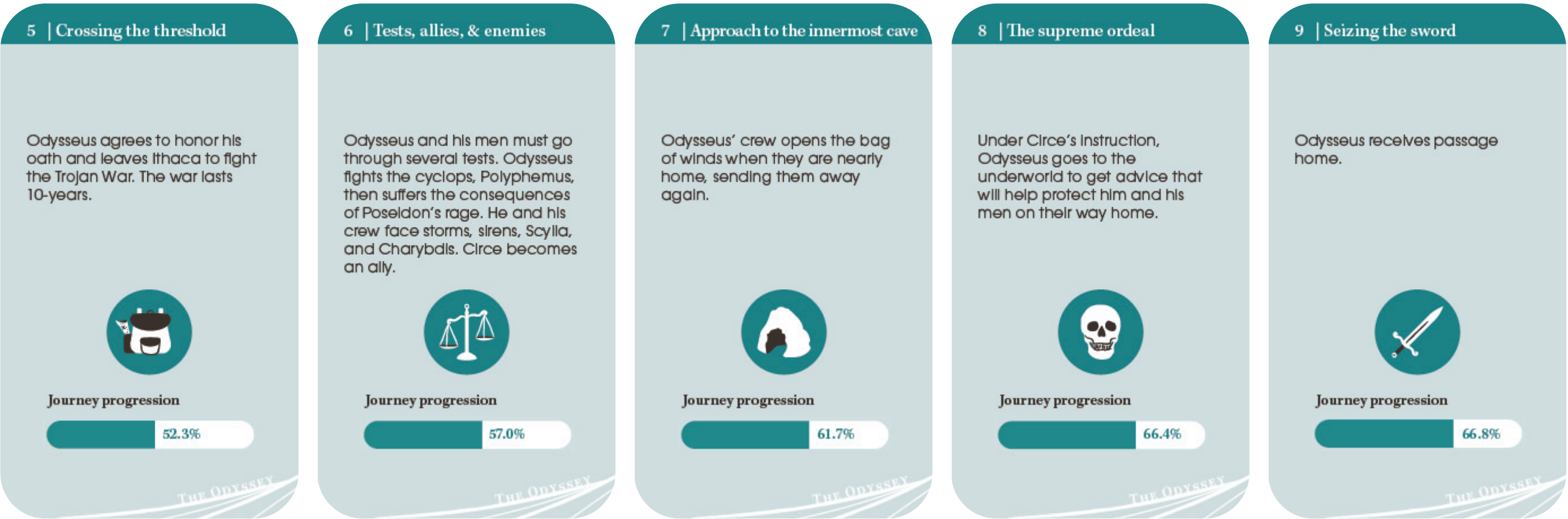
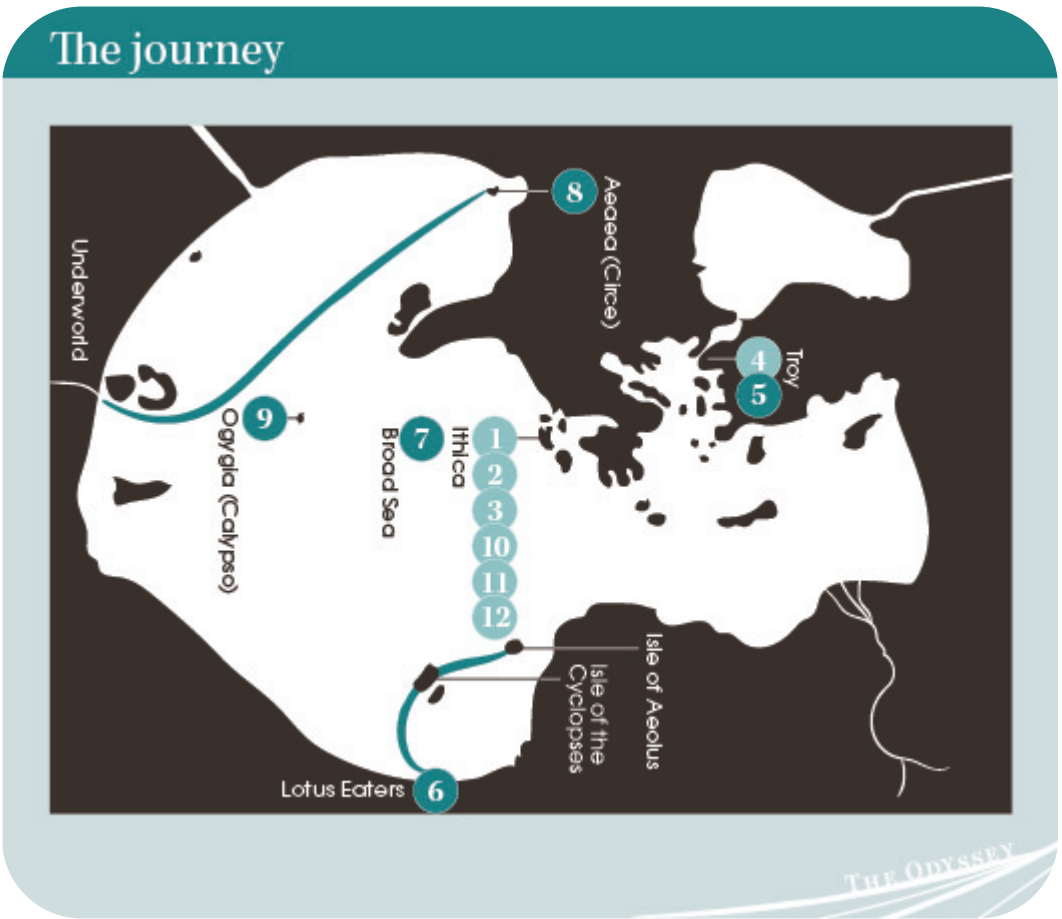
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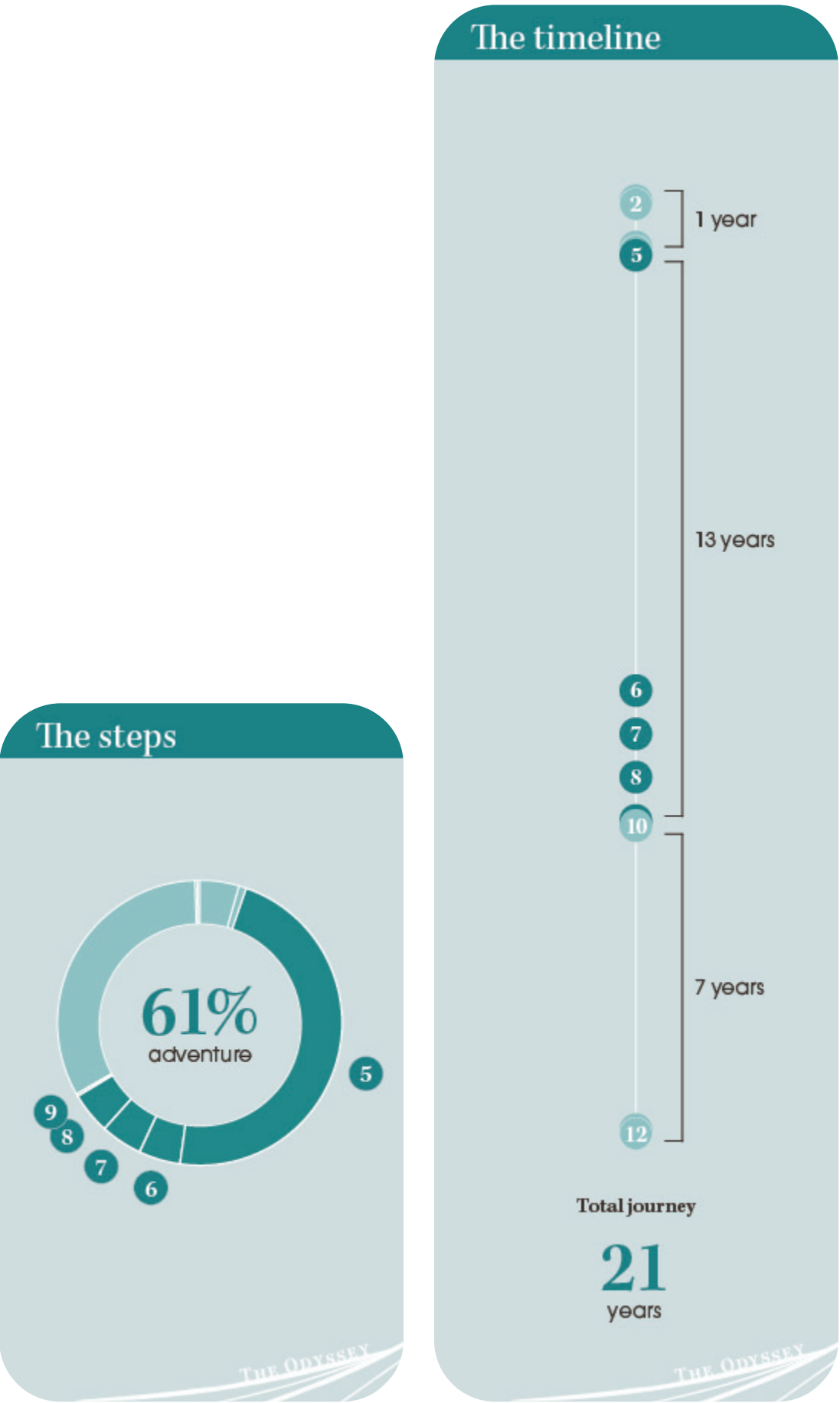
The exhibits



The arrangements

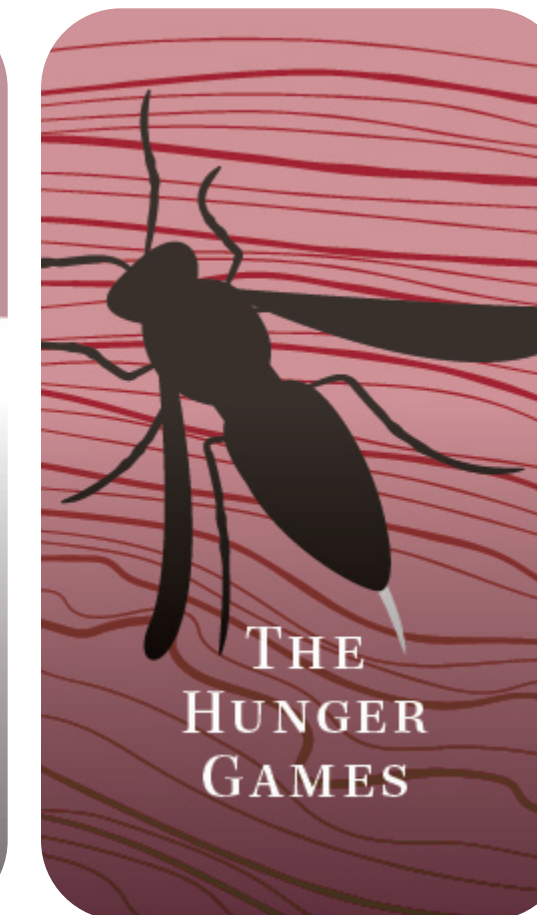
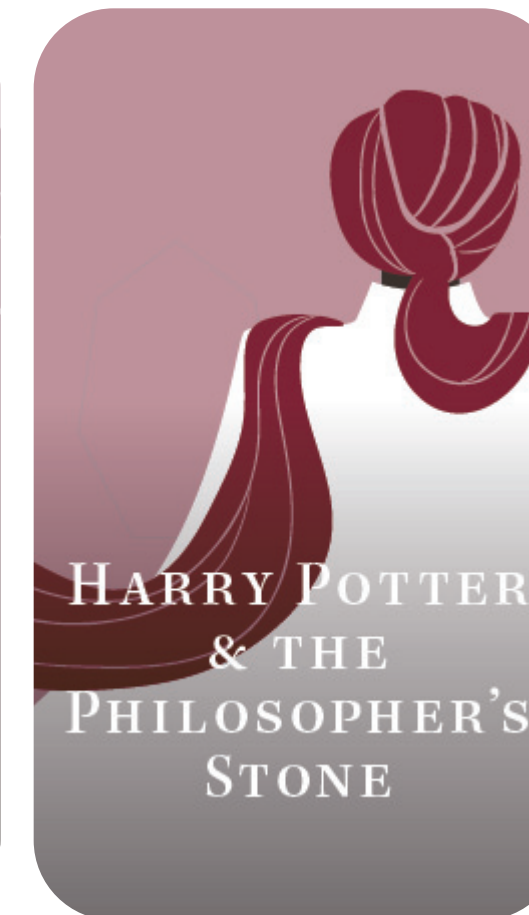
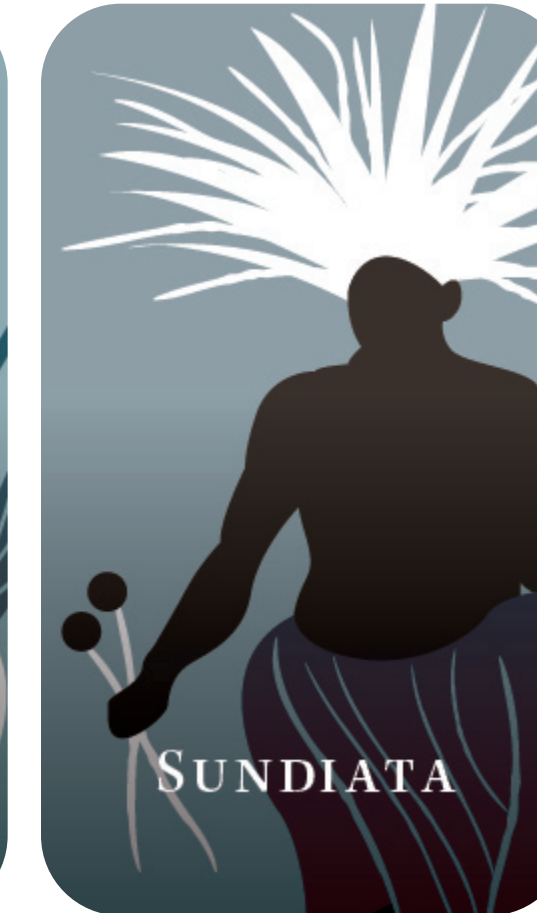


The arrangements



The covers

Color and illustration variability
used to distinguish cards.



The variations

There are identifiers at the bottom,
distinguishing between decks



The comparisons

The basics

Title: The Odyssey
Author: Homer

Written: 725–675 BCE
Origin: Ancient Greece
Language: Homeric Greek
Published in English: 1614

Genre: Epic Poetry
Lines: 12,109
Metre: Dactylic hexameter



The basics

Title: The Ramayana
Author: Valmiki

Written: 700 BCE–300 CE
Origin: India
Language: Sanskrit
Published in English: 1870

Genre: Epic Poetry
Lines: ~24,000
Metre: Shloka/Anustubh




The basics

Title: The Wonderful Wizard of Oz
Author: L. Frank Baum

Written: 1900
Origin: United States
Language: English

Genre: Children's, Fantasy Fiction




The basics

Title: The Fellowship of the Ring
Author: J. R. R. Tolkien

Written: 1954
Origin: England
Language: English

Genre: Fantasy




The basics

Title: To Kill a Mockingbird
Author: Harper Lee

Written: 1960
Origin: United States
Language: English

Genre: Fiction, Thriller




The basics

Title: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
Author: J. K. Rowling

Written: 1997
Origin: England
Language: English

Genre: Children's, Fantasy




The basics

Title: The Hunger Games
Author: Suzanne Collins

Written: 2008
Origin: United States
Language: English

Genre: Dystopian, Children's, Young Adult



The basics

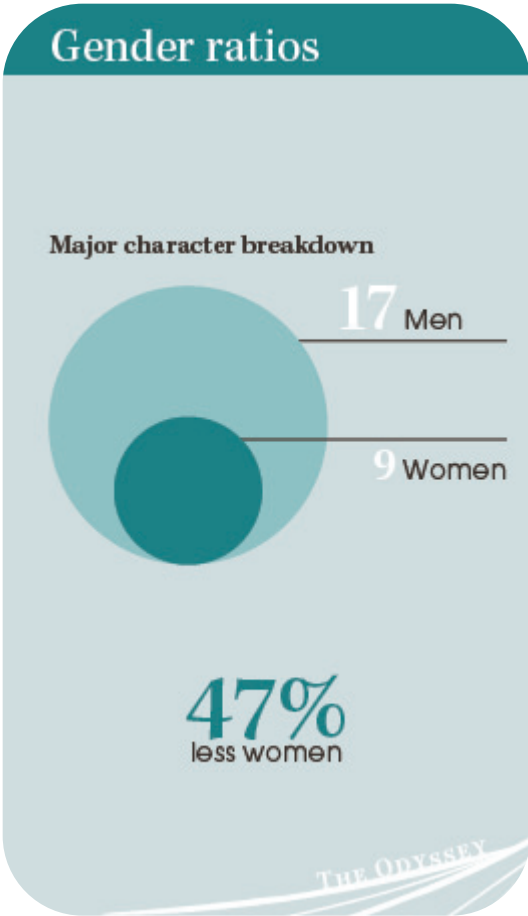
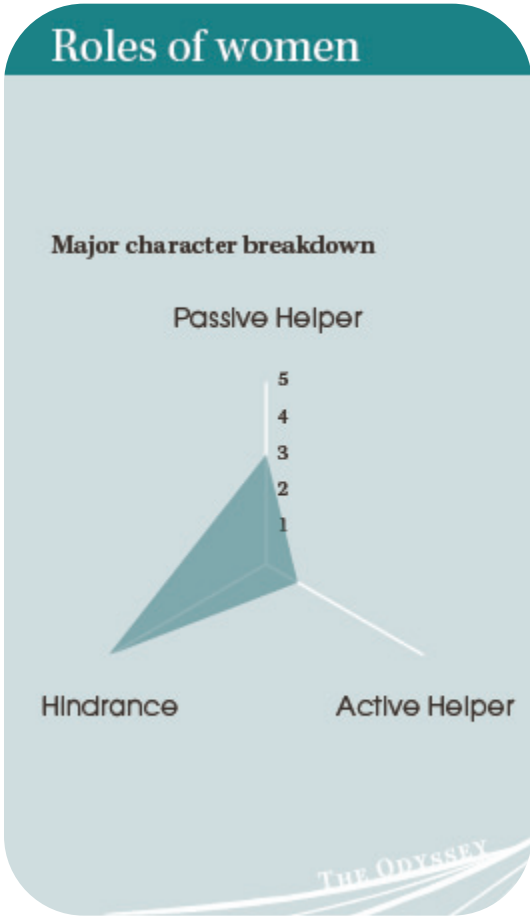
Title: Where the Mountain Meets the Moon
Author: Grace Lin

Written: 2009
Origin: United States
Language: English

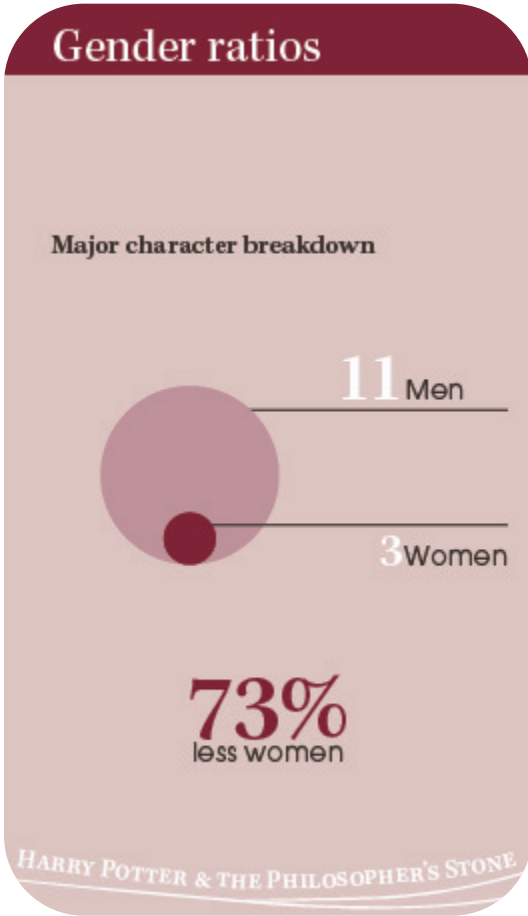
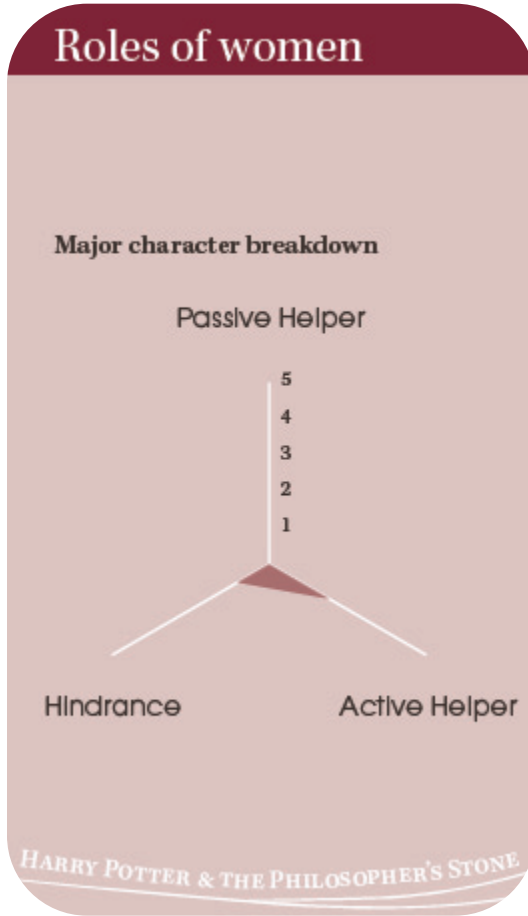
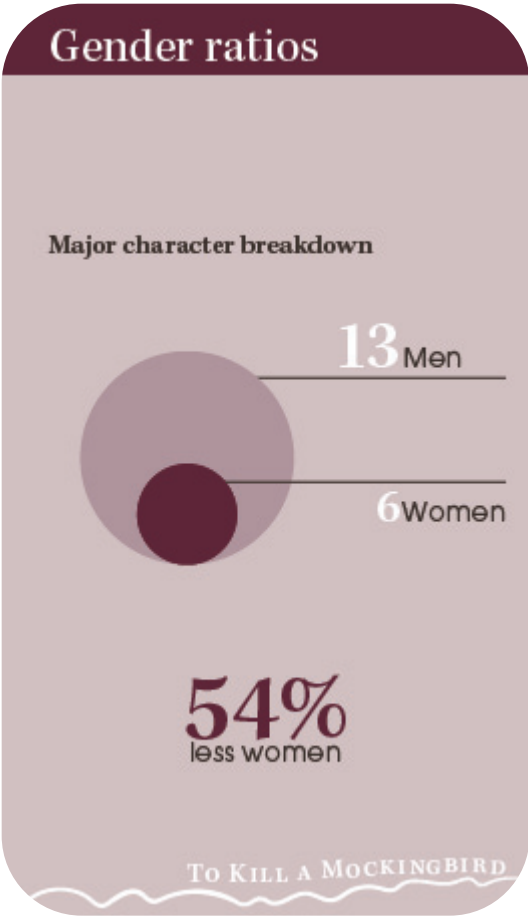
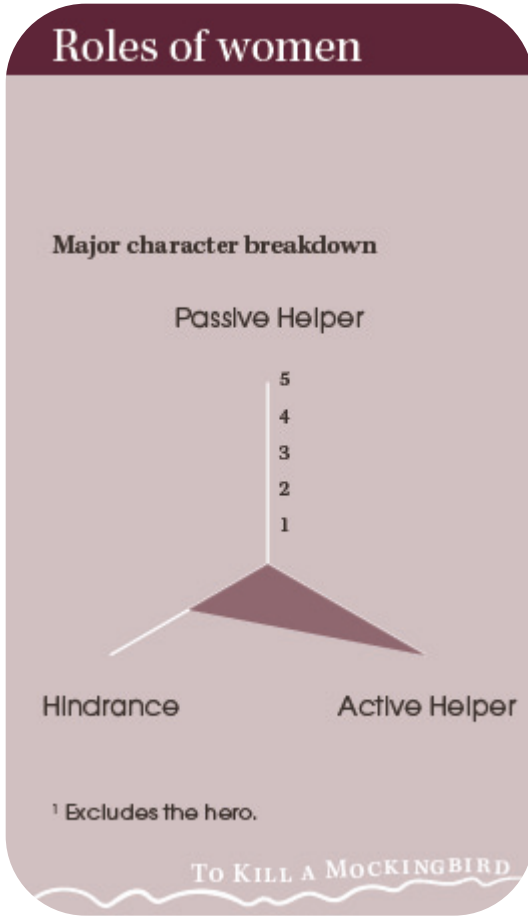
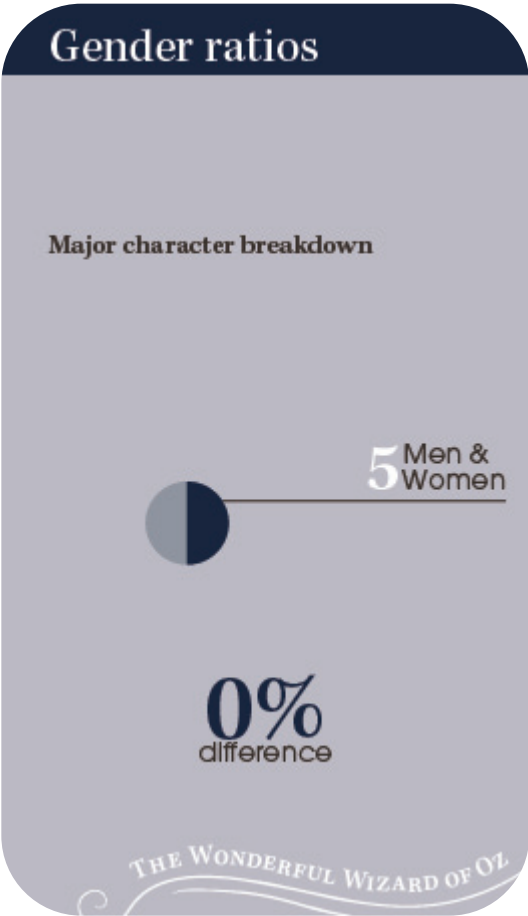
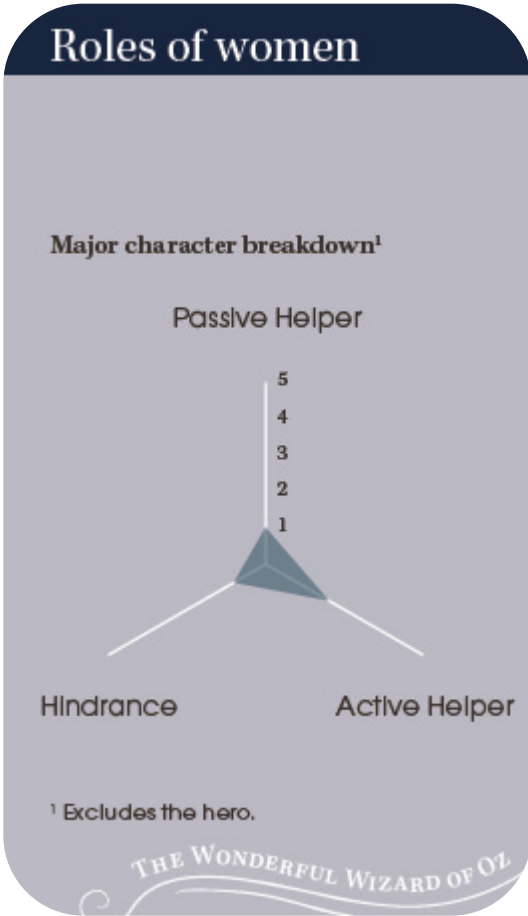
Genre: Fairy tale, Children's, Fantasy



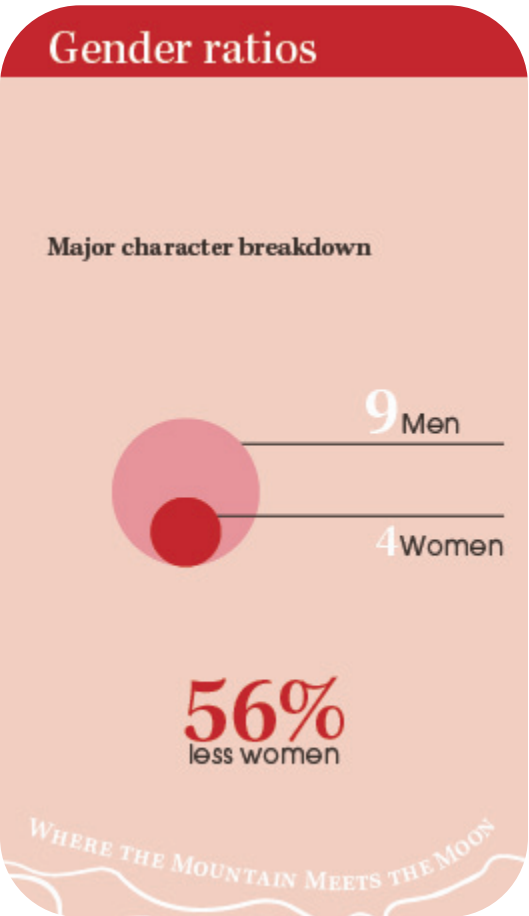
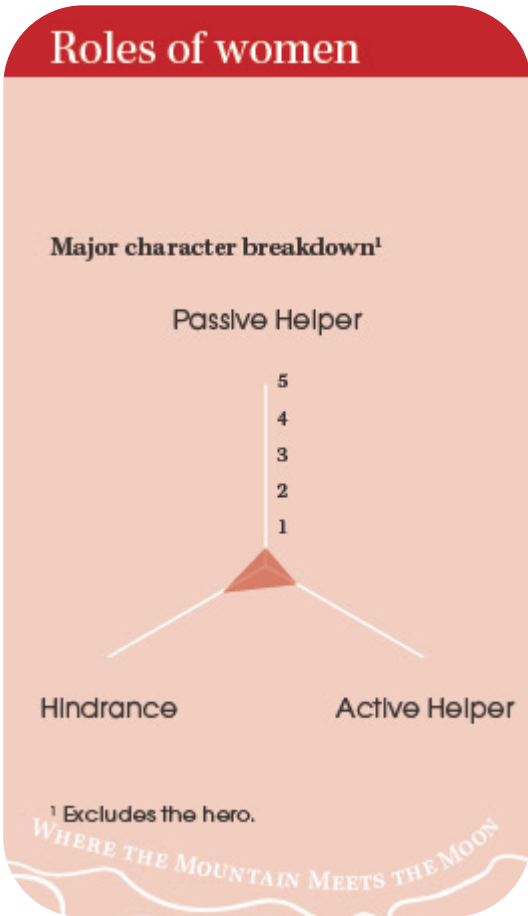
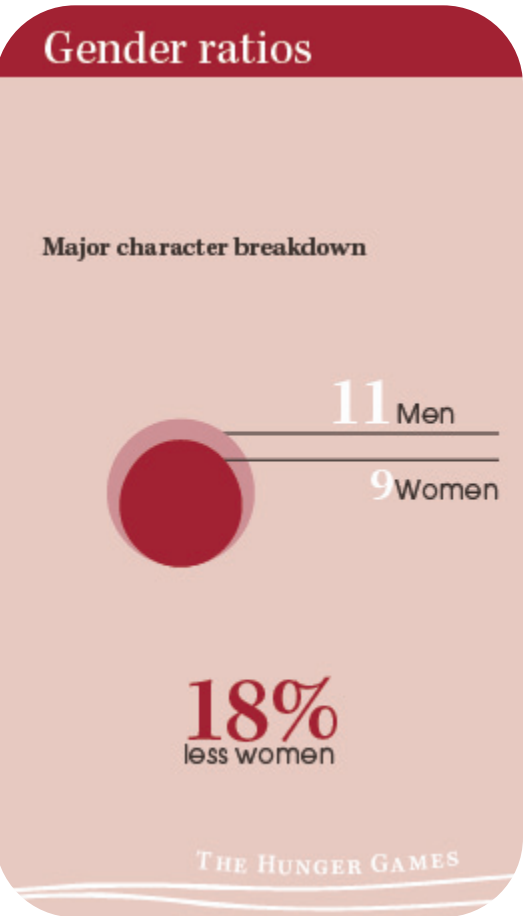
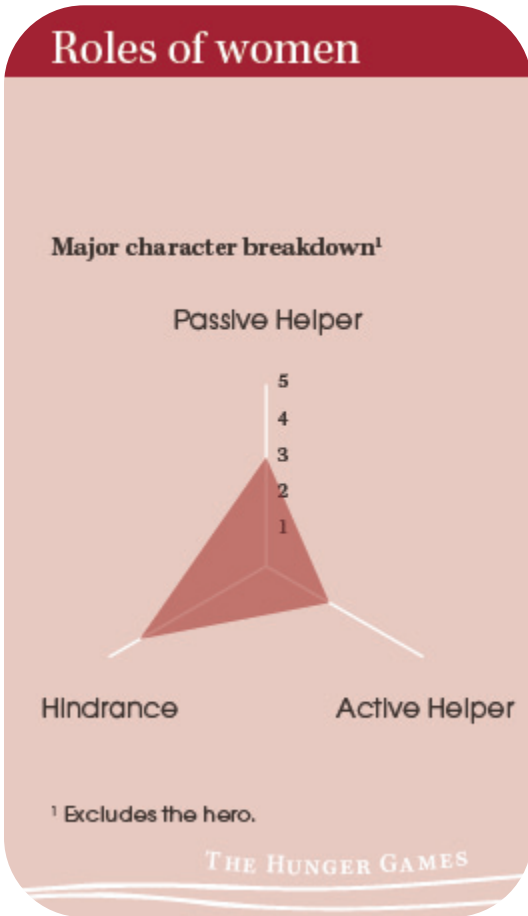
Male hero, while the others are female



VS.

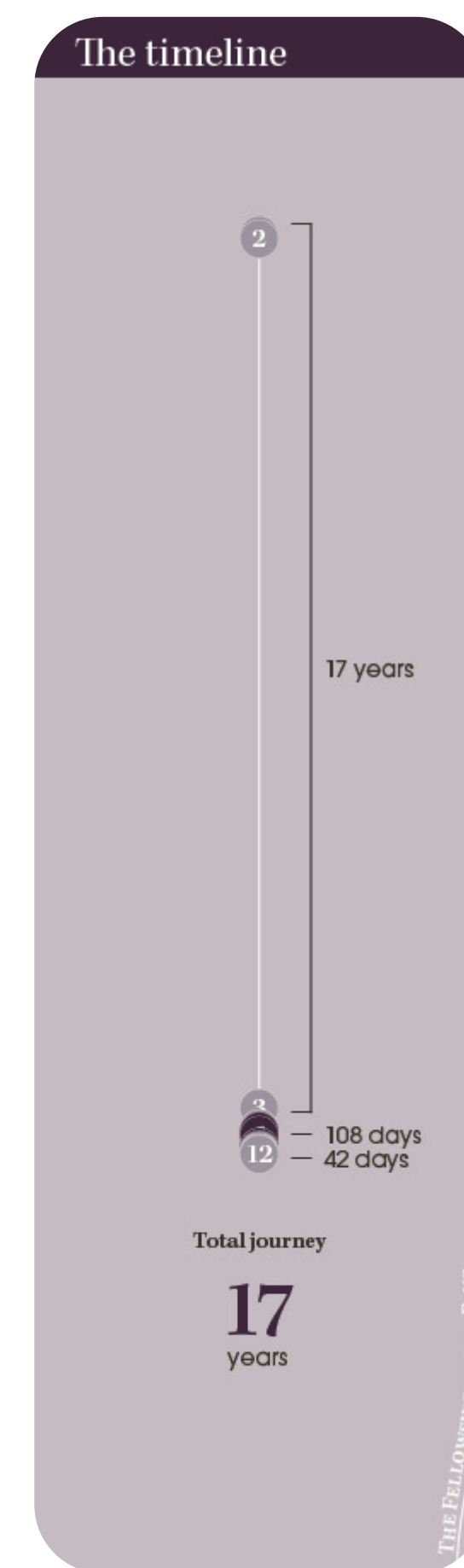
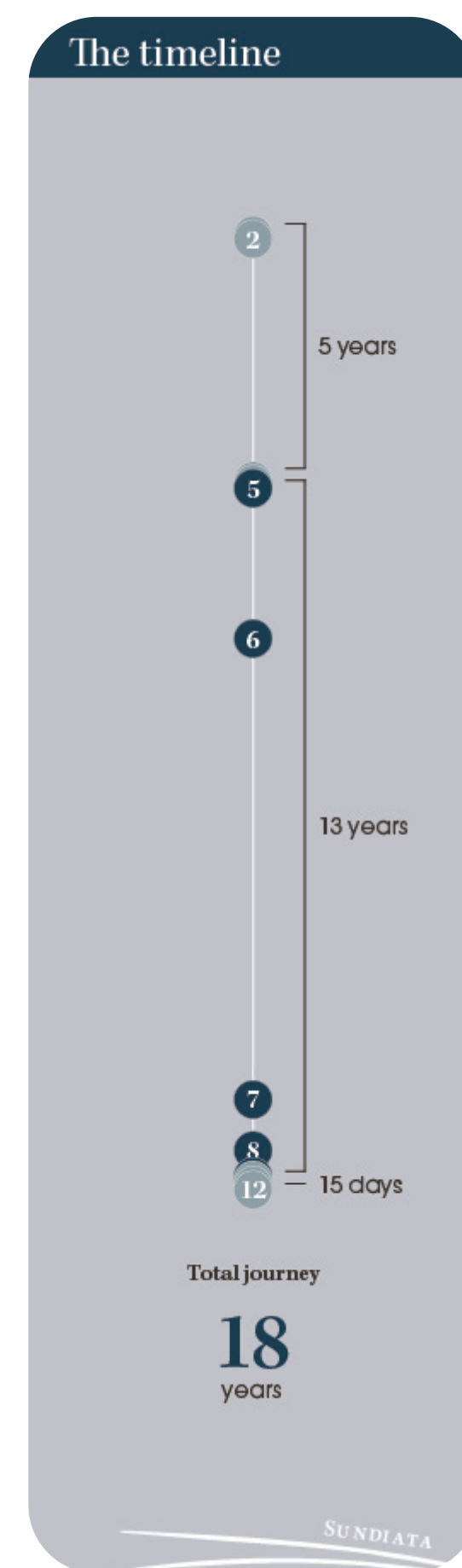
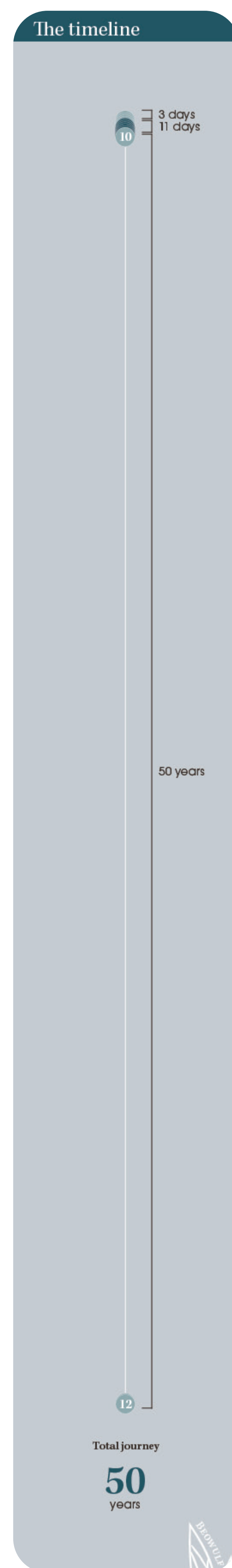
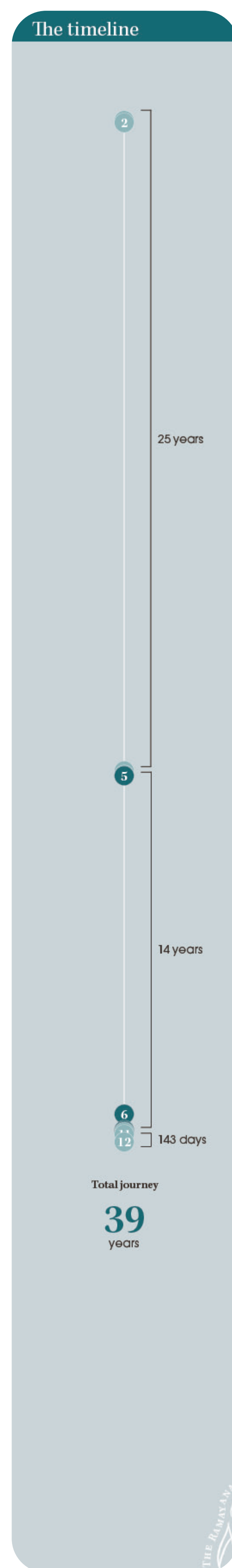
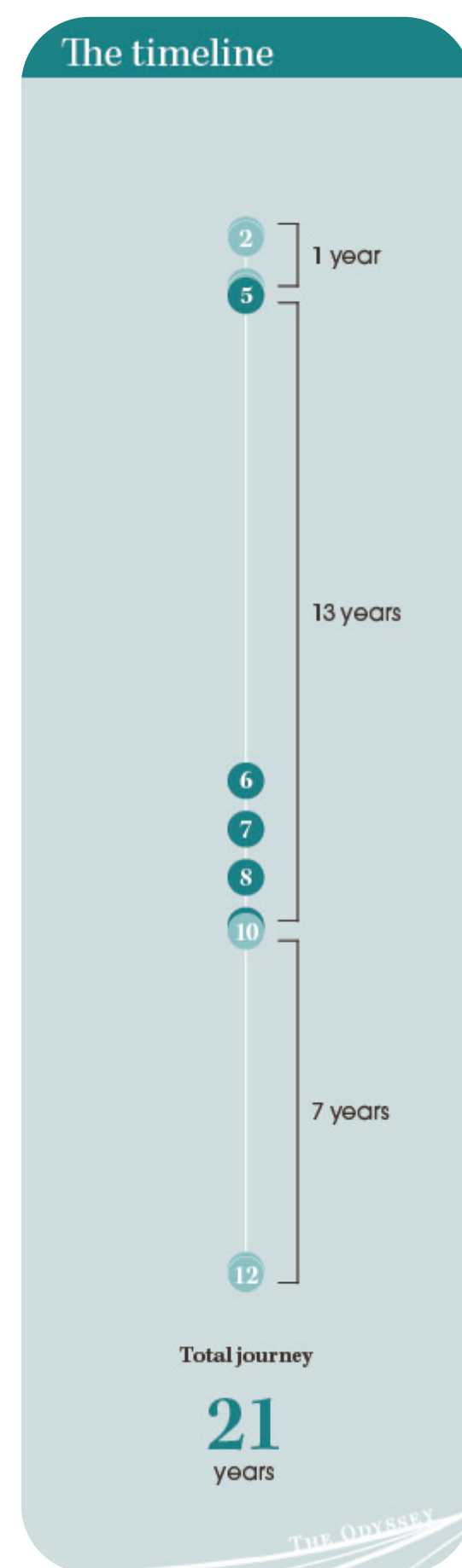


Male author and only author in the sample to have an equal ratio

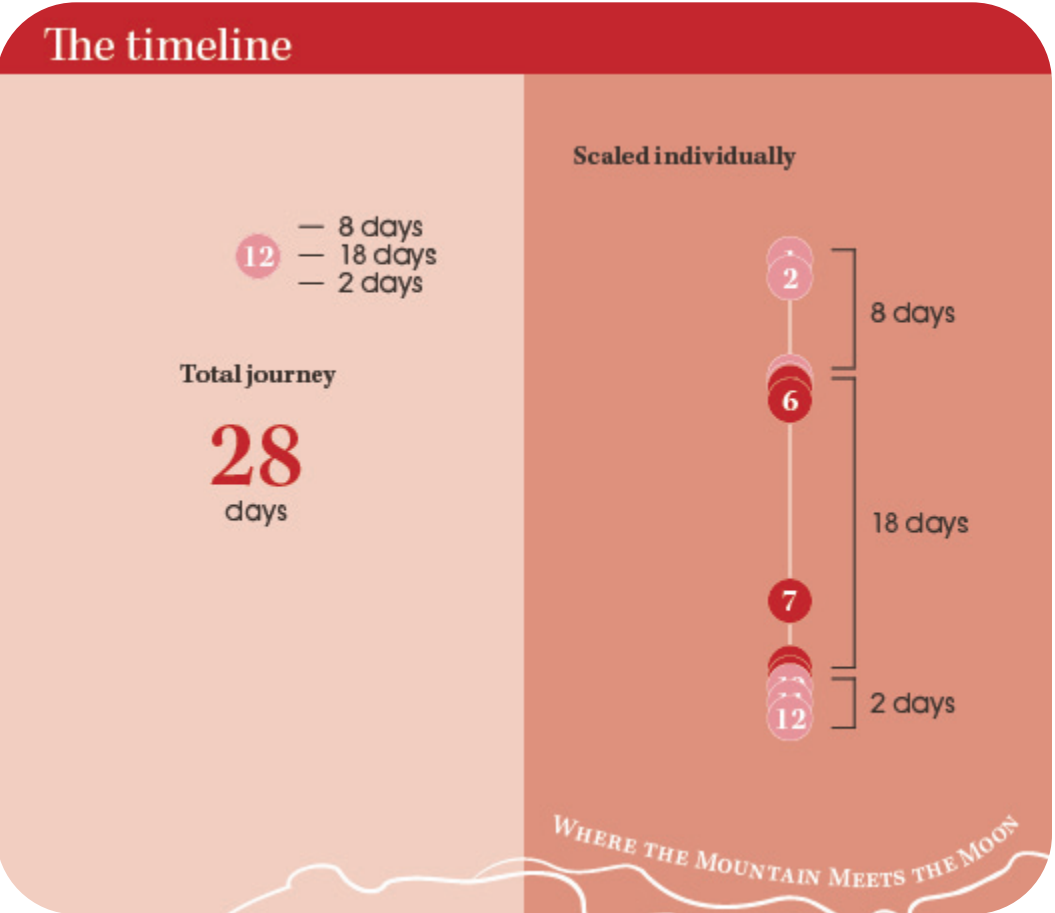
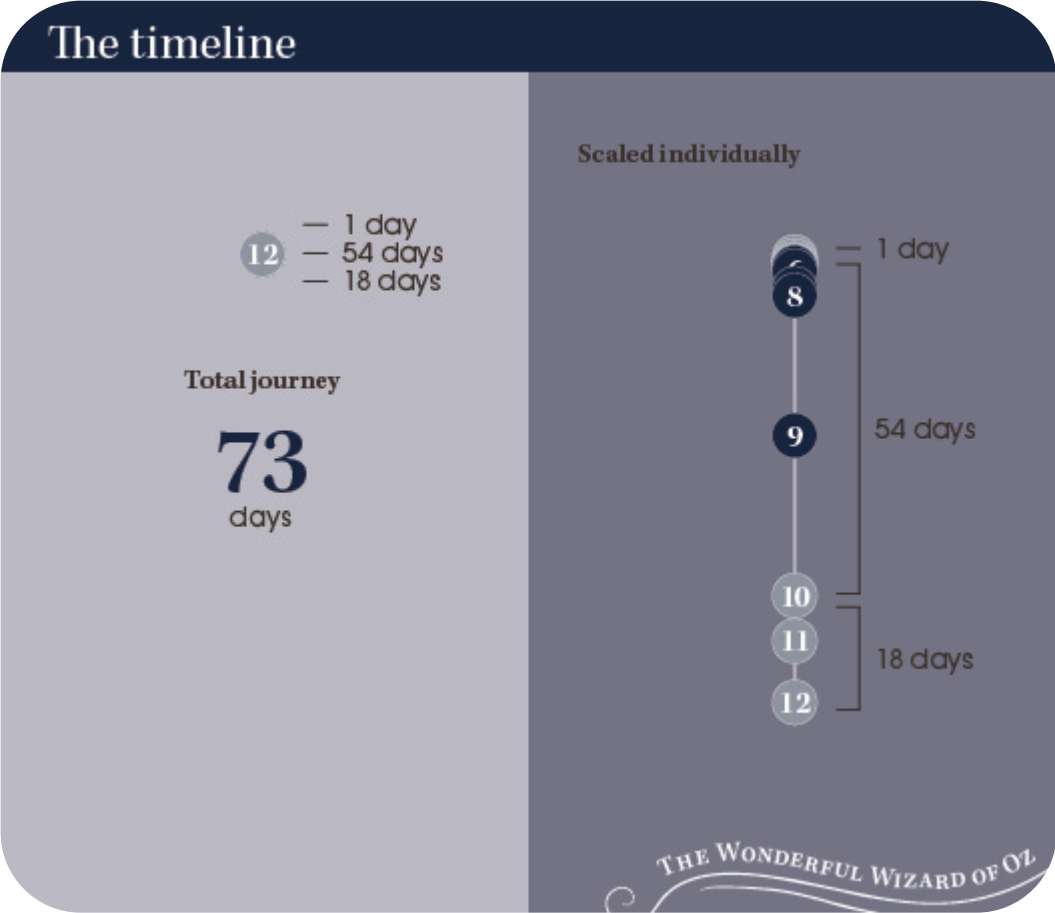


The comparisons

The comparisons



The comparisons



The next steps

The q&a

References

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