

SB Spot 2 on Bryson and
Spot 1 on Logan (DSR)

LQ 615, SQ 72.5, PRO
218-225, and RAIL 55

1,2

	Places call	LQ 613	
	Box office clear	LQ 615	
	House 1/2; Fade out Int. Music	SQ 72.5	
START TIMER	Audience quiet	LQ 620	1
	House out; Entre'act Handpan	PRO 218	
		SQ 73	
	BO complete	RAIL 55	
	Grand out		
	End of Music	LQ 625	

SB RAIL 58 1, 2

2.1 The Underworld

[*The act begins with the Phaecians in their former positions, listening to ODYSSEUS.*]

ODYSSEUS:

Lord Alcinous, king and admiration of men,
You have promised me safe passage home,
and if indeed listening is still your pleasure,

LQ 630
RAIL 58
SQ 74

I must not grudge my part: I will go on.

2 DS Sheers OUT; Spot 2 on OD;
Voyage Theme

[*Music. During the following, ODYSSEUS comes forward. The PHAECIANS drift away. As they leave, they variously embody fragmentary images—the ship launchings, the men of winter, etc. – before disappearing entirely.*]

SB RAIL 60 1, 2

We launched our ship on the fathomless unresting sea.

By night we ran toward the ocean's edge,

past where the Men of Winter live, hidden

in mist and cloud. We made the land and took our way Spot 1 on YOD

along the River of Ocean to the spot foretold by Circe.

There, I dug a pit and poured in the blood of a

black lamb. The spirits all came swarming up to drink,

their eager faces flickering in the dark.

The last to die was the first to greet me:

and this is how I, a living man, went into the Underworld.

Center Sheer OUT; Fade out
music; underworld ambiance

Uplight

LQ 632

LQ 633

PRO 220

RAIL 60

SQ 75

1

LQ 635

PRO 225

SQ 76

Elpenor

[*The music changes. ELPENOR appears, and another figure is crouching in the distance. ELPENOR speaks about himself calmly, as from a great distance of time.*]

ELPENOR:

I slept on Circe's roof, then could not see

the long steep backward ladder, coming down,

and fell that height. My neck bone buckled under,

snapped, and my spirit found this well of dark.

Now hear the grace I pray for, in the name

of those back in the world, not here— your wife

and father, he who gave you bread in childhood,

and your own child, your only son, Telemachus,

long ago left at home.

When you make sail
you will moor ship, I know, on Circe's island;
there, O my lord, remember me, I pray,
do not abandon me, unwept, unburied,

to tempt the god's wrath while you sail for home;
but fire my corpse, and all the gear I had,
and build a tomb for me above the breakers—
an unknown sailor's mark for men to come.
Heap up the mound there, and plant upon it
the oar I pulled in life with my companions.

Spot 2 on OD

LQ 640

[*ELPENOR disappears, TEIRESIAS enters.*]

ODYSSEUS:

Now when I saw him
there, I knew we had left him, unwept, unburied,
and I cried for pity and called out to him— but
his faint, unhappy image left me as another rose
to take his place: this was Teiresias, whom Circe
foretold would give me prophecy.

1

LQ 645

Teiresias

SQ 77

TEIRESIAS:

Great Captain,
a fair wind and the honey lights of home
are all you seek. But anguish lies ahead: you will
make landfall on Thrinacia, the island of Helios,
the sun. There you'll find his gentle grazing herds.
Hear this: If your shipmates lay a hand on them,
I see destruction for them all. You will survive,
but alone and lost for years.

Now, when you
are home, take an oar upon your shoulder and walk
so far inland that you find men who have
never seen the sea, nor known its tides nor waves.
One day, a passerby will ask about the oar, saying,
“What is that you are carrying, sir? A winnowing fan?”
At that moment stoop and plant the oar in the ground.
Then make a sacrifice to Lord Poseidon.

Do this,

And a seaborne death, soft as this hand of mist,
will come upon you when you are wearied out
with rich old age, your country folk in blessed peace
around you. And all this shall be just as I foretold.

Spot 2 on OD

LQ 650

[TEIRESIAS departs.]

ODYSSEUS:

When he had prophesied, Teresia's shade
retired lordly to the halls of Death;
but then I saw a figure, crouching in the gloom,
and when she turned I saw it was my mother.

Mother 1

SQ 78

LQ 655

1

[The CROUCHING FIGURE turns and rises.]

ODYSSEUS' MOTHER:

Odysseus?

YOUNG ODYSSEUS:

Mother, is that you? Are you alone?
or is Father here as well, or Penelope?
Is she here, or is she still at home?

Mother 2

SQ 79

1

ODYSSEUS'S MOTHER:

Still with your child she is, poor heart,
still in your palace hall. Forlorn her nights
and days go by, her life used up in weeping.
But no man takes your honored place.

YOUNG ODYSSEUS:

And Father, what of him?

Mother 3

SQ 80

ODYSSEUS'S MOTHER:

Old Laertes
is country bound and comes to town no more.

1

He owns no bedding, rugs, or fleecy mantles,
but lies down, winter nights, among the shepherds,
rolled in old cloaks for cover near the embers.

He lies there even now, with aching heart,
longing for your return while age comes on him.

So, I, too, pined away, so death befell me,

not that illness overtook me—only my loneliness for you, Odysseus. _____ **LQ 656**

**SB LQ 660-670 for a
quick call + sequence**

verbal GO SQ 81-84

PRO 230 & RAIL 65

2

ODYSSEUS:

I rose and tried three times to embrace her, _____
but she went sifting through my arms, impalpable
as shadows are, and wavering like a dream.

Reach 1

LQ 660
SQ 81

Reach 2

LQ 665
SQ 82

Reach 3

LQ 670
SQ 83

YOUNG ODYSSEUS:

O my mother,
may we not, even in this place of Death,
hold each other and touch with love?

Mother 4

SQ 84

ODYSSEUS'S MOTHER:

You must be craving sunlight.

Go now, my child

LQ 673
PRO 230

*[Exit ODYSSEUS'S MOTHER. In an instant, the
come up very bright. No shadows remain. C
stage. Alcinous enters quietly.]*

LQ complete

RAIL 65

Scrim out

YOD and OD look at each other

LQ 675

ALCINOUS:

Son of Laertes, I have pressed you to go on, but this—

**SB Spot 1 on Bryson
(DSC) and PRO 235**

1

ODYSSEUS:

Alcinous—

ALCINOUS:

Perhaps some things should not be told—