

## **Theseus:**

### **Greek Hero and One Worthy of the Throne**

Imagine. It's dark and smells like a wild animal. The labyrinth's maze of corridors that deep night seemed even more deadly and black than I thought possible. I reached the center, the lair of the hideous minotaur. I could hear his raspy breath. My movement awoke the monster. A deadly battle followed. It was I, Theseus who conquered and not the dreaded minotaur. This is just one example that shows all the qualities necessary for a truly great leader of Mt. Olympus; determination, strength, bravery, and brains. I know that I merit your vote of confidence that I indeed deserve to sit on the great throne of the gods!

I didn't intend to become a hero. I only wanted to help my fellow Athenians. For years I listened to the terrible cries of some of the best, bravest, and brightest young Athenians as they were sent as a tribute to King Minos on the island of Crete. Finally, I knew something had to be done, so I offered to go in one boy's place. This killing couldn't go on any longer.

When we arrived on the rocky shores of Crete the monstrous task ahead seemed impossible, but my father had taught me perseverance and to never give up by giving me several tasks to complete in my youth. This is a trait I will be able to use when I am ruler on Mt. Olympus.

Princess Ariadne became my confidante and we combined her knowledge of the labyrinth with my strength to defeat the feared and ferocious minotaur. My triumph over the beast was one of the most satisfying moments of my life. I, in a few short minutes, released the city-state of Athens from the awful tribute they had been tied to for years. No longer would the lives of many children be lost. Princess Ariadne knew she could not return the home of her father and I having grown to love her, sailed off with both her and the rescued youth back to our homeland.

Despite my heroic efforts, some of my critics may say that there are several reasons why I should not be elected to the throne. I'm sure you will be convinced that, in spite of these seemingly unfortunate events, I still deserve to rule. I admit that I left Ariadne on the island of Naxos. Many questioned how I could

abandon the woman I love to the elements. I never would have relinquished her except that Dionysis himself descended in a dream and proclaimed his love for Ariadne and demanded I leave her to him. I couldn't refuse.

As you know, there is one other tragedy I need to address; the death of my father. I didn't hoist the white sail that was to signal my safe return. The distraught king upon seeing the black sail stumbled in grief for his lost son and fell to his death. That I might have been the cause, pains me still. I did not do as I should have, but I was so upset at having to leave Ariadne that I wasn't thinking clearly. I have since learned to concentrate on the task at hand.

In conclusion, I know that I have developed all the qualities necessary to sit as the head of the gods. I deserve that title as my accomplishments have proven. I am loyal, hard-working, persevering, smart, self-confident, and brave. Mt. Olympus and all of Earth will be safe with me, Theseus the Greek hero, on the throne.