

The book I read for this assignment was *Song of Achilles* by Madalaine Miller.

The book has a set for four different main characters with the two main protagonists being Achilles and Patroclus another main character not being a protagonist is Briseis and then Hector which is the antagonist that kills Patroclus because of the main antagonist which is impulsiveness.

Now the main problem in the story is the continuation of Achilles aggressive and brash behavior, but how did this come to be? Let's start with how Patroclus and Achilles met in the beginning which was when Patroclus was banished from his nation to Achilles homeland where they became best friends and eventually battle brothers and even unbowed lovers. What happens that makes this group fall apart is the Trojan war when Achilles just gets angered by many things like the war being lengthened and even a woman being stolen. Eventually because of Achilles rashness Patroclus gets killed by Hector the prince of the Trojans or the 2nd in command of the enemy army. Which leads Achilles to sadness, revenge, sorrow, and even death making the story end and making it a circular story.

The theme of the story, otherwise known as the message, is the fact that rashness ends to nothing good and eventual complete failure not in the mission but rather your emotional state and emotional state of those around you. We clearly see this when Achilles' rashness leads to his lover and best friend dying and then eventually himself making the circle of hurting him and the most important person around him.

*Song of Achilles* written by Madalaine Miller was published in 2011 on September 11th. The publisher of the book was Ecco Press which has been based out of New York since 1971.

*Song of Achilles* leaves you with a feeling of deep sorrow for Achilles as you witness him and his best friend grow and mature then eventually both die alone and sad with Patroclus even dying in front of all his men the enemy hero. The story is still giving the same message as the *Iliad* at least to the wish of Achilles, but this book focuses so much more on the actual relationship between Patroclus and Achilles even making them lovers. This just adds a way more deep tone to Patroclus' death and the downfall of Achilles. I can really see how this book became so popular since it happened to be spiking in a time where a lot of people are arrogant and do get those around them hurt because of their own actions.