

The legend of Ulysses and Penelope



Greek mythology has legends related to textiles. One of them is that of Penelope sewing and unstitching a mantle while waiting for her beloved.

Penelope, the wife of Ulysses, stands out as one of the most remarkable women of antiquity, characterized by her unique combination of advanced age, intelligence and fidelity. It became an emblematic icon of female devotion.

Ulysses left for the Trojan War, and after many years, Penelope received the news of the presumed death of her husband in combat. However, disbelief kept her persevering. During these years, Penelope was besieged by several suitors who longed to marry her, but she resisted with determination. Tired of repeatedly rejecting them, she made a promise to remarry once she had finished weaving a mantle she had begun. To make sure that day never came, she would secretly undo during the night the work she had done during the day, thus maintaining her fidelity to her husband.

After more than two decades, Ulysses finally returned home, and Penelope was finally freed from all those suitors.

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Autor: [Albert Pérez Monfort](#)

Traducció per: [Albert Pérez Monfort](#)