Theseus and the Minotaur (Part one)

Many moons ago, King Minos of Crete detested the civilians of Athens. The reason he hated them so much was due to them killing his son. To prevent any war happening, the Athenians agreed to send seven boys and seven girls, every nine years, to be sacrificed to the Minotaur. This ghastly monster was half man, half bull and lived in a dark labyrinth.

Theseus, the son of King Aegeus of Athens, was angered by this cruelty and demanded he joined the next victims so he could kill the Minotaur. King Aegeus begged and pleaded for Theseus not to go but he insisted. The king made him promise to change his sails to white as a sign of his achievement.

Violent storms battered the ship as it sailed towards Crete but Theseus was determined to kill the Minotaur.

Upon arrival to the island, the Athenians were greeted by King Minos along with his daughter, Ariadne. Her heart began to beat as she set eyes on Theseus and fell madly in love. To win this young man’s heart, she knew she had to help him. Creeping into his prison cell, she handed Theseus a sword and a magic ball of thread and whispered, “Please use these wisely.”

Theseus and the Minotaur (Part two)

The following day, Theseus and the Athenians were led to the beginning of the Labyrinth. Nearing the entrance, moans and groans filled the air. Determined to defeat the Minotaur, Theseus tied the thread to the door and weaved his way through the labyrinth. The smell of blood and death filled his nostrils.

Finding the middle of the labyrinth, Theseus was confronted by the Minotaur, who was half man, half bull. A blood battle took place between the two of them. Theseus raised his sword and plunged it straight into the Minotaur’s heart.

Smiling to himself, he ran as fast as he could to the remaining Athenians and ushered them towards the ship. Ariadne followed close behind. The sail home had begun.

Feeling tired, everyone needed to rest on a nearby island. Theseus had another plan. When Ariadne fell asleep, he ran back to the ship and set sail for home. He was not going to marry his enemy’s daughter.

With all the excitement, Theseus forgot one thing. He didn’t change the colour of the sail. King Aegeus watched from the cliff top as the ship approached. His heart broke as he saw the sails were black. Grief stricken, the king jumped to his death not knowing his son, Theseus, was still alive.