Synopsis of *Odyssey* Books 13-24
[The line numbers follow the Greek text in the 1917 Oxford edition by T.W. Allen]

Book 13: O. leaves Phaeacia and arrives at Ithaca
1-62 O. takes leave
63-124 Sailing home
125-87 The punishment of the Phaeacians
187-216 O. wakes up
217-86 Athena disguised as a young shepherd
287-360 Athena reveals herself and O. recognizes his homeland
361-71 Hiding wealth
372-440 Athena and O. make plans

Book 14: O. and Eumaeus
1-71 Encounter with Eumaeus the swineherd
72-110 His welcome
111-90 Eumaeus’ loyalty, incredulity/amazement/admiration
191-359 The false account of O.’s as a beggar
360-456 Eumaeus is skeptical; the shepherds come back for the evening meal
457-533 With able oratorical/narrative skill, O. talks Eumaeus into lending him a cloak in which to sleep

Book 15: Telemachus arrives at Eumaeus’ hut
1-55 Athena urges Telemachus to hurry on home
56-146 Menelaus takes his leave
147-81 Departure and omen
182-221 Journey on land up to the shore
222-300 The seer Theoclimenos, scion of an illustrious line of prophets
301-39 Eumaeus keeps the false beggar from leaving
340-79 O. asks him about his mother and father (but hasn’t he seen his mother’s ghost in Book 11?)
380-495 Eumaeus’ story
495-507 Telemachus’ ship at the harbor
508-57 Hospitality to Theoclimenos and another omen

Book 16: Telemachus recognizes O.
1-41 Eumaeus receives Telemachus
42-129 Interview with the false beggar
130-55 Eumaeus sent to bring news to Penelope
155-76 Athena causes Telemachus to recognize O.
177-219 Father and son
220-320 O.’s plan
312-50 Penelope and the suitors learn about Telemachus’ return
351-408 The suitors are plotting
409-51 Penelope’s reproaches them
452-81 Eumaeus comes back to the stable

Book 17: Telemachus returns to the city
1-60 Telemachus arrives at the city
61-165 Telemachus dines with Theoclimenos and his mother and tells about his journey
166-203 O. and Eumaeus on their way to the city
204-60 Melanthius and his provocation
261-327 Argo
328-73 O. as a beggar in the hall of his own palace
374-491 Foolish and boastful Antinous
492-550 Penelope wants to meet the stranger
551-88 O. postpones the encounter
589-606 Eumaeus goes back to his stable

Book 18 Iros and O.
1-107 Irus and O. quarrel
108-57 The suitors are amused; Amphonomus’ speech
158-205 Penelope wants to go down to the hall
206-303 Dialogue with Telemachus, then with Eurymachus: suitors’ gifts
304-45 O. provoked by Melantho and the servants
346-411 New provocations of the suitors
412-28 Night

Book 19: O. and Penelope. Eurycleia
1-50 Weapons stored
51-95 New insults of Melantho to the false beggar
96-202 Penelope’s questions
203-307 O.’s precious brooch and the death of his companions: truth and lies
308-85 Eurycleia is in charge of washing the beggar
386-466 O’s scar
467-502 Eurycleia recognizes her king
503-604 Penelope’s dream: the idea of the bow

Book 20: Preparations for revenge
1-57 O.’s night
57-90 Penelope’s night
91-162 Morning at the palace
162-239 O.’s servants: swineherd Eumaeus, goatherd Melanthius, cowherd Philaetius
240-344 Suitors’ last supper
345-94 Magic laughter and Theoclimenus’ omen

Book 21: Bow
1-56 Penelope fetches O’s bow
57-95 Archery contest accepted
95-135 Telemachus’ tries first
136-87 Suitors attempt
188-241 O. reveals himself to Eumaeus and Philaetius
242-72 Erymachus attempts; archery contest postponed
273-310 O. asks for the bow
311-42 Contrast between Telemachus and Penelope who give their assent and the suitors who protest
343-79 Amongst the quarrel, Eumaeus brings to bow to O., after Penelope retires to her quarters
380-434 Loyal servants follow O’s orders as he wins the contest

Book 22: Slaughter
1-94 Deaths of Antinous, Eurymachus and Amphinomus
95-125 Telemachus fetches the weapons
126-59 Melanthius arms the suitors
160-202 Revenge against Melanthius
203-40 Athena
241-309 Finale of combat
310-80 O. kills Leodes but spares Phemius and Medon
381-479 Unloyal slaves forced to clean the hall then killed
480-501 Cleansed the hall, O. welcomes the loyal slaves

Book 23: Penelope recognizes O.
1-84 Eurycleia and Penelope’s incredulity
85-110 Penelope tests O.
111-62 Interlude of the false feast
163-204 The bed test
205-55 Penelope hugs her husband
256-343 Husband and wife
344-72 O. leaves the city in the morning

Book 24: Peace
1-14 Suitors in Hades
15-97 Achilles and Agamemnon
98-204 Agamemnon, the suitors, and Penelope’s glory
205-360 O. and Laertes’ theodicy
361-411 Dolius’ house
412-66 Assembly of the Ithacans
467-548 Dissent and peace