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THE  
*Homerus*  
ODYSSEY OF HOMER

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TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH BLANK VERSE

BY

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT

VOLUME I.



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*Book vi.*

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The gorgeous chamber where a damsel slept, —  
 Nausicaä, daughter of the large-souled king 20  
 Alcinoüs, beautiful in form and face  
 As one of the immortals. Near her lay,  
 And by the portal, one on either side,  
 Fair as the Graces, two attendant maids.  
 The shining doors were shut. But Pallas came 25  
 As comes a breath of air, and stood beside  
 The damsel's head and spake. In look she seemed  
 The daughter of the famous mariner  
 Dymas, a maiden whom Nausicaä loved,  
 The playmate of her girlhood. In her shape 30  
 The blue-eyed goddess stood, and thus she said : —  
 “Nausicaä, has thy mother then brought forth  
 A careless housewife? Thy magnificent robes  
 Lie still neglected, though thy marriage day  
 Is near, when thou art to array thyself 35  
 In seemly garments, and bestow the like  
 On those who lead thee to the bridal rite;  
 For thus the praise of men is won, and thus  
 Thy father and thy gracious mother both  
 Will be rejoiced. Now with the early dawn 40  
 Let us all hasten to the washing-place.  
 I too would go with thee, and help thee there,