***The Odyssey* Name:**

**Close Reading – Book 17: The Beggar at the Manor Date:**

**DIRECTIONS: Read and annotate the following passage, thinking of this question: How does Odysseus feel when he sees the way Argos has been treated?**

But when he knew he heard

15 Odysseus’ voice nearby, he did his best

to wag his tail, nose down, with flattened ears,

having no strength to move nearer his master.

And the man looked away,

wiping a salt tear from his cheek; but he

20 hid this from Eumaeus. Then he said:

“I marvel that they leave this hound to lie

here on the dung pile;

he would have been a fine dog, from the look of him,

though I can’t say as to his power and speed

25 when he was young. You find the same good build

in house dogs, table dogs landowners keep

all for style.”

 And you replied, Eumaeus:

“A hunter owned him—but the man is dead

in some far place. If this old hound could show

30 the form he had when Lord Odysseus left him,

going to Troy, you’d see him swift and strong.

He never shrank from any savage thing

he’d brought to bay in the deep woods; on the scent

no other dog kept up with him. Now misery

35 has him in leash. His owner died abroad,

and here the women slaves will take no care of him.

You know how servants are: without a master

they have no will to labor, or excel.

For Zeus who views the wide world takes away

40 half the manhood of a man, that day

he goes into captivity and slavery.”

What is the mood of this scene? Why has helped to really create this mood?