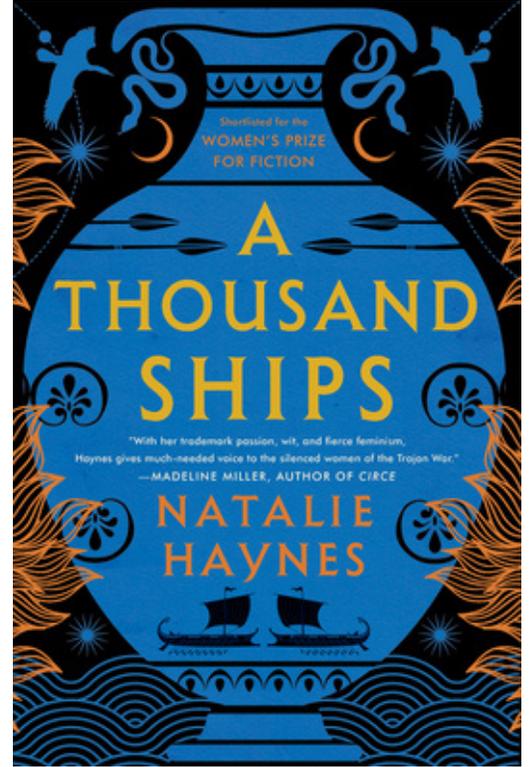


About the Author

Natalie Haynes was born in Birmingham, England. She has written a children's book called *The Great Escape* which won a PETA Proggy award, for best animal-friendly children's book. She's written fiction and well as nonfiction books including *A Thousand Ships*, *The Ancient Guide to Modern Life*, *The Furies*, *The Children of Jocasta* and *Pandora's Jar*.

While she is not writing books, she writes for the *Guardian* and she is also a radio broadcaster and comedian! She is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4, even having her own show called *Natalie Haynes Stands up for the Classics* which can be found on BBC Sounds.



About the Book

This is the women's war, just as much as it is the men's. They have waited long enough for their turn . . .

This was never the story of one woman, or two. It was the story of them all . . .

In the middle of the night, a woman wakes to find her beloved city engulfed in flames. Ten seemingly endless years of conflict between the Greeks and the Trojans are over. Troy has fallen.

From the Trojan women whose fates now lie in the hands of the Greeks, to the Amazon princess who fought Achilles on their behalf, to Penelope awaiting the return of Odysseus, to the three goddesses whose feud started it all, these are the stories of the women whose lives, loves, and rivalries were forever altered by this long and tragic war.

A woman's epic, powerfully imbued with new life, *A Thousand Ships* puts the women, girls and goddesses at the center of the Western world's greatest tale ever told.



Discussion Questions

1. Each chapter of the book gives a voice to a different woman affected by the Trojan War. How did you feel about this format and who was your favorite narrator?
2. What did you think about the Gods involvement in starting the war? Why do you think that most of the focus always seems to be on Helen starting the war?
3. Did you enjoy Calliope's interludes? Did you think that they added to or took away from the story?
4. Hecuba and the other Trojan women wonder if Achilles was destined to be a killer. What do you think?
5. Have you read other books about the Trojan War? If so, did they influence your enjoyment of this book at all?
6. What did you think of the choice to give Penelope a voice through her letters to Odysseus?

General Questions

1. Did you race to the end, or was it more of a slow burn?
2. What did you think of the writing overall?
3. Were there any favorite quotes or standout sentences?
4. Which was your favorite part? What about your least favorite?
5. Did reading the book impact your mood? If yes, how so?

