



Lesson- 6

The Wooden Horse of Troy

Summary: “The Wooden Horse of Troy” is a story from the Trojan War about the subterfuge that the Greeks used to enter the independent city of Troy and win the war. Queen Helen, the most beautiful woman in the entire ancient world was the wife of King Menelaus of Sparta in Greece. A young man call Paris, had stolen the queen from Menelaus and hid her in the city of Troy. King Menelaus was extremely angry and he sent a word to the people of Troy to send Helen back to him. When they refused to do so, he made war on them . For many years the soldiers of Greece attacked on the people of Troy but the city was not taken by the Greeks, until Odysseus, a Greek soldier had an idea.

Odysseus suggested constructing a huge wooden horse with a hollow belly that would hide a select force of men. Then they would pack their belongings, burn the tents and sail away from Troy. It was simply a trick planned by Odysseus to enter the city of Troy. When the ships had gone, the people of Troy would open their city gates and would pull the wooden horse into their city. At night, the soldiers inside the horse would climb out of it and attack the soldiers of Troy and the rest of the army would come in through the gates. They began the work at once, and started building the wooden horse; Epeois, the master builder was in charge of the building. The Trojans were shocked to see the giant wooden horse at their gate. The Greeks left behind a brave man Sinon to tell the Trojans what the Greeks wanted them to think. The Greeks wanted to go home to their families after fighting for ten years. But before they sailed, they built the horse as an offering to the goddess of Athene, so that the goddess didn't wreck their ships on their way home.

The Trojans were happy to hear the news, so they opened the gate to let the horse inside the city. They celebrated the whole day. And when night came, the Greek soldiers crept out of the horse and started to attack the Trojans. The rest of the army also came and they all began to attack the city of Troy and the noble city of Troy came in the hands of the Greeks. And finally, King Menelaus found the beautiful Helen and took her back to Sparta to be his queen again.

Glossary

- Pack up - bind up; wrap up
- Make it plain - make it simple
- Crept inside - moved in quickly
- Amazed - extremely surprised
- Beaches - an area of sand next to the sea or a lake



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