



the murder of Iphigenia by her man Agamemnon is the first driving event, her killing of Agamemnon when he returns home unleashes all the horrors.

## Goal

Avenge Iphigenia - escape Agamemnon - learn to control Mycanae

## Physical Description

Woman in her 20s - bit mumsy, girl next door. Wears white jeans, white tops, white cardies, box new white trainers - a lot of white - which she needs to do to show off the blood of Iphigenia, Agamemnon and finally herself in the various killings.

## Personality

Not as confident as her big cousin Penelope, Clytemnestra would be happiest at home, looking after her little sister Helen and the children. She worries about all the kids and is struggling to keep the family together

## Occupation

Housewife, wife of Mormaer and High Steward - running Mycanae as a Mormaer herself.

## Habits/Mannerisms

Brushes her hair behind her ears, wears old cardigans, bakes a lot and fusses about eating and clothing and wrapping up warm.

## Background

Daughter of the king of Sparta

## Internal Conflicts

Doesn't feel confident about running Mycenae in the absence of Agamemnon. Rages at, and hates him, but doesn't believe she can kill him, until she does. Anguished at what has happened to her son Orestes, and what will happen to him after he murders her.

## External Conflicts

Hatred of her husband.

## Notes

- C100 Clytemnestra starts by loving her husband, despite him being a bit of blowhard.
- C200 Its a love match, she likes him for his ambition and his desire to make Mycenae the leading power.
- C300 She fiercely loves her kid sister Helen and is protective of her - feels guilty that her marriage to Agamemnon got her raped.
- C400 She is close to her cousin Penelope.
- C500 She brings up Iphigenia as her daughter and loves her as if she was and when Agamemnon murders her she can't believe it at first but loves turn to hate.
- C550 She swears an oath to kill Agamemnon
- C600 Agamemnon is away at the war and she is sworn to kill him but weakly and vacillates
- C700 She has been left in charge in Mycenae, in a watching brief over it - but she takes actual control and consolidates her position. Her cousin Penelope is the driving force in it.
- C800 Her son Orestes is traumatised by the death of his sister at the hands of his father.
- C900 Because Helen has fled and Menelaus is off to Troy, Hermione comes to live with Clytemnestra and Orestes. She struggles to be a good mother to both of these troubled kids.
- C1000 It is not clear at all during the long war that she will actually kill Agamemnon, but when he comes home with Cassandra and makes a crack about fighting Athens to punish them for the rape of her sister and the shame of Iphigenia she boils over and kills him.
- C1100 Her relationship with Orestes gets more complex and she is guilty that he saw his fathers death and begs his forgiveness.
- C1200 She begs him not to become a killer like her - a killer, like his father.

#

## Penelope

MARRIED TO **Odysseus**

COUSIN TO **Helen** and **Clytemnestra**

MOTHER OF **Telemachus**

LOVER OF **Unnamed maid**

## Role in Story

Penelope and her cousin Clytemnestra are a double act - paired protagonists. Everything Clytemnestra does, she does with her cousin.

## Goal

Her goal is to have a good life - and once she realises the brilliant, but cooky husband is actually nuts she takes steps to get him out of the way.

## Physical Description

Penelope is - as her cousin Helen says - she was something else, the last firework - clothes, boys, ciggies, shoes, cheek, lippie, she filled my whole horizon.

Smartly dressed, intelligent, hold herself confidently.

## Personality

She's sharp as a tack, loves her cousins and her son fiercely. A good person.

## Occupation

Wife of the Mormaer of Ithica - then actin Mormaer in her own right.

## Habits/Mannerisms

Impatience

## Background

Not poor, but not rich and powerful

## Internal Conflicts

Loves her husband but is afraid of what he's become

## External Conflicts

Living in a man's world

## Notes

P100 Unlike her cousin Clytemnestra's marriage, Penelope's marriage is political. Her husband is brilliant and more than slightly crazy.

P200 When the war starts she receives continuous stories about her husband's participation in atrocities and conspires to get him committed when he gets home.

P300 She takes control in Ithaca.

P340 plans to commit Odysseus to the loony bin

P370 commits Odysseus to the loony bin

P400 She pretends she is holding it for her absent husband, but also plays along with the notion that she might take another man into her bed and hand control over to him.

P500 We find out, very much in passing, that she is sleeping with one of her maids and that her public positions are all fake.

P600 Her son Telemachus idolises his father and wishes he was with him - their relationship is troubled - it gets more difficult when Odysseus is committed to the loony bin.

P700 The final scene is the horrific revelation that she is now in the Manson family.

#

## Character Name

Age • Location

RAPED BY **Theseus**

MARRIED TO **Menelaus**

ELOPES WITH **Paris**

MOTHER OF **Iphigenia** and **Hermione**

## Role in Story

To provide the backstory

## Goal

To be loved

## Physical Description

Small, gamine, beautiful, short hair like she has just hatched out of an egg.  
(In myth her mother Leda was raped by Zeus as a swan and laid an egg out of which Helen hatched.)

## Personality

Slightly damaged, quiet, dislikes being the centre of attention

## Occupation

2<sup>nd</sup> daughter of the (old) Mormaer of Sparta,

## Habits/Mannerisms

We don't really see her - but she doesn't want to be watched.

## Background

Raped at 14, (secret) mother at 15, put out at a rigged marriage auction at 16, ran away for love at 17.

## Internal Conflicts

Loves her children, but needs to flee for her own sanity

## External Conflicts

Regarded as the cause of the war by both sides.

## Notes

- H100 Helen is raped at 14
- H200 a (secret) mother at 15, with Iphigenia taken away from her
- H300 put on the auction block to be married at 16 to a weak man she doesn't like.
- H350 She has a child with him, Hermione, but post-natal depression and feelings of inadequacy
- H400 The only person who ever treated her well is Paris, handsome, arrogant a bit, impulsive and slightly spoiled.
- H500 She flees to Troy to try and find both love and autonomy.
- H600 She doesn't really appear in the film, seen only from the back, but integrates the narrative in voiceover. The voiceover is <now> and the rest of the film is effectively flashback to what she says in the narrative. She forms a double act with Cassandra who speaks direct to camera only.
- H700 She only speaks once - when she tries to explain to her daughter Hermione why she left her, how she never thought they would be separated for 10 years, what it was like to be raped at 14, a (secret) mother at 15 and auctioned off at 16. It doesn't go well.
- H800 The film starts with her saying that her 14<sup>th</sup> summer was the last time she remembers being happy. It ends with her saying that despite it all, she endures, she lives, somehow.
- H900 In mythology she was the product of the rape of Leda by a swan - and hatched out of an egg. She has a short cropped fresh hatched chick haircut.

#

## Orestes

SON OF **Agamemnon** and **Clytemnestra**

COUSIN/LOVER OF **Hermione**

BROTHER/COUSIN of **Iphigenia**

FRIEND OF **Neoptolemus** and **Telemachus**

### Role in Story

One of the main characters - he sees his dad kill Iphigenia - who he thinks is his sister, turns out she's not. Sees his mum kill his dad in revenge. His whole personality melts down - he seeks solace in the arms of his cousin, Hermione, who is Iphigenia's half sister.

## Goal

Not to lose his mind.

## Physical Description

Small, quite weedy boy, but big enough to kill his mum.

## Personality

Anxious, needy, troubled, disturbed, traumatised. Easily led by his older pals Telemachus and particularly Neoptolemus.

## Occupation

Kid

## Habits/Mannerisms

Quite twitchy and jerky, anxious, looking about.

## Background

Son of a Mormaer.

## Internal Conflicts

Tormented by what he has seen.

## External Conflicts

Fights with his mum.

## Notes

- O100 Orestes is the tortured child.
- O200 He sees his sister murdered by his father. (We find out later that he pissed himself in fear).
- O300 His cousin comes to live with him.
- O400 He finds out his killed sister was actually his cousin
- O600 and is told she was the result of a traitorous liaison.



- O700 He and his sort-of-sister-Hermione have a sort of weird incest-not-incest dynamic.
- ~~O800~~ O800 He hangs out with a gang which includes Hermione, his cousin Telemachus and Neoptolemus.
- O900 Neoptolemus is braggart who wants to live up to his dad Achilles's legend. He is older and always goes on about Orestes weakness and his lack of manliness and how he will have to toughen. (He never says outright that Orestes pissed himself watching the murder of Iphigenia.)
- O1000 Orestes has continuous flashback (they don't show that he has pissed himself)
- O1100 He has a troubled relationship with his mum who is protective of him.
- O1200 His Dad comes home. He is with his mum in the kitchen when Agamemnon's comment about clearing the shame of Iphigenia makes her pick up the knife.
- O1300 He sees his mother murder his dad.
- O1400 Cassandra takes him away from the scene (We find out later that the pissed himself again).
- O1500 He has flashbacks to both murders (we don't see him pissing himself)
- O1600 Neoptolemus continues to taunt him about his weakness.
- O1700 He and Telemachus bond even more about missing fathers and shame.
- O1800 He continues to devolve and then when Odysseus escapes from the loony bin, a convo with him triggers the collapse into madness.
- O1900 He kills his mum
- O2000 Cassandra has predicted he will kill her - but Hermione talks him out of it.
- O2100 After the murders the flashbacks intensity and we see that he pissed himself when he saw both murders and when he had flashbacks as a kid, and when he killed his mother and Cassandra and now he still pisses the bed. This time it is Hermione washing the bed sheets.
- O2200 The flashbacks are all mixed up - Clytemnestra at Aulis, Hermione in the bath not Agamemnon, various people saying "the time of my waiting is over" and welcoming him to kill them. His mum begging him to be a killer like her and his dad - saying she will kill herself to save him

#

## Agamemnon - Mormaer of Mycanae and

# wannabe High Steward

BROTHER OF **Menelaus**

HUSBAND of **Clytemnestra**

FATHER OF **Orestes**

PRETEND FATHER and KILLER OF **Iphigenia**

FRIEND OF **Odysseus**

## Role in Story

Not the hero but the antagonists - paired with Odysseus - drives things along with his ambition - doesn't think about anyone else, takes everyone for granted - and accords autonomy only to his physical enemies - primarily Hector.

## Goal

To become first High Steward by uniting the various island folks and then to take on Athens and kill its tyrant Theseus.

## Physical Description

Big man, muscly, works out, proper jock. Short hair, tats.

## Personality

Bossy, soi-disant Alpha male. Speaks a lot but listens to very few - principally Odysseus his old pal and consigliere. Smart (in a limited way), no emotional intelligence, ruthless.

## Occupation

Mormaer - fighter

## Habits/Mannerisms

Expects everyone to drop everything, interrupts.

## Background

Inherited his position, born to rule.

## Internal Conflicts

Not self aware enough to have internal conflicts.

## External Conflicts

In beef with Theseus, Tyrant of Athens, in beef with Troy because of Helen's flight.

## Notes

A100 Agamemnon starts as a sort of mafia gang boss - ruthless, ambitious, seeing opportunities that others don't.

A200 He uses the crisis over Helen's flight to his advantage. He changes it from a love match to an abduction to make himself leader of the men of a 1,000 ships. He turns Troy's strength and impregnability to his advantage to spend 10 years pillaging the Troad, sending wealth home and making of all the men of Greece (except Athens) a single band under his leadership.

A250 Kills Iphigenia at Aulis - everyone thinks she's his daughter - he claims it's for honour - but actually it's to bind people to him

A300 He thinks nothing of other people - especially women. He thinks his brother Menelaus is a bit of a wus, he doesn't think about Achilles really at all.

A400 He returns Chryseis to her father and takes Briseis - which leads to the death of Achilles etc

A500 He pushes Odysseus to come up with a way of ending the war. He has made it war of honour by killing Iphigenia and can't find a way out, and can't find a way to win.

A600 Odysseus comes up with the horse trick.

A700 He takes Cassandra from Ajax - thanking him for de-priestessing her by raping her

A800 He orders his brother Menelaus not to kill Helen because that would reveal the real reasons for the war

A900 He returns home at the height of his power, monarch of all he surveys, with Cassandra and Briseis as sex slaves, the top dog and his wife kills him.

# Character Name

## Age • Location

DAUGHTER OF **Menelaus** and **Helen**

SISTER OF **Iphigenia**

COUSIN/LOVER OF **Orestes**

LIVES WITH **Clytemnestra** and **Orestes**

FRIEND OF **Neoptolemus** and **Telemachus**

## Role in Story

Key member of the gang of children - supports Orestes and tries to keep him going.

## Goal

To be loved and to not be abandoned.

## Physical Description

Like her mum Helen, quite slight, short hair.

## Personality

Thrawn, dogged, is the youngest member of the gang and the only girl and is not going to relapse into girlitude. Stands up for herself, forthright with the boys, and Auntie Clytemnestra and Auntie Penelope. Not taking any shit from either Menelaus or Helen. Is drawn to Orestes because he is looper like her. Doesn't fancy Telemachus or Neoptolemus despite both of them trying to impress her.

## Occupation

Kid

## Habits/Mannerisms

Asking more questions, not backing down. Plays records, drinks cider and

smokes with the boys. Cuts herself.

## Background

Abandoned by her mum who flees to Troy, she is abandoned by her dad who goes off to Troy to fight - and lives with her Auntie Clytemnestra and cousin Orestes.

## Internal Conflicts

Feels unloved and abandoned, doesn't want to be the little kid, the girl.

## External Conflicts

Turns on everyone who ever lied to her or left her, her mum and dad, her aunties - the only person she feels affinity with is Orestes.

## Notes

Hm100 Hermione is the abandoned child.

Hm200 She thinks her mum is abducted to Troy.

Hm300 Her dad abandons her to go to Troy.

Hm400 She lives with her aunt Clytemnestra and her cousin Orestes.

Hm500 She finds out that she has been lied to.

Hm600 Finds out her mum wasn't abducted but abandoned her.

Hm700 Finds out Iphigenia (who she never knew) was her sister not her cousin. Her mum was pregnant by Theseus of Athens before marrying her father. Clytemnestra, who she had trusted had lied to her.

Hm800 Her cousin-but-like-a-brother Orestes is a damaged kid and Hermione sets herself up as his mother-lover.

Hm850 Cuts herself

Hm900 She hates her mother for being a slut and a traitor, she hates her for leaving her, she hates her for leaving her father, she hates her father for bringing her mother home and pretending that she was abducted, she hates her mother for denying her love for Paris and pretending to be a loyal wife. She hates what happened to Orestes - the only innocent one. She hates Clytemnestra, and Penelope for the whole lies.

Hm1000 Helen and her have a massive row where Helen tries to explain what her life was like, and Hermione responds. They are not reunited.

Hm1100 She ends up as dysfunctional mother-lover for her totally disintegrated killer boyfriend.

#

## Character Name

Age • Location

DAUGHTER OF **Priam** and **Hecuba**

SISTER OF **Hector** and **Paris**

SLAVE OF **Agamemnon**

### Role in Story

To predict what is going to happen

### Goal

To survive

### Physical Description

Small, confident, holds herself, strong dress sense, flamboyant, big personality.

### Personality

Smart, confident, assured, frustrated at not being listened to, refuses to be told what to do or think, independent thinker

### Occupation

Priestess

### Habits/Mannerisms

Paces about, speaks with her hands, her whole body

## Background

Eldest child of Priam and Hecuba - the King and Queen of Thebes - made to become a priestess as a teenager in order to stop her having a boyfriend who might push Hector, the eldest son, out of the way.

## Internal Conflicts

Thinks she is going to die - angry at her parents for denying her a life

## External Conflicts

Loves her family and hates how they are conducting the war.

## Notes

Ca100 Cassandra, sister of Paris and Hector is cursed with knowing what is going to happen. She is only wrong once - about her own death

Ca200 She is the oldest child, then Hector then Paris

Ca300 She has been made a priestess to take her off the marriage market and secure her brother's succession

Ca400 She provides the other narrative strand to Helen. Whereas Helen looks back on what did happen and is only in voice over, Cassandra introduces things, straight to camera. She doesn't give spoilers but teases about what is going to happen. She never speaks in scene - but looks to camera or asides

Ca500 She is raped at Troy by one of the Ajax's but Agamemnon takes her

Ca500 She predicts Agamemnon's death and her own

Ca600 She survives and rides off into the sunset after the end credits

#

# Odysseus

MARRIED TO **Penelope**

FATHER OF **Telemachus**

FRIEND OF **Agamemnon**

COUSIN OF **Sinon**

## Role in Story

Sidekick to Agamemnon - paired antagonists. The brains of the operation - brings everything to its horrific climaxes at Mycenae and Ithica. Cooks up the plan about Iphigenia, Aulis, the horse...

## Goal

Not really goal driven - loves the challenge of thinking things through, loves being smarter than anyone else.

## Physical Description

Unkempt, skinny, scrawny, tattooed, mixed clothing, jeans and a dress and rags and books and bracelets - think Kurt Cobain.

## Personality

Quick and a bit cruel, charismatic, doesn't take fools gladly. Can't see how others see him - can't imagine that Penelope doesn't love and adore him, doesn't believe she had him committed. Starts of a bit cruel and endearingly quirky, ends up a total loon.

## Occupation

Mormaer and sidekick.

## Habits/Mannerisms

Oddball - refers to himself in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person.

## Background

Born to be Mormaer of Ithica - a not particularly powerful or wealthy village.

## Internal Conflicts

Not really self-aware.



## External Conflicts

None

## Notes

Od100 Odysseus is very bright and a bit crazy at the start, and very bright and completely mad at the end.

Od200 Him and his best pal Agamemnon feed off each other. Agamemnon is ambitious and wants to run the world, Odysseus is more impulsive and smarter.

Od250 He is reluctant to go to Troy and feigns madness

Od300 He lets slip the secret about Helen leaving to Neoptolemus

Od400 He lets slip the secret about Iphigenia to Neoptolemus

Od500 He is bored and wants to go home and works out the horse scheme

Od600 It works and Troy falls

Od700 He is a simpler character - just goes mental over the course of the war

Od800 He acts like a mentalist in the loonie bin, escapes and comes back totally cracked.

Od900 He manipulates his son Telemachus and his cousin Orestes into taking part in the massacres. He convinces himself that Penelope loves him and has been faithful and surrounded and imprisoned by bad people - his son buys into this too.

#

## Menelaus

MARRIED TO **Helen**

BROTHER OF **Agamemnon**

FATHER OF **Hermione**

## Role in Story

Weak younger brother of Agamemnon.

## Goal

Be as good as his brother.

## Physical Description

Smaller and weedier than his brother - balding,

## Personality

Dull, timid, unassertive, but also feels slighted and put-upon and not given his due. Basically weak.

## Occupation

As a second son he was a spare - becomes Mormaer of Sparta because there are no sons and Clytemnestra has married his brother, Mormaer of Mycanae, leaving an opportunity for the new husband of Helen to ascend to the position. He marries her because the wedding games are fixed in his favour by his brother to cover up Helen's rape and he resents it.

## Habits/Mannerisms

Slight stutter.

## Background

Grew up as the spare son - overshadowed, not expected to rise as high as he did.

## Internal Conflicts

Wants to be considered a powerful man - he is pushed to front because the Trojan War is supposedly about his honour - its actually about building an armed movement to take over all of Greece - he wants to be known as the man married to the lovely Helen - and the myth is that she loves him, which he knows isn't true and it eats him up.

## External Conflicts

With his brother and Odysseus who boss him about.

## Notes

- MI100 Menelaus is the weak brother of Agamemnon - overshadowed by him.
- MI200 He marries Helen at Agamemnon's command.
- MI300 He goes to war at Agamemnon's command - he comes below Achilles and Odysseus in Agamemnon's eyes and he knows it.
- MI400 During the war he tries to insist that he will kill Helen for running away, but Agamemnon and Odysseus point out that the basis of the war is her abduction and Greek honour and he can't - he has to take her back.
- MI500 In the end he does - but hates her for it, she hates him for it.
- MI1600 He bans Helen and her cousins from speaking
- MI600 He loves his daughter Hermione - and they establish a sort of relationship - he tolerates Orestes because he doesn't want Hermione to run away from him too.
- MI1700 He plots with the Ajax's to restore Ithaca and Mycenae to male control

#

## Telemachus

SON OF **Odysseus** and **Penelope**

FRIEND OF **Hermione**, **Orestes** and **Neoptolemus**

## Role in Story

One of the teen gang - plays a critical role in getting Orestes to the point of killing his mum.

## Goal

To be like his dad.

## Physical Description

Skinny teenager, t-shirts, hoodies.

## Personality

A bit weak, copies Neoptolemus, wants to be his dad.

## Occupation

Kid

## Habits/Mannerisms

Funny laugh.

## Background

## Internal Conflicts

Usual teenage stuff - fancies Hermione tries to show off to her - she's not having it.

## External Conflicts

Wants to go to war, wants to please his dad, fights with his mum.

## Notes

- Te100 Abandoned son
- Te200 Idolises his dad during the war
- Te250 Disbelieves that Odysseus has been involved in any massacres
- Te300 Wants to go and fight and is jealous of Neoptolemus who does
- Te400 Idolises Odysseus when he is in the bin
- Te500 Argues with his mum about seeing his dad in the bin
- Te600 Is told by Neoptolomous that his mum committed his dad. Believes/disbelieves it. Weak.
- Te700 Wants his parents to love each other and believes his dad's myths

# Neoptolemus

SON OF **Achilles**

FRIEND TO **Hermione, Orestes** and **Telemachus**

## Role in Story

The link between Troy and the teenagers - tormentor of Orestes and Hermione

## Goal

Malicious - enjoys causing trouble and pain. Wants to be a big man, wants to be an insider, likes bringing bad news.

## Physical Description

The biggest of the teenagers - big and strong enough to intimidate Peneleop.

## Personality

Malicious, cruel, patient, able to hold a long running teases against others.

## Occupation

Waiting to go to war.

## Habits/Mannerisms

Works out, takes his shirt off, poses with his muscles.

## Background

Born to rule

## Internal Conflicts

Not self-aware enough to have an internal conflict.

## External Conflicts

## Notes

- N100 A jock like his dad. Malicious. Enjoys taunting Orestes and Hermione and Telemachus.
- N200 Saw the murder of Iphigenia at Aulis and saw Orestes piss himself but hints at it and never lets on
- N300 We find out about Aulis in flashbacks
- N350 Goes to war after his Dad dies.
- N400 Because he is the oldest, and because he went to Troy to fight he gets the gossip
- N500 He breaks the news about Iphigenia to the other kids
- N600 He breaks the news about Helen's rape to the other kids
- N650 He breaks the news about her love flight to the other kids
- N700 Watches the rape of Cassandra at Troy
- N700 Comes home with Menelaus and the Ajax's - he has been allocated Andromache as a concubine
- N700 He suspects that Penelope committed Odysseus. He stirs up trouble - a right shit.
- N750 He is tasked by Odysseus with getting Orestes to kill his mum
- N800 Participates in the massacre at Ithica

#

## Paris

SON OF **Priam** and **Hecuba**

BROTHER OF **Hector** and **Cassandra**

LOVER OF **Helen**

## Role in Story

Proximate cause of the Trojan war.

## Goal

Loves Helen - doesn't think about the future.

## Physical Description

Young, handsome, unruly hair, slim, athletic, elegant, poised.

## Personality

Cheeky chap, quipster, loving.

## Occupation

2<sup>nd</sup> son

## Habits/Mannerisms

## Background

## Internal Conflicts

## External Conflicts

## Notes

- Pa100 Paris is the spoiled, handsome, slightly brattish baby son of Priam and Hecuba.
- Pa200 His big brother, the stolid Hector joins in with his parents in spoiling him.
- Pa300 Cassandra has a sort of love/hate relationship with him.
- Pa400 He does love Helen and she voluntarily comes with him.
- Pa500 In the winter when the war is half-suspended they go out to the country.
- Pa600 He makes Helen laugh and he makes her feel loved (we only hear her say this in voice over - there are no speaking scenes with them).

Pa700 His sister in law Andromache finds him a pain and nags Hector about him.

Pa800 He kills Achilles

Pa900 He is killed by Menelaus

Pa1000 In mythology he was exposed as a child, but suckled by a bear. He has messy-boy hair and is referred to as an unliked bear cub.

#

Priam and Hecuba

Hector and Andromache

Child: Scamandrius

Paris

Cassandra

Cousin: Aneas

Two sisters married to 2 brothers

Clytemnestra and Agamemnon

Children Iphigenia (actually Helen's child) and Orestes

Helen and Menelaus

Child: Hermione

Aegisthus

Odysseus and Penelope

Child: Telemachus



Penelope is the cousin of Helen and Clytemnestra

Achilles

Patroclus

Achilles' son Neoptolemus

Others:

Nestor

The 2 Ajax'es

Chryseis and her father the priest of Apollo

Briseis

Palamedes

Drunk man

Erin

#

Apollo - Rangers

Eirene - Thistle

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