

ENGLISH SUMMARIES

- Jan M. Kozłowski: The Seaside as a Place of Relax and Contemplation in Ancient Literature 3
 This article discusses passages in the works of Greek and Roman writers, from Homer to the Church Fathers and Procopius, in which the seaside is a place of carefree play, those in which looking at the sea seems to have a good influence on the human mind, those in which walking on the shore is an opportunity for a philosophical dispute, and those in which pleasure is derived from being alone near the sea.
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 This paper focuses on the *magnum opus* of the well-known Greek writer Nikos Kazantzakis (1883–1957), *The Odyssey*, which even in the author's country is still astonishingly neglected due to its complexity and obscure language. First published in 1938, in more than 30,000 seventeen-syllable verses, the work describes the subsequent history of Homer's Odysseus who after killing the suitors, bored with life in Ithaca, sets out on a quest for metaphysical transcendence. Attention is given not only to the reinterpretation of the Homeric hero who becomes the *alter ego* of the writer, but to a large extent also to the successive phases of metamorphoses of the epic poem's protagonist. As it turns out, the latter-day Odysseus, negating everything and yet not ceasing to fight, on his way goes through three stages proposed by the Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard (1813–1855): the aesthetic, the ethical, and the religious.
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