The interference of the gods within the lives of some of the characters of Homer's "Odyssey" shows how the god's actions can influence the course of events in many ways. Sometimes the gods can be very helpful but there are also many occasions where these gods intervene in the action of the plot conflicting the course of events for a character negatively. The Greek god, Poseidon, shows that a god can intervene in the action of the plot by hindering the course of events or even punishing characters in many instances in the book. One of the episodes where Poseidon shows off his rage is in Book 5 of "The Odyssey" (lines 280-340): As Odysseus finally spots Scheria, after 18 days as sea, Poseidon notices him and realizes what the gods have agreed on while he was out on a trip to the land of the Ethiopians. This angers Poseidon because he disagreed with the decision and generates a huge sea storm that almost kills Odysseus. Luckily, Athena comes to the rescue and saves him.

Another example of Poseidon conflicting with the course of the plot is in Book 13, (lines 165-170): In this part of Book 13, Poseidon spots Odysseus in Ithaca. He becomes angry once again but this time with the Phaeacians for assisting
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his nemesis. He complains to Zeus, who allows him to take charge and punish the Phaeacians. Just as the Phaeacians ship is arriving to Scheria, the ship suddenly turns to stone and sinks to the bottom of the sea. In both of these instances, Poseidon causes destruction of some sort in the sea showing his ultimate control over the oceans and water. These examples in Books 5 and 13 also tell me that Poseidon is not so fond of mortals and often harms or punishes them.