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| **Ithaka** |  |
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| As you set out for Ithaka  hope your road is a long one,  full of adventure, full of discovery.  Laistrygonians, Cyclops,  angry Poseidon—don't be afraid of them:  you'll never find things like that on your way  as long as you keep your thoughts raised high,  Hope your road is a long one.  May there be many summer mornings when,  with what pleasure, what joy,  you enter harbours you're seeing for the first time;….  and may you visit many Egyptian cities  to learn and go on learning from their scholars.  Keep Ithaka always in your mind.  Arriving there is what you're destined for.  But don't hurry the journey at all.  Better if it lasts for years,  so you're old by the time you reach the island,  wealthy with all you've gained on the way,  not expecting Ithaka to make you rich.  Ithaka gave you the marvelous journey.  Without her you wouldn't have set out.  She has nothing left to give you now. |  |

by [C. P. Cavafy](http://www.poets.org/poet.php/prmPID/329)   
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