The Epic Simile(s)

Homer uses lots of similes, and his are pretty darned long (in fact, they’re epic). Remember that a simile compares two things using “like” or “as,” and an epic simile does so but uses many, many, many words. You can find some examples in the following locations: II: 102-8; II: 168-73; II 555-565; III: 25-31. Now it’s time for you to write your epic simile. You can compare anything you like (school appropriate please!). A good epic simile length should be about half a page—typed, double-spaced. But since I want one page of writing, you can either write one really long simile or a series of shorter ones (the shorter ones should be 3 or 4 sentences; you can’t write a single short sentence simile). Don’t forget to always use the epic tone (elevated language, epithets, extended digressions) and throw in some gods and battle blood for good measure too. Please have fun with this assignment—it doesn’t need to be serious. You will be sharing. It is essential that you include the basic simile first (what you are comparing) in non-epic language.

The epithet
You will need to put your name on your simile as well, but your name should come in the form of an epithet (be it real or an imaginary skill, that’s up to you).

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