Caeneus and Cygnus

Ovid’s Ballroom Blitz
Two mythic cycles

- Invincible warrior
- His brutal death at the hands of a furious opponent
- The death of that opponent
Our First Warrior: Cycnus

- Son of the sea god Neptune
- Fighting to defend the beautiful Helen
- Cycnus is invincible!
- Achilles chokes him to death
- Turns into a swan
Caen *is* raped by Neptune;
Turns into the male warrior Caeneus
Fighting to defend the beautiful Hippodame
Caeneus is invincible!
Centaurs choke him to death with trees
Turns into a bird
Caeneus and Cycnus

1. Product of rape \(\rightarrow\) Son
   2. Invincible
5. Smothered to death
6. Turns into bird

1. Son of Neptune
   2. Invincible
   3. Fights in Trojan War
      o Defends Helen
4. Achilles is enraged
5. Choked to death
6. Turns into swan

3. Fights in Centaur War
   o Defends Hippodame
Caeneus and Cycnus

1. Product of rape → Son
   1. Son of Neptune
   2. Invincible
   3. Fights in Centaur War
      o Defends Hippodame
   4. Centaurs get drunk
   5. Smothered to death
   6. Turns into bird

2. Invincible
   3. Fights in Trojan War
      o Defends Helen
   4. Achilles is enraged
   5. Choked to death
   6. Turns into swan
A family matter: Hercules

- Hercules is a renown centaur slayer
  - Always by using his toxic arrows
- Hercules killed all of Nestor’s family
- He shot Nestor’s brother down with a single arrow
Put simply, we have so far...

Caeneus < Centaurs < Hercules

Cycnus < Achilles < Paris
## Caeneus and Cycnus

### Caeneus
1. Invincible creation of Neptune
2. Fights for Hippodame
3. Smothered to death by Centaurs
4. Centaurs are shot by Hercules

### Cycnus
1. Invincible son of Neptune
2. Fights for Helen
3. Choked to death by Achilles
4. Achilles is shot by Paris