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A very handsome Italian 19th century white Carrara marble statue of Theseus and the Minotaur. The statue is raised on an oval base with the Minotaur lying in defeat as Theseus is poised to strike the monster.

The story of Theseus and the Minotaur has many renditions, one of them is the following:

King Minos of Crete had conquered the Athenians and demanded that, at nine-year intervals, seven Athenian boys and seven Athenian girls were to be sent to Crete to be devoured by the Minotaur, a half-man, half-bull that dwelt in the Labyrinth created by Daedalus. Theseus, son of King Aegeus of Athens, volunteered to go and try to stop this horror. On his arrival in Crete, Ariadne,

King Minos' daughter, fell in love with Theseus and on the advice of Daedalus, gave him a ball of thread so he could find his way out of the Labyrinth. Theseus tied one end of the ball of string to the door post and followed Daedalus' instructions to go forwards and never left or right until he arrived at the heart of the Labyrinth, where the Minotaur slept. The beast awoke and a tremendous fight began and Theseus overpowered the Minotaur with his strength and stabbed the beast, becoming a hero to the Athenians.



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