

BYZANTINE GREEK SERIES • VOLUME 13

DIGENIS AKRITAS

ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΔΙΓΕΝΟΥΣ ΑΚΡΙΤΟΥ

Digenis Akritas
The Grottaferrata Version

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation
preserving the original word order

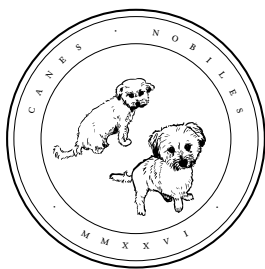


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Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
Artwork by Esther Steves

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BOOK I

I • THE EMIR'S RAID

A proem praises Basil Akritas, who had the grace of God, the God-bearer, and the saints working with him. A handsome emir raids Romania and sacks a general's house in Cappadocia while the general is in exile and his sons are at the frontiers, carrying off his daughter. Her mother writes to her sons, begging them to rescue their sister on pain of her curse.

Ἕπαινοι καὶ τρόπαια ἐγκώμιόν τε
Praises and trophies encomium and
τοῦ τρισμάκαρος Ἀκρίτου Βασιλείου,
of-the thrice-blessed Akritas Basil
τοῦ ἀνδρειοτάτου τε γενναιοτάτου,
of-the most-brave and most-noble
τοῦ τὴν ἰσχὺν ἔχοντος παρὰ θεοῦ ὡς δῶρον,
of-the the strength having from God as gift
καὶ κατατροπώσαντος πᾶσαν Συρίαν,
and having-routed all Syria
τὴν Βαβυλῶνα, Χαρζιανὴν τε ὅλην,
— Babylon Charziane and whole
Ἀρμενίαν τε καὶ τὴν Καππαδοκίαν,
Armenia both and — Cappadocia
τὸ Ἀμόριον τε καὶ τὸ Ἰκόνιν ἅμα,
— Amorion both and — Ikonion together
τὸ περίφημον καὶ μέγα κάστρον ἔτι,
the renowned and great fortress besides
τὸ δυνατόν τε καὶ κατωχυρωμένον,
the mighty both and fortified

5

10

τὴν Ἄγκυραν λέγω τε καὶ πᾶσαν Σμύρνην,

— Ankyra I-say both and all Smyrna

καὶ τὰ παρὰ θάλασσαν καθυποτάξας.

and the(-places) by sea having-subjected

Δηλώσω σοι γὰρ τὰς αὐτοῦ πράξεις ἄρτι,

I-will-make-known to-you for the his deeds now

ᾧς εἰργάσατο ἐν τῷ παρόντι βίῳ,

which he-wrought in the present life

15 πῶς πολεμιστὰς δυνατοὺς καὶ ἀνδρείους

how warriors mighty and brave

κατεπτόησε καὶ πάντα τὰ θηρία,

he-terrified and all the beasts

ἔχων συνεργούσαν τε θεοῦ τὴν χάριν,

having working-with and of-God the grace

καὶ θεοτόκου τῆς ἀκαταμαχήτου,

and of-(the)-God-bearer the invincible

καὶ τῶν ἀγγέλων ἅμα καὶ ἀρχαγγέλων,

and of-the angels together and archangels

20 τῶν ἀθλοφόρων καὶ μεγάλων μαρτύρων,

of-the prize-bearing and great martyrs

Θεοδώρων τε τῶν πανενδοξοτάτων,

of-Theodores and of-the most-glorious

τοῦ στρατηλάτου καὶ τοῦ τήρωνος ἅμα,

of-the commander and of-the recruit together

τοῦ πολυάθλου γενναίου Γεωργίου,

of-the much-contending noble George

καὶ θαυματουργοῦ καὶ μάρτυρος μαρτύρων

and of-(the)-wonder-worker and martyr of-martyrs

ἐνδοξοτάτου Δημητρίου, προστάτου

most-glorious Demetrios protector

τοῦ Βασιλείου καὶ καύχημα καὶ κλέος

— of-Basil and boast and glory

τοῦ νικοποιοῦ ἐν τοῖς ὑπεναντίοις

of-the victory-maker among the adversaries

Ἀγαρηνοῖς τε καὶ τοῖς Ἰσμαηλίταις,

Hagarenes both and the Ishmaelites

Σκύθοις βαρβάροις τοῖς λυσσῶσιν ὡς κύνες.

Scythians barbarians the raging like dogs

Ἦν ἀμηρᾶς τῶν εὐγενῶν πλουσιώτατος σφόδρα,

There-was (an)-emir of-the nobles richest exceedingly

φρονήσεώς τε μέτοχος καὶ ἀνδρείας εἰς ἄκρος,

of-prudence both partaking and of-courage to (the)-height

οὐ μέλας ὡς Αἰθίοπες, ἀλλὰ ξανθὸς, ὡραῖος,

not black like Ethiopians but fair handsome

ἀνθῶν ἄρτι τὸ γένειον εὐπρεπέστατον, σγοῦρον.

blooming newly the beard most-comely curly

Εἶχεν ὀφρύδι πεπανὸν καθάπερ πεπλεγμένον,

He-had eyebrow ripe as-if braided

βλέμμα γοργόν, ἐνήδονον, πλήρης ἔρωτος γέμον,

look keen pleasing full of-love brimming

ὡς ῥόδον ἐξάνετειλεν ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ προσώπου,

like rose sprang-up in middle of-the face

ὡς κυπαρίσσις ἔμνοστον τὴν ἡλικίαν ἔχων,

like cypress comely the stature having

εἴπερ ἂν τις ἰδὼν αὐτὸν εἰκόνι εἰοικέναι.

if-ever — anyone having-seen him to-an-image to-resemble

25

30

35

- σὺν τούτοις ἀκατάμαχον τὴν ἰσχὺν κεκτημένος,
with these invincible the strength having-acquired
- 40 καθ' ἐκάστην ἐσχόλαζεν εἰς θηρίων πολέμους,
on each(-day) he-spent-his-leisure in of-beasts fights
- τόλμην πειράζων τὴν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀνδρείαν θαυμάζων,
daring testing the his and courage marveling-at
- ὥς θαῦμα πᾶσι προὔκειτο τοῖς αὐτὸν καθορώσι.
as marvel to-all he-was-set-before those him beholding
- Δεινὸν δὲ πρᾶγμα πέφηνεν εἰς τοὺς νέους ἡ δόξα·
Terrible and thing appeared to the young the glory
- τῷ γὰρ πλουτεῖν διεπαρθεῖς καὶ ὄγκῳ τῆς ἀνδρείας,
by-the for to-be-rich having-been-puffed-up and by-bulk of-the courage
- 45 στρατολογεῖν ἀπήρξατο Τούρκους καὶ Διλεβίτας,
to-recruit he-began Turks and Dilebites
- Ἀραβίτας τε ἐκλεκτοὺς καὶ πεζοὺς Τρωγλοδυτάς·
Arabites both chosen and on-foot Troglodytes
- εἶχε καὶ τοὺς ἀγούρους τοῦ χιλίου Γουλαβίου,
he-had also the youths his thousand Goulabioi
- ἀδνουμιάτας ἅπαντας ἐπαξίως ῥογεύσας·
enrolled all worthily having-paid
- ἐξέπνευσε πνέων θυμοῦ κατὰ τῆς Ῥωμανίας·
he-breathed-out breathing of-wrath against — Romania
- 50 τὰ μέρη δὲ καταλαβὼν χώρας τοῦ Ἡρακλέος,
the parts and having-seized of-land — of-Herakles
- πόλεις ἡρήμωσε πολλὰς ἐρήμους καταστήσας,
cities he-desolated many deserted having-made
- καὶ πλήθην ἡχμαλώτευσεν λαοῦ ἀναριθμήτου,
and multitudes he-took-captive of-people countless
- ἀπροσφυλάκτων τῶν μερῶν ἐκείνων τυγχανόντων·
unguarded the parts those being

οἱ γὰρ ἐκεῖ φυλάσσοντες ἔτυχον εἰς τὰς ἄκρας·
those for there guarding happened at the frontiers
 καὶ, ὥς ἐκ τούτου ἄδειαν μεγάλην συναντήσας, 55
and as from this license great having-met
 διαδραμὼν Χαρζιανὴν, Καππαδοκίαν φθάνει,
having-run-through Charziane Cappadocia he-reaches
 καὶ εἰς οἶκον τοῦ στρατηγοῦ ἀθρόως ἐπιπίπτει.
and into house of-the general suddenly he-falls-upon
 Τὰ δὲ πραχθέντα ἐν αὐτῷ τίς εἰπεῖν ἐξισχύσει;
The(-things) and done in it who to-tell will-be-able
 πάντας γὰρ ἐθανάτωσε τοὺς ἐκεῖ εὑρεθέντας,
all for he-put-to-death the(-ones) there found
 πλοῦτον ἀφείλετο πολὺν, ἐσκύλευσε τὸν οἶκον, 60
wealth he-took-away much he-plundered the house
 καὶ κόρην ἡχμαλώτευσε πάνυ ὠραιотάτην,
and girl he-took-captive very most-beautiful
 θυγατέρα τοῦ στρατηγοῦ, τυγχάνουσαν παρθένον.
daughter of-the general being maiden
 Ὑπῆρχε δὲ ὁ στρατηγὸς ἐν ἐξορίᾳ τότε,
Was and the general in exile then
 καὶ οἱ τῆς κόρης ἀδελφοὶ ἔτυχον εἰς τὰς ἄκρας·
and the of-the girl brothers happened at the frontiers
 ἡ μήτηρ δὲ, τὰς τῶν ἔθνων ἀποφυγοῦσα χεῖρας, 65
the mother and the of-the nations having-escaped bands
 ἅπαντα γράφει παρευθὺς τοῖς υἱοῖς τὰ συμβάντα,
all writes forthwith to-the sons the(-things) having-happened
 τὴν τῶν ἔθνων τὴν ἔλευσιν, τὴν ἀρπαγὴν τῆς κόρης,
the of-the nations the coming the seizure of-the girl
 τῆς φιλτάτης τὸν χωρισμὸν, τῶν συμφορῶν τὸ πλῆθος.
of-the dearest the separation of-the misfortunes the multitude

Προσέθηκε δὲ τῇ γραφῇ καὶ τάδε μετὰ θρήνων·
She-added and to-the writing also these(-things) with laments

- 70 «ὦ τέκνα ποθεινότατα, οἰκτεῖράτε μητέρα
O children most-longed-for pity mother
 ψυχὴν ἀθλίαν ἔχουσιν καὶ μέλλουσιν τεθνᾶναι·
soul wretched having and being-about to-be-dead
 ἀγάπης μνημονεύσατε ἀδελφῆς τῆς ἰδίας,
of-love remember of-sister the own
 ἐλευθερώσαι σπεύσατε ἀδελφὴν καὶ μητέρα,
to-free hasten sister and mother
 τὴν μὲν δουλείας τῆς πικρᾶς, καμὲ δὲ τοῦ θανάτου.
the(-one) indeed from-slavery the bitter me-too and from-the death

- 75 Δώσομεν πᾶσαν ὑπαρξιν ἕνεκεν τῆς φιλάτης·
We-will-give all substance for-the-sake of-the dearest
 ζωνὴν μὴ προτιμήσητε διὰ τὴν ἀδελφὴν σας,
life not prefer because-of the sister your
 ἀδελφὴν ἐλεήσατε, τέκνα μου, τὴν ἰδίαν·
sister have-mercy-on children my the own
 ἀπέλθετε μετὰ σπουδῆς εἰς ἀνάρρυσιν ταύτης·
go-away with haste to rescue of-her
 εἰ δ' οὖν, θανούσαν ὄψεσθε μητέρα ὑπὲρ τέκνου·
if but then dead you-will-see mother for child
 80 καὶ τὴν κατάραν τὴν ἐμὴν λήψεσθε καὶ πατρώαν
and the curse the my you-will-receive and father's
 εἰ τοῦτο οὐ ποιήσητε καθὼς ὑμῖν ὑπέσχον.»
if this not you-do as to-you I-promised

The five brothers ride to the emir's camp at the pass called Dyskolos and beg for their sister. The emir, who speaks Greek, offers single combat: if he wins, they are his slaves; if he loses, the sister and the captives go free. The lot falls to the youngest, Constantine, her twin. They fight on horseback until both are wounded; the Saracens urge peace, and the emir yields.

Οἱ δὲ ταῦτα ἀκούσαντες, στενάξαντες ἐκ βάθους,

They and these(-things) having-heard having-groaned from depth

καὶ δακρύων κατάβροχοι οἱ πέντε γεγονότες,

and with-tears drenched the five having-become

ἀλλήλους προεπέμποντο τοῦ ἀπελθεῖν σπουδαίως,

one-another urged-on of-the to-go-away with-zeal

«ἄς ἀπέλθωμεν, λέγοντες, σφαγῶμεν ὑπὲρ ταύτης.»

let us-go-away saying let-us-be-slain for her

85

Αὐθις ἵππων ἐπέβησαν καὶ ὄχοντο τοῦ δρόμου,

At-once horses they-mounted and went of-the road

συνεπομένους ἔχοντες ὀλίγους στρατιώτας·

following having few soldiers

καὶ μηδὲν ἀμελήσαντες, ὕπνου μὴ κορεσθέντες,

and nothing having-neglected of-sleep not having-been-sated

διὰ βραχείων ἡμερῶν ἔφθασαν τὰ φουσσᾶτα,

through few days they-reached the armies

εἰς τὴν κλεισοῦραν τὴν δεινὴν ἣν Δύσκολον καλοῦσι·

at the pass the terrible which Dyskolos they-call

90

καὶ μακρόθεν πεζεύσαντες ἔνθα τὰς βίγλας εὗρον,

and from-a-far having-dismounted where the watches they-found

δι' ὑπομνήσεως αὐτῶν δεήσεως ἐγγράφου,

through memorandum their of-petition written

ἤχθησαν πρὸς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν τῇ ἐκείνου προστάξει.

they-were-led to the emir by-the his command

Ὑπῆρχε δὲ καθήμενος ἐφ' ὑψηλοῦ τοῦ θρόνου,

Was and sitting on lofty the throne

95 χρυσοκολλήτου, φοβεροῦ, ἀπέξωθεν τῆς τένδας·

gold-inlaid fearsome outside of-the tent

κύκλῳ αὐτοῦ παρίσταντο πλήθι ἀνδρῶν ἐνόπλων.

in-a-circle him stood multitudes of-men armed

Καὶ πλησίον γενόμενοι, ἀκούει τούτων λόγους,

And near having-come he-hears their words

καὶ προσκυνήσαντες αὐτὸν μέχρι τρίτου ἐδάφους,

and having-bowed-to him as-far-as third ground

μετὰ δακρύων ἔλεγον τῷ ἀμηρᾷ τοιάδε·

with tears they-said to-the emir such(-things)

100 «ἀμηρᾶ, δοῦλε τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ πρῶτε τῆς Συρίας,

emir slave — of-God and first — of-Syria

νὰ φθάσης εἰς τὴν Πάνορμον, ἴδῃς τὸ μασγιδίον,

that you-may-reach to — Panormos may-you-see the mosque

νὰ προσκυνήσης, ἀμηρᾶ, τὸν κρεμάμενον λίθον,

that you-may-worship emir the hanging stone

καὶ ἀξιωθῇς ἀσπάσασθαι τὸ μνήμα τοῦ Προφήτου,

and may-you-be-deemed-worthy to-kiss the tomb of-the Prophet

νὰ ἀκούσης τῆς προσευχῆς τῆς καθιερωμένης!

that you-may-hear of-the prayer the consecrated

105 Κόρην τερπνὴν ἀφήρπαξας, ἀδελφὴν ἡμετέραν·

Girl delightful you-carried-off sister ours

πώλησον ταύτην πρὸς ἡμᾶς, δοῦλε θεοῦ ὑψίστου,

sell her to us slave of-God most-high

καὶ ἀντ' αὐτῆς σοι δώσομεν πλούτον ὅσον κελεύεις·

and in-return-for her to-you we-will-give wealth as-much-as you-bid

θρηνεῖ γὰρ δι' αὐτὴν ὁ πατὴρ ὡς μὴ ἔχων ἑτέραν,
laments for because-of her the father as not having another

θανεῖν ἢ μήτηρ βούλεται ταύτην μὴ καθορῶσα·
to-die the mother wishes her not seeing

ἡμεῖς δὲ πόθον ἄπειρον πρὸς αὐτὴν κεκτημένοι,
we and longing boundless toward her having-acquired 110

πάντες ἐπωμοσάμεθα ὄρκους φρικωδεστάτοις
all we-swore with-oaths most-dreadful

ἂν τὴν οὐχ ὑποστρέψωμεν καὶ οἱ πάντες νὰ σφαγῶμεν.»
if her not we-bring-back also the all that we-be-slain

Ἀκούων ταῦτα ὁ ἀμυρᾶς καὶ τὴν τόλμην θαυμάσας,

Hearing these(-things) the emir and the daring having-marveled-at

πρὸς τὸ μαθεῖν δῆτα στερεῶς εἰ τυγχάνον ἀνδρεῖοι
for the to-learn indeed firmly if they-were brave

(ἀκριβῶς γὰρ ἠπίστατο τὴν τῶν Ῥωμαίων γλῶτταν),
exactly for he-understood the of-the Romans tongue 115

ἡρέμα ἀπεκρίνατο, λέγων αὐτοῖς τοιάδε·
quietly he-answered saying to-them such(-things)

«εἰ ποθεῖτε τὴν ἀδελφὴν ποιῆσαι ἐλευθέραν,
if you-long the sister to-make free

εἷς χωρισθήτω ἀφ' ὑμῶν ὃν ἔχετε γενναῖον,
one let-him-be-separated from you whom you-hold noble

καὶ ᾧς καβαλλικεύσωμεν ἐγὼ τε καὶ ἐκεῖνος,
and let us-ride I both and that-one

καὶ ᾧς μονομαχήσωμεν ἐγὼ τε καὶ ἐκεῖνος.
and let us-fight-in-single-combat I both and that-one 120

Καὶ εἰ μὲν τρέψω τον ἐγὼ, δούλους ὑμᾶς νὰ ἔχω·

And if indeed I-turn him I slaves you that I-may-have

εἰ δὲ κακεῖνος τρέφει με, χωρὶς λόγου παντοίου
if but that-one-too turns me without word of-any-kind
 νὰ λήψεσθε τὴν ἀδελφήν, μηδὲν ζημιωθέντες,
that you-will-receive the sister in-nothing having-been-harmed
 καὶ ἕτερα αἰχμάλωτα παρ' ἐμοῦ εὔρεθέντα·
and other captives by me found

- 125 ἄλλως γὰρ οὐ πεισθήσομαι τὴν ἀδελφήν παρέξει,
otherwise for not I-will-be-persuaded the sister to-hand-over
 εἰ καὶ τὸν πλοῦτον δώσετε πάσης τῆς Ῥωμανίας.
if even the wealth you-give of-all — Romania
 Ἀπέλθετε, σκοπήσατε ὅπερ ὑμῖν συμφέρει.»
Go-away consider what to-you is-profitable

Εὐθὺς ἐξῆλθον ἅπαντες χαίροντες τῇ ἐλπίδι·
At-once went-out all rejoicing in-the hope

ἀλλ', ὥνα μὴ φιλονεικοῦν ποῖος νὰ πολεμήσῃ,
but that not they-quarrel who that he-should-fight

- 130 λαχνοὺς θεῖναι προέκριναν καὶ ἔλυσαν τὴν ἔριν·
lots to-cast they-preferred and they-settled the strife
 ἔλαχε δὲ τὸν ὕστερον τὸν μικρὸν Κωνσταντῖνον,
fell and on-the last the little Constantine
 ὃς διδυμος ἐτύγχανε μετὰ τῆς αὐταδέλφης.
who twin happened with the own-sister

Ὁ πρῶτος νουθετῶν αὐτὸν ἤλειφε πρὸς ἀγῶνας·
The first admonishing him anointed for contests

«μὴ ὅλως, λέγων, ἀδελφὲ, φωναὶ καταπτοήσουν,
not at-all saying brother voices shall-terrify

- 135 μικρὸν τι δειλιάσωσι, πληγαὶ σε ἐκφοβήσουν·
little somewhat they-should-make-cowardly blows you shall-frighten
 καὶ γυμνὸν ἴδῃς τὸ σπαθῖν, φυγεῖν οὕτω μὴ δώσης,
even-if naked you-see the sword to-flee thus not give

κἂν ἄλλο τι δεινότερον εἰς τροπήν μὴ ἐκφύγῃς·
even-if other something more-terrible to rout not escape

νεότητος μὴ φείσαι σὺ παρὰ μητρὸς κατάραν,
of-youth not spare you beside mother's curse

ἧς εὐχαῖς στηριζόμενος τὸν ἐχθρὸν καταβάλεις·
whose with-prayers being-supported the enemy you-will-throw-down

οὐ γὰρ παρόψεται θεὸς δούλους ἡμᾶς γενέσθαι·
not for will-overlook God slaves us to-become

140

ἅπιθι, τέκνον, εὖθυμον, μὴ δειλιάσης ὅλως.»
go-away child cheerful not be-cowardly at-all

Καὶ, στάντες πρὸς ἀνατολὰς, θεὸν ἐπεκαλοῦντο·
And having-stood toward east God they-invoked

«μὴ συγχωρήσης, δέσποτα, δούλους ἡμᾶς γενέσθαι.»
not permit master slaves us to-become

Καὶ, ἀσπασάμενοι αὐτὸν, προέπεμψαν εἰπόντες·
And having-embraced him they-sent-off having-said

«ἢ τῶν γονέων μας εὐχὴ γένηται βοηθός σου!»
the of-the parents our prayer may-become helper your

145

Ὁ δὲ ἐφ' ἵππου ἐπιβὰς μαύρου, γενναιοστάτου.
He and on horse having-mounted black most-noble

σπαθὶν διαζωσάμενος, λαμβάνει τὸ κοντάριν,
sword having-girded-on takes the spear

ἐβάσταξε καὶ τὸ ῥαβδὶν εἰς τὸ ῥαβδοβαστάκιν·
he-carried also the mace in the mace-bolder

τὸ δὲ σημεῖον τοῦ σταυροῦ φραζάμενος παντόθεν,
the and sign of-the cross having-fenced-himself on-every-side

τὸν ἵππον ἐπελάλησεν, εἰς τὸν κάμπον ἐξῆλθε·
the horse he-urged-on to the plain he-went-out

150

ἔπαιξε πρῶτον τὸ σπαθὶν, εἰθ' οὕτως τὸ κοντάριν·
he-played first the sword then thus the spear

καί τινες τῶν Σαρακηνῶν ὠνείδιζον τὸν νέον·
and some of-the Saracens reviled the youth

«ἴδε ποῖον ἐξέβαλον πρὸς τὸ μονομαχήσαι
see what-sort they-sent-out for the to-fight-in-single-combat
τὸν τρόπαια ποιήσαντα μεγάλα εἰς Συρίαν!»
the(-one) trophies having-made great in Syria

155 Εἷς δέ τις τῶν Σαρακηνῶν ἀκρίτης διλεβίτης
One but a-certain of-the Saracens borderer Dilebite
γαληνὰ πρὸς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν τοιόνδε λόγον ἔφη·
calmly to the emir such word said

«ὄρᾳς τὸ καταπτέρνισμα ἐπιδέξιον ὅπως,
you-see the spurring dexterous how

σπαθίου τὴν ὑποδοχὴν, γύρισμα κονταρίου·
of-sword the parry turning of-spear

ταῦτα πάντα ἐμφαίνουσι πείραν τε καὶ ἀνδρείαν·
these all show experience both and courage

160 ὄρα λοιπὸν μὴ ἀμελῶς τὸ παιδίον προσκρούσης.
see then not carelessly the boy you-strike

Ἐξέβη καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς εἰς φάραν καβαλλάρης·
Went-out also the emir on charger mounted

θρασύτατος ὑπάρχει γὰρ καὶ φοβερὸς τῇ θέᾳ,
most-bold he-is for and fearsome in-the sight

τὰ ἄρματα ἀπέστιλβον ἡλιακὰς ἀκτῖνας·
the arms flashed-back solar rays

κοντάριν ἐμαλάκιζε βένετον, χρυσωμένον·
spear he-brandished blue gilded

165 καὶ πάντες συνεξήλθασιν εἰς θέαν τοῦ πολέμου.
and all went-out-together to sight of-the battle

Ὁ φάρας ἔπαιξε τερπνῶς πάντας ὑπερεκπλήττων·
The charger played delightfully all astounding

τοὺς γὰρ πόδας τοὺς τέσσαρας εἰς ἓν ἐπισυνάγων,

the for feet the four into one gathering

καθάπερ ὡς ἐν μηχανῇ, ἐκάθητο ἐκεῖσε·

just as in machine sat there

ἄλλοτε δὲ ἐφαίνετο λεπτοπυκνοβαδίζων,

at-other-times and appeared stepping-light-and-quick

ὡς δοκεῖν μὴ περιπατεῖν, ἀλλὰ χαμαὶ πετᾶσθαι.

as to-seem not to-walk but on-the-ground to-fly

Ὁ δ' ἀμηνῶς τερπόμενος καθὼςπερ ἐπεγέλα,

The and emir delighting as-it-were laughed

παρευθὺς ἐπελάλησεν, εἰς τὸν κάμπον ἐξῆλθε,

forthwith he-urged-on to the plain he-went-out

κραυγάζων ὥσπερ ἀετὸς καὶ συρίζων ὡς δράκων,

shrieking like eagle and hissing like dragon

ὡς λέων ὠρυόμενος καταπιεῖν τὸν νέον.

like lion roaring to-swallow the youth

Ὁ δὲ τοῦτον δεξάμενος εὐθέως καὶ συντόμως,

He and him having-received at-once and swiftly

καὶ κονταρέας δώσαντες, ἐκλάσθησαν τῶν δύο,

and spear-thrusts having-given were-broken of-the two

έτέρου μὴ ἰσχύσαντος τὸν ἕτερον κρημνίσαι·

the-one not having-been-able the other to-throw-down

καὶ τὰ σπαθία σύραντες, ἔσωθεν χεῖρας δόντες,

and the swords having-drawn within hands having-given

ἀλλήλους ἐσυνέκοπτον ἐπὶ πολλὰς τὰς ὥρας·

one-another they-hewed for many the hours

τὰ ὄρη ἀντιδόνησαν, οἱ βουνοὶ βροντὰς εἶχον·

the mountains resounded the hills thunders had

τὸ αἷμα δὲ κατέρρεε τὴν γῆν ἐκείνην ὅλην·

the blood and ran-down the earth that whole

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175

180

οἱ ἵπποι ἡγανάκτησαν, πάντας ἔκπληξις εἶχεν·

the horses were-vexed all amazement held

ὀλόπληγοι γεγόνασι, μηδεὶς τροπὴν ποιῶν τε·

all-wounded they-became no-one rout making and

Ὡς δὲ καὶ τὸ παράδοξον Σαρακηνοὶ κατεῖδον,

As and also the marvel Saracens beheld

185 καὶ τὸ πολὺ θαυμάσαντες τὸ πρόθυμον τοῦ νέου,

and the much having-marveled-at the eagerness of-the youth

ἔκστασιν δὲ τὴν ἄπειρον καὶ τὴν γενναίαν τόλμην,

amazement and the boundless and the noble daring

ἅπαντες πρὸς τὸν ἀμῖρᾶν ὁμοφώνως ἐλάλουν·

all to the emir with-one-voice spoke

«ἀγάπην ἐπιζήτησον, τὸν δὲ πόλεμον ἄφες,

love seek the and war leave

ὁ Ῥωμαῖος δεινός ἐστι, μή σε κακοδικήσῃ.»

the Roman terrible is not you be-may-do-wrong

190 Καὶ πρὸς φυγὴν ὁ ἀμῖρᾶς εὐθέως ἐξετράπη,

And to flight the emir at-once turned

καὶ ὁ πολλὰ καυχώμενος ἡττήθη κατὰ κράτος·

and the(-one) much boasting was-defeated by force

καὶ γὰρ καύχῃσις ἅπανσα οὐκ ἀγαθὴ τυγχάνει.

and for boasting all not good is

Πόρρωθεν ρίπτει τὸ σπαθίν, χεῖρας εἰς ὕψος ἄρας,

From-afar he-throws the sword hands to height having-raised

τοὺς δακτύλους ἐσταύρωσεν, ὥς ἦν αὐτοῖς τὸ ἔθος,

the fingers he-crossed as was for-them the custom

195 καὶ ταύτην πρὸς τὸν ἄγουρον τὴν φωνὴν ἐπαφῆκεν·

and this to the youth the voice let-go

Λόγος πρῶτος

«παῦσαι, καλὲ νεώτερε· σὸν γάρ ἐστι τὸ νῖκος·

stop fine younger yours for is the victory

δεῦρο λάβε τὴν ἀδελφὴν καὶ τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν.»

come take the sister and the captivity

III • THE EMIR'S CONVERSION

The emir, lying, gives the brothers his seal to search his camp. They find nothing, and a Saracen sends them to a stream where noble women were slaughtered; they mourn bodies they cannot recognize and bury them in one grave. Returning, they demand their sister or death. The emir asks their lineage, gives his own, and confesses that he loves the girl, who has given him neither a kiss nor a word; if they will have him as son-in-law, he will become a Christian. They find her in his tent and swear to take him as son-in-law in Romania. Word spreads that a girl has destroyed Syria's armies.

Καὶ λύσαντες τὸ θέατρον, ἀπῆλθον εἰς τὴν τένδαν·

And having-broken-up the spectacle they-went-away to the tent

καὶ ἦν ἰδεῖν τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς χαρμονῆς ἐμπλησθέντας.

and it-was to-see the brothers with-joy filled

Χεῖρας εἰς ὕψος ἄραντες θεὸν δοξολογοῦσι

Hands to height having-raised God they-glorify

«ἡ δόξα, πάντες λέγοντες, σοὶ μόνῳ θεῷ πρέπει·

the glory all saying to-you alone God befits

ὁ γὰρ ἐλπίζων ἐπὶ σέ οὐ μὴ κατασχυνθείη.»

the(-one) for hoping in you not — may-be-put-to-shame

Τὸν ἀδελφὸν ἡσπάζοντο μετὰ περιχαρίας·

The brother they-embraced with exceeding-joy

οἱ μὲν φιλοῦσι χεῖρας του, ἄλλοι τὴν κεφαλὴν του·

some indeed kiss hands his others the head his

- 205 τὸν δ' ἀμηρᾶν ἀμφοτέροι θερμῶς παρακαλοῦσι·
the but emir both warmly entreat
 «δὸς, ἀμηρᾶ, τὴν ἀδελφὴν, καθὼς ἡμῖν ὑπέσχου,
give emir the sister as to-us you-promised
 καρδίαν παραμύθησον τὴν λύπη βαρυνθεῖσαν.»
heart console the with-grief weighed-down
 Ὁ ἀμηρᾶς δὲ πρὸς αὐτοὺς οὐκ ἀληθεύων ἔφη·
The emir and to them not telling-truth said
 «σφραγίδα λάβετε ἐμὴν, γυρεύσατε τὰς τένδας·
seal take my search-through the tents
- 210 πανταχοῦ ἐρευνήσατε, ἴδετε τὰ φουσσᾶτα·
everywhere search see the armies
 τὴν ἀδελφὴν γνωρίσαντες, λαβόντες πορευθήτε.»
the sister having-recognized having-taken you-may-go
 Οἱ δὲ μετὰ πολλῆς χαρᾶς τὴν σφραγίδα λαβόντες,
They and with much joy the seal having-taken
 τὸν δόλον ἀγνοήσαντες, ἐπιμελῶς ἠρεύνουν.
the deceit not-knowing carefully searched
 Καὶ πανταχοῦ γυρεύσαντες, μηδὲν δὲ εὐρηκότες,
And everywhere having-searched-through nothing and having-found
- 215 λυπούμενοι ὑπέστρεφον πρὸς ἀμηρᾶν εὐθέως,
grieving they-turned-back to (the)-emir at-once
 καὶ καθ' ὁδὸν Σαρακηνῷ ἀγροίκῳ συναντῶσιν·
and on (the)-road Saracen rustic they-meet
 ἐκεῖνος ἔφη πρὸς αὐτοὺς διὰ τοῦ δρουγουμάνου·
that-one said to them through the interpreter
 «τίνα ζητεῖτε, ἄγουροι, τίνος χάριν θρηνεῖτε;»
whom do-you-seek youths for-what sake do-you-lament
 Οἱ δὲ ἀνταπεκρίθησαν λέγοντες μετὰ θρήνων·
They and answered saying with laments

«κόρην ἡχμαλωτεύσατε ἀδελφὴν ἡμετέραν,
girl you-took-captive sister our

220

καὶ ταύτην μὴ εὐρίσκοντες οὐ ζῆν θέλομεν ἔτι.»
and her not finding not to-live we-wish any-longer

Στενάξας δ' ὁ Σαρακηνὸς τοιόνδε λόγον ἔφη·
Having-groaned and the Saracen such word said

«διέλθετε εἰς τὸ ὑπαύχενον· εὐρήσετε ῥυάκιν,
go-through to the hollow you-will-find stream

χθὲς ἐν αὐτῷ ἐσφάξαμεν εὐγενικὰς ὠραίας,
yesterday in it we-slaughtered noble beautiful(-women)

διότι οὐκ ἐπείθοντο εἰς ἃ ταῖς ἐλαλοῦμεν.»
because not they-were-persuaded to what(-things) to-them we-said

225

Ἐλάλησαν τοὺς ἵππους των, ἀπῆλθον εἰς τὸ ῥυάκιν·
They-urged-on the horses their they-went-away to the stream

πολλὰς σφαμμένας εὗρηκαν εἰς τὸ αἷμα βαπτομένας·
many slaughtered they-found in the blood being-dipped

ὧν μὲν αἱ χεῖρες ἔλειπον, κρανία τε καὶ πόδες·
of-whom indeed the hands were-missing skulls both and feet

ὧν δὲ τὰ μέλη ἅπαντα, καὶ τὰ ἔγκατα ἔξω,
of-whom and the limbs all and the entrails outside

γνωρισθῆναι ὑπὸ τινος μὴ δυνάμενα ὅλως·
to-be-recognized by anyone not being-able at-all

230

Καὶ ταῦτα θεασάμενοι, ἔκπληξιν τούτους εἶχεν,
And these(-things) having-beheld amazement them beld

καὶ χοῦν λαβόντες ἀπὸ γῆς ταῖς κεφαλαῖς προσραίνουν,
and dust having-taken from earth on-the heads they-sprinkle

ὀδυρμούς τε ἐκίνησαν καὶ θρήνους ἐκ καρδίας·
laments both they-stirred and dirges from heart

ποῖαν χεῖρα συγκόψομεν, ποῖαν κλαύσομεν κάραν;
which hand shall-we-mourn which shall-we-weep head

- 235 ποῖον μέλος γνωρίσαντες τῇ μητρὶ κομιοῦμεν;
which limb having-recognized to-the mother shall-we-carry
- Ἦ ἀδελφὴ παγκάλλιστε, πῶς ἀδίκως ἐσφάγης;
O sister most-beautiful how unjustly were-you-slaughtered
- ὦ γλυκυτάτη μας ψυχὴ, πῶς σοι τοῦτο συνέβη;
O sweetest our soul how to-you this happened
- πῶς δὲ παρ' ὥραν ἔδυνας καὶ ἔσβεσας τὸ φῶς μας,
how and before season did-you-set and you-quenched the light our
- πῶς κατεκόπησ μεληδὸν ὑπὸ χειρὸς βαρβάρων;
how were-you-cut-down limb-by-limb by hand of-barbarians
- 240 πῶς οὐκ ἐνάρκησεν ἡ χεὶρ τοῦ ἀσπλάγχχνου φονέως,
how not grew-numb the hand of-the pitiless murderer
- τοῦ μὴ κατελείψαντος σοῦ τερπνὴν ἡλικίαν,
of-the not having-pitied your delightful youth
- τοῦ μὴ κατοικτειρήσαντος φωνὴν σου τὴν ὡραίαν;
of-the not having-had-compassion-on voice your the beautiful
- Ὅντως εὐγενικὴ ψυχὴ, παρὰ τὴν ἀχρειοσύνην,
Truly noble soul rather-than the baseness
- ἤρετίσω τὸν θάνατον καὶ σφαγὴν ὀλεθρίαν·
you-chose the death and slaughter deadly
- 245 ἀλλ', ὦ ἀδελφὴ παγκάλλιστε, ὦ ψυχὴ καὶ καρδιά,
but O sister most-beautiful O soul and heart
- πῶς σε διαχωρίζομεν ἐκ τῶν λοιπῶν σωμάτων;
how you shall-we-separate from the other bodies
- ἔξομεν τοῦτο καὶ μικρὰν τινα παραμυθίαν;
shall-we-have this even small some consolation
- Ἦ ὥρα πανδεινότατε καὶ δολία ἡμέρα,
O hour most-terrible and treacherous day
- μὴ ἴδοις ἥλιόν ποτε, μὴ φῶς σοι ἀνατείλοι·
not may-you-see sun ever not light for-you may-rise

σκότους ἐμπλήσοι σε θεὸς, ὅταν τὴν ἀδελφήν μας 250
with-darkness may-fill you God when the sister our
 ἀνηλεῶς κατέκοπτον οἱ ἄνομοι ἀδίκως!
pitilessly cut-down the lawless unjustly
 ποῖον μητρὶ ἔλεεινῇ μήνυμα κομιοῦμεν;
what to-mother pitiable message shall-we-carry
 Ἦλιε, τί ἐφθόνησας τὸ ὡραῖον μας ἀδελφίμ,
Sun why did-you-grudge the beautiful our little-sister
 ἀδίκως ἐθανάτωσας δι' οὗ ἀντέλαμπέ σου!»
unjustly you-put-to-death for that she-outshone you
 Ἀλλ' ὅμως ὥς οὐκ ἴσχυσαν εὑρεῖν τὴν ἀδελφήν των, 255
But yet as not they-were-able to-find the sister their
 τάφον ἓνα ποιήσαντες κατέθαψαν ἀπάσας,
grave one having-made they-buried all
 καὶ θρηνοῦντες ὑπέστρεφον πρὸς ἀμηρᾶν εὐθέως,
and lamenting they-turned-back to (the)-emir at-once
 θερμὰ κινοῦντες δάκρυα ἐκ μέσης τῆς καρδίας·
hot stirring tears from middle of-the heart
 «δὸς, ἀμηρᾶ, τὴν ἀδελφήν, εἰ δ' οὐ θανάτωσόν μας·
give emir the sister if but not put-to-death us
 οὐδεὶς ἡμῶν ἄνευ αὐτῆς ὑποστρέφει ἐν οἴκῳ, 260
no-one of-us without her returns in house
 ἀλλὰ σφαγῶμεν ἅπαντες διὰ τὴν ἀδελφήν μας.»
but let-us-be-slain all because-of the sister our
 Ἀκούων ταῦτα ὁ ἀμηρᾶς, ὁρῶν δὲ καὶ τοὺς θρήνους,
Hearing these(-things) the emir seeing and also the laments
 ἤρξατο τούτους ἐρωτᾶν· «τίνος ἐστὲ καὶ πόθεν;
began them to-ask whose are-you and whence
 γένους ποίου τυγχάνετε; ποῖον θέμα οἰκεῖτε;»
of-race what-sort are-you what theme do-you-inhabit

- 265 «Ἡμεῖς ἐκ τὸ ἀνατολικὸν, ἐξ εὐγενῶν Ῥωμαίων,
We from the eastern(-theme) from noble Romans
 ὁ πατήρ μας κατάγεται ἀπὸ τῶν Κινναμάδων·
the father our descends from the Kinnamades
 ἡ δὲ μήτηρ μας Δούκισσα, γένους τῶν Κωνσταντίνου·
the and mother our Doukissa of-race of-those of-Constantine
 στρατηγοὶ μὲν οὖν δώδεκα ἐξάδελφοι καὶ θεῖοι,
generals indeed then twelve cousins and uncles
 ἐξ ὧν ὅλοι τυγχάνομεν μετὰ τῆς αὐταδέλφης.
from whom all we-are with the own-sister
- 270 Ὁ πατήρ μας ἐξόριστος διὰ τина μωρίαν,
The father our exiled because-of some folly
 ἣν αὐτῷ προεξένησαν τινὲς τῶν συκοφάντων·
which for-him procured some of-the slanderers
 οὐδεὶς ἀφ' ἡμῶν ἔτυχεν εἰς τὴν ἐπέλευσίν σου,
no-one of us happened-to-be at the attack your
 καὶ γὰρ ἡμεῖς ὑπῆρχομεν στρατηγοὶ εἰς τὰς ἄκρας·
and for we were generals at the frontiers
 εἰ γὰρ ἐκεῖ ἐτύχομεν, οὐκ ἂν τοῦτο συνέβη,
if for there we-had-happened-to-be not — this would-have-happened
- 275 οὐκ ἂν εἰς οἶκον μάς ποτε εἶχετε πορευθῆναι·
not — to house our ever you-would-have to-go
 ἀφ' οὗ δὲ οὐκ ἐτύχομεν, καλῶς νὰ τὸ καυχᾶσαι.
from which and not we-happened-to-be well that it you-may-boast
 Ἀλλ', ὦ ἀμηράδων μέγιστε καὶ πρῶτε τῆς Συρίας,
But O of-emirs greatest and first — of-Syria
 νὰ προσκυνήσης τὸν Βαγδᾶ· εἰπὲ καὶ σὺ τίς εἰ γε·
that you-may-worship — Baghdad say also you who you-are at-least
 καὶ εἰ στραφούν οἱ συγγενεῖς ἀπὸ τοῦ ταξιδίου,
and if return the kinsmen from the expedition

- φέρουν καὶ τὸν πατέρα μας ἀπὸ τὴν ἐξορίαν, 280
they-bring also the father our from the exile
- νά σε καταζητήσωμεν ὅπου δ' ἂν καὶ τυγχάνης·
that you we-may-seek-out where but — also you-may-be
- οὐ γὰρ ἂν ἀνεκδίκητον ἐάσομεν τὴν τόλμην.»
not for — unavenged we-shall-leave the daring
- «Ἐγὼ, καλοὶ νεώτεροι, ὁ ἀμυρᾶς ἀντέφη,
I fine younger(-men) the emir replied
- Χρυσοβέργου υἱὸς εἰμι, μητρὸς δὲ τῆς Πανθίας·
of-Chrysobergos son I-am of-mother and — of-Panthia
- Ἄμβρων ὑπῆρχε μου παπποῦς, θεῖος μου ὁ Καρόης· 285
Ambron was my grandfather uncle my — Karoes
- τέθνηκε γάρ μου ὁ πατήρ ἔτι νηπίου ὄντος·
died for my the father yet infant being
- παρὰ μητρὸς ἐδόθην δὲ εἰς συγγενεῖς Ἀράβους,
by mother I-was-given and to kinsmen Arabs
- οἵτινές με ἀνέθρεψαν εἰς τὸ εὖ μετὰ πόθου·
who me reared in the well with love
- ὁρῶντες δέ με εὐτυχῇ εἰς πάντας τοὺς πολέμους,
seeing and me fortunate in all the wars
- ἐξουσιαστὴν ἐποίησαν εἰς ὅλην τὴν Συρίαν, 290
ruler they-made over whole — Syria
- καὶ ἐκλεκτοὺς μοι ἔδωκαν τρισχιλίους κονταράτους·
and chosen to-me they-gave three-thousand spearmen
- πᾶσαν Συρίαν ὑπέταξα καὶ ἐπίασα τὸ Κούφερ,
all Syria I-subjected and I-seized — Koupher
- καὶ μικρόν τι καυχήσομαι πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἀληθεύων,
and little something I-will-boast to you telling-truth
- τὴν Ἡράκλειαν ὕστερον ἐξήλειψα ταχέως·
— Herakleia afterward I-wiped-out swiftly

- 295 τὸ Ἀμόριον δὲ καταλαβὼν ἄχρι τοῦ Ἰκονίου,
 — *Amorion and having-seized as-far-as — Ikonion*
 πλήθη ληστῶν ὑπέταξα καὶ πάντα τὰ θηρία.
multitudes of-robbers I-subjected and all the beasts
 Ἐμοὶ οὐκ ἀντεστάθησαν στρατηγοί, οὐ φουσσᾶτα.
Me not withstood generals not armies
 γυνὴ δέ με ἐνίκησε πάνυ ὠραιοτάτη,
woman but me conquered very most-beautiful
 ταύτης τὰ κάλλη φλέγουν με, τὰ δάκρυα μαραίνουν.
her the beauties burn me the tears wither
- 300 οἱ στεναγμοὶ φλογίζουν με· τί ποιῆσαι οὐκ ἔχω.
the groans inflame me what to-do not I-have
 δι' αὐτὴν ὑμᾶς ἐπείραζον ἵνα τὸ βέβαιον μάθω,
because-of her you I-was-testing that the certain I-may-learn
 οὐδέποτε γὰρ παύεται ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν θρηνοῦσα.
never for she-ceases for you lamenting
 πάντως ἐξαγορεύω σας, τὴν ἀλήθειαν λέγω.
altogether I-confess to-you the truth I-say
 εἰ οὐκ ἀπαξιώνετε τοῦ ἔχειν με γαμβρόν σας,
if not you-disdain of-the to-have me son-in-law your
- 305 διὰ τὰ κάλλη τὰ τερπνὰ τῆς ὑμῶν αὐταδέλφης
because-of the beauties the delightful of-the your own-sister
 νὰ γένωμαι χριστιανὸς, στραφεὶς εἰς Ῥωμανίαν.
that I-may-become Christian having-turned to Romania
 καὶ μάθετε τὸ βέβαιον, μὰ τὸν μέγαν Προφήτην,
and learn the certain by the great Prophet
 οὔτε φίλημά μ' ἔδωκεν, οὔτε τινὰ λαλίαν.
neither kiss me she-gave nor any talk
 δεῦτε οὖν εἰς τὴν τένδαν μου· ἴδετε ἣν ζητεῖτε.»
come then into the tent my see her-whom you-seek

Ἐκεῖνοι ταῦτα ὡς ἤκουσαν, ἀπὸ περιχαρείας 310
They these(-things) as they-heard from exceeding-joy
 τὴν τένταν ἀνεσήκωσαν καὶ ἔσωθεν εἰσῆλθον·
the tent they-lifted-up and inside went-in
 εὔρον κλίνην χρυσόστρωτον, χαμαὶ δὲ τὸ κορίτζιν·
they-found couch gold-spread on-the-ground and the little-girl
 ὡς ἔκειτο, Χριστὲ, ἐκεῖ, ἔλαμπεν ὡς ἀκτῖνες·
as she-lay Christ there she-shone like rays
 οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ κατάβροχοι ἦσαν ἐκ τῶν δακρῦων.
the eyes drenched were from the tears
 Ἦν ἰδόντες οἱ ἀδελφοὶ ἀνέστησαν σπουδαίως, 315
Whom having-seen the brothers raised-up with-zeal
 καὶ ταύτην μετ' ἐκπλήξεως ἕκαστος κατεφίλει·
and her with amazement each kissed
 ἀπροσδοκῆτου γὰρ χαρᾶς ἐλθούσης παρ' ἐλπίδα,
unexpected for joy having-come beyond hope
 χαίρονται πάντες οἱ αὐτῆς τυχόντες ἀνελπίστως·
rejoice all those her having-found beyond-hope
 ὁμοῦ θλίψιν ὑπέφερον τὰ δάκρυα καὶ πόνους
together affliction they-bore the tears and toils
 καὶ χαρὰν τὴν πανθαύμαστον τὴν τότε γεναμένην. 320
and joy the all-marvelous the then having-come-about
 Ὡς δὲ ταύτην ἡσπάζοντο μετὰ περιχαρείας,
As and her they-embraced with exceeding-joy
 καὶ δάκρυα προσέβαλλον ποιοῦντες μετὰ θρήνων·
and tears they-shed making with laments
 καὶ «ζῆς» ἔλεγον «ἀδελφῇ, ζῆς, ψυχὴ καὶ καρδιά,
and you-live they-said sister you-live soul and heart
 ἡμεῖς θανοῦσαν σε εἶχομεν καὶ σπαθοκοπημένην·
we dead you held and sword-bewn

- 325 ἀλλ' οὖν τὰ κάλλη ζῶσάν σε ἐτήρησαν, φιλάτη,
but then the beauties living you kept dearest
 τὰ κάλλη γὰρ καὶ τοὺς ληστὰς ἡμέρους ἐκποιοῦσι,
the beauties for even the robbers tame make
 καὶ πολεμίους φείδεσθαι νεότητος καὶ κάλλους.»
and enemies to-spare youth and beauty
 Εἰθ' οὕτως, βεβαιώσαντες τὸν ἀμηρᾶν μεθ' ὄρκου
Then thus having-assured the emir with oath
 γαμβρὸν ἵνα τὸν λάβωσιν, ἂν ἔλθῃ εἰς Ῥωμανίαν,
son-in-law that him they-may-take if he-comes to Romania
 330 τὰ βούκινα ἐδώκασιν, ὑπέστρεφον εὐθέως,
the trumpets they-gave they-turned-back at-once
 καὶ πάντες ἐξεπλήσσοντο λέγοντες πρὸς ἀλλήλους·
and all were-amazed saying to one-another
 «ὦ θαῦμα ὅπερ βλέπομεν, δύναμις τῶν Ῥωμαίων,
O wonder which we-see power of-the Romans
 αἰχμάλωτα ἀναλύουσι, φουσσᾶτα καταλύουν,
captives they-free armies they-destroy
 πίστιν ἀρνεῖσθαι πείθουσι, θάνατον μὴ φοβεῖσθαι.»
faith to-deny they-persuade death not to-fear
 335 Καὶ ἀκουστὸν ἐγένετο εἰς τὸν σύμπαντα κόσμον
And heard it-became in the whole world
 ὅτι κόρη πανεύγενος, μετὰ τερπνὰ της κάλλη,
that girl all-noble with delightful her beauties
 φουσσᾶτα ἐκατέλυσε περίφημα Συρίας.
armies destroyed renowned of-Syria

ΠΕΡΙ ΤΗΣ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΕΩΣ ΤΟΥ ΑΚΡΙΤΟΥ

IV · THE WEDDING AND THE MOTHER'S LETTER

The emir returns with them to Romania, freeing his captives, and the general's wife gives thanks. He is baptized and married, and the girl bears Basil Digenis Akritas. The emir's mother writes from Syria reproaching his apostasy, recalling his father, who died rather than surrender his sword, warning that the emirs will kill her and his children, and sending horses for his return.

Ἐπειδὴ ὄρκους προὔβαλλοντο γαμβρόν να τον ἐπάρουν,

Since oaths they-had-put-forward son-in-law that him they-take

ἐπῆρε τοὺς ἀγούρους του ὁ ἀμηρᾶς εὐθέως,

took the youths his the emir at-once

εἰς Ῥωμανίαν ὑπέστρεφε διὰ τὴν ποθητὴν του.

to Romania he-turned-back because-of the beloved his

Ὅταν δὲ κατελάμβανε μέρη τῆς Ῥωμανίας,

When and he-reached parts — of-Romania

ἤλευθέρωνεν ἅπαντας οὓς εἶχεν αἰχμαλώτους,

he-freed all whom he-had captives

ἐκάστω δὸς ἐφόδια εἰς τὴν ὁδὸν ἀρκούντα.

to-each having-given provisions for the road sufficient

Οἱ δὲ τῆς κόρης ἀδελφοὶ τῇ μητρὶ πάντα γράφουν·

The and of-the girl brothers to-the mother all write

τῆς ἀδελφῆς τὴν εὔρεσιν, τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ τὸν πόθον,

of-the sister the finding of-the emir the longing

τὸ πῶς πίστιν ἠρνήσατο, συγγενεῖς καὶ πατρίδα·

the how faith he-denied kinsmen and fatherland

καὶ «ὦ μητερ παμπόθητε, μή τινα θλίβιν ἔχῃς·

and O mother all-longed-for not any affliction may-you-have

5

10

γαμβρὸν γὰρ ἔχειν θέλομεν πάγκαλον καὶ ώραϊον·
 son-in-law for to-have we-wish all-fair and handsome
 τὴν χρεῖαν δὲ ἐτοίμασον ἅπασαν τὴν τοῦ γάμου.»
 the need and prepare all the of-the wedding
 Ἡ δὲ ταῦτα ἀκούσασα, τῷ θεῷ ἡὺχαρίσται,
 She and these(-things) having-heard — to-God gave-thanks
 «δόξα, Χριστέ μου, λέγουσα, τῇ σῇ φιλανθρωπία·
 glory Christ my saying to-the your love-of-mankind

- 15 δόξα τῇ δυναστείᾳ σου, ἐλπίς τῶν ἀνελπίστων,
 glory to-the dominion your hope of-the hopeless
 ὅσα γὰρ θέλεις δύνασαι, οὐδὲν ἀδυνατεῖ σοι·
 as-many-as for you-wish you-can nothing is-impossible for-you
 αὐτὸν γὰρ τὸν πολέμιον ἥμερον κατειργάσω,
 him for the enemy tame you-made
 καὶ θυγατέρα τὴν ἐμὴν ἐρρύσω ἐκ θανάτου.
 and daughter the my you-rescued from death
 Ἄλλ', ὦ θυγάτερ ποθεινὴ, φῶς τῶν ἐμῶν ὀμμάτων,
 But O daughter longed-for light of-the my eyes
- 20 πότε σε ζῶσαν ὄψομαι, φωνῆς τῆς σῆς ἀκούσω;
 when you living shall-I-see voice the your shall-I-bear
 ἰδοὺ καὶ γάμον γὰρ τὸν σὸν ἡὺτρέπισα καὶ χρεῖαν,
 behold also wedding for the your I-prepared and need
 ἄρα νυμφίος ἔσται σοι παρόμοιος τοῦ κάλλους;
 can-it-be bridegroom will-be for-you like of-the beauty
 ἄρα τὴν γνώμην θέλει σχεῖν τῶν εὐγενῶν Ῥωμαίων;
 can-it-be the mind he-wishes to-have of-the noble Romans
 φοβοῦμαι, τέκνον μου καλὸν, μὴ ἄστοργος ὑπάρχη,
 I-fear child my fine lest without-affection be-be

μὴ θυμῶδης ὡς ἔθνικος, καὶ ζῆν με οὐ συμφέρη.» 25
lest wrathful as beaten and to-live me not it-be-profitable
 Ταῦτα μὲν ἡ στρατήγισσα χαίρουσα ἐμελῶδει.
These(-things) indeed the general's-wife rejoicing sang
 Ὁ δ' ἀμηνᾶς καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ τῆς κόρης
The and emir and with him the brothers of-the girl
 χαίροντες ἄμφω τῆς ὁδοῦ ἦρχοντο μετὰ μόχθου·
rejoicing both of-the road came with toil
 ἡνίκα δ' ἐπλησίασαν εἰς τὸν ἴδιον οἶκον,
when and they-drew-near to the own house
 λαὸς πολὺς καὶ συγγενεῖς εἰς ἀπαντὴν ἐξῆλθον, 30
people great and kinsmen to meeting went-out
 εἰθ' οὕτως ἡ στρατήγισσα μετὰ δόξης μεγάλης.
then thus the general's-wife with glory great
 Τὴν δὲ χαρὰν τὴν ἄπειρον τὴν τότε γιναμένην
The and joy the boundless the then having-come-about
 τίς φράσαι ὅλως δυνηθῇ, ἢ ὅλως παρεικάσαι;
who to-tell at-all may-be-able or at-all to-liken
 Τὰ τέκνα γὰρ ἡσπάζοντο μητέρα μετὰ πόθου,
The children for embraced mother with longing
 καὶ ἡ μήτηρ εὐφραίνετο ἀληθῶς ἐπὶ τέκνοις· 35
and the mother rejoiced truly over children
 ἰδοῦσα δὲ καὶ τὸν γαμβρὸν περιχαρῇ τῷ ὄντι,
having-seen and also the son-in-law overjoyed in-the being
 χάριν θεῷ ἀνέπεμψεν ἐξ ὅλης τῆς καρδίας·
thanks to-God she-sent-up from whole the heart
 «κύριε, λέγουσα, Χριστὲ, πᾶς ὁ εἰς σὲ ἐλπίζων
Lord saying Christ every the in you hoping
 οὐκ ἀπέτυχε πώποτε τῶν ἐπιθυμυμένων.»
not failed ever of-the things-desired

- 40 Εἰς δὲ τὸν οἶκον φθάσαντες ἐποίησαν τοὺς γάμους,
Into and the house having-arrived they-made the wedding
καὶ τῷ θείῳ βαπτίσματι τὸν γαμβρὸν τελειοῦσι·
and with-the divine baptism the son-in-law they-perfect
Ἡ δὲ χαρὰ ἐπηύξανε ἡ πάνδημος ἐκείνη·
The and joy increased the public that
ἔχαιρε γὰρ ὁ ἀμυρᾶς τυχὼν τῆς ἐρωμένης·
rejoiced for the emir having-won the beloved
οὐ γάρ ἐστιν ἐρωτικῆς ἀγάπης χαρὰ κρείττων·
not for is of-erotic love joy better
- 45 ὅσον φλέγεται ὁ ἐρῶν ἐπὶ ἀποτυχίᾳ,
as-much-as is-burned the lover upon failure
τοσοῦτον χαίρει ὁ ἐρῶν τυχὼν τῆς ἐρωμένης.
so-much rejoices the lover having-won the beloved
Μετὰ δὲ τὴν συνάφειαν συνέλαβεν ἡ κόρη,
After and the union conceived the girl
καὶ ἔτεκε τὸν Διγενῆ Βασίλειον Ἀκρίτην·
and bore — Digenis Basil Akritas
ἔτι δὲ μᾶλλον ἡύξανε τοῦ ἀμυρᾶ ὁ πόθος.
still and more increased of-the emir the longing
- 50 Ἡ δὲ μήτηρ τοῦ ἀμυρᾶ γραφὴν ἀπὸ Συρίας
The and mother of-the emir letter from Syria
θρήνου μεστὴν ἐξέπεμψεν, ὀνειδισμοῦ καὶ ψόγου·
of-lament full sent-forth of-reproach and blame
«τὰ ὀμμάτια μου ἐτύφλωσας καὶ ἔσβεσας τὸ φῶς μου,
the eyes my you-blinded and you-quenched the light my
ὦ τέκνον ποθεινότατον, πῶς μητρὸς ἐπελάθου;
O child most-longed-for how mother did-you-forget
πῶς ἀπηρνήσω συγγενεῖς, καὶ πίστιν καὶ πατρίδα,
how did-you-deny kinsmen and faith and fatherland

καὶ ἐγενήθης ὄνειδος εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν Συρίαν;
and you-became reproach to all — Syria
 Βδελυκτοὶ δὲ γεγόναμεν ἀπὸ παντὸς ἀνθρώπου,
Abominable and we-have-become by every man
 ὡς ἀρνηταὶ τῆς πίστεως, ὡς παραβάται νόμου,
as deniers of-the faith as transgressors of-law
 ὡς μὴ τηρήσαντες καλῶς τοὺς λόγους τοῦ Προφήτου.
as not having-kept well the words of-the Prophet
 Τί συνέβη σοι, τέκνον μου, πῶς αὐτῶν ἐπελάθου;
What happened to-you child my how them did-you-forget
 πῶς γὰρ οὐκ ἐμνημόνευσας τὰς πράξεις τοῦ πατρός σου, 60
how for not did-you-remember the deeds of-the father your
 ὅσους Ῥωμαίους ἔσφαξε, πόσους ἔφερε δούλους;
how-many Romans he-slaughtered how-many he-brought slaves
 οὐκ ἐγέμισε φυλακὰς στρατηγῶν καὶ τοπάρχων;
not did-he-fill prisons of-generals and toparchs
 οὐκ ἐκούρσευσε θέματα πολλὰ τῆς Ῥωμανίας,
not did-he-raid themes many — of-Romania
 καὶ αἰχμαλώτους ἔφερεν εὐγενικὰς ὥραιας;
and captives he-brought noble beautiful(-women)
 μὴ ἐπλανήθη ὥσπερ σὺ γενέσθαι παραβάτης; 65
not was-he-led astray like you to-become transgressor
 Ὅταν γὰρ τὸν ἐκύκλωσαν φουσσᾶτα τῶν Ῥωμαίων,
When for him surrounded armies of-the Romans
 οἱ στρατηγοὶ τον ὤμνον ὅρκους φρικωδεστάτους
the generals (to)-him swore oaths most-dreadful
 πατρίκιος νὰ τιμηθῇ παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως,
patrician that he-be-honored by the emperor
 νὰ γένῃ πρωτοστράτορας, ἂν ῥίψῃ τὸ σπαθίον του.
that he-become protostrator if he-throw-down the sword his

- 70 Ἄλλ' ἐκείνος, προστάγματα φυλάττων τοῦ Προφήτου,
But that-one commands keeping of-the Prophet
 δόξης μὲν κατεφρόνησε, πλοῦτον δὲ οὐ προσέσχε·
glory indeed despised wealth and not beeded
 καὶ μεληδόν τον ἔκοψαν, καὶ ἀπήραν τον σπαθὶν του.
and limb-by-limb him they-cut and they-took-away the sword his
 Σὺ δὲ, ἀνάγκην μὴ εἰδὼς, πάντα ὁμοῦ παρείδες,
You but necessity not knowing all together overlooked
 τὴν πίστιν μὲν, τοὺς συγγενεῖς, κάμῃ τὴν σὴν μητέρα.
the faith indeed the kinsmen and-me the your mother
- 75 Ὁ ἀδελφός μου, ὁ θεῖος σου, ὁ μουρσῆς ὁ Καρόης
The brother my the uncle your the moursis — Karoes
 εἰς Σμύρνην ἔταξίδευσεν εἰς τὸ παραθαλάσσιον,
to Smyrna made-expedition to the seacoast
 τὴν Ἄγκυραν ἐκούρσευσε, τὴν Ἄβυδον τὴν πόλιν,
— Ankyra be-raided — Abydos the city
 τὴν Ἀφρικὴν, τὴν Τέρενταν, καὶ τὴν Ἑξακωμίαν,
— Africa — Terenta and — Hexakomia
 καὶ ταῦτα τροπώσμενος ἐστράφη εἰς Συρίαν·
and these(-things) having-routed returned to Syria
- 80 σὺ δὲ ὁ δυστυχέστατος ἐποίησας ταξίδιον.
you but the most-unfortunate made expedition
 Ὅταν ἤθελες δοξασθῆν παρ' ὅλην τὴν Συρίαν,
When you-wished to-be-glorified throughout whole — Syria
 τὰ πάντα προσαπώλεσας δι' ἀγάπην χανζυρίσσης
the all you-lost-besides because-of love of-a-swine-woman
 καὶ κατάρατος γέγονας εἰς πάντα μασιγίδιον.
and accursed you-have-become in every mosque
 Εἰ μὴ παρέλθης γὰρ ταχὺ καὶ ἔλθης εἰς Συρίαν,
If not you-pass for quickly and come to Syria

οἱ ἀμνηῖδες βούλονται ἐμὲ νὰ ποταμήσουν,

the emirs wish me that they-drown

τὰ τέκνα σου νὰ σφάξωσιν ὡς πατρὸς ἀποστάτου,

the children your that they-slaughter as of-father apostate

τὰ τερπνὰ σου κοράσια νὰ παραδώσουν ἄλλοις,

the delightful your girls that they-hand-over to-others

ἃ καὶ στενάζουν διὰ σέ, ὑπομονὴν οὐκ ἔχουν.

which also groan because-of you endurance not have

ὦ τέκνον μου γλυκύτατον, οἰκτείρησον μητέρα·

O child my sweetest pity mother

μὴ καταγάγῃς γῆρας μου εἰς ᾧδου μετὰ λύπης,

not bring-down old-age my into (the-house)-of-Hades with grief

καὶ μὴ θελήσῃς τέκνα σου τοῦ σφαγῆναι ἀδίκως·

and not wish children your of-the to-be-slaughtered unjustly

μὴ δὲ παρίδῃς δάκρυα τερπνῶν σου κορασιῶν,

not and overlook tears of-delightful your girls

καὶ ἐκδαφίσῃ σε θεὸς ὁ μέγας ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου.

and may-dash-to-the-ground you God the great from the world

Ἴδου ἔστειλά σοι, ὡς ὁρᾷς, ἐπίλεκτα φάρια·

Behold I-sent to-you as you-see chosen horses

τὴν βάδεαν καβαλλίκευε, παράσυρε τὴν μαύρην,

the bay ride lead-beside the black

ἢ δ' ἀγάλ' ἅς ἀκολουθῇ, καὶ οὐδεὶς οὐ μὴ σε φθάσῃ·

the and slowly let follow and no-one not — you will-overtake

λάβε καὶ τὴν Ῥωμάϊσσαν, εἰ δι' αὐτὴν λυπήσαι·

take also the Roman-woman if because-of her you-grieve

εἰ δὲ καὶ παρακούσῃς μου, ἔσῃ κατηραμένος.»

if but even you-disobey me you-will-be accursed

85

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95

The emir's Arabs camp secretly at Lakkopetra. Moved by his mother's letter, the emir asks his wife to come to Syria; she agrees. Her youngest brother dreams of a falcon chasing a dove into the bridal chamber, and the brothers find the Arabs at Lakkopetra. They order the emir to leave their sister and child and go; shamed, he accuses his wife of betraying his secret, like Delilah.

Λαβόντες δὲ τὰ γράμματα ἐκλεκτοὶ Ἀραβῖται

Having-taken and the letters chosen Arabites

100 διὰ πολλῆς ταχύτητος ἦλθον εἰς Ῥωμανίαν·

with much speed came to Romania

ἦν δέ τις οἶκος μήκοθεν, τόπος ἡ Λακκοπέτρα,

was and a-certain house far-off place — Lakkopetra

ἐκεῖσε ἡμπικεύσασι τοῦ μὴ φανερωθῆναι·

there they-encamped of-the not to-be-revealed

οἱ καὶ τούτῳ ἐδήλωσαν διὰ γραμματηφόρου·

who also to-him made-known through letter-carrier

«τὸ φέγγος λάμπει ὅλονυκτι, ὁδεύσωμεν, εἰ βούλει.»

the moon shines all-night let-us-travel if you-wish

105 Ὡς δὲ εἶδεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τὴν γραφὴν τῆς μητρός του,

As and saw the emir the letter of-the mother his

ἐσπλαγχνίσθη κατὰ πολὺ ὥς υἱὸς τὴν μητέρα,

he-was-moved-to-pity by much as son the mother

τὰ τέκνα κατηλέησε καὶ τὰς αὐτῶν μητέρας·

the children he-pitied and the their mothers

ζῆλος ἀνήφθη εἰς αὐτὸν εἰ περιλάβουν ἄλλους

jealousy was-kindled in him if they-embrace others

(οὐ γὰρ ποτὲ λανθάνεται ἀρχὴ ἐτέρου πόθου,

not for ever is-forgotten beginning of-other longing

τοῦτον δὲ κατημαύρωσεν ἡ ἀγάπη τῆς κόρης·

this but obscured the love of-the girl

πόνος γὰρ ὁ σφοδρότατος ἀμαυροῖ τὸν ἐλάσσω),

pain for the most-violent obscures the lesser

καὶ ἵστατο διαπορῶν, θέλων τι διαπραῖξαι.

and he-stood being-at-a-loss wishing something to-accomplish

Εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιον δ' εἰσελθὼν λέγει τὴν ποθητὴν του·

Into the chamber and having-gone-in he-says-to the beloved his

«λόγον τινὰ ἀπόκρυφον βούλομαί σοι θαρρῆσαι,

word a-certain secret I-wish to-you to-confide

ἀλλὰ φοβοῦμαι, πάντερπνε, μὴ οὐκ ἔνι εἰς ἀρεστόν σου·

but I-fear all-delightful lest not it-is to pleasure you

ἰδοὺ καιρὸς ἐφέστηκε τὸ βέβαιον νὰ μάθω,

behold time has-come the certain that I-may-learn

εἰάν ἀγάπην εἰς ἐμὲ ἔχῃς καθαρωτάτην.»

if love toward me you-have most-pure

Ἡ δὲ ταῦτα ἀκούσασα ἐδήχθη τὴν καρδίαν,

She and these(-things) having-heard was-stung the heart

καὶ στενάξασα βύθιον τοιόνδε λόγον λέγει·

and having-groaned deep such word says

«ὦ ἄνερ μου γλυκύτατε, αὐθέντα καὶ προστάτα,

O husband my sweetest lord and protector

ποτὲ λόγον οὐκ ἤκουσα μὴ οὐκ ἔνι εἰς ἀρεστόν μου·

ever word not I-heard lest not it-is to pleasure my

ποία δέ γε περίστασις χωρίσει με σοῦ πόθου;

what but at-least circumstance will-separate me from-your longing

πάντως κἂν δέῃ με θανεῖν, οὐκ ἀπαρνήσομαί σε·

altogether even-if it-be-needful me to-die not I-will-deny you

οἶδε γὰρ ἡ περίστασις φιλίαν δοκιμάζειν.»

knows for the circumstance friendship to-test

110

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120

- 125 «Οὐ πρὸς θάνατον, φίλτατε, ὁ ἀμηνᾶς ἀντέφη,
Not toward death dearest the emir replied
 τὸ δοκεῖς καὶ βουλεύεσαι μὴ γένοιτο, ψυχὴ μου·
what you-think and you-plan not may-it-be soul my
 ἀλλὰ μητρὸς ἀπέλαβον γραφὴν ἀπὸ Συρίας,
but of-mother I-received letter from Syria
 καὶ κινδυνεύει δι' ἐμὲ, βούλομαι δὲ ὑπάγειν·
and she-is-in-danger because-of me I-wish and to-go
 ἐὰν καὶ σὺ, ψυχίτζα μου, ἔρχεσαι μετ' ἐμέναν,
if also you little-soul my come with me
- 130 οὐ θέλω χωρισθῆναι σοι οὐδὲ πρὸς ὥραν μίαν·
not I-wish to-be-separated from-you not-even for hour one
 καὶ πάλιν ὑποστρέψομεν διὰ πολλοῦ τοῦ τάχους.»
and again we-shall-return with much the speed
 «Μετὰ χαρᾶς, ὦ κύρκα μου, ἡ κόρη ἀπεκρίθη,
With joy O lord my the girl answered
 τούτου χάριν μὴ θλίβεσαι· ὅπου κελεύεις, ἔλθω.»
of-this for-the-sake not be-troubled where you-bid let-me-come
 Θεὸς δέ τι θαυματουργῶν παράδοξον ἐνταῦθα,
God but something working-wonders strange here
- 135 καὶ τὸ κρύφιον βούλευμα κατ' ὄναρ εἰς φῶς ἄγει·
and the hidden plan in dream into light brings
 ὁ γὰρ ὕστερος ἀδελφὸς τῆς κόρης ὄναρ εἶδεν·
the for last brother of-the girl dream saw
 καὶ ἐκ τοῦ ὕπνου ἀναστὰς, τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς καλέσας,
and from the sleep having-risen the brothers having-called
 τὸ ὄναρ διηγήσατο τῆς νυκτὸς ὅπερ εἶδεν·
the dream he-related of-the night which he-saw
 «Ἦμην καθήμενος, φησὶν, ἐπάνω ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ,
I-was sitting he-says above in the house

καὶ ἰέρακας ἔβλεπον ἐπὶ τὴν Λακκοπέτραν, 140
and hawks I-saw upon — Lakkopetra
καὶ φάλκωνα πολεμικὸν διώκων περιστέραν·
and falcon warlike pursuing dove
ὥς δὲ ταύτην ἐδίωκε καὶ τελείωσιν εἶχεν,
as and her it-pursued and fulfillment had
ἀμφότεροι εἰσήλθοσαν ἔνδον τοῦ κουβουκλίου,
both went-in inside the chamber
ἐνθα διάγει ὁ γαμβρὸς μετὰ τῆς αὐταδέλφης.
where lives the son-in-law with the own-sister
Συντόμως ἐξεπήδησα, ἔδραμον νά την πιάσω· 145
Swiftly I-leapt-out I-ran that her I-might-seize
συνεταράχθη μου ἡ ψυχὴ, ἔξυπνος ἐγενόμην.»
was-confounded my the soul awake I-became
Τότε ὁ πρῶτος ἀδελφὸς τὸ ὄραμα συγκρίνει·
Then the first brother the vision interprets
«ἰέρακες, ὥς λέγουσιν, ἄνδρες ἄρπαγες εἶναι,
hawks as they-say men rapacious to-be
φάλκωνα δὲ ὃν ἔβλεπες, φοβοῦμαι τὸν γαμβρόν μας
falcon and whom you-saw I-fear the son-in-law our
περιστερὰν τὴν ἀδελφὴν μήπως τὴν ἀδικήσῃ· 150
dove the sister lest-perhaps her be-wrong
ἀλλ' ἄς ἀπέλθωμεν ἐκεῖ ἐνθα τὸ ὄναρ εἶδες,
but let us-go-away there where the dream you-saw
ἐνθα καὶ τοὺς ἰέρακας ἔβλεπες πετωμένους.»
where also the hawks you-saw flying
Καβαλλικεύουν παρευθὺς, ἀπήγον εἰς τὴν πέτραν·
They-ride forthwith they-went-off to the rock
τοὺς Ἀραβίτας ἤρρηκαν μετὰ καὶ τῶν φαρίων·
the Arabites they-found with also the horses

- 155 ἰδόντες δ' ἐξεπλάγησαν, τὸ ὄραμα θαυμάζουν,
having-seen and they-were-astounded the vision they-marvel-at
 «καλῶς ἦλθετε, λέγοντες, ἄγουροι τοῦ γαμβροῦ μας·
well you-have-come saying youths of-the son-in-law our
 πῶς ὦδε ἡμπλικεύσατε, τὸν οἶκον μας ἀφέντες;»
how here did-you-encamp the house our having-left
 Οἱ δέ γε μὴ δυνάμενοι ἀντειπεῖν ὠμολόγουν
They but at-least not being-able to-gainsay confessed
 τὸ βέβαιον ἐκφαίνοντες, οὐδὲν δὲ ἀπεκρύβη.
the certain revealing nothing and was-hidden
- 160 Φόβος γὰρ ἀπροσδόκητος ἀληθείας ἐκφέρει,
Fear for unexpected truths brings-forth
 ὁ δέ γε προσδοκώμενος γεννᾷ ἀπολογίας.
the but at-least expected begets excuses
 Οἱ παρευθὺς λαβόμενοι εἰς τὸν γαμβρόν ἀπῆλθον,
Who forthwith having-taken-hold to the son-in-law went-away
 κατονειδίζοντες αὐτὸν ὥς κακόβουλον ὄντα,
reproaching him as ill-intentioned being
 μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ὁ ὕστερος θρασύτατος ὑπάρχων·
more and also the last most-bold being
- 165 «τὸ ἐνεθυμήθης, ἔλεγε, μὴ τὸ ἀποδοκιμάσης,
what you-devised said not it reject
 καὶ γίνωσκε, Σαρακηνέ, οὐ μὴ ἴδῃς τὴν Συρίαν·
and know Saracen not — you-shall-see — Syria
 ἀλλ' ἐπειδὴ παράνομος καὶ ἐχθρὸς ἀπεφάνθης,
but since lawless and enemy you-have-been-shown
 τὴν ἀδελφὴν μας ἔασον, τὸ τέκνον σου ἀρνήσου,
the sister our leave the child your deny
 καὶ, λαβὼν ἅπερ ἔφερες, πορεύου ὅθεν ἦλθες.»
and having-taken what(-things) you-brought go whence you-came

Ἀκούων ταῦτα ὁ ἀμηνᾶς καὶ τοὺς ἐλέγχους βλέπων, 170
Hearing these(-things) the emir and the reproofs seeing

μὴ δυνάμενος ἀντειπεῖν παντελῶς ἐσιώπα,
not being-able to-gainsay altogether was-silent
αἰσχύνης, φόβου, θλίψεως ἀνάμεστος ὑπάρχων·
of-shame of-fear of-affliction full being
ἡσχύνετο γὰρ φωραθεὶς, ὡς ξένος ἐφοβεῖτο,
he-was-ashamed for having-been-caught as stranger he-feared
ἐλυπείτο μὴ χωρισμὸν ὑποστῇ τῆς φιλάτης.
he-grieved lest separation he-undergo from-the dearest

Μὴ ἔχων τι ποιήσειεν, εἰς τὴν κόρην εἰσῆλθε· 175
Not having what he-should-do to the girl he-went-in

ταύτην γὰρ μόνην ἠλπιζεν εὐρεῖν παρηγορίαν,
her for alone he-hoped to-find consolation
μὴ γνώσκων ὅ τι θεὸς ἐδήλωσε κατ' ὄναρ·
not knowing what — God revealed in dream

«καὶ τί τοῦτο ἐποίησας; ἐπεφώνει δακρύνων·
and why this did-you-do he-cried-out weeping
αὕτη ἔνι ἡ ἀγάπη σου καὶ οὕτως μοι ὑπέσχου;
this is the love your and thus to-me did-you-promise

οὐχί μου πᾶσαν τὴν βουλὴν εἰς σὲ προσανεθέμην; 180
not my all the counsel to you did-I-entrust

οὐχὶ συνέθου τοῦ ἐλθεῖν μετὰ περιχαρίας;
not did-you-agree of-the to-come with exceeding-joy

μὴ γάρ σε κατηνάγκασα ἢ παρεβιάσά σε;
not for you did-I-compel or I-forced you

μᾶλλον σύ με ἠνάγκασας μετ' ἐμοῦ πορευθῆναι,
rather you me compelled with me to-travel

καὶ καθ' ὁδοῦ συγχαίρεσθαι καὶ πάλιν ὑποστρέψαι·
and on road to-rejoice-together and again to-return

- 185 σὺ δὲ φόβον μὴ ἔχουσα θεοῦ πρὸ ὀφθαλμῶν σου,
you but fear not having of-God before eyes your
 τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς ἠνάγκασας ἵνα με θανατώσουν·
the brothers you-compelled that me they-put-to-death
 οὐ μνημονεύεις ἐξ ἀρχῆς τί μετὰ σοῦ ἐποίουν;
not do-you-remember from beginning what with you I-did
 αἰχμάλωτόν σε ἤρπαξα, ἐτίμουν ὡς κυρίαν·
captive you I-seized I-honored as lady
 δούλην σε ἔχειν ἤθελον, μᾶλλον εἶχες με δοῦλον·
slave you to-have I-wished rather you-had me slave
- 190 τοὺς γονεῖς καὶ τὴν πίστιν μου διὰ σὲ ἡρνησάμην,
the parents and the faith my because-of you I-denied
 καὶ διὰ τὴν ἀγάπην σου ἦλθον εἰς Ῥωμανίαν·
and because-of the love your I-came to Romania
 σὺ δὲ θάνατον ἀντ' αὐτῶν ἐμνημόνευσας, κόρη,
you but death in-return-for them remembered girl
 βλέπε, καλὴ, μὴ παραβῆς τοὺς ἐν τῷ μέσῳ ὄρκους·
look fair-one not transgress the in the middle oaths
 μὴ ἀρνηθῆς τὸν ἔρωτα ὃν εἶχομεν ἐκ πόθου·
not deny the love which we-had from longing
- 195 εἰ γὰρ καταναγκάσουν με θλίβοντες οἱ ἀδελφοί σου,
if for compel me afflicting the brothers your
 πάντως νὰ σύρω τὸ σπαθὶν καὶ σφάξω ἐμαυτόν μου,
altogether that I-draw the sword and slaughter myself my
 καὶ κρίνειν ἔχει ὁ θεὸς μέσον τῶν ἀμφοτέρων·
and to-judge has — God between of-the both
 σὲ δὲ τὰ εὐγενικόπουλα πάντα νά σε ὀνειδίζουν,
you and the noble-children all that you they-reproach

ὅτι ἀνδρὸς μυστήριον οὐκ ἴσχυσας φυλάξαι,
that of-husband secret not you-were-able to-keep
 ὡς Δαλιδὰ δὲ τὸν Σαμφὼν παρέδωκας σφαγῆναι.»
like Delilah and — Samson you-handed-over to-be-slaughtered

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VI · THE EMIR'S DEPARTURE

The girl, stunned, swears she told no one, and when the emir seems near madness she begs her brothers not to wrong him, and they ask his pardon. He prays to Christ, swearing to return or be food for beasts. After fifteen days of preparation he asks his wife for her ring, swears to keep faith with her, takes his infant son in his arms lamenting, and rides away, escorted three miles.

Πάντα θρηνῶν ὁ ἀμηνῶς ἔλεγε πρὸς τὴν κόρην,
All lamenting the emir said to the girl
 ταύτην γὰρ ὑπελάμβανε τὴν βουλὴν φανερῶσαι·
her for he-supposed the plan to-have-revealed
 ὁ ἔρως γὰρ ἀτιμασθεὶς φέρει κακολογίας.
the love for dishonored brings abuses
 Καὶ ἡ κόρη, ὡς ἤκουσεν, ἐννεὸς ἐγεγόνει,
And the girl as she-heard speechless had-become
 μήτε λόγον προπέμψασθαι μηδὲν δυνάμενη·
neither word to-send-forth at-all being-able
 ἔμεινε δὲ στυγνάζουσα ἐπὶ πολλὰς τὰς ὥρας·
she-remained and being-gloomy for many the hours
 πᾶς γὰρ ὁ πταίων ἑτοιμος φέρειν ἀπολογίας,
every for the erring ready to-bring excuses
 ὁ δὲ μὴ πταίων σιωπᾷ, μὴ ἔχων τί λαλῆσαι.
the but not erring is-silent not having what to-say
 Μόλις ποτὲ δὲ ἐαυτὴν ὡς εἰς πέρας λαβοῦσα·
Barely at-length and herself as to end having-taken

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- 210 «τί μάτην ὀνειδίζεις με, ἐπεφώνει δακρύοις,
why in-vain do-you-reproach me she-cried-out with-tears
 τί, ἄνερ μου, κατηγορεῖς τὴν σὲ πολλὰ ποθοῦσαν;
why husband my do-you-accuse the you much longing
 οὐκ ἔστι μοι, μὴ γένοιτο, τὴν βουλήν φανερώσαι·
not is for-me not may-it-be the plan to-reveal
 εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο ἐποίησα, ζῶσαν ἢ γῇ με πίοι,
if for this I-did living the earth me may-drink
 νὰ γένωμαι παράδειγμα πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ,
that I-may-become example to-all those in the world
- 215 ὥς τοῦ ἀνδρὸς μυστήρια κατὰδηλα ποιοῦσα.»
as of-the husband secrets manifest making
 Καὶ βλέπουσα τὸν ἀμυρᾶν αὐξήσαντα τὸν θρήνον,
And seeing the emir having-increased the lament
 παρὰ μικρὸν δὲ γέγονε παράφρων ἐκ τὴν θλίψιν
by little and he-became out-of-his-mind from the affliction
 (τὸ γὰρ πολὺ τῆς θλίψεως γεννᾷ παραφροσύνην,
the for much of-the affliction begets madness
 ἐντεῦθεν καὶ παράνομον πολλοὶ κατατολμῶσι),
hence also lawlessness many dare
- 220 ἐφοβήθη μὴ ἑαυτὸν ἀναιρέσῃ τῷ ξίφει·
she-feared lest himself he-should-destroy with-the sword
 ἐξῆλθε πρὸς τοὺς ἀδελφούς τὰς τρίχας ἀνασπῶσα·
she-went-out to the brothers the hairs tearing
 «ὦ γλυκύτατοι ἀδελφοί, τί μάτην ἐνοχλεῖτε
O sweetest brothers why in-vain do-you-trouble
 τὸν μηδὲν ἀδικήσαντα; ἰδοὺ γὰρ ἀποθνήσκει·
him in-nothing having-wronged behold for he-is-dying
 ἰδοὺ ἀναιρέσει ἑαυτὸν ἀπὸ παραπληξίας·
behold he-will-destroy himself from derangement

μὴ, πρὸς θεὸν, ἀδελφία μου, μὴ ἀδικηθῇ ὁ ξένος, 225
not before God brothers my not be-wronged the stranger
 ὃς δι' ἐμὲ ἡρνήσατο συγγενεῖς καὶ τὴν πίστιν,
who because-of me denied kinsmen and the faith
 οὐ γὰρ ἐνάντιόν ποτε καθ' ὑμῶν ἐβουλήθη·
not for adverse ever against you he-intended
 ἀρτίως δὲ, φοβούμενος κατάραν τῆς μητρός του,
now but fearing curse of-the mother his
 εἰς Συρίαν ἀπέρχεται, σὺν αὐτῇ ἐπανήκει·
to Syria he-goes-away with her he-returns
 ἐξείπε γάρ μου τὴν βουλὴν, ἔδειξε καὶ τὸ γράμμα. 230
told for to-me the plan he-showed also the letter
 Καὶ πῶς ὑμεῖς, φειδόμενοι κατάρας τῆς μητρός μας,
And how you sparing curse of-the mother our
 μόνοι κατετολήσατε ἐλθεῖν εἰς χιλιάδας
alone dared to-come into thousands
 καὶ πόλεμον συνάψασθαι δι' ἐμοῦ εἰς κλεισοῦραν,
and battle to-join for me in pass
 μὴ φοβηθέντες θάνατον, ἀλλὰ μητρός κατάραν;
not having-feared death but of-mother curse
 Δέδουκε ταῦτα καὶ αὐτὸς, βούλεται πορευθῆναι.» 235
He-fears these(-things) also he wishes to-travel
 Καὶ ταῦτα πρὸς τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς ἡ κόρη πάντα λέγει,
And these(-things) to the brothers the girl all says
 θερμὰ κινουῖσα δάκρυα, τίλλουσα καὶ τὴν κόμην.
hot stirring tears tearing also the hair
 Οἱ δὲ μὴ φέροντες ὁρᾶν τὴν ἀδελφὴν θρηνοῦσαν,
They and not bearing to-see the sister lamenting
 ὁμοφώνως ἀνέκραζον, ταύτην καταφιλοῦντες·
with-one-voice cried-out her kissing

- 240 «σὲ γὰρ οἱ πάντες ἔχομεν ψυχὴν καὶ θυμῆδιαν,
you for the all we-have soul and delight
 ἐπεὶ δὲ βούλει καὶ αὐτὴ τὸν γαμβρόν μας ἐκπέμψαι,
since and you-wish also yourself the son-in-law our to-send-forth
 θεὸν παράσχοι μάρτυρα τάχιον ὑποστρέψαι,
God may-be-provide witness sooner to-return
 ἡμεῖς δὲ νὰ εὐχόμεθα καλῶς εὐδωθῆναι.»
we and that we-may-pray well to-be-prospered
 Καὶ ἀμφότεροι παρευθὺς εἰς τὸν γαμβρόν εἰσηλθόν,
And both forthwith to the son-in-law went-in
- 245 συγχώρησιν αἰτούμενοι τῶν πρώην λαληθέντων·
forgiveness asking of-the before having-been-spoken(-things)
 «καὶ μὴ μνηστῆς ἡμῶν, γαμβρὲ, ἀγνωσίας ῥημάτων
and not remember us son-in-law ignorance of-words
 οὐ γὰρ ἡμῶν τὸ αἷτιον, πάντως γὰρ σὸν τὸ κρίμα,
not for ours the cause altogether for yours the judgment
 τοῦ μὴ γνωρίσαντος ἡμῖν ἅπερ ἐβούλου πράξειν.»
of-the not having-made-known to-us what(-things) you-wished to-do
 Ὁ δὲ καὶ συνεχώρησε πάντας καταφιλήσας·
He and also forgave all having-kissed
- 250 σταθεὶς δὲ πρὸς ἀνατολὰς, χεῖρας εἰς ὕψος ἄρας·
having-stood and toward east hands to height having-raised
 «Χριστέ μου, ἐξεφώνησεν, υἱὲ θεοῦ καὶ λόγε,
Christ my he-cried-out son of-God and word
 ὁ ὁδηγήσας με πρὸς φῶς τῆς σῆς θεογνωσίας,
the having-guided me toward light of-the your knowledge-of-God
 τοῦ σκοτούς λυτρωσάμενος καὶ τῆς ματαίας πλάνης,
from-the darkness having-redeemed and from-the vain error
 ὁ γινώσκων τὰ κρύφια καὶ λογισμοὺς καρδίας,
the knowing the hidden(-things) and thoughts of-heart

εἰ ἐπιλάθωμαί ποτε γαμετῆς τῆς φιλάτης, 255
if I-forget ever wife the dearest

ἢ τοῦ τερπνοῦ ἀνθήματος τέκνου τοῦ παμποθήτου,
or of-the delightful blossom child the all-longed-for

καὶ οὐχ ὑποστρέψω τάχιον εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν μητέρα,
and not I-return sooner to the my mother

θηρίοις γένωμαι βορὰ καὶ πετεινοῖς ἐν ὄρει,
for-beasts may-I-become food and for-birds on mountain

μὴ καταλογιζόμενος χριστιανοῖς ἐν μέρει!»
not being-reckoned with-Christians in portion

Καὶ ἀπὸ τότε ἤρξατο τῆς ὁδοῦ εὐτρεπίζειν, 260
And from then he-began the road to-prepare

καὶ συσκευάσας ἅπαντα ἡμερῶν δεκαπέντε,
and having-packed all of-days fifteen

γνωστὴ πᾶσιν ἐγένετο ἡ ἐξέλευσις τούτου,
known to-all became the departure of-him

καὶ πᾶν πλῆθος συνήρχετο συγγενῶν τε καὶ φίλων.
and every multitude came-together of-kinsmen both and of-friends

Καὶ ἦν ἰδεῖν τὸν ἔρωτα ὅνπερ εἶχον οἱ δύο·
And it-was to-see the love which had the two

κρατήσας γὰρ ὁ ἀμηνᾶς ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς τὴν κόρην, 265
having-held for the emir by the hand the girl

εἰσῆλθε μόνος μετ' αὐτῆς ἔνδον εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιον,
went-in alone with her inside into the chamber

καὶ δάκρυα ἐκίνησαν ὡς ὄμβρος ἐκ καρδίας·
and tears they-stirred like rain from heart

οἱ στεναγμοὶ ἀνέπεμπον ἦχον παρηλλαγμένον·
the groans sent-up sound altered

«δός μοι λόγον, αὐθέντρια, δός μοι σὸν δακτυλίδιον,
give me word lady give me your ring

- 270 ἄς τὸ φορῶ, καλόγνωμε, ἕως οὗ ὑποστρέψω.»
let it I-wear kind-one until — I-return
 Ἡ δὲ κόρη στενάζουσα τὸν ἀμηρᾶν ἐλάλει·
The and girl groaning to-the emir spoke
 «βλέπε, χρυσὲ αὐθέντα μου, μὴ παραβῆς τοὺς ὅρκους,
look golden lord my not transgress the oaths
 καὶ θεὸς ἀποδώσει σοι εἰ περιλάβῃς ἄλλην·
and God will-repay you if you-embrace another
 θεὸς γὰρ δίκαιος κριτὴς ἀξίως ἀποδίδων.»
God for just judge worthily repaying
- 275 «Εἰ τοῦτο πράξω, φίλτατε, ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἀντέφη,
If this I-do dearest the emir replied
 ἢ ἀθετήσω ἔρωτα ὃν ἔχομεν ἐκ πόθου,
or I-set-aside love which we-have from longing
 ἢ θλάβω τὴν καρδίαν σου, ὦ πανευγενεστάτη,
or I-afflict the heart your O most-noble
 χανοῦσα γῇ με λήψεται, ᾗδης με καταπίοι,
having-gaped earth me will-receive Hades me may-swallow
 καὶ μὴ ἐχάρην εἰς ἐσέ, τὴν μοσχομυρισμένην!»
and not may-I-have-rejoiced in you the musk-scented
- 280 Περιλαβόντες δὲ τερπνὰ, ἀπλήστως κατεφίλουν,
Having-embraced and delightfully insatiably they-kissed
 ὥς καὶ τὴν ὥραν εἰς πολὺ παρακατεκταθῆναι·
so-as even the hour into much to-be-drawn-out
 καὶ γέγοναν κατάβροχοι ἐκ τῶν πολλῶν δακρύων,
and they-became drenched from the many tears
 μόλις δὲ ἡδυνήθησαν ἀλλήλοις ἀποστῆναι,
barely and they-were-able from-one-another to-part
 τὸ πλῆθος μὴ αἰδούμενοι τῶν ἐκεῖ ἀθροισθέντων·
the multitude not respecting of-the there having-been-gathered

ἡ γὰρ ἀγάπη ἡ φυσικὴ φέρει ἀναισχυντίαν, 285
the for love the natural brings shamelessness
 καὶ τοῦτο πάντες οἶδασιν οἱ τὸ φιλεῖν μαθόντες.
and this all know those the to-love having-learned
 Εἶτα καὶ τέκνον τὸ αὐτοῦ λαβὼν εἰς τὰς ἀγκάλας,
Then also child the his having-taken into the arms
 θρηνῶν ταῦτα ἐφθέγγετο εἰς ἐπήκοον πάντων·
lamenting these(-things) he-uttered in hearing of-all
 «ἄρα ποιήσει με θεὸς ἄξιον τοῦ ἰδεῖν σε,
can-it-be will-make me God worthy of-the to-see you
 ὦ παιδίον γλυκύτατον, καβαλλάρην ἐμπρός μου· 290
O little-child sweetest mounted before me
 ἄρα, νιέ μου διγενὲς, διδάξω σε κοντάρην,
can-it-be son my two-blooded I-shall-teach you spear
 ὡς ἂν καυχῶσονται ἐν σοὶ πάντες οἱ συγγενεῖς σου.»
so-that — may-boast in you all the kinsmen your
 Καὶ ἐδάκρυσαν ἅπαντες τὸν ἀμηρᾶν ὁρῶντες·
And wept all the emir seeing
 εἰθ' οὕτως ἵππον εὐθειον καὶ κομιδῇ γενναῖον
then thus horse well-bred and wholly noble
 ἐπιβάντες οἱ ἄγουροι ἐξῆλθασιν τοῦ οἴκου, 295
having-mounted the youths went-out of-the house
 καὶ ὕστερον ὁ ἀμηρᾶς εἰς φάραν καβαλλάρης.
and last the emir on charger mounted
 Ἦτον τὸ πλῆθος δὲ πολὺ συγγενῶν τε καὶ φίλων,
Was the multitude and much of-kinsmen both and of-friends
 καὶ συνεξέβαλον αὐτὸν μέχρι τριῶν μυλλίων·
and they-escorted him as-far-as three miles

καὶ πάντας ἀσπασάμενος ἐποίει ὑποστρέψαι,

and all having-embraced he-made to-return

300 αὐτὸς τῆς ὁδοῦ ἤπτετο ἅμα σὺν τοῖς ἀγούροις.

he-himself of-the road took-up together with the youths

BOOK III

Η ΑΠΟ ΣΥΡΙΑΣ ΥΠΟΣΤΡΕΨΙΣ ΜΕΤΑ ΚΑΙ ΤΗΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΣ ΑΥΤΟΥ

VII · THE JOURNEY TO SYRIA

The poet reflects on love's tyranny. Sent off by his kin, the emir writes daily to his wife and drives his youths day and night, recalling how he saved them at Mellokopia; love carries them three stages a day. In a pass he kills a lion with his mace and keeps its teeth and claws for his son.

Οὕτως δοῦλος πᾶς ὁ ἐρῶν τοῦ ἔρωτος ὑπάρχει·

Thus slave every the lover of-the love is

ἔστι γὰρ οὗτος δικαστὴς βασανίζων καρδίας

is for this-one judge torturing hearts

τῶν μὴ τηρούντων ἀκριβῶς τὰς ὁδοὺς τῆς ἀγάπης·

of-those not keeping exactly the ways of-the love

εὐστόχως πέμπει τὰς βολὰς καὶ τοξεύει καρδίας,

with-good-aim he-sends the darts and shoots hearts

5 καὶ ἵσταται μετὰ πυρὸς τὸν λογισμὸν φλογίζων·

and stands with fire the reasoning inflaming

πᾶς δὲ ὅς τοῦτον κέκτηται οὐ δύναται ἐκφεῦξαι,

every and who him has-acquired not is-able to-escape

καὶ τῶν ἐνδόξων τίς ἐστι, καὶ τῶν πλουσιωτάτων,

even-if of-the illustrious anyone is even-if of-the richest

ἐπαιρόμενος γὰρ αὐτοῦ ταχέως τοῦτον φθάνει.

being-lifted-up for against-him swiftly him he-overtakes

Οὕτω τυχὼν ὁ ἀμηράς ὁ θαυμαστός ἐκεῖνος

Thus having-chanced the emir the marvelous that

δόξης μὲν κατεφρόνησε καὶ ἀρχῆς τῆς μεγίστης,

glory indeed despised and rule the greatest

ἐπελάθετο συγγενῶν, γονέων καὶ πατρίδος·

forgot kinsmen parents and fatherland

πίστιν δὲ ἀπηρνήσατο διὰ κόρης ἀγάπην

faith and denied because-of of-girl love

τερπνῆς τῷ ὄντι ἀληθῶς καὶ πανευγενεστάτης·

delightful in-the being truly and most-noble

καὶ ὃ ποτε πολέμιος δούλος ἔρωτος ὥφθη·

and who once enemy slave of-love was-seen

εἰς Ῥωμανίαν ᾤκησε διὰ τὴν ποθητὴν του·

in Romania dwelt because-of the beloved his

γραφὴν ἀπολαβὼν αὐτὸς μητρὸς ἀπὸ Συρίας

letter having-received he of-mother from Syria

ἐτύπωσε τοῦ ἀπελθεῖν δεδιὼς τὴν κατάραν·

resolved of-the to-go-away fearing the curse

πάντως γὰρ δίκαιόν ἐστι γονεῖς μὴ παροργίζειν.

altogether for just it-is parents not to-provoke

Καὶ γενομένης συμβουλῆς καὶ ὅρκου ἐν τῷ μέσῳ

And having-been-made counsel and oath in the middle

πάντων προέπεμψαν αὐτὸν μετὰ περιχαρείας,

of-all sent-off him with exceeding-joy

καὶ τραγωδεῖν ἀπῆρξατο παραμυθῶν τὴν κόρην·

and to-sing he-began consoling the girl

«ἄγουροι, δυναμώνεσθε· φαρία μὴ κατοκνέετε,

youths be-strong horses not shirk

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τὰς ἡμέρας σπουδάζετε, τὰς νύκτας ἀγρυπνεῖτε,

the days hasten the nights keep-awake

βροχὰς, χιόνας, παγετοὺς ἀντ' οὐδενὸς ἡγείσθαι,

rains snows frosts in-place-of nothing consider

25 μὴ βραδύνω τὸ σύνολον κατὰ τὴν ὠρισμένην,

lest I-be-late the whole beyond the appointed(-day)

καὶ ὀνειδισθῶ εἰς ὑποστροφὴν καὶ ζῆν με οὐ συμφέρη.»

and be-reproached for return and to-live me not it-be-profitable

Εἶτα «χαίρεσθε» προσειπὼν, «ὦ συγγενεῖς καὶ φίλοι,»

Then farewell having-said O kinsmen and friends

καὶ πάντας ἀσπασάμενος εὐχεσθαι παρεκάλει.

and all having-embraced to-pray he-exhorted

Ἦν δὲ καὶ πεποιήκασιν παρὲνθ' ὁμοφώνως·

Which indeed also they-did forthwith with-one-voice

30 «ὁ θεὸς ὁ φιλόανθρωπος ἵνα σε εὐδοσῇ,

— God the lover-of-mankind that you may-prosper

καὶ καταξιωθείμην διὰ τάχους ἰδεῖν σε.»

and may-we-be-deemed-worthy with speed to-see you

Κακεῖθεν μὲν ὑπέστρεφον πάντες ἐπὶ τὸν οἶκον,

And-from-there indeed returned all to the house

στυγνοὶ ὄντες καὶ σκυθρωποὶ ὡς δεινὸν πεπονθότες.

gloomy being and sullen as terrible having-suffered

Τοιοῦτος γὰρ ὁ χωρισμὸς πάντων τῶν ἀγαπώντων·

Such for the separation of-all the loving

35 διότι καίει τὰς ψυχὰς, δαμάζει τὰς καρδίας,

because it-burns the souls subdues the hearts

ταράσσει καὶ τοὺς λογισμοὺς παντελὴς χωρισία.

troubles also the thoughts complete separation

Ἦπτετο δὲ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς μετὰ σπουδῆς τοῦ δρόμου,
Took-up and the emir with haste of-the road
 καθ' ἐκάστην ἐξέπεμπε γραφὰς τῇ ποθητῇ του·
by each(-day) he-sent-forth letters to-the beloved his
 «μὴ λυπηθῆς, παρακαλῶ, τοῦτο δ' εὐχέσθαι μᾶλλον.»
not be-grieved I-beseech this and to-pray rather
 Ἀγούρους δὲ τοὺς ἐαυτοῦ ἰκέτευεν ἐκ πόθου·
Youths and the his he-implored from longing
 «ἄρχοντες, λέγων, ἄγουροι, φίλοι καὶ ἀδελφοί μου,
lords saying youths friends and brothers my
 ἀγρυπνήσατε δι' ἐμὲ καὶ κόπον ὑποστήτε,
keep-awake because-of me and toil undergo
 συνταγὰς γὰρ ποιήσατε καὶ πολλὰς ὑποσχέσεις,
agreements for you-made and many promises
 ὥς ὑπέσχεσθε λέγοντες δι' ἐμοῦ ἀποθνήσκειν,
which you-promised saying for me to-die
 τοῦτο δὲ οὐ πρὸς θάνατον, ἐρωτικὸς ὁ μόχθος·
this but not toward death erotic the toil
 φλέγεται γάρ μου ἡ ψυχὴ, καίεται ἡ καρδιά,
is-inflamed for my the soul burns the heart
 κατανοῶν τὸ ἄπειρον διάστημα τοῦ δρόμου·
perceiving the boundless distance of-the road
 πότε κάμπους τοὺς φοβεροὺς διέλθωμεν, ἀγούροι,
when plains the fearsome may-we-go-through youths
 καὶ τοὺς βουνοὺς τοὺς φοβεροὺς καὶ τὰς δεινὰς κλεισούρας,
and the hills the fearsome and the terrible passes
 καὶ τὴν Ῥαχὰβ θεάσομαι, ἴδω μου τὴν μητέρα;
and — Rachab shall-I-behold may-I-see my the mother
 καὶ πότε πάλιν ἅπαντα ταῦτα διαπεράσω,
and when again all these(-things) shall-I-cross

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- ἐν τοῖς μέρεσιν ἔλθωμεν τῆς καλῆς Ῥωμανίας,
in the parts may-we-come of-the fair Romania
 καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν θεάσομαι πέρδικαν τὴν ὡραίαν,
and the my shall-I-behold partridge the beautiful
 καὶ ἄνθος τὸ πανεύγενον, τὸν πάγκαλον υἱόν μου;
and flower the all-noble the all-fair son my
 55 τίς μοι παράσχοι πτέρυγας καὶ πετάσαι, φιλτάτη,
who to-me may-provide wings and to-fly dearest
 καὶ εἰς ἀγκάλας δὲ τὰς σὰς πρὸς ὥραν καταπαῦσαι;
and into arms and the your for hour to-rest
 Πόσα στενάξει καὶ αὐτὴ δι' ἐμὲ ἀγρυπνοῦσα,
How-much will-groan also she because-of me keeping-awake
 καὶ σκοπεύουσα τὰς ὁδοὺς καθ' ἐκάστην ἡμέραν;
and watching the roads by each day
 Πεφύκασι γὰρ μέριμναι πολλαὶ τοῖς ποθουμένοις
Are-wont for cares many for-the longed-for
 60 καὶ φροντίδες διηνεκῶς, κίνδυνοί τε καὶ φόβοι.
and anxieties continually dangers both and fears
 Ἄλλ', ὦ καλοὶ νεώτεροι, εὐγενικοί μου ἀγοῦροι,
But O fine younger(-men) noble my youths
 ὕπνον ἀποτινάξατε καὶ πᾶσαν ῥαθυμίαν,
sleep shake-off and all sloth
 ὥσάν ταχέως φθάσωμεν εἰς τὸ Ῥαχάβ τὸ κάστρον,
so-that swiftly we-may-reach to — Rachab the fortress
 εἰθ' οὕτως θέντες ἔλθωμεν πάλιν εἰς Ῥωμανίαν·
then thus having-set may-we-come again to Romania
 65 οὗ πολλάκις ἐρρύσθητε δι' ἐμὲ ἐκ κινδύνων·
where often you-were-rescued because-of me from dangers
 καὶ, παρεάσας τὰ πολλὰ, ἐν ὑμῖν ὑπομνήσω,
and having-passed-over the many one to-you I-will-remind

ὁ καὶ πρὸς ὥραν γέγονεν εἰς τὰ Μελλοκοπία
which also at hour happened at — Mellokopia

ὅποτε μας ἐκύκλωσαν οἱ στρατηγοὶ ἀθρόως
when us surrounded the generals all-together

καὶ ὥσπερ τείχος γύρωθεν ἔστησαν τὰ φουσσᾶτα,
and like wall round-about set the armies

ὕμεις δὲ εἰς ἀπόγνωσιν κατήχθητε θανάτου,
you but into despair were-brought of-death 70

ἀποκλεισθέντες ἔνδοθεν πάντες ὥσπερ ἐν τάφῳ,
shut-in within all as in tomb

μὴ ἐλπίζοντες τίς ὑμῶν ἐξελεῖν τῶν ἐκείσε·
not hoping anyone of-you to-go-out of-the there

ἐγὼ δὲ ἐπελάλησα, μέσον αὐτῶν εἰσῆλθον,
I but urged-on into-the-midst of-them I-went-in

ὅσους εἰς ἄδην ἔπεμψα οὐδ' ὑμεῖς ἀγνοεῖτε,
how-many to Hades I-sent not-even you are-ignorant

μόνος δὲ τρέψας ἅπαντας καὶ φυγάδας ποιήσας,
alone and having-routed all and fugitives having-made 75

ἀβλαβεῖς διεσώθημεν μὲ τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν.
unharmd we-were-saved with the captives

Ἄρτι δ' οὐκ ἔστι πόλεμος, ἐρωτικὸς ὁ μόχθος,
Now but not is war erotic the toil

καὶ ἐν τούτῳ παρακαλῶ συνεργοί μου γενέσθαι.»
and in this I-beseech fellow-workers my to-become

Ταῦτα καὶ ἄλλα πλείονα τοῖς σὺν αὐτῷ ἐλάλει
These(-things) and other more to-those with him spoke

ὁ ἀμνηρᾶς ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ μετὰ πόνου καρδίας·
the emir on the road with pain of-heart 80

οὕτως γὰρ φλέγει τοὺς αὐτῷ ὑπηκόους ὁ ἔρως,
thus for inflames those to-him subject the love
 ὡς πάντων μὴν καταφρονεῖν, αὐτὸν δὲ προσαγγέλλειν.
as all indeed to-despise him and to-announce

Καὶ ἀκούσαντες ἔλεγον οἱ ἄγουροι εὐθέως·

And having-heard said the youths at-once

«ὅπου θέλεις, αὐθέντα μου, ἄς γίνουν τ' ἄππλικτά σου,
where you-wish lord my let become the encampments your

85 οὐ γὰρ εὐρίσκεις ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἀφορμὴν ῥαθυμίας.»

not for you-find in us occasion of-sloth

Καὶ ἦν ἰδεῖν θαῦμα φρικτὸν, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἄπιστον πᾶσι
And it-was to-see wonder dreadful but not incredible to-all

(ἔρως γὰρ ἦν ὁ ὑπουργῶν καὶ συνεργῶν εἰς πάντα),
love for was the serving and working-with in all

τρεῖς γὰρ μονὰς διήρχοντο καθ' ἐκάστην ἡμέραν.
three for stages they-went-through by each day

Ὅτε δὲ κατελάμβανεν εἰς ἀοίκους κλεισούρας,

When and he-reached into uninhabited passes

90 διήρχετο γὰρ γύρωθεν φυλάττων τοὺς ἀγούρους.

he-went-through for round-about guarding the youths

Ἐν μιᾷ οὖν ὁδεύοντες εἰς πάνδεινον κλεισούραν,

On one then traveling into most-terrible pass

λέοντα εὔρον φοβερὸν κρατοῦντα ἐλαφῖναν·

lion they-found fearsome holding bind

ὥς δὲ τοῦτον ἐσκέψαντο οἱ ἄγουροι, εὐθέως

as and him they-saw the youths at-once

θροηθέντες ἀνέδραμον πάντες ἐπὶ τὸ ὄρος·

having-been-alarmed ran-up all onto the mountain

95 καὶ λυπηθεὶς ὁ ἀμηρᾶς πρὸς τὸνλέοντα ἔφη·

and having-been-grieved the emir to the lion said

«πῶς τοῦτο κατετόλμησας, δεινότατον θηρίον,

how this did-you-dare most-terrible beast

καὶ παρεμπόδισας ὁδὸν ἐρωτικῆς φιλίας;

and you-hindered road of-erotic friendship

ἀλλ' ἐγὼ τὴν ἀνταμοιβὴν ἀξίαν σοι παράσχω.»

but I the recompense worthy to-you will-provide

Μὲ τὸ ράβδιν τον ἔδωκε πλήρης εἰς τὴν μεσίαν,

With the mace him he-struck full on the middle

καὶ εὐθὺς ἔμεινε στυγνὸς εἰς γῆν ἐξηπλωμένος.

and at-once he-remained gloomy on earth stretched-out

Καὶ εὐθέως προσέταξε τοὺς ἰδίους ἀγούρους·

And at-once he-commanded the (his)-own youths

«τοὺς ὀδόντας ἐκσπάσατε πάντας τοὺς τοῦ θηρίου,

the teeth pull-out all the(-ones) of-the beast

ὡσαύτως καὶ τοὺς ὄνυχας τῆς δεξιᾶς χειρός του,

likewise also the claws of-the right paw its

ἵνα, ὅποτε σὺν θεῷ στραφῶ εἰς Ῥωμανίαν,

that when with God I-turn to Romania

φορέσωμεν αὐτοὺς, φημὶ, τὸν πάγκαλον υἱόν μου,

we-may-put them I-say (on)-the all-fair son my

τὸν Διγενῆ Καππάδοκα Ἀκρίτην τὸν γενναῖον.»

— *Digenis Cappadocian Akritas the noble*

Καὶ αὖθις πάλιν ἤπτετο τῆς ὁδοῦ μετὰ πόθου,

And again once-more he-took-up the road with longing

ἀλλήλοις προτρεπόμενος τοῦ προθύμους βαδίζειν.

one-another urging of-the eagerly to-go

Οὐδεὶς ἐν τούτῳ ῥάθυμος, οὐδεὶς ὕπνου μετέσχευ·

No-one in this slothful no-one of-sleep partook

ἔρως γὰρ ἦν μέσον αὐτῶν τίς νικήσει τὸν ἄλλον.

love for was in-the-middle of-them who will-conquer the other

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At Rachab his mother and kin welcome him. Recalling the wonders at the Prophet's tomb, she reproaches him for giving up the rule of Egypt for a Roman woman. He answers with the Christian creed and the judgment to come, and urges her to believe and come with him. She and her kin confess Christ and resolve to go to Romania.

Ὅτε δὲ ἐπλησίασαν εἰς τὸ Ῥαχάβ τὸ κάστρον,

When and they-drew-near to — Rachab the fortress

προσέταξεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἔξω στήσαι τὰς τένδας,

commanded the emir outside to-set-up the tents

καὶ δύο τῶν ἀγούρων του εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὸ κάστρον,

and two of-the youths his to-go-in into the fortress

ὥσάν εἴπωσι τῇ μητρὶ τὴν ἐπέλευσιν τούτου.

so-that they-may-tell to-the mother the arrival of-him

115 Καὶ πορευθέντες τάχιον πεποιήκασιν τοῦτο.

And having-gone quickly they-did this

Ἡ δὲ μήτηρ ὥς ἤκουσε τοιαύτην ἀγγελίαν,

The and mother as she-heard such news

μικρόν περ καὶ ὠρχήσατο ἀπὸ περιχαρείας·

a-little indeed also danced from exceeding-joy

ὁμοίως καὶ οἱ συγγενεῖς ἐν γνώσει γεγονότες,

likewise also the kinsmen in knowledge having-become

συνεξήλθασιν ἅπαντες εἰς ἀπάντησιν τούτου·

went-out-together all to meeting of-him

120 καὶ πλησίον γενόμενοι ἔνθα ἦσαν αἱ τένδαι

and near having-come where were the tents

προϋπήντα ὁ ἀμηρᾶς πεζὸς μετὰ τζαγγίων·

went-ahead-to-meet the emir on-foot with boots

ὃν ἐπιγινόντες καὶ αὐτοὶ ἐπέζευον εὐθέως
whom having-recognized also they dismounted at-once
 ἐμπεπλησμένοι ἡδονῆς, δακρύων γεμισμένοι
filled with-pleasure with-tears brimming
 (φέρει γὰρ δάκρυα χαρὰ, ἀθρόως ὅταν ἔλθῃ),
brings for tears joy all-at-once when it-comes
 καὶ κατησπάζοντο αὐτὸν μοιράζοντες τὸν πόθον,
and they-kissed him sharing the longing
 ἐντεῦθεν μὲν οἱ συγγενεῖς, ἐκείθεν δὲ ἡ μήτηρ,
from-here indeed the kinsmen from-there and the mother
 καὶ τὰ αὐτοῦ κοράσια ἀληθῶς μετὰ τέκνων
and the his girls truly with children
 περιεπλέκοντο αὐτὸν, ἀπλήστως κατεφίλουν,
embraced him insatiably kissed
 καὶ χωρισθῆναι ἀπ' αὐτοῦ οὐκ ᾔθελον οὐδ' ὅλως.
and to-be-separated from him not they-wished not at-all
 Εἰς δὲ τὴν τένδαν φθάσαντες ἐκάθισαν εὐθέως,
Into and the tent having-arrived they-sat-down at-once
 καὶ λέγειν οὕτως ἤρξατο τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ ἡ μήτηρ·
and to-speak thus began of-the emir the mother
 «ὦ τέκνον μου γλυκύτατον, φῶς τῶν ἐμῶν ὀμμάτων,
O child my sweetest light of-the my eyes
 καὶ παραμύθιον ψυχῆς τῆς ἐμῆς ἐν τῷ γήρει,
and consolation of-soul the my in the old-age
 καὶ τερπνὸν ἀγαλλίαμα, ἡ ἐμὴ θυμηδία,
and delightful exultation the my delight
 εἰπέ μοι τί ἐβράδυνας, τέκνον, εἰς Ῥωμανίαν;
tell me why you-were-late child in Romania
 ἐγὼ γὰρ μὴ ὀρώσα σε οὐκ ᾔθελον φῶς βλέπειν,
I for not seeing you not I-wished light to-see

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οὐθ' ἥλιον τὸν λάμποντα, οὔτε ζῆν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ.

nor sun the shining nor to-live in the world

Μὴ θαύματα παράδοξα γίνονται εἰς Ῥωμανίαν

Not wonders strange happen in Romania

οἷα τελοῦνται, τέκνον μου, εἰς τὸ μνήμα τοῦ Προφήτου,

such-as are-performed child my at the tomb of-the Prophet

140 εἰς ὃ κατήλθες μετ' ἐμοῦ εἰς εὐχὴν ἀγομένης;

to which you-went-down with me to prayer being-led

Εἶδες θαῦμα παράδοξον πῶς, τῆς νυκτὸς παρουσίας

Did-you-see wonder strange how of-the night being-present

καὶ φωτὸς μὴ ὑπάρχοντος, φέγγος ἦλθεν ἐξ ὕψους

and of-light not being radiance came from height

καὶ ἀπορρήτως ἔπλησε φωτὸς τὸν ὅλον οἶκον;

and ineffably filled with-light the whole house

Εἶδες ἄρκτους καὶ λέοντας, λύκους μετὰ προβάτων,

Did-you-see bears and lions wolves with sheep

145 καὶ ζώων γένη πάμπολλα ὁμοῦ συμβοσκομένων,

and of-animals kinds very-many together grazing

μὴ βλάπτοντα τὸ ἕτερον τὸ ἕτερον οὐδ' ὅλως,

not harming the one the other not at-all

ἀλλὰ πάντα προσμένοντα μέχρις εὐχῆς καὶ τέλους,

but all waiting until prayer and end

εἰθ' οὕτως γόνυ κλίναντα εὐθὺς ὑποχωροῦσι;

then thus knee having-bent at-once withdraw

Μὴ τούτων θαυμαστότερον εἶδες εἰς Ῥωμανίαν;

Not than-these more-marvelous did-you-see in Romania

150 οὐ παρ' ἡμῖν τὸ Νέεσμα ὑπάρχει τὸ μαндіλιν

not with us — Neeuma is the kerchief

ὃς βασιλεὺς ἐγένετο μετὰ τῶν Ἀσσυρίων,

who king became with the Assyrians

καὶ, διὰ πλῆθος ἀρετῶν, θαυμάτων ἡξιώθη;
and because-of multitude of-virtues of-wonders was-deemed-worthy
 Πῶς τούτων πάντων, τέκνον μου, γέγονας παραβάτης,
How of-these all child my have-you-become transgressor
 ἀρχῆς δὲ κατεφρόνησας καὶ τῆς μεγίστης δόξης;
of-rule and you-despised and of-the greatest glory
 Οἱ πάντες σε ἐφρόντιζον τῆς Αἰγύπτου κρατῆσαι,
The all you were-intending — of-Egypt to-rule
 σὺν δὲ τύχης τῆς ἑαυτοῦ ἐμποδιστῆς ἐγένου,
you but of-fortune the your hinderer became
 διὰ μίαν Ῥωμάϊσσαν τὰ πάντα ἀπολέσας.»
because-of one Roman-woman the all having-lost
 Ἔτι δὲ λέγειν θέλουσα καὶ ἕτερα τοιαῦτα,
Still and to-say wishing also other such(-things)
 ἐκκόψας ὁ νεώτερος τῇ μητρὶ οὕτως λέγει·
having-cut-off the younger to-the mother thus says
 «τούτων πάντων, ὦ μῆτερ μου, καθέστηκα ἐν γνώσει·
of-these all O mother my I-am-established in knowledge
 μήπω φωτός τε μετασχών, ὥς ἀληθῶς ἐτίμων
not-yet of-light and having-partaken as truly I-honored
 τὰ σκότους ὄντως ἄξια καὶ πάσης ἀπωλείας·
the(-things) of-darkness really worthy and of-all perdition
 ἡνίκα δὲ ἠυδόκησε θεὸς ὁ ἐν ὑψίστοις,
when but was-well-pleased God the in highest
 ὁ δι' ἐμὲ ἐκούσιον πτωχείαν ὑπομείνας,
the because-of me voluntary poverty having-endured
 καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν ἀσθένειαν βουληθεὶς τοῦ φορέσαι,
and the my weakness having-willed of-the to-wear
 ἀφαρπάσαι τοῦ φάρυγγος τοῦ νοητοῦ θηρίου,
to-snatch from-the gullet of-the spiritual beast

155

160

165

καὶ τοῦ λουτροῦ ἡξίωσε τῆς παλιγγενεσίας,
and of-the bath deemed-worthy of-the regeneration

ταῦτα πάντα κατήργησα λήρους ὄντα καὶ μύθους
these all I-abolished nonsense being and myths

καὶ πρόξενα ὑπάρχοντα πυρὸς τοῦ αἰωνίου·
and procurers being of-fire the eternal

170 οἱ γὰρ σεβόμενοι αὐτὰ πάντοτε τιμωροῦνται,
those for revering them always are-punished

ὁ δὲ πιστεύων εἰς θεὸν πατέρα τῶν ἀπάντων,
he but believing in God father of-the all

ποιητὴν οὐρανοῦ καὶ γῆς καὶ ἀοράτων πάντων,
maker of-heaven and of-earth and of-invisible(-things) all

καὶ εἰς Χριστὸν τὸν κύριον, υἱὸν θεοῦ καὶ λόγον,
and in Christ the Lord son of-God and word

τὸν γεννηθέντα ἐκ πατρὸς πρὸ πάντων τῶν αἰώνων,
the having-been-begotten from father before all the ages

175 φῶς ἐκ φωτὸς ὑπάρχοντα, θεὸν ἀληθῆ, μέγαν,
light from light being God true great

τὸν κατελθόντα ἐπὶ γῆς δι' ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους,
the having-come-down upon earth because-of us the men

καὶ γεννηθέντα ἐκ μητρὸς Μαρίας τῆς παρθένου,
and having-been-born from mother Mary the virgin

τὸν ὑπομείναντα σταυρὸν δι' ἡμῶν σωτηρίαν,
the having-endured cross for our salvation

καὶ ταφέντα ἐν μνήματι ὃ καὶ αὐτὴ θαυμάζεις,
and having-been-buried in tomb which also yourself marvel-at

180 καὶ ἀναστάντα ἐκ νεκρῶν ἐν τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ,
and having-risen from dead on the third day

καθὼς ἡμᾶς διδάσκουσιν αἱ γραφαὶ αἱ ἅγιαι,
as us teach the scriptures the holy

τὸν αἰὲ καθεζόμενον τοῦ Πατρὸς δεξιόθεν,
the always seated of-the Father on-the-right
 οὗ βασιλείας τῆς αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔσται ποτὲ τέλος·
of-whom of-kingdom the his not will-be ever end
 καὶ εἰς Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον ζωοποιοῦν τὰ πάντα,
and in Spirit the holy giving-life-to the all
 ὃ προσκυνῶ σὺν τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ καὶ Λόγῳ· 185
which I-worship with the Father and the Son and Word
 ἐν βάπτισμα ὁμολογῶν εἰς ἄφεσιν πταισμάτων,
one baptism confessing for forgiveness of-sins
 καὶ προσδοκῶ ἀνάστασιν πάντων τῶν τεθνεώτων,
and I-await resurrection of-all the dead
 ἐκάστου ἀνταπόδοσιν καὶ τῶν πλημμελημένων,
of-each requital also of-those having-sinned
 τῶν δὲ δικαίων ἄφεσιν, καθὼς περ ἐπηγγέλθη,
of-the and just forgiveness as-indeed was-promised
 ζωὴν τὴν ἀτελεύτητον τοῦ μέλλοντος αἰῶνος. 190
life the endless of-the coming age
 Πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ ἁγίᾳ Τριάδι,
Every the believing in very the holy Trinity
 καὶ βαπτισθεὶς εἰς ὄνομα τοῦ Πατρὸς τοῦ ἀνάρχου,
and baptized into name of-the Father the without-beginning
 καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ τοῦ ἐξ αὐτοῦ ἀχρόνως γεννηθέντος
and of-the Son the from him timelessly having-been-begotten
 καὶ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος τοῦ ζωοῦντος τὰ πάντα,
and of-the holy Spirit the giving-life-to the all
 οὐκ ἀπόλλυται πώποτε, ἀλλὰ ζῇ εἰς αἰῶνας. 195
not perishes ever but lives to ages
 Ὁ δὲ μὴ ταῦτα ἐγνωκώς, ὦ γλυκυτάτῃ μητρί,
He but not these(-things) having-known O sweetest mother

εἰς τὴν γέενναν τοῦ πυρὸς ἔσαεἰ τιμωρεῖται·

in the Gehenna of-the fire forever is-punished

κλαυθμὸς πολὺς ἐκεῖ ἐστι καὶ βρυγμὸς τῶν ὀδόντων.»

weeping much there is and gnashing of-the teeth

Ταῦτα εἰπὼν ὁ ἀμηνᾶς καὶ ὁδὸν ὑπανοίξας

These(-things) having-said the emir and way having-opened

200 τῆς ἀμωμότητος πίστεως τῇ μητρὶ οὕτως λέγει·

of-the blameless faith to-the mother thus says

«ἐγὼ, μήτερ, ἀπέρχομαι πάλιν εἰς Ῥωμανίαν,

I mother go-away again to Romania

τὴν πίστιν ἐπιβεβαιῶν τῆς ἁγίας Τριάδος,

the faith confirming of-the holy Trinity

οὐ γὰρ ἀντάξιός ἐστι μιᾶς ψυχῆς ὁ κόσμος·

not for worth is of-one soul the world

εἰ γὰρ πάντα κερδήσωμεν, ψυχὴν ζήμιωθῶμεν,

if for all we-gain soul we-forfeit

205 πάντως οὐδὲν τὸ ὄφελος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ,

altogether nothing the profit in that the hour

ὅταν θεὸς ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ἔλθῃ κρίναι τὸν κόσμον,

when God from heaven comes to-judge the world

καὶ παραστήσῃ ἅπαντας ἀποδώσοντάς λόγον·

and presents all about-to-render account

ὅταν φωνῆς ἀκούσωμεν πορευθῆναι λεγούσης

when voice we-hear to-go saying

εἰς τὸ πῦρ τὸ ἐξώτερον τὸ κεκατηραμένον,

into the fire the outer the accursed

210 εἰς αἰῶνα ἐσόμενοι μετὰ τοῦ διαβόλου,

to age about-to-be with the devil

ὥς προσταγμάτων τῶν αὐτοῦ ἀπειθεῖς γεγονότες·

as of-commands the his disobedient having-become

οἱ δέ γε ἐν Χριστῷ πιστεύοντες, ὡς θέμις,
those but at-least in Christ believing as is-right
 καὶ ἐντολὰς τηρήσαντες αὐτοῦ τὰς σεβασμίας,
and commandments having-kept his the venerable
 ὡς ἥλιος ἐκλάμψουσιν ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ
like sun will-shine-forth in that the hour

καὶ τῆς φωνῆς ἀκούσωσι τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ δεσπότου·
and the voice they-will-hear of-the good master

215

«δεῦτε κληρονομήσατε, Πατὴρ εὐλογημένοι,
come inherit of-Father blessed

ἦν ὑμῖν προητοίμασα οὐρανῶν βασιλείαν.»
which for-you I-prepared-beforehand of-heavens kingdom

Καὶ οὗτοι μὲν πορεύονται εἰς ζωὴν αἰωνίαν·
And these indeed will-go into life eternal

κριτῆς γὰρ δίκαιός ἐστιν ἀξίως ἀποδίδων.
judge for just he-is worthily repaying

Καὶ εἴπερ βούλει, μήτηρ μου, ζωῆς ἀξιωθῆναι,
And if-indeed you-wish mother my of-life to-be-deemed-worthy

220

λυτρωθῆναι τε τοῦ πυρὸς καὶ σκοτόους αἰωνίου,
to-be-redeemed and from-the fire and darkness eternal

πλάνης ματαίας ἔκφυγε καὶ πεπλασμένων μύθων,
from-error vain flee and from-fabricated myths

καὶ τὸν θεὸν ἐπίγνωθι τὸν ἐν τρισὶ προσώποις,
and — God recognize the in three persons

ἀσυγχύτως ἐνούμενον ἐν μιᾷ ὑποστάσει·
unconfusedly united in one substance

πέισθητι δὲ τῷ σῷ υἱῷ καὶ ἐλθὲ μετ' ἐμέναν,
be-persuaded and by-the your son and come with me

225

πατὴρ δέ σου γενήσομαι ἐν Πνεύματι ἁγίῳ,
father and your I-will-become in Spirit holy

καὶ βαπτισθεῖσαν δέξομαι ἐν τῇ ἀναγεννήσει.»

and baptized I-will-receive in the rebirth

Τοιαῦτα μὲν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τῆς δὲ μητρὸς, ὅποια

Such(-things) indeed the emir of-the and mother such-as

οὐ παρητήσατο παιδὸς συμβουλὴν τὴν καλλίστην·

not refused of-son counsel the finest

230 ἀλλ', ὥσπερ γῇ τις ἀγαθὴ δεξαμένη τὸν σπόρον,

but like earth some good having-received the seed

εὐθὺς προσήγαγε καρπὸν, φθεγξαμένη τοιαῦτα·

at-once brought-forth fruit having-uttered such(-things)

«πιστεύω, τέκνον, διὰ σοῦ θεῷ τῷ ἐν Τριάδι,

I-believe child through you in-God the in Trinity

καὶ μετὰ σοῦ πορεύσομαι καλῶς εἰς Ῥωμανίαν·

and with you I-will-travel well to Romania

βαπτισθεῖσα εἰς ἄφεσιν τῶν πολλῶν μου σφαλμάτων,

baptized for forgiveness of-the many my errors

235 χάριν ὁμολογοῦσα τε διὰ σοῦ φωτισθῆναι.»

thanks confessing and through you to-have-been-enlightened

Ὡσαύτως καὶ οἱ συγγενεῖς οἱ ἐκεῖσε τυχόντες

Likewise also the kinsmen those there having-chanced

καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτῆς ἐλθόντες πολὺ πλῆθος

and the rest those with her having-come great multitude

μίαν φωνὴν ἀνέκραξαν Χριστὸν ὁμολογοῦντες·

one voice cried-out Christ confessing

«μεθ' ὑμῶν γὰρ ἐρχόμεθα πάντες εἰς Ῥωμανίαν,

with you for we-come all to Romania

240 καὶ βαπτισθέντες τύχομεν ζωῆς τῆς αἰωνίου!»

and baptized may-we-attain life the eternal

Καὶ θαυμάσας ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τὴν τούτων προθυμίαν·

And having-marveled-at the emir the their eagerness

«δόξα σοι, ἔφη, τῷ θεῷ τῷ μόνῳ φιλανθρώπῳ,
glory to-you he-said — to-God the only lover-of-mankind
 τῷ μὴ θέλοντι θάνατον ἁμαρτωλοῦ μηδ' ὅλως,
the not wishing death of-sinner not at-all
 ἀλλ' ἀναμένων τὴν εἰς σὲ ἐπιστροφὴν οἰκτιρμῶν,
but awaiting the to you turning compassionate
 ὥσάν ποιήσης κοινωνοὺς πάντας σῆς βασιλείας.»
so-that you-may-make sharers all of-your kingdom

245

IX · THE HOMECOMING

In Cappadocia the emir rides ahead in Roman dress to bring the news; his wife faints in his arms, and they rejoice. His mother and kin follow, are baptized, and are given part of the house. The child Digenis grows, gifted by God with a courage that amazes all.

Εἶτα πλοῦτον τὸν ἄπειρον μεθ' ἑαυτῶν λαβόντες,
Then wealth the boundless with themselves having-taken
 ὁμοῦ πάντες ἐξήλθασιν πρὸς τὰ τῆς Ῥωμανίας.
together all went-out toward the(-parts) — of-Romania
 Ὅτε δὲ καὶ κατέλαβον Καππαδοκίας μέρη,
When and also they-reached of-Cappadocia parts
 βουλευέται ὁ ἀμηνῶς τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ ἀγούρους·
takes-counsel-with the emir the his youths
 «ἔννοιά τις εἰσῆλθε μοι, ᾧ καλοὶ στρατιῶται,
thought a-certain entered me O fine soldiers
 τοῦ προλαβεῖν με ἑαυτὸν καὶ συγχαρίκια δοῦναι·
of-the to-go-ahead me myself and good-news to-give

250

εἰ γὰρ προλάβῃ ἕτερος, πάντως κατηγοροῦμαι

if for goes-ahead another altogether I-am-accused

ὥς ὀκνηρὸς καὶ ῥάθυμος παρὰ τῆς ποθητῆς μου.»

as sluggish and slothful by the beloved my

Οἱ δὲ ἀνταπεκρίθησαν καλὸν τοῦτο ποιῆσαι,

They and answered fine this to-do

255 ἄξιον γὰρ ἐρωτικὴν ἐκπληρῶσαι ἀγάπην.

worthy for erotic to-fulfill love

Ἐκεῖνος δὲ τὸ βούλευμα καλῶς ἐπινόησας,

He and the plan well having-devised

ἤμειψε τὴν στολὴν εὐθὺς, περιβαλὼν ῥωμαίαν,

changed the garment at-once having-put-on Roman

θαυμαστὸν ἐπιλούρικον, χρυσὸν ῥεραντισμένον,

marvelous over-tunic gold sprinkled

ὀξέον, λευκοτρίβλαττον, γρύψους ὠραισμένους,

purple white-triple-dyed-purple griffins adorned

260 φακεῶλι χρυσόγραμμα, πολυτίμητον, ἄσπρον·

turban gold-lettered much-prized white

μοῦλαν ἐκαβαλλίκευσε βάδεαν, ἀστεράτην·

mule he-rode bay star-marked

καὶ τρεῖς λαβὼν μεθ' ἑαυτοῦ τῶν ἰδίων ἀγούρων,

and three having-taken with himself of-the own youths

καὶ, τὸ τοῦ λόγου, πετασθεὶς ἔφθασεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον,

and the of-the saying having-flown reached to the house

καὶ ἔβαλεν εὐθὺς φωνὴν χαρᾶς ἐμπεπλησμένην·

and he-cast at-once voice of-joy filled

265 «περιστερά μου πάντερπνε, δέξαι τὸ σὸν γεράκι,

dove my all-delightful receive the your hawk

καὶ παραμύθησον αὐτὸ ἀπὸ τῆς ξενιτείας!»

and console it from the sojourn-abroad

Καὶ διὰ ταύτην τὴν φωνὴν αἱ βάργαι παρακύπτουν,
And because-of this the voice the nurses peep-out

καὶ, ὡς τοῦτον ἐσκέψαντο, τὴν κυρὰν οὕτω λέγουν·
and as him they-saw to-the lady thus they-say
 «χαίροις, χαίροις, αὐθέντρια· ὁ αὐθέντης μας ἦλθεν.»
rejoice rejoice lady the lord our has-come

Ἐκείνη δὲ ὡς ἄπιστον ἐλογίζετο τοῦτο 270
She but as incredible reckoned this

(ὁ γὰρ τυχὼν αἰφνίδιον τοῦ ἐπιθυμουμένου
he for having-met suddenly the desired
 ὄναρ δοκεῖ φαντάζεσθαι ἀπὸ περιχαρείας),
dream thinks to-imagine from exceeding-joy
 καὶ πρὸς τὰς βάργας ἔλεγε· «φαντάσματα ὀράτε;»
and to the nurses she-said phantoms do-you-see

Ἔτι δὲ λέγειν θέλουσα καὶ πλείονα τοιαῦτα,
Still and to-say wishing also more such(-things)
 ὡς εἶδε τὸν νεώτερον ἐξαίφνης ἀνελθόντα, 275
as she-saw the younger suddenly having-come-up

λίαν ὠλιγοψύχησεν εἰς ἑκπληξιν ἐλθούσα,
greatly she-fainted into amazement having-come
 καὶ χείρας περιπλέξασα τὰς αὐτῆς τῷ τραχήλῳ
and hands having-twined the her round-the neck
 ἀπεκρεμάσθη ἄφωνος, δάκρυα μὴ κινούσα.
she-hung voiceless tears not stirring

Ὡσαύτως καὶ ὁ ἀμηνῶς γέγονεν ὥσπερ ἔνθους,
Likewise also the emir became as-if possessed
 καὶ τὴν κόρην περιλαβὼν καὶ βαλὼν εἰς τὸ στήθος, 280
and the girl having-embraced and having-put to the breast
 συμπεπλεγμένοι ἔμειναν ἐπὶ πολλὰς τὰς ὥρας.
intertwined they-remained for many the hours

Καὶ, εἰ μὴ ἡ στρατήγισσα ἔβρεχε τούτους ὕδωρ,
And if not the general's-wife sprinkled them (with)-water

εἰς γῆν ἂν ἔπεσον εὐθὺς ἀπ' ὀλιγοθυμίας.
to earth — they-would-have-fallen at-once from faintness

Ἀγάπη γὰρ ὑπέρμετρος γεννᾷ πολλὰ τοιαῦτα
Love for excessive begets many such(-things)

285 καὶ χαρὰ ὑπερβάλλουσα εἰς θάνατον ἀπάγει,
and joy surpassing to death leads

ὥς καὶ αὐτοὶ παρὰ μικρὸν ἔμελλον ὑποσθῆναι.
as also they by little were-about to-undergo

Μόλις δὲ ἡδυνήθησαν αὐτοὺς ἀποχωρίσαι·
Barely and they-were-able them to-separate

ἐφίλει γὰρ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τῆς κόρης,
kissed for the emir the eyes of-the girl

περιεπλέκετο αὐτὴν, μεθ' ἡδονῆς ἠρώτα·
embraced her with pleasure asked

290 «πῶς ἔχεις, φῶς μου τὸ γλυκὺ, πάντερπνόν μου δαμάλιν;
how do-you-fare light my the sweet all-delightful my heifer

πῶς ἔχεις, φίλτατε ψυχῇ, ἐμὴ παραμυθία,
how do-you-fare dearest soul my consolation

περιστερὰ μου πάντερπνε, πανώραιόν μου δένδρον,
dove my all-delightful most-beautiful my tree

μετὰ τοῦ σου ἀνθήματος, τέκνου τοῦ παμποθήτου;»
with the your blossom child the all-longed-for

Ἡ κόρη δ' ἀνανεοῦσα τὸν ἔρωτα ἐκ πόθου,
The girl and renewing the love from longing

295 τοιαῦτα πρὸς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν ἐφθέγγετο γλυκέως·
such(-things) to the emir uttered sweetly

«καλῶς ἦλθες, ἐλπίς ἐμὴ, ἀναψυχὴ τοῦ βίου,
well you-have-come hope my refreshment of-the life

μεγίστη μου ἀντίληψις, ψυχῆς μου θυμηδία,
greatest my succor of-soul my delight
 τὰ γὰρ ἡμέτερα καλῶς τῇ τοῦ θεοῦ δυνάμει,
the for ours well by-the — of-God power
 τοῦ ἡμᾶς ἀξιώσαντος θεάσασθαι ἀλλήλους·
of-the us having-deemed-worthy to-behold one-another
 εἰπὲ καὶ σὺ, αὐθέντα μου, τὰ περὶ σοῦ πῶς ἔχουν.» 300
tell also you lord my the(-things) about you how they-fare
 «Πάντα καλῶς, ἀντέφησε, χάριτι τοῦ Χριστοῦ μου,
All well he-answered by-grace — of-Christ my
 τοῦ καρδίας φωτίσαντος μητρὸς καὶ συγγενῶν μου
of-the hearts having-enlightened of-mother and of-kinsmen my
 καὶ ὁδηγήσαντος αὐτοὺς πρὸς φῶς θεογνωσίας,
and having-guided them toward light of-knowledge-of-God
 οὓς μετ' ὀλίγον ὄψεσθε ἐρχομένους ἐνταῦθα.»
whom after little you-will-see coming here
 Εἶτα καὶ τέκνον τὸ αὐτοῦ λαβὼν εἰς τὰς ἀγκάλας, 305
Then also child the his having-taken into the arms
 τοιαῦτα ἀπεφθέγγετο ἐκ βάθους τῆς καρδίας·
such(-things) he-uttered from depth of-the heart
 «πότε, γεράκιν μου καλὸν, τὰς πτέρυγας ἀπλώσεις,
when hawk my fine the wings will-you-spread
 καὶ κυνηγήσεις πέρδικα, ληστάδας ὑποτάξεις;»
and you-will-hunt partridge robbers you-will-subdue
 Καὶ ταῦτα μὲν ὁ ἀμηνῶς τὸ παιδίον ἐλάλει.
And these(-things) indeed the emir to-the child spoke
 Ἐλευσιν δὲ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ πάντες ἀναμαθόντες, 310
Arrival and the his all having-learned
 εἰς τοὺς οἴκους ἀπέτρεχον εἰπεῖν τὰ συχαρίκια·
to the houses ran-off to-tell the good-news

καὶ γέγονε πολλή χαρὰ, ἀμήχανον τὸ λέγειν·
and became much joy impossible the to-tell

καὶ χοροὺς συστησάμενοι χορείας ἐποιοῦντο.
and dances having-formed dancings they-made

Ἐν τῇ χαρᾷ πάλιν χαρὰ ἐπέρχεται ἑτέρα,
In the joy again joy comes-upon other

315 ἦλθε γάρ τις τὴν τῆς μητρὸς ἄφιξιν ἐπαγγέλλων·
came for someone the of-the mother arrival announcing

καὶ ἦν ἰδεῖν πάντας ὁμοῦ, ἄνδρας τε καὶ γυναῖκας,
and it-was to-see all together men both and women

ἐξελθόντας εἰς ἀπαντὴν μετὰ τῆς στρατηγίσσης,
having-gone-out to meeting with the general's-wife

ὥστε μὴ σῶζειν εὐχερῶς τούτους ἀπαριθμῆσαι.
so-as not to-manage easily them to-count

Ὅντως θαῦμα παράδοξον ἔργον ὀρθῆς ἀγάπης·
Truly wonder strange work of-right love

320 τίς τοῦτο μὴ καταπλαγῇ; τίς μὴ θαυμάσῃ μᾶλλον,
who this not would-be-astounded who not would-marvel rather

καὶ καταμάθῃ ἀκριβῶς ἔρωτος τὰς δυνάμεις,
and would-learn exactly of-love the powers

πῶς ἄλλοφύλους ἥνωσεν, εἰς μίαν φέρων πίστιν;
how foreigners it-united into one bringing faith

Καὶ πλησίον γενόμενοι ἐπέζευον εὐθέως
And near having-come they-dismounted at-once

καταμανθάνοντες αὐτοὺς, ἀκριβῶς ἐρωτῶντες·
observing them exactly asking

325 ἡ νύμφη μὲν τὴν πενθερὰν καὶ τοὺς λοιποὺς ἰδίους,
the bride indeed the mother-in-law and the rest own(-people)

ἡ δὲ τοὺς συγγενεῖς αὐτῆς χαίρουσα κατεφίλει·
she and the kinsmen her rejoicing kissed

αἱ φάραι χρεμετίζουσαι ἔχαιρον σὺν ἀλλήλαις,
the chargers neighing rejoiced with one-another

καὶ χαρὰ πᾶσι γέγονε μείζω τῆς προλαβούσης·
and joy to-all became greater than-the preceding

Εἰς δὲ τὸν οἶκον φθάσαντες, γάμους εὐθὺς ποιοῦσι·
Into and the house having-arrived wedding at-once they-make

καὶ τὴν μητέρα τὴν αὐτοῦ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς βαπτίσας, 330
and the mother the his the emir having-baptized

αὐτὸς ταύτην ἐδέξατο ἐν τῇ ἀναγεννήσει,
he her received in the rebirth

ὡσαύτως καὶ τοὺς συγγενεῖς τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ ἐλθόντας·
likewise also the kinsmen those with him having-come

καὶ πατὴρ πάντων γέγονεν ἐν Πνεύματι ἁγίῳ.
and father of-all he-became in Spirit holy

Ἡ χαρὰ δὲ ἐπηύξανε ἡ πάνδημος ἐκείνη·
The joy and increased the public that

ἔχαιρε γὰρ ἐπὶ μητρὶ υἱὸς τῇ πιστευσάσῃ, 335
rejoiced for over mother son the having-believed

ἡ δὲ μήτηρ εὐφραίνετο ἐπὶ υἱῷ φιλάτῳ.
the and mother was-glad over son dearest

Μέρος δέ τι ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τοῦ οἴκου ἀφορίσας,
Part and some the emir of-the house having-set-apart

συγγενεῦσιν ἀπένευμεν ἐνδιαίτημα ἔχειν.
to-kinsmen assigned dwelling to-have

Τὸ δὲ παιδίον ἡὔξανε ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης,
The and child grew — Digenis Akritas

χάρισμα ἔχων ἐκ θεοῦ παράδοξον ἀνδρείας, 340
gift having from God strange of-courage

ὥστε πάντας ἐκπλήττεσθαι τοὺς αὐτὸν καθορῶντας,
so-that all to-be-astounded those him beholding

καὶ θαυμάζειν τὴν σύνεσιν καὶ τὴν γενναίαν τόλμην.

and to-marvel-at the understanding and the noble daring

Φήμη δὲ ἦν περὶ αὐτοῦ εἰς ἅπαντα τὸν κόσμον.

Fame and was about him into all the world

BOOK IV

X · AKRITAS' BOYHOOD

The fourth book opens with a reflection on love and longing and with Digenis' lineage on both sides. After three years of lessons the boy turns to riding and hunting with his father. At twelve he begs to fight beasts; his father warns that he is too young, then yields to his eagerness.

Ἀνδραγαθίαι ἄρχονται ἐντεῦθεν τοῦ Ἀκρίτου,

Brave-deeds begin from-here — of-Akritas

καὶ πῶς τὴν κόρην ἤρπαξε τὴν πάγκαλον ἐκείνην

and how the girl he-carried-off the all-fair that

καὶ περὶ γάμου τοῦ αὐτοῦ λόγος τέταρτος ἔστιν.

and about wedding the his book fourth is

Καὶ εὐθὺς περὶ ἔρωτος ὑμᾶς ἀναμνησκῶ.

And at-once about love you I-remind

5 ῥίζα γὰρ οὗτος καὶ ἀρχὴ κατέστηκεν ἀγάπης,

root for this and beginning is-established of-love

ἐξ ἧς φιλία τίκτεται, εἶτα γεννᾶται πόθος,

from which friendship is-born then is-begotten longing

ὃς αὐξηθεὶς κατὰ μικρὸν φέρει καρπὸν τοιοῦτον·

which having-grown by little bears fruit such

μερίμνας μὲν διηνεκεῖς, ἐννοίας καὶ φροντίδας,

cares indeed continual thoughts and anxieties

εὐθύς κινδύνους παμπληθεῖς καὶ χωρισμὸν γονέων.

at-once dangers numberless and separation of-parents

Νεότης γὰρ ἀκμάζουσα καρδίας ἀνασπάει,

Youth for flourishing hearts tears-up

εἶτα πάντα κατατολμᾷ τῶν ἀνεπιχειρήτων·

then all dares of-the unattempted

θαλάττης μὲν ἐφίκεσθαι, πῦρ μὴδ' ὅλως πτοεῖσθαι·

sea indeed to-reach fire not at-all to-be-terrified

δράκοντας δὲ καὶλέοντας καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ θηρία

dragons and and lions and the other beasts

οὐδοτιοῦν λογίζεται στερεωθείς ὁ πόθος

nothing-whatever it-reckons strengthened the longing

καὶ τοὺς ληστὰς τοὺς τολμηροὺς ἀντ' οὐδενὸς ἡγεῖται,

and the robbers the daring in-place-of nothing it-considers

νύκτας ἡμέρας προσδοκᾷ καὶ τὰς κλεισούρας κάμπους,

nights days it-deems and the passes plains

ἀγρυπνίαν ἀνάπαυσιν, καὶ τὰ μακρὰν πλησίον·

wakefulness rest and the(-things) far near

πολλοὶ καὶ πίστιν τὴν αὐτῶν ἀρνοῦνται διὰ πόθον.

many also faith the their deny because-of longing

Καὶ τοῦτο μὴδεὶς ἄπιστον ἐξ ὑμῶν λογισθήτω,

And this no-one incredible of you let-reckon

μάρτυρα γὰρ ἐπαινετὸν εἰς μέσον παραστήσω

witness for praiseworthy into middle I-will-set-forth

ἀμνηρᾶν τὸν πανεύγενον καὶ πρῶτον τῆς Συρίας,

(the)-emir the all-noble and first — of-Syria

ὃς εἶχε κάλλη πάντερπνα καὶ τόλμην θηριώδη,

who had beauties all-delightful and daring beastlike

καὶ μέγεθος πανθαύμαστον, ἰσχὺν γενναιοτάτην,

and stature all-marvelous strength most-noble

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- καὶ μᾶλλον δεύτερος Σαμψὼν αὐτὸς ἐπεινόθη·
and rather second Samson he was-deemed
- 25 ἐκεῖνος γὰρ ἡρίστευσε χερσὶ λέοντα σχίσας,
that-one for excelled with-bands lion having-split
 οὗτος δὲ πλῆθος ἄπειρον ἀπέκτεινε λεόντων.
this-one but multitude boundless killed of-lions
- Πάυσασθε γράφει Ὅμηρον καὶ μύθους Ἀχιλλέως
Stop writing Homer and myths of-Achilles
 ὡσαύτως καὶ τοῦ Ἑκτορος, ἅπερ εἰσὶ ψευδέα.
likewise also — of-Hector which are false
- Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ Μακεδὼν δυνατὸς ἐν φρονήσει,
Alexander the Macedonian mighty in prudence
- 30 θεὸν τε ἔχων συνεργὸν γέγονε κοσμοκράτωρ.
God and having fellow-worker became world-ruler
 Αὐτὸς δὲ φρόνημα στερρὸν ἔχων θεὸν ἐπέγνω,
He and spirit firm having God recognized
 ἐκέκτητο καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἀνδρείαν τε καὶ τόλμην.
he-had-acquired also with it courage both and daring
- Φιλοπαπποῦ τοῦ γέροντος, Κιννάμου καὶ Ἰωαννάκη
Of-Philopappous the old-man of-Kinnamos and of-Ioannakes
 οὐδ' ὅλως ἔστιν ἄξιαν τὰ αὐτῶν καταλέγειν,
not at-all is worthy the(-things) their to-recount
- 35 οἳτοι γὰρ ἐκαυχήσαντο μηδὲν πεποιηκότες·
these for boasted nothing having-done
 τούτου δὲ πάντα ἀληθῆ καὶ μεμαρτυρημένα.
of-this-one but all true and attested
- Ἄμβρων ὑπῆρχεν ὁ παππὺς, θεῖος τοῦ ὁ Καρόης·
Ambron was the grandfather uncle his — Karoes
 διαλεκτοὺς τὸν ἔδωκαν τρισχιλίους κονταράτους,
chosen to-him they-gave three-thousand spear-men

πάσαν Συρίαν ὑπέταξεν, ἐπίασε τὸ Κουῤφερ·

all Syria be-subjected be-seized — Kouphar

εἰθ' οὕτως ἐν τοῖς μέρεσιν ἦλθε τῆς Ῥωμανίας,

then thus into the parts he-came — of-Romania

κάστρα πολλὰ ἐκούρσευσε, χώραν τοῦ Ἡρακλέος,

fortresses many he-raided land — of-Herakles

Χαρζιανὴν ἐπραΐδευσε καὶ τὴν Καππαδοκίαν·

Charziane be-plundered and — Cappadocia

κόρην τερπνὴν ἀφήρπαξεν εὐγενὴ τῶν Δουκάδων,

girl delightful be-carried-off noble of-the Doukai

διὰ κάλλος τὸ θαυμαστὸν καὶ τερπνὴν ἡλικίαν,

because-of beauty the marvelous and delightful stature

τὰ πάντα ἀρνησάμενος πίστιν ὁμοῦ καὶ δόξαν,

the all having-denied faith together and glory

καὶ γέγονε χριστιανὸς ὀρθόδοξος διὰ ταύτην·

and became Christian orthodox because-of her

καὶ ὃ ποτε πολέμος δοῦλος ὤφθη Ῥωμαίων.

and who once enemy slave was-seen of-Romans

Ἐξ ὧν παιδίον τίκτεται περικαλλὲς τῷ ὄντι,

From whom child is-born very-beautiful in-the being

καὶ ἐξ αὐτῆς γεννήσεως Βασίλειος ἐκλήθη·

and from very birth Basil was-called

λέγεται δὲ καὶ Διγενὴς ὡς ἀπὸ τῶν γονέων,

is-called and also Digenis as from the parents

ἐθνικὸς μὲν ἀπὸ πατρὸς, ἐκ δὲ μητρὸς Ῥωμαῖος·

heathen indeed from father from and mother Roman

φοβερὸς δὲ γενόμενος, ὡς ὁ λόγος δηλώσει,

fearsome and having-become as the account will-show

Ἀκρίτης ὀνομάζεται τὰς ἄκρας ὑποτάξας.

Akritas is-named the frontiers having-subdued

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Τούτου πάππος Ἀντάκινος ἀπὸ τῶν Κινναμάδων,
Of-this-one grandfather Antakinos from the Kinnamades

55 ὃς τέθνηκεν ἐξόριστος προστάξει βασιλέως
who died exiled by-command of-emperor

Βασιλείου τοῦ εὐτυχοῦς, ἀκρίτου τοῦ μεγάλου·
of-Basil the fortunate borderer the great

πολὺς ὢν κλῆρος ἐν αὐτῷ καὶ ἀνείκαστος δόξα
much being lot in him and incomparable glory

μέγας μὲν ἐφημίζετο στρατηγὸς παρὰ πάντων·
great indeed he-was-famed general by all

μάμμη δὲ ἡ στρατήγισσα εὐγενὴς τῶν Δουκάδων·
grandmother and the general's-wife noble of-the Doukai

60 θείους εἶχε τοὺς θαυμαστοὺς ἀδελφοὺς τῆς μητρός του,
uncles he-had the marvelous brothers of-the mother his

οἳ καὶ ἐμονομάχησαν διὰ τὴν ἀδελφὴν των
who also fought-in-single-combat because-of the sister their

τὸν ἀμυρᾶν τὸν θαυμαστὸν τὸν ἑαυτοῦ πατέρα.
the emir the marvelous the his father

Οὗτος ἐβλάστησε φυλῆς ἐξ εὐγενῶν Ῥωμαίων,
This-one sprouted of-tribe from noble Romans

καὶ γέγονε περίβλεπτος εἰς τὰς ἀνδραγαθίας.
and became admired in the brave-deeds

65 Ἦδη λοιπὸν ἀρξώμεθα τὰ αὐτοῦ καταλέγειν.
Now then let-us-begin the(-things) his to-recount

Οὗτος τοίνυν ὁ θαυμαστὸς Βασίλειος Ἀκρίτης
This-one therefore the marvelous Basil Akritas

παιδόθεν εἰς καθηγητὴν παρὰ πατρός ἐδόθη·
from-childhood to teacher by father was-given

καὶ τρεῖς ὅλους ἐνιαυτοὺς μαθήμασι σχολάσας,
and three whole years in-lessons having-devoted-himself

τῇ τοῦ νοὸς ὀξύτητι πλῆθος ἔσχε γραμμάτων·

by-the of-the mind sharpness multitude had of-letters

ἐντεῦθεν ἵππηλάσια καὶ κυνηγεῖν ποθήσας,

thereafter riding and to-hunt having-longed

μετὰ πατρὸς ἐσχόλαζε καθ' ἐκάστην ἐν τούτοις.

with father he-devoted-himself by each(-day) in these(-things)

Μιᾷ τοίνυν τῶν ἡμερῶν, τὸν πατέρα του λέγει·

On-one therefore of-the days to-the father his he-says

«πόθος, αὐθέντα καὶ πατῆρ, ἐσέβη εἰς τὴν ψυχὴν μου

longing lord and father has-entered into the soul my

τοῦ δοκιμάσαι ἑμαυτὸν εἰς θηρίων πολέμους·

of-the to-test myself in of-beasts fights

καὶ, εἴπερ ὅλως ἀγαπᾷς Βασίλειον υἱόν σου,

and if-indeed at-all you-love Basil son your

εἰς τόπον ὃς ἐξέλθωμεν ἔνθα εἰσὶ θηρία,

to place let us-go-out where are beasts

καὶ πάντως βλέψεις λογισμὸν αἰεὶ με ἐνοχλοῦντα.»

and altogether you-will-see thought always me troubling

Λόγους τοιούτους ὁ πατὴρ ἀκούων τοῦ φιλάτου,

Words such the father bearing of-the dearest

ἠγάλλετο τῷ πνεύματι, ἔχαιρε τῇ καρδίᾳ·

exulted in-the spirit rejoiced in-the heart

μετὰ πολλῆς τῆς ἡδονῆς τοῦτον ἐκατεφίλει·

with much the pleasure him kissed

«ὦ τέκνον ποθεινότατον, ὦ ψυχὴ καὶ καρδιά,

O child most-longed-for O soul and heart

θαυμαστοὶ μὲν οἱ λόγοι σου, γλυκεῖα καὶ ἡ γνώμη,

marvelous indeed the words your sweet also the mind

πλὴν οὐ παρέστηκεν καιρὸς τῆς θηριομαχίας·

but not has-come time of-the fighting-with-beasts

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- θηρίων γὰρ ὁ πόλεμος δεινότατος ὑπάρχει,
of-beasts for the war most-terrible is
- 85 καὶ σὺ παῖς δωδεκάχρονος ἢ βίσεξτος ὑπάρχεις,
and you boy twelve-year-old or leap-year you-are
 ἀνάξιος παντάπασι πολεμεῖν τὰ θηρία·
unworthy altogether to-fight the beasts
 μὴ, γλυκύτατον τέκνον μου, τοῦτο εἰς νοῦν ἐμβάλῃς·
not sweetest child my this into mind cast
 μηδὲ ρόδα σου τὰ καλὰ πρὸ καιροῦ ἐκτρυνγίῃς·
nor roses your the fine before season gather
 ὅταν δὲ, θέλοντος θεοῦ, ἀνὴρ τέλειος φθάσῃς,
when but willing God man perfect you-reach
- 90 τότε λοιπὸν λόγου ἐκτὸς πολεμεῖν τὰ θηρία.»
then indeed of-word without to-fight the beasts
 Καὶ ὥς ταῦτα ἀκήκοε τὸ εὐγενὲς παιδίον,
And as these(-things) heard the noble child
 ἐλυπήθη κατὰ πολὺν, ἐτρώθη τὴν καρδίαν·
he-was-grieved by much he-was-wounded the heart
 καὶ δακρύσας τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς λέγει πρὸς τὸν πατέρα·
and having-wept with-the eyes says to the father
 «εἰ μετὰ τὴν τελείωσιν ἀνδραγαθήσω, πάτερ,
if after the completion I-will-do-brave-deeds father
- 95 τί μοι ἐκ τούτου ὄφελος; τοῦτο πάντες ποιοῦσιν·
what to-me from this profit this all do
 ἄρτι ποθῶ δοξάσασθαι καὶ τὸ γένος λαμπρῦναι,
now I-long to-be-glorified and the race to-make-illustrious
 πληροφορῶ δὲ καὶ ἐσὲ τὸν ἐμὸν εὐεργέτην
I-assure and also you the my benefactor
 ὅτι δοῦλον θέλεις ἔχειν με ἀνδρειότατον, μέγαν,
that slave you-will have me most-brave great

καὶ συνεργὸν καὶ βοηθὸν εἰς πάντας τοὺς πολέμους.»

and fellow-worker and helper in all the wars

Καὶ κατένευσεν ὁ πατὴρ τῇ προθυμίᾳ τοῦ νέου·

And nodded-assent the father to-the eagerness of-the youth

φύσεως γὰρ τὸ εὐγενὲς ἐκ παιδότην προφαίνει.

of-nature for the noble from childhood shows-forth

100

XI · THE FIRST HUNT

With his father and his uncle Constantine, the boy, on foot and armed only with a mace, strangles a she-bear, breaks the male's neck, and tears a hind in two; then, with his sword, he splits a lion's head. The onlookers marvel at the deed, his father and uncle kiss him and praise his beauty, and his father bids him come and wash at the cold water.

Τῇ δὲ ἐπαύριον λαβὼν τὸν γυναικάδελφόν του

On-the and next-day having-taken the brother-in-law his

τὸν γεννηθέντα ὕστερον, τὸν χρυσὸν Κωνσταντῖνον,

the having-been-born last the golden Constantine

καὶ τὸν υἱὸν μεθ' ἑαυτοῦ Ἀκρίτην τὸν γεναῖον,

and the son with himself Akritas the noble

καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν ἀγούρων του τινὰς βαβαλλαρίους,

and from the youths his some horsemen

εἰς τὴν ἔλιν παρευθὺς ἐξῆλθον εἰς τὰ ἄλση·

into the marsh forthwith they-went-out into the groves

καὶ μακρόθεν ἐσκέψαντο ἄρκτους φοβερωτάτους·

and from-a-far they-saw bears most-fearsome

ἄρσεν καὶ θῆλυ ὑπήρχασιν ἀρκοπούλια δύο·

male and female they-were bear-cubs two

βάλλει φωνὴν ὁ θεῖος του· «Βασίλειε, ἄρτι ἃς ἶδω·

casts voice the uncle his Basil now let me-see

105

- 110 πλὴν τὸ ραβδὶν σου ἔπαρον, ξίφος μὴδὲν βαστάσης·
but the mace your take sword not carry
 ἄρκτους οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπαινετὸν πολεμεῖν μετὰ ξίφους.»
bears not is praiseworthy to-fight with sword
 Καὶ ἦν θαῦμα φρικτὸν ἰδεῖν καὶ ξένον τοῖς ὁρώσι·
And it-was wonder dreadful to-see and strange to-those seeing
 καὶ γὰρ φωνῆς ὡς ἤκουσε τοῦ θεοῦ τὸ παιδίον,
and for voice as heard of-the uncle the child
 παραντίκα ἐπέζευσε καὶ λύει τὸ ζωνάριον,
immediately dismounted and loosens the girdle
- 115 ἐκδύεται τὸ ὑπολούρικον, ἦτον πολὺς ὁ καύσων,
puts-off the under-tunic was much the heat
 καὶ τὰς ποδέας ὀχυρῶς πῆξας εἰς τὸ ζωνάριον,
and the skirts firmly having-fixed into the girdle
 καμηλαυκίτζιν χαμηλὸν βαλὼν εἰς τὸ κεφάλαιον,
little-cap low having-put on the head
 ὡς ἀστραπὴ ἐξεπήδησεν ἀπὸ περιστήθιου,
like lightning he-leapt-out from (the)-breastplate
 μὴδὲν ἐπιφερόμενος εἰ μὴ λιτὸν ραβδίτζιν,
nothing carrying if not plain little-mace
- 120 εἶχε δὲ δύναμιν πολλήν, ἀκολουθὸν τὸ τάχος·
had and power much following the speed
 καὶ πλησίον γενόμενοι ἔνθα ἦσαν οἱ ἄρκτοι,
and near having-become where were the bears
 προὔπαντᾷ τὸ θηλυκὸν φθονοῦν διὰ τὰ παιδιά,
goes-to-meet the female being-jealous because-of the cubs
 καὶ σφόδρα μυκησάμενον πρὸς ἐκείνον ἐξῆλθεν.
and greatly having-bellowed toward him went-out
 Ἐκεῖνος ὢν ἀπείραστος εἰς θηριομαχίαν,
He being untried in fighting-with-beasts

- οὐκ ἐγυρίσθη ὀπισθεν νὰ τοῦ δώσῃ ῥαβδέαν, 125
not turned behind that to-it he-might-give mace-blow
- ἀλλ' ἐπέσέβῃ σύντομα, ἐκ τὴν μέσῃν τὸ πιάνει,
but went-in swiftly by the middle it seizes
- καὶ σφίξας τοὺς βραχίονας εὐθὺς ἀπέπνιξέ τον·
and having-squeezed the arms at-once he-strangled it
- καὶ τὰ ἐντὸς ἐξήρχετο ἐκ τοῦ στόματος τούτου·
and the inside(-parts) came-out from the mouth of-it
- ἔφυγε δὲ τὸ ἀρσενικὸν εἰς τὴν ἑλιν ἀπέσω·
fled and the male into the marsh within
- Ὁ θεῖος του τὸν ἐφώνησε· «βλέπε, τέκνον, μὴ φύγη.» 130
The uncle his him called look child lest it-flee
- Κακεῖνος ἀπὸ τῆς σπουδῆς ἀφήκε τὸ ῥαβδίον του,
And-he from the haste let-go the mace his
- καὶ πετάσας ὡς αἰτὸς ἔφθασε τὸ θηρίον·
and having-flown like eagle overtook the beast
- ἡ ἄρκτος ἐστράφη πρὸς αὐτὸν στόμα χανοῦσα μέγα,
the bear turned toward him mouth having-gaped great
- καὶ ὤρμησε τὴν κεφαλὴν τοῦ παιδὸς ἐκλαφῦξαι.
and rushed the head of-the boy to-gulp-down
- Τὸ δὲ παιδίον σύντομα τὸ μάγουλόν του πιάνει 135
The and child swiftly the jaw its seizes
- καὶ τινάξας ἀπέκτεινε χαμαὶ βαλὼν τὸ θηρίον,
and having-shaken killed on-the-ground having-thrown the beast
- στρέψας τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ ἐξεσφονδύλισέ το,
having-twisted the neck its he-broke-the-neck-of it
- καὶ παρευθὺς ἀπέψυξεν εἰς τὰς χεῖρας τοῦ νέου.
and forthwith it-expired in the hands of-the youth

Ἐκ δὲ τῶν ἄρκτων τοὺς βρυγμοὺς καὶ

From and of-the bears the growls and

τῶν ποδῶν τοὺς κτύπους,

of-the feet the thuds

140 ἔλαφος ἐξεπήδησε μέσον τῆς παγαναίας·

hind leapt-out in-the-middle of-the hunting-ring

ὁ ἀμυρᾶς ἐλάλησε· «δέχου, τέκνον, ἐμπρός σου.»

the emir spoke receive child before you

Καὶ τοῦ πατρὸς ὡς ἤκουσεν, ὥσπερ πάρδος ἐξέβη,

And of-the father as he-heard like leopard he-went-out

καὶ εἰς ὀλίγα πηδήματα φθάνει τὴν ἐλαφίναν,

and in few leaps reaches the hind

καὶ τῶν ποδῶν δραξάμενος αὐτῆς τῶν ὀπισθίων,

and of-the feet having-grasped of-it of-the hinder

145 ἀποτινάξας ἔσχισε ταύτην εἰς δύο μέρη.

having-shaken he-split her into two parts

Τίς μὴ θαυμάσῃ μέγεθος θεοῦ τῶν χαρισμάτων,

Who not would-marvel-at greatness of-God of-the gifts

καὶ τὴν αὐτοῦ ἀσύγκριτον δύναμιν μεγαλύνῃ;

and the his incomparable power would-magnify

ὄντως ἔργον παράδοξον τὰς ἐννοίας ἐκπληττον

truly deed strange the thoughts astounding

πῶς τὴν ἔλαφον ἔφθασε παιδίον χωρὶς ἵππου,

how the hind overtook child without horse

150 πῶς τοὺς ἄρκτους ἐφόνευσε μηδὲν ἐν χερσὶν ἔχον,

how the bears he-slew nothing in hands having

ὄντως θεοῦ τὸ δῶρημα καὶ δεξιᾶς ὑψίστου.

truly of-God the gift and of-right-hand of-(the)-most-high

ᾧ πόδες ὠραιότατοι, ἐφάμιλλοι πτερύγων,

O feet most-beautiful rivals of-wings

οἱ δορκάδος νικήσαντες τὸ τάχος παραδόξως,
those of-gazelle having-conquered the speed strangely
 καὶ συντρίψαντες δύναμιν τῶν φοβερῶν θηρίων!
and having-crushed power of-the fearsome beasts

Ἄπερ ὁρῶντες οἱ ἐκεῖ τότε παρατυχόντες,

155

Which seeing those there then having-happened-by

τὸ θαῦμα ἐκπληττόμενοι ἔλεγον πρὸς ἀλλήλους·
the wonder being-astounded said to one-another

«θεοτόκε, τὸ θέαμα ὃ βλέπομεν εἰς τὸν νέον!
God-bearer the spectacle which we-see in the youth

οὐκ ἔστιν τοῦτος ἄνθρωπος ὥσπερ οἱ ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου·
not is this-one man like those of the world

ὁ θεὸς τοῦτον ἀπέστειλε διὰ τοὺς ἀνδρειωμένους,
— God this-one sent because-of the brave

νά τον βλέπουν πῶς χαίρεται, πῶς πολεμεῖ, πῶς τρέχει.» 160
that him they-see how he-rejoices how he-fights how he-runs

Ὡς δὲ ταῦτα ἐλέγασιν ὁ πατὴρ καὶ οἱ θεῖοι,
As and these(-things) they-said the father and the uncles

λέων ἐξέβη μέγιστος ἀπὸ τοῦ καλαμιῶνος
lion went-out greatest from the reed-bed

καὶ εὐθὺς περιστράφησαν ἰδεῖν τὸν ἀγουρίτζην,
and at-once they-turned-round to-see the young-lad

εἰς ἔλλην τον ἐσκέψαντο, σύρνοντα τὰ θηρία.
in marsh him they-saw dragging the beasts

Μὲ τὴν δεξιὰν ἔσυρνε γὰρ οὗς ἐφόνευσεν ἄρκτους,
With the right dragged for which he-slew bears

165

καὶ μετὰ τὴν ἀριστερὰν σύρει τὴν ἐλαφίνα.
and with the left drags the hind

Ὁ θεῖος του τὸν ἐλάλησεν· ἐλθὲ, τέκνον, ἐνθάδε·
The uncle his him spoke-to come child here

καὶ τὰ νεκρὰ κατάλειψον, ἔχομεν ἄλλα ζῶντα,

and the dead leave-behind we-have others living

ἐν οἷς καὶ δοκιμάζονται τῶν εὐγενῶν οἱ παῖδες.»

in which also are-tested of-the noble the boys

170 Ὁ παῖς ἀνταπεκρίνατο λέγων αὐτῷ τοιάδε·

The boy answered saying to-him such(-things)

«εἰ θέλημα θεοῦ ἐστι τοῦ εὐδοκοῦντος πάντα,

if will of-God it-is of-the being-well-pleased-in all

εἰ ἔχω τοῦ πατρὸς εὐχὴν καὶ τῆς καλῆς μητρός μου,

if I-have of-the father prayer and of-the fine mother my

νεκρὸν θεάσῃ καὶ αὐτὸν ὥσπερ τοὺς δύο ἄρκτους.»

dead you-will-behold also him like the two bears

Καὶ ὤρμησε ξίφος χωρὶς εἰς τὸν λέοντα ὑπάγειν.

And he-rushed sword without at the lion to-go

175 Καὶ λέγει τὸν ὁ θεῖος του· «ἔπαρον τὸ σπαθὶν σου·

And says to-him the uncle his take the sword your

οὗτος οὐκ ἔστιν ἔλαφος ἵνα τὸν σχίσῃς μέσον.»

this-one not is hind that him you-split in-the-middle

Εὐθὺς δὲ ὁ νεώτερος τοιόνδε λόγον ἔφη·

At-once and the younger such word said

«ὁ θεὸς οὐκ ἀδυνατεῖ, θεῖε μου καὶ αὐθέντα,

— God not is-unable uncle my and lord

παραδοῦναι εἰς χεῖρας μου καθάπερ καὶ ἐκεῖνον.»

to-hand-over into hands my just-as also that-one

180 Καὶ, τὸ σπαθὶν δραξάμενος, κινᾷ πρὸς τὸ θηρίον·

And the sword having-grasped he-moves toward the beast

ὅταν δὲ ἐπλησίασεν, ἀποπηδᾷ ὁ λέων,

when and he-drew-near leaps-back the lion

καὶ χαρζανίσας τὴν οὐρὰν ἔδερε τὰς πλευράς του,

and having-lashed the tail beat the flanks his

καὶ μέγα βρυχησάμενος εἰς τὸν νέον ἐξῆλθε.

and greatly having-roared at the youth went-out

Τὸ δὲ παιδίον τὸ σπαθὶν εἰς ὕψος ἀνατείνας

The and child the sword to height having-stretched

κρούει τον κατὰ κεφαλῆς πλήρης εἰς τὴν μεσίαν,

strikes him on head full on the middle

καὶ διεσχίσθη ἡ κεφαλὴ ἄχρι τῶν ὤμων κάτω.

and was-split the head as-far-as the shoulders down

Καὶ πρὸς τὸν θεῖον του ὁ Διγενὴς τοιόνδε λόγον ἔφη·

And to the uncle his — Digenis such word said

«ὄρᾱς, χρυσὲ αὐθέντα μου, θεοῦ τὰ μεγαλεῖα·

you-see golden lord my of-God the mighty-works

οὐ κεῖται ἄφωνος, νεκρὸς ὥσπερ οἱ δύο ἄρκτοι;»

not does-be-lie voiceless dead like the two bears

Καὶ κατεφίλησαν αὐτὸν ὁ πατὴρ καὶ ὁ θεῖος·

And kissed him the father and the uncle

χεῖρας τε καὶ βραχίονας, ὀμμάτια καὶ στῆθος·

hands both and arms eyes and breast

καὶ ἀμφοτέροι χαίροντες εἶπον αὐτῷ τοιάδε·

and both rejoicing said to-him such(-things)

«πᾶς ὁ βλέπων τὴν ἔμνοστον ἡλικίαν καὶ κάλλος

every the seeing the comely stature and beauty

τὸ σὸν, ὦ περιπόθητε, ὄντως οὐ μὴ ἀμφιβάλῃ,

the your O much-longed-for truly not — will-doubt

ἀλλὰ βεβαίως δέξεται τὰς σὰς ἀνδραγαθίας.»

but certainly will-accept the your brave-deeds

Εἶχε γὰρ ὁ νεώτερος εὖνοστον ἡλικίαν,

Had for the younger comely stature

κόμην ξανθὴν, ἐπίγουρον, ὀμμάτια μεγάλα,

hair fair curly eyes large

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195

πρόσωπον ἄσπρον, ῥοδινόν, κατάμαυρον ὀφρύδιν,

face white rosy jet-black eyebrow

καὶ στήθος ὥσπερ κρύσταλλον, ὀργυιὰν εἶχε τὸ πλάτος.

and breast like crystal fathom had the breadth

200 Τοῦτον ὁρῶν ἠγάλλετο ὁ πατήρ αὐτοῦ λίαν,

Him seeing exulted the father his greatly

καὶ χαίρων ἔλεγεν αὐτῷ μεθ' ἡδονῆς μεγάλης·

and rejoicing said to-him with pleasure great

ὅτι τὸ καῦμα ἔστι πολὺ, ἔνι καὶ μεσημέρην,

that the heat is much it-is also midday

καὶ τὰ θηρία κρύβονται ἀπάρτι εἰς τὴν ἔλιν·

and the beasts hide from-now-on in the marsh

καὶ δεῦρο ἄς ἀπέλθωμεν εἰς τὸ ψυχρὸν τὸ ὕδωρ,

and come let us-go-away to the cold the water

205 καὶ νύψον σου τὸ πρόσωπον ἐκ τῶν πολλῶν ἰδρώτων·

and wash your the face from the many sweats

ἀλλάξεις δὲ καὶ τὰ φορεῖς, εἰσὶ γὰρ μεμιασμένα

you-will-change and also the-(things) you-wear are for defiled

ἐκ τῶν θηρίων τοὺς ἀφροὺς καὶ λέοντος τὸ αἷμα·

from of-the beasts the foams and of-lion the blood

καὶ τρισμακάριστος ἐγὼ ἔχων τοιοῦτον παῖδα,

and thrice-blessed I having such boy

πλύνω δὲ καὶ τοὺς πόδας σου μὲ τὰς ἰδίας χεῖρας·

I-wash and also the feet your with the own hands

210 ἀπάρτι πᾶσαν μέριμναν ρίψω ἐκ τὴν ψυχὴν μου,

from-now-on every care I-throw from the soul my

νὰ εἰμὶ καὶ ἀφρόντιστος ἔνθα σε ἀποστείλω,

that I-may-be also free-of-care where you I-send

εἰς τε τὰ κούρη τὰ πολλὰ καὶ πολεμίων βίγλας.»

to both the raids the many and of-enemies watches

XII · THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER

After the hunt Digenis washes at a cold spring and rides home in rich clothes past the house of a great general, singing; the general's daughter hears him and, seeing him from her window, loves him. His father tells how the general has killed or blinded would-be abductors and refused every proposal. Digenis asks him to propose a match and speaks with the girl, who warns him of her father; he answers that no army can harm him once her love is in him.

Καὶ παρευθὺς ἀμφοτέρου εἰς τὴν πηγὴν ἀπῆλθον,

And forthwith both to the spring went-away

ἦν δὲ τὸ ὕδωρ θαυμαστὸν, ψυχρὸν ὡς τὸ χιόνιν·

was and the water marvelous cold like the snow

καὶ καθεστέντες γύρωθεν, οἱ μὲν ἔνιπτον χεῖρας,

and having-sat round-about some indeed washed hands

οἱ δὲ τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ, ὁμοίως καὶ τοὺς πόδας.

others and the face his likewise also the feet

Ἔρρεεν ἔξω τῆς πηγῆς καὶ ἔπινον ἀπλήστως,

It-flowed outside of-the spring and they-drank insatiably

ὡς ἂν ἐκ τούτου γένωνται κακῆνοι ἀνδρειωμένοι.

that — from this may-become those-too made-brave

Ἀλλάξε δὲ καὶ τὸ παιδὶν τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἐσθῆτα,

Changed and also the child the his garment

βάλλει στενὰ μοχλόβια διὰ τὸ καταψυχῆσαι,

puts-on narrow light-tunics for the to-cool

τὸ μὲν ἐπάνω κόκκινον μὲ τὰς χρυσὰς τὰς ῥίζας,

the indeed outer red with the gold the hems

αἱ δὲ ῥίζαι του χυμευταὶ μετὰ μαργαριτάρων,

the and hems his enameled with pearls

τὸν τράχηλόν του γεμιστὸν ἄβαρ ὁμοῦ καὶ μόσχον,

the neck its filled ambergris together and musk

215

220

- 225 τρανὰ μαργαριτάρια εἶχεν ἀντὶ κομβίων,
 large pearls he-had instead-of buttons
 τὰ δὲ θηλύκια στρεπτὰ ἐκ καθαροῦ χρυσοῦ,
 the and loops twisted of pure gold
 τουβία ἐφόρει ἐξάκουστα, γρύψους ὠραϊσμένους,
 leggings he-wore famous griffins adorned
 τὰ περνιστήρια πλεκτὰ μετὰ λίθων τιμίων,
 the spurs woven with stones precious
 ἐπὶ τῶν ἔργων τῶν χρυσῶν εἶχε λυχνίτας λίθους.
 on the works the gold he-had lamp-bright stones
 Πάμπολλα δὲ ἐσπούδαζε τὸ εὐγενὲς παιδίον
 Very-much and was-eager the noble child
 230 εἰς τὴν μητέρα ἀπελθεῖν μὴ δι' αὐτὸν λυπῆται,
 to the mother to-go-away lest because-of him she-grieve
 καὶ ἡνάγκαζεν ἅπαντας εἰς τὸ καβαλλικεῦσαι.
 and he-compelled all to the to-ride
 Ἴππον ἐμετεσέλλισεν ἄσπρον ὡς περιστέρην,
 Horse he-saddled-anew white like dove
 πλεκτὸς ἦτον ὁ σγόρδος του μετὰ λίθων τιμίων,
 woven was the mane his with stones precious
 καὶ κωδωνίτζια χρυσὰ μέσον τῶν λιθαρίων·
 and little-bells golden middle of-the little-stones
 235 πάμπολλα κωδωνίτζια, καὶ ἦχος ἐτελεῖτο
 very-many little-bells and sound was-made
 ἐνήδονος καὶ θαυμαστὸς, πάντας ὑπερεκπλήττων·
 pleasing and marvelous all astounding
 πράσινον, ρόδιον βλαττὴν εἶχεν εἰς τὸ καπούλιν,
 green rosy silk he-had on the crupper
 καὶ τὴν σέλλαν ἐσκέπαζε νὰ μὴ κονιορτοῦται·
 and the saddle it-covered that not it-be-dusted

τὸ σελλοχάλινον πλεκτὸν μετὰ χρυσῶν σβερνίδων,
the saddle-and-bridle woven with gold rings

τὰ ὅλα ἔργα χυμευτὰ μετὰ μαργαριτάρων.

the whole works enameled with pearls

240

Ἦτον ὁ ἵππος τολμηρὸς καὶ θρασὺς εἰς τὸ παίζειν,

Was the horse daring and bold in the to-play

τὸ δὲ παιδίον εὖθιον εἰς τὸ καβαλλικεύειν·

the and child well-bred in the to-ride

πᾶς ὁ βλέπων ἐθαύμαζε τὸν ἄγουρον ἐκείνον,

every the(-one) seeing marveled-at the youth that

πῶς μὲν ὁ ἵππος ἔπαιζε κατὰ γνώμην τοῦ νέου,

how indeed the horse played according-to mind of-the youth

πῶς δὲ αὐτὸς ἐκάθητο ὥσπερ μῆλον εἰς δένδρον.

how and he sat like apple on tree

245

Καὶ ὥρμησαν τοῦ ἀπελθεῖν εἰς τὸν ἴδιον οἶκον·

And they-set-out of-the to-go-away to the own house

οἱ μὲν ἄγουροι ἔμπροσθεν κατὰ τάξιν ὑπάγουν,

the indeed youths in-front in order go

ἀπ' αὐτοῦ δὲ ὁ θεῖος του καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ὀπίσω,

from him and the uncle his and the father behind

καὶ μέσον ὁ νεώτερος, ὡς ἥλιος ἀστράπτων,

and in-the-middle the younger like sun flashing

κοντάριν ἐμαλάκιζε μετὰ τὴν δεξιάν του

spear he-brandished with the right his

250

πρασινοαραβίτικον μετὰ χρυσοῦ διβέλλου.

green-Arabian with gold pennon

Ὠραῖος ἦν εἰς ὄρασιν, τερπνὸς εἰς συντυχίαν,

Beautiful he-was to sight delightful in converse

μόσχος εἰς τὸ ἀνάβλεμμα ὅλος μεμυρισμένος.

musk in the glance wholly perfumed

- Οἶκος ὑπῆρχε καθ' ὁδὸν στρατηγοῦ τοῦ μεγάλου,
House was on (the)-road of-general the great
- 255 καὶ πλησιάσαντος αὐτοῦ ἀναφώνημα εἶπε·
and having-drawn-near he song said
 «ἄγουρος ὅταν ἀγαπᾷ κόρην ὡραιотάτην,
youth when loves girl most-beautiful
 ὅταν ἐκεῖ ἀπέρχεται καὶ βλέπει τῆς τὰ κάλλη,
when there he-goes-away and sees her the beauties
 δαμάζεται ἢ καρδίτῃα του, οὐ θέλει ζῆν εἰς κόσμον.»
is-tamed the little-heart his not wishes to-live in world
- Τῆς ἡδονῆς ὥς ἤκουσαν τῷ οἴκῳ οἱ παρόντες,
The pleasure as heard in-the house those present
- 260 ἐξέστησαν ὥσπερ ποτὲ ὁ Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐκεῖνος,
they-were-entranced as once — Odysseus that
 ὅτε τὸ μέλος ἤκουε Σειρήνων ἐν τῷ πλοίῳ.
when the song he-heard of-Sirens in the ship
 Ἄλλ' οὐδ' ἡ κόρη ἔμεινεν ἀνήκοος τοῦ νέου
But not-even the girl remained not-hearing of-the youth
 πάγκαλος ἢ διάφημος ἢ ἀκουστή ἐκείνη,
all-fair the far-famed the renowned that
 ἧς τὸ κάλλος ἀμήχανον, παράδοξον τὸ γένος,
whose the beauty impossible strange the race
- 265 οὐσίαν τε καὶ κτήματα καὶ ἑτέραν πλουσίαν
substance both and possessions and other wealth
 ἀδύνατον ἀπαριθμεῖν ἢ ἀπεικάζειν ὅλως.
impossible to-count or to-liken at-all
 Μόνον γὰρ οἶκον τὸν αὐτῆς οὐδεὶς ἐγκωμιάσει·
Only for house the hers no-one will-praise
 ἅπας γὰρ χρυσομάρμαρος, ὅλος μεμουσιωμένους·
all for gold-and-marble wholly mosaicked

τὸ μοναχὸν κουβούκλιον ἔνθα ἦτον ἡ κόρη

the single chamber where was the girl

ἀπέξωθεν ὁλόχρυσον, ὅλον μεμουσιωμένον,

outside all-golden wholly mosaicked

270

ὃ καὶ ἐπωνομάζετο τῆς κόρης τὸ κουβούκλιον.

which also was-named of-the girl the chamber

Αὕτη τοίνυν ἡ πάμπλουτος καὶ πανωραία κόρη,

She therefore the all-rich and all-beautiful girl

ὡς εἶδε τὸν νεώτερον, καθὼς ἐκδιηγούμαι,

as she-saw the younger as I-relate

ἐφλέχθη ἡ καρδίτῃα της, οὐ θέλει ζῆν εἰς κόσμον·

was-inflamed the little-heart her not wishes to-live in world

πόνος ἀνήφθη εἰς αὐτήν, ὡς τὸ δίκαιον ἔχει,

pain was-kindled in her as the right has

275

οὗ γὰρ κάλλος ὀξύτατον καὶ τὸ βέλος τιτρώσκει·

where for beauty sharpest also the dart wounds

καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν εἰς ψυχὴν ἐπανήκει·

and through very the eyes into soul returns

ἤθελε μὲν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἐκ τοῦ νέου ἀπᾶραι,

she-wished indeed the eyes from the youth to-take-away

ἀλλὰ πάλιν οὐκ ἤθελε τοῦ κάλλους χωρισθῆναι,

but again not she-wished from-the beauty to-be-separated

ἀλλὰ εἶλκεν αὐτοὺς ἐκεῖ προδιήλως ἡττηθέντας·

but it-drew them there plainly having-been-defeated

280

καὶ πρὸς τὴν βάγιαν ἔλεγε γαλήνᾳ εἰς τὸ ὠτίον·

and to the nurse she-said calmly into the ear

«παράκνυσαι, βαγίτῃα μου, ἴδε ἔμνοστον νέον,

peep-out little-nurse my see comely youth

ἴδε κάλλος πανθαύμαστον καὶ ξένην ἡλικίαν·

see beauty all-marvelous and strange stature

- ἂν ἤθελεν ὁ κύρης μου γαμβρὸν νὰ τὸν ἐπῆρε,
if were-willing the lord my son-in-law that him he-took
 285 νὰ εἶχε, πίστευσον, γαμβρὸν οἷον ἄλλος οὐκ ἔχει.»
that he-had believe son-in-law such-as other not has
 Ἀπέμεινε δὲ βλέπουσα ἐκ τῆς ὀπῆς τὸν παῖδα·
Remained and seeing from the opening the boy
 ὁ δὲ νέος ἠρώτησεν ἀληθῶς μὴ γινώσκων·
the and youth asked truly not knowing
 ὁ οἶκος οὗτος τίνος ἐστὶν ὁ φοβερός καὶ μέγας;
the house this whose is the fearsome and great
 μὴ οὗτος ἔνι τοῦ στρατηγοῦ τοῦ ἀκουστοῦ ὃν λέγουν;
not this is of-the general of-the renowned whom they-speak-of
 290 καὶ ἡ κόρη ἡ πανεύφημος ἐνταῦθα καταμένει;
and the girl the far-famed here dwells
 «Ναί, τέκνον μου γλυκύτατον, ὁ πατὴρ ἀπεκρίθη,
Yes child my sweetest the father answered
 δι' ἧς πολλοὶ ἀπώλοντο τῶν εὐγενῶν Ῥωμαίων.»
through whom many perished of-the noble Romans
 «Καὶ πῶς, πάτερ, ἀπώλοντο;» αὖθις ὁ παῖς ἠρώτα.
And how father perished again the boy asked
 «Ἐβουλήθησαν, τέκνον μου, τὴν κόρην ἀφαρπάσαι
They-wished child my the girl to-carry-off
 295 διὰ τὰ κάλλη τὰ τερπνὰ ἅπερ ἔχει, ὥς λέγουν·
because-of the beauties the delightful which she-has as they-say
 καὶ τούτους γινούς ὁ στρατηγὸς, τῆς κόρης ὁ γεννήτωρ,
and them having-learned the general of-the girl the begetter
 ἐγκρύμματα ἐποίησε καὶ ἐκράτησε πάντας,
ambushes made and seized all
 τοὺς μὲν ἀπεκεφάλισεν, τοὺς δὲ τυφλοὺς ἐποίησεν·
some indeed he-beheaded others and blind made

ἔχει γὰρ δύναμιν πολλὴν καὶ δόξαν εἰς τὴν χώραν.»

he-has for power much and glory in the land

Στενάξας δὲ ὁ Διγενὴς ἔφη πρὸς τὸν πατέρα·

Having-groaned and — Digenis said to the father

«εὖχου, πάτερ, μὴ δόξῃ με ἵνα τὴν ἀφαρπάσω,

pray father lest it-seem-good-to me that her I-carry-off

ὅτι ἐμὲ ἐγκρύμματα ποτὲ οὐ θορυβοῦσι·

because me ambushes ever not disturb

τοῦτο δὲ μόνον εὖχομαι, εἴπερ ἀποδεκτόν σοι,

this and only I-pray if-indeed acceptable to-you

νὰ μηνύσῃς τὸν στρατηγὸν διὰ συμπενθερίαν·

that you-send-word-to the general about marriage-alliance

καὶ εἰ μὲν ἴσως ἀρεσθῇ γαμβρὸν νὰ με ἐπάρῃ,

and if indeed perhaps he-be-pleased son-in-law that me he-take

ἵνα τὸν ἔχω πενθερὸν τῇ ἰδίᾳ τοῦ γνώμῃ·

that him I-have father-in-law by-the own his mind

εἰ δὲ μὴ, γνώσῃ, πάτερ μου, μετὰ ταῦτα τὸ τέλος.»

if but not you-will-know father my after these(-things) the end

«Πολλάκις τὸν ἐμήνυσα, γλυκύτατε υἱέ μου,

Often him I-sent-word sweetest son my

ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ὅλως πείθεται εἰς τοῦτο κατανεῦσαι.»

but not at-all he-is-persuaded to this to-nod-assent

Ὡς δὲ τοιαῦτα ὁ πατὴρ ἔλεγε πρὸς τὸν παῖδα,

As and such(-things) the father said to the boy

ἐσκέφθη ὁ νεώτερος ἐκ τῆς ὀπῆς τὴν κόρην·

saw the younger from the opening the girl

καὶ ταύτην θεασάμενος ἐμπρὸς οὐ βηματίζει,

and her having-beheld forward not steps

ἀλλ' εἶχεν ἔκπληξις αὐτὸν καὶ τρόμος τὴν καρδίαν·

but held amazement him and trembling the heart

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- τὸν βούλχαν ἐπελάλησε, πλησιάζει τῇ κόρῃ,
the bay he-urged-on he-draws-near to-the girl
 315 καὶ πρὸς αὐτὴν ἡρέμα τε λόγον εἶπε τοιούδε·
and to her quietly and word said such
 «γνώρισόν μοι, κοράσιον, εἰ ἔχεις με εἰς νοῦν σου,
make-known to-me maiden if you-have me in mind your
 καὶ εἰ ποθεῖς κατὰ πολὺ τοῦ λαβεῖν σε γυναῖκα·
and if you-long by much of-the to-take you wife
 εἰ δ' ἄλλαχού τὸν νοῦν ἔχεις, πολλὰ οὐ παρακαλῶ σε.»
if but elsewhere the mind you-have much not I-entreat you
 Τὴν βάγιαν δὲ παρακαλεῖ τὴν ἑαυτῆς ἡ κόρη·
The nurse and entreats the her the girl
 320 «κατάβα, βάγια μου καλὴ, εἰπὲ τὸν ἀγουρίτζην·
go-down nurse my good tell the young-lad
 τὸν θεόν σε πληροφορῶ εἰς τὴν ψυχὴν μου ἐσέβης·
 — God you I-assure into the soul my you-have-entered
 ἀλλ' οὐκ οἶδα, νεώτερε, ποίου γένους τυγχάνεις·
but not I-know younger(-man) of-what race you-are
 εἰ μὲν εἰ σὺ Βασίλειος ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης,
if indeed are you Basil — Digenis Akritas
 ὑπάρχεις μὲν τῶν εὐγενῶν καὶ τῶν πλουσιωτάτων
you-are indeed of-the noble and of-the richest
 325 καὶ συγγενὴς ἡμέτερος ὥς ἀπὸ τῶν Δουκάδων·
and kinsman ours as from the Doukai
 ἀλλ' ὁ πατήρ μου ὁ στρατηγὸς διὰ σὲ βίγλας ἔχει,
but the father my the general because-of you watches has
 ἤκουσε γὰρ κατὰ πολὺ τὰς σὰς ἀνδραγαθίας·
he-heard for by much the your brave-deeds

καὶ φυλάττου, νεώτερε, δι' ἐμοῦ κινδυνεύσης
and guard-yourself younger(-man) because-of me you-may-be-endangered
 καὶ στερηθῆς νεότητος τῆς πανωραιοτάτης·
and you-be-deprived of-youth the most-beautiful
 οὐδ' ὅλως γάρ σου φείσεται ὁ ἄσπλαγχνος πατήρ μου·» 330
not at-all for you will-spare the pitiless father my
 Καὶ αὖθις ὁ νεώτερος πρὸς τὴν κόρην ἀντέφη·
And again the younger to the girl replied
 «παράκνυσον, ὀμμάτια μου, ἃς ἶδω σου τὸ κάλλος,
peep-out eyes my let I-see your the beauty
 ἃς ἔμβῃ εἰς τὴν καρδίτζαν μου ἢ ἄπειρός σου ἀγάπη·
let enter into the little-heart my the boundless your love
 εἰμὶ γὰρ νέος, ὡς ὀρᾷς· οὐκ οἶδα τί ἔνι ὁ πόθος·
I-am for young as you-see not I-know what is the longing
 οὔτε γινώσκω καὶ ποσῶς τὰς ὁδοὺς τῆς ἀγάπης, 335
nor I-know even at-all the ways of-the love
 καὶ εἰ μὲν εἰσέλθῃ ὁ πόθος σου εἰς τὴν ψυχὴν μου ἀπέσω
and if indeed enters the longing your into the soul my within
 ὁ πατήρ σου ὁ στρατηγὸς καὶ τὸ συγγενικόν του
the father your the general and the kindred his
 καὶ ἅπαντες οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ, ἐὰν γένωνται βέλη
and all those with him if they-become darts
 καὶ ξίφη ἀπαστράπτοντα, οὐ δύνανταί με βλάψαι.»
and swords flashing not are-able me to-harm

She shows herself at the window and gives him a ring. At home he has his black horse made ready and cannot eat at supper; at moonrise he rides out alone with his lyre, finds her asleep at dawn, and sings beneath her chamber. She fears her father; he answers that he fears no army. She confesses that, never seen by any man before, she is now ready to leave all for him.

- 340 Καὶ ἦν ἰδεῖν οὐδέποτε τέλος ἐκείνων λόγοις.
And it-was to-see never end of-those to-words
 ἔρως τότε παρώξυνεν ἄσεμνον διαπραῖσαι,
love then urged indecent(-thing) to-accomplish
 δουλοῖ γὰρ τὰ φρονήματα ἔρως ὥς ὦν δεσπότης,
enslaves for the minds love as being master
 ὑποτάσσει τὸν λογισμὸν ὥς ἡνίοχος ἵππον·
it-subjects the reasoning as charioteer horse
 καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ὁ ποθῶν εὐταξίαν οὐκ ἔχει,
and because-of this the longing(-one) good-order not has
 345 οὐ συγγενεῖς αἰσχύνεται, οὐ γείτονας πτοεῖται,
not kinsmen he-is-ashamed-before not neighbors he-fears
 ἀλλ' ἔστιν ὅλως ἀναιδὴς δοῦλος ὦν τῆς φιλίας,
but he-is wholly shameless slave being of-the friendship
 ὥσπερ καὶ ἡ πανεύγενος κόρη πέποιθε τότε,
just-as also the all-noble girl suffered then
 καὶ παρέκυψε μερικῶς ἐκ τὴν χρυσὴν θυρίδα·
and peeped-out partly from the golden window
 τὰ κάλλη τοῦ προσώπου της κωλύουν τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς του
the beauties of-the face her binder the eyes his
 350 καὶ οὐ δύναται καλῶς ἰδεῖν τὴν ἡλιογεννημένην·
and not he-is-able well to-see the sun-born

ὥς γὰρ ἄκτις ἀνέτειλεν ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ προσώπου,
as for ray rose in middle of-the face

ἦν γὰρ ἡ κόρη ἀληθῶς ὥσπερ ἱστορισμένη·
was for the girl truly as-if painted

ὄμμα γοργὸν ἐνήδονον, κόμην ξανθὴν καὶ σγοῦρον,
eye keen pleasing hair fair and curly

ὄφρυν εἶχε κατάμαυρον, ἄκρατον δὲ τὸ μέλαν,
eyebrow she-had jet-black unmixed and the black

ὥς χιόνα τὸ πρόσωπον, μέσον δὲ βεβαμμένον,
like snow the face middle and dyed

οἷα πορφύρα ἐκλεκτὴ ἦν βασιλεῖς τιμῶσι.
like purple choice which emperors honor

Οὕτως ἰδὼν ὁ θαυμαστὸς ἐκεῖνος νεανίας,
Thus having-seen the marvelous that young-man

εὐθὺς ἐτρώθη τὴν ψυχὴν, ἐπλήγη τὴν καρδίαν,
at-once was-wounded the soul was-struck the heart

καὶ πόνον εἶχεν ἄπειρον, ἀδημονῶν εἰστήκει.
and pain had boundless being-distressed he-stood

Κόρη δὲ ἡ πανεύγενος, οὕτως αὐτὸν ἰδοῦσα,
Girl and the all-noble thus him having-seen

οὐ παρεῖδε κατὰ πολὺ τῷ ἄλγει ἐπιμένειν,
not allowed by much in-the anguish to-remain

ἀλλὰ ταχέως ἔστειλε πρὸς αὐτὸν τὴν ἀγάπην
but swiftly sent to him the love

πολλῆς χαρᾶς ἀνάπλεων, ἡδονῆς μεμιγμένην,
of-much joy full with-pleasure mingled

τὸ δακτυλίδιον ἔδωκεν εἰποῦσα πρὸς ἐκεῖνον·
the ring she-gave having-said to him

«ἄπιθι χαίρων, ἄγουρε, κάμου μὴ ἐπιλάθῃς.»
go rejoicing youth and-me not forget

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Ὁ δὲ δεξάμενος αὐτὸ εἰς τὸν ἴδιον κόλπον,

He and having-received it into the own bosom

εὐθὺς ἀνταπεκρίνατο· «αὔριόν με ἐκδέχου.»

at-once answered tomorrow me await

Καὶ χαρᾶς ὅλως ἐμπλησθεὶς ὥδευε μετὰ πάντων·

And with-joy wholly having-been-filled he-traveled with all

εἰς δὲ τὸν οἶκον φθάσαντες, εὐθὺς φροντίδας εἶχε,

into and the house having-arrived at-once anxieties he-had

370 καὶ τὸν θεὸν ἰκέτευεν ἐξ ὅλης τῆς καρδίας·

and — God he-implored from whole the heart

«δέσποτα, λέγων, ὁ θεὸς, ἐπάκουσον εὐχῆς μου,

master saying — God hear prayer my

καὶ δῶνον μου τὸν ἥλιον, ἀνάτειλον τὸ φέγγος,

and set for-me the sun make-rise the moon

ὥσάν μοι γένη συνεργὸς ἐν τῇ δουλείᾳ ταύτῃ·

so-that to-me you-become fellow-worker in the service this

ἐπειδὴ γὰρ μονώτατος βούλομαι πορευθῆναι.»

since for all-alone I-wish to-travel

375 Καὶ κατ' ἰδίαν ἔλεγε τὸν πρωτοστράτορά του·

And in private he-said-to the protostrator his

«ἀπόστρωσαι τὸν βούλχαν μου, στρώσον μου δὲ τὸν μαῦρον,

unsaddle the bay my saddle me and the black

δύο κίγκλας τὸν κίγκλωσον καὶ δύο ἐμπροσθελίνας,

two girths him gird and two breast-straps

καὶ κρέμασε εἰς τὴν σέλλαν μου

and hang on the saddle my

τὸ ὥραϊον μου σπαθορράβδιν,

the beautiful my sword-mace

καὶ θὲς βαρὺ τὸ μάσσημα ἵνα γοργὸν γυρίζῃ.»

and set heavy the bit that nimbly he-turn

Καὶ εἰς τὸν δείπνον προσκληθεὶς οὐ μετέσχε βρωμάτων, 380
And to the supper having-been-invited not he-partook of-foods
οὐ πόσεως τὸ σύνολον θέλοντα τοῦ γευθῆναι,
not of-drink the whole wishing of-the to-taste
τὴν κόρην στρέφων κατὰ νοῦν, τὸ κάλλος εἰκονίζων·
the girl turning in mind the beauty picturing
καὶ ποτὲ μὲν οὐκ ἔχρηξε ταύτην ἀπογινώσκων.
and at-times indeed not he-wanted her despairing-of
ἄλλοτε δ' ἐφαντάζετο ἔχων χρηστὰς ἐλπίδας,
at-other-times but he-imagined having good hopes
καὶ τοῖς πᾶσι φαίμετο ἐν ὀνείρῳ θεᾶσθαι. 385
and to-the all he-appeared in dream to-behold
Ὅν καὶ ἡ μήτηρ ἡ αὐτοῦ ἴστατο ἀποροῦσα·
Whom also the mother the his stood being-at-a-loss
«τί συνέβη σοι, τέκνον μου, καὶ λυπεῖς τὴν ψυχὴν μου;
what happened to-you child my and you-grieve the soul my
μὴ θηρίον προσέκρουσε καὶ ἐτάραξε φόβος;
not beast struck and troubled fear
μὴ δαίμων σε ἐβάσκανε, βλέπων σου τὴν ἀνδρείαν;
not demon you bewitched seeing your the courage
ἀνάγγειλόν μοι τάχιον, μὴ θλίβῃς τὴν ψυχὴν μου. 390
announce to-me sooner not afflict the soul my
ὁ γὰρ κρύπτων τὸ νόσημα ὑπ' αὐτοῦ δαπανᾶται.»
the(-one) for hiding the sickness by it is-consumed
«Οὔτε θηρίον προσέκρουσεν, ὁ νέος ἀπεκρίθη,
Neither beast struck the youth answered
ἀλλ' οὔτε πάλιν θόρυβος ἐτάραξε ψυχὴν μου,
but nor again tumult troubled soul my

εἵπερ δέ τις μ' ἐβάσκανε, μή με τὴν καταρᾶσαι,
if-indeed but someone me bewitched not me her curse

395 τὴν μηδὲν ἀδικήσασαν· ἐγὼ γὰρ ὑγιαίνω.»
the in-nothing having-wronged I for am-well

Εἶτα κάκειθεν ἀναστὰς ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ κουβοῦκλιν,
Then from-there-too having-risen he-went-up into the chamber

καὶ λαβὼν ὑποδήματα λαμβάνει καὶ κιθάραν,
and having-taken shoes he-takes also lyre

φιλαῖς δὲ πρῶτον ταῖς χερσὶ τὰς χορδὰς ἐκτινάξας
bare and first with-the hands the strings having-shaken

(κάλλιστα δ' ἐπεπαίδευτο ἐν μουσικοῖς ὀργάνοις),
most-finely and he-had-been-trained in musical instruments

400 καὶ ταύτην ἀρμυροσάμενος ἔκρουε ψιθυρίζων·
and it having-tuned he-struck whispering

«ὅστις φιλήσειεν ἐγγὺς, τοῦ ὕπνου οὐχ ὑστερεῖται,
whoever should-love near of-the sleep not is-deprived

ὁ δὲ φιλῶν ἀπόμακρα μὴ ἀμελή τὰς νύκτας·
the(-one) but loving far-off not neglect the nights

ἐγὼ μακρόθεν ἀγαπῶ καὶ γοργὸν ἄς ὑπάγω,
I from-afar love and quickly let I-go

ἵνα μὴ θλίβω τὴν ψυχὴν τὴν δι' ἐμὲ ἀγρυπνοῦσαν.»
that not I-afflict the soul the because-of me keeping-awake

405 Ὄταν ἔδυνε ὁ ἥλιος, κατέλαβε τὸ φέγγος,
When set the sun overtook the moon

μόνος ἐκαβαλλίκευσε κρατῶν καὶ τὴν κιθάραν·
alone he-rode holding also the lyre

ἦτον δάος ὁ μαῦρος του, τὸ φέγγος ὡς ἡμέρα,
was torch the black his the moon like day

σύναυγα δὲ κατέλαβε τῆς κόρης τὸ κουβοῦκλιν.
at-dawn and he-reached of-the girl the chamber

Ἐκεῖνῃ δὲ ὥς ἐκδέχeto ὅλονυκτὶ ἀγρυπνοῦσα,
She and as she-awaited all-night keeping-awake
 τὴν αὐγὴν ἐρραθύμησε καὶ εἰς ὕπνον ἐτράπη· 410
the dawn slackened and to sleep turned
 ὥς δὲ ταύτην οὐκ ἔβλεπε τὸ εὐγενὲς παιδίον,
as and her not saw the noble child
 ἡνιάτο κατὰ πολὺν, ἐταράττετο σφόδρα,
he-was-vexed by much was-troubled greatly
 λογισμοὶ ἔκοπτον αὐτοῦ πονηροὶ τὴν καρδίαν,
thoughts cut his evil the heart
 θλῦψιν εἶχεν ἀφόρητον καὶ ὀδύνην μεγίστην·
affliction he-had unbearable and pain greatest
 ἔλεγε γὰρ ἐν ἑαυτῷ· «ἄρα μετεμελήθη; 415
he-said for in himself can-it-be she-has-repented
 ἄρα πτοεῖται τοὺς γονεῖς μήπως αὐτὴν νοήσουν;
can-it-be she-fears the parents lest-perhaps her they-perceive
 τί πρὸς ταῦτα βουλεύσομαι; πῶς τὸ βέβαιον μάθω;
what toward these(-things) shall-I-plan how the certain may-I-learn
 ἔξαπορεῖ γάρ μου ὁ νοῦς, οὐκ ἔχω τι διαπραῖξαι·
is-at-a-loss for my the mind not I-have anything to-accomplish
 εἰ γὰρ λαλήσω, κρᾶζοντος ἕτεροί μου ἀκούσουν,
if for I-speak crying others me will-hear
 δώσουν, ὑπονοήσουν με οἱ φυλάττοντες ὧδε, 420
they-will-give will-suspect me those guarding here
 καὶ πρὸ τῆς πράξεως γνωσθῶ μὴ τυχὼν τῆς φιλτάτης,
and before the deed I-be-known not having-won the dearest
 ὥς ἂν μὴ ἔχων εὐχερῶς ἰδεῖν τὴν ποθουμένην·
so-that — not having easily to-see the longed-for
 καὶ τί μοι ἔστιν ὄφελος ζῆν ἐν τῷδε τῷ βίῳ;»
and what to-me is profit to-live in this the life

- Ταῦτα λέγων ἐν ἑαυτῷ ἐκπληττόμενος σφόδρα,
These(-things) saying in himself being-astounded greatly
 425 δέον εἶναι προέκρινε τοῦ κροῦσαι τὴν κιθάραν,
needful to-be he-judged of-the to-strike the lyre
 ὅπως λάβῃ ἀπόπειραν περὶ ὧν ἡδημόνει·
so-that he-may-take trial about which-things he-was-distressed
 «φείσασθαι, λέγων, ἑμαυτῷ δοκιμάζων τὴν κόρην
to-spare saying to-myself testing the girl
 κιθάραν ταύτην συνεργὸν παραστήσω ἐν μέσῳ,
lyre this fellow-worker I-will-set-forth in middle
 καὶ τοῦ θεοῦ τὸ θέλημα πάντως ἔχει γενέσθαι.»
and — of-God the will altogether has to-come-about
 430 Καὶ ταύτην ἀρμοσάμενος τῷ πλήκτρῳ τε πατάσσω,
And it having-tuned with-the plectrum and striking
 μέλος γὰρ πάνυ ἡδιστον ἐτέλει ψιθυρίζων·
song for very sweetest he-performed whispering
 «πῶς ἐπελάθου, πάντερπνε, νέας ἡμῶν ἀγάπης,
how did-you-forget all-delightful new our love
 καὶ ἡδέως καθύπνωσας ἀμερίμνως, εὐκόλως;
and sweetly you-fell-asleep carefree easily
 ἀνάστα, ῥόδον πάντερπνον, μῆλον μεμυρισμένον·
arise rose all-delightful apple perfumed
 435 ὁ αὐγερινὸς ἀνέτειλεν, δεῦρο ἃς περιπατῶμεν.»
the morning-star has-risen come let us-walk
 Ὡς δὲ κιθάρας ἤκουσε τῆς ἡδονῆς ἡ κόρη,
As and of-lyre heard of-the pleasure the girl
 τῆς κλίνης ἐξεπήδησε, σφίγγει τῆς τὸ ζωνάριον,
from-the bed she-leapt-out she-tightens her the girdle
 καὶ χαμηλὰ προκύψασα λέγει τὸν ἀγουρίτζην·
and low having-peeped-out says-to the young-lad

«ἐγὼ, κύρκα, σε ὠνειδισα, δι' οὗ πολλὰ βραδύνας,

I lord you reproached because-of which much having-delayed

ὥς ὀκνηρὸν καὶ ῥάθυμον πάντα νά σε ὀνειδιζῶ,

as sluggish and slothful always that you I-reproach

τὴν δὲ κιθάραν ἣν κρούεις, δοκεῖς τὸ ποῦ εἶσαι οὐκ οἶδας,

the and lyre which you-strike you-think the where you-are not you-know

καλὲ, ἄν σε νοήσῃ ὁ κύρης μου νά σε κακοδικήσῃ,

fine-one if you perceive the lord my that you he-may-wrong

καὶ νὰ ἀποθάνῃς δι' ἐμέ, ὦ τῆς παρανομίας,

and that you-die because-of me O of-the lawlessness

ὁ θεὸς γὰρ ἐπίσταται ὁ τῶν κρυφίων γνώστης,

— God for knows the of-the hidden(-things) knower

ὅτι ἐρριζώθη ὁ πόθος σου εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν καρδίαν,

that was-rooted the longing your in the my heart

καὶ συμφορὰν λογιζομαι τὴν σὴν ἀποτυχίαν·

and misfortune I-reckon the your failure

σώζου λοιπὸν, ψυχὴ ἐμὴ, πρὶν τὸ φῶς καταλάβῃ,

be-saved then soul my before the light overtakes

καὶ μνήσκου μου διὰ παντὸς τῆς σὲ πολλὰ ποθούσης·

and remember me through all of-the you much longing

καὶ γὰρ, καλὲ νεώτερε, οὐ θέλω ἐλθεῖν μετὰ σου·

and for fine younger(-man) not I-wish to-come with you

οἶδα ὅτι ὁ πόθος φλέγει σε, καὶ ἡ ἀγάπη ἡ ξένη,

I-know that the longing burns you and the love the strange

ὁ λογισμὸς εἰσπείθει σε δι' ἐμοῦ ἀποθνήσκειν·

the reasoning persuades you through me to-die

ἀλλ' ἂν παροδηγήσῃς με καὶ ἔλθω μετὰ σένα,

but if you-lead-astray me and I-come with you

καὶ γνώσουν το τὰ ἀδελφία μου καὶ τὸ συγγενικόν μου,

and know it the brothers my and the kindred my

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- καὶ καταφθάσῃ σε ὁ πατὴρ ὁ ἐμὸς μετὰ πλῆθους,
and overtakes you the father the my with multitude
- 455 πῶς ἔχεις ἐξιβάλειν με καὶ σῶσαι τὴν ψυχὴν σου;»
how do-you-have to-get-out me and to-save the soul your
- Καὶ λυπηθεὶς ὁ θαυμαστὸς πρὸς τὴν κόρην ἀντέφη·
And having-grieved the marvelous to the girl replied
- «ἐπαίνῳ σου τὴν ἔκστασιν, ὦ πανευγενεστάτη,
I-praise your the amazement O all-most-noble
- τὸ γὰρ ἐνάντιον σκοπῶν τῶν μελλόντων συμβαίνειν,
the for opposite considering of-the(-things) about to-happen
- προκρίνεις γὰρ τὰ βέλτιστα σαφῶς λογιζομένη·
you-prefer for the best(-things) clearly reckoning
- 460 σὺ δὲ μηδὲν γινώσκουσα τὰ κατ' ἐμὲ οὐδ' ὅλως,
you but not knowing the(-things) concerning me not at-all
- εἰ γὰρ ἐν γνώσει γέγονας ἐμῶν ἀνδραγαθίων,
if for in knowledge you-had-become of-my brave-deeds
- οὐκ ἂν ἔλεγες ἀδελφοὺς καὶ τὸ συγγενικόν σου
not — you-would-say brothers and the kindred your
- φθάσουν καὶ ἐγκρημνίσουν με καὶ σὺ δι' ἐμὲ λυπῆσαι·
will-overtake and will-throw-down me and you because-of me to-grieve
- ἀλλ' ἔστω σοι τοῦτο γνωστὸν καὶ βέβαιον, ψυχὴ μου,
but let-be to-you this known and certain soul my
- 465 ὅτι φοσσᾶτα προσδοκῶ μόνος καταπονέσαι,
that armies I-expect alone to-wear-down
- νικῆσαι τε παραταγὰς καὶ κράτη ὑποτάξαι·
to-conquer both battle-lines and powers to-subdue

τὸν δὲ πατέρα τε τὸν σὸν καὶ τοὺς αὐτοῦ ἀγούρους
the and father both the your and the his youths

ὡσαύτως καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφούς μετὰ τῶν συγγενῶν σου
likewise also the brothers with the kinsmen your

πάντως βρέφη λογίζομαι καὶ μηδὲν ὅλως ὄντα·
altogether babes I-reckon and nothing at-all being

τοῦτο μόνον ζητῶ μαθεῖν παρὰ τῶν σῶν χειλέων
this only I-seek to-learn from the your lips

470

εἰ προθυμεῖς κατὰ πολὺ ἐμοὶ ἀκολουθήσαι,
if you-are-eager by much me to-follow

ὥς ἂν ὁδοὺς ἐξέλθωμεν τοὺς στενωποὺς πρὶν φέξῃ·
so-that — roads we-may-go-out the narrows before it-dawns

ρύμαι γὰρ καὶ στενώματα ἀποκτείνου ἀνδρείους·
streets for and straits kill brave(-men)

εἰς δὲ τοὺς κάμπους ἄνανδροι τολμηροὶ ἐκποιοῦνται·
in and the plains unmanly(-men) daring become

εἰ δ' ἴσως ἐμετέγνωσας, ἐτέρου ἡρετίσω,
if but perhaps you-have-repented of-another you-have-chosen

475

καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἀφορμὰς προβάλλεσαι τοιαύτας,
and because-of this pretexts you-put-forward such

μὰ τοὺς ἁγίους μάρτυρας τοῦ Χριστοῦ Θεοδώρους,
by the holy martyrs — of-Christ Theodores

οὐ καὶ ἄλλος, ζῶντος ἐμοῦ, εἰσακουσθῇ ἀνὴρ σου.»
not even-if other living me be-heard husband your

Αὐθις ἢ ἡλιόκαλος πρὸς τὸν ἄγουρον ἔφη·
Again the sun-fair to the youth said

«σὺ μὲν οἶν, ὦ παμπόθητε, ἀπείραστος ὥς πρῶτον
you indeed then O all-longed-for untried as first

480

πάσης ἀγάπης πέφυκας καὶ φιλίας, ὥς ἔφη·
of-all love you-are and friendship as you-said

νυνὶ δὲ πάσχεις δι' ἐμὲ καὶ ἴσως ἀληθεύεις,

now and you-suffer because-of me and perhaps you-tell-truth

ἐκ τῶν ὁμοίων καὶ αὐτὴ τοῦτο τεκμαιρομένη·

from the like also myself this judging

εἰ γὰρ καὶ λίαν ἀπρεπὲς τὰ κατ' ἐμὲ εἰπεῖν σοι,

if for even very unseemly the(-things) concerning me to-tell to-you

485 ὅμως ἐρῶ σοι ἅπαντα τῷ πόθῳ δουλωθεῖσα·

yet I-will-tell to-you all by-the longing enslaved

«πολλοὶ ἐμὲ τῶν εὐγενῶν ἄρχοντες μεγιστάνες

many me of-the noble lords magnates

καὶ βασιλέων συγγενεῖς ἐζήτησαν καὶ τέκνα

and of-emperors kinsmen sought and children

βασιλικὴν παράταξιν ἔχοντες καὶ ἐσθήτα,

imperial array having and dress

καὶ ποθοῦντες θεάσασθαι τὸν ἐμὸν χαρακτήρα,

and longing to-behold the my features

490 πυκνότερον διήρχοντο τοῦ οἴκου μου πλησίον,

more-often passed of-the house my near

ἀλλ' οὐδενὶ τὸ σύνολον ἠρκέσθη ὁ πατήρ μου·

but with-none the whole was-content the father my

οὐ τὴν σκιὰν δὲ τὴν ἐμὴν τις ἰδεῖν ἡξιώθη,

not the shadow and the my anyone to-see was-deemed-worthy

φωνῆς οὐδεὶς μου ἤκουσεν ἢ συντυχίας ὅλως,

of-voice no-one my heard or of-converse at-all

οὐ γέλωτος μειδίασμα, οὐ βαδίσματος ψόφον·

not of-laughter smile not of-step sound

495 τῆς θυρίδος οὐδέποτε τὴν κεφαλὴν μου ἦγον,

of-the window never the head my I-brought

ἀλλοτρίοις ἀθέατον ἐμαντὴν διετήρουν·

to-strangers unseen myself I-kept

ἐκτὸς γάρ μου τῶν συγγενῶν καὶ τῶν γνωστῶν ἰδίων,
outside for my of-the kinsmen and of-the acquaintances own

οὐδεὶς μου εἶδε πώποτε προσώπου χαρακτηῖρα,
no-one my saw ever of-face features

τάξιν τηροῦσα ἀκριβῇ τὴν πρέπουσαν παρθένους·
order keeping exact the befitting to-virgins

τούτων δὲ γέγονα ἐκτὸς καὶ τοὺς ὅρους παρήλθον 500
these but I-have-gone outside and the bounds I-passed

καὶ ἐγενόμην ἀναιδὴς διὰ τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην·
and I-became shameless because-of the your love

καὶ ἡ μηδέποτε ἀνδρὶ ἀλλοτρίῳ ὀφθείσα
and the(-one) never by-man strange having-been-seen

λόγους νῦν μεταδίδωμι ὅλως μὴ αἰδουμένη,
words now I-impart at-all not being-asbamed

καὶ τὸ ὄντως ἐλεύθερον φρόνημα παρθενίας
and the truly free mind of-virginity

δοῦλον ὁρῶ γινόμενον καὶ ἀναιδὲς ἀθρόως. 505
slave I-see becoming and shameless all-at-once

Ἄφ' ἧς γὰρ ὥρας πρόσωπον τὸ σὸν εἶδον, ὦ νέε,
From which for hour face the your I-saw O youth

ὡς πῦρ κατέφλεξεν εὐθὺς τὴν σώφρονα ψυχὴν μου,
like fire it-burned-up at-once the chaste soul my

μετήλλαξε τὸν λογισμὸν ὁμοίως καὶ τὴν γνώμην,
it-changed the reasoning likewise also the mind

τὸ φρόνημα ἐδούλωσεν, ἀναίσχυντόν με ποιήσας
the mind it-enslaved shameless me having-made

εἰς σὲ καὶ μόνον, ποθητὲ, καὶ πρὸς τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην· 510
to you and alone beloved and to the your love

πίεθμαι νῦν καὶ βούλομαι μετὰ σοῦ πορευθῆναι,
I-am-persuaded now and I-wish with you to-travel

δι' οὗ ἀρνοῦμαι συγγενεῖς, γονέας ὑστεροῦμαι,
because-of whom I-deny kinsmen of-parents I-am-deprived
 ἀλλοτριῶμαι ἀδελφῶν καὶ τοῦ ἀπείρου πλούτου,
I-am-estranged from-brothers and from-the boundless wealth
 καὶ μετὰ σοῦ πορεύομαι ὅπου δ' ἂν καὶ κελεύης,
and with you I-travel where but — also you-bid

515 θεὸν ἔχουσα μάρτυρα τὸν πᾶσι βοηθοῦντα

God having witness the to-all helping

ἐκδικητὴν παγκάλλιστον, μή με παροδηγήσης·

avenger most-beautiful not me lead-astay

σὲ μὲν ἡ ἀγάπη φλέγει σε, ἡ ἀγάπη παροξύνει,

you indeed the love burns you the love urges-on

καὶ πείθει σε ὁ λογισμὸς δι' ἐμὲ τοῦ θανεῖν σε,

and persuades you the reasoning because-of me of-the to-die you

ὅπερ ἀπύχομαι ἰδεῖν ἢ τοῖς ὠσὶν ἀκοῦσαι.»

which I-pray-against to-see or with-the ears to-hear

XIV · THE ELOPEMENT

They swear lawful marriage, and she leaps from the window into his arms; he calls on the general to bless his son-in-law. The general's household and army pursue. At dawn he sets her in a forked tree, and she asks him not to harm her brothers. Alone, he kills every soldier before the general arrives, then returns to her.

520 Ὡς δὲ ταῦτα ἐφθέγγετο ἡ πανώριος κόρη,

As and these(-things) uttered the all-beautiful girl

ἐδάκρυσεν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς, ἐστέναξε μεγάλως,

she-wept with-the eyes she-groaned greatly

καὶ ἐαυτὴν ἐμέμφετο τῆς πολλῆς ἀναιδείας·

and herself blamed of-the much shamelessness

καί, θέλουσα κατὰ πολὺ μεταβαλεῖν τὴν γνώμην,

and wishing by much to-change the mind

ὁ ταύτης ἔνδον ἄπειρος οὐ συνεχώρει πόθος.

the her within boundless not permitted longing

Δύναμις γὰρ τοῦ ἔρωτος, πόθος καὶ ἡ φιλία,

Power for of-the love longing and the friendship

ἄπερ τὴν τάξιν ἀκριβῶς τηροῦντα τὴν ἰδίαν,

which the order exactly keeping the own

σώφρονα νοῦν κατέχων τις, ὁ πόθος πολεμεῖ τον·

chaste mind possessing anyone the longing fights him

καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ὁ ποθῶν εὐταξίαν οὐκ ἔχει,

and because-of this the longing(-one) good-order not has

οὐ συγγενεῖς αἰσχύνεται, οὐ γείτονας πτοεῖται,

not kinsmen he-is-ashamed-before not neighbors he-fears

ἀλλ' ἔστιν ὅλος ἀναιδὴς καὶ δοῦλος τῆς φιλίας·

but he-is wholly shameless and slave of-the friendship

ὥς καὶ οὕτως πεπόνθασιν οἱ παγκάλλιστοι νέοι.

as also thus have-suffered the most-beautiful youths

Εἶτα ὁ θαυμαστός ἰδὼν δακρύσασαν τὴν κόρην

Then the marvelous having-seen having-wept the girl

μετὰ δακρύων καὶ αὐτὸς ἀντέλεγε τοιαῦτα·

with tears also he answered such(-things)

«ἐγὼ, κόρη παγκάλλιστε, τὰ περὶ σοῦ γινώσκω·

I girl most-beautiful the(-things) about you know

τὸν πλοῦτον γὰρ τὸν ἄπειρον ὃν κέκτηται ὁ πατήρ σου,

the wealth for the boundless which has-acquired the father your

δι' οὗ πολλοὶ τῶν εὐγενῶν ἐπόθουν τοῦ λαβεῖν σε·

through which many of-the noble longed of-the to-take you

ἐν γνώσει πάντων γέγονα ἀκριβῶς ἐρευνήσας,

in knowledge of-all I-have-become exactly having-searched

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ἐγὼ γὰρ, φιλτάτη ψυχῇ, οὐκ ἐφίεμαι πλούτου,

I for dearest soul not desire wealth

οὐ κτήματα ἐπιθυμῶ, οὐκ ὀρέγομαι δόξης,

not possessions I-desire not I-reach-for glory

540 πάντα χόρτον λογιζομαι ἐντρυφῶν τοῦ σοῦ κάλλους,

all grass I-reckon luxuriating of-the your beauty

ἀφ' ἧς ὥρας, μαυρόμματε, ὠψόμεθα ἀλλήλους,

from which hour black-eyed(-one) we-saw one-another

οὐκ ἀπέστης ἐκ τὴν ἐμὴν ψυχὴν ὠρίτζαν μίαν·

not you-departed from the my soul little-hour one

ἐρριζώθης γὰρ ἔσωθεν καὶ συνεπλέχθης ταύτῃ,

you-were-rooted for within and you-were-entwined with-it

καὶ σὲ πάντα φαντάζομαι καὶ βλέπω σε μὴ οὖσαν·

and you always I-imagine and I-see you not being

545 οὐ γὰρ ἠράσθην πώποτε οἴουδῆποτε κάλλους,

not for I-loved ever of-any-whatever beauty

οὐ τὰς ὁδοὺς ἐγνώρισα καὶ ποσῶς τῆς ἀγάπης·

not the ways I-knew even at-all of-the love

δεῦρο, τὸ φῶς μου τὸ γλυκὺ, ἔπου τῷ ἐραστῇ σου·

come the light my the sweet follow the lover your

ἦνπερ ἔχεις ἀπέσωθεν ἐμφάνισον ἀγάπην·

which you-have within make-manifest love

ἀκριβῆς γὰρ ἀπόδειξις συνίσταται ἐξ ἔργων,

exact for proof consists from deeds

550 καὶ συμβιώσομεν θεοῦ νεύσει χαίροντες ἄμφω·

and we-shall-live-together of-God by-nod rejoicing both

ἐπὶ τοῦτο γεννήτορες καὶ οἱ σοὶ εὐφρανθῶσιν,

at this begetters also the your may-be-glad

γαμβροῦ οἴου τετύχηκαν ἐν γνώσει γεγονότες·

son-in-law of-what-sort they-have-won in knowledge having-become

καὶ οὐδεὶς ὀνειδίσει σε, μᾶλλον δὲ μακαρίσει.»

and no-one will-reproach you rather but will-call-blessed

Ταῦτα καὶ ἕτερα πολλὰ φθελγόμενος ὁ νέος·

These(-things) and other many having-uttered the youth

«ἐν σοί μου πᾶσα ἡ ἀρχή, ἔφησε, καὶ τὸ τέλος

in you my all the beginning he-said and the end

σὺν θεῷ ἐναρχόμενον μέχρι τῆς τελευτῆς μου·

with God beginning until of-the death my

καὶ εἰ πώποτε βουληθῶ λυπήσαι σε, ψυχὴ μου,

and if ever I-wish to-grieve you soul my

καὶ οὐ φυλάξω ἀθόλωτον τὴν πρὸς ἐμέ σου ἀγάπην

and not I-keep unclouded the toward me your love

πόθον τε καθαρώτατον ἄχρι τῆς τελευτῆς μου,

longing and most-pure until of-the death my

νὰ μὴ ἀποθάνω χριστιανὸς, νὰ μὴ κατευδοῦμαι,

that not I-die Christian that not I-prosper

νὰ μὴ κερδίσω τὰς εὐχὰς τῶν ἐμῶν γεννητόρων·

that not I-win the prayers of-the my begetters

καὶ αὐτὴ δὲ, πανεύγενε, τὰ ὅμοια φυλάξοις!»

and you and all-noble the like may-you-keep

Ταῦτα ἡ κόρη τοῖς ὠσὶν ἐνηχηθεῖσα εἶπεν·

These(-things) the girl in-the ears having-had-sounded said

«εἰ καὶ λίαν παράνομον τοῦ ἐμαντὴν προδοῦναι

if even very lawless of-the myself to-betray

(ἡ τάξις γὰρ ἡ ἀληθὴς εὐγένεια καλεῖται,

the order for the true nobility is-called

ἣν περ καγὼ ἠθέτησα, οὐκ οἶδα τι παθοῦσα),

which I-too set-aside not I-know what having-suffered

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πόθος γὰρ ὅμως ἀκραιφνῆς, ἀγάπη σου ἡ βεβαία
longing for yet pure love your the firm

προτιμωτέραν ἔπεισε σῇ καλλίστῃ ἀγάπῃ.»
more-to-be-preferred persuaded to-your finest love

Εἶθ' οὕτως ὄρκον μ' ἔρωτος ἡ κόρη φθεγξαμένη·
Then thus oath with love the girl having-uttered

570 «καταλιμπάνουσα γονεῖς, ἀδελφούς καὶ οἰκίαν,
leaving-behind parents brothers and household

ἀπὸ τὸν θεόν, ὦ ἄγουρε, σοὶ ἐμαυτὴν πιστεύω,
from — God O youth to-you myself I-entrust

αὐτόν μοι δίδου μάρτυρα ὅλως μή με λυπῆσαι,
him to-me give witness at-all not me to-grieve

ἀλλὰ γυναιῖκαν ἔννομον ἄχρι τέλους ποιῆσαι·
but wife lawful until end to-make

καὶ γὰρ πολλοὶ τῶν ἐραστῶν ἡθετήκασιν λόγους,
and for many of-the lovers have-set-aside words

575 ταῖς ποθουμέναις πρώην γὰρ ἐρωτικῶς δειχθέντες.»
to-the longed-for(-women) formerly for erotically having-been-shown

Καὶ ὥς τὸ ἤκουσεν ὁ παῖς ἐξεπλάγη θαυμάζων
And as it heard the boy was-astounded marveling-at

τῆς παρθένου τὴν σύνεσιν· ἐπώμοσε δὲ ὅμως·
of-the virgin the understanding he-swore and yet

«μὰ τὸν Πατέρα καὶ Υἱὸν καὶ τὸ ἅγιον Πνεῦμα,
by the Father and Son and the holy Spirit

οὐ λυπήσω σε πώποτε, ὦ πανευγενεστάτῃ,
not I-will-grieve you ever O all-most-noble

580 ἀλλὰ κυρίαν τῶν ἐμῶν καὶ δέσποιναν ποιήσω,
but lady of-the my(-things) and mistress I-will-make

γαμετὴν τε καὶ σύνοικον μέχρι τέλους ζωῆς μου,
wife both and housemate until end of-life my

εἰ καθαρὸν τὸν πρὸς ἐμὲ διατηρήσεις πόθον,
 if pure the toward me you-will-keep longing
 καθὼςπερ καὶ προέφην σοι, ὦ ποθεινὴ ψυχὴ μου.»
 just-as also I-said-before to-you O longed-for soul my
 Καὶ ἐμπεδώσαντες καλῶς ἀλλήλους ἐκ τῶν ὀρκων,
 And having-confirmed well one-another from the oaths
 ἡ παρθένος προκύβασα ἐκ τὴν χρυσὴν θυρίδα,
 the virgin having-leaned-out from the golden window
 ὁ παῖς τὴν ὑπεδέξατο ὀρθωθείς ἐν τῷ ἵππῳ.
 the boy her received having-stood-upright on the horse
 ἡ πέρδικα ἐξεπέτασεν, ὁ ἰέραξ τὴν ἐδέχθη.
 the partridge flew-out the hawk her received
 καὶ κατεφίλησαν τερπνῶς, ὡς ἔπρεπεν, ἀλλήλους,
 and they-kissed delightfully as befitted one-another
 ἀνεκλαλήτως χαίροντες καὶ δακρύνοντες ἄμφω,
 unspeakably rejoicing and weeping both
 πεφύκασι γὰρ ἀκαρῇ ἐν χαρμονῇ μεγίστῃ,
 are-wont for briefly in joy greatest
 καὶ δάκρυα μεθ' ἡδονῆς θερμότατα ἐκίνουν.
 and tears with pleasure hottest they-stirred
 ὁ δέ γε παῖς ὑπὸ χαρᾶς κινηθεὶς καὶ ἀνδρείας,
 the but at-least boy by joy moved and courage
 σταθεὶς τοῦ οἴκου ἄντικρυς ἐξεφώνησε λέγων.
 having-stood of-the house opposite cried-out saying
 «εὖξαι μου, κύρη πενθερὲ, μετὰ τῆς θυγατρὸς σου.
 pray-for me lord father-in-law with the daughter your
 εὐχαρίστει δὲ τῷ θεῷ ἔχων γαμβρὸν τοιοῦτον.»
 give-thanks and — to-God having son-in-law such

585

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595

Τῆς δὲ φωνῆς ὡς ἤκουσαν τοῦ στρατηγοῦ αἱ βίγλαι,

The and voice as heard of-the general the watches

διελάλησαν ἅπασιν εἰς τὸ καβαλλικεῦσαι.

called-out to-all to the to-ride

Καὶ ὁ στρατηγὸς παρευθὺς ἐξάπινα ἀκούσας

And the general forthwith suddenly having-heard

ἄλλος ἐξ ἄλλου γέγονεν οὐκ ἔχων ὃ τι δρᾶσαι·

other from other became not having what — to-do

600 καὶ ἐκ βάθους ἀνέκραξεν· «ἀπώλεσα τὸ φῶς μου,

and from depth cried-out I-have-lost the light my

θυγάτηρ ἡ μονογενὴς ἐξ ὀφθαλμῶν μου ἦρθη.»

daughter the only-begotten from eyes my was-taken

Στρατήγισσα δ' ὡς ἤκουσεν ἡλάλαξε βοῶσα·

General's-wife and as she-heard wailed shouting

«οἴχεται ἡ μονογενὴς, ἡρπάγη ἡ θυγάτηρ.»

is-gone the only-begotten was-seized the daughter

Οἱ ἀδελφοὶ ἐτέρωθεν θρηνοῦντες ἀνεβόων·

The brothers on-the-other-side lamenting cried-aloud

605 «τίς τοῦτο κατετόλμησε τὸ ἀνόμημα πρᾶξαι;

who this dared the lawless-deed to-do

τίς ἀφ' ἡμῶν τὴν ἀδελφὴν ἀπέσπασεν ἀθρόως;»

who from us the sister tore-away all-at-once

Ἐκλαιον αἱ οἰκέτιδες, οἰμωγὰς ἀνεβόων,

Wept the maidservants wailings cried-aloud

ὀδυρμὸς ἀκατάσχετος διὰ παντὸς ἐχώρει·

lament unrestrainable through all went

στρατὸς τε πολὺς ἔνοπλος εἰς δῖωξιν τοῦ νέου

army and great armed to pursuit of-the youth

610 καὶ ὀπίσω ὁ στρατηγὸς μετὰ τῶν δύο τέκνων·

and behind the general with the two children

ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ἡ στρατήγισσα κατελείφθη ἐν οἴκῳ,
but not-even the general's-wife was-left in house
 τῆς θυγατρὸς τὸν χωρισμὸν μὴ φέρουσα οὐδ' ὅλως·
of-the daughter the separation not bearing even at-all
 πλῆθος γὰρ οἰκετίδων τε μεθ' ἑαυτῆς λαβοῦσα,
multitude for of-maidservants and with herself having-taken
 πεζῇ ὥς εἶχεν εἴπετο, λυσίκομος, θρηνοῦσα·
on-foot as she-was followed with-loosened-hair lamenting
 «φιλάττη ψυχῇ, κράζουσα, ποῦ πορεύῃ οὐκ οἶδα.»
dearest soul crying where you-travel not I-know

615

Οὐδεὶς δὲ ἐναπέμεινε γηραιὸς οὔτε νέος
No-one and remained old nor young
 ὃς οὐκ ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν εἰς δίωξιν τοῦ νέου,
who not rode to pursuit of-the youth
 πάντα ὑπεραλγήσαντες τὴν ἀρπαγὴν τῆς κόρης,
all having-grieved-exceedingly-at the seizure of-the girl
 ὥς μὴ ἰσχύειν ἀκριβῶς ἀριθμῆσαι τὸ πλῆθος.
so-as not to-be-able exactly to-count the multitude

Καὶ τοῦ φωτὸς ἀνγάζοντος ἀπάρτι τῆς ἡμέρας,
And of-the light dawning now of-the day
 ἐκεῖ τοὺς ἐκατέλαβον εἰς τοὺς ἀδήλους κάμπους·
there them they-overtook in the obscure plains
 οὔσπερ ἰδοῦσα μήκοθεν ἡ πανώραιος κόρη
whom having-seen from-far the all-beautiful girl
 (καὶ γὰρ ἔβλεπεν ὀπισθεν σκοπεύουσα ὀξέως,
and for she-looked behind watching keenly
 ἐν ταῖς ἀγκάλαις οὔσα τε τοῦ πανηγαπημένου),
in the arms being and of-the all-beloved
 πρὸς αὐτὸν ταῦτα ἔλεγε, σφικτὰ τοῦτον κρατοῦσα·
to him these(-things) she-said tightly him holding

625

«ἀγωνίζου, ψυχίτζα μου, μή μας ἀποχωρίσουν,

struggle little-soul my lest us they-separate

καὶ ἰσχυε κατὰ πολὺ τὸν μαῦρον ἀποπλήττων·

and be-strong by much the black spurring

ἰδοὺ γὰρ μέλλουσιν ἡμᾶς οἱ διώκοντες φθάνειν.»

behold for are-about us the pursuers to-overtake

᾽Ως ταῦτα δὲ ὁ θαυμαστὸς ἤκουσε νεανίας,

As these(-things) and the marvelous heard young-man

630 θάρσους εὐθέως ἐμπλησθεὶς καὶ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἐκκλίνας,

with-courage at-once having-been-filled and from-the road having-turned-aside

δένδρον εὐρίσκει διφυῆς, κλάδους φέρον τε δύο,

tree be-finds double-grown branches bearing and two

καὶ τὴν κόρην ἀποβαλὼν μέσον τῶν δύο κλάδων·

and the girl having-set-down middle of-the two branches

«αὐτοῦ κάθου, παγκάλλιστε, καὶ σὸν φίλτατον βλέπε.»

there sit most-beautiful and your dearest watch

Καὶ πρὸς πόλεμον ἑαυτὸν καθοπλίζει εὐθέως·

And for war himself be-arms at-once

635 καὶ τότε τὸ ἡλιογέννημα τὸν ἄγουρον ἐλάλει·

and then the sun-born the youth spoke-to

«τοὺς ἀδελφούς μου πρόσεχε μὴ τοὺς κακοδικήσης.»

the brothers my heed lest them you-do-wrong

Ἐένον πρᾶγμα ἐδείκνυτο τοῖς ἐκεῖσε παροῦσι

Strange thing was-shown to-those there present

πῶς μόνος κατετόλμησε συμβαλεῖν χιλιάσιν·

how alone he-dared to-engage with-thousands

καὶ ἐν βραχεὶ ἀπέκτεινε στρατιώτας ἀπείρους

and in brief killed soldiers countless

640 καθωπλισμένους, ἵππικους, πολέμου γυμνασμένους,

armed horsemen in-war trained

οἷς συμβουλευεῖν ἤρξατο στραφῆναι εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω,
to-whom to-advise he-began to-turn into the back

καὶ μὴ πείραν τῆς ἐάντου μεταλαβεῖν ἀνδρείας.
and not trial of-the his to-partake-of courage

Ἐκεῖνοι δὲ τὴν τοῦ ἐνὸς αἰσχυνόμενοι ἦτταν,
They but the of-the one being-ashamed-at defeat

τὸ θανεῖν ἡρετίσαντο ἢ θανεῖν ὑπ' ἐκείνου.
the to-die chose than to-die by that-one

Καὶ ἐκεῖνος ἐπελάλησε, σύρνει τὸ σπαθορράβδω,
And-that-one urged-on draws the sword-mace

645

καὶ πρὶν ἐλθεῖν τὸν στρατηγὸν οὐδὲ εἷς ὑπελείφθη.
and before to-come the general not-even one was-left

Καὶ τοῦ πολέμου πέρας τε ὁ παῖς ἀποπληρώσας,
And of-the war end and the boy having-fulfilled

ὥς νικητῆς ὑπέστρεφε πρὸς τὴν παρθένον χαίρων,
as victor returned to the virgin rejoicing

καὶ ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου καταβὰς καὶ μυρία φιλήσας·
and from the horse having-dismounted and countless-times having-kissed

«ἔχεις με, κόρη πάντερπνε, ἀπόδειξιν τῶν ἔργων.»
you-have me girl all-delightful proof of-the deeds

650

At the girl's plea he kills the men her brothers set on him but unhorses the brothers unharmed, then kneels to the general, who thanks God for such a son-in-law, promises a great dowry, and urges him home. Digenis gives the wealth to his brothers-in-law and asks to take his bride first to his mother; the general blesses him.

Ἡ δὲ κόρη τὸν ἄγουρον ὠραΐζουσα πλέον,

The and girl the youth finding-beautiful more

ἡδέως ὑπεδέχετο φιλημάτων τοὺς ψόφους,

sweetly received of-kisses the sounds

ἡρέμα πρὸς τὸν ἄγουρον οὕτωςι φθεγξαμένη·

quietly to the youth thus having-uttered

«μὴ ἀδικήσης, ὦ ψυχῇ, τοὺς ἐμοὺς ἀνταδέλφους·

not wrong O soul the my own-brothers

655 ἐκείνους γὰρ οὕσπερ ὁρᾷς πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἐρχομένους

those for whom you-see toward us coming

ἐκ τῶν ἵππων τεκμαίρομαι ἀδελφούς ἐμοὺς εἶναι·

from the horses I-judge brothers my to-be

καὶ ὁ τρίτος ὁ μετ' αὐτῶν ὁ πατήρ μου τυγχάνει·

and the third the with them the father my is

τούτους μοι σώους χάρισον, ἀβλαβεῖς συντηρήσας.»

these to-me safe grant unharmed having-kept

«Γενήσεται ὅπερ αἰτεῖς, ὁ παῖς τῇ κόρῃ ἔφη,

It-will-be what you-ask the boy to-the girl said

660 εἰ μὴ τι ἕτερον συμβῇ ἐκ τῶν ἀπροσδοκῆτων·

if not something other happen of the unexpected(-things)

ὁ γὰρ ἐχθρῶν φειδόμενος ἐν ὥρᾳ τοῦ πολέμου,

the(-one) for enemies sparing in hour of-the war

ὑπ' ἐκείνων ἀσυμπαθῶς κατεβλήθη πολλάκις.»

by those pitilessly was-thrown-down often

Ταῦτα εἰπὼν εἰσπήδησεν ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ ἵππῳ

These(-things) having-said he-leapt on the own horse

καὶ τοῖς περὶ τὸν στρατηγὸν σπουδαίως ὑποπίπτει.

and those around the general zealously he-falls-upon

Οἱ δὲ τῆς κόρης ἀδελφοὶ ζήλου πολλοῦ πλησθέντες

The and of-the girl brothers with-jealousy much filled

665

ἀνελεῖν τοῦτον ἔλεγον τοῖς ἰδίοις ἀγούροις,

to-kill him they-told to-the own youths

τὸν φόνον προσδοκῶμενοι ὑφ' ἐτέρων γενέσθαι.

the slaughter expecting by others to-happen

ὁ δὲ παῖς τὸ παράγγελμα φυλάττων τῆς φιλάτης

the but boy the injunction keeping of-the dearest

εὐτέχνως τούτους ὑπελθὼν σοφῶς ἀνείλε πάντας.

skillfully them having-stolen-upon wisely killed all

οἱ δ' ἀδελφοὶ ὀρμήσαντες μανικῶς ὑπ' ἐκείνων,

the and brothers having-rushed madly at that-one

670

οὕτως αὐτοὺς ἐκύκλευσεν ἐκ τῶν ἵππων εἰσρῆψας

thus them he-encircled from the horses having-thrown

ὥς ἂν μὴ βλάψαι ἀκριβῶς ἢ ὅλως τραυματίσαι.

so-that — not to-harm exactly or at-all to-wound

καὶ στραφεὶς πρὸς τὸν στρατηγὸν μακρόθεν καὶ πεζεύσας,

and having-turned toward the general from-afar and having-dismounted

σφικτὰ δῆσας τὰς χεῖρας του, χαμηλὰ προσκυνήσας,

tightly having-bound the hands his low having-bowed

ἤρξατο λέγειν πρὸς αὐτὸν θαρσαλέα τῇ ὄψει.

began to-say to him with-bold the face

675

«συγχώρησόν μοι, αὐθέντα μου, μηδὲν με καταμέμφου.

forgive me lord my in-nothing me blame

ὁ στρατὸς σου ἦτον χωρικὸς τοῦ κρούειν καὶ λαμβάνειν,

the army your was rustic of-the to-strike and to-take

καὶ διὰ τοῦτο οἱ πλείονες εἰς τὸν ἄδην ἀπήλθον·
and because-of this the most to — Hades went-away

οὐ γὰρ εἰμὶ τῶν ἀγενῶν οὐδὲ τῶν ἀνανδρίων,
not for I-am of-the ignoble nor of-the unmanly

680 καὶ εἰ ποτὲ προστάξης με ποιῆσαι σοι δουλείαν,
and if ever you-command me to-do for-you service

τότε λοιπὸν βεβαιωθῆς οἶον γαμβρὸν ἐπήρες·
then then may-you-be-assured what-sort son-in-law you-took

εἰ δὲ καὶ πείραν λάβης μου ἀκριβῇ ἐκ τῶν ἔργων,
if but also trial you-take of-me exact from the deeds

τῆς εὐτυχίας ἑαυτὸν μακαρίσεις πολλάκις.»
of-the good-fortune yourself you-will-call-blessed often

Αὐτίκα δὲ ὁ στρατηγὸς, χεῖρας εἰς ὕψος ἄρας
Immediately and the general hands to height having-raised

685 καὶ ὄμμα πρὸς ἀνατολὰς, τῷ θεῷ ἡὐχαρίστει·
and eye toward east — to-God gave-thanks

«δόξα σοι, λέγων, ὁ θεὸς ὁ συμφερόντως πάντα
glory to-you saying — God the profitably all

οἰκονομῶν τὰ καθ' ἡμᾶς σοφία τῇ ἀρρήτῳ·
managing the(-things) concerning us by-wisdom the ineffable

ὥς γὰρ αὐτὸς ἠθέλησα γαμβροῦ κατηξιώθην
as for myself wished of-son-in-law I-was-deemed-worthy

ωραίου τε καὶ εὐγενοῦς, σώφρονος καὶ ἀνδρείου,
handsome both and noble chaste and brave

690 οἷου οὐδεὶς ἐπέτυχε πώποτε εἰς τὸν κόσμον.»
such-as no-one won ever in the world

Ταῦτα ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς θεῷ εὐχαριστήσας,
These(-things) from whole the soul to-God having-thanked

πρὸς τὸν παῖδα ἐφθέγγετο ἐπιεικῶς τοιάδε·
to the boy he-uttered kindly such(-things)

«χάρις μὲν, ὦ χρυσόγαμβρε, τῷ θεῷ ἐπὶ πᾶσι,
thanks indeed O golden-son-in-law — to-God for all
 τῷ τὰ συμφέροντα ἡμῖν καλῶς οἰκονομοῦντι·
to-the(-one) the profitable(-things) for-us well managing
 ἔπαρον δὲ, παγκάλλιστε, ἦν ἔλαβες ἐκ πόθου· 695
take and most-beautiful her-whom you-took from longing
 εἰ μὴ γὰρ πόθον ἄπειρον πρὸς αὐτὴν πάντως εἶχες
if not for longing boundless toward her altogether you-had
 οὐκ ἂν μόνος ἐτόλμησας ἐμβῆναι εἰς χιλιάδας·
not — alone you-would-have-dared to-enter into thousands
 δεῦρο οὖν ἃς ἀπέλθωμεν εἰς τὸν ἐμὸν τὸν οἶκον,
come then let us-go-away to the my the house
 καὶ μὴ λογίζου παρ' ἡμῶν λυπηρὸν ὑποστῆναι,
and not reckon from us grievous(-thing) to-undergo
 ἀλλ' ἵνα καὶ τὰ σύμφωνα ποιήσωμεν τοῦ γάμου 700
but that also the agreed we-may-make of-the wedding
 συμβόλαια ἐν γράμμασι, τοῦ πατρός σου παρόντος,
contracts in writings of-the father your being-present
 τάχιστα γὰρ ὡς μηνυθεὶς πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἐπανήξεις
most-swiftly for as having-been-sent-word to us you-will-return
 καὶ τὴν προῖκα τῆς θυγατρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀπολήψεις·
and the dowry of-the daughter the my you-will-receive
 ποιήσω καὶ τοὺς γάμους σου ἀκουστοὺς εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
I-will-make also the wedding your famous in the world
 νὰ λάβῃς καὶ τὴν προῖκα σου ἀπ' αὐτῆς τῆς ἡμέρας 705
that you-receive also the dowry your from very the day
 κεντηνάρια ἑξκοσι νομίσματα παλαῖα,
centenaria twenty coins old

- ἃ πρὸ καιροῦ ἐχώρισα καὶ ἐθέμην ἰδίως
which before time I-set-apart and placed privately
 τῆς φιλτάτης εἰς ὄνομα, καὶ ἀργυραῖα σκεύη,
of-the dearest in name and silver vessels
 βιστιάριον χρῆζον τε πεντακοσίας λίτρας,
wardrobe needing and five-hundred pounds
 710 κτήματα πολλὰ ἀκίνητα τριανταεξ εἰσόδων,
estates many immovable thirty-six of-revenues
 βάγιας ἐβδομήκοντα σὺν τῷ μητρώῳ οἴκῳ,
nurses seventy with the maternal house
 περιφανεῖ τυγχάνοντι καὶ πολυτίμῳ ὄντως·
conspicuous being and costly truly
 ὡσαύτως καὶ ἐξαίσια κόσμια τῆς μητρός της,
likewise also splendid ornaments of-the mother her
 στέφανον τὸν παγκόσμιον, ἀξιέπαινον ἔργον
crown the world-famous praiseworthy work
 715 συντεθειμένον ἐκ χρυσοῦ, λίθων τιμιωτάτων·
composed of gold of-stones most-precious
 καὶ μετὰ τούτων πάντων εὕρισκόμενα ζῶα,
and with these all being-found animals
 πρωτεῖα τετρακόσια, στράτορας ὀγδοήντα,
choice-ones four-hundred grooms eighty
 μαγείρους δεκατέσσαρας καὶ μάγκιπας ὡσαύτως,
cooks fourteen and bakers likewise
 καὶ ἕτερα ψυχάρια ἑκατὸν καὶ πενήντα·
and other little-souls hundred and fifty
 720 δώσω σοι καὶ προτίμησιν τῶν λοιπῶν μου παιδίων
I-will-give to-you also preference over-the other my children
 πλοῦτον πολὺν καὶ ἄπειρον, κτήματα οὐκ ὀλίγα,
wealth much and boundless estates not few

σὺν τούτοις ἄλλα πλείονα παράσχω τῶν ῥηθέντων,
with these other more I-will-provide than-the said(-things)
 πρὸ τοῦ γενέσθαι, τέκνον μου, τὴν ἱερολογίαν,
before the to-happen child my the marriage-rite
 ποιήσω καὶ τοὺς γάμους σου ἀκουστούς εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
I-will-make also the wedding your famous in the world
 τοῦ μὴ κρᾶζειν σε πώποτε κλειψίγαμον οἱ νέοι,
of-the not to-call you ever bride-thief the youths
 καὶ ὅτι κόρην ἥρπασας πραγμάτων ἀμοιροῦσαν,
and that girl you-seized of-goods having-no-share
 ὅπερ αἰσχύνῃ πέφυκε πᾶσι τοῖς εὖ φρονοῦσιν·
whicb shame is to-all those well thinking
 καὶ ταῦτα πῶς οὐκ ἐκφυγεῖν ῥαδίως ἐξισχύσεις,
and these(-things) how not to-escape easily you-will-be-able
 εἰ μὴ τανὺν σὺ μεθ' ἡμῶν ὑποστραφῆς ἐν οἴκῳ,
if not now you with us return in house
 ὅπως καὶ ἡ στρατήγισσα παρηγορίαν λάβῃ
so-that also the general's-wife consolation may-take
 (οὐδαμῶς γὰρ ἐπίσταται ποῖος ἄρα τυγχάνεις),
in-no-way for she-knows who then you-are
 καὶ χαίρουσα τῶν ἀγαθῶν μεγαλύνῃ δοτήρα·
and rejoicing of-the good(-things) may-magnify (the)-giver
 πείσθητι οὖν, καλὲ γαμβρὲ, καὶ ἐλθὲ μετ' ἐμένα.»
be-persuaded then fine son-in-law and come with me
 Ταῦτα εἰπὼν ὁ στρατηγὸς κολακεύων τὸν νέον,
These(-things) having-said the general flattering the youth
 παρευθὺς ὁ νεώτερος τῷ στρατηγῷ ἀντέφη·
forthwith the younger to-the general replied
 «πεισθῆναι σου τῆς συμβουλῆς ἀρίστης ὑπαρχούσης,
to-be-persuaded your of-the counsel best being

725

730

735

αὐθέντα μου καὶ πενθερὲ, δίκαιόν με τυγχάνει,

lord my and father-in-law just me it-is

καὶ δέδοικα μὴ κίνδυνος ἐκ τούτου μοι ἐπέλθῃ,

and I-fear lest danger from this upon-me come

καὶ μετ' αἰσχύνῃς θάνατον οἰκτρότατον ὀφλήσω,

and with shame death most-pitiable I-incur

740 ὥς ἐχθρὸς καὶ ἐπίβουλος καὶ ἐχθρὸς γεγονώς σου·

as enemy and plotter and enemy having-become your

πείθει με γὰρ τὸ συνειδὸς τηρεῖν τὰ ἐναντία,

persuades me for the conscience to-keep the opposite(-things)

καὶ τὴν ὄψιν ἐρυθριῶ ἰδεῖν τῆς στρατηγίσσης·

and the face I-blush to-see of-the general's-wife

ἐγὼ, κύριε μου πενθερὲ, ἐπιθυμίαν εἶχον

I lord my father-in-law desire had

τὴν θυγατέρα σου λαβεῖν διὰ τὸ ταύτης κάλλος,

the daughter your to-take because-of the her beauty

745 οὐχὶ δὲ πλούτου εἵνεκα ἢ διὰ τῶν κτημάτων·

not and of-wealth for-the-sake or through the estates

ταῦτα πάντα χαρίζομαι τοῖς γυναικαδελφοῖς μου·

these all I-grant to-the brothers-in-law my

ἄρκοῦν ἐμοὶ τὰ κάλλη της ἀντὶ πολλῶν προικίων,

sufficing for-me the beauties her instead-of many dowries

πλοῦτον παρέχει ὁ θεὸς καὶ πενίαν ὡσαύτως,

wealth provides — God and poverty likewise

καὶ ταπεινοὶ καὶ ἀνυψοί, κατάγει καὶ ἀνάγει·

and he-humbles and exalts brings-down and brings-up

750 ὑπὲρ δὲ τοῦ ὑποστραφῆν, οὐ μὴ σε παρακούσω·

for and the to-return not — you I-shall-disobey

ἀλλ' ἄς ἀπέλθω πρότερον εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν μητέρα,

but let me-go-away first to the my mother

ἴν' ἴδῃ ὁ ἐμὸς πατήρ νύμφην ἣν θέλει ἔχειν
that may-see the my father bride whom he-wishes to-have
 καὶ νὰ δοξάσῃ τὸν θεὸν καὶ ταχὺ ὑποστρέφω·
and that he-may-glorify — God and quickly I-return
 ἀλλὰ μὴ τοῦτο λυπηθῆς, ὑπερέχου δὲ μᾶλλον,
but not this be-grieved pray-for(-us) and rather
 τέκνα σου γὰρ τυγχάνομεν καὶ δοῦλοι τῆς ψυχῆς σου.» 755
children your for we-are and slaves of-the soul your
 Καὶ θαυμάσας ὁ στρατηγὸς τὴν σύνεσιν τοῦ νέου·
And having-marveled-at the general the understanding of-the youth
 «ὁ θεὸς, ἔφη, τέκνον μου, ἵνα σε εὐλογῇ
 — God he-said child my that you may-bless
 καὶ ἀξιώσῃ χαίρεσθαι τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς σου!»
and may-deem-worthy to-enjoy the years of-the life your
 Καὶ ἀσπασάμενος αὐτὸν ἐπέβηκε τοῦ ἵππου
And having-embraced him he-mounted the horse
 καὶ εἰς τὴν κόρην μὲν αὐτὸς, στρατηγὸς δὲ ἐν οἴκῳ, 760
and to the girl indeed he general and in house
 συνοδοιπόρους τοὺς υἱοὺς ἐκ τοῦ πώματος ἔχων,
fellow-travelers the sons from the drink having
 σφόδρα ὑπερθαυμάζοντες τὴν τοῦ παιδὸς ἀνδρείαν.
greatly marveling-exceedingly-at the of-the boy courage

Digenis rides on with the girl, who fears the troop his father brings out and is ashamed to come without her maids, and he reassures her. Gifts are given, the procession goes home rejoicing as if nature shared the joy, and Digenis' mother and grandmother welcome the bride.

Ὁ δέ γε ὄντως θαυμαστὸς ἐκείνος νεανίας

The but at-least truly marvelous that young-man

ἐν τῷ τόπῳ καταλαβὼν ἔνθα ἦτον ἡ κόρη·

in the place having-reached where was the girl

765 «δεῦρο, γλυκύτατόν μου φῶς, ἐξεφώνησε λέγων,

come sweetest my light he-cried-out saying

δεῦρο, ἄνθος γλυκύτατον, ῥόδον μεμυρισμένον,

come flower sweetest rose perfumed

δεῦρο, δάμαλις ἡ ἐμὴ ἦν ἔζευξεν ὁ ἔρως,

come heifer the my whom yoked the love

τὴν ὁδὸν διανύσωμεν, οὐδεὶς γὰρ ὁ κωλύων,

the road let-us-accomplish no-one for the hindering

δρόμον οὐδεὶς, πανεύμορφε, ἐστὶν ὁ ἐμποδιζων,

course no-one all-lovely is the obstructing

770 μόνον πατρὸς καὶ ἀδελφῶν τῶν σῶν περισφθέντων·

only of-father and of-brothers the your having-been-preserved

οὐ γὰρ τὸ πρόσταγμα τὸ σὸν ἠθέλησ' ἀθετῆσαι.»

not for the command the your I-wished to-set-aside

Καὶ ἐκ τοῦ δένδρου παρευθὺς κατελθοῦσα ἡ κόρη,

And from the tree forthwith having-come-down the girl

χαρᾶς καὶ ἡδονῆς πολλῆς ὑποπλησθεῖσα λίαν,

with-joy and with-pleasure much filled very

περιπατοῦσα γαληνὰ τὸν ἄγουρον ὑπήντα

walking calmly the youth went-to-meet

καὶ, πλησίον γενόμενοι, μετὰ πόθου ἠρώτα·

and near having-come with longing asked

«πάντως οὐδὲν ἐνάντιον συνέβη σοι, ψυχή μου,

altogether nothing adverse happened to-you soul my

ἀναγγεῖλόν μοι τάχιον περὶ τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου.»

announce to-me sooner about the brothers my

«Μὴ θλίβεσαι, ψυχίτζα μου, ὁ ἄγουρος ἀντέφη,

Not be-troubled little-soul my the youth replied

ἐκτὸς γὰρ τῶν ἐπαινετῶν ἀγούρων τοῦ πατρός σου,

outside for of-the praiseworthy youths of-the father your

οὐδεὶς ὑπέστη μερικῶς οὔτε καθόλου βλάβην.»

no-one underwent partly nor at-all harm

Καὶ κύψας εἵλκυσεν αὐτὴν ἐπάνω ἐν τῷ ἵππῳ,

And having-stooped he-drew her up on the horse

καὶ ὑποδέχεται αὐτὴν ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ ἵππῳ·

and receives her on the own horse

φιλήματός τε καθαρῷ ἡδέως κορεσθέντες

with-kiss and pure sweetly having-been-sated

καὶ χαίροντες διώδευον μεθ' ἡδονῆς μεγάλης.

and rejoicing they-traveled with pleasure great

Καὶ ὥς ἐσκέψαντο αὐτὸν αἱ βίγλαι τοῦ πατρός του

And as saw him the watches of-the father his

ἐν ταῖς ἀγκάλαις φέροντα τὴν ῥοδόμορφον κόρην,

in the arms carrying the rose-formed girl

μετὰ σπουδῆς ἀπέτρεχον εἰπεῖν τὰ συγχαρίκια.

with haste they-ran-off to-tell the good-news

Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν ὁ πατήρ τὴν τούτου ἔλευσιν ὅλως,

As and heard the father the his arrival wholly

775

780

785

- πλήρης γενόμενος χαρᾶς εὐθὺς καβαλλικεύει,
full having-become of-joy at-once rides
- 790 οἱ πέντε γυναικάδελφοι, τρισχίλιοι ἀγούροι,
the five brothers-in-law three-thousand youths
 δώδεκα σελλοχάλινα ἔστρωσαν γυναικεῖα,
twelve saddles-and-bridles they-spread women's
 δύο ὑπῆρχον χυμευτὰ μετὰ μαργαριτάρων
two were enameled with pearls
 καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ ὁλόχρυσά μάλιστα μετὰ ζώων·
and the rest all-golden especially with animals
 πέπλα δὲ εἶχον ἅπασαι αἱ σέλλαι παγκαλλίστως·
coverings and had all the saddles most-beautifully
- 795 βλαττία ἦσαν σκεπαστοὶ οἱ ἵπποι πάντες μάλα
with-silks were covered the horses all very
 ὑπ' αὐτῶν καλυπτόμενοι καὶ τοῦ πολλοῦ χρυσοῦ·
by them being-covered and by-the much gold
 ὀπισθεν τούτων σάλπιγγες καὶ βούκινα βαρέα,
behind these trumpets and horns deep
 τύμπανά τε καὶ ὄργανα ἐκρούοντο εἰς ἄκρον,
drums both and instruments were-struck to utmost
 καὶ ἦν ἦχος ἐξάκουστος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ·
and was sound far-heard in that the hour
- 800 ὥς ἄχρι τρία μίλια τοῦ οἴκου προσελθόντες,
as to three miles of-the house having-come-forward
 οὔσπερ ἰδοῦσα μήκοθεν ἡ πανώραιος κόρη
whom having-seen from-far the all-beautiful girl
 σύντρομος ὅλη γέγονε τοὺς ὄντας ἀγνοοῦσα,
trembling wholly became those being not-knowing
 καὶ πρὸς τὸν παῖδα ἔφησε λίαν συντετριμμένη·
and to the boy said very crushed

«ἐὰν ξένοι τυγχάνωσιν, ἡμᾶς ἀπωχωρίσουν.»

if strangers they-happen us they-will-separate

«Μὴ φοβοῦ, φῶς μου τὸ γλυκὺ, ὁ νέος ἀπεκρίθη,

Not fear light my the sweet the youth answered

ὁ πενθερός σου ἔνι αὐτὸς, διὰ σὲ ἐκοπώθη.»

the father-in-law your is he because-of you he-toiled

Πάλιν τὸ ἡλιογέννημα τὸν ἄγουρον ἀντέφη·

Again the sun-born the youth replied

ἐντρέπομαι, ψυχίτζα μου, δι' οὗ μόνῃ τυγχάνω·

I-am-ashamed little-soul my because-of which alone I-am

εἰ τοῦ πατρός μου ἤκουσας καὶ μετ' ἐμοῦ ἐστράφης,

if of-the father my you-had-heard and with me you-had-retained

ἄρτι νὰ εἶχον τὰς βάγιας μου καὶ τὴν ἐξόμπλισίν μου,

now that I-had the nurses my and the array my

νὰ ἐγίνωσκε καὶ ὁ σὸς πατὴρ τίνος παιδὶν ἀπήρες·

that knew also the your father whose child you-took-away

ἀλλ' ὅμως ὥς τὸ ἐδίκησας, ἀπολογίας ἔχε.»

but yet as it you-judged excuses have

«Μὴ λυπείσαι, πανεύγενε, διὰ τὴν μοναξίαν,

Not be-grieved all-noble because-of the solitude

σὲ γὰρ πάντες γινώσκουσι καὶ μόνῃ τυγχάνεις,

you for all know even-if also alone you-are

καὶ τούτου μέμψις ἔνεκα ὑπάρχει οὐδεμία.»

and of-this blame for-the-sake is none

Ὅτε δὲ ἐπλησίασαν, χαιρετίζουν ἀλλήλους·

When and they-drew-near they-greet one-another

ἐπέξουσεν ὁ νεώτερος μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς του,

dismounted the younger with the beloved his

ἐπέξουσεν καὶ ὁ ἀμυράς, ἡσπάσατο τοὺς δύο·

dismounted also the emir he-embraced the two

805

810

815

«ὁ θεὸς, ἔφη, τέκνον μου, ἵνα σας εὐλογήσῃ,

— God he-said child my that you may-bless

820 αὐξήσῃ καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου ἐν εἰρήνῃ καὶ πλούτῳ,

may-increase also the years your in peace and wealth

καὶ βασιλείας τῆς αὐτοῦ ἐπιδείξῃ μετόχους!»

and of-kingdom the his may-show sharers

Εἰς δὲ σέλλαν τὴν χυμευτὴν καθίσαντες τὴν κόρην,

Onto and saddle the enameled having-seated the girl

καὶ πολύτιμον στέφανον αὐτῇ περιβαλόντες,

and costly crown on-her having-put

καὶ ἕκαστος τῶν συγγενῶν τῶν ἐκεῖ εὑρεθέντων

and each of-the kinsmen of-those there found

825 δῶρα αὐτῇ προσήνεγκαν ὑπέρτιμα τῷ ὄντι·

gifts to-her brought surpassing-in-value in-the being

καὶ, τὸν παῖδα κοσμήσαντες ὥς ἔπρεπε τῷ νέῳ,

and the boy having-adorned as befitted the youth

τὰ βούκινα ἐδώκασιν, ὑπέστρεφον εὐθέως,

the trumpets they-gave they-retuned at-once

ἠλάλαζον αἱ σάλπιγγες, τὰ τύμπανα ἐφώνουν,

shouted the trumpets the drums sounded

ἐκρούοντο τὰ ὄργανα, ἐμελώδουν τὰ πάντα·

were-struck the instruments sang the all

830 κιθάραι ἦχον ἔπεμπον καὶ πᾶν μουσικὸν εἶδος,

lyres sound sent-forth and every musical kind

ἀδόμενα ὑπέστρεφον ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ συντόμως.

being-sung they-retuned into the house swiftly

Χαρὰν τὴν ὑπερβάλλουσαν τὴν γιναμένην τότε

Joy the surpassing the having-come-about then

τίς ἐρμηνεύσαι δυνηθῇ ἢ εἰπεῖν ἐξισχύσει;

who to-interpret may-be-able or to-tell will-be-able

Ἐδόκουν γὰρ ὡς καὶ ἡ γῆ ἐν ᾗ περιεπάτουν

They-thought for as also the earth on which they-walked

καὶ αὕτῃ συνετέρπετο περιπατούντων πάντων·

also it rejoiced-with walking all

καὶ πᾶς ὅστις ἐτύγχανεν εἰς τὴν χαρὰν ἐκείνην

and every-one who happened at the joy that

ἄλλος ἐξ ἄλλου γέγονεν ἀπὸ τῆς θυμηδίας·

other from other became from the delight

τὰ βουνία ἐσκίρτιζον, ἐχόρευον αἱ πέτραι,

the hills leapt danced the rocks

ἀνέβλυζον οἱ ποταμοὶ, ἠγάλλοντο τὰ δένδρα,

gushed-forth the rivers exulted the trees

ὁ ἀὴρ ἐφαιδρύνετο ἐν τῇ χαρᾷ ἐκείνῃ.

the air was-brightened in the joy that

Ὡς δὲ τοῦ οἴκου ἔμελλον ἀπάρτι πλησιάσαι,

As and to-the house they-were-about now to-draw-near

πλῆθος ἄπειρον γυναικῶν αὐτοῖς συναπαντῶσιν·

multitude boundless of-women them meet

ἦν γὰρ καὶ ἡ στρατήγισσα πρὸς ἀπαντὴν τῶν νέων,

was for also the general's-wife to meeting of-the young(-ones)

καὶ σὺν αὐτῇ ἡ πάντερπνος μήτηρ ἡ τοῦ Ἀκρίτου,

and with her the all-delightful mother the — of-Akritas

οἰκέτιδες τε εὐπρεπεῖς λαμπρῶς ἠγλαϊσμένοι,

maidservants and comely splendidly adorned

αἱ μὲν ἄνθη κατέχουσιν ῥόδα τε καὶ μυρσίνας,

some indeed flowers holding roses both and myrtles

τὸν ἀέρα μυρίζουσαι ὁσμαὶ θυμαμάτων·

the air perfuming scents of-incense

835

840

845

ἕτεραι χειροκύμβαλα ἔκρουον μελωδοῦσαι

others hand-cymbals struck singing

μέλος λίαν ἡδύτατον, ἐπαινοῦσαι τὸν παῖδα

song very sweetest praising the boy

850 καὶ τὴν παρθένον μετ' αὐτοῦ καὶ γονεῖς ἀμφοτέρων·

and the virgin with him and parents of-both

ἔδαφος ἐπανεστρωτο μυρσίνας τε καὶ δάφνας,

ground was-strewn with-myrtles both and laurels

ρόδα, ναρκίσσους καὶ πολλὰ εὐωδέστατα ἄνθη.

roses narcissi and many most-fragrant flowers

Ἡ πενθερὰ τὴν ἐαυτῆς κατησπάζετο νύμφην,

The mother-in-law the her-own embraced bride

ἔργα αὐτῆς ἐξαίρετα φιλοτίμως παρέχει,

works her choice munificently provides

855 καὶ ἦν ἄπληστος ἡδονῇ καὶ μεγίστη τερπνότης.

and was insatiable pleasure and greatest delight

The emir invites the general to the wedding, and the families meet. The dowry contracts are drawn up, too long to recount, and the gifts are listed: horses, hawks, icons of the Theodores, the sword of Chosroes. The wedding lasts three months, and a second follows at the general's house. Digenis then chooses to live alone at the frontiers with his wife, kills raiders who plot to seize her, and terrifies Babylon, Tarsus, and Baghdad.

Εἰς δὲ τὸν οἶκον φθάσαντες, ὁ ἀμηράς εὐθέως

Into and the house having-arrived the emir at-once

γυναικαδελφούς τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ καὶ στρατὸν οὐκ ὀλίγον

brothers-in-law the his and army not small

συναριθμήσας ἔστειλε τρισχιλίους ἀγούρους

having-counted-together sent three-thousand youths

νὰ εἰπωσι τὸν στρατηγὸν ἵν' ἔλθῃ εἰς τοὺς γάμους·

that they-may-tell the general that he-come to the wedding

«κέλευσον, ὦ συμπενθερὲ, τοῦ ἐλθεῖν εἰς τοὺς γάμους,

bid O fellow-father-in-law of-the to-come to the wedding

οὓς ὁ θεὸς ἡτοίμασεν, ἡμῶν μὴ βουλομένων.»

which — God prepared we not wishing

Ὡς δὲ καὶ τούτων ἤκουσεν μὴ ἀμελήσας ὅλως,

As and also these he-heard not having-neglected at-all

ἅπαντα ἅπερ εἰς τιμὴν τῶν φιλάτων [προσῆκον]

all which for honor of-the dearest befitting

μεθ' ἑαυτοῦ παραλαβὼν ἀνείκαστόν τε πλῆθος

with himself having-taken incomparable and multitude

τῇ ἑξῆς ἐπορεύετο μετὰ τῆς στρατηγίσσης·

on-the next(-day) he-traveled with the general's-wife

οὐδὲν γὰρ εἶχον τι λέγειν ἢ ποσῶς ἀμφιβάλλειν,

not for they-had anything to-say or at-all to-doubt

860

865

οἴου γαμβροῦ τετύχηκαν γεγονότες ἐν γνώσει·

what-sort son-in-law they-had-won having-become in knowledge

σὺν προθυμίᾳ τὸ λοιπὸν καὶ χαρμονῇ μεγίστῃ

with eagerness the rest and joy greatest

τὴν ὁδὸν μάλλον ἤνυσον ἄδοντες τὰ τοῦ γάμου

the road rather they-accomplished singing the(-songs) of-the wedding

870 καὶ οἱ τῆς κόρης ἀδελφοὶ μετὰ τῶν συμπαρόντων·

and the of-the girl brothers with those present-together

ἄφιξιν δὲ τὴν ἑαυτῶν ὁ τοῦ παιδὸς ἀκούσας

arrival and the their the of-the boy having-beard

πατὴρ πρὸς ὑπαντὴν καλὴν μετὰ λαοῦ ἐξήλθε·

father to meeting fine with people went-out

βουλόμενος δ' ὁ θαυμαστὸς κατελθεῖν ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου,

wishing and the marvelous to-dismount from the horse

ὁ στρατηγὸς ἐκώλυσεν ἑαυτὸν ἐξορκίσας·

the general prevented him having-adjured

875 ἀλλήλους τε ὥς ἔπρεπεν ἀσπασάμενοι μάλα

one-another and as befitted having-embraced much

ἐπὶ τὸν οἶκον ἔσπευδον καὶ ὀλίγον προβάντων

to the house they-hastened and little having-gone-forward

πεζοπόροι ἠπῆντησαν ἀναρίθμητον πλῆθος,

foot-travelers met countless multitude

καὶ μετ' ἐκείνους ἕτεροι σύστημα οἰκετῖδων·

and after those others company of-maidservants

τοῦ οἴκου δὲ τὰ σύνορα καταλαβόντες ἤδη

of-the house and the bounds having-reached now

880 μετὰ κόσμου τοῦ πρέποντος πλήθους θυμιαμάτων

with adornment the fitting of-multitude of-incense

ρόδόσταμμα καὶ τῶν λοιπῶν παντοίων μυρισμάτων.

rose-water and of-the other all-kinds perfumes

Ταῦτα ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ παιδὸς ἤγαγεν ἡ ὡραία·
These(-things) the mother of-the boy brought the beautiful
 τὰ δὲ ἐντεῦθεν ποῖος νοῦς φράσαι ὅλως ἰσχύσει;
the(-things) and from-here what mind to-tell at-all will-be-able
 τὴν θαυμαστὴν ὑποδοχὴν τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ ἐκείνην,
the marvelous reception of-the emir that
 τὴν καλὴν συναναστροφὴν τῆς ἑαυτοῦ συζύγου,
the fine conversation of-the his wife
 εὐωχίαν τὴν εὖτακτον καὶ ἀρμόδιον τάξιν,
banquet the well-ordered and fitting order
 ἐδεσμάτων τὴν ἄπειρον πολυποίκιλον θέαν
of-dishes the boundless much-varied sight
 τὴν ἐκ πάντων παράθεσιν ζώων ἀναριθμήτων;
the from all serving of-animals countless
 τῶν μίμων τὰς μεταβολὰς, αὐλητῶν μελωδίας,
of-the mimes the changes of-flute-players melodies
 χορευτρίων λιγύσματα, ποδῶν τὰς μεταβάσεις,
of-dancing-girls shrill-songs of-feet the changes
 τῶν χορῶν τὸ ἐνέδονον καὶ ξένην μελωδίαν;
of-the dances the pleasing and strange melody
 κάλλος γὰρ εἶχον ἅπαντα τέρψιν ἄλλο πρὸς ἄλλο.
beauty for had all delight one to other
 Προικὸς δὲ τὰ συμβόλαια τῇ ἐξῆς πληρωθέντα,
Of-dowry and the contracts on-the next(-day) fulfilled
 τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς ἀδύνατον κατ' ἔπος ἐξιέναι·
the(-things) in them impossible by word to-go-through

885

890

- 895 ἄπερ δὲ οὐ συνέθεντο ἀμφότεροι τοῖς τέκνοις
which but not agreed both for-the children
 καλῶς τε καὶ τὰ κτήματα εὐαρίθμητα ὄντα
well and also the estates countable being
 μὴ λέξαι ἐξ ὀνόματος ἀπρεπέστατον ἔστιν
not to-say by name most-unseemly is
 τῶν τε ζώων τὸν ἀριθμὸν καὶ τῶν λοιπῶν πραγμάτων.
of-the both animals the number and of-the other things
 Δέδωκε μὲν ὁ στρατηγὸς ἵππους δώδεκα μαύρους,
Gave indeed the general horses twelve black
- 900 τερπνὰ φαρία δώδεκα εὐμορφότατα λίαν,
delightful horses twelve most-lovely very
 δώδεκα μούλας ἐκλεκτὰς μετὰ σελλοχαλίνων
twelve mules choice with saddles-and-bridles
 ἀργυρῶν τε καὶ χυμευτῶν, ἔργων ἀξιεπαίνων·
silver both and enameled works praiseworthy
 οἰκέτας νέους δώδεκα, στράτορας χρυσοζώνους,
servants young twelve grooms gold-belted
 δώδεκα παρδοκνηγοὺς λίαν δοκιμωτάτους,
twelve leopard-hunters very most-approved
- 905 χιονίδας ἰέρακας δώδεκα Ἀβασγίας,
snow-white hawks twelve of-Abasgia
 φαλκωνάρια δώδεκα καὶ φάλκωνας ὡσαύτως·
falconers twelve and falcons likewise
 εἰκόνας δύο χυμευτὰς ἀγίων Θεοδώρων,
icons two enameled of-holy Theodores
 καὶ τένδαν χρυσοκέντητον, ὠραίαν, παμμεγέθη,
and tent gold-embroidered beautiful huge
 ζώων ἔχουσιν συγκοπὰς πολυμόρφους ἰδέας,
of-animals having cut-outs many-formed shapes

τὰ σχοινία μεταξωτὰ, ἀργυροὶ δὲ οἱ πάλοι,

the ropes silken silver and the poles

κοντάρια κυπρίζοντα ἀραβίτικα δύο,

spears Cyprian-glinting Arabian two

καὶ τοῦ Χοσρόου τὸ σπαθινὸ τὸ διαφημισμένον.

and — of-Chosroes the sword the famed

Καὶ ταῦτα μὲν ὁ στρατηγὸς χαρίσματα παρέσχε

And these(-things) indeed the general gifts provided

γαμβρὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν Διγενῆ· ὁ δ' ἀμειβόμενος ὡσαύτως

son-in-law his — Digenis the and emir likewise

θεώρετρον πολύτιμον παρέδωκε τῇ κόρῃ·

mirror costly handed-over to-the girl

ὁμοίως καὶ ἡ στρατήγισσα ἡ μάμμη τοῦ Ἀκρίτου·

likewise also the general's-wife the grandmother — of-Akritas

οἱ πέντε γυναικάδελφοι καὶ συγγενεῖς οἱ ἄλλοι

the five brothers-in-law and kinsmen the other

μαργαριτάριν ἄπειρον, χρυσίον καὶ λιθάριν,

pearl boundless gold and precious-stone

καὶ βλαττία πολύτιμα ἄπειρα καὶ ὀξέα·

and silks costly boundless and purples

ἡ δέ γε τούτου πενθερὰ παρέδωκεν ὡσαύτως

the but at-least his mother-in-law handed-over likewise

πράσινον λευκοτρίβλαττον καὶ ζώνας πολυτίμους,

green white-triple-silk and girdles costly

τέσσαρα χρυσογράμματα φακεώλια ἄσπρα,

four gold-lettered turbans white

καββάδδην τε χρυσοφυῇ ὀπισθεν γρύψους ἔχον·

kabbadion and gold-woven behind griffins having

910

915

920

- ὁ πρῶτος γυναικαδελφὸς δέδωκε δέκα νέους
the first brother-in-law gave ten youths
- 925 ἄσκευάστους καὶ εὐειδεῖς καὶ τῇ κόμῃ ὡραίους,
beardless and comely and in-the hair beautiful
 ἡμφιεσμένους περσικὴν στολὴν ἀπὸ βλαττίου
clothed Persian garment of silk
 καὶ χρυσομάνικα καλὰ εἰς τοὺς αὐτῶν τραχήλους·
and gold-collars fine on the their necks
 θάτερος γυναικαδελφὸς σκουτάρῳ καὶ κοντάρῳ·
the-other brother-in-law shield and spear
 ἄλλοι δὲ τούτου συγγενεῖς ἔδωκαν ἄλλα πλείιστα,
others and his kinsmen gave other very-many
- 930 ὧν οὐκ ἐξὸν ἀπαριθμεῖν τὸ εἶδος τῶν πραγμάτων.
of-which not possible to-count the kind of-the things
 Καὶ τρεῖς μῆνας ἐποίησε τελούμενος ὁ γάμος,
And three months spent being-celebrated the wedding
 ἥ δὲ χαρὰ οὐκ ἔληγεν ἡ πάνδημος ἐκείνη.
the and joy not ceased the public that
 Μετὰ δὲ τὸ συντελεσθῆναι τὸν τριμηναιὸν γάμον,
After and the to-be-completed the three-month wedding
 παραλαβὼν ὁ στρατηγὸς πάντας τοὺς συμπενθέρους
having-taken the general all the fellow-fathers-in-law
- 935 καὶ τὸν γαμβρὸν τὸν ἴδιον, ἦλθεν εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν,
and the son-in-law the own came to the house
 καὶ γάμος ἄλλος γέγονεν φαιδρότερος τοῦ πρώτου.
and wedding other was-made more-brilliant than-the first
 Ἦγάλλετο ὁ στρατηγὸς τοῦ παιδὸς ὡς ἑώρα
Exulted the general of-the boy as he-saw
 τὴν εὐτακτον κατάστασιν, τὴν νουνεχὴ ἀνδρείαν,
the well-ordered bearing the sensible courage

τῶν ἡθῶν τὴν πραότητα καὶ λοιπὴν εὐκοσμίαν·
of-the manners the gentleness and other decorum

ἡ στρατήγισσα ἔχαιρε καθορῶσα τὸ κάλλος
the general's-wife rejoiced beholding the beauty 940

καὶ τὴν αὐτοῦ πανευπρεπῇ καὶ ξένην ἡλικίαν·
and the his all-comely and strange stature

οἱ τούτου γυναικαδελφοὶ ἐπισκέπτοντες σφόδρα
the his brothers-in-law visiting greatly

οἱ ταῖς αὐτῶν καυχώμενοι ἀεὶ ἀνδραγαθίαις,
those in-the their boasting always brave-deeds

καὶ δόξα τῷ μόνῳ ἀγαθῷ ἐπιτελοῦντι ἔργον.
and glory to-the only good accomplishing work

Ἐν γὰρ ταῖς διοικήσεσι τῶν μεγίστων πραγμάτων
In for the administrations of-the greatest things 945

ὁ θεὸς συνεισέρχεται, καὶ μηδεὶς ἀπιστεῖτω·
— God enters-in-with and no-one let-disbelieve

εὐλόγως τοίνυν πρὸς θεὸν ἀναπέμψωμεν χάριν,
reasonably therefore to God let-us-send-up thanks

αὐτὸς γὰρ πάντων ὁ δοτὴρ τῶν ἀγαθῶν ὑπάρχει.
he for of-all the giver of-the good(-things) is

Ἐκέῃσε τοίνυν ἱκανὰς ποιήσαντες ἡμέρας,
There therefore many having-spent days

ὁ ἀμηνῶς ὑπέστρεψεν ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ οἴκῳ,
the emir returned into the own house 950

καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ὁ Διγενὴς καὶ ἡ τούτου φιλτάτη
and with him — Digenis and the his dearest

μεγίστης προσελεύσεως γεναμένης καὶ αὖτις.
greatest procession having-happened and again

Εἶθ' οὕτως λίαν δόκιμος ἀποφανθεὶς ὁ νέος

Then thus very approved having-been-shown the youth

γέγονε δὲ περίφημος ἐν ταῖς ἀνδραγαθίαις,

became and renowned in the brave-deeds

955 ὥστε σχεδὸν εἰς ἅπαντα βεβαιωθείς τὸν κόσμον·

so-that almost in all having-been-confirmed the world

καὶ μόνος ἡρετίσατο διάγειν εἰς τὰς ἄκρας,

and alone he-chose to-live at the frontiers

τὴν κόρην φέρων σὺν αὐτῷ καὶ ἰδίους οἰκέτας·

the girl bringing with himself and own servants

πόθον γὰρ εἶχεν ἄπειρον τοῦ μόνος συνδιάγειν

longing for he-had boundless of-the alone to-live-together

καὶ τοῦ μόνος περιπατεῖν δίχα τινὸς ἑτέρου.

and of-the alone to-walk without any other

960 Ἐνθα γὰρ ἐπορεύετο τένδαν εἶχεν ἰδίαν,

Where for he-traveled tent he-had own

εἰς ἣν ἡ κόρη καὶ αὐτὸς συνεδιάγον μόνου·

in which the girl and he lived-together alone

καὶ τένδαν ἄλλην εἶχασιν αἱ βάγλαι αἱ δύο,

and tent other had the nurses the two

ἑτέραν δὲ οἱ θαυμαστοὶ ἀγούροι τοῦ Ἀκρίτου,

another and the marvelous youths — of-Akritas

ἐκ διαστήματος πολλοῦ ἀπέχοντες ἀλλήλοις.

from distance much being-apart from-one-another

965 Πολλοὶ δὲ τῶν ἀπελατῶν τοῦτο ἀναμαθόντες,

Many and of-the raiders this having-learned

συμβούλιον ἐποίησαν τὴν κόρην ἀφαρπάσαι·

counsel made the girl to-carry-off

καὶ πάντας συναπέκτεινε καθυποτάσσων τούτους,

and all he-killed-together subduing them

ὅπως τε κατεπτόησε πᾶσαν τὴν Βαβυλῶνα,
how and he-terrified all — Babylon
 Ταρσὸν ὁμοῦ καὶ τὸν Βαγδᾶ, τοὺς Μαυροχιονίτας,
Tarsus together and — Baghdad the Maurochionites
 καὶ ἄλλα μέρη ἱκανὰ τῶν δεινῶν Αἰθιοπῶν.
and other parts many of-the terrible Ethiopians

970

XVIII • THE EMPEROR'S VISIT

The emperor Basil, campaigning nearby, writes asking to see him, and Digenis meets him at the Euphrates. He counsels the emperor on just rule and offers him the tribute of Ikonion, and the emperor makes him patrician and gives him the frontiers by chrysobull. Before him Digenis then runs down a wild horse and kills a lion barehanded, and from that day he is called Basil Akritas.

Ταῦτα τὰ κατορθώματα ὁ βασιλεὺς ἀκούσας
These the achievements the emperor having-heard
 ὁ τηνικαῦτα τὴν ἀρχὴν τοῖς Ῥωμαίοις διέπων,
the at-that-time the rule for-the Romans administering
 Βασίλειος ὁ εὐτυχῆς καὶ μέγας τροπαιοῦχος,
Basil the fortunate and great trophy-bearer
 ὁ καὶ συνθάψας μεθ' ἑαυτοῦ τὴν βασιλείον δόξαν
the also having-buried-with with himself the imperial glory
 (ἔτυχε γὰρ κατὰ Περσῶν ποιῶν τὴν ἐκστρατεῖαν
happened for against Persians making the expedition
 ἐν ἐκείνοις τοῖς μέρεσιν ἐν οἷς ὁ παῖς διῆγεν),
in those the parts in which the boy lived
 καὶ μαθὼν τὰ περὶ αὐτοῦ ἐξεπλήττετο σφόδρα.
and having-learned the(-things) about him was-astounded greatly
 Ποθήσας οὖν κατὰ πολὺν θεάσασθαι τὸν νέον,
Having-longed then by much to-behold the youth

975

- γραφήν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔστειλε περιέχουσιν τὰδε
letter to him he-sent containing these(-things)
- 980 «τὰ περὶ σοῦ, ὦ τέκνον μου, ἡ ἐμὴ βασιλεία
the(-things) about you O child my the my majesty
 «μαθοῦσα κατορθώματα εὐφράνθημεν ἐν τούτοις,
having-learned achievements we-were-glad in these
 «τῷ συνεργῶντι σοι θεῷ ἀναπέμποντες χάριν·
to-the working-with you God sending-up thanks
 «ἐν ἐφέσει δὲ γεγόναμεν αὐτοψεῖ τοῦ ἰδεῖν σε,
in desire and we-have-become in-person of-the to-see you
 «καὶ παρασχεῖν σοι ἀμοιβὰς τῶν σῶν ἔργων ἀξίας·
and to-provide for-you rewards of-the your deeds worthy
- 985 «ἐλθὲ τοίνυν ὡς πρὸς ἡμᾶς χαίρων ἀνενδοιάστως,
come therefore as to us rejoicing without-hesitation
 «μὴ ὑποπτεύων λυπηρὸν παρ' ἡμῶν ὑποστῆναι.»
not suspecting grievous(-thing) from us to-undergo
 Ὁ δὲ ταύτην δεξάμενος ἀντιγραφὴν ἐκπέμπει·
He and it having-received reply sends-forth
 «ἐγὼ μὲν δοῦλος ἔσχατος τοῦ σοῦ κράτους τυγχάνω,
I indeed slave last of-the your sovereignty I-am
 «εἰ καὶ πάντων τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἀμέτοχος ὑπάρχω·
if even of-all the good(-things) without-share I-am
- 990 «ποῖον δὲ, δέσποτα, ἐμὸν κατόρθωμα θαυμάζεις
what and master my achievement do-you-marvel-at
 «τοῦ ταπεινοῦ καὶ εὐτελοῦς καὶ παντελῶς ἀτόλμου;
of-the humble and paltry and altogether undaring
 «ἀλλ' ὅμως πάντα δυνατὰ τῷ πρὸς θεὸν θαρροῦντι·
but yet all possible to-the in God trusting
 «καὶ ἐπειδὴ περ βούλεσαι ἰδεῖν τὸν σὸν οἰκέτην,
and since you-wish to-see the your servant

«μετ' ὀλίγων παραγενοῦ πρὸς ποταμὸν Εὐφράτην,
with few come to river Euphrates

«κἀκεῖ με ὄψει, δέσποτα ἅγιε, ὅταν βούλει.
and-there me you-will-see master holy when you-wish

«Καὶ μὴ νομίσης ἀπειθῶ πρὸς σέ παραγενέσθαι.
And not think I-disobey to you to-come

«ἀλλ' ὅτι κέκτησαι τινὰς ἀπείρους στρατιώτας,
but that you-have some inexperienced soldiers

«καὶ εἰ μὲν ἴσως εἴπωσι τινὲς ὅπερ οὐ δέον,
and if indeed perhaps say some what not is-needful

«ποιήσω σε εἰς τὸ βέβαιον ἅμοιρον τῶν τοιούτων,
I-will-make you to the certain without-share of-the such

«τοῖς γὰρ νέοις, ὦ δέσποτα, συμβαίνουσι τοιαῦτα.»
to-the for young O master happen such(-things)

Καὶ τὴν γραφὴν ὁ βασιλεὺς διεξιὼν κατ' ἔπος,
And the letter the emperor going-through by word

ἐθαύμαζε τὴν τοῦ παιδὸς ταπείνωσιν τοῦ λόγου,
marveled-at the of-the boy humility of-the word

καὶ ἔχαιρε κατανοῶν τὸ ὕψος τῆς ἀνδρείας.
and rejoiced perceiving the height of-the courage

Σφόδρα δὲ ὀρεγόμενος ἰδεῖν τὸν νεανίαν
Greatly and longing to-see the young-man

παραλαβὼν μεθ' ἑαυτοῦ ἑκατὸν στρατιώτας
having-taken with himself hundred soldiers

καὶ δορυφόρους ἱκανοὺς, ἦλθεν εἰς τὸν Εὐφράτην,
and spear-bearers many came to the Euphrates

πᾶσιν ἐπαγγελάμενος τοῦ φθέγξασθαι μηδ' ὅλως
to-all having-charged of-the to-utter not at-all

λόγον τινὰ ἐπίμωμον ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ Ἀκρίτου.
word any blameworthy before — of-Akritas

995

1000

1005

Οἱ δέ γε τούτου ἔνεκα φυλάττειν συνταχθέντες,

They but at-least of-this for-the-sake to-watch appointed

1010 παρὰ μικρὸν ἀπήγγειλαν τὴν ἄφιξιν συντόμως

by little announced the arrival swiftly

βασιλέως πρὸς Διγενῇ τὸν θαυμαστὸν Ἀκρίτην.

of-emperor to Digenis the marvelous Akritas

Καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ὁ Διγενὴς μονώτατος ἐξῆλθεν,

And to him — Digenis all-alone went-out

ὃς μέχρι γῆς τὴν ἑαυτοῦ κεφαλὴν ὑποκλίνας·

who as-far-as earth the his head having-bowed

«χαίροις, ἔφη, ὁ ἐκ θεοῦ λαβὼν τὴν βασιλείαν,

rejoice he-said the from God having-received the empire

1015 καὶ δι' ἀσέβειαν ἔθνων ἅπασιν κυριεύσας,

and because-of impiety of-nations over-all having-ruled

πόθεν μοι τοῦτο γέγονεν ὁ γῆς πάσης δεσπόζων

whence to-me this has-happened the of-earth all ruling

παραγενέσθαι πρὸς ἐμὲ τὸν ἐξουθενημένον;»

to-come to me the despised

Τοῦτον ἰδὼν ὁ βασιλεὺς καὶ ἐκπλαγεὶς τὴν θέαν,

Him having-seen the emperor and astounded-at the sight

παντὸς ἐπιλαθόμενος ὄγκου τῆς βασιλείας,

all having-forgotten pomp of-the empire

1020 μικρὸν τοῦ θρόνου προσελθὼν κατησπάζετο χαίρων,

little from-the throne having-come-forward embraced rejoicing

κατεφίλει περιχαρῶς ἡλικίαν θαυμάζων,

kissed overjoyed stature marveling-at

καὶ τὴν πολλὴν κατάθεσιν τοῦ εὐμεγέθους κάλλους·

and the great composition of-the well-proportioned beauty

«ἔχεις, λέγων, ὦ τέκνον μου, ἀπόδειξιν τῶν ἔργων·

you-have saying O child my proof of-the deeds

τοῦ γὰρ κάλλους ἢ σύνθεσις ἀνδρείαν εἰκονίζει·

of-the for beauty the composition courage pictures

εἶθε τοιούτους τέσσαρας εἶχεν ἢ Ῥωμανία!

would-that such four had — Romania

Λέγε λοιπὸν, ὦ τέκνον μου, πεπαρρησιασμένως,

Speak then O child my freely

καὶ ὅπερ βούλει λάμβανε τῆς ἐμῆς βασιλείας.»

and what you-wish take of-the my empire

«Τὰ πάντα ἔχε, δέσποτα, ὁ παῖς ἀνταπεκρίθη,

The all have master the boy answered

ἐμοὶ γὰρ ἔστιν ἰκανὴ μόνον ἢ σὴ ἀγάπη·

for-me for is sufficient only the your love

οὐ δίκαιον δὲ τοῦ λαβεῖν ἀλλὰ διδόναι μᾶλλον,

not just and of-the to-take but to-give rather

ἔχεις καὶ γὰρ ἐν τῷ στρατῷ ἐξόδους ἀνεικάστους·

you-have and for in the army expenses incomparable

ἀξιῶ καὶ ἀντιβολῶ τῆς σῆς δόξης τὸ κράτος

I-ask and I-entreat of-the your glory the sovereignty

ἀγαπᾶν τὸ ὑπήκοον, ἐλεεῖν πενομένους,

to-love the subject to-pity being-poor

τοὺς ἀδικοῦντας ρύεσθαι καὶ καταπονουμένους,

the doing-wrong to-rescue and oppressed

τοῖς παρὰ γνώμην παίουσι συγχώρησιν παρέχειν,

to-those against intent erring forgiveness to-provide

μὴ προσέχειν διαβολαῖς, ἄδικον μὴ λαμβάνειν,

not to-beed slanders unjust(-thing) not to-take

αἵρετικούς ἀποσοβεῖν, ὀρθοδόξους κρατύνειν.

heretics to-drive-away orthodox to-strengthen

Ταῦτα γὰρ, δέσποτα, εἰσὶν ὅπλα δικαιοσύνης,

These(-things) for master are weapons of-justice

1025

1030

1035

μεθ' ὧν δυνήσῃ τῶν ἐχθρῶν πάντων περιγενέσθαι·
with which you-will-be-able of-the enemies all to-prevail-over

1040 οὐ γὰρ ἔστι δυνάμεως κρατεῖν καὶ βασιλεύειν,
not for is of-power to-rule and to-reign
 θεοῦ μόνον τὸ δῶρημα καὶ δεξιᾶς ὑψίστου·
of-God only the gift and of-right-hand of-(the)-most-high
 ἐγὼ δὲ ὁ πανευτελὴς τῷ σῷ κράτει δωροῦμαι
I and the all-paltry to-the your sovereignty I-give
 ὃ ἐδίδου κατὰ καιρὸν τέλος τῷ Ἰκονίῳ
what was-giving by season tax — to-Ikonion

ἄλλο τοσοῦτον σε λαβεῖν παρ' ἐκείνων ἀκόντων,
other so-much you to-take from those unwilling
 1045 καὶ ποιήσω σε, δέσποτα, ἀμέριμνον ἐκ τούτου,
and I-will-make you master free-of-care from this
 ἄχρῃς ἂν ἢ ἐμὴ ψυχὴ ἐκ τοῦ σκήνους ἐξέλθῃ.»
until — the my soul from the body goes-out

Καὶ ἐχάρη ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐπὶ τούτοις τοῖς λόγοις,
And rejoiced the emperor at these the words

καὶ φησὶν· «ὦ θαυμάσιε, κάλλιστε νεανία,
and says O marvelous most-beautiful young-man
 ἢ βασιλεία ἢ ἐμὴ πατρικίον σε ἔχει,
the majesty the my patrician you holds

1050 δωρουμένη σοι ἅπαντα κτήματα τοῦ σοῦ πάππου,
giving to-you all estates of-the your grandfather
 καὶ ἐξουσίαν νέμω σοι τοῦ διοικεῖν τὰς ἄκρας·
and authority I-assign to-you of-the to-govern the frontiers
 ταῦτα δὲ εἰς χρυσόβουλλον σῶα ἐπικυρώσω,
these(-things) and in chrysobull intact I-will-ratify
 καὶ ἐσθήτας βασιλικὰς παρέχω πολυτίμους.»
and garments imperial I-provide costly

Ταῦτα εἰπὼν ὁ βασιλεὺς, εὐθὺς ὁ νέος προστάξας

These(-things) having-said the emperor at-once the youth having-commanded

ἓνα τῶν ἵππων τῶν αὐτοῦ ἀγροικῶν, ἀδαμάστων, 1055

one of-the horses the his wild untamed

κομίσαι ἔμπροσθεν αὐτῶν σιδήροις δεδεμένον·

to-bring before them with-irons bound

ὃν λῦσαι ἔφη τοῖς παισὶν καὶ «ἄφετέ τον τρέχειν.»

whom to-loose he-said to-the boys and let him to-run

Καὶ τὰς ποδέας ὀχυρῶς πήξας εἰς τὸ ζωνάριον,

And the skirts firmly having-fixed into the girdle

ἤρξατο τρέχειν ὀπισθεν τοῦ καταλαβεῖν τοῦτον·

he-began to-run behind of-the to-overtake him

καὶ εἰς ὀλίγον διάστημα τῆς χაίτης τε κρατήσας 1060

and in little distance the mane and having-held

ὀπισθεν τον ἐγύρισε τὸν ἀγροικὸν καὶ μέγαν,

behind him he-turned the wild and great

λακτίζων, στρουιάζων τε, φυγεῖν ὅλως εἰκάζων·

kicking plunging and to-flee wholly intending

καὶ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ βασιλέως ἐλθόντος τοῦ γεννάδα

and before of-the emperor having-come of-the noble

κάτω τον ἐκατέρραξεν εἰς γῆν ἐφηπλωμένον.

down him he-dashed onto earth stretched-out

Καὶ πάντες ἐξεπλάγησαν τῇ παραδόξῳ θεᾷ. 1065

And all were-astounded at-the strange sight

Ὑποχωρεῖν βουλόμενος, λέων τις ἐκ τοῦ ἄλσους

To-withdraw wishing lion a-certain from the grove

ἐξελθὼν διεπτόησε τοὺς μετ' αὐτοῦ παρόντας

having-come-out terrified those with him present

(πολλοὶ γὰρ λέοντες εἰσὶν ἐν ἐκείνῳ τῷ τόπῳ),

many for lions are in that the place

καὶ πρὸς φυγὴν δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐτράπη.

and to flight and also himself the emperor turned

1070 Ὅ δὲ παῖς πρὸς τὸν λέοντα ὑποδραμὼν εὐθέως,

The but boy at the lion having-run-up at-once

ποδὸς αὐτοῦ δραξάμενος ἑνὸς τῶν ὀπισθίων,

by-foot its having-grasped one of-the hind

ἀποτινάξας ἰσχυρῶς καὶ τῇ γῇ καταρράξας,

having-shaken strongly and on-the earth having-dashed

νεκρὸν αὐτὸν ἀπέδειξε πάντων ὁμοῦ βλεπόντων.

dead it he-showed all together seeing

Τοῦτον κρατῶν ἐν τῇ χειρὶ, καθάπερ τις τὸν πτώκα,

It holding in the hand just-as one the hare

1075 πρὸς βασιλέα ἦνεγκε· «δέξαι, λέγων, κυνήγιν

to emperor he-brought receive saying game

τοῦ σοῦ οἰκέτου, δέσποτα, διὰ σοῦ θηρευθέντα.»

of-the your servant master through you having-been-hunted

Καὶ πάντες ἐξεπλάγησαν ἔντρομοι γεγονότες,

And all were-astounded trembling having-become

τὴν ὑπεράνθρωπον αὐτοῦ ἰσχὺν κατανοοῦντες.

the superhuman his strength perceiving

Καὶ τὰς χεῖρας ὁ βασιλεὺς πρὸς οὐρανὸν ἐκτείνας·

And the hands the emperor to heaven having-stretched

1080 «δόξα σοι, ἔφη, δέσποτα, ποιητὰ τῶν ἀπάντων,

glory to-you he-said master maker of-the all

ὅτι με κατηξίωσας τοιοῦτον ἄνδρα βλέψαι

that me you-deemed-worthy such man to-see

ἐν τῇ παρούσῃ γενεᾷ ἰσχυρὸν παρὰ πάντας.»

in the present generation strong beyond all

Καὶ τὴν δорὰν τοῦ λέοντος ἐπαρθῆναι κελεύσας
And the hide of-the lion to-be-taken-up having-bidden
καὶ πλείστας πρὸς τὸν θαυμαστὸν ἐποίει ὑποσχέσεις·
and very-many to the marvelous he-made promises
ἀλλήλους ἀσπαζόμενοι, ὑπεχώρουν εὐθέως
one-another embracing they-withdrew at-once
πρὸς τὸν στρατὸν ὁ βασιλεὺς, ὁ δὲ παῖς πρὸς τὴν κόρην.
to the army the emperor the and boy to the girl
Ἐκτοτε κύρος ἔλαβε παρ' ἀπάντων ὁ λόγος,
From-then authority took from all the account
καὶ τὸν παῖδα ὠνόμαζον Βασίλειον Ἀκρίτην,
and the boy they-named Basil Akritas
τοῦ χρυσοβούλλου εἵνεκα τοῦ ἄρχειν εἰς τὰς ἄκρας.
of-the chrysobull for-the-sake of-the to-rule at the frontiers
Ἡμεῖς δὲ καταπαύσωμεν τὸν λόγον μέχρις ὧδε,
We and let-us-end the book as-far-as here
τῶν ἐφεξῆς ἐχόμενοι συντάξεως ἑτέρας·
of-the following holding of-composition another
κόρος γὰρ λόγου, ὡς φησὶν ὁ ἐμὸς θεολόγος,
satiety for of-word as says the my theologian
ταῖς ἀκοαῖς πολέμος διὰ παντὸς ὑπάρχει.
to-the ears hostile through all is

1085

1090

BOOK V

XIX • THE ARAB GIRL'S STORY

The poet reflects that youth given to pleasure is vanity, and tells how Digenis, after a lapse into adultery, confessed it to a Cappadocian. In his fifteenth year, riding alone through the Arabian desert, Digenis found a weeping girl at a spring beneath a palm. She was the daughter of the emir Haplorrabdes; she had freed a Roman captive, a general's son, who swore to marry her, and the two fled with her parents' wealth. After three days at the spring his treachery began to show.

Νεότης πᾶσα ἀληθῶς ματαιότης ὑπάρχει,

Youth all truly vanity is

ὅπνῃκα πρὸς ἡδονὰς ἐκτείνει τὰς ἀτάκτους·

whenever toward pleasures it-stretches the disorderly

ὁ δέ γε ταύτης ἀσφαλῶς τὰς ἡνίας ἰθύνων

the-(one) but at-least of-it securely the reins directing

ἀχείρωτος τοῖς πάθεσιν ἔσαεὶ διαμένει,

unconquered by-the passions forever remains

5 καὶ κληρονόμος δείκνυται ζωῆς τῆς αἰωνίου,

and heir is-shown of-life the eternal

ἀντὶ προσκαίρου ἡδονῆς τῆς αἰσχρᾶς καὶ βεβήλου.

instead-of temporary pleasure the shameful and profane

Ὅς γὰρ τρυφᾷ, ἀδύνατον τυχεῖν τῆς αἰωνίου·

Who for lives-luxuriously impossible to-attain of-the eternal

ὥς γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐμπρησμὸν μετὰ ἐλαίου σβέσαι,

as for not is conflagration with oil to-quench

οὐδὲ τρυφῶν τις δυνατὸν φυγεῖν τὴν ἀμαρτίαν,

nor living-luxuriously anyone possible to-flee the sin

10 δι' ἧς τὸ πῦρ ἐκτρέφεται πᾶσι τοῖς ἀκολάστοις.

through which the fire is-nourished for-all the licentious

Καὶ γὰρ οὗτος ὁ θαυμαστὸς καὶ γενναῖος Ἀκρίτης,
And for this the marvelous and noble Akritas
ὁ τοῖς χαρίσμασι θεοῦ πᾶσι πεπλουτισμένος,
the with-the gifts of-God all enriched
πρὸς ὀλίγον τὴν ἑαυτοῦ νεότητα χαυνώσας
for little the his youth having-slackened
ἀμελῶς περιπέπτωκεν ἐγκλήματι μοιχείας·
carelessly fell-into charge of-adultery
ὕστερον δὲ μετάνεμος γεγονὼς ὑπὲρ τούτου 15
later and repentant having-become over this
τοῖς ἐντυγχάνουσιν αὐτῷ ἀνήγγειλε τὸ σφάλμα,
to-those meeting him announced the error
οὐ καυχίσεως ἔνεκεν, ἀλλὰ μεταμελείας.
not of-boasting for-the-sake but of-repentance
Καὶ γὰρ μᾶ τῶν ἡμερῶν ἐντυχὼν Καππαδόκι,
And for on-one of-the days having-met (a)-Cappadocian
τὴν ἑαυτοῦ βουλόμενος ἀμαρτίαν φαυλῆσαι,
the his wishing sin to-disparage
πρὸς αὐτὸν διηγέσατο τάδε μετρίως λέγων· 20
to him related these(-things) moderately saying
«ὁπηνίκα ἔβελοντὶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἐχωρίσθην
when willingly from-the father I-was-separated
καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἄκραις κατοικεῖν μόνος ἡρετισάμην,
and in the frontiers to-dwell alone I-chose
ταξιδεῦσαι ἠθέλησα εἰς τὴν ἔνδον Συρίαν,
to-make-expedition I-wished into the inner Syria
ἔτος πεντεκαιδέκατον ἄγων τῆς ἡλικίας·
year fifteenth leading of-the age
ἀνύδρους τε καταλαβὼν κάμπους τῆς Ἀραβίας, 25
waterless and having-reached plains — of-Arabia

- τὴν ὁδὸν, ὥσπερ εἴωθα, μόνος μου διοδεύων,
the road as I-am-wont alone my traveling
 φάραν ἐπικαθήμενος, βαστάζων καὶ κοντάριν,
charger sitting-on carrying also spear
 ἔνδιψος ὅλος γέγονα (πολὺς γὰρ ἦν ὁ καύσων),
thirsty wholly I-became much for was the heat
 καὶ πανταχοῦ ἐσκόπευα ποῦ τὸ ὕδωρ ὑπάρχει·
and everywhere I-looked where the water is
 30 δένδρον ὁρῶ ἀπόμνηκα πρὸς τὴν δασεάν βάλτον,
tree I-see far-off toward the thick marsh
 καὶ τὴν φάραν ἐπιλαλῶ, νομίσας ὕδωρ ἔχει·
and the charger I-urge-on having-thought water to-have
 καὶ οὐδαμῶς ἀπέτυχον· φοῖνιξ δὲ ἦν τὸ δένδρον,
and in-no-way I-failed palm and was the tree
 καὶ ἐκ τῆς ρίζης θαυμαστὴ ἀνεπέμπετο βρύσις.
and from the root marvelous was-sent-up spring
 Ταύτῃ δ' ὡς ἐπλησίαζον ὁλολυγμοὺς ἀκούω,
To-it and as I-drew-near wailings I-bear
 35 καὶ κλαυσώδεις ὁλοφυρμοὺς μετὰ πλείστων δακρύων·
and tearful lamentations with very-many tears
 ἣ δὲ θρηνοῦσα κόρη ἦν πάνυ ὠραιότατη·
the and lamenting girl was very most-beautiful
 καὶ γὰρ νομίσας φάντασμα τὸ δρώμενον εἶναι,
I-too having-thought phantom the being-done to-be
 ἔκδειλος ὅλος γέγονα, τριχῶν μου ὄξυνθέντων,
terrified wholly I-became hairs my having-bristled
 καὶ τὸ φρουροῦν με δὴ ἀεὶ διεχάραττον ὄπλον·
and the guarding me indeed always I-traced weapon
 40 ἦν γὰρ ὁ τόπος ἔρημος, ἄβατος καὶ ἀλσώδης.
was for the place desert pathless and wooded

Ἐκείνη δὲ ὡς εἶδε με, ἀνέθορεν εὐθέως,

She but as she-saw me leapt-up at-once

καὶ αὐτὴν περιστείλασα ἐν τῷ πρόποντι κόσμῳ,

and herself having-wrapped in the fitting adornment

τάς τε βροχὰς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἄρασα τῇ ὀθόνη,

the and showers of-the eyes having-wiped with-the linen

πρὸς με λέγειν ἀπήρξατο περιχαρῶς τοιάδε·

to me to-say began overjoyed such(-things)

«πόθεν, καλὲ νεώτερε, καὶ ποῦ μόνος ὀδεύεις;

whence fine younger(-man) and where alone do-you-travel

μὴ διὰ πόθον καὶ αὐτὸς ἐπλανήθης ἐνταῦθα;

not because-of longing also you went-astray here

ἀλλ' ἐπειδὴ, ὡς ἔοικεν, ἐκ θεοῦ ὠδηγήθης

but since as it-seems by God you-were-guided

τῆς ἐρημίας ὅπως με τὴν ἀθλίαν ἐλκύσης,

from-the desert that me the wretched you-may-draw

πρὸς μικρὸν ἀναπαύθητι, κύριέ μου, ἐνταῦθα,

for little rest lord my here

ἵν' ὅπως ἀκριβέστερον τὰ κατ' ἐμοῦ ἀκούσης,

that so-that more-exactly the(-things) concerning me you-may-bear

καί τινα τῶν ὀδυνῶν παρηγορίαν λάβω,

and some of-the pains consolation I-may-take

λόγοις γὰρ συνεπαίρεται ἐκ τῆς ψυχῆς ἡ λύπη.»

by-words for is-lifted-up from the soul the grief

Ταῦτα καὶ γὰρ ὡς ἤκουσα, εἰς χαρὰν μετεβλήθην,

These(-things) I-too as I-heard into joy was-changed

ἀληθὲς τὸ φαινόμενον ἀκριβῶς ἐνόησας·

true the appearing exactly having-understood

μετὰ πολλῆς τῆς ἡδονῆς ἐπέζευον εὐθέως,

with much the pleasure I-dismounted at-once

45

50

55

ἤψατο γάρ μου τῆς ψυχῆς τὸ ἀπόρρητον κάλλος,
 touched for my the soul the ineffable beauty

ὥστε δευτέραν τῆς ἐμῆς ταύτην εἶναι νομίσαι.
 so-as second to-the mine her to-be to-think

Καὶ τὸν μὲν φάραν ἔδησα εἰς τοῦ δένδρου τὸν κλῶνα,
 And the indeed charger I-tied to of-the tree the branch

τὸ δὲ κοντάριν ἔστησα μέσον αὐτοῦ τῆς ῥίζης,
 the and spear I-set middle of-it of-the root

60 καὶ, ὕδατος μεταλαβὼν, πρὸς αὐτὴν τάδε ἔφην·
 and of-water having-partaken to her these(-things) I-said

«λέγε μοι, κόρη, πρότερον πῶς ἐνταῦθα διάγεις;
 tell me girl first how here do-you-live

καὶ τίνος χάριν ὤκησας ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ ταύτῃ,
 and for-what sake did-you-dwell in the desert this

εἰθ' οὕτως γνώσῃ καὶ αὐτὴ ποῖος καγὼ ὑπάρχω.»
 then thus you-will-know also you who I-too am

Εἴτα καθίσαντες ὁμοῦ ἐν θώκῳ χαμαιζήλῳ,
 Then having-sat together on seat low-lying

65 τάδε λέγειν ἀπήρξατο, στενάξασα ἐκ βάθους·
 these(-things) to-say she-began having-groaned from depth

«ἐμὴ πατρίς, νεώτερε, τὸ Μεφερκὲ τυγχάνει·
 my fatherland younger(-man) — Mepherke is

τὸν Ἀπλορράβδην ἤκουσας, τὸν ἀμυρῶν τῶν πάντων,
 — Haplorrabdes you-have-beard the emir of-the all

οὗτος πατὴρ ἐμὸς ἐστὶ, μήτηρ ἡ Μελανθία.
 this-one father my is mother — Melanthia

Ῥωμαιογενὴν ἠγάπησα ἐπὶ κακῷ ἰδίῳ,
 Roman-born I-loved for evil own

70 ὄντινα εἶχε δέσμιον τρεῖς χρόνους ὁ πατήρ μου·
 whom had prisoner three years the father my

καὶ γὰρ ἐνδόξου στρατηγοῦ υἱὸς ἔλεγεν εἶναι·

and for of-glorious general son he-said to-be

τῶν δεσμῶν ἡλευθέρωσα, φυλακῆς ἐρρυσάμην,

from-the bonds I-freed from-prison I-rescued

φαρία τον ἐχάρισα, πρωτεία τοῦ πατρός μου,

chargers (to)-him I-granted choice-ones of-the father my

ἄρχοντα τοῦτον ἔδειξα περιφανῇ Συρίας,

lord him I-made conspicuous of-Syria

μετὰ βουλῆς καὶ τῆς μητρὸς, τοῦ πατρός μου ἀπόντος, 75

with counsel also of-the mother of-the father my being-absent

ἐν τοῖς πολέμοις γὰρ αἰεὶ εἴωθεν ἀσχολεῖσθαι·

in the wars for always he-is-wont to-be-busy

Ἐφαίνετο δὲ εἰς ἐμὲ πολλὴν ἔχων ἀγάπην,

He-appeared and toward me much having love

καὶ θνήσκειν, εἰ συμβέβηκε πρὸς ὥραν μὴ ἰδεῖν με·

and to-die if it-happened for hour not to-see me

ὑπῆρχε δὲ ἐπίπλαστος, ὥς ἔδειξε τὸ τέλος·

he-was but feigned as showed the end

Καὶ γὰρ μιᾷ τῶν ἡμερῶν, δρασμὸν ὑπονόησας, 80

And for on-one of-the days flight having-planned

βουλόμενος τοῦ ἐξελθεῖν ἐπὶ τὴν Ῥωμανίαν,

wishing of-the to-go-out to — Romania

καὶ τὴν βουλὴν ἐξείπε μοι, καὶ ὅνπερ εἶχε φόβον

and the plan told me and which he-had fear

διὰ πατέρα τὸν ἐμὸν μήποτε ἐπανήξῃ·

because-of father the my lest-ever he-return

καὶ ἐμὲ κατηνάγκαζε σὺν αὐτῷ πορευθῆναι,

and me he-compelled with him to-travel

- 85 ὄρκους ἐπαγγειλάμενος λίαν φρικωδεστάτοις
with-oaths having-promised very most-dreadful
 μὴ ἀρνηθῆναι με ποτέ, ἀλλὰ σύμβιον ἔχειν.
not to-deny me ever but consort to-have
 Οἷσπερ καὶ γὰρ πιστεύσασα, συμφυγεῖν κατεθέμην·
In-which I-too having-believed to-flee-with agreed
 ἄδειαν εἴτα ἐφευρεῖν ἄμφω διεσκοποῦμεν
opportunity then to-find both we-considered
 τὸν πλοῦτον ὅπως ἄρωμεν τῶν ἐμῶν γεννητόρων.
the wealth so-that we-may-take of-the my begetters
- 90 Καὶ δὴ, κατὰ τινα πικρὰν καὶ δαιμονίαν τύχην,
And indeed by some bitter and demonic fortune
 νόσος ἐπῆλθε τῇ μητρὶ θανάτῳ γειννώσας·
sickness came to-the mother to-death bordering
 καὶ οἱ μὲν ἄλλοι ἅπαντες πρὸς θρήνους οἱ ἐν οἴκοις
and the indeed others all to laments those in houses
 ἔτρεχον ἀνοιμώζοντες ἔνθα θάνατος ἦγεν·
ran wailing where death led
 ἐγὼ δέ, ἡ παντάλαινα, ἀδείας ἐντυχούσα,
I but the all-wretched of-opportunity having-met
- 95 πλοῦτον πολὺν διάρασα τῷ πλάνῳ συνεξῆλθον,
wealth much having-taken-up with-the deceiver went-out-with
 ὑπουργησάσης τῆς νυκτὸς εὐχερῶς πρὸς τὸ ἔργον,
having-served of-the night easily for the deed
 ἀσέληνος γὰρ ἔτυχε καὶ ἀφώτιστος πάντη.
moonless for it-was and unlit altogether
 Ἐφ' ἵπποις δὲ ἀμφότεροι τοῖς προητοιασμένοις
On horses and both the prepared-beforehand
 ἐποχηθέντες, τῆς ὁδοῦ ἡρχόμεθα σπουδαίως,
having-mounted of-the road we-went zealously

καὶ φόβον μέγαν εἶχομεν ἄχρι τοῦ τριμιλίου·	100
<i>and fear great we-had as-far-as the three-mile(-post)</i>	
ὥς δὲ παρήλθομεν αὐτὸ ὑπ' οὐδενὸς γνωσθέντες	
<i>as and we-passed it by no-one having-been-recognized</i>	
τὰ λοιπὰ διηνύομεν ἀδεῶς μετὰ μόχθου,	
<i>the rest we-accomplished fearlessly with toil</i>	
τροφῆς μεταλαμβάνοντες ὅτε καιρὸς ἐκάλει,	
<i>food partaking when season called</i>	
ὕπνου τε κορευνύμενοι καὶ τροφῆς μετασχόντες·	
<i>of-sleep both being-sated and of-food having-partaken</i>	
ἐρώτων δὲ μυστήρια ἐρυθριῶ τοῦ λέγειν	105
<i>of-loves and mysteries I-blush of-the to-tell</i>	
ἀγάπην τε τὴν πρὸς ἐμὲ παρ' αὐτοῦ δεικνυμένην·	
<i>love and the toward me by him being-shown</i>	
ψυχὴν γάρ με ὠνόμαζε, φῶς ὀφθαλμῶν ἐκάλει,	
<i>soul for me he-named light of-eyes he-called</i>	
καὶ μετ' ὀλίγον γαμετὴν ἔλεγε καὶ φιλτάτην,	
<i>and after little wife he-said and dearest</i>	
ἀκορέστως καταφιλῶν, κρατῶν με ταῖς ἀγκάλαις.	
<i>insatiably kissing holding me in-the arms</i>	
Οὕτως ἐν πάσῃ τῇ ὁδῷ συγχαίροντες ἀλλήλοις,	110
<i>Thus on all the road rejoicing-with one-another</i>	
ἐν ταύτῃ κατελάβομεν τῇ ὁρωμένη βρύσει·	
<i>at this we-arrived the seen spring</i>	
καὶ τρεῖς ἀναπαυσάμενοι ἡμέρας τε καὶ νύκτας,	
<i>and three having-rested days both and nights</i>	
ἐρωτικὰς μεταβολὰς τελοῦντες ἀκορέστως,	
<i>erotic changes performing insatiably</i>	

γνώμην αὐτοῦ τὴν ἔνδοθεν δολίως κεκρυμμένην
mind his the within deceitfully hidden

- 115 ἀνακαλύπτειν ἄρχεται ὁ δεινὸς παραβάτης.
to-uncover begins the terrible transgressor

XX · THE ADULTERY

Her lover deserted her with the horses and gold, and he proves to be the youth Digenis saved from Mousour. Digenis routs over a hundred Arabs and promises to make the youth marry her, but on the road, overcome by desire, he lies with her despite her pleas. At Chalkourgia he finds the youth, the son of the general Antiochos, makes him take her as his wife, and returns ashamed to his wife, who learns of it.

Καὶ γὰρ ὁμοῦ καθεύδοντες ἐν τῇ νυκτὶ τῇ τρίτῃ,
And for together sleeping in the night the third

λάθρα τῆς κοίτης ἀναστὰς ἐπέστρωσε τοὺς ἵππους,
secretly from-the bed having-risen he-saddled the horses

τόν τε χρυσὸν ἀφείλετο καὶ τὰ κρείττονα σκεύη·
the both gold he-took-away and the better vessels

Ὡς δὲ τοῦτο ἐπέγνωκα τοῦ ὕπνου ἀναστᾶσα,
As and this I-perceived from-the sleep having-risen

- 120 ἐμαυτὴν ὥς πρὸς τὴν ὁδὸν ἡγτρέπιζον εὐθέως,
myself as for the road I-made-ready at-once

εἰς νεανίσκου τὴν στολὴν μεταβαλοῦσα εἶδος·
into of-young-man the garment having-changed form

τοιούτῳ γὰρ τῷ σχήματι τῆς πατρίδος ἐξῆλθον.
in-such for the guise from-the fatherland I-went-out

Ἐφ' ἵππου τοίνυν ἐπιβὰς τοῦ ἰδίου ἐκεῖνος
On horse therefore having-mounted the own that-one

εἶλκε χερσὶ τὸν ἕτερον καὶ ὤχετο τοῦ δρόμου.
drew with-hands the other and went along-the road

Τοῦτο γοῦν τὸ παράλογον ἀνέλπιστον ὥς εἶδον, 125
This at-any-rate the unaccountable unhopd-for as I-saw
 πεζῇ ὥς εἶχον ἔτρεχον κατόπισθε βοῶσα·
on-foot as I-was I-ran behind shouting
 «ἀπέρχεσαι, ὦ φίλτατε, ἐμὲ λιπὼν ποῦ μόνην;
are-you-going-away O dearest me having-left where alone
 ἐπελάθου τῶν ἀγαθῶν ὧν σοι ἐνδειξάμην;
did-you-forget the good(-things) which to-you I-showed
 οὐ μνημονεύεις ἐξ ἀρχῆς τοὺς ἐξαιρέτους ὅρκους;»
not do-you-remember from beginning the choice oaths
 Ὡς δὲ οὐχ ὑπεστρέφετο, ἔτι μᾶλλον ἐφώνουν· 130
As and not he-turned-back still more I-called
 «ἐλέησον, οἰκτείρησον, σῶσον με τὴν ἀθλίαν,
have-mercy have-pity save me the wretched
 μὴ ἐνταῦθα ἐάσης με ὑπὸ θηρῶν βρωθῆναι.»
not here leave me by beasts to-be-eaten
 Καὶ ἄλλα πλείονα αὐτῷ ἔλεγον θρηνωδοῦσα·
And other more to-him I-said lamenting
 ὁ δὲ γέγονεν ἀφανὴς μὴ φθεγγόμενος ὅλως·
he but became unseen not having-uttered at-all
 ἐμοῦ δὲ ἤδη τῶν ποδῶν ἀπάρτι ἀποκαμόντων 135
of-me and already the feet now having-grown-weary
 τοῖς τῶν πετρῶν προσκρούσμασι πάντοθεν αἵμαχθέντων,
by-the of-the rocks strikings on-all-sides bloodied
 ἐκέισε που κατέπεσον νεκρὰ ἐφηπλωμένη·
there somewhere I-fell-down dead stretched-out
 καὶ μεθ' ἡμέρας ἐαυτὴν μόλις ἀναλαβοῦσα,
and after days myself barely having-recovered
 ἐν τῇ πηγῇ ὑπέστρεψα ἀνάγκη βαδιούσα,
to the spring I-returned by-necessity walking

- 140 καὶ εἰμὶ πάντων ἔρημος, μὴ ἔχουσα ἐλπίδας·
and I-am of-all bereft not having hopes
 οὐ γὰρ τολμῶ εἰς τοὺς γονεῖς τοὺς ἐμούς ὑποστρέψαι,
not for I-dare to the parents the my to-return
 αἰσχύνομαι τοὺς γείτονας, τὰς συνομήλικάς μου.
I-am-ashamed-before the neighbors the age-mates my
 Ποῦ εὔρεῖν τὸν πλανήσαντα παντελῶς οὐ γινώσκω,
Where to-find the having-led-astay altogether not I-know
 καὶ δέομαί σου μάχαιραν τοῦ δοῦναι μοι εἰς χεῖρας,
and I-beg you sword of-the to-give to-me into hands
- 145 καὶ κατασφάξω ἑμαυτὴν ὡς πράξασαν ἀφρόνως·
and I-will-slaughter myself as having-acted foolishly
 οὐ γὰρ συμφέρεῖ μοι τοῦ ζῆν πάντων ἀποτυχοῦσα.
not for is-profitable for-me of-the to-live of-all having-failed
 ὦ τῶν ἐμῶν ἀτυχιῶν, ὦ συμφορῶν μεγίστων,
O of-the my misfortunes O of-calamities greatest
 ἡλλοτριώθην συγγενῶν, γονέων ἐχωρίσθην
I-was-estranged from-kinsmen from-parents I-was-separated
 πρὸς τὸ κερδῆσαι φίλτατον, καὶ αὐτοῦ ὑστερήθην.»
toward the to-gain dearest and of-him I-was-deprived
- 150 Ὡς δὲ ταῦτα ἐφθέγγετο ἡ κόρη θρηνηδοῦσα,
As and these(-things) uttered the girl lamenting
 τοὺς βοστρύχους συντέμνουσα, τύπτουσα καὶ τὴν ὄψιν,
the locks cutting striking also the face
 ἐγὼ ταύτην, ὡς δυνατόν, ἀνέστειλα τοῦ θρήνου,
I her as possible restrained from-the lament
 τὰς χεῖρας τε τῶν πλοκαμῶν ἀνέσπασα ἐν μέτρῳ
the hands and from-the tresses drew-away in measure
 ἔχειν παραμυθούμενος ἐλπίδας χρηστοτέρας.
to-have consoling hopes better

Καὶ ἐπερώτησα μαθεῖν πόσαι εἰσὶν ἡμέραι	155
<i>And I-asked to-learn how-many are days</i>	
ἀφ' ἧς ὁ πλάνος μόνην σε κατέλιπεν ἐνταῦθα.	
<i>from which the deceiver alone you left here</i>	
Ἦ δὲ αὖθις στενάξασα· «δέκα ἡμέρας, ἔφη,	
<i>She and again having-groaned ten days said</i>	
μέχρι τοῦ νῦν ἐπλήρωσα ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ ἐρήμῳ,	
<i>until the now I-have-fulfilled in this the desert</i>	
μὴ ἰδοῦσα ἐκτός σου ἕτερον ἀνθρώπου χαρακτηῖρα	
<i>not having-seen outside-of you other of-man form</i>	
καί τινος ἄλλου γηραιοῦ, κατὰ τὴν χθὲς ἡμέραν·	160
<i>and of-a-certain other old-man on the yesterday day</i>	
ὃς ἔλεγε καὶ τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ παρὰ Ἀράβων	
<i>who said also the son his by Arabs</i>	
ἀφαιρεθῆναι πρὸ μικροῦ καὶ αἰχμάλωτον εἶναι,	
<i>to-have-been-taken before little and captive to-be</i>	
καὶ σπεύδειν εἰς ἀνάρρυσιν αὐτοῦ εἰς Ἀραβίαν.	
<i>and to-hasten to rescue of-him into Arabia</i>	
Οὗτος μοι διηγήσατο, τὰ κατ' ἐμὲ ἀκούσας,	
<i>This-one to-me related the(-things) concerning me having-heard</i>	
ὅτι, πρὸ πέντε ἡμερῶν, εἰς τὸ Βλαττολιβάδιν,	165
<i>that before five days at — Blattolibadin</i>	
παιδὶν ξανθὸν, ἀρτιγενὲς, μακρὸν τῇ ἡλικίᾳ,	
<i>boy fair newly-grown tall in-the stature</i>	
εἰς φάραν ἐποχούμενον καὶ συρτὸν ἄλλον φέρον,	
<i>on charger riding and led-horse other bringing</i>	
ὁ Μουσούρ ἐστασίασε καὶ σπαθέαν τον ἐδῶκε·	
<i>— Mousour attacked and sword-blow him gave</i>	
καὶ, εἰ μὴ ὁ νεώτερος ὁ Ἀκρίτης εὔρεθι,	
<i>and if not the younger — Akritas was-found</i>	

- 170 ἐφόνευε τὸν ἄγουρον ἐν τῇ ὥρᾳ ἐκείνῃ·
he-would-have-slain the youth in the hour that
 λέγω δὲ τοῦτον ἐκ παντὸς τὸν παραβάτην εἶναι,
I-say and this-one by all the transgressor to-be
 ταῦτα γὰρ τὰ γνωρίσματα ἐκείνον βεβαιοῦσι.
these for the signs that-one confirm
 Οἷμοι, οἷμοι, παντάλαινα καὶ παναθλία τύχη,
Alas alas all-wretched and all-miserable fortune
 ἡ ἀδοκίμως ἀγαθοῦ τοιούτου στερηθεῖσα,
the unexpectedly of-good such deprived
- 175 ἡ τὸ γλυκὺ πρὸ τοῦ πιεῖν ἀπολέσασα κάλλος,
the the sweet before the to-drink having-lost beauty
 καὶ ὡς δένδρον νεόφυτον πρὸ καιροῦ ξηρανθεῖσα! »
and like tree newly-planted before season dried-up
 Ταῦτα ἡ κόρη λέγουσα, δακρύουσα ἀσχέτως,
These(-things) the girl saying weeping unrestrainably
 καὶ Ἄραβοι ἐξήεσαν ἄφνω ἀπὸ τῆς ἑλῆς
and Arabs came-out suddenly from the marsh
 ὑπέρτεροι τῶν ἑκατὸν, πάντες δὲ κονταρᾶτοι·
more than-the hundred all and spearmen
- 180 οὕτως δέ μοι ὑπέπεσαν ὡς γῦπες εἰς τὸ βρώμα·
thus and me they-fell-upon like vultures upon the food
 καὶ ὁ φάρας πολλὰ φθαρεῖς ἀπέσπασε τὸν κλῶνον,
and the charger much having-been-frightened tore-away the branch
 ἐγὼ δὲ τοῦτον κατασχὼν ἐχόμενον τοῦ δρόμου,
I and him having-caught holding-to the road
 μετὰ σπουδῆς ἐπέβαινον κατέχων τὸ κοντάρην,
with haste mounted holding the spear
 καὶ πρὸς αὐτοὺς ἐπιδραμὼν πολλοὺς τούτων ἀνείλον·
and at them having-run-at many of-them I-killed

τινὲς δέ με γνωρίσαντες ἔλεγον πρὸς ἀλλήλους·

some and me having-recognized said to one-another

«αὕτη ἡ τόλμη ἀληθῶς καὶ ἡ πολλὴ ἀνδρεία

this the daring truly and the much courage

τὸν Ἀκρίτην ἐμφαίνουσιν· ἀπωλόμεθα πάντες.»

— *Akritas show we-have-perished all*

Οἱ δὲ τοῦτο ἀκούσαντες ἔφυγον εἰς τὴν ἔλιν,

They and this having-beard fled into the marsh

τὰ κοντάρια ῥύψαντες ἔνιοι καὶ ἀσπίδας,

the spears having-thrown some and shields

μήτε μίαν προσμείναντες κἂν στιγμὴν τὸ παράπαν.

nor one having-waited even moment the altogether

Ὡς δὲ καὶ μόνον ἑαυτὸν εἶδον περιλειφθέντα,

As and also alone myself I-saw having-been-left

πρὸς τὴν πηγὴν ὑπέστρεφον ἔνθα ἦτον ἡ κόρη·

to the spring I-returned where was the girl

ἐκεῖνη δὲ εἰς εὐχερὲς δένδρον ἐπανελθοῦσα,

she and into convenient tree having-gone-up

έώρα τὰ γενόμενα καὶ γεγονότα πάντα·

saw the(-things) happening and having-happened all

ἰδοῦσα δέ με πρὸς αὐτὴν ἀπερχόμενον μόνον,

having-seen and me to her going alone

ἐκ τοῦ δένδρου κατήρχετο καὶ σπουδαίως ὑπὴντα,

from the tree came-down and zealously met

παρεκάλει τε λέγουσα μετὰ δακρύων τάδε·

she-entreated and saying with tears these(-things)

«κύριέ μου καὶ τῆς ἐμῆς πρόξενε σωτηρίας,

lord my and of-the my procurer of-salvation

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- εἰ ὁ Ἀκρίτης ἀληθῶς σὺ ὑπάρχεις ἐκείνος
 if — Akritas truly you are that-one
 200 ὁ τὸν ἐμὸν ρυσάμενος φύλτατον ἐκ θανάτου,
 the the my having-rescued dearest from death
 οὗ τὸ ὄνομα ἔφριξαν καὶ νῦν οἱ Ἀραβῖται,
 of-whom the name shuddered-at even now the Arabites
 ἀπάγγελόν μοι, δέομαι, μὴ ἀποκρύψῃς ὅλως
 announce to-me I-beg not hide at-all
 καὶ τὴν σπαθέαν τοῦ Μουσούρ εἰ μετείχε θανάτου.»
 and the sword-blow — of-Mousour if it-partook of-death
 Ἐμὲ δὲ εἶχεν ἔκπληξις καὶ θαυμάζειν ἐποίει
 Me and held amazement and to-marvel made
 205 τῆς κόρης βλέπων τὴν πολλὴν ἀγάπην πρὸς τὸν παῖδα
 of-the girl seeing the much love for the boy
 τὸν ταύτῃ προξενήσαντα συμφορὰς ἀνευκάζουσας,
 the to-her having-procured calamities incomparable
 τῶν γεννητόρων χωρισμὸν, ἀφαίρεσιν τοῦ πλούτου,
 of-the begetters separation taking-away of-the wealth
 καὶ φρικώδη κατάλειψιν ἐν ἐρήμῳ ἀβάτῳ,
 and dreadful abandonment in desert pathless
 μὴ προσδοκῶσα ἄλλο τι ἢ τὸ θανεῖν ἀδίκως,
 not expecting other anything than the to-die unjustly
 210 καὶ τότε πρῶτον ἔπαθον ἀγάπην γυναικεῖαν
 and then first I-experienced love feminine
 θερμότεραν κατὰ πολὺ ὑπάρχειν τῶν ἀρρένων·
 hotter by much to-be than-the males'
 φθείρει δὲ μᾶλλον ἄθεσμος καὶ παράνομος μῆξις.
 destroys but rather lawless and unlawful union

Ἐγὼ δὲ ἔφην πρὸς αὐτήν· «παῦσαι, κόρη, τοῦ κλαίειν
I and said to her stop girl of-the to-weep
 καὶ τοῦ θρηνεῖν ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ τοῦ δι' ἐμοῦ σωθέντος·
and of-the to-lament for him the through me saved
 ἐγὼ εἰμὶ ὁ τὸν Μουσούρ δικαίως θανατώσας 215
I am the — Mousour justly having-put-to-death
 τὸν ὁδοστάτην καὶ ληστήν, τὸν τὰς ὁδοὺς κρατοῦντα,
the highwayman and robber the the roads holding
 ὥς μηδένα κατατολμᾶν διελθεῖν τοῖς ἐκεῖσε·
so-that no-one to-dare to-go-through in-the(-places) there
 ἐγὼ εἰμὶ ὁ ἐξ αὐτοῦ ἐλκύσας καὶ θανάτου
I am the from him having-drawn and from-death
 ὃν οὐκ οἶδα πῶς ἀγαπᾷς καὶ ἐπὶ μνήμην φέρεις
whom not I-know how you-love and to memory you-bring
 φίλτατον τὸν ἀβέβαιον ὀνομάζουσα παῖδα· 220
dearest the unreliable naming boy
 ἀλλὰ δεῦρο καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐγὼ σε ἀπαγάγω,
but come also to him I you will-lead-away
 παρασκευάσω τε αὐτὸν τοῦ γαμετῆν σε ἔχειν,
I-will-prepare and him of-the wife you to-have
 εἰ καὶ τὸ σέβας ἀρνηθῆς τῶν αἰσχυρῶν Αἰθιοπῶν.»
if also the worship you-deny of-the shameful Ethiopians
 Ἦ δὲ τοῦτο ἀκούσασα, χαρὰς ἐμφορηθεῖσα·
She and this having-beard with-joy filled
 «κύριέ μου, ἀντέφησε, μέγιστε ἀντιληπτορ,
lord my she-replied greatest helper
 καὶ τοῦ θεοῦ βαπτίσματος γέγονα ἐν μεθέξει
also of-the divine baptism I-have-become in partaking
 πρὶν συναφθῆναι τῷ ἀνδρὶ, παρ' αὐτοῦ κελευσθεῖσα·
before to-be-joined to-the man by him having-been-bidden

- οὐδὲν γὰρ εἶχον δυνατὸν, τῷ πόθῳ δουλωθεῖσα,
nothing for I-had possible by-the longing enslaved
- τὰ παρ' αὐτοῦ λεγόμενα μὴ ἀγαγεῖν εἰς ἔργον,
the(-things) by him said not to-bring into deed
- 230 δι' ὃν γονεῖς καὶ ἀγχιστὰς εἰς οὐδὲν ἐλογίσθην.»
because-of whom parents and next-of-kin as nothing I-reckoned
- Ταῦτα, φίλε, ὡς ἤκουσα ἐκ στόματος τῆς κόρης
These(-things) friend as I-heard from mouth of-the girl
- καθάπερ φλόξ εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν καρδίαν ἐπεισῆλθεν,
just-as flame into the my heart entered
- καὶ προσέφερεν ἔρωτα καὶ παράνομον μῖξιν·
and brought-forward love and unlawful union
- καὶ πρῶτα μὲν ἀνέστελλον τὴν ἀκάθεκτον γνώμην,
and first indeed I-restrained the unrestrainable mind
- 235 καὶ ἤθελον, εἰ δυνατὸν, φυγεῖν τὴν ἀμαρτίαν·
and I-wished if possible to-flee the sin
- ἀλλὰ πάντως ἀδύνατον πῦρ παραμεῖναι χόρτω.
but altogether impossible fire to-remain-beside grass
- Ὡς γὰρ ταύτην ἀνήγαγον ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ ἵππῳ,
As for her I-brought-up on the own horse
- καὶ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἠπτόμεθα ὡς πρὸς τὴν Χαλκουργίαν
and the road we-took as toward — Chalkourgia
- (τόπος γὰρ οὗτος πέφυκε πλησίον τῆς Συρίας),
place for this is near — of-Syria
- 240 οὐκ εἶχον ὅτι γένωμαι, πῦρ ὅλος ἐγενόμην,
not I-had what I-should-become fire wholly I-became
- τοῦ ἔρωτος ὁλοσχερῶς ἐν ἐμοὶ αὐξηθέντος·
of-the love wholly in me having-increased

καταβαλόντες τὸ λοιπὸν χρεῖαν τάχα ποιῆσαι
having-dismounted the rest need perhaps to-do
 ἐν τῷ κάλλει τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς, ἐν τῇ ἀφῇ τὰς χεῖρας,
on the beauty the eyes on the touch the hands
 τὸ στόμα τοῖς φιλήμασι καὶ ἀκοὴν τοῖς λόγοις,
the mouth with-the kisses and hearing with-the words
 ἡρξάμην ἅπαντα ποιεῖν πράξεως παρανόμου· 245
I-began all to-do of-deed unlawful
 καὶ γεγόνασιν ἅπαντα ὅσα ἤθελον ἔργα,
and became all as-many-as I-wished deeds
 καὶ ἐμίανθη ἡ ὁδὸς ἀπὸ τῆς ἀνομίας,
and was-defiled the road from the lawlessness
 συνεργείᾳ σατανικῇ καὶ ψυχῆς ἀμελείᾳ,
by-working-with satanic and of-soul by-neglect
 εἰ καὶ πολλὰ ἀνθίστατο ἡ κόρη πρὸς τὸ ἔργον,
if even much resisted the girl toward the deed
 εἰς θεὸν καθορκίζουσα καὶ εἰς ψυχὰς γονέων. 250
by God adjuring and by souls of-parents
 Ἀλλὰ ὁ ἀντικείμενος, τοῦ σκούτους ὁ προστάτης,
But the adversary of-the darkness the patron
 ὁ ἐχθρὸς καὶ πολέμιος τοῦ ἡμετέρου γένους,
the enemy and foe of-the our race
 καὶ αὐτοῦ παρεσκεύασε θεοῦ ἐπιλαθέσθαι
also him prepared God to-forget
 καὶ τῆς ἀνταποδόσεως τῆς φοβεῖας ἡμέρας,
and of-the requital of-the fearful day
 ἐν ᾗ πάντα τὰ κρύφια πταιίσματα φανεροῦνται 255
in which all the hidden sins are-made-manifest
 τῶν ἀγγέλων ἐνώπιον καὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων πάντων.
of-the angels before and of-the men all

Εἶτα παραγενόμενος ἐπὶ τὴν Χαλκουργίαν,

Then having-come to — Chalkourgia

ἐκεῖσε τὸν πλανήσαντα ταύτην εὔρομεν παῖδα.

there the having-led-astray her we-found boy

Ἦν δὲ ἄρα τοῦ στρατηγοῦ υἱὸς τοῦ Ἀντιόχου,

Was and then of-the general son — of-Antiochos

260 τοῦ πρὸ χρόνων ἐν τῷ ζυγῷ ὑπὸ Περσῶν σφαγέντος.

of-the before times at the ridge by Persians slaughtered

Ὡς γὰρ αὐτὸν ἀπὸ χειρῶν τοῦ Μουσούρ ἐρρυσάμην,

As for him from hands — of-Mousour I-rescued

ἐμπροσθέν μου οὐκ εἶσα τοῦ πορευθῆναι τοῦτον,

before me not I-allowed of-the to-travel this-one

γνωστὸν δὲ πᾶσιν ἔφηναι καὶ παράνομον μάλα·

known and to-all I-showed(-him) and lawless very

καὶ τοῦτον παραδέδωκα πρὸς τοὺς ἐκεῖ μου φίλους,

and him I-handed-over to the there my friends

265 ὥς ἂν διάγῃ μετ' αὐτῶν ἄχρις οὗ ὑποστρέψω·

so-that — he-may-live with them until — I-return

«εἰ δ' οὖν καὶ ταύτην ἐκβαλεῖν τὴν κόρην βουληθείης,

if but then also her to-cast-out the girl you-should-wish

μὰ τὸν σωτῆρα μου Χριστὸν, πλείον ζοῆν οὐχ ἔξεις.»

by the savior my Christ more life not you-will-have

Φήσας αὐτῷ μὴ ἀδικεῖν τὴν κόρην μήτε βλάπτειν,

Having-said to-him not to-wrong the girl nor to-harm

τοῦτον ἐκεῖ καταλιπὼν πλείστα τε νουθετήσας,

him there having-left very-much and having-admonished

270 καὶ δεύτερον ἐντειλάμενος μὴ ταύτην ἀθετῆσαι,

and second having-charged not her to-set-aside

ἀλλ' ἔχειν, ὥς ὑπέσχετο, γαμετὴν διὰ νόμου,

but to-have as he-promised wife by law

διηγησάμην ἅπασι πῶς τε εὗρον τὴν κόρην

I-related to-all how both I-found the girl

καὶ πῶς ταύτην ἀφήρπασα ἀπὸ τῶν Ἀραβίτων·

and how her I-snatched-away from the Arabites

τὰ δὲ μὴ δέον ἐξειπεῖν παρέτρεχον τῷ λόγῳ,

the(-things) and not needful to-tell I-passed-over in-the account

ἵνα μὴ σκάνδαλον ὁ παῖς εἰς διάνοιαν λάβῃ.

that not stumbling-block the boy into mind may-take

Εἶτα τὸν πλοῦτον ἅπαντα παραδούς ἀμφοτέροις,

Then the wealth all having-handed-over to-both

ὃν ἡ κόρη ἀφείλετο ἐξ οἰκείων γονέων,

whicḥ the girl took-away from own parents

καὶ ἵππους δύο τοὺς αὐτῶν ἀπέπεμπον ἐκεῖσε,

and horses two the their I-sent-off there

αὖθις ἐπαγγειλάμενος τῷ νέῳ δημοσίως

again having-charged to-the youth publicly

τοῦ μηδέποτε ἄδικον ἔτι τῇ κόρῃ πράξαι.

of-the never wrong any-more to-the girl to-do

Καὶ μετ' ὀλίγον καὶ αὐτὸς ἦλθον εἰς τὴν καλὴν μου,

And after little also I came to the fair my

τοῦ ἀπριλίου τρέχοντος πρὸς μεσότητα ἤδη,

of-the April running toward middle already

τὸ συνειδὸς κατήγορον φέρων τῆς ἀμαρτίας

the conscience accuser bearing of-the sin

καὶ ταλανίζων ἑμαυτὸν ἐν τῇ ἀθέσμῳ πράξει·

and calling-wretched myself in the lawless deed

ὁπνίκα τὸν ἥλιον, τὴν ἐμὴν ψυχὴν εἶδον,

whenever the sun the my soul I-saw

ὥς αἰσχυνόμενος αὐτὴν μεγάλως ἀδικήσας,

as being-ashamed-before her greatly having-wronged

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μετ' ὀλίγον γὰρ ἔδοξα μετοίκησιν ποιῆσαι
after little for I-resolved change-of-dwelling to-make
 (διὰ τὸ γινῶναι καὶ αὐτὴ τὴν παράνομον μίξιν),
because-of the to-know also she the unlawful union
 ἦν δὴ καὶ πεποιήκαμεν ἀπάραντες ἐκεῖθεν.
which indeed also we-did having-departed from-there

BOOK VI

XXI · THE DRAGON AND THE LION

In May Digenis camps with his wife in a meadow of birds and flowers. While he sleeps, a dragon in a youth's form tries to seduce her at the spring, and he cuts off its three heads. A lion then attacks her, and he kills it with his club; she asks him to play the lyre.

Ὁ ἕκτος λόγος ὁ παρὼν πλείστων ἀνδραγαθίων
The sixth book the present of-very-many brave-deeds
 διεξιῶν τὰ θαύματα τοῦ Διγενοῦς Ἀκρίτου,
going-through the wonders — of-Digenis Akritas
 ὡς αὐτὸς διηγῆσατο πρὸς τοὺς ἰδίους φίλους.
as he related to the own friends

Εἰ βασιλέα τῶν μηνῶν θεῖναι τις ἐβουλήθη,
If king of-the months to-set anyone wished
 5 μᾶϊος ἐβασίλευσεν εἰς ἅπαντας τοὺς μῆνας,
May reigned over all the months
 κόσμος οὗτος τερπνότατος γῆς ἀπάσης τυγχάνει,
ornament this most-delightful of-earth all is
 ὀφθαλμὸς πάντων τῶν φυτῶν καὶ τῶν ἀνθῶν λαμπρότης,
eye of-all the plants and of-the flowers brightness

τῶν λειμώνων ἐρύθημα καὶ κάλλος ἀπαστράπτων,

of-the meadows redness and beauty flashing

ἔρωτας πνέει θαυμαστῶς, ἀφροδίτην ἐπάγει·

loves it-breathes marvelously love brings-on

γῆν τοῦ μιμεῖσθαι οὐρανὸν αὐτὴν παρασκευάζει,

earth of-the to-imitate heaven it prepares

ἀγλαΐζων τοῖς ἄνθεσι, ῥόδοις τε καὶ ναρκίσσοις.

adorning with-the flowers with-roses both and narcissi

Ἐν τούτῳ δὴ τῷ θαυμαστῷ μηνὶ τῷ γλυκυτάτῳ,

In this indeed the marvelous month the sweetest

ἠθέλησα μεταβαλεῖν μόνος μὲ τῆς καλῆς μου,

I-wished to-change alone with the fair my

τοῦ στρατηγοῦ τῆς θυγατρὸς τοῦ Δουκὸς τῆς ὡραίας.

of-the general the daughter — of-Doukas the beautiful

Καὶ δὴ πρὸς τινα θαυμαστὸν λειμῶνα ἀπελθόντες,

And indeed to some marvelous meadow having-gone-away

ἐκεῖ τὴν τένδαν ἔστησα καὶ τὴν ἰδίαν κλίνην,

there the tent I-set-up and the own bed

κύκλωθεν ταύτης τεθεικῶς πάντων φυτῶν τὰ εἶδη.

round it having-placed of-all plants the kinds

Κάλαμοι ἐπεφύοντο εἰς ὕψος ἐπηρμένοι,

Reeds grew to height raised

ὕδωρ ψυχρὸν ἀνέβλυζεν ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ λειμῶνος

water cold gushed-up in middle of-the meadow

καὶ πανταχοῦ διέτρεχεν τῆς γῆς ἐκείνης πάσης·

and everywhere ran-through of-the earth that all

ὀρνέων γένη ἱκανὰ ἐνέμετο τῷ ἄλσει,

of-birds kinds many grazed in-the grove

ταῶνες χειροθήεις τε ψιττακοὶ καὶ οἱ κύκνοι,

peacocks tame both parrots and the swans

- οἱ ψιττακοὶ κρεμώμενοι ἐπὶ τοῖς κλώνοις ᾗδον,
the parrots hanging on the branches sang
- οἱ κύκνοι ἐν τοῖς ὕδασι τὴν νομὴν ἐποιοῦντο·
the swans in the waters the feeding made
- 25 οἱ ταῶνες τὰς πτέρυγας κυκλοῦντες εἰς τὰ ἄνθη,
the peacocks the wings circling among the flowers
 ἀντέλαμπον τῇ τῶν ἀνθῶν ἐν ταῖς πτέρυξι χροά·
shone-back with-the of-the flowers in the wings color
 αἱ δὲ λοιπαὶ ἐλεύθερα τὰ πτερὰ κεκτημέναι
the and others free the wings having
 ἔπαιζον ἐποχοῦμεναι εἰς τῶν δένδρων τοὺς κλώνους.
played riding on of-the trees the branches
- Καὶ τὸ κάλλος τῆς εὐγενοῦς κόρης ὑπεραστράπτει
And the beauty of-the noble girl outflashing
- 30 κρεῖττον ταῶνος ἔλαμπε καὶ τῶν φυτῶν ἀπάντων·
better than-peacock shone and than-the plants all
 ναρκίσσου γὰρ τὸ πρόσωπον τὴν χροίαν ἐμμεῖτο,
of-narcissus for the face the color imitated
 αἱ παρειαὶ ὡς εὐθαλλον ἐξανέτελλον ῥόδον·
the cheeks like flourishing sprang-up rose
 ἄνθος ῥόδον ἀρτιφυὲς ὑπέφηνε τὰ χεῖλη,
flower rose newly-grown showed the lips
 ὅπνῃκα ταῖς κάλυξι ἄρχεται ἀνατέλλειν·
whenever in-the buds it-begins to-rise
- 35 βόστρυχοι ἐποχοῦμεναι τῶν ὀφρυδίων λίαν
locks riding of-the eyebrows very
 χρυσοτερπεῖς ἀνέπεμπον ἀκτινοβόλους μάλα,
gold-delightful sent-up ray-darting very
 καὶ διὰ πάντων ἄρρητος ὑπῆρχεν εὐφροσύνη.
and through all ineffable was gladness

Περὶ τῆς κλίνης πέμματα ἐκάπνιζον παντοῖα·

About the bed incense-cakes burned all-kinds

μόσχοι, νίται καὶ ἄμβαρα, καμφοραὶ καὶ κασσίαι·

musks nitai and ambers camphors and cassias

καὶ ἦν πλείστη ἡ ἡδονὴ καὶ ὁσμὴ εὐφροσύνης·

and was very-much the pleasure and scent of-gladness

τοσαύτην ὁ παράδεισος τὴν τερπνότητα εἶχεν.

such the garden the delightfulness had

Ἐν ὥρᾳ τῇ μεσημβρινῇ πρὸς ὕπνον ἀνετράπην,

In hour the midday to sleep I-turned

ρόδοσταμμα τῆς εὐγενοῦς ῥαντιζούσης με κόρης,

rose-water the noble sprinkling me girl

ἀδονίδων καὶ τῶν λοιπῶν ὀρνίθων μελωδούντων.

nightingales and the other birds singing

Ἡ δὲ κόρη διψήσασα πρὸς τὴν πηγὴν ἀπῆλθε·

The and girl having-thirsted to the spring went-away

καὶ, ὥς ἐκείσε ἔβρεχε τοὺς πόδας τερπομένη,

and as there she-wetted the feet delighting

δράκων, μορφώσας ἑαυτὸν εἰς εὐεῖδὲς παιδίον,

dragon having-formed himself into comely boy

πρὸς αὐτὴν παρεγένετο, βουλόμενος πλανῆσαι·

to her came wishing to-lead-astay

ἡ δὲ, τὸν ὄντα οὐδαμῶς ἀγνοήσασα, ἔφη·

she but the being in-no-way having-failed-to-know said

«ἄφες, δράκον, ὃ βούλεσαι· ἐγὼ οὐκ ἀπατοῦμαι,

leave dragon what you-wish I not am-deceived

ὃ φιλῶν με ἡγρύπνησε καὶ ἀρτίως καθεύδει

the(-one) loving me kept-awake and now sleeps

(ἔλεγε γὰρ ἐν ἑαυτῇ· δράκων οὗτος ὑπάρχει,

she-said for in herself dragon this-one is

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πώποτε οὐ τεθέαμαι ὧδε τοιαύτην ὄψιν·

ever not I-have-beheld here such face

εἰ ἐγερθῇ καὶ εὔρη σε, νά σε κακοδικήσῃ.»

if he-wakes and finds you that you be-may-do-wrong

55 Ὁ δὲ πηδήσας ἀναιδῶς βιάζειν ἐπεχείρει·

He and having-leapt shamelessly to-force attempted

καὶ φωνὴν ἔπεμπεν εὐθὺς καλοῦσα με ἢ κόρη·

and voice sent at-once calling me the girl

«ἐξύπνησον, αὐθέντα μου, καὶ λάβε τὴν φιλτάτην.»

wake lord my and take the dearest

Τῆς δὲ φωνῆς εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν καρδίαν ἤχησάσης,

The and voice into the my heart having-sounded

τάχιον ἀνεκάθισα καὶ τὸν ὀχλοῦντα εἶδον·

sooner I-sat-up and the troubling(-one) I-saw

60 ἄντικρυς γάρ μου ἡ πηγὴ ἦν ἐξεπιτηδείως,

opposite for me the spring was suitably

καὶ ἐξελκύσας τὸ σπαθίον εἰς τὴν πηγὴν εὗρέθην,

and having-drawn the sword at the spring I-was-found

οἱ γὰρ πόδες μου ἔτρεχον ὡς πτέρυγες ὀξέως·

the for feet my ran like wings swiftly

καὶ τοῦτον τε καταλαβὼν, φάντασμά μοι ἐδείκνυ

and this-one and having-overtaken phantom to-me showed

φρικῶδες τε καὶ φοβερὸν ἐν ἀνθρώποις καὶ μέγα,

dreadful both and fearsome among men and great

65 τρεῖς εὐμεγέθεις κεφαλὰς πυρφλογιζούσας ὅλως·

three huge heads fire-flaming wholly

ἐξ ἑκατέρων ἔπεμπεν ἐξαστράπτουσιν φλόγα·

from each he-sent flashing flame

ἐκ τόπου δὲ κινούμενος βροντῆς ἦχον ἐτέλει,

from place and moving of-thunder sound he-made

ὥστε δοκεῖν σαλεύεσθαι γῆν τε καὶ πάντα δένδρα.

so-as to-seem to-be-shaken earth both and all trees

Σῶμα παχύνων, κεφαλὰς εἰς ἓν ἐπισυνάγων,

Body thickening heads into one gathering

ὀπισθεν λεπτυνόμενος καὶ οὐρὰν ἀποξύνων,

behind thinning and tail sharpening

ποτὲ μὲν συσσελλόμενος, ἐξαπλούμενος δ' αὖθις,

at-times indeed contracting unfolding but again

καὶ ἐπάνω μου ἄπασαν τὴν ὀρμὴν ἐποιεῖτο.

and upon me all the onrush he-made

Ἐγὼ δὲ, τὰ δρώμενα ἀντ' οὐδενὸς νομίσας,

I but the(-things) being-done in-place-of nothing having-considered

εἰς ὕψος ὅλῳ τῷ θυμῷ τὸ σπαθὶν ἀνατείνας,

to height with-whole the anger the sword having-stretched

εἰς κεφαλὰς κατήγαγον θηρὸς τοῦ δεινοτάτου,

on heads I-brought-down of-beast the most-terrible

καὶ ἀπάσας αἰρῶ ὁμοῦ· ὃς καὶ πρὸς γῆν ἠπλώθη,

and all I-take together which also to earth was-stretched-out

ἄνω καὶ κάτω τὴν οὐρὰν κινῶν τὰ τελευταῖα.

up and down the tail moving the last(-movements)

Καὶ ἀπομάζας τὸ σπαθὶν καὶ βαλὼν εἰς τὴν θήκην,

And having-wiped the sword and having-put into the sheath

πόρρωθεν ὄντας τοὺς ἐμοὺς προσεκαλούμην παῖδας,

far-off being the my I-called boys

καὶ ἀρθῆναι προσέταπτον τὸν δράκοντα εὐθέως.

and to-be-taken-away I-commanded the dragon at-once

Ὡς δὲ τοῦτο ἐγένετο ταχέως ὑπὲρ λόγον,

As and this happened swiftly beyond word

οἱ παῖδες μὲν ἀπέτρεχον εἰς τὰς ἰδίας τένδας·

the boys indeed ran-off to the own tents

70

75

80

ἐπὶ τὴν κλίνην δὲ καὶ γὰρ ὑπνωσόμενος αὖθις,

to the bed and I-too about-to-sleep again

ἡδὺς γὰρ ὃν ἐκάθευδον εἴλκε με πάλιν ὕπνος·

sweet for which I-was-sleeping drew me again sleep

85 οὐπω γὰρ τούτου κορεσθεὶς ἀφύπνωσα τὸ πρῶτον.

not-yet for of-it having-been-sated I-awoke the first

Ἡ δὲ κόρη πρὸς γέλωτα ἄμετρον κινηθεῖσα,

The and girl to laughter immoderate moved

φαντάσματα τοῦ δράκοντος φέρουσα ἐπὶ μνήμης

phantoms of-the dragon bringing to memory

καὶ τὸν σύντομον θάνατον ἐκείνου τοῦ μεγέθους,

and the swift death of-that the size

πρὸς τὸ μὴ ἐξυπνῆσαι με ἐξῆλθε πρὸς τι δένδρον,

for the not to-wake me went-out to some tree

90 παρηγορίαν τε λαβεῖν μικρὰν ἀπὸ τοῦ φόβου.

consolation and to-take small from the fear

Καὶ ἰδοὺ λέων φοβερὸς ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τοῦ ἄλσους,

And behold lion fearsome came-out from the grove

ὃς πρὸς τὴν κόρην καὶ αὐτὸς τὴν ὀρμὴν ἐποιεῖτο·

who toward the girl also he the onrush made

ἡ δὲ φωνὴν ἐξέπεμψε βοηθόν με καλοῦσα·

she and voice sent-out helper me calling

καὶ ἐπακούσας τάχιστα ἐπανέστην τῆς κλίνης·

and having-beard most-swiftly I-rose-up from-the bed

95 καὶ ὥς εἶδον τὸνλέοντα συντόμως εἰσπηδήσας,

and as I-saw the lion swiftly having-leapt-in

φέρων ῥάβδον ἐν τῇ χειρὶ τοῦτον εὐθὺς ἐκπίπτω,

bearing club in the hand at-him at-once I-fall-upon

πατάξας δὲ εἰς κεφαλὴν, ἔθανε παραχρῆμα·

having-struck and on head it-died forthwith

ὥς δὲ καὶ οὗτος μήκοθεν ἐρρίφη τε ὁ δράκων,
as and also this-one far-off was-thrown and the dragon
 ἡ κόρη [μου] εἰς ἑμαντὴν καθώρκισεν εἰποῦσα·
the girl my by myself adjured having-said
 «ἄκουσόν μου, αὐθέντα μου, νά με ἐπιχαρείης,
bear me lord my that me you-may-gladden
 ἔπαρον τὴν κιθάραν σου, κροῦσον αὐτὴν ὀλίγον
take the lyre your strike it little
 μεταβαλὼν μου τὴν ψυχὴν ἐκ τοῦ θηρὸς τοῦ φόβου.»
having-changed my the soul from of-the beast the fear

100

XXII · THE RAIDERS

Her song draws the raiders Philopappous, Kinnamos, and Ioannakes with their men; Digenis kills the men with his club. Next day the three leaders meet him by the river and doubt his story. They fight: he fells Philopappous and breaks Ioannakes' arm.

Καὶ ὥς οὐκ ἦν μοι δυνατὸν παρακοῦσαι τῆς κόρης,
And as not it-was for-me possible to-disobey the girl
 ταύτην ἀνέκρουον εὐθὺς, ἡ δὲ ἐνετραγῶδει·
it I-struck-up at-once she and sang
 «εὐχαριστῶ τῷ ἔρωτι γλυκὺν δόντι μοι κύρκαν,
I-give-thanks to-the love sweet having-given me lord
 καὶ χαίρω βασιλεύουσα, μηδένα φοβούμενῃ,
and I-rejoice reigning no-one fearing
 κρίνον ὑπάρχει εὐθαλὲς, μῆλον μεμυρισμένον,
lily be-is flourishing apple perfumed
 καὶ ὥς ῥόδον πανεύοσμον θέλγει μου τὴν καρδίαν.»
and like rose all-fragrant charms my the heart

105

Ὡς δὲ τὸ ῥόδον ἔλεγεν ἡ κόρη μελωδοῦσα,

As and the rose said the girl singing

110 ἐνόμιζον ὅτι κρατεῖ ῥόδον ἐπὶ τὰ χεῖλη,

I-thought that she-holds rose on the lips

εὐόκασι γὰρ ἀληθῶς ἄρτι ἀνθοῦντι ῥόδω.

they-resemble for truly newly blooming rose

Τῆς δὲ κιθάρας ἡ ᾠδὴ καὶ ἡ φωνὴ τῆς κόρης

The and of-lyre the song and the voice of-the girl

ἦχον τερπνὸν ἀνέπεμπον, ὁρέων ἀντηχούντων,

sound delightful sent-up mountains echoing

ὥς καὶ τοὺς ὄντας μήκοθεν αἰσθάνεσθαι τοῦ μέλους.

so-that even those being far-off to-perceive the song

115 Καὶ τοῦτο ἐπεγνώκαμεν ἐκ τούτου τοῦ σημείου·

And this we-learned from this the sign

κατὰ τύχην διήρχοντο, ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ,

by chance were-passing in that the hour

στρατιῶται ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ τῇ καλουμένῃ Τρώσει,

soldiers on the road the called Trois

ἐν ᾗ πολλοὺς συμβέβηκε πολλὰ τραυματισθῆναι,

in which many it-happened much to-be-wounded

καὶ δῆλον ἐκ τοῦ ὀνόματος ὃ εἰληφεν ὁ τόπος.

and clear from the name which has-taken the place

120 Ὑπῆρχον δὲ, ὥς ὕστερον παρ' αὐτῶν τοῦτο ἔγνων,

They-were and as later from them this I-learned

Ἰωαννάκης θαυμαστὸς καὶ νέος ἀπελάτης,

Ioannakes marvelous and young raider

Φιλοπαπποῦς ὁ γέρων τε καὶ ὁ Κίνναμος τρίτος·

Philopappous the old-man both and — Kinnamos third

καί, ὥς ὥχοντο τῆς ὁδοῦ, ἤκουσαν τῶν ᾠμάτων,

and as they-went of-the road they-heard the songs

μίλλιον ἔν ἀπέχοντες ἀφ' ἡμῶν, ὡς εἰκάζω,

mile one being-distant from us as I-guess

καὶ ταύτης ἐκστρατήσαντες ἦλθον ἡμῶν πλησίον.

and from-it having-turned-off came us near

125

Καὶ ὡς μόνην ἐσκέψαντο τὴν περίβλεπτον κόρην,

And as alone they-saw the admired girl

ὡς ὑπὸ βέλους τὰς ψυχὰς ἐτρώθησαν τῷ κάλλει,

as by dart the souls were-wounded by-the beauty

καὶ εἰς ἔρωτα ἄπειρον ἐκινήθησαν πάντες,

and into love boundless were-moved all

σώζοντες τὸν σαρακοστὸν ἀριθμὸν πρὸς τοῖς πέντε,

keeping the fortieth number in-addition-to the five

ἐμὲ δὲ μόνον βλέποντες λόγοις ἤλπιζον τρῶσαι·

me and alone seeing with-words hoped to-wound

130

«ἄφες τὴν κόρην, λέγοντες, καὶ σῶσον ἑαυτόν σου·

leave the girl saying and save yourself your

εἰ δ' οὐ, κερδίσῃς θάνατον, ἀπείθειαν ὡς ἔχων.»

if but not you-will-gain death disobedience as having

Ἄκμιν γὰρ οὐκ ἠπίσταντο ποῖος ἄρα τυγχάνω.

As-yet for not they-knew who then I-am

Ἦ δὲ ἡλιογέννητος ἄφνω τούτους ἰδοῦσα

The but sun-born suddenly them having-seen

ἀρματωμένους ἅπαντας ἐφ' ἵππους καθημένους,

armed all on horses sitting

135

λόγοις αὐτῶν πιστεύσασα ἐδειλίασε σφόδρα,

(the)-words their having-believed became-afraid greatly

καὶ τῇ ὀθόνῃ τὰς αὐτῆς καλυψαμένη ὄψεϊς,

and with-the linen the her having-covered face

ἐπὶ τὴν τένδαν ἔδραμε, παντελῶς φοβηθείσα.

to the tent ran altogether having-taken-fright

Ἐγὼ δὲ ἔφην πρὸς αὐτήν· «τί οὐ λαλεῖς, φιλότατη;»

I and said to her why not do-you-speak dearest

140 «Ὅτι, φησὶ, πρὸ τῆς ψυχῆς τέθνηκεν ἡ φωνή μου·

Because she-says before the soul has-died the voice my

ἰδοὺ γὰρ χωριζόμεθα καὶ ζῆν οὐ θέλω φέρειν.»

behold for we-are-being-separated and to-live not I-wish to-bear

«Παῦσαι, ἔφην, ψυχὴ ἐμὴ, λογίζεσθαι τοιαῦτα·

Stop I-said soul my reckoning such(-things)

οὓς ὁ θεὸς συνέζευξεν, ἄνθρωποι οὐ χωρίσουν.»

whom — God yoked-together men not will-separate

Εὐθὺς τὴν ῥάβδον εἴληφα καὶ τὸ χειροσκουτάριν,

At-once the club I-took and the hand-shield

145 ὥς αἰτὸς πρὸς πέρδικας ἀφ' ὕψους ἐκπετάσας,

like eagle at partridges from height having-flown-out

ὅσους ἡ ῥάβδος ἡ ἐμὴ ἔφθασε τοῦ προσιφάσαι,

as-many-as the club the my reached of-the to-touch

ζωῆς ἐν τούτοις λείψανον οὐδαμῶς ὑπελείφθη·

of-life in these remnant in-no-way was-left

πολλοὶ δὲ θέλοντες φυγεῖν, κατελάμβανον τούτους,

many and wishing to-flee I-overtook them

οὐ γὰρ ἐνίκησεν ἐμὲ ἵππος ποτὲ εἰς δρόμον.

not for conquered me horse ever in race

150 Καὶ οὐ σεμνύνων ἐμαυτὸν ταῦτα διαγορεύω,

And not exalting myself these(-things) I-declare

ἀλλ' ἵνα καταμάθῃτε τὰς δωρεὰς τοῦ πλάστου.

but that you-may-learn the gifts of-the fashioner

Τινὲς δέ με ἐλάνθανον εἰς βάλτα κρυβηθέντες·

Some and me escaped in marshes having-bidden

καὶ, πρὶν ὀλίγον ἅπαντας θανάτῳ παραδῶσαι,

and before little all to-death to-hand-over

ἓνα ζωγρήσας μοναχὸν παρ' οὗ ἔμαθον τίνες
one having-taken-alive only from whom I-learned who

ὑπῆρχον οἱ ἀσύνετοι καὶ παράφρονες οὗτοι·
were the senseless and out-of-their-minds these

καὶ ὑπερζέσας τῷ θυμῷ οὐδενὸς ἐφείσάμην,
and having-boiled-over with-the anger no-one I-spared

εἴθ' οὕτως ρίπτω τὸ σπαθὶν καὶ τὸ χειροσκουτάριν,
then thus I-throw the sword and the hand-shield

καὶ τὸ μανίκιν ἔσειον καὶ πρὸς τὴν κόρην ἦλθον.
and the sleeve I-shook and to the girl I-came

Ἡ δὲ κόρη, ὥς εἶδε με μόνον περιλειφθέντα,
The and girl as she-saw me alone having-been-left

ἐξῆλθεν εἰς ἀπάντησιν χαρᾶς ἐμπεπλησμένη,
went-out to meeting with-joy filled

καὶ ῥοδόσταμμα ἔρριπτε μὲ τὰς ἰδίας χεῖρας,
and rose-water threw with the own hands

φιλοῦσα μου τὴν δεξιὰν καὶ ζῆν ἐπευχομένη.
kissing my the right and to-live praying-for

Κἀγὼ ταύτης βουλόμενος τὸ δέος ὀνειδῖσαι,
I-too her wishing the fear to-reproach

λόγους μεθ' ὑποκρίσεως ἐρωτικούς ἐκίρων·
words with pretense erotic mixed

«μὴ γὰρ ἐγὼ πρὸ τοῦ παθεῖν ὥσπερ σὺ ἀποθνήσκω;»
not for I before the to-suffer like you die

Ἡ δὲ συνιῶσα ἃ λαλῶ γλυκερῶς ἐμειδία·
She and understanding what(-things) I-say sweetly smiled

«τὸ πλῆθος εἶδον, λέγουσα, τῶν ἰππέων ἐξαίφνης
the multitude I-saw saying of-the horsemen suddenly

ἀρματωμένους ἅπαντας, σὲ δὲ πεζὸν καὶ μόνον·
armed all you and on-foot and alone

ἐπὶ τούτῳ, αὐθέντα μου, ὁ φόβος μοι ἐπήλθε.»
for this lord my the fear upon-me came

- 170 Καὶ μυρία φιλήσαντες ἦλθομεν εἰς τὴν τένταν,
And countless-times having-kissed we-came to the tent
 καὶ τῇ ἐξῆς πρὸς ποταμὸν λουθῆναι ἀπηρχόμην,
and on-the next(-day) to river to-bathe I-went-away
 ὅπως ἀλλάξω τὴν στολὴν τὴν αἵματι χρανθεῖσαν·
so-that I-may-change the garment the with-blood stained
 καὶ τῇ κόρῃ παρήγγειλα ἑτέραν ἀγαγεῖν μοι.
and to-the girl I-charged another to-bring me

Καὶ δὴ παραγενόμενος τοῦ ὕδατος πλησίον,
And indeed having-arrived of-the water near

- 175 ἐπὶ τι δένδρον καθεσθεῖς τὴν κόρην ἐκδεχόμεν·
on a-certain tree having-sat the girl I-awaited
 καὶ ἰδοὺ τρεῖς ἀνέφανον ὠραῖοι καβαλλάροι,
and behold three appeared handsome horsemen
 στολὰς τε ἀνεφέροντο ἄμφω παρηλλαγμένας,
garments and wore both altered
 καὶ πρὸς ἐμὲ ἀνῆρχοντο τὸν ποταμὸν κρατοῦντες·
and toward me went-up the river keeping-to
 εἶδον γάρ με καθήμενον εἰς τοῦ δένδρου τὴν ρίζαν,
they-saw for me sitting at of-the tree the root

- 180 καὶ πλησίον γενόμενοι ἐχαιρέτισαν πάντες·
and near having-come greeted all
 ἐγὼ δὲ οὐκ ἡγέρθην τοὺς, ἀλλ' ἐκαθούμην μᾶλλον.
I but not rose-for them but sat rather
 «Μὴ στρατιώτας, ἀδελφε, οἴους ἐνταῦθα εἶδες;»
Perhaps soldiers brother of-what-sort here did-you-see
 Καγὼ ἀντέφην πρὸς αὐτοὺς μὴ δειλιάσας ὅλως·
I-too replied to them not having-been-afraid at-all

«ναὶ, εἶδον, ἔφην, ἀδελφοὶ, κατὰ τὴν χθὲς ἡμέραν,
yes I-saw I-said brothers on the yesterday day

ἤθελον γὰρ καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν γαμετὴν ἀφαρπάσαι,
they-wished for also the my wife to-carry-off

185

καὶ, μὰ τὸν λόγον τοῦ θεοῦ, οὐδὲ ἵππου ἐπέβην·
and by the word — of-God not-even horse I-mounted

τί δὲ αὐτοῖς συμβέβηκε γνώσεσθε μετὰ ταῦτα.»
what and to-them happened you-will-know after these(-things)

Οἱ δὲ ταῦτα ἀκούσαντες ἐθεώρουν ἀλλήλους,
They and these(-things) having-beard looked-at one-another

πρὸς αὐτοὺς ψιθυρίζοντες, χεῖλη κινοῦντες μόνα·
to themselves whispering lips moving only

«μὴ οὗτος ἐνὶ ᾧ λέγουσι Βασίλειος Ἀκρίτης;
perhaps this-one is whom they-speak-of Basil Akritas

190

ἀλλὰ πάντως γνωσόμεθα δοκιμάσαντες τοῦτον.»
but surely we-shall-know having-tested him

Καὶ λέγει μοι ὁ πρόκριτος· «πῶς ἔχομεν πιστεῦσαι
And says to-me the foremost how have-we to-believe

ὅτι μόνος καὶ ἄοπλος, πεζὸς, καθάπερ λέγεις,
that alone and unarmed on-foot as you-say

μετ' αὐτῶν κατετόλμησας μάχην ἐπισυνάψαι;
with them you-dared battle to-join

Ἄπαντας γὰρ δοκιμαστοὺς εἶχομεν ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ·
All for approved we-had in courage

195

ἀλλ', εἴπερ λέγεις ἀληθῆ, φάνηθι ἐκ τῶν ἔργων,
but if-indeed you-say true(-things) show-yourself from the deeds

ἓνα ἔκλεξον ἀφ' ἡμῶν τῶν τριῶν ὃνπερ βούλει,
one choose from us the three whom-indeed you-wish

καὶ μονομάχησον αὐτῷ καὶ γνωσόμεθα πάντες.»
and fight-in-single-combat with-him and we-shall-know all

Καὶ μειδιάσας πρὸς αὐτοὺς ἐγὼ ἀνταπεκρίθην·

And having-smiled to them I answered

200 «εἰ βούλεσθε, πεζεύσατε καὶ δεῦτε οἱ τρεῖς εἰς ἓνα,

if you-wish dismount and come the three against one

εἰ δ' ἴσως οὐκ αἰσχύνεσθε, δεῦτε καὶ καβαλλάροι,

if but perhaps not you-are-ashamed come even mounted

καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἔργων μάθετε ποῖος ἄρα τυγχάνω

and from the deeds learn who then I-am

καὶ, εἰ δοκεῖς, ἀρξώμεθα τῆς μάχης ἀπεντευθέν.»

and if you-think-good let-us-begin the battle from-here

Ῥαβδὸν λαμβάνω σύντομα, ὄρθιος ἐγενόμην,

Mace I-take swiftly upright I-became

205 καὶ τὸ χειροσκουτάριν μου, καὶ γὰρ ἐκράτουν ταῦτα,

and the hand-shield my and for I-beld these(-things)

καὶ πρὸς ὀλίγον προσελθὼν «εἰ κελεύετε, ἔφην.»

and for little having-come-forward if you-bid I-said

Καὶ ὁ πρῶτος ἐφώνησεν· «οὐ ποιοῦμεν ὡς λέγεις,

And the first cried-out not we-do as you-say

ἡμεῖς ἔθος οὐκ ἔχομεν ἐλθεῖν οἱ τρεῖς εἰς ἓνα,

we custom not have to-come the three against one

οἱ θαρροῦντες μετακινεῖν ὁ καθεὶς χιλιάδας·

those daring to-move-off the each-one thousands

210 ἐγὼ γὰρ ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς εἰμὶ ὃνπερ ἀκούεις,

I for — Philopappous am whom you-bear-of

Ἰωαννάκης οὗτος δὲ καὶ Κίνναμος ὁ τρίτος,

Ioannakes this-one and and Kinnamos the third

καὶ αἰσχυνόμεθα οἱ τρεῖς πολεμῆσαι εἰς ἓνα·

and we-are-ashamed the three to-fight against one

ἀλλ' ἐπίλεξον ἀφ' ἡμῶν ἓνα οἶον κελεύεις.»

but choose from us one whichever you-bid

Κἀγὼ «ναί, ἔφην πρὸς αὐτοὺς, δεῦρο λοιπὸν ὁ πρῶτος.»

I-too yes said to them come then the first

Καὶ εὐθὺς ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς κατήλθεν ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου, 215

And at-once — Philopappous came-down from the horse

σπαθὶν ἀράμενος αὐτοῦ ἅμα καὶ τὴν ἀσπίδα,

sword having-raised his together also the shield

τρανώς εἰσῆλθε πρὸς ἐμὲ πτοῆσαι με ἐλπίζων·

vigorously came-in at me to-terrify me hoping

εἶχε καὶ γὰρ ὡς ἀληθῶς ὀρμὴν ἀνδρειοτάτην,

he-had also for as truly onrush most-brave

καὶ σπαθέαν μου δώσαντος τρανὰ εἰς τὸ σκουτάριν,

and sword-blow to-me having-given vigorously on the shield

ἐν τῇ χειρὶ τὸ κράτημα μόνον μοι ἀπελείφθη. 220

in the hand the grip only to-me was-left

Οἱ δύο ἀντεφώνησαν ἀντικρυς καθορώντες·

The two cried-out opposite beholding

«ἄλλην μίαν, Φιλοπαπποῦ γέρον μου, τὸν ἐπίθες.»

another one Philopappous old-man my him put-on

Ὁ δὲ αὖτις βουλόμενος τὴν σπάθην ἀνατείνει,

He and again wishing the sword to-stretch-up

τῇ ῥάβδῳ κατὰ κεφαλῆς τοῦτον ἐγὼ πατάσσω,

with-the club on head him I strike

καὶ, εἰ μὴ ταύτην ἐφύλαττε καθόλου τὸ σκουτάριν, 225

and if not it guarded entirely the shield

σῶον οὐκ ἔμενεν ὅστουν ἐν αὐτῇ τὸ παράπαν.

whole not would-have-remained bone in it the altogether

Ὅμως ὁ γέρων τραλλισθεὶς, κατὰ πολὺ τρομάζας,

Yet the old-man having-been-stunned by much having-trembled

βοῦς ὥσπερ μυκησάμενος, ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ἠπλώθη.

ox like having-bellowed onto the earth was-stretched-out

- Καὶ τοῦτο θεασάμενοι οἱ ἕτεροι ὡς εἶχον
And this having-beheld the others as they-were
- 230 καβαλλάροι ἐπάνω μου ἦρχοντο παραχρήμα,
mounted upon me came forthwith
 μηδαμῶς αἰσχυνόμενοι, ὡς πρώην ἐκαυχῶντο.
in-no-way being-ashamed as before they-boasted
- Τούτων ὡς εἶδον τὴν ὀρμὴν, ἀρπάζω τὸ σκουτάρην
Their as I-saw the onrush I-s snatch the shield
 ἀπὸ χειρῶν τοῦ γέροντος, καὶ πρὸς αὐτοὺς ἐκτρέχω.
from hands of-the old-man and at them I-run-out
- Γεναμένης δὲ συμπλοκῆς καὶ ἐνστάτου πολέμου,
Having-come-about and close-fight and pressing war
- 235 ὁ μὲν Κίνναμος ὀπισθεν ἔσπευδε τοῦ λαθεῖν με·
— indeed Kinnamos behind hastened of-the to-escape-notice me
 Ἰωαννάκης ἔκρουεν εὐθέως καὶ συντόμως,
Ioannakes struck at-once and swiftly
 καὶ τότε εἶδον πολεμιστὰς ὡς ἀληθῶς δοκίμους,
and then I-saw warriors as truly approved
 ἀλλ' οὐδεὶς τούτων ἴσχυσεν ἐμοὶ περιγενέσθαι·
but no-one of-them was-able me to-overcome
 καὶ γὰρ, ἡνίκα τὴν ἐμὴν ἀπετίνασσον ῥάβδον,
and for when the my I-shook club
- 240 ὅλοι ὡς ἀπὸ λέοντος ἔφευγον ἐναντίον,
all as from lion fled opposite
 ὥσεί πρόβατα μήκοθεν ἐμὲ περισκοποῦντες,
like sheep from-far me watching-round
 καὶ αὖτις πάλιν ἦρχοντο ὡς κύνες ὑλακτοῦντες.
and again once-more came like dogs barking
 Ὡς δὲ οὕτως ἐγένετο ἐφ' ὥραν οὐκ ὀλίγην,
As and thus it-was for hour not little

καὶ ἡ κόρη κατέλαβε, πλὴν ἵστατο μακρόθεν,

also the girl arrived but stood from afar

ἀντικρὺς ἐξεπίτηδες τοῦ παρ' ἐμοῦ ὁρᾶσθαι·

opposite on-purpose of-the by me to-be-seen

καὶ ὥς εἶδε κυκλοῦντας με τοὺς δύο ὥσεί κύνας,

and as she-saw circling me the two like dogs

λόγον μοι ἐνετόξευσεν ἐπίκουρον εἰποῦσα·

word to-me she-shot helpful having-said

«ἀνδρίζου, ὦ παμφίλτατε!» Καὶ εὐθὺς σὺν τῷ λόγῳ

be-a-man O all-dearest And at-once with the word

ἰσχὺν ἀναλαβόμενος, πλήττω τὸν Ἰωαννάκην

strength having-taken-up I-strike — Ioannakes

ἐν τῇ χειρὶ τῇ δεξιᾷ ἄνωθεν τοῦ ἀγκῶνος·

on the arm the right above of-the elbow

τὰ ὀστᾶ συνετρίβησαν, ἡ χεὶρ ὅλη ἡπλώθη,

the bones were-crushed the arm whole was-stretched-out

καὶ τὸ σπαθὶν ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν πέπτωκε παραχρῆμα·

and the sword onto the earth fell forthwith

ὀλίγον δέ μου παρελθὼν πέπτωκεν ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου,

little and me having-passed fell from the horse

καὶ εἰς πέτραν ἀκούμπησεν, ἐχόμενος τοῦ πόνου.

and on rock leaned holding-to the pain

245

250

Digenis brings down Kinnamos and spares all three. The two younger men take him for a spirit of the place, but Philopappous calls him a man, urges a night ambush, and promises the girl to Ioannakes. When no one answers their beacon, his men persuade him to enlist Maximou, a descendant of Alexander's Amazons.

- 255 Βουληθεῖς δὲ ὁ Κίνναμος μόνος ἀνδραγαθῆσαι,
Having-wished and — Kinnamos alone to-do-brave-deeds
 ἄνω καὶ κάτω τὸν αὐτοῦ ἵππον ἐπιλαλήσας,
up and down the his horse having-urged-on
 τεθαρρηκὼς ὁ δειλαιὸς τὸν λέοντα πτοῆσαι,
having-been-bold the wretch the lion to-terrify
 ὡς πρὸς ἐμὲ κατήρχετο σὺν τῷ ἰδίῳ ἵππῳ,
as toward me he-came-down with the own horse
 ῥαβδέαν τοῦτον ἔπληξα μέσον τῶν δύο ὤμων,
mace-blow him I-struck middle of-the two shoulders
- 260 ἀφ' ὧν αἶμα ποταμηδὸν ἔρρεε παραχρῆμα
from which blood river-like flowed forthwith
 ἔκ τε κροτάφων καὶ αὐτοῦ τοῦ στόματος τοῦ φάρα,
from both temples and very of-the mouth of-the charger
 καὶ αὐτίκα συμποδισθεὶς πίπτει σὺν τῷ Κιννάμῳ·
and at-once fettered falls with — Kinnamos
 τὸν δὲ φόβος ἐλάμβανε καὶ δειλία συνεῖχε,
him and fear took and cowardice held
 νομίζων ὅτι κείμενον θέλω αὐτὸν πατάξαι.
thinking that lying I-wish him to-strike
- 265 Λέγω δ' ἐγὼ τε πρὸς αὐτόν· «ὦ Κίνναμε, τί τρέμεις;
I-say and I and to him O Kinnamos why do-you-tremble
 τὸν πεσόντα οὐδέποτε ἔθος ἔχω τοῦ κρούειν·
the fallen never custom I-have of-the to-strike

ἀλλ', εἰ βούλει, ἀνάστηθι καὶ λάβε σου τὰ ὄπλα,
but if you-wish stand-up and take your the weapons
 καὶ δώσομεν εἰς πρόσωπον, ὥς δοκεῖ τοῖς ἀνδρείοις·
and we-shall-give to face as seems-good to-the brave
 τὸ δὲ πατάσσειν πτώματα τοῖς ἀδρανέσι πέλει.»
the and to-strike fallen(-men) to-the feeble belongs

Ἐκεῖνος δὲ τοῖς νεύμασιν ὑποταγὴν ἐδείκνυ·

270

He and with-the nods submission showed
 οὐκ ἴσχυε γὰρ τοῦ λαλεῖν ἐχόμενος τοῦ τρόμου.
not was-able for of-the to-speak held-by the trembling

Ἐκεῖ τοῦτον ἀφέμενος ὅπισθεν ἐστρεφόμεν,

There him having-let-go behind I-turned

καὶ ὁρῶ τὸν Φιλοπαπποῦν εἰς ἑαυτὸν ἐλθόντα,
and I-see — Philopappous to himself having-come
 κινούντα τε τὴν κεφαλὴν καὶ λέγοντα τοιαῦτα·
moving both the head and saying such(-things)

«μὰ τὸν θεὸν τὸν ποιήσαντα οὐρανὸν καὶ γῆν πᾶσαν,
by — God the having-made heaven and earth all

275

τὸν σὲ κατακοσμήσαντα τοῖς χαρίσμασι πᾶσι,
the you having-adorned with-the gifts all
 κατάλειπε τὸν πόλεμον καὶ ποιήσον ἀγάπην,
leave the war and make friendship

καὶ δοῦλοι σου ἐσόμεθα, εἴπερ αὐτὸς κελεύεις,
and slaves your we-shall-be if-indeed you bid

παρὰ σοῦ προστασόμενοι καὶ ποιοῦντες ἀόκνως.»
by you being-commanded and doing without-hesitation

Ὡς ταῦτα φίλα ἤκουσα κατηλέγησα τούτους

280

As these(-things) friendly I-heard I-pitied them
 (πραῦνουσι γὰρ τὸν θυμὸν ὑποπίπτοντες λόγοι),
soften for the anger submitting words

καὶ μειδιάσας πρὸς αὐτὸν μετ' εἰρωνείας ἔφην·
and having-smiled to him with irony I-said

«Φιλοπαπποῦ, ἐξύπνησας καὶ ὁράματα λέγεις·
Philopappous you-have-awoken and visions you-tell

ἀλλ', ἐπεὶ εἰς κατάνυξιν μετέστρεψας τὸ γῆρας,
but since to compunction you-have-turned the old-age

285 ἀνάστα, λάβε τοὺς σὺν σοὶ, ἄπελθε ὅπου βούλει,
arise take those with you go-away where you-wish

οἰκείους ἔχων ὀφθαλμοὺς μάρτυρας τοῦπραχθέντος,
own having eyes witnesses of-the done

καὶ οὓς ζητεῖτε πιστευσον νὰ λείβουν ἐκ τοῦ ἀδνούμιν.
and whom you-see believe that they-will-be-missing from the roll

Ἄρχειν δὲ οὐκ ἐφίεμαι, ἀλλὰ μόνος διάγειν,
To-rule and not I-desire but alone to-live

ἐπειδὴ καὶ μονογενὴς πέφυκα τοῖς γονεῦσιν·
since also only-begotten I-am to-the parents

290 ὑμῖν δὲ ἄρχειν ἔξεστι καὶ συνεργεῖν ἀλλήλοις
for-you and to-rule is-allowed and to-work-with one-another

ἐφ' οἷς ἔχετε δυνατόν ποιεῖσθαι καὶ τὰ κούρησιν·
with which you-have possible to-make also the raids

καὶ, εἰ πολλάκις θέλετε πάλιν με πολεμῆσαι,
and if perchance you-wish again me to-fight

ἄλλους ἀνθολογήσατε ἐκ νέου ἀπελάτας
others gather-up from new raiders

τοὺς μὴ εἰδότας πείραν μου, μηδὲ γνώσκοντάς με·
those not knowing trial of-me nor knowing me

295 εἶδον γὰρ ὅσοι πείραν μου ὑμῖν οὐ συνεργήσουν.»
saw for as-many-as trial of-me you not will-work-with

Καὶ ἐχάρη ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς δεξάμενος τὴν λύσιν,
And rejoiced — Philopappous having-received the release
καὶ ἐφώνει τοῖς μετ' αὐτοῦ λύτρωσιν ἐκμηνύων·
and called to-those with him deliverance announcing
οὐδεὶς γὰρ τούτων ἤλπιζε ζωῆς ἀξιωθῆναι,
no-one for of-them hoped of-life to-be-deemed-worthy
ἀλλ' εἶχον ἤδη τὰς ψυχὰς πρὸς πύλας τοῦ θανάτου.
but had already the souls at gates of-the death
Καὶ, ὥς ἤκουσαν τῆς φωνῆς, ἀνελάμβανον ταύτας, 300
And as they-heard the voice took-back them
καὶ τὸ στόμα διήνοιγον πλείστα εὐχαριστοῦντες,
and the mouth they-opened very-much thanking
«ὄντως εἶδομεν, λέγοντες, ἔργα νικῶντα φήμην,
truly we-saw saying deeds conquering fame
καὶ τὴν σὴν ὑπεράνθρωπον μεγίστην εὐσπλαγχνίαν,
and the your superhuman greatest compassion
ἣν οὐδεὶς ὑπεδείξατο ἐν τῷ παρόντι βίῳ·
whicḥ no-one showed in the present life
καὶ ἀντιδώῃ σοι θεὸς ἀντάξια τῆς γνώμης 305
and may-repay you God worthy of-the mind
μείζονα τὰ χαρίσματα καὶ ζῇν μετὰ συμβίου
greater the gifts and to-live with consort
εἰς ἀπεράντους χρόνους τε τερπόμενοι ἀλλήλοις.»
for endless times and delighting in-one-another
Εἶτα τὴν πολυώραιαν λαβὼν ἐν ταῖς ἀγκάλας,
Then the much-beautiful having-taken in the arms
πόρρωθεν ἐκαθέσθημεν ὑποκάτω εἰς δένδρον,
far-off we-sat beneath at tree
οὐρανοῦ μέσον ἥλιος ἀπάρτι διατρέχων. 310
of-heaven middle sun now running-through

Ἐκεῖνοι δὲ συνήχθησαν οἱ τρεῖς εἰς ἓνα τόπον,

They and gathered the three into one place

καὶ θαυμάζοντες ἔλεγον οἱ δύο πρὸς ἀλλήλους

and marveling said the two to one-another

νεωτέρας οἱ ἄγοντες ἡλικίας καὶ φρένας·

younger those leading ages and minds

«ὄντως λίαν τὸ ὁραθὲν καὶ παράδοξον ξένον,

truly very the seen and incredible strange

315 ἄνθρωπος ἄοπλος, πεζὸς, ῥάβδον κατέχων μόνην,

man unarmed on-foot club holding only

ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἐν τοῖς ἄρμασι καλῶς καθωπλισμένους,

us those in the arms well armed

τοὺς μυριάδας τρέψαντας καὶ πόλεις κατασχόντας,

those myriads having-routed and cities having-seized

καθολικῶς ἐνίκησεν ὥσπερ τινὰς ἀπείρους,

universally conquered as some inexperienced

καὶ αἰσχύνῃς ἐνέπλησε καὶ δειλίας καὶ φόβου·

and with-shame filled and cowardice and fear

320 βέβαιον γόης πέφυκεν ἢ στοιχείον τοῦ τόπου,

certainly sorcerer he-is or spirit of-the place

ἐπεὶ αὐτὸς ἀντ' οὐδενὸς ἡγείτο τὰς σπαθείας,

since he as nothing considered the sword-blows

καὶ ἀνυπόστατον θυμὸν εἶχεν ἐπὶ τὴν ῥάβδον·

and irresistible anger had on the club

εἰ γὰρ ὑπῆρχεν ἄνθρωπος ὥσπερ οἱ ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου,

if for he-were man like those of the world

εἶχεν ἂν σῶμα καὶ ψυχὴν, θάνατον ἐδεδοίκει,

he-would-have — body and soul death would-have-feared

325 καὶ οὐ μὴ ὥσπερ ἄσαρκος ξίφεσι κατετόλμα·

and not — like fleshless against-swords would-have-dared

ἀλλὰ στοιχεῖον ἐκ παντὸς ἐτύγχανε τοῦ τόπου,
but spirit by all was of-the place

καὶ φαντασίᾳ μεθ' ἡμῶν τὸν πόλεμον συνῆψε.
and by-phantasm with us the war joined

Ἴδετε καὶ τὸ ἄπειρον κάλλος τῆς φαινομένης
See also the boundless beauty of-the appearing

τηλαυγέστερον πέμπον τι ἡλιακῶν ἀκτίνων,
more-far-shining sending something than-solar rays

καὶ ὥσπερ στήλη ἔμψυχος ἡμῖν νομιζομένη.»
and like statue animate by-us thought

330

Ταῦτα καὶ τούτοις ὅμοια λέγοντες ἀσυνέτως,
These(-things) and to-these like saying senselessly

ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς γηραιὸν ἔφη λόγον·
the old-man — Philopappous aged said word

«ταῦτα πάντα, ὦ τέκνα μου, εἰσὶ παραμυθία,
these all O children my are consolations

περιγραφὰ ἀτυχῶν, ψυχῶν παρηγορία·
evasions of-misfortunes of-souls comforts

ἐγὼ δὲ εἶδον ἀληθῶς δοκιμώτατον ἄνδρα,
I but saw truly most-approved man

335

τοῖς τοῦ Χριστοῦ χαρίσμασι πᾶσι πεπλουτισμένον,
with-the — of-Christ gifts all enriched

κάλλος, ἀνδρεία, φρόνησιν καὶ πολλὴν εὐτολμίαν,
beauty courage prudence and much daring

ἔχει καὶ δρόμον ἄπειρον τῶν ἀγαθῶν προσθήκην·
he-has also speed boundless of-the good(-things) addition

ἡμῖν δὲ τοῦτο γέγονε μόνον παρηγορία
for-us and this has-become only consolation

ὅτι οὐκ εὑρέθησαν τινὲς εἰς θεάν τοῦ πολέμου·
that not were-found any at sight of-the war

340

ὄνομα δὲ ὃ εἵχομεν τὸ τῆς ἀνδρείας μέγα,
name and which we-had the of-the courage great

τοῦτο νῦν ἀπωλέσαμεν ὑφ' ἑνὸς ἡττηθέντες·
this now we-have-lost by one defeated

ἀλλ', εἴπερ θέλετε βουλὴν, ὦ ἡμέτερα τέκνα,
but if-indeed you-wish counsel O our children

μηδαμῶς ἀμελήσωμεν τὴν ὕβριν ἐκδικῆσαι,
in-no-way let-us-neglect the outrage to-avenge

345 ἀλλὰ παντοίους σπεύσωμεν ἐφευρεῖν τοὺς οἰκείους·
but all-kinds let-us-hasten to-find the kinsmen

εἰ γὰρ καὶ ἐκαυχῆσατο, ἀλλ' οὐ πάντας ἀνείλε,
if for even he-boasted but not all he-killed

καὶ, εἰ θελήσει ὁ θεὸς καὶ περισυσταθῶμεν
and if will-wish — God and we-are-gathered-together

ἵνα τοῦ ἐπιπέσωμεν ἐν νυκτὶ ἀδοκῆτως,
that him we-may-fall-upon in night unexpectedly

καὶ εἰ κατὰσχωμεν αὐτὸν, ἀφαιρεθῇ ὁ πόνος,
and if we-seize him may-be-taken-away the pain

350 ὃν εἰς ψυχὰς κατέσπειρε τὰς ἡμῶν ὁ γεννάδας,
which into souls sowed the our the noble

καὶ ἡ κόρη εἰς ὄνομα σὸν, Ἰωαννάκη, ἔσται·
and the girl in name your Ioannakes will-be

ρήθῃναι δὲ ἀμήχανον τὸ κάλλος τῆς εἰκάζω·
to-be-told and impossible the beauty her I-guess

καὶ ἀληθῶς οὐδέποτε τοιοῦτον ἐν ἀνθρώποις
and truly never such among men

κάλλος τις ἐθεάσατο, ὥσπερ ὑπολαμβάνω.
beauty anyone beheld as I-suppose

355 Καὶ γὰρ πεντηκοστὸν ἐγὼ δεύτερον ἔτος ἄγω,
And for fiftieth I second year lead

πλείστας πόλεις διέδραμον χώρας τε οὐκ ὀλίγας,
very-many cities I-ran-through lands and not few

ἀλλ' ἡττήθησαν ἅπασαι, οἷα χορὸς ἀστέρων,
but were-defeated all as chorus of-stars

ὅπηνίκα ὁ ἥλιος τὰς ἀκτῖνας ἐκτείνει.
whenever the sun the rays stretches-out

Ἄλλὰ θάρσει, παγκάλλιστε, σοῦ τοῦ λοιποῦ ὑπάρχει.»
But take-courage most-beautiful yours for-the future she-is

Ταῦτα ὁ γέρων εἰρηκῶς καλῶς ἔδοξε λέγειν.
These(-things) the old-man having-said well seemed to-speak

360

καὶ ἀνῆλθον εἰς τὸν φανὸν τὴν σύναξιν ποιοῦντες,
and they-went-up to the beacon the gathering making

τῇ δὲ νυκτὶ ἐπὶ πολὺ τὸν πυρσὸν δαδουχοῦντες,
in-the and night for long the torch carrying

καὶ τὸ παράπαν οὐδὲ εἷς παρῇν τῶν δοκουμένων.
and the altogether not-even one was-present of-the expected

οἱ δὲ περὶ Φιλοπαπποῦν λέγειν ἄρχονται τάδε·
those and around Philopappous to-say begin these(-things)

«τί, γέρον ἀνδρικώτατε, κόπους ἡμῶν παρέχεις;
why old-man most-manly toils to-us do-you-provide

365

οὐχὶ πιστεύων εἴληφας τῆς ἡμῶν εὐτολμίας,
not believing have-you-taken of-the our daring

ἐξ ὧν οἶδας ἀριστείων καὶ μεγίστων ἐπάθλων
from which you-know of-exploits and greatest prizes

τῶν τελεσθέντων παρ' ἡμῶν ἐν κραταιοῖς πολέμοις;
of-the accomplished by us in mighty wars

οὐ πολλάκις ἐθαύμασας ἡμᾶς ὡς ἀηττήτους,
not often you-marveled-at us as unconquerable

τὰς παραδόξους καθορῶν ἀεὶ ἀνδραγαθίας,
the strange beholding always brave-deeds

370

καὶ παρ' αὐτοῦ ἡττήθημεν ὥς ἄπειροι πολέμου·
and by him we-were-defeated as inexperienced of-war
 περὶ ἐκείνων ἀπιστεῖς μὴ παρ' αὐτοῦ κτανθῆναι;
about those do-you-disbelieve not by him to-have-been-killed
 ἀλλ', εἰ κελεύεις, πείσθητι τῇ βουλῇ τῶν σῶν τέκνων,
but if you-bid be-persuaded by-the counsel of-the your children
 καταλείψωμεν τοὺς πολλοὺς καὶ ἀνονήτους μόχθους,
let-us-leave the many and useless toils

375 καὶ ἄπελθε πρὸς Μαξιμοῦν τὴν ἡμῶν συγγενίδα,
and go-away to Maximou the our kinswoman
 καὶ παρακάλεσον αὐτὴν ἡμῖν τοῦ συνεργῆσαι,
and entreat her us of-the to-work-with
 λαὸν γὰρ ἔχει ἐκλεκτὸν ὥς καὶ αὐτὸς γινώσκεις·
people for she-has chosen as also you know
 πλὴν τὰ συμβάντα πρὸς αὐτὴν μηδαμῶς ἀναγγείλῃς,
but the(-things) having-happened to her in-no-way announce
 εἰ γὰρ ἐν γνώσει γένηται, οὐ πεισθῇ συνελθεῖν σοι·
if for in knowledge she-becomes not she-will-be-persuaded to-come-together with-you

380 ἀλλ' ὥς ἐχέφρων, νουνεχὴς, ποιήσον ἀποκρίσεις,
but as sensible prudent make answers
 ὅπως ἐλκύσης εἰς βουλὴν τὴν ἡμετέραν ταύτην·
so-that you-may-draw to counsel the our her
 καὶ ἐὰν τοῦτο γένηται ἐξόμεθα τὸ νίκος,
and if this happens we-shall-have the victory
 ἡμεῖς δὲ ἐνωθοῦμεν σοι, τὸν πυρσὸν ὅταν δείξῃς.»
we and will-be-united with-you the torch when you-show

Καὶ ἤρρεσεν ἡ συμβουλή τῷ γέροντι ἀσμένως·

And pleased the counsel to-the old-man gladly

385 εὐθὺς ἐφ' ἵππου ἐπιβὰς πρὸς Μαξιμοῦν ἀπῆλθε.
at-once on horse having-mounted to Maximou went-away

Αὕτη δὲ ἦν ἀπόγονος γυναικῶν Ἀμαζόνων,
She and was descendant of-women Amazons
 ὣς βασιλεὺς Ἀλέξανδρος ἤγαγεν ἐκ Βραχμάνων·
whom king Alexander brought from Brahmins
 εἶχε δὲ τὴν ἐνέργειαν μεγίστην ἐκ προγόνων,
she-had and the energy greatest from ancestors
 βίου ἀεὶ τὸν πόλεμον καὶ τέρψιν ἡγουμένη.
of-life always the war and delight considering

XXIV · MAXIMOU'S ARMY

Philopappous wins Maximou with a lie, and she brings a hundred chosen raiders. Against advice Melimitzes charges Digenis ahead of the army and is struck down, and Philopappous wounds Digenis' horse from the side. Digenis arms himself and hides his wife in a cave on the hill, from where she can watch.

Πρὸς ταύτην ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς γεγονῶς, ὡς ἐρρέθη, 390
To her — Philopappous having-come as was-said
 προσηνῶς κατησπάζετο· «πῶς ἔχεις», ἐπερώτα.
gently embraced how do-you-fare asked
 Τῆς δὲ εἰπούσης· «ζῶ καλῶς, τῇ τοῦ θεοῦ προνοίᾳ·
Her and having-said I-live well by-the — of-God providence
 ἀλλὰ σὺ, ὦ πανάριστε, πῶς μετὰ τέκνων ἔχεις;
but you O all-best how with children do-you-fare
 χάριν δὲ τίνος πρὸς ἡμᾶς τούτων χωρὶς ἐπήλθες;»
for-the-sake and of-what to us these without did-you-come
 Αὐθις ὁ γέρων ἔφησε τάδε, οὐκ ἀληθεύων· 395
Again the old-man said these(-things) not telling-truth
 «οἱ μὲν παῖδες, κυρία μου, Κίνναμος καὶ Ἰωαννάκης,
the indeed boys lady my Kinnamos and Ioannakes

καλῶς ἔχοντες σὺν θεῷ ἀπῆλθον εἰς τὰς βίγλας,
well faring with God went-away to the watches

τοὺς ἀτάκτους ὁλοσχερῶς σπεύδοντες ἀφανῖσαι·
the disorderly wholly hastening to-destroy

τῶνδε καὶ γὰρ ἀπολυθεὶς ἀναπαύσεως χάριν,
from-these I-too having-been-released of-rest for-the-sake

400 ἢ μᾶλλον οἰκονομικῶς θεοῦ τῇ εὐδοκίᾳ,
or rather providentially of-God by-the good-pleasure

εἰς τοῦ καλοῦ ἀνέυρεσιν καὶ ἀτιμήτου δώρου,
for of-the good finding and priceless gift

ὥς γὰρ οὐκ ἦν μοι πώποτε τέλεον ἡρεμῆσαι,
as for not it-was for-me ever completely to-be-at-rest

μετὰ τὴν ὑποχώρησιν τῶν ἐμῶν παμφιλτάτων,
after the withdrawal of-the my all-dearest

μόνος τοῦ ἵππου ἐπιβὰς ἀνέτρεχον τὰς ὄχθας,
alone on-the horse having-mounted I-ran-up the banks

405 καὶ τοὺς πόρους ἐσκόπευον ἰδεῖν τοὺς ἐναντίους·
and the fords I-watched to-see the enemies

ὥς δὲ ἦλθον ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ τῇ καλουμένῃ Τρώσει,
as and I-came on the road the called Trosis

πρὸς μέρος τὸ εὐώνυμον ἐν τῷ δασεῖ λειμῶνι,
toward side the left in the thick meadow

θηράματι ἐνέτυχον χρυσοῦ τιμιωτέρῳ,
quarry I-met than-gold more-precious

κόρη, οἷαν οὐδέποτε οἱ ὀφθαλμοί μου εἶδον.
girl such-as never the eyes my saw

410 Ἐν τῷ κάλλει ἀμήχανον τὴν φαιδρότητα εἶχεν,
In the beauty extraordinary the brightness she-had

ἐξ ὀφθαλμῶν ἀπόρρητον ἀνέπεμπε τὴν χάριν,
from eyes ineffable sent-up the grace

ἔρνος ὥσπερ εὐθέατον τὴν ἡλικίαν ἔχων,
sapling as-if fair-to-see the stature having
 καὶ θέλγει πάντων τὰς ψυχὰς, εἰκὼν καθάπερ ἔμπνους·
and charms of-all the souls image as-if breathing
 ἔστι δὲ, ὡς ἀνέμαθον, τοῦ Δουκὸς ἡ θυγάτηρ,
she-is and as I-learned — of-Doukas the daughter
 ἣν λόγῳ οἰκειούμεθα τοῦ Χρυσοῖωαννάκη·
whom by-word we-claim — of-Chrysoioannakes
 ἕτερος δὲ προέλαβεν, ἀγνοῶ ποίῳ τρόπῳ,
another and got-ahead I-know-not in-what way
 καὶ μετ' αὐτῆς ἐφαίνετο νυνὶ ἐν τῷ λειμῶνι.
and with her appeared now in the meadow
 Καὶ, εἴπερ ὅλως συγγενοῦς κήδεσαι τοῦ φιλτάτου,
And if-indeed at-all for-kinsman you-care the dearest
 ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ κοπίασον, δέξαι καὶ ἀγρυπνίαν,
for him toil receive also wakefulness
 τὴν ἀγάπην βεβαίωσον, κυρία μου, ἐξ ἔργων·
the love confirm lady my from deeds
 ὁ γὰρ προθύμως κοινωνῶν θλίψει τῶν φιλτάτων,
he for eagerly sharing in-afflictions of-the dearest
 ἐκείνος φίλος ἀληθὴς καὶ συγγενὴς ὑπάρχει.»
that-one friend true and kinsman is

415

420

Γέρων δὲ ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς τοιαῦτα τε λαλήσας,
Old-man and — Philopappous such(-things) and having-spoken
 κατὰ πάντα πειθήμιον τὴν Μαξιμοῦν ποιεῖται·
in all obedient — Maximou makes
 καὶ γὰρ εὐεξαπάτητον φρόνημα γυναικεῖον.
and for easily-deceived mind feminine
 Οὐδαμῶς γὰρ ἠρεύνησε τίς ὁ τὴν κόρην ἔχων,
In-no-way for she-inquired who the(-one) the girl having

425

ἀλλ' αὐτίκα περιχαρῶς καλεῖ τὸν Μελιμίτζην,

but at-once overjoyed calls — Melimitzes

ὃν εἶχε πρῶτον ἄγουρον ἐξάρχοντα τῶν ἄλλων,

whom she-had first youth leading of-the others

καὶ μειδιῶσα πρὸς αὐτὸν περιχαρῶς ἐξείπεν·

and smiling to him overjoyed spoke-out

430 «ἔμαθες ὥς ὁ θαυμαστὸς Φιλοπαπποῦς ὁ γέρων

did-you-learn how the marvelous Philopappous the old-man

κυνῆγιν εὔρε κάλλιστον ἀρτίως εἰς τὰς ἄκρας,

game found finest now at the frontiers

καὶ ἀξιῶ μεθ' ἑαυτοῦ καὶ ἡμᾶς πορευθῆναι,

and asks with himself also us to-travel

τῆς τε χαρᾶς μεταλαβεῖν καὶ τρυφῆς τῆς ἐντεῦθεν;

of-the both joy to-partake and of-luxury of-the from-there

ἀλλὰ τάχιον ἄπελθε, εὐρὲ τοὺς ἀπελάτας,

but quickly go-away find the raiders

435 καὶ ἀπὸ πάντων ἑκατὸν ἔκλεξαι τοὺς δοκίμους,

and from all hundred choose the approved

ἵππους τε ἔχοντας καλοὺς, ὀχυρώτατα ὄπλα,

horses and having fine most-strong weapons

ἵνα ὧπερ ἐντύχωμεν, κατὰσχωμεν ῥαδίως.»

that whom-ever we-meet we-may-seize easily

Ὁ δὲ πρόσταγμα μὴ τολμῶν δεσποίνης ἀθετῆσαι,

He and command not daring of-mistress to-set-aside

ἐν τῇ βίγλα γενόμενος, ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ ἑσπέρα,

at the watch having-come on this the evening

440 καὶ ἐπιδείξας τὸν πυρσὸν, καὶ πλείστους συναθροίσας

and having-shown the torch and very-many having-gathered

πρὸς χιλίων ἐπέκεινα δοκίμους στρατιώτας,

toward thousand beyond approved soldiers

ἐκ τούτων ἀπεχώρισεν ἑκατὸν τοὺς γενναίους·

from these separated hundred the noble

καὶ τούτους συμπαλαβὼν πρὸς τὴν κυρίαν ἦλθεν.

and these having-taken-along to the lady came

Ἡ δὲ τὰς χρείας ἅπασας εἰκότως ἐπιδούσα,

She and the needs all fittingly having-given

ἐνετείλατο τῇ ἐξῆς γενέσθαι ἐν τοῖς ὅπλοις·

commanded on-the next(-day) to-be in the arms

μεθ' ὧν ὥρμησε κατ' ἐμοῦ ζήλῳ πολλῷ πλησθεῖσα,

with whom she-set-out against me with-zeal much having-been-filled

τοῦ στρατοῦ προηγούμενος Φιλοπαπποῦς ἐν πόθῳ.

of-the army leading Philopappous in longing

Ἐν δὲ τῷ ἀναστήματι γινόμενοι τοῦ λόφου,

In and the height having-come of-the hill

ὁ γηραιὸς τὸ σύνθημα τοῖς φίλοις προσμηνύει,

the old-man the signal to-the friends makes-known

πυρσὸν ἐξῆπτε τῇ νυκτὶ τοῖς περὶ Ἰωαννάκην·

torch he-lit in-the night for-those around Ioannakes

καὶ μεθ' ἡμέρας καὶ αὐτοὶ ἐν τῷ στρατῷ παρήσαν,

and with day also they in the army were-present

ἀσμένως πρὸς τῆς Μαξιμοῦς λίαν ἀποδεχθέντες·

gladly by — Maximou very having-been-received

ἐτοίμους γὰρ ὡς ἀγχιστὰς τούτους καὶ ὡς συμμάχους

ready for as next-of-kin them and as allies

ἐδέξατο ἢ Μαξιμὸν ὀλοσχερῶς τερφθεῖσα.

received — Maximou wholly having-been-delighted

Πρὸς δὲ ὄχθας τοῦ ποταμοῦ πλησιάσαντες ἤδη,

To and banks of-the river having-drawn-near now

ἄρχεται τοῦ δημηγορεῖν Φιλοπαπποῦς τοιάδε·

begins of-the to-barangue Philopappous such(-things)

445

450

455

«ὁ μὲν τόπος, κυρία μου καὶ ὑμεῖς στρατιῶται,
the indeed place lady my and you soldiers
 ὑπάρχει δυσκολώτατος ἐν ᾧ τὴν κόρην εὑρον·
is most-difficult in which the girl I-found
 καὶ μὴ πάντες ἀπέλθωμεν ὡς κρότον ἐμποιοῦντες,
and not all let-us-go-away as clatter making

460 διάγνωσιν παρέχοντες τῷ φυλάττοντι ταύτην,
notice providing to-the guarding her
 καὶ, πρηνὴ πλησιάσομεν, δύνωσιν ἐν τῷ ἄλσει,
and before we-draw-near they-may-plunge in the grove
 καὶ οὐδ' ὅλως ἰσχύσωμεν τὸ θήραμα κρατῆσαι,
and not at-all we-may-be-able the quarry to-hold
 καὶ γένηται διακενὴς πάντων ἡμῶν ὁ κόπος·
and may-become empty of-all us the toil
 ἀλλ', εἰ δοκεῖ, προλάβωμεν δύο ἢ καὶ τρεῖς μόνοι,
but if it-seems-good let-us-go-ahead two or also three alone

465 λάθρα ἐπισκοπεύοντες ποῦ ἡ κόρη ὑπάρχει·
secretly spying-out where the girl is
 καὶ οἱ μὲν δύο μέινωμεν ταύτην ἐπιτηροῦντες,
and the indeed two let-us-remain her watching
 ὁ δέ γε τρίτος πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἐπανελθὼν δηλώσει,
the and at-least third to you having-retuned will-show
 καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ ἐλεύσεσθε μηδαμῶς πλανηθέντες.»
and with him you-will-come in-no-way having-gone-astray

Πρὸς δὲ ταῦτα ἡ Μαξιμου τῷ γέροντι ἀντέφη·
To and these(-things) — Maximou to-the old-man replied

470 «ὦ γέρον τε καὶ νουνεχὲς, σοὶ τὴν ἀρχὴν πιστεύω·
O old-man both and sensible to-you the command I-entrust
 πράττε λοιπὸν ὡς βούλεσαι, πάντων σοι πειθομένων.»
act then as you-wish all you obeying

Καὶ εὐθὺς ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς, λαβὼν τὸν Μελιμίτζην
And at-once — Philopappous having-taken — Melimitzes
καὶ τὸν Κίνναμον σὺν αὐτῷ, τὸν ποταμὸν διήλθε,
and — Kinnamos with him the river crossed
τοῖς ἄλλοις ἐντειλάμενος προσκαρτερεῖν ἐκεῖσε,
to-the others having-charged to-wait there
ἄχρις ἂν μῆνυμα αὐτοῖς ἐκ τούτων ἐπανέλθῃ.
until — message to-them from these returns 475
Ἔμοι δὲ τότε ἔτυχε διάγειν ἐν τῇ βίγλα,
To-me and then it-happened to-stay at the watch
ἵππον κρατῶν τοῦ χαλινοῦ καθεζεσθαι ἐν πέτρᾳ,
horse holding by-the bridle to-sit on rock
καὶ τούτων τε διὰ παντὸς τὴν ἔλευσιν ἐτήρουν.
and of-these and through all the coming I-watched
Ἰδὼν με ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς λέγει τὸν Μελιμίτζην·
Having-seen me — Philopappous says-to — Melimitzes
«ὁρᾷς ἐκεῖνον (τῇ χειρὶ ἐμὲ ὑποδεικνύων)
do-you-see that-one with-the hand me pointing-out
τὸν ἐν πέτρᾳ καθήμενον ἐπὶ τὴν ἀκρωρεῖαν;
the on rock sitting on the summit
αὐτὸς ὑπάρχει, γίνωσκε, ὁ τὴν κόρην κατέχων·
he is know the(-one) the girl holding
μὴ τοίνυν ἐλευσώμεθα κατὰ πρόσωπον τούτου·
not therefore let-us-come to face of-him
ἀλλὰ ὡς ἐρευνήσωμεν ὅπου τὴν κόρην ἔχει,
but let us-search where the girl he-has
καὶ εἴθ' οὕτως γνωρίσομεν τῷ λαῷ, ὥς ἐρρήθῃ·
and then thus we-will-make-known to-the people as was-said 485
εἰ γὰρ καὶ μόνος πέφυκεν, πλὴν καλὸς εἶναι πάντως·
if for even alone he-is but fine to-be altogether

οἶδα γὰρ οἷος καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπάρχει ἐν ἀνδρεία,

I-know for what-sort also he is in courage

καὶ παραινῶ μηδὲ ποσῶς μόνου αὐτῷ φανῆναι.»

and I-advice not at-all alone to-him to-appear

Ὡσαύτως καὶ ὁ Κίνναμος ἐπαινῶν τὰ λεχθέντα,

Likewise also — Kinnamos praising the(-things) said

490 ἀλλ' οὐδαμῶς συνέθετο τούτοις ὁ Μελιμίτζης

but in-no-way agreed with-them — Melimitzes

εἰρηκῶς ὥς «οὐ δύναμαι νῦν ὑμᾶς ἐπιγνῶναι·

having-said that not I-am-able now you to-recognize

εἰς χιλίους οὐδέποτε συνεργοῦ ἐδεήθην,

for thousand never of-fellow-worker I-needed

καὶ εἰς τὸν ἓνα λέγετε τὸν λαὸν περιμένειν;

and for the one do-you-say the people to-wait-for

πάντως εἰ τοῦτο ἀκουσθῇ πρὸ τῆς ἐμῆς κυρίας

altogether if this be-beard before the my lady

495 καταμεμφθῶ ὥς ἄνθρωπος, τὸν ἓνα δειλιάσας,

I-shall-be-blamed as unmanly the one having-feared

καὶ ζῆν οὐκέτι βούλομαι, εἰ ἄτολμος ἀκούσω.»

and to-live no-longer I-wish if undaring I-am-called

Οὕτως εἰπόντος κατ' ἐμοῦ ὅλῳ θυμῷ ἐκινήθη,

Thus having-spoken against me with-whole anger he-was-moved

τὰς τοῦ γέροντος παρ' οὐδὲν θέμενος παραινέσεις·

the of-the old-man as nothing having-set exhortations

ἔστι γὰρ καὶ τὸ βάρβαρον δύσπιστον ἔθνος ἅπαν.

is for also the barbarian distrustful nation all

500 Τούτου ὥς εἶδον τὴν ὄρμην, τοὺς δὲ ἐφεπομένους

Of-him as I-saw the onrush the and following

(καὶ αὐτοὶ γὰρ παρείποντο σκοπεύοντες τὸ μέλλον),

also they for followed watching the about-to-be

τοῦ ἵππου μου ἐπέβαινον καὶ αὐτοῖς προσυπήντων·

on-the horse my I-mounted and them met

ὥς δὲ ἔμπροσθεν ἦρχετο πάντων ὁ Μελιμίτζης,

as and in-front came of-all — Melimitzes

τὸ μὲν κοντάριν ἵθυνε δοῦναι μοι κονταρέαν·

the indeed spear he-aimed to-give me spear-thrust

τοῦτο δὲ τέχνη παρελθὼν ἐν τῷ με παρατρέχειν,

this and with-art having-passed in the me to-run-past

τῇ ράβδῳ τοῦτον ἔπληξα καὶ πρὸς γῆν κατηνέχθη·

with-the club him I-struck and to earth he-was-brought-down

ἰστάμην δὲ ἐγὼ τηρῶν εἰ ἐγερθῆναι ἔχει·

I-stood and I watching if to-rise he-has

καὶ ὥς ἐν τούτῳ μου τὸν νοῦν εἰς ὥραν ἐσχολούμην,

and as in this my the mind for hour I-was-busy

λαθὼν με ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς καὶ ἐλθὼν ἐκ πλαγίου,

having-escaped me — Philopappous and having-come from side

κονταρέαν ἐν τῷ μηρῷ τιτρώσκει μου τὸν ἵππον·

spear-thrust in the thigh wounds my the horse

ὑπῆρχον δὲ συνηρεφῇ καὶ θαμινὰ τὰ δένδρα,

were and overshadowing and thick the trees

τοῦ ἵππου δὲ πονέσαντος καὶαραχθέντος λίαν,

of-the horse and having-suffered and having-been-troubled very

ἐπιστραφεῖς τὸν γέροντα φευγόμενον κατείδον,

having-turned the old-man fleeing I-saw

καὶ ἐπεφώνησα αὐτῷ· «τί με ἀποδιδράσκεῖς;

and I-cried-out to-him why me do-you-run-away-from

ἔκδεξαί με δὲ εἰς πρόσωπον, ἐὰν ᾗς στρατιώτης,

receive me and to face if you-be soldier

καὶ μὴ ὥσπερ κυνάριον λυσσῶν λάθρα με δάκῃς.»

and not like little-dog raging secretly me bite

Ὁ δὲ μᾶλλον σφοδρότερον τὸν δρασμὸν ἐποιεῖτο

He but more more-vehemently the flight made

καὶ διήλθε τὸν ποταμὸν ἅμα σὺν τῷ Κιννάμῳ·

and crossed the river together with — Kinnamos

κἀγὼ ἄχρι τοῦ ὕδατος αὐτοῖς ἀκολουθήσας,

I-too as-far-as the water them having-followed

520 ὥς εἶδον πέρα τὸν λαὸν, πάντας καθωπλισμένους,

as I-saw across the people all armed

οὐκ ἔκρινα τοῦ ἀπελθεῖν πρὸς αὐτοὺς χωρὶς ὅπλων,

not I-judged of-the to-go-away to them without weapons

μάλιστα δ' ὅτι ὠκλαζεν ὁ ἵππος ἐν τῇ τρώσει·

especially and because knelt the horse in the wound

καὶ αὐτίκα ὑπέστρεψα πρὸς τὴν κόρην εὐθέως,

and at-once I-returned to the girl at-once

εἶτα βαλὼν τὰ ἄρματα, ἀλλάξας καὶ τὸν ἵππον,

then having-put-on the arms having-changed also the horse

525 πρὸς τὴν ὡραίαν εἶρηκα· «δεῦρο, φῶς μου, ἐν τάχει,

to the beautiful I-said come light my in haste

ἵν' ὅπως σε ἐν τῇ κρυπτῇ τοῦ λόφου ἐπαγάγω·

that so-that you in the hiding-place of-the hill I-may-bring

κακεῖθεν βλέπε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ἡμῶν ἀπολλυμένους,

and-from-there see the enemies our perishing

καὶ μάθε τίνα σοι ὁ θεὸς ἐκδικητὴν παρέσχε,

and learn whom to-you — God avenger provided

καὶ τὸ πανάγιον αὐτοῦ κράτος καὶ νῦν δοξάσεις.»

and the all-holy his sovereignty also now you-will-glorify

530 Ἡ δὲ εὐθὺς ἐπέβηκεν ἐφ' ἵππῳ τῷ ἰδίῳ,

She and at-once mounted on horse the own

καὶ γὰρ τὴν ἔφοδον αὐτῆς προηυτρέπισα μάλα·

and for the approach her I-prepared-beforehand very

ὥς δὲ καὶ κατελάβομεν ἐν τῷ ῥηθέντι τόπῳ,
as and also we-arrived at the said place
 τὴν μὲν ἐν τῇ περιωπῇ ἀφέντος τοῦ ὄρους,
her indeed on the look-out having-left of-the mountain
 ἐν ᾧ ἄντρον αὐτοφύες ὡς οἶκημα ὑπῆρχεν,
in which cave natural as dwelling was
 ὑπὸ δένδρων κρυπτόμενον καὶ δυσεύρετον λίαν, 535
by trees hidden and hard-to-find very
 τοῦ ὄραν μὲν τὰ πόρρωθεν πραττόμενα παρέιχε,
of-the to-see indeed the(-things) far-off being-done it-provided
 καὶ μηδὲ τὸ κρυπτόμενον παρά τινος ὀρᾶσθαι
and nor the hidden by anyone to-be-seen
 ἐκέισε, ὡς δεδήλωται, τὴν κόρην κατακρύψας,
there as has-been-shown the girl having-hidden
 καὶ παραγγείλας μηδαμῶς δειλιᾶν τὰ συμβάντα,
and having-charged in-no-way to-fear the(-things) having-happened
 μηδὲ μὴν ἐν ταῖς συμπλοκαῖς φωνῆσαι τὸ παράπαν, 540
nor indeed in the fights to-cry-out the altogether
 ἵνα μὴ τούτοις γένηται ὁδηγὸς ἡ φωνή σου,
that not to-them may-become guide the voice your
 καὶ ἐπανέλθωσι πρὸς σέ, ἐμοῦ ἀσχολουμένου,
and they-return to you me being-busy
 καὶ προφανῆς ὁ κίνδυνος ἐκ τούτου μοι ἐπέλθῃ.
and evident the danger from this upon-me may-come

Digenis swims the river and fights Maximou, beheading her horse and sparing her; he confesses he fell into adultery again. He routs her army, crediting God and the holy martyrs, fells Leandros, and puts the other three raiders to flight. She praises him and asks for single combat next morning; he gives her a stray horse, and that evening, in fine clothes, crosses the river again.

Καὶ ὥρμησα πρὸς ποταμὸν τὸν λαὸν ἔνθα εἶδον,

And I-set-out toward river the people where I-saw

545 καὶ τὰς ὄχθας ἀνέτρεχον ἵνα τὸν πόρον εὔρω·

and the banks I-ran-up that the ford I-may-find

καὶ θεωρῶ τὴν Μαξιμοῦν τῶν λοιπῶν χωρισθεῖσαν

and I-behold — Maximou from-the others separated

καὶ σὺν αὐτῇ τοὺς τέσσαρας μεγίστους ἀπελάτας,

and with her the four greatest raiders

Φιλοπαπποῦν τὸν γέροντα, Κίνναμον καὶ Ἰωαννάκην,

Philopappous the old-man Kinnamos and Ioannakes

καὶ τὸν δόκιμον Λέανδρον τὸν μέγαν ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ·

and the approved Leandros the great in courage

550 χαρζιανιστὶ κατήρχοντο τοῦ ποταμοῦ τὸ χεῖλος,

lashing they-came-down of-the river the edge

δύο ἐνθεν κακεῖθεν τε, ἢ Μαξιμοῦ δὲ μέσον,

two on-this-side and-on-that-side and — Maximou and in-the-middle

ἐποχουμένη εἰς βουλῆαν λευκὸν καθάπερ γάλα,

riding on steed white like milk

χαίτην ἔχων καὶ τὴν οὐρὰν, τὸν σγούρδον καὶ τὰ ὦτα,

mane having and the tail the forelock and the ears

ὄνυχάς τε τοὺς τέσσαρας κοκκίνους βεβαμμένους,

hoofs and the four red dyed

ἄπαν τὸ σελλοχάλινον χρυσῶ πεποικιλμένον·

all the saddle-and-bridle with-gold embroidered

τὸ λουρίκιν ἀπέστραπτε χρυσέας ρίζας ἔχον.

the mail-coat flashed golden hems having

Στραφεῖσα πρὸς τὸν γέροντα ἐπιμελῶς ἠρώτα·

Having-turned to the old-man carefully she-asked

«λέγε μοι, ὦ Φιλοπαπποῦ, τίς ὁ τὴν κόρην ἔχων.»

tell me O Philopappous who the(-one) the girl having

Ὁ δὲ φησὶν· «οὗτός ἐστι,» καμὲ τῇ χειρὶ δείξας.

He and says this-one is and-me with-the hand having-pointed

Ἡ δέ· «καὶ ποῦ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ, ἦρετο, στρατιῶται;»

She and and where the with him asked soldiers

«Οὗτος, φησὶ, κυρία μου, τῶν συνεργῶν οὐ δέϊται,

This-one says lady my of-the fellow-workers not needs

ἀλλ' εἰς τὴν ἄπειρον αὐτοῦ ἐπιθαρρῶν ἀνδρείαν,

but in the boundless his trusting courage

μόνος ὁδεύει πάντοτε, καύχημα τοῦτο ἔχων.»

alone travels always boast this having

Ἡ δέ· «ὦ τρισκατάρατε γέρον, ἀνταπεκρίθη,

She and O thrice-accursed old-man answered

καὶ διὰ ἓνα κόπους μοι καὶ τῷ λαῷ παρείχες,

and because-of one toils to-me and to-the people you-provided

πρὸς ὃν μόνη περάσασα, σὺν θεῷ καυχωμένη,

to whom alone having-crossed with God boasting

ἂρῶ αὐτοῦ τὴν κεφαλὴν, ὑμῶν μὴ δεηθεῖσα;»

I-will-take his the head of-you not having-needed

Ταῦτα εἰποῦσα ἐν θυμῷ, ὥρμησε τοῦ περάσαι.

These(-things) having-said in anger she-set-out of-the to-cross

Ἐγὼ δὲ λέγω πρὸς αὐτήν· «Μαξιμου, μὴ περάσης·

I and say to her Maximou not cross

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- 570 ἀνδράσι καὶ γὰρ πέφυκεν ἔρχεσθαι πρὸς γυναῖκας·
for-men and for it-is-natural to-come to women
 ἔλθω λοιπὸν ἐγὼ πρὸς σέ, ὡς τὸ δίκαιον ἔχει.»
let-me-come then I to you as the just has
 Καὶ αὐτίκα τὸν ἵππον μου κεντήσας ταῖς περόναις,
And at-once the horse my having-pricked with-the spurs
 πρὸς τὸ ὕδωρ ἐξώρμησα, ἀποτυχὼν τοῦ πόρου·
to the water I-rushed-out having-missed the ford
 ἦν δὲ πολὺς ὁ ποταμὸς καὶ ἔπλευσεν ὁ ἵππος·
was and great the river and swam the horse
- 575 ὕδατος τούτου ἔκχυσις ἄποθεν δὲ ὑπῆρχεν
of-water of-this outpouring at-a-distance and was
 βραχυτάτην ἐμφαίνουσα λίμνην συχὴν τε πόαν·
very-small showing pool thick and grass
 ἐν ᾗπερ στᾶσα ἀσφαλῶς λίαν εὐτρεπισμένη
in which having-stood securely very prepared
 ἢ Μαξιμοῦ τὴν προσβολὴν τὴν ἐμὴν ἐπετήρει·
— Maximou the attack the my watched
 οἱ δὲ συνόντες ἄλλοι μὲν ἔτρεχον πρὸς τὸν πόρον,
those and being-with others indeed ran to the ford
- 580 ἔτεροι δὲ ἐνήδρευον ἐγκρύμματα ποιοῦντες.
others and lay-in-wait ambushes making
 Ἐγὼ δὲ, ὅταν ἔγνωκα εἰς γῆν πατεῖν τὸν ἵππον,
I and when I-knew on earth to-tread the horse
 τρανὰ αὐτὸν ἠρέθιζον, καὶ τὸ σπαθὶν ἐλκύσας
vigorously him I-roused and the sword having-drawn
 ὀλοφύχως πρὸς Μαξιμοῦν εὐτέχνως ἀπηρχόμην.
wholeheartedly toward Maximou skillfully I-went-off
 Ἡ δὲ, ὡς προηυτρέπιστο, προσαπαντᾶν δραμούσα,
She and as she-bad-prepared to-meet having-run

κονταρέαν μοι δέδωκεν ξυστήν εἰς τὸ λουρίκιν·

spear-thrust to-me gave grazing on the mail-coat

καὶ μηδαμῶς ἀδικηθεὶς ἔκοψα τὸ κοντάριν,

and in-no-way having-been-harmed I-cut the spear

τινάξας δ' αὖθις τὸ σπαθὶν ταύτης ἐνεφεισάμην·

having-shaken and again the sword her I-spared

τοῦ δὲ βούλχα ἀποτεμὼν τὴν κεφαλὴν εὐθέως,

of-the and steed having-cut-off the head at-once

καὶ τὸ μὲν πτώμα χαλεπῶς ἐπὶ γῆν κατηνέχθη·

and the indeed carcass heavily onto earth was-brought-down

ἡ δὲ ἀναποδίσασα, τρόμῳ συνεχομένη,

she and having-stepped-back with-trembling held

προσπίπτουσα ἐφθέγγετο· «ὦ νέε, μὴ ἀποθάνω·

falling-before(-me) uttered O youth not let-me-die

πεπλάνημαι γὰρ ὡς γυνὴ Φιλοπαπποῦ πεισθεῖσα.»

I-have-been-led-astay for as woman by-Philopappous persuaded

Καὶ ταύτης μὲν εὐλαβηθεὶς, εἰσακούων τοῖς λόγοις,

And her indeed having-respected listening to-the words

κάλλος τε τὸ θαυμάσιον ὃ εἶχεν ἐλέησας,

beauty and the marvelous which she-had having-pitied

ἐκεῖ ταύτην ἀφένμενος, πρὸς τοὺς λοιποὺς ἐξῆλθον·

there her having-let-go to the others I-went-out

ὅπως τε πάντας ἵσχυσα, αἰσχύνομαι τοῦ λέγειν,

how and all I-prevailed-over I-am-ashamed of-the to-tell

ἵνα μὴ ὡς καυχώμενον λογίσσθῃ με, φίλοι·

that not as boasting you-may-reckon me friends

ὁ γὰρ ἐκδιηγούμενος ἰδίας ἀριστείας

the(-one) for relating own exploits

κενόδοξος λογίζεται ὑπὸ τῶν ἀκούνων.

vainglorious is-reckoned by those bearing

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600 Ἐγὼ δὲ οὐ καυχώμενος ταῦτα ὑμῖν ἐκφαίνω,
I but not boasting these(-things) to-you reveal
 οὐδ', μὰ τὸν διδόντα ἰσχὺν καὶ γνῶσιν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις,
no by the(-one) giving strength and knowledge to-the men
 αὐτὸς γὰρ μόνος πάροχος τῶν ἀγαθῶν ὑπάρχει·
he for alone provider of-the good(-things) is
 διὰ τοῦτο ῥηθήσονται ὡς γεγόνασι πάντα,
because-of this will-be-told as have-happened all
 συγγνώμην ὅπως παρ' ὑμῶν ἔξω τῶν ἀκουόντων.
pardon so-that from you I-may-have those bearing

605 Αὐθις καὶ γὰρ ὠλίσθησα εἰς βόθυνον μοιχείας,
Again and for I-slipped into pit of-adultery
 δι' ἐλαφρότητα φρενῶν καὶ ψυχῆς ἀμελείαν,
because-of lightness of-mind and of-soul neglect
 ὑπὲρ τούτου κατὰ πολὺ ὁ λόγος μὲν δηλώσει·
about this by much the account indeed will-show
 ἔχει δὲ οὕτω καθεξῆς ὥσπερ ὑμῖν ἐξείπω.
it-holds but thus in-order as to-you I-will-tell

Ἡ Μαξιμὸν τὸν ἴδιον ἀπολέσασα ἵππον
 — Maximou the own having-lost horse

610 ἀπελείφθη ἐν τῇ ποᾷ, ὡς ἄνωθεν ἐρρέθη,
was-left in the grass as above was-said
 καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ἄλλους ἐκδραμὼν τὸν πόλεμον συνῆψα·
and to the others having-run-out the war I-joined
 καὶ, πρὶν λάβωσι πείραν μου, εἰσήγοντο μὲν πρὸς με·
and before they-take trial of-me they-came-in indeed at me
 ὡς δὲ πάντας τοὺς μετ' ἐμοῦ συμβεβληκότας εἶδον,
as and all those with me having-engaged I-saw
 κατερραγμένους ἐπὶ γῆν, ἀφ' ἵππον ἀπωσμένους,
dashed-down on earth from horse thrust-off

καὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐγνώρισαν τῶν ἔργων ὅστις ἦμιν, 615
and from very they-recognized the deeds who I-was
 φυγῇ μόνῃ ἐπίστευον ἰδεῖν τὴν σωτηρίαν·
in-flight alone they-trusted to-see the salvation
 καὶ ἐκ πάντων ὀλιγοστοὶ ἴσχυσαν ἀποδρᾶσαι.
and from all very-few were-able to-run-away
 Καὶ, τοῦ πολέμου παύσαντος, ὀπισθεν ἐστρεφόμεν,
And of-the war having-ceased behind I-turned
 καὶ ἐξαίφνης τοὺς τέσσαρας καθορῶ ἀπελάτας
and suddenly the four I-behold raiders
 Φιλοπαπποῦν καὶ Λέανδρον, Κίνναμον καὶ Ἰωαννάκην, 620
Philopappous and Leandros Kinnamos and Ioannakes
 τοῦ ἄλσους ἀνακύψαντας καὶ πρὸς με ἐρχομένους·
from-the grove having-emerged and toward me coming
 Λέανδρος δὲ καὶ Κίνναμος ἦρχοντο ἐκ προσώπου,
Leandros and and Kinnamos came from face
 ὁ γέρων δὲ καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ ἤλαννον ἐξοπίσω,
the old-man and and the others drove from-behind
 ἐλπίζοντές με ἀνελεῖν μέσον αὐτῶν βαλόντες,
hoping me to-kill middle of-them having-put
 ἀλλ' ἠνέχθησαν μάταια καὶ κενὰ μελετώντες· 625
but they-were-borne vain(-things) and empty devising
 ὥς γὰρ εἶδον τοὺς ἔμπροσθεν σφόδρα ἐπιλαλοῦντας,
as for I-saw those in-front greatly urging-on
 πρὸς αὐτοὺς ὥρμησα εὐθὺς, τῶν ἄλλων μὴ φροντίσας.
at them I-set-out at-once of-the others not having-cared
 Ὁ Λέανδρος ἐπέδραμεν, οὐ γὰρ εἶχε μου πεῖραν·
— Leandros ran-at not for he-had my trial
 ὃν καὶ πατάξας, ἐπὶ γῇν πέπτωκε σὺν τῷ ἵππῳ.
whom also having-struck on earth he-fell with the horse

- 630 Τοῦτον ἰδὼν ὁ Κίνναμος ἐτράπη τῆς εὐθείας·
Him having-seen — Kinnamos turned from-the straight
οἱ δὲ λοιποὶ συνάψαντες τοὺς ὤμους καὶ τὰ ξίφη
the and others having-joined the shoulders and the swords
ἐκ πλαγίου προέβαλον δοῦναι μοι κονταρέας·
from side thrust-forward to-give to-me spear-thrusts
πρὸς οὓς συντόμως τὴν ἐμὴν ἀνθυποστρέψας σπάθην,
at whom swiftly the my having-turned-back sword
τὰ κοντάρια ἔτεμον παρευθὺς ἀμφοτέρων,
the spears I-cut forthwith of-both
- 635 καὶ πρὸς φυγὴν ἐτράπησαν τοὺς ἵππους ἐκκεντοῦντες,
and to flight they-turned the horses spurring
μηδαμῶς αὐτῶν ὀπισθεν θεάσασθαι τολμῶντες.
in-no-way of-them behind to-look daring
Οὕτως ὥς εἶδον ἔχοντας, μετὰ γέλωτος εἶπον·
Thus as I-saw (them)-faring with laughter I-said
«στράφητε, οὐκ αἰσχύνεσθε τὸν ἓνα δειλιῶντες;»
turn not are-you-asbamed the one fearing
Οἱ δὲ μᾶλλον σφοδρότερον τὸν δρασμὸν ἐπετέλουν·
They but more more-vehemently the flight accomplished
- 640 καὶ οὐκ ἐδίωξα αὐτοὺς, τῆς συμφορᾶς οἰκτείρας
and not I-pursued them of-the misfortune having-pitied
(ἔλεος καὶ γὰρ πάντοτε πρὸς τοὺς φεύγοντας εἶχον,
pity and for always toward the fleeing I-had
νικᾶν καὶ μὴ ὑπερνικᾶν, φιλεῖν τοὺς ἐναντίους),
to-conquer and not to-overconquer to-love the enemies
ἀπέστρεφόν τε ὀπισθεν κατὰ σχολὴν βαδίζων,
I-turned-back and behind at leisure walking
πλησίον δὲ τῆς Μαξιμοῦς ἐλθὼν, τοιαύδε ἔφην·
near and — of-Maximou having-come such(-things) I-said

«ἦ καυχωμένη ἄμετρα καὶ ἰσχυῖ θαρροῦσα,
the(-one) boasting immoderately and in-strength trusting

645

ἄπελθε, ἐπισύναξον τοὺς φυγεῖν σωζομένους,
go-away gather-together those to-flee being-saved

καὶ ἀνδραγάθει σὺν αὐτοῖς δυνατῶς ἔνθα ἔχεις,
and do-brave-deeds with them mightily where you-have

ἔθος ὡς οἶσθα καὶ αὐτὴ καλῶς πείραν λαβοῦσα,
custom as you-know also yourself well trial having-taken

ἐξ ὧν ἔπαθες μάθανε καὶ μὴ ἀλαζονεύου·
from which you-suffered learn and not boast

θεὸς γὰρ ἀντιτάσσεται πᾶσιν ὑπερηφάνοις.»
God for sets-himself-against all arrogant

650

Ἐκεῖνη δὲ πρὸς ὑπαντὴν ἐλθοῦσα ἡμετέραν,
She and to meeting having-come ours

τὰς χεῖρας αὐτῆς δῆσασα προπόντως τὰς ἰδίας
the hands her having-bound fittingly the own

καὶ μέχρι γῆς τὴν κεφαλὴν κλίνας εὐκοσμίως·
and as-far-as earth the head having-bowed decorously

«ἀπάντων γενναιότατε, ἔφησε, νῦν ἐπέγνων
of-all most-noble said now I-recognized

τὴν σὴν ἀνείκαστον ἰσχὺν καὶ τὴν φιланθρωπίαν,
the your incomparable strength and the love-of-mankind

655

ἣν οὐδεὶς ἔσχε πώποτε τῶν πάλαι ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ·
which no-one had ever of-those of-old in courage

ἀφ' οὗ γάρ με ἐκρήμνισας, εἶχες καὶ τοῦ φονεῦσαι,
from when for me you-threw-down you-had also of-the to-kill

ἀλλ' ἐφείσω, ὡς θαυμαστὸς καὶ μέγας ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ·
but you-spared as marvelous and great in courage

ὁ κύριος φυλάξοι σε, γενναῖε στρατιῶτα,
the Lord may-guard you noble soldier

- 660 αὐθέντα μου πανθαύμαστε, μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς σου,
lord my all-marvelous with the beloved your
 εἰς χρόνους πλείονας καλοὺς ἐν δόξῃ καὶ ὑγείᾳ·
for years many fine in glory and health
 ὅτι πολλοὺς τεθέαμαι γενναίους στρατιώτας,
because many I-have-beheld noble soldiers
 πολεμιστὰς περιφανεῖς καὶ στερροὺς ἐν τῇ μάχῃ,
warriors conspicuous and firm in the battle
 ἀλλ' οὔτε κραταιότερον ἐν ταῖς ἀνδραγαθίαις
but nor mightier in the brave-deeds
- 665 οὐκ εἶδον ἄλλον πώποτε παρ' ὅλον μου τὸν βίον.»
not I-saw other ever throughout whole my the life
 Εἶτα περιλαβοῦσα μου τοὺς πόδας, κατεφίλει
Then having-embraced my the feet she-kissed
 τὴν χεῖρα μου τὴν δεξιάν, ἡρέμα φθεγγομένη·
the hand my the right quietly uttering
 «εὐλογημένος ὁ πατὴρ καὶ μήτηρ ἡ τεκοῦσα,
blessed the father and mother the having-borne
 καὶ οἱ μαστοὶ οἱ θρέψαντες μητρὸς εὐλογημένης·
and the breasts the having-nourished of-mother blessed
- 670 τοιοῦτον γὰρ οὐδέποτε ἄλλον ἄνδρα κατείδον·
such for never other man I-beheld
 πληρῶσαι οὖν παρακαλῶ σέ τὸν ἐμὸν δεσπότην
to-fulfill then I-entreat you the my master
 καὶ ἑτέραν μου αἴτησιν, ἐκ ταύτης ὅπως γνώσης
also other my request from this so-that you-may-know
 ἀκριβέστερον τὴν ἐμὴν ἐν τῷ πολέμῳ πείραν·
more-exactly the my in the war trial
 κέλευσόν με τοῦ ἀπελθεῖν καὶ ἐπιβῆναι ἵππου,
bid me of-the to-go-away and to-mount horse

καὶ τὸ πρωῒ ἐλεύσομαι ἐν τῷ παρόντι τόπῳ,
and the morning I-will-come in the present place
ὥπως μονομαχήσωμεν μηδενὸς συμπαρόντος,
so-that we-may-fight-in-single-combat no-one being-present
καὶ νὰ νοήσης, πάγκαλε, καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν ἀνδρείαν.»
and that you-may-perceive all-fair also the my courage
«Μετὰ χαρᾶς, ὦ Μαξιμου, πρὸς αὐτὴν ἐγὼ ἔφην,
With joy O Maximou to her I said
ἄπελθε ἔνθα βούλεσαι, κάμῃ ὧδε εὐρήσεις·
go-away where you-wish and-me here you-will-find

μᾶλλον δὲ φέρε καὶ τοὺς σοὺς ἑτέρους ἀπελάτας,
rather but bring also the your other raiders
καὶ δοκίμασον ἅπαντας καὶ τοὺς κρείττονας μάθε.»
and test all and the better learn

Καὶ τότε ἓνα συλλαβὼν τῶν πλανωμένων ἵππων
And then one having-caught of-the wandering horses
τῶν πεπτωκότων σὺν αὐτῇ ἐν ὥρᾳ τοῦ πολέμου,
of-those having-fallen with her in hour of-the war
ἡγάγον τοῦτον πρὸς αὐτὴν ἐπιβῆναι προστάξας.
I-led it to her to-mount having-commanded

Ὡς γὰρ εἶδε με ὁ λαὸς κρημνίσαντα τὴν κόρην,
As for saw me the people having-thrown-down the girl
κύκλῳ περιεχύθησαν ὥς ἀετοὶ σπουδαίως·
in-a-circle they-poured-round like eagles zealously
οἱ μὲν σπαθέας ἔκρουον ἔσω χειρὶ συντόμως,
some indeed sword-blows struck within hand swiftly
ἄλλοι δὲ κονταρέας μοι ἐδίδων κατὰ κράτος,
others and spear-thrusts to-me gave by force
ἕτεροι δὲ τοῖς βέλεσιν αὐτῶν ἐξέννυτον με·
others and with-the arrows their pricked me

- 690 καὶ τότε τίς ὁ βοηθῶν; τίς ὁ φρουρῶν καὶ σκέπων;
and then who the(-one) helping who the(-one) guarding and sheltering
 οὐκ ἄλλος πάντως ἢ θεὸς δικαιοκρίτης μέγας·
not other altogether than God judging-justly great
 αὐτὸς γὰρ ἐξαπέστειλε βοήθειαν ἐξ ὕψους
he for sent-forth help from height
 καὶ ἐμὲ διεφύλαξεν ἀβλαβῇ παρ' ἐλπίδα.
and me kept unharmed beyond hope
 Ὡς δὲ εἰς μέσον κέκλεισμαι τοσούτων πολεμίων
As and into middle I-was-shut-in of-so-many enemies
 695 καὶ πάντοθεν πληττόμενος τὴν φυγὴν ἤσχυνόμεν·
and on-all-sides being-struck the flight I-was-ashamed-of
 εἶχον γὰρ ἄρματα καλὰ καὶ κατωχυρωμένα,
I-had for arms fine and fortified
 καὶ σὺν θεῷ πεφύλαγμαι ἄτρωτος ἐν τῇ μάχῃ·
and with God I-was-guarded unwounded in the battle
 εἰς πολὺ δὲ οὐ γέγονεν ἡ ἐκείνων θρασύτης,
for long and not was the their boldness
 ἀλλὰ ταχέως ἔσβεσται, τοῦ θεοῦ βοηθοῦντος·
but swiftly it-was-quenched — of-God helping
 700 ἔχων τε καὶ τοὺς μάρτυρας ἁγίους Θεοδώρους,
having and also the martyrs holy Theodores
 Γεώργιον, Δημήτριον, τούτους ἔτρεψα πάντας.
George Demetrios these I-routed all
 Κοντάριν γὰρ οὐκ ἔλαβον ἐν αὐτοῖς, οὐδὲ τόξον,
Spear for not I-took among them nor bow
 τὴν ἐμὴν σπάθην ἔσυρα καὶ ἦλθον ἔσω χεῖρας·
the my sword I-drew and came within hands
 καὶ ὅσους μὴν ἐλάγχανον, ἔκοπτον τούτους μάλα,
and as-many-as indeed I-met I-cut them very

καὶ γὰρ αὐτοὺς ἐλάμβανον ψυχὴν μὴ κεκτημένους· 705
and for them I-took soul not having-acquired
 ἄλλοι δὲ φεύγειν θέλοντες, κατελάμβανον τούτους,
others and to-flee wishing I-overtook them
 καὶ μὴ δυνάμενοι ποσῶς ἐμοὶ προσαντιστῆναι,
and not being-able at-all me to-withstand
 ἐπέζευον τοὺς ἵππους των, ἔρριπτον τὰ ἄρματα των,
they-dismounted the horses their they-threw the arms their
 καὶ προσελθόντες ἔφευγον, ἐχόμενοι τοῦ τρόμου·
and having-come-forward fled holding-to the trembling
 καὶ οὕτω τε ἀπέμενον ἵπποι πολλοὶ ἐκ τούτων, 710
and thus and remained horses many from these
 ἐξ ὧν, ὡς ἔφην, δέδωκα τῇ Μαξιμοῦ τῷ τότε,
from which as I-said I-gave — to-Maximou the then
 καὶ διήλθον τὸν ποταμὸν, ἥ δὲ πρὸς τὰ οἰκεία,
and I-crossed the river she and to the own(-people)
 χάριν μοι, ὡς ἐφαίνετο, πολλὴν ὁμολογοῦσα.
thanks to-me as it-appeared much confessing

Καὶ, εἰς τὴν τένδαν μου ἐλθὼν, ἀπέβαλον τὰ ὅπλα,
And to the tent my having-come I-put-off the arms
 καὶ ἐδυσάμην θαυμαστὸν λεπτότατον μαχλάβιν, 715
and I-put-on marvelous finest tunic
 βαλὼν τε καὶ σγουρούτζικον κόκκινον καμηλαύκιν,
having-put-on and also curly red cap
 καὶ ἵππον μετεσέλλισα δαγάλην, ἀστερεᾶτον,
and horse I-saddled-anew dappled star-marked
 ὃς εἶχε γνώμην κάλλιστον ἐν ταῖς ἀνδραγαθίαις·
which had mind finest in the brave-deeds
 σπαθὶν, σκουτάριν εἰληφὼς καὶ βένετον κοντάριν,
sword shield having-taken and blue spear

- 720 τὸν ποταμὸν ἐπέρασα, ἐσπέρας ἤδη οὔσης·
the river I-crossed of-evening already being
 ἐπὶ τούτῳ καὶ ὤκησα ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῇ κόρῃ,
for this also I-shrank to-go-up to the girl
 ἀλλ' ἔστειλα τὰς ἐαυτῆς δύο θαλαμηπόλους·
but I-sent the her two chamber-maids
 εἶχομεν καὶ γὰρ ἱκανοὺς τοὺς ἡμῖν ὑπουργοῦντας,
we-had and for many those for-us serving
 τὴν οἰκισὶν των ἔχοντας ἀπόμακρα τῆς τένδας,
the dwelling their having far-off from-the tent
 725 οὐχὶ δὲ ἅπαντες ὁμοῦ, ἀλλ' ἄνδρες μὲν ἰδίως,
not and all together but men indeed separately
 καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες ὡσαύτως εἶχον αὐτῶν τὰς τένδας.
and the women likewise had their the tents

XXVI · MAXIMOU'S END

At dawn they fight; he wounds her hand and cuts her horse in two. She begs for mercy and friendship; he refuses to marry her but yields to desire and lies with her. His wife, suspecting, rebukes the delay, and he lies to her; then, stung by her words, he rides out as if to hunt and kills Maximou. He decides to settle by the Euphrates.

- Περάσας οὖν, ὡς εἶρηκα, τὸν ποταμὸν Εὐφράτην,
Having-crossed then as I-have-said the river Euphrates
 ἐν τῷ λειμῶνι τῷ τερπνῷ ἐαυτὸν ἀνακλίνας,
in the meadow the delightful myself having-reclined
 τόν τε ἵππον ἀνέπαυσα διαγαγὼν τὴν νύκτα.
the and horse I-rested having-passed the night
 730 Πρὸς ὄρθρον δὲ ἐξαναστὰς καὶ ἐπιβάς τοῦ ἵππου,
Toward dawn and having-risen and having-mounted the horse

εἰς τὸ πεδίον ἀνελθὼν, ἰστάμην ἀναμένων.

to the plain having-gone-up I-stood waiting

Τῆς δὲ ἡμέρας τῷ φωτὶ ἄρτι διαναγάζουσας,

Of-the and day with-the light now dawning

καὶ τοῦ ἡλίου λάμποντος ἐπὶ τὰς ἀκρωρείας,

and of-the sun shining on the summits

ἰδοὺ μόνη ἡ Μαξιμὸν ἐφάνη ἐν τῷ κάμπῳ.

behold alone — Maximou appeared in the plain

Εἰς φάραν ἐπεκάθητο μαύρην, γενναιοτάτην,

On charger she-sat black most-noble

ἐφόρει ἐπιλώρικον ὀλόσῃρον, καστόριν

she-wore over-mail-coat all-silk beaver

φακεωλίτζιν πράσινον, χρυσὸν ῥεραντισμένον,

little-turban green with-gold sprinkled

σκουτάριν ἔχον αἰετοῦ πτέρυγας γεγραμμένας,

shield having of-eagle wings painted

κοντάριν ἀραβίτικον, καὶ σπαθὶν ἐζωσμένη.

spear Arabian and sword girded

Ταύτης ἐγὼ πρὸς ἀπαντὴν ἐκίνησα εὐθέως,

Of-her I to meeting moved at-once

καὶ πλησίον γενόμενοι ἡσπασάμεθα ἄμφω·

and near having-come we-greeted both

χαιρετίσαντες, ὡς εἰκὸς, ἀλλήλους παμφιλτάτως,

having-saluted as (is)-fitting one-another most-dearly

τῆς μάχης τε ἡρξάμεθα, λαλήσαντες τοὺς ἵππους,

the battle and we-began having-urged-on the horses

ἄνω καὶ κάτω πρὸς μικρὰν διαδραμόντες ὄραν,

up and down for little having-run-through hour

κονταρέας δεδώκαμεν, μηδενὸς κρημνισθέντος.

spear-thrusts we-gave no-one having-been-thrown-down

735

740

745

Χωρισθέντες οὖν παρευθὺς, εἰλκύσαμεν τὰς σπάθας,

Having-separated then forthwith we-drew the swords

καὶ κρούοντες ἐνστατικῶς, ἐμπεσόντες ἀλλήλοις·

and striking vigorously having-fallen-upon one-another

ἐφειδόμην γὰρ, βέλτιστε, τοῦ ἀδικῆσαι ταύτην·

I-refrained for best-one from-the to-wrong her

ἀνδρῶν γὰρ ἔστι μωμητὸν οὐ μόνον τοῦ φονεῦσαι,

of-men for it-is blameworthy not only of-the to-kill

750 ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ὅλως πόλεμον μετὰ γυναικὸς στήσαι·

but not-even at-all war with woman to-set-up

Αὕτη δὲ ἦν ὀνομαστὴ τῶν τότε ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ,

She and was famed of-those then in courage

τούτου χάριν τὸν πόλεμον οὐδαμῶς ἐπησχύνθην·

of-this for-the-sake the war in-no-way I-was-ashamed-of

χεῖρα αὐτῆς τὴν δεξιὰν πλήξας τε πρὸ δακτύλων,

hand her the right having-struck and before fingers

ἣ μὲν σπάθῃ ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν πέπτωκεν ἣν κατεῖχεν,

the indeed sword onto the earth fell which she-held

755 τρόμος δὲ ταύτην εἵληφε καὶ δειλία μεγίστη.

trembling and her took and cowardice greatest

Ἐγὼ δὲ ἐξεφώνησα· «Μαξιμὸν, μὴ φοβέῖσαι,

I and cried-out Maximou not fear

οἰκτείρω γάρ σε ὡς γυνὴν καὶ κάλλους πεπλησμένην·

I-pity for you as woman and with-beauty filled

ἵνα δὲ γνώσῃ τίς εἰμι ἀκριβῶς ἐκ τῶν ἔργων,

that and you-may-know who I-am exactly from the deeds

τὴν ἰσχὺν ἐπιδείξω σοι τὴν ἐμὴν ἐν τῷ ἵππῳ.»

the strength I-will-sbow to-you the my on the horse

Καὶ σπαθέαν καταβατὴν εἰς τοὺς νεφροὺς εὐθέως

760

And sword-blow descending into the loins at-once

τοῦ φαρίου κατήγαγον καὶ διηρέθη μέσον,

of-the horse I-brought-down and it-was-divided in-the-middle

πεσόντος τοῦ ἡμίσεος εἰς μέρος μετ' ἐκείνης,

having-fallen the half to side with her

τοῦ δὲ λοιποῦ ἐτέρωθεν εἰς γῆν κατενεχθέντος.

the and rest on-the-other-side onto earth brought-down

Ἡ δὲ ἀναποδίσασα, λίαν τεταραγμένη,

She and having-stepped-back very troubled

συγκεχομμένη τῇ φωνῇ «ἐλέησον», ἐβόα,

765

with-broken the voice have-mercy shouted

«ἐλέησόν με, κύριε, τὴν κακῶς πλανηθεῖσαν·

have-mercy-on me lord the badly led-astray

μᾶλλον, εἰ οὐκ ἀπαξιοῖς, ποιήσωμεν φιλίαν,

rather if not you-disdain let-us-make friendship

ἔτι παρθένος γὰρ εἰμὶ ὑπ' οὐδενὸς φθαρεῖσα·

still virgin for I-am by no-one corrupted

σὺ μόνος με ἐνίκησας, σύ με ἀποκερδίδεις·

you alone me conquered you me will-win

ἔξεις δέ με καὶ συνεργὸν εἰς τοὺς ὑπεναντίους.»

770

you-will-have and me also fellow-worker against the adversaries

«Οὐκ ἀποθνήσκεις, Μαξιμου, πρὸς αὐτὴν ἄρτι ἔφην,

Not you-die Maximou to her now I-said

τὸ δὲ ἔχειν σε γαμετὴν οὐ δυνατόν μοι ἔσται,

the and to-have you wife not possible for-me will-be

νόμιμον ἔχω γαμετὴν εὐγενῇ καὶ ὠραίαν,

lawful I-have wife noble and beautiful

ἣς ἀγάπην οὐδέποτε τολμήσω ἀθετῆσαι.

whose love never I-will-dare to-set-aside

- 775 Λοιπὸν δεῦρο ὑπὸ σκιὰν ἀπέλθωμεν τοῦ δένδρου,
Then come under shade let-us-go-away of-the tree
 καὶ διδάξω σε ἅπαντα τὰ κατ' ἐμὲ ὡς ἔχουν.»
and I-will-teach you all the(-things) concerning me as they-are
 Ἐλθόντες δὲ πρὸς ποταμοῦ τὰ γειννῶντα δένδρα,
Having-come and toward of-river the neighboring trees
 ἡ Μαξιμὸν, τὴν ἑαυτῆς ἀποπλύσασα χεῖρα,
— Maximou the her having-washed hand
 καὶ δόκιμον ἐν τῇ πληγῇ ἄλεμμα ἐπιθείσα,
and approved on the wound ointment having-put
- 780 ὅπερ φέρειν εἰώθαμεν αἰεὶ ἐν τοῖς πολέμοις,
which to-carry we-are-wont always in the wars
 ῥίπτει τὸ ἐπιλώρικον, πολὺς γὰρ ἦν ὁ καύσων·
throws-off the over-mail-coat much for was the heat
 καὶ ὁ χιτῶν τῆς Μαξιμοῦς ὑπῆρχεν ἀραχνώδης,
and the tunic — of-Maximou was cobweb-like
 πάντα καθάπερ ἔσοπτρον ἐνέφαινε τὰ μέλη,
all just-as mirror showed the limbs
 καὶ τοὺς μαστοὺς προκύπτοντας μικρὸν ἄρτι τῶν στέρνων.
and the breasts peeping-out little now from-the breast
- 785 Καὶ ἐτρώθη μου ἡ ψυχὴ, ὠραία γὰρ ὑπῆρχε·
And was-wounded my the soul beautiful for she-was
 καὶ ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου κατελθὼν, ἐφθέγγετο βοῶσα·
and from the horse having-come-down she-uttered shouting
 «χαίροις, δεσπότης ὁ ἐμός, ἐπάνω μου δραμοῦσα,
rejoice master the my upon me having-run
 δούλη σου ὄντως γέγονα τῇ τοῦ πολέμου τύχῃ.»
slave your truly I-have-become by-the of-the war fortune
 Καὶ χεῖρα μου τὴν δεξιὰν ἠδέως κατεφίλει.
And hand my the right sweetly she-kissed

Ὡς δὲ ἀνήφθη ὁ πυρσὸς ὁ τῆς ἐπιθυμίας, 790
As and was-kindled the torch the of-the desire
 οὐκ εἶχον ὅστις γένωμαι, καθόλου ἐφλεγόμην·
not I-had who I-should-become altogether I-was-inflamed
 πάντα λοιπὸν ἐσπούδαζα φυγεῖν τὴν ἁμαρτίαν,
all then I-was-eager to-flee the sin
 καὶ, ἑμαυτὸν κατηγορῶν, ταῦτα ἐλογιζόμην·
and myself accusing these(-things) I-reasoned
 «ὦ δαίμον, διατί ἐρᾷς πάντων τῶν ἀλλοτρίων,
O demon why do-you-love all the(-things) of-others
 πηγὴν ἔχων ἀθόλωτον, ὅλην μεμερισμένην;» 795
spring having unclouded whole divided
 Ταῦτα διαλεγόμενος καθ' ἑαυτὸν, ὦ φίλοι,
These(-things) discoursing by myself O friends
 ἡ Μαξιμὸν τὸν ἔρωτα ἐξήπτεν ἔτι μᾶλλον,
— Maximou the love kindled still more
 τοξεύουσα ταῖς ἀκοαῖς λόγους παγγλυκυτάτους,
shooting at-the ears words all-sweetest
 ἦτον γὰρ νέα καὶ καλὴ, ὠραία καὶ παρθένος·
was for young and fair beautiful and virgin
 ἡττήθη οὖν ὁ λογισμὸς βεβήλω ἐπιθύμει, 800
was-defeated then the reasoning by-profane desire
 αἰσχύνης γὰρ καὶ μίξεως ἀπάσης πληρωθείσης,
of-shame for and of-union all having-been-fulfilled
 εἶτα αὐτὴν καταλιπὼν, προπέμψας τε ἐκείθεν,
then her having-left having-sent-off and from-there
 λόγον ἐξεῖπον πρὸς αὐτὴν παρηγορίας δῆθεν·
word I-spoke to her of-consolation forsooth
 «ὑπάγε, κόρη μου, καλῶς καὶ μὴ μου ἐπιλάθου.»
go girl my well and not me forget

- 805 Καὶ ἐν τῷ ἵππῳ ἐπιβὰς τὸν ποταμὸν διήλθον·
And on the horse having-mounted the river I-crossed
 ἡ δὲ πρὸς ὕδωρ λούσασα αὐτῆς τὴν παρθενίαν,
she and at water having-washed her the virginity
 ἐμὴν τὴν ὑποχώρησιν ἠνάγκαζε βαρέως.
my the withdrawal pressed heavily
 Εἶτα παραγενόμενος πρὸς τὴν ἐμὴν φιλότατην,
Then having-come to the my dearest
 κατήλθον ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου μου, ταύτην φιλῶ ἀπλήστως·
I-came-down from the horse my her I-kiss insatiably
- 810 «εἶδες, ψυχή μου, ἔλεγον, ἐκδικητὴν ὃν ἔχεις,
did-you-see soul my I-said avenger whom you-have
 καὶ οἶαν σοι ἀντίληψιν ὁ πλαστοουργὸς παρέσχεν;»
and what-sort to-you succor the fashioner provided
 Ἡ δέ τινα ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ ζήλοτυπίαν σχοῦσα·
She and some in the soul jealousy having
 «ἐν ᾗπασιν εὐχαριστῶ, ἀντέφη, κύριέ μου,
in all I-give-thanks replied lord my
 δάκνει με δὲ τῆς Μαξιμοῦς ἡ πάντολμος βραδύτης·
bites me but — of-Maximou the all-daring delay
- 815 τὸ τί ἐργάζου μετ' αὐτῆς ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐ γινώσκω·
the what you-were-doing with her I for not know
 ἔστι καὶ τοίνυν ὁ θεὸς ὁ τὰ κρυπτὰ γινώσκων,
is also therefore — God the the hidden(-things) knowing
 ὃς συγχωρήσει σοι, καλὲ, ταύτην τὴν ἁμαρτίαν·
who will-forgive you fine-one this the sin
 ἀλλ' ὅρα μὴ, νεώτερε, πάλιν καὶ τοῦτο πράξεις,
but see lest younger(-man) again also this you-do
 καὶ ἀποδώσῃ σοι θεός, ὁ κρίνων δικαιοσύνην·
and repay you God the judging justice

ἐγὼ δὲ τὰς ἐλπίδας μου εἰς θεὸν ἀνεθέμην,
I but the hopes my in God placed
 ὅστις διαφυλάξει σε καὶ σώσει τὴν ψυχὴν σου,
who will-guard you and will-save the soul your
 καὶ χαίρειν ἀξιώσει με τὰ πάντερπνά σου κάλλη
and to-rejoice will-deem-worthy me the all-delightful your beauties
 εἰς χρόνους πλείστους καὶ καλοὺς, πανεύμνοστέ μου κύρκα.»
for years very-many and fine all-comely my lord
 Λόγοις δ' ὅμως πειθανκοῖς αὐτὴν παρεκρούμην,
With-words but yet persuasive her I-deceived
 ἀγγέλλων τε τὸν πόλεμον τῆς Μαξιμοῦς ἀρχῆθεν,
announcing and the war — of-Maximou from-the-beginning
 χεῖρα ὅπως ἐπλήγωσα τὴν δεξιὰν ἐκείνης
hand how I-wounded the right of-her
 καὶ εἰ μὴ θάττον ἐπέζευον καὶ ἐπέβρεχον ὕδωρ
and if not sooner I-dismounted and sprinkled water
 ταύτην οἰκτεῖρας ὥς γυνὴν καὶ ἀσθενῇ τῇ φύσει·
her having-pitied as woman and weak by-the nature
 τὴν μὲν χεῖρα ἀπέπλυνα τὴν πληγὴν καταδήσας,
the indeed hand I-washed the wound having-bound
 διὰ τοῦτο ἐβράδυνα, φῶς μου μεμυρισμένον,
because-of this I-delayed light my perfumed
 ἵν' ὅπως μὴ ὀνειδισθῶ ὥς γυναῖκα φονεύσας.
that so-that not I-be-reproached as woman having-slain
 Ταῦτα εἰπὼν, ἀναψυχὴν ἐλάβανεν ἡ κόρη,
These(-things) having-said refreshment took the girl
 ἀληθεύειν νομίσασα ἐμὲ ἐν τοῖς ῥηθεῖσιν.
to-tell-truth having-thought me in the said(-things)

Εἶτα καὶ κατὰ νοῦν βαλὼν τὰ ῥήματα τῆς κόρης,
Then also into mind having-cast the words of-the girl

835 καὶ ὅλως τῷ θυμῷ αὐτὸς εἰς ἄκρον ὑπερξέσας,
and wholly with-the anger I to height having-boiled-over

καβαλλικεύω παρευθὺς, δῆθεν εἰς τὸ κυνήγιον,
I-ride forthwith forsooth to the hunt

καὶ ταύτην δὲ καταλαβὼν ἀνηλεῶς ἀνείλον,
and her and having-overtaken pitilessly I-killed

μοιχείαν, φόνον τότε γὰρ ἐκτελέσας ἀθλίως·
adultery murder then for having-accomplished wretchedly

καὶ οὕτως ὑποστρέψας γε ἔνθα ἦτον ἡ κόρη,
and thus having-retuned at-least where was the girl

840 καὶ ἐκεῖσε τὴν ἅπασαν ποιήσαντες ἡμέραν
and there the whole having-made day

ἀμφότεροι κατήλθομεν τῇ ἐξῆς ἐν τῇ τένδα,
both we-came-down on-the next(-day) to the tent

καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν ἀπόλαυσιν τῶν λειμώνων ἐκείνων·
and upon the enjoyment of-the meadows those

καὶ μεθ' ἡμέρας σκέψεως καὶ βουλῆς παγκαλλίστης,
and after days of-consideration and of-counsel most-beautiful

ἐν τῷ Εὐφράτῃ ἔκρινα τὴν οἴκησιν ποιῆσαι,
on the Euphrates I-decided the dwelling to-make

845 κατασκευάσαι τε λαμπρὸν καὶ ἐξαίσιον οἶκον.
to-build and splendid and extraordinary house

BOOK VII

XXVII · THE PALACE ON THE EUPHRATES

Digenis plants a walled garden by the Euphrates and builds a palace of marble and mosaic whose halls picture Samson, David and Goliath, Achilles, Odysseus, Alexander, Moses, and Joshua. In its court he raises a church of St. Theodore and buries his father there.

Βασίλειος ὁ θαυμαστός καὶ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης,

Basil the marvelous and Digenis Akritas

τῶν Καππαδόκων ὁ τερπνὸς καὶ πανευθαλὴς ἔρνος,

of-the Cappadocians the delightful and all-flourishing sapling

ὁ τῆς ἀνδρείας στέφανος, ἡ κεφαλὴ τῆς τόλμης,

the of-the courage crown the head of-the daring

πάντων τῶν νέων ὁ τερπνὸς καὶ παγκάλλιστος κόσμος,

of-all the youths the delightful and most-beautiful ornament

μετὰ τὸ πάσας ἀνδρικῶς τὰς ἄκρας ὑποτάξαι,

after the all manfully the frontiers to-subdue

πλείστας τε πόλεις κατασχὼν καὶ χώρας ἀπειθούντων,

very-many both cities having-seized and lands of-disobeying

οἰκῆσαι ἡρετίσατο πλησίον τοῦ Εὐφράτου.

to-dwell chose near of-the Euphrates

Οὗτος δὲ πάντων ποταμὸς ὁ κάλλιστος ὑπῆρχεν,

This and of-all river the finest was

τὴν κρήνην ἔχων ἐξ αὐτοῦ μεγάλου παραδείσου·

the source having from very great paradise

διὰ τοῦτο γλυκύτητα ἔχει εὐωδεστάτην,

because-of this sweetness has most-fragrant

ψυχρότητα χιόνος τε ἀρτίως λελυμένης·

coldness of-snow and newly melted

ἐξ αὐτοῦ δὲ τοῦ ποταμοῦ ὕδωρ μετοχετεύσας,

from very and the river water having-channeled

ἄλλον τερπνὸν παράδεισον ἐφύτευσεν ἐκεῖθεν,

another delightful garden he-planted from-there

ἄλσος ξένον, εὐθέατον τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς τῷ ὄντι.

grove strange fair-to-see to-the eyes in-the being

15 Περὶ τὸ ἄλσος τεῖχος ἦν αὐταρκες μὲν εἰς ὕψος,

Around the grove wall was sufficient indeed in height

πλευρὰς δὲ ἔχον τέσσαρας ὑπὸ ξυστῶν μαρμάρων·

sides and having four of polished marbles

ἔσωθεν δὲ ἡ τῶν φυτῶν πανήγυρις ἐκόμα,

within and the of-the plants festival flourished

φαιδρῶς οἱ κλάδοι ἔθαλλον προσπίπτοντες ἀλλήλοις,

brightly the branches bloomed falling-upon one-another

τοσαύτη τις ἐτύγχανε τῶν δένδρων ἀμιλλία·

so-great a was of-the trees rivalry

20 ἄμπελοι ἐκατέρωθεν ἐξήρτηντο ὠραῖοι

vines on-each-side hung beautiful

κάλαμοι ἐπεφύοντο εἰς ὕψος ἐπηρμένοι

reeds grew to height raised

οἱ καρποὶ ἐξεκρέμαντο, ἀνθῶν τᾶλλα ἐπ' ἄλλων,

the fruits hung-down of-flowers some upon others

ὁ λειμὼν φαιδρῶς ἔθαλλε τῶν δένδρων ὑποκάτω

the meadow brightly bloomed of-the trees beneath

ποικίλῃν ἔχων τὴν χροὰν τοῖς ἄνθεσιν ἀστράπτων,

varied having the color with-the flowers flashing

25 τὰ μὲν εὐώδη νάρκισσα, ρόδα τε καὶ μυρσίαναι·

the(-ones) indeed fragrant narcissi roses both and myrtles

τὰ ρόδα γῆς ἐτύγχανον πορφυρόβαφος κόσμος,

the roses of-earth were purple-dyed ornament

γάλακτος ἔστιλβον χροὰν οἱ νάρκισσοι ἐν μέρει,

of-milk gleamed color the narcissi in turn

τὰ ἴα ἀπαστράπτοντα χροὰν εἶχον θαλάσσης

the violets flashing color had of-sea

ἐν γαλήνῃ ὑπὸ λεπτῆς σαλευομένης αὔρας·

in calm by light being-shaken breeze

ὔδωρ ἀφθόνως πάντοθεν ἔρρεε τῷ λειμῶνι.

water abundantly from-all-sides flowed in-the meadow

Ὀρνίθων γένη ἱκανὰ ἐνέμοντο ἐκεῖσε,

Of-birds kinds many fed there

τὰ μὲν κολακευόμενα τροφήν ἐν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις,

the(-ones) indeed being-coaxed food among the men

τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ ἐλεύθερον τὸ πτερόν κεκτημένα

the and others free the wing having-acquired

ἔπαιζον ἐποχούμενα πρὸς τῶν δένδρων τὰ ὕψη,

played riding toward of-the trees the heights

τὰ μὲν ᾄδοντα ᾄσμασι λιγυρῶς τὰ ὀρνίθια,

the(-ones) indeed singing with-songs clearly the little-birds

τὰ δὲ ἀγλαϊζόμενα τῇ στολῇ τῶν πτερόγων,

the(-ones) and being-adorned with-the robe of-the wings

χειροῦθεις ταῶνες μὲν, ψιττακοὶ καὶ οἱ κύκνοι,

tame peacocks indeed parrots and the swans

οἱ μὲν κύκνοι ἐν ὕδασι τὴν νομὴν ἐποιοῦντο,

the indeed swans in waters the feeding made

ἐν τοῖς κλώνοις οἱ ψιττακοὶ ἦδον περὶ τὰ δένδρα,

on the branches the parrots sang round the trees

οἱ ταῶνες τὰς πτέρυγας κυκλοῦντες εἰς τὰ ἄνθη,

the peacocks the wings circling among the flowers

ἀντέλαμπεν ἡ τῶν ἀνθῶν ἐν ταῖς πτέρυξι θεά.

shone-back the of-the flowers in the wings sight

30

35

40

Μέσον αὐτοῦ τοῦ θαυμαστοῦ καὶ τερπνοῦ παραδείσου,

In-the-middle of-very the marvelous and delightful garden

οἶκον τερπνὸν ἀνήγειρεν ὁ γενναῖος Ἀκρίτης

house delightful raised the noble Akritas

εὐμεγέθη, τετράγωνον ἐκ λίθων πεπρισμένων,

huge square of stones sawn

45 ἄνωθεν δὲ μετὰ σεμνῶν κιόνων καὶ θυρίδων·

above and with stately columns and windows

τοὺς ὀρόφους ἐκόσμησε πάντας μετὰ μουσίου

the ceilings he-adorned all with mosaic

ἐκ μαρμάρων πολυτελῶν τῇ αἴγλῃ ἀστραπτόντων·

of marbles costly with-the radiance flashing

τὸ ἔδαφος ἐφαῖδρυνεν, ἐψήφωσεν ἐν λίθοις.

the floor he-brightened paved with stones

Ἔσωθεν δὲ τριώροφα ποιήσας ὑπερώα,

Within and three-storied having-made upper-rooms

50 ἔχοντα ὕψος ἱκανὸν, ὀρόφους παμπουκίλους,

having height sufficient ceilings much-varied

ἀνδριάντας σταυροειδεῖς, πεντακούβουκλα ξένα

statues cross-shaped five-chambered strange

μετὰ μαρμάρων φαεινῶν λίαν ἀστραπηβόλων.

with marbles shining very lightning-darting

Τοσοῦτον δὲ ἐκάλλυνε τὸ ἔργον ὁ τεχνίτης,

So-much and beautified the work the craftsman

ὥστε νομίζειν ὕφαντὰ τὰ δρώμενα εἶναι

so-as to-think woven the(-things) wrought to-be

55 ἔκ τε τῶν λίθων τῆς φαιδρᾶς καὶ πολυμόρφου θέας·

from and the stones of-the bright and many-formed sight

τὸ ἔδαφος κατέστρωσεν ἐκ λίθων ὀνυχίτων

the floor he-spread of stones onyx

ἡκονημένων ἰσχυρῶς, ὥς δοκεῖν τοὺς ὀρώντας

polished strongly as to-think those seeing

ὔδωρ ὑπάρχειν πεπηγὸς εἰς κρυστάλλινον φύσιν.

water to-be congealed into crystalline nature

Ἀμφοτέρωθεν ἔδρυσεν τῶν μερῶν ἐκ πλαγίου

On-both-sides he-set-up of-the parts from side

χαμοτρικλίνους θαυμαστοὺς, εὐμήκεις, χρυσορώφους,

ground-floor-halls marvelous long gold-roofed

ἐν οἷς πάντων τὰ τρόπαια τῶν πάλαι ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ

in which of-all the trophies of-those of-old in courage

λαμβάντων ἀνιστόρησε χρυσόμουσα, ὠραῖα,

having-sbone he-pictured in-gold-mosaic beautiful

τὴν τοῦ Σαμβίων ἀρχίσας τε πρὸς ἀλλοφύλους μάχην,

the — of-Samson having-begun and against foreigners battle

λέοντα ὅπως ἔσχισε τῇ χειρὶ παραδόξως,

lion how he-split with-the hand strangely

πύλας ὅπως μετὰ κλειθρῶν πόλεως ἀλλοφύλων

gates how with bolts of-city of-foreigners

ἐν τῷ λόφῳ ἡγάγετο, ὅποτε ἀπεκλείσθη·

onto the hill he-carried when he-was-shut-in

ἀλλοφύλων τοὺς ἐμπαιγμοὺς καὶ τὰς ἐξολοθρεύσεις·

of-foreigners the mockings and the destructions

τελευταῖον τὴν τοῦ ναοῦ κατάλυσιν ἀθρόαν

last the of-the temple destruction all-at-once

τὴν γεναμένην παρ' αὐτοῦ ἐν ταῖς πάλαι ἡμέραις,

the having-been-made by him in the old days

καὶ αὐτὸν ἀπολλύμενον μετὰ τῶν ἀλλοφύλων.

and him perishing with the foreigners

60

65

70

- Μέσον παράγει τὸν Δαβὶδ χωρὶς ὅπλων παντοίων,
In-the-middle he-brings-forward — David without weapons of-every-kind
 μόνην σφενδόνην τῇ χειρὶ κατέχων καὶ τὸν λίθον·
only sling with-the hand holding and the stone
 ἐκείθεν δὲ τὸν Γολιάθ μέγαν τῇ ἡλικίᾳ,
on-the-other-side and — Goliath great in-the stature
 καὶ τῇ ἰδέᾳ φοβερὸν πολὺν τε ἐν ἰσχυρί,
and in-the appearance fearsome much and in strength
 75 πεφραγμένον ἐν κεφαλῇ μέχρι ποδῶν σιδήρῳ
armored on head as-far-as feet with-iron
 καὶ τῇ χειρὶ ἀκόντιον φέροντα ὡς ἀττίον
and in-the hand javelin bearing like weaver's-beam
 ὀλοσίδηρον τῇ χροᾷ τῇ τοῦ ζωγράφου τέχνῃ·
all-iron in-the color by-the of-the painter art
 ἔγραψε τούτου καὶ αὐτὰ τὰ κινήματα πολέμου·
he-painted of-this-one also very the movements of-war
 λίθῳ εὐστόχως τε βληθεὶς ὁ Γολιάθ εὐθέως
by-stone with-good-aim and struck — Goliath at-once
 80 ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν κατέπεσε τρωμένος παραντίκα,
on the earth fell-down wounded immediately
 καὶ τὸν Δαβὶδ δραμόντα τε καὶ ἄραντα τὸ ξίφος
and — David having-run both and having-raised the sword
 καὶ τεμόντα τὴν κεφαλὴν καὶ λαβόντα τὸ νίκος.
and having-cut the head and having-taken the victory
 Εἶτα τὸν φόβον τοῦ Σαοῦλ, φυγὴν τοῦ πραοτάτου,
Then the fear — of-Saul flight of-the meekest
 τὰς μυρίας ἐπιβουλὰς, θεοῦ τὰς ἐκδικήσεις.
the countless plots of-God the vengeance

Ἀχιλλέως ἰστόρησε τοὺς μυθικοὺς πολέμους·

Of-Achilles he-pictured the mythical wars

85

τὸ κάλλος Ἀγαμέμνονος, φυγὴν τὴν ὀλεθρίαν·

the beauty of-Agamemnon flight the ruinous

Πηνελόπην τὴν σώφρονα, τοὺς κτανθέντας νυμφίους·

Penelope the chaste the slain suitors

Ὀδυσσέως τὴν θαυμαστὴν πρὸς τὸν Κύκλωπα τόλμην·

Of-Odysseus the marvelous against the Cyclops daring

Βελλεροφόντην κτείναντα Χίμαιραν τὴν πυρφόρον·

Bellerophon having-killed Chimaera the fire-bearing

Ἀλεξάνδρου τὰ τρόπαια, τὴν τοῦ Δαρείου ἥτταν·

Of-Alexander the trophies the — of-Darius defeat

90

Κανδάκης τὰ βασίλεια καὶ τὴν αὐτῆς σοφίαν,

Of-Kandake the palace and the her wisdom

τὴν πρὸς Βραχμᾶνας ἄφιξιν, αὐτὴς πρὸς Ἀμαζόνας,

the to Brabmans arrival again to Amazons

λοιπὰ τε κατορθώματα τοῦ σοφοῦ Ἀλεξάνδρου,

other and achievements of-the wise Alexander

ἄλλα τε πλήθη θαυμαστὰ, πολυειδεῖς ἀνδρείας.

other and multitudes marvelous many-formed valors

Τὰ τοῦ Μωσέως θαύματα, πληγὰς τῶν Αἰγυπτίων,

The — of-Moses wonders plagues of-the Egyptians

95

Ἰουδαίων τὴν ἔξοδον, γογγυσμοὺς ἀγνωμόνων,

of-Jews the exodus murmurings of-(the)-ungrateful

θεοῦ τὴν ἀγανάκτησιν, θεράποντος δεήσεις,

of-God the indignation of-(the)-servant prayers

καὶ Ἰησοῦ τὰς τοῦ Ναυῆ ἐνδόξους ἀριστείας.

and of-Joshua the of-(the-son) of-Nun glorious exploits

Ταῦτα καὶ ἄλλα πλείονα ἐν τοῖς δυσὶ τρικλίνουσιν
These(-things) and other more in the two banqueting-halls

100 ὁ Διγενὴς ἱστόρησε χρυσόμουσα ποιήσας,
 — *Digenis pictured gold-mosaics having-made*
 ἃ τοῖς ὀρώσῃ ἀπειρον τὴν ἡδονὴν παρείχον.
which to-those seeing boundless the pleasure provided

Ἐντὸς τοῦ οἴκου τῆς αὐλῆς ὑπῆρχε τὸ πεδίον
Within of-the house of-the court was the plain

πολὺ ἔχον διάστημα εἰς τε μῆκος καὶ πλάτος·
much having extent in both length and breadth

τούτου ἐν μέσῳ ἱδρυσεν ναὸν, ἔνδοξον ἔργον,
of-this in middle he-set-up church glorious work

105 ἀγίου ἐν ὀνόματι μάρτυρος Θεοδώρου·
of-holy in name of-martyr of-Theodore

καὶ ἐν αὐτῷ τὸν ἴδιον πανέντιμον πατέρα
and in it the own all-honored father

θάπτει κομίσας τὸν νεκρὸν ἀπὸ Καππαδοκίας,
buries having-brought the corpse from Cappadocia

λίθοις τὸ μνήμα φαεινοῖς ὥς ἔπρεπε κοσμήσας.
with-stones the tomb shining as befitted having-adorned

Finding his father dead in Cappadocia, Digenis laments over him and reburies him in his own church. He and his wife live joyfully, she dancing to his lyre, grieved only by their childlessness. His mother dies five years after his father. The poet praises her and tells how, through her son, God brought peace everywhere.

Τότε πείραν ὁ θαυμαστὸς πρῶτον θλίψεως ἔσχε·

Then trial the marvelous first of-affliction had

μαθὼν γὰρ νόσον τῷ πατρὶ περιελθοῦσαν τότε,

having-learned for sickness to-the father having-come-round then

καὶ ὅτι πέφυκε δεινὴ θανάτῳ γειννῶσα,

and that it-is terrible to-death bordering

ἔσπευδε τοῦ καταλαβεῖν τὴν Καππαδόκων χώραν·

he-bastened of-the to-reach the of-Cappadocians land

πλησίον δὲ τοῦ γονικοῦ ὡς ἐγένετο οἴκου,

near and of-the paternal as he-came house

ὀδυρομένους ἅπαντας ὁρᾷ τοὺς συναντῶντας·

lamenting all he-sees those meeting

καὶ, μαθὼν ὅτι ὁ πατὴρ ἀπέλιπε τὸν βίον,

and having-learned that the father left the life

τὴν ἐσθήτα διέρρηξε καὶ τοῦ ἵππου κατήλθεν,

the garment he-tore and from-the horse came-down

ἔνδοθεν δὲ γενόμενος, περιπλακεῖς τὸ σῶμα,

within and having-come having-embraced the body

θρηνηδῶν ἀπεφθέγγετο μετὰ δακρύων τάδε·

lamenting he-uttered with tears these(-things)

«ἀνάστα, πάτερ, θέασαι τὸ φίλτατόν σου τέκνον·

arise father behold the dearest your child

θέασαι τὸν μονογενῆ, λαλιὰν μικρὰν φθέγγον·

behold the only-begotten talk little utter

νουθέτησαι καὶ βούλευσαι, μή με σιγῶν παρέλθῃς.»

admonish and counsel not me silent pass-by

Εἶτα πάλιν αὐξήσας γε ἐπὶ πολὺ τὸν θρήνον,

Then again having-increased at-least for long the lament

βοῶν ἐναπεφθέγγετο εἰς εὐήκοον πάντων·

shouting he-uttered in hearing of-all

«οὐκ ἀποκρίνη μοι τῷ σῷ ποθεινοτάτῳ τέκνῳ;

not do-you-answer me the your most-longed-for child

125 οὐκ ἀποφθέγγῃ μοι λαλῶν ὡς ἔθος εἶχες πάντα;

not do-you-speak-out to-me talking as custom you-had always

οἶμοι σιγᾷ τὸ μαντικὸν καὶ θεηγόρον στόμα·

alas is-silent the prophetic and God-speaking mouth

οἶμοι ἐκλείσθη ἡ φωνὴ ἡ πᾶσιν ἡδυτάτῃ·

alas was-shut the voice the to-all sweetest

ποῦ δὲ τὸ φῶς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν, ποῦ τῆς μορφῆς τὸ κάλλος;

where and the light of-the eyes where of-the form the beauty

τίς τὰς χεῖρας ἐδέσμευσε; τίς τὴν ἰσχὴν ἀφείλε;

who the hands bound who the strength took-away

130 τίς τῶν ποδῶν ἐκώλυσε τὸν ἀνείκαστον δρόμον;

who of-the feet hindered the incomparable running

τίς ἀγάπην τὴν ἄπειρον τὴν πρὸς ἐμέ σου, πάτερ,

who love the boundless the toward me your father

χωρῖσαι κατετόλμησεν; ὦ τῆς παρανομίας,

to-separate dared O of-the lawlessness

ὦ τῆς ἀθρόας συμφορᾶς, ὦ τῆς πικρᾶς ὀδύνης!

O of-the sudden calamity O of-the bitter pain

πῶς μετὰ πόνου τὴν ψυχὴν παρέδωκας καὶ λύπης,

how with toil the soul did-you-give-up and grief

135 καλῶν με ἐξ ὀνόματος ἄχρι τέλους ζωῆς σου;

calling me by name until end of-life your

ὦ ἀτυχέστατος ἐγὼ παρὰ βραχεῖαν ὥραν
O most-unfortunate I by short hour
 πάντως εἰ ἤκουσα φωνῆς, εὐχῆς τῆς τελευταίας,
altogether if I-had-heard voice of-prayer the last
 καὶ ταῖς ἀγκάλαις τὴν ψυχὴν ταῖς ἐμαῖς ἐπαφήκες,
and into-the arms the soul the my you-had-let-go
 λοῦσαι τὸ σῶμα ταῖς χερσὶν εἶχον ἂν ταῖς ἰδίαις.
to-wash the body with-the hands I-would-have — with-the own
 καὶ καλύψαι τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τοὺς σους, ὦ καλὲ πάτερ· 140
and to-cover the eyes the your O fine father
 νυνὶ δὲ ἀθλιώτερος εἰμὶ παντὸς ἀνθρώπου,
now but more-wretched I-am than-every man
 καὶ τὰ σπλάγχνα τιτρώσκει μου ἢ ἄμετρος ὀδύνη·
and the bowels wounds my the immoderate pain
 εἴθε μοι μᾶλλον τοῦ θανεῖν ἢ κατιδεῖν τοιαῦτα·
would-that for-me rather of-the to-die than to-see such(-things)
 τί ἀγαθὸν, ὦ θάνατε, ἐφθόνησας τοιοῦτον,
what good O death did-you-grudge such
 λαβεῖν ἐμὲ ἀντὶ πατρὸς καὶ τοῦτον φθάσαι ζῶντα, 145
to-take me instead-of father and him to-overtake living
 καὶ ἀπεφάνθης ἄδικος παρὰ βραχεῖαν ὥραν;»
and you-were-shown unjust by short hour
 Ὡς ταῦτα καὶ τὰ ὅμοια ὁ Διγενὴς ἐθρήνηι,
As these(-things) and the like — Digenis lamented
 πεποίηκεν, ὡς λέγεται, καὶ τοὺς λίθους θρηνῆσαι,
he-made as it-is-said even the stones to-lament
 καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ ἡ θαυμαστὴ μήτηρ ἡ τοῦ Ἀκρίτου·
and with him the marvelous mother the — of-Akritas

- 150 καὶ οὕτω συνετέλεσαν κηδεύσαντες ἐντίμως
and thus they-accomplished having-buried honorably
 τοῦ πατρός τε τὴν τελευτὴν οὐκ ὀλίγας ἡμέρας.
of-the father and the end not few days
 Εἶτα λαβὼν ὁ θαυμαστός τὸ σῶμα τοῦ πατρός του,
Then having-taken the marvelous the body of-the father his
 καὶ τὴν μητέρα μετ' αὐτοῦ ἦλθεν εἰς τὰ οἰκεῖα,
and the mother with him came to the own(-home)
 καὶ οὕτω θάπτει δεύτερον ἐντίμως τὸν πατέρα
and thus buries second-time honorably the father
 155 εἰς τὸν ναὸν ὅνπερ αὐτὸς ἀνήγειρεν ἐκ πόθου·
in the church which he raised from longing
 καὶ διῆγε μετὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ Ἀκρίτου.
and lived with the son the mother — of-Akritas
 Τὰ δὲ μετέπειτα αὐτοῖς πολυέραστα ἔργα
The and afterward by-them much-beloved deeds
 μικρὸν ἐναποφύναντες ὑμῖν λέξομεν τάδε.
little having-shown to-you we-shall-tell these(-things)
 Οὕτω διῆγον χαίροντες καθ' ἐκάστην ἡμέραν·
Thus they-lived rejoicing by each day
 160 πολλάκις δὲ ἐλάμβανε κιθάραν πρὸ τοῦ τέλους
often and he-took lyre before the end
 τοῦ ἀρίστου ὁ θαυμαστός, καὶ ἐπῆδεν ἡ κόρη
of-the luncheon the marvelous and sang-to-it the girl
 μέλος, ὅποῖον Σειρηνῶν ἢ ποῖον ἀηδόνων
song such-as of-Sirens or such-as of-nightingales
 ὑπερέβαινε ἡδονὴν, τὰς ἀκοὰς ἐκπλήττων·
it-surpassed pleasure the hearings astounding
 τὸν ἦχον δὲ πρὸς ὀρχησμὸν ἐκτρέπων τῆς κιθάρας,
the sound and to dancing turning of-the lyre

εὐθὺς ἡ πολυώραια ἀνίστατο τῆς κλίνης,	165
<i>at-once the much-beautiful rose from-the couch</i>	
βλαττὶν ἐξήπλωνεν ἐν γῇ, ἐπέβαινεν ἐν τούτῳ.	
<i>silk she-spread on ground she-stepped on this</i>	
Φράσαι δὲ ὅλως ἀπορῶ κινήματα τῆς κόρης,	
<i>To-tell and at-all I-am-at-a-loss movements of-the girl</i>	
τὰς τῶν χειρῶν μεταστροφὰς, ποδῶν τὰς μεταβάσεις·	
<i>the of-the hands turnings of-feet the changes</i>	
ράως ἐφέροντο συχνῶς ἐπόμεναι τῷ ἤχῳ,	
<i>easily they-moved frequently following the sound</i>	
λυγίσματα ἀκόλουθα κρούσμασι τῆς κιθάρας.	170
<i>bendings following strikings of-the lyre</i>	
Ὡς γὰρ μέλιτος γλύκασμα τοῖς ἀγνοοῦσι πέλει	
<i>As for of-honey sweetness to-those not-knowing is</i>	
ἐφικτὸν, οὕτω τὴν χαρὰν οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπαγγεῖλαι	
<i>attainable thus the joy not it-is to-announce</i>	
καὶ τέρψιν τὴν ἐξαίσιον ἰδιωμάτων ταύτης.	
<i>and delight the extraordinary of-(the)-peculiarities her</i>	
Εἰθ' οὕτως ἀνιστάμενοι τῆς τραπέζης προσήκον	
<i>Then thus rising from-the table as-was-fitting</i>	
τῶν ἡδέων ἐτρέφοντο, εἶτα πρὸς τὸν λειμῶνα	175
<i>of-the sweets they-fed then to the meadow</i>	
τὸν δηλωθέντα ἄνωθεν ωραίου παραδείσου	
<i>the shown above of-beautiful garden</i>	
σφόδρα ἀγαλλιώμενοι, θεῷ εὐχαριστοῦντες	
<i>greatly exulting to-God thanking</i>	
οἱ νέοι οἱ περίβλεπτοι καὶ εὐγενεῖς τῷ ὄντι.	
<i>the young the admired and noble in-the being</i>	
Ἐν μόνον τούτων τὰς ψυχὰς ἐλύπει καθ' ἑκάστην,	
<i>One only of-them the souls grieved by each(-day)</i>	

- 180 ἀτεκνίας ἡ ἄσβεστος καὶ δεινοτάτη φλόγα·
of-childlessness the unquenchable and most-terrible flame
 ἧς μόνοι πείραν ἔλαβον οἱ τέκνων ἀποροῦντες,
of-which alone trial took those of-children being-in-want
 μεγίστην τε τὴν συμφορὰν προξενεῖ τοῖς ἐν βίῳ·
greatest and the calamity it-procures for-those in life
 ὑπὲρ τούτου ἐδέοντο τοῦ θεοῦ καθ' ἐκάστην.
for this they-besought — of-God by each(-day)
 Καὶ τῆς πρώτης τῶν ἀρετῶν ἐσεμνύνοντο σφόδρα,
And in-the first of-the virtues they-took-pride greatly
- 185 τῆς εὐποιίας λέγω δὴ καὶ τῆς ἐλεημοσύνης·
of-the beneficence I-say indeed and of-the almsgiving
 ὅμως θελήματι θεοῦ ἤμαρτον τῆς ἐλπίδος,
yet by-will of-God they-missed the hope
 ἀλλὰ λίαν ὡς σώφρονες τῷ θεῷ ἠὲ χαρίζονται,
but very as temperate — to-God thanked
 τοῖς οἰκείοις δὲ σφάλμασιν ἔγραφον τὴν αἰτίαν.
to-the own and failings they-ascribed the cause
- Ἐν τούτῳ νόσος τῇ μητρὶ ἐλθοῦσα τοῦ Ἀκρίτου,
In this sickness to-the mother having-come — of-Akritas
- 190 διὰ τεσσάρων ἡμερῶν τὴν φωνὴν ἐπαφῆκε·
after four days the voice she-let-go
 ἰσχυρῶς αὐτὴν ἔκλαυσε καὶ ἐπένθησε λίαν·
strongly her he-wept and mourned very
 ὁ Διγενὴς ἐν μνήματι σὺν τῷ πατρὶ κηδεύει.
— Digenis in tomb with the father buries
 Ζήσασα μετὰ τελευτὴν τοῦ ἀνδρὸς ἔτη πέντε,
Having-lived after death of-the husband years five
 καὶ πᾶσιν ἐντρυφήσασα ἀγαθοῖς ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ,
and in-all having-delighted good(-things) in the world

ἡ ὄντως ἀξιάπαινος ἐν γυναιξὶ φανείσα, 195
the truly praiseworthy among women having-appeared
 ἡ ἐν τῷ κάλλει τρέψασα ποτὲ τοὺς πολεμίους
the by the beauty having-routed once the enemies
 πολλοὺς ἐλευθέρωσασα δεινῆς αἰχμαλωσίας,
many having-freed from-terrible captivity
 καὶ εἰρήνην βραβεύσασα πόλεσί τε καὶ κώμαις
and peace having-arbitrated to-cities both and villages
 καὶ γὰρ ἐκ ταύτης ἡ ἀρχὴ γέγονε τῶν κρειττόνων
and for from her the beginning came of-the better(-things)
 συνεργίᾳ τῇ θεϊκῇ τὴν ἔχθραν καθελοῦσα 200
by-cooperation the divine the enmity having-destroyed
 καὶ χαρὰν ἀντεισάξασα πανταχοῦ καὶ εἰρήνην,
and joy having-brought-in-instead everywhere and peace
 ῥίζαν καὶ κλάδον εὐγενῇ τεκοῦσα καὶ ὠραῖον·
root and branch noble having-borne and beautiful
 ὃς πάντων τῶν Ἀγαρηνῶν φρυάγματα καθεῖλε,
who of-all the Hagarenes insolences destroyed
 καὶ πόλεις προενόμεισε καὶ τῷ κράτει συνῆψε.
and cities plundered and to-the sovereignty joined
 Πρὸ γὰρ τούτου τοῦ θαυμαστοῦ καὶ γενναίου Ἀκρίτου, 205
Before for this the marvelous and noble Akritas
 ἀδεῶς ἐξερχόμενα γένη τῶν Αἰθιοπῶν
fearlessly coming-out races of-the Ethiopians
 ἀφειδῶς ἐξηφάνιζον τὰς πόλεις τῶν Ῥωμαίων,
unsparingly destroyed the cities of-the Romans
 καὶ οἱ τῶν δούλων ἔκγονοι παῖδας τῶν ἐλευθέρων
and the of-the slaves offspring children of-the free
 τοὺς τιμίους καὶ εὐγενεῖς ἐπὶ δουλείαν ἤγον.
the honorable and noble into slavery led

- 210 Ἦνίκα δὲ ὁ δι' ἡμᾶς γεννηθεὶς ἐκ παρθένου
When but the because-of us born from virgin
 ὡς ἀγαθὸς ἠυδόκησε πάντας ἐλευθερώσαι
as good was-pleased all to-free
 τὴν θαυμαστὴν καὶ ἔνδοξον ποιῶ οἰκονομίαν
the marvelous and glorious makes dispensation
 φίλον γενέσθαι τὸν ἐχθρὸν καὶ ἐξ αὐτοῦ τεχθῆναι
friend to-become the enemy and from him to-be-born
 τὸν τῆς ἀνδρείας στέφανον, τὸν Διγενὴν Ἀκρίτην,
the of-the courage crown — Digenis Akritas
- 215 καὶ ἐγένετο ἀληθῶς ἐξ ἐχθρῶν σωτηρία,
and became truly from enemies salvation
 τοσούτων γὰρ τῶν ἀγαθῶν παρ' αὐτοῦ ἐκαρποῦτο
so-many for the good(-things) from him enjoyed
 καὶ εἰς τέλος ἐπλήσθησαν οἱ αἰχμάλωτοι πάντες
and to end were-filled the captives all
 ὡς δούλους κτῆσαι τοὺς αὐτῶν δεινοτάτους δεσπότας.
as slaves to-acquire the their most-terrible masters
 Ἄρα πόσης ἀπῆλαυσαν οἱ συγγενεῖς ἐκείνων
Then how-much enjoyed the kinsmen of-those
- 220 χαρμονῆς ὄντως τοὺς αὐτῶν δεξάμενοι γνωρίμους·
of-joy truly the their having-received acquaintances
 πόλεμος δὲ τὸ σύνολον ἢ ἀκοὴ πολέμου
war and the whole or rumor of-war
 οὐδαμῶς ἐγνωρίζετο ἐν ταῖς αὐτοῦ ἡμέραις,
in-no-way was-known in the his days
 ἀλλ' ἦν εἰρήνη πανταχοῦ, ἡρεμία μεγάλη,
but was peace everywhere calm great
 καὶ πάντες ἄνθρωποι συχνῶς τῷ θεῷ ἠὲ χαρίζονται,
and all men often — to-God thanked

καὶ ἅπαντες τὸν Διγενὴν ἐκάλουν εὐεργέτην,
and all — Digenis called benefactor
 ἀντιλήπτορα μέγιστον καὶ σὺν θεῷ προστάτην·
helper greatest and with God protector
 καὶ πολλοὶ ἐπευφραίνοντο τῇ τούτου βασιλείᾳ
and many rejoiced in-the his reign
 δοξάζοντες ἀσύγχυτον Τριάδα παναγίαν,
glorifying unconfused Trinity all-holy
 ἣν πρέπει ἡ προσκύνησις εἰς ἅπαντας αἰῶνας.
to-whom befits the worship to all ages

BOOK VIII

ΤΗΣ ΑΥΤΟΥ ΤΕΛΕΥΤΗΣ

XXIX · AKRITAS' LAST ILLNESS

Kinsmen from Emel visit Digenis and marvel at his barehanded hunting. After bathing with them he falls ill, and a physician sees the end. Digenis reminds his wife of all he did for her love, from her abduction to Maximou's death, and bids her marry a brave man after him. She prays God to raise him, or let her die first.

Ἐπειδὴ πάντα τὰ τερπνὰ τοῦ πλάνου κόσμου τούτου
Since all the delightful(-things) of-the deceiving world this
 ἄδης μαραίνει καὶ δεινὸς παραλαμβάνει Χάρων,
Hades withers and terrible receives Charon
 καὶ ὡς ὄναρ παρέρχεται καὶ σκιὰ παρατρέχει
and like dream passes-by and shadow runs-past
 καπνὸς ὥσπερ λυόμενος πᾶς πλοῦτος τοῦδε βίου,
smoke as-if being-dissolved all wealth of-this life

- 5 κατέλαβε καὶ θάνατος τοῦ θαυμαστοῦ Ἀκρίτου,
overtook also death of-the marvelous Akritas
 γεναμένης τῆς ἀφορμῆς ἀπὸ τοῦ βαλανείου.
having-come-about the occasion from the bath
 Ποτὲ γὰρ φίλοι πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐλθόντες ἐκ τοῦ Ἑμελ,
Once for friends to him having-come from — Emel
 ὀρθόδοξοι ἀπὸ πατρὸς συγγενεῖς αὐτοῦ ὄντες,
orthodox from father kinsmen his being
 (οἱ γὰρ πλείονες συγγενεῖς ταῖς χρησταῖς νουθεσίαις
the for most kinsmen by-the good admonitions
 10 τοῦ πατρὸς ἐστηρίχθησαν πρὸς ὀρθόδοξον πίστιν),
of-the father were-confirmed in orthodox faith
 εἶχον δὲ θέλημα πολὺ, ἐπιθυμίαν πάντες
they-had and wish much desire all
 τοῦτον ὁμοῦ θεάσασθαι καὶ τὴν αὐτοῦ ἀνδρείαν·
him together to-behold and the his courage
 τινὲς δὲ ὄντες ἀπ' αὐτῶν τῆς πατρῴας θρησκείας
some and being of them of-the paternal religion
 χριστιανοὶ γεγόνασιν Ἀκρίτου νουθεσία.
Christians had-become of-Akritas by-admonition
 15 Ἐκείνων, ὡς δεδήλωται, πρὸς τοῦτον ἀφигμένων,
Those as has-been-shown to him having-arrived
 ἀσμένως τούτους δέχεται ἢ φιλάγαθος γνώμη·
gladly them receives the good-loving mind
 τούτων ὡς ὄντων εὐγενῶν κρειπτόνων τε καὶ ἄλλων,
these as being noble better both and of-others
 δέδωκεν εἰς καταγωγὴν τερπνὸν ξενοδοχεῖον,
he-gave for lodging delightful guest-house
 ὃ τῶν ἄλλων ἐτύγχανεν ἐγγύτερον τοῦ οἴκου·
which of-the others was nearer to-the house

καὶ μετ' αὐτῶν ἐφ' ἱκανὰς ἡμέρας διατρίψας, 20
and with them for many days having-spent

πολλά τε καὶ ἐξαίσια ἀριστεύματα δράσας,
many both and extraordinary exploits having-done

εἰς θήραν ἐξερχόμενος σὺν αὐτοῖς καθ' ἐκάστην,
to (the)-hunt going-out with them by each(-day)

θάμβος μὲν εἶχεν ἅπαντας καὶ ἔκπληξις μεγίστη,
astonishment indeed held all and amazement greatest

κατανοοῦντες τὴν ἰσχὺν καὶ τὸν ἄπειρον δρόμον·
perceiving the strength and the boundless running

οὐδέπω γὰρ τὸ εὗρεθ' εἶχε τοῦ ἀποδρᾶσαι, 25
not-yet for the(-thing) found had of-the to-run-away

ἀλλ' εἰς χεῖρας τὰς αὐτοῦ εἴ τι δ' ἂν καὶ ὑπῆρχε,
but into hands the his if anything but — also was

κἂν λέων, κἂν τε ἔλαφος, κἂν ἄλλο τι θηρίον·
even-if lion even-if and deer even-if other some beast

οὐκ εἶχε κύνας μετ' αὐτοῦ ἢ πάρδους πολυδρόμους,
not he-had dogs with him or leopards swift

οὐχ ἵππου ἐπεκάθητο, οὐ ξίφεσιν ἐχρᾶτο,
not on-horse he-sat not swords he-used

ἀλλ' ἦσαν ἅπαντα αὐτῷ χεῖρες μόνον καὶ πόδες. 30
but were all to-him hands only and feet

Εἶτα προστάξας ἐν μιᾷ λουτρὸν εὐτρεπισθῆναι

Then having-commanded on one(-day) bath to-be-prepared

κάλλιστον, ὃ πεποίηκε μέσον τοῦ παραδείσου,
finest which he-made middle of-the garden

τοῦ σὺν τοῖς φίλοις λούσασθαι, τὴν ἀφορμὴν ἐκεῖθεν
of-the with the friends to-bathe the occasion from-there

ἔσχεν ὁ πολυέραστος καὶ χρηστότατος οὗτος
had the much-beloved and most-excellent this-one

35 νοσήματι περιπεσὼν λῖαν χαλεπωτάτῳ,
into-sickness having-fallen very most-grievous

ὁ παῖδες ὀπισθότονον τῶν ἱατρῶν καλοῦσιν.
which sons opisthotonos of-the physicians call

Γνοὺς δὲ τοῦ πόνου τὸ σφοδρὸν, καταλιπὼν τοὺς φίλους,
Having-known and of-the pain the violence having-left the friends

ἐπὶ τὸν οἶκον ἔρχεται, καὶ πεσὼν ἐπὶ κλίνης
to the house he-comes and having-fallen on bed

τὴν ὀδύνην καθ' ἑαυτὸν καὶ τὸν πόνον συνείχε,
the pain by himself and the suffering held-in

40 ἵνα μὴ θλίψῃ τὴν ψυχὴν τῆς πανεντίμου κόρης·
that not he-might-afflict the soul of-the all-honored girl

ὥς δὲ μᾶλλον δεινότερος καὶ σφοδρότερος ἔτι
as but more more-terrible and more-violent still

ὁ πόνος ἔθλιβεν αὐτὸν, καὶ γνοῦσα τοῦτο ἡ κόρη,
the pain afflicted him and having-known this the girl

ἀπὸ βάθους στενάξασα· «ὦ κύριέ μου, ἔφη,
from depth having-groaned O lord my said

οὐκ ἔρεῖς μοι τί τὸ συμβὰν καὶ πιέζον σε ἄλγος;
not will-you-tell me what the having-happened and pressing you pain

45 οὐ λέγεις, ὦ παμφίλτατε, τίς ἡ ἀδημονία;
not do-you-say O all-dearest what the distress

πλείονα γάρ μοι προξενεῖς σιωπῶν τὴν ὀδύνην,
more for to-me you-cause keeping-silent-about the pain

καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν ἀναίρεις μοι, τὴν νόσον ἀποκρύπτων.»
and the soul you-destroy for-me the sickness biding

Ὁ δὲ μᾶλλον τῷ στεναγμῷ ταύτην ἀλγήσας πλέον,

He and more by-the groan for-her having-grieved more

οὐ γὰρ ἐβούλετο ποτὲ κατιδεῖν τεθλιμμένην·

not for he-wished ever to-see afflicted

«οὐδὲν ἄλλο, ἐμὴ ψυχὴ, πιέζει καὶ συντρίβει,

nothing other my soul presses and crushes

εἰ μὴ πόνος ἀφόρητος τὰ ὀστᾶ μου ἀπέσω·

if not pain unbearable the bones my within

ὀσφὺν γὰρ πᾶσαν καὶ νεφρούς, ῥάχιν, ὀστᾶ καὶ πάντας

loin for all and kidneys spine bones and all

τοὺς ἄρμούς μου διέλυσε, καὶ οὐ φέρω τοὺς πόνους.

the joints my it-loosened and not I-bear the pains

Τῶν ἱατρῶν καλείτω τις τῶν τοῦ στρατοῦ ἐν τάχει.»

Of-the physicians let-call someone of-those of-the army in haste

Οὗ καὶ ἐλθόντος τῇ ἐξῆς καὶ σφυγμοῦ αἵψαμένου,

Who also having-come on-the next(-day) and pulse having-touched

ἐκ τῆς πυρᾶς τὴν δύναμιν ἐπέγνω παρελθοῦσαν·

from the fever the strength recognized having-passed

ἡ γὰρ νόσος κατὰ πολὺ νενίκηκε τὴν φύσιν.

the for sickness by much has-conquered the nature

Στενάξας οὖν ὁ ἱατρὸς καθ' ἑαυτὸν καὶ κλαύσας,

Having-groaned then the physician by himself and having-wept

ἐπέγνω ὁ θαυμάσιος φθάσαι τὸ τέλος ἤδη,

recognized the marvelous to-have-come the end already

καὶ μηδὲν εἰρηκῶς αὐτῷ τοῦ ἐξελθεῖν προστάττει,

and nothing having-said to-him of-the to-go-out commands

τὴν δὲ κόρην εἰς τὸ ἐντὸς ὑπάρχουσιν ταμεῖον

the and girl in the within being chamber

εὐθὺς ἐκάλει πρὸς αὐτὸν, ἡ δὲ παρὴν δραμοῦσα·

at-once he-called to him she and was-present having-run

καὶ πνεῦμα συλλεξάμενος καὶ στενάξας ἐκ βάθους·

and breath having-gathered and having-groaned from depth

«ὦ τῆς πικρᾶς, ἐφθέγγετο, φιλάτης χωρισίας,

O of-the bitter he-uttered dearest separation

65 ὦ τῆς χαρᾶς καὶ τῶν τερπνῶν πάντων τοῦ κόσμου τούτου·

O of-the joy and of-the delights all of-the world this

ἀλλὰ κάθισον ἄντικρυς, χορτάσω σε τοῦ βλέπειν,

but sit opposite let-me-sate you of-the to-see

ἄλλο γὰρ οὐ θεάσεις με τὸν σὲ πολλὰ ποθοῦντα·

any-more for not you-will-see me the you much longing

καὶ ἐρῶ σοι τὰ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἡμῖν συμβεβηκότα.

and I-will-tell to-you the(-things) from beginning to-us having-happened

Μνήσκεσαι, ὦ ψυχὴ ἐμὴ καὶ φῶς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν μου,

Do-you-remember O soul my and light of-the eyes my

70 ὅπως μόνος τὴν ἀρπαγὴν ἐτόλμησα ποιῆσαι,

how alone the seizure I-dared to-make

τοὺς σοὺς γονεῖς μὴ πτοηθεῖς, μὴ δεδοικὼς τὰ πλήθη;

the your parents not having-been-terrified not having-feared the multitudes

τὸ τοῦ στρατοῦ ἀνείκαστον ἐπεχείρουν χωρῖσαι

the of-the army incomparable tried to-separate

ἡμᾶς, ὦ περιπόθητε, ἐν τῷ ἀδήλῳ κάμπῳ,

us O much-longed-for in the obscure plain

οὓς μὴ πεισθέντας τοῦ στραφῆν παρέδωκα θανάτῳ·

whom not having-been-persuaded of-the to-turn I-handed-over to-death

75 καὶ ἀδελφούς ὅπως τοὺς σοὺς, σὸν πρόσταγμα φυλάξας,

and brothers how the your your command having-kept

ἐκ τῶν ἵππων κατέβαλον μὴδ' ὅλως τραυματίσας;

from the horses I-threw-down not at-all having-wounded

μέμνησαι ὅπως μόνην σε λαβεῖν ἡρετισάμην,

do-you-remember how alone you to-take I-chose

τῷ σῷ πατρὶ καταλιπὼν ἄχρι ζωῆς τὴν προῖκα;
to-the your father having-left as-long-as life the dowry

πάντως διὰ τὴν ἄπειρον ἀγάπην σου, φιλάτη,
altogether because-of the boundless love your dearest

ταῦτα πάντα πεποίηκα ἵνα σε ἐκκερδίσω.

80

these all I-have-done that you I-might-win

Μνημονεύεις, ψυχὴ ἐμῇ, εἰς τὸ Βλαττολιβάδιν

Do-you-remember soul my at — Blattolibadin

ὅταν ὁ δράκων μόνην σε ἐν τῇ πηγῇ ὡς εὔρε,
when the dragon alone you at the spring as he-found

καὶ ἀναιδῶς πλανῆσαι σε ὁ δεινὸς ἐπεχείρει;
and shamelessly to-lead- astray you the terrible tried

σὺν δὲ φωνὴν ἐξέπεμψας καλοῦσα βοηθόν με,
you and voice sent-out calling helper me

ἧς ἐπακούσας τάχιον ἐν τῇ πηγῇ εὔρέθην,
which having-heard sooner at the spring I-was-found

85

καὶ τὰ αὐτοῦ φαντάσματα ἀντ' οὐδενὸς νομίσας,
and the his phantoms in-place-of nothing having-considered

τὰς κεφαλὰς ἀπέτεμον αὐτοῦ τὰς πυρφλεγούσας;
the heads I-cut-off his the fire-flaming

Ταῦτα δὲ κατετόλμησα διὰ τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην,
These(-things) and I-dared because-of the your love

αἰρούμην γὰρ ἀποθανεῖν ἢ σὺ στενάξαι ὅλως.
I-chose for to-die than you to-groan at-all

Μέμνησαι καὶ τοῦ λέοντος εἰς τὸ αὐτὸ λιβάδιν,
Do-you-remember also of-the lion at the same meadow

90

ὅπως, ἐμοῦ καθεύδοντος, φῶς μου μεμυρισμένον,
how me sleeping light my perfumed

ὥρμησε τοῦ σπαράξαι σε, σὺν δὲ φωνὴν ἀφήκας,
it-rushed of-the to-tear you you and voice let-out

- ἦς ἐπακούσας πρὸς αὐτὸν κατεπήδησα θᾶττον,
which having-beard at him I-leapt-down sooner
- καὶ θανατώσας ἀβλαβῇ ἐκ τῶν ὀνύχων τούτου
and having-put-to-death unharmed from the claws of-it
- 95 σὲ ἐρρυσάμην, πάντερπνε, ἐμπεπλησμένην φόβου;
you I-rescued all-delightful filled of-fear
- κιθάρας δὲ τῷ κρούσματι θέλων μεταβαλεῖν σε,
of-lyre and with-the striking wishing to-change you
- οἱ ἀπελάται, τῷ σαντῆς ἤχῳ ὀδηγηθέντες,
the raiders by-the your sound guided
- πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἦλθον ἀναιδῶς οἱ τοῦ Ἰωαννακίου,
to us came shamelessly those — of-Ioannakes
- οἳ καὶ τόλμῃ ἐχρήσαντο ἡμᾶς ἀποχωρῖσαι·
who also with-daring used us to-separate
- 100 πάντως οἶδας, ψυχὴ ἐμὴ, τὰ εἰς αὐτοὺς πραχθέντα,
altogether you-know soul my the(-things) to them done
- ἄνευ γὰρ ὕπνου ἅπαντας θανάτῳ παρεδόμην·
without for sleep all to-death I-handed-over
- ταῦτα δὲ ἔνεκα τῆς σῆς ἀγάπης ἐποιούμην,
these(-things) and for-the-sake of-the your love I-did
- ἦς οὐ τὸν κόσμον, οὐ τὸ ζῆν εἶχον προτιμητέον.
than-which not the world not the to-live I-had to-be-preferred
- Μνήσκεσαι καὶ τῶν θαυμαστῶν ἀπελατῶν, ψυχὴ μου,
Do-you-remember also of-the marvelous raiders soul my
- 105 Φιλοπαπποῦ τοῦ γέροντος, Κιννάμου καὶ Ἰωαννάκη,
of-Philopappous the old-man of-Kinnamos and of-Ioannakes
- τῶν ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ λαλητῶν, πάντῃ περιβοήτων,
of-those in courage talked-of everywhere renowned
- ἄοπλον ἐν τῷ ποταμῷ ὅπως ἐνέτυχόν με,
unarmed at the river how they-met me

φαρίους ἐποχοῦμενοι, οἱ τρεῖς καθωπλισμένοι;

on-horses riding the three armed

Οἶδας ὅσα ἐσπούδασαν ἐμέ τοῦ ἀποκτεῖναι,

Do-you-know how-much they-strove me of-the to-kill

ἡνίκα σε ἐσκέψαντο πρὸς με ἐπέρχομένην;

when you they-saw toward me coming

σὺ δὲ φωνὴν μοι ἔπεμψας βοηθοῦσα τῷ λόγῳ·

you and voice to-me sent helping with-the word

«ἀνδρίζου, ὦ παμφίλτατε, ἵνα μὴ χωρισθῶμεν.»

be-a-man O all-dearest that not we-be-separated

Παρ' ἧς πλέον δυναμωθείς τούτους ἐτροπώσάμην,

From which more having-been-strengthened them I-routed

καὶ κατὰ κράτος ἤττησα τῇ ράβδῳ τραυματίσας,

and by force I-defeated with-the club having-wounded

οἷς καὶ τὸ ζῆν ἐχάρισα δυσωπηθεὶς τοῖς λόγοις;

to-whom also the to-live I-granted having-been-shamed by-the words

καὶ ταῦτα δι' ὑπερβολὴν ἐποιούμην ἀγάπης

and these(-things) because-of excess I-did of-love

τῆς σῆς, πανυπερπόθητε, ὅπως νά σε κερδήσω.

of-the your all-exceedingly-longed-for so-that that you I-may-win

Τὴν Μαξιμοῦν ἐπέξευσα, τοὺς μετ' αὐτῆς ἀνείλον,

— Maximou I-unhorsed those with her I-killed

εἶτα πεισθεὶς τοῖς λόγοις σου, πάλιν ὀπίσω τρέχων

then having-been-persuaded by-the words your again back running

ἔσφαξα καὶ αὐτὴν λάθρα σοῦ μὴ εἰδυίας;

I-slaughtered also her secretly you not knowing

Καὶ ἄλλα πολλῶ πλείονα διὰ τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην,

And other(-things) by-much more because-of the your love

ἐμὴ ψυχῇ, πεποίηκα ἵνα σε ἐκκερδήσω,

my soul I-have-done that you I-may-win

- καὶ τοῦ σκοποῦ ἀπέτυχον, ἥμαρτον τῆς ἐλπίδος·
and of-the aim I-missed I-failed of-the hope
- καὶ γὰρ πληροφορήθητι βέβαιον ἀποθνήσκω,
and for be-assured certainly I-am-dying
- 125 ὁ Χάρων δέ με ἐκ παντὸς τὸν ἀήττητον τρέπει,
— Charon and me by all the unconquered routs
- ᾧδης χωρίζει τῆς πολλῆς ἀγάπης σου, φιλτάτη,
Hades separates from-the much love your dearest
- καὶ ὁ τάφος καλύπτει με πολὺν ἔχοντα πόνον,
and the grave covers me much having pain
- καὶ ὀδύνην ἀφόρητον διὰ τὴν σὴν χηρείαν·
and grief unbearable because-of the your widowhood
- ἀλλ', ὦ πανυπερπόθητε, ποίαν σου κλαύσω λύπην;
but O all-exceedingly-longed-for what your shall-I-weep grief
- 130 πῶς σε παραμυθήσομαι; ποῦ σε ἀφῶ τὴν ξένην;
how you shall-I-console where you shall-I-leave the stranger
- ποία μήτηρ συγκλαύσει σοι; τίς πατὴρ ἐλείψει;
what mother will-weep-with you what father will-pity
- ἢ νουθετήσει ἀδελφὸς, τινὰ μὴ εὐποροῦσα;
or will-admonish brother anyone not having
- ἀλλὰ φύλαξον τοὺς ἐμούς, ὦ παμφιλτάτη, λόγους
but keep the my O all-dearest words
- καὶ τελευταίαν βούλησιν ἐμοῦ μὴ ἀθετήσης,
and last wish of-mine not set-aside
- 135 ἵνα βιώσῃ τοῦ λοιποῦ τινὰ μὴ φοβουμένη.
that you-may-live for-the future anyone not fearing
- Οἶδ' ὥς οὐχ ἔξεις δυνατὸν χηρείαν ὑπομείναι,
I-know that not you-will-have possible widowhood to-endure
- ἀλλ' ἄνδρα, μετὰ θάνατον ἐμὸν, ἕτερον λάβης,
but man after death my other you-may-take

ἡ γὰρ νεότης ἐκ παντὸς βιάσει σε εἰς τοῦτο.

the for youth by all will-force you to this

Καὶ βλέπεσαι μὴ πλανηθῆς εἰς πλοῦτον ἢ εἰς δόξαν,

And look lest you-be-led-astay to wealth or to glory

ἀλλ' εἰς ἀνδρείον ἄγουρον τολμηρὸν καὶ γενναῖον,

but to brave youth daring and noble

καὶ βασιλεύσεις ἐπὶ γῆς ὡς πρότερον, ψυχὴ μου.»

and you-will-reign on earth as before soul my

Ταῦτα σὺν δάκρυσιν εἰπὼν ἀπέπαυσε τὸν λόγον.

These(-things) with tears having-said he-ceased the word

ἡ δὲ κόρη στενάξασα πικρῶς ἀπὸ καρδίας,

the and girl having-groaned bitterly from heart

καὶ δάκρυσι τὰς παρειὰς βρέξασα θερμότεροις.

and with-tears the cheeks having-wetted hotter

«ὦ κύριέ μου, ἔφησεν, εἰς τὸν θεὸν ἐλπίζω,

O lord my she-said in — God I-hope

καὶ εἰς τὴν ἄχραντον ἀγνὴν δέσποιναν θεοτόκον,

and in the undefiled pure lady God-bearer

οὐδεὶς ἄλλος γνωρίσει με, εἰ μὴ σὺ, μέχρι τέλους,

no-one other will-know me if not you until end

καὶ τῆς δεινῆς λυτρώσει σε ἐν τάχει ἀρρωστίας.»

and from-the terrible he-will-redeem you in haste sickness

Οὕτως εἰποῦσα ἔρχεται εἰς τὸ ἐντὸς ταμείου,

Thus having-said she-comes into the within chamber

χεῖρας τε πρὸς ἀνατολὰς ἐκτείνας καὶ ὄμμα,

hands both toward east having-stretched and eye

δάκρυσί τε τὸ ἔδαφος καταβρέξασα ἅπαν,

with-tears and the floor having-drenched all

πρὸς τὸν θεὸν τὸν ὑψιστὸν ἐπηύξατο τοιάδε.

to — God the most-high prayed such(-things)

- «δέσποτα, δέσποτα θεέ, ὁ κτίσας τοὺς αἰῶνας,
master master God the having-created the ages
 ὁ στερεώσας οὐρανὸν καὶ γῆν θεμελιώσας,
the having-made-firm heaven and earth having-founded
 155 καὶ πάντα τὰ ὁρώμενα τῷ λόγῳ σου κοσμήσας,
and all the(-things) seen with-the word your having-adorned
 ὁ ἐκ τῆς γῆς τὸν ἄνθρωπον σῇ χειρὶ πλαστουργήσας,
the from the earth the man with-your hand having-fashioned
 ὁ ἐκ μὴ ὄντων ἅπαντα παραγαγὼν εἰς εἶναι,
the from not being all having-brought into being
 εἰσάκουσον δεήσεως ἐμοῦ τῆς ἀναξίας,
hear prayer of-me the unworthy
 ἴδε μου τὴν ταπείνωσιν, ἴδε μου καὶ τὴν θλίψιν·
see my the humiliation see my also the affliction
 160 καὶ ὥς ποτε παράλυτον ἐξήγειρας, οἰκτίρμον,
and as once paralytic you-raised compassionate
 καὶ τὸ θυγάτριόν ποτε τοῦ ἐκατοντάρχου,
and the little-daughter once the of-the centurion
 καὶ νεκρὸν τετραήμερον Λάζαρον ἐκ τοῦ τάφου,
and dead four-days Lazarus from the tomb
 οὕτω καὶ νῦν ἀνάστησον νέον ἀπελπισμένον·
thus also now raise-up youth despaired-of
 οἰκτείρησον ὥς ἀγαθὸς τὴν ἐμὴν εὖσπλαγχνίαν,
pity as good the my compassion
 165 σπλαγχνίσθητι νεότητος, Χριστέ, τοῦ σοῦ οἰκέτου,
have-compassion-on youth Christ of-the your servant
 εἰ καὶ πολλὰ ἡμάρτομεν ἐνώπιόν σου, Λόγε,
if even much we-sinned before you Word
 καὶ παντελῶς ἀνάξιοι ἐσμέν τοῦ σοῦ ἐλέους,
and altogether unworthy we-are of-the your mercy

ἀλλ' ὡς οἰκτίρμων δέησιν ἐκ ψυχῆς κατωδύνου

but as compassionate prayer from soul pained

πρόσδεξαι καὶ ἀνάστησον νέον ἀπελπισμένον·

receive and raise-up youth despaired-of

δάκρυα μὴ παρίδῃς μου, ἡ χαρὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων·

tears not overlook my the joy of-the angels

ἐλέησον, φιλάνθρωπε, τὴν ἐμὴν ξεντείαν·

have-mercy lover-of-mankind the my sojourn-abroad

τὴν μοναξίαν οὔκτειρον, καὶ ἀνάστησον τοῦτον·

the solitude pity and raise-up him

εἰ δ' οὐ, κέλευσον, ὁ θεὸς ὁ δυνάμενος πάντα,

if but not bid — God the being-able all

πρὸ τούτου τελευτῆσαι με καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν ἀφείναι,

before him to-die me and the soul to-let-go

μὴ ἴδω τοῦτον ἄφωνον νεκρὸν ἐξηπλωμένον,

not let-me-see him voiceless dead stretched-out

μὴ ἴδω χεῖρας τὰς καλὰς ἀνδραγαθεῖν μαθούσας

not let-me-see hands the fine to-do-brave-deeds having-learned

δεδεμέναις σταυροειδῶς, μενούσας ἀκινήτους,

bound crosswise remaining motionless

κεκαλυμμένους ὀφθαλμοὺς, πόδας συνεσταλμένους·

covered eyes feet drawn-together

μή με τοσαύτην κατιδεῖν παραχωρήσης θλίψιν,

not me so-great to-see allow affliction

ὦ ποιητά μου καὶ θεέ, ὡς δυνάμενος πάντα. »

O maker my and God as being-able all

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She finds him dying and dies upon him, and he dies too. The lords of the east mourn them, railing against death, Charon, and Hades, and bury them near Trosis; the poet prays Christ to save them at the judgment.

Ταῦτα ἡ κόρη σὺν πολλῇ συντριβῇ τῆς καρδίας

These(-things) the girl with much contrition of-the heart

δεηθείσα, ὑπέστρεψε τοῦ ἰδεῖν τὸν Ἀκρίτην,

having-prayed returned of-the to-see — Akritas

καὶ ὁρᾷ τοῦτον ἄφωνον οἶμοι ψυχορραγοῦντα·

and sees him voiceless alas breathing-his-last

καὶ τὸν πόνον μὴ φέρουσα ὀδύνῃς τῆς ἀπείρου,

and the pain not bearing of-grief the boundless

185 ἀπὸ ἀμέτρου καὶ πολλῆς πεσοῦσα ἀθυμίας

from immoderate and much having-fallen despondency

ἐπὶ τοῦ νέου συμπαθῶς ἐξέπνευσεν ἡ κόρη.

upon the youth sympathetically breathed-her-last the girl

Οὐδέπω γὰρ ἡ θαυμαστὴ θλίψεως πείραν ἔσχε,

Not-yet for the marvelous of-affliction trial had

διὰ τοῦτο ὑπενεγκεῖν αὐτήν οὐκ ἠδυνήθη.

because-of this to-bear it not she-was-able

Εἶτα ἰδὼν ὁ θαυμαστός, τῇ χειρὶ ψηλαφήσας,

Then having-seen the marvelous with-the hand having-felt

190 καὶ γὰρ ἀκμὴν αὐτὸς ζῶν ἦν θεοῦ τῇ εὖσπλαγχνίᾳ,

and for still he living was of-God by-the compassion

καὶ αὐτήν θεασάμενος θανοῦσαν παραδόξως·

and her having-beheld having-died strangely

«δόξα σοι, ἔφη, ὁ θεὸς οἰκονομῶν τὰ πάντα,

glory to-you he-said — God managing the all

τοῦ μὴ φέρειν ἀφόρητον πόνον ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ μου,
of-the not to-bear unbearable pain in the soul my

διὰ τὸ μόνην εἶναι τε καὶ ξένην ἐν τοῖς ὧδε.»
because-of the alone to-be both and stranger among those here

Καὶ τὰς χεῖρας σταυροειδῶς τελέσας ὁ γεννάδας
And the hands crosswise having-placed the noble 195

τὴν ψυχὴν μὲν παρέδωκεν ἀγγέλοις τοῦ κυρίου,
the soul indeed gave-up to-angels of-the Lord

καὶ ἄμφω ἐτελεύτησαν οἱ περίβλεπτοι νέοι
and both died the admired youths

ἐν μιᾷ ὥρᾳ τὰς ψυχὰς, ἐκ συνθήματος ὥσπερ.
in one hour the souls by agreement as-it-were

Τούτων τὸν θάνατον ὁ παῖς οἰνοχόος ὡς εἶδε
Their the death the boy cupbearer as saw

τῷ δομεστικῷ παρευθὺς δηλοῖ τῷ τραπεζίτῃ
to-the domestic forthwith makes-known to-the steward 200

μετὰ κλαυθμοῦ καὶ ὀδυρμοῦ· οἱ δὲ πάλιν τοῖς ἔξω.
with weeping and lament they and again to-those outside

Τῆς φήμης δὲ καὶ πόρρωθεν ἤδη διαδραμούσης,
The rumor and even far-off now having-run-through

ἄρχοντες τῆς ἀνατολῆς παρεγένοντο πλείστοι,
lords of-the east came very-many

Χαρζιανοὶ, Καππάδοκες, Κουκουλιθαριώται,
Charzianoi Cappadocians Koukoulithariotes

Κονδανδίται οἱ δόκιμοι, Θαρσίται, Μαυρονίται,
Kondandites the approved Tharsites Mauronites 205

Βαγδαίται οἱ ἐκλεκτοὶ σὺν Βαθυρρυακίταις,
Bagdaites the chosen with Bathyrrhyakites

Βαβυλώνιοι εὐγενεῖς καὶ πολλοὶ ἐκ τοῦ Ἑμελ,
Babylonians noble and many from — Emel

- ἔσπευσαν ὅπως εἰς ταφὴν φθάσωσι τοῦ Ἀκρίτου·
hastened so-that to burial they-may-arrive — of-Akritas
 καὶ τὸ πλῆθος ἀνείκαστον ἦτον συνηθροισμένον,
and the multitude incomparable was gathered
 210 ὥς καὶ πάντα τὰ ἔξωθεν τοῦ οἴκου πεπληρώσθαι.
so-that also all the(-places) outside of-the house to-have-been-filled
 Τίς δὲ τοὺς θρήνους ἐξειπεῖν τοὺς τότε ἐξισχύσει;
Who and the laments to-tell the then will-be-able
 τὰ δάκρυα, τοὺς ὀδυρμούς, τῶν συμφορῶν τὸ πλῆθος;
the tears the wailings of-the calamities the multitude
 ἅπαντες γὰρ παράφρονες τῇ λύπῃ γεγονότες,
all for out-of-their-minds with-the grief having-become
 τὰς μὲν τρίχας ἀνέσπαιον, ἔτιλλον γενειάδας,
the indeed hairs tore plucked beards
 215 ἐφώνουν· «σείσθητι, ἡ γῆ· θρήνησον, πᾶς ὁ κόσμος·
they-cried be-shaken the earth lament all the world
 ὦ ἥλιε, ζοφώθητι, κρύψον σου τὰς ἀκτῖνας·
O sun be-darkened hide your the rays
 σελήνῃ, μελανώθητι, μηκέτι δαδουχήσης·
moon be-blackened no-longer carry-torch
 αἱ τῶν ἀστέρων ἅπασαι σβέσθητε φρυκτωαῖαι,
the of-the stars all be-quenched beacons
 τὸ γὰρ ἄστρον τὸ φαεινὸν τὸ λάμψαν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ,
the for star the shining the having-shone in the world
 220 ὁ Διγενὴς Βασίλειος, πάντων νέων ὁ κόσμος,
— Digenis Basil of-all youths the ornament
 καὶ ἡ τούτου ὁμόζυγος, τῶν γυναικῶν ἡ δόξα,
and the his yokefellow of-the women the glory
 ἐν μιᾷ ὥρᾳ ἔδυναν ἄφνω ἀπὸ τοῦ κόσμου.
in one hour set suddenly from the world

Δεῦτε πάντες οἱ ἐρασταὶ καὶ φίλοι τῆς ἀνδρείας,

Come all the lovers and friends of-the courage

τὸν γενναῖον καὶ τολμηρὸν πενθήσατε Ἀκρίτην·

the noble and daring mourn Akritas

θρηνήσατε τὸν ἰσχυρὸν καὶ φοβερὸν τοῖς πᾶσι,

lament the strong and fearsome to-the all

τὸν πάντα ὑπενάντιον ἀφανίσαντα ἄνδρα,

the every adversary having-destroyed man

καὶ γαλήνην βραβεύσαντα καὶ βαθεῖαν εἰρήνην.

and calm having-bestowed and deep peace

Γυναῖκες, δεῦτε κλαύσατε καλλονὴν ὑμετέραν,

Women come weep beauty your

αἱ ἐν κάλλει καυχώμεναι, νεότητι θαρροῦσαι,

those in beauty boasting in-youth trusting

τὴν ὡραίαν θρηνήσατε καὶ πανσώφρονα κόρην.

the beautiful lament and all-chaste girl

Οἷμοι, τί τὸ ὀρώμενον; ἄφνω δύο φωστήρες,

Alas what the being-seen suddenly two luminaries

οἱ πάντα κόσμον λάμπαντες ἔδυναν πρὸ τῆς ὥρας!»

those all world having-illuminated set before the hour

Ταῦτα καὶ τούτοις ὅμοια ἔλεγον θρηνωδοῦντες

These(-things) and to-these like they-said lamenting

οἱ παρόντες πρὸς τὴν ταφὴν τῶν εὐγενῶν σωμάτων.

those present for the burial of-the noble bodies

Τῶν ὕμνων δὲ πρὸς τὴν ταφὴν καλῶς ἐκτελεσθέντων,

Of-the hymns and for the burial well having-been-completed

καὶ ἅπαντα τοῖς πένησι δοθέντα τὰ ἐν οἴκῳ,

and all to-the poor having-been-given the(-things) in house

τὰ λεύβανα ἐν μνήματι κηδεύσαντες πρεπόντως,

the remains in tomb having-buried fittingly

τούτων τὸν τάφον ἔστησαν ἐπάνω εἰς κλεισοῦραν
their the grave they-set-up above at pass

παρέκει Τρώσεως τινὸς τόπου τοῦ καλουμένου.
nearby of-Trosis a-certain place the called

- 240 Ἐπ' ἀψίδος ἱστάμενος ὁ τάφος τοῦ Ἀκρίτου,
On arch standing the grave — of-Akritas
 συντεθειμένος θαυμαστῶς ἐκ μαρμάρου πορφύρας,
composed marvelously of marble of-purple
 ἔν' οἱ βλέποντες ἔξωθεν τοὺς νέους μακαρίζουν,
that those seeing from-outside the youths may-call-blessed
 τῆς ἀκρωρείας πόρρωθεν δυνάμενος ὁφθῆναι·
from-the summit from-far being-able to-be-seen
 τὰ γὰρ εἰς ὕψος ὄντα τε μήκοθεν θεωροῦνται.
the(-things) for at height being and from-far are-beheld

- 245 Εἰτ' ἀναβάντες ἅπαντες οἱ τότε συνελθόντες,
Then having-gone-up all those then having-come-together
 οἱ μεγιστᾶνες, ἄρχοντες καὶ πάντες οἱ τῷ τότε
the magnates lords and all those at-the then(-time)
 τὸν τάφον στεφανώσαντες καὶ κυκλώσαντες τοῦτον,
the grave having-crowned and having-encircled it
 τοιαῦτα λέγειν ἄρχονται δακρύνοντες ἀσχέτως·
such(-things) to-say begin weeping unrestrainably
 «ἴδετε ποῦ κατάκειται ἡ τόλμη τῆς ἀνδρείας,
see where lies the daring of-the courage

- 250 ἴδετε ποῦ κατάκειται ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης·
see where lies — Digenis Akritas
 τῶν γονέων ὁ στέφανος, νέων πάντων ἡ δόξα,
of-the parents the crown of-youths all the glory
 ἴδετε ποῦ κατάκειται τὸ ἄνθος τῶν Ῥωμαίων,
see where lies the flower of-the Romans

βασιλέων τὸ καύχημα, εὐγενῶν ἢ λαμπρότης,

of-emperors the boast of-nobles the brilliance

ὁ τοῖς λέουσι φοβερὸς καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς θηρίοις·

the to-the lions fearsome and to-all the beasts

οἶμοι, οἶμοι τί γέγονεν ἢ τοσαύτη ἀνδρεία;

alas alas what has-become the so-great courage

Θεὲ, καὶ ποῦ ἡ δύναμις καὶ ποῦ ἡ εὐτολμία,

God and where the power and where the daring

ποῦ φόβος ὁ ἀνείκαστος τοῦ ὀνόματος μόνου;

where fear the incomparable of-the name alone

Εἰ γὰρ Ἀκρίτου ὄνομα τοῦ Διγενοῦς ἠκούσθη,

If for of-Akritas name — of-Digenis was-heard

φρίκη πάντας ἐλάμβανεν καὶ δειλία μεγίστη,

shuddering all took and cowardice greatest

τοσαύτην χάριν ἐκ θεοῦ εἵληφεν ὁ γεννάδας

so-much grace from God has-received the noble

ὥς μόνῳ τῷ ὀνόματι τρέπειν τοὺς ἐναντίους·

as by-alone the name to-rout the enemies

εἰ γὰρ ποτε ὁ θαυμαστὸς ἐξῆλθε τοῦ θηρεῦσαι,

if for ever the marvelous went-out of-the to-hunt

θηρία πάντα ἔτρεχον εἰς τὴν ἔλιν ἀπέσω·

beasts all ran into the marsh within

ἀρτίως δὲ ὑπὸ μικροῦ κατακρατεῖται τάφου,

now and by small is-held-down grave

ἄπρακτος, ἀνενέργητος ὁρώμενος τοῖς πᾶσιν·

idle inactive being-seen by-the all

ἄρα τίς κατετόλμησε τὸν ἰσχυρὸν δεσμεῦσαι;

then who dared the strong to-bind

ἄρα τίς τὸν ἀήττητον ἴσχυσεν ὑποτάξαι;

then who the unconquered was-able to-subdue

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- θάνατος ὁ πικρότατος καὶ παραίτιος πᾶσι,
death the most-bitter and to-blame for-all
- Χάρων ὁ τρισκατάρατος καὶ πάντας συναναίρων,
Charon the thrice-accursed and all destroying-together
- 270 καὶ ᾗδης ὁ ἀκόρεστος, οἱ τρεῖς ἀνθρωποκτόνοι,
and Hades the insatiable the three man-slayers
- οἱ τρεῖς ἀνελεήμονες, οἱ πᾶσαν ἡλικίαν
the three merciless those every age
- καὶ πᾶν κάλλος μαραίνοντες, φθείροντες πᾶσαν δόξαν·
and every beauty withering destroying all glory
- οὐ γὰρ τῶν νέων φεῖδονται, οὐ γηραιούς αἰδοῦνται,
not for the youths they-spare not old(-men) they-respect
- οὐ φοβοῦνται τοὺς ἰσχυροὺς, οὐ τιμῶσι πλουσίους,
not they-fear the strong not they-honor rich(-men)
- 275 τὰ κάλλη οὐ σπλαγχνίζονται, ἀλλὰ κόνιν ποιοῦσιν,
the beauties not they-pity but dust they-make
- πηλὸν καὶ τέφραν ἅπαντα ἐργάζονται δυσώδη.
mud and ash all they-render foul-smelling
- Οὔτοι καὶ νῦν τὸν θαυμαστὸν Ἀκρίτην συλλαβόντες,
These also now the marvelous Akritas having-seized
- ὁ τάφος μὲν κατακρατεῖ, γῇ δὲ τοῦτον μαραίνει,
the grave indeed holds-down earth and him withers
- καὶ σάρκας οἴμοι τὰς καλὰς σκώληκες δαπανῶσι,
and flesh alas the fine worms consume
- 280 ᾗδης μαραίνει τὰς καλὰς καὶ χιονώδεις σάρκας.
Hades withers the fine and snow-white flesh
- Καὶ διὰ ποίαν ἀφορμὴν ταῦτα ἡμῖν ἐπῆλθε;
And because-of what occasion these(-things) to-us came
- τῇ παραβάσει τοῦ Ἀδάμ καὶ θεοῦ ἀποφάσει.
by-the transgression — of-Adam and of-God by-sentence

Ἄλλ', ὦ δέσποτα καὶ θεέ, τοιοῦτον στρατιώτην

But O master and God such soldier

οὔτω νέον, οὔτω καλὸν καὶ ἡδύτατον πᾶσι,

so young so fine and sweetest to-all

τί παρεχώρησας θανεῖν καὶ μὴ ζῆν παντὶ χρόνῳ;

why did-you-allow to-die and not to-live for-all time

ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔστιν ὃς ζήσεται, φησὶν ὁ θεοπάτωρ,

but not is who will-live says the God's-ancestor

καὶ οὐκ ὄψεται θάνατον· πρόσκαιρος γὰρ ὁ βίος,

and not will-see death temporary for the life

πρόσκαιρα τὰ ὀρώμενα, ματαία πᾶσα δόξα.

temporary the(-things) being-seen vain all glory

Χριστὲ, καὶ τίς ἀπέθανε τοιοῦτος ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ;

Christ and who died such in the world

τὸ ἄνθος τῆς νεότητος, ἡ δόξα τῶν ἀνδρείων.

the flower of-the youth the glory of-the brave

Χριστὲ, καὶ ἅς ἀνέζησεν, ἅς ἔφερε τὸν νοῦν του,

Christ and if-only he-came-to-life-again if-only he-brought the mind his

ἅς τὸν ἔθεασάμεθα κρατοῦντα τὸ ράβδῳ του,

if-only him we-beheld holding the mace his

ἅς ἀπεθάνομεν εὐθὺς καὶ μηδεὶς ὑπελείφθη!

if-only we-died at-once and no-one was-left

ᾧμοι, φεῦ, φεῦ τῶν ἀγαθῶν πάντων τοῦ πλάνου κόσμου·

alas alas alas of-the good(-things) all of-the deceiving world

φεῦ τῆς τρυφῆς, φεῦ τῆς χαρᾶς, φεῦ νεότητος πάσης,

alas of-the luxury alas of-the joy alas of-youth all

οὐαὶ τοῖς ἀμαρτάνουσι καὶ μὴ μετανοοῦσι,

woe to-those sinning and not repenting

τοῖς θαρροῦσι νεότητι, ἰσχύϊ καυχωμένοις! »

to-those trusting in-youth in-strength boasting

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- Ταῦτα καὶ τούτοις ὅμοια θρηνήσαντες ἐκ βάθους,
These(-things) and to-these like having-lamented from depth
- οἵκαδε ἀνεχώρησαν οἱ ἐκεῖ ἀθροισθέντες
homeward withdrew those there having-been-gathered
- 300 πρὸς τὴν ταφὴν τῶν εὐγενῶν καὶ εὐαγῶν σωμάτων.
for the burial of-the noble and holy bodies
- Ἄλλ', ὦ Χριστὲ παμβασιλεῦ καὶ ποιητὰ τῶν ὅλων,
But O Christ all-king and maker of-the all(-things)
- Βασίλειον τὸν εὐγενῆ, πολυέραστον κλάδον,
Basil the noble much-beloved branch
- ὁμόζυγον τὴν εὐθαλῇ καὶ ὡραίαν σὺν τούτῳ,
yokefellow the flourishing and beautiful with him
- καὶ πάντας τερπομένους τε καὶ ζῶντας ὀρθοδόξως,
and all delighting both and living orthodoxly
- 305 ὅταν καθίσῃς ἐπὶ γῆς κρῖναι ψυχὰς ἀνθρώπων,
when you-sit upon earth to-judge souls of-men
- τότε, Χριστέ μου, τήρησον καὶ φύλαξον ἀτρώτους,
then Christ my keep and guard unwounded
- τοῖς δεξιόις συντάττων τε μέρεσι τῶν προβάτων·
with-the right ranking and parts of-the sheep
- ἡμᾶς δὲ τοὺς τὸ ζῆν παρὰ σοῦ ἐσχηκότας
us and those the to-live from you having-had
- κράτυνον, σκέπασον φρουρῶν ἀπὸ τῶν ἐναντίων,
strengthen shelter guarding from the adversaries
- 310 ἵν' ὑμνῶμεν τὸ ἄχραντον καὶ μέγα ὄνομά σου
that we-may-hymn the undefiled and great name your
- Πατρὸς ἅμα καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ Πνεύματος ἁγίου,
of-(the)-Father together and of-the Son and of-(the)-Spirit holy

Λόγος ὁγδοος

Τριάδος ἀσυγχύτου τε ὁμοφυοῦς καὶ θείας,

of-(the)-Trinity unconfused both consubstantial and divine

εἰς ἀπεράντους καὶ μακροὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

to endless and long ages of-the ages
