BYZANTINE GREEK SERIES · VOLUME 14

Digenis Akritas

ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΔΙΓΕΝΟΥΣ ΑΚΡΙΤΟΥ

Digenis Akritas

The Grottaferrata and Escorial Versions

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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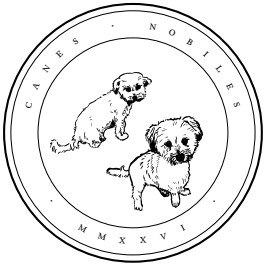

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ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΔΙΓΕΝΟΥΣ ΑΚΡΙΤΟΥ

The Grottaferrata Version

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.

Ἔπαινοι 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, Χαρζιανήν τε ὅλην,
— Babylon Charziane and whole
Ἀρμενίαν τε καὶ τὴν Καππαδοκίαν,
Armenia both and — Cappadocia
τὸ Ἀμόριν 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

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
ἃς εἰργάσατο ἐν τῷ παρόντι βίῳ,
which he-wrought in the present life
πῶς πολεμιστὰς δυνατοὺς καὶ ἀνδρείους
how warriors mighty and brave
κατεπτόησε καὶ πάντα τὰ θηρία,
he-terrified and all the beasts
ἔχων συνεργοῦσαν 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
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 τίρωνος 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 ὀφρύδιν πεπανὸν καθάπερ πεπλεγμένον,
He-had eyebrow ripe as-if braided
βλέμμα γοργὸν, ἐνήδονον, πλήρης ἔρωτος γέμον,
look keen pleasing full of-love brimming
ὡς ῥόδον ἐξανέτειλεν ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ προσώπου,
like rose sprang-up in middle of-the face
ὡς κυπαρίσσιν ἔμνοστον τὴν ἡλικίαν ἔχων,
like cypress comely the stature having
εἴπερ ἄν τις ἰδὼν αὐτὸν εἰκόνι ἐοικέναι·
if-ever — anyone having-seen him to-an-image to-resemble

σὺν τούτοις ἀκατάμαχον τὴν ἰσχὺν κεκτημένος,
with these invincible the strength having-acquired
καθ' ἑκάστην 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
ὡς θαῦμα πᾶσι προὔκειτο τοῖς αὐτὸν καθορῶσι.
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 διεπαρθεὶς καὶ ὄγκῳ τῆς ἀνδρείας,
by-the for to-be-rich having-been-puffed-up and by-bulk of-the courage
στρατολογεῖν ἀπήρξατο Τούρκους καὶ Διλεβίτας,
to-recruit he-began Turks and Dilebites
Ἀραβίτας τε ἐκλεκτοὺς καὶ πεζοὺς Τρωγλοδύτας·
Arabites both chosen and on-foot Troglodytes
εἶχε καὶ τοὺς ἀγούρους του χιλίους Γουλαβίους,
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
τὰ μέρη δὲ καταλαβὼν χώρας τοῦ Ἡρακλέος,
the parts and having-seized of-land — of-Herakles
πόλεις ἠρήμωσε πολλὰς ἐρήμους καταστήσας,
cities he-desolated many deserted having-made
καὶ πλήθη ᾐχμαλώτευσε 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, ὡς ἐκ τούτου ἄδειαν μεγάλην συναντήσας,
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,
wealth he-took-away much he-plundered the house
καὶ κόρην ἠχμαλώτευσε πάνυ ὡραιοτάτην,
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 ἐθνῶν ἀποφυγοῦσα χεῖρας,
the mother and the of-the nations having-escaped hands
ἅπαντα γράφει παρευθὺς τοῖς υἱοῖς τὰ συμβάντα,
all writes forthwith to-the sons the(-things) having-happened
τὴν τῶν ἐθνῶν τὴν ἔλευσιν, τὴν ἁρπαγὴν 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
«ὦ τέκνα ποθεινότατα, οἰκτείρατε μητέρα
O children most-longed-for pity mother
ψυχὴν ἀθλίαν ἔχουσαν καὶ μέλλουσαν τεθνᾶναι·
soul wretched having and being-about to-be-dead
ἀγάπης μνημονεύσατε ἀδελφῆς τῆς ἰδίας,
of-love remember of-sister the own
ἐλευθερῶσαι σπεύσατε ἀδελφὴν καὶ μητέρα,
to-free hasten sister and mother
τὴν μὲν δουλείας τῆς πικρᾶς, κἀμὲ δὲ τοῦ θανάτου.
the(-one) indeed from-slavery the bitter me-too and from-the death
Δώσομεν πᾶσαν ὕπαρξιν ἕνεκεν τῆς φιλτάτης·
We-will-give all substance for-the-sake of-the dearest
ζωὴν μὴ προτιμήσητε διὰ τὴν ἀδελφήν 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, θανοῦσαν ὄψεσθε μητέρα ὑπὲρ τέκνου·
if but then dead you-will-see mother for child
καὶ τὴν κατάραν τὴν ἐμὴν λήψεσθε καὶ πατρῴαν
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
«ἂς ἀπέλθωμεν, λέγοντες, σφαγῶμεν ὑπὲρ ταύτης.»
let us-go-away saying let-us-be-slain for her
Αὖθις ἵππων ἐπέβησαν καὶ ᾤχοντο 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 βραχέων 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
καὶ μακρόθεν πεζεύσαντες ἔνθα τὰς βίγλας εὗρον,
and from-afar 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
χρυσοκολλήτου, φοβεροῦ, ἀπέξωθεν τῆς τένδας·
gold-inlaid fearsome outside of-the tent
κύκλῳ αὐτοῦ παρίσταντο πλήθη 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)
«ἀμηρᾶ, δοῦλε τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ πρῶτε τῆς Συρίας,
emir slave — of-God and first — of-Syria
νὰ φθάσῃς εἰς τὴν Πάνορμον, ἴδῃς τὸ μασγιδίον,
that you-may-reach to — Panormos may-you-see the mosque
νὰ προσκυνήσῃς, ἀμηρᾶ, τὸν κρεμάμενον λίθον,
that you-may-worship emir the hanging stone
καὶ ἀξιωθῇς ἀσπάσασθαι τὸ μνῆμα τοῦ Προφήτου,
and may-you-be-deemed-worthy to-kiss the tomb of-the Prophet
νὰ ἀκούσῃς τῆς προσευχῆς τῆς καθιερωμένης!
that you-may-hear of-the prayer the consecrated
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 πλοῦτον 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 ἡ 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
πάντες ἐπωμοσάμεθα ὅρκοις 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 ἀμηρᾶς 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
ἠρέμα 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 ἂς καβαλλικεύσωμεν ἐγώ τε καὶ ἐκεῖνος,
and let us-ride I both and that-one
καὶ ἂς μονομαχήσωμεν ἐγώ τε καὶ ἐκεῖνος.
and let us-fight-in-single-combat I both and that-one
Καὶ εἰ μὲν τρέψω τον ἐγὼ, δούλους ὑμᾶς νὰ ἔχω·
And if indeed turn him I slaves you that I-may-have

εἰ δὲ κακεῖνος τρέψει με, χωρὶς λόγου παντοίου
if but that-one-too turns me without word of-any-kind
νὰ λήψεσθε τὴν ἀδελφὴν, μηδὲν ζημιωθέντες,
that you-will-receive the sister in-nothing having-been-harmed
καὶ ἕτερα αἰχμάλωτα παρ' ἐμοῦ εὑρεθέντα·
and other captives by me found
ἄλλως γὰρ οὐ πεισθήσομαι τὴν ἀδελφὴν παρέξαι,
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', ἵνα μὴ φιλονεικοῦν ποῖος νὰ πολεμήσῃ,
but that not they-quarrel who that he-should-fight
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 δίδυμος 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
μικρόν τι δειλιάσωσι, πληγαί σε ἐκφοβήσουν·
little somewhat they-should-make-cowardly blows you shall-frighten
κἂν γυμνὸν ἴδῃς τὸ σπαθὶν, φυγεῖν οὕτω μὴ δώσῃς,
even-if naked you-see the sword to-flee thus not give

κἂν ἄλλο τι δεινότερον εἰς τροπὴν μὴ ἐκφύγῃς·
even-if other something more-terrible to rout not escape
νεότητος μὴ φεῖσαι 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
ἄπιθι, τέκνον, εὔθυμον, μὴ δειλιάσῃς 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 συγχωρήσῃς, 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
«ἡ τῶν γονέων μας εὐχὴ γένηται βοηθός σου!»
the of-the parents our prayer may-become helper your
Ὁ δὲ ἐφ' ἵππου ἐπιβὰς μαύρου, γενναιοτάτου.
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-holder
τὸ δὲ σημεῖον τοῦ σταυροῦ φραξάμενος 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
ἔπαιξε πρῶτον τὸ σπαθὶν, εἶθ' 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 μονομαχῆσαι
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
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
«ὁρᾷς 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 πεῖραν τε καὶ ἀνδρείαν·
these all show experience both and courage
ὅρα λοιπὸν μὴ ἀμελῶς τὸ παιδίον προσκρούσῃς.
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
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' ἀμηρᾶς τερπόμενος καθώσπερ 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
ἑτέρου μὴ ἰσχύσαντος τὸν ἕτερον κρημνῖσαι·
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

οἱ ἵπποι ἠγανάκτησαν, πάντας ἔκπληξις εἶχεν·
the horses were-vexed all amazement held
ὁλόπληγοι 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
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 ἀμηρᾶν 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 he-may-do-wrong
Καὶ πρὸς φυγὴν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς 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 καύχησις ἅπασα οὐκ ἀγαθὴ τυγχάνει.
and for boasting all not good is
Πόρρωθεν ῥίπτει τὸ σπαθὶν, χεῖρας εἰς ὕψος ἄρας,
From-afar he-throws the sword hands to height having-raised
τοὺς δακτύλους ἐσταύρωσεν, ὡς ἦν αὐτοῖς τὸ ἔθος,
the fingers he-crossed as was for-them the custom
καὶ ταύτην πρὸς τὸν ἄγουρον τὴν φωνὴν ἐπαφῆκεν·
and this to the youth the voice let-go

«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 σὲ οὐ μὴ καταισχυνθείη.»
the(-one) for hoping in you not — may-be-put-to-shame
Τὸν ἀδελφὸν ἠσπάζοντο μετὰ περιχαρίας·
The brother they-embraced with exceeding-joy
οἱ μὲν φιλοῦσι χεῖρας του, ἄλλοι τὴν κεφαλήν του·
some indeed kiss hands his others the head his

τὸν δ' ἀμηρᾶν ἀμφότεροι 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 λύπῃ 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
«σφραγῖδα λάβετε ἐμὴν, γυρεύσατε τὰς τένδας·
seal take my search-through the tents
πανταχοῦ ἐρευνήσατε, ἴδετε τὰ φουσσᾶτα·
everywhere search see the armies
τὴν ἀδελφὴν γνωρίσαντες, λαβόντες πορευθῆτε.»
the sister having-recognized having-taken you-may-go
Οἱ δὲ μετὰ πολλῆς χαρᾶς τὴν σφραγῖδα 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 εὑρηκότες,
And everywhere having-searched-through nothing and having-found
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 ᾐχμαλωτεύσατε ἀδελφὴν ἡμετέραν,
girl you-took-captive sister our
καὶ ταύτην μὴ εὑρίσκοντες 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· εὑρήσετε ῥυάκιν,
go-through to the hollow you-will-find stream
χθὲς ἐν αὐτῷ ἐσφάξαμεν εὐγενικὰς ὡραίας,
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
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 ὑπό τινος μὴ δυνάμενα ὅλως·
to-be-recognized by anyone not being-able at-all

Καὶ ταῦτα θεασάμενοι, ἔκπληξις τούτους εἶχεν,
And these(-things) having-beheld amazement them held
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
ποίαν χεῖρα συγκόψομεν, ποίαν κλαύσομεν κάραν;
which hand shall-we-mourn which shall-we-weep head

ποῖον μέλος γνωρίσαντες τῇ μητρὶ κομιοῦμεν;
which limb having-recognized to-the mother shall-we-carry

Ὦ 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

πῶς οὐκ ἐνάρκησεν ἡ χεὶρ τοῦ ἀσπλάγχνου φονέως,
how not grew-numb the hand of-the pitiless murderer

τοῦ μὴ κατελεήσαντος σοῦ τερπνὴν ἡλικίαν,
of-the not having-pitied your delightful youth

τοῦ μὴ κατοικτειρήσαντος φωνήν σου τὴν ὡραίαν;
of-the not having-had-compassion-on voice your the beautiful

Ὄντως εὐγενικὴ ψυχὴ, παρὰ τὴν ἀχρειοσύνην,
Truly noble soul rather-than the baseness

ἡρετίσω τὸν θάνατον καὶ σφαγὴν ὀλεθρίαν·
you-chose the death and slaughter deadly

ἀλλ', ὦ ἀδελφὴ παγκάλλιστε, ὦ ψυχὴ καὶ καρδία,
but O sister most-beautiful O soul and heart

πῶς σε διαχωρίσομεν ἐκ τῶν λοιπῶν σωμάτων;
how you shall-we-separate from the other bodies

ἔξομεν τοῦτο κἂν μικράν τινα παραμυθίαν;
shall-we-have this even small some consolation

Ὦ 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
with-darkness may-fill you God when the sister our
ἀνηλεῶς κατέκοπτον οἱ ἄνομοι ἀδίκως!
pitilessly cut-down the lawless unjustly
ποῖον μητρὶ ἐλεεινῇ μήνυμα κομιοῦμεν;
what to-mother pitiable message shall-we-carry
Ἥλιε, τί ἐφθόνησας τὸ ὡραῖον μας ἀδέλφιν,
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 ὡς οὐκ ἴσχυσαν εὑρεῖν τὴν ἀδελφήν των,
But yet as not they-were-able to-find the sister their
τάφον ἕνα ποιήσαντες κατέθαψαν ἁπάσας,
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 ἀδελφὴν, εἰ δ' οὐ θανάτωσόν μας·
give emir the sister if but not put-to-death us
οὐδεὶς ἡμῶν ἄνευ αὐτῆς ὑποστρέφει ἐν οἴκῳ,
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

«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
Ὁ πατήρ μας ἐξόριστος διά τινα 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 ὑπήρχομεν 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
οὐκ ἂν εἰς οἶκον μάς ποτε εἴχετε 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 προσκυνήσῃς τὸν Βαγδᾶ· εἰπὲ καὶ σὺ τίς εἶ γε·
that you-may-worship — Baghdad say also you who you-are at-least
καὶ εἰ στραφοῦν οἱ συγγενεῖς ἀπὸ τοῦ ταξιδίου,
and if return the kinsmen from the expedition

φέρουν καὶ τὸν πατέρα μας ἀπὸ τὴν ἐξορίαν,
they-bring also the father our from the exile
νά σε καταζητήσωμεν ὅπου δ᾽ ἂν καὶ τυγχάνῃς·
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 ἀμηρᾶς ἀντέφη,
I fine younger(-men) the emir replied
Χρυσοβέργου υἱός εἰμι, μητρὸς δὲ τῆς Πανθίας·
of-Chrysobergos son I-am of-mother and — of-Panthia
Ἄμβρων ὑπῆρχε μου παπποῦς, θεῖος μου ὁ Καρόης·
Ambron was my grandfather uncle my — Karoes
τέθνηκε γάρ μου ὁ πατὴρ 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 εὐτυχῆ εἰς πάντας τοὺς πολέμους,
seeing and me fortunate in all the wars
ἐξουσιαστὴν ἐποίησαν εἰς ὅλην τὴν Συρίαν,
ruler they-made over whole — Syria
καὶ ἐκλεκτούς μοι ἔδωκαν τρισχιλίους κονταράτους·
and chosen to-me they-gave three-thousand spearmen
πᾶσαν Συρίαν ὑπέταξα καὶ ἐπίασα τὸ Κοῦφερ,
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

τὸ Ἀμόριν 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 στρατηγοὶ, οὐ φουσσᾶτα·
Me not withstood generals not armies
γυνὴ δέ με ἐνίκησε πάνυ ὡραιοτάτη,
woman but me conquered very most-beautiful
ταύτης τὰ κάλλη φλέγουν με, τὰ δάκρυα μαραίνουν·
her the beauties burn me the tears wither
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
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
They these(-things) as they-heard from exceeding-joy
τὴν τένδαν ἀνεσήκωσαν καὶ ἔσωθεν εἰσῆλθον·
the tent they-lifted-up and inside went-in
εὗρον 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 δακρύων.
the eyes drenched were from the tears
Ἣν ἰδόντες οἱ ἀδελφοὶ ἀνέστησαν σπουδαίως,
Whom having-seen the brothers raised-up with-zeal
καὶ ταύτην μετ᾽ ἐκπλήξεως ἕκαστος κατεφίλει·
and her with amazement each kissed
ἀπροσδοκήτου 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 θλῖψιν ὑπέφερον τὰ δάκρυα καὶ πόνους
together affliction they-bore the tears and toils
καὶ χαρὰν τὴν πανθαύμαστον τὴν τότε γεναμένην.
and joy the all-marvelous the then having-come-about
Ὡς δὲ ταύτην ἠσπάζοντο μετὰ περιχαρείας,
As and her they-embraced with exceeding-joy
καὶ δάκρυα προσέβαλλον ποιοῦντες μετὰ θρήνων·
and tears they-shed making with laments
καὶ «ζῇς» ἔλεγον «ἀδελφὴ, ζῇς, ψυχὴ καὶ καρδία,
and you-live they-said sister you-live soul and heart
ἡμεῖς θανοῦσαν σε εἴχομεν καὶ σπαθοκοπημένην·
we dead you held and sword-hewn

ἀλλ᾽ οὖν τὰ κάλλη ζῶσάν σε ἐτήρησαν, φιλτάτη,
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
Εἶθ᾽ οὕτως, βεβαιώσαντες τὸν ἀμηρᾶν μεθ᾽ ὅρκου
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
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
Καὶ ἀκουστὸν ἐγένετο εἰς τὸν σύμπαντα κόσμον
And heard it-became in the whole world
ὅτι κόρη πανεύγενος, μετὰ τερπνά της κάλλη,
that girl all-noble with delightful her beauties
φουσσᾶτα ἐκατέλυσε περίφημα Συρίας.
armies destroyed renowned of-Syria

BOOK II

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 ὅρκους προϋβάλλοντο 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 ποθητήν του.
to Romania he-turned-back because-of the beloved his
Ὅταν δὲ κατελάμβανε μέρη τῆς Ῥωμανίας,
When and he-reached parts — of-Romania
ἠλευθέρωνεν ἅπαντας οὓς εἶχεν αἰχμαλώτους,
he-freed all whom he-had captives
ἑκάστῳ δοὺς ἐφόδια εἰς τὴν ὁδὸν ἀρκοῦντα.
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 εὕρεσιν, 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 μῆτερ παμπόθητε, μή τινα θλῖψιν ἔχῃς·
and O mother all-longed-for not any affliction may-you-have

γαμβρὸν γὰρ ἔχειν θέλομεν πάγκαλον καὶ ὡραῖον·
son-in-law for to-have we-wish all-fair and handsome
τὴν χρείαν δὲ ἑτοίμασον ἅπασαν τὴν τοῦ γάμου.»
the need and prepare all the of-the wedding
Ἡ δὲ ταῦτα ἀκούσασα, τῷ θεῷ ηὐχαρίστει,
She and these(-things) having-heard — to-God gave-thanks
«δόξα, Χριστέ μου, λέγουσα, τῇ σῇ φιλανθρωπίᾳ·
glory Christ my saying to-the your love-of-mankind
δόξα τῇ δυναστείᾳ σου, ἐλπὶς 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
Ἀλλ', ὦ θύγατερ ποθεινὴ, φῶς τῶν ἐμῶν ὀμμάτων,
But O daughter longed-for light of-the my eyes
πότε σε ζῶσαν ὄψομαι, φωνῆς τῆς σῆς ἀκούσω;
when you living shall-I-see voice the your shall-I-hear
ἰδοὺ καὶ γάμον γὰρ τὸν σὸν ηὐτρέπισα καὶ χρείαν,
behold also wedding for the your I-prepared and need
ἆρα νυμφίος ἔσται σοι παρόμοιος τοῦ κάλλους;
can-it-be bridegroom will-be for-you like of-the beauty
ἆρα 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 ὑπάρχῃ,
I-fear child my fine lest without-affection he-be

μὴ θυμώδης ὡς ἐθνικὸς, καὶ ζῆν με οὐ συμφέρῃ.»
lest wrathful as heathen and to-live me not it-be-profitable

Ταῦτα μὲν ἡ στρατήγισσα χαίρουσα ἐμελῴδει.
These(-things) indeed the general's-wife rejoicing sang

Ὁ δ' ἀμηρᾶς καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ τῆς κόρης
The and emir and with him the brothers of-the girl

χαίροντες ἄμφω τῆς ὁδοῦ ἤρχοντο 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,
people great and kinsmen to meeting went-out

εἶθ' 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 ἠσπάζοντο μητέρα μετὰ πόθου,
The children for embraced mother with longing

καὶ ἡ μήτηρ εὐφραίνετο ἀληθῶς ἐπὶ τέκνοις·
and the mother rejoiced truly over children

ἰδοῦσα δὲ καὶ τὸν γαμβρὸν περιχαρῆ 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 ἐπιθυμουμένων.»
not failed ever of-the things-desired

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 ἀμηρᾶς 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
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 ηὔξανε τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ ὁ πόθος.
still and more increased of-the emir the longing
Ἡ δὲ μήτηρ τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ 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,
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 ὡραίας;
and captives he-brought noble beautiful(-women)

μὴ ἐπλανήθη ὥσπερ σὺ γενέσθαι παραβάτης;
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 στρατηγοί τον ὤμνυον 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 σπαθίν του.
that he-become protostrator if he-throw-down the sword his

Ἀλλ᾽ ἐκεῖνος, 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 heeded
καὶ μεληδόν τον ἔκοψαν, καὶ ἀπῆραν τον σπαθίν του.
and limb-by-limb him they-cut and they-took-away the sword his
Σὺ δέ, ἀνάγκην μὴ εἰδὼς, πάντα ὁμοῦ παρεῖδες,
You but necessity not knowing all together overlooked
τὴν πίστιν μὲν, τοὺς συγγενεῖς, κἀμὲ τὴν σὴν μητέρα.
the faith indeed the kinsmen and-me the your mother
Ὁ ἀδελφός μου, ὁ θεῖος σου, ὁ μουρσῆς ὁ Καρόης
The brother my the uncle your the mourses — Karoes
εἰς Σμύρνην ἐταξίδευσεν εἰς τὸ παραθαλάσσιν,
to Smyrna made-expedition to the seacoast
τὴν Ἄγκυραν ἐκούρσευσε, τὴν Ἄβυδον τὴν πόλιν,
— Ankyra he-raided — Abydos the city
τὴν Ἀφρικὴν, τὴν Τέρενταν, καὶ τὴν Ἑξακωμίαν,
— Africa — Terenta and — Hexakomia
καὶ ταῦτα τροπωσάμενος ἐστράφη εἰς Συρίαν·
and these(-things) having-routed returned to Syria
σὺ δὲ ὁ δυστυχέστατος ἐποίησας ταξίδιν.
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 μασγιδίον.
and accursed you-have-become in every mosque
Εἰ μὴ παρέλθῃς γὰρ ταχὺ καὶ ἔλθῃς εἰς Συρίαν,
If not you-pass for quickly and come to Syria

οἱ ἀμηρᾶδες 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 τερπνά σου κοράσια νὰ παραδώσουν ἄλλοις,
the delightful your girls that they-hand-over to-others
ἃ καὶ στενάζουν διὰ σὲ, 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 ᾅδου 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 κορασίων,
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
Ἰδοὺ ἔστειλά σοι, ὡς ὁρᾷς, ἐπίλεκτα φαρία·
Behold I-sent to-you as you-see chosen horses
τὴν βάδεαν καβαλλίκευε, παράσυρε τὴν μαύρην,
the bay ride lead-beside the black
ἡ δ' ἀγάλ' ἂς ἀκολουθῇ, καὶ οὐδεὶς οὐ μή σε φθάσῃ·
the and slowly let follow and no-one not — you will-overtake
λάβε καὶ τὴν Ῥωμάϊσσαν, εἰ δι' αὐτὴν λυπῆσαι·
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

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
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 ἠμπλικεύσασι τοῦ μὴ φανερωθῆναι·
there they-encamped of-the not to-be-revealed
οἳ καὶ τούτῳ ἐδήλωσαν διὰ γραμματηφόρου·
who also to-him made-known through letter-carrier
«τὸ φέγγος λάμπει ὁλονυκτὶ, ὁδεύσωμεν, εἰ βούλει.»
the moon shines all-night let-us-travel if you-wish
Ὡς δὲ εἶδεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τὴν γραφὴν τῆς μητρός του,
As and saw the emir the letter of-the mother his
ἐσπλαγχνίσθη κατὰ πολὺ ὡς 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 ἑτέρου 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 διαπρᾶξαι.
and he-stood being-at-a-loss wishing something to-accomplish

Εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν δ' εἰσελθὼν λέγει τὴν ποθητήν 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 your
ἰδοὺ καιρὸς ἐφέστηκε τὸ βέβαιον νὰ μάθω,
behold time has-come the certain that I-may-learn
ἐὰν 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

«Οὐ πρὸς θάνατον, φίλτατε, ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἀντέφη,
Not toward death dearest the emir replied
τὸ δοκεῖς καὶ βουλεύεσαι μὴ γένοιτο, ψυχή 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
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
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
«Ἤμην καθήμενος, φησὶν, ἐπάνω ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ,
I-was sitting he-says above in the house

καὶ ἱέρακας ἔβλεπον ἐπὶ τὴν Λακκοπέτραν,
and hawks I-saw upon — Lakkopetra
καὶ φάλκωνα πολεμικὸν διώκων περιστέραν·
and falcon warlike pursuing dove
ὡς 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
ἔνθα διάγει ὁ γαμβρὸς μετὰ τῆς αὐταδέλφης.
where lives the son-in-law with the own-sister
Συντόμως ἐξεπήδησα, ἔδραμον νά την πιάσω·
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 ὅραμα συγκρίνει·
Then the first brother the vision interprets
«ἱέρακες, ὡς λέγουσιν, ἄνδρες ἅρπαγες 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 την ἀδικήσῃ·
dove the sister lest-perhaps her he-wrong
ἀλλ' ἂς ἀπέλθωμεν ἐκεῖ ἔνθα τὸ ὄναρ εἶδες,
but let us-go-away there where the dream you-saw
ἔνθα καὶ τοὺς ἱέρακας ἔβλεπες πετωμένους.»
where also the hawks you-saw flying
Καβαλλικεύουν παρευθὺς, ἀπῆγον εἰς τὴν πέτραν·
They-ride forthwith they-went-off to the rock
τοὺς Ἀραβίτας ηὕρηκαν μετὰ καὶ τῶν φαρίων·
the Arabites they-found with also the horses

ἰδόντες δ' ἐξεπλάγησαν, τὸ ὅραμα θαυμάζουν,
having-seen and they-were-astounded the vision they-marvel-at
«καλῶς ἤλθετε, λέγοντες, ἄγουροι τοῦ γαμβροῦ μας·
well you-have-come saying youths of-the son-in-law our
πῶς ὧδε ἠμπλικεύσατε, τὸν οἶκον μας ἀφέντες;»
how here did-you-encamp the house our having-left
Οἱ δέ γε μὴ δυνάμενοι ἀντειπεῖν ὡμολόγουν
They but at-least not being-able to-gainsay confessed
τὸ βέβαιον ἐκφαίνοντες, οὐδὲν δὲ ἀπεκρύβη.
the certain revealing nothing and was-hidden
Φόβος γὰρ ἀπροσδόκητος ἀληθείας ἐκφέρει,
Fear for unexpected truths brings-forth
ὁ δέ γε προσδοκώμενος γεννᾷ ἀπολογίας.
the but at-least expected begets excuses
Οἳ παρευθὺς λαβόμενοι εἰς τὸν γαμβρὸν ἀπῆλθον,
Who forthwith having-taken-hold to the son-in-law went-away
κατονειδίζοντες αὐτὸν ὡς κακόβουλον ὄντα,
reproaching him as ill-intentioned being
μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ὁ ὕστερος θρασύτατος ὑπάρχων·
more and also the last most-bold being
«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 ἀδελφήν 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 ἀμηρᾶς καὶ τοὺς ἐλέγχους βλέπων,
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
ᾐσχύνετο γὰρ φωραθεὶς, ὡς ξένος ἐφοβεῖτο,
he-was-ashamed for having-been-caught as stranger he-feared
ἐλυπεῖτο μὴ χωρισμὸν ὑποστῇ τῆς φιλτάτης.
he-grieved lest separation he-undergo from-the dearest
Μὴ ἔχων τι ποιήσειεν, εἰς τὴν κόρην εἰσῆλθε·
Not having what he-should-do to the girl he-went-in
ταύτην γὰρ μόνην ἤλπιζεν εὑρεῖν παρηγορίαν,
her for alone he-hoped to-find consolation
μὴ γινώσκων ὅ τι θεὸς ἐδήλωσε κατ᾽ ὄναρ·
not knowing what — God revealed in dream
«καὶ τί τοῦτο ἐποίησας; ἐπεφώνει δακρύων·
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;
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 παρεβίασά 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

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 ἥρπαξα, 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
τοὺς γονεῖς καὶ τὴν πίστιν μου διὰ σὲ ἠρνησάμην,
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 παραβῇς τοὺς ἐν τῷ μέσῳ ὅρκους·
look fair-one not transgress the in the middle oaths
μὴ ἀρνηθῇς τὸν ἔρωτα ὃν εἴχομεν ἐκ πόθου·
not deny the love which we-had from longing
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 Σαμψὼν παρέδωκας σφαγῆναι.» 200
like Delilah and — Samson you-handed-over to-be-slaughtered

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 ἀμηρᾶς 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 μηδόλως δυναμένη· 205
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 ἕτοιμος 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 ἑαυτὴν ὡς εἰς πέρας λαβοῦσα·
Barely at-length and herself as to end having-taken

«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 βουλὴν φανερῶσαι·
not is for-me not may-it-be the plan to-reveal
εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο ἐποίησα, ζῶσαν ἡ γῆ 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
ὡς τοῦ ἀνδρὸς μυστήρια κατάδηλα ποιοῦσα.»
as of-the husband secrets manifest making
Καὶ βλέπουσα τὸν ἀμηρᾶν αὐξήσαντα τὸν θρῆνον,
And seeing the emir having-increased the lament
παρὰ μικρὸν δὲ γέγονε παράφρων ἐκ τὴν θλῖψιν
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
ἐφοβήθη μὴ ἑαυτὸν ἀναιρέσῃ τῷ ξίφει·
she-feared lest himself he-should-destroy with-the sword
ἐξῆλθε πρὸς τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς 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, ἀδέλφια μου, μὴ ἀδικηθῇ ὁ ξένος,
not before God brothers my not be-wronged the stranger
ὃς δι' ἐμὲ ἠρνήσατο 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
ἐξεῖπε γάρ μου τὴν βουλὴν, ἔδειξε καὶ τὸ γράμμα.
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 κατετολμήσατε 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 μητρὸς κατάραν;
not having-feared death but of-mother curse
Δέδοικε ταῦτα καὶ αὐτὸς, βούλεται πορευθῆναι.»
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 κινοῦσα 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

«σὲ γὰρ οἱ πάντες ἔχομεν ψυχὴν καὶ θυμηδίαν,
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 εὐχώμεθα καλῶς εὐοδωθῆναι.»
we and that we-may-pray well to-be-prospered
Καὶ ἀμφότεροι παρευθὺς εἰς τὸν γαμβρὸν εἰσῆλθον,
And both forthwith to the son-in-law went-in
συγχώρησιν αἰτούμενοι τῶν πρώην λαληθέντων·
forgiveness asking of-the before having-been-spoken(-things)
«καὶ μὴ μνησθῇς ἡμῶν, γαμβρὲ, ἀγνωσίας ῥημάτων
and not remember us son-in-law ignorance of-words
οὐ γὰρ ἡμῶν τὸ αἴτιον, πάντως γὰρ σὸν τὸ κρῖμα,
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
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 σκότους 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 φιλτάτης,
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,
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 ἀμηρᾶς ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς τὴν κόρην,
having-held for the emir by the hand the girl
εἰσῆλθε μόνος μετ᾽ αὐτῆς ἔνδον εἰς τὸ κουβοῦκλιν,
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 δακτυλίδιν,
give me word lady give me your ring

ἂς 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 παραβῇς 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

«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 θλίψω τὴν καρδίαν σου, ὦ πανευγενεστάτη,
or I-afflict the heart your O most-noble

χανοῦσα γῆ με λήψεται, ᾅδης με καταπίοι,
having-gaped earth me will-receive Hades me may-swallow

καὶ μὴ ἐχάρην εἰς ἐσὲ, τὴν μοσχομυρισμένην!»
and not may-I-have-rejoiced in you the musk-scented

Περιλαβόντες δὲ τερπνὰ, ἀπλήστως κατεφίλουν,
Having-embraced and delightfully insatiably they-kissed

ὡς 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 ἠδυνήθησαν 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,
the for love the natural brings shamelessness
καὶ τοῦτο πάντες οἴδασιν 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
«ἆρα 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·
O little-child sweetest mounted before me
ἆρα, υἱέ μου διγενὲς, διδάξω σε κοντάριν,
can-it-be son my two-blooded I-shall-teach you spear
ὡς ἂν καυχήσωνται 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
εἶθ' οὕτως ἵππον εὔθειον καὶ κομιδῇ γενναῖον
then thus horse well-bred and wholly noble
ἐπιβάντες οἱ ἄγουροι ἐξῆλθασι τοῦ οἴκου,
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 μιλλίων·
and they-escorted him as-far-as three miles

καὶ πάντας ἀσπασάμενος ἐποίει ὑποστρέψαι,
and all having-embraced he-made to-return
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
καὶ ἵσταται μετὰ πυρὸς τὸν λογισμὸν φλογίζων·
and stands with fire the reasoning inflaming
πᾶς δὲ ὃς τοῦτον κέκτηται οὐ δύναται ἐκφεῦξαι,
every and who him has-acquired not is-able to-escape
κἂν τῶν ἐνδόξων τίς ἐστι, κἂν 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 ἀμηρᾶς ὁ θαυμαστὸς 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 ὅ ποτε πολέμιος δοῦλος ἔρωτος ὤφθη·
and who once enemy slave of-love was-seen
εἰς Ῥωμανίαν ᾤκησε διὰ τὴν ποθητήν 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 τραγῳδεῖν ἀπήρξατο παραμυθῶν τὴν κόρην·
and to-sing he-began consoling the girl
«ἄγουροι, δυναμώνεσθε· φαρία μὴ κατοκνεῖτε,
youths be-strong horses not shirk

τὰς ἡμέρας σπουδάζετε, τὰς νύκτας ἀγρυπνεῖτε,
the days hasten the nights keep-awake
βροχὰς, χιόνας, παγετοὺς ἀντ᾽ οὐδενὸς ἡγεῖσθε,
rains snows frosts in-place-of nothing consider
μὴ βραδύνω τὸ σύνολον κατὰ τὴν ὡρισμένην,
lest I-be-late the whole beyond the appointed(-day)
καὶ ὀνειδισθῶ εἰς ὑποστροφὴν καὶ ζῆν με οὐ συμφέρῃ.»
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 εὔχεσθαι παρεκάλει.
and all having-embraced to-pray he-exhorted
Ὃ δὴ καὶ πεποιήκασι παρευθὺς ὁμοφώνως·
Which indeed also they-did forthwith with-one-voice
«ὁ θεὸς ὁ φιλάνθρωπος ἵνα σε εὐοδώσῃ,
— God the lover-of-mankind that you may-prosper
καὶ καταξιωθείημεν 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
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

Ἥπτετο δὲ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς μετὰ σπουδῆς τοῦ δρόμου,
Took-up and the emir with haste of-the road
καθ' ἑκάστην ἐξέπεμπε γραφὰς τῇ ποθητῇ του·
by each(-day) he-sent-forth letters to-the beloved his
«μὴ λυπηθῇς, παρακαλῶ, τοῦτο δ' εὔχεσθαι μᾶλλον.»
not be-grieved I-beseech this and to-pray rather
Ἀγούρους δὲ τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ ἱκέτευεν 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 ὑποστῆτε,
keep-awake because-of me and toil undergo
συνταγὰς γὰρ ποιήσατε καὶ πολλὰς ὑποσχέσεις,
agreements for you-made and many promises
ἃς 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 ψυχή, καίεται ἡ καρδία,
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, ἀγοῦροι,
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

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
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' ἑκάστην ἡμέραν;
and watching the roads by each day
Πεφύκασι γὰρ μέριμναι πολλαὶ τοῖς ποθουμένοις
Are-wont for cares many for-the longed-for
καὶ φροντίδες διηνεκῶς, κίνδυνοί τε καὶ φόβοι.
and anxieties continually dangers both and fears
Ἀλλ', ὦ καλοὶ νεώτεροι, εὐγενικοί μου ἀγοῦροι,
But O fine younger(-men) noble my youths
ὕπνον ἀποτινάξατε καὶ πᾶσαν ῥᾳθυμίαν,
sleep shake-off and all sloth
ὡσὰν ταχέως φθάσωμεν εἰς τὸ Ῥαχὰβ τὸ κάστρον,
so-that swiftly we-may-reach to — Rachab the fortress
εἶθ' οὕτως θέντες ἔλθωμεν πάλιν εἰς Ῥωμανίαν·
then thus having-set may-we-come again to Romania
οὗ πολλάκις ἐρρύσθητε δι' ἐμὲ ἐκ κινδύνων·
where often you-were-rescued because-of me from dangers
καὶ, παρεάσας τὰ πολλά, ἓν ὑμῖν ὑπομνήσω,
and having-passed-over the many one to-you I-will-remind

ὃ καὶ πρὸς ὥραν γέγονεν εἰς τὰ Μελλοκοπία
which also at hour happened at — Mellokopia
ὁπότε μας ἐκύκλωσαν οἱ στρατηγοὶ ἀθρόως
when us surrounded the generals all-together
καὶ ὥσπερ τεῖχος γύρωθεν ἔστησαν τὰ φουσσᾶτα,
and like wall round-about set the armies
ὑμεῖς δὲ εἰς ἀπόγνωσιν κατήχθητε θανάτου,
you but into despair were-brought of-death
ἀποκλεισθέντες ἔνδοθεν πάντες ὥσπερ ἐν τάφῳ,
shut-in within all as in tomb
μὴ ἐλπίζοντες τίς ὑμῶν ἐξελθεῖν τῶν ἐκεῖσε·
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 ᾅδην 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
ἀβλαβεῖς διεσώθημεν μὲ τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν.
unharmed 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 ἀμηρᾶς ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ μετὰ πόνου καρδίας·
the emir on the road with pain of-heart

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, ἂς γίνουν τ' ἄππλικτά σου,
where you-wish lord my let become the encampments your
οὐ γὰρ εὑρίσκεις ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἀφορμὴν ῥᾳθυμίας.»
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' ἑκάστην ἡμέραν.
three for stages they-went-through by each day
Ὅτε δὲ κατελάμβανεν εἰς ἀοίκους κλεισούρας,
When and he-reached into uninhabited passes
διήρχετο γὰρ γύρωθεν φυλάττων τοὺς ἀγούρους.
he-went-through for round-about guarding the youths
Ἐν μιᾷ οὖν ὁδεύοντες εἰς πάνδεινον κλεισοῦραν,
On one then traveling into most-terrible pass
λέοντα εὗρον φοβερὸν κρατοῦντα ἐλαφῖναν·
lion they-found fearsome holding hind
ὡς 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
καὶ λυπηθεὶς ὁ ἀμηρᾶς πρὸς τὸν λέοντα 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 ῥαβδίν 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, ὁπότε 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 ἥπτετο τῆς ὁδοῦ μετὰ πόθου,
And again once-more he-took-up the road with longing
ἀλλήλοις προτρεπόμενος τοῦ προθύμως βαδίζειν.
one-another urging of-the eagerly to-go
Οὐδεὶς ἐν τούτῳ ῥᾳθυμος, οὐδεὶς ὕπνου μετέσχεν·
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

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 Ῥαχὰβ τὸ κάστρον,
When and they-drew-near to — Rachab the fortress
προσέταξεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἔξω στῆσαι 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
ὡσὰν εἴπωσι τῇ μητρὶ τὴν ἐπέλευσιν τούτου.
so-that they-may-tell to-the mother the arrival of-him
Καὶ πορευθέντες τάχιον πεποιήκασι τοῦτο.
And having-gone quickly they-did this
Ἡ δὲ μήτηρ ὡς 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
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 ἐπιγνόντες 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, ἐκεῖθεν 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 ἤθελον 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 ὁρῶσα σε οὐκ ἤθελον φῶς βλέπειν,
I for not seeing you not I-wished light to-see

οὔθ' 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 μνῆμα τοῦ Προφήτου,
such-as are-performed child my at the tomb of-the Prophet
εἰς ὃ κατῆλθες μετ' ἐμοῦ εἰς εὐχὴν ἀγομένης;
to which you-went-down with me to prayer being-led
Εἶδες θαῦμα παράδοξον πῶς, τῆς νυκτὸς παρούσης
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
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
εἶθ' 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
οὐ παρ' ἡμῖν τὸ Νέευμα ὑπάρχει τὸ μανδίλιν
not with us — Neeuma is the kerchief
ὃς βασιλεὺς ἐγένετο μετὰ τῶν Ἀσσυρίων,
who king became with the Assyrians

καὶ, διὰ πλῆθος ἀρετῶν, θαυμάτων ἠξιώθη;
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
σὺ δὲ τύχης τῆς ἑαυτοῦ ἐμποδιστὴς ἐγένου,
you but of-fortune the your hinderer became
διὰ μίαν Ῥωμαΐσσαν 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 μετασχὼν, ὡς 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 ηὐδόκησε θεὸς ὁ ἐν ὑψίστοις,
when but was-well-pleased God the in highest
ὁ δι᾽ ἐμὲ ἑκούσιον 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
ἁφαρπάσαι τοῦ φάρυγγος τοῦ νοητοῦ θηρίου,
to-snatch from-the gullet of-the spiritual beast

καὶ τοῦ λουτροῦ ἠξίωσε 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
οἱ γὰρ σεβόμενοι αὐτὰ πάντοτε τιμωροῦνται,
those for revering them always are-punished
ὁ δὲ πιστεύων εἰς θεὸν πατέρα τῶν ἁπάντων,
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
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
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 ἀεὶ 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·
which I-worship with the Father and the Son and Word
ἓν 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
ἑκάστου ἀνταπόδοσιν καὶ τῶν πλημμελημένων,
of-each requital also of-those having-sinned
τῶν δὲ δικαίων ἄφεσιν, καθώσπερ ἐπηγγέλθη,
of-the and just forgiveness as-indeed was-promised
ζωὴν τὴν ἀτελεύτητον τοῦ μέλλοντος αἰῶνος.
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.
not perishes ever but lives to ages
Ὁ δὲ μὴ ταῦτα ἐγνωκὼς, ὦ γλυκυτάτη μῆτερ,
He but not these(-things) having-known O sweetest mother

εἰς τὴν γέενναν τοῦ πυρὸς ἐσαεὶ 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 ἀμηρᾶς καὶ ὁδὸν ὑπανοίξας
These(-things) having-said the emir and way having-opened
τῆς ἀμωμήτου πίστεως τῇ μητρὶ οὕτως λέγει·
of-the blameless faith to-the mother thus says
«ἐγώ, μῆτερ, 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 ζημιωθῶμεν,
if for all we-gain soul we-forfeit
πάντως οὐδὲν τὸ ὄφελος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ,
altogether nothing the profit in that the hour
ὅταν θεὸς ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ἔλθῃ κρῖναι τὸν κόσμον,
when God from heaven comes to-judge the world
καὶ παραστήσῃ ἅπαντας ἀποδώσοντας 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
εἰς αἰῶνα ἐσόμενοι μετὰ τοῦ διαβόλου,
to age about-to-be with the devil
ὡς 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
«δεῦτε κληρονομήσατε, Πατρὸς εὐλογημένοι,
come inherit of-Father blessed
ἣν ὑμῖν προητοίμασα οὐρανῶν βασιλείαν.»
which for-you I-prepared-beforehand of-heavens kingdom
Καὶ οὗτοι μὲν πορεύσονται εἰς ζωὴν αἰωνίαν·
And these indeed will-go into life eternal
κριτὴς γὰρ δίκαιός ἐστιν ἀξίως ἀποδίδων.
judge for just be-is worthily repaying
Καὶ εἴπερ βούλει, μῆτερ μου, ζωῆς ἀξιωθῆναι,
And if-indeed you-wish mother my of-life to-be-deemed-worthy
λυτρωθῆναι τε τοῦ πυρὸς καὶ σκότους 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 ἑνούμενον ἐν μιᾷ ὑποστάσει·
unconfusedly united in one substance
πείσθητι δὲ τῷ σῷ υἱῷ καὶ ἐλθὲ μετ᾽ ἐμέναν,
be-persuaded and by-the your son and come with me
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, ὁποία
Such(-things) indeed the emir of-the and mother such-as
οὐ παρῃτήσατο παιδὸς συμβουλὴν τὴν καλλίστην·
not refused of-son counsel the finest
230 ἀλλ', ὥσπερ γῆ 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 τύχοιμεν 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 οἰκτίρμων,
but awaiting the to you turning compassionate
ὡσὰν ποιήσῃς κοινωνοὺς πάντας σῆς βασιλείας.» 245
so-that you-may-make sharers all of-your kingdom

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 ἐξήλθασι 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
βουλεύεται ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ ἀγούρους·
takes-counsel-with the emir the his youths
«ἔννοιά τις εἰσῆλθε μοι, ὦ καλοὶ στρατιῶται, 250
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

εἰ γὰρ προλάβῃ ἕτερος, πάντως κατηγοροῦμαι
if for goes-ahead another altogether I-am-accused
ὡς ὀκνηρὸς καὶ ῥᾴθυμος 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
ἄξιον γὰρ ἐρωτικὴν ἐκπληρῶσαι ἀγάπην.
worthy for erotic to-fulfill love
Ἐκεῖνος δὲ τὸ βούλευμα καλῶς ἐπινοήσας,
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 ὡραϊσμένους,
purple white-triple-dyed-purple griffins adorned
φακεώλιν χρυσόγραμμον, 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
«περιστερά μου πάντερπνε, δέξαι τὸ σὸν γεράκιν,
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 βάγιαι 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
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 βάγιας ἔλεγε· «φαντάσματα ὁρᾶτε;»
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,
as she-saw the younger suddenly having-come-up
λίαν ὠλιγοψύχησεν εἰς ἔκπληξιν ἐλθοῦσα,
greatly she-fainted into amazement having-come
καὶ χεῖρας περιπλέξασα τὰς αὐτῆς τῷ τραχήλῳ
and hands having-twined the her round-the neck
ἀπεκρεμάσθη ἄφωνος, δάκρυα μὴ κινοῦσα.
she-hung voiceless tears not stirring
Ὡσαύτως καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς γέγονεν ὥσπερ ἔνθους,
Likewise also the emir became as-if possessed
καὶ τὴν κόρην περιλαβὼν καὶ βαλὼν εἰς τὸ στῆθος,
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)
καὶ χαρὰ ὑπερβάλλουσα εἰς θάνατον ἀπάγει,
and joy surpassing to death leads
ὡς καὶ αὐτοὶ παρὰ μικρὸν ἔμελλον ὑποστῆναι.
as also they by little were-about to-undergo
Μόλις δὲ ἠδυνήθησαν αὐτοὺς ἀποχωρῖσαι·
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
«πῶς ἔχεις, φῶς μου τὸ γλυκὺ, πάντερπνόν μου δαμάλιν;
how do-you-fare light my the sweet all-delightful my heifer
πῶς ἔχεις, φίλτατε ψυχὴ, ἐμὴ παραμυθία,
how do-you-fare dearest soul my consolation
περιστερά μου πάντερπνε, πανώραιόν μου δένδρον,
dove my all-delightful most-beautiful my tree
μετὰ τοῦ σοῦ 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
τοιαῦτα πρὸς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν ἐφθέγγετο γλυκέως·
such(-things) to the emir uttered sweetly
«καλῶς ἦλθες, ἐλπὶς 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 ἁπλώσεις,
when hawk my fine the wings will-you-spread
καὶ κυνηγήσεις πέρδικα, λῃστάδας ὑποτάξεις;»
and you-will-hunt partridge robbers you-will-subdue
Καὶ ταῦτα μὲν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τὸ παιδίον ἐλάλει.
And these(-things) indeed the emir to-the child spoke
Ἔλευσιν δὲ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ πάντες ἀναμαθόντες, 310
Arrival and the his all having-learned
εἰς τοὺς οἴκους ἀπέτρεχον εἰπεῖν τὰ συγχαρίκια·
to the houses ran-off to-tell the good-news

καὶ γέγονε πολλὴ 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
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 σῴζειν εὐχερῶς τούτους ἀπαριθμῆσαι.
so-as not to-manage easily them to-count
Ὄντως θαῦμα παράδοξον ἔργον ὀρθῆς ἀγάπης·
Truly wonder strange work of-right love
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 ἀλλοφύλους 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
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,
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 ἐπηύξανεν ἡ πάνδημος ἐκείνη·
The joy and increased the public that
ἔχαιρε γὰρ ἐπὶ μητρὶ υἱὸς τῇ πιστευσάσῃ,
rejoiced for over mother son the having-believed
ἡ δὲ μήτηρ εὐφραίνετο ἐπὶ υἱῷ φιλτάτῳ.
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 ἀπένειμεν ἐνδιαίτημα ἔχειν.
to-kinsmen assigned dwelling to-have
Τὸ δὲ παιδίον ηὔξανεν ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης,
The and child grew — Digenis Akritas
χάρισμα ἔχων ἐκ θεοῦ παράδοξον ἀνδρείας,
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 ἥρπαξε 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 ἀναμιμνήσκω·
And at-once about love you I-remind
ῥίζα γὰρ οὗτος καὶ ἀρχὴ καθέστηκεν 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

εὐθὺς 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 μηδ' ὅλως πτοεῖσθαι·
sea indeed to-reach fire not at-all to-be-terrified
δράκοντας δὲ καὶ λέοντας καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ θηρία
dragons and also lions and the other beasts
οὐδοτιοῦν λογίζεται στερεωθεὶς ὁ πόθος
nothing-whatever it-reckons strengthened the longing
καὶ τοὺς λῃστὰς 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 μηδεὶς 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
ἀμηρᾶν 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

καὶ μᾶλλον δεύτερος Σαμψὼν αὐτὸς ἐπενοήθη·
and rather second Samson he was-deemed
ἐκεῖνος γὰρ ἠρίστευσε χερσὶ λέοντα σχίσας,
that-one for excelled with-hands lion having-split
οὗτος δὲ πλῆθος ἄπειρον ἀπέκτεινε λεόντων.
this-one but multitude boundless killed of-lions
Παύσασθε γράφειν Ὅμηρον καὶ μύθους Ἀχιλλέως
Stop writing Homer and myths of-Achilles
ὡσαύτως καὶ τοῦ Ἕκτορος, ἅπερ εἰσὶ ψευδέα.
likewise also — of-Hector which are false
Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ Μακεδὼν δυνατὸς ἐν φρονήσει,
Alexander the Macedonian mighty in prudence
θεόν 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
οὗτοι 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 παππὸς, θεῖος του ὁ Καρόης·
Ambron was the grandfather uncle his — Karoes
διαλεκτοὺς τὸν ἔδωκαν τρισχιλίους κονταράτους,
chosen to-him they-gave three-thousand spearmen

πᾶσαν Συρίαν ὑπέταξεν, ἐπίασε τὸ Κοῦφερ·
all Syria he-subjected he-seized — Kouphar
εἶθ' 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 he-plundered and — Cappadocia
κόρην τερπνὴν ἀφήρπαξεν εὐγενῆ τῶν Δουκάδων,
girl delightful he-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 ὅ ποτε πολέμιος 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

Τούτου πάππος Ἀντάκινος ἀπὸ τῶν Κινναμάδων,
Of-this-one grandfather Antakinos from the Kinnamades
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
θείους εἶχε τοὺς θαυμαστοὺς ἀδελφοὺς τῆς μητρός του,
uncles he-had the marvelous brothers of-the mother his
οἵ καὶ ἐμονομάχησαν διὰ τὴν ἀδελφήν των
who also fought-in-single-combat because-of the sister their
τὸν ἀμηρᾶν 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
Ἤδη 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 πατρὸς 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 ἱππηλάσια καὶ κυνηγεῖν ποθήσας,
thereafter riding and to-hunt having-longed
μετὰ πατρὸς ἐσχόλαζε καθ᾽ ἑκάστην 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 πατὴρ, ἐσέβη εἰς τὴν ψυχήν μου
longing lord and father has-entered into the soul my
τοῦ δοκιμάσαι ἐμαυτὸν 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 ἂς ἐξέλθωμεν ἔνθα εἰσὶ θηρία,
to place let us-go-out where are beasts
καὶ πάντως βλέψεις λογισμὸν ἀεί με ἐνοχλοῦντα.»
and altogether you-will-see thought always me troubling
Λόγους τοιούτους ὁ πατὴρ ἀκούων τοῦ φιλτάτου,
Words such the father hearing 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 καρδία,
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 παρέστηκε καιρὸς τῆς θηριομαχίας·
but not has-come time of-the fighting-with-beasts

θηρίων γὰρ ὁ πόλεμος δεινότατος ὑπάρχει,
of-beasts for the war most-terrible is
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 ῥόδα σου τὰ καλὰ πρὸ καιροῦ ἐκτρυγήσῃς·
nor roses your the fine before season gather
ὅταν δὲ, θέλοντος θεοῦ, ἀνὴρ τέλειος φθάσῃς,
when but willing God man perfect you-reach
τότε λοιπὸν λόγου ἐκτὸς πολεμεῖν τὰ θηρία.»
then indeed of-word without to-fight the beasts
Καὶ ὡς ταῦτα ἀκήκοε τὸ εὐγενὲς παιδίον,
And as these(-things) heard the noble child
ἐλυπήθη κατὰ πολὺ, 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
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 παιδόθεν προφαίνει.
of-nature for the noble from childhood shows-forth

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 γενναῖον,
and the son with himself Akritas the noble
καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν ἀγούρων του τινὰς καβαλλαρίους,
and from the youths his some horsemen
εἰς τὴν ἕλην παρευθὺς ἐξῆλθον εἰς τὰ ἄλση·
into the marsh forthwith they-went-out into the groves
καὶ μακρόθεν ἐσκέψαντο ἄρκτους φοβερωτάτους·
and from-afar 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 ἂς ἴδω·
casts voice the uncle his Basil now let me-see

πλὴν τὸ ῥαβδίν σου ἔπαρον, ξίφος μηδὲν βαστάσῃς·
but the mace your take sword not carry
ἄρκτους οὐκ ἔνι ἐπαινετὸν πολεμεῖν μετὰ ξίφους.»
bears not is praiseworthy to-fight with sword
Καὶ ἦν θαῦμα φρικτὸν ἰδεῖν καὶ ξένον τοῖς ὁρῶσι·
And it-was wonder dreadful to-see and strange to-those seeing
καὶ γὰρ φωνῆς ὡς ἤκουσε τοῦ θείου τὸ παιδίον,
and for voice as heard of-the uncle the child
παραυτίκα ἐπέζευσε καὶ λύει τὸ ζωνάριν,
immediately dismounted and loosens the girdle
ἐκδύεται τὸ ὑπολούρικον, ἦτον πολὺς ὁ καύσων,
puts-off the under-tunic was much the heat
καὶ τὰς ποδέας ὀχυρῶς πήξας εἰς τὸ ζωνάριν,
and the skirts firmly having-fixed into the girdle
καμηλαυκίτζιν χαμηλὸν βαλὼν εἰς τὸ κεφάλιν,
little-cap low having-put on the head
ὡς ἀστραπὴ ἐξεπήδησεν ἀπὸ περιστηθίου,
like lightning he-leapt-out from (the)-breastplate
μηδὲν ἐπιφερόμενος εἰ μὴ λιτὸν ῥαβδίτζιν,
nothing carrying if not plain little-mace
εἶχε δὲ δύναμιν πολλὴν, 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
προῦπαντᾷ τὸ θηλυκὸν φθονοῦν διὰ τὰ παιδία,
goes-to-meet the female being-jealous because-of the cubs
καὶ σφόδρα μυκησάμενον πρὸς ἐκεῖνον ἐξῆλθεν.
and greatly having-bellowed toward him went-out
Ἐκεῖνος ὢν ἀπείραστος εἰς θηριομαχίαν,
He being untried in fighting-with-beasts

οὐκ ἐγυρίσθη ὄπισθεν νὰ τοῦ δώσῃ ῥαβδέαν,
not turned behind that to-it he-might-give mace-blow
ἀλλ' ἐπεσέβη σύντομα, ἐκ τὴν μέσην 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 ἕληαν ἀπέσω·
fled and the male into the marsh within
Ὁ θεῖος του τὸν ἐφώνησε· «βλέπε, τέκνον, μὴ φύγῃ.»
The uncle his him called look child lest it-flee
Κακεῖνος ἀπὸ τῆς σπουδῆς ἀφῆκε τὸ ῥαβδίν του,
And-he from the haste let-go the mace his
καὶ πετάσας ὡς ἀετὸς 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 ὥρμησε τὴν κεφαλὴν τοῦ παιδὸς ἐκλαφῦξαι.
and rushed the head of-the boy to-gulp-down
Τὸ δὲ παιδίον σύντομα τὸ μάγουλόν του πιάνει
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
ἔλαφος ἐξεπήδησε μέσον τῆς παγαναίας·
hind leapt-out in-the-middle of-the hunting-ring
ὁ ἀμηρᾶς 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 ἐλαφῖναν,
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
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 ἐκπλῆττον
truly deed strange the thoughts astounding
πῶς τὴν ἔλαφον ἔφθασε παιδίον χωρὶς ἵππου,
how the hind overtook child without horse
πῶς τοὺς ἄρκτους ἐφόνευσε μηδὲν ἐν χερσὶν ἔχον,
how the bears he-slew nothing in hands having
ὄντως θεοῦ τὸ δώρημα καὶ δεξιᾶς ὑψίστου.
truly of-God the gift and of-right-hand of-(the)-most-high
Ὦ πόδες ὡραιότατοι, 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
Ἅπερ ὁρῶντες οἱ ἐκεῖ τότε παρατυχόντες,
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.»
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 περιεστράφησαν ἰδεῖν τὸν ἀγουρίτζην,
and at-once they-turned-round to-see the young-lad
εἰς ἕλην τον ἐσκέψαντο, σύρνοντα τὰ θηρία.
in marsh him they-saw dragging the beasts
Μὲ τὴν δεξιὰν ἔσυρνε γὰρ οὓς ἐφόνευσεν ἄρκτους,
With the right dragged for which he-slew bears
καὶ μετὰ τὴν ἀριστερὰν σύρει τὴν ἐλαφῖναν.
and with the left drags the hind
Ὁ θεῖος του τὸν ἐλάλησεν· ἐλθέ, 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
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 ὥρμησε ξίφους χωρὶς εἰς τὸν λέοντα ὑπάγειν.
And he-rushed sword without at the lion to-go
Καὶ λέγει τον ὁ θεῖος του· «ἔπαρον τὸ σπαθίν σου·
And says to-him the uncle his take the sword your
οὗτος οὐκ ἔστιν ἔλαφος ἵνα τον 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
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
«ὁρᾷς, 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-he-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 ἀμφότεροι 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 εὔνοστον ἡλικίαν,
Had for the younger comely stature
κόμην ξανθὴν, ἐπίσγουρον, ὀμμάτια μεγάλα,
hair fair curly eyes large

πρόσωπον ἄσπρον, ῥοδινὸν, κατάμαυρον ὀφρύδιν,
face white rosy jet-black eyebrow
καὶ στῆθος ὥσπερ κρύσταλλον, ὀργυιὰν εἶχε τὸ πλάτος.
and breast like crystal fathom had the breadth
Τοῦτον ὁρῶν ἠγάλλετο ὁ πατὴρ 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 μεσημέριν,
that the heat is much it-is also midday
καὶ τὰ θηρία κρύβονται ἀπάρτι εἰς τὴν ἕλην·
and the beasts hide from-now-on in the marsh
καὶ δεῦρο ἂς ἀπέλθωμεν εἰς τὸ ψυχρὸν τὸ ὕδωρ,
and come let us-go-away to the cold the water
καὶ νἰψον σου τὸ πρόσωπον ἐκ τῶν πολλῶν ἱδρώτων·
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
ἀπάρτι πᾶσαν μέριμναν ῥίψω ἐκ τὴν ψυχήν 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
εἴς τε τὰ κούρση τὰ πολλὰ καὶ πολεμίων βίγλας.»
to both the raids the many and of-enemies watches

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. Digenis asks him to propose a match, which the general has often refused, 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 ἀμφότεροι 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 καθεσθέντες 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 κἀκεῖνοι ἀνδρειωμένοι.
that — from this may-become those-too made-brave
Ἄλλαξε 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

τρανὰ μαργαριτάρια εἶχεν ἀντὶ κομβίων,
large pearls he-had instead-of buttons
τὰ δὲ θηλύκια στρεπτὰ ἐκ καθαροῦ χρυσίου,
the and loops twisted of pure gold
τουβία ἐφόρει ἐξάκουστα, γρύψους ὡραϊσμένους,
leggings he-wore famous griffins adorned
τὰ πτερνιστήρια 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
εἰς τὴν μητέρα ἀπελθεῖν μὴ δι᾽ αὐτὸν λυπῆται,
to the mother to-go-away lest because-of him she-grieve
καὶ ἠνάγκαζεν ἅπαντας εἰς τὸ καβαλλικεῦσαι.
and he-compelled all to the to-ride
Ἵππον ἐμετεσέλλισεν ἄσπρον ὡς περιστέριν,
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
πάμπολλα κωδωνίτζια, καὶ ἦχος ἐτελεῖτο
very-many little-bells and sound was-made
ἐνήδονος καὶ θαυμαστὸς, πάντας ὑπερεκπλήττων·
pleasing and marvelous all astounding
πράσινον, ῥόδινον βλαττὶν εἶχεν εἰς τὸ καποῦλιν,
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
Ἦτον ὁ ἵππος τολμηρὸς καὶ θρασὺς εἰς τὸ παίζειν,
Was the horse daring and bold in the to-play
τὸ δὲ παιδίον εὔθιον εἰς τὸ καβαλλικεύειν·
the and child well-bred in the to-ride
πᾶς ὁ βλέπων ἐθαύμαζε τὸν ἄγουρον ἐκεῖνον,
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
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
πρασινοαραβίτικον μετὰ χρυσοῦ διβέλλου.
green-Arabian with gold pennon
Ὡραῖος ἦν εἰς ὅρασιν, 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
καὶ πλησιάσαντος αὐτοῦ ἀναφώνημα εἶπε·
and having-drawn-near he song said
«ἄγουρος ὅταν ἀγαπᾷ κόρην ὡραιοτάτην,
youth when loves girl most-beautiful
ὅταν ἐκεῖ ἀπέρχεται καὶ βλέπει της τὰ κάλλη,
when there he-goes-away and sees her the beauties
δαμάζεται ἡ καρδίτζα του, οὐ θέλει ζῆν εἰς κόσμον.»
is-tamed the little-heart his not wishes to-live in world
Τῆς ἡδονῆς ὡς ἤκουσαν τῷ οἴκῳ οἱ παρόντες,
The pleasure as heard in-the house those present
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
Ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἡ κόρη ἔμεινεν ἀνήκοος τοῦ νέου
But not-even the girl remained not-hearing of-the youth
πάγκαλος ἡ διάφημος ἡ ἀκουστὴ ἐκείνη,
all-fair the far-famed the renowned that
ἧς τὸ κάλλος ἀμήχανον, παράδοξον τὸ γένος,
whose the beauty impossible strange the race
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 μεμουσιωμένος·
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
ὃ καὶ ἐπωνομάζετο τῆς κόρης τὸ κουβοῦκλιν.
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 ἐκδιηγοῦμαι,
as she-saw the younger as I-relate
ἐφλέχθη ἡ καρδίτζα της, οὐ θέλει ζῆν εἰς κόσμον·
was-inflamed the little-heart her not wishes to-live in world
πόνος ἀνήφθη εἰς αὐτὴν, ὡς τὸ δίκαιον ἔχει,
pain was-kindled in her as the right has
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 προδήλως ἡττηθέντας·
but it-drew them there plainly having-been-defeated
καὶ πρὸς τὴν βάγιαν ἔλεγε γαληνὰ εἰς τὸ ὠτίον·
and to the nurse she-said calmly into the ear
«παράκυψαι, βαγίτζα 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
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 φοβερὸς 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
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
«Ἠβουλήθησαν, τέκνον μου, τὴν κόρην ἀφαρπάσαι
They-wished child my the girl to-carry-off
διὰ τὰ κάλλη τὰ τερπνὰ ἅπερ ἔχει, ὡς λέγουν·
because-of the beauties the delightful which she-has as they-say
καὶ τούτους γνοὺς 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

«εὔχου, πάτερ, μὴ δόξῃ με ἵνα την 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 εὔχομαι, 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 νά με ἐπάρῃ,
and if indeed perhaps he-be-pleased son-in-law that me he-take

ἵνα τὸν ἔχω πενθερὸν τῇ ἰδίᾳ του 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 τον 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

τὸν βοῦλχαν ἐπελάλησε, πλησιάζει τῇ κόρῃ,
the bay he-urged-on he-draws-near to-the girl
καὶ πρὸς αὐτὴν ἠρέμα τε λόγον εἶπε τοιόνδε·
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' ἀλλαχοῦ 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
«κατάβα, βάγια μου καλή, εἰπὲ τὸν ἀγουρίτζην·
go-down nurse my good tell the young-lad
τὸν θεόν σε πληροφορῶ εἰς τὴν ψυχήν 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 εἶ 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
καὶ συγγενὴς ἡμέτερος ὡς 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 κινδυνεύσῃς
and guard-yourself younger(-man) because-of me you-may-be-endangered
καὶ στερηθῇς 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
«παράκυψον, ὀμμάτια μου, ἂς ἴδω σου τὸ κάλλος,
peep-out eyes my let I-see your the beauty
ἂς ἔμβῃ εἰς τὴν καρδίτζαν μου ἡ ἄπειρός σου ἀγάπη·
let enter into the little-heart my the boundless your love
εἰμὶ γὰρ νέος, ὡς ὁρᾷς· οὐκ οἶδα τί ἔνι ὁ πόθος·
I-am for young as you-see not I-know what is the longing
οὔτε γινώσκω κἂν 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 ψυχήν 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.

Καὶ ἦν ἰδεῖν οὐδέποτε τέλος ἐκείνων λόγοις·
And it-was to-see never end of-those to-words
ἔρως τότε παρώξυνεν ἄσεμνον διαπρᾶξαι,
love then urged indecent(-thing) to-accomplish
δουλοῖ γὰρ τὰ φρονήματα ἔρως ὡς ὢν δεσπότης,
enslaves for the minds love as being master
ὑποτάσσει τὸν λογισμὸν ὡς 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
οὐ συγγενεῖς αἰσχύνεται, οὐ γείτονας πτοεῖται,
not kinsmen he-is-ashamed-before not neighbors he-fears
ἀλλ' ἔστιν ὅλως ἀναιδὴς δοῦλος ὢν τῆς φιλίας,
but he-is wholly shameless slave being of-the friendship
ὥσπερ καὶ ἡ πανεύγενος κόρη πέπονθε τότε,
just-as also the all-noble girl suffered then
καὶ παρέκυψε μερικῶς ἐκ τὴν χρυσῆν θυρίδα·
and peeped-out partly from the golden window
τὰ κάλλη τοῦ προσώπου της κωλύουν τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς του
the beauties of-the face her hinder the eyes his
καὶ οὐ δύναται καλῶς ἰδεῖν τὴν ἡλιογεννημένην·
and not he-is-able well to-see the sun-born

ὡς γὰρ ἀκτὶς 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
ὀφρὺν εἶχε κατάμαυρον, ἄκρατον δὲ τὸ μέλαν,
eyebrow she-had jet-black unmixed and the black
ὡς χιόνα τὸ πρόσωπον, μέσον δὲ βεβαμμένον,
like snow the face middle and dyed
οἷα πορφύρα ἐκλεκτὴ ἣν 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 εἱστήκει.
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 δακτυλίδιν ἔδωκεν εἰποῦσα πρὸς ἐκεῖνον·
the ring she-gave having-said to him
«ἄπιθι χαίρων, ἄγουρε, κἀμοῦ μὴ ἐπιλάθῃς.»
go rejoicing youth and-me not forget

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
καὶ τὸν θεὸν ἱκέτευεν 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 δῦνον μου τὸν ἥλιον, ἀνάτειλον τὸ φέγγος,
and set for-me the sun make-rise the moon
ὡσάν μοι γένῃ 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
Καὶ κατ᾽ ἰδίαν ἔλεγε τὸν πρωτοστράτορά του·
And in private he-said-to the protostrator his
«ἀπόστρωσαι τὸν βοῦλχαν μου, στρῶσον μου δὲ τὸν μαῦρον,
unsaddle the bay my saddle me and the black
δύο κίγκλας τον 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 ὡραῖον 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 δεῖπνον προσκληθεὶς οὐ μετέσχε βρωμάτων,
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 ἔχρῃζε 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 πᾶσιν ἐφαίνετο ἐν ὀνείρῳ θεᾶσθαι.
and to-the all he-appeared in dream to-behold
Ὃν καὶ ἡ μήτηρ ἡ αὐτοῦ ἵστατο ἀποροῦσα·
Whom also the mother the his stood being-at-a-loss
«τί συνέβη σοι, τέκνον μου, καὶ λυπεῖς τὴν ψυχήν 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 ψυχήν μου·
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 ψυχήν μου,
but nor again tumult troubled soul my

εἴπερ δέ τις μ' ἐβάσκανε, μή με τὴν καταρᾶσαι,
if-indeed but someone me bewitched not me her curse
τὴν μηδὲν ἀδικήσασαν· ἐγὼ γὰρ ὑγιαίνω.»
the in-nothing having-wronged I for am-well
Εἶτα κἀκεῖθεν 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
ψιλαῖς 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
καὶ ταύτην ἁρμοσάμενος ἔκρουε ψιθυρίζων·
and it having-tuned he-struck whispering
«ὅστις φιλήσειεν ἐγγὺς, τοῦ ὕπνου οὐχ ὑστερεῖται,
whoever should-love near the sleep not is-deprived
ὁ δὲ φιλῶν ἀπόμακρα μὴ ἀμελῇ τὰς νύκτας·
the(-one) but loving far-off not neglect the nights
ἐγὼ μακρόθεν ἀγαπῶ καὶ γοργὸν ἂς 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
Ὅταν 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

Ἐκείνη δὲ ὡς ἐκδέχετο ὁλονυκτὶ ἀγρυπνοῦσα,
She and as she-awaited all-night keeping-awake
τὴν αὐγὴν ἐρρᾳθύμησε καὶ εἰς ὕπνον ἐτράπη·
the dawn slackened and to sleep turned
ὡς δὲ ταύτην οὐκ ἔβλεπε τὸ εὐγενὲς παιδίον,
as and her not saw the noble child
ἠνιᾶτο κατὰ πολὺ, ἐταράττετο σφόδρα,
he-was-vexed by much was-troubled greatly
λογισμοὶ ἔκοπτον αὐτοῦ πονηροὶ τὴν καρδίαν,
thoughts cut his evil the heart
θλῖψιν εἶχεν ἀφόρητον καὶ ὀδύνην μεγίστην·
affliction he-had unbearable and pain greatest
ἔλεγε γὰρ ἐν ἑαυτῷ· «ἆρα μετεμελήθη;
he-said for in himself can-it-be she-has-repented
ἆρα 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
ἐξαπορεῖ γάρ μου ὁ νοῦς, οὐκ ἔχω τι διαπρᾶξαι·
is-at-a-loss for my the mind not I-have anything to-accomplish
εἰ γὰρ λαλήσω, κράζοντος ἕτεροί μου ἀκούσουν,
if for I-speak crying others me will-hear
δώσουν, ὑπονοήσουν με οἱ φυλάττοντες ὧδε,
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
ὡς 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
δέον εἶναι προέκρινε τοῦ κροῦσαι τὴν κιθάραν,
needful to-be he-judged of-the to-strike the lyre
ὅπως λάβῃ ἀπόπειραν περὶ ὧν ἠδημόνει·
so-that he-may-take trial about which-things he-was-distressed
«φείσασθαι, λέγων, ἐμαυτῷ 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
Καὶ ταύτην ἁρμοσάμενος τῷ πλήκτρῳ τε πατάσσων,
And it having-tuned with-the plectrum and striking
μέλος γὰρ πάνυ ἥδιστον 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
ὁ αὐγερινὸς ἀνέτειλεν, δεῦρο ἂς 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 της τὸ ζωνάριν,
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 ὠνείδισα, δι᾽ οὗ πολλὰ βραδύνας,
I lord you reproached because-of which much having-delayed
ὡς ὀκνηρὸν καὶ ῥάθυμον πάντα νά σε ὀνειδίζω,
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 be-may-wrong
καὶ νὰ ἀποθάνῃς δι᾽ ἐμὲ, 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 λογίζομαι 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 μετά 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 ἀδέλφια μου καὶ τὸ συγγενικόν μου,
and know it the brothers my and the kindred my

καὶ καταφθάσῃ σε ὁ πατὴρ ὁ ἐμὸς μετὰ πλήθους,
and overtakes you the father the my with multitude
πῶς ἔχεις ἐξιβάλειν με καὶ σῶσαι τὴν ψυχήν 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
«ἐπαινῶ 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
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, ψυχή μου,
but let-be to-you this known and certain soul my
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 ἀδελφοὺς 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
εἰ προθυμεῖς κατὰ πολὺ ἐμοὶ ἀκολουθῆσαι,
if you-are-eager by much me to-follow
ὡς ἂν ὁδοὺς ἐξέλθωμεν τοὺς στενωποὺς πρὶν φέξῃ·
so-that — roads we-may-go-out the narrows before it-dawns
ῥύμαι γὰρ καὶ στενώματα ἀποκτείνουν 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, ἑτέρου ᾑρετίσω,
if but perhaps you-have-repented of-another you-have-chosen
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 κἂν ἄλλος, ζῶντος ἐμοῦ, εἰσακουσθῇ ἀνήρ σου.»
not even-if other living me be-heard husband your
Αὖθις ἡ ἡλιόκαλος πρὸς τὸν ἄγουρον ἔφη·
Again the sun-fair to the youth said
«σὺ μὲν οὖν, ὦ παμπόθητε, ἀπείραστος ὡς πρῶτον
you indeed then O all-longed-for untried as first
πάσης ἀγάπης πέφυκας καὶ φιλίας, ὡς ἔφης·
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
ὅμως ἐρῶ σοι ἅπαντα τῷ πόθῳ δουλωθεῖσα·
yet I-will-tell to-you all by-the longing enslaved
«πολλοὶ ἐμὲ τῶν εὐγενῶν ἄρχοντες μεγιστᾶνες
many me of-the noble lords magnates
καὶ βασιλέων συγγενεῖς ἐζήτησαν καὶ τέκνα
and of-emperors kinsmen sought and children
βασιλικὴν παράταξιν ἔχοντες καὶ ἐσθῆτα,
imperial array having and dress
καὶ ποθοῦντες θεάσασθαι τὸν ἐμὸν χαρακτῆρα,
and longing to-behold the my features
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 τὶς ἰδεῖν ἠξιώθη,
not the shadow and the my anyone to-see was-deemed-worthy
φωνῆς οὐδείς 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
τῆς θυρίδος οὐδέποτε τὴν κεφαλήν μου ἦγον,
of-the window never the head my I-brought
ἀλλοτρίοις ἀθέατον ἐμαυτὴν 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
οὐδείς μου εἶδε πώποτε προσώπου χαρακτῆρα,
no-one my saw ever of-face features
τάξιν τηροῦσα ἀκριβῆ τὴν πρέπουσαν παρθένοις·
order keeping exact the befitting to-virgins
τούτων δὲ γέγονα ἐκτὸς καὶ τοὺς ὅρους παρῆλθον
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 ὀφθεῖσα
and the(-one) never by-man strange having-been-seen
λόγους νῦν μεταδίδωμι ὅλως μὴ αἰδουμένη,
words now I-impart at-all not being-ashamed
καὶ τὸ ὄντως ἐλεύθερον φρόνημα παρθενίας
and the truly free mind of-virginity
δοῦλον ὁρῶ γινόμενον καὶ ἀναιδὲς ἀθρόως.
slave I-see becoming and shameless all-at-once
Ἀφ' 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 ψυχήν 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, ποθητέ, καὶ πρὸς τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην·
to you and alone beloved and to the your love
πείθομαι 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
ἀλλοτριοῦμαι ἀδελφῶν καὶ τοῦ ἀπείρου πλούτου,
I-am-estranged from-brothers and from-the boundless wealth
καὶ μετὰ σοῦ πορεύομαι ὅπου δ᾽ ἂν καὶ κελεύῃς,
and with you I-travel where but — also you-bid
θεὸν ἔχουσα μάρτυρα τὸν πᾶσι βοηθοῦντα
God having witness the to-all helping
ἐκδικητὴν παγκάλλιστον, μή με παροδηγήσῃς·
avenger most-beautiful not me lead-astray
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 ἀπεύχομαι 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.

Ὡς δὲ ταῦτα ἐφθέγγετο ἡ πανώραιος κόρη,
As and these(-things) uttered the all-beautiful girl
ἐδάκρυσε τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς, ἐστέναξε μεγάλως,
she-wept with-the eyes she-groaned greatly
καὶ ἑαυτὴν ἐμέμφετο τῆς πολλῆς ἀναιδείας·
and herself blamed of-the much shamelessness

καὶ, 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
ἅπερ 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
ὡς καὶ οὕτως πεπόνθασιν οἱ παγκάλλιστοι νέοι.
as also thus have-suffered the most-beautiful youths
Εἶτα ὁ θαυμαστὸς 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

ἐγὼ γὰρ, φιλτάτη ψυχὴ, 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
πάντα χόρτον λογίζομαι 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 ὡρίτζαν 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
οὐ γὰρ ἠράσθην πώποτε οἱουδήποτε κάλλους,
not for I-loved ever of-any-whatever beauty
οὐ τὰς ὁδοὺς ἐγνώρισα κἂν 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
ἥνπερ ἔχεις ἀπέσωθεν ἐμφάνισον ἀγάπην·
which you-have within make-manifest love
ἀκριβὴς γὰρ ἀπόδειξις συνίσταται ἐξ ἔργων,
exact for proof consists from deeds
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 οἵου 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 φθεγξάμενος ὁ νέος·
These(-things) and other many having-uttered the youth
«ἐν σοί μου πᾶσα ἡ ἀρχὴ, 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 the death my
καὶ εἰ πώποτε βουληθῶ λυπῆσαι σε, ψυχή 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 the death my
νὰ μὴ ἀποθάνω χριστιανὸς, νὰ μὴ κατευοδοῦμαι,
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 too 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 ἐμαυτὴν 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
ἥνπερ κἀγὼ ἠθέτησα, οὐκ οἶδα τι παθοῦσα),
which I-too set-aside not I-know what having-suffered

πόθος γὰρ ὅμως ἀκραιφνὴς, ἀγάπη σου ἡ βεβαία
longing for yet pure love your the firm
προτιμοτέραν ἔπεισε σῇ καλλίστῃ ἀγάπῃ.»
more-to-be-preferred persuaded to-your finest love
Εἶθ' οὕτως ὅρκον μ' ἔρωτος ἡ κόρη φθεγξαμένη·
Then thus oath with love the girl having-uttered
«καταλιμπάνουσα γονεῖς, ἀδελφοὺς καὶ οἰκίαν,
leaving-behind parents brothers and household
ἀπὸ τὸν θεὸν, 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 γυναῖκαν ἔννομον ἄχρι τέλους ποιῆσαι·
but wife lawful until end to-make
καὶ γὰρ πολλοὶ τῶν ἐραστῶν ἠθετήκασι λόγους,
and for many of-the lovers have-set-aside words
ταῖς ποθουμέναις πρώην γὰρ ἐρωτικῶς δειχθέντες.»
to-the longed-for(-women) formerly for erotically having-been-shown
Καὶ ὡς 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 πανευγενεστάτη,
not I-will-grieve you ever O all-most-noble
ἀλλὰ κυρίαν τῶν ἐμῶν καὶ δέσποιναν ποιήσω,
but lady of-the my(-things) and mistress I-will-make
γαμετήν 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
καθώσπερ καὶ προέφην σοι, ὦ ποθεινὴ ψυχή μου.»
just-as also I-said-before to-you O longed-for soul my
Καὶ ἐμπεδώσαντες καλῶς ἀλλήλους ἐκ τῶν ὅρκων,
And having-confirmed well one-another from the oaths
ἡ παρθένος προκύψασα ἐκ τὴν χρυσῆν θυρίδα,
the virgin having-leaned-out from the golden window
ὁ παῖς την ὑπεδέξατο ὀρθωθεὶς ἐν τῷ ἵππῳ·
the boy her received having-stood-upright on the horse
ἡ πέρδικα ἐξεπέτασεν, ὁ ἱέραξ 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 δακρύοντες ἄμφω,
unspeakably rejoicing and weeping both
πεφύκασι γὰρ ἀκαρῆ 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 θυγατρός 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

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 ὅ τι δρᾶσαι·
other from other became not having what — to-do
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 ἤρθη.»
daughter the only-begotten from eyes my was-taken
Στρατήγισσα δ' ὡς ἤκουσεν ἠλάλαζε 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 ἑτέρωθεν θρηνοῦντες ἀνεβόων·
The brothers on-the-other-side lamenting cried-aloud
«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
Ἔκλαιον αἱ οἰκέτιδες, οἰμωγὰς ἀνεβόων,
Wept the maidservants wailings cried-aloud
ὀδυρμὸς ἀκατάσχετος διὰ παντὸς ἐχώρει·
lament unrestrainable through all went
στρατός τε πολὺς ἔνοπλος εἰς δίωξιν τοῦ νέου
army and great armed to pursuit of-the youth
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
πεζὴ ὡς εἶχεν εἵπετο, λυσίκομος, θρηνοῦσα·
on-foot as she-was followed with-loosened-hair lamenting
«φιλτάτη ψυχή, κράζουσα, ποῦ πορεύῃ οὐκ οἶδα.»
dearest soul crying where you-travel not I-know
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 ἁρπαγὴν τῆς κόρης,
all having-grieved-exceedingly-at the seizure of-the girl
ὡς μὴ ἰσχύειν ἀκριβῶς ἀριθμῆσαι τὸ πλῆθος.
so-as not to-be-able exactly to-count the multitude
Καὶ τοῦ φωτὸς αὐγάζοντος 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
οὕσπερ ἰδοῦσα μήκοθεν ἡ πανώραιος κόρη
whom having-seen from-far the all-beautiful girl
(καὶ γὰρ ἔβλεπεν ὄπισθεν σκοπεύουσα ὀξέως,
and for she-looked behind watching keenly
ἐν ταῖς ἀγκάλαις οὖσα 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

«ἀγωνίζου, ψυχίτζα μου, μή μας ἀποχωρίσουν,
struggle little-soul my lest us they-separate
καὶ ἴσχυε 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
Ὡς ταῦτα δὲ ὁ θαυμαστὸς ἤκουσε νεανίας,
As these(-things) and the marvelous heard young-man
θάρσους εὐθέως ἐμπλησθεὶς καὶ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἐκκλίνας,
with-courage at-once having-been-filled and from-the road having-turned-aside
δένδρον εὑρίσκει διφυὲς, κλάδους φέρον τε δύο,
tree he-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 he-arms at-once
καὶ τότε τὸ ἡλιογέννημα τὸν ἄγουρον ἐλάλει·
and then the sun-born the youth spoke-to
«τοὺς ἀδελφούς μου πρόσεχε μὴ τοὺς κακοδικήσῃς.»
the brothers my heed lest them you-do-wrong
Ξένον 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 βραχεῖ ἀπέκτεινε στρατιώτας ἀπείρους
and in brief killed soldiers countless
καθωπλισμένους, ἱππικοὺς, πολέμου γυμνασμένους,
armed horsemen in-war trained

οἷς συμβουλεύειν ἤρξατο στραφῆναι εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω,
to-whom to-advise he-began to-turn into the back
καὶ μὴ πεῖραν τῆς ἑαυτοῦ μεταλαβεῖν ἀνδρείας.
and not trial of-the his to-partake-of courage
Ἐκεῖνοι δὲ τὴν τοῦ ἑνὸς αἰσχυνόμενοι ἥτταν,
They but the of-the one being-ashamed-at defeat
τὸ θανεῖν ᾑρετίσαντο ἢ θανεῖν ὑπ᾽ ἐκείνου.
the to-die chose than to-die by that-one
Κἀκεῖνος ἐπελάλησε, σύρνει τὸ σπαθορράβδιν,
And-that-one urged-on draws the sword-mace
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
ὡς νικητὴς 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

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 ὡραΐζουσα πλέον,
The and girl the youth finding-beautiful more
ἡδέως ὑπεδέχετο φιλημάτων τοὺς ψόφους,
sweetly received of-kisses the sounds
ἠρέμα πρὸς τὸν ἄγουρον οὑτωσὶ φθεγξαμένη·
quietly to the youth thus having-uttered
«μὴ ἀδικήσῃς, ὦ ψυχή, τοὺς ἐμοὺς αὐταδέλφους·
not wrong O soul the my own-brothers
ἐκείνους γὰρ οὕσπερ ὁρᾷς πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἐρχομένους
those for whom you-see toward us coming
ἐκ τῶν ἵππων τεκμαίρομαι ἀδελφοὺς 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
εἰ μή τι ἕτερον συμβῇ ἐκ τῶν ἀπροσδοκήτων·
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
ἀνελεῖν τοῦτον ἔλεγον τοῖς ἰδίοις ἀγούροις,
to-kill him they-told to-the own youths
τὸν φόνον προσδοκώμενοι ὑφ' ἑτέρων γενέσθαι·
the slaughter expecting by others to-happen
ὁ δὲ παῖς τὸ παράγγελμα φυλάττων τῆς φιλτάτης
the but boy the injunction keeping of-the dearest
εὐτέχνως τούτους ὑπελθὼν σοφῶς ἀνεῖλε πάντας·
skillfully them having-stolen-upon wisely killed all
οἱ δ' ἀδελφοὶ ὁρμήσαντες μανικῶς ὑπ' ἐκεῖνον,
the and brothers having-rushed madly at that-one
οὕτως αὐτοὺς ἐκύκλευσεν ἐκ τῶν ἵππων εἰσρίψας
thus them he-encircled from the horses having-thrown
ὡς 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 δήσας τὰς χεῖρας του, χαμηλὰ προσκυνήσας,
tightly having-bound the hands his low having-bowed
ἤρξατο λέγειν πρὸς αὐτὸν θαρσαλέᾳ τῇ ὄψει·
began to-say to him with-bold the face
«συγχώρησόν μοι, αὐθέντα μου, μηδέν με καταμέμφου·
forgive me lord my in-nothing me blame
ὁ στρατός 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 ᾅδην ἀπῆλθον·
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
καὶ εἰ ποτὲ προστάξῃς με ποιῆσαι σοι δουλείαν,
and if ever you-command me to-do for-you service
τότε λοιπὸν βεβαιωθῇς οἷον γαμβρὸν ἐπῆρες·
then then may-you-be-assured what-sort son-in-law you-took
εἰ δὲ καὶ πεῖραν λάβῃς μου ἀκριβῆ 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
καὶ ὄμμα πρὸς ἀνατολὰς, τῷ θεῷ ηὐχαρίστει·
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 σοφίᾳ τῇ ἀρρήτῳ·
managing the(-things) concerning us by-wisdom the ineffable
ὡς γὰρ αὐτὸς ἠθέλησα γαμβροῦ κατηξιώθην
as for myself wished of-son-in-law I-was-deemed-worthy
ὡραίου τε καὶ εὐγενοῦς, σώφρονος καὶ ἀνδρείου,
handsome both and noble chaste and brave
οἵου 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 ἐφθέγξατο 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, ἣν ἔλαβες ἐκ πόθου·
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 ἂς 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
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
that you-receive also the dowry your from very the day
κεντηνάρια εἴκοσι 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 χρῄζον τε πεντακοσίας λίτρας,
wardrobe needing and five-hundred pounds
κτήματα πολλὰ ἀκίνητα τριανταὲξ εἰσόδων,
estates many immovable thirty-six of-revenues
βάγιας ἑβδομήκοντα σὺν τῷ μητρῴῳ 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
συντεθειμένον ἐκ χρυσοῦ, λίθων τιμιωτάτων·
composed of gold of-stones most-precious
καὶ μετὰ τούτων πάντων εὑρισκόμενα 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
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 ἀκουστοὺς εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
I-will-make also the wedding your famous in the world
τοῦ μὴ κράζειν σε πώποτε κλεψίγαμον 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 αἰσχύνη πέφυκε πᾶσι τοῖς εὖ φρονοῦσιν·
which shame is to-all those well thinking
καὶ ταῦτα πῶς οὐκ ἐκφυγεῖν ῥᾳδίως ἐξισχύσεις,
and these(-things) how not to-escape easily you-will-be-able
εἰ μὴ τανῦν σὺ μεθ' ἡμῶν ὑποστραφῇς 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 δοτῆρα·
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

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᾽ αἰσχύνης θάνατον οἰκτρότατον ὀφλήσω,
and with shame death most-pitiable I-incur
ὡς 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
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
ἀρκοῦν 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 ταπεινοῖ καὶ ἀνυψοῖ, κατάγει καὶ ἀνάγει·
and he-humbles and exalts brings-down and brings-up
ὑπὲρ δὲ τοῦ ὑποστραφῆν, οὐ μή σε παρακούσω·
for and the to-return not — you I-shall-disobey
ἀλλ᾽ ἂς ἀπέλθω πρότερον εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν μητέρα,
but let me-go-away first to the my mother

ἵν᾽ ἴδῃ ὁ ἐμὸς πατὴρ 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 λυπηθῇς, ὑπερεύχου 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 εὐλογήσῃ
— 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 ἐκεῖνος 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
«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 ἣν 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 ἐμποδίζων,
course no-one all-lovely is the obstructing
μόνον πατρὸς καὶ ἀδελφῶν τῶν σῶν περισῳθέντων·
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
ἀνάγγειλόν 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 καθαροῦ ἡδέως κορεσθέντες
with-kiss and pure sweetly having-been-sated
καὶ χαίροντες διώδευον μεθ' ἡδονῆς μεγάλης.
and rejoicing they-traveled with pleasure great
Καὶ ὡς 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 πατὴρ τὴν τούτου ἔλευσιν ὅλως,
As and heard the father the his arrival wholly

πλήρης γενόμενος χαρᾶς εὐθὺς καβαλλικεύει,
full having-become of-joy at-once rides
οἱ πέντε γυναικάδελφοι, τρισχίλιοι ἀγοῦροι,
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 ὁλόχρυσα 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
βλαττία ἦσαν σκεπαστοὶ οἱ ἵπποι πάντες μάλα
with-silks were covered the horses all very
ὑπ' αὐτῶν καλυπτόμενοι καὶ τοῦ πολλοῦ χρυσίου·
by them being-covered and by-the much gold
ὄπισθεν 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
ὡς ἄχρι τρία μίλλια τοῦ οἴκου προσελθόντες,
as to three miles of-the house having-come-forward
οὕσπερ 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 γλυκύ, ὁ νέος ἀπεκρίθη,
Not fear light my the sweet the youth answered
ὁ πενθερός σου ἔνι αὐτός, 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 μόνη 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-returned
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 ἀπῆρες·
that knew also the your father whose child you-took-away
ἀλλ' ὅμως ὡς τὸ ἐδίκησας, ἀπολογίας ἔχε.»
but yet as it you-judged excuses have
«Μὴ λυπεῖσαι, πανεύγενε, διὰ τὴν μοναξίαν,
Not be-grieved all-noble because-of the solitude
σὲ γὰρ πάντες γινώσκουσι κἂν καὶ μόνη τυγχάνεις,
you for all know even-if also alone you-are
καὶ τούτου μέμψις ἕνεκα 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
ἐπέζευσεν ὁ νεώτερος μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς του,
dismounted the younger with the beloved his
ἐπέζευσε καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς, ἠσπάσατο τοὺς δύο·
dismounted also the emir he-embraced the two

«ὁ θεὸς, ἔφη, τέκνον μου, ἵνα σας εὐλογήσῃ,
— God he-said child my that you may-bless
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
δῶρα αὐτῇ προσήνεγκαν ὑπέρτιμα τῷ ὄντι·
gifts to-her brought surpassing-in-value in-the being
καὶ, τὸν παῖδα κοσμήσαντες ὡς ἔπρεπε τῷ νέῳ,
and the boy having-adorned as befitted the youth
τὰ βούκινα ἐδώκασιν, ὑπέστρεφον εὐθέως,
the trumpets they-gave they-returned at-once
ἠλάλαζον αἱ σάλπιγγες, τὰ τύμπανα ἐφώνουν,
shouted the trumpets the drums sounded
ἐκρούοντο τὰ ὄργανα, ἐμελῴδουν τὰ πάντα·
were-struck the instruments sang the all
κιθάραι ἦχον ἔπεμπον καὶ πᾶν μουσικὸν εἶδος,
lyres sound sent-forth and every musical kind
ᾀδόμενα ὑπέστρεφον ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ συντόμως.
being-sung they-returned into the house swiftly
Χαρὰν τὴν ὑπερβάλλουσαν τὴν γιναμένην τότε
Joy the surpassing the having-come-about then
τίς ἑρμηνεῦσαι 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 αὐτὴ 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
οἰκέτιδές τε εὐπρεπεῖς λαμπρῶς ἠγλαϊσμέναι,
maidservants and comely splendidly adorned
αἱ μὲν ἄνθη κατέχουσαι ῥόδα τε καὶ μυρσίνας,
some indeed flowers holding roses both and myrtles
τὸν ἀέρα μυρίζουσαι ὀσμαὶ θυμιαμάτων·
the air perfuming scents of-incense

ἕτεραι χειροκύμβαλα ἔκρουον μελῳδοῦσαι
others hand-cymbals struck singing
μέλος λίαν ἡδύτατον, ἐπαινοῦσαι τὸν παῖδα
song very sweetest praising the boy
καὶ τὴν παρθένον μετ᾽ αὐτοῦ καὶ γονεῖς ἀμφοτέρων·
and the virgin with him and parents of-both
ἔδαφος ἐπανέστρωτο μυρσίνας τε καὶ δάφνας,
ground was-strewn with-myrtles both and laurels
ῥόδα, ναρκίσσους καὶ πολλὰ εὐωδέστατα ἄνθη.
roses narcissi and many most-fragrant flowers
Ἡ πενθερὰ τὴν ἑαυτῆς κατησπάζετο νύμφην,
The mother-in-law the her-own embraced bride
ἔργα αὐτῆς ἐξαίρετα φιλοτίμως παρέχει,
works her choice munificently provides
καὶ ἦν ἄπληστος ἡδονὴ 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 ἀμηρᾶς εὐθέως
Into and the house having-arrived the emir at-once
γυναικαδελφοὺς 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 εἴπωσι 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 φιλτάτων [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

οἵου 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 μᾶλλον ἤνυον ᾄδοντες τὰ τοῦ γάμου
the road rather they-accomplished singing the(-songs) of-the wedding
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-heard
πατὴρ πρὸς ὑπαντὴν καλὴν μετὰ λαοῦ ἐξῆλθε·
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
ἀλλήλους τε ὡς 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 ἠπήντησαν ἀναρίθμητον πλῆθος,
foot-travelers met countless multitude
καὶ μετ' ἐκείνους ἕτεροι σύστημα οἰκετίδων·
and after those others company of-maidservants
τοῦ οἴκου δὲ τὰ σύνορα καταλαβόντες ἤδη
of-the house and the bounds having-reached now
μετὰ κόσμου τοῦ πρέποντος πλήθους θυμιαμάτων
with adornment the fitting of-multitude of-incense
ῥοδόσταμμα 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 εὔτακτον καὶ ἁρμόδιον 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 μελῳδίας,
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 ἐνήδονον καὶ ξένην μελῳδίαν;
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 ἑξῆς 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

ἅπερ 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
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 παρδοκυνηγοὺς λίαν δοκιμωτάτους,
twelve leopard-hunters very most-approved
χιονίδας ἱέρακας δώδεκα Ἀβασγίας,
snow-white hawks twelve of-Abasgia
φαλκωνάρια δώδεκα καὶ φάλκωνας ὡσαύτως·
falconers twelve and falcons likewise
εἰκόνας δύο χυμευτὰς ἁγίων Θεοδώρων,
icons two enameled of-holy Theodores
καὶ τένδαν χρυσοκέντητον, ὡραίαν, παμμεγέθη,
and tent gold-embroidered beautiful huge
ζώων ἔχουσαν 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 σπαθὶν 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' ἀμηρᾶς 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 χρυσοφυῆ ὄπισθεν γρύψους ἔχον·
kabbadion and gold-woven behind griffins having

ὁ πρῶτος γυναικαδελφὸς δέδωκε δέκα νέους
the first brother-in-law gave ten youths
ἀσκευάστους καὶ εὐειδεῖς καὶ τῇ κόμῃ ὡραίους,
beardless and comely and in-the hair beautiful
ἠμφιεσμένους 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 σκουτάριν καὶ κοντάριν·
the-other brother-in-law shield and spear
ἄλλοι δὲ τούτου συγγενεῖς ἔδωκαν ἄλλα πλεῖστα,
others and his kinsmen gave other very-many
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
ἡ δὲ χαρὰ οὐκ ἔληγεν ἡ πάνδημος ἐκείνη.
the and joy not ceased the public that
Μετὰ δὲ τὸ συντελεσθῆν τὸν τριμηναῖον 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
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
Ἠγάλλετο ὁ στρατηγὸς τοῦ παιδὸς ὡς ἑώρα
Exulted the general of-the boy as he-saw
τὴν εὔτακτον κατάστασιν, τὴν νουνεχῆ ἀνδρείαν,
the well-ordered bearing the sensible courage

τῶν ἠθῶν 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
καὶ τὴν αὐτοῦ πανευπρεπῆ 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 αὑτῶν 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
ὁ θεὸς συνεισέρχεται, καὶ μηδεὶς ἀπιστείτω·
— 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
Ἐκεῖσε τοίνυν ἱκανὰς ποιήσαντες ἡμέρας,
There therefore many having-spent days
ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ὑπέστρεψεν ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ οἴκῳ,
the emir returned into the own house
καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ὁ Διγενὴς καὶ ἡ τούτου φιλτάτη
and with him — Digenis and the his dearest
μεγίστης προσελεύσεως γεναμένης καὶ αὖθις.
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
ὥστε σχεδὸν εἰς ἅπαντα βεβαιωθεὶς τὸν κόσμον·
so-that almost in all having-been-confirmed the world
καὶ μόνος ᾑρετίσατο διάγειν εἰς τὰς ἄκρας,
and alone he-chose to-live at the frontiers
τὴν κόρην φέρων σὺν αὑτῷ 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
Ἔνθα γὰρ ἐπορεύετο τένδαν εἶχεν ἰδίαν,
Where for he-traveled tent he-had own
εἰς ἣν ἡ κόρη καὶ αὐτὸς συνεδίαγον μόνοι·
in which the girl and he lived-together alone
καὶ τένδαν ἄλλην εἴχασιν αἱ βάγιαι αἱ δύο,
and tent other had the nurses the two
ἑτέραν δὲ οἱ θαυμαστοὶ ἀγοῦροι τοῦ Ἀκρίτου,
another and the marvelous youths — of-Akritas
ἐκ διαστήματος πολλοῦ ἀπέχοντες ἀλλήλοις.
from distance much being-apart from-one-another
Πολλοὶ δὲ τῶν ἀπελατῶν τοῦτο ἀναμαθόντες,
Many and of-the raiders this having-learned
συμβούλιον ἐποίησαν τὴν κόρην ἁφαρπάσαι·
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 Αἰθιόπων.
and other parts many of-the terrible Ethiopians

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 εὐτυχὴς καὶ μέγας τροπαιοῦχος,
Basil the fortunate and great trophy-bearer
ὁ καὶ συνθάψας μεθ' ἑαυτοῦ τὴν βασίλειον δόξαν
the also having-buried-with with himself the imperial glory
(ἔτυχε γὰρ κατὰ Περσῶν ποιῶν τὴν ἐκστρατείαν
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 πολὺ θεάσασθαι τὸν νέον,
Having-longed then by much to-behold the youth

γραφὴν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔστειλε περιέχουσαν τάδε·
letter to him he-sent containing these(-things)
«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 συνεργοῦντι σοι θεῷ ἀναπέμποντες χάριν·
to-the working-with you God sending-up thanks
«ἐν ἐφέσει δὲ γεγόναμεν αὐτοψεὶ 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
«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
«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 ἐπειδήπερ 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 νομίσῃς ἀπειθῶ πρὸς σὲ 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 ἄμοιρον 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 ἐπαγγειλάμενος 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 — Akritas

Οἱ δέ γε τούτου ἕνεκα φυλάττειν συνταχθέντες,
They but at-least of-this for-the-sake to-watch appointed
παρὰ μικρὸν ἀπήγγειλαν τὴν ἄφιξιν συντόμως
by little announced the arrival swiftly
βασιλέως πρὸς Διγενῆ 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
καὶ δι' ἀσέβειαν ἐθνῶν ἅπασι 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
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 ἡ σύνθεσις ἀνδρείαν εἰκονίζει·
of-the for beauty the composition courage pictures
εἴθε τοιούτους τέσσαρας εἶχεν ἡ 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 ἱκανὴ μόνον ἡ 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 ῥύεσθαι 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-heed slanders unjust(-thing) not to-take
αἱρετικοὺς ἀποσοβεῖν, ὀρθοδόξους κρατύνειν.
heretics to-drive-away orthodox to-strengthen
Ταῦτα γὰρ, δέσποτα, εἰσὶν ὅπλα δικαιοσύνης,
These(-things) for master are weapons of-justice

μεθ' ὧν δυνήσῃ τῶν ἐχθρῶν πάντων περιγενέσθαι·
with which you-will-be-able of-the enemies all to-prevail-over
οὐ γὰρ ἔστι δυνάμεως κρατεῖν καὶ βασιλεύειν,
not for is of-power to-rule and to-reign
θεοῦ μόνον τὸ δώρημα 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
καὶ ποιήσω σε, δέσποτα, ἀμέριμνον ἐκ τούτου,
and I-will-make you master free-of-care from this
ἄχρις ἂν ἡ 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 φησίν· «ὦ θαυμάσιε, κάλλιστε νεανία,
and says O marvelous most-beautiful young-man
ἡ βασιλεία ἡ ἐμὴ πατρίκιόν σε ἔχει,
the majesty the my patrician you holds
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 ἐσθῆτας 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
ἕνα τῶν ἵππων τῶν αὐτοῦ ἀγροικῶν, ἀδαμάστων,
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 ζωνάριν,
And the skirts firmly having-fixed into the girdle
ἤρξατο τρέχειν ὄπισθεν τοῦ καταλαβεῖν τοῦτον·
he-began to-run behind of-the to-overtake him
καὶ εἰς ὀλίγον διάστημα τῆς χαίτης τε κρατήσας
and in little distance the mane and having-held
ὄπισθέν τον ἐγύρισε τὸν ἀγροικὸν καὶ μέγαν,
behind him he-turned the wild and great
λακτίζων, στροινιάζων τε, φυγεῖν ὅλως εἰκάζων·
kicking plunging and to-flee wholly intending
καὶ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ βασιλέως ἐλθόντος τοῦ γεννάδα
and before 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 θέᾳ.
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
Ὁ 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 πτῶκα,
It holding in the hand just-as one the hare
πρὸς βασιλέα ἤνεγκε· «δέξαι, λέγων, κυνῆγιν
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
«δόξα σοι, ἔφη, δέσποτα, ποιητὰ τῶν ἁπάντων,
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 δορὰν 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
Ἔκτοτε κῦρος ἔλαβε παρ᾽ ἁπάντων 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 πολέμιος διὰ παντὸς ὑπάρχει.
to-the ears hostile through all is

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
ὁπηνίκα 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 ἐσαεὶ διαμένει,
unconquered by-the passions forever remains
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
Ὃς γὰρ τρυφᾷ, ἀδύνατον τυχεῖν τῆς αἰωνίου·
Who for lives-luxuriously impossible to-attain of-the eternal
ὡς γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐμπρησμὸν μετὰ ἐλαίου σβέσαι,
as for not is conflagration with oil to-quench
οὐδὲ τρυφῶν τις δυνατὸν φυγεῖν τὴν ἁμαρτίαν,
nor living-luxuriously anyone possible to-flee the sin
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 μετάμελος γεγονὼς ὑπὲρ τούτου
later and repentant having-become over this
τοῖς ἐντυγχάνουσιν αὐτῷ ἀνήγγειλε τὸ σφάλμα,
to-those meeting him announced the error
οὐ καυχήσεως ἕνεκεν, ἀλλὰ μεταμελείας.
not of-boasting for-the-sake but of-repentance

Καὶ γὰρ μιᾷ τῶν ἡμερῶν ἐντυχὼν Καππαδόκι,
And for on-one of-the days having-met (a)-Cappadocian
τὴν ἑαυτοῦ βουλόμενος ἁμαρτίαν φαυλῆσαι,
the his wishing sin to-disparage
πρὸς αὐτὸν διηγήσατο τάδε μετρίως λέγων·
to him related these(-things) moderately saying
«ὁπηνίκα ἐθελοντὶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἐχωρίσθην
when willingly from-the father I-was-separated
καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἄκραις κατοικεῖν μόνος ᾑρετισάμην,
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,
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
δένδρον ὁρῶ ἀπόμηκα πρὸς τὴν δασέαν βάλτον,
tree I-see far-off toward the thick marsh
καὶ τὴν φάραν ἐπιλαλῶ, νομίσας ὕδωρ ἔχειν·
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 ῥίζης θαυμαστὴ ἀνεπέμπετο βρύσις.
and from the root marvelous was-sent-up spring
Ταύτῃ δ' ὡς ἐπλησίαζον ὀλολυγμοὺς ἀκούω,
To-it and as I-drew-near wailings I-hear
καὶ κλαυσώδεις ὀλοφυρμοὺς μετὰ πλείστων δακρύων·
and tearful lamentations with very-many tears
ἡ δὲ θρηνοῦσα κόρη ἦν πάνυ ὡραιοτάτη·
the and lamenting girl was very most-beautiful
κἀγὼ νομίσας φάντασμα τὸ δρώμενον εἶναι,
I-too having-thought phantom the being-done to-be
ἔκδειλος ὅλος γέγονα, τριχῶν μου ὀξυνθέντων,
terrified wholly I-became hairs my having-bristled
καὶ τὸ φρουροῦν με δὴ ἀεὶ διεχάραττον ὅπλον·
and the guarding me indeed always I-traced weapon
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 πρέποντι κόσμῳ,
and herself having-wrapped in the fitting adornment
τάς τε βροχὰς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἄρασα τῇ ὀθόνῃ,
the and showers of-the eyes having-wiped with-the linen
πρός με λέγειν ἀπήρξατο περιχαρῶς τοιάδε·
to me to-say began overjoyed such(-things)
«πόθεν, καλὲ νεώτερε, καὶ ποῦ μόνος ὁδεύεις;
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 ὡδηγήθης
but since as it-seems by God you-were-guided
τῆς ἐρημίας ὅπως με τὴν ἀθλίαν ἑλκύσῃς,
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 ἀκούσῃς,
that so-that more-exactly the(-things) concerning me you-may-hear
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 κἀγὼ ὡς ἤκουσα, εἰς χαρὰν μετεβλήθην,
These(-things) I-too as I-heard into joy was-changed
ἀληθὲς τὸ φαινόμενον ἀκριβῶς ἐννοήσας·
true the appearing exactly having-understood
μετὰ πολλῆς τῆς ἡδονῆς ἐπέζευον εὐθέως,
with much the pleasure I-dismounted at-once

ἥψατο 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
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 ᾤκησας ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ ταύτῃ,
and for-what sake did-you-dwell in the desert this
εἶθ' οὕτως γνώσῃ καὶ αὐτὴ ποῖος κἀγὼ ὑπάρχω.»
then thus you-will-know also you who I-too am
Εἶτα καθίσαντες ὁμοῦ ἐν θώκῳ χαμαιζήλῳ,
Then having-sat together on seat low-lying
τάδε λέγειν ἀπήρξατο, στενάξασα ἐκ βάθους·
these(-things) to-say she-began having-groaned from depth
«ἐμὴ πατρὶς, νεώτερε, τὸ Μεφερκὲ τυγχάνει·
my fatherland younger(-man) — Mepherke is
τὸν Ἁπλορράβδην ἤκουσας, τὸν ἀμηρᾶν τῶν πάντων,
— Haplorrabdes you-have-heard the emir of-the all
οὗτος πατὴρ ἐμὸς ἐστὶ, μήτηρ ἡ Μελανθία.
this-one father my is mother — Melanthia
Ῥωμαιογενῆν ἠγάπησα ἐπὶ κακῷ ἰδίῳ,
Roman-born I-loved for evil own
ὅντινα 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 ἠλευθέρωσα, φυλακῆς ἐρρυσάμην,
from-the bonds I-freed from-prison I-rescued
φαρία τον ἐχάρισα, πρωτεῖα τοῦ πατρός μου,
chargers (to)-him I-granted choice-ones of-the father my
ἄρχοντα τοῦτον ἔδειξα περιφανῆ Συρίας,
lord him I-made conspicuous of-Syria
μετὰ βουλῆς καὶ τῆς μητρὸς, τοῦ πατρός μου ἀπόντος,
with counsel also of-the mother of-the father my being-absent
ἐν τοῖς πολέμοις γὰρ ἀεὶ 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, ὡς ἔδειξε τὸ τέλος·
he-was but feigned as showed the end
Καὶ γὰρ μιᾷ τῶν ἡμερῶν, δρασμὸν ὑπονοήσας,
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 ἐξεῖπε 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

ὅρκοις ἐπαγγειλάμενος λίαν φρικωδεστάτοις
with-oaths having-promised very most-dreadful
μὴ ἀρνηθῆναι με ποτὲ, ἀλλὰ σύμβιον ἔχειν.
not to-deny me ever but consort to-have
Οἷσπερ κἀγὼ πιστεύσασα, συμφυγεῖν κατεθέμην·
In-which I-too having-believed to-flee-with agreed
ἄδειαν εἶτα 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
Καὶ δὴ, κατά τινα πικρὰν καὶ δαιμονίαν τύχην,
And indeed by some bitter and demonic fortune
νόσος ἐπῆλθε τῇ μητρὶ θανάτῳ γειτνιῶσα·
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 δὲ, ἡ παντάλαινα, ἀδείας ἐντυχοῦσα,
I but the all-wretched of-opportunity having-met
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 προητοιμασμένοις
On horses and both the prepared-beforehand
ἐποχηθέντες, τῆς ὁδοῦ ἠρχόμεθα σπουδαίως,
having-mounted of-the road we-went zealously

καὶ φόβον μέγαν εἴχομεν ἄχρι τοῦ τριμιλλίου·
and fear great we-had as-far-as the three-mile(-post)
ὡς δὲ παρήλθομεν αὐτὸ ὑπ᾽ οὐδενὸς γνωσθέντες
as and we-passed it by no-one having-been-recognized
τὰ λοιπὰ διηνύομεν ἀδεῶς μετὰ μόχθου,
the rest we-accomplished fearlessly with toil
τροφῆς μεταλαμβάνοντες ὅτε καιρὸς ἐκάλει,
food partaking when season called
ὕπνου τε κορεννύμενοι καὶ τροφῆς μετασχόντες·
of-sleep both being-sated and of-food having-partaken
ἐρώτων δὲ μυστήρια ἐρυθριῶ τοῦ λέγειν
of-loves and mysteries I-blush of-the to-tell
ἀγάπην τε τὴν πρὸς ἐμὲ παρ᾽ αὐτοῦ δεικνυμένην·
love and the toward me by him being-shown
ψυχὴν γάρ με ὠνόμαζε, φῶς ὀφθαλμῶν ἐκάλει,
soul for me he-named light of-eyes he-called
καὶ μετ᾽ ὀλίγον γαμετὴν ἔλεγε καὶ φιλτάτην,
and after little wife he-said and dearest
ἀκορέστως καταφιλῶν, κρατῶν με ταῖς ἀγκάλαις.
insatiably kissing holding me in-the arms
Οὕτως ἐν πάσῃ τῇ ὁδῷ συγχαίροντες ἀλλήλοις,
Thus on all the road rejoicing-with one-another
ἐν ταύτῃ κατελάβομεν τῇ ὁρωμένῃ βρύσει·
at this we-arrived the seen spring
καὶ τρεῖς ἀναπαυσάμενοι ἡμέρας τε καὶ νύκτας,
and three having-rested days both and nights
ἐρωτικὰς μεταβολὰς τελοῦντες ἀκορέστως,
erotic changes performing insatiably

γνώμην αὐτοῦ τὴν ἔνδοθεν δολίως κεκρυμμένην
mind his the within deceitfully hidden
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
ἐμαυτὴν ὡς πρὸς τὴν ὁδὸν ηὐτρέπιζον 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
εἵλκε χερσὶ τὸν ἕτερον καὶ ᾤχετο τοῦ δρόμου.
drew with-hands the other and went along-the road

Τοῦτο γοῦν τὸ παράλογον ἀνέλπιστον ὡς εἶδον,
This at-any-rate the unaccountable unhoped-for as I-saw
πεζὴ ὡς 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 ἐνεδειξάμην;
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·
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 ἐάσῃς με ὑπὸ θηρῶν βρωθῆναι.»
not here leave me by beasts to-be-eaten
Καὶ ἄλλα πλείονα αὐτῷ ἔλεγον θρηνῳδοῦσα·
And other more to-him I-said lamenting
ὁ δὲ γέγονεν ἀφανὴς μὴ φθεγξάμενος ὅλως·
he but became unseen not having-uttered at-all
ἐμοῦ δὲ ἤδη τῶν ποδῶν ἀπάρτι ἀποκαμόντων
of-me and already the feet now having-grown-weary
τοῖς τῶν πετρῶν προσκρούσμασι πάντοθεν αἱμαχθέντων,
by-the of-the rocks strikings on-all-sides bloodied
ἐκεῖσε που κατέπεσον νεκρὰ ἐφηπλωμένη·
there somewhere I-fell-down dead stretched-out
καὶ μεθ᾽ ἡμέρας ἑαυτὴν μόλις ἀναλαβοῦσα,
and after days myself barely having-recovered
ἐν τῇ πηγῇ ὑπέστρεψα ἀνάγκῃ βαδιοῦσα,
to the spring I-returned by-necessity walking

καὶ εἰμὶ πάντων ἔρημος, μὴ ἔχουσα ἐλπίδας·
and I-am of-all bereft not having hopes
οὐ γὰρ τολμῶ εἰς τοὺς γονεῖς τοὺς ἐμοὺς 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 εὑρεῖν τὸν πλανήσαντα παντελῶς οὐ γινώσκω,
Where to-find the having-led-astray 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
καὶ κατασφάξω ἐμαυτὴν ὡς πράξασαν ἀφρόνως·
and I-will-slaughter myself as having-acted foolishly
οὐ γὰρ συμφέρει 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
ἠλλοτριώθην 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
Ὡς δὲ ταῦτα ἐφθέγγετο ἡ κόρη θρηνῳδοῦσα,
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 δυνατὸν, 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
And I-asked to-learn how-many are days
ἀφ᾽ ἧς ὁ πλάνος μόνην σε κατέλιπεν ἐνταῦθα.
from which the deceiver alone you left here
Ἡ δὲ αὖθις στενάξασα· «δέκα ἡμέρας, ἔφη,
She and again having-groaned ten days said
μέχρι τοῦ νῦν ἐπλήρωσα ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ ἐρήμῳ,
until the now I-have-fulfilled in this the desert
μὴ ἰδοῦσα ἐκτός σου ἕτερον ἀνθρώπου χαρακτῆρα
not having-seen outside-of you other of-man form
καί τινος ἄλλου γηραιοῦ, κατὰ τὴν χθὲς ἡμέραν·
and of-a-certain other old-man on the yesterday day
ὃς ἔλεγε καὶ τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ παρὰ Ἀράβων
who said also the son his by Arabs
ἀφαιρεθῆναι πρὸ μικροῦ καὶ αἰχμάλωτον εἶναι,
to-have-been-taken before little and captive to-be
καὶ σπεύδειν εἰς ἀνάρρυσιν αὐτοῦ εἰς Ἀραβίαν.
and to-hasten to rescue of-him into Arabia
Οὗτος μοι διηγήσατο, τὰ κατ᾽ ἐμὲ ἀκούσας,
This-one to-me related the(-things) concerning me having-heard
ὅτι, πρὸ πέντε ἡμερῶν, εἰς τὸ Βλαττολιβάδιν,
that before five days at — Blattolibadin
παιδὶν ξανθὸν, ἀρτιγενὲς, μακρὸν τῇ ἡλικίᾳ,
boy fair newly-grown tall in-the stature
εἰς φάραν ἐποχούμενον καὶ συρτὸν ἄλλον φέρον,
on charger riding and led-horse other bringing
ὁ Μουσοὺρ ἐστασίασε καὶ σπαθέαν τον ἐδῶκε·
— Mousour attacked and sword-blow him gave
καὶ, εἰ μὴ ὁ νεώτερος ὁ Ἀκρίτης εὑρέθη,
and if not the younger — Akritas was-found

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 ἐκεῖνον βεβαιοῦσι.
these for the signs that-one confirm
Οἴμοι, οἴμοι, παντάλαινα καὶ παναθλία τύχη,
Alas alas all-wretched and all-miserable fortune
ἡ ἀδοκήτως ἀγαθοῦ τοιούτου στερηθεῖσα,
the unexpectedly of-good such deprived
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 ἕλης
and Arabs came-out suddenly from the marsh
ὑπέρτεροι τῶν ἑκατὸν, πάντες δὲ κονταρᾶτοι·
more than-the hundred all and spearmen
οὕτως δέ μοι ὑπέπεσαν ὡς γῦπες εἰς τὸ βρῶμα·
thus and me they-fell-upon like vultures upon the food
καὶ ὁ φάρας πολλὰ φθαρεὶς 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 κοντάριν,
with haste mounted holding the spear
καὶ πρὸς αὐτοὺς ἐπιδραμὼν πολλοὺς τούτων ἀνεῖλον·
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 ἕλην,
They and this having-heard fled into the marsh
τὰ κοντάρια ῥίψαντες ἔνιοι καὶ ἀσπίδας,
the spears having-thrown some and shields
μήτε μίαν προσμείναντες κἂν στιγμὴν τὸ παράπαν.
nor one having-waited even moment the at-all
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
ἐκείνη δὲ εἰς εὐχερὲς δένδρον ἐπανελθοῦσα,
she and into convenient tree having-gone-up
ἑώρα 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 ὑπήντα,
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

εἰ ὁ Ἀκρίτης ἀληθῶς σὺ ὑπάρχεις ἐκεῖνος
if — Akritas truly you are that-one
ὁ τὸν ἐμὸν ῥυσάμενος φίλτατον 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
ἀπάγγειλόν μοι, δέομαι, μὴ ἀποκρύψῃς ὅλως
announce to-me I-beg not hide at-all
καὶ τὴν σπαθέαν τοῦ Μουσοὺρ εἰ μετεῖχε 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
τῆς κόρης βλέπων τὴν πολλὴν ἀγάπην πρὸς τὸν παῖδα
of-the girl seeing the much love for the boy
τὸν ταύτῃ προξενήσαντα συμφορὰς ἀνεικάστους,
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
καὶ τότε πρῶτον ἔπαθον ἀγάπην γυναικείαν
and then first I-experienced love feminine
θερμοτέραν κατὰ πολὺ ὑπάρχειν τῶν ἀρρένων·
hotter by much to-be than-the males'
φθείρει δὲ μᾶλλον ἄθεσμος καὶ παράνομος μῖξις.
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 Μουσοὺρ δικαίως θανατώσας
I am the — Mousour justly having-put-to-death
τὸν ὁδοστάτην καὶ ληστὴν, τὸν τὰς ὁδοὺς κρατοῦντα,
the highwayman and robber the the roads holding
ὡς μηδένα κατατολμᾶν διελθεῖν τοῖς ἐκεῖσε·
so-that no-one to-dare to-go-through in-the(-places) there
ἐγὼ εἰμὶ ὁ ἐξ αὐτοῦ ἑλκύσας 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·
dearest the unreliable naming boy
ἀλλὰ δεῦρο καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐγώ σε ἀπαγάγω,
but come also to him I you will-lead-away
παρασκευάσω τε αὐτὸν τοῦ γαμετήν σε ἔχειν,
I-will-prepare and him of-the wife you to-have
εἰ καὶ τὸ σέβας ἀρνηθῇς τῶν αἰσχρῶν Αἰθιόπων.»
if also the worship you-deny of-the shameful Ethiopians
Ἡ δὲ τοῦτο ἀκούσασα, χαρᾶς ἐμφορηθεῖσα·
She and this having-heard with-joy filled
«κύριέ μου, ἀντέφησε, μέγιστε ἀντιλῆπτορ,
lord my she-replied greatest helper
καὶ τοῦ θείου 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
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 φλὸξ 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
καὶ ἤθελον, εἰ δυνατὸν, φυγεῖν τὴν ἁμαρτίαν·
and I-wished if possible to-flee the sin
ἀλλὰ πάντως ἀδύνατον πῦρ παραμεῖναι χόρτῳ.
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 ἡπτόμεθα ὡς πρὸς τὴν Χαλκουργίαν
and the road we-took as toward — Chalkourgia
(τόπος γὰρ οὗτος πέφυκε πλησίον τῆς Συρίας),
place for this is near — Syria
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 χρείαν τάχα ποιῆσαι
having-dismounted the rest need perhaps to-do
ἐν τῷ κάλλει τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς, ἐν τῇ ἁφῇ 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
ἠρξάμην ἅπαντα ποιεῖν πράξεως παρανόμου·
I-began all to-do of-deed unlawful
καὶ γεγόνασιν ἅπαντα ὅσα ἤθελον ἔργα,
and became all as-many-as I-wished deeds
καὶ ἐμιάνθη 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.
by God adjuring and by souls of-parents
Ἀλλὰ ὁ ἀντικείμενος, τοῦ σκότους 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 φοβερᾶς ἡμέρας,
and of-the requital of-the fearful day
ἐν ᾗ πάντα τὰ κρύφια πταίσματα φανεροῦνται
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 εὕρομεν 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
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 Μουσοὺρ ἐρρυσάμην,
As for him from hands — of-Mousour I-rescued
ἔμπροσθέν μου οὐκ εἴασα τοῦ πορευθῆναι τοῦτον,
before me not I-allowed of-the to-travel this-one
γνωστὸν δὲ πᾶσιν ἔφηνα 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
ὡς 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 Χριστόν, πλεῖον ζωὴν οὐχ ἕξεις.»
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 πλεῖστα τε νουθετήσας,
him there having-left very-much and having-admonished
καὶ δεύτερον ἐντειλάμενος μὴ ταύτην ἀθετῆσαι,
and second having-charged not her to-set-aside
ἀλλ' ἔχειν, ὡς 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 παραδοὺς ἀμφοτέροις,
Then the wealth all having-handed-over to-both
ὃν ἡ κόρη ἀφείλετο ἐξ οἰκείων γονέων,
which 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 πρᾶξαι.
of-the never wrong any-more to-the girl to-do

Καὶ μετ' ὀλίγον καὶ αὐτὸς ἦλθον εἰς τὴν καλήν 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 ἁμαρτίας
the conscience accuser bearing of-the sin
καὶ ταλανίζων ἐμαυτὸν ἐν τῇ ἀθέσμῳ πράξει·
and calling-wretched myself in the lawless deed
ὁπηνίκα τὸν ἥλιον, τὴν ἐμὴν ψυχὴν εἶδον,
whenever the sun the my soul I-saw
ὡς αἰσχυνόμενος αὐτὴν μεγάλως ἀδικήσας,
as being-ashamed-before her greatly having-wronged

μετ᾽ ὀλίγον γὰρ ἔδοξα μετοίκησιν ποιῆσαι
after little for I-resolved change-of-dwelling to-make
(διὰ τὸ γνῶναι καὶ αὐτὴ τὴν παράνομον μῖξιν),
because-of the to-know also she the unlawful union
ἣν 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
διεξιὼν τὰ θαύματα τοῦ Διγενοῦς Ἀκρίτου,
going-through the wonders — of-Digenis Akritas
ὡς αὐτὸς διηγήσατο 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
μάϊος ἐβασίλευσεν εἰς ἅπαντας τοὺς μῆνας,
May reigned over all the months
κόσμος οὗτος τερπνότατος γῆς ἁπάσης 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 ἀπαστράπτον,
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 πρός 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 τεθεικὼς πάντων φυτῶν τὰ εἴδη.
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 χειροήθεις τε ψιττακοὶ καὶ οἱ κύκνοι,
peacocks tame both parrots and the swans

οἱ ψιττακοὶ κρεμώμενοι ἐπὶ τοῖς κλώνοις ᾖδον,
the parrots hanging on the branches sang
οἱ κύκνοι ἐν τοῖς ὕδασι τὴν νομὴν ἐποιοῦντο·
the swans in the waters the feeding made
οἱ ταῶνες τὰς πτέρυγας κυκλοῦντες εἰς τὰ ἄνθη,
the peacocks the wings circling among the flowers
ἀντέλαμπον τῇ τῶν ἀνθῶν ἐν ταῖς πτέρυξι χρόᾳ·
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 ἐποχούμεναι εἰς τῶν δένδρων τοὺς κλώνους.
played riding on of-the trees the branches
Καὶ τὸ κάλλος τῆς εὐγενοῦς κόρης ὑπεραστράπτον
And the beauty of-the noble girl outflashing
κρεῖττον ταῶνος ἔλαμπε καὶ τῶν φυτῶν ἁπάντων·
better than-peacock shone and than-the plants all
ναρκίσσου γὰρ τὸ πρόσωπον τὴν χροίαν ἐμιμεῖτο,
of-narcissus for the face the color imitated
αἱ παρειαὶ ὡς εὔθαλλον ἐξανέτελλον ῥόδον·
the cheeks like flourishing sprang-up rose
ἄνθος ῥόδον ἀρτιφυὲς ὑπέφηνε τὰ χείλη,
flower rose newly-grown showed the lips
ὁπηνίκα ταῖς κάλυξιν ἄρχεται ἀνατέλλειν·
whenever in-the buds it-begins to-rise
βόστρυχοι ἐποχούμενοι 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 ὀσμὴ 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
ῥοδόσταμμα τῆς εὐγενοῦς ῥαντιζούσης με κόρης,
rose-water the noble sprinkling me girl
ἀδονίδων καὶ τῶν λοιπῶν ὀρνίθων μελῳδούντων.
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, ὡς ἐκεῖσε ἔβρεχε τοὺς πόδας τερπομένη,
and as there she-wetted the feet delighting
δράκων, μορφώσας ἑαυτὸν εἰς εὐειδὲς παιδίον,
dragon having-formed himself into comely boy
πρὸς αὐτὴν παρεγένετο, βουλόμενος πλανῆσαι·
to her came wishing to-lead-astray
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
ὁ φιλῶν με ἠγρύπνησε 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

πώποτε οὐ τεθέαμαι ὧδε τοιαύτην ὄψιν)·
ever not I-have-beheld here such face
εἰ ἐγερθῇ καὶ εὕρῃ σε, νά σε κακοδικήσῃ.»
if he-wakes and finds you that you he-may-do-wrong
Ὁ δὲ πηδήσας ἀναιδῶς βιάζειν ἐπεχείρει·
He and having-leapt shamelessly to-force attempted
καὶ φωνὴν ἔπεμπεν εὐθὺς καλοῦσα με ἡ 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 ἠχησάσης,
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
ἄντικρυς γάρ μου ἡ πηγὴ ἦν ἐξεπιτηδείως,
opposite for me the spring was suitably
καὶ ἐξελκύσας τὸ σπαθὶν εἰς τὴν πηγὴν εὑρέθην,
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
τρεῖς εὐμεγέθεις κεφαλὰς πυρφλογιζούσας ὅλως·
three huge heads fire-flaming wholly
ἐξ ἑκατέρων ἔπεμπεν ἐξαστράπτουσαν 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
ὄπισθεν λεπτυνόμενος καὶ οὐρὰν ἀποξύνων,
behind thinning and tail sharpening
ποτὲ μὲν συστελλόμενος, ἐξαπλούμενος δ' αὖθις,
at-times indeed contracting unfolding but again
καὶ ἐπάνω μου ἅπασαν τὴν ὁρμὴν 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 ἁπάσας αἱρῶ ὁμοῦ· ὃς καὶ πρὸς γῆν ἡπλώθη,
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 ἀπομάξας 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 προσέταττον 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

ἐπὶ τὴν κλίνην δὲ κἀγὼ ὑπνωσόμενος αὖθις,
to the bed and I-too about-to-sleep again
ἡδὺς γὰρ ὢν ἐκάθευδον εἵλκε με πάλιν ὕπνος·
sweet for which I-was-sleeping drew me again sleep
οὔπω 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 πρός τι δένδρον,
for the not to-wake me went-out to some tree
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 ὁρμὴν 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-heard most-swiftly I-rose-up from-the bed
καὶ ὡς εἶδον τὸν λέοντα 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

ὡς δὲ καὶ οὗτος μήκοθεν ἐρρίφη τε ὁ δράκων,
as and also this-one far-off was-thrown and the dragon
ἡ κόρη [μου] εἰς ἐμαυτὴν καθώρκισεν εἰποῦσα·
the girl my by myself adjured having-said
«ἄκουσόν μου, αὐθέντα μου, νά με ἐπιχαρείης,
hear 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

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 ὡς οὐκ ἦν μοι δυνατὸν παρακοῦσαι τῆς κόρης,
And as not it-was for-me possible to-disobey the girl
ταύτην ἀνέκρουον εὐθὺς, ἡ δὲ ἐνετραγῴδει·
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 φοβουμένη,
and I-rejoice reigning no-one fearing
κρίνον ὑπάρχει εὐθαλὲς, μῆλον μεμυρισμένον,
lily he-is flourishing apple perfumed
καὶ ὡς ῥόδον πανεύοσμον θέλγει μου τὴν καρδίαν.»
and like rose all-fragrant charms my the heart

Ὡς δὲ τὸ ῥόδον ἔλεγεν ἡ κόρη μελῳδοῦσα,
As and the rose said the girl singing
ἐνόμιζον ὅτι κρατεῖ ῥόδον ἐπὶ τὰ χείλη,
I-thought that she-holds rose on the lips
ἐοίκασι γὰρ ἀληθῶς ἄρτι ἀνθοῦντι ῥόδῳ.
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, ὀρέων ἀντηχούντων,
sound delightful sent-up mountains echoing
ὡς καὶ τοὺς ὄντας μήκοθεν αἰσθάνεσθαι τοῦ μέλους.
so-that even those being far-off to-perceive the song
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 Trosis
ἐν ᾗ πολλοὺς συμβέβηκε πολλὰ τραυματισθῆναι,
in which many it-happened much to-be-wounded
καὶ δῆλον ἐκ τὸ ὄνομα ὃ εἴληφεν ὁ τόπος.
and clear from the name which has-taken the place
Ὑπῆρχον δὲ, ὡς 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
καὶ, ὡς ᾤχοντο τῆς ὁδοῦ, ἤκουσαν τῶν ᾀσμάτων,
and as they-went of-the road they-heard the songs

μίλλιον ἓν 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
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
σῴζοντες 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
«ἄφες τὴν κόρην, λέγοντες, καὶ σῷσον ἑαυτόν σου·
leave the girl saying and save yourself your
εἰ δ᾽ οὔ, κερδίσῃς θάνατον, ἀπείθειαν ὡς ἔχων.»
if but not you-will-gain death disobedience as having
Ἀκμὴν γὰρ οὐκ ἠπίσταντο ποῖος ἄρα τυγχάνω.
As-yet for not they-knew who then I-am
Ἡ δὲ ἡλιογέννητος ἄφνω τούτους ἰδοῦσα
The but sun-born suddenly them having-seen
ἀρματωμένους ἅπαντας ἐφ᾽ ἵπποις καθημένους,
armed all on horses sitting
λόγοις αὐτῶν πιστεύσασα ἐδειλίασε σφόδρα,
(the)-words their having-believed became-afraid greatly
καὶ τῇ ὀθόνῃ τὰς αὑτῆς καλυψαμένη ὄψεις,
and with-the linen the her having-covered face
ἐπὶ τὴν τένδαν ἔδραμε, παντελῶς φοβηθεῖσα.
to the tent ran altogether having-taken-fright

Ἐγὼ δὲ ἔφην πρὸς αὐτήν· «τί οὐ λαλεῖς, φιλτάτη;»
I and said to her why not do-you-speak dearest
«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
ὡς ἀετὸς πρὸς πέρδικας ἀφ' ὕψους ἐκπετάσας,
like eagle at partridges from height having-flown-out
ὅσους ἡ ῥάβδος ἡ ἐμὴ ἔφθασε τοῦ προσψαῦσαι,
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
Καὶ οὐ σεμνύνων ἐμαυτὸν ταῦτα διαγορεύω,
And not exalting myself these(-things) I-declare
ἀλλ' ἵνα καταμάθητε 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-hidden
καὶ, πρὶν ὀλίγον ἅπαντας θανάτῳ παραδῶσαι,
and before little all to-death to-hand-over

ἕνα 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 ἐφεισάμην,
and having-boiled-over with-the anger no-one I-spared
εἶθ᾽ οὕτως ῥίπτω 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, ὡς 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 ἐρωτικοὺς ἐκίρνων·
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 συνιεῖσα ἃ λαλῶ γλυκερῶς ἐμειδία·
She and understanding what(-things) I-say sweetly smiled
«τὸ πλῆθος εἶδον, λέγουσα, τῶν ἱππέων ἐξαίφνης
the multitude I-saw saying of-the horsemen suddenly
ἁρματωμένους ἅπαντας, σὲ δὲ πεζὸν καὶ μόνον·
armed all you and on-foot and alone

ἐπὶ τούτῳ, αὐθέντα μου, ὁ φόβος μοι ἐπῆλθε.»
for this lord my the fear upon-me came

Καὶ μυρία φιλήσαντες ἤλθομεν εἰς τὴν τένδαν,
And countless-times having-kissed we-came to the tent

καὶ τῇ ἑξῆς 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

ἐπί τι δένδρον καθεσθεὶς τὴν κόρην ἐκδεχόμην·
on a-certain tree having-sat the girl I-awaited

καὶ ἰδοὺ τρεῖς ἀνέφανον ὡραῖοι καβαλλάροι,
and behold three appeared handsome horsemen

στολάς τε ἀνεφέροντο ἄμφω παρηλλαγμένας,
garments and wore both altered

καὶ πρὸς ἐμὲ ἀνήρχοντο τὸν ποταμὸν κρατοῦντες·
and toward me went-up the river keeping-to

εἶδον γάρ με καθήμενον εἰς τοῦ δένδρου τὴν ῥίζαν,
they-saw for me sitting at of-the tree the root

καὶ πλησίον γενόμενοι ἐχαιρέτισαν πάντες·
and near having-come greeted all

ἐγὼ δὲ οὐκ ἠγέρθην τους, ἀλλ' ἐκαθούμην μᾶλλον.
I but not rose-for them but sat rather

«Μὴ στρατιώτας, ἀδελφὲ, οἵους ἐνταῦθα εἶδες;»
Perhaps soldiers brother of-what-sort here did-you-see

Κἀγὼ 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
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-heard looked-at one-another
πρὸς αὐτοὺς ψιθυρίζοντες, χείλη κινοῦντες μόνα·
to themselves whispering lips moving only
«μὴ οὗτος ἔνι ὃν λέγουσι Βασίλειος Ἀκρίτης;
perhaps this-one is whom they-speak-of Basil Akritas
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
Ἅπαντας γὰρ δοκιμαστοὺς εἴχομεν ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ·
All for approved we-had in courage
ἀλλ', εἴπερ λέγεις ἀληθῆ, φάνηθι ἐκ τῶν ἔργων,
but if-indeed you-say true(-things) show-yourself from the deeds
ἕνα ἔκλεξον ἀφ' ἡμῶν τῶν τριῶν ὅνπερ 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
«εἰ βούλεσθε, πεζεύσατε καὶ δεῦτε οἱ τρεῖς εἰς ἕνα,
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 ἀπεντεῦθεν.»
and if you-think-good let-us-begin the battle from-here
Ῥαβδὶν λαμβάνω σύντομα, ὄρθιος ἐγενόμην,
Mace I-take swiftly upright I-became
καὶ τὸ χειροσκουτάριν μου, καὶ γὰρ ἐκράτουν ταῦτα,
and the hand-shield my and for I-held 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 ἕνα,
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
ἐγὼ γὰρ ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς εἰμὶ ὅνπερ ἀκούεις,
I for — Philopappous am whom you-hear-of
Ἰωαννάκης οὗτος δὲ καὶ Κίνναμος ὁ τρίτος,
Ioannakes this-one and also Kinnamos the third
καὶ αἰσχυνόμεθα οἱ τρεῖς πολεμῆσαι εἰς ἕνα·
and we-are-ashamed the three to-fight against one
ἀλλ' ἐπίλεξον ἀφ' ἡμῶν ἕνα οἷον κελεύεις.»
but choose from us one whichever you-bid

Κἀγὼ «ναὶ, ἔφην πρὸς αὐτοὺς, δεῦρο λοιπὸν ὁ πρῶτος.»
I-too yes said to them come then the first
Καὶ εὐθὺς ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς κατῆλθεν ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου,
And at-once — Philopappous came-down from the horse
σπαθὶν ἀράμενος αὑτοῦ ἅμα καὶ τὴν ἀσπίδα,
sword having-raised his together also the shield
τρανῶς εἰσῆλθε πρὸς ἐμὲ πτοῆσαι με ἐλπίζων·
vigorously came-in at me to-terrify me hoping
εἶχε καὶ γὰρ ὡς ἀληθῶς ὁρμὴν ἀνδρειοτάτην,
he-had and 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.
in the hand the grip only to-me was-left
Οἱ δύο ἀντεφώνησαν ἄντικρυς καθορῶντες·
The two cried-out opposite beholding
«ἄλλην μίαν, Φιλοπαπποῦ γέρον μου, τὸν ἐπίθες.»
another one Philopappous old-man my him put-on
Ὁ δὲ αὖθις βουλόμενος τὴν σπάθην ἀνατεῖναι,
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,
and if not it guarded entirely the shield
σῶον οὐκ ἔμενεν ὀστοῦν ἐν αὐτῇ τὸ παράπαν.
whole not would-have-remained bone in it the at-all
Ὅμως ὁ γέρων τραλλισθεὶς, κατὰ πολὺ τρομάξας,
Yet the old-man having-been-stunned by much having-trembled
βοῦς ὥσπερ μυκησάμενος, ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ἡπλώθη.
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
καβαλλάροι ἐπάνω μου ἤρχοντο παραχρῆμα,
mounted upon me came forthwith
μηδαμῶς αἰσχυνόμενοι, ὡς πρώην ἐκαυχῶντο.
in-no-way being-ashamed as before they-boasted
Τούτων ὡς εἶδον τὴν ὁρμὴν, ἁρπάζω τὸ σκουτάριν
Their as I-saw the onrush I-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
ὁ μὲν Κίνναμος ὄπισθεν 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 τότ' 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
ὅλοι ὡς ἀπὸ λέοντος ἔφευγον ἐναντίον,
all as from lion fled opposite
ὡσεὶ πρόβατα μήκοθεν ἐμὲ περισκοποῦντες,
like sheep from-far me watching-round
καὶ αὖθις πάλιν ἤρχοντο 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 ὡς εἶδε κυκλοῦντας με τοὺς δύο ὡσεὶ 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 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

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.

Βουληθεὶς 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 δείλαιος 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
ἀφ' ὧν αἷμα 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
Λέγω δ' ἐγώ τε πρὸς αὐτόν· «ὦ Κίνναμε, τί τρέμεις;
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 ὅπλα,
but if you-wish stand-up and take your the weapons
καὶ δώσομεν εἰς πρόσωπον, ὡς 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·
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 ὄπισθεν ἐστρεφόμην,
There him having-let-go behind I-turned
καὶ ὁρῶ τὸν Φιλοπαπποῦν εἰς ἑαυτὸν ἐλθόντα,
and I-see — Philopappous to himself having-come
κινοῦντα 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
τὸν σὲ κατακοσμήσαντα τοῖς χαρίσμασι πᾶσι,
the you having-adorned with-the gifts all
κατάλειπε τὸν πόλεμον καὶ ποίησον 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 προστασσόμενοι καὶ ποιοῦντες ἀόκνως.»
by you being-commanded and doing without-hesitation
Ὡς ταῦτα φίλα ἤκουσα κατηλέησα τούτους
As these(-things) friendly I-heard I-pitied them
(πραΰνουσι 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
«Φιλοπαππού, ἐξύπνησας καὶ ὁράματα λέγεις·
Philopappous you-have-woken and visions you-tell
ἀλλ᾽, ἐπεὶ εἰς κατάνυξιν μετέστρεψας τὸ γῆρας,
but since to compunction you-have-turned the old-age
ἀνάστα, λάβε τοὺς σὺν σοὶ, ἄπελθε ὅπου βούλει,
arise take those with you go-away where you-wish
οἰκείους ἔχων ὀφθαλμοὺς μάρτυρας τοῦ πραχθέντος,
own having eyes witnesses of-the done
καὶ οὓς ζητεῖτε πίστευσον νὰ λείψουν ἐκ τὸ ἀδνούμιν.
and whom you-seek 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
ὑμῖν δὲ ἄρχειν ἔξεστι καὶ συνεργεῖν ἀλλήλοις
for-you and to-rule is-allowed and to-work-with one-another
ἐφ᾽ οἷς ἔχετε δυνατὸν ποιεῖσθαι καὶ τὰ κούρση·
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 πεῖραν μου, μηδὲ γινώσκοντάς με·
those not knowing trial of-me nor knowing me
εἶδον γὰρ ὅσοι πεῖραν μου ὑμῖν οὐ συνεργήσουν.»
saw for as-many-as trial of-me you not will-work-with

Καὶ ἐχάρη ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς δεξάμενος τὴν λῦσιν,
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, ὡς ἤκουσαν τῆς φωνῆς, ἀνελάμβανον ταύτας, 300
And as they-heard the voice took-back them
καὶ τὸ στόμα διήνοιγον πλεῖστα εὐχαριστοῦντες,
and the mouth they-opened very-much thanking
«ὄντως εἴδομεν, 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·
which 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 ζῆν 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 ἀγκάλαις,
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 ἕνα 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
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 αἰσχύνης ἐνέπλησε καὶ δειλίας καὶ φόβου·
and with-shame filled and cowardice and fear
βέβαιον γόης πέφυκεν ἢ στοιχεῖον τοῦ τόπου,
certainly sorcerer he-is or spirit of-the place
ἐπεὶ αὐτὸς ἀντ᾽ οὐδενὸς ἡγεῖτο τὰς σπαθέας,
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
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.» 330
and like statue animate by-us thought

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 παραμυθίαι,
these all O children my are consolations
περιγραφαὶ ἀτυχιῶν, ψυχῶν παρηγορίαι·
evasions of-misfortunes of-souls comforts
ἐγὼ δὲ εἶδον ἀληθῶς δοκιμώτατον ἄνδρα, 335
I but saw truly most-approved man
τοῖς τοῦ Χριστοῦ χαρίσμασι πᾶσι πεπλουτισμένον,
with-the — of-Christ gifts all enriched
κάλλος, ἀνδρείαν, 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 θέαν τοῦ πολέμου· 340
that not were-found any at sight of-the war

ὄνομα δὲ ὃ εἴχομεν 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
ἀλλὰ παντοίους σπεύσωμεν ἐφευρεῖν τοὺς οἰκείους·
but all-kinds let-us-hasten to-find the kinsmen
εἰ γὰρ καὶ ἐκαυχήσατο, ἀλλ' οὐ πάντας ἀνεῖλε,
if for even he-boasted but not all he-killed
καὶ, εἰ θελήσει ὁ θεὸς καὶ περισυσταθοῦμεν
and if will-wish — God and we-are-gathered-together
ἵνα του ἐπιπέσωμεν ἐν νυκτὶ ἀδοκήτως,
that him we-may-fall-upon in night unexpectedly
καὶ εἰ κατάσχωμεν αὐτὸν, ἀφαιρεθῇ ὁ πόνος,
and if we-seize him may-be-taken-away the pain
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
ῥηθῆναι δὲ ἀμήχανον τὸ κάλλος της 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
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
ὁπηνίκα ὁ ἥλιος τὰς ἀκτῖνας ἐκτείνει.
whenever the sun the rays stretches-out
Ἀλλὰ θάρσει, παγκάλλιστε, σοῦ τοῦ λοιποῦ ὑπάρχει.»
But take-courage most-beautiful yours for-the future she-is
Ταῦτα ὁ γέρων εἰρηκὼς καλῶς ἔδοξε λέγειν· 360
These(-things) the old-man having-said well seemed to-speak
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 δᾳδουχοῦντες,
in-the and night for long the torch carrying
καὶ τὸ παράπαν οὐδὲ εἷς παρῆν τῶν δοκουμένων·
and the at-all 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 ἡμῖν παρέχεις; 365
why old-man most-manly toils to-us do-you-provide
οὐχὶ πιστεύων εἴληφας τῆς ἡμῶν εὐτολμίας,
not believing have-you-taken of-the our daring
ἐξ ὧν οἶδας ἀριστειῶν 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, 370
the strange beholding always brave-deeds

καὶ παρ᾽ αὐτοῦ ἡττήθημεν ὡς 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
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 ὡς 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
ἀλλ᾽ ὡς ἐχέφρων, νουνεχὴς, ποίησον ἀποκρίσεις,
but as sensible prudent make answers
ὅπως ἑλκύσῃς εἰς βουλὴν τὴν ἡμετέραν ταύτην·
so-that you-may-draw to counsel the our her
καὶ ἐὰν τοῦτο γένηται ἑξόμεθα τὸ νῖκος,
and if this happens we-shall-have the victory
ἡμεῖς δὲ ἑνωθοῦμεν σοι, τὸν πυρσὸν ὅταν δείξῃς.»
we and will-be-united with-you the torch when you-show

Καὶ ἤρεσεν ἡ συμβουλὴ τῷ γέροντι ἀσμένως·
And pleased the counsel to-the old-man gladly
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
ἃς βασιλεὺς Ἀλέξανδρος ἤγαγεν ἐκ Βραχμάνων·
whom king Alexander brought from Brahmans
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 γεγονὼς, ὡς ἐρρέθη,
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 ἐπῆλθες;»
for-the-sake and of-what to us these without did-you-come
Αὖθις ὁ γέρων ἔφησε τάδε, οὐκ ἀληθεύων·
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 κἀγὼ ἀπολυθεὶς ἀναπαύσεως χάριν,
from-these I-too having-been-released of-rest for-the-sake
ἢ μᾶλλον οἰκονομικῶς θεοῦ τῇ εὐδοκίᾳ,
or rather providentially of-God by-the good-pleasure
εἰς τοῦ καλοῦ ἀνεύρεσιν καὶ ἀτιμήτου δώρου,
for of-the good finding and priceless gift
ὡς γὰρ οὐκ ἦν μοι πώποτε τέλεον ἠρεμῆσαι,
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
καὶ τοὺς πόρους ἐσκόπευον ἰδεῖν τοὺς ἐναντίους·
and the fords I-watched to-see the enemies
ὡς 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
κόρῃ, οἵαν οὐδέποτε οἱ ὀφθαλμοί μου εἶδον.
girl such-as never the eyes my saw
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 Χρυσοϊωαννάκη·
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 θλίψεσι τῶν φιλτάτων,
he for eagerly sharing in-afflictions of-the dearest
ἐκεῖνος φίλος ἀληθὴς καὶ συγγενὴς ὑπάρχει.»
that-one friend true and kinsman is
Γέρων δὲ ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς τοιαῦτα τε λαλήσας,
Old-man and — Philopappous such(-things) and having-spoken
κατὰ πάντα πειθήνιον 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

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 ἐξεῖπεν·
and smiling to him overjoyed spoke-out
«ἔμαθες ὡς ὁ θαυμαστὸς Φιλοπαπποῦς ὁ γέρων
did-you-learn how the marvelous Philopappous the old-man
κυνῆγιν εὗρε κάλλιστον ἀρτίως εἰς τὰς ἄκρας,
game found finest now at the frontiers
καὶ ἀξιοῖ 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, εὑρὲ τοὺς ἀπελάτας,
but quickly go-away find the raiders
καὶ ἀπὸ πάντων ἑκατὸν ἔκλεξαι τοὺς δοκίμους,
and from all hundred choose the approved
ἵππους τε ἔχοντας καλοὺς, ὀχυρώτατα ὅπλα,
horses and having fine most-strong weapons
ἵνα ᾧπερ ἐντύχωμεν, κατάσχωμεν ῥᾳδίως.»
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 βίγλᾳ γενόμενος, ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ ἑσπέρᾳ,
at the watch having-come on this the evening
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 συμπαραλαβὼν πρὸς τὴν κυρίαν ἦλθεν.
and these having-taken-along to the lady came
Ἡ δὲ τὰς χρείας ἅπασας εἰκότως ἐπιδοῦσα,
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 γενόμενοι 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 παρῆσαν,
and with day also they in the army were-present
ἀσμένως πρὸς τῆς Μαξιμοῦς λίαν ἀποδεχθέντες·
gladly by — Maximou very having-been-received
ἑτοίμους γὰρ ὡς ἀγχιστὰς τούτους καὶ ὡς συμμάχους
ready for as next-of-kin them and as allies
ἐδέξατο ἡ Μαξιμοὺ ὁλοσχερῶς 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-harangue Philopappous such(-things)

«ὁ μὲν τόπος, κυρία μου καὶ ὑμεῖς στρατιῶται,
the indeed place lady my and you soldiers
ὑπάρχει δυσκολώτατος ἐν ᾧ τὴν κόρην εὗρον·
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
διάγνωσιν παρέχοντες τῷ φυλάττοντι ταύτην,
notice providing to-the guarding her
καὶ, πρινὴ 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
λάθρα ἐπισκοπεύοντες ποῦ ἡ κόρη ὑπάρχει·
secretly spying-out where the girl is
καὶ οἱ μὲν δύο μείνωμεν 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-returned will-show
καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ ἐλεύσεσθε μηδαμῶς πλανηθέντες.»
and with him you-will-come in-no-way having-gone-astray
Πρὸς δὲ ταῦτα ἡ Μαξιμοὺ τῷ γέροντι ἀντέφη·
To and these(-things) — Maximou to-the old-man replied
«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 διῆλθε,
and — Kinnamos with him the river crossed
τοῖς ἄλλοις ἐντειλάμενος προσκαρτερεῖν ἐκεῖσε,
to-the others having-charged to-wait there
ἄχρις ἂν μήνυμα αὐτοῖς ἐκ τούτων ἐπανέλθῃ.
until — message to-them from these returns
Ἐμοὶ δὲ τότε ἔτυχε διάγειν ἐν τῇ βίγλᾳ,
To-me and then it-happened to-stay at the watch
ἵππον κρατῶν τοῦ χαλινοῦ καθέζεσθαι 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
Ἰδών 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 ἀκρωρείαν;
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 ᾖς ἐρευνήσωμεν ὅπου τὴν κόρην ἔχει,
but let us-search where the girl he-has
καὶ εἶθ' οὕτως γνωρίσομεν τῷ λαῷ, ὡς ἐρρέθη·
and then thus we-will-make-known to-the people as was-said
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 ἀνδρείᾳ,
I-know for what-sort also he is in courage
καὶ παραινῶ μηδὲ ποσῶς μόνοι αὐτῷ φανῆναι.»
and I-advise not at-all alone to-him to-appear
Ὡσαύτως καὶ ὁ Κίνναμος ἐπαινῶν τὰ λεχθέντα,
Likewise also — Kinnamos praising the(-things) said
ἀλλ' οὐδαμῶς συνέθετο τούτοις ὁ Μελιμίτζης
but in-no-way agreed with-them — Melimitzes
εἰρηκὼς ὡς «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 ἕνα 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-heard before the my lady
καταμεμφθῶ ὡς ἄνανδρος, τὸν ἕνα 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
Τούτου ὡς εἶδον τὴν ὁρμὴν, τοὺς δὲ ἑφεπομένους
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
ὡς δὲ ἔμπροσθεν ἤρχετο πάντων ὁ Μελιμίτζης,
as and in-front came of-all — Melimitzes
τὸ μὲν κοντάριν ἴθυνε δοῦναι μοι κονταρέαν·
the indeed spear he-aimed to-give me spear-thrust
τοῦτο δὲ τέχνῃ παρελθὼν ἐν τῷ με παρατρέχειν, 505
this and with-art having-passed in the me to-run-past
τῇ ῥάβδῳ τοῦτον ἔπληξα καὶ πρὸς γῆν κατηνέχθη·
with-the club him I-struck and to earth he-was-brought-down
ἱστάμην δὲ ἐγὼ τηρῶν εἰ ἐγερθῆναι ἔχει·
I-stood and I watching if to-rise he-has
καὶ ὡς ἐν τούτῳ μου τὸν νοῦν εἰς ὥραν ἐσχολούμην,
and as in this my the mind for hour I-was-busy
λαθών με ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς καὶ ἐλθὼν ἐκ πλαγίου,
having-escaped me — Philopappous and having-come from side
κονταρέαν ἐν τῷ μηρῷ τιτρώσκει μου τὸν ἵππον· 510
spear-thrust in the thigh wounds my the horse
ὑπῆρχον δὲ συνηρεφῆ καὶ θαμινὰ τὰ δένδρα,
were and overshadowing and thick the trees
τοῦ ἵππου δὲ πονέσαντος καὶ ταραχθέντος λίαν,
of-the horse and having-suffered and having-been-troubled very
ἐπιστραφεὶς τὸν γέροντα φευγόμενον κατεῖδον,
having-turned the old-man fleeing I-saw
καὶ ἐπεφώνησα αὐτῷ· «τί με ἀποδιδράσκεις;
and I-cried-out to-him why me do-you-run-away-from
ἔκδεξαί με δὲ εἰς πρόσωπον, ἐὰν ᾖς στρατιώτης, 515
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 διῆλθε 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
ὡς 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 ὤκλαζεν 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 ἅρματα, ἀλλάξας καὶ τὸν ἵππον,
then having-put-on the arms having-changed also the horse
πρὸς τὴν ὡραίαν εἴρηκα· «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
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

ὡς δὲ καὶ κατελάβομεν ἐν τῷ ῥηθέντι τόπῳ,
as and also we-arrived at the said place
τὴν μὲν ἐν τῇ περιωπῇ ἀφέμενος τοῦ ὄρους,
her indeed on the look-out having-left of-the mountain
ἐν ᾧ ἄντρον αὐτοφυὲς ὡς οἴκημα ὑπῆρχεν,
in which cave natural as dwelling was
ὑπὸ δένδρων κρυπτόμενον καὶ δυσεύρετον λίαν,
by trees hidden and hard-to-find very
τοῦ ὁρᾶν μὲν τὰ πόρρωθεν πραττόμενα παρεῖχε,
of-the to-see indeed the(-things) far-off being-done it-provided
καὶ μηδὲ τὸ κρυπτόμενον παρά τινος ὁρᾶσθαι·
and nor the hidden by anyone to-be-seen
ἐκεῖσε, 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,
nor indeed in the fights to-cry-out the at-all
ἵνα μὴ τούτοις γένηται ὁδηγὸς ἡ φωνή σου,
that not to-them may-become guide the voice your
καὶ ἐπανέλθωσι πρὸς σὲ, ἐμοῦ ἀσχολουμένου,
and they-return to you me being-busy
καὶ προφανὴς 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
καὶ τὰς ὄχθας ἀνέτρεχον ἵνα τὸν πόρον εὕρω·
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
χαρζανιστὶ κατήρχοντο τοῦ ποταμοῦ τὸ χεῖλος,
lashing they-came-down of-the river the edge
δύο ἔνθεν κακεῖθεν τε, ἡ Μαξιμοὺ δὲ μέσον,
two on-this-side and-on-that-side and — Maximou and in-the-middle
ἐποχουμένη εἰς βουλχᾶν λευκὸν καθάπερ γάλα,
riding on steed white like milk
χαίτην ἔχων καὶ τὴν οὐρὰν, τὸν σγοῦρδον 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

ἅπαν τὸ σελλοχάλινον χρυσῷ πεποικιλμένον·
all the saddle-and-bridle with-gold embroidered
τὸ λουρίκιν ἀπέστραπτε χρυσέας ῥίζας 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 Φιλοπαππoῦ, τίς ὁ τὴν κόρην ἔχων.»
tell me O Philopappous who the(-one) the girl having
Ὁ δὲ φησίν· «οὗτός ἐστι,» κἀμὲ τῇ χειρὶ δείξας.
He and says this-one is and-me with-the hand having-pointed
Ἡ δέ· «καὶ ποῦ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ, ἤρετο, στρατιῶται;»
She and also where the with him asked soldiers
«Οὗτος, φησὶ, κυρία μου, τῶν συνεργῶν οὐ δεῖται,
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 ἕνα κόπους μοι καὶ τῷ λαῷ παρεῖχες,
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
ἀρῶ 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· «Μαξιμοὺ, μὴ περάσῃς·
I and say to her Maximou not cross

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
ὕδατος τούτου ἔκχυσις ἄποθεν δὲ ὑπῆρχεν
of-water of-this outpouring at-a-distance and was
βραχυτάτην ἐμφαίνουσα λίμνην συχνήν τε πόαν·
very-small showing pool thick and grass
ἐν ᾗπερ στᾶσα ἀσφαλῶς λίαν εὐτρεπισμένη
in which having-stood securely very prepared
ἡ Μαξιμοὺ 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
ἕτεροι δὲ ἐνήδρευον ἐγκρύμματα ποιοῦντες.
others and lay-in-wait ambushes making
Ἐγὼ δέ, ὅταν ἔγνωκα εἰς γῆν πατεῖν τὸν ἵππον,
I and when I-knew on earth to-tread the horse
τρανὰ αὐτὸν ἠρέθιζον, καὶ τὸ σπαθὶν ἑλκύσας
vigorously him I-roused and the sword having-drawn
ὁλοψύχως πρὸς Μαξιμοῦν εὐτέχνως ἀπηρχόμην.
wholeheartedly toward Maximou skillfully I-went-off
Ἡ δέ, ὡς προηυτρέπιστο, προσαπαντᾶν δραμοῦσα,
She and as she-had-prepared to-meet having-run

κονταρέαν μοι δέδωκεν ξυστὴν 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 βοῦλχα ἀποτεμὼν τὴν κεφαλὴν εὐθέως,
of-the and steed having-cut-off the head at-once
καὶ τὸ μὲν πτῶμα 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-astray 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 ἐλεήσας,
beauty and the marvelous which she-had having-pitied
ἐκεῖ ταύτην ἀφέμενος, πρὸς τοὺς λοιποὺς ἐξῆλθον·
there her having-let-go to the others I-went-out
ὅπως τε πάντας ἴσχυσα, αἰσχύνομαι τοῦ λέγειν,
how and all I-prevailed-over I-am-ashamed of-the to-tell
ἵνα μὴ ὡς καυχώμενον λογίσησθέ 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 ἀκουόντων.
vainglorious is-reckoned by those hearing

Ἐγὼ δὲ οὐ καυχώμενος ταῦτα ὑμῖν ἐκφαίνω,
I but not boasting these(-things) to-you reveal
οὔ, 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 hearing
Αὖθις 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 Μαξιμοὺ τὸν ἴδιον ἀπολέσασα ἵππον
— Maximou the own having-lost horse

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 πεῖραν μου, εἰσήγοντο μὲν πρός 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 ἤμην,
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, ὄπισθεν ἐστρεφόμην,
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,
Philopappous and Leandros Kinnamos and Ioannakes
τοῦ ἄλσους ἀνακύψαντας καὶ πρός με ἐρχομένους·
from-the grove having-emerged and toward me coming
Λέανδρος δὲ καὶ Κίνναμος ἦρχοντο ἐκ προσώπου,
Leandros and also Kinnamos came from face
ὁ γέρων δὲ καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ ἤλαυνον ἐξοπίσω,
the old-man and also 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 μελετῶντες·
but they-were-borne vain(-things) and empty devising
ὡς 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 γῆν πέπτωκε σὺν τῷ ἵππῳ.
whom also having-struck on earth he-fell with the horse

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
καὶ πρὸς φυγὴν ἐτράπησαν τοὺς ἵππους ἐκκεντοῦντες,
and to flight they-turned the horses spurring
μηδαμῶς αὐτῶν ὄπισθεν θεάσασθαι τολμῶντες.
in-no-way of-them behind to-look daring
Οὕτως ὡς εἶδον ἔχοντας, μετὰ γέλωτος εἶπον·
Thus as I-saw (them)-faring with laughter I-said
«στράφητε, οὐκ αἰσχύνεσθε τὸν ἕνα δειλιῶντες;»
turn not are-you-ashamed the one fearing
Οἱ δὲ μᾶλλον σφοδρότερον τὸν δρασμὸν ἐπετέλουν·
They but more more-vehemently the flight accomplished
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 ὄπισθεν κατὰ σχολὴν βαδίζων,
I-turned-back and behind at leisure walking
πλησίον δὲ τῆς Μαξιμοῦς ἐλθὼν, τοιάδε ἔφην·
near and — of-Maximou having-come such(-things) I-said

«ἡ καυχωμένη ἄμετρα καὶ ἰσχύϊ θαρροῦσα,
the(-one) boasting immoderately and in-strength trusting
ἄπελθε, ἐπισύναξον τοὺς φυγεῖν σῳζομένους,
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 πεῖραν λαβοῦσα,
custom as you-know also yourself well trial having-taken
ἐξ ὧν ἔπαθες μάνθανε καὶ μὴ ἀλαζονεύου·
from which you-suffered learn and not boast
θεὸς γὰρ ἀντιτάσσεται πᾶσιν ὑπερηφάνοις.»
God for sets-himself-against all arrogant

Ἐκείνη δὲ πρὸς ὑπαντὴν ἐλθοῦσα ἡμετέραν,
She and to meeting having-come ours
τὰς χεῖρας αὐτῆς δήσασα πρεπόντως τὰς ἰδίας
the hands her having-bound fittingly the own
καὶ μέχρι γῆς τὴν κεφαλὴν κλίνασα εὐκοσμίως·
and as-far-as earth the head having-bowed decorously
«ἁπάντων γενναιότατε, ἔφησε, νῦν ἐπέγνων
of-all most-noble said now I-recognized
τὴν σὴν ἀνείκαστον ἰσχὺν καὶ τὴν φιλανθρωπίαν,
the your incomparable strength and the love-of-mankind
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 δεξιὰν, ἠρέμα 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 κατεῖδον·
such for never other man I-beheld
πληρῶσαι οὖν παρακαλῶ σὲ τὸν ἐμὸν δεσπότην
to-fulfill then I-entreat you the my master
καὶ ἑτέραν μου αἴτησιν, ἐκ ταύτης ὅπως γνώσῃς
also other my request from this so-that you-may-know
ἀκριβέστερον τὴν ἐμὴν ἐν τῷ πολέμῳ πεῖραν·
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
ὅπως μονομαχήσωμεν μηδενὸς συμπαρόντος,
so-that we-may-fight-in-single-combat no-one being-present
καὶ νὰ νοήσῃς, πάγκαλε, καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν ἀνδρείαν.»
and that you-may-perceive all-fair also the my courage
«Μετὰ χαρᾶς, ὦ Μαξιμοὺ, πρὸς αὐτὴν ἐγὼ ἔφην,
With joy O Maximou to her I said
ἄπελθε ἔνθα βούλεσαι, κἀμὲ ὧδε εὑρήσεις·
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 ἕνα 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
ἤγαγον 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 ὡς 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 ἐξένυττόν με·
others and with-the arrows their pricked me

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 ἀβλαβῆ 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
καὶ πάντοθεν πληττόμενος τὴν φυγὴν ᾐσχυνόμην·
and on-all-sides being-struck the flight I-was-ashamed-of
εἶχον γὰρ ἅρματα 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
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·
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 ἅρματά 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,
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 διῆλθον τὸν ποταμὸν, ἡ δὲ πρὸς τὰ οἰκεῖα,
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,
and I-put-on marvelous finest tunic
βαλών τε καὶ σγουρούτζικον κόκκινον καμηλαύκιν,
having-put-on and also curly red cap
καὶ ἵππον μετεσέλλισα δαγάλην, ἀστερᾶτον,
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

τὸν ποταμὸν ἐπέρασα, ἑσπέρας ἤδη οὔσης·
the river I-crossed of-evening already being
ἐπὶ τούτῳ καὶ ὤκνησα ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῇ κόρῃ,
for this also I-shrank to-go-up to the girl
ἀλλ' ἔστειλα τὰς ἑαυτῆς δύο θαλαμηπόλους·
but I-sent the her two chamber-maids
εἴχομεν καὶ γὰρ ἱκανοὺς τοὺς ἡμῖν ὑπουργοῦντας,
we-had and for many those for-us serving
τὴν οἴκησίν των ἔχοντας ἀπόμακρα τῆς τένδας,
the dwelling their having far-off from-the tent
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 εἴρηκα, τὸν ποταμὸν Εὐφράτην,
Having-crossed then as I-have-said the river Euphrates
ἐν τῷ λειμῶνι τῷ τερπνῷ ἑαυτὸν 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
Πρὸς ὄρθρον δὲ ἐξαναστὰς καὶ ἐπιβὰς τοῦ ἵππου,
Toward dawn and having-risen and having-mounted the horse

εἰς τὸ πεδίον ἀνελθὼν, ἱστάμην ἀναμένων.
to the plain having-gone-up I-stood waiting
Τῆς δὲ ἡμέρας τῷ φωτὶ ἄρτι διαυγαζούσης,
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 Μαξιμοὺ 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 ὁλόσηρον, καστόριν
she-wore over-mail-coat all-silk beaver
φακεωλίτζιν πράσινον, χρυσὸν ῥεραντισμένον,
little-turban green with-gold sprinkled
σκουτάριν ἔχον ἀετοῦ 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 ἠσπασάμεθα 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 ἠρξάμεθα, λαλήσαντες τοὺς ἵππους,
the battle and we-began having-urged-on the horses
ἄνω καὶ κάτω πρὸς μικρὰν διαδραμόντες ὥραν,
up and down for little having-run-through hour
κονταρέας δεδώκαμεν, μηδενὸς κρημνισθέντος.
spear-thrusts we-gave no-one having-been-thrown-down

Χωρισθέντες οὖν παρευθὺς, εἱλκύσαμεν 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
ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ὅλως πόλεμον μετὰ γυναικὸς στῆσαι·
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 ἐπῃσχύνθην·
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
ἡ μὲν σπάθη ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν πέπτωκεν ἣν κατεῖχεν,
the indeed sword onto the earth fell which she-held
τρόμος δὲ ταύτην εἴληφε καὶ δειλία μεγίστη.
trembling and her took and cowardice greatest
Ἐγὼ δὲ ἐξεφώνησα· «Μαξιμοὺ, μὴ φοβεῖσαι,
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-show to-you the my on the horse

Καὶ σπαθέαν καταβατὴν εἰς τοὺς νεφροὺς εὐθέως
And sword-blow descending into the loins at-once
τοῦ φαρίου κατήγαγον καὶ διῃρέθη 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 ἑτέρωθεν 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
συγκεχομμένῃ τῇ φωνῇ «ἐλέησον», ἐβόα,
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 ἀποκερδίσεις·
you alone me conquered you me will-win
ἕξεις δέ με καὶ συνεργὸν εἰς τοὺς ὑπεναντίους.»
you-will-have and me also fellow-worker against the adversaries
«Οὐκ ἀποθνήσκεις, Μαξιμοὺ, 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 εὐγενῆ καὶ ὡραίαν,
lawful I-have wife noble and beautiful
ἧς ἀγάπην οὐδέποτε τολμήσω ἀθετῆσαι.
whose love never I-will-dare to-set-aside

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 γειτνιῶντα δένδρα,
Having-come and toward of-river the neighboring trees
ἡ Μαξιμοὺ, τὴν ἑαυτῆς ἀποπλύσασα χεῖρα,
— Maximou the her having-washed hand
καὶ δόκιμον ἐν τῇ πληγῇ ἄλειμμα ἐπιθεῖσα,
and approved on the wound ointment having-put
ὅπερ φέρειν εἰώθαμεν ἀεὶ 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 χιτὼν 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
Καὶ ἐτρώθη μου ἡ ψυχὴ, ὡραία 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 ἡδέως κατεφίλει.
And hand my the right sweetly she-kissed

Ὡς δὲ ἀνήφθη ὁ πυρσὸς ὁ τῆς ἐπιθυμίας,
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, ἐμαυτὸν κατηγορῶν, ταῦτα ἐλογιζόμην·
and myself accusing these(-things) I-reasoned
«ὦ δαῖμον, διατί ἐρᾷς πάντων τῶν ἀλλοτρίων,
O demon why do-you-love all the(-things) of-others
πηγὴν ἔχων ἀθόλωτον, ὅλην μεμερισμένην;»
spring having unclouded whole divided
Ταῦτα διαλεγόμενος καθ' ἑαυτὸν, ὦ φίλοι,
These(-things) discoursing by myself O friends
ἡ Μαξιμοὺ τὸν ἔρωτα ἐξῆπτεν 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, ὡραία καὶ παρθένος·
was for young and fair beautiful and virgin
ἡττήθη οὖν ὁ λογισμὸς βεβήλῳ ἐπιθύμει,
was-defeated then the reasoning by-profane desire
αἰσχύνης γὰρ καὶ μίξεως ἁπάσης πληρωθείσης,
of-shame for and of-union all having-been-fulfilled
εἶτα αὐτὴν καταλιπὼν, προπέμψας τε ἐκεῖθεν,
then her having-left having-sent-off and from-there
λόγον ἐξεῖπον πρὸς αὐτὴν παρηγορίας δῆθεν·
word I-spoke to her of-consolation forsooth
«ὕπαγε, κόρη μου, καλῶς καὶ μή μου ἐπιλάθου.»
go girl my well and not me forget

Καὶ ἐν τῷ ἵππῳ ἐπιβὰς τὸν ποταμὸν διῆλθον·
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 φιλτάτην,
Then having-come to the my dearest
κατῆλθον ἐκ τοῦ ἵππου μου, ταύτην φιλῶ ἀπλήστως·
I-came-down from the horse my her I-kiss insatiably
«εἶδες, ψυχή μου, ἔλεγον, ἐκδικητὴν ὃν ἔχεις,
did-you-see soul my I-said avenger whom you-have
καὶ οἵαν σοι ἀντίληψιν ὁ πλαστουργὸς παρέσχεν;»
and what-sort to-you succor the fashioner provided
Ἡ δέ τινα ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ ζηλοτυπίαν σχοῦσα·
She and some in the soul jealousy having
«ἐν ἅπασιν 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
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, καλέ, ταύτην τὴν ἁμαρτίαν·
who will-forgive you fine-one this the sin
ἀλλ' ὅρα μή, νεώτερε, πάλιν καὶ τοῦτο πράξῃς,
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 ψυχήν 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 πειθανικοῖς αὐτὴν παρεκρουόμην,
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 θᾶττον ἐπέζευον καὶ ἐπέβρεχον ὕδωρ
and if not sooner I-dismounted and sprinkled water
ταύτην οἰκτείρας ὡς γυνὴν καὶ ἀσθενῆ 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 ὡς γυναῖκα φονεύσας.
that so-that not I-be-reproached as woman having-slain
Ταῦτα εἰπὼν, ἀναψυχὴν ἐλάμβανεν 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
καὶ ὅλως τῷ θυμῷ αὐτὸς εἰς ἄκρον ὑπερζέσας,
and wholly with-the anger I to height having-boiled-over
καβαλλικεύω παρευθὺς, δῆθεν εἰς τὸ κυνῆγιν,
I-ride forthwith forsooth to the hunt
καὶ ταύτην δὲ καταλαβὼν ἀνηλεῶς ἀνεῖλον,
and her too 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-returned at-least where was the girl
καὶ ἐκεῖσε τὴν ἅπασαν ποιήσαντες ἡμέραν
and there the whole having-made day
ἀμφότεροι κατήλθομεν τῇ ἑξῆς ἐν τῇ τένδᾳ,
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
κατασκευάσαι τε λαμπρὸν καὶ ἐξαίσιον οἶκον.
to-build and splendid and extraordinary house

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 θαυμαστὸς 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 ἠρετίσατο πλησίον τοῦ Εὐφράτου.
to-dwell chose near 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
Περὶ τὸ ἄλσος τεῖχος ἦν αὔταρκες 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 ἁμιλλία·
so-great a was of-the trees rivalry
ἄμπελοι ἑκατέρωθεν ἐξήρτηντο ὡραῖοι
vines on-each-side hung beautiful
κάλαμοι ἐπεφύοντο εἰς ὕψος ἐπηρμένοι
reeds grew to height raised
οἱ καρποὶ ἐξεκρέμαντο, ἀνθῶν τἄλλα 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
ποικίλην ἔχων τὴν χροὰν τοῖς ἄνθεσιν ἀστράπτων,
varied having the color with-the flowers flashing
τὰ μὲν εὐώδη νάρκισσα, ῥόδα τε καὶ μυρσίναι·
the indeed fragrant narcissi roses both and myrtles
τὰ ῥόδα 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
ὕδωρ 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 τροφὴν ἐν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις,
the(-ones) indeed being-coaxed food among the men
τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ ἐλεύθερον τὸ πτερὸν 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 πτερύγων,
the(-ones) and being-adorned with-the robe of-the wings
χειροήθεις 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 ᾖδον 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 θέα.
shone-back the of-the flowers in the wings sight

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
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 ἐφαίδρυνεν, ἐψήφωσεν ἐν λίθοις.
the floor he-brightened paved with stones
Ἔσωθεν δὲ τριώροφα ποιήσας ὑπερῷα,
Within and three-storied having-made upper-rooms
ἔχοντα ὕψος ἱκανὸν, ὀρόφους παμποικίλους,
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 ὑφαντὰ τὰ δρώμενα εἶναι
so-as to-think woven the(-things) wrought to-be
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
ἠκονημένων ἰσχυρῶς, ὡς δοκεῖν τοὺς ὁρῶντας
polished strongly as to-think those seeing
ὕδωρ ὑπάρχειν πεπηγὸς εἰς κρυστάλλινον φύσιν.
water to-be congealed into crystalline nature
Ἀμφοτέρωθεν ἵδρυσε τῶν μερῶν ἐκ πλαγίου
On-both-sides he-set-up of-the parts from side
χαμοτρικλίνους θαυμαστοὺς, εὐμήκεις, χρυσωρόφους,
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
λαμψάντων ἀνιστόρησε χρυσόμουσα, ὡραῖα,
having-shone he-pictured in-gold-mosaic beautiful
τὴν τοῦ Σαμψὼν 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 ἠγάγετο, ὁπότε 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

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
ἐκεῖθεν δὲ τὸν Γολιὰθ μέγαν τῇ ἡλικίᾳ,
on-the-other-side and — Goliath great in-the stature
καὶ τῇ ἰδέᾳ φοβερὸν πολύν τε ἐν ἰσχύϊ,
and in-the appearance fearsome much and in strength
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
ὁλοσίδηρον 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 Γολιὰθ εὐθέως
by-stone with-good-aim and struck — Goliath at-once
ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν κατέπεσε τρωμένος παραυτίκα,
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 νῖκος.
and having-cut the head and having-taken the victory
Εἶτα τὸν φόβον τοῦ Σαοὺλ, φυγὴν τοῦ πραοτάτου,
Then the fear — of-Saul flight of-the meekest
τὰς μυρίας ἐπιβουλὰς, θεοῦ τὰς ἐκδικήσεις.
the countless plots of-God the vengeances

Ἀχιλλέως ἱστόρησε τοὺς μυθικοὺς πολέμους·
Of-Achilles he-pictured the mythical wars
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
Καυδάκης τὰ βασίλεια καὶ τὴν αὐτῆς σοφίαν,
Of-Kandake the palace and the her wisdom
τὴν πρὸς Βραχμᾶνας ἄφιξιν, αὖθις πρὸς Ἀμαζόνας,
the to Brahmans arrival again to Amazons
λοιπά 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
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 τρικλίνοις
These(-things) and other more in the two banqueting-halls
ὁ Διγενὴς ἱστόρησε χρυσόμουσα ποιήσας,
— Digenis pictured gold-mosaics having-made
ἃ τοῖς ὁρῶσιν ἄπειρον τὴν ἡδονὴν παρεῖχον.
which to-those seeing boundless the pleasure provided
Ἐντὸς τοῦ οἴκου τῆς αὐλῆς ὑπῆρχε τὸ πεδίον
Within the house of-the court was the plain
πολὺ ἔχον διάστημα εἴς τε μῆκος καὶ πλάτος·
much having extent in both length and breadth
τούτου ἐν μέσῳ ἵδρυσε ναὸν, ἔνδοξον ἔργον,
of-this in middle he-set-up church glorious work
ἁγίου 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 μνῆμα φαεινοῖς ὡς ἔπρεπε κοσμήσας.
with-stones the tomb shining as befitted having-adorned

XXVIII · THE DEATHS OF HIS PARENTS

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 πεῖραν 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 γειτνιῶσα,
and that it-is terrible to-death bordering
ἔσπευδε τοῦ καταλαβεῖν τὴν Καππαδόκων χώραν·
he-hastened 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 ἐσθῆτα διέρρηξε καὶ τοῦ ἵππου κατῆλθεν,
the garment he-tore and from-the horse came-down
ἔνδοθεν δὲ γενόμενος, περιπλακεὶς τὸ σῶμα,
within and having-come having-embraced the body
θρηνῳδῶν 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 φθέγξον·
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 θρῆνον,
Then again having-increased at-least for long the lament
βοῶν ἐναπεφθέγγετο εἰς εὐήκοον πάντων·
shouting he-uttered in hearing of-all
«οὐκ ἀποκρίνῃ μοι τῷ σῷ ποθεινοτάτῳ τέκνῳ;
not do-you-answer me the your most-longed-for child
οὐκ ἀποφθέγγῃ μοι λαλῶν ὡς ἔθος εἶχες πάντα;
not do-you-speak-out to-me talking as custom you-had always
οἴμοι σιγᾷ τὸ μαντικὸν καὶ θεηγόρον στόμα·
alas is-silent the prophetic and God-speaking mouth
οἴμοι ἐκλείσθη ἡ φωνὴ ἡ πᾶσιν ἡδυτάτη·
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 ἰσχὺν ἀφεῖλε;
who the hands bound who the strength took-away
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
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 ἐπαφῆκες,
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 σοὺς, 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 ἡ 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 ἐθρήνει,
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

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 θαυμαστὸς 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
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 ἐναποφήναντες ὑμῖν λέξομεν τάδε.
little having-shown to-you we-shall-tell these(-things)
Οὕτω διῆγον χαίροντες καθ᾽ ἑκάστην ἡμέραν·
Thus they-lived rejoicing by each day
πολλάκις δὲ ἐλάμβανε κιθάραν πρὸ τοῦ τέλους
often and he-took lyre before the end
τοῦ ἀρίστου ὁ θαυμαστὸς, καὶ ἐπῇδεν ἡ κόρη
of-the luncheon the marvelous and sang-to-it the girl
μέλος, ὁποῖον Σειρηνῶν ἢ ποῖον ἀηδόνων
song such-as of-Sirens or such-as of-nightingales
ὑπερέβαινεν ἡδονὴν, τὰς ἀκοὰς ἐκπλῆττον·
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,
at-once the much-beautiful rose from-the couch
βλαττὶν ἐξήπλωνεν ἐν γῇ, ἐπέβαινεν ἐν τούτῳ.
silk she-spread on ground she-stepped on this
Φράσαι δὲ ὅλως ἀπορῶ κινήματα τῆς κόρης,
To-tell and at-all I-am-at-a-loss movements of-the girl
τὰς τῶν χειρῶν μεταστροφὰς, ποδῶν τὰς μεταβάσεις·
the of-the hands turnings of-feet the changes
ῥάως ἐφέροντο συχνῶς ἑπόμεναι τῷ ἤχῳ,
easily they-moved frequently following the sound
λυγίσματα ἀκόλουθα κρούσμασι τῆς κιθάρας.
bendings following strikings of-the lyre
Ὡς γὰρ μέλιτος γλύκασμα τοῖς ἀγνοοῦσι πέλει
As for of-honey sweetness to-those not-knowing is
ἐφικτὸν, οὕτω τὴν χαρὰν οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπαγγεῖλαι
attainable thus the joy not it-is to-announce
καὶ τέρψιν τὴν ἐξαίσιον ἰδιωμάτων ταύτης.
and delight the extraordinary of-(the)-peculiarities her
Εἶθ' οὕτως ἀνιστάμενοι τῆς τραπέζης προσῆκον
Then thus rising from-the table as-was-fitting
τῶν ἡδέων ἐτρέφοντο, εἶτα πρὸς τὸν λειμῶνα
of-the sweets they-fed then to the meadow
τὸν δηλωθέντα ἄνωθεν ὡραίου παραδείσου
the shown above of-beautiful garden
σφόδρα ἀγαλλιώμενοι, θεῷ εὐχαριστοῦντες
greatly exulting to-God thanking
οἱ νέοι οἱ περίβλεπτοι καὶ εὐγενεῖς τῷ ὄντι.
the young the admired and noble in-the being
Ἓν μόνον τούτων τὰς ψυχὰς ἐλύπει καθ' ἑκάστην,
One only of-them the souls grieved by each(-day)

ἀτεκνίας ἡ ἄσβεστος καὶ δεινοτάτη φλόγα·
of-childlessness the unquenchable and most-terrible flame
ἧς μόνοι πεῖραν 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' ἑκάστην.
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
τῆς εὐποιΐας λέγω δὴ καὶ τῆς ἐλεημοσύνης·
of-the beneficence I-say indeed and of-the almsgiving
ὅμως θελήματι θεοῦ ἥμαρτον τῆς ἐλπίδος,
yet by-will of-God they-missed the hope
ἀλλὰ λίαν ὡς σώφρονες τῷ θεῷ ηὐχαρίστουν,
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
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 ἀξιέπαινος ἐν γυναιξὶ φανεῖσα,
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 ἐλευθερώσασα 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
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 εὐγενῆ τεκοῦσα καὶ ὡραῖον·
root and branch noble having-borne and beautiful
ὃς πάντων τῶν Ἀγαρηνῶν φρυάγματα καθεῖλε,
who of-all the Hagarenes insolences destroyed
καὶ πόλεις προενόμευσε καὶ τῷ κράτει συνῆψε.
and cities plundered and to-the sovereignty joined
Πρὸ γὰρ τούτου τοῦ θαυμαστοῦ καὶ γενναίου Ἀκρίτου,
Before for this the marvelous and noble Akritas
ἀδεῶς ἐξερχόμενα γένη τῶν Αἰθιόπων
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 ἦγον.
the honorable and noble into slavery led

Ἡνίκα δὲ ὁ δι᾽ ἡμᾶς γεννηθεὶς ἐκ παρθένου
When but the because-of us born from virgin
ὡς ἀγαθὸς ηὐδόκησε πάντας ἐλευθερῶσαι
as good was-pleased all to-free
τὴν θαυμαστὴν καὶ ἔνδοξον ποιεῖ 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
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
Ἆρα πόσης ἀπήλαυσαν οἱ συγγενεῖς ἐκείνων
Then how-much enjoyed the kinsmen of-those
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, ἠρεμία μεγάλη,
but was peace everywhere calm great
καὶ πάντες ἄνθρωποι συχνῶς τῷ θεῷ ηὐχαρίστουν,
and all men often — to-God thanked

καὶ ἅπαντες τὸν Διγενὴν ἐκάλουν εὐεργέτην, 225
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
ᾗ 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
ᾅδης 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

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 τὸ Ἔμελ,
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
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 θρῃσκείας
some and being of them of-the paternal religion
χριστιανοὶ γεγόνασιν Ἀκρίτου νουθεσίᾳ.
Christians had-become of-Akritas by-admonition
Ἐκείνων, ὡς δεδήλωται, πρὸς τοῦτον ἀφιγμένων,
Those as has-been-shown to him having-arrived
ἀσμένως τούτους δέχεται ἡ φιλάγαθος γνώμη·
gladly them receives the good-loving mind
τούτων ὡς ὄντων εὐγενῶν κρειττόνων 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,
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᾽ ἑκάστην,
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 εὑρεθὲν εἶχε τοῦ ἀποδρᾶσαι,
not-yet for the(-thing) found had of-the to-run-away

ἀλλ᾽ εἰς χεῖρας τὰς ἑαυτοῦ εἴ τι δ᾽ ἂν καὶ ὑπῆρχε,
but into hands the his if anything but — also was

κἂν λέων, κἄν 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.
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
νοσήματι περιπεσὼν λίαν χαλεπωτάτῳ,
into-sickness having-fallen very most-grievous
ὃ παῖδες ὀπισθότονον τῶν ἰατρῶν 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 συνεῖχε,
the pain by himself and the suffering held-in
ἵνα μὴ θλίψῃ τὴν ψυχὴν τῆς πανεντίμου κόρης·
that not he-might-afflict the soul of-the all-honored girl
ὡς 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 ἐρεῖς μοι τί τὸ συμβὰν καὶ πιέζον σε ἄλγος;
not will-you-tell me what the having-happened and pressing you pain
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 hiding

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 ψυχή, 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 νεφροὺς, ῥάχιν, ὀστᾶ καὶ πάντας
loin for all and kidneys spine bones and all
τοὺς ἁρμούς μου διέλυσε, καὶ οὐ φέρω τοὺς πόνους.
the joints my it-loosened and not I-bear the pains
Τῶν ἰατρῶν καλείτω τις τῶν τοῦ στρατοῦ ἐν τάχει.»
Of-the physicians let-call someone of-those of-the army in haste
Οὗ καὶ ἐλθόντος τῇ ἑξῆς καὶ σφυγμοῦ ἁψαμένου,
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 ἰατρὸς 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 εἰρηκὼς αὐτῷ τοῦ ἐξελθεῖν προστάττει,
and nothing having-said to-him of-the to-go-out commands
τὴν δὲ κόρην εἰς τὸ ἐντὸς ὑπάρχουσαν ταμεῖον
the and girl in the within being chamber
εὐθὺς ἐκάλει πρὸς αὐτὸν, ἡ δὲ παρῆν 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, ἐφθέγξατο, φιλτάτης χωρισίας,
O of-the bitter he-uttered dearest separation
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
ὅπως μόνος τὴν ἁρπαγὴν ἐτόλμησα ποιῆσαι,
how alone the seizure I-dared to-make
τοὺς σοὺς γονεῖς μὴ πτοηθεὶς, 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
καὶ ἀδελφοὺς ὅπως τοὺς σοὺς, σὸν πρόσταγμα φυλάξας,
and brothers how the your your command having-kept
ἐκ τῶν ἵππων κατέβαλον μηδ' ὅλως τραυματίσας;
from the horses I-threw-down not at-all having-wounded
μέμνησαι ὅπως μόνην σε λαβεῖν ᾑρετισάμην,
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, φιλτάτη,
altogether because-of the boundless love your dearest
ταῦτα πάντα πεποίηκα ἵνα σε ἐκκερδίσω.
these all I-have-done that you I-might-win
Μνημονεύεις, ψυχὴ ἐμὴ, εἰς τὸ Βλαττολιβάδιν
Do-you-remember soul my at — Blattolibadin
ὅταν ὁ δράκων μόνην σε ἐν τῇ πηγῇ ὡς εὗρε,
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
σὺ δὲ φωνὴν ἐξέπεμψας καλοῦσα βοηθόν με,
you and voice sent-out calling helper me
ἧς ἐπακούσας τάχιον ἐν τῇ πηγῇ εὑρέθην,
which having-heard sooner at the spring I-was-found
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
αἱρούμην 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
ὅπως, ἐμοῦ καθεύδοντος, φῶς μου μεμυρισμένον,
how me sleeping light my perfumed
ὥρμησε τοῦ σπαράξαι σε, σὺ δὲ φωνὴν ἀφῆκας,
it-rushed of-the to-tear you you and voice let-out

ἧς ἐπακούσας πρὸς αὐτὸν κατεπήδησα θᾶττον,
which having-heard at him I-leapt-down sooner
καὶ θανατώσας ἀβλαβῆ ἐκ τῶν ὀνύχων τούτου
and having-put-to-death unharmed from the claws of-it
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 σαυτῆς ἤχῳ ὁδηγηθέντες,
the raiders by-the your sound guided
πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἦλθον ἀναιδῶς οἱ τοῦ Ἰωαννακίου,
to us came shamelessly those — of-Ioannakes
οἵ καὶ τόλμῃ ἐχρήσαντο ἡμᾶς ἀποχωρῖσαι·
who also with-daring used us to-separate
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 ἕνεκα τῆς σῆς ἀγάπης ἐποιούμην,
these(-things) and for-the-sake of-the your love I-did
ἧς 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, ψυχή μου,
Do-you-remember also of-the marvelous raiders soul my
Φιλοπαπποῦ τοῦ γέροντος, Κιννάμου καὶ Ἰωαννάκη,
of-Philopappous the old-man of-Kinnamos and of-Ioannakes
τῶν ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ λαλητῶν, πάντη περιβοήτων,
of-those in courage talked-of everywhere renowned
ἄοπλον ἐν τῷ ποταμῷ ὅπως ἐνέτυχόν με,
unarmed at the river how they-met me

φαρίοις ἐποχούμενοι, οἱ τρεῖς καθωπλισμένοι;
on-horses riding the three armed
Οἶδας ὅσα ἐσπούδασαν ἐμὲ τοῦ ἀποκτεῖναι,
Do-you-know how-much they-strove me of-the to-kill
ἡνίκα σε ἐσκέψαντο πρός με ἐπερχομένην;
when you they-saw toward me coming
σὺ δὲ φωνήν 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 δυναμωθεὶς τούτους ἐτροπωσάμην,
From which more having-been-strengthened them I-routed
καὶ κατὰ κράτος ἥττησα τῇ ῥάβδῳ 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 ἐπέζευσα, τοὺς μετ᾽ αὐτῆς ἀνεῖλον,
— 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 πολλῷ πλείονα διὰ τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην,
And other(-things) by-much more because-of the your love
ἐμὴ ψυχή, 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
ὁ Χάρων δέ με ἐκ παντὸς τὸν ἀήττητον τρέπει,
— Charon and me by all the unconquered routs
ᾅδης 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
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 ἐλεήσει;
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 ἐμοὺς, ὦ παμφιλτάτη, λόγους
but keep the my O all-dearest words
καὶ τελευταίαν βούλησιν ἐμοῦ μὴ ἀθετήσῃς,
and last wish of-mine not set-aside
ἵνα βιώσῃ τοῦ λοιποῦ τινὰ μὴ φοβουμένη.
that you-may-live for-the future anyone not fearing
Οἶδ' ὡς οὐχ ἕξεις δυνατὸν χηρείαν ὑπομεῖναι,
I-know that not you-will-have possible widowhood to-endure
ἀλλ' ἄνδρα, μετὰ θάνατον ἐμὸν, ἕτερον λάβῃς,
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 πλανηθῇς εἰς πλοῦτον ἢ εἰς δόξαν,
And look lest you-be-led-astray to wealth or to glory
ἀλλ' εἰς ἀνδρεῖον ἄγουρον τολμηρὸν καὶ γενναῖον,
but to brave youth daring and noble
καὶ βασιλεύσεις ἐπὶ γῆς ὡς πρότερον, ψυχή 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 θερμοτέροις·
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 ἁγνὴν 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 ταμεῖον,
Thus having-said she-comes into the within chamber
χεῖρας τε πρὸς ἀνατολὰς ἐκτείνασα 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 ὕψιστον ἐπηύξατο τοιάδε·
to — God the most-high prayed such(-things)

«δέσποτα, δέσποτα θεὲ, 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
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 θλῖψιν·
see my the humiliation see my also the affliction
καὶ ὥς ποτε παράλυτον ἐξήγειρας, οἰκτίρμον,
and as once paralytic you-raised compassionate
καὶ τὸ θυγάτριόν ποτε τὸ τοῦ ἑκατοντάρχου,
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 ὡς ἀγαθὸς τὴν ἐμὴν εὐσπλαγχνίαν,
pity as good the my compassion
σπλαγχνίσθητι νεότητος, Χριστὲ, 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 ἐσμὲν 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 ξενιτείαν·
have-mercy lover-of-mankind the my sojourn-abroad
τὴν μοναξίαν οἴκτειρον, 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 ἀφεῖναι,
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
δεδεμένας σταυροειδῶς, μενούσας ἀκινήτους,
bound crosswise remaining motionless
κεκαλυμμένους ὀφθαλμοὺς, πόδας συνεσταλμένους·
covered eyes feet drawn-together
μή με τοσαύτην κατιδεῖν παραχωρήσῃς θλῖψιν,
not me so-great to-see allow affliction
ὦ ποιητά μου καὶ θεὲ, ὡς δυνάμενος πάντα.»
O maker my and God as being-able all

She finds him dying and dies upon him; he dies too. The lords of the east bury them near Trosis and, at the tomb, rail against death, Charon, and Hades; 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
δεηθεῖσα, ὑπέστρεψε τοῦ ἰδεῖν τὸν Ἀκρίτην,
having-prayed returned of-the to-see — Akritas
καὶ ὁρᾷ τοῦτον ἄφωνον οἴμοι ψυχορραγοῦντα·
and sees him voiceless alas breathing-his-last
καὶ τὸν πόνον μὴ φέρουσα ὀδύνης τῆς ἀπείρου,
and the pain not bearing of-grief the boundless
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 πεῖραν ἔσχε,
Not-yet for the marvelous of-affliction trial had
διὰ τοῦτο ὑπενεγκεῖν ταύτην οὐκ ἠδυνήθη.
because-of this to-bear it not she-was-able
Εἶτα ἰδὼν ὁ θαυμαστὸς, τῇ χειρὶ ψηλαφήσας,
Then having-seen the marvelous with-the hand having-felt
καὶ γὰρ ἀκμὴν αὐτὸς ζῶν ἦν θεοῦ τῇ εὐσπλαγχνίᾳ,
and for still he living was of-God by-the compassion
καὶ ταύτην 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
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 ψυχάς, 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 δομεστίκῳ παρευθὺς δηλοῖ τῷ τραπεζίτῃ
to-the domestic forthwith makes-known to-the steward
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 πλεῖστοι,
lords of-the east came very-many
Χαρζιανοὶ, Καππάδοκες, Κουκουλιθαριῶται,
Charzianoi Cappadocians Koukoulithariotes
Κονδανδῖται οἱ δόκιμοι, Θαρσῖται, Μαυρονῖται,
Kondandites the approved Tharsites Mauronites
Βαγδαίται οἱ ἐκλεκτοὶ σὺν Βαθυρρυακίταις,
Bagdaites the chosen with Bathyrrhyakites
Βαβυλώνιοι εὐγενεῖς καὶ πολλοὶ ἐκ τοῦ Ἔμελ,
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
ὡς καὶ πάντα τὰ ἔξωθεν τοῦ οἴκου πεπληρῶσθαι.
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 ὀδυρμοὺς, 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 ἀνέσπαον, ἔτιλλον γενειάδας,
the indeed hairs tore plucked beards
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
σελήνη, μελανώθητι, μηκέτι δαδουχήσῃς·
moon be-blackened no-longer carry-torch
αἱ τῶν ἀστέρων ἅπασαι σβέσθητε φρυκτωρίαι,
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
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
Οἴμοι, τί τὸ ὁρώμενον; ἄφνω δύο φωστῆρες,
Alas what the being-seen suddenly two luminaries
οἱ πάντα κόσμον λάμψαντες ἔδυναν πρὸ τῆς ὥρας!»
those all world having-illumined set before the hour
Ταῦτα καὶ τούτοις ὅμοια ἔλεγον θρηνῳδοῦντες
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 λείψανα 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
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
ἵν' οἱ βλέποντες ἔξωθεν τοὺς νέους μακαρίζουν,
that those seeing from-outside the youths may-call-blessed
τῆς ἀκρωρείας πόρρωθεν δυνάμενος ὀφθῆναι·
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
Εἶτ' 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 δακρύοντες ἀσχέτως·
such(-things) to-say begin weeping unrestrainably
«ἴδετε ποῦ κατάκειται ἡ τόλμη τῆς ἀνδρείας,
see where lies the daring of-the courage
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 ἡ 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
οἴμοι, οἴμοι τί γέγονεν ἡ 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 εἴληφεν ὁ γεννάδας
so-much grace from God has-received the noble
ὡς μόνῳ τῷ ὀνόματι τρέπειν τοὺς ἐναντίους·
as by-alone the name to-rout the enemies
εἰ γάρ ποτε ὁ θαυμαστὸς ἐξῆλθε τοῦ θηρεῦσαι,
if for ever the marvelous went-out of-the to-hunt
θηρία πάντα ἔτρεχον εἰς τὴν ἕλην 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
ἆρα τίς κατετόλμησε τὸν ἰσχυρὸν δεσμεῦσαι;
then who dared the strong to-bind
ἆρα τίς τὸν ἀήττητον ἴσχυσεν ὑποτάξαι;
then who the unconquered was-able to-subdue

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
καὶ ᾅδης 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 φείδονται, οὐ γηραιοὺς 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)
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
Οὗτοι καὶ νῦν τὸν θαυμαστὸν Ἀκρίτην συλλαβόντες,
These also now the marvelous Akritas having-seized
ὁ τάφος μὲν κατακρατεῖ, γῆ 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
ᾅδης 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 Ἀδὰμ καὶ θεοῦ ἀποφάσει.
by-the transgression — of-Adam and of-God by-sentence

Ἀλλ', ὦ δέσποτα καὶ θεὲ, τοιοῦτον στρατιώτην
But O master and God such soldier
οὕτω νέον, οὕτω 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 ὁρώμενα, 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 ἂς ἀνέζησεν, ἂς ἔφερε τὸν νοῦν του,
Christ and if-only he-came-to-life-again if-only he-brought the mind his
ἂς τὸν ἐθεασάμεθα κρατοῦντα τὸ ῥαβδίν του,
if-only him we-beheld holding the mace his
ἂς ἀπεθάνομεν εὐθὺς καὶ μηδεὶς ὑπελείφθη!
if-only we-died at-once and no-one was-left
ὤμοι, 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 ἁμαρτάνουσι καὶ μὴ μετανοοῦσι,
woe to-those sinning and not repenting
τοῖς θαρροῦσι νεότητι, ἰσχύϊ καυχωμένοις!»
to-those trusting in-youth in-strength boasting

Ταῦτα καὶ τούτοις ὅμοια θρηνήσαντες ἐκ βάθους,
These(-things) and to-these like having-lamented from depth
οἴκαδε ἀνεχώρησαν οἱ ἐκεῖ ἀθροισθέντες
homeward withdrew those there having-been-gathered
πρὸς τὴν ταφὴν τῶν εὐγενῶν καὶ εὐαγῶν σωμάτων.
for the burial of-the noble and holy bodies
Ἀλλ', 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 εὐθαλῆ 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
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 δεξιοῖς 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
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

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

The Escorial Version

THE ESCORIAL VERSION

I · THE DUEL AND THE SLAUGHTERED GIRLS

The manuscript opens in the middle of a brother's charge to Constantine: he must fear a mother's curse more than death. The emir rides out against Constantine and, struck with his mace, yields him the victory. Sent to search the camp, the five brothers find their sister nowhere; a Saracen points them to a stream where girls lie butchered past knowing, and they lament and bury them all in one tomb.

«Κρότοι καὶ κτύποι καὶ ἀπειλαὶ μὴ σὲ καταπτοήσουν·
Clashes and blows and threats not you let-them-cow
μὴ φοβηθῇς τὸν θάνατον παρὰ μητρὸς κατάραν·
not fear the death more-than (a)-mother's curse
μητρὸς κατάραν φύλαττε καὶ μὴ πληγὰς καὶ πόνους.
(a)-mother's curse guard-against and not blows and pains
Μέλη καὶ μέλη ἂν σὲ ποιήσουσιν,
Limbs and limbs if you they-make
βλέπε ἐντροπὴν μὴ ποιήσῃς·
see shame not you-make
ἂν κατεβοῦμεν.
if we-come-down
Τοὺς πέντε ἂς μᾶς φονεύσουσιν καὶ τότε ἂς τὴν ἐπάρουν·
The five let us they-murder and then let her they-take
μόνον προθύμως ἔξελθε εἰς τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ τὴν τόλμην,
only eagerly go-out to of-the emir the daring
τὰ δύο σου χέρια φύλαττε καὶ ὁ Θεὸς νὰ μᾶς βοηθήσῃ.»
the two your hands guard and — God that us may-help
καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν, εἰς αὐτὸν ὑπαγαίνει·
and the emir mounted to him goes

φαρὶν ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν, φυτιλὸν καὶ ἀστερᾶτον·
(a)-horse he-mounted dappled and star-marked
ὀμπρὸς εἰς τὸ μετῶπιν του χρυσὸν ἀστέραν εἶχεν,
in-front on the forehead its (a)-golden star it-had
τὰ τέσσερά του ὀνύχια ἀργυροτζάτωπα ἦσαν.
the four its hooves silver-shod were
Καλιγοκάρφια ὁλάργυρα ἦτον καλιγωμένον,
With-horseshoe-nails all-silver it-was shod
ἡ οὐρά του σμυρνωμένη μὲ τὸ μαργαριτάριν.
the tail its plaited with the pearl
Πρασινορρόδινος ἀετὸς εἰς τὴν σέλλαν ἐξ ὀπίσω,
Green-and-rose (an)-eagle on the saddle from behind
καὶ ἠσκιάζει τὰς κουτάλας του ἐκ τοῦ ἡλίου τὰς ἀκτῖνας.
and shaded the shoulders his from the sun the rays
κοντάριν ἐμαλάκιζε βένετον, χρυσωμένον.
(a)-spear he-brandished blue gilded
Καὶ τότε πάλιν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τοῦτον τὸν λόγον λέγει·
And then again the emir this the word says
«ἀπὸ πολὺν πόλεμον καὶ ἀπὸ δοκιμασίας
from much war and from trials
καὶ πάλιν ἔχω ἀποδοχὴν νὰ ἐπάρω καὶ ἐτοῦτον τὸ νῖκος.»
and again I-have confidence that I-take also this the victory
Σαρακηνὸς ἐλάλησεν τὸν ἀμηρᾶν τῆς γλώσσης·
(A)-Saracen spoke-to the emir of-the tongue
«αὐτό, ἀμηρᾶ, μὴ τὸ γελᾷς, μὴ τὸ κατονειδίζῃς·
it emir not it laugh-at not it revile
ἐγὼ παιδὶν καλὸν θεωρῶ καὶ δυνατὸν πολέμου,
I (a)-boy fine I-see and strong in-war
καὶ ἂν ἔχῃ καρδίαν ὁ ἄγουρος ὅτι νὰ γυρίζῃ ἐγλήγορα,
and if has heart the youth so that he-turn quickly

τὴν τόλμην τούτην θεωρῶ
the daring this I-see
νὰ ἐπάρῃ καὶ τὸ ἀδελφι του καὶ ὅλον μας τὸ κοῦρσος.»
that he-take also the sister his and all our the plunder
Ταχέως ἐκαβαλλίκευσαν, εἰς τὸν κάμπον κατεβαίνουν.
Swiftly they-mounted to the plain they-go-down
σπουδὴ γὰρ καὶ ὁ φθόνος του, μὴ καὶ εἰς δειλία τον φέρῃ.
haste for and the envy his lest also into cowardice him it-bring
«αὐτὸς σκυλὶ Ῥωμαῖος ἔν', μὴ σὲ κακοδικήσῃ.»
he (a)-dog Roman is lest you he-wrong
Σαρακηνὸς ἐλάλησεν τὸν ἀμηρᾶν τῆς γλώσσης·
(A)-Saracen spoke-to the emir of-the tongue
«πιάσε μου, λέ, τὸν ἄγουρον ταχέως νὰ τὸν νικήσῃς.»
seize for-me he-says the youth quickly that him you-defeat
εὐθὺς ἐκαβαλλίκευσαν, εἰς τὸν κάμπον κατεβαίνουν·
at-once they-mounted to the plain they-go-down
ὡς δράκοντες ἐσύριζαν καὶ ὡς λέοντες ἐβρυχοῦντα
like dragons they-hissed and like lions they-roared
καὶ ὡς ἀετοὶ ἐπέτουντα καὶ ἐσμίξασιν οἱ δύο.
and like eagles they-flew and clashed the two
Καὶ τότε νὰ ἴδῃς πόλεμον καλῶν παλληκαρίων,
And then that you-see (a)-battle of-fine young-heroes
καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς μάχης τῆς πολλῆς κροῦσιν διασυντόμως·
and from the battle the great they-strike swiftly
καὶ ἀπὸ τὸν κτύπον τὸν πολὺν καὶ ἀπὸ τὸ δὸς καὶ λάβε,
and from the din the great and from the give and take
οἱ κάμποι φόβον εἶχασιν καὶ τὰ βουνία ἠδονοῦσαν·
the plains fear had and the mountains were-pained
τὰ δένδρη ἐξερριζώνοντα καὶ ὁ ἥλιος ἐσκοτίσθη·
the trees were-uprooted and the sun was-darkened

τὸ αἷμαν ἐκατέρρεεν εἰς τὰ σκαλόλουρά των
the blood ran-down to the saddle-straps their
καὶ ὁ ἵδρως τους ἐξέβαινεν ἀπάνω ἀπὸ τὰ λουρίκια.
and the sweat their came-out above from the cuirasses
ἦτον γὰρ τοῦ Κωνσταντῆ γοργότερος ὁ μαῦρος
was for — than-Constantine swifter the black(-horse)
καὶ καλὸς νεώτερος ἦτον ὁ καβελλάρις·
and fine young(-man) was the rider
καὶ ἐκατέβηκεν εἰς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν καὶ κρούει του ῥαβδέα.
and he-came-down on the emir and strikes him (a)-mace-blow
καὶ τότε ἐχέρισεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς νὰ τρέμῃ καὶ νὰ φεύγῃ.
and then began the emir that he-tremble and that he-flee
Σαρακηνὸς ἐλάλησεν τὸν ἀμηρᾶν τῆς γλώσσης·
(A)-Saracen spoke-to the emir of-the tongue
«Ὦ πιάσε μου, λέ, τὸν ἄγουρον ταχέως νὰ τὸν νικήσῃς,
O seize for-me he-says the youth quickly that him you-defeat
μὴ εἰς σύντομόν του γύρισμα πάρῃ τὴν κεφαλήν σου.
lest in short his turn he-take the head your
αὐτὸς καλὰ σ᾽ ἐσέβηκεν, τώρα νὰ σὲ γκρεμνίσῃ.
he well you has-entered now that you he-throw-down
ἐγὼ δέ, μοῦ λέ, οὐδὲ τὸν ἐγνοιάζομαι νὰ τὸν καταπονέσῃς,
I and to-me he-says not-even him I-care that him you-overcome
ἀλλὰ μὴ τὸ καυχάσεται ὅτι ἔτρεψεν φουσσάτε.»
but lest it he-boast that he-routed armies
καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ὡς τὸ ἤκουσεν μακρέα τὸν ἀποξέβην·
and the emir when it he-heard far him he-came-out
ἔρριψεν τὸ κοντάριν του καὶ δάκτυλον τοῦ δείχνει,
he-threw-down the spear his and (a)-finger to-him shows
καὶ μετὰ τοῦ δακτύλου του τοιοῦτον λόγον λέγει·
and with the finger his such (a)-word says

«ζῇς νὰ χαίρεσαι, καλὲ νεώτερε, ἐδικόν σου ἔναι τὸ νῖκος.»
live that you-rejoice fine young(-man) own your is the victory
τὸν λόγον οὐκ ἐπλήρωσεν, ἐστράφην ἐντροπιασμένος,
the word not he-completed he-turned shamed
καὶ ὁ Κωνσταντῖνος ὑπάει εἰς τοὺς ἐδικούς του.
and — Constantine goes to the own his
Καὶ οἱ πέντε ἐκαβαλλίκευσαν, εἰς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν ὑπάγουν·
And the five mounted to the emir they-go
«ὦ ἀμηρᾶ, πρωταμηρᾶ, καὶ πρῶτε τῆς Συρίας,
O emir chief-emir and first — of-Syria
ὦ ἀμηρᾶ, δοῦλε θεοῦ, πλήρωσον ὡς μᾶς εἶπες,
O emir slave of-God fulfill as to-us you-said
καὶ δεῖξε μας τὸ ἀδέλφιν μας νὰ χαροῦν οἱ ψυχές μας.»
and show us the sister our that rejoice the souls our
καὶ τότε πάλιν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς μαινόμενος τοῦ λέγει·
and then again the emir raging to-him says
«ἐβγᾶτε εἰς τὰ φουσσάτα μου, γυρεύσετε τὰς τέντας,
go-out to the armies my search the tents
καὶ ἂν εὕρετε τὸ ἀδέλφι σας, εἰς μία νὰ σᾶς τὸ δώσω.»
and if you-find the sister your at once that to-you it I-give
Καὶ τότε οἱ πέντε ἀδελφοὶ τὰς τέντας ἐγυρεῦσαν·
And then the five brothers the tents searched
ἐγύρευσαν καὶ οὐκ ηὗραν την, ἤρξατο πάλι νὰ κλαίουν.
they-searched and not found her began again that they-weep
Σαρακηνὸν ἠπάντησαν ἀπέξωθεν τὰς τέντας,
(A)-Saracen they-met outside the tents
καὶ λόγια τοῦ ἐλαλήσασιν μετὰ πολλῆς ὀδύνης·
and words to-him they-spoke with much grief

«κἂν ψηλαφᾶτε οἱ ἄρχοντες ὡς διὰ γάμον κορασίου
if-even you-search the lords as for (the)-marriage of-(a)-girl
νὰ εἶν' καὶ ἡ κόρη θαυμαστή, νὰ ἔνι καὶ Ῥωμάσσα,
that be also the girl wondrous that be also (a)-Roman-woman
μὴ ἔλθατε τὸ ἐπάνμορφον ῥυάκιν·
not go-to the all-lovely stream
χθὲς ἐν αὐτῷ ἐσφάξαμεν ἡδονικὰ κοράσια,
yesterday in it we-slaughtered delightful girls
διότι οὐδὲν ἠθέλασιν ὡσὰν τὰς ἐλαλοῦμαν.»
because not they-wished as them we-spoke
Καὶ ὡσὰν τὸ ἐκοῦσαν οἱ ἄρχοντες ἐθλίβησαν μεγάλως,
And when it heard the lords they-were-grieved greatly
καὶ ὥραν πολλὴν ἐπιάσασιν καὶ εἰς λογισμοὺς ἐμπῆκαν.
and (an)-hour long they-held and into thoughts entered
Καὶ μετὰ ὥρας περισσὰς ἐφέρασιν τὸν νοῦν τους·
And after hours many they-brought-back the mind their
τὰ δάκρυα τους ἐσφουγγίζασιν, τὰ ῥέτενα γυρίζουν,
the tears their they-wiped the reins they-turn
καὶ ἤλθασιν καὶ ηὕρασιν τὸ ἑρμηνευθὲν τὸ ῥυάκιν.
and they-came and found the pointed-out the stream
ἐκεῖ ηὗραν τὰ κοράσια εἰς τὸ αἷμαν κυλισμένα·
there they-found the girls in the blood rolled
αἱ μὲν αἱ χεῖρες ἔλειπον, ἄλλων οἱ κεφαλές των,
the indeed the hands were-missing of-others the heads their
ὅλες μαχαιροκοπημένες ἦν καὶ εἰς τὸ αἷμα κυλισμένες.
all knife-backed were and in the blood rolled
Τὰς χεῖρας ἐξήπλωσαν, τὰς κεφαλάς των κροῦσιν,
The hands they-spread-out the heads their they-strike

καὶ βλέπουν καὶ τὰ πρόσωπα
and they-look-at also the faces
νὰ ἐγνωρίζουν τὴν ἀδελφήν τους,
that they-recognize the sister their
καὶ ὅλες ἐγυρεύσασιν, στέκουν καὶ θεωροῦν τας,
and all they-searched they-stand and gaze-at them
καὶ οὐδὲν ἠμπορέσασιν νὰ ἐγνωρίσουσιν
and not they-could that they-recognize
ποσῶς τὴν ἀδελφήν τους·
at-all the sister their
χοῦμαν ἐπλῆραν ἐκ τῆς γῆς. τὰς κεφαλάς των τὸ βάνουν,
earth they-took from the ground the heads their it they-put
ὅτι συζουλισμένες ἦν καὶ εἰς τὸ αἷμαν κυλισμένες.
for crushed they-were and in the blood rolled
Καὶ ὡς εἴδασιν παράνομα τὰ ποῖα οὐδὲν ἐλπίζαν,
And when they-saw lawless(-things) the(-things) which not they-expected
εἰς θλῖψιν ἐσεβήκασιν, καὶ κάθουνται καὶ κλαίουν,
into grief they-entered and they-sit and weep
τὸν ἥλιον ἐντρυχώνοντες μετὰ πολλῶν δακρύων·
the sun beseeching with many tears
«κὺρ ἥλιε μου, τί νὰ ποιήσωμεν
lord sun my what that we-do
νὰ εὑροῦμεν τὴν ἀδελφήν μας,
that we-find the sister our
καὶ πὲς νὰ τὴν ἐγνωρίσωμεν, νὰ τὴν θέλωμεν θάψει·
and tell that her we-recognize that her we-may bury
ποῖον μαντάτον νὰ τὴν ὑπάγωμεν τὴν ταπεινήν μας μαννα;
what news that to-her we-take the humble our mother
κὺρ ἥλιε, τί μᾶς ἔποικες καὶ ἐκακοδίκησές μας;
lord sun what to-us have-you-done and have-wronged us

καὶ ἀπὲ τοῦ νῦν οὐ πρέπει μας νὰ εἴμεσθε εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
and from the now not it-befits us that we-be in the world
ὅτι ἐμᾶς εἰς τὸν κόσμον πολεμοῦμεν καὶ δικαιῶμεν ἄλλους.
for ourselves in the world we-war-against and justify others
γῆ, θρήνησον πικρῶς καὶ τὸ θέαμα κλαῦσον,
earth lament bitterly and the spectacle bewail
ὅτι εἶδες θαυμάσματα πολλὰ
for you-saw marvels many
καὶ κακὰ νὰ σφάξουν τὴν ἀδελφήν μας,
and evil(-ones) that they-slaughter the sister our
ἢ πάλιν ὅτι αἰχμαλώτευσαν τὴν ἡλιογεννημένην,
or again that they-captured the sun-born(-one)
καὶ κοράσια ἔσφαξαν πολλὰ καὶ ἐποῖκαν τα θυσίας
and girls they-slaughtered many and made them sacrifices
εἰς ναοὺς τῶν εἰδώλων,
in temples of-the idols
εἰς μασγίδια τούρκικα καὶ εἰς ναοὺς μεγάλους.
in mosques Turkish and in temples great
ἀφοῦ κατῆλθεν ὁ Χριστὸς ἐξ οὐρανοῦ εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
after came-down — Christ from heaven into the world
ἐδίωξεν τὰς παράνομας καὶ μυσαρὰς θυσίας,
he-drove-out the lawless and loathsome sacrifices
ἔδειξεν καὶ τὸν θάνατον καλῶς εἰς τὸν κόσμον τοῦτον,
he-showed also the death well in the world this
καὶ μονον δὲν τοὺς ἔσωζεν νὰ ἔβγαλουν τὴν ψυχήν σου.
and only not them he-saved that they-take-out the soul your
ἀμμὴ ἔκοψαν καὶ τὰ κάλλη σου καὶ οὐδὲν σὲ ἐγνωρίζουν·
but they-cut-off also the beauties your and not you they-recognize
καὶ ἰδοὺ τὸ σῶμα φαίνεται ὀμπρός μας,
and look the body is-seen before us

τὴν δὲ μορφήν σου οὐ βλέπομεν, ἔδε ἀνομία μεγάλη.
the but form your not we-see behold lawlessness great
ἀμμὴ ὅμως ἡ ψυχὴ ὅταν ἔβγη χάνεται καὶ ἡ ὄψις.
but yet the soul when it-goes-out is-lost also the face
ὦ ἡ καλὴ ἀδελφή μας, καλὸν ἐχάθης καὶ οὐδέν σε θεωροῦμεν
O the fine sister our well lost and not you we-see
ἐξέβηκέν σου καὶ ἡ ψυχή, ἐχάθηκεν καὶ τὸ κάλλος·
went-out your also the soul was-lost also the beauty
ὁ σκύλος σὲ ἐσκότωσεν καὶ ἐχάσεν σου τὰ κάλλη·
the dog you killed and destroyed your the beauties
ὦ πονηρίας, ὠμότητος, ὦ βία τῶν ἀλλοφύλων·
O wickedness cruelty O violence of-the foreigners
ὦ παναθλία τί ἔπαθες ἐκ τῆς παραδικίας;
O all-wretched(-one) what did-you-suffer from the injustice
καὶ οὐκ ἐβλέπεις, θεός, ἐξ οὐρανοῦ χυθέντος σου τὸ αἷμα,
and not did-you-see God from heaven shed your the blood
καὶ ὑπέμεινες, μακρόθυμε, τούτων τὴν ἀνομίαν;
and did-you-endure long-suffering(-one) their the lawlessness
δέξου καὶ λάβε, ἀδελφή μας, θρήνους τῶν ἀδελφῶν σου·
receive and take sister our laments of-the brothers your
ἄπλωσε, παμμακάριστε, δέξου πηγὰς δακρύων·
stretch-out all-blessed(-one) receive springs of-tears
μίαν μόνην σὲ εἴχαμεν παραμυθίαν μεγάλην.
one only you we-had consolation great
ὡς προσδοκοῦμεν ἐπόθανες, καὶ δόξα σοι ὁ θεός,
as we-expect you-died and glory to-you — God
ὅτι ἐφύλαξες τὴν παρθενίαν σου, κόρη.»
for you-kept the virginity your girl
καὶ τότε πολλὰ ἀναγκάσθησαν κλαίοντες τὴν ἀδελφήν τους,
and then much they-were-constrained weeping-for the sister their

καὶ ψηλαφῶντες ἀκριβῶς οὐκ ἠμποροῦν τὴν εὕρειν.
and searching carefully not they-can her find
κοινὸν τάφον ἐποίησαν καὶ ὅλες ἀπέσω ἔθαψαν
(a)-common tomb they-made and all within they-buried

II · THE EMIR'S SURRENDER

The brothers turn on the emir with drawn swords. He asks their race, boasts of his own victories, and confesses that he holds their sister untouched; he will deny his faith and become a Christian if they take him as their brother-in-law. They find her on an aloe-wood couch spread with a golden coverlet, withered with grief. The emir escorts her to Romania, they marry, and she bears Digenis Akritas.

καὶ ἐστράφησαν εἰς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν μετὰ κακῆς καρδίας·
and they-turned to the emir with evil heart
ἔλυσαν τὰ φηκάρια του καὶ οἱ πέντε ἐξεσπαθῶσαν
they-loosed the scabbards his and the five drew-swords
καὶ καταπρόσωπα τὸν ἀμηρᾶν οὕτως τὸν συντυχαίνουν·
and face-to-face the emir thus him they-address
«ὦ ἀμηρᾶ, πρωτοαμηρᾶ καὶ σκύλε τῆς Συρίας,
O emir chief-emir and dog — of-Syria
τὸ ἀδέλφιν μας τὸ ἔρπαξες μηδέν μας τὸ στερέψῃς·
the sister our which you-seized not-at-all us it deprive
ἢ δεῖξε μας τὸ ἀδέλφι μας ἢ κόπτομεν τὴν κεφαλήν σου.»
either show us the sister our or we-cut-off the head your
καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τούτους ὁ ἀμηρᾶς πολλὰ τοὺς ἐφοβήθην,
and when saw them the emir much them he-feared
ἐστάθη καὶ ἀνερώταν τους· «τίνος καὶ πόθεν εἶστε,
he-stood and asked them of-whom and whence are-you
καὶ ποίας γενεᾶς ὑπάρχετε ἀπὸ τῆς Ῥωμανίας;»
and of-what race are-you from — Romania

καὶ τότε ὁ πρῶτος ἀδελφὸς οὕτως ἀπηλογᾶται·
and then the first brother thus answers
«ἡμεῖς γὰρ εὑρισκόμεθα ἀπὸ γενεᾶς μεγάλης·
we for are from (a)-race great
ὁ πατήρ μας ἦτον *** τῶν Δουκάδων τὴν μερέαν καὶ γενέαν
the father our was (lacuna) — of-Doukai the side and race
. δ. ἡ μήτηρ μας ἦτον ἀπὸ τοὺς Κὺρ Μαγάστρους·
(trace) the mother our was from the Kyr Magastroi
δώδεκα θείους εἴχαμεν καὶ ἕξι ἐξαδέλφους·
twelve uncles we-had and six cousins
τὸν κύριν μας ἐξώρισαν διὰ μούρτει καὶ διὰ φουσσάτα·
the lord our they-exiled for (obscure) and for armies
ἐκεῖνοι ἂν σὲ εἶχαν εὕρει, ποτὲ Συρίαν οὐκ ἐθεώρεις·
they if you had found never Syria not you-would-see
πέντε ἀδελφοὺς ἐγέννησεν ἡ μάννα μας τοὺς βλέπεις,
five brothers bore the mother our whom you-see
καὶ μίαν εἴχαμεν ἀδελφήν, τὴν ἡλιογεννημένην·
and one we-had sister the sun-born(-one)
καὶ οὕτως τὴν ἐχαιρόμασθε μὲ τὰς ἀνδραγαθίας.
and thus her we-rejoiced-in with the deeds-of-valor
ὁ πατήρ μας ἦτον Ἀαρὼν καὶ θεῖος μας ὁ Καροΐλης.
the father our was Aaron and uncle our — Karoilis
ὁ Μουσελὼμ ὁ ἐξάκουστος πατὴρ ἦτον τοῦ πατρός μας
— Mouselom the renowned father was of-the father our
καὶ ἐκεῖ τοὺς ἐνταφίασαν εἰς τὸν τάφον τοῦ προφήτου.»
and there them they-buried in the tomb of-the prophet
καὶ τότε πάλιν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς οὕτως ἀπηλογᾶται·
and then again the emir thus answers
«ἐμὲν ποτὲ οὐκ ἐπήντισεν στρατηγὸς ἢ τοπάρχης,
me ever not met (a)-general or (a)-governor

φουσσάτα πάλιν ἔντρεψα ῥωμαικὰ καὶ πέρσικα
armies again I-routed Roman and Persian
καὶ κάστρα ἐπαράλαβα ἀμύθητα καὶ ἡγεμόνας·
and fortresses I-took-over untold and princes
ἐπίασα Πέρσας καὶ στρατιώτας.
I-seized Persians and soldiers
τὸ θέαμα τὸ ἔπαθα εἰς ἐσᾶς ποτὲ οὐκ ἐλησμονῶ το·
the spectacle which I-suffered at you never not I-forget it
ἀφ' ὧν ἠρξάμην πολεμεῖν ἀνδραγαθίας μεγάλας,
from when I-began to-war deeds-of-valor great
οὐδὲν ηὑρέθηκεν κανεὶς ἵνα μὲ καταφθάσῃ
not was-found anyone that me overtake
καὶ πολεμήσῃ με, νεώτερε, καὶ ἐπάρῃ μου τὸ κοῦρσος·
and fight me young(-man) and take my the plunder
καὶ ἐδάρτε τὸ ἔπαθα εἰς ἐσᾶς ποτὲ οὐκ ἐλησμονῶ το·
and now which I-suffered at you never not I-forget it
ἐντροπίασα τὰ φουσσάτα μου καὶ ὅλην μου τὴν γενέαν.
I-shamed the armies my and all my the race
σήμερον νὰ ἀπόθανα καὶ οὐ θέλω τὴν ζωήν μου.
today that I-had-died and not I-want the life my
ἀμμὴ ἂς ἀφήσω τὰ πολλὰ καὶ τὸ φλυαροστολίζειν,
but let I-leave the many(-things) and the to-adorn-with-chatter
καὶ ἀποδὰ σᾶς λέγω φανερὰ ἅπασαν τὴν ἀλήθειαν·
and from-here to-you I-say plainly all the truth
ἂν ἔν' καὶ καταδέχεσθε νὰ μὲ ἔχετε γαμπρό σας,
if it-is also you-consent that me you-have (as)-son-in-law your
ἐγὼ ἔχω καὶ τὸ ἀδέλφι σας καὶ ὡς δι' αὐτὴν μὴ λυπᾶσθε,
I have also the sister your and as for her not grieve
καὶ τοῦτο ὀμνύω καὶ λέγω σας μὰ τὸν προφήτην,
and this I-swear and tell you by the prophet

τὸν μέγαν Μαχουμέτην,
the great Mahomet
οὔτε φίλημαν μ' ἔδωκεν, οὔτε μιλίαν τῆς εἶπα·
neither (a)-kiss me she-gave nor (a)-word to-her I-said
ἐσᾶς τοὺς πέντε ἐπάντεχεν ἡμέρας τὲ καὶ νύκτας
you the five she-awaited days both and nights
καὶ ἐγὼ ὡς διατ' ἐτούτην ἤκρυβα καὶ ἀνεγύριζά σας·
and I as for her I-hid and I-sought you
Καὶ τώρα ὑπάτε εἰς τὴν τέντα μου
And now go to the tent my
νὰ εὑρῆτε τὴν ἀδελφήν σας.
that you-find the sister your
οἱ ἄνομοι Ἀραβῖται καὶ ἄλλας πολλὰς ἐπιάσασιν
the lawless Arabites also others many seized
καὶ ἐπούλησαν καὶ ἔσφαξάν τας ἀνόμως καὶ ἀδίκως.
and sold and slaughtered them lawlessly and unjustly
Καὶ ἡ ἀδελφή σας ἔτυχεν ἐμένα εἰς τὸ κοῦρσος
And the sister your fell-to me in the plunder
καὶ αὐτὴν ἐπαραφύλαττα διὰ τὰ ὡραῖα της κάλλη·
and her I-guarded-close for the fair her beauties
καὶ ὑπάτε, παραλάβετε ἀμόλυντον κοράσιον·
and go take-over (an)-undefiled girl
ἐγὼ δείλια τὰ κάλλη της καὶ τὴν πολλὴν εὐγενείαν·
I feared the beauties her and the great nobility
ἀρνοῦμαι καὶ τὴν πίσθη μου καὶ τὴν πολλήν μου δόξαν
I-deny also the faith my and the great my glory
καὶ γίνομαι καὶ Χριστιανὸς καὶ μετὰ σᾶς νὰ ἔλθω.»
and I-become also (a)-Christian and with you that I-come

καὶ τότε οἱ πέντε ἀδελφοὶ εἰς τὴν τένταν ὑπαγαίνουν
and then the five brothers to the tent go
καὶ ηὗραν κλινάριν ἔμμορφον, ξυλαλόην ἐφειασμένον,
and found (a)-couch lovely of-aloe-wood made
καὶ ἀπάνω πάπλωμα χρυσὸν καὶ ἀπάνου κεῖται κόρη.
and on-top (a)-coverlet golden and on-top lies (a)-girl
καὶ ἐκάθετον ἡ λυγερὴ ὡς μῆλον μαραμμένον
and sat the slender(-one) like (an)-apple withered
καὶ ἔκλαιεν καὶ ὠδύρετον καὶ τὰ ἀδέλφια της ἐζῆταν.
and wept and lamented and the brothers her sought
αὐτή, καὶ ἂν ἐμαραίνετον, ἔλαμπεν ὡς ὁ ἥλιος
she even if she-was-withering shone like the sun
καὶ ὡμοίαζεν ἡ πανέμμορφος ἀκτῖνα τοῦ ἡλίου·
and resembled the all-lovely(-one) (a)-ray of-the sun
τὸ κάλλος ἐμαραίνετον τῆς θαυμασθῆς τῆς κόρης.
the beauty was-withering of-the wondrous the girl
ὦ συμφορὰ καὶ θέαμα καὶ ἀσωτίας ἔργον.
O misfortune and spectacle and of-dissoluteness (a)-deed
καὶ ὡς εἴδασιν τὰ ἀδέλφια της τὴν κόρην μαραμμένην,
and when saw the brothers her the girl withered
ἀντάμα οἱ πέντε ἐστενάξασιν, τοιοῦτον λόγον εἶπαν·
together the five groaned such (a)-word they-said
«ἐγύρου ἡ βεργόλικος, γλυκύν μας τὸ ἀδέλφιν·
returned-alive the slender(-one) sweet our the sister
ἐμεῖς ὡς γι᾽ ἀποθαμένην σὲ ἐκρατοῦμαν,
we as for dead you held
καὶ ἐσὲν ὁ θεὸς ἐφύλαξεν διὰ τὰ ὡραῖα σου κάλλη·
and you — God kept for the fair your beauties
τὸ ἄνθος τοῦ προσώπου σου ἐμάραινεν ἡ θλίψις·
the flower of-the face your withered the grief

πολέμους ἐμεῖς οὐκ ἐφοβήθημαν διὰ τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην.»
wars we not feared for the your love
οἱ πέντε τὴν καταφιλοῦν καὶ ἐλιγοθυμήσασιν·
the five her kiss and fainted
οἱ μὲν φιλοῦν τὰ χείλη της, οἱ ἄλλοι τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς της.
some indeed kiss the lips her the others the eyes her
κάθουνται οἱ πέντε ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἐκεῖνος·
sit the five brothers and the emir that
κοινὴν βουλὴν ἐδώκασιν νὰ πάρουν τον γαμπρόν τους
common counsel they-gave that they-take him (as)-son-in-law their
εἰς Ῥωμανίαν νὰ ἔβγουν.
to Romania that they-go-out
Καὶ εἰς μίαν ὥρισεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἐκεῖνος τοὺς ἀγούρους του,
And at once ordered the emir that the youths his
τοὺς θαυμαστοὺς τοὺς εἶχεν,
the wondrous(-ones) whom he-had
εἰς τὴν βουλήν του ἐκράτησε μὲ ταῦτον,
in the counsel his he-held with this
καὶ τοὺς ἄλλους ἐπιλογίασε καὶ ὑπὰν εἰς τὴν Συρίαν·
and the others he-dismissed and they-go to — Syria
καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἐδιάγυρε μὲ τὴν κόρην
and the emir returned with the girl
καὶ μὲ τοὺς γυναικαδελφούς του,
and with the brothers-in-law his
εἰς τὴν Ῥωμανίαν ὑπάσιν.
to — Romania they-go
ὀμπρὸς ὑπὰν οἱ ἀγοῦροι του καὶ ὁ ἀμηρὰς ὀπίσω,
in-front go the youths his and the emir behind
καὶ τὸ κοράσιον εἰς κλουβίν, βαστοῦν την πέντε μοῦλες.
and the girl in (a)-litter carry her five mules

τριγύρου τὴν παρακρατοῦν τὰ πέντε της ἀδέλφια,
around her guard the five her brothers
καὶ βλέπει ὅλος ὁ λαὸς τὴν χαρὰν ταύτην ὅλην·
and sees all the people the joy this all
ὀπίσω της ἀκολουθοῦν θαυμάζοντες τὴν κόρην.
behind her they-follow marveling-at the girl
ἔβλεπαν ὅτι αἰχμαλωσίαν τὸ πῶς τὴν ἐλευθέρωσεν
they-saw that (from)-captivity the how her he-freed
ὁ ἀμηρᾶς διὰ τὴν ἀγάπην τῆς κόρης.
the emir for the love of-the girl
τὸ κύριε ἐλέησον ἔκραξαν ὁποῦ τὴν ἐγλυτῶσαν.
the Lord have-mercy they-cried who her saved
καὶ ἐδάρτε ἦν ἐξάκουστον εἰς ἅπασαν τὸν κόσμον
and now was renowned to all the world
ὅτι κοράσιον πάντερπνον ἐνίκησεν φουσσάτον,
that (a)-girl all-delightful defeated (an)-army
καὶ ἑκατὸν χιλιάδες ὡς γιὰ τὰ ὡραῖα της κάλλη,
and (a)-hundred thousands as for the fair her beauties
καὶ ἐδιάγυρεν τὸν ἀμηρᾶν τὸν πρῶτον τῆς Συρίας.
and turned-back the emir the first — of-Syria
καὶ ἀφότις εὐλογήθησαν ἐχαίρετον μετ' αὔτην.
and after they-were-blessed they-rejoiced with her
καὶ ἀφότις ἐκοιμήθηκεν μὲ τὴν ἡλιογεννημένην,
and after he-slept with the sun-born(-one)
ἔτεκαν παῖδα θαυμαστόν, τὸν Διγενὴν Ἀκρίτην,
they-bore (a)-child wondrous — Digenis Akritas
φωστῆραν τὸν αὐγερινόν, ἥλιον τὸν φωσφόρον
luminary the morning-star sun the light-bearing
καὶ περιέλαμπρον τὸ φῶς εἰς ἅπασαν τὴν κτίσιν,
and all-radiant the light to all the creation

καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀπελάτας δυνατὸς καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀνδρειωμένους·
and to the apelatai strong and to the brave
ἐγεννήθην καὶ ἐμεγάλωσεν καὶ ἐγίνην τετραέτης,
he-was-born and grew and became four-years-old
ἐχέρισε καὶ ἐμάνθανε τὰς γονικάς του ἀνδρείας·
he-began and learned the parental his feats-of-courage

III · THE MOTHER'S LETTER

The emir's mother writes from Syria, reproaching him for shaming his people, forgetting the girls of Syria, and denying his faith for a pork-eating Roman. She recalls his kinsmen's raids, sends horses, youths, and his father's golden cuirass, and threatens her curse if he is slow. The emir kisses the letter, roars like a lion, and tells his wife he must see his mother; she groans but keeps his secret from her brothers.

καὶ μὲ τοὺς χρόνους τοὺς πολλοὺς ἔπεψεν καὶ ἡ μάννα του
and with the years the many sent also the mother his
τὸν ἀμηρᾶν χάρτην ἀπέσω ἀπὸ Συρίας,
to-the emir (a)-letter within from Syria
θρήνους γέμοντα ὀδυνηρὰς καὶ θλίψεις·
laments full painful and griefs
«τέκνον του ποθεινότατον, ψυχή μου, ἀναπλοκή μου,
child — most-longed-for soul my breath my
τί ἐσκότασες τὰ ὀμμάτια μου, τί ἔχασες τὸν ἐνιαυτόν σου;
why did-you-darken the eyes my why did-you-lose the self your
τὸ γένος σου ἐντροπίασες πολλὰ εἰς τὴν Συρίαν ὅλην
the race your you-shamed much in — Syria all
καὶ ὀνειδίζουν μας οἱ χωριάτες τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς μας·
and reproach us the villagers the years of-the life our

καὶ δὲν εἶναι κοράσια εἰς τὸν Παδὰ εἰς τοῦ Παπαδὰ
and not are girls in — Pada in — Papada
εἰς τοῦ Παστρὰ τὸ κάστρον·
in — Pastra the fortress
καὶ οὐδὲν εἶναι κοράσια ἔμμορφα ἐκεῖτον εἰς τὴν Βαβυλῶνα;
and not are girls lovely there in — Babylon
τὸν ἥλιον ἀντιτάσσουν.
the sun they-rival
τὰ εὐγενικὰ τοῦ Χάλεπε κοράσια οὐκ ἐνθυμᾶσαι;
the noble — of-Aleppo girls not do-you-remember
νὰ λάμπουν ὡς ὁ ἥλιος καὶ μυρίζουν ὡς ὁ μόσχος;
that they-shine like the sun and smell like the musk
καὶ δὲν θυμᾶσαι, τέκνον μου, κοράσια ὁποῦ ἀγάπας
and not do-you-remember child my girls whom you-loved
καὶ δέρνουσιν τὰ στήθη των, παρηγορίαν οὐκ ἔχουν;
and beat the breasts their consolation not they-have
οὐκὲν θυμᾶσαι, τέκνον μου, τοὺς θαυμαστούς σου παῖδας
not do-you-remember child my the wondrous your youths
ὅτι ἐμέναν τὰ παραρίκτουσιν καὶ ὀνειδίζουσίν με;
that me them they-mock and reproach me
καὶ οἱ συγγενεῖς οἱ πρόλοιποι καὶ ὅλον τὸ φουσσάτον
and the kinsmen the remaining and all the army
ἐμὲν κατονειδίζουσιν ὡς διὰ σένα, τέκνον.
me reproach as for you child
ἐγὼ ἤκουσα ἐγέννησας παιδίν, δράκοντα τῆς Συρίας·
I heard you-begot (a)-child (a)-dragon — of-Syria
καὶ ἀλὶ ἐμὲν ἂν τὸ μάθουν οἱ Κασίσοι·
and woe me if it learn the Kasisoi

ἂν τὸ μάθουν ἀπὸ τὸ Ἐμὲκ καὶ Ὀραζαβοῦρον
if it they-learn from — Emek and Orazabouron
οὐ μὴ ἀνοίξουν τὸ μασγίδιν των τοῦ μέγα Μαχουμέτη,
not — they-will-open the mosque their of-the great Mahomet
καὶ εἰς τὸ μνῆμαν του νὰ κλάψουν καὶ νὰ σοῦ καταρῶνται.
and at the tomb his that they-weep and that you they-curse
καὶ οὐδὲν θυμᾶσαι, τέκνον μου, τί ἐποίκαμεν οἱ δυό μας;
and not do-you-remember child my what we-did the two our
καὶ ἀπέκει ἐκατέβημεν εἰς τὸ μνῆμαν τοῦ προφήτου
and from-there we-went-down to the tomb of-the prophet
καὶ ὑπέκλινες τὴν κεφαλήν, εὐχήσθηκά σου, τέκνον·
and you-bowed the head I-prayed-for you child
καὶ ὅταν ἤθελες δοξασθεῖν καὶ ἐπαινεθεῖν μεγάλως,
and when you-wished to-be-glorified and to-be-praised greatly
ἐρνήθης καὶ τὸ γένος σου καὶ ὅλην σου τὴν Συρίαν.
you-denied also the race your and all your — Syria
οὐδὲν θυμᾶσαι, τέκνον μου, τί ἔποικεν ὁ παπποῦς σου;
not do-you-remember child my what did the grandfather your
τὸ πόσους Ῥωμαίους ἔσφαξεν καὶ πόσους δούλους ἐπῆρεν;
the how-many Romans he-slaughtered and how-many slaves he-took
τὰς φάλαγγας ἐγέμισεν ἄρχοντας τῶν Ῥωμαίων.
the troops he-filled (with)-lords of-the Romans
καὶ πάλιν οὐδὲν θυμᾶσαι, τέκνον μου, τί ἔποικεν ὁ πατήρ σου;
and again not you-recall child my what did the father your
τὸ Κόνιον ἐκούρσευεν μέχρι καὶ εἰς τὸν Ἄμμον,
— Konion he-raided as-far also to — Ammos
εἰς Νικομήδειαν ἔφθασεν καὶ εἰς Πέρνετον ἐπέβην,
to Nicomedia he-reached and to Pernetos went-up
καὶ ἂν οὐδὲν ἦτον ἡ θάλασσα ἀκόμη πάντα εἶχεν ὑπαγαίνει.
and if not was the sea still all he-had gone

καὶ ὁ ἀδελφός μου καὶ ὁ θεῖος μου, ὁ Μουρατασίτης, ἐπῆγεν,
and the brother my and the uncle my — Mouratasitis went
τὸν Ἕρμοναν ἀνέδραμεν καὶ τὸν Ζυγὸν ἐπιάσεν·
— Hermon he-overran and — Zygos seized
τὴν δὲ Ἀρμενίαν ἐξήληψέν την παντελῶς
— and Armenia plundered her utterly
καὶ πολὺν κακὸν τὴν ἐποίησεν.
and much evil her did
καὶ οὐδὲν θυμᾶσαι, τέκνον μου, τί ἐποῖκεν ὁ πατήρ σου,
and not do-you-remember child my what did the father your
πόσα κοράσια ἤφερεν εἰς τῆς Συρίας τὰ κάστρα;
how-many girls he-brought to — of-Syria the fortresses
ῥωμαικὰ καὶ περσικὰ
Roman and Persian
καὶ ἐσὺ ἐπαραξέβηκας ἀπὸ τοὺς συγγενούς σου,
and you strayed from the kinsmen your
ἀπὸ τοὺς εὐγενεῖς σου φίλους διὰ Ῥωμαίας ἀγάπην·
from the noble your friends for (a)-Roman-woman's love
καὶ πῶς σὲ παρεξέβαλεν ἡ χατζιροφαγοῦσα,
and how you misled the pork-eater
καὶ ἀρνήθης καὶ τὴν πίστιν σου καὶ ὅλην σου τὴν Συρίαν;
and you-denied also the faith your and all your — Syria
τὴν εἶχες εἰς τὸν στάβλον σου καὶ εἶχες την καὶ σκλάβαν,
her you-had in the stable your and had her also (a)-slave
ἐποῖκες τὴν κυράν σου.
you-made(-her) the lady your
καὶ γδύνεται καὶ θέτεις την σιμὰ εἰς τὴν ἀγκάλην σου.
and she-undresses and you-set her near in the embrace your
ὁμῶς ἂν θέλῃς, τέκνον μου, νὰ ἔχῃς τὴν εὐχήν μου,
yet if you-wish child my that you-have the blessing my

αὔτου φαρία σὲ ἔστειλα ἐπιλεκτὰ καὶ δρομαῖα
there horses you I-sent choice and swift
καὶ ἀγένεια παλληκάρια, εὐγενεῖς Ἀραβίτας,
and beardless young-heroes noble Arabites
πεντακοσίους ἄρχοντας χρυσοκλιβανιασμένους,
five-hundred lords gold-mailed
καὶ τὸ λουρίκιν τὸ χρυσόν, τὸ ἐφόρει ὁ πατήρ σου,
and the cuirass the golden which wore the father your
καὶ τὸν βάδεον, τὸν καβαλλίκευγεν, καὶ καβαλλίκευσέ τον.
and the steed which rode and ride it
καὶ ἔβαλε καὶ τὸ λουρίκιν·
and put-on also the cuirass
καὶ οἱ φάρες ἂν σὲ ἀκουλουθοῦν, ἐσὲν κανεὶς οὐ φθάνει.
and the chargers if you follow you anyone not overtakes
εἰ δὲ καὶ ἀγαπᾷς την περισσά, τέκνον, ὡσὰν μοῦ λέγουν,
if but also you-love her exceedingly child as me they-tell
ἔπαρε καὶ αὐτὴν μετὰ ἐσέναν·
take also her with you
εἰ δὲ καὶ οὐκ ἔλθῃς τὸ γοργόν,
if but also not you-come — quickly
μὰ τὸν προφήτην τὸν καλόν, τὸν μέγαν Μαχουμέτην,
by the prophet the good the great Mahomet
τὰ τέκνα σου νὰ σφάξουσιν καὶ ἐμέναν θέλουν πνίξει,
the children your that they-slaughter and me they-will strangle
τὰ δὲ κοράσιά σου τὰ καλά, ἄλλους νὰ περιλάβουν,
the and girls your the fine others that embrace
καὶ ἂν οὐδὲν ἔλθῃς τὸ γοργόν, κατέβειν ἔχω εἰς τὸ Μάγγας,
and if not you-come — quickly to-go-down I-have to — Mangas
εἰς τὸ μνῆμαν τοῦ προφήτου,
to the tomb of-the prophet

καὶ κλίνειν ἔχω κεφαλὴν ὑπὲρ εὐχῆς μου πρώτης,
and to-bow I-have (the)-head for blessing my first
καὶ νὰ ἔχῃς τὴν κατάραν μου ὑπὲρ εὐχῆς γονέων.»
and that you-have the curse my instead-of (the)-blessing of-parents
κ᾽ ἔδωκέν τους τὰ γράμματα καὶ εἰς Ῥωμανίαν ἐβγῆκαν,
and gave them the letters and to Romania they-went-out
καὶ ἤλθασιν καὶ ἐπλεύσασιν εἰς τὸ Χαλκοπέτριν·
and came and sailed to — Chalkopetrin
τὰ γράμματα ἀπέστειλαν κρυφὰ εἰς τὸν ἀμηρᾶν ἐκεῖνον·
the letters they-sent secretly to the emir that
καὶ οὕτως γὰρ ἐγράφασιν τὰ πιττάκια ἐκεῖνα·
and thus for wrote the notes those
«ὁ ἀμηρᾶς, ἀφέντης μας, τὸ φέγγος φέγγει ὅλον·
the emir master our the moonlight shines all
νύκτα καὶ ἂν περιπατοῦν, τὸ φέγγος φέγγει πάλε.»
night and if they-walk the moonlight shines again
ἀνέγνωσαν τὰ γράμματα, καὶ οὔτε ἐδειλῶμαν·
they-read the letters and nor were-they-afraid
καὶ ἤκουσεν τὰ γράμματα, ἐθλίβην ἡ ψυχή του,
and he-heard the letters was-grieved the soul his
ἐκαύσθηκαν τὰ σπλάγχνα του, ἐχάθην ἡ καρδιά του·
burned the bowels his was-lost the heart his
ἤκουσεν διὰ τὴν μάνναν του, τὰ τέκνα του ἐνθυμήθη,
he-heard about the mother his the children his he-remembered
καὶ τὰ κοράσια τὰ καλὰ τὰ πολυπόθητά του·
and the girls the fine the much-desired his
καὶ ἐνέγνωθεν τὰ γράμματα καὶ ἀπέκει ἐφίλησέν τα·
and he-read the letters and thereupon kissed them
ὡς λέων ἐβρυχίσθηκεν, σεβαίνει εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν,
like (a)-lion he-roared enters into the chamber

καὶ τὴν καλήν του τὰ λαλεῖ καὶ τὴν βουλήν του λέγει·
and to-the fair(-one) his them tells and the counsel his says
καὶ τέτοια συμβουλεύεται καὶ οὕτως τὴν συντυχαίνει·
and such(-things) he-takes-counsel and thus her addresses
«Ἡ μήτηρ μου μὲ ἀπέστειλεν γράμματα ἀπὸ Συρίας
The mother my me has-sent letters from Syria
καὶ ἀγούρους μοῦ ἀπέστειλεν ἐνταῦθα νὰ μὲ πάρουν·
and youths to-me has-sent here that me they-take
καὶ νὰ μὲ πάρουσιν γοργὸν νὰ ὑπάγω μετ᾽ ἐκείνους
and that me they-take quickly that I-go with them
καὶ νὰ ἰδῶ τὴν μητέραν μου καὶ πάλιν νὰ διαγύρω.»
and that I-see the mother my and again that I-return
καὶ ταῦτα ἡ κόρη ὡς τὸν ἤκουσεν βαρυναστενάζει,
and these(-things) the girl when him heard heavily-groans
καὶ ἐπήδησαν τὰ δάκρυα της καὶ ἐχάθηκεν ὁ νοῦς της,
and leapt the tears her and was-lost the mind her
καὶ ὁ νοῦς της συλλογίζεται ἵνα τὰ μαντατεύσῃ
and the mind her reckons that them she-report
τὰ ἀδέλφιά της τὰ γλυκειά.
the brothers her the sweet
καὶ πάλιν περικόπτεται ὡς διὰ ταραχὰς καὶ μάχας,
and again she-is-cut-short as for turmoils and fights
ὅμως πείθει τον τὸν λογισμὸν μὴ τὸ ὁμολογήσῃ,
yet persuades it the reasoning lest it she-confess
νὰ μὴ ἐκφανερώσῃ τὰ κρυπτὰ μυστήρια τοῦ καλοῦ της.
that not she-reveal the hidden mysteries of-the fair(-one) her

The youngest brother dreams of hawks at Chalkopetron and a golden eagle chasing a white dove into the chamber. Riding out, the brothers find the emir's Arabs encamped and accuse the emir of planning to flee. He reproaches his wife for the Christians' faithlessness and swears to spend only twelve days at home and twenty-four more on the road. She defends him to her brothers, who agree to let him go if he swears to come back.

καὶ ὁ ὕστερός της ἀδελφὸς εἰς τὸν ὕπνον του εἶδεν
and the youngest her brother in the sleep his saw
καὶ σκοτεινὰ σηκώνεται, λέγει το τῶν ἀδελφῶν του.
and in-the-dark rises tells it to-the brothers his
«ἀπόψε εἶδα, ἀδέλφια μου, ὄνειρον καὶ οὕτως γὰρ δηλώνει·
last-night I-saw brothers my (a)-dream and thus for it-shows
ἐφάνη μου ὅτι εἶδα εἰς τὸ Χαλκόπετρον γεράκας πετομένας,
it-seemed to-me that I-saw at — Chalkopetron hawks flying
καὶ ἀετὸς χρυσόπτερος ἐσέβην εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν·
and (an)-eagle golden-winged entered into the chamber
περιστερὰν ἐδίωκεν ἄσπρον ὡς ἦν τὸ χιόνιν,
(a)-dove it-chased white as was the snow
καὶ ἤπλωσα τὰ χέρια μου κ' ἐπίασα καὶ τὰ δύο,
and I-stretched-out the hands my and seized also the two
κ' ἐπόνεσε ἡ ψυχή μου καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ταχεῖα ἐσηκώνω.»
and ached the soul my and because-of this quickly I-rose
καὶ τότε ὁ πρῶτος ἀδελφὸς οὕτως ἀπηλογᾶται·
and then the first brother thus answers
«φαίνεται μου, ἀδέλφιά μου,
it-seems to-me brothers my
ὅτι οἱ γέρακες ἄνδρες ἁρπάκτες ἔνι·
that the hawks men seizers are

καὶ ὁ ἀετὸς χρυσόπτερος φαίνεταί μου ἔνι ὁ γαμπρός μας,
and the eagle golden-winged seems to-me is the brother-in-law our
ἡ περιστέρα τὸ ἀδέλφι μας, μὴ τὸ κακοδικήσῃ.
the dove the sister our lest it he-wrong
καὶ διασυντόμως ἂς καβαλλικεύσωμεν
and swiftly let us-mount
καὶ ἂς περιγυριστοῦμεν
and let us-ride-round
ὅπου εἴδαμεν τὸ ὄνειρον, ὅπου εἴδαμεν τὰ γεράκια.»
where we-saw the dream where we-saw the hawks
οἱ πέντε ἐκαβαλλίκευσαν καὶ ὑπὰν εἰς τὸ Χαλκοπέτριν·
the five mounted and go to — Chalkopetrin
ἐκεῖ ηὗραν τοὺς Σαρακηνοὺς εὐγενεῖς Ἀραβίτας·
there they-found the Saracens noble Arabites
γελῶντας τοὺς ἐλάλησαν, ἀμμὴ οὐδὲν τοὺς ἐγνωρίσαν.
laughing them they-spoke-to but not them they-recognized
«Καλῶς τὰ παλληκάρια μας, γεράκια τοῦ γαμπροῦ μας,
Welcome the young-heroes our hawks of-the brother-in-law our
τί ὧδε ἐπεζεύσατε καὶ οὐκ ἤλθετε εἰς τὸν οἶκον τοῦ
why here did-you-dismount and not came to the house of-the
γαμπροῦ μας;»
brother-in-law our
καὶ τότε εἷς Σαρακηνὸς ἐλάλησε, τὸν λέγασιν Μουσούφριν·
and then one Saracen spoke whom they-called Mousouphris
«ἐχθὲς ἐπαραβραδυάστημαν καὶ ἐμείναμεν ἀπώδε»·
yesterday we-were-overtaken-by-evening and stayed from-here
καὶ τότε οἱ πέντε ἀδελφοὶ εἰς τὸν οἶκον ὑπαγαίνουν
and then the five brothers to the house go
μὲ ταραχὰς ὑπήντησαν, τὸν ἀμηρᾶν λαλοῦσιν·
with turmoil they-met the emir they-address

«αὐτοῦ φαρία σὲ ἀπέστειλαν ἐπίλεκτα, δρομαῖα,
there horses you they-sent choice swift
καὶ ἀγένεια παλληκάρια ἀπὸ τοὺς Ἀραβίτας
and beardless young-heroes from the Arabites
καὶ ἔστειλάν σου καὶ τὸ λουρίκιν τὸ χρυσὸν
and sent you also the cuirass the golden
τὸ ἐφόρειε ὁ πατήρ σου.
which wore the father your
καὶ ἂν βούλεσαι μισσεύσειν κρυφῶς ἀπὸ τὴν Ῥωμανίαν,
and if you-wish to-depart secretly from — Romania
σήμερον ἔπαρε τὰ σὰ καὶ τὰ ἤφερες μὴ ἀφήσῃς.
today take the your(-things) and the(-things) you-brought not leave
τὴν ἀδελφήν μας ἄφης την, τὸν παῖδα σου ἀπαρνήσου·
the sister our leave her the child your renounce
καὶ ἡμεῖς νὰ τὸν ἀναθρέψωμεν καὶ ὁ θεὸς νὰ τὸν δικαιώσῃ.
and we that him we-rear and — God that him justify
Μὴ βουληθῇς, ὦ ἀμηρᾶ, νὰ ἔβγῃς κρυφῶς ἐπόθεν·
Not wish O emir that you-go-out secretly from-here
καὶ ὅπου σὲ καταφθάσωμεν ἄλλον Συρίαν οὐ βλέπεις.»
and where you we-overtake again Syria not you-see
καὶ ὡς τὸ ἤκουσεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς πολλὰ τοὺς ἐφοβήθην·
and when it heard the emir much them he-feared
ὁ νοῦς του ἐσυνετρόμαξεν καὶ οὐδὲν τοὺς ἀπεκρίθην.
the mind his trembled-together and not them answered
ὡς λέων ὠρυόμενος ἐσέβην εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν,
like (a)-lion howling he-entered into the chamber
τὴν κόρην κατονειδίζοντα οὕτως τὴν συντυχαίνει.
the girl reproaching thus her addresses
«οὕτως εἰσὶν οἱ Χριστιανοὶ καὶ οὕτως φυλάσσουν ὅρκους.
thus are the Christians and thus they-keep oaths

καὶ οὐδὲν θυμᾶσαι ἀπ᾽ ἀρχῆς τὸ τί ἔπαθα δι᾽ ἐσέναν;
and not do-you-remember from (the)-beginning the what I-suffered for you
δούλην σὲ ἐπῆρα ἀπαρχῆς ἀπὸ τὰ γονικά σου,
(a)-slave you I-took from-the-start from the parents your
καὶ ἐσὺ ἔχεις ἐμέναν τώρα δοῦλον
and you have me now (a)-slave
καὶ τὰ ὥριζες ἐγίνουντα, τὰ ἤθελες ἐποίουν·
and the(-things) you-ordered were-done the(-things) you-wished I-did
σκλάβαν σὲ ἐπῆρα καὶ εἶχα σὲν οὐ κυράν μου·
(a)-captive you I-took and had you not lady my
ἐμὲν ποτὲ οὐκ ἐπήντησεν στράτιος ἢ τοπάρχης
me ever not met soldier or governor
καὶ στεανό μου οὐδὲν μοῦ ἐμίλησαν τινός·
and (obscure) my not to-me spoke anyone
τινὰς μὴ τὸ καυχᾶται·
anyone not it boast
καὶ ὁ πόθος σου μὲ ἠνέγκασεν καὶ εἰς Ῥωμανίαν ἐξέβην
and the longing your me compelled and into Romania I-went-out
καὶ τὴν πίστιν μου ἀρνήθηκα, κυρά μου, ὡς διὰ ἐσέναν,
and the faith my I-denied lady my as for you
καὶ τοὺς ἀγούρους μου τοὺς θαυμαστοὺς
and the youths my the wondrous
καὶ μετὰ ἐσέναν ἦρθα.
also with you I-came
Καὶ ἐδάρε μὲ κακοδικεῖς καὶ ἐπεβουλεύγεσαί με,
And now me you-wrong and plot-against me
καὶ θέλουν μὲ σκοτώσει οἱ πέντε ἀδελφοί σου·
and will me kill the five brothers your
παντῶς ἂν σύρω τὸ σπαθὶν καὶ σφάξω τὸν ἑαυτόν μου·
surely — I-will-draw the sword and slaughter the self my

καὶ αὔριον νὰ σὲ ὀνειδίζουσιν οἱ εὐγενεῖς Ῥωμαῖοι
and tomorrow that you they-reproach the noble Romans
ὅτι τὸν εἶχες εἰς βουλὴν καὶ ἐκεῖνος πάλιν ἐσέναν.
that him you-had in counsel and he again you
Τοὺς ἄνδρας κτείνει μάχαιρα, τὰ δὲ κοράσια ὁ ἅδης.
The men kills (the)-sword the but girls — Hades
ἀλλὰ ψυχή μου, ὀμμάτια μου, καρδία μου, ἀναπνοή μου,
but soul my eyes my heart my breath my
μὴ τὸ θλιβῇς γὰρ λέγωσι, μὴ τὸ καρδιοπονέσῃς·
not it be-grieved for they-say not it be-heartsick
ἡ ἀγάπη γὰρ μὲ ἀνάγκασεν πρὸς ὀλίγας ἡμέρας
the love for me compelled for (a)-few days
τῆς ταπεινῆς μου τῆς μητρὸς καὶ ὅλων τῶν συγγενῶν μου·
of-the humble my the mother and of-all the kinsmen my
καὶ θέλω νὰ πάω νὰ τοὺς ἰδῶ καὶ πάλι νὰ ὑποστρέψω.
and I-want that I-go that them I-see and again that I-return
Εἶδα γάρ, ὀμμάτια μου, τὰ δάκρυα τῆς μητρός μου,
I-saw for eyes my the tears of-the mother my
καὶ ὡς δι' αὐτὸν ὑπαγαίνω.
and as for it I-go
Καὶ μὰ τὸν κριτὴν τὸν φοβερόν, τὸν τρέμει πᾶσα ἡ κτίσις,
And by the judge the fearful whom trembles-at all the creation
τὸν τρέμουν οἱ Σαρακηνοὶ καὶ οἱ Χριστιανοὶ πάντως,
whom tremble-at the Saracens and the Christians altogether
δώδεκα νυκτήμερα μόνον νὰ ποιήσω εἰς τὰ ἐδικά μου
twelve days-and-nights only that I-spend among the own my
καὶ ἄλλα εἰκοσιτέσσερα ὥστε νὰ πάγω ν' ἄρθω.»
and other twenty-four so-as that I-go that I-come
Καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον βαρέα ἀναστενάζει·
And then the girl heavily groans

«μάρτυρας νὰ εἶναι ὁ ἥλιος, ὁ φαίνων εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
witness that be the sun the(-one) shining on the world
ἀφ' ἧς ἡμέρας μ' ἔδειξες τὸ γράμμα τῆς μητρός σου,
from which day me you-showed the letter of-the mother your
καὶ ἀπότες ἐμολόγησες τὰ κρυφά σου μυστήρια,
and since you-confessed the secret your mysteries
ἂν τὰ εἴπω ἐγὼ τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου
if them tell I to-the brothers my
ἢ ἂν τὰ ὁμολογήσω ἀνθρώπου γεννημένου,
or if them I-confess to-man born
νὰ τύχω εἰς θάνατον πικρὸν τὸν ποῖον οὐδὲν ἐλπίζω,
that I-meet with death bitter the which not I-expect
καὶ νὰ σὲ στερηθῶ καὶ τὸ φῶς τοῦ λάμποντος ἡλίου.»
and that you I-be-deprived-of and the light of-the shining sun
Καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον ἐστράφηκεν ὀπίσω·
And then the girl turned back
τῶν ἀδελφῶν της τῶν ἔλεγεν μετὰ κακῆς καρδίας·
to-the brothers her to-them said with evil heart
«ἄρτι, ἀδέλφια μου καλά, διὰ τί νὰ τὸν λυπᾶτε,
now brothers my fine for what that him you-grieve
διὰ τί νὰ τὸν ὀνειδίζετε καὶ ἦλθεν λυπημένος;
for what that him you-reproach and he-came grieved
κλαίοντα καὶ ὀδυρόμενος κεῖται εἰς τὸ κλινάριν,
weeping and lamenting he-lies on the couch
καὶ ἀποφυσᾷ ὡς ἡ θάλασσα καὶ βρουχᾶται ὡς λέων,
and blows like the sea and roars like (a)-lion
καὶ ἀπὸ θλίψεώς σας θέλει χαθεῖ ἀπὸ τὸν κόσμον·
and from grief your will be-lost from the world

παντῶς μετὰ θελήσεως τὸν ἐπῆρα ἄνδρα
surely with will him I-took (as)-husband
καὶ ἠξεύρετε καλὰ ὅτι δι᾽ ἐμέναν
and you-know well that for me
ἐρνήθηκεν τὴν πίστιν του καὶ Χριστιανὸς ἐγίνη,
he-denied the faith his and (a)-Christian became
εἰς Ῥωμανίαν ἐξέβηκεν ὡς διὰ ἐμὲν καὶ σᾶς τοὺς πέντε.
into Romania he-went-out as for me and you the five
καὶ ἐδάρε παραπονεῖτε τον καὶ ἐμέναν ὀνειδίζει.
and now you-complain-of him and me he-reproaches
καὶ ἐμέναν ἔδειξεν τὸ γράμμαν τῆς μητρός του
and me he-showed the letter of-the mother his
καὶ ἐμέναν κατεθάρρεψεν καὶ τὰς βουλάς του μοῦ εἶπεν.
and me he-confided-in and the counsels his to-me told
μητρὸς κατάραν θλίβεται καὶ θέλει νὰ ὑπάγῃ·
(a)-mother's curse he-is-grieved and wants that he-go
καὶ ἐσεῖς πῶς ἐφυλάξατε κατάραν τῆς μητρός σας,
and you how did-you-keep (the)-curse of-the mother your
ὅταν ἐκατεφθάσατε τὴν ἄκραν τῆς κλεισούρας;
when you-overtook the end of-the pass
θάνατον οὐκ ἐφοβήθητε διὰ τῆς μητρός σας τὴν κατάραν.»
death not you-feared for of-the mother your the curse
τὰ ἀδέλφιά της λέγουσιν λόγους παρηγορίας·
the brothers her speak words of-consolation
«ἐμεῖς ἐσέναν ἔχομεν ζωὴν καὶ ἀναπνοήν μας·
we you have (as)-life and breath our
καὶ ὡς δι᾽ αὐτὸν τὸ θλιβόμεθεν νὰ πάγῃ καὶ ἀπομείνῃ.
and as for him it we-are-grieved that he-go and stay

ὅμως ἂν βούλεται ἀπελθεῖν
yet if he-wishes to-go-away
νὰ ἰδῇ καὶ τὴν μητέραν του καὶ πάλιν νὰ διαγύρῃ,
that he-see also the mother his and again that he-return
ἐμᾶς ἂς μᾶς ὀμώσῃ ὅτι νὰ ἔρθῃ τὸ γοργὸν
us let us he-swear so that he-come — quickly
νὰ μὴν γενῇ πάλιν Σαρακηνὸς καὶ ἐσὲν ἀλησμονήσῃ,
that not he-become again (a)-Saracen and you forget
καὶ ἡμεῖς νὰ τὸν ἀποβγάλωμεν καὶ θεὸς νὰ τὸν βοηθήσῃ.»
and we that him we-send-off and God that him help

V · THE EMIR'S JOURNEY TO SYRIA

The brothers find the emir weeping on his bed and make peace with him; he swears to return with his mother, his kin, and his wealth. He takes his wife's ring and departs, recalling his old exploits to his youths and killing a lion on the road. At Rache his mother meets him and laments that their race will be cursed at the Prophet's tomb.

οἱ πέντε ἀντάμα ἐστάθησαν μετὰ τῆς ἀδελφῆς των
the five together stood with the sister their
καὶ εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν ἤμπασιν
and into the chamber they-entered
εἰς τὴν κλίνην τοῦ γαμπροῦ τους·
to the bed of-the brother-in-law their
καὶ ηὕρασιν τὸν νεώτερον κειτόμενον εἰς τὴν κλίνην·
and found the young(-man) lying on the bed
τὸν γρόθον του εἶχεν εἰς τὸ μάγουλόν του ἀκουμπισμένον,
the fist his he-had on the cheek his propped
τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς του ἠγρίωσεν ὡς λέων πειρασμένος,
the eyes his he-made-fierce like (a)-lion provoked

τὰ δάκρυά του ἐκατέβαιναν ὡς τὸ μύρι τοῦ Μαΐου.
the tears his ran-down like the myrrh of-the May
Καὶ ὡς εἶδεν ὁ νεώτερος τοὺς γυναικαδελφούς του,
And when saw the young(-man) the brothers-in-law his
γοργὸν ἐκατεπήδησεν καὶ προσυπήντησέ τους·
quickly he-leapt-down and went-to-meet them
ἐκεῖνοι τὸν ἐλάλησαν λόγους ἡμερωμένους·
they him spoke-to words tamed
«μὴ θλίβεσαι, νεώτερε, ἕνεκεν τῆς μητρός σου·
not be-grieved young(-man) on-account-of the mother your
χθὲς ἐκαβαλλικεύσαμεν ἀμάδι καὶ οἱ πέντε
yesterday we-rode together also the five
καὶ ἐπήγαμεν εἰς τὸ Χαλκόπετριν
and went to — Chalkopetrin
ὡς διὰ νὰ κυνηγήσωμεν τίποτε τῶν ἀγρίων·
as for that we-hunt something of-the wild(-beasts)
καὶ εἴδαμεν ἀπὸ μακρά, πέραν τοῦ ποταμίου,
and we-saw from afar beyond the river
παλουκωσίες ἠστέκοντα δεμένα τὰ φαρία·
pickets stood tied the horses
καὶ οἱ πέντε ἐπιλαλήσαμεν καὶ ἐπήγαμεν νὰ ἰδοῦμεν,
and the five shouted and went that we-see
καὶ ηὕραμεν τοὺς Σαρακηνοὺς εὐγενεῖς Ἀραβίτας·
and found the Saracens noble Arabites
οἱ μὲν λουρίκια ἐφορούσασιν, ἄλλοι σουσινιασμένοι,
some indeed cuirasses wore others (obscure)
καὶ ἐκρατοῦσαν εἰς τὰ χέρια των κοντάρια καὶ ῥαβδία,
and held in the hands their spears and maces
πράσινα μακρυκόνταρα, μετ᾽ ἀσήμιν δεμένα,
green long-spears with silver bound

καὶ εἰς μίαν τοὺς ἐγνωρίσαμεν ὅτι ὡς διὰ ἐσέναν ἦλθαν,
and at once them we-recognized that as for you they-came
ὡς διὰ ἐσέναν ἐκοπίασαν ἀπέσω ἀπὸ Συρίαν,
as for you they-toiled within from Syria
ἵνα σὲ ἐπάρουσιν κρυφῶς καὶ νὰ ὑπὰς μετὰ κείνους.
that you they-take secretly and that you-go with them
καὶ κατὰ τὴν ὑπόληψιν ἤλθαμεν εἰς ἐσέναν.
and according-to the supposition we-came to you
καὶ μὴ μᾶς μέφεσαι, γαμπρέ, διὰ τί σὲ ἀγριομιλοῦμεν
and not us blame brother-in-law for that you we-speak-roughly-to
καὶ ἐσὺ ἂν θέλῃς πᾶν εἰς τὴν Συρίαν, θέλομεν νὰ μᾶς ὁμόσῃς,
and you if you-wish to-go to — Syria we-want that us you-swear
νὰ μὴν λησμονήσῃς τῆς κόρης τῆς ἡλιογεννημένης
that not you-forget the girl the sun-born
καὶ τοῦ παγκάλου σου υἱοῦ, τοῦ Διγενῆ τ' Ἀκρίτη.
and the all-fair your son — Digenis — Akritas
καὶ μηδὲν σοῦ φανῇ, νεώτερε,
and not-at-all to-you seem young(-man)
κακὸν διὰ τί σὲ ὠνειδίσαμεν ὀψές,
evil for that you we-reproached yesterday-evening
ἀμμὴ τὴν κακὴν καρδίαν ἔβγαλέ την ἀπὸ τὸν νοῦν σου,
but the evil heart cast it from the mind your
καὶ ἔχει ἡμερότηταν μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ πραότην,
and have gentleness rather and also mildness
νὰ εἶσαι καὶ πανεφήμενος εἰς ὅλην τὴν οἰκουμένην,
that you-be also all-renowned in all the inhabited-world
καὶ ἐμεῖς νὰ σὲ ἀποβγάλωμεν καὶ ὁ θεὸς νὰ σὲ βοηθήσῃ,
and we that you we-send-off and — God that you help
ὁποῦ τὸν κόσμον διακρατεῖ καὶ πάντας ὑποβλέπει,
who the world holds-together and all oversees

καὶ πάλιν νὰ ὑποστραφῇς νὰ ἔλθῃς διασυντόμως.
and again that you-turn-back that you-come swiftly
εἰ δὲ καὶ βούλεσαι, γαμπρέ, ἄλλον μὴ ὑποστρέψῃς,
if and also you-wish brother-in-law again not you-return
καὶ νὰ ἀρνηθῇς τὸ ἀδέλφι μας ἢ πάλιν
and that you-deny the sister our or again
τὸ ἄνθος τὸν αὐγερινόν, τὸν Διγενῆ σου παῖδαν,
the flower the morning-star — Digenis your child
ἐλπίζομεν εἰς τὸν θεόν, ὁ τοὺς πάντας ἐβλέπων,
we-hope in — God who the all seeing
νὰ μὴ ἰδῇς τὴν Συρίαν ἂν οὐδὲν ὑποστρέψῃς.»
that not you-see — Syria if not you-return
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος βαρέως ἀναστενάζει
and then the young(-man) heavily groans
καὶ ἐπήδησαν τὰ δάκρυά του, τοιοῦτον λόγον λέγει·
and leapt the tears his such (a)-word says
«κύριε, ἐὰν ἐγὼ ἐνθυμηθῶ ἐσᾶς νὰ λησμονήσω,
lord if I remember you that I-forget
ἢ τὸ ἄνθος τὸ ἐκλεκτόν, τὸν Διγενῆ μου παῖδα,
or the flower the chosen — Digenis my child
καὶ ἂν οὐδὲ διαγύρω ἐγλήγορα μετὰ καὶ τῆς μητρός μου,
and if not I-return quickly with also the mother my
καὶ νὰ ἐπάρω καὶ τὰ ἀδέλφια μου νὰ ἔλθω μετὰ ἐμέναν,
and that I-take also the brothers my that they-come with me
νὰ πάρω καὶ τὸ πλοῦτος μου καὶ τὰ φαρία μου ὅλα,
that I-take also the wealth my and the horses my all
καὶ νὰ ἐβγάλω καὶ τὰ ἀμάλωτα ὁποῦ εἶναι εἰς τὴν Συρίαν,
and that I-bring-out also the captives who are in — Syria
νὰ μὴ ἰδῶ τὸν ἥλιον λάμποντα μηδὲ τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου.»
that not I-see the sun shining nor the light of-the world

καὶ πάραυτα ηὐτρέπισαν ἵνα τὸν ἀποβγάλουν
and at-once they-made-ready that him they-send-off
οἱ πέντε οἱ γυναικαδελφοὶ καὶ ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης·
the five the brothers-in-law and — Digenis Akritas
καὶ κονομᾶται ὁ νεώτερος ἵνα καβαλλικεύσῃ.
and arms-himself the young(-man) that he-mount
ἐσέβην εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν του νὰ φιλήσῃ τὴν κόρην·
he-entered into the chamber his that he-kiss the girl
τὰ δάκρυά του ἐκατέβαιναν ὡς ὁ μύρι τοῦ Μαΐου,
the tears his ran-down like the myrrh of-the May
οἱ στεναγμοί του ἔβγαιναν ὡσὰν βρονταὶ καὶ κτύποι.
the groans his came-out like thunders and blows
Καὶ μὲ τὰ δάκρυα τὰ πολλὰ καὶ τοὺς ἀναστεναγμούς τους
And with the tears the many and the groans their
ἐλάλησεν ὁ νεώτερος τὴν πολυπόθητήν του·
spoke the young(-man) to-the much-desired his
«δός μου, φῶς μου ἀνέσπερον, χρυσομορφέ μου εἰκονα,
give me light my unsetting golden-formed my image
τὸ δακτυλίδιν τὸ φορεῖς εἰς τὸ μικρὸ δακτύλιν
the ring which you-wear on the little finger
ἵνα τὸ ἔχω διὰ ἐνθύμησιν, κυρά, νὰ σοῦ θυμοῦμαι.»
that it I-have for remembrance lady that you I-remember
καὶ ἤβγαλεν τὸ δακτυλίδιν της καὶ γλήγορα τὸ τοῦ δίδει·
and she-took-off the ring her and quickly it to-him gives
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος τὸ ἔβαλεν μετὰ πολλῶν δακρύων
and then the young(-man) it put-on with many tears
καὶ λόγια τὸν ἐλάλησεν ἐκ στεναγμοῦ καρδίας·
and words to-him she-spoke from (the)-groan of-(the)-heart
«εὕρῃ σὲ ὁ θεός, αὐθέντη μου, ἂ μὲ ἀπαλησμονήσῃς,
find you — God lord my if me you-forget

ἢ ἂν θυμηθῇς ἄλλην νὰ περιλάβῃς.»
or if you-think-of another that you-embrace
καὶ τότε ἐπεριλάβασιν καὶ ἐθέκασιν εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν
and then they-embraced and lay in the chamber
στρεφνὰ γλυκειὰ ἐφιλήσασιν τῆς ἀποχωρησίας·
tight sweet they-kissed of-the parting
καὶ εὐθὺς ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν, εἰς τὸν οἶκον ἀποβγαίνουν·
and at-once he-mounted from the house they-go-out
ὀμπρὸς ὑπὰν τὰ ἀδέλφια της καὶ τὸ συγγενικόν της ὀπίσω.
in-front go the brothers her and the kin her behind
Καὶ ὅνταν ἀποχαιρέτισαν τοὺς γυναικαδελφούς του,
And when they-bade-farewell-to the brothers-in-law his
ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ὀπίσω ἐστοχάζετον διὰ τὴν ποθητήν του,
the emir behind was-thinking about the beloved his
καὶ ἀναστέναξεν πικρῶς ὁόσον ἐδυνέτον.
and groaned bitterly as-much-as he-could
Καὶ τοὺς ἀγούρους του ἔλεγεν· «ἀγοῦροι, ἐνδυναμοῦσθε·
And to-the youths his he-said youths take-strength
ποτὲ μηδὲν ὀκνεῖτε, μὴ νύκταν, μηδὲ ἡμέραν
never not-at-all shirk not night nor day
ὡς διὰ νὰ γύρω ἐγλήγορα ὡς διὰ τὴν ποθητήν μου·
as for that I-return quickly as for the beloved my
βροχάς, χειμῶνας, παγετοὺς πάντας ἀγωνισθῆτε,
rains winters frosts all struggle-through
καὶ πάντα ἔχετε τὸν νοῦν σας εἰς τὰς στενὰς κλεισούρας,
and always have the mind your on the narrow passes
μὴ ἀργήσω καὶ μὴ φιορκήσω καὶ λυπηθῇ ἡ ψυχή μου
lest I-delay and lest I-forswear and be-grieved the soul my
καὶ ὁμοίως καὶ ἡ καλή μου.»
and likewise also the fair(-one) my

καὶ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἐκίνησεν, τὴν στράταν του ὑπαγαίνει,
and the emir set-out the road his goes
ἔρωταν εἶχεν περισσὸν ὡς διὰ τὴν ποθητήν του
love he-had abundant as for the beloved his
καὶ διὰ τὴν μητέραν του καὶ διὰ τοὺς ἀδελφούς του.
and for the mother his and for the brothers his
τρεῖς καβαλλάρους ἔστειλαν διὰ νὰ ὑπὰν μαντάτον.
three riders they-sent for that they-take (the)-news
Καὶ τότε ἐχέρισεν νὰ λέγῃ περὶ τὰς ἀνδραγαθίας του,
And then he-began that he-speak about the deeds-of-valor his
τοὺς ἀγούρους του ἔλεγεν τὰ τέτοια τῶν ἐλάλει·
to-the youths his he-said the such(-things) to-them he-spoke
«λέγω σας, ἀγοῦροι μου, ὅτι ἀνθυμᾶσθε
I-tell you youths my that you-remember
τὸ πῶς σᾶς ὑπεξέβαλα ἀπὸ πολλῶν πολέμων,
the how you I-brought-out from many wars
τὸ πῶς σᾶς ἐγλύτωσα ὡς διὰ τὰς ἀνδραγαθίας μου·
the how you I-saved as through the deeds-of-valor my
καὶ πάντως, ἀγῶροι μου, εἴδατε εἰς τὰ Μυλοκοπία
and surely youths my you-saw at — Mylokopia
ὅταν ἐφθάσασιν στρατηγοὶ καὶ ἐπῆραν σας δεμένους,
when arrived generals and took you bound
καὶ ἐγὼ ἐκυνήγουν, ἀγοῦροι μου, μετὰ πέντε παλληκάρια
and I was-hunting youths my with five young-heroes
μὲ τοῦ Μουσὶ τὸν υἱὸν καὶ μὲ τὸν ἀπὸ Χάλπην·
with — of-Mousi the son and with the(-one) from Chalpe
τὸν ἔγγονον τοῦ γέροντος τοῦ Μαιακῆ
the grandson of-the old-man — Maiakis
καὶ ἄλλοις τρεῖς στρατιῶτες·
and others three soldiers

καὶ ὡς τὸν ἠκούσαμεν τὴν φωνὴν καὶ κτύπον τῶν ἁρμάτων,
and when it we-heard the cry and din of-the arms
ἐκατέβημεν Χαρζανιστοὶ ἀνάμεσα τὸν κάμπον,
we-came-down Charzanistoi in-the-midst-of the plain
καὶ τὰς τέντας εὑρήκαμεν σχοινοκοπημένας ὅλας,
and the tents we-found rope-cut all
καὶ ὁ κορνιακτὸς ἐστείλομεν τὸν οὐρανὸν ἐπάνω·
and the dust we-sent the heaven above
τὸ πῶς τοὺς ἐπροδράμαμεν καὶ ἐπιάσαμεν τὰς κλεισούρας.»
the how them we-outran and seized the passes
καὶ μέσον ὁδοῦ ἐδιάβαινα ἀδιάβατον καλάμιν·
and in-the-midst of-(the)-road I-was-passing (an)-impassable reed-bed
λεοντάριν εἶδα δυνατὸν τρώγοντα δαμαλῖναν·
(a)-lion I-saw strong eating (a)-heifer
καὶ ὡσὰν τὸ εἴδασιν οἱ ἀγοῦροι τοῦ νεωτέρου,
and when it saw the youths of-the young(-man)
ὀμπρὸς ὀπίσω ἐστράφησαν κατεπίασαν τὰ πλάγια.
in-front behind they-turned seized the slopes
καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τοῦτον ὁ ἀμηρᾶς, ἄκω τὸ τεῖντα λέγει·
and when saw this the emir hear the what he-says
«ἂν σὲ ἀφήσω, λέοντα, αὔριον νὰ τὸ καυχᾶσαι
if you I-let-go lion tomorrow that it you-boast
καὶ νὰ μᾶς τ' ὀνειδίζουσιν οἱ θαυμαστοὶ ἀνδρειωμένοι.»
and that us it they-reproach the wondrous brave(-ones)
καὶ σύρνει τὸ σπαθίτζιν του, κόπτει τὴν κεφαλήν του
and draws the little-sword his cuts-off the head its
καὶ ἔσχισέν τον μέσα·
and split it through
«ἀλαί, ἐφώναξεν τὸν πρωτοστράτοράν του,
alas he-called the chief-groom his

ἐπέζευσεν σύντομα γοργόν, νὰ ἐπάρῃς τὸ δερμάτιν
dismount swiftly quickly that you-take the skin
καὶ τοὺς ὀδόντας του τοὺς μεγάλους
and the teeth its the great
καὶ τὰ ὀνύχια ὅλων τῶν ποδαρίων·
and the claws of-all the feet
καὶ ἀπέκει ἄγω μετὰ τὸν Διγενὴν Ἀκρίτην
and from-there I-take(-them) to — Digenis Akritas
ἵνα τὰ θεωρῇ καὶ ἂ λάχῃ νὰ μᾶς θυμᾶται.»
that them he-look-at and if it-befall that us he-remember
καὶ ὡσὰν ἀπεσώσασιν εἰς τοῦ Ῥαχὲ τὸ κάστρον,
and when they-arrived at — of-Rache the fortress
ἔξω ἐπλικεύσασιν ἀπέξωθεν τοῦ κάστρου.
outside they-camped outside the fortress
καὶ ἔδραμεν ἡ μητέρα του ἀπέξω καὶ ἀπάνω ἀπὸ τὸ κάστρον
and ran the mother his outside and above from the fortress
μὲ τρεῖς ἀμερᾶς καὶ μὲ τὸ συγγενικόν της ὅλον,
with three emirs and with the kin her all
καὶ ὡς γέροντες ἐκ τοῦ Ῥαχᾶς τὸ κάστρον·
and as elders from — of-Rache the fortress
κανίσκια τοῦ ὑπαγαίνουσιν τοῦ νέου
gifts to-him they-go of-the youth
ὁποῦ δὲν ὁρπίζαν νὰ ἰδοῦσιν.
whom not they-hoped that they-see
καὶ τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ ἡ μάννα οὕτους τὸν ἐπερίλαβεν·
and of-the emir the mother thus him embraced
γλυκέα τὸν ἐφίλει καὶ τέτοιον λόγον λέγει·
sweetly him she-kissed and such (a)-word says
«ἀλὶ τὴν ψυχήν μου καὶ τὸ κακό μου γῆρας·
alas the soul my and the evil my old-age

ἂν τὸ ἀκοῦσον εἰς Αἴγυπτον, κάτω εἰς Βαβυλῶνα,
if it they-hear in Egypt down in Babylon
ἵνα ἀντιγράψωσιν, εἰς τοῦ Μακὲ τὸ μνῆμαν,
that they-write-back at — of-Mecca the tomb
ἐσέναν καὶ τὸ γένος μας ἵνα μᾶς καταροῦνται.
you and the race our that us they-curse
τέκνον μου πολυπόθητον, ὀμμάτια μου, καρδιά μου,
child my much-desired eyes my heart my
ἀναπνοή μου, τὸ φῶς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν μου,
breath my the light of-the eyes my
εἶδες, τέκνον μου καλόν, τὸ μνῆμαν τοῦ προφήτου;»
did-you-see child my fine the tomb of-the prophet

VI · THE RETURN WITH THE MOTHER

The emir tells his mother that he has seen Romania, the God-bearer, and the true faith, and she agrees to follow him. He gathers the captives, camels, mules, and treasure and returns; her brothers burst in on the lovers, and he kisses his son. He baptizes his people and keeps a hundred Arabs. Digenis grows like a cypress and goes out among the beasts as a boy.

Καὶ τότε πάλιν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς τῆς μητέρας του λέγει·
And then again the emir to-the mother his says
«σώπασε, μήτηρ μου, καλὰ ’ν’ αὐτὰ τὰ μὲ συντυχαίνεις·
be-silent mother my good are these which me you-tell
ἐγὼ ἐγύρευσα Συρίαν καὶ Ῥωμανίαν ἀπόσω ἐκατέβηκα,
I sought Syria and Romania within I-went-down
ἐγὼ ἐδιάβηκα χώρας τῶν Αἰθιόπων,
I passed-through (the)-lands of-the Ethiopians
λόγους ἤκουσα ψεματέρινους καὶ γέλοι’ ἦσαν καθόλου,
words I-heard lying and laughable they-were altogether

καὶ ποτὲ θεοὺς αὐτοὺς οὐδὲν τοὺς λέγω,
and ever gods them not them I-call
ὅτι εἴδωλα· εἶναι· ἀμμ᾽ εἶναι εἰς τὴν Ῥωμανίαν.
for idols they-are but it-is in — Romania
εἶδον οἱ ὀφθαλμοί μου τὴν πανυμνητὸν θεοτόκον·
saw the eyes my the all-praised God-bearer
ὦ καὶ τί τὴν ἀγαπῶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς μου.
O and how her I-love from all the soul my
καὶ εἶδα, μάννα μου, καὶ ἀνθρώπους νεκροὺς
and I-saw mother my also men dead
κ᾽ ἔτρεχαν τὸ ἅγιον μύρος.
and ran the holy myrrh
καὶ ὁ παράδεισος εἰς Ῥωμανίαν ἔναι·
and the paradise in Romania is
ἡ πίστις ἡ ἀληθινὴ οἱ Χριστιανοὶ τὴν ἔχουν·
the faith the true the Christians it have
καὶ ὅπου θέλει νὰ ἔλθῃ μετὰ μέναν ἂς ἔλθῃ,
and whoever wishes that he-come with me let he-come
νὰ ἀκολουθῇς σύντομα νὰ ὑπαγαίνω·
that you-follow swiftly that I-go
καὶ ὅσοι οὐδὲν θέλουν νὰ ἐλθοῦν, ἐδῶ ἂς ἀπομείνουν.
and as-many-as not wish that they-come here let they-remain
οὐδέ, μήτηρ γλυκεῖα μου, παρηγορία·
nor mother sweet my consolation
ἔμπροσθέν μου ὑπάγαινε νὰ ὑπάγω εἰς τὴν καλήν μου.
before me go that I-go to the fair(-one) my
εἰ δὲ καὶ οὐκ ἔρχεσαι, εὔχου μου ὅτι ὑπαγαίνω.»
if and also not you-come pray-for me that I-go
καὶ τότε ἡ μητέρα του, ἄκου καὶ τί τοῦ λέγει·
and then the mother his hear also what to-him she-says

«τέκνον μου ποθεινότατον, ἔρχομαι ὅπου θέλεις·
child my most-longed-for I-come where you-wish
διὰ τὸ σπλάγχνον σου καὶ τὴν πολλήν σου ἀγάπην
for the compassion your and the great your love
ἀρνοῦμαι καὶ τὸ γένος μας
I-deny also the race our
ἀρνοῦμαι καὶ τὸν Μαχουμέτην, τὸν μέγαν μας προφήτην.
I-deny also — Mahomet the great our prophet
565 ἀλί, καὶ τί μ' ἐποίησες, ἀλὶ, καὶ τί μ' ἐποῖκες;»
alas and what me have-you-done alas and what me have-you-done
καὶ πάραυτα ὁ ἀμηρᾶς πηδᾷ καβαλλικεύγει,
and at-once the emir leaps mounts
καὶ μὲ τὸν λαόν του
and with the people his
καὶ μὲ τοὺς ἀγούρους του πηδᾷ, καβαλλικεύγει,
and with the youths his leaps mounts
εἰς τοῦ Παγδὰ ὑπαγαίνει
to — of-Pagda goes
καὶ ἀπεσύναξεν αὐτὸς πᾶσαν αἰχμαλωσίαν.
and gathered he all (the)-captivity
καὶ ἔστειλεν αὐτὰ τὴν πολυπόθητήν του
and sent them to-the much-desired his
570 καὶ μὲ τὰ ὁμάλωτα ἀρίφνους ἀνδρειωμένους·
and with the captives countless brave(-men)
καὶ ἐχώρισεν καὶ ἐφόρτωσεν
and he-set-apart and loaded
καὶ ἔστειλεν καμήλια καὶ διακόσια,
and sent camels also two-hundred

καὶ ἐχώρισεν καὶ ἐφόρτωσεν
and he-set-apart and loaded
κὰν ἑκατὸν μουλάρια, ἀσήμιν καὶ χρυσάφιν.
some hundred mules silver and gold
καὶ ὅλα ἐφόρτωσεν ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ὁλονχρυσὰ βλαττία,
and all loaded the emir all-golden silks
καὶ διεχώρισεν κὰν ἑκατόν, διακόσια φαρία,
and set-apart some hundred two-hundred horses
ὅλα καλα καὶ θαυμαστά, σελλινοχαλινωμένα,
all fine and wondrous saddled-and-bridled
καὶ ἐκίνησεν εἰς Ῥωμανίαν νὰ ὑπάγῃ.
and set-out to Romania that he-go
καὶ διεχώρισεν χιλίους Ἀραβίτας,
and set-apart (a)-thousand Arabites
ὁλολουρίκους καὶ καλούς, χρυσοκλιβανιασμένους,
all-mailed and fine gold-mailed
νὰ περιπατοῦσιν ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ ἀγούρου
that they-march before the youth
καὶ ἄλλες κὰν δυὸ χιλιάδες τὸν ἀμηρᾶν ἀντάμα.
and other some two thousands the emir together
«ὅτι νὰ τὸν ἴδω ἤτους καὶ νὰ μὲ γλυκοφιλήσῃ»
so that him I-see quickly and that me he-kiss-sweetly
καὶ ἡ κόρη μὲ τὸν ἄγουρον μοναχοί των εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν
and the girl with the youth alone their in the chamber
ἐφιλοῦσαν, καὶ οἱ βάγιες τοὺς ἔρραιναν μετὰ ῥοδοσταμμάτον,
kissed and the maids them sprinkled with rosewater
καὶ ἐδρόσιζαν τὰ χείλη των ἐκ τὸν γλυκύν των πόθον·
and cooled the lips their from the sweet their longing

καὶ τότε ὡς τὸ ἤκουσαν οἱ γυναικαδελφοί του
and then when it heard the brothers-in-law his
μὲ τὴν μάνναν τους ἀντάμα,
with the mother their together
ἐξαίφνης ἐξεπήδησαν καὶ ἐσέβηκαν ἀπέσω εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν,
suddenly leapt-out and entered within into the chamber
καὶ τὸν γαμπρόν τους ηὕρηκαν μετὰ τῆς ἀδελφῆς των,
and the brother-in-law their found with the sister their
καὶ ἐκάμνασιν τὸ ἠξεύρετε τὸ κάμνουν οἱ ἀγαποῦντες.
and they-were-doing what you-know which do the lovers
καὶ ἐντράπησαν τὰ ἀδέλφια της καὶ ἐστάθησαν ἀπέξω·
and were-ashamed the brothers her and stood outside
καὶ εἶχαν γὰρ ἐξαίρετην χαράν, ἀλλὰ μεγάλην·
and they-had for exceptional joy but great
τὸν Διγενῆν ἐπῆραν τον οἱ βάγιες καὶ ἤφεράν τον,
— Digenis took him the maids and brought him
καὶ τὸ νὰ τὸν ἰδῇ ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἐπίασεν καὶ κατεφίλησέν τον.
and the that him he-see the emir he-seized and kissed him
καὶ ἐθώρει τον λοιπὸν καὶ ἀποκαμάρωνέ τον·
and gazed-at him then and was-proud-of him
καὶ ἐθώρει τον ὅτι ἦτον ἔμμορφον
and saw him that he-was lovely
καὶ ἐχαίρετον μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς του,
and rejoiced with the beloved his
ἀμάδιν μὲ τὸ τέκνον του
together with the child his
καὶ ἡ μητέρα του καὶ οἱ γυναικαδελφοί του,
and the mother his and the brothers-in-law his
καὶ ὅλη ἡ συντροφία του καὶ ὅλον τὸ φουσσάτον.
and all the company his and all the army

καὶ τὰ γομάρια ἐφθάσασιν φορτωμένα τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ
and the pack-animals arrived loaded of-the emir
ἐκεῖ ὅπου ἐπιθυμοῦσαν.
there where they-desired
καὶ ἔβαλαν τὸ πράγμα εἰς τὸ σπίτιν του,
and they-put the goods into the house his
καὶ τὰ φαρία ἔβαλαν εἰς τὸν στάβλον.
and the horses they-put in the stable
τοὺς δὲ ἀγούρους τούτους καλούς, Πέρσας καὶ Ἀραβίτας,
the and youths these fine Persians and Arabites
ὅλους ἔδωσεν φιλοτιμίας μεγάλας καὶ χαρίσματα
all he-gave honors great and gifts
ἐκ τὰ πεθερικά του·
from the(-things) of-the-in-laws his
καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτοὺς πάλιν εἰς τὴν Συρίαν.
and sent them again to — Syria
καὶ ἐκράτησεν μόνον κὰν ἕκατον Ἀραβίτας.
and kept only some hundred Arabites
καὶ ἐκράτησεν τὴν μητέρα του μετὰ τοὺς ἀδελφούς του.
and kept the mother his with the brothers his
καὶ ἐβάπτισεν ἅπαντα τὸν λαόν του.
and baptized all the people his
καὶ ἐχάρισέ τους τόπον καὶ ἐκάθετον ὁ λαός του.
and granted them (a)-place and settled the people his
καὶ τότε τὸ παιδίν, ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης,
and then the child — Digenis Akritas
ἀναθρέφετον ὡς πρέπει καὶ ὡς ἀξιάζει.
was-reared as is-fitting and as it-is-worthy

καὶ ὡς ἥλιος ἔλαμπεν τὸ πρόσωπόν του
and like (the)-sun shone the face his
καὶ ὡς κυπαρίσσιν ἀνατρέφετον τὴν ἅπασαν ἡμέραν.
and like (a)-cypress was-reared the all day
καὶ ἔβανεν χέριν καὶ νὰ δύνεται ὥσπερ ἀνδρειωμένος·
and he-put (his)-hand and that he-be-able like (a)-brave(-man)
ὅτι ἐδύνατον κρατεῖν τὸ χαλινάριν,
for he-was-able to-hold the bridle
ἐπῆρεν κοντάριν καὶ ῥαβδίν,
he-took (a)-spear and (a)-mace
νὰ ὑπάγῃ μὲ τοὺς κυνηγοὺς ὡς διὰ νὰ περιδιαβάσῃ·
that he-go with the hunters as for that he-ramble
κ' ἐθώρει τὸ παιδόπουλον τὸ πλῆθος τῶν θηρίων
and saw the boy the multitude of-the beasts
καὶ ἐκατέβηκεν τὸ παιδὶν εἰς τὴν μέσην τῶν θηρίων.
and went-down the child into the midst of-the beasts

VII · DIGENIS AND PHILOPAPPOUS

Hearing of the apelatai, the outlaws who hold the passes, Digenis makes himself a lute and seeks them out. A water-carrier leads him to old Philopappous, who mocks his slender youth and sets trials of fasting, lion-hunting, and bride-snatching. Digenis answers that he did such things at five; after the feast, when the outlaws boast, he knocks every mace from their hands.

ἐδὰ ἂς σᾶς ἀφηγήσωμεν περὶ τὰς ἀμωρίας του
now let to-you we-tell about the follies his
ὁ θεὸς τοῦ ἔδωσεν εὐτυχίαν εἰς τὴν πολλήν του ἀνδρείαν,
— God to-him gave good-fortune in the great his courage
καὶ ὅπου καὶ ἂν τύχῃ ποιεῖ ἀνδραγαθίας·
and where also — it-befall he-does deeds-of-valor

ὁ θαυμαστὴς Βασίλειος, τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀπελάτων,
the wondrous Basil the light of-the apelatai
ἡ δόξα τῶν ἀνδρειωμένων,
the glory of-the brave
περὶ ἀπελάτων ἤκουσε εὐγενικῶν καὶ ἀνδρείων
about apelatai he-heard noble and brave
ὅτι κρατοῦν στενώματα καὶ ποιοῦν ἀνδραγαθίας μεγάλας.
that they-hold narrows and do deeds-of-valor great
καὶ ζῆλος ἦλθεν εἰς αὐτὸν νὰ ἴδῃ τοὺς ἀπελάτας·
and zeal came into him that he-see the apelatai
καὶ ἔκατζεν καὶ ἐφθείασεν ὡραῖον τερπνὸν λαβοῦτον·
and he-sat and made (a)-fair delightful lute
ἐπῆρεν το καὶ ἐξέβηκεν ἀπὸ τὰ γονικά του ἀπέσω
he-took it and went-out from the parents his within
καὶ εἰς μίαν ἐκατέμαθεν καὶ τὰς στενὰς κλεισούρας
and at once he-learned also the narrow passes
καὶ ὡς ὑπήγαινεν μοναχός του·
and as he-went alone his
εὗρεν καὶ καλάμιν καὶ νερὸν καὶ ἦτον ἀπέσω λέων,
he-found also (a)-reed-bed and water and was within (a)-lion
καὶ τρίτον τὸν ἐγύρισεν καὶ ἐμπασίαν οὐκ ηὗρεν·
and (a)-third(-time) it he-circled and entrance not he-found
καὶ ὁ λέων εἶχεν γροθέαν ἐξηστρεπτὴν
and the lion had (a)-blow twisted
ἀπὸ τοῦ Γιαννάκη τὰ χέρια
from — of-Giannakis the hands
καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τὸν λέοντα ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης,
and when saw the lion — Digenis Akritas
ἀπὸ καρδίας ἐστέναξεν ἐκ βάθους τῆς ψυχῆς του·
from (the)-heart he-groaned from (the)-depth of-the soul his

«πότε νὰ ἰδοῦν τὰ μάτια μου τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀπελάτων
when that see the eyes my the light of-the apelatai
νὰ γομωστοῦν τὰ ὀμμάτια μου τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀπελάτων;»
that be-filled the eyes my (with)-the light of-the apelatai
τὸν νεροφόρον ηὕρηκεν τὸν εἶχαν οἱ ἀπελάτες
the water-carrier he-found whom had the apelatai
καὶ αὐτὸς τὸν ἐρώτησεν ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης·
and he him asked — Digenis Akritas
«τὸν θεόν, καλὲ νεώτερε, ποῦ μένουν οἱ ἀπελάτες;»
— God fine young(-man) where stay the apelatai
καὶ ὁ νεροφόρος τὸν Διγενὴν ἐλάλει·
and the water-carrier — to-Digenis spoke
«τὸν θεόν, καλὲ νεώτερε, τί τοὺς καταγυρεύεις;»
— God fine young(-man) why them do-you-seek
«γυρεύγω καὶ κατερωτῶ νὰ εἶμαι καὶ ἐγὼ ἀπελάτης,
I-seek and inquire that I-be also I (an)-apelate
ἵνα ῥογεύωμαι καὶ ἐγὼ μετὰ τῶν ἀπελάτων.»
that I-take-pay also I with the apelatai
ἀπῆρε τον ὁ νεροφόρος καὶ εἰς τὸ ληστάρχειον ὑπαγαίνει.
took him the water-carrier and to the robbers'-den goes
κεῖ ηὗρεν τὸν Φιλοπαπποῦν καὶ ἐκείτετον εἰς τὸ κλινάριν,
there he-found — Philopappous and he-was-lying on the couch
πολλῶν θηρίων δέρματα εἶχεν ἀπάνω ἀπακάτω,
of-many beasts skins he-had above below
τῶν λεόντων καὶ τῶν συαγρῶν εἶχεν προσκεφαλάδιν.
of-the lions and of-the boars he-had (a)-pillow
καὶ ὑπόκυψεν ὁ νεώτερος
and bowed the young(-man)
τὴν κεφαλὴν καὶ χαμηλὰ ἐπροσκύναν.
the head and low did-obeisance

ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς οὕτως τὸν ἀπεκρίθην·
— Philopappous thus him answered
«καλῶς ἦλθες, νεώτερε, ἂν οὐκ εἶσαι προδότης.»
well you-came young(-man) if not you-are (a)-traitor
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος οὕτως ἀπηλογᾶται·
and then the young(-man) thus answers
«ὦ μὰ τὸν θεόν, Φιλοπαππού, οὐδὲν εἶμαι ἐγὼ προδότης,
O by — God Philopappous not am I (a)-traitor
γυρεύγω καὶ κατερωτῶ νὰ εἶμαι καὶ ἐγὼ ἀπελάτης,
I-seek and inquire that I-be also I (an)-apelate
ἵνα ῥογεύγωμαι καὶ ἐγὼ μετὰ τῶν ἀπελάτων.»
that I-take-pay also I with the apelatai
καὶ ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς οὕτως τὸν ἀπεκρίθην·
and the old-man — Philopappous thus him answered
«θεωρῶ τεκήρκα ὑπόλιγνον καὶ ὡς ἀχαμνὰ ζωσμένος
I-see (obscure) slender and as weakly girded
καὶ χαμηλὰ ἡ ποδέα σου καὶ οὐ ποιεῖς ἐσὺ ἀπελάτης·
and low the hem your and not you-make you (an)-apelate
ἐὰν καυχᾶσαι, νεώτερε, νὰ εἶσαι ἀπελάτης,
if you-boast young(-man) that you-be (an)-apelate
δύνασαι ἐπάρειν τὸ ῥαβδὶν καὶ κατεβῇς εἰς τὴν βίγλαν;
can-you to-take the mace and you-go-down to the watch
καὶ νὰ νηστεύσῃς, νεώτερε, κὰν δεκαπέντε ἡμέρας
and that you-fast young(-man) at-least fifteen days
νὰ μηδὲ φάς, νὰ μηδὲν πιῇς, νὰ μηδὲ ὕπνον χορτάσῃς;
that not-even you-eat that not you-drink that not-even (with)-sleep you-be-filled
καὶ ἀπέκει νὰ βρουχισθῇς ὡς λέων, νὰ ἔβγουν τὰ λεοντάρια,
and from-there that you-roar like (a)-lion that come-out the lions
νὰ ἐπάρῃς τὰ δερμάτια των καὶ ἐδῶ νὰ τὰ φέρῃς;
that you-take the skins their and here that them you-bring

καὶ πάλιν δύνασαι, νεώτερε, νὰ κατεβῇς εἰς τὴν βίγλαν,
and again can-you young(-man) that you-go-down to the watch
καὶ νὰ διαβοῦν οἱ ἄρχοντες
and that pass the lords
μὲ τὴν νύμφην καὶ μὲ τὸν γαμπρόν,
with the bride and with the bridegroom
καὶ μὲ ὅλον του τὸ φουσσάτον,
and with all his the army
καὶ ἐσὺ νὰ ἔμπῃς εἰς τὴν μέσην,
and you that you-enter into the midst
νὰ ἐπάρῃς τὴν νεόνυμφον καὶ ἐδῶ νὰ μὲ τὴν φέρῃς;»
that you-take the newly-wed and here that me her you-bring
καὶ τότε δὲ καὶ ὁ εὐγενὴς οὕτως τον συντυχαίνει·
and then too also the noble(-one) thus him addresses
«ἄλλα μὲ εἰπέ, Φιλοπαππού, ὁποῦ οὐδὲν δύναμαι νὰ ποίσω.
other(-things) me tell Philopappous which not I-can that I-do
αὐτά, γέροντα, μὲ λαλεῖς, πέντε χρονῶν τὰ ἐποῖκα·
these old-man (that)-to-me you-tell (at)-five years them I-did
ἀμμὴ ἄκουσόν μου, γέροντα μίλλιν ἂν ἦτον ἕναν
but hear me old-man (a)-mile if were one
ὀρυάκιν εἰς τὸ πλάτος,
stream in the breadth
διπλοπόδης πάραυτα εἰς μίαν νὰ τὸ πηδήσω.
with-both-feet at-once at one(-leap) that it I-leap
καὶ τὸν λαγὸν εἰς τ' ἀνήφορον τρίτον νὰ τὸ γυρίσω,
and the hare on the uphill (a)-third(-time) that it I-turn
τὴν πέρδικαν ὄντα χαμοπετᾷ νὰ ἁπλώσω νὰ τὴν πάρω.»
the partridge when it-flies-low that I-stretch-out that her I-take
καὶ τότε καὶ ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς τοιοῦτον λόγον λέγει·
and then also — Philopappous such (a)-word says

«σύρετε ἀργυρὸν σελλὶν νὰ κάτζῃ ὁ κύριος Βασίλης.»
draw (a)-silver seat that he-sit the lord Basil
τραπέζιν ἴστεσαν ὀμπρὸς νὰ φάγουν καὶ νὰ πίουν,
(a)-table they-set before that they-eat and that they-drink
καὶ καλὰ ἔφαγαν καὶ καλὰ ἔπιαν καὶ ἐκαλοψυχῆσαν
and well they-ate and well they-drank and made-merry
ἄλλος ἔλεγεν· ἐγὼ ἀπαντῶ πενῆντα·
another said I meet fifty
ἄλλος ἔλεγεν· ἐγὼ ἀπαντῶ ἑβδομῆντα·
another said I meet seventy
ἄλλος ἔλεγεν· ἐγὼ ἀπαντῶ διακοσίους·
another said I meet two-hundred
ὁ δὲ νεώτερος ἐκάθετον, ποτέ του οὐκ ἐλάλει·
the but young(-man) sat ever his not he-spoke
ὁ δὲ Φιλοπαπποῦς τὸν νεώτερον ἐλάλει.
— but Philopappous to-the young(-man) spoke
«ἐσὺ πόσους δύνασαι, Βασίλη, ἀπαντῆσαι;»
you how-many can-you Basil to-meet
ὁ δὲ νεώτερος τὸν γέροντα ἐλάλει·
the and young(-man) to-the old-man spoke
«ἐὰν ἔναι ὡσὰν ἐμὲν δύναμαι ἀπαντῆσαι,
if he-is like me I-can to-meet
εἰ δὲ ἔναι δυνατώτερος νὰ μὲ δώσῃ καὶ νὰ τὸν δώσω·
if but he-is stronger that me he-give and that him I-give
καὶ δεῦτε, ἀγοῦροι, ἃς λάβωμεν ὑπόκοντα ῥαβδία,
and come youths let us-take short maces
καὶ ἃς καταβῶμεν κάτω εἰς τὴν ὁμαλίαν,
and let us-go-down down to the level-ground
ἵνα δώσωμεν χωριατικὰς ῥαβδέας.»
that we-give peasant mace-blows

ἀλλὰ ἐπήρασιν ὑπόκοντα ῥαβδία
but they-took short maces
καὶ ἐκατέβησαν κάτω εἰς τὴν ὁμαλίαν,
and went-down down to the level-ground
ὅπως δώσουσιν χωριατικὰς ῥαβδέας.
that they-give peasant mace-blows
Τότε ὁ Διγενὴς ἔρριξεν τὸ ῥαβδίν του·
Then — Digenis threw the mace his
τοὺς μὲν γροθέας ἔκρουεν, τοὺς ἄλλους σφοντυλέας,
some indeed fist-blows he-struck the others vertebra-blows
ἀλλὰ ἐπέσασιν ὁλωνῶν τὰ ῥαβδία τῶν ἀπελάτων.
but fell of-all the maces of-the apelatai
καὶ ἐφορτώθην τα ὁ Διγενής, τὸν γέροντα ὑπαγαίνει·
and loaded-himself-with them — Digenis to-the old-man he-goes
«παρέλαβε, Φιλοπαπποῦ, ῥαβδία τῶν ἀπελάτων.
take Philopappous (the)-maces of-the apelatai
καὶ ἂν οὐδὲν σοῦ ἀρέσει, γέροντα, καὶ ἐσὲ νὰ τὸ ποιήσω.»
and if not to-you it-pleases old-man also to-you that it I-do

The poet praises love and the deeds it drives men to, and insists that his tale is true. He recalls the emir's raid, his marriage, and Constantine. At twelve Digenis begs his father to hunt lions and bears instead of hares. In the hills he strangles a she-bear in his arms and tears the male in two, and stands gazing at it.

Ὁ Ἔρων τίκτει τὸ φιλὶν καὶ τὸ φιλὶ τὸ πόθον,
— *Love begets the kiss and the kiss the longing*
ὁ πόθος δίδει μέριμνας, ἐννοιάς τε καὶ φροντίδας
the longing gives cares thoughts both and anxieties
κατὰ πολὺν καὶ κίνδυνον καὶ χωρισμὸν γονέων.
according-to much also danger and separation of-parents
ἡ θάλασσα ἀντιμάχεται, τὸ πῦρ οὐ διαλογίζει
the sea contends the fire not it-considers
καὶ τίποτε οὐ λογίζεται, πόθων ἢ ὡς διὰ τὴν ἀγάπην·
and nothing not it-reckons of-longings or as for the love
καὶ τοὺς ἐγκρεμνοὺς οὐ λογίζεται, τοὺς ποταμοὺς οὐδ' ὅλως·
and the cliffs not it-reckons the rivers not at-all
καὶ τὰς κλεισούρας κάμπους, τὰς ἀγρυπνίας ἀναπαύσεις.
and the passes plains the vigils rests
καὶ ὅσοι βασανίζεσθε δι' ἀγάπην κορασίου,
and as-many-as you-are-tormented for love of-(a)-girl
ἀκούσατε διὰ γραφῆς τῶν Ἑλλήνων
hear through (the)-writing of-the Hellenes
πόσα καὶ αὐτοὶ ὑπομείνασιν βάσανα ὡς διὰ τὸν πόθον.
how-many(-things) also they endured torments as for the longing

Βλέπετε οἱ ἀναγινώσκοντες τοὺς ἀστέρας
See the(-ones) reading the stars
ἐκείνους τὰς Ἕλληνας
those the Hellenes
τοὺς θαυμαστοὺς καὶ ὀνομαστοὺς στρατιώτας·
the wondrous and famous soldiers
ἀλλὰ ὅσα ἐγίνουντα ὡς διὰ ἐκείνην τὴν Ἑλένην,
but how-many(-things) happened as for that the Helen
ὅτε ἐκατεπολέμησεν ἅπασαν τὴν Συρίαν.
when he-warred-down all — Syria
Καὶ πάντες ἐδοξάσθησαν ὡς διὰ τὴν περισσήν του ἀνδρείαν.
And all were-glorified as for the great his courage
καὶ πάλιν εἰς ἐρωτικὰ ἄλλος τις οὐχ ὑπέστη.
and again in love-matters other anyone not endured
καὶ οὐ λέγομεν καυχίσματα ἢ πλάσματα καὶ θύμους.
and not we-speak boasts or fictions and fables
ὁ ἀμηρᾶς ἐψεύσατο καὶ ἄλλοι τῶν Ἑλλήνων,
the emir lied and others of-the Hellenes
ταῦτα γὰρ μῦθοι λέγονται, καυχίσματα οὐ λαλοῦνται,
these(-things) for fables are-called boasts not are-spoken
ἀλλ' ἀληθεύουν ἐκ παντός· μηδεὶς οὖν ἀπιστήσῃ,
but they-speak-true in every(-way) no-one then disbelieve
ὡς λέγω τὴν ἀλήθειαν τοῦ θαυμαστοῦ Ἀκρίτη.
as I-tell the truth of-the wondrous Akritas
Ὁ πατήρ του ἦτον ὁ ἀμηρᾶς, ὁ Μούσουρος ἐκεῖνος,
The father his was the emir — Mousouros that
ὁποῦ ἀνατράφην εἰς τὴν Συρίαν ἀπέσω εἰς τὴν Βαβυλῶνα.
who was-reared in — Syria within in — Babylon

καὶ ὡς διὰ τὴν ἀνδρείαν του τὴν πολλήν,
and as for the courage his the great
τὴν περισσὴν τὴν φρόνεσιν,
the abundant the wisdom
συμβουλὴν ἐποιήσασιν οἱ γέροντες ἅπασης τῆς Συρίας·
counsel made the elders of-all — Syria
καὶ τὸν σουλτάνον τὸ εἴπασιν καὶ ἀμηρᾶν τὸν ἐποῖκαν.
and to-the sultan it they-told and emir him made
καὶ τρεῖς χιλίους τὸν ἔδωσαν Τούρκους καὶ Ἀραβίτας
and three thousand to-him they-gave Turks and Arabites
καὶ ἐποίησάν τον ἐξακουστὸν εἰς ἅπασαν τὴν Συρίαν.
and made him renowned in all — Syria
καὶ εἶχεν καὶ τοὺς ἀγούρους του ἄλλους πεντακοσίους·
and he-had also the youths his other five-hundred
ἐπῆρεν τους καὶ ἐξέβηκεν ἔξω εἰς Ῥωμανίαν·
he-took them and went-out out into Romania
τὸν Ἡράκλεος ἐκούρσευσε, τὸν Κόνιον καὶ Ἀμόρι·
— of-Herakles he-raided — Konion and Amori
κοράσιον ἀπήρπαξεν τοῦ Ἀκρίτη τὴν μητέραν·
(a)-girl he-carried-off — of-Akritas the mother
καὶ ἀπὸ τὰ κάλλη τὰ πολλὰ τὰ ἐβάσταζεν ἡ κόρη,
and from the beauties the many which bore the girl
ἐγίνετον Χριστιανὸς καὶ αὐτὴν εὐλογήθη.
he-became (a)-Christian and her was-blessed
καὶ εἷς ἀδελφὸς τῆς κόρης ἦτον ὁ Κωνσταντῖνος·
and one brother of-the girl was — Constantine
αὐτὸς γὰρ ἐπολέμησεν ἀμηρᾶν τὸν γαμπρόν του,
he for fought (the)-emir the brother-in-law his
τὸν θαυμαστὸν νεώτερον τοῦ Ἀκρίτη τὸν πατέρα·
the wondrous young(-man) — of-Akritas the father

καὶ τότε ὁ Ἀκρίτης ὁ θαυμαστὸς ἐκεῖνος,
and then — Akritas the wondrous that
μόνος του ὑπεθαύμαζεν διὰ τὰς ἀνδραγαθιάς του.
alone his marveled for the deeds-of-valor his
καὶ ἀπὸ μικρόθεν ἤρξατο τὸν ἐνιαυτόν του δοξάζει.
and from small began the self his glorifies
Καὶ ὡσὰν ἐγένετο δώδεκα ἐτῶν καὶ μόνον,
And when he-became twelve years and only
προσῆλθεν πρὸς τὸν πατέραν του, τοιαῦτα τὸν συντυχαίνει·
he-came to the father his such(-things) him addresses
«ὡς πότε θέλω κυνηγᾶν λαγούδια καὶ περδίκια;
until when shall-I hunt hares and partridges
αὐτὰ τῶν χωριατῶν εἰσίν, τοῦ κυνηγᾶν περδίκια,
these of-the villagers are the to-hunt partridges
ἄρχοντες δὲ νεώτεροι καὶ εὐγενῶν παιδία,
lords and young and of-nobles children
λέοντας καὶ ἄρκους κυνηγοῦν καὶ ἄλλα δεινὰ θηρία.
lions and bears hunt and other terrible beasts
καὶ ὡς θέλω καὶ ἐγὼ δοξασθῆναι ὡσὰν ἀπὸ τοῦ πατρός μου,
and as I-wish also I to-be-glorified as from the father my
ἀλλὰ δοξάσειν ἐγὼ πατέραν καὶ μητέραν,
but to-glorify I father and mother
νὰ δοξασθῇς, ἀφέντα μου, ἐκ τῆς ἀνδραγαθίες μου.
that you-be-glorified master my from the deeds-of-valor my
δεῦτε ἂς καβαλλικεύσωμεν καὶ ἂς ὑπάγωμεν εἰς τὸ κυνήγιν.»
come let us-mount and let us-go to the hunt
καὶ αὐτὸς ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης
and he mounted — Digenis Akritas
καὶ ὁ πατήρ του ὁ Ἀμηρᾶς καὶ ὁ θεῖος του ὁ Κωνσταντῖνος.
and the father his the Emir and the uncle his — Constantine

καὶ ἐβάσταζεν γεράκια ἄσπρα ἐκ τοὺς μουτάτους·
and he-carried hawks white from the mews
ἀλλὰ ὅνταν ἀπεσώσασιν εἰς τὰ ὄρη τὰ μεγάλα,
but when they-arrived at the mountains the great
δυὸ ἀρκούδια ἐπήδησαν ἀπόσω ἀπὸ τὸ δάσος,
two bears leapt within from the wood
ἀρσενικὸν καὶ θηλυκόν· εἶχαν καὶ δυὸ κουλούκια.
male and female they-had also two cubs
καὶ εὐθὺς τὸ ἰδεῖν τα ὁ Διγενὴς τὸν θεῖον του οὕτως λέγει·
and at-once the to-see them — Digenis to-the uncle his thus says
«τί ναι ἐκεῖνα, ὁ θεῖος μου, ὁποῦ ἀπηδοῦν καὶ φεύγουν;»
what are those the uncle my which leap and flee
καὶ ὁ θεῖος τοῦ λέγει·
and the uncle to-him says
«αὐτὰ εἶναι, Διγενή, τὰ λέγουσιν ἀρκούδια
these are Digenis which they-call bears
καὶ ὁποῖος· εὑρεθῇ νὰ τὰ σκοτώσῃ, Διγενή,
and who is-found that them kill Digenis
ἔναι πολλὰ ἀνδρειωμένος.»
is very brave
καὶ ὁ Διγενής, ὡς τὸ ἤκουσεν, μὲ τὰ καλίτζιά του
and — Digenis when it he-heard with the shoes his
εἰς αὐτὰ κατεβαίνει·
on them goes-down
καὶ τὸ ῥαβδίν του ἐσήκωσεν καὶ ἐμπρόλαβέν τα·
and the mace his he-raised and overtook them
τὸ θηλυκὸν εἰς πόλεμον ἐστάθην ὡς διὰ τὰ κουλούκια·
the female in battle stood as for the cubs
καὶ ἐκεῖνον ἦτον ἐγλήγορον καὶ ἐπάνω του ἐκατέβην.
and that(-one) was quick and upon him came-down

καὶ οὐκ ἐσύνφθασεν γοργόν, ἵνα ῥαβδέα τοῦ δώσῃ,
and not he-came-up quickly that (a)-mace-blow to-it he-give
ἀλλὰ ὡσὰν τοῦ ἐσίμωσεν κλειδώνει το εἰς τὰς χεῖρας του,
but when to-him it-came-near he-locks it in the arms his
καὶ ἔσφιξεν τοὺς βραχίονάς του καὶ εὐθὺς ἀπέπνιξέν το.
and squeezed the arms his and at-once strangled it
καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τὸ ἑταῖριν του, ἐστράφην ἐξοπίσω,
and when saw the mate its it-turned back
καὶ μύλιν τοῦ ἀ *** φευγόμενος ἐξ αὐτον.
and (a)-mile of-the (trace) (lacuna) fleeing from him
καὶ ὁ νεώτερος εἶχεν γοργὸν τὸ στρέμμαν·
and the young(-man) had quick the turn
ἦτον καὶ ὑπόστεγνος καὶ ἐγνώθουντα οἱ νευφροί του
he-was also lean and were-felt the kidneys his
καὶ εἰς τέσσαρα πηδήματα τὸν ἄρκον καταφθάνει,
and in four leaps the bear overtakes
καὶ ἀπὸ τὸ καταμάγουλον γοργὸν πιάνει, κρατεῖ τον·
and from the jaw quickly seizes holds it
καὶ εἰς δύο μέρη τὸν ἔσχισεν, στέκει καὶ θεωρεῖ τον.
and in two parts it split stands and gazes-at it

His father and uncle marvel at him and show him a lion; after a gap the poem finds Digenis riding home, where his mother blesses him. He has his gray horse saddled, strings his lute with snakeskin, and rides to the general's house to sing beneath the girl's window. She warns him that her father has punished suitors before and her brothers would kill him; he answers that he fights armies alone. She renounces her family for him, and he swears never to grieve her.

Ὁ θεῖος του καὶ ὁ πατήρ του οἱ δύο ὁμάδιν ὑπᾶσιν,
The uncle his and the father his the two together go
στέκονται καὶ θαυμάζονται τὰς τάξεις τοῦ νεωτέρου,
they-stand and marvel-at the order of-the young(-man)
ὦμον πρὸς ὦμον ἔθηκαν καὶ πρὸς ἀλλήλους λέγουν· 780
shoulder to shoulder they-put and to one-another say
«κυρά μου, μήτηρ τοῦ θεοῦ, καὶ θεὲ πανοικτίρμον,
lady my mother of-the God and God all-merciful
πράγματι βλέπομεν φρικτὰ εἰς τὸν νεώτερον ἐτοῦτον·
truly we-see fearful(-things) in the young(-man) this
τοῦτον ὁ θεὸς τὸν ἔστειλεν ὡς διὰ τοὺς ἀνδρειωμένους,
this(-one) — God him sent as for the brave
καὶ οἱ ἀπελάτες νὰ τὸν τρέμουσιν τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς τους.»
and the apelatai that him tremble-at the years of-the life their
καὶ συντυχαίνουντα ὁ θεῖος του καὶ ὁ πατήρ του, 785
and conversing the uncle his and the father his
λέοντα δεινὸν εἴδασιν ἀπέσω εἰς τὸ καλάμιν.
(a)-lion terrible they-saw within in the reed-bed
βούβολον ἐπεκάθετο ἀπὸ τὰ ὠτία του ὡς τὸ οὐράδιν,
(a)-buffalo it-sat-on from the ears its to the tail
καὶ ἐβύζανεν τὸ γάλαν του, στανέου του τὸν ἐκράτει·
and sucked the milk its (obscure) its it held

καὶ ὡς τὸ εἶδεν ὁ κύρις της καὶ ὁ θεῖος, ὁ Κωνσταντῖνος,
and when it saw the lord her and the uncle — Constantine
καὶ τὸν λέοντα τοῦ ἐδείξασιν ὡς διὰ νὰ τὸν ἀποδοκιμάσουν·
and the lion to-him they-showed as for that him they-test
καὶ γυρίζουν καὶ θεωροῦν τον ὅτι ἔβγαινεν ἀπὸ τὸ δάσος·
and they-turn and gaze-at him that he-came-out from the wood
δίαν εἰς τὴν στράταν ὁποῦ ὑπηαίνω·
straight on the road on-which I-go
ὅτι καὶ μοναχὸς εἶμαι καὶ μόνος θέλω ὀδεύειν.»
for also alone I-am and alone I-want to-travel
εἰς τὰ γονικά του ἀπέσωσεν ἀφρόντιστος καὶ σῶος
to the parents his he-arrived carefree and safe
ἐπῆγεν καὶ ἐπέζευσεν κάτω καὶ ἀνέσια ἐσύντυχεν
he-went and dismounted down and calmly spoke-to
τὸν πρωτοστράτορά του·
the chief-groom his
«στράτορα, πρωτοστράτορα καὶ πρῶτε τῶν στρατόρων,
groom chief-groom and first of-the grooms
ἀπόστρωσε τὸν μαῦρον μου καὶ στρῶσε μου τὸν γρίβαν,
unsaddle the black my and saddle me the gray
τὸν εἶχεν πάντ' ὁ θεῖος μου εἰς τὰς ἀνδραγαθίας μου.
which had always the uncle my at the deeds-of-valor my
τρεῖς ὕγκλες μου τὸν ὕγκλωσε καὶ τρεῖς ὀμπροστελίνες
three girths my him gird and three breastplates
καὶ τὸ βαρὺν χαλίναρον διὰ νὰ γοργογυρίζῃ·
and the heavy bridle for that he-turn-quickly
καὶ κρέμησε καὶ εἰς τὴν σέλλαν μου καὶ τὸ βαρὺν σπαθί μου,
and hang also on the saddle my also the heavy sword my
ὅτι εἰς ἀνάγκην φοβερὰν καὶ εἰς ἁρπαγὴν ὑπάγω.»
for into need fearful and into raiding I-go

τὸν λόγον οὐκ ἐπλήρωσεν οὐδὲ τὴν συντυχίαν,
the word not he-completed nor the conversation
καὶ εὐθὺς ἐκατεπήδησεν, εἰς τὴν σκάλαν ἀνεβαίνει.
and at-once leapt-down to the stair goes-up
καὶ ἐξέβην ἡ μητέρα του, κρατεῖ, καταφιλεῖ τον·
and came-out the mother his holds kisses him
«καλῶς ἦρθες, τὸ τέκνον μου, ἂν μοῦ ἤφερες κυνήγιν.»
well you-came the child my if to-me you-brought game
καὶ τότε πάλιν ὁ Διγενὴς οὗτος ἀπηλογᾶται·
and then again — Digenis this(-one) answers
«τὰ κυνήγιά μου νὰ ἔλθουν καὶ νὰ τὰ ἰδῇς·»
the games my that they-come and that them you-see
καὶ τότε ἡ μητέρα του ἤρξατο εὔχεσθαίν του·
and then the mother his began to-pray-for him
«δέσποινά μου, πανύμνητε, κυρὰ εὐλογημένη,
lady my all-praised lady blessed
δοξάζω, μεγαλύνω σε καὶ υἱὸν τὸν θεόν σου,
I-glorify magnify you and (the)-son — God your
ὅτι ἔδωκές με νεώτερον τὸν ὁ κόσμος οὐκ ἔχει·
that you-gave me (a)-young(-man) whom the world not has
καὶ χάρισέ μου τὸν νὰ ζῇ εἰς χρόνους ἀμετρήτους,
and grant me him that he-live for years unmeasured
νὰ τὸν θωρῶ νὰ χαίρωμαι τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς μου.»
that him I-see that I-rejoice the years of-the life my
καὶ εὐθὺς κρατεῖ, καταφιλεῖ τὰ ὀμμάτια τοῦ νεωτέρου,
and at-once she-holds kisses the eyes of-the young(-man)
καὶ ἐσήκωσεν τὰς χεῖρας της εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν ἀπάνω·
and raised the hands her to the heaven above
«δέσποινά μου πανύμνητε, κυρία μου εὐλογημένη,
lady my all-praised lady my blessed

τὸν νεώτερον, τὸν μὲ ἔδωκες, τὸν θαυμαστὸν Ἀκρίτην,
the young(-man) whom me you-gave the wondrous Akritas
δός τον ζωὴν καὶ μακροημέρευσιν τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς του,
give him life and length-of-days the years of-the life his
νὰ περιπατῇ ἀφρόντιστος, νὰ χαίρεται τὸν κόσμον,
that he-walk carefree that he-enjoy the world
τὸν βίον του ἀδιάλειπτον τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς του.
the life his unfailing the years of-the life his
καὶ νὰ τὸν φοβοῦνται πάντοτε ἔθνη τῆς οἰκουμένης·»
and that him fear always (the)-nations of-the inhabited-world
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος γοργὸν ἐξυπολύθη,
and then the young(-man) quickly took-off-his-shoes
τὰ καλίτζια του ἔβγαλεν καὶ ἔκατζεν εἰς τὸ δεῖπνον.
the shoes his he-took-off and sat at the supper
καὶ ἀφότου ἀποδείπνησεν ἐμπαίνει εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν
and after he-had-supped enters into the chamber
καὶ ἐπῆρεν τὸ θαμπούριν του καὶ ἀποκατάστησέν το.
and took the tambour his and set-in-order it
ὄφιων δερμάτια ἔσχισεν καὶ ἐποίησεν τουτὰς κόρδας
of-snakes skins he-split and made these strings
καὶ τὰ δόντια των πανέμνοστα τρυπάρια.
and the teeth their all-comely plectra
γοργὸν γὰρ ἐποδέθηκεν, εἰς τὸν στάβλον κατεβαίνει,
quickly for he-shod-himself to the stable goes-down
πηδᾷ καὶ ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν καὶ ἐπῆρεν τὸ σπαθίν του,
leaps and mounted and took the sword his
καὶ ἐπῆρεν τὸ ταμποῦριν του καὶ ἀποκατάστησέν το,
and took the tambour his and set-in-order it
καὶ ἔκρουεν τὸ λαβοῦτον του καὶ ἀηδόνι καὶ ἐτραγούδει,
and struck the lute his and (a)-nightingale and sang

ἀηδονικὰ ἐτραγούδησεν καὶ χαμηλὰ τὰ κρούει·
nightingale-like he-sang and low them strikes
καὶ ἐκίνησεν τὴν στράταν του καὶ ὑπάγει εἰς τὸ κοράσιον.
and set-out the road his and goes to the girl
καὶ ὅταν γὰρ ἀπέσωσεν εἰς τοῦ στρατηγοῦ τοὺς οἴκους,
and when for he-arrived at of-the general the houses
σφικτὰ τὰς κόρδας ἔδησεν καὶ ἐλάλησεν μεγάλως,
tight the strings he-bound and sounded greatly
καὶ ἐκεῖνος χαμηλότερα καὶ βγαίνει τῆς φωνῆς του·
and he lower and comes-out of-the voice his
«εἴ τις ἐφίλησεν μακράν, γοργὸν οὐκ ὑπαγαίνει,
if anyone loved afar quickly not he-goes
τὰς νύκτας οὐ περιπατεῖ, τὸν ὕπνον οὐ στερεῖται,
the nights not he-walks the sleep not he-is-deprived-of
οὐ θέλει τὸν παράδεισον μὲ τὰ μυρίσματά του·
not he-wants the paradise with the scents its
ἐγὼ μακρὰ ἐφίλησα, ἀλλὰ γοργὸν ὑπάγω,
I afar loved but quickly I-go
καὶ ἐγὼ ὡς διὰ τὴν πανεύγνωστην ὕπνον οὐδὲν κοιμοῦμαι.»
and I as for the all-renowned (with)-sleep not I-sleep
ἦτον λαμπρὸς ὁ μαῦρος του καὶ ἔφεγγεν ὡς τὸ φεγγάρι,
was bright the black his and shone like the moon
καὶ ὡς δι' αὐτὸν ἀπεσώθηκεν εἰς τοῦ στρατηγοῦ τοὺς οἴκους·
and as for it he-arrived at of-the general the houses
καὶ ὅταν ἀπέσωσεν ἐκεῖ, τὴν κόρην οὕτως λέγει·
and when he-arrived there to-the girl thus says
«ἐσύ, κόρη, ἀπεμερίμνησες καὶ ἀμέριμνα κοιμᾶσαι,
you girl have-become-carefree and carefree sleep

καὶ βέβαιον ἐβγαίνεις ἐκ τὸν ὅρκον σου,
and surely you-depart from the oath your
πανθαύμαστον κοράσιον·
all-wondrous girl
πιστεύω ἀπολησμόνησες τὰ χθεσινά σου λόγια·
I-believe you-have-forgotten the yesterday's your words
καλή, τὰ ἐσυντυχαίναμεν οἱ δύο μοναχά μας
fair(-one) which we-spoke the two alone our
καὶ ὅρκους τοὺς ἐμόσαμεν νὰ μὴ ἀποχωριστοῦμεν.»
and oaths which we-swore that not we-be-parted
καὶ ἐκείνη τὸν ἐγνώρισεν ἀπὸ τοῦ τραγουδίου·
and she him recognized from the song
ἐφήρθη καὶ ἐσηκώθηκεν καὶ ἐπῆρε τὸ λουρίν της,
she-was-raised and rose and took the girdle her
γοργὸν ἐκατεπήδησεν καὶ ἐβγαίνει εἰς τὸ παραθύριν·
quickly she-leapt-down and comes-out to the window
καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον τὸν νεώτερον κατονειδίζει·
and then the girl the young(-man) reproaches
«ἐγώ, κύρκα, κατονειδίζω σε διατί ἐπαραβραδυάστης,
I sir reproach you because you-were-overtaken-by-evening
καὶ ὡς κνηρὸν καὶ ῥάθυμον πάντα νὰ σὲ ὀνειδίζω·
and as idle and sluggish always that you I-reproach
καὶ τὸ λαβοῦτο σου τὸ κρούεις, ἔβλεπε ποῦ τὸ κρούεις·
and the lute your which you-strike see where it you-strike
δὲν ἠξεύρεις, μάτιά μου, τὸ φῶς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν μου;
not do-you-know eyes my the light of-the eyes my
ὅτι ἂν σὲ γρικήσῃ ὁ κύρις μου καὶ ὅλη μου ἡ γενέα
that if you hear the lord my and all my the race
νὰ στερηθῇς τὴν νεότην σου τὴν ὡραίαν ὡς διὰ ἐμέναν;
that you-be-deprived-of the youth your the fair as for me

ὅτι πολλοὶ ἐδοκίμασαν ἀγνώστως νὰ μὲ πάρουν,
for many tried secretly that me they-take
καὶ ἐγρίκησέν τους ὁ κύριος μου καὶ ἐκακοδίκησέν τους.
and heard them the lord my and wronged them
οὕτως καὶ ἐσύ, ὀμμάτιά μου, ἔβλεπε τὴν νεότη σας,
thus also you eyes my see the youth your
τὴν ὡραίαν.
the fair
καὶ ἐγὼ ἠξεύρω, ὀμμάτιά μου, τὸ φῶς τῶν ὀμματιῶν μου, 865
and I know eyes my the light of-the eyes my
ὅτι πόθος σὲ ἐκατεπόνεσεν, ἡ ἀγάπη ἐφλόγισέν σε,
that longing you has-worn-down the love inflamed you
τὸν νοῦν σου ἐπαρεσάλευσεν, τὸν λογισμόν σου ἐπῆρεν,
the mind your shook the reasoning your took
καὶ εἰς θάνατον σὲ ἔρριψεν ὡς δι' ἐμοῦ ν' ἀποθάνῃς,
and into death you cast as for me that you-die
καὶ θεωρῶ σὲ μοναχὸν καὶ οὐκ ἔχω τί ποιήσει.
and I-see you alone and not I-have what to-do
αὐθέντα μου, ἂν παρακατεβῶ καὶ ἐπάρῃς μὲ μεδ' ἔσου, 870
master my if I-go-down and you-take me with you
καὶ φθάσουν σὲ τὰ ἀδέλφια μου καὶ τὸ συγγενικόν μου,
and overtake you the brothers my and the kin my
ἐσέναν νὰ σκοτώσουσιν καὶ ἐμέναν νὰ διαγύρουν.
you that they-kill and me that they-bring-back
καὶ νὰ στερηθῇς τὴν νεότην σου, τὴν ὡραίαν ὡς δι' ἐμέναν.»
and that you-lose the youth your the fair as for me
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος οὕτως ἀπολογᾶται·
and then the young(-man) thus answers

«καλὰ λέγεις, κοράσιον, οὕτως μου συντυχαίνεις
well you-speak girl thus to-me you-speak
ἐγὼ μόνος μου μοναχὸς φουσσάτα πολεμίζω
I alone my single armies fight
καὶ ὅλα νὰ νικήσω.
and all that I-defeat
καὶ κάστρα νὰ ἀντιμαχιστῶ, θηρία νὰ φονεύσω·
and fortresses that I-fight-against beasts that I-kill
καὶ ἐσὺ ἀδελφοὺς μοῦ λαλεῖς, πατέραν καὶ γενέαν;
and you brothers to-me speak-of father and race
κουροῦνες πόσως ἠμποροῦν ἀετοῦ βρῶμα νὰ πάρουν;
crows how can (an)-eagle's food that they-take
καλή μου, ἂν ἐμετάγνωσες καὶ ἔχεις ἀλλοῦ τὸν πόθον,
fair(-one) my if you-have-changed-your-mind and have elsewhere the longing
εἰπέ μου τὴν ἀλήθειαν, κυρά, νὰ ὑπαγαίνω·
tell me the truth lady that I-go
εἴ δὲ ἂν θέλεις ὁλόψυχα, καλή, ὅτι νὰ φιλοῦμε,
if but if you-wish wholeheartedly fair(-one) so that we-love
ὡσότι ἔναι τὸ κατάψυχον μικρὸν ἂς ἀναπαυοῦμεν·
until is the cool (a)-little let we-rest
μὴ καρτερεύσωμεν ἐδῶ καὶ καύσῃ μας τὸ κάμα.
not let-us-wait here and burn us the heat
καὶ στέκει καὶ φλογίζομαι ἡ καῦσις τοῦ ἡλίου,
and stands and blazes the burning of-the sun
καὶ καύσῃ καὶ μαράνῃ μας ταύτην τὴν στράταν ὅλην.
and burn and wither us this the road all
καὶ ἔλα γοργόν, κοράσιον, μὴ μᾶς νοήσῃ ὁ κόσμος.
and come quickly girl lest us perceive the world
καὶ μὴ δοκῇς, βεργόλικε, ἡ πάντερπνος ἡ κόρη,
and not think slender(-one) the all-delightful the girl

ὡς διὰ φόβον τοῦ λαοῦ λέγω σου νὰ ὑπᾶμεν.
as for fear of-the people I-tell you that we-go
μὰ τὸν ἅγιόν μου Θεόδωρον, τὸν μέγαν ἀπελάτην,
by the holy my Theodore the great apelate
ὅτι μηδὲ μᾶς νοήσουσιν καὶ ἀποκλείσουν μας ὧδε.
that lest us they-perceive and shut us here
ἀμμὴ εἰς τὸν κάμπτω λέγω σοι ὅσοι θέλουν ἂς ἔρθουν,
but on the plain I-tell you as-many-as wish let they-come
καὶ τότε νὰ ἴδῃς κύρκαν τὸν φιλεῖς
and then that you-see (a)-sir whom you-love
καὶ πλέον νὰ μὲ ἀγαπήσῃς,
and more that me you-love
καὶ τότε νὰ ἴδῃς ἄγουρον τὸν ὁ κόσμος οὐκ ἔχει.»
and then that you-see (a)-youth whom the world not has
καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον τὸν νεώτερον ἐλάλει·
and then the girl to-the young(-man) spoke
«ἐδὰ δι' ἐσέν, αὐθέντα μου, ἀρνοῦμαι τοὺς γονεῖς μου,
now for you master my I-deny the parents my
καὶ τὰ καλά μου ἀδέλφια καὶ τὸν πολύν μου πλοῦτον,
and the fine my brothers and the great my wealth
καὶ ἐσέναν ἐξακολουθῶ ὡς διὰ τὸν πολύν σου πόθον.
and you I-follow as for the great your longing
καὶ εὕρῃ σε ὁ θεός, αὐθέντα μου, ἂν μὲ παραπονέσῃς.»
and find you — God master my if me you-grieve
καὶ ἐδάκρυσεν ὁ νεώτερος καὶ μὲ ὅρκον τὴν ὁμναίνει·
and wept the young(-man) and with (an)-oath to-her swears
«κύριε θεέ, φιλάνθρωπε, ὁ κτίσας τοὺς αἰῶνας,
Lord God lover-of-men the(-one) having-created the ages
ἐὰν ἐγὼ ἐνθυμηθῶ νὰ σὲ παραπονέσω,
if I remember that you I-grieve

θηρία νὰ μὲ διαμυριστοῦν,
beasts that me tear-apart
905 καὶ οὐ μὴ χαρῶ τὴν νεότην μου, τὴν περισσήν μου ἀνδρείαν,
and not — I-enjoy the youth my the abundant my courage
καὶ οὐ μὴ ταφῶ ὡς χριστιανὸς καὶ οὐ μὴ κατευοδοῦμαι·
and not — I-be-buried as (a)-Christian and not — I-prosper
νὰ μηδὲ τῆς μητέρας μου εὐχὴν κληρονομήσω,
that not-even of-the mother my (the)-blessing I-inherit
καὶ οὐ μὴ χαρῶ τὴν περισσὴν ἀγάπην ἐδική σου,
and not — I-enjoy the abundant love own your
ἐὰν ἐγὼ ποτὲ ἐνθυμηθῶ νὰ σὲ παραπονέσω.
if I ever remember that you I-grieve
910 ἀμὲ καὶ ἐσὺ βλερώματα, βλέπω τὸ ἀσκανδάλιστόν σου,
but also you (obscure) I-see the unoffending your
καὶ ἐγείρου, κοράσιόν μου, ἔλα νὰ περιπατοῦμεν.»
and rise girl my come that we-walk

X · THE ABDUCTION

The girl leaps from her window to Digenis, who calls a farewell to the general, and the alarm is raised. He kills the Saracen Soudalis, scatters three hundred pursuers, and drives back her five brothers, felling one with his mace. He bows to the general as father-in-law and refuses the dowry. The general and his wife go home lamenting that she was taken without their consent.

καὶ εὐθὺς ἐκατεπήδησεν τὴν χαμηλὴν θυρίδαν
and at-once she-leapt-down the low window
εἰς αὐτὸν δὲ ἐπήδησεν καὶ ἐκρέμασεν εἰς αὗτον.
to him and she-leapt and hung on him
ἐκεῖνος τὴν ἐδέξατο ὀμπρὸς εἰς τὸ μπιστοκούρβιν,
he her received in-front on the hindquarters

στρεφνὰ γλυκειὰ ἐφιλήσασιν ὡς καὶ τὸ δίκαιον εἶχαν,
tight sweet they-kissed as also the right they-had
καὶ ἐπίασαν τὴν στράταν τους, χαιράμενοι ὑπαγαίνουν.
and took the road their rejoicing they-go
καὶ ἐστράφην ὁ νεώτερος, φωνὴν μεγάλην σύρνει·
and turned the young(-man) (a)-voice great draws
«εὔχου με, κύρι στρατηγέ, μετὰ τῆς θυγατρός σου.»
pray-for me lord general with the daughter your
καὶ ἐκεῖνος ὡς τὸ ἤκουσεν ἐκ τὸν ἠχὸν τοῦ μαύρου,
and he when it heard from the sound of-the black
φωνὴν μεγάλην ἔσυρεν· «ἔχασα τὸ παιδίν μου,
(a)-voice great drew I-have-lost the child my
ἀγοῦροι ἀπὸ τοῦ Λύκαντος, ἀγοῦροι ἀπὸ τὴν βίγλαν,
youths from — Lykantos youths from the watch
βοηθήσατε εἰς τὴν παγκόπελον, ἐπῆρεν τὸ παιδίν μου.»
help against the (obscure) he-has-taken the child my
καὶ ὅσα ἄστρα ἔναι εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν
and as-many-as stars are in the heaven
καὶ φύλλα ἔναι εἰς τὰ δένδρα,
and leaves are on the trees
καὶ ὅσα πουλίτζια πίνουσιν εἰς τὴν Ἰκέαν τὴν λίμνην,
and as-many-as little-birds drink at — Ikea the lake
οὕτως ἐκαταπέφτουντα οἱ σέλλες εἰς τοὺς μαύρους·
so fell the saddles on the black(-horses)
καὶ ὅσοι ἐγνωρίζουσιν ἔστρωναν καὶ ἀποστρῶναν,
and as-many-as knew saddled and unsaddled
καὶ ὅσοι οὐδὲν τὸν ἐγνώριζαν, πηδοῦν, καβαλλικεύουν.
and as-many-as not him knew leap mount

Σουδάλης ὁ Σαρακηνὸς ἀπὸ τὴν πέραν βίγλαν
Soudalis the Saracen from the far watch
ὀκτὼ τέντες ἐπήδησεν καὶ δεκοκτὼ κουρτίνες·
eight tents leapt and eighteen curtains
φαρία τεσσαράκοντα νὰ κάτζῃ εἰς τὸν ἐδικόν του·
horses forty that sit on the own his
ἐβάστα καὶ εἰς τὴν χέραν του ῥαβδὶν κασσιδολίτζιν.
he-carried also in the hand his (a)-mace (obscure)
ὅλον τὸ βλέμμαν καὶ τὸν νοῦν ἔρριψεν εἰς Ἀκρίτην,
all the gaze and the mind he-threw on Akritas
κ' ἐπτέρνισεν τὸν μαῦρον του, ἀπάνω του ὑπαγαίνει·
and spurred the black his upon him goes
καὶ εὐθὺς τὸν ἰδεῖν ὁ Διγενὴς τὴν κόρην συντυχαίνει·
and at-once him to-see — Digenis to-the girl speaks
«βλέπεις, καλή, τὸν Σαρακηνὸν πῶς μᾶς καταδιώκει;
see-you fair(-one) the Saracen how us pursues
ἄρτι, κυρά μου, πρόσεξε τὸ τί τὸν θέλω ποίσει.»
now lady my watch the what him I-will do
καὶ ἐπέζευσε τὴν λυγερήν, κάτω τὴν ἀποθέτην·
and set-down the slender(-one) down her placed
καὶ αὐτὸς ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν, εἰς αὐτὸν καταβαίνει.
and he mounted on him goes-down
καὶ ἐπῆρεν τὸ κοντάριν του καὶ προσυπήντησέν τον,
and took the spear his and went-to-meet him
καὶ ὀμπρὸς τὸν ἐλάλησεν· «Σαρακηνέ, μὲ δέχου.»
and before him spoke Saracen me receive
καὶ κονταρέαν τὸν ἔδωκεν ὀμπρὸς εἰς τὸ μπροστοκούρβιν·
and (a)-spear-thrust him gave in-front on the forehand
καὶ εὐθὺς τὸν ἐθανάτωσεν, αὐτὸν καὶ τὸ φαρίν του.
and at-once him killed him and the horse his

καὶ εὐθὺς ἐκατεπήδησεν καὶ ἐπῆρεν τὸ κοράσιον·
and at-once leapt-down and took the girl
γοργὸν ἐκαβαλλίκευσαν ἄλλοι τριακόσιοι ἀγοῦροι·
quickly mounted other three-hundred youths
οἱ μὲν σουσανιασμένοι ἦσαν, οἱ μὲν λουρικιασμένοι·
some indeed (obscure) were some indeed mailed
εἶχεν καὶ καβαλλάρους ἀπέσω ἀπὲ τὸ Ἡράκλιν·
he-had also riders within from — Heraklin
καὶ ἐφωνίαζαν τὰ ἀνταρεύγοντα καὶ ταραχὰς σηκώνουν.
and shouted the rebelling(-ones) and turmoils raise
καὶ ἐκεῖ τὸν ἐκατέφθασαν εἰς τόπον λιβαδίζων·
and there him they-overtook in (a)-place of-meadows
καὶ ἐστράφη ὁ νεώτερος, τὴν κόρην οὕτως λέγει·
and turned the young(-man) to-the girl thus says
«βλέπεις, κοράσιόν μου καλόν, τὸ τί λαὸς μᾶς διώκει;»
see-you girl my fine the what people us pursues
ἐκείνη ὡς τὸ ἤκουσεν ἐφάνη τῆς ὅτι διὰ φόβον τῆς τὸ λέγει,
she when it heard it-seemed to-her that for fear her it he-says
καὶ κλαίουσα τὸν ἔλεγεν ἐκ στεναγμοῦ καρδίας·
and weeping to-him said from (the)-groan of-(the)-heart
«ἄφες με, ἀφέντη μου καλέ, ἄφες μὲ ἃς ἀποθάνω·
leave me master my fine leave me let I-die
μόνη μου ἔποικα τὸ κακόν, μόνη μου ἃς ἀπολάβω·
alone my I-did the evil alone my let I-receive
καὶ ἐσὺ μαῦρον καλὸν ἔχεις καὶ σῶσε τὸν ἑαυτόν σου»
and you (a)-black fine have and save the self your
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος τοιαῦτα τὴν ἐλάλει·
and then the young(-man) such(-things) to-her spoke
«καλὰ λέγεις, κοράσιόν μου, γλυκέα μου συνοδία,
well you-speak girl my sweet my companion

ἐγὼ εἶπα τὸ νὰ τοὺς ἰδῇς τί λαὸς μᾶς διώκει,
I said the that them you-see what people us pursues
νὰ μὴ μὲ ὀνειδίζῃς αὔριον ὅτι κλεψίαν σ᾽ ἐπῆρα·
that not me you-reproach tomorrow that (by)-theft you I-took
καὶ τότε νὰ ἰδῇς κύρκαν τὸν φιλεῖς
and then that you-see (a)-sir whom you-love
καὶ πλέον νὰ μὲ ἠγαπήσῃς.»
and more that me you-love
καὶ ἐπῆρεν την καὶ ἔκατζε την ἀπάνω εἰς τὸ λιθάριν·
and took her and sat her above on the rock
τὸ ῥέτενον ἐγύρισεν καὶ εἰς αὔτους κατεβαίνει·
the rein he-turned and on them goes-down
καὶ ἕναν ἐξ αὔτους ἐχώρισεν καὶ ἔδωκεν του σπαθέαν
and one of them he-singled-out and gave him (a)-sword-stroke
καὶ μέσα τὸν ἐχώρισεν αὐτὸν καὶ τὸ φαρίν του·
and through him he-parted him and the horse his
καὶ ὡς εἶδαν οἱ ἀπομένοντες ἐστράφησαν ὀπίσω·
and when saw the remaining(-ones) they-turned back
καὶ ὁ νεώτερος ὠμοίαζεν ἄσπρον, καλὸν γεράκιν,
and the young(-man) resembled (a)-white fine hawk
ὡσὰν ὅταν ζυγώνει πέρδικα καὶ ἔμπῃ ἀπέσω εἰς δάσος.
as when it-closes-on (a)-partridge and it-goes within into (a)-wood
οὕτως τοὺς ἐπεσκόρπισαν ὁ νεώτερος ἐκείνους·
thus them scattered the young(-man) those
πέντε ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐχώρισαν καὶ ἦσαν οἱ ἀδελφοί της.
five of them separated and were the brothers her
καὶ ἐπιλάλησαν τὰ φαρία των καὶ ὑπὰν εἰς τὸ κοράσιον.
and spurred the horses their and go to the girl

καὶ ὁ νεώτερος εἰς τὸν νοῦν τους
and the young(-man) in the mind their
ἔβαλεν μὴ ἀρπάξουσι τὴν κόρην·
put lest they-snatch the girl
πλησίον τους ἐπήδησεν καὶ ἐπισταπόδισέν τους·
near them he-leapt and drove-back them
καὶ ἐκεῖνοι πάλι ἐστράφησαν καὶ ὑπὰν εἰς τὸ κοράσιον
and they again turned and go to the girl
τὸ ἰδεῖν τοὺς νεωτέρους
the to-see the young(-men)
γοργὸν ἐπῆρεν τὸ ῥαβδὶν καὶ προσυπήντησέν τους·
quickly he-took the mace and went-to-meet them
ἕναν χωρίζει ἐξ αὐτῶν καὶ ἔδωκέν του ῥαβδέαν, 975
one he-singles-out of them and gave him (a)-mace-blow
τὸ ἰδεῖν οἱ ἀπομένοντες ἐκεῖ τὸν προσκυνοῦσιν·
the to-see the remaining(-ones) there him salute
καὶ ὁ κύρις τους ὁ στρατηγὸς ἐκεῖ ἀπέσωσεν
and the lord their the general there arrived
κλαίων καὶ ὀδυρόμενος.
weeping and lamenting
τὸ νὰ τὸν ἴδῃ καὶ ὁ Διγενῆς ἔδεσε τὰ χέριά του
the that him see also — Digenis bound the hands his
καὶ χαμηλὰ ἐπροσκύνα τον, κύριν καὶ πενθερόν του· 980
and low did-obeisance-to him lord and father-in-law his
καὶ μετὰ τὸ προσκύνημαν ἄκω τὰ τί τοῦ λέγει·
and after the obeisance hear the(-things) what to-him he-says
«εὔχου μου, κύρι στρατηγέ, μετὰ τῆς θυγατρός σου·
pray-for me lord general with the daughter your
καὶ βλέπε, ἀφέντη, μηδὲν λυπηθῇς, καλὸν γαμπρὸν ἐπῆρες·
and see master not be-grieved (a)-fine son-in-law you-have-taken

τὸν κόσμον καὶ ἂν ἐγύρευες κάλλιον οὐκ εἶχες εὕρειν·
the world even if you-searched better not you-would-have found
καὶ ἂν θέλῃς, κύρι στρατηγέ, τοῦ νὰ σὲ ποιήσω δουλείαν,
and if you-wish lord general the that you I-do service
καὶ τότε νὰ ἰδῇς τὸ τί γαμπρὸν ἐπῆρες.»
and then that you-see the what son-in-law you-have-taken
καὶ τότε καὶ ὁ στρατηγὸς τοιοῦτον λόγον λέγει·
and then also the general such (a)-word says
«εὐχαριστῶ σέ, θεὲ καλέ, τὴν ἄφραστον προνοίαν
I-thank you God good the unspeakable providence
καὶ τὴν φιλανθρωπίαν σου τὴν εἰς ἐμὲν δειχθεῖσα,
and the love-of-men your the(-one) to me shown
ὅτι ἐπῆρα γαμπρὸν καλὸν τὸν ὁ κόσμος οὐκ ἔχει.
that I-have-taken (a)-son-in-law fine whom the world not has
στράφου, καλὲ νεώτερε, εἰς τὰ πενθερικά σου,
turn fine young(-man) to the in-laws your
νὰ ἐπάρῃς καὶ τὴν προῖκαν σου, τριακόσια κιντηνάρια·
that you-take also the dowry your three-hundred centenaria
ὅτι καὶ χωρισμένα εἶν' ἀπὸ τοὺς ἀδελφούς της·
for also separated they-are from the brothers her
πάλιν δὲ διὰ τὰ κάλλη της τὰ βλέπομεν εἰς αὐτην,
again and for the beauties her which we-see in her
δίδω σου τὸ λογάρι μου τρεῖς λίτρες κιντηνάρια
I-give you the money my three litrai centenaria
καὶ ἐγκόλφια ὁλόχρυσα τὰ ἔχει ἐκ τῆς μητρός της,
and pectorals all-golden which she-has from the mother her
καὶ νὰ σὲ ἴδῃ ἡ στρατήγισσα καὶ νὰ χαρῇ ἡ ψυχή της,
and that you see the general's-wife and that rejoice the soul her
καὶ νὰ σᾶς εὐλογήσωμεν καὶ τότε νὰ στραφοῦμε.»
and that you we-bless and then that we-return

καὶ πάλιν ὁ νεώτερος οὕτως τὸν ἀπεκρίθη·
and again the young(-man) thus him answered
«ἂν ἔν' καὶ θέλεις, πενθερέ, νὰ ποίσωμεν τοὺς γάμους,
if it-is also you-wish father-in-law that we-make the wedding
ἐλᾶτε ἐσεῖς εἰς τὸν οἶκον μου μετὰ τῆς πενθερᾶς μου,
come you to the house my with the mother-in-law my
καὶ νὰ μᾶς εὐλογήσουσιν καὶ πάλιν νὰ στραφοῦμεν,
and that us they-bless and again that we-return
καὶ νὰ ἔλθωμεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον σου
and that we-come to the house your
καὶ νὰ μᾶς ἰδῇ ἡ στρατήγισσα καὶ νὰ χαρῇ ἡ ψυχή της.
and that us see the general's-wife and that rejoice the soul her
εἰ δὲ καὶ οὐ θέλεις νὰ ἐλθῇς, ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ
if but also not you-wish that you-come look I
παίρνω τὴν θυγατέρα σου, καὶ ὑπάγω εἰς τὰ γονικά μου.
take the daughter your and go to the parents my
τὴν δὲ προῖκα μου τὴν πολλὴν
the but dowry my the great
ἂς τὴν ἔχουν οἱ γυναικάδελφοί μου
let it have the brothers-in-law my
καὶ ἐγὼ μόνην κόρην ἔλαβα καὶ τίποτε οὐ χρῄζω.»
and I only (the)-girl took and nothing not I-need
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος πηδᾷ, καβαλλικεύει.
and then the young(-man) leaps mounts
καὶ ἀφ' ὅτου ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν, ὑπάγει εἰς τὸ κοράσιον·
and from when he-mounted he-goes to the girl
καὶ τότε ὁ στρατηγὸς
and then the general
κλαίει γὰρ καὶ ὀδύρεται, οὐκ ἠμπορεῖ πομένει.
weeps for and laments not he-can endure

Κάθεται καὶ μυρολογᾷ τὴν ἁρπαγὴν τῆς κόρης.
He-sits and dirges the carrying-off of-the girl
τὰ ῥέτενα γυρίζουσιν, εἰς τὰ σπίτια των ὑπάσιν·
the reins they-turn to the houses their they-go
καὶ τότε ἡ στρατήγισσα
and then the general's-wife
κλαίει γὰρ καὶ ὀδύρεται, οὐκ ἠμπορεῖ πομένει.
weeps for and laments not she-can endure
κλαίουσα καὶ ὀδυρόμενη τὸν στρατηγὸν ἐλάλει·
weeping and lamenting to-the general spoke
«πῶς ἐσυνέβην εἰς ἐμᾶς καὶ ἐπῆρεν τὸ παιδίν μας;
how it-happened to us and he-took the child our
παντῶς ἂς τὸν ἠξεύρωμεν καὶ ἂς ἦτον μὲ τὴν βουλήν μας.
surely let him we-know and let it-had-been with the counsel our
καὶ νὰ τὴν εἴχαμεν ἀπεβγάλειν ὡς πρέπει καὶ ὡς ἀξίζει·
and that her we-had sent-forth as is-fitting and as befits
καὶ ἐδάρτε μὴ μᾶς ἔφλεγεν ἡ ἁρπαγὴ τῆς κόρης·
and now not us would-burn the carrying-off of-the girl
καὶ πόνον νὰ τὸ ἔχωμεν τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς μου,
and pain that it we-have the years of-the life my
νὰ μᾶς φλογίζῃ ὁ πόνος της τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς μας,
that us burn the pain her the years of-the life our
τὸ πῶς μόνη ὑπαγαίνεις.»
the how alone you-go

His father, uncle, and kin ride out with polo and song; the girl fears them until Digenis names his father, who crowns and blesses them. The wedding lasts three months. The general sends a dowry of three hundred thousand: leopards, mules, icons, Schodroe's sword, and a lion. The couple live alone in shady meadows till a dragon hails Digenis.

Ἀκρίτης δὲ χαιρόμενος μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς του
Akritas and rejoicing with the beloved his
ἐκεῖ τὴν ἐπερίλαβε εἰς τὰς κατάκρυας βρύσες,
there her embraced at the ice-cold springs
καὶ ἀπ' ἐκεῖ ἐπῆρεν τὸ κοράσιον καὶ ὑπὰ εἰς τὰ γονικά του.
and from there took the girl and goes to the parents his
πρὶν φθάσῃ εἰς τὸν οἶκον του ἐνόησεν τους ὁ πατήρ του·
before he-reach to the house his perceived them the father his
καὶ βίγλας ἔστησεν πολλὰς καὶ ἀναμείνασίν τον
and watches he-set many and they-waited-for him
καὶ εἴδασιν ὅτι ἔρχεται ὁ θαυμαστὸς Ἀκρίτης·
and saw that comes the wondrous Akritas
γοργὸν ἐκαβαλλίκευσαν θεῖος καὶ ὁ πατήρ του
quickly mounted (the)-uncle and the father his
καὶ ὅλη του ἡ γενεὰ καὶ τριακόσιοι ἀγοῦροι.
and all his the race and three-hundred youths
οἱ μὲν τζουκάνες ἔπαιζαν, οἱ ἄλλοι τραγουδοῦσιν
some indeed polo-sticks played the others sing
καὶ πὰν εἰς τὸ κοράσιον.
and go to the girl
καὶ ἡ κόρη ὡς εἶδε τὸν λαὸν καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τόσον πλῆθος,
and the girl when she-saw the people and when she-saw so-great (a)-throng

πολλὰ τοὺς ἐφοβήθην.
much them she-feared
καὶ ἀνατρομάζουσα ἔλεγεν τὸν πολυπόθητόν της·
and trembling she-said to-the much-desired her
«ἂν εἶναι ξένοι, ἀφέντη μου, παντῶς νὰ μᾶς χωρίσουν.»
if they-are strangers master my surely that us they-part
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος τὴν κόρην οὕτως λέγει·
and then the young(-man) to-the girl thus says
«αὐτὸς ὁ πενθερός σου ἐστὶν καὶ δι' ἐμᾶς ἔρχεται.»
he the father-in-law your is and for us comes
καὶ τότε καὶ ἡ λυγερὴ μεγάλως τὸ ἐχάρη·
and then also the slender(-one) greatly it rejoiced
καὶ ἀγάλια ἀγάλια ἔλεγεν τὸν πολυπόθητόν της·
and softly softly she-said to-the much-desired her
«διὰ τί οὐκ ἤκουσες τὸν κύριν μου διὰ νὰ στραφῇς ὀπίσω,
for what not you-heeded the lord my for that you-turn back
καὶ νὰ εἶχα καὶ τὰς βαγίας μου καὶ τὴν ἐξόπλισιν μου,
and that I-had also the maids my and the equipment my
καὶ ὅλον μου τὸ συγγενικὸν μετὰ τῆς πενθερᾶς σου,
and all my the kin with the mother-in-law your
καὶ νὰ ἔγνωκεν καὶ ὁ κύρις σου καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν τὴν δόξαν;»
and that had-known also the lord your also the my the glory
καὶ τότε ὁ νεώτερος τέτοια τὴν κόρην λέγει·
and then the young(-man) such(-things) to-the girl says
«ὁ κύρις μου τὸν κύριο σου καλὰ τὸν ἐγνωρίζει
the lord my the lord your well him knows
καὶ εἰς τοῦτο οὐ μὴ τὸ μέψεται ὡς διὰ τὴν μοναξίαν.»
and for this not — it he-will-blame as for the solitude
ἕξι συρτὰ ἐπαρέσυρναν εἰς τὴν ἁρπαγὴν τῆς κόρης·
six led-horses they-led-along to the carrying-off of-the girl

καὶ ἦσαν γυναίκεια, πάντρεπνα τὰ σελλοχάλινά των,
and were women's all-delightful the saddles-and-bridles their
καὶ ἐπέζευσεν ὁ κύρις των καὶ ἐφίλει καὶ τοὺς δύο·
and dismounted the lord their and kissed also the two
καὶ στέφανα ὁλόχρυσα τὰς κεφαλάς των θέτει,
and crowns all-golden on-the heads their puts
καὶ τὸν θεὸν παρακαλεῖ καὶ εὐχὰς τῶν ἀποπέμπει·
and — God entreats and prayers to-them sends
«κύριος πάντων δυνατὸς ἐσᾶς νὰ σᾶς εὐλογήσῃ·
Lord of-all mighty you that you bless
ὁ κτίσας γῆν καὶ οὐρανὸν καὶ θάλασσαν πεδίσας,
the(-one) having-created earth and heaven and sea having-made-a-plain
καὶ στήσας στύλον τοῦ πυρὸς ἀνάμεσα πελάγου,
and having-set (a)-pillar of-the fire in-the-midst-of (the)-sea
ἀξιώσῃ σας νὰ χαίρεσθε τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς σας.»
deem-worthy you that you-rejoice the years of-the life your
εἰς τὴν σέλλαν τὴν ἐκάθισεν τὴν μαργαριταρένιαν,
on the saddle her he-seated the pearl-studded
καὶ ὁ λαὸς ἐκαβαλλίκευσεν μετὰ πολυχρονίων·
and the people mounted with (wishes-of)-many-years
τὰ βότανα ἐλαλούδιζαν καὶ τὰ βουνὰ ἐψηλῶναν,
the herbs blossomed and the mountains rose-high
καὶ τὰ ἄστρη παρασκύπτουσιν εἰς τὴν χαρὰν ἐκείνην·
and the stars bend-down to the joy that
καὶ μετὰ πάσης ταραχῆς καὶ μετὰ ὀψικίου μεγάλου
and with all tumult and with (a)-retinue great
καὶ εἰς τὸν οἶκον του ἀπέσωσεν μεσὰ εἰς τὰ γονικά σου·
and to the house his arrived inside in the parents your
καὶ τῶν δυὸ τῶν εὐχήθηκεν ὁ πατὴρ καὶ ἡ μήτηρ του·
and the two them blessed the father and the mother his

καὶ ὁ ἔρωτας ἐξεπλέρωσε πάσας του τὰς ἐλπίδας,
and the love fulfilled all his the hopes
καὶ πάντων τὰ θελήματα καὶ τὰ ἐξαρεσκιά των
and of-all the wishes and the pleasures their
τοῦ Ἔρωτος τοῦ ἡδονικοῦ χαρμονικῶς τελοῦσιν.
of-the Love the sweet joyfully they-fulfill
ὁ δὲ τοῦ Ἀκρίτη ὁ πενθερός, ὁ θαυμαστὸς ἐκεῖνος,
the and — of-Akritas the father-in-law the wondrous that
ἀφ' ὅτου ἐπεχαιρέτισεν Ἀκρίτην τὸν γαμπρόν του,
from when he-greeted Akritas the son-in-law his
ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον του καὶ ἐθρήνησε μεγάλως
went-away to the house his and lamented greatly
καὶ χαρίσματα οἰκονόμησεν ὅτι νὰ τοῦ ἀποστείλῃ·
and gifts he-arranged so that to-him he-send
δώδεκα πάρδους διαλεκτοὺς ἀπὸ Συρίας ἀπέσω,
twelve leopards choice from Syria within
καὶ δώδεκα μουλάρια, βλαττὶν σελλοχαλινωμένα,
and twelve mules (with)-silk saddled-and-bridled
καὶ χυμευτάρια ὁλόχρυσα, ὡς καὶ βαγίτζες δέκα,
and enameled(-pieces) all-golden as also maidservants ten
καὶ ἀτζουπάδες δώδεκα ὡς διὰ ὑποταγήν του.
and chambermaids twelve as for service his
καὶ ἀνήβαινεν ἡ προῖκα του κὰν τριακοσίες χιλιάδες.
and amounted the dowry his some three-hundred thousands
καὶ εἰκόνες ὁλοχυμευτὲς τοὺς τρεῖς ἀρχιστρατήγους,
and icons all-enameled the three archangels
καὶ εἶχαν λιθάρια ἀτίμητα, λυχνίας καὶ ὑακίνθους
and they-had stones priceless rubies and hyacinths
καὶ τοῦ Σχοδρόη τὸ σπαθὶν τὸ θαυμαστὸν ἐκεῖνον.
and — of-Schodroe the sword the wondrous that

ἔδωκαν του καὶ λέοντα, θηρίον ἡμερωμένον,
they-gave him also (a)-lion (a)-beast tamed
καὶ ἡ κόρη τὸν ἐχαίρετον καὶ ὁ νεώτερος Ἀκρίτης.
and the girl him enjoyed and the young Akritas
καὶ ἐκράτησεν ὁ γάμος του τρεῖς μῆνας ἀκεραίους·
and lasted the wedding his three months whole
καὶ μετὰ τὴν συμπλήρωσιν τῶν τρίων μηνῶν ἐκείνων,
and after the completion of-the three months those
ὁ στρατηγὸς χαιρόμενος ὑπὰ εἰς τὰ γονικά του.
the general rejoicing goes to the parents his
καὶ ὁ νεώτερος ἐχαίρετον μετὰ καὶ τῆς καλῆς του
and the young(-man) rejoiced with also the fair(-one) his
εἰς τόπους ὑπολίβαδους, καὶ ὅπου κατάσκια δένδρη
in places meadowy and where shady trees
καὶ ὕδατα ψυχρώματα, μόνος μὲ τὴν καλήν του·
and waters cool alone with the fair(-one) his
ἀνάμεσα γὰρ τῆς ὁδοῦ καθὼς ἐπεριπατοῦσιν,
in-the-midst for of-the road as they-walked
φωνὴ παρὰ τοῦ δράκοντος εἰς τὸν Ἀκρίτην ἦλθεν·
(a)-voice from the dragon to — Akritas came
καὶ ὁ θεὸς οὐκ ἤθελεν ἵνα τὸν ἀπολέσῃ.
and — God not willed that him he-destroy
ὁ θαυμαστὸς Καππάδοκας Βασίλειος Ἀκρίτης,
the wondrous Cappadocian Basil Akritas
ἀφ' ὧν τὴν κόρην ἥρπαξεν ἀπὸ τὰ γονικά της,
from when the girl he-carried-off from the parents her
ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον του καὶ ἐφίλησαν τὰ δύο.
went-away to the house his and kissed the two

His parents dead, Digenis goes out with his wife and meets a dragon that turns fair and demands her; he cuts off its three heads at a stroke. A lion bursts from the reeds; he buries its head in the marsh. As he plays and she sings, three hundred outlaws demand her; he kills them, sorry only that some fled, and sends her for fresh clothes.

Κατέλαβεν ὁ θάνατος καὶ ἀπόθαναν οἱ γονεῖς του
Overtook the death and died the parents his
καὶ μοναχὸς ὑπέμεινεν μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς του·
and alone he-remained with the beloved his
ἐξέβηκεν ὁ Διγενὴς νὰ παραδιαβάσῃ μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς του
went-out — Digenis that he-ramble with the beloved his
καὶ ὑπάντησέν του ὁ δράκοντας καὶ ἀπάνω του ὑπαγαίνει·
and met him the dragon and upon him goes
καὶ τότε δὲ καὶ ὁ Διγενὴς τὸν δράκοντα οὕτως λέγει·
and then too also — Digenis to-the dragon thus says
«ἂ θέλεις ἂς παλεύσωμεν ἢ ἂς δώσωμεν ῥαβδέας,
if you-wish let we-wrestle or let we-give mace-blows
ἕτοιμος εἶμαι πανταχοῦ καὶ ὅπου κελεύεις, ἔλα.»
ready I-am everywhere and where you-order come
καὶ πάλιν μὲ ἀνέδειξεν ὡραίαν τὴν δρακοντέαν.
and again to-me it-showed fair the dragon-skin
καὶ τέτοια λόγια μὲ λαλεῖ ὡς διὰ νὰ μ' ἐντραλλίσῃ·
and such words to-me it-speaks as for that me it-confound
«τίποτε, Ἀκρίτη, οὐ θελῶ σε δοκιμαστῶ μετ' ἔσου
nothing Akritas not I-want you to-test-myself with you
οὐ θέλω νὰ σαλεύσωμεν· εἰς ἁρπαγὴν νὰ πᾶμε·
not I-want that we-wrestle to plunder that we-go
ἀνάμενε μίαν ὥραν, ἄγουρε, νὰ πάρω τὴν καλήν σου·
wait one hour youth that I-take the fair(-one) your

εἰ δὲ πλανᾶται ἡ νεότη σου, νὰ χάσῃς τὴν καλήν σου ζωήν.»
if but errs the youth your that you-lose the fair your life
καθὼς εἶπεν τὸν λόγον του καὶ ἐλάλει μετὰ μένα,
as it-said the word its and spoke with me
ταῦτα μεταμορφώνεται, τρεῖς κεφαλὰς μὲ δείχνει·
these(-things) it-is-transformed three heads to-me shows
ἡ μία ἦτον γέροντος, ἡ ἄλλη νεωτέρου,
the one was of-(an)-old-man the other of-(a)-youth
ἡ δὲ μεσαία ἦτον ὄφεως, δράκοντος τῆς γενέας·
the and middle was of-(a)-snake of-(a)-dragon of-the race
καὶ ὡς ἤκουσεν τὴν ἀπειλὴν καὶ τὸν λόγον τὸν εἶπεν,
and when he-heard the threat and the word which it-said
καὶ ἡ ψυχή του ἐτρόμαξεν καὶ ὡσὰν ἀκροφοβήθη,
also the soul his trembled and as-if was-terrified
καὶ ὁ θεός, ὁ πάντων δυνατός, οὐ θέλει νὰ μὲ χάσῃ·
and — God the(-one) of-all mighty not wills that me he-lose
ἐβάστουν τὸ ῥαβδίν μου εἰς τὸ ἀριστερόν μου μέρος·
I-held the mace my on the left my side
τὴν πολυπόθητήν μου ἐπέζευσα, κάτω τὴν ἀποδέρνω·
the much-desired my I-set-down down her I-leave
καὶ τὸ σπαθίν μου ἐξέσυρα κατὰ τὴν ἀποσύρνω,
and the sword my I-drew as it I-draw-off
καὶ εἰς μιὰ σπαθίαν πάραυτα ἀντάμα τὲς τρεῖς ἐπαίρνω.
and with one sword-stroke at-once together the three I-take
καὶ ὁ κορνιακτὸς τοῦ δράκοντος ἐστύλωσέν με.
and the dust of-the dragon pillared me
καὶ τὸ κοράσιον ἐγέλασεν, μεγάλως τὸ ἀποδέχθην
and the girl laughed greatly it she-received
καὶ σὺν ἐκείνης τῆς χαρᾶς πάλιν γελᾷ ἡ κόρη.
and with that the joy again laughs the girl

καὶ ὁ συρισμὸς τοῦ δράκοντος, τὸ γέλιον τῆς καλῆς μου,
and the hissing of-the dragon the laughter of-the fair(-one) my
λέοντας μέγας τὸν ἤκουσεν ἀπέσω ἀπὲ τὸ καλάμιν·
(a)-lion great it heard within from the reed-bed
καὶ κτύπον ἤκουσα οὐρᾶς, εἰς τὰ πλευρά του δέρνει,
and (a)-thud I-heard of-(a)-tail on the flanks its it-beats
καὶ ἐκ τὸ καλάμιν ἐξέβηκεν ὡς θάλασσα ἀγριωμένη·
and from the reed-bed it-came-out like (the)-sea raging
καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τὸ θηρίον ἐμὲν καὶ τὴν καλήν μου,
and when saw the beast me and the fair(-one) my
ἐσήκωσεν τὸ οὐράδιν του καὶ τὰ πλευρά του δέρνει,
it-raised the tail its and the flanks its beats
τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς του ἐθόλωσεν, βούλεται νὰ μᾶς φάῃ.
the eyes its it-clouded it-wants that us it-eat
καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον ἀπήρπισέν με τελείως,
and then the girl despaired-of me wholly
καὶ ἐμὲν τὰ τέτοια ἐλάλησεν βλέποντα τὸ θηρίον·
and to-me the such(-things) spoke seeing the beast
«βλέπε, ἀφέντη μου καλέ, τὸ θηρίον μὴ μᾶς φάγῃ.»
see master my fine the beast lest us it-eat
καὶ ἀναπηδῶ ἐκ τὴν κλίνην μου, πηδῶ ὄξω τῆς τέντας·
and I-leap-up from the bed my leap out of-the tent
γοργὸν ἐπῆρα τὸ σπαθὶν καὶ προσυπήντησά του.
quickly I-took the sword and went-to-meet it
καὶ ἐγὼ πάντοτε ἐσπούδαζα ἵνα τὸν ἐπρολάβω.
and I always was-eager that it I-forestall

καὶ ἐκεῖνος εἶχεν τὴν βουλὴν ἵνα μὲ ἀποπέσῃ
and it had the plan that me it-fall-upon
καὶ ἄνκλασεν τὸ οὐράδιν του
and bent the tail its
καὶ σύντομα ἀπάνου μου κατεβαίνει.
and swiftly upon me comes-down
καὶ μίαν σπαθέαν τοῦ ἔδωσα εἰς τὰς δισουμέας ἐπάνω,
and one sword-stroke to-it I-gave on the shoulders above
καὶ ἡ κεφαλή του ἐχώθηκεν ἀπέσωθεν τῆς βάλτης·
and the head its was-buried within the marsh
καὶ ἀπῆρεν τὸ κοράσιον, εἰς τὴν τέντα του ὑπάει,
and took the girl to the tent his goes
καὶ ἡ κόρη οὕτως λέγει με, οὕτω παρακαλεῖ με·
and the girl thus tells me thus begs me
«νὰ ἐπιχαρῇς τὰ κάλλη μου, τὴν περισσήν σου ἀνδρείαν
that you-delight-in the beauties my the abundant your courage
ἔπαρε τὸ λαβοῦτο σου καὶ παῖξε το ὀλίγον,
take the lute your and play it (a)-little
ὅτι ἐραθύμησα ἐκ τῶν θηρίων τὸν φόβον,
for I-have-grown-faint from the beasts the fear
καὶ ἠγρίωσε ἡ καρδία μου ἐκ τῶν θηρίων τὸ αἷμα.»
and was-made-wild the heart my from the beasts' the blood
καὶ ἐπῆρα τὸ λαβοῦτο μου καὶ θέλει νὰ ἀκροπαίξω·
and I-took the lute my and it-wants that I-play-lightly
καὶ εὐθέως δὲ καὶ ἡ λυγερὴ τραγούδημαν ἐλάλει·
and at-once too also the slender(-one) (a)-song uttered
«εὐχαριστῶ τοὺς Ἔρωτας, καλὸν ἄνδρα μ' ἐδῶκαν,
I-thank the Loves (a)-fine husband me they-gave
νὰ τὸν θωρῶ νὰ χαίρωμαι τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς μου·»
that him I-see that I-rejoice the years of-the life my

καὶ ἐκ τὸν ἠχὸν τοῦ θαμπουρίου καὶ ἐκ τὸν ἠχὸν τῆς κόρης,
and from the sound of-the tambourine and from the sound of-the girl
κτύπος ἐβγῆκεν ἐκ τὰ βουνά, τὰ ὄρη ἐκηλαδοῦσαν·
(a)-din came-out from the hills the mountains echoed
οἱ ἀπελάτες θαυμάζουσιν τὴν ἡδονὴν τῆς κόρης.
the apelatai marvel-at the sweetness of-the girl
ζῆλος ἐνέπεσεν εἰς αὐτοὺς ἵνα τὴν ἀφαρπάξουν,
zeal fell into them that her they-snatch-away
καὶ ἀπὸ μακρέας φωνάζουσιν ἀναίσχυντα λαλίας·
and from afar they-shout shameless speeches
«ἄφες, καλέ, τὴν λυγερὴν καὶ σῶσε τὸν ἑαυτόν σου·
leave fine(-one) the slender(-one) and save the self your
σώνουν σὲ τὴν ἐφίλησες καὶ τὴν περιεπλάκης,
enough-for you her you-kissed and her embraced
καὶ μὴ πλανᾶται ἡ νεότη σου, νὰ χάσῃς τὴν ζωήν σου.»
and not err the youth your that you-lose the life your
καὶ ἡ κόρη ὡς εἶδεν τὸν λαὸν καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τόσον πλῆθος,
and the girl when she-saw the people and when she-saw so-great (a)-throng
ὅτι ἦσαν τριακόσιοι ἀπελάτες
that they-were three-hundred apelatai
καὶ εἶχαν ἄρματα καλά, ἱππάρια φυρώμενα,
and they-had arms fine horses solid
καὶ ἐξωπλίσμενοι δυνατὰ καὶ ἦσαν λουρικιασμένοι,
and armed strongly and they-were mailed
τὰ λόγια ταῦτα ἐπίστευσεν καὶ ἐμὲν τοιαῦτα ἐλάλει·
the words these she-believed and to-me such(-things) spoke
«ὦιμέν, ἀφέντη μου καλέ, καὶ βέβαιον νὰ μᾶς χωρίσουν
alas master my fine and surely that us they-part
σήμερον ἀπ᾽ ἀλλήλων.»
today from one-another

σφικτά, σφικτὰ μὲ ἐφίλησεν καὶ οὕτως μὲ συντυχαίνει·
tight tight me she-kissed and thus me addresses
«ἀφέντη μου, ἂς φιλήσωμεν τῆς ἀποχωρισίας μας.»
master my let we-kiss of-the parting our
κλαίουσα γὰρ μὲ ἔλεγεν ἐκ στεναγμοῦ καρδίας·
weeping for to-me she-said from (the)-groan of-(the)-heart
«σήμερον χωριζόμεθα, τίς νὰ τὸ ὑπομένῃ;»
today we-are-parted who that it endure
ἐγὼ δὲ ἐγέλασα καὶ τὸ κοράσιον λέγω·
I but laughed and to-the girl say
«καλὰ λέγεις, κοράσιον οὕτως μὲ συντυχαίνεις·
well you-speak girl thus me you-address
ἐμᾶς ὁ θεὸς ἔσμιξεν, ἄνθρωποι οὐ χωρίζουν·
us — God joined men not part
δός μου, ξαθή, ὑπολούρικον, δός μοι καὶ τὸ ῥαβδίν μου.
give me fair(-one) (the)-under-mail give me also the mace my
καὶ τότε, αὐθέτρια καὶ κυρά, βλέπε τὸ τί τοὺς θέλω ποίσει.»
and then mistress and lady see the what them I-will do
γοργὸν ἐπῆρα τὸ ῥαβδὶν καὶ προσυπήντησά τους,
quickly I-took the mace and went-to-meet them
καὶ ἐκεῖνοι ἐμὲν ἐκρούγασιν καὶ ἐξέβαιναν οἱ κτύποι·
and they me struck and came-out the blows
καὶ ἐγὼ ὅσον ἤκρουγα ἐγίνονταν οἱ φόνοι.
and I as-much-as I-struck happened the killings
καὶ ἡ γῆ τοὺς ἐδαπάνησεν ψυχὴ τιμωρουμένη.
and the earth them consumed (a)-soul punished
καὶ ἦτον κορνιακτὸς πολὺς καὶ ἦτον ἀνεμοζάλη·
and was dust much and was (a)-whirlwind

καὶ ὅσοι ἔφευγαν οὐδὲν τοὺς ἐθεώρουν
and as-many-as fled not them I-saw
καὶ δι᾽ αὐτοὺς μὲ κόπτει ὁ πόνος·
and for them me cuts the pain
καὶ ἡ λύπη νὰ μὲ συνταφῇ καὶ θλίψιν νὰ τὸ ἔχω,
and the grief that with-me be-buried and grief that it I-have
ὅτι ὄντα ἐθερμάθηκα οὐκ ηὕρισκα νὰ κόπτω.
that when I-had-grown-hot not I-found that I-cut-down
καὶ τότε ἀπομερίμνησα τὸ κρούει καὶ τὸ λαμβάνει,
and then I-left-off the to-strike and the to-take
στρέφομαι, περιβλέπομαι διὰ τὴν πολυπόθητήν μου.
I-turn I-look-around for the much-desired my
καὶ βλέπω τὴν ὅτι ἐκάθητον ἀπάνω εἰς τὸ κλινάριν,
and I-see her that she-sat above on the couch
καὶ ἔχυσα τὰ μανίκια μου καὶ πρὸς αὐτὴν ὑπαγαίνω.
and I-poured the sleeves my and to her I-go
καὶ ἐκείνη ἐκατεπήδησεν καὶ πρὸς ἐμὲν ἦλθεν,
and she leapt-down and to me came
κρύον νερὸν μὲ ἔφερεν, δοκοῦσα ὅτι ἐκουράσθην·
cold water to-me she-brought thinking that I-was-tired
ἐγὼ δὲ τὴν ἐλάλησα καὶ οὕτως μὲ συντυχαίνει·
I and to-her spoke and thus me she-addresses
«πίνε νερόν, αὐθέντη μου, ὅτι πολλὰ ἐκουράσθης.»
drink water master my for much you-have-grown-tired
καὶ ἐγὼ πάλιν τὴν λέγω· καλὴ ὅσον ηὕρηκα τινὰν
and I again to-her say fair(-one) as-much-as I-found anyone
ὅτι νὰ μὲ παραπονέσῃ·
so that me he-grieve
καὶ νὰ σταθῇ εἰς τὸ πλάγι μου καὶ ἐμπλήσῃ μὲ ῥαβδέας,
and that he-stand at the side my and fill me (with)-mace-blows

πῶς ἤθελα κουρασθεῖ δίχως καμμίας ἀνάγκης;
how I-would be-tired without any need
μᾶλλον ὕπαγε εἰς τὴν τέναν μου, καὶ φέρε μου ν᾽ ἀλλάξω,
rather go to the tent my and bring me that I-change
καὶ τὸ φορῶ ὑπερίψε τα εἰς τὸ αἷμα τῶν ἀνθρώπων.» 1195
and the(-things) I-wear throw them into the blood of-the men
καὶ ἡ κόρη ὑπάγει εἰς τὴν κλίνην μου νὰ φέρῃ νὰ ἀλλάξω.
and the girl goes to the bed my that she-bring that I-change

XIII · PHILOPAPPOUS, KINNAMOS, AND GIANNAKIS

Three riders seek the outlaws, and Digenis tells them their fate. Suspecting who he is, they test him. Philopappous shatters his shield and is disarmed, Giannakis falls to a blow on the arm, and Kinnamos is twice unhorsed. Philopappous offers to serve under him; Digenis refuses, preferring to fight alone. Three days of signal smoke bring no outlaws, and they resolve to seek Maximou's help.

καὶ ἐγὼ ηὕρηκα σκίαν δενδροῦ καὶ ἐκούμπισα εἰς τὴν ῥίζαν.
and I found (the)-shade of-(a)-tree and leaned at the root
καὶ ὅσον νὰ ὑπάῃ ἡ λυγερὴ νὰ μοῦ φέρῃ ν᾽ ἀλλάξω,
and while that go the slender(-one) that to-me she-bring that I-change
τρεῖς καβελλάροι ἀνέμεναν τὴν παρεποταμίαν·
three riders were-waiting-at the riverside-plain
ὁ εἷς ἦτον νεώτερος, ἀγένειον παλληκάρι, 1200
the one was young (a)-beardless young-hero
καὶ ὁ ἄλλος ἦτον κουρευτὸς γέρων ἐξωπλισμένος,
and the other was close-cropped (an)-old-man armed
καὶ ὁ ἄλλος τὸ γένειον ἐπέκει νὰ στεφανώνῃ.
and the other the beard there that crown
καὶ οἱ τρεῖς ἀντάμα ἐστάθησαν καὶ οὕτως μὲ συντυχαίνουν·
and the three together stood and thus me address

«μὴν νὰ ἐδιάβησαν ἀπεδῶ, νεώτερε, ἀπελάτες;»
whether that passed from-here young(-man) apelatai
ἐγὼ δὲ οὐκ ἐφοβήθην τους ἵνα τοὺς προσεγέρθω
I and not feared them that to-them I-rise
καὶ ἵνα τοὺς κρύψω τίποτες ἐκ τὴν ἐμὴν ἀνδρείαν.
and that from-them I-hide anything from the my courage
κάθομαι, διηγοῦμαι τους περὶ τοὺς ἀπελάτες·
I-sit I-relate to-them about the apelatai
«ἄρχοντες ἐδῶ ἦρθαν εἰς ἐμὲν νὰ ἐπάρουν τὴν καλήν μου·
lords here came to me that they-take the fair(-one) my
καὶ ἐγώ, ὥς μὲ ἐλέγασιν ἵνα τὴν ἐξαφήσω,
and I as me they-told that her I-let-go
ὅτι εἶχα ἐγὼ πόθον εἰς αὐτὴν ἄπειρόν τε καὶ μέγαν,
for I-had I longing for her boundless both and great
καὶ ἐγὼ ἄρματα οὐκ εἶχα μετ' ἐμέν, ἄλογον οὐδὲ ἕνα,
and I arms not had with me horse not-even one
μὲ τῆς μητρός μου τὴν εὐχὴν πεζὸς ὑπῆγα εἰς αὕτους·
with of-the mother my the blessing on-foot I-went to them
καὶ τὸ κακὸν τὸ ἐπάθασιν οὐ μὴ σᾶς ἔχει λάθειν.»
and the evil which they-suffered not — you shall escape
καὶ εὐθὺς οἱ τρεῖς ὥς τὸ ἤκουσαν παράξενον τῶν ἐφάνη.
and at-once the three when it heard strange to-them it-seemed
ἀλλήλους ἐβλεμμάτισαν καὶ πρὸς ἀλλήλους λέγουν·
one-another they-eyed and to one-another say
«μὴ τοῦτος ἦν τὸν λέγουν ὁ Διγενὴς Ἀκρίτης;
whether this(-one) was whom they-call — Digenis Akritas
ἀλλὰ ἂς τὸν δοκιμάσωμεν κανεὶς ἀπὸ τοὺς τρεῖς μας
but let him we-test anyone from the three our
καὶ εἰς μίαν πεικάσωμεν ὅτι ἀληθῶς μᾶς λέγει.»
and at once let-us-guess that truly to-us he-speaks

καὶ εἷς ἐξ αὐτῶν μὲ ἐλάλησεν, δοκῶ τὸν εἶχαν πρῶτον·
and one of them me spoke-to I-think him they-had (as)-first
«ἐκείνους τοὺς γυρεύγομεν καὶ τοὺς καταρωτοῦμεν,
those whom we-seek and of-whom we-inquire
τριακόσιοι εἶναι ἐξωλούρικοι μετὰ καὶ τῶν ἁρμάτων,
three-hundred are mailed-outside with also the arms
καὶ ἐσὲν θεωροῦμεν μοναχὸν καὶ μὲ τὸ μοναπλούτζικον
and you we-see alone and with the single-mace
καὶ πῶς τοὺς εἶχες τέρψειν;
and how them would-you-have routed
ἀμέ, ἂν λαλεῖς ἀλήθειαν ὥς λέγεις καὶ καυχᾶσαι,
but if you-speak (the)-truth as you-say and boast
ἕναν ἐκλέξου ἀπ' ἡμῶν ὃν θέλεις καὶ κελεύεις·
one choose from us whom you-wish and order
καὶ αὐτὸς νὰ ἔλθῃ πρὸς ἐσὲν καὶ δότε οἱ δυὸ ῥαβδέας,
and he that he-come to you and give the two mace-blows
καὶ τότε νὰ νοήσωμεν ὅτι ἀληθῶς μᾶς λέγεις.»
and then that we-perceive that truly to-us you-speak
γοργὸν ἐκατεπήδησα καὶ ἐστάθην ἔμπροσθέν των,
quickly I-leapt-down and stood before them
καὶ λόγους τοὺς ἐλάλησα οὐχὶ πρὸς καυχησίαν·
and words to-them I-spoke not for boasting
«νὰ τὸν ἐξουσιαστὴν Χριστόν, ὃν τρέμει πᾶσα ἡ κτίσις,
by the sovereign Christ whom trembles-at all the creation
ἀφῶν ἠρξάμην πολεμεῖν εἰς ἕναν οὐκ ἐβγῆκα,
since I-began to-fight against one not I-went-out
εἰς χιλίους ἐκατέβηκα καὶ εἰς τετρακισχιλίους·
against (a)-thousand I-went-down and against four-thousand
καὶ ἦσαν ὁλοσίδεροι καὶ τετραλυγισμένοι,
and they-were all-iron and fourfold-bent

καὶ εἶχαν ἄρματα καλά, ἱππάρια ἀφυρωμένα·
and they-had arms fine horses solid
καὶ ἐδὰ ἄρτε εἰς ἕναν μοναχὸν θέλω νὰ πολεμήσω;
and now just-now against one alone do-I-want that I-fight
ἀμμὴ ὑπάτε καὶ πεζεύσετε καὶ ἐλᾶτε οἱ τρεῖς εἰς ἕναν·
but go and dismount and come the three against one
εἰ δὲ οὐ καταδέχεσθε, ἐλᾶτε καὶ καβαλλάροι.»
if but not you-consent come also mounted
καὶ εἷς ἐξ αὐτῶν μὲ ἐλάλησεν δοκῶ τὸν εἶχαν πρῶτον,
and one of them me spoke-to I-think him they-had (as)-first
ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς, ὁ πρῶτος ἀπελάτης·
the old-man — Philopappous the first apelate
«αὐτὰ εἰς ἐμὲν μηδὲν τὸ εἰπῇς νὰ τὸ ἔχωμεν καταδίκην
these(-things) to me not it say that it we-have (a)-condemnation
καὶ αὔριον νὰ τὸ καυχᾶσαι,
and tomorrow that it you-boast
ὅτι ἀπελάτες θαυμαστοὶ ἐσέναν πολεμοῦσιν·
that apelatai wondrous you fight
ἐγὼ εἶμαι ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς, Κίνναμος καὶ Γιαννάκης.»
I am — Philopappous Kinnamos and Giannakis
καὶ ἐγλήγορα ἐπήδησεν ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς ἀπὸ ἄλογόν του
and quickly leapt — Philopappous from horse his
καὶ σύρνει τὸ σπαθίτζιν του καὶ σύντομα ἐκατέβην
and draws the little-sword his and swiftly came-down
ἵνα ῥαβδέαν μὲ δώσῃ.
that (a)-mace-blow me he-give
καὶ ὥστε νὰ πάρω τὸ σπαθὶν ἐκ τοῦ δένδρου τὴν ῥίζαν,
and before that I-take the sword from the tree's the root
σπαθέαν μίαν μὲ ἔδωκεν εἰς τὸ χοροσκουτάριν·
(a)-sword-stroke one me he-gave on the hand-shield

καὶ ἦτον ὁ γέρων δυνατὸς καὶ τὸ ἄρμα του καινούριον,
and was the old-man strong and the weapon his new
καὶ μοναχὸν τὸ κράτημαν ἀπόμεινε εἰς τὸ χέρι,
and only the grip remained in the hand
τοῦ σκουταριοῦ μου τζακίσματα ἔπεσεν ἔμπροσθέν μου.
of-the shield my splinters fell before me
καὶ τότε τὸν ἐλάλησα· «Φιλοπαπποῦ ἀλημένε»,
and then him I-addressed Philopappous wanderer
καὶ ἐγὼ οὐκ ἐκατεδέχθην το ἵνα μοῦ δευτερώσῃ,
and I not consented-to it that to-me he-repeat
δαμὶν ἐπιστοπόδησα καὶ δίδω του ῥαβδέαν·
at-once I-drove-back and give him (a)-mace-blow
καὶ εἰς μίαν ἔπεσαν τὰ ἄρματα καὶ ἀπὸ τὰς δύο του χεῖρας.
and at once fell the weapons also from the two his hands
καὶ ἐστέναξεν, ἐδάκρυσεν ὁ γέρων καὶ ὑπηγαίνει,
and groaned wept the old-man and goes
καὶ οἱ ἄλλοι συνεσπούδαζον καὶ ἐπέπεσάν με οἱ δύο·
and the others hastened-together and fell-upon me the two
καὶ τότε ἐνόησα πόλεμον καλὸν παλληκαρίων·
and then I-perceived (a)-battle fine of-young-heroes
εἰς τὸ κρούειν καὶ εἰς τὸ δέχεσθαι ηὕρηκα τὸν Γιαννάκην,
in the to-strike and in the to-receive I-found — Giannakis
καὶ εἰς τὰ πυκνογυρίσματα τὸν Κίνναμον τὸν λέον.
and in the quick-turnings — Kinnamos the lion
εἰς αὖτον τὸν νοῦν μου ἔβαλα κρυφῶς νὰ μὴ μὲ δώσῃ
on him the mind my I-set secretly that not me he-strike
καὶ τὴν καλήν μου ἐλάλησα φωνὴν ἀπὸ μακρόθεν·
and to-the fair(-one) my I-called (a)-cry from afar

«ἄρτε, καλή μου, πέρασε τ᾽ ἀκριὰ καὶ τὰ χιονάτα
now fair(-one) my pass the(-things) at-the-edge and the snowy(-things)
καὶ φέρε μου ὑπολούρικον διὰ νὰ κρατῶ εἰς τὸ χέριν,
and bring me (an)-under-mail for that I-hold in the hand
ἵνα τοὺς ποίσω τὸ γοργὸν νὰ φύγουν ἔμπροσθέν μου».
that them I-make — quickly that they-flee before me
καὶ ἐκείνη ὑπιβουλεύτη με καὶ φέρνει μοῦ ἱματίτζιν·
and she took-thought-for me and brings to-me (a)-little-garment
καὶ ἐγὼ ἐκ τὴν βίαν μου τὴν πολλὴν τυλίγω εἰς τὸ χέριν,
and I from the strength my the great wind on the hand
καὶ εἰς αὔτους κατεβαίνω·
and on them go-down
τὸν Γιαννάκην ἐχώρισα ὥς διὰ νὰ τὸν ἀποδοκιμάσω,
— Giannakis I-singled-out as for that him I-test
καὶ ἐκεῖνος μὲ ἐπέβλεπεν ἵνα σπαθεὰν μὲ δώσῃ·
and he me watched that (a)-sword-stroke me he-give
καὶ ἐξηστρεφτὴν τοῦ ἔδωσα ἀπάνω εἰς τὸν βραχίοναν,
and (a)-twisting(-blow) him I-gave above on the arm
καὶ τὸ σπαθίν του ἐξέπεσεν, εἰς τὴν χεῖραν του ἐκρεμάστην,
and the sword his fell-out on the hand his it-hung
καὶ ἀνάσκελα ἐξήπλωσεν ὁ θαυμαστὸς Γιαννάκης.
and on-his-back stretched-out the wondrous Giannakis
καὶ ὥς εἶδεν τοῦτο ὁ Κίνναμος πηδᾷ, καβαλλικεύει,
and when saw this — Kinnamos leaps mounts
καὶ ἀπάνω μου ἐπιλάλησεν ἵνα παρέαν μοῦ δώσῃ·
and upon me charged that companionship to-me he-give
καλὴν ῥαβδέαν ἔδωκα τὴν φαρέαν εἰς τὸ κεφάλιν,
(a)-fine mace-blow I-gave the charger on the head

καὶ μὲ τὸν καβαλλάρην της ἔπεσαν ἔμπροσθέν μου
and with the rider its fell before me
καὶ ἐγὼ πάλιν τὸν ἔλεγα· «ἂς σηκώση, μὴ κεῖται·
and I again to-him said let rise not lie
ἐγείρου ἀπ' αὔτου, Κίνναμε· κειτόμενον οὐ κρόσου·
get-up from there Kinnamos lying not I-strike-you
ἄμε, περισωρεύτητε, καὶ πάλιν ἂν θέλῃς ἔλα».
go gather-together and again if you-wish come
γοργὸν πάλιν σηκώνεται, πηδᾷ, καβαλλικεύει,
quickly again he-rises leaps mounts
καὶ πῆρεν τὸ κοντάριν του τρανὰ ἐπεγυρίστην·
and took the spear his greatly he-turned-round
καὶ σύντομα ἐπιλάλησεν καὶ κονταρέαν μὲ δώσῃ·
and swiftly charged and (a)-spear-thrust me he-give
καὶ τὸ κοντάριν του ἔρριψα ἀπὸ τὴν φάραν κάτω,
and the spear his I-threw from the charger down
καὶ τὸν ἀγκῶναν του ἤπλωσεν
and the elbow his he-stretched
εἰς τὸν κάμπον ὥς σκουτέλλιν.
on the plain like (a)-dish
καὶ ἐγὼ ταῦτα τὸν ἔλεγα· «ἂς σηκωθῇ, μὴ κεῖται·
and I these(-things) to-him said let rise not lie
ἐγείρου ἀπ' αὔτου, Κίνναμε, κειτόμενον οὐ κρῶ σε.»
get-up from there Kinnamos lying not I-strike you
καὶ ὥς εἶδεν ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς κειτόμενος θαυμάζει·
and when saw — Philopappous lying he-marvels
«εὐλόγησέν σου ὁ Θεός, νεώτερε, τὴν περίσσην σου ἀνδρείαν.
blessed your — God young(-man) the abundant your courage
ν' ἀξιωθῇς νὰ χαίρεσαι τὰ ἔτη τῆς ζωῆς σου.
that you-be-deemed-worthy that you-rejoice the years of-the life your

καὶ ἂν οὐκ ἔναι εἰς λύπην σου καὶ οὐκ ἔναι πρὸς χολήν σου,
and if not it-is to grief your and not it-is to anger your
ὅρισε νὰ ἔλθωμεν νὰ στέκωμεν μεδ' ἔσου,
order that we-come that we-stand with you
καὶ νὰ σὲ ἔχωμεν κεφαλὴν ἀπάνω εἰς ὅλα τὰ φουσσάτα,
and that you we-have (as)-head above over all the armies
καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀπελάτας,
and over the apelatai
νὰ κάμωμεν ταξίδια ὅπου καὶ ἂν μᾶς ὁρίσῃς·
that we-make expeditions where also — us you-order
καὶ σὺ νὰ μεταβάλλεσαι μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς σου.»
and you that you-take-your-ease with the beloved your
καὶ τότε τὸν ἐλάλησα κενοδοξούμενόν τον·
and then him I-addressed vainglorious him
«ἐγείρου ἀπ' αὔτου, Φιλοπαππού, καὶ ὄνειρα μὴ βλέπῃς·
get-up from there Philopappous and dreams not see
ἀμμὴ ἐγὼ μονογενὴς εἶμαι καὶ μόνος θέλω ὁδεύειν,
but I only-born am and alone I-want to-travel
καὶ μόνην κόρην ἔλαβα καὶ τίποτα οὐ χρῄζω·
and only (the)-girl I-took and nothing not I-need
ποτέ μου οὐκ ἐσυνήθιζα ἀνδραγαθεῖν μὲ ἄλλους·
ever my not I-was-wont to-do-deeds-of-valor with others
ἔπαρε τὰ φουσσάτα σου καὶ τοὺς καλούς σου ἀγούρους,
take the armies your and the fine your youths
καὶ ὑπάτε, κυνηγήσατε ὅπου εἶστε μαθημένοι·
and go hunt where you-are accustomed
καὶ ἐγὼ καὶ τὸ κοράσιόν μου νὰ εἴμεθεν ἀντάμα·
and I and the girl my that we-be together
ὅτι οὓς ἔσμιξεν ὁ Θεὸς ἄνθρωποι οὐ χωρίζουν.
for whom joined — God men not part

ὥστε ἔναι ὁ Θεὸς εἰς τοὺς οὐρανοὺς καὶ διακρατεῖ τὸν κόσμον
while is — God in the heavens and holds the world
ἄνθρωπος οὐ χωρίζει με ἀπὸ τῆς ποθητῆς μου.
man not parts me from the beloved my
ἐδὰ ἂν θέλετε πάλιν νὰ μὲ κιμάσετε
now if you-wish again that me you-test
ὑπάτε καὶ σωρεύσετε ἀπείρους ἀπελάτες
go and gather countless apelatai
ὅπου οὐκ εἶδαν τὴν πεῖραν καὶ ἐμὲν οὐκ ἐγνωρίζουν·
who not saw the trial and me not know
καὶ ἐγὼ ὧδε νὰ σὲ καρτερῶ καὶ νὰ σᾶς περιμένω.
and I here that you I-await and that you I-wait-for
ἔχω καὶ τὰ ἄλογά μου καὶ τὰ ἄρματά μου ὅλα,
I-have also the horses my and the arms my all
καὶ τότε τὸ νοήσετε πῶς κρῶ καὶ καβαλλάρης.»
and then it you-will-perceive how I-strike also (as)-rider
καὶ ἐπῆρεν ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς τὰ δύο παλληκάρια·
and took — Philopappous the two young-heroes
καὶ ἐκεῖθεν ἐπηγαίνασιν ὅθεν καὶ ὅπου ἦλθαν.
and from-there they-went whence also where they-came
καὶ τότε ἀπεξέβηκαν ὥς ἀπὸ μίλλιν ἕνα,
and then they-went-off as from (a)-mile one
καὶ οἱ τρεῖς ἀπομαζώχθησαν καὶ εἰς ἕναν τόπον στέκουν·
and the three gathered and in one place stand
στέκουν καὶ διαλογίζουνται καὶ πρὸς ἀλλήλους λέγουν·
they-stand and deliberate and to one-another say
«πῶς ἐσυνέβην εἰς ἐμᾶς καὶ ἀτίμωσε τὴν ἀνδρείαν μας;
how did-it-happen to us and dishonored the courage our
εἰς τὸν Ἀφράτην ποταμόν, κάτω εἰς τὸ Σαμασάτο,
at the Euphrates river down at — Samasato

πέντε χιλιάδες μᾶς ηὕρηκαν καὶ οὐ κατεχώρισάν μας,
five thousands us found and not they-separated us
καὶ πάλιν ἐκρατοῦμαν τους, κανεὶς οὐκ ἐντραλίσθην·
and again we-held them anyone not was-confounded
καὶ αὐτὸς ὃς ἦτον μοναχός, πεζὸς μὲ τὸ καλίκιν,
and he who was alone on-foot with the shoe
καὶ μὲ τὸ μουναπλούτζικον καὶ πῶς μᾶς εἶχεν τέρψειν;»
and with the single-mace and how us would-he-have routed
καὶ τότε ὁ γέροντας ἄκω τὸ τί τοὺς λέγει·
and then the old-man hear the what to-them he-says
«οὗτος οὐκ ἔστιν ἄνθρωπος ἀπὸ τὸν κόσμον τοῦτο,
this(-one) not is (a)-man from the world this
νὰ μὴ φοβᾶται τὰς πληγάς, νὰ μὴ φοβᾶται ξίφη·
that not he-fear the wounds that not he-fear swords
αὐτὸς γὰρ θήριον ἔνι καὶ τὸν τόπον του βλέπει.»
he for (a)-beast is and the place his he-watches
καὶ ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς πάλιν τὰ τοῖα λέγει·
and the old-man — Philopappous again the(-things) such says
«αὐτὰ ὅλα τὰ λέγετε παρηγορίες μᾶς εἶναι·
these(-things) all which you-say consolations to-us are
ἀμμὴ εἶδα καλὸν νεώτερον τὸν ὁ κόσμος οὐκ ἔχει.
but I-saw (a)-fine young(-man) whom the world not has
ἔναι περιγυρισμένος νὰ μὴν τοῦ λείπει τίποτες.
he-is surrounded that not to-him lack anything
τοῦτα ὁ θεὸς τοῦ τὰ ἔδωκεν· ἔχει γὰρ μεγίστην καλήν,
these — God to-him them gave he-has for very-great fairness
καὶ ἀνδρείαν περισσότεραν
and courage greater
καὶ τόλμην ὑπεράπασαν καὶ γνώμην θηριώδην·
and daring above-all and spirit beast-like

καλόν μας τοῦτο ἐγίνετον ὅτι οὐδ' ἐνέτυχαν ἀνθρώποι
good for-us this happened that not met men
νὰ στέκουν νὰ μᾶς γελοῦσιν,
that they-stand that us they-laugh-at
καὶ τὸ ὄνομαν, τὸ ἐλάβαμεν ἀπὸ τοὺς ἀπελάτας,
and the name which we-took from the apelatai
σήμερον τὸ ἐχάσαμεν καὶ χρῄζουν μας ἄλλον πλέον.
today it we-lost and need us another more
ἀμμὴ ἂν ἀκοῦτε λόγους μου καὶ ἐμπῆτε εἰς τὴν βουλήν μου
but if you-hear (the)-words my and enter into the counsel my
μὴ τὸ καταφρονέσωμεν καὶ ἐπάρῃ τὸ συνήθειον·
lest it we-despise and he-take the custom
καὶ οὐ μὴ μᾶς ἀφῇ ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν ποιεῖν ἀνδραγαθίας.
and not — us he-let from the now to-do deeds-of-valor
ἀμμὴ ἂς ποίσωμεν καπνὸν νὰ ἔλθουν οἱ ἀπελάτες,
but let we-make smoke that come the apelatai
καπνὸν πολὺν ἂς ποίσωμεν καὶ ἂν ζοῦσιν νὰ ἐπανέλθουν,
smoke much let we-make and if they-live that they-return
ἴσως καὶ ἂν ἐκαυχήσατο ἐκείνους οὐ μὴ τοὺς δείρῃ.»
perhaps even if he-boasted those not — them he-beat
καὶ εἰς τὸ βουνὶν ἐπήγασιν καὶ ἐποῖκαν τὸ σημάδιν·
and to the mountain they-went and made the signal
καὶ τρία μερόνυκτα ἤπτασιν, κεῖνος οὐδὲν ἐφάνη·
and three days-and-nights they-burned he not appeared
καὶ τότε οἱ δύο ἀπελάτες, Κίνναμος καὶ Γιαννάκης,
and then the two apelatai Kinnamos and Giannakis
Φιλοπαπποῦν τὸν γέροντα οὕτως τὸν συντυχαίνουν·
Philopappous the old-man thus him address
«πολλὰ μᾶς ἐδοκίμασεν καὶ ἐπιλέκτους μᾶς ηὗρεν·
much us he-tested and choice us found

ἐφ᾽ ὅσον ἔδειρεν ἐμᾶς, τοὺς ἄλλους τί γυρεύεις;
for as-much he-beat us the others why do-you-seek
ἀμμὴ ἄγωμε εἰς τὴν Μαξιμοῦ καὶ παρακάλεσέ την·
but let-us-go to — Maximou and beg her
καὶ ἄμποτε νὰ παρακληθῇ καὶ νὰ μᾶς ἐπακούσῃ,
and would-that that she-be-entreated and that us she-heed
καὶ ἐκείνην λαὸν πολὺν ἔχει καὶ νὰ μᾶς ἐπακούσῃ
and she people much has and that us she-heed
καὶ νὰ τὸν παραπέσωμεν ἄγνωστα καὶ τὴν νύκτα,
and that him we-fall-upon unawares and the night
καὶ νὰ τὸν ἐπαιδεύσωμεν καὶ οὐ μὴ μᾶς κόπτῃ ὁ πόνος.»
and that him we-chastise and not — us cut the pain

XIV · MAXIMOU SUMMONED

Philopappous lies to Maximou that Akritas has carried off the girl he was guarding for Giannakis, and she rouses a thousand outlaws, a hundred of them chosen. Digenis readies four colts and watches them come. He unhorses Milimitzis, Philopappous wounds his horse and flees, and Digenis arms himself in a green tunic over his cuirass. Philopappous warns Maximou of him, and she mocks the old man.

καὶ τότε καὶ ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς πηδᾷ καβαλλικεύει,
and then also — Philopappous leaps mounts
μόνος τὴν στράταν ἐπίασεν, εἰς τὴν Μαξιμοῦ ὑπάγει.
alone the road he-took to — Maximou goes
καὶ ὡς τὸν εἶδεν ἡ Μαξιμοῦ πλειστάκις ἐταράχθη·
and when him saw — Maximou very-often she-was-troubled
τὸν Μιλιμίτζιν ἔστειλαν καὶ προσυπήντησέ του·
— Milimitzis they-sent and he-went-to-meet him
«καλῶς ἦλθες, Φιλοπαπποῦ, γεράκιν μου μουτάτον,
well you-came Philopappous hawk my mewed

ποῦ ἀφῆκες τὰς παλληκαρία σου, Γιαννάκην καὶ τὸν Λέον,
where did-you-leave the young-heroes your Giannakis and the Lion
καὶ ἐσὺ πῶς ἦλθες μοναχός, πολλὰ τὸν ἐταράχθη,
and you how did-you-come alone much it I-was-troubled
ἔθλιψες τὴν καρδίαν μου καὶ ἐπαραπόνεσές με.»
you-grieved the heart my and wounded me
καὶ ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς ψευδεῖς λόγους τῆς εἶπεν·
and the old-man — Philopappous false words to-her told
«εἰς τὰ βουνὰ ἐπερίτρεχα καὶ κορυφὰς τῶν ὀρέων,
on the hills I-ran-about and peaks of-the mountains
ἐθεώρουν τὰ κλαδία καὶ τὰς στενὰς κλεισούρας·
I-looked-at the thickets and the narrow passes
ἐθεώρουν καὶ τοὺς λέοντας ἀπέσω εἰς τὸ καλάμιν,
I-looked-at also the lions within in the reed-bed
καὶ τοὺς ἐλάφους ἔβλεπα ἀπέσω εἰς τὸ ἄλσος.
and the deer I-saw within in the grove
καὶ ὀρδινιαζόμουν νὰ ἔμπω νὰ τὰ πολεμήσω,
and I-was-preparing that I-enter that them I-fight
καὶ ἐσὺ ἐγνωρίζεις με καλὰ ὅτι ὀκνηρὸς οὐκ εἶμαι.
and you know me well that sluggish not I-am
ἔφθασαν οἱ ἀπελάτες μου, μηνύματα μὲ φέρνουν·
arrived the apelatai my messages to-me they-bring
τὴν κόρην τὴν ἐφύλαγα λόγου τοῦ Γιαννακίου,
the girl whom I-guarded on-account-of — Giannakis
ὁ Ἀκρίτης τῆς ἀφήρπαξεν καὶ χαίρεται μὲ ταύτην·
— Akritas her snatched-away and rejoices with her
καὶ ηὗρε λιβάδια ἔνδροσα, ὡραῖα, κατάσκια δένδρη·
and found meadows dewy fair shady trees
καὶ τὰ κυνήγια ὑπέρπλουτα ὥς ἤθελεν καὶ ἐπόθειν·
and the hunts very-rich as he-wished and longed-for

ἐλάφους τε καὶ συαγροὺς καὶ πέρδικας ὡραίας,
deer both and boars and partridges fair
καταφιλεῖ τὴν λυγερὴν καὶ χαίρεται μὲ ταύτης·
kisses the slender(-one) and rejoices with her
καὶ ἂν θέλῃς, κυρά,
and if you-wish lady
νὰ θεραπεύσωμεν Γιαννάκην καὶ τὸν Λέον,
that we-attend Giannakis and the Lion
τὸν Κίνναμον τὸν θαυμαστὸν κ' ἐμέν, τὸν σὸν ἱκέτην,
— Kinnamos the wondrous and me the your suppliant
κοπίασε, αὐθέντρια καὶ κυρά, καὶ ἂς ποίσωμεν δουλείαν,
take-the-trouble mistress and lady and let we-do service
καὶ ἂς θαραπευθοῦμεν καὶ ἡμεῖς διὰ τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην.
and let be-attended also we for the your love
ὅτι οὐκ ἐπερηφάνευσεν κοπίασιν εἰς δουλείαν.»
for not he-was-too-proud (the)-toils in service
καὶ ὡς τὸ ἤκουσεν ἡ Μαξιμοῦ φωνὴν μεγάλην σύρνει·
and when it heard — Maximou (a)-voice great draws
«Φιλοπαππού, γνωρίζεις με παρὰ τοὺς ἄλλους πλέον,
Philopappous you-know me than the others more
καὶ ἔν' ἀκριβεία νὰ τὸ εἰπῇς τὸ πῶς μὲ ἐγνωρίζεις,
and it-is exactness that it you-tell the how me you-know
ὅτι ὅπου καὶ ἂν εὑρέθημαν ἐμέναν προσκαλοῦνται·
that where also — we-were-found me they-summon
πολέμους γὰρ καὶ ἀπειλὰς καὶ θόρυβας μεγάλας
wars for and threats and tumults great
ἡ Μαξιμοῦ οὐ φοβεῖται τους, πάντας ἂς τὸ γινώσκουν.
— Maximou not fears them all let it know
καὶ ἐδάρτε, Φιλοπαππού, θέλεις μὲ κοπιάσει·
and now Philopappous you-want me to-trouble

ἔλθει θέλω καὶ ἐγὼ καὶ νὰ τὸν δοκιμάσω,
to-come I-want also I and that him I-test
καὶ νὰ τὸν κοπανίσω νὰ πάρωμεν τὴν κόρην·
and that him I-pound that we-take the girl
νὰ κοπιάσω καὶ τοὺς καβαλλάρους μου
that I-trouble also the riders my
καὶ ὅλα μου τὰ φουσσάτα
and all my the armies
καὶ ἂν οὐδὲν τὸν εὕρωμεν ἐκεῖ, ἐδὲ ἀνομία μεγάλη.
and if not him we-find there behold lawlessness great
νὰ σοῦ ὑπακούσω, γέροντα, καὶ νὰ ἔλθω μετὰ σένα.
that you I-heed old-man and that I-come with you
μὲ τὴν ἀνδρείαν τὴν περισσήν, τὴν ὁ θεὸς μοῦ ἐδῶκεν,
with the courage the abundant which — God to-me gave
εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ ἀνεβῇ, εἰς τὰ νέφη καὶ ἂν δράμῃ,
to the heaven even he-go-up to the clouds even if he-run
εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ ἂν περιπατῇ, ἡ κόρη οὐκ ἐξεγλύμου.»
on the sea even if he-walk the girl not escaped-me
τὸν Μιλιμίγτζιν ἔκραξεν καὶ βούλεται μὲ ταῦτον·
— Milimitzis she-called and takes-counsel with him
«ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς πάλιν κυνήγια ἔχει,
the old-man — Philopappous again hunts has
καὶ κράζει μας νὰ ἀπέλθωμεν καὶ ἐμεῖς μετ' αὐτοῦνον·
and calls us that we-go also we with him
καὶ ὑπάγετε, σωρεύσετε χιλίους ἀπελάτες.
and go gather (a)-thousand apelatai
καὶ ἀπὸ τοὺς χιλίους μοῦ χώρισε κὰν ἑκατὸν ἀγούρους.
and from the thousand to-me set-apart some hundred youths
καὶ ἂς ἔχουν ἄρματα καλά, ἱππάρια ἀφυρωμένα,
and let they-have arms fine horses solid

καὶ ἂς συνεπεριγυριστῇ νὰ κροῦν καλὰς ῥαβδέας,
and let he-ride-round that they-strike fine mace-blows
καὶ κονταρέας ἔμνοστας, σπαθέας αἱματωμένας,
and spear-thrusts comely sword-strokes bloodied
καὶ αὐτὸν νὰ καταλάχωμεν τὸν ἄγουρον τὸν λέγουν
and him that we-come-upon the youth whom they-speak-of
νὰ τὸν ἐκοπανίσωμεν, νὰ ἐπάρωμεν τὴν κόρην.»
that him we-pound that we-take the girl
καὶ ὁ Μιλιμίτζης ἐποίησεν καθὼς ἐπαρακελεύθη
and — Milimitzis did as he-was-ordered
καὶ ἐπῆρε τους ἡ Μαξιμοῦ καὶ ἔρχεται εἰς ἐμέναν·
and took them — Maximou and comes to me
καὶ ἀπέτις ἐξέβηκαν κανένα μιλλίδιν,
and when they-went-out some little-mile
εὐθὺς οἱ ἀπελάτες της, Κίνναμος καὶ Γιαννάκης,
at-once the apelatai her Kinnamos and Giannakis
ἐπῆραν τὸ στρατὶν στρατὶν καὶ προσυπήντησάν της·
took the road road and went-to-meet her
«καλῶς ἦρθες, κυρία μου, αὐθέντρια εὐγενεστάτη,
well you-came lady my mistress most-noble
ὁ θεὸς ἐσέναν ἔπεψεν, ἀνδρεία τῶν ἀπελάτων.»
— God you sent courage of-the apelatai
τότε ἐστραφοῦ ἡ Μαξιμοῦ, τοὺς ἀπελάτας λέγει·
then turned — Maximou to-the apelatai says
«καλῶς τὰ παλληκάρια μου, Γιαννάκην καὶ τὸν Λέον·
welcome the young-heroes my Giannakis and the Lion
διατὶ οὐκ ἐπαρεκνήσατε καὶ οὐκ ἤλθατε πρὸς ἐμέναν;
why not did-you-shirk and not came to me
ἐγὼ ὡς γυναῖκα εἶμαι, ἀλλὰ οὐκ ὤκνησα τοῦ νὰ ἔλθω·
I as (a)-woman am but not I-shirked the that I-come

ἀπέλθω ἔχω καὶ ἐγὼ καὶ νὰ σᾶς θαραπεύσω.»
to-go-away I-have also I and that you I-attend
καὶ ἐγὼ πάντοτε εἶχα τὸν σκοπὸν καὶ πάντα ἀπάντεχά τους,
and I always had the watch and always awaited them
ὁρίζω τοὺς ἀγούρους μους καὶ φέρνει μου φαρία,
I-order the youths my and brings me horses
τέσσερα φοβερά, πουλάρια ἐκ τῶν φαρίων·
four fearsome colts from the horses
καὶ ἦσαν καὶ τὰ τέσσερα ῥωμαικὰ κουρεμένα·
and they-were also the four Roman clipped
καὶ τότε καὶ τὰ τέσσερα ὑπόστρωσα καὶ ὑποχαλίνωσά τα,
and then also the four I-saddled and bridled them
καὶ ἔμπροσθεν εἰς τὴν τέντα μου βόσκουν εἰς τὸ λιβάδιν·
and before at the tent my they-graze in the meadow
καὶ ἐστάθην ἐγὼ καὶ ἐβλέπω τους τὸ πότε θέλουν ἔλθει·
and stood I and watch them the when they-will come
καὶ κτύπον ἤκουσα πολὺν μέγαν τῶν σκυταρίων·
and (a)-din I-heard much great of-the shields
καὶ εἰς τὴν ψυχήν μου ἔλεγα· αὐτοί ναι καὶ ἀποσώνουν·
and in the soul my I-said they are and arrive
καὶ βλέπω τὸν Φιλοπαπποῦν μετὰ τὸ Μιλιμίτζην·
and I-see — Philopappous with — Milimitzis
καὶ ἀκούω καὶ μὲ λέγουσιν
and I-hear and of-me they-say
ὡς δι᾽ ἐμὲν ἀπρεπεστάτους λόγους·
as about me most-unseemly words
«ἐδὼ ἂς τὸν γυρεύσωμεν ὅπου τὴν κόρην ἔχει,
here let him we-seek where the girl he-has
καὶ ἂς τὸν περιπέσωμεν, εἰς τὴν μέσην του νὰ ὑπάμεν,
and let him we-fall-upon into the middle his that we-go

πρὶν νοήσῃ ὁ νεώτερος καὶ ἐπάρῃ τὰ ἄρματά του.»
before perceive the young(-man) and take the arms his
τότε στραφεὶς ὁ πρωτοληστὴς τὸν γέροντα ὑβρίζει·
then having-turned the arch-robber the old-man insults
«εἰς ἑκατὸν ἐπιλεκτοὺς ποτὲ οὐκ ἐφοβήθην,
against (a)-hundred choice(-men) ever not I-feared
καὶ ἐδάρτε εἰς ἕναν μοναχὸν θέλω στέκει νὰ ἐβλέπω;
and now against one alone I-want to-stand that I-watch
καὶ μετὰ ποῖον πρόσωπον τὴν Μαξιμοῦν νὰ ἰδοῦμεν;»
and with what face — Maximou that we-see
καὶ ἀναγνῶστος εἶδα γαληνὰ καὶ ἔρχουνταν πρὸς ἐμέναν.
and unconcerned I-saw calmly and they-came toward me
πηδῶ κ᾽ ἐκαβαλλίκευσα τὴν θαυμαστὴν τὴν φάραν
I-leap and mounted the wondrous the charger
καὶ ὀλίγον ἐπεξέβηκα καὶ ἐστάθην νὰ μὲ δοῦσιν,
and (a)-little went-out and stood that me they-see
καὶ τὸ ἰδεῖν με ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς παραμερέαν ἐστάθην,
and the to-see me — Philopappous aside stood
ὅτι καλὰ ἐγνώριζεν τὸ πῶς τὸν θαραπεύω·
for well he-knew the how him I-attend
καὶ ὁ Μιλιμίτζης ὁ λεστὴς ἀπάνω μου ἐκατέβην,
and — Milimitzis the robber upon me came-down
κοντάριν ἐμαλάκιζεν, τὴν κονταρέαν μὲ δώσῃ·
(a)-spear he-brandished the spear-thrust me he-give
καὶ τὸ κοντάριν του ἔρριψα καὶ ἔδωσα του ῥαβδέαν·
and the spear his I-threw and gave him (a)-mace-blow
μάθε καὶ πῶς τὸν ἔδωσα εἰς τοὺς δισουμαίας ἀπάνω,
learn also how him I-gave on the shoulders above
καὶ σύσελλον τὸν ἔρριψα ἀπὸ τὴν φάραν κάτω.
and saddle-and-all him I-threw from the charger down

καὶ ἐγὼ ἤλπιζα νὰ σηκωθῇ, νὰ ἔλθῃ πρὸς ἐμέναν·
and I hoped that he-rise that he-come toward me
εἶχα τὸν νοῦν μου εἰς αὔτους,
I-had the mind my on them
καὶ ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς ἀπὸ πλαγίου μου ἦλθεν,
and the old-man — Philopappous from (the)-side my came
καὶ κονταρέαν μ᾽ ἔδωκεν τὴν φάραν εἰς τὰ μηρία,
and (a)-spear-thrust me gave the charger in the thighs
καὶ ἐπεσφίκτισεν πολλὰ καὶ ἐλάκτισεν μεγάλως,
and it-tightened much and kicked greatly
καὶ εὐθὺς ἐκοντογύρισα καὶ βλέπω τον καὶ φεύγει·
and at-once I-wheeled-with-the-spear and see him and he-flees
καὶ τότε τὸν ἐλάλησα φωνὴν ἀπὸ μακρόθεν·
and then him I-called (a)-cry from afar
«ἀνάμενέ με, Φιλοπαππού, οὐδ᾽ ἐντρέπεσαι νὰ φεύγῃς;
wait-for me Philopappous not are-you-ashamed that you-flee
ἀνάμενε καὶ ἂς δώσωμεν, χαρῇς καὶ ἂς δευτερώσῃς,
wait and let we-give rejoice and let you-repeat
ὅτι ἔβλεπά σε ταπεινὸν καὶ ὡσὰν ὑποθλιμμένον·
for I-saw you humble and as oppressed
καὶ ἐδὰ βλέπω ὅτι ἐπλανέθηκες, Φιλοπαπποῦ μου γέρον·
and now I-see that you-were-deceived Philopappous my old(-man)
καὶ ἐδὰ βλέπω ὅτι ἐλυσσίασες καὶ ἐκρυφοδάκησές με.»
and now I-see that you-went-mad and bit-by-stealth me
καὶ ἐγὼ γοργὸν ἐγύρισα καὶ ἐφόρεσα λουρίκιν·
and I quickly turned and put-on (a)-cuirass
βιατάριν ἔβαλα τερπνόν, καθάριον μαγδαΐτην,
(a)-tunic I-put-on delightful pure Magdaite
πράσινον ἀραβίτικον ἀπάνω εἰς τὸ λουρίκιν·
green Arabian above on the cuirass

οἱ ῥίζες ἦσαν πιθαμὴν ὁλόχρυσα λεοντάρια,
the borders were (a)-span all-golden lions
καὶ τὰ κομπία ἦσαν ὁλοχύμευτα μὲ τὸ μαργαριτάριν·
and the buttons were all-enameled with the pearl
καὶ ἐστράφηκα καὶ εἶδα τους ὅλους ἀπὸ μακρόθεν·
and I-turned and saw them all from afar
καὶ ἔρχουντα καὶ ἤβλεπαν ὡς καὶ τὸ δίκαιον εἶχαν.
and they-came and watched as also the right they-had
καὶ τὰ κοντάρια ἐχύνασιν καὶ ἤρχοντα πρὸς ἐμέναν·
and the spears they-couched and came toward me
καὶ ἐγὼ γοργὸν ἐπήδησα καὶ ἐπῆρα μίαν σέλλαν,
and I quickly leapt and took one saddle
καὶ ἔστρωσα πουλάριν θαυμαστόν, πουλάριν κουρεμένον,
and saddled (a)-colt wondrous (a)-colt clipped
ῥωμαικὸν πανώραιον ἦτον καὶ τετραέτης,
Roman all-fair it-was and four-years-old
καὶ ἔστρωσα καὶ ἐχαλίνωσά το καὶ ἐκαβαλλίκευσα·
and I-saddled and bridled it and mounted
καὶ τὴν καλήν μου ἐλάλουν παραγγελίαν τοιαύτην·
and to-the fair(-one) my I-spoke (a)-charge such
τὸν τόπον νὰ παρεδιαβῇ νὰ κατεβῇ ὀλίγον·
the place that she-pass that she-go-down (a)-little
νὰ βλέπῃ, νὰ στοχάζεται τὸ τί τοὺς θέλω κάμει.
that she-watch that she-consider the what to-them I-will do
καὶ λόγον τὴν ἐλάλησα παραγγελίαν τοιαύτην·
and (a)-word to-her I-spoke (a)-charge such
«καλή μου καὶ πανθαύμαστη, τὸ ἄνθος τῶν ὀρώτων,
fair(-one) my and all-wondrous the flower of-the loves
κὰν ὅσοι μὲ ἀποπεύθουσι, βλέπε μὴ φωνιάξῃς,
even as-many-as me fall-upon see not you-cry-out

καὶ ἀκούσω τὴν φωνίτζα σου καὶ σκοτιστῶ εἰς ἐσέναν,
and I-hear the little-voice your and be-dizzied at you
καὶ λάθῃ μὲ καὶ δώσουν με σπαθίαν ἢ ῥαβδέαν·
and it-escape me and they-give me (a)-sword-stroke or (a)-mace-blow
καὶ πάρῃ τοὺς ἡ ὄρεξη καὶ ἔλθουν πρὸς ἐσέναν.»
and take them the desire and they-come toward you
καὶ ἐγὼ ἐστάθην εἰς λιθάριν
and I stood on (a)-rock
καὶ ἔμπηξα τὸ κοντάριν του καὶ ἐστάθηκα καὶ ἐθώρουν
and fixed the spear his and stood and watched
τὸ πότε νὰ ἔλθουν εἰς ἐμέναν.
the when that they-come to me
καὶ Γιαννάκη, καὶ σὺ καὶ Μαξιμοῦ καὶ ἦτον καὶ ταιριασμένοι.
and Giannakis and you and Maximou and were also matched
φαρὶν ἐκαβαλλίκευσε, οὐδὲ πολλὰ ἦτον ὡραῖον·
(a)-horse she-mounted not-even very was fair
ἡ χήτη του καὶ τὸ οὐράδιν του μὲ τὴν χινέαν ἀαμένα,
the mane its and the tail its with the henna dyed
τὰ τέσσερά του ὀνύχια ἀσήμιν τζαπωμένα,
the four its hooves silver shod
τὸ χαλινάριν της πλεκτὸν μὲ τὰ χρυσὰ λιλούδια·
the bridle her plaited with the golden flowers
καὶ ἡ φορεσία της θαυμαστὴ ἦτον παραλλαγμένη
and the dress her wondrous was varied
λουρίκιν ἀργυρὸν φορεῖ διὰ λίθων πολυτίμων,
(a)-cuirass silver she-wears with stones precious
καὶ τὸ κασσίδιν χυμευτὸν ἦτον παραλλαγμένη,
and the helmet enameled was varied
μὲ τὰ χρυσὰ μετώπια, μὲ τοὺς χρυσοὺς τοὺς κόμπους.
with the golden frontlets with the golden the knobs

τοῦ βίου ὀξικάτορα μὲ τὸ μαργαριτάριν
of-the life (obscure) with the pearl
καὶ τὰ ποδηματίτζια της χρυσὰ διακεντισμένα·
and the little-shoes her golden embroidered
τὰ καύχαλα ἦσαν χυμευτὰ καὶ οἱ πτέρνες μὲ τοὺς λίθους.
the (obscure) were enameled and the heels with the stones
πέζοι τὴν ἐπαρέτρεχον ἀπόθεν καὶ ἀπεκεῖθεν·
foot-soldiers her ran-beside from-here and from-there
καὶ ἐκ τὰ ἱππάρια τοὺς ἐγνώρισα καὶ ἐκ τῆς φορεσίας·
and from the horses them I-recognized and from the dress
ἦτον γὰρ ὁ Φιλοπαππούς, Κίνναμος καὶ Γιαννάκης,
was for — Philopappous Kinnamos and Giannakis
καὶ ὁ θαυμαστὸς ὁ Λίανδρος μετὰ τὸ Μιλιμήτζιν.
and the wondrous — Liandros with — Milimitzis
καὶ ὅταν ἐσίμωσαν τοῦ ποταμοῦ τὸ χεῖλος,
and when they-neared of-the river the lip
τότε στραφοῦσα ἡ Μαξιμοῦ τὸν γέροντα ἐλάλει·
then having-turned — Maximou to-the old-man spoke
«ποῦ εἶναι τὰ φουσσάτα σου τὰ θέλω πολεμήσει;
where are the armies your which I-will fight
καὶ ποῦ εἶναι οἱ καβαλλάροι του, ποῦναι οἱ ἀνδρειωμένοι;
and where are the riders his where-are the brave
ποῦ τοὺς θέλω πολεμήσει;»
where them shall-I fight
καὶ ὁ γέρων ὁ Φιλοπαππούς τὴν Μαξιμοῦν ἐλάλει·
and the old-man — Philopappous — to-Maximou spoke
«θωρεῖς αὐτὸν τὸν ἄγουρον ποῦ στέκει εἰς τὸ λιθάριν;
see-you this the youth who stands on the rock
καὶ ἔστησεν τὸ κοντάριν του καὶ ἀπάνω του ἀκκουμπίζει,
and has-set the spear his and upon it leans

ἐκδέχεται νὰ ὑπάγωμεν ὅλοι ἀπάνω εἰς αὐτον
he-waits that we-go all above upon him
κὰν τάχα μοναχός ἐστιν, ἐμᾶς οὐδὲν φοβᾶται.
even supposedly alone he-is us not he-fears
ἂν εὕρῃ τόπον νὰ ἐμπῇ εἰς τὸν λαόν μας μέσα,
if he-find (a)-place that he-enter into the people our within
ὥσπερ πετρίτης ἄχρωμος ὅταν ἐμπῇ εἰς τὸ κυνήγιν,
like (a)-falcon colorless when it-enters into the hunt
καὶ χύσῃ τὸ πτεροῦγιν του καὶ τὰ ὄρνια ἀποκτείνει,
and pours-out the wing its and the birds kills
οὕτως ἐμᾶς ἂν γυριστῇ τινὰς νὰ μὴν τὸν δώσῃ·
so us if he-turn anyone that not him he-strike
ἀλλὰ ἂς προκαρτερέψωμεν καὶ τότε νὰ τὸν ἰδοῦμε,
but let we-wait-beforehand and then that him we-see
καὶ νὰ τὸν περιφέρωμε καὶ οὐ μὴ μᾶς καβαλλικεύσῃ·
and that him we-surround and not — us he-ride-against
εἰ δὲ καθίσῃ εἰς ἄλογον ἀπηλογίαν μᾶς κάμνει.»
if but he-sit on (a)-horse (an)-answer to-us he-makes
καὶ τότε ἡ κούρβα ἡ Μαξιμοῦ τὸν γέροντα ἀτιμάζει·
and then the whore — Maximou the old-man dishonors
«ἔβγα ἀπεδῶ λυσσόγερε, υἱὲ τῆς ἀπωλείας,
go-out from-here mad-old-man son of-the perdition
ὡς καὶ ἀπὸ τὰ γέρα σου τὰ πολλὰ ὁ κῶλος σου ἐτζυκρύασε,
as also from the old-ages your the many the arse your has-gone-cold
ἐγὼ γὰρ ἔλεγα· φουσσάτα ἔχει καὶ ἀγούρους ἀνδρειωμένους,
I for said armies he-has and youths brave
καὶ ἐπῆρα τὰ φουσσάτα μου καὶ ἦλθα νὰ πολεμήσω.
and I-took the armies my and came that I-fight
ἐγὼ μόνη καὶ μοναχὴ νὰ κατεβῶ εἰς αὐτον,
I alone and single that I-go-down on him

νὰ κόψω τὸ κεφάλιν του καὶ ἐδῶ νὰ σᾶς τὸ φέρω·
that I-cut-off the head his and here that to-you it I-bring
νὰ ἐπάρω τὸ κοράσιον καὶ ἐδῶ νὰ σᾶς τὸ φέρω·
that I-take the girl and here that to-you her I-bring
νὰ ἐπάρω τὴν πιθυμίαν σας καὶ ἐδῶ νὰ σᾶς τὴν φέρω,
that I-take the desire your and here that to-you it I-bring
καὶ ἐσεῖς μὴ κουρασθῆτε.»
and you not be-wearied

XV · MAXIMOU DEFEATED

Maximou rides at the river, and Digenis crosses to meet her, nearly drowning in the mud. He fells her horse with a mace, then splits a second horse's head. On foot she begs his mercy; he refuses her love, then yields to her desire, and returns to his wife, who teases him for the delay. The outlaws scatter in fear.

καὶ σύντομα ἐπιλάλησεν, τὸν ποταμὸν περάσῃ
and swiftly she-charged the river she-cross
καὶ ἐγὼ δὲ τὴν ἐλάλησα φωνὴν ἀπὸ μακρόθεν·
and I too to-her called (a)-cry from afar
«αὐτόθε στέκου, Μαξιμοῦ, ὅθεν μηδὲν περάσῃς·
there stand Maximou whence not you-cross
τοὺς ἄνδρας πέρπει νὰ περνοῦν, ἀμμὴ ὄχι τὰς γυναῖκας·
the men it-befits that they-cross but not the women
περάσειν ἔχω, Μαξιμοῦ, ὡς διὰ σὲν τὸ ποτάμιν
to-cross I-have Maximou as for you the river
καὶ νὰ σοῦ ἀντιμέψωμεν, ὡς καὶ τὸ δίκαιον ἔχεις.»
and that you we-repay as also the right you-have
τὸν γρίβα μου ἐπιλάλησά τον, τὸν ποταμὸν περάσῃ.
the gray my I-spurred it the river it-cross

καὶ εἶχεν νερὸν ὁ ποταμὸς πολὺν καὶ βουρκωμένον,
and had water the river much and muddy
καὶ ἐξέπεσεν ὁ γρίβας μου καὶ ἐχώθην ἕως τραχήλου.
and fell-in the gray my and sank up-to (the)-neck
καὶ εἰς δένδρον ἔπεψεν ὁ θεὸς ἀπέσω εἰς τὸ ποτάμιν,
and one tree sent — God within in the river
καὶ ἂν εἶχεν λείπει τὸ δενδρόν,
and if had been-lacking the tree
ἐπνίγετον ὁ θαυμαστὸς Ἀκρίτης·
would-have-drowned the wondrous Akritas
καὶ ὡς εἶδεν τοῦτο ἡ Μαξιμοῦ ἀπάνω μου ἐκατέβη·
and when saw this — Maximou upon me came-down
κοντάριν ἐμαλάκιζεν, τὴν κονταρέαν μὲ δώσῃ·
(a)-spear she-brandished the spear-thrust me she-give
καὶ ταῦτα τὸ κοντάριν της ἔρριψα παρὰ μία,
and these(-things) the spear her I-threw at once
καὶ σύντομα ἔρριψα ῥαβδίν, τὴν Μαξιμοῦν ἐλάλουν·
and swiftly I-threw (the)-mace — to-Maximou I-spoke
«ἐλεῶ τὰ κάλλια σου, Μαξιμοῦ, βλέπε μὴ κινδυνεύσῃς,
I-pity the beauties your Maximou see lest you-be-endangered
ἀλλὰ ἂς δώσω τὴν φάραν σου ῥαβδέαν,
but let I-give the charger your (a)-mace-blow
καὶ ἐκ τὴν ῥαβδέαν, ἡ Μαξιμοῦ, νόησε μὲ τίναν ἔχεις·»
and from the mace-blow — Maximou perceive with whom you-have(-to-do)
καὶ ἐγὼ ῥαβδέαν ἔδωσα τὴν φάραν της εἰς τὰς κουταλέας,
and I (a)-mace-blow gave the charger her on the shoulders
καὶ ἀνάσκελα ἐξήπλωσεν ἡ θαυμαστὴ ἡ φάρα.
and on-its-back stretched-out the wondrous the charger
καὶ τότε πάλιν ἡ Μαξιμοῦ οὕτως μὲ παρεκάλει·
and then again — Maximou thus me begged

«κύρκα, φοβήσου τὸν θεὸν καὶ ἀπέκει συμπάθησέ μου,
sir fear — God and thereafter have-pity-on me
καὶ ἂς φέρουν πάλιν ἄλογον διὰ νὰ κάτζω ἀπάνω,
and let they-bring again (a)-horse for that I-sit above
καὶ νὰ νοήσῃς, ἄγουρε, καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν ἀνδρείαν.»
and that you-perceive youth also the my courage
καὶ ἐγὼ αὐτὴν παραχωρῶν ἵνα καβαλλικεύσῃ·
and I her permitting that she-mount
«καὶ ἂν ἔνι ἡ γεῦσις ἔμνοστος, πάλιν νὰ δευτερώσῃ·»
and if is the taste pleasant again that she-repeat
τὸν Λίανδρον ἐφωνίαζεν καὶ φέρνει της ἱππάριν·
— Liandros she-called and brings her (a)-horse
πηδᾷ καὶ καβαλλίκευσε καὶ παίρνει καὶ κοντάριν
she-leaps and mounted and takes also (a)-spear
καὶ ἀπὸ μακρέα μ᾽ ἐφώναζε· «ἐδὰ σὲ βλέπω, Ἀκρίτη·»
and from afar to-me called now you I-see Akritas
καὶ τὸ κοντάριν της ἐμάκρυνε, τὴν κονταρίαν μὲ δώσῃ·
and the spear her she-lengthened the spear-thrust me she-give
σπαθέαν τῆς φάρας ἔδωκα ἀπάνω εἰς τὸ κεφάλιν,
(a)-sword-stroke to-the charger I-gave above on the head
τὰ δύο μέρη ἐσχίσθησαν καὶ ἔπεσαν παρὰ μίαν.
the two parts were-split and fell at once
ἦταν καὶ σέλλα πάντερπνος, ὅλη κατεζουλίστην·
was also (a)-saddle all-delightful all was-crushed
καὶ ἀπέμεινεν ἡ Μαξιμοῦ πεζή, ἐλεεινὴ εἰς τὸν κάμπον.
and remained — Maximou on-foot pitiable on the plain
τὸ ὑπόδημά μου ἐφίλησεν καὶ οὕτως μὲ παρακάλει·
the shoe my she-kissed and thus me begged

«κύρκα, φοβήσου τὸν θεόν, πάλιν συμπάθησέ με
sir fear — God again have-pity-on me
εἰς τὴν μωρίαν ταύτην,
in the folly this
ὅτι παρὰ σαλῶν καὶ ἀτάκτων ἀνθρώπων ἐδιδάχθην
for by fools and disorderly men I-was-taught
καὶ ἐσὺ μόνος με κέρδισε καὶ ἄλλος μὴ μὲ κερδίσῃ·»
and you alone me gain and another not me gain
καὶ ἐγὼ τὴν Μαξιμοῦ οὕτως ἀπηλογήθην·
and I — to-Maximou thus answered
«μὰ τὸν θεόν, ἡ Μαξιμοῦ, οὐκ ἔν᾽ τὸ ἐνθύμημά σου·
by — God — Maximou not is the thought your
τὴν κόρην τὴν ἐγὼ φιλῶ τῶν εὐγενῶν ὑπάρχει·
the girl whom I love of-the nobles is
ἔχει γὰρ πλοῦτος ἄπειρον καὶ συγγενοὺς ἐνδόξους,
she-has for wealth boundless and kinsmen glorious
καὶ ἀδέλφια πολυορεκτικὰ καὶ ἀδελφοὺς πλουσίους·
and sisters much-desirable and brothers rich
καὶ πάντας ἐξηρνήσατο καὶ μετὰ μέναν ἦλθεν·
and all she-renounced and with me came
καὶ ὁ θεός, ὁ πάντων δυνατός, αὐτὸς νὰ μᾶς χωρίσῃ·
and — God the(-one) of-all mighty he that us part
εἰ δὲ ἂν ὁρμῇς νὰ πορευθῇς, ἐγὼ νὰ σοῦ τὸ ποίσω.»
if but if you-rush that you-proceed I that to-you it do
καὶ ἐπέζευσα τὸν μαῦρον μου, καὶ λύω τὰ ἄρματά μου,
and I-dismounted the black my and loose the arms my
καὶ τὸ ἐπεθύμα ἡ Μαξιμοῦ γοργὸν τῆς τὸ ἐποίκα·
and what desired — Maximou quickly to-her it I-did
καὶ ἀπίτις τὸ ἔκαμα ἐγὼ τῆς Μαξιμοῦς τῆς κούρβας,
and when it did I — to-Maximou the whore

εὐθὺς ἐκαβαλλίκευσα καὶ ἐπῆγα εἰς τὸ κοράσιον.
at-once I-mounted and went to the girl
καὶ τότε τῆς βεργόλικος ἄκω τὸ τί τῆς λέγει·
and then to-the slender(-one) hear the what to-her he-says
«ἴδες, ὀμμάτια μου, καλὰ ἀνδραγαθίας τὰς ἐποῖκα.»
did-you-see eyes my well (the)-deeds-of-valor which I-did
καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον ἄκου τὸ τί τοῦ λέγει·
and then the girl hear the what to-him she-says
«εἶδα σε, ὀμμάτια μου καλά, τὸ φῶς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν μου,
I-saw you eyes my fine the light of-the eyes my
τὸ πῶς ἐμονομάχησες ὅλους τοὺς ἀπελάτας·
the how you-fought-alone all the apelatai
καὶ ὅταν ἐμονομάχησες τὴν Μαξιμοῦν, τὴν κόρην,
and when you-fought-alone — Maximou the girl
καὶ εἰς τὸ στένον τὸ πέραμαν, εἰς τὸ βαθὺν τὸ ῥυάκιν,
and at the narrow the crossing at the deep the stream
πολλὰ πολλὰ μοῦ ἄργησες· πιστεύω νὰ τὴν εἶχες.»
much much to-me you-delayed I-believe that her you-had
καὶ τότε τὴν βεργόλικον οὕτως τὴν συντυχαίνω·
and then the slender(-one) thus her I-address
«ὡσὰν ἐδῶσα τὸ ἱππάριν της τὴν ὕστεραν ῥαβδέαν,
when I-gave the horse her the last mace-blow
καὶ ἐξέπεσεν ἡ Μαξιμοῦ ἀπὸ τὸ ἱππάριν κάτω,
and fell — Maximou from the horse down
ἦτον καὶ σέλλαν πάντερπνος, ὅλη κατεζουλίστην,
was also (a)-saddle all-delightful all was-crushed
καὶ πίστευσέ με, λυγερή, ὅτι ἀλήθειαν σὲ λέγω·
and believe me slender(-one) that (the)-truth to-you I-say
ὅτι πολλὰ ἐλυπήθηκα τὰ δύο της τὰ φαρία.»
that much I-grieved-for the two her the horses

καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον ἐγέλασε μεγάλως,
and then the girl laughed greatly
στρεφνὰ γλυκέα μὲ ἐπερίλαβε καὶ ἐμὲν ἐσυχνοφίλει·
tight sweet me she-embraced and me kissed-often
καὶ τότε τὸ κοράσιον οὕτως τὴν συντυχαίνει· 1595
and then the girl thus her addresses
«μετὰ τὸ φθείρειν τὴν Μαξιμοῦν τρία κακὰ τὴν ἐποῖκα·
after the to-ruin — Maximou three evils to-her I-did
πρῶτον μὲν ὅτι εἶχα την, δεύτερον ὅτι ἐντράπη,
first indeed that I-had her second that she-was-shamed
τρίτον καὶ περισσότερον ἐχάσε τὴν ἀνδρείαν της
third and greater she-lost the courage her
καὶ πομπεμένη ἀπόφευγεν ἀπὸ τὸν Μιλιμίτζην·
and disgraced she-fled from — Milimitzis
καὶ ὁ Λίανδρος ὁ ταπεινὸς πλήρης καταισχυμμένος, 1600
and — Liandros the humble full put-to-shame
καὶ οἱ ἑκατὸν οἱ πρόλοιποι τῆς Μαξιμοῦς οἱ ἀγοῦροι,
and the hundred the remaining — of-Maximou the youths
καὶ ὁ θαυμαστὸς ὁ Κίνναμος ἀλλὰ καὶ ὁ κύριος Γιαννάκης,
and the wondrous — Kinnamos but also the lord Giannakis
καὶ οἱ ἄλλοι ἀπελάτες ἑκατὸν καὶ ὁ Φιλοπαπποῦς, ὁ γέρων,
and the other apelatai (a)-hundred and — Philopappous the old-man
πάντες ἐξεσκορπίσθησαν ἐκ τοῦ Ἀκρίτου τὸν φόβον,
all were-scattered from — of-Akritas the fear
νὰ μὴ τοὺς καταφθάσῃ ἐκεῖ καὶ ὅλους κακοδικήσῃ. 1605
that not them he-overtake there and all wrong

Feared over all the world, Digenis seeks a place to live and chooses the Euphrates. He builds walls and a marble palace in a garden full of fountains, golden and silver figures that pour water, parrots that greet him, and a balsam tree. He builds a vaulted bridge with a canopy for his tomb, and reclines on a jeweled bed, his wife at his knees, among three hundred guards.

ὡς ἔχει ἡ νεότης πάντοτε τὴν ἡδονὴν τῆς κόρης,
as has the youth always the delight of-the girl
καὶ συνεπαίρνεται πολλὰ εἰς πλοῦτον καὶ εἰς δόξαν·
and is-carried-away much in wealth and in glory
πάντα ἐσυνετέλεσεν ὁ Διγενῆς Ἀκρίτης·
all accomplished — Digenis Akritas
ἦτον πάντοτε ἐξάκουστος εἰς ἀριστείας μεγάλας,
he-was always renowned in feats-of-prowess great
ἀπὸ γὰρ τὴν ἀνατολὴν καὶ μέχρι τοῦ ἡλίου τὴν δύσιν,
from for the east and up-to of-the sun the setting
τὸ ὄνομάν του πολλὰ ἐξηγοῦντο εἰς ὅλον γὰρ τὸν κόσμον.
the name his much they-related in all for the world
καὶ ἀφότου τὸν ἐφοβήθηκεν ἡ οἰκουμένη ὅλη,
and after him feared the inhabited-world all
καὶ ἀμηράδες ἐπέταξεν ἀλλὰ καὶ Ἀραβίτας,
and emirs he-subjected but also Arabites
καὶ ἀρχιλήστας ἐφόνευσεν καὶ ὅλους τοὺς ἀπελάτας,
and arch-robbers he-killed and all the apelatai
καὶ ἀπότις ἀπομερίμνησεν τὸν κρούειν καὶ τὸ λαμβάνειν,
and when he-left-off the to-strike and the to-take
καὶ μέριμναν οὐδὲν εἶχεν περὶ ἄλλας ἐμνοστίας,
and care not he-had about other delights

ἔδοξεν τὸν νεώτερον εἰς κάμπον κατοικῆσαι.
it-seemed(-good) to-the young(-man) on (a)-plain to-dwell
πᾶσαν κατεψηλάφησεν τὴν παραμίαν,
all he-searched the riverside-plain
καὶ οὐκ ηὗρεν τόπον ἀρεστὸν νὰ κατοικήσῃ Ἀκρίτης.
and not found (a)-place pleasing that dwell Akritas
καὶ εἰς τὸν Ἀφράτην ποταμὸν ἐκεῖ
and at the Euphrates river there
ἄρεσε τοῦ νεωτέρου κατοικία.
pleased to-the young(-man) (a)-dwelling
καὶ ὡς ἤθελεν καὶ ἐπόθει ἐποίκεν καὶ τὰ κάστρη,
and as he-wished and longed he-made also the fortresses
καὶ ἀνέδραμεν τοῦ ποταμοῦ πᾶσαν τοποθεσίαν.
and he-ran-over of-the river all (the)-site
καὶ εἰς τόπον ὑπολίβαδον ἦτον πολὺς δεδριῶνας,
and in (a)-place meadowy was (a)-great grove
καὶ ἐγύροθεν ἐστέκασιν ὡραῖα, κατάσκια δένδρη,
and around stood fair shady trees
καὶ ὕδατα πανώραια ἐκ τὰ ὄρη κατεβαίνουν.
and waters all-fair from the mountains come-down
κ᾽ ἔφαινε ἡ τοποθεσία πανώραια ὡς παραδεῖσιν·
and appeared the site all-fair like (a)-paradise
καὶ ἐδίωξε τὸν ποταμὸν ἐξ αὐτὸν τὸ λιβάδιν,
and he-drove the river out-of it the meadow
καὶ ἐποίησεν τόπον πάντερπνον καὶ παρεδεῖσιν.
and made (a)-place all-delightful and (a)-paradise
καὶ ἐποίησεν περίχωρον καὶ ὡραῖον γὰρ χωρίον,
and made (a)-surrounding-land and fair for (a)-village
τείχια τοῦ ἔκτισε λαμπρά, μετὰ τοὺς τρομαρχιῶνας,
walls for-it he-built splendid with the bastions

καὶ ἀπέσω ὀρθομαρμάρωσις φαίνεται ἀπὸ μακρόθεν,
and within marble-facing appears from afar
πάντερπνος, ξενοχάραγος, ἐξέχωρος ἐκ πάντων,
all-delightful strangely-carved distinct from all
καὶ καταρρίζα τοῦ δενδροῦ, πηγάδιν ἀναβλύζει·
and at-the-root of-the tree (a)-well wells-up
καὶ ὑπέκλυσεν τὰ τέσσερα τοῦ ποταμοῦ κλωνάρια,
and it-flooded the four of-the river branches
καὶ ἀρδεύειν τὸν παράβουνον καὶ ὅλον τὸ ἀνατρέχει·
and to-water the billside and all the(-land) it-runs-up
φισκίνας ἔστησε πολλὰς ἀπὸ χρυσοῦ οἰκομισμένας,
fountains he-set-up many of gold made
διὰ τὸ ποτίζειν εἰς αὐτοὺς τόπος ἀπεκλεισθέντας.
for the to-water at them (the)-place shut-off
ἐποίησεν βιβάρια πανθαύμαστα ἰχθύων,
he-made fishponds all-wondrous of-fish
εἰς τοῦ ἀμηρᾶ τοὺς οἴκους.
at of-the emir the houses
καὶ ἐφέρασιν τὸν βάρσαμον ἐκ τῆς Αἰγύπτου χώρας,
and they-brought the balsam from — of-Egypt land
καὶ ἐφύτευσαν φοινίκια εἰς αὐτὸν τὸ παραδεῖσιν.
and planted palms in it the paradise
τὰ φύλλα του εἶναι πράσινα καὶ κόκκινον τὸ ἄνθος,
the leaves its are green and red the flower
καὶ ἡ ῥίζα του εἶναι πιθαμὴ καὶ ὅλη ξυλαλόη,
and the root its is (a)-span and all aloe-wood
καὶ ὁ κάρπος του εἶναι μόσχος.
and the fruit its is musk
καὶ οἱ κλῶνοι του εἶναι κόκκινος καὶ φιλωτὰ κλωσμένος.
and the branches its are red and lovingly spun

καὶ ἐξέρχεται ἐκ τὴν ῥίζαν του ὕδωρ, καὶ ἔναι χιονάτο.
and comes-out from the root its water and it-is snow-white
μυρίζει δὲ ὡς ῥοδόσταμμον καὶ ἀπολιγώνει ἀνθρώπους·
it-smells and like rosewater and makes-faint men
καὶ αὐλὴν ἐποῖκεν θαυμαστήν, πανώραιαν φισκίναν,
and (a)-court he-made wondrous all-fair (a)-fountain
καὶ τὰ μπροσθέν του μυστοῦ μὲ μυρισμένα δένδρη·
and the(-parts) before it fragrant with scented trees
ἐποίησεν καὶ ἀνώγαιον, αὐλὴν δὲ ὑπερῷον,
he-made also (an)-upper-story (a)-court and (an)-upper-room
καὶ ὅλην τὴν ἐπερικύκλωσεν αὐτὴν τριγύρω γύρω,
and all it he-encircled it round about
καὶ ἀπέστησεν ὁλόχρυσα καὶ ὁλάργυρα ζώδια·
and set-up all-golden and all-silver figures
λέοντας, πάρδους καὶ ἀετούς, πέρδικας καὶ νεράδας,
lions leopards and eagles partridges and nereids
καὶ χύνουν ἐκ τοῦ στόματος καὶ ἐκ τῶν πτερουγίων
and they-pour from the mouth and from the wings
νερὸν καθάριον κρούσταλλον, ὕδωρ μεμυρισμένον·
water clean crystal water perfumed
ταῦτα δὲ ἐμπαίνουσιν εἰς πανωραίας φισκίνας,
these and run into all-fair fountains
καὶ ἐκρέμασεν χρυσόκλημαν εἰς τοῦ δενδροῦ τοὺς κλώνους,
and he-hung (a)-golden-vine on of-the tree the branches
καὶ ἔχουν ὡραίους ψιττακοὺς καὶ κηλαδοῦν καὶ λέγουν·
and they-have fair parrots and they-sing and say
«χαίρου, Ἀκρίτη, χαίρου μετὰ τῆς ποθητῆς σου.»
hail Akritas hail with the beloved your
ἐποίησεν γεφύριαν τερπνὴν ἀπάνω εἰς τὸν Ἐφράτην,
he-made (a)-bridge delightful above on the Euphrates

βαστᾷ τὸ μονοκέρατον ἀπὸ πέρα ἕως πέρα,
holds the single-arch from beyond to beyond
καὶ ἔκτισεν τετρακάμαρον εἰς τὴν γέφυραν ἀπάνω,
and he-built (a)-four-vaulted(-chamber) on the bridge above
ὑπόθολον, πανθαύμαστον μετὰ λευκῶν μαρμάρων,
vaulted all-wondrous with white marbles
βαστοῦντα κιόνια πάντερπνα, πράσινα πανωραῖα,
holding columns all-delightful green all-fair
καὶ ἀπάνωθεν ὑπέστησεν κιβοῦριν τοῦ θανάτου.
and above he-set-up (a)-canopy of-the death
εὐθὺς ἵνα ἀποτεθῇ τὸ σῶμα τοῦ νεωτέρου.
at-once that be-laid the body of-the young(-man)
ἀκούσατε, θαυμάσατε τὸν τάφον τοῦ νεωτέρου·
hear marvel-at the tomb of-the young(-man)
ὅτι ἦτον θαυμαστὸς πολλὰ παρὰ τοὺς ἄλλους πλέον,
for it-was wondrous much more-than the others more
παρὰ τοῦ βασιλεύσαντος ἐκ τῆς Περσίας χώρας.
than the(-one) having-reigned from — of-Persia land
ἐποίησεν πολυμήχανον καὶ πανωραῖον τάφος,
he-made (a)-much-contrived and all-fair tomb
καὶ ἐτέχθην ἡ βασίλισσα του πρὸς Παρασογάρδου.
and was-born the queen his toward Parasogardos
οὗτος γὰρ ὁ παγκάλλιστος καὶ παναῖος τάφος
this for the all-fairest and all-fair tomb
ὡς τὸν δοκεῖτε, οἱ ἄρχοντες, ὅτι ψευδὴς ὑπάρχεις·
as him you-think the lords that false you-are
ἀλλ᾽ ἐκ παντὸς πιστεύετε ὅτι ἀληθῶς ὑπάρχει.
but in every(-way) believe that truly it-is
ὅτι βέβαιος εἴρηται εἰς πάντας ἀληθεύειν,
that surely it-is-said to all to-speak-truth

οὐ μόνον εἰς τὸν θάνατον,
not only at the death
ἀπάνω εἰς τὸν τάφον του ἐν ἀληθείᾳ τὸ λέγω.
above on the tomb his in truth it I-say
εἰς τὸ κουβούκλιν δὲ σιμά, ἔμπροσθεν τῆς φισκίνας,
at the chamber and near before the fountain
εἰς τὸ ἀπεσκίασμα τοῦ δένδρου ὡραῖον κρεββάτιν στέκει,
in the shade of-the tree (a)-fair bed stands
οἱ ῥίζες ἦσαν σμαραγδοὶ καὶ τὰ κανόνια κρύα,
the borders were emeralds and the rods cold
καὶ τὰ ποδάρια ὁλόχρυσα διὰ λίθων πολυτίμων·
and the feet all-golden with stones precious
ἡ μέση δὲ τοῦ κραββάτου δεμένη ὀξὺν μετάξιν,
the middle and of-the bed bound (with)-purple silk
καὶ κεῖται Σαρακήνικον μεταξωτὸν τὸ πεύχιν·
and lies (a)-Saracen silken the carpet
καὶ ἀπάνω κεῖται πιλωτόν, ὀξὺν πρασινοβοῦλιν,
and above lies (a)-felt purple green-woven
καὶ ὑφάπλωμα σεληνωτὸν μὲ τὰς χρυσᾶς νεράδας·
and (a)-coverlet moon-figured with the golden nereids
καὶ κεῖται ἀπάνω ὁ Διγενὴς πλάγιον ἀκκουμπισμένος,
and lies above — Digenis sideways reclining
καὶ ἔμπροσθεν τῶν γονάτων του κάθεται ἡ ποθητή του.
and before the knees his sits the beloved his
καὶ τριγύρου του στέκουσιν τριακόσια παλληκάρια,
and around him stand three-hundred young-heroes
καὶ οἱ τριακόσιοι ἦσαν ἔμμορφοι καὶ κόκκινα φοροῦσιν,
and the three-hundred were lovely and red wear
βαστοῦν σπαθία ὁλοψήφωτα καὶ στέκουν ἔμπροσθέν του.
they-hold swords all-jeweled and stand before him

τοὺς εἶχεν πάντας φύλακας εἰς τὰς στενὰς κλεισούρας,
them he-had all (as)-guards at the narrow passes
καὶ ἐφύλαττον τὴν Ῥωμανίαν ἀπὸ βάρβαρα ἔθνη·
and they-guarded — Romania from barbarous nations
καὶ ὡσὰν πουλίτζια πάντερπνα ὅταν ἀποπετάσσουν,
and like little-birds all-delightful when they-fly-off
καὶ φέρνουν κτύπον πάντερπνον τὸν θαυμαστὸν Ἀκρίτην·
and bring (a)-sound all-delightful the wondrous Akritas

XVII · THE DEATH OF DIGENIS

The poet mourns that death takes all delights. Dying, Digenis reminds his youths how they fled the lions and he fought alone, and leaves each a horse and arms. Seeing an angel of fire, he tells his wife he goes to Hades and bids her remember him. She prays to Christ to raise him as he raised Lazarus, or to take her first, and they die in the same hour.

1695 ἐπειδὴ πάντα τὰ τερπνὰ τοῦ πλάνου κόσμου τούτου
since all the delights of-the deceitful world this
θάνατος τὰ ὑποκρατεῖ καὶ Ἅδης τὰ κερδαίνει,
death them holds-down and Hades them gains
κατέφθασεν καὶ σήμερον τοῦ Διγενῆ Ἀκρίτη·
it-overtook also today — of-Digenis Akritas
κατανοοῦντες κλαύσατε τὸν Διγενὴν Ἀκρίτην,
perceiving weep-for — Digenis Akritas
καὶ βλέποντες θρηνήσατε ἀπὸ βαθέων καρδίας
and seeing lament from (the)-depths of-(the)-heart
1700 τὴν συμφορὰν τὴν γίνεται θέαμαν καὶ ὀδύνην·
the misfortune which becomes (a)-spectacle and pain
ὅτι ἀπότες ἐκτίστην ὁ παρὼν καὶ δόλιος κόσμος οὗτος,
that since was-created the present and deceitful world this

εἰς τὰς γενέας ἅπασας τοιοῦτος οὐκ ἐφάνη
in the generations all such not appeared
οἷον τοῦτον τὸν νεώτερον τὸν θαυμαστὸν Ἀκρίτην·
as this the young(-man) the wondrous Akritas
οὔτε εἰς ἀνδρείαν, οὔτε εἰς ἔπαινον, εἰς δόξαν, εἰς λογάριν·
neither in courage nor in praise in glory in wealth
καὶ σήμερον πλερώνεται καὶ χάνεται ἐκ τὸν κόσμον,
and today he-is-ended and is-lost from the world
εἰς νόσον γὰρ θανάσιμον ἔπεσεν καὶ ἀποθνήσκει,
into sickness for deadly he-fell and dies
καὶ ἔμπηξε τοὺς ἀγγόνους του εἰς τὸ προσκέφαλόν του·
and fixed the elbows his on the pillow his
καὶ τοὺς ἀγούρους του ἔλεγεν, οὕτως τοὺς παραγγέλλει·
and to-the youths his he-said thus them he-charges
«θυμᾶσθε, παλληκάρια μου, τῆς Ἀραβίας τοὺς κάμπους,
do-you-remember young-heroes my — of-Arabia the plains
ὅτι ἦσαν κάμποι ἄνυδροι καὶ καύματα μεγάλα;
that they-were plains waterless and heats great
ὅντε μᾶς ἐγυρίσασιν ἔνοπλοι Ἀραβῖτες·
when us surrounded armed Arabites
καὶ ἐγλήγορα οὐκ εὑρέθητε ὅλοι ἁρματωμένοι,
and quickly not you-were-found all armed
καὶ οἱ τριακόσιοι ἔβαλαν καὶ ἐκύκλωσάν με εἰς τὴν μέσην,
and the three-hundred set-on and surrounded me in the middle
καὶ ὅσο ποῦ ἂν καβαλλικεύσετε ἐσκόρπισά τους ὅλους.
and until — — you-mount I-scattered them all
πάλιν, ἀγοῦροι μου, εἴδετε καὶ ἄλλον θαῦμα μέγαν,
again youths my you-saw also another wonder great
εἰς τὸ στενὸν τὸ πέραμαν τοῦ ποταμοῦ τοῦ Ἀφράτου·
at the narrow the crossing of-the river of-the Euphrates

ἦτον ὁ καλάμιος δάσος καὶ ὑπόδροσος ὁ τόπος,
was the reedy wood and dewy the place
ἐκεῖ ἔκτισα τὴν τέντα μου νὰ περιαναπαυθοῦμεν·
there I-built the tent my that we-rest
καὶ ἀπότι ἀναπαύθημαν ἔδοξέ μας μετριάζειν,
and when we-had-rested it-seemed(-good) to-us to-be-moderate
καὶ ὅλοι σας ἀνατρέχετε ἀπέσω εἰς ποτάμιν.
and all of-you run-back within into (the)-river
καὶ ἐξέβησαν εἴκοσι λέοντες μὲ τὰς λένας,
and came-out twenty lions with the lionesses
καὶ ἔσυρναν τὰ λεοντόπουλα ὅλα παρακρουσμένα.
and dragged the lion-cubs all knocked-about
καὶ ὡσὰν τὰ εἴδετε, ἀγοῦροι μου, ὅλοι ἐφύγετε,
and when them you-saw youths my all you-fled
καὶ ἐμὲν μόνον ἀφήσετε ἀπέσω εἰς τὰ θηρία.
and me alone you-left within among the beasts
καὶ εἴδετε ὅτι ἐπέζευσα μὲ τὸ ῥαβδὶν τὰ ἐσέβην,
and you-saw that I-dismounted with the mace them I-went-into
καὶ δύο λέοντες ἀποπίσω μου ἤρχουνται νὰ μὲ φάσιν.
and two lions behind me come that me they-eat
καὶ ὡς ἔδωκα τὴν ἔλεναν ἀπάνω εἰς τὸ κεφάλιν,
and when I-gave the lioness above on the head
οἱ δύο λέοντες ἐμπήκασιν ἀπέσω εἰς τὸ καλάμιν.
the two lions went within into the reed-bed
μὰ τὸν θεὸν ἀλήθειαν σᾶς λέγω.
by — God (the)-truth to-you I-tell
μὰ τὸ μυστήριον τὸ φρικτὸν ὁποῦ μὲ παραστέκει,
by the mystery the fearful which me attends
οὐκ ἐσυνέκρινα ποτὲ θάνατον ἐδικόν σας·
not I-compared ever (the)-death own your

διὰ τοῦτο σᾶς ἐνεθύμησα ὡς διὰ νὰ μοῦ θυμᾶσθε,
because-of this you I-reminded as for that me you-remember
καὶ εἰς τὰ ἄλλα οὐδὲν ἐφθάσετε τὸ ἐπολέμουν μοναξός μου.
and in the rest not you-reached what I-fought alone my
καὶ ἐγὼ μόνος νὰ ἔβλεπα ἐσᾶς καὶ τὴν καλήν μου,
and I alone that I-watched-over you and the fair(-one) my
καὶ πάλιν εἰς τὴν τέντα μου πόσοι ἀπελάτες ἦλθαν.
and again at the tent my how-many apelatai came
καὶ πόσας τρικυμίας ὑπέμεινα εἰς τὰς βαρέας ἀνάγκας,
and how-many tempests I-endured in the heavy necessities
καὶ πόσοι ἐβουλήθησαν ἵνα μὲ τὴν ἀφαρπάξουν,
and how-many wished that from-me her they-snatch
τὴν πάγκαλον, τὴν πάνμνοστον, ὡραίαν ποθητή μου.
the all-fair the all-comely fair beloved my
ἀρχὴν ὅνταν ἐξέβηκεν ἀπὸ τὰ γονικά της,
(the)-beginning when she-came-out from the parents her
ἐγὼ καὶ τούτη μοναχοὶ ὡδεύαμεν ἀντάμα,
I and she alone we-traveled together
καὶ δράκος μᾶς ἐλάλησεν μέσ᾽ ἀπὸ τὸ καλάμιν·
and (a)-dragon to-us spoke from-within from the reed-bed
καὶ ἐγίνετον παλληκάριν ἡδονικὸν καὶ ὡραῖον·
and it-became (a)-young-hero sweet and fair
ἱστίαν καὶ φλόγαν ἤβγαλεν ἀπὸ τοῦ στόματός του,
fire and flame it-brought-out from the mouth its
καὶ ἄγρια μοῦ ἐλάλησεν ἵνα μοῦ τὴν ἐπάρῃ,
and fiercely to-me spoke that from-me her it-take
καὶ ἐμένα νὰ φάγῃ.
and me that it-eat
καὶ ὁ θεός, ὁ πάντων δυνατὸς καὶ πάντων κυριεύων,
and — God the(-one) of-all mighty and of-all ruling

αὐτὸς μᾶς ἐβοήθηκεν καὶ οὐδὲν μᾶς ἐποῖκεν κακόν.
he us helped and not to-us did evil
καὶ εἴδετε, παλληκάρια μου, μόνος τὸ πῶς ἐπειράσθη,
and you-saw young-heroes my alone the how he-was-tried
καὶ ἐσεῖς ἄλλου ἀλλοῦ ηὑρίσκεσθε καὶ μετ' ἐμὲν οὐκ ἦσθεν.
and you another elsewhere you-were and with me not you-were
τοιοῦτον πάλιν λέγω σας, ὀρθῶς καὶ νουθετῶ σας,
such again I-tell you rightly and admonish you
ἔχετε πάντοτε εἰς τὸν νοῦν μελέτη τοῦ θανάτου.
have always in the mind (the)-study of-the death
ἀλλ' ἔχετε ἀγάπην ἄπειρον ἀμφότεροι εἰς τὸν κόσμον
but have love boundless both in the world
καὶ ὁ θεός, ὁ πάντων δυνατός, ὁ συνέχων τὴν κτίσιν,
and — God the of-all mighty the sustaining the creation
αὐτὸς νὰ σᾶς κατευοδῇ εἰς ἀριστείαν μεγάλην.
he that you prosper in prowess great
καὶ πάντες μέλλομεν παρασταθεῖν τῆς φοβερᾶς ἡμέρας,
and all we-are-about to-stand-before of-the fearful day
ἐλέγχουσαν τὰς πράξεις.
examining the deeds
καὶ ἕκαστος λάβῃ ἀναμοιβὴν ἐκ τοῦ ἰδίου ἔργου,
and each receive recompense from the own work
καὶ ὁ θεός, ὁ πολυεύσπλαγχνος νὰ μὴ σᾶς διαχωρίσῃ,
and — God the much-compassionate that not you he-part
τοὺς τριακοσίους ἀφήνω σας ἀπὸ ἑνὸς φαρίου,
the three-hundred I-leave you of one horse
καὶ ἀπὸ ἑνὸς σπαθίου καὶ ἀπὸ τρίων λουρικίων,
and of one sword and of three cuirasses
τοὺς τριακοσίους ἀφήνω σας ἀπὸ ἑνὸς ῥαβδίου,
the three-hundred I-leave you of one mace

καὶ πάλιν τοῦτο λέγω σας πάλιν νὰ μοῦ θυμᾶσθε,
and again this I-tell you again that me you-remember
ὅτι ἄλλον Ἀκρίτην εἰς κόσμον οὐ θεωρεῖτε.»
that another Akritas in (the)-world not you-see
καὶ ἀφότου ἀπεπλήρωσεν ὅλην τὴν χάριν τούτην,
and after he-completed all the grace this
ἐσκέφθην ἄγγελον πυρὸς ἀπὸ οὐρανοῦ ἀπελθόντος.
he-perceived (an)-angel of-fire from heaven having-come
καὶ ὡς τὸν εἶδεν ὁ Διγενὴς ἐτρόμαξεν μεγάλως
and when him saw — Digenis trembled greatly
καὶ τὴν καλήν του ἐφωνίαξεν νὰ ἰδῇ τὴν φαντασίαν·
and to-the fair(-one) his called that she-see the apparition
«βλέπεις, καλή, τὸν ἄγγελον ὁποῦ μὲ θέλει πάρει;
do-you-see fair(-one) the angel who me will take
ἐλύθησαν τὰ χέρια μου ἐκ τὴν ἰδέαν τοῦ ἀγγέλου.
were-loosed the hands my from the form of-the angel
καὶ ἐλύθησαν οἱ ὦμοι μου ἐκ τὴν ἰδέαν τοῦ ἀγγέλου.»
and were-loosed the shoulders my from the form of-the angel
τὸν ἄγγελον δικολογᾷ καὶ τὴν καλήν του λέγει·
with-the angel he-pleads and to-the fair(-one) his says
«καλή, ὡς εἶδες ἀπαρχῆς, ὅτι εἴχαμεν τὸν πόθον,
fair(-one) as you-saw from-the-start that we-had the longing
σήμερον χωριζόμεθα καὶ ἀπέρχομαι εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
today we-are-parted and I-go-away to the world
τὸν μαῦρον, σκοτεινότατον, καὶ πάγω κάτω εἰς Ἅδην.
the black most-dark and I-go down to Hades
σήμερον πληρώνει με ὁ θάνατος καὶ ὑπάγω,
today ends me the death and I-go
καλή μου, μὴ μὲ δικαστῇς εἰς τὸν ἐκεῖσε κόσμον.
fair(-one) my not me arraign in the there world

μὴ ἱσταθῶμεν ἀμφότεροι εἰς τὸ δεινὸν κριτήριον·
lest we-stand both at the terrible judgment
ἐγὼ οἶδα· φαγεῖν καὶ ποιεῖν ἔχεις καὶ λουσθῇς καὶ ἀλλάξῃς,
I know to-eat and to-do you-have and be-washed and change
καὶ ἐσὲν ἀφήνω σε πλουσίαν πολλὰ ἀπὸ παντόθεν·
and you I-leave you rich much from all-sides
λογάριν ἔχεις περισσόν, ἀσῆμιν καὶ χρυσάφιν,
wealth you-have abundant silver and gold
οἱ τρίκλινοί μου γέμουσιν βλαττία ὑφασμένα.
the three-roomed(-chambers) my are-full (of)-silks woven
καὶ μηδὲν ἄλλον ἐνθυμηθῇς ἄλλον νὰ περιλάβῃς·
and not-at-all another think-of another that you-embrace
ἀλλὰ ἂν θυμηθῇς, θυμήσου ἀλλοῦ νεωτέρου ἀγάπην·
but if you-think think-of another (a)-young(-man's) love
νὰ μὴ φοβᾶται πόλεμον εἰς τοὺς βαρέους πολέμους,
that not he-fear war in the heavy wars
καὶ πάντας φέρνε κατὰ νοῦν κ' ἐμὲν μὴ λησμονήσῃς.
and all bring to mind and me not forget
θυμᾶσαι καὶ ἠξεύρεις, λυγερή, τὰ πρωτινὰ ἐκεῖνα,
you-remember and know slender(-one) the former(-things) those
ὅτι πολλὰ ἐβουλεύθησαν τοῦ νὰ μὲ θανατώσουν,
that many plotted the that me they-kill
καὶ ἐγὼ πάντα ἐζύγωνά τους
and I always weighed-down them
καὶ ἄλλα πλέα παρὰ τοῦτο ἔκαμά τους.
and other(-things) more than this did to-them
ληστάδας ἐπάταξα καὶ ὅλην τὴν Συρίαν.
robbers I-struck and all — Syria
τὰς ἐρήμους κατοίκησα πόλεις κατοικημένας·
the deserts I-settled (as)-cities inhabited

ταῦτα ἐποίησα, καλή, ἐσένα νὰ κερδέσω.
these(-things) I-did fair(-one) you that I-win
ἀλλὰ πληροφορέσου το ὅτι ἐγὼ ἀποθνήσκω.
but be-assured it that I die
ὁ Χάρος τρέπει ἐκ παντὸς τὸν μήποτε τραπέντα,
— Charon turns in every(-way) the(-one) never turned
ὁ Χάροντας χωρίζει με ἀπὸ σοῦ τῆς φιλτάτης·
— Charon parts me from you the dearest
ὁ Ἅδης παραλαμβάνει με, πολὺν ἔχω τὸν πόνον·
— Hades takes-over me much I-have the pain
σοῦ τῆς ἀθλίας ἕνεκεν τῆς ταπεινῆς, τῆς χήρας·
of-you the wretched for-the-sake-of the humble the widow
λοιπὸν δυσώπει τὸν θεὸν ἐκ βάθους τῆς καρδίας,
then entreat — God from (the)-depth of-the heart
κατὰ τὸ συμπαθὲς καὶ φιλάνθρωπος μόνος.
according-to the compassionate and lover-of-men alone
ὅπως νὰ μεταμεληθῇ καὶ ἀφήσῃ τὴν ψυχήν μου.
so-that that he-repent and let-go the soul my
εἰ δὲ οὐ παρακληθῇ ὁ θεός, καὶ θέλει νὰ ἀποθάνω,
if but not be-entreated — God and wants that I-die
τὸν τῆς χωρίας καύσωνα οὐ δύναμαι ὑπομένειν.
the of-the widowhood heat not I-can endure
ὡς διατί οὐδὲν ἔχεις τινὰν εἰς ἐτοῦτον τὸν κόσμον,
as because not you-have anyone in this the world
οὐδὲ κύριν, οὐδὲ ἀδέλφια, οὐδὲ προστάτην ἄλλον.»
nor father nor brothers nor protector other
ἐκείνη δὲ ὡς ἤκουσεν τὰ λόγια τοῦ καλοῦ της,
she and when she-heard the words of-the fair(-one) her

εὐθέως πρὸς ἀνατολὰς τὰς χεῖρας ἐκπετάσας
at-once toward (the)-east the hands having-spread
καὶ πρὸς θεὸν ἐλάλησεν φωνὴν πολλὰ θλιμμένην·
and to God spoke (a)-voice much grieved
«κυριὲ θεέ, παμβασιλεῦ, ὁ κτίσας τοὺς αἰῶνας,
Lord God all-king the(-one) having-created the ages
ὁ στερεώσας οὐρανὸν καὶ γῆν θεμελιώσας,
the(-one) having-made-firm heaven and earth having-founded
ὁ θάλασσαν τὴν ἄπειρον ψάμμῳ περιτειχίσας,
the(-one) sea the boundless with-sand having-walled-round
καὶ τοὺς ἰχθύας πρὸς αὐτῆς προστάξας ζωογονᾶσθαι,
and the fish by it having-ordered to-be-quickened
ὁ πλάσας δὲ καὶ τὸν Ἀδὰμ ἀπὸ γῆς καὶ τὴν Εὔαν,
the(-one) having-formed and also — Adam from earth and — Eve
ὁ τὸν τερπνὸν παράδεισον χειρὶ καταφυτεύσας,
the(-one) the delightful paradise with-(the)-hand having-planted
ὁ λόγῳ συστησάμενος ὄρη τε καὶ τὰς νάπας,
the(-one) by-word having-established mountains both and the glens
φῶς καὶ ἀέραν δι' ἐμέ, δείξας τῇ σῇ ἀθλίᾳ,
light and air for me having-shown to-the your wretched
ὁ κατελθὼν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ὡς ἠθέλησας, λέγε,
the(-one) having-come-down from heaven as you-willed word
καὶ σαρκοφόρος δι' ἐμὲ γεγονώς, πλαστουργέ μου,
and flesh-bearing for me having-become fashioner my
καὶ μητέραν τὴν ἄχραντον οὐρανὸν ἀπεργάσω
and (the)-mother the undefiled heaven you-made
καὶ γεννηθεὶς ἀρρεύστως,
and born without-flux

καὶ παθὼν ὡς αὐτὸς οἶδας καὶ ὡς ηὐδοκήσας
and having-suffered as you know and as having-been-pleased
σταυρωθῆναι, Χριστέ μου,
to-be-crucified Christ my
ἀνάστασιν δωρούμενος κἀμοὶ πεπτωκότι,
resurrection granting also-to-me fallen
ἀνάστησον, φιλάνθρωπε, καὶ τὸν ἐμὸν αὐθέντη,
raise lover-of-men also the my master
καὶ δός του ὑγείαν ἀπὸ ἀρχῆς ὡς ἐλεήμων, λόγε·
and give him health from (the)-beginning as merciful word
καὶ μὴ ἰδῶ θάνατον ποτὲ τοῦ ποθητοῦ μου,
and not let-me-see (the)-death ever of-the beloved my
ἀλλ' ὡς ποτὲ τὸν Λάζαρον ἀνέστησας, Χριστέ μου,
but as once — Lazarus you-raised Christ my
καὶ οἶδας γάρ, φιλάνθρωπε, Μάρθας καὶ τῆς Μαρίας,
and you-know for lover-of-men of-Martha and — of-Mary
θερμῶς κινοῦσα δάκρυα,
warmly moving tears
οὕτως καὶ νῦν ἀνάστησον νέον ἀπελπισμένον
thus also now raise (a)-youth despaired-of
ἀπὸ παντῶν ἰατρῶν, γνωρίμων τε καὶ φίλων,
by all physicians acquaintances both and friends
καὶ ἐσοὶ ἀνεθέμενον τὰς ἐλπίδας ἁπάσας,
and to-you having-committed the hopes all
καὶ εἰς τὴν σὴν βοήθειαν ἀεὶ εὐφοροῦντα.
and in the your help ever bearing-well
ναί, δέσποτα φιλάνθρωπε, μόνε καρδιογνῶστα,
yes master lover-of-men only heart-knower
ὁ δι' ἐμὲ ἑκούσιως πτωχεύσας,
the(-one) for me willingly having-become-poor

ὁ τὴν ἐμὴν ἀσθένειαν ἐθελοντὶ φορέσας,
the(-one) the my weakness voluntarily having-worn
διαθρέψας ἄπειρον πλῆθος ἐκ πέντε ἄρτων,
having-fed (a)-boundless multitude from five loaves
μὴν παρίδῃς τὴν δέησιν ἐμοῦ τῆς ἀναξίας,
not overlook the prayer of-me the unworthy
ἀλλ' ἐξαπόστειλον ταχὺ ἔλεος ἐξ ἁγίου,
but send-forth quickly mercy from (the)-holy(-place)
κλῖνον τὸ οὖς σου, δέσποτα, εἰσάκουσον εὐχῆς μου·
incline the ear your master hear (the)-prayer my
πρόφθασον ἐν ἀνάγκαις νῦν, πρόφθασον ἐν τῇ θλίψει·
come-first in necessities now come-first in the grief
ἐλθὲ εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν τῶν δεομένων,
come to the help of-us the(-ones) entreating
καὶ τὰ ἐλέη σου ἡμῶν θαυμάστωσον οἰκτίρμων,
and the mercies your on-us make-wonderful compassionate(-one)
ἐκ θανάτου ἀνάστησον ἱκέτην,
from death raise (the)-suppliant
ἐκ θανάτου ἀνάστησον, εὔσπλαγχνε, σὸν ἱκέτην,
from death raise compassionate(-one) your suppliant
ἐκ θανάτου ἐξάρπασον νέον μὴ μεταγνόντα·
from death snatch (a)-youth not having-repented
αὐτὸς γὰρ ἔφης, δέσποτα, κἂν ὅλως μὴ θελῆσαι
you for said master even at-all not to-will
ἁμαρτωλοῦ τὸν θάνατον ὅπως νὰ ἐπιστρέψῃ·
of-(a)-sinner the death so-that that he-turn

καὶ νῦν, φιλάνθρωπε θεέ, βοήθει τῷ κειμένῳ
and now lover-of-men God help the(-one) lying
ἔκτεινον τὴν κραιταίαν χεῖραν ὡς εὐεργέτης
stretch-out the mighty hand as benefactor
καὶ ὡς τὸν Πέτρον ἔσωσας θαλάττισου κινδύνου,
and as — Peter you-saved from-(the)-sea's danger
οὕτω καὶ νῦν ἐλέησον ἱκέτην σου ἀχρεῖον.
so also now have-mercy-on (the)-suppliant your useless
ἰδοὺ κέλευσον, δέσποτα, πρῶτον ἐμὲ τεθνάναι,
look order master first me to-have-died
μὴ ἰδῶ τοῦτον ἄμφωνον κατεκειμένον, ἄπνουν,
lest I-see him voiceless lying breathless
καὶ καλυμμένους ὀφθαλμοὺς ἔχοντα τοὺς ὡραίους·
and covered eyes having the fair
μὴ ἰδῶ χεῖρας τὰς καλὰς ἀδραγαθεῖν μαθούσας,
lest I-see (the)-hands the fine to-do-valor having-learned
δεδεμένας σταυροειδῶς, νεκρικὰ συσταλμένας·
bound crosswise as-of-the-dead drawn-together
μή μου τὰ δάκρυα, Χριστέ, παρίδῃς δεομένης,
not my the tears Christ overlook (of-me)-entreating
μή με τοσαύτην κατιδεῖν παραχωρίσας θλῖψιν,
not me so-great to-look-upon allowing grief
ἀλλ' ἔπαρόν μου τὴν ψυχὴν πρὸ τοῦ γενέσθαι ταῦτα·
but take my the soul before the to-happen these(-things)
πάντα γὰρ λόγῳ δύνασαι, οὐδὲν ἀδυνατεῖ σοι.»
all(-things) for by-word you-can nothing is-impossible for-you
ὡς δὲ καὶ τὰ ἔλεγε μετὰ πολλῶν δακρύων,
as and also these(-things) she-said with many tears
στραφῇ τοῦτον αἰφνιδῶς ὥρα ψυχορραγοῦντα·
having-turned him suddenly (in-the)-hour breathing-his-last

καὶ τὸν πόνον τὸν ἄπειρον φέρειν μὴ δυνάμη
and the pain the boundless to-bear not able
πάνυ ἐλιγοθύμησε, βαπτισθεῖσα τὴν θλίψιν·
utterly she-fainted dipped (in)-the grief
καὶ πεσοῦσα ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς παρέδωκεν τὸ πνεῦμα·
and having-fallen on the earth gave-up the spirit
οὐ γὰρ ἐγίνωσκε ποτὲ τὴν ὑπηρμένην θλίψιν,
not for she-knew ever the lifted grief
καὶ ἐμιᾶ ἀμφότεροι τὴν ὥραν τελευτῶσαν. —
and in-one both the hour dying