BYZANTINE GREEK SERIES · VOLUME 80

Timarion

ΤΙΜΑΡΙΩΝ

Timarion

With Mazaris and Other Byzantine Satires

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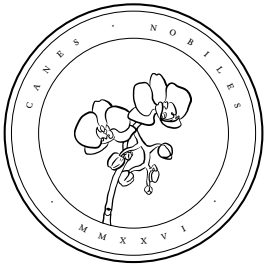
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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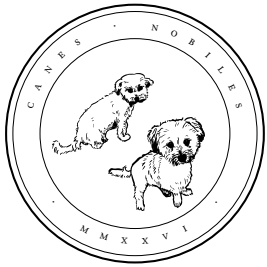

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The Byzantine Greek text follows The Timarion and Mazaris' Journey to Hades in A. Ellissen, Analekten der mittel- und neugriechischen Literatur IV (Leipzig, 1860); the Philopatris in C. B. Hase, Leonis Diaconi Caloensis Historiae (Bonn, 1828); the Sale of Lives in F. J. G. La Porte du Theil, Notices et extraits des manuscrits VIII.2 (Paris, 1810); the Battle of the Cat and the Mice in R. Hercher, Theodori Prodromi Catomyomachia (Leipzig, 1873)

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

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ΤΙΜΑΡΙΩΝ

Timarion

Cydion greets Timarion, back late from his journey, with Homer's lines and asks what kept him. Timarion answers with Euripides and warns that the tale is a sad one: providence made the journey out easy, the return painful. Cydion complains that he skips to the end, so Timarion tells of hunting by the Axius before the feast of Saint Demetrius; chided again, he grumbles that a friend's demands are close to tyranny and agrees to tell everything.

CYDION Τιμαρίων ὁ καλὸς. „Ἥλυθας, Τηλέμαχε, γλυκερὸν 1
Timarion the fair you-have-come Telemachus sweet
φάος.“ Ἀλλὰ τί τὸ μέχρι τοσούτου κατασχόν σε
light but what the-thing until so-long having-held-back you
τῆς ἐπανόδου; καὶ ταῦθ' ὑποσχόμενον ἐπανελθεῖν τάχιον;
from-the return and that having-promised to-return sooner
„Ἐξαύδα, μὴ κεῦθε νόῳ, ἵνα εἴδωμεν ἄμφω.“ Πρὸς
speak-out not hide in-mind that we-may-know both to
φίλον γὰρ ἐρεῖς παλαιὸν καὶ νέον.
friend for you-will-speak old and new
TIMARION Ὦ φίλε Κυδίων, ἐπεί με τῶν Ὁμήρου ῥαψῳδημάτων
O dear Cydion since me of-the of-Homer rhapsodies
ὑπέμνησας, μαθεῖν περὶ τῶν ἐμῶν παθῶν ἐπειγόμενος,
you-reminded to-learn about the my sufferings hastening
χρὴ κἀμὲ τῶν τραγικῶν ῥημάτων δανείσασθαι,
it-is-needful me-too the tragic words to-borrow
τὸν ὑπὲρ τούτων λόγον ποιούμενον· ὡς ἂν κομψῶν
the about these-things account making so-that — of-elegant
παθημάτων καὶ ἡ διήγησις κομψοτέρα προβαίη μοι.
sufferings also the narrative more-elegant might-proceed for-me

CYDION Λέγε τοιγαροῦν, ὦ βέλτιστε Τιμαρίων, καὶ μὴ πρόῃ
speak therefore O best Timarion and not let-slip
τὸν καιρόν· ἡμᾶς τε γλιχομένους μαθεῖν μὴ ἐπὶ μᾶλλον
the occasion us and longing to-learn not yet more
ἐκκαίῃς, καὶ ἀλγύνῃς ὡς μάλιστα.
inflame and pain as most
TIMARION „Αἲ, αἲ, τί ταῦτα κινεῖς κἀναμοχλεύεις;“ καὶ
ah ah why these-things do-you-stir and-lever-up and
φέρεις ἡμᾶς Ἰλιόθεν; κατὰ τὴν παροιμίαν. Πλὴν
do-you-bring us from-Ilium according-to the proverb nevertheless
ἀλλὰ, πεφροιμιάσθω μοι τὰ Εὐριπίδεια· πρέπον γὰρ
but let-be-prefaced by-me the Euripidean(-lines) fitting(-it-is) for
ἐκεῖθεν ἐπὶ τοῖς ὁμοίοις ἄρξασθαι·
from-there at the like-things to-begin

Οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν δεινὸν, οὐδ' εἰπεῖν ἔπος,
not there-is anything terrible nor to-tell a-word
οὐδὲ πάθος, οὐδὲ ξυμφορὰ θεήλατος,
nor suffering nor calamity god-sent
ἧς οὐκ ἂν ἄραιτ' ἄχθος ἀνθρώπου φύσις.
whose not — would-bear burden of-man nature
Οὐδὲν γὰρ ὀϊζυρότερον γαῖα τρέφει ἀνθρώποιο.
nothing for more-wretched earth nourishes than-man

Εἰ γάρ σοι κατὰ μέρος διηγησαίμην τἀμὰ, βέλτιστε,
if for to-you by part I-should-narrate my-affairs best
κρεῖττον ἂν φαίης σεσιωπῆσθαι, καὶ μὴ ἐκλαλεῖσθαι
better — you-would-say to-have-been-kept-silent and not to-be-blurted-out
πρὸς τοὺς ποθοῦντας ὑμᾶς.
to the longing-ones you

CYDION Ἄρξαι λοιπὸν τῆς ἱστορίας, ὦ λῷστε, τοῦ ἡλιακοῦ 2
begin now the story O dearest the of-the-sun
φωτὸς ἐπιδαψιλευομένου σοι· ἔτι γὰρ „περὶ βουλυτόν“
light being-lavished on-you still for about ox-loosing
ἐστιν. Ἄλλως τε καὶ ἡμᾶς ἐν φάει δεῖ πρὸς τὰ
it-is besides — also us in light it-is-needful to the
οἰκεῖα σωθῆναι, χρείας ἐπειγούσης ἀναγκαίας.
own(-homes) to-get-safe need pressing necessary
TIMARION Οἶσθα, ὦ ἑταῖρε Κυδίων, μαθὼν ἐξ ἐμοῦ, καθ’
you-know O comrade Cydion having-learned from me at
ὃν σοι συνεταξάμην καιρὸν, ὡς εὐσεβὴς ἦν καὶ θεῖος ὁ
which to-you I-said-farewell time how pious was and divine the
τῆς ἀποδημίας σκοπός· καὶ οὐ χρὴ περὶ τούτου λέγειν
of-the journey aim and not it-is-needful about this to-speak
ἡμᾶς περαιτέρω, ἢ σὲ περὶ τῶν ἐγνωσμένων μανθάνειν. Ὡς
us further or you about the things-known to-learn when
δ’ οὖν συνταξάμενοι τότε σοι τῆς πόλεως ὑπεξήλθομεν,
and anyway having-said-farewell then to-you from-the city we-went-out
θεία τις ἐπικουρήσασα πρόνοια τήν τε ὁδὸν εὐμάρησε, καὶ
divine a having-aided providence the both road made-easy and
τὰ κατὰ μέρος εὖ διέθηκεν. Ἵνα γὰρ συλλήβδην ἐρῶ,
the by part well arranged that for in-sum I-may-say
σατραπικαῖς δεξιώσεσι καὶ χορηγίαις ἡμᾶς ἐφωδίασε,
with-satrapal welcomes and provisions us it-supplied
φιλοσόφως καίτοι γε καὶ αὐχμηρῶς ἐσταλμένους. Οὐδένα
philosophically although — even squalidly equipped no-one
γὰρ τῶν παροδίων φίλων καὶ ξένων πατρῴων ἀγνῶτα
for of-the wayside friends and guest-friends ancestral unaware
παρείασεν· ἀλλ’ ὁ μὲν ἐπ’ ἀγρὸν ἐξιὼν συνήντησεν,
it-passed-by but the-one indeed to field going-out met(-us)
ὁ δ’ ἐξ ἀγροῦ ἐπανιὼν ἀπήντησεν· ἑτέρῳ δοῦλος
the-other and from field returning came-to-meet(-us) to-another a-slave

ἐμήνυσεν, ἢ τυχὸν τὴν ὁδὸν πορευόμενος καὶ περιπεσὼν
reported(-us) either perhaps the road traveling and having-fallen-in
ἀδοκήτως ἡμῖν, ἢ καὶ παρὰ τὴν ὁδὸν κατ᾽ ἄρουραν
unexpectedly with-us or even beside the road in tilled-land
γεηπονῶν· καὶ ἁπλῶς, ἦν οὐδεὶς, ὅστις ἡμᾶς ἰδὼν
farming and simply there-was no-one who us having-seen
οὐκ ἐξένισεν. Ἑστιάσεις δὲ τούτων πολυτελεῖς καὶ ἡδείας
not entertained feasts and of-these costly and sweet
τί ἂν καταλέγοιμι, ἅπαξ ὑποθέμενος ταύτας τῷ λόγῳ
why — would-I-list once having-laid-down them in-the account
σατραπικὰς καὶ τυραννικάς; Γνοίης δ᾽ ἂν ἐκ τοῦ
satrapal and princely you-would-know and — from the
πράγματος, βέλτιστε, ὡς ἔστι τις ἐπιστασία τοῦ παντὸς,
matter best that there-is a oversight of-the universe
ἀφ᾽ ἧς πρόεισιν ἡ τοῦ ζῆν εὐκολία τοῖς αἱρουμένοις
from which proceeds the of-the living ease for-those choosing
φιλοσοφεῖν· καὶ γὰρ ἡμῖν, μηδέν τι πραγματευσαμένοις
to-philosophize and for for-us nothing any having-procured
οἴκαθεν εἰς ἐφόδια, ἢ μὴ ἐπισαξαμένοις βρωτὰ καὶ
from-home for provisions or not having-packed things-to-eat and
ποτὰ, εὐθὺς ἐκ τῆς πρώτης ξενίας οὐ διέλιπεν αὕτη
things-to-drink straight from the first hospitality not ceased it
χορηγοῦσα πολυτελῶς. Τὰ μὲν δὴ τῆς καθόδου ἐν
supplying lavishly the(-things) indeed now of-the going-down in
τούτοις ἦν, λίαν εὐόδως καὶ ὑγιῶς ἔχοντα· τὰ δὲ τῆς
these were very prosperously and healthily faring the(-things) but of-the
ἐπανόδου καὶ λίαν ὀδυνηρὰ, καὶ τραγῳδίᾳ προσήκοντα.
return both very painful and to-tragedy befitting

3 CYDION Ὡς λίαν ἀεὶ σχέτλιος εἶ περὶ τὰς διηγήσεις,
how very always cruel you-are about the narratives
ὦ λῷστε, οὕτω συνεπτυγμένως καὶπιτροχάδην ἀεὶ
O dearest so compressedly and-cursorily always

διηγούμενος, ἐνδιάσκευον δὲ μηδὲν ἀπαγγέλλων ἡμῖν. Ἔτι
narrating elaborated and nothing reporting to-us still
γὰρ τὰ τῆς καθόδου μὴ ἀκριβῶς ἀπαρτίσας τῷ λόγῳ,
for the of-the going-down not precisely having-finished in-the account
περὶ δὲ τῆς κατὰ χώραν ἐπιδημίας μηδέν τι προσθεὶς,
about and the in place sojourn nothing any having-added

νόστου μνήσασθαι
of-return to-be-mindful

ἐπιβάλλῃ· καὶ ὥσπερ ὑπὸ κυνῶν ἢ Σκυθῶν διωκόμενος,
you-set-about and as by dogs or Scythians being-pursued
σπεύδεις τάχιον εἰσθῦναι τῷ λόγῳ πρὸς τὸ Βυζάντιον,
you-hasten more-quickly to-dart in-the account to — Byzantium
ὡς ἐνταῦθα μόνον κειμένης σοι τῆς σωτηρίας καὶ τῆς
as there only lying for-you the safety and the
τῶν διωκόντων ἀπαλλαγῆς. Πλὴν ἀλλὰ θάῤῥει, ὦ
from-the pursuers release nevertheless but take-heart O
᾽γαθέ, δεινόν τι πεισόμενος, ἂν τὰ σαυτοῦ σχολαιότερον
good-man terrible anything going-to-suffer if the your-own more-leisurely
ἡμῖν διηγῇ, μηδενὸς ἐπικειμένου σοι φοβεροῦ.
to-us you-narrate nothing pressing-on you fearful
TIMARION Ἀβάλε σοι τῆς ἀπληστίας, ὦ φίλε Κυδίων·
alas for-you for-the insatiability O dear Cydion
ἀκόρεστος ἄρα εἶ διηγημάτων καὶ ἀκουσμάτων
insatiable then you-are of-tales and hearings
ἀλλοδαπῶν. Οὐκοῦν λέγωμεν τῆς ἀκολουθίας ἐχόμενα
foreign so let-us-speak the sequence holding-to(-things)
συγγνωμονήσαις δ᾽ ἂν πάντως, εἰ κορώνην περιπτᾶσαν
you-would-pardon and — surely if a-crow flying-around
ἡμᾶς, ἢ λίθον τοῖς τῶν ἵππων ποσὶ προσαραχθέντα, ναὶ
us or a-stone against-the of-the horses feet dashed yes

μὴν καὶ βάτον παρόδιον ἐπιδραξαμένην, τῇ διηγήσει
indeed and-even a-bramble wayside having-snatched(-us) into-the narrative
μὴ παρενείρωμεν. Κατήειμεν οὖν εἰς τὴν περίπυστον
not we-weave-in we-went-down then to the famous
Θεσσαλονίκην, πρὶν ἢ τὴν ἑορτὴν ἐπιστῆναι Δημητρίου τοῦ
Thessalonica before than the feast to-arrive of-Demetrius the
μάρτυρος· καὶ εἶχεν ἡμῖν τό τε ψυχίδιον εὐθύμως, τό τε
martyr and were(-faring) for-us the both little-soul cheerfully the and
σωμάτιον ὑγιῶς. Ἐπεὶ δὲ ταὐτὸν ἡμῖν τε ἀργεῖν καὶ
little-body healthily since and the-same(-it-was) for-us both to-be-idle and
Ἰουδαίοις συοφαγεῖν, ὅτι μὴ περὶ λόγους πονεῖν εἴχομεν, καὶ
for-Jews to-eat-pork because not on letters to-toil we-could and
ἅμα τοῦ καιροῦ ἐνδιδόντος, ἐς τὸν Ἀξειὸν ποταμὸν θήρας
at-once the season allowing to the Axius river of-hunting
ἕνεκεν ἥκομεν. Ποταμῶν δὲ οὗτος τῶν κατὰ Μακεδόνα ὁ
for-sake we-came of-rivers and this of-the in Macedonia the
μέγιστος· ὃς ἐκ τῶν Βουλγαρικῶν ὀρῶν ἀρξάμενος κατὰ
greatest which from the Bulgarian mountains having-begun in
μικρὰ καὶ διεστηκότα ῥευμάτια, εἶτα καὶ εἰς μισγάγκειαν
small and separate streamlets then also into a-meeting-of-gullies
πρὸς τῇ καθόδῳ συναγόμενος, Ὅμηρος ἂν εἶπεν, „ἠΰς
at the descent being-gathered Homer — would-have-said good
τε μέγας τε“, παρὰ τὴν παλαιὰν Μακεδονίαν καὶ Πέλλαν
both great and past the old Macedonia and Pella
κάτεισι, καὶ κατὰ τὴν ἐγγὺς πάραλον εὐθὺς ἐκδιδοῖ. Ἔστι
goes-down and at the nearby coast straightway empties is
δὲ ὁ τόπος λόγου ἐπιεικῶς ἄξιος· γεωργοῖς παντοίων
and the place of-account fairly worthy for-farmers of-all-kinds
σπερμάτων ἀναδοτικὸς ἅμα καὶ τελεσιουργός· στρατιώταις
seeds yielding at-once and bringing-to-ripeness for-soldiers
ἡδὺς ἐνιππάσασθαι, στρατηγοῖς ἡδίων συντάξαι καὶ
pleasant to-ride-over for-generals more-pleasant to-draw-up and

παρατάξαι φάλαγγας, καὶ δεξιὸς ὁπλιταγωγῆσαι, μηδέν
to-array phalanxes and apt to-lead-boplites in-nothing
τι διασπωμένης τῆς φάλαγγος· οὕτως ἄλιθός ἐστιν ἡ
at-all being-broken the phalanx so stoneless is the
χώρα, καὶ ἄθαμνος, καὶ ὁμαλὴ ἐς τὰ μάλιστα. Εἰ δὲ
land and bushless and level to the utmost if and
καὶ θηρεύειν βουληθείης, φαίης ἂν, ὡς ἐνταῦθα καὶ μὴ
also to-hunt you-should-wish you-would-say — that here even not
ἐρῶσα τοῦ Ἱππολύτου ἡ Φαίδρα ἐνιπτάσαιτο ἂν εὐφυῶς,
loving — Hippolytus — Phaedra would-fly-in — gracefully
καὶ κυσὶ θωῦξαι, καὶ βαλίαις ἐλάφοις ἐγχρίψαιτο.
and to-dogs to-halloo and at-dappled deer would-close-in
Οὕτω μὲν ὁ κατὰ τὸν Ἀξειὸν ἔχει χῶρος· καὶ οὕτω 4
thus indeed the along the Axius is region and so
καὶ ἡμεῖς κατ᾽ ἐκεῖνον τοῖς τε ἡμετέροις καὶ πατρῴοις
also we in it with-the both our and ancestral
ξένοις ἡδέως συνδιαγαγόντες καὶ συνθηρεύσαντες τὸν
guest-friends pleasantly having-spent-time-with and having-hunted-with the
πρὸ τῆς ἑορτῆς καιρὸν, ἐπιστάσης ἐκείνης εἰς τὴν πόλιν
before the feast time having-come-on it to the city
αὖθις ἀντεπανήλθομεν· καὶ τοῖς θείοις τεμένεσι καὶ ἱεροῖς
again we-came-back and to-the divine precincts and shrines
προσελθόντες, καὶ τὴν ὀφειλομένην τιμὴν ἀπονείμαντες,
having-gone and the owed honor having-paid
παρὰ τὴν ἔξω πυλῶν πηγνυμένην πανήγυριν διετρίβομεν·
beside the outside the-gates being-pitched fair we-spent-time
ἄρχεται δὲ πρὸ ἓξ τῆς ἑορτῆς ἡμερῶν· λήγει δὲ κατὰ
it-begins and before six of-the feast days it-ends and on
τὴν δευτέραν τῆς κυρίας εὐθύς.
the second of-the chief(-day) straightway

CYDION Πάλιν ὁ φίλος ἡμῶν Τιμαρίων ἑαυτοῦ ἐγένετο,
again the friend our Timarion of-himself became
κἀπειδὰν λάθῃ, πρὸς τὸ οἰκεῖον ἄνεισιν ἦθος. Εἰώθει
and-whenever he-forgets-himself to the own goes-back habit he-was-wont
γὰρ ἐν τῷ διηγεῖσθαι μόνης ἀρχῆς καὶ τέλους μεμνῆσθαι, τὰ
for in the to-narrate of-only beginning and end to-make-mention the
ἐν μέσῳ παρείς· καθὰ δὴ καὶ νῦν, ὥσπερ ἐκλαθόμενος
in middle having-passed-over just-as indeed also now as-though having-forgotten
τῆς ἐμῆς ἀξιώσεως καὶ τῆς αὐτοῦ ὑποσχέσεως, μηδέν τι
the my request and the his-own promise nothing any
κατὰ μέρος περὶ τῆς πανηγύρεως διηγησάμενος, μεγέθους
by part about the fair having-narrated of-size
τε αὐτῆς, καὶ λαμπρότητος, πλήθους τε καὶ πλούτου,
both its and splendor of-crowd both and wealth
καὶ ὠνίων πάντων, αὐτίκα περὶ ἀρχῆς καὶ τέλους αὐτῆς
and of-wares all at-once of beginning and end its
ἐμνημόνευσεν, ὡς ἤδη περιγράψων αὐτίκα καὶ τὴν διήγησιν·
he-made-mention as already going-to-close at-once also the narrative
ἀλλ' „οὐκ ἔλαθες Ἀτρέος υἱὸν, ἀρηΐφιλον Μενέλαον".
but not you-escaped of-Atreus son war-loving Menelaus
TIMARION Δέδοικα, φίλε Κυδίων, εἴ σοι πειθοίμην, ὡς καὶ
I-fear dear Cydion if you I-should-obey that even
διανυκτερεῦσαι συμπεσεῖται ἡμῖν, κατὰ τὴν σὴν γνώμην
to-sit-up-all-night will-befall us according-to the your wish
διασκευάζουσι τὴν διήγησιν. Ἀλλὰ τί πάθω; τὰ
elaborating the narrative but what shall-I-suffer the(-demands)
τῶν φίλων τοιαῦτα, ὡς ἔοικεν, ἀπαραίτητα καὶ τυραννίδος
of-the friends such as it-seems inexorable and to-tyranny
ἐγγύς· καὶ οὐκ ἐνὸν παραιτήσασθαι τὸ ἐπίταγμα,
near and not being-possible to-decline the command
ὁποῖόν ποτ' ἂν εἴη. Λέγωμεν οὖν ἀρξάμενοι.
of-what-sort ever — it-might-be let-us-speak then having-begun

II · THE FAIR OF SAINT DEMETRIUS

Timarion describes the Demetria, the Macedonians' greatest fair, which draws Greeks, Mysians, Italians, Iberians, and Celts. From a ridge he sees the tents set in rows like a millipede, then walks among the wares and herds. After the vigils the duke arrives with his retainers, and Timarion tells his descent and praises his looks. After the liturgy he goes to his lodging, and Cydion asks to hear the sufferings that followed.

Ἑορτὴ δή ἐστι τὰ Δημήτρια, ὥσπερ ἐν Ἀθήνῃσι Παναθήναια, 5
a-feast now is the Demetria as in Athens the-Panathenaea
καὶ Μιλησίοις τὰ Πανιώνια· γίνεται δὲ καὶ παρὰ Μακεδόσι
and for-Milesians the Panionia it-is and also among Macedonians
μεγίστη τῶν πανηγύρεων. Συῤῥεῖ γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτὴν οὐ μόνον
greatest of-the fairs flows-together for to it not only
αὐτόχθων ὄχλος καὶ ἰθαγενὴς, ἀλλὰ πάντοθεν καὶ παντοῖος,
native crowd and home-born but from-everywhere and of-every-kind
Ἑλλήνων τῶν ἁπανταχοῦ, Μυσῶν τῶν παροικούντων
of-Greeks the everywhere of-Mysians the dwelling-near
γένη παντοδαπὰ Ἴστρου μέχρι καὶ Σκυθικῆς, Καμπανῶν,
races of-all-sorts of-the-Ister as-far-as and Scythia of-Campanians
Ἰταλῶν, Ἰβήρων, Λυσιτανῶν καὶ Κελτῶν τῶν ἐπέκεινα
Italians Iberians Lusitanians and Celts the beyond
Ἄλπεων· καὶ συλλήβδην εἰπεῖν, ὠκεάνειοι θῖνες ἱκέτας
the-Alps and in-sum to-say ocean's shores suppliants
καὶ θεωροὺς ἐπὶ τὸν μάρτυρα πέμπουσι· τοσοῦτον αὐτῷ
and pilgrims to the martyr send so-much to-him
τῆς δόξης κατὰ τὴν Εὐρώπην περίεστιν. Ἐγὼ δὲ, ἅτε
of-the glory throughout — Europe abounds I and as-being
Καππαδόκης ἐκ τῆς ὑπερορίου, καὶ τοῦ πράγματος μήπω
a-Cappadocian from the outlands and the thing not-yet
πεπειραμένος, ἀλλ' ἀκοῇ μόνῃ παρειληφὼς, ἐβουλόμην
having-experienced but by-hearing only having-received(-it) I-wished

ὅλου γενέσθαι τοῦ θεάτρου κατὰ ταὐτὸν θεατὴς, ὡς
of-whole to-become the spectacle at the-same(-time) spectator so-that
ἂν μή τι τὴν ἐμὴν ὄψιν ἐκφύγῃ ἀθέατον. Ἐφ' ᾧ καὶ
— not anything the my sight may-escape unseen for which also
ἀνῄειν ἐπὶ τὴν συγκειμένην τῇ πανηγύρει ἀκρώρειαν, καὶ
I-went-up onto the lying-beside the fair ridge and
πάντα καθίσας ἐθεώμην κατὰ σχολήν. Ἦν δὲ τὰ ἐν
all-things having-sat I-viewed at leisure were and the(-things) in
αὐτῇ τοιάδε· ἐμπορικαὶ σκηναὶ ἀντιπρόσωποι, στοιχηδὸν ἐκ
it such merchants' tents facing in-rows in
παραλλήλου πηγνύμεναι· ἐπὶ μακρὸν οἱ στοῖχοι διήκοντες,
parallel pitched to length the rows extending
ἀντιπλεύρῳ τινι διαστάσει διέξοδον ἐν μέσῳ πλατεῖαν
with-side-facing a interval a-passage in middle broad
εὐρύνοντες, καὶ τῇ ῥύμῃ τοῦ πλήθους τὴν πάροδον
widening and for-the rush of-the crowd the way
ὑπανοίγοντες. Εἶπες ἂν, ἐς τὸ πυκνὸν αὐτῶν
opening-up you-would-have-said — at the closeness their
ἀπιδὼν καὶ τὸ τῆς τάξεως πάρισον, γραμμὰς εἶναι τούτους
having-looked and the of-the order evenness lines to-be them
ἐξ ἀντιθέτων στιγμῶν ῥυείσας ἐπὶ μακρόν. Ἐγκάρσιαί
from opposite points having-flowed to length crosswise
που τῶν στοίχων ἕτεραι σκηναὶ παρεπήγνυντο, καὶ αὗται
somewhere to-the rows other tents were-pitched-beside and these
μὲν στοιχηδὸν, ἐπὶ μακρὸν δ' οὐκ ἔτι, ἀλλ' ὡσπερεὶ
indeed in-rows to length but not any-longer but like
σμικρότατοι πόδες ἑρπυστικοῖς ὁλκοῖς παρεφύοντο. Καὶ ἦν
very-small feet to-creeping coils grew-beside and was
τὸ πρᾶγμα ἐπιεικῶς ἀξιόθεον, δύο μὲν τοὺς στοίχους εἶναι
the thing fairly worth-seeing two indeed the rows to-be
τῷ πράγματι, ἓν δὲ ζῷον τῇ θέᾳ δοκεῖν καὶ τῷ πυκνῷ καὶ
in-the fact one but creature to-the sight to-seem both by-the closeness and

παρίσῳ τῆς στάσεως· ὁλκὸν γὰρ ἦν ἰδέσθαι σκηνῶν, ἐπὶ
evenness of-the arrangement a-coil for it-was to-see of-tents on
ποσὶ ταῖς παρηρτημέναις ἐγκαρσίαις ὥσπερ ἐπερειδόμενον.
feet the attached crosswise(-tents) as-it-were resting
Ἐμοὶ, νὴ τὴν σὴν ἀγάπην, ἐκ τῆς ἀκρωρείας σκοπουμένῳ
to-me by the your love from the ridge viewing
τὸ διάγραμμα τῆς σκηνώσεως, ἰούλῳ τὸ πρᾶγμα
the plan of-the encampment to-a-millipede the thing
εἰκάζειν ἐπῄει, ὃς ἐν ὁλκῷ περιμήκει σμικροτάτους ὑπὸ
to-liken it-occurred which in coil very-long very-small under
γαστέρα καὶ πυκνοὺς ὑποφαίνει τοὺς πόδας.
belly and close-set shows-beneath the feet
Εἰ δὲ καὶ τὰ ἔνδον ζητεῖς, ὦ φιλοπρᾶγμον ἑταῖρε, ὡς 6
if and also the(-things) inside you-seek O busybody comrade as
ὕστερον κατιὼν ἐκ τῆς ἀκρωρείας ἐθεασάμην, παντοῖον
later coming-down from the ridge I-beheld every
εἶδος, ὅσα ἐν ὑφάσμασι καὶ νήμασιν ἀνδρῶν τε
kind(-there-was) as-many-as in woven-stuffs and yarns of-men both
καὶ γυναικῶν, καὶ ὅσα ἐκ Βοιωτίας καὶ Πελοποννήσου,
and of-women and as-many-as from Boeotia and the-Peloponnese
καὶ ὅσα ἐξ Ἰταλίας εἰς Ἕλληνας ἐμπορικαὶ νῆες
and as-many-as from Italy to Greeks merchant ships
κομίζουσιν. Ἀλλὰ καὶ Φοινίκη πολλὰ συνεισφέρει, καὶ
bring but also Phoenicia much contributes and
Αἴγυπτος, Ἱσπανία τε καὶ Ἡράκλειοι στῆλαι, ἱστουργοῦσαι
Egypt Spain both and Heracles' pillars weaving
τῶν ἐπίπλων τὰ κάλλιστα. Ἀλλὰ ταῦτα μὲν ἀμέσως ἐκ
of-the coverings the finest but these-things indeed directly from
τῶν χωρῶν πρὸς τὴν πάλαι Μακεδονίαν καὶ Θεσσαλονίκην
the lands to the old Macedonia and Thessalonica
κομίζουσιν ἔμποροι· Εὔξεινος δὲ πρὸς τὸ Βυζάντιον
bring merchants the-Euxine and to — Byzantium

τὰ ἑαυτοῦ διαπέμπων ἐκεῖθεν καὶ οὗτος κοσμεῖ τὴν
the its-own(-goods) sending from-there also it adorns the
πανήγυριν, πολλῶν ἵππων, πολλῶν ἡμιόνων ἀγόντων
fair many horses many mules carrying
τὰ ἐκεῖθεν ἀγώγιμα. Καὶ ταῦτα μὲν ὕστερον κατιὼν
the from-there wares and these-things indeed later coming-down
ἐπῆλθον καὶ διεσκόπησα· ἔτι δὲ περὶ τὴν ἀκρώρειαν
I-went-over and examined still but on the ridge
ἡδρασμένῳ τὰ τῶν ζώων γένη καὶ πλήθη θαυμάζειν
seated the of-the animals kinds and numbers to-marvel-at
ἐπῄει μοι, καὶ ὅπως ἡ ἐκ τούτων βοὴ συμμιγὴς
it-came-over me and how the from them noise mingled
ἐξαισίως τοῖς ὠσί μοι προσέπιπτεν· ἵπποι χρεμετίζοντες,
extraordinarily on-the ears my fell horses neighing
βόες μυκώμενοι, πρόβατα βληχώμενα, χοῖροι γρυλλίζοντες,
oxen lowing sheep bleating pigs grunting
καὶ κύνες βαΰζοντες· ἕπονται γὰρ καὶ οὗτοι τοῖς δεσπόταις,
and dogs barking follow for also these the masters
ὁτὲ μὲν λύκων, ὁτὲ δὲ καὶ φωρῶν πολέμιοι. Ἐπεὶ
at-times indeed of-wolves at-times and also of-thieves enemies when
δὲ ταῦτα οὕτω κατὰ σχολὴν ἐθεασάμην καὶ θεαμάτων
and these-things so at leisure I-had-beheld and of-sights
ἔμπλεως γέγονα, πάλιν ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν ἠγόμην, ἔρωτι
full I-had-become again to the city I-made-my-way from-desire
θεαμάτων ἑτέρων καὶ τῆς ἱερᾶς δηλαδὴ συνάξεως. Γίνεται
of-sights other and of-the sacred clearly service takes-place
δ' ἐπὶ τρεῖς αὖτη παννύχους διανυκτερεύσεις, πολλῶν
and for three it all-night vigils many
ἱερέων, πολλῶν δὲ ναζιραίων ὑπὸ δύο χοροῖς διαιρουμένων,
priests many and nazirites into two choirs being-divided
καὶ τὴν ὑμνῳδίαν πληρούντων τῷ μάρτυρι. Ἐπὶ τούτοις ὁ
and the hymnody fulfilling for-the martyr over these the

ἀρχιερεὺς ἵσταται ἀρχιθέωρος, οἷά τις τὴν ἑορτὴν καθιστῶν
archbishop stands as-chief-of-the-rites like one the feast establishing
ὡς εἰκὸς, καὶ περὶ τῶν πρακτέων διαταττόμενος. Ἔννυχα
as likely and about the things-to-be-done giving-orders by-night
μὲν δὴ ταῦτα καὶ ὑπὸ φωτὶ καὶ λαμπάδι τελούμενα.
indeed now these-things and under light and torch being-performed

Ἧμος δ' ἠριγένεια φάνη ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἠώς,
when and early-born appeared rosy-fingered Dawn

Ὅμηρος ἂν εἶπεν, ὁ τῆς χώρας ἡγεμὼν ἐπὶ τὸν
Homer — would-have-said the of-the land governor to the
νεὼν παραγίνεται, μετὰ δορυφορίας πολλῆς προϊὼν καὶ
church comes with bodyguard much advancing and
λαμπρότητος, πολλῶν ἱππέων, οὐκ ὀλίγων δὲ πεζῶν τὴν
splendor many horsemen not few and footmen the
πόμπην διασκευαζόντων καὶ τὴν προέλευσιν.
procession arranging and the progress
Ἐπεὶ δὲ πρὸ τῆς εἰσόδου μετέωρος ἦν ὁ δῆμος, 7
when and before the entry in-suspense was the people
καραδοκοῦντες ὅσον οὔπω τὴν παρουσίαν αὐτοῦ,
awaiting as-much not-yet the arrival his
συνεξῆλθόν τισι τῶν ἐκ τοῦ δήμου φιλοθεώρων· καὶ
I-went-out-with some of-the from the people sightseers and
ὅσον σταδιαῖον διάστημα, καὶ ταύτῃ συνηντήκειν τῇ
as-much-as a-stade's distance and this I-had-met the
θεωρίᾳ, καὶ γῆθος οὐ τὸ τυχὸν ἔσχον ἐκ τούτου δὴ
spectacle and joy not the chance(-kind) I-had from this indeed
τοῦ θεάματος. Τὸ μὲν οὖν ἄσημον ἄλλο πλῆθος, ὅσον
the sight the indeed then undistinguished other crowd as-much-as
ἐξ ἀγροικίας, καὶ ὅσον ἐκ τοῦ δήμου παρείπετο, τί
from countryside and as-much-as from the people followed-along why

ἂν καταλέγοιμι; οἱ δέ γε λογάδες αὐτοῦ, στίφος ἂν εἴποι
— would-I-list the but — picked-men his a-band — would-say
τις πελατῶν, θαυμαστὴν ἐνεποίουν τὴν πρόοδον, πάντες
one of-retainers wondrous made the advance all
ἀκμάζοντες, πάντες σφριγῶντες, ἄνδρες Ἄρεος ἐνυαλίοιο
in-their-prime all vigorous men of-Ares warlike
μύσται καὶ τρόφιμοι, σηρικαῖς καὶ καταστίκτοις ἀμφίοις
initiates and nurslings with-silken and spangled garments
τὴν περιβολὴν καλλυνόμενοι, οὐλοι τὰς κόμας· ξανθοὶ τὰς
the dress adorned curly the hair fair the
κόμας· εἶπες ἂν τὸ τοῦ ποιητοῦ, περιεργοτέρως
hair you-would-have-said — the(-line) of-the poet more-curiously
τὰς κόμας ἰδών· κάδ' ἐκ κάρητος ἡ φύσις αὐτοῖς
the hair having-seen down from head the nature for-them

οὔλας ἧκε κόμας, ὑακινθίνῳ ἄνθει ὁμοίας.
curly sent-down locks to-hyacinth flower like

Ἵπποι δὲ τούτοις Ἀραβικοὶ γαυριῶντες ὑπέστρωντο,
horses and for-them Arabian prancing were-spread-under
μετάρσιοι τὼ πόδε, καὶ τοῖς ἅλμασι δεικνύντες, ὡς ἀέρος
raised the two-feet and by-the leaps showing that the-air
ἐφίενται, καὶ τὴν γῆν ἀποστρέφονται· ἐδόκουν συνιέναι
they-long-for and the earth spurn they-seemed to-be-aware
καὶ τῆς περικειμένης λαμπρότητος, ὅση ἐν χρυσῷ καὶ
also of-the lying-about(-them) splendor as-much-as in gold and
ἀργύρῳ τοὺς χαλινοὺς περιέλαμπεν, ὥσπερ ὑποτερπόμενοι
silver the bridles shone-around as-though secretly-delighting
τῇ τῆς περιβολῆς φαντασίᾳ, καὶ πυκνὰ τοὺς τραχήλους
in-the of-the trappings display and often the necks
περιελίττοντες τοῖς στιλβώμασιν. Οὗτοι μὲν οὖν οὕτω
twisting-round to-the gleamings these indeed then thus

προσίασιν, ἐν εὐτάκτῳ κινήσει καὶ ἅλματι στρατιωτικῷ
approach in orderly movement and gait soldierly
τὴν πορείαν ποιούμενοι· καὶ διάλειμμα μικρὸν ἐπὶ τούτοις,
the march making and interval small after these
καὶ ὁ Δοὺξ ἐπῄει γαληνῷ τῷ κινήματι· ἔρωτες δὲ
and the Duke came-on with-calm the motion loves and
αὐτοῦ, καὶ μοῦσαι, καὶ χάριτες προέτρεχον καὶ ἐπέτρεχον.
him and muses and graces ran-before and ran-after
Ὢ πῶς ἄν σοι διηγησαίμην, Κυδίων φίλτατε, τὴν
oh how — to-you could-I-narrate Cydion dearest the
ἐνσκηνώσασαν χαρμονὴν τῇ ψυχῇ μου τότε, καὶ τὸ τῆς
having-dwelt joy in-the soul my then and the of-the
ἀγαλλιάσεως πλήσμιον;
exultation fullness
CYDION Εἰπὲ οὖν, ὦ κάλλιστε Τιμαρίων, τίς τε οὗτος
tell then O finest Timarion who both this
ἦν; καὶ τίνων ἐκφύς; καὶ ὅπως σοι κατὰ τὴν ὁδὸν τῇ
was and of-whom sprung and how to-you on the road in-the
θέᾳ προσέπεσε; καὶ τἆλλα κατὰ μέρος διήγησαι, τὴν ἐξ
sight he-came and the-rest by part narrate the from
ἀρχῆς ἡμῶν ἀξιώσεως ἐξεχόμενος.
beginning our request holding-to
TIMARION Τὸ μὲν οὖν γένος αὐτῷ, καθὼς ἐκ τῶν 8
the indeed then descent his as from the
εἰδότων πολυπραγμονήσας ἀκήκοα, ἡρωϊκὸν καὶ εὔδαιμον
knowing-ones having-inquired I-have-heard heroic(-was) and prosperous
ἑκατέρωθεν. Ὅ τε γὰρ ἐκ πατρὸς πάππος αὐτῷ τὰ πρῶτα
on-both-sides the both for on father's(-side) grandfather his the first(-place)
φέρων τῶν ἐν τῇ μεγάλῃ Φρυγίᾳ πρώτων, καὶ πλούτῳ
bearing of-the in the great Phrygia first-men and in-wealth
κομῶν, καὶ δόξῃ βρενθυόμενος· καὶ γοῦν ἐξ αὐτοῦ
luxuriating and in-glory swaggering and at-any-rate from him

ἢ περὶ αὐτοῦ παλαιοὶ λόγοι φερόμενοι ἐπίκλην αὐτῷ τὴν
or about him old stories current as-surname for-him the
ἀρχαιολογίαν ἠνέγκαντο. Ὁ δέ γε πατὴρ οὐ μόνον „παλαιά
ancient-lore brought the and — father not only old-things
τε, πολλά τε εἰδὼς,“ ἀλλὰ καὶ κατὰ χεῖρα γενναῖος, καὶ
both many-things and knowing but also in hand noble and
στρατηγεῖν τῶν ἄλλων εὐδοκιμώτατος, ταῦτ᾽ ἄρα καὶ τὴν
to-command of-the others most-esteemed therefore then also the
καλὴν ὁμευνέτιν, ἆθλον ἀρετῆς στρατιωτικῆς ἀπηνέγκατο,
fair bedfellow as-prize of-valor soldierly won
τὰ πρῶτα κἀκείνην τῶν πρωτίστων γενῶν φερομένην, καὶ
the first(-place) she-also of-the foremost families bearing and
βασιλέων ἐξ αἵματος κατιοῦσαν, καὶ τῶν θρυλλουμένων
of-emperors from blood descending and of-the celebrated
Δουκῶν οὖσαν ἀπόγονον. (Ἡρωϊκὸν δὲ, ὡς οἶσθα, τὸ γένος
Doukai being descendant heroic and as you-know the family
τοῦτο, καὶ ὡς ἐξ Ἰταλίας καὶ τῶν Αἰνειαδῶν μεταβὰν
this and that from Italy and the Aeneadae having-moved
πρὸς τὴν Κωνσταντίνου πολλοῖς ὑποψιθυρίζεται.) Τὸν
to the(-city) of-Constantine by-many is-whispered the
δέ γε ταύτης πατέρα τίς ἀγνοεῖ τῶν πάντων, ὑπατείαις
and — her father who is-ignorant-of of-the all in-consulships
ἐμπρέψαντα καὶ στρατηγίαις ταῖς μεγίσταις ἐξετασθέντα,
having-shone and in-commands the greatest having-been-proved
καὶ τῇ θυγατρὶ πάντοθεν τὸ ἀσύγκριτον ἐπ᾽ εὐγενείᾳ
and to-the daughter on-all-sides the incomparable in nobility
βραβεύσαντα; Ταῦτα μὲν οὖν ἠκηκόειν ἐκ τῶν τότε
having-awarded these-things indeed then I-had-heard from the then
παρόντων καὶ εἰδότων τὴν κατ᾽ αὐτὸν ἀρχαιολογίαν·
present and knowing the about him ancient-lore
ὀλίγα ἴσως ἐκ πολλῶν, καὶ μικρὰ ἐκ μεγάλων, ὡς ὁ
few-things perhaps from many and small-things from great as the

καιρὸς ἐδίδου τότε, ἱστορηθέντα μοι. Ἀλλ' ἐπανίωμεν αὖθις
time allowed then told to-me but let-us-return again
ἐπὶ τὸν τοῦ λόγου εἱρμὸν, καὶ τῆς προόδου ἐξώμεθα.
to the of-the account thread and to-the procession let-us-hold
Προῄει μὲν οὖν, ὡς ἔφην, στίφος πελατῶν, τῆς ὁδοῦ 9
went-ahead indeed then as I-said a-band of-retainers the road
προηγούμενον· καὶ, ὥσπερ ἀπορῥαγέντος κάλω, κατά τι
leading and as-though broken-off a-cable at a
διάστημα τῆς συνεχείας, τοῦ δρόμου διαλειπούσης, ὁ
interval the continuity of-the course leaving-a-gap the
καλὸς ἀνεφάνη Δούξ· καὶ οὔθ' ἕσπερος οὔθ' ἑῷος οὕτω
fair appeared Duke and neither evening-star nor morning-star so
θαυμαστὸς, ὡς ἡμῖν ἐκεῖνος τῷ τότε παρανατέταλκε·
wondrous as to-us he at-the time has-risen-beside
„χαροποιοὶ οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ αὐτοῦ, ὡς ἀπὸ οἴνου, καὶ λευκοὶ
gladdening the eyes his as from wine and white
οἱ ὀδόντες αὐτοῦ, ἢ γάλα·" διηρθρωμένος τὸ σῶμα,
the teeth his than milk well-jointed the body
τὴν ἀναδρομὴν ἐπιμήκης, αὐτὸς ἑαυτῷ πρὸς πάντα τὰ
the height tall he with-himself in all the
μέλη καλῶς ἔχων καὶ συμμέτρως, ὥστ' εἰκὸς εἶναι τὸ
limbs well being and in-proportion so-that fitting to-be the
θρυλλούμενον εἰπεῖν ἐπ' αὐτῷ, ὡς „οὐκ ἔστι προσθεῖναι,
commonplace to-say of him that not it-is-possible to-add
οὐδ' ἀφελεῖν." Τό γε μὲν σῶμά οἱ ὡσεὶ κυπάριττος ὄρθιον
nor to-take-away the — indeed body his like a-cypress upright
ἀνιὸν, ἐκεῖ που ἐπὶ τὴν δειρὴν ἐσιμοῦτο καὶ ὑπεκλίνετο,
rising there somewhere at the neck bent and inclined
τὸ ἄμετρον ὥσπερ κολαζούσης τῆς φύσεως, καὶ πρὸς
the excess as-though checking the nature and to
πᾶν εὐστρόφως ἔχειν τὸ προστυχὸν οἰκονομούσης τὴν τῆς
every nimbly to-be the chance(-thing) contriving the of-the

δειρῆς καμπυλότητα. Πρώτη αὕτη τῶν ὀμμάτων ἐπιβολὴ,
neck curve first this(-was) of-the eyes glance
καὶ ὡς ἐκ μήκους καὶ διαστήματος. Ὁπηνίκα δ' ἡμῖν καὶ
and as from length and distance when and to-us also
προσέστη προσισταμένοις, καὶ ὡς εἰκὸς, τὴν συντυχίαν
he-came-near approaching and as fitting the encounter
ἀφοσιουμένοις, παντοδαπόν τι χρῆμα ἐδόκει καὶ ἀτεχνῶς
duly-honoring manifold a thing he-seemed and simply
δυσκατάληπτον. Οἷον γάρ τις κυκεὼν, „φάρμακα πολλὰ μὲν
hard-to-grasp like for a posset drugs many indeed
ἔχων ἐσθλὰ μεμιγμένα, πολλὰ δὲ καὶ λυγρὰ,“ τὸ τῆς ὄψεως
having good mixed many and also baneful the of-the face
αὐτῷ ἐποικίλλετο διατύπωμα, νῦν μὲν τὸ τῆς Ἀφροδίτης
his was-varied expression now indeed the — of-Aphrodite
χάριεν προβαλλόμενον· καὶ μικρὸν ἐντρανοῦντί σοι τὸ τοῦ
charm putting-forward and a-little looking-closely to-you the —
Ἄρεως σύντονον ἐκ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἀνεπάλλετο, καὶ Διὸς
of-Ares intensity from the eyes leapt-up and of-Zeus
μετ' ὀλίγον τὸ μεγαλοπρεπὲς ἀνεφαίνετο, Ἑρμῆς δὲ καὶ
after a-little the magnificence appeared Hermes and also
κατ' ὄψιν ἐμφανῶς διεδείκνυτο, γοργὸν καὶ ἀγχίστροφον
in face plainly was-shown keen and quick-turning
ὑποβλέπων, καὶ μετέωρος ἀεὶ τὸ βλέμμα, καὶ τοῖς
glancing and alert always the look and with-the
προσπίπτουσιν ἕτοιμος συνδιατείνεσθαι πράγμασι, καὶ τὸν
arising ready to-strive affairs and the
λόγον τρανῶν καὶ διατιθέμενος εἰς πειθώ. Ὡς γοῦν ἐμοὶ
speech making-clear and disposing to persuasion as at-any-rate to-me
τότε παρῆν, εἶχεν οὕτως αὐτῷ τῆς ψυχῆς τὸ κατάστημα·
then it-appeared was thus his of-the soul the state
κόμη δὲ αὐτῷ μέλαινα οὐδαμῶς, ξανθὴ δὲ οὐ πάνυ· τῆς
hair and his black by-no-means fair and not wholly the

ἀκρότητος δὲ τούτων κολαζομένης κεκραμένον ἄλλο τι
extreme but of-these being-tempered blended other some
βάμμα θαυμάσιον τὴν τρίχα ὑπέβαπτε. Τό τε γὰρ μέλαν
dye wonderful the hair tinged the both for black
αὐχμηρὸν καὶ ἀνέραστον, τό τε ξανθὸν γυναικῶδες καὶ
harsh and unlovely the and fair womanish and
ἄνανδρον· τὸ δὲ κεκραμένον ἐξ ἀμφοτέρων, ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ φέρει
unmanly the but blended from both in manliness bears
τὸν ἔρωτα. Σαπφὼ δέ τις αὐτῷ τὴν ὁμιλίαν ἐτόρευε,
the love Sappho and a-certain for-him the converse chiseled
γέμουσαν πειθοῦς, καὶ χαρίτων, καὶ μουσικῆς ἐμμελείας·
full of-persuasion and graces and musical harmony
εἶπες ἂν ἀγασθεὶς σφόδρα, τὸ Λακωνικὸν τοῦτο·
you-would-have-said — having-admired greatly the Laconian this
Βαβαὶ, σεῖος ἀνήρ· φθεγγομένου δ' ἀκούειν ποθήσειας.
oh divine man speaking and to-hear you-would-long
Καὶ γοῦν ὁ γεννάδας πρὸς τῷ ἱερῷ τεμένει γενόμενος τὴν 10
and at-any-rate the noble-one at the sacred precinct having-arrived the
ὡσιωμένην τῷ μάρτυρι θεοκλύτησιν ἀποδέδωκεν, εὐφημία
hallowed to-the martyr invocation rendered acclamation
τε ἤρθη παρὰ τοῦ πλήθους, ἐξ ἔθους ἀφοσιουμένη τῷ
and was-raised from the crowd from custom being-duly-paid to-the
ἡγεμόνι· καὶ κατὰ τὴν νόμιμον βάσιν ἔστη, καὶ τὸν ἀρχιερέα
governor and at the customary station he-stood and the archbishop
παρεῖναί οἱ διεκελεύσατο, νόμιμον ἴσως καὶ τοῦτο,
to-be-present with-him bade customary perhaps also this
ἢ ἔθιμον. Τότε γοῦν τῶν κατὰ τὴν ἑορτὴν μᾶλλον
or usual then at-any-rate the(-rites) of the feast more
ἠκριβωμένων, (οἷα τούτους σχόντων τοὺς θεωροὺς),
being-performed-exactly as these having the spectators
ψαλμῳδία θειοτέρα τις ἐξηκούετο, ῥυθμῷ, καὶ τάξει, καὶ
psalmody more-divine a was-heard with-rhythm and order and

ἀμοιβῇ ἐντέχνῳ ποικιλλομένη πρὸς τὸ χαριέστερον. Ἦν
alternation skillful varied to the more-charming was
δὲ οὐκ ἀνδρῶν μόνον ὕμνος ἀναπεμπόμενος, ἀλλὰ δὴ
and not of-men only hymn sent-up but indeed
καὶ γυναῖκες ὅσιαι καὶ μονάζουσαι περὶ τὸ πτερύγιον,
also women holy and living-as-nuns by the wing
εὐώνυμά που τοῦ ἱεροῦ, πρὸς δύο χοροὺς ἀντιφώνους
on-the-left somewhere of-the sanctuary into two choirs antiphonal
διαιρεθεῖσαι, καὶ αὗται τὸ ὅσιον ἀπεδίδουν τῷ μάρτυρι.
divided also these the due-rite rendered to-the martyr
Ἐπεὶ δὲ ἡ θεωρία καὶ τὰ τοῦ ἐναγισμοῦ συνετελέσθη
when and the spectacle and the of-the offering were-completed
σύμπαντα νόμιμα, θεοκλυτήσαντες ἡμεῖς ὡς εἰκὸς, καὶ τῆς
all customs having-invoked-God we as fitting and of-the
ἐπανόδου τὴν εὐκολίαν παρὰ τοῦ μάρτυρος αἰτησάμενοι,
return the ease from the martyr having-asked
τῷ δήμῳ παντὶ καὶ τῷ Δουκὶ τοῦ ἱεροῦ συνεξήλθομεν·
with-the people all and the Duke from-the sanctuary we-went-out-together
καὶ ἀπήλθομεν οὗ κατελύομεν. Καὶ τοὐντεῦθεν, ποίᾳ
and we-went-away where we-were-lodging and thereafter with-what
σοι γλώττῃ διηγησαίμην, Κυδίων, οἷά μοι συνέβη τὰ
to-you tongue could-I-narrate Cydion what-sort to-me befell the
λυπηρά; εἰ δὲ καὶ παρὰ μόνην τὴν τούτων διήγησιν
grievous-things if and even at only the of-these narration
ἀλύω τὰ μέγιστα, πόσον ἂν εἴποις ἔσχον τὸ
I-am-distraught the most how-great — would-you-say I-had the
ἄλγος, τοιούτοις ἐμπεδηθεὶς κακοῖς καὶ ὀλεθρίοις νοσήμασι;
pain by-such fettered evils and deadly diseases

CYDION Λέγε, κάλλιστε Τιμαρίων, καὶ τὰ καθ᾽ αὑτὸν
speak finest Timarion and the(-things) about yourself
διηγοῦ, δι᾽ ἃ καὶ τὸν παρόντα λόγον προυθέμεθα· ἐπειδὴ
narrate for which also the present talk we-set-forth since
περὶ τῶν ἀλλοτρίων ἱκανῶς διεξῄεις μοι.
about the others' sufficiently you-went-through to-me

III · THE FEVER AND THE GUIDES OF THE DEAD

Back at his lodging after the feast, Timarion is struck by a fever, the cause of his delay. He keeps to greens and sets out for Byzantium, but a dysentery empties him of his bile, and at the Hebrus he falls into his last sleep. Two guides of the dead bind his tongue and say that, having lost the bile, the fourth of his elements, he may no longer live, by a ruling of Asclepius and Hippocrates. They take him down to the iron gate of Hades, where Cerberus fawns on them and the gatekeepers jeer.

TIMARION Ἐπεὶ οὖν ἐκ τῆς ἑορτῆς ἐπανήλθομεν εἰς τὴν συνήθη 11
when then from the feast we-returned to the usual
κατάλυσιν λάβρος πυρετὸς ἐπιβρίσας, ἐφ᾽ ὅλην ἐκείνην τὴν
lodging a-violent fever having-fallen-on(-us) over whole that the
νύκτα σχεδὸν ἡμᾶς ἡμιθνῆτας εἰργάσατο, καὶ τῆς ἐπανόδου
night nearly us half-dead made and the return
καίτοι λίαν ἐφιεμένους, βεβαίως καθεῖρξεν ἐπὶ τοῦ σκίμποδος.
although greatly longing-for firmly confined(-us) to the pallet
Οὗτος ὁ λόγος τῆς ἐμῆς βραδυτῆτος, φίλε Κυδίων, ὃν
this(-is) the reason of-the my slowness dear Cydion which
ἀρχῆθεν τῆς ἱστορίας ἐζήτησας. Ἐδόκει γὰρ ἀναγκαῖον, τὴν
from-the-start of-the story you-sought it-seemed for necessary the
τοῦ νοσήματος ἡμᾶς μεῖναι περίοδον, ὡς ἂν εἰδοποιηθέντι
of-the disease us to-await period so-that — to-it-once-defined
κατάλληλον καὶ τὴν ἰατρείαν ἐνέγκωμεν. Ταῦτ᾽ ἄρα λαχάνοις
suitable also the treatment we-may-bring therefore then on-greens

καὶ ὄξει τραφέντες τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην εὐφορώτερον
and vinegar having-been-fed the day that more-easily
διεξήλθομεν· καὶ τῇ μετ᾽ αὐτὴν (τρίτη γὰρ ἦν ἐκ
we-passed and on-the(-day) after it third for it-was from
τῆς ἀρξαμένης) πάλιν ὁ πυρετὸς ἐπεδήμησε, καὶ ἦν ὡς
the(-day) having-begun again the fever returned and it-was as
ἀληθῶς τριταῖος, ἠκριβωμένως λόγοις ἰατρικῆς ἐπιστήμης
truly tertian precisely by-reasonings of-medical science
δοκιμασθείς. Ἔνθεν τοι καὶ κοῦφον τὸ πρᾶγμα νομίσας, ὡς
tested whence surely also light the matter having-thought as
πεμπταίῳ περιόδῳ πάντως γε λυθησόμενον (ἅτε τοιαύτην
on-the-fifth-day period surely — going-to-be-resolved as such
τούτου τὴν φύσιν ἔχοντος), θαῤῥούντως ἠρξάμην τῆς
it the nature having confidently I-began the(-journey)
ἐπὶ τὸ Βυζάντιον, ὡς ὀλίγαις τισὶ τοὐντεῦθεν τὸν τριταῖον
to — Byzantium as few some(-days) thereafter the tertian
ἀποσεισάμενος εὖ οἴκαδ᾽ ἀφίξομαι. Ἦν δὲ, ὡς ἔοικεν, ἡ
having-shaken-off well home I-will-arrive was but as it-seems the
τούτου κατάλυσις ὠδίνων ἀρχὴ, καὶ νεκρώσεως ἀπαρχή.
its ending of-pains beginning and of-death first-fruits
Ἐκείνου γὰρ λυθέντος, ἐκπύρωσις ἠκολούθησεν ἥπατος,
it for having-been-resolved inflammation followed of-the-liver
καὶ δεινοτάτη γαστρόῤῥοια, αὐτήν τε τὴν στοιχειώδη
and most-terrible dysentery very both the elemental
χολὴν κενοῦσα σὺν αἵματι καθαρῷ, καὶ τὰς σάρκας
bile emptying with blood pure and the flesh
συντήκουσα, καὶ τὴν γαστέρα δίκην ἐχίδνης δαρδάπτουσα.
melting and the belly like a-viper devouring
12 Ἦν οὖν ἰδεῖν πολλὰ τὰ δεινὰ ἐνὶ συγκυρήσαντα σώματι·
it-was then to-see many the terrors in-one having-met body
ὅ τε γὰρ τῆς πορείας κάματος, οὐδενὸς ἧττον νοσήματος
the both for of-the journey toil than-no less disease

καταλῦσαι ἱκανὸς σῶμα καὶ τὸ ῥωμαλεώτατον· ἡ ἐξ
to-undo able body even the most-robust the from
ἥπατος πύρωσις, κάμινος ἄντικρυς· τῆς γαστρὸς ἡ
liver burning a-furnace outright of-the belly the
διάῤῥοια, θάνατος ἐναργέστατος· ἡ ἐνδομυχοῦσα δριμύτης,
flux death most-manifest the lurking-within sharpness
ὄνυχες σιδηροῖ· ἐπὶ τούτοις, ἀσιτία μακρὰ, ποδηγὸς ἐπὶ
claws iron on these fasting long a-guide to
θάνατον ἀπλανής. Τούτοις πᾶσιν ἐμπεδωθέντα με, φίλε
death unerring by-these all held-fast me dear
Κυδίων, ἱππάριόν τι φορτηγὸν ὥς τι τῶν ἐπισαττομένων
Cydion little-horse a pack like some of-the things-loaded
ἐπισαχθέντα ἦγε πρὸς τὸ Βυζάντιον. Μέχρι μὲν οὖν
loaded carried to — Byzantium until indeed then
πολλοῦ, μᾶλλον δὲ τῆς πλείονος ὁδοιπορίας, ἤρκει
long rather and the greater-part of-the-journey held-out
κενούμενον τὸ ταλαίπωρον τοῦτο σωμάτιον· ὁπηνίκα δὲ
being-emptied the wretched this little-body when but
πρὸς τὸν Ἕβρον ἠγγίσαμεν (ποταμὸς δὲ οὗτος τῶν κατὰ
to the Hebrus we-drew-near river and this of-the in
Θρᾴκην ὀνομαστότατος) ἐνταῦθα καὶ τῆς ὁδοιπορίας καὶ
Thrace most-famous there both the journey and
τῆς βιώσεως ἔστημεν· ὡς οὐ βιώσιμον ὂν ἡμῖν τοῦ
the living we-stopped as not livable being for-us for-the
λοιποῦ. Ὕπνος γὰρ ἐνταῦθα, τοῦ θρυλλουμένου καὶ ∗∗∗
rest sleep for there of-the celebrated and (lacuna)
θανάτου πατὴρ, κατασχὼν ἡμᾶς, εἰς ἀποδημίαν οὐκ οἶδα
of-death father having-seized us on a-journey not I-know
πῶς εἴπω, τὴν εἰς ᾅδου ἐστείλατο· καί μοι φρίκη
how I-may-say the to Hades sent(-us) and to-me shuddering

καὶ τρόμος ἔπεισι τοῦ πράγματος μνημονεύοντι, καὶ τὸ
and trembling comes-on the matter remembering and the
φωνητικὸν ἆσθμα τῷ φόβῳ ἐπέχομαι.
vocal breath by-the fear I-check

CYDION Οὐκ ἂν φθάνοις, ὦ κάλλιστε Τιμαρίων, τὸν
not — you-would-be-quick O finest Timarion the
σύλλογον τοῦτον διαλυσάμενος, εἰ μὴ καὶ τὴν ἐν ᾅδου
meeting this having-dissolved if not also the in Hades
ἀποδημίαν, ὅπως ἔσχε σοι, διηγήσαιο.
journey how it-went for-you you-should-narrate

13 TIMARION Ἐπειδήπερ, ὦ φίλε Κυδίων, τὸ σωμάτιον
since O dear Cydion the little-body
κατειργάσθη μοι πᾶν ἅμα μὲν τῇ γαστροῤῥοίᾳ, τὸ
was-worn-out my whole at-once indeed by-the dysentery the(-thing)
δὲ μᾶλλον τῇ δι' ὅλων ἡμερῶν εἴκοσιν ἀσιτίᾳ, τὸν
and rather by-the through whole days twenty fasting the
πύματον, ὡς ἔοικε, κατέδαρθον ὕπνον. Εἰσὶ δὲ ἐν τῷ
last as it-seems I-slept sleep there-are and in the
παντὶ ὥσπερ ποίνιμοι δαίμονες, θείᾳ προνοίᾳ τοὺς
universe as-it-were avenging spirits by-divine providence the(-ones)
ἀφισταμένους τῶν θείων νόμων κολάζοντες· ἀλλὰ μὴν καὶ
departing from-the divine laws punishing but indeed also
ἀγαθοὶ, τοὺς ἀγαθοὺς ἀγαθύνοντες· οὕτω καὶ ψυχαγωγοὶ
good(-ones) the good rewarding so also soul-guides
πάλιν ἄλλοι, τὰς ἤδη τοῦ σώματος διϊσταμένας ψυχὰς
again others the already from-the body parting souls
ὁτῳδήτινι τρόπῳ πρὸς Πλούτωνα καὶ Αἰακὸν καὶ Μίνω
in-whatever manner to Pluto and Aeacus and Minos
κατάγοντες, ἵν' ἐκεῖσε δοκιμασθεῖσαι τρόποις καὶ νόμοις
leading-down that there having-been-tested by-ways and laws
νεκύων τὸν ἴδιον ἔπειτα κλῆρον καὶ τόπον λήψονται.
of-the-dead the own then lot and place they-will-take

Τοιοῦτον ἦν καὶ τὸ καθ' ἡμᾶς γεγονός· οὔπω γὰρ ἦν
such was also the(-thing) to us having-happened not-yet for was
τῆς νυκτὸς τὸ μεσαίτατον, καὶ σκιοειδεῖς ἄνδρες, γνοφεροὶ
of-the night the very-middle and shadowy men dark
τὴν ὄψιν, ἀέρι πετόμενοι, κατὰ τὸν σκίμποδα γίνονται
in face through-air flying by the pallet come
τὸν ἐμὸν, ἐν ᾧ τάχα κλιθεὶς ὑπνώττειν ἐπεβαλλόμην.
the my in which lately having-lain-down to-sleep I-was-trying
Καὶ ἅμα εἶδον, καὶ πρὸς τὸ καινὸν ἐπεπήγειν τῆς θέας,
and at-once I-saw and at the strangeness I-was-frozen of-the sight
καὶ τὴν φωνὴν ἐπειχόμην, καίτοι λίαν ἐντείνας, αὐτήν τε
and the voice I-checked although greatly having-strained very and
τὴν φωνητικὴν ὀργάνωσιν ἀκίνητον ἔφερον. Εἰ γοῦν
the vocal organ motionless I-bore whether at-any-rate
ὕπαρ ἢ ὄναρ ἦν τὸ πρᾶγμα, λέγειν οὐκ ἔχω, τὴν κρίσιν
waking or dream was the thing to-say not I-can the judgment
ἀφῃρημένος ὑπὸ τοῦ δείματος· ὅτι δ' ἦν ἐναργὲς τὸ
deprived-of by the terror that but was vivid the
πρᾶγμα, καὶ μάλα τετρανωμένον, μέχρι καὶ νῦν δοκεῖ μοι
thing and very clear until even now seems to-me
παρίστασθαι· οὕτως ἄρα ἦν μοι τὰ τότε δρώμενα
to-be-present so then were to-me the(-things) then being-done
φοβερά. Ἐπεὶ δὲ ἐπέστησαν, καὶ ὥσπερ δεσμὸν ἄλυτον
fearful when and they-stood-over(-me) and as-it-were a-bond unloosable
τῇ γλώττῃ ἐπέθηκαν, εἴτε τῷ φοβερῷ τῆς ὄψεως, εἴτε
on-the tongue put whether by-the fearfulness of-the sight or
καὶ δυνάμει τινὶ λαθραίᾳ πεδοῦντες τὴν λαλίαν, ψιθύρῳ
also by-power some secret fettering the speech with-whispering
τινὶ ὁμιλίᾳ Τοῦτον εἶναί φασι τὸν ἀποβαλόντα τῶν
some talk this(-one) to-be they-say the(-one) having-lost of-the
στοιχείων τὸ τέταρτον, τὴν χολὴν πᾶσαν κενώσαντα,
elements the fourth the bile all having-emptied

καὶ τοῦ λοιποῦ μὴ ἐξεῖναί οἱ ζῆν τρισὶ τοῖς λοιποῖς
and for-the rest not to-be-allowed him to-live by-three the remaining
διοικούμενον· ὅτι καὶ Ἀσκληπιῷ καὶ Ἱπποκράτει ἀπόφανσις
governed because both by-Asclepius and Hippocrates a-ruling
ἀνεστήλωται γεγραμμένη καθ' ᾅδου, μὴ βιώσιμα εἶναι
has-been-set-up written throughout Hades not livable to-be
ἀνθρώπῳ τῶν τεττάρων ἑνὸς λειπομένῳ, κἂν ἴσως ἐῤῥῶταί
for-a-man of-the four one lacking even-if perhaps is-strong
οἱ καὶ τὸ σωμάτιον. „Οὐκοῦν ἔπου, ταλαίπωρε," τραχυτέρως
his also the little-body so follow wretch rather-harshly
ἐξεφώνησαν, „καὶ τοῖς νεκροῖς ὁμόνεκρος ἀριθμήθητι."
they-cried-out and with-the dead a-fellow-corpse be-counted
14 Ἐγὼ δὲ (καὶ τί γὰρ ἄλλο δρᾷν ἔμελλον, πάσης βοηθείας
I and and what for else to-do was-I-to of-all help
ἐστερημένος;) εἱπόμην καὶ ἄκων, δι' ἀέρος κατὰ
bereft followed even unwilling through air at
ταὐτὸν ἐκείνοις φερόμενος, κοῦφος, εὐσταλὴς, ἀβαρὴς,
the-same(-pace) with-them borne light nimble weightless
ἀπερισκελὴς τὼ πόδε, κατὰ τὰς οὐριοδρόμους ναῦς ἀπόνως
unhampered the two-feet like the wind-sped ships without-toil
καὶ ῥεῖα προβαίνων, ὡς καὶ ῥοῖζόν τινα γαληνὸν ἐκ
and easily going-forward so-that even whir a gentle from
τῆς φορᾶς ἐξακούεσθαι, ὁποῖον ὀϊστοὶ ἐκ τόξων ἀφειμένοι
the motion to-be-heard such-as arrows from bows loosed
διασυρίττουσι. Κἀπειδὴ τὸν ποταμὸν ἀβρόχως περάσαντες,
whistle-through and-when the river dry-shod having-crossed
ὃν ὁ λόγος ὠνόμασε προλαβὼν, διὰ λίμνης Ἀχερουσίας,
which the account named before through lake Acherusian
ὡς ἐκεῖνοι καὶ ταύτην ὠνόμαζον, διωδεύκειμεν, στομίῳ
as they also it named we-had-traveled to-opening
τινὶ προσηγγίσαμεν καταγαίῳ, μείζονι μᾶλλον ἢ κατὰ
a-certain we-drew-near underground larger rather than after

τὰ φρεάτια. Ἐνταῦθα τὸ ὑποφαινόμενον ἐκ τοῦ
the(-fashion-of) wells there the showing-dimly from the
στομίου σκότος ἀηδές τι καὶ μισητὸν ἔδοξε, καὶ
opening darkness unpleasant something and hateful seemed and
κατάγεσθαι οὐκ ἐβουλόμην. Ἀλλ' οὗτοι διαιρεθέντες μέσον
to-be-led-down not I-wished but these having-parted between(-them)
ἐμὲ ἀπελάμβανον· κἀπὶ κεφαλὴν ἄτερος τούτων εἰσδύνας
me took and-on head one of-them having-dived
κατὰ τὸ στόμιον, εἷλκε κἀμὲ δριμυτέρῳ βλέμματι. Ἐγὼ δὲ
through the opening dragged me-too with-sharper look I but
ἀντέβαινον ποσὶ καὶ χερσὶ τοῦ στομίου ἐπιδραττόμενος,
resisted with-feet and hands the opening clutching
ἕως ὁ κατόπιν ἑπόμενος κονδύλους ἐκτείνας, κατὰ
until the(-one) behind following knuckles having-stretched-out on
τῶν παρειῶν, ναὶ μὴν καὶ κατὰ τῶν μεταφρένων πληγὰς
the cheeks yes indeed and on the back blows
ἐπιθεὶς, ἀμφοτέραις ὤθησε κατὰ τοῦ ζοφώδους ἐκείνου
having-laid with-both(-hands) thrust(-me) down the murky that
χάσματος. Πολὺ γοῦν ἐκεῖθεν σκοτεινὸν ὁδεύσαντες ἐπ'
chasm long at-any-rate from-there dark having-traveled through
ἐρημίας διάστημα μόλις ποτὲ κατὰ τὴν σιδηρᾶν πύλην
wilderness a-distance scarcely at-last at the iron gate
γεγόναμεν, ᾗ τὰ τοῦ ᾅδου βασίλεια κλείεται. Καὶ ἦν
we-arrived by-which the — of-Hades palace is-shut and it-was
διαδρᾶναί τινα τῶν εἰσαγομένων ἀδύνατον. Ἔστι γὰρ τῷ
to-escape any of-the ones-brought-in impossible it-is for in-the
ὄντι φοβερὰ τῷ τε μεγέθει, καὶ τῷ βάρει, καὶ τῷ ἐλατῷ
truth fearful in-the both size and the weight and the ductility
τῆς σφυρηλατήσεως. Οὐ γὰρ ἐκ ξύλων εἴργασταί τι
of-the hammering not for from wood has-been-made anything
αὐτῇ, ἀλλὰ σίδηρος ἀδαμάντινος, ὅλη διόλου μοχλοῖς
of-it but iron adamantine whole throughout with-bars

ἀδαμαντίνοις κλειομένη, ἀπιστουμένοις καὶ αὐτοῖς τὸ
adamantine shut beyond-belief even themselves in-the
μέγεθος, καὶ τὴν ὁλκὴν, καὶ τὴν περιγραφὴν τῆς παχύτητος.
size and the weight and the compass of-the thickness
15 Φύλακες δὲ αὐτῆς ἔξωθεν μὲν δράκοντες πυρώδεις τοὺς
guards and its outside indeed dragons fiery in-the
ὀφθαλμοὺς, καὶ κύων κάρχαρος μάλα, ὃν Κέρβερον
eyes and a-dog sharp-toothed very whom Cerberus
ὠνόμαζον Ἕλληνες, βλοσυρώτατον μάλα, εἰπεῖν δὲ καὶ
named Greeks most-grim very to-say and also
φοβερώτατον. Ἔσωθεν δὲ αὐτῆς πυλωροὶ, σκιοειδεῖς ἄνδρες,
most-fearful inside and its gatekeepers shadowy men
καὶ ἀμειδεῖς, πᾶσαν ἀηδίαν ἐκ τῆς ὄψεως προβαλλόμενοι,
and unsmiling all unpleasantness from the face putting-forth
αὐχμηροὶ, καὶ κατεσκληκότες, ὡς ἀπὸ ληστείας ἄρτι
squalid and withered as-if from brigandage just
κατιόντες καὶ τῆς ὀρείου διατριβῆς. Ἀλλὰ, καίπερ οὕτω
coming-down and the mountain haunt but although so
τυγχάνοντες ἄγριοι, τοὺς νεκραγωγοὺς ἰδόντες ἀσμένως τὰς
being savage the corpse-guides having-seen gladly the
πύλας διέστειλαν· ὅ τε Κέρβερος τὴν κέρκον τῇδε κἀκεῖσε
gates opened — both Cerberus the tail this-way and-that
περιελίττων, περιέσαινε προσκνυζόμενος, καὶ οἱ δράκοντες
wagging fawned whining and the dragons
ἡμέρως ἐσύριττον, καί με εἰσῆγον οἱ νεκραγωγοὶ, πειθήνιον
gently hissed and me led-in the corpse-guides docile
ἐς τὰ μάλιστα. Ποῦ γὰρ εἶχον ἀντιβαίνειν, οὕτω ξενωθεὶς
to the utmost how for could-I to-resist so estranged
πάσης βοηθείας, καὶ ἐπὶ φοβεράν τινα δίαιταν καὶ ἀλλόκοτον
from-all help and to fearful a way-of-life and strange
ἀπαχθείς; Καί με εἰσαχθέντα οἱ πυλωροὶ ἐντρανοῦντες
led-away and me brought-in the gatekeepers scrutinizing

περιεβλέποντο, καὶ „Οὗτός ἐστι,“ φασὶν, „ὁ παρ᾽ Αἰακῷ
looked-around-at and this is they-say the(-one) by Aeacus
καὶ Μίνωϊ χθὲς που θρυλλούμενος, ὡς ἀποβαλὼν τῶν
and Minos yesterday somewhere talked-of as having-lost of-the
στοιχείων τὸ τέταρτον, καὶ τρισὶ τοῖς λοιποῖς βιώσκων ἄνευ
elements the fourth and by-three the remaining living without
χολῆς Ἱπποκράτει, καὶ Ἀσκληπιῷ, καὶ τῷ λοιπῷ τῶν ἰατρῶν
bile to-Hippocrates and Asclepius and the rest of-the physicians
χορῷ παρὰ δόξαν ἔχων τὸ ζῆν. Εἴσαγε τὸν ταλαίπωρον
chorus against expectation having the life bring-in the wretch
φιλοσοφήσαντα περὶ τῆς τοῦ σώματος διαπλάσεως· ποῦ
having-philosophized about the of-the body structure how
γὰρ εἰκὸς, ἄνευ τῶν τεσσάρων στοιχειωδῶν χυμῶν
for likely(-is-it) without the four elemental humors
ἄνθρωπον ζῆν τὴν ἄνω καὶ παρὰ τὸν βίον ζωήν;“
a-man to-live the above and in the world life

IV · INTO HADES

Timarion explains that Hades is lit by hand: the common crowd burns wood and torches, the once eminent lamps. He passes an old man of Great Phrygia scooping salt pork from a pot, whose name the law forbids asking, two tame mice licking his jaw. In a torch-lit tent lies Diogenes, raised to the throne, captured by the Scythians, betrayed and blinded. The guides hurry Timarion on to the judges.

CYDION Ταῦτα μὲν οὖν, φίλτατε Τιμαρίων, φοβερὰ 16
these-things indeed then dearest Timarion fearful
καὶ αὐτὸς ἥγημαι, καὶ φρίττω κἀκ μόνης τῆς
also myself have-thought and I-shudder even-from only the
ἀκοῆς. Ἀλλὰ πῶς ἐν τοσούτῳ ζόφῳ καὶ σκότει τὰς
hearing but how in such murk and darkness the

ὄψεις διεσκέψω τῶν πυλωρῶν, καὶ τἆλλα, ὡς εἰκὸς,
faces did-you-make-out of-the gatekeepers and the-rest as likely
κατεμάνθανες;
did-you-learn

TIMARION Φίλε Κυδίων, ἁπλῶς μὲν τὰ ἐν ᾅδου πάντα
dear Cydion simply indeed the(-things) in Hades all
ζοφερὰ καὶ ἀνήλια· ἔχουσι δὲ χειροποίητα φῶτα, ὁ
murky and sunless they-have but handmade lights the(-one)
μὲν ἐκ ξύλων καὶ ἀνθρακιᾶς, ὁ δ' ἐκ δᾳδων, ὁ
indeed from wood and charcoal the(-other) and from torches the
κοινὸς καὶ ἀγοραῖος ὄχλος. Ὅσοι δὲ παρὰ τὸν βίον
common and vulgar crowd as-many-as and in the life
ἐλλόγιμοί ποτε καὶ λαμπρότεροι, καὶ λαμπάδας ἀνάπτουσι,
notable once and more-illustrious both lamps light
καὶ ὑπὸ φρυκτορίᾳ διαιτῶνται λαμπρᾷ· τοιούτους ἐγὼ
and under beacon-light live bright such I
πολλοὺς ἔγνων, παροδεύων τὰς σκηνώσεις τῶν νεκρῶν
many came-to-know passing the tents of-the dead
καὶ τὰς ἑστιάσεις αὐτῶν.
and the feasts their

CYDION Λέγε λοιπὸν, ὦ φίλε, τὸν λόγον εἰς τὸν εἱρμὸν
speak now O friend the account to the thread
ἐπαναγαγών.
having-brought-back

TIMARION Ἐπειδὴ γὰρ εἰσήχθην τὴν ἀδαμάντινον πύλην
when for I-was-brought-through the adamantine gate
ἐκείνην, οὐκ ἔτι δι' ἀέρος, ὡς τὸ πρὶν ἐφερόμεθα,
that not any-longer through air as the before we-were-borne
οὐδὲ σπουδῇ καὶ ῥοιζήματι καθαπερεὶ πολεμίαν γῆν τὸν
nor with-haste and whir as-though enemy land the
ἄνω τόπον διαδιδράσκοντες· ἀλλὰ σχολῇ, καὶ βάδην,
upper region running-through but leisurely and at-a-walk

καὶ ῥᾴστῳ ποδὶ, τὸ μέν τι κεκοπιακότες ἐκ τῆς
and with-easiest foot the indeed something having-tired from the
συντόνου φορᾶς, ἴσως δὲ κἀμὲ οἱ ἀνηλεεῖς ἐλεήσαντες.
intense motion perhaps and me-too the pitiless having-pitied
Πορευόμενοι δὲ πολλὰς ἀσήμους καὶ ἀγοραίους σκηνώσεις
going and many undistinguished and vulgar tents
παρήλθομεν, καὶ πανταχοῦ πάντες τοῖς νεκραγωγοῖς
we-passed and everywhere all the corpse-guides
συνυπήντων, καὶ, ὡς παῖδες παιδαγωγοῖς, ὑπανίσταντο.
met and as boys tutors rose-before
Καὶ προσπίπτομεν καταλύσει τινὶ λαμπρᾷ τοῖς φωσίν· 17
and we-come-upon lodging a-certain bright with-the lights
ἔκειτο δὲ παρ᾽ αὐτῇ γηραλέος τις, οὐ μάλα καθειμένος τὸν
lay and by it old-man a not very long in-the
πώγωνα· ἔκειτο περὶ εὐώνυμον ἀγκῶνα, καὶ τῇ εὐωνύμῳ
beard he-lay on left elbow and with-the left
χειρὶ τὴν παρειὰν ὑπεστήριζε· παρέκειτο δὲ αὐτῷ καὶ
hand the cheek propped lay-beside and him also
χύτρα χαλκῆ εὐμεγέθης, κρεῶν ὑείων ταρίχων πλήρης καὶ
a-pot bronze good-sized of-meat pork salted full and
κράμβης Φρυγίας, πιμελῆς τὰ πάντα μεστά· ἐνέβαλλε δὲ ὁ
cabbage Phrygian of-fat the all full thrust and the
γέρων κατὰ σχολὴν τῇ χύτρᾳ τὴν δεξιὰν, πλὴν οὐ κατὰ
old-man at leisure into-the pot the right(-hand) but not by
δύο ἢ τρεῖς τῶν δακτύλων· ἀλλ᾽ ὅλῃ παλάμῃ ἀνειληφὼς,
two or three of-the fingers but with-whole palm having-scooped
χανδὸν ἐνεφορεῖτο, καὶ ὥσπερ ὑπερῥόφει τὰ διαῤῥέοντα.
greedily he-filled-himself and as-it-were sucked-up the(-things) dripping
Ἐδόκει δὲ ἀπὸ τῆς ὄψεως χαρίεις εἶναι καὶ ἀγαθὸς, καὶ
he-seemed and from the look pleasant to-be and good and
τοῖς παριοῦσιν ἱλαρὸν ἐνώρα καὶ χάριεν· καί μοι ἐνιδὼν
at-the passers-by cheerfully looked and pleasantly and at-me having-looked

ἥμερόν τι καὶ γαληνὸν, „Ἴθι, ὦ ξένε,“ φησὶ, „καὶ
kindly somewhat and calmly come O stranger he-says and
παριζήσας ἡμῖν ἔμβαλε καὶ αὐτὸς τῇ χύτρᾳ, καὶ νεκρικῆς
having-sat-beside us put-in also yourself into-the pot and of-the-dead's
ἑστιάσεως ἐμφορήθητι.“ Ἐγὼ δὲ οὐκ ἤθελον, ἅμα μὲν τῇ
feast take-your-fill I but not wished at-once indeed by-the
τοῦ βίου μεταβολῇ τὸ φρονεῖν ἀφῃρημένος, ἅμα δὲ καὶ τοὺς
of-the life change the to-think deprived-of at-once and also the
νεκραγωγοὺς δεδιττόμενος, μή μοι κονδύλους ἐπιθῶνται.
corpse-guides fearing lest on-me knuckles they-may-lay
Οὗτοι γὰρ τῇδε κἀκεῖσε τοὺς νεκροὺς ἀσπαζόμενοι, ὡς ἐξ
these for here and-there the dead greeting as from
ἀποδημίας μακρᾶς, αὐτοί τε κατείχοντο ταῖς ὁμιλίαις, κἀμοὶ
a-journey long they both were-held by-the conversations and-to-me
καιρὸν ἐδίδουν εἰς κατασκόπησιν τῶν νεκρικῶν διαιτήσεων.
opportunity gave for observation of-the dead's ways-of-life
Τοῦτον δή μοι σκοποῦντι τὸν γηραιὸν ἐφίσταταί τις
this indeed me observing the old-man comes-up a-certain
ἐκ τῶν πολλῶν ἀγοραῖος ἀνὴρ, χρηστὸς, ὡς ἔοικεν, ὢν,
from the many common man decent as it-seems being
καί με καθ' ἕκαστα ἀνηρώτα, τίς τε εἴην, καὶ πόθεν
and me in detail questioned who both I-was and from-where
ὁρμώμενος, καὶ ποίῳ θανάτου τρόπῳ κατήχθην εἰς
setting-out and by-what of-death manner I-had-been-brought-down to
ᾅδου· κἀγὼ ἐξηγούμην αὐτῷ παρ' ἕκαστα τὴν ἀλήθειαν.
Hades and-I explained to-him in detail the truth
18 Ὡς γοῦν οὗτος συνανεκράθη μοι ὁ ἀνὴρ, ἠρόμην
when at-any-rate this was-mingled with-me the man I-asked
αὐτὸν, τίς τε εἴη ὁ γηραιὸς οὗτος, καὶ τοὔνομα ποῖόν
him who both was the old-man this and the-name what
ἐστιν αὐτῷ. Ἡ δ' ὃς ὁ ἀγαθὸς ἐκεῖνος, καὶ ἡμέτερος
is his said and he the good(-man) that and our

ἤδη ξένος· „Ὄνομα μὲν, ὦ νέηλυ, τοῦ γέροντος μὴ ἐρώτα·
now stranger name indeed O newcomer of-the old-man not ask
οὐ γὰρ ἀσφαλές σοί τε ἐρωτᾷν περὶ τούτου, κἀμοὶ
not for safe for-you both to-ask about this and-for-me
ἀποκρίνασθαι. Αἰακοῦ γὰρ καὶ Μίνωος νόμος ἔμποινος
to-answer of-Aeacus for and of-Minos a-law penal
ὥρισται κατὰ τῶν ἐρωτώντων ἢ ἀπολογουμένων περὶ
has-been-laid-down against the asking or answering about
τῆς ἐπωνυμίας τοῦ γέροντος· ἐν ἀπορρήτοις γὰρ τὰ
the name of-the old-man among secrets for the(-things)
περὶ τούτου, ὡς ἐκ νομικῆς διατάξεως, πέπτωκε. Τἆλλα δὲ
about him as by legal ordinance have-fallen the-rest but
ἐρῶ σοι, τὰ ἐφειμένα, περὶ αὐτοῦ. Γένος μὲν αὐτῷ
I-will-tell you the(-things) permitted about him family indeed his
ἐκ τῆς μεγάλης Φρυγίας, ὥς φασι, τῶν εὐπατριδῶν καὶ
from the Great Phrygia as they-say of-the well-born and
ἐλλογίμων· ἐβίω δὲ κατὰ τὸν κόσμον, μετὰ χρηστότητος,
notable he-lived and in the world with goodness
ἐν γήρᾳ δὲ πίονι κατέλυε τὸν βίον, καὶ νῦν, ὡς ὁρᾷς,
in old-age and rich ended the life and now as you-see
ὑπὸ λιπαρᾷ πιμελῇ τὴν ἐν ᾅδου διαβιβάζει κατάλυσιν.“
under rich fat the in Hades passes sojourn
Ταῦτα ὁ ξένος ἔλεγεν· ἐμοὶ δὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς κύκλῳ
these-things the stranger said to-me and the eyes around
περιελίττοντι δύο μύες τῇ ὄψει προσέπεσαν λιπώδεις,
rolling two mice on-the sight fell greasy
παχεῖς, λεῖοι τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν, χοίροις ἐοικότες, οἵους
fat smooth in-the surface to-pigs like such-as
κατοικιδίους ἀλεύρῳ καὶ πιτύρῳ τρέφουσιν ἄνθρωποι. Ἦν
domestic on-meal and bran rear men said
δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς τὸν ἀγαθὸν ἐκεῖνον ἀσθμαίνων ὥσπερ τῷ
and I to the good(-man) that panting as-it-were at-the

καινῷ τοῦ θεάματος· „Φίλε χρηστότατε, πάντα μὲν ἁπλῶς
strangeness of-the sight friend most-decent all indeed simply
τὰ ἐν ᾅδου μισητὰ δοκοῦσι καὶ ἀποτρόπαια, καθὰ καὶ
the(-things) in Hades hateful seem and abominable just-as also
τοῖς ἐν βίῳ πρὸς ἀράν εἰσι προχειρότατα. Ὅτι δὲ μύες
for-those in life for cursing are readiest that but mice
καὶ παρ᾽ ὑμῖν εἰσὶ, τοῦτο πάντων ἀφορητότερόν ἐστί μοι·
also among you are this than-all more-unbearable is to-me
μυσαττομένῳ γάρ μοι τούτους ὑπὲρ ἄλλο πᾶν μυσαρὸν,
loathing for to-me these beyond other every abomination
ἐδόκει τις κουφισμὸς τῆς ἐνταῦθα καθόδου τὸ ἀπήλλαχθαι
it-seemed a relief of-the hither descent the to-have-been-freed
τῆς τούτων ὀχλήσεως. Εἰ δὲ κἀνταῦθα δεήσει με
from-the of-these annoyance if and here-too it-will-be-needful me
πολεμεῖσθαι τοιούτοις, πάλιν ἄλλου θανάτου μοι χρεία,
to-be-warred-on by-such again of-another death to-me need(-there-is)
καὶ δευτέρας οὐκ οἶδα πρὸς ποῖον ᾅδην καταγωγῆς.“
and of-a-second not I-know to what Hades descent

19 Μικρὸν δὲ ὑπολαβὼν ὁ χρηστὸς ἐκεῖνος ξένος φησί·
a-little and having-answered the decent that stranger says
„Θαυμάζω σε, ὦ ἑταῖρε, τῆς ἀγροικίας, καὶ ἀπειρίας τῶν
I-wonder-at you O comrade for-the boorishness and ignorance of-the
πραγμάτων σαφοῦς. Οὐκ οἶσθα, ὡς γηγενεῖς εἰσὶ πάντες
facts plain not do-you-know that earth-born are all
οἱ μύες; κἂν ταῖς ἀνομβρίαις κατὰ σμικρὸν σχιζομένης
the mice and-in the droughts by little cracking
τῆς γῆς γένη μυῶν ἀναδίδονται; μᾶλλον μὲν οὖν εἰκός
the earth broods of-mice are-sent-up rather indeed then likely
ἐστι, καταγαίους εἶναι τούτους, καὶ καθ᾽ ᾅδου πληθύειν,
it-is underground to-be them and throughout Hades to-abound
ἢ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ τῇ ἄνω ζωῇ. Οὐ γὰρ ἐκεῖθεν ἡμῖν
than in the world and the upper life not for from-there to-us

παραγίνονται, ἀλλ᾽ ἐξ ἡμῶν, καὶ τοῦ πυθμένος τῆς γῆς
they-come but from us and from-the bottom of-the earth
ἀνίασιν εἰς τὴν ἄνω αὐτῆς ἐπιφάνειαν. Ὥστε μὴ θαύμαζε,
they-go-up to the upper its surface so not wonder
εἰ καὶ παρ᾽ ἡμῖν εἰσὶ μύες, ἀλλ᾽ ὅπως ἐθάδες εἰσὶ καὶ
if also among us are mice but how tame they-are and
ἡμῖν ὁμοδίαιτοι, μυγαλῆς καὶ τῶν ἐκείνης φόβων ἀμέριμνοι.
with-us sharing-our-life of-the-shrew and the its fears free-of-care
Ἢ οὐχ ὁρᾷς αὐτοὺς, ὅπως ἐντρανοῦντες ἐσθίοντι τῷ
or not do-you-see them how gazing eating at-the
παλαιῷ τούτῳ χαίρουσιν; ὥσπερ καὶ ἀγαλλιῶνται, καὶ
old-man this they-rejoice as-it-were even they-exult and
τὰς σιαγόνας κροταλίζουσι, καὶ τὼ χείλεε τῇ γλώττῃ
the jaws rattle and the two-lips with-the tongue
διαλείχονται, ὥσπερ αὐτοὶ μᾶλλον ἢ ὁ γέρων τῆς
lick as-though they rather than the old-man with-the
πιμελῆς ἐμφορούμενοι;“ Καὶ ἦν ὡς ἀληθῶς τοιοῦτον ὃ
fat filling-themselves and it-was as truly such which
ἔλεγεν, ἀκριβῶς ἐμοῦ τοῖς μυσὶν ἐντρανήσαντος. „Ἀλλὰ
he-said closely I at-the mice having-gazed but
βλέπεις,“ προσετίθει, „καὶ ὡς τῆς γένυος τοῦ γηραλέου
do-you-see he-added also how the jaw of-the old-man
στοχάζονται, καὶ τὸν ὕπνον αὐτοῦ περιμένουσι; κἀπειδὰν
they-aim-at and the sleep his wait-for and-whenever
αἴσθωνται τῶν ῥογμῶν, οἵους αὐτὸς ὑπνώττων ἐκτραγῳδεῖ,
they-perceive the snorings such-as he sleeping declaims
παριόντες οὗτοι τὴν γένυν περιλείχονται, τοῦ πιμελώδους
coming-up these the jaw lick-around in-the fatty
ζωμοῦ λελουμένην, καὶ τῶν ἀπηρτημένων ψιχίων σιτούμενοι
broth bathed and on-the hanging crumbs feeding
κατακόρως καὶ ζῶσιν ἐκεῖθεν, οὕτως ὡς ὁρᾷς παχυνόμενοι.“
to-satiety and live from-that so as you-see growing-fat

20 Ταῦτά μοι ἐδίδου γνῶναι ἡ ἐπὶ μικρὸν τῶν
these-things me allowed to-learn the for a-little of-the
ἀγόντων ἡμᾶς ἀσχολία· εἶτα ἐπέστησαν, καὶ τοῦ
ones-leading us busyness then they-came-up and the
πρόσω πάλιν ἠρξάμεθα, καὶ ὅσον στάδια τέτταρα
onward(-way) again we-began and about stades four
ὡδευκότες, καὶ πολλὰς σκηνώσεις ἀμείψαντες ἐντυγχάνομεν
having-traveled and many tents having-passed we-come-upon
καταλύσει λαμπρᾷ ὑποκαιομένῃ λαμπάδι, καὶ σκηνῇ
a-lodging bright lit by-a-torch and a-tent
λευκοτάτῃ, καί τις βρυχηθμὸς ἐκ τῆς σκηνῆς
very-white and a roaring from the tent
ἀνεδίδοτο. Κἀγὼ περιβλεψάμενος, καὶ τοὺς ἄγοντας
rose and-I having-looked-around and the ones-leading
πάλιν ἀσχολουμένους ἰδὼν ἐπὶ συντυχίᾳ νεκρῶν
again busy having-seen with meeting of-dead(-ones)
(ὡς ἔοικε, γνωρίμων καὶ συνήθων αὐτοῖς), ἠρέμα
as it-seems known and familiar to-them quietly
πως, καὶ ὥσπερ ὑποκλέπτων τὴν ὅρασιν, τῇ
somehow and as-though stealing the look to-the
σκηνῇ προσήγγισα, κἀκ τῆς ὀπῆς ἐσκόπουν, τί
tent drew-near and-through the hole looked what
ἂν εἴη τὰ ἔνδον, καὶ τίνος ὁ βρυχηθμὸς
— might-be the(-things) inside and whose the roaring
ἐκεῖνος ὁ βαρυσυμφορώτατος. Ἔκειτο οὖν χαμαί
that the most-grievous lay then on-the-ground
τις ἀνὴρ, τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἐκκεκεντημένος σιδήρῳ·
a man the eyes having-had-put-out with-iron
ἔκειτο δ' ἐπ' εὐωνύμου πλευρᾶς καὶ ἀγκῶνος, δάπιδος
he-lay and on left side and elbow a-rug
ὑποκειμένης Λακωνικῆς, εὐμεγέθης τὸ σῶμα, σαρκώδης
lying-under(-him) Laconian large in-the body fleshy

οὐ πάνυ, ὀστήδης δὲ μᾶλλον, καὶ τὰ στέρνα
not very bony but rather and in-the chest
εὐρύς·
broad

„Κεῖτο μέγας μεγαλωστὶ, λελασμένος ἱπποσυνάων."
lay great greatly-stretched forgetful of-horsemanship

οὐδὲ ἐῴκει
nor was-he-like

„ἀνδρί γε σιτοφάγῳ, ἀλλὰ ῥίῳ ὑλήεντι."
to-a-man — bread-eating but to-a-peak wooded

Παρ' αὐτῷ καί τις ἄλλος γηραιὸς ἐκάθητο, κουφίζων τάχα
by him also some other old-man sat lightening perhaps
λόγοις καὶ παραινέσεσι τὸ τῆς συμφορᾶς ἀχθεινότατον· ἀλλ'
with-words and exhortations the of-the misfortune most-grievous but
οὐκ ἤθελεν, ὡς ἐφαίνετο, πείθεσθαι, συχνὰ τὴν κεφαλὴν
not he-was-willing as it-appeared to-be-persuaded often the head
ἀνανεύων, καὶ τῇ χειρὶ τὸν γηραιὸν παρωθούμενος·
shaking-back and with-the hand the old-man pushing-away
ὑπέῤῥει δέ οἱ καὶ δηλητηριῶδες ἐκ τοῦ στόματος.
dripped and from-him also something-poisonous from the mouth
Ἐπεὶ γοῦν καλῶς τἀκεῖ κατενόησα, καὶ, τῶν 21
when at-any-rate well the-things-there I-had-observed and the
ἀγόντων με λίαν ἐπιστρεφόμενος ἀπέστην τῆς σκηνῆς,
ones-leading me greatly heeding I-withdrew from-the tent
καὶ ὅποι τούτους ἴδω διεσκοπούμην, ἐντυγχάνω τινὶ τῶν
and where them I-might-see I-was-looking-about I-meet one of-the
νεκρῶν, παλαιῷ δὲ, ὡς ἐδόκει, καὶ τὴν ὄψιν κατεσκληκότι,
dead old and as it-seemed and in-the face withered

ὁποίους πυρετοὶ μαρασμώδεις τοῦ βίου ἐξάγουσι. Καί με
such-as fevers wasting from-the life lead-out and me
ἰδὼν ἀπὸ τοῦ χρώματος κατενόησε νεοθανῆ ὄντα (οἱ
having-seen from the color perceived newly-dead being the
γὰρ κατιόντες εἰς ᾅδου νεόνεκροι ἀποσώζουσί τι μικρὸν
for going-down to Hades new-dead keep some small
ἐρυθήματος ζωτικοῦ· κἀκ τούτου τοῖς παλαιοῖς ἑτοίμως
of-redness living and-from this by-the old(-dead) readily
γνωρίζονται) καί με προσιὼν ἠσπάσατο, καὶ, „Χαῖρε,“
are-known and me approaching greeted and hail
φησὶν, „ὦ νεόνεκρε, καὶ ἡμῖν ἀπάγγελλε περὶ τῶν
he-says O new-dead and to-us report about the(-things)
ἐν βίῳ· οἱ σκόμβροι, πόσοι τοῦ ὀβολοῦ; αἱ πηλαμύδες,
in life the mackerel how-many for-the obol the young-tunnies
αἱ θῦνναι, καὶ τὰ μαινίδια; τοὔλαιον πόσου; ὁ οἶνος;
the tunnies and the sprats the-oil at-how-much the wine
ὁ σῖτος; καὶ τὰ λοιπά; ἀλλ’ ὃ με διέλαθε πάντων
the grain and the rest but what me escaped of-all
ἀναγκαιότατον, ἀφυῶν γέγονεν ἄγρα πολλή; ἔζων γὰρ
most-necessary of-anchovies has-there-been a-catch large I-lived for
ἡδέως ἐξ αὐτῶν ὀψωνίζων ἐν βίῳ, καὶ ἦσαν ἐμοὶ λάβρακος
pleasantly on them marketing in life and they-were to-me than-bass
τιμιώτεραι.“ Ταῦτα ἐκεῖνος εἶπε, κἀγὼ πρὸς ἕκαστα
more-precious these-things he said and-I to each
ἀπεκρινάμην τὴν οὖσαν ἀλήθειαν. Ὡς οὖν ἅπαντα ἐκείνῳ
answered the real truth when then all to-him
τὰ ἐν βίῳ ἀπήγγειλα, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐζήτησα μαθεῖν ἐξ
the(-things) in life I-had-reported also I-myself sought to-learn from
ἐκείνου, τίς τε εἴη ὁ τὴν σκηνὴν ταύτην οἰκῶν, καὶ ὁ
him who both was the(-one) the tent this inhabiting and the
παρακαθήμενος πρεσβύτης, καὶ τὰ τοῦ βρυχηθμοῦ αἴτια.
sitting-beside old-man and the of-the roaring causes

Ἦ δ’ ὃς ὁ ἀγοραῖος ἐκεῖνος ἀνήρ· „Ὁ τὴν σκηνὴν ταύτην 22
said and he the common that man the(-one) the tent this
οἰκῶν, οὗ τοὺς μυχιαίους στεναγμοὺς ἀκήκοας, οὗτός
inhabiting whose the inmost groans you-have-heard this
ἐστιν ὁ ἐκ Καππαδόκης περιώνυμος Διογένης· τὰ δ’
is the from Cappadocia famous Diogenes the(-things) and
ἄλλα πάντως ἔγνως ἐν βίῳ περὶ αὐτοῦ, ὡς εἰς βασιλείαν
other surely you-knew in life about him how to empire
ἀνήχθη, ὡς ἐπὶ τοὺς Ἑῴους Σκύθας ἐστράτευσεν, ὡς
he-was-raised how against the Eastern Scythians he-campaigned how
ἥλω αἰχμάλωτος. Εἶτα καὶ ἠλευθέρωται, καὶ πρὸς
he-was-taken captive then also he-was-freed and to
τὸ Βυζάντιον ἐπανιὼν οὐκ ἐδέχθη πρὸς βασιλείαν, ἀλλὰ
— Byzantium returning not was-received to empire but
πολέμῳ, εἶτα καὶ ὅρκῳ χειρωθεὶς, καὶ παρασπονδηθεὶς, ὡς
by-war then also by-oath subdued and betrayed as
ὁρᾷς, ἐκτετύφλωται, ἐμφορηθεὶς ἐπὶ τούτοις δόλῳ τινὶ καὶ
you-see he-has-been-blinded having-been-filled besides these by-guile some also
δηλητηρίου δεινοῦ. Ὁ δὲ παρακαθήμενος πρεσβύτης τῶν
with-poison terrible the and sitting-beside old-man of-the
εὐπατριδῶν, ἐστὶ τῶν κατὰ τὴν μεγίστην Φρυγίαν·
well-born is of-the(-ones) in the greatest Phrygia
ἐχρῆτο δέ οἱ συμβούλῳ παρὰ τὸν βίον, καὶ τῶν
he-used and him as-counselor during the life and of-the
πρακτέων κοινωνῷ. Καὶ νῦν ἐλεήσας τὴν αὐτοῦ τύχην,
things-to-be-done partner and now having-pitied the his fortune
κατὰ μνήμην τῆς παλαιᾶς συνηθείας συνεχῶς παραγίνεται
in memory of-the old intimacy continually comes
τῷ ἀνδρὶ, καὶ κατὰ τὸ δυνατὸν κουφίζειν ἐπιχειρεῖ τὴν
to-the man and as-far-as the possible to-lighten tries the
μνήμην τῶν συμφορῶν εἰκόσι λόγοις καὶ λογισμοῖς.“
memory of-the misfortunes with-fitting words and reasonings

Καὶ ταῦτα ἐκεῖνος ὁ ἀγοραῖος ἀπήγγειλε, καὶ οἱ
and these-things that the common(-man) reported and the
ἄγοντες πάλιν ἐπέστησαν, καὶ σπουδαιοτέρως ἡμᾶς ἐκίνουν
ones-leading again came-up and more-urgently us moved
εἰς τοὔμπροσθεν, καὶ, „Βαῖνε ταχύτερον,“ ἔλεγον πρός
to the-front and walk faster they-said to
με, „τῇ συνόδῳ παραστησόμενος τῶν δικαστῶν, καὶ
me before-the session going-to-stand of-the judges and
ἡμῶν εὐθὺς ἀπαλλαγησόμενος.“ — „Καὶ δικαστῶν,“ ἦν
from-us straightway going-to-be-rid and of-judges said
δ’ ἐγώ, „κἀνταῦθα σύνοδος, καὶ δίκαι πάλιν, καὶ κρίσεις,
and I here-too a-session and suits again and judgments
ὡς ἐν τῷ βίῳ;“ — „Καὶ μᾶλλον ἐνταῦθα,“ οὗτοί φασιν·
as in the life even more here these say
„ὡς ὧδε τῆς ὅλης ἀνθρώπου βιοτῆς ἐξεταζομένης κατὰ
since here the whole of-a-man life being-examined in
λεπτὸν, καὶ τοῦ κατ’ ἀξίαν ἀποδιδομένου τῷ καθ’
detail and the(-due) according-to desert being-rendered to-the by
ἕνα, καὶ μήποτε ἀναλυομένου τοῦ δόξαντος τῇ
one and never being-undone the(-decision) having-seemed-good to-the
συνόδῳ τῶν δικαστῶν.“
session of-the judges

A tall, white-haired, talkative man greets Timarion: Theodore of Smyrna, his old teacher, once gouty and now healthy on a diet of mallow and asphodel. Timarion tells in tears how the guides tore him from his body before his time, and Theodore promises to win him a second life, asking only for his favorite foods. The physicians, he says, are no match for him while Galen is away, and the pagan judges are just, with the emperor Theophilus beside them. They walk on out of the dark into the Elysian Field, where it is always spring.

Ταῦτα προϊόντων ἐλέγετο, καὶ μικρόν τι προβάντων 23
these-things as-we-went-on were-said and a-little some having-advanced
ἀπήντησεν ἡμῖν ἀνὴρ ἐπιμήκης, λευκὸς τὴν τρίχα, τὸ
met us a-man tall white in-the hair in-the
σῶμα κατεσκληκὼς, χαρίεις δὲ ἄλλως καὶ στωμυλίας
body withered charming but otherwise and of-chatter
μεστὸς, καὶ τὸ στόμα διογκῶν ἐν τῷ λέγειν, καὶ
full and the mouth puffing-out in the to-speak and
ἀνακαγχάζων εὐρύ. Καὶ τοῖς νεκραγωγοῖς, „Χαίρετε,“
guffawing broadly and to-the corpse-guides hail
προσειπὼν, καὶ, „Τίς ἐστιν οὗτος ὁ νεόνεκρος, ὃ ἄρτι
having-addressed and who is this the new-dead whom just-now
κομίζετε;“ ἐπειπὼν, ἐπ᾽ ἐμὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἔστρεφε, καὶ
you-bring having-added on me the eyes turned and
τὴν ὄψιν κατεσκόπει, καὶ τρανῶς ἐνητένιζε. Καὶ μικρὸν
the face examined and clearly gazed-intently and a-little
ὑπολαβὼν ἀνεβόησε τορόν τι μᾶλλον καὶ λαμυρόν·
answering cried-out shrill somewhat rather and bold
„Φίλοι θεοὶ, Τιμαρίων οὗτός ἐστι; Τιμαρίων ὁ φίλτατος,
dear gods Timarion this is Timarion the dearest
ᾧ πολλάκις συνειστιάθην πολυτελῶς, καὶ᾽ τῆς
with-whom often I-feasted lavishly and-at the

σχολῆς ἐφοίτησε παρ᾽ ἐμοὶ, τὸν σοφιστικὸν ἐν Βυζαντίῳ
school studied with me the sophist's in Byzantium
θρόνον διέποντι;“ Καὶ περιβαλὼν ἄμφω τὼ χεῖρε
chair holding and having-thrown-around(-me) both the two-hands
γνησίως ἠσπάζετο. Ἐγὼ δ᾽ ὑπ᾽ αἰδοῦς ἐπεπήγειν, οὕτω
sincerely embraced(-me) I but from shame was-frozen so
δεξιωθεὶς ὑπ᾽ ἀνδρὸς, ὡς ἐφαίνετο, μεγαλοπρεποῦς, αὐτὸς
welcomed by a-man as it-appeared distinguished myself
ἀγνοῶν τὸν ἀσπαζόμενον, καὶ ὅστις ἐστὶ μὴ γινώσκων,
not-knowing the(-one) embracing(-me) and who he-is not knowing
καὶ ποίῳ μέτρῳ τοῦτον τιμῆς ὡς εἰκὸς κατασπάσομαι.
and with-what measure him of-honor as fitting I-will-greet
Συνέγνω τοῦτο κἀκεῖνος, καί μου τὴν ἄγνοιαν ἰάσατο
perceived this he-too and my the ignorance healed
προλαβὼν, καὶ, „Ἀγνοεῖς,“ ἔφη, „ὦ τὰν, τὸν ἐκ Σμύρνης
having-anticipated and you-do-not-know he-said O good-sir the from Smyrna
Θεόδωρον, τὸν λαμυρώτατον σοφιστὴν, οὗ κλέος ἐν
Theodore the boldest sophist whose fame(-was) in
Βυζαντίῳ ἐν ἀπαγγελίᾳ λόγων σεμνῶν καὶ λαμπρῶν;“
Byzantium in delivery of-speeches solemn and brilliant
Ταῦτα ἀκούσας ἐκπεπλήγμην τῷ καινῷ τῆς ὄψεως, καὶ
these-things having-heard I-was-astounded at-the strangeness of-the look and
τῆς τοῦ σώματος διαθέσεως, καὶ, „Ὦ σοφιστὰ,“ ἦν δ᾽
of-the of-the body condition and O sophist said and
ἐγὼ, „φωνὴν μὲν, καὶ λαμπρότητα λόγου, καὶ διόγκωσιν
I voice indeed and brilliance of-speech and puffing
στόματος, καὶ σώματος εὐμεγέθειαν μνημονεύω, καὶ παρὰ
of-mouth and of-body bulk I-remember also in
τὸν βίον τῷ Σμύρνηθεν ἐκείνῳ σοφιστῇ παρεπόμενα. Ὅτι
the life the from-Smyrna that sophist attending that
δέ οἱ τὸ σῶμα ἐξήρθρωτο τῇ ἀρθρίτιδι, καὶ φοράδην
but his the body was-disjointed by-the gout and in-a-litter

ἀγόμενος ἐδημηγόρει παρὰ τῷ βασιλεῖ, καὶ κλινήρης ἐπ'
being-carried he-orated before the emperor and bedridden on
ἀγκῶνος ἤσθιε, συμβαλεῖν οὐκ ἔχω πρὸς τὴν ἐμφαινομένην
elbow he-ate to-reconcile not I-can with the appearing
σοι ταύτην ὑγίειαν καὶ εὐεξίαν τοῦ σώματος."
in-you this health and fitness of-the body
— „Ἐγώ σοι καὶ ταύτην τὴν ἀπορίαν," ἦδ' ὃς ὁ 24
I for-you also this the difficulty said he the
σοφιστὴς, „διαλύσω, κάλλιστε φοιτητῶν. Ἄνω καὶ παρὰ
sophist will-resolve finest of-pupils above and in
τὸν βίον, πολλὰ τοῖς βασιλεῦσι πρὸς χάριν δημηγορῶν,
the life much to-the emperors for favor orating
πολλοὺς ἐκομιζόμην χρυσίνους, καὶ ὠφελείας ἐκαρπούμην
many I-got gold-pieces and profits I-reaped
οὐ τὰς τυχούσας· καὶ πάντα ἐκεῖνα πρὸς ἑστιάσεις ἐκένουν
not the ordinary and all those on feasts I-emptied
πολυτελεῖς, καὶ Συβαριτικὰ δεῖπνα. Οἶσθα δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς,
costly and Sybaritic dinners you-know and also yourself
πολλάκις ἑστιαθεὶς παρ' ἡμῖν, ὡς τυραννική τις ἡ τῆς
often having-feasted with us how princely a the of-the
ἐμῆς τραπέζης διοίκησις ἦν. Ἐκεῖθεν οὖν μοι πᾶσα ἡ τῆς
my table management was from-there then to-me all the of-the
ἀρθρίτιδος αἰτία, καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ τῶν δακτύλων λιθώματα,
gout cause and the on the fingers chalkstones
τῶν φλεγματικῶν περιττωμάτων σφηκουμένων περὶ τὰς
the phlegmatic residues being-packed about the
ἁρμονίας, καὶ λιθουμένων στερεῶς· ἀφ' ὧν ἀλγηδόνες
joints and turning-to-stone solidly from which pains
ἐπιγινόμεναι τήν τε ψυχὴν καὶ τὸ σῶμα κατέτρυχον·
arising the both soul and the body wore-down
κἀντεῦθεν ἐταλαιπώρει μοι τὸ σῶμα, καὶ ἀσθενὲς ἦν.
and-hence suffered my the body and weak was

Ἐνταῦθα δὲ τοὐναντίον ἅπαν· φιλόσοφος δίαιτα, καὶ
here but the-contrary entirely philosophic diet and
τράπεζα λιτὴ, καὶ βίος ἀθόρυβος, εἰπεῖν δὲ καὶ ἀμέριμνος.
table plain and life untroubled to-say and also carefree
Καὶ γὰρ ἐν καρδάμῳ τὰ πολλὰ, καὶ μαλάχῃ, καὶ ἀσφοδέλῳ
and for with cress the most-part and mallow and asphodel
τὴν μαργῶσαν γαστέρα κατέπαυσα, καὶ τὸ τοῦ
the raging belly I-stilled and the(-saying) of-the
Ἀσκραίου καλῶς ἔχειν ἄρτι πεπληροφόρημαι· Οὐδὲ ἴσασιν,
Ascraean well to-hold now I-am-convinced nor they-know

ὅσον ἐν μαλάχῃ καὶ ἀσφοδέλῳ μέγ' ὄνειαρ.
how-much in mallow and asphodel great benefit

Συνελόντι γοῦν εἰπεῖν, τὰ μὲν ἄνω καὶ παρὰ
to-one-summing-up at-any-rate to-say the(-things) indeed above and in
τὸν βίον σοφιστεία λόγων ἦν, καὶ κομψότης δημοτερπής·
the life sophistry of-words was and cleverness crowd-pleasing
τὰ δὲ νῦν ταῦτα φιλοσοφία καὶ παιδεία σαφὴς,
the(-things) but now these philosophy and learning clear
ἧττον λόγου μετέχουσα καὶ δημοκοπίας. Ἀλλὰ ταῦτα
less in-speech sharing and demagoguery but these-things
μὲν ἐγώ σοι ἀπήγγειλα, τὴν πλάνην ἐξαλείφων τῆς σῆς
indeed I to-you reported the error wiping-out of-the your
ψυχῆς, καὶ τὴν ἀρχαίαν ἡμῶν συνήθειαν ἀνανεούμενος.
soul and the old our intimacy renewing
Τοῦ λοιποῦ δὲ οὐκ ἀμφίδοξα ἔσται σοι τὰ καθ'
for-the rest and not doubtful will-be to-you the(-things) about
ἡμᾶς· ἀλλ' ἐρεῖς καὶ αὐτὸς πρὸς τὸν σὸν μυσταγωγὸν
us but you-will-tell also yourself to the your initiator

ποίῳ θανάτου τρόπῳ ἐξώσθης τοῦ βίου, καὶ τίς σοι
by-what of-death manner you-were-thrust from-the life and what for-you
πρόφασις τῆς παρ᾽ ἡμᾶς καταβάσεως;“
cause(-was) of-the to us descent
„Πρόφασις μὲν οὐδεμία θανάτου,“ ἦν δ᾽ ἐγώ, „παρέστη 25
cause indeed no of-death said and I was-present
μοι, διδασκάλων ἄριστε· οὔτε γὰρ πολέμου ξίφος, ἢ
for-me of-teachers best neither for of-war sword or
λῃστεία, ἢ σύμπτωμα, οὐ νόσος χρονία, δι᾽ ἧς ἂν
brigandage or accident not disease chronic through which —
κατειργάσθη μοι τὸ σωμάτιον, ἀλλὰ τυραννὶς, ὡς ἔοικε,
would-have-been-worn-out my the little-body but tyranny as it-seems
τῶν παρ᾽ ὑμῖν τούτων νεκραγωγῶν, βιαίως τοῦ σώματος
of-the among you these corpse-guides violently from-the body
ἐκσπασάντων με, ζωτικῶς ἔτι ἔχοντος. Ἵνα γὰρ ἐν
having-torn-out me alive still being that for in
συντόμῳ τὰ ἀπ᾽ ἀρχῆς μέχρι τέλους σοι διηγήσωμαι,
brief the(-things) from beginning to end to-you I-may-narrate
κατά τινα χρείαν κατιὼν εἰς Θεσσαλονίκην, ἐν τῷ μέλλειν
for some need going-down to Thessalonica in the being-about
ἐπανιέναι με, πυρετῷ λάβρῳ κατὰ δυσκρασίαν θερμὴν τοῦ
to-return me into-a-fever violent from a-distemper hot of-the
ἥπατος περιπέπτωκα· ἐπηκολούθησε καὶ ῥεῦμα γαστρὸς
liver I-fell followed also a-flux of-belly
ἄσχετον· τὸ δὲ κενούμενον ἅπαν χολῶδες ἦν, καὶ αἵματός
unstoppable the and being-emptied all bilious was and blood
τινος ὀλίγον ἐπιπολῆς ἐρυθαίνοντος. Καὶ ἦν ἡ διάῤῥοια
some a-little on-the-surface reddening and was the flux
συνεχὴς, μέχρι κἀπὶ τὸν Θρᾴκιον Ἔβρον (οἶδας τὸν εὐρὺν
continuous until even-to the Thracian Hebrus you-know the broad
καὶ ναυσίπορον ἐν Θρᾴκῃ ποταμὸν) ἥκομεν· κἀκεῖ που
and navigable in Thrace river we-came and-there somewhere

παρὰ τὴν ποταμίαν ἔπαυλιν καταλύσαντες, αὐτῷ τε καὶ
by the riverside farmhouse having-lodged to-myself both and
τοῖς ἄγουσιν ἵπποις ἄνεσιν ἐνδιδόντες, τὴν ἑσπέραν ἐκείνην
to-the carrying horses rest giving the evening that
εὐφόρως ἔσχομεν τοῦ νοσήματος. Ἔδοξεν οὖν μοι καὶ
easily we-were in-the disease it-seemed-good then to-me also
τὸ δεύτερον ἐκεῖ περιμεῖναι νυχθήμερον, καὶ γέγονεν οὕτω·
the second there to-wait day-and-night and it-happened so
καὶ ἡ νὺξ ἦκεν, καὶ πάντες ἐκάθευδον ἡδέως, κἀγὼ
and the night came and all slept sweetly and-I
κατέδαρθον. Καὶ περὶ τὸ μέσον ἀωρὶ τῶν νυκτῶν οἱ
fell-asleep and about the middle untimely of-the nights the
τελχῖνες οὗτοι νεκραγωγοὶ ἐφιστάναι τῇ κλίνῃ, ἐμοῦ πρὸς
sorcerers these corpse-guides to-stand-over the bed I in
ὀνείρους ἔτι ὄντος· καὶ τὴν φωνὴν ἐπεσχέθην τούτους
dreams still being and in-the voice I-was-checked them
ἰδὼν, καὶ διυπνισθῆναι οὐκ ἴσχυσα. Φαντασιούμενος δ'
having-seen and to-wake not I-could seeing-visions and
οὕτως, ἐξήχθην τοῦ σώματος, ἄλλο μὲν οὐδὲν ἀκηκοὼς
so I-was-led-out of-the body other indeed nothing having-heard
ὑπ' αὐτῶν αἰτιώμενον τῆς ἐξαγωγῆς αἴτιον ἢ ὅτι, „„Οὗτός
by them alleged of-the leading-out cause than that this
ἐστιν ὁ τῶν στοιχείων ἀποβαλὼν τὸ ἓν, ἅπασαν τὴν
is the(-one) of-the elements having-lost the one all the
χολήν· καὶ μηκέτι βιώσιμα εἶναί οἱ Ἀσκληπιῷ, καὶ
bile and no-longer livable to-be for-him by-Asclepius and
Ἱπποκράτει, καὶ τῷ λοιπῷ τῶν ἰατρῶν χορῷ δέδοκται.
Hippocrates and the rest of-the physicians chorus it-has-been-decreed
Διαιρετέος οὖν τοῦ σώματος ὁ ταλαίπωρος.““
to-be-parted then from-the body the wretch

„Ταῦτα εἶπον ἐκεῖνοι· κἀγὼ οὐκ οἶδα ποίᾳ δυνάμει 26
these-things said they and-I not I-know by-what power
ἀγόμενος συνήχθην παρ᾽ ἑαυτῷ καθαπερεὶ πόκος ἐρίου,
being-led was-gathered-together in myself like a-fleece of-wool
καὶ διὰ μυκτήρων ἐξήχθην καὶ στόματος εὐπετῶς, ὡς τὰ
and through nostrils was-led-out and mouth easily as the
διὰ χάσμης ἐκκρινόμενα πνεύματα· καὶ νῦν, ὡς ὁρᾷς, εἰς
through yawning expelled breaths and now as you-see to
ᾅδου κατῆγμαι, μνημονεύων τοῦ ποιητικοῦ τούτου·
Hades I-have-been-brought-down remembering the poetic(-line) this

Ψυχὴ δ᾽ ἐκ ῥεθέων πταμένη Ἀϊδόσδε βεβήκει.
soul and from limbs having-flown to-Hades had-gone

Πλὴν, εἰ ἀληθεῖς εἰσιν οἱ τῶν κακοδαιμόνων σοφιστῶν
however if true are the of-the wretched sophists
περὶ εἱμαρμένης λόγοι, οὔπω τὸν εἱμαρμένον τῆς ζωῆς
about fate arguments not-yet the fated of-the life
χρόνον ἀνεπλήρωσα, βιαίως δὲ ἀφῃρέθην τοῦ σώματος.
time I-filled-up violently but I-was-deprived of-the body
Καὶ νῦν, εἴ τινές εἰσι παρὰ τοῖς κάτω δίκαι, καὶ
and now if any are among the(-ones) below suits and
κρίσεις, τὰς ἀδίκους πράξεις ἀνασκευάζουσαι, σκόπησον
judgments the unjust acts undoing see
ὅπως βοηθήσῃς μοι τῷ σῷ φοιτητῇ, παρανομίας γραφὴν
how you-may-help me the your pupil of-lawbreaking an-indictment
τῶν καταράτων τούτων κατοίσοντι.“
against-the accursed these going-to-bring
Ταῦτα ἔλεγον, καὶ ἐδάκρυον· καὶ ὃς, ἐπικλασθείς μου
these-things I-said and I-wept and he having-been-moved by-my
τῷ θρήνῳ, καὶ διατεθεὶς συμπαθεστέρως· „Θάῤῥει, ὦ
the lament and disposed more-sympathetically take-heart O

᾽γαθὲ, τούτου γε ἕνεκα· καὶ βοηθήσομεν ὑπὲρ δύναμιν·
good-man of-this — for-the-sake and we-will-help beyond power
καὶ θαῤῥούντως φαμὲν, ὡς ἀναδοθείης πρὸς δευτέραν
and confidently we-say that you-would-be-restored to second
ζωὴν, καὶ τὴν ποθουμένην σοι ἀναβίωσιν. Σὺ δὲ μόνον
life and the longed-for by-you return-to-life you but only
σκόπει, ὅπως ἡμῖν καταπέμψῃς ἐκεῖθεν, ὧν ἱμειρόμεθα,
see how to-us you-may-send-down from-there what we-long-for
βρωσίμων φημὶ τῶν ἐθάδων μοι.“
foods I-mean the accustomed to-me

27 „Τὰ μὲν οὖν ὅσα νῦν φῂς,“ ἦν δ᾽ ἐγὼ, „κομψότατε,
the(-things) indeed then as-many-as now you-say said and I most-elegant
ἄπιστα πρὸ τοῦ γενέσθαι ὄντα, τεράστιά μοι δοκοῦσι,
incredible before the to-happen being monstrous to-me seem
καὶ ἀληθῶς αἰνίγματα, ὁποῖα λιθοξόοι καὶ ζωγράφοι ἐν
and truly riddles such-as stonecutters and painters in
οἰκίαις πλάττουσιν, Ἱπποκενταύρους δηλαδὴ, καὶ Σφίγγας,
houses fashion Hippocentaurs namely and Sphinxes
καὶ εἴ τι ἄλλο μυθῶδες τοῖς παλαιοῖς ἀνεστήλωτο.
and if anything else fabulous by-the ancients had-been-set-up
Πλὴν ἀλλὰ λέγε μοι, κάλλιστε σοφιστῶν, τίνι τῶν
nevertheless but tell me finest of-sophists in-what of-the
εὐλόγων τεθαῤῥηκὼς φῂς οὕτως ἐλευθεροῦν ἡμᾶς;
reasonable(-grounds) having-trusted do-you-claim so to-free us
καὶ ταῦτα, Αἰακοῦ καὶ Μίνως τῶν δικαστῶν Ἑλλήνων
and that Aeacus and Minos the judges Hellenes
ὄντων, καὶ τοῖς Γαλιλαίοις ἡμῖν ἀπεχθανομένων, ὁποῖος
being and to-the Galileans us being-hostile such-as
σὺ τυγχάνεις, Χριστοῦ μύστης καὶ τρόφιμος.“
you happen(-to-be) of-Christ initiate and nursling

— „Οἷς μὲν ἁπλῶς τεθάῤῥηκα,“ ἦδ’ ὃς ὁ σοφιστὴς,
in-what indeed simply I-have-trusted said he the sophist
„οὐδ’ αὐτὸς ἀγνοεῖς. Ἔστι γάρ μοι καὶ νοῦ δεξιότης,
not-even yourself you-are-ignorant there-is for in-me both of-mind dexterity
ἐπιβάλλουσα ταῖς προσπιπτούσαις ἀντιλογίαις ὀξέως, καὶ
applying-itself to-the arising objections sharply and
ἀποδιδοῦσα ταχέως ταῖς προτάσεσι καὶ τὴν ἀντίῤῥησιν
rendering quickly to-the propositions also the rebuttal
πρόσφορον· καὶ ἀγχίνοια ἐστοχασμένη τοῦ πρέποντος,
suitable and readiness aiming-at the fitting
καὶ λόγος ῥοώδης ὁμοῦ καὶ διάτρανος, καὶ ἰατρικῶν
and speech fluent at-once and distinct and of-medical
ἐμπειρία δογμάτων· ἀφ’ ὧν μικρᾶς τινος δραξάμενος
experience doctrines from which small some having-grasped
ἀφορμῆς καταπαλαίσω τοὺς κομψοὺς τούτους καὶ ἰατρικοὺς
handle I-will-throw the elegant these and medical
Ἑλλήνων θεούς.
of-the-Hellenes gods
„Ἀσκληπιὸς μὲν γὰρ ὑπὸ τῆς κούφης αὐτοῦ δόξης καὶ 28
Asclepius indeed for from the empty his glory and
τῆς ψευδομένης θεώσεως οὐδὲ φθέγγεται πολλῶν ἐτῶν·
the false deification not-even speaks for-many years
κἄν τις ἀνάγκῃ ἐπείγῃ ἐρωτώντων ἄλλων (αὐτὸς γὰρ ἀφ’
and-if one by-necessity press asking others he for of
ἑαυτοῦ πᾶσαν ὁμιλίας πρόφασιν ἀποβάλλεται), δεῖ
himself every of-converse occasion rejects it-is-needful
τὸν ἐρωτῶντα σχηματίσαι τὸν λόγον πρὸς κατάφασιν καὶ
the asker to-frame the question for yes and
ἀπόφασιν· εἶτα ἐκεῖνον κατὰ τὸ δοκοῦν αὐτῷ κατανεῦσαι
no then him according-to the seeming to-him to-nod-down
ἢ ἀνανεῦσαι τὴν κεφαλήν· καὶ τοῦτ’ ἂν εἴη Ἀσκληπιῷ
or to-toss-up the head and this — would-be Asclepius’s

ἀπόκρισις. Ἱπποκράτης δὲ, εἰ καὶ φθέγγεται, μικρὰ καὶ
answer Hippocrates and if even he-speaks short and
μονόστιχα, ἢ τὸ πολὺ δίστιχα, κἀκεῖνα αἰνιγματώδη, καὶ
one-line(-things) or the most two-line and-those riddling and
δικαστηρίοις οὐ μάλα προσήκοντα, καὶ γελοῖα, ὁποῖα ἐκεῖνα·
for-courts not very fitting and laughable such-as those
„Πέπονα φαρμακεύειν, καὶ κινέειν, μὴ ὠμά“ — „Ἐν τῇσι
ripe(-humors) to-purge and to-stir not raw(-ones) in the
ταραχῇσι τῆς κοιλίης, καὶ τοῖσιν ἐμέτοισι“ παίγνια ταῦτα
disturbances of-the belly and the vomitings toys these
τοῖς ἀλλογλώσσαις δικασταῖς. Μίνως μὲν γὰρ Κρὴς,
for-the foreign-tongued judges Minos indeed for a-Cretan
Αἰακὸς δὲ ἀκριβῶς Ἕλλην, ἐκ τῆς παλαιᾶς Ἑλλάδος
Aeacus and precisely a-Hellene from the old Hellas
καὶ Θετταλίας· καὶ εἴ τις παρ᾽ αὐτοῖς Ἴων ἢ Δωριεὺς
and Thessaly and if any before them Ionian or Dorian
τῶν κατιόντων νεκρῶν δημηγορεῖν ἐπιβάλλοιτο, εὐθὺς
of-the descending dead to-orate should-attempt at-once
οὗτοι γελῶσι, καὶ ἡδέως ἀνακαγχάζουσιν. Ἐρασίστρατος
they laugh and gladly guffaw Erasistratus
δὲ σοφιστείας πάσης ἀμύητός ἐστι, καὶ γραμματικῆς
and in-sophistry all uninitiated is and of-grammar
ἀμέτοχος, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἰατρικῆς ἐπιστήμης οὐκ εὖ ἥκων,
without-share but also of-medical science not well possessed
πείρᾳ δὲ μόνῃ λαβὼν τὸ κενὸν ἐκεῖνο κατὰ ἰατρικὴν
by-experience but alone having-gained the empty that in medicine
δοξάριον, καὶ φρονήσει ἐμφύτῳ, καὶ τριβῇ πραγμάτων
bit-of-fame and by-sense inborn and practice of-cases
πολλῶν· ἀφ᾽ ἧς καὶ τὸν Ἀντιόχου πρὸς Στρατονίκην
many from which also the of-Antiochus for Stratonice
ἐφώρασεν ἔρωτα, ὅθεν καὶ ὑψώθη τὰ μέγιστα.
detected love whence also he-was-exalted the highest

„Ὅ γε μὴν δαιμόνιος Γαληνὸς, ὃν ἐγὼ μᾶλλον τῶν 29
the — indeed marvelous Galen whom I more than-the
ἄλλων δεδίττομαι, κατὰ θείαν ἴσως ἐπικουρίαν ἄπεστι νῦν
others fear by divine perhaps aid is-absent now
τοῦ συλλόγου τῶν ἰατρῶν· τὸ δὲ αἴτιον, ὅ τι καὶ
from-the assembly of-the physicians the and cause(-is) what any also
πρὸ μικροῦ ἠκηκόειν αὐτοῦ αἰτιωμένου, τὸ περὶ διαφορᾶς
before a-little I-had-heard him alleging the on difference
βιβλίον πυρετῶν. Καὶ νῦν ἐγγωνιάζει μακράν που
book of-fevers and now he-sits-in-a-corner far somewhere
πάσης συγχύσεως καὶ κραυγῆς ἀπηλλαγμένος, κατὰ μελέτην
from-all confusion and clamor removed in study
ἑτέραν τῆς προσθήκης τῶν ἐλλειμμάτων τοῦ βιβλίου. Ἔφη
another of-the addition of-the omissions of-the book he-said
δέ ποτε, ὡς μείζων ἂν ἡ προστιθεμένη τῆς προλαβούσης
and once that greater — the being-added than-the earlier
πραγματείας γένοιτο. Ἀπόντος οὖν τούτου, μικρόν ἐστιν
treatise would-be absent then him small is
ἔργον ἡμῖν ὑπερσχεῖν τοὺς κομψοὺς τούτους καὶ ἀναύδους
a-task for-us to-overcome the elegant these and speechless
ἰατρούς. Ἀλλὰ μηδὲ τοὺς ἑλληνοθρήσκους δικαστὰς δέδιθι·
physicians but not-even the pagan judges fear
λίαν γάρ εἰσι τοῦ δικαίου περιεχόμενοι· ἐφ' ᾧ καὶ πρὸς
very for they-are to-the just clinging for which also to
τὸν δικαστικὸν θρόνον ἀνήχθησαν. Τό γε μὴν ἐξηλλαγμένον
the judicial throne they-were-raised the — indeed difference
τῆς θεολογίας τῶν ἐπιδίκων, οὐδὲν πρὸς αὐτούς· ἀνεῖται
of-the theology of-the litigants nothing(-is) to them it-is-allowed
γὰρ τῷ βουλομένῳ τῆς οἰκείας, ὡς βουλητὸν, αἱρέσεως
for to-the(-one) wishing to-the own as willed sect
ἔχεσθαι. Ἀλλ' ὅμως τῆς τῶν Γαλιλαίων δόξης ἐπὶ πᾶσαν
to-hold but nevertheless the of-the Galileans creed over all

τὴν οἰκουμένην διαδραμούσης, καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν Εὐρώπην
the world having-run and all — Europe
κατασχούσης, τὰ πολλὰ δὲ καὶ τῆς Ἀσίας, ἔδοξε τῇ
having-possessed the greater-part and also — of-Asia it-seemed-good to-the
προνοίᾳ, καὶ τοιοῦτόν τινα καθίσαι τοῖς ἀρχαίοις Ἕλλησι
providence also such a to-seat with-the ancient Hellene
τούτοις δικασταῖς σύνεδρον. Καὶ νῦν Θεόφιλος, ὅ ποτε
these judges colleague and now Theophilus the(-one) once
βασιλεύσας ἐν Βυζαντίῳ, συνθεμιστεύει τούτοις, καὶ οὐδέν
having-reigned in Byzantium judges-with them and no
τι ψήφισμα βεβαιοῦται, μὴ κἀκείνου συγκατανεύσαντος.
— decree is-ratified not he-too having-assented
Οἶσθα δὲ ἀκηκοὼς ἐκ τῶν ἱστορουμένων περὶ ἐκείνου,
you-know and having-heard from the(-things) related about him
ὡς λίαν δικαιότατος ἦν· ὥστ᾽ εἰκότως οὐδὲν δέος,
that very most-just he-was so-that reasonably no fear(-there-is)
παροφθῆναι ἡμᾶς, ἢ μὴν τοῦ δικαίου στερήσεσθαι· μόνον
to-be-overlooked us or indeed of-the just to-be-deprived only
παρασταίημεν τῷ δικαστηρίῳ. Σὺ δ᾽ ὅρα, ὅπως ἐπίσχῃς
may-we-stand-before the court you but see that you-may-restrain
αὐτὸν τοῦ λέγειν, ἀφυὴς ὢν περὶ τὸ δικάζεσθαι· ἡμῖν
yourself from-the to-speak unskilled being at the to-plead to-us
δὲ δώσεις τοῦ λέγειν τὸ ἀπερίκοπον.“
and you-will-give of-the to-speak the free-rein
30 Ἐν τοσούτῳ δὲ καὶ οἱ νεκραγωγοὶ πλησιάσαντες ἠρώτων
in the-meantime and also the corpse-guides having-approached asked
αὐτὸν, εἰ γνωστός εἰμι παρ᾽ αὐτῷ. Ἡ δ᾽ αὐτὸς, ὅτι καὶ
him whether known I-am to him said and he that even
φοιτητής· „ἐλεύσομαι δὲ μεθ᾽ ὑμῶν, καὶ συνδικήσω αὐτῷ
a-pupil I-will-come and with you and I-will-plead-with him
καθ᾽ ὑμῶν, οὕτως ἠδικημένῳ, καὶ πρὸ ὥρας ἀναρπασθέντι
against you so wronged and before time snatched-away

τοῦ ζῆν.“ Ταῦτα εἶπε καὶ ἅμα πάντες ἐβαίνομεν, καὶ τοῦ
from-the living these-things he-said and together all we-walked and to-the
πρόσω εἰχόμεθα· καὶ ὅσον στάδια πέντε καὶ δέκα διὰ
onward(-way) we-held and about stades five and ten through
τοῦ ζοφεροῦ ἐκείνου καὶ σκοτεινοῦ χώρου ὁδεύσαντες, μόλις
the murky that and dark region having-traveled scarcely
ποτὲ τινος φωτὸς ὁρῶμεν διαύγειαν. Εἶτα καὶ ἐγγυτέρω τῷ
at-last of-some light we-see glimmer then and nearer by-the
προϊέναι γενόμενοι, μᾶλλον ὁρῶμεν τὸ φῶς πλατυνόμενον,
going-on having-come more we-see the light broadening
καὶ οὕτω κατ᾽ ὀλίγον τοῦ σκότους ἀπαλλαγέντες, ἐπὶ
and so by little from-the darkness freed to
φωτεινὸν ἐξαγόμεθα τόπον, λειβόμενον ὕδατι, καὶ φυτοῖς
a-bright we-are-led-out place watered with-water and with-plants
παντοίοις κατάκομον, καὶ ποταμῷ μεγίστῳ καταῤῥεόμενον.
of-all-kinds thick and by-a-river very-great flowed-through
Ἄλση δὲ παντοῖα, καὶ στρουθοὶ τορὸν μάλιστα καὶ μουσικὸν
groves and of-all-kinds and sparrows shrill very and musical
ᾄδοντες· καὶ πεδιὰς τούτοις πᾶσιν ὑπέστρατο χλοερά· καὶ,
singing and a-plain these all spread-under green and
ὡς ἐκ τοῦ σοφιστοῦ ἠκηκόειν, ἤδη προειληφότος τῇ
as from the sophist I-had-heard already having-grasped in-the
γνώσει τῶν ἐν ᾅδου, οὐδὲ χειμὼν ἔπεισι τῷ χώρῳ, ἢ
knowledge of-the(-things) in Hades not-even winter comes-on the region or
ἀλλοίωσίς τις τοῦ φαινομένου καταστήματος· ἀλλ᾽ ἄφθαρτα
alteration any of-the visible state but imperishable
καὶ ἀγήρω πάντα, καὶ μετὰ καρπῶν ἀϊδίων τὰ δένδρα, καὶ
and ageless all and with fruits everlasting the trees and
ὥρα μία ἐαρινὴ, ἀμετάβλητος τὸ παράπαν καὶ ἀναλλοίωτος.
season one vernal unchanging the altogether and unaltered
Τοῦτο δ᾽ ἦν τὸ παρὰ τὸν βίον θρυλλούμενον πεδίον
this and was the in the life celebrated plain

Ἠλύσιον καὶ Ἀσφοδελὸς λειμών· ταῦτα ἤκουσα παρὰ τοῦ
Elysian and Asphodel meadow these-things I-heard from the
σοφιστοῦ, ὅτε πρῶτον μακρόθεν τὴν διαύγειαν εἴδομεν.
sophist when first from-afar the glimmer we-saw

VI · THE COURT OF THE DEAD

Resting on the grass, Timarion fears the trial, and the sophist cheers him. At the court sit Aeacus and Minos, the pagan judges in Arab dress, and the emperor Theophilus in plain black with his guardian angel at his ear. The sophist indicts the guides Oxybas and Nyction for tearing Timarion's soul from a body still eating, drinking, and riding; Nyction answers that a man who has lost all his bile cannot live on three elements. The judges adjourn to the third day to call Asclepius and Hippocrates, Timarion gathers herbs under a pine, and at dawn on the third day the herald calls the case again.

31 Ὁπηνίκα δὲ κατὰ τὸν φωτεινὸν ἐγεγόνειμεν τόπον,
when and in the bright we-had-come place
αἰτησαμένου τοῦ σοφιστοῦ μικρόν τι καθίσαντες ἐπὶ χλόης
having-asked the sophist a-little — having-sat on grass
ἀνεπαυσάμεθα· καὶ ἀναστάντες εἶτα ἐπορευόμεθα, ὅσον
we-rested and having-risen then we-went-on as-though
ἤδη τῷ δικαστηρίῳ παραστησόμενοι. Ἐγὼ γοῦν,
already before-the court going-to-stand I at-any-rate
ἅτε τῶν ἐκεῖ πραγμάτων οὐκ ἔμπειρος ὤν, ἄλλως τε
as of-the there affairs not experienced being besides —
καὶ λέγειν οὐκ ἐπιτήδειος, ἐδεδίειν τὰ μέγιστα, καὶ τῷ
also to-speak not fit feared the most and to-the
σοφιστῇ προσήγγιζον, καὶ τὴν πτοίαν ἀπήγγελλον. Ὁ
sophist drew-near and the alarm reported he
δέ με λόγοις σοφοῖς ἐπανῆγεν εἰς εὐθυμίαν, καὶ πάντα
and me with-words wise brought-back to good-cheer and all

καλῶς ἕξειν ἡμῖν διετείνετο. „Μόνον αὐτὸς ὅρα,“ φησὶν,
well would-go for-us insisted only you see he-says
„ὅπως ἀναβιώσας στελεῖς ἐκεῖθεν ὧν χρείαν ἔχομεν·
that having-come-back-to-life you-will-send from-there what need we-have
ἐξ οὗ γὰρ ἐνταῦθα κατῆλθον, ζωμὸς οὐ παρετέθη
since when for here I-came-down broth not was-set-before
μοι χοιρείᾳ πιμελῇ λιπαινόμενος. Ὅμως τἆλλα εἰσαῦθις
me with-pork fat enriched however the-rest hereafter
ἀκούσῃ, κυρωθείσης σοι παρὰ τοῦ δικαστηρίου τῆς
you-will-hear ratified for-you by the court the
ἀναβιώσεως.“ Ταῦτα καὶ τὰ τοιαῦτα λεγόντων ἡμῶν, καὶ
return-to-life these-things and the like saying we and
προϊόντων οὐκ ἀπὸ τόξου βολῆς, ἐφάνη τὸ δικαστήριον,
going-on not from of-a-bow shot appeared the court
καὶ δίκης ἤδη λυθείσης ἠκηκόειμεν· Καῖσαρ ἀδίκως
and a-suit already having-been-decided we-had-heard Caesar unjustly
ὑπὸ Κασσίου καὶ Βρούτου ἀνῃρημένος. Τί μὲν οὖν
by Cassius and Brutus slain what indeed then
ἀπεφάνθη λέγειν οὐκ ἔχω· ἔστρεφον γὰρ παρ᾽ ἑαυτῷ τὴν
was-pronounced to-say not I-can I-turned for within myself the
διάνοιαν πᾶσαν, καὶ τῶν κατ᾽ ἐμὲ εἰχόμην ὁλοσχερῶς.
mind whole and to-the(-things) about me I-held wholly
Τέως γοῦν ὑπεξελθόντων ἐκείνων οἱ εἰσαγωγεῖς τῶν 32
meanwhile at-any-rate having-withdrawn those the introducers of-the
δικῶν παριόντες πρὸς ἡμῖν ἐγένοντο, καὶ, „Τί φῄς, ὦ
suits coming-forward with us were and what do-you-say O
νεόνεκρε σύ; καὶ σὺ εἰσαχθήσῃ,“ φασὶν, „εἰς τὸ δικαστήριον.“
new-dead you also you will-be-brought-in they-say into the court
Καὶ ὁ σοφιστὴς ὠθήσας ἀγκῶνί με εἰς τοὐπίσω, αὐτὸς
and the sophist having-pushed with-elbow me to the-back himself
ἐδημηγόρει τοῦ λοιποῦ, καὶ, „Ὦ διάκονοι τοῦ δικαίου,“
harangued for-the rest and O ministers of-the just

φησὶν, „εἰσαγάγετε τάχιον ἡμᾶς ἐπὶ τοὺς δικαιοτάτους
he-says bring-in quickly us before the most-just
δικαστὰς, καὶ ὄψεσθε τὸ γενόμενον τῶν πώποτε
judges and you-will-see the(-thing) done than-the ever
μνημονευομένων ἀδίκων ἀσεβέστερον ἅμα καὶ ἀνομώτερον,
remembered wrongs more-impious at-once and more-lawless
ὅπερ οἱ καλοὶ οὗτοι νεκροπομποὶ περὶ τὸν ταλαίπωρον
which the fine these dead-escorts to the wretch
τοῦτον εἰργάσαντο. Ἀλλ' ὑμῖν, ὦ δικαιότατοι, τόγε νῦν
this did but to-you O most-just the-matter now
ἔχον κατὰ τοὺς νεκρικοὺς νόμους ὑποτιθέντες, ἀφιστάμεθα
standing according-to the dead's laws submitting we-stand-apart
τῶν κακίστων τούτων νεκραγωγῶν· καὶ Μίνω, καὶ Αἰακὸν,
from-the worst these corpse-guides and Minos and Aeacus
καὶ τὸν ἐκ Βυζαντίου Θεόφιλον ἐπικαλούμεθα κατὰ τῶν
and the from Byzantium Theophilus we-invoke against the
μιαρῶν τούτων καὶ μισοδίκων ἀνδρῶν. Συσχόντες οὖν καὶ
foul these and justice-hating men having-seized then also
τούτους τῷ δικαστηρίῳ παραστήσατε, κριθησομένους,
them before-the court set to-be-judged
ὡς ἕνεκεν εἰς τοὺς νεκρικοὺς νόμους ἐξήμαρτον. Ποῦ γὰρ
as regarding against the dead's laws they-transgressed where for
τοῖς ἐν ᾅδου δέδοκται, ψυχὴν ἀποσπᾶν τοῦ σώματος
by-those in Hades has-it-been-decreed a-soul to-tear from-the body
ἔτι ζωτικῶς ἔχοντος; καὶ τοῦ νοσοῦντος ἐφ' ἵππου τὴν ζωὴν
still alive being and the sick-man on horse the life
διανύοντος, καὶ ὅλην ἀλεκτορίδα καθ' ἡμέραν ἐσθίοντος;"
passing and whole a-hen by day eating
33 Ταῦτα εἶπεν ὁ σοφιστὴς, καὶ τοὺς νεκραγωγοὺς οἱ
these-things said the sophist and the corpse-guides the
εἰσαγωγεῖς συλλαβόμενοι ταῖς χερσὶν εἰσῆγον μεθ' ἡμῶν
introducers having-seized with-the hands led-in with us

εἰς τὸ δικαστήριον, καὶ παρέστημεν ἅπαντες, προκαθημένων
into the court and we-stood all presiding
Αἰακοῦ, καὶ Μίνωος, καὶ Θεοφίλου τοῦ Γαλιλαίου. Ἦν δὲ
Aeacus and Minos and Theophilus the Galilean was and
τοῖς Ἕλλησιν ἡ στολὴ πλατεῖα πάνυ, καὶ σουδάρια ἐπὶ
for-the Hellenes the robe broad very and kerchiefs on
κεφαλῆς, κατὰ τοὺς τῶν Ἀράβων ἡγεμόνας· κρηπῖδες δὲ
head after the of-the Arabs emirs boots and
αὐτοῖς ἐστηκυῖαι, ἴῳ τὴν χρόαν ἐμφερεῖς. Ὅ γε μὴν
their upright to-violet in-the color like — — indeed
Θεόφιλος οὐδέν τι λαμπρὸν ἢ ἀνθηρὸν ἐνεδέδυτο· λιτότητι
Theophilus nothing — bright or gay had-put-on in-plainness
δὲ, καὶ αὐχμηρίᾳ συνεσκεύαστο, καὶ ἐμελανειμόνει. Ἐλέγετο
but and squalor was-dressed and wore-black he-was-said
δὲ κἀν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τοιοῦτος εἶναι, ἄκομψος πάνυ τῷ
and even-in the reign such to-be unadorned very in-the
φαινομένῳ, καὶ ἀπέριττος· τῇ γε μὴν εὐθυδικίᾳ καὶ
appearance and plain in-the — indeed uprightness and
τῇ ἄλλῃ ἀρετῇ πάνυ λαμπρὸς, καὶ φιλότιμος. Ἀλλὰ καὶ
the other virtue very brilliant and munificent but even
οὕτως ἔχων αὐχμοῦ χάριν τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἀπεδίδου, καὶ
so being of-squalor grace to-the eyes rendered and
λαμπρὸς ἦν τὸ πρόσωπον, καὶ τεθαῤῥηκώς. Παρίστατο
bright was in-the face and confident stood-beside
δέ τις αὐτῷ λευκενδύτης, ἀπώγων, ἐοικὼς τοῖς περὶ
and a-certain him white-robed(-one) beardless like to-the around
τὰς βασιλίσσας τομίαις, λαμπρὸς μάλα κἀκεῖνος, καὶ
the empresses eunuchs bright very he-too and
τὸ πρόσωπον ἀποστίλβων δίκην ἡλίου· καὶ συχνὰ παρὰ
in-the face shining like the-sun and often at
τὸ οὖς ὑπεψιθύριζε τῷ βασιλεῖ. Κἀγὼ τὸν σοφιστὴν
the ear whispered to-the emperor and-I the sophist

ἀνηρόμην· „Τοῦτον μὲν τὸν καθήμενον ἐξ ὧν ἔφης μοι
asked this indeed the(-one) seated from what you-said to-me
πρὸ τῆς χθὲς, συνέγνων εἶναι τὸν ἐκ Βύζαντος Θεόφιλον.
before the yesterday I-recognized to-be the from Byzas Theophilus
Τὸν δὲ παριστάμενον τομίαν οὐκ οἶδα ὅστις ἐστίν.“ Ἡ
the but standing-beside eunuch not I-know who he-is said
δ’ ὃς ὁ σοφιστής· „Ἀγνοεῖς, ὦ κάλλιστε Τιμαρίων,
and he the sophist you-do-not-know O finest Timarion
ὡς ἑκάστῳ τῶν χριστιανῶν βασιλέων ἄγγελος δέδοται,
that to-each of-the Christian emperors an-angel has-been-given
τὰ ποιητέα τούτῳ ὑποτιθέμενος; ἕπεται δὲ κἀνταῦθα
the(-things) to-be-done to-him suggesting follows and here-too
τούτῳ, καθὼς αὐτῷ καὶ παρὰ τὸν βίον συνείπετο.“
him as him also in the life accompanied
Ταῦτα λεγόντων ἡμῶν πρὸς ἀλλήλους, καὶ σιγμοῦ παρὰ
these-things saying we to one-another and a-hush from
τῶν εἰσαγωγέων ἐξηχθέντος, ὁ σοφιστὴς διογκώσας τὸ
the introducers having-been-called the sophist having-puffed-out the
στόμα, οἷος ἐκεῖνος, καὶ σεμνώσας τὸ πρόσωπον, καὶ τὼ
mouth as-was his-way and having-made-solemn the face and the
χεῖρε προσάλληλα συνελίξας, τορόν τι μάλα ἐβόησεν·
two-hands together having-clasped shrill somewhat very cried
„Τιμαρίων Τιμονίκου Ὀξύβαντα καὶ Νυκτίωνα, τοὺς
Timarion son-of-Timonicus Oxybas and Nyction the
νεκραγωγοὺς, παρανομίας γράφεται. Τῶν γὰρ νεκρικῶν
corpse-guides of-lawbreaking indicts the for dead's
νόμων διαῤῥήδην βοώντων, μὴ εἰς ᾅδου καταχθῆναι
laws expressly proclaiming not to Hades to-be-brought-down
ψυχὴν, πρὶν ἂν τὸ σῶμα ἢ ὁλόκληρον, ἢ κατά τι τῶν
a-soul before — the body either wholly or in some of-the
καιρίων μορίων φθαρῇ, καὶ τὰς τῆς ψυχῆς ἐνεργείας
vital parts may-be-destroyed and the of-the soul activities

ἀποσείσηται· πλὴν ἀλλὰ καὶ διαιρεθέντος τοῦ σώματος
may-shake-off nevertheless but even divided the body
τὴν ψυχὴν παραμεῖναί οἱ ἔξωθεν παρακαθημένην μεχρὶ
the soul to-remain-beside it outside sitting-beside until
τῶν τριῶν ἡμερῶν, καὶ οὕτω τοῖς νεκραγωγοῖς ἐξεῖναι
the three days and so for-the corpse-guides to-be-allowed
ταύτην λαβεῖν· οὗτοι μηδὲν τῶν θειοτάτων τούτων
it to-take these nothing of-the most-divine these
θεσπισμάτων φροντίσαντες, ἔτι καλῶς ἔχοντος Τιμαρίωνος,
decrees having-heeded still well being Timarion
ἐσθίοντος, πίνοντος, ἀστραβηλατοῦντος, οἱ καλοὶ καὶ περὶ
eating drinking riding the fine and about
τοῦ δέοντος ὀξεῖς οὗτοι νεκραγωγοί, ἀωρὶ τῶν νυκτῶν
the needful keen these corpse-guides untimely of-the nights
ἐπιστάντες αὐτῷ κατὰ τὴν παραποταμίαν ἔπαυλιν, βίᾳ
having-stood-over him at the riverside farmhouse by-force
τὴν ψυχὴν τοῦ σώματος διεῖλον, ἰσχυρῶς ἐμφυομένην
the soul from-the body parted strongly grown-into
τῷ σώματι, καὶ δυσαποσπάστως αὐτοῦ ἔχουσαν. Ἐφ'
the body and inseparably to-it holding for
ᾧ καὶ ὕφαιμος ἔτι ἐστὶ, καὶ σταγόνες αἵματος ἰσχναὶ
which also bloodshot still it-is and drops of-blood thin
αὐτῆς ἀποπίπτουσιν· ἅτε κεκραμένης βεβαίως τότε
from-it fall as having-been-blended firmly then
τῷ σώματι, ὅτε διῃρεῖτο βιαίως. Δίκαιον οὖν ἐστιν,
with-the body when it-was-parted violently just then it-is
ὦ δικασταὶ, ἀναβιῶναι πάλιν τὸν ἄνθρωπον, καὶ τὸ
O judges to-come-back-to-life again the man and the
ἴδιον ἀπολαβεῖν σῶμα, καὶ τὸν εἱμαρμένον ἀναπληρῶσαι
own to-get-back body and the fated to-fill-up

χρόνον· εἶτα τοῖς φυσικοῖς ὅροις διαιρεθέντα καταχθῆναι
time then by-the natural limits parted to-be-brought-down
πάλιν ἐνταῦθα, τοῖς νεκροῖς δεόντως συνταγησόμενον."
again here with-the dead duly to-be-ranked
Ταῦτα εἶπε, καὶ ὁ Μίνως δριμύτερον τοῖς νεκραγωγοῖς
these-things he-said and — Minos rather-sharply at-the corpse-guides
ἐνιδὼν, „Λέγετε," φησὶ, „καὶ ὑμεῖς, μοχθηρότατοι, πρὸς
having-looked speak he-says also you most-wretched to
ταῦτα τὸ δοκοῦν ὑμῖν· οὐκ ἐν καλῷ γὰρ ὑμῖν κείσεται, εἰ
these-things the seeming to-you not in good for for-you it-will-lie if
παρὰ τοὺς νεκρικοὺς νόμους φαίνοισθε διαπραξάμενοι."
against the dead's laws you-should-appear having-acted
Καὶ ὁ Νυκτίων, λαμυρώτερος ὢν τοῦ Ὀξύβαντος,
and — Nyction bolder being — than-Oxybas
φησίν· „Ἡμεῖς, ὦ θειότατοι δικασταὶ, πρὸς ταύτην τὴν
says we O most-divine judges to this the
λειτουργίαν ἐξ ἀρχαίων τῶν χρόνων, τῶν ἐπὶ τοῦ
service from ancient the times the(-ones) in-the-time-of —
Κρόνου δηλαδὴ, καταστάντες, ἀκριβῶς τὰ περὶ τῶν
Cronus namely appointed precisely the(-things) about the
καταγομένων γινώσκομεν, καὶ τὰς αἰτίας πάσας ἐπιστάμεθα,
ones-brought-down know and the causes all understand
δι' ὧν ψυχὴ ἐπὶ τὸν ᾍδην κατάγεται. Τοῦτον οὖν τὸν
through which a-soul to — Hades is-brought-down this then the
ταλαίπωρον Τιμαρίωνα ἐκ Θεσσαλονίκης παρατηρήσαντες
wretched Timarion from Thessalonica having-watched
ἄχρι τοῦ κατὰ τὴν Θρᾴκην μεγίστου ποταμοῦ, ὑπὸ
as-far-as the in — Thrace greatest river by
διαῤῥοίας ἅπαν τὸ τέταρτον τῶν στοιχείων κενώσαντα, τὴν
flux all the fourth of-the elements having-emptied the
χολὴν δηλονότι· καὶ παρὰ τῶν μεγίστων ἰατρῶν διδαχθέντες
bile namely and by the greatest physicians having-been-taught

κανόνα, καθόλου μὴ πρὸς τῆς φύσεως εἶναι ἄνθρωπον ζῆν
a-rule at-all not of the nature to-be a-man to-live
τρισὶ στοιχείοις διοικούμενον· ὡς εἴδομεν ἐπὶ τριάκοντα
by-three elements governed when we-saw for thirty
νυχθημέροις τὴν χολὴν κενουμένην, ἐπήλθομεν τῷ σκίμποδι,
days-and-nights the bile being-emptied we-came-upon the pallet
καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν, ὡς μὴ θεμιτὸν αὐτῇ ὂν τοιούτῳ συνεῖναι
and the soul as not lawful for-it being with-such to-be-joined
σώματι, ἐξεκαλεσάμεθα. Ὑμῖν δὲ, δικαιότατοι δικασταὶ, τὸ
a-body we-called-out by-you and most-just judges the
δοκοῦν ἀποφανθήτω, καὶ ἡμεῖς τοῖς νομίμοις ὑποκεισόμεθα.“
seeming let-be-declared and we to-the laws will-submit
Ταῦτα εἶπον ἐκεῖνοι· πρὸς ἀλλήλους δὲ οἱ δικασταὶ μικρὸν
these-things said they to one-another and the judges a-little
ὑποψιθυρίσαντες, τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην ἀνεβάλλοντο τὴν
having-whispered the day that postponed the
ἀπόφασιν· δεῖν οὖν, ἔφασαν, ἡμῖν καὶ τῆς παρουσίας
verdict to-be-needful then they-said for-us also of-the presence
τῶν μεγίστων ἰατρῶν, Ἀσκληπιοῦ καὶ Ἱπποκράτους, ὡς
of-the greatest physicians Asclepius and Hippocrates as
μετ’ ἐκείνων ἄριστα κριθησομένης τῆς ὑποθέσεως· „δεῖται
with them best going-to-be-judged the case it-needs
γὰρ ἐπιστήμης ἰατρικῆς. Καὶ τόγε νῦν ἔχον ἐπὶ
for science medical and the-matter now standing in
μετεώρου λυθήτω τὸ δικαστήριον· ἐς τρίτην δὲ ἡμέραν
suspense let-be-dismissed the court on third and day
συνόντων ἡμῖν καὶ τῶν μεγίστων ἰατρῶν λυθήσεται τὸ
being-with us also the greatest physicians will-be-resolved the
ἀμφιβαλλόμενον.“
disputed(-point)

Ταῦτα εἶπον οἱ δικασταὶ, καὶ ἀναστάντες ἐπὶ τὸ ἐνδότερον
these-things said the judges and having-risen to the inner(-part)
τοῦ λειμῶνος ἐβάδιζον· καὶ ἡμᾶς οἱ εἰσαγωγεῖς λαβόντες
of-the meadow walked and us the introducers having-taken
ἅμα τοῖς νεκραγωγοῖς ἐπὶ τὸν ζοφερὸν ἐκεῖνον τόπον
together-with the corpse-guides to the murky that place
ἐβάδιζον· πλὴν οὐ μακρὰν εἰς τοὐπίσω, ἀλλ᾽ ἔνθα τῷ
walked but not far to the-back but where with-the
φωτεινῷ ἐκείνῳ συνάπτεται, ὡς δοκεῖν εἶναι λυκόφως
bright that(-region) it-joins so-that to-seem to-be twilight
τὸ ἐκ τῆς μίξεως ἀμφοῖν παραφαινόμενον αὔγασμα.
the from the mixture of-both showing gleam
36 Ἐν ὅσῳ δὲ τὰ τῆς δίκης πρότερον ἐσκοπεῖτο
in the-time-that and the(-matters) of-the suit earlier were-being-examined
παρὰ τῶν δικαστῶν, κύψας ἐμοὶ πρὸς τὸ οὖς ὁ
by the judges having-stooped to-me at the ear the
σοφιστὴς, „Ἴθι, ὦ οὗτος,“ ἔφη, „παρὰ τὴν πίτυν ἐκείνην
sophist go O you-there he-said to the pine that
(δείξας ὑψηλὴν καὶ κατάκομον)· καὶ παρὰ τὴν σκιὰν
having-pointed-out(-one) tall and leafy and by the shade
αὐτῆς εὑρήσεις λαχάνων εἴδη γνωστῶν σοι, καὶ μὴ γνωστῶν
its you-will-find of-herbs kinds known to-you and not known
ἃ πάντα ῥιζοτομήσας ἀνελοῦ παρ᾽ ἑαυτῷ· ἔστι γὰρ οὐδὲν
which all having-dug-up take-up with yourself is for nothing
ἐνταῦθα δηλητηριῶδες, ἀλλὰ πάντα ἡδέα, καὶ τρόφιμα. Καὶ
here poisonous but all sweet and nourishing and
εἴ τίς σοι ἐνταῦθα παραμονὴ πρόκειται, τραφήσῃ τούτοις
if any for-you here stay lies-ahead you-will-be-fed on-these
μεθ᾽ ἡμῶν, καὶ χαρήσῃ· πνεύματος γὰρ θειοτέρου καὶ ἀέρος
with us and you-will-rejoice a-breath for more-divine and air

παραπολαύοντα τὰ ἐνταῦθα φυόμενα, ἡδεῖαν ἔχουσι
enjoying the(-things) here growing sweet have
καὶ πρὸς τροφῆς τὴν ὀδμὴν, καὶ μετὰ τροφὴν τὴν ἐρυγήν.“
both before eating the smell and after eating the belch
Κἀγὼ ἑτοίμως πεισθεὶς τῷ διδασκάλῳ ἀπῄειν παρὰ
and-I readily having-obeyed the teacher went-off to
τὴν πίτυν, καὶ λαχανευσάμενος ὅσα εἰκὸς, φορτίον
the pine and having-gathered-herbs as-many-as fitting a-load
ἱκανὸν ἐπεσαξάμην· καὶ τῷ σοφιστῇ συνελθὼν εὐθὺς
sufficient I-packed-on and with-the sophist having-joined straightway
ἐξηλαύνομεν ἅμα τοῖς ἄγουσι, καὶ τοῖς ἀντικειμένοις·
we-marched-out together-with the guides and the opponents
καὶ παρὰ τὴν συναφὴν τοῦ φωτεινοῦ καὶ ζοφεροῦ
and at the junction of-the bright and murky
καταλύσαντες χώρου ὅσον νυχθήμερα δύο, ἀρχομένου
having-lodged region about days-and-nights two beginning
τοῦ τρίτου, περὶ ἀλεκτόρων φωνὴν, εἴκασεν ἄν
the third about of-cocks crowing would-have-guessed —
τις, ἀναστάντες ἐβαδίζομεν πρὸς τὸ δικαστήριον· καὶ
one having-risen we-walked to the court and
διανύσαντες τάχιον τὴν ὁδὸν, ἥκομεν παρὰ τὸ βῆμα τῶν
having-finished quickly the road we-came to the tribunal of-the
δικαστῶν, μηδενὸς προειληφότος ἡμᾶς.
judges no-one having-preceded us

Ἠὼς μὲν κροκόπεπλος ἐκίδνατο πᾶσαν ἐπ’ αἶαν.
Dawn indeed saffron-robed was-spreading all over earth

Ἀσκληπιὸς δὲ καὶ Ἱπποκράτης καθήμενοι παρὰ τοῖς
Asclepius and and Hippocrates sitting beside the
δικασταῖς, ἠγορέοντο καὶ διεσκόπουν, τί ἂν ἀποφανθείη
judges conferred and considered what — might-be-declared

περὶ ἡμᾶς, καὶ τῷ κήρυκι ἀπήγγελλον, ἄγειν ἐς αὐτοὺς
about us and to-the herald gave-word to-bring before them
τὴν πρὸ τριῶν τούτων ἡμερῶν προτεθεῖσαν δίκην κατὰ
the before three these days proposed suit against
Νυκτίωνος καὶ Ὀξύβαντος τῶν νεκροπομπῶν. Καὶ ὃς
Nyction and Oxybas the dead-escorts and he
ἀνεῖπεν ὡς ἔθος· „Οἱ κατὰ Νυκτίωνος καὶ Ὀξύβαντος
proclaimed as custom(-is) the(-ones) against Nyction and Oxybas
γραψάμενοι πρότριτα, πάριτε νῦν, ὡς ἂν τὸ δόξαν
having-indicted three-days-before come-forward now so-that — the decision
τῷ θειοτάτῳ δικαστηρίῳ τὴν σήμερον ἀποφανθῇ.“
to-the most-divine court the today may-be-declared

VII · THE VERDICT

Brought before the court, Timarion watches Asclepius and Hippocrates in Arab dress. The guides answer that by the physicians' own rule no creature lives without all four humors, and Timarion had voided bile for thirty days. The sophist replies that a body riding home from Thessalonica was not fit for death and that the rites were not awaited; two inspectors find fresh blood still clinging to the soul, and he argues that what was voided was only bile-stained food. The court expels Nyction and Oxybas from the guides' rank and restores Timarion to his body until his fated time.

37 Καὶ οἱ εἰσαγωγεῖς λαβόμενοι πάντων ἡμῶν τῶν γραφόντων
and the introducers having-taken all of-us the indicting
καὶ γραφομένων, εἰσήγαγον, καὶ τῷ δικαστηρίῳ
and indicted led-in(-us) and before-the court
παρεστήσαντο· καὶ ὁ μὲν σοφιστὴς ἐσκόπει περὶ τῶν
set(-us) and the indeed sophist considered about the(-things)
λεκτέων· ἐγὼ δὲ τὴν ὅρασιν ἀεὶ ἐς Ἀσκληπιὸν καὶ
to-be-said I but the gaze always at Asclepius and

Ἱπποκράτην ἀπέτεινον. Καὶ τοῦ μὲν Ἀσκληπιοῦ πρόσωπον
Hippocrates directed and — indeed of-Asclepius face
οὐκ εἶδον· κεκάλυπτο γὰρ χρυσοπάστῳ καλύπτρᾳ, διαφανεῖ
not I-saw it-was-veiled for with-gold-spangled veil transparent
μέντοι καὶ διαυγεῖ, ὡς ὁρᾷν μὲν ἐκεῖνον πάντα, αὐτὸν
however and translucent so-that to-see indeed him all him
δὲ ὑπ᾽ οὐδενὸς ὁρᾶσθαι κενῇ δόξῃ θεώσεως ἀγόμενον τὸν
but by no-one to-be-seen by-empty conceit of-deification led the
παράφρονα. Ἱπποκράτης δὲ Ἀραβικός τις ἐδόκει, ὀρθοπαγὲς
madman Hippocrates and Arab a seemed upright
καὶ ἐς ὀξὺ λῆγον τὸ ἐν τῇ κεφαλῇ περιφέρων σουδάριον.
and to a-point tapering the on the head wearing kerchief
Χιτὼν αὐτῷ ποδήρης, καὶ ἄζωστος, καὶ συνεχὴς δι᾽
a-tunic his(-was) reaching-the-feet and ungirt and continuous through
ὅλου τὴν ᾠαν, μηδ᾽ ὁπωσοῦν σχιζόμενος· καθειμένος τὸ
whole in-the border not at-all split letting-down the
γένειον, μεμιγμένος ἐξ ἴσου τὴν πολιάν· τὴν κεφαλὴν ἐν
beard mixed in equal(-part) in-the gray the head close
χρῷ κεκαρμένος κατὰ τοὺς στωϊκοὺς, ἴσως ἐκ τούτου
to-the-skin shorn after the Stoics perhaps from him
παρειληφότος τοῦ Ζήνωνος τὴν ἀπόκαρσιν, καὶ ταῖς αὐτοῦ
having-received — Zeno the shearing and for-the his
αἱρεσιώταις νομοθετήσαντος. Ἐμοῦ ταῦτα σκοποῦντος
sectaries having-legislated(-it) I these-things observing
ὁ γραμματεὺς εἰσῆγε τὸ γραμματεῖον, καὶ τὰ
the clerk brought-in the document and the(-things)
προγραφέντα εἰς ἐπήκοον ἀνεγίνωσκεν· ἦν δὲ τὰ
written-before into hearing read were and the(-things)
γεγραμμένα· „Τιμαρίων Τιμονίκου, διώκων Ὀξύβαντα καὶ
written Timarion son-of-Timonicus prosecuting Oxybas and
Νυκτίωνα·“ καὶ τὰ ἀπ᾽ ἀρχῆς ἄχρι τέλους· εὐθὺς
Nyction and the(-things) from beginning to end straightway

καὶ ἡ τῶν δικαστῶν διασκόπησις, καὶ ἡ τῆς ἀποφάσεως
also the of-the judges examination and the of-the verdict
ἀναβολὴ, μέχρις ἂν Ἱπποκράτης καὶ Ἀσκληπιὸς σύνεδροι
postponement until — Hippocrates and Asclepius assessors
γένωνται. Καὶ ἐπειδὴ τὰ τῆς ἀναγνώσεως τοῦ
might-become and when the(-things) of-the reading of-the
γραμματείου τέλος εἰλήφει, μικρὸν ὑποψιθυρίσαντες πρὸς
document end had-taken a-little having-whispered to
ἀλλήλους Ἱπποκράτης καὶ Ἀσκληπιὸς, προσκληθέντος καὶ
one-another Hippocrates and Asclepius having-been-called-in also
Ἐρασιστράτου, σιωπὴν εἶτα πρὸς ὀλίγον ἐπετηδεύσαντο.
Erasistratus silence then for a-little kept
Καὶ μετ' ἐκεῖνα βλοσυρῶς πως ἀντωπήσας
and after that grimly somehow having-looked-them-in-the-face
Ἱπποκράτης φησίν· „Ὦ Νυκτίων καὶ Ὀξύβα, τίνι τῶν
Hippocrates says O Nyction and Oxybas by-what of-the
νοσημάτων κατασχεθεῖσαν τὴν Τιμαρίωνος ψυχὴν, καὶ
diseases having-been-seized the of-Timarion soul and
εἰ διαιρεθεῖσαν τοῦ σώματος, ἢ μὴ διαιρεθεῖσαν ἀπ'
whether parted from-the body or not parted from
αὐτοῦ, ἀλλὰ βίᾳ διελόντες, ἐρῶσαν ἔτι τοῦ σώματος,
it but by-force having-parted(-it) loving still the body
ὧδε κατηγάγετε νῦν, εἴπατε τὸ τέος ἡμῖν.“
here you-brought-down now tell the for-now to-us
38 Καὶ οἱ νεκροπομποὶ μικρὸν ὑπολαβόντες, „Ἡμεῖς, ὦ μέγιστε
and the dead-escorts a-little answering we O greatest
τῶν ἰατρῶν,“ φασὶν, „οὐδέν τι παράνομον ἢ ἀπεοικὸς
of-the physicians they-say nothing — unlawful or unfitting
τοῖς κανόσιν ὑμῶν διεπραξάμεθα. Αὐτοὶ πάντως ἐστὲ
to-the rules your did yourselves surely you-are
οἱ κανόνα τοῦτον καθ' ὅλου κατὰ τὸν βίον πήξαντες,
the(-ones) rule this in general in the life having-fixed

μὴ ζῶον εἶναι, ἢ γενέσθαι, ὃ μὴ τοῖς τέτταρσι τούτοις
not a-creature to-be or to-come-to-be which not by-the four these
ἐστοιχείωται, αἵματι, φλέγματι, χολῇ μελαίνῃ, καὶ ξανθῇ·
is-composed blood phlegm bile black and yellow
εἰ δέ τι τῶν ζώων ὁποιονδήποτε τῶν τεττάρων τούτων
if and any of-the creatures any-whatever of-the four these
ἀποβαλεῖται, μηδὲ ζώσιμα εἶναί οἱ τοῦ λοιποῦ. Κατὰ
will-lose not-even livable to-be for-it for-the rest by
ταῦτα δὴ τὴν δεδομένην ἡμῖν λειτουργίαν ἐκπληροῦντες
these indeed the given to-us service fulfilling
ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, ἐπειδὴ τὸν δείλαιον τοῦτον ἐπὶ τριάκοντα
in the world since the wretch this for thirty
ἡμέρας εἴδομεν ἀδιαστίκτως ἡμέρας καὶ νύκτας τὴν χολὴν
days we-saw without-break days and nights the bile
ἐκκρίνοντα μάλιστα καὶ σὺν αἵματι, συνέγνωμεν ἐκ τῆς
voiding mostly also with blood we-recognized from the
τέχνης, μὴ βιώσιμα εἶναι τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ. Ποῦ γὰρ ἂν τι
art not livable to-be for-the man how for — anything
κατελείφθη τοῦ στοιχειώδους τούτου χυμοῦ παρ' αὐτῷ
would-have-been-left of-the elemental this humor in him
ἐπὶ τοσαύτας ἡμέρας, καὶ οὕτω συνεχῶς ἐκκρίνοντι; Ἔνθεν
for so-many days and so continually voiding whence
τοι καὶ οὐδὲ βιαίῳ τὴν ψυχὴν ὁλκῇ τοῦ σώματος
surely also not-even by-violent the soul drawing from-the body
διείλομεν· ἀλλ' ἐπιπολαίως τοῖς μυκτῆρσι προσελθόντες,
we-parted but lightly to-the nostrils having-come
μικρᾷ τινι ἀναῤῥοιβδήσει ταύτην ἀνιμησάμεθα, οὐδὲ
with-small some sucking-up it we-drew-up not-even
αὐτὴν ἀντικαθισταμένην· ἤδη γὰρ αὐτῇ κατείργαστο τὸ
it resisting already for its had-been-worn-out the
σωμάτιον ὑπὸ τῆς χρονίας ἐκκρίσεως."
little-body by the chronic voiding

Ταῦτα ἔλεγον οἱ νεκραγωγοὶ καὶ ἐσιώπων· καὶ πρὸς
these-things said the corpse-guides and fell-silent and to
ἡμᾶς οἱ εἰσαγωγεῖς ἔφασαν· „Λέγετε καὶ ὑμεῖς τὸ
us the introducers said speak also you the(-thing)
παριστάμενον τάχιον· ὡς ἂν ἀπαλλαγῇ τοῦ δικαστηρίου
occurring(-to-you) quickly so-that — may-be-released from-the court
ὁ τῶν ἰατρῶν μέγιστος θεὸς Ἀσκληπιὸς, πολλοῦ τε χρόνου
the of-the physicians greatest god Asclepius much both time
καὶ πολλῶν ἐτῶν ἐνταῦθα μὴ παριὼν, διὰ τὴν δοθεῖσαν
and many years here not coming because-of the given
αὐτῷ θέωσιν τὰς τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἐκκλίνων συνουσίας.“
to-him deification the of-the men shunning company
Καὶ ὁ σοφιστὴς διογκώσας τὸ στόμα, ἔλεγεν οὕτω·
and the sophist having-puffed-out the mouth spoke thus
„Θειότατοι δικασταὶ, καὶ οἱ τῶν ἰατρῶν ὑμεῖς προστάται
most-divine judges and the of-the physicians you patrons
καὶ ἀρχηγοὶ, ὅσα μὲν οἱ κατάρατοι οὗτοι μυσταγωγοὶ
and founders what indeed the accursed these initiators
ἐρητόρευσαν, ἄδικον ῥητορείαν κατὰ ψυχῆς ταλαιπώρου
have-orated unjust rhetoric against a-soul wretched
συνείροντες, ἠκούσατε νῦν· ὅτι δὲ καθ’ ἑαυτῶν ταῦτα
stringing-together you-heard now that but against themselves these-things
συνέπλεξαν, σκοπητέον ἐντεῦθεν.“
they-wove it-must-be-seen from-this
Ἱπποκράτης δὲ τῷ μεταξὺ ἐπιστραφεὶς, ἠρώτα πρὸς
Hippocrates and in-the meantime having-turned asked at
τὸ οὖς τῶν εἰσαγγελέων τινὰ, τίς ἂν εἴη, καὶ πόθεν
the ear of-the ushers one who — might-be and from-where
ὁρμώμενος ὁ λαμυρὸς οὗτος καὶ στομφαστὴς, καὶ ὁ
setting-out the bold this and ranter and the(-one)
τοῦ Τιμαρίωνος προηγορῶν. Κἀκεῖνος ἅπαντα ἐξηγεῖτο
— of-Timarion advocating and-he all explained

περὶ αὐτοῦ, ὡς Σμυρναῖος μέν ἐστι τὸ γένος, τραφεὶς
about him that Smyrnaean indeed he-is by-the birth reared
δὲ ἐν Βυζαντίῳ, καὶ τὸν σοφιστικὸν θρόνον ἐκεῖσε λαβὼν,
but in Byzantium and the sophist's chair there having-taken
λαμυρίας ἐνέπλησε τὰ βασίλεια, καὶ μεγάλης ἠξιώθη
with-boldness filled the palace and great was-thought-worthy
τιμῆς καὶ χορηγίας παρὰ τῶν βασιλέων. Ταῦτα ἐκεῖνος
of-honor and stipend from the emperors these-things he
ἔλεγε πρὸς τὸν Ἱπποκράτην, ἐμοῦ πρὸς μικρὸν ἀκροωμένου.
said to — Hippocrates I for a-little listening
Καὶ ὁ σοφιστὴς, „ὅτι μὲν οὐκ ἔτι γέγονε,“ φησὶ, „τὸ
and the sophist that indeed not still has-become he-says the
σῶμα πρὸς θάνατον ἐπιτήδειον, αὐτοὶ πάντως φήσουσιν οἱ
body for death fit themselves surely will-say the
νεκραγωγοί· σῶμα γὰρ ἔφιππον ἀνιὸν ἐκ Θεσσαλονίκης,
corpse-guides a-body for on-horseback going-up from Thessalonica
πῶς ἂν εἴη θνησιμαῖον τοῦτο, καὶ τοῦ ζῆν μὴ ἐπιτηδείως
how — could-be dying this and for-the living not fitly
ἔχον; Ἄλλως τε, νόμων κειμένων νεκρικῶν διαιρεθῆναι
being besides — laws being-laid-down dead's to-be-parted
τὴν ψυχὴν, εἶτα γενέσθαι τὰς καθ' ἕκαστον θρήσκευμον
the soul then to-take-place the by each creed
ὁσίας ἐπὶ τῷ τεθνεῶτι, ἄλλοις μὲν ἄλλας, χριστιανοῖς δὲ
rites over the dead-man for-some indeed others for-Christians and
τριταίαν, ἐνναταίαν καὶ τεσσαρακοστὴν, καὶ οὕτω παρὰ
third-day ninth-day and fortieth and so to
τὸν ᾅδην κατῆχθαι, αὐτοὶ τὰς νενομισμένας ὁσίας
— Hades to-have-been-brought-down they the customary rites
μὴ ἀναμείναντες τὴν ψυχὴν εἰς ᾅδου κατήγαγον.“
not having-awaited the soul to Hades brought-down

Καὶ ὁ Νυκτίων μάλα συντόνως ἐβόησεν· „Οὐκ ἦν
and — Nyction very vehemently cried not there-was
ὁ τὴν ὁσίαν πληρώσων τῷ Τιμαρίωνι· ὁδίτης γὰρ ἦν,
the(-one) the rite going-to-fulfill — for-Timarion a-traveler for he-was
καὶ ξένος, καὶ οὐκ ἔχων τὸν ἀφοσιωσόμενον ***“
and a-stranger and not having the(-one) going-to-perform-the-rites (lacuna)
— „Εἰ δὲ μὴ βίᾳ τὴν ψυχὴν διεσπάσατε, σκοπηθήτω
if but not by-force the soul you-tore-apart let-be-examined
νῦν παρά τινων εὐόπτων ἀνδρῶν ἡ ταύτης ἐπιφάνεια· καὶ
now by some sharp-sighted men the its surface and
σάρκες σχεδὸν ἔτι προσέχονται αὐτῇ, βιαίως ἀποσπωμένῃ
bits-of-flesh nearly still cling to-it violently torn
τοῦ σώματος.“
from-the body
40 Καὶ αὐτίκα ἐδόθησαν εἰς κατασκοπὴν Ὀξυδερκίων καὶ
and at-once were-assigned for inspection Sharpsight and
Νυκτολεύστης· καὶ κατὰ μέρος σκοπήσαντες τὴν ὅλην τῆς
Nightseer and by part having-examined the whole of-the
ψυχῆς ἐπιφάνειαν πρὸς τοὺς δικαστὰς εἶπον· „Ἡ μὲν ὅλη
soul surface to the judges said the indeed whole
ἐπιφάνεια τῆς ψυχῆς, ἐπιπολαίως κατασκοπουμένη, λυθρώδης
surface of-the soul superficially inspected gory
δοκεῖ τὸ χρῶμα· ὁποῖον οἱ ἐν πολέμῳ κοπιῶντες
seems in-the color such-as the(-ones) in war toiling
ἀναδιδόασιν ἱδρῶτα μεμιγμένον αἵματι. Κατὰ μέρος δὲ
give-off sweat mixed with-blood by part but
σκοπουμένοις ἡμῖν καὶ αἵματι καθαρῷ βεβάφηται τόποι
examining to-us also with-blood pure are-dyed places
τινὲς ἔτι, καὶ τοῦ ζωτικοῦ ἀτμοῦ ἀναδιδόντες τι· καὶ σαρκῶν
some still and of-the vital vapor giving-off some and of-flesh
τινὰ ψήγματα προσκεκόλληνται, ὕφαιμα πάντα, καὶ ζῶντα.“
some shreds are-stuck-on bloodshot all and living

Καὶ ὁ σοφιστὴς μάλα εὐρὺ ἀνεβόησεν· „Ἔχετε τὴν
and the sophist very broadly cried-out you-have the
πληροφορίαν ἤδη τῶν ἐμῶν λόγων, ὦ δικασταί· εἰ οὖν ἔτι
proof now of-the my words O judges if then still
στερῥῶς οὕτω πως τοῦ σώματος εἴχετο, πῶς αὐτῇ τὸ
firmly so somehow to-the body it-clung how from-it the
τέταρτον τῶν στοιχείων ἅπαν ἐξήντληται; τῆς φύσεως, ὡς
fourth of-the elements entire has-been-drained the nature as
οἱ σοφώτατοί φασιν ἰατροί, τῇ ἀποβολῇ τοῦ στοιχείου
the wisest say physicians with-the loss of-the element
ῥᾳδίως ἀποδιδούσης καὶ τὴν ψυχήν. Ὅτι δὲ οὐ στοιχειῶδες
readily giving-up also the soul that and not elemental
ἦν τὸ κενούμενον, ἀλλὰ, τῆς καθ' ἡμέραν τροφῆς τῇ
was the(-thing) emptied but the by day food by-the
τοῦ ἥπατος ἐκκαύσει μεταβαλλομένης εἰς χολὴν, ἀναγκαίως
of-the liver inflammation being-changed into bile necessarily
τοιοῦτον ἦν καὶ τὸ ἐκκρινόμενον, χολῶδες, καὶ αὐστηρὸν,
such was also the(-thing) voided bilious and harsh
ἐκ δευτέρας δῆλον ἔσται κατασκοπήσεως. Ἔχει γὰρ ἡ
from a-second clear will-be inspection has for the
τοῦ Τιμαρίωνος ψυχὴ τὸν περὶ τὸ ἧπαρ τόπον ἅπαντα
— of-Timarion soul the about the liver region entire
ἐκκεχολωμένον, ἔνθα ἡ ἐξαιμάτωσις γίνεται· κἀκεῖθεν ἡ καθ'
bilious where the blood-making takes-place and-thence the by
ἡμέραν τροφὴ, διαφθειρομένη πρὸς τὸ χολωδέστερον, ἐποίει
day food corrupted to the more-bilious made
χολώδη καὶ τὴν τῶν σκυβάλων ἀπόκρισιν· ὡς εἶναι τὸ
bilious also the of-the excrements discharge so-that to-be the(-thing)
ἐκκρινόμενον οὐ χολὴν στοιχειώδη καὶ ἄκρατον, ἀλλ' αὐτὰ
voided not bile elemental and unmixed but the-very

τὰ συνήθη ἐκκρινόμενα σκύβαλα, μεμιγμένα χολῇ, μᾶλλον
the usual voided excrements mixed with-bile more
ἢ ἔδει πλεοναζούσῃ διὰ τὴν τοῦ ἥπατος ἔκκαυσιν.“
than was-needful abounding because-of the of-the liver inflammation
41 Ταῦτα εἶπεν ὁ σοφιστὴς, καὶ οἱ δικασταὶ μικρὸν
these-things said the sophist and the judges a-little
σιωπήσαντες κηρυχθείσης καὶ τῷ δικαστηρίῳ σιωπῆς, καὶ
having-been-silent proclaimed also to-the court silence and
πρὸς ἀλλήλους μετὰ τῶν μεγίστων ἰατρῶν κοινολογησάμενοι,
with one-another with the greatest physicians having-conferred
καὶ τὰς ψήφους, ὡς ἔθος αὐτοῖς, ἀνακυκήσαντες ἐν
and the votes as custom(-is) with-them having-stirred-up in
κημοῖς παρακειμένοις, τὴν νικῶσαν ἡμῖν ἐψηφίσαντο· καὶ
urns lying-beside the(-vote) winning for-us voted and
τὸ γραμματεῖον προὐκομίζετο. Καὶ ὁ Βυζάντιος σοφιστὴς
the document was-brought-forward and the Byzantine sophist
παρειστήκει, διὰ τὴν περὶ τὸ σχεδιάζειν ἀρετὴν καὶ
stood-by because-of the in the to-improvise excellence and
ταχυτῆτα πρὸ πολλοῦ τεταγμένος παρὰ τὸ βῆμα, ὡς καὶ
speed before long posted at the tribunal as also
τοῦτο παρὰ τῶν εἰσαγγελέων ἤκουσα· καὶ νῦν ὄψει
this from the ushers I-heard and now you-will-see
τοῦτον, φασὶν, οὐκ εἰς μακρὰν ὑπαγορεύοντα τῷ γραμματεῖ
him they-say not to long(-hence) dictating to-the clerk
τὴν ἀπόφασιν. Μικρὸν οὖν ἐφησυχάσαντες οἱ δικασταὶ,
the verdict a-little then having-rested the judges
εἶτα καὶ τὸν Βυζάντιον μετακαλεσάμενοι, συνεπομένου καὶ
then also the Byzantine having-summoned following-along also
Ἀριστάρχου, κατὰ μέρος ἐνετείλαντό οἱ τὰ τῆς
Aristarchus by part enjoined on-him the(-terms) of-the
ἀποφάσεως. Καὶ αὐτίκα ὁ μὲν Βυζάντιος ἐπρυτάνευεν,
verdict and at-once the indeed Byzantine directed

ὑποψελλίζων τὰ πολλά· οὔπω γὰρ τὴν ἀγκυλότητα τοῦ
lisping the most(-part) not-yet for the crookedness of-the
χείλους ἀπέβαλεν· Ἀρίσταρχος ἐγραμμάτευε, Φρύνιχος
lip be-had-lost Aristarchus served-as-clerk Phrynichus
ἐπεστάτει· καὶ ἐπειδὴ ἐπεδόθη τῷ γραμματικῷ πᾶν τὸ
presided and-when was-handed to-the grammarian all the(-thing)
ἀποφανθὲν, εἰς ἐπήκοον πάντων τὸ γράμμα ἀνεγινώσκετο·
pronounced into hearing of-all the writ was-read
εἶχε δὲ οὕτω· „Δέδοκται τῷ θειοτάτῳ συνεδρίῳ τῶν
it-ran and thus it-has-been-decreed by-the most-divine council of-the
μεγίστων ἰατρῶν, καὶ τῷ τεθεωμένῳ Ἀσκληπιῷ, τὸν μὲν
greatest physicians and the deified Asclepius — indeed
Νυκτίωνα καὶ Ὀξύβαντα, ἐπειδὴ περὶ τοὺς νεκρικοὺς νόμους
Nyction and Oxybas since regarding the dead's laws
ἐξήμαρτον, ἀπ' ἐντεῦθεν ἐξωθῆναι τῆς τῶν ψυχαγωγῶν
they-transgressed from now-on to-be-expelled from-the of-the soul-guides
τάξεως· Τιμαρίωνα δὲ ἀναδοθῆναι τῷ βίῳ, καὶ τῷ οἰκείῳ
rank Timarion and to-be-restored to-the life and in-the own
ἐνοικισθῆναι σώματι· κἀπειδὰν τὸν εἱμαρμένον ἀναπλήσῃ
to-be-housed body and-when the fated he-may-fill-up
χρόνον, τελεσθέντων ἐπ' αὐτῷ τῶν ὁσίων, καταχθῆναι
time having-been-performed over him the rites to-be-brought-down
πάλιν εἰς ᾅδου παρὰ τῶν κατὰ χώραν νεκροπομπῶν."
again to Hades by the of-the region dead-escorts

The court rises, and the Christians acclaim the sophist from Smyrna. Lodged overnight among the old philosophers and sophists, Timarion watches Pythagoras turn away John Italus, the Cynic Diogenes fight him until Cato parts them, and the sophists stone him; the Byzantine sophist stands among the philosophers but sits in honor among the sophists. In the morning the sophist orders his favorite meats and sends Timarion back; his soul rises through the opening, enters the house by its smoke-vent and the body by the nostrils. Timarion asks Cydion to find newly dead Paphlagonians from the meat-market to carry the sophist's order down, and the two go home to sleep.

42 Ἐπὶ τούτοις τέλος τοῦ πράγματος ἔχοντος ἀνέστησαν
on these end the matter having rose
οἱ δικασταὶ, καὶ τὸ συνέδριον λέλυτο· καὶ οἱ μὲν
the judges and the council was-dissolved and the indeed
δικασταὶ εἰς τὸν συνήθη τόπον τοῦ λειμῶνος ἐβάδιζον·
judges to the usual place of-the meadow walked
κατ' ἄλλο δὲ τούτου Ἀσκληπιὸς μετὰ τῶν ἰατρῶν
in another(-direction) and from-this Asclepius with the physicians
σχολαιότερον ὥδευεν. Οἱ δὲ χριστιανοὶ πάντες ἀνεβόων
more-leisurely walked the and Christians all shouted
ὑφ' ἡδονῆς, καὶ ἐσκίρτων, καὶ τὸν Σμύρνηθεν σοφὸν
for joy and leapt and the from-Smyrna sage
κατησπάζοντο, καὶ ἐξεθείαζον ἐν τοῖς ἐπιχειρήμασι, καὶ
embraced and deified(-him) for the arguments and
ταῖς οἰκονομίαις τοῦ λόγου καὶ διαθέσεσιν.
the arrangements of-the speech and dispositions
Ἡμᾶς δὲ οἱ λαβόντες εἰσαγωγεῖς καθ' ᾅδου ἀνέστρεφον·
us and the having-taken introducers through Hades led-back
τούτοις γὰρ προστέτακτο ἡ πρὸς τὸν ἄνω τόπον
to-them for had-been-assigned the to the upper region

ἡμῶν ἀνάδοσις. Κἀπειδὴ στρεφόμενοι διὰ τῶν ἐν ᾅδου
our restoring and-when turning through the in Hades
ζοφερῶν τόπων ὠδεύομεν, κατηντήσαμεν οὗ τὰ τῶν
murky places we-traveled we-arrived where the of-the
φιλοσόφων καὶ σοφιστῶν ἦν διαιτήματα. Καὶ ὁ σοφιστὴς
philosophers and sophists were dwellings and the sophist
ἅμα μὲν ἐκ τῆς ὁδοιπορίας, τὸ δὲ κἀκ τῆς
at-once indeed from the journey the(-thing) and also-from the
συντόνου συννοίας κεκοπιακὼς, ἐνταῦθά που κατὰ
intense thought tired here somewhere in
τὴν διατριβὴν τῶν σοφῶν κοινῶς αὐλίζεσθαι ἡμᾶς τοὺς
the haunt of-the sages together to-lodge us the
εἰσαγωγέας ἠρώτα· καὶ κατὰ τὴν αὔριον συνταξαμένους
introducers asked and on the morrow having-said-farewell
ἐκείνῳ παραμένοντι τοῖς σοφοῖς τὴν ἐπὶ τὸν βίον
to-him remaining with-the sages the(-way) to the life
τάχιον ἡμᾶς ἀπαλλάττεσθαι. Καὶ γέγονεν οὕτω· καὶ
quickly us to-depart and it-happened so and

ἄλλοι μέν ῥα θεοί τε καὶ ἀνέρες ἱπποκορυσταὶ
others indeed then gods both and men horse-marshaling
εὗδον παννύχιοι, ἐμὲ δ' οὐκ ἔχε νήδυμος ὕπνος·
slept all-night me but not held sweet sleep

ἀλλ' ἔρωτι γνώσεως τῶν ἐν ᾅδου πάντων ἐγρήγορα
but from-love of-knowledge of-the(-things) in Hades all I-stayed-awake
δι' ὅλης νυκτὸς, καὶ παρετηρούμην καθ' ἕκαστα.
through whole night and I-observed in detail
Ἑώρων Παρμενίδην, Πυθαγόραν, καὶ Μέλισσον, Ἀναξαγόραν, 43
I-saw Parmenides Pythagoras and Melissus Anaxagoras
καὶ Θάλητα, καὶ τοὺς ἄλλους τῶν κατὰ φιλοσοφίαν
and Thales and the other of-the in philosophy

αἱρέσεων ἀρχηγοὺς, ἡσυχῇ καθημένους, καὶ γαληνῶς μάλα
sects founders quietly sitting and calmly very
καὶ ἡμέρως ὁμιλοῦντας, καὶ διαλεγομένους ἀλλήλοις περὶ
and gently conversing and discussing with-one-another about
δογμάτων τινῶν. Διογένη δὲ ἀπεστύγουν καὶ ἀπεωθοῦντο
doctrines certain Diogenes but they-loathed and thrust-away
τῆς προσεδρίας· κἀκεῖνος ἔβαινε τῇδε κἀκεῖσε, μὴ
from-the sitting-beside and-he walked this-way and-that not
ὀκλάζων τὼ πόδε· ἄγριον δὲ τὸ ἦθος αὐτῷ καὶ
bending the two-feet savage and the character(-was) his and
σεσοβημένον· καὶ πρὸς πάντα τὸν παριόντα οἷος ἦν
agitated and with every the passer-by ready he-was
διαπληκτίζεσθαι. Ἑώρων καὶ τὸν ἐξ Ἰταλίας Ἰωάννην
to-scuffle I-saw also the from Italy John
ἐκεῖ που παρὰ τὸν Πυθαγόραν ἐθέλοντα παρεδράζεσθαι·
there somewhere beside — Pythagoras wishing to-sit-beside
καὶ ὃς αὐστηρῶς αὐτὸν ἀπεπέμπετο, „Ἔνδυμα τὸ τῶν
and he sternly him sent-away garment the of-the
Γαλιλαίων,“ φάσκων, „ἐνδεδυμένος, ὦ μιαρώτατε, ὅπερ
Galileans saying having-put-on O most-foul which
αὐτοί φασι θεῖον καὶ οὐράνιον ἄμφιον, τὸ βάπτισμα
they say(-is) a-divine and heavenly robe the baptism
δηλαδὴ, εἶτα ἐθέλεις τάττεσθαι μεθ’ ἡμῶν, τῶν ἐν
namely then do-you-wish to-be-ranked with us the(-ones) in
ἐπιστήμῃ ζησάντων καὶ σοφίᾳ συλλογιστικῇ; ἢ γοῦν
knowledge having-lived and wisdom syllogistic either at-any-rate
τὸ κοινὸν ἔκδυθι περιβόλαιον, ἢ τῆς ἡμῶν φατρίας
the common put-off garment or from-the our brotherhood
ἀπότρεχε.“ Κἀκεῖνος ἐκδύσασθαι οὐκ ἤθελε.
run-off and-he to-take-off(-it) not would

Παρείπετο δὲ αὐτῷ καὶ ἀνδράριον ἡμιάνδριον, ἀνδράποδον
followed and him also a-manikin half-man a-slave
δὲ, εἰπεῖν οἰκειοτέρως, ἀστικὸν, εὐτράπελον μάλα καὶ
rather to-say more-properly town-bred witty very and
βωμολόχον, τοῖς συναντῶσιν ἅπασι λοιδορούμενον
buffoonish at-the(-ones) meeting(-him) all railing
ἐμμέτρως μέντοι διὰ τῶν ἰάμβων, διάκενον τὴν φρόνησιν,
in-meter however through the iambics empty in-the mind
καὶ μεγάλα μὲν ὑπισχνούμενον, τὸν δ᾽ ἀμαθῆ ὄχλον
and great-things indeed promising the but ignorant crowd
ἐξαπατῶν· κἂν ἐντύχῃς αὐτῷ εὑρήσεις οὐδὲν σοφὸν οὐδὲ
deceiving and-if you-meet him you-will-find nothing wise nor
χάριεν. Ἔοικε δὲ τὸ τοῦ διδασκάλου ἀπομάξασθαι ἦθος.
charming he-seems and the of-the teacher to-have-copied character
Τοιοῦτος γὰρ ἦν κἀκεῖνος, βάσκανος, λοίδορος, ὑπόκουφος,
such for was he-too envious abusive light-headed
οἰηματίας, καὶ ὅσα τούτοις ἑπόμενα.
conceited and as-many-as these following
Πλὴν ἀλλὰ μελαμπύγῳ ἐνέτυχε· προσιὼν γὰρ τῷ κυνὶ 44
nevertheless but a-black-bottom he-met approaching for the dog
Διογένει, καὶ ἀλαζονικωτέρως αὐτῷ ὁμιλεῖν ἐγχειρῶν,
Diogenes and rather-boastfully with-him to-converse attempting
κἀκείνου τὸ ἀταπείνωτον ἄρτι μᾶλλον αὐξήσαντος, ἔλαθε
and-he the unhumbled(-pride) just-then more having-increased unawares
βρόχῳ ἐμπεσών. Ὁ γὰρ Διογένης τὸ ἐπηρμένον αὐτοῦ μὴ
into-a-noose falling — for Diogenes the arrogance his not
ὑπενεγκὼν, καὶ ὡσεί τις ὑλακόμωρος κύων ἐμβριμησάμενος
having-borne and like a barking-mad dog having-snorted
καὶ καθυλάξας, εἶτα κἀκείνου ἀνθυλάξαντος (ἐζήλου γὰρ
and having-barked-at(-him) then he-too having-barked-back emulated for
κἀκεῖνος τὸν κυνικὸν βίον), ἀλλήλοις συνεπλάκησαν. Καὶ
he-too the Cynic life with-one-another they-grappled and

ὁ μὲν ἐξ Ἰταλίας ὀδὰξ τοῦ ὤμου εἶχετο· Διογένης
the(-one) indeed from Italy with-teeth the shoulder held Diogenes
δὲ τῷ οἰσοφάγῳ ἐμφὺς, οἷός τ' ἦν ἀποπνίξαι τὸν
and to-the gullet having-fastened able — he-was to-choke the
Ἰταλὸν, εἰ μὴ Κάτων ὁ Ῥωμαῖος, καὶ αὐτὸς τοῖς
Italian if not Cato the Roman also himself among-the
φιλοσόφοις παρεισφθειρόμενος, ἐξείλετο τοῦ στόματος
philosophers squeezing-in had-taken from-the mouth
Διογένους τὸν Ἰωάννην. Καὶ, „Ὦ μιαρὲ," ὁ Διογένης ἔφη,
of-Diogenes — John and O foul-one — Diogenes said
„Ἀλέξανδρος μὲν ὁ Φιλίππου, ὁ πᾶσαν τὴν Ἀσίαν
Alexander indeed the(-son) of-Philip the(-one) all — Asia
ὡς ἔπαυλιν μικρὰν δουλωσάμενος, προσελθών μοι κατὰ τὴν
as a-farmstead small having-enslaved having-come to-me at —
Κόρινθον εἰληθερουμένῳ παρέστη, καὶ μετ' αἰδοῦς τινὸς καὶ
Corinth basking stood-by and with respect some and
ὑποπτώσεως ὡμίλησε· σὺ δὲ κάθαρμα ὢν ἐν Βυζαντίῳ,
deference conversed you but scum being in Byzantium
καὶ τοῖς Γαλιλαίοις ἅπασι στυγητὸς, ἐξ ὑπεροχῆς
and to-the Galileans all hateful from superiority
τολμᾷς ἐμοὶ διαλέγεσθαι; Μὰ τὴν κυνώδη φιλοσοφίαν,
do-you-dare with-me to-converse by the dog-like philosophy
ἧς αὐτὸς αἱρεσιάρχης καθέστηκα, εἰ τολμήσεις ἅπαξ
of-which I-myself founder have-been-made if you-will-dare once
προσλαλῆσαί μοι, δευτέρας σοι δεήσει ταφῆς
to-address me a-second for-you there-will-be-need-of burial
καὶ θανάτου ὀδυνηροῦ." Καὶ ὁ Κάτων λαβόμενος τῆς
and death painful and — Cato having-taken the
χειρὸς Ἰωάννου, ἀπῆγεν αὐτὸν μακράν· κἀπειδὴ κατὰ
hand of-John led-away him far and-when at
τοὺς τῶν σοφιστορητόρων τόπους ἐγένοντο, ἀναστάντες
the of-the sophist-rhetors places they-came having-risen

οὗτοι λίθοις ἔβαλλον τὸν Ἰωάννην, „Ἄπαγε τοῦτον,“
they with-stones pelted — John take-away him
λέγοντες, „ἐξ ἡμῶν, ὦ Κάτων, οὐδέν τι προσήκοντα, ὃς
saying from us O Cato in-no-way — belonging who
οὐδὲ γραμματικῆς εὖ ἥκων ἦν ἐν τῷ βίῳ, καὶ γελοῖος
not-even in-grammar well versed was in the life and ridiculous
ἐν τῷ λογογραφεῖν.“ Οὕτω δὴ ὑπὸ πάντων ἀτίμως
in the writing-prose so indeed by all dishonorably
περιυβρισμένος, ὑποχωρῶν καὶ στένων, „Ἀριστότελες,
outraged retreating and groaning Aristotle
Ἀριστότελες,“ ἔλεγε, καὶ, „Ὦ συλλογισμὲ καὶ σοφίσματα,
Aristotle he-said and O syllogism and sophisms
ποῦ ἐστέ; εἰ γάρ μοι παρῆτε νῦν, κατεπολέμησα ἂν
where are-you if for for-me you-were-present now I-would-have-routed —
τοὺς ἀβελτέρους τούτους φιλοσόφους καὶ σοφιστὰς, καὶ τὸν
the stupid these philosophers and sophists and the
κάκιστον τοῦτον Παφλαγόνα καὶ χοιρέμπορον Διογένην.“
worst this Paphlagonian and pig-dealer Diogenes
Ἐπὶ τούτοις ἦλθε καὶ ὁ Βυζάντιος σοφιστής· καὶ τοῖς μὲν 45
upon these came also the Byzantine sophist and to-the indeed
φιλοσόφοις προσιὼν ἡδέως ἠσπάζετο παρ’ αὐτῶν, καὶ τὸ,
philosophers approaching gladly was-greeted by them and the
„Χαῖρε Βυζάντιε,“ πυκνὸν ἐλέγετο· πλὴν ἱστάμενος ὡμίλει
hail Byzantine often was-said but standing he-conversed
τούτοις· καὶ οὔτ’ αὐτοὶ τοῦτον ἐκάθιζον, οὔτ’ αὐτὸς
with-them and neither they him seated nor he
ἐπεβάλλετο. Παριὼν δὲ ἐπὶ τοὺς σοφιστὰς, διαφερόντως
attempted(-it) passing and to the sophists exceptionally
ἐτιμᾶτο, καὶ πάντες αὐτῷ ἐξανίσταντο· καὶ ἢ μέσος
was-honored and all for-him rose and either in-the-middle
ἐκάθητο πάντων, ὁπότε αὐτὸς ἀφ’ ἑαυτοῦ ὀκλάζοι, ἢ
he-sat of-all whenever he of himself sat-down or

πάντων ὑπερεκάθητο, ἐκείνων βραβευσάντων τὸ ἕδρασμα,
above-all he-sat-above they having-awarded the seat
θαυμαζόντων αὐτοῦ τῆς ἀπαγγελίας τὸ χάριεν, τὸ γλυκὺ,
admiring his of-the delivery the charm the sweetness
τὸ σαφὲς τῆς λέξεως, τὸ κοινὸν, τὸ σχέδιον τοῦ λόγου,
the clarity of-the diction the plainness the readiness of-the speech
καὶ πρόχειρον, τὸ πρὸς πᾶν εἶδος λόγου ἐπιτήδειον καὶ
and promptness the to every kind of-speech suited and
οἰκεῖον· καὶ, „Ὦ βασιλεῦ ἥλιε,“ συχνάκις αὐτῷ ἐπέλεγον.
proper and O king sun often to-him they-would-say
Λόγος δὲ οὗτος ἦν αὐτῷ πρὸς βασιλέα πεπονημένος, ὡς
a-speech and this was by-him to an-emperor composed as
ἔμαθον, ἐρωτήσας καὶ περὶ τούτου.
I-learned having-asked also about this

CYDION Τί δὲ, ὦ καλὲ Τιμαρίων; οὐκ ἐρεῖς μοι καὶ περὶ
what then O fine Timarion not will-you-tell me also about
τοῦ Σμύρνηθεν τοῦ σοῦ σοφιστοῦ, πῶς εἶχον τιμῆς τὸ
the from-Smyrna the your sophist how stood(-him) in-honor the
τῶν σοφιστῶν συνέδριον;
of-the sophists council

TIMARION Τοῖς μὲν κομψοῖς αἱρεσιάρχαις ἐκείνοις, ὦ
with-the indeed elegant sect-founders those O
Κυδίων, οὐδ’ ἐπλησίαζε τὰ πολλὰ, εἰ μὴ ὅτι χάριν
Cydion not-even he-went-near the most-part except — only for-the-sake
ἐρωτήσεως καὶ κατασκευῆς τινὸς τῶν αἱρέσεων. Τὰ πολλὰ
of-questioning and proof of-some of-the sects the most-part
δὲ τοῖς ῥητοροσοφισταῖς ἐκείνοις ὡμίλει, Πολέμωνι,
but with-the rhetor-sophists those he-consorted Polemo
καὶ Ἡρώδῃ, καὶ Ἀριστείδῃ· τούτοις γὰρ ὡς ὁμοεθνέσι
and Herodes and Aristides to-these for as fellow-countrymen
θαῤῥούντως προσεφέρετο, καὶ γνησίως ὡμίλει· καὶ μέσον
boldly he-behaved and sincerely consorted and in-the-middle

αὐτὸν ἀπελάμβανον, ὅτε ποθὲν παραγένοιτο, καὶ περὶ
him they-took when from-somewhere he-came and about
σχημάτων, καὶ χαρακτήρων, καὶ ἠθῶν ῥητορικῶν κριτῇ
figures and styles and characters rhetorical as-judge
ἐχρῶντο αὐτῷ.
they-used him
Ταῦτα διέγνων, ὦ λῷστε, ὅσον νυκτὸς θερινῆς, 46
these-things I-made-out O dearest as-long-as of-a-night summer
ἑσπερόρθριον μετὰ τοῦ εἰσαγωγέως ἀναπαυσάμενος καὶ
from-evening-to-dawn with the introducer having-rested and
τοῦ σοφιστοῦ. Ἀλλ' ἐκεῖνοι ἐν τῷ τοσούτῳ ἐκάθευδον,
the sophist but they in the meantime slept
ἐμοῦ καθ' ἕκαστα διερευνωμένου. Ἀναστάντων οὖν ἐκ
I in detail investigating having-risen then from
τοῦ ὕπνου ὁ μὲν σοφιστὴς αὐτίκα ἐλθὼν κἀμὲ
the sleep the indeed sophist at-once having-come me-too
διανέστησε, καὶ, „Ἀνάστηθι," ἔφη, „ὦ Τιμαρίων κάλλιστε,
roused and get-up he-said O Timarion finest
καὶ τὴν ἐπὶ τὸν βίον ἀνάστρεφε, πολλοῦ γε χρόνου
and the(-way) to the life turn-back much — time
μὴ ἀναβιώσαντός τινος τῶν νεκρῶν. Σὺ δ' ὅρα, ὅπως
not having-come-back-to-life anyone of-the dead you but see that
στελεῖς ἡμῖν ἐκεῖθεν, ὧν ἱμειρόμεθα." — „Καὶ μάλα,"
you-will-send to-us from-there what we-long-for and very
ἦν δ' ἐγὼ, „πρόθυμος προέσθαι σοι τὰ προσόντα
said and I eager(-am-I) to-give-up to-you the(-things) belonging
μοι πάντα. Πλὴν ἀλλὰ λέγε, ὧν δέῃ ἐκεῖθεν· ὡς
to-me all nevertheless but say what you-need from-there since
ἡμεῖς οὐκ ἀμελήσομεν τῆς σῆς θεραπείας· μόνον ἔντειλαι
we not will-neglect the your service only command
ἡμῖν, περὶ ὧν βούλει." — „Στεῖλον ἡμῖν, ὦ τᾶν," ἔφη,
us about what you-wish send us O good-sir he-said

„ἀρνειὸν πεντάμηνον· ἀλεκτορίδας τριετεῖς ἐσφαγμένας
a-ram five-month-old hens three-year-old slaughtered
καὶ λιπώσας δύο, ὁποίας ὀρνιθοπῶλαι πιπράσκουσιν ἐν τῷ
and fat two such-as poulterers sell in the
πρατηρίῳ, τέχνῃ τινὶ τῶν πωλούντων τὸ ἐγκείμενον αὐταῖς
market by-art some of-the sellers the lying-within them
στέαρ ὑποχαλώντων διὰ γαστρὸς ἐπὶ τοὺς μηροὺς ἔξω·
fat drawing-down through belly to the thighs outside
δελφάκιον γαλαθηνὸν μηνιαῖον· συὸς θηλείας γαλαθηνὸν
a-piglet suckling month-old of-a-sow female milk-full
ὑπογάστριον, παχὺ μάλα, καὶ πιμελῶδες.“ Ταῦτα εἶπεν
belly thick very and fatty these-things said
ὁ σοφιστὴς, καὶ ἀσπασάμενος ἅμα καὶ συνταξάμενος,
the sophist and having-embraced(-me) at-once and having-said-farewell
„Ὅδευε τὴν ἐπὶ τὸν βίον,“ ἐπεῖπεν, „ἀγαθῇ τύχῃ· ὅδευε
go the(-way) to the life be-added with-good fortune go
τοῖς σοῖς τάχιον σωθησόμενος, πρὸ τοῦ φθάσαι τὴν
to-the your(-people) quickly going-to-reach-safely before the to-anticipate the
φήμην εἰς τὸ Βυζάντιον, καὶ θρήνων ἐμπλῆσαι τοὺς
rumor to — Byzantium and with-laments to-fill the(-ones)
κατὰ γένος ἅμα δέ σοι καὶ κατὰ φιλίαν προσήκοντας·
by kin at-once and to-you also by friendship related
πολλοὶ δέ εἰσιν, ὡς ἐγίνωσκον, οἱ φιλοῦντές σε.“
many and are as I-knew the(-ones) loving you
Εὐθὺς οὖν ἐκείνου διαζευχθέντες ταχέως ὡδεύομεν, μὴ κατά
straightway then from-him having-parted quickly we-traveled not on
τινα πρόφασιν ἐνδιδόντες τοῦ δρόμου. Ὁδευόντων οὖν ἡμῶν
any pretext slackening the pace traveling then we
ἑωράκειν ἐν τῷ παριέναι περὶ τὸ εὐώνυμον μέρος τὸν ἐξ
I-saw in the to-pass on the left side the from
Ἀρμενίας Φιλάρετον, καὶ τὸν Φεραῖον Ἀλέξανδρον, καὶ τὸν
Armenia Philaretus and the Pheraean Alexander and the

κάκιστον Νέρωνα, κόπρον ἀνθρώπινον ταράσσοντα, ὡς
worst Nero dung human stirring so-that
καί τι τῆς δυσωδίας φθάνειν κἀπὶ τὴν δίοδον. Ἤλθομεν
even some of-the stench to-reach even-to the passage we-came
κἀπὶ τὸ στόμιον, καὶ αὐτίκα, μήτινος ἐμποδίσαντος ἑπομένου
also-to the opening and at-once no-one having-hindered following
τοῦ εἰσαγωγέως, ἀνεδόθημεν διὰ τοῦ στομίου πρὸς τὸν
the introducer we-were-sent-up through the opening to the
ἀέρα, καὶ τὴν πλειάδα καὶ τοὺς ἄρκτους κατείδομεν.
air and the pleiad and the bears we-beheld
Κἀμοῦ ἀγνοοῦντος οἳ τράπωμαι πρὸς τὸ ἐμὸν σωμάτιον, 47
and-I not-knowing where I-should-turn to the my little-body
ὥσπερ ἀνέμου πνεύσαντος ἐφερόμην ἀέριος, μέχρι πρὸς
as-though a-wind having-blown I-was-borne through-the-air until to
τὸν ποταμὸν ἐλθὼν ἔγνων τὴν οἰκίαν, ἐν ᾗ μοι τὸ
the river having-come I-recognized the house in which my the
σωμάτιον ἔκειτο. Κἀκεῖθεν ἐκ τοῦ ποταμοῦ τῷ εἰσαγωγεῖ
little-body lay and-from-there from the river to-the introducer
συνταξάμενος, καὶ ἀποστὰς αὐτοῦ, εἰσῆλθον διὰ τῆς
having-said-farewell and having-left him I-went-in through the
ὀροφιαίας θυρίδος, ἣ ταῖς ἑστίαις εἰς διαφόρησιν τοῦ
roof vent which for-the hearths for carrying-off of-the
καπνοῦ μεμηχάνηται· καὶ προσφὺς τῷ σώματι διὰ
smoke has-been-contrived and having-attached-myself to-the body through
μυκτήρων εἰσῆλθον καὶ στόματος. Ἦν δὲ λίαν ψυχρόν·
nostrils I-entered and mouth it-was and very cold
διά τε τὸ τοῦ χειμῶνος κρυερὸν, καὶ τὸ τῆς
because-of both the of-the winter chill and the(-state) of-the
νεκρώσεως μάλιστα. Καὶ τὴν νύκτα ἐκείνην ἐδόκουν τῶν
deadness most and the night that I-seemed of-the

ῥιγώντων τις εἶναι· τῇ ἐπαύριον δὲ συσκευασάμενος
shivering one to-be on-the morrow and having-packed-up
εἰχόμην τῆς ἐπὶ τὸ Βυζάντιον.
I-held to-the(-road) to — Byzantium
Καὶ νῦν ἰδοὺ σέσωσμαί σοι, φίλε Κυδίων, καὶ ἀπαγγέλλω
and now behold I-am-safe for-you dear Cydion and I-report
σοι τἀμά· σὺ δ' ὅρα ὅπως εὑρήσεις τινὰς νεοθανεῖς,
to-you my-affairs you but see that you-will-find some newly-dead
οἷς παραρτήσαντες καθ' ἕν τι τῶν ἐντεταλμένων
to-whom having-attached by one — of-the(-things) commissioned
τῷ σοφιστῇ στελοῦμεν πρὸς αὐτόν. Μόνον ἔστωσαν
by-the sophist we-will-send(-them) to him only let-them-be
μὴ τῶν σεμνῶν καὶ καθαροδιαίτων ἀνδρῶν, οἳ τάχα ἂν
not of-the solemn and clean-living men who perhaps —
μυσαχθήσονται τὴν διακονίαν, ἀλλὰ τῶν ἐν μακέλλῳ
will-loathe the errand but of-the in the-meat-market
καὶ ῥυπαροδιαίτων Παφλαγόνων, οἳ κέρδος ἂν ἡγήσωνται
and filthy-living Paphlagonians who a-gain — would-think
τὸ μετὰ χοιρείου κρέατος καθ' ᾅδου στέλλεσθαι. Ἤδη
the with pork meat to Hades to-be-sent already
οὖν ἡ ὥρα πρὸς τὸ καθεύδειν ἐστὶ, καὶ διαλυθέντες,
then the hour for the to-sleep is and having-parted
φιλοπεῦστα Κυδίων, ἀπίωμεν οἴκαδε.
inquisitive Cydion let-us-go home

MAZARIS

ΕΠΙΔΗΜΙΑ ΜΑΖΑΡΙ ΕΝ ΑΙΔΟΥ

Mazaris' Journey to Hades

An epidemic in Constantinople, turned by the patriarch's prayers into quinsy, brings Mazaris near death, with only crows and ravens at his bedside to vote it; the next day, asleep, he is snatched to a valley of the naked dead. There a man spotted with weals, with a great hooked nose, runs up for news of the court: Holobolos, once the emperor's secretary. He urges Mazaris to go back, grow rich in the Morea, and come down again in state, and tells of his career at court and of the great logothete's office he hoped for but for his rival Philommataios.

Νοσήματος ἔναγχος δεινοτάτου τῇ Κωνσταντίνου 1
a-disease lately most-terrible on-the(-city) of-Constantine
ἐπεισεφρηκότος ὁμόσε, καὶ πάσης καθαψαμένου σχεδὸν
having-burst-in all-at-once and every having-fastened-on nearly
ἡλικίας, ταῖς τοῦ θειοτάτου ἀρχιθύτου πρὸς θεὸν διηνεκέσι
age by-the of-the most-divine high-priest to God unceasing
πρεσβείαις τοῦτο μετεκεντρίσθη, καὶ ἀντὶ λοιμώδους
intercessions it was-transformed and instead-of a-pestilential(-one)
παρὰ τοῦ τῶν ὅλων δημιουργοῦ κυνάγχη συνεχωρήθη, ἥ
by the of-the universe creator a-quinsy was-permitted which
γε λοιμώδης εἴπερ ἦν, πᾶσαν ἂν ἄρδην ἠφάνισεν
— pestilential if it-had-been every — utterly would-have-destroyed
ἡλικίαν, καθάπερ τοὺς ἐν νήσοις ἐξεθέρισε πρότερον.
age as the(-ones) in islands it-mowed-down before
Ἐπεὶ οὖν ἡ τοιαύτη κατὰ πάντων διώδευσε, καὶ
since then the(-disease) such against all went-through and
πᾶσιν οὕτως ὁμῶς, ὡς ἔφθην εἰπὼν, ἐπεισέφρησε, μετὰ
on-all thus alike as I-have-already said burst-in with
τῶν ἄλλων μάλα γε ἀναιδῶς, ὦ παρόντες, κἀμοὶ ἐπέθετο,
the others very — shamelessly O ones-present me-too it-attacked
καὶ δίκην σκηπτοῦ μιᾷ πρὸς ταῖς εἴκοσιν ἡμέραις κατὰ
and like a-thunderbolt one besides the twenty days against

τοῦ σώματος ἐκστρατεύσασα, νῦν μὲν συνεχέσι πυρετοῖς,
the body having-campaigned now indeed with-continual fevers
νῦν δὲ κλόνοις, νῦν δὲ σκοτοδίνοις ἰλίγγοις, καὶ μελῶν
now and tremors now and dizzy vertigos and of-limbs
παρέσεσι, καὶ ἄλλαις ἐπαλλήλοις ὀδύναις διοδεύσασα,
paralyses and other successive pains having-gone-through
Μυσῶν λείαν, κατὰ τὴν παροιμίαν, τὰ ξύμπαντα
of-Mysians plunder according-to the proverb the all
κατειργάσατο μέλη. Μόλις οὖν ποτε, καὶ μεθ' ὅσης ἂν
made limbs scarcely then at-last and with how-much —
εἴπῃ τις βίας, τῆς τοιαύτης κυνάγχης ἀναχωρησάσης,
may-say one force the such quinsy having-withdrawn
ῥαΐσας ἀνέστην, τοσοῦτον ἰταμῶς ἐπιτεθείσης, ὅτιπερ
having-recovered I-got-up so recklessly having-attacked that
καὶ ἄκοντα ἐγγὺς ἐς τὸν τοῦ ᾅδου ὦσεν οὐδόν.
even unwilling near to the — of-Hades thrust(-me) threshold
Ἃ μὲν οὖν ἐκεῖσε ἀφικόμενος, παρ' ἐνίων ἀκήκοά γε
what-things indeed then there having-arrived from some I-heard —
νεκύων, καὶ ἅπερ εἶδον βραχύν τινα διατρίψας χρόνον,
dead and what-things I-saw short a having-spent time
ὡς οἷόν τε, ὦ ἄνδρες, διηγήσομαι, τοῖς τε ἄλλοις
as possible — O men I-will-narrate to-the both others
ἅπασιν, οὐχ ἥκιστα δέ γε τοῖς συναναστρεφομένοις ταῖς
all not least and — to-those moving in-the
βασιλικαῖς αὐλαῖς· οἷα δὲ ἀνθ' οἵων ἐν κλίνῃ
imperial courts what-sort and in-return-for what-sort in bed
με κείμενον ἡ παλαμναία ἥδε νόσος κατειργάσατό τε,
me lying the murderous this disease did both
καὶ ὅσαπερ τὰ ὄρνεα καὶ ἐβούλετο καὶ ἐμαντεύσατο κατ'
and how-much the birds both wished and prophesied against
ἐμοῦ, νῦν ἀκούσατε, δέομαι, ἐπειδήπερ δι' ἐφέσεως, οἶδα,
me now hear I-beg since with desire I-know

ταῦτ᾽ ἔχετε μαθεῖν. Ὅσιον γὰρ τὰ ἐν τῷ
these-things you-are-disposed to-learn proper for(-it-is) the(-things) in the
βίῳ πρῶτον, ἔπειθ᾽ ὑμῖν τὰ ἐν ἅδου διηγήσασθαι.
life first then to-you the(-things) in Hades to-narrate
Κειμένου μου τοιγαροῦν ἐν κλίνῃ, τῶν φίλων οὐδέν᾽ ἀφῆκεν
lying I therefore in bed of-the friends none let
αὖτη νόσου χωρὶς πρὸς τὸ ἐλθεῖν ὡς ἐμὲ καὶ θεάσασθαι·
this of-disease apart for the to-come to me and to-see(-me)
ἀλλ᾽ ἀντὶ παρουσίας φίλων τε καὶ ἐπιτηδείων, κολοιοὺς
but instead-of presence of-friends both and intimates jackdaws
καὶ κορώνας πρέσβεις μοι πέπομφεν, ἀντὶ δ᾽ ἰατρῶν
and crows as-envoys to-me it-has-sent instead-of and physicians
τοὺς τοῦ θανάτου κήρυκας κόρακας. Οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐδεὶς τῶν
the of-the death heralds ravens not for anyone of-the
ἁπάντων, ὡς ἔφθην εἰπὼν, ἦκεν ἐν κλίνῃ με θεασόμενος
all as I-have-already said came in bed me going-to-see
κείμενον, ἐπειδήπερ καὶ φίλοι καὶ ἀγχισταὶ, ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ
lying since both friends and kinsmen but indeed also
βροτολοιγοὶ, ἐν πέντε μὲν σισύραις, τρισὶ δὲ χλαίναις
man-destroyers in five indeed goat-hair-cloaks three and blankets
ἔκειντο, κατὰ τὸν κωμικὸν, ῥέγχοντες, ἐγκεκορδυλημένοι
lay according-to the comic(-poet) snoring bundled-up
καὶ πέρδοντες, ὥσπερ ἤδη κἀγὼ πέπονθα κείμενος. Καὶ
and farting as already I-too have-suffered lying and
νῦν μὲν ἐδήλου τὰ ὄρνεα μαντευόμενα θάνατον, νῦν
now indeed showed the birds prophesying death now
δ᾽ ἔκρωζε, τὰς ἐμὰς ἀθλίας καὶ καταστίκτους, μᾶλλον
and cawed the my wretched and spotted rather
δὲ ἐξηρθρωμένας τε καὶ παρειμένας αἰτοῦντα σπαράξαι
but disjointed both and slack asking to-tear
σάρκας, καὶ ταῦτα, πρὶν τοῦ παρόντος με ἀπαλλαγῆναι
flesh and that before the present me to-be-released(-from)

δυστήνου βίου. Ἐπειδὴ δὲ παρὰ μὲν τῶν κολοιῶν καὶ
wretched life when and by indeed the jackdaws and
κορωνῶν ἤδη ἐψήφιστο, παρὰ δὲ τῶν κοράκων φεῦ!
crows already it-had-been-voted by and the ravens alas
μοι ἐκέκριτο ἡ ἀργαλέα καὶ ἀνάντης καὶ μεστὴ φρίκης
for-me had-been-decreed the grievous and uphill and full of-horror
ἐν ᾅδου ὁδὸς ἐκείνη, τῇ ὑστεραίᾳ ὑπνώσας, ἡρπάγην,
in Hades road that on-the next-day having-fallen-asleep I-was-snatched
οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως, ὑπό τινος· εἴτε οὖν γυμνὸς, εἴτε σινδόνα
not I-know how by someone whether then naked or a-shroud
ἐνημμένος, συνιδεῖν οὐκ ἔχω. Καί μοι μηδεὶς ἀπιστείτω,
wearing to-make-out not I-can and me no-one let-disbelieve
τοιαῦτα κατὰ τὸν ἰανουάριον τῆς νῦν ἑβδόμης ἰδεῖν
such-things in the January of-the present seventh to-see
ἰνδίκτου τερατευομένῳ. Ἦν γάρ τις οὐ πιστεύσῃ (πολλοὶ
indiction telling-marvels if for anyone not may-believe many
δ', ὡς οἶμαι, πιστεύσουσιν ἂν ἥκιστα), δρομαῖος ἀπελθέτω
and as I-think will-believe — least running let-him-go
εἰς ᾅδου, καὶ, εἴπερ οὕτως οὐχ εὕροι ὡς ἔγωγε
to Hades and if so not he-should-find(-it) as I
ἀριδηλότατα διεξέρχομαι, ψευδόμενόν με γραψάσθω παρά
most-clearly relate(-it) lying me let-him-indict before
τε τῷ Μίνωϊ καὶ Αἰακῷ καὶ τῷ Ῥαδαμάνθυϊ, κἀκεῖνοι
both — Minos and Aeacus and — Rhadamanthys and-they
δικάσουσιν ἄν με, καὶ, ὡς εἰώθασι, δίκας λήψονται.
will-judge — me and as they-are-wont penalties will-exact

2 Ἁρπαγεὶς οὖν, ὡς ἔφθην εἰπὼν, ἀωρὶ νυκτῶν, τῶν
snatched then as I-have-already said untimely of-nights the
οἰκετῶν μοι ῥεγχόντων ἐπὶ τῆς οἰκίας (οὐδὲ γὰρ ᾔσθοντο
servants my snoring in the house not-even for they-perceived
τοῦ ξυμβάντος), ἐς μεγάλην τε καὶ βαθεῖαν ἀφικόμην
the event to a-great both and deep I-came

κοιλάδα, μεστὴν παμπόλλων τε καὶ ἀναριθμήτων ἀνδρῶν,
valley full of-very-many both and countless men
οὐ νέων, οὐδὲ πρεσβυτέρων, ἀλλὰ μιᾶς ὑπαρχόντων
not young nor older but of-one being
ἡλικίας, ἄνευ τῆς τῶν προσώπων μορφῆς· αἱ γὰρ πάντων
age except-for the of-the faces form the for of-all
ἰδέαι διάφοροι, ὡς ἐν τῷ παρόντι βίῳ διατελοῦντες
looks(-were) different as in the present life living
τυγχάνουσιν ἄνθρωποι· ἁπάντων δὲ ὄντων γυμνῶν, τῶν
happen(-to-be) men all and being naked the(-ones)
μὲν μώλωψι καταστίκτων καὶ κατ᾽ ἐμὲ βεβαπτισμένων
indeed with-weals spotted and like me dyed
ὑπὸ πλήθους ἁμαρτημάτων, τῶν δὲ, μωλώπων χωρὶς,
by a-multitude of-sins the(-ones) and weals without
οὐκ ἀφορισμένως, ἀλλ᾽ ἀναμὶξ πάντων ἑστώτων. Μικρὸν
not separately but mingled all standing a-little
οὖν ἡσύχῳ προβὰς ποδὶ ἐξ οὗπερ ἀφικόμην χωρίου,
then with-quiet having-advanced foot from which I-had-come place
ἐπιτυγχάνω ἀνθρώπῳ καταστίκτῳ ὄντι καὶ μελαμπύγῳ,
I-meet a-man spotted being and black-bottomed
μεγάλην τε καὶ ὑπόγριπον ἔχοντι ῥῖνα, τὴν μὲν κόμην
a-large both and hooked having nose the indeed hair
κεκαρμένην, τὴν δὲ γένυν σώαν ἔχοντι, πολλὴν δ᾽ ἄγοντι
shorn the but beard intact having much and making
σπουδὴν, ὥστε τὰ ἐν ταῖς βασιλικαῖς αὐλαῖς ἐξετάσαι
haste so-as the(-things) in the imperial courts to-inquire-into
πάντα. Λάθρα γὰρ, ὡς ἐφαίνετο, ἐκ τῆς πληθύος τῶν
all secretly for as it-appeared from the multitude of-the(-ones)
ἐν τῇ κοιλάδι ἐκείνῃ κατοικούντων, ὡς μακρόθεν με ἑώρακεν
in the valley that dwelling when from-afar me he-saw
ὑποσκάζοντα, εἰσεπήδησε, μαθεῖν βουλόμενος, τίνες τε τῶν
limping he-leapt-in to-learn wishing who both of-the

συναναστρεφομένων λειτουργοῦσιν ἐν ταῖς βασιλικαῖς αὐλαῖς
associates serve in the imperial courts
λειτουργίαις, καὶ τίνες διατελοῦσιν εὐδοκιμοῦντες· ἐφλέγετο
offices and who continue in-favor he-burned
γὰρ ὑπὸ δόξης καὶ ἐζηλοτύπει, καὶ ὅλος ἦν τεταμένος καὶ
for with ambition and was-jealous and wholly he-was strained and
φερόμενος, ὥστε τὰ ἐν βίῳ ἀκριβῶς εἰδέναι ἅπαντα.
carried-away so-as the(-things) in life precisely to-know all
Τοῦτο δὲ ἐτεκμαιρόμην, ἀπό τε τῆς αὐτοῦ μορφῆς καὶ
this and I-inferred from both the his look and
τῶν ἐρωτήσεων, οὐχ ἥκιστα δ' ἀπὸ τῆς ἔριδος καὶ νείκης,
the questions not least and from the strife and quarreling
καὶ ἀκριβοῦς ἐξετάσεως ὧν ὕστερον κατὰ μέρος διηγεῖτό
and precise inquiry of-what later by part he-related
τε καὶ διηρεύνει, καὶ ἐπὶ τοῖς ἀκουσθεῖσιν ἐξεθαμβεῖτο.
both and searched-out and at the(-things) heard was-amazed
Πρῶτον μὲν οὖν, ὡς ἠπήντηκεν, εὐθὺς ἠσπάσατό με
first indeed then when he-met(-me) at-once greeted me
γελῶν, καλέσας ὀνομαστί· ἔπειθ', ὡς περιέβαλον,
laughing having-called(-me) by-name then when I-embraced(-him)
ἤρετό με μεμφόμενος· „Τί βουλόμενος, ταλάνταθ' ἀνδρῶν,
asked me reproaching what wishing most-wretched of-men
ἧκες ἐς νεκροὺς καὶ κευθμῶνα καὶ πύλας ᾅδου. μήτε
did-you-come to the-dead and the-hollow and gates of-Hades neither
τοῦ ἐπικεκλωσμένου σοι νήματος ἐκκοπέντος, μήτε τοῦ
the spun-for you thread having-been-cut nor —
Χάρωνος ὧδε καλέσαντος;"
Charon here having-called(-you)
Τρίτον βουλήν μοι βουλεύεται γενναίαν καὶ μάλα
third counsel to-me he-counsels noble and very
λυσιτελοῦσαν, ἣν Ἀθηναίαν ἢ Σολομοντιαίαν τις εἰπὼν
profitable which Athenian or Solomonic one having-called

οὐκ ἂν ἁμάρτοι, „Ἄπελθε,“ λέγων, „φίλτατε, ἄνω ἐς τὸν
not — would-err go-away saying dearest up to the
βίον· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἔχει τις ὧδε σοῦ χρείαν, πένητός τε
life not for has anyone here of-you need poor both
ὄντος καὶ ἀδόξου, ἀλλὰ καὶ παρειμένου, καὶ πρός γε
being and obscure but also paralyzed and besides —
ἔτι μὴ παρασχόντος σου τοὺς δύ' ὀβολοὺς τῷ πορθμεῖ,
still not having-paid you the two obols to-the ferryman
κατὰ τὸν ἄνωθεν εἰς τοῦτο θεσμὸν ἐπικρατήσαντα.
according-to the from-of-old for this ordinance having-prevailed
Ἦ σὺ οἴει παῤῥησίαν ἐνταῦθ' ἔχειν τοὺς κατὰ σὲ
truly you think free-speech here to-have the(-ones) like you
βεβορβορωμένους καὶ πένητας; Ὅτε δὲ γενήσῃ, κατὰ τὸν
befouled and poor when but you-become according-to the
κωμικὸν, ὅμοιος Χρεμύλῳ, τότε σε καὶ ἄκοντα λήψονται,
comic(-poet) like Chremylus then you even unwilling they-will-take
καὶ παῤῥησίαν ἐνταῦθ' ἕξεις. Τό γε γοῦν νῦν ἔχον
and free-speech here you-will-have the — at-any-rate now being
ἐς Μῶραν ἄπελθε πανοικὶ, καὶ τὴν γαστέρα κρεῶν
to the-Morea go with-all-your-household and the belly with-meats
τε καὶ ἐλαῶν, ἀλφίτων τε καὶ νέκταρος, πρὸς δὲ καὶ
both and olives barley both and nectar besides and also
κωλῆς καὶ παναθηναϊκοῦ ζωμοῦ πλῆσον· τιμηθήσῃ γὰρ
ham and Panathenaic broth fill you-will-be-honored for
ἐκεῖσε ῥᾳδίως ὑπὸ τῶν τὴν Πέλοπος οἰκούντων,
there easily by the(-ones) the(-land) of-Pelops inhabiting
καὶ δοξασθήσῃ μάλα εἰκότως· ἀφ' ὧν καὶ ἀργύριον
and you-will-be-glorified very fittingly from which also silver
ἱκανὸν ὑποκτήσειας ἄν. Εἶτα, μετὰ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν ἐκεῖσε
much you-might-acquire — then with the other the there
εὐδαιμονιῶν, συμβαλεὶς καὶ συνετωτάτῳ καὶ βαθυγνώμονι
blessings having-met also a-most-sagacious and deep-minded

ἀνδρὶ, ὁμωνύμως κεκλημένῳ Εὐδαίμονι, καρτερῷ δὲ ὄντι
man aptly called Eudaimon strong and being
καὶ πολυόλβῳ πολλῶν δὲ ἄρχοντι πραγμάτων καὶ τὰ
and very-rich many and ruling affairs and the
μέγιστα δυναμένῳ, τῶν ὅσα συναναστρεφομένων ἐν
greatest(-power) having of-the(-ones) as-many-as associating in
τοῖς τοῦ πορφυροβλάστου βασιλείοις οὐδείς. Τοῦτον τοίνυν
the of-the porphyrogenite palace no-one(-so) him then
τὸν γενναιότατον εὑρὼν, προσκολλήθητι, καὶ τὰς αὐτοῦ
the noblest having-found cling and the his
προσταγὰς ὡς αὐτοκράτορος ποίει, ὡς ἂν καὶ σαυτὸν καὶ
commands as an-emperor's do so-that — both yourself and
τοὺς μετὰ σοῦ πολλῶν ἀγαθῶν ἐμπλήσῃς. Τούτῳ μήποτε
the(-ones) with you with-many goods you-may-fill to-him never
ὀκνήσῃς εἰπεῖν τόνδε τὸν μῦθον, ὡς οὐ πολὺς ἔσοιτο χρόνος
hesitate to-tell this the word that not long would-be time
τοῦ γενέσθαι τοῦτον εὐδαιμονέστερόν τε καὶ βελτίω, καὶ
before-the to-become him more-fortunate both and better and
ἐνδοξότερον πάντων τῶν ἐκεῖσε ἐνοικούντων. Καὶ ταῦτα
more-glorious than-all the(-ones) there dwelling and these-things
μὲν αὐτῷ φράσον κρύφα· σὺ δ' ὅταν τούτων πάντων,
indeed to-him tell secretly you and when with-these all
καὶ ἑτέρων μειζόνων ἐμπλησθείης, ὡς ἔφθην εἰπὼν, καὶ
and other greater may-be-filled as I-have-already said and
πλουτήσῃς, τότε ῥᾳδίως ἥξεις εἰς ᾅδου καὶ φανερῶς, οὐ
may-grow-rich then easily will-come to Hades and openly not
μὴν δὲ κρύφα καὶ ἁρπακτικῶς ὥσπερ νῦν, μετὰ πομπῆς
indeed — secretly and by-snatching as now with procession
θαυμαστῆς καὶ δόξης ὅτι πολλῆς. Τότε δὴ τότε καὶ
wondrous and glory as-much as-possible then indeed then both
φίλοι καὶ ἀγχιστεῖς, ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ ἰατροὶ, ὅτε σε νοσοῦντα
friends and kinsmen but indeed also physicians when you sick

ἀκούσωσιν, ἐλεύσονται αὐτεπάγγελτοι, ὁμοίως δὲ γυνή τε
they-hear will-come unbidden likewise and wife both
καὶ παῖδες, καὶ οἰκέται, καὶ πάντες σχεδὸν, κλαύσονταί τε
and children and servants and all nearly will-weep both
καὶ ὀδυροῦνται τὴν σὴν ἐκδημίαν. Τότε τοίνυν οὐ πολλοῦ
and will-lament the your departure then therefore not much
πόνου καὶ κόπου σοι χρεία γενήσεται πρὸς τὴν εἰς ᾅδου
toil and labor for-you need will-be for the to Hades
πορείαν· ἀλλ', ἐπειδήπερ ἐν τῇ Λακωνικῇ τὸ Ταίναρον,
journey but since in the Laconian(-land) — Taenarum
ὥς φασιν, ὂν τυγχάνει, τὸ δέ ἐστι πλησίον ᾅδου, ἐξ
as they-say being happens it and is near Hades from
οὗπερ πάντες, ὡς λέγουσιν, οἱ τεθνηξόμενοι ἀνάγονται
which all as they-say the(-ones) going-to-die are-led-up
μὲν ἐκ βίου, ἐς ᾅδου δὲ κατάγονται, παράσχειας ἂν καὶ
indeed from life to Hades and are-led-down would-pay — also
σὺ τότε δύ' ὀβολοὺς τῷ πορθμεῖ, καὶ ἐς μόρον ῥᾳδίως
you then two obols to-the ferryman and to doom easily
καὶ ἀπονητὶ ἀπὸ Μώρας χαίρων καὶ εὐφραινόμενος ἥξεις,
and without-toil from the-Morea rejoicing and making-merry will-come
ἐπειδήπερ καθ' Ὅμηρον, μόρον σε ἀμήχανον, κἂν ἐν
since according-to Homer doom you inescapable even-if in
οἰκίσκῳ σαυτὸν καθείρξῃς, οὐχ ὑπαλύξαις."
a-cell yourself you-shut-up not you-would-escape
Ἦν δ' ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν, χαίρων καὶ ἐκθαμβούμενος, 3
said and I to him rejoicing and amazed
τοῦτο μὲν ἐν τῷ ξυμβουλεύειν οὕτω καὶ προαγγέλλειν
on-the-one-hand indeed at the to-counsel thus and to-foretell
μοι καινά τινα καὶ παράδοξα, τοῦτο δ' ἐν τῷ
to-me new some(-things) and strange on-the-other and at the
λέγειν αὖθις ἀναβιῶναι, καὶ δίς με ἀποθανεῖν· „Ἆρ' ὁ
to-say again to-come-back-to-life and twice me to-die — the

καλὸς κἀγαθὸς ἐκεῖνος ἦσθα Ὁλόβολος, ὁ τοῦ μεγάλου
fine and-good that were-you Holobolos the of-the great
μὲν καὶ γενναιοτάτου αὐτοκράτορος ἄριστος γραμματεὺς,
indeed and most-noble emperor best secretary
ἐμὸς δὲ ἑταῖρος ὡς οὐχ ἕτερος, ὁ τῆς Κωνσταντίνου
my and comrade as no other the of-the(-city) of-Constantine
μὲν ῥήτωρ δεινὸς, τῶν δ' ἰατρῶν ὁ βέλτιστος, ὃν
indeed orator clever of-the and physicians the best whom
ὁ μυρταῖτης ἐκεῖνος Ἀνδρόνικος φοιβάζων ἔλεγεν, Ἦ
the myrtle-seller that Andronikos prophesying said truly
μέλλεις γενέσθαι λογοθέτης;"
are-you-going to-become logothete
Καὶ ὃς, γοργὸν κατανεύσας, ἔφησε, „Ναί."
and he quickly having-nodded said yes
Κἀγὼ αὖθις ἠρόμην αὐτόν· „Πῶς, ὦ τᾶν, τοιοῦτος
and-I again asked him how O good-sir such
γέγονας; καὶ πῶς οὕτω γυμνὸς καὶ κατάστικτος τυγχάνεις
have-you-become and how so naked and spotted do-you-happen
διατελῶν; ποῦ δὲ εἰσὶν αἱ λαμπραὶ καὶ σηρικαὶ καὶ
to-be-living where and are the bright and silken and
λευκαὶ ἐσθῆτες ἐκεῖναι, ἃς σοι μέγας βασιλεὺς ἔναγχος
white robes those which to-you the-great emperor lately
ἐδωρήσατο, μεθ' ὧν ἐῴκεις βαδίζων υἱῷ κοιαίστωρος;"
gave with which you-looked-like walking the-son of-a-quaestor
Ἐπὶ τούτοις ἐκεῖνος, κινήσας τὴν κεφαλὴν, καὶ βύθιον
at these he having-shaken the head and deep
στενάξας, κἀπὶ τῇ μνήμῃ τῶν ἀπολαύσεων δακὼν
having-groaned and-at the memory of-the enjoyments having-bitten
τὸ χεῖλος, πηγὰς ἠφίει δακρύων, εἶτά μου τῆς χειρὸς
the lip springs let-go of-tears then my the hand
λαβόμενος, ἄγει με ἀποτέρω, καὶ δάφνῃ συνηρεφεῖ ἡμῶν
having-taken leads me further-off and under-a-laurel shady we

ἐπικαθισάντων, ἐμοῦ μὲν κεκμηκότος ἐκ τῆς ὁδοιπορίας,
having-sat-down I indeed being-weary from the journey
ἐκείνου δὲ καὶ πνευστιῶντος τῇ τοῦ δρόμου συντονίᾳ
he and also panting from-the of-the run intensity
ὃν ἔδραμεν ἄρτι, καὶ δειλιῶντος μήπω γέ τις αὐτὸν
which he-had-run just-now and fearing lest — someone him
θεάσηται, ἤρξατο πρῶτον ἀδακρυτὶ τὰ κατ᾽ αὐτὸν ἐν
may-see began first tearlessly the(-things) about himself in
κεφαλαίῳ διηγεῖσθαι· ὅπως δὲ ἐφενακίσθη ὑπὸ τοῦ τῶν
summary to-relate how and he-was-cheated by the(-one) of-the
εὐγενῶν (ἦν δὲ ὁ ἐξαπατήσας Τζαμπλάκων ἐκεῖνος
nobles was and the(-one) having-deceived(-him) Tzamplakon that
ὁ καβαλλάριος), καὶ ὅπως ἐς τὴν παλαιὰν ἄτην ἧκε
the knight and how into the old ruin came
φέρων ὡς γραμματέα, ἐπὶ κακῇ μοίρᾳ, ὡς ἔλεγε, τῶν
bringing(-himself) as secretary to evil fate as he-said of-the
ἀσθενῶν (εἰ γὰρ ἐτύγχανεν ἰατρεύων ἐκεῖνος, πολλοὺς
sick if for he-had-happened healing he many
ἂν ἐκ θανάτου ἐῤῥύσατο· νῦν δ᾽ ἔνιοι τῶν ἰατρῶν
— from death would-have-saved now but some of-the physicians
μήτε γράμματα εἰδότες Ἑλληνικὰ μήτε τὰ Γαληνοῦ
neither letters knowing Greek nor the(-works) of-Galen
μήτε μὴν Ἱπποκράτους νοοῦντες, ἀπερισκέπτως ἰατρείας
nor indeed of-Hippocrates understanding carelessly treatments
ποιοῦσι, καὶ πολλὰς ἰφθίμους ψυχὰς, καθ᾽ Ὅμηρον,
make and many mighty souls according-to Homer
προϊάπτουσιν ἀσθενῶν ἄϊδι)· ὅπως τε ἐδέξατο τοῦτον
send-forth of-the-sick to-Hades how both received him
ἀσμένως ὁ θειότατος βασιλεὺς, καὶ ὅπως τετίμηκε
gladly the most-divine emperor and how he-has-honored(-him)
παρ᾽ ἀξίαν, ἥτις κακίας αὐτῷ γέγονεν ἀφορμή· καὶ τὴν
beyond desert which of-vice to-him has-become occasion and the

τῆς ἰατρικῆς κατέλιπε τέχνην, καὶ ἐς παλαιὰν διατρίβων
of-the medical he-abandoned art and in old spending-time
ἐτύγχανεν ἄτην (ἐχρήσατο γὰρ αὐτῷ ὁ κρατῶν ἐκ τοῦ
he-happened ruin used for him the ruler from the
παραυτίκα, ὥσπερ εἰώθει τοῖς νεωστὶ ἀφικνουμένοις
outset as he-was-wont the newly arriving
νεήλυσι χρῆσθαι, καὶ ὡς ἀκέστορι ἐμπείρῳ καὶ ὡς ῥήτορι
newcomers to-use both as a-healer skilled and as an-orator
δεινῷ, καὶ ὡς ἀνδρὶ ἀγαθῷ, καὶ ὡς εὐφυεῖ καὶ περιέργῳ
clever and as a-man good and as a-gifted and diligent
ὑπογραμματεῖ Παδιάτου ἐκείνου τοῦ καταπύστου τε καὶ
under-secretary of-Padiates that the despicable both and
φληνάφους)· ὅπως πεπλούτηκεν ἐξαπίνης, ἀφ' ὧν γέγραφε
babbling how he-has-grown-rich suddenly from what he-has-written
θείων τε καὶ σεπτῶν χρυσοβούλλων καὶ προσταγμάτων·
divine both and august chrysobulls and ordinances
ὅπως τε ἠγαπᾶτο καὶ ἐτιμᾶτο, δι' ἣν εἶχε τοῦ
how both he-was-loved and honored because-of which he-had of-the
βασιλέως εὔνοιαν, καὶ παρὰ τῶν εὐπατριδῶν, καὶ τῶν εὖ
emperor goodwill both by the well-born and the(-ones) well
φρονούντων, καὶ τῶν γένει προσηκόντων τῷ βασιλεῖ,
thinking and the(-ones) by-birth related to-the emperor
ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ τῶν ἐν τέλει, καὶ ἁπλῶς παρὰ πάντων·
but indeed also the(-ones) in office and simply by all
ὅπως ἀνῳκοδόμησεν οἰκίας λαμπρὰς καὶ περικαλλεῖς, καὶ
how he-built-up houses splendid and very-beautiful and
ὅπως ἀφῆκε ταύτας ἡμιτελεῖς ἔκ τινος συμβάματος· ὅπως
how he-left them half-finished from some mishap how
κατὰ σμικρὸν χωρήσας τοῖς τοῦ βασιλέως μυστηρίοις,
by little having-advanced into-the of-the emperor secrets
ἐφαίνετο μὲν ὅμοιος τοῖς ἔνδον συναναστρεφομένοις,
he-appeared indeed like to-the(-ones) inside associating

νύκτωρ δὲ καὶ μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν τῷ αὐτοκράτορι συνὼν καὶ
by-night but and by day with-the emperor being and
διαλεγόμενος, κατέπλευσεν ἐς Βρεττανίαν τε καὶ Γαλλίαν
conversing sailed to Britain both and Gaul
καὶ μέχρις ὠκεανοῦ μετ᾽ αὐτοῦ· ὅπως διὰ ταῦτα μὲν
and as-far-as the-ocean with him how because-of these-things indeed
γέγονεν, ὡς ἔλεγεν ὁ τοιοῦτος, ἐπέραστος, ὁ δὲ χρηστὸς
he-became as said the such(-man) lovable the but good
Παδιάτης ἐκεῖνος κατὰ σμικρὸν βδελυγμίας καὶ ἄχρηστος·
Padiates that by little abomination and useless
ὅπως τε ἦν μόνος κύριος τοῦ ἀκοῦσαι καὶ γράψαι
how both he-was sole master of-the to-hear and to-write
ῥητῶν τινων καὶ ἀπορρήτων· ὅπως τε ἅμα γέγονε
things-sayable some and unsayable how both at-once he-became
γραμματεὺς καὶ βουλευτὴς, καὶ διακομιστὴς μυστηρίων, καὶ
secretary and councilor and bearer of-secrets and
ὑπομνημάτων ἐξαγγελεύς· ὅπως τε μικρὸν ὕστερον ἤλπιζεν,
of-memoranda announcer how both a-little later he-hoped
εἴπερ οὐκ εἶχεν ἀντίτεχνον τὸν τὴν κλεῖν κατεαγότα
if not he-had rival the(-one) the collarbone having-broken
Φιλομμάταιον, ἐς τὸ τοῦ μεγάλου λογοθέτου γέρας ἥξειν.
Philommataios to the of-the great logothete office to-come

Holobolos confides that four misfortunes brought him to Hades before his time, and explains that its judges try each soul justly, without witnesses or bribes. The four: besotted with a nun, he neglected his duties, and the emperor made Philommataios his rival; a hypocrite among the court's 'saints' wheedled himself into guardianship of all he had; his nephew Kakoalexios looted his house as he lay sick; and the emperor took his chrysobulls and records, which he wishes he had burned so the rival could not master the trade. Mazaris replies that the rival can learn it as he did, from Padiates.

4 Ἔπειθ' ὡς ἐν μυστηρίῳ καὶ πρὸς οὖς ἔφασκε μὲν, οὐκ
then as in secret and at ear he-said indeed not
ἀδακρυτὶ δὲ οὐδ' ἀστενακτὶ ταῦτα· „Ὁρᾷς, ὦ φίλων
tearlessly but nor without-groaning these-things you-see O of-friends
ἄριστε, οἷος ἀνθ' οἵου γέγονα, καὶ οἷος ἐν ᾅδου
best what-sort in-place-of what-sort I-have-become and what-sort in Hades
βαδίζω, καὶ ἡλίκος νῦν φαίνομαι." — Ἦν δ' ἐγὼ πρὸς
I-walk and how-small now I-appear said and I to
αὐτὸν στενάξας· „Ὁρῶ."
him having-groaned I-see
Καὶ ὃς ἀρξάμενος διηγήσατο οὑτωσί πως εἰπών·
and he having-begun related thus somehow having-said
„Ἐγὼ μὲν, ὦ βέλτιστε Μάζαρι, ὡς ἐν ἐξομολογήσει
I indeed O best Mazaris as in confession
καὶ θαῤῥούντως ταῦτά σοι διηγήσομαι· σὺ δ' ἀκούσας
and confidently these-things to-you will-relate you and having-heard
φύλαξον καὶ ἔχε παρὰ σαυτῷ." Κἀγὼ εἶπον·
guard(-them) and keep(-them) with yourself and-I said
„Ὁμοιοπαθεῖ ἀνθρώπῳ ἐρεῖς, καὶ πολλὰ εἰδότι
to-a-fellow-sufferer man you-will-speak and many knowing
μυστήρια, ξεῖνε· καὶ ὥσπερ τἀμὰ καὶ ταυτὶ φυλάξω."
secrets stranger and as my-own also these I-will-guard

Καὶ ὃς ἀρξάμενος ἔλεγεν· „Ἔγωγε εἴπερ ἔμελλον φεῦ!
and he having-begun said I when I-was-about alas
ζωὴν ἐν τῷ βίῳ ζῆσαι πλείω τε καὶ βελτίω τῆς ἥσπερ
a-life in the world to-live longer both and better than-the which
βεβίωκα ὁ ταλάντατος, πλοῦτόν τε πλεῖστον πλουτῆσαι
I-have-lived the most-wretched wealth both very-great to-be-rich-in
καὶ τῶν εὐπατριδῶν μίαν γῆμαι, καὶ τὰς οἰκίας λαμπρὰς
and of-the well-born one to-marry and the houses splendid
καὶ περικαλλεῖς ἐκτελέσαι, τέτταρά μοι ὁμοίως δεινὰ
and very-beautiful to-finish four on-me alike terrors
ἐν ἑνὶ καιρῷ καὶ ἐκ τοῦ παραυτίκα ἐπέθετο, ἅπερ μοι
at one time and from the instant fell which for-me
νόσον βαρεῖάν τε καὶ δεινοτάτην κατειργάσατο· καὶ, ὡς
a-disease heavy both and most-terrible wrought and as
ὁρᾷς, ἐν ἅδου ταυτὶ ἀώρως με προύπεμψε.“
you-see in Hades these-things untimely me sent-ahead
Τοὺς κρουνοὺς οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς τῶν ἐμῶν δακρύων ἀπ’
the streams then also myself of-the my tears from
ὀφθαλμῶν ἐκμάσας, πρὸς αὐτὸν εἶπον· „Μὴ ὤφελες,
eyes having-wiped to him I-said not would-that-you-had
δύστην’ Ὀλόβολε, πρώτως μοι ξυναντῆσαι, μηδὲ τοιαῦτα
wretched Holobolos first me to-meet nor such-things
πρὸς ἐμὲ λέξαι, μηδὲ τὰ σὰ οὕτως ἐπιδεῖξαι, ὥσπερ
to me to-say nor the your(-affairs) so to-show as
ὀφθαλμοῖς μὲν εἶδον, ὠσὶ δ’ ἀκήκοα· τὴν γὰρ ἐν
with-eyes indeed I-saw with-ears and I-have-heard the for in
ἅδου διατριβὴν ᾤμην δεῖν εἶναι βελτιωτέραν τε
Hades sojourn I-thought to-be-needful to-be better both
καὶ ἀπονωτέραν τοῦ οὗπερ ἐξῆλθον δυστήνου βίου,
and easier than-the which I-left wretched life
καὶ χαίρων ἠκολούθουν ἐκείνῳ, τῷ ἀωρὶ νυκτῶν
and rejoicing I-followed him the(-one) untimely of-nights

ἡρπακότι. Ἐπειδὴ δὲ καὶ τὰ ἐν ᾅδου οὕτως ἔχει,
having-snatched(-me) since but also the(-things) in Hades so are
ὥσπερ καὶ τὰ ἐν βίῳ, σὺ δὲ πολλὰ καὶ μεγάλα
as also the(-things) in life you and many and great
δεινὰ πέπονθας ὡς διεξέρχῃ, παλινδρομῆσαι βούλομαι
terrors have-suffered as you-relate to-run-back I-wish
ἐς τὸν βίον· βέλτιον γὰρ ἐκεῖσε διατρίβειν ἀτίμως
to the life better(-it-is) for there to-live without-honor
οὕτω καὶ δυστυχῶς, ἢ γενέσθαι με τοιοῦτον ὁποῖος
so and unhappily than to-become me such as
σύ μοι φαίνῃ νῦν. Πλὴν, δέομαι δή σου, ἐπειδή μοι
you to-me appear now but I-beg indeed you since to-me
ξυμβουλεύῃ τὰ λυσιτελοῦντα, καὶ ἐς Μῶραν, ἤτοι γε
you-counsel the(-things) profitable and to the-Morea or —
εἰς Πελοπόννησον, φοιβάζων ὥσπερ Ἀπόλλων ἐκ δάφνης,
to the-Peloponnese prophesying like Apollo from laurel
λέγεις μοι ἀπελθεῖν, φράσον μοι τὰ τέτταρα ἐκεῖνα
you-tell me to-go tell me the four those(-things)
οἷα ἐστὶ, τὰ τὴν ἐν ᾅδου σοι πορείαν οὕτω
what-sort are the(-ones) the in Hades for-you journey so
προξενήσαντα· δι' ἐφέσεως γὰρ ἔχω τούτων ἀκοῦσαι."
having-procured with desire for I-am-disposed of-them to-hear
Καὶ ὃς στενάξας αὖθις, „Νὴ τὸν Κέρβερον," εἶπε, „τὸν
and he having-groaned again by — Cerberus he-said the
κύνα, ὦ κατάρατε ἐπιθέτα, δῆλά σοι βούλομαι ἥκιστα
dog O accursed impostor plain to-you I-wish least
ταυτὶ ποιῆσαι, δύο κακῶν ἕνεκα, ὧν ἕτερον μείζω
these-things to-make two evils for-the-sake-of of-which either greater
μοι προξενήσειεν ἂν ζημίαν."
for-me would-procure — loss

„Καὶ τίνα ζημίαν ἢ βλάβην,“ ἔφην ἐγὼ, „μέλλουσι
and what loss or harm I-said I are-going
προξενήσειν ταυτὶ, νεκρῷ γε ὄντι καὶ διατρίβοντι ἐν
to-procure these-things for-a-dead-man — being and spending-time in
ᾅδου; ποίαν,“ ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν, „συνιδεῖν οὐκ ἔχω.“
Hades what-sort said and I to him to-see not I-can
— „Σὺ,“ ἔφη, „ἀγνοεῖς, ἠλίθιε, πάντων μάλιστα γινώσκειν
you he-said are-ignorant fool of-all most to-know
οἰόμενος.“
thinking
„Οὐκ ἐρεῖς,“ εἶπον αὐτῷ, „ταύτην ἐμὲ τὸν φιλοῦντα
not will-you-tell I-said to-him it me the(-one) loving
τὰ σὰ πλέον τῶν ἄλλων; ἀλλὰ κρύπτεις;“
the(-things) yours more than-the others but you-hide(-it)
— „Οὐκ οἶσθα,“ ἔφη, „ὡς εἴπερ ἐκ συναρπαγῆς
not do-you-know he-said that if from rashness
κοινώσεις πρὸς τοὺς σοὺς καὶ ἐμοὺς ἑταίρους ταυτὶ
you-will-share with the your and my companions these-things
συνταραχθήσονται, καὶ ἐπαράσονταί με οἱ τὰ
they-will-be-thrown-into-confusion and will-curse me the(-ones) the
δεινὰ δράσαντες;“
dreadful-things having-done
„Μὴ φοβοῦ, ὦ ’γαθὲ,“ εἶπον· „ἐγὼ γὰρ οὕτω παρ’ ἐμοὶ
not fear O good-man I-said I for so with myself
φυλάξω τὰ εἰρημένα, ὥσπερ αὐτὸς σὺ ταυτὶ ἐφύλαττες
will-keep the(-things) spoken as yourself you these-things were-keeping
ἕως νῦν. Ὅρα μόνον, μὴ κέκρυπταί τις ἐν ταῖς μυρρίναις,
until now see only lest is-hidden someone in the myrtles
καὶ τῶν λεγομένων ἀκούῃ· ὁρῶ γὰρ αὐτὰς σειομένας.“
and of-the(-things) said hears I-see for them shaking

— „Θάῤῥει,“ ἔφη· „οὐ γάρ τις ἐκ τῆς πληθύος ἐκείνης
take-heart he-said not for anyone from the multitude that
ἐξῆλθεν, ἄνευ ἐμοῦ. Πλὴν ἄκουε δή μου καὶ τοῦ
came-out except me but hear now from-me also than-the
προτέρου δεινότερον δεύτερον. Ἔγωγε, ὦ ἑταῖρε, τὸν
first more-terrible a-second I O comrade the
μέγαν Πλούτωνα καὶ τὴν Περσεφόνην παπαὶ! δέδοικα· ὡς,
great Pluto and — Persephone alas fear lest
εἴπερ αἴσθονταί με διὰ τέτταρ᾽ ἄττα λυπούμενον, ἀντὶ
if they-perceive me because-of four things grieving instead-of
δεινοτάτης καὶ μεγάλης κολάσεως, τὸ τῆς λήθης μοι ὕδωρ
most-terrible and great punishment the of-the forgetfulness to-me water
πιεῖν οὐμενοῦν δώσουσιν, ὅπερ μοι ἐς ἡμερῶν τριακάδα
to-drink by-no-means they-will-give which to-me in of-days thirty
δώσειν γε ἐπηγγείλαντο, ὡς ἂν ἀμνημονήσω πάντων, ὧν
to-give — they-promised so-that — I-may-forget all which
ἐν βίῳ χρηστῶν ἀπήλαυσα· ἡ γὰρ τούτων μνήμη τὸ μὲν
in life good-things I-enjoyed the for of-these memory the indeed
σῶμα κατατρυχει, δίκην δὲ σκώληκος ἰοβόλου νύκτωρ καὶ
body wears-out like and a-worm venomous by-night and
μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν τὴν ψυχὴν δάκνει τὸν μὴ τοιούτου ὕδατος
by day the soul bites of-the(-one) not such water
μετασχόντα. Καὶ γὰρ βασανιστήριόν ἐστι χαλεπὸν ἡ τῶν
having-partaken and for a-torture is grievous the of-the
ἀπολαύσεων μνήμη, καὶ ἄῤῥητός τις ὀδύνη, καὶ δίκη
enjoyments memory and unspeakable a pain and a-penalty
δίκης ἁπάσης καὶ τιμωρίας πικροτέρα, οὐ πλευρὰς
than-penalty every and punishment more-bitter not sides
καταξαίνουσα μόνον, ἀλλὰ καὶ ψυχῆς δύναμιν λυμαινομένη.
tearing only but also of-soul power ruining

Ἦ σύγε οὕτως οἴει δικάζειν καὶ τοὺς ἐν ᾅδου δικαστὰς,
truly you so think to-judge also the in Hades judges
ὥσπερ καὶ οἱ ἐν βίῳ διατελοῦντες δικάζουσιν;“
as also the(-ones) in life living judge
„Ἀλλὰ πῶς ἄρ',“ εἶπον, „οἱ ἐν ᾅδου δικάζουσι;“
but how then I-said the(-ones) in Hades judge
— „Δικαίως,“ ἔφη, „καὶ ἀπροσωπολήπτως, ἔτι δὲ
justly he-said and impartially further and
ἀδωροδοκήτως, καὶ μὴ πρὸς χάριν, ἀλλ' οὐδὲ πρὸς
incorruptibly and not for favor but nor for
κολακείαν, οὐδ' εἵνεκα λημμάτων· οὐδὲ γὰρ δέονται
flattery nor for-the-sake of-gains not for need
μαρτύρων ἐκεῖνοι, οὐδὲ κατηγόρων, οὐδ' ἀποδείξεων, οὐδ'
witnesses they nor accusers nor proofs nor
ἐλέγχων, οὐδὲ συμβολαίων τινῶν· ἀλλὰ πάνθ' ὡς
cross-examinations nor contracts any but all-things as
ἐπράχθη, πρὸ ὀφθαλμῶν τῶν πεπλημμελημένων εἰς
were-done before the-eyes of-the(-ones) having-offended into
μέσον ἄγουσι. Τότε δὴ τότε οὐχ, ὑπὲρ ὧν ἠδίκησέ
the-open they-bring then indeed then not for what wronged
τις, κρίνεται ἕτερος, ἀλλ' ἕκαστος ὑπὲρ ἑαυτοῦ. Οἱ
one is-judged another but each for himself the(-ones)
δὲ ἐν βίῳ οὐχ οὕτω, ξεῖνε, ἀλλ' ἄλλως δικάζουσι.
but in life not so stranger but otherwise judge
Κρίνουσι μὲν γὰρ πρὸς χάριν, ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ κολακείαν,
they-judge indeed for for favor but indeed also flattery
δωροδοκοῦνται δὲ παρ' ἑκατέρων τῶν δικαζομένων· τοῦ
they-take-bribes and from both the litigants the
γὰρ δικαίου ἀπολωλότος, τῶν μάλα ἰσχυόντων καὶ
for justice having-perished to-the(-ones) very powerful and

πλείω παρεχομένων, μᾶλλον δὲ τῶν μεγάλα δυναμένων.
more offering rather and the(-ones) greatly able
καὶ εὐρυβιῶν καὶ πλούτῳ βριθόντων, τὸ δίκαιον γίνεται.“
and mighty and with-wealth laden the right goes
Ἐκπλαγεὶς οὖν ἐπὶ τούτοις ἐγὼ, ἱκέτευον αὐτὸν φράσαι, καὶ
astounded then at these I begged him to-tell both
τὰ τέτταρα ἐκεῖνα ποῖα ἐστὶ, καὶ τοὺς ἐνταῦθα δικαστάς.
the four those what are and the here judges
Ὁ δὲ, κατιδών με τεθορυβημένον οὕτω καὶ τῇ ψυχῇ
he but having-seen me troubled so and in-the soul
μετέωρον ὄντα σφόδρα (ἑώρα γὰρ νῦν μὲν ἡδόμενον, νῦν
unsettled being greatly he-saw for now indeed pleased now
δ’ ἀνιώμενον ἐν ταὐτῷ), „Πῶς ζητεῖς τὰ τέτταρα,“
and distressed at the-same(-time) why do-you-seek the four
ἔφη, „ἐκεῖνα; καὶ πῶς ἥκιστ’ ἐπελάθου τούτων, ἀλλ’ ἐς
he-said those and how least have-you-forgotten them but for
ἀεὶ μὲν ἐμὲ διεγείρεις, πάντοτε δὲ τούτων μνείαν ἔχεις,
ever indeed me you-rouse always and of-them mention you-make
καὶ σχεδὸν ὅσαι ὧραι μέμνησαι καὶ πράγματά μοι
and nearly every hour you-remember(-them) and trouble me
παρέχεις; Καὶ πρὸς τούτοις ζητεῖς γε μαθεῖν καὶ τὰ τῶν
you-give and besides these you-seek — to-learn also the of-the
δικαστῶν ὀνόματα, δέον μαθεῖν σε ἐν βίῳ.“
judges names it-being-needful to-learn(-them) you in life
„Ταῦτ’ εἰπεῖν ἔναγχός μοι ὑπέσχου,“ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔγωγε
these-things to-tell lately to-me you-promised to him I
ἔφην· „τίνι δὲ τρόπῳ παρυποκρύπτεις, ὦ καλὲ κἀγαθέ;“
said by-what and manner do-you-conceal O fine and-good
— „Οὐ κρύπτω,“ ἔφη, „ἀλλ’, ὡς ἔφθην εἰπὼν, δέδοικα
not I-conceal he-said but as I-have-already said I-fear
μὲν, πάντα δὲ τρόπον ποιῶ καὶ πράττω πρὸς τὸ συγχέαι
indeed every and way I-do and act for the to-confound

τὸν σὸν λογισμὸν, ὥστε μὴ ζητεῖν καὶ πολυπραγμονεῖν
the your reasoning so-as not to-seek and to-pry-into
ἐκεῖνα τὰ βλάβην οὐκ ὀλίγην μοι προξενήσοντα.“
those-things the(-ones) harm not little for-me going-to-procure
„Εἰπέ μοι,“ εἶπον ἐγὼ, „πρὸς θεοῦ, καὶ οὔτ’ αὐτὸς σὺ,
tell me I-said I by God and neither yourself you
συναιρομένης τῆς ἀληθείας, ὑποσταίης ἂν βλάβην, κἀμοὶ
helping the truth would-suffer — harm and-to-me
δ’ ὠφέλειαν οὐ σμικρὰν προξενήσαις.“
and benefit not small you-would-procure
Μόλις οὖν, ὅμως δ’ εἴξας, ἦ ἐκεῖνος, ἀνακαθίσας,
scarcely then but-yet and having-yielded said he having-sat-up
οὑτωσί πως εἰπὼν καὶ διηγησάμενος, πρῶτον μὲν
thus somehow having-spoken and having-related first indeed
τὰ δικαστῶν τῶν ἐν βίῳ ὀνόματα· ἄλλως γὰρ ἐν ᾅδου
the of-the-judges the in life names otherwise for in Hades
καλοῦσι τούτους· τὸν μὲν γὰρ λέγουσιν οἰνοφάγον, μὴ
they-call them the-one indeed for they-call wine-eater not
τῆς εἰρήνης υἱὸν, τὸν δὲ μόγων μεστὸν, τὸν δ’
of-the peace son the-other and of-toils full the-other and
ἄγκυραν ἀδικούντων, τὸν δὲ τέταρτον, σκαιῶν φύλακα·
anchor of-wrongdoers the and fourth of-the-clumsy guardian
ἔπειτα τὰ κατ’ αὐτὸν τέσσαρα· — „Τοῦ θειοτάτου
then the about himself four the most-divine
βασιλέως, ὦ ἐξεταστικώτατε, ἐξ Ἰταλίας καὶ Βρεττανίας
emperor O most-inquisitive from Italy and Britain
μετὰ τὴν τοῦ καταπτύστου ἐκείνου σατράπου κατάπτωσιν,
after the of-the despicable that satrap downfall
ἐν τῇ Κωνσταντίνου ἐπανήκοντος, οὐχ ἡσυχάζειν
into the(-city) of-Constantine having-returned not to-be-quiet
εἶα καὶ σωφρονεῖν ὁ τῆς ἀκολασίας οἶστρος, πρὸς τὸ
allowed and to-be-sober the of-the lust gadfly for the

μένειν με διηνεκῶς ταῖς βασιλικαῖς αὐλαῖς, τοῖς ἔνδον
to-remain me continually in-the imperial courts with-those inside
τε συναναστρεφομένοις συναναστρέφεσθαι, καὶ τὰς τοῦ
both associating to-associate and the of-the
κρατοῦντος προσταγὰς ἐκπληρεῖν ὡς τὸ πρότερον· ἀλλ᾽
ruler commands to-fulfill as the before but
ἀδίκοις θεασάμενος ὄμμασι μίαν τάχα τῶν μοναζουσῶν,
with-unjust having-beheld eyes one perhaps of-the nuns
διεσπεκλωμένην ὑπὸ μυρίων, ἀρχαίαν φίλην, τῷ ταύτης
spread-about by thousands an-old friend by-the her
καὶ αὖθις ἁλοὺς ἔρωτι, μᾶλλον δὲ καταγοητευθεὶς,
and again caught love rather but bewitched
νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν τῷ ταύτης ἐγκαλινδούμην
by-night and by day in-the her I-wallowed
βεβορβορωμένῳ σώματι. Τοῦ δὲ γενναιοτάτου βασιλέως
befouled body the and most-noble emperor
ὅσαι ὧραι ζητοῦντος πρὸς τὸ γράφειν με τὰς αὐτοῦ
every hour seeking for the to-write me the his
προσταγὰς, ἐπείπερ οὐδαμῶς εὑρίσκομεν, ἀγανακτήσαντος,
commands since in-no-way we-find having-been-vexed
ἀντίτεχνόν μοι πεποίηκεν ἐξ ἀγγέλων πονηρῶν τὸν
a-rival to-me made from angels wicked the
διαληφθέντα Φιλομμάταιον. Ὅπως μὲν οὖν περὶ τούτου
aforementioned Philommataios how indeed then about this
λελύπημαι σφόδρα, καὶ ὅπως διηγώνισμαι, νῦν μὲν
I-have-grieved greatly and how I-have-struggled now indeed
διὰ μεσαζόντων, νῦν διὰ ἐναρέτων καὶ κατὰ θεὸν
through mediators now through virtuous and according-to God
βεβιωκότων, θειοτάτων καὶ γενναιοτάτων ἀνδρῶν, πρὸς
having-lived most-divine and most-noble men for
τὸ ἐξοστρακισθῆναι τὸν ἀντίτεχνον, οὐ χρεὼν, οἶμαι
the to-be-ostracized the rival not needful I-think

καταλέγειν ἕκαστα, τῆς ὥρας κατεπειγούσης, καὶ ἐμοῦ τὸν
to-list each the hour pressing and I the
τῆς διηγήσεως κόρον φεύγοντος. Πλὴν ἐν ἑνὶ διηγήσομαι
of-the narrative surfeit avoiding but in one I-will-relate
λόγῳ, ὡς ἡ τοῦ ἀντιτέχνου λύπη, καὶ ἡ διηνεκὴς ἀθυμία,
word that the of-the rival grief and the continual despondency
ἣ νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ' ἡμέραν εἶχον, ἐς τὸν τοῦ ἅδου χῶρον
which by-night and by day I-had to the — of-Hades region
ἀώρως, ὡς ὁρᾷς, προύπεμψεν· αὕτη μοι τῶν τεττάρων
untimely as you-see sent-ahead(-me) this to-me of-the four
πρώτη καὶ μία αἰτία, ξεῖνε. — Ἔπειθ' ὡς διέτριβον πρὸς
first and one cause stranger then while I-spent-time with
τοὺς διαβεβοημένους ἁγίους καὶ κατ' ἀντίφρασιν ξανθοὺς
the famous saints and by antiphrasis fair-haired
ὑπούλους, ἵνα με πρὸς τὸν κρατοῦντα καταστήσωσιν,
festering(-ones) so-that me with the ruler they-may-set
ἡλίκος ἦν πρότερον, ἄνευ ἀντιτέχνου (ὑπήκουε γὰρ
how-great I-was before without rival listened for
αὐτῶν ὁ κρατῶν, ὡς οὐδεὶς τῶν ἁπάντων), ἐφενακίσθην
to-them the ruler as no-one of-the all I-was-cheated
ὑπὸ τοῦ τούτων. Ἦν δὲ ὁ ἐξαπατήσας ἐκ γένους
by the(-one) of-them was and the(-one) having-deceived(-me) from a-race
ἀσπόνδου καὶ εὐσεβεῖν ἀναπεπεισμένου, ἢν πολλῶν βίους
implacable and to-be-pious persuaded if many lives
ἕλῃ. Θριδακίναις γὰρ καὶ ἰντυβίοις καὶ σέρισιν, ἀλλὰ
it-may-take with-lettuces for and chicory and endives but
δὴ καὶ θλασταῖς ἐλαίαις, ὁσημέραι με δεξιούμενος, καὶ
indeed also crushed olives daily me entertaining and
νῦν μὲν ὡς κροκόδειλος δακρύων, νῦν δ' ὡς χαμαιλέων
now indeed like a-crocodile weeping now and like a-chameleon
στενάζων, νῦν δ' ὡς Πρωτεὺς μᾶλλον, ἤπερ ὀκτάπους,
groaning now and like Proteus rather than an-octopus

προσφάτοις ὑποδεικνύων γε χρώμασιν, ἔτι γε μὴν τὸ
with-fresh showing — colors still — indeed the
τῶν ἁλιέων μιμησάμενος δέλεαρ, εἵλκυσέ με τὸν σκληρὸν
of-the fishermen having-imitated bait he-drew me the hard
καὶ ἄτεγκτον, καὶ μολύβδου, μᾶλλον δὲ κηροῦ, πεποίηκε
and unmoved and than-lead rather but than-wax made
μαλθακώτερον. Καὶ, τοῖς τούτου κατὰ σμικρὸν θελήμασιν
softer and to-the his by little wishes
εἴξας, πάντων ὧν εἶχον ἀφανῶν τε καὶ φανερῶν,
having-yielded of-all which I-had hidden both and open
ἐπίτροπον ἄγρυπνον ἐγγράφως πεποίηκα. Τούτων τὴν
guardian sleepless in-writing I-made(-him) of-these the
μνήμην οὐκ ἀδακρυτὶ, ξεῖνε, νῦν φέρω, ἀλλ' ὡς σκώληξ με
memory not tearlessly stranger now I-bear but like a-worm me
ἰοβόλος ὅσαι ὧραι τιτρώσκει. — Τρίτον, ὡς ἐθεάσατό με
venomous every hour wounds third when beheld me
βεβαπτισμένον ὁ βδελυγμίας καὶ λωποδύτης ἀδελφιδοῦς
steeped the abomination and thief nephew
Κακοαλέξιος ὑπὸ τοῦ ἐπεισεφρηκότος δεινοτάτου ἐκείνου
Kakoalexios by the having-burst-in most-terrible that
νοσήματος, χαλινοὺς, ἐφεστρίδας, βιβλία, ἄορας, λέβητας,
disease bridles cloaks books swords cauldrons
θώκους, ἐσθῆτας, τάπητας, ἄλλ' ἄττα σκεύη πολλὰ, μέχρι
seats garments carpets other some vessels many as-far-as
καὶ παττάλων, ἐντὸς ὑφείλετο εἰσελθὼν, πάντων ἐπ'
even pegs inside he-filched having-entered all over
ἐμὲ ἀσχολουμένων· ὃν εἰ λαβοίμην, τὴν ῥῖνα τούτου
me being-busy whom if I-should-catch the nose his
δακὼν ἐκτεμῶ, ὡς ἂν γνώριμον καὶ σεσημειωμένον
having-bitten I-will-cut-off so-that — known and marked
ἀποκαταστήσαιμι φῶρα καὶ τοῖς ἐν ᾅδου, ὥστε μὴ
I-might-render a-thief also to-the(-ones) in Hades so-as not

κλέπτειν τυμβωρυχοῦντα καὶ τὰς τῶν νεκύων σινδόνας.
to-steal robbing-tombs even the of-the dead shrouds
— Τέταρτον, ὡς ἀκήκοεν ὁ ἀήττητος αὐτοκράτωρ
fourth when heard the invincible emperor
παρὰ τῶν μιαιφόνων βροτολοιγῶν μηδαμῶς ἔχοντά με
from the bloodthirsty man-destroyers in-no-way having me
σωτηρίαν, τὸν Κακοαλέξιον ἀδελφιδοῦν δειλιάσας, ἵνα μὴ
safety — Kakoalexios nephew having-feared lest —
καὶ ἅπερ εἶχον χρυσόβουλλά τε καὶ προστάγματα θεῖα,
also what I-had chrysobulls both and ordinances divine
τὰ μὲν δι' ἐρυθρῶν ὑπογεγραμμένα γραμμάτων, τὰ
the(-ones) indeed with red signed letters the(-ones)
δ' ἄνευ, ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ τὴν θέσιν, ἐν ᾗ τὰς ἁπάντων
and without but indeed also the register in which the of-all
εἰδήσεις εἶχον ἐντὸς γεγραμμένας, συλήσῃ, καθάπερ, ὡς
records I-had inside written he-may-plunder as as
ἔφθην εἰπών, σεσύληκε καὶ τἀμά, πέπομφε τὸν —
I-have-already said he-has-plundered also my-things he-sent the
οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως καλέσαιμι· καὶ ταῦθ' Ἡράκλεις! ἔλαβεν
not I-know how I-might-call(-him) and these-things Heracles he-took
ἀνερυθριάστως, μετὰ σοβαρᾶς τινος διαλέξεώς τε καὶ
shamelessly with haughty some disputation both and
ἔριδος. Ὢ πῶς τὴν τούτων ἔφερον βίαν; πῶς δ' οὐ γέγονα
strife oh how the of-these I-bore violence how but not I-became
φρενήρης, ὦ φίλτατε; πῶς οὐκ εἰς πῦρ ἢ κρημνὸν φέρων
mad O dearest how not into fire or cliff bringing
ἐμαυτὸν ἔῤῥιψα; πῶς δ' οὐ μάχαιραν κατὰ σπλάγχνων
myself I-threw how but not a-knife into bowels
ἐμῶν ὦσα; Λυσιτελέστερον ἦν ἂν καὶ ταῦτα
my I-thrust more-profitable it-would-have-been — also these-things
συλῆσαι τὸν Κακοαλέξιον ἀδελφιδοῦν, ἢ τὴν τούτων
to-plunder — Kakoalexios nephew than the of-these

οὕτως ἀφαίρεσιν ὑποστῆναι. Εἴπερ οὖν, ὦ ’τᾶν, οὐκ
so taking-away to-undergo if then O good-sir not
ἀφείλετο οὕτως ἀναιδῶς τε καὶ ἰταμῶς ὁ ταῦτ’
had-taken-away so shamelessly both and recklessly the(-one) these-things
αἰτήσας καὶ λαβὼν, ἅμ’ ἕῳ λάθρα, μὴ γινώσκοντός
having-asked and having-taken at-once at-dawn secretly not knowing
τινος, κατακαῦσαι ταῦτ’ ἐβουλόμην, ἤγουν τὸν πάντα
anyone to-burn these-things I-wished or the all
μοι ὑπακούοντα κλεπτίστατον κηδεστὴν ἐπέτρεπον
to-me obeying most-thievish in-law I-would-have-commissioned
ἂν, ὥστε, μὴ γινώσκοντός τινος, ταῦτα συνθάψαι.“
— *so-that not knowing anyone these-things to-bury-with(-me)*
7 „Τί κέρδος,“ ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ, „μάταιε, ἢ ποίαν τινὰ λυσιτέλειαν
what gain said and I fool or what some profit
κερδήσειν ᾤου, εἰ ταῦθ’, ὡς διεξῆλθες ἐποίεις;“
to-gain did-you-think if these-things as you-related you-had-done
— „Μέγα,“ ἔφη πρός με, „καὶ πολλῶν ἐγκωμίων ἄξιον,
great he-said to me and of-many praises worthy
κάκιστε.“
worst
„Εἰ ταῦθ’ οὕτως,“ ἔφην, „ἐποίεις ὡς διεξῆλθες,
if these-things so I-said you-had-done as you-related
οὐκ ἐφοβοῦ τοὺς τυμβορύκτας, μνησίκακε, μή σε δὶς
not did-you-fear the tomb-robbers grudge-bearer lest you twice
κατασκάψωσιν;“
they-might-dig-up
— „Εἴθ’ ἐποίουν ἂν τοῦτο,“ εἶπε, „πρὸς τὸ μὴ γενέσθαι
would-that I-were-doing — this he-said for the not to-become
τὸν ἀντίτεχνόν μοι τῆς γραμματοεισαγωγικῆς ἐπιστήμης
the rival my of-the secretarial science
ἁπάσης ἔμπειρον, καὶ μὴ μόνον δὶς, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἑκατοντάκις,
all skilled and not only twice but even a-hundred-times

κατεσκαπτόμην ἄν. Εἰ δὲ καὶ ταῦτα μετ᾽ ἐμοῦ ἐπίμπρασαν,
I-would-be-dug-up — if and also these-things with me they-had-burned
κἂν γοῦν οἱ ὀδόντες, τοῦ ἄλλου σώματος δαπανηθέντος
even at-any-rate the teeth the rest body consumed
ὑπὸ τοῦ πυρὸς, ἐναπελείφθησαν ἂν, ὥς φασι, καὶ δι᾽
by the fire would-have-been-left — as they-say also through
αὐτῶν ἠμυνάμην ἂν τὸν ἀντίτεχνον.“
them I-would-have-punished — the rival
„Μελαγχολᾷς, ξεῖν᾽,“ εἶπον, „νὴ τὴν κεφαλὴν τὴν σὴν
you-are-mad stranger I-said by the head the your
καὶ τήνδε τὴν θαυμαστὴν ξυνουσίαν. Οὐκ οἶσθα ὅτι,
and this the wondrous meeting not do-you-know that
ὥσπερ σὺ γέγονας γραμματεὺς ἔμπειρος, γενήσεταί γε
as you became secretary skilled will-become —
κἀκεῖνος καὶ ἄνευ τῶν σῶν εἰδήσεων;“
he-too even without the your records
— „Οὐμενοῦν,“ ἔφη, „ἥκιστα, κἂν πάντες ῥήτορες καὶ
by-no-means he-said least even-if all orators and
φιλόσοφοι φῶσι.“
philosophers say(-so)
„Καὶ ὅμως εἰ τοῦτ᾽,“ ἦν δ᾽ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν, „οὐκ ἔνι
and yet if this said and I to him not is-possible
ὡς εἶπον, πῶς ἄρα σὺ μέγας γέγονας; Ὁ φλήναφος καὶ
as I-said how then you great became the babbler and
εἰρωνείας μεστὸς καὶ περὶ τοὺς εὐεργέτας ἀχάριστος, ὁ
of-dissembling full and toward the benefactors ungrateful the(-one)
λέγων ἄλλα τῷ μεγάλῳ βασιλεῖ καὶ ἄλλα γράφων
saying some-things to-the great emperor and others writing
λημμάτων εἵνεκα, Παδιάτης ἐκεῖνος, οὗτός μοι μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν
of-gains for-the-sake Padiates that he for-me by day

συνὼν καὶ διαλεγόμενος, καὶ ἡμέρας ὑπαγορεύων τεττάρων
being and conversing and days dictating of-four
ἐνιαυτῶν, τοιοῦτον, ὡς οἶδας, πεποίηκεν ἔμπειρον.“
years such as you-know made(-you) skilled

III · PADIATES

Padiates, hiding in the myrtles, leaps out and abuses Holobolos, who begs him to keep what he heard from Pluto and Persephone. Padiates praises Philommataios, mocks Holobolos' low birth, son of a wine-seller and grandson of a felt-cap maker, and says the emperor was right to name a rival, since Holobolos was always off with a nun; Holobolos boasts of the staff who covered for him and of the emperor's decree making him sole secretary for life. When Mazaris reminds Holobolos that he was once Padiates' rival, the two trade insults over Padiates' flight to Lemnos and his son, and when Holobolos calls the son a changeling, Padiates breaks his head with his cornel-wood club.

8 Τῆς οὖν διαλέξεως οὔπω πέρας λαβούσης (πολλὰ γὰρ
the then conversation not-yet end having-taken much for
ἐβουλόμην, ὡς εἶδον τοῦτον ἠκονημένον φέροντα τὸν
I-wished when I-saw him sharpened bearing the
θυμὸν, κολάσαι τε καὶ ἐπιστύψαι), αἴφνης ἀνίσταται
temper to-chastise both and to-rebuke suddenly rises
ἐκ τοῦ χώρου ἐκείνου, ἐν ᾧ μυρρίναι ὑπῆρχον ἐφ᾽
from the place that in which myrtles were in
αἷς ἐγκέκρυπτο, ὡς ἔφθην εἰπὼν, ὁ ποτὲ μὲν
which he-had-hidden as I-have-already said the(-one) once indeed
ἐπέραστος καὶ χρηστὸς, ὕστερον δὲ γενόμενος ἄχρηστος
lovable and good later but having-become useless
καὶ κατάπτυστος, Παδιάτης ἐκεῖνος ὁ πάνυ.
and despicable Padiates that the great

Φησὶν ἀγρίως οὕτω καὶ θυμοειδῶς, τοὺς μὲν ὀφθαλμοὺς
he-says savagely thus and passionately the indeed eyes
ὥσπερ ἐξ ἀγχόνης διαστρόφους πεποιηκὼς, ῥόπαλον δ'
as-if from strangling distorted having-made a-club and
ἔχων τὼ χεῖρε καὶ ὑποσκάζων· „Ὦ μῶρε καὶ παράληρε
having in-the two-hands and limping O fool and driveler
καὶ ῥεραφανιδωμένε Ὁλόβολε, καλά γ' ἐστὶ ταῦτα, ἅπερ
and radished Holobolos fine — are these-things which
μετὰ τοῦ κυλλοποδίωνος Μαζάρεος φληναφεῖς;
with the club-footed Mazaris you-babble
Ἐκεῖνος δ' εὐθὺς ὠχριάσας, καὶ μικρὸν ὑπομειδιάσας,
he and at-once having-turned-pale and a-little having-smiled
φησίν· „Ἐγὼ μὲν ᾤμην οὐδένα τῶν ἁπάντων κεκρύφθαι
says I indeed thought no-one of-the all to-be-hidden
ἐνταῦθα, ὦ κατὰ τὸν μυρταῖτην ἐκεῖνον Ἀνδρόνικον,
here O according-to the myrtle-seller that Andronikos
μπαντιάτα· καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἀπεριμερίμνως καὶ ἁπλῶς
Padiates and because-of this carelessly and simply
ὡμίλουν, ὡς ἀκήκοας, οὕτω τῷ καλῷ κἀγαθῷ καὶ
I-conversed as you-have-heard so with-the fine and-good and
φίλῳ ἡμῶν, καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔλεγον ἐκεῖνα, ἅ ἧκιστ'
friend our and to him I-said those-things which least
ἐχρῆν σε ἀκοῦσαι· ἐπειδὴ δὲ σὺ μὲν ὡς ὠτακουστὴς
it-was-needful you to-hear since but you indeed as an-eavesdropper
κατεκρύφθης ἐν ταῖς μυρρίναις, λανθανόντως δέ πως ἐπ'
were-hidden in the myrtles unnoticed and somehow into
αὐταῖς εἰσερρύεις ὡς ὕδρος, καὶ ἅπερ εἶπον ἀκήκοας,
them slipped like a-water-snake and what I-said have-heard
δέομαι δή σου καὶ πάνυ δέομαι, φύλαξον ταῦτα, καὶ
I-beg indeed you and greatly I-beg keep these-things and
μηδὲν τούτων εἴπῃς πρός τινα τῶν ἁπάντων, οὐχ ἧκιστα
nothing of-these say to anyone of-the all not least

δέ γε πρὸς τὸν μέγαν Πλούτωνα καὶ τὴν Περσεφόνην. Ἢν
and — to the great Pluto and — Persephone if
γὰρ παρὰ τῆς σῆς μιαρᾶς γλώττης μάθωσι ταῦτα, τῷ
for from the your foul tongue they-learn these-things into-the
στόματ᾽ εὐθὺς ἐμβαλοῦσί με τοῦ Κερβέρου τὸν δύστηνον.“
mouth at-once they-will-throw me — of-Cerberus the wretch
„Θάῤῥει,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „καὶ ἔχ᾽ ἀτρέμας. Πλὴν καὶ τουτουΐ
take-heart said he and keep still but also this
δεήθητι τοῦ Μαζάρεος, ἵνα μὴ δῆλα ταῦτα πρὸς τοὺς
beg — Mazaris lest — plain these-things to the(-ones)
ἐν ταῖς βασιλικαῖς διατρίβοντας ποιήσῃ αὐλαῖς.“
in the imperial spending-time he-may-make courts
— „Πολλαχόθεν,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „τοῦτον θαῤῥῶ· σὲ δὲ
on-many-grounds said he him I-trust you but
μόνον ὑποδειλιῶ, καὶ τὴν σὴν τετρεμαίνω μιαρὰν γλῶτταν,
only I-fear and the your I-tremble-at foul tongue
ἵνα μὴ κἂν ᾅδου ποιήσῃς ὥσπερ ἀεὶ παίζων μᾶλλον
lest — even-in Hades you-may-do as always joking rather
ἢ σπουδάζων εἰώθεις ποιεῖν ἄνω ἐς τὸν βίον, ὑβρίζων
than being-serious you-were-wont to-do above in the life insulting
ἅμα λοιδορῶν τε καὶ εἰρωνευόμενος ὅσαι ὧραι πάντας
at-once railing both and mocking every hour all-men
καὶ πάσας.“
and all-women
Ὁ οὖν Παδιάτης ὀλίγον ἐπισχὼν, καὶ γοργὸν ἐμβλέψας
— then Padiates a-little having-paused and fiercely having-looked
ὥσπερ οἱ λέοντες, ἔλεξεν οὕτω πρὸς αὐτόν· „Οὐκ οἶσθα,
as the lions(-do) spoke thus to him not do-you-know
κάκιστε Ὁλόβολε, ὅτι ταῦθ᾽ οὕτω λέγων καθυβρίζεις
worst Holobolos that these-things so saying you-insult
κἀμὲ, ὥσπερ ἔναγχος ἐξ ἁμαξῶν ἔπλυνας τὸν ἐξ
me-too as lately from wagons you-abused the from

ἀγγέλων πονηρῶν ἀπόγονον Φιλομμάταιον, τὸν παρὰ
angels wicked descendant Philommataios the(-one) by
τοῦ μεγάλου βασιλέως μὲν ἐς τὰ μάλιστα φιλούμενον,
the great emperor indeed to the utmost loved
πολλῶν τε ἄλλων εἵνεκα, οὐχ ἥκιστα δέ γε διὰ τὸν
many both other(-reasons) for-the-sake not least and — because-of the
αὐτοῦ πάππον, τὸν χαλάσαντα, κατὰ τὸν μυρταῖτην
his grandfather the(-one) having-let-down according-to the myrtle-seller
ἐκεῖνον Ἀνδρόνικον, κτήριον ἑλληνικὸν αὐτοῦ καὶ τῆς
that Andronikos a-possession Hellenic his and from-the
εἱρκτῆς ἐκβαλόντα, παρὰ δὲ πάντων διὰ ταῦτα καὶ
prison having-cast-out by and all because-of these-things also
τιμώμενον παρ᾽ ἀξίαν καὶ ἐπαινούμενον, τὸν νεώτερον
honored beyond desert and praised the(-one) younger
καὶ εὐφυέστερον καὶ ὑγιαίστερον κατὰ πολὺ σοῦ,
and cleverer and healthier by far than-you
τὸν συναναστρεφόμενον τοῖς ἔνδον καὶ μεγάλων
the(-one) associating with-the(-ones) inside and great
κοινωνοῦντα μυστηρίων, τὸν εἰς ἅπαντα ἐντρεχῆ,
sharing secrets the(-one) in all adept
τὸν τόξα καὶ ὅπλα φέροντα, καὶ νεβρῶν καὶ ἄρκτων
the(-one) bows and arms bearing and fawns and bears
κατατρέχοντα, καὶ σύας βάλλοντα μᾶλλον ἢ πτῶκας,
running-down and boars striking rather than hares
κἀπὶ τὰ πολεμικὰ δὲ ἐμπειρότερον τυγχάνοντα, τὸν
and-in the things-of-war too more-skilled being the(-one)
ἐπὶ σατράπαις πρεσβείας ποιοῦντα, τὸν ἀοκνοτέρως
to satraps embassies making the(-one) more-diligently
καὶ εὐφυεστέρως γράφοντα σοῦ, καὶ μήτε ξυγγραμματέα
and more-cleverly writing than-you and neither a-fellow-secretary
μεθ᾽ ἑαυτοῦ γράφειν ἔχοντα, μηθ᾽ ὑπογραμματέα, ἀλλὰ
with himself to-write having nor an-under-secretary but

περιφανῶς πάντα δι᾽ αὐτοῦ γράφοντα, λημμάτων ἕνεκα,
manifestly all by himself writing of-gains for-the-sake
τὸν νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν διατρίβοντα ταῖς βασιλικαῖς
the(-one) by-night and by day spending-time in-the imperial
αὐλαῖς, καὶ πάντα τρόπον ποιοῦντα καὶ πραγματευόμενον
courts and every way doing and contriving
πρὸς τὸ μὴ μεθ᾽ ἑαυτοῦ ξυγγράφειν ἕτερόν τινα. Οὐκ
for the not with himself to-write another any not
αἰσχύνῃ οὖν, ταλάντατε, οὐδ᾽ ἐρυθριᾷς, ἀλλὰ παραβάλλεις
are-you-ashamed then most-wretched nor do-you-blush but you-compare
τὰ τοῦδε μετὰ σαυτοῦ· ἢ ἐπελάθου ὡς ὁ σὸς μὲν
the(-things) of-him with yourself or have-you-forgotten that the your indeed
πατὴρ οἰνοπώλης ἦν, ὁ δὲ τὸν πατέρα φύσας ἦν
father a-wine-seller was the(-one) and the father having-begotten was
ἐργαζόμενος ὑπὸ ἐρίων κεφαλῆς πίλα, φορῶν διφθέραν;“
making of wool for-the-head felt-caps wearing a-leather-jerkin
9 Κἀπὶ τούτοις ὁ Ὁλόβολος ἀνείθη τε καὶ ἐγέλασε, καὶ
and-at these — Holobolos relaxed both and laughed and
πρὸς ἐμέ, „Φίλτατε,“ ἔφη, „ποῖος Τελχὶν ἥκε φέρων
to me dearest he-said what Telchine came bringing
ἐνταυθοῖ τουτονὶ τὸν ἐπάρατον καὶ παλαμναῖον καὶ
hither this the accursed and murderous and
ὑβριστὴν, τὸν οὐ πρὸς ἀλήθειαν, ἀλλὰ πρὸς χάριν
insolent(-one) the(-one) not for truth but for favor
καὶ ψεῦδος πᾶσι φιλοῦντα, τὸν τὴν ξυνουσίαν ἡμῶν
and falsehood to-all showing-love the(-one) the converse our
ἀνακόψαντα τὴν χρηστὴν ἐκείνην;“
having-broken-off the good that
Ὁ δὲ Παδιάτης, στρυφνῷ τῷ προσώπῳ ὑποστρέψας,
— and Padiates with-sour the face having-turned
„Ποίαν,“ ἔφη, „συνουσίαν; μή τις ξυνεγένετο τῷ
what he-said converse — anyone has-consorted with-the

ἑτέρῳ;“ — Κἀγὼ ἐρυθριάσας ἔφην· „Εὔφημα φώνει ἐν
other and-I having-blushed said fair-words speak in
ᾅδου, παράνομε, καὶ μὴ φληνάφει.“
Hades lawless-one and not babble
Καὶ ὃς, λαβόμενός μου τῆς χειρὸς, ἔφη· „Ὁρκιῶ σε ἐπ’
and he having-taken my the hand said I-adjure you upon
ἀληθείας, ὦ κατὰ Λατίνους κουμπάρε· εἰπὲ τίς χρὴ
truth O according-to the-Latins godfather tell who ought
ἐμοῦ ἂν καὶ τούτου γε πλέον λυπεῖσθαι, ἔγωγε, ὁ
of-me — and of-him — more to-grieve I the(-one)
πατρίδα καὶ γένος καὶ οἰκίας καὶ ἀγροὺς καὶ πλοῦτον
country and family and houses and fields and wealth
καὶ ἄλλ’ ἄττα καταλιπὼν, ἔτι τε διατριβὴν καὶ πολιτείαν
and other things having-left still and way-of-life and station
βελτιωτέραν τῆς ἧς ἀπήλαυσα ἐν βασιλείοις, ὁ
better than-the which I-enjoyed in palace the(-one)
καὶ τῷ μεγάλῳ βασιλεῖ συγκοπιάσας, κἂν τῇ
also with-the great emperor having-toiled both-in the(-city)
Κωνσταντίνου, κἂν τῇ Φιλίππου, κἂν τῇ Ἀνατολῇ,
of-Constantine and-in the(-city) of-Philip and-in the East
κἂν τῇ πολυυμνήτῳ Λήμνῳ, καὶ πανταχοῦ, ἢ οὗτος
and-in the much-sung Lemnos and everywhere or this
ὁ ῥεραφανιδωμένος καὶ βδελυγμίας Ὁλόβολος, ὁ ἐκ
the radished and abomination Holobolos the(-one) from
πενήτων πλούσιος, καὶ ἐξ ἀτίμων τίμιος, καὶ ἔνδοξος ἐξ
poor rich and from dishonored honored and glorious from
ἀδόξων, καὶ ἐξ ἀγνώστων γνωστὸς γενόμενος, ὁ τὴν
inglorious and from unknown known having-become the(-one) the
πατρίδα μὲν οἰκῶν, οἰκίας δ’ ἀνοικοδομήσας λαμπρὰς,
country indeed inhabiting houses and having-built-up splendid
ἃς οὐδ’ ἐν ὀνείροις εἶδέ ποτε, ὁ λευκὰς καὶ
which not-even in dreams he-saw ever the(-one) white and

σηρικὰς καὶ βασιλικὰς ἠμφιεσμένος ἐσθῆτας, πρότερον δὲ
silken and imperial having-put-on robes formerly but
διφθέραν φορῶν, ὥσπερ ὁ τούτου πρόγονος.“
a-leather-jerkin wearing as the his forebear
Ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν βλέμματι καὶ νεύματι· „Σὲ
said and I to him with-look and nod you
αὐτότατον πλέον ἐκείνου λυπεῖσθαι χρή.“
your-very-self more than-be to-grieve ought
Εἶτ’ αὖθις ἔφη πρὸς ἐκεῖνον ὑποστρέψας, ὥσπερ εἰώθει
then again he-said to him having-turned as he-was-wont
παίζων ἀεί· „Μῶρε καὶ καταγεγαυρωμένε Ὁλόβολε,
joking always fool and puffed-up Holobolos
εἰ μὲν ὁ κράτιστος καὶ διακριτικώτατος αὐτοκράτωρ
if indeed the mightiest and most-discerning emperor
ἀποκατέστησεν ἀντίτεχνον, σοῦ παρόντος, καὶ νύκτωρ
had-appointed a-rival you being-present and by-night
καὶ μεθ’ ἡμέραν ἐν βασιλείοις σοῦ εὑρισκομένου, ὁσίως
and by day in palace you being-found rightly
ἂν λελύπησαι, καὶ μετόπισθεν δικαίως τε, καθ’
— you-would-have-grieved and afterward justly — according-to
Ὅμηρον, ἔσχες κότον ὄφρα τελέσῃς κατὰ
Homer you-would-have-held grudge until you-might-accomplish(-it) against
τοῦ ἀντιτέχνου, καὶ καλῶς πρὸς τὸν καλὸν κἀγαθὸν
the rival and well to the fine and-good
ἑταῖρον ἡμῶν Μάζαριν περὶ τούτων διεξῆλθες· ἐπειδὴ
comrade our Mazaris about these-things you-would-have-related since
δὲ πολλάκις, μᾶλλον δὲ μυριάκις ἐζητήθης παρὰ τοῦ
but often rather and ten-thousand-times you-were-sought by the
κρατοῦντος καὶ ἥκισθ’ εὑρέθης, καὶ πολλαὶ μὲν καὶ μεγάλαι
ruler and least you-were-found and many indeed and great
δουλεῖαι, πάμπολλαι δὲ ὑποθέσεις, ἄκυραί τε καὶ ἡμιτελεῖς
services very-many and affairs void both and half-finished

ἐναπελείφθησαν, ἐξ ὧν ἡ τῶν Ῥωμαίων εὐδαιμονία
were-left from which the of-the Romans prosperity
μεμείωται, σοῦ μὴ εὑρισκομένου ἐν ταῖς βασιλικαῖς αὐλαῖς,
has-been-diminished you not being-found in the imperial courts
ἐπὶ δὲ τῇ κεκοισυρωμένῃ μαχλώσῃ τε καὶ ἐπὶ μέγα
on but the dolled-up wanton both and to great(-degree)
γαυρουμένῃ, καὶ τάχα γε μοναζούσῃ, τῇ μείζονι τοῦ
preening and perhaps — a-nun the greater than-the
ματαίου καλινδουμένου ἀωρὶ νυκτῶν τε καὶ μεσημβρίας,
foolish(-one) wallowing untimely of-nights both and of-noon
πῶς οὐχ ὅσιον τὸν κρατοῦντα καταστῆσαι ἀντίτεχνον;
how not right(-was-it) the ruler to-appoint a-rival
Πρὸς ταῦθ' Ὁλόβολε, χαλέπαινε καὶ πήδα, καὶ πάντων
at these-things Holobolos rage and leap and of-all
ἀνδρῶν μιαρώτατον ἐμὲ κάλει, ὥσπερ νῦν ἤδη καλεῖς."
men most-foul me call as now already you-call
Ἐπὶ τούτοις καὶ ὁ χρηστὸς Ὁλόβολος ἐνέδυ τὴν λεοντῆν,
at these also the good Holobolos put-on the lion-skin
ὥς φασι, καὶ τῆς δεξιᾶς μοι λαβόμενος, καὶ οὗτος
as they-say and the right(-hand) my having-taken also he
ὑποτρέμων ὑπὸ θυμοῦ (τὴν γὰρ θατέραν χεῖρα τὸ γόνυ
trembling with anger the for other hand the knee
κατεῖχε), φησὶν ἀριδήλως οὕτω καὶ μανικῶς πρὸς αὐτόν·
held says plainly thus and madly to him
„Ἐμοὶ, μπαντιάτα, γύναιον οὐκ ἦν· ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ποδαλγῶν
for-me Padiates a-woman not there-was but nor gouty-footed
ἢ χειραλγῶν ἐτύγχανόν ποτε, ὥσπερ σύ. Εἴπερ οὖν,
or gouty-handed I-happened(-to-be) ever as you if then
κατὰ μεσημβρίαν ἢ νυκτῶν ἀωρὶ, κωμάσδων ἀπηρχόμην
at noon or of-nights untimely reveling I-went-off
ποτὶ τὰν μείζονα τοῦ ματαίου, κατὰ Θεόκριτον, ἀλλ'
to the greater than-the foolish according-to Theocritus yet

οὖν εἶχον ὑπογραμματέα τὸν μείουρον καὶ ἀκέφαλον, τὸν
then I-had as-under-secretary the stump-tailed and headless the
— ἤστραψε φῶτα — Κασσιανὸν, ὃν ἀντ᾽ ἐμοῦ παρεὶς
he-flashed lights Kassianos whom in-place-of me having-left
ταῖς βασιλικαῖς αὐλαῖς μένειν ἐκέλευον. Ἔτι γε μὴν εἶχον
in-the imperial courts to-remain I-bade besides — indeed I-had
τὸν Μανικαΐταον οὐλωμένον, τὸν νεκρέγερτον Ὤκιμον,
— Manikaitaos scarred the risen-from-the-dead Okimos
καὶ τὸν τούτου ὁμώνυμον, τὸν εἰς κάλλος γράφοντα,
and the his namesake the(-one) in beauty writing
Κέληφον, καὶ τὸν οἰνόφλυγα Τζαμαμύρεα. Διὰ τοῦτο οὐ
Kelephos and the wine-bibbing Tzamamyres because-of this not
δίκαιον ἦν γενέσθαι ἀντίτεχνον, καὶ δι᾽ ἄλλα μὲν
just it-was to-come-to-be a-rival and because-of other(-things) indeed
πολλὰ, οὐχ ἥκιστα δέ γε δι᾽ ὅπερ μοι ἐς Ἰταλίαν
many not least and — because-of what me in Italy
διατρίβοντι, μετὰ τῶν ἄλλων εὐεργετήθην καὶ αὐτὸς παρὰ
staying with the others I-was-favored also myself by
τοῦ θειοτάτου αὐτοκράτορος πρὸς τάγμα θεῖον, ἵν᾽ ἐς ἀεὶ
the most-divine emperor with a-decree divine that for ever
τυγχάνω δήπουθεν εὑρισκόμενος μονώτατος γραμματεὺς
I-should-be surely found sole secretary
ῥητῶν τε καὶ ἀπορῥήτων, ὥσπερ καὶ τοὺς μεσίας
of-sayable both and unsayable as also the mediators
μεσάζειν τὸν ἅπαντα τῆς ζωῆς αὐτῶν χρόνον πεποίηκεν.“
to-mediate the whole of-the life their time he-has-made
10 Ἦν δ᾽ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν φιλικῶς μάλα καὶ ἠγαπημένως
said and I to him kindly very and affectionately
πλέον ἤπερ ἠπίως· ἐποίουν γὰρ οὕτω τοῦτο, διὰ τὸ
more than gently I-did for so this because-of the(-aim)
ἵνα τούτους ἀποκαταστήσαιμι εἰρηνικῶς καὶ μὴ φιλονείκως
that them I-might-restore peaceably and not quarrelsomely

ἔχειν· ἑώρων γὰρ τὸν ἐπάρατον Παδιάτην ὥρμενον
to-be I-saw for the accursed Padiates eager
ἐπὶ κόῤῥης πατάξαι, ὥσπερ καὶ τὸν ἐκ Τραπεζοῦντος
on temple to-strike as also the from Trebizond
γεννάδα δρουγγάριον ἐκεῖνον μέσον ἀγορᾶς ἐπὶ κόῤῥης
noble droungarios that in-the-middle of-the-market on temple
ἐπάταξεν· „Ὦ φίλταθ' Ὁλόβολε, ἄρ' οὐ μέμνησαι, ἀλλ'
he-struck O dearest Holobolos then not do-you-remember but
οὕτω ῥᾳδίως ἐπελάθου, ὅτιπερ καὶ αὐτὸς σὺ ἀντίτεχνος
so easily have-you-forgotten that also yourself you rival
ἦσθα τουτουΐ Παδιάτου τοῦ πάνυ;“
were of-this Padiates the great
Καὶ ὃς ὑποτρέμων ἔφη· „Οὐχί, ἀλλ' ὑπογραμματεύς.“
and he trembling said no but under-secretary
Καὶ ὁ Παδιάτης, „Ναίχι,“ φησὶ, „τριβολαῖε, μᾶλλον δὲ
and — Padiates yes-indeed says caltrop-man rather but
τριωβολιμαῖε, καὶ διαβολεῦ ἀληθείας, Ὁλόβολε, ἀντίτεχνος
three-obol-man and slanderer of-truth Holobolos rival
ἦσθα, οὐχ ὑπογραμματεύς.“ Τῆς θατέρας οὖν μοι λαβόμενος
you-were not under-secretary the other then my having-taken
καὶ αὐτὸς χειρὸς, φησὶν οὕτως, ἐπαμνύων· „Νὴ τὴν ἡμετέραν
also he hand says thus swearing by the our
φιλίαν, ὦ ἀδελφὲ, καὶ ἵν' ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃ ὁ πάντα
friendship O brother and so-may us free the all-things
ποιῶν καὶ μετασκευάζων παντοκράτωρ πρὸς λυσιτέλειαν
making and refashioning almighty for profit
τῆς τε δεινῆς χειραλγοποδάγρας καὶ τῆς πενίας, ἔτι
from-the both terrible hand-and-foot-gout and the poverty still
γε μὴν τῆς ἀθυμίας καὶ τοῦ προπηλακισμοῦ, ἅπερ ἡμῶν
— indeed the despondency and the abuse which of-us
ἑκάτερος πέπονθε, καὶ ναὶ τὴν τοῦ φιλτάτου μου υἱοῦ
each has-suffered and by the of-the dearest my son

ζωὴν, τοῦ σειομένου καὶ διαθρυπτομένου ἐν τῇ βαδίσει
life the(-one) swaying and mincing in the gait
τῆς ἑαυτοῦ πλέον ἀξίας, τοῦ παρωνύμως κατὰ τὸν
than-the his-own more station the(-one) by-surname after —
Κλαυδιώτην ἐκεῖνον σούπασιν, Σεσέλκωϊ ἐπονομαζομένου,
Claudiotes that soupasis Seselkoi surnamed
διὰ τουτονὶ τὸν ἀλιτήριον καὶ τὴν αὐτοῦ ἀναίδειαν καὶ
because-of this the wretch and the his shamelessness and
ἀντιτεχνίαν, ἐς νῆσον Λῆμνον, τὰ πάντα δεύτερα θέμενος,
rivalry to the-island Lemnos the all second having-put
καταπεπλευκὼς ἀπῆλθον. Ἐζηλοτύπουν γὰρ αὐτὸν καὶ οὐκ
having-sailed I-went-away I-envied for him and not
ἠνειχόμην ὁρᾶν, ὁρῶν γράφοντα μὲν καὶ ἀπόντος
I-could-bear to-see(-him) seeing(-him) writing indeed both absent
ἐμοῦ καὶ παρόντος. ἔνδον δὲ ζητούμενον ἐς ἀεὶ πάντοτε.“
me and present inside and sought for ever always
— „Οὐχ οὑτωτρόπως,“ εἶπεν ἐκεῖνος, „ὦ κυλλοποδίων
not in-this-way said he O club-footed
Παδιάτα, ἐς Λῆμνον ἀπαίρεις, ἀλλ᾽ οὕτω· τὸν γὰρ τὰς
Padiates to Lemnos you-set-sail but thus the for in-the
φρένας τετρωμένον κερουλκῷ βέλει Μαλακηνὸν ἐκεῖνον,
wits wounded by-a-horn-drawn arrow Malakenos that
τὸν σὸν σύμμοιρον πτοηθεὶς, μή πως ἐκ τῶν βαράθρων
the your fellow having-dreaded lest somehow from the pits
τῆς Θετταλῶν ἥξειε πόλεως, καὶ τῆς πολυθρυλλήτου
of-the of-Thessalians he-should-come city and the much-talked-of
κλίμακος ἐπαναβεβηκὼς στῇ, ὥσπερ αἱ μοιχαλίδες τοὺς
stair having-mounted should-stand as the adulteresses the
σφῶν ἄνδρας λέγουσιν ἐπαπειλούμεναι· Ὁρᾶτε, ἄνδρες· μὴ
their husbands tell threatening look husbands not
κακῶς ἡμᾶς λέγετε· ἀναβήσεσθε γὰρ παρ᾽ ἡμῶν καὶ ἄκοντες
badly of-us speak you-will-mount for by us even unwilling

ἐς τὴν τοῦ πατριαρχείου θρυλλουμένην κλίμακα, τὴν
to the of-the patriarchate talked-of stair the(-one)
ἔχουσαν βαθμοὺς δύο πρὸς τοῖς ἑβδομήκοντα· τοῦτον τὸν
having steps two besides the seventy him the
κερασφόρον, ὡς ἔφθην εἰπὼν, φοβηθεὶς, τὸν τῆς Λήμνου
horn-bearer as I-have-already said having-feared the — of-Lemnos
δρομαίως ἔδραμες δρόμον, μηδένα τῶν ἄλλων ποιησάμενος
at-a-run you-ran course no of-the others having-made
λόγον· ἀλλ' ὥσπερ ἐκ δεσμωτηρίου τινὸς ἀποδρὰς,
account but as from prison some having-escaped
μᾶλλον δ' ὥσπερ ἔκ τινος ὕσπληγγος, ὑποσκάζων ἔθεες,
rather but as from some starting-gate limping you-ran
θαμὰ βλέπων ὄπισθεν, δειλιῶν καὶ ὑποτρέμων, μὴ πού
often looking behind fearing and trembling lest perhaps
γέ τις παρὰ πόδας διώκει." Πρὸς ἐμὲ δὲ ὑποστρέψας
— someone at heels pursues to me and having-turned
φησὶν οὕτω· „Πεπίστευκας τοὺς αὐτοῦ ὅρκους, ξεῖνε; οὐκ
he-says thus have-you-believed the his oaths stranger not
οἶσθα ὅτι τοῦ Ῥίφα Χαλκεοπούλου ἐκείνου τυγχάνει
do-you-know that — of-Rhiphas Chalkeopoulos that he-happens
ὢν ὑποβολιμαῖος, ὅντινα καλεῖ υἱὸν οὑτοσί."
being a-changeling whom calls son this-man
Ἐπὶ τούτοις ταραχθεὶς ὁ ἀλιτήριος Παδιάτης, ἅμα τε
at these troubled the wretched Padiates at-once both
καὶ μανεὶς, τὴν κεφαλὴν τοῦ χρηστοῦ Ὁλοβόλου κατέαξε
and maddened the head of-the good Holobolos broke
τῷ ῥοπάλῳ ᾧ ἐπεστήρικτο· τὸ δ' ἦν ἐκ κρανείας·
with-the club on-which he-leaned it and was of cornel-wood
ἐγκέφαλος δ' εὐθὺς ἐκ ῥινῶν, καθ' Ὅμηρον, ἔσταζε.
brain and at-once from nostrils according-to Homer dripped

The physician Pepagomenos stops Holobolos' bleeding and lays Mazaris' fall to his loyalty to the emperor; Mazaris adds that his misfortunes began with his marriage. Other shades of the court come up in turn: Antiochos asks after his beloved; Claudiotes, his hair dyed with ravens' eggs, recalls warning that Zosimas' kindness to his son Aitines, a convert, was thrown away; Aspietaos vows never to forget the florins taken from him in Gaul; and Bartholomaios begs Mazaris to warn the emperor not to send the Latin-minded Mouskaranos as envoy to the podestà of Galata, and denounces the counselor behind him, who sowed tares in the Great Church and talked his son-in-law Raoul Myrmex into buying Thasos.

11 Βοῆς δὲ γενομένης καὶ ταραχῆς ὅτι πολλῆς ἐπὶ τούτῳ,
a-shout and having-arisen and uproar as-much as-possible at this
καὶ ἄλλος ἄλλοθεν εἰσπηδήσας ἐς τὸν θροῦν ἦκον ἐκεῖνον,
and one from-elsewhere having-rushed-in to the clamor came that
καὶ τοῦ ἀθλίου Ὁλοβόλου λειποψυχοῦντος, καὶ διωλύγιον
and the wretched Holobolos fainting and loudly
φθεγγομένου, „Ἐλθέτω ἰατρός" (ποταμηδὸν γὰρ ἐκ κεφαλῆς
crying let-come a-physician in-a-river for from head
ἔῤῥει τὸ αἷμα), ἦκε κληθεὶς ἐκ τῶν ἰατρῶν ὁ καλὸς κἀγαθὸς
flowed the blood came summoned from the physicians the fine and-good
Πεπαγωμένος ἐκεῖνος, ὁ δηλητήριον ἀντ' ἀλεξιτηρίου
Pepagomenos that the(-one) a-poison instead-of an-antidote
κερασάμενος φάρμακον, καὶ ἑαυτῷ καὶ τῷ Φωκιδίῳ ἐκείνῳ
having-mixed drug both to-himself and — to-Phokidios that
τῷ οἰνόφλυγι καὶ ὑπογραμματεῖ τοῦ Ἰαπετοῦ Εὐμαράντου
the wine-bibber and under-secretary — of-Iapetos Eumarantos
ἐκείνου δεδωκὼς, καὶ τὴν μὲν ῥύσιν εὐθὺς τοῦ αἵματος
that having-given(-it) and the indeed flow at-once of-the blood
ἔστησε, βοτάνην ἐπιθεὶς τὴν καλομένην βούφθαλμον.
stopped a-herb having-applied the(-one) called ox-eye

Ἐμὲ δὲ ἰδὼν ἠσπάσατό τε καὶ περιέβαλε πρῶτον, εἶτ'
me and having-seen he-greeted both and embraced first then
ἤρετο· „Πῶς, υἱέ μου, τοιοῦτος γέγονας, πόθεν δὲ ἥκεις
asked how son my such have-you-become whence and do-you-come
αὐχμῶν, κυλλοποδιτιῶν, ὠχριῶν, θυραυλῶν, τοὺς τῶν
squalid club-footed pale houseless the of-the
χειρῶν καὶ ποδῶν δακτύλους ἐξηρθρωμένους ἔχων; πόθεν δὲ
hands and feet fingers disjointed having whence and
γέγονας, πένης ἅμα καὶ προσαίτης, ἄτιμός τε καὶ ἄδοξος;
have-you-become poor at-once and a-beggar dishonored both and inglorious
κἀκ ποίας δ' αἰτίας ταυτὶ πέπονθας; εἰπὲ πρὸς φιλίας."
and-from what too cause these-things have-you-suffered tell by friendship
Ἦν δ' ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν στενάξας· „ὅτι μὲν εἰμὶ τοιοῦτος
said and I to him having-groaned that indeed I-am such
ὡς ὁρᾷς, καὶ αὐτὸς οἶδα· ἐκ δὲ ποίας αἰτίας γέγονα
as you-see also myself I-know from but what cause I-have-become
τοιοῦτος, συνιδεῖν οὐκ ἔχω."
such to-see not I-can
— „Ἀλλ' οἶδ' ἔγωγ'," ἔφη, „τὴν αἰτίαν· πλὴν οἵαν οἴομαι,
but know I he-said the cause but what I-think
πρὸς σὲ ταύτην ἐρῶ."
to you it I-will-tell
„Εἰπέ," εἶπον ἐγὼ, „πρὸς θεοῦ, καὶ μηδὲν κρύψῃς."
tell I-said I by God and nothing hide
— „Πιστεύω," εἶπεν, „υἱέ· δι' οὐδὲν ἄλλο γέγονας
I-believe he-said son because-of nothing else have-you-become
τοιοῦτος ἡλίκος νῦν ἦσθα, ἢ δι' ἣν κέκτησαι πίστιν
such as now you-are than because-of which you-have-got loyalty
ἐς βασιλέα ἀκλόνητον, ὅτιπερ οὐδ' ἐν ὀνείροις ἠβουλήθης
toward the-emperor unshakable in-that not-even in dreams you-wished
πώποτε γενέσθαι τούτου γε ἄπιστος, κἂν ὅσα δεινὰ
ever to-become to-him — faithless even-if how-many terrors

πολλά τε καὶ μεγάλα πέπονθας. Εἰ γὰρ παρησπόνδεις καὶ
many both and great you-have-suffered if for you-had-broken-faith also
αὐτὸς, εὑρισκομένου σου ἐν Λήμνῳ, ὥσπερ καὶ ἄλλοι μὲν
yourself being you in Lemnos as also others indeed
πολλοὶ, οὐχ ἥκιστα δ' ὥσπερ ὁ θρυλλούμενος κερασφόρος
many not least and as the notorious horn-bearer
Κεράντζης ἐκεῖνος, ὁ ἑβδομήκοντα μόνον ἐς περιουσίαν
Kerantzes that the(-one) seventy only as property
ἔχων τότε νομίσματα, καὶ τῷ ἀδελφιδεῖ τοῦ γενναιοτάτου
having then coins and the nephew of-the most-noble
αὐτοκράτορος τῷ χαριτωνύμῳ ἐκείνῳ βασιλεῖ ἠκολούθεις
emperor the grace-named that emperor you-had-followed
ἐν τῇ Φιλίππου, οὔτ' ἂν ὁ ἐκ Λιβύης κίβδηλος Χῖος
in the(-city) of-Philip neither — the from Libya counterfeit Chian
ἐκεῖνος ὁ καὶ βδελυγμίας θετολόγος διέβαλεν ἄν σε,
that the also abomination assessor would-have-slandered — you
οὔτε κατὰ σοῦ κακὰ καὶ διενοήσατο καὶ πεποίηκεν ὁ
nor against you evils both would-have-devised and done the
κολοιόφθαλμος φὼρ κατὰ Κλαυδιώτην, ὁ μελαίνης μὲν
jackdaw-eyed thief after Claudiotes the of-the-black indeed
καὶ λευκῆς χρηματίσας θαλάττης ἀπογραφεὺς δοκιμώτατος,
and white having-been sea registrar most-approved
νῦν δὲ θεόληπτος, μᾶλλον δὲ φρενόληπτος, ναζιραῖος
now but god-possessed rather but mind-possessed a-nazirite
γενόμενος, ἱκανὸν δ' ἂν εἶχες ἀργύριον, δόξαν τε
having-become much and — you-would-have silver glory both
καὶ τιμὴν καὶ ὑγιείαν, καὶ μεγάλας ἐλειτούργεις ἂν
and honor and health and great you-would-be-serving —
λειτουργίας, ὥσπερ τὸν κερουλκῷ τετρωμένον βέλει,
offices as the(-one) by-a-horn-drawn wounded arrow
μελάντερον Κεράντζην ἐκεῖνον, καὶ τὸν ὁμοίως καπνίαν
blacker Kerantzes that and the likewise smoky

Ταρχανειώτην, καὶ μολυβδοχαλκόχρωον Μαχητὰν ἐκεῖνον,
Tarchaneiotes and lead-bronze-colored Machetas that
καὶ ἄλλους πολλούς.“
and others many
„Ἐκ παλαιοῦ ἂν ἐγίνωσκον καὶ αὐτὸς,“ ἔφην, „οὕτως ἔχειν,
from long-ago — I-knew also myself I-said so to-be
ὡς ἔφησθα. Πλὴν ἐδεδοίκειν λέγειν, ἵνα μὴ καὶ τοῦτο μετὰ
as you-said but I-feared to-say(-it) lest — also this with
τῶν λοιπῶν προσθήκη μοί τις γένηται, καὶ πολλῶν κακῶν
the rest an-addition to-me some may-become and of-many evils
ἀφορμή· ἡ γὰρ διηνεκὴς ἀθυμία, ἣν νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ’ ἡμέραν
occasion the for continual despondency which by-night and by day
εἶχον, καὶ αἱ τοῦ κρατοῦντος ὀργαὶ, καὶ τὸ πονηρὰν εἰς ἐμὲ
I-had and the of-the ruler angers and the bad about me
πάντοτε δόξαν ἔχειν, τοιοῦτον, ὡς ὁρᾷς, ἤδη πεποίηκε.“
always opinion to-hold such as you-see already have-made(-me)
— „Μέγαν ὄκνον,“ ἔφη, „υἱὲ, καὶ πολλὴν ἔχω δειλίαν, 12
great hesitation he-said son and much I-have fear
πλεῖστά τε πεφόβημαι, καθάπερ πτηνῆς ὄμμα πελείας,
most both I-have-feared like of-a-winged eye dove
κατὰ τὸν ποιητὴν, περὶ τῶν ἐμῶν μὲν υἱῶν, σῶν δὲ
according-to the poet about the my indeed sons your and
ἑταίρων, ἵνα μὴ γένηταί τι τοιοῦτον καὶ πρὸς αὐτοὺς,
comrades lest — may-happen something such also to them
ὁποῖον ἄρα καὶ ἐπὶ σοὶ γέγονεν. Ἔμαθον γὰρ παρὰ τῶν
as then also to you has-happened I-learned for from the(-ones)
ἀπὸ βίου ἀφικνουμένων, ὅτιπερ ἐβούλοντο πρὸς ἄρκτον
from life arriving that they-wished to-the north
ἀπελθεῖν, καὶ τῷ εὐεργετικωτάτῳ βοεβόδᾳ δουλεύειν
to-go and the most-beneficent voivode to-serve
πρὸς τὸ καὶ τούτους πλουτῆσαι, ὥσπερ πεπλούτηκεν
for the also them to-grow-rich as has-grown-rich

ἐξαπίνης ὁ ἀοιδὸς Πῶλος Ἀργυρὸς ἀπελθὼν, παρὰ δὲ
suddenly the singer Polos Argyros having-gone by but
τοῦ πρὸς μητρὸς θείου τοῦ Ἀκράγαντος ἐκωλύθησαν καὶ
the on mother's(-side) uncle — Akragas they-were-prevented and
εὑρίσκονται νῦν ἐν τῇ παλαιᾷ ἄτῃ. Ὧν ὁ μὲν νεώτερος,
are-found now in the old ruin of-whom the indeed younger
ὁ ἐκ Πατροκλέους ἀφικόμενος Ἀλουσιάνος, ἐν τῷ
the(-one) from Patrokles having-come Alousianos in the
χορῷ τῶν ἔνδον συναναστρεφομένων εὑρίσκεται, τοῦ τε
chorus of-the(-ones) inside associating is-found — both
Λουκίου ἢ ὄνου, τοῦ τῆς ὀπώρας Κυδωνίου ἢ προβάτου,
of-Lucius or ass of-the of-the fruit Quince or sheep
τοῦ πυγὴν νύττοντος Πυγωνίτου, τοῦ δεινοπλήγου Ζωτικοῦ,
of-the rump goading Pygonites of-the terrible-striking Zotikos
καὶ τοῦ Βερονικέος πιθήκου τοῦ Ἀνδρονίκου, καὶ, πρὸ
and of-the Veronese ape — Andronikos and before
τούτων, τῶν κορυφαίων, τοῦ τε Συρματθαίου τοῦ
these of-the leaders — both of-Syrmatthaios the
χρυσοεγκεφάλου, τοῦ καὶ ἐς ἀπόπατον ἄνευ διαγνώσεως
golden-brained the(-one) even to the-privy without reading
ἀστρολάβου μὴ ἀπερχομένου, καὶ τοῦ κοπρίου μικροῦ
of-astrolabe not going and of-the dung little
Θεοδοσίου, τοῦ ἐν τοῖς ὕπνοις λευκὴν ἠμφιεσμένου ἐσθῆτα
Theodosios the(-one) in the sleeps white having-put-on robe
βασιλικήν· ἄτερος δ' ὁ πρεσβύτερος, ὁ Πεπαγωμένος μὲν
imperial the-other and the elder — Pepagomenos indeed
ὠνομασμένος, παρωνύμως δὲ Σαυρομάτης γε κεκλημένος,
named by-surname and Sauromates — called
ἐν τῷ καταλόγῳ τῶν μιαιφόνων βροτολοιγῶν, οἷόν γε τοῦ
in the roll of-the bloodthirsty man-destroyers such-as — of-the
κατὰ Λατίνους Ὀνοκεντίου τοῦ τὰς φρένας πεπηρωμένου,
among the-Latins Onokentios the in-the wits maimed

τοῦ αὐταδέλφου τούτου τοῦ ἐοικότος Λιβίστρου, τοῦ
the full-brother his the(-one) resembling Libistros the
ἐκκεκωφωμένου καὶ ἐμβροντήτου Μαλάκεος, καὶ τοῦ,
deafened and thunderstruck Malakes and the(-one)
κατὰ Συνέσιον, ὀργὴν ἠριθμημένου Πενταπόλεως,
according-to Synesios a-plague counted of-the-Pentapolis
Πέτρου, καὶ πρὸ τούτων, τοῦ κερβέρου Κωνώνη, τοῦ
Peter and before these of-the cerberus Konones the(-one)
ἀντ' ἀλεξιτηρίου κώνειον τοῖς ἀνθρώποις παρεχομένου,
instead-of antidote hemlock to-the men offering
καὶ τοῦ ῥᾳδίως καὶ ἀναιμωτὶ πρὸς Χάρωνα τοὺς
and the(-one) easily and bloodlessly to Charon the(-ones)
πονήρως ἔχοντας προοδοποιουμένου Χαρσιανίταο."
badly faring speeding-on Charsianites
„Θάῤῥει," ἔφην ἐγὼ, „καὶ ἔχ' ἀτρέμας· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἂν
take-heart said I and keep still not for —
πάθωσί τι τοιοῦτον, ἕως ἂν ὦσιν ἄζυγες· ἐπειδὰν
they-would-suffer anything such as-long-as — they-are unmarried when
δέ γε βουληθεῖεν γῆμαι, τότ' ὄψει τούτους ὁμοίους ἐμοὶ
but — they-should-wish to-marry then you-will-see them like me
καὶ χείρονας. Ἔγωγε μὲν γὰρ, ἕως μόνος ἔζων, ἀπήλαυον
and worse I indeed for while alone I-lived I-enjoyed
ἱκανῆς δόξης τε καὶ τιμῆς, οἵας ἦν εἰκὸς ἀπολαῦσαι, καὶ
much glory both and honor such-as it-was fitting to-enjoy and
πλούτου, καὶ ἄλλων ὧν οἶδας ἀγαθῶν· εὐθὺς δὲ (φεῦ μοι!)
wealth and other which you-know goods at-once but alas for-me
τῷ γῆμαί με παρὰ πόδας ἠκολούθησαν αἱ δυστυχίαι,
upon-the to-marry me at heels followed the misfortunes
ἐπεὶ ταῖς ἀρεταῖς, κατὰ τὸν εἰπόντα, παραπεπήγασιν
since to-the virtues according-to the(-one) having-said are-fixed-beside
αἱ κακίαι. Καὶ φαίνομαι, ὡς ὁῤᾷς, τοιοῦτος."
the vices and I-appear as you-see such

— „Καὶ τοιοῦτος,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „κἂν ᾅδου βούλει γε
and such said he even-in Hades do-you-wish —
διατρίβειν;“
to-spend-time
Ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτόν· „Οὐχί. Ἀλλ’ ἐπειδήπερ ἐν τῷ
said and I to him no but since in the
δυστήνῳ βίῳ πενίαν παρὰ πόδας καὶ ἀδοξίαν, φυγήν
wretched life poverty at heels and obscurity exile
τε καὶ ἀτιμίαν, προπηλακισμούς τε καὶ διαβολὰς καὶ
both and disgrace insults both and slanders and
συκοφαντίας, ἔτι τε νοσημάτων ἐπαλλήλων ἰδέας, καὶ,
false-charges still and of-diseases successive kinds and
τὸ δεινότερον, φοβερισμοὺς καὶ βασιλέως ὀργὴν, καὶ
the(-thing) more-terrible threats and of-the-emperor anger and
θεατρισμοὺς νῦν μὲν ἐν πόλεσι νῦν δ’ ἐν νήσοις, οὐκ
public-shamings now indeed in cities now and on islands not
ὀλίγας τε ζημίας, καὶ παίδων ἀποβολὴν, καὶ ἄλλα
few both losses and of-children loss and other-things
μυρία, καὶ τὸ πάντων χαλεπώτατον, ὡς οὐ μέχρι
countless and the(-thing) of-all hardest that not until
τῆς παρούσης ὥρας τὰ δεινὰ ἔστη, ἀλλ’ οὕστινας
the present hour the terrors stopped but whomever
βούλεται ὁ γενναιότατος αὐτοκράτωρ φοβῆσαί τε καὶ
wishes the most-noble emperor to-frighten both and
ἐκπλῆξαι, ὁπόταν εἰς λειτουργίας ἐκπέμπῃ, ἐμέ τε τὸν
to-dismay whenever into offices he-sends(-them) me both the
δύστηνον καὶ τὸν Μελικνάσαρ, καὶ ταλάντατον Βουλωτὴν
wretch and — Meliknasar and most-wretched Boulotes
παραβάλλει, ποιῶν τε καὶ ἐξελέγχων κακίας καὶ
he-holds-up making(-us) both and exposing(-us) of-vice and
φοβερισμοῦ καὶ παραδείγματος στήλην· ἐπεὶ οὖν ταῦτα
of-threat and of-example a-pillar since then these-things

πάντα, συναιρομένου θεοῦ καὶ ἀρήγοντος, γενναίως τε καὶ
all helping God and aiding nobly both and
μεθ' ὅσης ἂν εἴπῃ τις μεγαλοψυχίας καὶ ἀνδρίας ἤνεγκα,
with how-much — may-say one magnanimity and courage I-bore
προσδοκῶ, κατὰ τὴν ἐν τοῖς θείοις εὐαγγελίοις φωνὴν,
I-expect according-to the in the divine gospels voice
ἀπόλαυσιν ἀγαθῶν καὶ ἀταλαίπωρον ζωὴν, καὶ τ' ἄλλ'
enjoyment of-goods and untroubled life and the other(-things)
ὅσαπερ ἐπαγγέλλονται τοῖς ἀνδρείως δεινὰ ἐνεγκοῦσι."
as-many-as are-promised to-those bravely terrors having-borne
Τούτων οὕτω παρ' ἐμοῦ λεγομένων, καὶ μήπω πέρας 13
these thus by me being-said and not-yet end
τῆς ἐμῆς διηγήσεως εἰληφυίας, ἦκεν, ὡς ἐκ θαλάμου,
the my narrative having-taken came as from a-bedchamber
ἐκ μίνθου, δρομαῖος καὶ ὁ περιφανὴς πρεσβύτης
from dung running also the illustrious old-man
ἐκεῖνος Ἀντίοχος, μᾶλλον δὲ γυναικομανὴς, καὶ, πρὸ τοῦ
that Antiochos rather but woman-mad and before the
ἀσπάσασθαί με κατὰ τὸ εἰωθὸς καὶ περιβαλεῖν, ἤρετό
to-greet me according-to the custom and to-embrace asked
με πρῶτον· „Τί ποιεῖ, ὦ οὗτος, ἡ ἐμοὶ πεφιλημένη
me first what does O you-there the(-woman) by-me loved
καὶ ἐπέραστος ἐκείνη, ἣν νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ' ἡμέραν διὰ
and lovely that whom by-night and by day in
μνήμης εἶχον, κἂν τῇ Βρεττανίᾳ κἂν τῇ Γαλλίᾳ καὶ
memory I-held both-in — Britain and-in — Gaul and
πανταχοῦ, καὶ ἔτι νῦν ἐς ἀΐδαο ἔχω, ἣν ἐλπίζω
everywhere and still now in Hades I-hold(-her) whom I-hope
καὶ ἐκδέχομαι ὅσαι ὧραι ὧδε ἐλθεῖν; Τοῖς γὰρ πόθῳ
and I-await every hour here to-come to-those for with-longing
κάμνουσι, κατὰ τὸν εἰπόντα, βίος ὅλος ἡμέρα μία·
sick according-to the(-one) having-said life whole a-day one

εἰ δ' ἀπέραντος ὁ αἰὼν, πῶς οἴει με πάσχειν, ξεῖνε;
if and endless the age how do-you-think me to-suffer stranger
Ὅθεν καὶ δέομαί σου, φίλτατε, εἴπερ σώζεται τὸ κάλλος
whence also I-beg you dearest if is-kept the beauty
ἐκείνης καὶ ἡ περιουσία φράσον, πρὸς ἀληθείας. Βούλομαι
her and the property tell for truth I-wish
γὰρ ἅμα τοῦ ἐλθεῖν ὧδ' εὐθὺς ἐκείνην γῆμαι."
for at-once with-the to-come here straightway her to-marry
„Ποίαν, ὦ δύσμορε καὶ γυναικοφρενόληπτε καὶ φῴδων
which(-woman) O ill-fated and woman-crazed and of-blisters
ὄζων," ἔφην ἐγὼ, „λέγεις;"
smelling said I do-you-mean
Καὶ ὃς, „Τὴν πλησίον τῆς πύλης οἰκοῦσαν τοῦ ἁγίου
and he the(-woman) near the gate dwelling of-the holy
μάρτυρος Ῥωμανοῦ, δυστυχέστατε," εἶπε, „τὴν πολὺν οἶνον
martyr Romanos most-unfortunate he-said the(-one) much wine
γεωργουμένην, τὴν σπαθῶσάν τε καὶ κεκοισυρωμένην,
producing the(-one) squandering both and dolled-up
καὶ ἄντικρυς ὡς ἐξ ἀνατολῆς λάμπουσαν, Ἀνατολικήν."
and straight as from the-east shining Anatolike
„Τὸ μὲν κάλλος," ἔφην, „ἐκείνης, ὦ γυναικομανὲς, ὡς
the indeed beauty I-said her O woman-mad like
ἠρινὸν ἀπερρύη κρίνον, ὁ δ' ὅλβος ἅπας διεφθάρη ὑπὸ
a-spring has-withered lily the and wealth all was-destroyed by
τοῦ ὡς ἐκ νεκάδων φθεγγομένου υἱοῦ αὐτῆς, τοῦ
the as from the-heaps-of-dead speaking son her the(-one)
τὰς φρένας ἐν πτέρναις ἔχοντος, Ἀνατολίου."
the wits in heels having Anatolios
— „Παπαί!" εἶπεν ὁ ἐρωτομανής· „ὁ θειότατός μοι κεκώλυκε
alas said the love-mad(-one) the most-divine me has-prevented
βασιλεὺς τοῦ μὴ γῆμαί με ταύτην. Διάτοι γε τοῦτο,
emperor from-the not to-marry me her because — this

καθώσπερ ἡ τύχη τῆς τοιαύτης εὐδαιμονίας ἐμὲ κεκώλυκεν,
just-as the fortune of-the such happiness me has-barred
οὕτως ἐλπίζω καὶ τὰ τῶν Ῥωμαίων γενέσθαι πράγματα.“
so I-expect also the of-the Romans to-fare affairs
Κἀγὼ εἶπον· „Ὦ καταγέλαστε, ἔτι γε διὰ μνήμης ἐν ᾅδου
and-I said O ridiculous-one still — in memory in Hades
γυναῖκα ἔχεις, τριπέμπελος ὤν, καὶ ταῦτα τοῦ Χάρωνος
a-woman you-hold a-dotard being and that — Charon
τὸ ξύμβολον δεδωκότος σοι; ἢ ἐπελάθου ὡς θυγατέρας
the fare having-given you or have-you-forgotten that daughters
καὶ παῖδα ἔχεις τὸν Κακοαλέξιον, φορολόγον τε ὄντα
and a-son you-have — Kakoalexios a-tax-gatherer both being
δεινὸν καὶ ἔμπειρον ἐν λειτουργείοις, καὶ πρὸς τούτοις
clever and skilled in offices and besides these
φῶρά τε καὶ κυμινοπρίστην.“
a-thief both and a-cumin-splitter
Ἀναπολήσας οὖν κατὰ νοῦν καὶ μνησθεὶς ἔφη· „Ναί.
having-pondered then in mind and having-remembered he-said yes
Ἀλλὰ διόπερ οὐχ εὑρίσκεται εἰς ἣν ἤμην ἔγωγε ὑπηρεσίαν
but because not is-found in which I-was I service
καὶ ὁ τοιοῦτος, οὐμενοῦν φιλῶ αὐτὸν οὐδὲ τούτου γε
also the such(-one) by-no-means I-love him nor him —
μέμνημαι. Λυσιτελέστερον γὰρ ἦν ἂν αὐτῷ μεθ’
remember more-profitable for it-would-have-been — for-him with
ᾧ συναναστρεφόμην καὶ τοῦτον συναναστρέφεσθαι, ἢ
whom I-associated also him to-associate than
φορολογεῖν καὶ λεπτολογεῖν οὕτω μανικῶς μεθ’ ὧν
to-gather-taxes and to-haggle so madly with whom
ἐξυπηρετεῖν εἵλετο. Εἴπερ οὖν ὡς φὼρ φωραθείη
to-serve he-chose if then as a-thief he-should-be-caught
δέδοικα μὴ τὰ ὅμοιά σοι δεινὰ κἀκείνῳ γενήσεται.“
I-fear lest the like to-you terrors to-him-too will-happen

14 Σὺν τούτῳ ἦκεν ἐκ γαλαξίου πόλου καὶ ὁ τὰς αἶγας
with this came from the-milky pole also the(-one) the goats
πρότερον Μελγουζὴς ἀμέλγων περὶ τῶν υἱῶν ἐρωτήσων,
formerly Melgouzes milking about the sons going-to-ask
εἰ ἄρ' ὠτακουσταὶ γεγόνασι καὶ οὗτοι, ὥσπερ ἦν
whether then eavesdroppers have-become also they as was
κἀκεῖνος. Καὶ μετ' αὐτὸν ὁ ἐκ ποταμίων ῥευμάτων Ἰαπετὸς
he-too and after him the from river streams Iapetos
ἐκεῖνος Ποτάμιος, ὁ πρὸς ὕβρεις ῥήτωρ δεινὸς, πρός τε
that Potamios the at insults orator clever for both
τὸ λέγειν πρός τε τὸ γράφειν, ἦκε βουλόμενος καὶ οὗτος
the to-speak for and the to-write came wishing also he
μαθεῖν, περί τε τοῦ δυτικοῦ παιδαρίου, τοῦ τὰς αἰσθήσεις
to-learn about both the western lad the(-one) the senses
μεμυκότος Καμύτζη, εἰ ἄρα γε καὶ ἔτι δρωπακίζεται,
having-shut Kamytzes whether then — also still depilates-himself
καὶ περὶ τοῦ κοκκίνου χαρχαρόδοντος Χαρσιανίτου, τοῦ
and about the red jagged-toothed Charsianites the
ἀκολάστου τε καὶ οἰνόφλυγος, εἰ ἔτι καὶ νῦν παλλακὴν
licentious both and wine-bibbing whether still even now a-concubine
ἔχει, καὶ εἰ τὸν ἄκρατον ἐκροφᾷ ὥσπερ πρότερον ἔσπα.
he-has and whether the neat-wine he-gulps as before he-drank
Σὺν τούτῳ ἤλυθεν ὁ Κλαυδιώτης ἐκεῖνος ὁ χοίρων
with this came — Claudiotes that the of-pigs
σούπασις, κατὰ Παδιάτην, βεβαμμένας καὶ τὰς τοῦ
soupasis according-to Padiates dyed both the of-the
πώγωνος καὶ τῆς κεφαλῆς ἔχων τρίχας ἐκ κοράκων ὠῶν·
beard and of-the head having hairs with ravens' eggs
φασὶ γὰρ οἱ ταύτας βάπτοντες, μετὰ κοράκων βάπτειν
say for the(-ones) them dyeing with ravens' to-dye
ὠῶν μελανὰς, ὡς ἐκ κογχύλης πορφύραν. Πρὸ τοῦ
eggs black as from shellfish purple before the

ἀσπάσασθαί με οὖν καὶ περιβαλεῖν, τάδ' ἔλεξε σπουδάζων
to-greet me then and to-embrace this he-said being-serious
μᾶλλον ἢ παίζων· „Οὐκ ἔλεγον, ὦ μυρωτικὲ σύντεκνε, ὡς
rather than joking not did-I-say O anointing co-godfather that
πᾶν ὅσονπερ ποιεῖ ὁ εὐεργετικώτατος Ζωσιμᾶς πρὸς τὸν
all that does the most-beneficent Zosimas toward the
ἄστατον καὶ κατάπτυστόν μοι υἱὸν Αἰτίνην, χαόνειν αὐτὸ, ὡς
unstable and despicable my son Aitines to-lose it as
εἰς βυθὸν ῥίπτων; οὗτος γὰρ ἐς ὕστερον παλινδρομήσειεν ἂν
into the-deep throwing he for in the-end would-run-back —
πρὸς Ἰσμαηλίτας· οὐδεὶς γὰρ περιτετμημένος ἀκροβυστίαν
to the-Ishmaelites no-one for circumcised foreskin
τὸ πάγιον ἔχει καὶ ἀσφαλὲς πρός τε θεὸν πρός τε
the firmness has and steadfastness toward both God toward and
βασιλέα, ἀλλ' ἐς ἀεὶ διὰ μνήμης τὰ τοῦ Μωάμεθ καὶ
emperor but for ever in memory the(-ways) — of-Muhammad and
ἀῤῥενομανίας καὶ ἄλλης ἀσελγοῦς πράξεως ἔχει, ὥσπερ
of-pederasty and other lewd practice he-holds as
ἔγωγε διηνεκῶς διατρίβων ἐν Λήμνῳ εἶχον."
I continually living in Lemnos held
„Ναὶ," εἶπον. „Τοιαῦτα μὲν ἔλεγες· πλὴν δ' ᾤμην ἐκ
yes I-said such-things indeed you-said but — I-thought from
φθόνου σε λέγειν ταῦτα."
envy you to-say these-things
Τούτων ὕστατος ἦκεν, ὡς ἀσπὶς βύων τὰ ὦτα, ἐκεῖνος
of-these last came like an-asp stopping the ears that
ὁ Ἀσπιέταος, ὁ λόγοις μὲν ἡδυεπὴς, ἔργοις δ'
— Aspietaos the(-one) in-words indeed sweet-spoken in-deeds but
ὥσπερ ἀσπὶς δάκνων, ὑφ' οὗ καὶ αὐτὸς δηχθεὶς, μέχρι
like an-asp biting by whom also I-myself bitten until
τοῦ νῦν θανατῶ. Λέγεται γὰρ ὡς ὁ ὑπὸ θηρίου
the now am-at-death's-door it-is-said for that the(-one) by a-beast

δηχθεὶς ἀλεξιτήριον ἂν ἐθεράπευσε φάρμακον, ὁ δ'
bitten an-antidote — would-heal drug the(-one) but
ὑπ' ἀνθρώπων φαύλων, οὐδὲ εἰπεῖν ἔστιν ὅσοι
by men base not-even to-say is-it-possible how-many
ἀπολώλασι, καὶ πόλεις πᾶσαι καὶ ἰδιῶται καὶ νῆσοι καὶ
have-perished both cities all and private-men and islands and
βασιλεῖς. Μακρόθεν οὖν με ὡς ἑώρακε, βοῶν ἔλεγε· „Τῶν
emperors from-afar then me when he-saw shouting said the
φλωρίων οὐκ ἐπελαθόμην τῶν ἐν τῇ Γαλλίᾳ, ἅπερ
florins not I-have-forgotten the(-ones) in — Gaul which
ἠδίκηκε καθαρπάσας ὁ τετρυχωμένος καὶ δίκην Ἡφαίστου
wronged(-me) having-snatched the worn-out and like Hephaestus
βαδίζων ἀσταφὶς Σταφυδάκης· ἀλλὰ τούτων μέμνημαι καὶ
walking raisin Staphydakes but them I-remember and
μεμνήσομαι, κἂν πίω κἂν οὐ πίω τὸ τῆς λήθης ὕδωρ. Καὶ
will-remember whether I-drink or not drink the of-the forgetfulness water and
γὰρ, ὅταν εἰς τοῦτον ἥξῃ τὸν χῶρον, δρομαῖος ἀπελθὼν
for when to this he-comes the region running having-gone
εἰς τὸν Μίνω, ἐγκαλέσαιμι ἂν τοῦτόν γε περὶ τούτων."
to — Minos I-would-accuse — him — about them
15 Μετ' αὐτὸν ἦκε καὶ ὁ ἐκ Λατίνων Βαρθολομαῖος
after him came also the from the-Latins Bartholomaios
Ντεαλαγάσκος ἐκεῖνος καὶ λατινικῶς με προσαγορεύσας,
de-la-Gasco that and in-Latin me having-addressed
„Μπεβένια μισέ," μειδιῶν ἤρετο· „τί πράττει, ὦ ἐπέραστε,
welcome messer smiling asked how fares O lovely-one
ὁ ἐμὸς μὲν υἱὸς, σὸς δὲ ἑταῖρος ἐν ταῖς αὐλαῖς ταῖς
the my indeed son your and comrade in the courts the
βασιλικαῖς; ἆρ' εὑρίσκεται καὶ ἔτι ἐν ταῖς τοῦ ἅλατος
imperial — is-he-found also still in the of-the salt

λειτουργίαις ὡς πρότερον; ἢ λόγων μόνον καὶ μηνυμάτων
offices as before or of-words only and messages
διαπορθμεύς ἐστι Λατίνων καὶ Γραικῶν;“
ferryman is-he of-Latins and Greeks
Κἀγὼ μόλις ἀναγνωρίσας τὸν ἄνδρα, κεκαρμένην γὰρ εἶχε
and-I scarcely having-recognized the man shorn for he-had
καὶ τὴν ὑπήνην καὶ τὴν κεφαλήν, „Ἑκάτερ’,“ εἶπον, „καλῶς
both the beard and the head both I-said well
αὐτὸς πράττει, καθηγητὰ εὐγενέστατε. Πλὴν ὑπόκειται
he fares master most-noble but he-is-subject
μόνον τισὶ λογισμοῖς τῶν τοῦ ἅλατος καταστίχων.“
only to-some audits of-the of-the salt registers
Ὁ δὲ κινήσας τὴν κεφαλήν, καὶ τῇ παλάμῃ τῇ ἑτέρᾳ
he and having-shaken the head and with-the palm the other
παλάμην κρούσας, καὶ βύθιον στενάξας, ἤρετο· „Καὶ τίς
palm having-struck and deep having-groaned asked and who
ἐστιν ὁ τοὺς λογισμοὺς τῶν Ῥωμαίων ποιῶν νῦν,
is the(-one) the audits of-the Romans making now
καὶ ὁ τοῦτον λογίσασθαι ὀφείλων;“
and the(-one) him to-audit bound
„Οὐκ οἶσθα,“ ἔφην, „τὸν ἐκ Βαβυλῶνος ἐλθόντα
not do-you-know I-said the(-one) from Babylon having-come
τότε ἐν τῇ Χρυσῇ, καὶ κρινόμενον μετὰ τοῦ Ἰαπετοῦ
then in the Golden(-Gate) and being-tried with — Iapetos
Πελοποννησίου ἐκείνου ἀσόφου Σοφιανοῦ περὶ τῶν ἐς
Peloponnesian that unwise Sophianos about the to
Ἀλεξάνδρειαν πεμφθέντων βασιλικῶν ξύλων;“
Alexandria sent imperial timbers
— „Τὸν ψωριῶντα λέγεις Μισαὴλ Μουσκαράνον, τὸν
the mangy do-you-mean Misael Mouskaranos the
διαβολέα, τὸν κατάπτυστον καὶ ὕφαλον, καὶ λωποδύτην,
slanderer the despicable and sunken-reef and thief

τὸν οἰόμενον εἰδέναι τά τε ὄντα τά τ'
the(-one) thinking to-know the(-things) both being the(-things) and
ἐσόμενα, πρό τ' ἐόντα, πλὴν δ' ἀναιδείας ὄντα οὐδὲν,
to-be before and being but — of-shamelessness being nothing
τὸν ῥαμπλιστὴν, καὶ σολοικιστὴν, καὶ λατινόφρονα, τὸν
the raver and solecist and Latin-minded the(-one)
τὴν ἀκροβυστίαν περιτετμημένον, τὸν οὐδὲ πρὸς θεὸν
the foreskin circumcised the(-one) neither toward God
τὸν ἐν τριάδι ὑμνούμενον, οὐδ' εἰς βασιλέα πίστιν
the(-one) in trinity hymned nor toward emperor faith
ἀκλόνητον ἔχοντα, τὸν πᾶσι τοῖς ἄλλοις αὐτοῦ φίλοις
unshakable having the(-one) all the other his friends
οὐ κατ' ἀλήθειαν, ἀλλὰ πρὸς χάριν καὶ δόλους καὶ
not in truth but for favor and guile and
ἀπάτην, φιλοῦντα; Τουτονὶ τὸν παμμίαρον καὶ παράληρον
deceit loving this the all-foul and driveling
καὶ παραπλῆγα καὶ ἀκόλαστον φὴς, ὅτι βούλεται
and crazed and licentious do-you-say that wishes
λογίσασθαι τὸν ἐμὸν υἱὸν φίλτατον;"
to-audit the my son dearest
Καὶ „Ἐκεῖνον," φημὶ, „τὸν τριβολαῖον, μᾶλλον δὲ τὸν
and him I-say the caltrop-man rather but the
τριωβολιμαῖον."
three-obol-man
Καὶ ὃς, λαβόμενός μου τῆς χειρὸς, ὑποτρέμων φησίν·
and he having-taken my the hand trembling says
„Ἐγὼ ἀκήκοα παρὰ τοῦ χρηστοῦ Ὁλοβόλου, ὅτι
I have-heard from the good Holobolos that
παλινδρομῆσαι βούλοιο ἐν τῷ βίῳ· καὶ εἴπερ οὕτως ἔχει,
to-run-back you-wish to the life and if so it-is
ὡς ἀκήκοα, ἀνάμνησον τὸν γενναιότατον αὐτοκράτορα
as I-have-heard remind the most-noble emperor

ἐξ ἐμοῦ κρύφα τάδε· ὡς οὐ δεῖ τοῦτον τὸν μιαρὸν
from me secretly this that not it-is-needful this the foul
καὶ ἀκάθαρτον, καὶ λατινόφρονα καὶ συμβολομάχον,
and unclean and Latin-minded and creed-fighting
Ἰσκαριώτην μᾶλλον ἢ Μουσκαράνον, πρεσβευτὴν τῷ
Iscariot rather than Mouskaranos as-envoy to-the
τοῦ Γαλατᾶ ποτεστάτῳ πέμπειν. Ἦ μὲν ὡς ἀλοκόρπον
— of-Galata podestà to-send truly indeed as a-sea-scorpion
δενδίω, νῦν μὲν τῇ τούτου συμβουλῇ τὴν βασιλικὴν
I-dread now indeed by-the his counsel the imperial
σημαίαν ὁ ποτεστάτος ἀναιδῶς χαμαὶ ἔῤῥιψε· κἀκ
banner the podestà shamelessly to-the-ground threw and-from
τοῦ παραυτίκα μετακληθεὶς, καὶ ὡς ἐκ μέθης ἀνανήψας,
the instant summoned and as from drunkenness having-sobered
ὡς τὸ πρότερον αὐτὴν ἔστησε, μετὰ πομπῆς θαυμαστῆς καὶ
as the before it set-up with procession wondrous and
δόξης ὅτι πολλῆς. Εἴπερ οὖν οὐδὲν παραπέμψει τοῦτον
glory as-much as-possible if then in-no-way he-will-send-off him
ἐς κόρακας, ἐς αὔριον πολλὰ δεινὰ καὶ μεγάλα τῇ βασιλίδι
to the-crows by tomorrow many terrors and great on-the queen
τῶν πόλεων ἐργάσεται ὁ τοιοῦτος, τῇ συμβουλίᾳ τοῦ
of-the cities will-work the such(-man) by-the counsel of-the
πολυμηχάνου καὶ παλαμναίου καὶ ῥεραφανιδωμένου τοῦδε.
crafty and murderous and radished this(-man)
Αὐτὸς γάρ ἐστιν ὁ τῶν ζιζανίων σπορεὺς τῆς τοῦ θεοῦ
he for is the of-the tares sower of-the — of-God
μεγάλης ἐκκλησίας· αὐτός ἐστιν ὁ τὴν θρυλλουμένην
great church he is the(-one) the famous
τῶν Ῥωμαίων νῆσον Θᾶσον ταῖς ξυμβουλαῖς καὶ
of-the Romans island Thasos by-the counsels and

συνεχέσι γραφαῖς καταπείσας τὸν ἐκ θυγατρὸς κηδεστὴν,
continual letters having-persuaded the by daughter in-law
δυστυχέστατον Ῥαούλιον Μύρμηκα, ὥστε πρίασθαι.“
most-unfortunate Raoul Myrmex so-as to-buy(-it)

V · THE WAY BACK

Holobolos leads Mazaris to a grove where birds sing, and the Lampadarios sings and then complains of his two sons, who have spurned his music: the elder has turned monk and keeps his vices, the younger sings drunk in taverns and refuses the emperor. Holobolos, tired of the tale, tells Mazaris to slip away by the gully back to life, sends greetings to the emperor's uncle Asan, and bids him tell no one about Holobolos, since envy rules Hades as it rules life. Mazaris ends by saying he wrote this to teach more than to amuse.

16 Τούτου τοίνυν οὑτωσὶ πρός με διηγησαμένου, ὁ χρηστὸς
he then thus to me having-related the good
Ὁλόβολος, εὐθὺς ἀνέστη, καὶ, τῆς δεξιᾶς λαβόμενος, ἄγει
Holobolos at-once rose and the right(-hand) having-taken leads
με ἀπωτέρω, ἐν ᾧ πτελέαι μὲν ὑψίκομοι, πάμπολλοι
me further-off where — elms indeed high-leaved very-many
δὲ πεφύκασι πλάτανοι, ἐφ' οἷς καὶ καθήμενα ᾠδικὰ
and have-grown plane-trees on which also sitting songful
στρουθία ᾖδον ἡδέως μάλα γε καὶ ποικίλως, καὶ πρὸς
sparrows sang sweetly very — and variously and besides
τοῖς εἰρημένοις, „Ὦ φίλτατε,“ μόνον ἔλεξεν.
the(-things) said O dearest only said
Εἶτα μετὰ τὴν ᾠδὴν τῶν τοιούτων στρουθίων ὕστατος
then after the song of-the such sparrows last
ἐλθὼν καὶ ὁ τῆς μουσικῆς κορυφαῖος Λαμπαδάριος
having-come also the of-the music leader Lampadarios

ἐκεῖνος, φέρων ἐν τῇ χειρὶ λαμπάδα ἡμμένην, πρῶτα
that bearing in the hand a-torch lit first
μετὰ μέλους ᾖσεν ᾠδὴν τὴν ἐκ νεκάδων,
with melody sang a-song the(-one) from the-heaps-of-dead

σύντρομον ᾅδης ἀφῆκε Μάζαριν,
trembling Hades let-go Mazaris

ὥσπερ εἰώθει λέγειν ἐν βίῳ μοι. Ἔπειτ᾽ ἤρετο· „Πῶς
as he-was-wont to-say in life to-me then asked how
ἔχουσιν οἱ ταλάντατοι καὶ τετυφωμένοι καὶ τρισάθλιοί μου
are the most-wretched and deluded and thrice-wretched my
υἱοὶ, οἱ τὴν πατρικὴν μὲν ἐξαρνησάμενοι κλῆσίν τε καὶ
sons the(-ones) the paternal indeed having-disowned name both and
ἐπιστήμην, τὴν δὲ μητρικὴν ἀεὶ ἀσπαζόμενοι; πρὸς φιλίας,
science the but maternal always embracing by friendship
φράσον μοι τὴν αὐτῶν καὶ πολιτείαν καὶ διατριβὴν τὴν ἐν
tell me the their both conduct and way-of-life the in
βίῳ. Πολλοὶ γὰρ τῶν ἀπὸ βίου ἀφικνουμένων ἐτάραξάν
life many for of-the(-ones) from life arriving troubled
μου τὴν ψυχὴν, καὶ τὸν λογισμὸν συνέχεον, λέγοντες ὡς ὁ
my the soul and the reason confounded saying that the
μὲν πρῶτος, ὁ παρὰ τῆς μητρὸς κληθεὶς Λήσκαρις,
indeed first the(-one) after the mother named Laskaris
τὸν μονήρη γε τάχα βίον ἠσπάσατο, καὶ τὴν κλῆσιν
the solitary — perhaps life has-embraced and the name
ἀμείψας γέγονε ναζιραῖος, τὴν δὲ ἑταίραν ἐκείνην τὴν
having-changed has-become a-nazirite the but courtesan that the
διεσπεκλωμένην, τὴν ἐκ Σκυθῶν, τὴν ἐκ παιδιόθεν
spread-about the(-one) from Scythians the(-one) from childhood
συγκυλιομένην, οὐκ ἠρνήσατο, ἀλλ᾽ ὥσπερ λεπὰς τῷ
wallowing-with(-him) not he-disowned but like a-limpet to-the

τοιούτῳ μιαρῷ γραϊδίῳ προσκολλᾶται, καὶ ἐν ἀγορᾷ, καὶ ἐν
such foul old-woman clings both in market and at
πανηγύρεσι, καὶ ἐν τριόδοις, καὶ ἐφ' ἑορταῖς, ἕπεται ταύτῃ
fairs and at crossroads and at feasts follows her
γρυλλίζων μᾶλλον, ἢ προοδοποιῶν· καὶ οὐκ αἰσχύνεται
grunting rather than leading-the-way and not is-ashamed
ὁ τρισάθλιος, μᾶλλον δὲ φρενόληπτος, οὔτε τὸ σχῆμα
the thrice-wretched rather but mind-possessed neither the habit
ὃ ἐνεδύσατο, οὔτε τὸ τῆς μητρὸς γένος· ἀλλὰ φέρει τὸ
which he-put-on nor the of-the mother family but bears the
σχῆμα τοῦτο παραφρονῶν, ὥσπερ λεοντῆν ὄνος· ὁ δὲ
habit this being-mad as the-lion-skin an-ass the and
δεύτερος ὁ Δρακοντώνυμος, ὁ παρωνύμως Φυσίγναθος
second — Drakontonymos the(-one) by-surname Physignathos
κεκλημένος, τὸν ἀοιδὸν Πῶλον ἰδὼν ἐκ Βλαχίας
called the singer Polos having-seen from Wallachia
ἐπανήκοντα μεθ' ἱκανοῦ ἀργυρίου πρὸς τὴν ἐνεγκαμένην,
returning with much silver to the(-land) having-borne(-him)
ὥρμησε καὶ αὐτὸς ἀπελθεῖν ἐκεῖσε, ὥστε πλουτῆσαι, καὶ
set-out also himself to-go there so-as to-grow-rich and
τῆς πατρίδος ἀπάρας, ἐναυάγησε, κἀκεῖθεν ἐπανήκων,
from-the homeland having-set-sail was-shipwrecked and-from-there returning
διατρίβει διακενῆς ἐν ταῖς αὐλαῖς ταῖς βασιλικαῖς."
lingers idly in the courts the imperial
„Οὕτως ἔχει τὰ κατ' ἐκείνους," εἶπον αὐτῷ, „ὡς
so stand the(-things) about them I-said to-him as
λέγεις, ἀνδρῶν μουσικώτατε· ὁ γὰρ τὴν τούτων
you-say of-men most-musical the(-one) for the their
σοι πολιτείαν διηγησάμενος, καλῶς διεξῆλθε. Καί σε
to-you conduct having-related well went-through(-it) and you
παρακαλῶ μή με εἰς μακρολογίας καὶ ἐξετάσεις ἐμβάλῃς,
I-beg not me into long-speeches and inquiries throw

ὥστε λέγειν καὶ διεξέρχεσθαι τὰ ἐκείνων· ὁρᾷς γὰρ
so-as to-tell and to-go-through the(-things) of-them you-see for
ὅτι πολλοί μοι ἐπέθεντο ἐρωτῶντες, καὶ ἀλγῶ τὴν
that many on-me have-set questioning and I-ache in-the
κεφαλὴν τοῦ λέγειν καὶ τοῦ ἀκούειν.“
head from-the to-tell and the to-hear
— „Ἐπειδήπερ σὺ μέν,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος πρός με, „πρὸς
since you indeed said he to me for
τὸ διηγεῖσθαι καὶ λέγειν ἀηδῶς ἔχεις, ἔγωγε δὲ
the to-relate and to-tell distastefully are-disposed I but
κατεπείγομαι ὑπὸ φίλτρου πρὸς τὸ μαθεῖν, κἂν ἄκουσον,
am-pressed by love for the to-learn at-least hear
δέομαι δή σου, πῶς ἄρα μοι διηγήσατο τὰ ἐκείνων
I-beg indeed you how then to-me related the(-things) of-them
ἡ τῆς παλαιᾶς ἄτης ἀπώλεια καὶ πρῶτος ἱερεύς.“
the of-the old ruin perdition and first priest
„Εἰπὲ ταῦτα;“ ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτόν· „μόνον βραχέως·
tell these-things said and I to him only briefly
ὁρᾷς γὰρ, ὅτι κατεπείγομαι.“
you-see for that I-am-pressed
— „Οὕτω ποιήσω,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος. „Ἤδη δὲ μόνον ἄκουε. 17
so I-will-do said he now and only hear
Διηγήσατό μοι ὁ τριπέμπελος ἐκεῖνος καὶ κεκυφὼς, ἡ
related to-me the dotard that and stooped the
εἰρημένη ἀπώλεια, ὡς ἦκεν ἐκ βίου ἐς ᾅδου ἄκων καὶ
aforesaid perdition when he-came from life to Hades unwilling and
μὴ βουλόμενος, ὅτι ὁ μὲν πρεσβύτερός μοι υἱὸς κείρας
not wishing that the indeed elder my son having-shorn
τὴν κόμην, καὶ κίδαριν καὶ μανδύαν ἐπενδυσάμενος, πᾶσαν
the hair and a-cap and a-mantle having-put-on all
παιδιὰν καὶ ἀμαθίαν, ἀβελτηρίαν τε καὶ νωθρίαν, ἀλλὰ δὴ
childishness and ignorance stupidity both and sloth but indeed

καὶ τύφον, καὶ ἄλλην πᾶσαν ἀκολασίαν καὶ ἀσέλγειαν, ἅπερ
also conceit and other all licentiousness and lewdness which
παιδόθεν ἐξήσκησεν, ἐπεκάλυψεν ὁ μανδύας, καὶ γέγονεν
from-childhood he-practiced covered the mantle and he-has-become
ἑλκεχίτων, καὶ διατρίβει ἐν τῇ τοῦ Εὐεργέτου μονῇ,
a-trailing-robed(-monk) and lives in the of-the Benefactor monastery
ψευδοευλάβειαν τάχα δεικνύων, τῆς δὲ ἀφροδίτης τυγχάνων
false-piety perhaps showing of-the but love being
φίλος· ὁ δὲ νεώτερος τὰ τῶν νεωτέρων καὶ ἀκολάστων
friend the and younger the of-the young and licentious
καὶ τετυφωμένων καὶ εὐρυπρώκτων καὶ μέγα οἰομένων,
and deluded and wide-assed and great(-things) thinking
μᾶλλον δὲ μαινομένων καὶ φρενολήπτων, ἔργα ποιεῖ.
rather but raving and mind-possessed deeds does
Παιδευθεὶς γὰρ παρ᾽ ἐμοῦ τὴν τῆς μουσικῆς ἐπιστήμης
taught for by me the of-the music science
ἄκρως, ὥστε ζῆν ἐντίμως καὶ ἀφθόνως, ὥσπερ ἄρ᾽ ἔζων
consummately so-as to-live honorably and abundantly as then lived
καὶ αὐτὸς ἐν βίῳ, τὴν τοιαύτην οὐκ ἠσπάσατο πολιτείαν
also I-myself in life the such not embraced conduct
τε καὶ ἐπιστήμην, ὥσπερ ἐγὼ, ἀλλ᾽ ἑτέραν βδελυρὰν καὶ
both and science as I but another loathsome and
ἀπαίδευτον, ἄτιμόν τε καὶ ἄδοξον, καὶ ἄλλως ἀκερδῆ
uneducated dishonorable both and inglorious and otherwise profitless
καὶ μεμιασμένην. Οὐχ αἱρεῖται γὰρ παρὰ τοῦ εὐαγοῦς καὶ
and defiled not he-chooses for by the holy and
βασιλικοῦ κλήρου καὶ τῆς τοῦ θεοῦ μεγάλης ἐκκλησίας
imperial clergy and of-the — of-God great church
καλεῖσθαι καὶ ὀνομάζεσθαι δομέστικος, ὥστε ᾠδὰς ᾄδειν
to-be-called and to-be-named domestikos so-as songs to-sing
ἐπινικίους καὶ θείας· καὶ μετὰ παίδων καὶ δούλων καὶ
triumphal and divine and with boys and slaves and

μεθυόντων καὶ παραλήρων, ποιούντων τε καὶ πασχόντων,
drunkards and drivelers doing both and suffering
ᾄδειν αἱρεῖται λήρων ᾠδάς. Φείδεται πολλάκις ᾠδὰς
to-sing he-chooses of-nonsense songs he-refrains often songs
ᾆσαι, ἐφ' ἑορταῖς τε καὶ πανηγύρεσιν ἐκκλησίας μέσον·
to-sing at feasts both and festivals of-the-church in-the-midst
καὶ μετὰ μειρακίων ἀκαθάρτων τε καὶ ἀτασθάλων ᾄδει
and with lads unclean both and wicked sings
καὶ χορεύει καὶ φλυαρεῖ, παραπαίων καθάπερ μαινόμενος.
and dances and babbles raving like a-madman
Αἰδεῖται τάχα καὶ ἐρυθριᾷ αἰσχυνόμενος, προσκαλούμενος
he-is-shy perhaps and blushes ashamed summoned
παρὰ τοῦ γενναιοτάτου αὐτοκράτορος ὥστε πρὸς κιθάραν
by the most-noble emperor so-as to the-lyre
ᾆσαι, καὶ μέλος ἐναρμόνιον ἢ τῶν παλαιῶν ἢ τῶν νέων
to-sing and a-song harmonious either of-the old or of-the new
διὰ στόματος εἰπεῖν, καὶ ἀπαναίνεται· καὶ ἐν γωνίαις καὶ
through mouth to-utter and he-refuses and in corners and
τριόδοις, καὶ πανδοχείοις, καὶ καταλύμασιν ἑταιριζομένων
crossroads and inns and lodgings of-whoring
γυναίων, κιθαρίζει, καὶ κορδακίζει, καὶ ἕτερ' ἄττα ἄσεμνα
women he-plays-the-lyre and dances-the-kordax and other things indecent
πράττει λάθρα καὶ μετὰ τοῦ κρύπτεσθαι. Παρακαλεῖται
does secretly and with the to-hide he-is-begged
πολλάκις καὶ ἀναγκάζεται παρὰ τῶν ἐν τέλει καὶ τῶν
often and compelled by the(-ones) in office and the(-ones)
γένει προσηκόντων τῷ βασιλεῖ μέλος ᾆσαι ἐμὸν πόνημα
by-birth related to-the emperor a-song to-sing my work
πρὸς παραμυθίαν καὶ χαρμονὴν βασιλέως ἢ δεσποτῶν,
for solace and delight of-the-emperor or despots
καὶ κρύπτεται ἐν γωνίαις καὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων ὄπισθεν,
and he-hides in corners and the people behind

καὶ ὡς παιδάριον διαθρύπτεται, καὶ φουμίζει φθεγγόμενος
and like a-little-child plays-coy and lisps uttering
εὐνούχων ὀξύτερον· παρὰ δὲ τριωβολιμαίων καὶ οὐδένων
than-eunuchs shriller by but three-obol-men and nobodies
προσκαλούμενος, ἀνερυθριάστως ᾄδει μεθύων, φθέγγεται
summoned shamelessly sings drunk utters
παραπαίων, ἐμῶν βοᾷ, πέρδων χορεύει, τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς
raving vomiting shouts farting dances the eyes
ἐξ οἰνοφλυγίας πελιδνοὺς ἔχων καὶ διαστρόφους ποιῶν
from drunkenness livid having and distorted making(-them)
ὡς ἐξ ἀγχόνης. Διά γε οὖν ταῦτα, κατὰ τὸν
as from strangling because-of — then these-things according-to the
μεγαλοφωνότατον Δαυὶδ, αὐτὸς μὲν λοιμώξειεν ἂν ὡς
loudest-voiced David he indeed would-starve — like
κύων καὶ τὴν πόλιν κυκλώσοι, καὶ τὸ ἱμάτιον αὐτοῦ
a-dog and the city would-go-round and the cloak his
διαῤῥαγήσεται, τὴν δὲ προκοπὴν αὐτοῦ λάβοι ἕτερος, ἀνθ’
will-be-torn the and advancement his may-take another because
ὧν πατρικῶν θεσμῶν, προστάξεών τε καὶ νουθεσιῶν,
of-which paternal ordinances commands both and admonitions
οὐ τετήρηκεν. Ἡ δὲ προμνήστρια, ἥτις με παρεκίνησε
not be-has-kept the and matchmaker who me urged
τὴν αὐτῶν γῆμαι μητέρα, εἴθε παραπεμφθείη ἐν τῷ
the their to-marry mother would-that she-were-sent into the
τοῦ Κερβέρου στόματι.“
— of-Cerberus mouth

18 Ὁ δὲ χρηστὸς ἀγανακτήσας Ὁλόβολος τῆς τούτου μακρᾶς
the and good vexed Holobolos at-the his long
διηγήσεως, πρός με φησίν· „Ὁρᾷς ταυτηνὶ τὴν βαθεῖάν
narrative to me says do-you-see this the deep
τε καὶ ἀλσώδη ῥύακα;“
both and wooded gully

Ἦν δ' ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτόν· „Ὁρῶ."
said and I to him I-see
— „Ὑποκρίθητι," ἔφη, „ἐς ἀπόπατον ἐν αὐτῇ ἀπελθεῖν σε·
pretend he-said to the-privy in it to-go you
καὶ, μικρὸν ὑποκρυφθεὶς ἐς βίον ταχέως ἄπελθε χαίρων καὶ
and a-little having-hidden to life quickly go rejoicing and
εὐφραινόμενος ἐς μακροὺς τοὺς ἡλίους. Καὶ πρῶτον μὲν
making-merry for long the suns and first indeed
ἐξ ἐμοῦ προσαγόρευσον χαίρων χαίροντα τὸν εὐγενέστατον
from me greet rejoicing rejoicing the most-noble
καὶ πάσης φιλοσοφίας γέμοντα περιπόθητον θεῖον τοῦ
and of-all philosophy full beloved uncle of-the
θειοτάτου καὶ μεγάλου αὐτοκράτορος τὸν Ἀσᾶν· ἔπειτα
most-divine and great emperor — Asan then
μὴ ὀκνήσας εἰπεῖν πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ τόνδε τὸν λόγον, ὡς·
not having-hesitated to-tell to him also this the word thus
„Οὐκ ἐπελαθόμην, ῥητορικώτατ' ἀνδρῶν, τῶν σῶν χρυσέων
not I-have-forgotten most-eloquent of-men the your golden
ἐπῶν οὐδ' ἐν ᾅδου· ἀλλ' ὥσπερ ἐν ταῖς βασιλικαῖς αὐλαῖς
words not-even in Hades but as in the imperial courts
ἐμεμνήμην καὶ τῷ κρατοῦντι καὶ τοῖς ἑτέροις ἐκοινώνουν
I-remembered and with-the ruler and the others shared
τὰ σὰ ξυγγράμματα ὅσαι ὧραι, οὕτω κἀνταῦθα μέμνημαι·
the your writings every hour so here-too I-remember
καὶ νύκτωρ μὲν διηγοῦμαι πρός τε τὸν μέγαν Πλούτωνα
and by-night indeed I-relate to both the great Pluto
καὶ τὴν Περσεφόνην ἃ περὶ τῆς τῶν κεκοιμημένων
and — Persephone what about the of-the fallen-asleep
ἀναστάσεως διεξῆλθες ἀριδηλότατα· μεθ' ἡμέραν δὲ πρός
resurrection you-expounded most-clearly by day and to
τε τὸν Μίνω καὶ Αἰακὸν καὶ Ῥαδαμάνθιαν μεθ' ἡδονῆς
both — Minos and Aeacus and Rhadamanthys with pleasure

διεξέρχομαι ὅσουσπερ τὸν ἅπαντα τῆς σαυτοῦ ζωῆς χρόνον
I-recount how-many the whole of-the your-own life time
ἀκοπωτί τε καὶ ἀσολοικιστὶ, ἔτι γε μὴν ἀβαρβαριστὶ,
without-toil both and without-solecism still — indeed without-barbarism
νοός τε καὶ σαφηνείας ἄνευ, ἐννέα πρὸς τοῖς ἑξήκοντα
sense both and clarity without nine besides the sixty
λόγους γέγραφας. Καὶ τὸ θεάτρον διὰ τῆς διηγήσεως
speeches you-have-written and the theater through the narrative
ῥητόρων καὶ φιλοσόφων πληρῶ, ὧν ἀκουόντων οἱ
with-orators and philosophers I-fill whom hearing the(-ones)
μὲν πηδῶσιν ὑφ' ἡδονῆς, οἱ δὲ γελῶσι σαρδώνιον,
indeed leap for pleasure the(-ones) and laugh sardonic
ἔνιοι δὲ τὸν ἀέρα πληροῦσι βοῆς, καὶ τὴν Κλωθὼ
some and the air fill with-shouting and — Clotho
καθικετεύουσιν ὡς ἀώρως ἐκκόψαι τὸ νῆμα τοῦ ἀτράκτου
implore to untimely to-cut the thread of-the spindle
τοῦ ἐπὶ σοὶ κεκλωσμένου, πρὸς τὸ ταχέως ἐς τὸν τοῦ
the(-one) for you spun for the quickly to the —
ᾅδου σε χῶρον ἐλθεῖν. Δι' ἐφέσεως γὰρ πάντες ἔχουσι
of-Hades you region to-come with desire for all are
τοῦ θεάσασθαι καὶ ἀπὸ στόματος ἀκοῦσαι τὰ σὰ κατὰ
for-the to-see and from mouth to-hear the your in
σὲ ὡραῖα ῥαψῳδήματα." Ἔπειτα δέ γε τὰ πάνθ'
your(-manner) beautiful rhapsodies then and — the all
οὕτως, ὡς διεταξάμην καὶ συνεβουλευσάμην σοι, ποίησον·
so as I-instructed and counseled you do
καὶ μηδενὶ τὰ κατ' ἐμὲ εἴπῃς, πρὸς φιλίας, ἀλλ' οὕτως,
and to-no-one the(-things) about me say by friendship but so

ὡς ὑπέσχου, φύλαξον. Ἐνταῦθα γὰρ οὐ μόνον ἐξετάζουσι
as you-promised keep(-them) here for not only they-scrutinize
τοὺς ἐν βίῳ εὐδοκιμοῦντας, ἀλλὰ καθ' Ἡσίοδον,
the(-ones) in life prospering but according-to Hesiod

καὶ πτωχὸς πτωχῷ κοτέει καὶ ἀοιδὸς ἀοιδῷ,
and beggar at-beggar is-angry and singer at-singer
καὶ τέκτονι τέκτων.
and at-carpenter carpenter

Καὶ, καθάπερ ἐς τὸν βίον ἄνω ἡ τοῦ πλησίον εὔκλεια
and just-as in the life above the of-the neighbor good-name
δάκνει, κατὰ τὸν εἰπόντα, τοὺς φθονεροὺς, οὕτω
bites according-to the(-one) having-said the envious so
κἀνταῦθα ἐν ᾅδου ἡ τῶν κατὰ θεὸν εὐδοκιμησάντων
here-too in Hades the of-the(-ones) according-to God having-prospered
εὐημερία, ἥ τε δόξα καὶ ἡ λαμπρότης, καὶ ἡ τῶν
prosperity the both glory and the splendor and the of-the
προκειμένων ἀγαθῶν ἀπόλαυσις, περιπείρει τοὺς κατ' ἐμὲ
laid-up goods enjoyment pierces the(-ones) like me
πεπλημμεληκότας· ὅθεν καὶ ἀρχιθύτης ἀρχιθύτῃ φθονεῖ, καὶ
having-offended whence also archpriest at-archpriest envies and
ἀρχιερεὺς ἀρχιερεῖ, καὶ μονάζων μονάζοντι, καὶ σατράπης
bishop at-bishop and monk at-monk and satrap
σατράπῃ, καὶ μεσίας μεσίᾳ, καὶ ἡγεμὼν ἡγεμόνι, καὶ
at-satrap and mediator at-mediator and governor at-governor and
ἄρχων ἄρχοντι, καὶ στρατηγὸς στρατηγῷ, καὶ ναύαρχῳ
archon at-archon and general at-general and at-admiral
ναύαρχος, καὶ κριτῇ δικαστὴς, καὶ ἀπογραφεὺς ἀπογραφεῖ,
admiral and at-judge judge and registrar at-registrar
καὶ γραμματεὺς γραμματεῖ, καὶ ῥήτορι ῥήτωρ, καὶ ἰατρὸς
and secretary at-secretary and at-orator orator and physician

ἰατρῷ, ἔτι τε ἀδελφὸς ἀδελφῷ, καὶ πατρὶ υἱὸς, καὶ, τὸ
at-physician still and brother at-brother and at-father son and the(-thing)
δεινότερον, ποδαλγῷ χειροποδαλγός· καὶ ἁπαξαπλῶς
more-terrible at-gouty-footed gouty-handed-and-footed and in-short
πάντες οὐ μόνον φθονοῦσι, ἀλλὰ καὶ βασκαίνουσι, καὶ
all not only envy but also bewitch and
ἕκαστος ἑκάστῳ δόλους ἀεὶ καὶ συκοφαντίας ῥάπτουσιν
each for-each snares always and false-charges stitch
ὅσαι ὧραι. Διά γε οὖν ταῦτα καὶ νῦν καὶ εἰς τοὺς
every hour because-of — then these-things both now and for the
ἀπεράντους αἰῶνας δίκας δώσουσιν, οἱ μὲν τῷ
endless ages penalties they-will-pay the(-ones) indeed to-the
Κερβέρῳ κυνὶ, οἱ δὲ τῷ ἀσβέστῳ πυρὶ, οἱ δὲ
Cerberus dog the(-ones) and to-the unquenchable fire the(-ones) and
τῷ Ταρτάρῳ, οἱ δὲ τῷ ἰοβόλῳ σκώληκι, οἱ δὲ
— to-Tartarus the(-ones) and to-the venomous worm the(-ones) and
τῷ τῶν ὀδόντων βρυγμῷ, οἱ δ' ἑτέρῳ κολαστηρίῳ
to-the of-the teeth gnashing the(-ones) and to-another punishment
δεινοτέρῳ τε καὶ χαλεπωτέρῳ. Πρὸ τοῦ μαθεῖν οὖν
more-terrible both and harsher before the to-learn then
τούτους καὶ ἀκοῦσαι παρὰ τοῦ μιαροῦ καὶ βδελυγμία,
them and to-hear from the foul and abomination
τοῦ καταπτύστου τε καὶ φονικοῦ Παδιάτου, τοῦ γάμον
the despicable both and murderous Padiates the(-one) marriage
ἀλλότριον διορύξαντος, ὅτιπερ ἁρπαγεὶς ἀωρὶ νυκτῶν
another's having-undermined that snatched untimely of-nights
ἦκες βίᾳ ἐνταῦθα οὕτως ἐκ βίου, πᾶσα ἐν τῇ κοιλάδι
you-came by-force here so from life all in the valley
πληθὺς, ἣν ὁρᾷς, φίλτατε, δρομαῖοι πρὸς σὲ γυμνοί τε
the-multitude which you-see dearest running to you naked both
καὶ ἀπεψωλημένοι ἐλεύσονται, καὶ νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ' ἡμέραν
and circumcised will-come and by-night and by day

οὐ παύσονται ἐρωτῶντές τε καὶ διερευνώμενοι τὰ περὶ
not will-cease asking both and searching the(-things) about
τῶν ἄνω ἐς τὸν βίον κατοικούντων, πῶς ἄρ᾽ ἕκαστος
the(-ones) above in the life dwelling how then each
τυγχάνει διατελῶν, καὶ τί πράττει, καὶ εἰς ποίαν εὑρίσκεται
happens to-be-living and what he-does and in what is-found
λειτουργίαν· ἐὰν γὰρ τοῦτο γένηται, ὃ μὴ γένοιτο, τοῦ
office if for this should-happen which not may-happen —
ᾅδου οὐκ ἐξέλθειας ἄν ποτε, ὥσπερ οὐδ᾽ ἔγωγε,
from-Hades not you-would-come-out — ever as not I
μέχρις ἂν τῆς τελευταίας ἐκείνης ἀκούσειας σάλπιγγος.“
until — the last that you-should-hear trumpet
Ταῦτ᾽ ἀντὶ δακρύων μᾶλλον, ὦ παρόντες, ἢ γέλωτος,
these-things for tears rather O ones-present than laughter
ὡς οἷόν τε, ἁρπαγεὶς, παιδείας χάριν ἢ παιδιᾶς
as possible — snatched of-instruction for-the-sake than of-sport
γέγραφα, σπουδάζων μᾶλλον ἢ παίζων.
I-have-written in-earnest rather than joking

VI · THE DREAM

Back in the Peloponnese, Mazaris dreams of Holobolos and reproaches him for the advice that sent him there, to poverty. Holobolos admits he was deceived and asks for a full account of the Peloponnesians, sent by way of Taenarum; he advises Mazaris to wait, and failing the despot, to go to Crete or Cephalonia.

„Τί τοῦτο, πολυμήχαν᾽ Ὁλόβολε; ἆρά με καὶ ἐν ᾅδου 19
what this crafty Holobolos — me also in Hades
ἐξηπάτηκας, ὥσπερ ἐν Λήμνῳ πάλαι, ὅτ᾽ ἀπῆρας μετὰ
have-you-deceived as in Lemnos long-ago when you-set-sail with
τοῦ ὑψηλοτάτου βασιλέως ἐκ τῆς Κωνσταντίνου πρὸς
the most-exalted emperor from the(-city) of-Constantine to

Ἰταλίαν τε καὶ Γαλλίαν, καὶ μέχρι Βρεττανίας αὐτῆς. Καὶ
Italy both and Gaul and as-far-as Britain itself and
ἴσως μὲν τότε ζηλοτυπῶν ἐποίεις, ἵνα σου μὴ ἀντίτεχνος
perhaps indeed then being-jealous you-acted that your not rival
καὶ αὐτὸς γένωμαι μετὰ σοῦ συμπλέων, ὥσπερ νῦν ὁ
also myself may-become with you sailing as now the
ἐξ ἀγγέλων πονηρῶν ἀπόγονος ἐν τῇ Κωνσταντίνου
from angels wicked descendant in the(-city) of-Constantine
γέγονεν· εἰς δὲ τὸν τοῦ ᾅδου χῶρον, ἔνθα ζηλοτυπίαι
has-become to but the — of-Hades region where jealousies
καὶ φθόνοι, καὶ ἀντιτεχνίαι καὶ ἔριδες, ζάλαι τε καὶ
and envies and rivalries and strifes storms both and
ταραχαὶ ἀπέδρων, καὶ οὔτε γραμματεὺς, οὔτε μεσίας, οὔτε
tumults have-fled and neither secretary nor mediator nor
στρατηγὸς, οὔτε ναύαρχος, οὔτ' ἄλλος τις τῶν ἁπάντων,
general nor admiral nor other any of-the all
ἐκεῖσε παῤῥησίαν ἔχει πρὸς τὸ ποιεῖν τοιαῦτα, ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ
there free-speech has for the to-do such-things but for
ὧν μόνον ἕκαστος πέπρακεν ἀπαιτεῖται εὐθύνας, πῶς
what only each has-done is-asked accounts how
πεφενάκικας, παράνομε, λέγων· „Ἄπελθε ἄνω ἐς τὸν
have-you-cheated(-me) lawless-one saying go up to the
βίον· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἔχει τις χρείαν σου πένητός τε ὄντος
life not for has anyone need of-you poor both being
καὶ ἀδόξου, ἀλλὰ καὶ παρειμένου.“ Καὶ τὸ δεινότερον
and obscure but also paralyzed and the(-thing) more-terrible
συμβουλεύσας δολίως, εἰπὼν ἵνα καὶ πρὸς Πελοπόννησον
having-counseled guilefully saying that also to the-Peloponnese
ἀπέλθω πανοικὶ, ὡς ἂν μάλα ἐκεῖσε δοξασθήσωμαί
I-should-go with-all-my-household so-that — greatly there I-might-be-glorified
γε καὶ πλουτήσω· καὶ πρὸς τοῖς ἐπηγγελμένοις ἔλεγες
— and grow-rich and besides the(-things) promised you-said

ὅτι πολλῶν καὶ μεγάλων ἀγαθῶν καὶ ἐμαυτὸν καὶ τοὺς
that with-many and great goods both myself and the(-ones)
μετ᾽ ἐμοῦ ἐμπλήσω, εἰ προσκολληθήσομαι ἑνὶ τῶν ἔνδον
with me I-will-fill if I-will-cling to-one of-the inside
συναναστρεφομένων τοῖς τοῦ πορφυροβλάστου βασιλείοις.
associating in-the of-the porphyrogenite palace
Ἰδοὺ τοίνυν εἴξας ταῖς σαῖς συχναῖς καὶ μεσταῖς
behold then having-yielded to-the your frequent and full
ἀπάτης βουλαῖς καὶ ὑπὸ τῶν ἐπαγγελιῶν θελχθεὶς, τῶν
of-deceit counsels and by the promises charmed the(-ones)
διὰ λόγων μὲν χρηστῶν, δι᾽ ἔργων δὲ οὐσῶν οὐδὲν, καὶ
in words indeed good in deeds but being nothing indeed
ἀναβεβίωκα, ἐς δὲ Πελοπόννησον ἦκον πανοικί·
I-have-come-back-to-life to and the-Peloponnese came with-all-my-household
τῶν δ᾽ ἐπηγγελμένων ἐκείνων οὐ μόνον οὐκ ἔτυχον, ἀλλ᾽
of-the but promised those not only not I-gained but
ἐν πλείονι πενίᾳ καὶ ἀδοξίᾳ τυγχάνω διατελῶν, πρὸς
in greater poverty and obscurity I-happen living besides
τοῖς δέκα τέτταρας ἄγων μῆνας. Δέδοικα οὖν ἵνα μὴ
the ten four passing months I-fear then lest —
γένωμαι καὶ αὐτὸς διατρίβων ἐν Σπάρτῃ ὥσπερ ἐν τῇ
I-become also myself living in Sparta as in the(-city)
Κωνσταντίνου γέγονεν ὁ Πελοποννήσιος ἐκεῖνος, Συναδηνὸς
of-Constantine became the Peloponnesian that Synadenos
ὁ Κορμέας, ἢ ἵνα μὴ βαρβαρωθῶ καὶ αὐτὸς, ὥσπερ
the Kormeas or lest — I-be-barbarized also myself as
ἄρα βεβαρβάρωνταί γε οἱ Λάκωνες, καὶ νῦν κέκληνται
then have-been-barbarized — the Laconians and now are-called
Τζάκωνες, καὶ πιάσον τα καὶ σφίξον τα, καὶ δώσον τα,
Tzakones and seize them and squeeze them and give them
καὶ ἤμενον, καὶ ἠρχόντησαν, καὶ καθεζούτησαν, καὶ ἔλαδε,
and I-was and they-came and they-sat and come-here

πᾷ, καὶ ἐτετοίωσέν τον, καὶ ἄλλ᾽ ἄττα βάρβαρα λέγουσιν.
go and he-did-so-and-so-to him and other things barbarous they-say
Τί οὖν ἄρα ποιήσω; ἀπορίᾳ καὶ ἀθυμίᾳ συνέχομαι,
what then — shall-I-do by-perplexity and despondency I-am-held
καὶ νόστου γε μέμνημαι, καὶ διχάζομαι διχῇ ποῖον τῶν
and of-return — I-remember and I-am-torn in-two which of-the
δύο ποιήσαιμι, πότερον ἵν᾽ ἐς ᾍδου παλινδρομήσω, καὶ
two I-should-do whether that to Hades I-should-run-back and
τὸ σκότος ἐκεῖνο φέρω καὶ τὸν Τάρταρον, καὶ τὸν τῶν
the darkness that bear and — Tartarus and the of-the
ὀδόντων βρυγμὸν καὶ τοὺς σκώληκας, καὶ τὰς ἄλλας
teeth gnashing and the worms and the other
κολάσεις, ἅπερ ἐκεῖσε εἶδον, ἐπειδήπερ, κἂν ἐμαυτὸν
punishments which there I-saw since even-if myself
ἐν οἰκίσκῳ, κατὰ τὸν εἰπόντα, καθείρξας τηρήσω,
in a-cell according-to the(-one) having-said having-shut-up I-keep
ὀψέ ποτ᾽ ἂν ταῦτά με διαδέξεται, ἢ μενῶ τὴν ἐν
late some-time — these-things me will-await or I-will-endure the in
βίῳ δυστυχίαν τε καὶ πενίαν καὶ τὴν τῶν ἀναγκαίων
life misfortune both and poverty and the of-the necessities
στέρησιν, καὶ τἄλλ᾽ ὅσαπερ πάσχω μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν δεινὰ
lack and the-other how-many I-suffer by day terrors
ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ. Ὁ γὰρ τῶν ἀναγκαίων, κατὰ
in the-Peloponnese the(-one) for of-the necessities according-to
τὸν εἰπόντα, ἐπιδεὴς λυπηρὸς γίνεται, καὶ τοιοῦτος
the(-one) having-said in-want grievous becomes and such
γενόμενος μισεῖται, καὶ μισούμενος ἔτι πλέον λυπεῖται,
having-become is-hated and being-hated still more grieves
καὶ λυπούμενος τὰ ξυμφέροντα αὐτῷ οὔτε βουλεύεται,
and grieving the(-things) profitable to-him neither plans
οὔτε ἐργάζεται· οἷόν μοι κἂν τῇ Κωνσταντίνου
nor works as to-me even-in the(-city) of-Constantine

συμβέβηκε. Στερηθεὶς γὰρ τῶν ἀναγκαίων καὶ πλεῖστα
has-happened deprived for of-the necessities and most
ἀνιαθεὶς ὑπὸ τοῦ κρατοῦντος, τὰ συμφέροντά μοι οὐκ
distressed by the ruler the(-things) profitable to-me not
εἰργασάμην. Ὅθεν δέδοικα μὴ καὶ ἐνταῦθα τοιοῦτόν τι
I-worked whence I-fear lest also here such something
πάθω, βεβαπτισμένος τυγχάνων ὑπὸ πολλῆς ἀθυμίας.
I-suffer steeped being by much despondency
Συμβούλευσόν μοι οὖν ποῖον ἀπάρτι τῶν δύο τούτων
counsel me then which henceforth of-the two these
χῶρον βαδίσω· πρὸς φιλίας γὰρ εἰπὲ τἀληθὲς, καὶ
region I-should-walk by friendship for tell the-truth and
μὴ ὡς πρότερον ἀπατήσῃς. Καὶ δίδωμί σοι ἐγγυητὰς
not as before deceive and I-give you sureties
ἀξιοπίστους, τὸν ἐκ Θεσσαλονίκης πολυθρύλλητον ἐκεῖνον
trustworthy the from Thessalonica much-talked-of that
καὶ ταλάντατον ἰατρὸν Χαλαζᾶν, καὶ τὸν ἐκ Κωνσταντίνου
and most-wretched physician Chalazas and the from Constantinople
ἀηδῆ καὶ φρενόληπτον γραμματέα Ἐξάκουστον, ἵνα
disagreeable and mind-possessed secretary Exakoustos that
γε, οὔτε ἐν βίῳ οὔτε ἐν ᾅδου, ἰατρεύσω πώποτέ τινα
— neither in life nor in Hades I-may-heal ever any
χειροποδαλγὸν, ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὑπογραμματεὺς ἢ ἀντίτεχνος
gouty-handed-and-footed but nor under-secretary or rival
τινὸς τῶν ἁπάντων γενήσομαι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸν ἅπαντα.
of-any of-the all I-will-become for the age the whole
— „Τάλας," ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „ἐγώ! μέγα δεινὸν εἰργασάμην 20
wretched said he I a-great terrible(-thing) I-have-done
τὸν ἐμοὶ φίλτατον. Οὐδὲ γὰρ ἦν, ξεῖνε, τοῦτο ὅπερ
the(-one) to-me dearest not for was(-it) stranger this which
σοι συνεβουλευσάμην, καὶ πέπονθας ὑπό τε φθόνου καὶ
to-you I-counseled and you-have-suffered from both envy and

ζηλοτυπίας τινὸς ὥσπερ φής· οὔ, νὴ τὴν κεφαλὴν τοῦ
jealousy some as you-say no by the head of-the
φιλτάτου μοι ἀδελφιδοῦ Κακοαλεξίου. Ἀλλ' ἐξηπάτημαι,
dearest to-me nephew Kakoalexios but I-was-deceived
ὥσπερ οἱ ἐν βίῳ διατρίβοντες ἀεὶ ἀπατῶσί τε
as the(-ones) in life living always deceive both
καὶ ἐξαπατῶνται, μᾶλλον δ' ὥσπερ οἱ ἐν ὀνείροις
and are-deceived rather but as the(-ones) in dreams
πλουτοῦντες· καὶ διὰ τοῦτό γε τὸν ἐμοὶ φίλτατον
growing-rich and because-of this — the to-me dearest
συνεβουλευσάμην πρὸς Πελοποννησίους ἀπελθεῖν. Ὤμην
I-counseled to the-Peloponnesians to-go I-thought
γὰρ εἶναι τούτους καὶ πρὸς σὲ τοιούτους, ὁποῖοί περ ἦσαν
for to-be them also toward you such as — they-were
ὅτε μετὰ τοῦ γενναιοτάτου αὐτοκράτορος ἀφικόμην ἐκεῖσε,
when with the most-noble emperor I-came there
καὶ τὰ πάνθ' ὑπῆρχον ἄφθονα, καὶ πρός με δεδώκασι,
and the all-things were abundant and to me they-have-given
χάριν ὧν γέγραφα πρὸς αὐτοὺς ὁρισμῶν τε καὶ θείων
for-the-sake of-what I-have-written to them decrees both and divine
γε προσταγμάτων καὶ χρυσοβούλλων, χρυσοῦς στατῆρας
— ordinances and chrysobulls gold staters
ἑπτακοσίους. Τούτου τοίνυν ἕνεκα παρακεκίνηκά γε καί
seven-hundred this then for-the-sake I-have-urged — also
σε ἀπελθεῖν ἐκεῖσε πλουτῆσαι, ὥσπερ πεπλούτηκα καὶ
you to-go there to-grow-rich as have-grown-rich also
αὐτὸς ἐξαπίνης, καὶ περικαλλεῖς ἀνῳκοδομησάμην οἰκίας."
I-myself suddenly and very-beautiful I-built-up houses
„Μελαγχολᾷς, ἄνθρωπε, νὴ τὴν ἡμετέραν φιλίαν," ἔφην
you-are-mad man by the our friendship I-said
αὐτῷ. „Πλοῦτος ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ πολιτεύεται, ἢ δόσις,
to-him wealth in the-Peloponnese does-dwell or giving

ἢ ἀγάπη, ἢ εἰρήνη, ἢ φιλανθρωπία, ἢ δικαιοσύνη, ἢ
or love or peace or kindness or justice or
φιλοξενία, ἢ μετριότης, ἢ ἄλλο τι τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἁπάντων;“
hospitality or moderation or other any of-the goods all
— „Ἀλλὰ τί πολιτεύεται;“ φησὶν ἐκεῖνος. „Καὶ τίνα βίον
but what dwells says he and what life
νῦν ζῶσι, καὶ πῶς ἤδη πράττουσιν οἱ ἐν τῇ τοῦ
now do-they-live and how now fare the(-ones) in the(-land) —
Πέλοπος ἐνοικοῦντες; δι᾽ ἐφέσεως γὰρ ἔχω μαθεῖν
of-Pelops dwelling with desire for I-am-disposed to-learn
τούτων τὴν πολιτείαν.“
their the conduct
„Παπαί!“ ἦν δ᾽ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτόν. „Ἐκεῖσε πεπλούτηκας,
alas said and I to him there you-grew-rich
μελάμπυγε, ὡς ἔφησθα, καὶ πολὺν ἤδη διέτριψας χρόνον·
black-bottom as you-said and long already you-spent time
καὶ τὴν τούτων οὐκ ἔγνωκας πολιτείαν! καὶ νῦν ἐμὲ φὴς
and the their not you-have-learned conduct and now me you-tell
ἄρα διηγήσασθαί σοι τὴν τῶν Πελοποννησίων διατριβήν!“
then to-relate to-you the of-the Peloponnesians way-of-life
— „Ναί,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος κυλλοποδίων· „οὕτως ἔχει ὡς
yes said he club-foot so it-is as
λέγεις· ἀλλὰ τὰ τούτων ἀκριβέστερον γινώσκεις,
you-say but the(-things) of-them more-precisely you-know
ἐξεταστικώτατός τε ὢν καὶ σχολαιότερος, καὶ πλείονα
most-inquisitive both being and more-leisured and more
διατρίψας ἐμοῦ χρόνον. Ἔγωγε μὲν γὰρ περὶ τὸ γράφειν
having-spent than-I time I indeed for about the to-write
καὶ λαμβάνειν στατῆρα ἠγωνιζόμην· περὶ δὲ τῶν ἄλλων
and to-take stater was-anxious about but the other(-things)
τὸν νοῦν οὐ προσεῖχον.“
the mind not I-applied

„Ἀληθῶς,“ ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν, „λέγεις· κατὰ
truly said and I to him you-speak according-to
γὰρ τὸν κωμικὸν, ἡ φροντὶς εἵλκε τὴν ἰκμάδ’ εἰς τοὺς
for the comic(-poet) the care drew the sap into the
στατῆρας, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο τὸν νοῦν οὐ προσεῖχες.
staters and because-of this the mind not you-applied
Πλὴν, εἴπερ πεισθῶ, ὥσπερ μοι λέγεις, ὥστε τὰ
but if I-am-persuaded as to-me you-say so-as the(-things)
τῶν Πελοποννησίων διηγήσασθαι ὡς ἔχουσι, δειλιῶ καὶ
of-the Peloponnesians to-relate how they-stand I-fear and
τετρεμαίνω εἰπεῖν, ἔτι μου ὄντος ἐν Σπάρτῃ. Εἰ γὰρ
tremble to-tell still I being in Sparta if for
αἴσθονταί μου διηγουμένου καὶ γράφοντος τίνα τε
they-perceive me relating and writing what both
βίον ζῶσι καὶ πῶς ἄρα πράττουσι καὶ τὴν πᾶσαν
life they-live and how then they-fare and the whole
τούτων πολιτείαν τε καὶ διατριβὴν, τοξεύσουσιν ἄν με ἢ
their conduct both and way-of-life they-will-shoot — me or
διαπερονήσουσι τοῖς δορατίοις ἅπερ ἐν χεροῖν νύκτωρ καὶ
they-will-pierce(-me) with-the javelins which in hands by-night and
μεθ’ ἡμέραν φέρουσιν, ὥσπερ ἀεὶ ποιεῖν εἰώθασιν οὐ μόνον
by day they-carry as always to-do they-are-wont not only
ἐχθροῖς, ἀλλὰ φίλοις τε καὶ ἐπιτηδείοις ξυμποσιάζοντες.“
to-enemies but to-friends both and intimates feasting-with
— „Θάῤῥει,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „καὶ μὴ φοβοῦ· ἐγὼ γὰρ
take-heart said he and not fear I for
ἐπιδείξαιμι ἄν σοι ὁδὸν ῥᾳδίαν τε καὶ ἀκίνδυνον, ἐν ᾗ
would-show — you a-way easy both and safe in which
γνώσομαι μὲν αὐτὸς τὰ τῶν Πελοποννησίων ἀκριβῶς
will-learn indeed I the(-things) of-the Peloponnesians precisely

ὡς ἔχει, σὺ δὲ αὐτὸς φυλαχθήσῃ μάλ' ἀσφαλῶς, καὶ
how they-stand you and yourself will-be-guarded very safely and
οὐχ, ὥσπερ ὑπονοεῖς, κινδυνεύσεις."
not as you-suspect you-will-be-in-danger
„Ποίαν φὴς," ἔφην αὐτῷ, „ῥᾳδίαν τε καὶ ἀκίνδυνον ὁδὸν,
what do-you-mean I-said to-him easy both and safe way
ὥστε με μὴ κινδυνεῦσαι, εἰ τὰ τῶν Πελοποννησίων
so-that me not to-be-in-danger if the(-things) of-the Peloponnesians
ἐξείπω; πρὸς θεοῦ, κρύφα φράσον."
I-tell-out by God secretly tell
— „Μετ' εὐφροσύνης τε καὶ ἀληθείας ἐρῶ," ἔφη, „καὶ
with gladness both and truth I-will-speak he-said and
μὴ φοβοῦ. Τὸ Ταίναρον τὸ ἐν τῇ Λακωνικῇ, ὡς οἶσθα,
not fear — Taenarum the(-one) in the Laconian(-land) as you-know
ἔστι πλησίον Σπάρτης, ὁδὸν ἡμερῶν ἄγον δύο· ἐν ᾧ
is near Sparta a-journey of-days lying two in which
Ταινάρῳ κατάγονταί τε καὶ ἀνάγονται ἐς ᾅδου ἀκάτια
Taenarum put-in both and put-out to Hades boats
διαπεραιούμενα, ὡς λέγουσι, ψυχὰς νεκύων. Μεθ' ἑνὸς
ferrying as they-say souls of-the-dead with one
οὖν τούτων ἐμοὶ γράψον, καὶ δήλωσον πάντα ὡς ἔχει.
then of-these to-me write and make-plain all how it-stands
Εἴπερ οὖν οὕτω ποιήσεις, εὖ ἴσθι, λάθειας ἂν
if then so you-will-do well know you-would-escape-notice-of —
πάντας καὶ πάσας."
all-men and all-women
„Ὑπέρευγε λέγεις," ἦν δ' ἐγὼ, „φίλτατε. Ἀλλ' εἰπὲ καὶ πρὸς
excellently you-speak said and I dearest but tell also to
τίνα θαῤῥήσας τὴν ἐπιστολὴν ἐγχειρίσαιμι, ὥστε διακομίσαι
whom trusting the letter I-should-hand so-as to-carry
ταύτην πρὸς σὲ ἀσφαλῶς ἐν ᾅδου, καὶ οὐ πρός τινα ἄλλον."
it to you safely in Hades and not to any other

— „Τῷ ἐν Σπάρτῃ διατρίβοντι ἀοιδῷ κατ᾽ ἀντίφρασιν
to-the in Sparta living singer by antiphrasis
Μόσχῳ,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „τριπεμπέλῳ τε ὄντι καὶ
Moschos said he a-dotard both being and
κυλλοποδίωνι, Λακεδαιμονίοις δὲ ἐτώσιον ἄχθος
club-footed to-the-Lacedaemonians and useless burden
τυγχάνοντι. Ἐκείνῳ ἐγχειρίσας τὴν ἐπιστολὴν δός· καὶ
being to-him having-handed the letter give(-it) and
πρὸς ἐμὲ εὖ γε διακομίσειε οὗτος κρύφα.“
to me well — may-carry(-it) he secretly
„Μεῖνόν με,“ ἔγωγε ἔφην, „σμικρὸν, ἕως ἂν τὸ
wait-for me I said a-little until — the(-matter)
περὶ τούτου συμβουλεύσωμαι· ὁ γὰρ ἀσυμβούλευτος,
about this I-take-counsel the(-one) for uncounseled
κατὰ Σολομῶντα, καθ᾽ ἑαυτοῦ τυγχάνει πολέμιος.
according-to Solomon against himself is an-enemy
Συμβουλευσάμενος οὖν ἅμα τε καὶ διασκεψάμενος, τὰ
having-taken-counsel then at-once both and having-considered the(-things)
τῶν Πελοποννησίων, ὡς ἔχει τάξεώς τε καὶ πολιτείας
of-the Peloponnesians how they-stand in-order both and conduct
καὶ διατριβῆς, ἅπαντα κατὰ μέρος διηγήσομαι.“
and way-of-life all by part I-will-relate
21 — „Σὺ μὲν οὕτω ποίησον, δέομαί σου,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος· „ἔγωγε
you indeed so do I-beg you said he I
δὲ ἀπέρχομαι ἰατρεύσων ἕνα τῶν τοπαρχῶν, πονηρῶς τε
but go-away going-to-heal one of-the toparchs badly both
ἔχοντα τοὺς πόδας, καὶ ἀδικώτατον ὄντα πάνυ, τὴν δὲ
faring in-the feet and most-unjust being very the and
ψυχὴν διπλῶς μεριζομένην καὶ πάσχουσαν δεινῶς ποῖον
soul doubly divided and suffering terribly which
ἂν τῶν δύο ποιήσειε, πότερον τὸ τηρῆσαι τάχα πίστιν
— of-the two he-would-do whether the to-keep perhaps faith

ἐς βασιλέα ἀκλόνητον, ἣν ὕφαλον καὶ ὕπουλον καὶ
toward emperor unshakable which sunken and festering and
χαμαιλεοντικὴν κέκτηται νῦν, ἢ συνακολουθήσειε κἀκεῖνος
chameleon-like he-has now or should-follow he-too
τοῖς ἑτέροις τοπάρχαις πρὸς στάσιν τε καὶ ἀπιστίαν.“
the other toparchs to revolt both and faithlessness
„Ποῖος,“ ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν, „ὁ τοὺς πόδας
who said and I to him the(-one) the feet
τε ἀλγῶν, καὶ ἀδικῶν, τὴν δὲ ψυχὴν οὕτως ἔχων
both aching(-in) and doing-wrong the and soul so having
τεταραγμένην καὶ σχιζομένην διπλῶς, ὁ παρὰ σοῦ
troubled and split in-two the(-one) by you
ἰατρευθησόμενος; βούλομαι τὸ τούτου μαθεῖν ὄνομα.“
going-to-be-healed I-wish the his to-learn name
— „Τοὔνομα οὐκ ἄν ποτε εἴποιμι,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „ἐκείνου·
the-name not — ever I-would-tell said he his
ἀπὸ δὲ τῶν νοσημάτων ὧνπερ νοσεῖ, καὶ τῆς πολιτείας,
from but the diseases which he-suffers and the conduct
ῥᾳδίως ἂν καὶ τὸν ἄνδρα μαθήσῃ.“
easily — also the man you-will-learn
„Ναὶ, οἶδα τὸν ἄνδρα,“ εἶπον, „καὶ παῦε. Τοῖς πολλοῖς
yes I-know the man I-said and stop to-the many
οὖν τοῦτον μὴ ποίει κατάδηλον. Ἀλλ’ ἀπορίαν τινὰ ξένην
then him not make known but a-difficulty a-certain strange
καὶ ἀλλόκοτον καὶ πολλὴν ἔχουσαν τὴν ζήτησιν ἀπορῶ·
and odd and much having the inquiry I-am-puzzled-by
πρὸ ὀλίγου γὰρ ἔφησθα ὅτι πορεύῃ ἰατρεύσων τοὺς
before a-little for you-said that you-are-going to-heal the
ἐκείνου τε πόδας, καὶ τὴν ἄδικον καὶ παλίμβουλον ψυχήν.
his both feet and the unjust and shifting soul
Ἔχει ἐκεῖνος ἴασιν, παμμίαρε, ὁ Αἰθίοπος μὲν
has he a-cure all-foul-one the(-one) than-an-Ethiopian indeed

μελαντότερος, φαυλότατος δὲ κεκλημένος, ἀδικώτατος δὲ
blacker most-worthless and called most-unjust and
πάντων τυγχάνων ἀνθρώπων; Καὶ ἴσως μὲν κατασβέσειας
of-all being men and perhaps indeed you-might-quench
τὸ τῶν ποδῶν ἄλγος, τερεβινθίνην ποτίσας· τὴν δὲ
the of-the feet pain terebinth-resin having-given-to-drink the but
τῆς ψυχῆς νόσον καὶ τὰς ἀδικίας καὶ ἁρπαγὰς, ἅσπερ
of-the soul disease and the injustices and robberies which
ἐκεῖνος παιδόθεν ἐξήσκησεν, ἄρτι μεταβαλεῖς;“
he from-childhood practiced now will-you-change
— „Ἄφες, δέομαί σου,“ ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „τὴν διὰ
drop I-beg you said he the through
μακρολογίας ἔριδα καὶ τὰς ἀπορίας, καὶ γράψον ἅπερ
long-speech strife and the difficulties and write what
σε ἠξίωσα καὶ ὑπέσχου· ὅτιπερ, ἐὰν βουληθείης ἐξετάζειν
you I-asked and you-promised because if you-should-wish to-examine
τὰς τῶν Πελοποννησίων ψυχὰς, οἷαί τε εἰσὶ, καὶ τὰς
the of-the Peloponnesians souls what-sort both they-are and the
ἀδικίας ἅσπερ νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ’ ἡμέραν πρὸς ἀλλήλους
injustices which by-night and by day against one-another
ποιοῦσι, καὶ τὴν πίστιν ἣν ἔχουσιν εἰς βασιλέα, καὶ
they-do and the faith which they-have toward emperor and
τἄλλ’ ὅσαπερ δρῶσι παράνομα, καὶ τὰς πρὸς ἀλλήλους
the-rest as-many-as they-do lawless and the with one-another
σπονδὰς ἅμα τε καὶ ἐπιορκίας καὶ τοὺς φόνους, εὑρήσειας
treaties at-once both and perjuries and the murders you-would-find
ἂν τὰς μὲν ἁπάντων ψυχὰς τετυφωμένας καὶ φόνειον
— the indeed of-all souls deluded and murder
πνεούσας, πλεονεκτικὰς δὲ καὶ ἐπηρμένας, καὶ ἀεὶ
breathing grasping and also puffed-up and always
χωρούσας εἰς μάχας, τὴν δὲ πίστιν ἀεὶ κίβδηλον καὶ
going into fights the and faith always counterfeit and

ἀπάτης καὶ δόλου μεστὴν, καὶ πρὸς τούτοις τριπλῶς ἕνα
of-deceit and guile full and besides these in-three one
ἕκαστον μεριζόμενον ἐν ταῖς πρὸς ἀλλήλους συμφωνίαις·
each divided in the with one-another agreements
ἄλλα γὰρ γλώττῃ φθέγγεται, καὶ ἄλλα φρὴν μελετᾷ,
some-things for with-tongue he-utters and others mind ponders
καὶ ἕτερ᾽ ἄττα δι᾽ ἔργων πράττει.“
and other things through deeds he-does
„Εἴπερ οὖν οὕτως ἔχει, ὦ φίλος,“ εἶπον ἐγὼ, „ὡς ἐν ἑνὶ
if then so it-is O friend said I as in one
δεδήλωκας λόγῳ, τί πλειόνων χρείαν ἔχεις ἔργων τε
you-have-shown word why of-more need have-you deeds both
καὶ πολιτείας παρ᾽ ἐμοῦ μαθεῖν; πρὸς γὰρ παράστασιν
and conduct from me to-learn for for presentation
τῆς αὐτῶν πολιτείας ἱκανὰ τὰ τοιαῦτα τυγχάνει.“
of-the their conduct sufficient the(-things) such are
— „Ταῦτά μοι πολλοὶ ἐν κεφαλαίῳ διηγήσαντο,“ ἢ
these-things to-me many in summary related said
ἐκεῖνος, „ἐν ᾅδου, κατὰ μέρος δὲ οὐδεὶς δεδήλωκε. Διὰ
he in Hades by part but no-one has-shown because-of
τοῦτό σου δέομαι καὶ ἱκετεύω, ἵνα μοι κατὰ μέρος
this you I-beg and entreat that to-me by part
γράψῃς ὥσπερ ἐφίεμαι.“
you-may-write as I-desire
Ἠρόμην οὖν αὐτόν· „Εἰς πλάτος ἢ λακωνικῶς ταῦτά
I-asked then him at length or laconically these-things
σοι διηγήσομαι;“
to-you shall-I-relate
Ὁ δὲ, „Γράψον,“ ἔφη, „τὰ τούτων ἀκριβῶς, καὶ
he and write said the(-things) of-them precisely and
μηδενὸς παραλείπῃς· ὡς δὲ βούλει διέξελθε. Πλὴν στεῖλον
nothing leave-out as and you-wish go-through but send

ταχέως ταῦτα ἐν ᾅδου, καὶ μὴ ἐς αὔριον ἀναβάλλου, ἵνα
quickly these-things to Hades and not to tomorrow put-off lest
μὴ κατὰ τὸν εἰπόντα, καὶ αὐτὸς ἄταισι περιπέσῃς.“
— according-to the(-one) having-said also yourself with-ruin you-may-meet
„Ἰδοὺ ποιήσαιμι ἂν τὸ κελευόμενον. Ἀλλ’ ἐὰν ὁ
behold I-would-do — the(-thing) bidden but if —
Ἰαπετὸς ἀοιδὸς ὁ βλιτομάμας καὶ βεκκεσέληνος φιλοζωοῖ
Iapetos singer the booby and antediluvian loves-life
καὶ ἀπᾶραι πρὸς ᾅδου οὐ βούληται, ἀλλ’ ἔτι φιλῇ
and to-depart to Hades not wishes but still loves
διατρίβειν ἐν Σπάρτῃ ἐφ’ ἑορταῖς τε καὶ πανηγύρεσι
to-live in Sparta at feasts both and festivals
καὶ ἄλλοις τισὶ Διονυσιακοῖς συμποσίοις, πρὸς τίνα ἄλλον
and other some Dionysian drinking-parties to whom other
ἐγχειρίσαι κελεύεις τὰ γεγραμμένα;“
to-hand do-you-bid the(-things) written
— „Κίνησον μόνον,“ εἶπε, „πρὸς τὸ γράφειν τὴν χεῖρα,
move only he-said for the to-write the hand
καὶ, εἴπερ ἡ Κλωθὼ τὸ νῆμα οὐκ ἐθελήσει τοῦ ἀτράκτου
and if — Clotho the thread not will-wish of-the spindle
ἐκκόψαι, τοῦ ἐπὶ τούτῳ τῷ παμμιάρῳ καὶ τριπεμπέλῳ
to-cut the(-one) for this the all-foul and dotard
κεκλωσμένου, ἤδη τὸ ξύμβολον ὁ Χάρων ἑνί γε τῶν
spun already the token — Charon to-one — of-the
εὐγενῶν ἀνδρῶν δίδωσι, καὶ, πρὸ τοῦ τελειῶσαί σε τὰ
noble men gives and before the to-complete you the(-things)
ἐπηγγελμένα, ἀκονητὶ ὁ τοιοῦτος ἥξει ἐς Κέρβερον,
promised without-effort the such(-man) will-come to Cerberus
ἀκόλαστός τε ὢν καὶ ἐπαφρόδιτος· καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν τὴν
licentious both being and charming and to him the
ἐπιστολὴν ἐγχείρισον.“
letter hand

„Τοῦτο ἂν ποιήσαιμι,“ ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν. „Ἀλλ’,
this — I-would-do said and I to him but
ὅπερ σε ἠξίωσα πολλαχόθεν, ἵνα μοι εἴπῃς, ποῖον
what you I-asked many-times that to-me you-might-tell which
τῶν δύο ποιήσω, οὐδ’ ἕνα περὶ τούτων εἰρήκεις λόγον·
of-the two I-should-do not one about these you-had-spoken word
καὶ λέξον μοι, πρὸς φιλίας.“
and tell me by friendship
— „Τὴν ἐπιστολὴν γράψον, ἥν μοι ὑπέσχου,“ ἔφη
the letter write which to-me you-promised said
ἐκεῖνος· „περὶ δὲ οὗπερ αἰτεῖς, ἐς αὔριον ἅμ’ ἕῳ φανήσομαί
he about but what you-ask on tomorrow at dawn I-will-appear
σοι ἐν ὕπνοις, καὶ φράσω σοι τὸ ποθούμενον.“
to-you in sleep and I-will-tell you the(-thing) desired
„Οὐ πρότερον ἔφησθα,“ ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ πρὸς αὐτὸν, „ὡς
not before did-you-say said and I to him that
τὸ τῆς ἀναβολῆς δήπουθεν οὐκ ἐπαινετόν; καὶ πῶς
the(-thing) of-the putting-off surely not praiseworthy(-is) and how
ἄρ’ ἀναβάλλῃ ἐς αὔριον, καὶ οὐ νῦν λέγεις;“
then do-you-put-off to tomorrow and not now speak
— „Μεῖνον ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ καὶ ἔτι βεβιασμένως,“
stay in the-Peloponnese even still under-constraint
ἔφη ἐκεῖνος, „χρόνον βραχύν. Καὶ, εἴπερ οὐ ποιήσει
said he time short and if not will-do
ὁ γαληνότατος καὶ πολλῶν καὶ μεγάλων χαρίτων
the most-serene and with-many and great graces
κεκοσμημένος πορφυρανθὴς δεσπότης τὰ πρὸς
adorned purple-born despot the(-things) for
ζωάρκειαν καὶ τὰ κατ’ ἀξίαν εἰς σὲ, ἐς Κρήτην
livelihood and the(-things) according-to desert for you to Crete
ἄπελθε ἢ πρὸς τὸν τῆς Κεφαλωνίας δεσπότην, ἵνα μὴ
go or to the — of-Cephalonia despot lest —

λοιμώξῃς ὡς κύων καὶ τὴν Σπάρτην κυκλοῖς, καὶ μετὰ τοῦ
you-may-starve like a-dog and — Sparta go-round and with the
τρισαθλίου Ἀκανθοπάτεος ἐν ἡλίῳ τυγχάνῃς ἀλεαινόμενος,
thrice-wretched Akanthopates in sun you-may-be warming-yourself
κἀκεῖσε ὡς ἀνεπίγνωστος ἢ παῖδας εὐδαιμόνων πατέρων
and-there as unknown either children of-wealthy fathers
διδάξειας ἂν γράμματα, ἢ γενήσῃ βροτολοιγὸς καὶ
you-might-teach — letters or you-will-become a-man-destroyer and
ἰατρεύῃς ὥσπερ ὁ εἰς τὴν ἀκρόπολιν τῆς Σπάρτης
practice-medicine as the(-one) in the citadel — of-Sparta
εὑρισκόμενος ἄρχων ἐκ Δουκῶν Χαλιβέρεας.“
found archon from the-Doukai Chaliberes
„Εὐχαριστῶ σοι,“ ἔφην αὐτῷ, „ὅτι μοι ξυμβουλεύῃ τὰ
I-thank you I-said to-him that to-me you-counsel the(-things)
λυσιτελοῦντα· ἤδη νῦν καὶ αὐτὸς ἀσμένως τῆς ἐπιστολῆς
profitable already now also I-myself gladly the letter
ἀπάρξομαι.“
will-begin

VII · THE LETTER TO HOLOBOLOS

Mazaris' letter, dated 21 September, describes the Peloponnese's seven peoples and the vices each has taken from the others, the emperor's wall across the Isthmus, the toparchs' revolt, and the emperor's march against them. He prays for the rebels' defeat and asks Hermes, Persephone, and Pluto to punish Holobolos.

Πρώτῃ καὶ εἰκοστῇ σεπτεμβρίου ἰνδικτιῶνος ἐννάτης.
on-the-first and twentieth of-September of-the-indiction ninth
22 Ἐπειδήπερ, ἄριστε φίλων, ἐκεῖνα ἅπερ οὐκ ἐβουλόμην
since best of-friends those-things which not I-wished
οὐδ' ἐν γωνίαις εἰπεῖν, ἀλλ' οὐδὲ πρός τινα τῶν
not-even in corners to-tell but not-even to any of-the

ἐπιτηδείων, σύ με κατέπεισας μὴ μόνον γράψαι καὶ
intimates you me persuaded not only to-write and
διηγήσασθαι, ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰς τὸν τοῦ ἅδου ταῦτά σοι
to-relate but also to the(-region) — of-Hades these-things to-you
στεῖλαι, ἤδη τὴν χεῖρα ὡς οἷόν τε κινῶ καὶ τοῦ γράφειν
to-send now the hand as possible — I-move and the to-write
ἄρτι ἀπάρχομαι. Ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ, ὡς καὶ αὐτὸς οἶδας,
now I-begin in the-Peloponnese as also you-yourself know
ξεῖνε, οἰκεῖ ἀναμὶξ γένη πολιτευόμενα πάμπολλα, ὧν τὸν
stranger dwell mixed races living-as-citizens very-many of-which the
χωρισμὸν εὑρεῖν νῦν οὔτε ῥᾴδιον, οὔτε κατεπείγον· ἃ
separation to-find now neither easy nor urgent which
δὲ ταῖς ἀκοαῖς περιηχεῖται, ὡς πᾶσι δῆλα καὶ κορυφαῖα,
but in-the hearings resounds as to-all clear and chief
τυγχάνει ταῦτα· Λακεδαίμονες, Ἰταλοὶ, Πελοποννήσιοι,
are these Lacedaemonians Italians Peloponnesians
Σθλαβῖνοι, Ἰλλυριοὶ, Αἰγύπτιοι καὶ Ἰουδαῖοι (οὐκ ὀλίγοι
Slavs Illyrians Egyptians and Jews not few
δὲ μέσον τούτων καὶ ὑποβολιμαῖοι), ὁμοῦ τὰ τοιαῦτα
and among these also changelings together the(-ones) such
ἐπαριθμούμενα ἑπτά. Ὁ γὰρ ἑπτὰ ἀριθμὸς ἐν ἄλλοις
counted seven the for seven number in others
μὲν δείκνυται πολλαχόθεν ἀξιόπιστός τε καὶ σεβάσμιος,
indeed is-shown in-many-ways trustworthy both and venerable
καὶ παρὰ ἀριθμητικοῖς παρθένος ὀνομαζόμενος· ἐπὶ δὲ
and among arithmeticians virgin named in but
τούτοις τοῖς παμμιάροις ἐναγής τε καὶ βέβηλος. Εἴπερ
these the all-foul accursed both and profane if
οὖν ἓν ἐτύγχανε γένος, καὶ μία ἦν πόλις ἡ τούτους
then one were race and one was city the(-one) them
περικυκλοῦσα, κουφότερα ἂν ἦν τὰ δεινὰ καὶ ἁπλᾶ,
encircling lighter — would-be the terrors and simple

καὶ ἄλλως ἀκαπήλευτά τε καὶ ἰδιωτικὰ καὶ ἀπραγμάτευτα
and otherwise unhuckstered both and private and untroubled
τὰ πάντα ἐνταῦθα ἐπολιτεύετο, καὶ τὰ πάντα
the(-things) all here would-be-conducted and the(-things) all
ἐννόμως τε καὶ δικαίως ἐτηρεῖτό τε καὶ ἐπράττετο·
lawfully both and justly were-kept both and done
ἐπειδὴ δὲ φύρδην τυγχάνουσιν ἅπαντες καὶ εἰσὶν ἀναμὶξ,
since but in-confusion are all and they-are mixed
πᾶσα ἀνάγκη ἵν᾽ ἕκαστος τά τε ἤθη ἑκάστου, τοὺς
every necessity that each the both customs of-each the
νόμους, τὴν φύσιν, τὴν πολιτείαν, καὶ τὴν ἄλλην πᾶσαν
laws the nature the conduct and the other all
κακίαν ἣν τὸ γένος πλεονεκτεῖ, ἐκμιμήσηται, ὥσπερ καὶ
wickedness which the race excels-in should-imitate as also
τὸν χωλῷ συνόντα ἀμήχανον μὴ μεμαθηκέναι τοῦ
the(-one) with-a-lame(-man) living-with impossible not to-have-learned the
ὑποσκάζειν. Ἐπεὶ τοίνυν οὕτως ἔχει καὶ οὐκ ἄλλως, φέρε
to-limp since then so it-is and not otherwise come
εἴπωμεν ἑκάστου γένους τό τε ἐπιτήδευμα καὶ τὰς τῆς
let-us-tell of-each race the both pursuit and the of-the
κακίας ἀρετὰς, καὶ ὅπως αἱ κακίαι ἑτέρας ἀναμάττονται
vice virtues and how the vices other take-the-stamp-of
κακίας. Τούτων τοίνυν οἱ μὲν τὸ φιλόδοξον ἐνίων καὶ
vices of-these then some indeed the love-of-glory of-some and
ὕφαλον καὶ πρὸς διαβολὰς καὶ συκοφαντίας ἕτοιμον, καὶ
sunken and for slanders and false-charges ready and
τὸ τετυφωμένον καὶ οἰνοφλυγὲς, καὶ φειδωλὸν περὶ
the(-thing) deluded and drunken and stingy about
πάντα καὶ πανοῦργον ἐξεμιμήσαντο· οἱ δὲ ἄλλων
everything and knavish imitated the(-ones) and of-others
τὸ ἀρχικὸν καὶ φιλοχρήματον καὶ παλιγκάπηλον, καὶ
the(-thing) domineering and money-loving and retail-trading and

πρὸς, τὸ ζῆν στενοχωρημένως τε καὶ βεβιασμένως, ἀλλὰ
besides the to-live straitened both and constrained but
δὲ καὶ τὸ στρεβλὸν καὶ δόλιον ἀνεμάξαντο· ἕτεροι
and also the(-thing) crooked and guileful took-the-stamp-of others
τὸ παλίμβουλον ἑτέρων καὶ ἀπίθανον καὶ κίβδηλον
the(-thing) shifting of-others and unconvincing and counterfeit
καὶ ἄδικον καὶ πλεονεκτικὸν, καὶ τὸ πρὸς στάσεις
and unjust and grasping and the(-thing) for revolts
καὶ ὅρκους καὶ ταραχὰς καὶ ἀπιστίας καὶ ἐπιορκίας καὶ
and oaths and tumults and faithlessness and perjuries and
τυραννίδας ἕτοιμον ἐκαρπώσαντο· ἄλλοι τὸ ὠμὸν ἄλλων
tyrannies ready reaped others the(-thing) savage of-others
καὶ ἄγριον καὶ ἀτίθασον καὶ φόνειον πνέον καὶ ἀγροῖκον
and wild and untamed and murder breathing and boorish
καὶ ληστρικὸν καὶ βάρβαρον καὶ ἄναρχον καὶ θεοστυγὲς
and piratical and barbarous and lawless and god-hated
ἐμιμήσαντο· ἔνιοι τὸ ψεῦδος ἑτέρων καὶ ἐξεταστικὸν καὶ
imitated some the lie of-others and inquisitive and
οὐρεσίτροφον, καὶ βαρέως ἐπικείμενον πρὸς ἀπαιτήσεις, καὶ
mountain-bred and heavily pressing for demands and
πρὸς ἐνδύματα καὶ τρυφὰς λυτὸν, ἀλλὰ καὶ κλεπτίστατον
for clothes and luxuries loose but also most-thievish
καὶ ἄστατον καὶ πανοῦργον καὶ δολερὸν ἐξήσκησαν· ἄλλοι
and unstable and knavish and deceitful practiced others
τὸ ἀεὶ αἰτεῖν ἐνίων καὶ φορτικὸν καὶ κίβδηλον
the(-thing) always to-ask of-some and vulgar and counterfeit
καὶ διεστραμμένον, καὶ περὶ μαγγανείαις καὶ μαγείαις
and perverse and in sorceries and magic
καὶ κλεψίαις συνδιαιτώμενον καὶ πολιτευόμενον· ἔμαθον
and thefts living-together and conducting-themselves learned
ἕτεροι τὸ φιλοτάραχον ἄλλων καὶ πρὸς ἀλλήλους
others the(-thing) trouble-loving of-others and toward one-another

ὀχλοποιὸν καὶ βάσκανον καὶ δόλου γέμον, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ
mob-making and malicious and of-guile full but also the(-thing)
ἄσπονδον καὶ ἀσύνετον καὶ βέβηλον καὶ ἀκάθαρτον καὶ
truceless and senseless and profane and unclean and
ἐναγὲς καὶ ἀσεβὲς ἐπεσπάσαντο. Τί δ' ἂν εἴποιμι πρὸς
accursed and impious drew-in what and — should-I-say about
τοὺς τὰ Σοδόμων καὶ Γομόρων καὶ αἱμομικτῶν καὶ
the(-ones) the(-deeds) of-Sodom and Gomorrah and incestuous and
ἄλλων ἀσελγειῶν ἔργα διαπραττομένους; εἰ γὰρ ἐθελήσαιμι
other lewdnesses deeds committing if for I-should-wish
τὴν ἁπάντων εἰπεῖν ἀκριβῶς πολιτείαν, πολλῶν ἄρα
the of-all to-tell precisely conduct many then
δεηθήσομαι λόγων καὶ μακρᾶς διηγήσεως. Ἀφεὶς οὖν
I-will-need words and long narrative having-dropped then
τοὺς μακροὺς λόγους, ἐν ἑνὶ βούλομαι παραστήσασθαι
the long words in one I-wish to-set-forth
λόγῳ τὴν τούτων ἅπασαν φύσιν τε καὶ τὴν πολιτείαν.
word the their whole nature both and the conduct
Αἱ ἀρεταὶ, φησί τις τῶν μεγάλων, ὅτι γε διαφθείρονται
the virtues says one of-the great that — are-corrupted
ὑπὸ ἀχρήστων ὁμιλιῶν· εἰ οὖν τὰ χρηστὰ διαφθείρονται
by useless company if then the good(-things) are-corrupted
ὑπὸ ἀχρήστων, τί ἂν γίγνωνται αἱ κακίαι ὑπὸ κακιόνων
by useless what — would-become the vices by worse(-ones)
συναναστρεφόμεναί τε καὶ συνδιαιτώμεναι, μᾶλλον δὲ
associating both and living-together rather and
συγκιρνώμεναί τε καὶ συνουσιούμεναι, συγκυλιόμεναί τε καὶ
mingled both and coupling rolled-together both and
καλινδούμεναι, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τῷ τέλματι καὶ βορβόρῳ σύες.
wallowing just-as in the mire and mud swine

Εἰ μὲν οὖν, ὦ ἐξεταστικώτατε, πείθῃ οὕτω καὶ οὐκ
if indeed then O most-inquisitive you-are-persuaded so and not
ἄλλως ἔχειν τὰ τούτων πολιτευόμενα, ὥσπερ ἔγωγε
otherwise to-stand the(-things) their conducted as I
δι᾽ ὀλίγου νῦν διεξῆλθον, ἀπήλλαξάς με μακρολογίας
through few(-words) now went-through you-have-freed me from-long-speech
καὶ ἀτερποῦς διηγήσεως, καὶ οὐκ ἂν δεηθήσομαι πλειόνων
and joyless narrative and not — I-will-need more
ἀποδείξεων πρὸς τὸ παραστῆσαι τὰ τούτων· εἰ δ᾽
proofs for the to-set-forth the(-things) of-them if but
οὔτε πείθῃ οὔτε πιστεύεις, ἀλλ᾽ ἄλλην τινὰ δόξαν
neither you-are-persuaded nor believe but other some opinion
ἐξηπατημένην ἐπὶ τούτοις καὶ καινοτέραν ἔχεις, ἣν
deceived about these and newer you-have which
εἶχες ὅτε με ξυνεβούλευσας πρὸς Πελοπόννησον ἀπελθεῖν,
you-had when me you-counseled to the-Peloponnese to-go
ἄκουσον, ὁ πάντων μοι τῶν κακῶν αἴτιος, μᾶλλον
hear the(-one) of-all to-me the evils cause rather
δὲ, ἵν᾽ ᾖ μοι τὸ κήρυγμα μεῖζον, καὶ πάντες οἱ ἐν
and that may-be to-me the proclamation greater also all the(-ones) in
ᾅδου, ἀκούσατε· οἱ γὰρ περιόντες τῷ βίῳ καὶ οἴδασιν
Hades hear the(-ones) for surviving in-the life both know
ἅπερ ἐρῶ νῦν, καὶ οἱ μετ᾽ αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸν καθεξῆς
what I-will-say now and the(-ones) after them into the following
αἰῶνα ἀκούσονται, καὶ στήλη τις ἔσεται κακίας, τῶν
age will-bear and pillar a will-be of-wickedness than-the
πρὶν ἀνισταμένων ἀμείνων στηλῶν, ἀποκρύπτουσα καὶ
before set-up better pillars hiding both
τὰ τῶν Λημνίων ἐκεῖνα καὶ τὰ τῆς Ἰλιάδος κακά.
the(-things) of-the Lemnians those and the(-things) of-the Iliad evils

23 Τοῦ θειοτάτου καὶ γενναιοτάτου καὶ μάλα ὑψηλοτάτου
the most-divine and most-noble and very most-exalted
αὐτοκράτορος ἐκ Κωνσταντίνου ἀπάραντος, κατὰ τὴν
emperor from Constantinople having-set-sail on the
πέμπτην καὶ εἰκοστὴν ἰουλίου τῆς ἑβδόμης ἰνδικτιῶνος,
fifth and twentieth of-July of-the seventh indiction
μετὰ νηός τε μεγάλης μιᾶς καὶ πέντε τριήρων, κατέπλευσεν
with ship both great one and five triremes sailed-down
ἐν τῇ στασιασάσῃ πολυυμνήτῳ Θάσῳ, κἀκεῖσε τρεῖς μῆνας
to the having-revolted much-sung Thasos and-there three months
ἐνδιατρίψας, ὑφ' ἑαυτὸν ἐποιήσατο πᾶσαν, ὥσπερ ἦν
having-spent under himself he-made(-it) all as it-was
πρότερον, μετὰ δυνάμεώς τε καρτερᾶς καὶ πετροβόλων
before with force both strong and stone-throwing
μηχανημάτων, συχνῶν πρότερον καὶ μεγάλων ἐν αὐτῇ
engines many before and great in it
γεγονότων πολέμων. Εἶτα μέχρι καὶ Θεσσαλονίκης τοῦ
having-been wars then as-far-as also Thessalonica the
τοιούτου ἐλθόντος καὶ τὰ ἐκεῖσε πάντ' εὖ καὶ ὡς
such(-man) having-come and the(-things) there all well and as
εἰκὸς διαθεμένου, ἐπανῆκε μετὰ τῆς τοιαύτης δυνάμεως
fitting having-arranged he-returned with the such force
καὶ πρὸς τὴν τοῦ Πέλοπος χαίρων. Ἐπανῆκεν οὖν
also to the(-land) — of-Pelops rejoicing he-returned then
οὐ πρὸς θοίνην οὐδὲ θήραν, ἀλλ' οὐδὲ πρὸς ἄνεσιν καὶ
not for feasting nor hunting but nor for rest and
πόνων ἀνακοχὴν, τῶν πολλῶν καὶ γενναίων ἐκείνων
of-toils respite from-the many and noble those
ἔργων ὧν ἐν Θεσσαλονίκῃ καὶ Θάσῳ πεποίηκεν· ἀλλὰ
deeds which in Thessalonica and Thasos he-had-done but
τὸν ἀπ' αἰῶνος κατεσκαμμένον ἰσθμὸν τῆς Πελοποννήσου
the from of-old razed isthmus — of-the-Peloponnese

καὶ βατὸν τυγχάνοντα τῷ βουλομένῳ παντὶ, ὃν οὐδ'
and passable being to-the willing every(-one) which not-even
ἐν ὕπνοις ὠνειροπόλησέ τις τῶν προτοῦ βασιλέων,
in sleep dreamed-of anyone of-the former emperors
πρὸς τὸ τειχίσαι τε καὶ ταφρῶσαι, τοῦτον, παρὰ
for the to-wall both and to-trench this(-one) beyond
πᾶσαν προσδοκίαν, ἐν πέντε πρὸς ταῖς εἴκοσιν ἡμέραις,
all expectation in five besides the twenty days
μετ' ἐπάλξεων καὶ πυργωμάτων τὸν τοιοῦτον τετείχικε
with battlements and towers the such has-walled
περίβολον, καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ ἀνῳκοδόμησε καὶ τὰ ἐν
circuit and with it he-rebuilt also the(-things) at
ἄκροις κατεσκαμμένα δύο πολίχνια εἰς φρουρὰν μὲν
the-ends razed two small-towns for guard indeed
τῶν ἔνδον συναναστρεφομένων, λιμένα δὲ τῶν
of-the(-ones) inside living-together harbor and of-the(-ones)
χειμαζομένων ἔξωθεν ὑπ' ἀνάγκαις βαρβαρικαῖς. Οὔπω δὲ
storm-tossed from-outside under necessities barbarian not-yet and
τοῦ περιωνύμου τούτου ἔργου ἀπαρτισθέντος, οἱ πάντ'
the famous this work completed the(-ones) all-things
ἄνω καὶ κάτω κυκῶντές τε καὶ ταράττοντες τὸν ἅπαντα
up and down stirring both and troubling the whole
τῆς ζωῆς αὐτῶν χρόνον τὰ τῶν Πελοποννησίων,
of-the life their time the(-things) of-the Peloponnesians
οἱ μάχαις μὲν ἀεὶ χαίροντες καὶ ταραχαῖς, φόνειον δ'
the(-ones) in-battles indeed always rejoicing and tumults murder and
ἐς ἀεὶ πνέοντες τοπάρχαι, οἱ ἀπάτης καὶ δόλου καὶ
for always breathing toparchs the(-ones) of-deceit and guile and
ψεύδους μεστοὶ, οἱ βεβαρβαρωμένοι καὶ τετυφωμένοι
lies full the(-ones) barbarized and deluded
καὶ ἄστατοι καὶ ἐπίορκοι, καὶ ἄπιστοι πρὸς βασιλέα τε
and unstable and perjured and faithless to emperor both

καὶ δεσπότας ἀεὶ οἱ ὄντες μὲν ταλάντατοι, Ταντάλου
and despots always the(-ones) being indeed most-wretched than-Tantalus
δὲ πλέον φρονοῦντες, οἱ Ἶροι μὲν τυγχάνοντες, ἥρωες
but more thinking the(-ones) Iruses indeed being heroes
δὲ εἶναι δοκοῦντες, καὶ μυρίων ἀσελγειῶν καὶ πράξεων
but to-be seeming and with-countless lewdnesses and deeds
αἰσχρῶν μεμεστωμένοι, οὗτοι, ὦ γῆ καὶ ἥλιε καὶ ὁ
shameful filled these O earth and sun and the
τῶν ἄστρων ἅπας χορὸς, περὶ τὸν εὐεργέτην αὐτῶν
of-the stars whole chorus against the benefactor their
καὶ σωτῆρα ἀναιδῶς ἐπανέστησαν, καὶ τυραννίδα τούτων
and savior shamelessly rose-up and tyranny of-them
ἕκαστος ἐμελέτησε, καὶ ὅρκους καὶ συμβούλια χαλεπὰ πρὸς
each plotted and oaths and counsels harsh with
ἀλλήλους συνέθεντο, καὶ δόλου κατὰ τοῦ γενναιοτάτου
one-another they-made and guile against the most-noble
βασιλέως ἔῤῥαψαν, καὶ πρὸς τοῖς ἐργαζομένοις ἠπείλησαν
emperor stitched and to the workers threatened
ἵνα καὶ τὸν ἀνοικοδομηθέντα πρὸς σωτηρίαν αὐτῶν τε καὶ
that also the rebuilt for safety of-them both and
τῶν μετ᾽ αὐτῶν περίβολον κατασκάψωσι, καὶ τὸν
of-the(-ones) with them circuit they-would-raze and the(-one)
τοῦτον τειχίσαντα εὐεργέτην τε καὶ πρύτανιν καὶ πολιοῦχον
this having-walled benefactor both and prytanis and city-guardian
καὶ τῶν Ῥωμαίων ἄγρυπνον φύλακα, κἂν τῷ παρόντι
and of-the Romans sleepless guardian even-in the present
καιρῷ καθ᾽ Ἡρακλέα καὶ ὑπὲρ Ἡρακλέα ἀγωνιζόμενον,
time like Heracles and beyond Heracles struggling
τὸν τὰ ἑαυτοῦ πάντα δεύτερα θέμενον πρὸς τὸ
the(-one) the(-things) of-himself all second having-put for the
τειχίσαι τε καὶ ταφρῶσαι μόνον τουτονὶ τὸν περίβολον εἰς
to-wall both and to-trench only this the circuit for

φρουρὰν πάντων τῶν ἐντὸς ἐνοικούντων, τοῦτον τοίνυν
guard of-all the(-ones) inside dwelling this then
τὸν ἀήττητον καὶ γενναιότατον αὐτοκράτορα διαχειρίσαι
the unconquered and most-noble emperor to-do-away-with
ἐκαυχήσαντο ἢ κρύφα ἢ μεθ᾽ ὅπλων καὶ στρατιᾶς. Οὕτως
they-boasted either secretly or with arms and army thus
ἀπιστησάντων τε καὶ στασιασάντων τούτων, ὁ πάντων
having-been-faithless both and having-revolted these the of-all
ἀήττητος αὐτοκράτωρ ἀνδρείως καὶ μεθ᾽ ὅσης ἂν εἴπῃ
unconquered emperor manfully and with how-much — may-say
τις μεγαλοψυχίας τε καὶ καρτερίας, καὶ δειλίας τινὸς
one magnanimity both and endurance and cowardice any
ἄτερ, τὰ τούτων τῶν παμμιάρων σκαιωρήματα καὶ
without the(-things) of-these the all-foul villainies and
τοὺς ὕθλους, ἀλλὰ δὲ καὶ τὰς ἐκδρομὰς καὶ ἐνέδρας καὶ
the twaddle but and also the sallies and ambushes and
ἐκστρατείας, ἔτι τε τοῦ κροκοδείλου τοὺς λόγους τοὺς
expeditions still and of-the crocodile the words the(-ones)
ἀπάτης καὶ δόλου μεστοὺς, καὶ τοῦ Ἑλλεαβούρκου τοῦ
of-deceit and guile full and — of-Helleabourkos the
δρεπανηφόρου τὸν τῦφον γενναίως διενεγκὼν, ἐχώρει μετὰ
sickle-bearing the conceit nobly having-borne advanced with
παμπόλλου στρατεύματος κατ᾽ αὐτῶν, ὑετὸν ὁμοίως καὶ
very-large army against them rain alike and
ἥλιον φέρων ἡδέως, χαίρων ἅμα τε καὶ ἀνιώμενος· χαίρων
sun bearing gladly rejoicing at-once both and grieving rejoicing
μὲν ὅτι διὰ τουτωνὶ τῶν λυσιτελεστάτων ἔργων οὐ μόνον
indeed that through these the most-profitable deeds not only
τὸ δολερὸν ἐξηλέγχθη τούτων ὅπερ ἄνωθεν ἔτρεφον
the(-thing) guileful was-exposed their which from-the-first they-nurtured
καὶ χαιρέκακον, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ ἀπατηλὸν καὶ κίβδηλον
and malicious but also the(-thing) deceitful and counterfeit

καὶ ὕπουλον, καὶ πάσης ἄλλης κακίας μεμεστωμένον τε καὶ
and festering and of-all other wickedness filled both and
ἄπιστον πεφανέρωται· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἄλλως ἂν ἐξεφάνθη
faithless has-been-revealed not for otherwise — would-have-been-shown
ἡ τούτων ἄνοια καὶ μανία, εἰ μὴ διὰ τῶν τοιούτων
the their folly and madness if not through the such
χρηστῶν ἔργων, καθάπερ ἐξελέγχει καὶ τὸν φρενίτην
good deeds just-as exposes also the madman
ὁ ἄκρατος, μᾶλλον δὲ τὸν κίβδηλον χρυσὸν λίθος ἡ
the unmixed(-wine) rather and the counterfeit gold stone the
βάσανος· ἀνιώμενος δὲ ὅτιπερ οὐ τετέλεκε τὸ περιώνυμον
touchstone grieving and that not he-has-completed the famous
καὶ πολλῶν ἐγκωμίων ἄξιον ἔργον ὡς ἐφίετό τε καὶ
and of-many praises worthy work as he-desired both and
ηὔχετο, ἀλλ᾽ ἐφ᾽ ἕτερά τινα ἀτερπῆ καὶ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ διανοίας
prayed but on other some joyless and of-the his-own intention
τε καὶ βουλῆς ἔξω τὸν καιρὸν ἀναλίσκειν ἠναγκάζετο,
both and counsel outside the time to-spend he-was-compelled
οἷόν γε πρὸς πολέμους, πόνους, μάχας, πολιχνίων ἁλώσεις
such-as — for wars toils battles of-small-towns captures
σπονδὰς ἐπ᾽ ἀγροίκων, ἐπ᾽ οὐδένων πρεσβείας, εὐεργεσίας
truces with boors for nobodies embassies benefactions
πρὸς ἀχαρίστους, πρὸς ἀνημέρους καὶ φόνειον πνέοντας
to ungrateful(-men) to savage(-men) and murder breathing
συμπάθειαν μετὰ φιλανθρωπίας, ἑλεπόλεων καὶ πετροβόλων
sympathy with kindness of-siege-engines and stone-throwing
μηχανημάτων κατασκευὰς χρημάτων πολλῶν ἀναλώσεις,
engines constructions of-money much expenditures
στερήσεις ἀναγκαίων, ἀνύδρων καὶ ἀνημέρων χωρίων
lacks of-necessities of-waterless and savage places
διατριβὴν, δυσβάτων ὀρέων διάβασιν, χαμευνίας,
sojourn of-impassable mountains crossing sleeping-on-the-ground

ἀγρυπνίας, οἰκετῶν γογγυσμοὺς, δούλων ἐπιθέσεις, οἰκείων
sleeplessness of-servants grumblings of-slaves attacks of-kinsmen
ὄκνον τε καὶ ἀναβολὴν, ἵππων φροντίδας, καὶ ἄλλων
hesitation both and delay of-horses cares and of-other
μυρίων δεινῶν κάκωσίν τε καὶ ταλαιπωρίαν.
countless terrors affliction both and hardship
Τοιαῦτ', ὦ ἑταῖρε, καὶ ἔτι πλείους ἀμοιβὰς τῷ σωτῆρι 24
such O comrade and still more returns to-the savior
τούτων καὶ εὐεργέτῃ καὶ κοινῷ τῷ Ῥωμαίων φύλακι οἱ
their and benefactor and common the of-the-Romans guardian the
τοιοῦτοι νῦν ἀποδεδώκασι· δέον γὰρ ὑπὲρ τούτου
such(-men) now have-paid it-being-needful for for him
νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ' ἡμέραν εὔχεσθαι τῷ παντοκράτορι καὶ
by-night and by day to-pray to-the almighty and
λιτὰς καὶ δεήσεις ἀεὶ πρὸς θεὸν ποιεῖν καὶ τὰς αὐτοῦ
litanies and supplications always to God to-make and the his
προσταγὰς πείθεσθαι καὶ ὑπακούειν ἡδέως, ἐκπληρεῖν δὲ
commands to-obey and to-hearken gladly to-fulfill and
προθύμως τὰ κελευόμενα, κηρύττειν δὲ καὶ μεγαλύνειν
eagerly the(-things) bidden to-proclaim and also to-magnify
εἰς ἅπασαν τὴν ὑφ' ἥλιον τουτὶ τὸ ἔργον, τὸ δ' ὄνομα
to all the(-earth) under sun this the work the and name
τούτου ταῖς αὐτῶν διανοίαις καὶ στέρναις ἐγγράψαι, οἱ
his on-the their minds and breasts to-inscribe they
δὲ ἀνεφάνησαν τοιοῦτοι οἵουσπερ νῦν ἀκήκοας, οἷον περὶ
but appeared such as now you-have-heard such-as toward
τὸν εὐεργέτην ἀχάριστοι, περὶ τὸν σωτῆρα ἀγνώμονες,
the benefactor ungrateful toward the savior unfeeling
περὶ τὸν ἄγρυπνον φύλακα ἀποστάται, περὶ τὸν πάντα
toward the sleepless guardian rebels toward the(-one) all
προέμενον εἰς τὸ σῶσαι στασιασταὶ καὶ ἐπίβουλοι, περὶ τὸν
having-given-up for the to-save rebels and plotters toward the

πρόμαχον καὶ πρόβολον τῶν ἐπερχομένων αὐτοῖς δεινῶν
champion and bulwark of-the coming-upon them terrors
ἐπίορκοι καὶ φονικοὶ καὶ δόλου καὶ κακίας μεμεστωμένοι.
perjured and murderous and of-guile and wickedness filled
Ἐὰν οὖν εἰς τὸν γενναιότατον καὶ μάλα ὑψηλότατον καὶ
if then to the most-noble and very most-exalted and
ἀήττητον αὐτοκράτορα, τὸν σαλεύοντα μὲν καὶ σείοντα
unconquered emperor the(-one) shaking indeed and rocking
δι᾽ ἀκοῆς τὰς ψυχὰς τῶν ἀπ᾽ ἀνίσχοντος ἡλίου μέχρι καὶ
through hearing the souls of-the from rising sun as-far-as also
δυομένου σατραπῶν, ἐκφοβοῦντα δὲ καὶ ἐκπλήττοντα δι᾽
setting satraps terrifying and also astounding through
ἔργων πάντας τοὺς δυσμενεῖς, τί ἂν εἰς ἐμὲ τὸν δύστηνον
deeds all the hostile(-ones) what — to me the wretched
καὶ ταλάντατον, καὶ τοὺς κατ᾽ ἐμὲ κατὰ Πελοποννησίους
and most-wretched and the(-ones) like me among Peloponnesians
ἀνατολικοὺς ὀνομαζομένους, οἱ τοιοῦτοί γε διαπράξονται;
Anatolians named the such(-men) — will-do
Διὰ τοῦτο καὶ εὔχομαι μὲν τῷ ἐκ τοῦ μὴ ὄντος
because-of this also I-pray indeed to-the(-one) from the not being
εἰς τὸ εἶναι τὰ πάντα παραγαγόντι παντοκράτορι,
to the to-be the(-things) all having-brought almighty
ἵνα τὰ μὲν πολίχνια τῶν μιαρῶν καὶ κιβδήλων καὶ
that the indeed small-towns of-the foul and counterfeit and
δολίων καὶ παμμιάρων καὶ οὐδένων τοπαρχῶν ῥᾳδίως
guileful and all-foul and worthless toparchs easily
τε καὶ δι᾽ ὀλίγου ἁλωθῶσιν ὑπὸ τοῦ γενναιοτάτου
both and in a-short(-time) may-be-taken by the most-noble
αὐτοκράτορος, αὐτοὶ δὲ τακήσονται ὡς κηρὸς ὑπὸ τοῦ
emperor they and will-melt like wax before the
πυρὸς καὶ ὡς πάχνη ὑπὸ ἀκτῖνος, καὶ κυριευθήσονταί γε
fire and like frost before ray and will-be-mastered —

καὶ δουλωθήσονται δεινῶς ὑπὸ τὴν αὐτοῦ τε δεσποτείαν
and will-be-enslaved terribly under the his both mastery
καὶ κυριότητα, δουλοσύνην δὲ τοῦ πάντ᾽ ἀρίστου καὶ
and lordship slavery and of-the in-all best and
γαληνοτάτου καὶ πορφυρανθοῦς δεσπότου ἡμῶν. Τὸν
most-serene and purple-born despot our the
δὲ χθόνιον καθικετεύω Ἑρμῆν καὶ τὴν Περσεφόνην
and chthonic I-beseech Hermes and — Persephone
καὶ αὐτόν γε τὸν μέγαν Πλούτωνα, ἵν᾽, ἐπειδήπερ
and himself — the great Pluto that since
δολίως με συνεβούλευσας, μᾶλλον δὲ παρακεκίνηκας πρὸς
guilefully me you-counseled rather and have-urged to
Πελοπόννησον πανοικὶ ἀφικέσθαι, τριβόλους τε
the-Peloponnese with-all-my-household to-come caltrops both
καὶ ἀκάνθας ὁδεύων ἐν ᾅδου πάτῃς, τὸ τῆς Στυγὸς
and thorns journeying in Hades you-may-tread the of-the Styx
ὕδωρ σοι ξηρανθήσεται, τὸ δὲ τῆς Λήθης οὐκ ἄν ποτε
water for-you will-be-dried-up the and of-the Lethe not — ever
πίῃς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸν ἅπαντα, ὡς ἂν τὴν τοῦ
you-may-drink for the age the whole so-that — the of-the
ἀντιτέχνου σοι ἀηδίαν νύκτωρ τε καὶ μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν ἐν νῷ
rival for-you disgust by-night both and by day in mind
στρέφῃς, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὴν τῶν φλωρίων δόσιν ἅπερ πρὸς
you-may-turn likewise and also the of-the florins giving which to
τοὺς ξανθοὺς ὑπούλους φενακισθεὶς δέδωκας. Διάτριβε
the fair-haired festering(-ones) having-been-cheated you-have-given stay
ἐν ᾅδου ἀνιώμενος μέχρι τῆς τελευταίας σάλπιγγος, ἡμᾶς
in Hades grieving until the last trumpet us
ἐκδεχόμενος χαίροντας, ὁπόταν γε θεὸς ἐπιτρέψῃ.
awaiting rejoicing whenever — God permits

Holobolos writes from Hades, by way of Taenarum, to a physician in the Peloponnese, consoling him for his exile and urging him to drink the water of Lethe. The physician answers from Sparta that the letter shows he remembers everything, and that he would rather stay poor than go down to Hades.

Καὶ πρὸ τῶν γραμμάτων, οἶμαι, τῶν ἡμετέρων, ἐξ
even before the letters I-think the our from
ὧν πρὸς τὸν καλὸν κἀγαθὸν ἑταῖρον ἡμῶν Μάζαριν ἐν
which with the fine and-good comrade our Mazaris in
ὀνείροις πρότριτα διειλέχθην μαθεῖν ἔμελλες, ἀσκληπιαδῶν
dreams three-days-ago I-conversed to-learn you-were-about of-Asclepiads
ἄριστε, ὡς ἔχει πάντα τὰ κατ᾽ ἐμὲ, ὥσπερ ἄρα καὶ
best how stand all the(-things) concerning me as then also
αὐτὸς μεμάθηκα δήπουθεν πάντα τὰ κατὰ σὲ παρὰ
I-myself have-learned surely all the(-things) concerning you from
τοῦ πολλὰ ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ ἀνιαθέντος ἀκέστορος τοῦ
the much in the-Peloponnese distressed healer the
Ἀγγέλου ἐκείνου περὶ τῆς ὀφειλομένης αὐτῷ προσόδου, καὶ
Angelos that about the owed to-him revenue and
ὑπ᾽ ἀθυμίας εἰς ᾅδου ὁρμήσαντος· ὅθεν μακρῶν οὐ δέομαι
from despondency to Hades having-rushed whence long not I-need
περὶ τούτου λόγων, ὥστε καὶ γράψαι καὶ παραμυθήσασθαί
about this words so-as both to-write and to-console
σε τήν τε ἄλλην καὶ ταλαιπωρίαν καὶ τοὺς πόνους, ἅπερ
you the both other and hardship and the toils which
ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ πέπονθας διατρίβων. Ὁ γὰρ τῆς
in the-Peloponnese you-have-suffered living the(-one) for from-the
ἑαυτοῦ πατρίδος ἀπάρας ὅμοιός ἐστι πτεροφυήσαντι

μύρμηκι· καὶ καθάπερ ἐκεῖνος ὄλλυται διαπτὰς, οὕτω
an-ant and just-as that perishes having-flown-off so
καὶ ὁ τοιοῦτος διαφθείρεται ἔνθεν κἀκεῖθεν φερόμενος.
also the such(-man) is-destroyed hither and-thither borne
Τοῦτο δέ σοι μόνον διὰ βραχέων πρὸς παραμυθίαν
this and to-you only in brief for consolation
ἐρῶ, ὡς, ἐπειδήπερ τῆς μεγάλης ἐξῆλθες πόλεως, οὕτως
I-will-say that since the great you-left city so
ὡς ἐπυθόμην κἀν Πελοποννήσῳ τυγχάνεις ἔτι διατρίβων,
as I-learned even-in the-Peloponnese you-are still living
ὡς ἔγνων, καὶ νῦν μὲν ταλαιπωρίαις παλαίων ὡρακιᾷς,
as I-learned and now indeed with-hardships wrestling you-faint
νῦν δ' ἀθυμίαις κυκλούμενος, μικροῦ δὴ φρενῶν
now and with-despondencies encircled within-a-little — wits
ἔξω γίγνῃ, καὶ νύκτωρ μὲν τὴν ἡμέραν κατεύχῃ καθ'
out-of you-are and by-night indeed the day you-curse on
ἣν τῆς πατρίδος ἐξῆλθες, μεθ' ἡμέραν δὲ μεμνημένος
which the fatherland you-left by day and remembering
ἐς ἀεὶ τυγχάνων διατελεῖς παίδων, οἰκιῶν, ἀγρῶν,
for always being you-continue children houses fields
δένδρων, ὀπωρῶν, κερδῶν, ἀνθοσμία, τρυφῆς, ἰχθύων,
trees fruits gains fragrance luxury fish
πλούτου, κρεῶν, θέας, ὁμιλίας ἀνδρῶν ἀρίστων, καὶ
wealth meats spectacle company of-men best and
ἄλλης ἀπολαύσεώς τε καὶ θυμηδίας, βούλομαί σοι
other enjoyment both and delight I-wish for-you
φάρμακον ἀλεξιτήριον παρασχεῖν, ὥστε λήθην σε
a-remedy protective to-provide so-as forgetfulness you
πάντων ποιῆσαι ὧν ἀπήλαυσας ἀγαθῶν, ὅπερ καὶ αὐτὸς
of-all to-make which you-enjoyed goods which also I-myself
ἐν ᾅδου ἔπιον τότε, καὶ τῆς γε ἀηδίας ἐπελαθόμην
in Hades drank then and the — disgust I-forgot

τοῦ ἀντιτέχνου καὶ ἄλλων ὧνπερ ἀπήλαυσα ἐν βίῳ
of-the rival and other which I-enjoyed in life
χρηστῶν, ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ τῶν φλωρίων ἐκείνων ἅπερ
goods but indeed also the florins those which
πρὸς τοὺς ξανθοὺς ὑπούλους, Ἡράκλεις! φενακισθεὶς
to the fair-haired festering(-ones) Heracles having-been-cheated
δέδωκα. Ἡ γὰρ τῶν ἀπολαύσεων, ξεῖνε, μνήμη ὀδύνη τίς
I-gave the for of-the enjoyments stranger memory pain a
ἐστιν ἄῤῥητος καὶ δίκη δίκης ἁπάσης καὶ τιμωρίας
is unspeakable and penalty than-penalty every and punishment
πικροτέρα, οὐ πλευρὰς καταξαίνουσα μόνον, ἀλλὰ καὶ
more-bitter not sides tearing only but also
ψυχῆς δύναμιν λυμαινομένη. Εἴπερ οὖν ἐθελήσειας τὸ
of-soul power ruining if then you-should-wish the
παρὸν ἀλεξητήριον, ὅπερ ἐν ᾅδου Λήθης καλοῦσιν ὕδωρ,
present remedy which in Hades of-Lethe they-call water
πιεῖν ἅπαξ, τούτου γε μόνου, ἐπιλήσμων ἂν γένοιο
to-drink once this — only forgetful — you-would-become
τούτων πάντων, καὶ ἀμνημόνησις ἔσται οὐ μόνον πατρίδος
of-these all and oblivion will-be not only of-fatherland
καὶ πάντων ὧν ἀπήλαυσας ἀγαθῶν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῦ
and of-all which you-enjoyed goods but also of-the
κατορωρυγμένου ἐκείνου χρυσίου, καὶ τοῦ νεοφύτου
buried that gold and of-the newly-planted
μεγάλου ἀγροῦ, καὶ τῶν συμβολῶν, καὶ ἀλεξητηρίων
great field and of-the contributions and protective
φαρμάκων ἅπερ τῷ χρηστῷ ἀνδρὶ Σεβαστιανῷ ποιεῖν
remedies which to-the good man Sebastianos to-make
προσέταττες, ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ συνεισφορῶν τῶν ξενώνων,
you-ordered but indeed also contributions of-the hostels
καὶ λημμάτων τῶν ἀρχόντων τοῦ Γαλατᾶ. Ἔῤῥωσο,
and takings of-the archons — of-Galata farewell

ἀσκληπιαδῶν ἄριστε καὶ εὐδαιμονέστατε, ἐς μακροὺς τοὺς
of-Asclepiads best and most-fortunate for long the
ἡλίους.
suns

Αὕτη ἐγράφη ἐν τῷ Ταινάρῳ ὀκτωβρίου ις΄, καὶ ἐπέμφθη
this was-written in — Taenarum of-October 16 and was-sent
μετὰ Συναδηνοῦ τοῦ Κορμέα.
with Synadenos — Kormeas

Ἐδεξάμην τὴν ἐπιστολὴν τὴν ἀπὸ Ταινάρου πεμφθεῖσαν, 26
I-received the letter the(-one) from Taenarum sent
ῥητόρων βέλτιστε, μετὰ τοῦ Πελοποννησίου Συναδηνοῦ
of-orators best with the Peloponnesian Synadenos
τοῦ Κορμέα, ἣν διαῤῥῆξαι καὶ οὐκ ἀναγνῶναι ἔδει,
— Kormeas which to-tear-up and not to-read was-needful
ὅτι με κατορωρυγμένον χρυσίον γέγραφας ἔχειν. Πλὴν,
because me buried gold you-have-written to-have but
ἐπειδήπερ πέπομφας καὶ ἄκων ἀνέγνων, τήνδε τῶν
since you-have-sent and unwilling I-read this of-the
γεγραμμένων διήγησίν τε καὶ μνήμην, ἀλλὰ δὴ καὶ
written(-things) narrative both and memory but indeed also
τὴν συμβουλὴν, ἣν ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ μοι συμβουλεύῃ
the counsel which in the-Peloponnese me you-counsel
ποιῆσαι, κατέγνων. Ἐγὼ μὲν γὰρ ᾤμην ἐν αὐτῇ σε
to-do I-condemned I indeed for thought in it you
γεγραφέναι τά τε ἐν ἅδου ὡς ἔχει πάντα, καὶ οἷον
to-have-written the(-things) both in Hades how stand all and what
ζῇς βίον, καὶ εἰς οἵαν τάξιν αὐτόθι τυγχάνων διατελεῖς,
you-live life and in what rank there being you-continue
ἄρ᾽ ἐν τῷ καταλόγῳ τῶν ἀρίστων ἀσκληπιαδῶν ἢ ἐν
whether in the roll of-the best Asclepiads or in
τῷ χορῷ τῶν μεγάλα δυναμένων ῥητόρων, καὶ εἴπερ
the chorus of-the greatly powerful orators and if

αὐτόθι μετέρχῃ ἑκάτερα, ὥσπερ ἐν βίῳ πλεονεκτῶν
there you-pursue both as in life getting-the-better
μετήρχου καὶ τὴν ἰατρικὴν, καὶ σὺν αὐτοῖς ποίαν τούτων
you-pursued also the medical(-art) and with them which of-these
αὐτόθι τιμῶσι πλέον, τὴν τῶν ῥητόρων ἢ τὴν τῶν
there they-honor more the(-art) of-the orators or the(-art) of-the
ἰατρῶν ἐπιστήμην, καὶ πρὸς τούτοις τὰς ἀπολαύσεις ὧν
physicians science and besides these the enjoyments which
ἀπήλαυσας ἥκων αὐτόθι, ὡς ἂν καὶ ἡμᾶς ποιήσῃς
you-enjoyed having-come there so-that — also us you-might-make
προθύμους ὥστ' ἀποδράναι τῶν ὧδε καὶ πρὸς ᾅδου
eager so-as to-run-away from-the(-things) here and to Hades
δρομαίως ἐλθεῖν· σὺ δ' ἐξ ὧν καὶ μέμνησαι καὶ γράφεις,
running to-come you but from what both you-remember and write
τὸ τῆς Λήθης οὔπω πέπωκας ὕδωρ· ὁ γὰρ ἐκείνου
the of-the Lethe not-yet have-drunk water the(-one) for that
γευσάμενος, ὡς οἱ ποιηταί φασι, πάντων ἐπιλανθάνεται.
having-tasted as the poets say all forgets
Εἰ δὲ σὺ μὲν ἔπιες, ὡς γράφεις, ἔτι δὲ μνείαν ἔχεις
if but you indeed drank as you-write still and mention you-have
καὶ ἀντιτέχνου καὶ στατήρων, καὶ ἀδελφιδοῦ, καὶ ἄλλων
both of-rival and of-staters and of-nephew and of-other
ἡδέων τε καὶ τερπνῶν, τίνα ἂν μείζονα δώσεις δίκην,
pleasant both and delightful what — greater will-you-pay penalty
ὅτε τῷ κριτῇ παραστῇς ἐκείνῳ τῷ ἀλαθήτῳ; ἡ γὰρ
when the judge you-stand-before that the unerring the for
τῶν ἀπολαύσεων, ὡς ἔφησθα, μνήμη κολάσεων ἄρα
of-the enjoyments as you-said memory of-punishments then
καὶ τιμαριῶν μυρίων ἐστὶν ἱκανή. Ἦν οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς
and of-punishments countless is sufficient if then also I
πίωμαι τὸ Λήθης ὕδωρ, ὡς φὴς, οὐκ ἐπιλήσομαι δὲ
may-drink the of-Lethe water as you-say not I-will-forget and

πάντων ὧν κέκτημαι, ἀλλ᾽ ἔχω κἂν ᾅδου τούτων γε
of-all which I-have-acquired but I-have even-in Hades of-these —
μνείαν, ὥσπερ ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ᾽ ἡμέραν
mention as in the-Peloponnese by-night and by day
κατατρύχομαι ὑπὸ μνήμης, οὐκ οἶδα τίνα ἂν ὠφέλειαν
I-am-worn-down by memory not I-know what — benefit
εὕροιμι· ὅθεν βέλτιον ἡγοῦμαι διατρίβειν ἐν τῇ τοῦ
I-might-find whence better I-think to-live in the(-land) —
Πέλοπος μονοχίτων, ἄνω τε καὶ κάτω φερόμενος, καὶ
of-Pelops in-one-tunic up both and down borne and
τῶν ἡδέων πάντων ἐστερημένος ἢ τὸν παρόντα
of-the pleasant(-things) all deprived than the present
καιρὸν ἀφικέσθαι ἐν ᾅδου. Ὁ γὰρ ἐν βίῳ διατρίβων,
time to-come to Hades the(-one) for in life living
κἂν εἰς τὰ τέρματα τῆς οἰκουμένης ἀπέλθῃ, ὀψέ ποτ᾽
even-if to the ends of-the inhabited-world he-goes late some-time
ἂν ἐπανήξειεν αὖθις ἐς τὴν πατρίδα· ὁ δ᾽ ἐν ᾅδου,
— would-return again to the fatherland the(-one) but in Hades
μέχρι καὶ τελευταίας σάλπιγγος. Διὰ τοῦτο, τό
until even last trumpet because-of this the(-thing)
γε νῦν ἔχον, οὐ βούλομαι· δι᾽ ἐφέσεως δὲ ἔχω τὰ
— now being not I-wish with desire and I-am-disposed the
φίλτατα συναρμόσαι, τῷ μὲν νύμφην, τῇ δὲ
dearest to-join-together for-the(-one) indeed a-bride for-the(-other) and
νυμφίον. Πλὴν ἑτοίμασον χῶρον τὸν πρὸς ἀξίαν,
a-bridegroom but prepare a-place the(-one) according-to merit
ὅτι μικρὸν ὕστερον, κἂν μὴ βουλώμεθα, καὶ ἄκοντες
since a-little later even-if not we-wish also unwilling
ἐλευσόμεθα. Διάτριβε, ῥητορικώτατε κολάσεων ἔξωθεν ἐν
we-will-come live most-rhetorical of-punishments outside in

χώρῳ χλόης τε καὶ ἀναψύξεως μέχρι καὶ τελευταίας
a-place of-green both and refreshment until even last
σάλπιγγος.
trumpet
Αὕτη ἐγράφη ἐν Σπάρτῃ, ὀκτωβρίου κα΄, καὶ ἐπέμφθη
this was-written in Sparta of-October 21 and was-sent
μετὰ τοῦ ἀώρως θανόντος Θετταλοῦ τοῦ Χρυσάφη, τοῦ
with the untimely having-died Thessalos the Chrysaphes the(-one)
μηδὲ μόλυβδον ἔχοντος.
not-even lead having

ΦΙΛΟΠΑΤΡΙΣ

Philopatris

I · CRITIAS AMAZED

Triephon meets Critias pale and distracted by something he has heard. Critias asks him to step away lest the wind of his swollen belly carry him off. Critias proposes gods to swear by, and Triephon mocks each one in turn: Zeus the swan and bull, Apollo the false prophet, Poseidon the adulterer, and Hermes. Critias passes over Ares and Aphrodite and offers Athena, whose Gorgon's head Triephon questions.

TRIEPHON Τί τοῦτο, ὦ Κριτία; ὅλον σεαυτὸν ἠλλοίωσας, καὶ α′
what this O Critias whole yourself you-have-altered and
τὰς ὀφρῦς κάτω συννένευκας, μύχιον δὲ βυσσοδομεύεις,
the brows down you-have-bent secret and you-brood-over
ἄνω καὶ κάτω περιπολῶν, κερδαλεόφρονι ἐοικὼς, κατὰ
up and down walking-about to-one-crafty-minded like according-to
τὸν ποιητὴν, ὠχρός τέ σευ εἷλε παρειάς. μή που
the poet pallor — of-you took-hold-of the-cheeks not perhaps
τρικάρηνον τεθέασαι; ἢ Ἑκάτην ἐξ ᾅδου ἐληλυθυῖαν; ἢ καί
a-three-headed(-one) have-you-seen or Hecate from Hades come or also
τινι θεῶν ἐκ προνοίας συνήντηκας; οὐδέπω γάρ σε τοιαῦτα
some of-the-gods by design have-you-met not-yet for you such-things
εἰκὸς παθεῖν, εἰ καὶ αὐτὸν ἠκηκόεις, οἶμαι, τὸν κόσμον
likely to-suffer if even itself you-had-heard I-think the world
κλυσθῆναι, ὥσπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ Δευκαλίωνος. σοὶ λέγω,
to-be-flooded as in-the-time-of — of-Deucalion to-you I-speak
ὦ καλὲ Κριτία, οὐκ ἀΐεις ἐμοῦ ἐπιβοωμένου τὰ πολλὰ,
O fine Critias not do-you-hear me shouting-at(-you) — many-times
καὶ ἐς βραχὺ γειτνιάσαντος; δυσχεραίνεις καθ' ἡμῶν, ἢ
and to short(-range) having-come-near are-you-vexed against us or
ἐκκεκώφωσαι, ἢ καὶ τῆς χειρὸς παλαιστήσοντα ἐπιμένεις;
have-you-gone-deaf or also by-the hand (one)-to-wrestle do-you-wait

CRITIAS Ὦ Τριεφῶν, μέγαν τινὰ καὶ ἠπορημένον λόγον
O Triephon great a and perplexed tale
ἀκήκοα, καὶ πολλαῖς ὁδοῖς διενειλημμένον, καὶ ἔτι
I-have-heard and by-many ways divided and still
ἀναπεμπάζω τοὺς ὕθλους, καὶ τὰς ἀκοὰς ἀποφράττω, μή
I-am-reckoning-over the drivel and the ears I-stop lest
που ἔτι ἀκούσαιμι ταῦτα, καὶ ἀποψύξω ἐκμανεὶς, καὶ μῦθος
— still I-should-hear these-things and should-expire gone-mad and a-tale
τοῖς ποιηταῖς γενήσομαι, ὡς καὶ Νιόβη τὸ πρίν. ἀλλὰ κατὰ
for-the poets will-become as also Niobe — formerly but down
κρημνὸν ὠθούμην ἂν ἐπὶ κεφαλῆς σκοτοδινήσας,
a-cliff I-would-have-been-pushed — on head having-grown-dizzy
εἰ μὴ ἐπέκραξάς μοι, ὦ τᾶν, καὶ τὸ τοῦ Κλεομβρότου
if not you-had-cried-out to-me O good-sir and the — of-Cleombrotus
πήδημα τοῦ Ἀμβρακιώτου ἐμυθεύθη ἐπ᾽ ἐμοί.
leap the Ambraciot would-have-been-told about me

β′ TRIEPHON Ἡράκλεις, τῶν θαυμασίων ἐκείνων φασμάτων,
Heracles of-the wonderful those apparitions
ἢ ἀκουσμάτων, ἅπερ Κριτίαν ἐξέπληξαν. πόσοι γὰρ
or things-heard which Critias amazed how-many for
ἐμβρόντητοι ποιηταὶ, καὶ τερατολογίαι φιλοσόφων, οὐκ
thunderstruck poets and marvel-tellings of-philosophers not
ἐξέπληξάν σου τὴν διάνοιαν, ἀλλὰ λῆρος πάντα γέγονεν
amazed your the mind but nonsense all became
ἐπὶ σοί;
for you

CRITIAS Πέπαυσο ἐς μικρὸν, καὶ μηκέτι παρενοχλήσῃς, ὦ
stop for a-little and no-longer trouble(-me) O
Τριεφῶν· οὐ γὰρ παροπτέος ἢ ἀμελητέος γενήσῃ παρ᾽
Triephon not for to-be-overlooked or to-be-neglected you-will-be by
ἐμοῦ.
me

TRIEPHON Οἶδ' ὅτι οὐ μικρὸν οὐδὲ εὐκαταφρόνητον πρᾶγμα
I-know that not small nor contemptible a-matter
ἀνακυκλεῖς, ἀλλὰ καὶ λίαν τῶν ἀπορρήτων. ὁ γὰρ
you-are-revolving but also very of-the secret(-ones) the for
χρὼς, καὶ τὸ ταυρηδὸν ἐπιβλέπειν, καὶ τὸ ἄστατον τῆς
complexion and the bull-like to-glare and the instability of-the
βάσεως, τὸ ἄνω τε καὶ κάτω περιπολεῖν, ἀρίγνωτόν σε
gait the up both and down walking-about very-recognizable you
καθίστησιν. ἀλλ' ἄμπνευσον τοῦ δεινοῦ, ἐξέμεσον τοὺς
makes but recover-breath from-the terror vomit-out the
ὕθλους, μή τι κακὸν παθέῃς.
drivel lest some evil you-suffer
CRITIAS Σὺ μὲν, ὦ Τριεφῶν, ὅσον πέλεθρον ἀνάδραμε ἀπ'
you indeed O Triephon as-much-as a-plethron run-away from
ἐμοῦ, ἵνα μὴ τὸ πνεῦμα ἐξάρῃ σε, καὶ πεδάρσιος τοῖς
me lest — the wind should-lift you and aloft to-the
πολλοῖς ἀναφανῇς· καί που καταπεσὼν Τριεφώντειον
many you-should-appear and somehow having-fallen a-Triephontean
πέλαγος κατονομάσῃς, ὡς καὶ Ἴκαρος τὸ πρίν. ἃ
sea you-should-name as also Icarus — formerly what
γὰρ ἀκήκοα τήμερον παρὰ τῶν τρισκαταράτων ἐκείνων
for I-have-heard today from the thrice-accursed those
σοφιστῶν, μεγάλως ἐξώγκωσέ μου τὴν νηδύν.
sophists greatly has-swollen my the belly
TRIEPHON Ἐγὼ μὲν ἀναδραμοῦμαι ὁπόσον καὶ βούλει, σὺ
I indeed will-run-away as-far-as also you-wish you
δὲ ἄμπνευσον τοῦ δεινοῦ.
and recover-breath from-the terror

CRITIAS Φὺ, φὺ, φὺ, φὺ, τῶν ὕθλων ἐκείνων. ἰοὺ, ἰοὺ, ἰοὺ,
phew phew phew phew for-the drivel those oh oh oh
ἰοὺ, τῶν δεινῶν βουλευμάτων. αἲ, αἲ, αἲ, αἲ, τῶν κενῶν
oh for-the terrible counsels alas alas alas alas for-the empty
ἐλπίδων.
hopes

γ′ TRIEPHON Βαβαὶ τοῦ ἀναφυσήματος, ὡς τὰς νεφέλας
whew for-the blast how the clouds
διέστρεψε. ζεφύρου γὰρ ἐπιπνέοντος λάβρου, καὶ τοῖς
it-turned-aside the-west-wind for blowing violent and on-the
κύμασιν ἐπωθίζοντος, Βορέην ἄρτι ἀνὰ τὴν Προποντίδα
waves pushing the-north-wind just-now over the Propontis
κεκίνηκας, ὡς διὰ κάλων αἱ ὁλκάδες τὸν Εὔξεινον
you-have-stirred so-that by cables the merchantmen the Euxine
πόντον οἰχήσονται, τῶν κυμάτων ἐπικυλινδούντων ἐκ τοῦ
sea will-travel the waves rolling-on from the
φυσήματος· ὅσον οἴδημα τοῖς ἐγκάτοις ἐνέκειτο. πόσος
blowing how-great a-swelling in-the bowels lay how-great
κορκορυγμὸς καὶ κλόνος τὴν γαστέρα σου συνετάρασσε·
a-rumbling and turmoil the belly your stirred
πολύωτον σεαυτὸν ἀναπέφηνας, τοσαῦτα ἀκηκοώς. ὡς
many-eared yourself you-have-shown such-things having-heard so-that
καὶ, κατὰ τὸ τερατῶδες, καὶ διὰ τῶν ὀνύχων ἠκηκόεις.
also according-to the monstrous also through the nails you-had-heard
CRITIAS Οὐ παράδοξόν τι, ὦ Τριεφῶν, ἀκηκοέναι καὶ
not strange anything O Triephon to-have-heard even
ἐξ ὀνύχων· καὶ γὰρ κνήμην γαστέρα τεθέασαι, καὶ
through nails also for a-shin a-belly you-have-seen and
κεφαλὴν κύουσαν, καὶ ἀνδρείαν φύσιν ἐς γυναικείαν
a-head pregnant and male nature into female
ἐνεργοβατοῦσαν, καὶ ἐκ γυναικῶν ὄρνεα μεταβαλλόμενα·
passing and from women birds changed

καὶ ὅλως τερατώδης ὁ βίος, εἰ βούλει πιστεύειν τοῖς
and wholly monstrous the life if you-wish to-believe the
ποιηταῖς. ἀλλ᾽ ἐπεί σε πρῶτον κιχάνω τῷδ᾽ ἐνὶ χώρῳ,
poets but since you first I-find this in place
ἀπίωμεν ἔνθα αἱ πλάτανοι τὸν ἥλιον εἴργουσιν, ἀηδόνες
let-us-go-away where the plane-trees the sun shut-out nightingales
δὲ καὶ χελιδόνες εὖηχα κελαδοῦσιν, ἵν᾽ ἡ μελῳδία
and and swallows sweetly sing that the melody
τῶν ὀρνέων τὰς ἀκοὰς ἐνηδύνουσα, τό τε ὕδωρ ἠρέμα
of-the birds the ears delighting the both water quietly
κελαρύζον, τὰς ψυχὰς καταθέλξειε.
babbling the souls may-charm

TRIEPHON Ἴωμεν, ὦ Κριτία· ἀλλὰ δέδια, μή που ἐπῳδὴ τὸ δ΄
let-us-go O Critias but I-fear lest perhaps a-spell the(-thing)
ἠκουσμένον ἐστὶ, καί με ὕπερον, ἢ θύρετρον, ἢ ἄλλο τι τῶν
heard is and me a-pestle or a-door or other any of-the
ἀψύχων ἀπεργάσεται ἡ θαυμασία σου αὕτη κατάπληξις.
soulless(-things) will-make the wonderful your this consternation

CRITIAS Νὴ τὸν Δία τὸν αἰθέριον, οὐ τοῦτο γενήσεται ἐπὶ
by — Zeus the ethereal not this will-happen to
σοί.
you

TRIEPHON Ἔτι με ἐξεφόβησας, τὸν Δία ἐπομοσάμενος. τί
again me you-have-frightened — Zeus having-sworn-by what
γὰρ ἂν δυνήσηται ἀμυνέμεναί σε, εἰ παραβαίης τὸν ὅρκον;
for — will-be-be-able to-defend you if you-should-break the oath
οἶδα γὰρ καὶ σὲ μὴ ἀγνοεῖν περὶ τοῦ Διός σου.
I-know for also you not to-be-ignorant about — Zeus your

CRITIAS Τί λέγεις; οὐ δυνήσεται ὁ Ζεὺς ἐς Τάρταρον
what do-you-say not will-be-able — Zeus to Tartarus
ἀποπέμψαι; ἢ ἀγνοεῖς ὡς τοὺς θεοὺς πάντας ἀπέῤῥιψεν
to-send-away or do-you-not-know that the gods all he-hurled

ἀπὸ τοῦ θεσπεσίου βηλοῦ, καὶ τὸν Σαλμωνέα ἀντιβροντῶντα
from the divine threshold and — Salmoneus thundering-back
πρώην κατεκεραύνωσε, καὶ τοὺς ἀσελγεστάτους ἔτι
lately he-struck-with-lightning and the most-wanton still
καὶ νῦν· παρὰ δὲ τῶν ποιητῶν Τιτανοκράτωρ καὶ
even now by and the poets Titan-ruler and
Γιγαντολέτης ἀνυμνεῖται, ὡς καὶ παρ᾽ Ὁμήρῳ;
Giant-slayer he-is-hymned as also in Homer
TRIEPHON Σὺ μὲν, ὦ Κριτία, πάντα παρέδραμες τὰ
you indeed O Critias all have-run-past the(-things)
τοῦ Διὸς, ἀλλ᾽, εἴ σοι φίλον, ἄκουε. οὐχὶ κύκνος οὗτος
— of-Zeus but if to-you dear(-it-is) listen not a-swan he
ἐγένετο καὶ σάτυρος δι᾽ ἀσέλγειαν, ἀλλὰ καὶ ταῦρος;
became and a-satyr through wantonness but also a-bull
καὶ εἰ μὴ τὸ πορνίδιον ἐκεῖνος ταχέως ἐπωμίσατο, καὶ
and if not the little-whore he quickly had-shouldered and
διέφυγε διὰ τοῦ πελάγους, τάχ᾽ ἂν ἠροτρία, ἐντυχὼν
escaped through the sea perhaps — would-be-plowing having-met
γεηπόνῳ, ὁ βροντοποιὸς καὶ κεραυνοβόλος σου Ζεὺς, καὶ
a-farmer the thunder-maker and lightning-hurler your Zeus and
ἀντὶ τοῦ κεραυνοβολεῖν, τῇ βουπλῆγι κατεκεντάννυτο.
instead-of the to-hurl-lightning with-the ox-axe would-be-goaded
τὸ δὲ καὶ Αἰθίοψι συνευωχεῖσθαι, ἀνδράσι μελαντέροις,
the and also with-Ethiopians to-feast men blacker
καὶ τὴν ὄψιν ἐζοφωμένοις, καὶ ἐς δώδεχ᾽ ἡλίους μὴ
and the face darkened and for twelve suns not
ἀφίστασθαι, ἀλλ᾽ ὑποβεβρεγμένος καθεδεῖσθαι παρ᾽ αὐτοῖς,
to-depart but drenched to-sit-down beside them
πώγωνα τηλικοῦτον ἔχων, οὐκ αἰσχύνης ἄξια; τὰ δὲ
a-beard so-great having not of-shame worthy the(-things) and

τοῦ ἀετοῦ, καὶ τῆς Ἴδης, καὶ τὸ κυοφορεῖν καθ' ὅλου
of-the eagle and — of-Ida and the being-pregnant over whole
τοῦ σώματος, αἰσχύνομαι καὶ λέγειν.
the body I-am-ashamed even to-tell
CRITIAS Μῶν τὸν Ἀπόλλωνά γ' ἐπομοσόμεθα, ὃς προφήτης ε′
surely-not — Apollo — shall-we-swear-by who prophet
ἄριστος καὶ ἰητρὸς, ὦ ᾽γαθέ;
best and healer O good-man
TRIEPHON Τὸν ψευδόμαντιν λέγεις; τὸν Κροῖσον πρώην
the false-prophet do-you-mean the(-one) Croesus lately
διολωλεκότα, καὶ μετ' αὐτὸν Σαλαμινίους, καὶ ἑτέρους
having-destroyed and after him Salaminians and others
μυρίους, ἀμφίλοξα πᾶσι μαντευόμενος;
countless ambiguous(-things) to-all prophesying
CRITIAS Τὸν Ποσειδῶνα δὲ τί; ὃς τρίαιναν ἐν ταῖν χεροῖν ς′
— Poseidon and what who a-trident in the hands
κρατῶν, καὶ διάτορόν τι καὶ καταπληκτικὸν βοᾷ ἐν
holding and piercing something and terrifying shouts in
τῷ πολέμῳ, ὅσον ἐννεάχιλοι ἄνδρες, ἢ δεκάχιλοι, ἀλλὰ
the war as-much-as nine-thousand men or ten-thousand but
καὶ σεισίχθων, ὦ Τριεφῶν, ἐπονομάζεται;
also earth-shaker O Triephon is-named
TRIEPHON Τὸν μοιχὸν λέγεις; ὃς τὴν τοῦ Σαλμωνέως
the adulterer do-you-mean who the — of-Salmoneus
παῖδα, τὴν Τυρὼ, πρώην διέφθειρε, καὶ ἔτι ἐπιμοιχεύει,
daughter — Tyro lately seduced and still commits-adultery
καὶ ῥύστης καὶ δημαγωγὸς τῶν τοιούτων ἐστί; τὸν γὰρ
and rescuer and demagogue of-the such(-men) is — for
Ἄρην ὑπὸ τοῦ δεσμοῦ πιεζόμενον, καὶ δεσμοῖς ἀλύτοις
Ares by the bond pressed and in-bonds unloosable
μετὰ τῆς Ἀφροδίτης στενούμενον, πάντων τε τῶν θεῶν
with — Aphrodite straitened all and the gods

διὰ τὴν μοιχίαν ὑπ᾽ αἰσχύνης σιωπώντων, ὁ ἵππειος
because-of the adultery from shame being-silent the horse-god
Ποσειδῶν ἔκλαυσε δακρυῤῥοῶν, ὥσπερ τὰ βρεφύλλια,
Poseidon wept streaming-with-tears like the little-babies
τοὺς διδασκάλους δεδιότα, ἢ ὥσπερ αἱ γρᾶες, κόρας
the teachers fearing or like the old-women girls
ἐξαπατῶσαι. ἐπέκειτο δὲ τῷ Ἡφαίστῳ λῦσαι τὸν Ἄρεα· τὸ
deceiving he-pressed and — Hephaestus to-loose — Ares the
δὲ ἀμφίχωλον τοῦτο δαιμόνιον, οἰκτεῖραν τὸν πρεσβύτην
and lame-in-both-feet this deity having-pitied the old
θεὸν, τὸν Ἄρη ἀπηλευθέρωσεν· ὥστε καὶ μοιχός ἐστιν,
god — Ares set-free so-that also an-adulterer he-is
ὡς μοιχοὺς διασώζων.
as adulterers rescuing

ζ′ CRITIAS Ἑρμείαν δὲ τί;
Hermes and what

TRIEPHON Μή μοι τὸν κακόδουλον, τοῦ ἀσελγεστάτου Διὸς,
not to-me the base-slave of-the most-wanton Zeus
καὶ τὸν ἀσελγομανοῦντα ἐπὶ τοῖς μοιχικοῖς.
and the(-one) wanton-mad over the adulterous(-things)

η′ CRITIAS Ἄρεα δὲ καὶ Ἀφροδίτην οἶδα μὴ παραδέχεσθαί
Ares and and Aphrodite I-know not to-admit
σε, διὰ τὸ προδιαβληθῆναι πρώην παρὰ σοῦ· ὥστε
you because-of the having-been-slandered lately by you so-that
ἐάσωμεν τούτους. τῆς Ἀθηνᾶς ἔτι ἐπιμνησθήσομαι, τῆς
let-us-leave these — of-Athena still I-will-make-mention the
παρθένου, τῆς ἐνόπλου, καὶ καταπληκτικῆς θεᾶς, ἣ καὶ
virgin the armed and terrifying goddess who also
τὴν τῆς Γοργόνος κεφαλὴν ἐν τῷ στήθει περιάπτεται, τὴν
the of-the Gorgon head on the breast hangs-about-herself the
Γιγαντολέτιν θεόν. οὐ γὰρ ἔχεις τί λέγειν περὶ αὐτῆς.
Giant-slaying goddess not for you-have what to-say about her

TRIEPHON Ἐρῶ σοι καὶ περὶ ταύτης, ἤν μοι ἀποκρίνῃ.
I-will-tell you also about her if me you-answer
CRITIAS Λέγε ὅ τι γε βούλει.
say what ever — you-wish
TRIEPHON Εἰπέ μοι, ὦ Κριτία, τί τὸ χρήσιμον τῆς
tell me O Critias what the use of-the
Γοργόνος, καὶ τί τῷ στήθει τοῦτο ἡ θεὰ ἐπιφέρεται;
Gorgon and why on-the breast this the goddess wears
CRITIAS Ὡς φοβερόν τι θέαμα καὶ ἀποτρεπτικὸν τῶν δεινῶν.
as fearful a sight and averting of-the terrors
ἀλλὰ καὶ καταπλήσσει τοὺς πολεμίους, καὶ ἑτεραλκέα
but also she-strikes-with-terror the enemies and the-other-side's
τὴν νίκην ποιεῖ ὅπου γε βούλεται.
the victory makes where — she-wishes
TRIEPHON Μῶν καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἡ Γλαυκῶπις ἀκαταμάχητος;
perhaps also because-of this the Gray-eyed(-one) unconquerable
CRITIAS Καὶ μάλα.
very much(-so)
TRIEPHON Καὶ διὰ τί οὐ τοῖς σώζειν δυναμένοις,
and because-of what not to-the(-ones) to-save able
ἀλλὰ τοῖς σωζομένοις, μηρία καίομεν ταύρων, ἠδ'
but to-the(-ones) being-saved thigh-bones do-we-burn of-bulls and
αἰγῶν, ὡς ἡμᾶς ἀκαταμαχήτους ἐργάσωνται, ὥσπερ τὴν
of-goats so-that us unconquerable they-may-make as —
Ἀθηνᾶν;
Athena
CRITIAS Ἀλλ' οὐ οἱ δύναμίς γε πόῤῥωθεν ἐπιβοηθεῖν,
but not to-her the-power — from-afar to-help
ὥσπερ τοῖς θεοῖς, ἀλλ' εἴ τις αὐτὴν ἐπιφέρεται.
as to-the gods but if someone her wears

Asked about the Gorgon, Critias explains her as a virgin beheaded by Perseus, and Triephon dismisses the tale, the Cretans' tomb of Zeus, and Hera as poets' nonsense. He bids Critias swear by the Father, Son, and Spirit, three in one, tells how a bald Galilean renewed him through water, and recounts the creation as the slow-of-tongue wrote it. He finds Homer's fates contradictory and teaches that all deeds are written in heaven. Converted, Critias agrees to tell what amazed him.

θ′ TRIEPHON Καὶ τί τόδ' ἐστίν; ἐθέλω γὰρ παρὰ σοῦ
and what this is I-wish for from you
εἰδέναι, ὡς ἐξευρημένου τὰ τοιαῦτα καὶ ἐς μάλιστα
to-know as having-found-out the(-things) such and to the-utmost
κατωρθωκότος. ἀγνοῶ γὰρ πάντα τὰ κατ'
having-succeeded I-do-not-know for all the(-things) concerning
αὐτὴν, πλήν γε τοῦ ὀνόματος.
her except — the name
CRITIAS Αὕτη κόρη ἐγένετο εὐπρεπὴς καὶ ἐπέραστος·
she a-girl was comely and lovely
Περσέως δὲ ταύτην δόλῳ ἀποδειροτομήσαντος, ἀνδρὸς
Perseus and her by-guile having-beheaded a-man
γενναίου, καὶ ἐς μαγικὴν εὐφημουμένου, ἐπαοιδίαις ταύτην
noble and for magic well-spoken-of with-incantations her
περιωδήσαντος, ἄλκαρ οἱ θεοὶ ταύτην ἐσχήκασι.
having-charmed a-defense the gods her have-had
TRIEPHON Τουτί μ' ἐλάνθανέ ποτε τὸ καλὸν, ὡς ἀνθρώπων
this me escaped once the fine(-thing) that of-men
θεοὶ ἐνδεεῖς εἰσι. ζώσης δὲ τί τὸ χρήσιμον; προσηταιρίζετο
gods in-need are living but what the use did-she-play-the-courtesan
ἐς πανδοχεῖον, ἢ κρυφίως συνεφθείρετο, καὶ κόρην αὐτὴν
in an-inn or secretly was-she-corrupted and girl her
ἐπωνόμαζε;
did-she-call

CRITIAS Νὴ τὸν Ἄγνωστον ἐν Ἀθήναις, παρθένος διέμεινε
by the Unknown(-god) in Athens a-virgin she-remained
μέχρι τῆς ἀποτομῆς.
until the beheading
TRIEPHON Καὶ εἴ τις παρθένον καρατομήσειε, ταὐτὸ
and if anyone a-virgin should-behead the-same
γένοιτο φόβητρον τοῖς πολλοῖς; οἶδα γὰρ μυρίας
would-become terror to-the many I-know for countless
διαμελεϊστὶ τμηθείσας Νήσῳ ἐν ἀμφιρύτῃ, Κρήτην δέ τέ
limb-by-limb cut an-island in sea-girt Crete and —
μιν καλέουσι. καὶ εἰ τοῦτο ἐγίνωσκον, ὦ καλὲ Κριτία,
it they-call and if this I-had-known O fine Critias
πόσας Γοργόνας σοι ἀνήγαγον ἐκ Κρήτης; καί
how-many Gorgons for-you I-would-have-brought-up from Crete and
σε στρατηγέτην ἀκαταμάχητον ἀποκατέστησα· ποιηταὶ δὲ
you general unconquerable I-would-have-made poets and
καὶ ῥήτορες κατὰ πολύ με Περσέως διέκριναν, ὡς
and orators by much me than-Perseus would-have-judged-superior as
πλείονας Γοργόνας ἐφευρηκότα.
more Gorgons having-found
Ἀλλ' ἔτι ἀνεμνήσθην τὰ τῶν Κρητῶν, οἳ τάφον τ'
but further I-remembered the(-things) of-the Cretans who a-tomb
ἐπεδείκνυντό μοι τοῦ Διός σου, καὶ τὰ τὴν μητέρα
showed me — of-Zeus your and the the mother
θρέψαντα λόχμια, ὡς ἀειθαλεῖς αἱ λόχμιαι αὗται διαμένουσι.
having-nourished thickets how evergreen the thickets these remain
CRITIAS Ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγίνωσκες τὴν ἐπῳδὴν καὶ τὰ ὄργια.
but not you-knew the incantation and the rites
TRIEPHON Εἰ ταῦτα, ὦ Κριτία, ἐξ ἐπῳδῆς ἐγίνετο, τάχ' ἂν καὶ
if these-things O Critias from incantation came-about perhaps — also
ἐκ νεκάδων ἐξήνεγκεν ἄν, καὶ ἐς τὸ γλυκύτατον
from the-dead he-would-have-brought(-her)-out — and to the sweetest

φάος ἀνήγαγεν· ἀλλὰ λῆρος, παίγνιά τε καὶ μῦθοι, παρὰ
light led-up but nonsense playthings both and tales by
τῶν ποιητῶν τερατολογούμενα. ὥστε ἔασον καὶ ταύτην.
the poets told-as-marvels so-that let-go also her

ια′ CRITIAS Ἥραν δὲ τὴν Διὸς γαμετὴν, καὶ κασίγνητον, οὐ
Hera and the of-Zeus wife and sister not
παραδέχῃ;
do-you-admit

TRIEPHON Σίγα τῆς ἀσελγεστάτης ἕνεκα μίξεως, καὶ
hush the most-wanton for-the-sake-of union and
τὴν ἐκ ποδοῖν καὶ χεροῖν ἐκτεταμένην παράδραμε.
the(-one) by feet and hands stretched-out run-past

ιβ′ CRITIAS Καὶ τίνα ἐπομόσομαί γε;
and by-whom shall-I-swear —

TRIEPHON Ὑψιμέδοντα θεὸν, μέγαν, ἄμβροτον, οὐρανίωνα,
high-ruling God great immortal heavenly
υἱὸν πατρὸς, πνεῦμα ἐκ πατρὸς ἐκπορευόμενον,
Son of-(the)-Father Spirit from (the)-Father proceeding
ἓν ἐκ τριῶν, καὶ ἐξ ἑνὸς τρία,
one from three and from one three
ταῦτα νόμιζε Ζῆνα, τόνδ' ἡγοῦ θεόν.
these-things consider Zeus this-one hold God

CRITIAS Ἀριθμέειν με διδάσκεις, καὶ ὅρκος ἡ ἀριθμητική.
to-count me you-teach and oath the arithmetic
καὶ γὰρ ἀριθμέεις ὡς Νικόμαχος ὁ Γερασηνός. οὐκ οἶδα
and for you-count like Nicomachus the Gerasene not I-know
γὰρ τί λέγεις, ἓν τρία, τρία ἕν. μὴ τὴν τετρακτὺν
for what you-say one three three one not the tetractys
φῂς τὴν Πυθαγόρου, ἢ τὴν ὀγδοάδα, καὶ τριακάδα;
do-you-mean the of-Pythagoras or the ogdoad and thirty

TRIEPHON Σίγα τὰ νέρθε, καὶ τὰ σιγῆς ἄξια, οὐκ
hush the(-things) below and the(-things) of-silence worthy not
ἔσθ' ὧδε μετρεῖν τὰ ψυλλῶν ἴχνη. ἐγὼ γάρ σε διδάξω τί
it-is-possible thus to-measure the of-fleas tracks I for you will-teach what
τὸ πᾶν, καὶ τίς ὁ πρώην πάντων, καὶ τί τὸ σύστημα
the all and who the(-one) before all and what the system
τοῦ παντός. καὶ γὰρ πρώην κἀγὼ ταῦτα ἔπασχον, ἅπερ σύ·
of-the all and for formerly I-too these-things suffered which you
ἡνίκα δέ μοι Γαλιλαῖος ἐνέτυχεν, ἀναφαλαντίας, ἐπίῤῥινος, ἐς
when but me a-Galilean met bald-in-front long-nosed to
τρίτον οὐρανὸν ἀεροβατήσας, καὶ τὰ κάλλιστα ἐκμεμαθηκὼς,
the-third heaven having-walked-on-air and the finest(-things) having-learned
δι' ὕδατος ἡμᾶς ἀνεκαίνισεν, ἐς τὰ τῶν μακάρων ἴχνια
through water us renewed into the of-the blessed footsteps
παρεισώδευσε, καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἀσεβῶν χώρων ἡμᾶς ἐλυτρώσατο.
led(-us)-in and from the impious places us redeemed
καί σε ποιήσω, ἤν μου ἀκούῃς, ἐπ' ἀληθείας ἄνθρωπον.
and you I-will-make if me you-hear in truth a-man
CRITIAS Λέγε, ὦ πολυμαθέστατε Τριεφῶν, διὰ φόβου γὰρ ιγ΄
speak O most-learned Triephon in fear for
ἔρχομαι.
I-come
TRIEPHON Ἀνέγνωκάς ποτε τὰ τοῦ Ἀριστοφάνους τοῦ
have-you-read ever the(-ones) — of-Aristophanes the
δραματοποιοῦ ὄρνιθας ποιημάτια;
dramatist birds poems
CRITIAS Καὶ μάλα.
very much(-so)

TRIEPHON Ἐγκεχάρακται παρ᾽ αὐτοῦ τοιόνδε·
is-engraved by him such(-a-thing)

χάος ἦν, καὶ νὺξ, ἔρεβός τε μέλαν πρῶτον,
chaos was and night Erebus both black first
καὶ Τάρταρος εὐρύς.
and Tartarus broad
γῆ δ᾽, οὐδ᾽ ἀὴρ, οὐδ᾽ οὐρανὸς ἦν.
earth and nor air nor heaven was

CRITIAS Εὖ λέγεις. εἶτα τί ἦν;
well you-speak then what was
TRIEPHON Ἦν φῶς ἄφθιτον, ἀόρατον, ἀκατανόητον, ὃ λύει
there-was light imperishable invisible incomprehensible which dissolves
τὸ σκότος, καὶ τὴν ἀκοσμίαν ταύτην ἀπήλασε, λόγῳ μόνῳ
the darkness and the disorder this drove-away by-a-word alone
ῥηθέντι ὑπ᾽ αὐτοῦ, ὡς ὁ βραδύγλωσσος ἀπεγράψατο· γῆν
spoken by him as the slow-of-tongue wrote-down earth
ἔπηξεν ἐφ᾽ ὕδασιν, οὐρανὸν ἐτάνυσεν, ἀστέρας ἐμόρφωσεν
he-fixed on waters heaven he-stretched-out stars he-formed
ἀπλανεῖς, δρόμον διετάξατο, οὓς σὺ σέβῃ θεοὺς, γῆν δὲ
fixed course he-ordered which you worship gods earth and
τοῖς ἄνθεσιν ἐκαλλώπισεν, ἄνθρωπον ἐκ μὴ ὄντων ἐς
with-the flowers he-adorned man from not being into
τὸ εἶναι παρήγαγε· καὶ ἔστιν ἐν οὐρανῷ βλέπων δικαίους
the to-be brought and he-is in heaven seeing just
τε κἀδίκους, καὶ ἐν βίβλοις τὰς πράξεις ἀπογραφόμενος·
both and-unjust and in books the deeds writing-down
ἀνταποδώσει δὲ πᾶσιν ἣν ἡμέραν αὐτὸς ἐνετείλατο.
he-will-repay and to-all on-which day he-himself commanded

CRITIAS Τὰ δὲ τῶν Μοιρῶν ἐπινενησμένα ἐς ἅπαντας, ιδ΄
the(-things) and of-the Fates spun for all
ἐγχαράττουσί γε καὶ ταῦτα;
do-they-engrave — also these-things
TRIEPHON Τὰ ποῖα;
the what(-things)
CRITIAS Τὰ τῆς εἱμαρμένης.
the(-things) of-the destiny
TRIEPHON Λέγε, ὦ καλὲ Κριτία, περὶ τῶν Μοιρῶν, ἐγὼ δὲ
speak O fine Critias about the Fates I and
μαθητιῶν ἀκούσαιμι περὶ σοῦ.
eager-to-learn would-hear about you
CRITIAS Οὐχ Ὅμηρος ὁ ἀοίδιμος ποιητὴς εἴρηκε,
not Homer the famous poet has-said

μοῖραν δ' οὔ τινά φημι πεφυγμένον ἔμμεναι ἀνδρῶν.
fate and not any I-say having-escaped to-be of-men

ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ μεγάλου Ἡρακλέους,
about and the great Heracles

οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐδὲ βίη Ἡρακλείη φύγε κῆρα,
not-even for not-even the-might Heraclean escaped doom
ὅσπερ φίλτατος ἔσκε Διῒ Κρονίωνι ἄνακτι,
who dearest was to-Zeus son-of-Cronus lord
ἀλλά ἑ Μοῖρ' ἐδάμασσε, καὶ ἀργαλέος χόλος Ἥρης.
but him Fate subdued and grievous wrath of-Hera

ἀλλὰ καὶ ὅλον τὸν βίον καθειμάρθαι, καὶ τὰς ἐν τούτῳ
but also whole the life to-be-fated and the in it
μεταβολάς·
changes

—— ἔνθα δ' ἔπειτα
there and then
πείσεται ἄσσα οἱ αἶσα κατακλῶθές τε βαρεῖαι
he-will-suffer whatever for-him destiny the-Spinners and heavy
γιγνομένῳ νήσαντο λίνῳ, ὅτε μιν τέκε μήτηρ.
for-him-being-born spun with-thread when him bore mother

καὶ τὰς ἐν ξένῃ ἐποχὰς ἀπ' ἐκείνης γίνεσθαι·
and the in foreign(-land) delays from her to-come-about

ἠδ' ὡς Αἴολον ἱκόμεθ', ὅς με πρόφρων ὑπέδεκτο,
and how to-Aeolus we-came who me kindly received
καὶ πέμπ', οὐδέπω αἶσα φίλην ἐς πατρίδ' ἱκέσθαι.
and sent(-me) not-yet destiny dear to fatherland to-reach

ὥστε πάντα ὑπὸ τῶν Μοιρῶν γίνεσθαι ὁ ποιητὴς
so-that all-things by the Fates come-about the poet
μεμαρτύρηκε. τὸν δὲ Δία μὴ θελῆσαι τὸν υἱὸν
has-testified — and Zeus not to-have-wished the son

—— θανάτοιο δυσηχέος ἐξαναλῦσαι,
from-death ill-sounding to-release

ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον
but rather

αἱματοέσσας δὲ ψιάδας κατέχευεν ἔραζε,
bloody and drops he-poured-down to-the-ground
παῖδα φίλον τιμῶν, τόν οἱ Πάτροκλος ἔμελλε
son dear honoring whom for-him Patroclus was-about
φθίσειν ἐν Τροίῃ.
to-destroy in Troy

ὥστε, ὦ Τριεφῶν, διὰ τοῦτο μηδὲν προσθεῖναι περὶ
so-that O Triephon because-of this nothing to-add about
τῶν Μοιρῶν ἐθελήσῃς, εἰ καὶ τάχα πεδάρσιος ἐγεγόνεις
the Fates (do)-you-wish if even perhaps aloft you-had-been
μετὰ τοῦ διδασκάλου, καὶ τὰ ἀπόῤῥητα ἐμυήθης.
with the teacher and the secret(-things) were-initiated-into
TRIEPHON Καὶ πῶς ὁ αὐτὸς ποιητὴς, ὦ καλὲ Κριτία, ιε′
and how the same poet O fine Critias
διττὴν ἐπιλέγει τὴν εἱμαρμένην καὶ ἀμφίβολον; ὡς τόδε
double proclaims the destiny and ambiguous that this
μέν τι πράξαντι, τοιῷδε τέλει συγκῦρσαι· τοῖον δὲ
indeed some(-thing) having-done to-such an-end to-come such and
ποιήσαντι, ἑτέρῳ τέλει ἐντυχεῖν; ὡς ἐπ' Ἀχιλλέως,
having-done another end to-meet as in-the-case-of Achilles

διχθαδίας κῆρας φερέμεν θανάτοιο τέλοσδε,
twofold dooms to-carry(-me) of-death to-the-end
εἰ μέν κ' αὖθι μένων Τρώων πόλιν ἀμφιμάχωμαι,
if indeed — here remaining of-the-Trojans the-city I-fight-around
ὤλετο μέν μοι νόστος, ἀτὰρ κλέος ἄφθιτον ἔσται.
has-perished — for-me return but glory imperishable will-be

εἰ δέ κεν οἴκαδ' ἵκωμαι,
if but — home I-come
ὄλετό μοι κλέος ἐσθλὸν, ἐπὶ δηρὸν δέ μοι αἰὼν
has-perished for-me glory noble for long and for-me life
ἔσσεται.
will-be

ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ Εὐχήνορος,
but also in-the-case-of Euchenor

ὅς ῥ' εὖ εἰδὼς κῆρ' ὀλοὴν, ἐπὶ νηὸς ἔβαινε.
who — well knowing doom deadly onto ship went
πολλάκι γάρ οἱ ἔειπε γέρων ἀγαθὸς Πολύϊδος,
often for to-him said old-man good Polyidus
νούσῳ ὑπ' ἀργαλέῃ φθῖσθαι οἷς ἐν μεγάροισιν.
disease by grievous to-perish his-own in halls
ἢ μετ' Ἀχαιῶν νηυσὶν ὑπὸ Τρώεσσι δαμῆναι.
or with Achaeans' ships at-the-hands-of Trojans to-be-subdued

ις' Οὐχὶ παρ' Ὁμήρῳ ταῦτα γέγραπται; ἢ ἀμφίβολος αὕτη
not in Homer these-things are-written or ambiguous this
καὶ ἀμφίκρημνος ἀπάτη; εἰ δὲ βούλει, καὶ τοῦ Διὸς ἐπιθήσω
and precipitous deceit if but you-wish also — of-Zeus I-will-add
σοι τὸν λόγον· οὐχὶ τῷ Αἰγίσθῳ εἴρηκεν ὡς ἀποσχομένῳ
to-you the word not — to-Aegisthus he-said that having-abstained
μὲν τῆς μοιχείας, καὶ τῆς Ἀγαμέμνονος ἐπιβουλῆς,
indeed from-the adultery and from-the of-Agamemnon plot
ζῆν καθείμαρται πολὺν χρόνον; ἐπιβαλλομένῳ δὲ ταῦτα
to-live is-fated much time setting-about but these-things
πράττειν, οὐ καθυστερεῖν θανάτου; τοῦτο κἀγὼ πολλάκις
to-do not to-lag-behind death this I-too often

προὐμαντευσάμην· ἐὰν κτάνῃς τὸν πλησίον, θανατωθήσῃ
foretold if you-kill the neighbor you-will-be-put-to-death
παρὰ τῆς δίκης· εἰ δέ γε μὴ τοῦτο πράξῃς, βιώσῃ καλῶς,
by the justice if but — not this you-do you-will-live well

οὐδέ σ' ὦκα θέμις τέλος θανάτοιο κιχείη.
nor you swiftly right end of-death may-overtake

οὐχ ὁρᾷς ὡς ἀδιόρθωτα τὰ τῶν ποιητῶν, καὶ ἀμφίλοξα,
not you-see how uncorrected the(-things) of-the poets and ambiguous
καὶ μηδέπω ἡδραιωμένα; ὥστε ἔασον ἅπαντα, ὡς καὶ σὲ
and not-yet settled so-that let-go all so-that also you
ἐν ταῖς ἐπουρανίοις βίβλοις τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἀπογράψωνται.
in the heavenly books of-the good they-may-write-down
CRITIAS Εὖ πάντα ἀνακυκλεῖς, ὦ Τριεφῶν, ἀλλά μοι ιζ′
well all you-revolve O Triephon but to-me
τόδε εἰπέ, εἰ καὶ τὰ τῶν Σκυθῶν ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ
this tell if also the(-deeds) of-the Scythians in the heaven
ἐγχαράττουσι;
they-engrave
TRIEPHON Πάντα, εἰ τύχοι γε Χρηστὸς καὶ ἐν ἔθνεσι.
all if happens-to-be — a-Good(-one) even among gentiles
CRITIAS Πολλούς γε γραφέας φῂς ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ,
many — scribes you-say(-there-are) in the heaven
ὡς ἅπαντα ἀπογράφεσθαι.
so-that everything to-be-written-down
TRIEPHON Εὐστόμει, καὶ μηδὲν εἴπῃς φλαῦρον θεοῦ δεξιοῦ,
speak-well and nothing say mean of-God propitious
ἀλλὰ κατηχούμενος πείθου παρ' ἐμοῦ, εἴπερ ζῆν χρῄζεις
but being-catechized be-persuaded by me if to-live you-desire
εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. εἰ οὐρανὸν ὡς δέῤῥιν ἐξήπλωσε, γῆν δὲ
for the age if heaven like a-skin he-spread-out earth and

ἐφ᾽ ὕδατος ἔπηξεν, ἀστέρας ἐμόρφωσεν, ἄνθρωπον ἐκ μὴ
on water fixed stars formed man from not
ὄντος παρήγαγε, τί παράδοξον, καὶ τὰς πράξεις πάντων
being brought what strange also the deeds of-all
ἐναπογράφεσθαι; καὶ γὰρ σοὶ οἰκίδιον κατασκευάσαντι,
to-be-written-in and for for-you a-little-house having-built
οἰκέτιδας δὲ καὶ οἰκέτας ἐν αὐτῷ συναγαγόντι, οὐδέποτέ
maidservants and and menservants in it having-gathered never
σε διέλαθε τούτων πρᾶξις ἀπόβλητος· πόσῳ μᾶλλον
you escaped of-these a-deed wanton by-how-much more
τὸν πάντα πεποιηκότα θεὸν οὐχ ἅπαντα ἐν εὐκολίᾳ
the(-one) all having-made God not all-things in ease
διαδραμεῖν ἑκάστου πρᾶξιν καὶ ἔννοιαν; οἱ γάρ σου θεοὶ
to-run-through of-each the-deed and thought the for your gods
κότταβος τοῖς εὖ φρονοῦσιν ἐγένοντο.
a-cottabus to-the(-ones) well thinking became

ιη΄ CRITIAS Πάνυ εὖ λέγεις, καί με ἀντιστρόφως τῆς Νιόβης
very well you-speak and me in-reverse — of-Niobe
παθεῖν· ἐκ στήλης γὰρ ἄνθρωπος ἀναπέφηνα. ὥστε τοῦτον
to-suffer from a-pillar for a-man I-have-appeared so-that this
τὸν θεὸν προστιθῶ σοι, μὴ κακόν τι παθεῖν παρ᾽ ἐμοῦ.
— God I-add to-you not evil any to-suffer from me
TRIEPHON Εἴπερ ἐκ καρδίας μ᾽ ὄντως φιλεῖς, μὴ ἑτερεῖόν
if from heart me truly you-love not other
τι ποιήσῃς ἐν ἐμοὶ,
any(-thing) do in me

καὶ ἕτερον κεύσῃς μὲν ἐνὶ φρεσὶν, ἄλλο δὲ εἴπῃς.
and one-thing hide indeed in mind other and say

ἀλλ᾽ ἄγε δὴ τὸ θαυμάσιον ἐκεῖνο ἀκουσμάτιον ἄεισον, ὅπως
but come — the wonderful that little-hearing sing so-that
κἀγὼ κατωχριάσω, καὶ ὅλως ἀλλοιωθῶ, καὶ οὐχ ὡς ἡ Νιόβη
I-too may-turn-pale and wholly be-altered and not like — Niobe
ἀπαυδήσω, ἀλλ᾽ ὡς ἀηδὼν ὄρνεον γενήσομαι, καὶ τὴν
be-dumbstruck but like a-nightingale bird I-will-become and the
θαυμασίαν σου ἔκπληξιν κατ᾽ ἀνθηρὸν λειμῶνα ἐκτραγῳδήσω.
wonderful your amazement over flowery meadow I-will-tell-as-a-tragedy
CRITIAS Νὴ τὸν υἱὸν τὸν ἐκ πατρὸς, οὐ τοῦτο γενήσεται.
by — Son the(-one) from the-Father not this will-happen
TRIEPHON Λέγε, παρὰ τοῦ πνεύματος δύναμιν τοῦ λόγου
speak from the Spirit power of-the word
λαβών. ἐγὼ δὲ καθεδοῦμαι,
having-received I and will-sit

δέγμενος Αἰακίδην ὁπότε λήξειεν ἀείδων.
awaiting the-Aeacid when he-should-cease singing

III · THE MEETING UNDER THE ROOF

Critias tells how men in the street foretold debts canceled and gold flowing; one drew him into a gold-roofed house where pale men foretold the city's defeat, and their blame struck him dumb until Triephon's words restored him. Cleolaus brings news that the Persians have fallen and Susa is taken, and the friends thank God for the emperor's reign.

CRITIAS Ἀπήειν ἐπὶ τὴν λεωφόρον, ὠνησόμενός γε τὰ ιθ′
I-was-going to the highway to-buy — the
χρειωδέστατα, καὶ δὴ ὁρῶ πλῆθος πάμπολυ ἐς τὸ οὖς
most-necessary(-things) and indeed I-see a-crowd very-large into the ear

ψιθυρίζοντας, ἐπὶ δὲ τῇ ἀκοῇ ἔφυντο τοῖς χείλεσιν· ἐγὼ
whispering on and the hearing they-grew to-the lips I
δὲ παπτήνας ἐς ἅπαντας, καὶ τὴν χεῖρα τοῖς βλεφάροις
and having-peered at all and the hand over-the eyelids
περικάμψας, ἐσκοπίαζον ὀξυδερκέστατα, εἴ πού γέ τινα
having-curved was-looking-out most-sharply if perhaps — any
τῶν φίλων θεάσωμαι. ὁρῶ δὲ Κράτωνα τὸν πολιτικὸν,
of-the friends I-might-see I-see and Craton the politician
παιδόθεν φίλον ὄντα καὶ συμποτικόν.
from-childhood a-friend being and drinking-companion
TRIEPHON Αἰσθάνομαι τοῦτον. τὸν ἐξισωτὴν γὰρ εἴρηκας·
I-perceive him the assessor for you-have-mentioned
εἶτα τί;
then what
CRITIAS Καὶ δὴ πολλοὺς παραγκωνισάμενος ἦκον ἐς τὰ
and indeed many having-elbowed-aside I-came to the
πρόσω, καὶ τὸ ἑωθινὸν, χαῖρε, εἰπὼν, ἐχώρουν ὡς αὐτόν.
front and the morning hail having-said I-went to him
κ′ Ἀνθρωπίσκος δέ τις, τοὔνομα Χαρίκενος, σεσημμένον
a-manikin and a-certain the-name Charicenus a-rotten
γερόντιον, ῥέγχον τῇ ῥινὶ, ὑπέβηττε μύχιον, ἐχρέμπτετο
little-old-man snoring with-the nose coughed secretly hawked
ἐπισεσυρμένον· ὁ δὲ πτύελος κυανώτερος θανάτου· εἶτα
dragging the and spittle darker than-death then
ἤρξατο ἐπιφθέγγεσθαι κατισχνημένον· „οὗτος, ὡς προεῖπον,
he-began to-utter feebly he as I-said-before
τοὺς τῶν ἐξισωτῶν καταλείπει ἐλειπασμοὺς, καὶ τὰ χρέα
the of-the assessors cancels arrears and the debts
τοῖς δανεισταῖς ἀποδώσει, καὶ τά τε ἐνοίκια πάντα, καὶ
to-the creditors will-pay and the both rents all and
τὰ δημόσια. καὶ τὰς εἰραμύγγας δέξεται, μὴ ἐξετάζων
the public(-dues) and the bribes will-receive not inquiring-into

τῆς τέχνης," καὶ κατεφλυάρει ἔτι πικρότερα. οἱ
the craft and he-babbled-on still more-bitter(-things) the(-ones)
περὶ αὐτὸν δὲ ἥδοντο τοῖς λόγοις, καὶ τῷ καινῷ τῶν
around him and were-pleased with-the words and to-the novelty of-the
ἀκουσμάτων προσέκειντο.
things-heard devoted-themselves
Ἕτερος δὲ τοὔνομα Χλευόχαρμος, τριβώνιον ἔχων κα′
another and the-name Chleuocharmus a-little-cloak having
πολύσαθρον, ἀνυπόδετός τε, καὶ ἄσκεπος, μετέειπε, τοῖς
full-of-holes unshod both and bareheaded spoke-among(-them) with-the
ὀδοῦσιν ἐπικροτῶν, ὡς „ἐπεδείξατό μοί τις κακοείμων,
teeth chattering that showed me someone ill-clad
ἐξ ὀρέων παραγενόμενος, κεκαρμένος τὴν κόμην, ἐν τῷ
from mountains having-come shorn the hair in the
θεάτρῳ ἀναγεγραμμένον ὄνομα ἱερογλυφικοῖς γράμμασιν,
theater inscribed a-name in-hieroglyphic letters
ὡς οὗτος τῷ χρυσῷ ἐπικλύσει τὴν λεωφόρον·" ἦν δ'
that he with-the gold will-flood the highway said and
ἐγὼ, „κατὰ μὲν τὰ Ἀριστάνδρου καὶ Ἀρτεμιδώρου
I according-to indeed the(-books) of-Aristander and Artemidorus
οὐ καλῶς ἀποβήσονται ταῦτά γε τὰ ἐνύπνια ἐν ὑμῖν·
not well will-turn-out these — the dreams for you
ἀλλὰ σοὶ μὲν τὰ χρέα πληθυνθήσεται ἀναλόγως τῆς
but for-you indeed the debts will-be-multiplied in-proportion-to the
ἀποδόσεως· οὗτος δὲ ἐπιπολὺ τοῦ ὀβολοῦ γε στερηθήσεται,
repayment he and by-far of-the obol — will-be-deprived
ὡς πολλοῦ χρυσίου εὐπορηκώς. καὶ ἔμοιγε δοκεῖτε ἐπὶ
as much gold having-come-into and to-me you-seem at
λευκάδα πέτρην, καὶ δῆμον ὀνείρων καταδαρθέντες,
white rock and people of-dreams having-fallen-asleep
τοσαῦτα ὀνειροπολεῖν ἐν ἀκαρεῖ τῆς νυκτὸς οὔσης."
so-many(-things) to-dream in a-moment the night being

κβ΄ Οἱ δὲ ἀνεκάγχασαν ἅπαντες, ὡς ἀποπνιγέντες ὑπὸ τοῦ
they and burst-out-laughing all as choked by the
γέλωτος, καὶ τῆς ἀμαθίας μου κατεγίνωσκον· ἦν δ᾽
laughter and the ignorance my condemned said and
ἐγὼ πρὸς Κράτωνα, „μῶν κακῶς πάντα ἐξερρίνισα,
I to Craton surely-not badly all I-have-scented-out
ἵν᾽ εἴπω τι κωμικευσάμενος, καὶ οὐ κατὰ
that I-may-say something having-played-the-comedian and not according-to
Ἀρίστανδρον τὸν Τελμισέα καὶ Ἀρτεμίδωρον τὸν Ἐφέσιον,
Aristander the Telmissian and Artemidorus the Ephesian
ἐξίχνευσα τοῖς ὀνείρασιν;" ἦ δ᾽ ὅς, „σίγα, ὦ Κριτία,
I-tracked the dreams said and he hush O Critias
εἰ ἐχεμυθεῖς, μυσταγωγήσω σε τὰ κάλλιστα καὶ
if you-keep-silent I-will-initiate you-into the finest(-things) and
τὰ νῦν γενησόμενα. οὐ γὰρ ὄνειροι τάδ᾽ εἰσὶν, ἀλλ᾽
the(-things) now going-to-happen not for dreams these are but
ἀληθῆ. ἐκβήσονται δὲ εἰς μῆνα Μεσορί." ταῦτα
true(-things) they-will-come-to-pass and in the-month Mesori these-things
ἀκηκοὼς παρὰ τοῦ Κράτωνος, καὶ τὸ ὀλισθηρὸν τῆς
having-heard from — Craton and the slipperiness of-the
διανοίας αὐτῶν κατεγνωκὼς, ἠρυθρίασα καὶ σκυθρωπάζων
mind their having-condemned I-blushed and scowling
ἐπορευόμην, πολλὰ τὸν Κράτωνα ἐπιμεμφόμενος. εἷς δὲ
I-went much — Craton blaming one and
δριμὺ καὶ Τιτανῶδες ἐνιδὼν, δραξάμενός μου τοῦ
keenly and Titan-like having-looked-at(-me) having-grabbed my the
λώπους, ἐσπάρασε, ῥήτρην ποιήσασθαι πειθόμενός τε καὶ
cloak tore(-it) a-compact to-hold persuaded both and
παρανυττόμενος παρὰ τοῦ πεπαλαιωμένου ἐκείνου δαιμονίου.
nudged by the aged that deity

Εἰς λόγους δὲ ταῦτα παρεκτείναντες, πείθει με τὸν κγ΄
into talk and these-things having-drawn-out he-persuades me the
κακοδαίμονα εἰς γόητας ἀνθρώπους παραγενέσθαι, καὶ
ill-starred to sorcerous men to-go and
ἀποφράδι τὸ δὴ λεγόμενον ἡμέρᾳ συγκυρῆσαι.
on-an-ill-omened the(-thing) indeed called day to-meet(-them)
ἔφασκε γὰρ πάντα ἐξ αὐτῶν μυσταγωγηθῆναι. καὶ δὴ
he-said for all-things by them to-be-initiated and indeed
διήλθομεν σιδηρέας τε πύλας καὶ χαλκέους οὐδούς.
we-passed-through iron both gates and bronze thresholds
ἀναβάθρας δὲ πλείστας περικυκλωσάμενοι, ἐς χρυσόροφον
stairs and very-many having-wound-around into a-gold-roofed
οἶκον ἀνήλθομεν, οἷον Ὅμηρος τὸν Μενελάου φησί.
house we-went-up such-as Homer the(-house) of-Menelaus says
καὶ δὴ ἅπαντα ἐσκωπίαζον, ὅσα ὁ νησιώτης ἐκεῖνος
and indeed all-things I-was-looking-at as-many-as the islander that
νεανίσκος. ὁρῶ δὲ οὐχ Ἑλένην, μὰ Δί᾽, ἀλλ᾽ ἄνδρας
young-man I-see and not Helen by Zeus but men
ἐπικεκυφότας καὶ κατωχριωμένους· οἱ δὲ ἰδόντες γήθησαν,
bent-down and grown-pale they and having-seen rejoiced
καὶ ἐξεναντίας παρεγένοντο· ἔφασκον γὰρ, ὡς εἴ τινα
and from-the-opposite(-side) came-near they-said for as if any
λυγρὰν ἀγγελίαν ἀγάγοιμεν. ἐφαίνοντο γὰρ οὗτοι ὡς τὰ
baleful news we-brought they-appeared for these as the
κάκιστα εὐχόμενοι, καὶ ἔχαιρον ἐπὶ τοῖς λυγροῖς, ὥσπερ
worst(-things) praying and they-rejoiced at the baleful(-things) as

αἱ ποινοποιοὶ ἐπὶ θέατρα, τὰς κεφαλὰς δ' ἄγχι σχόντες
the avengers at theaters the heads and near having-held
ἐψιθύριζον. μετὰ δὲ τὰ ἤροντό με,
whispered after and these-things they-asked me

„τίς, πόθεν εἶς ἀνδρῶν, πόθι τοι πόλις, ἠδὲ τοκῆες;
who whence are-you of-men where your city and parents

χρηστὸς γὰρ ἂν εἴης, ἀπό γε τοῦ σχήματος." ἦν
good for — you-would-be from — the bearing said
δ' ἐγὼ, „ὀλίγοι γε χρηστοὶ, ὥσπερ βλέπω πανταχοῦ·
and I few — good(-men) as I-see everywhere
Κριτίας δὲ τοὔνομα, πόλις δέ μοι ἔνθεν, ὅθεν καὶ ὑμῖν."
Critias and the-name city and to-me thence whence also to-you
κδ′ Ὡς δ' ἀεροβατοῦντες ἐπυνθάνοντο, „πῶς τὰ τῆς
when and walking-the-air they-inquired how the(-things) of-the
πόλεως, καὶ τὰ τοῦ κόσμου;" ἦν δ' ἐγὼ, „χαίρουσί
city and the(-things) of-the world said and I rejoice
γε πάντες, καὶ ἔτι γε χαιρήσονται." οἱ δὲ ἀνένευον ταῖς
— all and still — will-rejoice they and nodded-back with-the
ὀφρύσιν· „οὐχ οὕτω, δυστοκεῖ γὰρ ἡ πόλις." ἦν δ' ἐγὼ
brows not so is-in-hard-labor for the city said and I
κατὰ τὴν αὐτῶν γνώμην· „ὑμεῖς πεδάρσιοι ὄντες, καὶ
according-to the their opinion you aloft being and
ὡς ἀπὸ ὑψηλοῦ ἅπαντα καθορῶντες, ὀξυδερκέστατα καὶ
as from on-high all-things looking-down most-sharply also
τάδε νενοήκατε. πῶς δὲ τὰ τοῦ αἰθέρος; μῶν
these-things have-perceived how and the(-things) of-the ether surely-not
ἐκλείψει ὁ ἥλιος, ἡ δὲ σελήνη κατὰ κάθετον γενήσεται;
will-fail the sun the and moon in perpendicular will-be
ὁ Ἄρης εἰ τετραγωνήσει τὸν Δία, καὶ ὁ Κρόνος
— Ares whether will-square — Zeus and — Cronus

διαμετρήσει τὸν ἥλιον; ἡ Ἀφροδίτη εἰ μετὰ τοῦ
will-be-in-opposition-to the sun — Aphrodite whether with —
Ἑρμοῦ συνοδεύσει, καὶ Ἑρμαφροδίτους ἀποκυήσουσιν, ἐφ᾽
Hermes will-travel-together and Hermaphrodites will-bring-forth at
οἷς ὑμεῖς ἥδεσθε; εἰ ῥαγδαίους ὑετοὺς ἐκπέμψουσιν;
which you rejoice whether violent rains they-will-send-out
εἰ νιφετὸν πολὺν ἐπιστρωννύσουσι τῇ γῇ, χάλαζαν δὲ
whether snowfall much they-will-spread on-the earth hail and
καὶ ἐρυσίβην εἰ κατάξουσι, λοιμὸν καὶ λιμὸν εἰ
and blight whether they-will-bring-down plague and famine whether
ἐπιπέμψουσιν, εἰ τὸ κεραυνοβόλον ἀγγεῖον ἀπεγεμίσθη,
they-will-send-on whether the lightning-hurling vessel has-been-emptied
καὶ τὸ βροντοποιὸν δοχεῖον ἀνεμεστώθη;"
and the thunder-making receptacle has-been-filled-up
Οἱ δὲ ὡς ἅπαντα κατωρθωκότες κατεφλυάρουν τὰ αὐτῶν κε΄
they and as all having-set-right babbled-out the their
ἐράσμια, ὡς μεταλλαγῶσι τὰ πράγματα, ἀταξίαι δὲ καὶ
darling(-hopes) that will-be-changed the affairs disorders and and
ταραχαὶ τὴν πόλιν καταλήψονται, τὰ στρατόπεδα ἥττονα
tumults the city will-seize the armies weaker
τῶν ἐναντίων γενήσονται. τοῦτο ἐκταραχθεὶς, καὶ ὥσπερ
than-the opponents will-become at-this thrown-into-confusion and like
πρῖνος καόμενος οἰδηθεὶς, διάτορον ἀνεβόησα, „ὦ δαιμόνιοι
holm-oak burning swollen piercingly I-shouted O strange-ones
ἀνδρῶν, μὴ μεγάλα λίαν λέγετε, θήγοντες ὀδόντας κατ᾽
among-men not great-things too-much say whetting teeth against
ἀνδρῶν θυμολεόντων, πνειόντων δόρυ καὶ λόγχας καὶ
men lion-hearted breathing spear and lances and
λευκολόφους τριφαλείας· ἀλλὰ ταῦθ᾽ ὑμῖν ἐπὶ κεφαλὴν
white-crested triple-plumed-helmets but these-things for-you on head
καταβήσεται, ὡς τὴν πατρίδα ὑμῶν κατατρύχετε. οὐ γὰρ
will-come-down since the fatherland your you-wear-out not for

αἰθεροβατοῦντες ταῦτα ἠκηκόητε, οὐ τὴν πολυάσχολον
walking-the-ether these-things you-have-heard not the much-occupied
μαθηματικὴν κατωρθώκατε. εἰ δέ γε μαντεῖαι καὶ γοητεῖαι
mathematics have-you-mastered if but — prophecies and sorceries
ὑμᾶς παρέπεισαν, διπλοῦν τὸ τῆς ἀμαθίας. γυναικῶν
you have-misled double the(-thing) of-the ignorance of-women
γὰρ εὑρέματα ταῦτα γραϊδίων. καὶ παίγνια. ἐπιπολὺ γὰρ
for inventions these-things of-old-women and playthings by-far for
τὰ τοιαῦτα αἱ τῶν γυναικῶν ἐπίνοιαι μετέρχονται."
the such(-things) the of-the women conceits pursue

κς′ TRIEPHON Τί δὲ πρὸς ταῦτα ἔφησαν, ὦ καλὲ Κριτία,
what and to these-things said O fine Critias
οἱ κεκαρμένοι τὴν γνώμην καὶ τὴν διάνοιαν;
the(-ones) shorn the mind and the understanding

CRITIAS Ἅπαντα ταῦτα παρέδραμον, εἰς ἐπίνοιαν
all these-things they-ran-past to a-device
τετεχνασμένην καταπεφευγότες· ἔλεγον γὰρ „ἡλίους
contrived having-fled-for-refuge they-said for suns
δέκα ἄσιτοι διαμενοῦμεν, καὶ ἐπὶ παννύχους ὑμνῳδίας
ten without-food we-will-remain and in all-night hymn-singings
ἐπαγρυπνοῦντες ὀνειρώττομεν τὰ τοιαῦτα."
keeping-awake we-dream the such(-things)

TRIEPHON Σὺ δὲ τί πρὸς αὐτοὺς εἴρηκας; μέγα γὰρ
you and what to them have-you-said great(-thing) for
ἔφησαν καὶ διηπορημένον.
they-said and perplexing

CRITIAS Θάρσει, οὐκ ἀγεννὲς, ἀντεῖπον γὰρ τὰ κάλλιστα.
take-heart not ignobly I-answered for the finest(-things)
„τὰ γὰρ παρὰ τῶν ἀστικῶν θρυλλούμενα," ἔφην,
the(-things) for by the townsfolk bandied-about I-said
„περὶ ὑμῶν, ὁπόταν ὀνειροπολεῖτε, τὰ τοιαῦτά που
about you whenever you-dream the such(-things) somehow

παρεισάγονται.” οἱ δὲ σεσηρὸς ὑπομειδιῶντες, „ἔξω που
are-brought-in they and grinning smiling-a-little outside somehow
παρέρχονται τοῦ κλινιδίου.” ἦν δ’ ἐγὼ, „εἰ ἀληθῆ εἰσι
they-go-by the little-bed said and I if true are
ταῦτα, ὦ αἰθέριοι, οὐκ ἄν ποτε ἀσφαλῶς τὰ μέλλοντα
these-things O ethereal-ones not — ever safely the(-things) coming
ἐξιχνεύσητε· ἀλλὰ καταπεισθέντες ὑπ’ αὐτῶν ληρήσετε
you-would-track-out but having-been-persuaded by them you-will-babble
τὰ μὴ ὄντα, μηδὲ γενησόμενα. ἀλλὰ ταῦτα μὲν οὐκ
the(-things) not being nor going-to-be but these-things indeed not
οἶδ’ ὅπως ληρεῖτε, ὀνείροις πιστεύοντες, καὶ τὰ κάλλιστα
I-know how you-babble in-dreams trusting and the finest(-things)
βδελύττεσθε, τοῖς δὲ πονηροῖς ἥδεσθε, μηδὲν ὀνούμενοι
you-loathe in-the and wicked(-things) you-delight not-at-all profiting
τοῦ βδελύγματος. ὥστε ἐάσετε τὰς ἀλλοκότους ταύτας
from-the abomination so-that you-will-let-go the strange these
φαντασίας, καὶ τὰ πονηρὰ βουλεύματα, καὶ μαντεύματα,
fancies and the wicked counsels and oracles
μή που θεὸς ὑμᾶς ἐς κόρακας βάλοι, διὰ τὸ τῇ
lest perhaps God you to the-crows should-cast because-of the the
πατρίδι ἐπαρᾶσθαι, καὶ λόγους κιβδήλους ἐπιφημίζειν.”
fatherland to-curse and words counterfeit spreading-about
Οὗτοι δὲ ἅπαντες ἕνα θυμὸν ἔχοντες ἐμοὶ πολλὰ κζ′
these and all one spirit having to-me much
κατεμέμφοντο. καὶ εἰ βούλει, καὶ τά γε προστιθῶ σοι,
blamed and if you-wish also the(-things) — I-add to-you
ἅτινά με καὶ ὡς στήλην ἄναυδον ἔθηκαν, μέχρις ἂν ἡ χρηστή
which me also like a-pillar speechless made until — the good
σου λαλιὰ λιθούμενον ἀνέλυσε, καὶ ἄνθρωπον ἀπεκατέστησε.
your talk turned-to-stone loosed and a-man restored

TRIEPHON Σίγα, ὦ Κριτία, καὶ μὴ ὑπερεκτείνῃς τοὺς ὕθλους.
hush O Critias and not stretch-out the drivel
ὁρᾷς γὰρ ὡς ἐξώγκωταί μου ἡ νηδὺς, καὶ ὥσπερ
you-see for how is-swollen my the belly and as-if
κυοφορῶ· ἐδήχθην γὰρ τοῖς παρὰ σοῦ λόγοις, ὡς ὑπὸ
I-am-pregnant I-was-bitten for by-the from you words as by
κυνὸς λυττῶντος· καὶ εἰ μὴ φάρμακον ληθεδανὸν ἐμπιὼν
a-dog mad and if not a-drug of-forgetfulness having-drunk
ἠρεμήσω, αὕτη ἡ μνήμη οἰκουροῦσα ἐν ἐμοὶ μέγα κακὸν
I-shall-be-quiet this the memory keeping-house in me great evil
ἐργάσεται. ὥστε ἔασον τούτους, τὴν εὐχὴν ἀπὸ πατρὸς
will-work so-that let-go these the prayer from the-Father
ἀρξάμενος, καὶ τὴν πολυώνυμον ᾠδὴν ἐς τέλος ἐπιθείς.
having-begun and the many-named hymn to the-end having-set
κη΄ Ἀλλὰ τί τοῦτο; οὐχὶ Κλεόλαος οὗτός ἐστιν, ὁ τοῖς
but what this not Cleolaus this is the(-one) with-the
ποσὶ μακρὰ βιβὰς, σπουδῇ δὲ ἥκει καὶ κατέρχεται; μῶν
feet long striding with-haste and comes and comes-down perhaps
ἐπιφωνήσομεν αὐτῷ;
shall-we-call to-him
CRITIAS Καὶ μάλα.
very much(-so)
TRIEPHON Κλεόλαε, μή τι παραδράμῃς γε ποσὶ, μηδὲ
Cleolaus not at-all run-past — with-feet nor
παρέλθῃς, ἀλλ' ἐλθὲ χαίρων, εἴγε που μῦθον φέρεις.
pass-by but come rejoicing if-indeed perhaps a-tale you-bring
CLEOLAUS Χαίρετ' ἄμφω, ὦ καλὴ ξυνωρίς.
hail both O fine pair

TRIEPHON Τίς ἡ σπουδή; ἀσθμαίνεις γὰρ ἐπιπολύ. μῶν
what the haste you-pant for greatly surely-not
τι καινὸν πέπρακται;
something new has-been-done

CLEOLAUS Πέπτωκεν ὀφρῦς ἡ πάλαι βοωμένη Περσῶν·
has-fallen the-brow the(-one) of-old shouted of-the-Persians
καὶ Σοῦσα κλεινὸν ἄστυ.
and Susa famous city
πέσει δ' ἔτι γε πᾶσα χθὼν Ἀραβίας,
will-fall and still — all land of-Arabia
χειρὶ κρατοῦντος εὐσθενωτάτῳ κράτει.
by-the-hand of-the-ruler with-most-mighty power

CRITIAS Τοῦτ' ἐκεῖνο, ὡς κθ΄
this that how

ἀεὶ τὸ θεῖον οὐκ ἀμελεῖ τῶν ἀγαθῶν,
always the divine not neglects the good
ἀλλ' αὔξει, ἄγον ἐπὶ τὰ κρείττονα.
but increases(-them) leading to the better(-things)

ἡμεῖς δὲ, ὦ Τριεφῶν, τὰ κάλλιστα εὑρηκότες ἐσμέν.
we and O Triephon the finest(-things) having-found are
ἐδυσχέραινον γὰρ ἐν τῇ ἀποβιώσει τί τοῖς τέκνοις
I-was-vexed for at the departing-life what to-the children
καταλιπεῖν ἐπὶ ταῖς διαθήκαις. οἶδας γὰρ τὴν ἐμὴν
to-leave in the wills you-know for the my
πενίαν, ὡς ἐγὼ τὰ σά. τοῦτο ἀρκεῖ τοῖς παισὶν,
poverty as I the(-things) yours this suffices for-the children

αἱ ἡμέραι τοῦ αὐτοκράτορος· πλοῦτος γὰρ ἡμᾶς οὐκ
the days of-the emperor wealth for us not
ἐκλείψει, καὶ ἔθνος ἡμᾶς οὐ καταπτοήσει.
will-fail and nation us not will-terrify
TRIEPHON Κἀγὼ, ὦ Κριτία, ταῦτα καταλείπω τοῖς τέκνοις,
I-too O Critias these-things leave to-the children
ὡς ἴδωσι Βαβυλῶνα ὀλλυμένην, Αἴγυπτον δουλουμένην, τὰ
that they-may-see Babylon perishing Egypt enslaved the
τῶν Περσῶν τέκνα δούλειον ἦμαρ ἄγοντα, τὰς ἐκδρομὰς τῶν
of-the Persians children a-slavish day leading the raids of-the
Σκυθῶν παυομένας, εἴτ' οὖν καὶ ἀνακοπτομένας. ἡμεῖς δὲ
Scythians ceasing or then even beaten-back we and
τὸν ἐν Ἀθήναις Ἄγνωστον ἐφευρόντες, καὶ προσκυνήσαντες,
the in Athens Unknown(-god) having-found and having-worshiped
χεῖρας εἰς οὐρανὸν ἐκτείναντες τούτῳ εὐχαριστήσομεν, ὡς
hands to heaven having-stretched-out him will-thank as
καταξιωθέντες τοιούτου κράτους ὑπήκοοι γενέσθαι· τοὺς
having-been-deemed-worthy-of such power subjects to-become the
δὲ λοιποὺς ληρεῖν ἐάσωμεν, ἀρκεσθέντες ὑπὲρ αὐτῶν εἰπεῖν
and rest to-babble let-us-let having-been-content about them to-say
τὸ, Οὐ φροντὶς Ἱπποκλείδῃ, κατὰ τὴν παροιμίαν.
the(-word) not a-care to-Hippocleides according-to the proverb

THEODORE PRODROMOS

ΒΙΩΝ ΠΡΑΣΙΣ ΠΟΙΗΤΙΚΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΩΝ

The Sale of Poetical and Political Lives

Zeus has the market set up and bids Hermes proclaim the sale of poetic and political lives. First comes blind Homer, who answers in his own verses. Hermes praises him as the gods' benefactor, and the buyer quizzes him on meter and blindness. Hermes then commends him as general, archer, cupbearer, physician, and punisher, and he is sold for five talents to Hermagoras the Athenian.

ZEUS Τὸν μὲν τόπον, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, καὶ τὰ βάθρα, καὶ τὴν
the indeed place O Hermes and the benches and the
λοιπὴν τοῦ πωλήτρου διασκευὴν χθὲς εὖ ποιοῦντες
rest of-the selling-place furnishing yesterday well doing
τετεύχαμεν, καὶ οὐκ ἂν δευτέρας ἡμῖν δεήσει
we-have-made-ready and not — a-second for-us will-be-needed
παρασκευῆς. Ναὶ μέντοι οὐδὲ τῷ κήρυκί σοι πολλὰ
preparation yes however nor for-the herald for-you much
βοᾷν πρὸς ἀνάγκης ἔσται, καλέσοντι τοὺς ὠνησομένους.
to-shout of necessity will-it-be going-to-call the(-ones) going-to-buy
Ἀπέχρησε γὰρ αὐτοῖς τὸ χθιζὸν ἐπάγγελμα ἀντὶ τοῦ
sufficed for for-them the yesterday's announcement instead-of the
κηρύγματος. Καὶ ἤδη συνίασιν ὅτι πολλοί. Λοιπόν,
proclamation and already they-are-assembling very many for-the-rest
δεῖ τοῦτο, καὶ οὓς ἀποκηρύττομεν βίους ἀνειπεῖν τοῖς
it-is-needful this also which we-are-auctioning lives to-proclaim to-the
ἀγορασταῖς. Οἱ μὲν γὰρ πρὸς τὴν χθὲς ἀφεωρακότες
buyers they indeed for to the yesterday having-looked
ἐπαγγελίαν, ἀγοραίους ὠνήσασθαι βίους συνεληλύθασι,
announcement marketplace to-buy lives have-come-together
ὡς ἔκ τε τοῦ ζώσματος, καὶ τῶν σανδάλων, καὶ τῆς
as from both the girdle and the sandals and the

ἀσβόλης, καὶ τοῦ αὐχμοῦ τεκμήρασθαι ἔπεισιν· ἡμῖν δὲ
soot and the squalor to-judge it-is-possible for-us but
ποιητικοὶ καὶ πολιτικοὶ τὸ ἀποκηρυχθησόμενον.
poetical and political the(-thing) going-to-be-auctioned

HERMES Καὶ πῶς ἂν, ὦ πάτερ ἡμέτερε, δυναίμην πρὸς
and how — O father our could-I to
οὕτως ἀγροίκους καὶ ἐπιεικῶς σκαπανέας ποιεῖσθαι τὸ
such rustics and fairly diggers make the
κήρυγμα, Ἑρμῆς τε ὤν; Πῶς δὲ καὶ τῶν μέτρων οὗτοι
proclamation Hermes — being how and also the meters these
συνήσουσιν, ὁποῖα πολλὰ ὑπὸ σοῦ κελεύομαι ῥαψῳδεῖν
will-understand such-as many by you I-am-bidden to-recite
ἐπὶ τοῖς κηρύγμασιν;
at the proclamations

ZEUS Οἶδας, ὦ Ἀργειφόντα, τί ποτε ποιεῖν ἐπετράπης
you-know O Argus-slayer what — to-do you-were-charged
πρὸς τοὺς ἀγροικοτέρους θεῶν, ὁπηνίκα συνεκκλησιάζειν
with the more-rustic gods whenever to-meet-in-assembly
ἡμῖν ἀνάγκη ἐκείνους, οἷον τὸν Ἄνουβιν, καὶ τὸν
with-us it-is-necessary-for them such-as — Anubis and —
Βένδιν καὶ τὸν Ῥόδιον Κολοσσόν. Ἐπικατανεύεις γὰρ,
Bendis and the Rhodian Colossus you-nod for
οἶμαι, ὡς τὰ πολλὰ τῇ χειρί· οἱ δ' ἐντεῦθεν τὸ
I-think as the many(-times) with-the hand they and thence the(-thing)
ποιητέον αἰσθάνονται. Τοῦτο δὲ κἀνταῦθα ποίει, ἐπισείων
to-be-done perceive this and here-too do shaking
τὴν χεῖρα, καὶ διανεύων ὡς τὸ εἰκὸς, ἔστι δὲ ἃ
the hand and nodding as — fitting there-are and (things)-which
καὶ ἐπικηρύττων. Συνεληλύθασι γὰρ ὡς ὁρᾷς, καί τινες
also proclaiming have-come-together for as you-see also some

Ἑλλήνων ἀμφὶ τουτοῖ τὸ κοινώνημα, οἵ σου καὶ τοῦ
of-Greeks about this the gathering who you and the
κηρύγματος ἐπαισθήσονται.
proclamation will-perceive

HERMES Βίους ποιητικοὺς καὶ πολιτικοὺς ἀποκηρύττομεν, ὦ
lives poetical and political we-are-auctioning O
ἄνδρες Ἕλληνες, τήμερον· πάρεσθε ἀγαθῇ τύχῃ ὠνησόμενοι.
men Greeks today be-present with-good fortune to-buy

ZEUS Ἱκανῶς κεκήρυκται. Λοιπὸν ἐπισημήνασθαι δεῖ
sufficiently it-has-been-proclaimed for-the-rest to-signify it-is-needful-for
σε καὶ τῇ χειρὶ τὰ καθήκοντα πρὸς τοὺς ἀγοραίους·
you also with-the hand the(-things) fitting to the market-folk
εὖ γε· ἀπεληλύθασι γάρ.
well — have-gone-away for(-they)

HERMES Ποῖον οὖν, ὦ δέσποτα, βούλει πρῶτον κατάγομεν;
which then O master do-you-wish first we-bring-down
Τὸν εὐγένειον ἐκεῖνον, τὸν ἐκ τοῦ Βυζαντίου; ἢ τὸν
the well-bearded that the(-one) from — Byzantium or the
σκυθρωπὸν τουτονὶ τὸν Ἰωνικόν;
gloomy this the Ionian

ZEUS Οὐμενοῦν οὐδ' ὁπότερον· ἀλλ' ἐκεινονὶ τὸν τυφλὸν, τὸν
no-indeed neither of-the-two but that the blind(-one) the
Ἑπτάπολιν, τὸν ἐπὶ τῶν μύθων. Ἤγησαι δέ οἱ καὶ τῆς
Seven-Cities the(-one) over the tales lead and him also on-the
ὁδοῦ· εἰ μὴ ἄρα μάτην αὐτῷ καὶ ἡγεμόνιος ἐπικέκλησαι.
way if not then in-vain to-him also guide you-have-been-surnamed

HERMES Ἕπου μοι, ὦ γέρον, καὶ σαυτὸν ἐμπάρεχε τοῖς
follow me O old-man and yourself offer to-the(-ones)
ὠνησομένοις.
going-to-buy

HOMER Ἡγοῦ, Μαίας υἱὲ, διάκτορε Ἀργειφόντα· ἐγὼ δέ σοι
lead of-Maia son messenger Argus-slayer I and you
καὶ πραθησόμενος ἕψομαι ἄσμενος· οὐ γάρ τινα μοῖραν
even going-to-be-sold will-follow gladly not for any fate
φημὶ πεφυγμένον ἔμμεναι ἄνδρα.
I-say having-escaped to-be man
HERMES Ἕπου τάχιον, οὐ γὰρ διατρίβειν καιρός.
follow quicker not for to-linger the-time(-it-is)
HOMER Μὴ τοῦτό γε μὰν, Ἐριούνιε· βίη γάρ μοι λέλυται,
not this — truly Helper strength for for-me is-loosed
χαλεπὸν δέ με γῆρας ἱκάνει· ἠπεδανὸς δέ μοι θεράπων,
harsh and me old-age reaches feeble and for-me attendant
βραδέες δέ μοι ἵπποι.
slow and for-me horses
HERMES Τί δ’ οὐχὶ ὀψὲ γοῦν πεπαύσῃ, τὰ διάκαινα
why and not late at-least will-you-stop the(-things) brand-new
ῥαψῳδῶν;
reciting

HOMER Τέκνον ἐμὸν, ποῖόν σε ἔπος φύγεν ἕρκος ὀδόντων;
child my what you word escaped the-fence of-teeth
πῶς δ’ ἂν ἔπειτα λόγοιο ἐγὼ θείοιο λαθοίμην,
how and — then of-the-word I divine could-forget
ὃς περὶ μὲν νόον ἐστὶ βροτῶν, περὶ δ’ ἱερὰ θεοῖσιν
who beyond indeed in-mind is of-mortals beyond and sacrifices to-the-gods
ἀθανάτοισιν ἔθυσε, τοὶ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσι;
immortal has-offered who heaven broad hold

BUYER Τίνα τοῦτον ἄγεις δευρὶ τὸν τυφλὸν, ὦ Ἐριούνιε;
who(-is) this(-one) you-are-leading hither the blind O Helper

HERMES Βίος οὗτος ὁ σοφώτατος ἁπάντων, καὶ
a-life this the wisest of-all and
θεωρητικώτατος. Τίς τὸν παντοῖον ὠνεῖται;
most-contemplative who the all-round(-one) buys
HOMER Ἐπίμιξον, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, καί τινα τῶν ἐπῶν.
mix-in O Hermes also some of-the verses

HERMES Ὃς ἔγνω τά τ' ἐόντα, τά τ' ἐσσόμενα,
who knew the(-things) both being the(-things) and to-be
πρό τ' ἐόντα.
before and being

BUYER Καὶ μὴν πολλοῦ δεήσει θεωρηματικὸς τῶν
and indeed much he-will-lack contemplative of-the(-things)
ἐσομένων εἶναι, ᾧ μηδὲ τῶν ὄντων τὰ ἐν
to-be to-be for-whom not-even of-the(-things) being the(-things) at
ποσὶν ἐξέσται ὁρᾷν τυφλώττοντι ἐς τὸ ἔσχατον· ὡς
feet it-will-be-possible to-see being-blind to the utmost so-that
εἰ μὴ σὺ αὐτὸν ὑπεστήριζες, τὴν λαιὰν ὑποθείς, τάχα
if not you him propped-up the left(-hand) having-put-under perhaps
ἂν οἱ καὶ τὸ κρανίον συμποδισθέντι κατέαγεν.
— for-him even the skull having-stumbled would-have-been-broken
HERMES Εὐφήμει, ὦ ἄνθρωπε, μὴ καὶ λάθῃς ἄγων κατὰ
hush O man lest also unawares you-bring upon
τῆς ἑαυτοῦ κεφαλῆς τὰ παλαμναιότατα τῶν κακῶν,
the your-own head the most-polluting of-the evils
τηλικοῦτον εὐεργέτην Θεῶν βλασφημῶν· ὃς τῷ Διΐ
so-great a-benefactor of-the-Gods reviling who — to-Zeus
μὲν ἐκείνῳ τὴν αἰγίδα καὶ τὸν κεραυνὸν ἐχαρίσατο· ἐμοὶ
indeed that the aegis and the thunderbolt gave to-me
δὲ τὰ πτερὰ ταῦτα, καὶ τὴν ῥάβδον, καὶ τὰ χρύσεα
and the wings these and the wand and the golden

πέδιλα· τὰς λευκὰς ὠλένας τῇ Ἥρᾳ· τὸν δὲ κεστὸν τῇ
sandals the white arms — to-Hera the and girdle —
Ἀφροδίτῃ· τῇ δὲ Ἀθηνᾷ τοὺς γλαυκοὺς ὀφθαλμούς· τὴν
to-Aphrodite — and to-Athena the gray eyes the
δὲ τρίαιναν τῷ Ἐνοσιγαίῳ· καὶ τὰ ὅπλα τῷ Ἄρεϊ· ὡς
and trident to-the Earth-shaker and the arms — to-Ares so-that
εἰ μὴ οὗτος ἀγαθῇ τύχῃ ἡμῖν εὔνους ἦν, ἐδιψῶμεν
if not he with-good fortune to-us well-disposed had-been we-would-be-thirsting
ἂν καὶ ἐλιμώττομεν ἐς τὸ ἀκριβὲς, μήτε τῆς ἀμβροσίας τὸ
— and starving to the utmost neither of-the ambrosia the
πολλοστὸν, μήτε μίαν κοτύλην τοῦ νέκταρος ἔχοντες· οὐδ'
least-part nor one cup of-the nectar having nor
ἂν οὔτε ὁ Γανυμήδης ἐωνοχόει, οὔτε ὁ Πύθιος ἔχρα,
— neither — Ganymede would-pour-wine nor the Pythian would-prophesy
παρὰ τούτου δανειζόμενος τοὺς χρησμούς· οὔτε τὴν
from him borrowing the oracles nor the
τηλικαύτην ἀσπίδα τῷ Ἀχιλλεῖ ὁ Ἥφαιστος ἐτεκταίνετο·
so-great shield — for-Achilles — Hephaestus would-be-forging
ὅ τε Ἥλιος ἐπέζευεν ἂν, καὶ τὴν Κλωθὼ τὸ νῆμα
the and Sun would-be-going-on-foot — and — Clotho the thread
ἐπέλειπε, καὶ ὁ Χάρων οὐδ' ὅλως ὠβολοστάτει.
would-fail and — Charon not-even at-all would-be-weighing-obols

BUYER Εἶτα ὁ πλουσιώτατος ἁπάντων οὗτος, καὶ
then the richest of-all this(-one) and
μεγαλοδωρότατος, πρὸς τοῖς ἄλλοις καὶ τῇ Ἀθηνᾷ
most-munificent besides the others also — to-Athena
γλαυκοὺς ἐδωρήσατο ὀφθαλμοὺς, ἑαυτὸν δὲ τυφλὸν οὕτω
gray bestowed eyes himself and blind so
περιορᾷ καὶ ἀόμματον;
leaves and eyeless

HERMES Εἰκότως, ὦ ξένε· κατὰ νοῦν γὰρ οὗτος, καὶ οὐ
naturally O stranger according-to mind for he and not
κατ᾽ αἴσθησιν προῄρηται ζῆν· ὡς ἐὰν ὁρᾷν βούληται,
according-to sense has-chosen to-live since if to-see he-wishes
πόσους ὀφθαλμοὺς ἔχειν οἴει τὸν Ἄργους ὅλους
how-many eyes to-have do-you-think the Argus whole
ὀμματοῦντα πανταχόσε τοῦ σώματος; ἀφίημι γὰρ λέγειν, ὡς
seeing in-every-direction of-the body I-forbear for to-say that
ἀλοιφαῖς τισι καὶ βοτάναις ἀνακαθαίρειν οἶδε τὸ ὀπτικὸν,
with-ointments some and herbs to-purge he-knows the sight
καὶ ῥαδίως διαγινώσκειν, ποιεῖν ἠμὲν θεὸν, ἠδὲ καὶ ἄνδρα.
and easily to-distinguish to-make both a-god and also a-man
BUYER Ἡράκλεις· γόητά μοι λέγεις τινὰ καὶ θαυματουργὸν
Heracles a-sorcerer to-me you-tell-of some and wonder-working
ἄνθρωπον.
man
HERMES Καί τοι τὸ μέγιστον οὔπω ἀκήκοας. Εἴσεαι
and yet the greatest not-yet you-have-heard you-will-know
γὰρ ἀκούσας, οἵην ἐκ ῥακέων ἑτέραν ἐπιγουνίδα φαίνει.
for having-heard what from rags other thigh he-shows
Οὗτος τὸν Ἑλληνικὸν ἐκεῖνον συναγήγερκε ναύσταθμον,
he the Greek that gathered fleet
καὶ τὴν ἵππον ἐκείνην, καὶ τοὺς βασιλέας ἐκείνους, καὶ
and the horse that and the kings those and
Τροίαν ὅλην εἶλε μόνος· καὶ, τὸν κορυθαίολον αὐτὸς
Troy whole took alone and the of-the-flashing-helmet himself
ἀπεκτονὼς Ἕκτορα, τῷ τῆς Θέτιδος ἐπιγράφεται τὴν
having-killed Hector to-the(-son) — of-Thetis ascribes the
μεγαλουργίαν. Τοιοῦτος δὲ ὢν οὐδὲ τοὺς νόμους ὅμως
great-deed such and being not-even the laws nevertheless
ἀγνοεῖ τοὺς συμποτικούς· ἀλλ᾽ ὅτε μὲν ἐκ πασσαλόφιν
is-ignorant-of the convivial but when indeed from the-peg

τὴν λιγεῖαν ἀράμενος φόρμιγγα, κλέα ἀνδρῶν ᾄδει·
the clear having-taken-up lyre the-glories of-men he-sings
ὅτε δὲ μετὰ χεῖρας τὴν περικαλλέα θέμενος κίθαριν,
when and in hands the very-beautiful having-placed cithara

ἀμφ' Ἄρεος φιλότητος ἐϋστεφάνου τ' Ἀφροδίτης,
about Ares' love fair-crowned and Aphrodite's

μουσηγετεῖ, καὶ τῇ μοίρᾳ εὐθὺς ἐπιρραψῳδεῖ. Ὡς
he-leads-the-Muses and to-the fate at-once he-sings-on so
ἄρα τοῦτον ὀφθαλμῶν μὲν ἄμερσε, δίδου δὲ γλυκεῖαν
— him of-eyes indeed deprived gave and sweet
ἀοιδήν. Οὐ ταῦτα δὲ μόνον· ἀλλὰ καὶ πύκτης ἐστὶ καὶ
song not these-things and only but also a-boxer he-is and
παλαιστρικὸς, καὶ δισκεύειν δεῆσαν, γυμναστικώτατος·
a-wrestler and to-throw-the-discus there-being-need most-athletic
ἦν δὲ καὶ τὴν Ἀφροδίτην ἐπορχήσασθαι δεήσῃ τῷ
if and also — Aphrodite to-dance-on there-be-need at-the
πότῳ, ἐνταῦθα οὐδ' ἂν Ἑρμῆς ἐγὼ περὶ προαγωγείας
drinking here not-even — Hermes I about procuring
ἐρίσαι δυναίμην τἀνδρὶ, ὅσῳ καὶ τὴν γοητείαν
to-contend could with-the-man by-so-much-as also the sorcery
ἔχει τοῦ ἔργου συναντιλαμβανομένην αὐτῷ. Ὃν μὲν γὰρ
he-has of-the work helping him one indeed for
χρυσὸν ποιήσει τερασιώτατα, μεταμείψας τὴν φύσιν, καὶ
gold he-will-make most-wondrously having-changed the nature and
ἐπὶ τὸν κόλπον καθήσει τῆς ἐρωμένης, ὃν δὲ ταῦρον
into the lap will-let-down of-the beloved another and a-bull
ἐργάσεται καί οἱ ἐπὶ τοῦ νώτου—.
he-will-make and for-him on the back

ZEUS Σίγα, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, τὰ τοιαῦτα, μὴ καὶ λάθῃς ταὐτὰ
hush O Hermes the such(-things) lest also unawares the-same
πεισόμενος τῷ Ταντάλῳ, διὰ τὴν τῶν ἀπορρήτων εἰς
you-suffer — as-Tantalus because-of the of-the secret(-things) to
ἀνθρώπους κοινολογίαν.
men communication

HERMES Καὶ μήν, ὦ Ζεῦ, ὁ γέρων οὗτος ἐμοῦ δ' ἂν
and indeed O Zeus the old-man this than-I and —
εἴη πολυδικαιότερος τὰς εὐθύνας ὑπέχειν· ὃς οὐ μόνον
would-be more-justly-liable the accounts to-render who not only
τὸν ταῦρον, καὶ τὸν χρυσὸν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοὺς ἀετοὺς, καὶ
the bull and the gold but also the eagles and
τοὺς κύκνους, καὶ τοὺς σατύρους, αὐτοῖς ῥάμφεσι καὶ
the swans and the satyrs with-their-very beaks and
τοῖς κέρασιν, ὑπὸ ταῖς ἑαυτοῦ διφθέραις ἐνέγραψεν.
the horns under the his-own parchments wrote-in

BUYER Εἶεν. Ἀλλ' ἐφεῖται, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, καὶ πυθέσθαι τι
well-then but is-it-permitted O Hermes also to-inquire something
τοῦ γόητος τούτου, ἢ οὐδ' ἀποκρινεῖσθαι ἀξιώσειεν ἂν,
of-the sorcerer this or not-even to-answer would-he-deign —
τηλικοῦτος ὤν.
so-great being

HERMES Ἐφεῖται, νὴ Δία· καὶ πολυπραγμονεῖν.
it-is-permitted by Zeus even to-be-curious

BUYER Ἄγε οὖν, ὦ γέρον, εἰπέ. Πόθεν ἔφυς; καὶ τί
come then O old-man tell whence were-you-born and what
σοι τὸ γένος; καὶ τίς ἡ πατρίς;
for-you the race and what the fatherland

HOMER Οὔ τοι ἀποκρινοῦμαι ἀρραψῳδήτῳ ἐόντι.
not — I-will-answer to-one-unrhapsodized being

BUYER Σὺ δὲ ἀλλὰ πρὸς τοῦ ἔπους δίδαξόν με, πῶς καὶ
you then but by the verse teach me how also
ἐχρῆν ἐρηρωτηκέναι.
one-ought to-have-asked

HOMER Τίς, πόθεν εἶς ἀνδρῶν; πόθι τοι πόλις, ἠδὲ τοκῆες;
who whence are-you of-men where your city and parents

BUYER Καὶ δὴ νόμισον οὕτω γέ σου πυθέσθαι· καὶ ὅθεν
and indeed consider so — of-you to-have-inquired and whence
ἔφυς εἰπέ.
you-were-born tell

HOMER Ἑπτὰ πόλεις μάρναθ' ἱερὴν διὰ ῥίζαν ἐμεῖο·
seven cities fought sacred over root of-me
Σμύρνα, Χίος, Κολοφὼν, Ἰθάκη, Πύλος, Ἄργος, Ἀθῆναι,
Smyrna Chios Colophon Ithaca Pylos Argos Athens

BUYER Ποῦ δὲ ἐπαιδεύθης;
where and were-you-educated

HOMER Καλλιόπη με δίδαξε, Διὸς τέκος ἀργικεραύνου.
Calliope me taught of-Zeus child of-the-bright-thunder

BUYER Ὁποδαπὸς δὲ τὴν διάλεκτον εἶ;
of-what-country and the dialect are-you
HOMER Παντοδαπός.
of-every-country
HERMES Ἠδίκησας τὸ ἔπος, ἄριστε ποιητῶν, τοῦτο τῆς
you-have-wronged the verse best of-poets this(-part) of-the
ἀπολογίας ἀπολιπὼν ἀρραψῴδητον.
defense having-left unrhapsodized

HOMER Σὺ δὲ ἀλλά μοι τὸ ἐλλεῖπον ἀναπληρώσεις,
you then but for-me the(-thing) lacking will-fill-up
λόγιος ὑπ᾽ ἐμοῦ γε ὀνομασμένος. Καὶ ὡς ταῖς πέντε
eloquent by me — named and that the five
διαλέκτοις χρῶμαι μαρτύραις.
dialects I-use witnesses
HERMES Νῦν μὲν ταύτῃ, νῦν δ᾽ ἐκείνῃ, καὶ ἑκάστῃ, ὡς
now indeed this now and that and each as
ἐπικαίρως. Τίς γοῦν ἢ Ἐμπεδοκλῆς μοι τοῦ ἔργου
opportunely who then or Empedocles for-me in-the work
ξυνάρηται; λέγων· Ἤδη γάρ τε γένου
will-help saying already for — you-became

κοῦρός τε, κούρη τε,
boy both girl and
θάμνος τ᾽, οἰωνός τε, καὶ εἰν ἁλὶ νήχυτος ἰχθῦς.
bush and bird and and in sea swimming fish

BUYER Ποῖον δέ σοι τὸ ὄνομα.
what and to-you the name

HOMER Κίκλησκόν με Ὅμηρον πατὴρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ.
called me Homer father and lady mother

BUYER Εἶτα Ὅμηρος ὢν ἐλελήθεις ἡμᾶς· ἐγὼ δέ σε
then Homer being you-escaped-the-notice-of us I and you
μικροῦ καὶ ἐπὶ τῇ μύλῃ ἂν ἐπριάμην· ἵν᾽ ἐκτὸς τῆς
almost even for the mill — I-would-have-bought so-that outside the
καλύπτρας ἀλήθῃς αὐτότυφλος ὤν.
veil you-might-grind self-blind being

HERMES Καὶ μὴν, οὐδὲ ἀλήθειν σοι ἔτι πρὸς ἀνάγκης ἐσεῖται,
and indeed not-even to-grind for-you still of necessity will-it-be
τὸν ἄριστον τουτονὶ πριαμένῳ. Ῥαδιώτατα γὰρ ἢ ἐς τοὺς
the best this(-one) having-bought most-easily for either to the
Κύκλωπάς σε ἀπαγαγὼν, ἄσπαρτα καὶ ἀνήροτα ἐσθίειν
Cyclopes you having-led-away unsown and unplowed(-things) to-eat
παρασκευάσει· ἢ Οὔλυμπόνδε ἀναβιβάσας, ὅπου Μακάρων
he-will-make(-you) or to-Olympus having-taken-up where of-the-Blessed
ἕδος ἀσφαλὲς αἰὲν, ἄφθιτον, οὔτε χιόν ἐπιπίλναται, οὔτε
seat safe always imperishable neither snow is-spread nor
ὄμβρῳ δεύεται, τοῦ νέκταρός σε ποτίσει καὶ
by-rain is-wetted with-the nectar you he-will-give-to-drink and
ἐπισιτίσει τῆς ἀμβροσίας. Εἰ δὲ καὶ χρυσίου ἐρᾷς, τάχα
will-feed with-the ambrosia if and also gold you-love perhaps
καὶ ὅλους σοι Πακτωλοὺς ἐπὶ τὴν οἰκίαν ὑδραγωγήσει.
even whole for-you Pactoluses to the house he-will-channel
Τὸ δὲ δὴ φρικτόν τε καὶ δεινῶς τεράστιον, διά
the(-thing) and indeed dreadful both and terribly portentous through
τινος σε νεκύας ζωὸν ἐς τὸν Πλουτέα κατάξει,
a-certain you raising-of-the-dead alive to — Pluto will-bring-down
καὶ φίλων ψυχὰς κατατεθνεώτων καὶ αὐτῆς μητρὸς
and of-friends souls dead and of-your-own mother
ὑποδείξεται· κἀκεῖθεν τὰ ἀπόῤῥητα τελεσθέντα, καὶ τῷ
will-show and-thence the secret(-things) having-been-initiated(-in) and —
Θήβηθεν ξυγγενόμενον Τειρεσίᾳ πάλιν ὑπὲρ γῆς ἀναγάγῃ.
from-Thebes having-conversed with-Teiresias again above earth will-bring-up
BUYER Εὐκτὰ μὲν καὶ ταῦτα· καὶ τί γὰρ ἄλλο, ἢ
to-be-prayed-for indeed also these-things and what for else than
ποιητικὰ ἀγαθά. Πλὴν ἀλλ᾽ ἐγώ σε, ὦ θεσπέσιε Ὅμηρε, τοῦτο
poetical goods but — I you O divine Homer this
πρὸς τῶν ἄλλων ἐροίμην ἄν· Τί ποτέ σοι τὸ ποικίλον τοῦ
before the others would-ask — what ever for-you the variety of-the

μέτρου βούλεται; καὶ ἔστιν οὗ μὴ πρὸς ἑαυτὸ συνωδόν· ὡς
meter means and there-is where not with itself harmonious since
ἐγὼ οὐκ ἔστιν ὅσα καὶ ἐκκεκώφωμαι ὑπὸ τῶν ἀλαστόρων
I not is(-it) how-much also have-been-deafened by the accursed
γραμματικῶν, λαγαρούς τινας καὶ προκεφάλους, καὶ τοὺς
grammarians slack some and long-headed and the(-ones)
οὐκ οἶδά τινας ἂν καὶ εἶεν μειούρους ψυχρολογούντων.
not I-know what — also would-be mouse-tailed talking-frigidly
HOMER Οὐ, μὰ γὰρ Ἀπόλλωνα Διΐ φίλον, οὐ συνίημι
no by for Apollo to-Zeus dear not I-understand
τίποτε ἄρα καὶ λέγουσι τὰ ὀνόματα.
what-ever then also say the names
BUYER Παίζεις ἔχων· τὸ μέντοι
you-are-joking persistently the(-line) however

Τρῶες δ' ἐρρίγησαν, ἐπεὶ ἴδον αἰόλον ὄφιν·
Trojans and shuddered when they-saw glittering snake

ἦ μὴν καὶ διόμνυνται μείουρον εἶναι οἱ γενναιότατοι τῶν
in truth also swear mouse-tailed to-be the noblest of-the
γραμματικῶν.
grammarians

HOMER Αἶ γὰρ Ζεῦ τε πάτερ, καὶ Ἀθηναίη, καὶ Ἄπολλον·
would-that for Zeus both father and Athena and Apollo
εἰ μείουρον ἔγνωκα, μὴ οὖρος ἐμοὶ φορὸς ἄοι·
if mouse-tailed I-have-known not breeze to-me favorable may-blow
πλήθει δ' ἐμπελάων ἐσθλούς τε κακούς τε νούσους.
by-crowd and drawing-near good both bad and diseases

BUYER Οἱ δὲ τῆς ἡμέρας δάκτυλοι, καὶ τὰ πέταλα, πόθεν
the and of-the day fingers and the petals whence
οἱ μὲν ῥοδόεντες, τὰ δέ σοι κροκόεντα ἐξεφάνησαν, τὴν
the indeed rosy the and for-you saffron appeared the
τῶν χρωμάτων ἀντιληπτικὴν ἕξιν ἀνενέργητον ἔχοντι,
of-the colors perceptive faculty inactive having
διὰ τὴν τοῦ αἰσθητηρίου πηρότητα;
because-of the of-the sense-organ maiming

HOMER Οὐ γάρ μοι βρεφόθεν δνοφερὴ νὺξ ὄσσε κάλυψεν·
not for for-me from-infancy dark night eyes covered
ἠέλιον τ᾽ ἔδρακον καὶ ῥοδοδάκτυλον ἠῶ.
the-sun and I-saw and rosy-fingered dawn

BUYER Εἶεν. Πόσου τοῦτον, ὦ Ἀργειφόντα, τιμᾷ;
well-then at-how-much this(-one) O Argus-slayer do-you-value
HERMES Πόσου μὲν λέγειν τὸν ὑπέρτιμον οὐκ ἐχρῆν;
at-how-much indeed to-say the(-one) beyond-price not one-ought
Πέντε δὲ ὅμως λάβε ταλάντων.
five but nevertheless take talents
BUYER Πολλοῦ φῂς, εἰ μὴ καὶ τὸν ἡγησόμενον αὐτῷ
much you-say if not also the(-one) going-to-guide him
τῆς ὁδοῦ ξυνεωνῆσθαι ἀνάγκη.
on-the way to-be-bought-with(-him) it-is-necessary
HERMES Οὐ γάρ· σὺ δὲ φανερῶς κιμβικεύῃ τὸν πλουσιώτατον
no for you and clearly are-haggling the richest
πρίασθαι ἀξιῶν· μὴ δὲ τοῦτο ξυνιεὶς, ὡς πέντε μόνων
to-buy expecting not and this understanding that for-five only

ταλάντων τὸν παντοῖον ἐώνησαι, ὃν καὶ στρατηγὸν
talents the all-round(-one) you-have-bought whom also general
ἂν σχοίης ἐπὶ πολέμου,
— you-could-have in war

ἀσπὶς ἄρ' ἀσπίδ' ἔρειδε, κόρυς κόρυν, ἀνέρα δ' ἀνήρ·
shield then shield pressed helmet helmet man and man

καὶ δορυφόρον δὲ, καὶ τοξότην δὲ,
and spearman too and archer too

εἵλετο δ' ἄλκιμον ἔγχος ἀκαχμένον ὀξέϊ χαλκῷ,
he-took and doughty spear pointed with-sharp bronze
τόξ' ὤμοισιν ἔχων, ἀμφηρεφέα τε φαρέτρην·
bow on-shoulders having closed-over and quiver

καὶ τραπεζοκόμον δὲ, καὶ οἰνοχόον δὲ,
and table-servant too and wine-pourer too

σῖτον δ' αἰδοίη ταμίη παρέθηκε φέρουσα,
bread and revered housekeeper set-beside bringing
εἴδατα πόλλ' ἐπιθεῖσα, χαριζομένη παρεόντων·
foods many adding giving-freely of-what-was-there
κοῦροι δὲ κρητῆρας ἐπεστέψαντο ποτοῖο.
youths and mixing-bowls filled-to-the-brim of-drink

καὶ κιθαρῳδὸν δὲ, καὶ ἰατρὸν δὴ, Ὅ δ'
and lyre-singer too and physician indeed he and

ἀνεβάλλετο καλὸν ἀείδειν·
struck-up beautifully to-sing

ἐπὶ δ'
on and

ἤπια φάρμακα πάσσεν·
soothing drugs sprinkled

ἦν δὲ καὶ συμβουλεύειν δεήσῃ, τὸν εὐφραδέστατον,
if and also to-counsel there-be-need the most-eloquent

τοῦ καὶ ἀπὸ γλώσσης μέλιτος γλυκίων ῥέεν αὐδή·
of-whom also from tongue than-honey sweeter flowed voice

ἦν δὲ καὶ κηρύττειν, τὸν εὐφωνότατον,
if and also to-proclaim the most-loud-voiced

Κέκλυτέ μευ, Τρῶες, καὶ ἐϋκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοί·
hear me Trojans and well-greaved Achaeans

ἦν δὲ καὶ βασιλεῦσιν ἐπιτιμᾷν ἁμαρτάνουσι, τὸν
if and also kings to-rebuke erring the
εὐκαρδιώτατον,
most-stout-hearted

οὐ χρὴ παννύχιον εὕδειν βουληφόρον ἄνδρα,
not one-ought all-night to-sleep counsel-bearing man
ᾧ λαοί τ' ἐπιτετράφαται, καὶ τόσσα μέμηλε.
to-whom people both are-entrusted and so-many(-cares) are-his-concern

Εἰ δὲ καὶ τέλος ἁμαρτόντα τινά σοι τῶν οἰκετῶν, καὶ ἢ
if and also at-last having-erred some for-you of-the servants and either
ὀστᾶ παραθέντα κεκαλυμμένα τῇ πιμελῇ, ἢ τὰ ἀπόῤῥητα
bones having-set-beside covered with-the fat or the secret(-things)

ἐκκαλύψαντα, ἢ ἐρασθέντα τῆς Χρυσοθρόνου, κολάσαι
having-uncovered or having-loved the Golden-throned(-one) to-punish
βούλοιο, ἀναλόγως οὐκέτι τὸν δήμιον ἀναψηλαφήσεις,
you-should-wish correspondingly no-longer the executioner will-you-grope-for
αὐτὸς γὰρ οὗτος καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ Καυκάσου πήξεται τὸν
himself for he even on the Caucasus will-fix the
σταυρὸν, καὶ τὸν γύπα μετακαλέσεται κεροῦντα τὸ ἧπαρ·
cross and the vulture will-call-in to-shear the liver
καὶ εἰς μέσην ὠθήσει τὴν λίμνην, ἐφ' οὕτω πλουσίοις
and into the-middle-of will-push the lake at so rich
τοῖς ὕδασι διψησόμενον· καὶ τὸν λίθον ὑπὲρ κορυφῆς
the waters to-thirst and the stone above head
αἰωρήσει· καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ τροχοῦ καταδήσεται. Ταῦτα οὐ
will-hang and on the wheel will-bind these-things not
πέντε σοι τιμᾶται ταλάντων;
five for-you are-valued talents

BUYER Πάνυ τι· καὶ ὠνοῦμαι ἤδη αὐτὸν τοσούτου.
very much and I-buy now him for-so-much

HERMES Ἀπεμπόληται, ὦ Ζεῦ, ὁ Ἑπτάπολις.
has-been-sold O Zeus the Seven-Cities(-man)

ZEUS Πόσου, ὦ Ἑρμῆ;
for-how-much O Hermes

HERMES Πέντε ταλάντων.
five talents

ZEUS Τίς ὁ πριάμενος.
who the(-one) having-bought

HERMES Ἑρμαγόρας ὁ Ἀθηναῖος.
Hermagoras the Athenian

ZEUS Γράφε τοῦτον ἐπὶ τῆς κύρβεως. Ὑμεῖς μὲν οὖν
write him on the tablet you indeed then
ἄπιτε ἀγαθῇ τύχῃ νάρθηκος πολὺ πρῶτον παχέος Ὁμήρῳ
go-away with-good fortune a-fennel-stalk much first thick to-Homer

ἀναδοθέντος, ὁποῖος ἐπὶ ταῖς Διονύσου πομπαῖς ὑπερείδει
having-been-given such-as at the of-Dionysus processions props-up
τὸν Σειληνόν· ἄτοπον γὰρ ἂν εἴη, καὶ ἐπιεικῶς ἀχάριστον,
— Silenus strange for — would-be and fairly ungrateful
Θεῶν μηδένα νάρθηκι γοῦν ἀμείψασθαι, εὐώνῳ πράγματι,
of-Gods none with-a-fennel-stalk at-least to-repay a-cheap thing
τὸν τηλικούτοις δώροις ἡμᾶς φιλοφρονησάμενον.
the(-one) with-such gifts us having-treated-kindly
Σὺ δὲ, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, τὸν Ἰωνικὸν ἐκεῖνον κάλει τὸν ἐπὶ
you and O Hermes the Ionian that call the(-one) over
τῶν τραυμάτων.
the wounds

II · HIPPOCRATES AND THE PLAYWRIGHTS

Hippocrates, speaking Ionic, promises to make his buyer like most doctors today by teaching him jargon, bluster, and indiscriminate bleeding. He is sold for four minas, razor and cautery included. Aristophanes, insolent, is driven off, and Euripides, answering only in tragic lines, is refused by the first buyer. Another buyer takes him for two minas to mourn his daughter.

HERMES Κατάβηθι, ὦ σὺ, καὶ τοῖς ἀνακρινοῦσι ἐμπάρεχε
come-down O you and to-the(-ones) going-to-examine offer
σεαυτὸν, πλὴν ὅπως μὴ πολλὰ καὶ σὺ κατὰ τὸν τυφλὸν
yourself only that not much also you like the blind
ἐκεῖνον ληρῶν, τὸ πλεῖον ὑποτέμῃς τῆς ὥρας τῷ
that babbling the greater-part you-cut-off of-the hour from-the
πρατηρίῳ. Τὸν κοινωφελέστατον βίον πωλοῦμεν· σωτὴρ
sale the most-generally-useful life we-sell savior
οὗτος τῶν ἀνθρωπίνων ἐστὶ σωμάτων.
he of-the human is bodies

BUYER Παπαί· ὁπόσης ἀπόζει τῆς ῥητίνης ὁ ἄνθρωπος.
pah how-much smells-of the resin the man
Τίς δὲ ὢν τυγχάνει;
who and being does-he-happen
HERMES Κῷος μὲν τὴν πατρίδα, τὴν δὲ διάλεκτον Ἴων.
a-Coan indeed the fatherland the and dialect an-Ionian
Τὰ δὲ ἄλλα τούτου αὐτοῦ πυθέσθαι κάλλιον.
the and rest of-him himself to-inquire better
BUYER Μὴ πρότερον, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, πρὶν τὸ οὖς ὑποθέντας
not before O Hermes before the ear having-put-under
ἀκοῦσαι, τί ποτε καὶ ψάλλειν ἔοικεν ὑπὸ τὸν ὀδόντα.
to-hear what ever also to-hum he-seems under the tooth
HIPPOCRATES Ὁκόσοισι νέοισιν ἐοῦσιν.
for-as-many-as young being
BUYER Ἡράκλεις· Ἰωνικὸς ἀκριβῶς ὁ ἀνήρ. Ἀλλὰ φέρε, εἰπέ
Heracles Ionian exactly the man but come tell
μοι, μακρὲ, ποῖον τί σοι τὸ κατὰ τέχνην ἐνέργημα;
me tall-one what what for-you the according-to art activity
HIPPOCRATES Ἐν ἀλλοτρίῃσι συμφορῇσιν ἰδίας καρποῦμαι
in others' misfortunes own I-reap
λύπας.
griefs
BUYER Καὶ δὴ συμπαθέστατος ὢν ἡμᾶς ἐλελήθεις·
and indeed most-sympathetic being us you-escaped-the-notice-of
ἐπεὶ ἀπό γε τοῦ καυτῆρος ἐκείνου, καὶ τουτουΐ τοῦ ξυρίου,
since from — the cautery that and this the razor
μακελλικωτέρῳ μᾶλλον ἐῴκεις.
more-like-a-butcher rather you-seemed
HIPPOCRATES Τουτέοισι, ξεῖνε, πέπονα φαρμακεύω, καὶ κινέω
with-these stranger ripe(-things) I-medicate and I-move
μὴ ὠμά.
not raw(-things)

BUYER Καὶ μὴν οὔπω τι κατὰ τὸν Λοξίαν, ὦ Κῷε,
and indeed not-yet anything like — Loxias O Coan
ἀποσαφεῖς· οἷς μὲν γὰρ πρότερον ἔφησθα, ὡς περὶ
do-you-make-clear by-what indeed for before you-said as about
συμπαθοῦς τινος ἐδίδως διανοεῖσθαι σαυτοῦ. Τό γε τοι
a-sympathetic some(-one) you-gave to-think of-yourself the — —
δεύτερον φοίβασμα, φαρμακέα σέ τινα μᾶλλον καὶ σκληρὸν
second oracle a-poisoner you some rather and harsh
παρίστησιν ἄνθρωπον, ὥστ᾽ οὐκ οἶδ᾽ ὁποτέρῳ ἂν καὶ
presents man so-that not I-know on-which-of-the-two — also
θείμην τῶν ὀνομάτων, ὡς ἐπ᾽ ἀμφιβόλῳ σοι σαλεύων,
I-should-put of-the names as in doubt for-you tossing
καὶ νῦν μὲν πολλοῦ σε τιμώμενος διὰ τὴν συμπάθειαν,
and now indeed at-much you valuing because-of the sympathy
νῦν δὲ διὰ τὴν φαρμακείαν τοῦ μηδενός.
now and because-of the poisoning — at-nothing

HIPPOCRATES Ἀλλὰ τῆς ῥαψῳδίας γοῦν οὐκ ἂν δύναιο μὴ
but the rhapsody at-least not — could-you not
οὐχὶ ξυνιέναι, ὁκοῖον τοῦτο ἀποφηναμένης περὶ ἐμοῦ·
fail to-understand of-what-sort this having-declared about me
Ἰητρὸς ἀνὴρ πολλῶν ἀντάξιος ἄλλων.
a-healer man of-many worth others

BUYER Ἔστω σοι ταῦτα. Δυναίμην δὲ, ὦ πολλῶν ἀντάξιε,
let-it-be for-you these-things could and O of-many worth
καὶ αὐτὸς τὴν ἰητρικὴν τελεσθῆναι, ἢν πρίωμαί σε, ἵν᾽
also I-myself the healing-art be-initiated-into if I-buy you so-that
οὕτως ἐξέσται κἀμοὶ, πολλῶν ἄλλων ἀνταξίῳ εἶναι;
thus it-will-be-possible also-for-me of-many others worth to-be

HIPPOCRATES Ὡς πολὺ τοῦτο φῂς, καὶ τοῖσι πλεόνεσσιν
how much this you-say and for-the most
ἀνθρώποισιν οὐχὶ ἀκατόρθωτον μόνον, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀνέλπιστον
men not unattainable only but also hopeless

καὶ ἀνεπιχείρητον. Ὁ μὲν γὰρ βίος βραχὺς, ἡ δὲ τέχνη
and not-to-be-attempted the indeed for life short the and art
μακρὴ, ὁ δὲ καιρὸς ὀξὺς, ἡ δὲ πεῖρα σφαλερὴ, ἡ
long the and opportunity fleeting the and experiment perilous the
δὲ κρίσις χαλεπή. Ὅμως μέντοι τοῖσι πολλοῖσι τῶν νῦν
and judgment difficult nevertheless however to-the many of-the now
ἰητρῶν ἐμφερέα σε ποιέειν, οὐ χαλεπόν. Τῆς μὲν γὰρ ἐν
healers like you to-make not difficult the indeed for in
τοῖσι σφυγμοῖσιν ἀκριβολογίης, καὶ τοῖσι οὔροισι διακρίσιος,
the pulses precision and in-the urines diagnosis
καὶ τοῖσι πυρετοῖσι διαφορῆς παντάπασιν ἀμελήσεις·
and in-the fevers distinction altogether you-will-neglect
παντοδαπῶν δέ σοι μελήσει ξυρίων, καὶ διὰ γλώττης
of-every-kind and to-you will-be-a-care razors and through tongue
ἄγειν τὰ πλεῖστά μου τῶν γραμμάτων· θρασύνεσθαί τε
to-carry the most of-me of-the writings to-be-bold both
πρὸς τοὺς παρεόντας, καὶ στωμυλεύεσθαι· ξηρότητάς τε
toward the bystanders and to-chatter drynesses both
καὶ ψυχρότητας, καὶ ὕλας, καὶ εἴδεα, καὶ ποιότητας,
and coldnesses and matters and forms and qualities
καὶ ποσότητας, καὶ αἴτια, καὶ συμπτώματα, καὶ χυμοὺς,
and quantities and causes and symptoms and humors
καὶ πάθη, καὶ τοὺς τριταίους, καὶ ἡμιτριταίους, καὶ τοὺς
and affections and the tertians and semi-tertians and the
συνεχεῖς, καὶ τοὺς καύσους, καὶ συνόλως τὰ τοιαῦτα
continuous(-ones) and the burning(-fevers) and in-sum the such
τῶν ὀνομάτων θαμὰ τῷ λόγῳ παρεισκυκλέειν. Ἢν δὲ
of-the names often into-the speech to-roll-in if and
καὶ μετακληθείης περὶ νοσέοντα, τῆς τε χερὸς ἅψεαι,
also you-are-called-in to a-sick(-man) the — hand you-will-touch
καὶ ἐν τοῖσι σπλάγχνοισι καθήσας τὴν δεξιὰν, καὶ περὶ
and in the entrails having-let-down the right and about

τοῦ σπληνὸς ψυχροῤῥημονήσας, καὶ ἀπεραντολογήσας περὶ
the spleen having-talked-coldly and having-talked-endlessly about
τοῦ πνεύμονος, καὶ ἅμα λέγων, ἐγκατασείσεις τῷ
the lung and at-the-same-time speaking you-will-shake in-the
λόγῳ τὴν κεφαλήν. Φλέβας μέντοι τεμεῖς ἀδεῶς, ἤν
speech the head veins however you-will-cut fearlessly if
τε δέῃ τεμεῖν, ἤν τε καὶ μή. Ἐν δὲ τῇσι ταραχῇσι
— there-be-need to-cut if — also not in and the disturbances
τῆς κοιλίας, καὶ τοῖσιν ἐμέτοισι τὸ προστυχὸν ἐνεργήσεις,
of-the belly and the vomitings the chance(-thing) you-will-do
ἐν τοῖσί τε ὠμοῖσι καὶ τοῖσι πεπόνεσσιν ἀπαρατηρήτως
in the both raw(-humors) and the ripe(-ones) unobservantly
χρήσῃ τῇ φαρμακείᾳ. Μόνον ἀπερεύγου τὰ πλεῖστά
you-will-use the medication only belch-out the most
μου τῶν ἀφορισμῶν. Ἀπαρίθμεε δὲ καὶ τὰς ἐπιγραφὰς
of-me of-the aphorisms recount and also the titles
τῶν βιβλίων. Κἂν ἡ φύσις ὑγιάσηται τὸν νοσέοντα,
of-the books even-if — nature heals the sick(-man)
σφετέρισαι τὸ ἔργον, καὶ ἐπὶ τῷ πράγματι κόμπασον.
appropriate the work and over the matter boast
Ἤν δὲ ἡ σὴ ἀτεχνίη πολλὰς ἀνθρώπων ψυχὰς Ἄϊδι
if and the your unskill many of-men souls to-Hades
προϊάψῃ, θάρσεε· ὑπὸ γὰρ θανοῦσι τοῖσιν ἐλέγχοισιν οὐκ
sends-forth take-heart by for dead the proofs not
ἂν διαγνωσθήσεαι, ὁκοῖος ἦσθα τὴν ἀμαθίην.
— you-will-be-detected of-what-sort you-were the ignorance

BUYER Θαυμαστὰ ταῦτα φῄς, καὶ ἐπιεικῶς εὔπορα, ὡς
wonderful these-things you-say and fairly easy so-that
ὠνήσωμαί σε τούτων γε ἕνεκα. Πόσου τοῦτον, ὦ
I-may-buy you these — for-the-sake-of at-how-much this(-one) O
Ἀργειφόντα, τιμᾷ;
Argus-slayer do-you-value

HERMES Μνῶν, ὦ Ποδαλειριάδη, τεττάρων.
at-minas O son-of-Podalirius four
BUYER Ἔχω τοσούτου λαβών.
I-have(-him) for-so-much having-taken(-him)
HERMES Τὸ μέντοι ξυρίον καὶ τὸ καυτήριον οὐ συναπημπόληται,
the however razor and the cautery not are-sold-with(-him)
τῷ Ἀσκληπιῷ πρὸς ἑσπέραν ἀπαχθησόμενα, οὐ μέτρια
— to-Asclepius toward evening going-to-be-carried-off not moderately
περὶ τούτων ἡμῖν ἐνοχλήσαντι.
about these us having-troubled
BUYER Μηδαμῶς, ὦ Ἑρμῆ· ὡς ἐὰν ταῦτά γε ἀφέλῃς,
by-no-means O Hermes since if these-things — you-take-away
σχολῇ καὶ τῶν δυεῖν πριαίμην τὸν ἰατρόν.
hardly even for-the two should-I-buy the physician
HERMES Συναπειλήφθω καὶ ταῦτα· ὥστε ἤδη ἄπιτε.
let-them-be-taken-in-with(-him) also these-things so-that now go-away
Ἄλλους καταβῆναι καιρός.
others to-come-down the-time(-it-is)
Κατάβητον, ὔμμε, ὁ Κωμικὸς σὺ, καὶ ὁ Τραγικὸς
come-down-you-two you the Comic you and the Tragic
ἐκεῖνος. Σὺ δὲ πρῶτος, ὁ Κωμικός. Ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸν γέλων
that(-one) you and first the Comic but also the laughter
ἀπόῤῥιψον, καὶ τὰ σκώμματα, καὶ τὸ τραχὺ, καὶ τὸ
throw-away and the gibes and the harshness and the

αὔθαδες. Τίς γὰρ ἂν σωφρονῶν γελοιαστὴν οἰκέτην, καὶ
arrogance who for — being-sensible a-jesting servant and
παίκτην πρίαιτο, καὶ συνόλως ἐπίτριμμα ἀγορᾶς;
a-buffoon would-buy and in-sum a-rogue of-the-marketplace

ARISTOPHANES Ὡς ἀργαλέον πρᾶγμ' ἐστὶν, ὦ Ζεῦ καὶ θεοὶ,
how grievous a-thing it-is O Zeus and gods
δοῦλον γενέσθαι ***
a-slave to-become (etc.)
Ἢν γὰρ τὰ βέλτισθ' ὁ θεράπων λέξας τύχῃ,
if for the best(-things) the servant having-said happens
δόξῃ δὲ μὴ δρᾶν ταῦτα τῷ κεκτημένῳ,
seems and not to-do these-things to-the(-one) having-acquired(-him)
μετέχειν ἀνάγκη τὸν θεράποντα τῶν κακῶν.
to-share it-is-necessary-for the servant in-the evils

BUYER Καὶ μὴν οὐδενὸς ἔτι ἐξ ἐμοῦ μετέχεις κακοῦ.
and indeed in-no still from me you-share evil
ARISTOPHANES Ἀλλὰ μετάσχω γε· σκληρὸν γὰρ ἐκ τοῦ
but I-shall-share — harsh for from the
προσώπου φαντάζομαί σε· Οἶμαι δὲ, νὴ τὸν οὐρανὸν, καὶ
face I-imagine you I-think and by the heaven also
ψωλόν σε εἶναι.
circumcised you to-be
BUYER Μετάσχῃς μέντοι, τοιαῦτα ληρῶν;
you-shall-share then such-things babbling

ARISTOPHANES Οὐ γάρ με τυπτήσεις στέφανον ἔχοντά γε.
not for me will-you-beat a-garland wearing —

BUYER Καὶ τῆς αἰώρας δὲ ὑπεραναρτήσω, ἵνα μάθῃς
and from-the swing and I-will-hang(-you)-up so-that you-may-learn
δραπέτης ὢν μὴ ἂν δεσπότου ἐμπαροινεῖν.
runaway being not — on-a-master to-play-the-drunken-bully
ARISTOPHANES Κέχοδα τῷ δέει, κέχοδα.
I-have-shat with-the fear I-have-shat
BUYER Σὺ δὲ ἀλλ' ἔρρε, μιαρὸς ὤν· κάλλιον γὰρ οἶμαι,
you then but go-to-ruin foul being better for I-think
τοῦ κλάοντος ἐκπυθέσθαι τούτου.
the weeping(-one) to-inquire-of this

EURIPIDES Πᾷ βῶ; πᾷ στῶ; πᾷ κέλσω;
where may-I-go where may-I-stand where may-I-put-in

BUYER Δραπέτου ταῦτα τὰ ῥήματα.
of-a-runaway these the words

EURIPIDES Οὐκ ἔστι δεινὸν, ὧδ' εἰπεῖν ἔπος,
not there-is terrible so to-speak word
οὐδὲ πάθος, οὐδὲ ξυμφορὰ θεήλατος,
nor suffering nor calamity god-sent
ἧς οὐκ ἂν ἄροιτ' ἄχθος ἀνθρώπου φύσις.
whose not — would-bear burden of-man nature

BUYER Τίς γάρ σε κατείληφεν, ὦ ἄνθρωπε, συμφορά;
what for you has-seized O man calamity

EURIPIDES Πρῶτα μέν με τοὔνομα
first indeed me the-name
θανεῖν ἐρᾷν τίθησιν, οὐκ εἰωθὸς ὄν.
to-die to-desire makes not accustomed being

Ἔπειτ᾽ ἴσως ἂν δεσποτῶν ὠμῶν φρένας
then perhaps — of-masters cruel minds
τύχοιμ᾽ ἄν, ὅστις ἀργύρου μ᾽ ὠνήσεται.
I-should-meet — whoever for-silver me will-buy
Ὅστις γὰρ οὐκ εἴωθε γεύεσθαι κακῶν,
whoever for not is-accustomed to-taste evils
φέρει μὲν, ἀλγεῖ δ᾽ αὐχέν᾽ ἐντιθεὶς ζυγῷ·
bears indeed is-pained and neck putting-in yoke
θανὼν δ᾽ ἂν εἴη μᾶλλον εὐτυχέστερος,
having-died and — would-be rather more-fortunate
ἢ ζῶν· τὸ γὰρ ζῆν μὴ καλῶς, μέγας πόνος.
than living the for living not well great toil

BUYER Θάῤῥει τοῦτο τὸ μέρος· ἴσα γάρ σε καὶ τοῖς
take-heart in-this the part equally for you also with-the
φιλτάτοις ἀγαπώην ἄν.
dearest I-would-love —
EURIPIDES Ὦ παγκάκιστα χθόνια γῆς παιδεύματα.
O most-evil underground of-earth nurslings
BUYER Ὁρᾷς; οὐκ ἀγαθὰς ἀγαθῶν ἀντιδίδως τὰς ἀποκρίσεις.
do-you-see not good for-good you-return the answers
EURIPIDES Φύσει γὰρ ἐχθρὸν τὸ δοῦλον τοῖς δεσπόταις.
by-nature for hostile the slave(-kind) to-the masters
BUYER Ἔγω γοῦν οὐκ ἐς τοσοῦτον Μελιτίδης ἂν εἴην
I then not to such Melitides — would-be
καὶ Κόροιβος, ὡς ἑαυτῷ πολέμιον πρίασθαι· εἰ μὴ καθ᾽
and Coroebus as for-myself an-enemy to-buy if not against
ἑαυτοῦ τὴν μάχαιραν ἐξευρίσκειν μέλλοιμι, κατὰ τὴν αἶγα
myself the knife to-find-out I-were-about like the goat
τῆς παροιμίας· ὥστε σαυτῷ οἴμωζε τοῦ λοιποῦ.
of-the proverb so-that for-yourself wail for-the rest(-of-time)

ANOTHER BUYER Ἀλλ᾽ ἔγω γε, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, τὸν ἄγεις ἡμῖν
but I — O Hermes the(-one) you-lead to-us
ἄπρατον ὠνήσομαι τοῦτον, καταθρηνήσοντά μου τοῦ
unsold will-buy this(-one) going-to-lament my the
θυγατρίου μικροῦ πρὸ ταύτης ἡμερῶν ἐκ μέσων τῶν
little-daughter a-little before this of-days from the-midst-of the
νυμφώνων ἀνηρπασμένου.
bridal-chambers snatched-away
HERMES Νὴ Δία, καὶ αὐτό σοι τῆς φιλτάτης τὸ εἴδωλον
by Zeus and itself for-you of-the dearest the phantom
ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς παραστήσοντα, λέγον, ἥκειν νεκρῶν
above head going-to-set saying to-have-come of-the-dead
κευθμῶνα καὶ σκότου πύλας λιπόν.
the-hiding-place and of-darkness the-gates having-left
BUYER Πόσου τοῦτον ἀποκηρύττεις;
at-how-much this(-one) do-you-auction
HERMES Μνῶν δυεῖν.
at-minas two
BUYER Καὶ μὴν ἐμοὶ μᾶλλον ἔδει δοθῆναι τὰς μνᾶς
and indeed to-me rather it-was-needful to-be-given the minas
ἐξ ὑμῶν ταυτασί, τοῦ Αἶ, αἶ, καὶ τοῦ Ὤ μοι μοι,
by you these from-the(-cry) alas alas and the(-cry) oh me me
καὶ τοῦ Ἰὼ ἰώ, καὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν τοιούτων ὑμᾶς
and the(-cry) io io and the other(-cries) the such you
ἀπαλλάξοντι. Ὅμως ἔχω τοσούτου λαβών, εἴ μοι
going-to-rid nevertheless I-have(-him) for-so-much having-taken if to-me
μόνον τὸ εἴδωλον παραστήσειν ἐπαγγέλληται τῆς παιδός.
only the phantom to-set-beside he-promises of-the girl
HERMES Ῥᾴδιον τοῦτό γε, καὶ παρέπεταί σοι ὅσον οὐδέπω
easy this — and accompanies you all-but already
τὸ κόριον, γυμνῇ τῇ ψυχῇ, κρύπτουσ᾽ ἃ κρύπτειν
the little-girl with-bare the soul hiding what to-hide

ὄμματ᾽ ἀρσένων χρεών. Ἀλλ᾽ ἤδη ἄπιτε, καὶ οἴκοι αὐτὸν
the-eyes of-males it-is-fitting but now go-away and at-home him
ἀνάκρινε τὰ λοιπά.
examine-about the rest

III · POMPONIUS AND DEMOSTHENES

Hermes offers Pomponius, a Roman lawyer, who promises riches through Latin terms, shamelessness, and abuse in court; he is sold for a mina and a half. The orator Demosthenes is praised as a patriot, and Hermes, offering him as a soldier too, says he would throw away his shield and be first through the gates, which the buyer mocks. He is sold at the same price, losing his crown and his purse; Zeus closes the sale and keeps the perfumed Cucycnus for next year.

HERMES Σὺ δὲ ὁ ἀλαζὼν, ὁ ἀπὸ τῆς Ῥώμης,
you and the braggart the(-one) from — Rome
κατάβαινε. Βίος οὗτος ὁ δικαιότατος, καὶ πολιτικώτατος.
come-down a-life this the most-just and most-political
Τίς ὠνεῖται τὸν νομοθέτην; τίς εὐδοκιμεῖν ἐπὶ δικασπολείων
who buys the lawgiver who to-be-well-reputed in law-courts
ἐθέλει;
wishes

BUYER Καὶ τί σε, ὦ Ῥωμαῖε, εἰδέναι φαίημεν;
and what you O Roman to-know should-we-say

POMPONIUS Λέγε.
lege

BUYER Ἀλλ᾽ ἐγὼ ἤδη εἶπον· σὲ δὲ λοιπὸν ἀποκρινεῖσθαι
but I already said you and for-the-rest to-answer
καιρός.
the-time(-it-is)

HERMES Οὐ γὰρ τῆς φωνῆς, ὦ ξένε, συνῆκας, Ἕλλην
not for the language O stranger you-understood a-Greek
ὤν. Ὁ δέ σοι νόμον εἰδέναι φησίν. Νόμος γὰρ τὸ Λέγε
being he and to-you law to-know says law for the lege
παρὰ Ῥωμαίοις.
among Romans

BUYER Εὖ γε ποιεῖς, ὦ Λόγιε, τὰ ὑποδύσκολα
well — you-do O Eloquent(-one) the rather-difficult
ταῦτα καὶ δεινῶς βαρβαρικὰ ἐξηγούμενος κάλλιον,
these and terribly barbarous expounding better
ἢ ὅλοι Πρόκλοι τοὺς Ἀλκιβιάδας καὶ τοὺς
than whole Procluses the Alcibiadeses and the
Τιμαίους. Πῶς δὲ καὶ καλεῖσθαί σε ἀξιώσομεν, ὦ
Timaeuses how and also to-be-called you shall-we-deem O
νομοθέτα;
lawgiver

POMPONIUS Πομπώνιη νόμηνε.
Pomponius nomine

BUYER Φέρε, ὦ ἐξηγητῶν γενναιότατε· ἀποσάφει καὶ τὰ
come O of-expounders noblest make-clear also the
λοιπὰ τοῦ Λοξίου.
rest — of-Loxias

HERMES Πομπώνιός σοι καλεῖσθαι φησί. Ῥώμης δὲ θυγάτηρ
Pomponius for-you to-be-called he-says of-Rome and daughter
ἡ κλῆσις.
the name

BUYER Φάθι δὴ, ὦ Πομπώνιε· τί μοι πριαμένῳ σε
speak indeed O Pomponius what to-me having-bought you
χρησιμεύσεις; ἢ μᾶλλον αὐτὸς ἀπόκριναι, Ἀργειφόντα, τὴν
will-you-be-useful or rather yourself answer Argus-slayer the

λέξιν μεταφέρων ἐς τὸ Ἑλληνικὸν, κατὰ τὸν νόμον
word carrying-over into the Greek according-to the law
τῶν ἑρμηνέων.
of-the interpreters

HERMES Θάῤῥει, καὶ Ἀττικὰς γὰρ οὐκ ἀπαίδευτος
take-heart even Attic for not uneducated-in
Μούσας ὁ νομοθέτης, ἀλλὰ βραχυλογίας χάριν τὴν
Muses the lawgiver but of-brevity for-the-sake the
Ῥωμαΐδα μεταδιώκει, καὶ ἅμα σέβων τὰ
Roman(-tongue) pursues and at-the-same-time revering the(-ways)
πάτρια.
of-his-fathers

BUYER Τί μοι γοῦν χρησιμεύσεις, ὦ παντοῖε σύ; καὶ τί
how to-me then will-you-be-useful O all-round you and how
σοι χρησαίμην ἐωνημένος;
you should-I-use having-bought

POMPONIUS Περίβλεπτον μέν σε ποιήσω τῇ πόλει· χρυσίον
conspicuous indeed you I-will-make in-the city gold
δέ σοι πορίσω πάνυ πολύ.
and for-you I-will-provide very much

BUYER Πόθεν, ὦ ἑταῖρε, πενέστης ὤν; εἰ μὴ καὶ παρὰ
whence O comrade a-poor-man being if not also with
Ἑρμῇ τουτωῒ τὴν κλεπτικὴν ἐτελέσθης;
Hermes this the thieving(-art) you-were-initiated-into

POMPONIUS Καὶ μὴν πολλοῦ κλωπιτεύειν δεήσει τῷ
and indeed much to-steal it-will-lack the(-one)
τοὺς ποινίμους νόμους θεμένῳ κατὰ κλεπτῶν,
the penal laws having-laid-down against thieves
καὶ περὶ τῆς φούρτι τὰ εἰκότα φιλοσοφήσαντι.
and about the furti the(-things) fitting having-philosophized
Σὺ δὲ σκώπτεις ἀναφανδὰ, καίτοι δεδιέναι ἔδει,
you and mock openly and-yet to-fear one-ought

μή σε καὶ φαμόσου γραψαίμην παρὰ τοῖς
lest you also of-famosum I-should-indict before the(-ones)
κρίνουσι.
judging

HERMES Ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἡμεῖς ἀξύνετοι νόμων, ὦ νομοθέτα, ὡς
but not-even we ignorant of-laws O lawgiver so-as
δούλῳ πιστεύειν λαλοῦντι κατὰ δεσπότου. Εἰ μὴ ἄρα καὶ
a-slave to-believe speaking against a-master if not then also
βανίσαντας χρὴ πρῶτον, ἔπειτα μέντοι τὸ κατηγόρημα
having-tortured one-must first then however the accusation
παραδέχεσθαι.
accept

POMPONIUS Νὴ Δί', ὀναίμην ἂν τῆς νομοθεσίας, εἰ
by Zeus I-would-profit — from-the legislation if
καὶ μάστιγας ὑπέχειν μέλλοιμι, κατὰ δραπετίσκον
even whips to-undergo I-were-about like a-little-runaway
ἀλώνητον.
unbought

BUYER Σὺ δὲ ἀλλ' εἰπέ μοι, τίνα δὴ καὶ
you and but tell me what indeed also
ἐνεργησάμενος ἐν εὐπορίᾳ τοῦ τοσούτου γενοίμην
having-done in abundance of-the so-much should-I-be
χρυσοῦ;
gold

POMPONIUS Ὡς πάνυ σαφῆ καὶ εὔπορα, καὶ μικρά.
how very clear and easy and small(-things)
Πρῶτα μὲν γὰρ ἐκμάθῃς ἄττα δὴ τῶν καθ'
first indeed for you-should-learn some indeed of-the among
ἡμᾶς ὀνομάτων· οἷον τὴν βέρβις, τὴν κονσένσο, τὸν
us names such-as the verbis the consenso the
κονδικτίκιον, καί τινας ἄλλας τῶν ἀπὸ Ῥώμης φωνῶν,
condicticium and some other of-the from Rome words

τούς τε Κουράτωρας, καὶ τοὺς Προκουράτωρας, καὶ
the both Curators and the Procurators and
τοὺς ἰνφάντι, καὶ τοὺς πουβέρτατι, τοὺς ἀπελευθέρους,
the infanti and the pubertati the freedmen
ἔτι γε μὴν καὶ τοὺς πάτρωνας· καὶ μετὰ τῶν τοιούτων
still — truly also the patrons and with the such
ὅπλων ἐπὶ δικασπολεῖα χωρήσεις. Μεμνήσῃ μέντοι καὶ
weapons to law-courts you-will-go you-will-remember however also
λιβέλλων, καὶ ὅρκων, καὶ τοῦ προχειροτάτου τούτου
petitions and oaths and of-the most-handy this
τῆς ἐκκλήτου ὀνόματος. Καὶ ταῦτα, εὖ ἴσθι, χρυσοῦ
of-the appeal name and these-things well know of-gold
μέν σοι πλίνθους ὅλας, ὡς τῷ Πυθίῳ, παρέξεται, καὶ
indeed for-you bricks whole as for-the Pythian will-provide and
στολὰς, καὶ οἴκους, καὶ ἵππους, καὶ ἡμιόνους, καὶ ἐν
robes and houses and horses and mules and in
ἀκαρεῖ Κροῖσόν σε ἄλλον, καὶ Μίδαν, ἀντὶ τουτουΐ τοῦ
an-instant a-Croesus you another and a-Midas instead-of this the
πενομένου ἐργάσεται. Μόνον ἡ ἀναισχυντία προηγείσθω,
poor(-man) will-make only the shamelessness let-lead
καὶ ἑπέσθω ἡ φλυαρία, καὶ συμπαρομαρτείτω ἡ
and let-follow the babble and let-accompany the
στωμυλία, καὶ φθέγμα τραχὺ, καὶ ἄντικρυς μελαγχολῶντος
chatter and voice rough and outright of-one-raving
κατάστημα, καὶ ἐμβαΰζειν τῷ συνεδρίῳ, καὶ ὅλας ἁμάξας
the-bearing and to-bark-at the court and whole wagons
λοιδοριῶν καταχεῖν τοῦ ἀντιδικοῦντος· ἐνίοτε δὲ καὶ
of-abuse to-pour-down on-the opponent sometimes and also
ἐμπηδᾷν τῷ προσδιαλεγομένῳ κατὰ προσώπου, ὡς
to-leap-at the(-one) disputing to face as
ἁρπάσαντά οἱ τὸ πρόσθιον τῆς ῥινὸς, καὶ οὕτω
having-snatched from-him the front of-the nose and so

νικᾶν δοκεῖν καὶ ἀπιέναι μετὰ φυσήματος. Ταῦτα
to-win to-seem and to-go-away with blowing these-things
μὲν οὖν τοιαῦτα. Τὰ γὰρ δὴ κρυφιώτερα τῆς
indeed then such(-they-are) the(-things) for indeed more-secret of-the
τέχνης καὶ μυστικώτερα, ὅσα περὶ μισθώσεών τε καὶ
art and more-mystic all-that about leases both and
ἐκμισθώσεων, καὶ πράσεων, καὶ κοινωνιῶν, δούλων τε
lettings and sales and partnerships slaves both
αἰτίων —
culpable

BUYER Ταῦτα μὲν ἐς τοὔμπροσθέν με, ὦ νομοθέτα,
these-things indeed in the-future me O lawgiver
μυσταγωγήσεις. Τὴν μέντοι περὶ ὧν ἔφης δούλων
you-will-initiate-into the however about which you-said slaves
αἰτίων διδασκαλίαν, ἀνάγκη μὴ ὑπερθέσθαι τανῦν·
culpable teaching it-is-necessary not to-put-off now
ἵνα πολὺ πρότερον ἐπὶ σοῦ τοῖς διδαχθεῖσιν
so-that much first on you the(-things) taught
ἀποχρησαίμην, καὶ μὴ ἄν σε πόῤῥω νομικῆς ἀκριβολογίας
I-may-make-full-use-of and not — you far-from legal precision
ἀνακρινοίμην.
would-examine

HERMES Ἔα ταῦτα, καὶ λαβὼν ἀνάκρινε οἴκαδε·
let-be these-things and having-taken(-him) examine(-him) at-home
ὡς ἐάν τι τῶν νόμοις ἀπειρημένων αἰτίων
since if any(-thing) of-the by-laws forbidden faults
νοσοίη Πομπώνιος, ἐξεῖναί σοι μέχρι καὶ τοῦ
should-suffer-from Pomponius it-is-possible for-you until even the
ἐς αὖθις πρατηρίου, φυλοκρινοῦντι τὸν ἄνθρωπον,
for next sale distinguishing the man

εἶτα εἰς ἡμᾶς ποιεῖσθαι παλίμπεμπτον, μηδὲν ἐντεῦθεν
then to us to-make(-him) sent-back nothing thence
προχριματιζομένῳ.
being-prejudged

BUYER Καὶ δὴ πόσου τοῦτον τιμᾷ;
and indeed at-how-much this(-one) do-you-value

HERMES Μνᾶς πρὸς τῇ ἡμίσει μιᾶς.
a-mina besides the half of-one

BUYER Ἔχω λαβών. Πλὴν ὅπως καὶ τὰ
I-have(-him) having-taken(-him) only that also the(-things)
ὑπεσχημένα φυλάξαιο.
promised you-may-keep

HERMES Ἄπιτε ἀγαθῇ τύχῃ. Ὁ ῥήτωρ κατάβηθι. Βίος
go-away with-good fortune the orator come-down a-life
οὗτος, ὦ ἄνδρες, δημωφελὴς, καὶ πολιτικὸς, κἀδελφὸς
this O men useful-to-the-people and political and-a-brother
τὰ πάντα τῷ νομοθέτῃ· πλὴν ὅπως οὐ μιξέλλην ἐστὶ
in all to-the lawgiver only that not half-Greek he-is
κατ᾽ ἐκεῖνον, ἀλλὰ καθαρῶς Ἀττικὸς, καὶ μένος πνέων
like that(-one) but purely Attic and might breathing
Ἀθηναίου πυρός.
of-Athenian fire

BUYER Τίς δὲ δὴ τυγχάνει ὢν, καὶ τίσι τοῦτον ἔχεις
who and indeed does-be-happen being and by-what him are-you-able
ἀποσεμνύνειν;
to-extol

HERMES Πολίτης μὲν Ἀθηναῖος, καὶ τοῦ δήμου
a-citizen indeed Athenian and of-the deme
Παιανιεὺς, δριμύτατος δὲ δικάσασθαι, καὶ πιθανώτατος
of-Paeania sharpest and to-plead and most-persuasive
συμβουλεύσασθαι, τῶν τε ἑαυτοῦ ἐχθρῶν κατηγορῆσαι
to-counsel the both his-own enemies to-accuse

βαρύτατος, καὶ ἑαυτῷ τὰ πάνσεμνα ἐπιμαρτύρασθαι
heaviest and to-himself the most-august(-things) to-attest
ἀοκνότατος. Οὐ μέτρια δὲ καὶ τὴν πατρίδα, τὰς Ἀθήνας,
most-unhesitating not moderately and also the fatherland — Athens
ὠφέληκεν· ἐκ γὰρ τῆς Εὐβοίας ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐξηλάθη
has-he-helped from for — Euboea the king was-driven-out
Φίλιππος τοῖς μὲν ὅπλοις ὑπ᾽ Ἀθηναίων, τῇ δὲ
Philip by-the indeed arms by Athenians by-the and
πολιτείᾳ καὶ τοῖς ψηφίσμασι, κἂν διαῤῥαγῶσί τινες,
policy and the decrees even-if burst some
ὑπ᾽ αὐτοῦ. Ἀλλὰ καὶ ὁ βοηθήσας τοῖς Βυζαντίοις,
by him but also the(-one) having-helped the Byzantines
καὶ σώσας αὐτοὺς, καὶ κωλύσας τὸν Ἑλλήσποντον
and having-saved them and having-prevented the Hellespont
ἀπαλλοτριωθῆναι κατ᾽ ἐκείνους τοὺς χρόνους, οὐκ ἄλλος
to-be-alienated in those the times not another
ἢ οὗτος, ὁ τῇ πόλει λέγων, καὶ πράττων, καὶ
than he the(-one) to-the city speaking and doing and
γράφων, καὶ ἁπλῶς αὐτὸν εἰς τὰ πράγματα ἀφειδῶς
writing and simply himself to the affairs unsparingly
διδούς. Καὶ ἡ πόλις δὲ δι᾽ οὐδένα ἐστεφάνωται
giving and the city and through no-one has-been-crowned
ἄλλον, σύμβουλον λέγω καὶ ῥήτορα, ἢ διὰ τοῦτον.
other counselor I-mean and orator than through him
Εἰ δὲ καὶ πρέσβυν αὐτὸν ὁ δῆμος χειροτονήσει, οὐδενὸς
if and also ambassador him the people should-elect for-nothing
ἂν τῶν ἁπάντων καταπροέηται τὸ φιλόπατρι, καὶ
— of-the all would-he-betray the love-of-country and
τὴν τῶν Ἀθηναίων ἐλευθερίαν· οὐδ᾽ ἂν ὅλους αὐτῷ
the of-the Athenians freedom not-even — whole to-him
θημῶνας χρυσίου φέρων, διδοίη Φίλιππος. Βλασφημεῖ
heaps of-gold bringing could-give Philip blasphemes

δὲ ὁ λέγων περὶ αὐτοῦ, ὡς σιωπᾷ μὲν λαβὼν,
and the(-one) saying about him that he-is-silent indeed having-taken
βοᾷ δ' ἀναλώσας· μόλις γὰρ καὶ τουτὶ τὸ φασκώλιον
shouts and having-spent scarcely for even this the little-purse
χρυσίου πλῆρες λαβεῖν ἐπείσθη, δόντος τοῦ
of-gold full to-take was-he-persuaded having-given(-it) the
Μακεδόνος.
Macedonian

BUYER Παπαί· ἀκαταδούλωτόν τι λέγεις τὸ χρῆμα,
pah unenslavable a you-call the thing
καὶ δεινῶς ἐλεύθερον. Ὁ δὲ ἄρα χρυσοῦς οὑτοσὶ
and terribly free the and then golden this
στέφανος τί ποτε αὐτῷ βούλεται τὴν κεφαλὴν
crown what ever for-him means the head
περικείμενος;
lying-around

DEMOSTHENES Ἡ πόλις ἐστεφάνωσέ με, Διονυσίων ἀγομένων,
the city crowned me the-Dionysia being-held
Κτησιφῶντος τοῦ Λεωσθένους Ἀναφλυστίου δόντος
Ctesiphon the(-son) of-Leosthenes of-Anaphlystus having-given
τὴν γνώμην· «Ὡς ἄρα δεῖ στεφανῶσαι Δημοσθένην,
the motion that then it-is-needful to-crown Demosthenes
Δημοσθένους, Παιανιέα, ἀρετῆς ἕνεκα, καὶ εὐνοίας, ἧς
son-of-Demosthenes of-Paeania of-virtue for-the-sake and of-goodwill which
ἔχων διατελεῖ εἴς τε τοὺς Ἕλληνας ἅπαντας, καὶ
having he-continues toward both the Greeks all and
τὸν δῆμον τῶν Ἀθηναίων, ἀνδραγαθίας χάριν· καὶ ὅτι
the people of-the Athenians of-manly-virtue for-the-sake and because
διατελεῖ πράττων καὶ λέγων τὰ βέλτιστα τῷ δήμῳ.»
he-continues doing and saying the best(-things) for-the people
Ταύτη μοι ὁ στέφανος δέδοται. Καλῶ δὲ τοὺς Θεοὺς
in-this(-way) to-me the crown has-been-given I-call and the Gods

ἅπαντας καὶ ἁπάσας, καὶ τὸν δῆμον τῶν Ἀθηναίων, καὶ
all and all(-goddesses) and the people of-the Athenians and
τὸν Ἀπόλλω τὸν Πύθιον, ὃς πατρῷός ἐστιν Ἀθήνησι,
— Apollo the Pythian who ancestral is at-Athens
καὶ ἐπεύχομαι πᾶσι τούτοις, εἰ μὲν ἀληθῆ ταῦτα πρὸς
and I-pray to-all these if indeed true these-things to
σὲ εἶπον, εὐτυχίαν μοι δοῦναι καὶ σωτηρίαν· εἰ δὲ
you I-have-said good-fortune to-me to-give and safety if but
τοὐναντίον ἅπαν, πάντων τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἀνόνητόν με
the-opposite wholly of-all the goods unprofiting me
ποιῆσαι.
to-make

BUYER Γενναῖά σου ταῦτα, ὦ ῥῆτορ, καὶ ἐπιεικῶς
noble your these-things O orator and fairly
ἀνδρικά.
manly

HERMES Τί δὲ ὁποῖός τις ἐστι τὰ πολεμικά,
what and of-what-sort he is in-the warlike(-things)
ἀγνοεῖς;
are-you-ignorant

BUYER Πάνυ μὲν οὖν.
quite indeed so

HERMES Ἀλλ' εὖ ἴσθι τὸν ἀλκιμώτατον ὠνούμενος
but well know the most-valiant you-are-buying
στρατιώτην· ὃς καὶ αὐτὴν ἀποῤῥίψας τὴν ἀσπίδα, πρὸ
soldier who even itself having-thrown-away the shield before
τῶν λοιπῶν ταχὺ τὰς τῆς πόλεως πύλας ἀναπτύξειεν
the rest quickly the of-the city gates would-throw-open
ἄν.
—

BUYER Χαρίεν τοῦτο λέγεις· εἴπερ λειποταξίου τὸν ἄνδρα
charming this you-say if-indeed for-desertion the man
γραφόμενος, καὶ δεινῶς ῥίψασπιν ὀνομάζων, ἔπειτα τῷ
indicting and terribly a-shield-thrower naming then with-the
τοῦ στρατιώτου αὐτὸν ἀποσεμνύνεις ὀνόματι, καὶ τούτου
of-the soldier him you-extol name and this
γε τοῦ ἀλκιμωτάτου.
— *the most-valiant*

HERMES Οὐ γὰρ ἠκροάσω αὐτοῦ πρὸς τὴν πόλιν
not for did-you-hear him to the city
ἀνδρεῖα ἅττα γνωμολογοῦντος, ὡς ἄρα «Πέρας
manly some(-things) uttering-maxims that then end
μὲν ἅπασιν ἀνθρώποις ἐστὶ τοῦ βίου θάνατος, κἂν
indeed for-all men is of-the life death even-if
ἐν οἰκίσκῳ τις αὐτὸν καθείρξας τηρῇ. δεῖ δὲ
in a-little-room one himself having-shut-up keeps it-is-needful and
τοὺς ἀγαθοὺς ἄνδρας ἐγχειρεῖν μὲν ἅπασιν ἀεὶ τοῖς
the good men to-set-hand indeed to-all always the
καλοῖς, τὴν ἀγαθὴν προβαλλομένους ἐλπίδα, φέρειν
fine(-things) the good holding-before hope to-bear
δ' ὅ, τι ἂν ὁ Θεὸς διδῷ, γενναίως.» Ταῦτά
and what ever — — God gives nobly these-things
σοι οὐ μεγαλόψυχα, καὶ ἡρωϊκὰ, καὶ ἀτεχνῶς Ἄρεος
to-you not great-souled and heroic and simply of-Ares
ῥήματα;
words

BUYER Πάνυ τι. Ἐγὼ δ', οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως, οὐκ εὔκολός
very much I and not I-know how not easy
εἰμι πείθεσθαι, λόγοις τὸν στρατιώτην χειροτονεῖν, μὴ δὲ
am to-be-persuaded by-words the soldier to-elect not and

ἂν χειρὶ καὶ τόλμῃ. Πόσου δὲ ὅμως ἀποκηρύττεις
— *by-hand and daring at-how-much and nevertheless do-you-auction*
τὸν στρατιώτην;
the soldier

HERMES Ὁπόσου γε καὶ τὸν νομοθέτην.
at-as-much-as — also the lawgiver

BUYER Καταβάλλω· καὶ λάμβανε· ὦ δημοκρατία καὶ
I-pay-down and take(-it) O democracy and
νόμοι.
laws

DEMOSTHENES Περιαιρεῖ μου τῆς κεφαλῆς τὴν στεφάνην,
he-takes-off my from-the head the crown
ὁ ἱερόσυλος, δι' ἧς ὁ δῆμος ἐστεφάνωσέ
the temple-robber with which the people crowned
με, καὶ ἡ βουλὴ, ἐν Διονυσίοις. Ἡράκλεις,
me and the council at the-Dionysia Heracles
ὦ ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι· ὡς συναφαιρεῖται καὶ τὸ
O men Athenians how is-taken-off-with(-it) also the
φασκώλιον.
little-purse

BUYER Ὦ τῆς ἀναισχυντίας· τούτους ἐκείνους ἀναβοᾷ,
O the shamelessness these those(-ones) does-he-call-on
οὓς τοσούτου Φιλίππῳ προδέδωκας;
whom for-so-much to-Philip you-betrayed

DEMOSTHENES Νὴ Δί', οὓς ἐξεσωσάμην Φιλίππου.
by Zeus whom I-saved from-Philip

ZEUS Ταῦτα, ὦ Δημόσθενες, Ἀθήνησί σε δικομαχοῦντα
these-things O Demosthenes at-Athens you contending-in-court
λέγειν ἐχρῆν· νῦν δὲ, ἤδη γὰρ πέπρασαι, ὑπεικάθειν
to-say one-ought now and already for you-have-been-sold to-yield
ἄν σοι κάλλιον εἴη τῷ πριαμένῳ·
— for-you better would-be to-the(-one) having-bought(-you)

ὥσθ᾽ ὑμῖν μὲν ἀπιτέα τῶν ἐνθαδί.
so-that for-you indeed one-must-go-away from-the(-things) here
Ἡμεῖς δὲ, ὦ Ἑρμῆ, ἀνίωμεν ἤδη παρὰ τὸν
we and O Hermes let-us-go-up now to —
Ὄλυμπον, τῆς ἀμβροσίας ἀποτραγοῦντες, καὶ τοῦ
Olympus the ambrosia going-to-munch and the
νέκταρος ἐκροφήσοντες. Τὸν μέντοι χλιδῶντα τοῦτον
nectar going-to-gulp-down the however luxurious this
τὸν εὐπάρυφον, τὸν ἐπὶ τῶν μύρων, ᾧ
the purple-bordered(-one) the(-one) over the perfumes whose
Κυκύκνος τοὐπίκλην, διὰ δῆθεν τὸ μουσικὸν, εἰς
Cucycnus the-surname because-of forsooth the musical to
νέωτα φυλάξασθαι ἄμεινον, τοῖς ἀγοραίοις βίοις
next-year to-keep(-him) better with-the marketplace lives
συνεμπολη θησόμενον.
to-be-sold-together

THEODORE PRODROMOS

KATOMYOMAXIA

The Battle of the Cat and the Mice

I · THE COUNCIL OF THE MICE

Creillus urges Tyrocleptes to end their life of fear in the mouse-holes and make war on the cat that killed his daughter and Tyrocleptes' children. He tells of a dream in which Zeus promised him victory, and on Tyrocleptes' counsel summons the mice. He boasts to them of his training and orders them to arm by morning. The chorus fears for him; at dawn, after sacrifice, they march.

CREILLUS Τί τὸν τοσοῦτον ἀνδρικώτατοι χρόνον
why the so-long most-manly-ones time
μένοντες εἴσω τῶν ὀπῶν ἀεννάως
remaining inside the holes ceaselessly
δείμῳ σύνεσμεν καὶ φρίκῃ καὶ δειλίᾳ
with-fear do-we-dwell and shuddering and cowardice
καὶ δυσμόρως δίμεν οἰκεῖον βίον,
and miserably pass-through own life
μηδὲ προκύψαι τῆς ὀπῆς ᾑρημένοι, 5
not-even to-peep-out of-the hole having-chosen
ἀλλ' οἰκτρότατοι καὶ φόβου πεπλησμένοι
but most-pitiable and with-fear filled
βίον σκοτεινὸν ἀθλίως μυωξίαις
a-life dark wretchedly in-mouse-holes
ζῶμεν, καθώσπερ οἱ πεφυλακισμένοι,
we-live just-as the(-ones) imprisoned
καὶ νύκτα τὸν σύμπαντα τοῦ χρόνου δρόμον
and night the whole of-the time course
μακρὰν δοκοῦμεν καὶ σκιὰν τοῦ θανάτου, 10
long we-think and shadow of-the death
ὡς οἱ ζοφώδεις Κιμμέριοι τοῦ λόγου,
like the gloomy Cimmerians of-the story

οἳ Ποντικῶν ἔχοντες ἀμβλυωπίαν
who of-the-Pontic-folk having the-dim-sightedness
ζόφωσιν ἑξάμηνον εἷλκον τοῦ βίου;
a-darkness six-months-long drew of-the life
TYROCLEPTES κἂν μὴ θέλωμεν, ἐσμὲν ἐν μυωξίαις.
even-if not we-wish we-are in mouse-holes
εἰ γὰρ προελθεῖν, ὡς λέγεις, θαρραλέως
if for to-go-forth as you-say boldly
τολμήσομεν βαίνοντες ἀσχέτῳ δρόμῳ,
we-shall-dare going with-unchecked course
τάχιστ᾽ ἂν ἐμπέσοιμεν αἰπεῖ κινδύνῳ,
very-quickly — we-would-fall-into sheer danger
καὶ προὐμμάτων ἴδοιμεν οἰκείων μόρον,
and before-the-eyes we-would-see of-our-own doom
καὶ τὸν σκοτεινὸν Ἀιδωνέως τόπον
and the dark of-Aidoneus place
λάβοιμεν ἀντίποινον ἀκρατωσύνης.
would-take as-requital for-incontinence
CREILLUS πῶς γοῦν παρεμπέσοιμεν ὡς φὴς κινδύνῳ,
how then might-we-fall-into as you-say danger
καὶ τὸν βίον λίποιμεν ἀθλίῳ μόρῳ;
and the life leave by-wretched doom
TYROCLEPTES ληφθέντες εἴσω τῶν φρικωδῶν χειλέων
caught within the dread lips
τῆς ἅρπαγος, Κρεῖλλε, τῆς δολοπλόκου.
of-the robber Creillus the guile-weaving
CREILLUS τίς ἔστιν αὕτη; μὴ φθονήσῃς τοῦ λέγειν·
who is she not begrudge the to-tell
οὐ γὰρ προχείρως τῷ σκοπῷ περιστρέφω.
not for readily the aim do-I-turn-about

TYROCLEPTES ἣν κάταν ὠνόμασεν ἀνθρώπων γένος.
whom cat named of-men the-race

αὕτη γὰρ ἀεὶ χηραμοὺς περιβλέπει,
she for always holes looks-around

καὶ μῦς ἐρευνᾷ καὶ καθώσπερ οἱ κύνες
and mice searches-out and just-as the dogs

ἰχνηλατοῦσι τοὺς λαγωοὺς ποικίλως,
track the hares variously

τὸν αὐτὸν αὕτη σκανδαλοπλόκως τρόπον
the same she with-snare-weaving manner

ἡμᾶς διιχνεῖ λυγγικὸν βλέπουσά τι.
us tracks-down lynx-like looking somewhat

CREILLUS οἶδ' ἥνπερ ἡρμήνευσας ἠκριβωμένως.
I-know whom you-have-explained precisely

καὶ γὰρ πρὸ καιροῦ τὴν ἐμὴν θυγατέρα
and for before time the my daughter

(Λυχνογλύφον δέ φημι τὴν πεφιλμένην)
Lychnoglyphos and I-mean the beloved

οἰκτρῶς κατημάλαψε φεῦ μοι προὐμμάτων.
pitifully she-crushed alas for-me before-my-eyes

TYROCLEPTES κἀμοῦ τὸ τέκνον τὴν φίλην Λαρδοκόπον
and-my the child the dear Lardocopos

καὶ τὸν ποθεινὸν Σιτοδάπτην καὶ φίλον
and the longed-for Sitodaptes and dear

εἰς ἐκδίκησιν τῆς ἀδελφῆς ἡκότα.
for vengeance of-the sister having-come

CREILLUS τί γοῦν; κατοκνήσωμεν ὡς θηλυδρίαι
what then shall-we-sbrink like effeminates

καὶ παρίδωμεν τὸν φόνον τῶν φιλτάτων;
and overlook the murder of-the dearest

TYROCLEPTES καὶ τί προσῆκον ἐργάσασθαι τυγχάνει;
and what fitting to-do happens

CREILLUS εἰς ἀντάμυναν ἀπιδεῖν τῆς παμφάγου
for revenge to-look on-the all-devourer

καὶ τῶν θανόντων ἐκδικῆσαι τὸν μόρον.
and of-the dead to-avenge the doom

TYROCLEPTES ποίῳ τρόπῳ; κάτειπε σὺν σαφηνίσει.
in-what manner tell with clearness

CREILLUS μόθον πρὸς αὐτὴν ἀτρόμως τετευχότες.
battle against her fearlessly having-made

TYROCLEPTES δέδοικα ναὶ δέδοικα μὴ πεφασμένοι
I-fear yes I-fear lest having-been-killed

χἠμεῖς φανῶμεν καὶ κακῶς βεβρωμένοι,
we-too may-appear and badly eaten

καὶ κύρμα κάτης φεῦ γενώμεθα ξένον.
and booty of-the-cat alas may-become strange

CREILLUS καὶ τοῦτο δεῖν ἔκητι τῶν τεθνηκότων·
and this needful for-the-sake-of the dead

καὶ γὰρ γινώσκεις τοὺς γραφαῖς αἰνουμένους
and for you-know the(-ones) in-writings praised

τῶν συγγενῶν ἔκητι καὶ τῶν γνωρίμων,
of-the kinsmen for-the-sake-of and of-the acquaintances

παίδων ἀδελφῶν συζύγων φυτοσπόρων,
children brothers spouses fathers

θανόντας ἀπλήρωτον ἕλκοντας κλέος.
having-died insatiable drawing glory

TYROCLEPTES ἴσημαι πάντως· ἀλλὰ δεινὸν τυγχάνει
I-know wholly but terrible it-is

λιπεῖν τὸ λαμπρὸν στάδιον τῆς Ἡμέρας
to-leave the bright stadium of-the Day

καὶ τῷ σκοτεινῷ συγκαλυφθῆναι τάφῳ.
and in-the dark to-be-covered tomb

CREILLUS οὐκ οἶδας ᾗ μέγιστον ἄρωμεν κράτος
not you-know how greatest we-may-win power
καὶ πικροτάτῳ τήνδε δώσομεν μόρῳ;
and most-bitter her we-shall-give-to doom

TYROCLEPTES ὅτῳ τρόπῳ σύναιμε σαφήνιζέ μοι. 60
in-what manner kinsman make-clear to-me

CREILLUS αὐτῇ μαχησμὸν συστάδην δεδρακότες.
with-her a-battle in-close-combat having-done

TYROCLEPTES κρεῖττον δοκεῖ μοι συμβαλεῖν λαθριδίως.
better it-seems to-me to-engage secretly

CREILLUS ποία δ' ὄνησις λάθρα τοῦ προσιέναι;
what and profit secretly of-the to-approach

TYROCLEPTES εἰ γὰρ προγνώσῃ τῷ δόλοις προσανέχειν
if for she-should-foreknow by-the guile to-attend
ὡς εἰς μαχησμὸν αἱρετὸν συνεστάναι, 65
so-as into battle chosen to-stand-together
καὶ συμμάχων ὅμιλον εἰς αὐτὴν λάβοι,
and of-allies a-throng to herself should-take
καὶ συμβαλοῦσα τηνικαῦτα τὸ στέφος
and having-engaged then the crown
ἀρεῖ παριππεύσασα τὴν ἡμῶν ἴλην.
will-carry-off having-ridden-past the our troop

CREILLUS χἠμεῖς κατ' ἴσον συμμάχων ὁμηγύρεις
we-too on equal-terms of-allies assemblies
λάβωμεν εἰς ἄρηξιν ὡς εἰθισμένον. 70
let-us-take for help as accustomed

TYROCLEPTES οὐκ οἶσθα πῶς τὸν πρὶν συνιστῶντες μόθον
not you-know how the former joining battle

πρὸς τὸ στράτευμα τῶν γαλῶν καὶ βατράχων,
against the army of-the weasels and frogs
καὶ συμμάχων κράτιστον εἶχομεν νέφος;
and of-allies mightiest we-had a-cloud
CREILLUS ἴσημι πῶς κάκιστον εἴδομεν μόρον
I-know how most-evil we-saw doom
παίδων ὁμεύνων γνωρίμων φυτοσπόρων·
of-children wives acquaintances fathers
μικροῦ δ' ἀπωλώλειμεν ἡμεῖς τῷ τότε.
within-a-little and had-perished we at-the then(-time)
TYROCLEPTES δέδοικα καὶ νῦν μὴ θάνωμεν τῷ μόθῳ.
I-fear even now lest we-die in-the battle
CREILLUS οὔ, νὴ θεῶν πλήρωμα τῶν οὐρανίων.
no by of-gods the-fullness the heavenly
εὔελπίς εἰμι καὶ γὰρ ἐξ ὀνειράτων.
hopeful I-am and for from dreams
TYROCLEPTES τί γοῦν; ὄνειρον ἐμφανῶς ἑωράκεις;
what then a-dream clearly had-you-seen
CREILLUS ὁ Ζεὺς γὰρ ὤφθη κατ' ὄναρ κνώσσοντί μοι,
— Zeus for appeared in dream sleeping to-me
καὶ θάρσος ἐντέθεικε τῇμῇ καρδίᾳ,
and courage put in-my heart
καί 'χαῖρε, λήψῃ' προσπεφώνηκε 'κράτος'.
and hail you-will-take addressed(-me) power
TYROCLEPTES τίνι προσωμοίωτο; καὶ τοῦτο φράσον.
to-whom was-he-likened and this tell
CREILLUS τῷ Τυρολοιχῷ τῷ φρονίμῳ πρεσβύτῃ.
— to-Tyroloichos the wise old-man
TYROCLEPTES πῶς δ' οὐκ ἐπ' αὐτῶν ὡράθη σοι τῶν θρόνων;
how and not on the-very was-he-seen by-you the thrones

CREILLUS ἐμαῖς ἀπειλαῖς ὡράθη πτοιαλέος.
at-my threats he-was-seen terrified

TYROCLEPTES τί γοῦν; ἐπηπείληκας αὐτῷ τῷ πόλον
what then did-you-threaten him the(-one) the-heaven

οἰκοῦντι καὶ λέγοντι τοῖς ἀθανάτοις
dwelling and saying to-the immortals

σειρὰν μεγίστην ἐξανάψειν τοῦ πόλου
a-chain greatest to-fasten-up from-the heaven

καὶ πάντας ἕλξειν χειρὶ πανσθενεστάτῃ;
and all to-drag with-hand most-almighty

CREILLUS ναὶ τῆτες ἠπείληκα τούτῳ μυρία.
yes this-year I-threatened him countless(-things)

καὶ γὰρ καθ' αὐτὸν ἱστορῶν μου τὸν βίον,
and for by myself considering my the life

ὅπως μένων ἔσωθεν οἰκτρῶς γωνίας
how remaining within pitifully of-a-corner

ὅλος σκοτεινός εἰμι καὶ ζόφου γέμων
wholly dark I-am and of-gloom full

καὶ δεῖμα δεινὸν ἐνδέδειγμαι καὶ τρέμω
and fear terrible I-have-shown and I-tremble

ζῷον πενιχρὸν ἔμπλεων ἀηδίας,
a-creature poor full of-disgust

ᾤμωζον ὠλόλυζον ἠθύμουν μέγα,
I-wailed I-howled I-despaired greatly

ἔκοπτον ἐσπάραττον οἰκείαν γένυν,
I-beat I-tore my-own jaw

καὶ τὸν θεῶν ὕπατον ὕβριζον Δία,
and the of-gods highest I-insulted Zeus

καὶ προστέθεικα τοῖς στεναγμοῖς σὺν χόλῳ
and I-added to-the groans with anger

δεινὰς ἀπειλὰς παντελῶς δειμαλέας.
terrible threats utterly fearful

TYROCLEPTES τί γοῦν ἐπηπείληκας; εἰπὲ καὶ τόδε.
what then did-you-threaten tell also this

CREILLUS ὡς εἴπερ οὐ θήσει με νικητὴν μέγαν
that if not he-will-make me victor great

καὶ παγκράτιστον τῇ μάχῃ στεφανίτην,
and all-powerful in-the battle crown-winner

ταχὺ προσελθὼν εἰς ναὸν τῶν θυμάτων
quickly having-gone into the-temple of-the sacrifices

ἅπαντα θήσω πρὸς τροφὴν τῆς κοιλίας.
all I-will-put to food of-the belly

TYROCLEPTES κἀγὼ συνέλθω σὺν συνεύνῳ καὶ τέκνοις.
and-I may-come-with(-you) with wife and children

ἀλλ᾽ ὡς ἔοικε τὸν μόθον καθιστόρει.
but as it-seems the battle recount

CREILLUS ναὶ δῆτα, καὶ σύμπαντας ἀρτίως μύας
yes indeed and all now mice

κεκληκέναι προὔμελλον εἰς ἐκκλησίαν.
to-have-called I-was-about into assembly

TYROCLEPTES οὐκοῦν ἐπεὶ δέδοκτο τῷ φυταλμίῳ
then since it-was-resolved by-the father

ἀπαλλαγῆναι τοῦ σκοτοκρύπτου βίου
to-be-rid of-the darkness-hidden life

ἐλευθερωθῆναί τε κατῶν τοῦ φόβου,
to-be-freed and of-cats from-the fear

τοὺς μῦς ἅπαντας ἀρτίως συγκλητέον.
the mice all now must-be-called-together

καὶ πρῶτον εἰς κάταρξιν ἰτέον λόγων
and first for beginning one-must-go of-words

ἐπιτρεπόντων προσφέρειν εὐτολμίαν.
urging to-bring daring
εἶτα στρατηγοὺς τῶν στρατῶν εἰργακότες
then generals of-the armies having-made
καὶ ταξιάρχας καὶ λοχαγούς, ὡς θέμις,
and taxiarchs and captains as right
λογχηφόρους τε καὶ κραταιοὺς ὁπλίτας
lance-bearers both and mighty hoplites
ἀντεξίωμεν εἰς μόθον τεταγμένοι.
let-us-march-against into battle drawn-up
CREILLUS καλῶς ἔφησας καὶ σοφῶς καὶ κοσμίως
well you-spoke and wisely and fittingly
(καὶ γὰρ τὸ γῆρας νουθετεῖ) καὶ σωφρόνως.
and for the old-age admonishes and soberly
κῆρυξ ἴτω δὲ καὶ καλείτω τοὺς μύας.
herald let-go and and let-call the mice
HERALD ἰδοὺ πάρεισι, μυαγέ, ξυνηγμένοι
behold they-are-here mouse-leader gathered
καὶ σῷ παρεστήκασι βουλευτηρίῳ.
and at-your have-stood council-chamber
CREILLUS ἐγὼ μέν, ὦ σύνταγμα γενναίων φίλων
I indeed O company of-noble friends
εὔεικτον εὐόμιλον, ἐκ πολλοῦ χρόνου
compliant sociable from a-long time
πολλὴν καταγνοὺς τῶν πάλαι πεφυκότων
much having-condemned of-the(-ones) of-old being-born
τὴν ἀσθένειαν καὶ κακίστην δειλίαν
the weakness and most-evil cowardice
ἀνθ' ὧνπερ εἴσω φωλεῶν μυχαιτάτων
because-of which within dens most-secret

μένοντες οὐκ εὔτολμον εἶχον καρδίαν
remaining not daring they-had heart
ἀλλ᾽ ὡς κλινήρεις καὶ μέλη παρειμένοι
but like bedridden(-ones) and in-limbs paralyzed
ἔπτησσον ἐλθεῖν εἰς μάχην ἐναντίων,
they-cowered to-go into battle of-opponents
ἤδη στρατεύειν ἱστορῶ θαρραλέως.
now to-campaign I-reckon boldly
οὐ γὰρ προσῆκόν μοι δέδοκτο καὶ φίλον
not for fitting to-me it-seemed and dear
σθένος φέροντι καὶ κρατοῦντι μυρίων,
strength bearing and ruling countless(-ones)
πομπὰς τελοῦντι καὶ κρότοις ᾐνημένῳ
processions holding and with-applause praised
τρέμειν προελθεῖν τῆς ἐμῆς μυωξίας.
to-tremble to-go-forth from-the my mouse-hole
ὑμεῖς δ᾽ ἑτοίμως τὸν λόγον δεδεγμένοι,
you and readily the word having-received
ὡς εὐγενῶν πέλοντες ἐκ φυτοσπόρων
as noble being from fathers
καὶ πανσθενῶς ἔχοντες αὐτῶν τοῦ τόνου,
and with-all-strength having their the vigor
μὴ νωχελεῖς γένησθε πρὸς τὰ πρακτέα,
not sluggish become for the(-things) to-be-done
μηδ᾽ ὀκλάσητε μηδαμῶς, ὦ γεννάδαι,
nor shrink-back by-no-means O noble-ones
ἀλλ᾽ ὡς ἐνὸν σύμπαντες, ὦ θεῖοι μύες,
but as possible all O divine mice
ἴτε προθύμως πρὸς νέαν στρατηγίαν,
go eagerly to new generalship

ζῆλον λαβόντες τῆς ἐμῆς ἐξουσίας.
zeal having-taken of-the my authority
ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐκ ὤκνησα πώποτ᾽ εἰς μόθον,
I for not shrank ever into battle
ἀλλ᾽ ὡς ἀληθῶς ἐκ νέας ἡλικίας
but as truly from young age
εἰς τὸ στρατηγεῖν ἀνδρικῶς ἐτραπόμην,
to the generalship manfully I-turned
πάσαις δὲ πάντη προσβολαῖς ἐπεκράτουν.
all and everywhere attacks I-overcame
γένος γὰρ ἐκφὺς εὐγενοῦς ἐξ ὀσφύος
in-race for sprung noble from loins
(ὡς ἴστε πάντες τοὺς πάλαι θρυλλουμένους
as you-know all the(-ones) of-old bandied-about
ἐπὶ δυνάμει καὶ φρενῶν γερουσίᾳ
for power and of-mind seniority
ἐμοὺς γονεῖς ἕλκοντας ἄπλετον κλέος·
my parents drawing boundless glory
τοὺς Χαρτοδάπτας ὠνομασμένους λέγω)
the Chartodaptai named I-mean
οὐκ ἠθέλησα ζῆν τὸν ἄπονον βίον,
not I-wished to-live the toilless life
ἀλλ᾽ εἰς μάθησιν τῶν στρατηγικωτάτων
but to learning of-the most-strategic(-things)
ἀπεῖδον εὐθὺς ἐκ νέου μειρακίου.
I-looked at-once from young boyhood
ἤσκησα κοντὸν καὶ σπάθην σὺν ἀσπίδι,
I-practiced pike and sword with shield
βαίνειν ἐφ᾽ ἵππους καὶ στρέφεσθαι ποικίλως,
to-mount on horses and to-wheel variously

βάλλειν τὸν ἐχθρὸν εὐστόχως καὶ καιρίως,
to-strike the enemy with-good-aim and mortally
τείνειν τὸ τόξον καὶ τὸν ἰὸν ἱέναι,
to-stretch the bow and the arrow to-send
καὶ πᾶσαν ἁπλῶς τῆς στρατηγίας τέχνην
and all simply of-the generalship art
μετῆλθον ὡς ἅπαντες οἱ στρατηλάται.
I-pursued as all the commanders
μόθων δὲ πολλῶν ἐγκρατὴς δεδειγμένος
of-battles and many master shown
καὶ πλεῖστα δοῦλα τῆς ἐμῆς ἐμπειρίας
and very-many slaves of-the my experience
ἔθνη δεδειχὼς ἦλθον εἰς μυαρχίαν,
nations having-shown I-came to the-mouse-command
πάντων ἄριστος καὶ μέγας κεκριμένος.
of-all best and great judged
καὶ νῦν δὲ παγκάκιστον ἔγνων τυγχάνειν
and now and most-evil I-knew it-to-be
τὸν ἀνθάμιλλον τοῦ Διὸς τοῦ τῆς Ῥέας
the rival — of-Zeus the(-son) — of-Rhea
ζῷον τρέμειν τι μικρὸν ἠθλιωμένον.
a-creature to-tremble-at a little wretched
τοίνυν κελεύω τοὺς ἐμοὶ πεφιλμένους
therefore I-bid the(-ones) by-me beloved
ἅπαντας εἰς σύνταξιν ἐλθεῖν τῆς μάχης
all into ordering to-come of-the battle
στερρῶς κραταιῶς εὐσθενῶς εὐκαρδίως
firmly mightily strongly stout-heartedly
σοφῶς ἐνεργῶς εὐφυῶς ὡπλισμένους.
wisely energetically cleverly armed

τὰ νῦν δὲ λοιπὸν ἴτε πρὸς τὰς οἰκίας.
the(-things) now and for-the-rest go to the houses
τὴν αὔριον δ' ἕωθεν, ὦ στρατηλάται,
the tomorrow and at-dawn O commanders
πάντας κινῆσαι βούλομαι θαρραλέως·
all to-set-moving I-wish boldly
δοκεῖ γὰρ οὕτω συμφέρειν πρὸς τὸ πράγος.
it-seems for so to-help toward the business
TYROCLEPTES ἐπείπερ ἤδη πάντες εἰς τὰς οἰκίας
since already all to the houses
ἀπῆλθον ὥρᾳ τοῦ καθευδῆσαι κλίνῃ,
went-away at-the-hour of-the to-sleep in-bed
ἄπειμι κἀγὼ πρὸς κλίνην τὴν ἰδίαν.
I-go-away I-too to bed the own
CREILLUS εἴρηκας ὀρθῶς· τοιγαροῦν πορευτέον.
you-have-spoken rightly therefore one-must-go
CHORUS ὦ ποῖον ἄλγος νῦν κρατεῖ με καὶ θλίβει.
oh what pain now masters me and crushes
ὦ Ζεῦ, τί τοῦτο; τῆς παρούσης ἡμέρας.
O Zeus what this of-the present day
δεινὸς λογισμὸς ἔσχε μου τὸν δεσπότην
a-terrible reckoning has-seized my the master
κάτῃ προσάψαι μῶλον οὐ λαθριδίως.
on-the-cat to-fasten battle not secretly
δοκῶ γὰρ αὐτὸν σὺν πάσῃ στρατηγίᾳ
I-think for him with all the-army
θανεῖν, λιπόντα τὸν φαεσφόρον λύχνον.
to-die having-left the light-bringing lamp
Ἄπολλον, ἁγνόμαντι, Φοῖβε Λοξία,
Apollo holy-seer Phoebus Loxias

τί τοῦτο τοῦτο; φεῦ παπαῖ φεῦ μοι πάλιν.
what this this alas papai alas for-me again

ἰαττατταιάξ, ὦ πόνων ἰαλέμων.
iattataiax O of-toils of-dirges

αἰ αἰ ἰοὺ ἰοὺ κακῶν πονημάτων.
ai ai iou iou of-evil labors

HALF-CHORUS ἴσως κροτήσει τὴν μάχην κατὰ κράτος.
perhaps he-will-win the battle by force

HALF-CHORUS ἄπιστ' ἄπιστα καινὰ καινά μοι λέγεις.
incredible incredible new new to-me you-say

τὸ τοῦ Διὸς θέλημα νῦν ὑπαρξάτω.
the — of-Zeus will now let-it-be

TYROCLEPTES ὁρῶ θέουσαν ἐξ ὑέλλων ἡμέραν.
I-see running from the-rains the-day

CREILLUS καὶ μὴν κἀγὼ δέδορκα τὴν λαμπηδόνα.
and indeed I-too have-seen the brightness

TYROCLEPTES καὶ τοιγαροῦν λίπωμεν ὕπνον καὶ κλίνην,
and therefore let-us-leave sleep and bed

ὄις δὲ καὶ βοῦς τοῖς θεοῖς τεθυκότες
sheep and and oxen to-the gods having-sacrificed

πρὸς τὸν μαχησμὸν ἐξίωμεν ἀτρόμως·
to the battle let-us-go-out fearlessly

δεῖ γὰρ πρὸ πάντων ἱλεοῦν τοὺς ἐν πόλῳ.
it-is-needful for before all to-propitiate the(-ones) in heaven

CREILLUS ἰδοὺ θύσαντες ἐκκαλοῦμεν τὸν Δία
behold having-sacrificed we-invoke — Zeus

καὶ τὴν Ἀθηνᾶν καὶ τὸν Ἑρμῆν καὶ Πάνα
and — Athena and — Hermes and Pan

καὶ τὸν Ποσειδῶ καὶ τὸν ἁγνὸν Λοξίαν,
and — Poseidon and the holy Loxias

Ἥραν σὺν αὐτοῖς Ἄρτεμίν τ' ὀρειβάτιν,
Hera with them Artemis and mountain-ranging
Πλούτωνα Λητώ, σὺν Ἄιδῃ Περσεφόνην
Pluto Leto with Hades Persephone
καὶ πάντας ἄλλους, καὶ πτεροῦμεν τὸν πόδα.
and all others and we-wing the foot
CHORUS ὦ πάντες ὦ σύμπαντες ὦ θεοὶ μόνοι,
O all O all-together O gods alone
ὅσοι γ' ἄνωθεν καὶ κάτω κληρουχίαν
as-many-as — above and below an-allotted-portion
ἔχοντές ἐστε, τῶν καλῶν χορηγέται,
having are of-the good(-things) providers
πρόστητε ναὶ πρόστητε καρτερωτάτως
stand-by yes stand-by most-mightily
τῶν δεσποτῶν μου τῶν νέαν στρατηγίαν
of-the masters my the(-ones) new generalship
κατῶν τελούντων πρὸς τὸ πάμφαγον γένος.
against-cats holding against the all-devouring race

II · THE MESSENGERS

Creillus' wife prays. A messenger reports the cat devoured her son Psicharpax; a second, that a rotten beam fell on the cat, and she dances for joy.

CREILLUS' WIFE ὡς εἴθε νικήσειαν, ὦ Ζεῦ, τῷ μόθῳ
oh would-that may-they-win O Zeus in-the battle
οὐμοὶ στρατηγοὶ καὶ σύνευνος καὶ τέκνον.
my generals and husband and child
CHORUS καλὸν τὸ νικᾶν, ἀλλὰ δειλία μ' ἔχει.
fine the to-win but cowardice me holds

CREILLUS' WIFE κἀγὼ δέδοικα καὶ τρέμω κατὰ κράτος.
I-too fear and tremble with might

CHORUS δεινὸν γάρ ἐστι δυσμενῶν εὐανδρία.
terrible for is of-enemies valor

CREILLUS' WIFE ὦ Ζεῦ βασιλεῦ, χρηστὸν ἔργασαι μόθον.
O Zeus king good make battle

CHORUS ἀεὶ τὸ θεῖον τῶν καλῶν ἅπαν νέμει.
always the divine of-the fine(-things) all dispenses

CREILLUS' WIFE εἰ μὲν κρατήσει τῶν μυῶν αἱ πληθύες
if indeed will-prevail of-the mice the multitudes
ἐξισχύσουσι τῆς ἐναντιουμένης,
will-overpower the opposing(-one)
εὖ ἂν τὸ λοιπὸν ἀνύσαιμεν τοῦ βίου
well — the rest we-would-accomplish of-the life
καὶ τὸν φόβον ῥίψαιμεν ὡς πορρωτάτω.
and the fear would-throw as farthest

CHORUS ναὶ δὴ γένοιτο τοῦτο, σὺν θεῷ λέγω.
yes indeed may-it-be this with god I-say

CREILLUS' WIFE εἰ δ' ἥττονες γένοιντο τῆς ἐναντίας
if but weaker they-should-become than-the opposing(-one)
καὶ πρὸς φυγὴν ῥέψωσιν ὡς τετραμμένοι,
and to flight should-incline as routed
ἅπαντα φροῦδα προσγενήσεται τάχα.
all gone will-come-to-pass quickly

CHORUS ὡς εἴθε μὴ γένοιτο μηδ' ἔσοιτό μοι.
oh would-that not may-it-be nor may-it-be for-me

CREILLUS' WIFE καὶ πᾶς γένηται δοῦλος αἰχμαλωσίᾳ.
and each may-become a-slave in-captivity

CHORUS οὔκ, ἀλλὰ δεινὸν βρῶμα τῆς ἐναντίας.
no but a-terrible food of-the opposing(-one)

CREILLUS' WIFE κἀγὼ δὲ δούλη παισὶ σὺν τοῖς φιλτάτοις
I-too and a-slave children with the dearest
ἡ πρὶν κυρία προσφανήσομαι τάχα.
the former lady will-appear quickly
CHORUS ἥκιστα δούλη σὺ γενήσῃ σὺν τέκνοις,
least-of-all a-slave you will-become with children
ἀλλ' ὡς ἀληθῶς βρῶμα τῆς ἀδηφάγου.
but as truly food of-the glutton
CREILLUS' WIFE τί γοῦν; προλίπω τὸ γλυκύτατον φάος
what then shall-I-leave the sweetest light
καὶ συγκαλυφθῶ τῇ κόνει καὶ τῷ τάφῳ;
and be-covered with-the dust and the tomb
CHORUS σίγα σίγα, δέσποινα, δεινόν τι βλέπω.
hush hush mistress terrible something I-see
καὶ μὴν ὁρῶ θέοντά τιν' ἐσπευσμένον
and indeed I-see running someone hurrying
καὶ πυκνὸν ἀσθμαίνοντα καὶ πεπληγμένον.
and thickly panting and stricken
MESSENGER κυρία ποῦ πάρεστί τις δηλωσάτω.
the-lady where is-she someone let-declare
CHORUS ἔξεστί σοι θέλοντι ταύτην εἰσβλέπειν.
it-is-possible for-you wishing her to-look-at
MESSENGER τάλαινα παντάλαινα καὶ τρισαθλία,
wretched all-wretched and thrice-miserable
πέπτωκε τρωθεὶς ὁ Ψιχάρπαξ ἐν βέλει.
has-fallen wounded — Psicharpax by a-missile
CREILLUS' WIFE ὦ τοῦ ποθεινοῦ καὶ πεφιλμένου τέκνου.
oh the longed-for and beloved child
πέπτωκεν ἡμὴ τοῦ γήρως βακτηρία.
has-fallen my of-the old-age staff

ὦ τῶν πόνων, ὦ τῶν πόνων ἰαλέμων.
oh the toils oh the toils of-dirges

παπαῖ, τὰ πάντα δεινὰ τῶν ἀγγελμάτων.
papai the all terrible(-things) of-the tidings

ἰοὺ θανοῦμαι. τίς γένωμαι; ποῦ φύγω;
iou I-shall-die what am-I-to-become where shall-I-flee

πᾷ βῶ; παρεῖμαι τῶν μελῶν εὐρωστίας.
where shall-I-go I-am-loosened of-the limbs from-strength

ὦ παῖ παπαῖ παῖ, φιλτάτη θεωρία.
O child papai child dearest sight

CHORUS τέτλαθί μοι τέτλαθι, παῦσαι τῶν γόων.
endure for-me endure cease the laments

CREILLUS' WIFE ὦ παῖ παναώριε λίαν, ὦ πέπον.
O child untimely too O tender-one

CHORUS αἰ αἰ τάλαινα μῆτερ ἠθλιωμένη,
ai ai wretched mother afflicted

ἐπίσχες ἄρτι τοὺς ἀπειρίτους στόνους.
hold-back now the boundless groans

CREILLUS' WIFE ἄπιστ' ἄπιστα δεινὰ δεινά μοι λέγεις.
incredible incredible terrible terrible to-me you-say

CHORUS κατάσχε μικρὸν τοὺς ἀπειρίτους γόους.
restrain a-little the boundless laments

CREILLUS' WIFE ὦ φιλτάτη πρόσοψις, ὦ παῖ μοι φίλε.
O dearest face O child to-me dear

CHORUS φέρειν πρέπον σε τὴν ἄπειρον ἀνίαν,
to-bear fitting(-it-is) you the boundless grief

μαθεῖν δὲ λοιπὸν τἀπίλοιπα τοῦ μόθου.
to-learn and for-the-rest the-remainder of-the battle

CREILLUS' WIFE ἀλλ' οὐ σθένω σχεῖν τοῦ πόνου τὴν πικρίαν.
but not I-am-strong to-hold of-the toil the bitterness

CHORUS τίς γοῦν ὄνησις ἐκ γόων ἀμετρίας;
what then profit from laments' excess

CREILLUS' WIFE αὐτὴν διαχρήσαιμι καὶ τάχει θάνω. 265
myself may-I-destroy and quickly die

CHORUS μὴ δῆτα τοῦτο, μηδὲ σὺ στένειν θέλε.
not indeed this nor you to-groan wish

CREILLUS' WIFE καὶ πῶς ἀνεκτὸν μὴ πεφύρθαι καὶ στένειν;
and how bearable not to-be-confounded and to-groan

CHORUS τί δὲ στένουσα τοὺς λογισμοὺς κουφίζεις;
why and groaning the reckonings do-you-lighten

οὐδεὶς θανόντας ἐξεγείρει τοῦ τάφου.
no-one the-dead raises from-the tomb

CREILLUS' WIFE παυθεῖσα τί πράξαιμι τῶν στεναγμάτων; 270
having-ceased what should-I-do of-the groans

CHORUS μαθεῖν θέλησον τἀπίλοιπα τοῦ μόθου.
to-learn wish the-remainder of-the battle

CREILLUS' WIFE καὶ τίς κατείπῃ ταῦτα καὶ σαφηνίσει;
and who will-tell these-things and will-make-clear

CHORUS ὁ τῶν παρόντων ἄγγελος ἀγγελμάτων.
the of-the present messenger tidings

CREILLUS' WIFE καὶ ποῦ πάρεστιν;
and where is-he-present

CHORUS εἰσορᾶν ἔξεστί σοι.
to-look-at it-is-possible for-you

CREILLUS' WIFE ἐκ τοῦ πάθους ὄλωλα καὶ συνετρίβην, 275
from the suffering I-have-perished and been-crushed

καὶ τὰς κόρας ἤμβλυνα τὰς τῶν ὀμμάτων.
and the pupils I-have-dimmed the(-ones) of-the eyes

CHORUS ἅπαν διευκρίνησον, ἀγγεληφόρε,
all make-clear bearer-of-tidings

ὅπως μὲν ἔστι τῆς μάχης ἡ τραχύτης,
how indeed is of-the battle the roughness
καὶ πῶς ὁ παῖς πέπτωκε καὶ παρερρύη.
and how the child has-fallen and slipped-away
MESSENGER εἴπω καθεξῆς ἢ τέμω τὰς ἐμφάσεις;
shall-I-tell in-order or cut the details
CHORUS ἑξῆς ἅπαν ἔξειπε συμβὰν τῇ μάχῃ,
in-order all tell-out having-happened in-the battle
αὐτῆς ἀπ᾽ ἀρχῆς τὸν λόγον διεννέπων.
the-very from beginning the account relating
MESSENGER εἴπω τὰ πάντα· τοιγαροῦν ἀκουστέον.
I-shall-tell the all therefore one-must-listen
ἐπεὶ γὰρ εἰς σύμμιξιν ἦλθον τῆς μάχης,
when for into clash they-came of-the battle
πρῶτον μὲν ὁ κράτιστος ἐθνοσατράπης,
first indeed the mightiest nation-satrap
ὁ Ψιχολείχης, συμβαλὼν τῇ παμφάγῳ
— *Psicholeiches having-engaged with-the all-devourer*
ἥττητο καὶ πέπτωκεν, οἰκτρά τις θέα,
was-defeated and fell piteous a sight
καὶ πᾶσα τούτου στρατιὰ διεφθάρη.
and all his army was-destroyed
ἔπειτ᾽ ἐπῆλθεν ἄλλος ἀρχισατράπης,
then attacked another chief-satrap
ὃς πᾶσιν ὠνόμαστο Κολλικοκλόπος,
who by-all had-been-named Collicoclopos
καὶ ταὐτὸν αὐτῷ πτῶμα πέπτωκε ξένον,
and the-same to-him fall he-fell strange
οὐδ᾽ ὑπομείνας προσβολὴν βραχυτάτην.
not-even having-endured attack shortest

ὡς γοῦν ἑώρα τοὺς κραταιοὺς σατράπας
when then saw the mighty satraps
ἤδη πεσόντας ὁ Ψιχάρπαξ καὶ βόσιν
already fallen — Psicharpax and food
οἰκτρὰν φανέντας σὺν στρατῷ τῇ παμφάγῳ,
piteous having-appeared with army for-the all-devourer
ὀργῆς ἐπλήσθη καὶ χόλου βαρυτάτου
with-wrath he-was-filled and with-anger heaviest
(θυμοῦ γὰρ οὐδέν ἐστιν ἄλλο πικρία,
of-spirit for nothing is other bitterness
εἰ μὴ ζέσις τις αἵματος πρὸς καρδίαν),
if not boiling some of-blood toward heart
λαβὼν δὲ κοντὸν χερσὶν ἐστομωμένον
having-taken and a-pike in-hands sharpened
ἐπῆλθεν αὐτῇ τοῦ τεθανατωκέναι.
he-went-at her for-the having-killed
ἣ δ' εἰσιδοῦσα τοῦτον ἡτοιμασμένον
she and having-seen him prepared
ἐκ τοῦ σύνεγγυς πρὸς σφαγὴν ἑστηκότα
from the near(-place) for slaughter standing
καὶ κοντὸν ἐκτείνοντα καρτερωτάτως,
and a-pike stretching-out most-mightily
ὥρμησεν αὐτὸν συλλαβεῖν παραυτίκα,
rushed him to-seize at-once
καὶ δὴ κατέσχε τοῖς ὄνυξιν ἀγρίως,
and indeed held(-him) with-the claws savagely
καὶ σὺν τάχει βέβρωκε τὸν νεανίαν.
and with speed ate the young-man
CHORUS καὶ ταῦτ' ἐν ὄψει τοῦ φίλου φυτοσπόρου;
and these-things in sight of-the dear father

CREILLUS' WIFE τὸ μεῖζον αὐτὸ τυγχάνει μοι τοῦ πάθους.
the greater itself is to-me of-the suffering

MESSENGER ἐγὼ δ' ἐπεὶ δέδορκα τοῦτο τὸ πράγος,
I and when I-have-seen this the business

310 προσῆλθον ὦ πότνιά σοι πεφρακέναι.
I-came O lady to-you to-tell

CHORUS ὡς εἴθε μηδ' ἐπῆλθες, ἀγγεληφόρε.
oh would-that not-even you-had-come bearer-of-tidings

CREILLUS' WIFE μέγιστον ἦν μοι μηδ' ὅλως προσιέναι·
greatest it-was to-me not-even at-all to-approach

οὐκ ἂν γὰρ ἀκμὴν τῷ πάθει συνεσχέθην.
not — for still in-the suffering would-I-have-been-held

MESSENGER ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν ἄπειμι τὴν ὀπισθίαν.
I indeed then go-away the back(-way)

315 CHORUS ἔλθοις κακῶν ἥκιστα μηνυτὴς πάλιν.
may-you-come of-evils least-of-all an-informer again

CREILLUS' WIFE κακὸς κακῶς ὄλοιτο νῦν ὁ πυρφόρος.
bad-one badly may-perish now the fire-bearer

CHORUS δέδοικεν ἡμᾶς δυσφορούσας τῷ λόγῳ.
he-fears us grieving at-the word

CREILLUS' WIFE ὦ ποῖον ἄνθος τῶν μυῶν ἀπεκρύβη.
oh what flower of-the mice has-been-bidden

CHORUS ἐμοὶ δοκεῖ κάλλιστον εἶναι καὶ πρέπον
to-me it-seems finest to-be and fitting

320 σύνθρηνον ᾆσαι παιδὶ τῷ πεπτωκότι.
a-joint-dirge to-sing for-child the fallen

CREILLUS' WIFE καλῶς ἔφησας· τοιγαροῦν θρηνητέον.
well you-spoke therefore one-must-lament

CHORUS πρώτιστα σὺ κρότησον ἀρχὴν τοῦ πάθους.
first you strike-up the-beginning of-the suffering

CREILLUS' WIFE ἃ ἃ παπαῖ, παῖ παῖ, παπαῖ παῖ πολλάκις.
ah ah papai child child papai child many-times

CHORUS παῖ παῖ Κρεῖλλε, παῖ παπαῖ παῖ δέσποτα.
child child Creillus child papai child master

CREILLUS' WIFE ἃ ἄ πόθι, παῖ, ποῦ ποτ' ἀπέβης, τέκνον; 325
ah ah where child where ever did-you-go child

CHORUS ποῖ ποῖ καλυφθεὶς ἐξαπέπτης τοῦ βίου;
where where covered did-you-fly-away from-the life

CREILLUS' WIFE ὦ ὦ πόθι, παῖ, τῶν πόνων ἰαλέμων.
oh oh where child the toils of-dirges

CHORUS ἰαλέμων, ὦ καὶ πάλιν ἰαλέμων.
of-dirges oh and again of-dirges

CREILLUS' WIFE ἃ ἃ λέλοιπας τὸν λύχνον τῆς ἡμέρας.
ah ah you-have-left the lamp of-the day

CHORUS ἅπανθ' ἅπαντα τοῦ βίου τέφρα κόνις, 330
all all of-the life ash dust

ἁπαξάπαντα τοῦ βίου σκιὰ μόνον.
all-together of-the life shadow only

CREILLUS' WIFE οἳ οἳ, παρῆλθες, ὦ Ψιχάρπαξ, ὦ τέκνον.
oi oi you-have-passed O Psicharpax O child

CHORUS ἀρκεῖ. τὸ λοιπὸν βαῖνε μὴ περαιτέρω·
enough the rest go not further

ἤδη βλέπω γὰρ ἄγγελον ταχυδρόμον.
already I-see for a-messenger swift-running

CREILLUS' WIFE δέδοικα μὴ πάλιν τι δεινόν μοι φράσῃ. 335
I-fear lest again something terrible to-me he-may-tell

CHORUS οὔκ, ὦ σεβαστή.
no O revered(-one)

CREILLUS' WIFE πῶς ἄρ' οἶδας, πῶς ἄρα;
how then do-you-know how then

CHORUS φαιδρῷ προσώπῳ τὸν δρόμον διατρέχει.
with-bright face the course he-runs

CREILLUS' WIFE ὡς εἴθε χρηστὸν ἄγγελον Ζεῦ μοι πρόες.
oh would-that a-good messenger Zeus to-me send-forth

MESSENGER ἡ δεσπότις πέφυκε ποῦ τις εἰπάτω.
the mistress is where someone let-tell

CHORUS ἰδοὺ πάρεστι, καὶ θέλεις εἴπερ βλέπε.
behold she-is-here and you-wish if look

MESSENGER πάγχρυσε, φαιδρὰ μὴ τεθλιμμένη γίνου,
all-golden bright not afflicted be

καὐμοὶ βράβευε δῶρα τῶν ἀγγελμάτων.
and-to-me award gifts of-the tidings

CREILLUS' WIFE ἔξειπε, μὴ χλεύαζε κομπορρημόνως.
tell-out not mock boastfully

MESSENGER ἤν μοι νέμῃς πρώτιστα δῶρα τοῦ λόγου.
if to-me you-assign first gifts of-the word

CREILLUS' WIFE εἰπόντι δώσω καὶ παράσχω συντόμως.
to-you-having-spoken I-will-give and provide promptly

MESSENGER τέθνηκεν ἡ τάλαινα κάτα τῷ μόθῳ.
has-died the wretched cat in-the battle

CHORUS ἆ ἆ κροτήσω καὶ χαρήσομαι πλέον·
ah ah I-will-clap and will-rejoice more

νικησάτω γὰρ ἡ χαρὰ τὴν ἀνίαν.
let-win for the joy the grief

CREILLUS' WIFE ὑφ' ἡδονῆς μέγιστον ὀρχοῦμαι πάνυ.
from pleasure greatly I-dance utterly

CHORUS τὰ τοῦ μόθου πρῶτόν σε μαθεῖν νῦν δέον,
the(-things) of-the battle first you to-learn now needful(-it-is)

καὶ πῶς τέθνηκε δυσμενὴς ἡ παμφάγος.
and how has-died hostile the all-devourer

CREILLUS' WIFE ἐξειπάτω δὴ πᾶσαν ἀγγεληφόρος
let-tell-out indeed all the-bearer-of-tidings
τὴν συγκρότησιν τῆς μάχης καὶ τὸν μόρον
the clash of-the battle and the doom
τῆς ἀγριωποῦ καὶ κακῆς μυοκτόνου.
of-the savage-faced and evil mouse-killer
CHORUS ἡ δεσπότις λέλακε· τὴν γλῶτταν κρότει.
the mistress has-spoken the tongue strike
MESSENGER ἰδοὺ τὸν εἱρμὸν εὐτρεπίζω τοῦ λόγου.
behold the sequence I-make-ready of-the account
ὑμεῖς δ' ἑτοίμως ὠσὶν οὖσιν ὀρθίοις
you and readily with-ears being upright
ἐνωτίσασθε τῶν ἐφηρμηνευμένων.
give-ear to-the(-things) interpreted
ὡς γοῦν ὁ δεινὸς σωματοφθόρος μόθος
when then the terrible body-destroying battle
ἔσχηκεν ἀρχὴν προσβολῆς εὐκοσμίᾳ
had beginning of-attack in-good-order
καὶ πρῶτα μὲν πέπτωκεν ἐθνοσατράπης
and first indeed fell the-nation-satrap
ὁ Ψιχολείχης, εἶθ' ὁ Κολλικοκλόπος,
— Psicholeiches then — Collicoclopos
ἔπειθ' ὁ πάις τοῦ καλοῦ μου δεσπότου,
then the child of-the good my master
ἤλγησεν οὕτος τῷ πάθει τὴν καρδίαν,
was-pained he in-the suffering the heart
ἰδὼν τὸν υἱὸν τὸν φίλον τεθνηκότα.
having-seen the son the dear dead
καὶ τὴν ὑπ' αὐτὸν στρατιὰν παροτρύνας
and the under him army having-urged-on

ἐπῆλθεν ἀπτὼς τῇ φθόρῳ καὶ παμφάγῳ,
he-attacked unfalteringly the destroyer and all-devourer
καὶ πρὸς ἅμιλλαν ἀτρόμως συνεπλάκη.
and to contest fearlessly engaged
πλεῖστον δὲ καιρὸν ἀνθυπηγωνισμένων
very-long and time contending-against(-each-other)
καὶ μηδενὸς φεύγοντος ἀλλ᾽ ἑστηκότος,
and no-one fleeing but standing
ξύλον κατελθὸν τῆς ὑπερτάτης στέγης
a-beam having-come-down from-the topmost roof
ἔτει παλαιὸν καὶ χρόνῳ τεθραυσμένον
in-years old and by-time broken
ἔπληξεν αὐτὴν ἐν μέσῳ μεταφρένῳ,
struck her in middle back
καὶ νεῦρα συντέθλακεν αὐτῆς αὐτίκα,
and the-sinews crushed her at-once
καὶ πρὸς βάθη πέπτωκεν Ἀιδωνέως.
and to the-depths she-fell of-Aidoneus
καὶ τὴν πρὶν ἡμῖν δυσμενῆ κατὰ κράτος
and the formerly to-us hostile with force
ἄσπονδον ἀμείλικτον ἠγριωμένην
truceless implacable made-savage
ἔδειξεν ἄπνουν ἐκτάδην ἡπλωμένην.
showed breathless stretched-out laid-out
CHORUS ζῴης ἀλύπως εὐθαλῶς εὐκαρδίως
may-you-live without-grief flourishingly stout-heartedly
εἰς λυκάβαντας μήποτε πληρουμένους
for years never filled
ἀνθ᾽ ὧνπερ ἦλθες ἄγγελος ποθουμένων
because-of which you-came messenger of-longed-for(-things)

καὶ τὸν φόνον προὔφηνας ἡμῖν τῆς φθόρου.
and the murder you-announced to-us of-the destroyer
ἤδη γὰρ εἶδον πᾶν ποθούμενον τέλος
already for I-have-seen all longed-for end
εἰληφὸς ἄρτι καὶ καλῶς ἠνυσμένον.
having-taken now and well accomplished
