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Iphigenia at Aulis

Euripides

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ Η ΕΝ ΑΥΛΙΔΙ
ΡΗΣΟΣ
ΕΚΑΒΗ
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ

Iphigenia at Aulis

With the Rhesus, Hecuba, and Cyclops

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



CANES NOBILES · MMXXVI

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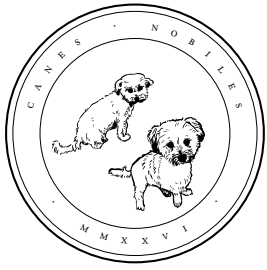

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The Greek text follows Arthur S. Way's Loeb Euripides (1912)

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Lines the editor secludes are not printed; words he supplies are printed without their brackets; † marks a word he obelizes; ∗∗∗ marks a gap in the text.

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EURIPIDES

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ Η ΕΝ ΑΥΛΙΔΙ

Iphigenia at Aulis

I · AGAMEMNON'S SECOND LETTER

Before dawn Agamemnon calls the old servant from the tent; the winds are silent at Aulis, and he envies the man who passes his life unknown. He tells how Tyndareus bound Helen's suitors by oath to defend whichever she chose, how she chose Menelaus, and how Paris carried her off, so that the Greeks gathered at Aulis and lie becalmed. Calchas has proclaimed that they will sail only if Agamemnon sacrifices Iphigenia to Artemis; persuaded by Menelaus, he wrote to Clytemnestra to send her daughter to marry Achilles. Now he has written a second letter to forbid it, and he sends the old man running to Argos with it, to turn the carriage back if he meets it on the road.

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ὦ πρέσβυ, δόμων τῶνδε πάροιθεν
O old-man house this before

στεῖχε.
come

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ στείχω. τί δὲ καινουργεῖς,
I-come what and new-are-you-devising

Ἀγάμεμνον ἄναξ; ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ σπεύσεις; ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ σπεύδω.
Agamemnon lord you-will-hasten I-hasten

μάλα τοι γῆρας τοὐμὸν ἄυπνον
very surely old-age my sleepless

καὶ ἐπ' ὀφθαλμοῖς ὀξὺ πάρεστιν. 5
and on eyes keen is-present

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τίς ποτ' ἄρ' ἀστὴρ ὅδε πορθμεύει;
what ever then star this travels

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ Σείριος ἐγγὺς τῆς ἑπταπόρου
Sirius near the seven-pathed

Πλειάδος ἄσσων ἔτι μεσσήρης.
Pleiad darting still in-mid-heaven

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὔκουν φθόγγος γ' οὔτ' ὀρνίθων
not-then sound at-least neither of-birds
οὔτε θαλάσσης· σιγαὶ δ' ἀνέμων
nor of-sea silences and of-winds
τόνδε κατ' Εὔριπον ἔχουσιν.
this along Euripus hold
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ τί δὲ σὺ σκηνῆς ἐκτὸς ἀίσσεις,
why and you of-tent outside dart
Ἀγάμεμνον ἄναξ;
Agamemnon lord
ἔτι δ' ἡσυχία τῇδε κατ' Αὐλιν,
still and quiet here at Aulis
καὶ ἀκίνητοι φυλακαὶ τειχέων.
and unmoved guards of-walls
στείχωμεν ἔσω. ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ζηλῶ σέ, γέρον,
let-us-go within I-envy you old-man
ζηλῶ δ' ἀνδρῶν ὃς ἀκίνδυνον
I-envy and of-men who without-danger
βίον ἐξεπέρασ' ἀγνὼς ἀκλεής·
life passed-through unknown inglorious
τοὺς δ' ἐν τιμαῖς ἧσσον ζηλῶ.
the but in honors less I-envy
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ καὶ μὴν τὸ καλόν γ' ἐνταῦθα βίου.
and indeed the fine at-least there of-life
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τοῦτο δέ γ' ἐστὶν τὸ καλὸν σφαλερόν·
this but at-least is the fine slippery
καὶ τὸ πρότιμον
and the preeminence
γλυκὺ μέν, λύπῃ δὲ προσιστάμενον.
sweet indeed with-grief but standing-near

τοτὲ μὲν τὰ θεῶν οὐκ ὀρθωθέντ'
at-times indeed the-things of-gods not set-right
ἀνέτρεψε βίον, τοτὲ δ' ἀνθρώπων
overturned life at-times and of-men
γνῶμαι πολλαὶ
judgments many
καὶ δυσάρεστοι διέκναισαν.
and hard-to-please wore-away
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ οὐκ ἄγαμαι ταῦτ' ἀνδρὸς ἀριστέως·
not I-admire these-things of-man noble
οὐκ ἐπὶ πᾶσίν σ' ἐφύτευσ' ἀγαθοῖς,
not on all you begot goods
Ἀγάμεμνον, Ἀτρεύς.
Agamemnon Atreus
δεῖ δέ σε χαίρειν καὶ λυπεῖσθαι·
must and you to-rejoice and to-grieve
θνητὸς γὰρ ἔφυς. κἂν μὴ σὺ θέλῃς,
mortal for you-were-born even-if not you wish
τὰ θεῶν οὕτω βουλόμεν' ἔσται.
the-things of-gods so wishing will-be
σὺ δὲ λαμπτῆρος φάος ἀμπετάσας
you and of-lamp light having-spread
δέλτον τε γράφεις
tablet and write
τήνδ' ἣν πρὸ χερῶν ἔτι βαστάζεις,
this which before hands still you-carry
καὶ ταὐτὰ πάλιν γράμματα συγχεῖς
and the-same again letters you-confound
καὶ σφραγίζεις λύεις τ' ὀπίσω,
and seal loose and back

ῥίπτεις τε πέδῳ πεύκην, θαλερὸν
throw and to-ground pine-tablet abundant
κατὰ δάκρυ χέων,
down tear shedding
καὶ τῶν ἀπόρων οὐδενὸς ἐνδεὶς
and of-the helpless-things nothing lack
μὴ οὐ μαίνεσθαι.
not not to-be-mad
τί πονεῖς; τί νέον περὶ σοί, βασιλεῦ;
why do-you-toil what new about you king
φέρε κοίνωσον μῦθον ἐς ἡμᾶς.
come share word to us
πρὸς δ' ἄνδρ' ἀγαθὸν πιστόν τε φράσεις·
to and man good faithful and you-will-tell
σῇ γάρ μ' ἀλόχῳ τότε Τυνδάρεως
to-your for me wife then Tyndareus
πέμπει φερνὴν
sends dowry
συννυμφοκόμον τε δίκαιον.
bride-attendant and just
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐγένοντο Λήδᾳ Θεστιάδι τρεῖς παρθένοι,
were-born to-Leda daughter-of-Thestius three maidens
Φοίβη Κλυταιμνήστρα τ' ἐμὴ ξυνάορος
Phoebe Clytemnestra and my wife
Ἑλένη τε· ταύτης οἱ τὰ πρῶτ' ὠλβισμένοι
Helen and of-her the the first having-been-blessed
μνηστῆρες ἦλθον Ἑλλάδος νεανίαι.
suitors came of-Hellas young-men
δειναὶ δ' ἀπειλαὶ καὶ κατ' ἀλλήλων φόνος
terrible and threats and against one-another murder

ξυνίσταθ', ὅστις μὴ λάβοι τὴν παρθένον.
arose whoever not should-take the maiden
τὸ πρᾶγμα δ' ἀπόρως εἶχε Τυνδάρεῳ πατρί,
the matter but perplexedly held for-Tyndareus father
δοῦναί τε μὴ δοῦναί τε, τῆς τύχης ὅπως
to-give and not to-give and the fortune how
ἅψαιτ' ἄθραυστα. καί νιν εἰσῆλθεν τάδε,
he-might-touch unbroken and him came-into these-things
ὅρκους συνάψαι δεξιάς τε συμβαλεῖν
oaths to-join right-hands and to-clasp
μνηστῆρας ἀλλήλοισι καὶ δι' ἐμπύρων
suitors with-one-another and through burnt-offerings
σπονδὰς καθεῖναι κἀπαράσασθαι τάδε,
libations to-pour and-to-curse these-things
ὅτου γυνὴ γένοιτο Τυνδαρὶς κόρη,
of-whomever wife should-be Tyndarid daughter
τούτῳ συναμυνεῖν, εἴ τις ἐκ δόμων λαβὼν
for-this-one to-help-defend if anyone from house having-taken
οἴχοιτο τόν τ' ἔχοντ' ἀπωθοίη λέχους,
should-go the and having should-thrust from-bed
κἀπιστρατεύσειν καὶ κατασκάψειν πόλιν
and-to-march-against and to-raze city
Ἕλλην' ὁμοίως βάρβαρόν θ' ὅπλων μέτα.
Greek alike barbarian and arms with
ἐπεὶ δ' ἐπιστώθησαν, εὖ δέ πως γέρων
when and they-were-bound well and somehow old-man
ὑπῆλθεν αὐτοὺς Τυνδάρεως πυκνῇ φρενί,
outwitted them Tyndareus with-shrewd mind
δίδωσ' ἑλέσθαι θυγατρὶ μνηστήρων ἕνα,
gives to-choose to-daughter of-suitors one

ὅποι πνοαὶ φέροιεν Ἀφροδίτης φίλαι.
whither breezes might-carry of-Aphrodite dear

ἡ δ' εἵλεθ', ὅς σφε μήποτ' ὤφελεν λαβεῖν,
she and chose who her never ought to-take

Μενέλαον. ἐλθὼν δ' ἐκ Φρυγῶν ὁ τὰς θεὰς
Menelaus having-come and from Phrygians the the goddesses

κρίνων ὅδ', ὡς ὁ μῦθος Ἀργείων ἔχει,
judging this-one as the story of-Argives holds

Λακεδαίμον', ἀνθηρὸς μὲν εἱμάτων στολῇ
to-Lacedaemon flowery indeed of-garments in-dress

χρυσῷ τε λαμπρὸς βαρβάρῳ χλιδήματι,
with-gold and bright with-barbarian luxury

ἐρῶν ἐρῶσαν ᾤχετ' ἐξαναρπάσας
loving loving went having-snatched-away

Ἑλένην πρὸς Ἴδης βούσταθμ', ἔκδημον λαβὼν
Helen to of-Ida cattle-steadings abroad having-taken

Μενέλαον· ὁ δὲ καθ' Ἑλλάδ' οἰστρήσας δρόμῳ
Menelaus he and throughout Hellas stung with-course

ὅρκους παλαιοὺς Τυνδάρεω μαρτύρεται,
oaths ancient of-Tyndareus calls-to-witness

ὡς χρὴ βοηθεῖν τοῖσιν ἠδικημένοις.
that must to-help the wronged

τοὐντεῦθεν οὖν Ἕλληνες ᾄξαντες δορί,
thereupon then Greeks having-rushed with-spear

τεύχη λαβόντες στενόπορ' Αὐλίδος βάθρα
arms having-taken narrow-passaged of-Aulis seats

ἥκουσι τῆσδε, ναυσὶν ἀσπίσιν θ' ὁμοῦ
come of-this with-ships with-shields and together

ἵπποις τε πολλοῖς ἅρμασίν τ' ἠσκημένοι.
with-horses and many with-chariots and equipped

κἀμὲ στρατηγεῖν δῆτα Μενέλεω χάριν
and-me to-lead-the-army then of-Menelaus for-the-sake
εἵλοντο, σύγγονόν γε. τἀξίωμα δὲ
they-chose brother at-least the-honor but
ἄλλος τις ὤφελ' ἀντ' ἐμοῦ λαβεῖν τόδε.
another some ought instead-of me to-take this
ἠθροισμένου δὲ καὶ ξυνεστῶτος στρατοῦ,
gathered and and assembled army
ἥμεσθ' ἀπλοίᾳ χρώμενοι κατ' Αὐλίδα.
we-sit no-sailing experiencing at Aulis
Κάλχας δ' ὁ μάντις ἀπορίᾳ κεχρημένοις
Calchas and the seer with-perplexity in-need
ἀνεῖλεν Ἰφιγένειαν ἣν ἔσπειρ' ἐγὼ
proclaimed Iphigenia whom begot I
Ἀρτέμιδι θῦσαι τῇ τόδ' οἰκούσῃ πέδον,
to-Artemis to-sacrifice to-the this inhabiting ground
καὶ πλοῦν τ' ἔσεσθαι καὶ κατασκαφὰς Φρυγῶν
and voyage and to-be and razings of-Phrygians
θύσασι, μὴ θύσασι δ' οὐκ εἶναι τάδε.
having-sacrificed not having-sacrificed but not to-be these-things
κλύων δ' ἐγὼ ταῦτ', ὀρθίῳ κηρύγματι
hearing and I these-things with-shrill proclamation
Ταλθύβιον εἶπον πάντ' ἀφιέναι στρατόν,
Talthybius I-told all to-dismiss army
ὡς οὔποτ' ἂν τλὰς θυγατέρα κτανεῖν ἐμήν.
as never — having-endured daughter to-kill my
οὗ δή μ' ἀδελφὸς πάντα προσφέρων λόγον
where indeed me brother every bringing-forward argument
ἔπεισε τλῆναι δεινά. κἀν δέλτου πτυχαῖς
persuaded to-endure terrible-things and-in of-tablet folds

γράψας ἔπεμψα πρὸς δάμαρτα τὴν ἐμὴν
having-written I-sent to wife the my
στέλλειν Ἀχιλλεῖ θυγατέρ' ὡς γαμουμένην,
to-send to-Achilles daughter as to-be-married
τό τ' ἀξίωμα τἀνδρὸς ἐκγαυρούμενος,
the and worth of-the-man exalting
συμπλεῖν τ' Ἀχαιοῖς οὕνεκ' οὐ θέλοι λέγων,
to-sail-with and with-Achaeans because not would-wish saying
εἰ μὴ παρ' ἡμῶν εἶσιν εἰς Φθίαν λέχος·
if not from us goes to Phthia bride
πειθὼ γὰρ εἶχον τήνδε πρὸς δάμαρτ' ἐμήν,
persuasion for I-had this toward wife my
ψευδῆ συνάψας ἀμφὶ παρθένου γάμον.
false having-contrived about of-maiden marriage
μόνοι δ' Ἀχαιῶν ἴσμεν ὡς ἔχει τάδε
alone and of-Achaeans we-know how holds these-things
Κάλχας, Ὀδυσσεύς, Μενέλεώς θ'. ἃ δ' οὐ καλῶς
Calchas Odysseus Menelaus and what but not well
ἔγνων τότ', αὖθις μεταγράφω καλῶς πάλιν
I-decided then again I-rewrite well back
εἰς τήνδε δέλτον, ἣν κατ' εὐφρόνης σκιὰν
into this tablet which by of-night shadow
λύοντα καὶ συνδοῦντά μ' εἰσεῖδες, γέρον.
loosing and binding me you-saw old-man
ἀλλ' εἶα χώρει τάσδ' ἐπιστολὰς λαβὼν
but come go these letters having-taken
πρὸς Ἄργος. ἃ δὲ κέκευθε δέλτος ἐν πτυχαῖς,
to Argos what and holds tablet in folds
λόγῳ φράσω σοι πάντα τἀγγεγραμμένα·
by-word I-will-tell you all the-written

πιστὸς γὰρ ἀλόχῳ τοῖς τ᾽ ἐμοῖς δόμοισιν εἶ.
faithful for to-wife to-the and my house are

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ λέγε καὶ σήμαιν᾽, ἵνα καὶ γλώσσῃ
speak and signal so-that also with-tongue

σύντονα τοῖς σοῖς γράμμασιν αὐδῶ.
consonant with-the your letters I-may-speak

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ πέμπω σοι πρὸς ταῖς πρόσθεν
I-send to-you besides the former

δέλτοις, ὦ Λήδας ἔρνος,
tablets O of-Leda offspring

μὴ στέλλειν τὰν σὰν ἶνιν πρὸς
not to-send the your child to

τὰν κολπώδη πτέρυγ᾽ Εὐβοίας
the bosomed wing of-Euboea

Αὐλιν ἀκλύσταν.
Aulis waveless

εἰς ἄλλας ὥρας γὰρ δὴ
to other seasons for indeed

παιδὸς δαίσομεν ὑμεναίους.
of-child we-shall-celebrate weddings

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ καὶ πῶς Ἀχιλεὺς λέκτρων ἀπλακὼν
and how Achilles of-marriage having-failed

οὐ μέγα φυσῶν θυμὸν ἐπαρεῖ
not greatly breathing spirit will-raise

σοὶ σῇ τ᾽ ἀλόχῳ;
against-you your and wife

τόδε καὶ δεινόν. σήμαιν᾽ ὅ τι φής.
this also terrible signal what — you-say

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ὄνομ', οὐκ ἔργον παρέχων Ἀχιλεὺς
name not deed offering Achilles
οὐκ οἶδε γάμους, οὐδ' ὅ τι πράσσομεν,
not knows marriage nor what — we-are-doing
οὐδ' ὅτι κείνῳ παῖδ' ἐπεφήμισα
nor that to-him child I-promised
νυμφείους εἰς ἀγκώνων
bridal into of-arms
εὐνὰς ἐκδώσειν λέκτροις.
beds to-give-in-marriage for-bed
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ δεινά γ' ἐτόλμας, Ἀγάμεμνον ἄναξ,
terrible-things at-least you-dared Agamemnon lord
ὃς τῷ τῆς θεᾶς σὴν παῖδ' ἄλοχον
who to-the of-the goddess your child wife
φατίσας ἦγες σφάγιον Δαναοῖς.
having-announced you-brought victim to-Danaans
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οἴμοι, γνώμας ἐξέσταν,
ah-me of-wits I-am-out
αἰαῖ, πίπτω δ' εἰς ἄταν.
alas I-fall and into ruin
ἀλλ' ἴθ' ἐρέσσων σὸν πόδα, γήρᾳ
but go plying your foot to-old-age
μηδὲν ὑπείκων. ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ σπεύδω, βασιλεῦ.
nothing yielding I-hasten king
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ μή νυν μήτ' ἀλσώδεις ἵζου
not now neither wooded sit
κρήνας, μήθ' ὕπνῳ θελχθῇς.
springs nor by-sleep be-charmed
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ εὔφημα θρόει.
well-omened-things speak

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ πάντῃ δὲ πόρον σχιστὸν ἀμείβων
everywhere and way forked passing
λεῦσσε, φυλάσσων μή τίς σε λάθῃ
look guarding lest any you escape-notice
τροχαλοῖσιν ὄχοις παραμειψαμένη
with-wheeled cars passing-by
παῖδα κομίζουσ' ἐνθάδ' ἀπήνη
child bringing here carriage
Δαναῶν πρὸς ναῦς.
of-Danaans to ships
ἢν γάρ νιν πομπαῖς ἀντήσῃς,
if for her with-escort you-meet
πάλιν ἐξόρμα, σεῖε χαλινούς,
back drive shake reins
ἐπὶ Κυκλώπων ἱεὶς θυμέλας.
to of-Cyclopes sending hearths
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ἔσται τάδε. ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ κλῄθρων δ' ἐξόρμα.
it-will-be these-things from-bars and drive-out
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ πιστὸς δὲ φράσας τάδε πῶς ἔσομαι,
faithful and having-told these-things how shall-I-be
λέγε, παιδὶ σέθεν τῇ σῇ τ' ἀλόχῳ;
speak to-child of-you to-the your and wife
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ σφραγῖδα φύλασσ' ἣν ἐπὶ δέλτῳ
seal guard which on tablet
τήνδε κομίζεις. ἴθι. λευκαίνει
this you-carry go whitens
τόδε φῶς ἤδη λάμπουσ' ἠὼς
this light already shining dawn
πῦρ τε τεθρίππων τῶν Ἀελίου·
fire and of-four-horses of-the Sun

σύλλαβε μόχθων.
share of-toils
θνητῶν δ' ὄλβιος εἰς τέλος οὐδεὶς
of-mortals but prosperous to end no-one
οὐδ' εὐδαίμων·
nor happy
οὔπω γὰρ ἔφυ τις ἄλυπος.
not-yet for was-born anyone griefless

II · THE ARMY AT AULIS

Women of Chalcis have crossed the strait to see the army. They tell of the heroes at their ease: the two Ajaxes, Protesilaus, and Palamedes at a board game, Diomedes with the discus, Meriones, Odysseus, and Nireus, and Achilles racing in armor against the chariot of Eumelus. Then they count the ships, the Myrmidons' fifty with golden Nereids on their sterns, the Argives', the Athenians', the Boeotians', the Locrians', Agamemnon's hundred, Nestor's, and the rest.

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἔμολον ἀμφὶ παρακτίαν
I-came to coastal
ψάμαθον Αὐλίδος ἐναλίας,
sand of-Aulis sea-girt
Εὐρίπου διὰ χευμάτων
of-Euripus through streams
κέλσασα στενοπόρθμων,
having-landed narrow-straited
Χαλκίδα πόλιν ἐμὰν προλιποῦσ',
Chalcis city my having-left
ἀγχιάλων ὑδάτων τροφὸν
of-sea-near waters nurse

τᾶς κλεινᾶς Ἀρεθούσας,
of-the famous of-Arethusa
Ἀχαιῶν στρατιὰν ὡς ἰδοίμαν
of-Achaeans army that I-might-see
ἀγαυῶν τε πλάτας ναυσιπόρους
of-noble and oars ship-faring
ἡμιθέων, οὓς ἐπὶ Τροί-
of-demigods whom to Troy
αν ἐλάταις χιλιόναυσιν
— *with-pines thousand-shipped*
τὸν ξανθὸν Μενέλαον
the golden-haired Menelaus
ἁμέτεροι πόσεις
our husbands
ἐνέπουσ' Ἀγαμέμνονά τ' εὐπατρίδαν
tell Agamemnon and well-born
στέλλειν ἐπὶ τὰν Ἑλέναν, ἀπ'
to-send after the Helen from
Εὐρώτα δονακοτρόφου
Eurotas reed-nurturing
Πάρις ὁ βουκόλος ἂν ἔλαβε,
Paris the herdsman whom took
δῶρον τᾶς Ἀφροδίτας,
gift of-the Aphrodite
ὅτ' ἐπὶ κρηναίαισι δρόσοις
when by springlike dews
Ἥρᾳ Παλλάδι τ' ἔριν ἔριν
with-Hera with-Pallas and strife strife
μορφᾶς ἁ Κύπρις ἔσχεν.
of-beauty the Cypris held

πολύθυτον δὲ δι' ἄλσος Ἀρ-
much-sacrificed and through grove of-Artemis
τέμιδος ἦλυθον ὀρομένα,
— I-came rushing
φοινίσσουσα παρῇδ' ἐμὰν
reddening cheek my
αἰσχύνᾳ νεοθαλεῖ,
with-shame fresh-blooming
ἀσπίδος ἔρυμα καὶ κλισίας
of-shield bulwark and tents
ὁπλοφόρους Δαναῶν θέλουσ'
arms-bearing of-Danaans wishing
ἵππων τ' ὄχλον ἰδέσθαι.
of-horses and crowd to-see
κατεῖδον δὲ δύ' Αἴαντε συνέδρω,
I-saw and two Ajaxes sitting-together
τὸν Οἰλέως Τελαμῶνός τε γόνον,
the of-Oileus of-Telamon and offspring
τὸν Σαλαμῖνος στέφανον,
the of-Salamis crown
Πρωτεσίλαόν τ' ἐπὶ θάκοις
Protesilaus and at seats
πεσσῶν ἡδομένους μορ-
of-game-pieces delighting in-shapes
φαῖσι πολυπλόκοις,
— intricate

Παλαμήδεά θ', ὃν τέκε παῖς ὁ Ποσει-
Palamedes and whom bore child the of-Poseidon
δᾶνος, Διομήδεά θ' ἡδο-
— *Diomedes and with-delights*
ναῖς δίσκου κεχαρημένον,
— *of-discus rejoicing*
παρὰ δὲ Μηριόνην, Ἄρεος
beside and Meriones of-Ares
ὄζον, θαῦμα βροτοῖσι,
offshoot marvel to-mortals
τὸν ἀπὸ νησαίων τ' ὀρέων
the from island and mountains
Λαέρτα τόκον, ἅμα δὲ Νι-
of-Laertes offspring together and Nireus
ρῆ, κάλλιστον Ἀχαιῶν.
— *fairest of-Achaeans*
τὸν ἰσάνεμόν τε ποδοῖν
the wind-equal and with-feet
λαιψηροδρόμον Ἀχιλῆα,
swift-running Achilles
τὸν ἁ Θέτις τέκε καὶ
whom the Thetis bore and
Χείρων ἐξεπόνασεν,
Chiron trained
εἶδον αἰγιαλοῖσι
I-saw on-beaches
παρά τε κροκάλαις δρόμον ἔχοντα σὺν ὅπλοις·
along and pebbles course holding with arms
ἅμιλλαν δ' ἐπόνει ποδοῖν
contest and he-labored with-feet

πρὸς ἅρμα τέτρωρον
against chariot four-horsed
ἑλίσσων περὶ νίκας.
whirling for victory
ὁ δὲ διφρηλάτας ἐβοᾶτ'
the and charioteer shouted
Εὔμηλος Φερητιάδας,
Eumelus son-of-Pheres
ᾧ καλλίστους ἰδόμαν
whose fairest I-saw
χρυσοδαιδάλτους στομίοις
gold-wrought with-bits
πώλους κέντρῳ θεινομένους,
colts with-goad being-struck
τοὺς μὲν μέσους ζυγίους,
the indeed middle yoke-horses
λευκοστίκτῳ τριχὶ βαλιούς,
with-white-spotted hair dappled
τοὺς δ' ἔξω σειροφόρους,
the and outside trace-horses
ἀντήρεις καμπαῖσι δρόμων,
facing at-turnings of-courses
πυρσότριχας, μονόχαλα δ' ὑπὸ σφυρὰ
fire-haired single-hoofed and below ankles
ποικιλοδέρμονας· οἷς παρεπάλλετο
dapple-skinned beside-whom leapt
Πηλεΐδας σὺν ὅπλοισι παρ' ἄντυγα
son-of-Peleus with arms by rail
καὶ σύριγγας ἁρματείους.
and naves chariot

ναῶν δ' εἰς ἀριθμὸν ἦλυθον
of-ships and to number I-came
καὶ θέαν ἀθέσφατον,
and sight unspeakable
τὰν γυναικεῖον ὄψιν ὀμμάτων
the female sight of-eyes
ὡς πλήσαιμι, μείλινον ἁδονάν.
that I-might-fill sweet pleasure
καὶ κέρας μὲν ἦν
and wing indeed was
δεξιὸν πλάτας ἔχων
right fleet holding
Φθιώτας ὁ Μυρμιδὼν Ἄρης
Phthiotian the Myrmidon Ares
πεντήκοντα ναυσὶ θουρίαις.
with-fifty ships swift
χρυσέαις δ' εἰκόσιν κατ' ἄκρα Νη-
golden and with-images at tips Nereids
ρῇδες ἔστασαν θεαί,
— stood goddesses
πρύμναις σῆμ' Ἀχιλλείου στρατοῦ.
on-sterns sign of-Achilles' army
Ἀργείων δὲ ταῖσδ' ἰσήρετμοι
of-Argives and to-these equal-oared
νᾶες ἔστασαν πέλας·
ships stood near
ὧν ὁ Μηκιστέως στρατηλάτας
of-which the of-Mecisteus general
παῖς ἦν, Ταλαὸς ὃν τρέφει πατήρ·
child was Talaus whom rears father

Καπανέως τε παῖς
of-Capaneus and child
Σθένελος· Ἀτθίδος δ' ἄγων
Sthenelus of-Attica and leading
ἑξήκοντα ναῦς ὁ Θησέως
sixty ships the of-Theseus
παῖς ἑξῆς ἐναυλόχει θεὰν
child next moored goddess
Παλλάδ' ἐν μωνύχοις ἔχων πτερω-
Pallas in single-hoofed having winged
τοῖσιν ἅρμασιν θετὸν
— chariots set
εὔσημόν τε φάσμα ναυβάταις.
clear and sign to-sailors
Βοιωτῶν δ' ὅπλισμα ποντίας
of-Boeotians and armament of-sea
πεντήκοντα νῆας εἰδόμαν
fifty ships I-saw
σημείοισιν ἐστολισμένας·
with-ensigns adorned
τοῖς δὲ Κάδμος ἦν
to-these and Cadmus was
χρύσεον δράκοντ' ἔχων
golden serpent holding
ἀμφὶ ναῶν κόρυμβα·
about of-ships sterns
Λήιτος δ' ὁ γηγενὴς
Leitus and the earth-born
ἦρχε ναΐου στρατοῦ·
commanded naval army

Φωκίδος δ' ἀπὸ χθονός,
of-Phocis and from land
Λοκρὰς δὲ τοῖσδ' ἴσας ἄγων
Locrian and to-these equal leading
ἦν ναῦς Οἰλέως τόκος κλυτὰν
was ships of-Oileus offspring famous
Θρονιάδ' ἐκλιπὼν πόλιν.
Thronian having-left city
Μυκήνας δὲ τᾶς Κυκλωπίας
of-Mycenae and of-the Cyclopean
παῖς Ἀτρέως ἔπεμπε ναυβάτας
child of-Atreus sent sailors
ναῶν ἑκατὸν ἠθροϊσμένους.
of-ships hundred gathered
σὺν δ' ἀδελφὸς ἦν
with and brother was
ταγός, ὡς φίλος φίλῳ,
commander as friend to-friend
τᾶς φυγούσας μέλαθρα
of-the having-fled house
βαρβάρων χάριν γάμων
of-barbarian for-the-sake of-marriage
πρᾶξιν Ἑλλὰς ὡς λάβοι.
vengeance Hellas that might-take
ἐκ Πύλου δὲ Νέστορος
from Pylos and of-Nestor
Γερηνίου κατειδόμαν
Gerenian I-saw
πρύμνας σῆμα ταυρόπουν ὁρᾶν,
of-stern sign bull-footed to-see

τὸν πάροικον Ἀλφεόν.
the neighbor Alpheus
Αἰνιάνων δὲ δωδεκάστολοι
of-Aenianians and twelve-sailed
νᾶες ἦσαν, ὧν ἄναξ Γουνεὺς
ships were of-which lord Guneus
ἆρχε· τῶνδε δ' αὖ πέλας
commanded of-these and again near
Ἤλιδος δυνάστορες,
of-Elis lords
οὓς Ἐπειοὺς ὠνόμαζε πᾶς λεώς·
whom Epeans named all people
Εὔρυτος δ' ἄνασσε τῶνδε·
Eurytus and ruled of-these
λευκήρετμον δ' Ἄρη
white-oared and Ares
Τάφιον ἦγεν, ὧν Μέγης ἄνασσε
Taphian led of-whom Meges ruled
Φυλέως λόχευμα,
of-Phyleus offspring
τὰς Ἐχίνας λιπὼν ***
the Echinades having-left (lacuna)
νήσους ναυβάταις ἀπροσφόρους.
islands to-sailors inaccessible
Αἴας δ' ὁ Σαλαμῖνος ἔντροφος
Ajax and the of-Salamis nursling
δεξιὸν κέρας πρὸς τὸ λαιὸν ξύναγε,
right wing to the left joined
τῶν ἆσσον ὥρμει πλάταισιν
to-the nearer he-moored with-oars

ἐσχάταισι συμπλέκων
farthest linking
δώδεκ᾽ εὐστροφωτάταισι ναυσίν· ὡς
twelve with-most-agile ships as
ἄϊον καὶ ναυβάταν
I-heard and seafaring
εἰδόμαν λεών·
I-saw people
ᾧ τις εἰ προσαρμόσει
to-whom anyone if will-bring-up
βαρβάρους βάριδας,
barbarian boats
νόστον οὐκ ἀποίσεται,
return not will-carry-off
ἐνθάδ᾽ οἷον εἰδόμαν
here such I-saw
νάϊον πόρευμα,
naval expedition
τὰ δὲ κατ᾽ οἴκους κλύουσα συγκλήτου
the and at home hearing of-assembled
μνήμην σῴζομαι στρατεύματος.
memory I-keep of-army

Menelaus has seized the letter from the old man and confronts his brother. He reproaches Agamemnon for humbling himself to win the command, growing aloof once he had it, despairing at Aulis, gladly agreeing to the sacrifice, and now going back on his word. Agamemnon answers that he will not kill his children to win back a bad wife for Menelaus. A messenger announces that Iphigenia has arrived with Clytemnestra and the child Orestes, and Agamemnon laments that he is trapped. Moved by his tears, Menelaus relents and begs him to spare her; but Agamemnon now says the army will force it, for Calchas and Odysseus will rouse it against them. He asks Menelaus to keep Clytemnestra from learning the truth.

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ Μενέλαε, τολμᾷς δείν', ἅ σ' οὐ τολμᾶν χρεών.
Menelaus you-dare terrible-things which you not to-dare is-right

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ ἄπελθε· λίαν δεσπόταισι πιστὸς εἶ.
go-away too to-masters faithful you-are

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ καλόν γέ μοι τοὔνειδος ἐξωνείδισας.
fine at-least for-me the-reproach you-reproached

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ κλαίοις ἄν, εἰ πράσσοις ἃ μὴ πράσσειν σε δεῖ.
you-would-weep — if you-should-do what not to-do you must

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ οὐ χρῆν σε λῦσαι δέλτον, ἣν ἐγὼ 'φερον.
not was-right you to-loose tablet which I was-carrying

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὐδέ γε φέρειν σε πᾶσιν Ἕλλησιν κακά.
nor at-least to-carry you to-all to-Greeks evils

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ἄλλοις ἀμιλλῶ ταῦτ'· ἄφες δὲ τήνδ' ἐμοί.
with-others contend these-things let-go and this to-me

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὐκ ἂν μεθείμην. ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ οὐδ' ἔγωγ' ἀφήσομαι.
not — I-would-let-go nor I will-let-go

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ σκήπτρῳ τάχ' ἆρα σὸν καθαιμάξω κάρα.
with-scepter soon then your I-shall-bloody head

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ἀλλ' εὐκλεές τοι δεσποτῶν θνῄσκειν ὕπερ.
but glorious surely masters to-die for

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ μέθες· μακροὺς δὲ δοῦλος ὢν λέγεις λόγους.
let-go long but slave being you-say words

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ὦ δέσποτ', ἀδικούμεσθα. σὰς δ' ἐπιστολὰς
O master we-are-wronged your and letters

ἐξαρπάσας ὅδ' ἐκ χερῶν ἐμῶν βίᾳ, 315
having-snatched this-one from hands my by-force

Ἀγάμεμνον, οὐδὲν τῇ δίκῃ χρῆσθαι θέλει.
Agamemnon nothing the justice to-use wishes

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔα·
ha

τίς ποτ' ἐν πύλαισι θόρυβος καὶ λόγων ἀκοσμία;
what ever at gates uproar and of-words disorder

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὐμὸς οὐχ ὁ τοῦδε μῦθος κυριώτερος λέγειν.
my not the of-this-one word more-authoritative to-speak

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ σὺ δὲ τί τῷδ' ἐς ἔριν ἀφῖξαι, Μενέλεως,
you and why with-this-one to strife have-you-come Menelaus

βίᾳ τ' ἄγεις;
by-force and lead

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ βλέψον εἰς ἡμᾶς, ἵν' ἀρχὰς 320
look at us so-that beginnings

τῶν λόγων ταύτας λάβω.
of-the words these I-may-take

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ μῶν τρέσας οὐκ ἀνακαλύψω βλέφαρον,
surely-not having-trembled not shall-I-uncover eyelid

Ἀτρέως γεγώς;
of-Atreus born

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ τήνδ' ὁρᾷς δέλτον, κακίστων γραμμάτων ὑπηρέτιν;
this do-you-see tablet of-basest writings servant

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ εἰσορῶ, καὶ πρῶτα ταύτην σῶν ἀπάλλαξον χερῶν.
I-see and first this release your from-hands

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὔ, πρὶν ἂν δείξω γε
not before — I-show at-least
Δαναοῖς πᾶσι τἀγγεγραμμένα.
to-Danaans all the-written

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἦ γὰρ οἶσθ' ἃ μή σε καιρὸς εἰδέναι,
— for you-know what not you right to-know
σήμαντρ' ἀνείς;
seals having-loosed

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ ὥστε σ' ἀλγῦναί γ', ἀνοίξας,
so-that you to-pain at-least having-opened
ἃ σὺ κάκ' εἰργάσω λάθρᾳ.
what you evil-things worked secretly

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ποῦ δὲ κἄλαβές νιν; ὦ θεοί,
where and did-you-even-take it O gods
σῆς ἀναισχύντου φρενός.
of-your shameless mind

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ προσδοκῶν σὴν παῖδ' ἀπ' Ἄργους,
expecting your child from Argos
εἰ στράτευμ' ἀφίξεται.
if to-the-army will-come

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τί δέ σε τἀμὰ δεῖ φυλάσσειν;
why and you my must to-guard
οὐκ ἀναισχύντου τόδε;
not of-shameless this

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ ὅτι τὸ βούλεσθαί μ' ἔκνιζε·
because the to-wish me stung
σὸς δὲ δοῦλος οὐκ ἔφυν.
your and slave not I-was-born

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὐχὶ δεινά; τὸν ἐμὸν οἰκεῖν οἶκον οὐκ ἐᾷς ἐμέ;
not dreadful the my to-manage house not you-let me

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ πλάγια γὰρ φρονεῖς, τὰ μὲν νῦν, τὰ δὲ
crooked for you-think the-things indeed now the-things and
πάλαι, τὰ δ' αὐτίκα.
of-old the-things and at-once

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ εὖ κεκόμψευσαι· πονηρῶν γλῶσσ' ἐπίφθονον σοφή.
well you-have-been-clever of-wicked tongue hateful clever

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ νοῦς δ' ὁ μὴ βέβαιος ἄδικον
mind but the not steadfast unjust
κτῆμα κοὐ σαφὲς φίλοις.
possession and-not clear to-friends

βούλομαί δέ σ' ἐξελέγξαι, καὶ σὺ μήτ' ὀργῆς ὕπο
I-wish and you to-refute and you neither anger by
ἀποτρέπου τἀληθές, οὔτε κατατενῶ λίαν ἐγώ.
turn-aside the-truth nor will-strain too-much I
οἶσθ' ὅτ' ἐσπούδαζες ἄρχειν Δαναΐδαις πρὸς Ἴλιον,
you-know when you-were-eager to-lead the-Danaans against Ilium
τῷ δοκεῖν μὲν οὐχὶ χρῄζων, τῷ δὲ βούλεσθαι θέλων,
by-the seeming indeed not desiring by-the but wishing willing
ὡς ταπεινὸς ἦσθα πᾶσι, δεξιᾶς προσθιγγάνων
how humble you-were to-all right-hand touching
καὶ θύρας ἔχων ἀκλῄστους τῷ θέλοντι δημοτῶν
and doors having unbolted to-the wishing of-commoners
καὶ διδοὺς πρόσρησιν ἐξῆς πᾶσι, κεἰ μή τις θέλοι,
and giving address in-turn to-all even-if not anyone wished
τοῖς τρόποις ζητῶν πρίασθαι τὸ φιλότιμον ἐκ μέσου;
by-the ways seeking to-buy the ambition from middle
κᾆτ' ἐπεὶ κατέσχες ἀρχάς, μεταβαλὼν ἄλλους τρόπους
and-then when you-held offices having-changed other ways
τοῖς φίλοισιν οὐκέτ' ἦσθα τοῖς πρὶν ὡς πρόσθεν φίλος,
to-the friends no-longer you-were to-the former as before friend

δυσπρόσιτος ἔσω τε κλῄθρων σπάνιος. ἄνδρα δ' οὐ χρεὼν
hard-of-access within and bars rare man but not is-right
τὸν ἀγαθὸν πράσσοντα μεγάλα τοὺς τρόπους μεθιστάναι,
the good faring greatly the ways to-change
ἀλλὰ καὶ βέβαιον εἶναι τότε μάλιστα τοῖς φίλοις
but also steadfast to-be then most to-the friends
ἡνίκ' ὠφελεῖν μάλιστα δυνατός ἐστιν εὐτυχῶν.
when to-benefit most able he-is prospering
ταῦτα μέν σε πρῶτ' ἐπῆλθον, ἵνα σε πρῶθ' ηὗρον κακόν.
these-things indeed you first I-attacked where you first I-found base
ὡς δ' ἐς Αὖλιν ἦλθες αὖθις χὠ Πανελλήνων στρατός,
when and to Aulis you-came again and-the of-all-Greeks army
οὐδὲν ἦσθ', ἀλλ' ἐξεπλήσσου τῇ τύχῃ τῇ τῶν θεῶν,
nothing you-were but you-were-dismayed by-the fortune the of-the gods
οὐρίας πομπῆς σπανίζων, Δαναΐδαι δ' ἀφιέναι
fair-wind of-escort lacking the-Danaans and to-release
ναῦς διήγγελλον, μάτην δὲ μὴ πονεῖν ἐν Αὐλίδι,
ships kept-urging in-vain and not to-toil in Aulis
ὡς ἄνολβον εἶχες ὄμμα σύγχυσίν τε μὴ νεῶν
how unhappy you-had eye confusion and not of-ships
χιλίων ἄρχων τὸ Πριάμου πεδίον ἐμπλήσας δορός.
of-thousand ruling the of-Priam plain having-filled with-spear
κἀμὲ παρεκάλεις· τί δράσω; τίνα δὲ πόρον εὕρω πόθεν,
and-me you-summoned what shall-I-do what and way may-I-find whence
ὥστε μὴ στερέντας ἀρχῆς ἀπολέσαι καλὸν κλέος;
so-that not deprived of-command to-lose fine fame
κᾆτ' ἐπεὶ Κάλχας ἐν ἱεροῖς εἶπε σὴν θῦσαι κόρην
and-then when Calchas in sacrifices said your to-sacrifice daughter
Ἀρτέμιδι, καὶ πλοῦν ἔσεσθαι Δαναΐδαις, ἡσθεὶς φρένας
to-Artemis and voyage to-be for-the-Danaans having-been-pleased in-mind

ἄσμενος θύσειν ὑπέστης παῖδα· καὶ πέμπεις ἑκών,
gladly to-sacrifice you-undertook child and you-send willingly
οὐ βίᾳ, μὴ τοῦτο λέξῃς, σῇ δάμαρτι, παῖδα σὴν
not by-force not this say to-your to-wife child your
δεῦρ' ἀποστέλλειν, Ἀχιλλεῖ πρόφασιν ὡς γαμουμένην.
here to-send to-Achilles pretext as to-be-married
οὗτός αὐτός ἐστιν αἰθὴρ ὃς τάδ' ἤκουσεν σέθεν.
this very is air which these-things heard from-you
κᾆθ' ὑποστρέψας λέληψαι μεταβαλὼν ἄλλας γραφάς,
and-then having-turned-about you-have-been-caught having-changed other writings
ὡς φονεὺς οὐκέτι θυγατρὸς σῆς ἔσει. μάλιστά γε.
that murderer no-longer of-daughter your you-will-be most at-least
μυρίοι δέ τοι πεπόνθασ' αὐτό· πρὸς τὰ πράγματα
countless and surely have-suffered it in the affairs
ἐκπονοῦσ' ἑκόντες, εἶτα δ' ἐξεχώρησαν κακῶς,
toiling willingly then and departed badly
τὰ μὲν ὑπὸ γνώμης πολιτῶν ἀσυνέτου, τὰ δ' ἐνδίκως,
some indeed from judgment of-citizens senseless some and justly
ἀδύνατοι γεγῶτες αὐτοὶ διαφυλάξασθαι πόλιν.
unable having-become themselves to-preserve city
Ἑλλάδος μάλιστ' ἔγωγε τῆς ταλαιπώρου στένω,
of-Hellas most I the wretched groan
ἣ θέλουσα δρᾶν τι κεδνόν, βαρβάρους τοὺς οὐδένας
who wishing to-do something good barbarians the nobodies
καταγελῶντας ἐξανήσει διὰ σὲ καὶ τὴν σὴν κόρην.
mocking will-let-go through you and the your daughter
μηδέν' ἄρα χρέους ἕκατι προστάτην θείμην χθονός,
no-one then of-obligation for-the-sake leader may-I-set of-land
μηδ' ὅπλων ἄρχοντα· νοῦν χρὴ τὸν στρατηλάτην ἔχειν·
nor of-arms ruler mind must the general to-have

πόλεος ὡς ἄρχων ἀνὴρ πᾶς, ξύνεσιν ἣν ἔχων τύχῃ.
of-city for ruler man any intelligence if having happen

ΧΟΡΟΣ δεινὸν κασιγνήτοισι γίγνεσθαι λόγους
terrible for-brothers to-arise words

μάχας θ', ὅταν ποτ' ἐμπέσωσιν εἰς ἔριν.
fights and when ever they-fall into strife

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ βούλομαί σ' εἰπεῖν κακῶς αὖ, βραχέα,
I-wish you to-speak-of badly again briefly

μὴ λίαν ἄνω
not too up

βλέφαρα πρὸς τἀναιδὲς ἀγαγών, ἀλλὰ σωφρονεστέρως,
eyelids to shamelessness having-led but more-modestly

ὡς ἀδελφὸν ὄντ'. ἀνὴρ γὰρ χρηστὸς αἰδεῖσθαι φιλεῖ.
as brother being man for good to-feel-shame is-wont

εἰπέ μοι, τί δεινὰ φυσᾷς αἱματηρὸν ὄμμ' ἔχων;
tell me why terrible-things do-you-snort bloodshot eye having

τίς ἀδικεῖ σε; τοῦ κέχρησαι; λέκτρα χρήστ' ἐρᾷς λαβεῖν;
who wrongs you of-what do-you-need bed good do-you-desire to-take

οὐκ ἔχοιμ' ἄν σοι παρασχεῖν· ὧν γὰρ ἐκτήσω, κακῶς
not I-could — to-you to-provide which for you-acquired badly

ἦρχες. εἶτ' ἐγὼ δίκην δῶ σῶν κακῶν, ὁ μὴ σφαλείς;
you-ruled then I penalty shall-give of-your evils the not having-erred

ἢ δάκνει σε τὸ φιλότιμον τοὐμόν; ἀλλ' ἐν ἀγκάλαις
or does-bite you the ambition my but in arms

εὐπρεπῆ γυναῖκα χρῄζεις, τὸ λελογισμένον παρεὶς
comely wife you-desire the reasoned having-let-go

καὶ τὸ καλόν, ἔχειν; πονηροῦ φωτὸς ἡδοναὶ κακαί.
and the fine to-have of-base man pleasures base

εἰ δ' ἐγὼ γνοὺς πρόσθεν οὐκ εὖ μετετέθην εὐβουλίᾳ,
if and I having-decided before not well I-changed to-good-counsel

μαίνομαι; σὺ μᾶλλον, ὅστις ἀπολέσας κακὸν λέχος
I-am-mad you rather who having-lost evil bed
ἀναλαβεῖν θέλεις, θεοῦ σοι τὴν τύχην διδόντος εὖ.
to-take-back wish god to-you the fortune giving well
ὤμοσαν τὸν Τυνδάρειον ὅρκον οἱ κακόφρονες
swore the Tyndarean oath the evil-minded
φιλόγαμοι μνηστῆρες. ἦγε δ' ἐλπίς, οἶμαι μέν, θεὸς
marriage-loving suitors led and hope I-think indeed god
κἀξέπραξεν αὐτὸ μᾶλλον ἢ σὺ καὶ τὸ σὸν σθένος.
and-accomplished it rather than you and the your strength
οὓς λαβὼν στράτευ'· ἕτοιμοι δ' εἰσὶ μωρίᾳ φρενῶν·
whom having-taken make-war ready and are by-folly of-minds
οὐ γὰρ ἀσύνετον τὸ θεῖον, ἀλλ' ἔχει συνιέναι
not for unintelligent the divine but is-able to-understand
τοὺς κακῶς παγέντας ὅρκους καὶ κατηναγκασμένους.
the badly fixed oaths and compelled
τἀμὰ δ' οὐκ ἀποκτενῶ 'γὼ τέκνα· κοὐ τὸ σὸν μὲν εὖ
mine but not will-kill I children and-not the your indeed well
παρὰ δίκην ἔσται κακίστης εὔνιδος τιμωρίᾳ,
contrary-to justice will-be of-basest wife by-vengeance
ἐμὲ δὲ συντήξουσι νύκτες ἡμέραι τε δακρύοις,
me and will-waste-away nights days and with-tears
ἄνομα δρῶντα κοὐ δίκαια παῖδας οὓς ἐγεινάμην.
lawless-things doing and-not just children whom I-begot
ταῦτά σοι βραχέα λέλεκται καὶ σαφῆ καὶ ῥᾴδια·
these-things to-you briefly have-been-said and clear and easy
εἰ δὲ μὴ βούλει φρονεῖν εὖ, τἄμ' ἐγὼ θήσω καλῶς.
if but not you-wish to-think well mine I will-set well

ΧΟΡΟΣ οἵδ' αὖ διάφοροι τῶν πάρος λελεγμένων
these again different from-the before spoken
μύθων, καλῶς δ' ἔχουσι, φείδεσθαι τέκνων.
words well but hold to-spare children
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ αἰαῖ, φίλους ἄρ' οὐχὶ κεκτήμην τάλας.
alas friends then not I-had wretched
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ εἰ τοὺς φίλους γε μὴ θέλεις ἀπολλύναι.
if the friends at-least not you-wish to-destroy
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ δείξεις δὲ ποῦ μοι πατρὸς ἐκ ταὐτοῦ γεγώς;
you-will-show and where to-me of-father from the-same born
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ συνσωφρονεῖν σοι βούλομ', ἀλλ' οὐ συννοσεῖν.
to-be-wise-with you I-wish but not to-be-sick-with
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ ἐς κοινὸν ἀλγεῖν τοῖς φίλοισι χρὴ φίλους.
in common to-grieve with-the friends must friends
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ εὖ δρῶν παρακάλει μ', ἀλλὰ μὴ λυπῶν ἐμέ.
well doing summon me but not grieving me
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὐκ ἄρα δοκεῖ σοι τάδε πονεῖν σὺν Ἑλλάδι;
not then seems to-you these-things to-toil with Hellas
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Ἑλλὰς δὲ σὺν σοὶ κατὰ θεὸν νοσεῖ τινα.
Hellas and with you by god is-sick some
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ σκήπτρῳ νυν αὔχει, σὸν κασίγνητον προδούς.
with-scepter now boast your brother having-betrayed
ἐγὼ δ' ἐπ' ἄλλας εἶμι μηχανάς τινας,
I and to other will-go devices some
φίλους τ' ἐπ' ἄλλους. ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ὦ Πανελλήνων ἄναξ,
friends and to other O of-all-Greeks lord
Ἀγάμεμνον, ἥκω παῖδά σοι τὴν σὴν ἄγων,
Agamemnon I-have-come child to-you the your bringing
ἣν Ἰφιγένειαν ὠνόμαζες ἐν δόμοις.
whom Iphigenia you-named in house

μήτηρ δ' ὁμαρτεῖ, σῆς Κλυταιμνήστρας δέμας,
mother and accompanies of-your Clytemnestra person
καὶ παῖς Ὀρέστης, ὥστε τερφθείης ἰδών,
and child Orestes so-that you-might-be-delighted having-seen
χρόνον παλαιὸν δωμάτων ἔκδημος ὤν.
time long from-house abroad being
ἀλλ' ὡς μακρὰν ἔτεινον, εὔρυτον παρὰ
but since long they-were-stretching fair-flowing by
κρήνην ἀναψύχουσι θηλύπουν βάσιν,
spring they-refresh female foot
αὐταί τε πῶλοί τ'· εἰς δὲ λειμώνων χλόην
themselves and mares and into and of-meadows green
καθεῖμεν αὐτάς, ὡς βορᾶς γευσαίατο.
we-let-down them that of-fodder they-might-taste
ἐγὼ δὲ πρόδρομος σῆς παρασκευῆς χάριν
I and forerunner of-your preparation for-the-sake
ἥκω· πέπυσται γὰρ στρατός, ταχεῖα γὰρ
come has-learned for army swift for
διῆξε φήμη, παῖδα σὴν ἀφιγμένην.
darted rumor child your having-arrived
πᾶς δ' εἰς θέαν ὅμιλος ἔρχεται δρόμῳ,
all and to sight throng comes at-a-run
σὴν παῖδ' ὅπως ἴδωσιν· οἱ δ' εὐδαίμονες
your child that they-may-see the and prosperous
ἐν πᾶσι κλεινοὶ καὶ περίβλεπτοι βροτοῖς.
in all famous and admired by-mortals
λέγουσι δ'· ὑμέναιός τις ἢ τί πράσσεται;
they-say and wedding some or what is-being-done
ἢ πόθον ἔχων θυγατρὸς Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ
or longing having of-daughter Agamemnon lord

ἐκόμισε παῖδα; τῶν δ' ἂν ἤκουσας τάδε·
brought child from-others and — you-would-have-heard these-things
Ἀρτέμιδι προτελίζουσι τὴν νεάνιδα,
to-Artemis they-consecrate the maiden
Αὐλίδος ἀνάσσῃ. τίς νιν ἄξεταί ποτε;
of-Aulis to-the-queen who her will-lead-home ever
ἀλλ' εἶα, τἀπὶ τοισίδ' ἐξάρχου κανᾶ,
but come the-things-for these begin baskets
στεφανοῦσθε κρᾶτα· καὶ σύ, Μενέλεως ἄναξ,
be-crowned head and you Menelaus lord
ὑμέναιον εὐτρέπιζε καὶ κατὰ στέγας
wedding-song prepare and throughout house
λωτὸς βοάσθω καὶ ποδῶν ἔστω κτύπος·
flute let-sound and of-feet let-be beat
φῶς γὰρ τόδ' ἥκει μακάριον τῇ παρθένῳ.
day for this comes blessed for-the maiden
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐπήνεσ', ἀλλὰ στεῖχε δωμάτων ἔσω·
I-praise but go of-house within
τὰ δ' ἄλλ' ἰούσης τῆς τύχης ἔσται καλῶς.
the and rest going the fortune will-be well
οἴμοι, τί φῶ δύστηνος; ἄρξομαι πόθεν;
ah-me what shall-I-say ill-starred shall-I-begin whence
εἰς οἷ' ἀνάγκης ζεύγματ' ἐμπεπτώκαμεν.
into what-sort of-necessity yoke we-have-fallen
ὑπῆλθε δαίμων, ὥστε τῶν σοφισμάτων
outwitted fate so-that of-the devices
πολλῷ γενέσθαι τῶν ἐμῶν σοφώτερος.
by-far to-be than-the my cleverer
ἡ δυσγένεια δ' ὡς ἔχει τι χρήσιμον.
the low-birth but how has something useful

καὶ γὰρ δακρῦσαι ῥᾳδίως αὐτοῖς ἔχει,
and for to-weep easily for-them is-possible
ἅπαντά τ᾽ εἰπεῖν. τῷ δὲ γενναίῳ φύσιν
all and to-say to-the but noble nature
ἄνολβα ταὐτά· προστάτην δὲ τοῦ βίου
unhappy the-same-things leader and of-the life
τὸν ὄγκον ἔχομεν τῷ τ᾽ ὄχλῳ δουλεύομεν.
the pomp we-have to-the and crowd we-are-slaves
ἐγὼ γὰρ ἐκβαλεῖν μὲν αἰδοῦμαι δάκρυ,
I for to-shed indeed am-ashamed tear
τὸ μὴ δακρῦσαι δ᾽ αὖθις αἰδοῦμαι τάλας,
the not to-weep but again am-ashamed wretched
εἰς τὰς μεγίστας συμφορὰς ἀφιγμένος.
into the greatest misfortunes having-come
εἶεν, τί φήσω πρὸς δάμαρτα τὴν ἐμήν;
well what shall-I-say to wife the my
πῶς δέξομαί νιν; ποῖον ὄμμα συμβαλῶ;
how shall-I-receive her what-sort eye shall-I-meet
καὶ γάρ μ᾽ ἀπώλεσ᾽ ἐπὶ κακοῖς ἃ μοι πάρα
and for me she-has-ruined upon evils which to-me are-present
ἐλθοῦσ᾽ ἄκλητος. εἰκότως δ᾽ ἅμ᾽ ἕσπετο
having-come unbidden fittingly but together followed
θυγατρὶ νυμφεύσουσα καὶ τὰ φίλτατα
with-daughter to-give-in-marriage and the dearest-things
δώσουσ᾽, ἵν᾽ ἡμᾶς ὄντας εὑρήσει κακούς.
to-give so-that us being she-will-find base
τὴν δ᾽ αὖ τάλαιναν παρθένον — τί παρθένον;
the and again wretched maiden why maiden
Ἅιδης νιν ὡς ἔοικε νυμφεύσει τάχα —
Hades her as seems will-marry soon

ὡς ᾤκτισ᾽· οἶμαι γάρ νιν ἱκετεύσειν τάδε·
how I-pity I-think for her to-supplicate these-things

ὦ πάτερ, ἀποκτενεῖς με; τοιούτους γάμους
O father will-you-kill me such marriages

γήμειας αὐτὸς χὥστις ἐστί σοι φίλος.
may-you-marry yourself and-whoever is to-you friend

465 παρὼν δ᾽ Ὀρέστης ἐγγὺς ἀναβοήσεται
present and Orestes near will-cry-out

οὐ συνετὰ συνετῶς· ἔτι γάρ ἐστι νήπιος.
not intelligible intelligibly still for he-is infant

αἰαῖ, τὸν Ἑλένης ὥς μ᾽ ἀπώλεσεν γάμον
alas the of-Helen how me destroyed marriage

γήμας ὁ Πριάμου Πάρις, ὃς εἴργασται τάδε.
having-married the of-Priam Paris who has-wrought these-things

ΧΟΡΟΣ κἀγὼ κατῴκτειρ᾽, ὡς γυναῖκα δεῖ ξένην
and-I pitied as woman must foreign

470 ὑπὲρ τυράννων συμφορᾶς καταστένειν.
for rulers of-misfortune to-lament

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ ἀδελφέ, δός μοι δεξιᾶς τῆς σῆς θιγεῖν.
brother give me right-hand the your to-touch

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ δίδωμι· σὸν γὰρ τὸ κράτος, ἄθλιος δ᾽ ἐγώ.
I-give yours for the power wretched and I

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ Πέλοπα κατόμνυμ᾽, ὃς πατὴρ τοὐμοῦ πατρὸς
Pelops I-swear-by who father of-my father

τοῦ σοῦ τ᾽ ἐκλήθη, τὸν τεκόντα τ᾽ Ἀτρέα,
of-the your and was-called the having-begotten and Atreus

475 ἦ μὴν ἐρεῖν σοι τἀπὸ καρδίας σαφῶς
surely indeed to-say to-you the-things-from heart clearly

καὶ μὴ ᾽πίτηδες μηδὲν ἀλλ᾽ ὅσον φρονῶ.
and not purposely nothing but as-much-as I-think

ἐγώ σ᾽ ἀπ᾽ ὄσσων ἐκβαλόντ᾽ ἰδὼν δάκρυ
I you from eyes shedding having-seen tear
ᾤκτειρα καὐτὸς ἀνταφῆκά σοι πάλιν,
pitied and-myself shed-in-return for-you again
καὶ τῶν παλαιῶν ἐξαφίσταμαι λόγων,
and of-the old I-stand-away-from words
οὐκ εἰς σὲ δεινός· εἰμὶ δ᾽ οὗπερ εἶ σὺ νῦν·
not toward you terrible I-am and where are you now
καί σοι παραινῶ μήτ᾽ ἀποκτείνειν τέκνον
and to-you I-advise neither to-kill child
μήτ᾽ ἀνθελέσθαι τοὐμόν. οὐ γὰρ ἔνδικον
nor to-prefer my not for just
σὲ μὲν στενάζειν, τἀμὰ δ᾽ ἡδέως ἔχειν,
you indeed to-groan mine and gladly to-have
θνήσκειν τε τοὺς σούς, τοὺς δ᾽ ἐμοὺς ὁρᾶν φάος.
to-die and the yours the and mine to-see light
τί βούλομαι γάρ; οὐ γάμους ἐξαιρέτους
what do-I-wish for not marriage choice
ἄλλους λάβοιμ᾽ ἄν, εἰ γάμων ἱμείρομαι;
other could-I-take — if marriage I-long-for
ἀλλ᾽ ἀπολέσας ἀδελφόν, ὅν μ᾽ ἥκιστ᾽ ἐχρῆν,
but having-destroyed brother whom me least it-behooved
Ἑλένην ἕλωμαι, τὸ κακὸν ἀντὶ τἀγαθοῦ;
Helen shall-I-choose the evil instead-of the-good
ἄφρων νέος τ᾽ ἦ, πρὶν τὰ πράγματ᾽ ἐγγύθεν
foolish young and I-was before the affairs from-near
σκοπῶν ἐσεῖδον οἷον ἦν κτείνειν τέκνα.
examining I-saw what-sort was to-kill children
ἄλλως τέ μ᾽ ἔλεος τῆς ταλαιπώρου κόρης
besides and me pity of-the wretched girl

εἰσῆλθε, συγγένειαν ἐννοουμένῳ,
came-over kinship considering
ἥ τῶν ἐμῶν ἕκατι θύεσθαι γάμων
who of-the my for-the-sake to-be-sacrificed of-marriage
μέλλει. τί δ' Ἑλένης παρθένῳ τῇ σῇ μέτα;
is-about what and of-Helen maiden the your with
ἴτω στρατεία διαλυθεῖσ' ἐξ Αὐλίδος.
let-go army disbanded from Aulis
σὺ δ' ὄμμα παῦσαι δακρύοις τέγγων τὸ σόν,
you and eye stop with-tears wetting the your
ἀδελφέ, κἀμὲ παρακαλῶν εἰς δάκρυα.
brother and-me summoning to tears
εἰ δέ τι κόρης σῆς θεσφάτων μέτεστί σοι,
if and some of-girl your of-oracles share is-to-you
μὴ 'μοὶ μετέστω· σοὶ νέμω τοὐμὸν μέρος.
not to-me let-share to-you I-assign my part
ἀλλ' εἰς μεταβολὰς ἦλθον ἀπὸ δεινῶν λόγων.
but to changes I-came from terrible words
εἰκὸς πέπονθα· τὸν ὁμόθεν πεφυκότα
natural-thing I-suffered the from-same-source born
στέργων μετέπεσον. ἀνδρὸς οὐ κακοῦ τρόποι
loving I-changed of-man not base ways
τοιοίδε, χρῆσθαι τοῖσι βελτίστοις ἀεί.
such to-use the best always
ΧΟΡΟΣ γενναῖ' ἔλεξας Ταντάλῳ τε τῷ Διὸς
noble-things you-said to-Tantalus and the of-Zeus
πρέποντα· προγόνους οὐ καταισχύνεις σέθεν.
fitting ancestors not you-disgrace of-you

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ αἰνῶ σε, Μενέλεως, ὅτι παρὰ γνώμην ἐμὴν
I-praise you Menelaus because beyond judgment my
ὑπέθηκας ὀρθῶς τοὺς λόγους σοῦ τ' ἀξίως.
you-proposed rightly the words of-you and worthily
ταραχὴ δ' ἀδελφῶν διά τ' ἔρωτα γίγνεται
disorder and of-brothers on-account-of and love comes
πλεονεξίαν τε δωμάτων· ἀπέπτυσα
greed and of-houses I-spat-out
τοιάνδε συγγένειαν ἀλλήλοιν πικράν. 510
such kinship to-one-another bitter
ἀλλ' ἥκομεν γὰρ εἰς ἀναγκαίας τύχας,
but we-have-come for to necessary fortunes
θυγατρὸς αἱματηρὸν ἐκπρᾶξαι φόνον.
of-daughter bloody to-accomplish slaughter
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ πῶς; τίς δ' ἀναγκάσει σε τήν γε σὴν κτανεῖν;
how who and will-compel you the at-least your to-kill
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἅπας Ἀχαιῶν σύλλογος στρατεύματος.
all of-Achaeans assembly of-army
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὔκ, ἤν νιν εἰς Ἄργος γ' ἀποστείλῃς πάλιν. 515
not if her to Argos at-least you-send back
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ λάθοιμι τοῦτ' ἄν· ἀλλ' ἐκεῖν' οὐ λήσομεν.
I-might-escape-notice this — but that not we-shall-escape-notice
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ τὸ ποῖον; οὔτοι χρὴ λίαν ταρβεῖν ὄχλον.
the what surely-not must too-much to-fear crowd
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Κάλχας ἐρεῖ μαντεύματ' Ἀργείων στρατῷ.
Calchas will-tell oracles of-Argives to-army
ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὔκ, ἢν θάνῃ γε πρόσθε· τοῦτο δ' εὐμαρές.
not if he-dies at-least before this but easy
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τὸ μαντικὸν πᾶν σπέρμα φιλότιμον κακόν. 520
the prophetic all race ambitious evil

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ κοὐδέν γ' ἀρεστὸν οὐδὲ χρήσιμον παρόν.
and-nothing at-least pleasing nor useful being-present

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐκεῖνο δ' οὐ δέδοικας οὔμ' ἐσέρχεται;
that and not you-fear which-to-me comes-into-mind

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ ὦ μὴ σὺ φράζεις, πῶς ἂν ὑπολάβοιμ' ἔπος;
what not you tell how — might-I-take-up word

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τὸ Σισύφειον σπέρμα πάντ' οἶδεν τάδε.
the Sisyphean seed all knows these-things

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ οὐκ ἔστ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ὅ τι σὲ κἀμὲ πημανεῖ.
not it-is Odysseus what — you and-me will-harm

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ποικίλος ἀεὶ πέφυκε τοῦ τ' ὄχλου μέτα.
subtle always he-is the and crowd with

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ φιλοτιμίᾳ μὲν ἐνέχεται, δεινῷ κακῷ.
by-ambition indeed is-held by-terrible evil

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὔκουν δοκεῖς νιν στάντ' ἐν Ἀργείοις μέσοις
not-then think-you him standing among Argives middle

λέξειν ἃ Κάλχας θέσφατ' ἐξηγήσατο,
to-say what Calchas oracles expounded

κἄμ' ὡς ὑπέστην θῦμα, κᾆτα ψεύδομαι,
and-me how I-undertook sacrifice and-then I-lie

Ἀρτέμιδι θύσειν; οἷς ξυναρπάσας στρατόν,
to-Artemis to-sacrifice by-which having-carried-away army

σὲ κἄμ' ἀποκτείναντας Ἀργείους κόρην
you and-me having-killed Argives girl

σφάξαι κελεύσει; κἂν πρὸς Ἄργος ἐκφύγω,
to-slaughter he-will-bid and-if to Argos I-escape

ἐλθόντες αὐτοῖς τείχεσιν Κυκλωπίοις
having-come together-with walls Cyclopean

ξυναρπάσουσι καὶ κατασκάψουσι γῆν.
will-carry-off and will-raze land

τοιαῦτα τἀμὰ πήματ'. ὦ τάλας ἐγώ,
such my woes O wretched I
ὡς ἠπόρημαι πρὸς θεῶν τὰ νῦν τάδε.
how I-am-at-a-loss by gods the now these-things
ἕν μοι φύλαξον, Μενέλεως, ἀνὰ στρατὸν
one for-me guard Menelaus throughout army
ἐλθών, ὅπως ἂν μὴ Κλυταιμνήστρα τάδε
having-gone so-that — not Clytemnestra these-things
μάθῃ, πρὶν Ἅιδῃ παῖδ' ἐμὴν προσθῶ λαβών,
may-learn before to-Hades child my I-add having-taken
ὡς ἐπ' ἐλαχίστοις δακρύοις πράσσω κακῶς.
that with fewest tears I-may-fare badly
ὑμεῖς τε σιγήν, ὦ ξέναι, φυλάσσετε.
you and silence O stranger-women guard

IV · A PRAYER FOR MODERATE LOVE

The chorus calls blessed those who share Aphrodite's bed with moderation, for Eros bends a twin bow, one for a happy life and one for confusion. Natures differ, but upbringing brings much to virtue. They sing of Paris the herdsman on Ida, piping among his heifers, whose judgment of the goddesses sent him to Greece and gave Helen his love, and so brings Hellas with spear and ships to Troy.

ΧΟΡΟΣ μάκαρες οἳ μετρίας θεοῦ
blessed who moderate of-goddess
μετά τε σωφροσύνας μετέ-
with and self-control shared
σχον λέκτρων Ἀφροδίτας,
— of-bed of-Aphrodite
γαλανείᾳ χρησάμενοι
calm having-enjoyed

μαινολῶν οἴστρων, ὅθι δὴ
of-frenzied stings where indeed
δίδυμ' Ἔρως ὁ χρυσοκόμας
twin Eros the golden-haired
τόξ' ἐντείνεται χαρίτων,
bows stretches of-graces
τὸ μὲν ἐπ' εὐαίωνι πότμῳ,
the-one indeed for happy fate
τὸ δ' ἐπὶ συγχύσει βιοτᾶς.
the-other and for confusion of-life
ἀπενέπω νιν ἁμετέρων,
I-forbid it of-our
Κύπρι καλλίστα, θαλάμων.
Cypris most-fair of-chambers
εἴη δέ μοι μετρία μὲν
may-be and for-me moderate indeed
χάρις, πόθοι δ' ὅσιοι,
delight longings and holy
καὶ μετέχοιμι τᾶς Ἀφροδί-
and may-I-share of-the Aphrodite
τας, πολλὰν δ' ἀποθείμαν.
— much but may-I-put-away
διάφοροι δὲ φύσεις βροτῶν,
different and natures of-mortals
διάφοροι δὲ τρόποι· τὸ δ' ὀρ-
different and ways the but rightly
θῶς ἐσθλὸν σαφὲς ἀεί·
— noble clear always
τροφαί θ' αἱ παιδευόμεναι
upbringings and the being-taught

μέγα φέρουσ᾽ εἰς τὰν ἀρετάν·
greatly bring to the virtue
τό τε γὰρ αἰδεῖσθαι σοφία,
the both for to-feel-shame wisdom
τάν τ᾽ ἐξαλλάσσουσαν ἔχει
the and surpassing has
χάριν ὑπὸ γνώμας ἐσορᾶν
grace by judgment to-see
τὸ δέον, ἔνθα δόξα φέρει
the needful where repute brings
κλέος ἀγήρατον βιοτᾷ.
glory ageless to-life
μέγα τι θηρεύειν ἀρετάν,
great something to-hunt virtue
γυναιξὶ μὲν κατὰ Κύπριν
for-women indeed in Cypris
κρυπτάν, ἐν ἀνδράσι δ᾽ αὖ
hidden among men but again
κόσμος ἔνδον ὁ μυριοπλη-
order within the countless
θὴς μείζω πόλιν αὔξει.
— greater city increases
ἔμολες, ὦ Πάρις, ᾗτε σύ γε
you-came O Paris where you at-least
βουκόλος ἀργενναῖς ἐτράφης
herdsman white were-reared
Ἰδαίαις παρὰ μόσχοις,
Idaean by heifers
βάρβαρα συρίζων, Φρυγίων
barbarian-things piping of-Phrygian

αὐλῶν Ὀλύμπου καλάμοις
of-pipes of-Olympus with-reeds
μιμήματα πνέων.
imitations breathing
εὔθηλοι δὲ τρέφοντο βόες,
well-uddered and were-reared cows
ὅτε σε κρίσις ἔμηνε θεᾶν,
when you judgment maddened of-goddesses
ἅ σ' Ἑλλάδα πέμπει
which you to-Hellas sends
τῶν ἐλεφαντοδέτων πάροι-
the ivory-bound before
θεν δόμων, ὃς τᾶς Ἑλένας
— of-house who of-the Helen
ἐν ἀντωποῖς βλεφάροισιν
in facing eyes
ἔρωτα δέδωκας,
love you-gave
ἔρωτι δ' αὐτὸς ἐπτοάθης.
with-love and yourself were-fluttered
ὅθεν ἔρις ἔριν
whence strife strife
Ἑλλάδα σὺν δορὶ ναυσί τ' ἄγει
Hellas with spear ships and leads
ἐς Τροίας πέργαμα.
to of-Troy citadel

V · IPHIGENIA GREETS HER FATHER

The chorus welcomes the queen and her daughter, and Clytemnestra steps down from the carriage with the child Orestes. Iphigenia runs to her father, and their talk turns on double meanings: he weeps, and says that she too has a voyage to make, and that he must first offer a sacrifice. Clytemnestra asks about Achilles' family, his descent from Aegina and Zeus, Peleus and Thetis, and his upbringing by Chiron. Agamemnon tries to send her back to Argos so that he can give the bride away alone, but she refuses, swearing by Hera. He goes to consult Calchas.

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἰὼ ἰώ· μεγάλαι μεγάλων 590
oh oh great of-great
εὐδαιμονίαι· τὴν τοῦ βασιλέως
prosperities the of-the king
ἴδετ' Ἰφιγένειαν ἄνασσαν
see Iphigenia princess
τὴν Τυνδαρέου τε Κλυταιμνήστραν,
the of-Tyndareus and Clytemnestra
ὡς ἐκ μεγάλων ἐβλαστήκασ'
how from great they-have-sprung
ἐπί τ' εὐμήκεις ἥκουσι τύχας. 595
to and long-reaching have-come fortunes
θεοί τοι κρείσσους οἵ τ' ὀλβοφόροι
gods surely mightier and the wealth-bringing
τοῖς οὐκ εὐδαίμοσι θνατῶν.
to-the not prosperous of-mortals
στῶμεν, Χαλκίδος ἔκγονα θρέμματα,
let-us-stand of-Chalcis offspring nurslings
τὴν βασίλειαν δεξώμεθ' ὄχων
the queen let-us-receive car

ἄπο μὴ σφαλερῶς ἐπὶ γαῖαν.
from not unsteadily onto ground
ἀγανῶς δὲ χεροῖν μαλακῇ γνώμῃ,
gently but with-hands with-gentle mind
μὴ ταρβήσῃ νεωστί μοι μολὸν
lest she-be-frightened newly to-me having-come
κλεινὸν τέκνον Ἀγαμέμνονος,
famous child of-Agamemnon
μηδὲ θόρυβον μηδ' ἔκπληξιν
nor uproar nor alarm
ταῖς Ἀργείαις
to-the Argive-women
ξεῖναι ξείναις παρέχωμεν.
strangers to-strangers let-us-cause
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὄρνιθα μὲν τόνδ' αἴσιον ποιούμεθα,
omen indeed this auspicious we-make
τὸ σόν τε χρηστὸν καὶ λόγων εὐφημίαν·
the your and kindness and of-words good-omen
ἐλπίδα δ' ἔχω τιν' ὡς ἐπ' ἐσθλοῖσιν γάμοις
hope and I-have some that to noble marriage
πάρειμι νυμφαγωγός. ἀλλ' ὀχημάτων
I-am-here bride-leader but from-cars
ἔξω πορεύεθ' ἃς φέρω φερνὰς κόρῃ,
out bring which I-bring dowry for-girl
καὶ πέμπετ' εἰς μέλαθρον εὐλαβούμενοι.
and send to house taking-care
σὺ δ', ὦ τέκνον μοι, λεῖπε πωλικοὺς ὄχους,
you and O child to-me leave colts' cars
ἁβρὸν τιθεῖσα κῶλον ἀσθενές θ' ἅμα.
delicate placing foot weak and at-once

ὑμεῖς δέ, νεάνιδές, νιν ἀγκάλαις ἔπι
you and girls her arms in
δέξασθε καὶ πορεύσατ' ἐξ ὀχημάτων.
receive and convey from cars
καί μοι χερός τις ἐνδότω στηρίγματα,
and for-me of-hand someone let-give supports
θάκους ἀπήνης ὡς ἂν ἐκλίπω καλῶς.
seats of-carriage that — I-may-leave gracefully
αἱ δ' εἰς τὸ πρόσθεν στῆτε πωλικῶν ζυγῶν,
you and to the front stand of-colts' yokes
φοβερὸν γὰρ ἀπαράμυθον ὄμμα πωλικόν·
fearful for unsoothable eye of-colt
καὶ παῖδα τόνδε τὸν Ἀγαμέμνονος γόνον
and child this the of-Agamemnon offspring
λάζυσθ', Ὀρέστην· ἔτι γάρ ἐστι νήπιος.
take Orestes still for he-is infant
τέκνον, καθεύδεις πωλικῷ δαμεὶς ὄχῳ;
child you-sleep by-colts' overcome by-car
ἔγειρ' ἀδελφῆς ἐφ' ὑμέναιον εὐτυχῶς·
wake of-sister for wedding happily
ἀνδρὸς γὰρ ἀγαθοῦ κῆδος αὐτὸς ἐσθλὸς ὢν
of-man for good kinship yourself noble being
λήψει, τὸ τῆς Νηρῇδος ἰσόθεον γένος.
you-will-get the of-the Nereid godlike race
ἑξῆς κάθησο δεῦρό μου ποδός, τέκνον,
next sit here of-my of-foot child
πρὸς μητέρ', Ἰφιγένεια, μακαρίαν δέ με
by mother Iphigenia blessed and me
ξέναισι ταῖσδε πλησία σταθεῖσα δός,
to-strangers these near standing make

καὶ δεῦρο δὴ πατέρα πρόσειπε σὸν φίλον.
and here indeed father greet your dear

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὦ μῆτερ, ὑποδραμοῦσά σ', ὀργισθῇς δὲ μή,
O mother having-run-ahead you be-angry and not

πρὸς στέρνα πατρὸς στέρνα τἀμὰ περιβαλῶ.
to breast of-father breast my I-will-clasp

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ σέβας ἐμοὶ μέγιστον, Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ,
O reverence to-me greatest Agamemnon lord

ἥκομεν, ἐφετμαῖς οὐκ ἀπιστοῦσαι σέθεν.
we-have-come by-commands not disobeying of-you

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἐγὼ δὲ βούλομαι τὰ σὰ στέρν', ὦ πάτερ,
I and wish the your breast O father

ὑποδραμοῦσα προσβαλεῖν διὰ χρόνου.
having-run-ahead to-throw-against after time

ποθῶ γὰρ ὄμμα δὴ σόν. ὀργισθῇς δὲ μή.
I-long for eye indeed your be-angry and not

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΗΣΤΡΑ ἀλλ', ὦ τέκνον, χρή·
but O child must

φιλοπάτωρ δ' ἀεί ποτ' εἶ
father-loving and always ever you-are

μάλιστα παίδων τῷδ' ὅσους ἐγὼ 'τεκον.
most of-children to-this-one as-many-as I bore

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὦ πάτερ, ἐσεῖδόν σ' ἀσμένη πολλῷ χρόνῳ.
O father I-have-seen you gladly in-much in-time

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ καὶ γὰρ πατὴρ σέ· τόδ' ἴσον ὑπὲρ ἀμφοῖν λέγεις.
and for father you this equal for both you-say

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ χαῖρ'· εὖ δέ μ' ἀγαγὼν πρὸς σ' ἐποίησας, πάτερ.
hail well and me having-brought to you you-did father

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως φῶ τοῦτο καὶ μὴ φῶ, τέκνον.
not I-know how I-may-say this and not I-may-say child

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἔα·

ha

ὡς οὐ βλέπεις ἔκηλον, ἄσμενός μ' ἰδών.

how not you-look calmly gladly me having-seen

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ πόλλ' ἀνδρὶ βασιλεῖ καὶ στρατηλάτῃ μέλει.

many-things to-man king and general are-a-care

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ παρ' ἐμοὶ γενοῦ νῦν, μὴ 'πὶ φροντίδας τρέπου.

beside me be now not to cares turn

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἀλλ' εἰμὶ παρὰ σοὶ νῦν ἅπας, κοὐκ ἄλλοθι.

but I-am beside you now wholly and-not elsewhere

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μέθες νυν ὀφρὺν ὄμμα τ' ἔκτεινον φίλον.

let-go now brow eye and stretch dear

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἰδοὺ γέγηθά σ' ὡς γέγηθ' ὁρῶν, τέκνον.

see I-rejoice you as I-rejoice seeing child

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ κἄπειτα λείβεις δάκρυ' ἀπ' ὀμμάτων σέθεν;

and-then you-shed tears from eyes of-you

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ μακρὰ γὰρ ἡμῖν ἡ 'πιοῦσ' ἀπουσία.

long for for-us the coming absence

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ †οὐκ οἶδ' ὅ τι φής, οὐκ οἶδα,

(corrupt)-not I-know what — you-say not I-know

φίλτατ' ἐμοὶ πάτερ.

dearest to-me father

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ συνετὰ λέγουσα μᾶλλον εἰς οἰκτόν μ' ἄγεις.

intelligent-things saying more to pity me you-lead

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἀσύνετα νῦν ἐροῦμεν, εἰ σέ γ' εὐφρανῶ.

unintelligent-things now we-shall-say if you at-least I-shall-gladden

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ παπαῖ. τὸ σιγᾶν οὐ σθένω· σὲ δ' ᾔνεσα.

alas the to-be-silent not I-am-able you but I-praised

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μέν', ὦ πάτερ, κατ' οἶκον ἐπὶ τέκνοις σέθεν.

stay O father at home with children of-you

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ θέλω γε· τὸ θέλειν δ' οὐκ ἔχων ἀλγύνομαι.
I-wish at-least the to-wish but not having I-am-pained

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὄλοιντο λόγχαι καὶ τὰ Μενέλεω κακά.
may-perish spears and the of-Menelaus evils

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἄλλους ὀλεῖ πρόσθ' ἁμὲ διολέσαντ' ἔχει.
others will-destroy before which-me having-destroyed hold

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὡς πολὺν ἀπῆσθα χρόνον ἐν Αὐλίδος μυχοῖς.
how long you-were-away time in of-Aulis recesses

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ καὶ νῦν γέ μ' ἴσχει
and now at-least me holds

δή τι μὴ στέλλειν στρατόν.
indeed something not to-send army

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ποῦ τοὺς Φρύγας λέγουσιν ᾠκίσθαι, πάτερ;
where the Phrygians they-say to-have-been-settled father

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὗ μήποτ' οἰκεῖν ὤφελ' ὁ Πριάμου Πάρις.
where never to-dwell ought the of-Priam Paris

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μακράν γ' ἀπαίρεις, ὦ πάτερ, λιπὼν ἐμέ;
far at-least you-depart O father having-left me

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ †εἰς ταὐτόν, ὦ θύγατερ, ἥκεις σῷ πατρί.†
(corrupt)-to the-same O daughter you-come your to-father(corrupt)

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ φεῦ·
alas

εἴθ' ἦν καλόν μοι σοί τ' ἄγειν σύμπλουν ἐμέ.
would-that was fine for-me for-you and to-take fellow-voyager me

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔπεστι καὶ σοὶ πλοῦς, ἵνα μνήσει πατρός.
is-in-store also for-you voyage where you-will-remember father

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ σὺν μητρὶ πλεύσασ' ἢ μόνη πορεύσομαι;
with mother having-sailed or alone shall-I-travel

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ μόνη, μονωθεῖσ' ἀπὸ πατρὸς καὶ μητέρος.
alone bereft from father and mother

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ οὔ πού μ᾽ ἐς ἄλλα δώματ᾽ οἰκίζεις, πάτερ;
not surely me to other house you-settle father

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔασον. οὐ χρὴ τοιάδ᾽ εἰδέναι κόρας.
let-be not must such-things to-know girls

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ σπεῦδ᾽ ἐκ Φρυγῶν μοι, θέμενος εὖ τἀκεῖ, πάτερ.
hasten from Phrygians for-me having-set well things-there father

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ θῦσαί με θυσίαν πρῶτα δεῖ τιν᾽ ἐνθάδε.
to-sacrifice me sacrifice first must some here

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἀλλὰ ξὺν ἱεροῖς χρὴ τό γ᾽ εὐσεβὲς σκοπεῖν.
but with rites must the at-least pious to-regard

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ εἴσει σύ· χερνίβων γὰρ ἑστήξει πέλας.
you-will-know you of-lustral-waters for you-will-stand near

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ στήσομεν ἄρ᾽ ἀμφὶ βωμόν, ὦ πάτερ, χορούς;
shall-we-set then around altar O father dances

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ζηλῶ σὲ μᾶλλον ἢ ᾽μὲ τοῦ μηδὲν φρονεῖν·
I-envy you more than me of-the nothing to-understand

χώρει δὲ μελάθρων ἐντὸς ὀφθῆναι κόραις,
go and of-house within to-be-seen by-girls

πικρὸν φίλημα δοῦσα δεξιάν τ᾽ ἐμοί,
bitter kiss having-given right-hand and to-me

μέλλουσα δαρὸν πατρὸς ἀποικήσειν χρόνον.
being-about long from-father to-dwell-away time

ὦ στέρνα καὶ παρῇδες, ὦ ξανθαὶ κόμαι,
O breast and cheeks O golden hair

ὡς ἄχθος ὑμῖν ἐγένεθ᾽ ἡ Φρυγῶν πόλις
how burden to-you became the of-Phrygians city

Ἑλένη τε· παύω τοὺς λόγους· ταχεῖα γὰρ
Helen and I-stop the words swift for

νοτὶς διώκει μ᾽ ὀμμάτων ψαύσαντά σου.
moisture pursues me of-eyes having-touched you

ἴθ' εἰς μέλαθρα. σὲ δὲ παραιτοῦμαι τάδε,
go into house you but I-beg these-things
Λήδας γένεθλον, εἰ κατῳκτίσθην ἄγαν,
of-Leda offspring if I-was-moved-to-pity too-much
μέλλων Ἀχιλλεῖ θυγατέρ' ἐκδώσειν ἐμήν.
being-about to-Achilles daughter to-give-away my
ἀποστολαὶ γὰρ μακάριαι μέν, ἀλλ' ὅμως
sendings-away for blessed indeed but nevertheless
δάκνουσι τοὺς τεκόντας, ὅταν ἄλλοις δόμοις
bite the having-begotten when to-other house
παῖδας παραδιδῷ πολλὰ μοχθήσας πατήρ.
children hands-over many-things having-toiled father

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐχ ὧδ' ἀσύνετός εἰμι, πείσεσθαι δέ με
not so unintelligent I-am to-feel but me
καὐτὴν δόκει τάδ', ὥστε μή σε νουθετεῖν,
myself think these-things so-that not you to-admonish
ὅταν σὺν ὑμεναίοισιν ἐξάγω κόρην·
when with wedding-songs I-lead-out girl
ἀλλ' ὁ νόμος αὐτὰ τῷ χρόνῳ συνισχανεῖ.
but the custom them with-the time will-ease
τοὔνομα μὲν οὖν παῖδ' οἶδ' ὅτῳ κατήνεσας,
the-name indeed then child I-know to-whom you-promised
γένους δὲ ποίου χὠπόθεν, μαθεῖν θέλω.
of-race but what-sort and-whence to-learn I-wish

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Αἴγινα θυγάτηρ ἐγένετ' Ἀσωποῦ πατρός.
Aegina daughter was of-Asopus father

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ταύτην δὲ θνητῶν ἢ θεῶν ἔζευξε τίς;
her and of-mortals or of-gods wedded who

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Ζεύς· Αἰακὸν δ' ἔφυσεν, Οἰνώνης πρόμον.
Zeus Aeacus and begot of-Oenone lord

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τοῦ δ' Αἰακοῦ παῖς τίς κατέσχε δώματα;
of-the and Aeacus child who held house

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Πηλεύς· ὁ Πηλεὺς δ' ἔσχε Νηρέως κόρην.
Peleus the Peleus and had of-Nereus daughter

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ θεοῦ διδόντος, ἢ βίᾳ θεῶν λαβών;
god giving or by-force of-gods having-taken

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Ζεὺς ἠγγύησε καὶ δίδωσ' ὁ κύριος.
Zeus betrothed and gives the guardian

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ γαμεῖ δὲ ποῦ νιν; ἦ κατ' οἶδμα πόντιον;
marries and where her — on swell of-sea

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Χείρων ἵν' οἰκεῖ σεμνὰ Πηλίου βάθρα.
Chiron where dwells holy of-Pelion seats

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὗ φασι Κενταύρειον ᾠκίσθαι γένος;
where they-say Centaur to-have-been-settled race

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐνταῦθ' ἔδαισαν Πηλέως γάμους θεοί.
there feasted of-Peleus marriage gods

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ Θέτις δ' ἔθρεψεν ἢ πατὴρ Ἀχιλλέα;
Thetis and reared or father Achilles

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Χείρων, ἵν' ἤθη μὴ μάθοι κακῶν βροτῶν.
Chiron so-that ways not he-might-learn of-base mortals

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ φεῦ·
alas

σοφός γ' ὁ θρέψας χὠ διδοὺς σοφώτερος.
wise at-least the having-reared and-the giving wiser

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τοιόσδε παιδὸς σῆς ἀνὴρ ἔσται πόσις.
such of-child your man will-be husband

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐ μεμπτός. οἰκεῖ δ' ἄστυ ποῖον Ἑλλάδος;
not blameworthy dwells and city what-sort of-Hellas

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Ἀπιδανὸν ἀμφὶ ποταμὸν ἐν Φθίας ὅροις.
Apidanus by river in of-Phthia boundaries

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἐκεῖσ᾽ ἀπάξεις σὴν ἐμήν τε παρθένον;
there you-will-take-away your mine and maiden

715 ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ κείνῳ μελήσει ταῦτα τῷ κεκτημένῳ.
to-him will-be-a-care these-things to-the having-won

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἀλλ᾽ εὐτυχοίτην. τίνι δ᾽ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ γαμεῖ;
but may-they-both-prosper what and in day marries

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ὅταν σελήνης εὐτυχὴς ἔλθῃ κύκλος.
when of-moon fortunate comes circle

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ προτέλεια δ᾽ ἤδη παιδὸς ἔσφαξας θεᾷ;
preliminaries and already of-child did-you-slaughter for-goddess

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ μέλλω· ᾽πὶ ταύτῃ καὶ καθέσταμεν τύχῃ.
I-am-about on this and we-are-set fortune

720 ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ κἄπειτα δαίσεις τοὺς γάμους ἐς ὕστερον;
and-then you-will-feast the marriage at later

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ θύσας γε θύμαθ᾽ ἁμὲ χρὴ θῦσαι θεοῖς.
having-sacrificed at-least sacrifices which-me must to-sacrifice to-gods

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἡμεῖς δὲ θοίνην ποῦ γυναιξὶ θήσομεν;
we and feast where for-women shall-set

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐνθάδε παρ᾽ εὐπρύμνοισιν Ἀργείων πλάταις.
here by well-sterned of-Argives oars

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ καλῶς ἀναγκαίως τε· συνενέγκοι δ᾽ ὅμως.
well necessarily and may-it-turn-out but nevertheless

725 ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οἶσθ᾽ οὖν ὃ δρᾶσον, ὦ γύναι; πιθοῦ δέ μοι.
do-you-know then what do O woman obey and me

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί χρῆμα; πείθεσθαι γὰρ εἴθισμαι σέθεν.
what thing to-obey for I-am-accustomed you

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἡμεῖς μὲν ἐνθάδ᾽, οὗπέρ ἐσθ᾽ ὁ νυμφίος,
we indeed here where is the bridegroom

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ μητρὸς τί χωρὶς δράσεθ᾽, ἁμὲ δρᾶν χρεών;
of-mother what apart will-you-do which-me to-do is-right

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐκδώσομεν σὴν παῖδα Δαναϊδῶν μέτα.
will-give-away your child the-Danaans with

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἡμᾶς δὲ ποῦ χρὴ τηνικαῦτα τυγχάνειν; 730
we and where must then to-be

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ χώρει πρὸς Ἄργος παρθένους τε τημέλει.
go to Argos maidens and take-care-of

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ λιποῦσα παῖδα; τίς δ' ἀνασχήσει φλόγα;
having-left child who and will-hold-up torch

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐγὼ παρέξω φῶς ὃ νυμφίοις πρέπει.
I will-provide light which for-bridegrooms befits

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ †οὐχ ὁ νόμος οὗτος,
(corrupt)-not the custom this

σὺ δέ γε φαῦλ' ἡγεῖ τάδε.
you but at-least base-things think these-things

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὐ καλὸν ἐν ὄχλῳ σ' ἐξομιλεῖσθαι στρατοῦ. 735
not fine in crowd you to-mingle of-army

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ καλὸν τεκοῦσαν τἀμά μ' ἐκδοῦναι τέκνα.
fine having-borne mine me to-give-away children

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ καὶ τάς γ' ἐν οἴκῳ μὴ μόνας εἶναι κόρας.
and the at-least at home not alone to-be girls

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὀχυροῖσι παρθενῶσι φρουροῦνται καλῶς.
in-strong maidens'-rooms are-guarded well

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ πιθοῦ. ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ μὰ τὴν ἄνασσαν Ἀργείαν θεάν.
obey by the queen Argive goddess

ἐλθὼν σὺ τἄξω πρᾶσσε, τἀν δόμοις δ' ἐγώ, 740
having-gone you the-things-outside do the-things-in house and I

ἃ χρὴ παρεῖναι νυμφίοισι παρθένοις.
what must to-be-present for-bridal maidens

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οἴμοι· μάτην ἦξ', ἐλπίδος δ' ἀπεσφάλην,
ah-me in-vain I-darted of-hope and I-was-foiled
ἐξ ὀμμάτων δάμαρτ' ἀποστεῖλαι θέλων.
from eyes wife to-send-away wishing
σοφίζομαι δὲ κἀπὶ τοῖσι φιλτάτοις
I-devise and and-against the dearest
745 τέχνας πορίζω, πανταχῇ νικώμενος.
arts I-contrive everywhere being-defeated
ὅμως δὲ σὺν Κάλχαντι τῷ θυηπόλῳ
nevertheless but with Calchas the priest
κοινῇ τὸ τῆς θεοῦ φίλον, ἐμοὶ δ' οὐκ εὐτυχές,
in-common the of-the goddess dear to-me but not fortunate
ἐξιστορήσων εἶμι, μόχθον Ἑλλάδος.
to-inquire-into I-go toil of-Hellas
χρὴ δ' ἐν δόμοισιν ἄνδρα τὸν σοφὸν τρέφειν
must and in house man the wise to-keep
750 γυναῖκα χρηστὴν κἀγαθήν, ἢ μὴ γαμεῖν.
wife good and-noble or not to-marry

The chorus sees the Greek fleet coming to the Simois and to Troy, where Cassandra tosses her hair in prophecy. Ares will encircle the city, cut off the heads of the Trojans, and make their women weep; and the Lydian and Phrygian women at their looms will curse Helen, the daughter of Zeus, if the story that Leda bore her to Zeus in the form of a swan is true.

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἥξει δὴ Σιμόεντα καὶ
will-come indeed to-Simois and
δίνας ἀργυροειδεῖς
eddies silvery
ἄγυρις Ἑλλάνων στρατιᾶς
gathering of-Greeks of-army
ἀνά τε ναυσὶν καὶ σὺν ὅπλοις
on both ships and with arms
Ἴλιον εἰς τὸ Τροίας
Ilium to the of-Troy
Φοιβήιον δάπεδον,
Phoebean ground
τὰν Κασάνδραν ἵν' ἀκούω
the Cassandra where I-hear
ῥίπτειν ξανθοὺς πλοκάμους
to-toss golden locks
χλωροκόμῳ στεφάνῳ δάφνας
with-green-leaved wreath of-laurel
κοσμηθεῖσαν, ὅταν θεοῦ
adorned when of-god
μαντόσυνοι πνεύσωσ' ἀνάγκαι.
prophetic breathe necessities

στάσονται δ' ἐπὶ περγάμων
will-stand and on citadel
Τροίας ἀμφί τε τείχη
of-Troy around and walls
Τρῶες, ὅταν χάλκασπις Ἄρης
Trojans when bronze-shielded Ares
πόντιος εὐπρῴροισι πλάταις
of-the-sea with-fair-prowed oars
εἰρεσίᾳ πελάζῃ
with-rowing approaches
Σιμουντίοις ὀχετοῖς,
to-Simoeisian channels
τὰν τῶν ἐν αἰθέρι δισσῶν
the of-the in air twin
Διοσκούρων Ἑλέναν
Dioscuri Helen
ἐκ Πριάμου κομίσαι θέλων
from Priam to-bring-back wishing
εἰς γᾶν Ἑλλάδα δοριπόνοις
to land Greek with-spear-toiling
ἀσπίσι καὶ λόγχαις Ἀχαιῶν.
with-shields and spears of-Achaeans
Πέργαμον δὲ Φρυγῶν πόλιν
Pergamum and of-Phrygians city
λαΐνους περὶ πύργους
stone around towers
κυκλώσας Ἄρει φονίῳ,
having-encircled with-Ares bloody
λαιμοτόμους κεφαλὰς
throat-cut heads

σπάσας, πόλισμα Τροίας
having-torn-down citadel of-Troy
πέρσας κατ᾽ ἄκρας πόλιν,
having-sacked from top city
θήσει κόρας πολυκλαύστους
will-make girls much-lamented
δάμαρτά τε Πριάμου.
wife and of-Priam
ἁ δὲ Διὸς Ἑλένα κόρα
the and of-Zeus Helen daughter
πολύκλαυτος ἐσεῖται
much-lamented will-be
πόσιν προλιποῦσα. μήτ᾽ ἐμοὶ
husband having-left neither for-me
μήτ᾽ ἐμοῖσι τέκνων τέκνοις
nor for-my of-children for-children
ἐλπὶς ἅδε ποτ᾽ ἔλθοι,
hope this ever may-come
οἵαν αἱ πολύχρυσοι
such-as the much-golden
Λυδαὶ καὶ Φρυγῶν ἄλοχοι
Lydian and of-Phrygians wives
στήσουσι παρ᾽ ἱστοῖς
will-set by looms
μυθεῦσαι τάδ᾽ ἐς ἀλλήλας·
telling these-things to one-another
τίς ἄρα μ᾽ εὐπλοκάμου κόμας
who then me of-fair-tressed hair
ῥῦμα δακρυόεν τανύσας
dragging tearful having-drawn

πατρίδος ὀλλυμένας ἀπολωτιεῖ;
of-fatherland perishing will-pluck-away
διὰ σέ, τὰν κύκνου δολιχαύχενος γόνον,
through you the of-swan long-necked offspring
εἰ δὴ φάτις ἔτυμος,
if indeed report true
ὡς ἔτεκεν Λήδα σ'
that bore Leda you
ὄρνιθι πταμένῳ
to-bird flying
Διὸς ὅτ' ἀλλάχθη δέμας,
of-Zeus when was-changed body
εἴτ' ἐν δέλτοις Πιερίσιν
or in tablets Pierian
μῦθοι τάδ' ἐς ἀνθρώπους
stories these-things to men
ἤνεγκαν παρὰ καιρὸν ἄλλως.
brought out-of season vainly

VII · ACHILLES LEARNS THE TRUTH

Achilles comes to Agamemnon's tent, saying the army is impatient to sail. Clytemnestra greets him as her daughter's bridegroom, but he knows of no marriage, and both are bewildered. The old man reveals the truth: Agamemnon means to kill Iphigenia, and the marriage was a pretext to bring her. Clytemnestra falls at Achilles' knees and begs him to save her daughter. Achilles, angered that his name was used, swears by Nereus that Agamemnon will not touch her. He advises that they first try to persuade the father, and promises to defend her if that fails.

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ποῦ τῶν Ἀχαιῶν ἐνθάδ' ὁ στρατηλάτης;
where of-the Achaeans here the general
τίς ἂν φράσειε προσπόλων τὸν Πηλέως
who — would-tell of-attendants the of-Peleus
ζητοῦντά νιν παῖδ' ἐν πύλαις Ἀχιλλέα;
seeking him child at gates Achilles
οὐκ ἐξ ἴσου γὰρ μένομεν Εὐρίπου πέλας.
not on equal for we-wait Euripus near
οἱ μὲν γὰρ ἡμῶν ὄντες ἄζυγες γάμων
some indeed for of-us being unyoked of-marriage
οἴκους ἐρήμους ἐκλιπόντες ἐνθάδε
houses empty having-left here
θάσσουσ' ἐπ' ἀκταῖς, οἱ δ' ἔχοντες εὔνιδας
sit on shores others and having wives
καὶ παῖδας· οὕτω δεινὸς ἐμπέπτωκ' ἔρως
and children so terrible has-fallen desire
τῆσδε στρατείας Ἑλλάδ' οὐκ ἄνευ θεῶν.
of-this expedition on-Hellas not without gods
τοὐμὸν μὲν οὖν δίκαιον ἐμὲ λέγειν χρεών,
my indeed then just me to-say must

ἄλλος δ' ὁ χρῄζων αὐτὸς ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ φράσει.
other and the needing himself for himself will-tell

γῆν γὰρ λιπὼν Φάρσαλον ἠδὲ Πηλέα
land for having-left Pharsalus and Peleus

μένω 'πὶ λεπταῖς ταισίδ' Εὐρίπου πνοαῖς,
I-wait for light these of-Euripus breezes

Μυρμιδόνας ἴσχων· οἱ δ' ἀεὶ προσκείμενοι
Myrmidons holding-back they and always pressing

λέγουσ'· Ἀχιλλεῦ, τί μένομεν; πόσον χρόνον
say Achilles why do-we-wait how-much time

ἔτ' ἐκμετρῆσαι χρὴ πρὸς Ἰλίου στόλον;
still to-measure-out must toward of-Ilium expedition

δρᾶ δ', εἴ τι δράσεις, ἢ ἄπαγ' οἴκαδε στρατόν,
act and if anything you-will-do or lead-away home army

τὰ τῶν Ἀτρειδῶν μὴ μένων μελλήματα.
the of-the Atreids not waiting-for delays

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ παῖ θεᾶς Νηρῇδος, ἔνδοθεν λόγων
O child of-goddess Nereid from-within words

τῶν σῶν ἀκούσασ' ἐξέβην πρὸ δωμάτων.
the your having-heard I-came-out before house

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ὦ πότνι' αἰδώς, τήνδε τίνα λεύσσω ποτὲ
O lady modesty this who do-I-see ever

γυναῖκα, μορφὴν εὐπρεπῆ κεκτημένην;
woman form comely having

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐ θαῦμά σ' ἡμᾶς ἀγνοεῖν, οἷς μὴ πάρος
not wonder you us not-to-know whom not before

προσῆκες· αἰνῶ δ' ὅτι σέβεις τὸ σωφρονεῖν.
you-knew I-praise and that you-revere the to-be-modest

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ τίς δ' εἶ; τί δ' ἦλθες Δαναΐδῶν εἰς σύλλογον,
who and are-you why and did-you-come of-Danaans to assembly
γυνὴ πρὸς ἄνδρας ἀσπίσιν πεφραγμένους;
woman to men with-shields fenced
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ Λήδας μέν εἰμι παῖς, Κλυταιμήστρα δέ μοι
of-Leda indeed I-am child Clytemnestra and to-me
ὄνομα, πόσις δέ μοὐστὶν Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ.
name husband and to-me-is Agamemnon lord
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ καλῶς ἔλεξας ἐν βραχεῖ τὰ καίρια.
well you-said in brief the timely-things
αἰσχρὸν δέ μοι γυναιξὶ συμβάλλειν λόγους.
shameful and for-me with-women to-exchange words
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ μεῖνον· τί φεύγεις; δεξιάν τ' ἐμῇ χερὶ
stay why do-you-flee right-hand and with-my hand
σύναψον, ἀρχὴν μακαρίων νυμφευμάτων.
join beginning of-blessed marriage
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ τί φής; ἐγώ σοι δεξιάν; αἰδοίμεθ' ἄν
what do-you-say I to-you right-hand would-feel-shame —
Ἀγαμέμνον', εἰ ψαύοιμεν ὧν μή μοι θέμις.
Agamemnon if we-should-touch what not for-me lawful
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ θέμις μάλιστα, τὴν ἐμὴν ἐπεὶ γαμεῖς
lawful most-of-all the my since you-marry
παῖδ', ὦ θεᾶς παῖ ποντίας Νηρηίδος.
child O of-the-goddess child of-the-sea Nereid
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ποίους γάμους φής; ἀφασία μ' ἔχει, γύναι.
what-sort marriage do-you-say speechlessness me holds woman
εἰ μή τι παρανοοῦσα καινουργεῖς λόγον.
if not something being-deluded you-invent word

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ πᾶσιν τόδ᾽ ἐμπέφυκεν, αἰδεῖσθαι φίλους
to-all this is-natural to-feel-shame-before friends
καινοὺς ὁρῶσι καὶ γάμου μεμνημένοις.
new seeing and of-marriage mindful
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ οὐπώποτ᾽ ἐμνήστευσα παῖδα σήν, γύναι,
never-yet I-wooed child your woman
οὐδ᾽ ἐξ Ἀτρειδῶν ἦλθέ μοι λόγος γάμων.
nor from Atreids came to-me word of-marriage
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί δῆτ᾽ ἂν εἴη; σὺ πάλιν αὖ λόγους ἐμοὺς
what then — could-it-be you in-turn again words my
θαύμαζ᾽· ἐμοὶ γὰρ θαύματ᾽ ἐστὶ τἀπὸ σοῦ.
wonder to-me for wonders are the-things-from you
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ εἴκαζε· κοινόν ἐστιν εἰκάζειν τάδε·
guess common it-is to-guess these-things
ἄμφω γὰρ οὐ ψευδόμεθα τοῖς λόγοις ἴσως.
both for not we-lie in-the words perhaps
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἀλλ᾽ ἦ πέπονθα δεινά; μνηστεύω γάμους
but — I-have-suffered terrible-things I-court marriage
οὐκ ὄντας, ὡς εἴξασιν· αἰδοῦμαι τάδε.
not being as they-seem I-am-ashamed these-things
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἴσως ἐκερτόμησε κἀμὲ καὶ σέ τις.
perhaps mocked both-me and you someone
ἀλλ᾽ ἀμελίᾳ δὸς αὐτὰ καὶ φαύλως φέρε.
but to-neglect give them and lightly bear
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ χαῖρ᾽· οὐ γὰρ ὀρθοῖς ὄμμασίν σ᾽ ἔτ᾽ εἰσορῶ,
farewell not for with-straight eyes you still I-look-at
ψευδὴς γενομένη καὶ παθοῦσ᾽ ἀνάξια.
false having-become and having-suffered unworthy-things

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ καὶ σοὶ τόδ' ἐστὶν ἐξ ἐμοῦ· πόσιν δὲ σὸν
and to-you this is from me husband and your
στείχω ματεύσων τῶνδε δωμάτων ἔσω.
I-go to-seek of-this house within

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ὦ ξέν', Αἰακοῦ γένεθλον, μεῖνον, ὦ σέ τοι λέγω, 855
O stranger of-Aeacus offspring wait O you surely I-mean
τὸν θεᾶς γεγῶτα παῖδα, καὶ σὲ τὴν Λήδας κόρην.
the of-the-goddess born child and you the of-Leda daughter

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ τίς ὁ καλῶν πύλας παροίξας; ὡς τεταρβηκὼς καλεῖ.
who the calling gates having-opened how frightened calls

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ δοῦλος, οὐχ ἁβρύνομαι τῷδ'· ἡ τύχη γὰρ οὐκ ἐᾷ.
slave not I-pride-myself on-this the fortune for not allows

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ τίνος; ἐμὸς μὲν οὐχί· χωρὶς τἀμὰ κἀγαμέμνονος.
whose mine indeed not apart mine and-of-Agamemnon

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ τῆσδε τῆς πάροιθεν οἴκων, 860
of-this-one the before house
Τυνδάρεω δόντος πατρός.
Tyndareus having-given father

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἔσταμεν· φράζ', εἴ τι χρῄζεις,
we-stand tell if anything you-need
ὧν μ' ἐπέσχες εἵνεκα.
for-which me you-stopped for-the-sake

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ἦ μόνω παρόντε δῆτα ταῖσδ' ἐφέστατον πύλαις;
— alone present-both then at-these stand gates

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ὡς μόνοις λέγοις ἄν,
as to-alone you-may-speak —
ἔξω δ' ἐλθὲ βασιλικῶν δόμων.
out and come of-royal house

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ὦ τύχη πρόνοιά θ' ἡμή, σώσαθ' οὓς ἐγὼ θέλω.
O fortune forethought and my save whom I wish

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ὁ λόγος εἰς μέλλοντ᾽ ἀνοίσει χρόνον·
the word into future will-carry-up time
ἔχει δ᾽ ὄγκον τινά.
has and swelling some
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ δεξιᾶς ἕκατι μὴ μέλλ᾽,
of-right-hand for-the-sake not delay
εἴ τί μοι χρῄζεις λέγειν.
if anything to-me you-wish to-say
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ οἶσθα δῆτά μ᾽ ὅστις ὢν σοὶ
you-know then me who being to-you
καὶ τέκνοις εὔνους ἔφυν;
and to-children well-disposed was-born
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οἶδά σ᾽ ὄντ᾽ ἐγὼ παλαιὸν δωμάτων ἐμῶν λάτριν.
I-know you being I old of-house my servant
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ χὤτι μ᾽
and-that me
ἐν ταῖς σαῖσι φερναῖς ἔλαβεν Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ;
in the your dowry received Agamemnon lord
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἦλθες εἰς Ἄργος μεθ᾽ ἡμῶν
you-came to Argos with us
κἀμὸς ἦσθ᾽ ἀεί ποτε.
and-mine you-were always ever
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ὧδ᾽ ἔχει. καὶ σοὶ μὲν εὔνους εἰμί,
so it-is and to-you indeed well-disposed I-am
σῷ δ᾽ ἧσσον πόσει.
to-your but less to-husband
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἐκκάλυπτε νῦν ποθ᾽ ἡμῖν
uncover now at-last to-us
οὕστινας στέγεις λόγους.
whatever you-conceal words

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ παῖδα σὴν πατὴρ ὁ φύσας
child your father the having-begotten
αὐτόχειρ μέλλει κτανεῖν.
with-own-hand is-about to-kill

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ πῶς; ἀπέπτυσ', ὦ γεραιέ, μῦθον·
how I-spit-away O old-man word
οὐ γὰρ εὖ φρονεῖς.
not for well you-think

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ φασγάνῳ λευκὴν φονεύων τῆς ταλαιπώρου δέρην. 875
with-sword white slaying of-the wretched throat

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ τάλαιν' ἐγώ. μεμηνὼς ἆρα τυγχάνει πόσις;
O wretched I mad then happens husband

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ἀρτίφρων, πλὴν εἰς σὲ καὶ σὴν παῖδα·
sane except toward you and your child
τοῦτο δ' οὐ φρονεῖ.
this but not he-is-sane

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἐκ τίνος λόγου; τίς αὐτὸν οὐπάγων ἀλαστόρων;
from what word who him the-leading-on of-avengers

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ θέσφαθ', ὥς γέ φησι Κάλχας,
oracles as at-least says Calchas
ἵνα πορεύηται στρατός.
so-that may-go army

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ποῖ; τάλαιν' ἐγώ, τάλαινα δ' 880
whither wretched I wretched and
ἣν πατὴρ μέλλει κτανεῖν.
whom father is-about to-kill

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ Δαρδάνου πρὸς δώμαθ',
of-Dardanus to house
Ἑλένην Μενέλεως ὅπως λάβῃ.
Helen Menelaus that may-take

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ εἰς ἄρ᾽ Ἰφιγένειαν Ἑλένης
to then Iphigenia of-Helen
νόστος ἦν πεπρωμένος;
return was fated

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ πάντ᾽ ἔχεις· Ἀρτέμιδι θύσειν παῖδα
all you-have to-Artemis to-sacrifice child
σὴν μέλλει πατήρ.
your is-about father

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὁ δὲ γάμος παρεῖχε πρόφασιν,
the and marriage offered pretext
ᾗ μ᾽ ἐκόμισεν ἐκ δόμων;
which me brought from house

885 ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ ἵν᾽ ἀγάγοις χαίρουσ᾽ Ἀχιλλεῖ
so-that you-might-bring rejoicing to-Achilles
παῖδα νυμφεύσουσα σήν.
child to-give-in-marriage your

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ θύγατερ, ἥκεις ἐπ᾽ ὀλέθρῳ καὶ
O daughter you-have-come to ruin both
σὺ καὶ μήτηρ σέθεν.
you and mother of-you

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ οἰκτρὰ πάσχετον δύ᾽ οὖσαι·
pitiful-things you-two-suffer two being
δεινὰ δ᾽ Ἀγαμέμνων ἔτλη.
terrible-things and Agamemnon dared

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οἴχομαι τάλαινα, δακρύων νάματ᾽ οὐκέτι στέγω.
I-am-gone wretched of-tears streams no-longer I-hold-back

ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ εἴπερ ἀλγεινὸν τὸ τέκνων στερόμενον, δακρυρρόει.
if-indeed painful the of-children bereaved shed-tears

ΚΛΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ σὺ δὲ τάδ', ὦ γέρον,
you but these-things O old-man
πόθεν φὴς εἰδέναι πεπυσμένος;
whence do-you-say to-know having-learned
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ δέλτον ᾠχόμην φέρων σοι πρὸς
tablet I-went carrying to-you to
τὰ πρὶν γεγραμμένα.
the before written
ΚΛΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐκ ἐῶν ἢ ξυγκελεύων παῖδ' ἄγειν θανουμένην;
not allowing or urging child to-bring to-die
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ μὴ μὲν οὖν ἄγειν· φρονῶν γὰρ ἔτυχε
not indeed then to-bring being-sane for happened
σὸς πόσις τότ' εὖ.
your husband then well
ΚΛΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ κᾆτα πῶς φέρων γε δέλτον
and-then how carrying at-least tablet
οὐκ ἐμοὶ δίδως λαβεῖν;
not to-me do-you-give to-take
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΗΣ Μενέλεως ἀφείλεθ' ἡμᾶς, ὃς κακῶν τῶνδ' αἴτιος.
Menelaus took-away us who of-evils these cause
ΚΛΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ τέκνον Νηρῇδος, ὦ παῖ Πηλέως,
O child of-Nereid O child of-Peleus
κλύεις τάδε;
do-you-hear these-things
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἔκλυον οὖσαν ἀθλίαν σε, τὸ δ' ἐμὸν οὐ φαύλως φέρω.
I-heard being wretched you the but mine not lightly I-bear
ΚΛΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ παῖδά μου κατακτενοῦσι σοῖς
child my they-will-kill with-your
δολώσαντες γάμοις.
having-deceived with-marriage

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ μέμφομαι κἀγὼ πόσει σῷ, κοὐχ ἁπλῶς οὕτω φέρω.
I-blame and-I husband your and-not simply so I-bear

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐκ ἐπαιδεσθήσομεσθα προσπεσεῖν τὸ σὸν γόνυ,
not I-shall-be-ashamed to-fall-at the your knee

θνητὸς ἐκ θεᾶς γεγῶτα· τί γὰρ ἐγὼ σεμνύνομαι;
mortal from goddess born why for I do-I-give-myself-airs

περὶ τίνος σπουδαστέον μοι μᾶλλον ἢ τέκνου πέρι;
about what to-be-zealous for-me rather than child about

ἀλλ' ἄμυνον, ὦ θεᾶς παῖ, τῇ τ' ἐμῇ δυσπραξίᾳ
but defend O of-the-goddess child the and my misfortune

τῇ τε λεχθείσῃ δάμαρτι σῇ, μάτην μέν, ἀλλ' ὅμως.
the and called wife your in-vain indeed but nevertheless

σοὶ καταστέψασ' ἐγώ νιν ἦγον ὡς γαμουμένην,
for-you having-crowned I her led as to-be-married

νῦν δ' ἐπὶ σφαγὰς κομίζω· σοὶ δ' ὄνειδος ἵξεται,
now but to slaughter I-bring to-you but reproach will-come

ὅστις οὐκ ἤμυνας· εἰ γὰρ μὴ γάμοισιν ἐζύγης,
who not defended if for not with-marriage you-were-yoked

ἀλλ' ἐκλήθης γοῦν ταλαίνης παρθένου φίλος πόσις.
but you-were-called at-least of-wretched maiden dear husband

πρὸς γενειάδος δέ, πρὸς σῆς δεξιᾶς, πρὸς μητέρος·
by beard and by your right-hand by mother

ὄνομα γὰρ τὸ σόν μ' ἀπώλεσ', ᾧ σ' ἀμυναθεῖν χρεών.
name for the your me destroyed which you to-defend must

οὐκ ἔχω βωμὸν καταφυγεῖν ἄλλον ἢ τὸ σὸν γόνυ,
not I-have altar to-flee-to other than the your knee

οὐδὲ φίλος οὐδεὶς πελᾷ μοι· τὰ δ' Ἀγαμέμνονος κλύεις
nor friend any comes-near to-me the and of-Agamemnon you-hear

ὠμὰ καὶ πάντολμ'· ἀφῖγμαι δ', ὥσπερ εἰσορᾷς, γυνὴ
cruel and all-daring I-have-come and as you-see woman

ναυτικὸν στράτευμ᾽ ἄναρχον κἀπὶ τοῖς κακοῖς θρασύ,
naval army leaderless and-on the evils bold
χρήσιμον δ᾽, ὅταν θέλωσιν. ἢν δὲ τολμήσῃς σύ μου
useful but when they-wish if but you-dare you me
χεῖρ᾽ ὑπερτεῖναι, σεσώσμεθ᾽· εἰ δὲ μή, οὐ σεσώσμεθα.
hand to-stretch-over we-are-saved if but not not we-are-saved
ΧΟΡΟΣ δεινὸν τὸ τίκτειν καὶ φέρει φίλτρον μέγα,
terrible the to-bear-children and brings charm great
πᾶσίν τε κοινὸν ὥσθ᾽ ὑπερκάμνειν τέκνων.
to-all and common so-that to-suffer-for children
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ὑψηλόφρων μοι θυμὸς αἴρεται πρόσω·
high-minded to-me spirit is-lifted forward
ἐπίσταται δὲ τοῖς κακοῖσί τ᾽ ἀσχαλᾶν
it-knows and at-the misfortunes and to-be-vexed
μετρίως τε χαίρειν τοῖσιν ἐξωγκωμένοις.
moderately and to-rejoice at-the exalted
λελογισμένοι γὰρ οἱ τοιοίδ᾽ εἰσὶν βροτῶν
reasoning for the such are of-mortals
ὀρθῶς διαζῆν τὸν βίον γνώμης μέτα.
rightly to-live-through the life judgment with
ἔστιν μὲν οὖν ἵν᾽ ἡδὺ μὴ λίαν φρονεῖν,
it-is indeed then where sweet not too-much to-think
ἔστιν δὲ χὤπου χρήσιμον γνώμην ἔχειν.
it-is and and-where useful judgment to-have
ἐγὼ δ᾽, ἐν ἀνδρὸς εὐσεβεστάτου τραφεὶς
I and in of-man most-pious reared
Χείρωνος, ἔμαθον τοὺς τρόπους ἁπλοῦς ἔχειν.
of-Chiron I-learned the ways simple to-have
καὶ τοῖς Ἀτρείδαις, ἢν μὲν ἡγῶνται καλῶς,
and the Atreids if indeed they-lead well

πεισόμεθ'· ὅταν δὲ μὴ καλῶς, οὐ πείσομαι.
we-shall-obey when but not well not I-shall-obey
ἀλλ' ἐνθάδ' ἐν Τροίᾳ τ' ἐλευθέραν φύσιν
but here in Troy and free nature
παρέχων, Ἄρη τὸ κατ' ἐμὲ κοσμήσω δορί.
showing Ares the as-far-as-in me I-will-adorn with-spear
σὲ δ', ὦ παθοῦσα σχέτλια πρὸς τῶν φιλτάτων,
you and O having-suffered cruel-things from the dearest
ἃ δὴ κατ' ἄνδρα γίγνεται νεανίαν,
which indeed by man are-fitting young
τοσοῦτον οἶκτον περιβαλὼν καταστελῶ,
so-much pity putting-around I-will-set-right
κοὔποτε κόρη σὴ πρὸς πατρὸς σφαγήσεται,
and-never daughter your by father shall-be-slaughtered
ἐμὴ φατισθεῖσ'· οὐ γὰρ ἐμπλέκειν πλοκὰς
mine having-been-called not for to-weave wiles
ἐγὼ παρέξω σῷ πόσει τοὐμὸν δέμας.
I will-provide to-your to-husband my body
τοὔνομα γάρ, εἰ καὶ μὴ σίδηρον ἤρατο,
the-name for if even not iron raised
τοὐμὸν φονεύσει παῖδα σήν. τὸ δ' αἴτιον,
mine will-kill child your the but cause
πόσις σός· ἁγνὸν δ' οὐκέτ' ἐστὶ σῶμ' ἐμόν,
husband yours pure and no-longer is body my
εἰ δι' ἔμ' ὀλεῖται διά τε τοὺς ἐμοὺς γάμους
if through me will-perish through and the my marriage
ἡ δεινὰ τλᾶσα κοὐκ ἀνεκτὰ παρθένος
the terrible-things having-suffered and-not endurable maiden
θαυμαστὰ δ' ὡς ἀνάξι' ἠτιμασμένη.
wondrously and how unworthily dishonored

ἐγὼ κάκιστος ἦν ἄρ' Ἀργείων ἀνήρ,
I basest was then of-Argives man
ἐγὼ τὸ μηδέν, Μενέλεως δ' ἐν ἀνδράσιν,
I the nothing Menelaus but among men
ὡς οὐχὶ Πηλέως, ἀλλ' ἀλάστορος γεγώς,
as not of-Peleus but of-avenging-spirit born
εἴπερ φονεύσει τοὐμὸν ὄνομα σῷ πόσει.
if-indeed will-murder my name for-your for-husband
μὰ τὸν δι' ὑγρῶν κυμάτων τεθραμμένον
by the through wet waves reared
Νηρέα, φυτουργὸν Θέτιδος ἥ μ' ἐγείνατο,
Nereus begetter of-Thetis who me bore
οὐχ ἅψεται σῆς θυγατρὸς Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ,
not will-touch your daughter Agamemnon lord
οὐδ' εἰς ἄκραν χεῖρ', ὥστε προσβαλεῖν πέπλοις·
nor to tip hand so-as to-lay-on robes
ἢ Σίπυλος ἔσται πόλις ὅρισμα βαρβάρων,
or Sipylus will-be city boundary of-barbarians
ὅθεν πεφύκασ' οἱ στρατηλάται γένος,
whence are-sprung the generals by-race
Φθίας δὲ τοὔνομ' οὐδαμοῦ κεκλήσεται.
of-Phthia and the-name nowhere will-be-named
πικροὺς δὲ προχύτας χέρνιβάς τ' ἐνάρξεται
bitter and barley lustral-waters and will-begin
Κάλχας ὁ μάντις. τίς δὲ μάντις ἔστ' ἀνήρ,
Calchas the seer what and seer is man
ὃς ὀλίγ' ἀληθῆ, πολλὰ δὲ ψευδῆ λέγει
who few true-things many but false-things says
τυχών, ὅταν δὲ μὴ τύχῃ, διοίχεται;
hitting when but not he-hits is-gone

οὐ τῶν γάμων ἕκατι — μυρίαι κόραι
not of-the marriage for-the-sake countless girls
θηρῶσι λέκτρον τοὐμόν — εἴρηται τόδε·
hunt bed my it-has-been-said this
ἀλλ' ὕβριν ἐς ἡμᾶς ὕβρισ' Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ·
but outrage against us outraged Agamemnon lord
χρῆν δ' αὐτὸν αἰτεῖν τοὐμὸν ὄνομ' ἐμοῦ πάρα,
it-was-right and him to-ask my name me from
θήραμα παιδός· ἡ Κλυταιμνήστρα δ' ἐμοὶ
lure of-child the Clytemnestra and to-me
μάλιστ' ἐπείσθη θυγατέρ' ἐκδοῦναι πόσει.
most was-persuaded daughter to-give to-husband
ἔδωκά τἂν Ἕλλησιν, εἰ πρὸς Ἴλιον
I-would-have-given — to-Greeks if toward Ilium
ἐν τῷδ' ἔκαμνε νόστος· οὐκ ἠρνούμεθ' ἂν
in this was-ailing return not we-would-refuse —
τὸ κοινὸν αὔξειν ὧν μέτ' ἐστρατευόμην.
the common to-increase whom with I-marched
νῦν δ' οὐδέν εἰμι παρά γε τοῖς στρατηλάταις,
now but nothing I-am among at-least the generals
ἐν εὐμαρεῖ τε δρᾶν τε καὶ μὴ δρᾶν καλῶς.
in easy and to-do both and not to-do well
τάχ' εἴσεται σίδηρος, ὃν πρὶν εἰς Φρύγας
soon will-know iron which before to Phrygians
ἐλθεῖν, φόνου κηλῖσιν αἵματος χρανῶ,
to-come of-murder with-stains of-blood I-shall-stain
εἴ τίς με τὴν σὴν θυγατέρ' ἐξαιρήσεται.
if anyone me the your daughter will-take-away
ἀλλ' ἡσύχαζε· θεὸς ἐγὼ πέφηνά σοι
but be-quiet god I have-appeared to-you

μέγιστος, οὐκ ὤν· ἀλλ᾽ ὅμως γενήσομαι.
greatest not being but nevertheless I-shall-become

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἔλεξας, ὦ παῖ Πηλέως, σοῦ τ᾽ ἄξια 975
you-spoke O child of-Peleus of-you and worthy-things

καὶ τῆς ἐναλίας δαίμονος, σεμνῆς θεοῦ.
and of-the sea divinity holy goddess

ΚΛΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ φεῦ·
alas

πῶς ἄν σ᾽ ἐπαινέσαιμι μὴ λίαν λόγοις,
how — you may-I-praise not too-much in-words

μηδ᾽ ἐνδεῶς τοῦδ᾽ ἀπολέσαιμι τὴν χάριν;
nor deficiently of-this may-I-lose the favor

αἰνούμενοι γὰρ ἀγαθοὶ τρόπον τινὰ
being-praised for the-good in-way some

μισοῦσι τοὺς αἰνοῦντας, ἢν αἰνῶσ᾽ ἄγαν. 980
hate the praisers if they-praise too-much

αἰσχύνομαι δὲ παραφέρουσ᾽ οἰκτροὺς λόγους,
I-am-ashamed and bringing-forward pitiful words

ἰδίᾳ νοσοῦσα· σὺ δ᾽ ἄνοσος κακῶν γ᾽ ἐμῶν.
privately being-sick you and unafflicted by-evils at-least my

ἀλλ᾽ οὖν ἔχει τοι σχῆμα, κἂν ἄπωθεν ᾖ
but then has surely grace even-if far be-be

ἀνὴρ ὁ χρηστός, δυστυχοῦντας ὠφελεῖν.
man the good unfortunate to-help

οἴκτειρε δ᾽ ἡμᾶς· οἰκτρὰ γὰρ πεπόνθαμεν. 985
pity and us pitiful-things for we-have-suffered

ἣ πρῶτα μέν σε γαμβρὸν οἰηθεῖσ᾽ ἔχειν,
who first indeed you son-in-law thinking to-have

κενὴν κατέσχον ἐλπίδ᾽· εἶτά σοι τάχα
empty held hope then for-you perhaps

ὄρνις γένοιτ' ἂν τοῖσι μέλλουσιν γάμοις
omen would-be — for-the coming marriage
θανοῦσ' ἐμὴ παῖς, ὅ σε φυλάξασθαι χρεών.
having-died my child which you to-guard-against must
ἀλλ' εὖ μὲν ἀρχὰς εἶπας, εὖ δὲ καὶ τέλη·
but well indeed beginnings you-spoke well and also ends
σοῦ γὰρ θέλοντος παῖς ἐμὴ σωθήσεται.
of-you for willing child my will-be-saved
βούλει νιν ἱκέτιν σὸν περιπτύξαι γόνυ;
do-you-wish her suppliant your to-clasp knee
ἀπαρθένευτα μὲν τάδ'· εἰ δέ σοι δοκεῖ,
unmaidenly indeed these-things if but to-you it-seems
ἥξει, δι' αἰδοῦς ὄμμ' ἔχουσ' ἐλεύθερον.
she-will-come with modesty eye having free
εἰ δ' οὐ παρούσης ταὐτὰ τεύξομαι σέθεν,
if but not being-present the-same I-shall-obtain from-you
μενέτω κατ' οἴκους· σεμνὰ γὰρ σεμνύνεται.
let-her-stay at home proud for pride-takes
ὅμως δ' ὅσον γε δυνατὸν αἰδεῖσθαι χρεών.
nevertheless and as-far-as at-least possible to-respect must
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ σὺ μήτε σὴν παῖδ' ἔξαγ' ὄψιν εἰς ἐμήν,
you neither your child bring-out sight into my
μήτ' εἰς ὄνειδος ἀμαθὲς ἔλθωμεν, γύναι·
nor into reproach ignorant let-us-come woman
στρατὸς γὰρ ἀθρόος ἀργὸς ὢν τῶν οἴκοθεν
army for crowded idle being of-the from-home
λέσχας πονηρὰς καὶ κακοστόμους φιλεῖ.
gossip wicked and evil-mouthed loves
πάντως δέ μ' ἱκετεύοντες ἥξετ' εἰς ἴσον,
in-any-case and me supplicating you-will-come to equal

εἴ τ᾽ ἀνικετεύτως· εἷς ἐμοὶ γάρ ἐστ᾽ ἀγὼν
if and without-supplication one for-me for is contest
μέγιστος ὑμᾶς ἐξαπαλλάξαι κακῶν.
greatest you to-release from-evils
ὡς ἕν γ᾽ ἀκούσασ᾽ ἴσθι, μὴ ψευδῶς μ᾽ ἐρεῖν· 1005
as one at-least having-heard know not falsely me to-speak
ψευδῆ λέγων δὲ καὶ μάτην ἐγκερτομῶν
false-things saying and also in-vain mocking
θάνοιμι· μὴ θάνοιμι δ᾽, ἢν σώσω κόρην.
may-I-die not may-I-die and if I-save girl

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὄναιο συνεχῶς δυστυχοῦντας ὠφελῶν.
may-you-be-blessed continually unfortunate helping

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἄκουε δή νυν, ἵνα τὸ πρᾶγμ᾽ ἔχῃ καλῶς.
hear indeed now so-that the matter may-hold well

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί τοῦτ᾽ ἔλεξας; ὡς ἀκουστέον γέ σου. 1010
what this you-said as must-be-heard at-least from-you

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ πείθωμεν αὖθις πατέρα βέλτιον φρονεῖν.
let-us-persuade again father better to-think

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ κακός τίς ἐστι καὶ λίαν ταρβεῖ στρατόν.
coward someone is and too-much fears army

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀλλ᾽ οἱ λόγοι γε καταπαλαίουσιν φόβους.
but the words at-least wrestle-down fears

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ψυχρὰ μὲν ἐλπίς· ὅ τι δὲ χρή με δρᾶν φράσον.
cold indeed hope what — and must me to-do tell

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἱκέτευ᾽ ἐκεῖνον πρῶτα μὴ κτείνειν τέκνα· 1015
supplicate him first not to-kill children
ἢν δ᾽ ἀντιβαίνῃ, πρὸς ἐμέ σοι πορευτέον.
if and he-resists to me you must-go
εἰ γὰρ τὸ χρῄζον ἐπίθετ᾽, οὐ τοὐμὸν χρεὼν
if for the needful should-succeed not my must

χωρεῖν· ἔχει γὰρ τοῦτο τὴν σωτηρίαν.
to-go has for this the safety
κἀγώ τ' ἀμείνων πρὸς φίλον γενήσομαι,
and-I and better toward friend shall-be
στρατός τ' ἂν οὐ μέμψαιτό μ', εἰ τὰ πράγματα
army and — not would-blame me if the affairs
λελογισμένως πράσσοιμι μᾶλλον ἢ σθένει.
reasonably I-should-do rather than by-force
καλῶς δὲ κρανθέντων πρὸς ἡδονὴν φίλοις
well and accomplished to pleasure for-friends
σοί τ' ἂν γένοιτο κἂν ἐμοῦ χωρὶς τάδε.
to-you and — might-be even-if me apart these-things
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὡς σώφρον' εἶπας. δραστέον δ' ἃ σοι δοκεῖ.
how prudent-things you-said to-be-done and what to-you seems
ἢν δ' αὖ τι μὴ πράσσωμεν ὧν ἐγὼ θέλω,
if and again something not we-achieve of-what I wish
ποῦ σ' αὖθις ὀψόμεσθα; ποῖ χρή μ' ἀθλίαν
where you again shall-we-see where must me wretched
ἐλθοῦσαν εὑρεῖν σὴν χέρ' ἐπίκουρον κακῶν;
having-come to-find your hand helper of-evils
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἡμεῖς σε φύλακες οὗ χρεὼν φυλάξομεν,
we you guards where must we-shall-guard
μή τίς σ' ἴδῃ στείχουσαν ἐπτοημένην
lest anyone you see going distraught
Δαναῶν δι' ὄχλου· μηδὲ πατρῷον δόμον
of-Danaans through crowd nor paternal house
αἴσχυν'· ὁ γάρ τοι Τυνδάρεως οὐκ ἄξιος
disgrace the for surely Tyndareus not worthy
κακῶς ἀκούειν· ἐν γὰρ Ἕλλησιν μέγας.
badly to-be-spoken-of among for Greeks great

ΚΑΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἔσται τάδ'. ἄρχε· σοί με δουλεύειν χρεών.
it-will-be these-things command to-you me to-serve must
εἰ δ' εἰσὶ θεοί, δίκαιος ὢν ἀνήρ, θεῶν
if and are gods just being man of-gods
ἐσθλῶν κυρήσεις· εἰ δὲ μή, τί δεῖ πονεῖν; 1035
good-things you-will-meet if and not why must to-toil

VIII · THE WEDDING OF PELEUS

The chorus sings of the wedding of Peleus and Thetis on Pelion: the Muses singing, Ganymede pouring the wine, the Nereids dancing on the shore, the Centaurs come to the feast, and Chiron foretelling that Thetis would bear Achilles, who would burn Priam's land. But Iphigenia, the chorus says, will be crowned like a heifer for slaughter. Where now is the power of shame or virtue, when impiety rules and men do not fear the gods' resentment?

ΧΟΡΟΣ τίς ἄρ' ὑμέναιος διὰ λωτοῦ Λίβυος
what then wedding-song through flute Libyan
μετά τε φιλοχόρου κιθάρας
with and dance-loving lyre
συρίγγων θ' ὑπὸ καλαμοεσ-
of-pipes and with reedy
σᾶν ἔστασεν ἰαχάν,
— set-up cry
ὅτ' ἀνὰ Πήλιον αἱ καλλιπλόκαμοι 1040
when on Pelion the fair-tressed
Πιερίδες παρὰ δαιτὶ θεῶν
Pierians at feast of-gods
χρυσεοσάνδαλον ἴχνος
golden-sandaled step

ἐν γᾷ κρούουσαι
on earth striking
Πηλέως εἰς γάμον ἦλθον,
of-Peleus to marriage came
μελῳδοῖς Θέτιν ἀχήμασι τόν τ' Αἰακίδαν
with-melodious Thetis with-sounds the and Aeacid
Κενταύρων ἀν' ὄρος κλέουσαι
of-Centaurs on mountain celebrating
Πηλιάδα καθ' ὕλαν.
Pelian through wood
ὁ δὲ Δαρδανίδας, Διὸς
the and Dardanid of-Zeus
λέκτρων τρύφημα φίλον,
of-bed delight dear
χρυσέοισιν ἄφυσσε λοιβὰν
golden drew libation
ἐν κρατήρων γυάλοις,
in of-bowls hollows
ὁ Φρύγιος Γανυμήδης.
the Phrygian Ganymede
παρὰ δὲ λευκοφαῆ ψάμαθον
by and white-gleaming sand
εἱλισσόμεναι κύκλια
whirling circling
πεντήκοντα κόραι γάμους
fifty daughters marriage
Νηρέως ἐχόρευσαν.
of-Nereus danced
ἀνὰ δ' ἐλάταισι στεφανώδει τε χλόᾳ
on and with-pines garlanded and with-green

θίασος ἔμολεν ἱπποβάτας
band came horse-riding
Κενταύρων ἐπὶ δαῖτα τὰν
of-Centaurs to feast the
θεῶν κρατῆρά τε Βάκχου.
of-gods bowl and of-Bacchus
μέγα δ' ἀνέκλαγον· ὦ Νηρηὶ κόρα,
greatly and cried O Nereid daughter
παῖδα σὲ Θεσσαλίᾳ μέγα φῶς
child you to-Thessaly great light
μάντις ὁ φοιβάδα μοῦσαν
seer the Phoebean music
εἰδὼς γεννάσειν
knowing to-bear
Χείρων ἐξονόμαζεν,
Chiron named
ὃς ἥξει χθόνα λογχήρεσι σὺν Μυρμιδόνων
who will-come to-land spearmen with of-Myrmidons
ἀσπισταῖς Πριάμοιο κλεινὰν
shield-bearers of-Priam famous
γαῖαν ἐκπυρώσων,
land to-burn-up
περὶ σώματι χρυσέων
around body golden
ὅπλων Ἡφαιστοπόνων
of-arms Hephaestus-wrought
κεκορυθμένος ἔνδυτ', ἐκ θεᾶς
helmeted garments from goddess
ματρὸς δωρήματ' ἔχων
of-mother gifts having

Θέτιδος, ἅ νιν ἔτικτε.
of-Thetis who him bore
μακάριον τότε δαίμονες
blessed then the-gods
τᾶς εὐπάτριδος γάμον
of-the nobly-born marriage
Νηρήδων ἔθεσαν πρώτας
of-Nereids made first
Πηλέως θ' ὑμεναίους.
of-Peleus and wedding-songs
σὲ δ' ἐπὶ κάρα στέψουσι καλλικόμαν
you but on head will-crown fair-haired
πλόκαμον Ἀργεῖοι, βαλιὰν
lock Argives dappled
ὥστε πετραίων ἀπ' ἄντρων ἐλθοῦσαν ὀρέων
like rocky from caves having-come of-mountains
μόσχον ἀκήρατον, βρότειον
heifer unblemished mortal
αἱμάσσοντες λαιμόν·
bloodying throat
οὐ σύριγγι τραφεῖσαν, οὐδ'
not with-pipe reared nor
ἐν ῥοιβδήσεσι βουκόλων.
amid whistlings of-herdsmen
παρὰ δὲ ματέρι νυμφοκόμον
by and mother bride-attendant
Ἰναχίδαις γάμον.
for-Inachids marriage
ποῦ τὸ τᾶς αἰδοῦς
where the of-the modesty

ἢ τὸ τᾶς ἀρετᾶς ἔχει
or the of-the virtue has
σθένειν τι πρόσωπον;
to-prevail any face
ὁπότε τὸ μὲν ἄσεπτον ἔχει
when the indeed impious has
δύνασιν, ἁ δ' ἀρετὰ κατόπι-
power the but virtue behind
σθεν θνατοῖς ἀμελεῖται,
— by-mortals is-neglected
ἀνομία δὲ νόμων κρατεῖ.
lawlessness and laws rules
καὶ μὴ κοινὸς ἀγὼν βροτοῖς
and not common contest for-mortals
μή τις θεῶν φθόνος ἔλθῃ.
lest any of-gods jealousy come

IX · CLYTEMNESTRA AND IPHIGENIA PLEAD

Clytemnestra confronts Agamemnon, and his silence confesses it. She reminds him that he married her by force after killing her first husband and her child, and asks why Menelaus' daughter Hermione should not die instead. Iphigenia pleads: she has only her tears, and life is sweet. Agamemnon answers that he loves his children, but Hellas demands it, for the army is mad to sail.

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἐξῆλθον οἴκων προσκοπουμένη πόσιν,
I-came-out of-house looking-for husband
χρόνιον ἀπόντα κἀκλελοιπότα στέγας.
long absent and-having-left house
ἐν δακρύοισι δ' ἡ τάλαινα παῖς ἐμή,
in tears and the wretched child my

πολλὰς ἱεῖσα μεταβολὰς ὀδυρμάτων,
many uttering changes of-laments
θάνατον ἀκούσασ', ὃν πατὴρ βουλεύεται.
death having-heard which father plans
μνήμην δ' ἄρ' εἶχον πλησίον βεβηκότος
mention and then I-had near having-come
Ἀγαμέμνονος τοῦδ', ὃς ἐπὶ τοῖς αὐτοῦ τέκνοις
of-Agamemnon this-one who against the his-own children
ἀνόσια πράσσων αὐτίχ' εὑρεθήσεται.
unholy-things doing at-once will-be-found

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Λήδας γένεθλον, ἐν καλῷ σ' ἔξω δόμων
of-Leda offspring in good-time you outside house
ηὕρηχ', ἵν' εἴπω παρθένου χωρὶς λόγους
I-have-found so-that I-may-speak maiden apart words
οὓς οὐκ ἀκούειν τὰς γαμουμένας πρέπει.
which not to-hear the being-married befits

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί δ' ἔστιν, οὗ σοι καιρὸς ἀντιλάζυται;
what and is-it of-which for-you the-moment takes-hold

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔκπεμπε παῖδα δωμάτων πατρὸς μέτα·
send-forth child of-house father with
ὡς χέρνιβες πάρεισιν ηὐτρεπισμέναι,
since lustral-waters are-present prepared
προχύται τε βάλλειν πῦρ καθάρσιον χεροῖν.
barley and to-throw fire purifying with-hands
μόσχοι τε, πρὸ γάμων ἃς θεᾷ πεσεῖν χρεὼν
heifers and before marriage which to-goddess to-fall must
Ἀρτέμιδι, μέλανος αἵματος φυσήματα.
to-Artemis of-black blood spurts

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τοῖς ὀνόμασιν μὲν εὖ λέγεις, τὰ δ' ἔργα σου
in-the names indeed well you-speak the but deeds of-you
οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως χρή μ' ὀνομάσασαν εὖ λέγειν.
not I-know how must me naming well to-speak
χώρει δὲ θύγατερ ἐκτός, οἶσθα γὰρ πατρὸς
come and daughter outside you-know for of-father
πάντως ἃ μέλλει, χὐπὸ τοῖς πέπλοις ἄγε
wholly what he-intends and-under the robes lead
λαβοῦσ' Ὀρέστην σὸν κασίγνητον, τέκνον.
having-taken Orestes your brother child
ἰδοὺ πάρεστιν ἥδε πειθαρχοῦσά σοι.
see is-present she obeying you
τὰ δ' ἄλλ' ἐγὼ πρὸ τῆσδε κἀμαυτῆς φράσω.
the and rest I for her and-myself will-speak
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τέκνον, τί κλαίεις, οὐδ' ἔθ' ἡδέως ὁρᾷς,
child why do-you-weep nor any-longer gladly do-you-see
εἰς γῆν δ' ἐρείσασ' ὄμμα πρόσθ' ἔχεις πέπλους;
to earth but having-fixed eye before you-hold robes
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ φεῦ·
alas
τίν' ἂν λάβοιμι τῶν ἐμῶν ἀρχὴν κακῶν;
what — should-I-take of-the my beginning of-evils
ἅπασι γὰρ πρώτοισι χρήσασθαι πάρα
all for as-first to-use it-is-possible
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τί δ' ἔστιν; ὡς μοι πάντες εἰς ἓν ἥκετε,
what and is-it how to-me all to one you-come
σύγχυσιν ἔχοντες καὶ ταραγμὸν ὀμμάτων.
confusion having and disorder of-eyes
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ εἴφ' ἂν ἐρωτήσω σε γενναίως, πόσι.
tell what I-shall-ask you nobly husband

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὐδὲν κελευσμοῦ δεῖ μ'· ἐρωτᾶσθαι θέλω.
nothing of-bidding is-need me to-be-asked I-wish

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τὴν παῖδα τὴν σὴν
the child the your
τήν τ' ἐμὴν μέλλεις κτανεῖν;
the and mine are-you-about to-kill

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔα·
ha
τλήμονά γ' ἔλεξας, ὑπονοεῖς θ' ἃ μή σε χρή.
wretched-things at-least you-said you-suspect and what not you must

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἔχ' ἥσυχος,
keep quiet
κἀκεῖνό μοι τὸ πρῶτον ἀπόκριναι πάλιν.
and-that to-me the first answer again

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ σὺ δ' ἤν γ' ἐρωτᾷς εἰκότ', εἰκότ' ἂν κλύοις.
you but if at-least you-ask fair fair — you-would-hear

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐκ ἄλλ' ἐρωτῶ, καὶ σὺ μὴ λέγ' ἄλλα μοι.
not other-things I-ask and you not speak other-things to-me

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ὦ πότνια μοῖρα καὶ τύχη δαίμων τ' ἐμός.
O lady fate and fortune fate and my

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ κἀμός γε καὶ τῆσδ' εἷς τριῶν δυσδαιμόνων.
and-mine at-least and of-her one of-three ill-fated

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τίν' ἠδίκησα; ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τοῦτ' ἐμοῦ πεύθει πάρα;
whom have-I-wronged this me do-you-ask from
ὁ νοῦς ὅδ' αὐτὸς νοῦν ἔχων οὐ τυγχάνει.
the mind this itself mind having not happens

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἀπωλόμεσθα. προδέδοται τὰ κρυπτά μου.
we-are-ruined are-betrayed the secrets my

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ πάντ᾽ οἶδα καὶ πεπύσμεθ᾽ ἃ
all I-know and we-have-learned what
σὺ μέλλεις με δρᾶν·
you are-about me to-do
αὐτὸ δὲ τὸ σιγᾶν ὁμολογοῦντός ἐστί σου
itself and the to-be-silent of-one-confessing is of-you
καὶ τὸ στενάζειν πολλά. μὴ κάμῃς λέγων.
and the to-groan much not grow-weary speaking
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἰδοὺ σιωπῶ· τὸ γὰρ ἀναίσχυντον τί δεῖ
see I-am-silent the for shameless why must
ψευδῆ λέγοντα προσλαβεῖν τῇ συμφορᾷ;
false-things saying to-add to-the misfortune
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἄκουε δή νυν, ἀνακαλύψω γὰρ λόγους,
hear indeed now I-will-uncover for words
κοὐκέτι παρῳδοῖς χρησόμεσθ᾽ αἰνίγμασιν.
and-no-longer with-oblique we-shall-use with-riddles
πρῶτον μέν, ἵνα σοι πρῶτα τοῦτ᾽ ὀνειδίσω,
first indeed so-that to-you first this I-may-reproach
ἔγημας ἄκουσάν με κἄλαβες βίᾳ,
you-married unwilling me and-took by-force
τὸν πρόσθεν ἄνδρα Τάνταλον κατακτανών,
the former husband Tantalus having-killed
βρέφος τε τοὐμὸν ζῶν προσούδισας πέδῳ,
babe and my living you-dashed to-ground
μαστῶν βιαίως τῶν ἐμῶν ἀποσπάσας.
from-breasts violently the my having-torn
καὶ τὼ Διός τε παῖδ᾽ ἐμώ τε συγγόνω
and the of-Zeus both sons my and brothers
ἵπποισι μαρμαίροντ᾽ ἐπεστρατευσάτην·
with-horses gleaming marched-against

πατὴρ δὲ πρέσβυς Τυνδάρεώς σ' ἐρρύσατο
father but old Tyndareus you rescued
ἱκέτην γενόμενον, τἀμὰ δ' ἔσχες αὖ λέχη.
suppliant having-become my and you-had again bed
οὗ σοι καταλλαχθεῖσα περὶ σὲ καὶ δόμους
where to-you reconciled about you and house
συμμαρτυρήσεις ὡς ἄμεμπτος ἦν γυνή,
you-will-bear-witness that blameless was woman
εἴς τ' Ἀφροδίτην σωφρονοῦσα καὶ τὸ σὸν
toward and Aphrodite chaste and the your
μέλαθρον αὔξουσ', ὥστε σ' εἰσιόντα τε
house increasing so-that you coming-in both
χαίρειν θύραζέ τ' ἐξιόντ' εὐδαιμονεῖν.
to-rejoice out-of-doors and going-out to-be-happy
σπάνιον δὲ θήρευμ' ἀνδρὶ τοιαύτην λαβεῖν
rare and catch for-man such to-take
δάμαρτα· φλαύραν δ' οὐ σπάνις γυναῖκ' ἔχειν.
wife bad but not rarity woman to-have
τίκτω δ' ἐπὶ τρισὶ παρθένοισι παῖδά σοι
I-bear and besides three maidens child for-you
τόνδ', ὧν μιᾶς σὺ τλημόνως μ' ἀποστερεῖς.
this of-whom of-one you cruelly me deprive
κἄν τίς σ' ἔρηται τίνος ἕκατί νιν κτενεῖς,
and-if anyone you ask whose for-the-sake her you-will-kill
λέξον, τί φήσεις; ἢ 'μὲ χρὴ λέγειν τὰ σά;
speak what will-you-say or me must to-say the your
Ἑλένην Μενέλεως ἵνα λάβῃ. καλόν γέ τοι
Helen Menelaus that may-take fine at-least surely
κακῆς γυναικὸς μισθὸν ἀποτῖσαι τέκνα.
of-base woman as-wage to-pay children

τἄχθιστα τοῖσι φιλτάτοις ὠνούμεθα.
the-most-hateful for-the dearest we-buy

ἄγ', ἢν στρατεύσῃ καταλιπών μ' ἐν δώμασιν,
come if you-march-away having-left me in house

κἀκεῖ γενήσῃ διὰ μακρᾶς ἀπουσίας,
and-there you-will-be through long absence

τίν' ἐν δόμοις με καρδίαν ἔξειν δοκεῖς,
what in house me heart to-have do-you-think

ὅταν θρόνους τῆσδ' εἰσίδω πάντας κενούς,
when seats of-her I-see all empty

κενοὺς δὲ παρθενῶνας, ἐπὶ δὲ δακρύοις
empty and maidens'-rooms in and tears

μόνη καθῶμαι, τήνδε θρηνῳδοῦσ' ἀεί;
alone I-sit her lamenting always

ἀπώλεσέν σ', ὦ τέκνον, ὁ φυτεύσας πατήρ,
destroyed you O child the having-begotten father

αὐτὸς κτανών, οὐκ ἄλλος οὐδ' ἄλλῃ χερί,
himself having-killed not another nor with-other hand

τοιόνδε μισθὸν καταλιπὼν πρὸς τοὺς δόμους.
such wage having-left for the house

ἐπεὶ βραχείας προφάσεως ἔδει μόνον,
since of-slight pretext there-was-need only

ἐφ' ᾗ σ' ἐγὼ καὶ παῖδες αἱ λελειμμέναι
on which you I and daughters the left-behind

δεξόμεθα δέξιν ἥν σε δέξασθαι χρεών.
shall-receive reception which you to-receive is-fitting

μὴ δῆτα πρὸς θεῶν μήτ' ἀναγκάσῃς ἐμὲ
not then by gods neither compel me

κακὴν γενέσθαι περὶ σέ, μήτ' αὐτὸς γένῃ.
evil to-become toward you nor yourself become

εἶεν·
well

θύσεις δὲ τὴν παῖδ'· εἶτα τίνας εὐχὰς ἐρεῖς;
you-will-sacrifice and the child then what prayers will-you-say

τί σοι κατεύξει τἀγαθόν, σφάζων τέκνον;
what for-yourself will-you-pray the-good slaughtering child

νόστον πονηρόν, οἴκοθέν γ' αἰσχρῶς ἰών;
return evil from-home at-least shamefully going

ἀλλ' ἐμὲ δίκαιον ἀγαθὸν εὔχεσθαί τι σοί;
but me just good to-pray something for-you

ἦ τἄρ' ἀσυνέτους τοὺς θεοὺς ἡγοίμεθ' ἄν,
truly then senseless the gods we-would-consider —

εἰ τοῖσιν αὐθένταισιν εὖ φρονήσομεν.
if to-the murderers well we-shall-think

ἥκων δ' ἐς Ἄργος προσπεσεῖ τέκνοισι σοῖς;
having-come and to Argos will-you-embrace children your

ἀλλ' οὐ θέμις σοι. τίς δὲ καὶ προσβλέψεται
but not lawful for-you who and also will-look-at

παίδων σ', ἐὰν σφῶν προέμενος κτάνῃς τινά;
of-children you if them having-cast-away you-kill some

ταῦτ' ἦλθες ἤδη διὰ λόγων, ἢ σκῆπτρά σοι
these-things have-you-gone-over already in words or scepter you

μόνον διαφέρειν καὶ στρατηλατεῖν σε δεῖ;
only to-carry and to-lead-the-army you must

ὃν χρῆν δίκαιον λόγον ἐν Ἀργείοις λέγειν·
which it-was-right just word among Argives to-say

βούλεσθ', Ἀχαιοί, πλεῖν Φρυγῶν ἐπὶ χθόνα;
do-you-wish Achaeans to-sail of-Phrygians to land

κλῆρον τίθεσθε παῖδ' ὅτου θανεῖν χρεών.
lot cast child whose to-die must

ἐν ἴσῳ γὰρ ἦν τόδ', ἀλλὰ μὴ σ' ἐξαίρετον
in equal for was this but not you choice
σφάγιον παρασχεῖν Δαναΐδαισι παῖδα σήν,
victim to-offer to-the-Danaans child your
ἢ Μενέλεων πρὸ μητρὸς Ἑρμιόνην κτανεῖν,
or Menelaus for mother Hermione to-kill
οὗπερ τὸ πρᾶγμ' ἦν. νῦν δ' ἐγὼ μὲν ἡ τὸ σὸν
whose-indeed the affair was now but I indeed the-one the your
σῴζουσα λέκτρον παιδὸς ἐστερήσομαι,
keeping bed of-child shall-be-deprived
ἡ δ' ἐξαμαρτοῦσ', ὑπόροφον νεάνιδα
she and having-sinned under-roof girl
Σπάρτῃ κομίζουσ', εὐτυχὴς γενήσεται.
in-Sparta tending fortunate will-become
τούτων ἄμειψαί μ' εἴ τι μὴ καλῶς λέγω·
of-these answer me if anything not well I-say
εἰ δ' εὖ λέλεκται, μετανόει δὴ μὴ κτανεῖν
if and well has-been-said repent indeed not to-kill
τὴν σήν τε κἀμὴν παῖδα, καὶ σώφρων ἔσει.
the yours and and-mine child and wise you-will-be
ΧΟΡΟΣ πιθοῦ, τὸ γάρ τοι τέκνα συνσῴζειν καλόν,
obey the for surely children to-save-together fine
Ἀγάμεμνον· οὐδεὶς τοῖσδ' ἂν ἀντείποι βροτῶν.
Agamemnon no-one these — would-gainsay of-mortals
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ εἰ μὲν τὸν Ὀρφέως εἶχον, ὦ πάτερ, λόγον,
if indeed the of-Orpheus I-had O father speech
πείθειν ἐπᾴδουσ', ὥσθ' ὁμαρτεῖν μοι πέτρας,
to-persuade singing so-that to-follow me rocks
κηλεῖν τε τοῖς λόγοισιν οὓς ἐβουλόμην,
to-charm and with-the words whom I-wished

ἐνταῦθ' ἂν ἦλθον. νῦν δὲ τἀπ' ἐμοῦ σοφά,
there — I-would-have-gone now but the-things-from me clever-things
δάκρυα παρέξω· ταῦτα γὰρ δυναίμεθ' ἄν.
tears I-will-offer these for we-could —
ἱκετηρίαν δὲ γόνασιν ἐξάπτω σέθεν
suppliant-branch and to-knees I-fasten of-you
τὸ σῶμα τοὐμόν, ὅπερ ἔτικτεν ἥδε σοι,
the body my which bore she to-you
μή μ' ἀπολέσῃς ἄωρον· ἡδὺ γὰρ τὸ φῶς
not me destroy untimely sweet for the light
λεύσσειν· τὰ δ' ὑπὸ γῆς μή μ' ἰδεῖν ἀναγκάσῃς.
to-look-at the but under earth not me to-see compel
πρώτη σ' ἐκάλεσα πατέρα καὶ σὺ παῖδ' ἐμέ·
first you I-called father and you child me
πρώτη δὲ γόνασι σοῖσι σῶμα δοῦσ' ἐμὸν
first and to-knees your body having-given my
φίλας χάριτας ἔδωκα κἀντεδεξάμην.
dear favors I-gave and-received-in-turn
λόγος δ' ὁ μὲν σὸς ἦν ὅδ'· ἆρά σ', ὦ τέκνον,
word and the indeed your was this — you O child
εὐδαίμον' ἀνδρὸς ἐν δόμοισιν ὄψομαι,
happy of-man in house shall-I-see
ζῶσάν τε καὶ θάλλουσαν ἀξίως ἐμοῦ;
living both and flourishing worthily of-me
οὐμὸς δ' ὅδ' ἦν αὖ περὶ σὸν ἐξαρτωμένης
mine and this was again about your hanging
γένειον, οὗ νῦν ἀντιλάζυμαι χερί·
beard which now I-clasp with-hand
τί δ' ἆρ' ἐγὼ σέ, πρέσβυν ἆρ' εἰσδέξομαι
what and then I you old-man then shall-I-receive

ἐμῶν φίλαισιν ὑποδοχαῖς δόμων, πάτερ,
of-my with-friendly receptions of-house father
πόνων τιθηνοὺς ἀποδιδοῦσά σοι τροφάς;
of-toils nursing repaying to-you nurture
τούτων ἐγὼ μὲν τῶν λόγων μνήμην ἔχω,
of-these I indeed the words memory have
σὺ δ' ἐπιλέλησαι, καί μ' ἀποκτεῖναι θέλεις
you but have-forgotten and me to-kill wish
μὴ πρός σε Πέλοπος καὶ πρὸς Ἀτρέως πατρὸς
not by you Pelops and by Atreus father
καὶ τῆσδε μητρός, ἣ πρὶν ὠδίνουσ' ἐμὲ
and this mother who before having-labored me
νῦν δευτέραν ὠδῖνα τήνδε λαμβάνει.
now second pang this takes
τί μοι μέτεστι τῶν Ἀλεξάνδρου γάμων
what to-me share-is of-the of-Alexander marriage
Ἑλένης τε; πόθεν ἦλθ' ἐπ' ὀλέθρῳ τῷμῷ, πάτερ;
of-Helen and whence came to ruin my father
βλέψον πρὸς ἡμᾶς, ὄμμα δὸς φίλημά τε,
look at us eye give kiss and
ἵν' ἀλλὰ τοῦτο κατθανοῦσ' ἔχω σέθεν
so-that at-least this having-died I-may-have of-you
μνημεῖον, εἰ μὴ τοῖς ἐμοῖς πεισθῇς λόγοις.
memorial if not by-the my you-are-persuaded words
ἀδελφέ, μικρὸς μὲν σύ γ' ἐπίκουρος φίλοις,
brother small indeed you at-least helper to-friends
ὅμως δὲ συνδάκρυσον, ἱκέτευσον πατρὸς
nevertheless and weep-with supplicate father
τὴν σὴν ἀδελφὴν μὴ θανεῖν· αἴσθημά τοι
the your sister not to-die perception surely

καὶν νηπίοις γε τῶν κακῶν ἐγγίγνεται.
even-in infants at-least of-the evils is-born
ἰδοὺ σιωπῶν λίσσεταί σ' ὅδ', ὦ πάτερ.
see silent beseeches you this-one O father
ἀλλ' αἴδεσαί με καὶ κατοίκτειρον βίον.
but respect me and pity life
ναί, πρὸς γενείου σ' ἀντόμεσθα δύο φίλω·
yes by beard you we-beseech two dear
ὁ μὲν νεοσσός ἐστιν, ἡ δ' ηὐξημένη.
the indeed nestling is the and grown
ἓν συντεμοῦσα πάντα νικήσω λόγον·
one having-cut-short all I-will-conquer word
τὸ φῶς τόδ' ἀνθρώποισιν ἥδιστον βλέπειν,
the light this for-men sweetest to-see
τὰ νέρθε δ' οὐδέν· μαίνεται δ' ὃς εὔχεται
the-things below but nothing is-mad and who prays
θανεῖν. κακῶς ζῆν κρεῖσσον ἢ καλῶς θανεῖν.
to-die badly to-live better than well to-die
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὦ τλῆμον Ἑλένη, διὰ σὲ καὶ τοὺς σοὺς γάμους
O wretched Helen through you and the your marriage
ἀγὼν Ἀτρείδαις καὶ τέκνοις ἥκει μέγας.
contest for-Atreids and for-children has-come great
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐγὼ τά τ' οἰκτρὰ συνετός εἰμι καὶ τὰ μή,
I the and pitiful-things understanding am and the not
φιλῶν ἐμαυτοῦ τέκνα· μαινοίμην γὰρ ἄν.
loving my children I-would-be-mad for —
δεινῶς δ' ἔχει μοι ταῦτα τολμῆσαι, γύναι,
terribly and it-is for-me these-things to-dare woman
δεινῶς δὲ καὶ μή· τοῦτο γὰρ πρᾶξαί με δεῖ.
terribly and also not this for to-do me must

ὁρᾷθ' ὅσον στράτευμα ναύφρακτον τόδε,
you-see how-great army ship-fenced this
χαλκέων θ' ὅπλων ἄνακτες Ἑλλήνων ὅσοι,
of-bronze and of-arms lords of-Greeks how-many
οἷς νόστος οὐκ ἔστ' Ἰλίου πύργους ἔπι,
for-whom return not is of-Ilium towers on
εἰ μή σε θύσω, μάντις ὡς Κάλχας λέγει,
if not you I-sacrifice seer as Calchas says
οὐδ' ἔστι Τροίας ἐξελεῖν κλεινὸν βάθρον.
nor is-it of-Troy to-take famous foundation
μέμηνε δ' ἀφροδίτη τις Ἑλλήνων στρατῷ
rages and desire some of-Greeks in-army
πλεῖν ὡς τάχιστα βαρβάρων ἐπὶ χθόνα,
to-sail as quickly-as-possible of-barbarians to land
παῦσαί τε λέκτρων ἁρπαγὰς Ἑλληνικῶν·
to-stop and of-marriages seizures Greek
οἳ τὰς ἐν Ἄργει παρθένους κτενοῦσί μου
who the in Argos maidens will-kill my
ὑμᾶς τε κἀμέ, θέσφατ' εἰ λύσω θεᾶς.
you and and-me oracles if I-break of-the-goddess
οὐ Μενέλεώς με καταδεδούλωται, τέκνον,
not Menelaus me has-enslaved child
οὐδ' ἐπὶ τὸ κείνου βουλόμενον ἐλήλυθα,
nor to the his will have-I-come
ἀλλ' Ἑλλάς, ᾗ δεῖ, κἂν θέλω κἂν μὴ θέλω,
but Hellas for-which must even-if I-wish even-if not I-wish
θῦσαί σε· τούτου δ' ἥσσονες καθέσταμεν.
to-sacrifice you of-this and weaker we-are
ἐλευθέραν γὰρ δεῖ νιν ὅσον ἐν σοί, τέκνον,
free for must it as-far-as in you child

κἀμοὶ γενέσθαι, μηδὲ βαρβάρων ὕπο
and-me to-be nor of-barbarians by
Ἕλληνας ὄντας λέκτρα συλᾶσθαι βίᾳ.
Greeks being bed to-be-robbed by-force

X · IPHIGENIA'S LAMENT

Clytemnestra cries that the father has given their daughter over to Hades, and Iphigenia mourns with her. She sings of Ida, where Priam exposed the infant Paris, and of the judgment of the three goddesses there, which has brought her death. Would that Aulis had never received the fleet, or that Zeus had sent a different wind.

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ τέκνον, ὦ ξέναι,
O child O stranger-women
οἰ ᾽γὼ θανάτου τοῦ σοῦ μελέα.
ah I of-death of-the your wretched
φεύγει σε πατὴρ Ἅιδῃ παραδούς.
flees you father to-Hades having-given-up
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ οἰ ᾽γώ, μᾶτερ· ταὐτὸν γὰρ δὴ
ah I mother the-same for indeed
μέλος εἰς ἄμφω πέπτωκε τύχης,
strain to both has-fallen of-fortune
κοὐκέτι μοι φῶς
and-no-longer for-me light
οὐδ᾽ ἀελίου τόδε φέγγος.
nor of-sun this gleam
ἰὼ ἰώ.
oh oh
νιφόβολον Φρυγῶν νάπος Ἴδας τ᾽
snow-beaten of-Phrygians glen of-Ida and

ὄρεα, Πρίαμος ὅθι ποτὲ βρέφος ἁπαλὸν ἔβαλε
mountains Priam where once babe tender cast

ματρὸς ἀποπρὸ νοσφίσας,
mother far-from having-parted

ἐπὶ μόρῳ θανατόεντι
to fate deadly

Πάριν, ὃς Ἰδαῖος
Paris who Idaean

Ἰδαῖος ἐλέγετ' ἐλέγετ' ἐν Φρυγῶν πόλει.
Idaean was-called was-called in of-Phrygians city

μή ποτ' ὤφελεν τὸν ἀμφὶ
not ever ought the among

βουσὶ βουκόλον τραφέντα
cattle herdsman reared

οἰκίσαι ἀμφὶ τὸ λευκὸν ὕδωρ, ὅθι
to-settle by the white water where

κρῆναι Νυμφᾶν κεῖνται
springs of-Nymphs lie

λειμών τ' ἄνθεσι θάλλων
meadow and with-flowers blooming

χλωροῖς, οὗ ῥοδόεντα
fresh where rosy

ἄνθε' ὑακίνθινά τε θεαῖσι δρέπειν·
flowers hyacinthine and for-goddesses to-pluck

ἔνθα ποτὲ Παλλὰς ἔμολε
there once Pallas came

καὶ δολιόφρων Κύπρις
and treacherous-minded Cypris

Ἥρα θ' Ἑρμᾶς θ',
Hera and Hermes and

ὁ Διὸς ἄγγελος,
the of-Zeus messenger
ἃ μὲν ἐπὶ πόθῳ τρυφῶσα
the-one indeed on desire luxuriating
Κύπρις, ἃ δὲ δουρὶ Παλλάς,
Cypris the-other and with-spear Pallas
Ἥρα τε Διὸς ἄνακτος
Hera and of-Zeus lord
εὐναῖσι βασιλίσιν,
in-bed royal
κρίσιν ἐπὶ στυγνὰν ἔριν τε
judgment to hateful strife and
καλλονᾶς, ἐμοὶ δὲ θάνατον,
of-beauty for-me but death
ὄνομα μὰν φέροντα Δαναΐδαισιν, ὦ κόραι.
name indeed bearing for-the-Danaans O girls
προθύματ' ἔλαβεν Ἄρτεμις πρὸς Ἴλιον.
first-sacrifice took Artemis toward Ilium
ὁ δὲ τεκών με τὰν τάλαιναν,
the but having-begotten me the wretched
ὦ μᾶτερ, ὦ μᾶτερ,
O mother O mother
οἴχεται προδοὺς ἔρημον.
is-gone having-betrayed deserted
ὦ δυστάλαιν' ἐγώ, πικρὰν
O most-wretched I bitter
πικρὰν ἰδοῦσα δυσελέναν,
bitter having-seen ill-Helen
φονεύομαι διόλλυμαι
I-am-slain I-am-destroyed

σφαγαῖσιν ἀνοσίοισιν ἀνοσίου πατρός.
with-slaughters unholy of-unholy father
μή μοι ναῶν χαλκεμβολάδων
not for-me of-ships bronze-beaked
πρύμνας ἅδ' Αὐλὶς δέξασθαι
sterns this Aulis to-receive
τούσδ' εἰς ὅρμους εἰς Τροίαν
these into anchorages to Troy
ὤφελεν ἐλάταν πομπαίαν,
ought pine escorting
μηδ' ἀνταίαν Εὐρίπῳ
nor adverse to-Euripus
πνεῦσαι πομπὰν Ζεύς, μειλίσσων
to-breathe escort Zeus softening
αὔραν ἄλλοις ἄλλαν θνατῶν
breeze to-others other of-mortals
λαίφεσι χαίρειν,
with-sails to-rejoice
τοῖσι δὲ λύπαν, τοῖσι δ' ἀνάγκαν,
to-the-ones and grief to-the-ones and necessity
τοῖς δ' ἐξορμᾶν, τοῖς δὲ στέλλειν,
to-the-ones and to-set-out to-the-ones and to-furl
τοῖσι δὲ μέλλειν.
to-the-ones and to-delay
ἦ πολύμοχθον ἄρ' ἦν γένος, ἦ πολύμοχθον
truly much-toiling then was race truly much-toiling
ἀμερίων, τὸ χρεὼν δέ τι δύσποτμον
of-mortals the fate and some ill-starred
ἀνδράσιν ἀνευρεῖν.
for-men to-find

ἰὼ ἰώ,
oh oh

μεγάλα πάθεα, μεγάλα δ' ἄχεα
great sufferings great and griefs

Δαναΐδαις τιθεῖσα Τυνδαρὶς κόρα.
for-the-Danaans setting Tyndarid daughter

XI · IPHIGENIA'S CHOICE

Achilles reports that the army is in uproar: all demand the sacrifice, even his own Myrmidons, and he was nearly stoned; Odysseus will come to take her. Iphigenia now declares that she will die willingly: all Hellas looks to her, and her death will free Greek women from barbarian raids. Achilles admires her and still offers to fight. She forbids her mother to mourn, says farewell, and goes singing to the altar. A messenger reports that at the blow she vanished and a deer lay on the ground, its blood sprinkling the altar, so that Artemis has taken her to the gods and the fleet may sail. Clytemnestra wonders whether this is a tale told to console her, and Agamemnon bids her go home.

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἐγὼ μὲν οἰκτείρω σε συμφορᾶς κακῆς
I indeed pity you of-misfortune evil

τυχοῦσαν, οἵας μήποτ' ὤφελες τυχεῖν.
having-met such-as never you-ought to-meet

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὦ τεκοῦσα μῆτερ, ἀνδρῶν ὄχλον εἰσορῶ πέλας.
O having-borne mother of-men crowd I-see near

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τόν γε τῆς θεᾶς παῖδα, τέκνον,
the at-least of-the goddess child child

ᾧ σὺ δεῦρ' ἐλήλυθας.
for-whom you here have-come

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ διαχαλᾶτέ μοι μέλαθρα, δμῶες, ὡς κρύψω δέμας.
open for-me house servants that I-may-hide body

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί δέ, τέκνον, φεύγεις;
why and child do-you-flee

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ Ἀχιλλέα τόνδ' ἰδεῖν αἰσχύνομαι.
Achilles this-one to-see I-am-ashamed

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὡς τί δή; ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ τὸ δυστυχές μοι
because what indeed the unfortunate for-me

τῶν γάμων αἰδῶ φέρει.
of-the marriage shame brings

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐκ ἐν ἁβρότητι κεῖσαι πρὸς τὰ νῦν πεπτωκότα·
not in delicacy you-lie toward the now having-fallen

ἀλλὰ μίμν'· οὐ σεμνότητος ἔργον, ἢν δυνώμεθα —
but stay not of-pride work if we-can

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ὦ γύναι τάλαινα, Λήδας θύγατερ, 1345
O woman wretched of-Leda daughter

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ οὐ ψευδῆ θροεῖς.
not false-things you-say

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ δείν' ἐν Ἀργείοις βοᾶται,
terrible-things among Argives is-shouted

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τίνα βοήν; σήμαινέ μοι.
what shout show me

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀμφὶ σῆς παιδός,
about your child

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ πονηρὸν εἶπας οἰωνὸν λόγων.
evil you-said omen of-words

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ὡς χρεὼν σφάξαι νιν.
that must to-slaughter her

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ κοὐδεὶς τοῖσδ' ἐναντίον λέγει;
and-no-one to-these against speaks

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ εἰς θόρυβον ἔγωγε καὐτὸς ἤλυθον,
into uproar I and-myself came

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τίν', ὦ ξένε;
what O stranger

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ σῶμα λευσθῆναι πέτροισι.
body to-be-stoned with-stones

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ μῶν κόρην σῴζων ἐμήν;
surely-not girl saving my

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ αὐτὸ τοῦτο. ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τίς δ' ἂν ἔτλη
this very-thing who and — would-have-dared

σώματος τοῦ σοῦ θιγεῖν;
of-body the your to-touch

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ πάντες Ἕλληνες. ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ στρατὸς δὲ Μυρμιδὼν
all Greeks army and Myrmidon

οὔ σοι παρῆν;
not to-you was-present

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ πρῶτος ἦν ἐκεῖνος ἐχθρός,
first was that enemy

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ δι' ἄρ' ὀλώλαμεν, τέκνον.
utterly then we-have-perished child

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ οἵ με τὸν γάμων ἀπεκάλουν ἥσσον'.
who me the of-marriage called weaker

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὑπεκρίνω δὲ τί;
you-answered and what

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ τὴν ἐμὴν μέλλουσαν εὐνὴν μὴ κτανεῖν,
the my about-to-be bed not to-kill

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ δίκαια γάρ.
just for

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἣν ἐφήμισεν πατήρ μοι.
whom promised father to-me

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ κἀργόθεν γ' ἐπέμψατο.
and-from-Argos at-least sent-for

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀλλ' ἐνικώμην κεκραγμοῦ.
but I-was-overcome by-clamor

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τὸ πολὺ γὰρ δεινὸν κακόν.
the many for terrible evil

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀλλ' ὅμως ἀρήξομέν σοι.
but nevertheless we-will-help you

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ καὶ μαχεῖ πολλοῖσιν εἷς;
and will-fight many one

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ εἰσορᾷς τεύχη φέροντας τούσδ';
do-you-see arms carrying these

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὄναιο τῶν φρενῶν.
may-you-profit of-the mind

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀλλ' ὀνησόμεσθα. 1360
but we-shall-profit

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ παῖς ἄρ' οὐκέτι σφαγήσεται;
child then no-longer will-be-slaughtered

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ οὔκ, ἐμοῦ γε ζῶντος.
not me at-least living

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἥξει δ' ὅστις ἅψεται κόρης;
will-come but who will-touch girl

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ μυρίοι γ'· ἄξει δ' Ὀδυσσεύς.
countless at-least will-lead and Odysseus

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἆρ' ὁ Σισύφου γόνος;
— the of-Sisyphus offspring

ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ αὐτὸς οὗτος. ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἴδια πράσσων,
himself this-one his-own doing
ἢ στρατοῦ ταχθεὶς ὕπο;
or army appointed by
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ αἱρεθεὶς ἑκών.
chosen willing
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ πονηράν γ' αἵρεσιν, μιαιφονεῖν.
evil at-least choice to-shed-blood
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀλλ' ἐγὼ σχήσω νιν.
but I will-check him
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἄξει δ' οὐχ ἑκοῦσαν ἁρπάσας;
he-will-lead and not willing having-seized
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ δηλαδὴ ξανθῆς ἐθείρας.
evidently by-golden hair
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἐμὲ δὲ δρᾶν τί χρὴ τότε;
me and to-do what must then
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀντέχου θυγατρός.
hold-fast-to daughter
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὡς τοῦδ' εἵνεκ' οὐ σφαγήσεται.
since of-this for-the-sake not she-will-be-slaughtered
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ἀλλὰ μὴν εἰς τοῦτό γ' ἥξει.
but indeed to this at-least it-will-come
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μῆτερ, εἰσακούσατε
mother listen
τῶν ἐμῶν ἐπῶν· μάτην γάρ σ' εἰσορῶ θυμουμένην
to-the my words in-vain for you I-see being-angry
σῷ πόσει· τὰ δ' ἀδύναθ' ἡμῖν καρτερεῖν οὐ ῥᾴδιον.
with-your husband the and impossible-things for-us to-endure not easy
τὸν μὲν οὖν ξένον δίκαιον αἰνέσαι προθυμίας·
the indeed then stranger just to-praise for-eagerness

ἀλλὰ καὶ σὲ τοῦθ' ὁρᾶν χρή, μὴ διαβληθῇ στρατῷ,
but also you this to-see must lest he-be-slandered to-army
καὶ πλέον πράξωμεν οὐδέν, ὅδε δὲ συμφορᾶς τύχῃ.
and more we-gain nothing this-one but of-misfortune meet
οἷα δ' εἰσῆλθέν μ', ἄκουσον, μῆτερ, ἐννοουμένην·
such-things and came-into me hear mother considering
καθθανεῖν μέν μοι δέδοκται· τοῦτο δ' αὐτὸ βούλομαι
to-die indeed for-me has-been-resolved this and itself I-wish
εὐκλεῶς πρᾶξαι παρεῖσά γ' ἐκποδὼν τὸ δυσγενές.
gloriously to-do having-put-away at-least out-of-the-way the ignoble
δεῦρο δὴ σκέψαι μεθ' ἡμῶν, μῆτερ, ὡς καλῶς λέγω.
here indeed consider with us mother how well I-speak
εἰς ἔμ' Ἑλλὰς ἡ μεγίστη πᾶσα νῦν ἀποβλέπει,
to me Hellas the greatest all now looks
κἀν ἐμοὶ πορθμός τε ναῶν καὶ Φρυγῶν κατασκαφαί,
and-on me both passage of-ships and of-Phrygians razings
τάς τε μελλούσας γυναῖκας ἤν τι δρῶσι βάρβαροι,
the and about-to-be women if anything do barbarians
μηκέθ' ἁρπάζειν ἐᾶν τάσδ' ὀλβίας ἐξ Ἑλλάδος,
no-longer to-seize to-allow these blessed from Hellas
τὸν Ἑλένης τίσαντας ὄλεθρον, ἥντιν' ἥρπασεν Πάρις.
the of-Helen having-paid destruction whom seized Paris
ταῦτα πάντα κατθανοῦσα ῥύσομαι, καί μου κλέος,
these all having-died I-shall-save and of-me glory
Ἑλλάδ' ὡς ἠλευθέρωσα, μακάριον γενήσεται.
Hellas that I-freed blessed will-be
καὶ γὰρ οὐδέ τοί τι λίαν ἐμὲ φιλοψυχεῖν χρεών·
and for not surely something too me to-love-life must
πᾶσι γάρ μ' Ἕλλησι κοινὸν ἔτεκες, οὐχὶ σοὶ μόνῃ.
to-all for me Greeks common you-bore not to-you alone

ἀλλὰ μυρίοι μὲν ἄνδρες ἀσπίσιν πεφραγμένοι,
but countless indeed men with-shields fenced
μυρίοι δ' ἐρέτμ' ἔχοντες, πατρίδος ἠδικημένης,
countless and oars having of-fatherland wronged
δρᾶν τι τολμήσουσιν ἐχθροὺς χὑπὲρ Ἑλλάδος θανεῖν,
to-do something will-dare enemies and-for Hellas to-die
ἡ δ' ἐμὴ ψυχὴ μί' οὖσα πάντα κωλύσει τάδε;
the and my life one being all will-prevent these-things
τί τὸ δίκαιον τοῦτ'; ἔχοιμεν ἆρ' ἂν ἀντειπεῖν ἔπος;
what the just this could-we then — to-gainsay word
κἀπ' ἐκεῖν' ἔλθωμεν. οὐ δεῖ τόνδε διὰ μάχης μολεῖν
and-to that let-us-come not must this-one through battle to-go
πᾶσιν Ἀργείοις γυναικὸς εἵνεκ' οὐδὲ κατθανεῖν.
with-all Argives of-woman for-the-sake nor to-die
εἷς γ' ἀνὴρ κρείσσων γυναικῶν μυρίων ὁρᾶν φάος.
one at-least man better than-women countless to-see light
εἰ δ' ἐβουλήθη τὸ σῶμα τοὐμὸν Ἄρτεμις λαβεῖν,
if and wished the body my Artemis to-take
ἐμποδὼν γενήσομαι 'γὼ θνητὸς οὖσα τῇ θεῷ;
in-the-way shall-be I mortal being to-the goddess
ἀλλ' ἀμήχανον· δίδωμι σῶμα τοὐμὸν Ἑλλάδι.
but impossible I-give body my to-Hellas
θύετ', ἐκπορθεῖτε Τροίαν. ταῦτα γὰρ μνημεῖά μου
sacrifice sack Troy these for memorials of-me
διὰ μακροῦ, καὶ παῖδες οὗτοι καὶ γάμοι καὶ δόξ' ἐμή.
through long and children these and marriage and glory my
βαρβάρων δ' Ἕλληνας ἄρχειν εἰκός, ἀλλ' οὐ βαρβάρους,
of-barbarians and Greeks to-rule fitting but not barbarians
μῆτερ, Ἑλλήνων· τὸ μὲν γὰρ δοῦλον, οἱ δ' ἐλεύθεροι.
mother of-Greeks the indeed for slave they but free

ΧΟΡΟΣ τὸ μὲν σόν, ὦ νεᾶνι, γενναίως ἔχει·
the indeed your O maiden nobly is
τὸ τῆς τύχης δὲ καὶ τὸ τῆς θεοῦ νοσεῖ.
the of-the fortune but and the of-the goddess is-sick
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ Ἀγαμέμνονος παῖ, μακάριόν μέ τις θεῶν
of-Agamemnon child blessed me one of-gods
ἔμελλε θήσειν, εἰ τύχοιμι σῶν γάμων.
was-about to-make if I-should-obtain your marriage
ζηλῶ δὲ σοῦ μὲν Ἑλλάδ', Ἑλλάδος δὲ σέ.
I-envy and of-you indeed Hellas of-Hellas and you
εὖ γὰρ τόδ' εἶπας ἀξίως τε πατρίδος·
well for this you-said worthily and of-fatherland
τὸ θεομαχεῖν γὰρ ἀπολιποῦσ', ὅ σου κρατεῖ,
the to-fight-gods for having-given-up which you rules
ἐξελογίσω τὰ χρηστὰ τἀναγκαῖά τε.
you-reckoned-out the good-things the-necessary and
μᾶλλον δὲ λέκτρων σῶν πόθος μ' ἐσέρχεται
more and of-bed your desire me comes-into
εἰς τὴν φύσιν βλέψαντα· γενναία γὰρ εἶ.
to the nature having-looked noble for you-are
ὅρα δ'· ἐγὼ γὰρ βούλομαί σ' εὐεργετεῖν
see and I for wish you to-benefit
λαβεῖν τ' ἐς οἴκους· ἄχθομαί τ', ἴστω Θέτις,
to-take and to house I-am-grieved and let-know Thetis
εἰ μή σε σώσω Δαναΐδαισι διὰ μάχης
if not you I-save with-the-Danaans through battle
ἐλθών· ἄθρησον, ὁ θάνατος δεινὸν κακόν.
having-come look the death terrible evil

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ λέγω τάδ' οὐδὲν οὐδέν' εὐλαβουμένη,†
I-say these-things nothing no-one fearing(corrupt)
ἡ Τυνδαρὶς παῖς διὰ τὸ σῶμ' ἀρκεῖ μάχας
the Tyndarid child through the body suffices battles
ἀνδρῶν τιθεῖσα καὶ φόνους· σὺ δ', ὦ ξένε,
of-men causing and murders you and O stranger
μὴ θνῇσκε δι' ἐμὲ μηδ' ἀποκτείνῃς τινά.
not die through me nor kill anyone
ἔα δὲ σῶσαί μ' Ἑλλάδ', ἢν δυνώμεθα.
let and to-save me Hellas if we-can
ΑΧΙΛΛΕΥΣ ὦ λῆμ' ἄριστον, οὐκ ἔχω πρὸς τοῦτ' ἔτι
O spirit best not I-have to this still
λέγειν, ἐπεί σοι τάδε δοκεῖ· γενναῖα γὰρ
to-say since to-you these-things seem noble for
φρονεῖς· τί γὰρ τἀληθὲς οὐκ εἴποι τις ἄν;
you-think why for the-truth not would-say anyone —
ὅμως δ', ἴσως γὰρ κἂν μεταγνοίης τάδε,
nevertheless and perhaps for even you-might-change-mind these-things
ὡς οὖν ἂν εἰδῇς τἀπ' ἐμοῦ λελεγμένα,
so-that then — you-may-know the-things-from me spoken
ἐλθὼν τάδ' ὅπλα θήσομαι βωμοῦ πέλας,
having-gone these arms I-will-set of-altar near
ὡς οὐκ ἐάσων σ' ἀλλὰ κωλύσων θανεῖν.
as not about-to-allow you but about-to-prevent to-die
χρήσει δὲ καὶ σὺ τοῖς ἐμοῖς λόγοις τάχα,
you-will-use and also you the my words soon
ὅταν πέλας σῆς φάσγανον δέρης ἴδῃς.
when near your sword throat you-see
οὔκουν ἐάσω σ' ἀφροσύνῃ τῇ σῇ θανεῖν·
not-then I-shall-allow you by-folly the your to-die

ἐλθὼν δὲ σὺν ὅπλοις τοῖσδε πρὸς ναὸν θεᾶς
having-gone and with arms these to temple of-the-goddess
καραδοκήσω σὴν ἐκεῖ παρουσίαν.
I-will-await your there presence
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μῆτερ, τί σιγῇ δακρύοις τέγγεις κόρας;
mother why in-silence with-tears you-wet eyes
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἔχω τάλαινα πρόφασιν ὥστ' ἀλγεῖν φρένα.
I-have wretched reason so-that to-grieve heart
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ παῦσαί με μὴ κάκιζε· τάδε δ' ἐμοὶ πιθοῦ. 1435
stop me not make-cowardly these and me obey
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ λέγ', ὡς παρ' ἡμῶν οὐδὲν ἀδικήσει, τέκνον.
speak since from us nothing you-will-be-wronged child
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μήτ' οὖν σὺ τὸν σὸν πλόκαμον ἐκτέμῃς τριχός,
neither then you the your lock cut-off of-hair
μήτ' ἀμφὶ σῶμα μέλανας ἀμπίσχῃ πέπλους.
nor about body black put-on robes
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί δὴ τόδ' εἶπας, τέκνον; ἀπολέσασά σε;
why indeed this did-you-say child having-lost you
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ οὐ σύ γε· σέσωσμαι, κατ' ἐμὲ δ' εὐκλεὴς ἔσει. 1440
not you at-least I-am-saved through me and glorious you-will-be
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ πῶς εἶπας; οὐ πενθεῖν με σὴν ψυχὴν χρεών;
how did-you-say not to-mourn me your life must
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἥκιστ', ἐπεί μοι τύμβος οὐ χωσθήσεται.
least since for-me tomb not will-be-heaped
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί δή; τὸ θνῄσκειν οὐ τάφος νομίζεται;
what indeed the dying not tomb is-considered
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ βωμὸς θεᾶς μοι μνῆμα τῆς Διὸς κόρης.
altar of-the-goddess for-me memorial of-the of-Zeus daughter
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἀλλ', ὦ τέκνον, σοὶ πείσομαι· λέγεις γὰρ εὖ. 1445
but O child you I-will-obey you-say for well

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὡς εὐτυχοῦσά γ' Ἑλλάδος τ' εὐεργέτις.
as being-fortunate at-least of-Hellas and benefactor

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ τί δὴ κασιγνήταισιν ἀγγελῶ σέθεν;
what indeed to-sisters shall-I-announce of-you

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μηδ' ἀμφὶ κείναις μέλανας ἐξάψῃς πέπλους.
nor around them black put-on robes

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ εἶπω δὲ παρὰ σοῦ φίλον ἔπος τι παρθένοις;
shall-I-say and from you dear word some to-maidens

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ χαίρειν γ'. Ὀρέστην τ' ἔκτρεφ' ἄνδρα τόνδε μοι.
to-fare-well at-least Orestes and rear man this for-me

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ προσέλκυσαί νιν ὕστατον θεωμένη.
draw him last beholding

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὦ φίλτατ', ἐπεκούρησας ὅσον εἶχες φίλοις.
O dearest you-helped as-far-as you-had to-friends

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἔσθ' ὅ τι κατ' Ἄργος δρῶσά σοι χάριν φέρω;
is-there what — in Argos doing for-you favor I-bring

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ πατέρα τὸν ἀμὸν μὴ στύγει πόσιν τε σόν.
father the my not hate husband and yours

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ δεινοὺς ἀγῶνας διὰ σὲ δεῖ κεῖνον δραμεῖν.
terrible contests through you must him to-run

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἄκων μ' ὑπὲρ γῆς Ἑλλάδος διώλεσεν.
unwilling me for land Greek destroyed

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ δόλῳ δ', ἀγεννῶς Ἀτρέως τ' οὐκ ἀξίως.
by-guile but ignobly of-Atreus and not worthily

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ τίς μ' εἶσιν ἄξων πρὶν σπαράσσεσθαι κόμην;
who me will-go to-lead before to-be-torn hair

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ἔγωγε μετὰ σοῦ —
I with you

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ μὴ σύ γ'· οὐ καλῶς λέγεις.
not you at-least not well you-speak

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ πέπλων ἐχομένη σῶν. ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἐμοί, μῆτερ, πιθοῦ,
robes holding your for-me mother obey

μέν'· ὡς ἐμοί τε σοί τε κάλλιον τόδε.
stay since for-me both for-you and finer this

πατρὸς δ' ὀπαδῶν τῶνδέ τίς με πεμπέτω
of-father and of-attendants of-these someone me let-escort

Ἀρτέμιδος εἰς λειμῶν', ὅπου σφαγήσομαι.
of-Artemis to meadow where I-shall-be-slaughtered

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ τέκνον, οἴχει;
O child you-go

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ καὶ πάλιν γ' οὐ μὴ μόλω.
and back at-least not — I-shall-come

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ λιποῦσα μητέρ'; ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ὡς ὁρᾷς γ', οὐκ ἀξίως.
having-left mother as you-see at-least not worthily

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ σχές, μή με προλίπῃς.
hold not me leave

ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ οὐκ ἐῶ στάζειν δάκρυ.
not I-allow to-shed tear

ὑμεῖς δ' ἐπευφημήσατ', ὦ νεάνιδες,
you and raise-a-holy-cry O girls

παιᾶνα τὴμῇ συμφορᾷ Διὸς κόρην
paean for-my misfortune of-Zeus daughter

Ἄρτεμιν· ἴτω δὲ Δαναΐδαις εὐφημία.
Artemis let-go and to-the-Danaans holy-silence

κανᾶ δ' ἐναρχέσθω τις, αἰθέσθω δὲ πῦρ
baskets and let-begin someone let-be-kindled and fire

προχύταις καθαρσίοισι, καὶ πατὴρ ἐμὸς
with-barley purifying and father my

ἐνδεξιούσθω βωμόν· ὡς σωτηρίαν
let-go-rightward altar since safety

Ἕλλησι δώσουσ᾽ ἔρχομαι νικηφόρον.
for-Greeks to-give I-go victorious
ἄγετέ με τὰν Ἰλίου
lead me the of-Ilium
καὶ Φρυγῶν ἑλέπτολιν.
and of-Phrygians city-taker
στέφεα περίβολα δίδοτε, φέρετε·
garlands put-around give bring
πλόκαμος ὅδε καταστέφειν·
lock this to-crown
χερνίβων γε παγάς.
of-lustral-waters at-least streams
ἑλίσσετ᾽ ἀμφὶ ναὸν ἀμφὶ βωμὸν
circle around temple around altar
τὰν ἄνασσαν Ἄρτεμιν,
the queen Artemis
θεὰν μάκαιραν· ὡς ἐμοῖσιν, εἰ χρεών,
goddess blessed since with-my if must
αἵμασι θύμασί τε
with-bloods with-sacrifices and
θέσφατ᾽ ἐξαλείψω.
oracles I-shall-wipe-out
ὦ πότνια πότνια μᾶτερ, ὡς δάκρυά γέ σοι
O lady lady mother since tears at-least to-you
δώσομεν ἀμέτερα·
we-shall-give our
παρ᾽ ἱεροῖς γὰρ οὐ πρέπει.
at sacrifices for not befits
ἰὼ ἰὼ νεάνιδες,
oh oh girls

συνεπαείδετ᾽ Ἄρτεμιν
sing-with Artemis
Χαλκίδος ἀντίπορον,
of-Chalcis opposite
ἵνα τε δόρατα μέμονε δάια
where and spears are-eager hostile
δι᾽ ἐμὸν ὄνομα τᾶσδ᾽ Αὐλίδος
through my name of-this Aulis
στενοπόροισιν ὅρμοις.
in-narrow-straited in-anchorages
ἰὼ γᾶ μᾶτερ ὦ Πελασγία,
oh land mother O Pelasgian
Μυκηναῖαί τ᾽ ἐμαὶ θεράπναι.
Mycenaean and my homes
ΧΟΡΟΣ καλεῖς πόλισμα Περσέως,
you-call city of-Perseus
Κυκλωπίων πόνον χερῶν;
of-Cyclopean toil of-hands
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἔθρεψας Ἑλλάδι με φάος·
you-reared for-Hellas me light
θανοῦσα δ᾽ οὐκ ἀναίνομαι.
having-died and not I-refuse
ΧΟΡΟΣ κλέος γὰρ οὔ σε μὴ λίπῃ.
glory for not you — shall-leave
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ ἰὼ ἰώ.
oh oh
λαμπαδοῦχος ἁμέρα Δι-
torch-bearing day of-Zeus
ός τε φέγγος, ἕτερον
— and light other

ἕτερον αἰῶνα καὶ μοῖραν οἰκήσομεν.
other life and fate we-shall-dwell-in
χαῖρέ μοι, φίλον φάος. ἰὼ ἰώ.
farewell to-me dear light oh oh
1510 ΧΟΡΟΣ ἴδεσθε τὰν Ἰλίου
see the of-Ilium
καὶ Φρυγῶν ἐλέπτολιν
and of-Phrygians city-taker
στείχουσαν, ἐπὶ κάρα στέφεα
going on head garlands
βαλομέναν χερνίβων τε παγάς,
having-put of-lustral-waters and streams
βωμὸν διαίμονος θεᾶς
altar of-blood-stained goddess
1515 ῥανίσιν αἱματορρύτοις
with-drops blood-flowing
ῥανοῦσαν εὐφυῆ τε σώματος δέρην
to-sprinkle shapely and of-body neck
σφαγεῖσαν.
slaughtered
εὔδροσοι πατρῷαι
well-watered paternal
παγαὶ μένουσι χέρνιβές τέ σε
streams await lustral-waters and you
στρατός τ᾽ Ἀχαιῶν θέλων
army and of-Achaeans wishing
1520 Ἰλίου πόλιν μολεῖν.
of-Ilium city to-go
ἀλλὰ τὰν Διὸς κόραν
but the of-Zeus daughter

κλῄσωμεν Ἄρτεμιν, θεῶν ἄνασσαν,
let-us-invoke Artemis of-gods queen
ὡς ἐπ᾽ εὐτυχεῖ πότμῳ.
as for fortunate fate
ὦ πότνια, θύμασιν βροτησίοις
O lady with-sacrifices human
χαρεῖσα, πέμψον εἰς Φρυγῶν
having-rejoiced send to of-Phrygians
γαῖαν Ἑλλάνων στρατὸν
land of-Greeks army
καὶ δολόεντα Τροίας ἕδη,
and guileful of-Troy seats
Ἀγαμέμνονά τε λόγχαις
Agamemnon and with-spears
Ἑλλάδι κλεινότατον στέφανον
for-Hellas most-famous crown
δὸς ἀμφὶ κάρα θ᾽ ἑὸν
give around head and his
κλέος ἀείμνηστον ἀμφιθεῖναι.
glory ever-remembered to-put-around

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ὦ Τυνδαρεία παῖ, Κλυταιμήστρα, δόμων
O Tyndarean child Clytemnestra house
ἔξω πέρασον, ὡς κλύῃς ἐμῶν λόγων.
out come so-that you-may-hear my words

ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ φθογγῆς κλύουσα δεῦρο σῆς ἀφικόμην,
voice hearing here your I-have-come
ταρβοῦσα τλήμων κἀκπεπληγμένη φόβῳ,
fearing wretched and-struck with-fear
μή μοί τιν᾽ ἄλλην ξυμφορὰν ἥκῃς φέρων
lest to-me some other misfortune you-come bringing

πρὸς τῇ παρούσῃ. ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ σῆς μὲν οὖν παιδὸς πέρι
besides the present your indeed then child about
θαυμαστά σοι καὶ δεινὰ σημῆναι θέλω.
wondrous-things to-you and terrible to-signal I-wish
ΚΛΥΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ μὴ μέλλε τοίνυν, ἀλλὰ φράζ' ὅσον τάχος.
not delay then but tell as-much-as quickly
ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ἀλλ' ὦ φίλη δέσποινα, πᾶν πεύσει σαφῶς.
but O dear mistress all you-will-learn clearly
λέξω δ' ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, ἤν τι μὴ σφαλεῖσά μου
I-will-tell and from beginning if something not having-erred my
γνώμη ταράξῃ γλῶσσαν ἐν λόγοις ἐμήν.
judgment confuse tongue in words my
ἐπεὶ γὰρ ἱκόμεσθα τῆς Διὸς κόρης
when for we-came of-the of-Zeus daughter
Ἀρτέμιδος ἄλσος λείμακάς τ' ἀνθεσφόρους,
of-Artemis grove meadows and flowery
ἵν' ἦν Ἀχαιῶν σύλλογος στρατεύματος,
where was of-Achaeans assembly of-army
σὴν παῖδ' ἄγοντες, εὐθὺς Ἀργείων ὄχλος
your child leading at-once of-Argives crowd
ἠθροίζεθ'. ὡς δ' ἐσεῖδεν Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ
was-gathered when and saw Agamemnon lord
ἐπὶ σφαγὰς στείχουσαν εἰς ἄλσος κόρην,
to slaughter going into grove girl
ἀνεστέναζε, κἄμπαλιν στρέψας κάρα
he-groaned and-back having-turned head
δάκρυα προῆκεν, ὀμμάτων πέπλον προθείς.
tears shed from-eyes robe having-held-before
ἡ δὲ σταθεῖσα τῷ τεκόντι πλησίον
she and having-stood to-the having-begotten near

ἔλεξε τοιάδ'· ὦ πάτερ, πάρειμί σοι,
said such-things O father I-am-here for-you
τοὐμὸν δὲ σῶμα τῆς ἐμῆς ὑπὲρ πάτρας
my and body the my for fatherland
καὶ τῆς ἁπάσης Ἑλλάδος γαίας ὕπερ
and the whole Greek land for
θῦσαι δίδωμ' ἑκοῦσα πρὸς βωμὸν θεᾶς
to-sacrifice I-give willingly to altar of-the-goddess
ἄγοντας, εἴπερ ἐστὶ θέσφατον τόδε.
leading if-indeed is oracle this
καὶ τοὐπ' ἔμ' εὐτυχεῖτε, καὶ νικηφόρου
and as-far-as-in me prosper and of-victorious
δορὸς τύχοιτε πατρίδα τ' ἐξίκοισθε γῆν.
of-spear may-you-obtain fatherland and may-you-reach land
πρὸς ταῦτα μὴ ψαύσῃ τις Ἀργείων ἐμοῦ·
in-view-of these-things not let-touch anyone of-Argives me
σιγῇ παρέξω γὰρ δέρην εὐκαρδίως.
in-silence I-will-offer for neck bravely
τοσαῦτ' ἔλεξε· πᾶς δ' ἐθάμβησεν κλύων
so-much she-said every and marveled hearing
εὐψυχίαν τε κἀρετὴν τῆς παρθένου.
courage and and-virtue of-the maiden
στὰς δ' ἐν μέσῳ Ταλθύβιος, ᾧ τόδ' ἦν μέλον,
having-stood and in middle Talthybius to-whom this was a-care
εὐφημίαν ἀνεῖπε καὶ σιγὴν στρατῷ·
holy-silence proclaimed and silence to-army
Κάλχας δ' ὁ μάντις εἰς κανοῦν χρυσήλατον
Calchas and the seer into basket gold-wrought
ἔθηκεν ὀξὺ χειρὶ φάσγανον σπάσας
put sharp with-hand sword having-drawn

κολεῶν ἔσωθεν, κρᾶτά τ' ἔστεψεν κόρης.
of-scabbard from-within head and crowned of-girl
ὁ παῖς δ' ὁ Πηλέως ἐν κύκλῳ βωμὸν θεᾶς
the child and the of-Peleus in circle altar of-the-goddess
λαβὼν κανοῦν ἔβρεξε χέρνιβάς θ' ὁμοῦ,
having-taken basket sprinkled lustral-waters and together
ἔλεξε δ'· ὦ παῖ Ζηνός, ὦ θηροκτόνε,
said and O child of-Zeus O beast-slayer
τὸ λαμπρὸν εἱλίσσουσ' ἐν εὐφρόνῃ φάος,
the bright whirling in night light
δέξαι τὸ θῦμα τόδ' ὅ γέ σοι δωρούμεθα
receive the sacrifice this which at-least to-you we-give
στρατός τ' Ἀχαιῶν Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ θ' ὁμοῦ,
army and of-Achaeans Agamemnon lord and together
ἄχραντον αἷμα καλλιπαρθένου δέρης,
undefiled blood of-fair-maiden neck
καὶ δὸς γενέσθαι πλοῦν νεῶν ἀπήμονα
and grant to-be voyage of-ships unharmed
Τροίας τε πέργαμ' ἐξελεῖν ἡμᾶς δορί.
of-Troy and citadel to-take us with-spear
εἰς γῆν δ' Ἀτρείδαι πᾶς στρατός τ' ἔστη βλέπων.
to earth and Atreids all army and stood looking
ἱερεὺς δὲ φάσγανον λαβὼν ἐπηύξατο,
priest and sword having-taken prayed
λαιμόν τ' ἐπεσκοπεῖθ', ἵνα πλήξειεν ἄν·
throat and looked-for where he-might-strike —
†ἐμοὶ δέ τ' ἄλγος οὐ μικρὸν εἰσήει φρενί,†
(corrupt)-to-me and and grief not small came-into mind(corrupt)
κἄστην νενευκώς· θαῦμα δ' ἦν αἴφνης ὁρᾶν·
and-I-stood having-bowed marvel and was suddenly to-see

πληγῆς σαφῶς γὰρ πᾶς τις ᾔσθετο κτύπον,
of-blow clearly for every one perceived thud
τὴν παρθένον δ' οὐκ οἶδεν οὗ γῆς εἰσέδυ.
the maiden but not knows where of-earth she-sank
βοᾷ δ' ἱερεύς, ἅπας δ' ἐπήχησε στρατός,
shouts and priest all and echoed army
ἄελπτον εἰσιδόντες ἐκ θεῶν τινος
unexpected having-seen from gods some
φάσμ', οὗ γε μηδ' ὁρωμένου πίστις παρῆν.
portent of-which indeed not-even being-seen belief was-present
ἔλαφος γὰρ ἀσπαίρουσ' ἔκειτ' ἐπὶ χθονὶ
deer for gasping lay on ground
ἰδεῖν μεγίστη διαπρεπής τε τὴν θέαν,
to-see greatest conspicuous and the sight
ἧς αἵματι βωμὸς ἐραίνετ' ἄρδην τῆς θεοῦ.
of-whose with-blood altar was-sprinkled utterly of-the goddess
κἀν τῷδε Κάλχας πῶς δοκεῖς χαίρων ἔφη·
and-in this Calchas how think-you rejoicing said
ὦ τοῦδ' Ἀχαιῶν κοίρανοι κοινοῦ στρατοῦ,
O of-this of-Achaeans lords common army
†ὁρᾶτε τήνδε θυσίαν, ἣν ἡ θεὸς†
(corrupt)-see this sacrifice which the goddess(corrupt)
προύθηκε βωμίαν, ἔλαφον ὀρειδρόμον;
set-before of-the-altar deer mountain-running
ταύτην μάλιστα τῆς κόρης ἀσπάζεται,
this most than-the girl she-welcomes
ὡς μὴ μιάνῃ βωμὸν εὐγενεῖ φόνῳ.
that not she-may-defile altar with-noble blood
†ἡδέως τε τοῦτ' ἐδέξατο, καὶ πλοῦν οὔριον†
(corrupt)-gladly and this she-received and voyage favorable(corrupt)

δίδωσιν ἡμῖν Ἰλίου τ' ἐπιδρομάς.
gives to-us of-Ilium and onsets
πρὸς ταῦτα πᾶς τις θάρσος αἶρε ναυβάτης,
in-view-of these-things every one courage raise sailor
χώρει τε πρὸς ναῦν· ἡμέρας ὡς τῆσδε δεῖ
go and to ship of-day since this must
λιπόντας ἡμᾶς Αὐλίδος κοίλους μυχοὺς
having-left us of-Aulis hollow recesses
Αἴγαιον οἶδμα διαπερᾶν. ἐπεὶ δ' ἅπαν
Aegean swell to-cross when and all
κατηνθρακώθη θῦμ' ἐν Ἡφαίστου φλογί,
was-burned-to-ashes sacrifice in of-Hephaestus flame
τὰ πρόσφορ' ηὔξαθ', ὡς τύχοι νόστου στρατός.
the fitting-things he-prayed that might-obtain return army
πέμπει δ' Ἀγαμέμνων μ' ὥστε σοι φράσαι τάδε,
sends and Agamemnon me so-that to-you to-tell these-things
λέγειν θ' ὁποίας ἐκ θεῶν μοίρας κυρεῖ
to-say and what-sort from gods fate he-meets
καὶ δόξαν ἔσχεν ἄφθιτον καθ' Ἑλλάδα.
and glory has imperishable throughout Hellas
ἐγὼ παρὼν δὲ καὶ τὸ πρᾶγμ' ὁρῶν λέγω·
I being-present and and the affair seeing say
ἡ παῖς σαφῶς σοι πρὸς θεοὺς ἀφίπτατο.
the child clearly for-you to gods flew-away
λύπης δ' ἀφαίρει καὶ πόσει πάρες χόλον·
of-grief and take-away and to-husband let-go anger
ἀπροσδόκητα δὲ βροτοῖς τὰ τῶν θεῶν,
unexpected and for-mortals the-things of-the gods
σῴζουσί θ' οὓς φιλοῦσιν. ἦμαρ γὰρ τόδε
they-save and whom they-love day for this

θανοῦσαν εἶδε καὶ βλέπουσαν παῖδα σήν.
having-died saw and living child your

ΧΟΡΟΣ ὡς ἥδομαί τοι ταῦτ' ἀκούσασ' ἀγγέλου·
how I-rejoice surely these-things having-heard from-messenger

ζῶν δ' ἐν θεοῖσι σὸν μένειν φράζει τέκος.
living and among gods your to-remain tells child

ΚΛΤΤΑΙΜΝΗΣΤΡΑ ὦ παῖ, θεῶν τοῦ κλέμμα γέγονας; 1615
O child of-gods of-what stolen-thing have-you-become

πῶς σε προσείπω; πῶς δ' οὐ φῶ
how you shall-I-address how and not shall-I-say

παραμυθεῖσθαι τούσδε μάτην μύθους,
to-console these in-vain words

ὥς σου πένθους λυγροῦ παυσαίμαν;
so-that of-you grief sad I-might-cease

ΧΟΡΟΣ καὶ μὴν Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ στείχει,
and indeed Agamemnon lord comes

τούσδ' αὐτοὺς ἔχων σοι φράζειν μύθους. 1620
these very having to-you to-tell words

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ γύναι, θυγατρὸς ἕνεκ' ὄλβιοι γενοίμεθ' ἄν·
woman of-daughter for-the-sake blessed we-would-be —

ἔχει γὰρ ὄντως ἐν θεοῖς ὁμιλίαν.
she-has for truly with gods converse

χρὴ δέ σε λαβοῦσαν τόνδε μόσχον νεαγενῆ
must and you having-taken this calf new-born

στείχειν πρὸς οἴκους· ὡς στρατὸς πρὸς πλοῦν ὁρᾷ.
to-go to home since army to voyage looks

καὶ χαῖρε· χρόνιά γε τἀμά σοι προσφθέγματα 1625
and farewell long at-least my to-you addresses

Τροίηθεν ἔσται. καὶ γένοιτό σοι καλῶς.
from-Troy will-be and may-it-be to-you well

ΧΟΡΟΣ χαίρων, Ἀτρείδη, γῆν ἱκοῦ Φρυγίαν,
rejoicing son-of-Atreus to-land come Phrygian
χαίρων δ' ἐπάνηκε,
rejoicing and come-back
κάλλιστά μοι σκῦλ' ἀπὸ Τροίας ἑλών.
fairest for-me spoils from Troy having-taken

EURIPIDES

ΡΗΣΟΣ

Rhesus

The Trojan guards come to Hector's bed at night: fires are blazing in the Greek camp, and there is an uproar around Agamemnon's tent. They urge him to arm the allies, since something new is afoot.

ΧΟΡΟΣ Βᾶθι πρὸς εὐνὰς
Go to bed
τὰς Ἑκτορέους τις ὑπασπιστῶν
the of-Hector someone of-shield-bearers
ἄγρυπνος βασιλέως, εἰ τευχοφόρων
wakeful of-king if of-armor-bearing
δέξαιτο νέων κληδόνα μύθων,
would-receive of-new report of-words
οἳ τετράμοιρον νυκτὸς φρουρὰν
who four-part of-night watch
πάσης στρατιᾶς προκάθηνται.
of-all army sit-before
ὄρθου κεφαλὴν πῆχυν ἐρείσας,
raise head arm having-propped
λῦσον βλεφάρων γοργωπὸν ἕδραν,
loose of-eyelids fierce-eyed seat
λεῖπε χαμεύνας φυλλοστρώτους,
leave couches leaf-strewn
Ἕκτορ· καιρὸς γὰρ ἀκοῦσαι.
Hector time for to-hear
ΕΚΤΩΡ τίς ὅδ'; ἢ φίλιος φθόγγος; τίς ἀνήρ;
who this — friendly voice who man
τί τὸ σῆμα; θρόει·
what the watchword speak

τίνες ἐκ νυκτῶν τὰς ἡμετέρας
who by night the our
κοίτας πλάθουσ'; ἐνέπειν χρή.
beds approach to-tell must
ΧΟΡΟΣ φύλακες στρατιᾶς. ΕΚΤΩΡ τί φέρει θορύβῳ;
guards of-army what brings with-uproar
ΧΟΡΟΣ θάρσει. ΕΚΤΩΡ μῶν τις λόχος ἐκ νυκτῶν;
take-heart surely-not some ambush by night
ΧΟΡΟΣ οὐκ ἔστι. ΕΚΤΩΡ τί γὰρ φυλακὰς προλιπὼν
not it-is why for watches having-left
κινεῖς στρατιάν, εἰ μή τιν' ἔχων
do-you-stir army if not some having
νυκτηγορίαν; οὐκ οἶσθα δορὸς
night-report not you-know of-spear
πέλας Ἀργείου νυχίαν ἡμᾶς
near Argive nightly us
κοίτην πανόπλους κατέχοντας;
bed in-full-armor holding
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὁπλίζου χέρα, συμμάχων,
arm hand of-allies
Ἕκτορ, βᾶθι πρὸς εὐνάς,
Hector go to bed
ὄτρυνον ἔγχος ἀείρειν, ἀφύπνισον,
urge spear to-raise wake
πέμπε φίλους ἰέναι ποτὶ σὸν λόχον,
send friends to-go to your company
ἁρμόσατε ψαλίοις ἵππους.
fit with-bridle-rings horses
τίς εἶσ' ἐπὶ Πανθοΐδαν,
who will-go to son-of-Panthous

ἢ τὸν Εὐρώπας, Λυκίων ἀγὸν ἀνδρῶν;
or the of-Europa of-Lycians leader of-men

ποῦ σφαγίων ἔφοροι;
where of-sacrifices overseers

ποῦ δὲ γυμνήτων μόναρχοι;
where and of-light-armed leaders

τοξοφόροι δὲ Φρυγῶν
bow-bearing and of-Phrygians

ζεύγνυτε κερόδετα τόξα νευραῖς.
yoke horn-bound bows to-strings

ΕΚΤΩΡ τὰ μὲν ἀγγέλλεις δείματ' ἀκούειν,
the-things indeed you-announce fears to-hear

τὰ δὲ θαρσύνεις, κοὐδὲν καθαρῶς·
the-things and you-encourage and-nothing clearly

ἀλλ' ἢ Κρονίου Πανὸς τρομερᾷ
but — of-Cronian Pan by-trembling

μάστιγι φοβεῖ; φυλακὰς δὲ λιπὼν
by-scourge are-you-frightened watches and having-left

κινεῖς στρατιάν; τί θροεῖς; τί σε φῶ
do-you-stir army what do-you-say what you am-I-to-say

νέον ἀγγέλλειν; πολλὰ γὰρ εἰπὼν
new to-announce many-things for having-said

οὐδὲν τρανῶς ἀπέδειξας.
nothing clearly you-showed

ΧΟΡΟΣ πύρ' αἴθει στρατὸς Ἀργόλας,
fires kindles army Argive

Ἕκτορ, πᾶσαν ἀν' ὄρφναν,
Hector all through darkness

διιπετῆ δὲ νεῶν πυρσοῖς σταθμά.
heaven-fallen and of-ships with-beacons stations

πᾶς δ' Ἀγαμεμνονίαν προσέβα στρατὸς
all and Agamemnonian approached army
ἐννύχιος θορύβῳ σκηνάν,
by-night with-uproar tent
νέαν τιν' ἐφιέμενοι
new some desiring
βάξιν. οὐ γάρ πω πάρος ὧδ' ἐφοβήθη
word not for yet before so was-frightened
ναυσιπόρος στρατιά.
ship-faring army
σοὶ δ', ὑποπτεύων τὸ μέλλον,
to-you and suspecting the coming
ἦλυθον ἄγγελος, ὡς
I-came messenger so-that
μήποτέ τιν' ἐς ἐμὲ μέμψιν εἴπῃς.
never any to me blame you-may-speak

II · DOLON VOLUNTEERS

Hector believes the Greeks are fleeing by night and wants to attack at once. Aeneas warns that a night attack across the trench is dangerous and advises sending a spy first; Hector agrees. Dolon volunteers to spy on the Greek ships, and asks as his reward the horses of Achilles. He will go disguised in a wolf's skin, walking on all fours.

ΕΚΤΩΡ εἰς καιρὸν ἦλθες, καίπερ ἀγγέλλων φόβον·
at right-time you-came although announcing fear
ἄνδρες γὰρ ἐκ γῆς τῆσδε νυκτέρῳ πλάτῃ
men for from land this with-nightly oar
λαθόντες ὄμμα τοὐμὸν αἴρεσθαι φυγὴν
having-escaped eye my to-take flight

μέλλουσι· σαίνει μ᾽ ἔννυχος φρυκτωρία.
intend fawns-on me nightly beacon
ὦ δαῖμον, ὅστις μ᾽ εὐτυχοῦντ᾽ ἐνόσφισας
O god who me prospering deprived
θοίνης λέοντα, πρὶν τὸν Ἀργείων στρατὸν
of-feast lion before the of-Argives army
σύρδην ἅπαντα τῷδ᾽ ἀναλῶσαι δορί.
sweepingly all with-this to-destroy with-spear
†εἰ γὰρ φαεννοὶ μὴ ξυνέσχον ἡλίου
(corrupt)-if for bright not had-stopped of-sun
λαμπτῆρες, οὐκ ἂν ἔσχον εὐτυχοῦν δόρυ,
lamps not — would-have-checked prospering spear
πρὶν ναῦς πυρῶσαι καὶ διὰ σκηνῶν μολεῖν
before ships to-burn and through tents to-go
κτείνων Ἀχαιοὺς τῇδε πολυφόνῳ χερί.
killing Achaeans with-this much-slaying hand
κἀγὼ μὲν ἦ πρόθυμος ἱέναι δόρυ
and-I indeed was eager to-send spear
ἐν νυκτὶ χρῆσθαί τ᾽ εὐτυχεῖ ῥύμῃ θεοῦ·
in night to-use and prosperous with-rush of-god
ἀλλ᾽ οἱ σοφοί με καὶ τὸ θεῖον εἰδότες
but the wise me and the divine knowing
μάντεις ἔπεισαν ἡμέρας μεῖναι φάος,
seers persuaded of-day to-await light
κἄπειτ᾽ Ἀχαιῶν μηδέν᾽ ἐν χέρσῳ λιπεῖν.
and-then of-Achaeans none on land to-leave
οἱ δ᾽ οὐ μένουσι τῶν ἐμῶν θυοσκόων
they but not wait-for of-the my sacrificers
βουλὰς· ἐν ὄρφνῃ δραπέτης μέγα σθένει.
counsels in darkness runaway greatly has-strength

ἀλλ᾽ ὡς τάχιστα χρὴ παραγγέλλειν στρατῷ
but as quickly-as-possible must to-command army
τεύχη πρόχειρα λαμβάνειν λῆξαί θ᾽ ὕπνου,
arms ready to-take to-cease and from-sleep
ὡς ἄν τις αὐτῶν καὶ νεῶν θρῴσκων ἔπι
that — someone of-them even ships leaping on
νῶτον χαραχθεὶς κλίμακας ῥάνῃ φόνῳ,
back gashed ladders may-sprinkle with-blood
οἱ δ᾽ ἐν βρόχοισι δέσμιοι λελημμένοι
others and in nooses bound caught
Φρυγῶν ἀρούρας ἐκμάθωσι γαπονεῖν.
of-Phrygians fields may-learn to-till

ΧΟΡΟΣ Ἕκτορ, ταχύνεις πρὶν μαθεῖν τὸ δρώμενον·
Hector you-hurry before to-learn the being-done
ἄνδρες γὰρ εἰ φεύγουσιν οὐκ ἴσμεν τορῶς.
men for whether they-flee not we-know clearly

ΕΚΤΩΡ τίς γὰρ πύρ᾽ αἴθειν πρόφασις Ἀργείων στρατόν;
what for fires to-kindle pretext of-Argives army

ΧΟΡΟΣ οὐκ οἶδ᾽· ὕποπτον δ᾽ ἐστὶ κάρτ᾽ ἐμῇ φρενί.
not I-know suspicious and it-is very to-my mind

ΕΚΤΩΡ πάντ᾽ ἂν φοβηθεὶς ἴσθι, δειμαίνων τόδε.
all-things — would-fear know fearing this

ΧΟΡΟΣ οὔπω πρὶν ἧψαν πολέμιοι τοσόνδε φῶς.
never before kindled enemies so-great light

ΕΚΤΩΡ οὐδ᾽ ὧδέ γ᾽ αἰσχρῶς ἔπεσον ἐν τροπῇ δορός.
nor so at-least shamefully fell in rout of-spear

ΧΟΡΟΣ σὺ ταῦτ᾽ ἔπραξας· καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ νῦν σκόπει.
you these-things did and the rest now consider

ΕΚΤΩΡ ἁπλοῦς ἐπ᾽ ἐχθροῖς μῦθος ὁπλίζειν χέρα.
simple against enemies word to-arm hand

ΧΟΡΟΣ καὶ μὴν ὅδ' Αἰνέας καὶ μάλα σπουδῇ ποδὸς
and indeed this-one Aeneas and very with-haste of-foot
στείχει, νέον τι πρᾶγμ' ἔχων φίλοις φράσαι.
comes new some matter having to-friends to-tell
ΑΙΝΕΙΑΣ Ἕκτορ, τί χρῆμα νύκτεροι κατὰ στρατὸν
Hector what thing at-night throughout army
τὰς σὰς πρὸς εὐνὰς φύλακες ἐλθόντες φόβῳ
the your to beds guards having-come in-fear
νυκτηγοροῦσι καὶ κεκίνηται στρατός;
make-night-reports and is-stirred army
ΕΚΤΩΡ Αἰνέα, πυκάζου τεύχεσιν δέμας σέθεν.
Aeneas cover with-arms body of-you
ΑΙΝΕΙΑΣ τί δ' ἔστι; μῶν τις πολεμίων ἀγγέλλεται
what and is-it surely-not some of-enemies is-reported
λόχος κρυφαῖος ἑστάναι κατ' εὐφρόνην;
ambush secret to-stand by night
ΕΚΤΩΡ φεύγουσιν ἄνδρες κἀπιβαίνουσιν νεῶν.
flee men and-embark ships
ΑΙΝΕΙΑΣ τί τῶνδ' ἂν εἴποις ἀσφαλὲς τεκμήριον;
what of-these — would-you-say sure proof
ΕΚΤΩΡ αἴθουσι πᾶσαν νύκτα λαμπάδας πυρός·
they-kindle all night torches of-fire
καί μοι δοκοῦσιν οὐ μενεῖν ἐς αὔριον,
and to-me they-seem not to-stay to tomorrow
ἀλλ' ἐκκέαντες πύρσ' ἐπ' εὐσέλμων νεῶν
but having-kindled fires on well-benched ships
φυγῇ πρὸς οἴκους τῆσδ' ἀφορμήσειν χθονός.
in-flight to home this to-start-from land
ΑΙΝΕΙΑΣ σὺ δ' ὡς τί δράσων πρὸς τάδ' ὁπλίζει χέρας;
you and as what about-to-do against this do-you-arm hands

ΕΚΤΩΡ φεύγοντας αὐτοὺς κἀπιθρῴσκοντας νεῶν
fleeing them and-leaping-on ships
λόγχῃ καθέξω κἀπικείσομαι βαρύς·
with-spear I-will-hold-down and-press-on heavy
αἰσχρὸν γὰρ ἡμῖν καὶ πρὸς αἰσχύνῃ κακὸν
shameful for for-us and to shame evil
θεοῦ διδόντος πολεμίους ἄνευ μάχης
god giving enemies without battle
φεύγειν ἐâσαι πολλὰ δράσαντας κακά.
to-flee to-allow many having-done evils

ΑΙΝΕΙΑΣ εἴθ' ἦσθ' ἀνὴρ εὔβουλος, ὡς δρᾶσαι χερί.
would-that you-were man well-counseled as to-act with-hand
ἀλλ' οὐ γὰρ αὐτὸς πάντ' ἐπίστασθαι βροτῶν
but not for the-same all to-know of-mortals
πέφυκεν· ἄλλῳ δ' ἄλλο πρόσκειται γέρας,
is-born to-another and other is-allotted prize
σὲ μὲν μάχεσθαι, τοὺς δὲ βουλεύειν καλῶς·
you indeed to-fight the-others and to-counsel well
ὅστις πυρὸς λαμπτῆρας ἐξήρθης κλύων
who of-fire lamps were-excited hearing
φεύγειν Ἀχαιούς, καὶ στρατὸν μέλλεις ἄγειν
to-flee Achaeans and army you-intend to-lead
τάφρους ὑπερβὰς νυκτὸς ἐν καταστάσει.
trenches having-crossed of-night in settledness
καίτοι περάσας κοῖλον αὐλώνων βάθος,
and-yet having-crossed hollow of-channels depth
εἰ μὴ κυρήσεις πολεμίους ἀπὸ χθονὸς
if not you-meet enemies from land
φεύγοντας, ἀλλὰ σὸν βλέποντας εἰς δόρυ,
fleeing but your looking at spear

νικώμενος μὲν τήνδε μὴ οὐ μόλῃς πόλιν·
being-defeated indeed this lest not you-may-come city
πῶς γὰρ περάσει σκόλοπας ἐν τροπῇ στρατός;
how for will-cross stakes in rout army
πῶς δ' αὖ γεφύρας διαβαλοῦσ' ἱππηλάται,
how and again bridges will-cross charioteers
ἢν ἆρα μὴ θραύσαντες ἀντύγων χνόας;
if then not having-shattered of-rims naves
νικῶν δ' ἔφεδρον παῖδ' ἔχεις τὸν Πηλέως,
winning but in-reserve son you-have the of-Peleus
ὅς σ' οὐκ ἐάσει ναυσὶν ἐμβαλεῖν φλόγα
who you not will-allow on-ships to-throw flame
οὐδ' ὧδ' Ἀχαιοὺς ὡς δοκεῖς ἀναρπάσαι.
nor so Achaeans as you-think to-snatch-away
αἴθων γὰρ ἀνὴρ καὶ πεπύργωται θράσει.
fiery for the-man and is-towered with-boldness
ἀλλὰ στρατὸν μὲν ἥσυχον παρ' ἀσπίδας
but army indeed quiet by shields
εὕδειν ἐῶμεν ἐκ κόπων ἀρειφάτων,
to-sleep let-us-allow from toils warlike
κατάσκοπον δὲ πολεμίων, ὅς ἂν θέλῃ,
spy and of-enemies whoever — wishes
πέμπειν δοκεῖ μοι· κἂν μὲν αἴρωνται φυγήν,
to-send seems to-me and-if indeed they-take-up flight
στείχοντες ἐμπέσωμεν Ἀργείων στρατῷ·
going let-us-fall-upon of-Argives army
εἰ δ' εἰς δόλον τιν' ἥδ' ἄγει φρυκτωρία,
if and into trick some this leads beacon
μαθόντες ἐχθρῶν μηχανὰς κατασκόπου
having-learned of-enemies devices from-spy

βουλευσόμεσθα· τήνδ' ἔχω γνώμην, ἄναξ.
we-shall-take-counsel this I-have judgment lord

ΧΟΡΟΣ τάδε δοκεῖ, τάδε μεταθέμενος νόει.
these-things seem-good these-things having-changed consider

σφαλερὰ δ' οὐ φιλῶ στρατηγῶν κράτη.
dangerous and not I-love of-generals powers

τί γὰρ ἄμεινον ἢ
what for better than

ταχυβάταν νεῶν κατόπταν μολεῖν
swift-going of-ships spy to-go

πέλας ὅ τί ποτ' ἄρα δαΐοις
near what — ever then for-the-enemy

πυρὰ κατ' ἀντίπρῳρα ναυστάθμων δαίεται;
fires against fronting of-anchorages burn

ΕΚΤΩΡ νικᾶτ', ἐπειδὴ πᾶσιν ἁνδάνει τάδε.
you-prevail since to-all please these-things

στείχων δὲ κοίμα συμμάχους· τάχ' ἂν στρατὸς
going and lull allies perhaps — army

κινοῖτ' ἀκούσας νυκτέρους ἐκκλησίας.
might-be-stirred having-heard nightly assemblies

ἐγὼ δὲ πέμψω πολεμίων κατάσκοπον.
I and will-send of-enemies spy

κἂν μέν τιν' ἐχθρῶν μηχανὴν πυθώμεθα,
and-if indeed some of-enemies device we-learn

σὺ πάντ' ἀκούσει καὶ παρὼν εἴσει λόγους·
you all will-hear and being-present will-know words

ἐὰν δ' ἀπαίρωσ' εἰς φυγὴν ὁρμώμενοι,
if but they-depart into flight rushing

σάλπιγγος αὐδὴν προσδοκῶν καραδόκει,
of-trumpet voice expecting await

ὡς οὐ μενοῦντά μ'· ἀλλὰ προσμίξω νεῶν
as not about-to-wait me but I-will-engage ships
ὁλκοῖσι νυκτὸς τῆσδ' ἐπ' Ἀργείων στρατῷ.
at-hauls of-night this against of-Argives army
ΑΙΝΕΙΑΣ πέμφ' ὡς τάχιστα· νῦν γὰρ ἀσφαλῶς φρονεῖς.
send as quickly-as-possible now for safely you-think
σὺν σοὶ δ' ἔμ' ὄψει καρτεροῦνθ' ὅσ' ἂν δέῃ.
with you and me you-will-see holding-fast as-much-as — may-be-needed
ΕΚΤΩΡ τίς δῆτα Τρώων οἳ πάρεισιν ἐν λόγῳ
who then of-Trojans who are-present in council
θέλει κατόπτης ναῦς ἐπ' Ἀργείων μολεῖν;
wishes spy ships to of-Argives to-go
τίς ἂν γένοιτο τῆσδε γῆς εὐεργέτης;
who — would-become of-this land benefactor
τίς φησιν; οὔτοι πάντ' ἐγὼ δυνήσομαι
who says surely-not all-things I shall-be-able
πόλει πατρῴᾳ συμμάχοις θ' ὑπηρετεῖν.
to-city paternal to-allies and to-serve
ΔΟΛΩΝ ἐγὼ πρὸ γαίας τόνδε κίνδυνον θέλω
I for land this danger wish
ῥίψας κατόπτης ναῦς ἐπ' Ἀργείων μολεῖν,
having-cast spy ships to of-Argives to-go
καὶ πάντ' Ἀχαιῶν ἐκμαθὼν βουλεύματα
and all of-Achaeans having-learned counsels
ἥξω· 'πὶ τούτοις τόνδ' ὑφίσταμαι πόνον.
I-will-come on these this I-undertake toil
ΕΚΤΩΡ ἐπώνυμος μὲν κάρτα καὶ φιλόπτολις
well-named indeed very and city-loving
Δόλων· πατρὸς δὲ καὶ πρὶν εὐκλεᾶ δόμον
Dolon of-father but and before glorious house

νῦν δὶς τόσῳ τέθεικας εὐκλεέστερον.
now twice so-much you-have-made more-glorious

ΔΟΛΩΝ οὐκοῦν πονεῖν μὲν χρή, πονοῦντα δ' ἄξιον
then to-toil indeed must toiling but worthy
μισθὸν φέρεσθαι. παντὶ γὰρ προκείμενον
wage to-carry to-all for set-before
κέρδος πρὸς ἔργῳ τὴν χάριν τίκτει διπλῆν.
gain on work the favor begets double

ΕΚΤΩΡ ναί, καὶ δίκαια ταῦτα κοὐκ ἄλλως λέγω.
yes and just these-things and-not otherwise I-say
τάξαι δὲ μισθὸν πλὴν ἐμῆς τυραννίδος·
fix and wage except my kingship

ΔΟΛΩΝ οὐ σῆς ἐρῶμεν πολιόχου τυραννίδος.
not your we-desire of-city-holding kingship

ΕΚΤΩΡ σὺ δ' ἀλλὰ γήμας Πριαμιδῶν γαμβρὸς γενοῦ.
you but then having-married of-Priam's-sons kinsman become

ΔΟΛΩΝ οὐκ ἐξ ἐμαυτοῦ μειζόνων γαμεῖν θέλω.
not from than-myself greater to-marry I-wish

ΕΚΤΩΡ χρυσὸς πάρεστιν, εἰ τόδ' αἰτήσει γέρας.
gold is-at-hand if this you-ask prize

ΔΟΛΩΝ ἀλλ' ἔστ' ἐν οἴκοις· οὐ βίου σπανίζομεν.
but it-is in house not of-living we-lack

ΕΚΤΩΡ τί δῆτα χρῄζεις ὧν κέκευθεν Ἴλιον;
what then do-you-need of-what holds Ilium

ΔΟΛΩΝ ἑλὼν Ἀχαιοὺς δῶρά μοι ξυναίνεσον.
having-taken Achaeans gifts for-me agree-to

ΕΚΤΩΡ δώσω· σὺ δ' αἴτει πλὴν στρατηλάτας νεῶν.
I-will-give you but ask except generals of-ships

ΔΟΛΩΝ κτεῖν', οὓς σ' ἀπαιτῶ Μενέλεω σχέσθαι χέρα.
kill not you I-ask Menelaus to-keep-off hand

ΕΚΤΩΡ οὐ μὴν τὸν Οἰλέως παῖδά μ᾽ ἐξαιτεῖς λαβεῖν;
not surely the of-Oileus son me you-ask to-take

ΔΟΛΩΝ κακαὶ γεωργεῖν χεῖρες εὖ τεθραμμέναι.
bad to-farm hands well reared

ΕΚΤΩΡ τίν᾽ οὖν Ἀχαιῶν ζῶντ᾽ ἀποινᾶσθαι θέλεις;
whom then of-Achaeans living to-ransom do-you-wish

ΔΟΛΩΝ καὶ πρόσθεν εἶπον· ἔστι χρυσὸς ἐν δόμοις.
also before I-said is gold in house

ΕΚΤΩΡ καὶ μὴν λαφύρων γ᾽ αὐτὸς αἱρήσει παρών.
and indeed of-spoils at-least yourself will-choose being-present

ΔΟΛΩΝ θεοῖσιν αὐτὰ πασσάλευε πρὸς δόμους.
for-gods them nail-up at house

ΕΚΤΩΡ τί δῆτα μεῖζον τῶνδέ μ᾽ αἰτήσει γέρας;
what then greater than-these me will-you-ask prize

ΔΟΛΩΝ ἵππους Ἀχιλλέως· χρὴ δ᾽ ἐπ᾽ ἀξίοις πονεῖν
horses of-Achilles must and for worthy-things to-toil
ψυχὴν προβάλλοντ᾽ ἐν κύβοισι δαίμονος.
life staking in dice of-fortune

ΕΚΤΩΡ καὶ μὴν ἐρῶντί γ᾽ ἀντερᾷς ἵππων ἐμοί·
and indeed loving at-least you-rival-in-love of-horses me
ἐξ ἀφθίτων γὰρ ἄφθιτοι πεφυκότες
from immortals for immortal born
τὸν Πηλέως φέρουσι θούριον γόνον·
the of-Peleus carry impetuous offspring
δίδωσι δ᾽ αὐτοὺς πωλοδαμνήσας ἄναξ
gives and them having-broken lord
Πηλεῖ Ποσειδῶν, ὡς λέγουσι, πόντιος.
to-Peleus Poseidon as they-say of-sea
ἀλλ᾽ οὔ σ᾽ ἐπάρας ψεύσομαι· δώσω δέ σοι
but not you having-raised-up I-shall-deceive I-will-give but to-you

κάλλιστον οἴκοις κτῆμ᾽ Ἀχιλλέως ὄχον.
fairest for-house possession of-Achilles car

ΔΟΛΩΝ αἰνῶ· λαβὼν δέ φημι κάλλιστον Φρυγῶν
I-praise having-taken and I-say fairest of-Phrygians

δῶρον δέχεσθαι τῆς ἐμῆς εὐσπλαγχνίας.
gift to-receive of-the my of-good-heart

σὲ δ᾽ οὐ φθονεῖν χρή· μυρί᾽ ἔστιν ἄλλα σοί,
you but not to-grudge must countless are other-things for-you

ἐφ᾽ οἷσι τέρψει τῆσδ᾽ ἀριστεύων χθονός.
in which you-will-delight of-this being-best of-land

ΧΟΡΟΣ μέγας ἀγών, μεγάλα δ᾽ ἐπινοεῖς ἑλεῖν·
great contest great-things and you-intend to-take

μακάριός γε μὴν κυρήσας ἔσει.
blessed at-least indeed having-won you-will-be

πόνος ὅδ᾽ εὐκλεής·
toil this glorious

μέγα δὲ κοιράνοισι γαμβρὸν πέλειν.
great and to-rulers son-in-law to-be

τὰ θεόθεν ἐπιδέτω Δίκα,
the-things from-god let-oversee Justice

τὰ δὲ παρ᾽ ἀνδράσιν τέλειά σοι φαίνεται.
the-things and among men complete to-you appear

ΔΟΛΩΝ στείχοιμ᾽ ἄν· ἐλθὼν δ᾽ ἐς δόμους ἐφέστιος
I-would-go — having-gone and to house to-the-hearth

σκευῇ πρεπόντως σῶμ᾽ ἐμὸν καθάψομαι,
with-gear fittingly body my I-will-fasten

κἀκεῖθεν ἥσω ναῦς ἐπ᾽ Ἀργείων πόδα.
and-thence I-will-send ships to of-Argives foot

ΧΟΡΟΣ εἶπ᾽ εἴ τίν᾽ ἄλλην ἀντὶ τῆσδ᾽ ἕξεις στολήν.
tell if some other instead-of this you-will-have dress

ΔΟΛΩΝ πρέπουσαν ἔργῳ κλωπικοῖς τε βήμασιν.
fitting for-work for-thievish and steps

ΧΟΡΟΣ σοφοῦ παρ᾽ ἀνδρὸς χρὴ σοφόν τι μανθάνειν·
of-wise from man must wise something to-learn

λέξον, τίς ἔσται τοῦδε σώματος σαγή;
tell what will-be of-this body equipment

ΔΟΛΩΝ λύκειον ἀμφὶ νῶτον ἄψομαι δορὰν
wolf around back I-will-fasten hide

καὶ χάσμα θηρὸς ἀμφ᾽ ἐμῷ θήσω κάρᾳ,
and gape of-beast around my I-will-set head

βάσιν τε χερσὶ προσθίαν καθαρμόσας
step and to-hands front having-fitted

καὶ κῶλα κώλοις, τετράπουν μιμήσομαι
and limbs to-limbs four-footed I-will-imitate

λύκου κέλευθον πολεμίοις δυσεύρετον,
of-wolf path for-enemies hard-to-find

τάφροις πελάζων καὶ νεῶν προβλήμασιν.
to-trenches approaching and of-ships to-defenses

ὅταν δ᾽ ἔρημον χῶρον ἐμβαίνω ποδί,
when and deserted place I-enter with-foot

δίβαμος εἶμι· τῇδε σύγκειται δόλος.
two-footed I-will-go thus is-composed trick

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἀλλ᾽ εὖ σ᾽ ὁ Μαίας παῖς ἐκεῖσε καὶ πάλιν
but well you the of-Maia child there and back

πέμψειεν Ἑρμῆς, ὅς γε φηλητῶν ἄναξ.
may-send Hermes who at-least of-thieves lord

ἔχεις δὲ τοὔργον, εὐτυχεῖν μόνον σε χρή.
you-have and the-work to-prosper only you must

ΔΟΛΩΝ σωθήσομαί τε καὶ κτανὼν Ὀδυσσέως
I-shall-be-saved both and having-killed of-Odysseus
οἴσω κάρα σοι, σύμβολον δ' ἔχων σαφὲς
I-will-bring head to-you token and having clear
φήσεις Δόλωνα ναῦς ἐπ' Ἀργείων μολεῖν,
you-will-say Dolon ships to of-Argives to-have-gone
ἢ παῖδα Τυδέως· οὐδ' ἀναιμάκτῳ χερὶ
or child of-Tydeus nor with-unbloodied hand
ἥξω πρὸς οἴκους πρὶν φάος μολεῖν χθόνα.
I-will-come to home before light comes to-land

III · A PRAYER FOR DOLON

The chorus prays to Apollo to guide Dolon there and back, and praises his daring. They hope he may kill Menelaus or bring back Agamemnon's head.

ΧΟΡΟΣ Θυμβραῖε καὶ Δάλιε καὶ Λυκίας
Thymbraean and Delian and of-Lycia
ναὸν ἐμβατεύων,
temple haunting
Ἄπολλον, ὦ δία κεφαλά, μόλε τοξήρης, ἱκοῦ ἐννύχιος
Apollo O divine head come bow-bearing come by-night
καὶ γενοῦ σωτήριος ἀνέρι πομπᾶς
and be saving to-man of-escort
ἀγεμὼν καὶ ξύλλαβε Δαρδανίδαις,
leader and help the-Dardanids
ὦ παγκρατές, ὦ Τροΐας
O all-powerful O of-Troy
τείχη παλαιὰ δείμας.
walls old having-built

μόλοι δὲ ναυκλήρια, καὶ στρατιᾶς
may-he-come and to-ship-stations and of-army
Ἑλλάδος διόπτας
of-Hellas spy
ἵκοιτο, καὶ κάμψειε πάλιν θυμέλας οἴκων πατρὸς Ἰλιάδας.
may-he-reach and may-turn back hearths of-house of-father Ilian
Φθιάδων δ' ἵππων ποτ' ἐπ' ἄντυγι βαίη,
of-Phthian and of-horses ever on rail may-he-mount
δεσπότου πέρσαντος Ἀχαιὸν Ἄρη,
of-master having-sacked Achaean Ares
τὰς πόντιος Αἰακίδᾳ
which of-sea to-Aeacid
Πηλεῖ δίδωσι δαίμων.
to-Peleus gives god
ἐπεὶ πρό τ' οἴκων πρό τε γᾶς ἔτλα μόνος
since before both house before and land he-dared alone
ναύσταθμα βὰς κατιδεῖν· ἄγαμαι
anchorages having-gone to-see I-admire
λήματος· ἦ σπανία
of-spirit truly scarcity
τῶν ἀγαθῶν, ὅταν ᾖ
of-the good when it-is
δυσάλιον ἐν πελάγει καὶ σαλεύῃ
sunless on sea and it-tosses
πόλις· ἔστι Φρυγῶν τις ἔστιν ἄλκιμος·
city is of-Phrygians some is valiant
ἔνι δὲ θράσος ἐν αἰχμᾷ· ποτὶ Μυσῶν,
is-in and boldness in spear toward Mysians
ὃς ἐμὰν συμμαχίαν ἀτίζει.
who my alliance dishonors

τίν᾽ ἄνδρ᾽ Ἀχαιῶν ὁ πεδοστιβὴς σφαγεὺς
what man of-Achaeans the ground-walking slaughterer
οὐτάσει ἐν κλισίαις, τετράπουν
will-wound in tents four-footed
μῖμον ἔχων ἐπὶ γᾶν
imitation having on land
θηρός; ἕλοι Μενέλαν,
of-beast may-be-take Menelaus
κτανὼν δ᾽ Ἀγαμεμνόνιον κρᾶτ᾽ ἐνέγκοι
having-killed and Agamemnonian head may-be-bring
Ἑλένᾳ κακόγαμβρον ἐς χέρας γόον,
to-Helen evil-in-law into hands lament
ὃς ἐπὶ πόλιν, ὃς ἐς γᾶν Τροΐαν
who to city who to land Trojan
χιλιόναυν ἦλυθ᾽ ἔχων στρατείαν.
thousand-shipped came having army

IV · RHESUS IS COMING

A shepherd brings word that Rhesus, son of the river Strymon, has arrived with a great Thracian army. Hector at first scorns an ally who comes only for the feast, but the chorus and the messenger persuade him to receive him.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ἄναξ, τοιούτων δεσπόταισιν ἄγγελος
lord of-such to-masters messenger
εἴην τὸ λοιπὸν οἷά σοι φέρω μαθεῖν.
may-I-be the hereafter such-as to-you I-bring to-learn

ΕΚΤΩΡ ἦ πόλλ᾽ ἀγρώσταις σκαιὰ πρόσκειται φρενί·
surely many-things to-rustics clumsy-things lie-on mind
καὶ γὰρ σὺ ποίμνας δεσπόταις τευχεσφόροις
and for you flocks to-masters armor-bearing
ἥκειν ἔοικας ἀγγελῶν ἵν᾽ οὐ πρέπει.
come seem to-report where not it-befits
οὐκ οἶσθα δῶμα τοὐμὸν ἢ θρόνους πατρός,
not you-know house my or throne of-father
οἳ χρῆν γεγωνεῖν σ᾽ εὐτυχοῦντα ποίμνια; 270
where it-was-right to-proclaim you prospering flocks
ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ σκαιοὶ βοτῆρές ἐσμεν· οὐκ ἄλλως λέγω.
clumsy herdsmen we-are not otherwise I-say
ἀλλ᾽ οὐδὲν ἧσσόν σοι φέρω κεδνοὺς λόγους.
but nothing less to-you I-bring good words
ΕΚΤΩΡ παῦσαι λέγων μοι τὰς προσαυλείους τύχας·
stop telling me the of-the-farmyard fortunes
μάχας πρὸ χειρῶν καὶ δόρη βαστάζομεν.
battles before hands and spears we-carry
ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ τοιαῦτα κἀγὼ σημανῶν ἐλήλυθα· 275
such-things and-I to-signal have-come
ἀνὴρ γὰρ ἀρχῆς μυρίας στρατηλατῶν
man for of-command countless leading-an-army
στείχει φίλος σοὶ σύμμαχός τε τῇδε γῇ.
comes friend to-you ally and to-this land
ΕΚΤΩΡ ποίας πατρῴας γῆς ἐρημώσας πέδον;
from-what paternal land having-emptied ground
ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ Θρῄκης· πατρὸς δὲ Στρυμόνος κικλήσκεται.
of-Thrace of-father and of-Strymon is-called
ΕΚΤΩΡ Ῥῆσον τιθέντ᾽ ἔλεξας ἐν Τροίᾳ πόδα; 280
Rhesus setting you-said in Troy foot

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ἔγνως· λόγου δὲ δὶς τόσου μ᾽ ἐκούφισας.
you-knew of-speech and twice so-much me you-relieved

ΕΚΤΩΡ καὶ πῶς πρὸς Ἴδης ὀργάδας πορεύεται,
and how toward of-Ida meadows travels

πλαγχθεὶς πλατείας πεδιάδος θ᾽ ἁμαξιτοῦ;
having-wandered from-broad from-plain and wagon-road

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ οὐκ οἶδ᾽ ἀκριβῶς, εἰκάσαι γε μὴν πάρα.
not I-know exactly to-guess at-least indeed it-is-possible

νυκτὸς γὰρ οὔτι φαῦλον ἐμβαλεῖν στρατόν,
by-night for not-at-all slight to-throw army

κλύοντα πλήρη πεδία πολεμίας χερός.
hearing full plains of-hostile hand

φόβον δ᾽ ἀγρώσταις, οἳ κατ᾽ Ἰδαῖον λέπας
fear and to-rustics who along Idaean crag

οἰκοῦμεν αὐτόρριζον ἑστίαν χθονός,
dwell rooted hearth of-land

παρέσχε δρυμὸν νυκτὸς ἔνθηρον μολών.
gave thicket of-night beast-haunted having-come

πολλῇ γὰρ ἠχῇ Θρῄκιος ῥέων στρατὸς
with-much for with-noise Thracian streaming army

ἔστειχε· θάμβει δ᾽ ἐκπλαγέντες ἵεμεν
came in-amazement and struck we-drive

ποίμνας πρὸς ἄκρας, μή τις Ἀργείων μόλῃ
flocks to heights lest anyone of-Argives come

λεηλατήσων καὶ σὰ πορθήσων σταθμά,
to-plunder and your to-ravage steadings

πρὶν δὴ δι᾽ ὤτων γῆρυν οὐχ Ἑλληνικὴν
before indeed through ears voice not Greek

ἐδεξάμεσθα καὶ μετέστημεν φόβου.
we-received and we-stood-away from-fear

στείχων δ' ἄνακτος προυξερευνητὰς ὁδοῦ
going and of-lord forerunners of-road
ἀνιστόρησα Θρῃκίοις προσφθέγμασιν,
I-questioned in-Thracian in-addresses
τίς ὁ στρατηγὸς καὶ τίνος κεκλημένος
who the general and of-whom called
στείχει πρὸς ἄστυ Πριαμίδαισι σύμμαχος.
comes to city to-Priam's-sons ally
καὶ πάντ' ἀκούσας ὧν ἐφιέμην μαθεῖν, 300
and all having-heard of-what I-desired to-learn
ἔστην· ὁρῶ δὲ Ῥῆσον ὥστε δαίμονα
I-stood I-see and Rhesus like god
ἑστῶτ' ἐν ἱππείοισι Θρῃκίοις ὄχοις.
standing in horse Thracian car
χρυσῆ δὲ πλάστιγξ αὐχένα ζυγηφόρον
golden and yoke-bar neck yoke-bearing
πώλων ἔκλῃε χιόνος ἐξαυγεστέρων.
of-colts enclosed than-snow brighter
πέλτης δ' ἐπ' ὤμων χρυσοκόλλητος τύπος 305
of-shield and on shoulders gold-inlaid image
ἔλαμπε· Γοργὼν δ' ὡς ἀπ' αἰγίδος θεᾶς
shone Gorgon and as from aegis of-the-goddess
χαλκῆ μετώποις ἱππικοῖσι πρόσδετος
bronze to-foreheads horse fastened
πολλοῖσι σὺν κώδωσιν ἐκτύπει φόβον.
many with bells sounded fear
στρατοῦ δὲ πλῆθος οὐδ' ἂν ἐν ψήφου λόγῳ
of-army and number not-even — in of-pebble reckoning
θέσθαι δύναι' ἄν, ὡς ἄπλατον ἦν ἰδεῖν, 310
to-set could — so-that unapproachable was to-see

πολλοὶ μὲν ἱππῆς, πολλὰ πελταστῶν τέλη,
many indeed horsemen many of-peltasts companies
πολλοὶ δ' ἀτράκτων τοξόται, πολὺς δ' ὄχλος
many and of-shafts archers much and crowd
γυμνὴς ὁμαρτῇ, Θρῃκίαν ἔχων στολήν.
light-armed accompanying Thracian having dress
τοιόσδε Τροίᾳ σύμμαχος πάρεστ' ἀνήρ,
such to-Troy ally is-present man
ὃν οὔτε φεύγων οὔθ' ὑποσταθεὶς δορὶ
whom neither fleeing nor standing-up-to spear
ὁ Πηλέως παῖς ἐκφυγεῖν δυνήσεται.
the of-Peleus child to-escape will-be-able
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὅταν πολίταις εὐσταθῶσι δαίμονες,
when for-citizens are-steady gods
ἕρπει κατάντης συμφορὰ πρὸς τἀγαθά.
creeps downhill misfortune toward the-good
ΕΚΤΩΡ πολλούς, ἐπειδὴ τοὐμὸν εὐτυχεῖ δόρυ
many since my prospers spear
καὶ Ζεὺς πρὸς ἡμῶν ἐστιν, εὑρήσω φίλους.
and Zeus on our-side is I-shall-find friends
ἀλλ' οὐδὲν αὐτῶν δεόμεθ', οἵτινες πάλαι
but nothing them we-need who of-old
μὴ ξυμπονοῦσιν, ἡνίκ' ἐξώστης Ἄρης
not toil-with when driving Ares
ἔθραυε λαίφη τῆσδε γῆς μέγας πνέων.
was-shattering sails of-this land great blowing
Ῥῆσος δ' ἔδειξεν οἷος ἦν Τροίᾳ φίλος·
Rhesus and showed what-sort was to-Troy friend
ἥκει γὰρ εἰς δαῖτ', οὐ παρὼν κυνηγέταις
he-comes for to feast not being-present to-hunters

αἱροῦσι λείαν οὐδὲ συγκαμὼν δορί.
taking spoil nor having-toiled-with with-spear

ΧΟΡΟΣ ὀρθῶς ἀτίζεις κἀπίμομφος εἶ φίλοις·
rightly you-scorn and-reproachful you-are to-friends

δέχου δὲ τοὺς θέλοντας ὠφελεῖν πόλιν.
receive and the wishing to-help city

ΕΚΤΩΡ ἀρκοῦμεν οἱ σῴζοντες Ἴλιον πάλαι.
we-suffice the saving Ilium of-old

ΧΟΡΟΣ πέποιθας ἤδη πολεμίους ᾐρηκέναι; 330
do-you-trust already enemies to-have-taken

ΕΚΤΩΡ πέποιθα· δείξει τοὐπιὸν σέλας θεοῦ.
I-trust will-show the-coming light of-god

ΧΟΡΟΣ ὅρα τὸ μέλλον· πόλλ' ἀναστρέφει θεός.
see the future many-things overturns god

ΕΚΤΩΡ μισῶ φίλοισιν ὕστερον βοηδρομεῖν.
I-hate to-friends late to-run-to-help

ὁ δ' οὖν ἐπείπερ ἦλθε, σύμμαχος μὲν οὔ,
he and then since came ally indeed not

ξένος δὲ πρὸς τράπεζαν ἡκέτω ξένων·
guest but to table let-come of-hosts

χάρις γὰρ αὐτῷ Πριαμιδῶν διώλετο.
favor for to-him of-Priam's-sons has-perished

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἄναξ, ἀπωθεῖν συμμάχους ἐπίφθονον.
lord to-thrust-away allies invidious

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ φόβος γένοιτ' ἂν πολεμίοις ὀφθεὶς μόνον. 335
fear would-be — to-enemies seen only

ΕΚΤΩΡ σύ τ' εὖ παραινεῖς καὶ σὺ καιρίως σκοπεῖς.
you and well advise and you timely consider

ὁ χρυσοτευχὴς δ' οὕνεκ' ἀγγέλου λόγῳ
the gold-armored and because of-messenger by-word
Ῥῆσος παρέσται τῇδε σύμμαχος χθονί.
Rhesus will-be-present to-this ally land

V · WELCOME TO RHESUS

The chorus welcomes Rhesus, son of the Muse and of the river Strymon, as a Zeus come in his chariot, and prays that he may face Achilles.

ΧΟΡΟΣ Ἀδράστεια μὲν ἁ Διὸς παῖς
Adrasteia indeed the of-Zeus child
εἴργοι στομάτων φθόνον·
may-keep-off of-mouths envy
φράσω γὰρ δὴ ὅσον μοι
I-will-say for indeed as-much-as to-me
ψυχᾷ προσφιλές ἐστιν εἰπεῖν.
in-soul dear is to-say
ἥκεις, ὦ ποταμοῦ παῖ,
you-come O of-river child
ἥκεις, ἐπλάθης Φρυγίαν πρὸς αὐλὰν
you-come you-approached Phrygian to court
ἀσπαστός, ἐπεί σε χρόνῳ
welcome since you in-time
Πιερὶς μάτηρ ὅ τε καλλιγέφυ-
Pierian mother and the fair-bridged
ρος ποταμὸς πορεύει
— river brings
Στρυμών, ὅς ποτε τᾶς μελῳδοῦ
Strymon who once of-the melodious

Μούσας δι᾽ ἀκηράτων
Muse through undefiled
διηνεκὲς ὑδροειδὴς
whirling watery
κόλπων σὰν ἐφύτευσεν ἥβαν.
of-bosom your begot youth
σύ μοι Ζεὺς ὁ φαναῖος
you to-me Zeus the bright
ἥκεις διφρεύων βαλιαῖσι πώλοις.
come driving with-dappled colts
νῦν, ὦ πατρὶς ὦ Φρυγία,
now O fatherland O Phrygia
ξὺν θεῷ νῦν σοι τὸν ἐλευθέριον
with god now to-you the of-freedom
Ζῆνα πάρεστιν ᾄδειν.
Zeus is-possible to-sing
ἆρά ποτ᾽ αὖθις ἁ παλαιὰ
— ever again the ancient
Τροία τοὺς προπότας παναμερεύσει
Troy the toasting all-day-long-will-keep
θιάσους ἐρώτων
bands of-loves
ψαλμοῖσι καὶ κυλίκων οἰνοπλανήτοις
with-harp-songs and of-cups wine-wandering
ἐπιδεξίαις ἁμίλλαις,
rightward with-rivalries
κατὰ πόντον Ἀτρειδᾶν
over sea of-Atreids
Σπάρταν οἰχομένων Ἰλιάδος παρ᾽ ἀκτᾶς;
to-Sparta gone of-Ilian from shore

ὦ φίλος, εἴθε μοι
O friend would-that for-me
σᾷ χερὶ καὶ σῷ δορὶ πρά-
with-your hand and with-your spear having-done
ξας τάδ' ἐς οἶκον ἔλθοις.
— these-things to house you-might-come
ἐλθέ, φάνηθι, τὰν ζάχρυσον
come appear the very-golden
Πηλείδα προβαλοῦ κατ' ὄμμα πέλταν
of-Peleus'-son hold-before at eye shield
δοχμίαν πεδαίρων
slanting lifting
σχιστὰν παρ' ἄντυγα, πώλους ἐρεθίζων
cleft by rail colts urging
δίβολόν τ' ἄκοντα πάλλων.
double-pointed and javelin brandishing
σὲ γὰρ οὔτις ὑποστὰς
you for no-one having-withstood
Ἀργείας ποτ' ἐν Ἥρας δαπέδοις χορεύσει·
of-Argive ever in of-Hera grounds will-dance
ἀλλά νιν ἅδε γᾶ
but him this land
καταφθίμενον Θρῃκὶ μόρῳ
perished by-Thracian fate
φίλτατον ἄχθος οἴσει.
dearest burden will-carry

Rhesus arrives in gold armor. Hector reproaches him for coming so late, and Rhesus explains that a war with the Scythians kept him; he boasts that in one day he will destroy the Greeks and then invade Greece. Hector tells him of the Greek champions, Achilles, Ajax, Diomedes, and Odysseus, who stole the Palladium and entered Troy disguised as a beggar. Rhesus swears to impale Odysseus. Hector gives him the watchword, Phoebus, and posts the Thracians apart for the night.

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἰὼ ἰώ. 380
oh oh
μέγας ὦ βασιλεῦ, καλόν, ὦ Θρήκη,
great O king fine O Thrace
σκύμνον ἔθρεψας πολίαρχον ἰδεῖν.
cub you-reared city-ruling to-see
ἴδε χρυσόδετον σώματος ἀλκήν,
see gold-bound of-body strength
κλύε καὶ κόμπους κωδωνοκρότους,
hear and clangs bell-ringing
παρὰ πορπάκων κελαδοῦντας.
from shield-handles sounding
θεός, ὦ Τροία, θεὸς αὐτὸς Ἄρης, 385
god O Troy god himself Ares
ὁ Στρυμόνιος πῶλος ἀοιδοῦ
the Strymonian colt of-tuneful
Μούσης ἥκων καταπνεῖ σε.
Muse having-come breathes-on you
ΡΗΣΟΣ χαῖρ', ἐσθλὸς ἐσθλοῦ παῖς, τύραννε τῆσδε γῆς,
hail noble of-noble child lord of-this land
Ἕκτορ· παλαιᾷ σ' ἡμέρᾳ προσεννέπω.
Hector after-long you day I-address

χαίρω δέ σ' εὐτυχοῦντα καὶ προσήμενον
I-rejoice and you prospering and sitting-before
πύργοισιν ἐχθρῶν· συγκατασκάψων δ' ἐγὼ
towers of-enemies to-help-raze and I
τείχη πάρειμι καὶ νεῶν πρήσων σκάφη.
walls am-here and of-ships to-burn hulls
ΕΚΤΩΡ παῖ τῆς μελῳδοῦ μητέρος Μουσῶν μιᾶς
child of-the melodious mother of-Muses of-one
Θρῃκός τε ποταμοῦ Στρυμόνος, φιλῶ λέγειν
Thracian and of-river of-Strymon I-love to-say
τἀληθὲς ἀεὶ κοὐ διπλοῦς πέφυκ' ἀνήρ.
the-truth always and-not double I-am-born man
πάλαι πάλαι χρῆν τῇδε συγκάμνειν χθονὶ
long-ago long-ago it-was-right this to-toil-with land
ἐλθόντα, καὶ μὴ τοὐπὶ σ' Ἀργείων ὕπο
having-come and not as-far-as-in you Argives by
Τροίαν ἐᾶσαι πολεμίων πεσεῖν δορί.
Troy to-allow of-enemies to-fall by-spear
οὐ γάρ τι λέξεις ὡς ἄκλητος ὢν φίλοις
not for at-all you-will-say that uncalled being by-friends
οὐκ ἦλθες οὐδ' ἤμυνας οὐδ' ἐπεστράφης.
not you-came nor helped nor turned-toward-us
τίς γάρ σε κῆρυξ ἢ γερουσία Φρυγῶν
what for you herald or council of-Phrygians
ἐλθοῦσ' ἀμύνειν οὐκ ἐπέσκηψεν πόλει;
having-come to-help not enjoined city
ποίων δὲ δώρων κόσμον οὐκ ἐπέμψαμεν;
of-what-sort and of-gifts adornment not did-we-send
σὺ δ' ἐγγενὴς ὢν βάρβαρός τε βαρβάρους
you but kinsman being barbarian and barbarians

Ἕλλησιν ἡμᾶς προύπιες τὸ σὸν μέρος.
to-Greeks us betrayed the your part
καίτοι σε μικρᾶς ἐκ τυραννίδος μέγαν
and-yet you small from kingship great
Θρῃκῶν ἄνακτα τῇδ' ἔθηκ' ἐγὼ χερί,
of-Thracians lord with-this I-made I hand
ὅτ' ἀμφὶ Πάγγαιόν τε Παιόνων τε γῆν
when around Pangaeum and of-Paeonians and land
Θρῃκῶν ἀρίστοις ἐμπεσὼν κατὰ στόμα
of-Thracians on-best having-fallen face-to face
ἔρρηξα πέλτην, σοὶ δὲ δουλώσας λεὼν
I-broke shield to-you and having-enslaved people
παρέσχον· ὧν σὺ λακτίσας πολλὴν χάριν,
I-gave of-which you having-kicked much favor
φίλων νοσούντων ὕστερος βοηδρομεῖς.
of-friends being-sick late you-run-to-help
οἱ δ' οὐδὲν ἡμῖν ἐν γένει πεφυκότες,
those but nothing to-us in kin born
πάλαι παρόντες, οἱ μὲν ἐν χωστοῖς τάφοις
long-ago being-present some indeed in heaped tombs
κεῖνται πεσόντες, πίστις οὐ σμικρὰ πόλει,
lie fallen pledge not small to-city
οἱ δ' ἔν θ' ὅπλοισι καὶ παρ' ἱππείοις ὄχοις
others and in both arms and by horse cars
ψυχρὰν ἄησιν δίψιόν τε πῦρ θεοῦ
cold blast thirsty and fire of-god
μένουσι καρτεροῦντες, οὐκ ἐν δεμνίοις
remain enduring not in couches
πυκνὴν ἄμυστιν ὡς σὺ δεξιούμενοι.
frequent deep-drafts like you pledging

ταῦθ', ὡς ἂν εἰδῇς Ἕκτορ' ὄντ' ἐλεύθερον,
these-things so-that — you-may-know Hector being free
καὶ μέμφομαί σοι καὶ λέγω κατ' ὄμμα σόν·
both I-blame you and I-say to face your
ΡΗΣΟΣ τοιοῦτός εἰμι καὐτός, εὐθεῖαν λόγων
such am and-myself straight of-words
τέμνων κέλευθον, κοὐ διπλοῦς πέφυκ' ἀνήρ.
cutting path and-not double I-am-born man
ἐγὼ δὲ μεῖζον ἢ σὺ τῆσδ' ἀπὼν χθονὸς
I but more than you of-this being-absent land
λύπῃ πρὸς ἧπαρ δυσφορῶν ἐτειρόμην·
with-grief to liver chafing was-worn
ἀλλ' ἀγχιτέρμων γαῖά μοι, Σκύθης λεώς,
but bordering land to-me Scythian people
μέλλοντι νόστον τὸν πρὸς Ἴλιον περᾶν
being-about return the to Ilium to-cross
ξυνῆψε πόλεμον· Εὐξένου δ' ἀφικόμην
joined war of-Euxine and I-came
πόντου πρὸς ἀκτάς, Θρῇκα πορθμεῦσαι στρατόν.
of-sea to shores Thracian to-ferry army
ἔνθ' αἱματηρὸς πέλανος ἐς γαῖαν Σκύθης
there bloody gore into land Scythian
ἠντλεῖτο λόγχῃ, Θρῄξ τε συμμιγὴς φόνος.
was-drained by-spear Thracian and mingled slaughter
τοιάδε τοί μ' ἀπεῖργε συμφορὰ πέδον
such surely me kept-off misfortune ground
Τροίας ἱκέσθαι σύμμαχόν τέ σοι μολεῖν.
of-Troy to-reach ally and to-you to-come
ἐπεὶ δ' ἔπερσα, τῶνδ' ὁμηρεύσας τέκνα,
when and I-sacked of-these having-taken-hostage children

τάξας ἔτειον δασμὸν εἰς δόμους φέρειν,
having-fixed yearly tribute to house to-bring
ἥκω περάσας ναυσὶ πόντιον στόμα,
I-come having-crossed with-ships sea mouth
τὰ δ' ἄλλα πεζὸς γῆς περῶν ὁρίσματα,
the and rest on-foot of-land crossing boundaries
οὐχ ὡς σὺ κομπεῖς τὰς ἐμὰς ἀμύστιδας,
not as you boast the my deep-drafts
οὐδ' ἐν ζαχρύσοις δώμασιν κοιμώμενος,
nor in very-golden house sleeping
ἀλλ' οἷα πόντον Θρήκιον φυσήματα
but what-sort sea Thracian blasts
κρυσταλλόπηκτα Παίονάς τ' ἐπεζάρει,
ice-bound Paeonians and oppressed
ξὺν τοῖσδ' ἄυπνος οἶδα τλὰς πορπάμασιν.
with these sleepless I-know having-endured cloaks
ἀλλ' ὕστερος μὲν ἦλθον, ἐν καιρῷ δ' ὅμως·
but late indeed I-came in season but nevertheless
σὺ μὲν γὰρ ἤδη δέκατον αἰχμάζεις ἔτος
you indeed for already tenth bear-spear year
κοὐδὲν περαίνεις, ἡμέραν δ' ἐξ ἡμέρας
and-nothing accomplish day and from day
ῥίπτεις κυβεύων τὸν πρὸς Ἀργείους Ἄρην·
you-throw dicing the against Argives Ares
ἐμοὶ δὲ φῶς ἓν ἡλίου καταρκέσει
for-me but light one of-sun will-suffice
πέρσαντι πύργους ναυστάθμοις ἐπεισπεσεῖν
having-sacked towers on-anchorages to-fall
κτεῖναί τ' Ἀχαιούς· θατέρᾳ δ' ἀπ' Ἰλίου
to-kill and Achaeans on-the-other and from Ilium

πρὸς οἶκον εἶμι, συντεμὼν τοὺς σοὺς πόνους,
to home I-will-go having-cut-short the your toils
ὑμῶν δὲ μή τις ἀσπίδ' ἄρηται χερί·
of-you and not anyone shield let-raise with-hand
ἐγὼ γὰρ ἕξω τοὺς μέγ' αὐχοῦντας δορὶ
I for will-hold-down the greatly boasting with-spear
πέρσας Ἀχαιούς, καίπερ ὕστερος μολών.
having-sacked Achaeans although late having-come
ΧΟΡΟΣ ἰὼ ἰώ.
oh oh
φίλα θροεῖς, φίλος Διόθεν εἶ· μόνον
dear-things you-say dear from-Zeus you-are only
φθόνον ἄμαχον ὕπατος
envy invincible highest
Ζεὺς θέλοι ἀμφὶ
Zeus may-wish about
σοῖς λόγοισιν εἴργειν.
your words to-keep-off
τὸ δὲ νάϊον Ἀργόθεν δόρυ
the and naval from-Argos spear
οὔτε πρίν τιν' οὔτε νῦν
neither before any nor now
ἀνδρῶν ἐπόρευσε σέθεν κρείσσω. πῶς μοι
of-men conveyed than-you mightier how for-me
Ἀχιλεὺς τὸ σὸν ἔγχος ἂν δύναιτο,
Achilles the your spear — could
πῶς δ' Αἴας ὑπομεῖναι;
how and Ajax to-withstand
εἰ γὰρ ἐγὼ τόδ' ἦμαρ εἰσίδοιμ', ἄναξ,
if for I this day might-see lord

ὅτῳ πολυφόνου
in-which of-much-slaying
χειρὸς ἀποινάσαιο λόγχᾳ.
of-hand you-might-exact-penalty with-spear
ΡΗΣΟΣ τοιαῦτα μέν σοι τῆς μακρᾶς ἀπουσίας
such-things indeed to-you of-the long absence
πρᾶξαι παρέξω· σὺν δ' Ἀδραστείᾳ λέγω·
to-do I-will-offer with and Adrasteia I-say
ἐπειδὰν ἐχθρῶν τήνδ' ἐλευθέραν πόλιν
when of-enemies this free city
θῶμεν θεοῖσί τ' ἀκροθίνι' ἐξέλῃς,
we-make for-gods and first-fruits you-choose
ξὺν σοὶ στρατεύειν γῆν ἐπ' Ἀργείων θέλω
with you to-march land against of-Argives I-wish
καὶ πᾶσαν ἐλθὼν Ἑλλάδ' ἐκπέρσαι δορί,
and all having-gone Hellas to-sack with-spear
ὡς ἂν μάθωσιν ἐν μέρει πάσχειν κακῶς.
that — they-may-learn in turn to-suffer badly
ΕΚΤΩΡ εἰ τοῦ παρόντος τοῦδ' ἀπαλλαχθεὶς κακοῦ
if of-the present this having-been-freed evil
πόλιν νεμοίμην ὡς τὸ πρίν ποτ' ἀσφαλῆ,
city I-might-govern as the before ever safe
ἦ κάρτα πολλὴν θεοῖς ἂν εἰδείην χάριν.
surely very much to-gods — I-would-know favor
τὰ δ' ἀμφί τ' Ἄργος καὶ νομὸν τὸν Ἑλλάδος
the and around both Argos and pasture the of-Hellas
οὐχ ὧδε πορθεῖν ῥᾴδι', ὡς λέγεις, δορί.
not so to-ravage easy as you-say by-spear
ΡΗΣΟΣ οὐ τούσδ' ἀριστέας φασὶν Ἑλλήνων μολεῖν;
not these best they-say of-Greeks to-have-come

ΕΚΤΩΡ κοὐ μεμφόμεσθά γ', ἀλλ' ἄδην ἐλαύνομεν.
and-not we-blame at-least but to-the-full we-drive

ΡΗΣΟΣ οὔκουν κτανόντες τούσδε πᾶν εἰργάσμεθα;
not-then having-killed these all have-we-done

ΕΚΤΩΡ μή νυν τὰ πόρρω τἀγγύθεν μεθεὶς σκόπει.
not then the far the-near having-let-go consider

ΡΗΣΟΣ ἀρκεῖν ἔοικέ σοι παθεῖν, δρᾶσαι δὲ μή.
to-suffice seems to-you to-suffer to-do but not

ΕΚΤΩΡ πολλῆς γὰρ ἄρχω κἀνθάδ' ὢν τυραννίδος.
much for I-rule even-here being kingship

ἀλλ' εἴτε λαιὸν εἴτε δεξιὸν κέρας,
but whether left or right wing

εἴτ' ἐν μέσοισι συμμάχοις, πάρεστί σοι
or in middle allies it-is-possible for-you

πέλτην ἐρεῖσαι καὶ καταστῆσαι στρατόν.
shield to-plant and to-station army

ΡΗΣΟΣ μόνος μάχεσθαι πολεμίοις, Ἕκτορ, θέλω.
alone to-fight enemies Hector I-wish

εἰ δ' αἰσχρὸν ἡγεῖ μὴ συνεμπρῆσαι νεῶν
if and shameful you-think not to-help-burn of-ships

πρύμνας, πονήσας τὸν πάρος πολὺν χρόνον,
sterns having-toiled the before much time

τάξον μ' Ἀχιλλέως καὶ στρατοῦ κατὰ στόμα
station me of-Achilles and of-army in-front-of face

ΕΚΤΩΡ οὐκ ἔστ' ἐκείνῳ θοῦρον ἀντᾶραι δόρυ.
not it-is against-him impetuous to-raise spear

ΡΗΣΟΣ καὶ μὴν λόγος γ' ἦν ὡς ἔπλευσ' ἐπ' Ἴλιον.
and indeed word at-least was that he-sailed against Ilium

ΕΚΤΩΡ ἔπλευσε καὶ πάρεστιν· ἀλλὰ μηνίων
he-sailed and is-present but being-wrathful
στρατηλάταισιν οὐ συναίρεται δόρυ.
with-generals not takes-up spear
ΡΗΣΟΣ τίς δὴ μετ᾽ αὐτὸν ἄλλος εὐδοξεῖ στρατοῦ;
who indeed after him other is-famed of-army
ΕΚΤΩΡ Αἴας ἐμοὶ μὲν οὐδὲν ἡσσᾶσθαι δοκεῖ
Ajax to-me indeed nothing to-be-inferior seems
χὠ Τυδέως παῖς· ἔστι δ᾽ αἰμυλώτατον
and-the of-Tydeus child is and wiliest
κρότημ᾽ Ὀδυσσεύς, λῆμά τ᾽ ἀρκούντως θρασὺς
rattle Odysseus spirit and sufficiently bold
καὶ πλεῖστα χώραν τήνδ᾽ ἀνὴρ καθυβρίσας.
and most land this man having-outraged
ὃς εἰς Ἀθάνας σηκὸν ἔννυχος μολὼν
who to of-Athena shrine by-night having-come
κλέψας ἄγαλμα ναῦς ἐπ᾽ Ἀργείων φέρει.
having-stolen image ships to of-Argives carries
ἤδη δ᾽ ἀγύρτης πτωχικὴν ἔχων στολὴν
already and beggar beggarly having dress
εἰσῆλθε πύργους, πολλὰ δ᾽ Ἀργείοις κακὰ
entered towers many and on-Argives evils
ἠρᾶτο, πεμφθεὶς Ἴλιον κατάσκοπος·
prayed sent to-Ilium spy
κτανὼν δὲ φρουροὺς καὶ παραστάτας πυλῶν
having-killed and guards and attendants of-gates
ἐξῆλθεν· ἀεὶ δ᾽ ἐν λόχοις εὑρίσκεται
went-out always and in ambushes is-found
Θυμβραῖον ἀμφὶ βωμὸν ἄστεος πέλας
Thymbraean around altar of-town near

θάσσων· κακῷ δὲ μερμέρῳ παλαίομεν.
sitting with-evil and with-schemer we-wrestle

ΡΗΣΟΣ οὐδεὶς ἀνὴρ εὔψυχος ἀξιοῖ λάθρᾳ
no man brave thinks-fit secretly

κτεῖναι τὸν ἐχθρόν, ἀλλ' ἰὼν κατὰ στόμα.
to-kill the enemy but going to face

τοῦτον δ' ὃν ἵζειν φὴς σὺ κλωπικὰς ἕδρας
this-one but whom to-sit you-say you thievish seats

καὶ μηχανᾶσθαι, ζῶντα συλλαβὼν ἐγὼ
and to-scheme living having-caught I

πυλῶν ἐπ' ἐξόδοισιν ἀμπείρας ῥάχιν
of-gates at exits having-impaled spine

στήσω πετεινοῖς γυψὶ θοινατήριον.
I-will-set for-winged vultures feast

λῃστὴν γὰρ ὄντα καὶ θεῶν ἀνάκτορα
robber for being and of-gods shrines

συλῶντα δεῖ νιν τῷδε κατθανεῖν μόρῳ.
robbing must him by-this to-die fate

ΕΚΤΩΡ νῦν μὲν καταυλίσθητε· καὶ γὰρ εὐφρόνη.
now indeed encamp and for night

δείξω δ' ἐγώ σοι χῶρον, ἔνθα χρὴ στρατὸν
I-will-show and I to-you place where must army

τὸν σὸν νυχεῦσαι τοῦ τεταγμένου δίχα.
the your to-pass-the-night of-the posted apart

ξύνθημα δ' ἡμῖν Φοῖβος, ἤν τι καὶ δέῃ,
watchword and for-us Phoebus if anything also be-needed

μέμνησ' ἀκούσας Θρῃκί τ' ἄγγελον στρατῷ.
remember having-heard to-Thracian and announce to-army

ὑμᾶς δὲ βάντας χρὴ προταινὶ τάξεων
you and having-gone must in-front of-ranks

φρουρεῖν ἐγερτί, καὶ νεῶν κατάσκοπον
to-guard awake and of-ships spy
δέχθαι Δόλωνα· καὶ γὰρ εἴπερ ἐστὶ σῶς,
to-receive Dolon and for if-indeed he-is safe
ἤδη πελάζει στρατοπέδοισι Τρωικοῖς.
already approaches camps Trojan

VII · THE CHANGE OF WATCH

The guards change watch near dawn. They hear the nightingale on the Simois and the shepherds' pipes on Ida, and they fear for Dolon, who has not returned.

ΧΟΡΟΣ τίνος ἁ φυλακά; τίς ἀμείβει
whose the watch who relieves
τὰν ἐμάν; πρῶτα
the my first
δύεται σημεῖα καὶ ἑπτάποροι
set signs and seven-pathed
Πλειάδες αἰθέριαι·
Pleiades in-the-sky
μέσα δ' αἰετὸς οὐρανοῦ ποτᾶται.
middle and eagle of-heaven flies
ἔγρεσθε, τί μέλλετε; κοιτᾶν
wake why do-you-delay from-beds
ἔγρεσθε πρὸς φυλακάν.
wake to watch
οὐ λεύσσετε μηνάδος αἴγλαν;
not do-you-see of-moon gleam
ἀὼς δὴ πέλας ἀὼς
dawn indeed near dawn

γίγνεται, καί τις προδρόμων
comes and some of-forerunners
ὅδε γ' ἐστὶν ἀστήρ.
this at-least is star
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ τίς ἐκηρύχθη πρώτην φυλακήν;
who was-proclaimed first watch

***
(lacuna)

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ Μυγδόνος ὅν φασι Κόροιβον.
of-Mygdon whom they-say Coroebus
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ τίς γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτῷ; ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ Κίλικας Παίων
who for after him Cilicians Paeonian
στρατὸς ἤγειρεν, Μυσοὶ δ' ἡμᾶς.
army roused Mysians and us
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ οὐκοῦν Λυκίους πέμπτην φυλακὴν
then Lycians fifth watch
βάντας ἐγείρειν
having-gone to-wake
καιρὸς κλήρου κατὰ μοῖραν.
time of-lot by portion
καὶ μὴν ἀΐω, Σιμόεντος
and indeed I-hear of-Simois
ἡμένα κοίτας
sitting of-bed
φοινίας ὑμνεῖ πολυχορδοτάτᾳ
blood-stained sings with-most-many-stringed
γήρυϊ παιδολέτωρ
with-voice child-slayer
μελοποιὸς ἀηδονὶς μέριμναν·
song-making nightingale care

ἤδη δὲ νέμουσι κατ᾽ Ἴδαν
already and pasture along Ida
ποίμνια· νυκτιβρόμου
flocks of-night-sounding
σύριγγος ἰὰν κατακούω·
of-pipe voice I-hear
θέλγει δ᾽ ὄμματος ἕδραν
charms and of-eye seat
ὕπνος· ἄδιστος γὰρ ἔβα
sleep sweetest for came
βλεφάροις πρὸς ἀοῦς.
to-eyelids toward dawn
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ τί ποτ᾽ οὐ πλάθει σκοπός, ὃν ναῶν
why ever not approaches scout whom of-ships
Ἕκτωρ ὤτρυνε κατόπταν;
Hector urged spy
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ ταρβῶ· χρόνιος γὰρ ἄπεστιν.
I-fear long for he-is-away
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ ἀλλ᾽ ἦ κρυπτὸν λόχον εἰσπαίσας
but — hidden ambush having-burst-into
διόλωλε; τάχ᾽ ἂν εἴη φανερόν.
he-has-perished perhaps — it-may-be clear
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ αὐδῶ Λυκίους πέμπτην φυλακὴν
I-say Lycians fifth watch
βάντας ἐγείρειν
having-gone to-wake
ἡμᾶς κλήρου κατὰ μοῖραν.
us of-lot by portion

Odysseus and Diomedes come into the Trojan camp, having killed Dolon, and find Hector's bed empty. Athena appears and tells them to kill Rhesus, who has just arrived, and to take his white horses. Paris approaches, and Athena, pretending to be Aphrodite, reassures him and sends him away. Rhesus is killed and his horses taken; the guards seize Odysseus, but he gives the watchword and escapes.

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Διόμηδες, οὐκ ἤκουσας — ἢ κενὸς ψόφος
Diomedes not did-you-hear or empty noise
στάζει δι' ὤτων; — τευχέων τινὰ κτύπον;
drips through ears of-arms some clatter
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ οὔκ, ἀλλὰ δεσμὰ πωλικῶν ἐξ ἀντύγων
no but bonds of-colts from chariot-rails
κλάζει σιδήρου· κἀμέ τοι, πρὶν ᾐσθόμην
clang of-iron and-me surely before I-perceived
δεσμῶν ἀραγμὸν ἱππικῶν, ἔδυ φόβος.
of-bonds clashing of-horses entered fear
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὅρα κατ' ὄρφνην μὴ φύλαξιν ἐντύχῃς.
see in darkness lest guards you-meet
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ φυλάξομαί τοι κἀν σκότῳ τιθεὶς πόδα.
I-shall-guard surely even-in dark setting foot
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἦν δ' οὖν ἐγείρῃς, οἶσθα σύνθημα στρατοῦ;
if and then you-wake you-know watchword of-army
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ Φοῖβον Δόλωνος οἶδα σύμβολον κλύων.
Phoebus of-Dolon I-know token having-heard
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἔα·
ha
εὐνὰς ἐρήμους τάσδε πολεμίων ὁρῶ
beds empty these of-enemies I-see

ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ καὶ μὴν Δόλων γε τάσδ' ἔφραζεν Ἕκτορος
and indeed Dolon at-least these told of-Hector
κοίτας, ἐφ' ᾧπερ ἔγχος εἵλκυσται τόδε.
beds for which-indeed spear has-been-drawn this
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τί δῆτ' ἂν εἴη; μῶν λόχος βέβηκέ ποι;
what then — could-it-be surely-not band has-gone somewhere
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ ἴσως ἐφ' ἡμῖν μηχανὴν στήσων τινά.
perhaps against us device to-set some
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ θρασὺς γὰρ Ἕκτωρ νῦν, ἐπεὶ κρατεῖ, θρασύς.
bold for Hector now since he-prevails bold
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ τί δῆτ', Ὀδυσσεῦ, δρῶμεν; οὐ γὰρ ηὕρομεν
what then Odysseus shall-we-do not for we-found
τὸν ἄνδρ' ἐν εὐναῖς, ἐλπίδων δ' ἡμάρτομεν.
the man in beds of-hopes and we-failed
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ στείχωμεν ὡς τάχιστα ναυστάθμων πέλας.
let-us-go as quickly-as-possible of-anchorages near
σῴζει γὰρ αὐτὸν ὅστις εὐτυχῆ θεῶν
saves for him whoever fortunate of-gods
τίθησιν· ἡμῖν δ' οὐ βιαστέον τύχην.
makes us and not must-force fortune
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ οὐκοῦν ἐπ' Αἰνέαν ἢ τὸν ἔχθιστον Φρυγῶν
then against Aeneas or the most-hateful of-Phrygians
Πάριν μολόντε χρὴ καρατομεῖν ξίφει.
Paris having-gone must to-behead with-sword
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ πῶς οὖν ἐν ὄρφνῃ πολεμίων ἀνὰ στρατὸν
how then in darkness of-enemies through army
ζητῶν δυνήσει τούσδ' ἀκινδύνως κτανεῖν;
seeking will-you-be-able these without-danger to-kill

ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ αἰσχρόν γε μέντοι ναῦς ἐπ᾽ Ἀργείων μολεῖν,
shameful at-least however ships to of-Argives to-go
δράσαντε μηδὲν πολεμίους νεώτερον.
having-done nothing to-enemies new
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ πῶς δ᾽ οὐ δέδρακας; οὐ κτανόντε ναυστάθμων
how and not you-have-done not having-killed of-anchorages
κατάσκοπον Δόλωνα σῴζομεν τάδε
spy Dolon we-keep these
σκυλεύματ᾽; ἢ πᾶν στρατόπεδον πέρσειν δοκεῖς;
spoils or all camp to-sack think-you
πείθου, πάλιν στείχωμεν· εὖ δ᾽ εἴη τυχεῖν.
obey back let-us-go well and may-it-be to-succeed
ΑΘΗΝΑ ποῖ δὴ λιπόντες Τρωικῶν ἐκ τάξεων
where indeed having-left Trojan from ranks
χωρεῖτε, λύπῃ καρδίαν δεδηγμένοι,
do-you-go with-grief heart bitten
εἰ μὴ κτανεῖν σφῷν Ἕκτορ᾽ ἢ Πάριν θεὸς
if not to-kill you-two Hector or Paris god
δίδωσιν; ἄνδρα δ᾽ οὐ πέπυσθε σύμμαχον
gives man but not have-you-learned ally
Τροίᾳ μολόντα Ῥῆσον οὐ φαύλῳ τρόπῳ;
to-Troy having-come Rhesus not in-slight way
ὃς εἰ διοίσει νύκτα τήνδ᾽ ἐς αὔριον,
who if he-gets-through night this to tomorrow
οὔτ᾽ ἄν σφ᾽ Ἀχιλλέως οὔτ᾽ ἂν Αἴαντος δόρυ
neither — him of-Achilles nor — of-Ajax spear
μὴ πάντα πέρσαι ναύσταθμ᾽ Ἀργείων σχέθοι
not all to-sack anchorages of-Argives would-hold
τείχη κατασκάψαντα καὶ πυλῶν ἔσω
walls having-razed and of-gates within

λόγχῃ πλατεῖαν εἰσδρομὴν ποιούμενον.
with-spear broad onrush making
τοῦτον κατακτὰς πάντ' ἔχεις. τὰς δ' Ἕκτορος
him having-killed all you-have the and of-Hector
εὐνὰς ἔασον καὶ καρατόμους σφαγάς.
beds let-be and beheading slaughters
ἔσται γὰρ αὐτῷ θάνατος ἐξ ἄλλης χερός.
will-be for to-him death from other hand
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ δέσποιν' Ἀθάνα, φθέγματος γὰρ ἠσθόμην
lady Athena of-voice for I-perceived
τοῦ σοῦ συνήθη γῆρυν· ἐν πόνοισι γὰρ
of-the your familiar sound in toils for
παροῦσ' ἀμύνεις τοῖς ἐμοῖς ἀεί ποτε·
being-present you-defend the my always ever
τὸν ἄνδρα δ' ἡμῖν ποῦ κατηύνασται φράσον,
the man and to-us where is-bedded tell
πόθεν τέτακται βαρβάρου στρατεύματος;
where is-posted of-barbarian army
ΑΘΗΝΑ ὅδ' ἐγγὺς ἧσται κοὐ συνήθροισται στρατῷ,
this-one near sits and-not is-gathered with-army
ἀλλ' ἐκτὸς αὐτὸν τάξεων κατηύνασεν
but outside him of-ranks bedded
Ἕκτωρ, ἕως ἂν νὺξ ἀμείψηται φάος.
Hector until — night exchanges light
πέλας δὲ πῶλοι Θρηκίων ἐξ ἁρμάτων
near and colts Thracian from chariots
λευκαὶ δέδενται, διαπρεπεῖς ἐν εὐφρόνῃ·
white are-tethered conspicuous in night
στίλβουσι δ' ὥστε ποταμίου κύκνου πτερόν.
gleam and like of-river swan wing

ταύτας κτανόντες δεσπότην κομίζετε,
these having-killed master carry-off
κάλλιστον οἴκοις σκῦλον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσθ' ὅπου
fairest for-house spoil not for it-is where
τοιόνδ' ὄχημα χθὼν κέκευθε πωλικόν.
such car land holds colt
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Διόμηδες, ἢ σὺ κτεῖνε Θρῄκιον λεών,
Diomedes either you kill Thracian people
ἢ 'μοὶ πάρες γε, σοὶ δὲ χρὴ πώλους μέλειν.
or to-me leave at-least to-you and must colts to-be-a-care
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ ἐγὼ φονεύσω, πωλοδαμνήσεις δὲ σύ·
I will-slay will-break-horses but you
τρίβων γὰρ εἶ τὰ κομψὰ καὶ νοεῖν σοφός.
practiced for you-are the clever-things and to-think wise
χρὴ δ' ἄνδρα τάσσειν οὗ μάλιστ' ἂν ὠφελοῖ.
must and man to-station where most — he-might-help
ΑΘΗΝΑ καὶ μὴν καθ' ἡμᾶς τόνδ' Ἀλέξανδρον βλέπω
and indeed against us this-one Alexander I-see
στείχοντα, φυλάκων ἔκ τινος πεπυσμένον
coming of-guards from someone having-learned
δόξας ἀσήμους πολεμίων μεμβλωκότων.
rumors vague of-enemies having-come
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ πότερα σὺν ἄλλοις ἢ μόνος πορεύεται;
whether with others or alone he-goes
ΑΘΗΝΑ μόνος· πρὸς εὐνὰς δ', ὡς ἔοικεν, Ἕκτορος
alone to beds but as it-seems of-Hector
χωρεῖ, κατόπτας σημανῶν ἥκειν στρατοῦ.
goes spies to-signal to-have-come of-army
ΔΙΟΜΗΔΗΣ οὔκουν ὑπάρχειν τόνδε κατθανόντα χρή;
not-then to-begin this-one having-been-killed must

ΑΘΗΝΑ οὐκ ἂν δύναιο τοῦ πεπρωμένου πλέον.
not — you-could of-the fated more
τοῦτον δὲ πρὸς σῆς οὐ θέμις χειρὸς θανεῖν.
this-one but by your not lawful of-hand to-die
ἀλλ' ᾧπερ ἥκεις μορσίμους φέρων σφαγάς,
but to-whom-indeed you-come fated bringing slaughters
τάχυν'· ἐγὼ δὲ τῷδε ξύμμαχος Κύπρις
hasten I and to-this-one ally Cypris
δοκοῦσ' ἀρωγὸς ἐν πόνοις παραστατεῖν,
seeming helper in toils to-stand-by
σαθροῖς λόγοισιν ἐχθρὸν ἄνδρ' ἀμείψομαι.
with-rotten words hostile man I-shall-answer
καὶ ταῦτ' ἐγὼ μὲν εἶπον· ὃν δὲ χρὴ παθεῖν,
and these-things I indeed said whom but must to-suffer
οὐκ οἶδεν οὐδ' ἤκουσεν ἐγγὺς ὢν λόγου.
not knows nor heard near being of-word
ΠΑΡΙΣ σὲ τὸν στρατηγὸν καὶ κασίγνητον λέγω,
you the general and brother I-mean
Ἕκτορ, καθεύδεις; οὐκ ἐγείρεσθαί σ' ἐχρῆν;
Hector you-sleep not to-be-awake you was-right
ἐχθρῶν τις ἡμῖν χρίμπτεται στρατεύματι,
of-enemies someone to-our approaches army
ἢ κλῶπες ἄνδρες ἢ κατάσκοποί τινες.
either thievish men or spies some
ΑΘΗΝΑ θάρσει· φυλάσσει σ' ἥδε πρευμενὴς Κύπρις.
take-heart guards you this gracious Cypris
μέλει δ' ὁ σός μοι πόλεμος, οὐδ' ἀμνημονῶ
is-a-care and the your to-me war nor I-forget
τιμῆς, ἐπαινῶ δ' εὖ παθοῦσα πρὸς σέθεν.
of-honor I-praise and well having-been-treated by you

καὶ νῦν ἐπ᾽ εὐτυχοῦντι Τρωικῷ στρατῷ
and now on prospering Trojan army
ἥκω πορεύουσ᾽ ἄνδρα σοι μέγαν φίλον,
I-come bringing man to-you great friend
τῆς ὑμνοποιοῦ παῖδα Θρῄκιον θεᾶς
of-the hymn-making child Thracian of-the-goddess
Μούσης, πατρὸς δὲ Στρυμόνος κικλήσκεται.
of-Muse of-father and of-Strymon he-is-called
ΠΑΡΙΣ ἀεί ποτ᾽ εὖ φρονοῦσα τυγχάνεις πόλει
always ever well thinking you-happen to-city
κἀμοί, μέγιστον δ᾽ ἐν βίῳ κειμήλιον
and-to-me greatest and in life treasure
κρίνας σέ φημι τῇδε προσθέσθαι πόλει.
having-judged you I-say to-this to-add city
ἥκω δ᾽ ἀκούσας οὐ τορῶς, φήμη δέ τις
I-come and having-heard not clearly report and some
φύλαξιν ἐμπέπτωκεν ὡς κατάσκοποι
on-guards has-fallen that spies
ἥκουσ᾽ Ἀχαιῶν. χὠ μὲν οὐκ ἰδὼν λέγει,
have-come of-Achaeans and-the-one indeed not having-seen speaks
ὁ δ᾽ εἰσιδὼν μολόντας οὐκ ἔχει φράσαι,
the-other and having-seen having-come not can tell
ὧν εἵνεκ᾽ εὐνὰς ἦλυθον πρὸς Ἕκτορος.
of-which for-the-sake beds I-came to of-Hector
ΑΘΗΝΑ μηδὲν φοβηθῇς· οὐδὲν ἐν στρατῷ νέον·
nothing fear nothing in army new
Ἕκτωρ δὲ φροῦδος Θρῇκα κοιμήσων στρατόν.
Hector and is-gone Thracian to-lull army

ΠΑΡΙΣ σύ τοί με πείθεις, σοῖς δὲ πιστεύων λόγοις
you surely me persuade your and trusting words
τάξιν φυλάξων εἶμ' ἐλεύθερος φόβου.
post to-guard I-go free of-fear
ΑΘΗΝΑ χώρει· μέλειν γὰρ πάντ' ἐμοὶ δόκει τὰ σά,
go to-be-a-care for all to-me think the yours
ὥστ' εὐτυχοῦντας συμμάχους ἐμοὺς ὁρᾶν.
so-that prospering allies my to-see
γνώσει δὲ καὶ σὺ τὴν ἐμὴν προθυμίαν.
you-will-know and also you the my eagerness
ὑμᾶς δ' ἀϋτῶ τοὺς ἄγαν ἐρρωμένους,
you and I-shout-to the too vigorous
Λαερτίου παῖ, θηκτὰ κοιμίσαι ξίφη.
of-Laertes child sharpened to-sheathe swords
κεῖται γὰρ ἡμῖν Θρῄκιος στρατηλάτης,
lies for for-us Thracian general
ἵπποι τ' ἔχονται, πολέμιοι δ' ᾐσθημένοι
horses and are-held enemies and having-perceived
χωροῦσ' ἐφ' ὑμᾶς· ἀλλ' ὅσον τάχιστα χρὴ
come against you but as-much-as quickest must
φεύγειν πρὸς ὁλκοὺς ναυστάθμων. τί μέλλετε
to-flee to hauls of-anchorages why do-you-delay
σκηπτοῦ 'πιόντος πολεμίων σῴζειν βίον;
thunderbolt coming of-enemies to-save life
ΧΟΡΟΣ ἔα ἔα·
ha ha
βάλε βάλε βάλε βάλε,
throw throw throw throw
θένε θένε· τίς ὅδ' ἀνήρ;
strike strike who this man

HMIXORION λεύσσετε, τοῦτον αὐδῶ.
look-at this-one I-say

HMIXORION κλῶπες οἵτινες κατ' ὄρφνην
thieves who in darkness

τόνδε κινοῦσι στρατόν.
this stir army

680 δεῦρο δεῦρο πᾶς.
here here all

HMIXORION τούσδ' ἔχω, τούσδ' ἥμαρψα.
these I-have these I-seized

HMIXORION τίς ὁ λόχος; πόθεν ἔβας; ποδαπὸς εἶ;
what the company whence did-you-come of-what-country are-you

ODYSSEUS οὔ σε χρὴ εἰδέναι·
not you must to-know

HMIXORION θανεῖ γὰρ σήμερον δράσας κακῶς.
you-will-die for today having-done badly

οὐκ ἐρεῖς ξύνθημα, λόγχην πρὶν διὰ στέρνων μολεῖν;
not will-you-tell watchword spear before through breast to-go

685 ODYSSEUS ἦ σὺ δὴ Ῥῆσον κατέκτας;
— you indeed Rhesus killed

HMIXORION ἀλλὰ τὸν κτενοῦντα σὲ
but the about-to-kill you

ἱστορῶ. ODYSSEUS θάρσει, πέλας ἴθι. HMIXORION παῖε, παῖε,
I-ask take-heart near come strike strike

παῖε πᾶς.
strike all

ODYSSEUS ἴσχε πᾶς τις. HMIXORION οὐ μὲν οὖν.
hold all one no indeed then

ODYSSEUS ἆ, φίλιον ἄνδρα μὴ θένῃς.
ah friendly man not strike

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ καὶ τί δὴ τὸ σῆμα;
and what indeed the watchword
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Φοῖβος. ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ ἔμαθον· ἴσχε πᾶς δόρυ.
Phoebus I-learned hold all spear
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ οἶσθ' ὅποι βεβᾶσιν ἄνδρες;
do-you-know where have-gone the-men
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τῇδέ πη κατείδομεν.
this-way somewhere we-saw
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ ἕρπε πᾶς κατ' ἴχνος αὐτῶν, ἢ βοὴν ἐγερτέον; 690
go all on track of-them or shout must-raise
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἀλλὰ συμμάχους ταράσσειν δεινὸν ἐν νυκτῶν φόβῳ.
but allies to-confound terrible in of-nights fear

IX · WHO WAS IT?

The chorus wonders who has slipped through the guards, and suspects Odysseus, who once entered the city as a beggar. They fear that Hector will blame them.

ΧΟΡΟΣ τίς ἀνδρῶν ὁ βάς;
who of-men the having-gone
τίς ὃς μέγα θράσος ἐπεύξεται,
who who great boldness will-boast
χέρα φυγὼν ἐμάν;
hand having-escaped my
πόθεν νιν κυρήσω; 695
whence him shall-I-find
τίνι προσεικάσω,
to-whom shall-I-liken
ὅστις δι' ὄρφνης ἦλθ' ἀδειμάντῳ ποδὶ
whoever through darkness came with-undaunted foot

διά τε τάξεων καὶ φυλάκων ἕδρας;
through and ranks and of-guards seats
Θεσσαλὸς ἢ
Thessalian or
παραλίαν Λοκρῶν νεμόμενος πόλιν;
seaside of-Locrians dwelling city
ἢ νησιώτης σποράδα κέκτηται βίον;
or islander scattered has life
τίς ἦν πόθεν; ποίας πάτρας;
who was-he whence of-what fatherland
ποῖον ἐπεύχεται τὸν ὕπατον θεῶν;
what does-he-boast the highest of-gods
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ ἆρ' ἔστ' Ὀδυσσέως τοὔργον ἢ τίνος τόδε;
— is-it of-Odysseus the-deed or of-whom this
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ εἰ τοῖς πάροιθε χρὴ τεκμαίρεσθαι, δοκεῖ.
if by-the former must to-judge it-seems
ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ δοκεῖς γάρ; ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝ τί μὴν οὔ;
you-think for what indeed not
θρασὺς γοῦν ἐς ἡμᾶς.
bold at-least toward us
τίν' ἀλκήν; τίν' αἰνεῖς; — Ὀδυσσῆ.
what valor whom do-you-praise Odysseus
μὴ κλωπὸς αἶνει φωτὸς αἱμύλον δόρυ.
not of-thief praise of-man wily spear
ἔβα καὶ πάρος
he-came also before
κατὰ πόλιν, ὕπαφρον ὄμμ' ἔχων,
through city treacherous eye having
ῥακοδύτῳ στολᾷ
ragged-clad in-dress

πυκασθείς, ξιφήρης
wrapped sword-bearing
κρύφιος ἐν πέπλοις.
hidden in robes
βίον δ' ἐπαιτῶν εἶρπ' ἀγύρτης τις λάτρις,
life and begging crept beggar some servant
ψαφαρόχρουν κάρα πουλυπινές τ' ἔχων·
scurfy head filthy and having
πολλὰ δὲ τὰν
much and the
βασιλίδ' ἑστίαν Ἀτρειδᾶν κακῶς
royal hearth of-Atreids badly
ἔβαζε δῆθεν ἐχθρὸς ὢν στρατηλάταις.
he-spoke forsooth hostile being to-generals
ὄλοιτ' ὄλοιτο πανδίκως,
may-he-perish may-he-perish utterly-justly
πρὶν ἐπὶ γᾶν Φρυγῶν ποδὸς ἴχνος βαλεῖν.
before on land of-Phrygians of-foot step to-set
εἴτ' οὖν Ὀδυσσέως εἴτε μή, φόβος μ' ἔχει·
whether then of-Odysseus or not fear me holds
Ἕκτωρ γὰρ ἡμῖν τοῖς φύλαξι μέμψεται.
Hector for us the guards will-blame
τί λάσκων; δυσοίζων —
what shouting lamenting
τί δρᾶσαι; τί ταρβεῖς;
what to-do what do-you-fear
καθ' ἡμᾶς περᾶσαι — τίν' ἀνδρῶν;
through us to-pass who of-men
οἳ τῆσδε νυκτὸς ἦλθον εἰς Φρυγῶν στρατόν.
who this night came to of-Phrygians army

Rhesus' charioteer, wounded, tells how two men killed his master in his sleep and drove off the horses, and accuses Hector of the murder for the sake of the horses. Hector denies it and suspects Odysseus. The Muse appears with her son's body. She tells how she bore him to the river Strymon, curses Odysseus and Diomedes, blames Athena, and says that Rhesus will live on as a man-god in a cave in the silver-veined land of Thrace. Hector orders the army to arm for the day's attack on the Greek ships.

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ἰώ, δαίμονος τύχη βαρεῖα. φεῦ φεῦ.
oh of-fate fortune heavy alas alas

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἔα·
ha

730 σῖγα πᾶς, ὕφιζ'· ἴσως γὰρ εἰς βόλον τις ἔρχεται.
silence all crouch perhaps for into net someone comes

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ἰὼ ἰώ,
oh oh

συμφορὰ βαρεῖα Θρῃκῶν. ΧΟΡΟΣ συμμάχων τις ὁ στένων.
misfortune heavy of-Thracians allies someone the groaning

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ἰώ.
oh

δύστηνος ἐγὼ σύ τ', ἄναξ Θρῃκῶν,
wretched I you and lord of-Thracians

ὦ στυγνοτάτην Τροίαν ἐσιδών·
O most-hateful Troy having-seen

735 οἷόν σε βίου τέλος εἷλεν.
what-sort you of-life end took

ΧΟΡΟΣ τίς εἶ ποτ᾽ ἀνδρῶν συμμάχων; κατ᾽ εὐφρόνην
who are-you ever of-men allies by night
ἀμβλῶπες αὐγαί, κοὔ σε γιγνώσκω τορῶς.
dim-sighted gleams and-not you I-recognize clearly
ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ποῦ τιν᾽ ἀνάκτων Τρωικῶν εὕρω;
where some of-lords Trojan may-I-find
ποῦ δῆθ᾽ Ἕκτωρ
where then Hector
τὸν ὑπασπίδιον κοῖτον ἰαύει;
the under-shield bed sleeps
τίνι σημήνω διόπων στρατιᾶς;
to-whom shall-I-signal of-overseers of-army
οἷα πεπόνθαμεν, οἷά τις ἡμᾶς
what-sort we-have-suffered what-sort someone us
δράσας ἀφανῆ φροῦδος, φανερὸν
having-done unseen-things gone clear
Θρῃξὶν πένθος τολυπεύσας.
for-Thracians grief having-wound-up
ΧΟΡΟΣ κακὸν κυρεῖν τι Θρῃκίῳ στρατεύματι
evil to-befall something Thracian army
ἔοικεν, οἷα τοῦδε γιγνώσκω κλύων.
seems such-as from-this-one I-recognize hearing
ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ἔρρει στρατιά, πέπτωκεν ἄναξ
is-gone army has-fallen lord
δολίῳ πληγῇ.
by-treacherous blow
ἆ ἆ ἆ ἆ,
ah ah ah ah
οἵα μ᾽ ὀδύνη τείρει φονίου
what-sort me pain wears of-bloody

τραύματος εἴσω. πῶς ἂν ὀλοίμην;
wound within how — might-I-perish

χρῆν γάρ μ' ἀκλεῶς Ῥῆσόν τε θανεῖν.
it-was-right for me ingloriously Rhesus and to-die

Τροίᾳ κέλσαντ' ἐπίκουρον;
to-Troy having-landed helper

ΧΟΡΟΣ τάδ' οὐκ ἐν αἰνιγμοῖσι σημαίνει κακά·
these-things not in riddles signals evils

σαφῶς γὰρ αὐδᾷ συμμάχους ὀλωλότας.
clearly for says allies perished

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ κακῶς πέπρακται κἀπὶ τοῖς κακοῖσι πρὸς
badly has-been-done and-on the evils besides

αἴσχιστα· καίτοι δὶς τόσον κακὸν τόδε·
most-shamefully and-yet twice as-much evil this

θανεῖν γὰρ εὐκλεῶς μέν, εἰ θανεῖν χρεών,
to-die for gloriously indeed if to-die must

λυπρὸν μὲν οἶμαι τῷ θανόντι· πῶς γὰρ οὔ;
painful indeed I-think to-the having-died how for not

τοῖς ζῶσι δ' ὄγκος καὶ δόμων εὐδοξία.
to-the living but dignity and of-house good-repute

ἡμεῖς δ' ἀβούλως κἀκλεῶς ὀλώλαμεν.
we but foolishly and-ingloriously have-perished

ἐπεὶ γὰρ ἡμᾶς ηὗνασ' Ἑκτόρεια χείρ,
when for us bedded Hectorian hand

ξύνθημα λέξας, ηὕδομεν πεδοστιβεῖς,
watchword having-told we-slept on-the-ground

κόπῳ δαμέντες, οὐδ' ἐφρουρεῖτο στρατὸς
by-toil overcome nor was-guarded army

φυλακαῖσι νυκτέροισιν, οὐδ' ἐν τάξεσιν
with-watches nightly nor in ranks

ἔκειτο τεύχη, πλῆκτρά τ' οὐκ ἐπὶ ζυγοῖς
lay arms whips and not on yokes
ἵππων καθήρμοσθ', ὡς ἄναξ ἐπεύθετο
of-horses were-fitted since lord learned
κρατοῦντας ὑμᾶς κἀφεδρεύοντας νεῶν
prevailing you and-besieging ships
πρύμναισι· φαύλως δ' ηὕδομεν πεπτωκότες.
at-sterns carelessly and we-slept fallen
κἀγὼ μελούσῃ καρδίᾳ λήξας ὕπνου
and-I with-anxious heart having-ceased from-sleep
πώλοισι χόρτον, προσδοκῶν ἑωθινὴν
for-colts fodder expecting at-dawn
ζεύξειν ἐς ἀλκήν, ἀφθόνῳ μετρῶ χερί.
to-yoke to battle with-unstinting measure with-hand
λεύσσω δὲ φῶτε περιπολοῦνθ' ἡμῶν στρατὸν
I-see and two-men prowling-round our army
πυκνῆς δι' ὄρφνης· ὡς δ' ἐκινήθην ἐγώ,
thick through darkness when and was-stirred I
ἐπτηξάτην τε κἀνεχωρείτην πάλιν·
they-cowered and and-withdrew back
ἤπυσα δ' αὐτοῖς μὴ πελάζεσθαι στρατῷ,
I-shouted and to-them not to-approach army
κλῶπας δοκήσας συμμάχων πλάθειν τινάς.
thieves thinking of-allies to-come-near some
οἱ δ' οὐδέν· οὐ μὴν οὐδ' ἐγὼ τὰ πλείονα,
they and nothing not indeed nor I the more
ηὗδον δ' ἀπελθὼν αὖθις εἰς κοίτην πάλιν.
I-slept and having-gone-away again to bed back
καί μοι καθ' ὕπνον δόξα τις παρίσταται·
and to-me in sleep vision some stands-by

ἵππους γὰρ ἃς ἔθρεψα κἀδιφρηλάτουν
mares for which I-reared and-drove
Ῥήσῳ παρεστώς, εἶδον, ὡς ὄναρ δοκῶν,
to-Rhesus standing-by I-saw as dream thinking
λύκους ἐπεμβεβῶτας ἑδραίαν ῥάχιν·
wolves having-mounted-on sitting back
θείνοντε δ' οὐρᾷ πωλικῆς ῥινοῦ τρίχα,
striking-both and with-tail of-colts hide hair
ἤλαυνον, αἱ δ' ἔρρεγκον ἐξ ἀρτηριῶν
drove they and snorted from windpipes
θυμὸν πνέουσαι κἀνεχαίτιζον φόβην.
spirit breathing and-reared mane
ἐγὼ δ' ἀμύνων θῆρας ἐξεγείρομαι
I and defending beasts wake
πώλοισιν· ἔννυχος γὰρ ἐξώρμα φόβος.
for-colts nightly for drove-out fear
κλύω δ' ἐπάρας κρᾶτα μυχθισμὸν νεκρῶν.
I-hear and having-raised head gasp of-dead
θερμὸς δὲ κρουνὸς δεσπότου πάρα σφαγαῖς
warm and spurt of-master from slaughters
βάλλει με δυσθνητοῦντος αἵματος νέου.
strikes me of-dying-hard blood fresh
ὀρθὸς δ' ἀνάσσω χειρὶ σὺν κενῇ δορός.
upright and I-leap hand with empty of-spear
καί μ' ἔγχος αὐγάζοντα καὶ θηρώμενον
and me spear seeking and hunting
παίει παραστὰς νεῖραν εἰς πλευρὰν ξίφει
strikes having-stood-by lowest into side with-sword
ἀνὴρ ἀκμάζων· φασγάνου γὰρ ᾐσθόμην
man in-his-prime of-sword for I-perceived

πληγῆς, βαθεῖαν ἄλοκα τραύματος λαβών.
of-blow deep furrow of-wound having-received
πίπτω δὲ πρηνής· οἱ δ' ὄχημα πωλικὸν
I-fall and headlong they and car colts
λαβόντες ἵππων ἵεσαν φυγῇ πόδα.
having-taken of-horses set in-flight foot
ἆ ἆ.
ah ah
ὀδύνη με τείρει, κοὐκέτ' ὀρθοῦμαι τάλας.
pain me wears and-no-longer stand-upright wretched
καὶ συμφορὰν μὲν οἶδ' ὁρῶν, τρόπῳ δ' ὅτῳ 800
and misfortune indeed I-know seeing in-way but which
τεθνᾶσιν οἱ θανόντες οὐκ ἔχω φράσαι,
have-died the dead not I-can tell
οὐδ' ἐξ ὁποίας χειρός. εἰκάσαι δέ μοι
nor from what-sort hand to-guess but to-me
πάρεστι λυπρὰ πρὸς φίλων πεπονθέναι.
it-is-possible painful-things from friends to-have-suffered
ΧΟΡΟΣ ἡνίοχε Θρῃκὸς τοῦ κακῶς πεπραγότος,
charioteer of-Thracian of-the badly having-fared
μηδὲν δύσοιζ' οὐ πολεμίους δρᾶσαι τάδε. 805
nothing lament not enemies to-have-done these-things
Ἕκτωρ δὲ καὐτὸς συμφορᾶς πεπυσμένος
Hector and and-himself of-misfortune having-learned
χωρεῖ· συναλγεῖ δ', ὡς ἔοικε, σοῖς κακοῖς.
comes grieves-with and as seems with-your evils
ΕΚΤΩΡ πῶς οἱ μέγιστα πήματ' ἐξειργασμένοι
how the greatest woes having-wrought
μολόντες ὑμᾶς πολεμίων κατάσκοποι
having-come you of-enemies spies

λήθουσιν αἰσχρῶς, καὶ κατεσφάγη στρατός,
escape-notice shamefully and was-slaughtered army
κοὔτ' εἰσιόντας στρατόπεδ' ἐξαπώσατε
and-neither entering camp did-you-thrust-out
οὔτ' ἐξιόντας; τῶνδε τίς δώσει δίκην
nor going-out of-these who will-give penalty
πλὴν σοῦ; σὲ γὰρ δὴ φύλακά φημ' εἶναι στρατοῦ.
except you you for indeed guard I-say to-be of-army
φροῦδοι δ' ἄπληκτοι, τῇ Φρυγῶν κακανδρίᾳ
gone and unstruck by-the of-Phrygians cowardice
πόλλ' ἐγγελῶντες τῷ στρατηλάτῃ τ' ἐμοί.
much laughing-at to-the general and me
εὖ νυν τόδ' ἴστε, Ζεὺς ὀμώμοσται πατήρ,
well now this know Zeus has-been-sworn-by father
ἤτοι μάραγνά γ' ἢ καρανιστὴς μόρος
either whip at-least or beheading fate
μένει σε δρῶντα τοιάδ', ἢ τὸν Ἕκτορα
awaits you doing such-things or the Hector
τὸ μηδὲν εἶναι καὶ κακὸν νομίζετε.
the nothing to-be and evil consider

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἰὼ ἰώ,
oh oh
μέγ' ἄρ' ἐμοὶ μέγ', ὦ πολίοχον κράτος,
great then to-me great O city-holding power
κακὸν ἔμολεν, ὅτε σοι
evil came when to-you
ἄγγελος ἦλθον,
messenger I-came
ἀμφὶ ναῦς πύρ' αἴθειν Ἀργείων στρατόν·
around ships fires to-kindle of-Argives army

ἐπεὶ ἄγρυπνον ὄμμ᾽ ἐν εὐφρόνῃ
since sleepless eye in night
οὔτ᾽ ἐκοίμισ᾽ οὔτ᾽ ἔβριζ᾽,
neither I-lulled nor nodded
οὐ τὰς Σιμοεντιάδας πηγάς· μή μοι
not the Simoisian springs not to-me
κότον, ὦ ἄνα, θῇς· ἀναίτιος γὰρ
wrath O lord set guiltless for
ἔγωγε πάντων.
I of-all
ἢν δὲ χρόνῳ παράκαιρον ἔργον ἢ λόγον
if and in-time unseasonable deed or word
πύθῃ, κατά με γᾶς
you-learn beneath me earth
ζῶντα πόρευσον· οὐ παραιτοῦμαι.
living bring-down not I-beg-off
ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ τί τοῖσδ᾽ ἀπειλεῖς, βάρβαρός τε βαρβάρου
why these do-you-threaten barbarian and of-barbarian
γνώμην ὑφαιρεῖ τὴν ἐμήν, πλέκων λόγους;
judgment do-you-steal the my weaving words
σὺ ταῦτ᾽ ἔδρασας· οὐδέν᾽ ἂν δεξαίμεθα
you these-things did no-one — we-would-accept
οὔθ᾽ οἱ παθόντες οὔτ᾽ ἂν οἱ τετρωμένοι
neither the having-suffered nor — the wounded
ἄλλον· μακροῦ γε δεῖ σε καὶ σοφοῦ λόγου,
other long at-least must you and clever word
ὅτῳ με πείσεις μὴ φίλους κατακτανεῖν,
by-which me you-will-persuade not friends to-have-killed
ἵππων ἐρασθείς, ὧν ἕκατι συμμάχους
horses having-desired which for-the-sake allies

τοὺς σοὺς φονεύεις, πόλλ' ἐπισκήπτων μολεῖν.
the your you-slay many-things enjoining to-come
ἦλθον, τεθνᾶσιν· εὐπρεπέστερον Πάρις
they-came they-are-dead more-decently Paris
ξενίαν κατῄσχυν' ἢ σὺ συμμάχους κτανών.
hospitality disgraced than you allies having-killed
μὴ γάρ τι λέξῃς ὥς τις Ἀργείων μολὼν
not for anything say that someone of-Argives having-come
διώλεσ' ἡμᾶς· τίς ἂν ὑπερβαλὼν λόχους
destroyed us who — having-passed ambushes
Τρώων ἐφ' ἡμᾶς ἦλθεν, ὥστε καὶ λαθεῖν;
of-Trojans against us came so-as also to-escape-notice
σὺ πρόσθεν ἡμῶν ἧσο καὶ Φρυγῶν στρατός.
you before us were-sitting and of-Phrygians army
τίς οὖν τέτρωται, τίς τέθνηκε συμμάχων
who then has-been-wounded who has-died of-allies
τῶν σῶν, μολόντων ὧν σὺ πολεμίων λέγεις;
of-the your having-come of-whom you enemies say
ἡμεῖς δὲ καὶ τετρώμεθ', οἱ δὲ μείζονα
we and both have-been-wounded others and greater-things
παθόντες οὐχ ὁρῶσιν ἡλίου φάος.
having-suffered not see of-sun light
ἁπλῶς δ' Ἀχαιῶν οὐδέν' αἰτιώμεθα.
simply and of-Achaeans no-one we-blame
τίς δ' ἂν χαμεύνας πολεμίων κατ' εὐφρόνην
who and — beds of-enemies by night
Ῥήσου μολὼν ἐξηῦρεν, εἰ μή τις θεῶν
of-Rhesus having-come found-out if not some of-gods
ἔφραζε τοῖς κτανοῦσιν; οὐδ' ἀφιγμένον
told to-the killers nor having-arrived

τὸ πάμπαν ᾔσαν· ἀλλὰ μηχανᾷ τάδε.
the at-all they-knew but you-contrive these-things

ΕΚΤΩΡ χρόνον μὲν ἤδη συμμάχοισι χρώμεθα
time indeed already allies we-use

ὅσονπερ ἐν γῇ τῇδ' Ἀχαϊκὸς λεώς,
as-long-as in land this Achaean people

κοὐδὲν πρὸς αὐτῶν οἶδα πλημμελὲς κλύων·
and-nothing from them I-know discordant hearing

ἐν σοὶ δ' ἄρ' ἀρχώμεσθα; μή μ' ἔρως ἕλοι
in you but then shall-we-begin not me love may-seize

τοιοῦτος ἵππων ὥστ' ἀποκτείνειν φίλους.
such of-horses so-as to-kill friends

καὶ ταῦτ' Ὀδυσσέως· τίς γὰρ ἄλλος ἄν ποτε
and these-things of-Odysseus who for other — ever

ἔδρασεν ἢ 'βούλευσεν Ἀργείων ἀνήρ;
did or planned of-Argives man

δέδοικα δ' αὐτὸν καί τί μου θράσσει φρένας,
I-fear and him and something my troubles mind

μὴ καὶ Δόλωνα συντυχὼν κατέκτανεν·
lest also Dolon having-met he-has-killed

χρόνον γὰρ ἤδη φροῦδος ὢν οὐ φαίνεται.
time for already gone being not appears

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ οὐκ οἶδα τοὺς σοὺς οὓς λέγεις Ὀδυσσέας·
not I-know the your whom you-mean Odysseuses

ἡμεῖς δ' ὑπ' ἐχθρῶν οὐδενὸς πεπλήγμεθα.
we but by enemies by-none have-been-struck

ΕΚΤΩΡ σὺ δ' οὖν νόμιζε ταῦτ', ἐπείπερ σοι δοκεῖ.
you and then think these-things since to-you it-seems

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ὦ γαῖα πατρίς, πῶς ἂν ἐνθάνοιμί σοι;
O land paternal how — might-I-die-in you

ΕΚΤΩΡ μὴ θνῇσχ'· ἅλις γὰρ τῶν τεθνηκότων ὄχλος.
not die enough for of-the dead crowd

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ποῖ δὴ τράπωμαι δεσποτῶν μονούμενος;
where indeed shall-I-turn of-masters bereft

ΕΚΤΩΡ οἰκός σε κεύθων οὑμὸς ἐξιάσεται.
house you hiding my will-heal

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ καὶ πῶς με κηδεύσουσιν αὐθεντῶν χέρες;
and how me will-tend of-murderers hands

ΕΚΤΩΡ ὅδ' αὖ τὸν αὐτὸν μῦθον οὐ λήξει λέγων.
this-one again the same story not will-stop saying

ΗΝΙΟΧΟΣ ὄλοιθ' ὁ δράσας. οὐ γὰρ εἰς σὲ τείνεται
may-he-perish the having-done not for to you reaches

γλῶσσ', ὡς σὺ κομπεῖς· ἡ Δίκη δ' ἐπίσταται.
tongue as you boast the Justice and knows

ΕΚΤΩΡ λάζυσθ'· ἄγοντες δ' αὐτὸν εἰς δόμους ἐμούς,
take leading and him to house my

οὕτως ὅπως ἂν μὴ 'γκαλῇ πορσύνετε·
so how — not he-may-find-fault provide

ὑμᾶς δ' ἰόντας τοῖσιν ἐν τείχει χρεὼν
you and going those in wall must

Πριάμῳ τε καὶ γέρουσι σημῆναι νεκροὺς
to-Priam and and to-elders to-signal dead

θάπτειν κελεύειν λεωφόρου πρὸς ἐκτροπάς.
to-bury to-bid of-highway at turnings

ΧΟΡΟΣ τί ποτ' εὐτυχίας ἐκ τῆς μεγάλης
why ever good-fortune from the great

Τροίαν ἀνάγει πάλιν εἰς πένθος
Troy leads back into grief

δαίμων ἄλλος, τί φυτεύων;
god other what begetting

ἔα ἔα. ὦ ὦ.
ha ha O O

τίς ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς θεός, ὦ βασιλεῦ,
who over head god O king

τὸν νεόδμητον νεκρὸν ἐν χειροῖν
the newly-slain corpse in hands

φοράδην πέμπει;
borne-aloft sends

ταρβῶ λεύσσων τόδε φάσμα.
I-fear seeing this apparition

ΜΟΥΣΑ ὁρᾶν πάρεστι, Τρῶες· ἡ γὰρ ἐν σοφοῖς
to-see it-is-possible Trojans the for among wise

τιμὰς ἔχουσα Μοῦσα, συγγόνων μία,
honors having Muse of-sisters one

πάρειμι, παῖδα τόνδ' ὁρῶσ' οἰκτρῶς φίλον
I-am-present child this seeing pitifully dear

θανόνθ' ὑπ' ἐχθρῶν· ὅν ποθ' ὁ κτείνας χρόνῳ
having-died by enemies whom one-day the having-killed in-time

δόλιος Ὀδυσσεὺς ἀξίαν τίσει δίκην.
treacherous Odysseus worthy will-pay penalty

ἰαλέμῳ αὐθιγενεῖ,
with-lament native

τέκνον, σ' ὀλοφύρομαι, ὦ
child you I-bewail O

ματρὸς ἄλγος, οἵαν
of-mother grief what-sort

ἔκελσας ὁδὸν ποτὶ Τροίαν,
you-landed road to Troy

ἦ δυσδαίμονα καὶ μελέαν,
surely ill-fated and wretched

ἀπομεμφομένας ἐμοῦ πορευθείς,
of-blaming me having-gone
ἀπὸ δ' ἀντομένου πατρός, βιαίως.
from and beseeching father by-force
ὤμοι ἐγὼ σέθεν, ὦ φιλία
ah-me I of-you O dear
φιλία κεφαλά, τέκνον, ὤμοι.
dear head child ah-me
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὅσον προσήκει μὴ γένους κοινωνίαν
as-much-as befits not of-race fellowship
ἔχοντι, κἀγὼ τὸν σὸν οἰκτείρω γόνον.
having and-I the your pity offspring
ΜΟΥΣΑ ὄλοιτο μὲν Οἰνεΐδας,
may-perish indeed son-of-Oeneus
ὄλοιτο δὲ Λαρτιάδας,
may-perish and son-of-Laertes
ὅς μ' ἄπαιδα γέννας
who me childless of-offspring
ἔθηκεν ἀριστοτόκοιο·
made of-best-son-bearing
ἅ θ' Ἕλλανα λιποῦσα δόμον
who and Greek having-left house
Φρυγίων λεχέων ἔπλευσε πλαθεῖσ'
of-Phrygian bed sailed having-approached
ὑπ' Ἰλίῳ ὤλεσε μέν σ' ἕκατι Τροίας,
under Ilium destroyed indeed you for-the-sake of-Troy
φίλτατε, μυριάδας τε πόλεις
dearest countless and cities
ἀνδρῶν ἀγαθῶν ἐκένωσεν.
of-men good emptied

ἦ πολλὰ μὲν ζῶν, πολλὰ δ' εἰς Ἅιδου μολών,
surely many-things indeed living many-things and to of-Hades having-gone
Φιλάμμονος παῖ, τῆς ἐμῆς ἥψω φρενός·
of-Philammon child the my you-touched mind
ὕβρις γάρ, ἥ σ' ἔσφηλε, καὶ Μουσῶν ἔρις
outrage for which you overthrew and of-Muses strife
τεκεῖν μ' ἔθηκε τόνδε δύστηνον γόνον.
to-bear me made this wretched offspring
περῶσα γὰρ δὴ ποταμίους διὰ ῥοὰς
crossing for indeed river through streams
λέκτροις ἐπλάθην Στρυμόνος φυταλμίοις,
to-bed I-approached of-Strymon to-begetting
ὅτ' ἤλθομεν γῆς χρυσόβωλον ἐς λέπας
when we-came of-land gold-clodded to crag
Πάγγαιον ὀργάνοισιν ἐξησκημέναι
Pangaeum with-instruments equipped
Μοῦσαι μεγίστην εἰς ἔριν μελῳδίας
Muses greatest to strife of-song
δεινῷ σοφιστῇ Θρηκί, κἀτυφλώσαμεν
with-terrible sophist Thracian and-we-blinded
Θάμυριν, ὃς ἡμῶν πόλλ' ἐδέννασεν τέχνην.
Thamyris who our much reviled art
κἀπεὶ σὲ τίκτω, συγγόνους αἰδουμένη
and-when you I-bear sisters respecting
καὶ παρθενείαν, ἧκ' ἐς εὐύδρου πατρὸς
and maidenhood I-threw to of-fair-flowing father
δίνας· τρέφειν δέ σ' οὐ βρότειον ἐς χέρα
eddies to-rear but you not mortal into hand
Στρυμὼν δίδωσιν, ἀλλὰ πηγαίαις κόραις.
Strymon gives but to-spring to-maidens

ἔνθ' ἐκτραφεὶς κάλλιστα παρθένων ὕπο,
where reared most-finely maidens by
Θρῄκης ἀνάσσων πρῶτος ἦσθ' ἀνδρῶν, τέκνον.
of-Thrace ruling first you-were of-men child
καί σ' ἀμφὶ γῆν μὲν πατρίαν φιλαιμάτους
and you around land indeed paternal blood-loving
ἀλκὰς κορύσσοντ' οὐκ ἐδείμαινον θανεῖν,
battles marshaling not I-feared to-die
Τροίας δ' ἀπηύδων ἄστυ μὴ κέλσαι ποτέ,
of-Troy but I-forbade town not to-land ever
εἰδυῖα τὸν σὸν πότμον· ἀλλά σ' Ἕκτορος
knowing the your fate but you of-Hector
πρεσβεύμαθ' αἵ τε μυρίαι γερουσίαι
embassies the and countless councils
ἔπεισαν ἐλθεῖν κἀπικουρῆσαι φίλοις.
persuaded to-come and-to-help friends
σὺ τοῦδ', Ἀθάνα, παντὸς αἰτία μόρου,
you of-this Athena all cause of-fate
οὐδὲν δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς οὐδ' ὁ Τυδέως τόκος
nothing but Odysseus nor the of-Tydeus offspring
ἔδρασε δράσας· μὴ δόκει λεληθέναι.
did having-done not think to-have-escaped-notice
καίτοι πόλιν σὴν σύγγονοι πρεσβεύομεν
and-yet city your sisters we-honor
Μοῦσαι μάλιστα κἀπιχρώμεθα χθονί,
Muses most and-frequent land
μυστηρίων τε τῶν ἀπορρήτων φανὰς
of-mysteries and of-the secret torches
ἔδειξεν Ὀρφεύς, αὐτανέψιος νεκροῦ
showed Orpheus cousin of-dead

τοῦδ᾽ ὃν κατακτείνεις σύ· Μουσαῖόν τε σὸν
of-this-one whom you-kill you Musaeus and your
σεμνὸν πολίτην κἀπὶ πλεῖστον ἄνδρ᾽ ἕνα
holy citizen and-to most man one
ἐλθόντα, Φοῖβος σύγγονοί τ᾽ ἠσκήσαμεν.
having-come Phoebus sisters and we-trained
καὶ τῶνδε μισθὸν παῖδ᾽ ἔχουσ᾽ ἐν ἀγκάλαις
and of-these wage child having in arms
θρηνῶ· σοφιστὴν δ᾽ ἄλλον οὐκ ἐπάξομαι.
I-lament sophist but other not I-shall-bring
ΧΟΡΟΣ μάτην ἄρ᾽ ἡμᾶς Θρῄκιος τροχηλάτης
in-vain then us Thracian charioteer
ἐδέννασ᾽, Ἕκτορ, τῷδε βουλεῦσαι φόνον.
reviled Hector to-this-one to-plan murder
ΕΚΤΩΡ ᾔδη τάδ᾽· οὐδὲν μάντεων ἔδει φράσαι
I-knew these-things nothing of-seers needed to-tell
Ὀδυσσέως τέχναισι τόνδ᾽ ὀλωλότα.
of-Odysseus by-arts this-one having-perished
ἐγὼ δὲ γῆς ἔφεδρον Ἑλλήνων στρατὸν
I and of-land besieging of-Greeks army
λεύσσων, τί μὴν ἔμελλον οὐ πέμψειν φίλοις
seeing why indeed was-I-about not to-send to-friends
κήρυκας, ἐλθεῖν κἀπικουρῆσαι χθονί;
heralds to-come and-to-help land
ἔπεμψ᾽· ὀφείλων δ᾽ ἦλθε συμπονεῖν ἐμοί.
I-sent owing and he-came to-toil-with me
οὐ μὴν θανόντι γ᾽ οὐδαμῶς συνήδομαι.
not indeed dead at-least in-no-way I-rejoice
καὶ νῦν ἕτοιμος τῷδε καὶ τεῦξαι τάφον
and now ready for-this-one both to-make tomb

καὶ ξυμπυρῶσαι μυρίων πέπλων χλιδήν·
and to-burn-with of-countless robes luxury
φίλος γὰρ ἐλθὼν δυστυχῶς ἀπέρχεται.
friend for having-come unfortunately departs
ΜΟΥΣΑ οὐκ εἶσι γαίας εἰς μελάγχιμον πέδον·
not he-will-go of-land into black ground
τοσόνδε νύμφην τὴν ἔνερθ' αἰτήσομαι
so-much bride the below I-shall-ask
τῆς καρποποιοῦ παῖδα Δήμητρος θεᾶς,
of-the fruit-bearing child of-Demeter goddess
ψυχὴν ἀνεῖναι τοῦδ'· ὀφειλέτις δέ μοι
soul to-release of-this-one owing and to-me
τοὺς Ὀρφέως τιμῶσα φαίνεσθαι φίλους.
the of-Orpheus honoring to-appear friends
κἀμοὶ μὲν ὡς θανών τε κοὐ λεύσσων φάος
and-to-me indeed as having-died both and-not seeing light
ἔσται τὸ λοιπόν· οὐ γὰρ ἐς ταὐτόν ποτε
he-will-be the hereafter not for to the-same ever
ἔτ' εἶσιν οὐδὲ μητρὸς ὄψεται δέμας,
still he-will-come nor of-mother will-see body
κρυπτὸς δ' ἐν ἄντροις τῆς ὑπαργύρου χθονὸς
hidden but in caves of-the silver-veined of-land
ἀνθρωποδαίμων κείσεται βλέπων φάος,
man-god will-lie seeing light
Βάκχου προφήτης ὥστε Παγγαίου πέτραν
of-Bacchus prophet as of-Pangaeum rock
ᾤκησε σεμνὸς τοῖσιν εἰδόσιν θεός.
dwelt holy to-the knowing god
ῥᾷον δὲ πένθος τῆς θαλασσίας θεοῦ
more-lightly and grief of-the sea goddess

οἴσω· θανεῖν γὰρ καὶ τὸν ἐκ κείνης χρεών.
I-shall-bear to-die for also the from her must
θρήνοις δ' ἀδελφαὶ πρῶτα μὲν σ' ὑμνήσομεν,
with-dirges and sisters first indeed you we-shall-hymn
ἔπειτ' Ἀχιλλῆ Θέτιδος ἐν πένθει ποτέ.
then Achilles of-Thetis in grief one-day
οὐ ῥύσεταί νιν Παλλάς, ἥ σ' ἀπέκτανε·
not will-save him Pallas who you killed
τοῖον φαρέτρα Λοξίου σῴζει βέλος.
such quiver of-Loxias guards shaft
ὦ παιδοποιοὶ συμφοραί, πόνοι βροτῶν,
O child-bearing misfortunes toils of-mortals
ὡς ὅστις ὑμᾶς μὴ κακῶς λογίζεται,
as whoever you not badly reckons
ἄπαις διοίσει κοὐ τεκὼν θάψει τέκνα.
childless will-live-through and-not having-borne will-bury children
ΧΟΡΟΣ οὗτος μὲν ἤδη μητρὶ κηδεύειν μέλει·
this-one indeed already to-mother to-tend is-a-care
σὺ δ' εἴ τι πράσσειν τῶν προκειμένων θέλεις,
you and if something to-do of-the at-hand wish
Ἕκτορ, πάρεστι· φῶς γὰρ ἡμέρας τόδε.
Hector it-is-time light for of-day this
ΕΚΤΩΡ χωρεῖτε, συμμάχους θ' ὁπλίζεσθαι τάχος
go allies and to-arm quickly
ἄνωχθε, πληροῦν τ' αὐχένας ξυνωρίδων.
bid to-fill and necks of-pairs
πανοὺς δ' ἔχοντας χρὴ μένειν Τυρσηνικῆς
torches and having must to-wait-for Tyrrhenian
σάλπιγγος αὐδήν· ὡς ὑπερβαλὼν τάφρον
of-trumpet voice since having-crossed trench

τείχη τ' Ἀχαιῶν ναυσὶν αἶθον ἐμβαλεῖν
walls and of-Achaeans on-ships fire to-throw
πέποιθα Τρωσί θ' ἡμέραν ἐλευθέραν
I-trust for-Trojans and day free
ἀκτῖνα τὴν στείχουσαν ἡλίου φέρειν.
ray the coming of-sun to-bring
ΧΟΡΟΣ πείθου βασιλεῖ· στείχωμεν ὅπλοις
obey the-king let-us-go with-arms
κοσμησάμενοι καὶ ξυμμαχίᾳ
having-adorned-ourselves and to-alliance
τάδε φράζωμεν· τάχα δ' ἂν νίκην
these-things let-us-tell soon and — victory
δοίη δαίμων ὁ μεθ' ἡμῶν.
might-give god the with us

EURIPIDES

ΕΚΑΒΗ

Hecuba

I · POLYDORUS' GHOST

The ghost of Polydorus tells how Priam sent him, the youngest son, with much gold to the Thracian king Polymestor, who killed him for the gold when Troy fell and threw his body into the sea. His mother Hecuba, now a captive, is in the Chersonese with the Greek fleet, which is held there by the ghost of Achilles, who demands Polyxena as a sacrifice. Today Hecuba will see two of her children dead, for he has asked the gods below to let his body be found.

ΠΟΛΥΔΩΡΟΥ ΕΙΔΩΛΟΝ Ἥκω νεκρῶν κευθμῶνα καὶ σκότου πύλας
I-have-come of-dead hiding-place and of-darkness gates
λιπών, ἵν' Ἅιδης χωρὶς ᾠκισται θεῶν,
having-left where Hades apart dwells from-gods
Πολύδωρος, Ἑκάβης παῖς γεγὼς τῆς Κισσέως
Polydorus of-Hecuba son born of-the of-Cisseus
Πριάμου τε πατρός, ὅς μ', ἐπεὶ Φρυγῶν πόλιν
of-Priam and father who me when of-Phrygians city
κίνδυνος ἔσχε δορὶ πεσεῖν Ἑλληνικῷ, 5
danger held by-spear to-fall by-Greek
δείσας ὑπεξέπεμψε Τρωικῆς χθονὸς
fearing sent-away-secretly from-Trojan from-land
Πολυμήστορος πρὸς δῶμα Θρῃκίου ξένου,
of-Polymestor to house of-Thracian host
ὃς τὴν ἀρίστην Χερσονησίαν πλάκα
who the best Chersonese plain
σπείρει, φίλιππον λαὸν εὐθύνων δορί.
sows horse-loving people ruling with-spear
πολὺν δὲ σὺν ἐμοὶ χρυσὸν ἐκπέμπει λάθρᾳ 10
much and with me gold sends-out secretly
πατήρ, ἵν', εἴ ποτ' Ἰλίου τείχη πέσοι,
father so-that if ever of-Ilium walls should-fall

τοῖς ζῶσιν εἴη παισὶ μὴ σπάνις βίου.
for-the living might-be children not lack of-livelihood
νεώτατος δ' ἦν Πριαμιδῶν, ὃ καί με γῆς
youngest and I-was of-Priam's-sons which also me from-land
ὑπεξέπεμψεν· οὔτε γὰρ φέρειν ὅπλα
he-sent-away-secretly neither for to-carry arms
οὔτ' ἔγχος οἷός τ' ἦν νέῳ βραχίονι.
nor spear able — was with-young arm
ἔως μὲν οὖν γῆς ὄρθ' ἔκειθ' ὁρίσματα,
while indeed then of-land upright lay boundaries
πύργοι τ' ἄθραυστοι Τρωικῆς ἦσαν χθονός,
towers and unbroken of-Trojan were of-land
Ἕκτωρ τ' ἀδελφὸς οὑμὸς ηὐτύχει δορί,
Hector and brother my prospered with-spear
καλῶς παρ' ἀνδρὶ Θρῃκὶ πατρῴῳ ξένῳ
well with man Thracian paternal host
τροφαῖσιν ὥς τις πτόρθος ηὐξόμην τάλας.
with-nurture like some sapling I-grew wretched
ἐπεὶ δὲ Τροία θ' Ἕκτορός τ' ἀπόλλυται
when and Troy and of-Hector and perishes
ψυχή, πατρῴα θ' ἑστία κατεσκάφη,
soul paternal and hearth was-razed
αὐτὸς δὲ βωμῷ πρὸς θεοδμήτῳ πίτνει
himself and altar at god-built falls
σφαγεὶς Ἀχιλλέως παιδὸς ἐκ μιαιφόνου,
slaughtered of-Achilles of-child by blood-stained
κτείνει με χρυσοῦ τὸν ταλαίπωρον χάριν
kills me of-gold the wretched for-the-sake
ξένος πατρῷος καὶ κτανὼν ἐς οἶδμ' ἁλὸς
host paternal and having-killed into swell of-sea

μεθῆχ', ἵν' αὐτὸς χρυσὸν ἐν δόμοις ἔχῃ.
let-go so-that himself gold in house may-have
κεῖμαι δ' ἐπ' ἀκταῖς, ἄλλοτ' ἐν πόντου σάλῳ,
I-lie and on shores at-other-times in of-sea tossing
πολλοῖς διαύλοις κυμάτων φορούμενος,
with-many ebbs-and-flows of-waves carried
ἄκλαυστος, ἄταφος· νῦν δ' ὑπὲρ μητρὸς φίλης
unwept unburied now and over mother dear
Ἑκάβης ἀΐσσω, σῶμ' ἐρημώσας ἐμόν,
Hecuba I-dart body having-left my
τριταῖον ἤδη φέγγος αἰωρούμενος,
third already light hovering
ὅσονπερ ἐν γῇ τῇδε Χερσονησίᾳ
as-long-as in land this Chersonese
μήτηρ ἐμὴ δύστηνος ἐκ Τροίας πάρα.
mother my wretched from Troy is-present
πάντες δ' Ἀχαιοὶ ναῦς ἔχοντες ἥσυχοι
all and Achaeans ships having quiet
θάσσουσ' ἐπ' ἀκταῖς τῆσδε Θρῃκίας χθονός·
sit on shores of-this Thracian land
ὁ Πηλέως γὰρ παῖς ὑπὲρ τύμβου φανεὶς
the of-Peleus for child over tomb having-appeared
κατέσχ' Ἀχιλλεὺς πᾶν στράτευμ' Ἑλληνικόν,
held-back Achilles all army Greek
πρὸς οἶκον εὐθύνοντας ἐναλίαν πλάτην·
to home steering sea oar
αἰτεῖ δ' ἀδελφὴν τὴν ἐμὴν Πολυξένην
asks and sister the my Polyxena
τύμβῳ φίλον πρόσφαγμα καὶ γέρας λαβεῖν.
for-tomb dear victim and prize to-take

καὶ τεύξεται τοῦδ', οὐδ' ἀδώρητος φίλων
and will-obtain this nor ungifted friendly
ἔσται πρὸς ἀνδρῶν· ἡ πεπρωμένη δ' ἄγει
will-be by men the fate and leads
θανεῖν ἀδελφὴν τῷδ' ἐμὴν ἐν ἥματι.
to-die sister this my on day
δυοῖν δὲ παίδοιν δύο νεκρὼ κατόψεται
of-two and children two corpses will-see
μήτηρ, ἐμοῦ τε τῆς τε δυστήνου κόρης.
mother of-me both of-the and wretched girl
φανήσομαι γάρ, ὡς τάφου τλήμων τύχω,
I-shall-appear for so-that of-tomb wretched I-may-obtain
δούλης ποδῶν πάροιθεν ἐν κλυδωνίῳ.
of-slave of-feet before in surf
τοὺς γὰρ κάτω σθένοντας ἐξῃτησάμην
the for below powerful I-begged
τύμβου κυρῆσαι κεἰς χέρας μητρὸς πεσεῖν.
of-tomb to-obtain and-into hands of-mother to-fall
τοὐμὸν μὲν οὖν ὅσονπερ ἤθελον τυχεῖν
mine indeed then as-much-as I-wished to-obtain
ἔσται· γεραιᾷ δ' ἐκποδὼν χωρήσομαι
will-be to-old-woman and out-of-the-way I-will-withdraw
Ἑκάβῃ· περᾷ γὰρ ἥδ' ὑπὸ σκηνῆς πόδα
to-Hecuba passes for this-one from tent foot
Ἀγαμέμνονος, φάντασμα δειμαίνουσ' ἐμόν.
of-Agamemnon phantom fearing my
φεῦ·
alas
ὦ μῆτερ, ἥτις ἐκ τυραννικῶν δόμων
O mother who from royal house

δούλειον ἦμαρ εἶδες, ὡς πράσσεις κακῶς
slavish day saw how you-fare badly
ὅσονπερ εὖ ποτ'· ἀντισηκώσας δέ σε
as-much-as well once counterbalancing and you
φθείρει θεῶν τις τῆς πάροιθ' εὐπραξίας.
destroys of-gods someone of-the former prosperity

II · THE VOTE OF THE GREEKS

Hecuba comes out of the tent, troubled by a dream of a deer torn from her knees by a wolf and of Achilles' ghost demanding a prize. The chorus brings word that the Greeks have voted to sacrifice Polyxena on Achilles' tomb, persuaded by Odysseus. Hecuba laments and calls her daughter out; Polyxena laments, but for her mother's life rather than her own.

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἄγετ', ὦ παῖδες, τὴν γραῦν πρὸ δόμων,
lead O girls the old-woman before house
ἄγετ' ὀρθοῦσαι τὴν ὁμόδουλον,
lead setting-upright the fellow-slave
Τρῳάδες, ὑμῖν, πρόσθε δ' ἄνασσαν·
Trojan-women to-you before and queen
λάβετε, φέρετε, πέμπετ', ἀείρετέ μου
take carry escort raise of-me
γεραιᾶς χειρὸς προσλαζύμεναι·
old hand taking-hold
κἀγὼ σκολιῷ σκίπωνι χερὸς
and-I on-crooked on-staff of-hand
διερειδομένα σπεύσω βραδύπουν
leaning shall-hasten slow-footed
ἴλυσιν ἄρθρων προτιθεῖσα.
going of-limbs putting-forward

ὦ στεροπὰ Διός, ὦ σκοτία νύξ,
O lightning of-Zeus O dark night
τί ποτ' αἴρομαι ἔννυχος οὕτω
why ever am-I-lifted by-night so
δείμασι, φάσμασιν; ὦ πότνια Χθών,
with-fears with-phantoms O lady Earth
μελανοπτερύγων μᾶτερ ὀνείρων,
of-black-winged mother of-dreams
ἀποπέμπομαι ἔννυχον ὄψιν,
I-send-away nightly vision
ἣν περὶ παιδὸς ἐμοῦ τοῦ σῳζομένου κατὰ Θρῄκην
which about child my the being-kept-safe in Thrace
ἀμφὶ Πολυξείνης τε φίλης θυγατρὸς δι' ὀνείρων
about of-Polyxena and dear daughter through dreams
φοβερὰν ὄψιν ἔμαθον, ἐδάην.
fearful vision I-learned I-knew
ὦ χθόνιοι θεοί, σώσατε παῖδ' ἐμόν,
O chthonic gods save child my
ὃς μόνος οἴκων ἄγκυρ' ἔτ' ἐμῶν
who alone of-house anchor still of-my
τὴν χιονώδη Θρῄκην κατέχει
the snowy Thrace holds
ξείνου πατρίου φυλακαῖσιν.
of-host paternal in-guardianship
ἔσται τι νέον,
there-will-be something new
ἥξει τι μέλος γοερὸν γοεραῖς.
will-come some strain mournful for-mourners
οὔποτ' ἐμὰ φρὴν ὧδ' ἀλίαστος
never my mind so unceasingly

φρίσσει, ταρβεῖ.
shudders fears

ποῦ ποτε θείαν Ἑλένου ψυχὰν
where ever divine of-Helenus soul

ἢ Κασάνδραν ἐσίδω, Τρῳάδες,
or Cassandra may-I-see Trojan-women

ὥς μοι κρίνωσιν ὀνείρους;
so-that to-me they-may-judge dreams

εἶδον γὰρ βαλιὰν ἔλαφον λύκου αἵμονι χαλᾷ
I-saw for dappled deer of-wolf by-bloody claw

σφαζομέναν, ἀπ᾽ ἐμῶν γονάτων σπασθεῖσαν ἀνάγκᾳ
being-slaughtered from my knees torn by-necessity

οἰκτρῶς· καὶ τόδε δεῖμά μοι·
pitifully and this fear to-me

ἦλθ᾽ ὑπὲρ ἄκρας τύμβου κορυφᾶς
came above top of-tomb summit

φάντασμ᾽ Ἀχιλέως· ᾔτει δὲ γέρας
phantom of-Achilles asked and prize

τῶν πολυμόχθων τινὰ Τρωιάδων.
of-the much-toiling some Trojan-women

ἀπ᾽ ἐμᾶς οὖν ἀπ᾽ ἐμᾶς τόδε παιδὸς
from my then from my this child

πέμψατε, δαίμονες, ἱκετεύω.
send gods I-supplicate

ΧΟΡΟΣ Ἑκάβη, σπουδῇ πρός σ᾽ ἐλιάσθην
Hecuba in-haste to you I-have-come

τὰς δεσποσύνους σκηνὰς προλιποῦσ᾽,
the master's tents having-left

ἵν᾽ ἐκληρώθην καὶ προσετάχθην
where I-was-allotted and assigned

δούλη, πόλεως ἀπελαυνομένη
slave of-city driven-out
τῆς Ἰλιάδος, λόγχης αἰχμῇ
of-the Ilian of-spear by-point
δοριθήρατος πρὸς Ἀχαιῶν,
spear-hunted by Achaeans
οὐδὲν παθέων ἀποκουφίζουσ',
nothing of-sufferings lightening
ἀλλ' ἀγγελίας βάρος ἀραμένη
but of-message weight having-taken-up
μέγα, σοί τε, γύναι, κῆρυξ ἀχέων.
great to-you and woman herald of-griefs
ἐν γὰρ Ἀχαιῶν πλήρει ξυνόδῳ
in for of-Achaeans full assembly
λέγεται δόξαι σὴν παῖδ' Ἀχιλεῖ
it-is-said to-have-been-resolved your child to-Achilles
σφάγιον θέσθαι· τύμβου δ' ἐπιβὰς
victim to-make of-tomb and having-mounted
οἶσθ' ὅτε χρυσέοις ἐφάνη σὺν ὅπλοις,
you-know when golden appeared with arms
τὰς ποντοπόρους δ' ἔσχε σχεδίας
the seafaring and held rafts
λαίφη προτόνοις ἐπερειδομένας,
sails on-forestays resting
τάδε θωΰσσων·
these-things shouting
ποῖ δή, Δαναοί, τὸν ἐμὸν τύμβον
where indeed Danaans the my tomb
στέλλεσθ' ἀγέραστον ἀφέντες;
are-you-setting-out without-prize having-left

πολλῆς δ' ἔριδος συνέπαισε κλύδων,
of-much and strife clashed wave
δόξα δ' ἐχώρει δίχ' ἀν' Ἑλλήνων
opinion and went two-ways through of-Greeks
στρατὸν αἰχμητήν, τοῖς μὲν διδόναι
army spear-bearing to-some indeed to-give
τύμβῳ σφάγιον, τοῖς δ' οὐχὶ δοκοῦν.
for-tomb victim to-others and not seeming
ἦν δὲ τὸ μὲν σὸν σπεύδων ἀγαθὸν
was and the indeed your striving good
τῆς μαντιπόλου Βάκχης ἀνέχων
of-the prophesying Bacchant upholding
λέκτρ' Ἀγαμέμνων·
bed Agamemnon
τὼ Θησείδα δ', ὄζω Ἀθηνῶν,
the-two Thesids and offshoots of-Athens
δισσῶν μύθων ῥήτορες ἦσαν·
of-two speeches speakers were
γνώμῃ δὲ μιᾷ συνεχωρείτην,
in-judgment but one agreed
τὸν Ἀχίλλειον τύμβον στεφανοῦν
the Achillean tomb to-crown
αἵματι χλωρῷ, τὰ δὲ Κασάνδρας
with-blood fresh the but of-Cassandra
λέκτρ' οὐκ ἐφάτην τῆς Ἀχιλείας
bed not they-said than-the Achillean
πρόσθεν θήσειν ποτὲ λόγχης.
before to-set ever spear
σπουδαὶ δὲ λόγων κατατεινομένων
efforts and of-speeches being-strained

ἦσαν ἴσαι πως, πρὶν ὁ ποικιλόφρων
were equal somehow before the subtle-minded
κόπις, ἡδυλόγος, δημοχαριστὴς
cunning sweet-speaking people-pleasing
Λαερτιάδης πείθει στρατιὰν
son-of-Laertes persuades army
μὴ τὸν ἄριστον Δαναῶν πάντων
not the best of-Danaans all
δούλων σφαγίων εἵνεκ' ἀπωθεῖν,
of-slave victims for-the-sake to-thrust-away
μηδέ τιν' εἰπεῖν παρὰ Περσεφόνῃ
nor anyone to-say beside Persephone
στάντα φθιμένων
standing of-dead
ὡς ἀχάριστοι Δαναοὶ Δαναοῖς
that ungrateful Danaans to-Danaans
τοῖς οἰχομένοις ὑπὲρ Ἑλλήνων
to-the departed for Greeks
Τροίας πεδίων ἀπέβησαν.
of-Troy from-plains went-away
ἥξει δ' Ὀδυσεὺς ὅσον οὐκ ἤδη,
will-come and Odysseus as-much-as not already
πῶλον ἀφέλξων σῶν ἀπὸ μαστῶν
foal to-drag-away your from breasts
ἔκ τε γεραιᾶς χερὸς ὁρμήσων.
from and old hand to-rush
ἀλλ' ἴθι ναούς, ἴθι πρὸς βωμούς,
but go to-temples go to altars
ἵζ' Ἀγαμέμνονος ἱκέτις γονάτων,
sit of-Agamemnon suppliant at-knees

κήρυσσε θεοὺς τούς τ' οὐρανίδας
call-on gods the and heavenly
τούς θ' ὑπὸ γαῖαν.
the and under earth
ἦ γάρ σε λιταὶ διακωλύσουσ'
either for you prayers will-prevent
ὀρφανὸν εἶναι παιδὸς μελέας,
bereaved to-be of-child wretched
ἢ δεῖ σ' ἐπιδεῖν τύμβου προπετῆ
or must you to-see-upon from-tomb fallen-forward
φοινισσομένην αἵματι παρθένον
being-reddened with-blood maiden
ἐκ χρυσοφόρου
from gold-bearing
δειρῆς νασμῷ μελαναυγεῖ.
neck with-stream black-gleaming
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἰ ἰὼ μελέα, τί ποτ' ἀπύσω;
ah I wretched what ever shall-I-cry
ποίαν ἀχώ, ποῖον ὀδυρμόν;
what-sort echo what-sort lament
δειλαία δειλαίου γήρως,
wretched of-wretched old-age
δουλείας τᾶς οὐ τλατᾶς,
of-slavery the not endurable
τᾶς οὐ φερτᾶς· ὤμοι μοι.
the not bearable ah-me me
τίς ἀμύνει μοι; ποία γέννα,
who defends me what-sort family
ποία δὲ πόλις;
what-sort and city

φροῦδος πρέσβυς, φροῦδοι παῖδες.
gone old-man gone children
ποίαν, ἢ ταύταν ἢ κείναν
what-sort or this or that
στείχω; ποῖ δ' ἥσω; ποῦ τις θεῶν
shall-I-go where and shall-I-reach where any of-gods
ἢ δαίμων νῷν ἐπαρωγός;
or divinity for-us-two helper
ὦ κάκ' ἐνεγκοῦσαι Τρῳάδες, ὦ
O evil-things having-brought Trojan-women O
κάκ' ἐνεγκοῦσαι
evil-things having-brought
πήματ', ἀπωλέσατ' ὠλέσατ'· οὐκέτι μοι βίος
woes you-have-destroyed have-destroyed no-longer to-me life
ἀγαστὸς ἐν φάει.
admirable in light
ὦ τλάμων ἄγησαί μοι
O wretched lead to-me
πούς, ἄγησαι τᾷ γραίᾳ
foot lead for-the old
πρὸς τάνδ' αὐλάν· ὦ τέκνον, ὦ παῖ
to this court O child O daughter
δυστανοτάτας ματέρος, ἔξελθ'
of-most-wretched mother come-out
ἔξελθ' οἴκων· ἄϊε ματέρος
come-out of-house hear of-mother
αὐδάν,
voice
ὦ τέκνον, ὡς εἰδῇς
O child that you-may-know

οἵαν οἵαν ἀΐω φάμαν
what-sort what-sort I-hear report
περὶ σᾶς ψυχᾶς.
about your life
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ἰώ,
oh
μᾶτερ μᾶτερ, τί βοᾷς; τί νέον
mother mother why do-you-cry what new
καρύξασ᾽ οἴκων μ᾽ ὥστ᾽ ὄρνιν
having-proclaimed from-house me like bird
θάμβει τῷδ᾽ ἐξέπταξας;
in-fear this you-startled
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἴμοι, τέκνον.
ah-me child
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ τί με δυσφημεῖς; φροίμιά μοι κακά.
why me do-you-speak-ill-omens preludes to-me evil
ΕΚΑΒΗ αἰαῖ, σᾶς ψυχᾶς.
alas your life
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ἐξαύδα, μὴ κρύψῃς δαρόν.
speak-out not hide long
δειμαίνω δειμαίνω, μᾶτερ,
I-fear I-fear mother
τί ποτ᾽ ἀναστένεις.
why ever do-you-groan
ΕΚΑΒΗ τέκνον τέκνον μελέας ματρός.
child child of-wretched mother
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ τί τόδ᾽ ἀγγέλλεις;
what this do-you-announce

ΕΚΑΒΗ σφάξαι σ᾽ Ἀργείων κοινὰ
to-slaughter you of-Argives common
συντείνει πρὸς τύμβον γνώμα
strains to tomb judgment
Πηλείδᾳ γέννᾳ.
for-Pelides for-offspring
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ οἴμοι, μᾶτερ, πῶς φθέγγει
ah-me mother how do-you-speak
ἀμέγαρτα κακῶν; μάνυσόν μοι,
unenviable of-evils tell me
μάνυσον, μᾶτερ.
tell mother
ΕΚΑΒΗ αὐδῶ, παῖ, δυσφάμους φάμας·
I-say child ill-omened reports
ἀγγέλλουσ᾽ Ἀργείων δόξαι
announcing of-Argives to-have-been-resolved
ψήφῳ τᾶς σᾶς περί μοι ψυχᾶς.
by-vote the your about to-me life
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ὦ δεινὰ παθοῦσ᾽, ὦ παντλάμων,
O terrible-things having-suffered O all-wretched
ὦ δυστάνου μᾶτερ βιοτᾶς,
O of-wretched mother of-life
οἷαν οἵαν αὖ σοι λώβαν
what-sort what-sort again to-you outrage
ἐχθίσταν ἀρρήταν τ᾽
most-hateful unspeakable and
ὦρσέν τις δαίμων;
roused some god
οὐκέτι σοι παῖς ἅδ᾽ οὐκέτι δὴ
no-longer to-you child this no-longer indeed

γήρᾳ δειλαίῳ δειλαία
to-old-age wretched wretched
συνδουλεύσω.
shall-I-be-fellow-slave
σκύμνον γάρ μ᾽ ὥστ᾽ οὐριθρέπταν,
cub for me like mountain-reared
μόσχον δειλαία δειλαίαν
heifer wretched wretched
εἰσόψει χειρὸς ἀναρπαστὰν
you-will-see hand snatched
σᾶς ἄπο λαιμότομόν τ᾽ Ἀΐδᾳ
your from throat-cut and to-Hades
γᾶς ὑποπεμπομέναν σκότον, ἔνθα νεκρῶν μέτα
of-earth being-sent-down darkness where dead with
τάλαινα κείσομαι.
wretched I-shall-lie
καὶ σὲ μέν, μᾶτερ δύστανε βίου,
and you indeed mother wretched of-life
κλαίω πανδύρτοις θρήνοις·
I-weep with-all-lamenting dirges
τὸν ἐμὸν δὲ βίον, λώβαν λύμαν τ᾽,
the my but life outrage ruin and
οὐ μετακλαίομαι, ἀλλὰ θανεῖν μοι
not I-bewail but to-die for-me
ξυντυχία κρείσσων ἐκύρησεν.
fortune better has-befallen

Odysseus comes to take Polyxena. Hecuba reminds him that she once saved his life when he came into Troy as a spy, and begs him to spare her daughter; he answers that Achilles, the best of the Greeks, must be honored. Polyxena chooses death over slavery and bids her mother not resist. Hecuba offers to die instead of her or with her, but Odysseus refuses, and mother and daughter say farewell.

ΧΟΡΟΣ καὶ μὴν Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔρχεται σπουδῇ ποδός,
and indeed Odysseus comes with-haste of-foot
Ἑκάβη, νέον τι πρὸς σὲ σημανῶν ἔπος.
Hecuba new some to you to-signal word
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ γύναι, δοκῶ μέν σ' εἰδέναι γνώμην στρατοῦ
woman I-think indeed you to-know judgment of-army
ψῆφόν τε τὴν κρανθεῖσαν· ἀλλ' ὅμως φράσω.
vote and the decided but nevertheless I-will-tell
ἔδοξ' Ἀχαιοῖς παῖδα σὴν Πολυξένην
it-was-resolved by-Achaeans child your Polyxena
σφάξαι πρὸς ὀρθὸν χῶμ' Ἀχιλλείου τάφου.
to-slaughter at upright mound of-Achillean tomb
ἡμᾶς δὲ πομποὺς καὶ κομιστῆρας κόρης
us and escorts and conductors of-girl
τάσσουσιν εἶναι· θύματος δ' ἐπιστάτης
they-appoint to-be of-sacrifice and overseer
ἱερεύς τ' ἐπέσται τοῦδε παῖς Ἀχιλλέως.
priest and will-be of-this child of-Achilles
οἶσθ' οὖν ὃ δρᾶσον; μήτ' ἀποσπασθῇς βίᾳ
you-know then what do neither be-torn-away by-force
μήτ' εἰς χερῶν ἅμιλλαν ἐξέλθῃς ἐμοί·
nor into of-hands contest come with-me

γίγνωσκε δ' ἀλκὴν καὶ παρουσίαν κακῶν
know and strength and presence of-evils
τῶν σῶν. σοφόν τοι κἀν κακοῖς ἃ δεῖ φρονεῖν.
of-the your wise surely even-in evils what must to-think
ΕΚΑΒΗ αἰαῖ· παρέστηχ', ὡς ἔοικ', ἀγὼν μέγας,
alas is-at-hand as seems contest great
πλήρης στεναγμῶν οὐδὲ δακρύων κενός.
full of-groans nor of-tears empty
κἄγωγ' ἄρ' οὐκ ἔθνῃσκον οὗ μ' ἐχρῆν θανεῖν,
and-I then not died where me it-behooved to-die
οὐδ' ὤλεσέν με Ζεύς, τρέφει δ', ὅπως ὁρῶ
nor destroyed me Zeus rears but so-that I-may-see
κακῶν κάκ' ἄλλα μείζον' ἡ τάλαιν' ἐγώ.
of-evils evils other greater the wretched I
εἰ δ' ἔστι τοῖς δούλοισι τοὺς ἐλευθέρους
if and it-is-possible for-the slaves the free
μὴ λυπρὰ μηδὲ καρδίας δηκτήρια
not grievous nor of-heart biting-things
ἐξιστορῆσαι, σοὶ μὲν εἰρῆσθαι χρεών,
to-ask to-you indeed to-have-been-said must
ἡμᾶς δ' ἀκοῦσαι τοὺς ἐρωτῶντας τάδε.
us and to-hear the asking these-things
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἔξεστ', ἐρώτα· τοῦ χρόνου γὰρ οὐ φθονῶ.
it-is-possible ask of-the time for not I-grudge
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἶσθ' ἡνίκ' ἦλθες Ἰλίου κατάσκοπος,
you-know when you-came of-Ilium spy
δυσχλαινίᾳ τ' ἄμορφος, ὀμμάτων τ' ἄπο
in-wretched-cloak and disfigured eyes and from
φόνου σταλαγμοὶ σὴν κατέσταζον γένυν;
of-blood drops your dripped-down chin

ODYSSEUS οἶδ'· οὐ γὰρ ἄκρας καρδίας ἔψαυσέ μου.
I-know not for surface of-heart touched me
HECUBA ἔγνω δέ σ' Ἑλένη καὶ μόνῃ κατεῖπ' ἐμοί;
recognized and you Helen and to-alone told me
ODYSSEUS μεμνήμεθ' ἐς κίνδυνον ἐλθόντες μέγαν.
we-remember to danger having-come great
HECUBA ἥψω δὲ γονάτων τῶν ἐμῶν ταπεινὸς ὤν;
you-clasped and knees the my humble being
ODYSSEUS ὥστ' ἐνθανεῖν γε σοῖς πέπλοισι χεῖρ' ἐμήν.
so-that to-die-in at-least your robes hand my
HECUBA τί δῆτ' ἔλεξας δοῦλος ὢν ἐμὸς τότε;
what then did-you-say slave being mine then
ODYSSEUS πολλῶν λόγων εὑρήμαθ', ὥστε μὴ θανεῖν.
of-many words inventions so-that not to-die
HECUBA ἔσωσα δῆτά σ' ἐξέπεμψά τε χθονός;
I-saved then you sent-out and from-land
ODYSSEUS ὥστ' εἰσορᾶν γε φέγγος ἡλίου τόδε.
so-that to-see at-least light of-sun this
HECUBA οὔκουν κακύνει τοῖσδε τοῖς βουλεύμασιν,
not-then are-you-base by-these the counsels
ὃς ἐξ ἐμοῦ μὲν ἔπαθες οἷα φὴς παθεῖν,
who from me indeed suffered such-as you-say to-suffer
δρᾷς δ' οὐδὲν ἡμᾶς εὖ, κακῶς δ' ὅσον δύνᾳ;
do and nothing to-us well badly but as-much-as you-can
ἀχάριστον ὑμῶν σπέρμ', ὅσοι δημηγόρους
ungrateful your seed as-many-as popular-speakers
ζηλοῦτε τιμάς· μηδὲ γιγνώσκοισθέ μοι,
you-covet honors nor may-you-be-known to-me
οἳ τοὺς φίλους βλάπτοντες οὐ φροντίζετε,
who the friends harming not care

ἢν τοῖσι πολλοῖς πρὸς χάριν λέγητέ τι.
if to-the many for favor you-say something
ἀτὰρ τί δὴ σόφισμα τοῦθ' ἡγούμενοι
but what indeed device this considering
εἰς τήνδε παῖδα ψῆφον ὥρισαν φόνου;
against this child vote they-decided of-murder
πότερα τὸ χρῆν σφ' ἐπήγαγ' ἀνθρωποσφαγεῖν
whether the necessity them led to-slaughter-men
πρὸς τύμβον, ἔνθα βουθυτεῖν μᾶλλον πρέπει;
at tomb where to-sacrifice-oxen rather befits
ἢ τοὺς κτανόντας ἀνταποκτεῖναι θέλων
or the having-killed to-kill-in-return wishing
εἰς τήνδ' Ἀχιλλεὺς ἐνδίκως τείνει φόνον;
against this Achilles justly aims murder
ἀλλ' οὐδὲν αὐτὸν ἥδε γ' εἴργασται κακόν.
but nothing him this-one at-least has-done evil
Ἑλένην νιν αἰτεῖν χρῆν τάφῳ προσφάγματα·
Helen him to-ask it-was-right for-tomb victims
κείνη γὰρ ὤλεσέν νιν εἰς Τροίαν τ' ἄγει.
she for destroyed him to Troy and leads
εἰ δ' αἰχμαλώτων χρή τιν' ἔκκριτον θανεῖν
if and of-captives must some chosen to-die
κάλλει θ' ὑπερφέρουσαν, οὐχ ἡμῶν τόδε·
in-beauty and surpassing not ours this
ἡ Τυνδαρὶς γὰρ εἶδος ἐκπρεπεστάτη,
the Tyndarid for in-form most-outstanding
ἀδικοῦσά θ' ἡμῶν οὐδὲν ἧσσον ηὑρέθη.
wronging and than-us no less was-found
τῷ μὲν δικαίῳ τόνδ' ἁμιλλῶμαι λόγον·
by-the indeed just this I-contend word

ἃ δ' ἀντιδοῦναι δεῖ σ' ἀπαιτούσης ἐμοῦ,
which and to-repay-in-return must you asking me
ἄκουσον. ἥψω τῆς ἐμῆς, ὡς φής, χερὸς
hear you-touched the my as you-say hand
καὶ τῆσδε γραίας προσπίτνων παρηίδος·
and this old falling-at cheek
ἀνθάπτομαί σου τῶνδε τῶν αὐτῶν ἐγώ,
I-take-hold-in-turn of-you of-these the same I
χάριν τ' ἀπαιτῶ τὴν τόθ' ἱκετεύω τέ σε,
favor and I-ask-back the then I-supplicate and you
μή μου τὸ τέκνον ἐκ χερῶν ἀποσπάσῃς,
not of-me the child from hands tear-away
μηδὲ κτάνητε· τῶν τεθνηκότων ἅλις.
nor kill of-the dead enough
ταύτῃ γέγηθα κἀπιλήθομαι κακῶν·
in-her I-rejoice and-forget evils
ἥδ' ἀντὶ πολλῶν ἐστί μοι παραψυχή,
she instead-of many is to-me consolation
πόλις, τιθήνη, βάκτρον, ἡγεμὼν ὁδοῦ.
city nurse staff guide of-road
οὐ τοὺς κρατοῦντας χρὴ κρατεῖν ἃ μὴ χρεών,
not the ruling must to-rule what not is-right
οὐδ' εὐτυχοῦντας εὖ δοκεῖν πράξειν ἀεί·
nor prospering well to-think to-fare always
κἀγὼ γὰρ ἦν ποτ', ἀλλὰ νῦν οὐκ εἴμ' ἔτι,
and-I for was once but now not I-am still
τὸν πάντα δ' ὄλβον ἦμαρ ἕν μ' ἀφείλετο.
the all but prosperity day one me took-away
ἀλλ' ὦ φίλον γένειον, αἰδέσθητί με,
but O dear chin respect me

οἶκτειρον· ἐλθὼν δ' εἰς Ἀχαϊκὸν στρατὸν
pity having-gone and to Achaean army
παρηγόρησον, ὡς ἀποκτείνειν φθόνος
console that to-kill odium
γυναῖκας, ἃς τὸ πρῶτον οὐκ ἐκτείνατε
women whom the first not you-killed
βωμῶν ἀποσπάσαντες, ἀλλ' ᾠκτείρατε. 290
from-altars having-dragged but you-pitied
νόμος δ' ἐν ὑμῖν τοῖς τ' ἐλευθέροις ἴσος
law and among you to-the and free equal
καὶ τοῖσι δούλοις αἵματος κεῖται πέρι.
and to-the slaves blood lies about
τὸ δ' ἀξίωμα, κἂν κακῶς λέγῃς, τὸ σὸν
the and worth even-if badly you-speak the your
πείσει· λόγος γὰρ ἔκ τ' ἀδοξούντων ἰὼν
will-persuade word for from both unregarded going
κἀκ τῶν δοκούντων αὐτὸς οὐ ταὐτὸν σθένει. 295
and-from the regarded the-same not the-same has-power
ΧΟΡΟΣ οὐκ ἔστιν οὕτω στερρὸς ἀνθρώπου φύσις,
not is so hard of-man nature
ἥτις γόων σῶν καὶ μακρῶν ὀδυρμάτων
which of-groans your and of-long laments
κλύουσα θρήνους οὐκ ἂν ἐκβάλοι δάκρυ.
hearing dirges not — would-shed tear
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Ἑκάβη, διδάσκου μηδὲ τῷ θυμουμένῳ
Hecuba learn nor by-the being-angry
τὸν εὖ λέγοντα δυσμενῆ ποιοῦ φρενί. 300
the well speaking hostile make mind
ἐγὼ τὸ μὲν σὸν σῶμ', ὑφ' οὗπερ ηὐτύχουν,
I the indeed your body by whom I-prospered

σῴζειν ἕτοιμός εἰμι κοὐκ ἄλλως λέγω·
to-save ready am and-not otherwise I-say
ἃ δ' εἶπον εἰς ἅπαντας οὐκ ἀρνήσομαι,
what and I-said to all not I-will-deny
Τροίας ἁλούσης ἀνδρὶ τῷ πρώτῳ στρατοῦ
Troy having-been-taken to-man the first of-army
σὴν παῖδα δοῦναι σφάγιον ἐξαιτουμένῳ.
your child to-give victim asking
ἐν τῷδε γὰρ κάμνουσιν αἱ πολλαὶ πόλεις,
in this for suffer the many cities
ὅταν τις ἐσθλὸς καὶ πρόθυμος ὢν ἀνὴρ
when some noble and eager being man
μηδὲν φέρηται τῶν κακιόνων πλέον.
nothing carries than-the worse more
ἡμῖν δ' Ἀχιλλεὺς ἄξιος τιμῆς, γύναι,
to-us but Achilles worthy of-honor woman
θανὼν ὑπὲρ γῆς Ἑλλάδος κάλλιστ' ἀνήρ.
having-died for land of-Hellas most-nobly man
οὔκουν τόδ' αἰσχρόν, εἰ βλέποντι μὲν φίλῳ
not-then this shameful if to-living indeed friend
χρώμεσθ', ἐπεὶ δ' ὄλωλε, μὴ χρώμεσθ' ἔτι;
we-treat-as-friend when and he-has-perished not we-treat still
εἶεν· τί δῆτ' ἐρεῖ τις, ἤν τις αὖ φανῇ
well what then will-say someone if some again appear
στρατοῦ τ' ἄθροισις πολεμίων τ' ἀγωνία;
of-army and gathering of-enemies and contest
πότερα μαχούμεθ' ἢ φιλοψυχήσομεν,
whether shall-we-fight or shall-we-love-life
τὸν κατθανόνθ' ὁρῶντες οὐ τιμώμενον;
the dead seeing not honored

καὶ μὴν ἔμοιγε ζῶντι μέν, καθ' ἡμέραν
and indeed for-me-at-least living indeed day-by day
κεἰ σμίκρ' ἔχοιμι, πάντ' ἂν ἀρκούντως ἔχοι·
even-if small-things I-might-have all-things — sufficiently would-be
τύμβον δὲ βουλοίμην ἂν ἀξιούμενον
tomb but I-would-wish — honored
τὸν ἐμὸν ὁρᾶσθαι· διὰ μακροῦ γὰρ ἡ χάρις.
the my to-be-seen through long for the favor
εἰ δ' οἰκτρὰ πάσχειν φής, τάδ' ἀντάκουέ μου·
if and pitiful-things to-suffer you-say these-things hear-in-turn me
εἰσὶν παρ' ἡμῖν οὐδὲν ἧσσον ἄθλιαι
are with us nothing less wretched
γραῖαι γυναῖκες ἠδὲ πρεσβῦται σέθεν,
old women and old-men than-you
νύμφαι τ' ἀρίστων νυμφίων τητώμεναι,
brides and of-best bridegrooms bereft
ὧν ἥδε κεύθει σώματ' Ἰδαία κόνις.
of-whom this hides bodies Idaean dust
τόλμα τάδ'· ἡμεῖς δ', εἰ κακῶς νομίζομεν
endure these-things we and if badly we-think
τιμᾶν τὸν ἐσθλόν, ἀμαθίαν ὀφλήσομεν·
to-honor the noble ignorance we-shall-incur
οἱ βάρβαροι δὲ μήτε τοὺς φίλους φίλους
the barbarians and neither the friends friends
ἡγεῖσθε μήτε τοὺς καλῶς τεθνηκότας
consider nor the nobly dead
θαυμάζεθ', ὡς ἂν ἡ μὲν Ἑλλὰς εὐτυχῇ,
admire so-that — the indeed Hellas may-prosper
ὑμεῖς δ' ἔχηθ' ὅμοια τοῖς βουλεύμασιν.
you and may-have like with-the counsels

ΧΟΡΟΣ αἰαῖ· τὸ δοῦλον ὡς κακὸν πέφυκ' ἀεὶ
alas the slave how evil is always
τολμᾷ θ' ἃ μὴ χρή, τῇ βίᾳ νικώμενον.
dares and what not must by-the force being-overcome
ΕΚΑΒΗ ὦ θύγατερ, οὐμοὶ μὲν λόγοι πρὸς αἰθέρα
O daughter my indeed words to air
φροῦδοι μάτην ῥιφέντες ἀμφὶ σοῦ φόνου·
gone in-vain thrown about your murder
σὺ δ' εἴ τι μείζω δύναμιν ἢ μήτηρ ἔχεις,
you and if some greater power than mother have
σπούδαζε, πάσας ὥστ' ἀηδόνος στόμα
strive all like of-nightingale mouth
φθογγὰς ἱεῖσα, μὴ στερηθῆναι βίου.
voices sending not to-be-deprived of-life
πρόσπιπτε δ' οἰκτρῶς τοῦδ' Ὀδυσσέως γόνυ
fall and pitifully of-this Odysseus at-knee
καὶ πεῖθ'· ἔχεις δὲ πρόφασιν· ἔστι γὰρ τέκνα
and persuade you-have and pretext are for children
καὶ τῷδε, τὴν σὴν ὥστ' ἐποικτεῖραι τύχην.
also to-this-one the your so-that to-pity fortune
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ὁρῶ σ', Ὀδυσσεῦ, δεξιὰν ὑφ' εἵματος
I-see you Odysseus right under garment
κρύπτοντα χεῖρα καὶ πρόσωπον ἔμπαλιν
hiding hand and face back
στρέφοντα, μή σου προσθίγω γενειάδος.
turning lest of-you I-touch beard
θάρσει· πέφευγας τὸν ἐμὸν ἱκέσιον Δία·
take-heart you-have-escaped the my of-suppliants Zeus
ὡς ἕψομαί γε τοῦ τ' ἀναγκαίου χάριν
since I-will-follow at-least of-the both necessity for-the-sake

θανεῖν τε χρῄζουσ᾽· εἰ δὲ μὴ βουλήσομαι,
to-die and desiring if but not I-shall-wish
κακὴ φανοῦμαι καὶ φιλόψυχος γυνή.
base I-shall-appear and life-loving woman
τί γάρ με δεῖ ζῆν; ᾗ πατὴρ μὲν ἦν ἄναξ
why for me must to-live whose father indeed was lord
Φρυγῶν ἁπάντων· τοῦτό μοι πρῶτον βίου·
of-Phrygians all this to-me first of-life
ἔπειτ᾽ ἐθρέφθην ἐλπίδων καλῶν ὕπο
then I-was-reared hopes fine by
βασιλεῦσι νύμφη, ζῆλον οὐ σμικρὸν γάμων
for-kings bride rivalry not small of-marriage
ἔχουσ᾽, ὅτου δῶμ᾽ ἑστίαν τ᾽ ἀφίξομαι·
having of-whom house hearth and I-shall-come
δέσποινα δ᾽ ἡ δύστηνος Ἰδαίαισιν ἦν
mistress and the wretched among-Idaean was
γυναιξί, παρθένοις ἀπόβλεπτος μέτα,
women maidens admired among
ἴση θεοῖσι πλὴν τὸ κατθανεῖν μόνον·
equal to-gods except the to-die only
νῦν δ᾽ εἰμὶ δούλη. πρῶτα μέν με τοὔνομα
now and I-am slave first indeed me the-name
θανεῖν ἐρᾶν τίθησιν οὐκ εἰωθὸς ὄν·
to-die to-love makes not customary being
ἔπειτ᾽ ἴσως ἂν δεσποτῶν ὠμῶν φρένας
then perhaps — of-masters cruel minds
τύχοιμ᾽ ἄν, ὅστις ἀργύρου μ᾽ ὠνήσεται
I-might-meet — who for-silver me will-buy
τὴν Ἕκτορός τε χἀτέρων πολλῶν κάσιν,
the of-Hector both and-of-others many sister

προσθεὶς δ' ἀνάγκην σιτοποιὸν ἐν δόμοις,
having-imposed and necessity bread-making in house
σαίρειν τε δῶμα κερκίσιν τ' ἐφεστάναι
to-sweep and house at-shuttles and to-stand
λυπρὰν ἄγουσαν ἡμέραν μ' ἀναγκάσει·
grievous leading day me will-compel
λέχη δὲ τἀμὰ δοῦλος ὠνητός ποθεν
bed and my slave bought from-somewhere
χρανεῖ, τυράννων πρόσθεν ἠξιωμένα.
will-defile of-princes before deemed-worthy
οὐ δῆτ'· ἀφίημ' ὀμμάτων ἐλεύθερον
not then I-let-go from-eyes free
φέγγος τόδ', Ἅιδῃ προστιθεῖσ' ἐμὸν δέμας.
light this to-Hades consigning my body
ἄγ' οὖν μ', Ὀδυσσεῦ, καὶ διέργασαί μ' ἄγων·
lead then me Odysseus and finish me leading
οὔτ' ἐλπίδος γὰρ οὔτε του δόξης ὁρῶ
neither of-hope for nor of-any expectation I-see
θάρσος παρ' ἡμῖν ὥς ποτ' εὖ πρᾶξαί με χρή.
courage with us that ever well to-fare me must
μῆτερ, σὺ δ' ἡμῖν μηδὲν ἐμποδὼν γένῃ
mother you and to-us nothing in-the-way be
λέγουσα μηδὲ δρῶσα· συμβούλου δέ μοι
saying nor doing advise and me
θανεῖν πρὶν αἰσχρῶν μὴ κατ' ἀξίαν τυχεῖν.
to-die before shameful-things not by worth to-meet
ὅστις γὰρ οὐκ εἴωθε γεύεσθαι κακῶν,
whoever for not is-accustomed to-taste evils
φέρει μέν, ἀλγεῖ δ' αὐχέν' ἐντιθεὶς ζυγῷ·
bears indeed suffers but neck putting in-yoke

θανὼν δ' ἂν εἴη μᾶλλον εὐτυχέστερος
having-died but — would-be more more-fortunate
ἢ ζῶν· τὸ γὰρ ζῆν μὴ καλῶς μέγας πόνος.
than living the for to-live not nobly great toil
ΧΟΡΟΣ δεινὸς χαρακτὴρ κἀπίσημος ἐν βροτοῖς
terrible stamp and-conspicuous among mortals
ἐσθλῶν γενέσθαι, κἀπὶ μεῖζον ἔρχεται
of-noble to-be-born and-to greater goes
τῆς εὐγενείας ὄνομα τοῖσιν ἀξίοις.
of-the nobility name for-the worthy
ΕΚΑΒΗ καλῶς μὲν εἶπας, θύγατερ· ἀλλὰ τῷ καλῷ
nobly indeed you-spoke daughter but to-the noble
λύπη πρόσεστιν. εἰ δὲ δεῖ τῷ Πηλέως
grief is-attached if but must to-the of-Peleus
χάριν γενέσθαι παιδὶ καὶ ψόγον φυγεῖν
favor to-be-done to-son and blame to-escape
ὑμᾶς, Ὀδυσσεῦ, τήνδε μὲν μὴ κτείνετε,
you Odysseus her indeed not kill
ἡμᾶς δ' ἄγοντες πρὸς πυρὰν Ἀχιλλέως
us and leading to pyre of-Achilles
κεντεῖτε, μὴ φείδεσθ'· ἐγὼ 'τεκον Πάριν,
stab not spare I bore Paris
ὃς παῖδα Θέτιδος ὤλεσεν τόξοις βαλών.
who son of-Thetis destroyed with-bows having-shot
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ οὐ σ', ὦ γεραιά, κατθανεῖν Ἀχιλλέως
not you O old-woman to-die of-Achilles
φάντασμ' Ἀχαιούς, ἀλλὰ τήνδ', ἠτήσατο.
phantom Achaeans but her asked

ΕΚΑΒΗ ὑμεῖς δέ μ᾽ ἀλλὰ θυγατρὶ συμφονεύσατε,
you and me then with-daughter kill-together
καὶ δὶς τόσον πῶμ᾽ αἵματος γενήσεται
and twice so-much drink of-blood will-be
γαίᾳ νεκρῷ τε τῷ τάδ᾽ ἐξαιτουμένῳ.
for-earth for-dead and for-the these-things asking
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἄλις κόρης εἷς θάνατος, οὐ προσοιστέος
enough of-girl one death not to-be-added
ἄλλος πρὸς ἄλλῳ· μηδὲ τόνδ᾽ ὠφείλομεν.
another to another nor this-one we-ought
ΕΚΑΒΗ πολλή γ᾽ ἀνάγκη θυγατρὶ συνθανεῖν ἐμέ.
much at-least necessity with-daughter to-die-with me
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ πῶς; οὐ γὰρ οἶδα δεσπότας κεκτημένος.
how not for I-know masters having
ΕΚΑΒΗ ὁποῖα κισσὸς δρυὸς ὅπως τῆσδ᾽ ἕξομαι.
like ivy of-oak so to-her I-will-cling
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ οὔκ, ἤν γε πείθῃ τοῖσι σοῦ σοφωτέροις.
not if at-least you-obey the than-you wiser
ΕΚΑΒΗ ὡς τῆσδ᾽ ἑκοῦσα παιδὸς οὐ μεθήσομαι.
since of-this willingly child not I-will-let-go
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἀλλ᾽ οὐδ᾽ ἐγὼ μὴν τήνδ᾽ ἄπειμ᾽ αὐτοῦ λιπών.
but not-even I indeed her will-go-away here having-left
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ μῆτερ, πιθοῦ μοι· καὶ σύ, παῖ Λαερτίου,
mother obey me and you child of-Laertes
χάλα τοκεῦσιν εἰκότως θυμουμένοις,
yield to-parents fittingly being-angry
σύ τ᾽, ὦ τάλαινα, τοῖς κρατοῦσι μὴ μάχου.
you and O wretched with-the ruling not fight
βούλει πεσεῖν πρὸς οὖδας ἑλκῶσαί τε σὸν
do-you-wish to-fall to ground to-wound and your

γέροντα χρῶτα πρὸς βίαν ὠθουμένη,
aged skin by force being-thrust
ἀσχημονῆσαί τ᾽ ἐκ νέου βραχίονος
to-be-disgraced and from young arm
σπασθεῖσ᾽, ἃ πείσει; μὴ σύ γ᾽· οὐ γὰρ ἄξιον.
being-dragged which you-will-suffer not you at-least not for worthy
ἀλλ᾽, ὦ φίλη μοι μῆτερ, ἡδίστην χέρα
but O dear to-me mother sweetest hand
δὸς καὶ παρειὰν προσβαλεῖν παρηίδι·
give and cheek to-lay to-cheek
ὡς οὔποτ᾽ αὖθις, ἀλλὰ νῦν πανύστατον
since never again but now for-the-very-last
ἀκτῖνα κύκλον θ᾽ ἡλίου προσόψομαι.
ray circle and of-sun I-shall-look-upon
τέλος δέχει δὴ τῶν ἐμῶν προσφθεγμάτων,
end receive indeed of-the my of-addresses
ὦ μῆτερ, ὦ τεκοῦσ᾽· ἄπειμι δὴ κάτω.
O mother O having-borne I-go indeed below
ΕΚΑΒΗ ὦ θύγατερ, ἡμεῖς δ᾽ ἐν φάει δουλεύσομεν.
O daughter we and in light shall-be-slaves
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ἄνυμφος ἀνυμέναιος ὢν μ᾽ ἐχρῆν τυχεῖν.
unwed without-wedding-song of-which me ought to-obtain
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἰκτρὰ σύ, τέκνον, ἀθλία δ᾽ ἐγὼ γυνή.
pitiful you child wretched and I woman
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ἐκεῖ δ᾽ ἐν Ἅιδου κείσομαι χωρὶς σέθεν.
there and in of-Hades I-shall-lie apart from-you
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἴμοι· τί δράσω; ποῖ τελευτήσω βίον;
ah-me what shall-I-do where shall-I-end life
ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ δούλη θανοῦμαι, πατρὸς οὖσ᾽ ἐλευθέρου.
slave I-shall-die of-father being free

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἡμεῖς δὲ πεντήκοντά γ' ἄμμοροι τέκνων.
we and fifty at-least bereft of-children

ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ τί σοι πρὸς Ἕκτορ' ἢ γέροντ' εἴπω πόσιν;
what for-you to Hector or old shall-I-say husband

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἄγγελλε πασῶν ἀθλιωτάτην ἐμέ.
announce of-all most-wretched me

ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ὦ στέρνα μαστοί θ', οἵ μ' ἐθρέψαθ' ἡδέως.
O breast breasts and which me nursed sweetly

425 ΕΚΑΒΗ ὦ τῆς ἀώρου θύγατερ ἀθλία τύχης.
O of-the untimely daughter wretched of-fortune

ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ χαῖρ', ὦ τεκοῦσα, χαῖρε Κασάνδρα τ' ἐμοί.
farewell O having-borne farewell Cassandra and for-me

ΕΚΑΒΗ χαίρουσιν ἄλλοι, μητρὶ δ' οὐκ ἔστιν τόδε.
fare-well others for-mother but not is this

ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ὅ τ' ἐν φιλίπποις Θρῃξὶ Πολύδωρος κάσις.
the and among horse-loving Thracians Polydorus brother

ΕΚΑΒΗ εἰ ζῇ γ'· ἀπιστῶ δ'· ὧδε πάντα δυστυχῶ.
if he-lives at-least I-doubt and so all I-am-unfortunate

430 ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ ζῇ καὶ θανούσης ὄμμα συγκλῄσει τὸ σόν.
he-lives and of-dead eye will-close the your

ΕΚΑΒΗ τέθνηκ' ἔγωγε πρὶν θανεῖν κακῶν ὕπο.
I-have-died I before to-die evils by

ΠΟΛΥΞΕΝΗ κόμιζ', Ὀδυσσεῦ, μ' ἀμφιθεὶς κάρᾳ πέπλους·
bring Odysseus me having-put-around head robes

ὡς πρὶν σφαγῆναί γ' ἐκτέτηκα καρδίαν
since before to-be-slaughtered at-least I-have-melted heart

θρήνοισι μητρὸς τήνδε τ' ἐκτήκω γόοις.
by-dirges of-mother this-one and I-melt by-groans

435 ὦ φῶς· προσειπεῖν γὰρ σὸν ὄνομ' ἔξεστί μοι,
O light to-address for your name is-possible for-me

μέτεστι δ' οὐδὲν πλὴν ὅσον χρόνον ξίφους
share-is but nothing except as-much-as time sword
βαίνω μεταξὺ καὶ πυρᾶς Ἀχιλλέως.
I-go between and pyre of-Achilles
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἲ 'γώ, προλείπω· λύεται δέ μου μέλη.
ah I I-faint are-loosed and of-me limbs
ὦ θύγατερ, ἅψαι μητρός, ἔκτεινον χέρα,
O daughter touch mother stretch-out hand
δός· μὴ λίπῃς μ' ἄπαιδ'. ἀπωλόμην, φίλαι. 440
give not leave me childless I-am-ruined friends
ὡς τὴν Λάκαιναν σύγγονον Διοσκόροιν
so the Laconian sister of-Dioscuri
Ἑλένην ἴδοιμι· διὰ καλῶν γὰρ ὀμμάτων
Helen may-I-see through fair for eyes
αἴσχιστα Τροίαν εἷλε τὴν εὐδαίμονα.
most-shamefully Troy took the prosperous

IV · WHERE SHALL WE BE TAKEN?

The captive women wonder where the sea breeze will carry them as slaves: to Doris, to Phthia, to Delos with its palm and laurel, or to Athens to embroider Athena's robe.

ΧΟΡΟΣ αὔρα, ποντιὰς αὔρα,
breeze of-the-sea breeze
ἅτε ποντοπόρους κομίζεις 445
which seafaring carry
θοὰς ἀκάτους ἐπ' οἶδμα λίμνας,
swift boats over swell of-sea
ποῖ με τὰν μελέαν πορεύσεις;
where me the wretched will-you-convey

τῷ δουλόσυνος πρὸς οἶκον
to-whom slave to house
κτηθεῖσ' ἀφίξομαι;
acquired shall-I-come
ἢ Δωρίδος ὅρμον αἴας
or of-Dorian anchorage of-land
ἢ Φθιάδος, ἔνθα καλλί-
or of-Phthian where fairest
στων ὑδάτων πατέρα
— of-waters father
φασὶν Ἀπιδανὸν πεδία λιπαίνειν;
they-say Apidanus plains to-fatten
ἢ νάσων, ἁλιήρει
or of-islands with-sea-plying
κώπᾳ πεμπομέναν τάλαιναν,
with-oar sent wretched
οἰκτρὰν βιοτὰν ἔχουσαν οἴκοις,
pitiful life having in-houses
ἔνθα πρωτόγονός τε φοῖνιξ
where first-born and palm
δάφνα θ' ἱεροὺς ἀνέσχε
laurel and holy raised
πτόρθους Λατοῖ φίλᾳ
shoots to-Leto dear
ὠδῖνος ἄγαλμα Δίας;
of-birth-pang adornment of-Divine
σὺν Δηλιάσιν τε κούραις
with Delian and maidens
Ἀρτέμιδός τε θεᾶς
of-Artemis and goddess

χρυσέαν ἄμπυκα τόξα τ᾽ εὐλογήσω;
golden headband bows and shall-I-praise

ἢ Παλλάδος ἐν πόλει
or of-Pallas in city

τᾶς καλλιδίφρου τ᾽ Ἀθα-
of-the fair-charioted and of-Athena

ναίας ἐν κροκέῳ πέπλῳ
— in saffron robe

ζεύξομαι ἅρματι πώλους,
shall-I-yoke to-chariot colts

ἐν δαιδαλέαισι ποικίλλουσ᾽
in intricate embroidering

ἀνθοκρόκοισι πήναις,
flower-dyed threads

ἢ Τιτάνων γενεὰν
or of-Titans race

τὰν Ζεὺς ἀμφιπύρῳ
which Zeus with-flaming-all-round

κοιμίζει φλογμῷ Κρονίδας;
lulls with-blaze son-of-Cronus

ὤμοι τεκέων ἐμῶν,
ah-me of-children my

ὤμοι πατέρων χθονός θ᾽,
ah-me of-fathers of-land and

ἃ καπνῷ κατερείπεται
which with-smoke is-thrown-down

τυφομένα δορίκτητος
smoldering spear-won

Ἀργείων· ἐγὼ δ' ἐν ξεί-
by-Argives I and in foreign
νᾳ χθονὶ δὴ κέκλημαι
— land indeed am-called
δούλα, λιποῦσ' Ἀσίαν
slave having-left Asia
Εὐρώπας θεράπναν,
of-Europe home
ἀλλάξασ' Ἅιδα θαλάμους.
having-exchanged of-Hades chambers

V · THE DEATH OF POLYXENA

Talthybius finds Hecuba lying on the ground and tells how Polyxena died. Achilles' son poured libations to his dead father; Polyxena asked to die free, bared her breast, and offered her throat, and fell decently; the Greeks honored her with leaves and logs for her pyre. Hecuba reflects that a noble nature stays noble, sends her old servant for sea water to wash the body, and says that he is happiest who meets no evil day by day.

ΤΑΛΘΤΒΙΟΣ ποῦ τὴν ἄνασσαν δή ποτ' οὖσαν Ἰλίου
where the queen indeed once being of-Ilium
Ἑκάβην ἂν ἐξεύροιμι, Τρῳάδες κόραι;
Hecuba — might-I-find Trojan girls
ΧΟΡΟΣ αὕτη πέλας σου νῶτ' ἔχουσ' ἐπὶ χθονί,
she near you back having on ground
Ταλθύβιε, κεῖται ξυγκεκλῃμένη πέπλοις.
Talthybius lies wrapped in-robes

ταλθτβιος ὦ Ζεῦ, τί λέξω; πότερά σ' ἀνθρώπους ὁρᾶν;
O Zeus what shall-I-say whether you men to-watch
ἢ δόξαν ἄλλως τήνδε κεκτῆσθαι μάτην
or opinion vainly this to-have idly
ψευδῆ, δοκοῦντας δαιμόνων εἶναι γένος,
false thinking of-gods to-be race
τύχην δὲ πάντα τἀν βροτοῖς ἐπισκοπεῖν;
chance and all the-things-among mortals to-oversee
οὐχ ἥδ' ἄνασσα τῶν πολυχρύσων Φρυγῶν,
not this-one queen of-the much-golden Phrygians
οὐχ ἥδε Πριάμου τοῦ μέγ' ὀλβίου δάμαρ;
not this-one of-Priam the greatly prosperous wife
καὶ νῦν πόλις μὲν πᾶς ἀνέστηκεν δορί,
and now city indeed all is-overthrown by-spear
αὕτη δὲ δούλη, γραῦς, ἄπαις, ἐπὶ χθονὶ
she and slave old-woman childless on ground
κεῖται, κόνει φύρουσα δύστηνον κάρα.
lies with-dust defiling wretched head
φεῦ φεῦ· γέρων μέν εἰμ', ὅμως δέ μοι θανεῖν
alas alas old indeed I-am nevertheless and for-me to-die
εἴη πρὶν αἰσχρᾷ περιπεσεῖν τύχῃ τινί.
may-it-be before shameful to-fall-into fortune some
ἀνίστασ', ὦ δύστηνε, καὶ μετάρσιον
rise O wretched and raised
πλευρὰν ἔπαιρε καὶ τὸ πάλλευκον κάρα.
side lift and the all-white head
εκαβη ἔα· τίς οὗτος σῶμα τοὐμὸν οὐκ ἐᾷς
ha who this-one body my not allow
κεῖσθαι; τί κινεῖς μ', ὅστις εἶ, λυπουμένην;
to-lie why do-you-stir me whoever you-are grieving

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ Ταλθύβιος ἥκω Δαναΐδῶν ὑπηρέτης,
Talthybius I-have-come of-Danaans servant
Ἀγαμέμνονος πέμψαντος, ὦ γύναι, μέτα.
Agamemnon having-sent O woman for
ΕΚΑΒΗ ὦ φίλτατ', ἆρα κἄμ' ἐπισφάξαι τάφῳ
O dearest — and-me to-slaughter-besides at-tomb
δοκοῦν Ἀχαιοῖς ἦλθες; ὡς φίλ' ἂν λέγοις.
resolved by-Achaeans you-came how dear-things — you-would-say
σπεύδωμεν, ἐγκονῶμεν· ἡγοῦ μοι, γέρον.
let-us-hasten let-us-make-speed lead me old-man
ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ σὴν παῖδα κατθανοῦσαν ὡς θάψῃς, γύναι,
your child having-died that you-may-bury woman
ἥκω μεταστείχων σε· πέμπουσιν δέ με
I-come to-fetch you send and me
δισσοί τ' Ἀτρεῖδαι καὶ λεὼς Ἀχαϊκός.
twin and Atreids and people Achaean
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἴμοι, τί λέξεις; οὐκ ἄρ' ὡς θανουμένους
ah-me what will-you-say not then as about-to-die
μετῆλθες ἡμᾶς, ἀλλὰ σημανῶν κακά;
you-came-for us but to-signal evils
ὄλωλας, ὦ παῖ, μητρὸς ἁρπασθεῖσ' ἄπο·
you-have-perished O child mother having-been-snatched from
ἡμεῖς δ' ἄτεκνοι τοὐπὶ σ'· ὦ τάλαιν' ἐγώ·
we and childless as-far-as-in you O wretched I
πῶς καί νιν ἐξεπράξατ'; ἆρ' αἰδούμενοι;
how and her did-you-do-to-death — respecting
ἢ πρὸς τὸ δεινὸν ἦλθεθ' ὡς ἐχθράν, γέρον,
or to the terrible you-came as hostile old-man
κτείνοντες; εἰπέ, καίπερ οὐ λέξων φίλα.
killing tell although not about-to-say dear-things

ταλθυβιος διπλᾶ με χρῄζεις δάκρυα κερδᾶναι, γύναι,
double me you-want tears to-gain woman
σῆς παιδὸς οἴκτῳ· νῦν τε γὰρ λέγων κακὰ
of-your child with-pity now and for telling evils
τέγξω τόδ' ὄμμα, πρὸς τάφῳ θ' ὅτ' ὤλλυτο.
I-shall-wet this eye at tomb and when she-perished
παρῆν μὲν ὄχλος πᾶς Ἀχαϊκοῦ στρατοῦ
was-present indeed crowd all of-Achaean army
πλήρης πρὸ τύμβου σῆς κόρης ἐπὶ σφαγάς·
full before tomb of-your girl at slaughter
λαβὼν δ' Ἀχιλλέως παῖς Πολυξένην χερὸς
having-taken and of-Achilles child Polyxena by-hand
ἔστησ' ἐπ' ἄκρου χώματος, πέλας δ' ἐγώ·
set on top of-mound near and I
λεκτοί τ' Ἀχαιῶν ἔκκριτοι νεανίαι,
chosen and of-Achaeans picked young-men
σκίρτημα μόσχου σῆς καθέξοντες χεροῖν,
leaping of-heifer your to-restrain with-hands
ἕσποντο. πλῆρες δ' ἐν χεροῖν λαβὼν δέπας
followed full and in hands having-taken cup
πάγχρυσον αἴρει χειρὶ παῖς Ἀχιλλέως
all-golden raises with-hand child of-Achilles
χοὰς θανόντι πατρί· σημαίνει δέ μοι
libations to-dead to-father signals and to-me
σιγὴν Ἀχαιῶν παντὶ κηρῦξαι στρατῷ.
silence of-Achaeans to-all to-proclaim to-army
κἀγὼ καταστὰς εἶπον ἐν μέσοις τάδε·
and-I having-stood said in middle these-things
σιγᾶτ', Ἀχαιοί, σῖγα πᾶς ἔστω λεώς,
be-silent Achaeans silent all let-be people

σίγα, σιώπα· νήνεμον δ' ἔστησ' ὄχλον.
be-silent be-still windless and set crowd
ὁ δ' εἶπεν· ὦ παῖ Πηλέως, πατὴρ δ' ἐμός,
he and said O child of-Peleus father and my
δέξαι χοάς μου τάσδε κηλητηρίους,
receive libations of-me these charming
νεκρῶν ἀγωγούς· ἐλθὲ δ' ὡς πίῃς μέλαν
of-dead leading come and so-that you-may-drink black
κόρης ἀκραιφνὲς αἷμ', ὅ σοι δωρούμεθα
of-girl pure blood which to-you we-give
στρατός τε κἀγώ· πρευμενὴς δ' ἡμῖν γενοῦ,
army and and-I gracious and to-us be
λῦσαί τε πρύμνας καὶ χαλινωτήρια
to-loose and sterns and bridles
νεῶν δὸς ἡμῖν πρευμενοῦς τ' ἀπ' Ἰλίου
of-ships grant us gracious and from Ilium
νόστου τυχόντας πάντας εἰς πάτραν μολεῖν.
return having-obtained all to fatherland to-come
τοσαῦτ' ἔλεξε, πᾶς δ' ἐπηύξατο στρατός.
so-much he-said all and prayed army
εἶτ' ἀμφίχρυσον φάσγανον κώπης λαβὼν
then all-gold sword by-hilt having-taken
ἐξεῖλκε κολεοῦ, λογάσι δ' Ἀργείων στρατοῦ
drew from-sheath to-chosen and of-Argives of-army
νεανίαις ἔνευσε παρθένον λαβεῖν.
young-men he-nodded maiden to-take
ἡ δ' ὡς ἐφράσθη, τόνδ' ἐσήμηνεν λόγον·
she and when she-perceived this signaled word
ὦ τὴν ἐμὴν πέρσαντες Ἀργεῖοι πόλιν,
O the my having-sacked Argives city

ἑκοῦσα θνῄσκω· μή τις ἅψηται χροὸς
willingly I-die not anyone let-touch skin
τοὐμοῦ· παρέξω γὰρ δέρην εὐκαρδίως.
my I-will-offer for neck bravely
ἐλευθέραν δέ μ', ὡς ἐλευθέρα θάνω,
free and me as free I-may-die
πρὸς θεῶν μεθέντες κτείνατ'· ἐν νεκροῖσι γὰρ
by gods having-let-go kill among dead for
δούλη κεκλῆσθαι βασιλὶς οὖσ' αἰσχύνομαι.
slave to-be-called royal being I-am-ashamed
λαοὶ δ' ἐπερρόθησαν, Ἀγαμέμνων τ' ἄναξ
peoples and roared-assent Agamemnon and lord
εἶπεν μεθεῖναι παρθένον νεανίαις.
said to-let-go maiden to-young-men
οἱ δ' ὡς τάχιστ' ἤκουσαν ὑστάτην ὄπα,
they and as quickly heard last voice
μεθῆκαν, οὗπερ καὶ μέγιστον ἦν κράτος.
let-go of-whom-indeed also greatest was power
κἀπεὶ τόδ' εἰσήκουσε δεσποτῶν ἔπος,
and-when this heard of-masters word
λαβοῦσα πέπλους ἐξ ἄκρας ἐπωμίδος
having-taken robes from top shoulder
ἔρρηξε λαγόνος εἰς μέσον παρ' ὀμφαλόν,
tore of-flank to middle by navel
μαστούς τ' ἔδειξε στέρνα θ', ὡς ἀγάλματος,
breasts and showed breast and as of-statue
κάλλιστα, καὶ καθεῖσα πρὸς γαῖαν γόνυ
most-beautiful and having-let-down to ground knee
ἔλεξε πάντων τλημονέστατον λόγον·
said of-all most-enduring word

ἰδοὺ τόδ', εἰ μὲν στέρνον, ὦ νεανία,
see this if indeed breast O young-man
παίειν προθυμεῖ, παῖσον, εἰ δ' ὑπ' αὐχένα
to-strike you-are-eager strike if but under neck
χρῄζεις, πάρεστι λαιμὸς εὐτρεπὴς ὅδε.
you-want is-here throat ready this
ὁ δ' οὐ θέλων τε καὶ θέλων οἴκτῳ κόρης,
he and not wishing both and wishing in-pity of-girl
τέμνει σιδήρῳ πνεύματος διαρροάς·
cuts with-iron of-breath channels
κρουνοὶ δ' ἐχώρουν. ἡ δὲ καὶ θνῄσκουσ' ὅμως
streams and went she and even dying nevertheless
πολλὴν πρόνοιαν εἶχεν εὐσχήμως πεσεῖν,
much forethought had decently to-fall
κρύπτουσ' ἃ κρύπτειν ὄμματ' ἀρσένων χρεών.
hiding what to-hide eyes of-males it-is-fitting
ἐπεὶ δ' ἀφῆκε πνεῦμα θανασίμῳ σφαγῇ,
when and she-let-go breath in-deadly in-slaughter
οὐδεὶς τὸν αὐτὸν εἶχεν Ἀργείων πόνον·
no-one the same had of-Argives task
ἀλλ' οἱ μὲν αὐτῶν τὴν θανοῦσαν ἐκ χερῶν
but some indeed of-them the dead from hands
φύλλοις ἔβαλλον, οἱ δὲ πληροῦσιν πυρὰν
with-leaves pelted others and fill pyre
κορμοὺς φέροντες πευκίνους, ὁ δ' οὐ φέρων
logs carrying of-pine he and not carrying
πρὸς τοῦ φέροντος τοιάδ' ἤκουεν κακά·
from the carrying such-things heard evil-things
ἔστηκας, ὦ κάκιστε, τῇ νεάνιδι
do-you-stand O basest to-the maiden

οὐ πέπλον οὐδὲ κόσμον ἐν χεροῖν ἔχων;
not robe nor adornment in hands having
οὐκ εἶ τι δώσων τῇ περίσσ᾽ εὐκαρδίῳ
not will-you-go something to-give to-the exceedingly brave
ψυχήν τ᾽ ἀρίστῃ; τοιάδ᾽ ἀμφὶ σῆς λέγω
in-soul and best such-things about your I-say
παιδὸς θανούσης· εὐτεκνωτάτην δὲ σὲ
child having-died most-blessed-in-children and you
πασῶν γυναικῶν δυστυχεστάτην θ᾽ ὁρῶ.
of-all women most-unfortunate and I-see
ΧΟΡΟΣ δεινόν τι πῆμα Πριαμίδαις ἐπέζεσε
terrible some woe on-Priam's-house boiled-over
πόλει τε τἠμῇ· θεῶν ἀναγκαῖον τόδε.
on-city and my of-gods necessary this
ΕΚΑΒΗ ὦ θύγατερ, οὐκ οἶδ᾽ εἰς ὅ τι βλέψω κακῶν,
O daughter not I-know to what — I-may-look of-evils
πολλῶν παρόντων· ἢν γὰρ ἅψωμαί τινος,
many being-present if for I-touch some
τόδ᾽ οὐκ ἐᾷ με, παρακαλεῖ δ᾽ ἐκεῖθεν αὖ
this not allows me calls and from-there again
λύπη τις ἄλλη διάδοχος κακῶν κακοῖς.
grief some other successor of-evils to-evils
καὶ νῦν τὸ μὲν σὸν ὥστε μὴ στένειν πάθος
and now the indeed yours so-as not to-groan suffering
οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην ἐξαλείψασθαι φρενός·
not — I-could wipe-out from-mind
τὸ δ᾽ αὖ λίαν παρεῖλες ἀγγελθεῖσά μοι
the but again too-much you-took-away being-announced to-me
γενναῖος. οὔκουν δεινόν, εἰ γῇ μὲν κακὴ
noble not-then terrible if land indeed poor

τυχοῦσα καιροῦ θεόθεν εὖ στάχυν φέρει,
having-met season from-god well ear bears
χρηστὴ δ' ἁμαρτοῦσ' ὧν χρεὼν αὐτὴν τυχεῖν
good but having-missed what must it to-obtain
κακὸν δίδωσι καρπόν; ἀνθρώποις δ' ἀεὶ
bad gives fruit among-men but always
ὁ μὲν πονηρὸς οὐδὲν ἄλλο πλὴν κακός,
the indeed wicked nothing other than bad
ὁ δ' ἐσθλὸς ἐσθλός, οὐδὲ συμφορᾶς ὕπο
the but noble noble nor misfortune by
φύσιν διέφθειρ', ἀλλὰ χρηστός ἐστ' ἀεί;
nature corrupted but good is always
ἆρ' οἱ τεκόντες διαφέρουσιν ἢ τροφαί;
— the having-begotten differ or upbringings
ἔχει γε μέντοι καὶ τὸ θρεφθῆναι καλῶς
has at-least however also the to-be-reared well
δίδαξιν ἐσθλοῦ· τοῦτο δ' ἤν τις εὖ μάθῃ,
teaching of-noble this and if anyone well learns
οἶδεν τό γ' αἰσχρόν, κανόνι τοῦ καλοῦ μαθών.
knows the at-least shameful by-rule of-the fine having-learned
καὶ ταῦτα μὲν δὴ νοῦς ἐτόξευσεν μάτην·
and these-things indeed indeed mind shot in-vain
σὺ δ' ἐλθὲ καὶ σήμηνον Ἀργείοις τάδε,
you and go and signal to-Argives these-things
μὴ θιγγάνειν μοι μηδέν', ἀλλ' εἴργειν ὄχλον
not to-touch for-me anyone but to-keep-off crowd
τῆς παιδός. ἔν τοι μυρίῳ στρατεύματι
of-the child in surely countless army
ἀκόλαστος ὄχλος ναυτική τ' ἀναρχία
unbridled crowd naval and anarchy

κρείσσων πυρός, κακὸς δ' ὁ μή τι δρῶν κακόν.
stronger than-fire base and the not anything doing base

σὺ δ' αὖ λαβοῦσα τεῦχος, ἀρχαία λάτρι,
you and again having-taken vessel old servant

βάψασ' ἔνεγκε δεῦρο ποντίας ἁλός,
having-dipped bring here of-sea brine

ὡς παῖδα λουτροῖς τοῖς πανυστάτοις ἐμήν,
so-that child with-baths the last my

νύμφην τ' ἄνυμφον παρθένον τ' ἀπάρθενον,
bride and unwed maiden and unmaidened

λούσω προθῶμαί θ'· ὡς μὲν ἀξία, πόθεν;
I-may-wash may-lay-out and as indeed worthy whence

οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην· ὡς δ' ἔχω· τί γὰρ πάθω;
not — I-could as but I-have what for may-I-suffer

κόσμον τ' ἀγείρασ' αἰχμαλωτίδων πάρα,
adornment and having-gathered captive-women from

αἵ μοι πάρεδροι τῶνδ' ἔσω σκηνωμάτων
who to-me sitting-near of-these within tents

θάσσουσιν, εἴ τις τοὺς νεωστὶ δεσπότας
sit if anyone the new masters

λαθοῦσ' ἔχει τι κλέμμα τῶν αὐτῆς δόμων.
escaping-notice has some stolen-thing of-the her-own house

ὦ σχήματ' οἴκων, ὦ ποτ' εὐτυχεῖς δόμοι,
O forms of-house O once prosperous house

ὦ πλεῖστ' ἔχων κάλλιστά τ', εὐτεκνώτατε
O most having finest and most-blessed-in-children

Πρίαμε, γεραιά θ' ἥδ' ἐγὼ μήτηρ τέκνων,
Priam old and this I mother of-children

ὡς εἰς τὸ μηδὲν ἥκομεν, φρονήματος
how to the nothing we-have-come of-pride

τοῦ πρὶν στερέντες. εἶτα δῆτ' ὀγκούμεθα,
the former deprived then indeed we-swell
ὁ μέν τις ἡμῶν πλουσίοις ἐν δώμασιν,
the indeed some of-us wealthy in house
ὁ δ' ἐν πολίταις τίμιος κεκλημένος.
the-other and among citizens honored called
τὰ δ' οὐδέν· ἄλλως φροντίδων βουλεύματα
the-things and nothing vainly of-thoughts counsels
γλώσσης τε κόμποι. κεῖνος ὀλβιώτατος,
of-tongue and boasts that-one most-blessed
ὅτῳ κατ' ἦμαρ τυγχάνει μηδὲν κακόν.
to-whom by day happens no evil

VI · PARIS' SHIP

The chorus sings that their misfortune began when Paris cut pine on Ida for the ship that carried him to Helen; now there is mourning in Troy and in Sparta too.

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἐμοὶ χρῆν συμφοράν,
for-me it-was-fated misfortune
ἐμοὶ χρῆν πημονὰν γενέσθαι,
for-me it-was-fated woe to-happen
Ἰδαίαν ὅτε πρῶτον ὕλαν
Idaean when first wood
Ἀλέξανδρος εἰλατίναν
Alexander pine
ἐτάμεθ', ἅλιον ἐπ' οἶδμα ναυστολήσων
cut sea over swell to-sail
Ἑλένας ἐπὶ λέκτρα, τὰν
of-Helen to bed whom

καλλίσταν ὁ χρυσοφαὴς
fairest the golden-gleaming
Ἅλιος αὐγάζει.
Sun shines-on
πόνοι γὰρ καὶ πόνων
toils for and than-toils
ἀνάγκαι κρείσσονες κυκλοῦνται,
necessities stronger circle
κοινὸν δ' ἐξ ἰδίας ἀνοίας
common and from private folly
κακὸν τᾷ Σιμουντίδι γᾷ
evil for-the Simoisian land
ὀλέθριον ἔμολε συμφορά τ' ἀπ' ἄλλων.
destructive came misfortune and from others
ἐκρίθη δ' ἔρις, ἃν ἐν Ἴ-
was-decided and strife which on Ida
δᾳ κρίνει τρισσὰς μακάρων,
— judges three of-blessed
παῖδας ἀνὴρ βούτας,
children man herdsman
ἐπὶ δορὶ καὶ φόνῳ καὶ ἐμῶν μελάθρων λώβᾳ·
for spear and slaughter and of-my house ruin
στένει δὲ καί τις ἀμφὶ τὸν εὔροον Εὐρώταν
groans and also some by the fair-flowing Eurotas
Λάκαινα πολυδάκρυτος ἐν δόμοις κόρα,
Laconian much-weeping in house girl
πολιόν τ' ἐπὶ κρᾶτα μάτηρ
gray and on head mother
τέκνων θανόντων
of-children having-died

τίθεται χέρα δρύπτεταί τε παρειάν,
puts hand tears and cheek
δίαιμον ὄνυχα τιθεμένα σπαραγμοῖς.
bloody nail making with-rendings

VII · POLYDORUS FOUND

The servant brings a body found on the shore: it is Polydorus, and Hecuba understands her dream. Agamemnon arrives, and she begs him to avenge her son on Polymestor, appealing to justice, to the law of the gods, and to his love for her daughter Cassandra. Agamemnon pities her but fears the army, which counts Polymestor a friend; she asks only that he not hinder her, sends a woman to summon Polymestor, and has him hold back Polyxena's burial so that brother and sister may be buried together.

ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ γυναῖκες, Ἑκάβη ποῦ ποθ' ἡ παναθλία,
women Hecuba where ever the all-wretched
ἡ πάντα νικῶσ' ἄνδρα καὶ θῆλυν σποράν
the all conquering man and female race
κακοῖσιν; οὐδεὶς στέφανον ἀνθαιρήσεται.
in-evils no-one crown will-contest
ΧΟΡΟΣ τί δ', ὦ τάλαινα σῆς κακογλώσσου βοῆς;
what and O wretched of-your ill-tongued cry
ὡς οὔποθ' εὕδει λυπρά σου κηρύγματα.
how never sleep grievous your proclamations
ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ Ἑκάβῃ φέρω τόδ' ἄλγος· ἐν κακοῖσι δὲ
to-Hecuba I-bring this grief in evils and
οὐ ῥᾴδιον βροτοῖσιν εὐφημεῖν στόμα.
not easy for-mortals to-speak-well mouth

ΧΟΡΟΣ καὶ μὴν περῶσα τυγχάνει δόμων ἄπο
and indeed passing happens house from
ἥδ', εἰς δὲ καιρὸν σοῖσι φαίνεται λόγοις.
this-one in and season to-your appears to-words
ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ ὦ παντάλαινα κἄτι μᾶλλον ἢ λέγω,
O all-wretched and-still more than I-say
δέσποιν', ὄλωλας, οὐκέτ' εἶ βλέπουσα φῶς,
mistress you-have-perished no-longer are seeing light
ἄπαις, ἄνανδρος, ἄπολις, ἐξεφθαρμένη.
childless husbandless cityless destroyed
ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐ καινὸν εἶπας, εἰδόσιν δ' ὠνείδισας.
not new-thing you-said to-knowing and you-reproached
ἀτὰρ τί νεκρὸν τόνδε μοι Πολυξένης
but why corpse this for-me of-Polyxena
ἥκεις κομίζουσ', ἧς ἀπηγγέλθη τάφος
do-you-come bringing of-whom was-announced burial
πάντων Ἀχαιῶν διὰ χερὸς σπουδὴν ἔχειν;
of-all Achaeans through hand eagerness to-have
ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ ἥδ' οὐδὲν οἶδεν, ἀλλά μοι Πολυξένην
she nothing knows but to-me Polyxena
θρηνεῖ, νέων δὲ πημάτων οὐχ ἅπτεται.
laments new and of-woes not touches
ΕΚΑΒΗ οἵ 'γὼ τάλαινα· μῶν τὸ βακχεῖον κάρα
ah I wretched surely-not the Bacchic head
τῆς θεσπιῳδοῦ δεῦρο Κασάνδρας φέρεις;
of-the prophesying here of-Cassandra do-you-bring
ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ ζῶσαν λέλακας, τὸν θανόντα δ' οὐ στένεις
living you-have-uttered the dead but not you-groan-for
τόνδ'· ἀλλ' ἄθρησον σῶμα γυμνωθὲν νεκροῦ,
this but look-at body bared of-dead

εἴ σοι φανεῖται θαῦμα καὶ παρ᾽ ἐλπίδας.
if to-you will-appear marvel and beyond hopes

ΕΚΑΒΗ οἴμοι, βλέπω δὴ παῖδ᾽ ἐμὸν τεθνηκότα,
ah-me I-see indeed child my having-died

Πολύδωρον ὅν μοι Θρῃξ ἔσῳζ᾽ οἴκοις ἀνήρ.
Polydorus whom for-me Thracian kept-safe in-house man

ἀπωλόμην δύστηνος, οὐκέτ᾽ εἰμὶ δή.
I-am-ruined wretched no-longer I-am indeed

ὦ τέκνον τέκνον,
O child child

αἰαῖ, κατάρχομαι νόμον
alas I-begin strain

βακχεῖον, ἐξ ἀλάστορος
Bacchic from avenging-spirit

ἀρτιμαθὴς κακῶν.
newly-learning of-evils

ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ ἔγνως γὰρ ἄτην παιδός, ὦ δύστηνε σύ;
you-knew for ruin of-child O wretched you

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἄπιστ᾽ ἄπιστα, καινὰ καινὰ δέρκομαι.
incredible incredible new new I-see

ἕτερα δ᾽ ἀφ᾽ ἑτέρων κακὰ κακῶν κυρεῖ·
other and from others evils of-evils befall

οὐδέποτ᾽ ἀστένακτος ἀδάκρυτος ἀ-
never without-groan tearless day

μέρα ἐπισχήσει.
— will-hold-back

ΧΟΡΟΣ δείν᾽, ὦ τάλαινα, δεινὰ πάσχομεν κακά.
terrible-things O wretched terrible we-suffer evils

ΕΚΑΒΗ ὦ τέκνον τέκνον ταλαίνας ματρός,
O child child of-wretched mother
τίνι μόρῳ θνῄσκεις; 695
by-what fate do-you-die
τίνι πότμῳ κεῖσαι;
by-what lot do-you-lie
πρὸς τίνος ἀνθρώπων;
by what of-men
ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ οὐκ οἶδ'· ἐπ' ἀκταῖς νιν κυρῶ θαλασσίαις.
not I-know on shores him I-find of-the-sea
ΕΚΑΒΗ ἔκβλητον, ἢ πέσημα φονίου δορός,
cast-out or fall of-bloody spear
ἐν ψαμάθῳ λευρᾷ; 700
in sand smooth
ΘΕΡΑΠΑΙΝΑ πόντου νιν ἐξήνεγκε πελάγιος κλύδων.
of-sea him cast-out of-the-deep wave
ΕΚΑΒΗ ὤμοι, αἰαῖ, ἔμαθον ἐνύπνιον ὀμμάτων
ah-me alas I-learned dream of-eyes
ἐμῶν ὄψιν, οὔ με παρέβα φά-
my vision not me passed apparition
σμα μελανόπτερον, 705
— *black-winged*
ἃν ἐσεῖδον ἀμφὶ σ',
which I-saw about you
ὦ τέκνον, οὐκέτ' ὄντα Διὸς ἐν φάει.
O child no-longer being of-Zeus in light
ΧΟΡΟΣ τίς γάρ νιν ἔκτειν'; οἶσθ' ὀνειρόφρων φράσαι;
who for him killed do-you-know dream-wise to-tell

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἐμὸς ἐμὸς ξένος, Θρήκιος ἱππότας,
my my host Thracian horseman
ἵν' ὁ γέρων πατὴρ ἔθετό νιν κρύψας.
where the old father placed him having-hidden
ΧΟΡΟΣ οἴμοι, τί λέξεις; χρυσὸν ὡς ἔχοι κτανών;
ah-me what will-you-say gold so-that he-might-have having-killed
ΕΚΑΒΗ ἄρρητ' ἀνωνόμαστα, θαυμάτων πέρα,
unspeakable-things nameless-things marvels beyond
οὐχ ὅσι' οὐδ' ἀνεκτά. ποῦ δίκα ξένων;
not holy nor endurable where justice of-strangers
ὦ κατάρατ' ἀνδρῶν, ὡς διεμοιράσω
O accursed of-men how you-carved
χρόα, σιδαρέῳ τεμὼν φασγάνῳ
skin with-iron having-cut with-sword
μέλεα τοῦδε παιδὸς οὐδ' ὠκτίσω.
limbs of-this child nor you-pitied
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὦ τλῆμον, ὥς σε πολυπονωτάτην βροτῶν
O wretched how you most-toilsome of-mortals
δαίμων ἔθηκεν ὅστις ἐστί σοι βαρύς.
god made whoever is to-you heavy
ἀλλ' εἰσορῶ γὰρ τοῦδε δεσπότου δέμας
but I-see for of-this master body
Ἀγαμέμνονος, τοὐνθένδε σιγῶμεν, φίλαι.
of-Agamemnon henceforth let-us-be-silent friends
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ Ἑκάβη, τί μέλλεις παῖδα σὴν κρύπτειν τάφῳ
Hecuba why do-you-delay child your to-hide in-tomb
ἐλθοῦσ', ἐφ' οἷσπερ Ταλθύβιος ἤγγειλέ μοι
having-come on what-terms-indeed Talthybius reported to-me
μὴ θιγγάνειν σῆς μηδέν' Ἀργείων κόρης;
not to-touch your anyone of-Argives girl

ἡμεῖς μὲν οὖν ἐῶμεν οὐδὲ ψαύομεν·
we indeed then let-be nor touch
σὺ δὲ σχολάζεις, ὥστε θαυμάζειν ἐμέ. 730
you but are-idle so-that to-marvel me
ἥκω δ' ἀποστελῶν σε· τἀκεῖθεν γὰρ εὖ
I-come and to-fetch you the-things-there for well
πεπραγμέν' ἐστίν, εἴ τι τῶνδ' ἐστὶν καλῶς.
done are if anything of-these is well
ἔα· τίν' ἄνδρα τόνδ' ἐπὶ σκηναῖς ὁρῶ
ha what man this at tents I-see
θανόντα Τρώων; οὐ γὰρ Ἀργεῖον πέπλοι
dead of-Trojans not for Argive robes
δέμας περιπτύσσοντες ἀγγέλλουσί μοι. 735
body wrapping announce to-me
ΕΚΑΒΗ δύστην', ἐμαυτὴν γὰρ λέγω λέγουσα σέ,
wretched myself for I-mean saying you
Ἑκάβη, τί δράσω; πότερα προσπέσω γόνυ
Hecuba what shall-I-do whether shall-I-fall-at knee
Ἀγαμέμνονος τοῦδ' ἢ φέρω σιγῇ κακά;
of-Agamemnon this or shall-I-bear in-silence evils
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τί μοι προσώπῳ νῶτον ἐγκλίνασα σὸν
why to-me to-face back having-turned your
δύρει, τὸ πραχθὲν δ' οὐ λέγεις; τίς ἔσθ' ὅδε; 740
do-you-weep the done and not you-say who is this
ΕΚΑΒΗ ἀλλ' εἴ με δούλην πολεμίαν θ' ἡγούμενος
but if me slave enemy and considering
γονάτων ἀπώσαιτ', ἄλγος ἂν προσθείμεθ' ἄν.
from-knees he-should-thrust grief — we-would-add —

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὔτοι πέφυκα μάντις, ὥστε μὴ κλύων
surely-not I-am-born seer so-that not hearing
ἐξιστορῆσαι σῶν ὁδὸν βουλευμάτων.
to-trace your path of-counsels
ΕΚΑΒΗ ἆρ' ἐκλογίζομαί γε πρὸς τὸ δυσμενὲς
— I-reckon at-least toward the hostile
μᾶλλον φρένας τοῦδ', ὄντος οὐχὶ δυσμενοῦς;
more mind of-this being not hostile
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ εἴ τοί με βούλει τῶνδε μηδὲν εἰδέναι,
if surely me you-wish of-these nothing to-know
εἰς ταὐτὸν ἥκεις· καὶ γὰρ οὐδ' ἐγὼ κλύειν.
to the-same you-come and for not-even I to-hear
ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην τοῦδε τιμωρεῖν ἄτερ
not — I-could this to-avenge without
τέκνοισι τοῖς ἐμοῖσι. τί στρέφω τάδε;
for-children the my why do-I-turn these-things
τολμᾶν ἀνάγκη, κἂν τύχω κἂν μὴ τύχω.
to-dare necessity even-if I-succeed even-if not I-succeed
Ἀγάμεμνον, ἱκετεύω σε τῶνδε γουνάτων
Agamemnon I-supplicate you by-these knees
καὶ σοῦ γενείου δεξιᾶς τ' εὐδαίμονος.
and your beard right-hand and prosperous
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τί χρῆμα μαστεύουσα; μῶν ἐλεύθερον
what thing seeking surely-not free
αἰῶνα θέσθαι; ῥᾴδιον γάρ ἐστί σοι.
life to-make easy for it-is for-you
ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐ δῆτα· τοὺς κακοὺς δὲ τιμωρουμένη
not then the wicked but avenging
αἰῶνα τὸν ξύμπαντα δουλεύειν θέλω.
life the whole to-be-a-slave I-wish

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ καὶ δὴ τίν᾽ ἡμᾶς εἰς ἐπάρκεσιν καλεῖς;
and indeed what us to help you-call

ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐδέν τι τούτων ὧν σὺ δοξάζεις, ἄναξ.
nothing any of-these which you think lord

ὁρᾷς νεκρὸν τόνδ᾽, οὗ καταστάζω δάκρυ; 760
do-you-see corpse this on-which I-shed tear

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ὁρῶ· τὸ μέντοι μέλλον οὐκ ἔχω μαθεῖν.
I-see the however future not I-can learn

ΕΚΑΒΗ τοῦτόν ποτ᾽ ἔτεκον κἄφερον ζώνης ὕπο.
this-one once I-bore and-carried girdle under

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔστιν δὲ τίς σῶν οὗτος, ὦ τλῆμον, τέκνων;
is and which of-your this-one O wretched of-children

ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐ τῶν θανόντων Πριαμιδῶν ὑπ᾽ Ἰλίῳ.
not of-the dead of-Priam's-sons under Ilium

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἦ γάρ τιν᾽ ἄλλον ἔτεκες ἢ κείνους, γύναι; 765
— for some other you-bore than those woman

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἀνόνητά γ᾽, ὡς ἔοικε, τόνδ᾽ ὃν εἰσορᾷς.
profitlessly at-least as seems this-one whom you-see

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ποῦ δ᾽ ὢν ἐτύγχαν᾽, ἡνίκ᾽ ὤλλυτο πτόλις;
where and being he-happened when perished city

ΕΚΑΒΗ πατήρ νιν ἐξέπεμψεν ὀρρωδῶν θανεῖν.
father him sent-out fearing to-die

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ποῖ τῶν τότ᾽ ὄντων χωρίσας τέκνων μόνον;
where of-the then being having-separated of-children alone

ΕΚΑΒΗ εἰς τήνδε χώραν, οὗπερ ηὑρέθη θανών. 770
to this land where-indeed he-was-found dead

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ πρὸς ἄνδρ᾽ ὃς ἄρχει τῆσδε Πολυμήστωρ χθονός;
to man who rules this Polymestor land

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἐνταῦθ᾽ ἐπέμφθη πικροτάτου χρυσοῦ φύλαξ.
here he-was-sent most-bitter of-gold guardian

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ θνῄσκει δὲ πρὸς τοῦ καὶ τίνος πότμου τυχών;
dies and by whom and of-what fate having-met

ΕΚΑΒΗ τίνος δ' ὑπ' ἄλλου; Θρῄξ νιν ὤλεσε ξένος.
what and by other Thracian him destroyed host

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ὦ τλῆμον· ἦ που χρυσὸν ἠράσθη λαβεῖν;
O wretched — surely gold he-desired to-take

ΕΚΑΒΗ τοιαῦτ', ἐπειδὴ συμφορὰν ἔγνω Φρυγῶν.
such-things when misfortune he-learned of-Phrygians

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ηὗρες δὲ ποῦ νιν, ἢ τίς ἤνεγκεν νεκρόν;
you-found and where him or who brought corpse

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἥδ', ἐντυχοῦσα ποντίας ἀκτῆς ἔπι.
this-one having-come-upon of-the-sea shore on

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τοῦτον ματεύουσ' ἢ πονοῦσ' ἄλλον πόνον;
him seeking or toiling other toil

ΕΚΑΒΗ λούτρ' ᾤχετ' οἴσουσ' ἐξ ἁλὸς Πολυξένῃ.
bath went to-bring from sea for-Polyxena

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ κτανών νιν, ὡς ἔοικεν, ἐκβάλλει ξένος.
having-killed him as seems casts-out host

ΕΚΑΒΗ θαλασσόπλαγκτόν γ', ὧδε διατεμὼν χρόα.
sea-tossed at-least so having-cut skin

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ὦ σχετλία σὺ τῶν ἀμετρήτων πόνων.
O wretched you of-the immeasurable toils

ΕΚΑΒΗ ὄλωλα, κοὐδὲν λοιπόν, Ἀγάμεμνον, κακῶν.
I-have-perished and-nothing is-left Agamemnon of-evils

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ φεῦ φεῦ· τίς οὕτω δυστυχὴς ἔφυ γυνή;
alas alas what so unfortunate was-born woman

ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐκ ἔστιν, εἰ μὴ τὴν τύχην αὐτὴν λέγοις.
not is-there if not the fortune itself you-mean

ἀλλ' ὥνπερ εἵνεκ' ἀμφὶ σὸν πίπτω γόνυ,
but what-indeed for-the-sake about your I-fall knee

ἄκουσον. εἰ μὲν ὅσιά σοι παθεῖν δοκῶ,
hear if indeed holy-things to-you to-suffer I-seem
στέργοιμ᾽ ἄν· εἰ δὲ τοὔμπαλιν, σύ μοι γενοῦ
I-would-acquiesce — if but the-opposite you to-me become
τιμωρὸς ἀνδρὸς ἀνοσιωτάτου ξένου,
avenger of-man most-unholy host
ὃς οὔτε τοὺς γῆς νέρθεν οὔτε τοὺς ἄνω
who neither the of-earth below nor the above
δείσας δέδρακεν ἔργον ἀνοσιώτατον,
fearing has-done deed most-unholy
κοινῆς τραπέζης πολλάκις τυχὼν ἐμοί,
of-common table often having-met with-me
ξενίας τ᾽ ἀριθμῷ πρῶτα τῶν ἐμῶν φίλων·
of-hospitality and in-number first of-the my of-friends
τυχὼν δ᾽ ὅσων δεῖ· καὶ λαβὼν προμηθίαν,
having-obtained and as-much-as is-needed and having-received forethought
ἔκτεινε, τύμβου δ᾽, εἰ κτανεῖν ἐβούλετο,
killed of-tomb and if to-kill he-wished
οὐκ ἠξίωσεν, ἀλλ᾽ ἀφῆκε πόντιον.
not deemed-worthy but let-go to-the-sea
ἡμεῖς μὲν οὖν δοῦλοί τε κἀσθενεῖς ἴσως·
we indeed then slaves both and-weak perhaps
ἀλλ᾽ οἱ θεοὶ σθένουσι χὠ κείνων κρατῶν
but the gods have-power and-the of-them ruling
νόμος· νόμῳ γὰρ τοὺς θεοὺς ἡγούμεθα
law by-law for the gods we-believe-in
καὶ ζῶμεν ἄδικα καὶ δίκαι᾽ ὡρισμένοι·
and live unjust-things and just-things having-defined
ὃς εἰς σ᾽ ἀνελθὼν εἰ διαφθαρήσεται,
which to you having-come if will-be-destroyed

καὶ μὴ δίκην δώσουσιν οἵτινες ξένους
and not penalty will-pay who guests
κτείνουσιν ἢ θεῶν ἱερὰ τολμῶσιν φέρειν,
kill or of-gods sacred-things dare to-carry-off
οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν τῶν ἐν ἀνθρώποις ἴσον.
not is nothing of-the among men equal
ταῦτ' οὖν ἐν αἰσχρῷ θέμενος αἰδέσθητί με·
these-things then in shame having-placed respect me
οἴκτειρον ἡμᾶς, ὡς γραφεύς τ' ἀποσταθεὶς
pity us as painter and standing-back
ἰδοῦ με κἀνάθρησον οἷ' ἔχω κακά.
see me and-observe what-sort I-have evils
τύραννος ἦν ποτ', ἀλλὰ νῦν δούλη σέθεν,
queen I-was once but now slave of-you
εὔπαις ποτ' οὖσα, νῦν δὲ γραῦς ἄπαις θ' ἅμα,
blessed-in-children once being now and old-woman childless and at-once
ἄπολις, ἔρημος, ἀθλιωτάτη βροτῶν.
cityless desolate most-wretched of-mortals
οἴμοι τάλαινα, ποῖ μ' ὑπεξάγεις πόδα;
ah-me wretched where from-me do-you-withdraw foot
ἔοικα πράξειν οὐδέν· ὦ τάλαιν' ἐγώ.
I-seem to-accomplish nothing O wretched I
τί δῆτα θνητοὶ τἄλλα μὲν μαθήματα
why then mortals the-other indeed learnings
μοχθοῦμεν ὡς χρὴ πάντα καὶ μαστεύομεν,
toil-at as is-right all and seek
πειθὼ δὲ τὴν τύραννον ἀνθρώποις μόνην
persuasion but the queen for-men alone
οὐδέν τι μᾶλλον ἐς τέλος σπουδάζομεν
nothing at-all more to end strive

μισθοὺς διδόντες μανθάνειν, ἵν' ἦν ποτε
fees giving to-learn so-that it-might-be-possible ever
πείθειν ἃ τις βούλοιτο τυγχάνειν θ' ἅμα;
to-persuade what anyone might-wish to-obtain and at-once
πῶς οὖν ἔτ' ἄν τις ἐλπίσαι πράξειν καλῶς;
how then still — anyone might-hope to-fare well
οἱ μὲν γὰρ ὄντες παῖδες οὐκέτ' εἰσί μοι,
the indeed for being children no-longer are to-me
αὐτὴ δ' ἐπ' αἰσχροῖς αἰχμάλωτος οἴχομαι·
myself and on shameful-terms captive I-go
καπνὸν δὲ πόλεως τόνδ' ὑπερθρῴσκοντ' ὁρῶ.
smoke and of-city this leaping-over I-see
καὶ μὴν ἴσως μὲν τοῦ λόγου κενὸν τόδε,
and indeed perhaps indeed of-the speech empty this
Κύπριν προβάλλειν· ἀλλ' ὅμως εἰρήσεται·
Cypris to-put-forward but nevertheless it-will-be-said
πρὸς σοῖσι πλευροῖς παῖς ἐμὴ κοιμίζεται
by your sides child my is-lulled
ἡ φοιβάς, ἣν καλοῦσι Κασάνδραν Φρύγες.
the inspired whom call Cassandra Phrygians
ποῦ τὰς φίλας δῆτ' εὐφρόνας δείξεις, ἄναξ,
where the dear then nights will-you-show lord
ἢ τῶν ἐν εὐνῇ φιλτάτων ἀσπασμάτων
or of-the in bed dearest embraces
χάριν τίν' ἕξει παῖς ἐμή, κείνης δ' ἐγώ;
favor what will-have child my of-her and I
ἐκ τοῦ σκότου γὰρ τῶν τε νυκτερησίων
from the darkness for of-the and nightly
φίλτρων μεγίστη γίγνεται βροτοῖς χάρις.
charms greatest comes to-mortals favor

ἄκουε δή νυν· τὸν θανόντα τόνδ' ὁρᾷς;
hear indeed now the dead this do-you-see
τοῦτον καλῶς δρῶν ὄντα κηδεστὴν σέθεν
this-one well treating being kinsman of-you
δράσεις. ἑνός μοι μῦθος ἐνδεὴς ἔτι.
you-will-treat of-one to-me word lacking still
εἴ μοι γένοιτο φθόγγος ἐν βραχίοσι
if to-me might-be voice in arms
καὶ χερσὶ καὶ κόμαισι καὶ ποδῶν βάσει
and hands and hair and of-feet step
ἢ Δαιδάλου τέχναισιν ἢ θεῶν τινος,
or of-Daedalus by-arts or of-gods some
ὡς πάνθ' ὁμαρτῇ σῶν ἔχοιντο γουνάτων
so-that all together your might-cling-to knees
κλαίοντ', ἐπισκήπτοντα παντοίους λόγους.
weeping enjoining all-kinds words
ὦ δέσποτ', ὦ μέγιστον Ἕλλησιν φάος,
O master O greatest to-Greeks light
πιθοῦ, παράσχες χεῖρα τῇ πρεσβύτιδι
obey offer hand to-the old-woman
τιμωρόν, εἰ καὶ μηδέν ἐστιν, ἀλλ' ὅμως.
avenging if even nothing she-is but nevertheless
ἐσθλοῦ γὰρ ἀνδρὸς τῇ δίκῃ θ' ὑπηρετεῖν
of-noble for of-man to-the justice and to-serve
καὶ τοὺς κακοὺς δρᾶν πανταχοῦ κακῶς ἀεί.
and the evil to-do everywhere badly always
ΧΟΡΟΣ δεινόν γε, θνητοῖς ὡς ἅπαντα συμπίτνει,
terrible at-least for-mortals how all coincides
καὶ τὰς ἀνάγκας οἱ νόμοι διώρισαν,
and the necessities the laws define

φίλους τιθέντες τούς γε πολεμιωτάτους
friends making the at-least most-hostile
ἐχθρούς τε τοὺς πρὶν εὐμενεῖς ποιούμενοι.
enemies and the formerly well-disposed making
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἐγὼ σὲ καὶ σὸν παῖδα καὶ τύχας σέθεν,
I you and your child and fortunes of-you
Ἑκάβη, δι' οἴκτου χεῖρά θ' ἱκεσίαν ἔχω,
Hecuba through pity hand and suppliant have
καὶ βούλομαι θεῶν θ' εἵνεκ' ἀνόσιον ξένον
and I-wish of-gods and for-the-sake unholy host
καὶ τοῦ δικαίου τήνδε σοι δοῦναι δίκην,
and of-the just this to-you to-give penalty
εἴ πως φανείη γ' ὥστε σοί τ' ἔχειν καλῶς,
if somehow it-might-appear at-least so-that for-you and to-be well
στρατῷ τε μὴ δόξαιμι Κασάνδρας χάριν
to-army and not I-might-seem of-Cassandra for-the-sake
Θρῃκης ἄνακτι τόνδε βουλεῦσαι φόνον.
of-Thrace for-lord this to-plan murder
ἔστιν γὰρ ᾗ ταραγμὸς ἐμπέπτωκέ μοι·
there-is for where confusion has-fallen-on me
τὸν ἄνδρα τοῦτον φίλιον ἡγεῖται στρατός,
the man this friendly considers army
τὸν κατθανόντα δ' ἐχθρόν· εἰ δὲ σοὶ φίλος
the dead but enemy if but to-you dear
ὅδ' ἐστί, χωρὶς τοῦτο κοὐ κοινὸν στρατῷ.
this-one is separately this and-not common to-army
πρὸς ταῦτα φρόντιζ'· ὡς θέλοντα μέν μ' ἔχεις
toward these-things consider as willing indeed me you-have
σοὶ ξυμπονῆσαι καὶ ταχὺν προσαρκέσαι,
for-you to-toil-with and quick to-help

βραδὺν δ', Ἀχαιοῖς εἰ διαβληθήσομαι.
slow but to-Achaeans if I-shall-be-slandered

ΕΚΑΒΗ φεῦ·
alas

οὐκ ἔστι θνητῶν ὅστις ἔστ' ἐλεύθερος·
not is-there of-mortals who is free

ἢ χρημάτων γὰρ δοῦλός ἐστιν ἢ τύχης,
either of-money for slave he-is or of-fortune

ἢ πλῆθος αὐτὸν πόλεος ἢ νόμων γραφαὶ
or multitude him of-city or of-laws writings

εἴργουσι χρῆσθαι μὴ κατὰ γνώμην τρόποις.
prevent to-use not according-to judgment ways

ἐπεὶ δὲ ταρβεῖς τῷ τ' ὄχλῳ πλέον νέμεις,
since and you-fear to-the and crowd more assign

ἐγώ σε θήσω τοῦδ' ἐλεύθερον φόβου.
I you will-make of-this free of-fear

σύνισθι μὲν γάρ, ἤν τι βουλεύσω κακὸν
be-privy indeed for if anything I-plan evil

τῷ τόνδ' ἀποκτείναντι, συνδράσῃς δὲ μή.
to-the this-one having-killed help-do but not

ἢν δ' ἐξ Ἀχαιῶν θόρυβος ἢ 'πικουρία
if and from Achaeans uproar or help

πάσχοντος ἀνδρὸς Θρᾳκὸς οἷα πείσεται
suffering man Thracian such-as he-will-suffer

φανῇ τις, εἶργε μὴ δοκῶν ἐμὴν χάριν.
appear some restrain not seeming my favor

τὰ δ' ἄλλα θάρσει· πάντ' ἐγὼ θήσω καλῶς.
the and rest take-heart all I will-set well

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ πῶς οὖν; τί δράσεις; πότερα φάσγανον χερὶ
how then what will-you-do whether sword with-hand
λαβοῦσα γραίᾳ φῶτα βάρβαρον κτενεῖς,
taking with-old man barbarian will-you-kill
ἢ φαρμάκοισιν ἢ 'πικουρίᾳ τινί;
or with-drugs or with-help some
τίς σοι ξυνέσται χείρ; πόθεν κτήσει φίλους;
what to-you will-be-with hand whence will-you-get friends
ΕΚΑΒΗ στέγαι κεκεύθασ' αἵδε Τρῳάδων ὄχλον.
tents hide these of-Trojan-women crowd
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τὰς αἰχμαλώτους εἶπας, Ἑλλήνων ἄγραν;
the captives you-mean of-Greeks prey
ΕΚΑΒΗ σὺν ταῖσδε τὸν ἐμὸν φονέα τιμωρήσομαι.
with these the my murderer I-will-avenge
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ καὶ πῶς γυναιξὶν ἀρσένων ἔσται κράτος;
and how for-women over-males will-be power
ΕΚΑΒΗ δεινὸν τὸ πλῆθος, σὺν δόλῳ τε δύσμαχον.
terrible the multitude with guile and hard-to-fight
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ δεινόν· τὸ μέντοι θῆλυ μέμφομαι γένος.
terrible the however female I-despise race
ΕΚΑΒΗ τί δ'; οὐ γυναῖκες εἷλον Αἰγύπτου τέκνα,
what and not women took of-Aegyptus children
καὶ Λῆμνον ἄρδην ἀρσένων ἐξῴκισαν;
and Lemnos utterly of-males emptied
ἀλλ' ὡς γενέσθω· τόνδε μὲν μέθες λόγον,
but so let-it-be this indeed let-go word
πέμψον δέ μοι τήνδ' ἀσφαλῶς διὰ στρατοῦ
send and me this-one safely through army
γυναῖκα. καὶ σὺ Θρῃκὶ πλαθεῖσα ξένῳ
woman and you to-Thracian having-approached to-host

λέξον· καλεῖ σ' ἄνασσα δήποτ' Ἰλίου
say calls you queen once of-Ilium
Ἑκάβη, σὸν οὐκ ἔλασσον ἢ κείνης χρέος,
Hecuba your no less than her business
καὶ παῖδας· ὡς δεῖ καὶ τέκν' εἰδέναι λόγους
and children since must also children to-know words
τοὺς ἐξ ἐκείνης. τὸν δὲ τῆς νεοσφαγοῦς
the from her the and of-the newly-slain
895 Πολυξένης ἐπίσχες, Ἀγάμεμνον, τάφον,
Polyxena hold-back Agamemnon tomb
ὡς τώδ' ἀδελφὼ πλησίον μιᾷ φλογί,
so-that these-two siblings near in-one in-flame
δισσὴ μέριμνα μητρί, κρυφθῆτον χθονί.
double care to-mother may-be-hidden in-earth
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔσται τάδ' οὕτω· καὶ γὰρ εἰ μὲν ἦν στρατῷ
will-be these-things so and for if indeed was for-army
πλοῦς, οὐκ ἂν εἶχον τήνδε σοι δοῦναι χάριν·
voyage not — I-could this to-you to-give favor
900 νῦν δ', οὐ γὰρ ἵησ' οὐρίας πνοὰς θεός,
now but not for sends favorable breezes god
μένειν ἀνάγκη πλοῦν ὁρῶντας ἥσυχον.
to-wait necessity voyage seeing quiet
γένοιτο δ' εὖ πως· πᾶσι γὰρ κοινὸν τόδε
may-it-be and well somehow to-all for common this
ἰδίᾳ θ' ἑκάστῳ καὶ πόλει, τὸν μὲν κακὸν
privately and to-each and to-city the indeed evil
κακόν τι πάσχειν, τὸν δὲ χρηστὸν εὐτυχεῖν.
evil something to-suffer the but good to-prosper

The chorus remembers the night Troy fell: their husbands asleep, the dancing over, they binding up their hair before the mirror, when the cry went up through the city. In vain they fled to Artemis' altar; they saw their husbands dead and were carried off to the ships, and they curse Helen and Paris.

ΧΟΡΟΣ σὺ μέν, ὦ πατρὶς Ἰλιάς,
you indeed O fatherland Ilian
τῶν ἀπορθήτων πόλις οὐκέτι λέξει·
of-the unsacked city no-longer will-be-called
τοῖον Ἑλλάνων νέφος ἀμφί σε κρύπτει
such of-Greeks cloud around you hides
δορὶ δὴ δορὶ πέρσαν.
with-spear indeed with-spear they-sacked
ἀπὸ δὲ στεφάναν κέκαρσαι
from and crown you-have-been-shorn
πύργων, κατὰ δ' αἰθάλου
of-towers down and of-soot
κηλῖδ' οἰκτροτάταν κέχρωσαι,
stain most-pitiful you-have-been-stained
τάλαιν', οὐκέτι σ' ἐμβατεύσω.
wretched no-longer you I-shall-walk
μεσονύκτιος ὠλλύμαν,
at-midnight I-perished
ἦμος ἐκ δείπνων ὕπνος ἡδὺς ἐπ' ὄσσοις
when after dinners sleep sweet on eyes
σκίδναται, μολπᾶν δ' ἄπο καὶ χοροποιὸν
is-spread songs and from and dance-making
θυσίαν καταπαύσας
sacrifice having-ended

πόσις ἐν θαλάμοις ἔκειτο,
husband in chamber lay
ξυστὸν δ' ἐπὶ πασσάλῳ,
spear and on peg
ναύταν οὐκέθ' ὁρῶν ὅμιλον
sailor no-longer seeing throng
Τροίαν Ἰλιάδ' ἐμβεβῶτα.
Troy Ilian having-trodden
ἐγὼ δὲ πλόκαμον ἀναδέτοις
I and lock in-binding
μίτραισιν ἐρρυθμιζόμαν
in-headbands was-arranging
χρυσέων ἐνόπτρων
of-golden mirrors
λεύσσουσ' ἀτέρμονας εἰς αὐγάς,
gazing endless into gleams
ἐπιδέμνιος ὡς πέσοιμ' ἐς εὐνάν.
on-the-bed that I-might-fall into bed
ἀνὰ δὲ κέλαδος ἔμολε πόλιν·
up and shout came city
κέλευσμα δ' ἦν κατ' ἄστυ Τροίας τόδ'· ὦ
command and was throughout town of-Troy this O
παῖδες Ἑλλάνων, πότε δὴ πότε τὰν
sons of-Greeks when indeed when the
Ἰλιάδα σκοπιὰν
Ilian watchtower
πέρσαντες ἥξετ' οἴκους;
having-sacked will-you-come home
λέχη δὲ φίλια μονόπεπλος
bed and dear in-single-robe

λιποῦσα, Δωρὶς ὡς κόρα,
having-left Dorian like girl
σεμνὰν προσίζουσ᾽
holy sitting-at
οὐκ ἤνυσ᾽ Ἄρτεμιν ἁ τλάμων·
not I-prevailed-on Artemis the wretched
ἄγομαι δὲ θανόντ᾽ ἰδοῦσ᾽ ἀκοίταν
I-am-led and dead having-seen husband
τὸν ἐμὸν ἅλιον ἐπὶ πέλαγος,
the my briny over sea
πόλιν τ᾽ ἀποσκοποῦσ᾽, ἐπεὶ νόστιμον
city and looking-back when homeward
ναῦς ἐκίνησεν πόδα καί μ᾽ ἀπὸ γᾶς
ship moved foot and me from land
ὥρισεν Ἰλιάδος·
separated Ilian
τάλαιν᾽, ἀπείπον ἄλγει,
wretched I-fainted with-grief
τὰν τοῖν Διοσκόροιν Ἑλέναν κάσιν
the of-the-two Dioscuri Helen sister
Ἰδαῖόν τε βούταν
Idaean and herdsman
αἰνόπαριν κατάρᾳ
dread-Paris to-curse
διδοῦσ᾽, ἐπεί με γᾶς
giving since me land
ἐκ πατρῴας ἀπώλεσεν
from paternal destroyed
ἐξῴκισέν τ᾽ οἴκων γάμος, οὐ γάμος
drove-out and of-house marriage not marriage

ἀλλ᾽ ἀλάστορός τις οἰζύς·
but of-avenging-spirit some woe
950 ἃν μήτε πέλαγος ἅλιον ἀπαγάγοι πάλιν,
whom neither sea of-brine may-bring-back again
μήτε πατρῷον ἵκοιτ᾽ ἐς οἶκον.
nor paternal may-she-reach to house

IX · HECUBA'S REVENGE

Polymestor arrives with his sons and pretends sympathy, assuring Hecuba that Polydorus is alive and the gold safe. She lures him into the tent with a tale of buried treasure, and there the women kill his sons and blind him. He comes out raging, and Agamemnon judges between them: Polymestor claims he killed the boy to protect the Greeks, but Hecuba shows that he did it for the gold, and Agamemnon condemns him. Polymestor prophesies that Hecuba will become a dog with fiery eyes and that Cassandra and Agamemnon will be murdered at Argos; Agamemnon orders him gagged and cast away on a desert island, and the wind rises for the fleet to sail.

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ὦ φίλτατ᾽ ἀνδρῶν Πρίαμε, φιλτάτη δὲ σύ,
O dearest of-men Priam dearest and you
Ἑκάβη, δακρύω σ᾽ εἰσορῶν πόλιν τε σήν,
Hecuba I-weep you seeing city and your
955 τήν τ᾽ ἀρτίως θανοῦσαν ἔκγονον σέθεν.
the and lately having-died offspring of-you
φεῦ·
alas
οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν πιστόν, οὔτ᾽ εὐδοξία
not is nothing trustworthy neither good-repute
οὔτ᾽ αὖ καλῶς πράσσοντα μὴ πράξειν κακῶς.
nor again well faring not to-fare badly

φύρουσι δ' αὐτὰ θεοὶ πάλιν τε καὶ πρόσω
mix and them gods back both and forward
ταραγμὸν ἐντιθέντες, ὡς ἀγνωσίᾳ
confusion putting-in that by-ignorance
σέβωμεν αὐτούς. ἀλλὰ ταῦτα μὲν τί δεῖ
we-may-revere them but these-things indeed why must
θρηνεῖν, προκόπτοντ' οὐδὲν εἰς πρόσθεν κακῶν;
to-lament advancing nothing to forward of-evils
σὺ δ', εἴ τι μέμφει τῆς ἐμῆς ἀπουσίας,
you but if anything you-blame of-the my absence
σχές· τυγχάνω γὰρ ἐν μέσοις Θρῄκης ὅροις
hold I-happen for in middle of-Thrace boundaries
ἀπών, ὅτ' ἦλθες δεῦρ'· ἐπεὶ δ' ἀφικόμην,
being-away when you-came here when and I-arrived
ἤδη πόδ' ἔξω δωμάτων αἴροντί μοι
already foot outside of-house lifting to-me
εἰς ταὐτὸν ἥδε συμπίτνει δμωὶς σέθεν,
to the-same this-one falls-in-with servant of-you
λέγουσα μύθους ὧν κλύων ἀφικόμην.
telling words which hearing I-came
ΕΚΑΒΗ αἰσχύνομαί σε προσβλέπειν ἐναντίον,
I-am-ashamed you to-look-at face-to-face
Πολυμῆστορ, ἐν τοιοῖσδε κειμένη κακοῖς.
Polymestor in such lying evils
ὅτῳ γὰρ ὤφθην εὐτυχοῦσ', αἰδώς μ' ἔχει
by-whom for I-was-seen faring-well shame me holds
ἐν τῷδε πότμῳ τυγχάνουσ' ἵν' εἰμὶ νῦν,
in this fate happening where I-am now
κοὐκ ἂν δυναίμην προσβλέπειν σ' ὀρθαῖς κόραις.
and-not — I-could to-look-at you with-straight eyes

ἀλλ᾽ αὐτὸ μὴ δύσνοιαν ἡγήσῃ σέθεν,
but it not ill-will consider of-you
Πολυμῆστορ· ἄλλως δ᾽ αἴτιόν τι καὶ νόμος
Polymestor otherwise and cause something also custom
γυναῖκας ἀνδρῶν μὴ βλέπειν ἐναντίον.
women men not to-look-at face-to-face
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ καὶ θαῦμά γ᾽ οὐδέν. ἀλλὰ τίς χρεία σ᾽ ἐμοῦ;
and wonder at-least nothing but what need you of-me
τί χρῆμ᾽ ἐπέμψω τὸν ἐμὸν ἐκ δόμων πόδα;
what thing did-you-send the my from house foot
ΕΚΑΒΗ ἴδιον ἐμαυτῆς δή τι πρὸς σὲ βούλομαι
private of-myself indeed something to you I-wish
καὶ παῖδας εἰπεῖν σούς· ὀπάονας δέ μοι
and children to-say your attendants and to-me
χωρὶς κέλευσον τῶνδ᾽ ἀποστῆναι δόμων.
apart bid from-these to-stand-away house
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ χωρεῖτ᾽· ἐν ἀσφαλεῖ γὰρ ἥδ᾽ ἐρημία·
go in safety for this solitude
φίλη μὲν ἡμῖν εἶ σύ, προσφιλὲς δέ μοι
dear indeed to-us are you friendly and to-me
στράτευμ᾽ Ἀχαιῶν. ἀλλὰ σημαίνειν σε χρὴ
army of-Achaeans but to-signal you must
τί χρὴ τὸν εὖ πράσσοντα μὴ πράσσουσιν εὖ
what must the well faring not faring well
φίλοις ἐπαρκεῖν· ὡς ἕτοιμός εἰμ᾽ ἐγώ.
friends to-help since ready am I
ΕΚΑΒΗ πρῶτον μὲν εἰπὲ παῖδ᾽ ὃν ἐξ ἐμῆς χερὸς
first indeed say child whom from my hand
Πολύδωρον ἔκ τε πατρὸς ἐν δόμοις ἔχεις,
Polydorus from and father in house you-have

εἰ ζῇ· τὰ δ' ἄλλα δεύτερόν σ' ἐρήσομαι.
if he-lives the-things and other second you I-shall-ask

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ μάλιστα· τοὐκείνου μὲν εὐτυχεῖς μέρος.
certainly his indeed you-are-fortunate part

ΕΚΑΒΗ ὦ φίλταθ', ὡς εὖ καξίως σέθεν λέγεις. 990
O dearest how well and-worthily of-you you-speak

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ τί δῆτα βούλει δεύτερον μαθεῖν ἐμοῦ;
what then do-you-wish second to-learn from-me

ΕΚΑΒΗ εἰ τῆς τεκούσης τῆσδε μέμνηταί τί μου.
if of-the having-borne this-one remembers at-all me

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ καὶ δεῦρό γ' ὡς σὲ κρύφιος ἐζήτει μολεῖν.
and here at-least to you secretly sought to-come

ΕΚΑΒΗ χρυσὸς δὲ σῶς ὃν ἦλθεν ἐκ Τροίας ἔχων;
gold and safe which he-came from Troy having

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ σῶς, ἐν δόμοις γε τοῖς ἐμοῖς φρουρούμενος. 995
safe in house at-least the my guarded

ΕΚΑΒΗ σῶσόν νυν αὐτὸν μηδ' ἔρα τῶν πλησίον.
save then it nor desire of-the neighbors

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ἥκιστ'· ὀναίμην τοῦ παρόντος, ὦ γύναι.
least may-I-profit by-the present O woman

ΕΚΑΒΗ οἶσθ' οὖν ἃ λέξαι σοί τε καὶ παισὶν θέλω;
you-know then what to-say to-you both and to-children I-wish

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ οὐκ οἶδα· τῷ σῷ τοῦτο σημανεῖς λόγῳ.
not I-know by-the your this you-will-signal by-word

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἔστ', ὦ φιληθεὶς ὡς σὺ νῦν ἐμοὶ φιλεῖ, 1000
there-is O beloved as you now by-me are-loved

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ τί χρῆμ' ὃ κἀμὲ καὶ τέκν' εἰδέναι χρεών;
what thing which and-me and children to-know must

ΕΚΑΒΗ χρυσοῦ παλαιαὶ Πριαμιδῶν κατώρυχες.
of-gold ancient of-Priam's-sons vaults

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ταῦτ᾽ ἔσθ᾽ ἃ βούλει παιδὶ σημῆναι σέθεν;
these is-it what you-wish to-son to-signal of-you

ΕΚΑΒΗ μάλιστα, διὰ σοῦ γ᾽· εἶ γὰρ εὐσεβὴς ἀνήρ.
certainly through you at-least you-are for pious man

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ τί δῆτα τέκνων τῶνδε δεῖ παρουσίας;
why then of-children of-these is-need of-presence

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἄμεινον, ἢν σὺ κατθάνῃς, τούσδ᾽ εἰδέναι.
better if you should-die these to-know

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ καλῶς ἔλεξας· τῇδε καὶ σοφώτερον.
well you-said in-this-way also wiser

ΕΚΑΒΗ οἶσθ᾽ οὖν Ἀθάνας Ἰλίας ἵνα στέγαι;
you-know then of-Athena Ilian where house

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ἐνταῦθ᾽ ὁ χρυσός ἐστι; σημεῖον δὲ τί;
there the gold is sign and what

ΕΚΑΒΗ μέλαινα πέτρα γῆς ὑπερτέλλουσ᾽ ἄνω.
black rock of-earth rising-above above

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ἔτ᾽ οὖν τι βούλει τῶν ἐκεῖ φράζειν ἐμοί;
still then something you-wish of-the-things there to-tell me

ΕΚΑΒΗ σῶσαί σε χρήμαθ᾽ οἷς συνεξῆλθον θέλω.
to-keep-safe you money with-which I-came-out I-wish

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ποῦ δῆτα; πέπλων ἐντὸς ἢ κρύψασ᾽ ἔχεις;
where then of-robes within or having-hidden do-you-have

ΕΚΑΒΗ σκύλων ἐν ὄχλῳ ταῖσδε σῴζεται στέγαις.
of-spoils in heap in-these is-kept tents

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ποῦ δ᾽; αἵδ᾽ Ἀχαιῶν ναύλοχοι περιπτυχαί.
where and these of-Achaeans ship-stations enclosures

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἰδίαι γυναικῶν αἰχμαλωτίδων στέγαι.
private of-women captive tents

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ τἄνδον δὲ πιστὰ κἀρσένων ἐρημία;
the-things-within and trustworthy and-of-males solitude

ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐδεὶς Ἀχαιῶν ἔνδον, ἀλλ' ἡμεῖς μόναι.
no-one of-Achaeans within but we alone
ἀλλ' ἕρπ' ἐς οἴκους· καὶ γὰρ Ἀργεῖοι νεῶν
but go into house and for Argives of-ships
λῦσαι ποθοῦσιν οἴκαδ' ἐκ Τροίας πόδα·
to-loose long homeward from Troy foot
ὡς πάντα πράξας ὧν σε δεῖ, στείχῃς πάλιν
so-that all having-done what you must you-may-go back
ξὺν παισὶν οὗπερ τὸν ἐμὸν ᾤκισας γόνον.
with children where-indeed the my you-settled offspring
ΧΟΡΟΣ οὔπω δέδωκας, ἀλλ' ἴσως δώσεις δίκην·
not-yet you-have-paid but perhaps you-will-pay penalty
ἀλίμενόν τις ὡς εἰς ἄντλον πεσὼν
harborless someone as into bilge having-fallen
λέχριος ἐκπεσεῖ φίλας καρδίας,
slantwise you-will-fall-out of-dear heart
ἀμέρσας βίον. τὸ γὰρ ὑπέγγυον
having-taken-away life the for liable
Δίκᾳ καὶ θεοῖσιν οὐ συμπίτνει,
to-Justice and to-gods not coincides
ὀλέθριον ὀλέθριον κακόν.
deadly deadly evil
ψεύσει σ' ὁδοῦ τῆσδ' ἐλπὶς ἥ σ' ἐπήγαγεν
will-deceive you of-road this hope which you led-on
θανάσιμον πρὸς Ἅιδαν, ὦ τάλας·
deadly to Hades O wretched
ἀπολέμῳ δὲ χειρὶ λείψεις βίον.
by-unwarlike but by-hand you-will-leave life
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ὤμοι, τυφλοῦμαι φέγγος ὀμμάτων τάλας.
ah-me I-am-blinded light of-eyes wretched

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἠκούσατ᾽ ἀνδρὸς Θρῃκὸς οἰμωγήν, φίλαι;
did-you-hear of-man Thracian lament friends

ΠΟΛΤΜΗΣΤΩΡ ὤμοι μάλ᾽ αὖθις, τέκνα, δυστήνου σφαγῆς.
ah-me very again children of-wretched slaughter

ΧΟΡΟΣ φίλαι, πέπρακται καίν᾽ ἔσω δόμων κακά.
friends has-been-done new within house evils

ΠΟΛΤΜΗΣΤΩΡ ἀλλ᾽ οὔτι μὴ φύγητε λαιψηρῷ ποδί·
but not-at-all — you-will-flee with-swift foot

βάλλων γὰρ οἴκων τῶνδ᾽ ἀναρρήξω μυχούς.
striking for of-house this I-will-break-open recesses

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἰδού, βαρείας χειρὸς ὁρμᾶται βέλος.
see of-heavy hand is-hurled missile

βούλεσθ᾽ ἐπεισπέσωμεν; ὡς ἀκμὴ καλεῖ
do-you-wish we-should-fall-upon since moment calls

Ἑκάβῃ παρεῖναι Τρῳάσιν τε συμμάχους.
to-Hecuba to-be-present to-Trojan-women and allies

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἄρασσε, φείδου μηδέν, ἐκβάλλων πύλας·
smash spare nothing breaking-out gates

οὐ γάρ ποτ᾽ ὄμμα λαμπρὸν ἐνθήσεις κόραις,
not for ever eye bright you-will-put to-eyes

οὐ παῖδας ὄψει ζῶντας οὓς ἔκτειν᾽ ἐγώ.
not children you-will-see living whom killed I

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἦ γὰρ καθεῖλες Θρῃκα καὶ κρατεῖς ξένου,
— for you-brought-down Thracian and you-master host

δέσποινα, καὶ δέδρακας οἷάπερ λέγεις;
mistress and have-you-done such-as you-say

ΕΚΑΒΗ ὄψει νιν αὐτίκ᾽ ὄντα δωμάτων πάρος
you-will-see him at-once being house before

τυφλὸν τυφλῷ στείχοντα παραφόρῳ ποδί,
blind with-blind walking with-staggering foot

παίδων τε δισσῶν σώμαθ', οὓς ἔκτειν' ἐγὼ
of-children and two bodies whom killed I
σὺν ταῖς ἀρίσταις Τρῳάσιν· δίκην δέ μοι
with the best Trojan-women penalty and to-me
δέδωκε· χωρεῖ δ', ὡς ὁρᾷς, ὅδ' ἐκ δόμων.
he-has-paid comes and as you-see this-one from house
ἀλλ' ἐκποδὼν ἄπειμι κἀποστήσομαι
but out-of-the-way I-will-go and-stand-aside
θυμῷ ζέοντι Θρῃκὶ δυσμαχωτάτῳ.
with-spirit boiling from-Thracian from-most-hard-to-fight
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ὤμοι ἐγώ, πᾷ βῶ,
ah-me I where shall-I-go
πᾷ στῶ, πᾷ κέλσω;
where shall-I-stand where shall-I-put-in
τετράποδος βάσιν θηρὸς ὀρεστέρου
four-footed step of-beast mountain-dwelling
τιθέμενος ἐπὶ χεῖρα κατ' ἴχνος; ποίαν,
putting on hand on track which-way
ἢ ταύταν ἢ τάνδ'
or this or that
ἐξαλλάξω, τὰς
shall-I-change the
ἀνδροφόνους μάρψαι
murderous to-seize
χρῄζων Ἰλιάδας, αἵ με διώλεσαν;
desiring Ilian who me destroyed
τάλαιναι κόραι τάλαιναι Φρυγῶν,
wretched girls wretched of-Phrygians
ὦ κατάρατοι,
O accursed

ποῖ καί με φυγᾷ πτώσσουσι μυχῶν;
where and me in-flight cower in-recesses
εἴθε μοι ὀμμάτων αἱματόεν βλέφαρον
would-that to-me of-eyes bloody eyelid
ἀκέσσαιο τυφλὸν ἀκέσσαι', Ἅλιε,
you-might-heal blind you-might-heal Sun
φέγγος ἀπαλλάξας.
light having-removed
1070 ἆ ἆ,
ah ah
σίγα· κρυπτὰν βάσιν αἰσθάνομαι
be-silent secret step I-perceive
τάνδε γυναικῶν. πᾷ πόδ' ἐπάξας
this of-women where foot having-darted
σαρκῶν ὀστέων τ' ἐμπλησθῶ,
of-flesh of-bones and shall-I-be-filled
θοίναν ἀγρίων τιθέμενος θηρῶν,
feast of-wild making of-beasts
ἀρνύμενος λώβαν
exacting outrage
1075 λύμας ἀντίποιν' ἐμᾶς; ὦ τάλας,
of-ruin in-requital my O wretched
ποῖ πᾷ φέρομαι τέκν' ἔρημα λιπὼν
where how am-I-borne children deserted having-left
Βάκχαις Ἅιδου διαμοιρᾶσαι,
for-Bacchants of-Hades to-tear-apart
σφακτὰν κυσί τε φονίαν δαῖτ' ἀνήμερον
slaughtered for-dogs and bloody feast savage
οὐρείαν τ' ἐκβολάν;
on-mountains and casting-out

πᾷ στῶ, πᾷ κάμψω, πᾷ βῶ,
where shall-I-stand where shall-I-turn where shall-I-go
ναῦς ὅπως ποντίοις πείσμασι, λινόκροκον
ship like with-sea cables linen-woven
φᾶρος στέλλων, ἐπὶ τάνδε συθεὶς
sail gathering to this having-rushed
τέκνων ἐμῶν φύλαξ
of-children my guard
ὀλέθριον κοίταν;
deadly bed
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὦ τλῆμον, ὡς σοι δύσφορ᾽ εἴργασται κακά·
O wretched how to-you grievous have-been-done evils
δράσαντι δ᾽ αἰσχρὰ δεινὰ τἀπιτίμια
having-done but shameful-things terrible the-punishments
δαίμων ἔδωκεν ὅστις ἐστί σοι βαρύς.
god gave whoever is to-you heavy
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ αἰαῖ, ἰὼ Θρῄκης
alas oh of-Thrace
λογχοφόρον ἔνοπλον εὔιππον Ἄ-
spear-bearing armed with-fine-horses by-Ares
ρει κάτοχον γένος.
— possessed race
ἰὼ Ἀχαιοί, ἰὼ Ἀτρεῖδαι.
oh Achaeans oh Atreids
βοὰν βοὰν ἀυτῶ, βοάν·
cry cry I-shout cry
ἴτε, μόλετε πρὸς θεῶν.
come come by gods
κλύει τις ἢ οὐδεὶς ἀρκέσει; τί μέλλετε;
hears anyone or no-one will-help why do-you-delay

γυναῖκες ὤλεσάν με,
women destroyed me
γυναῖκες αἰχμαλωτίδες·
women captive
δεινὰ δεινὰ πεπόνθαμεν.
terrible terrible-things we-have-suffered
ὤμοι ἐμᾶς λώβας.
ah-me my of-outrage
ποῖ τράπωμαι, ποῖ πορευθῶ;
where shall-I-turn where shall-I-go
ἀμπτάμενος οὐράνιον
having-flown-up heavenly
ὑψιπετὲς εἰς μέλαθρον, Ὠρίων
high-flying to house Orion
ἢ Σείριος ἔνθα πυρὸς φλογέας ἀφίη-
or Sirius where of-fire flaming sends
σιν ὄσσων αὐγάς, ἢ τὸν Ἅιδα
— of-eyes rays or the of-Hades
μελανόχρωτα πορθμὸν ἄξω τάλας;
black-skinned passage shall-I-rush wretched
ΧΟΡΟΣ συγγνώσθ', ὅταν τις κρείσσον' ἢ φέρειν κακὰ
pardon when anyone stronger than to-bear evils
πάθῃ, ταλαίνης ἐξαπαλλάξαι ζόης.
suffers wretched to-rid-oneself-of life
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ κραυγῆς ἀκούσας ἦλθον· οὐ γὰρ ἥσυχος
shout having-heard I-came not for quiet
πέτρας ὀρείας παῖς λέλακ' ἀνὰ στρατὸν
of-rock mountain child cried through army
Ἠχὼ διδοῦσα θόρυβον· εἰ δὲ μὴ Φρυγῶν
Echo giving uproar if but not of-Phrygians

πύργους πεσόντας ᾔσμεν Ἑλλήνων δορί,
towers fallen we-knew of-Greeks by-spear
φόβον παρέσχεν οὐ μέσως ὅδε κτύπος.
fear gave not moderately this din
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ὦ φίλτατ', ἠσθόμην γάρ, Ἀγάμεμνον, σέθεν
O dearest I-perceived for Agamemnon of-you
φωνῆς ἀκούσας, εἰσορᾷς ἃ πάσχομεν;
voice having-heard do-you-see what we-suffer
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἔα·
ha
Πολυμῆστορ ὦ δύστηνε, τίς σ' ἀπώλεσε;
Polymestor O wretched who you destroyed
τίς ὄμμ' ἔθηκε τυφλὸν αἱμάξας κόρας,
who eye made blind having-bloodied pupils
παῖδάς τε τούσδ' ἔκτεινεν; ἦ μέγαν χόλον
children and these killed truly great wrath
σοὶ καὶ τέκνοισιν εἶχεν ὅστις ἦν ἄρα.
against-you and children had whoever he-was then
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ Ἑκάβη με σὺν γυναιξὶν αἰχμαλωτίσιν
Hecuba me with women captive
ἀπώλεσ', οὐκ ἀπώλεσ', ἀλλὰ μειζόνως.
destroyed not destroyed but more
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ τί φῄς; σὺ τοὔργον εἴργασαι τόδ', ὡς λέγει;
what do-you-say you the-deed have-done this as he-says
σὺ τόλμαν, Ἑκάβη, τήνδ' ἔτλης ἀμήχανον;
you daring Hecuba this dared impossible
ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ὤμοι, τί λέξεις; ἦ γὰρ ἐγγύς ἐστί που;
ah-me what will-you-say — for near she-is somewhere
σήμηνον, εἰπὲ ποῦ 'σθ', ἵν' ἁρπάσας χεροῖν
show tell where she-is so-that having-seized with-hands

διασπάσωμαι καὶ καθαιμάξω χρόα.
I-may-tear-apart and bloody skin

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὗτος, τί πάσχεις;
you what do-you-suffer

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ πρὸς θεῶν σε λίσσομαι,
by gods you I-beg

μέθες μ' ἐφεῖναι τῇδε μαργῶσαν χέρα.
let-go me to-lay-on to-this raging hand

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἴσχ'· ἐκβαλὼν δὲ καρδίας τὸ βάρβαρον
hold having-thrown-out and of-heart the barbarian

λέγ', ὡς ἀκούσας σοῦ τε τῆσδέ τ' ἐν μέρει
speak so-that having-heard you and of-her and in turn

κρίνω δικαίως ἀνθ' ὅτου πάσχεις τάδε.
I-may-judge justly for what you-suffer these-things

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ λέγοιμ' ἄν. ἦν τις Πριαμιδῶν νεώτατος,
I-would-tell — there-was a of-Priam's-sons youngest

Πολύδωρος, Ἑκάβης παῖς, ὃν ἐκ Τροίας ἐμοὶ
Polydorus of-Hecuba son whom from Troy to-me

πατὴρ δίδωσι Πρίαμος ἐν δόμοις τρέφειν,
father gives Priam in house to-rear

ὕποπτος ὢν δὴ Τρωικῆς ἁλώσεως.
suspicious being indeed of-Trojan capture

τοῦτον κατέκτειν'· ἀνθ' ὅτου δ' ἔκτεινά νιν
this-one I-killed for what and I-killed him

ἄκουσον, ὡς εὖ καὶ σοφῇ προμηθίᾳ.
hear how well and with-wise forethought

ἔδεισα μὴ σοὶ πολέμιος λειφθεὶς ὁ παῖς
I-feared lest to-you hostile left the boy

Τροίαν ἀθροίσῃ καὶ ξυνοικίσῃ πάλιν,
Troy might-gather and might-resettle again

γνόντες δ' Ἀχαιοὶ ζῶντα Πριαμιδῶν τινα
having-learned and Achaeans living of-Priam's-sons some
Φρυγῶν ἐς αἶαν αὖθις ἄρειαν στόλον,
of-Phrygians to land again might-raise expedition
κἄπειτα Θρῄκης πεδία τρίβοιεν τάδε
and-then of-Thrace plains might-ravage these
λεηλατοῦντες, γείτοσιν δ' εἴη κακὸν
plundering to-neighbors and might-be evil
Τρώων, ἐν ᾧπερ νῦν, ἄναξ, ἐκάμνομεν.
of-Trojans in which-indeed now lord we-were-suffering
Ἑκάβη δὲ παιδὸς γνοῦσα θανάσιμον μόρον
Hecuba but of-son having-learned deadly fate
λόγῳ με τοιῷδ' ἤγαγ', ὡς κεκρυμμένας
by-word me such led as hidden
θήκας φράσουσα Πριαμιδῶν ἐν Ἰλίῳ
chests about-to-tell of-Priam's-sons in Ilium
χρυσοῦ· μόνον δὲ σὺν τέκνοισί μ' εἰσάγει
of-gold alone and with children me leads-in
δόμους, ἵν' ἄλλος μή τις εἰδείη τάδε.
house so-that other not anyone might-know these-things
ἵζω δὲ κλίνης ἐν μέσῳ κάμψας γόνυ·
I-sit and of-couch in middle having-bent knee
πολλαὶ δὲ χειρὸς αἱ μὲν ἐξ ἀριστερᾶς,
many and of-hand some indeed from left
αἱ δ' ἔνθεν, ὡς δὴ παρὰ φίλῳ, Τρώων κόραι
others and from-there as indeed by friend of-Trojans girls
θάκους ἔχουσαι, κερκίδ' Ἠδωνῆς χερὸς
seats having shuttle of-Edonian hand
ᾔνουν, ὑπ' αὐγὰς τούσδε λεύσσουσαι πέπλους·
praised under rays these looking-at robes

ἄλλαι δὲ κάμακα Θρηκίαν θεώμεναι
others and spear Thracian gazing-at
γυμνόν μ᾽ ἔθηκαν διπτύχου στολίσματος.
naked me made of-double equipment
ὅσαι δὲ τοκάδες ἦσαν, ἐκπαγλούμεναι
as-many-as and mothers were admiring
τέκν᾽ ἐν χεροῖν ἔπαλλον, ὡς πρόσω πατρὸς
children in hands dandled that far from-father
γένοιντο, διαδοχαῖς ἀμείβουσαι χερῶν.
they-might-be by-successions passing of-hands
κᾆτ᾽ ἐκ γαληνῶν — πῶς δοκεῖς; — προσφθεγμάτων
and-then from calm how think-you of-addresses
εὐθὺς λαβοῦσαι φάσγαν᾽ ἐκ πέπλων ποθὲν
straightway having-taken swords from robes somewhere
κεντοῦσι παῖδας, αἱ δὲ πολεμίων δίκην
they-stab children others and of-enemies like
ξυναρπάσασαι τὰς ἐμὰς εἶχον χέρας
having-seized the my held hands
καὶ κῶλα· παισὶ δ᾽ ἀρκέσαι χρῄζων ἐμοῖς,
and limbs children and to-help desiring my
εἰ μὲν πρόσωπον ἐξανισταίην ἐμόν,
if indeed face I-raised my
κόμης κατεῖχον, εἰ δὲ κινοίην χέρας,
by-hair they-held if and I-moved hands
πλήθει γυναικῶν οὐδὲν ἤνυον τάλας.
by-number of-women nothing I-accomplished wretched
τὸ λοίσθιον δέ, πῆμα πήματος πλέον,
the last and woe than-woe more
ἐξειργάσαντο δεινά· ἐμῶν γὰρ ὀμμάτων,
they-wrought terrible of-my for of-eyes

πόρπας λαβοῦσαι, τὰς ταλαιπώρους κόρας
brooches having-taken the wretched pupils
κεντοῦσιν, αἱμάσσουσιν· εἶτ' ἀνὰ στέγας
they-stab they-bloody then through tents
φυγάδες ἔβησαν· ἐκ δὲ πηδήσας ἐγὼ
fugitives went out and having-leapt I
θὴρ ὡς διώκω τὰς μιαιφόνους κύνας,
beast like I-pursue the blood-stained dogs
ἅπαντ' ἐρευνῶν τοῖχον ὡς κυνηγέτης,
every searching wall like hunter
βάλλων, ἀράσσων. τοιάδε σπεύδων χάριν
striking battering such-things hastening for-the-sake
πέπονθα τὴν σὴν πολέμιόν τε σὸν κτανών,
I-have-suffered the your enemy and your having-killed
Ἀγάμεμνον. ὡς δὲ μὴ μακροὺς τείνω λόγους,
Agamemnon that and not long I-may-stretch words
εἴ τις γυναῖκας τῶν πρὶν εἴρηκεν κακῶς
if anyone women of-the former has-spoken badly
ἢ νῦν λέγων ἔστιν τις ἢ μέλλει λέγειν,
or now speaking is anyone or is-about to-speak
ἅπαντα ταῦτα συντεμὼν ἐγὼ φράσω·
all these-things having-cut-short I will-say
γένος γὰρ οὔτε πόντος οὔτε γῆ τρέφει
race for neither sea nor land rears
τοιόνδ', ὁ δ' ἀεὶ ξυντυχὼν ἐπίσταται.
such the and always meeting knows
ΧΟΡΟΣ μηδὲν θρασύνου, μηδὲ τοῖς σαυτοῦ κακοῖς
nothing be-bold nor to-the your-own evils
τὸ θῆλυ συνθεὶς ὧδε πᾶν μέμψῃ γένος·
the female having-combined so all blame race

πολλαὶ γὰρ ἡμῶν, αἱ μὲν οὐκ ἐπίφθονοι,
many for of-us some indeed not invidious
αἱ δ' εἰς ἀριθμὸν τῶν κακῶν πεφύκαμεν.
others and to number of-the bad are
ΕΚΑΒΗ Ἀγάμεμνον, ἀνθρώποισιν οὐκ ἐχρῆν ποτε
Agamemnon for-men not it-was-right ever
τῶν πραγμάτων τὴν γλῶσσαν ἰσχύειν πλέον·
than-the deeds the tongue to-prevail more
ἀλλ' εἴτε χρήστ' ἔδρασε, χρήστ' ἔδει λέγειν,
but whether good-things he-did good-things must to-speak
εἴτ' αὖ πονηρά, τοὺς λόγους εἶναι σαθρούς,
or again wicked-things the words to-be rotten
καὶ μὴ δύνασθαι τἄδικ' εὖ λέγειν ποτέ.
and not to-be-able the-unjust well to-speak ever
σοφοὶ μὲν οὖν εἰσ' οἱ τάδ' ἠκριβωκότες,
clever indeed then are the these having-made-exact
ἀλλ' οὐ δύναιντ' ἂν διὰ τέλους εἶναι σοφοί,
but not could — through end to-be wise
κακῶς δ' ἀπώλοντ'· οὔτις ἐξήλυξέ πω.
badly and they-perished no-one escaped yet
καί μοι τὸ μὲν σὸν ὧδε φροιμίοις ἔχει·
and to-me the indeed yours so with-preludes holds
πρὸς τόνδε δ' εἶμι, καὶ λόγοις ἀμείψομαι,
to this-one and I-go and with-words I-will-answer
ὃς φὴς Ἀχαιῶν πόνον ἀπαλλάσσων διπλοῦν
who you-say of-Achaeans toil ridding double
Ἀγαμέμνονός θ' ἕκατι παῖδ' ἐμὸν κτανεῖν.
of-Agamemnon and for-the-sake son my to-kill
ἀλλ', ὦ κάκιστε, πρῶτα ποῦ ποτ' ἂν φίλον
but O basest first where ever — friend

τὸ βάρβαρον γένοιτ᾽ ἂν Ἕλλησιν γένος;
the barbarian could-be — to-Greeks race
οὐδ᾽ ἂν δύναιτο· τίνα δὲ καὶ σπεύδων χάριν
nor — could what and also hastening favor
πρόθυμος ἦσθα; πότερα κηδεύσων τινά,
eager were-you whether to-ally-by-marriage someone
ἢ ξυγγενὴς ὤν, ἢ τίν᾽ αἰτίαν ἔχων;
or kinsman being or what cause having
ἢ σῆς ἔμελλον γῆς τεμεῖν βλαστήματα
or of-your were-about land to-cut shoots
πλεύσαντες αὖθις; τίνα δοκεῖς πείσειν τάδε;
having-sailed again whom do-you-think to-persuade these-things
ὁ χρυσός, εἰ βούλοιο τἀληθῆ λέγειν,
the gold if you-would-wish the-truth to-say
ἔκτεινε τὸν ἐμὸν παῖδα καὶ κέρδη τὰ σά.
killed the my son and gains the your
ἐπεὶ δίδαξον τοῦτο· πῶς, ὅτ᾽ ηὐτύχει
since teach this how when was-prospering
Τροία, πέριξ δὲ πύργος εἶχ᾽ ἔτι πτόλιν,
Troy around and tower held still city
ἔζη τε Πρίαμος Ἕκτορός τ᾽ ἤνθει δόρυ,
lived and Priam of-Hector and flourished spear
τί δ᾽ οὐ τότ᾽, εἴπερ τῷδ᾽ ἐβουλήθης χάριν
why and not then if-indeed to-this-one you-wished favor
θέσθαι, τρέφων τὸν παῖδα κἀν δόμοις ἔχων
to-do rearing the boy and-in house having
ἔκτεινας, ἢ ζῶντ᾽ ἦλθες Ἀργείοις ἄγων;
you-killed or living you-came to-Argives bringing
ἀλλ᾽ ἡνίχ᾽ ἡμεῖς οὐκέτ᾽ ἐσμὲν ἐν φάει,
but when we no-longer are in light

καπνῷ δ' ἐσήμην' ἄστυ πολεμίων ὕπο,
by-smoke and signaled town enemies by
ξένον κατέκτας σὴν μολόντ' ἐφ' ἑστίαν.
guest you-killed your having-come to hearth
πρὸς τοῖσδε νῦν ἄκουσον ὡς φανῇς κακός.
besides these now hear that you-may-appear base
χρῆν σ', εἴπερ ἦσθα τοῖς Ἀχαιοῖσιν φίλος,
it-was-right you if-indeed you-were to-the Achaeans friend
τὸν χρυσὸν ὃν φῂς οὐ σὸν ἀλλὰ τοῦδ' ἔχειν,
the gold which you-say not yours but of-this-one to-have
δοῦναι φέροντα πενομένοις τε καὶ χρόνον
to-give bringing to-needy both and time
πολὺν πατρῴας γῆς ἀπεξενωμένοις·
long of-paternal land being-estranged
σὺ δ' οὐδὲ νῦν πω σῆς ἀπαλλάξαι χερὸς
you and not-even now yet your to-let-go hand
τολμᾷς, ἔχων δὲ καρτερεῖς ἔτ' ἐν δόμοις.
dare having but you-persist still in house
καὶ μὴν τρέφων μὲν ὥς σε παῖδ' ἐχρῆν τρέφειν
and indeed rearing indeed as you child it-was-right to-rear
σώσας τε τὸν ἐμόν, εἶχες ἂν καλὸν κλέος·
having-saved and the my you-would-have — fine fame
ἐν τοῖς κακοῖς γὰρ ἀγαθοὶ σαφέστατοι
in the evils for the-good clearest
φίλοι· τὰ χρηστὰ δ' αὖθ' ἕκαστ' ἔχει φίλους.
friends the good-things and themselves each has friends
εἰ δ' ἐσπάνιζες χρημάτων, ὁ δ' ηὐτύχει,
if and you-lacked of-money he and was-prospering
θησαυρὸς ἄν σοι παῖς ὑπῆρχ' οὑμὸς μέγας·
treasure — to-you son would-be my great

νῦν δ' οὔτ' ἐκεῖνον ἄνδρ' ἔχεις σαυτῷ φίλον,
now but neither that man you-have to-yourself friend
χρυσοῦ τ' ὄνησις οἴχεται παῖδές τε σοί,
of-gold and profit is-gone children and to-you
αὐτός τε πράσσεις ὧδε. σοὶ δ' ἐγὼ λέγω,
yourself and fare so to-you and I say
Ἀγάμεμνον, εἰ τῷδ' ἀρκέσεις, κακὸς φανεῖ·
Agamemnon if this-one you-help base you-will-appear
οὔτ' εὐσεβὴ γὰρ οὔτε πιστὸν οἷς ἐχρῆν,
neither pious for nor faithful to-whom it-was-right
οὐχ ὅσιον, οὐ δίκαιον εὖ δράσεις ξένον·
not holy not just well you-will-treat host
αὐτὸν δὲ χαίρειν τοῖς κακοῖς σὲ φήσομεν
yourself and to-rejoice in-the evil you we-shall-say
τοιοῦτον ὄντα· δεσπότας δ' οὐ λοιδορῶ.
such being masters and not I-revile
ΧΟΡΟΣ φεῦ φεῦ· βροτοῖσιν ὡς τὰ χρηστὰ πράγματα
alas alas for-mortals how the good deeds
χρηστῶν ἀφορμὰς ἐνδίδωσ' ἀεὶ λόγων.
of-good occasions give always of-words
ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ ἀχθεινὰ μέν μοι τἀλλότρια κρίνειν κακά,
grievous indeed to-me the-others' to-judge evils
ὅμως δ' ἀνάγκη· καὶ γὰρ αἰσχύνην φέρει,
nevertheless and necessity and for shame brings
πρᾶγμ' ἐς χέρας λαβόντ' ἀπώσασθαι τόδε.
matter into hands having-taken to-thrust-away this
ἐμοὶ δ', ἵν' εἰδῇς, οὔτ' ἐμὴν δοκεῖς χάριν
to-me and that you-may-know neither my you-seem favor
οὔτ' οὖν Ἀχαιῶν ἄνδρ' ἀποκτεῖναι ξένον,
nor then of-Achaeans man to-kill guest

ἀλλ᾽ ὡς ἔχῃς τὸν χρυσὸν ἐν δόμοισι σοῖς.
but so-that you-may-have the gold in house your

λέγεις δὲ σαυτῷ πρόσφορ᾽ ἐν κακοῖσιν ὤν.
you-say and for-yourself fitting-things in evils being

τάχ᾽ οὖν παρ᾽ ὑμῖν ῥᾴδιον ξενοκτονεῖν·
perhaps then among you easy to-kill-hosts

ἡμῖν δέ γ᾽ αἰσχρὸν τοῖσιν Ἕλλησιν τόδε.
for-us but at-least shameful the Greeks this

πῶς οὖν σε κρίνας μὴ ἀδικεῖν φύγω ψόγον;
how then you judging not to-do-wrong shall-I-escape blame

οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην. ἀλλ᾽ ἐπεὶ τὰ μὴ καλὰ
not — I-could but since the not fine-things

πράσσειν ἐτόλμας, τλῆθι καὶ τὰ μὴ φίλα.
to-do you-dared endure also the not dear-things

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ οἴμοι, γυναικός, ὡς ἔοιχ᾽, ἡσσώμενος
ah-me by-woman as seems being-overcome

δούλης ὑφέξω τοῖς κακίοσιν δίκην.
slave I-shall-pay to-the baser penalty

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὔκουν δικαίως, εἴπερ εἰργάσω κακά;
not-then justly if-indeed you-did evil-things

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ οἴμοι τέκνων τῶνδ᾽ ὀμμάτων τ᾽ ἐμῶν, τάλας.
ah-me of-children these of-eyes and my wretched

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἀλγεῖς; τί δ᾽ ἡμᾶς; παιδὸς οὐκ ἀλγεῖν δοκεῖς;
you-grieve what and us of-child not to-grieve do-you-think

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ χαίρεις ὑβρίζουσ᾽ εἰς ἔμ᾽, ὦ πανοῦργε σύ;
you-rejoice outraging against me O villain you

ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐ γάρ με χαίρειν χρή σε τιμωρουμένην;
not for me to-rejoice must you avenging-myself-on

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ἀλλ᾽ οὐ τάχ᾽, ἡνίκ᾽ ἄν σε ποντία νοτὶς —
but not soon when — you of-the-sea moisture

ΕΚΑΒΗ μῶν ναυστολήσῃ γῆς ὅρους Ἑλληνίδος;
surely-not will-convey of-land boundaries Greek

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ κρύψῃ μὲν οὖν πεσοῦσαν ἐκ καρχησίων.
will-hide indeed then having-fallen from mast-heads

ΕΚΑΒΗ πρὸς τοῦ βιαίων τυγχάνουσαν ἁλμάτων;
by whom of-forced meeting of-leaps

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ αὐτὴ πρὸς ἱστὸν ναὸς ἀμβήσει ποδί.
yourself to mast of-ship you-will-climb with-foot

ΕΚΑΒΗ ὑποπτέροις νώτοισιν ἢ ποίῳ τρόπῳ;
with-winged backs or in-what way

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ κύων γενήσει πύρσ᾽ ἔχουσα δέργματα.
dog you-will-become fiery having glances

ΕΚΑΒΗ πῶς δ᾽ οἶσθα μορφῆς τῆς ἐμῆς μετάστασιν;
how and you-know of-form the my change

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ὁ Θρῃξὶ μάντις εἶπε Διόνυσος τάδε.
the to-Thracians seer said Dionysus these-things

ΕΚΑΒΗ σοὶ δ᾽ οὐκ ἔχρησεν οὐδὲν ὧν ἔχεις κακῶν;
to-you and not he-prophesied nothing of-what you-have of-evils

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ οὐ γάρ ποτ᾽ ἂν σύ μ᾽ εἶλες ὧδε σὺν δόλῳ.
not for ever — you me took so with guile

ΕΚΑΒΗ θανοῦσα δ᾽ ἢ ζῶσ᾽ ἐνθάδ᾽ ἐκπλήσω βίον;
having-died and or living here shall-I-fulfill life

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ θανοῦσα· τύμβῳ δ᾽ ὄνομα σῷ κεκλήσεται —
having-died to-tomb and name your will-be-called

ΕΚΑΒΗ μορφῆς ἐπῳδόν, ἢ τί, τῆς ἐμῆς ἐρεῖς;
of-form in-accord or what of-the my will-you-say

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ κυνὸς ταλαίνης σῆμα, ναυτίλοις τέκμαρ.
of-dog wretched mound for-sailors sign

ΕΚΑΒΗ οὐδὲν μέλει μοι σοῦ γέ μοι δόντος δίκην.
nothing is-a-care to-me you at-least to-me having-given penalty

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ καὶ σήν γ' ἀνάγκη παῖδα Κασάνδραν θανεῖν.
and your at-least necessity child Cassandra to-die

ΕΚΑΒΗ ἀπέπτυσ'· αὐτῷ ταῦτα σοὶ δίδωμ' ἔχειν.
I-spit-away to-him these-things to-you I-give to-have

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ κτενεῖ νιν ἡ τοῦδ' ἄλοχος, οἰκουρὸς πικρά.
will-kill her the of-this-one wife house-keeper bitter

ΕΚΑΒΗ μήπω μανείη Τυνδαρὶς τοσόνδε παῖς.
not-yet may-be-mad Tyndarid so-much child

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ καὐτὸν σὲ τοῦτον, πέλεκυν ἐξάρασ' ἄνω.
and-yourself you this-one axe having-raised up

ΕΚΑΒΗ οὗτος σύ, μαίνει, καὶ κακῶν ἐρᾷς τυχεῖν;
this-one you are-mad and evils desire to-meet

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ κτεῖν', ὡς ἐν Ἄργει φόνια λουτρά σ' ἀμμένει.
kill since in Argos murderous baths you await

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὐχ ἕλξετ' αὐτόν, δμῶες, ἐκποδὼν βίᾳ;
not will-you-drag him servants out-of-the-way by-force

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ἀλγεῖς ἀκούων; ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὐκ ἐφέξετε στόμα;
you-grieve hearing not will-you-check mouth

ΠΟΛΥΜΗΣΤΩΡ ἐγκλῄετ'· εἴρηται γάρ.
shut-in it-has-been-said for

ΑΓΑΜΕΜΝΩΝ οὐχ ὅσον τάχος
not as-much-as quickly

νήσων ἐρήμων αὐτὸν ἐκβαλεῖτέ που,
of-islands desert him will-you-cast-out somewhere

ἐπείπερ οὕτω καὶ λίαν θρασυστομεῖ;
since so and too-much speaks-boldly

Ἑκάβη, σὺ δ', ὦ τάλαινα, διπτύχους νεκροὺς
Hecuba you and O wretched twin corpses

στείχουσα θάπτε· δεσποτῶν δ' ὑμᾶς χρεὼν
going bury of-masters and you must

σκηναῖς πελάζειν, Τρῳάδες· καὶ γὰρ πνοὰς
to-tents to-approach Trojan-women and for breezes
πρὸς οἶκον ἤδη τάσδε πομπίμους ὁρῶ.
to home already these escorting I-see
εὖ δ' ἐς πάτραν πλεύσαιμεν, εὖ δὲ τἀν δόμοις
well and to fatherland may-we-sail well and the-things-in house
ἔχοντ' ἴδοιμεν τῶνδ' ἀφειμένοι πόνων.
having may-we-see from-these released toils
ΧΟΡΟΣ ἴτε πρὸς λιμένας σκηνάς τε, φίλαι,
go to harbors tents and friends
τῶν δεσποσύνων πειρασόμεναι
of-the master's to-try
μόχθων· στερρὰ γὰρ ἀνάγκη.
toils hard for necessity

EURIPIDES

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ

Cyclops

Silenus tells how he and his sons, the satyrs, sailed in search of Dionysus, who had been captured by pirates, and were wrecked near Aetna, where the Cyclops Polyphemus made them his slaves. They tend his flocks instead of reveling, and he cleans the cave. The satyrs come driving the sheep.

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὮΩ Βρόμιε, διὰ σὲ μυρίους ἔχω πόνους
O Bromius through you countless I-have toils
νῦν χὥτ' ἐν ἥβῃ τοὐμὸν εὐσθένει δέμας·
now and-when in youth my was-strong body
πρῶτον μέν, ἡνίκ' ἐμμανὴς Ἥρας ὕπο
first indeed when maddened Hera by
Νύμφας ὀρείας ἐκλιπὼν ᾤχου τροφούς·
Nymphs mountain having-left you-went nurses
ἔπειθ' ὅτ' ἀμφὶ γηγενῆ μάχην δορὸς
then when around earth-born battle of-spear
ἐνδέξιος σῷ ποδὶ παρασπιστὴς γεγὼς
on-the-right by-your foot shield-bearer having-been
Ἐγκέλαδον ἰτέαν εἰς μέσην θενὼν δορὶ
Enceladus shield into middle having-struck with-spear
ἔκτεινα — φέρ' ἴδω, τοῦτ' ἰδὼν ὄναρ λέγω;
I-killed come let-me-see this having-seen dream do-I-tell
οὐ μὰ Δί', ἐπεὶ καὶ σκῦλ' ἔδειξα Βακχίῳ.
not by Zeus since even spoils I-showed to-Bacchus
καὶ νῦν ἐκείνων μείζον' ἐξαντλῶ πόνον.
and now than-those greater I-drain toil
ἐπεὶ γὰρ Ἥρα σοι γένος Τυρσηνικὸν
since for Hera against-you race Tyrrhenian
λῃστῶν ἐπῶρσεν, ὡς ὁδηθείης μακράν,
of-pirates roused that you-might-be-sold far-away

ἐγὼ πυθόμενος σὺν τέκνοισι ναυστολῶ
I having-learned with children sail
σέθεν κατὰ ζήτησιν. ἐν πρύμνῃ δ' ἄκρᾳ
of-you in search in stern and topmost
αὐτὸς λαβὼν ηὔθυνον ἀμφῆρες δόρυ,
myself having-taken steered two-oared ship
παῖδες τ' ἐρετμοῖς ἥμενοι, γλαυκὴν ἅλα
children and at-oars sitting gray sea
ῥοθίοισι λευκαίνοντες, ἐζήτουν σ', ἄναξ.
with-surges whitening sought you lord
ἤδη δὲ Μαλέας πλησίον πεπλευκότας
already but of-Malea near having-sailed
ἀπηλιώτης ἄνεμος ἐμπνεύσας δορὶ
east wind having-blown on-ship
ἐξέβαλεν ἡμᾶς τήνδ' ἐς Αἰτναίαν πέτραν,
cast-out us this to Aetnaean rock
ἵν' οἱ μονῶπες ποντίου παῖδες θεοῦ
where the one-eyed of-the-sea children of-god
Κύκλωπες οἰκοῦσ' ἄντρ' ἔρημ' ἀνδροκτόνοι.
Cyclopes dwell caves desolate man-slaying
τούτων ἑνὸς ληφθέντες ἐσμὲν ἐν δόμοις
of-these of-one having-been-caught we-are in house
δοῦλοι· καλοῦσι δ' αὐτὸν ᾧ λατρεύομεν
slaves call and him whom we-serve
Πολύφημον. ἀντὶ δ' εὐίων βακχευμάτων
Polyphemus instead-of and of-Bacchic revels
ποίμνας Κύκλωπος ἀνοσίου ποιμαίνομεν.
flocks of-Cyclops unholy we-tend
παῖδες μὲν οὖν μοι κλιτύων ἐν ἐσχάτοις
children indeed then my of-slopes on farthest

νέμουσι μῆλα νέα νέοι πεφυκότες,
pasture sheep young young being
ἐγὼ δὲ πληροῦν πίστρα καὶ σαίρειν στέγας
I and to-fill troughs and to-sweep house
μένων τέταγμαι τάσδε, τῷ τε δυσσεβεῖ
staying am-appointed these for-the and impious
Κύκλωπι δείπνων ἀνοσίων διάκονος.
Cyclops of-dinners unholy servant
καὶ νῦν, τὰ προσταχθέντ', ἀναγκαίως ἔχει
and now the-things commanded necessarily it-is
σαίρειν σιδηρᾷ τῇδέ μ' ἁρπάγῃ δόμους,
to-sweep with-iron this me rake house
ὡς τόν τ' ἀπόντα δεσπότην Κύκλωπ' ἐμὸν
so-that the and absent master Cyclops my
καθαροῖσιν ἄντροις μῆλά τ' εἰσδεχώμεθα.
with-clean caves sheep and we-may-receive
ἤδη δὲ παῖδας προσνέμοντας εἰσορῶ
already and children driving-near I-see
ποίμνας. τί ταῦτα; μῶν κρότος σικινίδων
flocks what this surely-not din of-sicinnis-dances
ὅμοιος ὑμῖν νῦν τε χὥτε Βακχίῳ
like to-you now and as-when with-Bacchus
κώμοις συνασπίζοντες Ἀλθαίας δόμους
in-revels escorting of-Althaea house
προσῆτ' ἀοιδαῖς βαρβίτων σαυλούμενοι;
you-approached with-songs of-lyres swaggering

The satyrs drive the flocks into the cave and lament that there is no Bromius here, no dancing, no wine, no Bacchants: in goatskin cloaks they serve the one-eyed Cyclops, far from Dionysus.

ΧΟΡΟΣ πᾷ μοι γενναίων πατέρων
where for-me of-noble fathers
γενναίων τ' ἐκ τοκάδων,
noble and from mothers
πᾷ δή μοι νίσει σκοπέλους;
where indeed for-me do-you-go to-rocks
οὐ τῇδ' ὑπήνεμος αὔρα
not here sheltered breeze
καὶ ποιηρὰ βοτάνα,
and grassy pasture
δινᾶέν θ' ὕδωρ ποταμῶν
eddying and water of-rivers
ἐν πίστραις κεῖται πέλας ἄν-
in troughs lies near cave
τρων; οὔ σοι βλαχαὶ τεκέων;
— not to-you bleatings of-young
ψύττα, σὺ τάδ' οὔ, κοὐ τάδε νεμεῖ,
shoo you here not and-not here will-you-graze
*** κλιτὺν δροσεράν;
(lacuna) slope dewy
ὠή, ῥίψω πέτρον τάχα σου·
ho I-will-throw stone soon of-you
ὔπαγ' ὦ ὔπαγ' ὦ κεράστα,
go-on O go-on O horned-one

μηλοβότα στασιωρὸν
sheep-tending stall-keeper
Κύκλωπος ἀγροβάτα.
of-Cyclops field-roaming
σπαργῶντας μαστοὺς χάλασον·
swelling teats loosen
δέξαι θηλαῖσι σποράς,
receive to-teats offspring
ἃς λείπεις ἀρνῶν θαλάμοις.
which you-leave of-lambs in-chambers
ποθοῦσί σ' ἀμερόκοιτοι
long-for you day-sleeping
βλαχαὶ σμικρῶν τεκέων.
bleatings of-small young
εἰς αὐλάν ποτ' ἀμφιβαλεῖς
into fold ever will-you-come-round
ποιηροὺς λείπουσα νομούς,
grassy leaving pastures
Αἰτναίων εἴσω σκοπέλων;
of-Aetnaean within rocks
οὐ τάδε Βρόμιος, οὐ τάδε χοροὶ
not here Bromius not here dances
Βάκχαι τε θυρσοφόροι,
Bacchants and thyrsus-bearing
οὐ τυμπάνων ἀλαλαγμοί,
not of-drums shouts
οὐκ οἴνου χλωραὶ σταγόνες
not of-wine fresh drops
κρήναις παρ' ὑδροχύτοις,
springs by water-pouring

οὐ δινεύματα Νυμφᾶν.
not whirlings of-Nymphs
ἴακχον ἴακχον ᾠδὰν
iacchus-cry iacchus-cry song
μέλπω πρὸς τὰν Ἀφροδίταν,
I-sing to the Aphrodite
ἃν θηρεύων πετόμαν
whom hunting I-flew
Βάκχαις σὺν λευκόποσιν.
Bacchants with white-footed
ὦ φίλος, ὦ φίλε Βακχεῖε, ποῖ οἰοπολῶν
O friend O dear Bacchic where alone-wandering
ξανθὰν χαίταν σείεις;
golden hair do-you-shake
ἐγὼ δ' ὁ σὸς πρόπολος
I and the your servant
θητεύω Κύκλωπι
serve to-Cyclops
τῷ μονοδέρκτᾳ, δοῦλος ἀλαίνων
to-the one-eyed slave wandering
σὺν τᾷδε τράγου χλαίνᾳ μελέᾳ
with this of-goat cloak wretched
σᾶς χωρὶς φιλίας.
your apart-from friendship

Odysseus lands seeking food and water, and learns from Silenus that the Cyclopes eat strangers. He trades wine for meat and cheese, and Silenus drinks greedily. The Cyclops returns; Silenus, to save himself, swears that the strangers were stealing. Odysseus appeals to the Cyclops' piety, reminding him that the Greeks defended his father Poseidon's temples, and asks for hospitality. The Cyclops answers that wealth is the wise man's god, that he sacrifices to no one but his belly, and drives them into the cave to be eaten.

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ σιγήσατ', ὦ τέκν', ἄντρα δ' εἰς πετρηρεφῆ
be-silent O children caves and into rock-roofed
ποίμνας ἀθροῖσαι προσπόλους κελεύσατε.
flocks to-gather attendants bid
ΧΟΡΟΣ χωρεῖτ'· ἀτὰρ δὴ τίνα, πάτερ, σπουδὴν ἔχεις;
go but indeed what father haste have-you
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὁρῶ πρὸς ἀκταῖς ναὸς Ἑλλάδος σκάφος 85
I-see at shores of-ship Hellas hull
κώπης τ' ἄνακτας σὺν στρατηλάτῃ τινὶ
of-oar and lords with general some
στείχοντας εἰς τόδ' ἄντρον, ἀμφὶ δ' αὐχέσι
coming to this cave around and necks
τεύχη φέρονται κενά, βορᾶς κεχρημένοι,
vessels they-carry empty of-food needing
κρωσσούς θ' ὑδρηλούς. ὦ ταλαίπωροι ξένοι.
pitchers and for-water O wretched strangers
τίνες ποτ' εἰσίν; οὐκ ἴσασι δεσπότην 90
who ever are-they not they-know master
Πολύφημον οἷός ἐστιν, ἄξενον στέγην
Polyphemus what-sort he-is inhospitable house

τήνδ' ἐμβεβῶτες καὶ Κυκλωπίαν γνάθον
this having-entered and Cyclopean jaw
τὴν ἀνδροβρῶτα δυστυχῶς ἀφιγμένοι.
the man-eating unfortunately having-come
ἀλλ' ἥσυχοι γίγνεσθ', ἵν' ἐκπυθώμεθα
but quiet be so-that we-may-learn
πόθεν πάρεισι Σικελὸν Αἰτναῖον πάγον.
whence they-are-here to-Sicilian to-Aetnaean crag
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ξένοι, φράσαιτ' ἂν ναῦμα ποτάμιον πόθεν
strangers would-you-tell — stream river whence
δίψης ἄκος λάβοιμεν, εἴ τε τις θέλει
of-thirst cure we-might-take and if anyone wishes
βορὰν ὀδῆσαι ναυτίλοις κεχρημένοις;
food to-sell to-sailors needing
τί χρῆμα; Βρομίου πόλιν ἔοιγμεν εἰσβαλεῖν.
what thing of-Bromius city we-seem to-have-entered
Σατύρων πρὸς ἄντροις τόνδ' ὅμιλον εἰσορῶ.
of-Satyrs by caves this throng I-see
χαίρειν προσεῖπα πρῶτα τὸν γεραίτατον.
to-rejoice I-bid first the oldest
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ χαῖρ', ὦ ξέν', ὅστις δ' εἶ φράσον πάτραν τε σήν.
rejoice O stranger whoever and you-are tell fatherland and your
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Ἴθακος Ὀδυσσεύς, γῆς Κεφαλλήνων ἄναξ.
Ithacan Odysseus of-land of-Cephallenians lord
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οἶδ' ἄνδρα, κρόταλον δριμύ, Σισύφου γένος.
I-know man rattle shrewd of-Sisyphus race
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἐκεῖνος οὗτός εἰμι· λοιδόρει δὲ μή.
that-one this-one I-am revile and not
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ πόθεν Σικελίαν τήνδε ναυστολῶν πάρει;
whence Sicily this sailing are-you-here

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἐξ Ἰλίου γε καὶ̀ Τρωικῶν πόνων.
from Ilium at-least and-from Trojan toils

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ πῶς; πορθμὸν οὐκ ἤδησθα πατρῴας χθονός;
how passage not you-knew of-paternal land

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἀνέμων θύελλαι δεῦρό μ᾽ ἥρπασαν βίᾳ.
of-winds storms here me snatched by-force

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ παπαῖ· τὸν αὐτὸν δαίμον᾽ ἐξαντλεῖς ἐμοί. 110
alas the same fate you-drain with-me

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἦ καὶ σὺ δεῦρο πρὸς βίαν ἀπεστάλης;
— also you here by force were-sent

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ λῃστὰς διώκων, οἳ Βρόμιον ἀνήρπασαν.
pirates pursuing who Bromius snatched-away

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τίς δ᾽ ἥδε χώρα, καὶ τίνες ναίουσί νιν;
what and this land and who inhabit it

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ Αἰτναῖος ὄχθος Σικελίας ὑπέρτατος.
Aetnaean height of-Sicily highest

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τείχη δὲ ποῦ ᾽στι καὶ πόλεως πυργώματα; 115
walls and where are and of-city towers

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὐκ εἴσ᾽· ἔρημοι πρῶνες ἀνθρώπων, ξένε.
not there-are desolate headlands of-men stranger

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τίνες δ᾽ ἔχουσι γαῖαν; ἦ θηρῶν γένος;
who and hold land — of-beasts race

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ Κύκλωπες, ἄντρ᾽ οἰκοῦντες, οὐ στέγας δόμων.
Cyclopes caves dwelling not roofs of-houses

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τίνος κλύοντες; ἢ δεδήμευται κράτος;
whom hearing or is-shared-by-the-people power

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ νομάδες· ἀκούει δ᾽ οὐδὲν οὐδεὶς οὐδενός. 120
nomads hears and nothing no-one of-no-one

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ σπείρουσι δ᾽ — ἢ τῷ ζῶσι; — Δήμητρος στάχυν;
sow and or by-what do-they-live of-Demeter ear

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ γάλακτι καὶ τυροῖσι καὶ μήλων βορᾷ.
on-milk and on-cheeses and of-sheep on-meat

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Βρομίου δὲ πῶμ' ἔχουσιν, ἀμπέλου ῥοάς;
of-Bromius and drink have-they of-vine streams

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἥκιστα· τοιγὰρ ἄχορον οἰκοῦσι χθόνα.
least therefore danceless they-inhabit land

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ φιλόξενοι δὲ χὤσιοι περὶ ξένους;
hospitable and and-holy toward strangers

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ γλυκύτατά φασι τὰ κρέα τοὺς ξένους φορεῖν.
sweetest they-say the meat the strangers to-carry

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τί φής; βορᾷ χαίρουσιν ἀνθρωποκτόνῳ·
what do-you-say in-food they-delight man-killing

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὐδεὶς μολὼν δεῦρ' ὅστις οὐ κατεσφάγη.
no-one having-come here who not was-slaughtered

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ αὐτὸς δὲ Κύκλωψ ποῦ 'στιν; ἦ δόμων ἔσω;
himself and Cyclops where is-he — of-house within

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ φροῦδος πρὸς Αἴτνην, θῆρας ἰχνεύων κυσίν.
gone to Aetna beasts tracking with-dogs

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ οἶσθ' οὖν ὃ δρᾶσον, ὡς ἀπαίρωμεν χθονός;
you-know then what do so-that we-may-depart from-land

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὐκ οἶδ', Ὀδυσσεῦ· πᾶν δέ σοι δρῴημεν ἄν.
not I-know Odysseus all but for-you would-we-do —

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὅδησον ἡμῖν σῖτον, οὗ σπανίζομεν.
sell us food which we-lack

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὐκ ἔστιν, ὥσπερ εἶπον, ἄλλο πλὴν κρέας.
not is-there as I-said other except meat

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἀλλ' ἡδὺ λιμοῦ καὶ τόδε σχετήριον.
but sweet of-hunger even this restraint

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ καὶ τυρὸς ὀπίας ἔστι καὶ βοὸς γάλα.
and cheese curdled is and of-cow milk

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἐκφέρετε· φῶς γὰρ ἐμπολήμασιν πρέπει.
bring-out light for for-trades befits

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ σὺ δ' ἀντιδώσεις, εἰπέ μοι, χρυσὸν πόσον;
you and will-give-in-exchange tell me gold how-much

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ οὐ χρυσόν, ἀλλὰ πῶμα Διονύσου φέρω.
not gold but drink of-Dionysus I-bring

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὦ φίλτατ' εἰπών, οὗ σπανίζομεν πάλαι. 140
O dearest having-spoken of-which we-lack long

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ καὶ μὴν Μάρων μοι πῶμ' ἔδωκε, παῖς θεοῦ.
and indeed Maron to-me drink gave child of-god

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὃν ἐξέθρεψα ταῖσδ' ἐγώ ποτ' ἀγκάλαις;
whom I-reared with-these I once arms

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὁ Βακχίου παῖς, ὡς σαφέστερον μάθῃς.
the of-Bacchus child that more-clearly you-may-learn

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἐν σέλμασι νεώς ἐστιν, ἢ φέρεις σύ νιν;
on benches of-ship is-it or carry you it

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὅδ' ἀσκός, ὃς κεύθει νιν· ὡς ὁρᾷς, γέρον. 145
this skin which holds it as you-see old-man

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὗτος μὲν οὐδ' ἂν τὴν γνάθον πλήσειέ μου.
this indeed not-even — the jaw would-fill of-me

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ναὶ δὶς τόσον πῶμ' ὅσον ἂν ἐξ ἀσκοῦ ῥυῇ
yes twice as-much drink as-much-as — from skin may-flow

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ καλήν γε κρήνην εἶπας ἡδεῖάν τ' ἐμοί.
fine at-least spring you-said sweet and to-me

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ βούλει σε γεύσω πρῶτον ἄκρατον μέθυ;
do-you-wish you shall-I-give-a-taste first unmixed wine

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ δίκαιον· ἦ γὰρ γεῦμα τὴν ὠνὴν καλεῖ. 150
just surely for taste the buying invites

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ καὶ μὴν ἐφέλκω καὶ ποτῆρ' ἀσκοῦ μέτα.
and indeed I-drag-along and cup skin with

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ φέρ᾽ ἐκπάταξον, ὡς ἀναμνησθῶ πιών.
come knock-out that I-may-remember having-drunk

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἰδού. ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ παπαιάξ, ὡς καλὴν ὀσμὴν ἔχει.
see wow how fine smell it-has

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ εἶδες γὰρ αὐτήν;
did-you-see for it

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὐ μὰ Δί᾽, ἀλλ᾽ ὀσφραίνομαι.
not by Zeus but I-smell

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ γεῦσαί νυν, ὡς ἂν μὴ λόγῳ ᾽παινῇς μόνον.
taste now so-that — not in-word you-may-praise only

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ βαβαί· χορεῦσαι παρακαλεῖ μ᾽ ὁ Βάκχιος.
whew to-dance invites me the Bacchus

ἆ ἆ ἆ.
ah ah ah

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ μῶν τὸν λάρυγγα διεκάναξέ σου καλῶς;
surely-not the throat it-gurgled-down of-you nicely

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὥστ᾽ εἰς ἄκρους γε τοὺς ὄνυχας ἀφίκετο.
so-that to tips at-least the nails it-reached

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ πρὸς τῷδε μέντοι καὶ νόμισμα δώσομεν.
besides this however also money we-shall-give

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ χάλα τὸν ἀσκὸν μόνον· ἔα τὸ χρυσίον.
loosen the skin only let-be the gold

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἐκφέρετέ νυν τύρευμα καὶ μήλων τόκον.
bring-out now cheese and of-sheep young

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ δράσω τάδ᾽, ὀλίγον φροντίσας γε δεσποτῶν.
I-will-do these-things little caring at-least for-masters

ὡς ἐκπιεῖν γ᾽ ἂν κύλικα μαινοίμην μίαν,
since to-drink-up at-least — cup I-would-be-mad one

πάντων Κυκλώπων ἀντιδοὺς βοσκήματα,
of-all Cyclopes having-given-for flocks

ῥῖψαί τ᾽ ἐς ἅλμην λισσάδος πέτρας ἄπο,
to-throw and into brine smooth rock from
ἅπαξ μεθυσθεὶς καταβαλών τε τὰς ὀφρῦς.
once having-been-drunk having-let-down and the brows
ὡς ὅς γε πίνων μὴ γέγηθε μαίνεται·
since who at-least drinking not rejoices is-mad
ἵν᾽ ἔστι τουτί τ᾽ ὀρθὸν ἐξανιστάναι
where it-is-possible this and upright to-raise
μαστοῦ τε δραγμὸς καὶ παρεσκευασμένου
of-breast and handful and of-prepared
ψαῦσαι χεροῖν λειμῶνος, ὀρχηστύς θ᾽ ἅμα
to-touch with-hands of-meadow dancing and at-once
κακῶν τε λῆστις. εἶτ᾽ ἐγὼ οὐ κυνήσομαι
of-evils and forgetfulness then I not shall-kiss
τοιόνδε πῶμα, τὴν Κύκλωπος ἀμαθίαν
such drink the of-Cyclops stupidity
κλαίειν κελεύων καὶ τὸν ὀφθαλμὸν μέσον;
to-weep bidding and the eye middle
ΧΟΡΟΣ ἄκου᾽, Ὀδυσσεῦ, διαλαλήσωμέν τί σοι.
hear Odysseus let-us-chat something with-you
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ καὶ μὴν φίλοι γε προσφέρεσθε πρὸς φίλον.
and indeed friends at-least you-approach to friend
ΧΟΡΟΣ ἐλάβετε Τροίαν τὴν Ἑλένην τε χειρίαν;
did-you-take Troy the Helen and captive
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ καὶ πάντα γ᾽ οἶκον Πριαμιδῶν ἐπέρσαμεν.
and whole at-least house of-Priam's-sons we-sacked
ΧΟΡΟΣ οὔκουν ἐπειδὴ τὴν νεᾶνιν εἵλετε,
not-then when the girl you-took
ἅπαντες αὐτὴν διεκροτήσατ᾽ ἐν μέρει,
all her banged in turn

ἐπεί γε πολλοῖς ἥδεται γαμουμένη;
since at-least by-many she-delights being-married
τὴν προδότιν, ἣ τοὺς θυλάκους τοὺς ποικίλους
the traitress who the breeches the embroidered
περὶ τοῖν σκελοῖν ἰδοῦσα καὶ τὸν χρύσεον
about the two-legs having-seen and the golden
κλῳὸν φοροῦντα περὶ μέσον τὸν αὐχένα
collar wearing about middle the neck
185 ἐξεπτοήθη, Μενέλεων, ἀνθρώπιον
was-excited Menelaus little-man
λῷστον, λιποῦσα. μηδαμοῦ γένος ποτὲ
best having-left nowhere race ever
φῦναι γυναικῶν ὤφελ' — εἰ μὴ 'μοὶ μόνῳ.
to-be-born of-women ought if not for-me alone
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἰδοὺ τάδ' ὑμῖν ποιμνίων βοσκήματα,
see these-things to-you of-flocks fatlings
ἄναξ Ὀδυσσεῦ, μηκάδων ἀρνῶν τροφαί,
lord Odysseus of-bleating lambs nurslings
190 πηκτοῦ γάλακτός τ' οὐ σπάνια τυρεύματα.
of-curdled milk and not scant cheeses
φέρεσθε, χωρεῖθ' ὡς τάχιστ' ἄντρων ἄπο,
carry go as quickly-as-possible caves from
βότρυος ἐμοὶ πῶμ' ἀντιδόντες εὐίου.
of-grape to-me drink having-given-in-exchange of-Bacchic
οἴμοι· Κύκλωψ ὅδ' ἔρχεται· τί δράσομεν;
ah-me Cyclops this-one comes what shall-we-do
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἀπολώλαμεν γάρ, ὦ γέρον· ποῖ χρὴ φυγεῖν;
we-are-lost for O old-man where must to-flee
195 ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἔσω πέτρας τῆσδ', οὗπερ ἂν λάθοιτέ γε.
within rock this where-indeed — you-might-escape-notice at-least

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ δεινὸν τόδ᾽ εἶπας, ἀρκύων μολεῖν ἔσω.
terrible this you-said of-nets to-go within

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὐ δεινόν· εἰσὶ καταφυγαὶ πολλαὶ πέτρας.
not terrible are refuges many of-rock

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ οὐ δῆτ᾽· ἐπεί τἂν μεγάλα γ᾽ ἡ Τροία στένοι,
not then since surely greatly at-least the Troy would-groan

εἰ φευξόμεσθ᾽ ἕν᾽ ἄνδρα· μυρίον δ᾽ ὄχλον
if we-shall-flee one man countless and crowd

Φρυγῶν ὑπέστην πολλάκις σὺν ἀσπίδι. 200
of-Phrygians I-withstood often with shield

ἀλλ᾽ εἰ θανεῖν δεῖ, κατθανούμεθ᾽ εὐγενῶς,
but if to-die must we-shall-die nobly

ἢ ζῶντες αἶνον τὸν πάρος γ᾽ εὖ σώσομεν.
or living praise the former at-least well we-shall-keep

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἄνεχε, πάρεχε, τί τάδε; τίς ἡ ῥᾳθυμία;
make-way give-way what this what the laziness

τί βακχιάζετ᾽; οὐχὶ Διόνυσος τάδε,
why do-you-play-the-Bacchant not Dionysus here

οὐ κρόταλα χαλκοῦ τυμπάνων τ᾽ ἀράγματα. 205
not castanets of-bronze of-drums and clashings

πῶς μοι κατ᾽ ἄντρα νεόγονα βλαστήματα;
how for-me in caves new-born shoots

ἦ πρός τε μαστοῖς εἰσι χὑπὸ μητέρων
— at and breasts are and-under mothers

πλευρὰς τρέχουσι, σχοινίνοις τ᾽ ἐν τεύχεσι
flanks run rush-woven and in vessels

πλήρωμα τυρῶν ἐστιν ἐξημελγμένον;
filling of-cheeses is milked

τί φατε; τί λέγετε; τάχα τις ὑμῶν τῷ ξύλῳ 210
what do-you-say what do-you-say soon someone of-you with-the club

δάκρυα μεθήσει· βλέπετ᾽ ἄνω καὶ μὴ κάτω.
tears will-shed look up and not down

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἰδού, πρὸς αὐτὸν τὸν Δι᾽ ἀνακεκύφαμεν,
see to very the Zeus we-have-looked-up

τά τ᾽ ἄστρα καὶ τὸν Ὠρίωνα δέρκομαι.
the and stars and the Orion I-see

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἄριστόν ἐστιν εὖ παρεσκευασμένον;
breakfast is well prepared

ΧΟΡΟΣ πάρεστιν. ὁ φάρυγξ εὐτρεπὴς ἔστω μόνον.
is-present the throat ready let-it-be only

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἦ καὶ γάλακτός εἰσι κρατῆρες πλέῳ;
— also of-milk are bowls full

ΧΟΡΟΣ ὥστ᾽ ἐκπιεῖν γέ σ᾽, ἢν θέλῃς, ὅλον πίθον.
so-that to-drink-up at-least you if you-wish whole jar

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ μήλειον ἢ βόειον ἢ μεμιγμένον;
of-sheep or of-cow or mixed

ΧΟΡΟΣ ὃν ἂν θέλῃς σύ· μὴ ᾽μὲ καταπίῃς μόνον.
whichever — you-wish you not me swallow only

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἥκιστ᾽· ἐπεί μ᾽ ἂν ἐν μέσῃ τῇ γαστέρι
least since me — in middle the belly

πηδῶντες ἀπολέσαιτ᾽ ἂν ὑπὸ τῶν σχημάτων.
jumping you-would-destroy — by the dance-figures

ἔα· τίν᾽ ὄχλον τόνδ᾽ ὁρῶ πρὸς αὐλίοις;
ha what crowd this I-see at folds

λῃσταί τινες κατέσχον ἢ κλῶπες χθόνα;
pirates some have-occupied or thieves land

ὁρῶ γέ τοι τούσδ᾽ ἄρνας ἐξ ἄντρων ἐμῶν
I-see at-least surely these lambs from caves my

στρεπταῖς λύγοισι σῶμα συμπεπλεγμένους,
with-twisted withes body bound

τεύχη τε τυρῶν συμμιγῆ, γέροντά τε
vessels and of-cheeses mixed old-man and
πληγαῖς πρόσωπον φαλακρὸν ἐξῳδηκότα.
with-blows face bald swollen
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὤμοι, πυρέσσω συγκεκομμένος τάλας.
ah-me I-am-feverish beaten-up wretched
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὑπὸ τοῦ; τίς εἰς σὸν κρᾶτ' ἐπύκτευσεν, γέρον;
by whom who into your head boxed old-man
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὑπὸ τῶνδε, Κύκλωψ, ὅτι τὰ σ' οὐκ εἴων φέρειν.
by these Cyclops because the your not I-let carry
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ οὐκ ᾔσαν ὄντα θεόν με καὶ θεῶν ἄπο;
not they-knew being god me and gods from
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἔλεγον ἐγὼ τάδ'· οἳ δ' ἐφόρουν τὰ χρήματα·
I-said I these-things they but carried-off the goods
καὶ τόν γε τυρὸν οὐκ ἐῶντος ἤσθιον
and the at-least cheese not allowing they-ate
τούς τ' ἄρνας ἐξεφοροῦντο· δήσαντες δὲ σὲ
the and lambs carried-out having-bound and you
κλῳῷ τριπήχει κατὰ τὸν ὀμφαλὸν μέσον
with-collar three-cubit at the navel middle
τὰ σπλάγχν' ἔφασκον ἐξαμήσεσθαι βίᾳ,
the guts they-said to-pull-out by-force
μάστιγί τ' εὖ τὸ νῶτον ἀπολέψειν σέθεν,
with-whip and well the back to-flay of-you
κἄπειτα συνδήσαντες εἰς θἀδώλια
and-then having-bound into the-rowing-benches
τῆς νηὸς ἐμβαλόντες ἀποδώσειν τινὶ
of-the ship having-thrown to-give-away to-someone
πέτρους μοχλεύειν, ἢ 's μυλῶνα καταβαλεῖν.
stones to-lever or into mill to-throw

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἄληθες; οὔκουν κοπίδας ὡς τάχιστ' ἰὼν
indeed not-then knives as quickly-as-possible going
θήξεις μαχαίρας καὶ μέγαν φάκελον ξύλων
will-you-whet blades and great bundle of-wood
ἐπιθεὶς ἀνάψεις; ὡς σφαγέντες αὐτίκα
having-put-on will-you-light so-that slaughtered at-once
πλήσουσι νηδὺν τὴν ἐμὴν ἀπ' ἄνθρακος
they-will-fill belly the my from embers
θερμὴν ἔδοντος δαῖτ' ἄτερ κρεανόμων,
hot of-eater feast without carvers
τὰ δ' ἐκ λέβητος ἑφθὰ καὶ τετηκότα·
the-things and from cauldron boiled and melted
ὡς ἔκπλεώς γε δαιτός εἰμ' ὀρεσκόου·
since full at-least of-meal I-am mountain-fed
ἄλις λεόντων ἐστί μοι θοινωμένῳ
enough of-lions it-is for-me feasting
ἐλάφων τε, χρόνιος δ' εἶμ' ἀπ' ἀνθρώπων βορᾶς.
of-deer and long and I-am from of-human food
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ τὰ καινά γ' ἐκ τῶν ἠθάδων, ὦ δέσποτα,
the new-things at-least than the accustomed O master
ἡδίον' ἐστίν, οὐ γὰρ αὖ νεωστί γε
sweeter are not for again recently at-least
ἄλλοι πρὸς ἄντρα τὰ σά γ' ἀφίκοντο ξένοι.
others to caves the your at-least came strangers
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Κύκλωψ, ἄκουσον ἐν μέρει καὶ τῶν ξένων.
Cyclops hear in turn also the strangers
ἡμεῖς βορᾶς χρῄζοντες ἐμπολὴν λαβεῖν
we food needing purchase to-take
σῶν ἆσσον ἄντρων ἤλθομεν νεὼς ἄπο.
your near caves we-came ship from

τοὺς δ' ἄρνας ἡμῖν οὗτος ἀντ' οἴνου σκύφου
the and lambs to-us this-one for wine of-cup
ἀπημπόλα τε κἀδίδου πιεῖν λαβὼν
sold and gave to-drink having-taken
ἑκὼν ἑκοῦσι, κοὐδὲν ἦν τούτων βίᾳ.
willing to-willing and-nothing was of-these by-force
ἀλλ' οὗτος ὑγιὲς οὐδὲν ὢν φησιν λέγει,
but this-one sound nothing of-what he-says says
ἐπεὶ κατελήφθη σοῦ λάθρᾳ πωλῶν τὰ σά. 260
since he-was-caught of-you secretly selling the yours
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἐγώ; κακῶς γὰρ ἐξόλοι'. ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ εἰ ψεύδομαι.
I badly for may-you-perish if I-lie
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ μὰ τὸν Ποσειδῶ τὸν τεκόντα σ', ὦ Κύκλωψ,
by the Poseidon the having-begotten you O Cyclops
μὰ τὸν μέγαν Τρίτωνα καὶ τὸν Νηρέα,
by the great Triton and the Nereus
μὰ τὴν Καλυψὼ τάς τε Νηρέως κόρας,
by the Calypso the and of-Nereus daughters
μά θ' ἱερὰ κύματ' ἰχθύων τε πᾶν γένος, 265
by and holy waves of-fish and all race
ἀπώμοσ', ὦ κάλλιστον, ὦ Κυκλώπιον,
I-forswore O fairest O Cyclops-dear
ὦ δεσποτίσκε, μὴ τὰ σ' ἐξοδᾶν ἐγὼ
O little-master not the your sold I
ξένοισι χρήματ'. ἢ κακῶς οὗτοι κακοὶ
to-strangers goods or badly these base
οἱ παῖδες ἀπόλοιντ', οὓς μάλιστ' ἐγὼ φιλῶ.
the children may-perish whom most I love

ΧΟΡΟΣ αὐτὸς ἔχ'. ἔγωγε τοῖς ξένοις τὰ χρήματα
yourself have I to-the strangers the goods
περνάντα σ' εἶδον· εἰ δ' ἐγὼ ψευδῆ λέγω,
selling you I-saw if and I false-things say
ἀπόλοιθ' ὁ πατήρ μου· τοὺς ξένους δὲ μὴ ἀδίκει.
may-perish the father of-me the strangers and not wrong
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ψεύδεσθ'· ἔγωγε τῷδε τοῦ Ῥαδαμάνθυος
you-lie I to-this-one than-the Rhadamanthys
μᾶλλον πέποιθα καὶ δικαιότερον λέγω.
more trust and more-justly I-speak
θέλω δ' ἐρέσθαι· πόθεν ἐπλεύσατ', ὦ ξένοι;
I-wish and to-ask whence did-you-sail O strangers
ποδαποί, τίς ὑμᾶς ἐξεπαίδευσεν πόλις;
from-where what you educated city
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Ἰθακήσιοι μὲν τὸ γένος, Ἰλίου δ' ἄπο,
Ithacans indeed the by-race Ilium and from
πέρσαντες ἄστυ, πνεύμασιν θαλασσίοις
having-sacked town by-winds sea
σὴν γαῖαν ἐξωσθέντες ἥκομεν, Κύκλωψ.
your land driven we-have-come Cyclops
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἦ τῆς κακίστης οἳ μετήλθεθ' ἁρπαγὰς
— of-the basest who went-after rape
Ἑλένης Σκαμάνδρου γείτον' Ἰλίου πόλιν;
of-Helen of-Scamander neighboring of-Ilium city
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ οὗτοι, πόνον τὸν δεινὸν ἐξηντληκότες.
these toil the terrible having-drained
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ αἰσχρὸν στράτευμά γ', οἵτινες μιᾶς χάριν
shameful expedition at-least who one for-the-sake
γυναικὸς ἐξεπλεύσατ' εἰς γαῖαν Φρυγῶν.
of-woman sailed to land of-Phrygians

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ θεοῦ τὸ πρᾶγμα· μηδέν' αἰτιῶ βροτῶν.
of-god the affair no-one blame of-mortals

ἡμεῖς δέ σ', ὦ θεοῦ ποντίου γενναῖε παῖ,
we and you O of-god sea noble child

ἱκετεύομέν τε καὶ λέγομεν ἐλευθέρως,
supplicate both and speak freely

μὴ τλῇς πρὸς ἄντρα σοὺς ἀφιγμένους ξένους
not dare to caves your having-arrived strangers

κτανεῖν βοράν τε δυσσεβῆ θέσθαι γνάθοις·
to-kill food and impious to-make for-jaws

οἳ τὸν σόν, ὦναξ, πατέρ' ἔχειν ναῶν ἕδρας
who the your O-lord father to-have of-temples seats

ἐρρυσάμεσθα γῆς ἐν Ἑλλάδος μυχοῖς.
rescued of-land in of-Hellas recesses

ἱερός τ' ἄθραυστος Ταινάρου μένει λιμήν,
holy and unbroken of-Taenarum remains harbor

Μαλέας τ' ἄκροι κευθμῶνες, ἥ τε Σουνίου
of-Malea and topmost recesses the and of-Sunium

δίας Ἀθάνας σῶς ὑπάργυρος πέτρα,
of-divine Athena safe silver-veined rock

Γεραίστιοί τε καταφυγαί, τά θ' Ἑλλάδος
Geraestian and refuges the and of-Hellas

δύσφορά γ' ὀνείδη Φρυξὶν οὐκ ἐδώκαμεν·
intolerable at-least reproaches to-Phrygians not we-gave

ὧν καὶ σὺ κοινοῖ· γῆς γὰρ Ἑλλάδος μυχοὺς
in-which also you share of-land for of-Hellas recesses

οἰκεῖς ὑπ' Αἴτνῃ τῇ πυριστάκτῳ πέτρᾳ.
you-dwell under Aetna the fire-dripping rock

νόμος δὲ θνητοῖς, εἰ λόγους ἐπιστρέφει,
custom and for-mortals if words you-regard

ἱκέτας δέχεσθαι ποντίους ἐφθαρμένους
suppliants to-receive of-the-sea shipwrecked
ξένιά τε δοῦναι καὶ πέπλοις ἐπαρκέσαι,
gifts and to-give and with-robes to-help
οὐκ ἀμφὶ βουπόροισι πηχθέντας μέλη
not on ox-piercing fixed limbs
ὀβελοῖσι νηδὺν καὶ γνάθον πλῆσαι σέθεν.
with-spits belly and jaw to-fill of-you
ἅλις δὲ Πριάμου γαῖ' ἐχήρωσ' Ἑλλάδα,
enough and of-Priam land bereaved Hellas
πολλῶν νεκρῶν πιοῦσα δοριπετῆ φόνον,
of-many dead having-drunk spear-fallen blood
ἀλόχους τ' ἀνάνδρους γραῦς τ' ἄπαιδας ὤλεσε
wives and husbandless old-women and childless destroyed
πολιούς τε πατέρας. εἰ δὲ τοὺς λελειμμένους
gray and fathers if and the left
σὺ συμπυρώσας δαῖτ' ἀναλώσεις πικράν,
you having-burned feast will-consume bitter
ποῖ τρέψεταί τις; ἀλλ' ἐμοὶ πιθοῦ, Κύκλωψ,
where will-turn anyone but me obey Cyclops
πάρες τὸ μάργον σῆς γνάθου, τὸ δ' εὐσεβὲς
let-go the greed of-your jaw the and piety
τῆς δυσσεβείας ἀνθελοῦ· πολλοῖσι γὰρ
of-the impiety choose-instead to-many for
κέρδη πονηρὰ ζημίαν ἠμείψατο.
gains base loss exchanged
ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ παραινέσαι σοι βούλομαι· τῶν γὰρ κρεῶν
to-advise to-you I-wish of-the for meats
μηδὲν λίπῃς τοῦδ'· ἢν δὲ τὴν γλῶσσαν δάκῃς,
nothing leave of-this if and the tongue you-bite

κομψὸς γενήσει καὶ λαλίστατος, Κύκλωψ.
clever you-will-become and most-talkative Cyclops

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὁ πλοῦτος, ἀνθρωπίσκε, τοῖς σοφοῖς θεός·
the wealth little-man for-the wise god

τὰ δ' ἄλλα κόμποι καὶ λόγων εὐμορφίαι.
the and rest boasts and of-words fine-shapes

ἄκρας δ' ἐναλίας ἃς καθίδρυται πατὴρ
headlands and of-the-sea which has-set-up father

χαίρειν κελεύω· τί τάδε προὐστήσω λόγῳ;
to-fare-well I-bid why these-things you-put-forward in-speech

Ζηνὸς δ' ἐγὼ κεραυνὸν οὐ φρίσσω, ξένε,
of-Zeus and I thunderbolt not shudder-at stranger

οὐδ' οἶδ' ὅ τι Ζεύς ἐστ' ἐμοῦ κρείσσων θεός.
nor I-know in-what — Zeus is than-me mightier god

οὔ μοι μέλει τὸ λοιπόν· ὡς δ' οὔ μοι μέλει
not to-me is-a-care the rest as but not to-me is-a-care

ἄκουσον. ὅταν ἄνωθεν ὄμβρον ἐκχέῃ,
hear when from-above rain he-pours

ἐν τῇδε πέτρᾳ στέγν' ἔχω σκηνώματα,
in this rock watertight I-have dwellings

ἢ μόσχον ὀπτὸν ἤ τι θήρειον δάκος
or calf roasted or some wild beast

δαινύμενος, εὖ τέγγων τε γαστέρ' ὑπτίαν,
feasting well wetting and belly upturned

ἐπεκπιὼν γάλακτος ἀμφορέα, πέπλον
having-drunk-on of-milk jar robe

κρούω, Διὸς βρονταῖσιν εἰς ἔριν κτυπῶν.
I-strike of-Zeus to-thunders to rivalry crashing

ὅταν δὲ βορρᾶς χιόνα Θρήκιος χέῃ,
when and north-wind snow Thracian pours

δοραῖσι θηρῶν σῶμα περιβαλὼν ἐμὸν
with-hides of-beasts body having-put-around my
καὶ πῦρ ἀναίθων, χιόνος οὐδέν μοι μέλει.
and fire kindling of-snow nothing to-me is-a-care
ἡ γῆ δ' ἀνάγκῃ, κἂν θέλῃ κἂν μὴ θέλῃ,
the earth and by-necessity even-if it-wishes even-if not it-wishes
τίκτουσα ποίαν τἀμὰ πιαίνει βοτά.
bearing grass my fattens flocks
ἀγὼ οὔτινι θύω πλὴν ἐμοί, θεοῖσι δ' οὔ,
which-I to-no-one sacrifice except to-me to-gods and not
καὶ τῇ μεγίστῃ γαστρὶ τῇδε δαιμόνων·
and to-the greatest belly this of-gods
ὡς τοὐμπιεῖν γε καὶ φαγεῖν τοὐφ' ἡμέραν,
since the-to-drink at-least and to-eat the-for day
Ζεὺς οὗτος ἀνθρώποισι τοῖσι σώφροσι,
Zeus this-is for-men for-the wise
λυπεῖν δὲ μηδὲν αὐτόν· οἳ δὲ τοὺς νόμους
to-grieve and in-nothing himself they and the laws
ἔθεντο ποικίλλοντες ἀνθρώπων βίον,
made embroidering of-men life
κλαίειν ἄνωγα· τὴν δ' ἐμὴν ψυχὴν ἐγὼ
to-weep I-bid the and my soul I
οὐ παύσομαι δρῶν εὖ — κατεσθίων τε σέ.
not shall-stop doing well devouring and you
ξένια δὲ λήψει τοιάδ', ὡς ἄμεμπτος ὦ,
gifts and you-will-receive such so-that blameless I-may-be
πῦρ καὶ πατρῷον τόδε, λέβητά θ', ὃς ζέσας
fire and paternal this cauldron and which boiling
σὴν σάρκα διαφόρητον ἀμφέξει καλῶς.
your flesh torn-apart will-hold well

ἀλλ᾽ ἕρπετ᾽ εἴσω, τῷ κατ᾽ αὔλιον θεῷ
but go within to-the in cave god
ἵν᾽ ἀμφὶ βωμὸν στάντες εὐωχῆτέ με.
so-that around altar standing you-may-feast me
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ αἰαῖ, πόνους μὲν Τρωικοὺς ὑπεξέδυν
alas toils indeed Trojan I-escaped
θαλασσίους τε, νῦν δ᾽ ἐς ἀνδρὸς ἀνοσίου
of-the-sea and now and on of-man unholy
γνώμην κατέσχον ἀλίμενόν τε καρδίαν.
mind I-have-landed harborless and heart
ὦ Παλλάς, ὦ δέσποινα Διογενὲς θεά,
O Pallas O lady Zeus-born goddess
νῦν νῦν ἄρηξον· κρείσσονας γὰρ Ἰλίου
now now help greater for than-Ilium
πόνους ἀφῖγμαι κἀπὶ κινδύνου βάθρα.
toils I-have-come and-to of-danger depths
σύ τ᾽, ὦ φαεννῶν ἀστέρων οἰκῶν ἕδρας
you and O bright of-stars dwelling seats
Ζεῦ ξένι᾽, ὅρα τάδ᾽· εἰ γὰρ αὐτὰ μὴ βλέπεις,
Zeus of-strangers see these-things if for them not you-see
ἄλλως νομίζει Ζεύς, τὸ μηδὲν ὤν, θεός.
in-vain you-are-thought Zeus the nothing being god

The chorus bids the Cyclops open his wide jaws for the strangers' flesh, boiled and roasted, and wants no part of his unholy table.

ΧΟΡΟΣ εὐρείας φάρυγγος, ὦ Κύκλωψ,
of-wide throat O Cyclops
ἀναστόμου τὸ χεῖλος· ὡς ἕτοιμά σοι
open-wide the lip since ready for-you
ἑφθὰ καὶ ὀπτὰ καὶ ἀνθρακιᾶς ἄπο χναύειν,
boiled and roasted and embers from to-gnaw
βρύκειν, κρεοκοπεῖν μέλη ξένων,
to-crunch to-carve limbs of-strangers
δασυμάλλῳ ἐν αἰγίδι κλινομένῳ.
shaggy on goatskin reclining
μή μοι μὴ προσδίδου·
not to-me not give-a-share
μόνος μόνῳ κόμιζε πορθμίδος σκάφος.
alone for-yourself bring of-ferry hull
χαιρέτω μὲν αὖλις ἅδε,
farewell indeed dwelling this
χαιρέτω δὲ θυμάτων
farewell and of-sacrifices
ἀποβώμιος ἂν ἔχει θυσίαν
unhallowed which has sacrifice
Κύκλωψ Αἰτναῖος ξενικῶν
Cyclops Aetnaean of-foreign
κρεῶν κεχαρμένος βορᾷ·
of-meats rejoicing in-food

νηλής, ὦ τλᾶμον, ὅστις
pitiless O wretched who
δωμάτων ἐφεστίους ξενικοὺς
of-house at-the-hearth foreign
ἱκτῆρας ἐκθύει δόμων,
suppliants sacrifices from-house
κόπτων βρύκων,
chopping crunching
ἑφθά τε δαινύμενος μυσαροῖσί τ' ὀδοῦσιν
boiled and feasting with-foul and with-teeth
ἀνθρώπων θέρμ' ἀπ' ἀνθράκων κρέα.
of-men hot from embers meats

V · THE PLAN

Odysseus comes out and tells how the Cyclops killed and ate two of his comrades. He gave him the wine, and the Cyclops grew drunk and sang. Now he means to blind him with a sharpened olive stake heated in the fire while he sleeps, and then to sail away with his men and the satyrs, who eagerly offer to help.

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὦ Ζεῦ, τί λέξω, δεί' ἰδὼν ἄντρων ἔσω
O Zeus what shall-I-say terrible-things having-seen caves within
κοὐ πιστά, μύθοις εἰκότ', οὐδ' ἔργοις βροτῶν;
and-not credible-things to-tales like nor to-deeds of-mortals
ΧΟΡΟΣ τί δ' ἔστ', Ὀδυσσεῦ; μῶν τεθοίναται σέθεν
what and is-it Odysseus surely-not has-feasted-on of-you
φίλους ἑταίρους ἀνοσιώτατος Κύκλωψ;
dear comrades most-unholy Cyclops

ODYSSEUS δισσούς γ' ἀθρήσας κἀπιβαστάσας χεροῖν,
two at-least having-eyed and-having-weighed with-hands
οἳ σαρκὸς εἶχον εὐτραφέστατον πάχος.
who of-flesh had best-fed thickness
CHORUS πῶς, ὦ ταλαίπωρ', ἦτε πάσχοντες τάδε;
how O wretched were-you suffering these-things
ODYSSEUS ἐπεὶ πετραίαν τήνδ' ἐσήλθομεν στέγην,
when rocky this we-entered dwelling
ἀνέκαυσε μὲν πῦρ πρῶτον, ὑψηλῆς δρυὸς
kindled indeed fire first of-high oak
κορμοὺς πλατείας ἐσχάρας βαλὼν ἔπι,
logs broad hearth having-thrown on
τρισσῶν ἁμαξῶν ὡς ἀγώγιμον βάρος.
of-three wagons as load weight
ἔπειτα φύλλων ἐλατίνων χαμαιπετῆ
then of-leaves pine on-the-ground
ἔστρωσεν εὐνὴν πλησίον πυρὸς φλογί.
spread bed near of-fire flame
κρατῆρα δ' ἐξέπλησεν ὡς δεκάμφορον,
bowl and filled about ten-jar
μόσχους ἀμέλξας, λευκὸν εἰσχέας γάλα.
heifers having-milked white having-poured-in milk
σκύφος τε κισσοῦ παρέθετ' εἰς εὖρος τριῶν
cup and of-ivy set-beside to breadth of-three
πήχεων, βάθος δὲ τεσσάρων ἐφαίνετο.
cubits depth and of-four appeared
καὶ χάλκεον λέβητ' ἐπέζεσεν πυρί,
and bronze cauldron set-boiling with-fire
ὀβελούς τ', ἄκρους μὲν ἐγκεκαυμένους πυρί,
spits and at-tips indeed burnt-hard with-fire

ξεστοὺς δὲ δρεπάνῳ τἄλλα, παλιούρου κλάδων,
polished but with-pruning-book the-rest of-thorn of-branches
Αἰτναῖά τε σφαγεῖα πελέκεων γνάθοις.†
Aetnaean and bowls of-axes with-jaws(corrupt)
ὡς δ' ἦν ἕτοιμα πάντα τῷ θεοστυγεῖ
when and was ready all for-the god-hated
Ἅιδου μαγείρῳ, φῶτε συμμάρψας δύο
of-Hades cook two-men having-seized two
ἔσφαζ' ἑταίρων τῶν ἐμῶν ῥυθμῷ τινι
he-slaughtered of-comrades of-the my in-rhythm some
τὸν μὲν λέβητος εἰς κύτος χαλκήλατον,
the-one indeed of-cauldron into hollow bronze-beaten
τὸν δ' αὖ, τένοντος ἁρπάσας ἄκρου ποδός,
the-other and again by-tendon having-seized of-tip foot
παίων πρὸς ὀξὺν στόνυχα πετραίου λίθου,
striking against sharp point of-rocky stone
ἐγκέφαλον ἐξέρρανε, καὶ καθαρπάσας
brain dashed-out and having-snatched
λάβρῳ μαχαίρᾳ σάρκας ἐξώπτα πυρί,
with-greedy knife flesh roasted with-fire
τὰ δ' εἰς λέβητ' ἐφῆκεν ἕψεσθαι μέλη.
the and into cauldron let-go to-boil limbs
ἐγὼ δ' ὁ τλήμων δάκρυ' ἀπ' ὀφθαλμῶν χέων
I and the wretched tears from eyes shedding
ἐχριμπτόμην Κύκλωπι κἀδιακόνουν·
approached the-Cyclops and-served
ἄλλοι δ' ὅπως ὄρνιθες ἐν μυχοῖς πέτρας
others and like birds in recesses of-rock
πτήξαντες εἶχον, αἷμα δ' οὐκ ἐνῆν χροΐ.
cowering kept-still blood and not was-in skin

ἐπεὶ δ' ἑταίρων τῶν ἐμῶν πλησθεὶς βορᾶς
when and of-comrades of-the my having-been-filled with-food
ἀνέπεσε, φάρυγος αἰθέρ' ἐξιεὶς βαρύν,
he-lay-back from-throat breath sending-out heavy
εἰσῆλθέ μοί τι θεῖον· ἐμπλήσας σκύφος
came-into me something divine having-filled cup
Μάρωνος αὐτῷ τοῦδε προσφέρω πιεῖν,
of-Maron to-him this I-bring to-drink
λέγων τάδ'· ὦ παῖ ποντίου θεοῦ, Κύκλωψ,
saying these-things O child of-the-sea god Cyclops
σκέψαι τόδ' οἷον Ἑλλὰς ἀμπέλων ἄπο
see this what-sort Hellas vines from
θεῖον κομίζει πῶμα, Διονύσου γάνος.
divine brings drink of-Dionysus brightness
ὁ δ' ἔκπλεως ὢν τῆς ἀναισχύντου βορᾶς
he and full being of-the shameless of-food
ἐδέξατ' ἔσπασέν τ' ἄμυστιν ἑλκύσας
received drained and at-one-draft having-drawn
κἀπῄνεσ' ἄρας χεῖρα· φίλτατε ξένων,
and-praised having-raised hand dearest of-strangers
καλὸν τὸ πῶμα δαιτὶ πρὸς καλῇ δίδως.
fine the drink feast at fine you-give
ἡσθέντα δ' αὐτὸν ὡς ἐπῃσθόμην ἐγώ,
pleased and him when perceived I
ἄλλην ἔδωκα κύλικα, γιγνώσκων ὅτι
another I-gave cup knowing that
τρώσει νιν οἶνος καὶ δίκην δώσει τάχα.
will-wound him wine and penalty he-will-pay soon
καὶ δὴ πρὸς ᾠδὰς εἶρπ'· ἐγὼ δ' ἐπεγχέων
and indeed to songs he-went I and pouring-in

ἄλλην ἐπ᾽ ἄλλῃ σπλάγχν᾽ ἐθέρμαινον ποτῷ.
another upon another guts warmed with-drink
ᾄδει δὲ παρὰ κλαίουσι συνναύταις ἐμοῖς
he-sings and beside weeping shipmates my
ἄμουσ᾽, ἐπήχει δ᾽ ἄντρον. ἐξελθὼν δ᾽ ἐγὼ
unmusical-things echoed and cave having-come-out and I
σιγῇ, σὲ σῶσαι κἄμ᾽, ἐὰν βούλῃ, θέλω.
in-silence you to-save and-me if you-wish I-wish
ἀλλ᾽ εἶπατ᾽ εἴτε χρῄζετ᾽ εἴτ᾽ οὐ χρῄζετε
but say whether you-wish or not you-wish
φεύγειν ἄμικτον ἄνδρα καὶ τὰ Βακχίου
to-flee savage man and the of-Bacchus
ναίειν μέλαθρα Ναΐδων νυμφῶν μέτα.
to-dwell-in house Naiad nymphs with
ὁ μὲν γὰρ ἔνδον σὸς πατὴρ τάδ᾽ ἤνεσεν.
the indeed for within your father these-things approved
ἀλλ᾽ ἀσθενὴς γὰρ κἀποκερδαίνων ποτοῦ,
but weak for and-taking-advantage-of drink
ὥσπερ πρὸς ἰξῷ τῇ κύλικι λελημμένος
like on birdlime the cup caught
πτέρυγας ἀλύει· σὺ δέ, νεανίας γὰρ εἶ,
wings he-flutters you but young for you-are
σώθητι μετ᾽ ἐμοῦ καὶ τὸν ἀρχαῖον φίλον
be-saved with me and the ancient friend
Διόνυσον ἀνάλαβ᾽, οὐ Κύκλωπι προσφερῆ.
Dionysus take-up not to-Cyclops like
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὦ φίλτατ᾽, εἰ γὰρ τήνδ᾽ ἴδοιμεν ἡμέραν,
O dearest if for this we-might-see day
Κύκλωπος ἐκφυγόντες ἀνόσιον κάρα.
of-Cyclops having-escaped unholy head

ὡς διὰ μακροῦ γε †τὸν σίφωνα τὸν φίλον
since through long at-least (corrupt)-the siphon the dear
χηρεύομεν, τὸν δ' οὐκ ἔχομεν καταφαγεῖν.†
we-are-bereft it and not we-can to-devour(corrupt)
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἄκουε δή νυν ἣν ἔχω τιμωρίαν
hear indeed now which I-have vengeance
θηρὸς πανούργου σῆς τε δουλείας φυγήν.
of-beast villainous your and of-slavery escape
ΧΟΡΟΣ λέγ', ὡς Ἀσιάδος οὐκ ἂν ἥδιον ψόφον
speak since Asiatic not — sweeter sound
κιθάρας κλύοιμεν ἢ Κύκλωπ' ὀλωλότα.
of-lyre we-would-hear than Cyclops perished
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἐπὶ κῶμον ἕρπειν πρὸς κασιγνήτους θέλει
to revel to-go to brothers he-wishes
Κύκλωπας ἡσθεὶς τῷδε Βακχίου ποτῷ.
Cyclopes pleased with-this of-Bacchus drink
ΧΟΡΟΣ ξυνῆκ', ἔρημον ξυλλαβὼν δρυμοῖσί νιν
I-understand alone having-caught in-thickets him
σφάξαι μενοινᾷς ἢ πετρῶν ὦσαι κάτα.
to-slaughter you-intend or from-rocks to-push down
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ οὐδὲν τοιοῦτον, δόλιος ἡ 'πιθυμία.
nothing such crafty the desire
ΧΟΡΟΣ πῶς δαί; σοφόν τοί σ' ὄντ' ἀκούομεν πάλαι.
how then clever surely you being we-hear long-ago
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ κώμου μὲν αὐτὸν τοῦδ' ἀπαλλάξω, λέγων
from-revel indeed him this I-will-dissuade saying
ὡς οὐ Κύκλωψι πῶμα χρὴ δοῦναι τόδε,
that not to-Cyclopes drink must to-give this
μόνον δ' ἔχοντα βίοτον ἡδέως ἄγειν.
alone but having life gladly to-lead

ὅταν δ' ὑπνώσσῃ Βακχίου νικώμενος,
when and he-sleeps by-Bacchus being-overcome
ἀκρεμὼν ἐλαίας ἔστιν ἐν δόμοισί τις,
branch of-olive there-is in house a
ὃν φασγάνῳ τῷδ' ἐξαποξύνας ἄκρον,
which with-sword this having-sharpened tip
εἰς πῦρ καθήσω· κᾆθ', ὅταν κεκαυμένον
into fire I-will-put and-then when burning
ἴδω νιν, ἄρας θερμὸν εἰς μέσην βαλὼν
I-see it having-raised hot into middle having-thrust
Κύκλωπος ὄψιν ὄμματ' ἐκτήξω πυρί.
of-Cyclops sight eyes I-will-melt with-fire
ναυπηγίαν δ' ὡσεί τις ἁρμόζων ἀνὴρ
shipbuilding and as-if some fitting man
διπλοῖν χαλινοῖν τρύπανον κωπηλατεῖ,
with-double straps drill plies
οὕτω κυκλώσω δαλὸν ἐν φαεσφόρῳ
so I-will-twirl brand in light-bearing
Κύκλωπος ὄψει καὶ συναυανῶ κόρας.
of-Cyclops eye and I-will-scorch pupils
ΧΟΡΟΣ ἰοὺ ἰού,
hurrah hurrah
γέγηθα, μαινόμεσθα τοῖς εὑρήμασιν.
I-rejoice we-are-mad with-the inventions
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ κἄπειτα καὶ σὲ καὶ φίλους γέροντά τε
and-then both you and friends old-man and
νεὼς μελαίνης κοῖλον ἐμβήσας σκάφος
of-ship black hollow having-put-aboard hull
διπλαῖσι κώπαις τῆσδ' ἀποστελῶ χθονός.
with-double oars from-this I-will-send-away land

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἔστ᾽ οὖν ὅπως ἂν ὡσπερεὶ σπονδῆς θεοῦ
is-it then how — as-if of-libation of-god
κἀγὼ λαβοίμην τοῦ τυφλοῦντος ὄμματα
and-I might-take-hold of-the blinding eyes
δαλοῦ; πόνου γὰρ τοῦδε κοινωνεῖν θέλω.
of-brand of-toil for this to-share I-wish
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ δεῖ γοῦν· μέγας γὰρ δαλός, ὃν ξυλληπτέον.
must at-least great for brand which must-be-grasped-together
ΧΟΡΟΣ ὡς κἂν ἁμαξῶν ἑκατὸν ἀραίμην βάρος,
since even of-wagons hundred I-would-lift weight
εἰ τοῦ Κύκλωπος τοῦ κακῶς ὀλουμένου
if of-the Cyclops of-the badly about-to-perish
ὀφθαλμὸν ὥσπερ σφηκιὰν ἐκθύψομεν.
eye like wasps'-nest we-shall-smoke-out
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ σιγᾶτε νῦν. δόλον γὰρ ἐξεπίστασαι·
be-silent now trick for you-understand
χὥταν κελεύω, τοῖσιν ἀρχιτέκτοσι
and-when I-bid the master-builders
πείθεσθ᾽· ἐγὼ γὰρ ἄνδρας ἀπολιπὼν φίλους
obey I for men having-left friends
τοὺς ἔνδον ὄντας οὐ μόνος σωθήσομαι.
the within being not alone shall-be-saved
καίτοι φύγοιμ᾽ ἄν, κἀκβέβηκ᾽ ἄντρου μυχῶν·
and-yet I-could-flee — and-have-come-out of-cave recesses
ἀλλ᾽ οὐ δίκαιον ἀπολιπόντ᾽ ἐμοὺς φίλους,
but not just having-left my friends
ξὺν οἷσπερ ἦλθον δεῦρο, σωθῆναι μόνον.
with whom-indeed I-came here to-be-saved alone

The Cyclops comes out of the cave drunk, singing, and wants to go reveling with his brothers. The satyrs sing of the bliss of wine and love.

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἄγε, τίς πρῶτος, τίς δ' ἐπὶ πρώτῳ
come who first who and after first
ταχθεὶς δαλοῦ κώπην ὀχμάσας
stationed of-brand handle having-grasped
Κύκλωπος ἔσω βλεφάρων ὤσας
of-Cyclops within eyelids having-thrust
λαμπρὰν ὄψιν διακναίσει;
bright sight will-grind-out
σίγα σίγα. καὶ δὴ μεθύων
be-silent be-silent and indeed drunk
ἄχαριν κέλαδον μουσιζόμενος
graceless din singing
σκαιὸς ἀπῳδὸς καὶ κλαυσόμενος
clumsy out-of-tune and about-to-weep
χωρεῖ πετρίνων ἔξω μελάθρων.
comes rocky out-of house
φέρε νιν κώμοις παιδεύσωμεν
come him with-revels let-us-teach
τὸν ἀπαίδευτον.
the untaught
πάντως μέλλει τυφλὸς εἶναι.
in-any-case he-is-about blind to-be
μάκαρ ὅστις εὐιάζει
blessed whoever cries-evoe

βοτρύων φίλαισι πηγαῖς
of-grapes in-dear springs
ἐπὶ κῶμον ἐκπετασθείς,
to revel having-spread-wings
φίλον ἄνδρ' ὑπαγκαλίζων
dear man embracing
ἐπὶ δεμνίοισί τε ξανθὸν
on couches and golden
χλιδανῆς ἔχων ἑταίρας
of-dainty having of-mistress
μυρόχριστος λιπαρὸν βό-
myrrh-anointed shining hair
στρυχον, αὐδᾷ δέ· θύραν τίς οἴξει μοι;
— *speaks and door who will-open for-me*
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ παπαπαῖ, πλέως μὲν οἴνου,
papapai full indeed of-wine
γάνυμαι δὲ δαιτὸς ἥβῃ,
I-delight and of-feast in-vigor
σκάφος ὁλκὰς ὡς γεμισθεὶς
hull merchant-ship like loaded
ποτὶ σέλμα γαστρὸς ἄκρας.
to deck of-belly top
ὑπάγει μ' ὁ χόρτος εὔφρων
draws me the fodder cheerful
ἐπὶ κῶμον ἦρος ὥραις,
to revel of-spring in-seasons
ἐπὶ Κύκλωπας ἀδελφούς.
to Cyclopes brothers
φέρε μοι, ξεῖνε, φέρ', ἀσκὸν ἔνδος μοι.
come to-me stranger come skin hand to-me

ΧΟΡΟΣ καλὸν ὄμμασιν δεδορκὼς
fair with-eyes looking
καλὸς ἐκπερᾷ μελάθρων.
fair comes-out from-house
φίλος ὢν φιλεῖ τις ἡμᾶς.
dear being loves someone us
λύχνα δ' ἀμμένει δάϊα σὸν
lamps and await blazing your
χρόα, χἠ τέρεινα νύμφα
skin and-the tender bride
δροσερῶν ἔσωθεν ἄντρων.
of-dewy from-within of-caves
στεφάνων δ' οὐ μία χροιὰ
of-garlands and not one color
περὶ σὸν κρᾶτα τάχ' ἐξομιλήσει.
about your head soon will-keep-company

VII · NOMAN

Odysseus dissuades the Cyclops from reveling with his brothers and calls himself Noman, and the drunken Cyclops carries Silenus into the cave. The satyrs find excuses not to help, so Odysseus blinds the Cyclops with his own men. The Cyclops cries that Noman has blinded him; Odysseus reveals his true name, and the satyrs go with him to serve Bacchus again.

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Κύκλωψ, ἄκουσον, ὡς ἐγὼ τοῦ Βακχίου
Cyclops hear since I of-the Bacchus
τούτου τρίβων εἶμ', ὃν πιεῖν ἔδωκά σοι.
this practiced am whom to-drink I-gave to-you
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὁ Βάκχιος δὲ τίς; θεὸς νομίζεται;
the Bacchus and what god is-considered

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ μέγιστος ἀνθρώποισιν εἰς τέρψιν βίου.
greatest for-men to delight of-life

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἐρυγγάνω γοῦν αὐτὸν ἡδέως ἐγώ.
I-belch at-least him gladly I

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τοιόσδ' ὁ δαίμων· οὐδένα βλάπτει βροτῶν.
such the god no-one harms of-mortals

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ θεὸς δ' ἐν ἀσκῷ πῶς γέγηθ' οἴκους ἔχων;
god but in skin how rejoices house having

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὅπου τιθῇ τις, ἐνθάδ' ἐστὶν εὐπετής.
where puts anyone here he-is easy

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ οὐ τοὺς θεοὺς χρῆν σῶμ' ἔχειν ἐν δέρμασιν.
not the gods it-was-right body to-have in skins

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τί δ', εἴ σε τέρπει γ'; ἢ τὸ δέρμα σοι πικρόν;
what and if you delights at-least or the skin to-you bitter

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ μισῶ τὸν ἀσκόν· τὸ δὲ ποτὸν φιλῶ τόδε.
I-hate the skin the but drink I-love this

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ μένων νυν αὐτοῦ πῖνε κεὐθύμει, Κύκλωψ.
staying now here drink and-be-merry Cyclops

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ οὐ χρή μ' ἀδελφοῖς τοῦδε προσδοῦναι ποτοῦ;
not must me to-brothers of-this to-give of-drink

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἔχων γὰρ αὐτὸς τιμιώτερος φανεῖ.
having for yourself more-honored you-will-appear

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ διδοὺς δὲ τοῖς φίλοισι χρησιμώτερος.
giving and to-the friends more-useful

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ πυγμὰς ὁ κῶμος λοίδορόν τ' ἔριν φιλεῖ.
blows the revel abusive and strife loves

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ μεθύω μέν· ἔμπας δ' οὔτις ἂν ψαύσειέ μου.
I-am-drunk indeed nevertheless but no-one — would-touch me

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὦ τᾶν, πεπωκότ' ἐν δόμοισι χρὴ μένειν.
O sir having-drunk in house must to-stay

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἠλίθιος ὅστις μὴ πιὼν κῶμον φιλεῖ.
foolish who not having-drunk revel loves

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὃς δ' ἂν μεθυσθείς γ' ἐν δόμοις μείνῃ, σοφός.
who but — having-been-drunk at-least in house stays wise

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ τί δρῶμεν, ὦ Σειληνέ; σοὶ μένειν δοκεῖ;
what shall-we-do O Silenus to-you to-stay seems

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ δοκεῖ. τί γὰρ δεῖ συμποτῶν ἄλλων, Κύκλωψ; 540
it-seems what for is-needed of-drinking-companions other Cyclops

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ καὶ μὴν λαχνῶδές γ' οὖδας ἀνθηρᾷ χλόῃ.
and indeed downy at-least ground with-flowery grass

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ καὶ πρός γε θάλπος ἡλίου πίνειν καλόν.
and besides at-least warmth of-sun to-drink fine

κλίθητί νύν μοι πλευρὰ θεὶς ἐπὶ χθονός.
recline now for-me side having-put on ground

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ τί δῆτα τὸν κρατῆρ' ὄπισθέ μου τίθης; 545
why then the bowl behind me you-put

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ὡς μὴ παριών τις καταβάλῃ.
so-that not passing anyone may-upset

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ πίνειν μὲν οὖν
to-drink indeed rather

κλέπτων σὺ βούλει· κάτθες αὐτὸν εἰς μέσον.
stealing you wish put it into middle

σὺ δ', ὦ ξέν', εἰπὲ τοὔνομ' ὅ τι σε χρὴ καλεῖν.
you and O stranger tell the-name what — you must to-call

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Οὖτιν· χάριν δὲ τίνα λαβών σ' ἐπαινέσω;
Noman favor and what having-received you shall-I-praise

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ πάντων δ' ἑταίρων ὕστατον θοινάσομαι. 550
of-all and of-comrades last I-will-feast-on

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ καλόν γε τὸ γέρας τῷ ξένῳ δίδως, Κύκλωψ.
fine at-least the prize to-the stranger you-give Cyclops

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ οὗτος, τί δρᾷς; τὸν οἶνον ἐκπίνεις λάθρᾳ;
you what do-you-do the wine you-drink-up secretly

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὔκ, ἀλλ᾽ ἔμ᾽ οὗτος ἔκυσεν, ὅτι καλὸν βλέπω.
no but me this-one kissed because handsome I-look

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ κλαύσει, φιλῶν τὸν οἶνον οὐ φιλοῦντά σε.
you-will-weep loving the wine not loving you

555 ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ναὶ μὰ Δί᾽, ἐπεί μού φησ᾽ ἐρᾶν ὄντος καλοῦ.
yes by Zeus since me he-says to-love being handsome

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἔγχει, πλέων δὲ τὸν σκύφον. δίδου μόνον.
pour full and the cup give only

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ πῶς οὖν κέκραται; φέρε διασκεψώμεθα.
how then is-it-mixed come let-us-examine

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἀπολεῖς· δὸς οὕτως.
you-will-kill give so

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ναὶ μὰ Δί᾽ οὐ πρὶν ἄν γέ σε
yes by Zeus not before — at-least you

στέφανον ἴδω λαβόντα, γεύσωμαί τέ τι.
garland I-see having-taken I-taste and something

560 ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὦ οἰνοχόος ἄδικος.
O wine-pourer unjust

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οὐ μὰ Δί᾽, ἀλλ᾽ ὦ οἶνος γλυκύς.
not by Zeus but O wine sweet

ἀπομυκτέον δέ σοί γ᾽, ὅπως λήψει πιεῖν.
must-wipe-the-nose and for-you at-least so-that you-will-get to-drink

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἰδού, καθαρὸν τὸ χεῖλος αἱ τρίχες τέ μου.
see clean the lip the hairs and of-me

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ θές νυν τὸν ἀγκῶν᾽ εὐρύθμως, κἆτ᾽ ἔκπιε,
put now the elbow gracefully and-then drink-up

ὥσπερ μ᾽ ὁρᾷς πίνοντα — χὥσπερ οὐκ ἐμέ.
just-as me you-see drinking and-just-as not me

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἆ ἆ, τί δράσεις; ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἡδέως ἠμύστισα.
ah ah what will-you-do gladly I-drained-at-a-draft

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ λάβ', ὦ ξέν', αὐτὸς οἰνοχόος τέ μοι γενοῦ.
take O stranger yourself wine-pourer and for-me be

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ γιγνώσκεται γοῦν ἄμπελος τἠμῇ χερί.
is-known at-least vine to-my hand

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ φέρ' ἔγχεόν νυν. ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἐγχέω, σίγα μόνον.
come pour now I-pour be-silent only

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ χαλεπὸν τόδ' εἶπας, ὅστις ἂν πίῃ πολύν.
hard this you-said whoever — drinks much

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἰδοὺ λαβὼν ἔκπιθι καὶ μηδὲν λίπῃς.
see having-taken drink-up and nothing leave

συνεκθανεῖν δὲ σπῶντα χρὴ τῷ πώματι.
to-die-with and drawing must with-the drink

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ παπαῖ, σοφόν γε τὸ ξύλον τῆς ἀμπέλου.
alas wise at-least the wood of-the vine

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ κἂν μὲν σπάσῃς γε δαιτὶ πρὸς πολλῇ πολύν,
and-if indeed you-draw at-least feast at much much

τέγξας ἄδιψον νηδύν, εἰς ὕπνον βαλεῖ·
having-wetted thirstless belly into sleep it-will-throw

ἢν δ' ἐκλίπῃς τι, ξηρανεῖ σ' ὁ Βάκχιος.
if but you-leave something will-dry you the Bacchus

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἰοὺ ἰού,
hurrah hurrah

ὡς ἐξένευσα μόγις· ἄκρατος ἡ χάρις·
how I-swam-out hardly unmixed the delight

ὁ δ' οὐρανός μοι συμμεμιγμένος δοκεῖ
the and heaven to-me mixed seems

τῇ γῇ φέρεσθαι, τοῦ Διός τε τὸν θρόνον
with-the earth to-be-carried of-the Zeus and the throne

λεύσσω, τὸ πᾶν τε δαιμόνων ἁγνὸν σέβας.
I-see the all and of-gods holy majesty
οὐκ ἂν φιλήσαιμ' — αἱ Χάριτες πειρῶσί με —
not — I-would-kiss the Graces tempt me
ἅλις Γανυμήδην τόνδ' ἔχων ἀναπαύσομαι
enough Ganymede this having I-will-rest
κάλλιστα, νὴ τὰς Χάριτας, ἥδομαι δέ πως
most-finely by the Graces I-take-pleasure and somehow
τοῖς παιδικοῖσι μᾶλλον ἢ τοῖς θήλεσιν.
in-the boys more than in-the females

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἐγὼ γὰρ ὁ Διός εἰμι Γανυμήδης, Κύκλωψ;
I for the of-Zeus am Ganymede Cyclops

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ναὶ μὰ Δί', ὃν ἁρπάζω γ' ἐγὼ 'κ τοῦ Δαρδάνου.
yes by Zeus whom I-snatch at-least I from the Dardanus

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ ἀπόλωλα, παῖδες· σχέτλια πείσομαι κακά.
I-am-lost children cruel-things I-shall-suffer evils

ΧΟΡΟΣ μέμφει τὸν ἐραστὴν κἀντρυφᾷς πεπωκότα;
do-you-blame the lover and-play-the-coy having-drunk

ΣΕΙΛΗΝΟΣ οἴμοι· πικρότατον οἶνον ὄψομαι τάχα.
ah-me most-bitter wine I-shall-see soon

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἄγε δή, Διονύσου παῖδες, εὐγενῆ τέκνα,
come indeed of-Dionysus children noble offspring
ἔνδον μὲν ἀνήρ· τῷ δ' ὕπνῳ παρειμένος
within indeed the-man by-the and sleep relaxed
τάχ' ἐξ ἀναιδοῦς φάρυγος ὠθήσει κρέα,
soon from shameless throat will-thrust meat
δαλὸς δ' ἔσωθεν αὐλίων ὠθεῖ καπνόν.
brand and within of-cave pushes smoke
παρευτρέπισται δ' οὐδὲν ἄλλο πλὴν πυροῦν
is-prepared and nothing other except to-burn

Κύκλωπος ὄψιν· ἀλλ᾽ ὅπως ἀνὴρ ἔσει.
of-Cyclops eye but see-that man you-will-be

ΧΟΡΟΣ πέτρας τὸ λῆμα καὶ ἀδάμαντος ἕξομεν.
of-rock the spirit and-of-adamant we-shall-have

χώρει δ᾽ ἐς οἴκους, πρίν τι τὸν πατέρα παθεῖν
go and into house before something the father to-suffer

ἀπάλαμνον, ὥς σοι τἀνθάδ᾽ ἐστὶν εὐτρεπῆ.
reckless since for-you the-things-here are ready

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ Ἥφαιστ᾽, ἄναξ Αἰτναῖε, γείτονος κακοῦ
Hephaestus lord Aetnaean of-neighbor evil

λαμπρὸν πυρώσας ὄμμ᾽ ἀπαλλάχθηθ᾽ ἅπαξ,
bright having-burned eye be-rid once-for-all

σύ τ᾽, ὦ μελαίνης Νυκτὸς ἐκπαίδευμ᾽, Ὕπνε,
you and O of-black Night offspring Sleep

ἄκρατος ἐλθὲ θηρὶ τῷ θεοστυγεῖ,
unmixed come to-beast the god-hated

καὶ μὴ ᾽πὶ καλλίστοισι Τρωικοῖς πόνοις
and not after finest Trojan toils

αὐτόν τε ναύτας τ᾽ ἀπολέσητ᾽ Ὀδυσσέα
him and sailors and destroy Odysseus

ὑπ᾽ ἀνδρός, ᾧ θεῶν οὐδὲν ἢ βροτῶν μέλει.
by man to-whom of-gods nothing or of-mortals is-a-care

ἢ τὴν τύχην μὲν δαίμον᾽ ἡγεῖσθαι χρεών,
or the fortune indeed god to-consider must

τὰ δαιμόνων δὲ τῆς τύχης ἐλάσσονα.
the-things of-gods and than-the fortune less

ΧΟΡΟΣ λήψεται τὸν τράχηλον
will-take the neck

ἐντόνως ὁ καρκίνος
tightly the tongs

τοῦ ξένων δαιτυμόνος· πυρὶ γὰρ τάχα
of-the of-strangers banqueter with-fire for soon
φωσφόρους ὀλεῖ κόρας.
light-bearing will-destroy pupils
ἤδη δαλὸς ἠνθρακωμένος
already brand charred
κρύπτεται εἰς σποδιάν, δρυὸς ἄσπετον ἔρνος.
is-hidden into ashes of-oak vast shoot
ἀλλ' ἴτω Μάρων, πρασσέτω·
but let-come Maron let-act
μαινομένου 'ξελέτω βλέφαρον
of-raving let-take-out eyelid
Κύκλωπος, ὡς πίῃ κακῶς.
of-Cyclops so-that he-may-drink badly
κἀγὼ τὸν φιλοκισσοφόρον Βρόμιον
and-I the ivy-loving Bromius
ποθεινὸν εἰσιδεῖν θέλω,
longed-for to-see I-wish
Κύκλωπος λιπὼν ἐρημίαν.
of-Cyclops having-left solitude
ἆρ' ἐς τοσόνδ' ἀφίξομαι;
— to so-much shall-I-come
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ σιγᾶτε πρὸς θεῶν, θῆρες, ἡσυχάζετε,
be-silent by gods beasts be-quiet
συνθέντες ἄρθρα στόματος· οὐδὲ πνεῖν ἐῶ,
having-closed joints of-mouth not-even to-breathe I-allow
οὐ σκαρδαμύσσειν οὐδὲ χρέμπτεσθαί τινα,
not to-blink nor to-clear-throat anyone
ὡς μὴ 'ξεγερθῇ τὸ κακόν, ἔστ' ἂν ὄμματος
so-that not may-be-woken the evil until — of-eye

ὄψις Κύκλωπος ἐξαμιλληθῇ πυρί.
sight of-Cyclops be-fought-out by-fire

ΧΟΡΟΣ σιγῶμεν ἐγκάψαντες αἰθέρα γνάθοις.
we-are-silent having-gulped air with-jaws

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἄγε νυν ὅπως ἅψεσθε τοῦ δαλοῦ χεροῖν 630
come now see-that you-will-take-hold of-the brand with-hands

ἔσω μολόντες· διάπυρος δ' ἐστὶν καλῶς.
within having-gone red-hot and it-is well

ΧΟΡΟΣ Α′ οὔκουν σὺ τάξεις οὕστινας πρώτους χρεὼν
not-then you will-station whom first must

καυτὸν μοχλὸν λαβόντας ἐκκάειν τὸ φῶς
burning bar having-taken to-burn-out the light

Κύκλωπος, ὡς ἂν τῆς τύχης κοινώμεθα;
of-Cyclops so-that — of-the fortune we-may-share

ΧΟΡΟΣ Β′ ἡμεῖς μέν ἐσμεν μακρότερον πρὸ τῶν θυρῶν 635
we indeed are farther before the doors

ἑστῶτες ὠθεῖν ἐς τὸν ὀφθαλμὸν τὸ πῦρ.
standing to-thrust into the eye the fire

ΧΟΡΟΣ Γ′ ἡμεῖς δὲ χωλοί γ' ἀρτίως γεγενήμεθα.
we and lame at-least just-now have-become

ΧΟΡΟΣ Δ′ ταὐτὸν πεπόνθατ' ἆρ' ἐμοί· τοὺς γὰρ πόδας
the-same you-have-suffered then as-me the for feet

ἑστῶτες ἐσπάσθημεν οὐκ οἶδ' ἐξ ὅτου.
standing we-were-sprained not I-know from what

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἑστῶτες ἐσπάσθητε; ΧΟΡΟΣ Ε′ καὶ τά γ' ὄμματα 640
standing you-were-sprained and the at-least eyes

μέστ' ἐστὶν ἡμῖν κόνεος ἢ τέφρας ποθέν.
full are for-us of-dust or of-ash from-somewhere

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ἄνδρες πονηροὶ κοὐδὲν οἵδε σύμμαχοι.
men base and-nothing these allies

ΧΟΡΟΣ ὅτιὴ τὸ νῶτον τὴν ῥάχιν τ᾽ οἰκτείρομεν
because the back the spine and we-pity
καὶ τοὺς ὀδόντας ἐκβαλεῖν οὐ βούλομαι
and the teeth to-knock-out not I-wish
τυπτόμενος, αὕτη γίγνεται πονηρία;
being-struck this becomes baseness
ἀλλ᾽ οἶδ᾽ ἐπῳδὴν Ὀρφέως ἀγαθὴν πάνυ,
but I-know charm of-Orpheus good very
ὡς αὐτόματον τὸν δαλὸν εἰς τὸ κρανίον
so-that of-itself the brand into the skull
στείχονθ᾽ ὑφάπτειν τὸν μονῶπα παῖδα γῆς.
going to-set-alight the one-eyed child of-earth
ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ πάλαι μὲν ᾔδη σ᾽ ὄντα τοιοῦτον φύσει,
long-ago indeed I-knew you being such by-nature
νῦν δ᾽ οἶδ᾽ ἄμεινον. τοῖσι δ᾽ οἰκείοις φίλοις
now and I-know better with-the and own friends
χρῆσθαί μ᾽ ἀνάγκη. χειρὶ δ᾽ εἰ μηδὲν σθένεις,
to-use me necessity with-hand but if nothing you-are-strong
ἀλλ᾽ οὖν ἐπεγκέλευέ γ᾽, ὡς εὐψυχίαν
but then cheer-on at-least so-that courage
φίλων κελευσμοῖς τοῖσι σοῖς κτησώμεθα.
of-friends by-cheerings the your we-may-get
ΧΟΡΟΣ δράσω τάδ᾽. ἐν τῷ Καρὶ κινδυνεύσομεν.
I-will-do these-things in the Carian we-shall-run-risk
κελευσμάτων δ᾽ ἕκατι τυφέσθω Κύκλωψ.
of-cheerings and for-the-sake let-be-smoked Cyclops
ἰὼ ἰώ,
oh oh
γενναιότατ᾽ ὠθεῖτε, σπεύδετε.
most-nobly thrust hasten

ἐκκαίετε τὴν ὀφρὺν
burn-out the brow
θηρὸς τοῦ ξενοδαίτα.
of-beast of-the stranger-devouring
τύφετ᾽ ὦ, καίετ᾽ ὦ
smoke O burn O
τὸν Αἴτνας μηλονόμον.
the of-Aetna sheep-grazer
τόρνευ᾽, ἕλκε, μή σ᾽ ἐξοδυνηθεὶς
twist drag lest you having-been-maddened-by-pain
δράσῃ τι μάταιον.
he-do something foolish
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὤμοι, κατηνθρακώμεθ᾽ ὀφθαλμοῦ σέλας.
ah-me I-have-been-charred of-eye light
ΧΟΡΟΣ καλός γ᾽ ὁ παιάν· μέλπε μοι τόνδ᾽, ὦ Κύκλωψ.
fine at-least the paean sing for-me this O Cyclops
ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὤμοι μάλ᾽, ὡς ὑβρίσμεθ᾽, ὡς ὀλώλαμεν.
ah-me very how we-are-outraged how we-are-ruined
ἀλλ᾽ οὔτι μὴ φύγητε τῆσδ᾽ ἔξω πέτρας
but not-at-all — you-will-flee of-this out rock
χαίροντες, οὐδὲν ὄντες· ἐν πύλαισι γὰρ
rejoicing nothing being in gates for
σταθεὶς φάραγγος τῆσδ᾽ ἐναρμόσω χέρας.
having-stood of-gorge this I-will-fit hands
ΧΟΡΟΣ τί χρῆμ᾽ ἀυτεῖς, ὦ Κύκλωψ; ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ἀπωλόμην.
what thing do-you-shout O Cyclops I-am-ruined
ΧΟΡΟΣ αἰσχρός γε φαίνει. ΚΥΚΛΩΨ κἀπὶ τοῖσδέ γ᾽ ἄθλιος.
ugly at-least you-appear and-besides these-things at-least wretched
ΧΟΡΟΣ μεθύων κατέπεσες εἰς μέσους τοὺς ἄνθρακας;
drunk you-fell into middle the coals

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ Οὖτίς μ' ἀπώλεσ'. ΧΟΡΟΣ οὐκ ἄρ' οὐδείς σ' ἠδίκει;
Noman me destroyed not then no-one you wronged

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ Οὖτίς με τυφλοῖ βλέφαρον. ΧΟΡΟΣ οὐκ ἄρ' εἶ τυφλός;
Noman me blinds eyelid not then you-are blind

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὡς δὴ σύ —
as indeed you

ΧΟΡΟΣ καὶ πῶς σ' οὔτις ἂν θείη τυφλόν;
and how you no-one — might-make blind

675 ΚΥΚΛΩΨ σκώπτεις. ὁ δ' Οὖτις ποῦ 'στιν;
you-mock the but Noman where is-he

ΧΟΡΟΣ οὐδαμοῦ, Κύκλωψ.
nowhere Cyclops

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὁ ξένος, ἵν' ὀρθῶς ἐκμάθῃς, μ' ἀπώλεσεν,
the stranger so-that rightly you-may-learn me destroyed

ὁ μιαρός, ὅς μοι δοὺς τὸ πῶμα κατέκλυσε.
the foul who to-me having-given the drink drowned

ΧΟΡΟΣ δεινὸς γὰρ οἶνος καὶ παλαίεσθαι βαρύς.
terrible for wine and to-wrestle heavy

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ πρὸς θεῶν, πεφεύγασ' ἢ μένουσ' εἴσω δόμων;
by gods have-they-fled or stay within house

680 ΧΟΡΟΣ οὗτοι σιωπῇ τὴν πέτραν ἐπήλυγα
these in-silence the rock overhanging

λαβόντες ἑστήκασι. ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ποτέρας τῆς χερός;
having-taken stand on-which the hand

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἐν δεξιᾷ σου. ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ποῦ; ΧΟΡΟΣ πρὸς αὐτῇ τῇ πέτρᾳ.
on right of-you where by very the rock

ἔχεις; ΚΥΚΛΩΨ κακόν γε πρὸς κακῷ· τὸ κρανίον
you-have evil at-least to evil the skull

παίσας κατέαγα. ΧΟΡΟΣ καί σε διαφεύγουσί γε;
having-struck I-broke and you escape at-least

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ οὐ τῇδ'· ἐπεὶ τῇδ' εἶπας; ΧΟΡΟΣ οὔ, ταύτῃ λέγω.
not this-way since this-way you-said no this-way I-say

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ πῇ γάρ; ΧΟΡΟΣ περιάγου, κεῖσε, πρὸς τἀριστερά.
where for go-around there to the-left

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ οἴμοι γελῶμαι· κερτομεῖτέ μ' ἐν κακοῖς.
ah-me I-am-laughed-at you-mock me in evils

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἀλλ' οὐκέτ', ἀλλὰ πρόσθεν Οὖτις ἐστί σου.
but no-longer but before Noman is of-you

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ ὦ παγκάκιστε, ποῦ ποτ' εἶ; ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ τηλοῦ σέθεν
O most-wicked where ever are-you far of-you

φυλακαῖσι φρουρῶ σῶμ' Ὀδυσσέως τόδε.
with-guards I-keep body of-Odysseus this

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ πῶς εἶπας; ὄνομα μεταβαλὼν καινὸν λέγεις;
how did-you-say name having-changed new you-say

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ὅπερ μ' ὁ φύσας ὠνόμαζ' Ὀδυσσέα.
which-indeed me the having-begotten named Odysseus

δώσειν δ' ἔμελλες ἀνοσίου δαιτὸς δίκας·
to-give and you-were-about of-unholy feast penalty

κακῶς γὰρ ἂν Τροίαν γε διεπυρώσαμεν,
badly for — Troy at-least we-would-have-burned

εἰ μή σ' ἑταίρων φόνον ἐτιμωρησάμην.
if not you of-comrades murder I-avenged

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ αἰαῖ· παλαιὸς χρησμὸς ἐκπεραίνεται.
alas ancient oracle is-fulfilled

τυφλὴν γὰρ ὄψιν ἐκ σέθεν σχήσειν μ' ἔφη
blind for sight from you to-have me it-said

Τροίας ἀφορμηθέντος. ἀλλὰ καὶ σέ τοι
from-Troy having-set-out but also you surely

δίκας ὑφέξειν ἀντὶ τῶνδ' ἐθέσπισε,
penalty to-pay for these-things it-prophesied

πολὺν θαλάσσῃ χρόνον ἐναιωρούμενον.
long on-sea time tossing

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ κλαίειν σ' ἄνωγα· καὶ δέδραχ' ὅπερ λέγεις.
to-weep you I-bid and I-have-done what-indeed you-say

ἐγὼ δ' ἐπ' ἀκτὰς εἶμι καὶ νεὼς σκάφος
I and to shores will-go and of-ship hull

ἥσω 'πὶ πόντον Σικελὸν ἔς τ' ἐμὴν πάτραν.
I-will-send onto sea Sicilian to and my fatherland

ΚΥΚΛΩΨ οὐ δῆτ', ἐπεί σε τῆσδ' ἀπορρήξας πέτρας
not then since you of-this having-broken-off rock

αὐτοῖσι συνναύταισι συντρίψω βαλών.
together-with shipmates I-will-crush having-thrown

ἄνω δ' ἐπ' ὄχθον εἶμι, καίπερ ὢν τυφλός,
up and onto height I-will-go although being blind

δι' ἀμφιτρῆτος τῆσδε προσβαίνων ποδί.
through pierced-through this approaching with-foot

ΧΟΡΟΣ ἡμεῖς δὲ συνναῦταί γε τοῦδ' Ὀδυσσέως
we and shipmates at-least of-this-one Odysseus

ὄντες τὸ λοιπὸν Βακχίῳ δουλεύσομεν.
being the hereafter to-Bacchus shall-be-slaves