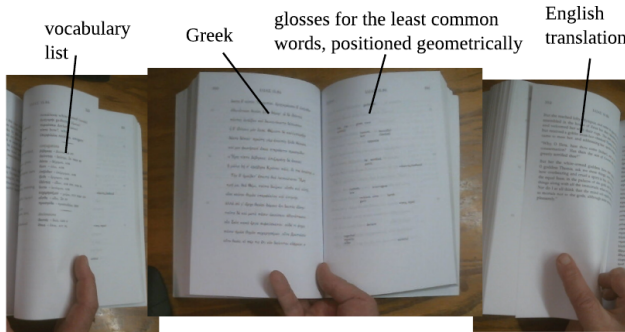


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Text and aids are presented in a four-page spread.

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*vocabulary***ἄβατος** untrodden; impassable**αἰνέω** praise, assent, acquiesce in**ἄλλομαι** to jump ~sally**ἅλμυρός** salty**ἅλς ἅλός** (f) (grains of) salt (pl. m.);

the sea (sing. f.) ~halogen

ἄμπελος (f) vine**βάρβαρος** non-Greek**βοτρυώδης** like a bunch of grapes**γύης γύου** (m, 1) plowshare**ἐγγύς** near**Ἑλλην** Greek**ἐπέρχομαι** approach, arrive**ἐρείπιον** ruin, wreckage**ἐρείπιος** wrecked, ruined**εὐδαίμων** blessed with a good genius**καλύπτω** to cover with, hide

~apocalypse

κεραυνίας -ου (m, 1) thunderstruck**κεραύνιος** of a thunderbolt**κόρυς** helmet**μιγᾶς** all mixed up**μῖν** him, her, it**μνήμα** -τος (n, 3) reminder, memorial

~mnemonic

μορφή beauty**νάμα** a flow**ὁμός** same ~homoerotic**ὁμοῦ** together**ὁμόω** unite ~homoerotic**πέδον** ground ~pedal**πέριξ** all around**Πέρσης** Persian**πλάξ** -κός (f) flat thing**πλήρης** full, complete; (+gen) full of

~plethora

πολύχρυσος (υῦ) rich in gold**σηχός** livestock pen**τύφω** (Ϝ) to smoke**ὕβρις** -εως (f) pride, insolence, outrage**φλόξ** -γός (f) flame ~flame

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἤκω Διὸς παῖς τήνδε Θηβαίων χθόνα

Διόνυσος, ὃν τίκτει ποθ' ἡ Κάδμου κόρη

Σεμέλη λοχευθεῖσ' ἀστραπηφόρῳ πυρί·

μορφὴν δ' ἀμείψας ἐκ θεοῦ βροτησίαν

πάρειμι Δίρκης νάματ' Ἰσμηνοῦ θ' ὕδωρ.

5

ὁρῶ δὲ μητρὸς μνήμα τῆς κεραυνίας

τόδ' ἐγγὺς οἴκων καὶ δόμων ἐρείπια

τυφόμενα Δίου πυρὸς ἔτι ζῶσαν φλόγα,

ἀθάνατον Ἥρας μητέρ' εἰς ἐμὴν ὕβριν.

αἰνῶ δὲ Κάδμον, ἄβατον ὃς πέδον τόδε

10

τίθησι, θυγατρὸς σηκόν· ἀμπέλου δέ νιν

πέριξ ἐγὼ κάλυψα βοτρυνώδει χλόῃ.

λιπὼν δὲ Λυδῶν τοὺς πολυχρύσους γύας

Φρυγῶν τε, Περσῶν θ' ἡλιοβλήτους πλάκας

Βάκτριά τε τείχη τήν τε δύσχιμον χθόνα

15

Μήδων ἐπελθὼν Ἀραβίαν τ' εὐδαίμονα

Ἀσίαν τε πᾶσαν, ἥ παρ' ἀλμυρὰν ἄλα

κεῖται μγάσιν Ἑλλήσι βαρβάροις θ' ὁμοῦ

πλήρεις ἔχουσα καλλιπυργώτους πόλεις,

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἤκω Διὸς παῖς τήνδε Θηβαίων χθόνα

Διόνυσος, ὃν τίκτει ποθ' ἡ Κάδμου |helmet

Σεμέλη λοχευθεῖς ἀστραπηφόρῳ πυρί·

|beauty δ' ἀμείψας ἐκ θεοῦ βροτησίαν

πάρεμι Δίρκης |a flow Ἴσμηνοῦ θ' ὕδωρ.

5

ὀρώ δὲ μητρὸς |reminder, ᾧς κεραυνίας
|memorial

τόδ' |near οἴκων καὶ δόμων ἐρείπια

|to smoke Δίου πυρὸς ἔτι ζῶσαν |flame ,

ἀθάνατον Ἥρας μητέρ' εἰς ἐμὴν |hubris.

|praise, ἔκ Κάδμον, |untrodden; |ground ὃδε
|assent |impassable

10

τίθησι, θυγατρὸς |livestock |vine δέ νιν
|pen

|all around' |cover, |like a bunch χλόη.
|hide |of grapes

λιπὼν δὲ Λυδῶν τοὺς |rich in gold |plowshare

Φρυγῶν τε, Περσῶν θ' ἡλιοβλήτους |flat thing

Βάκτριά τε τείχη τήν τε δύσχιμον χθόνα

15

Μήδων |approach, Ἀραβίαν τ' |blessed with a
|arrive |good genius

Ἀσίαν τε πᾶσαν, ἥ παρ' |salty ἅλα

κείται |all mixed|Greek |non-Greek θ' ὁμοῦ
|up

|full, complete; τα καλλιπυργώτους πόλεις,
|(+gen) full of

DIONYSUS. Behold, God's Son is come unto this land
Of heaven's hot splendour lit to life, when she
Of Thebes, even I, Dionysus, whom the brand
Who bore me, Cadmus' daughter Semele,
Died here. So, changed in shape from God to man,
I walk again by Dirce's streams and scan
Ismenus' shore. There by the castle side
I see her place, the Tomb of the Lightning's Bride,
The wreck of smouldering chambers, and the great
Faint wreaths of fire undying—as the hate
Dies not, that Hera held for Semele.
Aye, Cadmus hath done well; in purity
He keeps this place apart, inviolate,
His daughter's sanctuary; and I have set
My green and clustered vines to robe it round
Far now behind me lies the golden ground
Of Lydian and of Phrygian; far away
The wide hot plains where Persian sunbeams play,
The Bactrian war-holds, and the storm-oppressed
Clime of the Mede, and Araby the Blest,
And Asia all, that by the salt sea lies
In proud embattled cities, motley-wise
Of Hellene and Barbarian interwrought;

*vocabulary***ἀδελφή** sister**ἀναγκάζω** force, compel**ἀναμείγνυμι** (ō) mix with, join**ἀναφέρω** raise an issue, refer to,
propose; (mp) take a deep breath
~bear**ἀνολολύζω** cry out**βέλος** -εος (n, 3) missile ~ballistic**γάμος** wedding, sex ~bigamy**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**ἔζομαι** act: set, seat; pass: sit down, sit
up ~sit**ἐκφύω** spring from ~physics**ἐλάτη** fir tree; oar**Ἑλλήν** Greek**ἐμφανής** visible**ἐξάπτω** fasten to ~haptic**ἥκιστος** least; above all**ἡμαι** sit, lie**θῆλυς** female; (rare) abundant ~female**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**θύρσος** ivied wand**κίσσινος** of ivy**λέχος** -εος (n, 3) couch, bed, bier ~lie**μανία** madness, passion**μίν** him, her, it**νεβρίς** fawnskin**νυμφεύω** marry, give in marriage**οἰκέω** inhabit ~economics**οἰστράω** sting; go crazy**οἰστρέω** sting; go crazy**ὁμός** same ~homoerotic**ὁμοῦ** together**ὁμόω** unite ~homoerotic**ὄργια** -τος (n, 2) secret rites**οὐνεκα** because**παράκοπος** frenzied; distraught**πέτρα** rock, cliff, reef ~petrified**σκευή** equipment**σόφισμα** skill, trick**τελετή** rite, festival**τοιγάρ** therefore**φάσκω** declare, promise, think ~fame**χλωρός** pale, green, yellow ~chlorine**χορεύω** dance**ψεύδω** be false, deceive; (mid) to lie
~pseudo-

ἐς τήνδε πρῶτον ἦλθον Ἑλλήνων πόλιν, 20
 τάκεϊ χορεύσας καὶ καταστήσας ἐμὰς
 τελετάς, ἵν' εἶην ἐμφανὴς δαίμων βροτοῖς.
 πρῶτας δὲ Θήβας τῆσδε γῆς Ἑλληνίδος
 ἀνωλόλυξα, νεβρίδ' ἐξάψας χροὸς
 θύρσον τε δοὺς ἐς χεῖρα, κίσσινον βέλος· 25
 ἐπεὶ μ' ἀδελφαὶ μητρός, ἅς ἤκιστα χρῆν,
 Διόνυσον οὐκ ἔφασκον ἐκφῦναι Διός,
 Σεμέλην δὲ νυμφευθεῖσαν ἐκ θνητοῦ τινος
 ἐς Ζῆν' ἀναφέρειν τὴν ἀμαρτίαν λέχους,
 Κάδμου σοφίσμαθ', ὦν νιν οὐνεκα κτανεῖν 30
 Ζῆν' ἐξεκαυχῶνθ', ὅτι γάμους ἐψεύσατο.
 τοιγάρ νιν αὐτὰς ἐκ δόμων ᾧστρος' ἐγὼ
 μανίαις, ὅρος δ' οἰκοῦσι παράκοποι φρενῶν·
 σκευὴν τ' ἔχειν ἠνάγκασ' ὀργίων ἐμῶν,
 καὶ πᾶν τὸ θῆλυ σπέρμα Καδμείων, ὅσαι 35
 γυναιῖκες ἦσαν, ἐξέμηνα δωμάτων·
 ὁμοῦ δὲ Κάδμου παισὶν ἀναμεμειγμέναι
 χλωραῖς ὑπ' ἐλάταις ἀνορόφοις ἦνται πέτραις.

ἐς τήνδε πρῶτον ἦλθον |Greek πόλιν, 20

τάκεῖ |dance καὶ καταστήσας ἐμὰς

|rite, , ἵν' εἶην |visible |a god, fate, doom
|festival

πρώτας δὲ Θήβας τῆσδε γῆς Ἑλληνίδος

ἀνωλόλυξα, |fawn- |fasten to χρὸς
|skin

|ivied wand δὺς ἐς χεῖρα, |of ivy |missile 25

ἐπεὶ μ' |sister μητρός, ἄς |least; χρῆν,
|above

Διόνυσον οὐκ |declare, |spring from ἴς,
|promise,
|all

Σεμέλην δὲ |think |marry, give in ἐκ θνητοῦ τινος
|marriage

ἐς Ζῆν' |raise an issue, refer to, pro-bed, bier
|pose; (mp) take a deep breath

Κάδμου |skill, trick , ὧν νιν |because κτανεῖν 30

Ζῆν' ἐξεκαυχῶνθ', ὅτι |wedding, |be false, deceive;
|sex (mid) to lie

|therefore ἢ αὐτὰς ἐκ δόμων ὥσπερ ἐγὼ

|madness, ὄρος δ' |inhabit παράκοποι φρενῶν
|passion

|equipment ἔχειν ἡνάγκασ' |secret ἐμῶν,
|rites

καὶ πᾶν τὸ |female; (rare) Καδμείων, ὅσαι 35
|abundant

γυναῖκες ἦσαν, ἐξέμηνα δωμάτων

όμοῦ δὲ Κάδμου παισὶν |mix with, join

|pale ὑπ' |fir tree; oar ορόφοις ἦνται πέτραις.

And now I come to Hellas—having taught
All the world else my dances and my rite
Of mysteries, to show me in men's sight
Manifest God.
And first of Helene lands
I cry this Thebes to waken; set her hands
To clasp my wand, mine ivied javelin,
And round her shoulders hang my wild fawn-skin.
For they have scorned me whom it least beseemed,
Semele's sisters; mocked by birth, nor deemed
That Dionysus sprang from Dian seed.
My mother sinned, said they; and in her need,
With Cadmus plotting, cloaked her human shame
With the dread name of Zeus; for that the flame
From heaven consumed her, seeing she lied to God.
Thus must they vaunt; and therefore hath my rod
On them first fallen, and stung them forth wild-eyed
From empty chambers; the bare mountain side
Is made their home, and all their hearts are flame.
Yea, I have bound upon the necks of them
The harness of my rites. And with them all
The seed of womankind from hut and hall
Of Thebes, hath this my magic goaded out.
And there, with the old King's daughters, in a rout
Confused, they make their dwelling-place between
The roofless rocks and shadowy pine trees green.

*vocabulary***ἀλλάσσω** trade, transform**ἀπολογέομαι** defend one's conduct**ἀτέλεστος** not accomplished, fruitless

~apostle

βάρβαρος non-Greek**γέρας** -ως (n, 3) reward, honor**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom

~demon

δείκνυμι (ῶ) show, point out**εἶδος** -ους (n, 3) appearance, form

~-oid

ἐκμανθάνω know by heart**ἐκφύω** spring from ~physics**ἐνδείκνυμι** (ῶ) address, consider**ἐνθένδε** hence**ἔρυμα** -τος (n, 3) protection ~serve**εὐχή** prayer; vow ~vow**θεομαχέω** fight against the gods**θίασος** revel; group of people**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μεθίστημι change, substitute;
withdraw; change sides; (mid) send

away ~station

μεταβάλλω alter, transform**μνεία** reminder, memorial**μορφή** beauty**ὄπλον** tool, weapon, ship's tackle

~hoplite

ὀργή urge, impulse; anger**οὐδαμοῦ** nowhere**οὖνεκα** because**πάρεδρος** assessor**σπονδή** libation, treaty ~spontaneous**στρατηλατέω** lead an army**στρατηλάτης** -ου (m, 1) commander**τυραννίς** -δος (f) tyranny**φύσις** -εως (f) nature (of a thing)

~physics

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics**ώθέω** push

δεῖ γὰρ πόλιν τήνδ' ἐκμαθεῖν, κεί μὴ θέλει,
 ἀτέλεστον οὖσαν τῶν ἐμῶν βακχευμάτων,
 Σεμέλης τε μητρὸς ἀπολογήσασθαι μ' ὕπερ
 φανέντα θνητοῖς δαίμον' ὃν τίκτει Δί.

40

Κάδμος μὲν οὖν γέρας τε καὶ τυραννίδα
 Πενθεὶ δίδωσι θυγατρὸς ἐκπεφυκότι,
 ὃς θεομαχεῖ τὰ κατ' ἐμὲ καὶ σπονδῶν ἄπο
 ὠθεῖ μ', ἐν εὐχαῖς τ' οὐδαμοῦ μνείαν ἔχει.

45

ὦν οὐνεκ' αὐτῷ θεὸς γεγὼς ἐνδείξομαι
 πᾶσιν τε Θηβαίοισιν. ἐς δ' ἄλλην χθόνα,
 τὰνθένδε θέμενος εὖ, μεταστήσω πόδα,
 δεικνὺς ἐμαυτόν· ἦν δὲ Θηβαίων πόλις
 ὀργῇ σὺν ὅπλοις ἐξ ὄρους βάκχας ἄγειν
 ζητῇ, ξυνάψω μαινάσι στρατηλατῶν.

50

ὦν οὐνεκ' εἶδος θνητὸν ἀλλάξας ἔχω
 μορφὴν τ' ἐμὴν μετέβαλον εἰς ἀνδρὸς φύσιν.

ἀλλ', ὦ λιποῦσαι Τμῶλον ἔρυμα Λυδίας,

55

θίασος ἐμός, γυναῖκες, ἃς ἐκ βαρβάρων
 ἐκόμισα παρέδρους καὶ ξυνεμπόρους ἐμοί,

δεῖ γὰρ πόλιν τήνδ' |know by heart ᾿ μὴ θέλει,

|not accom- ιν τῶν ἐμῶν βακχευμάτων,
|plished, fruitless

40

Σεμέλης τε μητρὸς |defend one's conduct ᾿ ἵπερ

φανέντα θνητοῖς |a god, fate, doom . Διῖ.

Κάδμος μὲν οὖν |reward, ε καὶ |tyranny
|honor

Πενθεί δίδωσι θυγατρὸς |spring from ,

ὅς |fight against ᾿ κατ' ἐμὲ καὶ |libation, ᾿ ἅπο
|the gods |treaty

45

|push μ', ἐν |prayer; ᾿ |nowhere |reminder, ᾿ εἰ.
|vow |memorial

ὧν |because ᾿ τῷ θεὸς γεγῶς |address,
|consider

παῖσιν τε Θηβαίοισιν. ἐς δ' ἄλλην χθόνα,

|hence θέμενος εἶδ', |change, substitute; ᾿ withdraw;
|change sides; (mid) send away

|show ἐμαυτόν· ἦν δὲ Θηβαίων πόλις

50

|urge, ᾿ ν |tool ἐξ ὄρους βάκχας ᾿ γειν
|impulse;
|anger
|ζητῇ, ξυνάψω |madwoman, ᾿ ατηλατῶν.
|maenad

ὧν |because|form θνητὸν |trade, ᾿ χω
|transform

|beauty τ' ἐμὴν |alter, εἰς ἀνδρὸς φύσιν.
|transform

ἀλλ', ὦ λιποῦσαι Τμῶλον |protection· δίας,

55

|revel; group·, γυναῖκες, ᾿ς ἐκ |non-Greek
|of people

ἐκόμισα |assessor καὶ ξυνεμπόρους ἐμοί,

Thus shall this Thebes, how sore soe'er it smart,
Learn and forget not, till she crave her part
In mine adoring; thus must I speak clear
To save my mother's fame, and crown me here,
As true God, born by Semele to Zeus.
Now Cadmus yieldeth up his throne and use
Of royal honour to his daughter's son
Pentheus; who on my body hath begun
A war with God. He thrusteth me away
From due drink-offering, and, when men pray,
My name entreats not. Therefore on his own
Head and his people's shall my power be shown.
Then to another land, when all things here
Are well, must I fare onward, making clear
My godhead's might. But should this Theban town
Essay with wrath and battle to drag down
My maids, lo, in their path myself shall be,
And maniac armies battled after me!
For this I veil my godhead with the wan
Form of the things that die, and walk as Man.
O Brood of Tmolus o'er the wide world flown,
O Lydian band, my chosen and mine own,
Damsels uplifted o'er the orient deep
To wander where I wander, and to sleep
Where I sleep; up, and wake the old sweet sound,
The clang that I and mystic Rhea found,
The Timbrel of the Mountain! Gather all
Thebes to your song round Pentheus' royal hall.

vocabulary

ἄγιστεύω do rites; be pure, holy
 βασίλεια noblewoman
 βασίλειος kingly
 βιοτή life
 ἔκτοπος foreign, strange
 ἐπιχώριος native
 εὐάζω cry εὐαί in honour of Bacchus
 εὐδαίμων blessed with a good genius
 εὔρημα invention; windfall
 ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism
 θιασεύω initiate into the Bacchic revel

θοάζω move quickly; sit
 κάματος exhaustion, toil, product
 κτυπέω crash
 μάκαρ fortunate ~macarism
 μάκαρ fortunate ~macarism
 μέλαθρον roofbeam
 πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
 πτυχή fold, layer
 τελετή rite, festival
 τύμπανον drum
 ὑμνέω recite, commemorate
 χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean

αἵρεσθε τὰπιχώρι' ἐν πόλει Φρυγῶν
τύμπανα, ῥέας τε μητρὸς ἐμά θ' εὐρήματα,
βασίλειά τ' ἀμφὶ δώματ' ἐλθοῦσαι τάδε
κτυπεῖτε Πενθέως, ὡς ὀρᾷ Κάδμου πόλις.
ἐγὼ δὲ βάκχαις, ἐς Κιθαιρώνος πτυχὰς
ἐλθὼν ἔν' εἰσί, συμμετασχήσω χορῶν.

60

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἀσίας ἀπὸ γᾶς

ἱερὸν Τμῶλον ἀμείψασα θαάζω
Βρομίῳ πόνον ἡδὺν κάματόν τ' εὐκάματον, Βάκ'
χιον εὐαζομένα.
τίς ὁδῶ τίς ὁδῶ; τίς;
μελάθροισι ἔκτοπος ἔστω, στόμα τ' εὐφη'
μον ἅπας ἐξοσιούσθω.
τὰ νομισθέντα γὰρ αἰεὶ
Διόνυσον ὑμνήσω.[]

65

70

ΧΟ. ὦ μάκαρ, ὅστις εὐδαίμων

τελετὰς θεῶν εἰδὼς βιοτὰν ἀγιστεύει καὶ
θιασεύεται ψυχὰν
ἐν ὄρεσσι βακχεύων

75

αἵρεσθε |native ἐν πόλει Φρυγῶν

|drum , ῥέας τε μητρὸς ἐμά θ' |invention; ,
|windfall

βασίλειά τ' ἀμφὶ δώματ' ἐλθοῦσαι τάδε

60

|crash Πενθέως, ὡς ὀρᾷ Κάδμου πόλις.

ἐγὼ δὲ βάκχαις, ἐς Κιθαιρῶνος |fold,
|layer

ἐλθὼν ἵν' εἰσί, συμμετασχήσω |dance;
|chorus

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἀσίας ἀπὸ γᾶς

ἱερὸν Τμῶλον ἀμεύψασα |move quickly; sit

65

Βρομίῳ |toil, |sweet |exhaustion ῥ' εὐκάματον, Βάκ'
|suffer-
|ing
χιον |cry εὐαί in hon-
|our of Bacchus

τίς ὁδῶ τίς ὁδῶ; τίς;

|roofbeam |foreign, ἔστω, στόμα τ' εὖφη'
|strange

μον ἅπας ἐξοσιούσθω·

70

τὰ νομισθέντα γὰρ αἰεὶ

Διόνυσον |recite, 
|commemorate

ΧΟ. ᾧ μάκαρ, ὅστις |blessed with a
|good genius

|rite, θεῶν εἰδὼς |life |do rites; be καὶ
|festival |pure, holy

|initiate into the χὰν
|Bacchic revel

75

ἐν ὄρεσσι βακχεύων

I seek my new-made worshippers, to guide
Their dances up Kithaeron's pine clad side.

As he departs, there comes stealing in from the left a band of fifteen Eastern Women, the light of the sunrise streaming upon their long white robes and ivy-bound hair. They wear fawn-skins over the robes, and carry some of them timbrels, some pipes and other instruments. Many bear the thyrsus, or sacred Wand, made of reed ringed with ivy. They enter stealthily till they see that the place is empty, and then begin their mystic song of worship.

CHORUS. From Asia, from the dayspring that uprises
To Bromios ever glorying we came.
We laboured for our Lord in many guises;
We toiled, but the toil is as the prize is;
Thou Mystery, we hail thee by thy name!
Who lingers in the road? Who espies us?
We shall hide him in his house nor be bold.
Let the heart keep silence that defies us;
For I sing this day to Dionysus
The song that is appointed from of old.
Oh, blessed he in all wise,
Who hath drunk the Living Fountain,
Whose life no folly staineth,
And his soul is near to God;

*vocabulary***βροντή** thunder ~brontosaurus**εὐρύχορος** with broad dancing places**θαλάμη** den, hole ~thalamus**θεμιτεύω** rule, be a judge**θεραπεύω** help, serve; flatter, defer to
~therapy**θύρσος** ivied wand**καθαρμός** cleansing, purification**κατάγω** lead down/home; land

~demagogue

κεραύνιος of a thunderbolt**κισσός** ivy**κισσώ** wreath with ivy**λόχιος** of childbirth**μίν** him, her, it**πέτομαι** to fly ~petal**πληγή** a hit ~plectrum**πτέτομαι** to fly ~petal**στεφανώ** crown**τινάσσω** shake; brandish**ώδίνω** (ι) be in pain**ώδεις** -νος (f) pain

όσίοις καθαρμοῖσιν,
 τά τε ματρὸς μεγάλας ὄρ'
 για Κυβέλας θεμιτεύων,
 ἀνὰ θύρσον τε τινάσσων,
 κισσῶ τε στεφανωθείς
 Διόνυσον θεραπεύει.

80

ἴτε βάκχαι, ἴτε βάκχαι,
 Βρόμιον παῖδα θεὸν θεοῦ

Διόνυσον κατάγουσαι

85

Φρυγίων ἐξ ὀρέων Ἑλ'

λάδος εἰς εὐρυχόρους ἄ' γυιάς, τὸν Βρόμιον·

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὅν ποτ' ἔχουσ' ἐν ὠδίνων

λοχίαις ἀνάγκαισι

πταμένας Διὸς βροντᾶς νῆ'

90

δύος ἔκβολον μάτηρ

ἔτεκεν, λιποῦσ' αἰῶ'

να κεραυνίῳ πληγᾷ·

λοχίοις δ' αὐτίκα νιν δέ'

ξατο θαλάμαις Κρονίδας Ζεύς,

όσίοις |cleansing, pu-
rification

τά τε ματρὸς μεγάλας ὄρ'

για Κυβέλας |rule, be a judge

ἀνὰ |ivied wand |shake;
|brandish

80

κισσῶ τε |crown

Διόνυσον |help, serve;
|flatter, defer to

ἔτε βákχαι, ἔτε βákχαι,

Βρόμιον παῖδα θεὸν θεοῦ

Διόνυσον |lead down/home; land

85

Φρυγίων ἐξ ὀρέων Ἑλ'

λάδος εἰς |with broad' γυιάς, τὸν Βρόμιον·
|dancing places

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὃν ποτ' ἔχουσ' ἐν ὠδίνων

|of childbirth γκαῖσι

πταμένας Διὸς |thunder νη'

90

δύος ἔκβολον μάτηρ

ἔτεκεν, λιποῦσ' αἰῶ'

να κεραυνίῳ |a hit

λοχίοις δ' αὐτίκα νιν δέ'

ξατο |den, hole Κρονίδας Ζεύς,

Whose sins are lifted, pall-wise,
As he worships on the Mountain,
And where Cybele ordaineth,
Our Mother, he has trod:
His head with ivy laden
And his thyrsus tossing high,
For our God he lifts his cry;
“Up, O Bacchae, wife and maiden,
Come, O ye Bacchae, come;
Oh, bring the Joy-bestower,
God-seed of God the Sower,
Bring Bromios in his power
From Phrygia’s mountain dome;
To street and town and tower,
Oh, bring ye Bromios home.”
Whom erst in anguish lying
For an unborn life’s desire,
As a dead thing in the Thunder
His mother cast to earth;
For her heart was dying, dying,
In the white heart of the fire;
Till Zeus, the Lord of Wonder,
Devised new lairs of birth;

*vocabulary***ἄγρᾱ** hunting, prey**βρύω** teem with ~embryo**δέρκομαι** see, watch**δράκων** -οντος (m, 3) serpent**δρῦς** -ός (f) tree, oak, lumber ~druid**ἐλάτῃ** fir tree; oar**ἐνδυτός** (clothing) worn**ἐνθεν** thence, whence**ἐντίθημι** load; mp: take to heart

~thesis

θίασος revel; group of people**καλύπτω** to cover with, hide

~apocalypse

κισσός ivy**κισσώ** wreath with ivy**κλάδος** branch, shoot**κρυπτός** hidden, secret ~cryptic**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
~maenad**μηρός** thigh, femur**μῆλαξ** oak, yew, morning glory**νάρθηξ** -κος (m) fennel stalk**νεβρίς** fawnskin**περόνη** nail, pin, clasp; cleat; fibula
~pierce**πλόκαμος** lock of hair**στέφανος** ring**στεφανώ** crown**στέφω** crown, put around**στίζω** tattoo**τροφός** (f) wet nurse ~atrophy**ὕβριστης** -οῦ (m, 1) wanton, savage**χορεύω** dance

κατὰ μηρῷ δὲ καλύψας
 χρυσέαισιν συνερείδει
 περόναις κρυπτὸν ἄφ' ἧρας.
 ἔτεκεν δ', ἀνίκα Μοῖραι
 τέλεσαν, ταυρόκερων θεὸν
 στεφάνωσέν τε δρακόντων
 στεφάνοις, ἔνθεν ἄγραν θῆ'
 ροτρόφον μαινάδες ἀμφι'
 βάλλονται πλοκάμοις. ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ Σεμέλας τροφοὶ Θῆ'
 βαι, στεφανοῦσθε κισσῷ·
 βρύετε βρύετε χλοήρει
 μίλακι καλλικάρπῳ
 καὶ καταβακchioῦσθε δρυὸς
 ἢ ἐλάτας κλάδοις,
 στικτῶν τ' ἐνδυτὰ νεβρίδων
 στέφετε λευκοτρίχων πλοκάμων
 μαλλοῖς· ἀμφὶ δὲ νάρθηκας ὑβριστὰς
 ὀσιοῦσθ'· αὐτίκα γὰρ πᾶσα χορεύσει—
 Βρόμιος ὅστις ἄγῃ θιάσουσ—

100

110

κατὰ |thigh δὲ |cover, hide

χρυσέαισιν συνερίδῃ

|nail, pin, |hidden, ἀφ' ἧρας.
|clasp; cleat; |secret
|fibula
ἐτεκεν δ', ἀνίκα Μοῖραι

τέλεσαν, ταυρόκερων θεὸν

100

|crown τε δρακόντων

|ring , ἔνθεν ἄγραν θῆ'

ροτρόφον |madwoman, , φῖ
|maenad

βάλλονται |lock of hair . ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ Σεμέλας |wet nurse ῆ'

βαι, |crown κισσῶ·

|teem |teem with ἡ. σήρει
|with

|oak, γῆρ, ἀρπῶ
|morning glory

καὶ καταβακχιούσθε |tree, oak, lumber

ἦ |fir tree; branch, ,
|oar |shoot

110

στικτῶν τ' (cloth- |fawnskin
ing)

|crown, put around ῶν |lock of hair

μαλλοῖς· ἀμφὶ δὲ |fennel stalk |wanton,
|savage

ὀσιοῦσθ'· αὐτίκα γὰρ πᾶσα χορεύσει—

Βρόμιος ὅστις ἄγῃ |revel; group
|of people

Yea, his own flesh tore to hide him,
And with clasps of bitter gold
Did a secret son enfold,
And the Queen knew not beside him;
Till the perfect hour was there;
Then a horned God was found,
And a God of serpents crowned;
And for that are serpents wound
In the wands his maidens bear,
And the songs of serpents sound
In the mazes of their hair.
All hail, O Thebes, thou nurse of Semele!
With Semele's wild ivy crown thy towers;
Oh, burst in bloom of wreathing bryony,
Berries and leaves and flowers;
Uplift the dark divine wand,
The oak-wand and the pine-wand,
And don thy fawn-skin, fringed in purity
With fleecy white, like ours.
Oh, cleanse thee in the wands' waving pride!
Yea, all men shall dance with us and pray,

*vocabulary***ἄντρον** cave**αὐλέω** play (blow, toot)**αὐλή** courtyard**αὐλῖς** -τος (f) roost, bivouac**αὐλός** flute, tube, hollow**αὐλών** canyon, strait, canal**ἔνταυλος** gully, torrent**ἐξανύω** bring to pass; slay**εὐασμα** a Bacchanalian shout**ζάθεος** holy**ἡδύς** sweet, pleasant ~hedonism**θηλυγενής** female, feminine**θίασος** revel; group of people**ἱστός** mast, loom ~stand**κεράννυμι** (ῥ) mix ~crater**κεράω** mix in a bowl**κερκίς** -τος (f) weaver's shuttle**κουρά** clipping of hair, wool**κτυπέω** crash**κτύπος** noise**μαίνομαι** be berserk ~maenad**οἰστρέω** sting; go crazy**συνάπτω** join, partake; adjoin; consult;
fight ~haptic**σύντονος** tense; impetuous; earnest**τριετηρίς** triennial

εἰς ὄρος εἰς ὄρος, ἔνθα μένει

θηλυγενὴς ὄχλος

ἀφ' ἰστών παρὰ κερκίδων τ'

οἰστροθεῖς Διονύσῳ. ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ θαλάμευμα Κουρ'

ήτων ζάθεοί τε Κρήτας

Διογενέτορες ἔναυλοι,

ἔνθα τρικόρυθες ἄντροις

βυρσότονον κύκλωμα τόδε

μοι Κορύβαντες ἡῦρον·

125

βακχεία δ' ἀνὰ συντόνῳ

κέρασαν ἀδυβόα Φρυγίων

αὐλῶν πνεύματι ματρός τε Ῥέας ἐς

χέρα θήκαν, κτύπον εὐάσμασι Βακχᾶν·

παρὰ δὲ μαινόμενοι Σάτυροι

130

ματέρος ἐξανύσαντο θεᾶς,

ἐς δὲ χορεύματα

συνῆψαν τριετηρίδων,

αἷς χαίρει Διόνυσος.

ΧΟ. ἡδὺς ἐν ὄρεσιν, ὅταν ἐκ θιάσων δρομαί

εἰς ὄρος εἰς ὄρος, ἔνθα μένει

|female, ὄχλος
|feminine

ἀφ' |loom παρὰ |weaver's shuttle

|sting; go crazy ἰνύσω. ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ θαλάμειμα |clipping of
|hair, wool

ἡτων |holy τε Κρήτας

Διογενέτορες |gully, ,
|torrent

ἔνθα τρικόρυθες |cave

βυρσότονον κύκλωμα τόδε

μοι Κορύβαντες ἡῦρον·

125

βακχεία δ' ἀνὰ |tense; impetu-
|ous; earnest

κέρασαν ἀδυβόα Φρυγίων

αὐλῶν πνεύματι ματρός τε Πέας ἐς

χέρα θήκαν, κτύπον |a Bacchanalian shout

παρὰ δὲ |be berserk Σάτυροι

130

ματέρος |bring to pass; slay ,

ἐς δὲ χορεύματα

|join, par-|triennial ,
|take; ad-
|join; con-
|sult; fight Διόνυσος.

ΧΘ. |sweet ἔν ὄρεσιν, ὅταν ἐκ |revel; group μαί
|of people

When Bromios his companies shall guide
Hillward, ever hillward, where they stay,
The flock of the Believing,
The maids from loom and weaving
By the magic of his breath borne away.
Hail thou, O Nurse of Zeus, O Caverned Haunt
Where fierce arms clanged to guard God's cradle rare,
For thee of old crested Corybant
First woke in Cretan air
The wild orb of our orgies,
The Timbrel; and thy gorges
Rang with this strain; and blended Phrygian chant
And sweet keen pipes were there.
But the Timbrel, the Timbrel was another's,
And away to Mother Rhea it must wend;
And to our holy singing from the Mother's
The mad Satyrs carried it, to blend
In the dancing and the cheer
Of our third and perfect Year;
And it serves Dionysus in the end!
O glad, glad on the mountains
To swoon in the race outworn,
When the holy fawn-skin clings,

vocabulary

ἀγάλλω exalt; mp: exult in
 ἀγρεύω catch (prey, fish)
 αἰθήρ ether, air, sky ~ether
 αἶσσω dart, glance
 ἀναπάλλω brandish; (pass) leap up
 ~Pallas
 ἀνέχω raise; mid: endure, submit
 βοά din, a shout
 βοεΐη shield; leather, bovine
 γάλα milk ~galaxy
 δρόμος running, racing ground
 ~hippodrome
 ἐνδυτός (clothing) worn
 ἑξαρχος leader ~oligarch
 ἐπιβρέμω roar upon ~brontosaurus
 ἐρεθίζω annoy, excite ~Eris
 εὐασμα a Bacchanalian shout

ἰαχή shout
 λίβανος frankincense ~Lebanon
 μέλπω celebrate in song
 νάρθηξ -κος (m) fennel stalk
 νέκταρ -ος (n) nectar
 πέδον ground ~pedal
 πεδόσε to the ground, to the bottom
 πεύκη pine
 πλόκαμος lock of hair
 ῥέω flow ~rheostat
 ῥίπτω hurl
 τοιόσδε such
 τύμπανον drum
 τύμπανος drum
 φλόξ -γός (f) flame ~flame
 χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean
 ὠμοφάγος raw flesh-eating

ων πέση πεδόσε, νέ'

βρίδος ἔχων ἱερὸν ἐνδυτόν, ἀγρεύων

αἶμα τραγοκτόνον, ὠμοφάγον χάριν, ἰέμε'

νος ἐς ὄρεα Φρύγια, Λύδι', ὁ δ' ἔξαρχος Βρόμιος,

140

εὐοῖ.

ρεί δὲ γάλακτι πέδον, ρεῖ δ' οἶνω, ρεῖ δὲ μελισσᾶν

νέκταρι. Συρίας δ' ὥς λιβάνου κα'

πνὸν ὁ Βακχεὺς ἀνέχων πυρσώδη φλόγα πεύκας

145

ἐκ νάρθηκος αἰσσει δρόμῳ καὶ χοροῖσιν

πλανάτας ἐρεθίζων

ἰαχαῖς τ' ἀναπάλλων,

τρυφερόν τε πλόκαμον εἰς αἰθέρα ρίπτων.

150

ἅμα δ' εὐάσμασι τοιάδ' ἐπιβρέμει·

ᾠ ἵτε βάκχαι, ᾠ ἵτε βάκχαι,

Τμώλου χρυσορόου χλιδᾷ

μέλπετε τὸν Διόνυσον

155

βαρυβρόμων ὑπὸ τυμπάνων,

εὔια τὸν εὔιον ἀγαλλόμεναι θεὸν

ἐν Φρυγίαισι βοαῖς ἐνοπαῖσί τε,

ων πέσῃ | to the ground,
| to the bottom

βρίδος ἔχων ἱερὸν | (clothing) | catch (prey, fish)
| worn

αἶμα τραγοκτόνον, | flesh-eating χάριν, ἰέμε'

νος ἐς ὄρεα Φρύγια, Λύδι', ὁ δ' | leader Βρόμιος, 140

εὐοῖ.

ῥεῖ δὲ | milk | ground ῥεῖ δ' οἶνω, ῥεῖ δὲ μελίσσᾱν

| nectar . Συρίας δ' ὥς | frankincense '

πνὸν ὁ Βακχεὺς | raise; πυρσώδη | flame | pine 145
| endure

ἐκ | fennel | dart, | running καὶ | dance;
| stalk | glance | chorus

πλανάτας | annoy,
| excite

| shout τ' | brandish;
| (pass) leap up

τρυφερόν τε | lock of hair εἰς | ether | hurl 150

ἄμα δ' | a Bac-| such | roar upon
| chalian

ᾠ ἵτε βακχαι, ᾠ ἵτε βάκχαι,

Τμώλου χρυσορόου χλιδᾶ

| celebrate in `song ἴνυσον 155

βαρυβρόμων ὑπὸ τυμπάνων,

εὔια τὸν εὔιον ἀγαλλόμεναι θεὸν

ἐν Φρυγίαισι βοαῖς ἐνοπαῖσί τε,

And all else sweeps away,
To the joy of the red quick fountains,
The blood of the hill-goat torn,
The glory of wild-beast ravenings,
Where the hill-tops catch the day;
To the Phrygian, Lydian, mountains!’
Tis Bromios leads the way.
Then streams the earth with milk, yea, streams
With wine and nectar of the bee,
And through the air dim perfume steams
Of Syrian frankincense; and He,
Our leader, from his thyrsus spray
A torchlight tosses high and higher,
A torchlight like a beacon-fire,
To waken all that faint and stray;
And sets them leaping as he sings,
His tresses rippling to the sky,
And deep beneath the Maenad cry
His proud voice rings:
“Come, O ye Bacchae, come!”
Hither, O fragrant of Tmolus the Golden,
Come with the voice of timbrel and drum;
Let the cry of your joyance uplift and embolden
The God of the joy-cry; O Bacchanals, come!

vocabulary

ἀνάπτω bind; blame; kindle ~haptic
ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
αὐξάνω strengthen
βλάστημα shoot; offspring
βρέμω roar, clash, rage ~brontosaurus
γεραιός old ~geriatric
γῆρυς voice
δορά hide, flaying
εἰσαγγέλλω announce
ἐκκαλέω call forth ~gallo
ἐτοιμός ready; fulfilled
θύρσος ivied wand
θυρσώω make into a wand
κίσσινος of ivy

κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κράς -τός (f, 3) head
κρέας -ως (n) meat ~creatine
κῶλον limb
λωτός clover? lotus?
μίν him, her, it
νεβρός (f) fawn
πύλη gate ~Thermopylae
πυργόω wall, fortify
πῶλος (f) foal ~foal
σκευή equipment
σοφός skilled, clever, wise
στεφανώ crown
συντίθημι hearken, mark ~thesis

λωτὸς ὅταν εὐκέλαδος 160

ἱερὸς ἱερὰ παίγματα βρέμη, σύνοχα

φοιτάσιν εἰς ὄρος εἰς ὄρος· ἡδομέ 165

να δ' ἄρα, πῶλος ὅπως ἅμα ματέρι

φορβάδι, κῶλον ἄγει ταχύπουν σκιρτήμασι βάκχα.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. τίς ἐν πύλαισι; Κάδμον ἐκκάλει δόμων, 170

Ἀγήνορος παῖδ', ὃς πόλιν Σιδωνίαν

λιπὼν ἐπύργωσ' ἄστνυ Θηβαίων τόδε.

ἴτω τις, εἰσάγγελλε Τειρεσίας ὅτι

ζητεῖ νιν· οἶδε δ' αὐτὸς ὦν ἦκω πέρι

ἃ τε ξυνεθέμην πρέσβυς ὦν γεραιτέρω, 175

θύρσους ἀνάπτειν καὶ νεβρῶν δορὰς ἔχειν

στεφανοῦν τε κρᾶτα κισσίνοις βλαστήμασιν.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ὦ φίλταθ', ὥς σὴν γῆρυν ἡσθόμην κλύων

σοφὴν σοφοῦ παρ' ἀνδρός, ἐν δόμοισιν ὦν·

ἦκω δ' ἔτοιμος τήνδ' ἔχων σκευὴν θεοῦ· 180

δεῖ γάρ νιν ὄντα παῖδα θυγατρὸς ἐξ ἐμῆς

Διόνυσον ὃς πέφηνεν ἀνθρώποις θεὸς

ὅσον καθ' ἡμᾶς δυνατὸν αὔξεσθαι μέγαν.

|clover? lótus? εὐκέλαδος

160

ἱερὸς ἱερὰ παίγματα |roar, , σύνοχα
|clash,
φοιτάσιν εἰς ὄρος εἰς ὄρος· ἡδομέ^{rage}

165

να δ' ἄρα, |foal ὅπως ἅμα ματέρι

φορβάδι, |limb ἄγει ταχύπουν σκιρτήμασι βάκχα.

ΤΕΙΠΕΣΙΑΣ. τίς ἐν |gate , Κάδμον |call forth Δόμων,

170

Ἀγήνορος παῖδ', ὃς πόλιν Σιδωνίαν

λιπὼν |wall, |town Θηβαίων τόδε.
|fortify

ἔτω τις, |announce Τειρεσίας ὅτι

ζητεῖ νιν· οἶδε δ' αὐτὸς ὦν ἤκω πέρι

ἃ τε |hearken, mark, ἐσβυς ὦν |old ,

175

θύρσους |bind; καὶ |fawn |hide, ἔχειν
|blame;
|kindle |flaying
|crown τέ κρᾶτα |of ivy |shoot; offspring .

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ὦ φίλταθ', ὥς σὴν |voice ἡσθόμην |hear

|skilled, |skilled, , ἄνδρός, ἐν δόμοισιν ὦν·
|clever, |clever, wise
|wise
ἤκω δ' ἔτοιμος τήνδ' ἔχων |equipment·

180

δεῖ γάρ νιν ὄντα παῖδα θυγατρὸς ἐξ ἐμῆς

Διόνυσον ὃς πέφηνεν ἀνθρώποις θεὸς

ὅσον καθ' ἡμᾶς δυνατὸν |strengthen , μέγαν.

With pealing of pipes and with Phrygian clamour,
On, where the vision of holiness thrills,
And the music climbs and the maddening glamour,
With the wild White Maids, to the hills, to the hills!
Oh, then, like a colt as he runs by a river,
A colt by his dam, when the heart of him sings,
With the keen limbs drawn and the fleet foot a-quiver,
Away the Bacchanal springs!

Enter TEIRESIAS. He is an old man and blind, leaning upon a staff and moving with slow stateliness, though wearing the Ivy and the Bacchic fawn-skin.

TEIRESIAS. Ho, there, who keeps the gate? — Go, summon me
Cadmus, Agenor's son, who crossed the sea
From Sidon and upreared this Theban hold.
Go, whosoe'er thou art. See he be told
Teiresias seeketh him. Himself will gauge
Mine errand, and the compact, age with age,
I vowed with him, grey hair with snow-white hair,
To deck the new God's thyrsus, and to wear
His fawn-skin, and with ivy crown our brows.

Enter CADMUS from the Castle. He is even older than TEIRESIAS, and wears the same attire.

CADMUS. True friend! I knew that voice of thine, that flows
Like mellow wisdom from a fountain wise.
And, lo, I come prepared, in all the guise
And harness of this God. Are we not told
His is the soul of that dead life of old
That sprang from mine own daughter? Surely then
Must thou and I with all the strength of men
Exalt him.

vocabulary

δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
 ~demon
 ἐξηγέομαι lead forth; set out, describe
 ~hegemony
 ἐπιλανθάνω mp: forget ~Lethe
 ἐπιχειρέω do, try, attack ~chiral
 ἡβάω be young ~Hebe
 ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism
 θνητός mortal ~euthanasia
 θύρσος ivied wand
 κάμνω toil, be tired, acquire by toil; be
 troubled; be sick
 καταβάλλω throw down, cast off
 ~ballistic
 καταφρονέω scorn; think of
 κείω rest, go to rest
 κράς -τός (f, 3) head

κρέας -ως (n) meat ~creatine
 κροτέω cause to rattle
 κτάομαι acquire, possess
 ὁμηλικίς -κος (m) of the same age
 οὐκοῦν not so?; and so
 ὄχος pl: carrying thing, chariot,
 holding place ~wagon
 πάτριος of the father(s), ancestral
 περάω cross over, drive across; sell as
 a slave ~pierce
 πέρνῃμι export, sell as a slave ~porno
 ποῖ whither? how long?
 πολίος gray ~polio
 σείω shake ~seismic
 σοφός skilled, clever, wise
 χορεύω dance
 χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean

ποῖ δεῖ χορεύειν, ποῖ καθιστάναι πόδα

καὶ κρᾶτα σείσαι πολιόν; ἐξηγοῦ σύ μοι

185

γέρων γέροντι, Τειρεσία· σὺ γὰρ σοφός.

ὥς οὐ κάμοιμ' ἄν οὔτε νύκτ' οὔθ' ἡμέραν

θύρσῳ κροτῶν γῆν· ἐπιλελήσμεθ' ἡδέως

γέροντες ὄντες. ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ταῦτ' ἐμοὶ πάσχεις ἄρα·

κἀγὼ γὰρ ἡβῶ κάπιχειρήσω χοροῖς.

190

ΚΑΛΜΟΣ. οὐκοῦν ὄχοισιν εἰς ὄρος περάσομεν;

ΤΕ. ἀλλ' οὐχ ὁμοίως ἄν ὁ θεὸς τιμὴν ἔχοι.

ΚΑΔ. γέρων γέροντα παιδαγωγήσω σ' ἐγώ.

ΤΕ. ὁ θεὸς ἀμοχθὶ κείσε νῶν ἡγήσεται.

ΚΑΔ. μόνοι δὲ πόλεως Βακχίῳ χορεύσομεν;

195

ΤΕ. μόνοι γὰρ εὖ φρονούμεν, οἱ δ' ἄλλοι κακῶς.

ΚΑΔ. μακρὸν τὸ μέλλειν· ἀλλ' ἐμῆς ἔχου χερός.

ΤΕ. ἰδού, ξύναπτε καὶ ξυνωρίζου χέρα.

ΚΑΔ. οὐ καταφρονῶ γὰρ τῶν θεῶν θνητὸς γεγώς.

ΤΕ. οὐδὲν σοφίζόμεσθα τοῖσι δαίμοσιν.

200

πατρίους παραδοχάς, ἃς θ' ὁμήλικας χρόνῳ

κεκτῆμεθ', οὐδεὶς αὐτὰ καταβαλεῖ λόγος,

|whither?|dance , |whither? how' long? 'δα
|how
|long?
καὶ κῤῶτα |shake |gray , |lead forth; 'set .ι
|out, describe

185

γέρων γέροντι, Τειρεσία· σὺ γὰρ |skilled, .
|clever, wise
ὥς οὐ |toil, acquire, οὔτε νύκτ' οὔθ' ἡμέραν
|be tired

|ivied |cause to rattle |mp: forget |sweet
|wand

γέροντες ὄντες. ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ταῦτ' ἐμοὶ πάσχεις ἄρα·

καγὰρ γὰρ |be |do, try, attack |dance;
|young |chorus

190

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. |not so?;|chariot εἰς ὄρος περάσομεν;
|and so

ΤΕ. ἀλλ' οὐχ ὁμοίως ἂν ὁ θεὸς τιμὴν ἔχοι.

ΚΑΔ. γέρων γέροντα παιδαγωγήσω σ' ἐγώ.

ΤΕ. ὁ θεὸς ἀμοχθὶ |rest νῶν ἡγήσεται.

ΚΑΔ. μόνοι δὲ πόλεως Βακχίῳ |dance ,

195

ΤΕ. μόνοι γὰρ εὖ φρονοῦμεν, οἱ δ' ἄλλοι κακῶς.

ΚΑΔ. μακρὸν τὸ μέλλειν· ἀλλ' ἐμῆς ἔχου χερός.

ΤΕ. ἰδοῦ, ξύναπτε καὶ ξυνωρίζου χέρα.

ΚΑΔ. οὐ |scorn; think γὰρ τῶν θεῶν |mortal γεγώς.
|of

ΤΕ. οὐδὲν σοφίζόμεσθα τοῖσι |a god, fate, doom

200

|of the father(s), ιδοχάς, ἄς θ' |of the same age' . ω
|ancestral

|acquire , οὐδεὶς αὐτὰ |throw down, cast off

Where then shall I stand, where tread
The dance and toss this bowed and hoary head?
O friend, in thee is wisdom; guide my grey
And eld-worn steps, eld-worn Teiresias. — Nay;
I am not weak.

At the first movement of worship his manner begins to change; a mysterious strength and exaltation enter into him.

Surely this arm could smite
The wild earth with its thyrsus, day and night,
And faint not! Sweetly and forgetfully
The dim years fall from off me!
TEIRESIAS. As with thee,
With me 'tis likewise. Light am I and young,
And will essay the dancing and the song.
CADMUS. Quick, then, our chariots to the mountain road.
TEIRESIAS. Nay; to take steeds were to mistrust the God.
CADMUS. So be it. Mine old arms shall guide thee there.
TEIRESIAS. The God himself shall guide! Have thou no care.
CADMUS. And in all Thebes shall no man dance but we?
TEIRESIAS. Aye, Thebes is blinded. Thou and I can see.
CADMUS. 'Tis weary waiting; hold my hand, friend; so.
TEIRESIAS. Lo, there is mine. So linked let us go.
CADMUS. Shall things of dust the Gods' dark ways despise?
TEIRESIAS. Or prove our wit on Heaven's high mysteries?
Not thou and I! That heritage sublime
Our sires have left us, wisdom old as time,

vocabulary

αἰσχύνω (ō) spoil, disgrace, disfigure, mar
ἄκρον crest, extremity ~acute
ἄκρος at the edge, extreme ~acute
αὐξάνω strengthen
γεραιός old ~geriatric
γῆρας -ος (n, 3) old age
γηράσκω grow old ~geriatric
δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom ~demon
δάσκιος thickly shaded ~shadow
ἐκλείπω leave out, pass over
θίασος revel; group of people
θοάζω move quickly; sit
κισσόω wreath with ivy
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κοινός communal, ordinary

κράς -τός (f, 3) head
κράτος strength, power; victory ~democracy
κρέας -ως (n) meat ~creatine
περάω cross over, drive across; sell as a slave ~pierce
πλήρης full, complete; (+gen) full of ~plethora
πτοέω scare
σοφός skilled, clever, wise
σπουδή zeal; (dat) with difficulty, hastily ~repudiate
τιμάω (ī) honor, exalt
τιμόω honor, exalt
φέγγος -εος (n, 3) light, luster
χορεύω dance
χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean

οὐδ' εἰ δι' ἄκρων τὸ σοφὸν ἠϋρήται φρενῶν.

ἐρεῖ τις ὥς τὸ γήρας οὐκ αἰσχύνομαι,

μέλλων χορεύειν κρᾶτα κισσώσας ἐμόν;

205

οὐ γὰρ διήρηχ' ὁ θεός, οὔτε τὸν νέον

εἰ χρή χορεύειν οὔτε τὸν γεραίτερον,

ἀλλ' ἐξ ἀπάντων βούλεται τιμὰς ἔχειν

κοινάς, διαριθμῶν δ' οὐδέν' αὔξεσθαι θέλει.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ἐπεὶ σὺν φέγγος, Τειρεσία, τόδ' οὐχ ὄρᾳς,

210

ἐγὼ προφήτης σοι λόγων γενήσομαι.

Πενθεὺς πρὸς οἴκους ὅδε διὰ σπουδῆς περᾶ,

Ἐχίονος παῖς, ᾧ κράτος δίδωμι γῆς.

ὥς ἐπτόηται· τί ποτ' ἐρεῖ νεώτερον;

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἔκδημος ὦν μὲν τῇσδ' ἐτύγχανον χθονός,

215

κλύω δὲ νεοχμὰ τήνδ' ἀνὰ πτόλιν κακά,

γυναῖκας ἡμῖν δώματ' ἐκλελοιπέναι

πλασταῖσι βακχεΐαισιν, ἐν δὲ δασκίοις

ὄρεσι θαάζειν, τὸν νεωστὶ δαίμονα

Διόνυσον, ὅστις ἔστι, τιμώσας χοροῖς·

220

πλήρεις δὲ θιάσοις ἐν μέσοισιν ἐστάναι

οὐδ' εἰ δι' ἄκρων τὸ ^{skilled, clever, wise} ἡται φρενῶν.

ἐρεῖ τις ὡς τὸ γῆρας οὐκ ^{spoil, disgrace}

μέλλων ^{dance} κῤῥατα κισσώσας ἐμόν;

205

οὐ γὰρ διήρηχ' ὁ θεός, οὔτε τὸν νέον

εἰ χρῆ ^{dance} οὔτε τὸν ^{old}

ἀλλ' ἐξ ἀπάντων βούλεται τιμὰς ἔχειν

^{communal, ordinary} ριθμῶν δ' οὐδέν' ^{strengthen} ἔλει.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ἐπεὶ σὺ ^{light, luster} Τειρεσία, τόδ' οὐχ ὀρᾷς,

210

ἐγὼ προφήτης σοι λόγων γενήσομαι.

Πενθεὺς πρὸς οἴκους ὅδε διὰ ^{zeal; (dat) with} ^{cross; sell as a slave}

Ἐχίονος παῖς, ᾧ ^{strength, power; vic-} ^{difficulty, hastily}

ὡς ^{scare} τί ποτ' ἐρεῖ νεώτερον;

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἔκδημος ὦν μὲν τῇσδ' ἐτύγχανον χθονός,

215

^{hear} δὲ νεοχμὰ τήνδ' ἀνὰ πτόλιν κακά,

γυναικας ἡμῖν δώματ' ^{leave out, pass over}

πλασταῖσι βακχεΐαισιν, ἐν δὲ ^{thickly shaded}

ὄρεσι ^{move quickly; sit} ^{a god, fate, doom}

Διόνυσον, ὅστις ἔστι, τιμώσας ^{dance; chorus}

220

^{full, com-} ^{revel; group} ^{έσοισιν} ^{έσάναι}
^{plete; (+gen)} ^{of people}
^{full of}

No word of man, how deep soe'er his thought
And won of subtlest toil, may bring to naught.
Aye, men will rail that I forgot my years,
To dance and wreath with ivy these white hairs;
What reck's it? Seeing the God no line hath told
To mark what man shall dance, or young or old;
But craves his honours from mortality
All, no man marked apart; and great shall be!
CADMUS. Teiresias, since this light thou canst not read,
I must be seer for thee. Here comes in speed
Pentheus, Echî on's son, whom I have raised
To rule my people in my stead. — Amazed
He seems. Stand close, and mark what we shall hear.

The two stand back, partially concealed, while there enters in hot haste PENTHEUS,
followed by a bodyguard. He is speaking to the SOLDIER in command.

PENTHEUS. Scarce had I crossed our borders, when mine ear
Was caught by this strange rumour, that our own
Wives, our own sisters, from their hearths are flown
To wild and secret rites; and cluster there
High on the shadowy hills, with dance and prayer
To adore this new-made God, this Dionyse,

*vocabulary***ἄλλοσε** elsewhere ~alien**ἀνασειώ** shake back, out**ἄρκυς** net**ἀρμόζω** fit together; be well fitted to
~harmony**ἄρσην** male**βόστρυχος** curl, lock**γόης γῶτος** (m, 3) sorcerer, trickster**δέσμιος** binding; enchanting**ἐπωδός** singing to or over**ἐρημία** wilderness, solitude**εὐνή** bed; (pl) anchor stones**εὐφρόνη** euphemism for night**θηράω** hunt, chase**θυοσκόος** -ῶ priest?**θύρσος** ivied wand**κακοῦργος** causing evil ~ergonomics**κόμη** hair ~comet**κρατήρ** -ος (m) mixing bowl for wine**κτυπέω** crash**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
~maenad**νεᾶνις** -δος (f) young woman ~neon**ξανθός** yellow**ὄσσε** eyes (dual)**ὄσσομαι** see with the mind's eye,
forebode**πάνδημος** roaming a town**πρόσπολος** servant, attendant**προτείνω** hold out, offer**πρόφασις** -εως (f) pretext; motive;
prediction ~fame**πτώσσω** to duck, cringe ~pudendum**σιδηροῦς** of iron**στέγη** roof, ceiling, chamber**συγγίγνομαι** associate with, meet, have
sex ~genus**τάχα** quickly, soon; perhaps
~tachometer**τελετή** rite, festival**ὕπηρετέω** serve

κρατῆρας, ἄλλην δ' ἄλλοσ' εἰς ἐρημίαν
 πτώσσουσιν εὐναῖς ἀρσένων ὑπηρετεῖν,
 πρόφασιν μὲν ὥς δὴ μαινάδας θυοσκοούς,
 τὴν δ' Ἀφροδίτην πρόσθ' ἄγειν τοῦ Βακχίου.

225

ὅσας μὲν οὖν εἵληφα, δεσμίους χέρας
 σώζουσι πανδήμοισι πρόσπολοι στέγαις·
 ὅσαι δ' ἄπεισιν, ἐξ ὅρους θηράσομαι,
 Ἴνώ τ' Ἀγαύην θ', ἥ μ' ἔτικτ' Ἐχίονι, 229

Ἀκταίονός τε μητέρ', Αὐτονόην λέγω. 230 καὶ σφᾶς σιδηραῖς

ἀρμόσας ἐν ἄρκυσιν

παύσω κακούργου τῆσδε βακχείας τάχα.
 λέγουσι δ' ὥς τις εἰσελήλυθε ξένος,
 γόης ἐπωδὸς Λυδίας ἀπὸ χθονός,
 ξανθοῖσι βοστρύχοισιν εὐοσμῶν κόμην,
 οἰνώπας ὅσοις χάριτας Ἀφροδίτης ἔχων,
 ὃς ἡμέρας τε κευφρόνας συγγίγνεται
 τελετὰς προτείνων εὐίους νεάνισιν.
 εἰ δ' αὐτὸν εἴσω τῆσδε λήψομαι στέγης,
 παύσω κτυποῦντα θύρσον ἀνασεύοντά τε

235

|mixing bowl for wine^{ῥῶ} |elsewhere^ῶ |wilderness,
|solitude

|to duck, cringe |bed; |male |serve
(pl)
|pretext; motive; |anchor |madwoman|priest?
|prediction |stones |maenad

τὴν δ' Ἀφροδίτην πρόσθ' ἄγειν τοῦ Βακχίου.

225

ὅσας μὲν οὖν εἴληφα, |binding;
|enchanting

σῶζουσιν |roaming a town, ὅσπολοι |roof, ceiling,
|chamber

ὅσαι δ' ἄπεισιν, ἐξ ὅρους |hunt, chase

Ἴνώ τ' Ἀγαύην θ', ἥ μ' ἔτικτ' Ἐχίονι, 229

Ἀκταίωνός τε μητέρ', Αὐτονόην λέγω. 230 καὶ σφᾶς |of iron

|fit well ἐν |net

παύσω κακούργου τῆσδε βακχείας τάχα.

λέγουσι δ' ὥς τις εἰσελήλυθε ξένος,

|sorcerer, ῥδὸς Λυδίας ἀπὸ χθονός,
|trickster

|yellow |curl, lock εὐοσμῶν |hair

235

οἰνώπας ὅσσοις χάριτας Ἀφροδίτης ἔχων,

ὅς ἡμέρας τε |euphemism |συγγίγνομαι?: associate with, meet, have sex;
|for night |or συγγίγνομαι?: associate with, meet, have sex

|rite, |hold out, offer ῥίους |young
|festival |woman

εἰ δ' αὐτὸν εἴσω τῆσδε λήψομαι |roof, ceiling,
|chamber

παύσω |crash |ivied |shake back, out
|wand

Whate'er he be! — And in their companies
Deep wine-jars stand, and ever and anon
Away into the loneliness now one
Steals forth, and now a second, maid or dame
Where love lies waiting, not of God! The flame
They say, of Bacchios wraps them. Bacchios! Nay,
Tis more to Aphrodite that they pray.
Howbeit, all that I have found, my men
Hold bound and shackled in our dungeon den;
The rest, I will go hunt them! Aye, and snare
My birds with nets of iron, to quell their prayer
And mountain song and rites of rascaldom!
They tell me, too, there is a stranger come,
A man of charm and spell, from Lydian seas,
A head all gold and cloudy fragrances,
A wine-red cheek, and eyes that hold the light
Of the very Cyprian. Day and livelong night
He haunts amid the damsels, o'er each lip
Dangling his cup of joyance! Let me grip
Him once, but once, within these walls, right swift
That wand shall cease its music, and that drift
Of tossing curls lie still — when my rude sword

*vocabulary***ἀναίνομαι** refuse, reject**γάμος** wedding, sex ~bigamy**γελάω** laugh, smile, laugh at**γῆρας** -ος (n, 3) old age**γηράσκω** grow old ~geriatric**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**δέσμιος** binding; enchanting**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**εἰσφέρω** carry into/along; propose
~bear**ἐλεύθερος** not enslaved**θαῦμα** -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of
surprise ~theater**θύρσος** ivied wand**θυρσώω** make into a wand**κεραυνίας** -ου (m, 1) thunderstruck**κεραύνιος** of a thunderbolt**κισσός** ivy**κομάω** have long hair**κόμη** hair ~comet**λαμπάς** -δος (f, 3) torch**μεθίημι** let go, cease; (mid) speed off
~jet**μηρός** thigh, femur**μισθός** reward, wages**νάρθηξ** -κος (m) fennel stalk**νεβρίς** fawnskin**ποικίλος** ornamented; various**πολιός** gray ~polio**πτερωτός** winged**ραίνω** sprinkle**ράπτω** sew**ρέπω** incline or sink downwards**σκοπάω** watch, observe**σκοπέω** behold, consider**τέμνω** cut, sacrifice, solemnize
~tonsure**τράχηλος** neck ~trachea**ὕβριζω** insult, treat outrageously**ὕβρις** -εως (f) pride, insolence, outrage**χωρίς** separately; except, other than
~heir**ψεύδω** be false, deceive; (mid) to lie
~pseudo-

κόμας, τράχηλον σώματος χωρὶς τεμών.

ἐκεῖνος εἰναί φησι Διόνυσον θεόν,

ἐκεῖνος ἐν μηρῷ ποτ' ἐρράφθαι Διός,

ὃς ἐκπυροῦται λαμπάσιν κεραυνίαις

σὺν μητρὶ, Δίους ὅτι γάμους εἰβέυσατο.

245

ταῦτ' οὐχὶ δεινῆς ἀγχόνης ἔστ' ἄξια,

ὑβρεις ὑβρίζειν, ὅστις ἔστιν ὁ ξένος;

ἀτὰρ τόδ' ἄλλο θαῦμα, τὸν τερασκόπον

ἐν ποικίλαισι νεβρίσι Τειρεσίαν ὀρώ

πατέρα τε μητρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς— πολὺν γέλων—

250

νάρθηκι βακχεύοντ'· ἀναίνομαι, πάτερ,

τὸ γῆρας ὑμῶν εἰσορῶν νοῦν οὐκ ἔχον.

οὐκ ἀποτινάξεις κισσόν; οὐκ ἐλευθέραν

θύρσου μεθήσεις χεῖρ', ἐμῆς μητρὸς πάτερ;

σὺ ταῦτ' ἔπεισας, Τειρεσία· τόνδ' αὖ θέλεις

255

τὸν δαίμον' ἀνθρώποισιν ἐσφέρων νέον

σκοπεῖν πτερωτοὺς κάμπύρων μισθοὺς φέρειν.

εἰ μή σε γῆρας πολὺν ἐξερρύετο,

καθῆσ' ἂν ἐν βάκχαισι δέσμιος μέσαις,

κόμας, |neck σώματος |sepa- |cut, sacrifice,
 |rately; |solemnize
 ἐκεῖνος εἶναί φησι Διόνυσον |except,
 |other
 |than
 ἐκεῖνος ἐν |thigh ποτ' ἐρράφθαι Διός,

ὅς ἐκπυροῦται |torch κεραυνίαις

σὺν μητρί, Δίους ὅτι |wedding, |be false, deceive;
 |sex |(mid) to lie
 ταῦτ' οὐχὶ δεινῆς ἀγχόνης ἔστ' ἄξια,

245

|hubris |insult , ὅστις ἔστιν ὁ ξένος;

ἀτὰρ τόδ' ἄλλο |wonder, τὸν τερασκόπον
 |surprise

ἐν |ornamented |fawnskin Τειρεσίαν ὀρώ

πατέρα τε μητρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς— πολὺν |laugh, —
 |smile

250

|fennel βακχεύοντ'· |ἀναίνομαι?: refuse, reject; or
 |stalk |ἀναίνομαι?: refuse, reject

τὸ γῆρας ὑμῶν |look at, see; treat ἵκ' ἔχον.
 |with respect

οὐκ ἀποτινάξεις |ivy , οὐκ |not enslaved

θύρσου |let go, cease; , ἐμῆς μητρὸς πάτερ;
 |(mid) speed off

σὺ ταῦτ' ἔπεισας, Τειρεσία· τόνδ' αὖ θέλεις

255

τὸν |a god, fate, doom ἵσιν ἐσφέρων νέον

σκοπεῖν |winged κάμπύρων |reward, φέρειν.
 |wages

εἰ μή σε γῆρας |gray ἐξερρύετο,

καθῆσ' ἂν ἐν βάγκχαισι |binding; , 'σαις,
 |enchanting

Falls between neck and trunk! 'Tis all his word,
This tale of Dionysus; how that same
Babe that was blasted by the lightning flame
With his dead mother, for that mother's lie,
Was re-conceived, born perfect from the thigh
Of Zeus, and now is God! What call ye these?
Dreams? Gibes of the unknown wanderer? Blasphemies
That crave the very gibbet?
Stay! God wot,
Here is another marvel! See I not
In motley fawn-skins robed the vision-seer
Teiresias? And my mother's father here—
O depth of scorn!—adoring with the wand
Of Bacchios?—Father!—Nay, mine eyes are fond;
It is not your white heads so fancy-flown!
It cannot be! Cast off that ivy crown,
O mine own mother's sire! Set free that hand
That cowers about its staff.'
Tis thou hast planned
This work, Teiresias! 'Tis thou must set
Another altar and another yet
Amongst us, watch new birds, and win more hire
Of gold, interpreting new signs of fire!
But for thy silver hairs, I tell thee true,
Thou now wert sitting chained amid thy crew

*vocabulary***αἰδέομαι** respect, be ashamed**ἀντίπαλος** rival; balanced**ἀφορμή** starting point; means**βότρυς** cluster of grapes**γάνος** -εος (n, 3) liquid sheen**γηγενής** indigenous, primeval**γλῶσσα** tongue, language ~glossary**γόνος** offspring ~genus**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**δαίς** -τός (f) feast, banquet ~demon**διαγελάω** laugh at, mock**δυσσέβεια** impiety**εἰσάγω** lead in ~demagogue**ἐκτρέφω** raise, rear**ἐνιμι** be in ~ion**ἐνίημι** put in; motivate ~jet**ἐξεῖπον** speak out, disclose**εὐτροχος** well wheeled**θράσος** -ους (n, 3) boldness,
over-boldness**καταισχύνω** (ὑ) act disgracefully**μέγεθος** -ους (n, 3) tall, big (person)
~megaton**νεανίας** -ου (ἄα, m) young person**ξηρός** dry, the land ~xeriscape**ὀπότερος** which of two, either of two
ὅπου where**ὄργια** -τος (n, 2) secret rites**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**σπείρω** sow ~diaspora**στάχυς** head of grain**τελετή** rite, festival**ὕγιής** sound, profitable ~hygiene

τελετὰς πονηρὰς εἰσάγων· γυναιξὶ γὰρ
 ὅπου βότρυος ἐν δαιτὶ γίγνεται γάνος,
 οὐχ ὑγιὲς οὐδὲν ἔτι λέγω τῶν ὀργίων.

260

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τῆς δυσσεβείας. ὦ ξέν', οὐκ αἰδῶ θεοὺς

Κάδμον τε τὸν σπείραντα γηγενῇ στάχυν,
 Ἐχίονος δ' ὦν παῖς καταισχύνεις γένος;

265

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ὅταν λάβῃ τις τῶν λόγων ἀνὴρ σοφὸς

καλὰς ἀφορμὰς, σὺ μέγ' ἔργον εὖ λέγειν·
 σὺ δ' εὗτροχον μὲν γλῶσσαν ὡς φρονῶν ἔχεις,
 ἐν τοῖς λόγοισι δ' οὐκ ἔνεισί σοι φρένες.

θράσει δὲ δυνατὸς καὶ λέγειν οἷός τ' ἀνὴρ
 κακὸς πολίτης γίγνεται νοῦν οὐκ ἔχων.

270

οὗτος δ' ὁ δαίμων ὁ νέος, ὃν σὺ διαγελᾷς,
 οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην μέγεθος ἐξειπεῖν ὅσος
 καθ' Ἑλλάδ' ἔσται. δύο γάρ, ὦ νεανία,

τὰ πρῶτ' ἐν ἀνθρώποισι· Δημήτηρ θεά—
 γῇ δ' ἐστίν, ὄνομα δ' ὁπότερον βούλῃ κάλει·

275

αὕτη μὲν ἐν ξηροῖσιν ἐκτρέφει βροτούς·
 ὃς δ' ἡλθ' ἔπειτ', ἀντίπαλον ὁ Σεμέλης γόνος

|rite, *πονηρὰς* |lead in *γυναιξὶ γὰρ*

260

|where |cluster *οἷον* |offfeast *γίγνεται* |liquid ,
|grapes |sheen

οὐχ |sound, *οὐδ' ἐν ἔτι λέγω τῶν* |secret
|profitable |rites

ΧΟΡΟΣ. *τῆς* |impiety *ὦ ξέν', οὐκ* |respect, be ashamed

Κάδμον *τε τὸν* |sow |indigenously, head of grain
|primeval

Ἐχίονος δ' ὦν *παῖς* |act disgracefully , *ένος;*

265

ΤΕΙΠΕΣΙΑΣ. *ὅταν λάβῃ τις τῶν λόγων ἀνὴρ* |skilled,
|clever, wise

καλὰς |starting , *οὐδ' ἐμέγ' ἔργον εὖ λέγειν*
|point; means

σὺ δ' |well wheeled *ἔν* |tongue, *ὥς φρονῶν ἔχεις,*
|language

ἐν τοῖς λόγοισι δ' οὐκ ἐνείσι σοι φρένες.

θράσει δὲ *δυνατὸς καὶ λέγειν οἷός τ' ἀνὴρ*

270

κακὸς πολίτης γίγνεται νοῦν οὐκ ἔχων.

οὗτος δ' ὁ |a god, fate, doom *ἔν* *σὺν* |laugh at, mock

οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην |tall, big |speak out, disclose

καθ' Ἑλλάδ' ἔσται. *δύο γάρ, ὦ* |young ,
|person

τὰ πρῶτ' ἐν ἀνθρώποισι. *Δημήτηρ θεά—*

275

γῇ δ' ἐστίν, ὄνομα δ' |which of two, *ύλη κάλει*
|either of two

αὕτη μὲν ἐν |dry, the |raise, rear *βροτούς*
|land

ὅς δ' ἦλθ' ἔπειτ', |rival; *ὁ Σμέλης* |offspring
|balanced

Of raving damsels, for this evil dream
Thou hast brought us, of new Gods! When once the gleam
Of grapes hath lit a Woman's Festival,
In all their prayers is no more health at all!
LEADER OF THE CHORUS (the words are not heard by PENTHEUS).
Injurious King, hast thou no fear of God,
Nor Cadmus, sower of the Giants' Sod,
Life-spring to great Echî on and to thee?
TEIRESIAS. Good words my son, come easily, when he
That speaks is wise, and speaks but for the right.
Else come they never! Swift are thine, and bright
As though with thought, yet have no thought at all
Lo this new God, whom thou dost flout withal,
I cannot speak the greatness wherewith He
In Hellas shall be great! Two spirits there be,
Young Prince, that in man's world are first of worth.
Demeter one is named; she is the Earth —
Call her which name thou will! — who feeds man's frame
With sustenance of things dry. And that which came
Her work to perfect, second, is the Power

*vocabulary***αἰθήρ** ether, air, sky ~ether**ἄμπελος** (f) vine**ἀρπάζω** carry off, seize ~harpoon**βότρυς** cluster of grapes**βρέφος** -ους (n, 3) fetus, baby**εἰσφέρω** carry into/along; propose
~bear**ἐκβάλλω** throw out, fell, let fall
~ballistic**ἐκδίδωμι** hand over ~donate**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**καταγελάω** laugh at, deride**κεραυνίας** -ου (m, 1) thunderstruck**κεραύνιος** of a thunderbolt**λάω** grip, pin?**λήθη** forgetting ~Lethe**λύπη** distress**μεθίστημι** change, substitute;

withdraw; change sides; (mid) send

away ~station

μηρός thigh, femur**μῖν** him, her, it**νεικέω** revile, quarrel, scold**νεῖκος** -εος (n, 3) quarrel, battle**ὄμηρος** insurance, hostage**πάομαι** acquire ~pathos**πίμπλημι** fill (+gen.) ~plenum**πόνος** toil, suffering ~osteopenia**πῶμα** -τος (n, 3) cover; drink ~pastor**ῥάπτω** sew**ῥήγνυμι** (ῥ) to break**ῥοά** pl: waters of a river ~rheostat**σπένδω** libate; (mid) make a treaty

~spontaneous

συντίθημι hearken, mark ~thesis**ταλαίπωρος** suffering, miserable**ὕγρός** wet**ὕπνος** a sleep**φάρμακον** drug, potion ~pharmacy

βότρυος ὑγρὸν πῶμ' ἡῦρε κείσσηνέγκατο
 θνητοῖς, ὃ παύει τοὺς τάλαιπώρους βροτοὺς 280
 λύπης, ὅταν πλησθῶσιν ἀμπέλου ροῆς,
 ὕπνον τε λήθην τῶν καθ' ἡμέραν κακῶν
 δίδωσιν, οὐδ' ἔστ' ἄλλο φάρμακον πόνων.
 οὗτος θεοῖσι σπένδεται θεὸς γεγώς,
 ὥστε διὰ τοῦτον τ' ἀγάθ' ἀνθρώπους ἔχειν. 285
 καὶ καταγελᾷ νιν, ὥς ἐνερράφη Διὸς
 μηρῷ; διδάξω σ' ὥς καλῶς ἔχει τόδε.
 ἐπεὶ νιν ἦρπας' ἐκ πυρὸς κεραυνίου
 Ζεὺς, ἐς δ' Ὀλυμπον βρέφος ἀνήγαγεν θεόν,
 Ἥρα νιν ἦθελ' ἐκβαλεῖν ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ· 290
 Ζεὺς δ' ἀντεμηχανήσαθ' οἶα δὴ θεός.
 ῥήξας μέρος τι τοῦ χθόν' ἐγκυκλουμένου
 αἰθέρος, ἔθηκε τόνδ' ὄμηρον ἐκδιδούς, 293
 Διόνυσον Ἥρας νεικέων· χρόνῳ δέ νιν
 βροτοὶ ραφῆναί φασιν ἐν μηρῷ Διός, 295
 ὄνομα μεταστήσαντες, ὅτι θεᾷ θεὸς
 Ἥρα ποθ' ὠμήρευσε, συνθέντες λόγον.

cluster of wet grapes	πῶμ' ἡῦρε	carry into/along; propose	
mortal	, ὁ παύει τοὺς	suffering, miserable	βροτοὺς 280
distress, ὅταν	fill (+gen.)	vine	ῥοῆς,
sleep	τε λήθην τῶν καθ' ἡμέραν κακῶν		
	δίδωσιν, οὐδ' ἔστ' ἄλλο φάρμακον	toil, suffering	
οὗτος θεοῖσι	libate; (mid) make a treaty	ὃς γεγώς,	
ὥστε διὰ τοῦτον τὰγάθ'	ἀνθρώπους ἔχειν.		285
καὶ	laugh at, deride	, ὥς ἐνερράφη	Διὸς
thigh	; διδάξω σ' ὥς καλῶς ἔχει τόδε.		
	ἐπεὶ νιν ἥρπασ' ἐκ πυρὸς κεραυνίου		
Ζεὺς, ἐς δ' Ὀλυμπον	fetus, baby	ἡγάγεν θεόν,	
Ἦρα νιν ἤθελ'	throw out, ἱπ' οὐρανοῦ fell, let fall		290
Ζεὺς δ' ἀντεμηχανήσαθ'	οἶα δὴ θεός.		
to break	ἔρος τι τοῦ χθόν' ἐγκυκλουμένου		
ether	, ἔθηκε τόνδ'	insurance hand over, hostage	293
Διόνυσον Ἦρας νεικέων	χρόνω δέ νιν		
βροτοὶ	sew	φασιν ἐν thigh	Διός, 295
ὄνομα	change, substitute; "withdraw"; change sides; (mid) send away		
Ἦρα ποθ'	ὠμήρευσε, hearken, mark', ὄν.		

From Semele born. He found the liquid show
Hid in the grape. He rests man's spirit dim
From grieving, when the vine exalteth him.
He giveth sleep to sink the fretful day
In cool forgetting. Is there any way
With man's sore heart, save only to forget?
Yea, being God, the blood of him is set
Before the Gods in sacrifice, that we
For his sake may be blest. — And so, to thee,
That fable shames him, how this God was knit
Into God's flesh? Nay, learn the truth of it
Cleared from the false. — When from that deadly light
Zeus saved the babe, and up to Olympus' height
Raised him, and Hera's wrath would cast him thence
Then Zeus devised him a divine defence.
A fragment of the world-encircling fire
He rent apart, and wrought to his desire
Of shape and hue, in the image of the child,
And gave to Hera's rage. And so, beguiled
By change and passing time, this tale was born,

*vocabulary***ἀναγκάζω** force, compel**αὐχέω** boast**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**διαπτοέω** frighten**ἐνιμι** be in ~ion**θιγγάνω** touch**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά***κλάδος** branch, shoot**κράτος** strength, power; victory
~democracy**λόγχη** spear point; lot**μαίνομαι** be berserk ~maenad**μανία** madness, passion**μαντικός** prophetic**μάντις** -ος (m) seer ~mantis**μεταλαμβάνω** share in; swap**μοῖρα** portion, fate; (*κατά*+) rightly
~Moirai**νοσέω** be sick, be mad, suffer**ὄπλον** tool, weapon, ship's tackle
~hoplite**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**πέτρα** rock, cliff, reef ~petrified**πέυκη** pine**πηδάω** jump, spring ~pedal**πλάξ** -χός (f) flat thing**σείω** shake ~seismic**σπένδω** libate; (mid) make a treaty
~spontaneous**στέφω** crown, put around**στρατός** common people/soldiers
~strategy**σωφρονέω** be sane, moderate**τάξις** -εως (f) arrangement, military
unit**φύσις** -εως (f) nature (of a thing)
~physics**φύω** produce, beget; clasp ~physics

μάντις δ' ὁ δαίμων ὄδε· τὸ γὰρ βακχεύσιμον

καὶ τὸ μανιώδες μαντικὴν πολλὴν ἔχει·

ὅταν γὰρ ὁ θεὸς ἐς τὸ σῶμ' ἔλθῃ πολὺς, 300

λέγειν τὸ μέλλον τοὺς μεμνηνότες ποιεῖ.

Ἄρεώς τε μοῖραν μεταλαβὼν ἔχει τινά·

στρατὸν γὰρ ἐν ὅπλοις ὄντα καπὶ τάξεσιν

φόβος διεπτόησε πρὶν λόγχης θιγεῖν.

μανία δὲ καὶ τοῦτ' ἐστὶ Διονύσου πάρα. 305

ἔτ' αὐτὸν ὄψῃ καπὶ Δελφίσι πετραις

πηδῶντα σὺν πεύκαισι δικόρυφον πλάκα,

πάλλοντα καὶ σείοντα βακχεῖον κλάδον,

μέγαν τ' ἂν Ἑλλάδα. ἀλλ' ἐμοί, Πενθεῦ, πιθοῦ·

μὴ τὸ κράτος αὔχει δύναμιν ἀνθρώποις ἔχειν, 310

μηδ', ἣν δοκῆς μέν, ἣ δὲ δόξα σου νοσῇ,

φρονεῖν δόκει τι· τὸν θεὸν δ' ἐς γῆν δέχου

καὶ σπένδε καὶ βάκχευε καὶ στέφου κάρα.

οὐχ ὁ Διόνυσος σωφρονεῖν ἀναγκάσει

γυναῖκας ἐς τὴν Κύπριν, ἀλλ' ἐν τῇ φύσει 315

τὸ σωφρονεῖν ἔνεστιν εἰς τὰ πάντ' αἰεί 316

|seer δ' ὁ |a god, fate, doom` γὰρ βακχεύσιμον

καὶ τὸ μανιῶδες |prophetic πολλὴν ἔχει·

ὅταν γὰρ ὁ θεὸς ἐς τὸ σῶμ' ἔλθῃ πολὺς,

300

λέγειν τὸ μέλλον τοὺς |be berserk ποιεῖ.

Ἄρεώς τε |portion, |share in; swap`-χει τινά·
|fate

|army γὰρ ἐν |tool ὄντα καπὶ τάξειςιν

φόβος |frighten πρὶν |spear |touch .
|point;

|madness,` καὶ τοῦτ' ἐστὶ Διονύσου πάρα.
|passion

305

ἔτ' αὐτὸν ὄψῃ καπὶ Δελφίσιν |rock

|jump, σὺν |pine δικόρυφον |flat thing
|spring

|shake, καὶ |shake βακχεῖον |branch, ,
|brandish |shoot

μέγαν τ' ἀν' Ἑλλάδα. ἀλλ' ἐμοί, Πενθεῦ, πιθοῦ·

μὴ τὸ |strength, |boast δύναμιν ἀνθρώποις ἔχειν,
|power;

310

μηδ', ἣν δοκῆς μὲν, ἣ δὲ δόξα σου |be sick, be
|victory |mad, suffer

φρονεῖν δόκει τι· τὸν θεὸν δ' ἐς γῆν δέχου

καὶ |libate; (mid)`άκχευε καὶ |crown, |useless bit;
|make a treaty |put |form of κατὰ

οὐχ ὁ Διόνυσος |be sane, |force,
|moderate |compel

γυναῖκας ἐς τὴν Κύπριν, ἀλλ' ἐν τῇ φύσει

315

τὸ |be sane, |be in εἰς τὰ πάντ' αἰεῖ316
|moderate

How the babe-god was hidden in the torn
Flesh of his sire. He hath no shame thereby.
A prophet is he likewise. Prophecy
Cleaves to all frenzy, but beyond all else
To frenzy of prayer. Then in us verily dwells
The God himself, and speaks the thing to be.
Yea, and of Ares' realm a part hath he.
When mortal armies, mailed and arrayed,
Have in strange fear, or ever blade met blade,
Fled maddened, 'tis this God hath palsied them.
Aye, over Delphi's rock-built diadem
Thou yet shalt see him leaping with his train
Of fire across the twin-peaked mountain-plain,
Flaming the darkness with his mystic wand,
And great in Hellas. — List and understand,
King Pentheus! Dream not thou that force is power;
Nor, if thou hast a thought, and that thought sour
And sick, oh, dream not thought is wisdom! — Up,
Receive this God to Thebes; pour forth the cup
Of sacrifice, and pray, and wreath thy brow.
Thou fearest for the damsels? Think thee now;
How toucheth this the part of Dionyse

vocabulary

ἄκος ἄκεος (n, 3) cure, remedy
ἄνευ away from; not having; not
 needing ~Sp. sin
διαγελάω laugh at, mock
ἐφίστημι set; (mp) come/be near,
 direct, stop ~station
θεομαχέω fight against the gods
θύραζε out, out of ~door
καταισχύνω (ἱ) act disgracefully
καταψεύδω (mp) lie about
κισσός ivy
κισσόω wreath with ivy
μαίνομαι be berserk ~maenad
νοσέω be sick, be mad, suffer

οἰκέω inhabit ~economics
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
παραινέω recommend, exhort, warn
πολίος gray ~polio
πύλη gate ~Thermopylae
σκοπᾶω watch, observe
σκοπέω behold, consider
σωφρονέω be sane, moderate
σώφρων sensible, prudent ~frenzy
τέρω gratify, satiate, comfort
 ~terpsichorean
τιμάω (ἱ) honor, exalt
φάρμακον drug, potion ~pharmacy
χορεύω dance

τοῦτο σκοπεῖν χρή· καὶ γὰρ ἐν βακχεύμασιν

οὐδ' ἢ γε σώφρων οὐ διαφθαρήσεται.

ὀρᾶς, σὺ χαίρεις, ὅταν ἐφεστῶσιν πύλαις

πολλοί, τὸ Πενθέως δ' ὄνομα μεγαλύνῃ πόλιν·

320

κάκεινος, οἶμαι, τέρπεται τιμώμενος.

ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν καὶ Κάδμος, ὃν σὺ διαγελᾶς,

κισσῶ τ' ἐρεψόμεσθα καὶ χορεύσομεν,

πολιὰ ξυνωρίς, ἀλλ' ὅμως χορευτέον,

κου' θεομαχήσω σῶν λόγων πεισθεὶς ὕπο.

325

μαίνῃ γὰρ ὡς ἄλγιστα, κοῦτε φαρμάκοις

ἄκῃ λάβοις ἂν οὔτ' ἄνευ τούτων νοσεῖς.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ πρέσβυ, Φοῖβόν τ' οὐ κατασχύνεις λόγοις,

τιμῶν τε Βρόμιον σωφρονεῖς, μέγαν θεόν.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ὦ παῖ, καλῶς σοι Τειρεσίας παρήνεσεν.

330

οἶκει μεθ' ἡμῶν, μὴ θύραζε τῶν νόμων.

νῦν γὰρ πέτῃ τε καὶ φρονῶν οὐδὲν φρονεῖς.

κεῖ μὴ γὰρ ἔστιν ὁ θεὸς οὗτος, ὡς σὺ φής,

παρὰ σοὶ λεγέσθω· καὶ καταψεύδου καλῶς

ὡς ἔστι, Σεμέλῃ θ' ἵνα δοκῇ θεὸν τεκεῖν,

τοῦτο σκοπεῖν χρή· καὶ γὰρ ἐν βακχεύμασιν

οὐς' ἢ γε |sensible, | οὐ διαφθαρήσεται.
prudent

ὀρᾶς, σὺ χαίρεις, ὅταν |set; (mp)|gate
come/be

πολλοί, τὸ Πενθέως δ' |near, direct, |
stop |αἶμα μεγαλύνῃ πόλιν·

320

κακείνος, οἶμαι, |gratify, sa-|honor
tiate, com-
fort

ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν καὶ Κάδμος, ὃν σὺ |laugh at, mock

κισσῶ τ' ἐρεψόμεσθα καὶ |dance

πολιὰ ξυνωρίς, ἀλλ' |any- |dance
way,

κού' |fight against σῶν |never-
the gods |theless

325

μαίνῃ γὰρ ὡς ἄλγιστα, κοῦτε φαρμάκοις

|cure, ἄλγους ἂν οὐτ' |away from; not|be sick, be
remedy |having; not|mad, suffer
needing

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ πρέσβυ, Φοῖβον τ' οὐ |act disgracefully ἄγοις,

τιμῶν τε Βρόμιον |be sane, moderate |ν θεόν.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ὦ παῖ, καλῶς σοι Τειρεσίας |recommend, |
exhort, warn

330

οἶκει μεθ' ἡμῶν, μὴ |out, out of |ν νόμων.

νῦν γὰρ πέτῃ τε καὶ φρονῶν οὐδὲν φρονεῖς.

κεῖ μὴ γὰρ ἔστιν ὁ θεὸς οὗτος, ὡς σὺ φής,

παρὰ σοὶ λεγέσθω· καὶ |(mp) lie about |αλῶς

ὥς ἔστι, Σεμέλῃ θ' ἵνα δοκῇ θεὸν τεκεῖν,

To hold maids pure perforce? In them it lies,
And their own hearts; and in the wildest rite
Cometh no stain to her whose heart is white.
Nay, mark me! Thou hast thy joy, when the Gate
Stands thronged, and Pentheus' name is lifted great
And high by Thebes in clamour; shall not He
Rejoice in his due meed of majesty?

Howbeit, this Cadmus whom thou scorn'st and I
Will wear His crown, and tread His dances! Aye,
Our hairs are white, yet shall that dance be trod!
I will not lift mine arm to war with God
For thee nor all thy words. Madness most fell
Is on thee, madness wrought by some dread spell,
But not by spell nor leechcraft to be cured!

CHORUS. Grey prophet, worthy of Phoebus is thy word,
And wise in honouring Bromios, our great God.

CADMUS. My son, right well Teiresias points thy road.

Oh, make thine habitation here with us,
Not lonely, against men's uses. Hazardous
Is this quick bird-like beating of thy thought
Where no thought dwells. — Grant that this God be naught,
Yet let that Naught be Somewhat in thy mouth;
Lie boldly, and say He is! So north and south
Shall marvel, how there sprang a thing divine
From Semele's flesh, and honour all our line.

Drawing nearer to

vocabulary

ἀέθλιον ἀθλίου prize
 ἀέθλιος prize ~athlete
 ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
 ἀνατρέπω defeat, thwart ~trophy
 ἄνοια folly
 ἄνω (ἄ) accomplish, pass, waste;
 upwards, out to sea
 δάκνω bite
 δεῦρο here, come here!
 διασπάω tear apart ~spatula
 διδάσκαλος teacher
 δράω do, accomplish
 εἰσφέρω carry into/along; propose
 ~bear
 ἔμπαλιν backwards, on the contrary
 ἐξιχνεύω track out
 θᾶκος seat, session of assembly
 θύελλα violent storm ~θύω
 καινός new, fresh, strange
 κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of κατά
 κισσός ivy
 κισσόω wreath with ivy
 κομπάζω boast
 κρείσσω more powerful; better

λυμαίνομαι (ῶ) abuse, violate,
 desecrate
 μέτειμι be among, go, follow ~ion
 μίν him, her, it
 μόρος portion, lot in life
 μοχλέω move with a lever
 μοχλός beam, lever
 μωρία folly
 νόσος (f) plague, pestilence ~noisome
 ὁμός same ~homoerotic
 ὁμοῦ together
 ὁμώω unite ~homoerotic
 ὀργάς meadow, rich land; sacred land
 προίημι send forth, abandon ~jet
 προσδοκάω expect
 πρόσσειμι approach, draw near; add
 ~ion
 προσήκω belong to, it beseems
 προσφέρω present; resemble; add
 σκύλαξ -κος (f) puppy
 στείχω go, march ~stair
 στέμμα -τος (n, 3) headband or wreath
 στέφω crown, put around
 συγχέω entangle, destroy, confound
 τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer

ἡμῖν τε τιμὴ παντὶ τῷ γένει προσῇ.
 ὀρᾶς τὸν Ἀκτέωνος ἄθλιον μόρον,
 ὃν ὠμόσιτοι σκύλακες ᾗς ἐθρέψατο
 διεσπάσαντο, κρείσσον' ἐν κυναγίαις
 Ἀρτέμιδος εἶναι κομπάσαντ', ἐν ὀργάσιν.
 ὃ μὴ πάθῃς σύ· δεῦρό σου στέψω κára
 κισσῶ· μεθ' ἡμῶν τῷ θεῷ τιμὴν δίδου.

340

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. οὐ μὴ προσοίσεις χεῖρα, βακχεύσεις δ' ἰών,

μηδ' ἐξομόρξῃ μωρίαν τήν σὴν ἐμοί;
 τῆς σῆς δ' ἀνοίας τόνδε τὸν διδάσκαλον
 δίκην μέτειμι. στειχέτω τις ὥς τάχος,
 ἐλθὼν δὲ θάκους τοῦδ' ἵν' οἶωνοσκοπεῖ
 μοχλοῖς τριαίνου κἀνάτρεψον ἔμπαλιν,
 ἄνω κάτω τὰ πάντα συγχέας ὁμοῦ,
 καὶ στέμματ' ἀνέμοις καὶ θυέλλαισιν μέθες.

345

350

μάλιστα γάρ νιν δήξομαι δράσας τάδε.
 οἱ δ' ἀνὰ πόλιν στείχοντες ἐξιχνεύσατε
 τὸν θηλύμορφον ξένον, ὃς ἐσφέρει νόσον
 καινὴν γυναιξὶ καὶ λέχῃ λυμαίνεται.

ἡμῖν τε τιμὴ παντὶ τῷ γένει προσῆ.

ὄρῳ τὸν Ἀκτέωνος ἄθλιον |portion, lot in life

ὃν ὠμόσιτοι |puppy ἄς ἐθρέψατο

|tear apart , κρείσσον' ἐν κυναγίαις

Ἀρτέμιδος εἶναι |boast , ἐν |meadow, rich
|land; sacred land

340

ὃ μὴ πάθῃς σύ· |here, come|crown, |useless bit;
|here! |put |form of κατὰ
|around
κισσῶ· μεθ' ἡμῶν τῷ θεῷ τιμὴν δίδου.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. οὐ μὴ |present; re- χεῖρα, βακχεύσεις δ' ἰών,
|semble; add

μηδ' ἐξομόρξῃ μωρίαν τὴν σὴν ἐμοί;

τῆς σῆς δ' |folly τόνδε τὸν |teacher

345

δίκην |be among|go, march τις ὥς |speed ,

ἐλθὼν δὲ |seat, τοῦδ' ἔν' οἶωνοσκοπεῖ
|session

μοχλοῖς τριαίνου |defeat, thwart |backwards, on
|the contrary

ἄνω κάτω τὰ πάντα |συγχέω?: ἐντangle, destroy, confound; or συγχέω?:
|entangle, destroy, confound

καὶ |wreath ἀνέμοις καὶ |violent μέθες.
|storm

350

μάλιστα γάρ νιν |bite |do, accomplish

οἱ δ' ἀνὰ πόλιν |go, march |track out

τὸν θηλύμορφον ξένον, ὃς ἐσφέρει |plague

|new, fresh, strange... ἢ λέχῃ |abuse, violate,
|desecrate

PENTHEUS.

Is there not blood before thine eyes even now?
Our lost Actaeon's blood, whom long ago
His own red hounds through yonder forest dim
Tore unto death, because he vaunted him
Against most holy Artemis? Oh, beware
And let me wreath thy temples. Make thy prayer
With us, and walk thee humbly in God's sight.

He makes as if to set the wreath on PENTHEUS head.

PENTHEUS. Down with that hand! Aroint thee to thy rite
Nor smear on me thy foul contagion!

Turning upon TEIRESIAS.

This

Thy folly's head and prompter shall not miss
The justice that he needs! — Go, half my guard
Forth to the rock-seat where he dwells in ward
O'er birds and wonders; rend the stone with crown
And trident; make one wreck of high and low
And toss his bands to all the winds of air!
Ha, have I found the way to sting thee, there?
The rest, forth through the town! And seek amain
This girl-faced stranger, that hath wrought such bane
To all Thebes, preying on our maids and wives
Seek till ye find; and lead him here in gyves,

*vocabulary***ἄγριος** wild, savage ~agriculture**αἰσχρός** shameful**αἶω** perceive, feel, hear; breathe out**ἀνορθόω** rebuild, restore**δέσμιος** binding; enchanting**δεῦρο** here, come here!**δουλεύω** serve, be a slave**δράω** do, accomplish**εἰσφέρω** carry into/along; propose

~bear

ἐξαιτέω demand ~etiology**ἐξίστημι** displace, transform; (+gen)

give up ~station

καίπερ even if**κίσσινος** of ivy**μαίνομαι** be berserk ~maenad**μαντικός** prophetic**μέτειμι** be among, go, follow ~ion**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**πένθος** -εος (n, 3) grief, misfortune

~Nepenthe

πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric**πότνα** lady ~potent**ποῦ** where?**πτέρυξ** -γος (f) wing ~archeopteryx**στείχω** go, march ~stair**σχέτλιος** tough, sound, stubborn, cruel

~ischemia

κᾶνπερ λάβητε, δέσμιον πορεύσατε

355

δεῦρ' αὐτόν, ὥς ἂν λευσίμου δίκης τυχῶν

θάνη, πικρὰν βάκχευσιν ἐν Θήβαις ἰδῶν.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ὦ σχέτλι', ὥς οὐκ οἶσθα ποῦ ποτ' εἶ λόγων.

μέμνηνας ἤδη· καὶ πρὶν ἐξέστης φρενῶν.

στείχωμεν ἡμεῖς, Κάδμε, κάξαιτώμεθα

360

ὑπέρ τε τούτου καίπερ ὄντος ἀγρίου

ὑπέρ τε πόλεως τὸν θεὸν μηδὲν νέον

δρᾶν. ἀλλ' ἔπου μοι κισσίνου βάκτρον μέτα,

πειρῶ δ' ἀνορθοῦν σῶμ' ἐμόν, καγὼ τὸ σόν·

γέροντε δ' αἰσχρὸν δύο πεσεῖν· ἴτω δ' ὅμως,

365

τῷ Βακχίῳ γὰρ τῷ Διὸς δουλευτέον.

Πενθεὺς δ' ὅπως μὴ πένθος εἰσοίσει δόμοις

τοῖς σοῖσι, Κάδμε· μαντικῇ μὲν οὐ λέγω,

τοῖς πράγμασιν δέ· μῶρα γὰρ μῶρος λέγει.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ὅσῖα πότνα θεῶν,

370

Ὅσῖα δ' ἂ κατὰ γᾶν

χρυσέαν πτέρυγα φέρεις,

τάδε Πενθέως αἶεις;

κᾶνπερ λάβητε, |binding; |... |ρεύσατε 355
|enchanting

|here, come here! |... |ἂν λευσίμου δίκης τυχῶν

θάνη, |sharp |βάκχευσιν ἐν Θήβαις ἰδῶν.

ΤΕΙΠΕΣΙΑΣ. ὦ |tough, |... |sound, |... |κ οἶσθα |where? |τ' εἰ λόγων.
|stubborn, cruel

|be berserk |ῥῆθι· καὶ πρὶν ἐξέστης φρενῶν.

|go, march |ἡμεῖς, Κάδμε, |demand 360

ὑπέρ τε τούτου |even if |ὄντος ἀγρίου

ὑπέρ τε πόλεως τὸν θεὸν μηδὲν νέον

|do, accomplish |... |ου μοι |of ivy |βάκτρον μέτα,

πειρῶ δ' |rebuild, |... |σῶμ' ἐμόν, καγὼ τὸ σόν·
|restore

γέροντε δ' |shameful |δύο πεσεῖν· ἴτω δ' |anyway, nevertheless 365

τῷ Βακχίῳ γὰρ τῷ Διὸς |serve, be a slave

Πενθεὺς δ' ὅπως μὴ |grief |... |carry into/along;
|propose

τοῖς σοῖσι, Κάδμε· |prophetic |... |μὲν οὐ λέγω,

τοῖς πράγμασιν δέ· μῶρα γὰρ μῶρος λέγει.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ὅσῖα |lady |θεῶν, 370

Ὅσῖα δ' ἂ κατὰ γᾶν

χρυσέαν |wing |φέρεις,

τάδε Πενθέως |perceive;
|breathe out

Till he be judged and stoned and weep in blood

The day he troubled Pentheus with his God!

The guards set forth in two bodies; PENTHEUS goes into the Castle.

TEIRESIAS. Hard heart, how little dost thou know what seed

Thou sowest! Blind before, and now indeed

Most mad! — Come, Cadmus, let us go our way,

And pray for this our persecutor, pray

For this poor city, that the righteous God

Move not in anger. — Take thine ivy rod

And help my steps, as I help thine. 'Twere ill,

If two old men should fall by the roadway. Still,

Come what come may, our service shall be done

To Bacchios, the All-Father's mystic son

O Pentheus, named of sorrow! Shall he claim

From all thy house fulfilment of his name,

Old Cadmus? — Nay, I speak not from mine art,

But as I see — blind words and a blind heart!

The two Old Men go off towards the Mountain.

CHORUS. Thou Immaculate on high;

Thou Recording Purity;

Thou that stoopest, Golden Wing,

Earthward, manward, pitying,

Hearest thou this angry King?

Hearest thou the rage and scorn

Gainst the Lord of Many Voices,

Him of mortal mother born,

vocabulary

αἶω perceive, feel, hear; breathe out
ἄνομος lawless
ἀποπαύω stop ~pause
ἀσάλευτος unmoved, unshaken
αὐλέω play (blow, toot)
αὐλός flute, tube, hollow
ἀφροσύνη folly ~frenzy
βίος life; sustenance, chattels
 ~biology
βότρυς cluster of grapes
γάνος -εος (n, 3) liquid sheen
γελάω laugh, smile, laugh at
δαίς -τός (f) feast, banquet ~demon
δυστυχία bad luck

εὐφροσύνη happiness ~frenzy
ἡσυχία peace and quiet
θαλία abundance, plenty ~thallium
θιασεύω initiate into the Bacchic revel
κισσός ivy
κρατήρ -ος (m) mixing bowl for wine
μάκαρ fortunate ~macarism
μέριμνάω care for
στέφανος ring
συγχέω entangle, destroy, confound
συνέχω keep together, constrain
ὕβρις -εως (f) pride, insolence, outrage
ὕπνος a sleep
χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean

αἶεις οὐχ ὅσῃαν

ῥβριν ἐς τὸν Βρόμιον, τὸν

375

Σεμέλας, τὸν παρὰ καλλι᾽

στεφάνοις εὐφροσύναις δαί

μονα πρῶτον μακάρων; ὃς τὰδ' ἔχει,

θιασεύειν τε χοροῖς

μετά τ' αὐλοῦ γελάσαι

380

ἀποπαῦσαί τε μερίμνας,

όπόταν βότρυος ἔλθῃ

γάνος ἐν δαιτὶ θεῶν, κισ'

σοφόροις δ' ἐν θαλίαις ἀν'

δράσι κρατῆρ ὕπνον ἀμ' φιβάλλῃ

385

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀχαλίνων στομάτων

ἀνόμου τ' ἀφροσύνας

τὸ τέλος δυστυχία·

ὁ δὲ τᾶς ἡσυχίας

βίोटος καὶ τὸ φρονεῖν

390

ἀσάλευτόν τε μένει καὶ

συνέχει δώματα· πόρσω

|perceive; [^]σίαν
|breathe out

|hubris ἐς τὸν Βρόμιον, τὸν

375

Σεμέλας, τὸν παρὰ καλλι'

|ring |happiness δαί

μονα πρῶτον μακάρων; ὅς τάδ' ἔχει,

|initiate into the |dance;
|Bacchic revel |chorus

μετά τ' αὐλοῦ |laugh,
|smile

380

|stop τε μερίμνας,

όπόταν |cluster of ḡrap̃es

|liquid ἐν |feast θεῶν, |ivy
|sheen

σοφόροις δ' ἐν θαλίαις ἀν'

δράσι |mixing |sleep ἀμ' φιβάλλῃ
|bowl for
|wine

385

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀχαλινῶν στομάτων

|lawless τ' |folly

τὸ τέλος |bad luck

ὁ δὲ τᾶς |peace and quiet

|life; sustenance φρονεῖν

390

|unmoved, τε μένει καὶ
|unshaken

συνέχει δώματα· πόρσω

Him in whom man's heart rejoices,
Girt with garlands and with glee,
First in Heaven's sovranty?
For his kingdom, it is there,
In the dancing and the prayer,
In the music and the laughter,
In the vanishing of care,
And of all before and after;
In the Gods' high banquet, when
Gleams the graperflood, flashed to heaven;
Yea, and in the feasts of men
Comes his crowned slumber; then
Pain is dead and hate forgiven!
Loose thy lips from out the rein;
Lift thy wisdom to disdain;
Whatso law thou canst not see,
Scorning; so the end shall be
Uttermost calamity!
'Tis the life of quiet breath,
'Tis the simple and the true,
Storm nor earthquake shattereth,
Nor shall aught the house undo
Where they dwell. For, far away,

*vocabulary***αιθήρ** ether, air, sky ~ether**ἄνομβρος** having little rain**βάρβαρος** non-Greek**βραχύς** low, short**ἔδρα** ($\bar{\alpha}$) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

θνητός mortal ~euthanasia**καλλιστεύω** be the best**κλιτύς** (τ) hill side ~incline**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**ῥοά** pl: waters of a river ~rheostat**σεμνός** revered, holy**σοφία** skill; wisdom ~sophistry**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**φώς** man

γὰρ ὅμως αἰθέρα ναίων'
 τες ὀρώσιν τὰ βροτῶν οὐρανίδαι.
 τὸ σοφὸν δ' οὐ σοφία
 τό τε μὴ θνητὰ φρονεῖν.
 βραχὺς αἰὼν· ἐπὶ τούτῳ
 δέ τις ἂν μεγάλα διώκων
 τὰ παρόντ' οὐχὶ φέροι. μαι'
 νομένων οἷδε τρόποι καὶ
 κακοβούλων παρ' ἔμοι' γε φωτῶν.

395

400

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἰκοίμαν ποτὶ Κύπρον,

νᾶσον τᾶς Ἀφροδίτας,
 ἔν' οἱ θελξίφρονες νέμον'
 ται θνατοῖσιν Ἑρωτες,
 Πάφον θ' ἂν ἐκατόστομοι
 βαρβάρου ποταμοῦ ῥοαὶ
 καρπίζουσιν ἄνομβροι.
 οὗ δ' ἅ καλλιστευομένα
 Πιερίᾳ μούσειος ἔδρα,
 σεμνὰ κλιτὺς Ὀλύμπου,

405

410

γὰρ |any- |ether ναίων'
 way,
 τες ἀνάσιν τὰ βροτῶν οὐρανίδαί.
 never-
 theless

τὸ |skilled, σοφία
 clever, wise 395

τό τε μὴ |mortal φρονεῖν.

|low, short...ίων' ἐπὶ τούτῳ

δέ τις ἂν μέγала διώκων

τὰ παρόντ' οὐχὶ φέροι. μαι'

νομένων οἶδε τρόποι καὶ 400

κακοβούλων παρ' ἔμοι' γε |man

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἰκοίμαν ποτὶ Κύπρον,

νᾶσον τᾶς Ἀφροδίτας,

ἔν' οἱ θελξίφρονες νέμον'

ται θνατοῖσιν Ἑρωτες, 405

Πάφον θ' ἂν ἐκατόστομοι

|non-Greek ποταμοῦ ῥοαὶ

καρπίζουσιν ἄνομβροι.

οὐ δ' ἄ |be the best

Πιερία μούσειος |seat , 410

|revered, |hill side Ὀλύμπου,
 |holy

Hidden from the eyes of day,
Watchers are there in the skies,
That can see man's life, and prize
Deeds well done by things of clay.
But the world's Wise are not wise,
Claiming more than mortal may.
Life is such a little thing;
Lo, their present is departed,
And the dreams to which they cling
Come not. Mad imagining
Theirs, I ween, and empty-hearted!
Where is the Home for me?
O Cyprus, set in the sea,
Aphrodite's home In the soft sea-foam,
Would I could wend to thee;
Where the wings of the Loves are furled,
And faint the heart of the world.
Aye, unto Paphos' isle,
Where the rainless meadows smile
With riches rolled From the hundred-fold
Mouths of the far-off Nile,
Streaming beneath the waves
To the roots of the seaward caves.

*vocabulary***ἄλυπος** (ῥ) painless**ἀπέχω** ward off, drive off, refrain, be at some distance**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**ἐκεῖσε** thither**ἐξιμι** go forth; is possible ~ion**ἐξίημι** send forth, allow forth ~jet**θαλία** abundance, plenty ~thallium**θέμις** -τος (f) custom, law**κουρότροφος** raising children
~atrophy**μέλος** -ους (n, 3) limb; melody**μέλω** concern, interest, be one's

responsibility

μισέω (ι) hate, wish to prevent

~misogyny

ὄλβιος happy, wealthy**περισσός** prodigious, superfluous**πραπίδες** -ος (f) midriff, seat of wisdom and cunning**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**τέρψις** -τος (f) pleasure**φάος** φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl) eyes ~photon**φαῦλος** trifling**φῶς** man**χείρων** worse, more base, inferior, weaker

ἐκεῖσ' ἄγε με, Βρόμιε Βρόμιε,
 πρόβακχ' εὖιε δαῖμον. ἐκεῖ Χάριτες,
 ἐκεῖ δὲ Πόθος· ἐκεῖ δὲ βάκ'
 χαις θέμις ὀργιάζειν.

415

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὁ δαίμων ὁ Διὸς παῖς

χαίρει μὲν θαλίαισιν,
 φιλεῖ δ' ὀλβοδότειραν Εἰ
 ρήναν, κουροτρόφον θεάν.

420

ἴσαν δ' ἔς τε τὸν ὄλβιον
 τόν τε χείρονα δῶκ' ἔχειν
 οἴνου τέριψιν ἄλυπον·

μισεῖ δ' ὧ μὴ ταῦτα μέλει,
 κατὰ φάος νύκτας τε φίλας
 εὐαίωνα διαζῆν,

425

σοφὰν δ' ἀπέχειν πραπίδα φρένα τε
 περισσῶν παρὰ φωτῶν·
 τὸ πλῆθος ὅ τι

430

τὸ φαυλότερον ἐνόμισε χρῆ'
 ταί τε, τόδ' ἂν δεχοίμαν.

ἐκεῖσ' ἄγε με, Βρόμιε Βρόμιε,

πρόβακχ' εὔιε |a god, fate, doom...ριτες,

ἐκεῖ δὲ Πόθος· ἐκεῖ δὲ βάκ'

415

χαις |custom, law ᾿ζειν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὁ |a god, fate, doom...αῖς

χαίρει μὲν θαλίαισιν,

φιλεῖ δ' ὀλβοδότειραν Εἰ

ρήναν, κουροτρόφον θεάν.

420

ἔσαν δ' ἔς τε τὸν |happy,
|wealthy

τόν τε |worse, more base...ειν

οἴνου |pleasure|painless

|hate δ' ὦ μὴ ταῦτα μέλει,

κατὰ |light; ἰsalva- τε φίλας
|tion; (pl) eyes

425

εὐαίωνα διαζῆν,

|skilled, ᾿...πέχειν |seat of wisdom' α τε
|clever, wise

περισσῶν παρὰ |man

τὸ πλῆθος ὅ τι

430

τὸ |trifling ἐνόμισε χρῆ'

ταί τε, τόδ' ἂν δεχοίμαν.

But a better land is there
Where Olympus cleaves the air,
The high still dell Where the Muses dwell,
Fairest of all things fair!
O there is Grace, and there is the Heart's Desire,
And peace to adore thee, thou Spirit of Guiding Fire!
A God of Heaven is he,
And born in majesty;
Yet hath he mirth
In the joy of the Earth,
And he loveth constantly
Her who brings increase,
The Feeder of Children, Peace.
No grudge hath he of the great;
No scorn of the mean estate;
But to all that liveth His wine he giveth,
Griefless, immaculate;
Only on them that spurn
Joy, may his anger burn.
Love thou the Day and the Night;
Be glad of the Dark and the Light;
And avert thine eyes From the lore of the wise,
That have honour in proud men's sight.
The simple nameless herd of Humanity
Hath deeds and faith that are truth enough for me!

As the Chorus ceases, a party of the guards return, leading in the midst of them
DIONYSUS, bound. The SOLDIER in command stands forth, as PENTHEUS,

*vocabulary***ἄγρᾱ** hunting, prey**ἄγρευω** catch (prey, fish)**ἀέκων** unwilling**αἰδώς** awe, shame, respect; genitals**ἄκραντος** unfulfilled, vain**ἄκων** javelin; unwilling ~acme**ἀλλάσσω** trade, transform**ἀνακαλέω** call, summon, recall**ἄνευ** away from; not having; not needing ~Sp. sin**ἀνίημι** urge, impel; release ~jet**ἀπάγω** lead away, back ~demagogue**ἄρκυς** net**αὐτόματος** self-willed, accidental

~after

γελάω laugh, smile, laugh at**γένυς** jaw**δεσμός** bond, latch, strap; also (pl)

headdress

διαλύω break up; relax, weaken**εἴργω** bound, fend off; do**ἐκφεύγω** flee from, escape ~fugitive**ἐκών** willingly, on purpose; giving in

too easily

ἐξείμι go forth; is possible ~ion**ἐπάγω** drive game; induce belief

~demagogue

ἐπιστολή message, letter**εὐτρεπής** ready**ἐφίημι** (τι) send at, let fly; mp: rush at, spring upon ~jet**θαῦμα** -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of surprise ~theater**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**θύρετρα** -ου (n, 2) door ~door**κλείς** κληῖδος (f) bar, key ~clavicle**μέλω** concern, interest, be one's responsibility**ὀργάς** meadow, rich land; sacred land**πάνδημος** roaming a town**πρᾶος** soft, gentle**σκιρτάω** frolic**στέγη** roof, ceiling, chamber**συναρπάζω** snatch with**φροῦδος** fled, vanished**φυγή** flight, means of escape ~fugitive**ὥκός** swift ~oxytocin**ὥχρός** pale

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. Πενθεῦ, πάρεσμεν τήνδ' ἄγραν ἡγρευκότες

ἐφ' ἣν ἔπεμψας, οὐδ' ἄκρανθ' ὠρμήσαμεν.

435

ὁ θήρ δ' ὅδ' ἡμῖν πρᾶος οὐδ' ὑπέσπασεν

φυγῇ πόδ', ἀλλ' ἔδωκεν οὐκ ἄκων χέρας

οὐδ' ὠχρός, οὐδ' ἥλλαξεν οἰνωπὸν γένυν,

γελῶν δὲ καὶ δεῖν καπάγειν ἐφίετο

ἔμενέ τε, τοῦμόν εὐτρεπὲς ποιούμενος.

440

κἀγὼ δι' αἰδοῦς εἶπον· ὦ ξέν', οὐχ ἐκὼν

ἄγω σε, Πενθέως δ' ὅς μ' ἔπεμψ' ἐπιστολαῖς.

ᾧς δ' αὖ σὺν βάκχας εἶρξας, ᾧς συνήρπασας

κᾶδησας ἐν δεσμοῖσι παινδήμου στέγης,

φροῦδαί γ' ἐκείναι λελυμέναι πρὸς ὀργάδας

445

σκιρτῶσι Βρόμιον ἀνακαλούμεναι θεόν·

αὐτόματα δ' αὐταῖς δεσμὰ διελύθη ποδῶν

κλῆιδές τ' ἀνῆκαν θύρετρ' ἄνευ θνητῆς χερός.

πολλῶν δ' ὅδ' ἀνὴρ θαυμάτων ἦκει πλέως

ἐς τάσδε Θήβας. σοὶ δὲ τᾶλλα χρὴ μέλειν.

450

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. μέθεσθε χειρῶν τοῦδ'· ἐν ἄρκυσιν γὰρ ὦν

οὐκ ἔστιν οὕτως ὠκὺς ὥστε μ' ἐκφυγεῖν.

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. Πενθεῦ, πάρεσμεν τήνδ' ἄγραν |catch (prey, fish)

ἐφ' ἣν ἔπεμψας, οὐδ' |unfilfilled, vain, ἴσαμεν.

435

ὁ θῆρ δ' ὅδ' ἡμῖν |soft, οὐδ' ὑπέσπασεν
gentle

|flight, means ἰλλ' ἔδωκεν οὐκ ἄκων χέρας
of escape

οὐδ' |pale , οὐδ' |trade, ἰνωπὸν |jaw
transform

γελῶν δὲ καὶ δεῖν ἀπάγειν |send flying at

ἔμμενέ τε, τοῦμόν |ready ποιούμενος.

440

καγὰρ δι' |awe, shame, re- ὦ ξέν', οὐχ ἐκὼν
spect; genitals

ἄγω σε, Πενθέως δ' ὅς μ' ἔπεμψ' |message,
letter

ἄς δ' αὖ σὺν βάκχας |bound, fend|snatch with
off; do

καῖδηςας ἐν |bond, |roaming a|roof, ceiling,
latch, |town |chamber
strap

|fled, γ' ἐκεῖναι λελυμέναι πρὸς |meadow, rich
vanished |land; sacred land

445

σκιρτῶσι Βρόμιον |call, summon, θεόν·
recall

|self-willed, δ' αὐταῖς |bond, |break up; re- ὦν
accidental |latch, |lax, weaken

|bar, key ῥ' |urge, |door |away from; not hav-
impel; |ing; not needing
release

πολλῶν δ' ὅδ' ἀνῆρ |wonder, ἥκει πλέως
surprise

ἐς τάσδε Θήβας. σοὶ δὲ τᾶλλα χρὴ |be in/on the mind

450

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. μέθεσθε χειρῶν τοῦδ' ἐν |net γὰρ ὦν

οὐκ ἔστιν οὕτως ὡκὺς ὥστε μ' |flee

hearing the tramp of feet, comes out from the Castle.
SOLDIER. Our quest is finished, and thy prey, O King,
Caught; for the chase was swift, and this wild thing
Most tame; yet never flinched, nor thought to flee,
But held both hands out unresistingly —
No change, no blanching of the wine-red cheek.
He waited while we came, and bade us wreak
All thy decree; yea, laughed, and made my best
Easy, till I for very shame confessed
And said: "O stranger, not of mine own will
I bind thee, but his bidding to fulfil
Who sent me."

And those prisoned Maids withal
Whom thou didst seize and bind within the wall
Of thy great dungeon, they are fled, O King.
Free in the woods, a-dance and glorying
To Bromios. Of their own impulse fell
To earth, men say, fetter and manacle,
And bars slid back untouched of mortal hand
Yea, full of many wonders to thy land
Is this man come... Howbeit, it lies with thee!
PENTHEUS. Ye are mad! — Unhand him. Howso swift he be,
My toils are round him and he shall not fly.

The guards loose the arms of DIONYSUS; PENTHEUS studies him for a while in
silence then speaks jeeringly. DIONYSUS remains gentle and unafraid.

vocabulary

ἄμορφος misshapen, shapeless
 ἀναγκάζω force, compel
 ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
 γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
 γένυς jaw
 εἰσβαίνω enter, board ~basis
 ἐνθάδε here, hither
 ἐντεῦθεν thence
 ζεύγνυμι (ῥ) yoke, join ~zygote
 θηράω hunt, chase
 ἰδέα ἰδῆς semblance; kind, style
 καλλονή beauty
 κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
 κόμπος noise, racket
 κύκλος circle, wheel ~cycle
 λευκός white ~light

νύκτωρ by night
 ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye
 ὅμνυμι (ῥ) swear
 ὄργια -τος (n, 2) secret rites
 πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
 πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 παρασκευή preparation
 περιβάλλω act: excel; mid: put on
 clothing ~ballistic
 πλόκαμος lock of hair
 πόθεν from where?
 πόθος longing, regret ~bid
 πότερος which, whichever of two
 σκιά shadow ~shadow
 ταναός long
 τελετή rite, festival
 χέω pour, scatter

ἀτὰρ τὸ μὲν σῶμ' οὐκ ἄμορφος εἶ, ξένε,
 ὥς ἐς γυναικάς, ἐφ' ὅπερ ἐς Θήβας πάρει·
 πλόκαμός τε γάρ σου ταναός, οὐ πάλης ὕπο,
 γένυν παρ' αὐτὴν κεχυμένος, πόθου πλέως·
 λευκὴν δὲ χροιάν ἐκ παρασκευῆς ἔχεις,
 οὐχ ἡλίου βολαῖσιν, ἀλλ' ὑπὸ σκιᾶς,
 τὴν Ἀφροδίτην καλλονῇ θηρώμενος.
 πρῶτον μὲν οὖν μοι λέξον ὅστις εἶ γένος.

455

460

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. οὐ κόμπος οὐδέεις· ῥάδιον δ' εἰπεῖν τόδε.

τὸν ἀνθεμώδη Τμῶλον οἶσθά που κλύων.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. οἶδ', ὅς τὸ Σάρδεων ἄστρ' περιβάλλει κύκλῳ.

ΔΙ. ἐντεῦθέν εἰμι, Λυδία δέ μοι πατρίς.

ΠΕΝ. πόθεν δὲ τελετὰς τάσδ' ἄγεις ἐς Ἑλλάδα;

465

ΔΙ. Διόνυσος ἡμᾶς εἰσέβησ', ὁ τοῦ Διός.

ΠΕΝ. Ζεὺς δ' ἔστ' ἐκεῖ τις, ὅς νέους τίκτει θεούς;

ΔΙ. οὐκ, ἀλλ' ὁ Σεμέλην ἐνθάδε ζεύξας γάμοις.

ΠΕΝ. πότερα δὲ νύκτωρ σ' ἢ κατ' ὄμμ' ἠνάγκασεν;

ΔΙ. ὀρώων ὀρώοντα, καὶ δίδωσιν ὄργια.

470

ΠΕΝ. τὰ δ' ὄργι' ἐστὶ τίν' ἰδέαν ἔχοντά σοι;

ἀτὰρ τὸ μὲν σῶμ' οὐκ ^{|misshapen, ἴ, ξένε,}
^{|shapeless}
 ὥς ἐς γυναικας, ἐφ' ὅπερ ἐς Θήβας πάρει·

|lock of hair τε γάρ σου |long , οὐ πάλης ὕπο, 455

|jaw παρ' αὐτὴν |pour , ^{|longing, ἄέως·}
^{|regret}

|white δὲ χροιάν ἐκ |preparation ἔχεις,

οὐχ ἡλίου βολαῖσιν, ἀλλ' ὑπὸ |shadow

τὴν Ἀφροδίτην |beauty |hunt, chase .

πρῶτον μὲν οὖν μοι λέξον ὅστις εἶ γένος. 460

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. οὐ ^{|noise,} οὐδείς· ^{|racket} ῥάδιον δ' εἰπεῖν τόδε.

τὸν ἀνθεμῶδη Τμῶλον οἶσθά που |hear .

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. οἶδ', ὅς τὸ Σάρδεων |town |excel; don |circle,
^{|wheel}

ΔΙ. |thence εἰμι, Λυδία δέ μοι πατρίς.

ΠΕΝ. ^{|from} ^{|rite,} ^{|where?} ^{|festival} τάσδ' ἄγεις ἐς Ἑλλάδα; 465

ΔΙ. Διόνυσος ἡμᾶς ^{|enter,} , ὁ τοῦ Διός.
^{|board}

ΠΕΝ. Ζεὺς δ' ἔστ' ἐκεῖ τις, ὅς νέους τίκτει θεούς;

ΔΙ. οὐκ, ἀλλ' ὁ Σεμέλην ^{|here,} ^{|yoke,} ^{|wedding, sex}
^{|hither} ^{|join}

ΠΕΝ. ^{|which,} ^{|by night} ^{|force,} ^{|whichever} ^{|compel} ,

ΔΙ. ὁρῶν ὁρῶντα, καὶ δίδωσιν ^{|secret} . 470
^{|rites}

ΠΕΝ. τὰ δ' ^{|secret} ^{|ἵστι τίν'} ^{|semblance;} ^{|γά σοι;}
^{|rites} ^{|kind, style}

Marry, a fair shape for a woman's eye,
Sir stranger! And thou seek'st no more, I ween!
Long curls, withal! That shows thou ne'er hast been
A wrestler! — down both cheeks so softly tossed
And winsome! And a white skin! It hath cost
Thee pains, to please thy damsels with this white
And red of cheeks that never face the light!

DIONYSUS is silent.

Speak, sirrah; tell me first thy name and race.

DIONYSUS. No glory is therein, nor yet disgrace.

Thou hast heard of Tmolus, the bright hill of flowers?

PENTHEUS. Surely, the ridge that winds by Sardis towers.

DIONYSUS. Thence am I; Lydia was my fatherland.

PENTHEUS. And whence these revelations, that thy band
Spreadeth in Hellas?

DIONYSUS. Their intent and use

Dionysus oped to me, the Child of Zeus.

PENTHEUS. Is there a Zeus there, that can still beget
Young Gods?

DIONYSUS. Nay, only He whose seal was set
Here in thy Thebes on Semele.

PENTHEUS. What way
Descended he upon thee? In full day
Or vision of night?

DIONYSUS. Most clear he stood, and scanned
My soul, and gave his emblems to mine hand.

vocabulary

ἄβακχευτος uninitiated in Bacchic
orgies; joyless

αἰσχρός shameful

ἄμαθής ignorant

ἄμαθία ignorance

ἀναχορεύω begin a dance

ἀραρίσκω join, fit, furnish ~arthritis

ἄρδω give water

ἄρρητος unspoken, unspeakable

~rhetoric

ἀσέβεια impiety

ἀσεβέω be impious

ἀσκέω work on

βάρβαρος non-Greek

δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon

δεῦρο here, come here!

διάφορος different; difference;

disagreeing; balance, bill

δόλιος tricky, guileful

Ἑλλην Greek

ἐξευρίσκω find; discover ~eureka

ἐχθαίρω hate ~external

θέμις -τος (f) custom, law

θύω (ῥ) rush; sacrifice ~θύω

νύκτωρ by night

ὄνησις -ος (f) benefit

ὅποῖος whatever kind

ὄργια -τος (n, 2) secret rites

ποῖος what kind

σαθρός unsound, cracked

σαφής clear, understandable

σεμνότης -τος (f, 3) solemnity, dignity

σκότος darkness, shadow ~shadow

σόφισμα skill, trick

σοφός skilled, clever, wise

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἄρρητ' ἀβακχεύτοισιν εἰδέναι βροτῶν.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἔχει δ' ὄνησιν τοῖσι θύουσιν τίνα;

ΔΙ. οὐ θέμις ἀκοῦσαί σ', ἔστι δ' ἄξι' εἰδέναι.

ΠΕΝ. εὖ τοῦτ' ἐκιβδήλευσας, ἵν' ἀκοῦσαι θέλω.

475

ΔΙ. ἀσέβειαν ἀσκοῦντ' ὄργι' ἐχθαίρει θεοῦ.

ΠΕΝ. τὸν θεὸν ὁρᾶν γὰρ φῆς σαφῶς, ποίός τις ἦν;

ΔΙ. ὁποῖος ἤθελ'· οὐκ ἐγὼ τασσον τόδε.

ΠΕΝ. τοῦτ' αὖ παρωχέτευσας εὖ κοῦδέν λέγων.

ΔΙ. δόξει τις ἀμαθεί σοφὰ λέγων οὐκ εὖ φρονεῖν.

480

ΠΕΝ. ἦλθες δὲ πρῶτα δεῦρ' ἄγων τὸν δαίμονα;

ΔΙ. πᾶς ἀναχορεύει βαρβάρων τάδ' ὄργια.

ΠΕΝ. φρονοῦσι γὰρ κάκιον Ἑλλήνων πολὺ.

ΔΙ. τάδ' εὖ γε μᾶλλον· οἱ νόμοι δὲ διάφοροι.

ΠΕΝ. τὰ δ' ἱερὰ νύκτωρ ἢ μεθ' ἡμέραν τελεῖς;

485

ΔΙ. νύκτωρ τὰ πολλὰ· σεμνότητ' ἔχει σκότος.

ΠΕΝ. τοῦτ' ἐς γυναῖκας δόλιόν ἐστι καὶ σαθρόν.

ΔΙ. κὰν ἡμέρα τό γ' αἰσχροὺς ἐξεύροι τις ἄν.

ΠΕΝ. δίκην σε δοῦναι δεῖ σοφισμάτων κακῶν.

ΔΙ. σὲ δ' ἀμαθίας γε κάσεβοῦντ' ἐς τὸν θεόν.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἄρρητ' |uninitiated in Bac-²ῶναι βροτῶν.
|chic orgies; joyless

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἔχει δ' |benefit τοῖσι |rush; sacrifice ,

ΔΙ. οὐ |custom, law -αί σ', ἔστι δ' ἄξι' εἰδέναι.

ΠΕΝ. εὖ τοῦτ' ἐκιβδήλευσας, ἵν' ἀκοῦσαι θέλω.

475

ΔΙ. |impeity |work on |secret |hate θεοῦ.
|rites

ΠΕΝ. τὸν θεὸν ὁρᾶν γὰρ φῆς |clear, , |what kind ἦν;
|under-

ΔΙ. |whatever³kind οὐκ ἐγὼ ταῦσσόν τοδε.
|standable

ΠΕΝ. τοῦτ' αὖ παρωχέτευσας εὖ κοῦδὲν λέγων.

ΔΙ. δόξει τις |ignorant |skilled, -', -ν οὐκ εὖ φρονεῖν.
|clever, wise

480

ΠΕΝ. ἦλθες δὲ πρῶτα |here, cōme here! |a god, fate, doom

ΔΙ. πᾶς |begin a dance, ἱερβάρων τάδ' |secret .
|rites

ΠΕΝ. φρονοῦσι γὰρ κάκιον |Greek πολύ.

ΔΙ. τάδ' εὖ γε μᾶλλον· οἱ νόμοι δὲ |different; .
|disagreeing

ΠΕΝ. τὰ δ' ἱερὰ |by night ἢ μεθ' ἡμέραν τελεῖς;

485

ΔΙ. |by night τὰ πολλά· |solemnity, ἔχει |darkness
|dignity

ΠΕΝ. τοῦτ' ἐς γυναῖκας |tricky, ἴστι καὶ |unsound,
|guileful |cracked

ΔΙ. κὰν ἡμέρα τό γ' |shameful |find; τις ἄν.
|discover

ΠΕΝ. δίκην σε δοῦναι δεῖ |skill, trick κακῶν.

ΔΙ. σὲ δ' |ignorance ,ε |be impious ἐς τὸν θεόν.

PENTHEUS. What like be they, these emblems?

DIONYSUS. That may none

Reveal, nor know, save his Elect alone.

PENTHEUS. And what good bring they to the worshipper?

DIONYSUS. Good beyond price, but not for thee to hear.

PENTHEUS. Thou trickster? Thou wouldst prick me on the more
To seek them out!

DIONYSUS. His mysteries abhor

The touch of sin-lovers.

PENTHEUS. And so thine eyes

Saw this God plain; what guise had he?

DIONYSUS. What guise

It liked him. 'Twas not I ordained his shape.

PENTHEUS. Aye, deftly turned again. An idle jape,
And nothing answered!

DIONYSUS. Wise words being brought

To blinded eyes will seem as things of nought.

PENTHEUS. And comest thou first to Thebes, to have thy God
Established?

DIONYSUS. Nay; all Barbary hath trod
His dance ere this.

PENTHEUS. A low blind folk, I ween,
Beside our Hellenes!

DIONYSUS. Higher and more keen

In this thing, though their ways are not thy way.

PENTHEUS. How is thy worship held, by night or day?

DIONYSUS. Most oft by night; 'tis a majestic thing,
The darkness.

PENTHEUS. Ha! with women worshipping?
Tis craft and rottenness!

DIONYSUS. By day no less,

Whoso will seek may find unholiness—

PENTHEUS. Enough! Thy doom is fixed, for false pretence
Corrupting Thebes.

DIONYSUS. Not mine; but thine, for dense

Blindness of heart, and for blaspheming God!

*vocabulary***ἄβρός** graceful, delicate, pretty**ἄσεβής** profane**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

ἄφαιρέω take away ~heresy**βόστρυχος** curl, lock**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom

~demon

εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect

~panorama

ἐνδίδωμι hand over, lend, show, allow**ἐνδον** in the house of; within**ἐνδω** in the house of; within**ἐπιτήδειος** fit, suitable**θρασύς** brave, strong**θύρσος** ivied wand**ἵππικός** of horses ~hippo**καταφρονέω** scorn; think of**κατείργω** shut in; hinder**ὄμμα** -τος (n, 3) eye**πέλας** near, close**πλησίος** near, neighboring**πλόκαμος** lock of hair**ποῦ** where?**σωφρονέω** be sane, moderate**σώφρων** sensible, prudent ~frenzy**τέμνω** cut, sacrifice, solemnize

~tonsure

φανερός visible, conspicuous ~photon**φορέω** frequentative of φέρω, to carry

~bear

χωρέω withdraw, give way to (+dat)

~heir

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ὡς θρασὺς ὁ βάκχος κοῦκ ἀγύμναστος λόγων.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. εἴφ' ὃ τι παθεῖν δεῖ· τί με τὸ δεινὸν ἐργάσῃ;

ΠΕΝ. πρῶτον μὲν ἄβρὸν βόστρυχον τεμῶ σέθεν.

ΔΙ. ἱερὸς ὁ πλόκαμος· τῷ θεῷ δ' αὐτὸν τρέφω.

ΠΕΝ. ἔπειτα θύρσον τόνδε παράδος ἐκ χεροῖν.

495

ΔΙ. αὐτός μ' ἀφαιροῦ· τόνδε Διονύσου φορῶ.

ΠΕΝ. εἰρκταῖσί τ' ἔνδον σῶμα σὸν φυλάξομεν.

ΔΙ. λύσει μ' ὁ δαίμων αὐτός, ὅταν ἐγὼ θέλω.

ΠΕΝ. ὅταν γε καλέσῃς αὐτὸν ἐν βάκχαις σταθείς.

ΔΙ. καὶ νῦν ἂ πάσχω πλησίον παρὼν ὄρᾳ.

500

ΠΕΝ. καὶ ποῦ στιν; οὐ γὰρ φανερὸς ὄμμασίν γ' ἐμοῖς.

ΔΙ. παρ' ἐμοί· σὺ δ' ἀσεβὴς αὐτὸς ὦν οὐκ εἰσορᾷς.

ΠΕΝ. λάζυσθε· καταφρονεῖ με καὶ Θήβας ὅδε.

ΔΙ. αὐδῶ με μὴ δεῖν σωφρονῶν οὐ σώφροσιν.

ΠΕΝ. ἐγὼ δὲ δεῖν γε, κυριώτερος σέθεν.

505

ΔΙ. οὐκ οἶσθ' ὃ τι ζῆς, οὐδ' ὃ δρᾷς, οὐδ' ὅστις εἶ.

ΠΕΝ. Πενθεύς, Ἀγαύης παῖς, πατρὸς δ' Ἑχίονος.

ΔΙ. ἐνδυστυχήσαι τοῦνομ' ἐπιτήδειος εἶ.

ΠΕΝ. χώρει· καθείρξατ' αὐτὸν ἵππικαῖς πέλας

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ὡς

	brave,	ὁ βάκχος		κούκ ἀγύμναστος		λόγων.
	strong					

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. εἴφ' ὅ τι παθεῖν δεῖ· τί με τὸ δεινὸν ἐργάση;

ΠΕΝ. πρῶτον μὲν

	grace-		curl, lock		cut, sacrific ^ε ,
	ful,				solemnize

ΔΙ. ἱερὸς ὁ

	lock of hair	τῷ	θεῷ	δ'	αὐτὸν	τρέφω.
	delicate,					
	pretty					

ΠΕΝ. ἔπειτα

	ivied wand	δ'	παράδος	ἐκ	χεροῖν.
--	------------	----	---------	----	---------

495

ΔΙ. αὐτός μ'

	take away	τόνδε	Διονύσου		frequentative of
					φέρω, to carry

ΠΕΝ. εἶρκταῖσί τ' ἔνδον σῶμα σὸν φυλάζομεν.

ΔΙ. λύσει μ' ὁ

	a god, fate, 'doom	ᾗ	ταν	ἐγὼ	θέλω.
--	--------------------	---	-----	-----	-------

ΠΕΝ. ὅταν γε καλέσης αὐτὸν ἐν βάκχαις σταθείς.

ΔΙ. καὶ νῦν ἂν πάσχω

	near	παρὸν	ὄρα̂.
--	------	-------	-------

500

ΠΕΝ. καὶ

	where?	ἤν;	οὐ γὰρ		visible,		eye	γ'	ἐμοῖς.
					conspicuous				

ΔΙ. παρ' ἐμοί· σὺ δ'

	profane	αὐτὸς	ὣν	οὐκ		look at, see; treat
						with respect

ΠΕΝ. λάζυσθε·

	scorn;	think	με	καὶ	Θήβας	ὁδε.
	of					

ΔΙ.

	speak	με	μὴ	δεῖν		be sane, moder-		sensible,
					ate			prudent

ΠΕΝ. ἐγὼ δὲ δεῖν γε, κυριώτερος σέθεν.

505

ΔΙ. οὐκ οἶσθ' ὅ τι ζῆς, οὐδ' ὃ δρᾶς, οὐδ' ὅστις εἶ.

ΠΕΝ. Πενθείς, Ἀγαυῆς παῖς, πατὴρ δ' Ἐχίονος.

ΔΙ. ἐνδυστυχῆσαι τοῦνομ'

	fit, suitable	εἶ.
--	---------------	-----

ΠΕΝ.

	with-		shut in; hinder	ᾗ	ὄν		of horses		near,
	draw,								close
	give								
	way								
	to								
	(+dat)								

PENTHEUS. A ready knave it is, and brazen-browed,
This mystery-priest!

DIONYSUS. Come, say what it shall be,
My doom; what dire thing wilt thou do to me?

PENTHEUS. First, shear that delicate curl that dangles there.

He beckons to the soldiers, who approach DIONYSUS.

DIONYSUS. I have vowed it to my God; 'tis holy hair.

The soldiers cut off the tress.

PENTHEUS. Next, yield me up thy staff!

DIONYSUS. Raise thine own hand
To take it. This is Dionysus' wand.

PENTHEUS takes the staff.

PENTHEUS. Last, I will hold thee prisoned here.

DIONYSUS. My Lord

God will unloose me, when I speak the word.

PENTHEUS. He may, if e'er again amid his bands
Of saints he hears thy voice!

DIONYSUS. Even now he stands
Close here, and sees all that I suffer.

PENTHEUS. What?

Where is he? For mine eyes discern him not.

DIONYSUS. Where I am! 'Tis thine own impurity
That veils him from thee.

PENTHEUS. The dog jeers at me!
At me and Thebes! Bind him!

The soldiers begin to bind him.

DIONYSUS. I charge ye, bind
Me not! I having vision and ye blind!

PENTHEUS. And I, with better right, say bind the more!

The soldiers obey.

DIONYSUS. Thou knowest not what end thou seekest, nor
What deed thou doest, nor what man thou art!

PENTHEUS. Agave's son, and on the father's part
Echion's, hight Pentheus!

DIONYSUS. So let it be,
A name fore-written to calamity!

PENTHEUS. Away, and tie him where the steeds are tied;

vocabulary

ἀναφαίνω reveal, shine ~phenomenon
ἄποινα -ου (n, 2) ransom, compensation ~penalty
βρέφος -ους (n, 3) fetus, baby
βύρσα hide, skin
δεσμός bond, latch, strap; also (pl) headdress
διθύραμβος (ī) dithyramb
δοῦπος roar
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect ~panorama
ἱστός mast, loom ~stand
κνέφας -ος (n, 3) dark, dusk
κτάομαι acquire, possess
κτυπέω crash
κτύπος noise

μεθίημι let go, cease; (mid) speed off ~jet
μέτεμι be among, go, follow ~ion
μηρός thigh, femur
μίν him, her, it
νηδύς -ος (f) belly, womb
οὔτάω pierce, wound
παγά (ᾱα) headwaters, fountain
πότε when?
πότνια lady ~potent
σκότιος shadow-born ~shadow
στείχω go, march ~stair
συνεργός cooperating; colleague
ὑβρισμα -τος (n, 3) outrage, insolence
φάτνη manger, crib
χορεύω dance

φάτναισιν, ὥς ἂν σκότιον εἰσορᾷ κνέφας.

510

ἐκεῖ χόρευε· τάσδε δ' ἄς ἄγων πάρει

κακῶν συνεργοὺς ἢ διεμπολήσομεν

ἢ χεῖρα δούπου τοῦδε καὶ βύρσης κτύπου

παύσας, ἐφ' ἰστοῖς δμωίδας κεκτήσομαι.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. στείχοιμ' ἄν· ὅ τι γὰρ μὴ χρεῶν, οὔτοι χρεῶν

515

παθεῖν. ἀτάρ τοι τῶνδ' ἄποιν' ὑβρισμάτων

μέτεισι Διόνυσός σ', ὃν οὐκ εἶναι λέγεις·

ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἀδικῶν κείνον εἰς δεσμοὺς ἄγεις.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. 519 Ἀχελώου θύγατερ,

πότνι' εὐπάρθενε Δίρκα,

520

σὺ γὰρ ἐν σαῖς ποτε παγαῖς

τὸ Διὸς βρέφος ἔλαβες,

ὅτε μηρῷ πυρὸς ἐξ ἅ'

θανάτου Ζεὺς ὁ τεκῶν ἦρ'

πασέ νιν, τὰδ' ἀναβοάσας·

525

Ἰθι, Διθύραμβ', ἐμὰν ἄρ'

σενα τάνδε βᾶθι νηδύν·

ἀναφαίνω σε τόδ', ὦ Βάκ'

|manger, crib ὥς ἂν |shadow- |look |dark, dusk 510
 |born at, see;
 ἐκεῖ |dance τάσδε δ' ἄς ἄλλοις |treat
 |with παρέι
 |respect
 κακῶν |cooperating; ἢ διεμπολήσομεν
 |colleague
 ἦ χεῖρα |roar τοῦδε καὶ |hide, skin τύπου
 παύσας, ἐφ' |loom δμωίδας |acquire

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. |go, march ἔν' ὅ τι γὰρ μὴ χρεῶν, οὔτοι χρεῶν 515
 παθεῖν. ἀτάρ τοι τῶνδ' |ransom |outrage,
 |insolence
 μέτεισι Διόνυσός σ', ὃν οὐκ εἶναι λέγεις·
 ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἀδικῶν κείνον εἰς |bond, ἄγεις.
 |latch,
 |strap
 ΧΟΡΟΣ. 519 Ἀχελώου θύγατερ,

|lady εὐπάρθενε Δίρκα, 520
 σὺ γὰρ ἐν σαῖς ποτε παγαῖς
 τὸ Διὸς |fetus, baby ἔβες,
 ὅτε |thigh πυρὸς ἐξ αὔ
 θανάτου Ζεὺς ὁ τεκὼν ἦρ'
 πασέ νιν, τὰδ' ἀναβοάσας· 525
 Ἰθι, |dithyramb , ἐμὰν ἄρ'
 σενα τάνδε βᾶθι |belly, womb
 |reveal, σε τόδ', ὦ Βάκ'
 |shine

Aye, let him lie in the manger! — There abide
 And stare into the darkness! — And this rout
 Of womankind that clusters thee about,
 Thy ministers of worship, are my slaves!
 It may be I will sell them o'er the waves,
 Hither and thither; else they shall be set
 To labour at my distaffs, and forget
 Their timbrel and their songs of dawning day!
 DIONYSUS. I go; for that which may not be, I may
 Not suffer! Yet for this thy sin, lo, He
 Whom thou deniest cometh after thee
 For recompense. Yea, in thy wrong to us,
 Thou hast cast Him into thy prison-house!

DIONYSUS, without his wand, his hair shorn, and his arms tightly bound, is led
 off by the guards to his dungeon. PENTHEUS returns into the Palace.

CHORUS. Achelous' roaming daughter,
 Holy Dirce, virgin water,
 Bathed he not of old in thee,
 The Babe of God, the Mystery?
 When from out the fire immortal
 To himself his God did take him,
 To his own flesh, and bespake him:
 "Enter now life's second portal,
 Motherless Mystery; lo, I break
 Mine own body for thy sake,

*vocabulary***ἀναίνομαι** refuse, reject**ἀναφαίνω** reveal, shine ~phenomenon**ἀντίπαλος** rival; balanced**ἀπωθέω** repel, reject**βοτρυώδης** like a bunch of grapes**βρότειος** mortal**βρόχος** rope, noose**δράκων** -οντος (m, 3) serpent**ἐκφύω** spring from ~physics**ἐντός** within**θίασος** revel; group of people**μέλω** concern, interest, be one's
responsibility**ναί** yea**ὀνομάζω** to address, name ~name**ὀργή** urge, impulse; anger**πότε** when?**στεφανηφόρος** crowned**τάχα** quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

τέρας -ως (n, 3) omen, fetish**φέως** bush used to make brooms**φόα** pustule**φόνιος** bloody**φυτεύω** plant, grow, cause, prepare

~physics

χθόνιος in, from, under the earth

χιε, Θήβαις ὀνομάζειν.

σὺ δέ μ', ὦ μάκαιρα Δίρκα,

530

στεφανηφόρους ἀπωθῇ

θιάσους ἔχουσιν ἐν σοί.

τί μ' ἀναίνη; τί με φεύγεις;

ἔτι ναὶ τὰν βοτρυνώδη

Διονύσου χάριν οἶνας,

535

ἔτι σοι τοῦ Βρομίου μελήσει.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. οἶαν οἶαν ὄργαν ἀναφαίνει χθόνιον

γένος ἐκφύς τε δράκοντός

ποτε Πενθεύς, ὃν Ἑχίων

540

ἐφύτευσε χθόνιος,

ἀγριωπὸν τέρας, οὐ φῶ'

τα βρότειον, φόνιον δ' ὥς

τε γίγαντ' ἀντίπαλον θεοῖς·

ὃς ἔμ' ἐν βρόχοισι τὰν τοῦ

545

Βρομίου τάχα ξυνάψει,

τὸν ἐμὸν δ' ἐντὸς ἔχει δῶ'

ματος ἤδη θιασώταν

χιε, Θήβαις |to address, name

σὺ δέ μ', ὦ μάκαιρα Δίρκα,

530

|crowned |repel,
 |reject

|revel; group ἦσαν ἐν σοί.
|of people

τί μ' |ἀναίνομαι?: refuse, reject; or
 |ἀναίνομαι?: refuse, reject

ἔτι |yea τὰν |like a bunch
 |of grapes

Διονύσου χάριν οἶνας,

535

ἔτι σοι τοῦ Βρομίου |be in/on the mind

ΧΟΡΟΣ. οἶαν οἶαν |urge, |reveal, |in, from, un-
 |impulse shine |der the earth
 |anger
γένος |spring . . |serpent
 |from

ποτε Πενθεύς, ὄν Ἐχίων

540

|plant, |in, from, un-
|grow, |der the earth
|cause.
|prepare ὀνείμαν πόν |omen, , οὐ φῶ'
 |fetish

τα |mortal , |bloody δ' ὥσ'

τε γίγαντ' |rival; θεοῖς.
 |balanced

ὅς ἔμ' ἐν |rope, τὰν τοῦ
 |noose

545

Βρομίου |quickly, soon; ι,
 |perhaps

τὸν ἐμὸν δ' |within ἔχει δῶ'

ματος ἤδη θιασώταν

Thou of the Twofold Door, and seal thee
Mine, O Bromios," — thus he spake
— "And to this thy land reveal thee."
Still my prayer toward thee quivers,
Dirce, still to thee I hie me;
Why, O Blessed among Rivers,
Wilt thou fly me and deny me?
By His own joy I vow,
By the grape upon the bough,
Thou shalt seek Him in the midnight, thou shalt love Him, even now!
Dark and of the dark impassioned
Is this Pentheus' blood; yea, fashioned
Of the Dragon, and his birth
From Echion, child of Earth.
He is no man, but a wonder;
Did the Earth-Child not beget him,
As a red Giant, to set him
Against God, against the Thunder?
He will bind me for his prize,
Me, the Bride of Dionyse;
And my priest, my friend, is taken
Even now, and buried lies;

*vocabulary***ἄμιλλα** conflict**βλώσκω** come, go**δένδρον** tree**είρκτή** prison**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect

~panorama

ἐνειμι be in ~ion**ἐνός** speechless, dumbfounded**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**θαλάμη** den, hole ~thalamus**θίασος** revel; group of people**θύρσος** ivied wand**κιθαρίζω** play the harp**κορυφή** peak, crown**κρυπτός** hidden, secret ~cryptic**μάκαπ** fortunate ~macarism**μάκαρ** fortunate ~macarism**μολίσκω** come, go**μοῦσα** muse**σέβομαι** feel shame, awe**σκότιος** shadow-born ~shadow**συνάγνυμι** (υῦ) shatter, shred**συνάγω** assemble; join in battle

~demagogue

τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

τινάσσω shake; brandish**ὔβρις** -εως (f) pride, insolence, outrage**φόνιος** bloody**χορεύω** dance

σκοτίαις κρυπτὸν ἐν εἶρκταῖς.

ἐσορᾶς τάδ', ὦ Διὸς παῖ

550

Διόνυσε, σοὺς προφήτας

ἐν ἀμίλλαισιν ἀνάγκας;

μόλε, χρυσῶπα τινάσσων,

ἄνα, θύρσον κατ' Ὀλυμπον,

φονίου δ' ἀνδρὸς ὕβριν κατάσχεις.

555

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πόθι Νύσας ἄρα τᾶς θη'

ροτρόφου θυρσοφορεῖς

θιάσους, ὦ Διόνυσ', ἧ

κορυφαῖς Κωρυκίαις;

τάχα δ' ἐν ταῖς πολυδένδρεσ'

560

σιν Ὀλύμπου θαλάμαις, ἔν'

θα ποτ' Ὀρφεὺς κιθαρίζων

σύναγεν δένδρεα μούσαις,

σύναγεν θήρας ἀγρώτας.

μάκαρ ὦ Πιερία,

565

σέβεταιί σ' Εὐΐος, ἥξει

τε χορεύσων ἅμα βακχεύ'

σκοτίαις |hidden, ἐν |prison
|secret

|look at, see; treat Διὸς παῖ
|with respect

550

Διόνυσσε, σοὺς προφήτας

ἐν |conflict ἀνάγκας;

μόλε, χρυσῶπα |shake;
|brandish

ἄνα, |ivied wand γ' Ὀλυμπον,

|bloody δ' ἀνδρὸς |hubris κατάσχεσ.

555

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πόθι Νύσας ἄρα τᾶς θῆ'

ροτρόφου θυρσοφορεῖς

|revel; group Διόνυσ', ἥ
|of people

|peak, Κωρυκίαις;
|crown

|quickly, soon; ὡς πολυδένδρεσ'
|perhaps

560

σιν Ὀλύμπου |den, hole , ἐν'

θα ποτ' Ὀρφεὺς |play the harp

σύναγεν |tree |muse

σύναγεν θήρας ἀγρώτας.

μάκαρ ὦ Πιερία,

565

σέβεται σ' Εὖιος, ἥξει

τε |dance ἅμα βακχεύ'

In the dark he lies forsaken!
Lo, we race with death, we perish,
Dionysus, here before thee!
Dost thou mark us not, nor cherish,
Who implore thee, and adore thee?
Hither down Olympus' side,
Come, O Holy One defied,
Be thy golden wand uplifted o'er the tyrant in his pride!
Oh, where art thou? In thine own
Nysa, thou our help alone?
O'er fierce beasts in orient lands
Doth thy thronging thyrsus wave,
By the high Corycian Cave,
Or where stern Olympus stands;
In the elm-woods and the oaken,
There where Orpheus harped of old,
And the trees awoke and knew him,
And the wild things gathered to him,
As he sang amid the broken
Glens his music manifold?
Dionysus loveth thee;
Blessed Land of Piërie,

*vocabulary***ἄ** ah!**αὐδά** voice, report ~Theravada**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

βλώσκω come, go**δεσπότης** -ου (m, 1) master, despot**διαβαίνω** pass over, cross ~basis**ἐκλύω** rescue from ~loose**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**εὐδαιμονία** prosperity**θίασος** revel; group of people**ἰός** arrow**ἰωή** a rush, a sweep**κέλαδος** loud noise**κλύω** hear, listen to ~Euclid**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μολίσκω come, go**πέδον** ground ~pedal**πόθεν** from where?**πότνια** lady ~potent**σειώ** shake ~seismic

μασι, τόν τ' ὠκυρόαν

διαβὰς Ἀξιὸν εἰλίσ'

σομένας Μαινάδας ἄξει,

570

Λυδίαν πατέρα τε, τὸν

τᾶς εὐδαιμονίας βροτοῖς

ὀλβοδόταν, τὸν ἔκλυον

εὐῖππον χώραν ὕδασιν

καλλίστοισι λιπαίνειν.

575

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἰώ, κλύετ' ἐμᾶς κλύετ' αὐδᾶς,

ἰὼ βάκχαι, ἰὼ βάκχαι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τίς ὅδε, τίς ὅδε πόθεν ὁ κέλαδος

ἀνά μ' ἐκάλεσεν Εὐΐου;

ΔΙ. ἰὼ ἰώ, πάλιν αὐδῶ,

580

ὁ Σεμέλας, ὁ Διὸς παῖς.

ΧΟ. ἰὼ ἰὼ δέσποτα δέσποτα,

μόλε νυν ἡμέτερον ἐς

θίασον, ὦ Βρόμιε Βρόμιε.

ΔΙ. σείε πέδον χθονὸς Ἑννοσι πότνια.

585

ΧΟ. ᾶ ᾶ,

μασι, τόν τ' ὠκυρόαν

|pass over, cross ἱλίσ'

σομένας |madwoman, ἵξει,
|maenad

570

Λυδῖαν πατέρα τε, τὸν

τᾶς εὐδαιμονίας βροτοῖς

ὀλβοδόταν, τὸν ἔκλυον

εὖιππον χώραν ὕδασιν

καλλίστοισι λιπαίνειν.

575

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἰώ, |hear ἑμᾶς |hear αὐδᾶς,

ἰὼ βάκχαι, ἰὼ βάκχαι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τίς ὄδε, τίς ὄδε πόθεν ὁ |loud noise

ἀνά μ' ἐκάλεσεν Εὐίου;

ΔΙ. ἰὼ ἰώ, πάλιν |speak,

580

ὁ Σεμέλας, ὁ Διὸς παῖς.

ΧΘ. ἰὼ ἰὼ |master, |master,
|despot |despot

μόλε νυν ἡμέτερον ἐς

|revel; group Ὕρόμει Βρόμει.
|of people

ΔΙ. σείε |ground ἄθονος Ἐννοσι |lady

585

ΧΘ. ᾶ ᾶ,

He will come to thee with dancing,
Come with joy and mystery;
With the Maenads at his hest
Winding, winding to the West;
Cross the flood of swiftly glancing
Axios in majesty;
Cross the Lydias, the giver
Of good gifts and waving green;
Cross that Father-Stream of story,
Through a land of steeds and glory
Rolling, bravest, fairest River
E'er of mortals seen!

A VOICE WITHIN. Io! Io!

Awake, ye damsels; hear my cry,
Calling my Chosen; hearken ye!

A MAIDEN. Who speaketh? Oh, what echoes thus?

ANOTHER. A Voice, a Voice, that calleth us!

THE VOICE. Be of good cheer! Lo, it is I,
The Child of Zeus and Semele.

A MAIDEN. O Master, Master, it is Thou!

ANOTHER. O Holy Voice, be with us now!

THE VOICE. Spirit of the Chained Earthquake,
Hear my word; awake, awake!

An Earthquake suddenly shakes

*vocabulary***ἄ** ah!**αἶθοψ** sparkling ~ether**ἄλαός** blind**ἄνω** (ἄ) accomplish, pass, waste;

upwards, out to sea

ἄπτω set on fire; attach; mid: touch,

seize ~haptic

αὐγάζω discern, recognize**βάρβαρος** non-Greek**βρόμιος** boisterous, epithet of Bacchus**βροντή** thunder ~brontosaurus**γόνος** offspring ~genus**δικάζω** judge**ἐκπλήσσω** panic, be knocked out

~plectrum

ἔμβολος insertable peg; ram; wedge

formation; porch

ἔπειμι lie upon; approach ~ion**κεραύνιος** of a thunderbolt**κίων** κίονος (ī, f) pillar**λάζομαι** grasp, seize**λάινος** of stone**λαμπάς** -δος (f, 3) torch**λεύσσω** see, look**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μέλαθρον roofbeam**μίν** him, her, it**νάσσω** trample, press down**πέδον** ground ~pedal**πεδόσε** to the ground, to the bottom**πότε** when?**προσδοκάω** expect**σέβομαι** feel shame, awe**στέγη** roof, ceiling, chamber**συμφλέγω** burn up**τάφος** (m) funeral, grave; (n)

astonishment

τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

τρομερός trembling**φλόξ** -γός (f) flame ~flame

τάχα τὰ Πενθέως μέλαθρα διατί

νάξεται πεσήμασιν.—

ὁ Διόνυσος ἀνὰ μέλαθρα·

σέβετέ νιν.— σέβομεν ὦ.—

590

εἶδετε λάινα κίοσιν ἔμβολα

διάδρομα τάδε; Βρόμιος ὄδ' ἀλα'

λάζεται στέγας ἔσω.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἄπτε κεραύνιον αἶθοπα λαμπάδα·

σύμφλεγε σύμφλεγε δώματα Πενθέος.

595

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ᾶ ᾶ, πῦρ οὐ λεύσσεις, οὐδ' αὐγάζη,

Σεμέλας ἱερὸν ἀμφὶ τάφον, ἄν

ποτε κεραυνόβολος ἔλιπε φλόγα

Δίου βροντᾶς;

δίκητε πεδόσε τρομερὰ σώματα

600

δίκητε, Μαινάδες· ὁ γὰρ ἄναξ

ἄνω κάτω τιθεῖς ἔπεισι

μέλαθρα τάδε Διὸς γόνος.

ΔΙ. βάρβαροι γυναιῖκες, οὕτως ἐκπεπληγμένοι φόβῳ

πρὸς πέδῳ πεπτώκατ'; ἤσθησθ', ὥς ἔοικε, Βακχίου

|quickly, ^{ττ}soon; *θέως* |roofbeam *διατί*
|perhaps

|trample, *πεσήμασιν*.—
|press
|down

ὁ Διόνυσος ἀνὰ |roofbeam

σέβετε νιν.— *σέβομεν ὦ*.—

590

εἶδετε |of |pillar |insertable peg; ram;
|stone |wedge formation; porch

διάδρομα τάδε; *Βρόμος ὄδ'* |blind

|grasp, |roof, ceiling, .
|seize |chamber

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. |set on fire; attach; |sparkling torch
|mid: touch, seize

σύμφλεγε σύμφλεγε δώματα Πενθέος.

595

ΧΟΡΟΣ. *ἂ ἂ, πῦρ οὐ* |see, look , *οὐδ'* |discern, ,
|recognize

Σεμέλας ἱερὸν ἀμφὶ |(m) funeral, grave;
|(n) astonishment

ποτε κεραυνόβολος ἔλιπε |flame

Δίου |thunder ,

|judge |to the |trembling *σώματα*
|ground,

600

|judge |to the |mad woman, *ὅ γὰρ ἄναξ*
|bottom
|maenad

ἄνω κάτω τιθεὶς ἔπεισι

|roofbeam *τάδε Διὸς* |offspring

ΔΙ. |non-Greek *γυναικες, οὕτως* |panic, be knocked *φóβω*
|out

πρὸς |ground *ἐπτώκατ'; ἤσθησθ', ὡς ἔοικε, Βακχίου*

the pillars of the Castle.

A MAIDEN. Ha! what is coming? Shall the hall
Of Pentheus racked in ruin fall?

LEADER. Our God is in the house! Ye maids adore Him!

CHORUS. We adore Him all!

THE VOICE. Unveil the Lightning's eye; arouse
The fire that sleeps, against this house!

Fire leaps upon the Tomb of Semele.

A MAIDEN. Ah, saw ye, marked ye there the flame
From Semele's enhallowed sod
Awakened? Yea, the Death that came
Ablaze from heaven of old, the same
Hot splendour of the shaft of God?

LEADER. Oh cast ye, cast ye, to the earth! The Lord
Cometh against this house! Oh, cast ye down,
Ye trembling damsels; He, our own adored,
God's Child hath come, and all is overthrown!

The Maidens cast themselves upon the ground, their eyes earthward. DIONYSUS,
alone and unbound, enters from the Castle.

DIONYSUS. Ye Damsels of the Morning Hills,

vocabulary

ἄημι blow

ἀθυμία (ῥ) despondency

αἶθω set on fire ~ether

ἀνάπτω bind; blame; kindle ~haptic

ἄνευ away from; not having; not
needing ~Sp. sin

ἀνόσιος unholy

ἄπτω set on fire; attach; mid: touch,
seize ~haptic

ἄω aor: to sate ~sate

βόσκω feed, tend ~bovine

βρόχος rope, noose

γόνυ γουνός (n, 3) knee ~polygon

δεσμεύω to chain

δέσμιος binding; enchanting

διατινάσσω shake apart

εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama

εἰσπέμπω send in

ἐκσώζω save from

ἐλευθερόω set free

ἐξάνιστημι raise, bring/send out

ἐρημία wilderness, solitude

ἡδομαι be pleased, enjoy ~hedonism

ἡνίκα when

ἥσυχος quiet

θαρσέω be of good heart

θάσσω sit

θιγγάνω touch

ἰδρώς sweat ~exude

καθυβρίζω insult

κατέργω shut in; hinder

λέύσσω see, look

ὀδούς -ντος (m) tooth

πλησίος near, neighboring

πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia

σκοτεινός dark

στάζω dribble, infuse

συμφορά collecting; accident,
misfortuneσυνάπτω join, partake; adjoin; consult;
fight ~haptic

ταῦρος bull ~steer

τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n)
astonishment

τρόμος trembling in fear ~tremble

φάος φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
eyes ~photon

φάτνη manger, crib

φύλαξ -χος (m) guard; sentry
~phylactery

χεῖλος -εος (n, 3) lip

χηλή hoof

διατινάξαντος δῶμα Πενθέως· ἀλλ' ἐξανίστατε
σῶμα καὶ θαρσείτε σαρκὸς ἐξαμεύσασαι τρόμον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ φάος μέγιστον ἡμῶν εὐίου βακχεύματος,
ὥς ἐσείδον ἀσμένη σε, μονάδ' ἔχουσ' ἐρημίαν.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. εἰς ἀθυμίαν ἀφίκεσθ', ἡνίκ' εἰσεπεμπόμην, 610
Πενθέως ὥς ἐς σκοτεινὰς ὀρκάνας πεσούμενος;

ΧΘ. πῶς γὰρ οὐ; τίς μοι φύλαξ ἦν, εἰ σὺ συμφορᾶς τύχοις;
ἀλλὰ πῶς ἡλευθερώθης ἀνδρὸς ἀνοσίου τυχών;

ΔΙ. αὐτὸς ἐξέσωσ' ἐμαυτὸν ῥαδίως ἄνευ πόνου.

ΧΘ. οὐδέ σου συνῆψε χεῖρε δεσμίοισιν ἐν βρόχοις; 615

ΔΙ. ταῦτα καὶ καθύβρις αὐτόν, ὅτι με δεσμεύειν δοκῶν
οὗτ' ἔθιγεν οὐθ' ἥψαθ' ἡμῶν, ἐλπίσιν δ' ἐβόσκετο.
πρὸς φάτναις δὲ ταῦρον εὐρών, οὗ καθεῖρξ' ἡμᾶς ἄγων,
τῷδε περὶ βρόχους ἔβαλλε γόνασι καὶ χηλαῖς ποδῶν,
θυμὸν ἐκπνέων, ἰδρῶτα σώματος στάζων ἄπο, 620
χείλεσιν διδοὺς ὀδόντας· πλησίον δ' ἐγὼ παρὼν
ἦσυχος θάσσω ἔλευσσον. ἐν δὲ τῷδε τῷ χρόνῳ
ἀνετίναξ' ἐλθὼν ὁ Βάκχος δῶμα καὶ μητρὸς τάφῳ
πῦρ ἀνῆψ'· ὃ δ' ὥς ἐσεῖδε, δώματ' αἴθρεσθαι δοκῶν,

|shake apart δῶμα Πενθέως· ἀλλ' |raise, bring/send
out
σῶμα καὶ θαρσείτε σαρκὸς ἐξαμείψασαι |trembling in fear

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ φάος μέγιστον ἡμῶν εὐίου βακχεύματος,

ὥς |look at, see; treat σε, μονάδ' ἔχουσ' |wilderness,
|with respect |solitude

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. εἰς ἀθυμίαν ἀφίκεσθ', |when |send in 610

Πενθέως ὡς ἐς |dark ὀρκάνας πεσούμενος;

ΧΟ. πῶς γὰρ οὐ; τίς μοι |guard; ἦν, εἰ σὺ συμφορᾶς τύχοις;
|sentry

ἀλλὰ πῶς |set free ἀνδρὸς ἀνοσίου τυχών;

ΔΙ. αὐτὸς ἐξέσωσ' ἐμαυτὸν ῥαδίως ἄνευ πόνου.

ΧΟ. οὐδέ σου |join, partake;binding; ἐν |rope, , 615
|adjoin; consult;enchanted |noose

ΔΙ. ταῦτα καὶ καθύβρις αὐτόν, ὅτι με |to chain δοκῶν

οὗτ' |touch οὐθ' ἥψαθ' ἡμῶν, ἐλπίσιν δ' |feed, tend

πρὸς |manger, crib |bull εὐρών, οὐ καθεῖρξ' ἡμᾶς ἄγων,

τῷδε περὶ |rope, ἔβαλλε γόνασι καὶ |hoof ποδῶν,
|noose

θυμὸν ἐκπνέων, |sweat σώματος |dribble, ἄπο, 620
|infuse

|lip διδοὺς |tooth πλησίον δ' ἐγὼ παρῶν

|quiet θάσσω |see, look ἐν δὲ τῷδε τῷ χρόνῳ

ἀνετίναξ' ἐλθὼν ὁ Βάκχος δῶμα καὶ μητρὸς |(m) funeral, grave; (n)
|astonishment

πῦρ |bind; ὁ δ' ὡς ἐσεῖδε, δώματ' |set on fire δοκῶν,
|blame;
|kindle

why lie ye thus dismayed?

Ye marked him, then, our Master, and the mighty hand he laid
On tower and rock, shaking the house of Pentheus? — But arise,
And cast the trembling from your flesh, and lift untroubled eyes.

LEADER. O Light in Darkness, is it thou? O Priest, is this thy face?

My heart leaps out to greet thee from the deep of loneliness.

DIONYSUS. Fell ye so quick despairing, when beneath the Gate I passed?

Should the gates of Pentheus quell me, or his darkness make me fast?

LEADER. Oh, what was left if thou wert gone? What could I but despair?

How hast thou 'scaped the man of sin? Who freed thee from the snare?

DIONYSUS. I had no pain nor peril; 'twas mine own hand set me free.

LEADER. Thine arms were gyved!

DIONYSUS. Nay, no gyve, no touch, was laid on me!

'Twas there I mocked him, in his gyves, and gave him dreams for food.

For when he laid me down, behold, before the stall there stood

A Bull of Offering. And this King, he bit his lips and straight

Fell on and bound it, hoof and limb, with gasping wrath and sweat.

And I sat watching! — Then a Voice; and lo, our Lord was come,

And the house shook, and a great flame stood o'er his mother's tomb.

And Pentheus hied this way and that, and called his thralls amain

For water, lest his roof-tree burn; and all toiled, all

*vocabulary***αείδω** sing**αἰθήρ** ether, air, sky ~ether**αἶσσω** dart, glance**ἀρβύλη** ankle-boot**ἀρπάζω** carry off, seize ~harpoon**ἄρτι** at the same time**ἀσκέω** work on**ἄσσω** dart, glance**αὐλή** courtyard**γούν** at least then**δεσμός** bond, latch, strap; also (pl)

headdress

διαφεύγω escape, survive**δμώς** slave ~tame**εἶσω** into**ἐκβαίνω** come forth, disembark ~basis**ἐκεῖσε** thither**ἥσυχος** quiet**καταναγκάζω** coerce**κελαινός** black, dark, swarthy, murky**κεντέω** whip, goad**κόπος** beating; toil, fatigue**λυμαίνομαι** (ῥ) abuse, violate, desecrate**μάτην** in vain, randomly**μόχθος** toil**ξίφος** -εος (n, 3) sword**πικρός** sharp, bitter ~picric**πνέω** breathe, blow ~apnea**πονέω** work; be busy ~osteopenia**ρήγνυμι** (ῥ) to break**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**σφάζω** cut the throat**σώφρων** sensible, prudent ~frenzy**φάσμα** phantom, apparition**φροντίζω** consider, ponder**χαμάζε** to the ground**ψοφέω** make a noise

ἦσ' ἐκείσε κᾶτ' ἐκείσε, δμῶσιν Ἀχελῶον φέρειν 625

ἐννέπων, ἅπας δ' ἐν ἔργῳ δοῦλος ἦν, μάτην πονῶν.

διαμεθεῖς δὲ τόνδε μόχθον, ὥς ἐμοῦ πεφευγότες,

ῖεται ξίφος κελαινὸν ἀρπάσας δόμων ἔσω.

κᾶθ' ὁ Βρόμιος, ὥς ἔμοιγε φαίνεται, δόξαν λέγω,

φάσμ' ἐποίησεν κατ' αὐλήν· ὁ δ' ἐπὶ τοῦθ' ὠρμημένος 630

ἦσσε κακέντει φαεινὸν αἰθέρ', ὥς σφάζων ἐμέ.

πρὸς δὲ τοῖσδ' αὐτῷ τάδ' ἄλλα Βάκχιος λυμαίνεται·

δῶματ' ἔρρηξεν χαμαῖς· συντεθράνωται δ' ἅπαν

πικροτάτους ἰδόντι δεσμούς· τοὺς ἐμούς· κόπου δ' ὕπο

διαμεθεῖς ξίφος παρείται· πρὸς θεὸν γὰρ ὦν ἀνὴρ 635

εἰς μάχην ἐλθεῖν ἐτόλμησε. ἦσυχος δ' ἐκβὰς ἐγὼ

δωμάτων ἦκω πρὸς ὑμᾶς, Πενθέως οὐ φροντίσας.

ὥς δέ μοι δοκεῖ— ψοφεῖ γοῦν ἀρβύλη δόμων ἔσω

—εἰς προνώπι' αὐτίχ' ἦξει. τί ποτ' ἄρ' ἐκ τούτων ἐρεῖ;

ῥαδίως γὰρ αὐτὸν οἶσω, κἂν πνέων ἔλθῃ μέγα. 640

πρὸς σοφοῦ γὰρ ἀνδρὸς ἀσκεῖν σῶφρον' εὐοργησίαν.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. πέπονθα δεινά· διαπέφευγέ μ' ὁ ξένος,

ὃς ἄρτι δεσμοῖς ἦν κατηναγκασμένος.

ἦσ' |thither καὶ τ' |thither, |slave Ἀχελῶον φέρειν 625

ἐννέπων, ἅπας δ' ἐν ἔργῳ δοῦλος ἦν, μάτην |work

διαμεθεῖς δὲ τόνδε |toil, ὥς ἐμοῦ πεφευγότος,

ἔεται |sword |black |carry off, seize, ὧν ἔσω.

καὶ θ' ὁ Βρόμιος, ὥς ἔμοιγε φαίνεται, δόξαν λέγω,

|phantom, εἰήσεν κατ' αὐλήν· ὁ δ' ἐπὶ τοῦθ' ὠρμημένος 630
|apparition

|dart, ἀκέντει φαεινὸν |ether, ὥς |cut the throat.
|glance

πρὸς δὲ τοῖσδ' αὐτῷ τάδ' ἄλλα Βάκχιος |abuse, violate,
|desecrate

δωμάτ' |to break |to the ground ἐθράνεται δ' ἅπαν

|sharp ἰδόντι δεσμοὺς τοὺς ἐμούς· |beating; ἔπειτα
|toil, fatigue

διαμεθεῖς |sword παρείται· πρὸς θεὸν γὰρ ὦν ἀνὴρ 635

ἐς μάχην ἐλθεῖν ἐτόλμησε. |quiet δ' |come forth

δωμάτων ἤκω πρὸς ὑμᾶς, Πενθέως οὐ |consider,
|ponder

ὥς δέ μοι δοκεῖ— |make a |at |ankle-boot ἔμων ἔσω
|noise |least

—ἐς προνώπῃ αὐτίχ' ἤξει. τί ποτ' ἄρ' ἐκ τούτων ἐρεῖ;
|then

ῥαδίως γὰρ αὐτὸν οἶσω, κὰν |breathe, blow, μέγα. 640

πρὸς σοφοῦ γὰρ ἀνδρὸς |work on |sensible, εὐοργησίαν.
|prudent

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. πέπονθα δεινά· |escape, μὲν ὁ ξένος,
|survive

ὃς ἄρτι δεσμοῖς ἦν |coerce

in vain.

Then deemed a-sudden I was gone; and left his fire, and sped
Back to the prison portals, and his lifted sword shone red.
But there, methinks, the God had wrought—I speak but as I guess—
Some dream-shape in mine image; for he smote at emptiness,
Stabbed in the air, and strove in wrath, as though 'twere me he slew.
Then 'mid his dreams God smote him yet again! He overthrew
All that high house. And there in wreck for evermore it lies,
That the day of this my bondage may be sore in Pentheus' eyes!
And now his sword is fallen, and he lies outworn and wan
Who dared to rise against his God in wrath, being but man.
And I uprose and left him, and in all peace took my path
Force to my Chosen, recking light of Pentheus and his wrath.
But soft, methinks a footstep sounds even now within the hall;
Tis he; how think ye he will stand, and what words speak withal?
I will endure him gently, though he come in fury hot.
For still are the ways of Wisdom, and her temper trembleth not!

Enter PENTHEUS in fury

PENTHEUS. It is too much! This Eastern knave hath slipped

vocabulary

ἀγγέλλω carry a message, announce
 ~angel
ἄμπελος (f) vine
ἀνίημι urge, impel; release ~jet
βολή a hit with a missile; a glance
 ~ballistic
δεσμός bond, latch, strap; also (pl)
 headdress
διαφεύγω escape, survive
εἰσφέρω carry into/along; propose
 ~bear
ἐκλείπω leave out, pass over
ἥσυχος quiet
καινός new, fresh, strange

κλήϊω secure, bar
κρατύνω strengthen
κύκλος circle, wheel ~cycle
λευκός white ~light
ὀνειδίζω upbraid, reproach
ὀργή urge, impulse; anger
περάω cross over, drive across; sell as
 a slave ~pierce
πόθεν from where?
πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops
σοφός skilled, clever, wise
ὑπερβαίνω pass, transgress ~basis
ὑποτίθημι suggest, advise ~hypothesis
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics
χιών χιόνος (f, 3) snow

ἔα ἔα·

ὃδ' ἐστὶν ἀνὴρ· τί τάδε; πῶς προνώπιος 645

φαίνῃ πρὸς οἴκοις τοῖς ἐμοῖς, ἔξω βεβώς;

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. στήσον πόδ', ὀργῇ δ' ὑπόθεσ ἥσυχον πόδα.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. πόθεν σὺ δεσμὰ διαφυγὼν ἔξω περᾶς;

ΔΙ. οὐκ εἶπον— ἢ οὐκ ἤκουσας— ὅτι λύσει μέ τις;

ΠΕΝ. τίς; τοὺς λόγους γὰρ ἐσφέρεις καινοὺς αἰεί. 650

ΔΙ. ὃς τὴν πολύβοτρυν ἄμπελον φύει βροτοῖς. ΠΕΝ.

ΔΙ. ὠνείδισας δὴ τοῦτο Διονύσω καλόν.

ΠΕΝ. κλήειν κελεύω πάντα πύργον ἐν κύκλῳ.

ΔΙ. τί δ'; οὐχ ὑπερβαίνουνσι καὶ τείχη θεοί;

ΠΕΝ. σοφὸς σοφὸς σύ, πλὴν ἃ δεῖ σ' εἶναι σοφόν. 655

ΔΙ. ἃ δεῖ μάλιστα, ταῦτ' ἔγωγ' ἔφυν σοφός.

κείνου δ' ἀκούσας πρῶτα τοὺς λόγους μάθε,

ὃς ἐξ ὅρους πάρεστιν ἀγγελῶν τί σοι·

ἡμεῖς δέ σοι μενούμεν, οὐ φευξόμεθα.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. Πενθεῦ κρατύνων τῇσδε Θηβαίας χθονός, 660

ἦκω Κιθαιρῶν' ἐκλιπών, ἵν' οὔποτε

λευκῆς χιόνος ἀνείσαν εὐαγεῖς βολαί.

ἕα ἕα·

ὅδ' ἐστὶν ἀνὴρ· τί τάδε; πῶς προνώπιος

645

φαίνῃ πρὸς οἴκοις τοῖς ἐμοῖς, ἕξω βεβώς;

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ.

στήσον πόδ',	urge, ^ῥ	suggest quiet	πόδα.
		impulse;	

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ.

from	bond,	anger	ἕξω περᾶς;
where?	latch,	escape,	
	strap	survive	

ΔΙ. οὐκ εἶπον— ἢ οὐκ ἠκούσασ— ὅτι λύσει μέ τις;

ΠΕΝ. τίς; τοὺς λόγους γὰρ ἐσφέρεις |new, fresh, strange

650

ΔΙ. ὃς τὴν πολύβοτρυν |vine φύει βροτοῖς. ΠΕΝ.

ΔΙ. |reproach δὴ τοῦτο Διονύσω καλόν.

ΠΕΝ. κλήειν κελεύω πάντα

wall,	ἐν	circle,
tower		wheel

ΔΙ. τί δ'; οὐχ |pass, transgress :αὶ τείχη θεοί;

ΠΕΝ.

skilled,	skilled, -',	πλὴν ἂν δεῖ σ' εἶναι	skilled,
clever,	clever, wise		clever, wise

655

ΔΙ. ἂν δεῖ ^{wise} μάλιστα, ταῦτ' ἔγωγ'

pro-	skilled,
duce,	clever, wise
beget;	
clasp	

 κείνου δ' ἀκούσας πρῶτα τῶν λόγους μάθε,

ὃς ἐξ ὄρους πάρεστιν

carry a message, u'
announce

ἡμεῖς δέ σοι μενοῦμεν, οὐ φευξόμεθα.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. Πενθεῦ |strengthen τῇσδε Θηβαίας χθονός,

660

ἦκω Κιθαιρῶν' |leave out, pass over . . ε

|white |snow

urge,	εὐαγείς	hit; glance
impel;		
release		

His prison, whom I held but now, hard gripped
In bondage. — Ha! 'Tis he! — What, sirrah, how
Show'st thou before my portals?

He advances furiously upon him.

DIONYSUS. And set a quiet carriage to thy rage.

PENTHEUS. How comest thou here? How didst thou break thy cage?
Speak!

DIONYSUS. Said I not, or didst thou mark not me,
There was One living that should set me free?

PENTHEUS. Who? Ever wilder are these tales of thine.

DIONYSUS. He who first made for man the clustered vine.

PENTHEUS. I scorn him and his vines.

DIONYSUS. For Dionyse'

Tis well; for in thy scorn his glory lies.

PENTHEUS. Go swift to all the towers, and bar withal
Each gate!

DIONYSUS. What, cannot God o'erleap a wall?

PENTHEUS. Oh, wit thou hast, save where thou needest it!

DIONYSUS. Whereso it most imports, there is my wit! —

Nay, peace! Abide till he who hasteth from

The mountain side with news for thee, be come.

We will not fly, but wait on thy command.

Enter suddenly and in haste a Messenger from the Mountain.

MESSENGER. Great Pentheus, Lord of all this Theban land,
I come from high Kithaeron, where the frore
Snow spangles gleam and cease not evermore...

PENTHEUS. And what of import may thy coming bring?

MESSENGER. I have seen the Wild White Women there, O King,

*vocabulary***ἄγελαῖος** of a herd ~demagogue**ἄθῳος** unpunished, blameless**ἄκτις** -νος (f) ray, beam ~actinic**ἄρτι** at the same time**βασιλικός** royal**βόσκημα** fed livestock**γυναικεῖος** of women ~queen**δράω** do, accomplish**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἐξακοντίζω** hurl forth**ἐξίημι** send forth, allow forth ~jet**θαῦμα** -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of
surprise ~theater**θερμαίνω** heat ~thermos**θίασος** revel; group of people**θυμώ** (ῶ) anger**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**κῶλον** limb**λέπας** -ως (n, 3) bare rock**λευκός** white ~light**λίαν** very**μόσχος** calf (animal)**οἷστρος** gadfly; an urge**πάντως** by all means**παρρησία** speaking freely**ποίη** grass**ποῖος** what kind**πότερος** which, whichever of two**προστίθηναι** add; impose; (mp) agree;
side with ~thesis**σπουδή** zeal; (dat) with difficulty,
hastily ~repudiate**στέλλω** prepare, send, furl ~apostle**τάχος** -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer**τέχνη** craft, art, plan, contrivance
~technology**τοσόσδε** this much**ὑποτίθηναι** suggest, advise ~hypothesis**χορός** dance; chorus ~terpsichorean**χρήζω** need ~chresard

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἥκεις δὲ ποίαν προστιθεῖς σπουδὴν λόγου;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. βάκχας ποτνιαῖδας εἰσιδὼν, αἶ τῆσδε γῆς

οἷστροισι λευκὸν κῶλον ἐξηκόντισαν, 665

ἥκω φράσαι σοὶ καὶ πόλει χρήζων, ἄναξ,

ὥς δεινὰ δρῶσι θαυμάτων τε κρείσσονα.

θέλω δ' ἀκοῦσαι, πότερά σοι παρρησία

φράσω τὰ κείθην ἢ λόγον στειλώμεθα·

τὸ γὰρ τάχος σου τῶν φρενῶν δέδοικ', ἄναξ, 670

καὶ τοῦξύθυμον καὶ τὸ βασιλικὸν λίαν.

ΠΕΝ. λέγ', ὥς ἀθῶρος ἐξ ἐμοῦ πάντως ἔσῃ.

τοῖς γὰρ δικαίοις οὐχὶ θυμοῦσθαι χρεών.

ὅσῳ δ' ἂν εἴπῃς δεινότερα βακχῶν πέρι,

τοσῶδε μᾶλλον τὸν ὑποθέντα τὰς τέχνας 675

γυναιξὶ τόνδε τῇ δίκῃ προσθήσομεν.

ΑΓ. ἀγελαῖα μὲν βοσκήματ' ἄρτι πρὸς λέπας

μόσχων ὑπεξήκριζον, ἥνιχ' ἥλιος

ἀκτῖνας ἐξίησι θερμαίνων χθόνα.

ὁρῶ δὲ θιάσους τρεῖς γυναικείων χορῶν, 680

ὧν ἡρχ' ἐνὸς μὲν Αὐτονόη, τοῦ δευτέρου

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἤκεις δὲ ποίαν προστιθεῖς |zeal; (dat) with ;
|difficulty, hastily

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. βάκχας ποτνιαῖδας |look at, see; treat δε γῆς
|with respect

|gadfly; an urge ὄν |limb |hurl forth , 665

ἦκω φράσαι σοὶ καὶ πόλει |need , ἄναξ,

ὥς δεινὰ |do, |wonder, τε κρείσσονα.
|accom- |surprise

θέλω δ' ἀκούσαι, |plish |which, -ι |speaking
|whichever |freely

φράσω τὰ κείθεν ἢ λόγον |prepare, send, furl

τὸ γὰρ |speed σου τῶν φρενῶν δέδοικ', ἄναξ, 670

καὶ τοῦξύθυμον καὶ τὸ |royal |very

ΠΕΝ. λέγ', ὥς |unpunished, οὐ |by all means,
|blameless

τοῖς γὰρ δικαίοις οὐχὶ |anger χρεών.

ὅσῳ δ' ἂν εἴπῃς δεινότερα βακχῶν πέρι,

τοσῶδε μᾶλλον τὸν |suggest τὰς |craft 675

γυναιξὶ τόνδε τῇ δίκη προσθήσομεν.

ΑΓ. |of a herd , μὲν |fed livestock |at the , same|bare rock
|time

|calf ὑπεξήκριζον, ἠνίχ' ἥλιος

|ray |send |heat χθόνα.

ὀρώ δὲ |allow |group of of women |dance;
|revel |chorus
|people

ὦν ἡρχ' ἐνὸς μὲν Αὐτονόη, τοῦ δευτέρου

Whose fleet limbs darted arrow-like but now
From Thebes away, and come to tell thee how
They work strange deeds and passing marvel. Yet
I first would learn thy pleasure. Shall I set
My whole tale forth, or veil the stranger part?
Yea Lord, I fear the swiftness of thy heart,
Thine edged wrath and more than royal soul.
PENTHEUS. Thy tale shall nothing scathe thee. — Tell the whole.
It skills not to be wroth with honesty.
Nay, if thy news of them be dark, 'tis he
Shall pay it, who bewitched and led them on.
MESSENGER. Our herded kine were moving in the dawn
Up to the peaks, the greyest, coldest time,
When the first rays steal earthward, and the rime
Yields, when I saw three bands of them. The one
Autonoë led, one Ino, one thine own

vocabulary

ἀγκάλη the bent arm ~ankylosaurus
ἄγριος wild, savage ~agriculture
ἄζυξ unpaired, unmarried
ἄμμια -τος (n, 3) knot, cord
ἀναίσσω rise, rise quickly
ἀναστέλλω repel, suppress
ἀποβάλλω throw away, lose
γάλα milk ~galaxy
γένυς jaw
δέμας -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like
δορά hide, flaying
δρῦς -ός (f) tree, oak, lumber ~druid
εἰκῇ haphazardly; in vain
ἐλάτη fir tree; oar
ἐρείδω press; mid: lean something
 against something, prop up
ἐρημόω raze, bereave; desert, isolate
εὕδω sleep, lie down, rest
θαλερός thriving, vigorous ~thallium
θαῦμα -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of
 surprise ~theater
θηράω hunt, chase
καθίζω set, sit, alight, set up ~sit
καθίημι (ι) speed down upon; take
 down ~jet
καίω burn ~caustic
κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά*
κάτοιδα understand
κινέω (ι) set in motion, move, remove
 ~kinetic
κομάω have long hair

κόμη hair ~comet
κρατήρ -ος (m) mixing bowl for wine
λευκός white ~light
λύκος wolf ~lycanthropy
λωτός clover? lotus?
νεβρίς fawnskin
νώτον back of the body; rear of an
 army; top of a box
νώτος back of the body; rear of an
 army; top of a box
οἰνόω make drunk ~wine
ὀλολύζω whoop in triumph, shout
 ecstatically
ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just
 ~orthogonal
ὄφις ὄφεως (m) serpent ~ophidian
παλαιός old ~paleo
παρέζομαι sit beside ~sit
παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
παρίημι dangle; pass over, allow ~jet
πέδον ground ~pedal
σκύμνος cub
σώφρων sensible, prudent ~frenzy
ὕλη (ι) forest, firewood
ὕληεις (ι) wooded
ὑπνον a sleep
ὑπνος a sleep
φόβη lock of hair; mane; foliage
φύλλον leaf
χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean
ψόφος noise

μήτηρ Ἀγαυή σή, τρίτου δ' Ἴνῳ χοροῦ.

ἡῦδον δὲ πᾶσαι σώμασιν παρειμέναι,

αἱ μὲν πρὸς ἐλάτης νῶτ' ἐρείσασαι φόβην,

αἱ δ' ἐν δρυὸς φύλλοισι πρὸς πέδῳ κάρᾳ

685

εἰκῇ βαλοῦσαι σωφρόνως, οὐχ ὥς σὺ φῆς

ὄνωμένας κρατῆρι καὶ λωτοῦ ψόφῳ

θηρᾶν καθ' ὕλην Κύπριν ἡρημωμένας.

ἡ σὴ δὲ μήτηρ ὠλόλυξεν ἐν μέσῃσιν

σταθεῖσα βάκχαις, ἐξ ὕπνου κινεῖν δέμας,

690

μυκῆμαθ' ὥς ἤκουσε κεροφόρων βοῶν.

αἱ δ' ἀποβαλοῦσαι θαλερὸν ὀμμάτων ὕπνον

ἀνῆξαν ὀρθαί, θαῦμ' ἰδεῖν εὐκοσμίας,

νέαι παλαιαὶ παρθένοι τ' ἔτ' ἄζυγες.

καὶ πρῶτα μὲν καθεῖσαν εἰς ὤμους κόμας

695

νεβρίδας τ' ἀνεστείλανθ' ὅσαισιν ἀμμάτων

σύνδεσμ' ἐλέλυτο, καὶ καταστίκτους δορὰς

ὄφεσι κατεζώσαντο λιχμῶσιν γένυν.

αἱ δ' ἀγκάλαισι δορκάδ' ἢ σκύμνους λύκων

ἀγρίους ἔχουσαι λευκὸν ἐδίδοσαν γάλα,

μήτηρ Ἀγαυή σή, τρίτου δ' Ἴνῳ |dance;
|chorus

ἡῦδον δὲ πᾶσαι σώμασιν παρειμέναι,

αἶ μὲν πρὸς |fir tree; oar . . . |press; mid; |lock of hair;
|lean, prop |mane; foliage

αἶ δ' ἐν |tree, oak, lumber . πρὸς |grounduseless bit;
|form of κατά

685

|haphazardly; in|sensible, , οὐχ ὥς σὺ φῆς
|vain |prudent

|make drunk |mixing bow|clover? |noise
|for wine |lotus?

|hunt, καθ' ὕλην Κύπρῳ |raze, bereave;
|chase |desert, isolate

ἦ σὴ δὲ μήτηρ |whoop ἐν μέσσαις

σταθείσα βάκχαις, ἐξ ὕπνου κινεῖν |body; (+gen.) like

690

μυκήμαθ' ὥς ἤκουσε κεροφόρων βοῶν.

αἶ δ' |throw away, lose|thriving, |eye ὕπνον
|vigorous

ἀνῆξαν ὀρθαί, θαῦμ' ἰδεῖν εὐκοσμίας,

νέαι παλαιαὶ παρθένοι τ' ἔτ' |unpaired,
|unmarried

καὶ πρῶτα μὲν καθεῖσαν εἰς ὤμους κόμας

695

|fawnskin τ' ἀνεστείλανθ' ὅσαισιν |knot, cord

σύνδεσμ' ἐλέλυτο, καὶ καταστίκτους |hide,
|flaying

|serpent .ατεζώσαντο λιχμῶσιν |jaw

αἶ δ' |the bent arm ὀρκάδ' ἦ |cub |wolf

ἀγρίους ἔχουσαι λευκὸν ἐδίδοσαν |milk

Mother, Agave. There beneath the trees
Sleeping they lay, like wild things flung at ease
In the forest; one half sinking on a bed
Of deep pine greenery; one with careless head
Amid the fallen oak leaves; all most cold
In purity—not as thy tale was told
Of wine-cups and wild music and the chase
For love amid the forest's loneliness.
Then rose the Queen Agave suddenly
Amid her band, and gave the God's wild cry,
"Awake, ye Bacchanals! I hear the sound
Of horned kine. Awake ye!"—Then, all round,
Alert, the warm sleep fallen from their eyes,
A marvel of swift ranks I saw them rise,
Dames young and old, and gentle maids unwed
Among them. O'er their shoulders first they shed
Their tresses, and caught up the fallen fold
Of mantles where some clasp had loosened hold,
And girt the dappled fawn-skins in with long
Quick snakes that hissed and writhed with quivering tongue.
And one a young fawn held, and one a wild
Wolf cub, and fed them with white milk, and smiled

*vocabulary***ἄκρον** crest, extremity ~acute**ἄκρος** at the edge, extreme ~acute**ἄστυ** -εως (n, 3) town**βουκόλος** herdsman ~bovine**βρέφος** -ους (n, 3) fetus, baby**γάλα** milk ~galaxy**γλυκύς** sweet, pleasant ~glycerine**δάκτυλος** finger, toe**διαμάω** cut through**δράω** do, accomplish**δρῦς** -ός (f) tree, oak, lumber ~druid**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἐκπηδάω** sally, leave**ἐξανίημι** send upward ~jet**ἐπαείδω** sing with, to; charm**ἐπάξιος** worthy of**ἔρις** -δος (f) strife**θαῦμα** -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of
surprise ~theater**θηράω** hunt, chase**θύρσος** ivied wand**καθέζομαι** act: set, seat; pass: sit
down, sit up**καθήκω** come down, (a day) to fall,
arrive; be proper**καθίημι** (ι) speed down upon; take
down ~jet**κίσσινος** of ivy**κοινός** communal, ordinary**κοινόω** make common; cooperate**κρήνη** well, spring**λευκός** white ~light**μαστός** nipple, breast**μέλι** honey, a sweet**μετέρχομαι** seek, visit**μίλαξ** oak, yew, morning glory**νάρθηξ** -κος (m) fennel stalk**ὅθεν** whence**παίζω** play ~pediatrician**παίω** hit**πέδον** ground ~pedal**πέτρα** rock, cliff, reef ~petrified**πλάνη** wandering**πλάνης** -τος (m, 3) wanderer**πλάξ** -κός (f) flat thing**πόθος** longing, regret ~bid**ποιμήν** -ένος (m, 3) shepherd ~pastor**πῶμα** -τος (n, 3) cover; drink ~pastor**ῥοά** pl: waters of a river ~rheostat**σεμνός** revered, holy**σπαργάω** be turned on**στάζω** dribble, infuse**στέφανος** ring**στεφανός** crown**συνέρχομαι** come together**τρίβω** (ι) rub; (mid) be worn out
~tribulation**ψέγω** blame, censure

ὅσαις νεοτόκοις μαστὸς ἦν σπαργῶν ἔτι
 βρέφη λιπούσαις· ἐπὶ δ' ἔθεντο κισσίνους
 στεφάνους δρυὸς τε μίλακός τ' ἀνθεςφόρου.
 θύρσον δέ τις λαβοῦς' ἔπαισεν ἐς πέτραν,
 ὅθεν δροσώδης ὕδατος ἐκπηδᾷ νοτίς·
 ἄλλη δὲ νάρθηκ' ἐς πέδον καθῆκε γῆς,
 καὶ τῇδε κρήνην ἐξανῆκ' οἶνου θεός·
 ὅσαις δὲ λευκοῦ πώματος πόθος παρῆν,
 ἄκροισι δακτύλοισι διαμῶσαι χθόνα
 γάλακτος ἔσμοὺς εἶχον· ἐκ δὲ κισσίνων
 θύρσων γλυκεῖαι μέλιτος ἔσταζον ῥοαί.
 ὥστ', εἰ παρῆσθα, τὸν θεὸν τὸν νῦν ψέγεις
 εὐχαῖσιν ἂν μετῆλθες εἰσιδὼν τάδε.
 ξυνήλθομεν δὲ βουκόλοι καὶ ποιμένες,
 κοινῶν λόγων δώσοντες ἀλλήλοις ἔρην
 ὥς δεινὰ δρῶσι θαυμάτων τ' ἐπάξια·
 καὶ τις πλάνης κατ' ἄστνυ καὶ τρίβων λόγων
 ἔλεξεν εἰς ἅπαντας· ὦ σεμνὰς πλάκας
 ναίοντες ὀρέων, θέλετε θηρασώμεθα

705

710

715

ὅσαις νεοτόκοις |breast ἦν |be turned on ἰ

|fetus, baby.. ούσαις· ἐπὶ δ' ἔθεντο |of ivy

στεφάνους |tree, oak|oak, yew, θεσφόρου.
|lumber |morning glory

|ivied wand' τις λαβοῦσ' ἔπαισεν ἐς πέτραν,

ὅθεν δροσώδης ὕδατος |sally, νοτίς·
|leave

ἄλλη δὲ |fennel ἐς |ground :αθήκε γῆς,
|stalk

καὶ τῇδε |well, ἔξανῆκ' οἴνου θεός·
|spring

ὅσαις δὲ λευκοῦ |cover; |longing, ἀρῆν,
|drink |regret

ἄκροισι |finger, toe |cut through ἄθονα

|milk ἔσμονς εἶχον· ἐκ δὲ |of ivy

|ivied |sweet, |honey |dribble, ῥοαί.
|wand |pleasant |infuse

ὥστ', εἰ παρῆσθα, τὸν θεὸν τὸν νῦν |blame,
|censure

εὐχαῖσιν ἂν |seek, visit εἰσιδὼν τάδε.

ξυνήλθομεν δὲ |herdsman καὶ ποιμένες,

κοινῶν λόγων δώσοντες ἀλλήλοις ἔριν

ὥς δεινὰ δρῶσι |wonder, τ' |worthy of
|surprise

καὶ τις πλάνης κατ' ἄστν καὶ τρίβων λόγων

ἔλεξεν εἰς ἅπαντας· Ὡ |revered, |flat thing
|holy

ναίοντες ὀρέων, θέλετε |hunt, chase

705

710

715

In love, young mothers with a mother's breast
And babes at home forgotten! Then they pressed
Wreathed ivy round their brows, and oaken sprays
And flowering bryony. And one would raise
Her wand and smite the rock, and straight a jet
Of quick bright water came. Another set
Her thyrsus in the bosomed earth, and there
Was red wine that the God sent up to her,
A darkling fountain. And if any lips
Sought whiter draughts, with dipping finger-tips
They pressed the sod, and gushing from the ground
Came springs of milk. And reed-wands ivy-crowned
Ran with sweet honey, drop by drop. — O King,
Hadst thou been there, as I, and seen this thing,
With prayer and most high wonder hadst thou gone
To adore this God whom now thou rail'st upon!
Howbeit, the kine-wardens and shepherds straight
Came to one place, amazed, and held debate;
And one being there who walked the streets and scanned
The ways of speech, took lead of them whose hand
Knew but the slow soil and the solemn hill,
And flattering spoke, and asked: "Is it your will,

*vocabulary***ἄθροός** grouped**ἄκίνητος** motionless, immovable**ἀναβοάω** shout out**ἄσιδηρος** not of iron; without sword**γόνος** offspring ~genus**δέμας** -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like**δίχα** in two, in two ways**δρόμος** running, racing ground

~hippodrome

ἐπέρχομαι approach, arrive**θάμνος** bush**θηράω** hunt, chase**θρώσκω** spring, dart ~dart**θύρσος** ivied wand**κενώ** make empty**κινέω** (i) set in motion, move, remove

~kinetic

κρύπτω hide, cover ~cryptic**κυρέω** come upon, come up against;
obtain**λόχη** lair**μέτεμι** be among, go, follow ~ion**μόσχος** calf (animal)**μυκάομαι** (ū) moo, creak, ring**νέμω** to allot, to pasture ~nemesi**ὀπλίζω** prepare, arm ~hoplite**πλησίος** near, neighboring**πόρις** -εως (f) calf (baby cow)

~parturition

πρόσοιδα (+χάριν) be grateful besides**προσοράω** look at**σπαραγμός** tearing; spasm**συναρπάζω** snatch with**φόβη** lock of hair; mane; foliage

Πενθέως Ἀγαύην μητέρ' ἐκ βακχευμάτων 720
 χάριν τ' ἄνακτι θώμεθα; εὖ δ' ἡμῖν λέγειν
 ἔδοξε, θάμνων δ' ἔλλοχίζομεν φόβαις
 κρύψαντες αὐτούς· αἱ δὲ τὴν τεταγμένην
 ὥραν ἐκίνουν θύρσον ἐς βακχεύματα,
 Ἰακχον ἀθρόω στόματι τὸν Διὸς γόνον 725
 Βρόμιον καλοῦσαι· πᾶν δὲ συνεβάκχευ' ὄρος
 καὶ θῆρες, οὐδὲν δ' ἦν ἀκίνητον δρόμῳ.
 κυρεῖ δ' Ἀγαύη πλησίον θρώσκουσά μου·
 κἀγὼ ξεπήδησ' ὡς συναρπάσαι θέλων,
 λόχμην κενώσας ἔνθ' ἐκρυπτόμην δέμας. 730
 ἦ δ' ἀνεβόησεν· ὦ δρομάδες ἐμαὶ κύνες,
 θηρώμεθ' ἀνδρῶν τῶνδ' ὕπ'· ἀλλ' ἔπεσθέ μοι,
 ἔπεσθε θύρσοις διὰ χερῶν ὥπλισμέναι.
 ἡμεῖς μὲν οἷν φεύγοντες ἐξηλύξαμεν
 βακχῶν σπαραγμόν, αἱ δὲ νεμομέναις χλόην 735
 μόσχους ἐπῆλθον χειρὸς ἀσιδήρου μέτα.
 καὶ τὴν μὲν ἂν προσεΐδες εὖθηλον πόριν
 μυκωμένην ἔχουσαν ἐν χεροῖν δίχα,

Πενθέως Ἀγαύην μητέρ' ἐκ βακχευμάτων

720

χάριν τ' ἄνακτι θώμεθα; εἶ δ' ἡμῖν λέγειν

ἔδοξε, |bush δ' ἔλλοχιζόμεν |lock of hair;
|mane; foliage

|hide, cover αὐτούς· αἱ δὲ τὴν τεταγμένην

ῥαν |move, |ivied wand βακχεύματα,
|remove

Ἰακχον |grouped ἰτόματι τὸν Διὸς |offspring

725

Βρόμιον καλοῦσαι· πᾶν δὲ συνεβάκχεν ὄρος

καὶ θῆρες, οὐδὲν δ' ἦν |motionless, |running
|immovable

|come upon ὅ' ἂν, αὐτὴ |near |spring, dart μου·

καγὼ ξεπήδησ' ὥς |snatch with θέλων,

|lair |make empty ἦ |hide, cover |body; (+gen.) like

730

ἦ δ' |shout out ὦ δρομάδες ἐμαὶ κύνες,

|hunt, ἀνδρῶν τῶνδ' ὑπ' ἀλλ' ἔπεσθέ μοι,
|chase

ἔπεσθε |ivied wand ἰ χερῶν |prepare, arm .

ἡμεῖς μὲν οὖν φεύγοντες ἐξηλύξαμεν

βακχῶν |tearing; , αἱ δὲ |distribute χλόην
|spasm

735

|calf |approach, χειρὸς |not of iron; i.
|arrive |without sword

καὶ τὴν μὲν ἂν προσεῖδες εὐθηλον |calf

|moo, creak, ring ὕσαν ἐν χεροῖν |in two, in two ways

Masters, we stay the mother of the King,
Agave, from her lawless worshipping,
And win us royal thanks?" — And this seemed good
To all; and through the branching underwood
We hid us, cowering in the leaves. And there
Through the appointed hour they made their prayer
And worship of the Wand, with one accord
Of heart and cry
"Iacchos, Bromios, Lord,
God of God born!" — And all the mountain felt,
And worshipped with them; and the wild things knelt
And ramped and gloried, and the wilderness
Was filled with moving voices and dim stress.
Soon, as it chanced, beside my thicket-close
The Queen herself passed dancing, and I rose
And sprang to seize her. But she turned her face
Upon me: "Ho, my rovers of the chase,
My wild White Hounds, we are hunted! Up, each rod
And follow, follow, for our Lord and God!"
Thereat, for fear they tear us, all we fled
Amazed; and on, with hand unweaponed
They swept toward our herds that browsed the green
Hill grass. Great uddered kine then hadst thou seen

vocabulary

ἀναφύρω (ῥ) confuse; defile
ἄνω (ᾱ) accomplish, pass, waste;
 upwards, out to sea
ἀρπάζω carry off, seize ~harpoon
βασιλείος kingly
βλέφαρον eyelid
βόστρυχος curl, lock
δέμας -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like
δεσμέω to chain
δεσμός bond, latch, strap; also (pl)
 headdress
δίχληλος having cloven hoofs, pincers
δρόμος running, racing ground
 ~hippodrome
ἐκβάλλω throw out, fell, let fall
 ~ballistic
ἐλάτη fir tree; oar
ἐμβαίνω step on, board ~basis
ἐνδυτός (clothing) worn
θυμός (ῥ) anger
κέρας -τος (n, 3) horn; military unit
 ~ceratopsia

κεράω mix in a bowl
λέπας -ως (n, 3) bare rock
μυριάς -δος (ῥ, f, 3) countless, myriad
νεᾶνις -δος (f) young woman ~neon
νέρθε beneath, below
ὀπόσος as many as, how many, how
 great
ὄρνις -θος (ῥ, f) bird ~ornithology
πέδον ground ~pedal
πλευρά rib, side ~pleurisy
πλευρόν rib, side ~pleurisy
προσδοκάω expect
προσέχω direct to; think about
ρίπτω hurl
ῥοά pl: waters of a river ~rheostat
σίδηρος iron ~siderite
στάζω dribble, infuse
στάχυς head of grain
σφάλλω overthrow, balk, stagger
ταῦρος bull ~steer
ὕβριστης -οῦ (m, 1) wanton, savage
χωρέω withdraw, give way to (+dat)
 ~heir

ἄλλαι δὲ δαμάλας διεφόρουν σπαράγμασιν.

εἶδες δ' ἂν ἧ πλευρ' ἧ δίχληλον ἔμβασιν

740

ρίπτόμεν' ἄνω τε καὶ κάτω· κρεμαστὰ δὲ

ἔσταζ' ὑπ' ἐλάταις ἀναπεφυρμέν' αἷματι.

ταῦροι δ' ὑβριστὰι καὶ κέρας θυμούμενοι

τὸ πρόσθεν ἐσφάλλοντο πρὸς γαῖαν δέμας,

μυριάσι χειρῶν ἀγόμενοι νεανίδων.

745

θᾶσσον δὲ διεφοροῦντο σαρκὸς ἐνδυτὰ

ἧ σὲ ξυνάψαι βλέφαρα βασιλείοις κόραις.

χωροῦσι δ' ὥστ' ὄρνιθες ἀρθεῖσαι δρόμῳ

πεδίων ὑποτάσεις, αἱ παρ' Ἀσωποῦ ροαῖς

εὐκαρπον ἐκβάλλουσι Θηβαίων στάχυν·

750

Ῥυσίας τ' Ἐρυθράς θ', αἱ Κιθαιρώνος λέπας

νέρθεν κατωκῆκασιν, ὥστε πολέμιοι,

ἐπεσπεσοῦσαι πάντ' ἄνω τε καὶ κάτω

διέφερον· ἥρπαζον μὲν ἐκ δόμων τέκνα·

ὅποσα δ' ἐπ' ὤμοις ἔθεσαν, οὐ δεσμῶν ὑπο

755

προσείχετ' οὐδ' ἔπιπτεν ἐς μέλαν πέδον,

οὐ χαλκός, οὐ σίδηρος· ἐπὶ δὲ βοστρύχοις

ἄλλαι δὲ δαμάλας διεφόρουν σπαράγμασιν.

εἶδες δ' ἂν ἥ πλευρ' ἥ |having |step on, board
cloven
|hurl ἄνω τε καὶ κάτω |hoofs,
pincers κρεμαστὰ δὲ

|dribble, ἵπ' |fir tree;|confuse; defile αἵματι.
|infuse |oar

ταῦροι δ' |wanton, κὰς κέρας |anger
|savage

τὸ πρόσθεν |overthrow, balk . . ρὸς γαῖαν |body; (+gen.) like

|countless, χεῖρων ἀγόμενοι |young
|myriad |woman

θᾶσσον δὲ διεφοροῦντο σαρκὸς |(clothing) worn

ἥ σὲ ξυνάψαι |eyelid βασιλείοις κόραις.

|withdraw, δῖν' ὡς |bird ἀρθεῖσαι |running
to (+dat)

πεδίῳ ὑποτάσεις, αἶ παρ' Ἀσωποῦ ῥοαῖς

εὐκαρπον |throw out, Θηβαίων |head of grain
|fell, let fall

Ῥυσίας τ' Ἐρυθράς θ', αἶ Κιθαιρώνας |bare rock

νέρθεν κατωκῆκασιν, ὥστε πολέμοι,

ἔπεσπεσοῦσαι πάντ' ἄνω τε καὶ κάτω

διέφερον· |carry off, seize ἐκ δόμων τέκνα·

|as/how many/great . . ἔθεσαν, οὐ δεσμῶν ὑπο

|direct to; οὐδ' ἔπιπτεν ἐς μέλαν |ground
|think about

οὐ χαλκός, οὐ |iron ἐπὶ δὲ |curl, lock

Bellowing in sword-like hands that cleave and tear,
A live steer riven asunder, and the air
Tossed with rent ribs or limbs of cloven tread,
And flesh upon the branches, and a red
Rain from the deep green pines. Yea, bulls of pride,
Horns swift to rage, were fronted and aside
Flung stumbling, by those multitudinous hands
Dragged pitilessly. And swifter were the bands
Of garbed flesh and bone unbound withal
Than on thy royal eyes the lids may fall.
Then on like birds, by their own speed upborne,
They swept toward the plains of waving corn
That lie beside Asopus' banks, and bring
To Thebes the rich fruit of her harvesting.
On Hysiae and Erythrae that lie nursed
Amid Kithaeron's bowering rocks, they burst
Destroying, as a foeman's army comes.
They caught up little children from their homes,
High on their shoulders, babes unheld, that swayed
And laughed and fell not; all a wreck they made;
Yea, bronze and iron did shatter, and in play

*vocabulary***αἰμάσσω** make bloody**ἄμπελος** (f) vine**ἀνέζω** put on, put back ~sit**ἄνευ** away from; not having; not needing ~Sp. sin**ἀνήκω** reach up to; belong**ἀνίημι** urge, impel; release ~jet**βέλος** -εος (n, 3) missile ~ballistic**γλῶσσα** tongue, language ~glossary**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**δεσπότης** -ου (m, 1) master, despot**δράκων** -οντος (m, 3) serpent**ἐλεύθερος** not enslaved**ἐλευθερόω** set free**θέαμα** -τος (ἄα, n, 3) sight, spectacle**θύρσος** ivied wand**θυρσώω** make into a wand**καίω** burn ~caustic**κινέω** (i) set in motion, move, remove

~kinetic

κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid**κράινω** accomplish; (rare) rule**κρήνη** well, spring**μηκέτι** no more**νίζω** wash**νίφω** (ι) it snows**ὅθεν** whence**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**ὄπλή** hoof**ὄπλον** tool, weapon, ship's tackle

~hoplite

ὀργή urge, impulse; anger**παρηίς** cheek**σταγών** -τος (f, 3) drop**ταρβέω** be afraid**τερπνός** pleasant**τύραννος** tyrant**φυγή** flight, means of escape ~fugitive**χωρέω** withdraw, give way to (+dat)
~heir

πῦρ ἔφερον, οὐδ' ἔκαιεν. οἱ δ' ὀργῆς ὑπο
 ἐς ὅπλ' ἐχώρουν φερόμενοι βακχῶν ὑπο·
 οὔπερ τὸ δεινὸν ἦν θέαμ' ἰδεῖν, ἄναξ.
 τοῖς μὲν γὰρ οὐχ ἥμασσε λογχωτὸν βέλος,
 κεῖναι δὲ θύρσους ἐξανιέῃσαι χερῶν
 ἐτραυμάτιζον κάπενώτιζον φυγῇ
 γυναιῖκες ἄνδρας, οὐκ ἄνευ θεῶν τινος.
 πάλιν δ' ἐχώρουν ὅθεν ἐκίνησαν πόδα,
 κρήνας ἐπ' αὐτὰς ἅς ἀνῆκ' αὐταῖς θεός.
 νύψαντο δ' αἶμα, σταγόνα δ' ἐκ παρηγίδων
 γλώσση δράκοντες ἐξεφαίδρυνον χροός.
 τὸν δαίμον' οὖν τόνδ' ὅστις ἔστ', ὦ δέσποτα,
 δέχου πόλει τῇδ'· ὥς τά τ' ἄλλ' ἐστὶν μέγας,
 κάκείνo φασιν αὐτόν, ὥς ἐγὼ κλύω,
 τὴν παυσίλυπον ἄμπελον δοῦναι βροτοῖς.
 οἴνου δὲ μηκέτ' ὄντος οὐκ ἔστιν Κύπρις
 οὐδ' ἄλλο τερπνὸν οὐδὲν ἀνθρώποις ἔτι.

760

765

770

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ταρβῶ μὲν εἰπεῖν τοὺς λόγους ἐλευθέρους

775

πρὸς τὸν τύραννον, ἀλλ' ὅμως εἰρήσεται·

Struck hither and thither, yet no wound had they;
Caught fire from out the hearths, yea, carried hot
Flames in their tresses and were scorched not!
The village folk in wrath took spear and sword,
And turned upon the Bacchae. Then, dread Lord,
The wonder was. For spear nor barbed brand
Could scathe nor touch the damsels; but the Wand,
The soft and wreathed wand their white hands sped,
Blasted those men and quelled them, and they fled
Dizzily. Sure some God was in these things!
And the holy women back to those strange springs
Returned, that God had sent them when the day
Dawned, on the upper heights; and washed away
The stain of battle. And those girdling snakes
Hissed out to lap the waterdrops from cheeks
And hair and breast.
Therefore I counsel thee
O King, receive this Spirit, whoe'er he be,
To Thebes in glory. Greatness manifold
Is all about him; and the tale is told
That this is he who first to man did give
The grief-assuaging vine. Oh, let him live;
For if he die, then Love herself is slain,
And nothing joyous in the world again!
LEADER. Albeit I tremble, and scarce may speak my thought
To a king's face, yet will I hide it not.

vocabulary

ἀναστρέφω act: overturn; mid: find oneself in ~atrophy

ἀνέχω raise; mid: endure, submit

ἀπαντάω encounter, come upon

δέσμιος binding; enchanting

ἐγγύς near

Ἑλλήν Greek

ἐπαίρω lift, raise ~heresy

ἐπιστρατεύω march against

ἡσυχάζω be quiet, rest

ἡττάομαι (pass) be weaker, be overcome; (active) defeat

θνητός mortal ~euthanasia

θυμός (ō) anger

θύω (ō) rush; sacrifice ~θύω

κέντρον goading rod?

κινέω (i) set in motion, move, remove ~kinetic

κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid

λακτίζω kick

νευρά bowstring ~neuro

ὀκνέω shrink from, hesitate; worry

ὅμως anyway, nevertheless

ὀπλή hoof

ὄπλον tool, weapon, ship's tackle

~hoplite

πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas

πέλτη shield, spear ~pelt

πέλτης -ου (m, 1) type of river fish

~pelt

πύλη gate ~Thermopylae

στείχω go, march ~stair

τόξον bow ~toxic

ὑβρισμα -τος (n, 3) outrage, insolence

ὑπερβάλλω cause to go beyond; delay ~ballistic

ὑφάπτω set on fire from underneath

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ψάλλω pluck

ψόγος blemish, blame

Διόνυσος ἦσσαν οὐδενὸς θεῶν ἔφν.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἤδη τόδ' ἐγγὺς ὥστε πῦρ ὑφάπτεται

ὑβρισμα βακχῶν, ψόγος ἐς Ἑλληνας μέγας.

ἀλλ' οὐκ ὀκνεῖν δεῖ· στεῖχ' ἐπ' Ἥλέκτρας ἰὼν

780

πύλας· κέλευε πάντας ἀσπιδηφόρους

ἵππων τ' ἀπαντᾶν ταχυπόδων ἐπεμβάτας

πέλτας θ' ὅσοι πάλλουσι καὶ τόξων χερὶ

ψάλλουσι νευράς, ὥς ἐπιστρατεύσομεν

βάκχαισιν· οὐ γὰρ ἀλλ' ὑπερβάλλει τάδε,

785

εἰ πρὸς γυναικῶν πεισόμεσθ' ἃ πάσχομεν.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. πείθη μὲν οὐδέν, τῶν ἐμῶν λόγων κλύων,

Πενθεῦ· κακῶς δὲ πρὸς σέθεν πάσχων ὅμως

οὐ φημι χρῆναί σ' ὅπλ' ἐπαίρεσθαι θεῶ,

ἀλλ' ἡσυχάζειν· Βρόμος οὐκ ἀνέξεται

790

κινοῦντα βάκχας σ' εὐίων ὁρῶν ἄπο.

ΠΕΝ. οὐ μὴ φρενώσεις μ', ἀλλὰ δέσμιος φυγῶν

σώσῃ τόδ'; ἢ σοὶ πάλιν ἀναστρέψω δίκην;

ΔΙ. θύοιμ' ἂν αὐτῷ μᾶλλον ἢ θυμούμενος

πρὸς κέντρα λακτίζοιμι θνητὸς ὢν θεῶ.

- Διόνυσος ἤσσω· οὐδένος θεῶν |produce,
|beget; clasp
- ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἤδη τόδ' |near ὥστε πῦρ |ύφάπτω?: set on fire from under-
|neath; or ύφάπτω?: set on fire from
|outrage, βακχῶν, |blemish, 's |Greek underneath
|insolence |blame μέγας.
- ἀλλ' οὐκ |hesitate; 'εί· |go, march ' Ἡλέκτρας ἰὼν 780
|worry
- |gate κέλευε πάντας ἀσπιδηφόρους
- ἔππων τ' |encounter, come upon... ἐπεμβάτας
- πέλτας θ' ὅσοι |shake, καὶ |bow χερί
|brandish
- |pluck |bowstring 's |march against
- βάκχαισιν· οὐ γὰρ ἀλλ' |cause to go be- ἄδε, 785
|yond; delay
- εἰ πρὸς γυναικῶν πεισόμεσθ' ἃ πάσχομεν.
- ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. πείθη μὲν οὐδέν, τῶν ἐμῶν λόγων |hear ,
- Πενθεῦ· |bad δὲ πρὸς σέθεν πάσχων |anyway, nevertheless
- οὗ φημι χρῆναί σ' ὅπλ' |lift, raise θεῶ,
- ἀλλ' |be quiet, rest Ὕρόμιος οὐκ |raise;
|endure 790
- |move, βάκχας σ' εὐίων ὀρῶν ἄπο.
|remove
- ΠΕΝ. οὐ μὴ φρενώσεις μ', ἀλλὰ |binding; ' γῶν
|enchanting
- σώσῃ τόδ'; ἢ σοὶ πάλιν |act: overturn; 'mid: ;
|find oneself in
- ΔΙ. |rush; sacrifice ὦ μᾶλλον ἢ |anger
- πρὸς |goading |kick |mortal ὦν θεῶ.
|rod?

Dionyse is God, no God more true nor higher!

PENTHEUS. It bursts hard by us, like a smothered fire,

This frenzy of Bacchic women! All my land

Is made their mock. — This needs an iron hand!

Ho, Captain! Quick to the Electran Gate;

Bid gather all my men at arms thereat;

Call all that spur the charger, all who know

To wield the orbed targe or bend the bow;

We march to war — ' Fore God, shall women dare

Such deeds against us? 'Tis too much to bear!

DIONYSUS. Thou mark'st me not, O King, and holdest light

My solemn words; yet, in thine own despite,

I warn thee still. Lift thou not up thy spear

Against a God, but hold thy peace, and fear

His wrath! He will not brook it, if thou fright

His Chosen from the hills of their delight.

PENTHEUS. Peace, thou! And if for once thou hast slipped chain,

Give thanks! — Or shall I knot thine arms again?

DIONYSUS. Better to yield him prayer and sacrifice

Than kick against the pricks, since Dionyse

vocabulary

ἄ ah!

αἰσχρός shameful

ἄπορος impassable, difficult

ἀσπίς -δος (f) shield ~spit

δεῦρο here, come here!

δίχα in two, in two ways

δόλιος tricky, guileful

δουλεία slavery

δούλειος of a slave

δουλεύω serve, be a slave

δράω do, accomplish

εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama

ἐκτρέπω turn aside

ἐκφέρω carry off ~bear

ἔρως -τος (m) love, desire ~erotic

θῆλυς female; (rare) abundant ~female

θύρσος ivied wand

θύω (ō) rush; sacrifice ~θύω

κοινός communal, ordinary

λυπρός worthless, wretched

μηχανάομαι build, contrive
~mechanism

μηχανή machine; mechanism, way

μίν him, her, it

μυρίος (ō) 10,000 ~myriad

ὄϊμοι woe is me

ὄπλον tool, weapon, ship's tackle
~hoplite

ποῖος what kind

πτυχή fold, layer

σιγάω (ī) be silent

σταθμός cottage; post

συγκάθηναι live together

σμπλέκω twine together

συντίθημι hearken, mark ~thesis

ταράσσω mess things up ~trachea

τέχνη craft, art, plan, contrivance
~technology

φόνος killing ~offend

χαλκίλατος made of brass

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. θύσω, φόνον γε θήλυν, ὥσπερ ἄξιαί,

πολὺν ταραξάσ ἐν Κιθαιρώνος πτυχαῖς.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. φεύξεσθε πάντες· καὶ τόδ' αἰσχρόν, ἀσπίδας

θύρσοισι βακχῶν ἐκτρέπειν χαλκηλάτους

ΠΕΝ. ἀπόρῳ γε τῷδε συμπεπλεγμέθα ξένῳ,

800

ὃς οὔτε πάσχων οὔτε δρῶν σιγήσεται.

ΔΙ. ὦ τᾶν, ἔτ' ἔστιν εὖ καταστήσai τάδε.

ΠΕΝ. τί δρῶντα; δουλεύοντα δουλείαις ἐμαῖς;

ΔΙ. ἐγὼ γυναικας δεῦρ' ὅπλων ἄξω δίχα.

ΠΕΝ. οἴμοι· τόδ' ἤδη δόλιον ἔς με μηχανᾶ.

805

ΔΙ. ποῖόν τι, σῶσαί σ' εἰ θέλω τέχναις ἐμαῖς;

ΠΕΝ. ξυνέθεσθε κοινῇ τάδ', ἵνα βακχεύητ' αἰέ.

ΔΙ. καὶ μὴν ξυνεθέμην— τοῦτό γ' ἔστι— τῷ θεῷ.

ΠΕΝ. ἐκφέρετέ μοι δεῦρ' ὅπλα, σὺν δὲ παῦσαι λέγων.

ΔΙ. ᾶ.

810

βούλη σφ' ἐν ὄρεσι συγκαθημένας ἰδεῖν;

ΠΕΝ. μάλιστα, μυρίον γε δούς χρυσοῦ σταθμόν.

ΔΙ. τί δ' εἰς ἔρωτα τοῦδε πέπτωκας μέγαν;

ΠΕΝ. λυπρῶς νιν εἰσίδοιμ' ἂν ἐξωνωμένας.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. |rush; , |killing γε |female; (rare), ᾗ ἄξιαι,
 |sacri- |abundant
 |fice
 πολὺν |mess things up τῷ θαιρῶνος |fold,
 |layer

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. φεύξεσθε πάντες· καὶ τόδ' |shameful, |shield
 |ivied wand Ἰακχῶν |turn aside |made of brass

ΠΕΝ. |impassable, ὥδε |συμπλέκω?: twine together; or 800
 |difficult |συμπλέκω?: twine together
 ὅς οὔτε πάσχων οὔτε |do, ac-|be silent
 |com-
 ΔΙ. ὦ τᾶν, ἔτ' ἔστιν εἰ κατὰσπῆσαι τάδε. |plish

ΠΕΝ. τί |do, accom-|serve, be a slave λείαις ἐμαῖς;
 |plish

ΔΙ. ἐγὼ γυναικας |here, cōme here! ἑν |in two, in two ways

ΠΕΝ. |woe is μέν' ἤδη |tricky, ἔς με μηχανᾷ. 805
 |guileful

ΔΙ. ποῖόν τι, σῶσαί σ' εἰ θέλω |craft ἐμαῖς;

ΠΕΝ. ξυνέθεσθε κοινῇ τάδ', ἵνα βακχεύητ' αἰεί.

ΔΙ. καὶ μὴν |hearken, mark οὗτό γ' ἔστι— τῷ θεῷ.

ΠΕΝ. |carry off μοι |here, cōme here! ὃν παῦσαι λέγων.

ΔΙ. ᾶ. 810

βούλη σφ' ἐν ὄρεσι |live together ἰδεῖν;

ΠΕΝ. μάλιστα, μυρίον γε δούς χρυσοῦ |cottage; post

ΔΙ. τί δ' εἰς |love, τοῦδε πέπτωκας μέγαν;
 |desire

ΠΕΝ. |worthless, ὦν |look at, see; treat νωμένας.
 |wretched |with respect

Is God, and thou but mortal.

PENTHEUS. That will I!

Yea, sacrifice of women's blood, to cry

His name through all Kithaeron!

DIONYSUS. Ye shall fly,

All, and abase your shields of bronzen rim

Before their wands.

PENTHEUS. There is no way with him,

This stranger that so dogs us! Well or ill

I may entreat him, he must babble still!

DIONYSUS. Wait, good my friend! These crooked matters may

Even yet be straightened.

PENTHEUS has started as though to seek his army at the gate.

PENTHEUS. Aye, if I obey

Mine own slaves' will; how else?

DIONYSUS. Myself will lead

The damsels hither, without sword or steed.

PENTHEUS. How now? — This is some plot against me!

DIONYSUS. What

Dost fear? Only to save thee do I plot.

PENTHEUS. It is some compact ye have made, whereby

To dance these hills for ever!

DIONYSUS. Verily,

That is my compact, plighted with my Lord!

PENTHEUS. Ho, armourers! Bring forth my shield and sword! —

And thou, be silent!

DIONYSUS. Ah! — Have then thy will!

He fixes his eyes upon PENTHEUS again, while the armourers bring out his armour; then speaks in a tone of command.

Man, thou wouldst fain behold them on the hill

Praying!

PENTHEUS (who during the rest of this scene, with a few exceptions, simply speaks the thoughts that DIONYSUS puts into him, losing power over his own mind)

That would I, though it cost me all

The gold of Thebes!

DIONYSUS. So much? Thou art quick to fall

To such great longing.

vocabulary

αἰδώς awe, shame, respect; genitals
βλώσχω come, go
βύσσινος of linen; bandage
ἐκτείνω stretch out ~tend
ἐλάτη fir tree; oar
ἐμφανής visible
ἐξεῖπον speak out, disclose
ἐξιχνεύω track out
ἐπιχειρέω do, try, attack ~chiral
ἐπιχείρησις -τος (f) attack
ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent
ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism
θεατής -οῦ (α, m, 1) spectator, sightseer
θηλυς female; (rare) abundant ~female
κάρα (αἶ) head (n) ~cranium
κόμη hair ~comet
κράς -τός (f, 3) head
λάθρα secretly
μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
 ~maenad

μίτρα metal waist guard
μολίσχω come, go
νουθετέω remind, warn
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
πάλαι long ago ~paleo
πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
πέπλος woman's dress, a folded cylinder of cloth
πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric
ποδήρης foot-length
πρόθυμος (ῶ) willing, eager ~fume
σάφα with full understanding
σιγά silence
σιγάω (ι) be silent
σοφός skilled, clever, wise
στέλλω prepare, send, furl ~apostle
στολή equipment
σχῆμα -τος (n, 3) form, figure
τανσός long
φθονέω envy

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ὅμως δ' ἴδοις ἂν ἡδέως ἅ σοι πικρά;

815

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. σάφ' ἴσθι, σιγῇ γ' ὑπ' ἐλάταις καθήμενος.

ΔΙ. ἀλλ' ἐξιχνεύουσίν σε, κἂν ἔλθῃς λάθρα.

ΠΕΝ. ἀλλ' ἐμφανῶς· καλῶς γὰρ ἐξείπας τάδε.

ΔΙ. ἄγωμεν οὖν σε κἀπιχειρήσεις ὁδῶ;

ΠΕΝ. ἄγ' ὥς τάχιστα, τοῦ χρόνου δέ σοι φθονῶ.

820

ΔΙ. στείλαί νυν ἀμφὶ χρωτὶ βυσσίνους πέπλους.

ΠΕΝ. τί δὴ τόδ'; ἐς γυναικάς ἐξ ἀνδρὸς τελῶ;

ΔΙ. μή σε κτάνωσι, ἣν ἀνὴρ ὀφθῆς ἐκεῖ.

ΠΕΝ. εὖ γ' εἶπας αὖ τόδ'· ὥς τις εἰ πάλαι σοφός.

ΔΙ. Διόνυσος ἡμᾶς ἐξεμούσωσεν τάδε.

825

ΠΕΝ. πῶς οὖν γένοιτ' ἂν ἃ σύ με νουθετεῖς καλῶς;

ΔΙ. ἐγὼ στελῶ σε δωμάτων ἔσω μολών.

ΠΕΝ. τίνα στολήν; ἢ θήλυν; ἀλλ' αἰδώς μ' ἔχει.

ΔΙ. οὐκέτι θεατῆς μαινάδων πρόθυμος εἶ.

ΠΕΝ. στολήν δὲ τίνα φῆς ἀμφὶ χρωτ' ἐμὸν βαλεῖν;

830

ΔΙ. κόμην μὲν ἐπὶ σῶ κρατὶ ταναὸν ἐκτενῶ.

ΠΕΝ. τὸ δεύτερον δὲ σχῆμα τοῦ κόσμου τί μοι;

ΔΙ. πέπλοι ποδήρεις· ἐπὶ κάρᾳ δ' ἔσται μίτρα.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. |anyway, less⁷ neverthe-|sweet ἥ σοι |sharp , 815

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. |clearly⁷ |θι, σιγῇ γ' ὑπ' |fir tree; oar⁷ θήμενος.

ΔΙ. ἀλλ' |track out σε, κὰν ἔλθῃς |secretly.

ΠΕΝ. ἀλλ' |visible καλῶς γὰρ |speak out, disclose

ΔΙ. ἄγωμεν οὖν σε κάπιχειρήσεις ὁδῶ;

ΠΕΝ. ἄγ' ὥς τάχιστα, τοῦ χρόνου δέ σοι |envy . 820

ΔΙ. |prepare, send, furl⁷ |χρωτὶ |of linen;|woman's dress
|bandage

ΠΕΝ. τί δὴ τόδ'; ἐς γυναῖκας ἐξ ἀνδρὸς τελῶ;

ΔΙ. μή σε κτάνωσω, ἦν ἀνὴρ ὀφθῆς ἐκεῖ.

ΠΕΝ. εὖ γ' εἶπας αὖ τόδ'· ὥς τις εἶ πάλαι |skilled,
|clever, wise

ΔΙ. Διόνυσος ἡμᾶς ἐξεμούσωσεν τάδε. 825

ΠΕΝ. πῶς οὖν γένοιτ' ἂν ἃ σύ με |remind, warn ᾗς;

ΔΙ. ἐγὼ |prepare, send, furl⁷ |ον ἔσω μολῶν.

ΠΕΝ. τίνα |equipment⁷ |female; (rare)⁷ |awe, shame, re-
|abundant |spect; genitals

ΔΙ. οὐκέτι |spectator|madwoman, |willing, εἶ.
|sightseer|maenad |eager

ΠΕΝ. |equipment⁷ τίνα φῆς ἀμφὶ χρωτ' ἐμὸν βαλεῖν; 830

ΔΙ. |hair μὲν ἐπὶ σῶ κρατὶ |long |stretch out

ΠΕΝ. τὸ δεύτερον δέ |form, τοῦ κόσμου τί μοι;
|figure

ΔΙ. |woman's|foot-length ἐπὶ κάρᾳ δ' ἔσται |metal
|dress |waist
|guard

PENTHEUS. Aye; 'twould grieve me much
To see them flown with wine.

DIONYSUS. Yet cravest thou such
A sight as would much grieve thee?

PENTHEUS. Yes; I fain
Would watch, ambushed among the pines.

DIONYSUS. 'Twere vain
To hide. They soon will track thee out.

PENTHEUS. Well said!
Twere best done openly.

DIONYSUS. Wilt thou be led
By me, and try the venture?

PENTHEUS. Aye, indeed!
Lead on. Why should we tarry?

DIONYSUS. First we need
A rich and trailing robe of fine-linen
To gird thee.

PENTHEUS. Nay; am I a woman, then,
And no man more.

DIONYSUS. Wouldst have them slay thee dead?
No man may see their mysteries.

PENTHEUS. Well said' —
I marked thy subtle temper long ere now.

DIONYSUS. 'Tis Dionyse that prompteth me.

PENTHEUS. And how
Mean'st thou the further plan?

DIONYSUS. First take thy way
Within. I will array thee.

PENTHEUS. What array!
The woman's? Nay, I will not.

DIONYSUS. Doth it change
So soon, all thy desire to see this strange
Adoring?

PENTHEUS. Wait! What garb wilt thou bestow
About me?

DIONYSUS. First a long tress dangling low
Beneath thy shoulders.

PENTHEUS. Aye, and next?

DIONYSUS. The same red
Robe, falling to thy feet; and on thine head
A snood.

*vocabulary***ἄστυ** -εως (n, 3) town**βλώσχω** come, go**βόλος** cast (a net, dice)**βούλευμα** -τος (n, 3) resolution, purpose**γοῦν** at least then**δέρη** neck, throat, mane**ἐλαφρός** nimble, light on one's feet; light, bearable ~elevator**ἐνδύνω** (ῥ) go into, put on**ἐνιμι** be in ~ion**ἐξιμι** go forth; is possible ~ion**ἐξίστημι** displace, transform; (+gen)

give up ~station

ἐρήμος empty**ἐρημόω** raze, bereave; desert, isolate**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**εὐτρεπής** ready**θῆλυς** female; (rare) abundant ~female**θηράω** hunt, chase**θύρσος** ivied wand**κατασκοπή** spying**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**λύσσα** battle rage**μολίσχω** come, go**νεβρός** (f) fawn**ὀπλή** hoof**ὄπλον** tool, weapon, ship's tackle

~hoplite

ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

ὀρθόω stand up**πάντη** everywhere**προστίθιμι** add; impose; (mp) agree; side with ~thesis**πρόσω** forward, in the future; far**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**στείχω** go, march ~stair**στολή** equipment**συμβάλλω** pit against; compare; mp:

meet, fall in with ~ballistic

τίνω (ι) pay, atone for; (mp) punish

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἦ καί τι πρὸς τοῖσδ' ἄλλο προσθήσεις ἐμοί;

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. θύρσον γε χειρὶ καὶ νεβροῦ στικτὸν δέρας.

835

ΠΕΝ. οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην θῆλυν ἐνδῦναι στολήν.

ΔΙ. ἀλλ' αἶμα θήσεις συμβαλὼν βάκχαις μάχην.

ΠΕΝ. ὀρθῶς· μολεῖν χρὴ πρῶτον εἰς κατασκοπὴν.

ΔΙ. σοφώτερον γοῦν ἢ κακοῖς θηρᾶν κακά.

ΠΕΝ. καὶ πῶς δι' ἄστεως εἶμι Καδμείους λαθών;

840

ΔΙ. ὁδοὺς ἐρήμους ἵμεν· ἐγὼ δ' ἡγήσομαι.

ΠΕΝ. πᾶν κρεῖσσον ὥστε μὴ γγελᾶν βάκχας ἐμοί.

ἐλθόντ' ἐς οἴκους ἂν δοκῇ βουλεύσομαι.

ΔΙ. ἔξεστι· πάντῃ τό γ' ἐμὸν εὐτρεπὲς πάρα.

ΠΕΝ. στείχοιμ' ἄν· ἢ γὰρ ὅπλ' ἔχων πορεύσομαι

845

ἢ τοῖσι σοῖσι πείσομαι βουλεύμασιν.

ΔΙ. γυναικες, ἀνὴρ ἐς βόλον καθίσταται,

ἥξει δὲ βάκχας, οὗ θανὼν δώσει δίκην.

Διόνυσε, νῦν σὸν ἔργον· οὐ γὰρ εἶ πρόσω·

τεισώμεθ' αὐτόν. πρῶτα δ' ἔκστησον φρενῶν,

850

ἐνέϊς ἐλαφρὰν λύσσαν· ὥς φρονῶν μὲν εὔ

οὐ μὴ θελήσῃ θῆλυν ἐνδῦναι στολήν,

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἦ καί τι πρὸς τοῖσδ' ἄλλο add; impose; (mp)
agree; side with

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. |ivied wand χειρὶ καὶ |fawn στικτὸν |neck, 835
throat,
mane

ΠΕΝ. οὐκ ἂν δυναίμην |female; |go into, |equipment
(rare) |put on

ΔΙ. ἀλλ' αἶμα θήσεις συ|abun-
dant λῶν βάκχαις μάχην.

ΠΕΝ. ὀρθῶς· μολεῖν χρή πρῶτον εἰς |spying

ΔΙ. |skilled, clever, |at least then ὥς |hunt, κακά.
wise |chase

ΠΕΝ. καὶ πῶς δι' |town εἴμι Καδμείους λαθών; 840

ΔΙ. ὁδοὺς ἐρήμους ἔμεν· ἐγὼ δ' ἡγήσομαι.

ΠΕΝ. πᾶν κρεῖσσον ὥστε μὴ γγελᾶν βάκχας ἐμοί.

ἐλθόντ' ἐς οἴκους ἂν δοκῇ βουλευσομαι.

ΔΙ. ἔξεστι· |everywhere, ' ἐμὸν |ready πάρα.

ΠΕΝ. |go, march ἄν· ἦ γὰρ ὅπλ' ἔχων πορεύσομαι 845

ἦ τοῖσι σοῖσι πείσομαι |resolution,
purpose

ΔΙ. γυναιῖκες, ἀνὴρ ἐς |cast (a net, dice) -αι,

ἥξει δὲ βάκχας, οὗ θανὼν δώσει δίκην.

Διόνυσσε, νῦν σὸν ἔργον· οὐ γὰρ εἰ |forward, in the
future; far

|pay; (mp) punish' . πρῶτα δ' |displace, transform; , 850
(+gen) give up

|be in |light in |battle rage ὥς φρονῶν μὲν εὔ
weight

οὐ μὴ θελήσῃ |female; |go into, |equipment
(rare) |put on
abun-
dant

PENTHEUS. And after? Hast thou aught beyond?

DIONYSUS. Surely; the dappled fawn-skin and the wand.

PENTHEUS. Enough! I cannot wear a robe and snood.

DIONYSUS. Wouldst liefer draw the sword and spill men's blood?

PENTHEUS. True, that were evil. — Aye; 'tis best to go

First to some place of watch.

DIONYSUS. Far wiser so,

Than seek by wrath wrath's bitter recompense.

PENTHEUS. What of the city streets? Canst lead me hence
Unseen of any?

DIONYSUS. Lonely and untried

Thy path from hence shall be, and I thy guide!

PENTHEUS. I care for nothing, so these Bacchanals

Triumph not against me! ...Forward to my halls

Within! — I will ordain what seemeth best.

DIONYSUS. So be it, O King! 'Tis mine to obey thine hest,
Whate'er it be.

PENTHEUS. Well, I will go — perchance

To march and scatter them with serried lance.

Perchance to take thy plan... I know not yet.

Exit PENTHEUS into the Castle.

DIONYSUS. Damsels, the lion walketh to the net!

He finds his Bacchae now, and sees and dies,

And pays for all his sin! — O Dionyse,

This is thine hour and thou not far away.

Grant us our vengeance! — First, O Master, stay

The course of reason in him, and instil

A foam of madness. Let his seeing will,

*vocabulary***αἰθήρ** ether, air, sky ~ether**αἶσα** -εως share, fate; properly, duly
~etiology**ἀπειλέω** vow, threaten, boast**ἀπειλή** boast, threat**ἄρκυς** net**ἄστυ** -εως (n, 3) town**γέλως** laughter**δέρη** neck, throat, mane**δροσερός** dewy**ἐνδύω** go into, put on**εὐπλεκτος** well braided ~complex**ἡδονή** pleasure**ἡνίκα** when**ἥπιος** kind (adj)**θήρα** hunt ~fierce**θηράω** hunt, chase**ἕς ἑνός** (ī, f) force, muscle**κατασφάζω** slaughter**λευκός** white ~light**μῖν** him, her, it**νεβρός** (f) fawn**ὀφλισκάνω** lose; incur debt**παννύχιος** all-night ~nocturnal**προσάπτω** attach to ~haptic**ρίπτω** hurl**φοβερός** frightful, afraid**φυλακή** guard, prison, watch

~phylactery

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics**χορός** dance; chorus ~terpsichorean**χρήζω** need ~chresard

ἔξω δ' ἐλαύνων τοῦ φρονεῖν ἐνδύσεται.

χρήζω δέ νιν γέλωτα Θηβαίοις ὀφλεῖν

γυναικόμορφον ἀγόμενον δι' ἄστεως

855

ἐκ τῶν ἀπειλῶν τῶν πρὶν, αἷσι δεινὸς ἦν.

ἀλλ' εἴμι κόσμον ὄνπερ εἰς Ἴδου λαβὼν

ἄπεισι μητρὸς ἐκ χεροῖν κατασφαγείς,

Πενθεὶ προσάψων· γινώσεται δὲ τὸν Διὸς

Διόνυσον, ὃς πέφυκεν ἐν τέλει θεός,

860

δεινότατος, ἀνθρώποισι δ' ἡπιώτατος.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἄρ' ἐν παννυχίοις χοροῖς

θήσω ποτὲ λευκὸν

πόδ' ἀναβακχεύουσα, δέραν

εἰς αἰθέρα δροσερὸν ρίπτουσ',

865

ὥς νεβρὸς χλοεραῖς ἐμπαῖ

ζουσα λείμακος ἡδοναῖς,

ἡνίκ' ἂν φοβεράν φύγῃ

θήραν ἔξω φυλακᾶς

εὐπλέκτων ὑπὲρ ἀρκύων,

870

θωύσσω δὲ κυναγέτας

ἔξω δ' ἐλαύνων τοῦ φρονεῖν |go into, put on

|need δέ νιν |laughter Θηβαίοις ὀφλεῖν

γυναικόμορφον ἀγόμενον δι' |town

855

ἐκ τῶν ἀπειλῶν τῶν πρίν, αἷσι δεινὸς ἦν.

ἀλλ' εἴμι κόσμον ὅνπερ εἰς Ἄιδου λαβὼν

ἀπεισι μητρὸς ἐκ χεροῖν |slaughter

Πενθεῖ |attach to γνώσεται δὲ τὸν Διὸς

Διόνυσον, ὃς πέφυκεν ἐν τέλει θεός,

860

δεινότητος, ἀνθρώποισι δ' |kind (adj)

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἄρ' ἐν |all-night |dance;
|chorus

θήσω ποτὲ |white

πόδ' ἀναβακχεύουσα, |neck,
|throat,
|mane
εἰς |ether |dewy |hurl

865

ὥς |fawn χλοεραῖς ἐμπαῖ

ζουσα λείμακος |pleasure

|when ἂν |frightful, φύγη
|afraid

θήραν ἔξω |guard,
|prison,
|watch
|well braided ὑπὲρ ἀρκύων,

870

θωύσων δὲ κυναγέτας

Which ne'er had stooped to put thy vesture on,
Be darkened, till the deed is lightly done.
Grant likewise that he find through all his streets
Loud scorn, this man of wrath and bitter threats
That made Thebes tremble, led in woman's guise.
I go to fold that robe of sacrifice
On Pentheus, that shall deck him to the dark.
His mother's gift!—So shall he learn and mark
God's true Son, Dionyse, in fulness God,
Most fearful, yet to man most soft of mood.

Exit DIONYSUS, following PENTHEUS into Castle.

CHORUS. Will they ever come to me, ever again,
The long long dances,
On through the dark till the dim stars wane?
Shall I feel the dew on my throat, and the stream
Of wind in my hair? Shall our white feet gleam
In the dim expanses?
Oh, feet of a fawn to the greenwood fled,
Alone in the grass and the loveliness;
Leap of the hunted, no more in dread,
Beyond the snares and the deadly press:
Yet a voice still in the distance sounds,
A voice and a fear and a haste of hounds;
O wildly labouring, fiercely fleet,

vocabulary

ἀγνωμοσύνη senselessness, ignorance, folly

ἀπευθύνω make straight, direct

γέρας -ως (n, 3) reward, honor

δράμημα running course

ἐρημία wilderness, solitude

ἔρνος -εος (n, 3) sapling

ἡδομαι be pleased, enjoy ~hedonism

θηράω hunt, chase

θρώσκω spring, dart ~dart

κορυφή peak, crown

κρείσσων more powerful; better

μόλις with difficulty, barely

μόχθος toil

ὅμως anyway, nevertheless

παραποτάμιος by a river

πιστός faithful; trustworthy

ποικίλος ornamented; various

σθένος -εος (n, 3) strength

~neurasthenia

σοφός skilled, clever, wise

συντείνω tighten, put strain on

τιμάω (ι) honor, exalt

τιμόω honor, exalt

ὑλάω bark (a dog)

ὕλη (υ) forest, firewood

συντείνῃ δράμημα κυνῶν·

μόχθοις τ' ὠκυδρόμοις τ' ἀέλ' λαις θρώσκει πεδίων

παραποτάμιον, ἡδομένα

βροτῶν ἐρημίαις σκιαροῦ

875

κόμοιό τ' ἔρνεσιν ὕλας.

τί τὸ σοφόν; ἢ τί τὸ κάλλιον

παρὰ θεῶν γέρας ἐν βροτοῖς

ἢ χεῖρ' ὑπὲρ κορυφᾶς

τῶν ἐχθρῶν κρείσσω κατέχειν;

880

ὅ τι καλὸν φίλον αἶεί.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὀρμᾶται μόλις, ἀλλ' ὅμως

πιστόν τι τὸ θεῖον

σθένος· ἀπευθύνει δὲ βροτῶν

τούς τ' ἀγνωμοσύναν τιμῶν'

885

τας καὶ μὴ τὰ θεῶν αὔξον'

τας σὺν μαινομένα δόξα.

κρυπτεύουσι δὲ ποικίλως

δαρὸν χρόνου πόδα καὶ

θηρῶσιν τὸν ἄσεπτον. οὐ

|tighten, |running κυνῶν·
|put strain|course
|on
|toil τ' ὠκυδρόμοις τ' ἀέλ' λαις |spring, dart δίον

|by a river , |ἥδομαι?: be pleased, enjoy; or
|ἥδομαι?: be pleased, enjoy

βροτῶν |wilderness, κιαροῖ
|solitude 875

κόμοιό τ' |sapling ὕλας.

τί τὸ |skilled, , ἴ τὸ κάλλιον
|clever, wise

παρὰ θεῶν |reward, ὕν βροτοῖς
|honor

ἦ χεῖρ' ὑπὲρ |peak,
|crown

τῶν ἐχθρῶν κρείσσω κατέχειν; 880

ὅ τι καλὸν φίλον αἶει.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὀρμάται |with difficulty,|anyway, nevertheless
|barely

|faithful; ὀ θεῖον
|trustworthy

|strength |make straight, βροτῶν
|direct

τούς τ' |senselessness, τιμῶν'
|ignorance, folly 885

τας καὶ μὴ τὰ θεῶν αὔξον'

τας σὺν μαινομένα δόξα.

κρυπτεύουσι δὲ |ornamented

δαρὸν χρόνου πόδα καὶ

|hunt, τὸν ἄσεπτον. οὐ
|chase

Onward yet by river and glen ...
Is it joy or terror, ye storm-swift feet? ...
To the dear lone lands untroubled of men,
Where no voice sounds, and amid the shadowy green
The little things of the woodland live unseen.
What else is Wisdom? What of man's endeavour
Or God's high grace, so lovely and so great?
To stand from fear set free, to breathe and wait;
To hold a hand uplifted over Hate;
And shall not Loveliness be loved for ever?
O Strength of God, slow art thou and still,
Yet failest never!
On them that worship the Ruthless Will,
On them that dream, doth His judgment wait.
Dreams of the proud man, making great
And greater ever,
Things which are not of God. In wide
And devious coverts, hunter-wise,
He coucheth Time's unhasting stride,
Following, following, him whose eyes
Look not to Heaven. For all is vain,

*vocabulary***ἀποβαίνω** leave, get off; turn out

~basis

γέρας -ως (n, 3) reward, honor**δαιμόνιος** voc: you crazy guy**δαπανάω** spend, consume, waste**δαπάνη** cost, funds, extravagance**εὐδαίμων** blessed with a good genius**ἰσχύς** -ος (f) strength; body of troops**κιχάνω** (ᾱ) catch up with, encounter, reach; catch, grip, hit, afflict ~go**κορυφή** peak, crown**κοῦφος** light, nimble**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**λιμήν** -ένος (m, 3) harbor, refuge

~limnic

μελετάω pursue, attend to, exercise**μόχθος** toil**μυρίος** (ῶ) 10,000 ~myriad**νόμιμος** customary, legal, natural**ὄλβος** happiness, wealth**παρέρχομαι** pass, escape**πότε** when?**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**τελευτάω** bring about, finish ~apostle**ὑπερθεν** from above**φύσις** -εως (f) nature (of a thing)

~physics

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics**χειμα** winter, cold weather

γὰρ κρείσσόν ποτε τῶν νόμων

γιγνώσκειν χρῆ καὶ μελετᾶν.

κούφα γὰρ δαπάνα νομί' ζειν ἰσχὺν τόδ' ἔχειν,

ὅ τι ποτ' ἄρα τὸ δαιμόνιον,

τό τ' ἐν χρόνῳ μακρῷ νόμιμον

895

ἀεὶ φύσει τε πεφυκός.

τί τὸ σοφόν; ἢ τί τὸ κάλλιον

παρὰ θεῶν γέρας ἐν βροτοῖς

ἢ χεῖρ' ὑπὲρ κορυφᾶς

τῶν ἐχθρῶν κρείσσω κατέχειν;

900

ὅ τι καλὸν φίλον αἰεί.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. εὐδαίμων μὲν ὅς ἐκ θαλάσσης

ἔφυγε χεῖμα, λιμένα δ' ἔκιχεν·

εὐδαίμων δ' ὅς ὑπερθε μόχθων

ἐγένεθ'· ἑτέρα δ' ἕτερος ἕτερον

905

ὄλβῳ καὶ δυνάμει παρήλθεν.

μυρία δ' ἔτι μυρίοις

εἰσὶν ἐλπίδες· αἱ μὲν τελευτῶσιν ἐν ὄλβῳ

βροτοῖς, αἱ δ' ἀπέβησαν·

γὰρ κρείσσόν ποτε τῶν νόμων

γιγνώσκειν χρή καὶ |pursue, attend
to, exercise

|light, γὰρ δαπάνα νομί' ζειν |strength; body-ιν,
nimble |of troops

ὅ τι ποτ' ἄρα τὸ δαιμόνιον,

τό τ' ἐν χρόνῳ μακρῷ |customary,
|legal, natural

895

αἰεὶ φύσει τε πεφυκός.

τί τὸ |skilled, ἢ ἰ τὸ κάλλιον
clever, wise

παρὰ θεῶν |reward, ἢ βροτοῖς
|honor

ἢ χεῖρ' ὑπὲρ |peak,
crown

τῶν ἐχθρῶν κρείσσω κατέχειν;

900

ὅ τι καλὸν φίλον αἰεί.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |blessed with a ἄ ὅς ἐκ θαλάσσας
|good genius

ἔφυγε |winter, |harbor, δ' |overtake,
cold |refuge |encounter

|blessed with a ὅς ὑπερθε |toil
|good genius

ἐγένεθ'· ἐτέρα δ' ἕτερος ἕτερον

905

|happiness, δυνάμει |pass,
|wealth |escape

|10,000 δ' ἔτι μυρίοις

εἰσὶν ἐλπίδες· αἱ μὲν |bring about, ἐν |happiness,
|finish |wealth

βροτοῖς, αἱ δ' |leave, get off;
|turn out

The pulse of the heart, the plot of the brain,
That striveth beyond the laws that live.
And is thy Fate so much to give,
Is it so hard a thing to see,
That the Spirit of God, whate'er it be,
The Law that abides and changes not, ages long,
The Eternal and Nature-born — these things be strong?
What else is Wisdom? What of man's endeavour
Or God's high grace so lovely and so great?
To stand from fear set free, to breathe and wait;
To hold a hand uplifted over Hate;
And shall not Loveliness be loved for ever?
LEADER. Happy he, on the weary sea
Who hath fled the tempest and won the haven.
Happy whoso hath risen, free,
Above his striving. For strangely graven
Is the orb of life, that one and another
In gold and power may outpass his brother,
And men in their millions float and flow
And seethe with a million hopes as leaven;
And they win their Will, or they miss their Will,
And the hopes are dead or are pined for still,
But whoe'er can know,
As the long days go,

*vocabulary***βίοτος** life; sustenance, chattels

~biology

δισσός double**ἔδρα** (*ἄ*) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect

~panorama

ἐνσπονδος party to a truce**ἔξιμι** go forth; is possible ~ion**εὐδαίμων** blessed with a good genius**εὐμενής** kind**κᾶρα** (*αἶ*) head (n) ~cranium**κατάσκοπος** spy, inspector**κέρας** -τος (n, 3) horn; military unit

~ceratopsia

κράς -τός (f, 3) head**λόχος** ambush, band, childbirth ~lie**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μαχαρίζω congratulate ~macarism**μορφή** beauty**ὁμαρτέω** act together, be a companion

~harmony

πάροιθε in the presence of**πλόκαμος** lock of hair**πόλισμα** buildings of a city**πρέπω** be conspicuous, preeminent

~refurbish

πρόθυμος (*ῶ*) willing, eager ~fume**προσφύω** grab onto, attach oneself to

~physics

σκευή equipment**σπεύδω** 'push on,' get going, hurry

~repudiate

στάσις -εως (f) placing; faction**ταυρόομαι** become a bull or like one**ταῦρος** bull ~steer

τὸ δὲ κατ' ἡμαρ ὅτῳ βίοςτος

910

εὐδαίμων, μακαρίζω.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. σὲ τὸν πρόθυμον ὄνθ' ἃ μὴ χρεῶν ὀρᾶν

σπεύδοντά τ' ἀσπούδαστα, Πενθέα λέγω,

ἔξιθι πάροιθε δωμάτων, ὄφθητί μοι,

σκευὴν γυναικὸς μαινάδος βάκχης ἔχων,

915

μητρός τε τῆς σῆς καὶ λόχου κατάσκοπος·

πρέπεις δὲ Κάδμου θυγατέρων μορφὴν μιᾷ.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. καὶ μὴν ὀρᾶν μοι δύο μὲν ἡλίους δοκῶ,

δισσὰς δὲ Θήβας καὶ πόλισμ' ἐπτάστομον·

καὶ ταῦρος ἡμῖν πρόσθεν ἡγεῖσθαι δοκεῖς

920

καὶ σῶ κέρατα κρατὶ προσπεφυκέναι.

ἀλλ' ἢ ποτ' ἦσθα θήρ; τεταύρωσαι γὰρ οὖν.

ΔΙ. ὁ θεὸς ὁμαρτεῖ, πρόσθεν ὦν οὐκ εὐμενής,

ἔνσπονδος ἡμῖν· νῦν δ' ὀρᾶς ἃ χρή σ' ὀρᾶν.

ΠΕΝ. τί φαίνομαι δῆτ'; οὐχὶ τὴν Ἰνουὺς στάσιν

925

ἢ τὴν Ἀγαυῆς ἐστάναι, μητρός γ' ἐμῆς;

ΔΙ. αὐτὰς ἐκείνας εἰσορᾶν δοκῶ σ' ὀρῶν.

ἀλλ' ἐξ ἔδρας σοι πλόκαμος ἐξέστηχ' ὅδε,

τὸ δὲ κατ' ἡμᾶρ ὅτῳ |life; sustenance

910

|blessed with|congratulate
a good ge-
nius
ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. σὲ τὸν |willing, ὄνθ' ἃ μὴ χρεῶν ὀράν
|eager

|'push on,' get' ἀσπούδαστα, Πενθέα λέγω,
going, hurry

|go |in the presence of ν, ὄφθητί μοι,
forth;
is
equipment γαῖκός |madwoman, ἰκχης ἔχων,
poss- |maenad
ble

915

μητρός τε τῆς σῆς καὶ |am- |spy, inspector
bush,
band,
be conspicu- δμου θυγατρῶν |beauty μιᾶ.
preeminent |child-
|birth

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. καὶ μὴν ὀράν μοι δύο μὲν ἡλίους δοκῶ,

|double δὲ Θήβας καὶ |buildings of a city -μον·

καὶ |bull ἡμῖν πρόσθεν ἡγείσθαι δοκεῖς

920

καὶ σῶ |horn; κρατὶ |grab, cling
military
ἀλλ' ἢ ποτ' ἦσθα θήρ; |become a bull γὰρ οὖν.
unit |or like one

ΔΙ. ὁ θεὸς |act together, βέ-θεν ὦν οὐκ |kind
a companion

|party to a truce γ· νῦν δ' ὀρέῃς ἃ χρή σ' ὀράν.

ΠΕΝ. τί φαίνομαι δῆτ'; οὐχὶ τὴν Ἴουῤς |placing;
|faction

925

ἢ τὴν Ἀγαυῆς ἐστάναι, μητρός γ' ἐμῆς;

ΔΙ. αὐτὰς ἐκείνας |look at, see; treat' ὀρώων.
|with respect

ἀλλ' ἐξ |seat σοι |lock of hair ἕξέστηχ' ὅδε,

That To Live is happy, hath found his Heaven!

Re-enter DIONYSUS, from the Castle

DIONYSUS. O eye that cravest sights thou must not see,
O heart athirst for that which slakes not! Thee,
Pentheus, I call; forth and be seen, in guise
Of woman, Maenad, saint of Dionyse,
To spy upon His Chosen and thine own
Mother!

Enter PENTHEUS, clad like a Bacchanal, and strangely excited, a spirit of Bacchic
madness overshadowing him.

Thy shape, methinks, is like to one
Of Cadmus' royal maids!

PENTHEUS. Yea; and mine eye
Is bright! Yon sun shines twofold in the sky,
Thebes twofold and the Wall of Seven Gates...
And is it a Wild Bull this, that walks and waits
Before me? There are horns upon thy brow!
What art thou, man or beast! For surely now
The Bull is on thee!

DIONYSUS. He who erst was wrath,
Goes with us now in gentleness. He hath
Unsealed thine eyes to see what thou shouldst see.

PENTHEUS. Say; stand I not as Ino stands, or she
Who bore me?

DIONYSUS. When I look on thee, it seems
I see their very selves! — But stay; why streams

*vocabulary***αἰνέω** praise, assent, acquiesce in**ἀνασειώ** shake back, out**ἔδρα** (*ā*) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

εἰκάζω liken; conjecture**ἐνδίδωμι** hand over, lend, show, allow**ἐνδον** in the house of; within**ἐνδω** in the house of; within**ἐνθένδε** hence**ἐξῆς** in turn**ζώνη** girdle; waist, loins ~zone**θεραπεύω** help, serve; flatter, defer to

~therapy

θύρσος ivied wand**καθαρμόζω** fit in place**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά***κοσμέω** marshal, array ~cosmos**μεθίστημι** change, substitute;

withdraw; change sides; (mid) send

away ~station

μεθορμίζω move anchorage**μέλος** -ους (n, 3) limb; melody**μέλω** concern, interest, be one's responsibility**μίν** him, her, it**μίτρα** metal waist guard**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

ὀρθόω stand up**πέπλος** woman's dress, a folded cylinder of cloth**πότερος** which, whichever of two**πτυχή** fold, layer**σφυρόν** ankle, foothill**σώφρων** sensible, prudent ~frenzy**τείνω** stretch, tend ~tense**τένων** -οντος (m, 3) tendon, sinew

~tendon

χαλάω let fall; become slack

οὐχ ὥς ἐγὼ νιν ὑπὸ μίτρα καθήρμισα.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἔνδον προσείων αὐτὸν ἀνασείων τ' ἐγὼ 930

καὶ βακχιάζων ἐξ ἔδρας μεθώρμισα.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἀλλ' αὐτὸν ἡμεῖς, οἷς σε θεραπεύειν μέλει,

πάλιν καταστελοῦμεν· ἀλλ' ὄρθου κάρα.

ΠΕΝ. ἰδού, σὺ κόσμει· σοὶ γὰρ ἀνακείμεσθα δῆ.

ΔΙ. ζῶναί τέ σοι χαλῶσι κοῦχ ἐξῆς πέπλων 935

στολίδες ὑπὸ σφυροῖσι τείνουσιν σέθεν.

ΠΕΝ. κάμοι δοκοῦσι παρά γε δεξιὸν πόδα·

τάνθένδε δ' ὀρθῶς παρὰ τένοντ' ἔχει πέπλος.

ΔΙ. ἦ πού με τῶν σῶν πρῶτον ἡγήσῃ φίλων,

ὅταν παρὰ λόγον σώφρονας βάκχας ἴδῃς. 940

ΠΕΝ. πότερα δὲ θύρσον δεξιᾷ λαβὼν χερὶ

ἢ τῇδε, βάκχη μᾶλλον εἰκασθήσομαι;

ΔΙ. ἐν δεξιᾷ χρὴ χᾶμα δεξιῷ ποδὶ

αἴρειν νιν· αἰνῶ δ' ὅτι μεθέστηκας φρενῶν.

ΠΕΝ. ἂρ' ἂν δυναίμην τὰς Κιθαιρῶνος πτυχὰς 945

αὐταῖσι βάκχαις τοῖς ἐμοῖς ὤμοις φέρειν;

ΔΙ. δύναι' ἄν, εἰ βούλοιο· τὰς δὲ πρὶν φρένας

- οὐχ ὥς ἐγὼ νιν ὑπὸ |metal |fit in place
|waist
ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἔνδον προσεῖων αὐτὸν |guard |shake back, out, ὦ 930
- καὶ βακχιάζων ἐξ |seat |move anchorage
- ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἀλλ' αὐτὸν ἡμεῖς, οἷς σε |help, serve; λει,
|flatter, defer to
- πάλιν καταστελοῦμεν· ἀλλ' |stand |useless bit;
|up |form of κατά
- ΠΕΝ. ἰδού, σὺ |marshal, τοῖ γὰρ ἀνακείμεσθα δῆ.
|array
- ΔΙ. |girdle; τέ σοι |let fall; become |in |woman's dress 935
|waist |slack |turn
- στολίδες ὑπὸ |ankle, |stretch, tend 'θεν.
|foothill
- ΠΕΝ. κάμοι δοκοῦσι παρά γε δεξιὸν πόδα·
- |hence δ' ὀρθῶς παρὰ |tendon, ἔχει |woman's dress
|sinew
- ΔΙ. ἦ πού με τῶν σῶν πρῶτον ἡγήσῃ φίλων,
- ὅταν παρὰ λόγον |sensible, βάκχας ἴδῃς. 940
|prudent
- ΠΕΝ. |which, ὅ |ivied wand ἥ λαβὼν χερὶ
|whichever
- ἦ τῇδε, βάκχῃ μᾶλλον |liken; conjecture,
- ΔΙ. ἐν δεξιᾷ χερὶ χάμα δεξιῷ ποδὶ
- αἶρειν νιν· |praise, ὅτι |change, substitute; withdraw; change sides; (mid)
|assent |send away
- ΠΕΝ. ἄρ' ἂν δυναίμην τὰς Κιθαιρώνος |fold, 945
|layer
- αὐταῖσι βάκχαις τοῖς ἐμοῖς ὤμοις φέρειν;
- ΔΙ. δύναι' ἄν, εἰ βούλοιο· τὰς δὲ πρὶν φρένας

That lock abroad, not where I laid it, crossed
Under the coif?

PENTHEUS. I did it, as I tossed
My head in dancing, to and fro, and cried
His holy music!

DIONYSUS. It shall soon be tied
Aright. 'Tis mine to tend thee... Nay, but stand
With head straight.

PENTHEUS. In the hollow of thine hand
I lay me. Deck me as thou wilt.

DIONYSUS. Thy zone
Is loosened likewise; and the folded gown
Not evenly falling to the feet.

PENTHEUS. 'Tis so,
By the right foot. But here methinks, they flow
In one straight line to the heel.

DIONYSUS. And if thou prove
Their madness true, aye, more than true, what love
And thanks hast thou for me?

PENTHEUS. In my right hand
Is it, or thus, that I should bear the wand
To be most like to them?

DIONYSUS. Up let it swing
In the right hand, timed with the right foot's spring...'
Tis well thy heart is changed!

PENTHEUS. What strength is this!
Kithaeron's steeps and all that in them is—
How say'st thou?—Could my shoulders lift the whole?

DIONYSUS. Surely thou canst, and if thou wilt! Thy soul,

*vocabulary***ἄγων** -ος (m, 3) gathering place

~agony

ἀναμένω wait for ~remain**ἀνασπάω** draw again ~spatula**ἀπάγω** lead away, back ~demagogue**βραχίων** -ονος (m, 3) upper arm, shoulder**δέμας** -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like**διόλλυμι** (ῥ) be ruined**δόλιος** tricky, guileful**ἔδρα** (ᾱ) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

ἐλάτη fir tree; oar**ἔρκος** -εος (n, 3) bulwark ~oath**κατάσκοπος** spy, inspector**κορυφή** peak, crown**κρύπτω** hide, cover ~cryptic**λέκτρον** bed ~lie**λόχη** lair**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μοχλός beam, lever**νύμφα** nymph; bride**ὄρνις** -θος (ī, f) bird ~ornithology**οὐκοῦν** not so?; and so**πάρως** before, in the past**πομπός** escort, guide ~pomp**σθένος** -εος (n, 3) strength

~neurasthenia

σωτήριος saving**τοιγάρ** therefore**ὕγιής** sound, profitable ~hygiene**ὑποβάλλω** put under, interrupt

~ballistic

ὑποκρύπτω conceal under ~cryptic**φύλαξ** -χος (m) guard; sentry

~phylactery

οὐκ εἶχες ὑγιεῖς, νῦν δ' ἔχεις οἷας σε δεῖ.

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. μοχλοὺς φέρωμεν; ἢ χεροῖν ἀνασπάσω

κορυφαῖς ὑποβαλὼν ὤμον ἢ βραχίονα; 950

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. μὴ σύ γε τὰ Νυμφῶν διολέσης ιδρύματα

καὶ Πανὸς ἔδρας ἔνθ' ἔχει συρίγματα.

ΠΕΝ. καλῶς ἔλεξας· οὐ σθένει νικητέον

γυναῖκας· ἐλάττεισιν δ' ἐμὸν κρύψω δέμας.

ΔΙ. κρύψῃ σὺ κρύψιν ἦν σε κρυφθῆναι χρεῶν, 955

ἐλθόντα δόλιον μαινάδων κατάσκοπον.

ΠΕΝ. καὶ μὴν δοκῶ σφᾶς ἐν λόχμαῖς ὄρνιθας ὥς

λέκτρων ἔχεσθαι φιλτάτοις ἐν ἔρκεσιν.

ΔΙ. οὐκοῦν ἐπ' αὐτὸ τοῦτ' ἀποστέλλῃ φύλαξ·

λήψῃ δ' ἴσως σφᾶς, ἦν σὺ μὴ ληφθῆς πάρος. 960

ΠΕΝ. κόμιζε διὰ μέσης με Θηβαίας χθονός·

μόνος γὰρ αὐτῶν εἰμ' ἀνὴρ τολμῶν τόδε.

ΔΙ.μόνος σὺ πόλεως τῆσδ' ὑπερκάμνεις,μόνος·

τοιγάρ σ' ἀγῶνες ἀναμένουσιν οὓς ἐχρήν.

ἔπου δέ· πομπὸς δ' εἰμ' ἐγὼ σωτήριος, 965

κεῖθεν δ' ἀπάξει σ' ἄλλος. ΠΕΝ. ἢ τεκουσά γε.

οὐκ εἶχες |sound, ἔν δ' ἔχεις οἴας σε δεῖ.
|profitable

ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. |beam, φέρωμεν; ἢ χεροῖν |draw again
|lever

|peak, |put under, interrupt ἢ |upper arm, shoulder
|crown

950

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. μὴ σύ γε τὰ Νυμφῶν |be ruined ἱδρύματα

καὶ Πανὸς |seat ἔνθ' ἔχει συρίγματα.

ΠΕΝ. καλῶς ἔλεξας· οὐ |strength κητέον

γυναικας· |fir tree; oar ὅ' ἐμὸν |hide, |body; (+gen.) like
|cover

ΔΙ. κρίνῃ σὺ κρίψιν ἣν σε |hide, cover χρεῶν,

955

ἐλθόντα |tricky, |madwoman, spy, inspector
|guileful |maenad

ΠΕΝ. καὶ μὴν δοκῶ σφᾶς ἐν |lair |bird ὥς

|bed ἔχεσθαι φιλτάτοις ἐν |bulwark

ΔΙ. |not so?; and so ὁ τοῦτ' ἀποστέλλῃ |guard;
|sentry

λήψῃ δ' ἴσως σφᾶς, ἣν σὺ μὴ ληφθῆς |before, in the past

960

ΠΕΝ. κόμιζε διὰ μέσης με Θηβαίας χθονός·

μόνος γὰρ αὐτῶν εἰμ' ἀνὴρ τολμῶν τόδε.

ΔΙ. μόνος σὺ πόλεως τῇσδ' ὑπερκάμνεις, μόνος·

|therefore· |gathering|wait for οὓς ἐχρήν.
|place

ἔπου δέ· |escort, δ' εἰμ' ἐγὼ |saving
|guide

965

κεῖθεν δ' ἀπάξει σ' ἄλλος. ΠΕΝ. ἢ τεκοῦσά γε.

Being once so sick, now stands as it should stand.

PENTHEUS. Shall it be bars of iron? Or this bare hand

And shoulder to the crags, to wrench them down?

DIONYSUS. Wouldst wreck the Nymphs' wild temples, and the brown
Rocks, where Pan pipes at noonday?

PENTHEUS. Nay; not I!

Force is not well with women. I will lie

Hid in the pine-brake.

DIONYSUS. Even as fits a spy

On holy and fearful things, so shalt thou lie!

PENTHEUS. They lie there now, methinks—the wild birds, caught

By love among the leaves, and fluttering not!

DIONYSUS. It may be. That is what thou goest to see,

Aye, and to trap them—so they trap not thee!

PENTHEUS. Forth through the Thebans' town! I am their king,

Aye, their one Man, seeing I dare this thing!

DIONYSUS. Yea, thou shalt bear their burden, thou alone;

Therefore thy trial awaiteth thee!—But on;

With me into thine ambush shalt thou come

Unscathed; then let another bear thee home!

PENTHEUS. The Queen, my mother.

*vocabulary***ἀβρότης** -τος (f, 3) splendor, luxury**ἄγων** -ος (m, 3) gathering place

~agony

ἀναγκάζω force, compel**ἄπτω** set on fire; attach; mid: touch, seize ~haptic**δοκεύω** watch, monitor ~doctrine**ἐπίσημον** mark, badge**ἐπίσημος** marked, significant**θίασος** revel; group of people**κατάσκοπος** spy, inspector**κλέος** κλοῦς (n, 3) fame ~Euclid**λευρός** smooth, level**λύσσα** battle rage**λυσσώδης** raging**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
~maenad**μίν** him, her, it**νεανίας** -ου (ᾱα, m) young person**ὁμόσπορος** sown together; kindred**πάθος** -ους (n, 3) an experience, passion, condition**πέτρα** rock, cliff, reef ~petrified**σημαίνω** give orders to; show; mark
~semaphore**σχόλοψ** -πος (m) palisade, stake**στηρίζω** fix, plant ~stereo**στολή** equipment**τοιόσδε** such**τροφάω** luxuriate, revel ~drop**τροφή** softness, luxury

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἐπίσημον ὄντα πᾶσιν. ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἐπὶ τόδ' ἔρχομαι.

ΔΙ. φερόμενος ἦξεις⁹⁶⁸ΠΕΝ. ἀβρότητ' ἐμὴν λέγεις.

ΔΙ. ἐν χερσὶ μητρός. ΠΕΝ. καὶ τρυφᾶν μ' ἀναγκάσεις.

ΔΙ. τρυφάς γε τοιάσδε. ΠΕΝ. ἀξίων μὲν ἄπτομαι. 970

ΔΙ. δεινὸς σὺν δεινὸς καπὶ δεῖν' ἔρχη πάθη,

ὥστ' οὐρανῷ στηρίζον εὐρήσεις κλέος.

ἔκτειν', Ἀγαυή, χεῖρας αἵ θ' ὁμόσποροι

Κάδμου θυγατέρες· τὸν νεανίαν ἄγω

τόνδ' εἰς ἀγῶνα μέγαν, ὃ νικήσων δ' ἐγὼ 975

καὶ Βρόμιος ἔσται. τᾶλλα δ' αὐτὸ σημαίνει.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἴτε θεαὶ Λύσσας κύνες ἴτ' εἰς ὄρος,

θίασον ἔνθ' ἔχουσι Κάδμου κόραι,

ἀνοιστρήσατέ νιν

ἐπὶ τὸν ἐν γυναικομίμῳ στολᾷ 980

λυσσώδη κατάσκοπον μαινάδων.

μάτηρ πρῶτά νιν λευρᾶς ἀπὸ πέτρας

ἢ σκόλοπος ὄψεται

δοκεύοντα, μαινάσιν δ' ἀπύσει·

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ἐπίσημον ὄντα πᾶσιν. ΠΕΝΘΕΥΣ. ἐπὶ τόδ' ἔρχομαι.

ΔΙ. φερόμενος ἥξεις⁹⁶⁸ΠΕΝ. |splendor, |μὴν λέγεις.
|luxury

ΔΙ. ἐν χερσὶ μητρός. ΠΕΝ. καὶ |luxuriate, ' |force, compel
|revel

ΔΙ. |softness, γε |such ΠΕΝ. ἀξίων μὲν ἄπτομαι. 970
|luxury

ΔΙ. δεινὸς σὺ δεινὸς καπὶ δειν' ἔρχῃ |an experience, pas-
|sion, condition

ὥστ' οὐρανῷ |fix, plant εὐρήσεις |fame

ἔκτειν', Ἀγαυή, χεῖρας αἷ θ' |sown together;
|kindred

Κάδμου θυγατέρες· τὸν |young ἄγω
|person

τόνδ' εἰς |gathering ἔγαν, ὃ νικήσων δ' ἐγὼ 975
|place

καὶ Βρόμιος ἔσται. τᾶλλα δ' αὐτὸ |give orders to;
|show; mark

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἴτε θοαὶ |battle rage ἴνες ἴτ' εἰς ὄρος,

|revel; group ἔχουσι Κάδμου κόραι,
|of people

ἀνοιστρήσατέ νιν

ἐπὶ τὸν ἐν γυναικομίμῳ |equipment 980

|raging |spy, inspector |madwoman,
|maenad

μάτηρ πρῶτά νιν |smooth, ἀπὸ |rock
|level

ἦ |palisade, ὀψεται
|stake

|watch , |madwoman, ἀπύσει·
|maenad

DIONYSUS. Marked of every eye.

PENTHEUS. For that I go!

DIONYSUS. Thou shalt be borne on high!

PENTHEUS. That were like pride!

DIONYSUS. Thy mother's hands shall share
Thy carrying.

PENTHEUS. Nay; I need not such soft care!

DIONYSUS. So soft?

PENTHEUS. Whate'er it be, I have earned it well!

Exit PENTHEUS towards the Mountain.

DIONYSUS. Fell, fell art thou; and to a doom so fell

Thou walkest, that thy name from South to North

Shall shine, a sign for ever! — Reach thou forth

Thine arms, Agave, now, and ye dark-browed

Cadmeian sisters! Greet this prince so proud

To the high ordeal, where save God and me,

None walks unscathed! — The rest this day shall see.

Exit DIONYSUS following PENTHEUS.

CHORUS. O hounds raging and blind,

Up by the mountain road,

Sprites of the maddened mind,

To the wild Maids of God;

Fill with your rage their eyes,

Rage at the rage unblest,

Watching in woman's guise,

The spy upon God's Possessed.

Who shall be first, to mark

Eyes in the rock that spy,

Eyes in the pine-tree dark —

Is it his mother? — and cry:—

*vocabulary***ἄδικος** unfair; obstinate, bad**ἄθεος** godless; by the gods**ἄλυπος** (ῥ) painless**ἄνομος** lawless**βίος** life ~biology**βλώσχω** come, go**βρότειος** mortal**γηγενής** indigenous, primeval**γόνος** offspring ~genus**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**λαιμός** throat, gullet**λέαινα** lioness**λήμα** will, desire, purpose; courage,
insolence**μίν** him, her, it**μολίσκω** come, go**ξιφηφόρος** bearing a sword**ὀργή** urge, impulse; anger**ὄργια** -τος (n, 2) secret rites**παράκοπος** frenzied; distraught**παράνομος** lawless, unlawful**πραπίδες** -ος (f) midriff, seat of
wisdom and cunning**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**στέλλω** prepare, send, furl ~apostle**φανερός** visible, conspicuous ~photon**φθονέω** envy**φονεύω** kill**φύω** produce, beget; clasp ~physics

Τίς ὄδ' ὀρειδρόμων

985

μαστήρ Καδμείων ἐς ὄρος ἐς ὄρος ἔμολ'

ἔμολεν, ὦ Βάκχαι; τίς ἄρα νιν ἔτεκεν;

οὐ γὰρ ἐξ αἵματος

γυναικῶν ἔφνυ, λεαίνας δέ τινος

ὄδ' ἢ Γοργόνων Λιβυσσᾶν γένος.

990

ἴτω δίκαι φανερός, ἴτω ξιφηφόρος

φονεύουσα λαιμῶν διαμπὰξ

τὸν ἄθεον ἄνομον ἄδικον Ἐχίονος

995

γόνον γηγενῇ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὃς ἀδίκῳ γνώμα παρανόμῳ τ' ὀργᾷ

περὶ σὰ Βάκχ'ι, ὀργια ματρός τε σᾶς

μανείσα πραπίδι

παρακόπῳ τε λήματι στέλλεται,

1000

τᾶνίκατον ὥς κρατήσων βία,

γνωμᾶν σωφρόνα θάνατος ἀπροφάσι'

στος ἐς τὰ θεῶν ἔφνυ.

βροτείως τ' ἔχειν ἄλυπος βίος.

τὸ σοφὸν οὐ φθονῶ.

Τίς ὄδ' ὀρειδρόμων

985

μαστήρ Καδμείων ἐς ὄρος ἐς ὄρος ἔμολ'

ἔμολεν, ὦ βάκχαι; τίς ἄρα νιν ἔτεκεν;

οὐ γὰρ ἐξ αἵματος

γυναικῶν | pro- | lioness | δέ τινας

ὄδ' ἢ Γοργῶν | duce, | beget; | clasp | Διβυσσᾶν γένος.

990

ἴτω δίκαια | visible, | conspicuous | ὦ | bearing a sword

| kill | throat, | gullet | διαμπᾶξ

τὸν | god- | less; | lawless | unfair; ob- | stinate, bad | ὄνονος

995

| off- | gods | indigenous, | primeval | spring

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὅς | unfair; obstinate, | bad | lawless, | unlawful | τ' | urge, | impulse; | anger

περὶ σὰ Βάκχι', | secret | rites | ματρός τε σᾶς

μανείσα | seat of wisdom

| frenzied; | distraught | τε | will, | desire, | purpose; | courage, | insolence | prepare, send, furl

1000

τάνικατον ὡς | καὶ τῶν βία,

γνωμᾶν σωφρόνα θάνατος ἀπροφάσι'

στος ἐς τὰ θεῶν | produce, | beget; clasp

| mortal | τ' ἔχειν | painless | life

τὸ | skilled, | clever, wise | envy

Lo, what is this that comes,
Haunting, troubling still,
Even in our heights, our homes,
The wild Maids of the Hill?
What flesh bare this child?
Never on woman's breast
Changeling so evil smiled;
Man is he not, but Beast!
Loin-shape of the wild,
Gorgon-breed of the waste!"
Hither, for doom and deed!
Hither with lifted sword,
Justice, Wrath of the Lord,
Come in our visible need!
Smite till the throat shall bleed,
Smite till the heart shall bleed,
Him the tyrannous, lawless, Godless, Echî on's earthborn seed!
Tyrannously hath he trod;
Marched him, in Law's despite,
Against thy Light, O God,
Yea, and thy Mother's Light;
Girded him, falsely bold,
Blinded in craft, to quell
And by man's violence hold,
Things unconquerable
A strait pitiless mind
Is death unto godliness;
And to feel in human kind
Life, and a pain the less.
Knowledge, we are not foes!

vocabulary

ἀγέλη herd ~demagogue
 ἄδικος unfair; obstinate, bad
 ἄθεος godless; by the gods
 ἄνομος lawless
 βίος life ~biology
 βρόχος rope, noose
 γελάω laugh, smile, laugh at
 γηγενής indigenous, primeval
 δράκων -οντος (m, 3) serpent
 ἐκβάλλω throw out, fell, let fall
 ~ballistic
 εὐαής (ἄ) airy; (wind) favorable
 εὐσεβέω be pious
 εὐτυχέω be lucky, prosper, succeed
 θανάσιμος fatal
 θέρος -εος (n, 3) summer ~thermos
 θηρεύω hunt, fish ~fierce

λαιμός throat, gullet
 λάω grip, pin?
 λέων lion
 μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
 ~maenad
 νάω flow
 νόμιμος customary, legal, natural
 ξιφηφόρος bearing a sword
 ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
 περιβάλλω act: excel; mid: put on
 clothing ~ballistic
 σπείρω sow ~diaspora
 στενάζω sigh, groan
 ταῦρος bull ~steer
 τιμάω (ι) honor, exalt
 τόκος childbirth ~oxytocin
 φανερός visible, conspicuous ~photon
 φονεύω kill

χαίρω θηρεύουσα· τὰ δ' ἕτερα μέγала

φανερὰ τ'· ὦ, νάειν ἐπὶ τὰ καλὰ βίον,

ἦμαρ ἐς νύκτα τ' εὖ

αγοῦντ' εὐσεβεῖν, τὰ δ' ἔξω νόμιμα

δίκας ἐκβαλόντα τιμᾶν θεούς.

1010

ἴτω δίκαι φανερός, ἴτω ξιφηφόρος

φονεύουσα λαϊμῶν διαμπὰξ

τὸν ἄθεον ἄνομον ἄδικον Ἐχίονος

1015

τόκον γηγενῆ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. φάνηθι ταῦρος ἢ πολύκρανος ἰδεῖν

δράκων ἢ πυριφλέγων ὀράσθαι λέων.

ἴθ', ὦ Βάκχε, θηραγρευτῆ βακχᾶν

1020

γελῶντι προσώπῳ περίβαλε βρόχον

θανάσιμον ὑπ' ἀγέλαν πεσόν'

τι τὰν μαινάδων.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣΒ. ὦ δῶμ' ὃ πρὶν ποτ' εὐτύχεις ἀν' Ἑλλάδα,

Σιδωνίου γέροντος, ὃς τὸ γηγενὲς

1025

δράκοντος ἔσπειρ' Ὀφείας ἐν γαίᾳ θέρος,

ὥς σε στενάζω, δοῦλος ὢν μέν, ἀλλ' ὅμως

χαίρω | hunt, fish τὰ δ' ἕτερα μεγάλα

|visible, ὧ, |flow ἐπὶ τὰ καλὰ |life ,
|conspicuous

ἡμαρ ἐς νύκτα τ' | airy; (wind)
| favorable

αγοῦντ' |be pious , τὰ δ' ἔξω νόμιμα

δίκα*s* | throw out, | honor θεού*s*.
fell, let fall

ἵτω δικά	visible,	ω	bearing a sword
	conspicuous		

kill	throat,	διαμπὰξ
	gullet	

τὸν	god-	lawless	unfair; ob-	όνος
	less;		stinate, bad	

child by the
birth gods indigenous,
primeval

ΧΟΡΟΣ. φάνηθι **bull** ἢ πολύκρανος ἰδεῖν

|serpent ἡ πυριφλέγων ὁράσθαι λέων.

ἴθ', ὦ Βάκχε, θηραγρευτᾶ βακχᾶν

γελῶντι προσώπῳ | excel; don | rope,
noose

|fatal ὕπ' |herd πεισόν'

τι τὰν	madwoman, maenad
--------	---------------------

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣΒ. ὦ δῶμ' ὃ πρίν ποτ' | be lucky, pros-᾿Ἰλλάδα,
| per, succeed

Σιδωνίου γέροντος, ὃς τὸ indigenous,
primeval

|serpent ἔσπειρ' Ὀφεις ἐν γαίᾳ |summer

ὥς σε | sigh,
groan , δοῦλος ὢν μέν, ἀλλ' | anyway, nevertheless

I seek thee diligently;
But the world with a great wind blows,
Shining, and not from thee;
Blowing to beautiful things,
On, amid dark and light,
Till Life, through the trammellings
Of Laws that are not the Right,
Breaks, clean and pure, and sings
Glorying to God in the height!
Hither for doom and deed!
Hither with lifted sword,
Justice, Wrath of the Lord,
Come in our visible need!
Smite till the throat shall bleed,
Smite till the heart shall bleed,
Him the tyrannous, lawless, Godless, Echion's earthborn seed!

LEADER. Appear, appear, whatso thy shape or name
O Mountain Bull, Snake of the Hundred Heads,
Lion of Burning Flame!

O God, Beast, Mystery, come! Thy mystic maids
Are hunted! — Blast their hunter with thy breath,
Cast o'er his head thy snare;
And laugh aloud and drag him to his death,
Who stalks thy herded madness in its lair!

Enter hastily a MESSENGER from the Mountain, pale and distraught.

MESSENGER. Woe to the house once blest in Hellas! Woe
To thee, old King Sidonian, who didst sow
The dragon-seed on Ares' bloody lea!
Alas, even thy slaves must weep for thee!

LEADER. News from the mountain? — Speak! How

vocabulary

ἄδικος unfair; obstinate, bad
ἄνανδρος without men; not manlike
 ~androgynous
βάρβαρος non-Greek
δεσμέω to chain
δεσμός bond, latch, strap; also (pl)
 headdress
δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot
εἰσβάλλω throw into ~ballistic
ἐκβαίνω come forth, disembark ~basis
ἐκπορίζω provide; invent
ἐξεργάζομαι accomplish; undo;

destroy someone
εὐάζω cry εὐαί in honour of Bacchus
θεράπνη handmaid; dwelling
κράτος strength, power; victory
 ~democracy
λέπας -ως (n, 3) bare rock
μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody
μηνύω disclose, betray, accuse
μόρος portion, lot in life
πτήσσω cower, cause to cower
ῥοά pl: waters of a river ~rheostat
συμφορά collecting; accident, misfortune

χρηστοῖσι δούλοις συμφορὰ τὰ δεσποτῶν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τί δ' ἔστιν; ἐκ βακχῶν τι μηνύεις νέον;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. Πενθεὺς ὄλωλεν, παῖς Ἐχίονος πατρός. 1030

ΧΘ. ὦναξ Βρόμιε, θεὸς φαίνη μέγας.

ΑΓ. πῶς φῆς; τί τοῦτ' ἔλεξας; ἦ πὶ τοῖς ἐμοῖς

χαίρεις κακῶς πράσσουσι δεσπόταις, γύναι;

ΧΘ. εὐάζω ξένα μέλεσι βαρβάροις·

οὐκέτι γὰρ δεσμῶν ὑπὸ φόβῳ πτήσω. 1035

ΑΓ. Θῆβας δ' ἀνάνδρους ὧδ' ἄγεις 1036 1036

ΧΘ. ὁ Διόνυσος ὁ Διόνυσος, οὐ Θῆβαι

κράτος ἔχουσ' ἐμόν.

ΑΓ. συγγνωστὰ μέν σοι, πλὴν ἐπ' ἐξεργασμένοις

κακοῖσι χαίρειν, ὦ γυναῖκες, οὐ καλόν. 1040

ΧΘ. ἔννεπέ μοι, φράσον, τίνι μόρῳ θνήσκει

ἄδικος ἄδικά τ' ἐκπορίζων ἀνὴρ;

ΑΓ. ἐπεὶ θεράπνας τῆσδε Θηβαίας χθονὸς

λιπόντες ἐξέβημεν Ἀσωποῦ ροάς,

λέπας Κιθαιρώνειον εἰσεβάλλομεν 1045

Πενθεὺς τε κἀγώ— δεσπότη γὰρ εἰπόμεν—

- χρηστοῖσι δούλοις συμφορὰ τὰ |master, |
|despot
- ΧΟΡΟΣ. τί δ' ἔστιν; ἐκ βακχῶν τι |disclose, be- |
|tray, accuse
- ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. Πενθεὺς ὄλωλεν, παῖς Ἐχίονος πατρός. 1030
- ΧΟ. ὦναξ Βρόμει, θεὸς φαίνῃ μέγας.
- ΑΓ. πῶς φήης; τί τοῦτ' ἔλεξας; ἦ πὶ τοῖς ἐμοῖς
- χαίρεις κακῶς πράσσουσι |master, |, γύναι;
|despot
- ΧΟ. |cry εὐχαί in|limb; |non-Greek
|honour of|melody
Bacchus
οὐκέτι γὰρ δεσμῶν ὑπὸ φόβῳ |cower, cause
|to cower 1035
- ΑΓ. Θήβας δ' |without men; δ' ἄγεις 1036 1036
|not manlike
- ΧΟ. ὁ Διόνυσος ὁ Διόνυσος, οὐ Θῆβαι
- |strength, ὅλ' ἐμόν.
|power; vic-
|tory
- ΑΓ. συγγνωστὰ μὲν σοι, πλὴν ἐπ' |accomplish; undo;
|destroy someone
κακοῖσι χαίρειν, ὦ γυναῖκες, οὐ καλόν. 1040
- ΧΟ. ἔννεπέ μοι, φράσον, τίνι |portion, lot in life
- |unfair; |unfair; ὅ |provide; ἀνήρ;
|obsti- |obstinate, |invent
|nate, |bad
|bad |handmaid; γῆσδε Θηβαίας χθονὸς
|dwelling
- λιπόντες |come forth Ἀσωποῦ ρόας,
|bare rock Ἰ. θαιρώνειον |throw into 1045
- Πενθεὺς τε καγώ— |master, γὰρ εἰπόμην—
|despot

hath it sped?

MESSENGER. Pentheus, my king, Echî on's son, is dead!

LEADER. All hail, God of the Voice,

Manifest ever more!

MESSENGER. What say'st thou? — And how strange thy tone, as though
In joy at this my master's overthrow!

LEADER. With fierce joy I rejoice,

Child of a savage shore;

For the chains of my prison are broken, and the dread where I cowered of
yore!

MESSENGER. And deem'st thou Thebes so beggared, so forlorn
Of manhood, as to sit beneath thy scorn?

LEADER. Thebes hath o'er me no sway!

None save Him I obey,

Dionysus, Child of the Highest, Him I obey and adore!

MESSENGER. One can forgive thee! — Yet 'tis no fair thing,
Maids, to rejoice in a man's suffering.

LEADER. Speak of the mountain side!

Tell us the doom he died,

The sinner smitten to death, even where his sin was sore!

MESSENGER. We climbed beyond the utmost habitings

Of Theban shepherds, passed Asopus' springs,

And struck into the land of rock on dim

Kithaeron — Pentheus, and, attending him,

vocabulary

ἄγκος -εος (n, 3) bend; glen
 ~ankylosaurus
ἄκρον crest, extremity ~acute
ἄκρος at the edge, extreme ~acute
γλῶσσα tongue, language ~glossary
ἐκλείπω leave out, pass over
ἐλάτη fir tree; oar
ἐντεῦθεν thence
ἐξικνέομαι arrive at
ζυγόν yoke, a joined pair ~zygote
θαῦμα -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of surprise ~theater
θεωρία spectator, contemplation
θῆλυς female; (rare) abundant ~female
θύρσος ivied wand
ἵζω to seat ~sit
κατάγω lead down/home; land
 ~demagogue
κισσός ivy
κισσόω wreath with ivy
κλάδος branch, shoot
κομήτης -ου (m, 1) long-haired
μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad
μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody
νάπος -εος (n, 3) gully
νόθος bastard
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just
 ~orthogonal
ὀρθόω stand up
ὄσσε eyes (dual)
ὄσσομαι see with the mind's eye, forebode
οὐράνιος heavenly
ὄχθος bank, hill
πέδον ground ~pedal
πεύκη pine
ποιηρός grassy
ποικίλλω make elaborately
ποικίλος ornamented; various
πομπός escort, guide ~pomp
πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
πῶλος (f) foal ~foal
τερπνός pleasant
τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
τοιόσδε such

ξένος θ' ὃς ἡμῶν πομπὸς ἦν θεωρίας.

πρῶτον μὲν οὖν ποιηρὸν ἴζομεν νάπος,

τά τ' ἐκ ποδῶν σιγηλὰ καὶ γλώσσης ἄπο

σώζοντες, ὡς ὀρώμεν οὐχ ὀρώμενοι.

1050

ἦν δ' ἄγκος ἀμφίκρημνον, ὕδασι διάβροχον,

πεύκαισι συσκιάζον, ἔνθα μαινάδες

καθῆντ' ἔχουσαι χεῖρας ἐν τερπνοῖς πόνοις.

αἱ μὲν γὰρ αὐτῶν θύρσον ἐκλελοιπότα

κισσῷ κομήτην αὐθις ἐξανέστεφον,

1055

αἱ δ', ἐκλιποῦσαι ποικίλ' ὡς πῶλοι ζυγά,

βακχεῖον ἀντέκλαζον ἀλλήλαις μέλος.

Πενθεὺς δ' ὁ τλήμων θῆλυν οὐχ ὀρῶν ὄχλον

ἔλεξε τοιάδ'· ὦ ξέν', οὐ μὲν ἔσταμεν,

οὐκ ἐξικνούμαι μαινάδων ὅσοις νόθων·

1060

ὄχθων δ' ἔπ', ἀμβὰς ἐς ἐλάτην ὑψαύχενα,

ἴδοιμ' ἂν ὀρθῶς μαινάδων αἰσχροουργίαν.

τοῦντεῦθεν ἤδη τοῦ ξένου τὸ θαῦμ' ὀρώ·

λαβὼν γὰρ ἐλάτης οὐράνιον ἄκρον κλάδον

κατήγεν, ἦγεν, ἦγεν ἐς μέλαν πέδον·

ξένος θ' ὃς ἡμῖν |escort, |ἦν |spectator, con-
guide |templation

πρῶτον μὲν οὖν |grassy |to seat |gully ,

τά τ' ἐκ ποδῶν σιγηλὰ καὶ γλώσσης ἄπο

σώζοντες, ὡς ὀρώμεν οὐχ ὀρώμενοι.

1050

ἦν δ' |bend; |gleṇ |ρίκρημνον, ὕδασι διάβροχον,

|pine συσκιάζον, ἔνθα |madwoman,
|maenad

καθῆντ' ἔχουσαι χεῖρας ἐν |pleasant πόνοις.

αἱ μὲν γὰρ αὐτῶν |ivied |leave out, pass over
|wand

κισσῶ |long-haired |ἰῆθις ἐξανέστεφον,

1055

αἱ δ', |leave out, pass over... ὥς |foal |yoke ,

βακχεῖον ἀντέκλαζον ἀλλήλαις |limb;
|melody

Πενθεὺς δ' ὁ |steadfast |female; (rare) |ὦν ὄχλον
|abundant

ἔλεξε τοιάδ'· ὦ ξέν', οὐ μὲν ἔσταμεν,

οὐκ |arrive at |madwoman, |σσοις |bastard
|maenad

1060

|bank, hill' ἔπ', ἀμβὰς ἐς ἐλάτην ὑψαύχενα,

ἰδοιμ' ἂν ὀρθῶς |madwoman, |ισχυουργίαν.
|maenad

|thence ἤδη τοῦ ξένου τὸ θαῦμ' ὀρώ·

λαβὼν γὰρ |fir tree;|heavenly ἄκρον |branch,
|oar |shoot

|lead down/h|home; |land ἐς μέλαν |ground

I, and the Stranger who should guide our way,
Then first in a green dell we stopped, and lay,
Lips dumb and feet unmoving, warily
Watching, to be unseen and yet to see.
A narrow glen it was, by crags o'ertowered,
Torn through by tossing waters, and there lowered
A shadow of great pines over it. And there
The Maenad maidens sate; in toil they were,
Busily glad. Some with an ivy chain
Tricked a worn wand to toss its locks again;
Some, wild in joyance, like young steeds set free,
Made answering songs of mystic melody.
But my poor master saw not the great band
Before him. "Stranger," he cried, "where we stand
Mine eyes can reach not these false saints of thine.
Mount we the bank, or some high-shouldered pine,
And I shall see their follies clear!" At that
There came a marvel. For the Stranger straight
Touched a great pine-tree's high and heavenward crown,

*vocabulary***αἰθήρ** ether, air, sky ~ether**ἀναβοάω** shout out**ἄνω** (ἄ) accomplish, pass, waste;
upwards, out to sea**ἀτρέμας** unmovingly, still ~tremble**βλάστημα** shoot; offspring**γελάω** laugh, smile, laugh at**δεσπότης** -ου (m, 1) master, despot**δῆλος** visible, conspicuous**δράω** do, accomplish**δρόμος** running, racing ground

~hippodrome

εἰκάζω liken; conjecture**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἐλάτινος** of fir**ἐλκέω** drag, pull, hoist; rape**ἐλκος** -εος (n, 3) wound ~ulcer**ἐλκω** drag, pull, hoist; rape**ἐφημαι** sit/lie by**θάσσω** sit**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**ἰδρύω** establish**καθοράω** look down ~panorama**κάμπτω** bend, bend in exhaustion**κατείδον** look upon**κάτοιδα** understand**κλαίω** weep**κλάω** break, break off ~iconoclast**κυκλόω** circle, encircle**κυρτός** curved, humped ~kurtosis**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
~maenad**μεθίημι** let go, cease; (mid) speed off
~jet**μίν** him, her, it**νάπη** valley**νάπος** -εος (n, 3) gully**νεᾶνις** -δος (f) young woman ~neon**νώτον** back of the body; rear of an
army; top of a box**νώτος** back of the body; rear of an
army; top of a box**ὄζος** branch**ὄζω** have a smell, waft**ὄργια** -τος (n, 2) secret rites**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just
~orthogonal**οὐπω** no longer**προσδοκάω** expect**σεμνός** revered, holy**σίγα** silently, whispering**σιγάω** (ι) be silent**στηρίζω** fix, plant ~stereo**τιμωρέω** (ι) (+dat) take vengeance,
punish; aid one who has been attacked**τόξον** bow ~toxic**τόρνος** carpenter's compass; lathe**τροχός** wheel**φάος** φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
eyes ~photon**φέως** bush used to make brooms

κυκλοῦτο δ' ὥστε τόξον ἢ κυρτὸς τροχὸς
 τὸρνω γραφόμενος περιφορὰν ἔλκει δρόμον·
 ὥς κλῶν' ὄρειον ὁ ξένος χεροῖν ἄγων
 ἔκαμπτεν ἐς γῆν, ἔργματ' οὐχὶ θνητὰ δρῶν.

Πενθέα δ' ἰδρύσας ἐλατίνων ὄζων ἔπι,

1070

ὀρθὸν μεθίει διὰ χερῶν βλάστημ' ἄνω
 ἀτρέμα, φυλάσσων μὴ ἀναχαιτίσειέ νιν,
 ὀρθὴ δ' ἐς ὀρθὸν αἰθέρ' ἐστηρίζετο,
 ἔχουσα νώτοις δεσπότην ἐφήμενον·

ᾠφθη δὲ μᾶλλον ἢ κατεΐδε μαινάδας.

1075

ὅσον γὰρ οὐ̐πω δηλὸς ἦν θάσσων ἄνω,
 καὶ τὸν ξένον μὲν οὐκέτ' εἰσορᾶν παρῆν,
 ἐκ δ' αἰθέρος φωνή τις, ὥς μὲν εἰκάσαι
 Διόνυσος, ἀνεβόησεν· ὦ νεάνιδες,

ἄγω τὸν ὑμᾶς καμὲ τὰμά τ' ὄργια

1080

γέλων τιθέμενον· ἀλλὰ τιμωρεῖσθέ νιν.
 καὶ ταῦθ' ἅμ' ἡγόρευε καὶ πρὸς οὐρανὸν
 καὶ γαῖαν ἐστήριξε φῶς σεμνοῦ πυρός.
 σίγησε δ' αἰθήρ, σίγα δ' ὕλινος νάπη

|circle, δ' ὥστε τόξον ἢ |curved, |wheel
|encircle |humped
|carpenter's , 'μενος περιφορὰν ἔλκει |running
|compass; lathe
ὥς κλῶν' ὄρειον ὁ ξένος χεροῖν ἄγων

|bend, bend in γῆν, ἔργματ' οὐχὶ θνητὰ |do, accomplish
|exhaustion

Πενθέα δ' |establish |of fir ὅζων ἔπι, 1070

ὀρθὸν |let go, cease; -(mid)shoot; ἄνω
|speed off |offspring
|unmovingly, λάσσω μὴ ἀναχαιτίσειέ νιν,
|still
ὀρθὴ δ' ἐς ὀρθὸν |ether |fix, plant ,

ἔχουσα νώτοις |master, |sit/lie by
|despot

ὥφθη δὲ μάλλον ἢ κατείδε |madwoman,
|maenad 1075

ὅσον γὰρ οὐπω δῆλος ἦν θάσσω ἄνω,
καὶ τὸν ξένον μὲν οὐκέτ' |look at, see; treat,
|with respect
ἐκ δ' |ether φωνή τις, ὥς μὲν |liken;
|conjecture

Διώνυσος, |shout out ὦ |young
|woman ,

ἄγω τὸν ὑμᾶς καμὲ τὰμά τ' |secret
|rites 1080

|laugh, τιθέμενον· ἀλλὰ |take vengeance, .
|smile |punish, aid
καὶ ταῦθ' ἅμ' ἠγόρευε καὶ πρὸς οὐρανὸν

καὶ γαῖαν |fix, plant φῶς |revered, holy 's.

|be silent ὦ |ether , |silently, ὦ |μος νάπη
|whispering

And lower, lower, lower, urged it down
To the herbless floor. Round like a bending bow,
Or slow wheel's rim a joiner forces to.
So in those hands that tough and mountain stem
Bowed slow — oh, strength not mortal dwelt in them! —
To the very earth. And there he set the King,
And slowly, lest it cast him in its spring.
Let back the young and straining tree, till high
It towered again amid the towering sky;
And Pentheus in the branches! Well, I ween,
He saw the Maenads then, and well was seen!
For scarce was he aloft, when suddenly
There was no stranger any more with me,
But out of Heaven a Voice — oh, what voice else? —
Twas He that called! "Behold, O damosels,
I bring ye him who turneth to despite
Both me and ye, and darkeneth my great Light.
Tis yours to avenge!" So spake he, and there came
Twixt earth and sky a pillar of high flame.
And silence took the air, and no leaf stirred
In all the forest dell. Thou hadst not heard

vocabulary

αιθήρ ether, air, sky ~ether
ἀκοντίζω throw, (+gen) at ~acute
ἀπορία difficulty, bottleneck ~pierce
βοά din, a shout
γνωρίζω make known, discover
δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot
δράμημα running course
δρύινος made of oak ~druid
δύστηνος unhappy, miserable
ἐλάτη fir tree; oar
ἐλάτινος of fir
ἐμμανής raving
ἐπιβαίνω (+gen) set foot on, board, climb ~basis
ἐπιχελεύω encourage; consent
ἐφημαι sit/lie by
ἤχη noise
θύρσος ivied wand
θυρσώω make into a wand
κελευσμός (f) command
κλάδος branch, shoot

κρείσσων more powerful; better
νάπη valley
ῥζος branch
ὀμόσπορος sown together; kindred
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just ~orthogonal
οὔς οὔατος (n) ear
πέλεια dove ~pallid
πέτρα rock, cliff, reef ~petrified
πηδάω jump, spring ~pedal
προθυμία (ῶ) zeal, alacrity ~fume
ρίπτω hurl
σαφής clear, understandable
σύγγονος inborn, natural; blood kin
σύντονος tense; impetuous; earnest
τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
τρέχω run, spin
ὑψος ὕψους (n, 3) height, summit
φύλλον leaf
χειμάρροος flooding
χειμάρρους winter-flooded
ώκύτης -τος (f, 3) speed

φύλλ' εἶχε, θηρῶν δ' οὐκ ἂν ἤκουσας βοήν. 1085
 αἱ δ' ὥσιν ἡχὴν οὐ σαφῶς δεδεγμένοιαι
 ἔστησαν ὀρθαὶ καὶ διήνεγκαν κόρας.
 ὁ δ' αὖθις ἐπεκέλευσεν· ὥς δ' ἐγνώρισαν
 σαφῇ κελευσμὸν Βακχίου Κάδμου κόραι,
 ἦξαν πελείας ὠκύτητ' οὐχ ἥσσονες 1090
 ποδῶν τρέχουσai συντόνοις δραμήμασι,
 μήτηρ Ἀγαυή σύγγονοί θ' ὁμόσποροι
 πᾶσαι τε βάκχαι· διὰ δὲ χειμάρρου νάπης
 ἀγμῶν τ' ἐπήδων θεοῦ πνοαῖσιν ἐμμανεῖς.
 ὥς δ' εἶδον ἐλάτῃ δεσπότην ἐφήμενον, 1095
 πρῶτον μὲν αὐτοῦ χερμάδας κραταιβόλους
 ἔρριπτον, ἀντίπυργον ἐπιβᾶσαι πέτραν,
 ὄζοισί τ' ἐλατίνοισιν ἡκοντίζετο.
 ἄλλαι δὲ θύρσους ἔεσαν δι' αἰθέρος
 Πενθέως, στόχον δύστηνον· ἀλλ' οὐκ ἦνυτον. 1100
 κρεῖσσον γὰρ ὕψος τῆς προθυμίας ἔχων
 καθήσθ' ὁ τλήμων, ἀπορία λελημμένος.
 τέλος δὲ δρυῖνους συγκεραυνοῦσαι κλάδους

|leaf εἶχε, θηρῶν δ' οὐκ ἂν ἤκουσας βοήν.

1085

αἶ δ' |ear |noise οὐ |clear, under- γμέναι
|standable

ἔστησαν ὀρθαὶ καὶ διήνεγκαν κόρας.

ὦ δ' αὖθις ἐπέκέλευσεν· ὥς δ' |make known, discover

|clear, |command Βακχίου Κάδμου κόραι,
|under-
|stand-
|able |dove ὠκύτητ' οὐχ ἥσσονες

1090

ποδῶν |run, spin |tense; |running
|impetuous; |course

μήτηρ Ἀγαυή |inborn, natu-|sown together;
|ral; blood kin |kindred

πάσαι τε βάκχαι· διὰ δὲ χειμάρρου |valley

ἀγμῶν τ' |jump, θεοῦ πνοαῖσιν |raving
|spring

ὥς δ' εἶδον |fir tree;|master, |sit/lie by
|oar |despot

1095

πρῶτον μὲν αὐτοῦ χερμάδας κραταιβόλους

|hurl , ἀντίπυργον ἐπιβᾶσαι πέτραι,

|branch τ' |of fir |throw, (+gen) at

ἄλλαι δὲ θύρσους ἔσαν δι' |ether

Πενθέως, στόχον |unhappy, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἦνυτον.
|miserable

1100

κρεῖσσον γὰρ |height, ἦς προθυμίας ἔχων
|summit

καθηῖσθ' ὁ |steadfast , |difficulty, ἄλγημμένος.
|bottleneck

τέλος δὲ |made of oak γκερανοῦσαι |branch,
|shoot

In that vast silence any wild things's cry.
And up they sprang; but with bewildered eye,
Agaze and listening, scarce yet hearing true.
Then came the Voice again. And when they knew
Their God's clear call, old Cadmus' royal brood,
Up, like wild pigeons startled in a wood,
On flying feet they came, his mother blind,
Agave, and her sisters, and behind
All the wild crowd, more deeply maddened then,
Through the angry rocks and torrent-tossing glen,
Until they spied him in the dark pine-tree:
Then climbed a crag hard by and furiously
Some sought to stone him, some their wands would fling
Lance-wise aloft, in cruel targeting.
But none could strike. The height o'ertopped their rage,
And there he clung, unscathed, as in a cage
Caught. And of all their strife no end was found.

vocabulary

ἀπαγγέλλω announce, order, promise
 ~angel
ἀσίδηρος not of iron; without sword
ἀφρός foam
γνωρίζω make known, discover
διάστροφος twisted, distorted
ἐγγύς near
ἐλάτη fir tree; oar
ἐξανασπάω tear away from
ἐξανύτω bring to pass; slay
θάσσω sit
ιερεύς -ως (m) priest ~hieroglyph
κατακτείνω kill, slay
κόμη hair ~comet
κύκλος circle, wheel ~cycle
μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
 ~maenad
μίν him, her, it
μίτρα metal waist guard
μόχθος toil
μοχλέω move with a lever

μοχλός beam, lever
μυρίος (ϐ) 10,000 ~myriad
οἰκτείρω pity
οὔδας -εος (n, 3) ground, floor
παρηίς cheek
περίστημι be around; turn out
 ~station
προσπίτνω poetic for προσπίπτω
προστίθηναι add; impose; (mp) agree;
 side with ~thesis
πτόρθος sprout, young branch
ρίζα root ~rhizome
ρίπτω hurl
τέρμα -τος (n, 3) mark, turn-around
 point
τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
ὕψοθεν from on high
ὕψοῦ high, aloft
ὕψω lift, exalt
φόνος killing ~offend
χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean
ψαύω be closely touching

ρίζας ἀνεσπάρασσον ἀσιδήροις μοχλοῖς.

ἐπεὶ δὲ μόχθων τέρματ' οὐκ ἐξήνυτον,

1105

ἔλεξ' Ἀγαυή· Φέρε, περιστᾶσαι κύκλῳ

πτόρθου λάβεσθε, μαινάδες, τὸν ἀμβάτην

θῆρ' ὥς ἔλωμεν, μηδ' ἀπαγγείλῃ θεοῦ

χοροὺς κρυφαίους. αἱ δὲ μυρίαν χέρα

προσέθεσαν ἐλάτῃ κάξανέσπασαν χθονός·

1110

ὑψοῦ δὲ θάσσων ὑψόθεν χαμαιριφῆς

πίπτει πρὸς οὐδας μυρίοις οἰμώγμασιν

Πενθεύς· κακοῦ γὰρ ἐγγὺς ὦν ἐμάνθανεν.

πρώτῃ δὲ μήτηρ ἦρξεν ἱερέα φόνου

καὶ προσπίτνει νιν· ὃ δὲ μίτραν κόμης ἄπο

1115

ἔρριψεν, ὥς νιν γνωρίσασα μὴ κτάνοι

τλήμων Ἀγαυή, καὶ λέγει, παρηίδος

ψαύων· Ἐγὼ τοι, μῆτερ, εἰμί, παῖς σέθεν

Πενθεύς, ὃν ἔτεκες ἐν δόμοις Ἐχίονος·

οἴκτιρε δ' ὦ μῆτέρ με, μηδὲ ταῖς ἐμαῖς

1120

ἀμαρτίαισι παῖδα σὸν κατακτάνῃς.

ἧ δ' ἀφρὸν ἐξιείσα καὶ διαστροφούς

|root ἀνεσπάρασσον |not of iron; χλοῖς.
|without sword

ἐπεὶ δὲ |toil |mark, turn-|bring to pass; slay
|around point 1105

ἔλεξ' Ἀγαυή· Φέρε, |be around;|circle,
|turn out |wheel

|sprout, λάβεσθε, |madwoman, ὃν ἀμβάτην
|young |maenad
|branch

θηρ ὥς ἔλωμεν, μηδ' |announce, or-^α τοῦ
|der, promise

|dance; κρυφαίους. αἱ δὲ |10,000 χέρα
|chorus

|add; impose;|fir tree; οἶζ' ἐνέσπασαν χθονός· 1110
(mp) agree;
|side with
ὕψου δε θάσσω |from on high κριφῆς

πίπτει πρὸς |ground, ὑρίοις οἰμώγμασιν
|floor

Πενθεύς· κακοῦ γὰρ |near ὧν ἐμάνθανεν.

πρώτη δὲ μήτηρ ἤρξεν |priest |killing

καὶ |poetic for προσπίπτω^α |metal |hair ἄπο 1115
|waist
|guard
|hurl , ὥς νιν |make known, discover. μι

|steadfast Ἀγαυή, καὶ λέγει, |cheek

|be closely touching , μήτερ, εἰμί, παῖς σέθεν

Πενθεύς, ὃν ἔτεκες ἐν δόμοις Ἐχίονος·

οἴκτιρε δ' ὦ μήτέρ με, μηδὲ ταῖς ἐμαῖς 1120

ἀμαρτίαισι παῖδα σὸν |kill, slay

ἦ δ' |foam ἐξείσα καὶ |twisted,
|distorted

Then, "Hither," cried Agave; "stand we round
And grip the stem, my Wild Ones, till we take
This climbing cat-o'- the-mount! He shall not make
A tale of God's high dances!" Out then shone
Arm upon arm, past count, and closed upon
The pine, and gripped; and the ground gave, and down
It reeled. And that high sitter from the crown
Of the green pine-top, with a shrieking cry
Fell, as his mind grew clear, and there hard by
Was horror visible. 'Twas his mother stood
O'er him, first priestess of those rites of blood.
He tore the coif, and from his head away
Flung it, that she might know him, and not slay
To her own misery. He touched the wild
Cheek, crying: "Mother, it is I, thy child,
Thy Pentheus, born thee in Echion's hall!
Have mercy, Mother! Let it not befall
Through sin of mine, that thou shouldst slay thy son!"

*vocabulary***ἄθλιον** ἀθλίου prize**ἄθλιος** prize ~athlete**ἄθλιος** wretched ~athlete**ἄκρον** crest, extremity ~acute**ἄκρος** at the edge, extreme ~acute**ἀλαλάζω** give war cry**ἀντιβαίνω** resist**ἀρβύλη** ankle-boot**ἀριστερός** left-hand**βοά** din, a shout**βοεύς** βοῦος (m) leather rope ~bovine**γυμνόω** strip, be defenseless

~gymnasium

δυσδαίμων unlucky, unhappy**ἐλίσσω** turn, rally ~helix**ἐμπνέω** inspire; pass: recover ~apnea**ἐξεργάζομαι** accomplish; undo;

destroy someone

ἐπέχω hold, cover; offer; assail**ἐπιδίδωμι** give, give with, give

reciprocally ~donate

εὐμάρεια ease, opportunity**ζήτημα** -τος (n, 3) thing sought;
inquiry**θύρσος** ivied wand**ἔχνος** -εος (n, 3) track, trace**κράς** -τός (f, 3) head**κρέας** -ως (n) meat ~creatine**μίν** him, her, it**ὁμός** same ~homoerotic**ὁμοῦ** together**ὁμόω** unite ~homoerotic**ὀρέστερος** of the mountains ~hormone**πέτρα** rock, cliff, reef ~petrified**πήγνυμι** (ῥ) stick, set, build ~fang**πλευρά** rib, side ~pleurisy**σθένος** -εος (n, 3) strength

~neurasthenia

σπαραγμός tearing; spasm**στενάζω** sigh, groan**ὕλη** (ῥ) forest, firewood**φόβη** lock of hair; mane; foliage**χωρίς** separately; except, other than

~heir

ὠλένη elbow, lower arm

κόρας ἐλίσσουσ', οὐ φρονοῦσ' ἅ χρη φρονεῖν,

ἐκ Βακχίου κατείχετ', οὐδ' ἔπειθέ νιν.

λαβοῦσα δ' ὠλένης ἀριστερὰν χέρα,

1125

πλευραῖσιν ἀντιβᾶσα τοῦ δυσδαίμονος

ἀπεσπάραξεν ὦμον, οὐχ ὑπὸ σθένους,

ἀλλ' ὁ θεὸς εὐμάρειαν ἐπεδίδου χεροῖν·

Ἴνῳ δὲ τὰ πὶ θάτερ' ἐξεργάζετο,

ρήγνῦσα σάρκας, Αὐτονόη τ' ὄχλος τε πᾶς

1130

ἐπείχε βακχῶν· ἦν δὲ πᾶς ὁμοῦ βοή,

ὁ μὲν στενάζων ὅσον ἐτύγχαν' ἐμπνέων,

αἱ δ' ἠλάλαζον. ἔφερε δ' ἡ μὲν ὠλένην,

ἡ δ' ἶχνος αὐταῖς ἀρβύλαις· γυμνοῦντο δὲ

πλευραὶ σπαραγμοῖς· πᾶσα δ' ἡματωμένη

1135

χεῖρας διεσφαίριζε σάρκα Πενθέως.

κεῖται δὲ χωρὶς σῶμα, τὸ μὲν ὑπὸ στύφλοις

πέτραις, τὸ δ' ὕλης ἐν βαθυξύλῳ φόβῃ,

οὐ ράδιον ζήτημα· κρᾶτα δ' ἄθλιον,

ὅπερ λαβοῦσα τυγχάνει μήτηρ χεροῖν,

1140

πήξας ἐπ' ἄκρον θύρσον ὡς ὀρεστέρου

κόρας |turn, rally , οὐ φρονοῦσ' ἂ χρὴ φρονεῖν,
ἐκ Βακχίου κατείχεται, οὐδ' ἔπειθέ νιν.

λαβοῦσα δ' |elbow, |left-hand χέρα, 1125
|lower
πλευραῖσιν |arm |resist τοῦ |unlucky,
|unhappy
ἀπεσπάραξεν ὦμον, οὐχ ὑπὸ σθένουσ,

ἀλλ' ὁ θεὸς |ease, oppor- |give, give with, '
|tunity |give reciprocally
Ἴνῳ δὲ τὰ πὶ θάτερ' |accomplish; undo;
|destroy someone
ῥήγνυσα σάρκας, Αὐτονόη τ' ὄχλος τε πᾶς 1130
ἐπεῖχε βακχῶν· ἦν δὲ πᾶσ' ὁμοῦ βοή,

ὁ μὲν |sigh, groan ὅσον ἐτύγχαν' |inspire; pass:
|recover
αἶ δ' |give war cry ἔφερε δ' ἡ μὲν |elbow, ,
|lower
ἡ δ' |track, αὐταῖς |ankle-boot |strip, be de- δὲ
|trace |fenseless
|rib, side |tearing; spasm πᾶσα δ' ἡματωμένη 1135
χείρας διεσφαίριζε σάρκα Πενθέως.

κεῖται δὲ |separately; ex- |τὸ μὲν ὑπὸ στύφλοις
|cept, other than
|rock , τὸ δ' ὕλης ἐν βαθυξύλῳ |lock of hair;
|mane; foliage
οὐ ῥάδιον |thing sought; |τα δ' ἄθλιον,
|inquiry
ὅπερ λαβοῦσα τυγχάνει μήτηρ χεροῖν, 1140

|stick, set, build , |lived wand |of the mountains

But she, with lips a-foam and eyes that run
Like leaping fire, with thoughts that ne'er should be
On earth, possessed by Bacchios utterly,
Stays not nor hears. Round his left arm she put
Both hands, set hard against his side her foot,
Drew... and the shoulder severed! — not by might
Of arm, but easily, as the God made light
Her hand's essay. And at the other side
Was Ino rending; and the torn flesh cried,
And on Autonoe pressed, and all the crowd
Of ravening arms. 'Yea, all the air was loud
With groans that faded into sobbing breath,
Dim shrieks, and joy, and triumph-cries of death.
And here was borne a severed arm, and there
A hunter's booted foot; white bones lay bare
With rending; and swift hands ensanguined
Tossed as in sport the flesh of Pentheus dead.
His body lies afar. The precipice
Hath part, and parts in many an interstice
Lurk of the tangled woodland — no light quest
To find. And, ah, the head! Of all the rest,
His mother hath it, pierced upon a wand,

*vocabulary***ἄγρᾱ** hunting, prey**ἄδελφή** sister**ἀνακαλέω** call, summon, recall**ἀναχορεύω** begin a dance**βλώσκω** come, go**γαυρόω** make proud**δάκρυον** tear**δράκων** -οντος (m, 3) serpent**ἐκποδών** out of the way**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**θηλυγενής** female, feminine**θήρα** hunt ~fierce**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**καλλίνικος** (ι) gloriously triumphant**κτῆμα** -τος (n, 3) possession**λάω** grip, pin?**λέων** lion**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
~maenad**μολίσκω** come, go**νάρθηξ** -κος (m) fennel stalk**πιστός** faithful; trustworthy**σέβομαι** feel shame, awe**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**στολή** equipment**συμφορά** collecting; accident,
misfortune**σωφρονέω** be sane, moderate**ταῦρος** bull ~steer**χορός** dance; chorus ~terpsichorean**χωρέω** withdraw, give way to (+dat)
~heir

φέρει λέοντος διὰ Κιθαιρώνος μέσου,
 λιποῦσ' ἀδελφὰς ἐν χοροῖσι μαινάδων.
 χωρεῖ δὲ θήρα δυσπότημω γαυρουμένη
 τειχέων ἔσω τῶνδ', ἀνακαλοῦσα Βάκχιον 1145
 τὸν ξυγκύναγον, τὸν ξυνεργάτην ἄγρας,
 τὸν καλλίνικον, ᾧ δάκρυα νικηφορεῖ.
 ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν τῇδ' ἐκποδὼν τῇ ξυμφορᾷ
 ἄπειμ', Ἀγαυήν πρὶν μολεῖν πρὸς δώματα.
 τὸ σωφρονεῖν δὲ καὶ σέβειν τὰ τῶν θεῶν 1150
 κάλλιστον· οἶμαι δ' αὐτὸ καὶ σοφώτατον
 θνητοῖσιν εἶναι κτῆμα τοῖσι χρωμένοις.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀναχορεύσωμεν Βάκχιον,

ἀναβοάσωμεν ξυμφορὰν
 τὰν τοῦ δράκοντος Πενθέος ἐκγενέτα· 1155
 ὃς τὰν θηλυγενῇ στολὰν
 νάρθηκά τε, πιστὸν Ἴαδαν,
 ἔλαβεν εὖθυρσον,
 ταῦρον προηγγητῆρα συμφορᾶς ἔχων.
 βάκχαι Καδμεΐαι,

φέρει λέοντος διὰ Κιθαιρώνος μέσου,

λιποῦσ' |sister ἐν |dance; |madwoman,
|chorus |maenad

|withdraw, |hunt δυσπότημω |make proud
|give way

to (+dat) τειχέων ἔσω τῶνδ', |call, summon, Βάκχιον
|recall

1145

τὸν ξυγκύναγον, τὸν ξυνεργάτην ἄγρας,

τὸν |gloriously , ᾧ |tear νικηφορεῖ.
|triumphant

ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν τῇδ' |out of the way ὤμφορᾱ

ἄπειμ', Ἀγαύην πρὶν μολεῖν πρὸς δώματα.

τὸ |be sane, moderate ἰ σέβειν τὰ τῶν θεῶν

1150

κάλλιστον· οἶμαι δ' αὐτὸ καὶ |skilled, clever,
|wise

|mortal εἶναι |possession ἦσι χρωμένοις.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |begin a dance Βάκχιον,

ἀναβοάσωμεν ξυμφορὰν

τὰν τοῦ |serpent Πενθέος ἐκγενέτα·

1155

ὧς τὰν |female, |equipment
|feminine

|fennel τε, |faithful; "ἴαν,
|stalk |trustworthy

ἔλαβεν εὐθυρσον,

|bull προηγητῆρα συμφορᾶς ἔχων.

βάκχαι Καδμεῖαι,

As one might pierce a lion's, and through the land,
Leaving her sisters in their dancing place,
Bears it on high! Yea, to these walls her face
Was set, exulting in her deed of blood,
Calling upon her Bromios, her God,
Her Comrade, Fellow-Render of the Prey,
Her All-Victorious, to whom this day
She bears in triumph... her own broken heart.
For me, after that sight, I will depart
Before Agave comes. — Oh, to fulfil
God's laws, and have no thought beyond His will,
Is man's best treasure. Aye, and wisdom true,
Methinks, for things of dust to cleave unto!

The MESSENGER departs into the Castle.

CHORUS. Weave ye the dance, and call
Praise to God!

Bless ye the Tyrant's fall!

Down is trod

Pentheus, the Dragon's Seed!

Wore he the woman's weed?

Clasped he his death indeed,

Clasped the rod?

Yea, the wild ivy lapt him, and the doomed

Wild Bull of Sacrifice before him loomed!

*vocabulary***ἀγρότερος** wild ~agriculture**ἄγων** -ος (m, 3) gathering place

~agony

ἄνευ away from; not having; not
needing ~Sp. sin**βρόχος** rope, noose**γέρας** -ως (n, 3) reward, honor**δάκρυον** tear**διάστροφος** twisted, distorted**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἔλιξ** twisted ~helix**ἐρημία** wilderness, solitude**θήρα** hunt ~fierce**θηράω** hunt, chase**θίασος** revel; group of people**καλλίνικος** (ιι) gloriously triumphant**καταφονεύω** slaughter**κλεινός** famous**κῶμος** party, celebration**λάω** grip, pin?**λέων** lion**μακάριος** blessed**μάρπτω** grab, overtake**μέλαθρον** roofbeam**μίν** him, her, it**ὀροθύνω** (ῶ) rouse, set in motion

~hormone

ὄσσε eyes (dual)**ὄσσομαι** see with the mind's eye,
forebode**περιβάλλω** act: excel; mid: put on
clothing ~ballistic**πόθεν** from where?**στάζω** dribble, infuse**στόνος** groaning ~stentorian

τὸν καλλίνικον κλεινὸν ἐξεπράξατε

ἐς στόνον, ἐς δάκρυα.

καλὸς ἀγών, χέρ' αἵματι στάζουσιν

περιβαλεῖν τέκνου.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀλλ', εἰσορῶ γὰρ ἐς δόμους ὀρμωμένην

1165

Πενθέως Ἀγαυὴν μητέρ' ἐν διαστροφῶις

ὄσσοις, δέχεσθε κῶμον εὐίου θεοῦ.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. Ἀσιάδες βάκχαι — ΧΟ. τί μ' ὀροθύνεις, ὦ;

ΑΓ. φέρομεν ἐξ ὀρέων

ἔλिका νεότομον ἐπὶ μέλαθρα,

1170

μακάριον θήραν.

ΧΟ. ὁρῶ καί σε δέξομαι σύγκωμον.

ΑΓ. ἔμαρψα τόνδ' ἄνευ βρόχων

λέοντος ἀγροτέρου νέον ἱνιν·

ὥς ὁρᾶν πάρα. ΧΟ. πόθεν ἐρημίας;

1175

ΑΓ. Κιθαιρῶν 1177 ΧΟ. Κιθαιρῶν; ΑΓ. κατεφόνευσέ νιν.

ΧΟ. τίς ἂ βαλοῦσα; ΑΓ. πρῶτον ἐμὸν τὸ γέρας.

μάκαιρ' Ἀγαυὴ κληζόμεθ' ἐν θιάσοις.

1180

ΧΟ. τίς ἄλλα;

τὸν |gloriously tri-|famous ἐξεπράξατε
|umphant

ἐς |groaning ἐς |tear .

καλὸς |gathering ῥ' αἵματι |dribble,
|place |infuse

|excel; don τέκνου.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀλλ', |look at, see; treat ἰόμους ὁρμωμένην
|with respect

1165

Πενθέως Ἀγαύην μητέρ' ἐν διαστροφῶις

ὄσσοις, δέχεσθε |party, celebration ὦ.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. Ἀσιάδες βάκχαι —ΧΘ. τί μ' |rouse, set in motion

ΑΓ. φέρομεν ἐξ ὁρέων

|twisted. ἐότομον ἐπὶ |roofbeam ,

1170

|blessed θήραν.

ΧΘ. ὁρῶ καί σε δέξομαι σύγκωμον.

ΑΓ. |grab, τόνδ' |away |rope,
|overtake |from; |noose

λέοντος |wild |not hav- νέον ἱνιν
|ing;

ὥς ὁρᾶν πάρα ΧΘ. |from |wilderness,
|need- |where? |solitude
|ing

1175

ΑΓ. Κιθαιρῶν 1177 ΧΘ. Κιθαιρῶν; ΑΓ. |slaughter ἴν.

ΧΘ. τίς ἂ βαλοῦσα; ΑΓ. πρῶτον ἐμὸν τὸ |reward,
|honor

μάκαιρ' Ἀγαύη κληζόμεθ' ἐν |revel; group
|of people

1180

ΧΘ. τίς ἄλλα;

Ye who did Bromios scorn,
 Praise Him the more,
 Bacchanals, Cadmus-born;
 Praise with sore
 Agony, yea, with tears!
 Great are the gifts he bears!
 Hands that a mother rears
 Red with gore!

LEADER. But stay, Agave cometh! And her eyes
 Make fire around her, reeling! Ho, the prize
 Cometh! All hail, O Rout of Dionyse!

Enter from the Mountain AGAVE, mad, and to all seeming wondrously happy,
 bearing the head of PENTHEUS in her hand. The CHORUS MAIDENS also horror-
 struck, strives to accept it and rejoice in it as the God's deed.

AGAVE. Ye from the lands of Morn!

LEADER. Call me not; I give praise!

AGAVE. Lo, from the trunk new-shorn
 Hither a Mountain Thorn

Bear we! O Asia-born

Bacchanals, bless this chase!

LEADER. I see. Yea; I see.

Have I not welcomed thee?

AGAVE. He was young in the wildwood
 Without nets I caught him!

Nay; look without fear on

The Lion; I have ta'en him!

LEADER. Where in the wildwood?

Whence have ye brought him?

AGAVE. Kithaeron...

LEADER. Kithaeron?

AGAVE. The Mountain hath slain him!

LEADER. Who first came nigh him?

AGAVE. I, I, 'tis confessed!

And they named me there by him

Agave the Blessed!

vocabulary

ἀγάλλω exalt; mp: exult in
ἄγρα hunting, prey
ἄγραυλος living outside ~agriculture
ἀναπάλλω brandish; (pass) leap up
 ~Pallas
ἀστός townsman; citizen
γένυς jaw
γηθέω rejoice, exult ~joy
δείκνυμι (ō) show, point out
ἐπαινέω concur, praise, advise
εὐτυχής fortunate
θάλλω bloom, flourish, abound
 ~thallium
θιγγάνω touch
θοίνα meal, feast; food
θoinάω host at a meal
κατεργάζομαι achieve; cultivate; get;

kill

κόρυς helmet
μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
 ~maenad
μετέχω partake of
μόσχος calf (animal)
νικηφόρος (ī) bringing victory;
 victorious
περισσός prodigious, superfluous
πρέπω be conspicuous, preeminent
 ~refurbish
σοφός skilled, clever, wise
τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps
 ~tachometer
φανερός visible, conspicuous ~photon
φόβη lock of hair; mane; foliage

ΑΓΑΥΗ. τὰ Κάδμου¹¹⁸¹ ΧΟΡΟΣ. τί Κάδμου; ΑΓ. γένεθλα μετ' ἐμέ
μετ' ἐμέ τοῦδ'

ἔθιγε θηρός· εὐτυχής γ' ἄδ' ἄγρα. ΧΟ.

ΑΓ. μέτεχέ νυν θοίνας. ΧΟ. τί; μετέχω, τλᾶμον;

ΑΓ. νέος ὁ μόσχος ἄρ'

1185

τι γένυν ὑπὸ κόρυθ' ἀπαλότριχα

κατάκομον θάλλει.

ΧΟ. πρέπει γ' ὥστε θῆρ ἄγραυλος φόβῃ.

ΑΓ. ὁ Βάκχιος κυναγέτας

σοφὸς σοφῶς ἀνέπηλ' ἐπὶ θῆρα

1190

τόνδε μαινάδας. ΧΟ. ὁ γὰρ ἄναξ ἀγρεύς.

ΑΓ. ἐπαινείς; ΧΟ. ἐπαινῶ. ΑΓ. τάχα δὲ Καδμείοι¹¹⁹⁴

ΧΟ. καὶ παῖς γε Πενθεὺς¹¹⁹⁵ ΑΓ. ματέρ' ἐπαινέσεται,

λαβοῦσαν ἄγραν τάνδε λεοντοφυῇ.

ΧΟ. περισσάν. ΑΓ. περισσῶς.

ΧΟ. ἀγάλλῃ; ΑΓ. γέγηθα, μεγάλα μεγάλα καὶ

φανερὰ τᾷδ' ἄγρα κατειργασμένα.

ΧΟ. δείξόν νυν, ὦ τάλαινα, σὴν νικηφόρον

1200

ἀστοῖσιν ἄγραν ἣν φέρουσ' ἐλήλυθας.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. τὰ Κάδμου 1181 ΧΟΡΟΣ. τί Κάδμου; ΑΓ. γένεθλα μετ' ἐμὲ
μετ' ἐμὲ τοῦδ'

|touch *θηρός** |fortunate γ' ἄδ' ἄγρα. ΧΟ.

ΑΓ. |partake of , *θοίνας*. ΧΟ. τί; |partake of *ἄμουν*;

ΑΓ. νέος ὁ |calf ἄρ' 1185

τι |jaw ὑπὸ |helmet ἀπαλότριχα

κατάκομον |bloom, flour-
|ish, abound

ΧΟ. |be conspicuous, *θῆρ* |living |lock of hair;
|preeminent |outside |mane; foliage

ΑΓ. ὁ Βάκχιος κυναγέτας

|skilled, |skilled, ὁ ἄπ' ἡλ' ἐπὶ θῆρα 1190
|clever, |clever, wise
|wise
τόνδε |madwoman, ΧΟ. ὁ γὰρ ἄναξ ἀγρεύς.
|maenad

ΑΓ. |concur , ΧΟ. |concur . ΑΓ. |quickly, soon, *μῆτοι* 1194
|perhaps

ΧΟ. καὶ παῖς γε Πενθεὺς 1195 ΑΓ. ματέρ' |concur ,

λαβούσαν ἄγραν τάνδε λεοντοφνῆ.

ΧΟ. |prodigious, *super-* |prodigious,
|fluuous |superfluous

ΧΟ. ἀγάλλῃ; ΑΓ. |rejoice , μεγάλα μεγάλα καὶ

|visible, *ἄγρᾱ* |achieve; cultivate;
|conspicuous |get; kill

ΧΟ. |show *νυν, ὦ* |wretched, *σὴν* |bringing vic-
|miserable |tory; victorious 1200

|townsman; ἄγραν ἣν φέρουσ' ἐλήλυθας.
|citizen

LEADER. Who was next in the band on him?

AGAVE. The daughters...

LEADER. The daughters?

AGAVE. Of Cadmus laid hand on him.

But the swift hand that slaughters

Is mine; mine is the praise!

Bless ye this day of days!

The LEADER tries to speak, but is not able; AGAVE begins gently stroking the head.

AGAVE. Gather ye now to the feast!

LEADER. Feast!—O miserable!

AGAVE. See, it falls to his breast,

Curling and gently tressed,

The hair of the Wild Bull's crest—

The young steer of the fell!

LEADER. Most like a beast of the wild

That head, those locks defiled.

AGAVE. He wakened his Mad Ones,

A Chase-God, a wise God!

He sprang them to seize this!

He preys where his band preys.

LEADER. In the trail of thy Mad Ones

Thou tearest thy prize, God!

AGAVE. Dost praise it?

LEADER. I praise this?

AGAVE. Ah, soon shall the land praise!

LEADER. And Pentheus, O Mother,

Thy child?

AGAVE. He shall cry on

My name as none other,

Bless the spoils of the Lion!

LEADER. Aye, strange is thy treasure!

AGAVE. And strange was the taking!

LEADER. Thou art glad?

AGAVE. Beyond measure;

Yea, glad in the breaking

Of dawn upon all this land,

By the prize, the prize of my hand!

LEADER. Show them to all the land, unhappy one,

The trophy of this deed that thou hast done!

AGAVE. Ho, all ye men that round the citadel

vocabulary

ἀγκυλέομαι hurl like a javelin
 ἄγρᾱ hunting, prey
 ἀγρεύω catch (prey, fish)
 ἀέθλιον ἀθλίου prize
 ἀέθλιος prize ~athlete
 ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
 ἄρθρον joint
 ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
 βάρος -ους (n, 3) weight, burden
 δίκτυον fishing net
 εἴτα then, therefore, next
 ζήτημα -τος (n, 3) thing sought;
 inquiry
 θηράω hunt, chase
 κλίμαξ -κος (f) ladder, staircase
 ~climax
 κομπάζω boast

κράς -τός (f, 3) head
 κρέας -ως (n) meat ~creatine
 λάω grip, pin?
 λέων lion
 μάτην in vain, randomly
 μοχθέω be afflicted
 μυρίος (ῶ) 10,000 ~myriad
 ὄργανον tool; body organ
 πάρος before, in the past
 πέδον ground ~pedal
 πέλας near, close
 πήγνυμι (ῶ) stick, set, build ~fang
 πηκτός assembled ~fang
 ποῦ where?
 πρόσπολος servant, attendant
 πτυχή fold, layer
 χωρίς separately; except, other than
 ~heir

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὦ καλλίπυργον ἄστν Θηβαίας χθονὸς

ναίοντες, ἔλθεθ' ὥς ἴδητε τήνδ' ἄγραν,

Κάδμου θυγατέρες θηρὸς ἦν ἡγρεύσαμεν,

οὐκ ἀγκυλητοῖς Θεσσαλῶν στοχάσμασιν, 1205

οὐ δικτύοισιν, ἀλλὰ λευκοπήχεσι

χειρῶν ἀκμαῖσιν. κᾶτα κομπάζειν χρεῶν

καὶ λογχοποιῶν ὄργανα κτᾶσθαι μάτην;

ἡμεῖς δέ γ' αὐτῇ χειρὶ τόνδε θ' εἵλομεν,

χωρίς τε θηρὸς ἄρθρα διεφορήσαμεν. 1210

ποῦ μοι πατήρ ὁ πρέσβυς; ἐλθέτω πέλας.

Πενθεύς τ' ἐμὸς παῖς ποῦ στιν; αἰρέσθω λαβῶν

πηκτῶν πρὸς οἴκους κλιμάκων προσαμβάσεις,

ὥς πασσαλεύση κρᾶτα τριγλύφοις τόδε

λέοντος ὃν πάρειμι θηράσας' ἐγώ. 1215

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ἔπεσθέ μοι φέροντες ἄθλιον βάρος

Πενθέως, ἔπεσθε, πρόσπολοι, δόμων πάρος,

οὗ σώμα μοχθῶν μυρίοις ζητήμασιν

φέρω τόδ', εὐρῶν ἐν Κιθαιρῶνος πτυχαῖς

διασπαρακτόν, κούδεν ἐν ταύτῳ πέδῳ

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὦ καλλίπυργον |town Θηβαίας χθονὸς

|dwell, , ἔλθεθ' ὡς ἴδητε τήνδ' ἄγραν,
|found;
|flow
Καὶ μου θυγατέρες θηρὸς ἦν |catch (prey, fish)

οὐκ ἀγκυλητοῖς Θεσσαλῶν στοχάσμασιν, 1205

οὐ |fishing net , ἀλλὰ λευκοπήχεσι

χειρῶν ἀκμαῖσιν. |then, |boast χρεῶν
|there-
καὶ λογχοποιῶν |tool; body organ |ι μάτην;
|next

ἡμεῖς δέ γ' αὐτῇ χειρὶ τόνδε θ' εἵλομεν,

|separately; ἕξῃ, |joint διεφορήσαμεν. 1210
|other than

|where? ι πατὴρ ὁ πρέσβυς; ἐλθέτω |near, .
|close

Πενθέως τ' ἐμὸς παῖς |where? ιν; αἰρέσθω λαβῶν

πηκτῶν πρὸς οἴκους κλιμάκων προσαμβάσεις,

ὥς πασσαλεύση κρᾶτα τριγλύφοις τόδε

λέοντος ὃν πάρειμι |hunt, ἐγώ. 1215
|chase

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ἔπεσθέ μοι φέροντες ἄθλιον |weight,
|burden

Πενθέως, ἔπεσθε, πρόσπολοι, δόμων |before, in the past

οὗ σώμα μοχθῶν μυρίοις |thing sought;
|inquiry

φέρω τόδ', εὐρών ἐν Κιθαιρώνος |fold,
|layer

διασπαρακτόν, κούδεν ἐν ταὐτῳ |ground

And shining towers of ancient Thebe dwell,
 Come! Look upon this prize, this lion's spoil,
 That we have taken — yea, with our own toil,
 We, Cadmus' daughters! Not with leathern-set
 Thessalian javelins, not with hunter's net,
 Only white arms and swift hands' bladed fall
 Why make ye much ado, and boast withal
 Your armourers' engines? See, these palms were bare
 That caught the angry beast, and held, and tare
 The limbs of him!... Father!... Go, bring to me
 My father!... Aye, and Pentheus, where is he,
 My son? He shall set up a ladder-stair
 Against this house, and in the triglyphs there
 Nail me this lion's head, that gloriously
 I bring ye, having slain him — I, even I!

She goes through the crowd towards the Castle, showing the head and looking for a place to hang

it. Enter from the Mountain CADMUS, with attendants, bearing the body of PENTHEUS on a bier.

CADMUS. On, with your awful burden. Follow me,
 Thralls, to his house, whose body grievously
 With many a weary search at last in dim
 Kithaeron's glens I found, torn limb from limb,

*vocabulary***ἀγρεύω** catch (prey, fish)**ἀέθλιος** prize ~athlete**ἄθλιος** wretched ~athlete**ἄκραντος** unfulfilled, vain**ἀριστεῖα** -ου (n, 2) excellence**ἀριστεῖος** prize for bravery**ἄστυ** -εως (n, 3) town**δεῦρο** here, come here!**δρυμός** (ῥ) thickets, a bunch ~druid**ἐκλείπω** leave out, pass over**ἐξοχος** preeminent; beyond, greatly**εὐδαίμων** blessed with a good genius**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**ἱστός** mast, loom ~stand**κάμπτω** bend, bend in exhaustion**καταθνήσκω** die, be dead ~euthanasia**κερκίς** -τος (f) weaver's shuttle**κομπάζω** boast**λεύσσω** see, look**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

ὄψις ὄψεως (f) sight, view

~thanatopsis

σπείρω sow ~diaspora**στείχω** go, march ~stair**ὕλη** (ῥ) forest, firewood**ὠλένη** elbow, lower arm

λαβών, ἐν ὕλῃ κείμενον δυσσευρέτῳ.

ἤκουσα γάρ του θυγατέρων τολμήματα,

ἤδη κατ' ἄστυ τειχέων ἔσω βεβώς

σὺν τῷ γέροντι Τειρεσίᾳ Βακχῶν πάρα·

πάλιν δὲ κάμψας εἰς ὄρος κομίζομαι

1225

τὸν κατθανόντα παῖδα Μαινάδων ὕπο.

καὶ τὴν μὲν Ἀκτέων' Ἀρισταίῳ ποτὲ

τεκοῦσαν εἶδον Αὐτονόην Ἰνώ θ' ἅμα

ἔτ' ἀμφὶ δρυμοὺς οἰστροπλήγας ἀθλίας,

τὴν δ' εἶπέ τίς μοι δεῦρο βακχείῳ ποδὶ

1230

στείχειν Ἀγαυήν, οὐδ' ἄκραντ' ἠκούσαμεν·

λεύσσω γὰρ αὐτήν, ὅψιν οὐκ εὐδαίμονα.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. πάτερ, μέγιστον κομπάσαι πάρεστί σοι,

πάντων ἀρίστας θυγατέρας σπεῖραι μακρῷ

θνητῶν· ἀπάσας εἶπον, ἐξόχως δ' ἐμέ,

1235

ἢ τὰς παρ' ἰστοῖς ἐκλιπούσα κερκίδας

εἰς μείζον' ἤκω, θήρας ἀγρεύειν χεροῖν.

φέρω δ' ἐν ὠλέναισιν, ὥς ὀρᾷς, τάδε

λαβοῦσα τὰριστεῖα, σοῖσι πρὸς δόμοις

λαβών, ἐν ^{|forest,} ^{|firewood} ^ἄενον δυσευρέτω.

ἤκουσα γάρ του θυγατέρων τολμήματα,

ἤδη κατ' ^{|town} τειχέων ἔσω βεβῶς

σὺν τῷ γέροντι Τειρεσία Βακχῶν πάρα·

πάλιν δὲ ^{|bend, bend in} ^{|exhaustion} ἦρος κομίζομαι

1225

τὸν καθανόντα παῖδα ^{|madwoman,} ^{|maenad} Ἵπο.

καὶ τὴν μὲν Ἀκτέων' Ἀρισταίῳ ποτὲ

τεκοῦσαν εἶδον Αὐτονόην Ἰνώ θ' ἅμα

ἔτ' ἀμφὶ ^{|thickets, a bunch} - πληγὰς ἀθλίας,

τὴν δ' εἶπέ τίς μοι ^{|here, come here!} ποδὶ

1230

^{|go, march} Ἀγαυήν, οὐδ' ^{|unfilfilled, ἄ}γαιν' ἑαμεν·

^{|see, look} γὰρ αὐτήν, ^{|sight οὐκ} ^{|blessed with a} ^{|good genius}

ΑΓΑΥΗ. πάτερ, μέγιστον ^{|boast} πάρεστί σοι,

πάντων ἀρίστας θυγατέρας σπείραι μακρῷ

^{|mortal} ἀπάσας εἶπον, ^{|preeminent; be-} ^{|yond, greatly}

1235

ἦ τὰς παρ' ^{|loom} ^{|leave out, |weaver's shuttle} ^{|pass over}

ἐς μείζον' ἤκω, θήρας ^{|catch (prey, fish)}·

φέρω δ' ἐν ^{|elbow,} ^{|lower arm}, ὥς ὀράς, τάδε

λαβοῦσα τάριστείᾳ, σοῖσι πρὸς δόμοις

And through the intervening forest weed
Scattered. — Men told me of my daughters' deed,
When I was just returned within these walls,
With grey Teiresias, from the Bacchanals.
And back I hied me to the hills again
To seek my murdered son. There saw I plain
Actaeon's mother, ranging where he died,
Autonoë; and Ino by her side,
Wandering ghastly in the pine-copses.
Agave was not there. The rumour is
She cometh fleet-foot hither. — Ah! 'Tis true;
A sight I scarce can bend mine eyes unto.
AGAVE. My father, a great boast is thine this hour.
Thou hast begotten daughters, high in power
And valiant above all mankind — yea, all
Valiant, though none like me! I have let fall
The shuttle by the loom, and raised my hand
For higher things, to slay from out thy land
Wild beasts! See, in mine arms I bear the

*vocabulary***ἄγα** (αᾶ) wonder**ἄγαμαι** wonder, admire; resent,

begudge

ἄγαν very much**γαυρόω** make proud**γῆρας** -ος (n, 3) old age**γηράσκω** grow old ~geriatric**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**δαίς** -τός (f) feast, banquet ~demon**δαίτη** feast, banquet**δεῦρο** here, come here!**δύσκολος** hard to please; troublesome**εἴθε** if only**εἰκάζω** liken; conjecture**ἐνδικος** (persons, things) just**ἐξεργάζομαι** accomplish; undo;
destroy someone**εὐδαίμων** blessed with a good genius**θεομαχέω** fight against the gods**θύμα** -τος (n, 3) victim, sacrifice**καταβάλλω** throw down, cast off
~ballistic**μακάριος** blessed**νουθετέω** remind, warn**οἰκεῖος** household, familiar, proper**οἶμοι** woe is me**ὄμμα** -τος (n, 3) eye**ὄψις** ὄψεως (f) sight, view

~thanatopsis

πένθος -εος (n, 3) grief, misfortune

~Nepenthe

τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent**τοιόσδε** such**φόνος** killing ~offend**φύω** produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ὥς ἀγκρεμασθῇ· σὺ δέ, πάτερ, δέξαι χεροῖν·

1240

γαυρούμενος δὲ τοῖς ἐμοῖς ἀγρεύμασιν

κάλει φίλους ἐς δαῖτα· μακάριος γὰρ εἶ,

μακάριος, ἡμῶν τοιάδ' ἐξειργασμένων.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ὦ πένθος οὐ μετρητὸν οὐδ' οἶόν τ' ἰδεῖν,

φόνον ταλαίναις χερσὶν ἐξειργασμένων.

1245

καλὸν τὸ θῦμα καταβαλοῦσα δαίμοσιν

ἐπὶ δαῖτα Θήβας τάσδε καὶ με παρακαλεῖς.

οἴμοι κακῶν μὲν πρῶτα σῶν, ἔπειτ' ἐμῶν·

ὥς ὁ θεὸς ἡμᾶς ἐνδίκως μέν, ἀλλ' ἄγαν,

Βρόμιος ἄναξ ἀπώλεσ' οἰκείως γεγώς.

1250

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὥς δύσκολον τὸ γῆρας ἀνθρώποις ἔφθ

ἐν τ' ὄμμασι σκυθρωπόν. εἴθε παῖς ἐμὸς

εὖθιρος εἴη, μητρὸς εἰκασθεὶς τρόποις,

ὅτ' ἐν νεανίαισι Θηβαίοις ἄμα

θηρῶν ὀριγνῶτ'· ἀλλὰ θεομαχεῖν μόνον

1255

οἶός τ' ἐκείνος. νουθετητέος, πάτερ,

σοῦστίν. τίς αὐτὸν δεῦρ' ἂν ὄψιν εἰς ἐμὴν

καλέσειεν, ὥς ἴδῃ με τὴν εὐδαίμονα;

ὥς ἀγκρεμασθῇ· σὺν δέ, πάτερ, δέξαι χεροῖν·

1240

|make proud δὲ τοῖς ἐμοῖς ἀγρεύμασιν

κάλει φίλους ἐς δαῖτα· |blessed γὰρ εἶ,

|blessed , ἡμῶν |such |accomplish; undo;
|destroy someone

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ὦ |grief σὺ μετρητὸν οὐδ' οἶόν τ' ἰδεῖν,

|killing |wretched, χερσὶν |accomplish; undo;
|miserable |destroy someone

1245

καλὸν τὸ |victim, throw down, cast a god, fate, doom
|sacrifice off

ἐπὶ δαῖτα Θήβας τάσδε καμὲ παρακαλεῖς.

|woe is me ὦν μὲν πρῶτα σῶν, ἔπειτ' ἐμῶν·

ὥς ὁ θεὸς ἡμᾶς |(persons, ἡμῶν, ἀλλ' ἄγαν,
|things) just

Βρόμιος ἄναξ ἀπώλεσ' |household, fa-
|miliar, proper

1250

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὥς |hard to please; ἡρᾶς ἀνθρώποις |produce,
|troublesome |beget; clasp

ἐν τ' |eye σκυθρωπόν. εἴθε παῖς ἐμὸς

εὖθηρος εἴη, μητρὸς |liken; τρόποις,
|conjecture

ὅτ' ἐν νεανίαισι Θηβαίοις ἅμα

θηρῶν ὀριγνῶτ'· ἀλλὰ |fight against ἰόνον
|the gods

1255

οἷός τ' ἐκεῖνος. |remind, warn , πάτερ,

σοῦστίν. τίς αὐτὸν |here, ἴδ' |sight εἰς ἐμὴν
|come

καλέσειεν, ὥς ἴδῃ με τὴν |here!
|blessed with a
|good genius

prize,

That nailed above these portals it may rise
To show what things thy daughters did! Do thou
Take it, and call a feast. Proud art thou now
And highly favoured in our valiancy!

CADMUS. O depth of grief, how can I fathom thee
Or look upon thee! — Poor, poor bloodstained hand!
Poor sisters! — A fair sacrifice to stand
Before God's altars, daughter; yea, and call
Me and my citizens to feast withal!

Nay, let me weep — for thine affliction most,
Then for mine own. All, all of us are lost,
Not wrongfully, yet is it hard, from one

Who might have loved — our Bromios, our own!

AGAVE. How crabbed and how scowling in the eyes
Is man's old age! — Would that my son likewise
Were happy of his hunting, in my way

When with his warrior bands he will essay
The wild beast! — Nay, his valiance is to fight
With God's will! Father, thou shouldst set him right.
Will no one bring him thither, that mine eyes
May look on his, and show him this

vocabulary

ἀγκάλη the bent arm ~ankylosaurus
αἰθήρ ether, air, sky ~ether
ἀλγέω suffer ~analgesic
ἄλγος -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic
δράω do, accomplish
δυστυχέω be unlucky
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
 ~panorama
ἐκλανθάνω forget, cause to forget
 ~Lethe
εὐτυχέω be lucky, prosper, succeed
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κοινωνία association
λαμπρός brilliant ~lamp
λυπηρός (ō) painful, causing pain, sad

μεθίστημι change, substitute;
 withdraw; change sides; (mid) send
 away ~station
μεταβολή change, exchange
μέτεμι be among, go, follow ~ion
ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye
πάρως before, in the past
ποῖος what kind
πόσις -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)
 a drink ~potent
πτοέω scare
σαφής clear, understandable
σπείρω sow ~diaspora
ὕμναιος bridal song ~hymen
φεῦ exclamation of grief, anger,
 surprise, admiration

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. φεῦ φεῦ· φρονήσασαι μὲν οἷ' ἐδράσατε

ἀλγήσετ' ἄλγος δεινόν· εἰ δὲ διὰ τέλους 1260

ἐν τῷδ' αἰὲ μενεῖτ' ἐν ᾧ καθέστατε,

οὐκ εὐτυχοῦσαι δόξετ' οὐχὶ δυστυχεῖν.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. τί δ' οὐ καλῶς τῶνδ' ἢ τί λυπηρῶς ἔχει;

ΚΑΔ. πρῶτον μὲν ἐς τόνδ' αἰθέρ' ὄμμα σὸν μέθες.

ΑΓ. ἰδού· τί μοι τόνδ' ἐξυπείπας εἰσορᾶν; 1265

ΚΑΔ. ἔθ' αὐτὸς ἢ σοι μεταβολὰς ἔχειν δοκεῖ;

ΑΓ. λαμπρότερος ἢ πρὶν καὶ διειπετέστερος.

ΚΑΔ. τὸ δὲ πτοηθὲν τόδ' ἔτι σῇ ψυχῇ πάρα;

ΑΓ. οὐκ οἶδα τοῦπος τοῦτο. γίγνομαι δέ πως

ἔννους, μετασταθεῖσα τῶν πάρος φρενῶν. 1270

ΚΑΔ. κλύοις ἂν οὖν τι κάποκρίναι' ἂν σαφῶς;

ΑΓ. ὥς ἐκλέλυσμαί γ' ἂ πάρος εἵπομεν, πάτερ.

ΚΑΔ. ἐς ποῖον ἦλθες οἶκον ὑμεναίων μέτα;

ΑΓ. Σπαρτῷ μ' ἔδωκας, ὥς λέγουσ', Ἐχίονι.

ΚΑΔ. τίς οὖν ἐν οἴκοις παῖς ἐγένετο σῷ πόσει; 1275

ΑΓ. Πενθείς, ἐμῇ τε καὶ πατρὸς κοινωνία.

ΚΑΔ. τίνος πρόσωπον δῆτ' ἐν ἀγκάλαις ἔχεις;

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ.	ex- cla- ma- tion of grief, anger, sur- prise, pros- perity	exclamation of grief, anger, surprise, admiration	δο, accomplish	
suffer	woe	δεινόν· εἰ δὲ διὰ τέλους		1260
ἐν τῷδ' ἄνθρ' ἔμειν' ἐν ᾧ καθέστατε,				
οὐκ ἔμειν' ἔξ' ἐτ' οὐχὶ περ ἀποτύχῃ.	be unlucky, pros- perity	ἔξ' ἐτ' οὐχὶ	be unlucky	
ΑΓΑΥΗ. τίς οὐ καλῶς τῶνδ' ἢ τίς	mi- ra- tion	painful, causing pain, sad	ι;	
ΚΑΔ. πρῶτον μὲν ἐς τόνδ' ἑταίρῳ	ether eye	τὸν μέγας.		
ΑΓ. ἰδού· τί μοι τόνδ' ἐξυπείπας	look at, see; treat with respect			1265
ΚΑΔ. ἔθ' αὐτὸς ἢ σοι	change, exchange	ἔχειν δοκεῖ;		
ΑΓ. ἄλλοτε	brilliant	ἢ πρὶν καὶ διειπετέστερος.		
ΚΑΔ. τὸ δὲ	scare	τόδ' ἔτι σὴ ψυχῇ πάρα;		
ΑΓ. οὐκ οἶδα τοῦτος τοῦτο. γίγνομαι δέ πως				
ἐννοῦς,	change, withdraw; sides; (mid)	substitute; change send away	before, in the past	1270
ΚΑΔ. ἄκουσον	hear	ἂν οὖν τι ἀποκρίναι	clear, under- standable	
ΑΓ. ὥς	forget, to forget	cause γ' ἂν	before, in the past	ἄτερ.
ΚΑΔ. ἐς	what kind	ἑστ' οἶκον	bridal song, ἔτα;	
ΑΓ. σὺ	sow	μ' ἔδωκας, ὥς λέγουσ', Ἐχίονι.		
ΚΑΔ. τίς οὖν ἐν οἴκοις παῖς ἐγένετο σῶ	(m) husband, mas- ter; (f) a drink			1275
ΑΓ. Πενθεύς, ἐμῇ τε καὶ πατρὸς	association			
ΚΑΔ. τίνος πρόσωπον δῆτ' ἐν	the bent arm	ἔστι;		

my prize!

CADMUS. Alas, if ever ye can know again
The truth of what ye did, what pain of pain
That truth shall bring! Or were it best to wait
Darkened for evermore, and deem your state
Not misery, though ye know no happiness?

AGAVE. What seest thou here to chide, or not to bless?

CADMUS. Raise me thine eyes to yon blue dome of air!

AGAVE. 'Tis done. What dost thou bid me seek for there?

CADMUS. Is it the same, or changed in thy sight?

AGAVE. More shining than before, more heavenly bright!

CADMUS. And that wild tremour, is it with thee still?

AGAVE. I know not what thou sayest; but my will
Clears, and some change cometh, I know not how.

CADMUS. Canst hearken then, being changed, and answer, now!

AGAVE. I have forgotten something; else I could.

CADMUS. What husband led thee of old from mine abode?

AGAVE. Echî on, whom men named the Child of Earth.

CADMUS. And what child in Echî on's house had birth?

AGAVE. Pentheus, of my love and his father's bred.

CADMUS. Thou bearest in thine arms an head—what head?

AGAVE. A lion's—so they all said in the

*vocabulary***ἀθρέω** observe, gaze**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**ἄρτι** at the same time**βλώσκω** come, go**βραχύς** low, short**γνωρίζω** make known, discover**διαλαγχάνω** divide, share**δυσδαίμων** unlucky, unhappy**δύστηνος** unhappy, miserable**εἰσείδω** look at, behold ~wit**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἐκβακχεύω** excite to Bacchic frenzy;
enrage**ἐκεῖσε** thither**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**θηράω** hunt, chase**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of **κατά****κασιγνήτη** sister**καταίρω** swoop; land**κατακτείνω** kill, slay**καταράομαι** (αἶα) curse**κερτομέω** mock ~cardiac**λάω** grip, pin?**λεύσσω** see, look**λέων** lion**μαίνομαι** be berserk ~maenad**μίν** him, her, it**μολίσκω** come, go**μόχθος** toil**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just
~orthogonal**ὀρθόω** stand up**πήδημα** leap**ποῖος** what kind**ποῦ** where?**προσίημι** be allowed near**σαφής** clear, understandable**σκέπτομαι** look, look at, watch

~skeptic

τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent**φάσκω** declare, promise, think ~fame

ΑΓΑΥΗ. λέοντος, ὥς γ' ἔφασκον αἱ θηρώμεναι.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. σκέψαι νυν ὀρθῶς· βραχὺς ὁ μόχθος εἰσιδεῖν.

ΑΓ. ἔα, τί λεύσσω; τί φέρομαι τόδ' ἐν χεροῖν; 1280

ΚΑΔ. ἄθρησον αὐτὸ καὶ σαφέστερον μάθε.

ΑΓ. ὁρῶ μέγιστον ἄλγος ἢ τάλαιν' ἐγώ.

ΚΑΔ. μῶν σοιλέοντι φαίνεται προσεικέναι;

ΑΓ. οὔκ, ἀλλὰ Πενθέως ἢ τάλαιν' ἔχω κára.

ΚΑΔ. ὠμωγμένον γε πρόσθεν ἢ σὲ γνωρίσαι. 1285

ΑΓ. τίς ἔκτανέν νιν;— πῶς ἐμὰς ἦλθεν χέρας;

ΚΑΔ. δύστην' ἀλήθει', ὥς ἐν οὐ καιρῷ πάρει.

ΑΓ. λέγ', ὥς τὸ μέλλον καρδία πῆδημ' ἔχει.

ΚΑΔ. σύ νιν κατέκτας καὶ κασίγνηται σέθεν.

ΑΓ. ποῦ δ' ὤλετ'; ἢ κατ' οἶκον; ἢ ποίοις τόποις; 1290

ΚΑΔ. οὐπερ πρὶν Ἀκτέωνα διέλαχον κύνες.

ΑΓ. τί δ' ἐς Κιθαιρῶν' ἦλθε δυσδαίμων ὄδε;

ΚΑΔ. ἐκερτόμει θεὸν σάς τε βακχείας μολών.

ΑΓ. ἡμεῖς δ' ἐκείσε τίνι τρόπῳ κατήραμεν;

ΚΑΔ. ἐμάνητε, πᾶσά τ' ἐξεβακχεύθη πόλις. 1295

ΑΓ. Διόνυσος ἡμᾶς ὤλεσ', ἄρτι μανθάνω.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. λέοντος, ὥς γ' | declare, | hunt, chase
| promise,

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. | look, look at, watch | think | low, short | toil εἰσιδεῖν.

ΑΓ. ἔα, τί | see, look, τί φέρομαι τόδ' ἐν χερσίν;

1280

ΚΑΔ. | observe, gaze ὁ καὶ | clear, under- μάθε.
| standable

ΑΓ. ὀρώ μέγιστον | woe ἡ | wretched, ῥώ.
| miserable

ΚΑΔ. μῶν σοι λέοντι φαίνεται | be allowed near

ΑΓ. οὔκ, ἀλλὰ Πενθέως ἡ | wretched, ῥω | useless bit;
| miserable | form of κατά

ΚΑΔ. ὠμωγμένον γε πρόσθεν ἢ σέ | make known, discover

1285

ΑΓ. τίς ἔκτανέν νιν;— πῶς ἐμὰς ἦλθεν χέρας;

ΚΑΔ. | unhappy, | truth , ὥς ἐν οὐ καιρῷ πάρει.
| miserable

ΑΓ. λέγ', ὥς τὸ μέλλον καρδία | leap ἔχει.

ΚΑΔ. σύ νιν κατέκτας καὶ | sister τέθεν.

ΑΓ. | where? ὅλετ'; ἢ κατ' οἶκον; ἢ | what kind ῥοις;

1290

ΚΑΔ. οὐπερ πρὶν Ἀκτέωνα διέλαχον κύνες.

ΑΓ. τί δ' ἐς Κιθαιρῶν' ἦλθε | unlucky, ὅδε;
| unhappy

ΚΑΔ. | mock θεὸν σάς τε βακχείας μολών.

ΑΓ. ἡμεῖς δ' | thither τίνι τρόπῳ κατήραμεν;

ΚΑΔ. | be berserk γὰρ σά τ' | excite to Bacchic ὕλεις.
| frenzy; enrage

1295

ΑΓ. Διόνυσος ἡμᾶς ὥλεσ', | at the same time

chase.

CADMUS. Turn to it now — 'tis no long toil — and gaze.

AGAVE. Ah! But what is it? What am I carrying here?

CADMUS. Look once upon it full, till all be clear!

AGAVE. I see... most deadly pain! Oh, woe is me!

CADMUS. Wears it the likeness of a lion to thee?

AGAVE. No; 'tis the head — O God! — of Pentheus, this!

CADMUS. Blood-drenched ere thou wouldst know him! Aye, 'tis his.

AGAVE. Who slew him? — How came I to hold this thing?

CADMUS. O cruel Truth, is this thine home-coming?

AGAVE. Answer! My heart is hanging on thy breath!

CADMUS. 'Twas thou. — Thou and thy sisters wrought his death.

AGAVE. In what place was it? His own house, or where?

CADMUS. Where the dogs tore Actaeon, even there.

AGAVE. Why went he to Kithaeron? What sought he?

CADMUS. To mock the God and thine own ecstasy.

AGAVE. But how should we be on the hills this day?

CADMUS. Being mad! A spirit drove all the land that way.

AGAVE. 'Tis Dionyse hath done it! Now

*vocabulary***αἰσχροῦς** shameful**ἀναβλέπω** look up; gain sight, open one's eyes**ἄρθρον** joint**ἄρσην** male**ἄτιμος** (ι) without honor**ἀφροσύνη** folly ~frenzy**βλάβη** harm**βλάπτω** break, make fail**διόλλυμι** (υ) be ruined**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἐξαμάω** finish reaping**ἔρνος** -εος (n, 3) sapling**θέρως** -εος (n, 3) summer ~thermos**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά***καταθνήσκω** die, be dead ~euthanasia**μέλαθρον** roofbeam**μίν** him, her, it**μόλις** with difficulty, barely**νηδύς** -ος (f) belly, womb**πενθέω** grieve ~Nepenthe**ποῦ** where?**προσέχω** belong to, it seems**προσίστημι** be allowed near**σέβομαι** feel shame, awe**σπείρω** sow ~diaspora**συγκλείω** hem in, connect, conclude**συνάπτω** join, partake; adjoin; consult;
fight ~haptic**συνέχω** keep together, constrain**συνόχωκα** join together**τάλας** wretched, miserable ~talent**τάρβος** -εος (n, 3) fear**τοιγάρ** therefore**ὕβριζω** insult, treat outrageously**ὕβρις** -εως (f) pride, insolence, outrage

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. ὕβριν γ' ὑβρισθεῖς· θεὸν γὰρ οὐχ ἡγείσθ' ἐν.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. τὸ φίλτατον δὲ σῶμα ποῦ παιδός, πάτερ;

ΚΑΔ. ἐγὼ μόλις τόδ' ἐξερευνήσας φέρω.

ΑΓ. ἦ πᾶν ἐν ἄρθροισι συγκεκλημένον καλῶς; ΚΑΔ.

1300

ΑΓ. Πενθεὶ δὲ τί μέρος ἀφροσύνης προσήκ' ἐμῆς;

ΚΑΔ. ὑμῖν ἐγένεθ' ὅμοιος, οὐ σέβων θεόν.

τοιγὰρ συνήψε πάντας ἐς μίαν βλάβην,

ὑμᾶς τε τόνδε θ', ὥστε διολέσαι δόμους

κάμ', ὅστις ἄτεκνος ἀρσένων παίδων γεγώς

1305

τῆς σῆς τόδ' ἔρνος, ὦ τάλαινα, νηδύος

αἰσχιστα καὶ κάκιστα κατθανόνθ' ὀρώ,

ὦ δῶμ' ἀνέβλεφ'— ὅς συνείχες, ὦ τέκνον,

τοῦμὸν μέλαθρον, παιδὸς ἐξ ἐμῆς γεγώς,

πόλει τε τάρβος ἦσθα· τὸν γέροντα δὲ

1310

οὐδεὶς ὑβρίζειν ἤθελ' εἰσορῶν τὸ σὸν

κάρα· δίκην γὰρ ἀξίαν ἐλάμβανες.

νῦν δ' ἐκ δόμων ἄτιμος ἐκβεβλήσομαι

ὁ Κάδμος ὁ μέγας, ὃς τὸ Θηβαίων γένος

ἔσπειρα καζήμησα κάλλιστον θέρος.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. |hubris / |insult θεὸν γὰρ οὐχ ἡγείσθ' ἐνν.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. τὸ φίλτατον δὲ σῶμα |where? ιδός, πάτερ;

ΚΑΔ. ἐγὼν |with difficulty, |ερευνήσας φέρω.
|barely

ΑΓ. ἦ πᾶν ἐν |joint |συγκλείω?: hem in, cònect, cònclude; or συγκλείω?:
|hem in, connect, conclude

ΑΓ. Πενθεὶ δὲ τί μέρος |folly προσῆκ' ἐμῆς;

ΚΑΔ. ὑμῖν ἐγένεθ' ὅμοιος, οὐ σέβων θεόν.

|there- |join, partake; ad- 's μίαν βλάβην,
|fore |join; consult; fight

ὑμᾶς τε τόνδε θ', ὥστε |be ruined δόμους

κάμ', ὅστις ἄτεκνος |male παίδων γεγώς

1305

τῆς σῆς τόδ' |sapling ᾧ |wretched, |belly, womb
|miserable

|shameful καὶ κάκιστα κατθανόνθ' ὀρώ,

ᾧ δῶμ' |look up; gain sight, νείχες, ᾧ τέκνον,
|open one's eyes

τοῦμὸν |roofbeam , παιδὸς ἐξ ἐμῆς γεγώς,

πόλει τε |fear ἦσθα· τὸν γέροντα δὲ

1310

οὐδεὶς |insult ἦθελ' |look at, see; treat
|with respect

|useless ' bit; γὰρ ἀξίαν ἐλάμβανες.
|form of κατὰ

νῦν δ' ἐκ δόμων |without ἐκβεβλήσομαι
|honor

ὁ Κάδμος ὁ μέγας, ὃς τὸ Θηβαίων γένος

|sow |finish κάλλιστον |summer
|reaping

I see.

CADMUS. Ye wronged Him! Ye denied his deity!

AGAVE. Show me the body of the son I love!

CADMUS. 'Tis here, my child. Hard was the quest thereof.

AGAVE. Laid in due state?

As there is no answer, she lifts the veil of the bier, and sees.

Oh, if I wrought a sin,'

Tw'as mine! What portion had my child therein!

CADMUS. He made him like to you, adoring not
The God; who therefore to one bane hath brought

You and this body, wrecking all our line,

And me. Aye, no man-child was ever mine;

And now this first-fruit of the flesh of thee,

Sad woman, foully here and frightfully

Lies murdered! Whom the house looked up unto,

Kneeling by the body.

O Child, my daughter's child! who heldest true

My castle walls; and to the folk a name

Of fear thou wast; and no man sought to shame

My grey beard, when they knew that thou wast there,

Else had they swift reward! — And now I fare

Forth in dishonour, outcast, I, the great

Cadmus, who sowed the seed-rows of this state

*vocabulary***ἄεθλιος** prize ~athlete**ἄθλιος** wretched ~athlete**ἀθρέω** observe, gaze**ἀλγεινός** painful**ἀλγέω** suffer ~analgesic**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**ἀλλάσσω** trade, transform**ἄλοχος** (f) wife ~lie**ἀριθμέω** to count ~arithmetic**ἀτιμάζω** (t) insult, dishonor**αὐδά** voice, report ~Theravada**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

βάρβαρος non-Greek**γένειον** chin; beard ~chin**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom

~demon

δάμαρ wife ~domicile**δράκων** -οντος (m, 3) serpent**θιγγάνω** touch**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**κολάζω** punish**λυπηρός** (ō) painful, causing pain, sad**μεταβάλλω** alter, transform**μεταστρέφω** turn around, change

one's mind ~atrophy

μόσχος calf (animal)**οἰκτρός** pitiable**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**ὄχος** pl: carrying thing, chariot,

holding place ~wagon

προσπύσσω embrace, greet, address**σύγγονος** inborn, natural; blood kin**ταράσσω** mess things up ~trachea**τλήμων** steadfast, enduring ~talent**τύπος** mold, form ~type**τύπτω** beat, smite ~stupid**ὕπερφρονέω** be snobby**χρησμός** oracular response

ὦ φίλτατ' ἀνδρῶν— καὶ γὰρ οὐκέτ' ὦν ὅμως
 τῶν φιλτάτων ἔμοιγ' ἀριθμῆσιν, τέκνον—
 οὐκέτι γενείου τοῦδε θιγγάνων χερί,
 τὸν μητρὸς αὐδῶν πατέρα προσπτύξῃ, τέκνον,
 λέγων· Τίς ἀδικεῖ, τίς σ' ἀτιμάζει, γέρον;
 τίς σὴν ταρασσει καρδίαν λυπηρὸς ὢν;
 λέγ', ὡς κολάζω τὸν ἀδικοῦντά σ', ὦ πάτερ.
 νῦν δ' ἄθλιος μὲν εἰμ' ἐγώ, τλήμων δὲ σύ.
 οἰκτρὰ δὲ μήτηρ, τλήμονες δὲ σύγγονοι.
 εἰ δ' ἔστιν ὅστις δαιμόνων ὑπερφρονεῖ,
 ἐς τοῦδ' ἀθρήσας θάνατον ἡγείσθω θεούς.

1320

1325

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὸ μὲν σὸν ἀλγῶ, Κάδμε· σὸς δ' ἔχει δίκην
 παῖς παιδὸς ἀξίαν μὲν, ἀλγεινὴν δὲ σοί.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὦ πάτερ, ὁρᾷς γὰρ τᾶμ' ὅσῳ μετεστράφη 1329 1329

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. δράκων γενήσῃ μεταβαλὼν, δάμαρ τε σὴ

1330

ἐκθηριωθείσ' ὄφεος ἀλλάξει τύπον,
 ἦν Ἄρεος ἔσχες Ἀρμονίαν θνητὸς γεγώς.
 ὅχον δὲ μόσχων, χρησμὸς ὡς λέγει Διός,
 ἐλᾷς μετ' ἀλόχου, βαρβάρων ἡγούμενος.

ὦ φίλτατ' ἀνδρῶν— καὶ γὰρ οὐκέτ' ὦν |anyway, nevertheless

τῶν φιλτάτων ἔμοιγ' |to count , τέκνον—

οὐκέτι |chin; τοῦδε |touch χερί,
 |beard

τὸν μητρὸς αὐδῶν πατέρα |embrace, , τέκνον,
 |greet, address

λέγων· Τίς ἀδικεῖ, τίς σ' |dishonor , γέρον; 1320

τίς σὴν |mess things up- θίαν |painful, caus-,
 |ing pain, sad

λέγ', ὡς |punish τὸν ἀδικοῦντά σ', ὦ πάτερ.

νῦν δ' ἄθλιος μέν εἰμ' ἐγώ, |steadfast δὲ σύ.

|pitiable δὲ μήτηρ, |steadfast δὲ |inborn, natu-
 |ral; blood kin

εἰ δ' ἔστιν ὅστις |a god, fate, |be snobby , 1325
 |doom

ἐς τοῦδ' |observe, gaze·...ατον ἡγείσθω θεούς.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὸ μὲν σὸν ἀλγῶ, Κάδμε· σὸς δ' ἔχει δίκην

παῖς παιδὸς ἀξίαν μέν, |painful δὲ σοί.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὦ πάτερ, ὁρᾷς γὰρ τᾶμ' ὅσω |turn around, change 1329
 |one's mind

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. |serpent γενήσῃ |alter, , |wife τε σὴ 1330
 |transform

ἐκθηριωθείς ὄφεος ἀλλάξει τύπον,

ἦν Ἄρεος ἔσχες Ἀρμονίαν |mortal γεγώς.

|chariot· |calf , |oracular ὡς λέγει Διός,
 |response

ἐλᾷς μετ' |wife , |non-Greek ἡγούμενος.

Of Thebes, and reaped the harvest wonderful.
O my beloved, though thy heart is dull
In death, O still beloved, and alway
Beloved! Never more, then, shalt thou lay
Thine hand to this white beard, and speak to me
Thy "Mother's Father"; ask "Who wrongeth thee?
Who stints thine honour, or with malice stirs
Thine heart? Speak, and I smite thine injurers!"
But now — woe, woe, to me and thee also,
Woe to thy mother and her sisters, woe
Alway! Oh, whoso walketh not in dread
Of Gods, let him but look on this man dead!
LEADER. Lo, I weep with thee. 'Twas but due reward
God sent on Pentheus; but for thee... 'Tis hard.
AGAVE. My father, thou canst see the change in me,
DIONYSUS. And tell of Time, what gifts for thee he bears,
What griefs and wonders in the winding years.
For thou must change and be a Serpent Thing
Strange, and beside thee she whom thou didst bring
Of old to be thy bride from Heaven afar,
Harmonia, daughter of the Lord of War.
Yea, and a chariot of kine — so spake
The word of Zeus — thee and thy Queen shall take
Through many lands, Lord of a wild array
Of orient spears. And many towns shall they
Destroy beneath thee, that vast horde, until
They touch Apollo's dwelling, and fulfil

vocabulary

ἀέθλιον ἀθλίου prize
 ἀέθλιος prize ~athlete
 ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
 αἶα land ~geography
 αἰαῖ alas
 ἀναγκαῖος coerced, coercing, slavery
 βίος life ~biology
 γόνος offspring ~genus
 δῆτα emphatic δῆ
 διαρπάζω make prey of ~harpoon
 ἐγγίγνομαι live in, grow in ~genus
 ἐκγίγνομαι be born; be by birth
 ~genus
 ἐπεξέρχομαι sally
 ἐπινεύω nod
 ἐπινέω allot
 εὐδαιμονέω be lucky, happy
 θνητός mortal ~euthanasia
 καθιδρύω cause to sit down
 κτάομαι acquire, possess

λίαν very
 μάκαπ fortunate ~macarism
 μάκαρ fortunate ~macarism
 νόστος homecoming ~nostalgia
 ὁμοιόω assimilate, liken ~homoerotic
 ὀργή urge, impulse; anger
 πάλαι long ago ~paleo
 πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
 πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 πέρθω sack, ravage, plunder
 πρέπω be conspicuous, preeminent
 ~refurbish
 στράτευμα -τος (n, 3) army ~strategy
 σύγγονος inborn, natural; blood kin
 σωφρονέω be sane, moderate
 τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
 τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
 ὑβρίζω insult, treat outrageously
 φυγή flight, means of escape ~fugitive
 χρηστήριον oracle, response

πολλὰς δὲ πέρσεις ἀναρίθμῳ στρατεύματι 1335

πόλεις· ὅταν δὲ Λοξίου χρηστήριον

διαρπάσωσι, νόστον ἄθλιον πάλιν

σχήσουσι· σὲ δ' Ἄρης Ἀρμονίαν τε ρύσεται

μακάρων τ' ἐς αἶαν σὸν καθιδρύσει βίον.

ταῦτ' οὐχὶ θνητοῦ πατρὸς ἐκγεγὼς λέγω 1340

Διόνυσος, ἀλλὰ Ζηνός· εἰ δὲ σωφρονεῖν

ἔγνωθ', ὅτ' οὐκ ἠθέλετε, τὸν Διὸς γόνον

εὐδαιμονεῖτ' ἂν σύμμαχον κεκτημένοι.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. Διόνυσε, λισσόμεσθ' ἄ σ', ἡδίκηκαμεν.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ὅψ' ἐμάθεθ' ἡμᾶς, ὅτε δὲ χρῆν, οὐκ ᾔδετε. 1345

ΚΑΔ. ἐγνώκαμεν ταῦτ'· ἀλλ' ἐπεξέρχη λίαν.

ΔΙ. καὶ γὰρ πρὸς ὑμῶν θεὸς γεγὼς ὑβριζόμεν.

ΚΑΔ. ὀργὰς πρέπει θεοὺς οὐχ ὁμοιοῦσθαι βροτοῖς.

ΔΙ. πάλαι τάδε Ζεὺς οὐμὸς ἐπένευσεν πατήρ.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. αἰαί, δέδοκται, πρέσβυ, τλήμονες φυγαί. 1350

ΔΙ. τί δῆτα μέλλεθ' ἄπερ ἀναγκαίως ἔχει;

ΚΑΔ. ὦ τέκνον, ὥς ἐς δεινὸν ἤλθομεν κακὸν

πάντες, σύ θ' ἡ τάλαινα σύγγονοί τε σαί,

πολλὰς δὲ πέρσεις ἀναρίθμῳ |army

1335

πόλεις· ὅταν δὲ Λοξίου |oracle,
|response

|make prey of , |homecoming...ον πάλιν

σχήσουσι· σὲ δ' Ἄρης Ἀρμονίαν τε ρύσεται

μακάρων τ' ἐς |land σὸν καθιδρύσει |life

ταῦτ' οὐχὶ |mortal πατρὸς ἐκγεγῶς λέγω

1340

Διόνυσος, ἀλλὰ Ζηνός· εἰ δὲ |be sane, moderate

ἔγνωθ', ὅτ' οὐκ ἠθέλετε, τὸν Διὸς |offspring

|be lucky, happy... ' σύμμαχον |acquire

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. Διόνυσε, λισσόμεσθ' ἄ σ', ἡδικήκαμεν.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. ὅψ' ἐμάθεθ' ἡμᾶς, ὅτε δὲ χρῆν, οὐκ ἤδετε.

1345

ΚΑΔ. ἐγνώκαμεν ταῦτ'· ἀλλ' |sally |very

ΔΙ. καὶ γὰρ πρὸς ὑμῶν θεὸς γεγῶς |insult

ΚΑΔ. |urge, |be conspicuous, pre-|liken |brotois.
|impulse, eminent
|anger

ΔΙ. πάλαι τάδε Ζεὺς οὐμὸς ἐπένευσεν πατήρ.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. |alas , δέδοκται, πρέσβυ, |steadfast |flight, means
|of escape

1350

ΔΙ. τί |emphatic`δῆ·? ἄπερ |coerced, coerced-
|ing, slavery

ΚΑΔ. ὦ τέκνον, ὡς ἐς δεινὸν ἤλθομεν κακὸν

πάντες, σύ θ' ἡ |wretched, |inborn, natu-
|miserable |ral; blood kin

Their doom, back driven on stormy ways and steep.

Thee only and thy spouse shall Ares keep,

And save alive to the Islands of the Blest.

Thus speaketh Dionysus, Son confessed

Of no man but of Zeus! — Ah, had ye seen

Truth in the hour ye would not, all had been

Well with ye, and the Child of God your friend!

AGAVE. Dionysus, we beseech thee! We have sinned!

DIONYSUS. Too late! When there was time, ye knew me not!

AGAVE. We have confessed. Yet is thine hand too hot.

DIONYSUS. Ye mocked me, being God; this your wage.

AGAVE. Should God be like a proud man in his rage?

DIONYSUS. 'Tis as my sire, Zeus, willed it long ago.

AGAVE. Old man, the word is spoken; we must go.

DIONYSUS. And seeing ye must, what is it that ye wait?

CADMUS. Child, we are come into a deadly strait,

All; thou, poor sufferer, and thy sisters twain,

*vocabulary***ἄγριος** wild, savage ~agriculture**ἀμφιβάλλω** wrap ~ballistic**βάρβαρος** non-Greek**βωμός** altar; stand, pedestal**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**δράκων** -οντος (m, 3) serpent**δυστυχία** bad luck**ἐκβάλλω** throw out, fell, let fall

~ballistic

ἐκλείπω leave out, pass over**ἐπίκουρος** ally; mercenary ~cereal**ἥσυχος** quiet**θάλαμος** bedchamber ~thalamus**θέσφατος** divinely ordained**κύκνος** swan ~Cygnus**λόγχη** spear point; lot**μέλαθρον** roofbeam**μέτοικος** immigrant**μιγάς** all mixed up**ὄρνις** -θος (ī, f) bird ~ornithology**πάτριος** of the father(s), ancestral**ποῖ** whither? how long?**στείχω** go, march ~stair**στένω** groan ~stentorian**στρατός** common people/soldiers

~strategy

τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent**τάφος** (m) funeral, grave; (n)

astonishment

τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent**φυγάς** -δος (m, 3) exile, refugee

~fugitive

φυγή flight, means of escape ~fugitive**φύσις** -εως (f) nature (of a thing)

~physics

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ἐγὼ θ' ὁ τλήμων· βαρβάρους ἀφίξομαι

γέρων μέτοικος· ἔτι δέ μοι τὸ θέσφατον

1355

ἐς Ἑλλάδ' ἀγαγεῖν μιγάδα βάρβαρον στρατόν.

καὶ τὴν Ἄρεως παῖδ' Ἀρμονίαν, δάμαρτ' ἐμήν,

δράκων δρακαίνης φύσιν ἔχουσιν ἀγρίαν

ἄξω πὶ βωμοὺς καὶ τάφους Ἑλληνικούς,

ἡγούμενος λόγχαισιν· οὐδὲ παύσομαι

1360

κακῶν ὁ τλήμων, οὐδὲ τὸν καταιβάτην

Ἀχέροντα πλεύσας ἥσυχος γενήσομαι.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὦ πάτερ, ἐγὼ δὲ σοῦ στερεῖσα φεύξομαι.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. τί μ' ἀμφιβάλλεις χερσίν, ὦ τάλαινα παῖ,

ὄρνις ὅπως κηφῆνα πολιόχρων κύκνος;

1365

ΑΓ. ποῖ γὰρ τράπωμαι πατρίδος ἐκβεβλημένη;

ΚΑΔ. οὐκ οἶδα, τέκνον· μικρὸς ἐπίκουρος πατήρ.

ΑΓ. χαῖρ', ὦ μέλαθρον, χαῖρ', ὦ πατρία

πόλις· ἐκλείπω σ' ἐπὶ δυστυχία

φυγὰς ἐκ θαλάμων.

1370

ΚΑΔ. στείχέ νυν, ὦ παῖ, τὸν Ἀρισταίου 1371 1371

ΑΓ. στένομαί σε, πάτερ. ΚΑΔ. καὶ γὰρ σέ, τέκνον,

ἐγὼ θ' ὁ |steadfast |non-Greek ἀφίξομαι

γέρων |immigrant ἔτι δέ μοι τὸ |divinely
|ordained 1355

ἐς Ἑλλάδ' ἀγαγεῖν |all mixed|non-Greek |army
|up

καὶ τὴν Ἄρεως παῖδ' Ἀρμονίαν, |wife ἐμήν,

|serpent δρακαίνης φύσιν ἔχουσιν |wild,
|savage

ἄξω πὶ |altar καὶ |(m) funeral, grave; ὅς,
|(n) astonishment

ἡγούμενος |spear point; οὐδὲ παύσομαι
|lot 1360

κακῶν ὁ |steadfast , οὐδὲ τὸν καταιβάτην

Ἀχέροντα πλεύσας |quiet γενήσομαι.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. ὦ πάτερ, ἐγὼ δὲ σοῦ στερεῖσα φεύξομαι.

ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. τί μ' |wrap χερσίν, ὦ |wretched, ταῖ,
|miserable

|bird ὅπως κηφῆνα πολιόχρων |swan , 1365

ΑΓ. |whither? how long? πατρίδος |throw out, fell,
|let fall

ΚΑΔ. οὐκ οἶδα, τέκνον· μικρὸς |ally; mercenary . ἦρ.

ΑΓ. χαῖρ', ὦ |roofbeam , χαῖρ', ὦ |of the father(s),
|ancestral

πόλις· |leave out, ' pass|bad luck
|over

φυγὰς ἐκ |bedchamber

1370

ΚΑΔ. |go, march ., ὦ παῖ, τὸν Ἀρισταίου 1371 1371

ΑΓ. |groan σε, πάτερ. ΚΑΔ. καγὼ σέ, τέκνον,

And my sad self. Far off to barbarous men,
A grey-haired wanderer, I must take my road.
And then the oracle, the doom of God,
That I must lead a raging horde far-flown
To prey on Hellas; lead my spouse, mine own
Harmonia. Ares' child, discorporate
And haunting forms, dragon and dragon-mate,
Against the tombs and altar-stones of Greece,
Lance upon lance behind us; and not cease
From toils, like other men, nor dream, nor past
The foam of Acheron find my peace at last.
AGAVE. Father! And I must wander far from thee!
CADMUS. O Child, why wilt thou reach thine arms to me,
As yearns the milk-white swan, when old swans die?
AGAVE. Where shall I turn me else? No home have I.
CADMUS. I know not; I can help thee not.
AGAVE. Farewell, O home, O ancient tower!
Lo, I am outcast from my bower,
And leave ye for a worsen lot.
CADMUS. Go forth, go forth to misery,
The way Actaeon's father went!
AGAVE. Father, for thee my tears are spent.

*vocabulary***ἀγέραςτος** unrewarded**ἄελπτος** not hoped for**ἀνάκειμαι** be dedicated, be put up**δαιμόνιος** voc: you crazy guy**δακρύω** weep**θύρσος** ivied wand**θυρσόω** make into a wand**κασιγνήτη** sister**κραίνω** accomplish; (rare) rule**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**μέλω** concern, interest, be one's responsibility**μιαρός** stained, polluted ~miasma**μνήμα** -τος (n, 3) reminder, memorial
~mnemonic**μνήμη** reminder, memorial**μορφή** beauty**ὅθι** where**οἰκτρός** pitiable**ὅπου** where**ὄσσε** eyes (dual)**πομπός** escort, guide ~pomp**πόρος** way, bridge ~fare**πόρω** aor. give, pf. be fated

καὶ σὰς ἐδάκρυσα κασιγνήτας.

ΑΓΑΥΗ. δεινῶς γὰρ τάνδ' αἰκείαν

Διόνυσος ἄναξ τοὺς σοὺς εἰς

1375

οἴκους ἔφερεν.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. καὶ γὰρ ἔπασχον δεινὰ πρὸς ὑμῶν,

ἀγέραςτον ἔχων ὄνομ' ἐν Θήβαις.

ΑΓ. χαῖρε, πάτερ, μοι. ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. χαῖρ', ὦ μελέα

θύγατερ. χαλεπῶς δ' ἐς τόδ' ἂν ἦκοις.

1380

ΑΓ. ἄγετ', ὦ πομποί, με κασιγνήτας

ἵνα συμφυγάδας ληψόμεθ' οἰκτράς.

ἔλθοιμι δ' ὅπου

μήτε Κιθαιρῶν ἔμ' ἴδοι μιαρὸς

μήτε Κιθαιρῶν' ὅσσοισιν ἐγώ,

1385

μήθ' ὅθι θύρσου μνήμ' ἀνάκειται·

Βάκχαις δ' ἄλλαισι μέλοιεν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πολλαὶ μορφαὶ τῶν δαιμονίων,

πολλὰ δ' ἀέλπτως κραίνουσι θεοί·

καὶ τὰ δοκηθέντ' οὐκ ἐτελέσθη,

1390

τῶν δ' ἀδοκίτων πόρον ἡὔρε θεός.

καὶ σὰς |weep |sister

ΑΓΑΥΗ. δεινῶς γὰρ τάνδ' αἰκείαν

Διόνυσος ἄναξ τοὺς σοὺς εἰς

1375

οἴκους ἔφερεν.

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ. καὶ γὰρ ἔπασχον δεινὰ πρὸς ὑμῶν,

|unrewarded ἔχων ὄνομ' ἐν Θήβαις.

ΑΓ. χαῖρε, πάτερ, μοι. ΚΑΔΜΟΣ. χαῖρ', ὦ |vain, idle

θύγατερ. χαλεπῶς δ' ἐς τόδ' ἂν ἦκοις.

1380

ΑΓ. ἄγετ', ὦ |escort, , με |sister
|guide

ἵνα συμφυγάδας ληψόμεθ' |pitiable

ἔλθοιμι δ' |where

μήτε Κιθαιρῶν ἔμ' ἴδοι |stained,
|polluted

μήτε Κιθαιρῶν' |eyes (dual)-γώ,

1385

μήθ' |where'ρσου μνήμ' |be dedicated,
|be put up

Βάκχαις δ' ἄλλαισι |be in/on the mind

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πολλὰ |beauty τῶν δαιμονίων,

πολλὰ δ' |not hoped|accomplish θεοί·
|for

καὶ τὰ δοκηθέντ' οὐκ ἐτελέσθη,

1390

τῶν δ' ἀδοκίτων πόρον ἡὔρε θεός.

CADMUS. Nay, Child, 'tis I must weep for thee;

For thee and for thy sisters twain!

AGAVE. On all this house, in bitter wise,

Our Lord and Master, Dionyse,

Hath poured the utter dregs of pain!

DIONYSUS. In bitter wise, for bitter was the shame

Ye did me, when Thebes honoured not my name.

AGAVE. Then lead me where my sisters be;

Together let our tears be shed,

Our ways be wandered; where no red

Kithaeron waits to gaze on me;

Nor I gaze back; no thyrsus stem,

Nor song, nor memory in the air.

Oh, other Bacchanals be there,

Not I, not I, to dream of them!

AGAVE with her group of attendants goes out on the side away from the Mountain.

DIONYSUS rises upon the Cloud and disappears.

CHORUS. There may be many shapes of mystery,

And many things God makes to be,

Past hope or fear.

And the end men looked for cometh not,

*vocabulary***ἀποβαίνω** leave, get off; turn out

~basis

τοιόσδε such

τοιόνδ' ἀπέβη τόδε πρᾶγμα.

such	leave, get off; <i>πράγμα</i> .
	turn out

And a path is there where no man thought.

So hath it fallen here.

Exeunt.