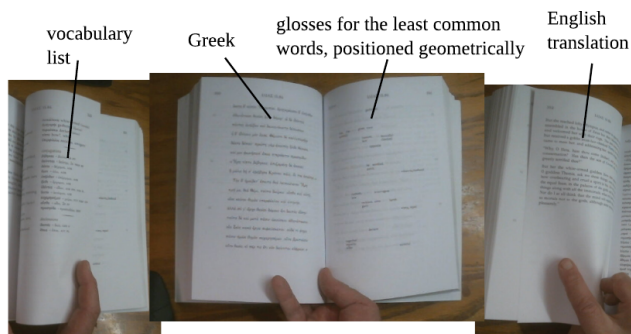


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*vocabulary***ἀλίζω** gather, assemble**βαρέω** be heavy with ~baritone**βαρύς** heavy ~baritone**βωμός** altar; stand, pedestal**γέμω** be full of**γεραιός** old ~geriatric**γῆρας** -ος (n, 3) old age**γηράσκω** grow old ~geriatric**δικαίω** demand/make justice**ἔδρα** (ᾱ) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

ἦθος ἦθοῦ unmarried youth**θυμίαμα** -τος (ῥα, n, 3) incense**κατοικτείρω** have mercy, compassion**κατοικτίρω** have mercy, compassion**κλάδος** branch, shoot**κλεινός** famous**κρατύνω** strengthen**ὁμός** same ~homoerotic**ὁμοῦ** together**ὁμόω** unite ~homoerotic**οὐδέπω** not, not yet**παίαν** -ήνοος (m, 3) paeon**πάλαι** long ago ~paleo**πάλη** wrestling ~Pallas**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**πέτομαι** to fly ~petal**πρέπω** be conspicuous, preeminent

~refurbish

πρόσεμι approach, draw near; add

~ion

προσίημι be allowed near**σθένω** be strong, able**στέργω** love; be content**τοιόσδε** such**τροφεύς** -ος (m) foster father; rearer**τροφή** food, upkeep ~atrophy**φυλον** race, tribe, class ~phylum**φύω** produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦ τέκνα, Κάδμου τοῦ πάλαι νέα τροφή,

τίνας ποθ' ἔδρας τάσδε μοι θαάζετε

ἰκτηρίοις κλάδοισιν ἔξεστεμμένοι;

πόλις δ' ὁμοῦ μὲν θυμιαμάτων γέμει,

ὁμοῦ δὲ παιάνων τε καὶ στεναγμάτων·

5

ἀγὼ δικαίων μὴ παρ' ἀγγέλων, τέκνα,

ἄλλων ἀκούειν αὐτὸς ὦδ' ἐλήλυθα,

ὁ πᾶσι κλεινὸς Οἰδίπους καλούμενος.

ἀλλ' ὦ γεραίε, φράζ', ἐπεὶ πρέπων ἔφυσ

πρὸ τῶνδε φωνεῖν, τίνι τρόπῳ καθέστατε,

10

δείσαντες ἢ στέρξαντες; ὥς θέλοντος ἂν

ἐμοῦ προσαρκεῖν πᾶν· δυσάλητος γὰρ ἂν

εἶην τοιάνδε μὴ οὐ κατοικτίρων ἔδραν.

ΙΕΡΕΥΣ. ἀλλ' ὦ κρατύνων Οἰδίπους χώρας ἐμῆς,

ὁρᾶς μὲν ἡμᾶς ἡλίκοι προσήμεθα

15

βωμοῖσι τοῖς σοῖς· οἱ μὲν οὐδέπω μακρὰν

πτέσθαι σθένοντες, οἱ δὲ σὺν γήρᾳ βαρεῖς,

ιερῆς, ἐγὼ μὲν Ζηνός, οἶδε τ' ἡθέων

λεκτοί· τὸ δ' ἄλλο φῦλον ἔξεστεμμένον

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦ τέκνα, Κάδμου τοῦ πάλαι νέα τροφή,

τίνας ποθ' |seat τάσδε μοι θαάζετε

ἰκτηρίοις |branch, |shoot ἔξεστεμμένοι;

πόλις δ' ὁμοῦ μὲν |incense |be full of

ὁμοῦ δὲ παιάνων τε καὶ στεναγμάτων·

5

ἀγὼν |demand/make justice', γέλων, τέκνα,

ἄλλων ἀκούειν αὐτὸς ὧδ' ἐλήλυθα,

ὁ πᾶσι |famous Οἰδίπους καλούμενος.

ἀλλ' ὦ |old , φράζ', ἐπεὶ |be con-|produce,
|spicuous, |beget; clasp
πρὸ τῶνδε φωνεῖν, τίνι τρεῖσι |preemi-
|nent καθέστατε,

10

δείσαντες ἢ |love; be content'; θέλοντος ἄν

ἐμοῦ προσαρκεῖν πᾶν· δυσάλγητος γὰρ ἄν

εἴην |such μὴ οὐ κατοικτίρων |seat .

ΙΕΡΕΥΣ. ἀλλ' ὦ |strengthen Οἰδίπους χώρας ἐμῆς,

ὁρᾶς μὲν ἡμᾶς ἡλίοιοι προσήμεθα

15

|altar τοῖς σοῖς· οἱ μὲν |not, not yet κρᾶν

|to fly |be strong, able' δὲ σὺν γήρα βαρεῖς,

ἱερῆς, ἐγὼ μὲν Ζηνός, οἶδε τ' ἡθέων

λεκτοί· τὸ δ' ἄλλο |race,
|tribe,
|class ἔξεστεμμένον

OEDIPUS. My children, latest born to Cadmus old,
Why sit ye here as suppliants, in your hands
Branches of olive filleted with wool?
What means this reek of incense everywhere,
And everywhere laments and litanies?
Children, it were not meet that I should learn
From others, and am hither come, myself,
I Oedipus, your world-renowned king.
Ho! aged sire, whose venerable locks
Proclaim thee spokesman of this company,
Explain your mood and purport. Is it dread
Of ill that moves you or a boon ye crave?
My zeal in your behalf ye cannot doubt;
Ruthless indeed were I and obdurate
If such petitioners as you I spurned.
PRIEST. Yea, Oedipus, my sovereign lord and king,
Thou seest how both extremes of age besiege
Thy palace altars— fledglings hardly winged,
and greybeards bowed with years; priests, as am I
of Zeus, and these the flower of our youth.
Meanwhile, the common folk, with wreathed boughs

vocabulary

ἄγαιμαι wonder, admire; resent,
 begrudge
ἄγαν very much
ἄγέλη herd ~demagogue
ἄγονος unborn ~genus
ἀνακουφίζω lift up
ᾠδός (f) singer
ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
βίος life ~biology
βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
βλώσκω come, go
βυθός depth
γράω weep, mourn
γόος crying, wailing
δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
 ~demon
δασμός portion, tax, tribute
διπλός double, overlapping
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
 ~panorama
ἐκδιδάσκω teach, explain
ἐκλύω rescue from ~loose

ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent
ἐφ᾽ἑστίος hearthside
ἰσώ (i) liken to
κάλυξ -χος (f) some kind of ornament
κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά*
κενόω make empty
λοιμός plague
μαντεία oracular power
μολίσκω come, go
ναός (ᾱ) temple, shrine ~nostalgia
πλουτίζω enrich
προστίθηναι add; impose; (mp) agree;
 side with ~thesis
σκήπτω prop up; (mp) feign ~scepter
σκληρός hard
σποδός (f) embers; ashes
συμφορά collecting; accident,
 misfortune
τόκος childbirth ~oxytocin
φθίω cause to perish, wane; (of time)
 pass
φοίνις red

ἀγοραῖσι θακεῖ πρόσ τε Παλλάδος διπλοῖς 20
 ναοῖς, ἐπ' Ἴσμηνοῦ τε μαντεία σποδῶ.
 πόλις γάρ, ὥσπερ καὐτὸς εἰσορᾶς, ἄγαν
 ἤδη σαλεύει κἀνακουφίσαι κάρα
 βυθῶν ἔτ' οὐχ οἷα τε φοινίου σάλου,
 φθίνουσα μὲν κάλυξιν ἐγκάρποις χθονός, 25
 φθίνουσα δ' ἀγέλαις βουνόμοις τόκοισί τε
 ἀγόνοις γυναικῶν· ἐν δ' ὁ πυρφόρος θεὸς
 σκήψας ἐλαύνει, λοιμὸς ἔχθιστος, πόλιν,
 ὕφ' οὗ κενούται δῶμα Καδμεῖον, μέλας δ'
 Ἄιδης στεναγμοῖς καὶ γόοις πλουτίζεται. 30
 θεοῖσι μὲν νυν οὐκ ἰσούμενόν σ' ἐγὼ
 οὐδ' οἶδε παῖδες ἐζόμεσθ' ἐφέστιοι,
 ἀνδρῶν δὲ πρῶτον ἔν τε συμφοραῖς βίου
 κρίνοντες ἔν τε δαιμόνων συναλλαγαῖς·
 ὅς γ' ἐξέλυσας ἄστυ Καδμεῖον μολὼν 35
 σκληρᾶς ἀοιδοῦ δασμόν ὃν παρείχομεν,
 καὶ ταῦθ' ὕφ' ἡμῶν οὐδὲν ἐξειδῶς πλέον
 οὐδ' ἐκδιδαχθεῖς, ἀλλὰ προσθήκη θεοῦ

ἀγοραῖσι θακεῖ πρόσ τε Παλλάδος διπλοῖς

20

|temple ἐπ' Ἰσμηνοῦ τε |oracular |embers;
|power |ashes

πόλιν γάρ, ὥσπερ καὐτὸς |look at, see; |treat
|with respect

ἦδη σαλεύει |lift up |useless bit;
|form of κατά

|depth ἔτ' οὐχ οἷα τε |red σάλου,

|cause to perish, |some kind of ἀρποις χθονός,
|wane; (of time) |ornament

25

|pass
|cause to pēr- |herd βουνόμοις |childbirth. ε
|ish, wane; (of
|time) pass
|unborn γυναικῶν· ἐν δ' ὁ πυρφόρος θεὸς

|prop up; (mp) feign |plague ἔχθιστος, πόλιν,

ὑφ' οὗ |make empty ἦμα Καδμεῖον, μέλας δ'

Ἄιδης στεναγμοῖς καὶ γόοις |enrich

30

θεοῖσι μέν νυν οὐκ |likened to σ' ἐγὰρ

οὐδ' οἶδε παῖδες ἐζόμεσθ' |hearthside

ἀνδρῶν δὲ πρῶτον ἔν τε συμφοραῖς βίου

κρίνοντες ἔν τε |a god, fate, doom ἡ λαγαῖς·

ὅς γ' |rescue |town Καδμεῖον μολῶν
|from

35

|hard |singer |portion, ἡ παρείχομεν,
|tax, tribute

καὶ ταῦθ' ὑφ' ἡμῶν οὐδὲν ἐξειδὼς πλέον

οὐδ' |teach, explain, ἀλλὰ προσθήκη θεοῦ

Crowd our two market-places, or before
Both shrines of Pallas congregate, or where
Ismenus gives his oracles by fire.
For, as thou seest thyself, our ship of State,
Sore buffeted, can no more lift her head,
Foundered beneath a weltering surge of blood.
A blight is on our harvest in the ear,
A blight upon the grazing flocks and herds,
A blight on wives in travail; and withal
Armed with his blazing torch the God of Plague
Hath swooped upon our city emptying
The house of Cadmus, and the murky realm
Of Pluto is full fed with groans and tears.
Therefore, O King, here at thy hearth we sit,
I and these children; not as deeming thee
A new divinity, but the first of men;
First in the common accidents of life,
And first in visitations of the Gods.
Art thou not he who coming to the town
of Cadmus freed us from the tax we paid
To the fell songstress? Nor hadst thou received
Prompting from us or been by others schooled;
No, by a god inspired (so all men

vocabulary

αἶσιος auspicious ~etiology
ἀλκή prowess, defense, victory
 ~Alexander
ἀνορθόω rebuild, restore
ἀσφάλεια safeguard
βίος life ~biology
βούλευμα -τος (n, 3) resolution, purpose
εἶπερ if indeed
εἴτε if, whenever; either/or
ἐμπειρος experienced
ἐρῆμος empty
εὐλαβέομαι be careful, beware
ἰκετεύω approach to beg
κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά*

κενός empty, vain
κράτιστος best
μηδαιμός no one
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just
 ~orthogonal
ὀρθόω stand up
ὄρνις -θος (ī, f) bird ~ornithology
πάρως before, in the past
προθυμία (ō) zeal, alacrity ~fume
πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops
συμφορά collecting; accident, misfortune
σωτήρ -ος (m) savior
τύχη fortune, act of a god
φήμη speech, rumor ~fame

λέγει νομίζει θ' ἡμῖν ὀρθῶσαι βίον·

νῦν τ', ὦ κράτιστον πᾶσιν Οἰδίπου κάρα,

40

ἵκετεύομέν σε πάντες οἶδε πρόστροποι

ἀλκὴν τιν' εὐρεῖν ἡμῖν, εἴτε του θεῶν

φήμην ἀκούσας εἴτ' ἀπ' ἀνδρὸς οἴσθ᾽ αὖτον·

ὥς τοῖσιν ἐμπείροισι καὶ τὰς ξυμφορὰς

ζώσας ὀρώ μάλιστα τῶν βουλευμάτων.

45

ἴθ', ὦ βροτῶν ἄριστ', ἀνόρθωσον πόλιν,

ἴθ', εὐλαβήθηθ'· ὥς σέ νῦν μὲν ἦδε γῇ

σωτήρη κλήζει τῆς πάρος προθυμίας·

ἀρχῆς δὲ τῆς σῆς μηδαμῶς μεμνώμεθα

στάντες τ' ἐς ὀρθὸν καὶ πεσόντες ὕστερον.

50

ἀλλ' ἀσφαλείᾳ τήνδ' ἀνόρθωσον πόλιν·

ὄρνιθι γὰρ καὶ τὴν τότε αἰσίων τύχην

παρέσχες ἡμῖν, καὶ τανῦν ἴσος γενοῦ.

ὥς εἴπερ ἄρξεις τῆσδε γῆς, ὥσπερ κρατεῖς,

ζὺν ἀνδράσιν κάλλιον ἢ κενῆς κρατεῖν·

55

ὥς οὐδέν ἐστιν οὔτε πύργος οὔτε ναῦς

ἔρημος ἀνδρῶν μὴ ξυνοικούντων ἔσω.

λέγει νομίζει θ' ἡμῖν |stand up |life

νῦν τ', ὦ |best πᾶσιν Οἰδίπου |useless bit;
|form of κατά

40

|approach to beg .ἄντες οἶδε πρόστροποι

|strength ν' εὐρεῖν ἡμῖν, |if, whenever; ν
|either/or

|speech, ἀκούσας |if, whenever; ἵδ' οἰσθ' αὖτον
|rumor |either/or

ὥς τοῖσιν |experienced καὶ τὰς συμφορὰς

ζώσας ὁρῶ μάλιστα τῶν |resolution,
|purpose

45

ἴθ', ὦ βροτῶν ἄριστ', |rebuild, πόλιν,
|restore

ἴθ', |be careful, beware εἰ νῦν μὲν ἦδε γῆ

|savior κλήζει τῆς |before, in the past...·

ἀρχῆς δὲ τῆς σῆς |no one μεμνώμεθα

στάντες τ' ἐς |upright, straight; ἄντες ὕστερον.
|correct, just

50

ἀλλ' |safeguard τήνδ' |rebuild, πόλιν·
|restore

|bird γὰρ καὶ τὴν τότ' |auspi- |fortune, act
|cious |of a god

παρέσχες ἡμῖν, καὶ τανῦν ἴσος γενοῦ.

ὥς |if indeed εἰς τῆσδε γῆς, ὥσπερ κρατεῖς,

ξὺν ἀνδράσιν κάλλιον ἢ |empty, vain εἶν·

55

ὥς οὐδέν ἐστιν οὔτε |wall, οὔτε ναῦς
|tower

ἔρημος ἀνδρῶν μὴ ξυνοικούντων ἔσω.

deem,
And testify) didst thou renew our life.
And now, O Oedipus, our peerless king,
All we thy votaries beseech thee, find
Some succor, whether by a voice from heaven
Whispered, or haply known by human wit.
Tried counselors, methinks, are aptest found
To furnish for the future pregnant rede.
Upraise, O chief of men, upraise our State!
Look to thy laurels! for thy zeal of yore
Our country' s savior thou art justly hailed:
O never may we thus record thy reign:—
“He raised us up only to cast us down.”
Uplift us, build our city on a rock.
Thy happy star ascendant brought us luck,
O let it not decline! If thou wouldst rule
This land, as now thou reignest, better sure
To rule a peopled than a desert realm.
Nor battlements nor galleys aught avail,
If men to man and guards to guard

vocabulary

ἄλγος -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic
γαμβρός son-in-law, brother-in-law
 ~bigamy
γνωτή female relative
γνωτός kinsman; obvious ~gnostic
δακρύω weep
δράω do, accomplish
εἰχός likely
ἐξεγείρω awaken
εὕδω sleep, lie down, rest
ἱμείρω (ι) want, want to
καθήκω come down, (a day) to fall,
 arrive; be proper
λυπέω (υ) annoy, distress
νοσέω be sick, be mad, suffer
οἰκτρός pitiable
ὁμός same ~homoerotic

ὁμοῦ together
ὁμόω unite ~homoerotic
πέρας -τος (n, 3) cord; bound, crux,
 outcome ~prove
περάω cross over, drive across; sell as
 a slave ~pierce
προσέρχομαι come forward, surrender,
 come in
σκοπᾶω watch, observe
σκοπέω behold, consider
σκοπός (f) lookout, overseer, spy,
 target ~telescope
στένω groan ~stentorian
συμμετρέω measure by comparison
τηνικαῦτα at that time, in that case
ὕπνος a sleep
φροντίς -τος (f) thought, care

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦ παῖδες οἰκτροί, γνωτὰ κοῦκ ἄγνωτά μοι

προσήλθεθ' ἰμείροντες· εὖ γὰρ οἶδ' ὅτι

νοσεῖτε πάντες, καὶ νοσοῦντες, ὥς ἐγὼ

60

οὐκ ἔστιν ὑμῶν ὅστις ἐξ ἴσου νοσεῖ.

τὸ μὲν γὰρ ὑμῶν ἄλγος εἰς ἓν ἔρχεται

μόνον καθ' αὐτὸν κοῦδέν' ἄλλον, ἢ δ' ἐμῇ

ψυχῇ πόλιν τε καὶ σ' ὁμοῦ στένει.

ὥστ' οὐχ ὕπνω γ' εὕδοντά μ' ἐξεγείρετε,

65

ἀλλ' ἵστε πολλὰ μέν με δακρύσαντα δῆ,

πολλὰς δ' ὁδοὺς ἐλθόντα φροντίδος πλάνοις·

ἦν δ' εὖ σκοπῶν ἡῦρισκον ἴασιν μόνην,

ταύτην ἔπραξα· παῖδα γὰρ Μενουκίως

Κρέοντ', ἐμαντοῦ γαμβρόν, ἐς τὰ Πυθικὰ

70

ἔπεμψα Φοίβου δώμαθ', ὥς πύθοιθ' ὅ τι

δρῶν ἢ τί φωνῶν τήνδε ῥυσαίμην πόλιν.

καί μ' ἡμαρ ἤδη ξυμμετρούμενον χρόνω

λυπεῖ τί πράσσει· τοῦ γὰρ εἰκότος πέρα

ἄπεστι πλείω τοῦ καθήκοντος χρόνου.

75

ὅταν δ' ἴκηται, τηνικαῦτ' ἐγὼ κακὸς

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦ παῖδες |pitiable , γνωτὰ κοῦκ ἄγνωτά μοι

|come forward,|want εὖ γὰρ οἶδ' ὅτι
surrender,
come in
be sick, be 'ντες, καὶ |be sick, be, ὡς ἐγὼ 60
mad, suffer |mad, suffer

οὐκ ἔστιν ὑμῶν ὅστις ἐξ ἴσου |be sick, be
mad, suffer

τὸ μὲν γὰρ ὑμῶν |woe εἰς ἐν' ἔρχεται

μόνον καθ' αὐτὸν κοῦδέν' ἄλλον, ἡ δ' ἐμή

ψυχὴ πόλιν τε κάμει καὶ σ' ὁμοῦ στένει.

ὥστ' οὐχ |sleep γ' |lie μ' |awaken , 65

ἀλλ' ἴστε πολλὰ μέν με |weep δῆ,

πολλὰς δ' ὁδοὺς ἐλθόντα |thought, care...λάνοις·

ἦν δ' εὖ σκοπῶν ἠϋρίσκον ἴασιν μόνην,

ταύτην ἔπραξα· παῖδα γὰρ Μειοικέως

Κρέοντ', ἐμαντοῦ |an in-law , ἐς τὰ Πυθικά 70

ἔπεμψα Φοίβου δώμαθ', ὡς πύθοιθ' ὅ τι

|do, accomplish ῶν τήνδε ῥυσαίμην πόλιν.

καί μ' ἡμαρ ἤδη ξυμμετρούμενον χρόνῳ

|annoy, ί πράσσει· τοῦ γὰρ |likely πέρα
distress

ἄπεστι πλείῳ τοῦ |come down, (a day) to
fall, arrive; be proper 75

ὅταν δ' ἵκηται, |at that time, γὰρ κακὸς
in that case

them tail.

OEDIPUS. Ah! my poor children, known, ah, known too well,
The quest that brings you hither and your need.

Ye sicken all, well wot I, yet my pain,

How great soever yours, outtops it all.

Your sorrow touches each man severally,

Him and none other, but I grieve at once

Both for the general and myself and you.

Therefore ye rouse no sluggard from day-dreams.

Many, my children, are the tears I' ve wept,

And threaded many a maze of weary thought.

Thus pondering one clue of hope I caught,

And tracked it up; I have sent Menoeceus' son,

Creon, my consort' s brother, to inquire

Of Pythian Phoebus at his Delphic shrine,

How I might save the State by act or word.

And now I reckon up the tale of days

Since he set forth, and marvel how he fares.'

Tis strange, this endless tarrying, passing strange.

But when he comes, then I were base indeed,

If I perform not all the god declares.

PRIEST. Thy words are well timed; even as thou speakest

*vocabulary***ἄρτιος** suitable**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

δάφνη laurel**δηλώω** show, disclose**δράω** do, accomplish**δύσφορος** oppressive**εἰκάζω** liken; conjecture**εἴτε** if, whenever; either/or**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**ἐτοιμός** ready; fulfilled**εὐτυχέω** be lucky, prosper, succeed**ἡδύς** sweet, pleasant ~hedonism**θρασύς** brave, strong**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά***κλύω** hear, listen to ~Euclid**λαμπρός** brilliant ~lamp**ὄμμα** -τος (n, 3) eye**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

πένθος -εος (n, 3) grief, misfortune

~Nepenthe

πλησιάζω bring/be near; have sex**ποῖος** what kind**προσστείχω** proceed to**σημαίνω** give orders to; show; mark

~semaphore

στείχω go, march ~stair**σωτήρ** -ος (m) savior**τάχα** quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer**φήμη** speech, rumor ~fame**χρήζω** need ~chresard

μὴ δρῶν ἂν εἶην πάνθ' ὅσ' ἂν δηλοῖ θεός.

ΙΕΡΕΥΣ. ἀλλ' εἰς καλὸν σύ τ' εἶπας οἶδε τ' ἀρτίως

Κρέοντα προσστείχοντα σημαίνουσί μοι.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦναξ Ἄπολλον, εἰ γὰρ ἐν τύχῃ γέ τω

80

σωτήρι βαίῃ λαμπρὸς ὥσπερ ὄμματι

ΙΕ. ἀλλ' εἰκάσαι μέν, ἡδύς· οὐ γὰρ ἂν κára

πολυστεφῆς ᾧδ' εἶρπε παγκάρπου δάφνης.

ΟΙ. τάχ' εἰσόμεσθα· ξύμμετρος γὰρ ὡς κλύειν.

ἄναξ, ἐμὸν κήδευμα, παῖ Μενουκέως,

85

τίν' ἡμῖν ἦκεις τοῦ θεοῦ φήμην φέρων;

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἐσθλήν· λέγω γὰρ καὶ τὰ δύσφορ', εἰ τύχοι

κατ' ὀρθὸν ἐξελθόντα, πάντ' ἂν εὐτυχεῖν.

ΟΙ. ἔστιν δὲ ποῖον τοῦπος; οὔτε γὰρ θρασὺς

οὔτ' οὖν προδείσας εἰμὶ τῷ γε νῦν λόγῳ.

90

ΚΡ. εἰ τῶνδε χρήζεις πλησιαζόντων κλύειν,

ἔτοιμος εἰπεῖν, εἴτε καὶ στείχειν ἔσω.

ΟΙ. ἐς πάντας αὖδα· τῶνδε γὰρ πλέον φέρω

τὸ πένθος ἢ καὶ τῆς ἐμῆς ψυχῆς πέρι.

ΚΡ. λέγοιμ' ἂν οἷ' ἤκουσα τοῦ θεοῦ πάρα.

μὴ |do, accomplish| πάνθ' ὅς' ἂν |show, disclose| ἱερός.

ΙΕΡΕΥΣ. ἀλλ' εἰς καλὸν σύ τ' εἶπας οἶδε τ' |suitable

Κρέοντα |proceed to| give orders to; |oi. show; mark

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦναξ Ἄπολλον, εἰ γὰρ ἐν τύχῃ γέ τω

80

|savior| βαίῃ |brilliant| ὥσπερ |eye

ΙΕ. ἀλλ' |liken; conjecture| ἴν, |sweet| οὐ γὰρ ἂν |useless bit; form of κατά

πολυστεφῆς ὥδ' |be able to| μόνη σου |laurel

ΟΙ. τάχ' εἰσόμεσθα· ξύμμετρος γὰρ ὥς |hear

ἄναξ, ἐμὸν κήδευμα, παῖ Μενουκίως,

85

τίν' ἡμῖν ἥκεις τοῦ θεοῦ |speech, rumor| φέρων;

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἐσθλήν· λέγω γὰρ καὶ τὰ |oppressive| ἰ τύχοι

κατ' |upright, straight; correct, just|, πάντ' ἂν |be lucky, prosper, succeed

ΟΙ. ἔστιν δὲ |what kind| τος; οὔτε γὰρ |brave, strong|

οὔτ' οὖν προδείσας εἰμὶ τῷ γε νῦν λόγῳ.

90

ΚΡ. εἰ τῶνδε |need| bring/be near; |hear| have sex

ἔτοιμος εἰπεῖν, |if, when| go, march ὦσω.
ever; ei-
ther/or

ΟΙ. ἐς πάντας |speak| τῶνδε γὰρ πλέον φέρω

τὸ |grief| ἥ καὶ τῆς ἐμῆς ψυχῆς πέρι.

ΚΡ. λέγοιμ' ἂν οἷ ἤκουσα τοῦ θεοῦ πάρα.

That shouting tells me Creon is at hand.

OEDIPUS. O King Apollo! may his joyous looks

Be presage of the joyous news he brings!

PRIEST. As I surmise, 'tis welcome; else his head

Had scarce been crowned with berry-laden bays.

OEDIPUS. We soon shall know; he' s now in earshot range.

Enter CREON]

My royal cousin, say, Menoeceus' child,

What message hast thou brought us from the god?

CREON. Good news, for e' en intolerable ills,

Finding right issue, tend to naught but good.

OEDIPUS. How runs the oracle? thus far thy words

Give me no ground for confidence or fear.

CREON. If thou wouldst hear my message publicly,

I' ll tell thee straight, or with thee pass within.

OEDIPUS. Speak before all; the burden that I bear

Is more for these my subjects than myself.

CREON. Let me report then all the god

*vocabulary***ἀγρέω** come!**ἀγρός** field, wild ~agriculture**ἀμελέω** disregard; (impers.) of course**ἀνήκεστος** not to be cured, soothed, appeased**ἄνωγα** tell, order, urge**ἀπευθύνω** make straight, direct**δυστέκμαρτος** hard to interpret**εἰσεῖδω** look at, behold ~wit**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἐκδημέω** be abroad**ἐκφεύγω** flee from, escape ~fugitive**ἐμφανής** visible**ἐπιστέλλω** send to, order**ἡγεμῶν** -όνος (m, 3) leader, guide, chief ~hegemony**θεωρός** envoy; spectator**ἔχνος** -εος (n, 3) track, trace**καθαρμός** cleansing, purification**μηνύω** disclose, betray, accuse**μίασμα** -τος (n, 3) taint, defilement**παλαιός** old ~paleo**ποῖος** what kind**πότερος** which, whichever of two**ποῦ** where?**σαφής** clear, understandable**συμπίπτω** fall together, happen**συμφορά** collecting; accident, misfortune**τιμωρέω** (ι) (+dat) take vengeance, punish; aid one who has been attacked**τύχη** fortune, act of a god**φάσκω** declare, promise, think ~fame**φόνος** killing ~offend**χειμάζω** overwinter

ἄνωγεν ἡμᾶς Φοῖβος ἐμφανῶς ἄναξ
 μίasma χώρας, ὡς τεθραμμένον χθονὶ
 ἐν τῇδ', ἐλαύνειν μηδ' ἀνήκεστον τρέφειν.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ποῖω καθαρμῶ; τίς ὁ τρόπος τῆς ξυμφορᾶς;

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἀνδρηλατοῦντας ἢ φόνω φόνον πάλιν
 λύοντας, ὡς τόδ' αἶμα χειμάζον πόλιν. 100

ΟΙ. ποίου γὰρ ἀνδρὸς τήνδε μηνύει τύχην;

ΚΡ. ἦν ἡμῖν, ὦναξ, Λαίϊός ποθ' ἡγεμὼν
 γῆς τῆσδε, πρὶν σὲ τήνδ' ἀπευθύνειν πόλιν.

ΟΙ. ἔξοιδ' ἀκούων· οὐ γὰρ εἰσεῖδόν γέ πω. 105

ΚΡ. τούτου θανόντος νῦν ἐπιστέλλει σαφῶς
 τοὺς αὐτοέντας χειρὶ τιμωρεῖν τινας.

ΟΙ. οἱ δ' εἰσὶ ποῦ γῆς; ποῦ τόδ' εὐρεθήσεται
 ἶχνος παλαιᾶς δυστέκμαρτον αἰτίας;

ΚΡ. ἐν τῇδ' ἔφασκε γῇ· τὸ δὲ ζητούμενον
 ἀλωτόν, ἐκφεύγειν δὲ τὰ μελούμενον. 110

ΟΙ. πότερα δ' ἐν οἴκοις ἢ ν ἀγροῖς ὁ Λαίϊος
 ἢ γῆς ἐπ' ἄλλης τῷδε συμπίπτει φόνω;

ΚΡ. θεωρός, ὡς ἔφασκεν, ἐκδημῶν, πάλιν

|order ἡμᾶς Φοῖβος |visible ἄναξ

|taint, ἄρας, ὡς τεθραμμένον χθονὶ
|defilement

ἐν τῇδ', ἐλαύνειν μηδ' |incurable τρέφειν.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. |what |cleansing, , τίς ὁ τρόπος τῆς συμφορᾶς;
|kind |purification

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἀνδρῆλατοῦντας ἢ |killing |killing πάλιν

100

λύοντας, ὡς τόδ' αἶμα |overwinter .τόλιν.

ΟΙ. |what kind, ἀνδρὸς τήνδε |disclose, |fortune, act
|betray, |of a god
accuse

ΚΡ. ἦν ἡμῖν, ὦναξ, Λαίϊός ποθ' ἠγεμὼν

γῆς τῇσδε, πρὶν σὲ τήνδ' |make straight, ὅλιν.
|direct

ΟΙ. ἔξοιδ' ἀκούων· οὐ γὰρ εἰσείδόν γέ πω.

105

ΚΡ. τούτου θανόντος νῦν |send to, or- |clear, under-
|der |standable

τοὺς αὐτοέντας χειρὶ |take vengeance, .
|punish, aid

ΟΙ. οἱ δ' εἰσὶ |where? ; ; |where? ὅς' εὐρεθήσεται

|track, |old |hard to interpret μτίας;
|trace

ΚΡ. ἐν τῇδ' |declare, promise, δὲ ζητούμενον
|think

110

ἄλωτόν, |flee δὲ |disregard

ΟΙ. |which, ὅς' ἐν οἴκοις ἢ ν ἀγροῖς ὁ Λαίϊος
|whichever

ἢ γῆς ἐπ' ἄλλης τῷδε |συμπίπτω?: |killing,
|fall together,

ΚΡ. |envoy; , ὡς |declare, |happen; or
|spectator |promise, |be abroad? πάλιν
|think |fall together,
|happen

declared.

King Phoebus bids us straitly extirpate

A fell pollution that infests the land,

And no more harbor an inveterate sore.

OEDIPUS. What expiation means he? What' s amiss?

CREON. Banishment, or the shedding blood for blood.

This stain of blood makes shipwreck of our state.

OEDIPUS. Whom can he mean, the miscreant thus denounced?

CREON. Before thou didst assume the helm of State,

The sovereign of this land was Laius.

OEDIPUS. I heard as much, but never saw the man.

CREON. He fell; and now the god' s command is plain:

Punish his takers-off, whoever they be.

OEDIPUS. Where are they? Where in the wide world to find

The far, faint traces of a bygone crime?

CREON. In this land, said the god; "who seeks shall find;

Who sits with folded hands or sleeps is blind."

OEDIPUS. Was he within his palace, or afield,

Or traveling, when Laius met his fate?

CREON. Abroad; he started, so he told us, bound

vocabulary

ἄργυρος silver, money ~Argentina

ἄρωγός helper

βραχύς low, short

ἐκμανθάνω know by heart

ἐμποδών getting in the way

ἐνθένδε hence

ἐξευρίσκω find; discover ~eureka

ἐπάξιος worthy of

ἔργω bound, fend off; do ~ergonomics

καθοράω look down ~panorama

κατείδον look upon

κάτοιδα understand

ληιστής -οῦς (m, 3) bandit

ληιστός lootable ~lucre

ληστής -οῦ (m, 1) bandit

μεθίημι let go, cease; (mid) speed off

~jet

ποῖος what kind

προσάγω bring to a place

~demagogue

ῥώμη strength, might

σκοπᾶω watch, observe

σκοπέω behold, consider

συντυγχάνω fall in with; happen

τόλμη courage

τυραννίς -δος (f) tyranny

φάσκω declare, promise, think ~fame

πρὸς οἶκον οὐκέθ' ἔκεθ', ὥς ἀπεστάλη.

115

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὐδ' ἄγγελός τις οὐδὲ συμπράκτωρ ὁδοῦ

κατεῖδ', ὅτου τις ἐκμαθὼν ἐχρήσατ' ἄν;

ΚΡΕΩΝ. θνήσκουσι γάρ, πλήν εἰς τις, ὃς φόβῳ, φυγῶν

ὦν εἶδε πλήν ἐν οὐδὲν εἶχ' εἰδὼς φράσαι.

ΟΙ. τὸ ποῖον; ἐν γὰρ πόλλ' ἂν ἐξεύροι μαθεῖν,

120

ἀρχὴν βραχείαν εἰ λάβοιμεν ἐλπίδος.

ΚΡ. ληστὰς ἔφασκε συντυχόντας οὐ μιᾷ

ρώμῃ κτανεῖν νιν, ἀλλὰ σὺν πλήθει χερῶν.

ΟΙ. πῶς οὖν ὁ ληστής, εἴ τι μὴ ξὺν ἀργύρῳ

ἐπράσσετ' ἐνθένδ', ἐς τόδ' ἂν τόλμης ἔβη;

125

ΚΡ. δοκοῦντα ταῦτ' ἦν· Λαῖου δ' ὀλωλότος

οὐδεὶς ἀρωγὸς ἐν κακοῖς ἐγίγνετο.

ΟΙ. κακὸν δὲ ποῖον ἐμποδῶν, τυραννίδος

οὔτω πεσούσης, εἶργε τοῦτ' ἐξειδέναι;

ΚΡ. ἡ ποικιλωδὸς Σφίγξ τὸ πρὸς ποσὶν σκοπεῖν

130

μεθέντας ἡμᾶς τὰφανῇ προσήγετο.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' ἐξ ὑπαρχῆς αἰθις αὐτ' ἐγὼ φανῶ·

ἐπαξίως γὰρ Φοῖβος, ἀξίως δὲ σὺ

πρὸς οἶκον οὐκέθ' ἔκεθ', ὥς ἀπεστάλη.

115

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὐδ' ἄγγελός τις οὐδὲ συμπράκτωρ ὁδοῦ

κατεῖδ', ὅτου τις |know by heart ἴσατ' ἄν;

ΚΡΕΩΝ. θνήσκουσι γάρ, πλὴν εἰς τις, ὃς φόβω, φυγῶν

ὦν εἶδε πλὴν ἐν οὐδὲν εἶχ' εἰδὼς φράσαι.

ΟΙ. τὸ |what kind ἄρ πόλλ' ἂν |find; |discover
|discover

120

ἀρχὴν |low, short εἰ λάβοιμεν ἐλπίδος.

ΚΡ. ληστὰς |declare, |fall in with; happen |promise, |think
|strength, |might ἀνείν νιν, ἀλλὰ σὺν πλήθει χερῶν.

ΟΙ. πῶς οὖν ὁ ληστής, εἴ τι μὴ ξὺν |silver, |money

ἐπράσσειτ' |hence , ἐς τόδ' ἂν |courage ἔβη;

125

ΚΡ. δοκοῦντα ταῦτ' ἦν· Λαῖου δ' ὀλωλότος

οὐδείς |helper ἐν κακοῖς ἐγίγνετο.

ΟΙ. κακὸν δὲ |what |getting in|tyranny
|kind |the way

οὕτω πεσοῦσης, |bound, fend' off; do' ai;

ΚΡ. ἡ ποικιλωδὸς Σφίγγξ τὸ πρὸς ποσὶν σκοπεῖν

130

|let go, cease; |bring to a place
(mid) speed off

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' ἐξ ὑπαρχῆς αὐθις αὐτ' ἐγὼ φανῶ·

|worthy of ἄρ Φοῖβος, ἀξίως δὲ σὺ

For Delphi, but he never thence returned.

OEDIPUS. Came there no news, no fellow-traveler

To give some clue that might be followed up?

CREON. But one escape, who flying for dear life,

Could tell of all he saw but one thing sure.

OEDIPUS. And what was that? One clue might lead us far,

With but a spark of hope to guide our quest.

CREON. Robbers, he told us, not one bandit but

A troop of knaves, attacked and murdered him.

OEDIPUS. Did any bandit dare so bold a stroke,

Unless indeed he were suborned from Thebes?

CREON. So 'twas surmised, but none was found to avenge

His murder mid the trouble that ensued.

OEDIPUS. What trouble can have hindered a full quest,

When royalty had fallen thus miserably?

CREON. The riddling Sphinx compelled us to let slide

The dim past and attend to instant needs.

OEDIPUS. Well, I will start afresh and once again

Make dark things clear. Right worthy the concern

Of Phoebus, worthy thine too, for the dead;

I also, as is meet, will lend my aid

vocabulary

ἀγλαός splendid, shining
ἄθροίζω press close together; (mid)
 muster
ἀποσκεδάννυμι (ῥ) dismiss; scatter
βάθρον step, base, bench
δεῦρο here, come here!
δράω do, accomplish
ἐξαγγέλλω bring news out ~angel
εὐτυχής fortunate
ἡδυεπής sweet-speaking ~hedonism
ἱκτῆρ -ος (m) suppliant, refugee
κλάδος branch, shoot

μαντεία oracular power
νόσος (f) plague, pestilence ~noisome
πολύχρυσος (υῦ) rich in gold
πότε when?
σωτήρ -ος (m) savior
τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps
 ~tachometer
τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer
τιμωρέω (ι) (+dat) take vengeance,
 punish; aid one who has been attacked
φάτις -τος (f) report, rumor ~fame
φοῖβος pure, radiant
ὠφελέω help, be useful

πρὸ τοῦ θανόντος τήνδ' ἔθεσθ' ἐπιστροφὴν·

ὥστ' ἐνδίκως ὄψεσθε καὶ μέ σύμμαχον

135

γῇ τῇδε τιμωροῦντα τῷ θεῷ θ' ἅμα.

ὑπὲρ γὰρ οὐχὶ τῶν ἀπωτέρω φίλων,

ἀλλ' αὐτὸς αὐτοῦ τοῦτ' ἀποσκεδῶ μίσσος.

ὅστις γὰρ ἦν ἐκείνον ὁ κτανών, τάχ' ἂν

κάμ' ἂν τοιαύτῃ χειρὶ τιμωροῦνθ' ἔλοι.

140

κείνῳ προσαρκῶν οὖν ἐμαυτὸν ὠφελῶ.

ἀλλ' ὥς τάχιστα, παῖδες, ὑμεῖς μὲν βάθρων

ἵστασθε, τούσδ' ἄραντες ἰκτῆρας κλάδους,

ἄλλος δὲ Κάδμου λαὸν ᾧδ' ἀθροίζετω,

ὥς πᾶν ἐμοῦ δράσοντος· ἥ γὰρ εὐτυχεῖς

145

σὺν τῷ θεῷ φανούμεθ' ἢ πεπτωκότες.

ΙΕΡΕΥΣ. ὦ παῖδες, ἰστώμεσθα· τῶνδε γὰρ χάριν

καὶ δεῦρ' ἔβημεν ὧν ὅδ' ἐξαγγέλλεται.

Φοῖβος δ' ὁ πέμψας τάσδε μαντείας ἅμα

σωτήρ δ' ἵκοιτο καὶ νόσου πανστήριος.[]

150

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ Διὸς ἀδυεπὲς φάτι, τίς ποτε τᾶς πολυχρύσου

Πυθῶνος ἀγλαὰς ἔβας

To avenge this wrong to Thebes and to the god.
Not for some far-off kinsman, but myself,
Shall I expel this poison in the blood;
For whoso slew that king might have a mind
To strike me too with his assassin hand.
Therefore in righting him I serve myself.
Up, children, haste ye, quit these altar stairs,
Take hence your suppliant wands, go summon hither
The Theban commons. With the god's good help
Success is sure; 'tis ruin if we fail.

Exeunt OEDIPUS and CREON]

PRIEST. Come, children, let us hence; these gracious words
Forestall the very purpose of our suit.
And may the god who sent this oracle
Save us withal and rid us of this pest.

Exeunt PRIEST and SUPPLIANTS]

CHORUS. (Str. 1)

Sweet-voiced daughter of Zeus from thy gold-paved Pythian shrine
Wafted to Thebes divine,

*vocabulary***ἄζομαι** dread, revere, respect

~hagiography

ἀλέξω ward off; aid**ἄμαιμάκετος** huge**ἀνέχω** raise; mid: endure, submit**ἀνύω** accomplish, pass over, complete**ἄτα** bewilderment, folly**αὐξάνω** strengthen**δεῖμα** -τος (n, 3) fear**ἔκγονος** offspring, descendant ~genus**ἐκτείνω** stretch out ~tend**ἐνιμι** be in ~ion**ἐξανύω** bring to pass; slay**θάσσω** sit**θρόνος** seat, chair, throne ~throne**ιός** arrow**ιώη** a rush, a sweep**κάματος** exhaustion, toil, product**κέλομαι** command, urge**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**νοσέω** be sick, be mad, suffer**ὄρνις** -θος (ī, f) bird ~ornithology**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**περιτέλλομαι** to cycle, come around**πῆμα** -τος (n, 3) woe, bane ~penury**πόποι** oh!**πότε** when?**πρόσοιδα** (+χάριν) be grateful besides**προσοράω** look at**προφαίνω** show; pass: appear

~photon

στόλος expedition, equipment, forces

~apostle

τόκος childbirth ~oxytocin**τρισός** threefold**φλόξ** -γός (f) flame ~flame**φοβερός** frightful, afraid**φροντίς** -τος (f) thought, care

Θήβας; ἐκτέταμαι φοβερὰν φρένα, δείματι πάλλων,

ἰήιε Δάλιε Παιάν,

ἀμφὶ σοὶ ἀζόμενος τί μοι ἦ νέον

155

ἦ περιτελλομέναις ὥραις πάλιν ἐξανύσεις χρέος.

εἰπέ μοι, ὦ χρυσέας τέκνον Ἑλπίδος, ἄμβροτε Φάμα.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πρῶτα σὲ κεκλόμενος, θύγατερ Διός, ἄμβροτ' Ἀθάνα 160

γαιάοχόν τ' ἀδελφεὰν

Ἄρτεμιν, ἧ κυκλόεντ' ἀγορᾶς θρόνον εὐκλέα θάσσει,

καὶ Φοῖβον ἐκαβόλον, ἰὼ

τρισσοὶ ἀλεξίμοροι προφάνητέ μοι,

εἴ ποτε καὶ προτέρας ἄτας ὕπερ ὀρνυμένας πόλει

165

ἡγνύσατ' ἐκτοπίαν φλόγα πήματος, ἔλθετε καὶ νῦν.

ΧΘ. ὦ πόποι, ἀνάρριθμα γὰρ φέρω

πήματα· νοσεῖ δέ μοι πρόπας στόλος, οὐδ' ἐνὶ φροντίδος ἔγχος

170

ὧ τις ἀλέξεται. οὔτε γὰρ ἔκγονα

κλυτᾶς χθονὸς αὖξεται οὔτε τόκοισιν

ἱγίων καμάτων ἀνέχουσι γυναῖκες·

ἄλλον δ' ἂν ἄλλω προσίδοις ἅπερ εὐπτερον ὄρνιν

175

κρεῖσσον ἀμαιμακέτου πυρὸς ὄρμενον

Θήβας; |stretch out |frightful, φρένα, |fear |shake,
|afraid |brandish

ἰήιε Δάλιε Παιάν,

ἀμφὶ σοὶ |dread, revere, ἦ μοι ἢ νέον 155
|respect

ἢ |περιτέλλομαι?: cycle; or ἴς πάλιν ἐξανύσεις χρέος.
|περιτέλλομαι?: cycle

εἰπέ μοι, ὦ χρυσέας τέκνον Ἑλπίδος, ἄμβροτε Φάμα.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πρῶτα σέ |command, urge ἔγατερ Διός, ἄμβροτ' Ἀθάνα 160

γαιάοχόν τ' ἀδελφεὰν

Ἄρτεμιν, ἃ κυκλόεντ' ἀγορᾶς |chair εὐκλέα |sit

καὶ Φοῖβον ἐκαβόλον, ἰὼν

|threefold ἰλεξίμοροι |show; pass: appear

εἴ ποτε καὶ προτέρας ἄτας ὕπερ ὀρνυμένας πόλει 165

|accomplish τοπίαν |flame |woe, bane ἔλθετε καὶ νῦν.

ΧΟ. ὦ |oh! , ἀνάριθμα γὰρ φέρω

|woe, bane |be sick, ἔbe υ πρόπας |expedition, ἔbe |thought, care, ἔχος
|mad, suffer |equipment, |in
|forces

170

ῶ τις |ward off; aid ὅτε γὰρ |offspring

κλυτᾶς χθονὸς |strengthen ὅτε |childbirth

ἰήίων |exhaustion |raise; γυναῖκες
|endure

ἄλλον δ' ἂν ἄλλω προσίδοις ἄπερ εὔπτερον |bird 175

κρείσσον |huge πυρὸς ὄρμενον

What dost thou bring me? My soul is racked and shivers with fear.
(Healer of Delos, hear!)

Hast thou some pain unknown before,
Or with the circling years renewest a penance of yore?
Offspring of golden Hope, thou voice immortal, O tell me. (

Ant. 1)

First on Athene I call; O Zeus-born goddess, defend!
Goddess and sister, befriend,
Artemis, Lady of Thebes, high-throned in the midst of our mart!
Lord of the death-winged dart!

Your threefold aid I crave
From death and ruin our city to save.
If in the days of old when we nigh had perished, ye drave
From our land the fiery plague, be near us now and defend us! (

Str. 2)

Ah me, what countless woes are mine!

All our host is in decline;

Weaponless my spirit lies.

Earth her gracious fruits denies;

Women wail in barren throes;

Life on life downstricken goes,

Swifter than the wind bird's flight,

Swifter than the Fire-God's might,

*vocabulary***ἄλλοθεν** from elsewhere ~alien**ἄλοχος** (f) wife ~lie**ἀντιάζω** meet, fight, join**ἄρος** ἄρεος (n, 3) bane, harm; prayer**ἀσπίς** -δος (f) shield ~spit**γῆρυς** voice**εἴτε** if, whenever; either/or**ἐπιστενάχω** groan at ~stentorian**ἔσπερος** evening, evening star ~west**θάλαμος** bedchamber ~thalamus**κεραυνός** lightning strike, thunderbolt**κλύδων** -ος (m, 3) wave, surge

~cataclysm

κράτος strength, power; victory

~democracy

λάμπω shine ~lamp**λυγρός** pitiful; woe-bringing

~lugubrious

μαλερός raging, devouring**νέμω** to allot, to pasture ~nemesis**νηλής** merciless ~alms**πάτρα** (αᾶ) fatherland ~paternal**πέδον** ground ~pedal**περιβαίνω** stand over ~basis**πολιός** gray ~polio**πόνος** toil, suffering ~osteopenia**στονόεις** causing moans ~stentorian**τᾶν** form of address**φθίω** cause to perish, wane; (of time)

pass

φλέγω blaze, burn up ~flame

ἀκτὰν πρὸς ἐσπέρου θεοῦ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦν πόλις ἀνάριθμος ὄλλυται·

νηλέα δὲ γένεθλα πρὸς πέδῳ θαναταφόρα κείται ἀνοίκτως· 180

ἐν δ' ἄλοχοι πολιαί τ' ἐπι ματέρες

ἀχὰν παραβώμιον ἄλλοθεν ἄλλαν

λυγρῶν πόνων ἱκετῆρες ἐπιστενάχουσιν.

παιὰν δὲ λάμπει στονόεσσά τε γῆρυς ὄμαυλος 185

ὦν ὕπερ, ὦ χρυσέα θύγατερ Διός,

εὐῶπα πέμψον ἀλκάν.

ΧΘ. Ἄρεά τε τὸν μαλερόν, ὃς νῦν ἄχαλκος ἀσπίδων 190

φλέγει με περιβόατον, ἀντιάζω

παλίσσυτον δράμημα νωτίσαι πάτρας

ἔπουρον, εἴτ' ἐς μέγαν θάλαμον Ἀμφιτρίτας

εἴτ' ἐς τὸν ἀπόξενον ὄρμων 195

Θρήκιον κλύδωνα·

τελεῖν γὰρ εἴ τι νῦξ ἀφῆ,

τοῦτ' ἐπ' ἡμαρ ἔρχεται· τόν, ὦ τᾶν πυρφόρων

ἀστραπᾶν κράτη νέμων,

ὦ Ζεῦ πάτερ, ὑπὸ σῶ φθίσον κεραυνῶ,

ἀκτάν πρὸς evening. ᾧ.
evening star

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦν πόλις ἀνάρριθμος ὄλλυται·

|merciless· γένεθλα πρὸς |ground ἄναταφόρα κείται ἀνοίκτως· 180

ἐν δ' |wife πολιαί τ' ἐπι ματέρες

ἀχάν παραβώμιον |from elsewhere ·

|pitiful; |toil, suffering ᾗρες |groan at

woe-

bringing

παίων δὲ |shine

|causing
moans

τε |voice

ὄμανλος

185

ὦν ὕπερ, ὦ χρυσέα θύγατερ Διός,

εὐῶπα πέμψον ἀλκάν.

ΧΟ. Ἄρεά τε τὸν |raging, ᾧς νῦν ἄχαλκος |shield
|devouring

190

φλέγει με |stand over , |meet,
|fight, join

παλίσσουτον δράμημα νωτίσαι |fatherland

ἔπουρον, |if, whenever; ei-|bedchamber ἡμφιτρίτας
|ther/or

|if, whenever; πόξενον ὄρμων
|either/or

195

Θρήκιον |wave,
|surge

τελεῖν γὰρ εἴ τι νῦξ ἀφῆ,

τοῦτ' ἐπ' ἡμαρ ἔρχεται· τόν, ὦ |form of address

ἀστραπαῖν |strength|distribute
|power;

victory

ὦ Ζεῦ πάτερ, ὑπὸ σῶ |cause to perish, wane;
(of time) pass

To the westering shores of Night.(

Ant. 2)

Wasted thus by death on death

All our city perisheth.

Corpses spread infection round;

None to tend or mourn is found.

Wailing on the altar stair

Wives and grandams rend the air—

Long-drawn moans and piercing cries

Blent with prayers and litanies.

Golden child of Zeus, O hear

Let thine angel face appear!(

Str. 3)

And grant that Ares whose hot breath I feel,

Though without targe or steel

He stalks, whose voice is as the battle shout,

May turn in sudden rout,

To the unharbored Thracian waters sped,

Or Amphitrite' s bed.

For what night leaves undone,

Smit by the morrow' s sun

Perisheth. Father Zeus, whose hand

Doth wield the lightning brand,

Slay him beneath thy levin bold, we pray,

*vocabulary***αἴγλη** radiance**αἰτέω** ask for ~etiology**ἀλκή** prowess, defense, victory

~Alexander

ἀπότιμος (ι) without honor**ἄρωγή** help**ἄρωγός** helper**ἄστος** townsman; citizen**βέλος** -εος (n, 3) missile ~ballistic**ἐπώνυμος** named for a reason ~name**ἰχνεύω** track, hunt**κικλήσκω** summon, name ~gallo**κλύω** hear, listen to ~Euclid**λύκιον** buckthorn**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

νόσος (f) plague, pestilence ~noisome**πελάζω** bring/come to, near, into
contact with**προστάσσω** post at, attach to,
command**σύμβολον** token, seal**σύμβολος** token; omen**ὑπηρετέω** serve**φλέγω** blaze, burn up ~flame

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Λύκει' ἄναξ, τά τε σὰ χρυσοστροφῶν ἀπ' ἀγκυλᾶν

βέλεα θέλοιμ' ἂν ἀδάματ' ἐνδατεῖσθαι

ἄρωγὰ προσταχθέντα τάς τε πυρφόρους 205

Ἀρτέμιδος αἴγλας, ξὺν αἷς Λύκι' ὄρεα διάσσει·

τὸν χρυσομίτραν τε κικλήσκω,

τᾶσδ' ἐπώνυμον γᾶς, 210

οἰνώπα Βάκχον εὖιον,

Μαινάδων ὁμόστολον, πελασθῆναι φλέγοντ'

ἀγλαῶπι

πέυκα· πῖ τὸν ἀπότιμον ἐν θεοῖς θεόν. 215

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. αἰτεῖς· ἃ δ' αἰτεῖς, τᾶμ' ἐὰν θέλῃς ἔπη

κλύων δέχεσθαι τῇ νόσῳ θ' ὑπηρετεῖν,

ἀλκὴν λάβοις ἂν κἀνακούφισιν κακῶν·

ἀγὼ ξένος μὲν τοῦ λόγου τοῦδ' ἐξερῶ,

ξένος δὲ τοῦ πραχθέντος· οὐ γὰρ ἂν μακρὰν 220

ἵχνευον αὐτός, μὴ οὐκ ἔχων τι σύμβολον,

νῦν δ' ὕστερος γὰρ ἀστὸς εἰς ἀστοὺς τελῶ,

ὑμῖν προφωνῶ πᾶσι Καδμείοις τάδε·

ὅστις ποθ' ὑμῶν Λαΐιον τὸν Λαβδάκου

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Λύκει' ἄναξ, τά τε σὰ χρυσοστρόφων ἀπ' ἀγκυλᾶν

|missile θέλοιμ' ἂν ἀδάματ' ἐνδατεῖσθαι

ἄρωγὰ |post at, attach to, τάς τε πυρφόρους
|command

205

Ἀρτέμιδος |radiance ξὺν αἷς Λύκι' ὄρεα διάσσει·

τὸν χρυσομίτραν τε |summon, name

τᾶσδ' |named for a reason

210

οἰνώπα Βάκχον εὖιον,

|madwoman, ἰμόστολον, |bring/come to, |burn
|maenad near, into con-
|tact with
ἀγλαῶπι

πέυκα πὶ τὸν |without ἐν θεοῖς θεόν.
|honor

215

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. |ask for ἃ δ' |ask for, τᾶμ' ἐὰν θέλῃς ἔπη

|hear δέχεσθαι τῇ |plague ᾿ |serve

|strength ἄβοις ἂν κἀνακούφισιν κακῶν·

ἀγὼ ξένος μὲν τοῦ λόγου τοῦδ' ἐξερώ,

ξένος δὲ τοῦ πραχθέντος· οὐ γὰρ ἂν μακρὰν

220

|track, hunt ᾿ τός, μὴ οὐκ ἔχων τι σύμβολον,

νῦν δ' ὕστερος γὰρ |townsman; |townsman; ἰῶ,
|citizen |citizen

ὑμῖν προφωνῶ πᾶσι Καδμείοις τάδε·

ὅστις ποθ' ὑμῶν Λαΐον τὸν Λαβδάκου

Slay him, O slay!(

Ant. 3)

O that thine arrows too, Lycean King,
From that taut bow' s gold string,
Might fly abroad, the champions of our rights;
Yea, and the flashing lights
Of Artemis, wherewith the huntress sweeps
Across the Lycian steeps.
Thee too I call with golden-snooded hair,
Whose name our land doth bear,
Bacchus to whom thy Maenads Evoe shout;
Come with thy bright torch, rout,
Blithe god whom we adore,
The god whom gods abhor.

Enter OEDIPUS.]

OEDIPUS. Ye pray; 'tis well, but would ye hear my words
And heed them and apply the remedy,
Ye might perchance find comfort and relief.
Mind you, I speak as one who comes a stranger
To this report, no less than to the crime;
For how unaided could I track it far
Without a clue? Which lacking (for too late
Was I enrolled a citizen of Thebes)
This proclamation I address to all:—
Thebans, if any knows the man by whom

vocabulary

ἀπόζω smell of
ἀπωθέω repel, reject
ἄρτιος suitable
ἀσφαλής safe, easy, steady, careful
αὐτόχειρ with one's own hand
διόλλυμι (ϋ) be ruined
δράω do, accomplish
εἰσδέχομαι admit, take in
ἐκφαίνω bring to light ~photon
θρόνος seat, chair, throne ~throne
θῦμα -τος (n, 3) victim, sacrifice
κάτοιδα understand
κέρδος -ους (n, 3) advantage, cunning
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid

κοινός communal, ordinary
κράτος strength, power; victory
 ~democracy
μαντεῖον prophetic warning ~mantis
μίασμα -τος (n, 3) taint, defilement
νέμω to allot, to pasture ~nemesis
πρόσκειμαι be placed by; be devoted to
προσφωνέω speak to
σημαίνω give orders to; show; mark
 ~semaphore
σιωπάω be silent
χέρνιψ -βος (f) hand-washing water
ώθέω push

κάτοιδεν ἀνδρὸς ἐκ τίνος διώλετο, 225
 τοῦτον κελεύω πάντα σημαίνειν ἐμοί·
 κεί μὲν φοβεῖται, τοῦπίκλημ' ὑπεξελεῖν
 αὐτὸν καθ' αὐτοῦ· πείσεται γὰρ ἄλλο μὲν
 ἀστεργές οὐδέν. γῆς δ' ἄπεισιν ἀσφαλής.
 εἰ δ' αὖ τις ἄλλον οἶδεν ἐξ ἄλλης χθονὸς 230
 τὸν αὐτόχειρα, μὴ σιωπάτω· τὸ γὰρ
 κέρδος τελῶ γὼ χῆ χάρις προσκείσεται.
 εἰ δ' αὖ σιωπήσεσθε, καί τις ἢ φίλου
 δείσας ἀπώσσει τοῦπος ἢ χαυτοῦ τόδε,
 ἅκ τῶνδε δράσω, ταῦτα χρὴ κλύειν ἐμοῦ. 235
 τὸν ἄνδρ' ἀπαυδῶ τοῦτον, ὅστις ἐστί, γῆς
 τῆσδ', ἣς ἐγὼ κράτη τε καὶ θρόνους νέμω,
 μήτ' εἰσδέχεσθαι μήτε προσφωνεῖν τινα,
 μήτ' ἐν θεῶν εὐχαῖσι μήτε θύμασιν
 κοινὸν ποεῖσθαι, μήτε χέρνιβας νέμειν· 240
 ὠθεῖν δ' ἀπ' οἴκων πάντας, ὡς μιάσματος
 τοῦδ' ἡμῖν ὄντος, ὡς τὸ Πυθικὸν θεοῦ
 μαντεῖον ἐξέφηνεν ἀρτίως ἐμοί.

|understand ᾽νδρὸς ἐκ τίνος |be ruined, 225

τοῦτον κελεύω πάντα |give orders τῷ; οἷ
|show; mark

κεῖ ᾽ μὲν φοβεῖται, τοῦπίκλημ ᾽πέξελεῖν

αὐτὸν καθ' αὐτοῦ· πείσεται γὰρ ἄλλο μὲν

ἄστεργές οὐδέν. γῆς δ' ἄπεισιν |safe, easy,
|steady, careful

εἰ δ' αὖ τις ἄλλον οἶδεν ἐξ ἄλλης χθονὸς 230

τὸν |with one's, ῥῶν|be silent τὸ γὰρ
|hand

|advantage, ᾽ὼ γὰρ χῆ χάρις |be placed by; be
|cunning devoted to

εἰ δ' αὖ |be silent , καί τις ἣ φίλου

δείσας ἀπώσσει τοῦπος ἣ χαυτοῦ τόδε,

ἂκ τῶνδε |do, accomplish ... χρῆ |hear ἐμοῦ. 235

τὸν ἄνδρ' ἀπαυδῶ τοῦτον, ὅστις ἐστί, γῆς

τῆσδ', ἥς ἐγὼ |strength, power;|chair |distribute
|victory

μήτ' |admit, take in ,μήτε |speak to τινα,

μήτ' ἐν θεῶν εὐχαῖσι μήτε |victim,
|sacrifice

|communal, ἴσθαι, μήτε |hand-wash|distribute
|ordinary water 240

|push δ' ἀπ' οἴκων πάντας, ὥς |taint,
|defilement

τοῦδ' ἡμῖν ὄντος, ὥς τὸ Πυθικὸν θεοῦ

|prophetic |bring to|suitable ἐμοί.
|warning |light

Laius, son of Labdacus, was slain,
I summon him to make clean shrift to me.
And if he shrinks, let him reflect that thus
Confessing he shall 'scape the capital charge;
For the worst penalty that shall befall him
Is banishment— unscathed he shall depart.
But if an alien from a foreign land
Be known to any as the murderer,
Let him who knows speak out, and he shall have
Due recompense from me and thanks to boot.
But if ye still keep silence, if through fear
For self or friends ye disregard my hest,
Hear what I then resolve; I lay my ban
On the assassin whosoe' er he be.
Let no man in this land, whereof I hold
The sovereign rule, harbor or speak to him;
Give him no part in prayer or sacrifice
Or lustral rites, but hound him from your homes.
For this is our defilement, so the god
Hath lately shown to me by oracles.
Thus as their champion I maintain the cause
Both of the god and of the

*vocabulary***ἄθεος** godless; by the gods**ἀκάθαρτος** not pure**ἄκαρπος** fruitless, barren**ἄράζω** snarl**ἄράω** wear something out**ἄρτιος** suitable**βίος** life ~biology**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**δράω** do, accomplish**δυστυχέω** be unlucky**εἰχός** likely**εἴτε** if, whenever; either/or**ἐκτρίβω** (ι) rub out**ἐκφύω** spring from ~physics**ἐπεύχομαι** exult (over); pray ~vow**ἐπισκήπτω** lay something on**ἐραμαι** love, aor. fall in love; long for,
covet ~erotic**κατεύχομαι** pray, vow, curse**κοινός** communal, ordinary**κοινόω** make common; cooperate**κυρέω** come upon, come up against;
obtain**κυρόω** (ι) confirm, sanction**λέκτρον** bed ~lie**μέτεμι** be among, go, follow ~ion**πέλω** be, turn out to be (mid=act)
~pole**σύνοιδα** know about someone; think
proper**τοιόσδε** such**φθείρω** destroy, ruin

ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν τοιόσδε τῷ τε δαίμονι

τῷ τ' ἀνδρὶ τῷ θανόντι σύμμαχος πέλω·

245

κατεύχομαι δὲ τὸν δεδρακότ', εἴτε τις

εἷς ὢν λέληθεν εἴτε πλειόνων μέτα,

κακὸν κακῶς νιν ἄμορον ἐκτρῦψαι βίον·

ἐπεύχομαι δ', οἴκοισιν εἰ ξυνέστιος

ἐν τοῖς ἐμοῖς γένοιτ' ἐμοῦ συνειδότος,

250

παθεῖν ἅπερ τοῖσδ' ἀρτίως ἡρασάμην.

ὕμῖν δὲ ταῦτα πάντ' ἐπισκήπτω τελεῖν,

ὕπέρ τ' ἐμαντοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ τε τῆσδέ τε

γῆς ᾧδ' ἀκάρπως καθέως ἐφθαρμένης.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὐδ' εἰ γὰρ ἦν τὸ πρᾶγμα μὴ θεήλατον,

255

ἀκάθαρτον ὑμᾶς εἰκὸς ἦν οὕτως εἶναι,

ἀνδρός γ' ἀρίστου βασιλέως τ' ὀλωλότος,

ἀλλ' ἐξερευνᾶν· νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ κυρῶ γ' ἐγὼ

ἔχων μὲν ἀρχὰς ᾧς ἐκείνος εἶχε πρίν,

ἔχων δὲ λέκτρα καὶ γυναῖχ' ὁμόσπορον,

260

κοινῶν τε παίδων κοίν' ἄν, εἰ κείνῳ γένος

μὴ δυστύχησεν, ἦν ἂν ἐκπεφυκότα·

ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν |such τῷ τε |a god, fate, doom

τῷ τ' ἀνδρὶ τῷ θανόντι σύμμαχος |be, turn out to
|be (mid=act) 245

|pray, vow, curse τὸν |do, accom-|if, whenever;
|plish |either/or

εἰς ὧν λέληθεν |if, whenever; ν μέτα,
|either/or

κακὸν κακῶς νιν ἄμορον |rub out |life

|exult (over); pray...:οισιν εἰ ξυνέστιος

ἐν τοῖς ἐμοῖς γένοιτ' ἐμοῦ |know about some-
|one; think proper 250

παθεῖν ἅπερ τοῖσδ' |suitable ἡρασάμην.

ὑμῖν δὲ ταῦτα πάντ' |lay something on ἱν,

ὑπέρ τ' ἐμαυτοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ τε τῇσδέ τε

γῆς ὧδ' |fruitless, |godless; |destroy, ruin
|barren |by the

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὐδ' εἰ γὰρ ἦν τὸ πρᾶγμα μὴ θεήλατον, 255

|not pure ὑμᾶς |likely ἦν οὕτως ἔαν,

ἀνδρός γ' ἀρίστου βασιλέως τ' ὀλωλότος,

ἀλλ' ἐξερευνᾶν· νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ κυρῶ γ' ἐγὼ

ἔχων μὲν ἀρχὰς ἅς ἐκεῖνος εἶχε πρίν,

ἔχων δὲ |bed καὶ γυναιχ' ὁμόςπορον, 260

κοινῶν τε παιδων |communal... κείνω γένος
|ordinary

μὴ |be unlucky , ἦν ἄν |spring from

murdered King.

And on the murderer this curse I lay(
On him and all the partners in his guilt):—
Wretch, may he pine in utter wretchedness!
And for myself, if with my privity
He gain admittance to my hearth, I pray
The curse I laid on others fall on me.
See that ye give effect to all my hest,
For my sake and the god' s and for our land,
A desert blasted by the wrath of heaven.
For, let alone the god' s express command,
It were a scandal ye should leave unpurged
The murder of a great man and your king,
Nor track it home. And now that I am lord,
Successor to his throne, his bed, his wife,(
And had he not been frustrate in the hope
Of issue, common children of one womb
Had forced a closer bond twixt him and me,

*vocabulary***ἀναγκάζω** force, compel**ἄνειμι** go up, inland, to, back ~ion**ἀνίημι** urge, impel; release ~jet**ἄρεσκω** please, satisfy; make amends**ἄροτος** plowed field ~arable**αὐτόχειρ** with one's own hand**δείκνυμι** (ὕ) show, point out**δράω** do, accomplish**κῆρα** (αἶ) head (n) ~cranium**κεράννυμι** (ὕ) mix ~crater**κράς** -τός (f, 3) head**κρέας** -ως (n) meat ~creatine**ξύνειμι** be with; have sex**ξυνίημι** send together; hear, notice, understand**πάλαι** long ago ~paleo**πάλη** wrestling ~Pallas**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**πότε** when?**πότης** fate ~petal**τύχη** fortune, act of a god**φόνος** killing ~offend

νῦν δ' ἐς τὸ κείνου κρᾶτ' ἐνήλαθ' ἢ τύχη·
 ἀνθ' ὧν ἐγὼ τάδ', ὥσπερ εἰ τοῦμοῦ πατρός,
 ὑπερμαχοῦμαι καὶ πᾶν ἀφίξομαι,
 ζητῶν τὸν αὐτόχειρα τοῦ φόνου λαβεῖν,
 τῷ Λαβδακείῳ παιδὶ Πολυδώρου τε καὶ
 τοῦ πρόσθε Κάδμου τοῦ πάλαι τ' Ἀγήνορος.
 καὶ ταῦτα τοῖς μὴ δρῶσιν εὐχομαι θεοὺς
 μήτ' ἄροτον αὐτοῖς γῆς ἀνιέναι τινα
 μήτ' οὖν γυναικῶν παῖδας, ἀλλὰ τῷ πότμῳ
 τῷ νῦν φθερεῖσθαι κάτι τοῦδ' ἐχθίονι·
 ὑμῖν δὲ τοῖς ἄλλοισι Καδμείοις, ὅσοις
 τάδ' ἔστ' ἀρέσκονθ', ἥ τε σύμμαχος Δίκη
 χοὶ πάντες εὖ ξυνείεν εἰσαεὶ θεοί.

265

270

275

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὥσπερ μ' ἀραῖον ἔλαβες, ὦδ', ἄναξ, ἐρῶ.

οὔτ' ἔκτανον γὰρ οὔτε τὸν κτανόντ' ἔχω
 δεῖξαι. τὸ δὲ ζήτημα τοῦ πέμψαντος ἦν
 Φοίβου τόδ' εἰπεῖν, ὅστις εἵργασταί ποτε.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. δίκαι' ἔλεξας· ἀλλ' ἀναγκάσαι θεοὺς

280

ἀν μὴ θέλωσιν οὐδ' ἂν εἰς δύναιτ' ἀνήρ.

νῦν δ' ἐς τὸ κείνου κρατ' ἐνήλαθ' ἡ fortune, act
of a god

ἀνθ' ὧν ἐγὼ τάδ', ὥσπερ εἰ τοῦ μοῦ πατρός,

ὑπερμαχοῦμαι κατὰ πᾶν ἀφίξομαι,

265

ζητῶν τὸν | with one's own | killing λαβεῖν,
| hand

τῷ Λαβδακείῳ παιδὶ Πολυδώρου τε καὶ

τοῦ πρόσθε Κάδμου τοῦ πάλαι τ' Ἀγήνορος.

καὶ ταῦτα τοῖς μὴ |do, accomplish...ι θεοὺς

μήτ' |plowed
|field αὐτοῖς γῆς ἀνιέναι τινα

270

μήτ' οὖν γυναικῶν παῖδας, ἀλλὰ τῷ | fate

τῷ νῦν φθερῆσθαι κάτι τοῦδ' ἐχθίονι·

ὑμῖν δὲ τοῖς ἄλλοισι Καδμείοις, ὅσοις

τάδ' ἔστ' | please, satisfy; τε σύμμαχος Δίκη
| make amends

χοι' πάντες εὖ ξυνεῖεν εἰσαεὶ θεοί.

275

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὥσπερ μ' ἀραῖον ἔλαβες, ὦδ', ἄναξ, ἐρῶ.

οὐτ' ἔκτανον γὰρ οὔτε τὸν κτανόντ' ἔχω

|show τὸ δὲ ζήτημα τοῦ πέμψαντος ἦν

Φοίβου τόδ' εἰπεῖν, ὅστις εἵργασται ποτε.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ, δίκαι' ἔλεξας· ἀλλ' force, θεοὺς
compel

280

ἂν μὴ θέλωσιν οὐδ' ἂν εἰς δύναιτ' ἀνὴρ.

But Fate swooped down upon him), therefore I
His blood-avenger will maintain his cause
As though he were my sire, and leave no stone
Unturned to track the assassin or avenge
The son of Labdacus, of Polydore,
Of Cadmus, and Agenor first of the race.
And for the disobedient thus I pray:
May the gods send them neither timely fruits
Of earth, nor teeming increase of the womb,
But may they waste and pine, as now they waste,
Aye and worse stricken; but to all of you,
My loyal subjects who approve my acts,
May Justice, our ally, and all the gods
Be gracious and attend you evermore.
CHORUS. The oath thou profferest, sire, I take and swear.
I slew him not myself, nor can I name
The slayer. For the quest, 'twere well, methinks
That Phoebus, who proposed the riddle, himself
Should give the answer— who the murderer was.
OEDIPUS. Well argued; but no living man can hope
To force the gods to speak against their will.
CHORUS. May I then say what seems

vocabulary

ἄμός (ᾱ) my, our
 ἀργέω not work; (pass) be fruitless,
 left undone
 ἀργός glistening, swift
 ἄρή bane, harm; prayer
 δεῖμα -τος (n, 3) fear
 διπλός double, overlapping
 δράω do, accomplish
 ἐκμανθάνω know by heart
 ἐμφύω plant; cling ~physics
 ἐξελέγχω convict, refute, test
 ἐπίσταμαι know how, understand
 ~station
 ἐφίστημι set; (mp) come/be near,
 direct, stop ~station
 κωφός blunt, insensible

μάντις -ος (m) seer ~mantis
 νωμάω give out; wield
 ὁδοιπόρος traveler ~odometer
 πάλαι long ago ~paleo
 παλαιός old ~paleo
 πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
 πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 παρώ maim
 ποῖος what kind
 πομπός escort, guide ~pomp
 σαφής clear, understandable
 σκοπᾶω watch, observe
 σκοπέω behold, consider
 σκοπός (f) lookout, overseer, spy,
 target ~telescope
 τάρβος -εος (n, 3) fear
 τοιόσδε such

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὰ δεύτερ' ἐκ τῶνδ' ἂν λέγοιμ' ἄμοι δοκεῖ.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. εἰ καὶ τρίτ' ἐστί, μὴ παρῆς τὸ μὴ οὐ φράσαι.

ΧΟ. ἄνακτ' ἄνακτι ταῦθ' ὀρώντ' ἐπίσταμαι

μάλιστα Φοίβῳ Τειρεσίαν, παρ' οὗ τις ἂν

285

σκοπῶν τάδ', ὠναξ, ἐκμάθοι σαφέστατα.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐν ἀργοῖς οὐδὲ τοῦτ' ἐπραξάμην.

ἔπεμψα γὰρ Κρέοντος εἰπόντος διπλοῦς

πομπούς· πάλαι δὲ μὴ παρῶν θαυμάζεται.

ΧΟ. καὶ μὴν τά γ' ἄλλα κωφὰ καὶ παλαί' ἔπη.

290

ΟΙ. τὰ ποῖα ταῦτα; πάντα γὰρ σκοπῶ λόγον.

ΧΟ. θανεῖν ἐλέχθη πρὸς τινων ὁδοιπόρων.

ΟΙ. ἤκουσα καγώ. τὸν δ' ἰδόντ' οὐδεὶς ὀρᾷ.

ΧΟ. ἀλλ' εἴ τι μὲν δὴ δείματός γ' ἔχει μέρος,

τὰς σὰς ἀκούων οὐ μενεῖ τοιάσδ' ἀράς,

295

ΟΙ. ὦ μή· στί δρῶντι τάρβος, οὐδ' ἔπος φοβεῖ.

ΧΟ. ἀλλ' οὐξελέγξων αὐτὸν ἔστιν· οἶδε γὰρ

τὸν θεῖον ἤδη μάντιν ὧδ' ἄγουσιν, ὦ

τάληθές ἐμπέφυκεν ἀνθρώπων μόνῳ.

ΟΙ. ὦ πάντα νωμῶν Τειρεσία, διδακτά τε

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὰ δεύτερ' ἐκ τῶνδ' ἂν λέγοιμ' |my, our κεῖ.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. εἰ καὶ τρίτ' ἐστί, μὴ παρήσ τὸ μὴ οὐ φράσαι.

ΧΘ. ἄνακτ' ἄνακτι ταῦθ' ὁρῶντ' ἐπίσταμαι

μάλιστα Φοίβῳ Τειρεσίαν, παρ' οὗ τις ἂν

285

σκοπῶν τάδ', ὦναξ, |know by|clear, under-
|heart |standable

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐν ἀργοῖς οὐδὲ τοῦτ' ἐπραξάμην.

ἔπεμψα γὰρ Κρέοντος εἰπόντος |double

|escort, guide πάλαι δὲ μὴ |maim θανμάζεται.

ΧΘ. καὶ μὴν τά γ' ἄλλα |blunt, |old ἔπη.
|insensible

290

ΟΙ. τὰ |what kind α; πάντα γὰρ σκοπῶ λόγον.

ΧΘ. θανεῖν ἐλέχθη πρὸς τινων |traveler

ΟΙ. ἤκουσα καγώ. τὸν δ' ἰδόντ' οὐδεὶς ὀράῃ.

ΧΘ. ἀλλ' εἴ τι μὲν δὴ |fear γ' ἔχει μέρος,

τὰς σὰς ἀκούων οὐ μενεῖ |such |bane; ,
|prayer

295

ΟΙ. ᾧ μὴ στι |do, ac-|fear , οὐδ' ἔπος φοβεῖ.
|comply

ΧΘ. ἀλλ' |convict, re- αὐτὸν ἔστιν· οἶδε γὰρ
|fute, test

τὸν θεῖον ἤδη |seer ᾧδ' ἄγουσιν, ᾧ

τάληθες |plant; cling ἀνθρώπων μόνῳ.

ΟΙ. ᾧ πάντα |give out; wield ἴα, διδακτά τε

next best to me?

OEDIPUS. Aye, if there be a third best, tell it too.

CHORUS. My liege, if any man sees eye to eye

With our lord Phoebus, 'tis our prophet, lord

Teiresias; he of all men best might guide

A searcher of this matter to the light.

OEDIPUS. Here too my zeal has nothing lagged, for twice

At Creon's instance have I sent to fetch him,

And long I marvel why he is not here.

CHORUS. I mind me too of rumors long ago—

Mere gossip.

OEDIPUS. Tell them, I would fain know all.

CHORUS. 'Twas said he fell by travelers.

OEDIPUS. So I heard,

But none has seen the man who saw him fall.

CHORUS. Well, if he knows what fear is, he will quail

And flee before the terror of thy curse.

OEDIPUS. Words scare not him who blenches not at deeds.

CHORUS. But here is one to arraign him. Lo, at length

They bring the god-inspired seer in whom

Above all other men is truth inborn.

Enter TEIRESIAS, led by a boy.]

OEDIPUS. Teiresias, seer who comprehendest all,

Lore of the wise and hidden mysteries,

vocabulary

ἄθυμος (ῥ) having low morale ~fume
ἄρρητος unspoken, unspeakable
 ~rhetoric
δεῦρο here, come here!
διόλλυμι (ῥ) be ruined
ἐκπέμπω send forth ~pomp
ἐξευρίσκω find; discover ~eureka
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
μαντικός prophetic
μίασμα -τος (n, 3) taint, defilement
νόσημα -τος (n, 3) disease
νόσος (f) plague, pestilence ~noisome
οἰωνός vulture, large bird, bird of

prey; omen ~avis
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
οὐράνιος heavenly
πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
προστάτης -ου (m, 1) leader, protector
σεαυτοῦ yourself
σύνειμι be with; have sex ~ion
σωτήρ -ος (m) savior
φάτις -τος (f) report, rumor ~fame
φθονέω envy
φοῖβος pure, radiant
φυγὰς -δος (m, 3) exile, refugee
 ~fugitive
ὠφελέω help, be useful

ἄρρητά τ', οὐράνιά τε καὶ χθονοστιβῆ,
 πόλιν μέν, εἰ καὶ μὴ βλέπεις, φρονεῖς δ' ὅμως
 οἷα νόσῳ σύνεστιν· ἥς σὲ προστάτην
 σωτήρρά τ', ὦναξ, μῶνον ἐξευρίσκομεν.

Φοῖβος γάρ, εἴ τι μὴ κλύεις τῶν ἀγγέλων,
 πέμψασιν ἡμῖν ἀντέπεμψεν, ἔκλυσιν
 μόνην ἂν ἐλθεῖν τοῦδε τοῦ νοσήματος,
 εἰ τοὺς κτανόντας Λαῖον μαθόντες εὖ
 κτεínaμεν ἢ γῆς φυγάδας ἐκπεμψαίμεθα.

σύ νυν φθονήσας μήτ' ἀπ' οἰωνῶν φάτιν
 μήτ' εἴ τιν' ἄλλην μαντικῆς ἔχεις ὁδόν,
 ῥῦσαι σεαυτὸν καὶ πόλιν, ῥῦσαι δ' ἐμέ,
 ῥῦσαι δὲ πᾶν μίασμα τοῦ τεθνηκότος.

ἐν σοὶ γὰρ ἐσμέν· ἄνδρα δ' ὠφελεῖν ἀφ' ὧν
 ἔχοι τε καὶ δύναιτο, κάλλιστος πόνων.

305

310

315

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. φεῦ φεῦ, φρονεῖν ὡς δεινὸν ἔνθα μὴ τέλη
 λύῃ φρονοῦντι· ταῦτα γὰρ καλῶς ἐγὼ
 εἰδὼς διώλεσ'. οὐ γὰρ ἂν δεῦρ' ἰκόμην.
 ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. τί δ' ἔστιν; ὡς ἄθυμος εἰσελήλυθας.

|unspoken, ^ἄ, |heavenly τε καὶ χθονοστιβῆ,
|unspeakable

πόλιν μέν, εἰ καὶ μὴ βλέπεις, φρονεῖς δ' |anyway, nevertheless

οἷα |plague|be with; havē sex' |leader,
|protector

|savior τ', ὦναξ, μοῦνον |find; discover

Φοῖβος γάρ, εἴ τι μὴ |hear τῶν ἀγγέλων,

305

πέμψασιν ἡμῖν ἀντέπεμψεν, ἔκλυσιν

μόνην ἂν ἐλθεῖν τοῦδε τοῦ |disease

εἰ τοὺς κτανόντας Λαῖον μαθόντες εὖ

κτείναιμεν ἢ γῆς |exile, |send forth
|refugee

σύ νυν |envy μήτ' ἀπ' |vulture, |report,
|eagle, |rumor

310

μήτ' εἴ τι' ἄλλην |prophetic |omen
|εἶχες ὁδόν,

ῥῦσαι |yourself καὶ πόλιν, ῥῦσαι δ' ἐμέ,

ῥῦσαι δὲ πᾶν |taint, |ῥῦ τεθνηκότος.
|defilement

ἐν σοὶ γὰρ ἐσμέν· ἄνδρα δ' |help, be useful ὦν

ἔχοι τε καὶ δύναιτο, κάλλιστος |toil, suffering

315

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. φεῦ φεῦ, φρονεῖν ὡς δεινὸν ἔνθα μὴ τέλη

λύη φρονοῦντι· ταῦτα γὰρ καλῶς ἐγὼ

εἰδὼς διώλεσ'· οὐ γὰρ ἂν |here, come here!

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. τί δ' ἔστιν; ὡς |having low mòrale ἵς.

High things of heaven and low things of the earth,
Thou knowest, though thy blinded eyes see naught,
What plague infects our city; and we turn
To thee, O seer, our one defense and shield.
The purport of the answer that the God
Returned to us who sought his oracle,
The messengers have doubtless told thee— how
One course alone could rid us of the pest,
To find the murderers of Laius,
And slay them or expel them from the land.
Therefore begrudging neither augury
Nor other divination that is thine,
O save thyself, thy country, and thy king,
Save all from this defilement of blood shed.
On thee we rest. This is man' s highest end,
To others' service all his powers to lend.
TEIRESIAS. Alas, alas, what misery to be wise

*vocabulary***ἀποστερέω** despoil, defraud**ἀποστρέφω** turn back, turn off course

~atrophy

ἀτελεύτητος unaccomplished ~apostle**ἐκφαίνω** bring to light ~photon**ἐλέγχω** shame; try, examine**ἐννοέω** consider**καθοράω** look down ~panorama**μέμφομαι** blame; reject**ὁμός** same ~homoerotic**ὁμοῦ** together**ὁμόω** unite ~homoerotic**ὀργαίνω** anger, provoke, annoy**ὀργή** urge, impulse; anger**πέτρος** rock ~petrified**πότε** when?**προδίδωμι** betray**προσκυνέω** kow tow to; kiss**προσφιλής** beloved**φάτις** -τος (f) report, rumor ~fame**φύσις** -εως (f) nature (of a thing)

~physics

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics**ψέγω** blame, censure

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ἄφες μ' ἐς οἴκους· ῥᾶστα γὰρ τὸ σὸν τε σὺ 320

κἀγὼ διοίσω τοῦμόν, ἣν ἐμοὶ πίθη.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὐτ' ἔννομ' εἶπας οὔτε προσφιλῇ πόλει

τῇδ', ἣ σ' ἔθρεψε, τήνδ' ἀποστερῶν φάτιν.

ΤΕ. ὁρῶ γὰρ οὐδὲ σοὶ τὸ σὸν φώνημ' ἰὸν

πρὸς καιρόν· ὥς οὖν μηδ' ἐγὼ ταῦτόν πάθω— 325

ΟΙ. μὴ πρὸς θεῶν φρονῶν γ' ἀποστραφῆς, ἐπεὶ

πάντες σε προσκυνοῦμεν οἷδ' ἱκτήριοι.

ΤΕ. πάντες γὰρ οὐ φρονεῖτ'· ἐγὼ δ' οὐ μή ποτε

τάμ', ὥς ἂν εἴπω μὴ τὰ σ', ἐκφήνω κακά.

ΟΙ. τί φής; ξυνειδῶς οὐ φράσεις, ἀλλ' ἐννοεῖς 330

ἡμᾶς προδοῦναι καὶ καταφθεῖραι πόλιν;

ΤΕ. ἐγὼ οὐτ' ἐμαυτὸν οὔτε σ' ἀλγυνῶ. τί ταῦτ'

ἄλλως ἐλέγχεις; οὐ γὰρ ἂν πύθοιό μου.

ΟΙ. οὐκ, ὦ κακῶν κάκιστε, καὶ γὰρ ἂν πέτρου

φύσιν σύ γ' ὀργάνειας, ἐξερεῖς ποτε, 335

ἀλλ' ὦδ' ἄτεγκτος κάτελεύτητος φανεῖ;

ΤΕ. ὀργὴν ἐμέμψω τὴν ἐμήν, τὴν σὴν δ' ὁμοῦ

ναίουσαν οὐ κατείδες, ἀλλ' ἐμὲ ψέγεις.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ἄφες μ' ἐς οἴκους· ῥᾶστα γὰρ τὸ σὸν τε σὺ 320

κάγῳ διοίσω τοῦμόν, ἣν ἐμοὶ πίθη.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὐτ' ἔννομ' εἶπας οὔτε |beloved πόλει

τῇδ', ἣ σ' ἔθρεψε, τήνδ' |despoil, |report,
|defraud |rumor

ΤΕ. ὁρῶ γὰρ οὐδὲ σοὶ τὸ σὸν φώνημ' ἰὸν

πρὸς καιρόν· ὥς οὖν μηδ' ἐγὼ ταῦτόν πάθω— 325

ΟΙ. μὴ πρὸς θεῶν φρονῶν γ' |turn back , ἐπεὶ

πάντες σε |kow tow to; kiss ἴδ' ἰκτῆριοι.

ΤΕ. πάντες γὰρ οὐ φρονεῖτ'· ἐγὼ δ' οὐ μὴ ποτε

τάμ', ὥς ἂν εἴπω μὴ τὰ σ', |bring to light ἴ.

ΟΙ. τί φῆς; ξυνειδὼς οὐ φράσεις, ἀλλ' |consider 330

ἡμᾶς |betray καὶ καταφθεῖραι πόλιν;

ΤΕ. ἐγὼ οὐτ' ἐμαυτὸν οὔτε σ' ἀλγυνῶ. τί ταῦτ'

ἄλλως |shame; try, examine ἔνυ πύθοιό μου.

ΟΙ. οὐκ, ὦ κακῶν κάκιστε, καὶ γὰρ ἂν |rock

φύσιν σύ γ' |anger, pro- ἔξερεῖς ποτε, 335
|voke, annoy

ἀλλ' ὦδ' ἄτεγκτος |unaccomplished ῥανεῖ;

ΤΕ. |urge, |blame; τὴν ἐμήν, τὴν σὴν δ' ὁμοῦ
|impulse|reject
|anger
|dwell, οὐ |look down ἰλλ' ἐμὲ |blame,
|found; |censure
|flow

When wisdom profits nothing! This old lore

I had forgotten; else I were not here.

OEDIPUS. What ails thee? Why this melancholy mood?

TEIRESIAS. Let me go home; prevent me not; 'twere best

That thou shouldst bear thy burden and I mine.

OEDIPUS. For shame! no true-born Theban patriot

Would thus withhold the word of prophecy.

TEIRESIAS. Thy words, O king, are wide of the mark, and I

For fear lest I too trip like thee...

OEDIPUS. Oh speak,

Withhold not, I adjure thee, if thou know' st,

Thy knowledge. We are all thy suppliants.

TEIRESIAS. Aye, for ye all are witless, but my voice

Will ne' er reveal my miseries— or thine.

*vocabulary***ἄγριος** wild, savage ~agriculture**ἄναιδής** shameless, ruthless**ἄνόσιος** unholy**ἀτιμάζω** (ἱ) insult, dishonor**ἐμμένω** stay put, be faithful, fixed**καίνω** kill**κήρυγμα** -τος (n, 3) proclamation**κλύω** hear, listen to ~Euclid**ξυνίημι** send together; hear, notice, understand**ὀργή** urge, impulse; anger**ὀργίζω** anger, provoke, annoy**οὐκοῦν** not so?; and so**παρίημι** dangle; pass over, allow ~jet**πέρας** -τος (n, 3) cord; bound, crux, outcome ~prove**περάω** cross over, drive across; sell as a slave ~pierce**ποῦ** where?**προεῖπον** foretell, proclaim, order before**προλέγω** prophecy, proclaim; preselect ~legion**ῥήμα** -τος (n, 3) a thing said**σιγά** silence**σιγάω** (ἱ) be silent**τέχνη** craft, art, plan, contrivance ~technology

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. τίς γὰρ τοιαῦτ' ἂν οὐκ ἂν ὀργίζουτ' ἔπη

κλύων, ἃ νῦν σὺ τήνδ' ἀτιμάζεις πόλιν;

340

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ἥξει γὰρ αὐτά, καὶ ἐγὼ σιγῇ στέγω.

ΟΙ. οὐκοῦν ἄ γ' ἥξει καὶ σὲ χρὴ λέγειν ἐμοί.

ΤΕ. οὐκ ἂν πέρα φράσαιμι. πρὸς τάδ', εἰ θέλεις,

θυμοῦ δι' ὀργῆς ἥτις ἀγριωτάτη.

ΟΙ. καὶ μὴν παρήσω γ' οὐδέν, ὥς ὀργῆς ἔχω,

345

ἅπερ ξυνήμ'. ἴσθι γὰρ δοκῶν ἐμοὶ

καὶ ξυμφυτεῦσαι τοῦργον εἰργάσθαι θ', ὅσον

μὴ χερσὶ καίνων· εἰ δ' ἐτύγχανες βλέπων,

καὶ τοῦργον ἂν σοῦ τοῦτ', ἔφην εἶναι μόνου.

ΤΕ. ἄληθες; ἐννέπω σὲ τῷ κηρύγματι

350

ᾧπερ προεῖπας ἐμμένειν, καὶ φ' ἡμέρας

τῆς νῦν προσανδᾶν μήτε τούσδε μήτ' ἐμέ,

ὥς ὄντι γῆς τῆσδ' ἀνοσίῳ μιάστορι.

ΟΙ. οὕτως ἀναιδῶς ἐξεκίνησας τόδε

τὸ ῥῆμα; καὶ ποῦ τοῦτο φεύξεσθαι δοκεῖς;

355

ΤΕ. πέφευγα· τάληθές γὰρ ἰσχυὸν τρέφω.

ΟΙ. πρὸς τοῦ διδαχθεῖς; οὐ γὰρ ἔκ γε τῆς τέχνης.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. τίς γὰρ τοιαῦτ' ἂν οὐκ ἂν |anger, pro- η
|voke, annoy

|hear , ἃ νῦν σὺ τήνδ' |dishonor πόλιν;

340

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ἤξει γὰρ αὐτά, κὰν ἐγὼ σιγῇ στέγω.

ΟΙ. |not so?; and 'so' ι καὶ σὲ χρὴ λέγειν ἐμοί.

ΤΕ. οὐκ ἂν πέρα φράσαιμι. πρὸς τὰδ', εἰ θέλεις,

θυμοῦ δι' |urge, 'tis |wild, savage .
|impulse;

ΟΙ. καὶ μὴν |anger
|dangle; pass οὐδέν, ὥς |urge, 'χω,
|over, allow |impulse;

345

ἄπερ |send together; hear ἰοκῶν ἐμοί
|anger

καὶ ξυμφυτεῦσαι τοῦργον εἰργάσθαι θ', ὅσον

μὴ χερσὶ |kill εἰ δ' ἐτύγχανες βλέπων,

καὶ τοῦργον ἂν σοῦ τοῦτ', ἔφην εἶναι μόνου.

ΤΕ. ἄληθες; ἐννέπω σὲ τῷ |proclamation

350

ᾧπερ προεῖπας |stay put, be' φ' ἡμέρας
|faithful, fixed

τῆς νῦν προσαιδᾶν μήτε τούσδε μήτ' ἐμέ,

ὥς ὄντι γῆς τῇσδ' |unholy μιάστορι.

ΟΙ. οὕτως |shameless, 'ξεκίνησας τόδε
|ruthless

τὸ |a thing said |where? ἵτο φεύξεσθαι δοκεῖς;

355

ΤΕ. πέφευγα· τὰληθὲς γὰρ ἰσχύον τρέφω.

ΟΙ. πρὸς τοῦ διδαχθεῖς; οὐ γὰρ ἔκ γε τῆς |craft

OEDIPUS. What then, thou knowest, and yet willst not speak!
Wouldst thou betray us and destroy the State?

TEIRESIAS. I will not vex myself nor thee. Why ask
Thus idly what from me thou shalt not learn?

OEDIPUS. Monster! thy silence would incense a flint.
Will nothing loose thy tongue? Can nothing melt thee,
Or shake thy dogged taciturnity?

TEIRESIAS. Thou blam' st my mood and seest not thine own
Wherewith thou art mated; no, thou taxest me.

OEDIPUS. And who could stay his choler when he heard
How insolently thou dost flout the State?

TEIRESIAS. Well, it will come what will, though I be mute.

OEDIPUS. Since come it must, thy duty is to tell me.

TEIRESIAS. I have no more to say; storm as thou wilt,
And give the rein to all thy pent-up rage.

OEDIPUS. Yea, I am wroth, and will not stint my words,
But speak my whole mind. Thou methinks thou art he,
Who planned the crime, aye, and performed it too,
All save the assassination; and if thou

Hadst not been blind, I had been sworn to boot
That thou alone didst do the bloody deed.

TEIRESIAS. Is it so? Then I charge thee to abide
By thine own proclamation; from this day
Speak not to these or me. Thou art the man,
Thou the accursed polluter of this land.

OEDIPUS. Vile slanderer, thou blurtest forth these taunts,
And think' st forsooth as seer to go scot free.

TEIRESIAS. Yea, I am free, strong in the strength of truth.

OEDIPUS. Who was thy teacher? not methinks thy

vocabulary

ἄεθλιος prize ~athlete
ἄέκων unwilling
ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
αἰσχρός shameful
ἄκων javelin; unwilling ~acme
βλάπτω break, make fail
γηθέω rejoice, exult ~joy
δήτα emphatic δῆ
δίς twice
εἴπερ if indeed
κυρέω come upon, come up against;
 obtain
μάτην in vain, randomly
μοῖρα portion, fate; (κατά+) rightly
 ~Moirai
ὁμιλέω (i) associate with ~homily
ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye

ὀνειδίζω upbraid, reproach
ὀργίζω anger, provoke, annoy
οὖς οὔατος (n) ear
ποῖος what kind
προτρέπω prompt, urge, compel; (mp)
 go, flee to ~trophy
σθένος -εος (n, 3) strength
 ~neurasthenia
συνίημι send together; hear, notice,
 understand ~jet
τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps
 ~tachometer
τυφλός blind
φάος φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
 eyes ~photon
φένω bush used to make brooms
φονεύς -ως (m) killer ~offend
χρήζω need ~chresard

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. πρὸς σοῦ· σὺ γάρ μ' ἄκοντα προντρέψω λέγειν.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ποῖον λόγον; λέγ' αὐθις, ὡς μᾶλλον μάθω.

ΤΕ. οὐχὶ ξυνήκας πρόσθεν; ἢ κπειρᾷ λέγων; 360

ΟΙ. οὐχ ὥστε γ' εἰπεῖν γνωστόν· ἀλλ' αὐθις φράσον.

ΤΕ. φονέα σε φημὶ τάνδρὸς οὗ ζητεῖς κυρεῖν.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὔ τι χαίρων δῖς γε πημονὰς ἐρεῖς.

ΤΕ. εἴπω τι δῆτα κάλλ', ἔν' ὀργίζῃ πλέον;

ΟΙ. ὅσον γε χρήξεις· ὡς μάτην εἰρήσεται. 365

ΤΕ. λεληθέναι σε φημὶ σὺν τοῖς φιλτάτοις

αἰσχισθ' ὁμιλοῦντ', οὐδ' ὄραν ἔν' εἰ κακοῦ.

ΟΙ. ἦ καὶ γεγηθὼς ταῦτ' αἰεὶ λέξειν δοκεῖς;

ΤΕ. εἴπερ τί γ' ἐστὶ τῆς ἀληθείας σθένος.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' ἔστι, πλὴν σοί· σοὶ δὲ τοῦτ' οὐκ ἔστ' ἐπεὶ 370

τυφλὸς τά τ' ὦτα τόν τε νοῦν τά τ' ὄμματ' εἰ.

ΤΕ. σὺ δ' ἄθλιός γε ταῦτ' ὀνειδίζων, ἃ σοὶ

οὐδεὶς ὃς οὐχὶ τῶνδ' ὀνειδιεῖ τάχα.

ΟΙ. μῆας τρέφει πρὸς νυκτός, ὥστε μήτ' ἐμὲ

μήτ' ἄλλον, ὅστις φῶς ὀρᾷ, βλάψαι ποτ' ἄν. 375

ΤΕ. οὐ γάρ σε μοῖρα πρὸς γ' ἐμοῦ πεσεῖν, ἐπεὶ

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. πρὸς σοῦ· σὺ γάρ μ' ἄκοντα |prompt, urge, còmpel; (mp) go,
|flee to

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. |what kind, ν; λέγ' αἴθις, ὥς μᾶλλον μάθω.

ΤΕ. οὐχὶ |send together; hear , ἡ κπειρᾶ λέγων; 360

ΟΙ. οὐχ ὥστε γ' εἰπεῖν γνωστόν· ἀλλ' αἴθις φράσον.

ΤΕ. |killer σε φημὶ τάνδρὸς οὗ ζητεῖς |come upon

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὗ τι χαίρων |twice - πημονὰς ἐρεῖς.

ΤΕ. εἶπω τι |emphatic δῆ', ἔν' |anger, prò-ν;
|voke, annoy

ΟΙ. ὅσον γε |need ὥς μάτην εἰρήσεται. 365

ΤΕ. λεληθέναι σε φημὶ σὺν τοῖς φιλτάτοις

|shameful |associate with δ' ὁρᾶν ἔν' εἰ κακοῦ.

ΟΙ. ἡ καὶ |rejoice ταῦτ' ἀεὶ λέξειν δοκεῖς;

ΤΕ. |if indeed γ' ἐστὶ τῆς |truth |strength

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' ἔστι, πλὴν σοί· σοὶ δὲ τοῦτ' οὐκ ἔστ' ἐπεὶ 370

|blind τά τ' |ear τόν τε νοῦν τά τ' |eye εἰ.

ΤΕ. σὺ δ' ἄθλιός γε ταῦτ' |reproach , ἂ σοὶ

οὐδεὶς ὃς οὐχὶ τῶνδ' |reproach |quickly, soon;
|perhaps

ΟΙ. μᾶς τρέφει πρὸς νυκτός, ὥστε μήτ' ἐμὲ

μήτ' ἄλλον, ὅστις φῶς ὀρᾶ, |break, make fail...'. 375

ΤΕ. οὐ γάρ σε |portion, fate γ' ἐμοῦ πεσεῖν, ἐπεὶ

art.

TEIRESIAS. Thou, goading me against my will to speak.

OEDIPUS. What speech? repeat it and resolve my doubt.

TEIRESIAS. Didst miss my sense wouldst thou goad me on?

OEDIPUS. I but half caught thy meaning; say it again.

TEIRESIAS. I say thou art the murderer of the man
Whose murderer thou pursuest.

OEDIPUS. Thou shalt rue it

Twice to repeat so gross a calumny.

TEIRESIAS. Must I say more to aggravate thy rage?

OEDIPUS. Say all thou wilt; it will be but waste of breath.

TEIRESIAS. I say thou livest with thy nearest kin
In infamy, unwitting in thy shame.

OEDIPUS. Think' st thou for aye unscathed to wag thy tongue?

TEIRESIAS. Yea, if the might of truth can aught prevail.

OEDIPUS. With other men, but not with thee, for thou
In ear, wit, eye, in everything art blind.

TEIRESIAS. Poor fool to utter gibes at me which all
Here present will cast back on thee ere long.

OEDIPUS. Offspring of endless Night, thou hast no power
O' er me or any man who sees the sun.

TEIRESIAS. No, for thy weird is not to fall by me.

vocabulary

αἴνιγμα -τος (n, 3) dark saying
ἄστος townsman; citizen
αὐδάω speak, declare, shout
 ~Theravada
βίος life ~biology
βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
δέρκομαι see, watch
διείπον talk over, tell fully
δόλιος tricky, guileful
δωρητός appeasable
ἐγχέω pour into
ἐκβάλλω throw out, fell, let fall
 ~ballistic
ἐνέχω hold inside
ἐνθάδε here, hither
ἐξεύρημα invention, discovery
ἔπειμι lie upon; approach ~ion
ἱμείρω (i) want, want to
καίτοι and yet; and in fact; although
κέρδος -ους (n, 3) advantage, cunning
λάθρα secretly
μαντεία oracular power

μάντις -ος (m) seer ~mantis
μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody
μέλω concern, interest, be one's responsibility
οἰωνός vulture, large bird, bird of prey; omen ~avis
πῆμα -τος (n, 3) woe, bane ~penury
πιστός faithful; trustworthy
πλοῦτος wealth ~plutocrat
ποῦ where?
προφαίνω show; pass: appear
 ~photon
ῥαψῳδός bard
σαφής clear, understandable
τέχνη craft, art, plan, contrivance
 ~technology
τοιόσδε such
τυραννίς -δος (f) tyranny
τυφλός blind
ὑπερφέρω carry over; surpass
ὑπέρχομαι go under
φθόνος malice, envy
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ίκανὸς Ἀπόλλων, ᾧ τὰδ' ἐκπρᾶξαι μέλει.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. Κρέοντος ἢ σοῦ ταῦτα τᾶξευρήματα;

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. Κρέων δέ σοι πῆμ' οὐδέν, ἀλλ' αὐτὸς σὺ σοί.

ΟΙ. ὦ πλοῦτε καὶ τυραννὶ καὶ τέχνη τέχνης

380

ὑπερφέρουσα τῷ πολυζήλῳ βίῳ,

ὅσος παρ' ὑμῖν ὁ φθόνος φυλάσσεται,

εἰ τῆσδέ γ' ἀρχῆς οὐνεχ', ἣν ἐμοὶ πόλις

δωρητόν, οὐκ αἰτητόν, εἰσεχείρισεν,

ταύτης Κρέων ὁ πιστός, οὐξ ἀρχῆς φίλος,

385

λάθρα μ' ὑπελθὼν ἐκβαλεῖν ἰμείρεται,

ὑφεῖς μάγον τοιόνδε μηχανορράφον,

δόλιον ἀγύρτην, ὅστις ἐν τοῖς κέρδεσιν

μόνον δέδορκε, τὴν τέχνην δ' ἔφυ τυφλός.

ἐπεὶ, φέρ' εἰπέ, ποῦ σὺ μάντις εἰ σαφής;

390

πῶς οὐκ, ὅθ' ἡ ῥαψωδὸς ἐνθάδ' ἦν κύων,

ἡὔδας τι τοῖσδ' ἀστοῖσιν ἐκλυτήριον;

καίτοι τό γ' αἴνιγμ' οὐχὶ τοῦπιόντος ἦν

ἀνδρὸς διειπεῖν, ἀλλὰ μαντείας ἔδει·

ἦν οὔτ' ἀπ' οἰωνῶν σὺ προυφάνης ἔχων

ἱκανὸς Ἀπόλλων, ὦ τάδ' ἐκπᾶσαι μέλει.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. Κρέοντος ἢ σοῦ ταῦτα |invention,
|discovery

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. Κρέων δέ σοι |woe, βαῖνέ' ἐγώ, ἀλλ' αὐτὸς σὺ σοί.

ΟΙ. ὦ πλουῦτε καὶ |tyranny καὶ |craft |craft 380

|carry over; surpass ἢ πολυζήλω βίῳ,

ὅσος παρ' ὑμῖν ὁ |malice, ἐνὶ νύξ' ἄσσεται,

εἰ τῇσδ' ἐγὼ ἀρχῆς οὐνεχ', ἣν ἐμοὶ πόλις

|appeasable οὐκ αἰτητόν, εἰσεχείρισεν,

ταύτης Κρέων ὁ |faithful; ἢ ἀρχῆς φίλος, 385
|trustworthy

|secretly μὲν |go under ἐμβαλεῖν |want

ὑφεῖς μάγον |such μηχανορράφον,

|tricky, ἰγύρτην, ὅστις ἐν τοῖς |advantage,
|guileful |cunning

μόνον |see, watch ἣν |craft δ' |pro- |blind
|duce,
ἐπεὶ, φέρ' εἰπέ, |where? |seer |beget;
|clear, under-
|class |standable 390

πῶς οὐκ, ὅθ' ἡ |bard ἐνθάδ' ἣν κύων,

|speak τι τοῖσδ' |townsman; ἢ κλυτήριον;
|citizen

|and ἢ ἔτι; |dark saying ἢ τοῦπιόντος ἣν
|and in fact;

|although ἀνὸρ δὲ διειπεῖν, ἀλλὰ |oracular ἔδει
|power

ἣν οὐτ' ἀπ' |vulture, σὺν |show; pass: appear
|eagle,
|omen

I leave to Apollo what concerns the god.
OEDIPUS. Is this a plot of Creon, or thine own?
TEIRESIAS. Not Creon, thou thyself art thine own bane.
OEDIPUS. O wealth and empery and skill by skill
Outwitted in the battlefield of life,
What spite and envy follow in your train!
See, for this crown the State conferred on me.
A gift, a thing I sought not, for this crown
The trusty Creon, my familiar friend,
Hath lain in wait to oust me and suborned
This mountebank, this juggling charlatan,
This tricksy beggar-priest, for gain alone
Keen-eyed, but in his proper art stone-blind.
Say, sirrah, hast thou ever proved thyself
A prophet? When the riddling Sphinx was here
Why hadst thou no deliverance for this folk?
And yet the riddle was not to be solved
By guess-work but required the prophet' s art;
Wherein thou wast found lacking; neither birds

vocabulary

ἀγῆλατέω drive out one accursed or polluted

ἀντιλέγω contradict, oppose

βλώσχω come, go

γνωτός kinsman; obvious ~gnostic

γοῦν at least then

δέρκομαι see, watch

εἰκάζω liken; conjecture

ἐκβάλλω throw out, fell, let fall

~ballistic

ἐξισόω equalize

ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent

θρόνος seat, chair, throne ~throne

κλαίω weep

κυρέω come upon, come up against; obtain

μαντεία oracular power

μαντεῖον prophetic warning ~mantis

μαντεῖος prophetic

μέτεμι be among, go, follow ~ion

μολίσχω come, go

οἰκεύς -ος (m) house servant

~economics

οἰκέω inhabit ~economics

οἰωνός vulture, large bird, bird of prey; omen ~avis

ὄνειδίζω upbraid, reproach

ὀργή urge, impulse; anger

πέλας near, close

προστάτης -ου (m, 1) leader, protector

σκοπᾶω watch, observe

σκοπέω behold, consider

συντίθημι hearken, mark ~thesis

τυφλός blind

οὔτ' ἐκ θεῶν του γνωτόν· ἀλλ' ἐγὼ μολών,
 ὁ μηδὲν εἰδὼς Οἰδίπους, ἔπαυσά νιν,
 γνώμη κυρήσας οὐδ' ἀπ', οἰωνῶν μαθῶν·
 ὃν δὴ σὺ πειρᾶς ἐκβαλεῖν, δοκῶν θρόνοις
 παραστατήσῃ τοῖς Κρεοντείοις πέλας.
 κλαίων δοκεῖς μοι καὶ σὺ χῶ συνθεῖς τάδε
 ἀγῆλατήσῃ· εἰ δὲ μὴ δόκεις γέρων
 εἶναι, παθὼν ἔγνωσ' ἂν οἶά περ φρονεῖς.

400

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἡμῖν μὲν εἰκάζουσι καὶ τὰ τοῦδ' ἔπη
 ὀργῇ λελέχθαι καὶ τά σ', Οἰδίπους, δοκεῖ,
 δεῖ δ' οὐ τοιούτων, ἀλλ' ὅπως τὰ τοῦ θεοῦ
 μαντεῖ' ἄριστα λύσομεν, τόδε σκοπεῖν.

405

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. εἰ καὶ τυραννεῖς, ἐξισωτέον τὸ γοῦν
 ἴσ' ἀντιλέξαι· τοῦδε γὰρ καὶ γὰρ κρατῶ.
 οὐ γάρ τι σοὶ ζῶ δοῦλος, ἀλλὰ Λοξία·
 ὥστ' οὐ Κρέοντος προστάτου γεγράψομαι.
 λέγω δ', ἐπειδὴ καὶ τυφλὸν μ' ὠνείδισας·
 σὺ καὶ δέδορκας κού' βλέπεις ἔν' εἰ κακοῦ,
 οὐδ' ἔνθα ναίεις, οὐδ' ὅτων οἰκεῖς μέτα.

410

οὗτ' ἐκ θεῶν του |kinsman; ἀλλ' ἐγὼ μολών,
|obvious

ὁ μηδὲν εἰδὼς Οἰδίπους, ἔπανσά νιν,

γνώμη |come upon ἔδ' ἀπ', |vulture, μαθών·
|eagle,

ὦν δὴ σὺ πειρᾶς |throw out, |omen
|fall |fell, |let|chair

παραστατήσιν τοῖς Κρεοντείοις |near,
|close

400

|weep δοκεῖς μοι καὶ σὺ χῶ |hearken, mark

|drive out one ac- δὲ μὴ δόκεις γέρων
|cursed or polluted

εἶναι, παθὼν ἔγνωσ ἂν οἶά περ φρονεῖς.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἡμῖν μὲν |liken; καὶ τὰ τοῦδ' ἔπη
|conjecture

|urge, ἢ λέχθαι καὶ τά σ', Οἰδίπους, δοκεῖ,
|impulse;
|anger

405

δεῖ δ' οὐ τοιούτων, ἀλλ' ὅπως τὰ τοῦ θεοῦ

μαντεῖ ἄριστα λύσομεν, τόδε σκοπεῖν.

ΤΕΙΠΕΣΙΑΣ. εἰ καὶ τυραννεῖς, |equalize τὸ |at least then

ἴσ' |contradict, τοῦδε γὰρ κἀγὼ κρατῶ.
|oppose

οὐ γάρ τι σοὶ ζῶ δοῦλος, ἀλλὰ Λοξία·

410

ὥστ' οὐ Κρέοντος |leader, γεγράψομαι.
|protector

λέγω δ', ἐπειδὴ καὶ |blind μ' |reproach

σὺ καὶ |see, watch κου' βλέπεις ἵν' εἰ κακοῦ,

οὐδ' ἔνθα |dwell, οὐδ' ὅτων οἰκεῖς μέτα.
|found;
|flow

Nor sign from heaven helped thee, but I came,
The simple Oedipus; I stopped her mouth
By mother wit, untaught of auguries.
This is the man whom thou wouldst undermine,
In hope to reign with Creon in my stead.
Methinks that thou and thine abettor soon
Will rue your plot to drive the scapegoat out.
Thank thy grey hairs that thou hast still to learn
What chastisement such arrogance deserves.
CHORUS. To us it seems that both the seer and thou,
O Oedipus, have spoken angry words.
This is no time to wrangle but consult
How best we may fulfill the oracle.
TEIRESIAS. King as thou art, free speech at least is mine
To make reply; in this I am thy peer.
I own no lord but Loxias; him I serve
And ne' er can stand enrolled as Creon's man.
Thus then I answer: since thou hast not spared
To twit me with my blindness— thou hast eyes,
Yet see'st not in what misery thou art fallen,

*vocabulary***ἀνεκτός** bearable**ἄνω** (ἄ) accomplish, pass, waste;

upwards, out to sea

ἀποστρέφω turn back, turn off course

~atrophy

ἄρή bane, harm; prayer**ἄψορρος** returning**βοά** din, a shout**βοεΐη** shield; leather, bovine**βοεύς** βοῦος (m) leather rope ~bovine**εἰσπλέω** sail into**ἐκτρίβω** (ι) rub out**ἐξισόω** equalize**ἐπαισθάνομαι** feel, perceive**εὖπλοια** a good voyage ~float**κλύω** hear, listen to ~Euclid**λιμὴν** -ένος (m, 3) harbor, refuge

~limnic

νέρθε beneath, below**ὄλεθρος** ruin, destruction, death**ποῖος** what kind**πότε** when?**προπηλακίζω** bespatter, reproach**προσδοκάω** expect**σκότος** darkness, shadow ~shadow**σύμφωνος** harmonious**τάχα** quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

ὕμέναιος bridal song ~hymen

ἄρ' οἶσθ' ἀφ' ὧν εἶ; καὶ λέληθας ἐχθρὸς ὦν 415
 τοῖς σοῖσιν αὐτοῦ νέρθε καπὶ γῆς ἄνω,
 καί σ' ἀμφιπλήξῃ μητρός τε καὶ τοῦ σοῦ πατρὸς
 ἐλῆ ποτ' ἐκ γῆς τῆσδε δεινόπους ἀρά,
 βλέποντα νῦν μὲν ὄρθ', ἔπειτα δὲ σκότον.
 βοῆς δὲ τῆς σῆς ποῖος οὐκ ἔσται λιμήν, 420
 ποῖος Κιθαιρῶν οὐχὶ σύμφωνος τάχα,
 ὅταν καταίσθῃ τὸν ὑμέναιον, ὃν δόμοις
 ἄνορμον εἰσέπλευσας, εὐπλοίας τυχών;
 ἄλλων δὲ πλῆθος οὐκ ἐπαισθάνει κακῶν,
 ἃ σ' ἐξισώσει σοί τε καὶ τοῖς σοῖς τέκνοις. 425
 πρὸς ταῦτα καὶ Κρέοντα καὶ τοῦμὸν στόμα
 προπηλάκιζε· σοῦ γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν βροτῶν
 κάκιον ὅστις ἐκτριβήσεταιί ποτε.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἦ ταῦτα δῆτ' ἀνεκτὰ πρὸς τούτου κλύειν;

οὐκ εἰς ὄλεθρον; οὐχὶ θάσσον; οὐ πάλιν 430
 ἄψορρος οἴκων τῶνδ' ἀποστραφεῖς ἄπει;

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. οὐδ' ἰκόμην ἔγωγ' ἄν, εἰ σὺ μὴ κάλεις.

ΟΙ. οὐ γάρ τί σ' ἤδη μῶρα φωνήσονται, ἐπεὶ

ἄρ' οἶσθ' ἀφ' ὧν εἶ; καὶ λέληθας ἐχθρὸς ὦν 415

τοῖς σοῖσιν αὐτοῦ |beneath, ὑπὲρ γῆς ἄνω,
|below
καὶ σ' ἀμφιπλήξῃ μητρός τε καὶ τοῦ σοῦ πατρὸς

ἐλᾷ ποτ' ἐκ γῆς τῆσδε δεινόπους |bane;
|prayer
βλέποντα νῦν μὲν ὄρθ', ἔπειτα δὲ |darkness

βοῆς δὲ τῆς σῆς |what kind ἔσται |harbor, 420
|refuge

|what kind ἁιρῶν οὐχὶ |harmonious |quickly, soon;
|perhaps

ὅταν καταίσθῃ τὸν |bridal song ἦν δόμοις

ἄνορμον εἰσέπλευσας, |a good voyage ἄν;

ἄλλων δὲ πλήθος οὐκ |feel, perceive κακῶν,

ἃ σ' ἐξιώσει σοί τε καὶ τοῖς σοῖς τέκνοις. 425

πρὸς ταῦτα καὶ Κρέοντα καὶ τοῦμόν στοίμα

|bespatter, σοῦ γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν βροτῶν
|reproach

κάκιον ὅστις |rub out ποτε.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἦ ταῦτα δῆτ' |bearable πρὸς τούτου |hear ,

οὐκ εἰς |ruin , οὐχὶ θάσσον; οὐ πάλιν 430

|returning οἴκων τῶνδ' |turn back ἄπει;

ΤΕΙΠΕΣΙΑΣ. οὐδ' ἰκόμην ἔγωγ' ἄν, εἰ σὺ μὴ κάλεις.

ΟΙ. οὐ γάρ τί σ' ἤδη μῶρα φωνήσονται, ἐπεὶ

Nor where thou dwellest nor with whom for mate.
Dost know thy lineage? Nay, thou know' st it not,
And all unwitting art a double foe
To thine own kin, the living and the dead;
Aye and the dogging curse of mother and sire
One day shall drive thee, like a two-edged sword,
Beyond our borders, and the eyes that now
See clear shall henceforward endless night.
Ah whither shall thy bitter cry not reach,
What crag in all Cithaeron but shall then
Reverberate thy wail, when thou hast found
With what a hymeneal thou wast borne
Home, but to no fair haven, on the gale!
Aye, and a flood of ills thou guessest not
Shall set thyself and children in one line.
Flout then both Creon and my words, for none
Of mortals shall be stricken worse than thou.
OEDIPUS. Must I endure this fellow' s insolence?
A murrain on thee! Get thee hence! Begone
Avaunt! and never cross my threshold more.
TEIRESIAS. I ne' er had come hadst thou not bidden me.
OEDIPUS. I know not thou wouldst utter folly, else

vocabulary

ἄγαιμαι wonder, admire; resent,
 begrudge
 ἄγαν very much
 ἀπειλέω vow, threaten, boast
 ἀπειλή boast, threat
 ἀσαφής faint, obscure
 γονεύς -ος (m) parent
 διόλλυμι (ῥ) be ruined
 ἐγγενής native, kindred; innate
 εἴτα then, therefore, next
 ἐκσώζω save from
 ἐκφύω spring from ~physics
 ἐμποδών getting in the way
 ἔμφρων sane, conscious, rational
 ἐνθάδε here, hither
 μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody
 μέλω concern, interest, be one's
 responsibility
 μέτοικος immigrant

ὀνειδίζω upbraid, reproach
 ὅπου where
 οὐκουν certainly not
 οὐνεκα because
 ὀχλέω move, disturb ~wagon
 πάλαι long ago ~paleo
 πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
 πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 ποῖος what kind
 σεύω drive; mid: get going, be eager
 ~asylum
 στέλλω prepare, send, furl ~apostle
 σχολή rest, leisure
 τοίνυν well, then
 τύχη fortune, act of a god
 φόνος killing ~offend
 φύσις -εως (f) nature (of a thing)
 ~physics
 φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

σχολῇ σ' ἂν οἴκους τοὺς ἐμοὺς ἐστειλάμην.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ. ἡμεῖς τοιοῦδ' ἔφυμεν, ὥς μὲν σοὶ δοκεῖ,

435

μῶροι, γονεῦσι δ', οἳ σ' ἔφυσαν, ἔμφρονες.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ποίοισι; μείνον, τίς δέ μ' ἐκφύει βροτῶν;

ΤΕ. ἥδ' ἡμέρα φύσει σε καὶ διαφθερεῖ.

ΟΙ. ὥς πάντ' ἄγαν αἰνικτὰ κάσαφῇ λέγεις.

ΤΕ. οὐκ οὖν σὺ ταῦτ' ἄριστος εὐρίσκειν ἔφυσ;

440

ΟΙ. τοιαῦτ' ὀνειδίζ', οἷς ἔμ' εὐρήσεις μέγαν.

ΤΕ. αὕτη γε μέντοι σ' ἡ τύχη διώλεσεν.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' εἰ πόλιν τήνδ' ἐξέσωσ', οὐ μοι μέλει.

ΤΕ. ἄπειμι τοίνυν· καὶ σύ, παῖ, κόμιζέ με.

ΟΙ. κομιζέτω δῆθ'· ὥς παρὼν σύ γ' ἐμποδὼν

445

ὀχλεῖς, συθείς τ' ἂν οὐκ ἂν ἀλγύνοις πλέον.

ΤΕ. εἰπὼν ἄπειμ' ὦν οὐνεκ', ἦλθον, οὐ τὸ σὸν

δείσας πρόσωπον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσθ' ὅπου μ' ὀλεῖς.

λέγω δέ σοι· τὸν ἄνδρα τοῦτον, ὃν πάλαι

ζητεῖς ἀπειλῶν κἀνακηρύσσων φόνον

450

τὸν Λαΐειον, οὗτός ἐστιν ἐνθάδε,

ξένος λόγῳ μέτοικος, εἴτα δ' ἐγγεινῆς

- rest, σ' ἂν οἴκους τοὺς ἐμούς |prepare, send, furl
leisure
- ΤΕΙΠΕΣΙΑΣ. ἡμεῖς τοιοῖδ' |produce, ... μὲν σοὶ δοκεῖ, 435
|beget; clasp
- μῶροι, |parent δ', οἳ σ' ἔφυσαν, |sane, conscious,
|rational
- ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. |what kind εἶνον, τίς δέ μ' |spring from ὦν;
- ΤΕ. ἥδ' ἡμέρα φύσει σε καὶ διαφθερεῖ.
- ΟΙ. ὥς πάντ' ἄγαν αἰνικτὰ |faint, λέγεις.
|obscure
- ΤΕ. |certainly not. αὐτ' ἄριστος εὕρισκιν |produce, 440
|beget; clasp
- ΟΙ. τοιαῦτ' |reproach ἵς ἔμ' εὐρήσεις μέγαν.
- ΤΕ. αὕτη γε μέντοι σ' ἡ |for- |be ruined
|tune,
- ΟΙ. ἀλλ' εἰ πόλιν τήνδ' ἐξέσας, οὐ μοι μέλει.
|act of
|a god
- ΤΕ. ἄπειμι |well, then. καὶ σύ, παῖ, κόμιζέ με.
- ΟΙ. κομιζέτω δῆθ' ὥς παρὼν σύ γ' |getting in the way 445
- ὄχλεις, |drive; mid- get ἔκ ἂν ἀλγύνοις πλέον.
|going, be eager
- ΤΕ. εἰπὼν ἄπειμ' ὦν |because ἦλθον, οὐ τὸ σὸν
- δείσας πρόσωπον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσθ' |where μ' ὀλεῖς.
- λέγω δέ σοι· τὸν ἄνδρα τοῦτον, ὃν πάλαι
- ζητεῖς ἀπειλῶν κἀνακηρύσσων |killing 450
- τὸν Λαίειον, οὗτός ἐστιν |here, ,
|hither
- ξένος λόγῳ |immigrant |then, ... |native, kin-
|there- |dred; innate
|fore,
|next

Long hadst thou waited to be summoned here.

TEIRESIAS. Such am I— as it seems to thee a fool,

But to the parents who begat thee, wise.

OEDIPUS. What sayest thou—“parents”? Who begat me, speak?

TEIRESIAS. This day shall be thy birth-day, and thy grave.

OEDIPUS. Thou lov’ st to speak in riddles and dark words.

TEIRESIAS. In reading riddles who so skilled as thou?

OEDIPUS. Twit me with that wherein my greatness lies.

TEIRESIAS. And yet this very greatness proved thy bane.

OEDIPUS. No matter if I saved the commonwealth.

TEIRESIAS. ’Tis time I left thee. Come, boy, take me home.

OEDIPUS. Aye, take him quickly, for his presence irks

And lets me; gone, thou canst not plague me more.

TEIRESIAS. I go, but first will tell thee why I came.

Thy frown I dread not, for thou canst not harm me.

Hear then: this man whom thou hast sought to arrest

With threats and warrants this long while, the wretch

Who murdered Laius— that man is here.

He passes for an alien in the land

But soon shall prove a Theban, native

*vocabulary***ἀραρίσκω** join, fit, furnish ~arthritis**ἄρδω** give water**ἄρρητος** unspoken, unspeakable

~rhetoric

ἄρτιος suitable**δελφίς** -νος (m) dolphin**δέρομαι** see, watch**εἰστίθηναι** put in**ἔσθω** eat ~eat**ἡδομαι** be pleased, enjoy ~hedonism**κῆρ** doom, death, fate**λάμπω** shine ~lamp**λογίζομαι** reckon, consider**μαντικός** prophetic**νιφόεις** snowy**νωμάω** give out; wield**ξύνειμι** be with; have sex**πέτρα** rock, cliff, reef ~petrified**πλούσιος** wealth ~plutocrat**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

προδείκνυμι (ὅ) show by example;

foreshadow

πτωχός poor, beggarly ~pudendum**σθεναρός** mighty ~neurasthenia**σκῆπτρον** scepter, staff ~scepter**στεροπή** lightning flash**συμφορά** collecting; accident,

misfortune

τυφλός blind**φάσκω** declare, promise, think ~fame**φονεύς** -ως (m) killer ~offend**φύω** produce, beget; clasp ~physics**ψεύδω** be false, deceive; (mid) to lie

~pseudo-

φανήσεται Θηβαῖος, οὐδ' ἡσθήσεται

τῇ ξυμφορᾷ· τυφλὸς γὰρ ἐκ δεδορκότος

καὶ πτωχὸς ἀντὶ πλουσίου ξένην ἔπι

455

σκήπτρῳ προδεικνὺς γαῖαν ἐμπορεύσεται.

φανήσεται δὲ παισὶ τοῖς αὐτοῦ ξυνών

ἀδελφὸς αὐτὸς καὶ πατήρ, καὶ ἥς ἔφυ

γυναικὸς υἱὸς καὶ πόσις, καὶ τοῦ πατρὸς

ὁμόσπορος τε καὶ φονεὺς. καὶ ταῦτ' ἰὼν

460

εἴσω λογίζου· κἂν λάβῃς ἐψευσμένον,

φάσκειν ἔμ' ἤδη μαντικῇ μηδὲν φρονεῖν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τίς ὄντιν' ἅ θεσπιάπεια Δελφὶς εἶπε πέτρα

ἄρρητ' ἀρρήτων τελέσαντα φοινίαισι χερσίν;

465

ᾧρα νιν ἀελλάδων

ἵππων σθεναρώτερον φυγᾷ πόδα νωμᾶν.

ἔνοπλος γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτὸν ἐπενθρώσκει

πυρὶ καὶ στεροπαῖς ὁ Διὸς γενέτας,

470

δειναὶ δ' ἄμ' ἔπονται

κῆρες ἀναπλάκητοι

ΧΟ. ἔλαμψε γὰρ τοῦ νιφόεντος ἀρτίως φανείσα

φανήσεται Θηβαῖος, οὐδ' ἡσθήσεται

τῇ ξυμφορᾷ· |blind γὰρ ἐκ |see, watch

καὶ |poor, ἀντὶ |wealth ξένην ἔπι
|beggarily

455

|scepter, |show by exam-
|staff |ple; foreshadow

φανήσεται δὲ παισὶ τοῖς αὐτοῦ ξυνών

ἀδελφὸς αὐτὸς καὶ πατήρ, κάξ ἧς |produce,
|beget; clasp

γυναικὸς υἱὸς καὶ |(m) husband, m̃as- πρὸς
|ter; (f) a drink

ὁμόσπορός τε καὶ |killer καὶ ταῦτ' ἰὼν

460

εἴσω |reckon, κἂν λάβῃς |be false, deceive;
|consider |(mid) to lie

|declare, p̃r̃om̃is̃e, |prophetic ,μηδὲν φρονεῖν.
|think

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τίς ὄντιν' ἅ θεσπιέπεια |dolphin εἶπε |rock

ἄρρητ' |unsspoken, λέσαντα φοινίαισι χερσίν;
|unspeakable

465

ῶρα νιν ἀελλάδων

ἵππων |mighty φυγᾶ πόδα |give out; wield

ἔνοπλος γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτὸν ἐπενθρώσκει

πυρὶ καὶ |lightning ὁ Διὸς γενέτας,
|flash

470

δειναὶ δ' ἅμ' ἔπονται

|doom ἀναπλάκητοι

ΧΘ. |shine γὰρ τοῦ |snowy |suitable φανεῖσα

born.

And yet his fortune brings him little joy;
 For blind of seeing, clad in beggar' s weeds,
 For purple robes, and leaning on his staff,
 To a strange land he soon shall grope his way.
 And of the children, inmates of his home,
 He shall be proved the brother and the sire,
 Of her who bare him son and husband both,
 Co-partner, and assassin of his sire.
 Go in and ponder this, and if thou find
 That I have missed the mark, henceforth declare
 I have no wit nor skill in prophecy.

Exeunt TEIRESIAS and OEDIPUS]

CHORUS. (Str. 1)

Who is he by voice immortal named from Pythia' s rocky cell,
 Doer of foul deeds of bloodshed, horrors that no tongue can tell?
 A foot for flight he needs
 Fleeter than storm-swift steeds,
 For on his heels doth follow,
 Armed with the lightnings of his Sire, Apollo.
 Like sleuth-hounds too
 The Fates pursue.(

Ant. 1)

Yea, but now flashed forth the summons from Parnassus' snowy peak,"

vocabulary

ἄγριος wild, savage ~agriculture
 ἄδηλος invisible, unknown
 ἄντρον cave
 ἀπορέω be confused, distressed
 ἀπόρρυμι (ὑ) set forth ~hormone
 ἀποφάσκω speak out
 ἀφοράω look away, at ~panorama
 βασανίζω interrogate, test, torture
 βάσανος (f) trial, torture
 ἐνθάδε here, hither
 ἐπίκουρος ally; mercenary ~cereal
 ἰχνεύω track, hunt
 κρίσις -εως (f) decision, issue
 μαντεῖον prophetic warning ~mantis
 μάντις -ος (m) seer ~mantis
 μέλεος vain, idle, useless

μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody
 νεῖκος -εος (n, 3) quarrel, battle
 ὀπίζομαι revere, heed ~panorama
 ὀπίσω backwards, later in time, after
 (+gen)
 παρόιθε in the presence of
 πετάννυμι (ὑ) spread, spread out
 πέτομαι to fly ~petal
 πέτρα rock, cliff, reef ~petrified
 σοφία skill; wisdom ~sophistry
 σοφός skilled, clever, wise
 συνετός smart; intelligible
 ταράσσω mess things up ~trachea
 ὕλάω bark (a dog)
 φάτις -τος (f) report, rumor ~fame
 φοιτάω go back and forth
 χηρεύω lack, be without ~go

φάμα Παρνασοῦ τὸν ἄδηλον ἄνδρα πάντ' ἰχνεύειν.

φοιτᾷ γὰρ ὑπ' ἀγρίαν

475

ὕλαν ἀνά τ' ἄντρα καὶ

πέτρας ἰσόταυρος

μέλεος μελέω ποδὶ χηρέων,

τὰ μεσόμφαλα γὰς ἀπονοσφίζων

480

μαντεῖα· τὰ δ' αἰὲ

ζῶντα περιποτᾶται.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. δεινὰ μὲν οὖν, δεινὰ ταράσσει σοφὸς οἰωνοθέτας

οὔτε δοκοῦντ' οὔτ' ἀποφάσκονθ'· ὅ τι λέξω δ' ἀπορῶ.

485

πέτομαι δ' ἐλπίσιν οὔτ', ἐνθάδ' ὀρώων οὔτ' ὀπίσω.

τί γὰρ ἢ Λαβδακίδαις

ἢ τῷ Πολύβου νείκος ἔκειτ', οὔτε πάροιθέν ποτ' ἔγωγ'

490

ἔμαθον, πρὸς ὅτου δὴ βασανίζων βασάνῳ

ἐπὶ τὰν ἐπίδαμον φάτιν εἴμ' Οἰδιπόδα Λαβδακίδαις

ἐπίκουρος ἀδήλων θανάτων.

495

ΧΟ. ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν οὖν Ζεὺς ὅ τ' Ἀπόλλων ξυνετοὶ καὶ τὰ βροτῶν

εἰδότες· ἀνδρῶν δ' ὅτι μάντις πλέον ἢ γὰρ φέρεται,

500

κρίσις οὔκ ἔστιν ἀλαθής· σοφία δ' ἂν σοφίαν

φάμα Παρνασοῦ τὸν |invisible, ὕδρα πάντ' |track, hunt
|unknown

|go back and forth|wild,
|savage

475

|bark (a' dog)' |cave καὶ

|rock ἰσόταυρος

μέλεος |vain, idle ἰδὶ |lack, be without

τὰ μεσόμφαλα γᾶς ἀπονοσφίζων

480

|prophetic τὰ δ' ἀεὶ
|warning

ζῶντα περιποτᾶται.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. δεινὰ μὲν οὖν, δεινὰ |mess things|skilled, ...ροθέτας
|up |clever, wise

οὔτε δοκοῦντ' οὔτ' |speak out ὅ τι λέξω δ' ἀπορῶ.

485

πέτομαι δ' ἐλπίσιν οὔτ', |here, ὁρῶν οὔτ' ὀπίσω.
|hither

τί γὰρ ἢ Λαβδακίδαις

ἢ τῷ Πολύβου |quarrel, ἵκειτ', οὔτε πάροιθέν ποτ' ἔγωγ'
|battle

490

ἔμαθον, πρὸς ὅτου δὴ |interrogate, |trial,
|test, torture |torture

ἐπὶ τὰν ἐπίδαμον |report, εἰμ' Οἰδιπόδα Λαβδακίδαις
|rumor

|ally; merce-|invisible, ἱανάτων.
|nary |unknown

495

ΧΘ. ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν οὖν Ζεὺς ὅ τ' Ἀπόλλων |smart; intelligible, ἱροτῶν

εἰδότες· ἀνδρῶν δ' ὅτι |seer πλέον ἢ γὰρ φέρεται,

500

|decision, ἵκ ἔστιν ἀλαθής· σοφία δ' ἂν |skill;
|issue |wisdom

Near and far the undiscovered doer of this murder seek!"

Now like a sullen bull he roves

Through forest brakes and upland groves,

And vainly seeks to fly

The doom that ever nigh

Flits o' er his head,

Still by the avenging Phoebus sped,

The voice divine,

From Earth' s mid shrine.(

Str. 2)

Sore perplexed am I by the words of the master seer.

Are they true, are they false? I know not and bridle my tongue for fear,

Fluttered with vague surmise; nor present nor future is clear.

Quarrel of ancient date or in days still near know I none

Twixt the Labdacidan house and our ruler, Polybus' son.

Proof is there none: how then can I challenge our King' s good name,

How in a blood-feud join for an untracked deed of shame?(

Ant. 2)

All wise are Zeus and Apollo, and nothing is hid from their ken;

They are gods; and in wits a man may surpass his fellow men;

But that a mortal seer knows more than I know— where

Hath this been proven? Or how without sign assured, can I blame

*vocabulary***ἁπλόος** single; simple ~haploid**ἁπλόω** spread, unfold**βάσανος** (f) trial, torture**βιάζω** use force on, violate**βίος** life ~biology**βιόω** live; (mp) make a living ~biology**βλάβη** harm**βλάπτω** break, make fail**εἴτε** if, whenever; either/or**ζημία** loss, penalty ~zeal**κακία** low quality; immorality**κατηγορέω** accuse; indicate**μέμφομαι** blame; reject**ὄνειδος** -εος (n, 3) blame; insult**ὀργή** urge, impulse; anger**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just
~orthogonal**οὐτάω** pierce, wound**ὀφλισκάνω** lose; incur debt**παραμείβω** pass by ~amoeba**πόθος** longing, regret ~bid**πτερόεις** feathered ~pterodactyl**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**συμφορά** collecting; accident,
misfortune**τάχα** quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer**τύραννος** tyrant**φανερός** visible, conspicuous ~photon

παραμείβειεν ἀνὴρ.

ἀλλ' οὐποτ' ἔγωγ' ἄν, πρὶν ἴδοιμ' ὀρθὸν ἔπος, μεμφομένων ἄν
καταφαίην. 505

φανερὰ γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτῷ, πτερόεσσ' ἦλθε κόρα
ποτέ, καὶ σοφὸς ὥφθη βασάνῳ θ' ἀδύπολις τῷ ἀπ' ἐμᾶς 510
φρενὸς οὐποτ' ὀφλήσει κακίαν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἄνδρες πολῖται, δειν' ἔπη πεπυσμένος
κατηγορεῖν μου τὸν τύραννον Οἰδίπουν,
πάρειμ' ἀτλητῶν. εἰ γὰρ ἐν ταῖς ξυμφοραῖς 515
ταῖς νῦν νομίζει πρὸς γ' ἐμοῦ πεπονθέναι
λόγοισιν εἴτ' ἔργοισιν εἰς βλάβην φέρον,
οὔτοι βίου μοι τοῦ μακραίωνος πόθος,
φέροντι τήνδε βάξιν. οὐ γὰρ εἰς ἀπλοῦν
ἢ ζημία μοι τοῦ λόγου τούτου φέρει, 520
ἀλλ' ἐς μέγιστον, εἰ κακὸς μὲν ἐν πόλει,
κακὸς δὲ πρὸς σοῦ καὶ φίλων κεκλήσομαι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀλλ' ἦλθε μὲν δὴ τοῦτο τοῦνειδος τάχ' ἄν
ὀργῇ βιασθὲν μάλλον ἢ γνώμῃ φρενῶν.

ΚΡ. τοῦπος δ' ἐφάνθη, ταῖς ἐμαῖς γνώμας ὅτι

|pass by ἀνήρ.

ἀλλ' οὐποτ' ἔγωγ' ἄν, πρὶν ἵδοιμ' |upright, ~~~, |blame; reject ἄν
|straight;
καταφαίην. |correct, just 505

|visible, ~~~~~, ἐπ' αὐτῷ, |feathered ἦλθε κόρα
|conspicuous

ποτέ, καὶ |skilled, ~~~~~, trial, θ' ἀδύπολις τῷ ἀπ' ἐμᾶς 510
|wise |torture
φρενὸς οὐποτ' ὀφλήσει |low quality;
|immorality

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἄνδρες πολῖται, δεῖν' ἔπη πεπυσμένους

|accuse; μου τὸν |tyrant Οἰδίπουν,
|indicate

πάρεμι' ἀτλητῶν. εἰ γὰρ ἐν ταῖς ξυμφοραῖς 515

ταῖς νῦν νομίζει πρὸς γ' ἐμοῦ πεπονθέναι

λόγοισιν |if, whenever; εἰς βλάβην φέρον,
|either/or

οὔτοι βίου μοι τοῦ μακραίωνος |longing,
|regret

φέροντι τήνδε βάξιν. οὐ γὰρ εἰς ἀπλοῦν

ἦ |loss, ~~~~~, μοι τοῦ λόγου τούτου φέρει, 520
|penalty

ἀλλ' ἐς μέγιστον, εἰ κακὸς μὲν ἐν πόλει,

κακὸς δὲ πρὸς σοῦ καὶ φίλων κεκλήσομαι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀλλ' ἦλθε μὲν δὴ τοῦτο |blame; τάχ' ἄν
|insult

|urge, |βιάζω?: use force on; or ὥμη φρενῶν.
|impuls~βιάζω?: use force on

ΚΡ. τοῦπος δ' ἐφάνθη, ταῖς ἐμαῖς γνώμαις ὅτι
|anger

Him who saved our State when the winged songstress came,
Tested and tried in the light of us all, like gold assayed?
How can I now assent when a crime is on Oedipus laid?
CREON. Friends, countrymen, I learn King Oedipus
Hath laid against me a most grievous charge,
And come to you protesting. If he deems
That I have harmed or injured him in aught
By word or deed in this our present trouble,
I care not to prolong the span of life,
Thus ill-reputed; for the calumny
Hits not a single blot, but blasts my name,
If by the general voice I am denounced

*vocabulary***ἀλέξω** ward off; aid**ἀλίσκομαι** be captured ~helix**ἄνευ** away from; not having; not needing ~Sp. sin**ἀντακούω** hear in turn**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout
~Theravada**γνωρίζω** make known, discover**δειλία** cowardice**δειλιάω** be afraid**δεῦρο** here, come here!**δόλος** trick, bait**δράω** do, accomplish**εἴτα** then, therefore, next**ἐμφανής** visible**ἐναργής** visible, clear ~Argentina**θηράω** hunt, chase**κατηγορέω** accuse; indicate**ληιστής** -οῦς (m, 3) bandit**ληστής** -οῦ (m, 1) bandit**μάντις** -ος (m) seer ~mantis**μωρία** folly**ὄμμα** -τος (n, 3) eye**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just
~orthogonal**ὀρθόω** stand up**περάω** cross over, drive across; sell as
a slave ~pierce**στέγη** roof, ceiling, chamber**τόλμη** courage**τοσόσδε** this much**τυραννίς** -δος (f) tyranny**φονεύς** -ως (m) killer ~offend**ψευδής** lying, false ~pseudo-

πεισθεῖς ὁ μάντις τοὺς λόγους ψευδεῖς λέγοι;

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἡὐδᾶτο μὲν τάδ', οἶδα δ' οὐ γνώμη τίνι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἐξ ὁμμάτων δ' ὀρθῶν τε καὶ ὀρθῆς φρενὸς

κατηγορεῖτο τοῦπίκλημα τοῦτό μου;

ΧΟ. οὐκ οἶδ'. ἂ γὰρ δρώσ', οἱ κρατοῦντες οὐχ ὀρώ.

530

αὐτὸς δ' ὄδ' ἤδη δωμάτων ἔξω περᾶ.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὗτος σύ, πῶς δεῦρ' ἦλθες; ἢ τοσόνδ' ἔχεις

τόλμης πρόσωπον ὥστε τὰς ἐμὰς στέγας

ἵκου, φονεὺς ὧν τοῦδε τάνδρὸς ἐμφανῶς

ληστής τ' ἐναργῆς τῆς ἐμῆς τυραννίδος;

535

φέρ' εἰπὲ πρὸς θεῶν, δειλίαν ἢ μωρίαν

ιδῶν τιν' ἔν μοι ταῦτ' ἐβουλεύσω ποεῖν;

ἢ τοῦργον ὥς οὐ γνωριοῖμί σου τόδε

δόλω προσέρπον ἢ οὐκ ἀλεξοίμην μαθῶν;

ἄρ' οὐχὶ μῶρόν ἐστι τοῦγχείρημά σου,

540

ἄνευ τε πλήθους καὶ φίλων τυραννίδα

θηρᾶν, ὃ πλήθει χρήμασιν θ' ἀλίσκεται;

ΚΡ. οἶσθ' ὥς πόησον; ἀντὶ τῶν εἰρημένων

ἴσ' ἀντάκουσον, κᾶτα κρῖν' αὐτὸς μαθῶν.

πεισθεῖς ὁ |seer τοὺς λόγους |lying, λέγοι;
|false

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |speak μὲν τὰδ', οἶδα δ' οὐ γνώμη τίνι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἐξ |eye δ' ὀρθῶν τε καὶ ἐξ |upright, straight;
|correct, just

|accuse;
|indicate τοὔπικλημα τοὔτό μου;

ΧΟ. οὐκ οἶδ' ἂ γὰρ |do, accomplish οὐντες οὐχ ὀρώ.

530

αὐτὸς δ' ὅδ' ἤδη δωμάτων ἔξω |cross; sell
|as a slave

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οὗτος σύ, πῶς |here, cōmē here! |this much ἄλεις

|courage πρόσωπον ὥστε τὰς ἐμὰς |roof, ceiling,
|chamber

ἵκου, |killer ὦν τοῦδε τάνδρὸς |visible

ληστής τ' |visible, τῆς ἐμῆς |tyranny
|clear

535

φέρ' εἰπὲ πρὸς θεῶν, δειλίαν ἢ |folly

ιδῶν τιν' ἔν μοι ταῦτ' ἐβουλεύσω ποεῖν;

ἢ τοῦργον ὥς οὐ |make known, discover.

|trick, bait ὀσέρπον ἢ οὐκ |ward off; aid...αθών;

ἄρ' οὐχὶ μῶρόν ἐστι τοὔγχείρημά σου,

540

|away from; nōt hav- αἰ φίλων |tyranny
|ing; not needing

|hunt, , ὃ πλῆθει χρήμασιν θ' |be captured,
|chase

ΚΡ. οἶσθ' ὥς πόησον; ἀντὶ τῶν εἰρημένων

ἴσ' |hear in turn , |then, there- αὐτὸς μαθών.
|fore, next

False to the State and false by you my friends.

CHORUS. This taunt, it well may be, was blurted out
In petulance, not spoken advisedly.

CREON. Did any dare pretend that it was I
Prompted the seer to utter a forged charge?

CHORUS. Such things were said; with what intent I know not.

CREON. Were not his wits and vision all astray
When upon me he fixed this monstrous charge?

CHORUS. I know not; to my sovereign's acts I am blind.
But lo, he comes to answer for himself.

Enter OEDIPUS.]

OEDIPUS. Sirrah, what mak'st thou here? Dost thou presume
To approach my doors, thou brazen-faced rogue,
My murderer and the filcher of my crown?
Come, answer this, didst thou detect in me
Some touch of cowardice or witlessness,
That made thee undertake this enterprise?
I seemed forsooth too simple to perceive
The serpent stealing on me in the dark,
Or else too weak to scotch it when I saw.
This thou art witless seeking to possess
Without a following or friends the crown,
A prize that followers and wealth must win.
CREON. Attend me. Thou hast spoken, 'tis my turn

vocabulary

βαρύς heavy ~baritone

βούλευμα -τος (n, 3) resolution,

purpose

δράω do, accomplish

δυσμενής hostile, enemy

ἐννοέω consider

ἔρρω go (neg. connotation) ~serve

κτῆμα -τος (n, 3) possession

μάντις -ος (m) seer ~mantis

μετρέω measure, traverse ~metric

ὅποῖος whatever kind

ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

ὀρθόω stand up

πάθημα -τος (n, 3) suffering, condition

παλαιός old ~paleo

ποῖος what kind

πόσος how many, much, far?

ῥέζω do, make, perform sacrifices

~ergonomics

ῥέω flow ~rheostat

σοφός skilled, clever, wise

συγγενεύς inborn, kin to

συγγενής inborn, kin to

συγγίγνομαι associate with, meet, have

sex ~genus

σύμφημι assent, concede

τέχνη craft, art, plan, contrivance

~technology

τιμάω (ι) honor, exalt

ὑπέχω promise; hold out one's hand;

submit to

χωρίς separately; except, other than

~heir

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. λέγειν σὺ δεινός, μανθάνειν δ' ἐγὼ κακός

545

σοῦ· δυσμενῇ γὰρ καὶ βαρύν σ' ἡϋρηκ' ἐμοί.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. τοῦτ' αὐτὸ νῦν μου πρῶτ' ἄκουσον ὡς ἐρῶ.

ΟΙ. τοῦτ' αὐτὸ μή μοι φράζ', ὅπως οὐκ εἶ κακός.

ΚΡ. εἴ τοι νομίζεις κτῆμα τὴν αὐθαδίαν

εἶναί τι τοῦ νοῦ χωρίς, οὐκ ὀρθῶς φρονεῖς.

550

ΟΙ. εἴ τοι νομίζεις ἄνδρα συγγενῇ κακῶς

δρῶν οὐχ ὑφέξειν τὴν δίκην, οὐκ εὖ φρονεῖς.

ΚΡ. ξύμφημί σοι ταῦτ' ἔνδικ' εἰρήσθαι· τὸ δὲ

πάθῃμ' ὅποῖον φῆς παθεῖν, δίδασκέ με.

ΟΙ. ἔπειθες ἢ οὐκ ἔπειθες, ὥς χρεῖή μ' ἐπὶ

555

τὸν σεμνόμαντιν ἄνδρα πέμψασθαί τινα;

ΚΡ. καὶ νῦν ἔθ' αὐτός εἰμι τῷ βουλευέματι.

ΟΙ. πόσον τιν' ἤδη δῆθ' ὁ Λαῖος χρόνον

ΚΡ. δέδρακε ποῖον ἔργον; οὐ γὰρ ἐννοῶ.

ΟΙ. ἄφαντος ἔρρει θανάσιμῳ χειρώματι;

560

ΚΡ. μακροὶ παλαιοὶ τ' ἂν μετρηθεῖεν χρόνοι.

ΟΙ. τότε οὖν ὁ μάντις οὗτος ἦν ἐν τῇ τέχνῃ;

ΚΡ. σοφός γ' ὁμοίως καὶ ἴσου τιμώμενος.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. λέγειν σὺ δεινός, μανθάνειν δ' ἐγὼ κακός

545

σοῦ· |hostile, γὰρ καὶ |heavy σ' ἠΰρηκ' ἐμοί.
|enemy

ΚΡΕΩΝ. τοῦτ' αὐτὸ νῦν μου πρῶτ' ἄκουσον ὡς ἐρῶ.

ΟΙ. τοῦτ' αὐτὸ μή μοι φράζ', ὅπως οὐκ εἶ κακός.

ΚΡ. εἴ τοι νομίζεις |possession, ' αὐθαδίαν

εἶναί τι τοῦ νοῦ |separately; ' ἐξ- ὧς φρονεῖς.
|cept, other than

550

ΟΙ. εἴ τοι νομίζεις ἄνδρα συγγενῇ κακῶς

|do, accoṃ-|promise τὴν δίκην, οὐκ εὖ φρονεῖς.
|plish

ΚΡ. ζύμφημί σοι ταῦτ' ἔνδικ' εἰρήσθαι· τὸ δὲ

|suffering, |whatever, |kind.. αθεῖν, δίδασκέ με.
|condition

ΟΙ. ἔπειθες ἢ οὐκ ἔπειθες, ὡς χρεῖή μ' ἐπὶ

555

τὸν σεμνόμαντιν ἄνδρα πέμψασθαί τινα;

ΚΡ. καὶ νῦν ἔθ' αὐτός εἰμι τῷ |resolution,
|purpose

ΟΙ. |how many, |much, |far? ' Λάϊος χρόνον

ΚΡ. |do, ac-|what kind, ν; οὐ γὰρ |consider
|comply

ΟΙ. ἄφαντος ἔρρει θανάσιμῳ χειρώματι;

560

ΚΡ. μακροὶ |old τ' ἂν |measure, χρόνοι.
|traverse

ΟΙ. τότε οὖν ὁ |seer οὗτος ἦν ἐν τῇ |craft ,

ΚΡ. |skilled, ' , |μοίως καὶ ἴσου |honor
|clever, wise

To make reply. Then having heard me, judge.

OEDIPUS. Thou art glib of tongue, but I am slow to learn
Of thee; I know too well thy venomous hate.

CREON. First I would argue out this very point.

OEDIPUS. O argue not that thou art not a rogue.

CREON. If thou dost count a virtue stubbornness,
Unschool'd by reason, thou art much astray.

OEDIPUS. If thou dost hold a kinsman may be wronged,
And no pains follow, thou art much to seek.

CREON. Therein thou judgest rightly, but this wrong
That thou allegest— tell me what it is.

OEDIPUS. Didst thou or didst thou not advise that I
Should call the priest?

CREON. Yes, and I stand to it.

OEDIPUS. Tell me how long is it since Laius...

CREON. Since Laius...? I follow not thy drift.

OEDIPUS. By violent hands was spirited away.

CREON. In the dim past, a many years ago.

OEDIPUS. Did the same prophet then pursue his craft?

CREON. Yes, skilled as now and in no less repute.

*vocabulary***ἄδελφή** sister**ἁλίσκομαι** be captured ~helix**ἄρνεομαι** deny, refuse, repudiate**ἄρνησις** denial**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy**δικαίόω** demand/make justice**ἐκμανθάνω** know by heart**ἔνειμι** be in ~ion**ἐνταῦθα** there, here**ἰσώω** (ι) liken to**νέμω** to allot, to pasture ~nemesis**οὐδαμοῦ** nowhere**οὐκουν** certainly not**πέλας** near, close**ποῖος** what kind**σιγάω** (ι) be silent**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**συνέρχομαι** come together**τοσόσδε** this much**φονεύς** -ως (m) killer ~offend

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἐμνήσατ' οὖν ἐμοῦ τι τῷ τότ' ἐν χρόνῳ;

ΚΡΕΩΝ. οὐκ οἶμαι ἐμοῦ γ' ἐστῶτος οὐδαμοῦ πέλας.

565

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔρευναν τοῦ κτανόντος ἔσχετε;

ΚΡ. παρέσχομεν, πῶς δ' οὐχί; κοῦκ ἠκούσαμεν.

ΟΙ. πῶς οὖν τόθ' οὗτος ὁ σοφὸς οὐκ ἤνθα τάδε;

ΚΡ. οὐκ οἶδ'. ἐφ' οἷς γὰρ μὴ φρονῶ σιγᾶν φιλῶ.

ΟΙ. τοσόνδε γ' οἶσθα καὶ λέγοις ἂν εὖ φρονῶν.

570

ΚΡ. ποῖον τόδ'; εἰ γὰρ οἶδά γ', οὐκ ἄρνήσομαι.

ΟΙ. ὀθύνεκέ, εἰ μὴ σοὶ ξυνῆλθε, τάσδ' ἐμὰς

οὐκ ἂν ποτ' εἶπε Λαΐου διαφθοράς.

ΚΡ. εἰ μὲν λέγει τάδ', αὐτὸς οἶσθ'. ἐγὼ δὲ σοῦ

μαθεῖν δικαίῳ ταῦθ' ἄπερ κάμοῦ σὺ νῦν.

575

ΟΙ. ἐκμάνθαν'. σὺ γὰρ δὴ φονεὺς ἀλώσομαι.

ΚΡ. τί δητ'; ἀδελφὴν τὴν ἐμὴν γήμας ἔχεις;

ΟΙ. ἄρνησις οὐκ ἔνεστιν ὧν ἀνιστορεῖς.

ΚΡ. ἄρχεις δ' ἐκείνη ταῦτ' ἄγχι ἴσον νέμων;

ΟΙ. ἂν ἦ θέλουσα πάντ' ἐμοῦ κομίζεται.

580

ΚΡ. οὐκ οἶμαι ἰσοῦμαι σφῶν ἐγὼ δυοῖν τρίτος;

ΟΙ. ἐνταῦθα γὰρ δὴ καὶ κακὸς φαίνει φίλος.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἐμνήσατ' οὖν ἐμοῦ τι τῷ τότ' ἐν χρόνῳ;

ΚΡΕΩΝ. |certainly ḡot| γ' ἐστῶτος |nowhere |near,
|close 565

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔρουναν τοῦ κτανόντος ἔσχετε;

ΚΡ. παρέσχομεν, πῶς δ' οὐχί; κοῦκ ἠκούσαμεν.

ΟΙ. πῶς οὖν τόθ' οὗτος ὁ |skilled, ... |speak ᾔαδε;
|clever, wise

ΚΡ. οὐκ οἶδ'· ἐφ' οἷς γὰρ μὴ φρονῶ |be silent| λῶ.

ΟΙ. |this much, ' οἶσθα καὶ λέγοις ἂν εὖ φρονῶν. 570

ΚΡ. |what kindⁱⁱ; εἰ γὰρ οἶδά γ', οὐκ |deny, refuse

ΟΙ. ὀθύνεκε', εἰ μὴ σοὶ |come together ὅ' ἐμάς

οὐκ ἂν ποτ' εἶπε Λαῖου διαφθοράς.

ΚΡ. εἰ μὲν λέγει τάδ', αὐτὸς οἶσθ'· ἐγὼ δὲ σοῦ

μαθεῖν |demand/make justice ἑαμοῦ σὺν νῦν. 575

ΟΙ. |know by heart γὰρ δὴ |killer |be captured

ΚΡ. τί δῆτ'; |sister τὴν ἐμὴν |marry, take-s;
|as a lover

ΟΙ. |denial οὐκ |be in ὧν ἀνιστορεῖς.

ΚΡ. ἄρχεις δ' ἐκείνῃ ταῦτ' αἰς ἴσον |distribute

ΟΙ. ἂν ἡ θέλουσα πάντ' ἐμοῦ κομίζεται. 580

ΚΡ. |certainly|liken to σφῶν ἐγὼ δυοῖν τρίτος;
|not

ΟΙ. |there, here ἱρ δὴ καὶ κακὸς φαίνει φίλος.

OEDIPUS. Did he at that time ever glance at me?

CREON. Not to my knowledge, not when I was by.

OEDIPUS. But was no search and inquisition made?

CREON. Surely full quest was made, but nothing learnt.

OEDIPUS. Why failed the seer to tell his story then?

CREON. I know not, and not knowing hold my tongue.

OEDIPUS. This much thou knowest and canst surely tell.

CREON. What' s mean' st thou? All I know I will declare.

OEDIPUS. But for thy prompting never had the seer
Ascribed to me the death of Laius.

CREON. If so he thou knowest best; but I

Would put thee to the question in my turn.

OEDIPUS. Question and prove me murderer if thou canst.

CREON. Then let me ask thee, didst thou wed my sister?

OEDIPUS. A fact so plain I cannot well deny.

CREON. And as thy consort queen she shares the throne?

OEDIPUS. I grant her freely all her heart desires.

CREON. And with you twain I share the triple rule?

OEDIPUS. Yea, and it is that proves thee a false friend.

vocabulary

ἀέκων unwilling
ἄκων javelin; unwilling ~acme
ἄλυπος (ῥ) painless
ἄνευ away from; not having; not
 needing ~Sp. sin
ἀπατάω to lie, trick ~apatosaurus
ἀσπάζομαι greet, salute
δράω do, accomplish
ἐκκαλέω call forth ~gallo
ἐνιμι be in ~ion
ἐνταῦθα there, here
ἐπίσταμαι know how, understand
 ~station
ἐραστής -οῦ (m, 1) lover, fan
εὕδω sleep, lie down, rest
ἐφίστημι set; (mp) come/be near,
 direct, stop ~station

ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism
ἱμείρω (ι) want, want to
κέρδος -ους (n, 3) advantage, cunning
κράτος strength, power; victory
 ~democracy
κυρέω come upon, come up against;
 obtain
κυρόω (ῥ) confirm, sanction
οὐπω no longer
σαυτοῦ yourself
σκέπτομαι look, look at, watch
 ~skeptic
σωφρονέω be sane, moderate
τυραννίς -δος (f) tyranny
τύραννος tyrant
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics
χρήζω need ~chresard

ΚΡΕΩΝ. οὐκ, εἰ διδοίης γ' ὥς ἐγὼ σαντῶ λόγον.

σκέψαι δὲ τοῦτο πρῶτον, εἴ τι' ἂν δοκεῖς

ἄρχειν ἐλέσθαι ξὺν φόβοισι μᾶλλον ἢ

585

ἄτρεστον εὖδοντ', εἰ τά γ' αὖθ' ἔξει κράτη.

ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν οὔτ' αὐτὸς ἰμείρων ἔφυν

τύραννος εἶναι μᾶλλον ἢ τύραννα δρᾶν,

οὔτ' ἄλλος ὅστις σωφρονεῖν ἐπίσταται.

νῦν μὲν γὰρ ἐκ σοῦ πάντ' ἄνευ φόβου φέρω,

590

εἰ δ' αὐτὸς ἦρχον, πολλὰ κἂν ἄκων ἔδρων.

πῶς δῆτ' ἐμοὶ τυραννὶς ἡδίων ἔχειν

ἀρχῆς ἀλύπου καὶ δυναστείας ἔφν;

οὔπω τοσοῦτον ἠπατημένος κυρῶ

ὥστ' ἄλλα χρήζειν ἢ τὰ σὺν κέρδει καλά.

595

νῦν πᾶσι χαίρω, νῦν με πᾶς ἀσπάζεται,

νῦν οἱ σέθεν χρήζοντες ἐκκαλοῦσί με·

τὸ γὰρ τυχεῖν αὐτοῖσι πᾶν ἐνταῦθ' ἔνι.

πῶς δῆτ' ἐγὼ κεῖν' ἂν λάβοιμ' ἀφείς τάδε;

οὐκ ἂν γένοιτο νοῦς κακὸς καλῶς φρονῶν.

600

ἀλλ' οὔτ' ἐραστὴς τῆσδε τῆς γνώμης ἔφυν

ΚΡΕΩΝ. οὐκ, εἰ διδοίης γ' ὡς ἐγὼ |yourself ὄγον.

|look, look at, watch ..ρῶτον, εἴ τιν' ἂν δοκεῖς

ἄρχειν ἐλέσθαι ξὺν φόβοισι μᾶλλον ἢ 585

ἄτρεστον |lie , εἰ τά γ' αὐθ' ἔξει |strength, power; vic-
ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν οὐτ' αὐτὸς |want |produce, tory
|tyrant εἶναι μᾶλλον ἢ τύραννα |do, accomplish
|beget; clasp

οὐτ' ἄλλος ὅστις |be sane, moderate αται.

νῦν μὲν γὰρ ἐκ σοῦ πάντ' |away from; not hav- 590
|ing; not needing

εἰ δ' αὐτὸς ἦρχον, πολλὰ κἂν ἄκων |do, accomplish

πῶς δῆτ' ἐμοὶ |tyranny |sweet ἔχειν

ἀρχῆς |painless καὶ δυναστείας |produce, beget; clasp

|no longer τοῦτον |to lie, trick κυρῶ

ὥστ' ἄλλα |need ἢ τὰ σὺν |advantage, ῥά. 595
|cunning

νῦν πᾶσι χαίρω, νῦν με πᾶς |greet, salute ,

νῦν οἱ σέθεν |need |call forth με·

τὸ γὰρ τυχεῖν αὐτοῖσι πᾶν |there, |be in
|here

πῶς δῆτ' ἐγὼ κεῖν' ἂν λάβοιμ' ἀφείς τάδε;

οὐκ ἂν γένοιτο νοῦς κακὸς καλῶς φρονῶν. 600

ἀλλ' οὐτ' |lover, fan τῇσδε τῆς γνώμης |produce, beget; clasp

CREON. Not so, if thou wouldst reason with thyself,
As I with myself. First, I bid thee think,
Would any mortal choose a troubled reign
Of terrors rather than secure repose,
If the same power were given him? As for me,
I have no natural craving for the name
Of king, preferring to do kingly deeds,
And so thinks every sober-minded man.
Now all my needs are satisfied through thee,
And I have naught to fear; but were I king,
My acts would oft run counter to my will.
How could a title then have charms for me
Above the sweets of boundless influence?
I am not so infatuate as to grasp
The shadow when I hold the substance fast.
Now all men cry me Godspeed! wish me well,
And every suitor seeks to gain my ear,
If he would hope to win a grace from thee.
Why should I leave the better, choose the worse?
That were sheer madness, and I am not mad.
No such ambition ever tempted me,
Nor would I have a share in such intrigue.

*vocabulary***ἀγγέλλω** carry a message, announce

~angel

ἄδηλος invisible, unknown**αἰτιάομαι** blame ~etiology**αἰτίζω** ask for, beg ~etiology**ἀσφαλής** safe, easy, steady, careful**βίος** life; sustenance, chattels

~biology

δείκνυμι (ō) show, point out**διπλός** double, overlapping**δράω** do, accomplish**ἐκβάλλω** throw out, fell, let fall

~ballistic

ἔλεγχος (n) shame, disgrace; (m)

refutation

ἐλέγχω shame; try, examine**ἐπιβουλεύω** plot, plan, harm

~volunteer

εὐλαβέομαι be careful, beware**ἡσυχάζω** be quiet, rest**κοινός** communal, ordinary**λάθρα** secretly**μάτην** in vain, randomly**προσμένω** await, cleave to**σαφής** clear, understandable**χρηστός** useful; brave, worthy**χωρέω** withdraw, give way to (+dat)

~heir

χωρίς separately; except, other than

~heir

ψῆφος (f) pebble, vote, decree, sentence

οὐτ' ἂν μετ' ἄλλου δρῶντος ἂν τλαίην ποτέ.

καὶ τῶνδ' ἔλεγχον τοῦτο μὲν Πυθώδ' ἰὼν

πεύθου τὰ χρησθέντ' εἰ σαφῶς ἤγγειλά σοι·

τοῦτ' ἄλλ', ἐάν με τῷ τερασκόπῳ λάβῃς

605

κοινῇ τι βουλεύσαντα, μή μ' ἀπλῇ κτάνης

ψήφῳ, διπλῇ δέ, τῇ τ' ἐμῇ καὶ σῇ, λαβών·

γνώμη δ' ἀδήλῳ μή με χωρὶς αἰτιῶ.

οὐ γὰρ δίκαιον οὔτε τοὺς κακοὺς μάτην

χρηστοὺς νομίζειν οὔτε τοὺς χρηστοὺς κακοὺς.

610

φίλον γὰρ ἐσθλὸν ἐκβαλεῖν ἴσον λέγω

καὶ τὸν παρ' αὐτῷ βίοντον, ὃν πλεῖστον, φιλεῖ.

ἀλλ' ἐν χρόνῳ γνώσει τάδ' ἀσφαλῶς, ἐπεὶ

χρόνος δίκαιον ἄνδρα δείκνυσιν μόνος·

κακὸν δὲ κἄν ἐν ἡμέρᾳ γνοίης μιᾷ.

615

ΧΟΡΟΣ. καλῶς ἔλεξεν εὐλαβουμένῳ πεσεῖν,

ἄναξ· φρονεῖν γὰρ οἱ ταχεῖς οὐκ ἀσφαλεῖς.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὅταν ταχύς τις οὐπιβουλεύων λάθρᾳ

χωρῇ, ταχὺν δεῖ καμὲ βουλεύειν πάλιν·

εἰ δ' ἡσυχάζων προσμενῶ, τὰ τοῦδε μὲν

οὐτ' ἂν μετ' ἄλλου |do, accomplish |αἰήν ποτέ.

καὶ τῶνδ' ἔλεγχον τοῦτο μὲν Πυθώδ' ἰὼν

πεύθου τὰ χρησθέντ' εἰ |clear, |carry a message,
|under- |announce
τοῦτ' ἄλλ', ἐάν με τῷ πεύθω |stand-
|able |κόπω λάβης

605

κοινῇ τι βουλευσάντα, μή μ' ἀπλῇ κτάνης

|pebble, vote, |de-έ, τῇ τ' ἐμῇ καὶ σῇ, λαβών·
|cree, sentence

γνώμη δ' |invisible, |ή με |separately; |ex-
|unknown |cept, other than

οὐ γὰρ δίκαιον οὔτε τοὺς κακοὺς μάτην

|useful; brave, μίζειν οὔτε τοὺς |useful; brave, |κούς.
|worthy |worthy

610

φίλον γὰρ ἐσθλὸν |throw out, |σον λέγω
|fell, let fall

καὶ τὸν παρ' αὐτῷ |life; sustenance |ἴστον, φιλεῖ.

ἀλλ' ἐν χρόνῳ γνώσει τάδ' ἀσφαλῶς, ἐπεὶ

χρόνος δίκαιον ἄνδρα |show |μόνος·

κακὸν δὲ κἂν ἐν ἡμέρᾳ γνοίης μιᾷ.

615

ΧΟΡΟΣ. καλῶς ἔλεξεν |be careful, beware |τεῖν,

ἄναξ· φρονεῖν γὰρ οἱ ταχεῖς οὐκ |safe, |easy,
|steady, careful

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὅταν ταχύς τις |plot, plan, harm |secretly

|withdraw, give |δεῖ καμὲ βουλεύειν πάλιν·
|way to (+dat)

εἰ δ' |be quiet, rest |await, |τὰ τοῦδε μὲν
|cleave to

And if thou doubt me, first to Delphi go,
There ascertain if my report was true
Of the god' s answer; next investigate
If with the seer I plotted or conspired,
And if it prove so, sentence me to death,
Not by thy voice alone, but mine and thine.
But O condemn me not, without appeal,
On bare suspicion. 'Tis not right to adjudge
Bad men at random good, or good men bad.
I would as lief a man should cast away
The thing he counts most precious, his own life,
As spurn a true friend. Thou wilt learn in time
The truth, for time alone reveals the just;
A villain is detected in a day.
CHORUS. To one who walketh warily his words
Commend themselves; swift counsels are not sure.
OEDIPUS. When with swift strides the stealthy plotter stalks
I must be quick too with my counterplot.
To wait his onset passively, for him

*vocabulary***ἄβουλος** ill-advised**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**γλῶσσα** tongue, language ~glossary**γοῦν** at least then**δήτα** emphatic δῆ**ἐπαίρω** lift, raise ~heresy**ἐπαισχύνομαι** be ashamed of**ἐπαράομαι** curse**ἥκιστος** least; above all**καίριος** deadly**κινέω** (i) set in motion, move, remove
~kinetic**μέτειμι** be among, go, follow ~ion**νεῖκος** -εος (n, 3) quarrel, battle**νοσέω** be sick, be mad, suffer**ξυνίημι** send together; hear, notice,

understand

ῥμαιμος related by blood**ῥμως** anyway, nevertheless**οὐτάω** pierce, wound**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

προδείκνυμι (ō) show by example;
foreshadow**στάσις** -εως (f) placing; faction**στέγη** roof, ceiling, chamber**στείχω** go, march ~stair**ταλαίπωρος** suffering, miserable**ὑποείκω** yield, withdraw**φθονέω** envy**φύω** produce, beget; clasp ~physics**χρήζω** need ~chresard

πεπραγμέν' ἔσται, τὰμὰ δ' ἡμαρτημένα.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. τί δῆτα χρήζεις; ἦ με γῆς ἔξω βαλεῖν;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἥκιστα· θνήσκειν, οὐ φυγεῖν σε βούλομαι.

ὥς ἂν προδείξῃς οἷόν ἐστι τὸ φθονεῖν.

ΚΡ. ὥς οὐχ ὑπεῖξων οὐδὲ πιστεύσων λέγεις; ΟΙ.

625

ΚΡ. οὐ γὰρ φρονοῦντά σ' εὖ βλέπω. ΟΙ. τὸ γοῦν ἐμόν.

ΚΡ. ἀλλ' ἐξ ἴσου δεῖ κάμόν. ΟΙ. ἀλλ' ἔφυς κακός.

ΚΡ. εἰ δὲ ξυνίης μηδέν; ΟΙ. ἀρκτέον γ' ὅμως.

ΚΡ. οὗτοι κακῶς γ' ἄρχοντος. ΟΙ. ὦ πόλις πόλις.

ΚΡ. κάμοι πόλεως μέτεστιν, οὐχί σοι μόνῳ.

630

ΧΟΡΟΣ. παύσασθ', ἄνακτες· καιρίαν δ' ὑμῖν ὀρώ

τήνδ' ἐκ δόμων στείχουσιν Ἰοκάστην, μεθ' ἧς

τὸ νῦν παρεστὸς νεῖκος εὖ θέσθαι χρεών.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. τί τὴν ἄβουλον, ὦ ταλαίπωροι, στάσιν

γλώσσης ἐπήρασθ' οὐδ' ἐπαισχύνεσθε γῆς

635

οὕτω νοσοῦσης ἴδια κινοῦντες κακά;

οὐκ εἰ σύ τ' οἴκους σύ τε, Κρέων, κατὰ στέγας,

καὶ μὴ τὸ μηδὲν ἄλγος εἰς μέγ' οἴσετε;

ΚΡ. ὅμαιμε, δεινὰ μ' Οἰδίπους ὁ σὸς πόσις

πεπραγμέν' ἔσται, τὰμὰ δ' ἡμαρτημένα.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. τί <sup>em-
phatic</sup> need , ἦ με γῆς ἕξω βαλεῖν;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. <sup>δῆ-
least;
above</sup> θνήσκειν, οὐ φυγεῖν σε βούλομαι.

ὥς ἂν <sup>all
show by exam-
ple; foreshadow</sup> ἐστι τὸ ^{envy}

ΚΡ. ὥς οὐχ ὑπέιζων οὐδὲ πιστεύσων λέγεις; ΟΙ.

625

ΚΡ. οὐ γὰρ φρονοῦντά σ' εὖ βλέπω. ΟΙ. τὸ ^{at least} then

ΚΡ. ἀλλ' ἐξ ἴσου δεῖ κάμόν. ΟΙ. ἀλλ' <sup>produce, ...
beget; clasp</sup>

ΚΡ. εἰ δὲ ^{send together; hear} ἱρκτέον γ' ^{anyway, nevertheless}

ΚΡ. οὔτοι κακῶς γ' ἄρχοντος. ΟΙ. ὦ πόλις πόλις.

ΚΡ. κάμοι πόλεως ^{be among}, οὐχί σοι μόνῳ.

630

ΧΟΡΟΣ. παύσασθ', ἄνακτες· ^{deadly} δ' ὑμῖν ὀρώ

τήνδ' ἐκ δόμων ^{go, march} Ἰοκάστην, μεθ' ἧς

τὸ νῦν παρεστὸς <sup>quarrel,
battle</sup> ὑ θέσθαι χρεών.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. τί τὴν ^{ill-advised} δ' <sup>suffering,
miserable</sup> , <sup>placing;
faction</sup>

<sup>tongue,
language</sup> ἐπήρασθ' οὐδ' <sup>ἐπαισχύνομαι?:
ἐπαισχύνομαι?: be ashamed of</sup> , ἦ be ashamed of; or

οὔτω <sup>be sick, be mad,
suffer</sup> <sup>move,
remove</sup> κακά;

οὐκ εἰ σύ τ' οἴκους σύ τε, Κρέων, κατὰ <sup>roof, ceiling,
chamber</sup>

καὶ μὴ τὸ μηδὲν ^{woe} εἰς μέγ' οἴσετε;

ΚΡ. ^{related by blood,} Ὀιδίπους ὁ σὸς <sup>(m) husband, mas-
ter; (f) a drink</sup>

Is sure success, for me assured defeat.

CREON. What then's thy will? To banish me the land?

OEDIPUS. I would not have thee banished, no, but dead,
That men may mark the wages envy reaps.

CREON. I see thou wilt not yield, nor credit me.

OEDIPUS. None but a fool would credit such as thou.

CREON. Thou art not wise.

OEDIPUS. Wise for myself at least.

CREON. Why not for me too?

OEDIPUS. Why for such a knave?

CREON. Suppose thou lackest sense.

OEDIPUS. Yet kings must rule.

CREON. Not if they rule ill.

OEDIPUS. Oh my Thebans, hear him!

CREON. Thy Thebans? am not I a Theban too?

CHORUS. Cease, princes; lo there comes, and none too soon,

Jocasta from the palace. Who so fit

As peacemaker to reconcile your feud?

Enter JOCASTA.]

JOCASTA. Misguided princes, why have ye upraised

This wordy wrangle? Are ye not ashamed,

While the whole land lies stricken, thus to voice

Your private injuries? Go in, my lord;

Go home, my brother, and forbear to make

A public scandal of a petty grief.

vocabulary

ἄθεος godless; by the gods
αἰδέομαι respect, be ashamed
ἄπωθέω repel, reject
ἄτιμος (ι) without honor
ἀφανής unseen, occult, obscure
δικαιόω demand/make justice
δράω do, accomplish
ἐναγής cursed, polluted
ἐπαιτιάομαι accuse
ἐπίσταμαι know how, understand
 ~station
ἐφίστημι set; (mp) come/be near,
 direct, stop ~station
καταιδέομαι feel shame, reverence

λίσσομαι beg, beseech ~litany
μῆποτε absolutely never
νήπιος foolish, childish, naive,
 credulous
ὄλεθρος ruin, destruction, death
ὀνίνημι help, please, be available
ὄρκος what is sworn by, witness, oath
 ~orc
πρόμος foremost fighter, champion
πύματος last, hindmost
σύμφημι assent, concede
τέχνη craft, art, plan, contrivance
 ~technology
φυγή flight, means of escape ~fugitive
χρήζω need ~chresard

δρᾶσαι δίκαιοι δυοῖν ἀποκρίνας κακοῖν

640

ἢ γῆς ἀπῶσαι πατρίδος ἢ κτεῖναι λαβών.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ξύμφημι· δρῶντα γάρ νιν, ὦ γύναι, κακῶς

εἴληφα τοῦμόν σῶμα σὺν τέχνῃ κακῇ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. μή νυν ὀναίμην, ἀλλ' ἀραῖος, εἴ σέ τι

δέδρακ', ὀλοίμην, ὦν ἐπαιτιᾶ με δρᾶν.

645

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ὦ πρὸς θεῶν πίστευσον, Οἰδίπους, τάδε,

μάλιστα μὲν τόνδ' ὄρκον αἰδεσθεῖς θεῶν,

ἔπειτα καμὲ τούσδε θ' οἷ πάρεισί σοι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πιθοῦ θελήσας φρονήσας τ', ἄναξ, λίσσομαι.

ΟΙ. τί σοι θέλεις δῆτ' εἰκάθω;

650

ΧΘ. τὸν οὔτε πρὶν νήπιον νῦν τ' ἐν ὄρκῳ μέγαν καταίδεσαι.

ΟΙ. οἴσθ' οὖν ἂ χρήξεις; ΧΘ. οἶδα. ΟΙ. φράζε δὴ τί φῆς.

ΧΘ. τὸν ἐναγῇ φίλον μήποτ' ἐν αἰτία

655

σὺν ἀφανεί λόγῳ σ' ἄτιμον βαλεῖν.

ΟΙ. εὖ νυν ἐπίστω, ταῦθ' ὅταν ζητῆς, ἐμοὶ

ζητῶν ὄλεθρον ἢ φυγὴν ἐκ τῆσδε γῆς.

ΧΘ. οὐ τὸν πάντων θεῶν θεὸν πρόμον

660

Ἄλιον· ἐπεὶ ἄθεος ἄφιλος ὅ τι πύματον

|do, ac-|demand/make justice , ἵνας κακοῖν
|accomplish 640

ἢ γῆς |repel, πατρίδος ἢ κτεῖναι λαβών.
|reject

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ξύμφημι· |do, accomplish. ν, ὦ γύναι, κακῶς

εἴληφα τοῦμόν σῶμα σὺν |craft κακῇ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. μή νυν |help, please, λ' ἀραιός, εἴ σέ τι
|be available

|do, accomplish'την, ὦν |accuse με |do, accomplish 645

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ὦ πρὸς θεῶν πίστευσον, Οἰδίπους, τάδε,

μάλιστα μὲν τόνδ' |oath |respect, be ashamed

ἔπειτα καμὲ τούσδε θ' οἱ πάρεισί σοι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πιθοῦ θελήσας φρονήσας τ', ἄναξ, |beg

ΟΙ. τί σοι θέλεις δῆτ' εἰκάθω; 650

ΧΟ. τὸν οὔτε πρὶν |foolish νῦν τ' ἐν |oath μέγαν |feel shame,
|reverence

ΟΙ. οἶσθ' οὖν ἂ |need , ΧΟ. οἶδα. ΟΙ. φράξε δὴ τί φής.

ΧΟ. τὸν |cursed, 'λον |absolutely αἰτία
|polluted |never 655

σὺν |unseen, 'ός- ρ σ' |without βαλεῖν.
|cult, obscure |honor

ΟΙ. εὖ νυν ἐπίστω, ταῦθ' ὅταν ζητῆς, ἐμοὶ

ζητῶν |ruin ἢ |flight, means, σδε γῆς.
|of escape

ΧΟ. οὐ τὸν πάντων θεῶν θεὸν |champion 660

Ἄλιον· ἐπεὶ |godless; by the gods |last,
|hindmost

CREON. My royal sister, Oedipus, thy lord,
Hath bid me choose (O dread alternative!)
An outlaw' s exile or a felon' s death.

OEDIPUS. Yes, lady; I have caught him practicing
Against my royal person his vile arts.

CREON. May I ne' er speed but die accursed, if I
In any way am guilty of this charge.

JOCASTA. Believe him, I adjure thee, Oedipus,
First for his solemn oath' s sake, then for mine,
And for thine elders' sake who wait on thee.

CHORUS. (Str. 1)

Hearken, King, reflect, we pray thee, but not stubborn but relent.

OEDIPUS. Say to what should I consent?

CHORUS. Respect a man whose probity and troth
Are known to all and now confirmed by oath.

OEDIPUS. Dost know what grace thou cravest?

CHORUS. Yea, I know.

OEDIPUS. Declare it then and make thy meaning plain.

CHORUS. Brand not a friend whom babbling tongues assail;
Let not suspicion 'gainst his oath prevail.

OEDIPUS. Bethink you that in seeking this ye seek
In very sooth my death or banishment?

CHORUS. No, by the leader of the host divine!(
Str. 2)

vocabulary

ἀγνώς -τος (m) unknown,
 unrecognizable
 ἄλις in plenty; enough ~helix
 ἄμφω both ~amphora
 ἀπωθέω repel, reject
 ἄτιμος (f) without honor
 βαρύς heavy ~baritone
 δάπτω devour
 δῆλος visible, conspicuous
 δύσμορος ill-fated
 εἶκω yield; seem likely, (pf+dat) seem
 like, (pf) be fit/worthy of/to ~victor
 ἐκτός outside
 λάσχω cry, crack, ring
 λήγω cease, (+gen+ppl) cause to cease
 ~lax
 οὐχουν certainly not

πάλαι long ago ~paleo
 πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
 πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 παντελής complete, absolute
 περάω cross over, drive across; sell as
 a slave ~pierce
 πέρνημι export, sell as a slave ~porno
 προπονέω prepare; suffer before
 προσάπτω attach to ~haptic
 στυγέω dread, shrink from ~Styx
 στυγνός hated, gloomy ~Styx
 τρύχω (f) exhaust, wear down
 τύχη fortune, act of a god
 φρόνησις -εως (f) intention; wisdom
 φύσις -εως (f) nature (of a thing)
 ~physics
 φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ὀλοίμαν, φρόνησιν εἰ τάνδ' ἔχω.

ἀλλά μοι δυσμόρῳ γὰ φθινὰς

665

τρύχει ψυχάν, τὰδ' εἰ κακοῖς κακὰ

προσάψει τοῖς πάλαι τὰ πρὸς σφῶν.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὁ δ' οὖν ἵτω, κεί' χρή με παντελῶς θανεῖν

ἢ γῆς ἄτιμον τῇσδ' ἀπωσθῆναι βία.

670

τὸ γὰρ σόν, οὐ τὸ τοῦδ', ἐποικτίρω στόμα

ἐλεινόν· οὗτος δ' ἔνθ' ἂν ἦ στυγήσεται.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. στυγνὸς μὲν εἶκων δῆλος εἶ, βαρὺς δ', ὅταν

θυμοῦ περάσῃς· αἱ δὲ τοιαῦται φύσεις

αὐταῖς δικαίως εἰσὶν ἄλγιστα φέρειν.

675

ΟΙ. οὔκουν μ' ἐάσεις κακτὸς εἶ; ΚΡ. πορεύσομαι,

σοῦ μὲν τυχῶν ἀγνώτος, ἐν δὲ τοῖσδ' ἴσος.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. γύναι, τί μέλλεις κομίζειν δόμων τόνδ' ἔσω;

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. μαθοῦσά γ' ἥτις ἡ τύχη.

680

ΧΟ. δόκησις ἀγνῶς λόγων ἦλθε, δάπτει δὲ καὶ τὸ μὴ ν δικον.

ΙΟ. ἀμφοῖν ἀπ' αὐτοῖν; ΧΟ. ναίχι. ΙΟ. καὶ τίς ἦν λόγος;

ΧΟ. ἄλις ἔμοιγ', ἄλις, γὰς προπονουμένας,

685

φαίνεται ἔνθ' ἔληξεν αὐτοῦ μένειν.

ὀλοΐμαν, |intention;
|wisdom εἰ τάνδ' ἔχω.

ἀλλά μοι |ill-fated γὰ φθινὰς

665

τρύχει ψυχάν, τάδ' εἰ κακοῖς κακὰ

προσάψει τοῖς πάλαι τὰ πρὸς σφῶν.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὁ δ' οὖν ἴτω, κεί' χρή με |complete, |absolute θανεῖν

ἢ γῆς |without |honor τῇσδ' |repel, reject βίᾳ.

670

τὸ γὰρ σόν, οὐ τὸ τοῦδ', ἐποικτίρω στόμα

ἐλεινόν· οὗτος δ' ἐνθ' ἂν ᾗ |dread

ΚΡΕΩΝ. |hated, |gloominess μὲν εἶκων |visible, |heavy δ', ὅταν
|conspicuous

θυμοῦ περάσης· αἱ δὲ τοιαῦται φύσεις

αὐταῖς δικαίως εἰσὶν ἄλγισται φέρειν.

675

ΟΙ. |certainly, not ἔσσις |outside εἶ; ΚΡ. πορεύσομαι,

σοῦ μὲν τυχῶν |unknown, |un- |recognizable δὲ τοῖσδ' ἴσος.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. γύναι, τί μέλλεις κομίζειν δόμων τόνδ' ἔσω;

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. μαθοῦσά γ' ἥτις ἡ |fortune, act
|of a god

680

ΧΟ. δόκησις |unknown, |un- |recognizable ἥλθε, |devour δὲ καὶ τὸ μὴ ν δικον.

ΙΟ. |both ἀπ' αὐτοῖν; ΧΟ. ναίχι. ΙΟ. καὶ τίς ἦν λόγος;

ΧΟ. |in |plenty; |in |plenty; |prepare; suffer be-
|enough |enough |fore

685

φαίνεται ἐνθ' ἔληξεν αὐτοῦ μένειν.

Witness, thou Sun, such thought was never mine,
Unblest, unfriended may I perish,
If ever I such wish did cherish!
But O my heart is desolate
Musing on our stricken State,
Doubly fall' n should discord grow
Twixt you twain, to crown our woe.
OEDIPUS. Well, let him go, no matter what it cost me,
Or certain death or shameful banishment,
For your sake I relent, not his; and him,
Where' er he be, my heart shall still abhor.
CREON. Thou art as sullen in thy yielding mood
As in thine anger thou wast truculent.
Such tempers justly plague themselves the most.
OEDIPUS. Leave me in peace and get thee gone.
CREON. I go,
By thee misjudged, but justified by these.

Exeunt CREON]

CHORUS. (Ant. 1)

Lady, lead indoors thy consort; wherefore longer here delay?

JOCASTA. Tell me first how rose the fray.

*vocabulary***ἄλῶ** be beside oneself ~Fr. aller**ἅπαξ** once**ἰσπύρῃ** (ῥ) set forth ~hormone**ἄπορος** impassable, difficult**ἐγκαλέω** demand payment; accuse**εἰσπέμπω** send in**ἐκκαλέω** call forth ~gallo**ἐλευθερόω** set free**κακοῦργος** causing evil ~ergonomics**κῆρ** heart ~cardiac**μάντις** -ος (m) seer ~mantis**μῆνις** -ος (f) rage**νεῖκος** -εος (n, 3) quarrel, battle**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

οὕνεκα because**οὐρίζω** divide; ordain, define**παρίημι** dangle; pass over, allow ~jet**πόνος** toil, suffering ~osteopenia**σαφής** clear, understandable**σεαυτοῦ** yourself**σέβομαι** feel shame, awe**τοσόσδε** this much**φονεύς** -ως (m) killer ~offend**φρόνιμος** sensible, prudent

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὁρᾶς ἔν' ἤκεις, ἀγαθὸς ὢν γνώμην ἀνὴρ,

τοῦμόν παριείς καὶ καταμβλύνων κέαρ;

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὠναξ, εἶπον μὲν οὐχ ἅπαξ μόνον,

690

ἴσθι δὲ παραφρόνιμον, ἄπορον ἐπὶ φρόνιμα

πεφάνθαι μ' ἄν, εἴ σ' ἐνοσφίζομαν,

ὅς τ' ἐμὰν γὰν φίλαν ἐν πόνοις

ἀλύουσαν κατ' ὀρθὸν οὖρϊσας,

695

τανῦν τ' εὖπομπος, ἂν γένοιο.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πρὸς θεῶν δίδαξον κάμ', ἄναξ, ὅτου ποτὲ

μῆνιν τοσὴνδε πράγματος στήσας ἔχεις.

ΟΙ. ἐρῶ· σὲ γὰρ τῶνδ' ἐς πλέον, γύναι, σέβω·

700

Κρέοντος, οἷά μοι βεβουλευκὼς ἔχει.

ΙΟ. λέγ', εἰ σαφῶς τὸ νείκος ἐγκαλῶν ἐρεῖς.

ΟΙ. φονέα με φησὶ Λαῖου καθεστάναι.

ΙΟ. αὐτὸς ξυνειδὼς ἢ μαθὼν ἄλλου πάρα;

ΟΙ. μάντιν μὲν οὖν κακοῦργον εἰσπέμψας, ἐπεὶ

705

τό γ' εἰς ἑαυτὸν πᾶν ἐλευθεροῖ στόμα.

ΙΟ. σύ νυν ἀφείς σεαυτὸν ὦν λέγεις πέρι

ἐμοῦ πάκουσον, καὶ μάθ' οὔνεκ' ἐστί σοι

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὀρᾷς ἔν' ἤκεις, ἀγαθὸς ὢν γνώμην ἀνὴρ,

τοῦμὸν |dangle; pass` καταμβλύνων |heart,
|over, allow

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦναξ, εἶπον μὲν οὐχ |once μόνον, 690

ἴσθι δὲ παραφρόνιμον, ἄπορον ἐπὶ |sensible,
|prudent

πεφάνθαι μ' ἄν, εἴ σ' ἐνοσφίζομαν,

ὅς τ' ἐμὰν γὰν φίλαν ἐν |toil, suffering

|be beside oneself |up- |divide; or- 695
|right, |dain, define
τανῦν τ' εὐπομῆτος ἂν γένοιο.
|straight;
|correct,
|just

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πρὸς θεῶν δίδαξον καὶ μ', ἄναξ, ὅτου ποτὲ

|rage |this much |γράφματος στήσας ἔχεις.

ΟΙ. ἐρῶ· σὲ γὰρ τῶνδ' ἐς πλέον, γύναι, σέβω· 700

Κρέοντος, οἶά μοι βεβουλευκῶς ἔχει.

ΙΟ. λέγ', εἰ |clear, under-|quarrel, ἔγκαλῶν ἐρεῖς.
|standable |battle

ΟΙ. |killer με φησὶ Λαΐου καθεστάναι.

ΙΟ. αὐτὸς ξυνειδὼς ἢ μαθὼν ἄλλου πάρα;

ΟΙ. |seer μὲν οὖν |causing evil |send in , ἐπεὶ 705

τό γ' εἰς ἐαυτὸν πᾶν |set free στόμα.

ΙΟ. σύ νυν ἀφείς |yourself ὦν λέγεις πέρι

ἐμοῦ· πάκουσον, καὶ μάθ' |because ὅτι σοι

CHORUS. Rumors bred unjust suspicious and injustice rankles sore.

JOCASTA. Were both at fault?

CHORUS. Both.

JOCASTA. What was the tale?

CHORUS. Ask me no more. The land is sore distressed;

Twere better sleeping ills to leave at rest.

OEDIPUS. Strange counsel, friend! I know thou mean' st me well,

And yet would' st mitigate and blunt my zeal.

CHORUS. (Ant. 2)

King, I say it once again,

Witless were I proved, insane,

If I lightly put away

Thee my country' s prop and stay,

Pilot who, in danger sought,

To a quiet haven brought

Our distracted State; and now

Who can guide us right but thou?

JOCASTA. Let me too, I adjure thee, know, O king,

What cause has stirred this unrelenting wrath.

OEDIPUS. I will, for thou art more to me than these.

Lady, the cause is Creon and his plots.

JOCASTA. But what provoked the quarrel? make this clear.

OEDIPUS. He points me out as Laius' murderer.

JOCASTA. Of his own knowledge or upon report?

OEDIPUS. He is too cunning to commit himself,

And makes a mouthpiece of a knavish seer.

JOCASTA. Then thou mayest ease thy conscience on that score.

vocabulary

ἄβατος untrodden; impassable

ἄμαξιτός road

ἀνύω accomplish, pass over, complete

ἄρθρον joint

ἄρτιος suitable

βλαστάνω bud, sprout

βλαστάω bud, sprout

διέχω pass through; be apart

διορίζω delimit; determine

ἐνταῦθα there, here

ἐντρέπω heed ~trophy

ἐρευνάω hunt for

ληιστής -οῦς (m, 3) bandit

ληιστός lootable ~lucre

ληιστής -οῦ (m, 1) bandit

μαντικός prophetic

μοῖρα portion, fate; (κατά+) rightly

~Moirai

ῥίπτω hurl

σημεῖον sign

σύντομος truncated, concise

τέχνη craft, art, plan, contrivance

~technology

τριπλός threefold ~three

ὕπηρετέω serve

ὕπηρετης -ου (m, 1) servant, officer

φάτις -τος (f) report, rumor ~fame

φήμη speech, rumor ~fame

φονεύς -ως (m) killer ~offend

φονεύω kill

χρεία need, use

χρησμός oracular response

βρότειον οὐδὲν μαντικῆς ἔχον τέχνης.

φανῶ δέ σοι σημεῖα τῶνδε σύντομα.

710

χρησμός γάρ ἦλθε Λαῖῳ ποτ', οὐκ ἐρῶ

Φοίβου γ' ἅπ' αὐτοῦ, τῶν δ' ὑπηρετῶν ἄπο,

ὥς αὐτὸν ἔξοι μοῖρα πρὸς παιδὸς θανεῖν,

ὅστις γένοιτ' ἐμοῦ τε κακείνου πάρα.

καὶ τὸν μὲν, ὥσπερ γ' ἡ φάτις, ξένοι ποτὲ

715

λησταὶ φονεύουσ' ἐν τριπλαῖς ἀμαξιοῖς·

παιδὸς δὲ βλάστας οὐ διέσχον ἡμέραι

τρεις, καὶ νιν ἄρθρα κείνος ἐνζεύξας ποδοῖν

ἔρριψεν ἄλλων χερσὶν ἄβατον εἰς ὄρος.

κάνταῦθ' Ἀπόλλων οὔτ' ἐκείνον ἤγνυσεν

720

φονέα γενέσθαι πατρὸς οὔτε Λαῖον

τὸ δεινὸν οὐφοβεῖτο πρὸς παιδὸς θανεῖν.

τοιαῦτα φῆμαι μαντικαὶ διώρισαν,

ὦν ἐντρέπου σὺ μηδέν· ὦν γὰρ ἂν θεὸς

χρεῖαν ἐρευνᾷ, ῥαδίως αὐτὸς φανεῖ.

725

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οἶόν μ' ἀκούσαντ' ἀρτίως ἔχει, γύναι,

ψυχῆς πλάνημα κἀνακίνησις φρενῶν.

βρότειον οὐδὲν |prophetic ἔχον |craft

φανῶ δέ σοι |sign τῶνδε |truncated,
|concise 710

|oracular γὰρ ἦλθε Λαίῳ ποτ', οὐκ ἐρῶ
|response

Φοίβου γ' ἅπ' αὐτοῦ, τῶν δ' ὑπηρετῶν ἅπο,

ὥς αὐτὸν ἔξοι |portion, fate παιδὸς θανεῖν,

ὅστις γένοιτ' ἐμοῦ τε κακείνου πάρα.

καὶ τὸν μέν, ὥσπερ γ' ἡ |report, ζένοι ποτὲ
|rumor 715

λησταὶ |kill ἐν |threefold |road

παιδὸς δὲ βλάστας οὐ διέσχον ἡμέραι

τρέϊς, καὶ νιν |joint κείνος ἐνζεύξας ποδοῖν

|hurl ἄλλων χερσὶν |untrodden;
|impassable ὄρος.

|there, here Ἀπόλλων οὐτ' ἐκείνον |accomplish 720

|killer γενέσθαι πατρὸς οὔτε Λαῖον

τὸ δεινὸν οὐφοβεῖτο πρὸς παιδὸς θανεῖν.

τοιαῦτα |speech, |prophetic διώρισαν,
|rumor

ὦν |heed σὺ μηδέν· ὦν γὰρ ἂν θεὸς

|need, |hunt for ῥαδίως αὐτὸς φανεῖ. 725
|use

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οἷόν μ' ἀκούσαντ' |suitable ἔχει, γύναι,

ψυχῆς πλάνημα κἀνακίνησις φρενῶν.

Listen and I' ll convince thee that no man
Hath scot or lot in the prophetic art.
Here is the proof in brief. An oracle
Once came to Laius (I will not say'
Twas from the Delphic god himself, but from
His ministers) declaring he was doomed
To perish by the hand of his own son,
A child that should be born to him by me.
Now Laius— so at least report affirmed—
Was murdered on a day by highwaymen,
No natives, at a spot where three roads meet.
As for the child, it was but three days old,
When Laius, its ankles pierced and pinned
Together, gave it to be cast away
By others on the trackless mountain side.
So then Apollo brought it not to pass
The child should be his father' s murderer,
Or the dread terror find accomplishment,
And Laius be slain by his own son.
Such was the prophet' s horoscope. O king,
Regard it not. Whate' er the god deems fit
To search, himself unaided will reveal.
OEDIPUS. What memories, what wild tumult of the soul
Came o' er me, lady, as I heard thee speak!

vocabulary

ἀκμή point, edge, top, culmination
 ~acute
ἀμαξιτός road
ἀρή bane, harm; prayer
ἄρτι at the same time
ἄρτιος suitable
αὐδάω speak, declare, shout
 ~Theravada
δράω do, accomplish
ἐνθύμιος (ῥ) taken to heart ~fume
ἐρωτάω ask about something
ἦβα youth ~Hebe
κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά*
κατασφάζω slaughter
κηρύσσω be a henchman, summon
 people
λάσχω cry, crack, ring
λήγω cease, (+gen+ppl) cause to cease
 ~lax
μήπω not yet, lest yet

μορφή beauty
οἷμοι woe is me
ὀκνέω shrink from, hesitate; worry
πάθος -ους (n, 3) an experience,
 passion, condition
ποίη grass
ποῖος what kind
ποῦ where?
προβάλλω throw before; propose;
 (mp) pretend, abandon, nominate
 ~ballistic
σχεδόν near, approximately at
 ~ischemia
τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
τριπλός threefold ~three
ὑποστρέφω turn around, go back
 ~atrophy
φύσις -εως (f) nature (of a thing)
 ~physics
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics
χῶρος place ~heir

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ποίας μερίμνης τοῦθ' ὑποστραφεῖς λέγεις;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἔδοξ' ἀκούσαι σοῦ τόδ', ὥς ὁ Λαῖος

κατασφαγείη πρὸς τριπλαῖς ἀμαξιτοῖς.

730

ΙΟ. ἠὺδ' αὖτο γὰρ ταῦτ' οὐδέ πω λήξαντ' ἔχει.

ΟΙ. καὶ ποῦ σθ' ὁ χώρος οὗτος οὐ τόδ' ἦν πάθος;

ΙΟ. Φωκὶς μὲν ἡ γῆ κλήζεται, σχιστὴ δ' ὁδὸς

εἰς ταὐτὸ Δελφῶν καπὸ Δαυλίας ἄγει.

ΟΙ. καὶ τίς χρόνος τοῖσδ' ἐστὶν οὐξεληλυθώς;

735

ΙΟ. σχεδόν τι πρόσθεν ἢ σὺ τῇσδ' ἔχων χθονὸς

ἀρχὴν ἐφαίνου, τοῦτ' ἐκηρύχθη πόλει.

ΟΙ. ὦ Ζεῦ, τί μου δρᾶσαι βεβούλευσαι πέρι;

ΙΟ. τί δ' ἐστὶ σοι τοῦτ', Οἰδίπους, ἐνθύμιον;

ΟΙ. μήπω μ' ἐρώτα· τὸν δὲ Λαῖον φύσιν

740

τίν' ἦλθε φράζε, τίνα δ' ἀκμὴν ἤβης ἔχων.

ΙΟ. μέγας, χνοάζων ἄρτι λευκανθὲς κάρα,

μορφῆς δὲ τῆς σῆς οὐκ ἀπεστάτει πολὺ.

ΟΙ. οἴμοι τάλας· ἔοικ' ἐμαντὸν εἰς ἀρὰς

δεινὰς προβάλλων ἀρτίως οὐκ εἰδέναι.

745

ΙΟ. πῶς φής; ὀκνῶ τοι πρὸς σ' ἀποσκοποῦσ', ἄναξ.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ποίας μερίμνης τοῦθ' |go back λέγεις;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἔδοξ' ἀκούσαι σοῦ τόδ', ὡς ὁ Λαίιος

|slaughter πρὸς |threefold |road 730

ΙΟ. |speak γὰρ ταῦτ' οὐδέ πω λήξαντ' ἔχει.

ΟΙ. καὶ |where? ὁ |place οὗτος οὗ τόδ' ἦν |an experience, pas-
sion, condition

ΙΟ. Φωκὶς μὲν ἡ γῆ κλήζεται, σχιστὴ δ' ὁδὸς

ἐς ταῦτὸ Δελφῶν καπὸ Δαυλίας ἄγει.

ΟΙ. καὶ τίς χρόνος τοῖσδ' ἐστὶν οὐξεληλυθώς; 735

ΙΟ. |about τι πρόσθεν ἢ σὺ τῇσδ' ἔχων χθονὸς

ἀρχὴν ἐφαίνου, τοῦτ' |be a henchman, i.
|summon people

ΟΙ. ὦ Ζεῦ, τί μου |do, accomplish ἔλυσαι πέρι;

ΙΟ. τί δ' ἐστὶ σοι τοῦτ', Οἰδίπους, |taken to heart

ΟΙ. |not yet |ask τὸν δὲ Λαίιον φύσιν 740
|lest yet

τίν' ἦλθε φράζε, τίνα δ' |point, edge, top, ων.
|culmination

ΙΟ. μέγας, χροάζων |at the same time |useless bit;
|form of κατά

|beauty δὲ τῆς σῆς οὐκ ἀπεστάτει πολύ.

ΟΙ. |woe is |wretched, |me |miserable ἐμαυτὸν εἰς |bane;
|prayer

δεινὰς |throw before; |suitable οὐκ εἰδέναι. 745
|propose; (mp)

ΙΟ. πὼς φησὶ |pretend, abandon, |hesitate, |don't, nominate πρὸς σ' ἀποσκοποῦς, ἄναξ.
|worry

JOCASTA. What mean' st thou? What has shocked and startled thee?

OEDIPUS. Methought I heard thee say that Laius
Was murdered at the meeting of three roads.

JOCASTA. So ran the story that is current still.

OEDIPUS. Where did this happen? Dost thou know the place?

JOCASTA. Phocis the land is called; the spot is where
Branch roads from Delphi and from Daulis meet.

OEDIPUS. And how long is it since these things befell?

JOCASTA. 'Twas but a brief while were thou wast proclaimed
Our country' s ruler that the news was brought.

OEDIPUS. O Zeus, what hast thou willed to do with me!

JOCASTA. What is it, Oedipus, that moves thee so?

OEDIPUS. Ask me not yet; tell me the build and height
Of Laius? Was he still in manhood' s prime?

JOCASTA. Tall was he, and his hair was lightly strewn
With silver; and not unlike thee in form.

OEDIPUS. O woe is me! Mehtinks unwittingly
I laid but now a dread curse on myself.

JOCASTA. What say' st thou? When I look upon thee, my king,
I tremble.

vocabulary

ἀγρός field, wild ~agriculture
ἀθυμέω (ῥ) be disheartened
ἀπήνη wagon
ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
βλώσχω come, go
δείκνυμι (ῥ) show, point out
δείξις proof, display
διαφαίνω seem, show through
 ~photon
διαφανής transparent
ἐκσώζω save from
ἐξείπον speak out, disclose
ἔραμαι love, aor. fall in love; long for,
 covet ~erotic
ἔρομαι ask a question, ask about, go
 searching through
ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent

θιγγάνω touch
κῆρυξ -κος (m) henchman, functionary
κράτος strength, power; victory
 ~democracy
λοχίτης -ου (ī, m, 1) comrade
μάντις -ος (m) seer ~mantis
μολίσχω come, go
νομάς -δος (m, 3) roaming, grazing
νομή pasture; distribution
οἰκεύς -ος (m) house servant
 ~economics
ὀκνέω shrink from, hesitate; worry
ποίμνιον flock
πότε when?
πότερος which, whichever of two
σύμπας (ᾱ) all together
χωρέω withdraw, give way to (+dat)
 ~heir

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. δεινῶς ἀθυμῶ μὴ βλέπων ὁ μάντις ἦ·

δείξεις δὲ μάλλον, ἣν ἐν ἐξείπῃς ἔτι.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. καὶ μὴν ὀκνῶ μέν, ἃ δ' ἂν ἔρῃ μαθοῦς' ἐρῶ.

ΟΙ. πότερον ἐχώρει βαιὸς ἢ πολλοὺς ἔχων

750

ἄνδρας λοχίτας, οἷ' ἀνὴρ ἀρχηγέτης;

ΙΟ. πέντ' ἦσαν οἱ ξύμπαντες, ἐν δ' αὐτοῖσιν ἦν .

κῆρυξ· ἀπήνῃ δ' ἦγε Λαῖον μία.

ΟΙ. αἰαί, τάδ' ἤδη διαφανῇ. τίς ἦν ποτε

ὁ τούσδε λέξας τοὺς λόγους ὑμῖν, γύναι;

755

ΙΟ. οἰκέυς τις, ὅσπερ ἵκετ' ἐκσωθεὶς μόνος.

ΟΙ. ἦ καὶν δόμοισι τυγχάνει τανῦν παρών;

ΙΟ. οὐ δῆτ'· ἀφ' οὗ γὰρ κείθεν ἦλθε καὶ κράτη

σέ τ' εἶδ' ἔχοντα Λαῖόν τ' ὀλωλότα,

ἐξικέτευσε τῆς ἐμῆς χειρὸς θιγὼν

760

ἀγρούς σφε πέμψαι καπὶ ποιμνίων νομάς,

ὥς πλείστον εἶη τοῦδ' ἄποπτος ἄστεως.

καῖπεμψ' ἐγὼ νιν· ἄξιος γὰρ οἷ' ἀνὴρ

δούλος φέρειν ἦν τῇσδε καὶ μείζω χάριν.

ΟΙ. πῶς ἂν μόλοι δῆθ' ἡμῖν ἐν τάχει πάλιν;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. δεινῶς ἀθυμῶ μὴ βλέπων ὁ |seer ἦ·

δείξεις δὲ μᾶλλον, ἣν ἐν |speak out, disclose

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. καὶ μὴν |hesitate; ἔν, ἃ δ' ἂν ἔρη μαθοῦς' ἐρῶ.
|worry

ΟΙ. |which, |withdraw, give ἦ πολλοὺς ἔχων 750
|whichever |way to (+dat)
ἀνδρας |comrade , οἷ' ἀνὴρ ἀρχηγέτης;

ΙΟ. πέντ' ἦσαν οἱ |all together , ἐν δ' αὐτοῖσιν ἦν .

|hench- |wagon δ' ἦγε Λαίϊον μία.
man,
ΟΙ. func- τὰδ' ἤδη διαφανῇ. τίς ἦν ποτε
tionary

ὁ τούσδε λέξας τοὺς λόγους ὑμῖν, γύναι; 755

ΙΟ. |servant τις, ὅσπερ ἵκετ' |save from μόνος.

ΟΙ. ἡ καὶν δόμοισι τυγχάνει τανῶν παρών;

ΙΟ. οὐ δῆτ'· ἀφ' οὗ γὰρ κεῖθεν ἦλθε καὶ |strength,
|power; vic-
σέ τ' εἶδ' ἔχοντα Λαίϊόν τ' ὀλωλότα, |tory

ἐξικέτευσε τῆς ἐμῆς χειρὸς |touch 760

|field, wild |πε μέμψαι καπὶ |flock νομάς,

ὥς πλείστον εἶη τοῦδ' ἄποπτος |town

κάπεμψ' ἐγὼ νιν· ἄξιος γὰρ οἷ' ἀνὴρ

δοῦλος φέρειν ἦν τῆσδε καὶ μείζω χάριν.

ΟΙ. πῶς ἂν μόλοι δῆθ' ἡμῖν ἐν τάχει πάλιν;

OEDIPUS. 'Tis a dread presentiment
That in the end the seer will prove not blind.
One further question to resolve my doubt.
JOCASTA. I quail; but ask, and I will answer all.
OEDIPUS. Had he but few attendants or a train
Of armed retainers with him, like a prince?
JOCASTA. They were but five in all, and one of them
A herald; Laius in a mule-car rode.
OEDIPUS. Alas! 'tis clear as noonday now. But say,
Lady, who carried this report to Thebes?
JOCASTA. A serf, the sole survivor who returned.
OEDIPUS. Haply he is at hand or in the house?
JOCASTA. No, for as soon as he returned and found
Thee reigning in the stead of Laius slain,
He clasped my hand and supplicated me
To send him to the alps and pastures, where
He might be farthest from the sight of Thebes.
And so I sent him. 'Twas an honest slave
And well deserved some better recompense.
OEDIPUS. Fetch him at once. I fain would see the man.
JOCASTA. He shall be brought; but wherefore summon

vocabulary

ἄγαμαι wonder, admire; resent,
 begrudge
ἄγαν very much
ἀσθή inhabitant
ἀστός townsman; citizen
ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
βαρύνω (ῥ) oppress ~baritone
δείπνον meal, food
δείπνος meal, food
δύσφορος oppressive
εἰσείδω look at, behold ~wit
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
 ~panorama
ἐλέγχω shame; try, examine
ἐφίημι (τι) send at, let fly; mp: rush at,

spring upon ~jet
ἐφίστημι set; (mp) come/be near,
 direct, stop ~station
μέθη strong drink, drunkenness
μεθίημι let go, cease; (mid) speed off
 ~jet
μόλις with difficulty, barely
ὄνειδος -εος (n, 3) blame; insult
πέλας near, close
πλαστός formed, plastic
σπουδή zeal; (dat) with difficulty,
 hastily ~repudiate
στερέω steal, take
τοιόσδε such
τύχη fortune, act of a god

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πάρεστιν· ἀλλὰ πρὸς τί τοῦτ' ἐφίεσαι;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. δέδοικ' ἐμαυτόν, ὦ γύναι, μὴ πόλλ' ἄγαν

εἰρημέν' ἦ μοι δι' ἅ νιν εἰσιδεῖν θέλω.

ΙΟ. ἀλλ' ἕξεται μέν· ἀξία δέ που μαθεῖν

κάγώ τά γ' ἐν σοὶ δυσφόρως ἔχοντ', ἄναξ.

770

ΟΙ. κου' μὴ στερηθῆς γ', ἐς τοσοῦτον ἐλπιδῶν

ἐμοῦ βεβῶτος. τῷ γὰρ ἂν καὶ μείζονι

λέξαμι' ἂν ἢ σοί, διὰ τύχης τοιαῦδ' ἰών;

ἐμοὶ πατὴρ μὲν Πόλυβος ἦν Κορίνθιος,

μήτηρ δὲ Μερόπη Δωρίς. ἡγόμην δ' ἀνὴρ

775

ἀστῶν μέγιστος τῶν ἐκεῖ, πρὶν μοι τύχῃ

τοιάδ' ἐπέστη, θαυμάσαι μὲν ἀξία,

σπουδῆς γε μέντοι τῆς ἐμῆς οὐκ ἀξία.

ἀνὴρ γὰρ ἐν δειπνοῖς μ' ὑπερπλησθεὶς μέθῃ

καλεῖ παρ' οὔνῳ, πλαστὸς ὥς εἶην πατρί.

780

κάγώ βαρυνθεὶς τὴν μὲν οὔσαν ἡμέραν

μόλις κατέσχον, θάτέρῃ δ' ἰὼν πέλας

μητρὸς πατρός τ' ἤλεγχον· οἱ δὲ δυσφόρως

τοῦνειδος ἦγον τῷ μεθέντι τὸν λόγον.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πάρεστω· ἀλλὰ πρὸς τί τοῦτ' |send flying at

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. δέδοικ' ἐμαυτόν, ὦ γύναι, μὴ πόλλ' ἄγαν

εἰρημέν' ἧ μοι δι' ἅ νιν εἰσιδεῖν θέλω.

ΙΟ. ἀλλ' ἕξεται μέν· ἀξία δέ που μαθεῖν

καγὼ τά γ' ἐν σοὶ |oppressive ἔχοντ', ἄναξ.

770

ΟΙ. κου' μὴ |steal, take γ', ἐς τοσοῦτον ἐλπιδῶν

ἐμοῦ βεβῶτος. τῷ γὰρ ἂν καὶ μείζονι

λέξαιμ' ἂν ἧ σοί, διὰ |for- |such ἰών;

ἐμοὶ πατὴρ μὲν Πόλιος ἦν |tune, |act of a |god
Κορίνθιος,

μήτηρ δὲ Μερόπη Δωρίς. ἡγόμην δ' ἀνὴρ

775

ἀστῶν μέγιστος τῶν ἐκεῖ, πρίν μοι |fortune, act
|of a god

|such |set; (mp) ἵcome/be |near, direct, stop
|μὲν ἀξία,

|zeal; (dat), with |τοι τῆς ἐμῆς οὐκ ἀξία.
|difficulty, hastily

ἀνὴρ γὰρ ἐν δείπνοις μ' ὑπερπλησθεῖς |strong drink,
|drunkenness

καλεῖ παρ' οἴνῳ, |formed, |ὥς εἶην πατρί.
|plastic

780

καγὼ |oppress τὴν μὲν οὔσαν ἡμέραν

|with difficulty, |χον, θάτέρῃ δ' ἰὼν |near,
|barely |close

μητρὸς πατρός τ' |shame; try, exām-|oppressive
|ine

|blame; |ἡγον τῷ |let go, cèase; ἵγον.
|insult | (mid) speed off

him?

OEDIPUS. Lady, I fear my tongue has overrun
Discretion; therefore I would question him.

JOCASTA. Well, he shall come, but may not I too claim
To share the burden of thy heart, my king?

OEDIPUS. And thou shalt not be frustrate of thy wish.
Now my imaginings have gone so far.

Who has a higher claim that thou to hear
My tale of dire adventures? Listen then.

My sire was Polybus of Corinth, and
My mother Merope, a Dorian;

And I was held the foremost citizen,
Till a strange thing befell me, strange indeed,
Yet scarce deserving all the heat it stirred.

A roisterer at some banquet, flown with wine,
Shouted "Thou art not true son of thy sire."

It irked me, but I stomached for the nonce
The insult; on the morrow I sought out
My mother and my sire and questioned them.
They were indignant at the random slur

vocabulary

ἀέθλιον ἀθλίου prize
 ἀέθλιος prize ~athlete
 ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
 ἄθλον ἀέθλου prize ~athlete
 ἀπήνη wagon
 ἄστρον star
 ἄτιμος (ῑ) without honor
 ἄτλητος unbearable ~talent
 δηλώω show, disclose
 δύστηνος unhappy, miserable
 ἐκπέμπω send forth ~pomp
 ἐμβαίνω step on, board ~basis
 ἐνταῦθα there, here
 κέλευθος (f) way, path
 κῆρυξ -κος (m) henchman, functionary
 κνίζω scratch, gash; tickle

λάθρα secretly
 μῆποτε absolutely never
 ὁδοιπορέω walk over
 ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
 ὄνειδος -εος (n, 3) blame; insult
 πέλας near, close
 στείχω go, march ~stair
 τέρω gratify, satiate, comfort
 ~terpsichorean
 τριπλός threefold ~three
 τύραννος tyrant
 φονεύς -ως (m) killer ~offend
 φυτεύω plant, grow, cause, prepare
 ~physics
 χρησμός oracular response
 χῶρος place ~heir

κἀγὼ τὰ μὲν κείνουν ἑτερπόμην, ὅμως δ' 785

ἔκνιζέ μ' αἰεὶ τοῦθ'· ὑφείρπε γὰρ πολὺ.

λάθρα δὲ μητρὸς καὶ πατρὸς πορεύομαι

Πυθῶδε, καί μ' ὁ Φοῖβος ὦν μὲν ἰκόμην

ἄτιμον ἐξέπεμψεν, ἄλλα δ' ἄθλια

καὶ δεινὰ καὶ δύστηνα προύφηνεν λέγων, 790

ὥς μητρὶ μὲν χρεῖή με μιχθῆναι, γένος δ'

ἄτλητον ἀνθρώποισι δηλώσοιμ' ὄραν,

φονεὺς δ' ἐσοίμην τοῦ φυτεύσαντος πατρός.

κἀγὼ πακούσας ταῦτα τὴν Κορινθίαν,

ἄστροις τὸ λοιπὸν ἐκμετρούμενος, χθόνα 795

ἔφευγον, ἔνθα μήποτ' ὀψοίμην κακῶν

χρησμῶν ὀνειδίη τῶν ἐμῶν τελούμενα.

στείχων δ' ἰκνοῦμαι τούσδε τοὺς χώρους, ἐν οἷς

σὺ τὸν τύραννον τοῦτον ὄλλυσθαι λέγεις.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καί σοι, γύναι, τάληθές ἐξερώ. τριπλῆς 800

ὅτ' ἢ κελεύθου τῆσδ' ὁδοιπορῶν πέλας,

ἐνταῦθά μοι κῆρύξ τε κἀπὶ πωλικῆς

ἀνὴρ ἀπήνης ἐμβεβώς, οἶον σὺ φῆς,

καὶ γὰρ τὰ μὲν κείνουν | gratify, satiate, anyway, nevertheless
| comfort 785

ἔκνιζέ μ' αἰὲ τοῦθ'· ὑφείρπε γὰρ πολὺ.

| secretly δὲ μητρὸς καὶ πατρὸς πορεύομαι

Πυθώδε, καί μ' ὁ Φοῖβος ὦν μὲν ἰκόμην

| without | send forth , ἄλλα δ' ἄθλια
| honor

καὶ δεινὰ καὶ | unhappy, πρὸς φηγεν λέγων,
| miserable 790

ὥς μητρὶ μὲν χρεῖή με μιχθῆναι, γένος δ'

| unbearable ἠθρώποισι | show, ὁρᾶν,
| disclose

| killer δ' ἐσοίμην τοῦ | plant, grow, πατρός.
| cause, prepare

καὶ γὰρ πακούσας ταῦτα τὴν Κορινθίαν,

| star τὸ λοιπὸν ἐκμετρούμενος, χθόνα 795

ἔφευγον, ἔνθα | absolutely ἰοίμην κακῶν
| never

| oracular | blame; τῶν ἐμῶν τελούμενα.
| response | insult

| go, march ὧς ἰκνοῦμαι τούσδε τοὺς | place , ἐν οἷς

σὺ τὸν | tyrant τοῦτον ὄλλυσθαι λέγεις.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καί σοι, γύναι, τάληθές ἐξερῶ. | threefold 800

ὅτ' ἦ | way, path τῇσδ' | walk over | near,
| close

| there, here, -οι | henchman, ... ἐπὶ πωλικῆς
| functionary

ἀνὴρ | wagon | step on, board ἵ , σὺ φῆς,

Cast on my parentage and did their best
To comfort me, but still the venom'd barb
Rankled, for still the scandal spread and grew.
So privily without their leave I went
To Delphi, and Apollo sent me back
Baulked of the knowledge that I came to seek.
But other grievous things he prophesied,
Woes, lamentations, mourning, portents dire;
To wit I should defile my mother's bed
And raise up seed too loathsome to behold,
And slay the father from whose loins I sprang.
Then, lady,— thou shalt hear the very truth—
As I drew near the triple-branching roads,
A herald met me and a man who sat
In a car drawn by colts— as

vocabulary

ἄεθλιος prize ~athlete
ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
ἀπήνη wagon
ἄρή bane, harm; prayer
ἀστή inhabitant
ἀστός townsman; citizen
ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
διπλόος double, overlapping
ἐκκυλίνδω roll from ~cylinder
ἐκτρέπω turn aside
ἐξειμι go forth; is possible ~ion
ἡγεμῶν -όνος (m, 3) leader, guide, chief ~hegemony
καθικνέομαι affect with feeling
κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά*
κέντρον goading rod?
ὀργή urge, impulse; anger
οὔτις nobody, nothing

ὄχος pl: carrying thing, chariot, holding place ~wagon
παίω hit
προσῆκω belong to, it beseems
προστίθηναι add; impose; (mp) agree; side with ~thesis
προσφωνέω speak to
σκῆπτρον scepter, staff ~scepter
συγγενής inborn, kin to
σύμπας (ἅ) all together
σύντομος truncated, concise
τηρέω watch over
τίνω (ι) pay, atone for; (mp) punish
τίω value, honor; mp: exact recompense for
τύπτω beat, smite ~stupid
ὑπτιος lying on one's back; flipped; flat
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics
ώθέω push

ξυνηντίαζον· κάξ ὁδοῦ μ' ὅ θ' ἡγεμῶν

αὐτός θ' ὁ πρέσβυς πρὸς βίαν ἡλανέτην.

805

κἀγὼ τὸν ἐκτρέποντα, τὸν τροχηλάτην,

παίω δι' ὀργῆς· καί μ' ὁ πρέσβυς ὡς ὀρᾶ,

ὅχου παραστείχοντα τηρήσας, μέσον

κάρα διπλοῖς κέντροισί μου καθίκετο.

οὐ μὴν ἴσην γ' ἔτισεν, ἀλλὰ συντόμως

810

σκήπτρῳ τυπείς ἐκ τῆσδε χειρὸς ὕπτιος

μέσης ἀπήνης εὐθὺς ἐκκυλίνδεται·

κτείνω δὲ τοὺς ζύμπαντας. εἰ δὲ τῷ ξένῳ

τούτῳ προσήκει Λαΐου τι συγγενές,

τίς τοῦδέ γ' ἀνδρός ἐστὶν ἀθλιώτερος;

815

τίς ἐχθροδαίμων μᾶλλον ἄν γένοιτ' ἀνὴρ;

ὃν μὴ ξένων ἔξεστι μὴδ' ἀστῶν τινι

δόμοις δέχεσθαι μὴδὲ προσφωνεῖν τινα,

ὠθεῖν δ' ἀπ' οἴκων. καὶ τάδ' οὔτις ἄλλος ἦν

ἢ γὰρ π' ἐμαντῷ τάσδ' ἀρὰς ὁ προστιθείς.

820

λέχη δὲ τοῦ θανόντος ἐκ χεροῖν ἐμαῖν

χραίνω, δι' ὧν περ ὤλετ'· ἄρ' ἔφυν κακός;

ξυνηγητίαζον· κάξ ὁδοῦ μ' ὁ θ' |leader

αὐτός θ' ὁ πρέσβυς πρὸς βίαν ἡλαννέτην.

805

καγὼ τὸν |turn aside , τὸν τροχηλάτην,

|hit δι' |urge, καί μ' ὁ πρέσβυς ὡς ὀργῇ,
|impulse;

|chariot |anger ἀραυτεΐχοντα |watch over , μέσον

|useless bit; form|goadng rod? - υ |affect with feeling
of κατά

οὐ μὴν ἴσῃν γ' ἔτισεν, ἀλλὰ |truncated,
|concise

810

|scepter, |smite ἐκ τῆσδε χειρὸς |supine
|staff

μέσης |wagon εὐθὺς |roll from

κτείνω δὲ τοὺς |all together . εἰ δὲ τῷ ξένῳ

τούτῳ |belong to, Δαΐου τι |inborn, kin to
|it beseems

τίς τοῦδ' γ' ἀνδρὸς ἐστὶν ἀθλιώτερος;

815

τίς ἐχθροδαίμων μᾶλλον ἂν γένοιτ' ἀνήρ;

ὄν μὴ ξένων ἔξεστι μῆδ' ἀστῶν τι

δόμοις δέχεσθαι μῆδ' |speak to τινι,

|push δ' ἀπ' οἴκων. καὶ τὰδ' |nobody, ἄλλος ἦν
|nothing

ἦ γὰρ π' ἐμαυτῷ τάσδ' |bane; |add; impose; (mp)
|prayer |agree; side with

820

λέχη δὲ τοῦ θανόντος ἐκ χεροῖν ἐμαῖν

χραίνω, δι' ὧν περ ὤλετ'· ἄρ' |produce, ἔτι;
|beget; clasp

in thy tale—

The man in front and the old man himself
Threatened to thrust me rudely from the path,
Then jostled by the charioteer in wrath
I struck him, and the old man, seeing this,
Watched till I passed and from his car brought down
Full on my head the double-pointed goad.
Yet was I quits with him and more; one stroke
Of my good staff sufficed to fling him clean
Out of the chariot seat and laid him prone.
And so I slew them every one. But if
Betwixt this stranger there was aught in common
With Laius, who more miserable than I,
What mortal could you find more god-abhorred?
Wretch whom no sojourner, no citizen
May harbor or address, whom all are bound
To harry from their homes. And this same curse
Was laid on me, and laid by none but me.
Yea with these hands all gory I pollute
The bed of him I slew. Say, am I

vocabulary

βοτήρ -ος (m) herdsman

γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy

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

δήτα emphatic δή

ἐκμανθάνω know by heart

ἐκτρέφω raise, rear

ἐκφεύγω flee from, escape ~fugitive

ἐκφύω spring from ~physics

ζεύγνυμι (ὑ) yoke, join ~zygote

ἡώς ἡῶθι (f, 2) dawn ~Eocene

κατακτείνω kill, slay

ὀκνηρός timid; hesitating

ὀρθόω stand up

πάθος -ους (n, 3) an experience,
passion, condition

περισσός prodigious, superfluous

ποῖος what kind

προθυμία (ὑ) zeal, alacrity ~fume

προσμένω await, cleave to

σέβας -ως (n) wonder, shame, awe

συμφορά collecting; accident,
misfortune

τοιόσδε such

ὠμός raw

ἄρ' οὐχὶ πᾶς ἄναγνος; εἴ με χρὴ φυγεῖν,
καί μοι φυγόντι μῆστι τοὺς ἐμοὺς ἰδεῖν
μηδ' ἐμβατεύειν πατρίδος, ἣ γάμοις με δεῖ
μητρὸς ζυγῆναι καὶ πατέρα κατακτανεῖν
Πόλυβον, ὃς ἐξέφυσε καζέθρεψέ με.

825

ἄρ' οὐκ ἀπ' ὤμοῦ ταῦτα δαίμονός τις ἂν
κρίνων ἐπ' ἀνδρὶ τῷδ' ἂν ὀρθοίη λόγον;
μὴ δῆτα, μὴ δῆτ', ὦ θεῶν ἀγνὸν σέβας,
ἴδοιμι ταύτην ἡμέραν, ἀλλ' ἐκ βροτῶν
βαίην ἄφαντος πρόσθεν ἢ τοιάνδ' ἰδεῖν
κηλὶδ' ἐμαντῶ συμφορᾶς ἀφιγμένην.

830

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἡμῖν μέν, ὦναξ, ταῦτ' ὀκνήρ· ἕως δ' ἂν οὖν
πρὸς τοῦ παρόντος ἐκμάθης, ἔχ' ἐλπίδα.

835

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καὶ μὴν τοσοῦτόν γ' ἐστὶ μοι τῆς ἐλπίδος,
τὸν ἄνδρα τὸν βοτῆρα προσμεῖναι μόνον.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πεφασμένου δὲ τίς ποθ' ἢ προθυμία;

ΟΙ. ἐγὼ διδάξω σ'· ἦν γὰρ εὗρεθῇ λέγων

σοὶ ταῦτ', ἔγωγ' ἂν ἐκπεφευγοίην πάθος.

840

ΙΟ. ποῖον δέ μου περισσὸν ἤκουσας λόγον;

ἄρ' οὐχὶ πᾶς ἄναγνος; εἴ με χρὴ φυγεῖν,

καί μοι φυγόντι μῆστι τοὺς ἐμοὺς ἰδεῖν

μηδ' ἐμβατεύειν πατρίδος, ἢ |wedding, sex ἱ

825

μητρὸς |yoke, join αἱ πατέρα |kill, slay

Πόλυβον, ὅς |spring |raise, rear με.
|from

ἄρ' οὐκ ἀπ' |raw ταῦτα |a god, fate, doom

κρίνων ἐπ' ἀνδρὶ τῷδ' ἄν |stand up ὅγον;

μὴ |emphatic δὴ τ', ὦ θεῶν ἄγνων |wonder,
|shame,

830

ἴδοιμι ταύτην ἡμέραν, ἀλλ' ἐκ βροτῶν
|awe

βαίην ἄφαντος πρόσθεν ἢ |such ἰδεῖν

κηλίδ' ἐμαντῶ |collecting; acci-, μένην.
|dent, misfortune

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἡμῖν μέν, ὦναξ, ταῦτ' |timid; ὥς δ' ἄν οὖν
|hesitating

πρὸς τοῦ παρόντος |know by heart ἑλπίδα.

835

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καὶ μὴν τοσοῦτόν γ' ἐστί μοι τῆς ἐλπίδος,

τὸν ἄνδρα τὸν |herds- |await, cleave μόνον.
|man |to

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πεφασμένου δὲ τίς ποθ' ἢ προθυμία;

ΟΙ. ἐγὼ διδάξω σ' ἣν γὰρ εὐρεθῇ λέγων

σοὶ ταῦτ', ἔγωγ' ἄν |flee |an experience, pas-
|sion, condition

840

ΙΟ. |what kind, ου περισσὸν ἤκουσας λόγον;

vile?

Am I not utterly unclean, a wretch
Doomed to be banished, and in banishment
Forgo the sight of all my dearest ones,
And never tread again my native earth;
Or else to wed my mother and slay my sire,
Polybus, who begat me and upreared?
If one should say, this is the handiwork
Of some inhuman power, who could blame
His judgment? But, ye pure and awful gods,
Forbid, forbid that I should see that day!
May I be blotted out from living men

Ere such a plague spot set on me its brand!

CHORUS. We too, O king, are troubled; but till thou
Hast questioned the survivor, still hope on.

OEDIPUS. My hope is faint, but still enough survives
To bid me bide the coming of this herd.

JOCASTA. Suppose him here, what wouldst thou learn of him?

OEDIPUS. I' ll tell thee, lady; if his tale agrees
With thine, I shall have 'scaped calamity.

JOCASTA. And what of special import did I say?

OEDIPUS. In thy report of what the herdsman said
Laius was slain by robbers; now if he

*vocabulary***ἀριθμός** number**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

διέπω manage, conduct**δύστηνος** unhappy, miserable**ἐκβάλλω** throw out, fell, let fall

~ballistic

ἐκτρέπω turn aside**ἐπίσταμαι** know how, understand

~station

ἐργάτης -ου (ᾱ, m, 1) worker**ἐφίστημι** set; (mp) come/be near,

direct, stop ~station

καίτοι and yet; and in fact; although**κατακτείνω** kill, slay**ληιστής** -οῦς (m, 3) bandit**ληιστός** lootable ~lucre**ληιστής** -οῦ (m, 1) bandit**μαντεία** oracular power**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**ὀρθός** upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

οὐτάω pierce, wound**παροιθε** in the presence of**πότε** when?**ῥέπω** incline or sink downwards**σαφής** clear, understandable**στέλλω** prepare, send, furl ~apostle**φάσκω** declare, promise, think ~fame**φόνος** killing ~offend

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ληστὰς ἔφασκες αὐτὸν ἄνδρας ἐννέπειν

ὥς νιν κατακτείνειαν. εἰ μὲν οὖν ἔτι

λέξει τὸν αὐτὸν ἀριθμόν, οὐκ ἐγὼ κτανον·

οὐ γὰρ γένοιτ' ἂν εἷς γε τοῖς πολλοῖς ἴσος·

845

εἰ δ' ἄνδρ' ἐν' οἰόζωνον αὐδήσει, σαφῶς

τοῦτ' ἐστὶν ἤδη τοῦργον εἰς ἐμὲ ῥέπον.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ἀλλ' ὥς φανέν γε τοῦπος ὧδ' ἐπίστασο,

κοῦκ ἔστιν αὐτῷ τοῦτό γ' ἐκβαλεῖν πάλιν·

πόλις γὰρ ἤκουσ', οὐκ ἐγὼ μόνη, τάδε.

850

εἰ δ' οὖν τι κακτρέποιτο τοῦ πρόσθεν λόγου,

οὔτοι ποτ', ὦναξ, σόν γε Λαῖου φόνον

φανεῖ δικαίως ὀρθόν, ὅν γε Λοξίας

διεῖπε χρήναι παιδὸς ἐξ ἐμοῦ θανεῖν.

καίτοι νιν οὐ κείνός γ' ὁ δύστηνός ποτε

855

κατέκταν', ἀλλ' αὐτὸς πάροιθεν ὤλετο.

ὥστ' οὐχὶ μαντείας γ' ἂν οὔτε τῇδ' ἐγὼ

βλέψαιμ' ἂν εἵνεκ' οὔτε τῇδ' ἂν ὕστερον.

ΟΙ. καλῶς νομίζεις· ἀλλ' ὅμως τὸν ἐργάτην

πέμψον τινὰ στελοῦντα μηδὲ τοῦτ' ἀφήῃς.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ληστὰς |declare, promise, ἀνδρας ἐννέπειν
|think

ὥς νιν |kill, slay . εἰ μὲν οὖν ἔτι

λέξει τὸν αὐτὸν |number , οὐκ ἐγὼ κτανον·

οὐ γὰρ γένοιτ' ἂν εἰς γε τοῖς πολλοῖς ἴσος·

845

εἰ δ' ἄνδρ' ἔν' οἰόζωνον |speak , |clear, under-
|standable

τοῦτ' ἐστὶν ἤδη τοῦργον εἰς ἐμέ |incline or sink
|downwards

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ἀλλ' ὥς φανέν γε τοῦπος ᾧδ' ἐπίστασο,

κοῦκ ἔστιν αὐτῷ τοῦτό γ' |throw out, πάλιν·
|fell, let fall

πόλις γὰρ ἤκουσ', οὐκ ἐγὼ μόνη, τάδε.

850

εἰ δ' οὖν τι |turn aside τοῦ πρόσθεν λόγου,

οὔτοι ποτ', ὦναξ, σόν γε Λαῖου |killing

φανεῖ δικαίως |upright, "straight"; ξίας
|correct, just

|manage, ὁρῆναι παιδὸς ἐξ ἐμοῦ θανεῖν.
|conduct

|and yet; and in. εἰνός γ' ὁ |unhappy, ποτε
|fact; although |miserable

855

κατέκταν', ἀλλ' αὐτὸς πάροιθεν ὤλετο.

ὥστ' οὐχὶ |oracular γ' ἂν οὔτε τῇδ' ἐγὼ
|power

βλέψαιμι' ἂν εἵνεκ' οὔτε τῇδ' ἂν ὕστερον.

ΟΙ. καλῶς νομίζεις· ἀλλ' |anyway, ἄ. |worker
|neverthe-

πέμψον τινα |prepare, send, furl |οὔτ' ἀφῆς.

Still speaks of robbers, not a robber, I
Slew him not; "one" with "many" cannot square.
But if he says one lonely wayfarer,
The last link wanting to my guilt is forged.
JOCASTA. Well, rest assured, his tale ran thus at first,
Nor can he now retract what then he said;
Not I alone but all our townsfolk heard it.
E' en should he vary somewhat in his story,
He cannot make the death of Laius
In any wise jump with the oracle.
For Loxias said expressly he was doomed
To die by my child' s hand, but he, poor babe,
He shed no blood, but perished first himself.
So much for divination. Henceforth I
Will look for signs neither to right nor left.
OEDIPUS. Thou reasonest well. Still I would have thee send
And fetch the bondsman hither. See to it.

*vocabulary***αιθήρ** ether, air, sky ~ether**αἰτέω** ask for ~etiology**ἄκρος** at the edge, extreme ~acute**ἀπότομος** cut off; severe**γηράσκω** grow old ~geriatric**εἰσαναβαίνω** go to ~basis**ἴσκω** imitate, liken to, guess ~victor**ματάω** be ineffective, idle**μήποτε** absolutely never**μοῖρα** portion, fate; (κατά+) rightly

~Moirai

ξύνειμι be with; have sex**ξυνίημι** send together; hear, notice,
understand**ὀρούω** rush, spring**οὐράνιος** heavenly**πάλαισμα** bout, struggle**πότε** when?**πρόκειμαι** be set before; propose**συμφέρω** bring together; be expedient;

agree; (mp) happen ~bear

τύραννος tyrant**ὕβρις** -εως (f) pride, insolence, outrage**φύσις** -εως (f) nature (of a thing)

~physics

φυτεύω plant, grow, cause, prepare

~physics

χρήσιμος useful

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πέμψω ταχύνασ'· ἀλλ' ἴωμεν ἐς δόμους·

οὐδὲν γὰρ ἂν πράξαμι' ἂν ὦν οὐ σοὶ φίλον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. εἴ μοι ξυνείη φέροντι

μοῖρα τὰν εὖσεπτον ἀγνείαν λόγων

ἔργων τε πάντων, ὦν νόμοι πρόκεινται

865

ὑψίποδες, οὐρανίαν

δι' αἰθέρα τεκνωθέντες, ὦν Ὀλυμπος

πατὴρ μόνος, οὐδέ νιν

θνατὰ φύσις ἀνέρων

ἔτικτεν οὐδὲ μὴ ποτε λάθῃ κατακοιμάσῃ·

870

μέγας ἐν τούτοις θεὸς οὐδὲ γηράσκει.

ΧΘ. ὕβρις φυτεύει τύραννον·

ὕβρις, εἰ πολλῶν ὑπερπλησθῇ μάταν,

ἂ μὴ πίκαιρα μῆδὲ συμφέροντα,

875

ἀκρότατον εἰσαναβᾶσ'

αἶψος ἀπότομον ὥρουσεν εἰς ἀνάγκαν,

ἐνθ' οὐ ποδὶ χρησίμῳ

χρήται. τὸ καλῶς δ' ἔχον

880

πόλει πάλαισμα μήποτε λῦσαι θεὸν αἰτοῦμαι.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. πέμψω ταχύνασ'· ἀλλ' |imitate, 'liken' |ους·
to, guess

οὐδὲν γὰρ ἂν πράξαιμ' ἂν ὦν οὐ σοὶ φίλον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. εἴ μοι ξυνείη φέροντι

|portion, fate ὕσεπτον ἀγνείαν λόγων

ἔργων τε πάντων, ὧν νόμοι |be set before;
|propose

865

ὑψίποδες, |heavenly

δι' |ether τεκνωθέντες, ὧν Ὀλυμπος

πατήρ μόνος, οὐδέ νιν

θνατὰ |nature (of a thing)

ἔτικτεν οὐδὲ μή ποτε λάθα κατακοιμάσῃ·

870

μέγας ἐν τούτοις θεὸς οὐδὲ |grow old

ΧΟ. |hubris |plant, |tyrant

grow,
|hubris, |cause,
|prepare

εἰ πολλῶν ὑπερπλησθῇ μάταν,

ἂ μὴ πίκαιρα μηδὲ συμφέροντα,

875

|at the edge, |go to
|extreme

αἶψος |cut off; se- |rush, εἰς ἀνάγκαν,
|vere |spring

ἔνθ' οὐ ποδὶ |useful

χρήται. τὸ καλῶς δ' ἔχον

880

πόλει |bout, |absolutely ἵσαι θεὸν |ask for
|struggle |never

JOCASTA. That will I straightway. Come, let us within.

I would do nothing that my lord mislikes.

Exeunt OEDIPUS and JOCASTA]

CHORUS. (Str. 1)

My lot be still to lead

The life of innocence and fly

Irreverence in word or deed,

To follow still those laws ordained on high

Whose birthplace is the bright ethereal sky

No mortal birth they own,

Olympus their progenitor alone:

Ne' er shall they slumber in oblivion cold,

The god in them is strong and grows not old.(

Ant. 1)

Of insolence is bred

The tyrant; insolence full blown,

With empty riches surfeited,

Scales the precipitous height and grasps the throne.

Then topples o' er and lies in ruin prone;

No foothold on that dizzy steep.

But O may Heaven the true patriot keep

Who burns with emulous zeal to serve the State.

*vocabulary***ἀνάσσω** rule, be lord**ἀρμόζω** fit together; be well fitted to

~harmony

βέλος -εος (n, 3) missile ~ballistic**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom

~demon

ἔδος ἔδεος (n, 3) seat, sitting

~polyhedron

εἴπερ if indeed**ἐργω** bound, fend off; do ~ergonomics**ἔρδω** do, perform ~ergonomics**θιγγάνω** touch**ἴσχω** restrain, hold back ~ischemia**κερδαίνω** profit, take advantage**κέρδος** -ους (n, 3) advantage, cunning**κρατύνω** strengthen**λαγχάνω** be allotted; (esp. λελα-
forms) allot; receive**λάσκω** cry, crack, ring**λήγω** cease, (+gen+ ppl) cause to cease

~lax

ματάζω be ineffective, idle**μοῖρα** portion, fate; (κατά+) rightly

~Moirai

ναός (ᾱ) temple, shrine ~nostalgia**ὀμφαλός** navel, nub ~umbilicus**σέβομαι** feel shame, awe**τίμιος** honored, precious**τοιόσδε** such**χορεύω** dance

θεὸν οὐ λήξω ποτὲ προστάταν ἴσχων.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. εἰ δέ τις ὑπέροπτα χερσὶν ἢ λόγῳ πορεύεται,

δίκας ἀφόβητος οὐδὲ δαιμόνων ἔδη σέβων, 885

κακά νιν ἔλοιτο μοῖρα,

δυσπότημον χάριν χλιδᾶς,

εἰ μὴ τὸ κέρδος κερδανεῖ δικαίως

καὶ τῶν ἀσέπτων ἔρξεται 890

ἢ τῶν ἀθίκτων θίξεται ματᾶζων.

τίς ἔτι ποτ' ἐν τοῖσδ' ἀνὴρ θεῶν βέλη

εὔξεται ψυχᾶς ἀμύνειν;

εἰ γὰρ αἱ τοιαῖδε πράξεις τίμμαι, 895

τί δεῖ με χορεύειν;

ΧΟ. οὐκέτι τὸν ἄθικτον εἶμι γᾶς ἐπ' ὀμφαλὸν σέβων,

οὐδ' ἐς τὸν Ἀβαῖσι ναὸν οὐδὲ τὰν Ὀλυμπίαν, 900

εἰ μὴ τάδε χειρόδεικτα

πᾶσιν ἀρμόσει βροτοῖς.

ἀλλ', ὦ κρατύνων, εἵπερ ὄρθ' ἀκούεις,

Ζεῦ, πάντ' ἀνάσσω, μὴ λάθοι 905

σὲ τάν τε σὺν ἀθάνατον αἰὲν ἀρχάν.

θεὸν οὐ λήξω ποτὲ προστάταν |hold back

ΧΟΡΟΣ. εἰ δέ τις ὑπέροπτα χερσὶν ἢ λόγῳ πορεύεται,

δίκας ἀφόβητος οὐδὲ |a god, fate, |seat, - ἴβων,
|doom |sitting

885

κακά νιν ἔλοιτο |portion, fate

δυσπότμου χάριν χλιδᾶς,

εἰ μὴ τὸ |advantage, profit, take |δικαίως
|cunning |advantage

καὶ τῶν ἀσέπτων ἔρξεται

890

ἢ τῶν ἀθίκτων |touch |be ineffective, idle

τίς ἔτι ποτ' ἐν τοῖσδ' ἀνὴρ θεῶν |missile

εὔξεται ψυχᾶς ἀμύνειν;

εἰ γὰρ αἱ |such πράξεις |honored,
|precious

895

τί δέι με |dance ,

ΧΟ. οὐκέτι τὸν ἄθικτον εἴμι γὰρ ἐπ' |navel, nub ἰέβων,

οὐδ' ἐς τὸν Ἀβαῖσι |temple οὐδὲ τὰν Ὀλυμπίαν,

900

εἰ μὴ τάδε χειρόδεικτα

πᾶσιν ἀρμόσει βροτοῖς.

ἀλλ', ὦ |strengthen , |if indeed ἴ' ἀκούεις,

Ζεῦ, πάντ' |rule , μὴ λάθοι

905

σὲ τάν τε σὰν ἀθάνατον αἰὲν ἀρχάν.

God is my help and hope, on him I wait.(

Str. 2)

But the proud sinner, or in word or deed,

That will not Justice heed,

Nor reverence the shrine

Of images divine,

Perdition seize his vain imaginings,

If, urged by greed profane,

He grasps at ill-got gain,

And lays an impious hand on holiest things.

Who when such deeds are done

Can hope heaven' s bolts to shun?

If sin like this to honor can aspire,

Why dance I still and lead the sacred choir?(

Ant. 2)

No more I' ll seek earth' s central oracle,

Or Abae' s hallowed cell,

Nor to Olympia bring

My votive offering.

If before all God' s truth be not bade plain.

O Zeus, reveal thy might,

King, if thou' rt named aright

Omnipotent, all-seeing, as of old;

*vocabulary***ἄγαμαι** wonder, admire; resent,

be grudge

ἄγαν very much**ἄγχιςτος** nearest**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom

~demon

ἐκπλήσσω panic, be knocked out

~plectrum

ἐμφανής visible**ἐξαίρέω** pick, steal; dedicate; destroy

~heresy

ἔρρω go (neg. connotation) ~serve**θέσφατος** divinely ordained**ἰκέτις** female suppliant**καινός** new, fresh, strange**κυβερνήτης** -ου (m, 1) steersman,

governor ~govern

λύσις -ος (f) a release ~loose**νάος** (ἄ) temple, shrine ~nostalgia**ὀκνέω** shrink from, hesitate; worry**ὅποῖος** whatever kind**ὅπου** where**οὐδαμοῦ** nowhere**πάλαι** long ago ~paleo**παλαίφατος** put forth long ago

~photon

πάλη wrestling ~Pallas**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**παραινέω** recommend, exhort, warn**πόρω** aor. give, pf. be fated**ῥέζω** do, make, perform sacrifices

~ergonomics

ῥέω flow ~rheostat**τεχμαίρομαι** conclude, declare from
evidence**τύραννος** tyrant**ὕψοῦ** high, aloft**ὕψόω** lift, exalt**φθίω** cause to perish, wane; (of time)

pass

φθίνοντα γὰρ Λαΐου παλαίφατα
 θέσφατ' ἐξαιρούσιν ἤδη,
 κούδαμοῦ τιμαῖς Ἀπόλλων ἐμφανής·
 ἔρρει δὲ τὰ θεῖα.

910

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. χώρας ἄνακτες, δόξα μοι παρεστάθη

ναοὺς ἰκέσθαι δαιμόνων, τάδ' ἐν χεροῖν
 στέφη λαβούση κάπιθυμιάματα.

ὑψοῦ γὰρ αἶρει θυμὸν Οἰδίπους ἄγαν

λύπαισι παντοίαισιν· οὐδ' ὅποῖ ἀνὴρ

915

ἔννουσ τὰ καινὰ τοῖς πάλαι τεκμαίρεται,

ἀλλ' ἐστὶ τοῦ λέγοντος, εἰ φόβους λέγοι.

ὅτ' οὖν παραινοῦς οὐδὲν ἐς πλεόν ποιῶ,

πρὸς σ', ὦ Λύκει' Ἀπολλων, ἄγχιστος γὰρ εἶ,

ἰκέτις ἀφίγμαι τοῖσδε σὺν κατεύγμασιν,

920

ὅπως λύσω τιν' ἡμῖν εὐαγὴ πόρης·

ὥς νῦν ὀκνοῦμεν πάντες ἐκπεπληγμένον

κεῖνον βλέποντες ὥς κυβερνήτην νεώς.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ἄρ' ἂν παρ' ὑμῶν, ὦ ξένοι, μάθοιμ' ὅπου

τὰ τοῦ τυράννου δώματ' ἐστὶν Οἰδίπου;

|cause to perish, wane; (of)put forth long ago
|time) pass

|divinely |pick, steal; dedi-,
|ordained |cate; destroy

|nowhere τιμαῖς Ἀπόλλων |visible

ἔρρει δὲ τὰ θεῖα.

910

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. χώρας ἄνακτες, δόξα μοι παρεστάθη

|temple |κέσθαι |a god, fate, doom' ἵν' χεροῖν

στέφη λαβούση κάπιθυμιάματα.

ὑψοῦ γὰρ αἶρει θυμὸν Οἰδίπους ἄγαν

λύπαισι παντοίαισιν· οὐδ' |whatever kind

915

ἔννους τὰ |new, fresh, strange... |conclude, declare
|from evidence

ἀλλ' ἐστὶ τοῦ λέγοντος, εἰ φόβους λέγοι.

ὅτ' οὖν |recommend, οὐδὲν ἐς πλεόν ποιῶ,
|exhort, warn

πρὸς σ', ὦ Λύκει' Ἀπολλων, |nearest γὰρ εἶ,

|female ἱγμαι τοῖσδε σὺν κατεύγμασιν,
|suppliant

920

ὅπως |a release ' ἡμῖν εὐαγῇ |give, be fated

ὥς νῦν |hesitate; πάντες |panic, be knocked
|worry |out

κεῖνον βλέποντες ὥς |steersman, νεώς.
|governor

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ἅρ' ἂν παρ' ὑμῶν, ὦ ξένοι, μάθοιμ' |where

τὰ τοῦ |tyrant δώματ' ἐστὶν Οἰδίου;

For Laius is forgot;
His weird, men heed it not;
Apollo is forsook and faith grows cold.

Enter JOCASTA.]

JOCASTA. My lords, ye look amazed to see your queen
With wreaths and gifts of incense in her hands.
I had a mind to visit the high shrines,
For Oedipus is overwrought, alarmed
With terrors manifold. He will not use
His past experience, like a man of sense,
To judge the present need, but lends an ear
To any croaker if he augurs ill.
Since then my counsels naught avail, I turn
To thee, our present help in time of trouble,
Apollo, Lord Lycean, and to thee
My prayers and supplications here I bring.
Lighten us, lord, and cleanse us from this curse!
For now we all are cowed like mariners
Who see their helmsman dumbstruck in the storm.

Enter Corinthian MESSENGER.]

MESSENGER. My masters, tell me where the palace is

*vocabulary***ἀσχάλλω** be distressed**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

αὐτως just so, merely; in vain ~after**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**διπλόος** double, overlapping**ἐγκρατής** firm, powerful**ἐνδίδωμι** hand over, lend, show, allow**ἐνδον** in the house of; within**ἐνδω** in the house of; within**ἐπιχώριος** native**ἡδομαι** be pleased, enjoy ~hedonism**καθίζω** set, sit, alight, set up ~sit**κάτειμι** go down, disembark ~ion**κάτοιδα** understand**ὀλβία** bliss**ὄλβιος** happy, wealthy**ὅπου** where**παντελής** complete, absolute**ποῖος** what kind**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

σημαίνω give orders to; show; mark

~semaphore

στέγη roof, ceiling, chamber**τάφος** (m) funeral, grave; (n)

astonishment

τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

τέθηπα be confused**τύραννος** tyrant**χρήζω** need ~chresard

μάλιστα δ' αὐτὸν εἶπατ', εἰ κάτισθ' ὅπου.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. στέγαι μὲν αἶδε, καὐτὸς ἔνδον, ὦ ξένε·

γυνὴ δὲ μήτηρ ἦδε τῶν κείνου τέκνων.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ἀλλ' ὀλβία τε καὶ ξὺν ὀλβίοις αἰεὶ

γένοιτ', ἐκείνου γ' οὔσα παντελὴς δάμαρ.

930

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. αὐτῶς δὲ καὶ σύ γ', ὦ ξέν'· ἄξιος γὰρ εἶ

τῆς εὐεπείας εἵνεκ'· ἀλλὰ φράζ' ὅτου

χρήζων ἀφίξαι χῶ τι σημήναι θέλων.

ΑΓ. ἀγαθὰ δόμοις τε καὶ πόσει τῷ σῶ, γύναι.

ΙΟ. τὰ ποῖα ταῦτα; παρὰ τίνος δ' ἀφιγμένος;

935

ΑΓ. ἐκ τῆς Κορίνθου· τὸ δ' ἔπος οὐξερῶ τάχα,

ἥδοιο μὲν, πῶς δ' οὐκ ἄν, ἀσχάλλοις δ' ἴσως.

ΙΟ. τί δ' ἔστι; ποῖαν δύναμιν ᾧδ' ἔχει διπλῆν;

ΑΓ. τύραννον αὐτὸν οὐπιχώριοι χθονὸς

τῆς Ἰσθμίας στήσουσιν, ὥς ηὐδατ' ἐκεῖ.

940

ΙΟ. τί δ'; οὐχ ὁ πρέσβυς Πόλυβος ἐγκρατὴς ἔτι;

ΑΓ. οὐ δῆτ', ἐπεὶ νιν θάνατος ἐν τάφοις ἔχει.

ΙΟ. πῶς εἶπας; ἦ τέθνηκε Πόλυβος, ὦ γέρον;

ΑΓ. εἰ μὴ λέγω τὰληθές, ἀξιῶ θανεῖν.

μάλιστα δ' αὐτὸν εἶπατ', εἰ κάτισθ' |where

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |roof, ceiling, ἴδε, καὐτὸς ἔνδον, ὦ ξένε·
|chamber

γυνή δὲ μήτηρ ἦδε τῶν κείνου τέκνων.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ἀλλ' |bliss τε καὶ ξὺν |happy, ἀεὶ
|wealthy

γένοιτ', ἐκείνου γ' οὔσα |complete, |wife
|absolute

930

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. |just so, merely; σύ γ', ὦ ξέν'· ἄξιος γὰρ εἶ
|in vain

τῆς εὐεπείας εἵνεκ'· ἀλλὰ φράζ' ὅτου

|need ἀφίξαι χά τι |give orders to; ὦν.
|show; mark

ΑΓ. ἀγαθὰ δόμοις τε καὶ |(m) husband, ἡμας' αἱ.
|ter; (f) a drink

ΙΟ. τὰ |what kind α; παρὰ τίνος δ' ἀφιγμένος;

935

ΑΓ. ἐκ τῆς Κορίνθου· τὸ δ' ἔπος οὐξερῶ |quickly, soon;
|perhaps

ἥδοιο μέν, πῶς δ' οὐκ ἄν, |be distressed ὡς ἴσως.

ΙΟ. τί δ' ἔστι; |what kind ἡμιν ὧδ' ἔχει διπλῆν;

ΑΓ. |tyrant αὐτὸν |native χθονὸς

τῆς Ἰσθμίας στήσουσιν, ὥς |speak ἐκέλ.

940

ΙΟ. τί δ'; οὐχ ὁ πρέσβυς Πόλυβος |firm, ἔτι;
|powerful

ΑΓ. οὐ δῆτ', ἐπεὶ νῦν θάνατος ἐν τάφοις ἔχει.

ΙΟ. πῶς εἶπας; ἦ τέθνηκε Πόλυβος, ὦ γέρον;

ΑΓ. εἰ μὴ λέγω τάληθές, ἀξιῶ θανεῖν.

Of Oedipus; or better, where' s the king.

CHORUS. Here is the palace and he bides within;

This is his queen the mother of his children.

MESSENGER. All happiness attend her and the house,

Blessed is her husband and her marriage-bed.

JOCASTA. My greetings to thee, stranger; thy fair words

Deserve a like response. But tell me why

Thou comest— what thy need or what thy news.

MESSENGER. Good for thy consort and the royal house.

JOCASTA. What may it be? Whose messenger art thou?

MESSENGER. The Isthmian commons have resolved to make

Thy husband king— so 'twas reported there.

JOCASTA. What! is not aged Polybus still king?

MESSENGER. No, verily; he' s dead and in his grave.

JOCASTA. What! is he dead, the sire of Oedipus?

MESSENGER. If I speak falsely, may I die myself.

JOCASTA. Quick, maiden, bear these tidings to my lord.

Ye god-sent oracles, where stand ye now!

This is the man whom Oedipus long shunned,

In dread to prove his murderer; and now

vocabulary

ἀγγέλλω carry a message, announce
 ~angel
ἀπαγγέλλω announce, order, promise
 ~angel
βλώσκω come, go
δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot
δεῦρο here, come here!
δόλος trick, bait
ἐκπέμπω send forth ~pomp
ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent
εὐνάζω lay down; (mp) have sex
κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά*
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
μάντευμα -τος (n, 3) oracle
μολίσκω come, go
νόσος (f) plague, pestilence ~noisome
πάλαι long ago ~paleo

παλαιός old ~paleo
πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
πότερος which, whichever of two
πρόσπολος servant, attendant
ρόπή balancing, crisis
σαφής clear, understandable
σεμνός revered, holy
σκοπᾶω watch, observe
σκοπέω behold, consider
συμμετρέω measure by comparison
τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer
τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
τρέμω tremble in fear ~tremble
τύχη fortune, act of a god
φθίω cause to perish, wane; (of time)
 pass

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ὦ πρόσπολ', οὐχὶ δεσπότη τάδ' ὡς τάχος

945

μολοῦσα λέξεις; ὦ θεῶν μαντεύματα,

ἔν' ἐστέ· τοῦτον Οἰδίπους πάλαι τρέμων

τὸν ἄνδρ' ἔφευγε μὴ κτάνοι, καὶ νῦν ὅδε

πρὸς τῆς τύχης ὄλωλεν οὐδὲ τοῦδ' ὕπο.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦ φίλτατον γυναικὸς Ἰοκάστης κára,

950

τί μ' ἐξεπέμφω δεῦρο τῶνδε δωμάτων;

ΙΟ. ἄκουε τάνδρὸς τοῦδε, καὶ σκόπει κλύων

τὰ σέμν' ἔν' ἤκει τοῦ θεοῦ μαντεύματα.

ΟΙ. οὗτος δὲ τίς ποτ' ἐστὶ καὶ τί μοι λέγει;

ΙΟ. ἐκ τῆς Κορίνθου, πατέρα τὸν σὸν ἀγγελῶν

955

ὡς οὐκέτ' ὄντα Πόλυβον, ἀλλ' ὄλωλότα.

ΟΙ. τί φῆς, ξέν'; αὐτός μοι σὺ σημάντωρ γενοῦ.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. εἰ τοῦτο πρῶτον δεῖ μ' ἀπαγγεῖλαι σαφῶς,

εἷ ἴσθ' ἐκείνον θανάσιμον βεβηκότα.

ΟΙ. πότερα δόλοισιν ἢ νόσου ξυναλλαγῇ;

960

ΑΓ. σμικρὰ παλαιὰ σώματ' εὐνάζει ροπή.

ΟΙ. νόσοις ὁ τλήμων, ὡς ἔοικεν, ἔφθιτο.

ΑΓ. καὶ τῷ μακρῷ γε συμμετρούμενος χρόνῳ.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. ὦ πρόσπολ', οὐχὶ [|]master, [|]despot τάδ' ὥς [|]speed 945

μολοῦσα λέξεις; ὦ θεῶν [|]oracle ,

ἵν' ἔστέ· τοῦτον Οἰδίπους πάλαι [|]tremble in fear

τὸν ἄνδρ' ἔφευγε μὴ κτάνοι, καὶ νῦν ὅδε

πρὸς τῆς [|]fortune, [|]act λεν οὐδὲ τοῦδ' ὕπο.
[|]of a god

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὦ φίλτατον γυναικὸς Ἰοκάστης [|]useless bit; [|]form of κατά 950

τί μ' [|]send forth [|]here, comê here! ..μάτων;

ΙΟ. ἄκουε τάνδρὸς τοῦδε, καὶ σκόπει [|]hear

τὰ [|]revered, [|]hōly .. τοῦ θεοῦ [|]oracle

ΟΙ. οὗτος δὲ τίς ποτ' ἐστὶ καὶ τί μοι λέγει;

ΙΟ. ἐκ τῆς Κορίνθου, πατέρα τὸν σὸν [|]carry a message, [|]announce 955

ὥς οὐκέτ' ὄντα Πόλυβον, ἀλλ' ὀλωλότα.

ΟΙ. τί φῆς, ξέν'; αὐτός μοι σὺ σημάντωρ γενοῦ.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. εἰ τοῦτο πρῶτον δεῖ μ' [|]announce, or-[|]clear, under-
[|]der, promise [|]standable

εὖ ἴσθ' ἐκείνον θανάσιμον βεβηκότα.

ΟΙ. [|]which, [|]trick, bait ᾗ, [|]plague [|]ξυναλλαγῇ; 960
[|]whichever

ΑΓ. σμικρὰ [|]old σώματ' [|]lay [|]balancing,
[|]down; [|]crisis

ΟΙ. [|]plague ὁ [|]steadfast, ὥς [|]εὐχέρει [|]cause to perish, wane;
[|]have [|]sex [|](of time) pass

ΑΓ. καὶ τῷ μακρῷ γε συμμετρούμενος χρόνῳ.

He dies in nature' s course, not by his hand.

Enter OEDIPUS.]

OEDIPUS. My wife, my queen, Jocasta, why hast thou
Summoned me from my palace?

JOCASTA. Hear this man,

And as thou hearest judge what has become
Of all those awe-inspiring oracles.

OEDIPUS. Who is this man, and what his news for me?

JOCASTA. He comes from Corinth and his message this:
Thy father Polybus hath passed away.

OEDIPUS. What? let me have it, stranger, from thy mouth.

MESSENGER. If I must first make plain beyond a doubt
My message, know that Polybus is dead.

OEDIPUS. By treachery, or by sickness visited?

MESSENGER. One touch will send an old man to his rest.

OEDIPUS. So of some malady he died, poor man.

MESSENGER. Yes, having measured the full span

vocabulary

ἄνω (ᾶ) accomplish, pass, waste;
 upwards, out to sea
αὐδάω speak, declare, shout
 ~Theravada
εἰκῇ haphazardly; in vain
ἐνθάδε here, hither
ἑστία hearth ~Hestia
ἑστιάω give a feast
θέσπισμα oracular pronouncement
καταφθίω cause to perish, wane; (of
 time) pass
κεῦθος -εος (n, 3) lower region
 ~cuticle
κεύθω cover, hide ~cuticle
κλάζω scream, clang ~klaxon
κράτιστος best
λέχος -εος (n, 3) couch, bed, bier ~lie

ὀκνέω shrink from, hesitate; worry
ὄνειρος dream
ὄρνις -θος (ī, f) bird ~ornithology
οὐκουν certainly not
πάλαι long ago ~paleo
πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
παράγω deflect; bring forward
πόθος longing, regret ~bid
προλέγω prophecy, proclaim; preselect
 ~legion
πρόνοια foresight, providence
προσδοκάω expect
σαφής clear, understandable
σκοπέω behold, consider
συλλαμβάνω seize, capture;
 understand ~epilepsy
τύχη fortune, act of a god

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. φεῦ φεῦ, τί δῆτ' ἄν, ὦ γύναι, σκοποῖτό τι

τὴν Πυθόμαντιν ἐστίαν ἢ τοὺς ἄνω

965

κλάζοντας ὄρνεις, ὧν ὑφηγητῶν ἐγὼ

κτενεῖν ἔμελλον πατέρα τὸν ἐμόν; ὁ δὲ θανὼν

κεύθει κάτω δὴ γῆς. ἐγὼ δ' ὄδ' ἐνθάδε

ἄψανστος ἔγχους· εἴ τι μὴ τῶμῳ πόθῳ

κατέφθιθ'· οὕτω δ' ἂν θανὼν εἴη ξ ἐμοῦ.

970

τὰ δ' οὖν παρόντα συλλαβὼν θεσπίσματα

κεῖται παρ' Ἄιδῃ Πόλυβος ἄξι' οὐδενός.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. οὔκουν ἐγὼ σοι ταῦτα προύλεγον πάλαι;

ΟΙ. ἡῦδας· ἐγὼ δὲ τῷ φόβῳ παρηγόμην.

ΙΟ. μὴ νῦν ἔτ' αὐτῶν μηδὲν ἐς θυμὸν βάλῃς.

975

ΟΙ. καὶ πῶς τὸ μητρὸς οὐκ ὀκνεῖν λέχος με δεῖ;

ΙΟ. τί δ' ἂν φοβοῖτ' ἄνθρωπος ὧ τὰ τῆς τύχης

κρατεῖ, πρόνοια δ' ἐστὶν οὐδενὸς σαφής;

εἰκὴ κράτιστον ζῆν, ὅπως δύναιτό τις.

σὺ δ' εἰς τὰ μητρὸς μὴ φοβοῦ νυμφεύματα·

980

πολλοὶ γὰρ ἤδη κὰν ὀνείρασιν βροτῶν

μητρὶ ξυνηυνάσθησαν. ἀλλὰ ταῦθ' ὅτῳ

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. φεῦ φεῦ, τί δῆτ' ἄν, ὦ γύναι, behold,
consider τι

τὴν Πυθόμαντιν ἐστίαν ἢ τοὺς ἄνω 965

scream,
clang bird , ὦν ὑψηλῶν ἐγὼ

κτενεῖν ἔμελλον πατέρα τὸν ἐμόν; ὁ δὲ θανὼν

κεύθει κάτω δὴ γῆς. ἐγὼ δ' ὅδ' here,
hither

ἄψαυστος ἔγχους· εἴ τι μὴ τῶμῳ longing,
regret

cause to perish, "wane";
(of time) pass ἂν θανὼν εἴη ξ ἐμοῦ. 970

τὰ δ' οὖν παρόντα seize,
capture;
understand oracular pro-
nouncement

κεῖται παρ' Ἀϊδῆ Πολυβρὸς ἀξί' οὐδενός.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. certainly not σοι ταῦτα prophecy, pro-
claim; preselect λαι;

ΟΙ. speak ἐγὼ δὲ τῷ φόβῳ deflect; bring
forward

ΙΟ. μὴ νῦν ἔτ' αὐτῶν μηδὲν ἐς θυμὸν βάλης. 975

ΟΙ. καὶ πῶς τὸ μητρὸς οὐκ hesitate;
worry bed, bier δεῖ;

ΙΟ. τί δ' ἂν φοβοῖτ' ἄνθρωπος ὧ τὰ τῆς fortune, act
of a god

κρατεῖ, foresight,
providence ὃ ἐστὶν οὐδενὸς clear, under-
standable

hap- | best ζῆν, ὅπως δύναίτο τις.

haz-
ardly;
in
vain εἰς τὰ μητρὸς μὴ φοβοῦ νυμφεύματα· 980

πολλοὶ γὰρ ἤδη κὰν dream βροτῶν

μητρὶ ξυνηννάσθησαν. ἀλλὰ ταῦθ' ὅτω

of years.

OEDIPUS. Out on it, lady! why should one regard

The Pythian hearth or birds that scream i' the air?

Did they not point at me as doomed to slay

My father? but he's dead and in his grave

And here am I who ne'er unsheathed a sword;

Unless the longing for his absent son

Killed him and so I slew him in a sense.

But, as they stand, the oracles are dead—

Dust, ashes, nothing, dead as Polybus.

JOCASTA. Say, did not I foretell this long ago?

OEDIPUS. Thou didst: but I was misled by my fear.

JOCASTA. Then let I no more weigh upon thy soul.

OEDIPUS. Must I not fear my mother's marriage bed.

JOCASTA. Why should a mortal man, the sport of chance,

With no assured foreknowledge, be afraid?

Best live a careless life from hand to mouth.

This wedlock with thy mother fear not thou.

How oft it chances that in dreams

vocabulary

βίος life ~biology

γεραιός old ~geriatric

ἐγχέω pour into

ἐνέχω hold inside

ἐξαιρέω pick, steal; dedicate; destroy
~heresy

εὐτυχής fortunate

ἡδέως pleasantly ~hedonism

ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism

θεμιτός legal, righteous

κῦρος -εος (n, 3) authority; validity

μάντευμα -τος (n, 3) oracle

μέτειμι be among, go, follow ~ion

ξυνίημι send together; hear, notice,
understand

ὀκνέω shrink from, hesitate; worry

ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye

ὅμως anyway, nevertheless

πάλαι long ago ~paleo

πάλη wrestling ~Pallas

πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas

πατρώος of the father(s), ancestral

ποίη grass

ποῖος what kind

ῥητός stated, agreed on ~rhetoric

τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n)

astonishment

τέθηπα be confused

φονεύς -ως (m) killer ~offend

χρήζω need ~chresard

παρ' οὐδέν ἐστι, ῥᾶστα τὸν βίον φέρει.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καλῶς ἅπαντα ταῦτ' ἂν ἐξείρητό σοι,

εἰ μὴ κύρει ζῶσ' ἡ τεκοῦσα· νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ 985

ζῇ, πᾶσ' ἀνάγκη, κεί' καλῶς λέγεις, ὀκνεῖν.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. καὶ μὴν μέγας γ' ὀφθαλμὸς οἱ πατρὸς τάφοι.

ΟΙ. μέγας, ξυνήμ'· ἀλλὰ τῆς ζώσης φόβος.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ποίας δὲ καὶ γυναικὸς ἐκφοβείσθ' ὕπερ;

ΟΙ. Μερόπης, γεραιέ, Πόλυβος ἥς ᾧκει μέτα. 990

ΑΓ. τί δ' ἔστ' ἐκείνης ὑμῖν ἐς φόβον φέρον;

ΟΙ. θεήλατον μάντευμα δεινόν, ὦ ξένε.

ΑΓ. ἡ ῥητόν; ἢ οὐχὶ θεμιτὸν ἄλλον εἰδέναι;

ΟΙ. μάλιστά γ'· εἶπε γάρ με Λοξίας ποτὲ

χρῆναι μνῆναι μητρὶ τήμαυτοῦ τό τε 995

πατρῶον αἷμα χερσὶ ταῖς ἐμαῖς ἐλεῖν.

ὦν οὐνεχ' ἡ Κόρινθος ἐξ ἐμοῦ πάλαι

μακρὰν ἀπωκέιτ'· εὐτυχῶς μέν, ἀλλ' ὅμως

τὰ τῶν τεκόντων ὄμμαθ' ἥδιστον βλέπειν.

ΑΓ. ἡ γὰρ τὰδ' ὀκνῶν κείθεν ἦσθ' ἀπόπολις; 1000

ΟΙ. πατρός τε χρήζων μὴ φονεὺς εἶναι, γέρον.

παρ' οὐδέν ἐστι, ῥᾶστα τὸν |life φέρει.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καλῶς ἅπαντα ταῦτ' ἂν |pick, steal; dedi-
|cate; destroy

εἰ μὴ |authority; -' ἢ τεκοῦσα· νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ |validity 985

ζῆ, πᾶσ' ἀνάγκη, κεί' καλῶς λέγεις, |hesitate;
|worry

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. καὶ μὴν μέγας γ' ὀφθαλμὸς οἱ πατρὸς τάφοι.

ΟΙ. μέγας, |send together; hear, ζώσης φόβος.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ποίας δὲ καὶ γυναικὸς ἐκφοβεῖσθ' ὕπερ;

ΟΙ. Μερόπης, |old , Πόλυβος ἥς ᾧκει μέτα. 990

ΑΓ. τί δ' ἔστ' ἐκείνης ὑμῖν ἐς φόβον φέρον;

ΟΙ. θεήλατον |oracle δεινόν, ᾧ ξένε.

ΑΓ. ἡ |stated, , ἡ οὐχὶ |legal, ἄλλον εἰδέναι;
|agreed |righteous

ΟΙ. μάλιστά γ'· εἶπε γάρ με Λοξίας ποτὲ
on

χρῆναι μιγῆναι μητρὶ τῆμαντοῦ τό τε 995

|of the father(s), ! χερσὶ ταῖς ἐμαῖς ἐλεῖν.
|ancestral

ὦν οὐνεχ' ἡ Κόρινθος ἐξ ἐμοῦ πάλαι

μακρὰν ἀπωκεῖτ'· |fortunate μέν, ἀλλ' |anyway, nevertheless

τὰ τῶν τεκόντων |eye ἥδιστον βλέπειν.

ΑΓ. ἡ γὰρ τάδ' |hesitate; εἶθεν ἥσθ' ἀπόπολις;
|worry 1000

ΟΙ. πατρός τε |need μὴ |killer εἶναι, γέρον.

a man

Has wed his mother! He who least regards
Such brainsick phantasies lives most at ease.

OEDIPUS. I should have shared in full thy confidence,
Were not my mother living; since she lives
Though half convinced I still must live in dread.

JOCASTA. And yet thy sire's death lights out darkness much.

OEDIPUS. Much, but my fear is touching her who lives.

MESSENGER. Who may this woman be whom thus you fear?

OEDIPUS. Merope, stranger, wife of Polybus.

MESSENGER. And what of her can cause you any fear?

OEDIPUS. A heaven-sent oracle of dread import.

MESSENGER. A mystery, or may a stranger hear it?

OEDIPUS. Aye, 'tis no secret. Loxias once foretold
That I should mate with mine own mother, and shed
With my own hands the blood of my own sire.

Hence Corinth was for many a year to me

A home distant; and I trove abroad,

But missed the sweetest sight, my parents' face.

MESSENGER. Was this the fear that exiled thee from home?

OEDIPUS. Yea, and the dread of slaying my own sire.

MESSENGER. Why, since I came to give thee pleasure, King,

vocabulary

βλώσχω come, go

γεραιός old ~geriatric

δῆλος visible, conspicuous

δήτα emphatic δῆ

ἐκλύω rescue from ~loose

ἐκφύω spring from ~physics

ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent

εὖνοος kindly; favorable

μίασμα -τος (n, 3) taint, defilement

μολίσχω come, go

ὁμός same ~homoerotic

ὁμοῦ together

ὁμόω unite ~homoerotic

οὕνεκα because

σαφής clear, understandable

ταρβέω be afraid

τάρβος -εος (n, 3) fear

τρέμω tremble in fear ~tremble

φῦσα bellows

φυσάω (ῶ) blow, puff, blow out

φυτεύω plant, grow, cause, prepare

~physics

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. τί δῆτ' ἐγὼ οὐχὶ τοῦδε τοῦ φόβου σ', ἄναξ,

ἐπείπερ εὐνους ἦλθον, ἐξελυσάμην;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καὶ μὴν χάριν γ' ἂν ἀξίαν λάβοις ἐμοῦ.

ΑΓ. καὶ μὴν μάλιστα τοῦτ' ἀφικόμην, ὅπως

1005

σοῦ πρὸς δόμους ἐλθόντος εὖ πράξαιμί τι.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὔποτ' εἶμι τοῖς φυτεύσασίν γ' ὅμοῦ.

ΑΓ. ὦ παῖ, καλῶς εἰ δῆλος οὐκ εἰδὼς τί δρᾷς.

ΟΙ. πῶς, ὦ γεραιέ; πρὸς θεῶν διδάσκέ με.

ΑΓ. εἰ τῶνδε φεύγεις οὔνεκ' εἰς οἴκους μολεῖν.

1010

ΟΙ. ταρβῶν γε μή μοι Φοῖβος ἐξέλθῃ σαφής.

ΑΓ. ἦ μὴ μίασμα τῶν φυτευσάντων λάβῃς;

ΟΙ. τοῦτ' αὐτό, πρέσβυ, τοῦτό μ' εἰσαεὶ φοβεῖ.

ΑΓ. ἄρ' οἶσθα δῆτα πρὸς δίκης οὐδὲν τρέμων;

ΟΙ. πῶς δ' οὐχί, παῖς γ' εἰ τῶνδε γεννητῶν ἔφυν;

1015

ΑΓ. ὀθούνεκ' ἦν σοι Πόλυβος οὐδὲν ἐν γένει.

ΟΙ. πῶς εἶπας; οὐ γὰρ Πόλυβος ἐξέφυσέ με;

ΑΓ. οὐ μάλλον οὐδὲν τοῦδε τάνδρός, ἀλλ' ἴσον.

ΟΙ. καὶ πῶς ὁ φύσας ἐξ ἴσου τῷ μηδενί;

ΑΓ. ἀλλ' οὐ σ' ἐγείνατ' οὔτ' ἐκεῖνος οὔτ' ἐγώ.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. τί δῆτ' ἐγὼ οὐχὶ τοῦδε τοῦ φόβου σ', ἄναξ,

ἐπείπερ εὖνους ἦλθον, |rescue from ,

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καὶ μὴν χάριν γ' ἂν ἀξίαν λάβοις ἐμοῦ.

ΑΓ. καὶ μὴν μάλιστα τοῦτ' ἀφικόμην, ὅπως

1005

σοῦ πρὸς δόμους ἐλθόντος εἶ πράξαίμι τι.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' οὔ ποτ' εἶμι τοῖς |plant, grow, ὅμοῦ.
|cause, prepare

ΑΓ. ὦ παῖ, καλῶς εἶ |visible, ἴδῶς τί δρᾷς.
|conspicuous

ΟΙ. πῶς, ὦ |old , πρὸς θεῶν δίδασκέ με.

ΑΓ. εἰ τῶνδε φεύγεις |because ἴς οἴκους μολεῖν.

1010

ΟΙ. ταρβῶν γε μή μοι Φοῖβος ἐξέλθῃ |clear, under-
|standable

ΑΓ. ἦ μὴ |taint, ὦν |plant, grow, λάβῃς;
|defilement |cause, prepare

ΟΙ. τοῦτ' αὐτό, πρέσβυ, τοῦτό μ' εἰσαεὶ φοβεῖ.

ΑΓ. ἄρ' οἶσθα |emphatic δὴ ΐίκης οὐδὲν |tremble in fear

ΟΙ. πῶς δ' οὐχί, παῖς γ' εἰ τῶνδε γεννητῶν |produce,
|beget; clasp

1015

ΑΓ. ὀθύνεκ' ἦν σοι Πόλυβος οὐδὲν ἐν γένει.

ΟΙ. πῶς εἶπας; οὐ γὰρ Πόλυβος |spring from ,

ΑΓ. οὐ μᾶλλον οὐδὲν τοῦδε τάνδρός, ἀλλ' ἴσον.

ΟΙ. καὶ πῶς ὁ φύσας ἐξ ἴσου τῷ μηδενί;

ΑΓ. ἀλλ' οὐ σ' ἐγείνατ' οὔτ' ἐκείνος οὔτ' ἐγώ.

Have I not rid thee of this second fear?

OEDIPUS. Well, thou shalt have due guerdon for thy pains.

MESSENGER. Well, I confess what chiefly made me come

Was hope to profit by thy coming home.

OEDIPUS. Nay, I will ne'er go near my parents more.

MESSENGER. My son, 'tis plain, thou know'st not what thou doest.

OEDIPUS. How so, old man? For heaven's sake tell me all.

MESSENGER. If this is why thou darest to return.

OEDIPUS. Yea, lest the god's word be fulfilled in me.

MESSENGER. Lest through thy parents thou shouldst be accursed?

OEDIPUS. This and none other is my constant dread.

MESSENGER. Dost thou not know thy fears are baseless all?

OEDIPUS. How baseless, if I am their very son?

MESSENGER. Since Polybus was naught to thee in blood.

OEDIPUS. What say'st thou? was not Polybus my sire?

MESSENGER. As much thy sire as I am, and no more.

OEDIPUS. My sire no more to me than one who is naught?

MESSENGER. Since I begat thee not, no more did he.

OEDIPUS. What reason had he then to call

vocabulary

ἀγκάλη the bent arm ~ankylosaurus
ἀκμή point, edge, top, culmination
 ~acute
ἄλγος -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic
ἀναιρέω take up ~heresy
ἄρθρον joint
ἀρχαῖος ancient, from the beginning
 ~oligarch
ἐμπολάω trade for
ἐνταῦθα there, here
ἔσχω restrain, hold back ~ischemia
λωίων more desirable

μαρτυρέω testify, bear witness
ὁδοιπορέω walk over
οἷμοι woe is me
ὄνειδος -εος (n, 3) blame; insult
ὀνομάζω to address, name ~name
πλάνη wandering
πλάνης -τος (m, 3) wanderer
ποιμὴν -ένος (m, 3) shepherd ~pastor
ποῖμνιον flock
στέργω love; be content
σωτήρ -ος (m) savior
τύχη fortune, act of a god

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἀλλ' ἀντὶ τοῦ δὴ παῖδά μ' ὠνομάζετο;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. δῶρόν ποτ', ἴσθι, τῶν ἐμῶν χειρῶν λαβών.

ΟΙ. καὶθ' ὧδ' ἀπ' ἄλλης χειρὸς ἔστερξεν μέγα;

ΑΓ. ἡ γὰρ πρὶν αὐτὸν ἐξέπεισ' ἀπαιδία.

ΟΙ. σὺ δ' ἐμπολήσας ἢ τυχών μ' αὐτῷ δίδως;

1025

ΑΓ. εὐρὼν ναπαίαις ἐν Κιθαιρώνος πτυχαῖς.

ΟΙ. ὠδοιπόρεις δὲ πρὸς τί τούσδε τοὺς τόπους;

ΑΓ. ἐνταῦθ' ὀρείοις ποιμνίοις ἐπεστάτουν.

ΟΙ. ποιμὴν γὰρ ἦσθα καπὶ θητεία πλάνης;

ΑΓ. σοῦ τ', ὦ τέκνον, σωτήρ γε τῷ τότ' ἐν χρόνῳ.

1030

ΟΙ. τί δ' ἄλγος ἴσχοντ' ἀγκάλαις με λαμβάνεις;

ΑΓ. ποδῶν ἂν ἄρθρα μαρτυρήσειεν τὰ σά·

ΟΙ. οἴμοι, τί τοῦτ' ἀρχαῖον ἐννέπεις κακόν;

ΑΓ. λύω σ' ἔχοντα διατόρους ποδοῖν ἀκμάς.

ΟΙ. δεινόν γ' ὄνειδος σπαργάνων ἀνειλόμην.

1035

ΑΓ. ὥστ' ὠνομάσθης ἐκ τύχης ταύτης ὃς εἶ.

ΟΙ. ὦ πρὸς θεῶν, πρὸς μητρὸς ἢ πατρός; φράσον.

ΑΓ. οὐκ οἶδ'. ὁ δοὺς δὲ ταῦτ' ἐμοῦ λῶον φρονεῖ.

ΟΙ. ἡ γὰρ παρ' ἄλλου μ' ἔλαβες οὐδ' αὐτὸς τυχών;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἀλλ' ἀντὶ τοῦ δὴ παῖδά μ' |to address, name

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. δῶρόν ποτ', ἴσθι, τῶν ἐμῶν χειρῶν λαβών.

ΟΙ. καὶ θ' ὥδ' ἀπ' ἄλλης χειρὸς |love; be content.,

ΑΓ. ἡ γὰρ πρὶν αὐτὸν ἐξέπεισ' ἀπαιδία.

ΟΙ. σὺ δ' ἐμπολήσας ἢ τυχῶν μ' αὐτῷ δίδως;

1025

ΑΓ. εὐρὼν ναπαίαις ἐν Κιθαιρώνος πτυχαῖς.

ΟΙ. |walk over δὲ πρὸς τί τούσδε τοὺς τόπους;

ΑΓ. |there, here εἰοῖς |flock ἐπεστάτουν.

ΟΙ. |shepherd ἄρ ἦσθα καπὶ θητεία πλάνης;

ΑΓ. σοῦ τ', ὦ τέκνον, |savior γε τῷ τότ' ἐν χρόνῳ.

1030

ΟΙ. τί δ' |woe |hold |the bent arm - λαμβάνεις;
|back

ΑΓ. ποδῶν ἂν |joint |testify, bear wit- τὰ σά'
|ness

ΟΙ. |woe is μέ . οὐτ' |ancient, from' πεις κακόν;
|the beginning

ΑΓ. λύω σ' ἔχοντα διατόρους ποδοῖν |point, edge, top,
|culmination

ΟΙ. δεινόν γ' |blame; |sparagmōn |take up
|insult

1035

ΑΓ. ὥστ' |to address, name |fortune, act' ἥς ὅς ἐῖ.
|of a god

ΟΙ. ὦ πρὸς θεῶν, πρὸς μητρὸς ἢ πατρός; φράσον.

ΑΓ. οὐκ οἶδ'· ὁ δοὺς δὲ ταῦτ' ἐμοῦ |more desirable

ΟΙ. ἡ γὰρ παρ' ἄλλον μ' ἔλαβες οὐδ' αὐτὸς τυχῶν;

me son?

MESSENGER. Know that he took thee from my hands, a gift.

OEDIPUS. Yet, if no child of his, he loved me well.

MESSENGER. A childless man till then, he warmed to thee.

OEDIPUS. A foundling or a purchased slave, this child?

MESSENGER. I found thee in Cithaeron's wooded glens.

OEDIPUS. What led thee to explore those upland glades?

MESSENGER. My business was to tend the mountain flocks.

OEDIPUS. A vagrant shepherd journeying for hire?

MESSENGER. True, but thy savior in that hour, my son.

OEDIPUS. My savior? from what harm? what ailed me then?

MESSENGER. Those ankle joints are evidence enow.

OEDIPUS. Ah, why remind me of that ancient sore?

MESSENGER. I loosed the pin that riveted thy feet.

OEDIPUS. Yes, from my cradle that dread brand I bore.

MESSENGER. Whence thou deriv'st the name that still is thine.

OEDIPUS. Who did it? I adjure thee, tell me who

Say, was it father, mother?

MESSENGER. I know not.

The man from whom I had thee may know more.

OEDIPUS. What, did another find me, not thyself?

*vocabulary***ἄγρᾱ** hunting, prey**ἄγρέω** come!**ἄγρός** field, wild ~agriculture**ἄρτιος** suitable**βλώσκω** come, go**βοτήρ** -ος (m) herdsman**δηλόω** show, disclose**δήπου** perhaps; is it not so?**εἰσείδω** look at, behold ~wit**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect

~panorama

εἴτε if, whenever; either/or**ἐκδίδωμι** hand over ~donate**ἐνθάδε** here, hither**ἐντρέπω** heed ~trophy**ἐπιχώριος** native**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**ἥκιστος** least; above all**κάτοιδα** understand**ματεύω** be at a loss or at fault**μάτην** in vain, randomly**μολίσκω** come, go**ὀνομάζω** to address, name ~name**πάλαι** long ago ~paleo**πάλη** wrestling ~Pallas**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**πέλας** near, close**ποιμήν** -ένος (m, 3) shepherd ~pastor**σημαίνω** give orders to; show; mark

~semaphore

τύραννος tyrant

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ ποιμὴν ἄλλος ἐκδίδωσί μοι.

1040

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. τίς οὗτος; ἢ κάτοισθα δηλώσαι λόγῳ;

ΑΓ. τῶν Λαΐου δήπου τις ὠνομάζετο.

ΟΙ. ἢ τοῦ τυράννου τῆσδε γῆς πάλαι ποτέ;

ΑΓ. μάλιστα· τούτου τάνδρὸς οὗτος ἦν βοτήρ.

ΟΙ. ἢ κάστ' ἔτι ζῶν οὗτος, ὥστ' ἰδεῖν ἐμέ;

1045

ΑΓ. ὑμεῖς γ' ἄριστ' εἰδεῖτ' ἂν οὐπιχώριοι.

ΟΙ. ἔστιν τις ὑμῶν τῶν παρεστώτων πέλας,

ὅστις κάτοιδε τὸν βοτήρ' ὃν ἐννέπει,

εἴτ' οὖν ἐπ' ἀγρῶν εἴτε κἀνθάδ' εἰσιδών;

σημήναθ', ὥς ὁ καιρὸς ἡνύρησθαι τάδε.

1050

ΧΟΡΟΣ. οἶμαι μὲν οὐδέν' ἄλλον ἢ τὸν ἐξ ἀγρῶν,

ὃν καμάτευες πρόσθεν εἰσιδεῖν· ἀτὰρ

ἥδ' ἂν τὰδ' οὐχ ἥκιστ' ἂν Ἰοκάστη λέγοι.

ΟΙ. γύναι, νοεῖς ἐκείνον, ὅντιν' ἀρτίως

μολεῖν ἐφίεμεσθα; τόνδ' οὗτος λέγει;

1055

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. τί δ' ὄντιν' εἶπε; μὴδὲν ἐντραπῆς· τὰ δὲ

ρήθέντα βούλου μὴδὲ μεμνήσθαι μάτην.

ΟΙ. οὐκ ἂν γένοιτο τοῦθ' ὅπως ἐγὼ λαβὼν

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ |shepherd ἄλλος |hand over ,μοι.

1040

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. τίς οὗτος; ἢ κάτοιστα |show, λόγω;
|disclose

ΑΓ. τῶν Λαῖον |perhaps; .is|to address, name
|it not so?

ΟΙ. ἢ τοῦ |tyrant τῇσδε γῆς πάλαι ποτέ;

ΑΓ. μάλιστα· τούτου τάνδρὸς οὗτος ἦν |herdsman

ΟΙ. ἢ κάστ' ἔτι ζῶν οὗτος, ὥστ' ἰδεῖν ἐμέ;

1045

ΑΓ. ὑμεῖς γ' ἄριστ' εἰδεῖτ' ἂν |native

ΟΙ. ἔστιν τις ὑμῶν τῶν παρεστώτων |near,
|close

ὅστις κάτοιδε τὸν |herdsman ἐννέπει,

|if, whenever; ἰγρῶν |if, |here, |look at, see; treat
|either/or |when|hither |with respect

|give orders to; ὁ καὶ ὅς' ἡγύρῃσθαι τάδε.
|show; mark |ei-
|ther/or

1050

ΧΟΡΟΣ. οἶμαι μὲν οὐδέν' ἄλλον ἢ τὸν ἐξ ἀγρῶν,

ὦν |be at a loss πρόσθεν εἰσιδεῖν· ἀτὰρ
|or at fault

ἥδ' ἂν τάδ' οὐχ |least; ἂν Ἰοκάστη λέγοι.
|above

ΟΙ. γύναι, νοεῖς ἐκεῖνον, ὅντιν' |suitable
|all

μολεῖν ἐφίεμεσθα; τόνδ' οὗτος λέγει;

1055

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. τί δ' ὅντιν' εἶπε; μηδὲν |heed τὰ δὲ

ῥηθέντα βούλου μηδὲ μεμνήσθαι μάτην.

ΟΙ. οὐκ ἂν γένοιτο τοῦθ' ὅπως ἐγὼ λαβὼν

MESSENGER. Not I; another shepherd gave thee me.

OEDIPUS. Who was he? Would' st thou know again the man?

MESSENGER. He passed indeed for one of Laius' house.

OEDIPUS. The king who ruled the country long ago?

MESSENGER. The same: he was a herdsman of the king.

OEDIPUS. And is he living still for me to see him?

MESSENGER. His fellow-countrymen should best know that.

OEDIPUS. Doth any bystander among you know

The herd he speaks of, or by seeing him

Afield or in the city? answer straight!

The hour hath come to clear this business up.

CHORUS. Methinks he means none other than the hind

Whom thou anon wert fain to see; but that

Our queen Jocasta best of all could tell.

OEDIPUS. Madam, dost know the man we sent to fetch?

Is the same of whom the stranger speaks?

JOCASTA. Who is the man? What matter? Let it be.'

Twere waste of thought to weigh such idle words.

OEDIPUS. No, with such guiding clues I

vocabulary

ἄγριος wild, savage ~agriculture
 αἶσσω dart, glance
 ἄλις in plenty; enough ~helix
 ἀναρρήγνυμι (ῥ) tear open, tear down
 βίος life ~biology
 βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
 βοτήρ -ος (m) herdsman
 δεῦρο here, come here!
 δύστηνος unhappy, miserable
 εἴθε if only
 εἴπερ if indeed
 ἐκμανθάνω know by heart
 ἐκφαίνω bring to light ~photon
 θαρσέω be of good heart
 θάρσος boldness, over-boldness
 ἰού cry of sorrow, joy, or surprise
 κῆδος -εος (n, 3) sorrow ~heinous
 κήδω distress, hurt; mp: care about
 (+gen) ~heinous

λίσσομαι beg, beseech ~litany
 λύπη distress
 ματεύω be at a loss or at fault
 μῆποτε absolutely never
 νοσέω be sick, be mad, suffer
 ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
 ὅποῖος whatever kind
 πάλαι long ago ~paleo
 πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
 πάλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 πλούσιος wealth ~plutocrat
 πότε when?
 ῥήγνυμι (ῥ) to break
 σαυτοῦ yourself
 σαφής clear, understandable
 σημείον sign
 σιωπή silence
 τοίνυν well, then
 τρίδουλος triple slave
 χροίζω need ~chresard

σημεῖα τοιαῦτ' οὐ φανῶ τοῦμὸν γένος.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. μὴ πρὸς θεῶν, εἴπερ τι τοῦ σαυτοῦ βίου 1060

κῆδει, ματεύσης τοῦθ'· ἄλλις νοσοῦσ' ἐγώ.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. θάρσει· σὺ μὲν γὰρ οὐδ' ἐὰν τρίτης ἐγὼ

μητρὸς φανῶ τριδουλος, ἐκφανεῖ κακῇ.

ΙΟ. ὅμως πιθοῦ μοι, λίσσομαι· μὴ δρᾶ τάδε.

ΟΙ. οὐκ ἂν πιθοίμην μὴ οὐ τάδ' ἐκμαθεῖν σαφῶς. 1065

ΙΟ. καὶ μὴν φρονοῦσά γ' εὖ τὰ λῶστά σοι λέγω.

ΟΙ. τὰ λῶστα τοῖνυν ταῦτά μ' ἀλγύνει πάλαι.

ΙΟ. ὦ δύσποτμ', εἴθε μήποτε γνοίης ὅς εἰ.

ΟΙ. ἄξει τις ἐλθὼν δεῦρο τὸν βοτῆρά μοι;

ταύτην δ' ἐᾶτε πλουσίῳ χαίρειν γένει. 1070

ΙΟ. ἰὸν ἰού, δύστηνε· τοῦτο γάρ σ' ἔχω

μόνον προσειπεῖν, ἄλλο δ' οὐποθ' ὕστερον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τί ποτε βέβηκεν, Οἰδίπους, ὑπ' ἀγρίας

ἄξασα λύπης ἢ γυνή; δέδοιχ' ὅπως

μὴ κ τῆς σιωπῆς τῇσδ' ἀναρρήξει κακά. 1075

ΟΙ. ὅποια χρήζει ρήγνύτω· τοῦμὸν δ' ἐγώ,

κεῖ σμικρόν ἐστι, σπέρμ' ἰδεῖν βουλήσομαι.

|sign τοιαῦτ' οὐ φανῶ τοῦμὸν γένος.

ΙΟΚΑΣΤΗ. μὴ πρὸς θεῶν, |if indeed τοῦ |yourself ,βίου

1060

κῆδει, |be at a loss ὥρ' at |in |be sick, βέ ω.
|fault |plenty |mad, suffer

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. θάρσει· σὺ μὲν γὰρ οὐδ' ἐὰν τρίτης ἐγὼ
|enough

μητρὸς φανῶ |triple slave , ἐκφανεῖ κακή.

ΙΟ. |anyway, ..neverthe-|beg μὴ δρᾶ τάδε.
|less

ΟΙ. οὐκ ἂν πιθοίμην μὴ οὐ τὰδ' |know by|clear, under-
|heart |standable

1065

ΙΟ. καὶ μὴν φρονοῦσά γ' εὖ τὰ λῶστά σοι λέγω.

ΟΙ. τὰ λῶστα |well, then ὑτά μ' ἀλγύνει πάλαι.

ΙΟ. ὦ δύσποτμ', εἴθε |absolutely, .οίης ὅς ἐί.
|never

ΟΙ. ἄξει τις ἐλθὼν |here, .come|herdsman .ι;
|here!

ταύτην δ' ἐᾶτε |wealth χαίρειν γένει.

1070

ΙΟ. |cry |cry, |unhappy, τοῦτο γάρ σ' ἔχω
|og |og |miserable
sor- sor-
row, row, προσειπεῖν, ἄλλο δ' οὐποθ' ὕστερον.

joy, joy,
ΧΟΡΕΣ. |or |or | wild,
sur-sur- |savage
prise
|distress ἡ γυνή; δέδοιχ' ὅπως
|glance

μὴ κ τῆς |silence τῇσδ' ἀναρρήξει κακά.

1075

ΟΙ. |what- |need |to break τοῦμὸν δ' ἐγώ,
|ever
|kind
κεῖ σμικρόν ἐστι, σπέρμ' ἰδεῖν βουλήσομαι.

cannot fail

To bring to light the secret of my birth.

JOCASTA. Oh, as thou carest for thy life, give o' er

This quest. Enough the anguish I endure.

OEDIPUS. Be of good cheer; though I be proved the son

Of a bondwoman, aye, through three descents

Triply a slave, thy honor is unsmirched.

JOCASTA. Yet humor me, I pray thee; do not this.

OEDIPUS. I cannot; I must probe this matter home.

JOCASTA. 'Tis for thy sake I advise thee for the best.

OEDIPUS. I grow impatient of this best advice.

JOCASTA. Ah mayst thou ne' er discover who thou art!

OEDIPUS. Go, fetch me here the herd, and leave yon woman

To glory in her pride of ancestry.

JOCASTA. O woe is thee, poor wretch! With that last word

I leave thee, henceforth silent evermore.

Exit JOCASTA]

CHORUS. Why, Oedipus, why stung with passionate grief

Hath the queen thus departed? Much I fear

From this dead calm will burst a storm of woes.

OEDIPUS. Let the storm burst, my fixed resolve still holds,

vocabulary

αἰσχύνω (ō) spoil, disgrace, disfigure, mar

ἄπειρος untested; infinite

ἄπειρων boundless

ἄρεστός satisfactory, pleasing

ἀτιμάζω (i) insult, dishonor

αὐξάνω strengthen

αὔριον tomorrow

διορίζω delimit; determine

εἴπερ if indeed

ἐκφύω spring from ~physics

ἔδρις skilled

μάντις -ος (m) seer ~mantis

νέμω to allot, to pasture ~nemesis

πανσέληνος of the full moon

πελάζω bring/come to, near, into contact with

συγγενεύς inborn, kin to

συγγενής inborn, kin to

τᾶν form of address

τοιόσδε such

τροφός (f) wet nurse ~atrophy

τύραννος tyrant

φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

χορεύω dance

αὕτη δ' ἴσως, φρονεῖ γὰρ ὡς γυνὴ μέγα,

τὴν δυσγένειαν τὴν ἐμὴν αἰσχύνεται.

ἐγὼ δ' ἐμαυτὸν παῖδα τῆς Τύχης νέμων 1080

τῆς εὖ διδούσης οὐκ ἀτιμασθήσομαι.

τῆς γὰρ πέφυκα μητρός· οἱ δὲ συγγενεῖς

μῆνές με μικρὸν καὶ μέγαν διώρισαν.

τοιόσδε δ' ἐκφύς οὐκ ἂν ἐξέλθοιμ' ἔτι

ποτ' ἄλλος, ὥστε μὴ κμαθεῖν τοῦμὸν γένος. 1085

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἔπερ ἐγὼ μάντις εἰμὶ καὶ κατὰ γνώμαν ἴδρις,

οὐ τὸν Ὀλυμπον ἀπείρων, ὦ Κιθαιρών,

οὐκ ἔσει τὰν αὔριον 1090

πανσέληνον, μὴ οὐ σέ γε καὶ πατριώταν Οἰδίπουν

καὶ τροφὸν καὶ ματέρ' αὔξειν,

καὶ χορεύεσθαι πρὸς ἡμῶν, ὡς ἐπὶ ἦρα φέροντα τοῖς ἐμοῖς

τυράννοις. 1095

ἰήϊε Φοῖβε, σοὶ δὲ ταῦτ' ἀρέστ' εἴη.

ΧΟ. τίς σε, τέκνον, τίς σ' ἔτικτε τᾶν μακραίωνων ἄρα

Πανὸς ὀρεσσιβάτα πατρὸς πελασθεῖς; 1100

ἢ σέ γ' εὐνάτειρά τις

αὕτη δ' ἴσως, φρονεῖ γὰρ ὥς γυνὴ μέγα,

τὴν δυσγένειαν τὴν ἐμὴν | spoil,
| disgrace

ἐγὼ δ' ἐμαντὸν παῖδα τῆς Τύχης | distribute

1080

τῆς εὖ διδούσης οὐκ | dishonor

τῆς γὰρ πέφυκα μητρός· οἱ δὲ συγγενεῖς

μῆνές με μικρὸν καὶ μέγαν διώρισαν.

| such δ' | spring from ἢν ἐξέλθοιμ' ἔτι

ποτ' ἄλλος, ὥστε μὴ κμαθεῖν τοῦμὸν γένος.

1085

ΧΟΡΟΣ. | if indeed ἢ | seer εἰμὶ καὶ κατὰ γνώμαν | skilled

οὐ τὸν Ὀλυμπον ἀπείρων, ὦ Κιθαιρών,

οὐκ ἔσει τὰν | tomorrow

1090

| of the full moon ἢ οὐ σέ γε καὶ πατριώταν Οἰδίπουν

καὶ | wet nurse καὶ ματέρ' | strengthen

καὶ | dance πρὸς ἡμῶν, ὥς ἐπὶ ἡρα φέροντα τοῖς ἐμοῖς

| tyrant

1095

ἰήϊε Φοῖβε, σοὶ δὲ ταῦτ' | satisfactory,
| pleasing

ΧΟ. τίς σε, τέκνον, τίς σ' ἔτικτε | form, of address ἢν ἄρα

Πανὸς ὀρεσσιβάτα πατρὸς | bring/come to, near,
| into contact with

1100

ἢ σέ γ' εὐνάτειρά τις

To learn my lineage, be it ne' er so low.
It may be she with all a woman' s pride
Thinks scorn of my base parentage. But I
Who rank myself as Fortune' s favorite child,
The giver of good gifts, shall not be shamed.
She is my mother and the changing moons
My brethren, and with them I wax and wane.
Thus sprung why should I fear to trace my birth?
Nothing can make me other than I am.

CHORUS. (Str.)

If my soul prophetic err not, if my wisdom aught avail,
Thee, Cithaeron, I shall hail,
As the nurse and foster-mother of our Oedipus shall greet
Ere tomorrow' s full moon rises, and exalt thee as is meet.
Dance and song shall hymn thy praises, lover of our royal race.
Phoebus, may my words find grace! (

Ant.)

Child, who bare thee, nymph or goddess? sure thy sure was more than
man,
Haply the hill-roamer Pan.

vocabulary

ἄκρον crest, extremity ~acute
ἄκρος at the edge, extreme ~acute
ἀνάσσω rule, be lord
βοτήρ -ος (m) herdsman
γῆρας -ος (n, 3) old age
γηράσκω grow old ~geriatric
δεῦρο here, come here!
εἴπερ if indeed
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
 ~panorama
εἴτε if, whenever; either/or
ἐπιστήμη skill, knowledge
ἔρωτάω ask about something
εὕρημα invention; windfall
νομεύς -ος (m) shepherd, herder
 ~nemesis
οἰκέτης -ου (m, 1) household; house

slave

οἴκοι at home ~economics
πάλαι long ago ~paleo
πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
πάρως before, in the past
πιστός faithful; trustworthy
προέχω be ahead, jut forward; mid:
 have before one
σάφα with full understanding
σταθμάομαι judge, conclude
συμπαίζω play with
συναλλάσσω bring together, reconcile
τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps
 ~tachometer
τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer
ὠνητός bought

Λοξίου; τῷ γὰρ πλάκες ἀγρόνομοι πᾶσαι φίλαι·

εἴθ' ὁ Κυλλάνας ἀνάσσων,

εἴθ' ὁ Βακχεῖος θεὸς ναίων ἐπ' ἄκρων ὀρέων σ' εὖρημα δέξατ'

ἔκ του

Νυμφᾶν Ἑλικωνίδων, αἷς πλεῖστα συμπαῖζει.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. εἰ χρή τι κάμῃ μὴ συναλλάξαντά πω,

1110

πρέσβεις, σταθμᾶσθαι, τὸν βοτῆρ' ὀρᾶν δοκῶ,

ὄνπερ πάλαι ζητοῦμεν· ἔν τε γὰρ μακρῷ

γῆρα ξυνάδει τῷδε τάνδρῃ σύμμετρος,

ἄλλως τε τοὺς ἄγοντας ὥσπερ οἰκέτας

ἔγνωκ' ἑμαυτοῦ· τῇ δ' ἐπιστήμῃ σύ μου

1115

προύχοις τάχ' ἂν που, τὸν βοτῆρ' ἰδὼν πάρος.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἔγνωκα γάρ, σάφ' ἴσθι· Λαΐου γὰρ ἦν

εἵπερ τις ἄλλος πιστὸς ὡς νομεὺς ἀνήρ.

ΟΙ. σὲ πρῶτ' ἐρωτῶ, τὸν Κορίνθιον ξένον, ἦ τόνδε φράζεις;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. τοῦτον, ὄνπερ εἰσορᾷς.

1120

ΟΙ. οὗτος σύ, πρέσβυ, δευρό μοι φώνει βλέπων

ὅσ' ἂν σ' ἐρωτῶ. Λαΐου ποτ' ἦσθα σύ;

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. ἦ δοῦλος οὐκ ὠνητός, ἀλλ' οἴκοι τραφεῖς.

Λοξίου; τῷ γὰρ πλάκες ἀγρόνομοι πάσαι φίλαι·

|if, whenever; ἴνας |rule
|either/or

|if, whenever; ἴος θεός |dwell, ἐπ' ἄκρων ὀρέων σ' |invention; ἔξατ'
|either/or |found; |windfall
|flow

ἔκ του

Νυμφᾶν Ἑλικωνίδων, αἷς πλείστα |συμπαίζω?: play with; or
|συμπαίζω?: play with

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. εἰ χρή τι κάμῃ μὴ |bring together, πω, 1110
|reconcile

πρέσβεις, σταθμᾶσθαι, τὸν |herdsman, ἂν δοκῶ,

ὄνπερ πάλαι ζητοῦμεν· ἔν τε γὰρ μακρῶ

γῆρα ξυνάδει τῷδε τάνδρῃ σύμμετρος,

ἄλλως τε τοὺς ἄγοντας ὥσπερ |household;
|house slave

ἔγνωκ' ἐμαυτοῦ· τῇ δ' |skill, σύ μου 1115
|knowledge

|be ahead, ἀχ' ἂν που, τὸν |herdsman ὃν |before, in the past
|have before

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἔγνωκα γάρ, |clearly ἔθι· Λαΐου γὰρ ἦν

|if indeed ἄλλος |faithful; ἔθι· |shepherd, ἦρ.
|trustworthy |herder

ΟΙ. σὲ πρῶτ' |ask , τὸν Κορίνθιον ξένον, ἦ τόνδε φράζεις;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. τοῦτον, ὄνπερ |look at, see; treat 1120
|with respect

ΟΙ. οὗτος σύ, πρέσβυ, |here, come hère! ἔβλέπων

ὅς' ἂν σ' |ask . Λαΐου ποτ' ἦσθα σύ;

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. ἦ δοῦλος οὐκ |bought , ἀλλ' |at home ἰφείς.

Of did Loxias beget thee, for he haunts the upland wold;
Or Cyllene' s lord, or Bacchus, dweller on the hilltops cold?
Did some Heliconian Oread give him thee, a new-born joy?
Nymphs with whom he love to toy?

OEDIPUS. Elders, if I, who never yet before
Have met the man, may make a guess, methinks
I see the herdsman who we long have sought;
His time-worn aspect matches with the years
Of yonder aged messenger; besides
I seem to recognize the men who bring him
As servants of my own. But you, perchance,
Having in past days known or seen the herd,
May better by sure knowledge my surmise.

CHORUS. I recognize him; one of Laius' house;
A simple hind, but true as any man.

Enter HERDSMAN.]

OEDIPUS. Corinthian, stranger, I address thee first,
Is this the man thou meanest!

MESSENGER. This is he.

OEDIPUS. And now old man, look up and answer all
I ask thee. Wast thou once of Laius' house?

HERDSMAN. I was, a thrall, not purchased but home-bred.

*vocabulary***ἀγνώς** -τος (m) unknown,

unrecognizable

ἀναμνησῶ (+2 acc) remind

someone ~mnemonic

βίος life ~biology**βιόω** live; (mp) make a living ~biology**δεσπότης** -ου (m, 1) master, despot**διπλός** double, overlapping**δράω** do, accomplish**ἐπαυλὶς** -τος (f) farmhouse**ἤμος** when (ἤμος) ..., then (τῆμος)**θαῦμα** -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of

surprise ~theater

καίπερ even if**κάτοιδα** understand**μεριμνάω** care for**μνήμη** reminder, memorial**πλησιάζω** bring/be near; have sex**ποίμνη** flock ~pastor**ποίμνιον** flock**ποῖος** what kind**πρόσχωρος** neighboring**σαφής** clear, understandable**συναγορεύω** support**συνέπομαι** go along with ~sequel**χειμών** -ος (m, 3) winter, storm**χῶρος** place ~heir

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἔργον μεριμνῶν ποῖον ἢ βίον τινά;

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. ποίμναις τὰ πλείστα τοῦ βίου συνειπόμην.

1125

ΟΙ. χώροις μάλιστα πρὸς τίσι ξύναυλος ὢν;

ΘΕ. ἦν μὲν Κιθαιρών, ἦν δὲ πρόσχωρος τόπος.

ΟΙ. τὸν ἄνδρα τόνδ' οὖν οἶσθα τῇδέ που μαθών;

ΘΕ. τί χρήμα δρῶντα; ποῖον ἄνδρα καὶ λέγεις;

ΟΙ. τόνδ' ὃς πάρεστιν· ἢ ξυναλλάξας τί πω;

1130

ΘΕ. οὐχ ὥστε γ' εἰπεῖν ἐν τάχει μνήμης ἄπο.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. κοῦδέν γε θαῦμα, δέσποτ'· ἀλλ' ἐγὼ σαφῶς

ἀγνώτ' ἀναμνήσω νιν. εὖ γὰρ οἶδ' ὅτι

κάτοιδεν, ἦμος τῷ Κιθαιρώνος τόπῳ,

ὁ μὲν διπλοῖσι ποιμνίοις, ἐγὼ δ' ἐνί,

1135

ἐπλησίαζον τῷδε τάνδρῃ τρεῖς ὅλους

ἐξ ἦρος εἰς ἀρκτοῦρον ἐκμήνους χρόνους·

χειμῶνα δ' ἤδη τὰμά τ' εἰς ἔπαυλ' ἐγὼ

ἤλαυνον οὗτός τ' εἰς τὰ Λαΐου σταθμά.

λέγω τι τούτων ἢ οὐ λέγω πεπραγμένον;

1140

ΘΕ. λέγεις ἀληθῆ, καίπερ ἐκ μακροῦ χρόνου.

ΑΓ. φέρ' εἰπὲ νῦν, τότε οἶσθα παῖδά μοί τινα

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἔργον μεριμνῶν |what^ῶ, |life^{τινά;}
|kind

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. |flock τὰ πλείστα τοῦ βίου συνειπόμην.

1125

ΟΙ. |place μάλιστα πρὸς τίσι ξύναυλος ὢν;

ΘΕ. ἦν μὲν Κιθαιρών, ἦν δὲ |neighboring τόπος.

ΟΙ. τὸν ἄνδρα τόνδ' οὖν οἶσθα τῇδέ που μαθῶν;

ΘΕ. τί χρήμα |do, accom-|what kind^ῶ, ρα καὶ λέγεις;
|plish

ΟΙ. τόνδ' ὅς πάρεστιν· ἢ ξυναλλάξας τί πω;

1130

ΘΕ. οὐχ ὥστε γ' εἰπεῖν ἐν τάχει |reminder,^ῶπο.
|memorial

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. κοῦδέν γε |wonder, |master, ἄλλ' ἐγὼ |clear, under-
|surprise |despot |standable

|unknown,^ῶun- ἤσω νιν. εὖ γὰρ οἶδ' ὅτι
|recognizable

|understand |when (ἤμος^ῶ) ἄ..., ρῶνος τόπω,
|then (τῆμος)

ὁ μὲν διπλοῖσι |flock , ἐγὼ δ' ἐνί,

1135

|bring/be near; ὦδε τάνδρ' ἰ τρεῖς ὅλους
|have sex

ἐξ ἡρος εἰς ἀρκτοῦρον ἐκμήνους χρόνους·

|winter, δ' ἤδη τὰμά τ' εἰς |farmhouse^ῶ ὕ
|storm

ἥλαυνον οὗτός τ' εἰς τὰ Λαΐου σταθμά.

λέγω τι τούτων ἢ οὐ λέγω πεπραγμένον;

1140

ΘΕ. λέγεις ἀληθῆ, |even if ἐκ μακροῦ χρόνου.

ΑΓ. φέρ' εἰπὲ νῦν, τότε οἶσθα παῖδά μοί τινα

OEDIPUS. What was thy business? how wast thou employed?

HERDSMAN. The best part of my life I tended sheep.

OEDIPUS. What were the pastures thou didst most frequent?

HERDSMAN. Cithaeron and the neighboring alps.

OEDIPUS. Then there

Thou must have known yon man, at least by fame?

HERDSMAN. Yon man? in what way? what man dost thou mean?

OEDIPUS. The man here, having met him in past times...

HERDSMAN. Off-hand I cannot call him well to mind.

MESSENGER. No wonder, master. But I will revive

His blunted memories. Sure he can recall

What time together both we drove our flocks,

He two, I one, on the Cithaeron range,

For three long summers; I his mate from spring

Till rose Arcturus; then in winter time

I led mine home, he his to Laius' folds.

Did these things happen as I say, or no?

HERDSMAN. 'Tis long ago, but all thou say' st is true.

MESSENGER. Well, thou mast then remember giving me

vocabulary

ᾠ ah!

ἄκίζω disrespect, mutilate

ἀποστρέφω turn back, turn off course

~atrophy

δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot

δήτα emphatic δῆ

δύστηνος unhappy, miserable

ἱστορέω inquire; relate

κλαίω weep

κολάζω punish

ὄλεθρος ruin, destruction, death

ὀφείλω owe, should, if only

πάλαι long ago ~paleo

πάλη wrestling ~Pallas

πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas

πονέω work; be busy ~osteopenia

προσχορίζω require or desire besides

προσχορίζω require or desire besides

σιωπάω be silent

τᾶν form of address

τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer

τριβή business; practical thing

δούς, ὡς ἐμαυτῷ θρέμμα θρειαίμην ἐγώ;

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. τί δ' ἔστι; πρὸς τί τοῦτο τοῦπος ἱστορεῖς;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ὄδ' ἐστίν, ὦ τᾶν, κείνος ὃς τότε ἦν νέος.

1145

ΘΕ. οὐκ εἰς ὄλεθρον; οὐ σιωπήσας ἔσει;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἦ, μὴ κόλαζε, πρέσβυ, τόνδ', ἐπεὶ τὰ σὰ

δεῖται κολαστοῦ μᾶλλον ἢ τὰ τοῦδ' ἔπη.

ΘΕ. τί δ', ὦ φέριστε δεσποτῶν, ἀμαρτάνω;

ΟΙ. οὐκ ἐννέπων τὸν παῖδ' ὃν οὗτος ἱστορεῖ.

1150

ΘΕ. λέγει γὰρ εἰδὼς οὐδέν, ἀλλ' ἄλλως πονεῖ.

ΟΙ. σὺ πρὸς χάριν μὲν οὐκ ἐρεῖς, κλαίων δ' ἐρεῖς.

ΘΕ. μὴ δῆτα, πρὸς θεῶν, τὸν γέροντά μ' αἰκίσῃ.

ΟΙ. οὐχ ὡς τάχος τις τοῦδ' ἀποστρέψει χέρας;

ΘΕ. δύστηνος, ἀντὶ τοῦ; τί προσχρήζων μαθεῖν;

1155

ΟΙ. τὸν παῖδ' ἔδωκας τῷδ' ὃν οὗτος ἱστορεῖ;

ΘΕ. ἔδωκ'· ὀλέσθαι δ' ὄφελον τῇδ' ἡμέρᾳ.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' εἰς τόδ' ἤξεις μὴ λέγων γε τοῦνδικον.

ΘΕ. πολλῷ γε μᾶλλον, ἢν φράσω, διόλλυμαι.

ΟΙ. ἀνὴρ ὄδ', ὡς ἔοικεν, ἐς τριβὰς ἐλᾷ.

1160

ΘΕ. οὐ δῆτ' ἔγωγ', ἀλλ' εἶπον, ὡς δοίην, πάλαι.

δούς, ὡς ἐμαντῶ θρέμμα θρειαίμην ἐγώ;

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. τί δ' ἔστι; πρὸς τί τοῦτο τοῦπος inquire;
relate ,

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ὅδ' ἐστίν, ὦ form of address τὸτ' ἦν νέος. 1145

ΘΕ. οὐκ εἰς ruin , οὐ be silent ἔσει;

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἂ, μὴ punish , πρέσβυ, τόνδ', ἐπεὶ τὰ σὰ

δεῖται punish μᾶλλον ἢ τὰ τοῦδ' ἔπη.

ΘΕ. τί δ', ὦ φέριστε master,
despot , ἀμαρτάνω;

ΟΙ. οὐκ ἐννέπων τὸν παῖδ' ὃν οὗτος inquire;
relate 1150

ΘΕ. λέγει γὰρ εἰδὼς οὐδέν, ἀλλ' ἄλλως work

ΟΙ. σὺ πρὸς χάριν μὲν οὐκ ἐρεῖς, weep δ' ἐρεῖς.

ΘΕ. μὴ emphatic δὴ θεῶν, τὸν γέροντά μ' disrespect,
mutilate

ΟΙ. οὐχ ὡς speed τις τοῦδ' turn back χέρας;

ΘΕ. unhappy,
miserable , ἀντὶ τοῦ; τί προσχρήζων μαθεῖν; 1155

ΟΙ. τὸν παῖδ' ἔδωκας τῷδ' ὃν οὗτος inquire;
relate ,

ΘΕ. ἔδωκ'· ὀλέσθαι δ' ὥφελον τῇδ' ἡμέρᾳ.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' εἰς τόδ' ἤξεις μὴ λέγων γε τοῦνδικον.

ΘΕ. πολλῶ γε μᾶλλον, ἦν φράσω, διόλλυμαι.

ΟΙ. ἀνὴρ ὅδ', ὡς ἔοικεν, ἐς business; prac-
tical thing 1160

ΘΕ. οὐ δητ' ἔγωγ', ἀλλ' εἶπον, ὡς δοίην, πάλαι.

A child to rear as my own foster-son?

HERDSMAN. Why dost thou ask this question? What of that?

MESSENGER. Friend, he that stands before thee was that child.

HERDSMAN. A plague upon thee! Hold thy wanton tongue!

OEDIPUS. Softly, old man, rebuke him not; thy words

Are more deserving chastisement than his.

HERDSMAN. O best of masters, what is my offense?

OEDIPUS. Not answering what he asks about the child.

HERDSMAN. He speaks at random, babbles like a fool.

OEDIPUS. If thou lack' st grace to speak, I' ll loose thy tongue.

HERDSMAN. For mercy' s sake abuse not an old man.

OEDIPUS. Arrest the villain, seize and pinion him!

HERDSMAN. Alack, alack!

What have I done? what wouldst thou further learn?

OEDIPUS. Didst give this man the child of whom he asks?

HERDSMAN. I did; and would that I had died that day!

OEDIPUS. And die thou shalt unless thou tell the truth.

HERDSMAN. But, if I tell it, I am doubly lost.

OEDIPUS. The knave methinks will still prevaricate.

HERDSMAN. Nay, I confessed I gave it long ago.

vocabulary

ἀναλίσκω (αἶ) consume, spend on
ἀναλόω (αἶ) consume, spend on
ἀποφέρω carry off, carry back ~bear
δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot
ἐγγενής native, kindred; innate
ἐνθεν thence, whence
ἐντίθημι load; mp: take to heart
 ~thesis
ἔρομαι ask a question, ask about, go
 searching through
θέσφατος divinely ordained
ἱστορέω inquire; relate

κατοικτίζω have mercy; (mp) lament
οἰκεῖος household, familiar, proper
οἰκέω inhabit ~economics
οἶμοι woe is me
ὄκνος shrinking, hesitation
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
πόθεν from where?
ποίη grass
ποῖος what kind
στέγη roof, ceiling, chamber
τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
τοῖνον well, then
χρεία need, use

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. πόθεν λαβών; οἰκείον ἢ ξ' ἄλλου τινός;

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. ἐμὸν μὲν οὐκ ἔγωγ', ἐδεξάμην δέ του.

ΟΙ. τίνος πολιτῶν τῶνδε κακ ποίας στέγης;

ΘΕ. μὴ πρὸς θεῶν, μή, δέσποθ', ἱστόρει πλέον.

1165

ΟΙ. ὄλωλας, εἴ σε ταῦτ' ἐρήσομαι πάλιν.

ΘΕ. τῶν Λαΐου τοίνυν τις ἦν γεννημάτων.

ΟΙ. ἡ δοῦλος ἢ κείνου τις ἐγγενὴς γεγώς;

ΘΕ. οἴμοι, πρὸς αὐτῷ γ' εἰμὶ τῷ δεινῷ λέγειν.

ΟΙ. κάγω γ' ἀκούειν· ἀλλ' ὅμως ἀκουστέον.

1170

ΘΕ. κείνου γέ τοι δὴ παῖς ἐκλήζεθ'· ἡ δ' ἔσω

κάλλιστ' ἂν εἴποι σὴ γυνὴ τὰδ' ὥς ἔχει.

ΟΙ. ἡ γὰρ δίδωσιν ἥδε σοι; ΘΕ. μάλιστ', ἄναξ.

ΟΙ. ὥς πρὸς τί χρείας; ΘΕ. ὥς ἀναλώσαιμί νιν.

ΟΙ. τεκοῦσα τλήμων; ΘΕ. θεσφάτων γ' ὅκνω κακῶν.

1175

ΟΙ. ποίων; ΘΕ. κτενεῖν νιν τοὺς τεκόντας ἦν λόγος.

ΟΙ. πῶς δῆτ' ἀφῆκας τῷ γέροντι τῷδε σύ;

ΘΕ. κατοικτίσας, ὦ δέσποθ', ὥς ἄλλην χθόνα

δοκῶν ἀποίσειν, αὐτὸς ἐνθεν ἦν· ὁ δέ

κάκ' εἰς μέγιστ' ἔσωσεν. εἰ γὰρ οὗτος εἶ

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. |from where? 'ν; οἰκείον ἢ ξ ἄλλου τινός;

ΘΕΡΑΠΩΝ. ἐμὸν μὲν οὐκ ἔγωγ', ἐδεξάμην δέ του.

ΟΙ. τίνος πολιτῶν τῶνδε κακ ποίας |roof, ceiling,
|chamber

ΘΕ. μὴ πρὸς θεῶν, μή, |master, |inquire; πλέον.
|despot |relate

1165

ΟΙ. ὄλωλας, εἴ σε ταῦτ' |ask, search through

ΘΕ. τῶν Λαΐου |well, then ἦν γεννημάτων.

ΟΙ. ἡ δοῦλος ἢ κείνου τις |native, kin-, ὥς;
|dred; innate

ΘΕ. |woe is me `s αὐτῷ γ' εἰμὶ τῷ δεινῷ λέγειν.

ΟΙ. κάγω γ' ἀκούειν· ἀλλ' |anyway, nevertheless

1170

ΘΕ. κείνου γέ τοι δὴ παῖς ἐκλήζεθ'. ἡ δ' ἔσω

κάλλιστ' ἂν εἴποι σὴ γυνὴ τὰδ' ὥς ἔχει.

ΟΙ. ἡ γὰρ δίδωσιν ἥδε σοι; ΘΕ. μάλιστ', ἀναξ.

ΟΙ. ὥς πρὸς τί |need, use ΘΕ. ὥς ἀναλώσαιμί νιν.

ΟΙ. τεκοῦσα |steadfast, ΘΕ. |divinely /' |hesitation ὦν.
|ordained

1175

ΟΙ. |what kind κτενεῖν νιν τοὺς τεκόντας ἦν λόγος.

ΟΙ. πῶς δῆτ' ἀφῆκας τῷ γέροντι τῷδε σύ;

ΘΕ. |have mercy; ὦ |master, , ὥς ἄλλην χθόνα
|(mp) lament |despot

δοκῶν |carry off , αὐτὸς ἔνθεν ἦν· ὁ δὲ

κάκ' εἰς μέγιστ' ἔσωσεν. εἰ γὰρ οὗτος εἶ

OEDIPUS. Whence came it? was it thine, or given to thee?

HERDSMAN. I had it from another, 'twas not mine.

OEDIPUS. From whom of these our townsmen, and what house?

HERDSMAN. Forbear for God's sake, master, ask no more.

OEDIPUS. If I must question thee again, thou'rt lost.

HERDSMAN. Well then— it was a child of Laius' house.

OEDIPUS. Slave-born or one of Laius' own race?

HERDSMAN. Ah me!

I stand upon the perilous edge of speech.

OEDIPUS. And I of hearing, but I still must hear.

HERDSMAN. Know then the child was by repute his own,

But she within, thy consort best could tell.

OEDIPUS. What! she, she gave it thee?

HERDSMAN. 'Tis so, my king.

OEDIPUS. With what intent?

HERDSMAN. To make away with it.

OEDIPUS. What, she its mother.

HERDSMAN. Fearing a dread weird.

OEDIPUS. What weird?

HERDSMAN. 'Twas told that he should slay his sire.

OEDIPUS. What didst thou give it then to this old man?

HERDSMAN. Through pity, master, for the babe. I thought

He'd take it to the country whence he came;

But he preserved it for the worst of woes.

For if thou art in sooth what this man saith,

God pity thee! thou wast to misery

vocabulary

ἀποκλίνω (i) bend aside ~incline
γαμψώνυξ with hooked talons
δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
 ~demon
εὐδαιμονία prosperity
εὐδαίμων blessed with a good genius
ιός arrow
ιού cry of sorrow, joy, or surprise
ιωή a rush, a sweep
μακαρίζω congratulate ~macarism
ὄλβος happiness, wealth
ὀμιλέω (i) associate with ~homily
παράδειγμα -τος (n, 3) model,

precedent

παραδείκνυμι (ō) receive, admit
παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops
σαφής clear, understandable
τελευταῖος last, final
τοξεύω shoot an arrow at ~toxic
φάος φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
 eyes ~photon
φέως bush used to make brooms
φθίω cause to perish, wane; (of time)
 pass
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics
χορησμοδός chanting oracles

ὄν φησιν οὔτος, ἴσθι δύσποτμος γεγώς.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἰοὺ ἰοῦ· τὰ πάντ' ἂν ἐξήκοι σαφῇ.

ὦ φῶς, τελευταῖόν σε προσβλέψαμι νῦν,

ὅστις πέφασμαι φύς τ' ἀφ' ὧν οὐ χρῆν, ξὺν οἷς τ'

οὐ χρῆν ὁμιλῶν, οὓς τέ μ' οὐκ ἔδει κτανών.

1185

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἰὼ γενεαὶ βροτῶν,

ὥς ὑμᾶς ἴσα καὶ τὸ μηδὲν ζώσας ἐναριθμῶ.

τίς γάρ, τίς ἀνὴρ πλέον

τᾶς εὐδαιμονίας φέρει

1190

ἢ τοσοῦτον ὅσον δοκεῖν

καὶ δόξαντ' ἀποκλῖναι;

τὸν σόν τοι παράδειγμ' ἔχων,

τὸν σὸν δαίμονα, τὸν σόν, ὦ τλαῖμον Οἰδιπόδα, βροτῶν

οὐδὲν μακαρίζω· ΧΟ. ὅστις καθ' ὑπερβολὰν

1195

τοξεύσας ἐκράτησε τοῦ πάντ' εὐδαιμόνος ὄλβου,

ὦ Ζεῦ, κατὰ μὲν φθίσας

τὰν γαμφώνυχχα παρθένον

χρησμοδόν, θανάτων δ' ἐμᾶ

1200

χώρα πύργος ἀνέστα· ἐξ οὗ καὶ βασιλεὺς καλεῖ

ὄν φησιν οὗτος, ἴσθι δύσποτμος γεγώς.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. |cry |cry og` sorrow, ἂν ἐξήκοι |clear, under-
 |og |joy, or surprise |standable
 ὦ φῶς, |sor- |last, final σε προσβλέψαιμι νῦν,
 |row, |joy,
 ὅστις πρὸ φασμαι |produce, ' ' ὦν οὐ χρῆν, ξὺν οἷς τ'
 |sur- |beget; clasp
 |prise
 οὐ χρῆν |associate with ῥέ μ' οὐκ ἔδει κτανών.

1185

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἰὼ |birth, race πτωῶν,

ὥς ὑμᾶς ἴσα καὶ τὸ μηδὲν ζώσας ἐναριθμῶ.

τίς γάρ, τίς ἀνὴρ πλέον

τᾶς εὐδαιμονίας φέρει

1190

ἢ τοσοῦτον ὅσον δοκεῖν

καὶ δόξαντ' |bend aside ,

τὸν σὸν τοι παράδειγμ' ἔχων,

τὸν σὸν |a god, fate, doom ἴ, ὦ τλᾶμον Οἰδιπόδα, βροτῶν

οὐδὲν |congratulate ΧΟ. ὅστις καθ' ὑπερβολὰν

1195

|shoot an arrow at ,σε τοῦ πάντ' |blessed with a|happiness,
 |good genius |wealth

ὦ Ζεῦ, κατὰ μὲν |cause to perish, wane;
 |(of time) pass

τὰν |with hooked|girl, virgin
 |talons

|chanting , θανάτων δ' ἐμᾶ
 |oracles

1200

χώρα |wall, |ἀνέστα' ἐξ οὗ καὶ βασιλεὺς καλεῖ
 |tower

born.

OEDIPUS. Ah me! ah me! all brought to pass, all true!

O light, may I behold thee nevermore!

I stand a wretch, in birth, in wedlock cursed,

A parricide, incestuously, triply cursed!

Exit OEDIPUS]

CHORUS. (Str. 1)

Races of mortal man

Whose life is but a span,

I count ye but the shadow of a shade!

For he who most doth know

Of bliss, hath but the show;

A moment, and the visions pale and fade.

Thy fall, O Oedipus, thy piteous fall

Warns me none born of women blest to call.(

Ant. 1)

For he of marksmen best,

O Zeus, outshot the rest,

And won the prize supreme of wealth and power.

By him the vulture maid

Was quelled, her witchery laid;

He rose our savior and the land' s strong tower.

vocabulary

ἄγαμος unmarried ~bigamy
 ἄγριος wild, savage ~agriculture
 ἀέθλιος prize ~athlete
 ἀέκων unwilling
 ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
 ἄκων javelin; unwilling ~acme
 ἀναπνέω catch one's breath ~apnea
 ἀνάσσω rule, be lord
 ἀρκέω satisfy; ward off, defend; suffice
 ἄτα bewilderment, folly
 βίος life ~biology
 βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
 γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
 δικάζω judge
 εἴθε if only
 ἐφευρίσκω come upon ~eureka
 θαλαμηπόλος (f) chamber slave
 ~thalamus
 ἰός arrow
 ἰωή a rush, a sweep
 κάρ -ός (n) useless bit; form of κατά

κλεινός famous
 λιμὴν -ένος (m, 3) harbor, refuge
 ~limnic
 μῆποτε absolutely never
 ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye
 ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just
 ~orthogonal
 πάλαι long ago ~paleo
 πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
 πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 πατρώιος of the father(s), ancestral
 ~paternal
 πατρῷος of the father(s), ancestral
 πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
 πότε when?
 σίγα silently, whispering
 σιγά silence
 στέγη roof, ceiling, chamber
 τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
 τιμάω (ι) honor, exalt
 τοσόσδε this much
 χέω pour, scatter

ἐμὸς καὶ τὰ μέγιστ' ἐτιμάθης, ταῖς μεγάλαισιν ἐν
 Θήβαισιν ἀνάσσω.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τανῦν δ' ἀκούειν τίς ἀθλιώτερος;

τίς ἄταις ἀγρίαις, τίς ἐν πόνοις 1205

ξύνοικος ἀλλαγᾷ βίου;

ἰὼ κλεινὸν Οἰδίπου κάρα,

ἧ στέγας λιμὴν αὐτὸς ἤρκεσεν

παιδὶ καὶ πατρὶ θαλαμηπόλῳ πεσεῖν;

πῶς ποτε πῶς ποθ' αἱ πατρῷαί σ' ἄλοκες φέρειν, τάλας, 1210

σίγ' ἐδυνάθησαν ἐς τοσόνδε;

ΧΘ. ἐφηγῆρέ σ' ἄκουθ' ὁ πάνθ' ὁρῶν χρόνος,

δικάζει τ' ἄγαμον γάμον πάλαι

τεκνοῦντα καὶ τεκνούμενον. 1215

ἰώ, Λαΐειον ὦ τέκνον,

εἶθε σ' εἶθε σε μήποτ' εἰδόμαν.

δύρομαι γὰρ ὥσπερ ἰάλεμον χέων

ἐκ στομάτων. τὸ δ' ὀρθὸν εἰπεῖν, ἀνέπνευσά τ' ἐκ

σέθεν καὶ κατεκοίμασα τοῦμὸν ὄμμα. 1220

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ὦ γῆς μέγιστα τῇσδ' ἀεὶ τιμώμενοι,

ἐμὸς καὶ τὰ μέγιστ' ἐτιμάθης, ταῖς μεγάλαισιν ἐν

Θήβαισιν |rule .

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τανῦν δ' ἀκούειν τίς ἀθλιώτερος;

τίς ἄταις |wild, , τίς ἐν |toil, suffering
|savage

1205

ξύνοικος ἀλλαγῇ βίου;

ἰὼ |famous Οἰδίπου |useless bit;
|form of κατά

ἦ |roof, |harbor, ὑπὸς |satisfy; ward off,
|ceiling, |refuge |defend; suffice
|chamber
παῖσι καὶ πατρὶ |chamber slave πεσεῖν;

πῶς ποτε πῶς ποθ' αἱ πατρῶαί σ' ἄλοκες φέρειν, |wretched, 1210
|miserable

σίγ' ἐδυνάθησαν ἐς |this much

ΧΘ. |come upon ἔκονθ' ὁ πάνθ' ὁρῶν χρόνος,

|judge τ' |unmar- |wedding, séx̃ ι
|ried

τεκνούντα καὶ τεκνούμενον.

1215

ἰώ, Λαίειον ὦ τέκνον,

εἴθε σ' εἴθε σε |absolutely ᾿δόμαν.
|never

δύρομαι γὰρ ὥσπερ ἰάλεμον |pour

ἐκ στομάτων. τὸ δ' |upright, ... |catch one's breath
|straight; correct,
|just

σέθεν καὶ κατεκοίμασα τοῦμόν |eye .

1220

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ὦ γῆς μέγιστα τῆσδ' ἀεὶ |honor ,

We hailed thee king and from that day adored
Of mighty Thebes the universal lord.(

Str. 2)

O heavy hand of fate!

Who now more desolate,

Whose tale more sad than thine, whose lot more dire?

O Oedipus, discrowned head,

Thy cradle was thy marriage bed;

One harborage sufficed for son and sire.

How could the soil thy father eared so long

Endure to bear in silence such a wrong?(

Ant. 2)

All-seeing Time hath caught

Guilt, and to justice brought

The son and sire commingled in one bed.

O child of Laius' ill-starred race

Would I had ne'er beheld thy face;

I raise for thee a dirge as o'er the dead.

Yet, sooth to say, through thee I drew new breath,

And now through thee I feel a second death.

Enter SECOND MESSENGER.]

SECOND MESSENGER. Most grave and reverend senators of

*vocabulary***ἄεθλιος** prize ~athlete**ἄέκων** unwilling**ἄθλιος** wretched ~athlete**ἄκων** javelin; unwilling ~acme**αὐθαίρετος** self-selected, self-incurred**ἐγγενής** native, kindred; innate**εἴπερ** if indeed**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**ἐκών** willingly, on purpose; giving in
too easily**ἐνιμι** be in ~ion**ἐντρέπω** heed ~trophy**καθαρμός** cleansing, purification**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά***κεῦθος** -εος (n, 3) lower region

~cuticle

κεύθω cover, hide ~cuticle**λυπέω** (ἴ) annoy, distress**μνήμη** reminder, memorial**νίζω** wash**νίφω** (ἶ) it snows**νυμφικός** bridal**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**ὀργή** urge, impulse; anger**ὄψις** ὄψεως (f) sight, view

~thanatopsis

πάθημα -τος (n, 3) suffering, condition**παρέρχομαι** pass, escape**πένθος** -εος (n, 3) grief, misfortune

~Nepenthe

στέγη roof, ceiling, chamber**φάος** φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
eyes ~photon**φέως** bush used to make brooms

οἷ, ἔργ' ἀκούσεσθ', οἶα δ' εἰσόψεσθ', ὅσον δ'

ἀρεῖσθε πένθος, εἵπερ ἐγγενῶς ἔτι

1225

τῶν Λαβδακείων ἐντρέπεσθε δωμάτων.

οἶμαι γὰρ οὐτ' ἂν Ἰστρον οὔτε Φᾶσιν ἂν

νύφαι καθαρμῶ τήνδε τὴν στέγην, ὅσα

κεύθει, τὰ δ' αὐτίκ' εἰς τὸ φῶς φανεῖ κακὰ

έκόντα κοῦκ ἄκοντα. τῶν δὲ πημονῶν

1230

μάλιστα λυποῦσ' αἱ φανῶσ' αὐθαίρετοι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. λείπει μὲν οὐδ' ἂ πρόσθεν εἶδομεν τὸ μὴ οὐ

βαρύστον· εἶναι· πρὸς δ' ἐκείνοισιν τί φής;

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ὁ μὲν τάχιστος τῶν λόγων εἰπεῖν τε καὶ

μαθεῖν, τέθνηκε θεῖον Ἰοκάστης κάρα.

1235

ΧΟ. ὦ δυστάλαινα, πρὸς τίνος ποτ' αἰτίας;

ΕΞ. αὐτὴ πρὸς αὐτῆς. τῶν δὲ πραχθέντων τὰ μὲν

ἄλγιστ' ἄπεστιν· ἡ γὰρ ὄψις οὐ πάρα.

ὅμως δ', ὅσον γε κὰν ἐμοὶ μνήμης ἔνι,

πεύσει τὰ κείνης ἀθλίας παθήματα.

1240

ὅπως γὰρ ὀργῇ χρωμένη παρήλθ' ἔσω

θυρῶνος, ἔετ' εὐθὺ πρὸς τὰ νυμφικὰ

οἷ', ἔργ' ἀκούσεσθ', οἶα δ' |look at, see; treat δ'
|with respect

ἀρεῖσθε |grief , |if |native, kin-
|indeed|dred; innate 1225

τῶν Λαβδακείων |heed δωμάτων.

οἶμαι γὰρ οὐτ' ἂν Ἰστρον οὔτε Φᾶσιν ἂν

νύβαι |cleansing, ἥνδε τὴν |roof, ceiling, ι
|purification |chamber

κεύθει, τὰ δ' αὐτίκ' εἰς τὸ φῶς φανεί κακὰ

|willingly : οὐκ ἄκοντα. τῶν δὲ πημονῶν 1230

μάλιστα |annoy, αἱ φανῶσ' |self-selected,
|distress |self-incurred

ΧΟΡΟΣ. λείπει μὲν οὐδ' ἂ πρόσθεν εἶδομεν τὸ μὴ οὐ

βαρύστον' εἶναι· πρὸς δ' ἐκείνοισιν τί φής;

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. ὁ μὲν τάχιστος τῶν λόγων εἰπεῖν τε καὶ

μαθεῖν, τέθνηκε θεῖον Ἰοκάστης |useless bit;
|form of κατά 1235

ΧΟ. ὦ δυστάλαινα, πρὸς τίνος ποτ' αἰτίας;

ΕΞ. αὐτὴ πρὸς αὐτῆς. τῶν δὲ πραχθέντων τὰ μὲν

ἄλγιστ' ἄπεστιν· ἡ γὰρ |sight οὐ πάρα.

|anyway, nevertheless ἵν' ἐμοὶ |reminder, be in
|memorial

πεύσει τὰ κείνης ἀθλίας |suffering,
|condition 1240

ὅπως γὰρ |urge, ἠνωμένη |pass, ἔσω
|impulse; |escape

θυρῶνος, ἔτ' εὐθὺ πρὸς τὰ |bridal

Thebes,

What Deeds ye soon must hear, what sights behold

How will ye mourn, if, true-born patriots,

Ye reverence still the race of Labdacus!

Not Ister nor all Phasis' flood, I ween,

Could wash away the blood-stains from this house,

The ills it shrouds or soon will bring to light,

Ills wrought of malice, not unwittingly.

The worst to bear are self-inflicted wounds.

CHORUS. Grievous enough for all our tears and groans

Our past calamities; what canst thou add?

SECOND MESSENGER. My tale is quickly told and quickly heard.

Our sovereign lady queen Jocasta' s dead.

CHORUS. Alas, poor queen! how came she by her death?

SECOND MESSENGER. By her own hand. And all the horror of it,

Not having seen, yet cannot comprehend.

Nathless, as far as my poor memory serves,

I will relate the unhappy lady' s woe.

When in her frenzy she had passed inside

The vestibule, she hurried straight to win

The bridal-chamber, clutching at her hair

*vocabulary***ἀκμή** point, edge, top, culmination

~acute

ἀμφιδέξιος ambidextrous, two-sided**ἄρουρα** land ~arable**αὖω** ignite; shout**γοάω** weep, mourn**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom

~demon

δείκνυμι (ῶ) show, point out**διπλόος** double, overlapping**δύστηνος** unhappy, miserable**ἐγγύθεν** near**ἐξαιτέω** demand ~etiology**εὐνή** bed; (pl) anchor stones**κιχάνω** (ᾱ) catch up with, encounter,

reach; catch, grip, hit, afflict ~go

κόμη hair ~comet**λεύσσω** see, look**μητρῷος** maternal**μνήμη** reminder, memorial**ὅπου** where**πάλαι** long ago ~paleo**παλαιός** old ~paleo**πάλη** wrestling ~Pallas**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**περιπολέω** wander, go around**πόρω** aor. give, pf. be fated**πυθμῆν** -ένος (m, 3) base, bottom**πύλη** gate ~Thermopylae**φοιτάω** go back and forth

λέχη, κόμην σπῶσ' ἀμφιδεξίοις ἀκμαῖς.

πύλας δ', ὅπως εἰσῆλθ', ἐπιρράξασ' ἔσω

καλεῖ τὸν ἤδη Λαῖον πάλαι νεκρόν,

1245

μνήμην παλαιῶν σπερμάτων ἔχουσ', ὑφ' ὧν

θάνοι μὲν αὐτός, τὴν δὲ τίκτουσαν λίποι

τοῖς οἷσιν αὐτοῦ δύστεκνον παιδουργίαν.

γοᾶτο δ' εὐνάς, ἔνθα δύστηνος διπλοῦς

ἐξ ἀνδρὸς ἄνδρα καὶ τέκν' ἐκ τέκνων τέκοι.

1250

χῶπως μὲν ἐκ τῶνδ' οὐκέτ' οἶδ' ἀπόλλυται·

βοῶν γὰρ εἰσέπαισεν Οἰδίπους, ὑφ' οὗ

οὐκ ἦν τὸ κείνης ἐκθεάσασθαι κακόν,

ἀλλ' εἰς ἐκείνον περιπολοῦντ' ἐλεύσσομεν.

φοιτᾶ γὰρ ἡμᾶς ἔγχος ἐξαιτῶν πορεῖν,

1255

γυναῖκά τ' οὐ γυναῖκα, μητρώαν δ' ὅπου

κίχοι διπλὴν ἄρουραν οὗ τε καὶ τέκνων.

λυσσῶντι δ' αὐτῷ δαιμόνων δείκνυσί τις·

οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀνδρῶν, οἳ παρήμεν ἐγγύθεν.

δεινὸν δ' αὖσας ὡς ὑφηγητοῦ τινος

1260

πύλαις διπλαῖς ἐνήλατ', ἐκ δὲ πυθμένων

λέχη, |hair σπῶσ' |ambidextrous, |point, edge, top,
|two-sided |culmination

|gate δ', ὅπως εἰσῆλθ', ἐπιρράξασ' ἔσω

καλεῖ τὸν ἤδη Λαίον πάλαι νεκρόν,

1245

|reminder, |αλαιῶν σπερμάτων ἔχουσ', ὑφ' ὧν
|memorial

θάνοι μὲν αὐτός, τὴν δὲ τίκτουσαν λίποι

τοῖς οἷσιν αὐτοῦ δύστεκνον παιδουργίαν.

|weep, δ' |bed; (pl) an-|unhappy, |double
|mourn |chor stones |miserable

ἐξ ἀνδρὸς ἀνδρα καὶ τέκν' ἐκ τέκνων τέκοι.

1250

χῶπως μὲν ἐκ τῶνδ' οὐκέτ' οἶδ' ἀπόλλυται·

βοῶν γὰρ εἰσέπαισεν Οἰδίπους, ὑφ' οὗ

οὐκ ἦν τὸ κείνης ἐκθεάσασθαι κακόν,

ἀλλ' εἰς ἐκείνον |wander, go|see, look
|around

|go back and forth ἔγχος |demand |give, be fated

1255

γυναῖκά τ' οὐ γυναιῖκα, |maternal δ' |where

|overtake, ἤν |land οὗ τε καὶ τέκνων.
|encounter

λυσσῶντι δ' αὐτῷ |a god, fate, |show τις·
|doom

οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀνδρῶν, οἱ παρῆμεν |near

δεινὸν δ' |ignite; ὡς ὑφηγητοῦ τινος
|shout

1260

|gate διπλαῖς ἐνήλατ', ἐκ δὲ |base,
|bottom

With both her hands, and, once within the room,
She shut the doors behind her with a crash.
“Laius,” she cried, and called her husband dead
Long, long ago; her thought was of that child
By him begot, the son by whom the sire
Was murdered and the mother left to breed
With her own seed, a monstrous progeny.
Then she bewailed the marriage bed whereon
Poor wretch, she had conceived a double brood,
Husband by husband, children by her child.
What happened after that I cannot tell,
Nor how the end befell, for with a shriek
Burst on us Oedipus; all eyes were fixed
On Oedipus, as up and down he strode,
Nor could we mark her agony to the end.
For stalking to and fro “A sword!” he cried,
“Where is the wife, no wife, the teeming womb
That bore a double harvest, me and mine?”
And in his frenzy some supernal power(
No mortal, surely, none of us who watched him)
Guided his footsteps; with a terrible shriek,
As though one beckoned him, he crashed against
The folding doors, and from their staples forced

vocabulary

αἶσα -εως share, fate; properly, duly
 ~etiology
ἀνίημι urge, impel; release ~jet
ἅπαξ once
ἀποσπάω tear/drag away
ἀράζω snarl
ἀράσσω smash
ἀράω wear something out
ἄρθρον joint
αὐδά voice, report ~Theravada
αὐδάω speak, declare, shout
 ~Theravada
βλέφαρον eyelid
βρυχάομαι (ῥ) roar
γλήνη eyeball; doll
δράω do, accomplish
εἶμα -τος (n, 3) garment ~vest
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
 ~panorama
ἐμπίπτω fall into; attack ~petal
ἐμπλέκω braid, tangle
ἐνθένδε hence
ἐπαείδω sing with, to; charm
ἐπαίρω lift, raise ~heresy
ἔραμαι love, aor. fall in love; long for,
 covet ~erotic
ἔς ἰνός (ἰ, f) force, muscle

κλίνω (ἰ) lean, recline ~incline
κοῖλος hollow ~hollow
κύκλος circle, wheel ~cycle
ὄμβρος storm
ὁμός same ~homoerotic
ὁμοῦ together
ὁμόω unite ~homoerotic
ὅποῖος whatever kind
παίζω play ~pediatrician
παίω hit
περονάω pierce, transfix; mp: fasten
 ~pierce
περόνη nail, pin, clasp; cleat; fibula
 ~pierce
ρήγνυμι (ῥ) to break
σκότος darkness, shadow ~shadow
σταγών -τος (f, 3) drop
στέγη roof, ceiling, chamber
τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
τέγγω moisten; soften
τέλλω direct ~teleology
τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
φοίνιος red
φόνος killing ~offend
χάλαζα hail
χαλάω let fall; become slack
χρήζω need ~chresard

ἔκλινε κοῖλα κλῆθρα κάμπιπτει στέγη.

οὐδὲ δὴ κρεμαστήν τήν γυναικ' ἐσεῖδομεν,

πλεκταῖσιν αἰώραισιν ἐμπεπλεγμένην.

ὁ δ' ὥς ὁρᾷ νιν, δεινὰ βρυχηθεὶς τάλας

1265

χαλᾷ κρεμαστήν ἀρτάνην. ἐπεὶ δὲ γῆ

ἔκειτο τλήμων, δεινὰ δ' ἦν τάνθένδ' ὁρᾷ.

ἀποσπάσας γὰρ εἰμάτων χρυσηλάτους

περόνας ἀπ' αὐτῆς, αἷσιν ἐξεστέλλετο,

ἄρας ἔπαισεν ἄρθρα τῶν αὐτοῦ κύκλων,

1270

αὐδῶν τοιαῦθ', ὀθούνεκ' οὐκ ὄψοιντό νιν

οὔθ' οἷ' ἔπασχεν οὔθ' ὅποι' ἔδρα κακά,

ἀλλ' ἐν σκότῳ τὸ λοιπὸν οὖς μὲν οὐκ ἔδει

ὀψοῖσθ', οὖς δ' ἔχρηζεν οὐ γνωσοίατο.

τοιαῦτ' ἐφυμνῶν πολλάκις τε κοῦχ ἅπαξ

1275

ἤρασσ' ἐπαίρων βλέφαρα. φοίνιαι δ' ὁμοῦ

γλῆναι γένει' ἔτελλον, οὐδ' ἀνίσαν

φόνου μυδώσας σταγόνας, ἀλλ' ὁμοῦ μέλας

ὄμβρος χαλάζης αἵματοῦς ἐτέγγετο. τάδ' ἐκ δυοῖν ἔρρωγεν, οὐ

μόνον κάτα,

|lean, |hollow κληῖθρα κάμπιπτει στέγη.
|recline

οὐδὲ δὴ κρεμαστήν τήν γυναῖκα |look at, see; treat
|with respect

πλεκταῖσιν αἰώραισιν |braid, tangle

ὁ δ' ὥς ὀρέει νιν, δεινὰ |roar |wretched,
|miserable 1265

χαλὰ κρεμαστήν ἀρτάνην. ἐπεὶ δὲ γῆ

ἔκειτο |steadfast, δεινὰ δ' ἦν |hence ὀρέαν.

|tear/drag away, ἵρ |garment χρυσηλάτους

περόνας ἀπ' αὐτῆς, αἶσιν ἐξεστέλλετο,

ἄρας ἔπαισεν |joint τῶν αὐτοῦ |circle,
|wheel 1270

αὐδῶν τοιαῦθ', ὀθύνεκε' οὐκ ὄψιντό νιν

οὔθ' οἷ' ἔπασχεν οὔθ' |what- |do, accomplish
|ever
|kind

ἀλλ' ἐν |darkness ὃ λοιπὸν οὐς μὲν οὐκ ἔδει

ὀψοίαθ', οὐς δ' |need οὐ γνωσοίατο.

τοιαῦτ' ἐφυμνῶν |often τε κούχ |once 1275

ἤρασσ' |lift, raise |eyelid |red δ' ὁμοῦ

|eyeball; doll ' |direct , οὐδ' |urge,
|impel;
|release
|killing μυδώσας |drop , ἀλλ' ὁμοῦ μέλας

|storm |hail αἵματός |moisten; |to break , οὐ
|soften

μόνον κάτα,

The wrenched bolts and hurled himself within.
Then we beheld the woman hanging there,
A running noose entwined about her neck.
But when he saw her, with a maddened roar
He loosed the cord; and when her wretched corpse
Lay stretched on earth, what followed— O 'twas dread!
He tore the golden brooches that upheld
Her queenly robes, upraised them high and smote
Full on his eye-balls, uttering words like these:
“No more shall ye behold such sights of woe,
Deeds I have suffered and myself have wrought;
Henceforward quenched in darkness shall ye see
Those ye should ne’ er have seen; now blind to those
Whom, when I saw, I vainly yearned to know.”
Such was the burden of his moan, whereto,
Not once but oft, he struck with his hand uplift
His eyes, and at each stroke the ensanguined orbs
Bedewed his beard, not oozing drop by drop,
But one black gory downpour, thick as hail.
Such evils, issuing from the double source,

*vocabulary***αἰσχύνῃ** (ῥ) shame, dishonor**ἀνόσιος** unholy**ἄράζω** snarl**ἄράω** wear something out**ἄτα** bewilderment, folly**αὐδά** voice, report ~Theravada**αὐδάω** speak, declare, shout

~Theravada

δείκνυμι (ῥ) show, point out**δείξις** proof, display**δηλόω** show, disclose**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect

~panorama

ἔραμαι love, aor. fall in love; long for,

covet ~erotic

θέαμα -τος (ἄα, n, 3) sight, spectacle**νόσημα** -τος (n, 3) disease**ὄλβος** happiness, wealth**πάθος** -ους (n, 3) an experience,

passion, condition

παλαιός old ~paleo**παροιθε** in the presence of**πύλη** gate ~Thermopylae**ρήτός** stated, agreed on ~rhetoric**ρίπτω** hurl**ρώμη** strength, might**στυγέω** dread, shrink from ~Styx**συμμιγής** mingled**σχολή** rest, leisure**τάχα** quickly, soon; perhaps

~tachometer

τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent

ἀλλ' ἀνδρὶ καὶ γυναικὶ συμμυγῇ κακά.

1280

ὁ πρὶν παλαιὸς δ' ὄλβος ἦν πάροιθε μὲν

ὄλβος δικαίως· νῦν δὲ τῇδε θῆμέρα

στεναγμός, ἄτη, θάνατος, αἰσχύνη, κακῶν

ὅσ' ἐστὶ πάντων ὀνόματ', οὐδέν ἐστ' ἀπόν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. νῦν δ' ἔσθ' ὁ τλήμων ἐν τίνι σχολῇ κακοῦ;

1285

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. βοᾷ διοίγειν κληῖθρα καὶ δηλοῦν τινα

τοῖς πᾶσι Καδμείοισι τὸν πατροκτόνον,

τὸν μητέρ'— αὐδῶν ἀνόσι' οὐδὲ ῥητά μοι,

ὥς ἐκ χθονὸς ῥίψων ἑαυτὸν οὐδ' ἔτι

1290

μενῶν δόμοις ἀραῖος, ὥς ἡράσατο.

ῥώμης γε μέντοι καὶ προηγητοῦ τινος

δεῖται· τὸ γὰρ νόσημα μείζον ἢ φέρειν.

δείξει δὲ καὶ σοί· κληῖθρα γὰρ πυλῶν τάδε

διοίγεται· θέαμα δ' εἰσόψει τάχα

1295

τοιούτον οἶον καὶ στυγούντ' ἐποικτίσαι.

ΧΟ. ὦ δεινὸν ἰδεῖν πάθος ἀνθρώποις,

ὦ δεινότατον πάντων ὅσ' ἐγὼ

προσέκυρσ' ἤδη. τίς σ', ὦ τλήμον,

ἀλλ' ἀνδρὶ καὶ γυναικὶ |mingled κακά.

1280

ὁ πρὶν |old δ' |happiness, |in the presence of
|wealth

|happiness, |πίως· νῦν δὲ τῇδε θῆμέρα
|wealth

στεναγμός, ἄτη, θάνατος, |shame, |, κακῶν
|dishonor

ὅς' ἐστὶ πάντων ὀνόματ', οὐδέν' ἐστ' ἀπόν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. νῦν δ' ἔσθ' ὁ |steadfast ἐν τίνι |rest, κακοῦ;
|leisure

1285

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ. βοᾷ διοίγειν κλῆθρα καὶ |show, τινα
|disclose

τοῖς πᾶσι Καδμείοισι τὸν πατροκτόνον,

τὸν μητέρ'— αὐδῶν |unholy οὐδὲ |stated, |,οι,
|agreed

ὥς ἐκ χθονὸς |hurl ἑαυτὸν οὐδ' ἐτι
|on

1290

μενῶν δόμοις ἀραίως, ὥς ἠράσατο.

|strength, |, ε μέντοι καὶ προηγητοῦ τινος
|might

δεῖται· τὸ γὰρ |disease μεῖζον ἢ φέρειν.

δείξει δὲ καὶ σοί· κλῆθρα γὰρ πυλῶν τάδε

διοίγεται· |sight, |, εἰσόψει |quickly, soon;
|spectacle |perhaps

1295

τοιούτον οἶον καὶ |dread ἐποικτίσαι.

ΧΘ. ὦ δεινὸν ἰδεῖν |an experience, |pas- |,s,
|sion, condition

ὦ δεινότατον πάντων ὅς' ἐγὼ

προσέκυρσ' ἤδη. τίς σ', ὦ |steadfast

Have whelmed them both, confounding man and wife.

Till now the storied fortune of this house

Was fortunate indeed; but from this day

Woe, lamentation, ruin, death, disgrace,

All ills that can be named, all, all are theirs.

CHORUS. But hath he still no respite from his pain?

SECOND MESSENGER. He cries, "Unbar the doors and let all Thebes

Behold the slayer of his sire, his mother' s—"

That shameful word my lips may not repeat.

He vows to fly self-banished from the land,

Nor stay to bring upon his house the curse

Himself had uttered; but he has no strength

Nor one to guide him, and his torture' s more

Than man can suffer, as yourselves will see.

For lo, the palace portals are unbarred,

And soon ye shall behold a sight so sad

That he who must abhorred would pity it.

Enter OEDIPUS blinded.]

CHORUS. Woeful sight! more woeful none

These sad eyes have looked upon.

Whence this madness? None can tell

*vocabulary***ἀθρέω** observe, gaze**ἀνέρομαι** ask a question, ask about, go searching through**ἀποτρέπω** divert from ~trophy**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom ~demon**διπλόος** double, overlapping**εἰσδίδωμι** flow in, hand in**εἰσδύω** take part in**εἰσεῖδω** look at, behold ~wit**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect ~panorama**ἐξάλλομαι** break away from ~sally**ἐπιπέλομαι** (time) come around**θαῦμα** -τος (n, 3) a wonder, feeling of surprise ~theater**ἰός** arrow**ἰωή** a rush, a sweep**κέντρον** goading rod?**μανία** madness, passion**μνήμη** reminder, memorial**μοῖρα** portion, fate; (κατά+) rightly

~Moirā

νέφος -εος (n, 3) cloud ~nebula**οἶμοι** woe is me**πενθέω** grieve ~Nepenthe**πηδάω** jump, spring ~pedal**πῆμα** -τος (n, 3) woe, bane ~penury**ποῖ** whither? how long?**προσβαίνω** proceed; step on ~basis**σκότος** darkness, shadow ~shadow**τοῖος** such**τοσόσδε** this much**φθογγή** voice, cry ~diphthong**φοράδην** carried**φορέω** frequentative of φέρω, to carry ~bear**φρίκη** (i) shivering

προσέβη μανία; τίς ὁ πηδήσας 1300

μείζονα δαίμων τῶν μακίστων

πρὸς σῇ δυσδαίμονι μοίρα; φεῦ φεῦ, δύσταν'.

ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἐσιδεῖν δύναμαί σε, θέλων

πόλλ' ἀνερέσθαι, πολλὰ πυθέσθαι, 1305

πολλὰ δ' ἀθρήσαι.

τοίαν φρίκην παρέχεις μοι.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. αἰαῖ αἰαῖ, δύστανος ἐγώ,

ποῖ γὰρ φέρομαι τλάμων; πᾶ μοι

φθογγὰ διαπωτᾶται φοράδην; 1310

ὦ δαῖμον, ἦν' ἐξήλλον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἐς δεινὸν οὐδ' ἀκουστὸν οὐδ' ἐπόψιμον.

ΟΙ. ὦ σκότου

νέφος ἐμὸν ἀπότροπον, ἐπιπλόμενον ἄφατον,

ἀδάματόν τε καὶ δυσούριστον ὄν. οἷμοι, 1315

οἷμοι μάλ' αὔθις· οἶον εἰσέδου μ' ἅμα

κέντρων τε τῶνδ' οἷστρον καὶ μνήμη κακῶν.

ΧΘ. καὶ θαυμά γ' οὐδὲν ἐν τοσοῖσδε πήμασιν

διπλᾶ σε πενθεῖν καὶ διπλᾶ φορεῖν κακά.

|proceed; |madness, 's ó |jump, 1300
|step on |passion |spring

μείζονα |a god, fate, doom... ἴστων

πρὸς σῇ δυσδαίμονι |portion, fate φεῦ, δύσταν'.

ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἐσιδεῖν δύναμαί σε, θέλων

πόλλ' |ask, search through ` πυθέσθαι, 1305

πολλὰ δ' |observe, gaze

|such |shivering ἀρέχεις μοι.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. αἰαῖ αἰαῖ, δύστανος ἐγώ,

|whither? how long? λάμων; πᾶ μοι

|voice διαπωτᾶται |carried , 1310

ὡν |a god, fate, |break away from
|doom

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἐς δεινὸν οὐδ' ἀκουστὸν οὐδ' ἐπόψιμον.

ΟΙ. ὡν σκότου

|cloud ἐμὸν |divert from , ἐπιπλόμενον ἄφατον,

ἀδάματόν τε καὶ δυσούριστον ὄν. |woe is me 1315

|woe is μέ' ` αὔθις· οἶον εἰσέδν μ' ἅμα

|goadng rod? ὦνδ' οἷστρον καὶ |reminder, κῶν.
|memorial

ΧΟ. καὶ |wonder, ' οὐδὲν ἐν |this much |woe, bane
|surprise

διπλᾶ σε |grieve καὶ διπλᾶ |frequentative ' of
|φέρω, to carry

Who did cast on thee his spell,
prowling all thy life around,
Leaping with a demon bound.
Hapless wretch! how can I brook
On thy misery to look?

Though to gaze on thee I yearn,
Much to question, much to learn,
Horror-struck away I turn.

OEDIPUS. Ah me! ah woe is me!
Ah whither am I borne!

How like a ghost forlorn

My voice flits from me on the air!

On, on the demon goads. The end, ah where?

CHORUS. An end too dread to tell, too dark to see.

OEDIPUS. (Str. 1)

Dark, dark! The horror of darkness, like a shroud,
Wraps me and bears me on through mist and cloud.

Ah me, ah me! What spasms athwart me shoot,
What pangs of agonizing memory?

CHORUS. No marvel if in such a plight thou feel' st
The double weight of past and present woes.

OEDIPUS. (Ant. 1)

vocabulary

ἀπάγω lead away, back ~demagogue
αὐδᾶ voice, report ~Theravada
αὐτόχειρ with one's own hand
γλυκύς sweet, pleasant ~glycerine
δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
 ~demon
δράω do, accomplish
ἐπαείδω sing with, to; charm
ἐπαίρω raise, place on ~aorta
ἐπαίρω lift, raise ~heresy
ἐπέρομαι ask as well; ask then
ἰός arrow
ἰωή a rush, a sweep
καίπερ even if
κατάρατος (ααᾶ) accursed

μαραίνω extinguish ~amaranth
ὀλέθριος ruinous, deadly
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
οὔτις nobody, nothing
ὄψις ὄψεως (f) sight, view
 ~thanatopsis
πάθος -ους (n, 3) an experience,
 passion, condition
παίζω play ~pediatrician
παίω hit
σαφής clear, understandable
σκοτεινός dark
τλάω take upon oneself ~talent
τυφλός blind
ὑπομένω stay behind, await ~remain

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἰὼ φίλος,

σὺ μὲν ἐμὸς ἐπίπολος ἔτι μόνιμος· ἔτι γὰρ
ὑπομένεις με τὸν τυφλὸν κηδεύων. φεῦ φεῦ.
οὐ γάρ με λήθεις, ἀλλὰ γιγνώσκω σαφῶς,
καίπερ σκοτεινός, τήν γε σὴν αὐδὴν ὅμως.

1325

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ δεινὰ δράσας, πῶς ἔτλης τοιαῦτα σὰς

ὄψεις μαρᾶναι; τίς σ' ἐπήρε δαιμόνων;

ΟΙ. Ἀπόλλων τάδ' ἦν, Ἀπόλλων, φίλοι,

ὁ κακὰ κακὰ τελῶν ἐμὰ τάδ' ἐμὰ πάθηα.
ἔπαισε δ' αὐτόχειρ νιν οὔτις, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ τλάμων.
τί γὰρ ἔδει μ' ὀρᾶν,
ὅτῳ γ' ὀρῶντι μηδὲν ἦν ἰδεῖν γλυκύ;

1330

1335

ΧΟ. ἦν τᾷδ' ὅπωςπερ καὶ σύ φῆς.

ΟΙ. τί δῆτ' ἐμοὶ βλεπτὸν ἦ

στερκτὸν ἦ προσήγορον
ἔτ' ἔστ' ἀκούειν ἡδονᾶ φίλοι;
ἀπάγετ' ἐκτόπιον ὃ τι τάχιστα με,
ἀπάγετ', ὦ φίλοι, τὸν μέγ' ὀλέθριον
τὸν καταρατότατον, ἔτι δὲ καὶ θεοῖς

1340

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἰὼ φίλος,

σὺ μὲν ἐμὸς ἐπίπολος ἔτι μόνιμος· ἔτι γάρ

|stay behind, await . |blind κηδεύων. φεῦ φεῦ.

οὐ γάρ με λήθεις, ἀλλὰ γιννώσκω |clear, under-standable

1325

|even if |dark , τήν γε σὴν αὐδὴν |anyway, nevertheless

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ δεινὰ |do, accomplish |take upon oneself ἰς

|sight |extinguish τίς σ' ἐπήρε |a god, fate, doom

ΟΙ. Ἀπόλλων τάδ' ἦν, Ἀπόλλων, φίλοι,

ὁ κακὰ κακὰ τελῶν ἐμὰ τάδ' ἐμὰ |an experience, pas-sion, condition

1330

ἔπαισε δ' |with one's own|nobody, ἄλλ' ἐγὼ τλάμω. |hand |nothing

τί γὰρ ἔδει μ' ὀράν,

ὅτω γ' ὀρώντι μηδὲν ἦν ἰδεῖν |sweet, , |pleasant

1335

ΧΟ. ἦν τὰδ' ὅπως περ καὶ σύ φής.

ΟΙ. τί δῆτ' ἐμοὶ βλεπτὸν ἦ

στερκτὸν ἦ προσήγορον

ἔτ' ἔστ' ἀκούειν ἡδονᾶ φίλοι;

|lead away, back...ιον ὅ τι τάχιστα με,

1340

|lead away, back...οι, τὸν μέγ' |ruinous, |deadly

τὸν |accursed , ἔτι δὲ καὶ θεοῖς

Ah friend, still loyal, constant still and kind,

Thou carest for the blind.

I know thee near, and though bereft of eyes,

Thy voice I recognize.

CHORUS. O doer of dread deeds, how couldst thou mar

Thy vision thus? What demon goaded thee?

OEDIPUS. (Str. 2)

Apollo, friend, Apollo, he it was

That brought these ills to pass;

But the right hand that dealt the blow

Was mine, none other. How,

How, could I longer see when sight

Brought no delight?

CHORUS. Alas! 'tis as thou sayest.

OEDIPUS. Say, friends, can any look or voice

Or touch of love henceforth my heart rejoice?

Haste, friends, no fond delay,

Take the twice cursed away

*vocabulary***ἄγριος** wild, savage ~agriculture**ἄθεος** godless; by the gods**ἀνασφύζω** rescue, recover**ἀνόσιος** unholy**δείλαιος** wretched**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**λαγχάνω** be allotted; (esp. λελα-
forms) allot; receive**μηκέτι** no more**νυμφίος** bridegroom**οὔκουν** certainly not**πεδάω** impede, chain ~impede**πέδη** shackles ~pedal**πότε** when?**συμφορά** collecting; accident,
misfortune**τάλας** wretched, miserable ~talent**τοσόσδε** this much**τυφλός** blind**φέως** bush used to make brooms**φώρα** pustule**φονεύς** -ως (m) killer ~offend**φόνος** killing ~offend**φύω** produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ἐχθρότατον βροτῶν.

1345

ΧΟΡΟΣ. δέιλαιε τοῦ νοῦ τῆς τε συμφορᾶς ἴσον,

ὥς σ' ἠθέλησα μηδέ γ' ἂν γνῶναί ποτε.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὄλοιθ' ὅστις ἦν, ὃς ἀγρίας πέδας

μονάδ' ἐπιποδίας ἔλυσ' μ' ἀπό τε φόνου

1350

ἔρυτο κἀνέσωσεν, οὐδὲν εἰς χάριν πράσσων.

τότε γὰρ ἂν θανῶν

οὐκ ἦ φίλοισιν οὐδ' ἐμοὶ τοσόνδ' ἄχος.

1355

ΧΟ. θέλουντι κάμοι τοῦτ' ἂν ἦν.

ΟΙ. οὕκουν πατρός γ' ἂν φονεὺς

ἦλθον οὐδὲ νυμφίος

βροτοῖς ἐκλήθην ὦν ἔφυν ἄπο.

νῦν δ' ἄθεος μέν εἰμ', ἀνοσίων δὲ παῖς,

1360

ὁμολεχῆς δ' ἀφ' ὧν αὐτὸς ἔφυν τάλας.

εἰ δέ τι πρεσβύτερον ἔτι κακοῦ κακόν,

1365

τοῦτ' ἔλαχ' Οἰδίπους.

ΧΟ. οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως σε φῶ βεβουλεῦσθαι καλῶς·

κρείσσων γὰρ ἦσθα μηκέτ' ὦν ἢ ζῶν τυφλός.

ΟΙ. ὥς μὲν τάδ' οὐχ ᾧδ' ἔστ' ἄριστ' εἰργασμένα,

ἐχθρότατον βροτῶν.

1345

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |wretched οὐ νοῦ τῆς τε |collecting; ἄcci-
|dent, misfortune

ὥς σ' ἠθέλησα μηδέ γ' ἂν γινῶναί ποτε.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ὅλοιθ' ὅστις ἦν, ὅς |wild, πέδας
|savage

μονάδ' ἐπιποδίας ἔλυσ' μ' ἀπό τε |killing

1350

ἔρυτο |rescue, , οὐδὲν εἰς χάριν πράσσω.
|recover

τότε γὰρ ἂν θανῶν

οὐκ ἦ φίλοισιν οὐδ' ἐμοὶ |this much ἄχος.

1355

ΧΘ. θέλοντι κάμοι τοῦτ' ἂν ἦν.

ΟΙ. |certainly not ,ός γ' ἂν |killer

ἦλθον οὐδὲ |bridegroom

βροτοῖς ἐκλήθην ὦν |produce, ...
|beget; clasp

νῦν δ' |godless; ... by , the |unholy δὲ παῖς,
|gods

1360

ὁμολεχῆς δ' ἀφ' ὧν αὐτὸς |pro- |wretched,
|duce, |miserable
|beget;
|clasp

1365

τοῦτ' ἔλαχ' Οἰδίπους.

ΧΘ. οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως σε φῶ βεβουλευσθαι καλῶς·

κρείσσω γὰρ ἦσθα |no more ἢ ἡ ζῶν |blind

ΟΙ. ὥς μὲν τάδ' οὐχ ᾧδ' ἔστ' ἄριστ' εἰργασμένα,

Far from all ken,

The man abhorred of gods, accursed of men.

CHORUS. O thy despair well suits thy desperate case.

Would I had never looked upon thy face!

OEDIPUS. (Ant. 2)

My curse on him whose' er unriv'd

The waif' s fell fetters and my life revived!

He meant me well, yet had he left me there,

He had saved my friends and me a world of care.

CHORUS. I too had wished it so.

OEDIPUS. Then had I never come to shed

My father' s blood nor climbed my mother' s bed;

The monstrous offspring of a womb defiled,

Co-mate of him who gendered me, and child.

Was ever man before afflicted thus,

Like Oedipus.

CHORUS. I cannot say that thou hast counseled well,

For thou wert better dead than living blind.

OEDIPUS. What' s done was well done. Thou canst never shake

vocabulary

ἄγαλμα -τος (n, 3) ornament, glory,
statue

ἄθλιον ἄθλιου prize

ἄθλιος prize ~athlete

ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete

ἀναγιγνώσκω recognize, read,
understand, persuade

ἀποκλείω shut out; (+acc) close

ἀποστερέω despoil, defraud

ἀσεβής profane

ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town

βλαστάνω bud, sprout

βλώσκω come, go

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

δέμας -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like

δήτα emphatic δή

ἐκδιδάσκω teach, explain

ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent

ἥκιστος least; above all

κρείσσων more powerful; better

μηνύω disclose, betray, accuse

μολίσκω come, go

ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye

ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

ὀρθόω stand up

οὖς οὖατος (n) ear

ὄψις ὄψεως (f) sight, view

~thanatopsis

πηγή headwaters, fountain

πηγός stout, mighty

ποῖος what kind

πότε when?

πρόσοιδα (+χάριν) be grateful besides

προσοράω look at

πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops

συμβουλευώ give advice; (mid) consult

~volunteer

τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent

τοιόσδε such

ώθέω push

μή μ' ἐκδίδασκε, μηδὲ συμβούλευ' ἔτι. 1370

ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐκ οἶδ' ὅμμασιν ποίοις βλέπων
πατέρα ποτ' ἂν προσεῖδον εἰς Ἄιδου μολῶν
οὐδ' αὖ τάλαιναν μητέρ', οἷν ἐμοὶ δυοῖν
ἔργ' ἐστὶ κρείσσον' ἀγχόνης εἰργασμένα.

ἀλλ' ἢ τέκνων δῆτ' ὄψις ἦν ἐφίμερος, 1375

βλαστοῦς' ὅπως ἔβλαστε, προσλεύσσειν ἐμοί;
οὐ δῆτα τοῖς γ' ἐμοῖσιν ὀφθαλμοῖς ποτε·

οὐδ' ἄστρ' γ' οὐδὲ πύργος οὐδὲ δαιμόνων

ἀγάλαθ' ἱερά, τῶν ὁ παντλήμων ἐγὼ

κάλλιστ' ἀνὴρ εἷς ἔν γε ταῖς Θήβαις τραφεῖς 1380

ἀπεστέρησ' ἐμαυτόν, αὐτὸς ἐννέπων

ὠθεῖν ἅπαντας τὸν ἀσεβῆ, τὸν ἐκ θεῶν

φανέντ' ἀναγνον καὶ γένους τοῦ Λαΐου.

τοιάνδ' ἐγὼ κηλῖδα μηνύσας ἐμὴν

ὀρθοῖς ἔμελλον ὅμμασιν τούτους ὀρᾶν; 1385

ἦκιστα γ'· ἀλλ' εἰ τῆς ἀκουούσης ἔτ' ἦν

πηγῆς δι' ὧτων φραγμός, οὐκ ἂν ἐσχόμην

τὸ μὴ ἀποκληῆσαι τοῦμόν ἄθλιον δέμας,

μή μ' |teach, , μηδὲ |συμβουλευῶ?: give advice; (mid) consult; or
|explain |συμβουλευῶ?: give advice; (mid) consult

ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐκ οἶδ' |eye |what kind ἔπων

πατέρα ποτ' ἂν προσεῖδον εἰς Ἴδου μολὼν

οὐδ' αὖ |wretched, μητέρ', οἷν ἐμοὶ δυοῖν
|miserable

ἔργ' ἐστὶ κρείσσον' ἀγχόνῃς εἰργασμένα.

ἀλλ' ἡ τέκνων δῆτ' |sight ἦν ἐφίμερος,

1375

|bud, sprout ὅπως |bud, sprout ροσλεύσσειν ἐμοί;

οὐ |emphatic δῆ, ' ἐμοῖσιν ὀφθαλμοῖς ποτε·

οὐδ' |town γ' οὐδὲ |wall, οὐδὲ |a god, fate, doom
|tower

|ornament, ἑρά, τῶν ὁ παντλήμων ἐγὼ
|glory, statue

κάλλιστ' ἀνὴρ εἰς ἓν γε ταῖς Θήβαις τραφεῖς

1380

|despoil, ἑμαυτόν, αὐτὸς ἐννέπων
|defraud

|push ἅπαντας τὸν |profane τὸν ἐκ θεῶν

φανέντ' ἀναγνον καὶ γένους τοῦ Λαῖου.

|such ἐγὼ κηλῖδα |disclose, be-, ἦν
|tray, accuse

ὀρθοῖς ἔμελλον |eye τούτους ὀράν;

1385

|least; γ' ἀλλ' εἰ τῆς ἀκουούσης ἔτ' ἦν
|above

|all πηγῆς δι' |ear φραγμός, οὐκ ἂν ἐσχόμην

τὸ μὴ |shut out; τοῦμὸν ἄθλιον |body; (+gen.) like
|(+acc) close

My firm belief. A truce to argument.
For, had I sight, I know not with what eyes
I could have met my father in the shades,
Or my poor mother, since against the twain
I sinned, a sin no gallows could atone.
Aye, but, ye say, the sight of children joys
A parent' s eyes. What, born as mine were born?
No, such a sight could never bring me joy;
Nor this fair city with its battlements,
Its temples and the statues of its gods,
Sights from which I, now wretchedst of all,
Once ranked the foremost Theban in all Thebes,
By my own sentence am cut off, condemned
By my own proclamation 'gainst the wretch,
The miscreant by heaven itself declared
Unclean— and of the race of Laius.
Thus branded as a felon by myself,
How had I dared to look you in the face?
Nay, had I known a way to choke the springs
Of hearing, I had never shrunk to make
A dungeon of this miserable frame,

vocabulary

ἀνέζω put on, put back ~sit
ἄνειμι go up, inland, to, back ~ion
ἀνίημι urge, impel; release ~jet
ἀποδείκνυμι (ō) show, point out;
 appoint; (mid) declare
γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
γλυκύς sweet, pleasant ~glycerine
δείκνυμι (ō) show, point out
δεῦρο here, come here!
δράω do, accomplish
δρυμός (ō) thickets, a bunch ~druid
εἶτα then, therefore, next
ἐκτείνω stretch out ~tend
ἐκτρέφω raise, rear
ἐνθεν thence, whence
ἐντίθημι load; mp: take to heart
 ~thesis
ἐπιδείκνυμι (ō) display, exhibit
ἰός arrow
ἰωή a rush, a sweep
κάλλος -εος (n, 3) beauty

~kaleidoscope
κέλευθος (f) way, path
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κρύπτω hide, cover ~cryptic
μῆποτε absolutely never
νάπη valley
νάπος -εος (n, 3) gully
νύμφα nymph; bride
οἰκέω inhabit ~economics
ὅποῖος whatever kind
ὅπόσος as many as, how many, how
 great
παλαιός old ~paleo
πάτριος of the father(s), ancestral
στενωπός narrow, strait
τριπλός threefold ~three
τυφλός blind
ὑπουλός festering
φροντίς -τος (f) thought, care
φυτεύω plant, grow, cause, prepare
 ~physics
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics

ἔν' ἡ τυφλός τε καὶ κλύων μηδέν· τὸ γὰρ
 τὴν φροντίδ' ἔξω τῶν κακῶν οἰκεῖν γλυκύ. 1390
 ἰὼ Κιθαιρών, τί μ' ἐδέχου; τί μ' οὐ λαβὼν
 ἔκτεινας εὐθύς, ὥς ἔδειξα μήποτε
 ἑμαυτὸν ἀνθρώποισιν ἔνθεν ἡ γεγώς;
 ὦ Πόλυβε καὶ Κόρινθε καὶ τὰ πάτρια
 λόγῳ παλαιὰ δώμαθ', οἶον ἄρά με 1395
 κάλλος κακῶν ὑπουλον ἐξεθρέψατε·
 νῦν γὰρ κακός τ' ὢν κακῶν εὐρίσκομαι.
 ὦ τρεῖς κέλευθοι καὶ κεκρυμμένη νάπη
 δρυμός τε καὶ στενωπὸς ἐν τριπλαῖς ὁδοῖς,
 αἶ τοῦμόν αἶμα τῶν ἐμῶν χειρῶν ἄπο 1400
 ἐπίετε πατρός, ἄρά μου μέμνησθ' ἔτι
 οἷ' ἔργα δράσας ὑμῖν εἶτα δεῦρ' ἰὼν
 ὁποῖ' ἔπρασσον αὐθις; ὦ γάμοι γάμοι,
 ἐφύσαθ' ἡμᾶς, καὶ φυτεύσαντες πάλιν
 ἀνείτε ταύτου σπέρμα, κάπεδείξατε 1405
 πατέρας, ἀδελφούς, παῖδας, αἶμ' ἐμφύλιον,
 νύμφας, γυναικας μητέρας τε, χῶπόσα

ἔν' ἧ |blind τε καὶ |hear μηδέν· τὸ γὰρ

τὴν |thought, care τῶν κακῶν |inhabit |sweet, .
|pleasant

1390

ἰὼ Κιθαιρών, τί μ' ἐδέχου; τί μ' οὐ λαβών

|stretch out ὑθύς, ὥς |show |absolutely
|never

ἐμαντὸν ἀνθρώποισιν ἔνθεν ἧ γεγώς;

ὦ Πόλυβε καὶ Κόρινθε καὶ τὰ |of the father(s),
|ancestral

λόγῳ |old δώμαθ', οἶον ἄρά με

1395

|beauty κακῶν |festering |raise, rear

νῦν γὰρ κακός τ' ὢν κακ κακῶν εὐρίσκομαι.

ὦ τρεῖς |way, path καὶ |hide, cover νάπη

|thickets, a bunch |narrow, ἐν |threefold ὁδοῖς,
|strait

αἶ τοῦμόν αἶμα τῶν ἐμῶν χειρῶν ἄπο

1400

ἐπίετε πατρός, ἄρά μου μέμνησθ' ἔτι

οἷ ἔργα |do, accomplish |then, |here, còme here!
|there-

|whatever kind ἐν αἰθρῇ |fore, |wed- |wedding, sex
|next |ding,

|produce, ἑσ, καὶ |plant, |sex |grow, πάλιν
|beget; clasp |cause, prepare

ἀνείτε ταῦτοῦ σπέρμα, κάπεδείξατε

1405

πατέρας, ἀδελφούς, παῖδας, αἶμ' ἐμφύλιον,

νύμφας, γυναῖκας μητέρας τε, |as/how many/great

Cut off from sight and hearing; for 'tis bliss
to bide in regions sorrow cannot reach.
Why didst thou harbor me, Cithaeron, why
Didst thou not take and slay me? Then I never
Had shown to men the secret of my birth.
O Polybus, O Corinth, O my home,
Home of my ancestors (so wast thou called)
How fair a nursling then I seemed, how foul
The canker that lay festering in the bud!
Now is the blight revealed of root and fruit.
Ye triple high-roads, and thou hidden glen,
Coppice, and pass where meet the three-branched ways,
Ye drank my blood, the life-blood these hands spilt,
My father' s; do ye call to mind perchance
Those deeds of mine ye witnessed and the work
I wrought thereafter when I came to Thebes?
O fatal wedlock, thou didst give me birth,
And, having borne me, sowed again my seed,
Mingling the blood of fathers, brothers, children,

vocabulary

ἄγος ἄγους (n, 3) religious uncleanness
ἄεθλιον ἄθλίου prize
ἄεθλιος prize ~athlete
ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
αἰδέομαι respect, be ashamed
αἰσχρός shameful
αὐδάω speak, declare, shout
 ~Theravada
βόσκω feed, tend ~bovine
γούν at least then
δήτα emphatic δή
δράω do, accomplish
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect
 ~panorama
ἐπαιτέω ask as well ~etiology

ἐφευρίσκω come upon ~eureka
θαλάσσιος marine, maritime
θιγγάνω touch
θνητός mortal ~euthanasia
καλύπτω to cover with, hide
 ~apocalypse
καταισχύνω (ὑ) act disgracefully
μήποτε absolutely never
οἶμοι woe is me
ὄνειδίζω upbraid, reproach
πάρως before, in the past
τοιόσδε such
φλόξ -γός (f) flame ~flame
φονεύω kill
φύλαξ -χος (m) guard; sentry
 ~phylactery

αἴσχιστ' ἐν ἀνθρώποισιν ἔργα γίγνεται.

ἀλλ' οὐ γὰρ αὐδᾶν ἔσθ' ἂ μὴδὲ δρᾶν καλόν,

ὅπως τάχιστα πρὸς θεῶν ἔξω μέ που

1410

καλύψατ' ἢ φονεύσατ' ἢ θαλάσσιον

ἐκρύψατ', ἔνθα μήποτ' εἰσόψεσθ' ἔτι.

ἴτ', ἀξιώσατ' ἀνδρὸς ἀθλίου θιγεῖν.

πίθεσθε, μὴ δείσητε· τὰμὰ γὰρ κακὰ

οὐδεὶς οἶός τε πλὴν ἐμοῦ φέρειν βροτῶν.

1415

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀλλ' ὦν ἐπαιτεῖς εἰς δέον πάρεσθ' ὅδε

Κρέων τὸ πράσσειν καὶ τὸ βουλευεῖν, ἐπεὶ

χώρας λέλειπται μῶνος ἀντὶ σοῦ φύλαξ.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. οἴμοι, τί δῆτα λέξομεν πρὸς τόνδ' ἔπος;

τίς μοι φανεῖται πίστις ἔνδικος; τὰ γὰρ

1420

πάρος πρὸς αὐτὸν πάντ' ἐφεύρημαι κακός.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. οὐχ ὥς γελαστής, Οἰδίπους, ἐλήλυθα,

οὐδ' ὥς ὀνειδιῶν τι τῶν πάρος κακῶν.

ἀλλ' εἰ τὰ θνητῶν μὴ καταισχύνηςθ' ἔτι

γένεθλα, τὴν γοῦν πάντα βόσκουσιν φλόγα

1425

αἰδεῖσθ' ἄνακτος Ἥλιου, τοιόνδ' ἄγος

|shameful ἐν ἀνθρώποισιν ἔργα γίγνεται.

ἀλλ' οὐ γὰρ |speak ἔσθ' ἃ μὴδὲ |do, accomplish

ὅπως τάχιστα πρὸς θεῶν ἔξω μέ που 1410

|cover, hide ἧ |kill ἧ |marine,
|maritime

ἐκράβατ', ἔνθα |absolutely look at, see; treat
|never |with respect

ἴτ', ἀξιώσατ' ἀνδρὸς ἀθλίου |touch .

πίθεσθε, μὴ δείσητε· τὰμὰ γὰρ κακὰ

οὐδεὶς οἶός τε πλὴν ἐμοῦ φέρειν βροτῶν. 1415

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀλλ' ὦν |ask as well 'ς δέον πάρεσθ' ὅδε

Κρέων τὸ πράσσειν καὶ τὸ βουλεύειν, ἐπεὶ

χώρας λέλειπται μῶνος ἀντὶ σοῦ |guard;
|sentry

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. |woe is μέ|emphatic δὴ ν πρὸς τόνδ' ἔπος;

τίς μοι φανεῖται πίστις ἔνδικος; τὰ γὰρ 1420

|before, in the past ἔν πάντ' |come upon κακός.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. οὐχ ὥς γελαστής, Οἰδίπους, ἐλήλυθα,

οὐδ' ὥς |reproach τι τῶν |before, in the past

ἀλλ' εἰ τὰ |mortal μὴ |act disgracefully ἔτι

γένεθλα, τὴν |at least then |feed, tend |flame 1425

|respect, be ashamed Ἱλίου, |such |religious un-
|cleanness

Brides, wives and mothers, an incestuous brood,
All horrors that are wrought beneath the sun,
Horrors so foul to name them were unmeet.
O, I adjure you, hide me anywhere
Far from this land, or slay me straight, or cast me
Down to the depths of ocean out of sight.
Come hither, deign to touch an abject wretch;
Draw near and fear not; I myself must bear
The load of guilt that none but I can share.

Enter CREON.]

CREON. Lo, here is Creon, the one man to grant
Thy prayer by action or advice, for he
Is left the State' s sole guardian in thy stead.
OEDIPUS. Ah me! what words to accost him can I find?
What cause has he to trust me? In the past
I have bee proved his rancorous enemy.
CREON. Not in derision, Oedipus, I come
Nor to upbraid thee with thy past misdeeds.(
To BYSTANDERS)
But shame upon you! if ye feel no sense
Of human decencies, at least revere

vocabulary

ἀέθλιον ἀθλίου prize

ἀέθλιος prize ~athlete

ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete

ἀμείνων comparative of ἀγαθός, noble

ἀποσπάω tear/drag away

ἀσεβής profane

δείκνυμι (ῥ) show, point out

δηλόω show, disclose

δράω do, accomplish

ἐγγενής native, kindred; innate

ἐγγίγνομαι live in, grow in ~genus

ἐκγίγνομαι be born; be by birth

~genus

ἐκμανθάνω know by heart

εὐσεβής pious

θνητός mortal ~euthanasia

λιπαρέω (ι) persist

ὄμβρος storm

ὅμως anyway, nevertheless

ὅπου where

προσδέχομαι await, expect; suppose

πρώτιστος the very first

ρίπτω hurl

φάος φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)

eyes ~photon

φάτις -τος (f) report, rumor ~fame

φέως bush used to make brooms

χρεία need, use

χρήζω need ~chresard

ἀκάλυπτον οὕτω δεικνύναι, τὸ μήτε γῇ
 μήτ' ὄμβρος ἱερὸς μήτε φῶς προσδέξεται.
 ἀλλ' ὥς τάχιστ' ἐς οἶκον ἐσκομίζετε·
 τοῖς ἐν γένει γὰρ τὰγγενῇ μάλισθ' ὁράν
 μόνοις τ' ἀκούειν εὐσεβῶς ἔχει κακά.

1430

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. πρὸς θεῶν, ἐπείπερ ἐλπίδος μ' ἀπέσπασας,
 ἄριστος ἐλθὼν πρὸς κάκιστον ἄνδρ' ἐμέ,
 πιθοῦ τί μοι· πρὸς σοῦ γὰρ οὐδ' ἐμοῦ φράσω.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. καὶ τοῦ με χρείας ὧδε λιπαρεῖς τυχεῖν;

1435

ΟΙ. ῥῦψόν με γῆς ἐκ τῆσδ' ὅσον τάχισθ', ὅπου
 θνητῶν φανούμαι μηδενὸς προσήγορος.

ΚΡ. ἔδρασ' ἂν εὖ τοῦτ' ἴσθ' ἂν, εἰ μὴ τοῦ θεοῦ
 πρώτιστ' ἔχρηζον ἐκμαθεῖν τί πρακτέαν.

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' ἦ γ' ἐκείνου πᾶσ' ἐδηλώθη φάτις,
 τὸν πατροφόντην, τὸν ἀσεβῆ μ' ἀπολλύναι.

1440

ΚΡ. οὕτως ἐλέχθη ταῦθ'· ὅμως δ' ἵν' ἕσταμεν
 χρείας, ἄμεινον ἐκμαθεῖν τι δραστέον.

ΟΙ. οὕτως ἄρ' ἀνδρὸς ἀθλίου πεύσεσθ' ὕπερ;

ΚΡ. καὶ γὰρ σὺ νῦν τᾶν τῷ θεῷ πίστιν φέροις.

ἀκάλυπτον οὕτω |show , τὸ μήτε γῆ

μήτ' |storm ἱερὸς μήτε φῶς |await, expect;
|suppose

ἀλλ' ὡς τάχιστ' ἐς οἶκον ἐσκομίζετε·

τοῖς ἐν γένει γὰρ τὰγγενῇ μάλισθ' ὀράν

1430

μόνοις τ' ἀκούειν |pious ἔχει κακά.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. πρὸς θεῶν, ἐπείπερ ἐλπίδος μ' ἀπέσπασας,

ἄριστος ἐλθὼν πρὸς κάκιστον ἄνδρ' ἐμέ,

πιθοῦ τί μοι· πρὸς σοῦ γὰρ οὐδ' ἐμοῦ φράσω.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. καὶ τοῦ με |need, use ἔδε λιπαρεῖς τυχεῖν;

1435

ΟΙ. |hurl με γῆς ἐκ τῆσδ' ὅσον τάχισθ', |where

|mortal φανούμαι μηδενὸς προσήγορος.

ΚΡ. |do, accomplish οὐτ' ἴσθ' ἄν, εἰ μὴ τοῦ θεοῦ

|the very|need |know by heart ρακτέαν.
|first

ΟΙ. ἀλλ' ἢ γ' ἐκείνου πᾶσ' |show, |report,
|disclose |rumor

1440

τὸν πατροφόντην, τὸν |profane, ἰ' ἀπολλύναι.

ΚΡ. οὕτως ἐλέχθη ταῦθ'· |anyway, nevertheless

|need, use|better |know by heart|do, accomplish

ΟΙ. οὕτως ἄρ' ἀνδρὸς ἀθλίου πεύσεσθ' ὕπερ;

ΚΡ. καὶ γὰρ σὺ νῦν τᾶν τῷ θεῷ πίστιν φέροισ.

The Sun whose light beholds and nurtures all.

Leave not thus nakedly for all to gaze at

A horror neither earth nor rain from heaven

Nor light will suffer. Lead him straight within,

For it is seemly that a kinsman's woes

Be heard by kin and seen by kin alone.

OEDIPUS. O listen, since thy presence comes to me

A shock of glad surprise— so noble thou,

And I so vile— O grant me one small boon.

I ask it not on my behalf, but thine.

CREON. And what the favor thou wouldst crave of me?

OEDIPUS. Forth from thy borders thrust me with all speed;

Set me within some vasty desert where

No mortal voice shall greet me any more.

CREON. This had I done already, but I deemed

It first behooved me to consult the god.

OEDIPUS. His will was set forth fully— to destroy

The parricide, the scoundrel; and I am he.

CREON. Yea, so he spake, but in our present plight'

Twere better to consult the god anew.

OEDIPUS. Dare ye inquire concerning such a wretch?

CREON. Yea, for thyself wouldst credit now his

vocabulary

ἄθλιος prize ~athlete
ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
ἄνευ away from; not having; not
 needing ~Sp. sin
ἄρσην male
ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
βίος life ~biology
βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
βορέας -οῦ (m, 1) north, north wind
ἐπισκήπτω lay something on
καίτοι and yet; and in fact; although
μήποτε absolutely never
μοῖρα portion, fate; (κατά+) rightly
 ~Moirā
νόσος (f) plague, pestilence ~noisome
οἰκέω inhabit ~economics

οἰκτρός pitiable
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just
 ~orthogonal
ὀρθόω stand up
παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
πατρῷος of the father(s), ancestral
πέρθω sack, ravage, plunder
πότε when?
προσθέω run to
προστίθμι add; impose; (mp) agree;
 side with ~thesis
σπάνις -εως (f) scarcity, rarity
τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n)
 astonishment
τράπεζα a table ~trapezoid
χωρίς separately; except, other than
 ~heir

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καὶ σοί γ' ἐπισκήπτω τε καὶ προστέψομαι,

τῆς μὲν κατ' οἴκους αὐτὸς ὃν θέλεις τάφον

θοῦ· καὶ γὰρ ὀρθῶς τῶν γε σῶν τελεῖς ὕπερ·

ἐμοῦ δὲ μήποτ' ἀξιοθήτω τόδε

πατρῶον ἄστν ζῶντος οἰκητοῦ τυχεῖν,

1450

ἀλλ' ἔα με ναίειν ὄρεσιν, ἔνθα κλήζεται

οὔμους Κιθαιρῶν οὔτος, ὃν μήτηρ τέ μοι

πατήρ τ' ἐθέσθην ζῶντε κύριον τάφον,

ἴν' ἐξ ἐκείνων, οἳ μ' ἀπωλλύτην, θάνω.

καίτοι τοσοῦτόν γ' οἶδα, μήτε μ' ἂν νόσον

1455

μήτ' ἄλλο πέρσαι μηδέν· οὐ γὰρ ἂν ποτε

θνήσκων ἐσώθην, μὴ πί τῳ δεινῷ κακῷ.

ἀλλ' ἢ μὲν ἡμῶν μοῖρ', ὅποιπερ εἶσ', ἴτω·

παῖδων δὲ τῶν μὲν ἀρσένων μή μοι, Κρέων,

προσθῇ μέριμναν· ἄνδρες εἰσίν, ὥστε μὴ

1460

σπάνιν ποτὲ σχεῖν, ἔνθ' ἂν ᾧσι, τοῦ βίου·

ταῖν δ' ἀθλῖαιν οἰκτραῖν τε παρθένοιον ἐμαῖν,

αἶν οὔποθ' ἡμὴ χωρὶς ἐστάθη βορᾶς

τράπεζ' ἄνευ τοῦδ' ἀνδρός, ἀλλ' ὅσων ἐγὼ

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. καὶ σοί γ' |lay something on |ὲ προστέψομαι,

τῆς μὲν κατ' οἴκους αὐτὸς ὃν θέλεις |(m) funeral, grave;
|(n) astonishment

θοῦ· καὶ γὰρ ὀρθῶς τῶν γε σῶν τελεῖς ὕπερ·

ἐμοῦ δὲ |absolutely |ζῶθήτω τόδε
|never

|of the fa-|town ζῶντος |inhabit τυχεῖν,
|ther(s), an-

1450

|cestral· ἀλλ' ἔα με |dwell, ὄρεσιν, ἔνθα κλήζεται
|found;

οὐμὸς Κιθαιρῶν οὗτος, ὃν μήτηρ τέ μοι
|flow

πατὴρ τ' ἐθέσθην ζῶντε κύριον |(m) funeral, grave;
|(n) astonishment

ἴν' ἐξ ἐκείνων, οἳ μ' ἀπωλλύτην, θάνω.

|and yet; and in ὃν γ' οἶδα, μήτε μ' ἂν |plague
|fact; although

1455

μήτ' ἄλλο |sack μηδέν· οὐ γὰρ ἂν ποτε

θνήσκων ἐσώθην, μὴ πί τω δεινῷ κακῷ.

ἀλλ' ἡ μὲν ἡμῶν |portion, fate· γερ εἶς, ἵτω·

παίδων δὲ τῶν μὲν |male μή μοι, Κρέων,

προσθῇ μέριμναν· ἄνδρες εἰσὶν, ὥστε μὴ

1460

|scarcity, ποτὲ σχεῖν, ἔνθ' ἂν ὦσι, τοῦ βίου·
|rarity

ταῖν δ' ἀθλίαιν |pitiable τε |girl, virgin ἐμαῖν,

αἶν οὐποθ' ἡμῇ |separately; ἄλλ', |north,
|except, other|north
|than, |wind

|a table |away from; not hav-· ἀλλ' ὅσων ἐγὼ
|ing; not needing

word.

OEDIPUS. Aye, and on thee in all humility
I lay this charge: let her who lies within
Receive such burial as thou shalt ordain;
Such rites 'tis thine, as brother, to perform.
But for myself, O never let my Thebes,
The city of my sires, be doomed to bear
The burden of my presence while I live.
No, let me be a dweller on the hills,
On yonder mount Cithaeron, famed as mine,
My tomb predestined for me by my sire
And mother, while they lived, that I may die
Slain as they sought to slay me, when alive.
This much I know full surely, nor disease
Shall end my days, nor any common chance;
For I had ne'er been snatched from death, unless
I was predestined to some awful doom.
So be it. I reckon not how Fate deals with me
But my unhappy children— for my sons
Be not concerned, O Creon, they are men,
And for themselves, where'er they be, can fend.
But for my daughters twain, poor innocent maids,
Who ever sat beside me at the board

*vocabulary***ἄδελφή** sister**ἄμείνων** comparative of ἀγαθός, noble**ἀποκλαίω** cry out loud**γενναῖος** noble, sincere ~genesis**γονή** progeny ~genus**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**δεῦρο** here, come here!**ἐκγονος** offspring, descendant ~genus**εὐτυχέω** be lucky, prosper, succeed**ἤνικα** when**θιγγάνω** touch**κλύω** hear, listen to ~Euclid**λαμπρός** brilliant ~lamp**μέλω** concern, interest, be one's
responsibility**μετέχω** partake of**ὄμμα** -τος (n, 3) eye**πάλαι** long ago ~paleo**πάλη** wrestling ~Pallas**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**πορσύνω** (ῶ) prepare (the marital bed)**ποῦ** where?**προξενέω** protect, handle for**τέρψις** -τος (f) pleasure**φρουρέω** keep watch**ψαύω** be closely touching

ψαύοιμι, πάντων τῶνδ' ἀεὶ μετειχέτην·

1465

αἶν μοι μέλεσθαι· καὶ μάλιστα μὲν χεροῖν

ψαῦσαί μ' ἔασον καποκλαύσασθαι κακά.

ἴθ' ὦναξ,

ἴθ' ὦ γονῇ γενναῖε· χερσὶ τὰν θιγῶν

δοκοῖμ' ἔχειν σφᾶς, ὥσπερ ἡνίκ' ἔβλεπον.

1470

τί φημί;

οὐ δὴ κλύω που πρὸς θεῶν τοῖν μοι φίλοι

δακρυρροοῦνται, καὶ μ' ἐποικτίρας Κρέων

ἔπεμψε μοι τὰ φίλτατ' ἐκγόνοι ἐμοῖν;

λέγω τι;

1475

ΚΡΕΩΝ. λέγεις· ἐγὼ γὰρ εἰμ' ὁ πορσύνας τάδε,

γνοὺς τὴν παροῦσαν τέριψιν, ἣ σ' εἶχεν πάλαι.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἀλλ' εὐτυχοίης, καὶ σε τῇσδε τῆς ὁδοῦ

δαίμων ἄμεινον ἢ μὲ φρουρήσας τύχοι.

ὦ τέκνα, ποῦ ποτ' ἐστέ; δεῦρ' ἴτ', ἔλθετε

1480

ὥς τὰς ἀδελφὰς τάσδε τὰς ἐμὰς χέρας,

αἶ τοῦ φυτουργοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῖν ὧδ' ὁρᾶν

τὰ πρόσθε λαμπρὰ προυξένησαν ὄμματα·

|be closely touching τῶνδ' αἰὲ |partake of 1465

αἶν μοι |be in/on the mind ἄλιστα μὲν χεροῖν

|be closely touching |cry out loud κακά.

ἴθ' ὦναξ,

ἴθ' ὦ |progeny noble, |cherish τὰν |touch
|sincere

δοκοῖμ' ἔχειν σφᾶς, ὥσπερ |when ἔβλεπον. 1470

τί φημί;

οὐ δὴ |hear που πρὸς θεῶν τοῖν μοι φίλοι

δακρυρροοῦντοι, καί μ' ἐποικτίρας Κρέων

ἐπεμψέ μοι τὰ φίλτατ' |offspring ἐμοῖν;

λέγω τι; 1475

ΚΡΕΩΝ. λέγεις· ἐγὼ γὰρ εἰμ' ὁ |prepare τάδε,

γνοὺς τὴν παροῦσαν |pleasure ἥ σ' εἶχεν πάλαι.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἀλλ' |be lucky, prosper... |σε τῇσδε τῆς ὁδοῦ
|per, succeed

|a god, better ἢ μὲ |keep watch τύχοι.
|fate,
|doom

ὦ τέκνα, |where? τ' ἐστέ; |here, come here! 1480

ὥς τὰς |sister τάσδε τὰς ἐμὰς χέρας,

αἱ τοῦ φυτουργοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῖν ὧδ' ὁρᾶν

τὰ πρόσθε |brilliant |protect, handle |eye
|for

Sharing my viands, drinking of my cup,
For them, I pray thee, care, and, if thou wilt,
O might I feel their touch and make my moan.
Hear me, O prince, my noble-hearted prince!
Could I but blindly touch them with my hands
I' d think they still were mine, as when I saw.

ANTIGONE and ISMENE are led in.]

What say I? can it be my pretty ones
Whose sobs I hear? Has Creon pitied me
And sent me my two darlings? Can this be?
CREON. 'Tis true; 'twas I procured thee this delight,
Knowing the joy they were to thee of old.
OEDIPUS. God speed thee! and as meed for bringing them
May Providence deal with thee kindlier
Than it has dealt with me! O children mine,
Where are ye? Let me clasp you with these hands,
A brother' s hands, a father' s; hands that made

vocabulary

ἄγαμος unmarried ~bigamy
ἀκμή point, edge, top, culmination
 ~acute
ἄρόω plow ~arable
ἄσκη inhabitant
ἄστός townsman; citizen
ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town
βίος life ~biology
βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy
γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
δάκρυον tear
δακρύω weep
δηλαδὴ clearly
δήλημα -τος (n, 3) harmful thing
 ~delenda
εἴτα then, therefore, next
ἐκφύω spring from ~physics
ἐνθεν thence, whence
ἐντίθημι load; mp: take to heart
 ~thesis

ἐορτή holiday, feast
ἡνίκα when
θείνω strike, wound ~offend
θεωρία spectator, contemplation
ἱστορέω inquire; relate
κλαίω weep
κτάομαι acquire, possess
ὅθεν whence
ὁμιλία (τι) intercourse, company
ὁμός same ~homoeerotic
ὁμοῦ together
ὁμόω unite ~homoeerotic
ὄνειδίζω upbraid, reproach
ὄνειδος -εος (n, 3) blame; insult
πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric
ποίη grass
ποῖος what kind
σθένω be strong, able
σπείρω sow ~diaspora
φθείρω destroy, ruin
χέρσος (f) dry land

ὃς ὑμῖν, ὦ τέκν', οὐθ' ὁρώων οὐθ' ἱστορώων
 πατὴρ ἐφάνθη ἐνθεν αὐτὸς ἠρόθη. 1485
 καὶ σφὼ δακρύω· προσβλέπειν γὰρ οὐ σθένω·
 νοούμενος τὰ λοιπὰ τοῦ πικροῦ βίου,
 οἷον βιῶναι σφὼ πρὸς ἀνθρώπων χρεῶν.
 ποίας γὰρ ἀστών ἤξετ' εἰς ὁμιλίας,
 ποίας δ' ἐορτάς, ἐνθεν οὐ κεκλανμέναι 1490
 πρὸς οἶκον ἵξεσθ' ἀντὶ τῆς θεωρίας;
 ἀλλ' ἡνίκ' ἂν δὴ πρὸς γάμων ἤκητ' ἀκμάς,
 τίς οὗτος ἔσται, τίς παραρρίψει, τέκνα,
 τοιαῦτ' ὀνειδή λαμβάνων, ἃ ταῖς ἐμαῖς
 γοναῖσιν ἔσται σφῶν θ' ὁμοῦ δηλήματα; 1495
 τί γὰρ κακῶν ἄπεστι; τὸν πατέρα πατὴρ
 ὑμῶν ἔπεφνε· τὴν τεκοῦσαν ἤροσεν,
 ὅθεν περ αὐτὸς ἐσπάρη, κακῶν ἴσων
 ἐκτήσαθ' ὑμᾶς, ὧν περ αὐτὸς ἐξέφυ.
 τοιαῦτ' ὀνειδιεῖσθε· κᾶτα τίς γαμεῖ; 1500
 οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδεὶς, ὦ τέκν', ἀλλὰ δηλαδὴ
 χέρσους φθαρῆναι καγάμους ὑμᾶς χρεῶν.

ὅς ὑμῖν, ὦ τέκν', οὐθ' ὁρῶν οὐθ' inquire;
relate

πατήρ ἐφάνθη ἐνθεν αὐτὸς | plow

1485

καὶ σφὼ δακρύω· προσβλέπειν γὰρ οὐ |be strong, able

νοούμενος τὰ λοιπὰ τοῦ |sharp βίου,

οἶον βιώῃ σφῶν πρὸς ἀνθρώπων χρεῶν.

ποιίας γὰρ ἀστῶν ἥξετ' εἰς ὀμιλίας,

ποίας δ' | holiday, , ἔνθεν οὐ | weep
feast

1490

πρὸς οἶκον ἵξεσθ' ἀντὶ τῆς | spectator, , con-
templation

ἀλλ' |when *ἀν δὲ πρὸς* |wedding, 'sex' |point, edge, top,
culmination

τίς οὗτος ἔσται, τίς παραρρίψει, τέκνα,

τοιαῦτ' | blame; λαμβάνων, ἃ ταῖς ἐμαῖς
insult

γοναῖσιν ἔσται σφῶν θ' ὁμοῦ | harmful
thing

1495

τί γὰρ κακῶν ἄπεισι; τὸν πατέρα πατήρ

ὑμῶν | strike, wound τὴν τεκοῦσαν | plow

|whence ρ αὐτὸς |sow , καὶ τῶν ἴσων

ἐκτήσαθ' ὑμᾶς, ὧνπερ αὐτὸς |spring from

τοιαύτ' reproach	then, . . . marry, take
	therefore, as a lover

οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδεὶς, ὃ ^{next} τέκν', ἀλλὰ ^{clearly}

|dry land |destroy, ruin |unmarried ὑμᾶς χρεών.

Lack-luster sockets of his once bright eyes;
Hands of a man who blindly, recklessly,
Became your sire by her from whom he sprang.
Though I cannot behold you, I must weep
In thinking of the evil days to come,
The slights and wrongs that men will put upon you.
Where' er ye go to feast or festival,
No merrymaking will it prove for you,
But oft abashed in tears ye will return.
And when ye come to marriageable years,
Where' s the bold wooers who will jeopardize
To take unto himself such disrepute
As to my children' s children still must cling,
For what of infamy is lacking here?
“Their father slew his father, sowed the seed
Where he himself was gendered, and begat
These maidens at the source wherefrom he sprang.”
Such are the gibes that men will cast at you.
Who then will wed you? None, I ween, but ye

vocabulary

αἰτέω ask for ~etiology
ἀλάομαι wander, rove, roam ~Fr. aller
ἄλις in plenty; enough ~helix
ἄνανδρος without men; not manlike
 ~androgynous
ἄποικος abroad, colonizing
βίος life ~biology
βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
γενναῖος noble, sincere ~genesis
δάκρυον tear
δακρύω weep
δόσις -εως (f) gift, loan ~donate
ἐξακέομαι cure, appease, make up for
ἐξισόω equalize

ἐρῆμος empty
ἐρημόω raze, bereave; desert, isolate
ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κυρέω come upon, come up against;
 obtain
παραινέω recommend, exhort, warn
περίοιδα have great, greater skill
περιοράω look around; watch; permit
πτωχός poor, beggarly ~pudendum
στέγη roof, ceiling, chamber
τηλίκος of such an age
φυτεύω plant, grow, cause, prepare
 ~physics
ψάύω be closely touching

ὦ παῖ Μεινοικέως, ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ μόνος πατήρ
ταύταιν λέλειψαι, νῶ γάρ, ὦ φυτεύσαμεν,
ὀλώλαμεν δὺ ὄντε, μή σφε περιίδης
πτωχὰς ἀνάνδρους ἐκγενεῖς ἀλωμένας,
μηδ' ἐξιώσης τάσδε τοῖς ἐμοῖς κακοῖς.

1505

ἀλλ' οἴκτισόν σφας, ὥδε τηλικάσδ' ὁρώων
πάντων ἐρήμους, πλὴν ὅσον τὸ σὸν μέρος.

ζύννευσον, ὦ γενναῖε, σῇ ψαύσας χερί.

1510

σφῶν δ', ὦ τέκν', εἰ μὲν εἰχέτην ἤδη φρένας,
πόλλ' ἂν παρήγουν· νῦν δὲ τοῦτ' εὐχεσθὲ μοι,
οὗ καιρὸς ἐᾶ ζῆν, τοῦ βίου δὲ λώονος
ὕμᾱς κυρῆσαι τοῦ φυτεύσαντος πατρός.

ΚΡΕΩΝ. ἄλῃς ἔν' ἐξήκεις δακρύων· ἀλλ' ἴθι στέγης ἔσω.

1515

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. πειστέον, κεῖ' μηδὲν ἡδύ. ΚΡ. πάντα γὰρ καιρῶ καλά.

ΟΙ. οἴσθ' ἐφ' οἷς οὖν εἰμι; ΚΡ. λέξεις, καὶ τότ' εἴσομαι κλύων.

ΟΙ. γῆς μ' ὅπως πέμψεις ἄποικον. ΚΡ. τοῦ θεοῦ μ' αἰτεῖς δόσιν.

ὦ παῖ Μενοικέως, ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ μόνος πατήρ

ταύταιν λέλειψαι, νῶ γάρ, ὦ |plant, grow,
|cause, prepare

ὀλώλαμεν δὺ' ὄντε, μή σφε περιύδης

1505

|poor, |without men; |cγενεῖς |rove
|beggarly |not manlike

μηδ' |equalize τάσδε τοῖς ἐμοῖς κακοῖς.

ἀλλ' οἴκτισόν σφας, ὥδε τηλικάσδ' ὁρῶν

πάντων ἐρήμους, πλὴν ὅσον τὸ σὸν μέρος.

ξύννευσον, ὦ |noble, |σῇ |be closely touching
|sincere

1510

σφῶν δ', ὦ τέκν', εἰ μὲν εἰχέτην ἤδη φρένας,

πόλλ' ἂν |recommend, |ῶν δὲ τοῦτ' εὐχέσθ' μοι,
|exhort, warn

οὗ καιρὸς ἐᾷ ζῆν, τοῦ βίου δὲ λῶονος

ὑμᾶς |come upon |ῶ |plant, grow, πατρός.
|cause, prepare

ΚΡΕΩΝ. |in |ἐξακέομαι?: |moderate; |on roof, ceiling,
|plenty; |ἐξακέομαι?: moderate |chamber
|enough

1515

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. πείστέον, κεί' μηδὲν |sweet ΚΡ. πάντα γὰρ καιρῷ καλά.

ΟΙ. οἶσθ' ἐφ' οἷς οὖν εἶμι; ΚΡ. λέξεις, καὶ τότ' εἶσομαι |hear

ΟΙ. γῆς μ' ὅπως πέμψεις |abroad, ΚΡ. τοῦ θεοῦ μ' |ask for |gift, loan
|colonizing

Must pine, poor maids, in single barrenness.
O Prince, Menoeceus' son, to thee, I turn,
With the it rests to father them, for we
Their natural parents, both of us, are lost.
O leave them not to wander poor, unwed,
Thy kin, nor let them share my low estate.
O pity them so young, and but for thee
All destitute. Thy hand upon it, Prince.
To you, my children I had much to say,
Were ye but ripe to hear. Let this suffice:
Pray ye may find some home and live content,
And may your lot prove happier than your sire' s.
CREON. Thou hast had enough of weeping; pass within.
OEDIPUS. I must obey,
Though 'tis grievous.
CREON. Weep not, everything must have its day.
OEDIPUS. Well I go, but on conditions.
CREON. What thy terms for going, say.
OEDIPUS. Send me from the land an exile.
CREON. Ask this of the gods, not

vocabulary

αἴνιγμα -τος (n, 3) dark saying
ἀλγεινός painful
ἀπάγω lead away, back ~demagogue
βίος life ~biology
βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
ἐνοικέω dwell in
ἐνοικος inhabitant
ἐντεῦθεν thence
ἐπισκοπέω look upon, inspect
ζῆλος competitiveness, emulation ~zeal
θνητός mortal ~euthanasia
κλεινός famous
κλύδων -ος (m, 3) wave, surge
 ~cataclysm
κράτιστος best
λεύσσω see, look

μάτην in vain, randomly
μηδαιμός no one
πάτρα (αᾶ) fatherland ~paternal
περάτη -ιάτης the passage of night
 ~pierce
περάω cross over, drive across; sell as
 a slave ~pierce
πέρνημι export, sell as a slave ~porno
στείχω go, march ~stair
συμφορά collecting; accident,
 misfortune
τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps
 ~tachometer
τελευταῖος last, final
τέρμα -τος (n, 3) mark, turn-around
 point
τοιγάρ therefore

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἀλλὰ θεοῖς γ' ἔχθιστος ἦκω. ΚΡΕΩΝ. τοιγαροῦν τεύξει
τάχα.

ΟΙ. φῆς τάδ' οὖν; ΚΡ. ἂ μὴ φρονῶ γὰρ οὐ φιλῶ λέγειν μάτην. 1520

ΟΙ. ἄπαγέ νύν μ' ἐντεῦθεν ἤδη. ΚΡ. στείχε νυν, τέκνων δ' ἀφοῦ.

ΟΙ. μηδαμῶς ταύτας γ' ἔλη μου. ΚΡ. πάντα μὴ βούλου κρατεῖν·
καὶ γὰρ ἀκράτησας οὐ σοι τῷ βίῳ ξυνέσπετο.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ πάτρας Θήβης ἔνοικοι, λεύσσετ', Οἰδίπους ὅδε,

ὃς τὰ κλείν' αἰνίγματ' ἤδει καὶ κράτιστος ἦν ἀνὴρ, 1525

οὗ τίς οὐ ζήλω πολιτῶν ἦν τύχαις ἐπιβλέπων,

εἰς ὅσον κλύδωνα δεινῆς συμφορᾶς ἐλήλυθεν.

ὥστε θνητὸν ὄντα κείνην τὴν τελευταίαν ἰδεῖν

ἡμέραν ἐπισκοποῦντα μηδέν' ὀλβίζειν, πρὶν ἂν

τέρμα τοῦ βίου περάσῃ μηδὲν ἀλγεινὸν παθῶν.

ΟΙΔΙΠΟΥΣ. ἀλλὰ θεοῖς γ' ἔχθιστος ἦκω. ΚΡΕΩΝ. τοιγαροῦν τεύξει

|quickly, soon;
|perhaps

ΟΙ. φῆς τάδ' οὖν; ΚΡ. ἂ μὴ φρονῶ γὰρ οὐ φιλῶ λέγειν μάτην. 1520

ΟΙ. |lead away, back |thence ἥδη. ΚΡ. |go, march , τέκνων δ' ἀφοῦ.

ΟΙ. |no one ταύτας γ' ἔλη μου. ΚΡ. πάντα μὴ βούλου κρατεῖν·
καὶ γὰρ ἀκράτησας οὗ σοι τῷ βίῳ ξυνέσπετο.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ |fatherland ἥβης ἔνοικοι, |see, look , Οἰδίπους ὅδε,

ὥς τὰ |famous|dark saying, ᾗδεις καὶ |best ἦν ἀνήρ, 1525

οὐ τίς οὐ |competitiveness,
|emulation ἦν τύχαις ἐπιβλέπων,

εἰς ὅσον |wave, δεινῆς |collecting; ἀκκί- υθεν.
|surge |dent, misfortune

ὥστε |mortal ὄντα κείνην τὴν |last, final ἰδεῖν

ἡμέραν |look upon, inspect , δέν' ὀλβίζειν, πρὶν ἂν

|mark, turn- ἵου περάση μηδὲν |painful παθῶν.
|around point

me.

OEDIPUS. But I am the gods' abhorrence.

CREON. Then they soon will grant thy plea.

OEDIPUS. Lead me hence, then, I am willing.

CREON. Come, but let thy children go.

OEDIPUS. Rob me not of these my children!

CREON. Crave not mastery in all,

For the mastery that raised thee was thy bane and wrought thy fall.

CHORUS. Look ye, countrymen and Thebans, this is Oedipus the great,

He who knew the Sphinx' s riddle and was mightiest in our state.

Who of all our townsmen gazed not on his fame with envious eyes?

Now, in what a sea of troubles sunk and overwhelmed he lies!

Therefore wait to see life' s ending ere thou count one mortal blest;

Wait till free from pain and sorrow he has gained his final rest.