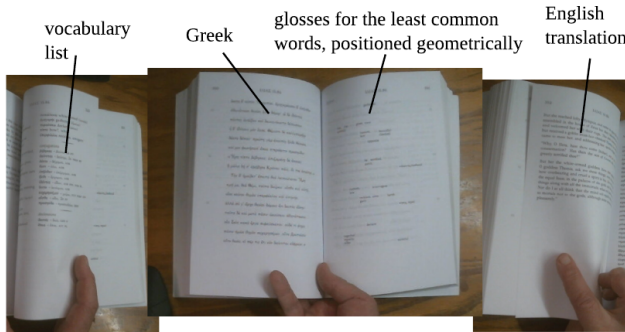


This book is a presentation of a bilingual text with student aids, built using open-source software. For information about how the book is intended to be used and why it's designed the way it is, go to lightandmatter.com/ransom. To read this book on a computer screen, you should set up your PDF viewer so that it displays a two-page layout, with an even page on the left and an odd one on the right.



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

rev. January 24, 2026

The Greek text is Murray, 1913. The translation is Murray, 1915.

Copyright info. Text I've written, such as notes and glosses, is (c) 2026 Benjamin Crowell and CC-BY-SA 4.0. Glosses taken verbatim from Cunliffe or White and Morgan are in the public domain, as are the LSJ dictionary entries. Glosses taken verbatim from Wiktionary are CC-BY-SA 3.0. US law does not allow copyrighting of grammatical facts such as part-of-speech tagging and does not give any additional protection to databases beyond the normal protection of copyright.

vocabulary

ἅλμυρός salty
ἄλσος -εος (n, 3) grove, sacred place
ἀνάκτορον palace; temple
βάθος -ους (n, 3) depth, height
βάθρον step, base, bench
δορός leather bag ~dermatology
ἐγκύμων (ῥ) pregnant
ἐντός within
ἐρήμιος empty
ἐρκεῖος having an altar in the
 sanctuary ~oath
εὖνοια good will, gift
ἵχνος -εος (n, 3) track, trace
κανών -όνος (m, 3) rod, handle
 ~canonical

καπνόομαι go up in smoke
καταρρέω flow down ~rheostat
κρηπίς (ι) boot; foundation
κρυπτός hidden, secret ~cryptic
λάινος of stone
ὅθεν whence
ὀλέθριος ruinous, deadly
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just
 ~orthogonal
πέριξ all around
πορθέω sack, ravage, plunder
πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops
σχύλευμα (ῥ) arms taken as spoils
φόνος killing ~offend
χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean
χρυσός (ῥ) gold

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. Ἦκω λιπὼν Αἴγαιον ἀλμυρὸν βάθος

πόντου Ποσειδῶν, ἔνθα Νηρηίδων χοροὶ

κάλλιστον ἵχνος ἐξελίσσουσιν ποδός.

ἐξ οὗ γὰρ ἀμφὶ τήνδε Τρωικὴν χθόνα

Φοῖβός τε καὶ γὰρ λαῖνους πύργους περίξ

5

ὀρθοῖσιν ἔθεμεν κανόσιν, οὐποτ' ἐκ φρενῶν

εὖνοι' ἀπέστη τῶν ἐμῶν Φρυγῶν πόλει·

ἦ νῦν καπνοῦται καὶ πρὸς Ἀργείου δορός

ὄλωλε πορθηθεῖς· ὁ γὰρ Παρνάσιος

Φωκεὺς Ἐπειός, μηχαναῖσι Παλλάδος

10

ἐγκύμον' ἵππον τευχέων ξυναρμόσας,

πύργων ἔπεμψεν ἐντὸς ὀλέθριον βρέτας·

ὄθεν πρὸς ἀνδρῶν ὑστέρων κεκλήσεται

Δούρειος Ἴππος, κρυπτὸν ἀμπισχὼν δόρυ.

ἔρημα δ' ἄλση καὶ θεῶν ἀνάκτορα

15

φόνῳ καταρρεῖ· πρὸς δὲ κρηπίδων βάθροις

πέπτωκε Πρίαμος Ζηνὸς ἐρκείου θανών.

πολὺς δὲ χρυσὸς Φρύγιά τε σκυλεύματα

πρὸς ναῦς Ἀχαιῶν πέμπεται· μένουσι δὲ

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. Ἦκω λιπὼν Αἴγαιον |salty |depth,
|height

πόντου Ποσειδῶν, ἔνθα Νηρηίδων |dance;
|chorus

κάλλιστον |track, ἐξελίσσουσιν ποδός.
|trace

ἐξ οὗ γὰρ ἀμφὶ τήνδε Τρωικὴν χθόνα

Φοῖβός τε κἀγὼ |of stone |wall, |all around
|tower

5

|upright, ὕψι;rod, handle ἵποτ' ἐκ φρενῶν
|correct, just

|good will, gift . ἰ τῶν ἐμῶν Φρυγῶν πόλει·

ἦ νῦν |go up in smoke ` πρὸς Ἀργείου |leather bag

ὄλωλε |sack ὁ γὰρ Παρναῖος

Φωκεὺς Ἑπειός, μηχαναῖσι Παλλάδος

10

|pregnant ἵππον τευχέων ξυναρμόσας,

|wall, ἔπεμψεν |within |ruinous, βρέτας·
|tower |deadly

|whence, ὅς ἀνδρῶν ὑστέρων κεκλήσεται

Δούρειος Ἴππος, |hidden, ἀμπισχὼν δόρυ.
|secret

ἔρημα δ' |grove, καὶ θεῶν |palace;
|sacred |temple
|place

15

|killing |flow down πρὸς δὲ |boot; foun-|step, base, bench
|dation

πέπτωκε Πρίαμος Ζηνὸς |having an altar·
|in the sanctuary

πολὺς δὲ |gold Φρύγιά τε |arms taken as spoils

πρὸς ναῦς Ἀχαιῶν πέμπεται· μένουσι δὲ

POSEIDON. Up from Aegean caverns, pool by pool
Of blue salt sea, where feet most beautiful
Of Nereid maidens weave beneath the foam
Their long sea-dances, I, their lord, am come,
Poseidon of the Sea. 'Twas I whose power,
With great Apollo, builded tower by tower
These walls of Troy; and still my care doth stand
True to the ancient People of my hand;
Which now as smoke is perished, in the shock
Of Argive spears. Down from Parnassus' rock
The Greek Epeios came, of Phocian seed,
And wrought by Pallas' mysteries a Steed
Marvellous, big with arms; and through my wall
It passed, a death-fraught image magical.
The groves are empty and the sanctuaries
Run red with blood. Unburied Priam lies
By his own hearth, on God's high altar-stair,
And Phrygian gold goes forth and raiment rare
To the Argive ships; and weary soldiers roam

*vocabulary***ἄεθλιος** prize ~athlete**ἄθλιος** wretched ~athlete**αἰχμαλωτίς** captive**αἰχμάλωτος** captive ~acute**ἄκληρος** not owning land ~clergy**ἄλοχος** (f) wife ~lie**βωμός** altar; stand, pedestal**δάκρυον** tear**δεσπότης** -ου (m, 1) master, despot**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**Ἑλλήν** Greek**ἐνδικος** (persons, things) just**ἐξαιρέω** pick, steal; dedicate; destroy
~heresy**ἐπιστρατεύω** march against**ἐρημία** wilderness, solitude**ἡδομαι** be pleased, enjoy ~hedonism**κλεινός** famous**κληρόω** cast lots, assign**κωκυτός** (ῶ) lamentation**κωκύω** cry out, lament for**λαγχάνω** be allotted; (esp. λελα-
forms) allot; receive**νοσέω** be sick, be mad, suffer**ὄρος** boundary marker ~horizon**οὔρον** boundary stone; unit of
distance; limit**οὔρος** fair wind; guardian; hill**πάρως** before, in the past**πρόμος** foremost fighter, champion**πρύμνηθεν** from the stern**πύλη** gate ~Thermopylae**στέγη** roof, ceiling, chamber**στρατός** common people/soldiers
~strategy**στρατόω** be on a campaign ~strategy**συνεξαιρέω** help in removing**τιμάω** (ι) honor, exalt**χέω** pour, scatter

πρύμνηθεν οὔρον, ὥς δεκασπόρῳ χρόνῳ 20
 ἀλόχους τε καὶ τέκν' εἰσίδωσιν ἄσμενοι,
 οἳ τήνδ' ἐπεστράτευσαν Ἑλλήνες πόλιν.
 ἐγὼ δέ— νικῶμαι γὰρ Ἀργείας θεοῦ
 Ἥρας Ἀθάνας θ', αἱ συνεξείλον Φρύγας
 —λείπω τὸ κλεινὸν Ἴλιον βωμούς τ' ἐμούς· 25
 ἐρημία γὰρ πόλιν ὅταν λάβῃ κακή,
 νοσεῖ τὰ τῶν θεῶν οὐδὲ τιμᾶσθαι θέλει.
 πολλοῖς δὲ κωκυτοῖσιν αἰχμαλωτῖδων
 βοᾷ Σκάμανδρος δεσπότης κληρουμένων.
 καὶ τὰς μὲν Ἀρκάς, τὰς δὲ Θεσσαλὸς λεῶς 30
 εἴληχ' Ἀθηναίων τε Θησεῖδαι πρόμοι.
 ὅσαι δ' ἄκληροι Τρωάδων, ὑπὸ στέγαις
 ταῖσδ' εἰσὶ, τοῖς πρώτοισιν ἐξηρημέναι
 στρατοῦ, σὺν αὐταῖς δ' ἡ Λάκαινα Τυνδαρὶς
 Ἑλένη, νομισθεῖσ' αἰχμάλωτος ἐνδίκως. 35
 τήν δ' ἀθλίαν τήνδ' εἴ τις εἰσορᾷν θέλει,
 πάρεστιν, Ἑκάβην κειμένην πυλῶν πάρος,
 δάκρυα χέουσαν πολλὰ καὶ πολλῶν ὕπερ·

|from the stern ἦρον, ὡς δεκασπόρω χρόνω

20

|wife τε καὶ τέκν' |look at, see;|be pleased, enjoy
|treat with
οἱ τήνδ' |march against |respect |Greek πόλιν.

ἐγὼ δέ— νικῶμαι γὰρ Ἀργείας θεοῦ

Ἦρας Ἀθάνας θ', αἱ συνεξεῖλον Φρύγας

—λείπω τὸ |famous Ἴλιον |altar τ' ἐμούς·

25

|wilderness, ἔρ, πόλιν ὅταν λάβῃ κακή,
|solitude

|be sick, ἔβη θεῶν οὐδὲ |honor θέλει.
|mad, suffer

πολλοῖς δὲ κωκυτοῖσιν |captive

βοᾷ Σκάμανδρος |master, |cast lots, assign .
|despot

καὶ τὰς μὲν Ἀρκάς, τὰς δὲ Θεσσαλὸς λεῶς

30

|be allotted; (esp. λελα- forms) allot;|champion
|receive

ὅσαι δ' |not owning |land ὧν, ὑπὸ |roof, ceiling,
|chamber

ταῖσδ' εἰσί, τοῖς πρώτοισιν |pick, steal; dedi-
|cate; destroy

στρατοῦ, σὺν αὐταῖς δ' ἡ Λάκαινα Τυνδαρίς

Ἑλένη, νομισθεῖσ' |captive |(persons,
|things) just

35

τὴν δ' ἀθλίαν τήνδ' εἴ τις |look at, see; treat
|with respect

πάρεστιν, Ἐκάβην κειμένην πυλῶν |before, in the past

|tear |pour πολλὰ καὶ πολλῶν ὕπερ·

Waiting the wind that blows at last for home,
For wives and children, left long years away,
Beyond the seed's tenth fullness and decay,
To work this land's undoing.
And for me,
Since Argive Hera conquereth, and she
Who wrought with Hera to the Phrygians' woe,
Pallas, behold, I bow mine head and go
Forth from great Ilion and mine altars old.
When a still city lieth in the hold
Of Desolation, all God's spirit there
Is sick and turns from worship. — Hearken where
The ancient River waileth with a voice
Of many women, portioned by the choice
Of war amid new lords, as the lots leap
For Thessaly, or Argos, or the steep
Of Theseus' Rock. And others yet there are,
High women, chosen from the waste of war
For the great kings, behind these portals hid;
And with them that Laconian Tyndarid,
Helen, like them a prisoner and a prize.
And this unhappy one — would any eyes
Gaze now on Hecuba? Here at the Gates
She lies 'mid many tears for many fates
Of wrong. One child beside Achilles' grave

vocabulary

ἄγγέλλω carry a message, announce
 ~angel
ἄγχι near, nigh ~angina
ἄνασσα queen, protector
ἀνάσσω rule, be lord
βάθρον step, base, bench
βίαιος by force
γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy
δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
 ~demon
διόλλυμι (ῥ) be ruined
ἔξιμι go forth; is possible ~ion
ἐπαινέω concur, praise, advise
εὐσεβής pious
εὐτυχέω be lucky, prosper, succeed
ἔχθρη hate
ἥπιος kind (adj)
καινός new, fresh, strange
κοινός communal, ordinary
λάθρα secretly
λέχος -εος (n, 3) couch, bed, bier ~lie
μεθίημι let go, cease; (mid) speed off
 ~jet

μνήμα -τος (n, 3) reminder, memorial
 ~mnemonic
μνήμη reminder, memorial
ξεστός polished, wrought
ὁμιλία (τι) intercourse, company
ὀργή urge, impulse; anger
οὐνεκα because
παραλείπω leave, leave out
παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
πάρως before, in the past
προσεννέπω accost; command; call by
 name
πύργωμα walls, walled city with
 towers
σκότιος shadow-born ~shadow
συγγενεύς inborn, kin to
συγγενής inborn, kin to
τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n)
 astonishment
τέθηπα be confused
τίμιος honored, precious
φίλτρον love charm
φροῦδος fled, vanished

ἦ παῖς μὲν ἀμφὶ μνήμ' Ἀχιλλεῖου τάφου

λάθρα τέθνηκε τλημόνως Πολυξένη·

40

φροῦδος δὲ Πρίαμος καὶ τέκν'· ἦν δὲ παρθένον

μεθῆκ' Ἀπόλλων δρομάδα Κασάνδραν ἄναξ,

τὸ τοῦ θεοῦ τε παραλιπὼν τό τ' εὐσεβὲς

γαμῇ βιαίως σκότιον Ἀγαμέμνων λέχος.

ἀλλ', ὦ ποτ' εὐτυχοῦσα, χαῖρέ μοι, πόλις

45

ξεστόν τε πύργωμ'· εἴ σε μὴ διώλεσεν

Παλλὰς Διὸς παῖς, ἦσθ' ἂν ἐν βάθροισι ἔτι.

ΑΘΗΝΑ. ἔξεστι τὸν γένει μὲν ἄγχιστον πατρός

μέγαν τε δαίμον' ἐν θεοῖς τε τίμιον,

λύσασαν ἔχθραν τὴν πάρος, προσεννέπειν;

50

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. ἔξεστιν· αἱ γὰρ συγγενεῖς ὁμιλῖαι,

ἄνασσ' Ἀθάνα, φίλτρον οὐ σμικρὸν φρενῶν.

ΑΘ. ἐπήνεσ' ὀργὰς ἡπίους· φέρω δὲ σοὶ

κοινὸν ἐμαυτῇ τ' ἐς μέσον λόγους, ἄναξ.

ΠΟ. μῶν ἐκ θεῶν του καινὸν ἀγγελεῖς ἔπος,

55

ἦ Ζηνὸς ἦ καὶ δαιμόνων τινὸς πάρα;

ΑΘ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ Τροίας οὐνεκ', ἔνθα βαίνομεν,

ἥ παῖς μὲν ἀμφὶ μνήμῃ Ἀχιλλείου τάφου

|secretly τέθνηκε τλημόνως Πολυξένη·

40

|fled, δὲ Πρίαμος καὶ τέκνῃ· ἦν δὲ |girl, virgin
|vanished

μεθῆκ' Ἀπόλλων δρομάδα Κασάνδραν ἄναξ,

τὸ τοῦ θεοῦ τε |leave, leave τό τ' |pious
|out

|marry, |by force |shadow-born ..μέμνων |bed, bier
take as
a lover

ἀλλ', ὦ ποτ' |be lucky, pros- ἰρέ μοι, πόλιν
|per, succeed

45

|polished εἰ |walls, walled city with |be ruined
|towers

Παλλὰς Διὸς παῖς, ἦσθ' ἂν ἐν |step, base, bench

ΑΘΗΝΑ. ἔξεστι τὸν γένει μὲν |near, nigh πατρὸς

μέγαν τε |a god, fate, doom τε |honored,
|precious

λύσασαν |hate τήν |before, .. |accost; command;
|in the call by name

50

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. ἔξεστιν· αἱ γὰρ συγγενεῖς ὁμιλίας,

ἄνασσ' Ἀθάνα, |love charm ἵ σμικρὸν φρενῶν.

ΑΘ. |concur |urge, |kind (adj), ἔρω δὲ σοὶ
|impulse;

|communal, ..αὐτῇ τ' ἐς μέσον λόγους, ἄναξ.
|ordinary

ΠΟ. μῶν ἐκ θεῶν του |new, |carry a message, ..
|fresh, announce

55

ἥ Ζηνὸς ἥ καὶ |a god, fate, doom πάρα;

ΑΘ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ Τροίας |because ἵνθα βαίνομεν,

In secret slain, Polyxena the brave,
 Lies bleeding. Priam and his sons are gone;
 And, lo, Cassandra, she the Chosen One,
 Whom Lord Apollo spared to walk her way
 A swift and virgin spirit, on this day
 Lust hath her, and she goeth garlanded
 A bride of wrath to Agamemnon's bed.

He turns to go; and another divine Presence becomes visible in the dusk. It is the goddess

PALLAS ATHENA. O happy long ago, farewell, farewell,
 Ye shining towers and mine old citadel;
 Broken by Pallas, Child of God, or still
 Thy roots had held thee true.

PALLAS. Is it the will
 Of God's high Brother, to whose hand is given
 Great power of old, and worship of all Heaven,
 To suffer speech from one whose enmities
 This day are cast aside?

POSEIDON. His will it is:
 Kindred and long companionship withal,
 Most high Athena, are things magical.

PALLAS. Blest be thy gentle mood! — Methinks I see
 A road of comfort here, for thee and me.

POSEIDON. Thou hast some counsel of the Gods, or word
 Spoken of Zeus? Or is it tidings heard
 From some far Spirit?

PALLAS. For this Ilion's sake,
 Whereon we tread, I seek thee, and

vocabulary

ἄλλομαι to jump ~sally
 ἄλλοτε at another time ~alien
 ἅλμυρός salty
 ἅλς ἅλός (f) (grains of) salt (pl. m.);
 the sea (sing. f.) ~halogen
 ἀνέρχομαι go up; return
 δράω do, accomplish
 ἐκβάλλω throw out, fell, let fall
 ~ballistic
 ἐκεῖσε thither
 ἔλκω drag, pull, hoist; rape
 ἐμβάλλω throw in; inspire a mental
 state ~ballistic
 ἐπαραρίσκω fit to, on ~harmony
 ἐτοιμός ready; fulfilled
 εὐφραίνω gladden ~frenzy
 ἔχθρη hate
 ἡνίκα when
 κοινός communal, ordinary
 κοινόω make common; cooperate

λίαν very
 μίν him, her, it
 μισέω (ι) hate, wish to prevent
 ~misogyny
 ναός (ᾱ) temple, shrine ~nostalgia
 νόστος homecoming ~nostalgia
 οἶκτος compassion
 οὐνεκα because
 πέρθω sack, ravage, plunder
 πηδάω jump, spring ~pedal
 πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric
 πότερος which, whichever of two
 σθένος -εος (n, 3) strength
 ~neurasthenia
 στρατός common people/soldiers
 ~strategy
 στρατόω be on a campaign ~strategy
 συνεθέλω consent
 τοιγάρ therefore
 ὑβρίζω insult, treat outrageously

πρὸς σὴν ἀφίγμαι δύναμιν, ὥς κοινὴν λάβω.

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. ἦ πού νυν, ἔχθραν τὴν πρὶν ἐκβαλοῦσα, νῦν

εἰς οἶκτον ἦλθες πυρὶ κατηθαλωμένης; 60

ΑΘΗΝΑ. ἐκείσε πρῶτ' ἀνελθε· κοινώσῃ λόγους

καὶ συνθελήσεις ἂν ἐγὼ πρᾶξαι θέλω;

ΠΟ. μάλιστ'· ἀτὰρ δὴ καὶ τὸ σὸν θέλω μαθεῖν·

πότερον Ἀχαιῶν ἦλθες οὔνεκ' ἢ Φρυγῶν;

ΑΘ. τοὺς μὲν πρὶν ἐχθροὺς Τρῶας εὐφρᾶναι θέλω, 65

στρατῶ δ' Ἀχαιῶν νόστον ἐμβαλεῖν πικρόν.

ΠΟ. τί δ' ὧδε πηδᾶς ἄλλοτ' εἰς ἄλλους τρόπους

μισεῖς τε λῖαν καὶ φιλεῖς ὃν ἂν τύχῃς;

ΑΘ. οὐκ οἶσθ' ὑβρισθεῖσάν με καὶ ναοὺς ἐμούς;

ΠΟ. οἶδ', ἡνίκ' Αἴας εἶλκε Κασάνδραν βίᾱ. 70

ΑΘ. κούδέν γ' Ἀχαιῶν ἔπαθεν οὐδ' ἤκουσ' ὕπο.

ΠΟ. καὶ μὴν ἔπερσάν γ' Ἴλιον τῶ σῶ σθένει.

ΑΘ. τοιγάρ σφε σὺν σοὶ βούλομαι δρᾶσαι κακῶς.

ΠΟ. ἔτοιμ' ἂ βούλῃ τὰπ' ἐμοῦ. δράσεις δὲ τί;

ΑΘ. δύσνοστον αὐτοῖς νόστον ἐμβαλεῖν θέλω. 75

ΠΟ. ἐν γῇ μενόντων ἢ καθ' ἀλμυρὰν ἅλα;

πρὸς σὴν ἀφίγμαι δύναμιν, ὥς |communal, ζῶ.
ordinary

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. ἦ ποῦ νιν, |hate τὴν πρὶν |throw out, νῦν
|fell, let fall

ἐς |compassion ἔς πυρὶ κατηθαλωμένης; 60

ΑΘΗΝΑ. |thither πρῶτ' |go up; re-|make common; ἰς
|turn |cooperate

καὶ συνθελήσεις ἂν ἐγὼ πρᾶξαι θέλω;

ΠΟ. μάλιστ' ἀτὰρ δὴ καὶ τὸ σὸν θέλω μαθεῖν·

|which, Ἀχαιῶν ἦλθες |because, Φρυγῶν;
|whichever

ΑΘ. τοὺς μὲν πρὶν ἐχθροὺς Τρῶας |gladden θέλω, 65

στρατῶ δ' Ἀχαιῶν |home- |throw in; sharp
|coming |inspire

ΠΟ. τί δ' ὦδε |jump, |at another time, οὓς τρόπους
|spring

|hate τε |very καὶ φιλεῖς ὃν ἂν τύχῃς;

ΑΘ. οὐκ οἶσθ' |insult με καὶ |temple ἱμούς;

ΠΟ. οἶδ', |when Αἴας |drag, ᾧ pull, ἀνδραν βία. 70
|hoist; rape

ΑΘ. κοῦδέν γ' Ἀχαιῶν ἔπαθεν οὐδ' ἤκουσ' ὕπο.

ΠΟ. καὶ μὴν ἔπερσάν γ' Ἴλιον τῶ σῶ |strength

ΑΘ. |therefore φε σὺν σοὶ βούλομαι |do, accomplish .

ΠΟ. ἔτοιμ' ἂ βούλῃ τὰπ' ἐμοῦ. δράσεις δὲ τί;

ΑΘ. δύσνοστον αὐτοῖς |home- |throw in; inspire . 75
|coming

ΠΟ. ἐν γῇ μενόντων ἢ καθ' |salty ἔλα;

would make

My hand as thine.

POSEIDON. Hath that old hate and deep

Failed, where she lieth in her ashen sleep?

Thou pitiest her?

PALLAS. Speak first; wilt thou be one

In heart with me and hand till all be done?

POSEIDON. Yea; but lay bare thy heart. For this land's sake

Thou comest, not for Hellas?

PALLAS. I would make

Mine ancient enemies laugh for joy, and bring

On these Greek ships a bitter homecoming.

POSEIDON. Swift is thy spirit's path, and strange withal,

And hot thy love and hate, where'er they fall.

PALLAS. A deadly wrong they did me, yea within

Mine holy place: thou knowest?

POSEIDON. I know the sin

Of Ajax, when he cast Cassandra down...

PALLAS. And no man rose and smote him; not a frown

Nor word from all the Greeks!

POSEIDON. And 'twas thine hand

That gave them Troy!

PALLAS. Therefore with thee I stand

To smite them.

POSEIDON. All thou cravest, even now

Is ready in mine heart. What seekest thou?

PALLAS. An homecoming that striveth ever more

And cometh to no home.

POSEIDON. Here on the shore

Wouldst hold them or amid mine own salt foam?

vocabulary

αἰθήρ ether, air, sky ~ether
ἄκρα at the edge, extreme ~acute
ἄκτῃ beach; cereal grain
ἅλς ἅλός (f) (grains of) salt (pl. m.);
 the sea (sing. f.) ~halogen
ἀνάκτορον palace; temple
ἄσπετος unutterable, vast
βολή a hit with a missile; a glance
 ~ballistic
βρέμω roar, clash, rage ~brontosaurus
δίνη (i) whirlpool, eddy
ἐκπορθέω pillage
ἐξίημι send forth, allow forth ~jet
ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent
εὐσεβέω be pious
θνητός mortal ~euthanasia
κάλως ship's thick rope

καραδοκέω (ᾱ) wait for the outcome of
κεραύνιος of a thunderbolt
κοῖλος hollow ~hollow
μυχός recess, nook
ναυστολέω to ship, sail
ὄμβρος storm
πέλαγος -ους (n, 3) the open sea
 ~pelagic
πίμπρημι inflate, spurt; burn up ~pyre
πόρος way, bridge ~fare
πόρω aor. give, pf. be fated
σέβομαι feel shame, awe
στράτευμα -τος (n, 3) army ~strategy
ταράσσω mess things up ~trachea
τρικυμία (ū) group of 3 waves
χάλαζα hail
χοιράς hogbacked

ΑΘΗΝΑ. ὅταν πρὸς οἴκους ναυστολῶσ' ἀπ' Ἰλίου.

καὶ Ζεὺς μὲν ὄμβρον καὶ χάλαζαν ἄσπετον

πέμψει, δνοφώδη τ' αἰθέρος φυσήματα·

ἐμοὶ δὲ δώσειν φησὶ πῦρ κεραύνιον,

80

βάλλειν Ἀχαιοὺς ναῦς τε πιμπράναι πυρί.

σὺ δ' αὖ, τὸ σόν, παράσχες Αἴγαιον πόρον

τρικυμiais βρέμοντα καὶ δύναις ἄλός,

πλήσον δὲ νεκρῶν κοῖλον Εὐβοίας μυχόν,

ὥς ἂν τὸ λοιπὸν τᾶμ' ἀνάκτορ' εὐσεβεῖν

85

εἰδῶσ' Ἀχαιοί, θεοὺς τε τοὺς ἄλλους σέβειν.

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. ἔσται τάδ'· ἡ χάρις γὰρ οὐ μακρῶν λόγων

δεῖται· ταραξῶ πέλαγος Αἰγαίας ἄλός.

ἄκται δὲ Μυκόνου Δήλιοί τε χοιράδες

Σκῦρός τε Λημνός θ' αἱ Καφήρειοί τ' ἄκραι

90

πολλῶν θανόντων σώμαθ' ἔξουσιν νεκρῶν.

ἀλλ' ἔρπ' Ὀλυμπον καὶ κεραυνίους βολὰς

λαβοῦσα πατρὸς ἐκ χερῶν καραδόκει,

ὅταν στράτευμ' Ἀργεῖον ἐξιῇ κάλως.

μῶρος δὲ θνητῶν ὅστις ἐκπορθεῖ πόλεις,

ΑΘΗΝΑ. ὅταν πρὸς οἴκους |to ship, sail ἰπ' Ἰλίου.

καὶ Ζεὺς μὲν |storm καὶ |hail |vast

πέμψει, δνοφώδη τ' |ether φύσμήματα·

ἐμοὶ δὲ δώσειν φησὶ πῦρ κεραύνιον, 80

βάλλειν Ἀχαιοὺς ναῦς τε |inflate, spurt; τυρί.
|burn up

σὺ δ' αὖ, τὸ σόν, παράσχεις Αἴγαιον πόρον

|group of 3|roar, clash, καὶ |eddy |(grains of) salt (pl.
|waves |rage |m.); the sea (sing. f.)

πληῖσον δὲ νεκρῶν |hollow Εὐβοίας |recess, nook

ὥς ἂν τὸ λοιπὸν τάμ' |palace; |be pious 85
|temple

εἰδῶσ' Ἀχαιοί, θεοὺς τε τοὺς ἄλλους σέβειν.

ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ. ἔσται τάδ' ἡ χάρις γὰρ οὐ μακρῶν λόγων

δείτ'αι· |mess |the open sea ᾿γαί'ας |(grains of) salt (pl. m.); the sea
|things up |(sing. f.)

|beach; δὲ Μυκόνου Δήλιοι τε |hogbacked
|grain

Σκῦρός τε Λημνός θ' αἱ Καφήρειοί τ' |at the edge, extreme 90

πολλῶν θανόντων σώμαθ' ἔξουσιν νεκρῶν.

ἀλλ' ἔρπ' Ὀλυμπον καὶ |of a thunder-hit; glance
|bolt

λαβοῦσα πατρὸς ἐκ χερῶν |wait for the,
|outcome of

ὅταν |army Ἀργείον |send |ship's thick rope
|forth,

μῶρος δὲ |mortal ὅστις ἐκπύρθεῖ πόλεις,
|allow
|forth

PALLAS. When the last ship hath bared her sail for home!
 Zeus shall send rain, long rain and flaw of driven
 Hail, and a whirling darkness blown from heaven;
 To me his levin-light he promiseth
 O'er ships and men, for scourging and hot death:
 Do thou make wild the roads of the sea, and steep
 With war of waves and yawning of the deep,
 Till dead men choke Euboea's curling bay.
 So Greece shall dread even in an after day
 My house, nor scorn the Watchers of strange lands!
 POSEIDON. I give thy boon unbartered. These mine hands
 Shall stir the waste Aegean; reefs that cross
 The Delian pathways, jag-torn Myconos,
 Scyros and Lemnos, yea, and storm-driven
 Caphereus with the bones of drowned men
 Shall glut him. —Go thy ways, and bid the Sire
 Yield to thine hand the arrows of his fire.
 Then wait thine hour, when the last ship shall wind
 Her cable coil for home!

Exit PALLAS.

How are ye blind,
 Ye treaders down of cities, ye that cast

*vocabulary***αἰαῖ** alas**ἀνέχω** raise; mid: endure, submit**ἄρθρον** joint**βίोटος** life; sustenance, chattels

~biology

δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom

~demon

δέρη neck, throat, mane**δέρω** skin, flay ~tear**διάκειμαι** be in a condition**δυσδαίμων** unlucky, unhappy**δύστηνος** unhappy, miserable**ἐπαίρω** raise, place on ~aorta**ἐρημία** wilderness, solitude**ἔρρω** go (neg. connotation) ~serve**θρηνέω** sing a dirge ~threnody**κάμνω** toil, be tired, acquire by toil; be troubled; be sick**κρόταφος** temple (forehead)**κύμα** -τος (n, 3) wave; embryo

~accumulate

λέκτρον bed ~lie**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**μεταβάλλω** alter, transform**ναός** (ᾱ) temple, shrine ~nostalgia**νώτον** back of the body; rear of an army; top of a box**νώτος** back of the body; rear of an army; top of a box**ὄγκος** barb of an arrow**οἶμοι** woe is me**πεδόθεν** constantly, ever ~pedal**πορθμός** canal, straits ~pierce**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f) a drink ~potent**πρόγονος** elder, ancestor ~genus**πρόσοιδα** (+χάριν) be grateful besides**πρῶρα** bow, prow ~prolog**ῥέζω** do, make, perform sacrifices
~ergonomics**ῥέω** flow ~rheostat**σιγάω** (ι) be silent**στενάχω** moan; mp: bemoan
~stentorian**στερρός** solid, firm ~stereo**συστέλλω** contract**τείνω** stretch, tend ~tense**τύμβος** grave mound ~tomb**τύχη** fortune, act of a god

ναούς τε τύμβους θ', ἱερὰ τῶν κεκμηκότων,
ἐρημία δούς αὐτὸς ὤλεθ' ὕστερον.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἄνα, δύσδαιμον, πεδόθεν κεφαλή·

ἐπάειρε δέρην· οὐκέτι Τροία
τάδε καὶ βασιλῆς ἐσμεν Τροίας.
μεταβαλλομένου δαίμονος ἀνέχου.
πλεῖ κατὰ πορθμόν, πλεῖ κατὰ δαίμονα,
μηδὲ προσίστω πρῶραν βίότου
πρὸς κῦμα πλέουσα τύχαισιν. αἰαῖ αἰαῖ.
τί γὰρ οὐ πάρα μοι μελέα στενάχειν,
ἦ πατρὶς ἔρρει καὶ τέκνα καὶ πόσις;
ὦ πολὺς ὄγκος συστελλόμενος
προγόνων, ὥς οὐδὲν ἄρ' ἦσθα.
τί με χρὴ σιγᾶν; τί δὲ μὴ σιγᾶν;
τί δὲ θρηνῆσαι;
δύστηνος ἐγὼ τῆς βαρυδαίμονος
ἄρθρων κλίσεως, ὥς διάκειμαι,
νῶτ' ἐν στερροῖς λέκτροισι ταθείσ'.
οἴμοι κεφαλῆς, οἴμοι κροτάφων

100

110

ναούς τε |grave mound θ', ἱερὰ τῶν |toil, acquire, be tired

|wilderness, ἴς αὐτὸς ὤλεθ' ὕστερον.
|solitude

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἄνα, |unlucky, constantly, ever ἤ·
|unhappy

|raise, δέρην· οὐκέτι Τροία
|place on

τάδε καὶ βασιλῆς ἐσμεν Τροίας.

100

|alter, transform δαίμονος ἀνέχου.

πλεῖ κατὰ |canal, straits, πλεῖ κατὰ δαίμονα,

μηδὲ |(+χάριν) be|bow, prow|life; sustenance
grateful be-
sides

πρὸς κύμα πλέουσα |fortune, act|alas |alas
|of a god

τί γὰρ οὐ πάρα μοι |vain, |(be)moan
|idle

ἦ πατὴρ ἐρρει καὶ τέκνα καὶ πόσις;

ὦ πολὺς ὄγκος |contract

|elder, ὥς οὐδὲν ἄρ' ἦσθα.
|ancestor

τί με χρὴ |be silent ἰ δὲ μὴ |be silent

110

τί δὲ |sing a dirge

|unhappy, ἐγὼ τῆς βαρυδαίμονος
|miserable

|joint κλίσεως, ὥς |be in a condition

νῶτ' ἐν |solid, firm |bed |stretch, tend

|woe is me, ἰλῆς, |woe is|temple (forehead)
|me

Temples to desolation, and lay waste
Tombs, the untrodden sanctuaries where lie
The ancient dead; yourselves so soon to die!

Exit POSEIDON. The day slowly dawns: HECUBA wakes.

HECUBA. Up from the earth, O weary head!

This is not Troy, about, above —

Not Troy, nor we the lords thereof.

Thou breaking neck, be strengthened!

Endure and chafe not. The winds rave

And falter. Down the world's wide road,

Float, float where streams the breath of God;

Nor turn thy prow to breast the wave.

Ah woe!... For what woe lacketh here?

My children lost, my land, my lord.

O thou great wealth of glory, stored

Of old in Ilion, year by year

We watched... and wert thou nothingness?

What is there that I fear to say?

And yet, what help?... Ah, well a day,

vocabulary

αἰαῖ alas

ἄκανθα thorn; backbone ~pyracantha

ἄλλομαι to jump ~sally

ἄλοχος (f) wife ~lie

ἅλς ἅλός (f) (grains of) salt (pl. m.);
the sea (sing. f.) ~halogen

ἀροτήρ -ος (m) plowman ~arable

ἄτα bewilderment, folly

ἀτάω (mp) suffer, be in distress

αὐλέω play (blow, toot)

αὐλή courtyard

αὐλῖς -τος (f) roost, bivouac

αὐλός flute, tube, hollow

αὐλών canyon, strait, canal

δάκρυον tear

δακρύω weep

διαδίδωμι distribute, send out

δύστηνος unhappy, miserable

εἰλίσσω turn, rally

ἐξαρτάω hang on, make dependent

εὐορμος safe-anchoring

κελαδέω shout, cheer

κόλπος bosom, lap-fold; gulf

κώπη handle; oar ~capture

λιμὴν -ένος (m, 3) harbor, refuge
~limnic

λώβη unjust, outrageous treatment

μέλεος vain, idle, useless

μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody

μετανίσσομαι (the sun) pass
~nostalgia

μοῦσα muse

νῶτον back of the body; rear of an
army; top of a boxνῶτος back of the body; rear of an
army; top of a box

παιάν -ήνοος (m, 3) paean

παιδεία child-rearing, education

πλεκτός braided, woven ~plait

πλευρά rib, side ~pleurisy

πλευρόν rib, side ~pleurisy

πόθος longing, regret ~bid

πρῶρα bow, prow ~prolog

στυγνός hated, gloomy ~Styx

σῦριγξ -γος (f) pan pipes

σφάζω cut the throat

τοιχος wall of a house

ώκυσ swift ~oxytocin

πλευρῶν θ', ὥς μοι πόθος εἰλίξαι
 καὶ διαδοῦναι νῶτον ἄκανθάν τ'
 εἰς ἀμφοτέρους τοίχους, μελέων
 ἐπὶ τοὺς αἰεὶ δακρύων ἐλέγους.
 μούσα δὲ χαῦτη τοῖς δυστήνοισι
 ἄτας κελαδεῖν ἀχορεύτους.

120

ΕΚΑΒΗ. πρῶραι ναῶν, ὠκείαις

Ἴλιον ἱερὰν αἰὲ κώπαις
 δι' ἄλλα πορφυροειδέα καὶ
 λιμένας Ἑλλάδος εὐόρμους
 αὐλῶν παιᾶνι στυγνῶ
 συρίγγων τ' εὐφθόγγων φωνᾷ
 βαίνουσαι πλεκτὰν Αἰγύπτου
 παιδείαν ἐξηρτήσασθ',
 αἰαῖ, Τροίας ἐν κόλποις
 τὰν Μενελάου μετανισόμεναι
 στυγνὰν ἄλοχον, Κάστορι λώβαν
 τῶ τ' Εὐρώτῃ δυσκλείαν, ἧ σφάζει μὲν
 τὸν πεντήκοντ' ἀροτῆρα τέκνων

125

130

πλευρῶν θ', ὥς μοι |longing|turn,
 |regret |rally
 καὶ |distribute, send out |thorn; τ'
 |backbone
 εἰς ἀμφοτέρους |wall of a house...ον
 ἐπὶ τοὺς αἰεὶ δακρύων ἐλέγους.

|muse δὲ χαῦτη τοῖς |unhappy,
|miserable 120
ἄτας |shout,
|cheer ἀχορεύτους.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. |bow, prow |*ων*, |swift

Ἰλιον ἱερὰν αἶ | handle; oar

δι' ἄλλα πορφυροειδέα καὶ

harbor, refuge	Ἑλλάδος safe-anchoring	125
αὐλῶν παιᾶνι στυγνῶ		

|pan pipes τ' εὐφθόγγων φωνᾶ

βαίνουσαι | braided, Αἰγύπτου
woven

child-rearing,	hang on, make dependent	
education		
alas ,	<i>ἰποίας ἐν</i>	bosom, lap-fold; gulf

130

τὰν Μενελάου |(the sun) pass

hated,	wife	, Κάστορι	unjust, outra-
gloomy			geous treatment

τῷ τ' Εὐρώτᾳ δυσκλείαν, ἃ | cut the throat

τὸν |fifty |plowman τέκνων

This ache of lying, comfortless
And haunted! Ah, my side, my brow
And temples! All with changeful pain
My body rocketh, and would fain
Move to the tune of tears that flow:
For tears are music too, and keep
A song unheard in hearts that weep.

She rises and gazes towards the Greek ships far off on the shore.

O ships, O crowding faces
Of ships, O hurrying beat
Of oars as of crawling feet,
How found ye our holy places?
Threading the narrows through,
Out from the gulfs of the Greek,
Out to the clear dark blue,
With hate ye came and with joy,
And the noise of your music flew,
Clarion and pipe did shriek,
As the coiled cords ye threw,
Held in the heart of Troy!
What sought ye then that ye came?
A woman, a thing abhorred:
A King's wife that her lord
Hateth: and Castor's shame
Is hot for her sake, and the reeds
Of old Eurotas stir

*vocabulary***αιάζω** wail, bewail**αίσσω** dart, glance**αίω** perceive, feel, hear; breathe out**ἄλοχος** (f) wife ~lie**ἄτα** bewilderment, folly**ἄτάω** (mp) suffer, be in distress**γραιῦς** old woman ~geriatric**διερείδω** prop up**δούλη** slave-woman**ἐκπορθέω** pillage**ἐξάρχω** take the lead in ~oligarch**ἐφεδρος** sitting at**θᾶκος** seat, session of assembly**θάσσω** sit**θροέω** say, cry out loud; terrify; (mp)

be moved by joy

κᾶρα (αᾶ) head (n) ~cranium**κεράννυμι** (ῶ) mix ~crater**κλαγγή** clang, shriek ~klaxon**κράς** -τός (f, 3) head**κρέας** -ως (n) meat ~creatine**μέλαθρον** roofbeam**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**μολπή** dance, song**οἶκτος** compassion**οἰκτρός** pitiable**ὄρνις** -θος (ī, f) bird ~ornithology**πληγή** a hit ~plectrum**ποῖ** whither? how long?**σκηνή** tent; stage**σκήπτρον** scepter, staff ~scepter**στέρνον** breast, chest, seat of feelings

~sternum

τύφω (ῶ) to smoke**ὥσεί** as if

Πριάμον, ἐμέ τε μελέαν Ἑκάβαν

ἐς τάνδ' ἐξώκειλ' ἄταν.

ᾧμοι, θάκους οἴους θάσσω,

σκηναῖς ἐφέδρους Ἀγαμεμνονίαις.

δούλα δ' ἄγομαι γραῦς ἐξ οἴκων πενθήρη

140

κρᾶτ' ἐκπορθηθεῖς οἰκτρῶς.

ἀλλ' ὦ τῶν χαλκεγχείων Τρώων

ἄλοχοι μέλαι, καὶ κοῦραι κοῦραι δύσνυμφοι,

τύφεται Ἴλιον, αἰάζωμεν.

145

μάτηρ δ' ὥσεί τις πτανοῖς

ὄρμισιν, ὅπως ἐξάρξω γὰρ

κλαγγάν, μολπάν, οὐ τὰν αὐτὰν οἶαν ποτὲ δὴ

σκήπτρῳ Πριάμου διεριδομένα

150

ποδὸς ἀρχεχόρου πληγαῖς Φρυγίους

εὐκόμποις ἐξήρχον θεούς.[]

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΑ. Ἑκάβη, τί θροεῖς; τί δὲ θωῦσσεις;

ποῖ λόγος ἥκει; διὰ γὰρ μελάθρων

ἄιον οἴκτους οὖς οἰκτίζει.

155

διὰ δὲ στέρνων φόβος ἄισσεν

Πριάμον, ἐμέ τε |vain, idle Ἑκάβαν

ἐς τάνδ' ἐξώκειλ' ἄταν.

ῥῳμοι, |seat, οἶους θάσσω,
|session

|tent; |sitting at Ἀγαμεμνονίαις.
|stage

|slave-woman ὄνομαι |old woman ἥκων πενθήρη

140

κρᾶτ' |pillage |pitiable

ἀλλ' ὦ τῶν χαλκεγχείων Τρώων

|wife |vain, idle αἰ κοῦραι κοῦραι δύσνυμφοι,

|to smoke Ἴλιον, |wail,
|bewail

145

μάτηρ δ' |as if τις πτανοῖς

|bird , ὅπως |take the lead in

|clang , |dance, song ὅ τὰν αὐτὰν οἶαν ποτὲ δῆ

|scepter. Πριάμον |prop up
|staff

150

ποδὸς ἀρχεχόρου |a hit Φρυγίους

εὐκόμποις |take the lead in . []

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΑ. Ἑκάβη, τί |say, cry οὐδ' οὐδ' ἰσχυρῶς
|terrify; ,
|(mp) be moved by joy

|whither? how long? ἔγὰρ |roofbeam

|per- |compassion οἰκτιρίζη.
|ceive;

155

|breathe
|out οὐδ' οὐδ' |chest φόβος |dart,
|glance

With the noise of the name of her.
 She slew mine ancient King,
 The Sower of fifty Seeds,
 And cast forth mine and me,
 As shipwrecked men, that cling
 To a reef in an empty sea.
 Who am I that I sit
 Here at a Greek king's door,
 Yea, in the dust of it?
 A slave that men drive before,
 A woman that hath no home,
 Weeping alone for her dead;
 A low and bruised head,
 And the glory struck therefrom.

She starts up from her solitary brooding, and calls to the other Trojan Women in the huts.

O Mothers of the Brazen Spear,
 And maidens, maidens, brides of shame,
 Troy is a smoke, a dying flame;
 Together we will weep for her:
 I call ye as a wide-wing'd bird
 Calleth the children of her fold,
 To cry, ah, not the cry men heard
 In Ilion, not the songs of old,
 That echoed when my hand was true
 On Priam's sceptre, and my feet
 Touched on the stone one signal beat,
 And out the Dardan music rolled;
 And Troy's great Gods gave ear thereto.

The door of one of the huts

*vocabulary***αιάζω** wail, bewail**αἰσχύνη** (ῑ) shame, dishonor**ἄλγέω** suffer ~analgesic**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**ἄλγύνω** (ῑ) cause pain, grief**ἄτα** bewilderment, folly**ἀτάω** (mp) suffer, be in distress**βασίλεια** noblewoman**βασίλειος** kingly**δουλεία** slavery**δούλειος** of a slave**εἰκάζω** liken; conjecture**ἐκβακχεύω** excite to Bacchic frenzy;
enrage**ἐκλείπω** leave out, pass over**ἐπακούω** hear, listen to ~acoustic**ἔρρω** go (neg. connotation) ~serve**ἶός** arrow**ἰωή** a rush, a sweep**κινέω** (ι) set in motion, move, remove

~kinetic

μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μέλεος vain, idle, useless**μόχθος** toil**ναυσθλόω** carry by sea**νόστος** homecoming ~nostalgia**οἶμοι** woe is me**πάτριος** of the father(s), ancestral**ῥέω** flow ~rheostat**σκηνή** tent; stage**στέλλω** prepare, send, furl ~apostle**τρομερός** trembling

Τρωάσιν, αἶ τῶνδ' οἴκων εἴσω

δουλείαν αἰάζουσιν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκν', Ἀργείων πρὸς ναῦς ἤδη

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΑ. κινεῖται κωπήρης χεῖρ;

160

οἷ ἐγώ, τί θέλουσ', ἦ πού μ' ἤδη

ναυσθλώσουσιν πατρίας ἐκ γᾶς;

ΕΚ. οὐκ οἶδ', εἰκάζω δ' ἄταν. ΗΜ. ἰὼ ἰώ.

μέλεια μόχθων ἐπακουσόμεναι

Τρωάδες, ἔξω κομίζεσθ' οἴκων·

στέλλουσ' Ἀργεῖοι νόστον. ΕΚ. αἶ, αἶ. μή νύν μοι τὰν

ἐκβακχεύουσαν Κασάνδραν,

αἰσχύναν Ἀργείοισιν,

πέμψητ' ἔξω,

170

μαινάδ', ἐπ' ἄλγει δ' ἀλγυνθῶ. ἰώ.

Τροία Τροία δύσταν', ἔρρεις, δύστανοι δ' οἳ σ' ἐκλείποντες

καὶ ζῶντες καὶ δμαθέντες.

175

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΒ. οἴμοι. τρομερὰ σκηνὰς ἔλιπον

τάσδ' Ἀγαμέμνονος ἐπακουσομένα,

βασίλεια, σέθεν· μή με κτείνειν

Τρωάσιν, αἶ τῶνδ' οἴκων εἵσω

δουλείαν |wail,
|bewail

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκν', Ἀργείων πρὸς ναῦς ἤδη

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΑ. |move, κωπήρης χεῖρ;
|remove

160

οἱ ἐγώ, τί θέλουσ', ἦ πού μ' ἤδη

|carry by sea |of the father(s),
|ancestral

ΕΚ. οὐκ οἶδ', |likened; ἴ' ἄταν. ΗΜ. ἰὼ ἰώ.
|conjecture

|vain, |toil |hear
|idle

Τρωάδες, ἔξω κομίζεσθ' οἴκων·

|prepare, send, furl |homecoming αἶ, αἶ. μή νύν μοι τὰν

|excite to Bacchic Κασάνδραν,
|frenzy; enrage

|shame, Ἀργείοισιν,
|dishonor

πέμψητ' ἔξω,

170

|madwoman, ἄλγει δ' |cause pain, grief
|maenad

Τροία Τροία δύσταν', ἔρρεις, δύστανοι δ' οἳ σ' |leave out, pass over

καὶ ζῶντες καὶ δμαθέντες.

175

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΒ. |woe is|trembling |tent; ἔλιπον
|me |stage

τάσδ' Ἀγαμέμνονος |hear

βασίλεια, σέθεν· μή με κτείνειν

on the right opens, and the Women steal out severally, startled and afraid.

FIRST WOMAN. How say'st thou? Whither moves thy cry,
Thy bitter cry? Behind our door
We heard thy heavy heart outpour
Its sorrow: and there shivered by
Fear and a quick sob shaken
From prisoned hearts that shall be free no more!

HECUBA. Child, 'tis the ships that stir upon the shore...

SECOND WOMAN. The ships, the ships awaken!

THIRD WOMAN. Dear God, what would they? Overseas
Bear me afar to strange cities?

HECUBA. Nay, child, I know not. Dreams are these,
Fears of the hope-forsaken.

FIRST WOMAN. Awake, O daughters of affliction, wake
And learn your lots! Even now the Argives break
Their camp for sailing!

HECUBA. Ah, not Cassandra! Wake not her
Whom God hath maddened, lest the foe
Mock at her dreaming. Leave me clear
From that one edge of woe.

O Troy, my Troy, thou diest here
Most lonely; and most lonely we
The living wander forth from thee,
And the dead leave thee wailing!

One of the huts on the left is now open, and the rest of the CHORUS come out severally. Their
number eventually amounts to fifteen.

vocabulary

ἄγαλμα -τος (n, 3) ornament, glory,
statue

αἰαῖ alas

ἄμενηνός weak, fleeting

γραιῦς old woman ~geriatric

δείλαιος wretched

δουλεύω serve, be a slave

δούλη slave-woman

ἐγγύς near

ἐκπλήσσω panic, be knocked out

~plectrum

ἰός arrow

ἰωή a rush, a sweep

κῆρυξ -κος (m) henchman, functionary

κινέω (i) set in motion, move, remove

~kinetic

κλήρος lot; farm, inheritance; clergy

~clergy

κληρόω cast lots, assign

κώπη handle; oar ~capture

μέλεος vain, idle, useless

μορφή beauty

ναύτης -ου (m, 1) sailor ~navy

νέκυς (ū) corpse, ghost ~necro

οἶκτος compassion

ποῖος what kind

ποῦ where?

πρόθυρον front door ~door

πρόσκειμαι be placed by; be devoted
to

πρύμνα stern

στέλλω prepare, send, furl ~apostle

τλάμων steadfast, enduring

φεῦ exclamation of grief, anger,
surprise, admiration

φρίκη (i) shivering

φυλακή guard, prison, watch

~phylactery

δόξ' Ἀργείων κείται μέλειαν;

ἢ κατὰ πρύμνας ἤδη ναῦται

180

στέλλονται κινεῖν κώπας;

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκνον, ὀρθρεύου σὰν ψυχάν.

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΒ. ἐκπληχθεῖς ἦλθον φρίκα.

ἤδη τις ἔβα Δαναῶν κήρυξ;

τῷ πρόσκειμαι δούλα τλάμων;

185

ΕΚ. ἐγγύς που κείσαι κλήρου.

ΗΜ. ἰὼ ἰώ. τίς μ' Ἀργείων ἢ Φθιωτῶν

ἢ νησαίαν μ' ἄξει χώραν

δύστανον πόρσω Τροίας;

ΕΚ. φεῦ φεῦ. τῷ δ' ἅ τλάμων

190

ποῦ πᾶ γαίας δουλεύσω γραῦς,

ὥς κηφήν, ἅ δειλαία, νεκροῦ μορφά,

νεκύων ἀμενηνὸν ἄγαλμα,

αἰαὶ τὰν παρὰ προθύροις φυλακὰν κατέχουσ'

ἢ παίδων θρέπτειρ', ἅ Τροίας

195

ἀρχαγοὺς εἶχον τιμάς;

ΧΟΡΟΣ. αἰαὶ αἰαὶ, ποίοις δ' οἴκτοις

δόξ' Ἀργείων κείται |vain, idle

ἦ κατὰ |stern ἦδη |sailor

180

|prepare, send, |move, |handle; oar
|furl |remove

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκνον, ὀρθρέου σὰν ψυχάν.

ΗΜΙΧΟΡΙΟΝΒ. |panic, be ἦλθον |shivering
|knocked out

ἦδη τις ἔβα Δαναῶν |henchman,
|functionary

τῷ |be placed by; |slave-woman and fast ,
|be devoted to

185

ΕΚ. |near που κείσαι κλήρου.

ΗΜ. ἰὼ ἰώ. τίς μ' Ἀργείων ἦ Φθιωτῶν

ἦ νησαίαν μ' ἄξει χώραν

δύστανον πόρσω Τροίας;

ΕΚ. |ex- |exclamation ὦ |steadfast
|cla- |grief, anger,
|ma- |surprise,
|tion? |admiration |serve, be a |old woman
|of |slave

190

ἔσθ' ἐλφὴν, ἅ |wretched νεκροῦ |beauty ,

|sur-
|prise, |weak, |ornament,
|ghost |fleeting |glory, statue

ἡμι- τὰν παρὰ |front door φυλακὰν κατέχουσ'

ἦ παίδων θρέπτειρ, ἅ Τροίας

195

ἀρχαγούς εἶχον τιμάς;

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |alas |alas , |what kind |compassion

FOURTH WOMAN. Out of the tent of the Greek king

I steal, my Queen, with trembling breath:

What means thy call? Not death; not death!

They would not slay so low a thing!

FIFTH WOMAN. O, 'tis the ship-folk crying

To deck the galleys: and we part, we part!

HECUBA. Nay, daughter: take the morning to thine heart.

FIFTH WOMAN. My heart with dread is dying!

SIXTH WOMAN. An herald from the Greek hath come!

FIFTH WOMAN. How have they cast me, and to whom

A bondmaid?

HECUBA. Peace, child: wait thy doom.

Our lots are near the trying.

FOURTH WOMAN. Argos, belike, or Phthia shall it be,

Or some lone island of the tossing sea,

Far, far from Troy?

HECUBA. And I the aged, where go I,

A winter-frozen bee, a slave

Death-shapen, as the stones that lie

Hewn on a dead man's grave:

The children of mine enemy

To foster, or keep watch before

The threshold of a master's door,

I that was Queen in Troy!

A WOMAN TO ANOTHER. And thou, what tears can tell thy doom?

*vocabulary***ἀντάω** meet face to face**βρίθω** (ι) be loaded down, press down on**δαίμων** -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom
~demon**δινεύω** (ι) turn, whirl, roam**δίνη** (ι) whirlpool, eddy**δούλη** slave-woman**εἴτε** if, whenever; either/or**Ἑλλην** Greek**εὐδαίμων** blessed with a good genius**εὐθηλής** flourishing**θεράπνη** handmaid; dwelling**ἱστός** mast, loom ~stand**κερκίς** -τος (f) weaver's shuttle**κλεινός** famous**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**κρηπίς** (ι) boot; foundation**λέκτρον** bed ~lie**λεύσσω** see, look**λύμη** (υ) mistreatment, maiming, disgrace**μόχθος** toil**νέατος** lowest, outermost**οἰκτρός** pitiable**ὄλβος** happiness, wealth**πελάζω** bring/come to, near, into contact with**πρόσπολος** servant, attendant**σεμνός** revered, holy**τέκος** -εος (n, 3) child ~oxytocin**ὕδρεύω** draw water ~hydrogen

τὰν σὰν λύμαν ἐξαιάξεις;
οὐκ Ἰδαίοις ἱστοῖς κερκίδα
δινεύουσ' ἐξαλλάξω.

200

νέατον τεκέων σώματα λεύσσω,
νέατον μόχθους ἔξω κρείσσους,
ἢ λέκτροις πλαθείσ' Ἑλλάνων
ἐ ρροι νύξ αὐτα καὶ δαίμων. '

ἢ Πειρήνας ὑδρευσομένα

205

πρόσπολος οἰκτρὰ σεμνῶν ὑδάτων.

τὰν κλεινὰν εἴθ' ἔλθοιμεν

Θησέως εὐδαίμονα χώραν.

μὴ γὰρ δὴ δίναν γ' Εὐρώτα,

210

τὰν ἐχθίσταν θεράπναν Ἑλένας,

ἐνθ' ἀντάσω Μενέλα δούλα,

τῷ τᾶς Τροίας πορθητῇ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὰν Πηνειοῦ σεμνὰν χώραν,

κρηπὶδ' Οὐλύμπου καλλίσταν,

215

ὄλβῳ βρίθειν φάμαν ἦκουσ'

εὐθαλεῖ τ' εὐκαρπείᾳ.

τὰν σὰν |mistreatment, 'ς---,
 |maiming, disgrace
 οὐκ Ἰδαίοις |loom |weaver's shuttle

|turn, ἐξαλλάξω. 200
 |whirl,
 |roam
 |lowest, |child σώματα |see, look,
 |outermost

|lowest, ἰχθους ἔξω κρείσσους,
 |outermost

ἦ |bed |bring/come|Greek
 to, near,
 εἰ ροι νύξ |into
 |contact |a god, fate, doom
 |with

ἦ Πειρήνας |draw water 205

|servant, |pitiable |revered, holy' τῶν.
 |attendant

τὰν |famous |if, whenever;
 |either/or

Θησέως |blessed with a ὕραν.
 |good genius

μὴ γὰρ δὴ |eddy γ' Εὐρώτα, 210

τὰν ἐχθίσταν |handmaid; Ἑλένας,
 |dwelling

ἔνθ' |meet face to face ἑταρ' |slave-woman

τῷ τᾶς Τροίας πορθητῇ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὰν Πηνειοῦ |revered, holy' ν,

|boot; foundation οὐ καλλίσταν, 215

|happiness, loaded' down, ἡκουσ'
 |wealth |press down on

|flourishing' εὐκαρπεία·

THE OTHER. The shuttle still shall flit and change
Beneath my fingers, but the loom,
Sister, be strange.

ANOTHER (wildly).

Look, my dead child! My child, my love,
The last look...

ANOTHER. Oh, there cometh worse.

A Greek's bed in the dark...

ANOTHER. God curse

That night and all the powers thereof!

ANOTHER. Or pitchers to and fro to bear

To some Pirene on the hill,

Where the proud water craveth still

Its broken-hearted minister.

ANOTHER. God guide me yet to Theseus' land,

The gentle land, the famed afar...

ANOTHER. But not the hungry foam — Ah, never! —

Of fierce Eurotas, Helen's river,

To bow to Menelaus' hand,

That wasted Troy with war!

A WOMAN. They told us of a land high-born,

Where glimmers round Olympus' roots

A lordly river, red with corn

And burdened fruits.

*vocabulary***ἀγχιστεύω** be near, next, next of kin**ἀρετή** goodness, excellence**δούλη** slave-woman**ἐξάνύω** bring to pass; slay**ζάθεος** holy**ἵχνος** -εος (n, 3) track, trace**καλλιστεύω** be the best**κῆρυξ** -κος (m) henchman, functionary**νεοχμώω** innovate**ξανθός** yellow**ὀλβίζω** make/deem happy**πυκνός** dense, frequent; shrewd**στείχω** go, march ~stair**στέφανος** ring**στρατιά** army ~strategy**στρατός** common people/soldiers

~strategy

στρατόω be on a campaign ~strategy**ταμία** (ᾱα) housekeeper ~tonsure**ταμίας** -ως (m, 3) manager,

quartermaster

ὕγραίνω wet, moisten**χαίτη** lock of hair, mane

τάδε δεύτερά μοι μετὰ τὰν ἱερὰν

Θησέως ζαθέαν ἐλθεῖν χώραν.

καὶ τὰν Αἰτναίαν Ἥφαιστου

220

Φοινίκας ἀντήρη χώραν,

Σικελῶν ὀρέων ματέρ', ἀκούω

καρύσσεσθαι στεφάνοις ἀρετᾶς.

τάν τ' ἀγχιστεύουσαν γᾶν

Ἴονίῳ ναύται πόντω,

225

ἂν ὑγραίνει καλλιστεύων

ὁ ξανθὰν χαίταν πυρσαίνων

Κρᾶθις ζαθέαις πηγαῖσι τρέφων

εὐανδρόν τ' ὀλβίζων γᾶν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. καὶ μὴν Δαναῶν ὄδ' ἀπὸ στρατιᾶς

230

κῆρυξ, νεοχμῶν μύθων ταμίας,

στείχει ταχύπουν ἵχνος ἐξανύων.

τί φέρει; τί λέγει; δοῦλαι γὰρ δὴ

Δωρίδος ἐσμέν χθονὸς ἤδη.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Ἐκάβη, πυκνὰς γὰρ οἶσθά μ' ἐς Τροίαν ὁδοὺς

235

ἐλθόντα κῆρυκ' ἐξ Ἀχαικοῦ στρατοῦ,

τάδε δεύτερά μοι μετὰ τὰν ἱερὰν

Θησέως |holy ἔλθειν χώραν.

καὶ τὰν Αἰτναίαν Ἥφαιστου

220

Φοινίκας ἀντήρη χώραν,

Σικελῶν ὀρέων ματέρ', ἀκούω

καρύσσεσθαι |ring |excellence

τάν τ' |be near, next, next γᾶν
|of kin

Ἰονίῳ ναύται πόντῳ,

225

ἄν |wet, |be the best
|moisten

ὁ |yellow |lock of hair, mané ον

Κρᾶθις |holy πηγαῖσι τρέφων

εὐανδρόν τ' |make/deem happy

ΧΟΡΟΣ. καὶ μὲν Δαναῶν ὄδ' ἀπὸ στρατιᾶς

230

|hench-, |innovate μύθων ταμίας,

|man,

|func-

|go, march

|ionary

|χύπουν |track, |bring to pass; slay
|trace

τί φέρει; τί λέγει; |slave-woman δῆ

Δωρίδος ἐσμέν χθονὸς ἥδη.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Ἐκάβη, |dense, , |fre- ἰσθά μ' ἐς Τροίαν ὁδοὺς
|quent; shrewd

235

ἐλθόντα |henchman, |χαϊκοῦ στρατοῦ,
|functionary

ANOTHER. Aye, that were next in my desire
To Athens, where good spirits dwell...

ANOTHER. Or Aetna's breast, the deeps of fire
That front the Tyrian's Citadel:

First mother, she, of Sicily

And mighty mountains: fame hath told
Their crowns of goodness manifold...

ANOTHER. And, close beyond the narrowing sea,
A sister land, where float enchanted

Ionian summits, wave on wave,

And Crathis of the burning tresses

Makes red the happy vale, and blesses

With gold of fountains spirit-haunted

Homes of true men and brave!

LEADER. But lo, who cometh: and his lips

Grave with the weight of dooms unknown:

A Herald from the Grecian ships.

Swift comes he, hot-foot to be done

And finished. Ah, what bringeth he

Of news or judgment? Slaves are we,

Spoils that the Greek hath won!

TALTHYBIUS, followed by some Soldiers, enters from the left.

TALTHYBIUS. Thou know'st me, Hecuba. Often have I crossed

vocabulary

ἄγγέλλω carry a message, announce
 ~angel
αἰαῖ alas
ἄλεκτρος unwedded
ἀνθέω sprout
γέρας -ως (n, 3) reward, honor
ἐνέπω tell, tell of
ἔρως -τος (m) love, desire ~erotic
εὐτυχής fortunate
ἰός arrow
ἰωή a rush, a sweep
καινός new, fresh, strange
κληρόω cast lots, assign
λαγχάνω be allotted; (esp. λελα-
 forms) allot; receive

λέκτρον bed ~lie
μῖν him, her, it
νύμφα nymph; bride
ὁμός same ~homoerotic
ὁμοῦ together
ὁμόω unite ~homoerotic
πάλαι long ago ~paleo
πάλη wrestling ~Pallas
πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
πάροιθε in the presence of
πότημος fate ~petal
σκότιος shadow-born ~shadow
τέκος -εος (n, 3) child ~oxytocin
τοξεύω shoot an arrow at ~toxic

ἐγνωσμένος δὲ καὶ πάροιθέ σοι, γύναι,

Ταλθύβιος ἦκω καινὸν ἀγγελῶν λόγον.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. αἰαῖ, τόδε τόδε, φίλαι Τρωάδες, ὃ φόβος ἦν πάλαι.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. ἤδη κεκλήρωσθ', εἰ τόδ' ἦν ὑμῖν φόβος.

240

ΕΚ. αἰαῖ, τίν' ἦ Θεσσαλίας πόλιν ἦ

Φθιάδος εἶπας ἦ Καδμείας χθονός;

ΤΑ. κατ' ἄνδρ' ἐκάστη κοῦχ ὁμοῦ λελόγγατε.

ΕΚ. τίν' ἄρα τίς ἔλαχε; τίνα πότμος εὐτυχῆς

Ἰλιάδων μένει;

245

ΤΑ. οἶδ'· ἀλλ' ἕκαστα πυνθάνου, μὴ πάνθ' ὁμοῦ.

ΕΚ. τοῦμὸν τίς ἄρ'

ἔλαχε τέκος, ἔνεπε, τλάμονα Κασάνδραν;

ΤΑ. ἐξαίρετόν νιν ἔλαβεν Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ.

ΕΚ. ἦ τᾷ Λακεδαιμονίᾳ νύμφα

250

δούλαν; ἰὼ μοί μοι.

ΤΑ. οὔκ, ἀλλὰ λέκτρων σκότια νυμφευτήρια.

ΕΚ. ἦ τὰν τοῦ Φοίβου παρθένον, ᾧ γέρας ὁ

χρυσοκόμας ἔδωκ' ἄλεκτρον ζόαν;

ΤΑ. ἔρως ἐτόξευσ' αὐτὸν ἐνθέου κόρης.

ἐγνωσμένους δὲ καὶ |in the presence of| αἱ,

Ταλθύβιος ἦκω |new, |carry a message, ν.
|fresh, |announce
|strange

ΕΚΑΒΗ. |alas, τότε τοδε, φίλοι Τρωάδες, ὁ φόβος ἦν πάλαι.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. ἤδη |cast lots, assign |τόδ' ἦν ὑμῖν φόβος. 240

ΕΚ. |alas, τίν' ἦ Θεσσαλίας πόλιν ἦ

Φθιάδος εἶπας ἦ Καδμείας χθονός;

ΤΑ. κατ' ἄνδρ' ἐκάστη κοῦχ ὁμοῦ |be allotted; (esp. λελα-
|forms) allot; receive

ΕΚ. τίν' ἄρα τίς ἔλαχε; τίνα |fate |fortunate

Ἰλιάδων μένει; 245

ΤΑ. οἶδ'· ἀλλ' ἕκαστα πυνθάνου, μὴ πάνθ' ὁμοῦ.

ΕΚ. τοῦμόν τις ἄρ'

ἔλαχε |child, |tell, tell of ἴμονα Κασάνδραν;

ΤΑ. ἐξαίρετόν νιν ἔλαβεν Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ.

ΕΚ. ἦ τᾷ Λακεδαιμονία νύμφα 250

δούλαν; ἰώ μοί μοι.

ΤΑ. οὔκ, ἀλλὰ |bed |shadow-born,| εὐτήρια.

ΕΚ. ἦ τὰν τοῦ Φοίβου |girl, virgin, ᾧ |reward,|
|honor

χρυσοκόμας ἔδωκ' |unwedded ζόαν;

ΤΑ. |love, |shoot an arrow at |θέου κόρης.
|desire

Thy plain with tidings from the Hellene host.'

Tis I, Talthybius... Nay, of ancient use

Thou know'st me. And I come to bear thee news.

HECUBA. Ah me, 'tis here, 'tis here,

Women of Troy, our long embosomed fear!

TALTHYBIUS. The lots are cast, if that it was ye feared.

HECUBA. What lord, what land... Ah me,

Phthia or Thebes, or sea-worn Thessaly?

TALTHYBIUS. Each hath her own. Ye go not in one herd.

HECUBA. Say then what lot hath any? What of joy

Falls, or can fall on any child of Troy?

TALTHYBIUS. I know: but make thy questions severally.

HECUBA. My stricken one must be

Still first. Say how Cassandra's portion lies.

TALTHYBIUS. Chosen from all for Agamemnon's prize!

HECUBA. How, for his Spartan bride

A tirewoman? For Helen's sister's pride?

TALTHYBIUS. Nay, nay: a bride herself, for the King's bed.

HECUBA. The sainted of Apollo? And her own

Prize that God promised

Out of the golden clouds, her virgin crown?...

TALTHYBIUS. He loved her for that same strange holiness.

HECUBA. Daughter, away, away,

Cast all away,

vocabulary

ἀπαλλαξείω wish to get rid of
ἀπαλλάσσω free from, remove; be
 freed, depart
βασιλικός royal
δάμαρ wife ~domicile
Ἑλλην Greek
εὐδαιμονίζω consider happy
ζάθεος holy
ζεύγνυμι (ϋ) yoke, join ~zygote
θέσμιος fixed, settled, lawful
ἱστορέω inquire; relate
κλήϊω secure, bar
λάσκω cry, crack, ring
λέκτρον bed ~lie

λεύσσω see, look
μίν him, her, it
πάλος lot; ballot
πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
πότμος fate ~petal
ποῦ where?
πρόσπολος servant, attendant
ρίπτω hurl
στέφος -εος (n, 3) wreath, crown
τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n)
 astonishment
τέκος -εος (n, 3) child ~oxytocin
τύμβος grave mound ~tomb

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ῥίπτε, τέκνον, ζαθέους κλῆ'

δας καὶ ἀπὸ χροὸς ἐνδυ'

τῶν στεφέων ἱεροὺς στολμούς.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. οὐ γὰρ μέγ' αὐτῇ βασιλικῶν λέκτρων τυχεῖν;

ΕΚ. τί δ' ὁ νεοχμὸν ἀπ' ἐμέθεν ἐλάβετε τέκος, ποῦ μοι;

260

ΤΑ. Πολυξένην ἔλεξας, ἥ τίν' ἱστορεῖς;

ΕΚ. ταύταν· τῷ πάλος ἔζηυξεν;

ΤΑ. τύμβῳ τέτακται προσπολεῖν Ἀχιλλέως.

ΕΚ. ὦμοι ἐγώ· τάφῳ πρόσπολον ἐτεκόμαν.

265

ἀτὰρ τίς ὄδ' ἥ νόμος ἥ τί

θέσμιον, ὦ φίλος, Ἑλλάνων;

ΤΑ. εὐδαιμόνιζε παῖδα σὴν· ἔχει καλῶς.

ΕΚ. τί τόδ' ἔλακες; ἄρά μοι ἀέλιον λεύσσει;

ΤΑ. ἔχει πότμος νιν, ὥστ' ἀπηλλάχθαι πόνων.

270

ΕΚ. τί δ' ἂ τοῦ χαλκεομήστορος Ἑκτορος δάμαρ,

Ἄνδρομάχα τάλαινα, τίν' ἔχει τύχαν;

ΤΑ. καὶ τήνδ' Ἀχιλλέως ἔλαβε παῖς ἐξαίρετον.

ΕΚ. ἐγὼ δὲ τῷ

πρόσπολος ἂ τριτοβάμονος χερὶ

ΕΚΑΒΗ. |hurl , τέκνον, |holy κλῆ'

δας καὶ ἀπὸ χροὸς ἐνδύ'

τῶν |wreath, |crown ἱεροὺς στολμούς.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. οὐ γὰρ μέγ' αὐτῇ |royal |bed τυχεῖν;

ΕΚ. τί δ' ὁ νεοχμὸν ἀπ' ἐμέθεν ἐλάβετε |child , |where? ; 260

ΤΑ. Πολυξένην ἔλεξας, ἢ τίν' |inquire; ,
|relate

ΕΚ. ταύταν· τῷ |lot; bal-|yoke, join
|lot

ΤΑ. |grave |mound τέτακται προσπολεῖν Ἀχιλλέως.

ΕΚ. ὦμοι ἐγώ· |(m) |servant, |funeral, |attendant ἔτεκόμαν. 265

ἀτὰρ τίς ὅδ' |grave; |(n) as-
|tonish-
|ment
|fixed, set-
|tled, lawful |Greeks, |Greek ,

ΤΑ. |consider |happy παῖδα σὴν· ἔχει καλῶς.

ΕΚ. τί τόδ' |cry, crack, |ring, |oi ἀέλιον |see, look,

ΤΑ. ἔχει |fate νιν, ὥστ' ἀπηλλάχθαι |toil, suffering 270

ΕΚ. τί δ' ἂ τοῦ χαλκεομήστορος Ἴκτορος |wife ,

Ἀνδρομάχα |wretched, |miserable τίν' ἔχει τύχαν;

ΤΑ. καὶ τήνδ' Ἀχιλλέως ἔλαβε παῖς ἐξαίρετον.

ΕΚ. ἐγὼ δὲ τῷ

|servant, |attendant ἂ τριτοβάμονος χερὶ

The haunted Keys, the lonely stole's array

That kept thy body like a sacred place!

TALTHYBIUS. Is't not rare fortune that the King hath smiled

On such a maid?

HECUBA. What of that other child

Ye reft from me but now?

TALTHYBIUS (speaking with some constraint).

Polixena? Or what child meanest thou?

HECUBA. The same. What man now hath her, or what doom?

TALTHYBIUS. She rests apart, to watch Achilles' tomb.

HECUBA. To watch a tomb? My daughter? What is this?...

Speak, Friend? What fashion of the laws of Greece?

TALTHYBIUS. Count thy maid happy! She hath naught of ill

To fear...

HECUBA. What meanest thou? She liveth still?

TALTHYBIUS. I mean, she hath one toil that holds her free

From all toil else.

HECUBA. What of Andromache,

Wife of mine iron-hearted Hector, where

Journeyeth she?

TALTHYBIUS. Pyrrhus, Achilles' son, hath taken her.

HECUBA. And I, whose slave am I,

The shaken head, the arm that creepeth by,

vocabulary

ἀντίπαλος rival; balanced
ἄράσσω smash
ἄφιλος friendless; unfriendly
γεραιός old ~geriatric
γοάω weep, mourn
δάκος -εος (n, 3) biter; bite, sting
δεῦρο here, come here!
δεύω moisten; lack
δίπτυχος twice-folded
δμῶς slave ~tame
δόλιος tricky, guileful
δουλεύω serve, be a slave
δούλη slave-woman
δυστυχής unlucky
εἶτα then, therefore, next
ἐκεῖσε thither
ἐκκομίζω remove; bury a corpse
ἔλκος -εος (n, 3) wound ~ulcer
ἔλκω drag, pull, hoist; rape
Ἑλλην Greek
ἐνθάδε here, hither

ἰός arrow
ἰωή a rush, a sweep
κλήρος lot; farm, inheritance; clergy
 ~clergy
κράς -τός (f, 3) head
κρέας -ως (n) meat ~creatine
λαγχάνω be allotted; (esp. λελα-
 forms) allot; receive
μίν him, her, it
μυσαρός unclean, defiled
οἴχομαι come, go, leave, be gone
παράνομος lawless, unlawful
παρειά cheeks
πότνια lady ~potent
προσπίπτω attack; befall; kow-tow
στρατηλάτης -ου (m, 1) commander
στρέφω turn, veer ~atrophy
τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
φάος φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
 eyes ~photon
φώς man

δευομένα βάκτρον γεραιῶ κάρᾳ;

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Ἰθάκης Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔλαχ' ἄναξ δούλην σ' ἔχειν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἔ. ἔ. ἄρασσε κρᾶτα κούριμον,

ἔλκ' ὀνύχεσσι δίπτυχον παρειάν.

280

ἰὼ μοί μοι.

μυσαρῶ δολίῳ λέλλογχα φωτὶ δουλεύειν,

πολεμίῳ δίκας, παρανόμῳ δάκει,

ὅς πάντα τὰ κεῖθεν ἐνθάδε στρέφει, τὰ δ'

285

ἀντίπαλ' αὖθις ἐκεῖσε διπτύχῳ γλώσσαι

φίλα τὰ πρότερ' ἄφιλα τιθέμενος πάντων.

γοᾶσθ', ὦ Τρωάδες, με.

βέβακα δύσποτμος. οἷχομαι ἅ

τάλαινα, δυστυχεστάτῳ

290

προσέπεσον κλήρῳ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὸ μὲν σὸν οἶσθα, πότνια, τὰς δ' ἐμὰς τύχας

τίς ἄρ' Ἀχαιῶν ἢ τίς Ἑλλήνων ἔχει;

ΤΑ. ἴτ', ἐκκομίζειν δεῦρο Κασάνδραν χρεὼν

ὅσον τάχιστα, δμῶες, ὥς στρατηλάτῃ

295

εἰς χεῖρα δούς νιν, εἶτα τὰς εἰληγμένας

|moisten; lack 'κτρον |old κάρα;

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Ἰθάκης Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔλαχ' ἄναξ |slave-woman'χειν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἔἔ. |smash κῤῥατα κούριμον,

ἔλκ' ὀνύχεσσι |twice-folded cheeks 280

ἰώ μοί μοι.

|unclean, |tricky, |be allotted; (esp. |serve, be a slave
|defiled |guileful |λελα- forms) al-
πολεμῖω δίκας, |lot; receive |lot; receive
|lawless, |biter; bite, sting
|unlawful

ὅς πάντα τὰ κεῖθεν ἐνθάδε |turn , τὰ δ' 285

|rival; αὖθις |thither |twice-folded λώσσα
|balanced

φίλα τὰ πρότερ' ἄφιλα τιθέμενος πάντων.

|weep, , ὦ Τρωάδες, με.
|mourn

βέβακα δύσποτμος. οἴχομαι ἅ

|wretched, |unlucky 290
|miserable

|attack; befall; |lot
|kow-tow

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τὸ μὲν σὸν οἶσθα, |lady , τὰς δ' ἐμὰς τύχας

τίς ἄρ' Ἀχαιῶν ἢ τίς |Greek ἔχει;

ΤΑ. ἴτ', |remove; |here, come here! , αν χρεῶν
|inter

ὅσον τάχιστα, |slave , ὥς |commander 295

ἐς χεῖρα δούς νιν, |then, |be allotted; (esp. |λελα-
|therefore, |forms) allot; receive
|next

Staff-crutched, like to fall?

TALTHYBIUS. Odysseus, Ithaca's king, hath thee for thrall.

HECUBA. Beat, beat the crownless head:

Rend the cheek till the tears run red!

A lying man and a pitiless

Shall be lord of me, a heart full-flown

With scorn of righteousness:

O heart of a beast where law is none,

Where all things change so that lust be fed,

The oath and the deed, the right and the wrong,

Even the hate of the forked tongue:

Even the hate turns and is cold,

False as the love that was false of old!

O Women of Troy, weep for me!

Yea, I am gone: I am gone my ways.

Mine is the crown of misery,

The bitterest day of all our days.

LEADER. Thy fate thou knowest, Queen: but I know not

What lord of South or North has won my lot.

TALTHYBIUS. Go, seek Cassandra, men! Make your best speed,

That I may leave her with the King, and lead

These others to their divers lords... Ha, there!

What means that sudden light? Is it the flare

Of torches?

Light is seen shining through the crevices of the second hut on the right. He moves towards it.

Would they fire their prison rooms,

Or how, these dames of Troy? — ' Fore God, the dooms

*vocabulary***αἶθω** set on fire ~ether**αἰχμαλωτίς** captive**ἀνέχω** raise; mid: endure, submit**ἀνοίγνυμι** (ῥ) open**βασιλικός** royal**γαμέτης** -ου (m, 1) spouse**γαμέω** marry, take as a lover ~bigamy**δάκρυ** -ους (n, 3) tear**δεῦρο** here, come here!**δράω** do, accomplish**δρόμος** running, racing ground

~hippodrome

ἐλευθερός not enslaved**ἐνδίδωμι** hand over, lend, show, allow**ἐνδόν** in the house of; within**ἐνδω** in the house of; within**ἐξάγω** lead out ~demagogue**θοάζω** move quickly; sit**χάρτα** very much ~χράτος**λαμπάς** -δος (f, 3) torch**λέκτρον** bed ~lie**μαινάς** -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μακάριος blessed**μυχός** recess, nook**πεύκη** pine**πίμπρημι** inflate, spurt; burn up ~pyre**πρόσφορος** serviceable, fitting**σέβομαι** feel shame, awe**σέλας** -ως (n, 3) bright light**ὕμέναιος** bridal song ~hymen**φάος** φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)

eyes ~photon

φέως bush used to make brooms**φλέγω** blaze, burn up ~flame

καὶ τοῖσιν ἄλλοις αἰχμαλωτίδων ἄγω.

ἔα· τί πεύκης ἔνδον αἴθεται σέλας;

πιμπρᾶσιν— ἦ τί δρῶσι— Τρωάδες μυχούς,

ὥς ἐξάγεσθαι τῇσδε μέλλουσαι χθονὸς 300

πρὸς Ἄργος, αὐτῶν τ' ἐκπυροῦσι σώματα

θανεῖν θέλουσαι; κάρτα τοι τοῦλεύθερον

ἐν τοῖς τοιούτοις δυσλόφως φέρει κακά.

ἄνοιγ' ἄνοιγε, μὴ τὸ ταῖσδε πρόσφορον

ἐχθρὸν δ' Ἀχαιοῖς εἰς ἔμ' αἰτίαν βάλῃ. 305

ΕΚΑΒΗ. οὐκ ἔστιν, οὐ πιμπρᾶσιν, ἀλλὰ παῖς ἐμὴ

μαινὰς θοάζει δεῦρο Κασάνδρα δρόμῳ.

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. Ἄνεχε· πάρεχε. φῶς φέρ', ὦ· σέβω· φλέγω— ἰδού,

ἰδού

—λαμπάσι τόδ' ἱερόν. ὦ Ὑμέναι' ἄναξ·

μακάριος ὁ γαμέτας·

μακαρία δ' ἐγὼ βασιλικοῖς λέκτροις

κατ' Ἄργος ἅ γαμουμένα.

Ὑμῆν, ὦ Ὑμέναι' ἄναξ.

ἐπεὶ σύ, μᾶτερ, ἐπὶ δάκρυσιν καὶ

καὶ τοῖσιν ἄλλοις |captive ἄγω.

ἔα· τί |pine ἔνδον |set on|bright ,
|fire |light
|inflate, spurt; - ἢ τί |do, accomplish, ἄδες |recess, nook
|burn up

ὥς |lead out τῇσδε μέλλουσαι χθονὸς 300

πρὸς Ἄργος, αὐτῶν τ' ἐκπυροῦσι σώματα

θανεῖν θέλουσαι; |very much . |not enslaved

ἐν τοῖς τοιούτοις δυσλόφως φέρει κακά.

ἄνοιγ' ἄνοιγε, μὴ τὸ ταῖσδε |serviceable,
|fitting

ἐχθρὸν δ' Ἀχαιοῖς εἰς ἔμ' αἰτίαν βάλλῃ. 305

ΕΚΑΒΗ. οὐκ ἔστιν, οὐ |inflate, spurt; ἰλλὰ παῖς ἐμὴ
|burn up

|madwoman |move |here, come here! , α |running
|maenad |quickly;

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. |sit |raise; πάρεχε. φῶς φέρ', ὦ· σέβω· |burn — ἰδού,
|endure

ἰδού

—|torch τόδ' ἱερόν. ὦ |bridal song ἄξ.

|blessed ὁ |spouse

|blessed δ' ἐγὼ |royal |bed

κατ' Ἄργος ἅ |marry, take.
|as a lover

Ὑμῆν, ὦ |bridal song ἄξ.

ἐπεὶ σύ, μήτερ, ἐπὶ |tear καὶ

Are known, and now they burn themselves and die
 Rather than sail with us! How savagely
 In days like these a free neck chafes beneath
 Its burden!... Open! Open quick! Such death
 Were bliss to them, it may be: but 'twill bring
 Much wrath, and leave me shamed before the King!
 HECUBA. There is no fire, no peril: 'tis my child,
 Cassandra, by the breath of God made wild.

The door opens from within and CASSANDRA enters, white-robed and wreathed like a Priestess,

a great torch in her hand. She is singing softly to herself and does not see the Herald or the

scene before her.

CASSANDRA. Lift, lift it high:

Give it to mine hand!

Lo, I bear a flame

Unto God! I praise his name.

I light with a burning brand

This sanctuary.

Blessed is he that shall wed,

And blessed, blessed am I

In Argos: a bride to lie

With a king in a king's bed.

Hail, O Hymen red,

O Torch that makest one!

Weepest thou, Mother mine own?

Surely thy cheek is pale

With tears, tears that wail

vocabulary

αἵγλη radiance
 αἰθέριος in the air; heavenly
 ἀνάκτορον palace; temple
 ἀναφλέγω rekindle, inflame
 ᾠοιδή song
 αὐγή light
 γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
 γόος crying, wailing
 δάφνη laurel
 ἐκεῖσε thither
 ἐλίσσω turn, rally ~helix
 ἰαχή shout

καταστένω lament
 λέκτρον bed ~lie
 μακάριος blessed
 νύμφα nymph; bride
 πάλλω shake, brandish ~Pallas
 παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
 ὑμέναιος bridal song ~hymen
 φάος φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
 eyes ~photon
 φέως bush used to make brooms
 χορεύω dance
 χορός dance; chorus ~terpsichorean

γόοισι τὸν θανόντα πατέρα πατρίδα τε

φίλαν καταστένουσ' ἔχεις,

ἐγὼ δ' ἐπὶ γάμοις ἐμοῖς

ἀναφλέγω πυρὸς φῶς ἐς αὐγάν, ἐς αἶγλαν,

320

διδούσ', ὦ Ὑμέναιε, σοί,

διδούσ', ὦ Ἑκάτα, φάος,

παρθένων ἐπὶ λέκτροις ἧ νόμος ἔχει.

πάλλε πόδα.

325

αἰθέριον ἄναγε χορόν· εὐᾶν, εὐοῖ·

ὥς ἐπὶ πατρὸς ἐμοῦ μακαριωτάταις

τύχαις· ὁ χορὸς ὅσιος. ἄγε σύ, Φοῖβε, νῦν· κατὰ σὸν ἐν δάφναις

ἀνάκτορον θυηπολῶ,

330

Ὑμῆν, ὦ Ὑμέναι', Ὑμῆν.

χόρευε, μᾶτερ, ἀναγέλασον·

ἔλισσε τῇδ' ἐκέισε μετ' ἐμέθεν ποδῶν

φέρουσα φιλτάταν βάσιν.

βοάσαθ' Ὑμέναιον, ὦ,

335

μακαρίαις ἀοιδαῖς ἰαχαῖς τε νύμφαν.

ἴτ', ὦ καλλίπεπλοι Φρυγῶν

|crying τὸν θανόντα πατέρα πατρίδα τε

φίλαν |lament ἔχεις,

ἐγὼ δ' ἐπὶ |wedding, ὅsex~

|rekindle, πυρὸς φῶς ἐς |light , ἐς |radiance 320
|inflamm

διδούσ', ὦ Ὑμέναιε, σοί,

διδούσ', ὦ Ἑκάτα, |light; , salva-
|tion; (pl) eyes

|girl, virgin ἐπὶ |bed ᾧ νόμος ἔχει.

|shake, ᾠδα. 325
|brandish

|in the air; heav-|dance; εὐάν, εὐοί·
|enly |chorus

ὥς ἐπὶ πατρὸς ἐμοῦ |blessed

τύχαις· ὁ |dance; ὅσιος. ἄγε σύ, Φοῖβε, νῦν· κατὰ σὸν ἐν |laurel
|chorus

|palace; θηηπολῶ, 330
|temple

Ὑμῆν, ὦ |bridal song ~μήν.

|dance , μάτερ, ἀναγέλασον·

|turn, τᾷδ' |thither μετ' ἐμέθεν ποδῶν
|rally

φέρουσα φιλτάταν βάσιν.

βοάσαθ' Ὑμέναιον, ὦ, 335

|blessed |song |shout τε νύμφαν.

ἴτ', ὦ καλλίπεπλοι Φρυγῶν

For a land and a father dead.
But I go garlanded:
I am the Bride of Desire:
Therefore my torch is borne —
Lo, the lifting of morn,
Lo, the leaping of fire! —
For thee, O Hymen bright,
For thee, O Moon of the Deep,
So Law hath charged, for the light
Of a maid's last sleep.
Awake, O my feet, awake:
Our father's hope is won!
Dance as the dancing skies
Over him, where he lies
Happy beneath the sun!...
Lo, the Ring that I make...

She makes a circle round her with a torch, and visions appear to her.

Apollo!... Ah, is it thou?
O shrine in the laurels cold,
I bear thee still, as of old,
Mine incense! Be near to me now.

She waves the torch as though bearing incense.

O Hymen, Hymen fleet:
Quick torch that makest one!...
How? Am I still alone?
Laugh as I laugh, and twine
In the dance, O Mother mine:
Dear feet, be near my feet!
Come, greet ye Hymen, greet
Hymen with songs of pride:
Sing to him loud and long,
Cry, cry, when the song
Faileth, for joy of the bride!
O Damsels girt in the gold

vocabulary

αἰχμή spear point ~acute

βασίλεια noblewoman

βασίλειος kingly

βασιλικός royal

βῆμα -τος (n, 3) step, pace

βίαιος by force

γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy

γαμήλιος nuptial

γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy

δαδουχέω carry a torch

δάκρυον tear

δοξάζω think, imagine; extol

δορός leather bag ~dermatology

δυσχερής annoying, difficult

εἰσφέρω carry into/along; propose

~bear

εὐνάω lay to bed, have sex with

εὐνή bed; (pl) anchor stones

θοάζω move quickly; sit

κάρα (αἶ) head (n) ~cranium

κεράννυμι (ὑ) mix ~crater

κοῦφος light, nimble

κράς -τός (f, 3) head

κρέας -ως (n) meat ~creatine

λυγρός pitiful; woe-bringing

~lugubrious

μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad

~maenad

μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody

μέλπω celebrate in song

νικηφόρος (ι) bringing victory;

victorious

οἶμοι woe is me

ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just

~orthogonal

πεύκη pine

πόρω aor. give, pf. be fated

πόσις -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

πότε when?

πρόθυμος (ὑ) willing, eager ~fume

πρόσω forward, in the future; far

πυκάζω cover

στρατός common people/soldiers

~strategy

φάος φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)

eyes ~photon

φέως bush used to make brooms

φλόξ -γός (f) flame ~flame

ώθέω push

κόραι, μέλπετ' ἐμῶν γάμων

τὸν πεπρωμένον εὐνᾷ πόσιν ἐμέθεν.

340

ΧΟΡΟΣ. βασίλεια, βακχεύουσαν οὐ λήψῃ κόρην,

μὴ κοῦφον αἶρῃ βῆμ' ἐς Ἀργείων στρατόν;

ΕΚΑΒΗ. Ἦφαιστε, δαδουχεῖς μὲν ἐν γάμοις βροτῶν,

ἀτὰρ λυγρὰν γε τήνδ' ἀναιθύσσεις φλόγα

ἔξω τε μεγάλων ἐλπίδων. οἴμοι, τέκνον,

345

ὥς οὐχ ὑπ' αἰχμῆς σ' οὐδ' ὑπ' Ἀργείου δορὸς

γάμους γαμείσθαι τούσδ' ἐδόξαζόν ποτε.

παράδος ἐμοὶ φῶς· οὐ γὰρ ὀρθὰ πυρφορεῖς

μαινὰς θοάζουσ', οὐδέ σ' αἱ τύχαι, τέκνον,

ἐσωφρονήκασ', ἀλλ' ἔτ' ἐν ταυτῷ μένεις.

350

ἐσφέρετε πεύκας, δάκρυνά τ' ἀνταλλάξατε

τοῖς τῆσδε μέλεσι, Τρωάδες, γαμηλίοις.

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. μῆτερ, πύκαζε κρᾶτ' ἐμὸν νικηφόρον,

καὶ χαῖρε τοῖς ἐμοῖσι βασιλικοῖς γάμοις·

καὶ πέμπε, κἂν μὴ τὰμά σοι πρόθυμά γ' ᾗ,

355

ᾧθι βιαίως· εἰ γὰρ ἔστι Λοξίας,

Ἑλένης γαμεῖ με δυσχερέστερον γάμον

κόραι, |celebrate in̎ sōng|wedding, sex

τὸν πεπρωμένον εὐνᾷ |(m) husband, mas-
ter; (f) a drink

340

ΧΟΡΟΣ. βασίλεια, βακχεύουσιν οὐ λήψῃ κόρην,

μὴ |light, nimble αἶρη |step, pace ραγείων |army

ΕΚΑΒΗ. Ἦφαιστε, |carry a torch ἔν ἐν |wedding, sex ὦν,

ἀτὰρ |pitiful; woe- ἥνδ' ἀναιθύσσεις |flame
bringing

ἔξω τε μεγάλων ἐλπίδων. |woe is μένον,

345

ὥς οὐχ ὑπ' |spear σ' οὐδ' ὑπ' Ἀργείου |leather bag
point

|wedding, sex ἔσθαι τούσδ' |think, imag- τε.
ine; extol

παράδος ἐμοὶ φῶς· οὐ γὰρ ὀρθὰ πυρφορεῖς

|madwoman move quickly; sí - ' αἱ τύχαι, τέκνον,
maenad

ἔσωφρονήκασ', ἀλλ' ἔτ' ἐν ταύτῳ μένεις.

350

ἔσφέρετε |pine , δάκρυά τ' ἀνταλλάξατε

τοῖς τῆσδε |limb; , Τρωάδες, |nuptial
melody

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. μήτερ, |cover κρατ' ἐμὸν |bringing vic-
tory; victorious

καὶ χαῖρε τοῖς ἐμοῖσι |royal |wedding, sex

καὶ πέμπε, κἂν μὴ τὰμά σοι |willing, γ' ἦ,
eager

355

|push |by force εἰ γὰρ ἔστι Λοξίας,

Ἐλένης γαμῇ με |annoying, |wedding, sex
difficult

Of Ilion, cry, cry ye,
For him that is doomed of old
To be lord of me!

LEADER. O hold the damsel, lest her tranced feet
Lift her afar, Queen, toward the Hellene fleet!

HECUBA. O Fire, Fire, where men make marriages
Surely thou hast thy lot; but what are these
Thou bringest flashing? Torches savage-wild
And far from mine old dreams. — Alas, my child,
How little dreamed I then of wars or red
Spears of the Greek to lay thy bridal bed!
Give me thy brand; it hath no holy blaze
Thus in thy frenzy flung. Nor all thy days
Nor all thy griefs have changed them yet, nor learned
Wisdom. — Ye women, bear the pine half burned
To the chamber back; and let your drowned eyes
Answer the music of these bridal cries!

She takes the torch and gives it to one of the women.

CASSANDRA. O Mother, fill mine hair with happy flowers,
And speed me forth. Yea, if my spirit cowers,

vocabulary

ἄγχι near, nigh ~angina

ἄγών -ος (m, 3) gathering place
~agony

ἄκτῃ beach; cereal grain

ἀποστερέω despoil, defraud

γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy

δείκνυμι (ῶ) show, point out

ἐκὼν willingly, on purpose; giving in
too easily

ἔξιμι go forth; is possible ~ion

ἡδονή pleasure

θηράω hunt, chase

κλεινός famous

ληίζομαι plunder ~lucre

μακάριος blessed

μυρίος (ῶ) 10,000 ~myriad

οἴκοθεν from home, from one's own
resources ~economics

ὅμως anyway, nevertheless

ὄριον boundary

οὕνεκα because

πέλεκυς ax (for war or woodcutting)

ποινή blood-price ~penalty

σοφός skilled, clever, wise

τοσόσδε this much

τράχηλος neck ~trachea

ὑμνέω recite, commemorate

ὁ τῶν Ἀχαιῶν κλεινὸς Ἀγαμέμνων ἄναξ.
 κτενῶ γὰρ αὐτόν, κἀντιπορθήσω δόμους
 ποιναὺς ἀδελφῶν καὶ πατρὸς λαβοῦς' ἐμοῦ
 ἀλλ' ἄττ' ἐάσω· πέλεκυν οὐχ ὑμνήσομεν,
 ὃς ἐς τράχηλον τὸν ἐμὸν εἰσι χιτῶνα·
 μητροκτόνους τ' ἀγῶνας, οὓς οὐμοὶ γάμοι
 θήσουσιν, οἴκων τ' Ἀτρείως ἀνάστασιν.
 πόλιν δὲ δείξω τήνδε μακαριωτέραν
 ἢ τοὺς Ἀχαιοὺς, ἔνθεος μὲν, ἀλλ' ὅμως
 τοσόνδε γ' ἔξω στήσομαι βακχευμάτων·
 οἳ διὰ μίαν γυναῖκα καὶ μίαν Κύπριν,
 θηρῶντες Ἑλένην, μυρίους ἀπώλεσαν.
 ὁ δὲ στρατηγὸς ὁ σοφὸς ἐχθίστων ὕπερ
 τὰ φίλτατ' ὤλεσ', ἡδονὰς τὰς οἴκοθεν
 τέκνων ἀδελφῶ δούς γυναικὸς οὔνεκα,
 καὶ ταῦθ' ἐκούσης κου' βία λελησμένης.
 ἐπεὶ δ' ἐπ' ἀκτὰς ἦλυθον Σκαμανδρίους,
 ἔθνησκον, οὐ γῆς ὄρι' ἀποστερούμενοι
 οὐδ' ὑψίπυργον πατρίδ'· οὓς δ' Ἄρης ἔλοι,

360

365

370

375

ὁ τῶν Ἀχαιῶν |famous Ἀγαμέμνων ἀναξ.

κτενῶ γὰρ αὐτόν, κᾶντιπορθήσω δόμους

|blood-price|δελφῶν καὶ πατὴρ λαβοῦσ' ἐμοῦ

360

ἀλλ' |near, nigh |ax οὐχ |recite,
|commemorate

ὅς ἐς |neck τὸν ἐμὸν εἴσι χᾶτέρων·

μητροκτόνους τ' |gathering οὓς οὔμοι |wedding, sex
|place

θήσουσιν, οἴκων τ' Ἀτρέως ἀνάστασιν.

πόλιν δὲ |show τήνδε |blessed

365

ἢ τοὺς Ἀχαιοὺς, ἔνθεος μὲν, ἀλλ' |anyway, nevertheless

|this much, ' ἔξω στήσομαι βακχευμάτων·

οἱ διὰ μίαν γυναιῖκα καὶ μίαν Κύπριν,

|hunt, chase Ἑλένην, μυρίους ἀπώλεσαν.

ὁ δὲ στρατηγὸς ὁ |skilled, ἄλκις |στὼν ὕπερ
|clever, wise

370

τὰ φίλτατ' ὤλεσ', |pleasure γὰρ |from home

τέκνων ἀδελφῶ δούς γυναικὸς |because

καὶ ταῦθ' ἐκούσης κου' βία λελησμένης.

ἐπεὶ δ' ἐπ' |beach; ἤλυθον Σκαμανδρίου,
|grain

ἔθνησκον, οὐ γῆς |boun|despoil, defraud
|ary

375

οὐδ' ὑψίπυργον πατρίδ'· οὓς δ' Ἄρης ἔλοι,

Drive me with wrath! So liveth Loxias,
A bloodier bride than ever Helen was
Go I to Agamemnon, Lord most high
Of Hellas!... I shall kill him, mother; I
Shall kill him, and lay waste his house with fire
As he laid ours. My brethren and my sire
Shall win again...(
Checking herself) But part I must let be,
And speak not. Not the axe that craveth me,
And more than me; not the dark wanderings
Of mother-murder that my bridal brings,
And all the House of Atreus down, down, down...
Nay, I will show thee. Even now this town
Is happier than the Greeks. I know the power
Of God is on me: but this little hour,
Wilt thou but listen, I will hold him back!
One love, one woman's beauty, o'er the track
Of hunted Helen, made their myriads fall.
And this their King so wise, who ruleth all,
What wrought he? Cast out Love that Hate might feed:
Gave to his brother his own child, his seed
Of gladness, that a woman fled, and fain
To fly for ever, should be turned again!
So the days waned, and armies on the shore
Of Simois stood and strove and died. Wherefore?
No man had moved their landmarks; none had shook
Their walled towns. — And they whom Ares took,

*vocabulary***αἰσχρός** shameful**ἀμείνων** comparative of ἀγαθός, noble**ᾠδός** (f) singer**ἄπαις** childless**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**δωρέω** give ~donate**ἐκτρέφω** raise, rear**ἔπαινος** (noun) praise**ἐπάξιος** worthy of**ἡδονή** pleasure**κλέος** κλοῦς (n, 3) fame ~Euclid**λυπρός** worthless, wretched**μοῦσα** muse**ξένη** foreign woman; foreign country**οἰκέω** inhabit ~economics**οἴκοι** at home ~economics**οἶχομαι** come, go, leave, be gone**πάτρα** (αἶ) fatherland ~paternal**πατρῷος** of the father(s), ancestral
~paternal**πατρῶος** of the father(s), ancestral**πέπλος** woman's dress, a folded
cylinder of cloth**περιβολή** a covering; an interior**περιστέλλω** lay out**σιγάω** (ι) be silent**στράτευμα** -τος (n, 3) army ~strategy**συστέλλω** contract**τάφος** (m) funeral, grave; (n)

astonishment

τέθηπα be confused**ὑμνέω** recite, commemorate

οὐ παῖδας εἶδον, οὐ δάμαρτος ἐν χεροῖν
πέπλοις συνεστάλησαν, ἐν ξένη δὲ γῇ
κείνται. τὰ δ' οἴκοι τοῖσδ' ὅμοι' ἐγίγνετο·
χῆραί τ' ἔθνησκον, οἳ δ' ἄπαιδες ἐν δόμοις
ἄλλοις τέκν' ἐκθρέψαντες· οὐδὲ πρὸς τάφοις
ἔσθ' ὅστις αὐτῶν αἷμα γῇ δωρήσεται.
ἦ τοῦδ' ἐπαίνου τὸ στράτευμ' ἐπάξιον.
—σιγᾶν ἄμεινον τ' ἀσχρά, μηδὲ μοῦσά μοι
γένοιτ' ἀοιδὸς ἥτις ὑμνήσει κακά.

380

385

Τρῶες δὲ πρῶτον μέν, τὸ κάλλιστον κλέος,
ὑπὲρ πάτρας ἔθνησκον· οὓς δ' ἔλοι δόρυ,
νεκροί γ' ἐς οἴκους φερόμενοι φίλων ὑπο
ἐν γῇ πατρώᾳ περιβολὰς εἶχον χθονός,
χερσὶν περισταλέντες ὦν ἐχρῆν ὑπο·
ὅσοι δὲ μὴ θάνοιεν ἐν μάχῃ Φρυγῶν,
αἰὲ κατ' ἡμαρ σὺν δάμαρτι καὶ τέκνοις
ᾤκουν, Ἀχαιοῖς ὦν ἀπῆσαν ἡδοναί.
τὰ δ' Ἐκτορός σοι λύπρ' ἄκουσον ὥς ἔχει·
δόξας ἀνὴρ ἄριστος οἴχεται θανών,

390

οὐ παῖδας εἶδον, οὐ |wife ἐν χερσίν

|woman's |contract , ἐν |foreign \ woman;
|dress |foreign country

κεῖνται. τὰ δ' |at home ἰσδ' ὅμοι' ἐγίγνετο·

χῆραί τ' ἔθνησκον, οἱ δ' ἄπαιδες ἐν δόμοις

380

ἄλλοις τέκν' |raise, rear οὐδὲ πρὸς τάφοις

ἔσθ' ὅστις αὐτῶν αἶμα γῇ |give

ῆ τοῦδ' |(noun) praise|army |worthy of

—|be |better |shameful, μηδὲ |muse μοι
|silent

γένοιτ' |singer ἥτις ὑμνήσει κακά.

385

Τρῶες δὲ πρῶτον μέν, τὸ κάλλιστον |fame ,

ὑπὲρ |fatherland ἔθνησκον· οὓς δ' ἔλοι δόρυ,

νεκροί γ' ἐς οἴκους φερόμενοι φίλων ὑπο

ἐν γῇ πατρώα |a covering; εἶχον χθονός,
|an interior

χερσὶν |lay out ὧν ἐχρήν ὑπο·

390

ὅσοι δὲ μὴ θάνοιεν ἐν μάχῃ Φρυγῶν,

αἰὲ κατ' ἡμαρ σὺν |wife καὶ τέκνοις

|inhabit , Ἀχαιοῖς ὧν ἀπήσαν |pleasure

τὰ δ' Ἔκτορός σοι |worthless, \υσον ὥς ἔχει·
|wretched

δόξας ἀνὴρ ἄριστος |come, go ἰανών,

Had never seen their children: no wife came
With gentle arms to shroud the limbs of them
For burial, in a strange and angry earth
Laid dead. And there at home, the same long dearth:
Women that lonely died, and aged men
Waiting for sons that ne'er should turn again,
Nor know their graves, nor pour drink-offerings,
To still the unslaked dust. These be the things
The conquering Greek hath won!
But we — what pride,
What praise of men were sweeter? — fighting died
To save our people. And when war was red
Around us, friends upbore the gentle dead
Home, and dear women's heads about them wound
White shrouds, and here they sleep in the old ground
Beloved. And the rest long days fought on,
Dwelling with wives and children, not alone
And joyless, like these Greeks.
And Hector's woe,
What is it? He is gone, and all men know

*vocabulary***αἰσχρός** shameful**ἀμισθί** without monetary compensation**γαμέω** marry, take as a lover ~bigamy**γάμος** wedding, sex ~bigamy**γελάω** laugh, smile, laugh at**δείκνυμι** (ῶ) show, point out**δείξις** proof, display**δυσκλεής** infamous ~Euclid**ἐκβακχεύω** excite to Bacchic frenzy;
enrage**ἐκπέμπω** send forth ~pomp**ἐξεργάζομαι** accomplish; undo;
destroy someone**ἔρω** -τος (m) love, desire ~erotic**ἡδύς** sweet, pleasant ~hedonism**κῆδος** -εος (n, 3) sorrow ~heinous**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**λέκτρον** bed ~lie**μέλπω** celebrate in song**οἰκεῖος** household, familiar, proper**οἰκέω** inhabit ~economics**οἴκοι** at home ~economics**οἰκτείρω** pity**οὖνεκα** because**σαφής** clear, understandable**σεμνός** revered, holy**σιγάω** (ι) be silent**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**στέφανος** ring**στρατηλάτης** -ου (m, 1) commander**τοιόσδε** such**φήμη** speech, rumor ~fame**χρηστός** useful; brave, worthy

καὶ τοῦτ' Ἀχαιῶν ἵζις ἐξεργάζεται·

εἰ δ' ἦσαν οἴκοι, χρηστὸς ὦν ἐλάνθανεν.

Πάρις δ' ἔγημε τὴν Διός· γήμας δὲ μή,

σιγώμενον τὸ κῆδος εἶχεν ἐν δόμοις.

φεύγειν μὲν οὔν χρὴ πόλεμον ὅστις εὖ φρονεῖ·

400

εἰ δ' ἐς τόδ' ἔλθοι, στέφανος οὐκ αἰσχρὸς πόλει

καλῶς ὀλέσθαι, μὴ καλῶς δὲ δυσκλέες.

ὦν οὔνεκ' οὐ χρὴ, μῆτερ, οἰκτίρειν σε γῆν,

οὐ τὰμὰ λέκτρα· τοὺς γὰρ ἐχθίστους ἐμοὶ

καὶ σοὶ γάμοισι τοῖς ἐμοῖς διαφθερῶ.

405

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὥς ἡδέως κακοῖσιν οἰκείοις γελᾶς,

μέλπεις θ' ἂ μέλπουσ' οὐ σαφῇ δείξεις ἴσως.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. εἰ μή σ' Ἀπόλλων ἐξεβάκχευεν φρένας,

οὗ τ' ἂν ἀμισθὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς στρατηλάτας

τοιαῖσδε φήμαις ἐξέπεμπες ἄν χθονός.

410

ἀτὰρ τὰ σεμνὰ καὶ δοκήμασιν σοφὰ

οὐδέν τι κρείσσω τῶν τὸ μηδὲν ἦν ἄρα.

ὁ γὰρ μέγιστος τῶν Πανελλήνων ἄναξ,

Ἀτρέως φίλος παῖς, τῇσδ' ἔρωτ' ἐξαίρετον

καὶ τοῦτ' Ἀχαιῶν ἵξῃς | accomplish; undo;
 |destroy someone
 εἰ δ' ἦσαν |at , |useful; brave, ἐλάνθανεν.
 |home |worthy
 Πάρις δ' |marry, take Διός· |marry, take, ἡ,
 |as a lover |as a lover
 |be silent τὸ |sorrow ἔχεν ἐν δόμοις.

φεύγειν μὲν οὖν χρὴ πόλεμον ὅστις εὖ φρονεῖ· 400
 εἰ δ' ἐς τόδ' ἔλθοι, |ring οὐκ |shameful πόλει
 καλῶς ὀλέσθαι, μὴ καλῶς δὲ |infamous .
 ὦν |because ὃ χρὴ, μῆτερ, οἰκτίρειν σε γῆν,
 οὐ τὰμὰ |bed τοὺς γὰρ ἐχθίστους ἐμοὶ
 καὶ σοὶ |wedding, sex ἐμοῖς διαφθερῶ. 405

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὥς |sweet κακοῖσιν οἰκείους |laugh, ,
 |smile
 |celebrate ὦ ἱν|celebrate ἱν|clear, under- : ἴσως.
 |song |song |standable
 ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. εἰ μὴ σ' Ἀπόλλων |excite to Bacchic, ἑνας,
 |frenzy; enrage
 οὗ τ' ἂν |without . . . monetary|commander
 |compensation
 |such |speech, |send forth ἂν χθονός. 410
 |rumor
 ἀτὰρ τὰ |revered, holy ἡκήμασιν |skilled,
 |clever, wise
 οὐδέν τι κρείσσω τῶν τὸ μηδὲν ἦν ἄρα.
 ὁ γὰρ μέγιστος τῶν Πανελλήνων ἀναξ,
 Ἀτρέως φίλος παῖς, τῇσδ' |love, ἐξαίρετον
 |desire

His glory, and how true a heart he bore.
It is the gift the Greek hath brought! Of yore
Men saw him not, nor knew him. Yea, and even
Paris hath loved withal a child of heaven:
Else had his love but been as others are.
Would ye be wise, ye Cities, fly from war!
Yet if war come, there is a crown in death
For her that striveth well and perisheth
Unstained: to die in evil were the stain!
Therefore, O Mother, pity not thy slain,
Nor Troy, nor me, the bride. Thy direst foe
And mine by this my wooing is brought low.
TALTHYBIUS (at last breaking through the spell that has held him).
I swear, had not Apollo made thee mad,
Not lightly hadst thou flung this shower of bad
Bodings, to speed my General o'er the seas!
Fore God, the wisdoms and the greatnesses
Of seeming, are they hollow all, as things
Of naught? This son of Atreus, of all kings
Most mighty, hath so bowed him to the love
Of this mad maid, and chooseth her above

vocabulary

ἄρτιος suitable

βλώσκω come, go

δύστηνος unhappy, miserable

ἐκπλέω sail away ~float

ἐπαινέω concur, praise, advise

ἐρμηνεύω translate

ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent

ἡνίκα when

κῆρυξ -κος (m) henchman, functionary

κτάομαι acquire, possess

λάτρις hired servant

λέχος -εος (n, 3) couch, bed, bier ~lie

μαινάς -δος (f, 3) madwoman, maenad
~maenad

μέλαθρον roofbeam

μίν him, her, it

μολίσκω come, go

ὀνειδίζω upbraid, reproach

ὀνειδος -εος (n, 3) blame; insult

πένης -τος (m) poor

ποῦ where?

στρατηλάτης -ου (m, 1) commander

σώφρων sensible, prudent ~frenzy

τόκος childbirth ~oxytocin

τύραννος tyrant

ὕπηρέτης -ου (m, 1) servant, officer

ὕφιστημι promise, undertake ~station

χρηίζω need ~chresard

χρυσός (ō) gold

μαινάδος ὑπέστη· καὶ πένης μὲν εἰμ' ἐγώ, 415
 ἀτὰρ λέχος γε τῇσδ' ἂν οὐκ ἐκτησάμην.
 καὶ σοὶ μὲν— οὐ γὰρ ἀρτίας ἔχεις φρένας
 —Ἄργεϊ' ὀνειδῆ καὶ Φρυγῶν ἐπαινέσεις
 ἀνέμοις φέρεσθαι παραδίδωμ'. ἔπον δέ μοι
 πρὸς ναῦς, καλὸν νύμφευμα τῷ στρατηλάτῃ. 420
 σὺ δ', ἥνικ' ἂν σε Λαρτίου χρήζῃ τόκος
 ἄγειν, ἔπεσθαι· σῶφρονος δ' ἔσῃ λάτρης
 γυναικός, ὥς φασ' οἱ μολόντες Ἴλιον.

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. ἦ δεινὸς ὁ λάτρης. τί ποτ' ἔχουσι τοῦνομα

κήρυκες, ἐν ἀπέχθημα πάγκοινων βροτοῖς, 425
 οἱ περὶ τυράννους καὶ πόλεις ὑπηρέται;
 σὺ τὴν ἐμὴν φῆς μητέρ' εἰς Ὀδυσσέως
 ἤξειν μέλαθρα; ποῦ δ' Ἀπόλλωνος λόγοι,
 οἳ φασιν αὐτὴν εἰς ἔμ' ἡρμηνευμένοι
 αὐτοῦ θανεῖσθαι; τᾶλλα δ' οὐκ ὀνειδιῶ. 430
 δύστηνος, οὐκ οἶδ' οἷά νιν μένει παθεῖν·
 ὥς χρυσὸς αὐτῷ τὰμὰ καὶ Φρυγῶν κακὰ
 δόξει ποτ' εἶναι. δέκα γὰρ ἐκπλήσας ἔτη

|madwoman|promise, αἰ |poor μέν εἰμ' ἐγώ,
|maenad |undertake

415

ἀτὰρ |bed, bier . τῇσδ' ἂν οὐκ ἐκτησάμην.

καὶ σοὶ μέν— οὐ γὰρ |suitable ἔχεις φρένας

—Ἄργεῖ |blame; καὶ Φρυγῶν ἐπαινέσεις
|insult

ἀνέμοις φέρεσθαι παραδίδωμ'· ἔπον δέ μοι

πρὸς ναῦς, καλὸν νύμφευμα τῷ |commander

420

σὺ δ', |when ἄν σε Λαρτίου |need |childbirth

ἄγειν, ἔπεσθαι· |sensible, δ' ἔση |hired
|prudent |servant

γυναικός, ὥς φασ' οἱ μολόντες Ἴλιον.

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. ἦ δεινὸς ὁ |hired . τί ποτ' ἔχουσι τοῦνομα
|servant

|henchman, |ἀπέχθημα πάγκοινον βροτοῖς,
|functionary

425

οἱ περὶ |tyrant καὶ πόλεις |servant,
|officer

σὺ τὴν ἐμὴν φῆς μητέρ' εἰς Ὀδυσσέως

ἦξειν |roofbeam , |where? Ἀπόλλωνος λόγοι,

οἳ φασιν αὐτὴν εἰς ἔμ' |translate

αὐτοῦ θανεῖσθαι; τᾶλλα δ' οὐκ |reproach

430

|unhappy, , οὐκ οἶδ' οἶά νιν μένει παθεῖν·
|miserable

ὥς |gold αὐτῷ τὰμὰ καὶ Φρυγῶν κακὰ

δόξει ποτ' εἶναι. δέκα γὰρ |sail away ἔτη

All women! By the Gods, rude though I be,
 I would not touch her hand!
 Look thou; I see
 Thy lips are blind, and whatso words they speak,
 Praises of Troy or shamings of the Greek,
 I cast to the four winds! Walk at my side
 In peace!... And heaven content him of his bride!

He moves as though to go, but turns to HECUBA, and speaks more gently.

And thou shalt follow to Odysseus' host
 When the word comes. 'Tis a wise queen thou
 go'st

To serve, and gentle: so the Ithacans say.

CASSANDRA (seeing for the first time the Herald and all the scene).

How fierce a slave!... O Heralds, Heralds!

Yea,

Voices of Death; and mists are over them

Of dead men's anguish, like a diadem,

These weak abhorred things that serve the hate

Of kings and peoples!...

To Odysseus' gate

My mother goeth, say'st thou? Is God's word

As naught, to me in silence ministered,

That in this place she dies?... (To herself) No
 more; no more!

Why should I speak the shame of them, before

They come?... Little he knows, that hard-beset

Spirit, what deeps of woe await him yet;

Till all these tears of ours and harrowings

Of Troy, by his, shall be as golden things.

Ten years behind ten years athwart his way

vocabulary

ἀγάλλω exalt; mp: exult in
 ἄγαλμα -τος (n, 3) ornament, glory,
 statue
 ἅλμυρός salty
 βλώσκω come, go
 γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy
 γῆρος voice
 δατέομαι divide into portions ~demon
 δίαυλος double course
 ἐκβάλλω throw out, fell, let fall
 ~ballistic
 ἐκλείπω leave out, pass over
 ἐκφεύγω flee from, escape ~fugitive
 ἐνθάδε here, hither
 ἐξακοντίζω hurl forth
 ἐορτή holiday, feast
 ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent
 ἔρω -τος (m) love, desire ~erotic
 θάπτω bury ~epitaph
 λάτρις hired servant
 λίμνη lake, marsh, basin, sea ~limnic
 λωτός clover? lotus?
 μολίσκω come, go

μυρίος (ῥ) 10,000 ~myriad
 ναυάγιον (ᾱ) wreckage
 νυμφίος bridegroom
 οἰκίζω colonize, settle
 πάτρα (αᾱ) fatherland ~paternal
 πέλας near, close
 πέτρα rock, cliff, reef ~petrified
 πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric
 πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
 πότε when?
 ῥέω flow ~rheostat
 σεμνός revered, holy
 στείχω go, march ~stair
 στενός narrow
 στέφος -εος (n, 3) wreath, crown
 συντέμνω cut short, terminate
 τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n)
 astonishment
 τέθηπα be confused
 ὕς pig ~sow
 φάραγξ -γος (f) ravine, gully
 χειμάρροος flooding
 χειμάρρους winter-flooded

πρὸς τοῖσιν ἐνθάδ', ἕξεται μόνος πάτραν
 οὐδ' ἄν στενὸν δίαυλον ᾧκισται πέτρας
 δεινὴ Χάρυβδις, ὠμοβρώς τ' ὀρειβάτης
 Κύκλωψ, Λιγυστὶς θ' ἡ συῶν μορφώτρια
 Κίρκη, θαλάσσης θ' ἀλμυρᾶς ναυάγια,
 λωτοῦ τ' ἔρωτες, Ἥλιου θ' ἀγναὶ βόες,
 αἱ σάρκα φωνήεσσαν ἥσουσιν ποτε,
 πικρὰν Ὀδυσσεὶ γῆρυν. ὥς δὲ συντέμω,
 ζῶν εἶς ἔς Ἄιδου κάκφυγὼν λίμνης ὕδωρ
 κάκ' ἐν δόμοισι μυρὶ εὐρήσει μολῶν.

435

440

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. ἀλλὰ γὰρ τί τοὺς Ὀδυσσέως ἑξακοντίζω πόνους;

στείχ' ὅπως τάχιστ'· ἐς Ἄιδου νυμφίῳ γημώμεθα.
 ἢ κακὸς κακῶς ταφήσῃ νυκτός, οὐκ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ,
 ὦ δοκῶν σεμνόν τι πράσσειν, Δαναϊδῶν ἀρχηγέτα.
 καὶ μέτοι νεκρὸν φάραγγες γυμνάδ' ἐκβεβλημένην
 ὕδατι χειμάρρῳ ῥέουσai, νυμφίου πέλας τάφου,
 θηρσὶ δώσουσιν δάσασθαι, τὴν Ἀπόλλωνος λάτριν.
 ὦ στέφη τοῦ φιλτάτου μοι θεῶν, ἀγάλματ' εὖια,
 χαίρειτ'· ἐκκέλοιφ' ἐορτάς, αἶς πάροιθ' ἡγαλλόμην.

445

450

πρὸς τοῖσιν ἐνθάδ', ἔξεται μόνος |fatherland

οὐ δὴ |narrow |double |colonize, |rock
|course |settle 435

δεινὴ Χάρυβδις, ὠμοβρώς τ' ὀρειβάτης

Κύκλωψ, Λιγυστίς θ' ἢ |pig μορφώτρια

Κίρκη, θαλάσσης θ' |salty |wreckage,

|clover? lo-|love, , Ἥλιου θ' ἀγναὶ βόες,
|tus? |desire

αἱ σάρκα φωνήεσαν ἥσουσιν ποτε, 440

|sharp Ὀδυσσεῖ |voice ὥς δὲ |cut short, terminate

ζῶν εἰς' ἐς Ἴδου |flee |lake, marsh, ρ
|basin, sea

κάκ' ἐν δόμοισι μυρὶ εὐρήσει μολών.

ΚΑΣΑΝΔΡΑ. ἀλλὰ γὰρ τί τοὺς Ὀδυσσέως |hurl forth πόνους;

|go, march' us τάχιστ' ἐς Ἴδου |bride- |marry, take
|groom |as a lover 445

ἦ κακὸς κακῶς ταφήσῃ νυκτός, οὐκ ἐν ἡμέρα,

ὦ δοκῶν |revered, holy. ράσσειν, Δαναϊδῶν ἀρχηγέτα.

κάμέ τοι νεκρὸν |ravine, γυμνάδ' ἐκβεβλημένην
|gully

ὔδατι χειμάρρῳ |flow , |bride- |near, τάφου,
|groom |close

θηρσὶ δώσουσιν |divide into portions' ἄλλωνος |hired
|servant 450

ὦ |wreath, τοῦ φιλότατου μοι θεῶν, |ornament, ἴα,
|crown |glory, statue

χαίρετ' |leave out, |holiday, αἶς πάροιθ' ἡγαλλόμην.
|pass over |feast

Waiting; and home, lost and unfriended...

Nay:

Why should Odysseus' labours vex my breath?

On; hasten; guide me to the house of Death,

To lie beside my bridegroom!...

Thou Greek King,

Who deem'st thy fortune now so high a thing,

Thou dust of the earth, a lowlier bed I see,

In darkness, not in light, awaiting thee:

And with thee, with thee... there, where yawneth

plain

A rift of the hills, raging with winter rain,

Dead... and out-cast... and naked... It is I

Beside my bridegroom: and the wild beasts cry,

And ravin on God's chosen!

She clasps her hands to her brow and feels the wreaths.

O, ye wreaths!

Ye garlands of my God, whose love yet breathes

vocabulary

ἀνακαλέω call, summon, recall
ἄναυδος unable to speak ~Theravada
ἀντιλαμβάνω grasp; get instead, in turn
αὔρα breeze ~air
γεραιός old ~geriatric
γραῖα old woman ~geriatric
δακρύω weep
δέμας -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like
δέρκομαι see, watch
δέσποινα lady
δυστυχής unlucky
ἐμβαίνω step on, board ~basis
ἐνερθε beneath, below
ἐξάγω lead out ~demagogue
ἱστίον sail ~stand
καραδοκέω (ᾱ) wait for the outcome of
κικλήσκω summon, name ~gallo
μαντεία oracular power
μαντεῖον prophetic warning ~mantis

μαντεῖος prophetic
μεθίημι let go, cease; (mid) speed off
 ~jet
νικηφόρος (ι) bringing victory; victorious
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just
 ~orthogonal
οὐτάω pierce, wound
πέρθω sack, ravage, plunder
πίτνω poetic for πίπτω
ποῖ whither? how long?
ποῦ where?
πτῶμα -τος (n, 3) fall; fallen thing
σκάφος (τό) hull, ship; (ό) digging
σπαραγμός tearing; spasm
σχῆμα -τος (n, 3) form, figure
τύχη fortune, act of a god
φθάνω (ᾱ) do first, outstrip
φύλαξ -χος (m) guard; sentry
 ~phylactery

ἴτ' ἀπ' ἐμοῦ χρωτὸς σπαραγμοῖς, ὥς ἔτ' οὐσ' ἀγνὴ χροά
 δῶ θοαῖς αὔραις φέρεσθαί σοι τάδ', ὦ μαντεῖ ἄναξ.
 ποῦ σκάφος τὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ; ποῖ ποτ' ἐμβαίνειν με χρή; 455
 οὐκέτ' ἂν φθάνοις ἂν αὔραν ἰστίοις καταδοκῶν,
 ὥς μίαν τριῶν Ἑρινὺν τῇσδέ μ' ἐξάξων χθονός.
 χαίρέ μοι, μήτηρ· δακρύσης μηδέν· ὦ φίλη πατρίς,
 οἳ τε γῆς ἔνερθ' ἀδελφοὶ χῶ τεκῶν ἡμᾶς πατήρ,
 οὐ μακρὰν δέξεσθέ μ'· ἦξω δ' ἐς νεκροὺς νικηφόρος 460
 καὶ δόμους πέρσας Ἀτρειδῶν, ὧν ἀπωλόμεσθ' ὕπο.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἐκάβης γεραιᾶς φύλακες, οὐ δεδόρκατε

δέσποιναν ὥς ἄναυδος ἐκτάδην πίτνει;
 οὐκ ἀντιλήψεσθ'; ἦ μεθήσεται, ὦ κακαί,
 γραῖαν πεσοῦσαν; αἶρετ' εἰς ὀρθὸν δέμας. 465

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἐᾶτέ μ'— οὗτοι φίλα τὰ μὴ φίλ', ὦ κόραι

—κείσθαι πεσοῦσαν· πτωμάτων γὰρ ἄξια
 πάσχω τε καὶ πέπονθα κάτι πείσομαι.
 ὦ θεοὶ κακοὺς μὲν ἀνακαλῶ τοὺς συμμάχους,
 ὅμως δ' ἔχει τι σχῆμα κικλήσκειν θεοὺς, 470
 ὅταν τις ἡμῶν δυστυχῇ λάβῃ τύχην.

ἔτ' ἀπ' ἐμοῦ χρωτὸς |tearing; spasm. ὥς ἔτ' οὐδ' ἀγνή χροά

δῶ θοαῖς αὔραις φέρεσθαί σοι τάδ', ὦ μαντεῖ ἄναξ.

|where? ἀφος τὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ; ποῖ ποτ' |step on, board χρή; 455

οὐκέτ' ἂν |be first ἂν αὔραν |sail |wait for the
|outcome of

ὥς μίαν τριῶν Ἑρινὺν τῇσδέ μ' |lead out χθονός.

χαῖρέ μοι, μῆτερ· |weep μηδέν· ὦ φίλη πατρίς,

οἳ τε γῆς |beneath, Δελφοὶ χά τεκῶν ἡμᾶς πατήρ,
|below

οὐ μακρὰν δέξεσθέ μ'· ἥξω δ' ἐς νεκρούς |bringing vic- 460
|tory; victorious

καὶ δόμους πέρσας Ἀτρειδῶν, ὧν ἀπωλόμεσθ' ὕπο.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἑκάβης |old |guard; , οὐ |see, watch
|sentry

|lady ὥς |unable to speak ἦν |poetic for πίπτω

οὐκ |grasp; get instead, |let go, cease; καί,
|in turn | (mid) speed off

|old woman |οὔσαν; αἶρετ' εἰς |up- |body; (+gen.) like 465
|right,

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἐὰτέ μ'— οὔτοι φίλα τὰ μηδὲν, ὦ κόραι
|straight;
|correct,
|just

—κείσθαι πεσοῦσαν· |fall; fallen γὰρ ἄξια
|thing

πάσχω τε καὶ πέπονθα κάτι πείσομαι.

ὦ θεοὶ κακοὺς μὲν |call, τοὺς συμμάχους,
|summon,

|anyway, nevertheless, |recall |summon, name ὕς,
|less |figure 470

ὅταν τις ἡμῶν |unlucky λάβῃ |fortune, act
|of a god

About me, shapes of joyance mystical,
 Begone! I have forgot the festival,
 Forgot the joy. Begone! I tear ye, so,
 From off me!... Out on the swift winds they go.
 With flesh still clean I give them back to thee,
 Still white, O God, O light that ledest me!

Turning upon the Herald.

Where lies the galley? Whither shall I tread?
 See that your watch be set, your sail be spread
 The wind comes quick! Three Powers—mark me,
 thou!—

There be in Hell, and one walks with thee now!
 Mother, farewell, and weep not! O my sweet
 City, my earth-clad brethren, and thou great
 Sire that begat us, but a space, ye Dead,
 And I am with you, yea, with crowned head
 I come, and shining from the fires that feed
 On these that slay us now, and all their seed!

She goes out, followed by Talthybius and the Soldiers Hecuba, after waiting for an instant

motionless, falls to the ground.

LEADER OF CHORUS. The Queen, ye Watchers! See, she falls, she falls,
 Rigid without a word! O sorry thralls,
 Too late! And will ye leave her downstricken,
 A woman, and so old? Raise her again!

Some women go to HECUBA, but she refuses their aid and speaks without rising.

HECUBA. Let lie... the love we seek not is no love...

This ruined body! Is the fall thereof
 Too deep for all that now is over me
 Of anguish, and hath been, and yet shall be?
 Ye Gods... Alas! Why call on things so weak
 For aid? Yet there is something that doth seek,
 Crying, for God, when one of us hath woe.

vocabulary

ἀέθλιον ἀθλίου prize

ἀέθλιος prize ~athlete

ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete

ἀλίσκομαι be captured ~helix

ἄλλομαι to jump ~sally

ἄξιωμα -τος (n, 3) honor; decree

ἀριθμός number

ἀριστεύω be the best ~aristocrat

ἀφαιρέω take away ~heresy

βάρβαρος non-Greek

γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy

γραιῦς old woman ~geriatric

δούλη slave-woman

εἰσαφικνέομαι arrive at

ἐμβάλλω throw in; inspire a mental
state ~ballistic

ἐνταῦθα there, here

ἐξαινυμαι take, deprive of (+2 acc)

ἐρχεῖος having an altar in the
sanctuary ~oath

θριγκός coping, frieze

θρίξ hair ~tresses

κατασφάζω slaughter

κλαίω weep

κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid

κομπάζω boast

λοισθίος left behind; beam, gaff

νυμφίος bridegroom

οἶκτος compassion

ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye

παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon

πότε when?

πυρά pyre ~pyre

τέμνω cut, sacrifice, solemnize
~tonsure

τύμβος grave mound ~tomb

τύραννος tyrant

πρῶτον μὲν οὖν μοι τὰγάθ' ἐξᾶσαι φίλον·

τοῖς γὰρ κακοῖσι πλείον' οἶκτον ἐμβαλῶ.

ἦμεν τύραννοι καὶς τύρανν' ἐγημάμην,

κάνταυθ' ἀριστεύοντ' ἐγεινάμην τέκνα,

475

οὐκ ἀριθμὸν ἄλλως, ἀλλ' ὑπερτάτους Φρυγῶν·

οὓς Τρωὰς οὐδ' Ἑλληνὶς οὐδὲ βάρβαρος

γυνὴ τεκοῦσα κομπάσειεν ἄν ποτε.

κάκεινά τ' εἶδον δορὶ πεσόνθ' Ἑλληνικῶ

τρίχας τ' ἐτμήθην τάσδε πρὸς τύμβοις νεκρῶν,

480

καὶ τὸν φυτουργὸν Πρίαμον οὐκ ἄλλων πάρα

κλύουσ' ἔκλαυσα, τοῖσδε δ' εἶδον ὄμμασιν

αὐτὴ κατασφαγέντ' ἐφ' ἐρκείῳ πυρᾷ,

πόλιν θ' ἀλοῦσαν. ἃς δ' ἔθρεψα παρθένους

ἐς ἀξίωμα νυμφίων ἐξαίρετον,

485

ἄλλοισι θρέψασ' ἐκ χερῶν ἀφηρέθην.

κοῦτ' ἐξ ἐκείνων ἐλπὶς ὥς ὀφθήσομαι,

αὐτὴ τ' ἐκείνας οὐκέτ' ὄψομαί ποτε.

τὸ λοίσθιον δέ, θριγκὸς ἀθλίων κακῶν,

δούλη γυνὴ γραῦς Ἑλλάδ' εἰσαφίζομαι.

πρῶτον μὲν οὖν μοι τὰγάθ' ἐξᾶσαι φίλον·

τοῖς γὰρ κακοῖσι πλείον' |compas-|throw in; inspire
|sion

ἦμεν |tyrant κάς |tyrant |marry, take,
|as a lover

|there, here |be the best ἐγενάμην τέκνα, 475

οὐκ |number ἄλλως, ἀλλ' ὑπερτάτους Φρυγῶν·

οὓς Τρωὰς οὐδ' Ἑλληνὶς οὐδὲ |non-Greek

γυνὴ τέκοῦσα |boast ἄν ποτε.

κάκεϊνά τ' εἶδον δορὶ πεσόνθ' Ἑλληνικῶ

|hair τ' |cut, sacrifice, |τδε πρὸς |grave νεκρῶν, 480
|solemnize |mound

καὶ τὸν φυτουργὸν Πρίαμον οὐκ ἄλλων πάρα

|hear |weep , τοῖσδε δ' εἶδον |eye

αὐτὴ |slaughter ἐφ' |having |pyre

πόλιν θ' ἀλοῦσαν. ἄς δ' |in the |girl, virgin
|sanctuary

ἐς |honor; |bridegroom' |αἶρετον, 485
|decree

ἄλλοισι θρέψας ἐκ χερῶν |take away

κοῦτ' ἐξ ἐκείνων ἐλπίς ὥς ὀφθήσομαι,

αὐτὴ τ' ἐκείνας οὐκέτ' ὄψομαί ποτε.

τὸ |left behind; |coping, ἀθλίων κακῶν,
|beam, gaff |frieze

|slave-woman |old woman ἄδ' |arrive at

O, I will think of things gone long ago
And weave them to a song, like one more tear
In the heart of misery... All kings we were;
And I must wed a king. And sons I brought
My lord King, many sons... nay, that were naught;
But high strong princes, of all Troy the best.
Hellas nor Troäs nor the garnered East
Held such a mother! And all these things beneath
The Argive spear I saw cast down in death,
And shore these tresses at the dead men's feet.
Yea, and the gardener of my garden great,
It was not any noise of him nor tale
I wept for; these eyes saw him, when the pale
Was broke, and there at the altar Priam fell
Murdered, and round him all his citadel
Sacked. And my daughters, virgins of the fold,
Meet to be brides of mighty kings, behold,'
Twas for the Greek I bred them! All are gone;
And no hope left, that I shall look upon
Their faces any more, nor they on mine.
And now my feet tread on the utmost line:
An old, old slave-woman, I pass below

vocabulary

ἄβρός graceful, delicate, pretty
 ἄγνευμα -τος (n, 3) chastity
 ἀδόκιμος expired; unconvincing;
 disreputable
 ἀραρίσκω join, fit, furnish ~arthritis
 ἄρσην male
 βασιλικός royal
 γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
 γῆρας -ος (n, 3) old age
 γηράσκω grow old ~geriatric
 δάκρυον tear
 δακρύω weep
 δέμνιον bedstead ~domicile
 δήποτε at some time
 δῆτα emphatic δῆ
 εὐδαίμων blessed with a good genius
 θάλλω bloom, flourish, abound
 ~thallium
 θῆλυς female; (rare) abundant ~female
 καταξάινω comb, tear, wear away
 κλείς κληῖδος (f) bar, key ~clavicle
 κοίτη rest, resting place, sleepiness
 κρήδεμνον veil; symbolic or functional
 top ~cranium

λάτρις hired servant
 νῶτον back of the body; rear of an
 army; top of a box
 νῶτος back of the body; rear of an
 army; top of a box
 ὄλβιος happy, wealthy
 ὀρθῶ stand up
 πέδον ground ~pedal
 πέπλος woman's dress, a folded
 cylinder of cloth
 πέτρινος rocky
 ποῖος what kind
 ποῦ where?
 προστίθμι add; impose; (mp) agree;
 side with ~thesis
 ῥυσός (ῥ) shrivelled, wrinkled
 σπορά seed, sowing
 στιβάς -δος (f, 3) mattress
 συμφορά collecting; accident,
 misfortune
 τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
 τρυχηρός (ῥ) ragged, worn out
 χαμαιπετής fallen to the ground
 ὠφελέω help, be useful

ἃ δ' ἐστὶ γήρα τῷδ' ἀσυμφωρότατα,
 τούτοις με προσθήσουσιν, ἣ θυρῶν λάτριν
 κλῆδας φυλάσσειν, τὴν τεκοῦσαν Ἑκτορα,
 ἣ σιτοποιεῖν, κὰν πέδῳ κοίτας ἔχειν
 ῥυσοῖσι νώτοις, βασιλικῶν ἐκ δεμνίων,
 495
 τρυχηρὰ περὶ τρυχηρὸν εἰμένην χροά
 πέπλων λακίσματ', ἀδόκιμ' ὀλβίοις ἔχειν.
 οἷ γὰρ τάλαινα, διὰ γάμον μᾶς ἔνα
 γυναικὸς οἶων ἔτυχον ὧν τε τεύξομαι.
 ὦ τέκνον, ὦ σύμβακχε Κασάνδρα θεοῖς,
 500
 οἷαις ἔλυσας συμφοραῖς ἄγνευμα σόν.
 σύ τ', ὦ τάλαινα, ποῦ ποτ' εἶ, Πολυξένη;
 ὥς οὔτε μ' ἄρσην οὔτε θήλεια σπορὰ
 πολλῶν γενομένων τὴν τάλαιναν ὠφελεῖ.
 τί δῆτά μ' ὀρθοῦτ'; ἐλπίδων ποίων ὕπο;
 505
 ἄγετε τὸν ἄβρὸν δήποτ' ἐν Τροίᾳ πόδα,
 νῦν δ' ὄντα δούλον, στιβάδα πρὸς χαμαιπετῇ
 πέτρυνά τε κρήδεμν', ὥς πεσοῦς' ἀποφθαρῶ
 δακρύοις καταξανθεῖσα. τῶν δ' εὐδαιμόνων

ἃ δ' ἐστὶ γήρα τῷδ' ἀσυμφορώτατα,

τούτοις με προσθήσουσιν, ἣ θυρῶν | hired
servant

|bar, key φυλάσσειν, τὴν τεκοῦσαν Ἴκτορα,

ἣ σιτοποιεῖν, κἂν |groundrest, ὦ, resting
|place, sleepiness

|shrivelled, ὑτοῖς, |royal ἐκ |bedstead ,
|wrinkled

495

|ragged, worn out |ragged, worn out ., ν χροῖα

|woman's dress ἱματ', |expired; |happy, ἔχειν.
uncon- |wealthy

οἱ γὰρ |wretched, διὰ |vincing; |wedding, sex ἔνα
|miserable |disreputable

γυναικὸς οἷων ἔτυχον ὧν τε τεύξομαι.

ὦ τέκνον, ὦ σύμβακχε Κασάνδρα θεοῖς,

500

οἷαις ἔλυσας συμφοραῖς |chastity σόν.

σύ τ', ὦ |wretched, |where? τ' εἰ, Πολυξένη;
|miserable

ὥς οὔτε μ' ἄρσην οὔτε θήλεια |seed,
|sowing

πολλῶν γενομένων τὴν |wretched, |help, be useful
|miserable

τί |emphatic |stand up, ἐλπίδων ποίων ὕπο;
|δῆ

505

ἄγετε τὸν |grace- |at some time ῥοῖα πόδα,
ful,

νῦν δ' ὄντα |delicate, |mattress πρὸς |fallen to the ground
pretty

|rocky τε |veil , ὥς πεσοῦσ' ἀποφθαρῶ

δακρύοις |comb, tear, wear τῶν δ' |blessed with a
|away |good genius

Mine enemies' gates; and whatso task they know
For this age basest, shall be mine; the door,
Bowing, to shut and open... I that bore
Hector!... and meal to grind, and this racked head
Bend to the stones after a royal bed;
Tom rags about me, aye, and under them
Tom flesh; 'twill make a woman sick for shame!
Woe's me; and all that one man's arms might hold
One woman, what long seas have o'er me rolled
And roll for ever!... O my child, whose white
Soul laughed amid the laughter of God's light,
Cassandra, what hands and how strange a day
Have loosed thy zone! And thou, Polyxena,
Where art thou? And my sons? Not any seed
Of man nor woman now shall help my need.
Why raise me any more? What hope have I
To hold me? Take this slave that once trod high
In Ilion; cast her on her bed of clay
Rock-pillowed, to lie down, and pass away
Wasted with tears. And whatso man they call

vocabulary

ἀείδω sing

ἀοιδή song

ἀπήνη wagon

ἄτα bewilderment, folly

ἀτάω (mp) suffer, be in distress

βρέμω roar, clash, rage ~brontosaurus

γεραιός old ~geriatric

δάκρυον tear

δακρύω weep

δόλιος tricky, guileful

εὐτυχέω be lucky, prosper, succeed

ἰάχω scream

καινέω freshen, innovate, make strange

καινός new, fresh, strange

καινόω freshen, innovate, make strange

μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody

νεᾶνις -δος (f) young woman ~neon

ξόανον wooden idol

οὐράνιος heavenly

πέτρα rock, cliff, reef ~petrified

πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia

πύλη gate ~Thermopylae

τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent

ὕμνος song ~hymn

μηδένα νομίζετ' εὐτυχεῖν, πρὶν ἂν θάνῃ. 510

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀμφί μοι Ἴλιον, ὦ Μοῦσα, καινῶν ὕμνων

ἄεισον ἐν δακρύοις ὧδ' ἐπικήδειον·

νῦν γὰρ μέλος ἐς Τροίαν ἱαχέσω, 515

τετραβάμονος ὥς ὑπ' ἀπήνας

Ἀργείων ὀλόμαν τάλαινα δοριάλωτος,

ὅτ' ἔλιπον ἵππον οὐράνια

βρέμοντα χρυσεοφάλαρον ἔνο' 520

πλον ἐν πύλαις Ἀχαιοί·

ἀνὰ δ' ἐβόασεν λεῶς

Τρωάδος ἀπὸ πέτρας σταθείς·

Ἴτ', ὦ πεπαυμένοι πόνων,

τόδ' ἱερὸν ἀνάγετε ξόανον 525

Ἰλιάδι Διογενεῖ κόρα.

τίς οὐκ ἔβα νεανίδων,

τίς οὐ γεραιὸς ἐκ δόμων;

κεχαρμένοι δ' αἰοιδαῖς

δόλιον ἔσχον ἄταν. 530

ΧΟ. πᾶσα δὲ γέννα Φρυγῶν πρὸς πύλας ὠρμάθη,

μηδένα νομίζετ' |be lucky, prosper· ἂν θάνῃ.
|per, succeed

510

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἀμφί μοι Ἴλιον, ὦ Μοῦσα, καινῶν |song

|sing ἐν δακρύοις ὥδ' ἀν' ἐπικήδειον·

νῦν γὰρ |limb; ἴς Τροίαν |scream
|melody

515

τετραβάμονος ὥς ὑπ' |wagon

Ἀργείων ὀλόμαν |wretched, ὀριάλωτος,
|miserable

ὅτ' ἔλιπον ἵππον |heavenly

|roar, clash, χρυσεοφάλαρον ἔνο'
|rage

520

πλον ἐν |gate Ἀχαιοί·

ἀνὰ δ' ἐβόασεν λεῶς

Τρωάδος ἀπὸ |rock σταθείς·

Ἴτ', ὦ πεπαυμένοι |toil, suffering

τόδ' ἱερὸν ἀνάγετε |wooden idol

525

Ἰλιάδι Διογενεὶ κόρα.

τίς οὐκ ἔβα |young
|woman

τίς οὐ |old ἐκ δόμων;

κεχαρμένοι δ' |song

|tricky, ἔσχον ἄταν.
|guileful

530

ΧΘ. πᾶσα δὲ γέννα Φρυγῶν πρὸς |gate ὠρμάθη,

Happy, believe not ere the last day fall!
CHORUS. O Muse, be near me now, and make
A strange song for Ilion's sake,
Till a tone of tears be about mine ears
And out of my lips a music break
For Troy, Troy, and the end of the years:
When the wheels of the Greek above me pressed,
And the mighty horse-hoofs beat my breast;
And all around were the Argive spears
A towering Steed of golden rein —
O gold without, dark steel within! —
Ramped in our gates; and all the plain
Lay silent where the Greeks had been.
And a cry broke from all the folk
Gathered above on Ilion's rock:
"Up, up, O fear is over now!
To Pallas, who hath saved us living,
To Pallas bear this victory-vow!"
Then rose the old man from his room,
The merry damsel left her loom,
And each bound death about his brow
With minstrelsy and high thanksgiving!
O, swift were all in Troy that day,
And girt them to the portal-way,
Marvelling at that mountain Thing
Smooth-carven, where the Argives lay,
And wrath, and Ilion's vanquishing:
Meet gift for her that spareth not,
Heaven's yokeless Rider. Up they brought

vocabulary

ἄέριος (ἄ) in early morning
ἄζυξ unpaired, unmarried
αἵγλη radiance
ἄκος ἄκεος (n, 3) cure, remedy
ἀμβροτόπωλος with immortal steeds
ἀμφίβολος encompassing; surrounded;
 ambiguous
ἄτα bewilderment, folly
ἀτάω (mp) suffer, be in distress
δάπεδον floor, prepared ground
ἔδρανον seat, seated group
 ~polyhedron
εὐφρων cheerful, mirthful ~frenzy
κελαινός black, dark, swarthy, murky
κλώθω spin (yarn)
κνέφας -ος (n, 3) dark, dusk
κρότος rattling, clapping
κτυπέω crash
λάινος of stone

λόχος ambush, band, childbirth ~lie
λωτός clover? lotus?
μέλαθρον roofbeam
μέλεος vain, idle, useless
μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody
μέλπω celebrate in song
ξεστός polished, wrought
ὀρέστερος of the mountains ~hormone
παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
πατριά family, tribe
πάτριος of the father(s), ancestral
πεύκη pine
πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
σέλας -ως (n, 3) bright light
σκάφος (τό) hull, ship; (ό) digging
ὑπνος a sleep
φόνιος bloody
χαρά joy
ὥσεί as if

πέυκα ἐν οὐρέϊα ξεστόν λόχον Ἀργείων

καὶ Δαρδανίας ἄταν θέα δώσων,

535

χάριν ἄζυγος ἀμβροτοπώλον·

κλωστοῦ δ' ἀμφιβόλοις λίνιοιο ναὸς ὥσεί

σκάφος κελαινόν, εἰς ἔδρανα

λάινα δάπεδά τε φόνια πατρί

540

δι Παλλάδος θέσαν θεᾶς.

ἐπὶ δὲ πόνῳ καὶ χαρᾷ

νύχιον ἐπεὶ κνέφας παρῆν,

Λίβυς τε λωτὸς ἐκτύπει

Φρύγιά τε μέλεα, παρθένοι δ'

545

αἰέριον ἀνὰ κρότον ποδῶν

βοᾶν ἔμελπον εὐφρον', ἐν

δόμοις δὲ παμφαῆς σέλας

πυρὸς μέλαιναν αἶγλαν

ἄκος ἔδωκεν ὕπνῳ.

550

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἐγὼ δὲ τὰν ὀρεστέραν

τότ' ἀμφὶ μέλαθρα παρθένον

Διὸς κόραν ἐμελπόμαν

|pine ἐν οὐρείᾳ |polished|ambush,³⁴ band, |
|childbirth

καὶ Δαρδανίας ἄταν θέα δώσων,

535

χάριν ἄζυγος |with immortal steeds

κλωστοῦ δ' |encompassing;`'surrounded;|as if
|ambiguous

σκάφος |black , εἰς |seat

|of |floor τε |bloody πατρὶ
|stone

540

δι Παλλάδος θέσαν θεᾶς.

ἐπὶ δὲ |toil, suffer-|joy
|ing

νύχιον ἐπεὶ |dark, dusk ρῆν,

Λίβυς τε |clover? |crash
|lotus?

Φρύγιά τε μέλεα, |girl, virgin δ'

545

|in early|rattling, τοδῶν
|morning |clapping

βοᾶν |celebrate |mirthful , ἐν
|in song

δόμοις δὲ παμφαῆς |bright
|light

πυρὸς μέλαιναν |radiance

|cure, ³⁵ωκεν |sleep
|remedy

550

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἐγὼ δὲ τὰν |of the mountains

τότ' ἀμφὶ |roofbeam |girl, virgin

Διὸς κόραν ἐμελπόμαν

Through the steep gates her offering:
Like some dark ship that climbs the shore
On straining cables, up, where stood
Her marble throne, her hallowed floor,
Who lusted for her people's blood.
A very weariness of joy
Fell with the evening over Troy:
And lutes of Afric mingled there
With Phrygian songs: and many a maiden,
With white feet glancing light as air,
Made happy music through the gloom:
And fires on many an inward room
All night broad-flashing, flung their glare
On laughing eyes and slumber-laden.
A MAIDEN. I was among the dancers there
To Artemis, and glorying sang
Her of the Hills, the Maid most fair,
Daughter of Zeus: and, lo, there rang
A shout out of the dark, and fell

*vocabulary***ἀπήνη** wagon**βοά** din, a shout**βρέφος** -ους (n, 3) fetus, baby**γάμος** wedding, sex ~bigamy**δέμνιον** bedstead ~domicile**ἔδρα** (ᾱ) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

εἰρεσία rowing ~row**ἐκβαίνω** come forth, disembark ~basis**ἐρημία** wilderness, solitude**κουρότροφος** raising children

~atrophy

λεύσσω see, look**λόχος** ambush, band, childbirth ~lie**μάστις** -εως (f) whip**μαστός** nipple, breast**νεᾶνις** -δος (f) young woman ~neon**νῶτον** back of the body; rear of an

army; top of a box

νῶτος back of the body; rear of an

army; top of a box

ξενικός strange, foreign**ὄχος** pl: carrying thing, chariot,

holding place ~wagon

πάρεδρος assessor**πένθος** -εος (n, 3) grief, misfortune

~Nepenthe

πέπλος woman's dress, a folded

cylinder of cloth

ποῖ whither? how long?**πορθμεύω** ferry over**πτοέω** scare**στέφανος** ring**σφαγή** slaughter**φίλιος** friendly**φοίνις** red**χορός** dance; chorus ~terpsichorean

χοροῖσι· φοινία δ' ἀνὰ

555

πτόλιν βοὰ κατεῖχε Περ'

γάμων ἔδρας· βρέφη δὲ φίλι'

α περὶ πέπλους ἔβαλλε μὰ'

τρὶ χεῖρας ἐπτοημένας·

λόχου δ' ἐξέβαιν' Ἄρης,

560

κόρας ἔργα Παλλάδος.

σφαγαὶ δ' ἀμφιβώμιοι

Φρυγῶν, ἔν τε δεμνίοις

καράτομος ἐρημία

νεανίδων στέφανον ἔφερεν

565

Ἑλλάδι κουροτρόφον,

Φρυγῶν πατρίδι πένθη.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἑκάβη, λεύσσεις τήνδ' Ἀνδρομάχην

ξενικοῖς ἐπ' ὅχοις πορθμευομένην;

παρὰ δ' εἰρεσία μαστῶν ἔπεται

570

φίλος Ἀστυάναξ, Ἕκτορος ἱνις.

ποῖ ποτ' ἀπήνης νώτοισι φέρη,

δύστανε γύναι, πάρεδρος χαλκίοις

|dance; |red δ' ἀνὰ
|chorus

555

πτόλιν βοὰ κατείχε Περ'

|wed- |seat |fetus, baby |friendly
|ding, sex

α περὶ |woman's dress `λε μα'

τρι χείρας |scare

|ambush, `` |come forth ρης,
|band,
|childbirth
κόρας ἔργα Παλλάδος.

560

|slaughter ρ' ἀμφιβώμιοι

Φρυγῶν, ἔν τε |bedstead

καράτομος |wilderness,
|solitude

|young |ring ἔφερεν
|woman

565

Ἑλλάδι κουροτρόφον,

Φρυγῶν πατρίδι |grief

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἑκάβη, |see, look τήνδ' Ἀνδρομάχην

|strange, ἐπ' |chariot|ferry over
|foreign

παρὰ δ' εἰρεσία μαστῶν ἔπεται

570

φίλος Ἀστυάναξ, Ἕκτορος ἱνις.

ποῖ ποτ' |wagon νώτοισι φέρη,

δύστανε γύναι, |assessor χαλκείοις

Deathlike from street to street, and made
 A silence in the citadel:
 And a child cried, as if afraid,
 And hid him in his mother's veil.
 Then stalked the Slayer from his den,
 The hand of Pallas served her well!
 O blood, blood of Troy was deep
 About the streets and altars then:
 And in the wedded rooms of sleep,
 Lo, the desolate dark alone,
 And headless things, men stumbled on.
 And forth, lo, the women go,
 The crown of War, the crown of Woe,
 To bear the children of the foe
 And weep, weep, for Ilion!

As the song ceases a chariot is seen approaching from the town, laden with spoils.
 On it sits

a mourning Woman with a child in her arms.
 LEADER. Lo, yonder on the heaped crest
 Of a Greek wain, Andromache,
 As one that o'er an unknown sea
 Tosseth; and on her wave-borne breast
 Her loved one clingeth, Hector's child,
 Astyanax... O most forlorn
 Of women, whither go'st thou, borne'
 Mid Hector's bronzen arms, and piled

*vocabulary***αἰαῖ** alas**ἀλγέω** suffer ~analgesic**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**ἄλκαρ** -τος (n) defense ~Alexander**ἄμός** (ᾱ) my, our**βλώσχω** come, go**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**δεσπότης** -ου (m, 1) master, despot**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**εὐγένειος** well-bearded**καπνόομαι** go up in smoke**λῦμα** -τος (n, 3) ablution**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**μολίσχω** come, go**ναός** (ᾱ) temple, shrine ~nostalgia**οἰκτροός** pitiable**οἷμοι** woe is me**ὄλβος** happiness, wealth**ὄπλον** tool, weapon, ship's tackle

~hoplite

παιάν -ήνοος (m, 3) paean**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

πρεσβυγενής first-born ~Presbyterian**σχύλλω** trouble, treat badly**σχύλον** spoils from a dead enemy**στενάζω** sigh, groan**στέφω** crown, put around**συμφορά** collecting; accident, misfortune**τέκος** -εος (n, 3) child ~oxytocin**τλάμων** steadfast, enduring**τύχη** fortune, act of a god**φεῦ** exclamation of grief, anger, surprise, admiration

Ἴκτορος ὅπλοις σκύλοις τε Φρυγῶν δοριθηράτοις,

οἷσιν Ἀχιλλέως παῖς Φθιώτας

575

στέψει ναοὺς ἀπὸ Τροίας;

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. Ἀχαιοὶ δεσπότηι μ' ἄγουσιν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. οἴμοι. ΑΝ. τί παιᾶν' ἐμὸν στενάζεις;

ΕΚ. αἰᾶι — ΑΝ. τῶνδ' ἀλγέων — ΕΚ. ὦ Ζεῦ — ΑΝ. καὶ συμφορᾶς.

ΕΚ. τέκεα, ΑΝ. πρίν ποτ' ἦμεν.

580

ΕΚ. βέβακ' ὄλβος, βέβακε Τροία

ΑΝ. τλάμων. ΕΚ. ἐμῶν τ' εὐγένεια παίδων.

ΑΝ. φεῦ φεῦ. ΕΚ. φεῦ δῆτ' ἐμῶν ΑΝ. κακῶν. ΕΚ. οἶκτρά τύχα

ΑΝ. πόλεος, ΕΚ. ἃ καπνοῦται. ΑΝ. μόλοις, ὦ πόσις, μοι

585

—ΕΚ. βοᾶς τὸν παρ' Ἴδρα

παῖδ' ἐμόν, ὦ μελέα. ΑΝ. σᾶς δάμαρτος ἄλκαρ.

ΕΚ. σύ τ', ὦ λῦμ' Ἀχαιῶν,

590

τέκνων δέσποθ' ἀμῶν,

πρεσβυγενὲς Πρίαμε,

Ἑκτορος |tool σκύλοις τε Φρυγῶν δοριθηράτοις,

οἷσιν Ἀχιλλέως παῖς Φθιώτας

575

στέφει |temple ἰπὸ Τροίας;

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. Ἀχαιοὶ |master, μ' ἄγουσιν.
|despot

ΕΚΑΒΗ. |woe is mē̃. τί παιῶν' ἐμὸν |sigh, groan

ΕΚ. |alas —ΑΝ. τῶνδ' ἀλγέων —ΕΚ. ὦ Ζεῦ —ΑΝ. καὶ συμφορᾶς.

ΕΚ. |child , ΑΝ. πρίν ποτ' ἦμεν.

580

ΕΚ. βέβακ' |happiness, ἴακε Τροία
|wealth

ΑΝ. |steadfast ΕΚ. ἐμῶν τ' |well-bearded ἰδων.

ΑΝ. |ex- |excla- |exclamation of grief, anger, surprise, |pitiable |fortune,
|cla- |mation |admiration |act of a

ΑΝ. |ma- |of grief, |go up in smoke^Α. μόλοις, ὦ |god
tion	anger,
of	surprise,
grief,	admiration,
anger,	
sur-	
prise, ἐμὸν, ὦ	vain, idle^Α Ν. σᾶς

ΕΚ. |ad- |mi- |ra- |tion
|ablution^Α μῶν,

590

τέκνων |master, |my, our
|despot

|first-born Πρίαμε,

Spoils of the dead, and pageantry
Of them that hunted Ilion down?
Aye, richly thy new lord shall crown
The mountain shrines of Thessaly!
ANDROMACHE. Forth to the Greek I go,
Driven as a beast is driven.
HEC. Woe, woe!
AND. Nay, mine is woe:
Woe to none other given,
And the song and the crown therefor!
HEC. O Zeus!
AND. He hates thee sore!
HEC. Children!
AND. No more, no more
To aid thee: their strife is striven!
HECUBA. Troy, Troy is gone!
AND. Yea, and her treasure parted.
HEC. Gone, gone, mine own
Children, the noble-hearted!
AND. Sing sorrow...
HEC. For me, for me!
AND. Sing for the Great City,
That falleth, falleth to be
A shadow, a fire departed.
ANDROMACHE. Come to me, O my lover!
HEC. The dark shroudeth him over,
My flesh, woman, not thine, not thine!
AND. Make of thine arms my cover!
HECUBA. O thou whose wound was deepest,
Thou that my children keepest,
Priam, Priam, O age-worn King,

*vocabulary***ἄδάκρυτος** (ῥ) without tears**αἱματόεις** bloody ~hematology**ἄλγέω** suffer ~analgesic**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**ἀνύω** accomplish, pass over, complete**ἀπολείπω** leave behind, fail ~eclipse**ἀπολιμπάνω** leave behind, fail**γόνος** offspring ~genus**γύψ** γυπός (m) vulture**δάκρυον** tear**δακρύω** weep**δούλιος** of a slave**ἐκφεύγω** flee from, escape ~fugitive**ζυγόν** yoke, a joined pair ~zygote**ιᾶλεμος** (ᾱ) lament, dirge; sad, dull, stupid**καταλείβω** drip**λέχος** -εος (n, 3) couch, bed, bier ~lie**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**οἰκτρός** pitiable**οἴχομαι** come, go, leave, be gone**πένθος** -εος (n, 3) grief, misfortune

~Nepenthe

πόθος longing, regret ~bid**στυγερός** dreaded, feeling dread ~Styx**σχέτλιος** tough, sound, stubborn, cruel

~ischemia

τείνω stretch, tend ~tense

κοίμισαί μ' ἐς Ἴδου.

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. οἶδε πόθοι μεγάλοι ΕΚΑΒΗ. σχετλία, τάδε πάσχομεν
ἄλγη. 595

ΑΝ. οἰχομένας πόλεως ΕΚ. ἐπὶ δ' ἄλγεσιν ἄλγεα κεῖται.

ΑΝ. δυσφροσύναισι θεῶν, ὅτε σὸς γόνος ἔκφυγεν Ἴδαν,
ὃς λεχέων στυγερῶν χάριν ὤλεσε πέργαμα Τροίας·
αἱματόεντα δὲ

θεῇ παρὰ Παλλάδι σώματα νεκρῶν

γυψὶ φέρειν τέταται· ζυγὰ δ' ἤνυσε δούλια Τροία. 600

ΕΚ. ὦ πατρίς, ὦ μελέα ΑΝ. καταλειπομένην σε δακρύω,

ΕΚ. νῦν τέλος οἰκτρὸν ὄρῃς. ΑΝ. καὶ ἐμὸν δόμον ἔνθ' ἐλοχεύθην.

ΕΚ. ὦ τέκν', ἐρημόπολις μάτηρ ἀπολείπεται ὑμῶν,

οἶος ἰάλεμος, οἷά τε πένθη

δάκρυά τ' ἐκ δακρύων καταλείβεται 605

ἀμετέροισι δόμοις· ὁ θανὼν δ' ἐπὶ

λάθεται ἀλγέων ἀδάκρυτος.

κοίμισαί μ' ἐς Ἄιδου.

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. οἷδε |longing, regret| ἐγάλοι ΕΚΑΒΗ. |tough, sound, stubborn, cruel| πάσχομεν

|woe

595

ΑΝ. |come, go| πόλεως ΕΚ. ἐπὶ δ' |woe |woe| κείται.

ΑΝ. δυσφροσύναισι θεῶν, ὅτε σὸς |off-spring| |flee| Ἄιδαν,

ὅς |bed, bier| |dreaded, feeling dread| ἱρὴν ὥλεσε πέργαμα Τροίας·

|bloody| δὲ

θεῶν παρὰ Παλλάδι σώματα νεκρῶν

|vulture| ἔρειν |stretch, tend| |yoke| δ' |accomplish| of a slave Τροία.

600

ΕΚ. ὦ πατρίς, ὦ |vain, idle| καταλειπομένην σε δακρύω,

ΕΚ. νῦν τέλος |pitiable| ὄρας. ΑΝ. καὶ ἐμὸν δόμον ἔνθ' ἐλοχεύθην.

ΕΚ. ὦ τέκν', ἐρημόπολις μάτηρ ἀπολείπεται ὑμῶν,

οἶος |lament, dirge; sad, grief| |dull, stupid|

|tear| τ' ἐκ δακρύων |drip|

605

ἀμετέροισι δόμοις· ὁ θανὼν δ' ἐπὶ

λάθεται ἀλγέων |without tears|

Gather me where thou sleepest.

ANDROMACHE (her hands upon her heart).

ANDROMACHE. O here is the deep of desire,

HEC. (How? And is this not woe?)

AND. For a city burned with fire;

HEC. (It beateth, blow on blow.)

AND. God's wrath for Paris, thy son, that he died not long ago:

Who sold for his evil love

Troy and the towers thereof:

Therefore the dead men lie

Naked, beneath the eye

Of Pallas, and vultures croak

And flap for joy:

So Love hath laid his yoke

On the neck of Troy!

HECUBA. O mine own land, my home,

AND. (I weep for thee, left forlorn.)

HEC. See'st thou what end is come?

AND. (And the house where my babes were born.)

HEC. A desolate Mother we leave, O children, a City of scorn:

Even as the sound of a song

Left by the way, but long

Remembered, a tune of tears

Falling where no man hears,

*vocabulary***αἴνιγμα** -τος (n, 3) dark saying**ἄμιλλα** conflict**ἄνω** (ἄ) accomplish, pass, waste;
upwards, out to sea**ἀποβαίνω** leave, get off; turn out
~basis**ἀποσπάω** tear/drag away**ἀριθμός** number**ἄρτι** at the same time**δάκρυον** tear**διόλλυμι** (ὕ) be ruined**εἰσοράω** look at, see; treat with respect
~panorama**εὐγενής** well born**ἡδύς** sweet, pleasant ~hedonism**θρῆνος** dirge ~threnody**λεῖα** booty**λεῖος** smooth**λύπη** distress**μεταβολή** change, exchange**μέτρον** measure ~metric**μίν** him, her, it**μοῦσα** muse**νοσέω** be sick, be mad, suffer**ὄχεύς** -ος (m) holder, fastener, bar**ὄχος** pl: carrying thing, chariot,
holding place ~wagon**πάλαι** long ago ~paleo**πάλη** wrestling ~Pallas**πάλλω** shake, brandish ~Pallas**προσδοκάω** expect**πυργόω** wall, fortify**σαφής** clear, understandable**σφάζω** cut the throat**τάλας** wretched, miserable ~talent**τάφος** (m) funeral, grave; (n)
astonishment**τοσόσδε** this much**φεῦ** exclamation of grief, anger,
surprise, admiration

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὥς ἡδὺ δάκρυα τοῖς κακῶς πεπραγόσι

θρήνων τ' ὀδυρμοὶ μοῦσά θ' ἡ λύπας ἔχει.

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. ὦ μήτερ ἀνδρός, ὅς ποτ' Ἀργείων δορὶ

610

πλείστους διώλεσ', Ἔκτορος, τὰδ' εἰσορᾶς;

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὁρῶ τὰ τῶν θεῶν, ὥς τὰ μὲν πυργούσ' ἄνω

τὸ μηδὲν ὄντα, τὰ δὲ δοκοῦντ' ἀπώλεσαν.

ΑΝ. ἀγόμεθα λεία σὺν τέκνω· τὸ δ' εὐγενὲς

εἰς δοῦλον ἦκει, μεταβολὰς τοσάσδ' ἔχον.

615

ΕΚ. τὸ τῆς ἀνάγκης δεινόν· ἄρτι καπ' ἐμοῦ

βέβηκ' ἀποσπασθεῖσα Κασάνδρα βίᾳ.

ΑΝ. φεῦ φεῦ· ἄλλος τις Αἴας, ὥς ἔοικε, δεύτερος

παιδὸς πέφηνε σῆς. νοσεῖς δὲ χᾶτερα.

ΕΚ. ὦν γ' οὔτε μέτρον οὔτ' ἀριθμὸς ἐστί μοι·

620

κακῶ κακὸν γὰρ εἰς ἄμιλλαν ἔρχεται.

ΑΝ. τέθνηκέ σοι παῖς πρὸς τάφῳ Πολυξένη

σφαγεῖσ' Ἀχιλλέως, δῶρον ἀψύχῳ νεκρῶ.

ΕΚ. οἶ γὰρ τάλαινα. τοῦτ' ἐκείν' ὃ μοι πάλαι

Ταλθύβιος αἴνιγμ' οὐ σαφῶς εἶπεν σαφές.

625

ΑΝ. εἰδὸν νῦν αὐτή, κάποβᾶσα τῶνδ' ὄχων

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὥς |sweet|tear τοῖς κακῶς πεπραγόσι

|dirge τ' ὀδυρμοὶ |muse θ' ἡ |distress ἔχει.

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. ὦ μήτερ ἀνδρός, ὅς ποτ' Ἀργείων δορὶ

610

πλείστους διώλεσ', Ἕκτορος, τάδ' |look at, see; treat
|with respect

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὁρῶ τὰ τῶν θεῶν, ὥς τὰ μὲν |wall, ἄνω
|fortify

τὸ μηδὲν ὄντα, τὰ δὲ δοκοῦντ' ἀπώλεσαν.

ΑΝ. ἀγόμεθα λεία σὺν τέκνω· τὸ δ' |well born

ἐς δοῦλον ἦκει, |change, |this much ἔχον.
|exchange

615

ΕΚ. τὸ τῆς ἀνάγκης δεινόν· |at the same time

βέβηκ' |tear/drag away Κασάνδρα βία.

ΑΝ. |ex- |exclamation of grief, anger, ἔοικε, δεύτερος
|cla- |surprise, admiration

μα- |παιὶς πέφηνε σῆς. |be sick, be ἄτερα.
|tion |mad, suffer

ΕΚ. |grief, οὔτε |measure οὐτ' |number ἐστί μοι·
|anger,

620

sur- |κακὸν γὰρ εἰς |conflict ἔρχεται.
|prise,

ΑΝ. |mi- |ἑννηκέ σοι παῖς πρὸς |(m) funeral, grave;
|ra- |(n) astonishment

|tion |cut the throat, λλέως, δῶρον ἀψύχῳ νεκρῷ.

ΕΚ. οἷ γὰρ |wretched, τοῦτ' ἐκεῖν' ὁ μοι πάλαι
|miserable

Ταλθύβιος |dark saying |clear, under- |clear, under-
|standable |standable

625

ΑΝ. εἰδὸν νιν αὐτή, |leave, get off; ᾤωνδ' ὅχων
|turn out

In the old house, as rain,
For things loved of yore:
But the dead hath lost his pain
And weeps no more.

LEADER. How sweet are tears to them in bitter stress,
And sorrow, and all the songs of heaviness.

ANDROMACHE. Mother of him of old, whose mighty spear
Smote Greeks like chaff, see'st thou what things are
here?

HECUBA. I see God's hand, that buildeth a great crown
For littleness, and hath cast the mighty down.

ANDROMACHE. I and my babe are driven among the droves
Of plundered cattle. O, when fortune moves
So swift, the high heart like a slave beats low.

HECUBA. 'Tis fearful to be helpless. Men but now
Have taken Cassandra, and I strove in vain.

ANDROMACHE. Ah, woe is me; hath Ajax come again?
But other evil yet is at thy gate.

HECUBA. Nay, Daughter, beyond number, beyond weight
My evils are! Doom raceth against doom.

ANDROMACHE. Polyxena across Achilles' tomb
Lies slain, a gift flung to the dreamless dead.

HECUBA. My sorrow!... 'Tis but what Talthybius said:
So plain a riddle, and I read it not.

ANDROMACHE. I saw her lie, and stayed this chariot;

*vocabulary***αἰᾶ** alas**ἀλάομαι** wander, rove, roam ~Fr. aller**ἀλγέω** suffer ~analgesic**ἀνόσιος** unholy**ἀποκόπτω** cut off**διολλύω** be ruined**δυστυχής** unlucky**ἐμβάλλω** throw in; inspire a mental state ~ballistic**ἐννέμι** be in ~ion**ἐνίημι** put in; motivate ~jet**εὐδοξία** good repute**εὐτυχέω** be lucky, prosper, succeed**εὐτυχής** fortunate**καταθνήσκω** die, be dead ~euthanasia**κρείσσων** more powerful; better**κρύπτω** hide, cover ~cryptic**λαγχάνω** be allotted; (esp. λελα-
forms) allot; receive**λυπρός** worthless, wretched**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**πέπλος** woman's dress, a folded
cylinder of cloth**πότημος** fate ~petal**σώφρων** sensible, prudent ~frenzy**τέρψις** -τος (f) pleasure**τοξεύω** shoot an arrow at ~toxic**τύχη** fortune, act of a god**φάος** φῶς (n, 3) light; salvation; (pl)
eyes ~photon**φέως** bush used to make brooms

ἔκρυψα πέπλοις κάπεκοψάμην νεκρόν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. αἰαί, τέκνον, σὼν ἀνοσίων προσφαγμάτων·

αἰαί μάλ' αὔθις, ὥς κακῶς διόλλυσαι.

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. ὄλωλεν ὥς ὄλωλεν· ἀλλ' ὅμως ἐμοῦ

630

ζώσης γ' ὄλωλεν εὐτυχεστέρῳ πότμῳ.

ΕΚ. οὐ ταῦτόν, ὦ παῖ, τῷ βλέπειν τὸ κατθανεῖν·

τὸ μὲν γὰρ οὐδέν, τῷ δ' ἔνεισιν ἐλπίδες.

ΑΝ. ὦ μήτερ, ὦ τεκοῦσα, κάλλιστον λόγον

ἄκουσον, ὥς σοι τέρψιν ἐμβαλῶ φρενί.

635

τὸ μὴ γενέσθαι τῷ θανεῖν ἴσον λέγω,

τοῦ ζῆν δὲ λυπρῶς κρείσσον ἔστι κατθανεῖν.

ἀλγεί γὰρ οὐδὲν τῶν κακῶν ἡσθημένος·

ὁ δ' εὐτυχήσας ἐς τὸ δυστυχὲς πεσὼν

ψυχὴν ἀλᾶται τῆς πάροιθ' εὐπραξίας.

640

κείνη δ', ὁμοίως ὥσπερ οὐκ ἰδοῦσα φῶς,

τέθνηκε κούδεν οἶδε τῶν αὐτῆς κακῶν.

ἐγὼ δὲ τοξεύσασα τῆς εὐδοξίας

λαχοῦσα πλείον τῆς τύχης ἡμάρτανον.

ἂ γὰρ γυναιξὶ σώφρον' ἔσθ' ἠϋρημένα,

|hide, |woman's |cut off νεκρόν.
|cover |dress

ΕΚΑΒΗ. |alas, τέκνον, σῶν |unholy προσφαγμάτων·

|alas μάλ' αὖθις, ὡς κακῶς |be ruined

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. ὄλωλεν ὡς ὄλωλεν· ἀλλ' |anyway, nevertheless 630

ζώσης γ' ὄλωλεν |fortunate |fate

ΕΚ. οὐ ταῦτόν, ὦ παῖ, τῷ βλέπειν τὸ κατθανεῖν·

τὸ μὲν γὰρ οὐδέν, τῷ δ' ἔνεισιν ἐλπίδες.

ΑΝ. ὦ μήτερ, ὦ τεκοῦσα, κάλλιστον λόγον

ἄκουσον, ὥς σοι |pleasure|throw in; |inspire. 635

τὸ μὴ γενέσθαι τῷ θανεῖν ἴσον λέγω,

τοῦ ζῆν δὲ |worthless, ρείσσόν ἐστι κατθανεῖν.
|wretched

|suffer γὰρ οὐδὲν τῶν κακῶν ἡσθημένος·

ὁ δ' |be lucky, prosper;|unlucky πεσὼν
|succeed

ψυχὴν |rove τῆς πάροιθ' εὐπραξίας. 640

κείνη δ', ὁμοίως ὥσπερ οὐκ ἰδοῦσα φῶς,

τέθνηκε κούδεν οἶδε τῶν αὐτῆς κακῶν.

ἐγὼ δὲ |shoot an arrow at |good repute

|be allotted; (esp. λελα-|fortune, |act, |ρτανον.
|forms) allot; receive |of a god

ἂ γὰρ γυναιξὶ |sensible, ἔσθ' ἡύρημένα,
|prudent

And raiment wrapt on her dead limbs, and beat
My breast for her.

HECUBA (to herself).

O the foul sin of it!

The wickedness! My child. My child! Again

I cry to thee. How cruelly art thou slain!

ANDROMACHE. She hath died her death, and howso dark it be,
Her death is sweeter than my misery.

HECUBA. Death cannot be what Life is, Child; the cup
Of Death is empty, and Life hath always hope.

ANDROMACHE. O Mother, having ears, hear thou this word
Fear-conquering, till thy heart as mine be stirred

With joy. To die is only not to be;

And better to be dead than grievously

Living. They have no pain, they ponder not

Their own wrong. But the living that is brought

From joy to heaviness, his soul doth roam,

As in a desert, lost, from its old home.

Thy daughter lieth now as one unborn,

Dead, and naught knowing of the lust and scorn

That slew her. And I... long since I drew my

bow

Straight at the heart of good fame; and I know

My shaft hit; and for that am I the more

*vocabulary***ἀναπτύσσω** unfold**αὐθέντης** -ου (m, 1) murderer; doer**γλῶσσα** tongue, language ~glossary**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**δεσπότης** -ου (m, 1) master, despot**διδάσκαλος** teacher**δουλεύω** serve, be a slave**ἐκμοχθέω** struggle through, solve with work**ἐνδίδωμι** hand over, lend, show, allow**ἐνδον** in the house of; within**ἐνδω** in the house of; within**ἐξαρκέω** be enough; be satisfied**ἐφέλκω** drag; (mid) influence**ἥσυχος** quiet**θῆλυς** female; (rare) abundant ~female**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά***κληδών** -ηδόνης (f, 3) news, omen

~gallo

κοιμήσις clever, urbane, pleasant**μέλαθρον** roofbeam**μισέω** (i) hate, wish to prevent

~misogyny

νίκη (i) victory ~Nike**οἴκοθεν** from home, from one's own resources ~economics**ὄμμα** -τος (n, 3) eye**παραεἶδω** sing beside, to**παρίζω** sit beside ~sit**παρίημι** dangle; pass over, allow ~jet**παρώ** maim**πείρω** pierce, run through ~pierce**πόθος** longing, regret ~bid**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

προίημι send forth, abandon ~jet**πρόσεμι** approach, draw near; add

~ion

προσέχω belong to, it seems**σιγά** silence**στέγη** roof, ceiling, chamber**στράτευμα** -τος (n, 3) army ~strategy**στυγέω** dread, shrink from ~Styx**χρηστός** useful; brave, worthy**ψόγος** blemish, blame

ταῦτ' ἐξεμόχθουν Ἕκτορος κατὰ στέγας.

πρῶτον μὲν, ἔνθα— κἂν προσῇ κἂν μὴ προσῇ

ψόγος γυναιξίν— αὐτὸ τοῦτ' ἐφέλκεται

κακῶς ἀκούειν, ἥτις οὐκ ἔνδον μένει,

τούτου παρείσα πόθον ἔμμνον ἐν δόμοις·

650

ἔσω τε μελάρων κομφὰ θηλειῶν ἔπη

οὐκ εἰσεφρούμην, τὸν δὲ νοῦν διδάσκαλον

οἴκοθεν ἔχουσα χρηστὸν ἐξήρκουν ἐμοί.

γλώσσης τε σιγὴν ὄμμα θ' ἥσυχον πόσει

παρείχον· ἦδ' ἃ δ' ἀμὲ χρὴν νικᾶν πόσιν,

655

κείνῳ τε νίκην ὧν ἐχρὴν παριέναι.

καὶ τῶνδε κληδὼν ἐς στράτευμ' Ἀχαιϊκὸν

ἐλθοῦς ἀπώλεσέν μ'· ἐπεὶ γὰρ ἠρέθην,

Ἀχιλλέως με παῖς ἐβουλήθη λαβεῖν

δάμαρτα· δουλεύσω δ' ἐν αὐθεντῶν δόμοις.

660

κεῖ μὲν παρώσας Ἕκτορος φίλον κάρα

πρὸς τὸν παρόντα πόσιν ἀναπτύξω φρένα,

κακὴ φανοῦμαι τῷ θανόντι· τόνδε δ' αὖ

στυγοῦς ἐμαυτῆς δεσπόταις μισήσομαι.

ταῦτ' ἐξεμόχθουν Ἔκτορος κατὰ

	roof, ceiling,
	chamber

πρῶτον μὲν, ἔνθα— κὰν προσῇ κὰν μὴ προσῇ

	blemish,
	blame

 υναιξίν— αὐτὸ τοῦτ'

	drag; (mid)
	influence

κακῶς ἀκούειν, ἥτις οὐκ ἔνδον μένει,

τούτου παρῆσα

	longing,
	regret

 ῥιμνον ἐν δόμοις·

650

ἔσω τε

	roofbeam
	clever,
	urbane,
	pleasant

	female; (rare)
	abundant

οὐκ εἰσεφρούμην, τὸν δὲ νοῦν

	teacher
--	---------

	from home
	useful;
	brave,
	worthy

	be enough;
	be satisfied

 ῥιμίσαι.

	tongue,
	language

 τε σιγῇ

	eye
	quiet

	(m) husband, mas-
	ter; (f) a drink

παρεῖχον· ἤδη δ' ἀμὲ χρῆν νικᾶν

	(m) husband, mas-
	ter; (f) a drink

655

κείνῳ τε

	victory
--	---------

 ὅν ἐχρῆν παριέναι.

καὶ τῶνδε

	news, omen
	army

 Ἀχαιῶν

ἐλθοῦσ' ἀπώλεσέν μ'· ἐπεὶ γὰρ ἠρέθην,

Ἀχιλλέως με παῖς ἐβουλήθη λαβεῖν

	wife
	serve, be a slave

 αἰθεντῶν δόμοις.

660

κεῖ μὲν παρώσασ' Ἔκτορος φίλον

	useless
	bit;
	form of κατὰ

πρὸς τὸν παρόντα

	(m)
	hus-
	band,
	master;
	(f) a

	unfold
--	--------

 φρένα,

κακὴ φανούμαι τῷ παρόντι· τόνδε δ' αὖ

	dread
	drink,
	master,
	despot

	hate
--	------

Fallen from peace. All that men praise us for,
I loved for Hector's sake, and sought to win.
I knew that alway, be there hurt therein
Or utter innocence, to roam abroad
Hath ill report for women; so I trod
Down the desire thereof, and walked my way
In mine own garden. And light words and gay
Parley of women never passed my door.
The thoughts of mine own heart... I craved no more...
Spoke with me, and I was happy. Constantly
I brought fair silence and a tranquil eye
For Hector's greeting, and watched well the way
Of living, where to guide and where obey.
And, lo! some rumour of this peace, being gone
Forth to the Greek, hath cursed me. Achilles' son,
So soon as I was taken, for his thrall
Chose me. I shall do service in the hall
Of them that slew... How? Shall I thrust aside
Hector's beloved face, and open wide

vocabulary

αἰχμάλωτος captive ~acute
ἀκήρατος unharmed, pure
ἀνδρεία courage
ἀνδρεῖος of a man, manly
ἀποβάλλω throw away, lose
ἀποπτύω (ὑ) spit out
ἀρκέω satisfy; ward off, defend; suffice
ἄφθογγος speechless
ἄχρηστος useless, unprofitable
διαζεύγνυμι (ὑ) take apart
δυσμενής hostile, enemy
ἔλκω drag, pull, hoist; rape
εὐφρόνη euphemism for night
ζεύγνυμι (ὑ) yoke, join ~zygote
ζυγόν yoke, a joined pair ~zygote
ζυγός yoke, a joined pair ~zygote
ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism
θηριώδης savage, wild
καινός new, fresh, strange

καίτοι and yet; and in fact; although
καταστένω lament
κεδνός considerate, caring
κλέπτω steal
λέκτρον bed ~lie
λέχος -εος (n, 3) couch, bed, bier ~lie
ναυσθλόω carry by sea
ξύνειμι be with; have sex
ξύνεσις confluence
ὄλεθρος ruin, destruction, death
παρθένειος virginal, of a girl
πάρως before, in the past
πλοῦτος wealth ~plutocrat
πῶλος (f) foal ~foal
σύνειμι be with; have sex ~ion
φύσις -εως (f) nature (of a thing)
 ~physics
φύω produce, beget; clasp ~physics
χαλάω let fall; become slack

καίτοι λέγουσιν ὥς μὲ εὐφρόνη χαλᾶ
 665
 τὸ δυσμενὲς γυναικὸς εἰς ἀνδρὸς λέχος·
 ἀπέπτυσ' αὐτήν, ἥτις ἄνδρα τὸν πάρος
 καινοῖσι λέκτροις ἀποβαλοῦσ' ἄλλον φιλεῖ.
 ἀλλ' οὐδὲ πῶλος ἥτις ἂν διαζυγῇ
 τῆς συντραφείσης, ῥαδίως ἔλξει ζυγόν.
 670
 καίτοι τὸ θηριῶδες ἄφθογγόν τ' ἔφν
 ξυνέσει τ' ἄχρηστον τῇ φύσει τε λείπεται.
 σέ δ', ὦ φίλ' Ἴκτορ, εἶχον ἄνδρ' ἀρκούντά μοι
 ξυνέσει γένει πλούτῳ τε κἀνδρεία μέγαν·
 ἀκήρατον δέ μ' ἐκ πατρὸς λαβὼν δόμων
 675
 πρῶτος τὸ παρθένειον ἐξεύξω λέχος.
 καὶ νῦν ὄλωλας μὲν σύ, ναυσθλοῦμαι δ' ἐγὼ
 πρὸς Ἑλλάδ' αἰχμάλωτος ἐς δοῦλον ζυγόν.
 ἄρ' οὐκ ἐλάσσω τῶν ἐμῶν ἔχειν κακῶν
 Πολυξένης ὄλεθρος, ἣν καταστένεις;
 680
 ἐμοὶ γὰρ οὐδ' ὃ πᾶσι λείπεται βροτοῖς
 ξύνεστιν ἐλπίς, οὐδὲ κλέπτομαι φρένας
 πράξειν τι κεδνόν· ἡδὺ δ' ἐστὶ καὶ δοκεῖν.

|and yet; and in *ωὗς μὲν* |euphemism for night
|fact; although

665

τὸ |hostile, *γυναικὸς εἰς ἀνδρὸς* |bed, bier
|enemy

|spit out *αὐτήν, ἥτις ἄνδρα τὸν* |before, in the past

|new, fresh, |bed |throw away, lose *ἄλλον φιλεῖ.*
|strange

ἀλλ' οὐδὲ |foal *ἥτις ἂν διαζυγῇ*

τῆς συντραφείσης, ῥαδίως ἔλξει ζυγόν.

670

|and yet; savage, |speechless *τ'* |produce,
|and in fact; wild |beget; clasp
|although
ζυνέσει τ' |useless, un- *γῇ φύσει τε λείπεται.*
|profitable

σὲ δ', ὦ φίλ' Ἕκτορ, εἶχον ἄνδρ' |satisfy; ward off,
|defend; suffice

ζυνέσει γένει |wealth *τε κἀνδρεία μέγαν'*

|unharmed, *πῦρ* ' *ἐκ πατρὸς λαβὼν δόμων*

675

πρώτος τὸ παρθένειον |yoke, |bed, bier
|join

καὶ νῦν ὄλωλας μὲν σύ, |carry by sea *δ' ἐγὼ*

πρὸς Ἑλλάδ' |captive *ἐς δοῦλον ζυγόν.*

ἄρ' οὐκ ἐλάσσω τῶν ἐμῶν ἔχειν κακῶν

Πολυξένης |ruin *, ἦν* |lament *,*

680

ἐμοὶ γὰρ οὐδ' ὃ πᾶσι λείπεται βροτοῖς

ζύνεστιν ἐλπίς, οὐδὲ |steal *φρένας*

πράξειν τι |considerate, sweet *ἔστι καὶ δοκεῖν.*
|caring

My heart to this new lord? Oh, I should stand
A traitor to the dead! And if my hand
And flesh shrink from him... lo, wrath and despite
O'er all the house, and I a slave!
One night,
One night... aye, men have said it... maketh tame
A woman in a man's arms... O shame, shame!
What woman's lips can so forswear her dead,
And give strange kisses in another's bed?
Why, not a dumb beast, not a colt will run
In the yoke untroubled, when her mate is gone —
A thing not in God's image, dull, unmoved
Of reason. O my Hector! best beloved,
That, being mine, wast all in all to me,
My prince, my wise one, O my majesty
Of valiance! No man's touch had ever come
Near me, when thou from out my father's home
Didst lead me and make me thine... And thou art
dead,
And I war-flung to slavery and the bread
Of shame in Hellas, over bitter seas!
What knoweth she of evils like to these,
That dead Polyxena, thou weepest for?
There liveth not in my life any more
The hope that others have. Nor will I tell

vocabulary

ἄντλος hold of a ship ~Antlia
ἄφθογγος speechless
δάκρυον tear
δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot
δύστηνος unhappy, miserable
εἰσβαίνω enter, board ~basis
ἐκτρέφω raise, rear
ἐνδίδωμι hand over, lend, show, allow
ἐπίσταμαι know how, understand
 ~station
ἔργω bound, fend off; do ~ergonomics
εὐφραίνω gladden ~frenzy
ἐφίστημι set; (mp) come/be near,
 direct, stop ~station
θρηνέω sing a dirge ~threnody
κλύδων -ος (m, 3) wave, surge
 ~cataclysm
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κοινός communal, ordinary
κῦμα -τος (n, 3) wave; embryo
 ~accumulate
κυρέω come upon, come up against;

obtain

κυρόω (ῥ) confirm, sanction
λαῖφος -εος (n, 3) rags, sailcloth
μέτριος medium, moderate
μίν him, her, it
ναύτης -ου (m, 1) sailor ~navy
οὐπω no longer
παραείδω sing beside, to
παρίζω sit beside ~sit
παρίημι dangle; pass over, allow ~jet
πείρω pierce, run through ~pierce
πῆμα -τος (n, 3) woe, bane ~penury
πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
προθυμία (ῥ) zeal, alacrity ~fume
σκάφος (τό) hull, ship; (ό) digging
συμφορά collecting; accident,
 misfortune
ταράσσω mess things up ~trachea
τιμάω (ι) honor, exalt
ὑπερβάλλω cause to go beyond; delay
 ~ballistic
χειμών -ος (m, 3) winter, storm

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἐς ταῦτόν ῥ' ἔκεις συμφορᾶς· θρηνοῦσα δὲ

τὸ σὸν διδάσκεις μ' ἔνθα πημάτων κυρῶ.

685

ΕΚΑΒΗ. αὐτὴ μὲν οὐπω ναὸς εἰσέβην σκάφος,

γραφῇ δ' ἰδοῦσα καὶ κλύουσ' ἐπίσταμαι.

ναύταις γὰρ ἦν μὲν μέτριος ἦ χειμῶν φέρειν,

προθυμίαν ἔχουσι σωθῆναι πόνων,

ὁ μὲν παρ' οἴαχ', ὁ δ' ἐπὶ λαίφεσιν βεβώς,

690

ὁ δ' ἄντλον εἵργων ναός· ἦν δ' ὑπερβάλλη

πολὺς ταραχθεὶς πόντος, ἐνδόντες τύχη

παρεῖσαν αὐτοὺς κυμάτων δρομήμασιν.

οὕτω δὲ καὶ γὼ πόλλ' ἔχουσα πῆματα

ἄφθογγός εἰμι καὶ παρεῖσ' ἐὼ στόμα·

695

νικᾷ γὰρ οὐκ θεῶν με δύστηνος κλύδων.

ἀλλ', ὦ φίλη παῖ, τὰς μὲν Ἑκτορος τύχας

ἔασον· οὐ μὴ δάκρυά νιν σώσῃ τὰ σά·

τίμα δὲ τὸν παρόντα δεσπότην σέθεν,

φίλον διδοῦσα δέλεαρ ἀνδρὶ σῶν τρόπων.

700

κἂν δρᾶς τάδ', ἐς τὸ κοινὸν εὐφρανεῖς φίλους

καὶ παῖδα τόνδε παιδὸς ἐκθρέψειας ἂν

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἐς ταῦτόν ῥ' ἦκεις συμφορᾶς· |sing a dirge ὦ

τὸ σὸν διδάσκεις μ' ἔνθα |woe, bane κυρῶ.

685

ΕΚΑΒΗ. αὐτὴ μὲν |no longer ὧς |enter, πκάφος,
|board

γραφῇ δ' ἰδοῦσα καὶ |hear ἐπίσταμαι.

|sailor γὰρ ἦν μὲν |medium, ἦ |winter, φέρειν,
|moderate |storm

προθυμίαν ἔχουσι σωθῆναι |toil, suffering

ὁ μὲν παρ' οἴαχ', ὁ δ' ἐπὶ |rags, sailcloth, ὥς,

690

ὁ δ' |hold of a|bound, fend off; do ὧς |cause to go be-
|ship |yond; delay

πολὺς |mess things up ὧς, |hand over, lend,
|show, allow

παρεῖσαν αὐτοὺς |wave; δρομήμασιν.
|embryo

οὕτω δὲ καγὼ πόλλ' ἔχουσα |woe, bane

|speechless εἶμι καὶ παρέϊσ' ἐὼ στόμα·

695

νικᾶ γὰρ οὐκ θεῶν με |unhappy, |wave,
|miserable |surge

ἀλλ', ὦ φίλη παῖ, τὰς μὲν Ἑκτορος τύχας

ἔασον· οὐ μὲν |tear νιν σώσῃ τὰ σά·

|honor ὦ τὸν παρόντα |master, σέθεν,
|despot

φίλον διδοῦσα δέλεαρ ἀνδρὶ σὼν τρόπων.

700

κἂν δρᾶς τάδ', ἐς τὸ |communion, laden φίλους
|ordinary

καὶ παῖδα τόνδε παιδὸς |raise, rear ἂν

The lie to mine own heart, that aught is well
Or shall be well... Yet, O, to dream were sweet!
LEADER. Thy feet have trod the pathway of my feet,
And thy clear sorrow teacheth me mine own.
HECUBA. Lo, yonder ships: I ne'er set foot on one,
But tales and pictures tell, when over them
Breaketh a storm not all too strong to stem,
Each man strives hard, the tiller gripped, the mast
Manned, the hull baled, to face it: till at last
Too strong breaks the o'erwhelming sea: lo, then
They cease, and yield them up as broken men
To fate and the wild waters. Even so
I in my many sorrows bear me low,
Nor curse, nor strive that other things may be.
The great wave rolled from God hath conquered me.
But, O, let Hector and the fates that fell
On Hector, sleep. Weep for him ne'er so well,
Thy weeping shall not wake him. Honour thou
The new lord that is set above thee now,
And make of thine own gentle piety
A prize to lure his heart. So shalt thou be
A strength to them that love us, and—God knows,
It may be—rear this babe among his foes,
My Hector's child, to manhood and great aid

vocabulary

ἄγγέλλω carry a message, announce
 ~angel
ἄγγελμα -τος (n, 3) message, news
αἰδώς awe, shame, respect; genitals
βούλευμα -τος (n, 3) resolution,
 purpose
γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
δάμαρ wife ~domicile
δέρκομαι see, watch
δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot
ἐκβαίνω come forth, disembark ~basis
ἐκὼν willingly, on purpose; giving in
 too easily
ἐνθάδε here, hither
ἔξιμι go forth; is possible ~ion

ἐπαινέω concur, praise, advise
καινέω freshen, innovate, make strange
καινός new, fresh, strange
καινόω freshen, innovate, make strange
κατοικίζω colonize
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κοινός communal, ordinary
λάτρις hired servant
λείψανον remnant
οἶμοι woe is me
πότε when?
στείχω go, march ~stair
στυγέω dread, shrink from ~Styx
προίμιον prelude, introduction
ὠφελέω help, be useful

Τροία μέγιστον ὠφέλημ', ἔν' — εἴ ποτε

— ἐκ σοῦ γενόμενοι παῖδες Ἴλιον πάλιν

κατοικίσειαν, καὶ πόλις γένοιτ' ἔτι.

705

ἀλλ' ἐκ λόγου γὰρ ἄλλος ἐκβαίνει λόγος,

τίν' αὖ δέδορκα τόνδ' Ἀχαιῶν λάρναι

στείχοντα καινῶν ἄγγελον βουλευμάτων;

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Φρυγῶν ἀρίστου πρὶν ποθ' Ἑκτορος δάμαρ,

μή με στυγῆσης· οὐχ ἐκὼν γὰρ ἀγγελῶ.

710

Δαναῶν δὲ κοινὰ Πελοπιδῶν τ' ἀγγέλματα

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. τί δ' ἔστιν; ὥς μοι φροιμίων ἄρχη κακῶν.

ΤΑ. ἔδοξε τόνδε παῖδα πῶς εἴπω λόγον;

ΑΝ. μῶν οὐ τὸν αὐτὸν δεσπότην ἡμῖν ἔχειν;

ΤΑ. οὐδεὶς Ἀχαιῶν τοῦδε δεσπόμενός ποτέ.

715

ΑΝ. ἀλλ' ἐνθάδ' αὐτοῦ λείψανον Φρυγῶν λιπεῖν;

ΤΑ. οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως σοι ῥαδίως εἴπω κακά.

ΑΝ. ἐπῆνεσ' αἰδῶ, πλὴν ἐὰν λέγῃς καλά.

ΤΑ. κτενοῦσι σὸν παῖδ', ὥς πύθη κακὸν μέγα.

ΑΝ. οἴμοι, γάμων τόδ' ὥς κλύω μείζον κακόν.

720

ΤΑ. νικᾷ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐν Πανέλλησιν λέγων

Τροία μέγιστον ὠφέλημ', ἔν'— εἴ ποτε
—ἐκ σοῦ γενόμενοι παῖδες Ἴλιον πάλιν

|colonize , καὶ πόλις γένοιτ' ἔτι.

705

ἀλλ' ἐκ λόγου γὰρ ἄλλος |come forth ὄγος,

τίν' αὖ |see, watch ὄνδ' Ἀχαιῶν |hired
servant

|go, march καινῶν ἄγγελον |resolution,
purpose ,

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Φρυγῶν ἀρίστου πρίν ποθ' Ἑκτορος |wife ,

μή με |dread οὐχ ἐκὼν γὰρ |carry a message,
announce

710

Δαναῶν δὲ |communal, ὑπιδῶν τ' |message, news
ordinary

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. τί δ' ἔστιν; ὥς μοι |prelude, in- ῥχη κακῶν.
trodition

ΤΑ. ἔδοξε τόνδε παῖδα πῶς εἶπω λόγον;

ΑΝ. μῶν οὐ τὸν αὐτὸν |master, ἡμῖν ἔχειν;
despot

ΤΑ. οὐδεὶς Ἀχαιῶν τοῦδε δεσπόσει ποτέ.

715

ΑΝ. ἀλλ' |here, αὐτοῦ |remnant Φρυγῶν λιπεῖν;
hither

ΤΑ. οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως σοι ῥαδίως εἶπω κακά.

ΑΝ. |concur |awe, shame, re- ὥς λέγῃς καλά.
spect; genitals

ΤΑ. κτενοῦσι σὸν παῖδ', ὥς πύθη κακὸν μέγα.

ΑΝ. |woe is|wedding, sex ὥς |hear μεῖζον κακόν.
me

720

ΤΑ. νικᾷ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐν Πανέλλησιν λέγων

For Ilion. So her stones may yet be laid
One on another, if God will, and wrought
Again to a city! Ah, how thought to thought
Still beckons!... But what minion of the Greek
Is this that cometh, with new words to speak?

Enter TALTHYBIUS with a band of Soldiers. He comes forward slowly and with evident disquiet.

TALTHYBIUS. Spouse of the noblest heart that beat in Troy,
Andromache, hate me not! 'Tis not in joy
I tell thee. But the people and the Kings
Have with one voice...

ANDROMACHE. What is it? Evil things
Are on thy lips!

TALTHYBIUS. 'Tis ordered, this child... Oh,
How can I tell her of it?

ANDROMACHE. Doth he not go
With me, to the same master?

TALTHYBIUS. There is none
In Greece, shall e'er be master of thy son.

ANDROMACHE. How? Will they leave him here to build again
The wreck?...

TALTHYBIUS. I know not how to tell thee plain!

ANDROMACHE. Thou hast a gentle heart... if it be ill,
And not good, news thou hidest!

TALTHYBIUS. 'Tis their will
Thy son shall die... The whole vile thing is said
Now!

ANDROMACHE. Oh, I could have borne mine enemy's bed!

*vocabulary***ἄθαπτος** not honored with funeral

rites ~epitaph

αἰαῖ alas**αἰσχρός** shameful**ἄλγέω** suffer ~analgesic**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**ἄλκῃ** prowess, defense, victory

~Alexander

ἀντέχω hold up as protection against

~ischemia

ἄρῃ bane, harm; prayer**δράω** do, accomplish**ἐπίφθονος** jealous**εὐγενής** well born**θάπτω** bury ~epitaph**ἰσχύω** be strong; win**κτάομαι** acquire, possess**μάρναμαι** fight**μέτριος** medium, moderate**οἶκτος** compassion**οὐδαμῇ** nowhere**οὐνεκα** because**περισσός** prodigious, superfluous**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops**ῥιπτέω** hurl**ῥίπτω** hurl**σθένω** be strong, able**σιγάω** (ι) be silent**σκοπάω** watch, observe**σκοπέω** behold, consider**σοφός** skilled, clever, wise**στρατός** common people/soldiers

~strategy

ταφεῖος funeral robe**τιμάω** (ι) honor, exalt**χολώω** anger, provoke ~choler

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. αἰαὶ μάλ'· οὐ γὰρ μέτρια πάσχομεν κακά.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. λέξας ἀρίστου παῖδα μὴ τρέφειν πατρὸς

ΑΝ. τοιαῦτα νικήσειε τῶν αὐτοῦ πέρι.

ΤΑ. ῥῖψαι δὲ πύργων δειν σφε Τρωικῶν ἄπο.

725

ἀλλ' ὥς γενέσθω, καὶ σοφωτέρα φανῇ·

μήτ' ἀντέχου τοῦδ', εὐγενῶς δ' ἄλγει κακοῖς,

μήτε σθένουσα μηδὲν ἰσχύειν δόκει.

ἔχεις γὰρ ἀλκὴν οὐδαμῇ. σκοπεῖν δὲ χρή·

πόλις τ' ὄλωλε καὶ πόσις, κρατῇ δὲ σύ,

730

ἡμεῖς δὲ πρὸς γυναιῖκα μάρνασθαι μίαν

οἰοί τε. τούτων οὐνεκ' οὐ μάχης ἐρᾶν

οὐδ' αἰσχροὺς οὐδὲν οὐδ' ἐπίφθονόν σε δρᾶν,

οὐδ' αὖ σ' Ἀχαιοῖς βούλομαι ῥίπτειν ἀράς.

εἰ γάρ τι λέξεις ὧν χολώσεται στρατός,

735

οὔτ' ἂν ταφείη παῖς ὅδ' οὔτ' οἴκτου τύχοι.

σιγῶσα δ' εὖ τε τὰς τύχας κεκτημένη

τὸν τοῦδε νεκρὸν οὐκ ἄθαπτον ἂν λίποις

αὐτὴ τ' Ἀχαιῶν πρηνεμεστέρων τύχοις.

ΑΝ. ὦ φίλτατ', ὦ περισσὰ τιμηθεῖς τέκνον,

ΑΝΔΡΟΜΑΧΗ. |alas μάλ' οὐ γὰρ |medium, |ίσχομεν κακά.
|moderate

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. λέξας ἀρίστου παῖδα μὴ τρέφειν πατρὸς

ΑΝ. τοιαῦτα νικήσειε τῶν αὐτοῦ πέρι.

ΤΑ. |hurl δὲ |wall, δεῖν σφε Τρωικῶν ἄπο. 725
|tower

ἀλλ' ὥς γενέσθω, καὶ |skilled, φανῇ·
|clever, wise

μήτ' |hold up as protēc-|well born ὅ' ἄλγει κακοῖς,
|tion against

μήτε |be strong, able, ἔν |be strong; win.

ἔχεις γὰρ |strength|nowhere σκοπεῖν δὲ χρή·

πόλις τ' ὄλωλε καὶ |(m) husband, ἡμᾶς- τυ,
|ter; (f) a drink 730

ἡμεῖς δὲ πρὸς γυναῖκα |fight μίαν

οἰοί τε. τούτων |because οὐ μάχης ἐρᾶν

οὐδ' |shameful οὐδὲν οὐδ' |jealous σε |do, accomplish

οὐδ' αὖ σ' Ἀχαιοῖς βούλομαι ρίπτειν |bane;
|prayer

εἰ γάρ τι λέξεις ὦν |anger, |army ,
|provoke 735

οὔτ' ἂν ταφείῃ παῖς ὅδ' οὔτ' |compassion, ι.

|be silent δ' εἶ τε τὰς τύχας |acquire

τὸν τοῦδε νεκρὸν οὐκ |not honored with οἷς
|funeral rites

αὐτὴ τ' Ἀχαιῶν πρευμενεστέρων τύχοις.

ΑΝ. ὦ φίλτατ', ὦ περισσὰ |honor τέκνον,

TALTHYBIUS. And speaking in the council of the host
Odysseus hath prevailed —

ANDROMACHE. O lost! lost! lost!...

Forgive me! It is not easy...

TALTHYBIUS... That the son

Of one so perilous be not fostered on
To manhood —

ANDROMACHE. God; may his own counsel fall
On his own sons!

TALTHYBIUS... But from this crested wall
Of Troy be dashed, and die... Nay, let the thing
Be done. Thou shalt be wiser so. Nor cling
So fiercely to him. Suffer as a brave
Woman in bitter pain; nor think to have
Strength which thou hast not. Look about thee here!
Canst thou see help, or refuge anywhere?
Thy land is fallen and thy lord, and thou
A prisoner and alone, one woman; how
Canst battle against us? For thine own good
I would not have thee strive, nor make ill blood
And shame about thee... Ah, nor move thy lips
In silence there, to cast upon the ships
Thy curse! One word of evil to the host,
This babe shall have no burial, but be tossed
Naked... Ah, peace! And bear as best thou may,
War's fortune. So thou shalt not go thy way
Leaving this child unburied; nor the Greek
Be stern against thee, if thy heart be meek!
ANDROMACHE (to the child).

Go, die, my best-beloved, my cherished one,
In fierce men's hands, leaving me here alone.
Thy father was too valiant; that is why
They slay thee! Other children, like to die,

vocabulary

ἄεθλιος prize ~athlete

ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete

ἄνοικτος pitiless

ἀντέχω hold up as protection against
~ischemia

ἀπορρήγνυμι (ῥ) break off, apart

ἀρπάζω carry off, seize ~harpoon

γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy

δακρύω weep

δράσσομαι clutch at, grasp

δυστυχής unlucky

ἐκτρέφω raise, rear

εὐγένειος well-bearded

ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism

ἰσχύς -ος (f) strength; body of troops

κενός empty, vain

κλεινός famous

λέκτρον bed ~lie

λυγρός pitiful; woe-bringing
~lugubrious

μαστός nipple, breast

μέλαθρον roofbeam

νεοσσός nestling

πέπλος woman's dress, a folded
cylinder of cloth

πήδημα leap

πότε when?

πτέρυξ -γος (f) wing ~archeopteryx

συγγένεια kinship

συγγίγνομαι associate with, meet, have
sex ~genus

σφάγιον victim, sacrifice

σωτηρία saving, preservation

τράχηλος neck ~trachea

τύραννος tyrant

ὕψοθεν from on high

ὥσεί as if

θανῇ πρὸς ἐχθρῶν μητέρ' ἀθλίαν λιπών,
 ἢ τοῦ πατρὸς δέ σ' εὐγένει' ἀποκτενεῖ,
 ἢ τοῖσιν ἄλλοις γίγνεται σωτηρία,
 τὸ δ' ἐσθλὸν οὐκ ἐς καιρὸν ἦλθε σοὶ πατρός.
 ὦ λέκτρα τὰμὰ δυστυχή τε καὶ γάμοι,
 οἷς ἦλθον ἐς μέλαθρον Ἑκτορός ποτε,
 οὐ σφάγιον υἱὸν Δαναΐδαις τέξουσ' ἐμόν,
 ἀλλ' ὥς τύραννον Ἀσιάδος πολυσπόρου.
 ὦ παῖ, δακρύεις· αἰσθάνη κακῶν σέθεν;
 τί μου δέδραξαι χερσὶ κἀντέχῃ πέπλων,
 νεοσσὸς ὥσεί πτέρυγας ἐσπίτνων ἐμάς;
 οὐκ εἰσιν Ἑκτωρ κλεινὸν ἀρπάσας δόρυ
 γῆς ἐξανελθὼν σοὶ φέρων σωτηρίαν,
 οὐ συγγένεια πατρός, οὐκ ἰσχὺς Φρυγῶν·
 λυγρὸν δὲ πήδημ' ἐς τράχηλον ὑψόθεν
 πεσὼν ἀνοίκτως, πνεῦμ' ἀπορρήξεις σέθεν.
 ὦ νέον ὑπαγκάλισμα μητρὶ φίλτατον,
 ὦ χρωτὸς ἡδὺ πνεῦμα· διὰ κενῆς ἄρα
 ἐν σπαργάνοις σε μαστὸς ἐξέθρεψ' ὄδε,

745

750

755

Might have been spared for that. But on thy head
His good is turned to evil.

O thou bed

And bridal; O the joining of the hand,
That led me long ago to Hector's land
To bear, O not a lamb for Grecian swords
To slaughter, but a Prince o'er all the hordes
Enthroned of wide-flung Asia... Weepest thou?
Nay, why, my little one? Thou canst not know.
And Father will not come; he will not come;
Not once, the great spear flashing, and the tomb
Riven to set thee free! Not one of all
His brethren, nor the might of Ilion's wall.
How shall it be? One horrible spring... deep,
deep

Down. And thy neck... Ah God, so cometh
sleep!...

And none to pity thee!... Thou little thing
That curlest in my arms, what sweet scents cling
All round thy neck! Beloved; can it be
All nothing, that this bosom cradled thee
And fostered; all the weary nights, wherethrough
I watched upon thy sickness, till I grew
Wasted with watching? Kiss me. This one time;

vocabulary

ἄεθλιον ἀθλίου prize
ἄεθλιος prize ~athlete
ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
αἰσχρός shameful
αἵτιος blameworthy; the cause
 ~etiology
αἰτίος blameworthy; the cause
 ~etiology
ἀρήγω succor; prevent ~right
ἀρμόζω fit together; be well fitted to
 ~harmony
ἀσπάζομαι greet, salute
αὐχέω boast
βάρβαρος non-Greek
δαίνυμι (ῶ) give a feast, feast on
 ~demon
δέμας -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like
εἴτα then, therefore, next
ἐκφύω spring from ~physics
ἐλίσσω turn, rally ~helix
Ἑλλην Greek

ἐξευρίσκω find; discover ~eureka
ἕρνος -εος (n, 3) sapling
καταξαίνω comb, tear, wear away
κῆρ doom, death, fate
κῆρ heart ~cardiac
κλεινός famous
κρύπτω hide, cover ~cryptic
μάτην in vain, randomly
μοχθέω be afflicted
νῶτον back of the body; rear of an
 army; top of a box
νῶτος back of the body; rear of an
 army; top of a box
ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye
πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia
προσπίπτω attack; befall; kow-tow
προσπίτνω poetic for προσπίπτω
ρίπτέω hurl
ρίπτω hurl
φθόνος malice, envy
φόνος killing ~offend
ὠλένη elbow, lower arm

μάτην δ' ἐμόχθουν καὶ κατεξάνθην πόνοις. 760
 νῦν— οὔ ποτ' αὖθις— μητέρ' ἀσπάζου σέθεν,
 πρόσπιπνε τὴν τεκοῦσαν, ἀμφὶ δ' ὠλένας
 ἔλισσ' ἐμοῖς νώτοισι καὶ στόμ' ἄρμοσον.
 ὦ βάρβαρ' ἐξευρόντες Ἕλληνες κακά,
 τί τόνδε παῖδα κτείνεται οὐδὲν αἴτιον; 765
 ὦ Τυνδάρειον ἔρνος, οὔ ποτ' εἰ Διός,
 πολλῶν δὲ πατέρων φημί σ' ἐκπεφυκέναι,
 Ἀλάστορος μὲν πρῶτον, εἶτα δὲ Φθόνου,
 Φόνου τε Θανάτου θ' ὅσα τε γῇ τρέφει κακά.
 οὐ γάρ ποτ' αὐχῶ Ζῆνὰ γ' ἐκφῦσαί σ' ἐγώ, 770
 πολλοῖσι κῆρα βαρβάροις Ἑλλησί τε.
 ὅλοιο· καλλίστων γὰρ ὁμμάτων ἄπο
 αἰσχροῶς τὰ κλεινὰ πεδί' ἀπώλεσας Φρυγῶν.
 ἀλλ' ἄγετε φέρετε ρίπτετ', εἰ ρίπτειν δοκεῖ·
 δαίνυσθε τοῦδε σάρκας. ἔκ τε γὰρ θεῶν 775
 διολλύμεσθα, παιδί τ' οὐ δυναίμεθ' ἄν
 θάνατον ἀρῆξαι. κρύπτετ' ἄθλιον δέμας
 καὶ ρίπτετ' ἐς ναῦς· ἐπὶ καλὸν γὰρ ἔρχομαι

μάτην δ' ἐμόχθουν καὶ |comb, tear,|toil, suffering
|wear away 760

νῦν— οὐποτ' αὖθις— μητέρ' |greet, σέθεν,
|salute

πρόσπιπτε τὴν τεκοῦσαν, ἀμφὶ δ' |elbow,
|lower

|turn, ἐμοῖς νώτοισι καὶ στόμ' |fit well
|rally

ὦ |non-Greek|find; |Greek κακά,
|discover

τί τόνδε παῖδα κτείνειτ' οὐδὲν αἴτιον; 765

ὦ Τυνδάρειον |sapling οὐποτ' εἰ Διός,

πολλῶν δὲ πατέρων φημί σ' |spring from

Ἀλάστορος μὲν πρῶτον, |then, ὃ |malice, envy
|there-

|killing τε Θανάτου θ' ὅσα |fore, γῇ τρέφει κακά.
|next

οὐ γάρ ποτ' |boast Ζῆνά γ' ἐκφῦσαί σ' ἐγώ, 770

πολλοῖσι κῆρα |non-Greek |Greek τε.

ὄλοιο· καλλίστων γὰρ |eye ἄπο

|shameful τὰ |famous πεδί' ἀπώλεσας Φρυγῶν.

ἀλλ' ἄγετε φέρετε |hurl , εἰ ρίπτειν δοκεῖ·

|feast τοῦδε σάρκας. ἔκ τε γὰρ θεῶν 775

διολλύμεσθα, παιδί τ' οὐ δυναίμεθ' ἂν

θάνατον |succor; |hide, ἄθλιον |body; (+gen.) like
|prevent |cover

καὶ |hurl ἐς ναῦς· ἐπὶ καλὸν γὰρ ἔρχομαι

Not ever again. Put up thine arms, and climb
 About my neck: now, kiss me, lips to lips...
 O, ye have found an anguish that outstrips
 All tortures of the East, ye gentle Greeks!
 Why will ye slay this innocent, that seeks
 No wrong?... O Helen, Helen, thou ill tree
 That Tyndareus planted, who shall deem of thee
 As child of Zeus? O, thou hast drawn thy breath
 From many fathers, Madness, Hate, red Death,
 And every rotting poison of the sky!
 Zeus knows thee not, thou vampire, draining dry.
 Greece and the world! God hate thee and destroy,
 That with those beautiful eyes hast blasted Troy,
 And made the far-famed plains a waste withal.
 Quick! take him: drag him: cast him from the wall,
 If cast ye will! Tear him, ye beasts, be swift!
 God hath undone me, and I cannot lift
 One hand, one hand, to save my child from death...
 O, hide my head for shame: fling me beneath
 Your galleys' benches!...

She swoons: then half-rising,

Quick: I must begone

To the bridal... I have lost my child, my own!

The Soldiers close round

vocabulary

ἄδικος unfair; obstinate, bad
ἄκρα at the edge, extreme ~acute
ἄκρη at the edge, extreme
ἄκρις -ός (f) hilltop ~acute
ἀναίδεια shamelessness
ἄνοικτος pitiless
δράω do, accomplish
δύσμορος ill-fated
ἐνδέω tie to, entangle; lack
κᾶρα (αᾶ) head (n) ~cranium
κόπος beating; toil, fatigue
κράινω accomplish; (rare) rule
κράς -τός (f, 3) head
λέχος -εος (n, 3) couch, bed, bier ~lie
μεθήμι let go, cease; (mid) speed off
 ~jet
μέτεμι be among, go, follow ~ion
μογερός toiling, wretched
μυρίος (ῶ) 10,000 ~myriad

ὅθι where
οἶμοι woe is me
πατρώιος of the father(s), ancestral
 ~paternal
πατρῷος of the father(s), ancestral
πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops
στέρνον breast, chest, seat of feelings
 ~sternum
στεφάνη circlet, helmet, brow of a hill
στυγνός hated, gloomy ~Styx
συλάω (ῶ) take off, despoil ~asylum
συνίημι send together; hear, notice,
 understand ~jet
τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
τοιόσδε such
ὕμέναιος bridal song ~hymen
φίλιος friendly
ψῆφος (f) pebble, vote, decree, sentence

ύμέναιον, ἀπολέσασα τοῦμαντῆς τέκνον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. τάλαινα Τροία, μυρίους ἀπώλεσας

780

μῆας γυναικὸς καὶ λέχους στυγνοῦ χάριν.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. ἄγε παῖ, φίλιον πρόσπτυγμα μεθεῖς

μητρὸς μογεράς, βαῖνε πατρώων

πύργων ἐπ' ἄκρας στεφάνας, ὅθι σοι

πνεῦμα μεθεῖναι ψῆφος ἐκράνθη.

785

λαμβάνετ' αὐτόν. τὰ δὲ τοιάδε χρὴ

κηρυκεύειν, ὅστις ἄνοικτος

καὶ ἀναιδεΐα τῆς ἡμετέρας

γνώμης μᾶλλον φίλος ἐστίν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκνον, ὦ παῖ παιδὸς μογεροῦ,

790

συλώμεθα σὴν ψυχὴν ἀδίκως

μήτηρ καὶ γώ. τί πάθω; τί σ' ἐγώ,

δύσμορε, δράσω; τάδε σοι δίδομεν

πλήγματα κρατὸς στέρνων τε κόπους·

τῶνδε γὰρ ἄρχομεν. οἷ γὰρ πόλεως,

795

οἶμοι δὲ σέθεν· τί γὰρ οὐκ ἔχομεν;

τίνος ἐνδέομεν μὴ οὐ πανσυδία

|bridal song ἱπολέσασα τοῦμαντῆς τέκνον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |wretched, Troia, |miserable μύριους ἀπώλεσας

780

μῆας γυναικὸς καὶ |bed, bier τυγνοῦ χάριν.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. ἄγε παῖ, |friendly γρόσπτυγμα μεθεῖς

μητρὸς |toiling, , βαῖνε πατρώων
|wretched

|wall, ἐπ' ἄκρας |circlet, , |where-ι
|tower |helmet,

πνεῦμα μεθεῖναι |brow of a
|people, |accomplish

785

λαμβάνετ' αὐτόν, |decree, τὰ δὲ
|sentence |such χρή

κηρυκεύειν, ὅστις |pitiless

καὶ |shamelessness, ἡμετέρας

γνώμης μᾶλλον φίλος ἐστίν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκνον, ὦ παῖ παιδὸς |toiling, ,
|wretched

790

συλόμεθα σὴν ψυχὴν |unfair; ob-
|stinate, bad

μήτηρ καγώ. τί πάθω; τί σ' ἐγώ,

|ill-fated , |do, accomplish τοι δίδομεν

πλήγματα κρατὸς |chest τε |beating;
|toil, fatigue

τῶνδε γὰρ ἄρχομεν. οἷ γὰρ πόλεως,

795

|woe is me -έθεν· τί γὰρ οὐκ ἔχομεν;

τίνος |tie to μὴ οὐ πανσυδία

her.

LEADER. O Troy ill-starred; for one strange woman, one
Abhorred kiss, how are thine hosts undone!

TALTHYBIUS (bending over ANDROMACHE and gradually
taking the Child from her).

Come, Child: let be that clasp of love
Outwearied! Walk thy ways with me,
Up to the crested tower, above
Thy father's wall... Where they decree
Thy soul shall perish. — Hold him: hold! —
Would God some other man might ply
These charges, one of duller mould,
And nearer to the iron than I!

HECUBA. O Child, they rob us of our own,
Child of my Mighty One outworn:
Ours, ours thou art! — Can aught be done
Of deeds, can aught of pain be borne,
To aid thee? — Lo, this beaten head,
This bleeding bosom! These I spread
As gifts to thee. I can thus much.
Woe, woe for Troy, and woe for thee!
What fall yet lacketh, ere we touch
The last dead deep of misery?

The Child, who has started back from TALTHYBIUS, is taken up by one of the
Soldiers and borne

back towards the city, while ANDROMACHE is set again on the

vocabulary

αἰχμή spear point ~acute
ἀνάπτω bind; blame; kindle ~haptic
ἄνθος flower
ἀτύζω be terrified, panic
γλαυκός bright, gleaming ~glaucoma
γόνος offspring ~genus
δείκνυμι (ὅ) show, point out
δῖς twice
ἔδρα (ᾱ) seat, seated group
 ~polyhedron
ἐκπέρθω sack, plunder
ἐλαία olive, olive tree ~olive
ἐξαίρέω pick, steal; dedicate; destroy
 ~heresy
ἐπικλίνω (ι) put in position to close
καθαιρέω take down, close ~heresy
κανών -όνος (m, 3) rod, handle
 ~canonical
καταλύω unyoke; destroy ~loose

κλάδος branch, shoot
οἰκέω inhabit ~economics
ὄλεθρος ruin, destruction, death
οὐράνιος heavenly
ὄχθος bank, hill
παρόιθε in the presence of
πίτυλος sweep of oars; downpour;
 onslaught
πλάτα flat or broad object; oar blade;
 (pl) shoulder blades
πορθέω sack, ravage, plunder
πῶλος (f) foal ~foal
στέφανος ring
τοξοφόρος (f) archer ~toxic
φοῖνιξ -χος (m) red or purple dye or
 color; bay (horse); palm tree
φοίνιος red
φόνος killing ~offend
χωρέω withdraw, give way to (+dat)
 ~heir

χωρεῖν ὀλέθρου διὰ παντός;

ΧΟΡΟΣ. μελισσοτρόφου Σαλαμῖνος ὦ βασιλεῦ Τελαμών,

νάσου περικύμονος οἰκήσας ἔδραν 800

τᾶς ἐπικεκλιμένας ὄχθοις ἱεροῖς, ἦν' ἐλαίας

πρῶτον ἔδειξε κλάδον γλαυκᾶς Ἀθάνα,

οὐράνιον στέφανον λιπαραῖσί τε κόσμον Ἀθήναις,

ἔβας ἔβας τῷ τοξοφόρῳ συναρι'

στεύων ἄμ' Ἀλκμήνας γόνῳ 805

Ἴλιον Ἴλιον ἐκπέρσων πόλιν

ἀμετέραν τὸ πάροιθεν ὅτ' ἔβας ἀφ' Ἑλλάδος·

ΧΘ. ὅθ' Ἑλλάδος ἄγαγε πρῶτον ἄνθος ἀτυζόμενος

πώλων, Σιμόεντι δ' ἐπ' εὐρείῃτα πλάταν 810

ἔσχασε ποντοπόρον καὶ ναύδετ' ἀνήψατο πρυμνᾶν

καὶ χερὸς εὐστοχίαν ἐξείλε ναῶν,

Λαιομέδοντι φόνον· κανόνων δὲ τυκίσματα Φοίβου

πυρὸς φοίνικι πνοᾷ καθελὼν 815

Τροίας ἐπόρθησε χθόνα.

δῖς δὲ δυοῖν πιτύλῳ τείχῃ περὶ

Δαρδανίας φοινία κατέλυσεν αἰχμᾶ.

with- |ruin διὰ παντός;
draw,
give way
to (+dat)
ΧΟΡΩ. ἡλίσσοτρόφου Σαλαμῖνος ὦ βασιλεῦ Τελαμών,

νάσου περικύμονος |inhabit |seat 800

τᾶς |put in position to|bank, hill, ροῖς, ἔν' |olive
close

πρῶτον |show |branch, |bright, Ἀθάνα,
|shoot |gleaming

|heavenly |ring λιπαραῖσί τε κόσμον Ἀθήναις,

ἔβας ἔβας τῷ |archer συναρί

στεύων ἄμ' Ἀλκμήνας |offspring 805

Ἰλιον Ἰλιον ἐκπέρσων πόλιν

ἀμετέραν τὸ πάροιθεν ὅτ' ἔβας ἀφ' Ἑλλάδος·

ΧΟ. ὅθ' Ἑλλάδος ἄγαγε πρῶτον |flower ἀτυζόμενος

|foal , Σιμόεντι δ' ἐπ' εὐρείῃα πλάταν 810

ἔσχασε ποντοπόρον καὶ ναύδετ' |bind; πρυμνᾶν

καὶ χερὸς εὐστοχίαν |blame;
|kindle
|pick, steal; dedi-
|cate; destroy

Λαομέδοντι |killing |rod, handle ἔ' τυκίσματα Φοίβου

πυρὸς |red, red dyē;|take down, close 815
|palm tree

Τροίας |sack χθόνα.

|twice ἔ' δυοῖν |sweep of oars; down-
|pour; onslaught

Δαρδανίας |red |unyoke; |spear
|destroy |point

Chariot and driven off towards the
ships. TALTHYBIUS goes with the Child.
CHORUS. In Salamis, filled with the foaming
Of billows and murmur of bees,
Old Telamon stayed from his roaming,
Long ago, on a throne of the seas;
Looking out on the hills olive-laden,
Enchanted, where first from the earth
The grey-gleaming fruit of the Maiden
Athena had birth;
A soft grey crown for a city
Beloved a City of Light:
Yet he rested not there, nor had pity,
But went forth in his might,
Where Heracles wandered, the lonely
Bow-bearer, and lent him his hands
For the wrecking of one land only,
Of Ilion, Ilion only,
Most hated of lands!
Of the bravest of Hellas he made him
A ship-folk, in wrath for the Steeds,
And sailed the wide waters, and stayed him
At last amid Simois' reeds;
And the oars beat slow in the river,
And the long ropes held in the strand,
And he felt for his bow and his quiver,
The wrath of his hand.
And the old king died; and the towers
That Phoebus had builded did fall,
And his wrath, as a flame that devours,
Ran red over all;
And the fields and the woodlands lay blasted,
Long ago. Yea, twice hath the Sire
Uplifted his hand and downcast it
On the wall of the Dardan, downcast it
As a sword and as fire.

vocabulary

ἄβρός graceful, delicate, pretty
 αἰχμή spear point ~acute
 ἄλιος of the sea; fruitless
 ἀνάπτω bind; blame; kindle ~haptic
 γεραιός old ~geriatric
 γυμνάσιον exercise; school
 δαίω light; divide ~demon
 δρόμος running, racing ground
 ~hippodrome
 ἔρω -τος (m) love, desire ~erotic
 ἡλών beach
 θρόνος seat, chair, throne ~throne
 κῆδος -εος (n, 3) sorrow ~heinous

κύλιξ -κος (f) cup
 λατρεία being a paid worker; church
 worship
 λουτρόν bathing water
 ματάω be ineffective, idle
 μέλαθρον roofbeam
 μέλω concern, interest, be one's
 responsibility
 οἰωνός vulture, large bird, bird of
 prey; omen ~avis
 πλήρωμα -τος (n, 3) fullness
 πυργόω wall, fortify
 τέκος -εος (n, 3) child ~oxytocin

ΧΟΡΟΣ. μάταν ἄρ', ὦ χρυσέαις ἐν οἴνοχόαις ἀβρὰ βαίνων, 820

Λαιομεδόντιε παῖ,

Ζηνὸς ἔχεις κυλίκων πλήρωμα, καλλίσταν λατρείαν·

ἀ δέ σε γειναμένα πυρὶ δαίεται· 825

ἡιόνες δ' ἄλλαι

ἱακχον οἰωνὸς οἶ'

ον τεκέων ὕπερ βοᾶ, 830

ᾗ μὲν εὐνάτορας, ᾗ δὲ παῖδας,

ᾗ δὲ ματέρας γεραιάς.

τὰ δὲ σὰ δροσόεντα λουτρὰ

γυμνασίων τε δρόμοι

βεβᾶσι, σὺ δὲ πρόσωπα νεά' 835

ρὰ χάρισι παρὰ Διὸς θρόνοις

καλλιγάλανα τρέφεις· Πριάμοιο δὲ γαῖαν

Ἑλλὰς ὤλεσ' αἰχμὰ.

ΧΘ. Ἔρωσ Ἔρωσ, ὃς τὰ Δαρδάνεια μέλαθρά ποτ' ἦλθες 840

οὐρανίδαισι μέλων,

ὥς τότε μὲν μεγάλως Τροίαν ἐπύργωσας, θεοῖσι

κῆδος ἀναψάμενος. τὸ μὲν οὖν Διὸς

ΧΟΡΟΣ. μάταν ἄρ', ὦ χρυσέαις ἐν οἰνοχόαις |graceful, delicate, 820
cate, pretty

Λαομεδόντιε παῖ,

Ζηνὸς ἔχεις |cup |fullness , καλλίσταν |being a paid worker; 825
church worship

ἅ δέ σε γειναμένα πυρὶ |light; 825
divide

|beach δ' |of the sea;
fruitless

ἰακχον |vulture, οἶ
eagle,
omen

ον |child ὑπερ βοᾶ, 830

ᾗ μὲν εὐνάτορας, ᾗ δὲ παῖδας,

ᾗ δὲ ματέρας |old

τὰ δὲ σὰ δροσόεντα |bathing
water

|exercise; τε |running
school

βεβᾶσι, σὺ δὲ πρόσωπα νεα' 835

ρὰ χάρισι παρὰ Διὸς |chair

καλλιγάλανα τρέφεις· Πριάμοιο δὲ γαῖαν

Ἑλλὰς ὥλεσ' |spear
point

ΧΟ. |love, Ἔρωσ, ὅς τὰ Δαρδάνεια |roofbeam ποτ' ἦλθες 840
desire

οὐρανίδαισι |be in/on the mind

ὥς τότε μὲν μεγάλως Τροίαν |wall, fortify , θεοῖσι

|sorrow |bind; blame; τὸ μὲν οὖν Διὸς
kindle

In vain, all in vain,
O thou 'mid the wine-jars golden
That movest in delicate joy,
Ganymedes, child of Troy,
The lips of the Highest drain
The cup in thine hand upholden:
And thy mother, thy mother that bore thee,
Is wasted with fire and torn;
And the voice of her shores is heard,
Wild, as the voice of a bird,
For lovers and children before thee
Crying, and mothers outworn.
And the pools of thy bathing are perished,
And the wind-strewn ways of thy feet:
Yet thy face as aforetime is cherished
Of Zeus, and the breath of it sweet;
Yea, the beauty of Calm is upon it
In houses at rest and afar.
But thy land, He hath wrecked and o'erthrown it
In the wailing of war.
O Love, ancient Love,
Of old to the Dardan given;
Love of the Lords of the Sky;
How didst thou lift us high
In Ilion, yea, and above
All cities, as wed with heaven!
For Zeus — O leave it unspoken:

vocabulary

ἀναρπάζω carry off ~harpoon
ἀστήρ -έρος (m) star
δάμαρ wife ~domicile
θάλαμος bedchamber ~thalamus
ληίζομαι plunder ~lucre
μοχθέω be afflicted
ὄλεθρος ruin, destruction, death
ὄνειδος -εος (n, 3) blame; insult
οὔνεκα because
ὄχος pl: carrying thing, chariot,
 holding place ~wagon

πάτριος of the father(s), ancestral
πόσις -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)
 a drink ~potent
σέλας -ως (n, 3) bright light
στράτευμα -τος (n, 3) army ~strategy
τέθριππος four-horse
τεκνοποιός begetting, bearing children
φέγγος -εος (n, 3) light, luster
φίλιος friendly
φίλτρον love charm
φροῦδος fled, vanished
χειρόω dominate, subdue

οὐκέτ' ὄνειδος ἐρῶ·

τὸ τᾶς δὲ λευκοπτέρου

φίλιον Ἀμέρας βροτοῖς

φέγγος ὀλοὸν εἶδε γαῖαν,

850

εἶδε περγάμων ὄλεθρον,

τεκνοποιὸν ἔχουσα τᾶσδε

γᾶς πόσιν ἐν θαλάμοις,

ὃν ἀστέρων τέθριππος ἔλα'

855

βε χρύσεος ὄχος ἀναρπάσας,

ἐλπίδα γᾶ πατρίᾳ μέγαν· τὰ θεῶν δὲ

φίλτρα φροῦδα Τροίᾳ.

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. ὦ καλλιφεγγὲς ἡλίου σέλας τόδε,

860

ἐν ᾧ δάμαρτα τὴν ἐμὴν χειρώσομαι

Ἑλένην· ὁ γὰρ δὴ πολλὰ μοχθήσας ἐγὼ

Μενέλαός εἰμι καὶ στράτευμ' Ἀχαιϊκόν.

ἦλθον δὲ Τροίαν οὐχ ὅσον δοκοῦσί με

γυναικὸς οὔνεκ', ἀλλ' ἐπ' ἄνδρ' ὃς ἐξ ἐμῶν

865

δόμων δάμαρτα ξεναπάτης ἐλήσατο.

κεῖνος μὲν οὖν δέδωκε σὺν θεοῖς δίκην

οὐκέτ' |blame; ἐρῶ·
|insult

τὸ τᾶς δὲ λευκοπτέρου

|friendly Ἀμέρας βροτοῖς

|light, ὀλοὸν εἶδε γαῖαν,
|luster

850

εἶδε περγάμων |ruin

|begetting, bear- ἄνυσσα τᾶσδε
|ing children

γᾶς |(m) hus-|bedchamber
|band,

ὄν |star master; (f) ἑλᾶ·
|a drink |four-horse

855

βε χρύσεος |char- |carry off
|iot

ἐλπίδα γᾶ |of the father(s), ἄν· τὰ θεῶν δὲ
|ancestral

|love |fled, Τροία.
|charm |vanished

MENEΛΑΟΣ. ὦ καλλιφεγγὲς ἡλίου |bright τόδε,
|light

860

ἐν ᾧ |wife τήν ἐμὴν |χειρώ?: dominate, subdue; or
|χειρώ?: dominate, subdue

Ἑλένην· ὁ γὰρ δὴ πολλὰ |be afflicted ἐγὼ

Μενέλαός εἰμι καὶ |army Ἀχαιϊκόν.

ῆλθον δὲ Τροίαν οὐχ ὅσον δοκοῦσί με

γυναικὸς |because ἰλλ' ἐπ' ἄνδρ' ὅς ἐξ ἐμῶν

865

δόμων |wife ξεναπάτης |ληίζομαι?: plunder; or
|ληίζομαι?: plunder

κεῖνος μὲν οὖν δέδωκε σὺν θεοῖς δίκην

But alas for the love of the Morn;
 Morn of the milk-white wing,
 The gentle, the earth-loving,
 That shineth on battlements broken
 In Troy, and a people forlorn!
 And, lo, in her bowers Tithonus,
 Our brother, yet sleeps as of old:
 O, she too hath loved us and known us,
 And the Steeds of her star, flashing gold,
 Stooped hither and bore him above us;
 Then blessed we the Gods in our joy.
 But all that made them to love us
 Hath perished from Troy.

As the song ceases, the King MENELAUS enters, richly armed and followed by a bodyguard of

Soldiers. He is a prey to violent and conflicting emotions.

MENELAUS. How bright the face of heaven, and how sweet
 The air this day, that layeth at my feet
 The woman that I... Nay: 'twas not for her
 I came. 'Twas for the man, the cozener
 And thief, that ate with me and stole away
 My bride. But Paris lieth, this long day,

*vocabulary***αἰχμαλωτικός** of or for a prisoner**βλώσχω** come, go**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**ἔδρα** (ᾱ) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

εἶα exclamation to urge someone on**εἴτε** if, whenever; either/or**ἐκμοχθέω** struggle through, solve with work**ἐπισπάω** drag along**ἔρπω** be able to move ~serpent**ἡδύς** sweet, pleasant ~hedonism**κόμη** hair ~comet**μέττειμι** be among, go, follow ~ion**μιαιφόνος** blood-stained ~miasma**μίν** him, her, it**μολίσχω** come, go**μόρος** portion, lot in life**ὀπάων** -ονος (ᾱ, m, 3) comrade**οὔριος** with a fair wind**ὄχημα** vehicle**πλάτα** flat or broad object; oar blade; (pl) shoulder blades**ποινή** blood-price ~penalty**τάλας** wretched, miserable ~talent**χωρέω** withdraw, give way to (+dat)
~heir

αὐτός τε καὶ γῇ δορὶ πεσοῦσ' Ἑλληνικῶ.
 ἦκω δὲ τὴν τάλαιναν— οὐ γὰρ ἠδέως
 ὄνομα δάμαρτος ἢ ποτ' ἦν ἐμὴ λέγω
 —ἄξων· δόμοις γὰρ τοῖσδ' ἐν αἰχμαλωτικοῖς
 κατηρίθμηται Τρωάδων ἄλλων μέτα.
 οἵπερ γὰρ αὐτὴν ἐξεμόχθησαν δορί,
 κτανεῖν ἐμοί νιν ἔδοσαν, εἴτε μὴ κτανὼν
 θέλοιμ' ἄγεσθαι πάλιν ἐς Ἀργεῖαν χθόνα.
 ἐμοὶ δ' ἔδοξε τὸν μὲν ἐν Τροίᾳ μόρον
 Ἑλένης ἑᾶσαι, ναυπόρῳ δ' ἄγειν πλάτῃ
 Ἑλληνίδ' ἐς γῆν κᾶτ' ἐκεῖ δοῦναι κτανεῖν,
 ποινὰς ὅσοις τεθνᾶσ' ἐν Ἰλίῳ φίλοι.
 ἀλλ' εἶα χωρεῖτ' ἐς δόμους, ὁπάονες,
 κομίζετ' αὐτὴν τῆς μαιφονωτάτης
 κόμης ἐπισπάσαντες· οὔριοι δ' ὅταν
 πνοαὶ μόλωσι, πέμφομέν νιν Ἑλλάδα.

870

875

880

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ γῆς ὄχημα καπὶ γῆς ἔχων ἔδραν,
 ὅστις ποτ' εἰ σύ, δυστόπαστος εἰδέναι,
 Ζεὺς, εἴτ' ἀνάγκη φύσεος εἴτε νοῦς βροτῶν,

885

αὐτός τε καὶ γῇ δορὶ πεσοῦς Ἑλληνικῶ.

ἦκω δὲ τὴν |wretched, — οὐ γὰρ |sweet
|miserable

ὄνομα |wife ἦ ποτ' ἦν ἐμὴ λέγω 870

—ἄξων· δόμοις γὰρ τοῖσδ' ἐν |of or for a prisoner

κατηρίθμῃται Τρωάδων ἄλλων μέτα.

οἵπερ γὰρ αὐτὴν |struggle through, ρί,
|solve with work

κτανεῖν ἐμοί νιν ἔδοσαν, |if, whenever; ὧν
|either/or

θέλωμ' ἄγεσθαι πάλιν ἐς Ἀργεῖαν χθόνα. 875

ἐμοὶ δ' ἔδοξε τὸν μὲν ἐν Τροίᾳ |portion, lot in life

Ἑλένης ἑᾶσαι, ναυπόρῳ δ' ἄγειν πλάτῃ

Ἑλληνίδ' ἐς γῆν κᾶτ' ἐκεῖ δοῦναι κτανεῖν,

|blood-price οἷς τεθνᾶσ' ἐν Ἰλίου φίλοι.

ἀλλ' |ex- |withdraw, give way to |comrade
|cla- |(+dat) 880

κομίσσῃ αὐτὴν τῆς |blood-stained

|to
|hair |urge along |with a fair wind

|some-
|one
|on πνοαὶ νόλωσι, πέμφομέν νιν Ἑλλάδα.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ γῆς |vehicle κατὰ γῆς ἔχων |seat ,

ὅστις ποτ' εἴ σύ, δυστόπαστος εἰδέναι, 885

Ζεὺς, |if, whenever; φύσεος |if, whenever;
|either/or |either/or

By God's grace, under the horse-hoofs of the Greek,
And round him all his land. And now I seek...
Curse her! I scarce can speak the name she bears,
That was my wife. Here with the prisoners
They keep her, in these huts, among the hordes
Of numbered slaves. — The host whose labouring swords
Won her, have given her up to me, to fill
My pleasure; perchance kill her, or not kill,
But lead her home. — Methinks I have foregone
The slaying of Helen here in Ilion...
Over the long seas I will bear her back,
And there, there, cast her out to whatso wrack
Of angry death they may devise, who know
Their dearest dead for her in Ilion. — Ho!
Ye soldiers! Up into the chambers where
She croucheth! Grip the long blood-reeking hair,
And drag her to mine eyes ...

Controlling himself.

And when there come

Fair breezes, my long ships shall bear her home.

The Soldiers go to force open the door of the second hut on the left.

*vocabulary***αἰνέω** praise, assent, acquiesce in**ἀκριβής** (ἰ) exact**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**ἐκπέμπω** send forth ~pomp**Ἑλλήν** Greek**ἐξαίρέω** pick, steal; dedicate; destroy
~heresy**ἔξιμι** go forth; is possible ~ion**ἔρομαι** ask a question, ask about, go
searching through**εὐχή** prayer; vow ~vow**θνητός** mortal ~euthanasia**καινίζω** freshen, innovate, make
strange**κέλευθος** (f) way, path**μίν** him, her, it**μισέω** (ἰ) hate, wish to prevent

~misogyny

ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**πίμπρημι** inflate, spurt; burn up ~pyre**πόθος** longing, regret ~bid**προσεύχομαι** pray, vow**πρόσπολος** servant, attendant**στρατός** common people/soldiers
~strategy**σχεδόν** near, approximately at

~ischemia

φροίμιον prelude, introduction

προσηυξάμην σε· πάντα γὰρ δι' ἀψόφου
βαίνων κελεύθου κατὰ δίκην τὰ θνήτ' ἄγεις.

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. τί δ' ἔστιν; εὐχὰς ὥς ἐκαίνισας θεῶν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. αἰνῶ σε, Μενέλα', εἰ κτενεῖς δάμαρτα σήν.

890

οῖῶν δὲ τήνδε φεῦγε, μή σ' ἔλῃ πόθῳ.
αἰρεῖ γὰρ ἀνδρῶν ὄμματ', ἐξαιρεῖ πόλεις,
πίμπρησιν οἴκους· ὧδ' ἔχει κηλήματα.
ἐγὼ νιν οἶδα, καὶ σύ, χοῖ πεπονθότες.

ΕΛΕΝΗ. Μενέλαε, φροῖμιον μὲν ἄξιον φόβου

895

τόδ' ἐστίν· ἐν γὰρ χερσὶ προσπόλων σέθεν
βία πρὸ τῶνδε δωμάτων ἐκπέμπομαι.
ἀτὰρ σχεδὸν μὲν οἶδά σοι μισουμένη,
ὅμως δ' ἐρέσθαι βούλομαι· γνῶμαι τίνες
Ἑλλησι καὶ σοὶ τῆς ἐμῆς ψυχῆς πέρι;

900

ΜΕ. οὐκ εἰς ἀκριβὲς ἦλθες, ἀλλ' ἅπας στρατὸς

κτανεῖν ἐμοί σ' ἔδωκεν, ὄνπερ ἠδίκηεις.

ΕΛ. ἔξεστιν οὖν πρὸς ταῦτ' ἀμεύσασθαι λόγῳ,

ὥς οὐ δικαίως, ἦν θάνω, θανούμεθα;

ΜΕ. οὐκ ἐς λόγους ἐλήλυθ', ἀλλὰ σε κτενῶν.

|pray, vow σε· πάντα γὰρ δι' ἀψόφου

βαίνων |way, path κατὰ δίκην τὰ |mortal ἔγεις.

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. τί δ' ἔστιν; |prayer; |freshen, innōvate,
|vow |make strange

ΕΚΑΒΗ. |praise, ε, Μενέλα', εἰ κτενεῖς |wife τήν. 890
|assent

ὀρᾶν δὲ τήνδε φεῦγε, μή σ' ἔλῃ |longing,
|regret

αἶρεῖ γὰρ ἀνδρῶν |eye , |pick, steal; dedi-
|cate; destroy

|inflate, spurt; ἵκους· ὦδ' ἔχει κηλήματα.
|burn up

ἐγὼ νιν οἶδα, καὶ σύ, χοί πεπονθότες.

ΕΛΕΝΗ. Μενέλαε, |prelude, in- ἐν ἄξιον φόβου 895
|trodition

τόδ' ἐστίν· ἐν γὰρ χερσὶ |servant, σέθεν
|attendant

βία πρὸ τῶνδε δωμάτων |send forth

ἀτὰρ |about μὲν οἶδά σοι |hate

|anyway, |ask, search through γινώμαι τίνες
|neverthe-
|less
|Greek καὶ σοὶ τῆς ἐμῆς ψυχῆς πέρι; 900

ΜΕ. οὐκ εἰς |exact ἦλθες, ἀλλ' ἅπας |army

κτανεῖν ἐμοί σ' ἔδωκεν, ὥνπερ ἡδίκηεις.

ΕΛ. ἔξεστιν οἶν πρὸς ταῦτ' ἀμείψασθαι λόγῳ,

ὥς οὐδ' ἀδικαίως, ἣν θάνω, θανούμεθα;

ΜΕ. οὐκ ἐς λόγους ἐλήλυθ', ἀλλὰ σε κτενῶν.

HECUBA. Thou deep Base of the World, and thou high Throne
 Above the World, whoe'er thou art, unknown
 And hard of surmise, Chain of Things that be,
 Or Reason of our Reason; God, to thee
 I lift my praise, seeing the silent road
 That bringeth justice ere the end be trod
 To all that breathes and dies.

MENELAUS (turning).

Ha! who is there

That prayeth heaven, and in so strange a prayer?

HECUBA. I bless thee, Menelaus, I bless thee,

If thou wilt slay her! Only fear to see

Her visage, lest she snare thee and thou fall!

She snareth strong men's eyes; she snareth tall

Cities; and fire from out her eateth up

Houses. Such magic hath she, as a cup

Of death!... Do I not know her? Yea, and thou,

And these that lie around, do they not know?

The Soldiers return from the hut and stand aside to let HELEN pass between them.
 She comes

through them, gentle and unafraid; there is no disorder in her raiment.

HELEN. King Menelaus, thy first deed might make

A woman fear. Into my chamber brake

Thine armed men, and lead me wrathfully.

Methinks, almost, I know thou hatest me.

Yet I would ask thee, what decree is gone

Forth for my life or death?

MENELAUS (struggling with his emotion).

There was not one

That scrupled for thee. All, all with one will

Gave thee to me, whom thou hast wronged, to kill!

HELEN. And is it granted that I speak, or no,

In answer to them ere I die, to show

I die most wronged and innocent?

MENELAUS. I seek

To kill thee, woman; not to hear thee speak!

HECUBA. O hear her! She must never die unheard,

King Menelaus! And give me the word

To speak in answer! All the wrong she wrought

Away from thee, in Troy, thou knowest not.

The whole tale set together is a death

Too sure; she shall not 'scape thee!

*vocabulary***αἰτίαμα** (*ā*) accusation**ἀνατίθῃμι** consecrate, lay on, impute;
(mp) reproach**βρέφος** -ους (n, 3) fetus, baby**δαλός** (*ā*) fire-brand**ἐγχέω** pour into**ἐνδεής** inadequate**ἐνέχω** hold inside**ἐνθένδε** hence**ἔξιμι** go forth; is possible ~ion**ἐπίλοιπος** remaining**ζεῦγος** -ους (n, 3) team of animals;
any pair ~zygote**κατηγορέω** accuse; indicate**κάτοιδα** understand**μηδαμοῦ** nowhere**μῖν** him, her, it**πικρός** sharp, bitter ~picric**πότε** when?**συντίθῃμι** hearken, mark ~thesis**σχολή** rest, leisure**τρισός** threefold

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἄκουσον αὐτῆς, μὴ θάνῃ τοῦδ' ἐνδείης,

Μενέλαε, καὶ δὸς τοὺς ἐναντίους λόγους
 ἡμῖν κατ' αὐτῆς· τῶν γὰρ ἐν Τροίᾳ κακῶν
 οὐδὲν κάτοισθα. συντεθείς δ' ὁ πᾶς λόγος
 κτενεί νιν οὕτως ὥστε μηδαμοῦ φυγεῖν.

910

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. σχολῆς τὸ δῶρον· εἰ δὲ βούλεται λέγειν,

ἔξεστι. τῶν σῶν δ' οὔνεχ'— ὥς μάθῃ— λόγων
 δώσω τόδ' αὐτῇ· τῇσδε δ' οὐ δώσω χάριν.

ΕΛΕΝΗ. ἴσως με, κἂν εὖ κἂν κακῶς δόξω λέγειν,

οὐκ ἀνταμείψῃ πολεμίαν ἡγούμενος.

915

ἐγὼ δ', ἃ σ' οἶμαι διὰ λόγων ἰόντ' ἐμοῦ

κατηγορήσῃν, ἀντιθεῖς ἀμείβομαι

τοῖς σοῖσι τὰμὰ καὶ τὰ σ' αἰτιάματα.

πρῶτον μὲν ἀρχὰς ἔτεκεν ἥδε τῶν κακῶν,

Πάριον τεκοῦσα· δεύτερον δ' ἀπώλεσε

920

Τροίαν τε κᾶμ' ὁ πρέσβυς οὐ κτανὼν βρέφος,

δαλοῦ πικρὸν μίμημ', Ἀλέξανδρόν ποτε.

ἐνθένδε τὰπίλοιπ' ἄκουσον ὥς ἔχει.

ἔκρινε τρισσὸν ζεύγος ὅδε τριῶν θεῶν·

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἄκουσον αὐτῆς, μὴ θάνῃ τοῦδ' |inadequate

Μενέλαε, καὶ δὸς τοὺς ἐναντίους λόγους

ἡμῖν κατ' αὐτῆς· τῶν γὰρ ἐν Τροίᾳ κακῶν

οὐδὲν κάτοισθα. |hearken, mark ἑ πᾶς λόγος

κτενεῖ νιν οὕτως ὥστε |nowhere φυγεῖν.

910

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. |rest, τὸ δῶρον· εἰ δὲ βούλεται λέγειν,
|leisure

ἔξεστι. τῶν σῶν δ' οὐνεχ'— ὥς μάθῃ— λόγων

δώσω τόδ' αὐτῇ· τῇσδε δ' οὐ δώσω χάριν.

ΕΛΕΝΗ. ἴσως με, κἂν εὖ κἂν κακῶς δόξω λέγειν,

οὐκ ἀνταμείψῃ πολεμίαν ἡγούμενος.

915

ἐγὼ δ', ἃ σ' οἶμαι διὰ λόγων ἰόντ' ἐμοῦ

|accuse; indicate , |consecrate, lay ὄν, im-
|pute; (mp) reproach

τοῖς σοῖσι τὰμὰ καὶ τὰ σ' |accusation

πρῶτον μὲν ἀρχὰς ἔτεκεν ἥδε τῶν κακῶν,

Πάρην τεκοῦσα· δεύτερον δ' ἀπώλεσε

920

Τροίαν τε κᾶμ' ὁ πρέσβυς οὐ κτανὼν |fetus, baby

|fire- |sharp μίμημ', Ἀλέξανδρόν ποτε.
|brand

|hence |remaining ἄκουσον ὥς ἔχει.

ἔκρινε |threefold |team, pair ἑ τριῶν θεῶν·

MENELAUS. 'Tis but breath
And time. For thy sake, Hecuba, if she need
To speak, I grant the prayer. I have no heed
Nor mercy — let her know it well — for her!

HELEN. It may be that, how false or true soe'er
Thou deem me, I shall win no word from thee.
So sore thou holdest me thine enemy.

Yet I will take what words I think thy heart
Holdeth of anger: and in even part
Set my wrong and thy wrong, and all that fell.

Pointing to HECUBA.

She cometh first, who bare the seed and well
Of springing sorrow, when to life she brought
Paris: and that old King, who quenched not
Quick in the spark, ere yet he woke to slay,
The fire-brand's image. — But enough: a day
Came, and this Paris judged beneath the trees
Three Crowns of Life, three diverse Goddesses.

*vocabulary***ἀφορμάω** depart, depart from

~hormone

βάρβαρος non-Greek**γάμος** wedding, sex ~bigamy**δόσις** -εως (f) gift, loan ~donate**εἶδος** -ους (n, 3) appearance, form

~-oid

εἴτε if, whenever; either/or**ἐκπαγλέομαι** be amazed**ἐνθεν** thence, whence**ἐντίθημι** load; mp: take to heart

~thesis

ἐξανίστημι raise, bring/send out**εὐμορφία** beauty**εὐτυχέω** be lucky, prosper, succeed**κάλλος** -εος (n, 3) beauty

~kaleidoscope

λάθρα secretly**μέτεμι** be among, go, follow ~ion**μίν** him, her, it**ὀνειδίζω** upbraid, reproach**ὀνίνημι** help, please, be available**ὄρος** boundary marker ~horizon**οὐπω** no longer**πέρνημι** export, sell as a slave ~porno**πιπράσκω** export, sell as a slave

~porno

προσφωνέω speak to**σκέπτομαι** look, look at, watch

~skeptic

στέφανος ring**στρατηγέω** be a general**τοσόσδε** this much**τυραννίς** -δος (f) tyranny**ὑπέχω** promise; hold out one's hand;

submit to

καὶ Παλλάδος μὲν ἦν Ἀλεξάνδρῳ δόσις 925
 Φρυγί στρατηγούνθ' Ἑλλάδ' ἐξανιστάναι,
 Ἦρα δ' ὑπέσχετ' Ἀσιάδ' Εὐρώπης θ' ὄρους
 τυραννίδ' ἔξειν, εἴ σφε κρίνειεν Πάρις·
 Κύπρις δὲ τοῦμόν εἶδος ἐκπαγλουμένη
 δώσειν ὑπέσχετ', εἰ θεὰς ὑπερδράμοι 930
 κάλλει. τὸν ἔνθεν δ' ὥς ἔχει σκέψαι λόγον·
 νικᾷ Κύπρις θεάς, καὶ τοσόνδ' οὐμοὶ γάμοι
 ὦνησαν Ἑλλάδ'· οὐ κρατεῖσθ' ἐκ βαρβάρων,
 οὔτ' ἐς δόρυ σταθέντες, οὐ τυραννίδι.
 ἃ δ' εὐτύχησεν Ἑλλάς, ὠλόμην ἐγὼ 935
 εὐμορφία πραθείσα, κῶνειδίζομαι
 ἐξ ὧν ἐχρήν με στέφανον ἐπὶ κάρᾳ λαβεῖν.
 οὔπω με φήσεις αὐτὰ τὰν ποσὶν λέγειν,
 ὅπως ἀφώρμησ' ἐκ δόμων τῶν σῶν λάθρα.
 ἦλθ' οὐχὶ μικρὰν θεὸν ἔχων αὐτοῦ μέτα 940
 ὁ τῆσδ' ἀλάστωρ, εἴτ' Ἀλέξανδρον θέλεις
 ὀνόματι προσφωνεῖν νιν εἴτε καὶ Πάριν·
 ὄν, ὦ κάκιστε, σοῖσιν ἐν δόμοις λιπῶν

καὶ Παλλάδος μὲν ἦν Ἀλεξάνδρω |gift, loan 925

Φρυγί |be a general Ἑλλάδ' |raise, bring/send
out

Ἥρα δ' |promise Ἀσιάδ' Εὐρώπης θ' |boundary
marker

|tyranny ἔξειν, εἴ σφε κρίνειεν Πάρις·

Κύπρις δὲ τοῦμόν |form |be amazed

δώσειν |promise , εἰ θεὰς ὑπερδράμοι 930

|beauty . τὸν ἔνθεν δ' ὥς ἔχει |look, look at, watch

νικᾷ Κύπρις θεάς, καὶ |this much ἰμοὶ |wedding, sex

|help, please, λᾶδ'· οὐ κρατεῖσθ' ἐκ |non-Greek ,
|be available

οὗτ' ἐς δόρυ σταθέντες, οὐ |tyranny .

ἂ δ' |be lucky, pros- λᾶς, ὠλόμην ἐγὼ
|per, succeed 935

|beauty πραθείῖσα, |reproach

ἐξ ὧν ἐχρήν με |ring ἐπὶ κάρᾳ λαβεῖν.

|no longer φήσεις αὐτὰ τὰν ποσὶν λέγειν,

ὅπως |depart ἐκ δόμων τῶν σῶν |secretly

ἦλθ' οὐχὶ μικρὰν θεὸν ἔχων αὐτοῦ μέτα 940

ὁ τῇσδ' ἀλάστωρ, |if, whenever; ἥρον θέλεις
|either/or

ὀνόματι |speak to νιν |if, whenever; ἥριν·
|either/or

ὄν, ὦ κάκιστε, σοῖσιν ἐν δόμοις λιπὼν

The gift of Pallas was of War, to lead
 His East in conquering battles, and make bleed
 The hearths of Hellas. Hera held a Throne —
 If majesties he craved — to reign alone
 From Phrygia to the last realm of the West.
 And Cypris, if he deemed her loveliest,
 Beyond all heaven, made dreams about my face
 And for her grace gave me. And, lo! her grace
 Was judged the fairest, and she stood above
 Those twain. — Thus was I loved, and thus my
 love
 Hath holpen Hellas. No fierce Eastern crown
 Is o'er your lands, no spear hath cast them down.
 O, it was well for Hellas! But for me
 Most ill; caught up and sold across the sea
 For this my beauty; yea, dishonoured
 For that which else had been about my head
 A crown of honour... Ah, I see thy thought;
 The first plain deed, 'tis that I answer not,
 How in the dark out of thy house I fled...
 There came the Seed of Fire, this woman's seed;
 Came — O, a Goddess great walked with him then —
 This Alexander, Breaker down of-Men,
 This Paris, Strength is with-him; whom thou,
 whom —
 O false and light of heart — thou in thy room
 Didst leave, and spreadest sail for Cretan seas,

vocabulary

ἄέκων unwilling	ἡνίκα when
ἄκων javelin; unwilling ~acme	καινός new, fresh, strange
ἄλοχος (f) wife ~lie	κλέπτω steal
ἀπαίρω lift off ~aorta	κολάζω punish
ἀρπάζω carry off, seize ~harpoon	κράτος strength, power; victory ~democracy
βλώσχω come, go	κρείσσων more powerful; better
γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy	μάρτυς witness
δαίμων -ονος (m, 3) a god, fate, doom ~demon	μολίσχω come, go
ἐνδικος (persons, things) just	μυχός recess, nook
ἐνθεν thence, whence	πόσις -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f) a drink ~potent
ἐντίθημι load; mp: take to heart ~thesis	προδίδωμι betray
ἐπαλξίς -ος (f) a breastwork of planks?	πυλωρός gatekeeper
ἔρομαι ask a question, ask about, go searching through	πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops
ἔρπω be able to move ~serpent	σκοπός (f) lookout, overseer, spy, target ~telescope
εὐπρεπής comely, decent; specious	σπεύδω 'push on,' get going, hurry ~repudiate
ἐφευρίσχω come upon ~eureka	συγγνώμη sympathy, leniency

Σπάρτης ἀπήρας νηὶ Κρησίαν χθόνα.

εἶέν. οὐ σέ, ἀλλ' ἐμαυτὴν τοῦπὶ τῷδ' ἐρήσομαι·

945

τί δὴ φρονοῦσά γ' ἐκ δόμων ἄμ' ἐσπόμεν

ξένω, προδοῦσα πατρίδα καὶ δόμους ἐμούς;

τὴν θεὸν κόλαζε καὶ Διὸς κρείσσων γενοῦ,

ὃς τῶν μὲν ἄλλων δαιμόνων ἔχει κράτος,

κείνης δὲ δοῦλός ἐστι· συγγνώμη δ' ἐμοί.

950

ἔνθεν δ' ἔχοις ἂν εἰς ἔμ' εὐπρεπῇ λόγον·

ἐπεὶ θανὼν γῆς ἦλθ' Ἀλέξανδρος μυχούς,

χρῆν μ', ἡνίκ' οὐκ ἦν θεοπόνητά μου λέχη,

λιποῦσαν οἴκους ναῦς ἐπ' Ἀργείων μολεῖν.

ἔσπευδον αὐτὸ τοῦτο· μάρτυρες δέ μοι

955

πύργων πυλωροὶ καὶ πὸ τειχέων σκοποί,

οἳ πολλάκις μ' ἐφηῦρον ἐξ ἐπάλξεων

πλεκταῖσιν ἐς γῆν σῶμα κλέπτουσαν τόδε.

βία δ' ὁ καινός μ' οὔτος ἀρπάσας πόσις

Δηίφοβος ἄλοχον εἶχεν ἀκόντων Φρυγῶν.

960

πῶς οὖν ἔτ' ἂν θνήσκοιμ' ἂν ἐνδίκως, πόσι,

πρὸς σοῦ δικαίως, ἦν ὁ μὲν βία γαμεῖ,

Σπάρτης |lift off νηὶ Κρησίαν χθόνα.

εἰέν. οὐ σέ, ἀλλ' ἐμαντήν τοῦπὶ τῷδ' |ask, search through 945

τί δὴ φρονοῦσά γ' ἐκ δόμων ἄμ' ἐσπόμην

ξένω, |betray πατρίδα καὶ δόμους ἐμούς;

τὴν θεὸν |punish καὶ Διὸς κρείσσων γενοῦ,

ὅς τῶν μὲν ἄλλων |a god, fate, doom|strength,
|power; vic-
|tory
κείνης δὲ δοῦλός ἐστι· |sympathy, οἱ ἐμοί. 950
|leniency

ἐνθεν δ' ἔχouis ἂν εἰς ἔμ' |comely, δέ; οὐ·
|cent; specious

ἐπεὶ θανῶν γῆς ἦλθ' Ἀλέξανδρος |recess, nook

χρῆν μ', |when οὐκ ἦν θεοπόνητά μου λέχη,

λιποῦσαν οἴκους ναῦς ἐπ' Ἀργείων μολεῖν.

|'push on,' get ᾠ τοῦτο· |witness δέ μοι 955
|going, hurry

|wall, |gatekeeper ἀπὸ τειχέων |lookout ,
|tower

οἶ |often μ' |come upon· |a breastwork
|of planks?

πλεκταῖσιν ἐς γῆν σῶμα |steal τόδε.

βία δ' ὁ |new, fresh, strange |carry off, |(m) husband, mas-
|seize |ter; (f) a drink

Δηίφοβος |wife εἶχεν ἀκόντων Φρυγῶν. 960

πῶς οὖν ἔτ' ἂν θνήσκοιμ' ἂν |(persons, |(m) husband, mas-
|things) |ter; (f) a drink

πρὸς σοῦ δικαίως, ἦν ὁ μὲν |just marry, take
|as a lover

Far, far from me!... And yet, how strange it is!
I ask not thee; I ask my own sad thought,
What was there in my heart, that I forgot
My home and land and all I loved, to fly
With a strange man? Surely it was not I,
But Cypris, there! Lay thou thy rod on her,
And be more high than Zeus and bitterer,
Who o'er all other spirits hath his throne,
But knows her chain must bind him. My wrong done
Hath its own pardon...
One word yet thou hast,
Methinks, of righteous seeming. When at last
The earth for Paris oped and all was o'er,
And her strange magic bound my feet no more,
Why kept I still his house, why fled not I
To the Argive ships?... Ah, how I strove to fly!
The old Gate-Warden could have told thee all,
My husband, and the watchers from the wall;
It was not once they took me, with the rope
Tied, and this body swung in the air, to grope
Its way toward thee, from that dim battlement.
Ah, husband still, how shall thy hand be bent
To slay me? Nay, if Right be come at last,
What shalt thou bring but comfort for pains past,
And harbour for a woman storm-driven:
A woman borne away by violent men:
And this one birthright of my beauty, this
That might have been my glory, lo,

vocabulary

ἄμαθής ignorant	καλλονή beauty
ἄμαθία ignorance	λέκτρον bed ~lie
ἁμείνων comparative of ἀγαθός, noble	μορφή beauty
βάρβαρος non-Greek	οἶκοθεν from home, from one's own resources ~economics
βασίλεια noblewoman	οὔνεκα because
βασίλειος kingly	παρθένειος virginal, of a girl
γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy	παρθένος (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon
δείκνυμι (ō) show, point out	πάτρα (αᾶ) fatherland ~paternal
δουλεύω serve, be a slave	πειθός persuasive
ἐνδικός (persons, things) just	πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric
ἐξαιτέω demand ~etiology	πόσις -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f) a drink ~potent
ἔρως -τος (m) love, desire ~erotic	πότερος which, whichever of two
θηράω hunt, chase	χρήζω need ~chresard
κακοῦργος causing evil ~ergonomics	

τὰ δ' οἴκοθεν κείν' ἀντὶ νικητηρίων
 πικρῶς ἐδούλευσ'; εἰ δὲ τῶν θεῶν κρατεῖν
 βούλῃ, τὸ χρήζειν ἀμαθές ἐστί σου τόδε.

965

ΧΟΡΟΣ. βασίλει', ἄμυνον σοῖς τέκνοισι καὶ πάτρα
 πειθῶ διαφθείρουσα τῇσδ', ἐπεὶ λέγει
 καλῶς κακοῦργος οὔσα· δεινὸν οὖν τόδε.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ταῖς θεαῖσι πρῶτα σύμμαχος γενήσομαι

καὶ τήνδε δείξω μὴ λέγουσαν ἔνδικα.

970

ἐγὼ γὰρ Ἦραν παρθένον τε Παλλάδα
 οὐκ ἐς τοσοῦτον ἀμαθίας ἐλθεῖν δοκῶ,
 ὥσθ' ἡ μὲν Ἄργος βαρβάροις ἀπημπούλα,
 Παλλὰς δ' Ἀθήνας Φρυγί δουλεύειν ποτέ,
 εἰ παιδιαῖσι καὶ χλιδῇ μορφῆς πέρι
 ἦλθον πρὸς Ἰδην. τοῦ γὰρ οὔνεκ' ἂν θεὰ
 Ἦρα τοσοῦτον ἔσχ' ἔρωτα καλλονῆς;
 πότερον ἀμείνον' ὥς λάβῃ Διὸς πόσιν;
 ἢ γάμον Ἀθηνᾶ θεῶν τίνος θηρωμένη
 —ἢ παρθεναίαν πατρὸς ἐξητήσατο,
 φεύγουσα λέκτρα; μὴ ἀμαθεὶς ποίει θεὰς

975

980

τὰ δ' |from home ἔν' ἀντὶ νικητηρίων

|sharp |serve, be a slave τῶν θεῶν κρατεῖν

βούλῃ, τὸ |need |ignorant ἐστὶ σου τόδε.

965

ΧΟΡΟΣ. βασιλεῖ, ἄμυνον σοῖς τέκνοισι καὶ |fatherland

πειθῶ διαφθείρουσα τῇσδ', ἐπεὶ λέγει

καλῶς |causing evil οὔσα· δεινὸν οὖν τόδε.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ταῖς θεαῖσι πρῶτα σύμμαχος γενήσομαι

καὶ τήνδε |show μὴ λέγουσαν |(persons,
|things) just

970

ἐγὼ γὰρ Ἥραν |girl, virgin τε Παλλάδα

οὐκ ἐς τοσοῦτον |ignorance ἐλθεῖν δοκῶ,

ὥσθ' ἡ μὲν Ἄργος |non-Greek ἀπημποῖα,

Παλλὰς δ' Ἀθήνας Φρυγί |serve, be a slave ,

εἰ παιδιαῖσι καὶ χλιδῇ |beauty πέρι

975

ἦλθον πρὸς Ἰδην. τοῦ γὰρ |because ἐν θεᾷ

Ἥρα τοσοῦτον ἔσχ' |love, |beauty
|desire

|which, |better ὥς λάβῃ Διὸς |(m) husband, mas-
|whichever |ter; (f) a drink

ἦ |wedding, sex ἱ θεῶν τίνος |hunt, chase

—ἦ παρθενείαν πατρὸς |demand ,

980

φεύγουσα |bed , μὴ |ignorant ποίει θεὰς

it is

A stamp that God hath burned, of slavery!

Alas! and if thou cravest still to be

As one set above gods, inviolate,'

Tis but a fruitless longing holds thee yet.

LEADER. O Queen, think of thy children and thy land,

And break her spell! The sweet soft speech, the
hand

And heart so fell: it maketh me afraid.

HECUBA. Meseems her goddesses first cry mine aid

Against these lying lips!... Not Hera, nay,

Nor virgin Pallas deem I such low clay,

To barter their own folk, Argos and brave

Athens, to be trod down, the Phrygian's slave,

All for vain glory and a shepherd's prize

On Ida! Wherefore should great Hera's eyes

So hunger to be fair? She doth not use

To seek for other loves, being wed with Zeus.

And maiden Pallas... did some strange god's face

Beguile her, that she craved for loveliness,

Who chose from God one virgin gift above

All gifts, and fleeth from the lips of love?

vocabulary

ἀναστρέφω act: overturn; mid: find oneself in ~atrophy
ἀνολολύζω cry out
ἀπαλλαξείω wish to get rid of
ἀπαλλάσσω free from, remove; be freed, depart
ἀφροσύνη folly ~frenzy
βάρβαρος non-Greek
βοά din, a shout
γέλως laughter
δαπάνη cost, funds, extravagance
εἰσοράω look at, see; treat with respect ~panorama
ἐκπρεπής preeminent
ἐλπίζω (mid, pf) hope, expect; (act) cause to do so (rare) ~voluptuary

ἥσυχος quiet
κάλλος -εος (n, 3) beauty ~kaleidoscope
κατακλύζω flood ~cataclysm
κοσμέω marshal, array ~cosmos
λαμπρός brilliant ~lamp
μέλαθρον roofbeam
μίν him, her, it
νεανίας -ου (ᾱα, m) young person
ὀρθός upright, straight; correct, just ~orthogonal
ὀρθόω stand up
ποίη grass
ποῖος what kind
ῥέω flow ~rheostat
σοφός skilled, clever, wise
τροφή softness, luxury

τὸ σὸν κακὸν κοσμοῦσα, μὴ οὐ πείσης σοφούς.

Κύπριν δ' ἔλεξας— ταῦτα γὰρ γέλως πολὺς

—ἐλθεῖν ἐμῷ ξὺν παιδὶ Μενέλεω δόμους.

οὐκ ἂν μένους' ἂν ἥσυχός σ' ἐν οὐρανῷ

985

αὐταῖς Ἀμύκλαις ἤγαγεν πρὸς Ἴλιον;

ἦν οὐμὸς υἱὸς κάλλος ἐκπρεπέστατος,

ὁ σὸς δ' ἰδὼν νιν νοῦς ἐποιήθη Κύπρις·

τὰ μῶρα γὰρ πάντ' ἐστὶν Ἀφροδίτῃ βροτοῖς,

καὶ τοῦνομ' ὀρθῶς ἀφροσύνης ἄρχει θεᾶς.

990

ὃν εἰσιδοῦσα βαρβάροις ἐσθήμασι

χρυσῷ τε λαμπρὸν ἐξεμαργώθης φρένας.

ἐν μὲν γὰρ Ἄργει μίκρ' ἔχουσ' ἀνεστρέφου,

Σπάρτης δ' ἀπαλλαχθεῖσα τὴν Φρυγῶν πόλιν

χρυσῷ ρέουσιν ἥλπισας κατακλύσειν

995

δαπάναισιν· οὐδ' ἦν ἱκανά σοι τὰ Μενέλεω

μέλαθρα ταῖς σαῖς ἐγκαθυβρίξειν τρυφαῖς.

εἶέν· βία γὰρ παῖδα φῆς σ' ἄγειν ἐμόν·

τίς Σπαρτιατῶν ἦσθετ'; ἢ ποῖαν βοὴν

ἀνωλόλυξας— Κάστορος νεανίου

τὸ σὸν κακὸν |marshal, array, μὴ οὐ πείσης |skilled, clever, wise

Κύπριν δ' ἔλεξας— ταῦτα γὰρ |laughter ολύς

—ἐλθεῖν ἐμῷ ξὺν παιδὶ Μενέλεω δόμους.

οὐκ ἂν μένουσ' ἂν |quiet σ' ἐν οὐρανῷ

985

αὐταῖς Ἀμύκλαις ἤγαγεν πρὸς Ἴλιον;

ἦν οὐμὸς υἱὸς |beauty |preeminent ,

ὁ σὸς δ' ἰδὼν νιν νοῦς ἐποιήθη Κύπρις·

τὰ μῶρα γὰρ πάντ' ἐστὶν Ἀφροδίτη βροτοῖς,

καὶ τοῦνομ' ὀρθῶς |folly ἄρχει θεᾶς.

990

ὄν |look at, see;|non-Greek ἐσθήμασι
|treat with
|respect

χρυσῷ τε |brilliant ἐξεμαργώθης φρένας.

ἐν μὲν γὰρ Ἄργει μίκρ' ἔχουσ' |act: overturn; mid:
|find oneself in

Σπάρτης δ' ἀπαλλαχθεῖσα τὴν Φρυγῶν πόλιν

χρυσῷ |flow (mid, pf)|flood

995

|cost, funds, οὐδ' ἐπὶ τὰς ἐλπίδας ἵκανά σοι τὰ Μενέλεω
|extravagance (act) cause
|roofbeam ταῖς σάκας ἐγκαθυβρίζειν |softness,
|luxury

εἰέν· βία γὰρ παῖδα φήs σ' ἄγειν ἐμόν·

τίς Σπαρτιατῶν ἦσθετ'; ἢ ποίαν βοῆν

ἀνωλόλυξας— Κάστορος |young
|person

Ah, deck not out thine own heart's evil springs
By making spirits of heaven as brutish things
And cruel. The wise may hear thee, and guess all!
And Cypris must take ship-fantastical!
Sail with my son and enter at the gate
To seek thee! Had she willed it, she had sate
At peace in heaven, and wafted thee, and all
Amyclae with thee, under Ilion's wall.
My son was passing beautiful, beyond
His peers; and thine own heart, that saw and conned
His face, became a spirit enchanting thee.
For all wild things that in mortality
Have being, are Aphrodite; and the name
She bears in heaven is born and writ of them.
Thou sawest him in gold and orient vest
Shining, and lo, a fire about thy breast
Leapt! Thou hadst fed upon such little things,
Pacing thy ways in Argos. But now wings
Were come! Once free from Sparta, and there rolled
The Ilian glory, like broad streams of gold,
To steep thine arms and splash the towers! How
small,
How cold that day was Menelaus' hall!
Enough of that. It was by force my son
Took thee, thou sayst, and striving... Yet not one
In Sparta knew! No cry, no sudden prayer
Rang from thy rooms that night... Castor was there

vocabulary

ἀγγέλλω carry a message, announce

~angel

ἀγωνία contest; agony

αἰνέω praise, assent, acquiesce in

ἀκούσιος (ᾱ) unwilling, involuntary

ἀρετή goodness, excellence

ἀρτάω hang something on

ἀσκέω work on

ἄστρον star

βρόχος rope, noose

γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy

γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy

γενναῖος noble, sincere ~genesis

δοριπετής killed by spear, death by spear

δράω do, accomplish

Ἑλλην Greek

ἔρω -τος (m) love, desire ~erotic

εὐτυχέω be lucky, prosper, succeed

θήγω sharpen

ἔχνος -εος (n, 3) track, trace

καθίημι (ιι) speed down upon; take down ~jet

καίτοι and yet; and in fact; although

κλέπτω steal

κρείσσω more powerful; better

λυπέω (υ) annoy, distress

νουθετέω remind, warn

πάρως before, in the past

πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric

πλεκτός braided, woven ~plait

ποθέω miss, long for, notice an absence; lose ~bid

πόσις -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f) a drink ~potent

ποῦ where?

πύργος ramparts, tower; line of troops

τύχη fortune, act of a god

φάσγανον sword

τοῦ συζύγου τ' ἔτ' ὄντος, οὐ κατ' ἄστρα πω;

ἐπεὶ δὲ Τροίαν ἦλθες Ἀργεῖοί τέ σου

κατ' ἶχνος, ἦν δὲ δοριπετηὴς ἀγωνία,

εἰ μὲν τὰ τοῦδε κρείσσον' ἀγγέλλοιτό σοι,

Μενέλαον ἦνεις, παῖς ὅπως λυποῖτ' ἐμὸς

1005

ἔχων ἔρωτος ἀνταγωνιστὴν μέγαν·

εἰ δ' εὐτυχοῖεν Τρώες, οὐδὲν ἦν ὅδε.

ἐς τὴν τύχην δ' ὀρώσα τοῦτ' ἥσκεις, ὅπως

ἔποι' ἄμ' αὐτῇ, τῇ ἀρετῇ δ' οὐκ ἤθελες.

κᾶπειτα πλεκταῖς σῶμα σὸν κλέπτειν λέγεις

1010

πύργων καθιεῖσ', ὥς μένουσ' ἀκουσίως;

ποῦ δῆτ' ἐλήφθης ἢ βρόχους ἀρτωμένη

ἢ φάσγανον θήγους', ἃ γενναία γυνή

δράσειεν ἂν ποθοῦσα τὸν πάρος πόσιν;

καίτοι σ' ἐνουθέτουν γε πολλὰ πολλάκις·

1015

ᾧ θυγάτερ, ἔξελθ'· οἱ δ' ἐμοὶ παῖδες γάμους

ἄλλους γαμοῦσι, σὲ δ' ἐπὶ ναῦς Ἀχαιϊκάς

πέμψω συνεκκλείψασα· καὶ παῦσον μάχης

Ἑλληνας ἡμᾶς τε. ἀλλὰ σοὶ τόδ' ἦν πικρόν.

τοῦ συζύγου τ' ἔτ' ὄντος, οὐ κατ' |star πω;

ἐπεὶ δὲ Τροίαν ἦλθες Ἀργεῖοί τέ σου

κατ' |track, , ἦν δὲ |killed by spear, νία,
|trace |death by spear

εἰ μὲν τὰ τοῦδε κρείσσον' |carry a message, ι,
|announce

Μενέλαον |praise, παῖς ὅπως |annoy, ἐμὸς
|assent |distress

1005

ἔχων |love, ἀνταγωνιστὴν μέγαν'
|desire

εἰ δ' |be lucky, πρὸς-ῶες, οὐδὲν ἦν ὅδε.
|per, succeed

ἐς τὴν |fortune, ᾧ ἔωσα τοῦτ' |work on ὥπως
|of a god

ἔποι' ἄμ' αὐτῇ, τῇ ἀρετῇ δ' οὐκ ἤθελες.

κάπειτα |braided, σῶμα σὸν |steal λέγεις
|woven

1010

|wall, |speed down upon; οὐσ' |unwilling, ,
|tower |take down |involuntary

|where?, τ' ἐλήφθης ἥ |rope, |hang something on
|noose

ἥ |sword |sharpen , ᾧ |noble, γυνή
|sincere

|do, accomplish |miss, long for, before, |(m) husband, mas-
|notice an ab- in the; (f) a drink
|sence; lose |past

|and yet; remind, warn, ε πολλὰ πολλάκις·
|and in fact;

1015

although
|αὐτῷ γατερ, ἔξελθ' οἱ δ' ἐμοὶ παῖδες |wedding, sex

ἄλλους γαμοῦσι, σὲ δ' ἐπὶ ναῦς Ἀχαιῶκα

πέμφω συνεκκλέψασα· καὶ παῦσον μάχης

|Greek ἡμᾶς τε. ἀλλὰ σοὶ τόδ' ἦν |sharp

To hear thee, and his brother: both true men,
Not yet among the stars! And after, when
Thou camest here to Troy, and in thy track
Argos and all its anguish and the rack
Of war — Ah God! — perchance men told thee ‘Now
The Greek prevails in battle’: then wouldst thou
Praise Menelaus, that my son might smart,
Striving with that old image in a heart
Uncertain still. Then Troy had victories:
And this Greek was as naught! Alway thine eyes
Watched Fortune’s eyes, to follow hot where she
Led first. Thou wouldst not follow Honesty.
Thy secret ropes, thy body swung to fall
Far, like a desperate prisoner, from the wall!
Who found thee so? When wast thou taken? Nay,
Hadst thou no surer rope, no sudden way
Of the sword, that any woman honest-souled
Had sought long since, loving her lord of old?
Often and often did I charge thee; ‘Go,
My daughter; go thy ways. My sons will know
New loves. I will give aid, and steal thee past
The Argive watch. O give us peace at last,
Us and our foes!’ But out thy spirit cried

*vocabulary***αἰθήρ** ether, air, sky ~ether**ἀναίδεια** shamelessness**ἀσκέω** work on**ἀφαιρέω** take away ~heresy**βάρβαρος** non-Greek**δάμαρ** wife ~domicile**δέμας** -ως (n) body; (+gen.) like**ἐκούσιος** voluntary**ἐρείπιον** ruin, wreckage**ἐρείπιος** wrecked, ruined**εὐγενής** well born**εὐνή** bed; (pl) anchor stones**ἐφάλλομαι** jump at or on ~sally**θῆλυς** female; (rare) abundant ~female**κάρ** -ός (n) useless bit; form of *κατά***κάρα** (αἶ) head (n) ~cranium**κεράννυμι** (ῶ) mix ~crater**κόμπος** noise, racket**κράς** -τός (f, 3) head**κρέας** -ως (n) meat ~creatine**ξένη** foreign woman; foreign country**πέπλος** woman's dress, a folded cylinder of cloth**πόσις** -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)

a drink ~potent

πρόγονος elder, ancestor ~genus**προδίδωμι** betray**προσκυνέω** kow tow to; kiss**σαυτοῦ** yourself**στεφανώ** crown**συμπίπτω** fall together, happen**σώφρων** sensible, prudent ~frenzy**ταπεινός** low**τελευτάω** bring about, finish ~apostle**τρέμω** tremble in fear ~tremble**ὕβριζω** insult, treat outrageously**φρίκη** (ι) shivering**φόγος** blemish, blame

ἐν τοῖς Ἀλεξάνδρου γὰρ ὕβριζες δόμοις 1020

καὶ προσκυνεῖσθαι βαρβάρων ὕπ' ἤθελες·

μεγάλα γὰρ ἦν σοι.— καὶ πὶ τοῖσδε σὸν δέμας

ἐξῆλθες ἀσκήσασα κᾶβλεψας πόσει

τὸν αὐτὸν αἰθέρ', ὦ κατάπτυστον κάρα·

ἦν χρῆν ταπεινὴν ἐν πέπλων ἐρειπίοις, 1025

φρίκη τρέμουσαν, κρᾶτ' ἀπεσκυθισμένην

ἐλθεῖν, τὸ σῶφρον τῆς ἀναιδείας πλέον

ἔχουσαν ἐπὶ τοῖς πρόσθεν ἡμαρτημένοις.

Μενέλα', ἔν' εἰδῆς οἱ τελευτήσω λόγον,

στεφάνωσον Ἑλλάδ' ἀξίως τήνδε κτανῶν 1030

σαντοῦ, νόμον δὲ τόνδε ταῖς ἄλλαισι θές

γυναιξί, θνήσκειν ἥτις ἂν προδῶ πόσιν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Μενέλαε, προγόνων τ' ἀξίως δόμων τε σῶν

τεῖσαι δάμαρτα κάφελου, πρὸς Ἑλλάδος,

ψόγον τὸ θῆλύ τ', εὐγενὴς ἐχθροῖς φανείς. 1035

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. ἐμοὶ σὺ συμπέπτωκας ἐς ταῦτ' ὃν λόγον,

ἐκουσίως τήνδ' ἐκ δόμων ἐλθεῖν ἐμῶν

ξένας ἐς εὐνάς· χῆ Κύπρις κόμπου χάριν

ἐν τοῖς Ἀλεξάνδρου γὰρ |insult δόμοις

1020

καὶ |kow tow to; kiss |non-Greek ὕπ' ἤθελες·

μεγάλα γὰρ ἦν σοι.— καπὶ τοῖσδε σὸν |body; (+gen.) like

ἐξῆλθες |work on κάβλεψας |(m) husband, mas-
|ter; (f) a drink

τὸν αὐτὸν |ether , ὦ κατάπτυστον |useless bit;
|form of κατὰ

ἦν χρῆν |low ἐν |woman's dress...ίους,

1025

|shiver- |tremble in fear , ᾧ ἀπεσκυθισμένην
|ing

ἐλθεῖν, τὸ |sensible, τῆς |shamelessness` ἔον
|prudent

ἔχουσαν ἐπὶ τοῖς πρόσθεν ἡμαρτημένοις.

Μενέλα', ἔν' εἰδῆς οἱ |bring about, λόγον,
|finish

|crown Ἑλλάδ' ἀξίως τήνδε κτανὼν

1030

|yourself νόμον δὲ τόνδε ταῖς ἄλλαισι θές

γυναιξί, θνήσκειν ἥτις ἂν προδῶ |(m) husband, mas-
|ter; (f) a drink

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Μενέλαε, |elder, ἔ' ἀξίως δόμων τε σῶν
|ancestor

τεῖσαι |wife κάφελου, πρὸς Ἑλλάδος,

|blemish, ὃ |female; , |well born ἡχροῖς φανείς.
|blame (rare)

1035

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. ἐμοὶ οὐ |abundant συμπίπτω?: fall together, happèr; or συμπίπτω?: fall
|together, happen

|voluntary τήνδ' ἐκ δόμων ἐλθεῖν ἐμῶν

|foreign ῶ |bed; (pl), ἀν- ὕπρις |noise, χάριν
|woman; |chor stones |racket
|foreign
|country

As at a bitter word. Thou hadst thy pride
In Alexander's house, and O, 'twas sweet
To hold proud Easterns bowing at thy feet.
They were great things to thee!... And comest thou
now

Forth, and hast decked thy bosom and thy brow,
And breathest with thy lord the same blue air,
Thou evil heart? Low, low, with ravaged hair,
Rent raiment, and flesh shuddering, and within —
O shame at last, not glory for thy sin;
So face him if thou canst!... Lo, I have done.

Be true, O King; let Hellas bear her crown

Of Justice. Slay this woman, and upraise

The law for evermore: she that betrays

Her husband's bed, let her be judged and die.

LEADER. Be strong, O King; give judgment worthily

For thee and thy great house. Shake off thy long

Reproach; not weak, but iron against the wrong!

MENELAUS. Thy thought doth walk with mine in one intent.'

Tis sure; her heart was willing, when she went

Forth to a stranger's bed. And all her fair

Tale of enchantment, 'tis a thing of air!...

Turning furiously upon HELEN.

Out, woman! There be those that seek thee yet

vocabulary

γεραιός old ~geriatric

γόνυ γουνός (n, 3) knee ~polygon

εἰσβαίνω enter, board ~basis

ἐκβαίνω come forth, disembark ~basis

ἐκκομίζω remove; bury a corpse

ἐνιμι be in ~ion

ἐνίημι put in; motivate ~jet

ἐραστής -οῦ (m, 1) lover, fan

καταισχύνω (ῥ) act disgracefully

λευστήρ stone-thrower

λίσσομαι beg, beseech ~litany

ναυστολέω to ship, sail

νόσος (f) plague, pestilence ~noisome

πέλας near, close

πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia

προδίδωμι betray

πρόσπολος servant, attendant

προστίθηναι add; impose; (mp) agree;

side with ~thesis

πρύμνα stern

σβέννυμι (ῥ) extinguish, go out

σκάφος (τό) hull, ship; (ό) digging

συγγιγνώσκω acknowledge; pardon

σωφρονέω be sane, moderate

φροντίζω consider, ponder

λόγοις ἐνείται.— βαῖνε λευστήρων πέλας

πόνους τ' Ἀχαιῶν ἀπόδος ἐν μικρῷ μακροῦς

1040

θανοῦς, ἵν' εἰδῆς μὴ καταισχύνειν ἐμέ.

ΕΛΕΝΗ. μή, πρὸς σε γονάτων, τὴν νόσον τὴν τῶν θεῶν

προσθεῖς ἐμοὶ κτάνης με, συγγίγνωσκε δέ.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. μηδ' οὖς ἀπέκτειν' ἦδε συμμάχους προδῶς·

ἐγὼ πρὸ κείνων καὶ τέκνων σε λίσσομαι.

1045

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. παῦσαι, γεραιά· τῆσδε δ' οὐκ ἐφρόντισα.

λέγω δὲ προσπόλοισι πρὸς πρύμνας νεῶν

τήνδ' ἐκκομίζειν, ἔνθα ναυστολήσεται.

ΕΚ. μή νυν νεῶς σοὶ ταῦτὸν ἐσβήτω σκάφος.

ΜΕ. τί δ' ἔστι; μείζον βρῖθος ἢ πάροιθ' ἔχει;

1050

ΕΚ. οὐκ ἔστ' ἐραστής ὅστις οὐκ αἰεὶ φιλεῖ.

ΜΕ. ὅπως ἂν ἐκβῇ τῶν ἐρωμένων ὁ νοῦς.

ἔσται δ' ἂ βούλη· ναῦν γὰρ οὐκ ἐσβήσεται

ἐς ἥνπερ ἡμεῖς· καὶ γὰρ οὐ κακῶς λέγεις·

ἐλθοῦσα δ' Ἄργος ὥσπερ ἀξία κακῶς

1055

κακὴ θανέεται καὶ γυναιξὶ σωφρονεῖν

πάσαισι θήσει. ῥάδιον μὲν οὐ τόδε·

λόγοις ἐνείται.— βαῖνε |stone-thrower|near,
|close

|toil, suffering^g |λαιῶν ἀπόδος ἐν μικρῷ μακροῦς 1040

θανοῦς, ἔν' εἰδῆς μὴ |act disgracefully |μέ.

ΕΛΕΝΗ. μή, πρὸς σε |knee , τὴν |plague γὴν τῶν θεῶν

|add; impose^g; (mp) ἴνης με, |συγγιγνώσκω?: ἰ acknowledge; pardon; or
|agree; side with |συγγιγνώσκω?: acknowledge; pardon

ΕΚΑΒΗ. μηδ' οὐς ἀπέκτειν' ἥδε συμμάχους προδῶς·

ἐγὼ πρὸ κείνων καὶ τέκνων σε |beg 1045

ΜΕΝΕΛΑΟΣ. παῦσαι, |old τῇσδε δ' οὐκ |consider,
|ponder

λέγω δὲ |servant, πρὸς |stern νεῶν
|attendant

τήνδ' |remove; , ἔνθα |to ship, sail
|inter

ΕΚ. μή νυν νεῶς σοὶ ταῦτὸν ἐσβήτω σκάφος.

ΜΕ. τί δ' ἔστι; μείζον βρῖθος ἢ πάροιθ' ἔχει; 1050

ΕΚ. οὐκ ἔστ' |lover, fan ὅστις οὐκ ἀεὶ φιλεῖ.

ΜΕ. ὅπως ἂν |come forth ἐρωμένων ὁ νοῦς.

ἔσται δ' ἂ βούλη· ναῦν γὰρ οὐκ |enter, board

ἐς ἥνπερ ἡμεῖς· καὶ γὰρ οὐ κακῶς λέγεις·

ἐλθοῦσα δ' Ἄργος ὥσπερ ἀξία κακῶς 1055

κακῇ θανεῖται καὶ γυναιξὶ |be sane, moderate

πάσαισι θήσει. ῥάδιον μὲν οὐ τόδε·

With stones! Go, meet them. So shall thy long debt
Be paid at last. And ere this night is o'er
Thy dead face shall dishonour me no more!
HELEN (kneeling before him and embracing him).
Behold, mine arms are wreathed about thy knees;
Lay not upon my head the phantasies
Of Heaven. Remember all, and slay me not!
HECUBA. Remember them she murdered, them that fought
Beside thee, and their children! Hear that prayer!
MENELAUS. Peace, aged woman, peace! 'Tis not for her;
She is as naught to me.
(To the Soldiers)... March on before,
Ye ministers, and tend her to the shore ...
And have some chambered galley set for her,
Where she may sail the seas.
HECUBA. If thou be there,
I charge thee, let not her set foot therein!
MENELAUS. How? Shall the ship go heavier for her sin?
HECUBA. A lover once, will alway love again.
MENELAUS. If that he loved be evil, he will fain
Hate it!... Howbeit, thy pleasure shall be done.
Some other ship shall bear her, not mine own...
Thou counsellest very well... And when we come
To Argos, then... O then some pitiless doom
Well-earned, black as her heart! One that shall bind
Once for all time the law on womankind
Of faithfulness!... 'Twill be no easy thing,

*vocabulary***αἰθέριος** in the air; heavenly**ἄλιος** of the sea; fruitless**βοά** din, a shout**εὐφημος** not speaking inauspiciously**ζάθεος** holy**θεράπνη** handmaid; dwelling**θυόεις** fragrant**θυσία** sacrifice**κέλαδος** loud noise**μέλος** -ους (n, 3) limb; melody**μέλω** concern, interest, be one's
responsibility**ναός** (ᾱ) temple, shrine ~nostalgia**νάπη** valley**νάπος** -εος (n, 3) gully**ξόανον** wooden idol**ὄλεθρος** ruin, destruction, death**ὅμως** anyway, nevertheless**παννυχίς** night party, vigil**ποτάμιος** of a river**σμύρνα** myrrh**τέρμων** boundary**τύπος** mold, form ~type**τύπτω** beat, smite ~stupid**φλόξ** -γός (f) flame ~flame**φροῦδος** fled, vanished**χιών** χιόνος (f, 3) snow**χορός** dance; chorus ~terpsichorean

ὅμως δ' ὁ τῆσδ' ὄλεθρος ἐς φόβον βαλεῖ
τὸ μῶρον αὐτῶν, κἄν ἔτ' ὥσ' ἐχθίονες.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. οὕτω δὴ τὸν ἐν Ἰλίῳ

1060

ναὸν καὶ θυόεντα βω'
μὸν προύδωκας Ἀχαιοῖς,
ὦ Ζεῦ, καὶ πελάνων φλόγα
σμύρνης αἰθερίας τε κα'

πνὸν καὶ Πέργαμον ἱερὰν

1065

Ἰδαῖά τ' Ἰδαῖα κισσοφόρα νάπη
χιόνι κατάρυτα ποταμῖα
τέρμονα πρωτόβολόν θ' ἀλίῳ,
τὰν καταλαμπομέναν ζαθέαν θεράπναν.

1070

ΧΟ. φροῦδαί σοι θυσίαι χορῶν τ'

εὗφημοι κέλαδοι κατ' ὄρ'
φναν τε παννυχίδες θεῶν,
χρυσέων τε ξοάνων τύποι
Φρυγῶν τε ζάθεοι σελαῖ

1075

ναι συνδώδεκα πλήθει.
μέλει μέλει μοι τάδ' εἰ φρονεῖς, ἄναξ,

|anyway, neverthe-|ruin ἐς φόβον βαλεῖ
|less

τὸ μῶρον αὐτῶν, κὰν ἔτ' ὥσ' ἐχθίονες.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. οὕτω δὴ τὸν ἐν Ἰλίῳ

1060

|temple .αὶ |fragrant βω'

μὸν προῦδωκας Ἀχαιοῖς,

ὦ Ζεῦ, καὶ πελάνων |flame

|myrrh |in the air; heavenly

πνὸν καὶ Πέργαμον ἱερὰν

1065

Ἰδαῖά τ' Ἰδαῖα κισσοφόρα νάπη

|snow κατάρυτα |of a river

|boundary πρωτόβολόν θ' |of the sea;
|fruitless

τὰν καταλαμπομένην |holy |handmaid;
|dwelling

1070

ΧΟ. |fled, σοι θυσίαι |dance; τ'
|vanished |chorus

|not |loud noise .ιτ' ὄρ'

|speaking

|inauspi-

|ciously

αὐτῶν τε

|night

|vigil

party, θεῶν,

χρυσέων τε |wooden idol .οι

Φρυγῶν τε |holy

σελᾶ'

ναι συνδώδεκα πλήθει.

μέλει μέλει μοι τάδ' εἰ φρονεῖς, ἄναξ,

1075

God knoweth. But the thought thereof shall fling
A chill on the dreams of women, though they be
Wilder of wing and loathed more than she!

Exit, following HELEN, who is escorted by the Soldiers.

CHORUS. Some Women.

And hast thou turned from the Altar of frankincense,
And given to the Greek thy temple of Ilion?
The flame of the cakes of corn, is it gone from hence,
The myrrh on the air and the wreathed towers gone?
And Ida, dark Ida, where the wild ivy grows,
The glens that run as rivers from the summer-broken snows,
And the Rock, is it forgotten, where the first sunbeam glows,
The lit house most holy of the Dawn?

EURIPIDES. Others.

The sacrifice is gone and the sound of joy,
The dancing under the stars and the night-long prayer:
The Golden Images and the Moons of Troy,
The twelve Moons and the mighty names they bear:
My heart, my heart crieth, O Lord Zeus on high,

vocabulary

ἄθαπτος not honored with funeral
rites ~epitaph

αἰθήρ ether, air, sky ~ether

αἶθω set on fire ~ether

αἶσσω dart, glance

ἀλαίνω wander about

ἄνυδρος waterless

δάκρυ -ους (n, 3) tear

ἔδρα (ᾱ) seat, seated group

~polyhedron

ἔδρανον seat, seated group

~polyhedron

εἰνάλιος inhabiting the sea ~halogen

ἐπιβαίνω (+gen) set foot on, board,
climb ~basis

ἱππόβοτος grazed ~hippo

καθοράω look down ~panorama

καταλύω unyoke; destroy ~loose

κορυφή peak, crown

κυάνεος dark ~cyan

λάινος of stone

νέμω to allot, to pasture ~nemesis

ὄμμα -τος (n, 3) eye

ὄρμη pressure, assault, order

~hormone

οὐράνιος heavenly

πλάτα flat or broad object; oar blade;
(pl) shoulder blades

πόντιος of the sea

πόσις -ος (m) (m) husband, master; (f)
a drink ~potent

πτερόν feather, wing ~pterodactyl

πύλη gate ~Thermopylae

σκάφος (τό) hull, ship; (ό) digging

στένω groan ~stentorian

οὐράνιον ἔδρανον ἐπιβεβώς
 αἰθέρα τε πτόλεως ὀλομένας,
 ἂν πυρὸς αἰθομένα κατέλυσεν ὀρμά.

1080

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ φίλος ὦ πόσι μοι,

σὺ μὲν φθίμενος ἀλαίνεις
 ἄθαπτος ἄνδρος, ἐμέ δὲ πόντιον σκάφος

1085

αἴσσον πτεροῖσι πορεύσει

ἱππόβοτον Ἄργος, ἵνα τείχεα

λάινα Κυκλώπι' οὐράνια νέμονται.

τέκνων δὲ πλήθος ἐν πύλαις

δάκρυσι κατάορα στένει· βοᾷ βοᾷ·

1090

Μᾶτερ, ὦμοι, μόναν δὴ μ' Ἀχαιοὶ κομί'

ζουσι σέθεν ἀπ' ὀμμάτων

κυανέαν ἐπὶ ναῦν

εἰναλίσαισι πλάταις

1095

ἧ Σαλαμῖν' ἱερὰν

ἧ δίπορον κορυφὰν

Ἰσθμιον, ἔνθα πύλας

Πέλοπος ἔχουσιν ἔδραι.

|heavenly |seat |(+gen) set foot
|on, board, climb

|ether τε πτόλεως ὀλομένης,

ἂν πυρὸς |set on fire |unyoke; |pressure, as-
|destroy |sault, order

1080

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ὦ φίλος ὦ |(m) husband, mas-
|ter; (f) a drink

σὺ μὲν φθίμενος |wander
|about

|not hon-|waterless, ἐμὲ δὲ |of the sea ἰκάφος
|ored with
|funeral
|cart |feather, wing, ρεύσει
|rites
|glance

1085

|grazed Ἄργος, ἵνα τείχεα

|of stone Ἵνκλώπι |heavenly |distribute

τέκνων δὲ πληῆθος ἐν |gate

|tear κατάορα στένει· βοᾶ βοᾶ·

1090

Μᾶτερ, ὦμοι, μόναν δὴ μ' Ἀχαιοὶ κομῖ

ζουσι σέθεν ἀπ' |eye

|dark ἐπὶ ναῦν

|inhabiting the sea ἰς

1095

ἦ Σαλαμῖν' ἱερὰν

ἦ δίπορον |peak,
|crown

Ἰσθμιον, ἔνθα |gate

Πέλοπος ἔχουσιν |seat

Were they all to thee as nothing, thou throned in the sky,
Throned in the fire-cloud, where a City, near to die,
Passeth in the wind and the flare?

A Woman.

Dear one, O husband mine,
Thou in the dim dominions
Driftest with waterless lips,
Unburied; and me the ships
Shall bear o'er the bitter brine,
Storm-birds upon angry pinions,
Where the towers of the Giants shine
O'er Argos cloudily,
And the riders ride by the sea.

Others.

And children still in the Gate
Crowd and cry,
A multitude desolate,
Voices that float and wait
As the tears run dry: 'Mother, alone on the shore
They drive me, far from thee:
Lo, the dip of the oar,
The black hull on the sea!
Is it the Isle Immortal,
Salamis, waits for me?
Is it the Rock that broods
Over the sundered floods
Of Corinth, the ancient portal
Of Pelops' sovranty?'

A Woman.

Out in the waste of foam,
Where rideth dark Menelaus,

*vocabulary***αἶσχος** -εος (n, 3) insult; disgrace**ἄκατος** (f) boat**ἄλοχος** (f) wife ~lie**εἴτε** if, whenever; either/or**ἑστία** hearth ~Hestia**ἑστιάω** give a feast**θάλαμος** bedchamber ~thalamus**ἰός** arrow**ἰωή** a rush, a sweep**καινέω** freshen, innovate, make strange**καινός** new, fresh, strange**καινόω** freshen, innovate, make strange**λεύσσω** see, look**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**μέλος** -ους (n, 3) limb; melody**μεταβάλλω** alter, transform**πάθος** -ους (n, 3) an experience, passion, condition**παρθένος** (f) girl, virgin ~Parthenon**πατρῷος** of the father(s), ancestral ~paternal**πατρῷος** of the father(s), ancestral**πέλαγος** -ους (n, 3) the open sea ~pelagic**πολύδακρυς** tear-bringing**συντυχία** event, accident**χαλκόπυλος** with bronze gates

ΧΟΡΟΣ. εἴθ' ἀκάτου Μενέλα

1100

μέσον πέλαγος ἰούσας,

δίπαλτον ἱερὸν ἀνὰ μέσον πλατᾶν πέσοι

Αἰγαίου κεραυνοφαῆς πῦρ,

Ἴλιόθεν ὅτε με πολύδακρυν

1105

Ἑλλάδι λάτρευμα γᾶθεν ἐξορίζει,

χρύσεια δ' ἔνοπτρα, παρθένων

χάριτας, ἔχουσα τυγχάνει Διὸς κόρα·

μηδὲ γαῖάν ποτ' ἔλθοι Λάκαιναν πατρῷ·

1110

ὄν τε θάλαμον ἐστίας,

μηδὲ πόλιν Πιτάνας

χαλκόφυλόν τε θεάν,

δύσγαμον αἰσχος ἐλὼν

Ἑλλάδι τᾷ μεγάλα

1115

καὶ Σιμοεντιάσιν

μέλεα πάθεα ῥοῇσιν.

ΧΟ. ἰὼ ἰώ, καὶν' ἐκ καινῶν μεταβάλλουσαι

χθονὶ συντυχίαι. λεύσσετε Τρώων

τόνδ' Ἀστυάνακτ' ἄλοχοι μέλεια

ΧΟΡΟΣ.	if, boat when- ever; either ther/or	Μενέλα	1100
		μέσον the open sea 'σας, δίπαλτον ἱερὸν ἀνὰ μέσον πλατᾶν πέσοι Αἰγαίου κεραυνοφαῆς πῦρ, Ἰλιόθεν ὅτε με tear-bringing Ἑλλάδι λάτρευμα γᾶθεν ἐξορίζει, χρύσεια δ' ἔνοπτρα, girl, virgin χάριτας, ἔχουσα τυγχάνει Διὸς κόρα· μηδὲ γαῖάν ποτ' ἔλθοι Λάκαιναν πατρῷ' ὄν τε bedchamber' τίας, μηδὲ πόλιν Πιτάνας with bronze gates ἱεάν, δύσγαμον insult; ἑλὼν disgrace Ἑλλάδι τᾷ μεγάλᾳ καὶ Σιμοεντιάσιν μέλεα an experience, pas- sion, condition	1110
ΧΟ.	ἰὼ ἰώ, new, fresh, strange alter, transform		
	χθονὶ event, . see, look Τρώων accident τόνδ' Ἀστυνάκτ' wife vain, idle		

Come to us there, O white
 And jagged, with wild sea-light
 And crashing of oar-blades, come,
 O thunder of God, and slay us:
 While our tears are wet for home,
 While out in the storm go we,
 Slaves of our enemy!

Others.

And, God, may Helen be there,
 With mirror of gold,
 Decking her face so fair,
 Girl-like; and hear, and stare,
 And turn death-cold:
 Never, ah, never more
 The hearth of her home to see,
 Nor sand of the Spartan shore,
 Nor tombs where her fathers be,
 Nor Athena's bronzen Dwelling,
 Nor the towers of Pitane
 For her face was a dark desire
 Upon Greece, and shame like fire,
 And her dead are welling, welling,
 From red Simois to the sea!

TALTHYBIUS, followed by one or two Soldiers and bearing the child ASTYANAX
 dead, is seen

approaching.

LEADER. Ah, change on change! Yet each one racks
 This land with evil manifold;
 Unhappy wives of Troy, behold,

*vocabulary***ἀγωγός** leading, attraction, eliciting**αἰτέω** ask for ~etiology**ἄκτῃ** beach; cereal grain**ἀναστένω** groan**ἀσπίς** -δος (f) shield ~spit**γόνος** offspring ~genus**δάκρυον** tear**δακρύω** weep**ἐκβάλλω** throw out, fell, let fall

~ballistic

ἐξορμάω veer off course ~hormone**ἐπίλοιπος** remaining**ἑστία** hearth ~Hestia**ἑστιάω** give a feast**ἦνικά** when**θάλαμος** bedchamber ~thalamus**θάπτω** bury ~epitaph**καινός** new, fresh, strange**λάφυρα** -ου (ū, n, 2) spoils**μίν** him, her, it**μονή** staying, delaying**ναυστολέω** to ship, sail**νυμφεύω** marry, give in marriage**οὔνεκα** because**πάτρα** (αᾶ) fatherland ~paternal**πικρός** sharp, bitter ~picric**πίτυλος** sweep of oars; downpour; onslaught**πλευρά** rib, side ~pleurisy**πλευρόν** rib, side ~pleurisy**προσεννέπω** accost; command; call by name**πύργος** ramparts, tower; line of troops**συμφορά** collecting; accident, misfortune**τόκος** childbirth ~oxytocin**τύμβος** grave mound ~tomb**φροῦδος** fled, vanished**χαλκόνωτος** bronze-backed

νεκρόν, ὃν πύργων δίσκημα πικρὸν

Δαναοὶ κτείναντες ἔχουσιν.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Ἐκάβη, νεῶς μὲν πίτυλος εἰς λελειμμένος

λάφυρα τὰπίλοιπ' Ἀχιλλείου τόκου

μέλλει πρὸς ἀκτὰς ναυστολεῖν Φθιώτιδας·

1125

αὐτὸς δ' ἀνήκται Νεοπτόλεμος, καινὰς τινας

Πηλέως ἀκούσας συμφοράς, ὥς νιν χθονὸς

Ἄκαστος ἐκβέβληκεν, ὁ Πελίου γόνος.

οὐ θάσσον οὔνεκ', ἧ χάριν μονῆς ἔχων,

φροῦδος, μετ' αὐτοῦ δ' Ἀνδρομάχη, πολλῶν ἐμοὶ

1130

δακρύων ἀγωγός, ἡνίκ' ἐξώρμα χθονός,

πάτραν τ' ἀναστένουσα καὶ τὸν Ἕκτορος

τύμβον προσενέπουσα. καί σφ' ἠτήσατο

θάψαι νεκρὸν τόνδ', ὃς πεσὼν ἐκ τειχέων

ψυχὴν ἀφῆκεν Ἕκτορος τοῦ σοῦ γόνος·

1135

φόβον τ' Ἀχαιῶν, χαλκόνωτον ἀσπίδα

τήνδ', ἣν πατὴρ τοῦδ' ἀμφὶ πλεύρ' ἐβάλλετο,

μή νιν πορεῦσαι Πηλέως ἐφ' ἐστίαν,

μηδ' ἐς τὸν αὐτὸν θάλαμον, οὐ νυμφεύσεται

νεκρόν, ὃν | wall, | δίσκημα |sharp
|tower

Δαναοὶ κτείναντες ἔχουσιν.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. Ἐκάβη, νεὼς μὲν | sweep of oars; down-ένος
|pour; onslaught

|spoils |remaining Ἀχαιλλείου |childbirth

μέλλει πρὸς |beach; |to ship, sail Φθιώτιδας·
|grain

1125

αὐτὸς δ' ἀνῆκται Νεοπτόλεμος, |new, fresh, strange

Πηλέως ἀκούσας συμφοράς, ὥς νιν χθονὸς

Ἄκαστος |throw out, | ὁ Πελίου |offspring
|fell, let fall

οὐ θᾶσσον |because ἢ χάριν |staying, ἥτων,
|delaying

|fled, , μετ' αὐτοῦ δ' Ἀνδρομάχη, πολλῶν ἐμοὶ
|vanished

1130

δακρύων |leading, , |when |veer off course ἴς,
|attraction,

|fatherland |eliciting |groan καὶ τὸν Ἔκτορος

|grave |accost; command; καί σφ' |ask for
|mound |call by name

|bury νεκρὸν τόνδ', ὃς πεσὼν ἐκ τειχέων

ψυχὴν ἀφῆκεν Ἔκτορος τοῦ σοῦ |offspring

1135

φόβον τ' Ἀχαιῶν, |bronze-backed |shield

τήνδ', ἣν πατήρ τοῦδ' ἀμφὶ πλευρ' ἐβάλλετο,

μή νυν πορεύσαι Πηλέως ἐφ' ἐστίαν,

μηδ' ἐς τὸν αὐτὸν |bedchamber ἧ |marry, give in
|marriage

They bear the dead Astyanax,
Our prince, whom bitter Greeks this hour
Have hurled to death from Ilion's tower.
TALTHYBIUS. One galley, Hecuba, there lingereth yet,
Lapping the wave, to gather the last freight
Of Pyrrhus' spoils for Thessaly. The chief
Himself long since hath parted, much in grief
For Peleus' sake, his grandsire, whom, men say,
Acastus, Pelias' son, in war array
Hath driven to exile. Loath enough before
Was he to linger, and now goes the more
In haste, bearing Andromache, his prize.'
Tis she hath charmed these tears into mine eyes,
Weeping her fatherland, as o'er the wave
She gazed, and speaking words to Hector's grave.
Howbeit, she prayed us that due rites be done
For burial of this babe, thine Hector's son,
That now from Ilion's tower is fallen and dead.
And, lo! this great bronze-fronted shield, the dread
Of many a Greek, that Hector held in fray,
O never in God's name—so did she pray—
Be this borne forth to hang in Peleus' hall
Or that dark bridal chamber, that the wall
May hurt her eyes; but here, in Troy o'erthrown,
Instead of cedar wood and vaulted stone,
Be this her child's last house... And in thine hands
She bade me lay him, to be swathed in bands

vocabulary

ἀναρρήγνυμι (ῥ) tear open, tear down
ἀπαλλάξείω wish to get rid of
ἀπαλλάσσω free from, remove; be freed, depart
ἀπονίζω wash off
ἀσπίς -δος (f) shield ~spit
ἀφαιρέω take away ~heresy
δεσπότης -ου (m, 1) master, despot
διαπείρω pierce
διαπεράω go across, through
δορός leather bag ~dermatology
θάπτω bury ~epitaph
θέαμα -τος (ᾱα, n, 3) sight, spectacle
κέδρος (f) cedar ~cedar
κοσμέω marshal, array ~cosmos
λάινος of stone
λεύσσω see, look
λούω wash, bathe
λύπη distress
λυπρός worthless, wretched
μόχθος toil

νέκυς (ῥ) corpse, ghost ~necro
ὄγκος barb of an arrow
οἴκαδε homeward ~economics
ὀρυκτός dug out
πέδον ground ~pedal
πελάζω bring/come to, near, into contact with
πέπλος woman's dress, a folded cylinder of cloth
περίβολος enclosing
περιστέλλω lay out
πλάτα flat or broad object; oar blade; (pl) shoulder blades
ῥοά pl: waters of a river ~rheostat
στέφανος ring
συνέρχομαι come together
σύντομος truncated, concise
τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n) astonishment
τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer
τραῦμα -τος (n, 3) injury
ὠλένη elbow, lower arm

μήτηρ νεκροῦ τοῦδ' Ἄνδρομάχη, λύπας ὄραν, 1140

ἀλλ' ἀντὶ κέδρου περιβόλων τε λαῖνων

ἐν τῇδε θάψαι παῖδα· σὰς δ' ἐς ὠλένας

δοῦναι, πέπλοισιν ὥς περιστείλῃς νεκρὸν

στεφάνοις θ', ὅση σοι δύναμις, ὥς ἔχει τὰ σά·

ἐπεὶ βέβηκε, καὶ τὸ δεσπότης τάχος 1145

ἀφείλετ' αὐτὴν παῖδα μὴ δοῦναι τάφῳ.

ἡμεῖς μὲν οὖν, ὅταν σὺ κοσμήσῃς νέκυν,

γῆν τῷδ' ἐπαμπισχόντες ἀροῦμεν δόρυ·

σὺ δ' ὥς τάχιστα πρᾶσσε τὰπεσταλμένα.

ένος μὲν οὖν μόχθου σ' ἀπαλλάξας ἔχω· 1150

Σκαμανδρίους γὰρ τάσδε διαπερῶν ῥοὰς

ἔλουσα νεκρὸν κατένυφα τραύματα.

ἀλλ' εἰμ' ὀρυκτὸν τῷδ' ἀναρρήξων τάφον,

ὥς σύντομ' ἡμῖν τὰπ' ἐμοῦ τε καὶ ποῦ σοῦ

ἐς ἐν ξυνελθόντ' οἴκαδ' ὀρμήσῃ πλάτην. 1155

ΕΚΑΒΗ. θέσθ' ἀμφίτορνον ἀσπίδ' Ἴκτορος πέδῳ,

λυπρὸν θέαμα κου' φίλον λεύσσειν ἐμοί.

ὦ μείζον' ὄγκον δορὸς ἔχοντες ἢ φρενῶν,

μήτηρ νεκροῦ τοῦδ' Ἀνδρομάχῃ, |distress ἱρᾶν, 1140

ἀλλ' ἀντὶ |cedar |enclosing τε |of stone

ἐν τῇδε |bury παῖδα· σὰς δ' ἐς |elbow,
|lower
δοῦναι, |woman's dress |lay out |arm νεκρὸν

|ring θ', ὅση σοι δύναμις, ὥς ἔχει τὰ σά·

ἐπεὶ βέβηκε, καὶ τὸ |master, |speed 1145
|despot

|take away ὑτὴν παῖδα μὴ δοῦναι |(m) funeral, grave;
|(n) astonishment

ἡμεῖς μὲν οὖν, ὅταν σὺ |marshal, |corpse,
|array |ghost

γῆν τῷδ' ἐπαμπισχόντες ἀροῦμεν δόρυ·

σὺ δ' ὥς τάχιστα πρᾶσσε τὰπεσταλμένα.

ένος μὲν οὖν μόχθου σ' ἀπαλλάξας ἔχω· 1150

Σκαμανδρίους γὰρ τάσδε διαπερῶν ῥοὰς

|wash, νεκρὸν |wash off |injury
|bathe

ἀλλ' εἰμ' |dug out τῷδ' |tear |(m) funeral, grave;
|(n) astonishment

ὥς |truncated, ἡμῖν τὰπ' ἐμοῦ τε καὶ σοῦ
|concise

ἐς ἐν |come to-|homeward, ἥσῃ πλάτην. 1155
|gether

ΕΚΑΒΗ. θέσθ' ἀμφίτορνον |shield Ἔκτορος |ground

|worthless|sight, ...ν' φίλον |see, look ἐμοί.
|wretched|spectacle

ὦ μείζον' ὄγκον |leather bag ἔτες ἣ φρενῶν,

Of death and garments, such as rest to thee
In these thy fallen fortunes; seeing that she
Hath gone her ways, and, for her master's haste,
May no more fold the babe unto his rest.
Howbeit, so soon as he is garlanded
And robed, we will heap earth above his head
And lift our sails... See all be swiftly done,
As thou art bidden. I have saved thee one
Labour. For as I passed Scamander's stream
Hard by, I let the waters run on him,
And cleansed his wounds. — See, I will go forth now
And break the hard earth for his grave: so thou
And I will haste together, to set free
Our oars at last to beat the homeward sea!

He goes out with his Soldiers, leaving the body of the Child in HECUBA'S arms.

HECUBA. Set the great orb of Hector's shield to lie
Here on the ground. 'Tis bitter that mine eye
Should see it... O ye Argives, was your spear

vocabulary

ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
αἰνέω praise, assent, acquiesce in
αἰσχρός shameful
ἁλίσκομαι be captured ~helix
ἄλλομαι to jump ~sally
βόστρυχος curl, lock
βρέφος -ους (n, 3) fetus, baby
γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
διεξέρχομαι go through
διεργάζομαι cultivate; kill, end
δύστηνος unhappy, miserable
δυστυχής unlucky
ἐκγελάω laugh out loud
ἐνθεν thence, whence
ἐντίθημι load; mp: take to heart
 ~thesis
εὐτυχέω be lucky, prosper, succeed
ἦβα youth ~Hebe
ἰσόθεος (ι) godlike

καινός new, fresh, strange
κάρα (αἶ) head (n) ~cranium
κείρω shave, sever, raze; devour, use
 up
κηπεύω to garden
κράς -τός (f, 3) head
μακάριος blessed
μυρίος (ι) 10,000 ~myriad
ὀρθόω stand up
ὀστέον bone ~osteoporosis
πατρῷος of the father(s), ancestral
πύργωμα walls, walled city with
 towers
ρήγνυμι (ι) to break
τοσόσδε this much
τυραννίς -δος (f) tyranny
φθείρω destroy, ruin
φίλημα -τος (n, 3) kiss
φόνος killing ~offend

τί τόνδ', Ἀχαιοί, παῖδα δείσαντες φόνον
 καινὸν διειργάσασθε; μὴ Τροίαν ποτὲ 1160
 πεσοῦσαν ὀρθώσειεν; οὐδὲν ἦτ' ἄρα,
 ὅθ' Ἑκτορος μὲν εὐτυχοῦντος ἐς δόρυ
 διωλλύμεσθα μυρίας τ' ἄλλης χερός,
 πόλεως δ' ἀλούσης καὶ Φρυγῶν ἐφθαρμένων
 βρέφος τοσόνδ' ἐδείσατ'· οὐκ αἰνῶ φόβον, 1165
 ὅστις φοβεῖται μὴ διεξελθὼν λόγῳ.
 ᾧ φίλταθ', ὥς σοι θάνατος ἦλθε δυστυχίης.
 εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἔθανες πρὸ πόλεως, ἥβης τυχῶν
 γάμων τε καὶ τῆς ἰσοθέου τυραννίδος,
 μακάριος ἦσθ' ἄν, εἴ τι τῶνδε μακάριον· 1170
 νῦν δ' αὖτ' ἰδὼν μὲν γνούς τε σῇ ψυχῇ, τέκνον,
 οὐκ οἶσθ', ἐχρήσω δ' οὐδὲν ἐν δόμοις ἔχων.
 δύστηνε, κρατὸς ὥς σ' ἔκειρεν ἀθλίως
 τεῖχη πατρῶα, Λοξίου πυργώματα,
 ὃν πόλλ' ἐκήπευσ' ἡ τεκοῦσα βόστρυχον 1175
 φιλήμασιν τ' ἔδωκεν, ἔνθεν ἐκελεῖ
 ὁστέων ραγέντων φόνος, ἔν' αἰσχροῖα μὴ λέγω.

τί τόνδ', Ἀχαιοί, παῖδα δείσαντες |killing

|new, |cultivate; kill, end... | Τροίαν ποτὲ
|fresh,
|strange
πέσουσιν |stand up , οὐδὲν ἦτ' ἄρα,

1160

ὅθ' Ἑκτορος μὲν |be lucky, pros- 's δόρυ
|per, succeed

διωλλύμεσθα |10,000 τ' ἄλλης χερός,

πόλεως δ' ἀλούσης καὶ Φρυγῶν |destroy, ruin

|fetus, |this much 'δείσατ' οὐκ |praise, ῥόβον,
|baby |assent

1165

ὅστις φοβεῖται μὴ |go through λόγῳ.

ὦ φίλταθ', ὥς σοι θάνατος ἦλθε |unlucky

εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἔθανες πρὸ πόλεως, ἦβης τυχῶν

|wedding, sex... ἢ τῆς |godlike |tyranny ,

|blessed ἦσθ' ἄν, εἴ τι τῶνδε |blessed

1170

νῦν δ' αὖτ' ἰδὼν μὲν γνούς τε σῇ ψυχῇ, τέκνον,

οὐκ οἶσθ', ἐχρήσω δ' οὐδὲν ἐν δόμοις ἔχων.

|unhappy, κρατὸς ὥς σ' |shave, |contender
|miserable |sever,

τείχη |of the father(s), an- |raze;
|cestral |walls, walled city
|use up |devour, with towers

ὄν πολλ' |to garden ἢ τεκοῦσα |curl, lock

1175

|kiss τ' ἔδωκεν, ἔνθεν |laugh out loud

|bone |to break |killing , ἔν' |shameful... ἢ λέγω.

Keen, and your hearts so low and cold, to fear
This babe? 'Twas a strange murder for brave
men!
For fear this babe some day might raise again
His fallen land! Had ye so little pride?
While Hector fought, and thousands at his side,
Ye smote us, and we perished; and now, now,
When all are dead and Ilion lieth low,
Ye dread this innocent! I deem it not
Wisdom, that rage of fear that hath no thought...
Ah, what a death hath found thee, little one!
Hadst thou but fallen fighting, hadst thou known
Strong youth and love and all the majesty
Of godlike kings, then had we spoken of thee
As of one blessed... could in any wise
These days know blessedness. But now thine eyes
Have seen, thy lips have tasted, but thy soul
No knowledge had nor usage of the whole
Rich life that lapt thee round... Poor little child!
Was it our ancient wall, the circuit piled
By loving Gods, so savagely hath rent
Thy curls, these little flowers innocent
That were thy mother's garden, where she laid
Her kisses; here, just where the bone-edge frayed
Grins white above — Ah heaven, I will not see!

vocabulary

ἄθλιον ἄθλιου prize
ἄθλιος prize ~athlete
ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete
αἰσχρός shameful
ἀπάγω lead away, back ~demagogue
ἄρθρον joint
ἄσπασμα embrace; beloved
αὐδάω speak, declare, shout
 ~Theravada
βόστρυχος curl, lock
βραχίων -ονος (m, 3) upper arm, shoulder
γραιῦς old woman ~geriatric
εἰκών -όνος (f, 3) image, likeness
εἰσπίπτω fall into, rush in
ἐκβάλλω throw out, fell, let fall
 ~ballistic
ἐκτείνω stretch out ~tend
ἐπίγραμμα -τος (n, 3) inscription, title, maker's signature
ἡδύς sweet, pleasant ~hedonism
θάπτω bury ~epitaph
κείρω shave, sever, raze; devour, use up
κόμπος noise, racket
κτάομαι acquire, possess

κῶμος party, celebration
λαγχάνω be allotted; (esp. λελα-
 forms) allot; receive
μουσοποιός making poetry, music
οἶμοι woe is me
ὁμηλιξ -χος (m) of the same age
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
πατρῷος of the father(s), ancestral
 ~paternal
πατρῷος of the father(s), ancestral
πέπλος woman's dress, a folded
 cylinder of cloth
πλόκαμος lock of hair
πότε when?
πρόκειμαι be set before; propose
τάφος (m) funeral, grave; (n)
 astonishment
τέθηπα be confused
τροφή food, upkeep ~atrophy
τύπος mold, form ~type
ὑπνος a sleep
φροῦδος fled, vanished
φύλαξ -χος (m) guard; sentry
 ~phylactery
χαλκόνωτος bronze-backed
ψεύδω be false, deceive; (mid) to lie
 ~pseudo-

ὦ χεῖρες, ὡς εἰκὺς μὲν ἡδεῖας πατρὸς
κέκτησθ', ἐν ἄρθροις δ' ἔκλυτοι πρόκεισθέ μοι.

ὦ πολλὰ κόμπους ἐκβαλὼν φίλον στόμα, 1180

ὀλωλας, ἐψεύσω μ', ὅτ' ἐσπίπτων πέπλους,

ᾧ μῆτερ, ἡὔδας, ἥ πολὺν σοι βοστρύχων

πλόκαμον κερουῖμαι, πρὸς τάφον θ' ὀμηλίκων

κώμους ἀπάξω, φίλα διδοὺς προσφθέγματα.

σὺ δ' οὐκ ἔμ', ἀλλ' ἐγὼ σέ τὸν νεώτερον, 1185

γραῦς ἄπολις ἄτεκνος, ἄθλιον θάπτω νεκρόν.

οἷμοι, τὰ πόλλ' ἀσπᾶσμαθ' αἶ τ' ἐμαὶ τροφαὶ

ὔπνοι τ' ἐκεῖνοι φρουρὰ μοι. τί καί ποτε

γράψειεν ἄν σε μουσοποιὸς ἐν τάφῳ;

Τὸν παῖδα τόνδ' ἔκτειναν Ἀργεῖοί ποτε 1190

δείσαντες;— αἰσχρὸν τοῦπίγραμμά γ' Ἑλλάδι.

ἀλλ' οὖν πατρώων οὐ λαχὼν ἔξεις ὅμως

ἐν ἧ ταφήσῃ χαλκόνωτον ἱτέαν.

ὦ καλλίπηχυν Ἔκτορος βραχίονα

σώζουσ', ἄριστον φύλακ' ἀπώλεσας σέθεν. 1195

ὥς ἡδὺς ἐν πόρπακι σῶ κεῖται τύπος

ὦ χεῖρες, ὡς |image, likeness| ἐν ἡδείας πατρὸς

κέκτησθ', ἐν |joint| δ' ἔκλυτοι |be set before; propose| οἱ.

ὦ πολλὰ |noise, racket| ἐβαλὼν φίλον στόμα,

1180

ὄλωλας, |be false, deceive; fall into; woman's dress| (mid) to lie |rush in|

ᾠ μῆτερ, |speak| ἦ πολὺν σοι |curl, lock|

|lock of hair| shave, sever, raze; (m) |of the same age| devour, use up |funeral,

|party, celebration| lead away, back |grave; (n) |astonishment| ἰδοὺ πάροφθέγματα.

σὺ δ' οὐκ ἔμ', ἀλλ' ἐγὼ σὲ τὸν νεώτερον,

1185

|old woman| λῖς ἄτεκνος, ἄθλιον θάπτω νεκρόν.

|woe is me| πόλλ' |embrace; beloved| αἶ τ' ἐμαῖ |food, upkeep|

ὑπνοὶ τ' ἐκείνοι |fled, vanished| μοι. τί καί ποτε

γράψειεν ἄν σε |making poetry, music| ἐν | (m) funeral, grave; (n) astonishment|

Τὸν παῖδα τόνδ' ἔκτειναν Ἀργεῖοί ποτε

1190

δείσαντες;— |shameful| inscription, title, Ἑλλάδι. |maker's signature|

ἀλλ' οὖν πατρώων σὺ |be allotted; (esp., -λελα- forms) allot; receive|

ἐν ἣ ταφήσῃ |bronze-backed| ἰτέαν.

ὦ καλλίπηχυν Ἔκτορος |upper arm, shoulder|

σώζουσ', ἄριστον |guard; sentry| ἀπώλεσας σέθεν.

1195

ὡς ἡδὺς ἐν πόρπακι σῶ κείται |mold, form|

Ye tender arms, the same dear mould have ye
As his; how from the shoulder loose ye drop
And weak! And dear proud lips, so full of hope
And closed for ever! What false words ye said
At daybreak, when he crept into my bed,
Called me kind names, and promised: 'Grandmother,
When thou art dead, I will cut close my hair
And lead out all the captains to ride by
Thy tomb.' Why didst thou cheat me so? 'Tis I,
Old, homeless, childless, that for thee must shed
Cold tears, so young, so miserably dead.
Dear God, the pattering welcomes of thy feet,
The nursing in my lap; and O, the sweet
Falling asleep together! All is gone.
How should a poet carve the funeral stone
To tell thy story true? 'There lieth here
A babe whom the Greeks feared, and in their fear
Slew him.' Aye, Greece will bless the tale it
tells!
Child, they have left thee beggared of all else
In Hector's house; but one thing shalt thou keep,
This war-shield bronzen-barred, wherein to sleep.
Alas, thou guardian true of Hector's fair
Left arm, how art thou masterless! And there
I see his handgrip printed on thy hold;

vocabulary

ἄγαλμα -τος (n, 3) ornament, glory,
statue

ἄθλιον ἄθλίου prize

ἄθλιος prize ~athlete

ἄθλιος wretched ~athlete

ἀλίζω gather, assemble

ἄλλοσε elsewhere ~alien

ἄλλοτε at another time ~alien

ἀφαιρέω take away ~heresy

βέβαιος steadfast; sure

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

ἐξαπόλλυμι (ὑ) disappear from

ἐξάπτω fasten to ~haptic

εὐτυχής fortunate

ἡλιξ -κος (m) of the same age

θεοστυγής hated by the gods

θηράω hunt, chase

θνητός mortal ~euthanasia

ἰδρώς sweat ~exude

ἵτυς rim

κάλλος -εος (n, 3) beauty

~kaleidoscope

μέτωπον forehead, front

περίδρομος encircling, encircleable

~hippodrome

πηδάω jump, spring ~pedal

πόνος toil, suffering ~osteopenia

πότε when?

προστίθμι add; impose; (mp) agree;
side with ~thesis

πρόχειρος handy; ready to do
something

σχύλευμα (ὑ) arms taken as spoils

στάζω dribble, infuse

τιμάω (ι) honor, exalt

τιμόω honor, exalt

τόξον bow ~toxic

ἵτυός τ' ἐν εὐτόρνοισι περιδρόμοις ἰδρώς,

ὄν ἐκ μετώπου πολλάκις πόνους ἔχων

ἔσταζεν Ἴκτωρ προστιθείς γενειάδι.

φέρετε, κομίζετ' ἀθλίῳ κόσμον νεκρῷ

1200

ἐκ τῶν παρόντων· οὐ γὰρ ἐς κάλλος τύχας

δαίμων δίδωσιν· ὧν δ' ἔχω, λήψῃ τάδε.

θνητῶν δὲ μῶρος ὅστις εἶ πράσσειν δοκῶν

βέβαια χαίρει· τοῖς τρόποις γὰρ αἱ τύχαι,

ἐμπληκτος ὡς ἄνθρωπος, ἄλλοτ' ἄλλοσε

1205

πηδῶσι, κοῦδεις αὐτὸς εὐτυχεῖ ποτε.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. καὶ μὴν πρόχειρον αἶδε σοι σκυλευμάτων

Φρυγίων φέρουσι κόσμον ἐξάπτειν νεκρῷ.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκνον, οὐχ ἵπποισι νικήσαντά σε

οὐδ' ἥλικας τόξοισιν, οὓς Φρύγες νόμους

1210

τιμῶσιν, οὐκ ἐς πλησμονὰς θηρωμένη,

μήτηρ πατρός σοι προστίθῃσ' ἀγάλματα

τῶν σῶν ποτ' ὄντων· νῦν δέ σ' ἡ θεοστυγῆς

ἀφείλεθ' Ἑλένη, πρὸς δὲ καὶ ψυχὴν σέθεν

ἔκτεινε καὶ πάντ' οἶκον ἐξάπωσε.

|rim τ' ἐν εὐτόρνοισι |encircling, en-|sweat ,
|circleable

ὄν ἐκ |forehead, |often |toil, suffering '
|front

|dribble, ἔκτωρ |add; impose; (mp) ἴδι.
|infuse |agree; side with

φέρετε, κομίζετ' ἀθλίῳ κόσμον νεκρῷ 1200

ἐκ τῶν παρόντων· οὐ γὰρ ἐς |beauty τύχας

|a god, fate, doom. ὦν δ' ἔχω, λήψῃ τάδε.

|mortal δὲ μῶρος ὅστις εὖ πράσσειν δοκῶν

|steadfast; sure ... τοῖς τρόποις γὰρ αἱ τύχαι,

ἐμπληκτος ὡς ἄνθρωπος, |at |elsewhere 1205
|another

|jump, , κούδεις αὐτὸς |fortunate
|spring |time

ΧΟΡΟΣ. καὶ μὲν |handy; ready τοῖς σοι |arms taken as spoils
|do something

Φρυγίων φέρουσι κόσμον |fasten to νεκρῷ.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ τέκνον, οὐχ ἵπποισι νικήσαντά σε

οὐδ' ἡλικας |bow , οὐς Φρύγες νόμους 1210

τιμῶσιν, οὐκ ἐς πλησμονὰς |hunt, chase

μήτηρ πατρός σοι |add; impose; ornament,
(mp) agree; glory, statue
|side with

τῶν σῶν ποτ' ὄντων· νῦν δέ σ' ἡ |hated by the gods

|take away Ἑλένη, πρὸς δὲ καὶ ψυχὴν σέθεν

ἔκτεινε καὶ πάντ' οἶκον |disappear from

And deep stains of the precious sweat, that rolled
 In battle from the brows and beard of him,
 Drop after drop, are writ about thy rim.
 Go, bring them — such poor garments hazardous
 As these days leave. God hath not granted us
 Wherewith to make much pride. But all I can,
 I give thee, Child of Troy. — O vain is man,
 Who glorieth in his joy and hath no fears:
 While to and fro the chances of the years
 Dance like an idiot in the wind! And none
 By any strength hath his own fortune won.

During these lines several Women are seen approaching with garlands and raiment in their hands.

LEADER. Lo these, who bear thee raiment harvested
 From Ilion's slain, to fold upon the dead.

During the following scene HECUBA gradually takes the garments and wraps them about the Child.

HECUBA. O not in pride for speeding of the car
 Beyond thy peers, not for the shaft of war
 True aimed, as Phrygians use; not any prize
 Of joy for thee, nor splendour in men's eyes,
 Thy father's mother lays these offerings
 About thee, from the many fragrant things
 That were all thine of old. But now no more.
 One woman, loathed of God, hath broke the door
 And robbed thy treasure-house, and thy warm breath

vocabulary

ἄγαλμα -τος (n, 3) ornament, glory,
 statue
αἰαῖ alas
ἄλαστος unforgettable, infamous
 ~Lethe
ἄράσσω smash
γαμέω marry, take as a lover ~bigamy
γάμος wedding, sex ~bigamy
δῆτα emphatic δῆ
ἔλκος -εος (n, 3) wound ~ulcer
ἐξάπτω fasten to ~haptic
θιγγάνω touch
ἰάομαι (ι) cure ~pediatrician
ἰατρός (ᾱ) physician
καλλίνικος (ιι) gloriously triumphant
κράς -τός (f, 3) head
κρέας -ως (n) meat ~creatine
μυρίος (ο) 10,000 ~myriad

οἶμοι woe is me
ὄπλον tool, weapon, ship's tackle
 ~hoplite
πέπλος woman's dress, a folded
 cylinder of cloth
πικρός sharp, bitter ~picric
προστίθῃμι add; impose; (mp) agree;
 side with ~thesis
σάκος shield, hide, sack
σοφός skilled, clever, wise
στενάζω sigh, groan
στεφανώ crown
τιμάω (ι) honor, exalt
τλήμων steadfast, enduring ~talent
τρόπαιον victory monument
τροπαῖον victory monument
ὑπέρτατος highest, on top
φροντίζω consider, ponder

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἔ ἔ, φρενῶν

ἔθιγες ἔθιγες· ὦ μέγας ἐμοί ποτ' ἂν ἀνάκτωρ πόλεως.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἂ δ' ἐν γάμοισι χρήν σε προσθέσθαι χροῖ

Ἀσιατίδων γήμαντα τὴν ὑπερτάτην,

Φρύγια πέπλων ἀγάλματ' ἐξάπτω χροός.

1220

σύ τ', ὦ ποτ' οὔσα καλλίνικε, μυρίων

μῆτερ τροπαίων, Ἴκτορος φίλον σάκος,

στεφανοῦ· θανῇ γὰρ οὐ θανοῦσα σὺν νεκρῷ·

ἐπεὶ σὲ πολλῷ μᾶλλον ἢ τὰ τοῦ σοφοῦ

κακοῦ τ' Ὀδυσσέως ἄξιον τιμᾶν ὄπλα.

1225

ΧΘ. αἰαῖ αἰαῖ· πικρὸν ὄδυρμα

γαῖά σ' ὦ τέκνον δέξεται.

στέναζε, μᾶτερ, ΕΚ. αἰαῖ.

ΧΘ. νεκρῶν ἱακχον. ΕΚ. οἴμοι μοι.

1230

ΧΘ. οἴμοι δῆτα σῶν ἀλάστων κακῶν.

ΕΚ. τελαμῶσιν ἔλκη τὰ μὲν ἐγώ σ' ἰάσομαι,

τλήμων ἰατρός, ὄνομ' ἔχουσα, τᾶργα δ' οὐ·

τὰ δ' ἐν νεκροῖσι φροντιεῖ πατὴρ σέθεν.

ΧΘ. ἄρασσ' ἄρασσε κρᾶτα

ΧΟΡΟΣ. ἐ ἔ, φρενῶν

|touch |touch ὦ μέγας ἐμοί ποτ' ἂν ἀνάκτωρ πόλεως.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἃ δ' ἐν |wedding, sex, σε |add; impose; (mp)
|agree; side with

Ἀσιατίδων |marry, take ἀσ highest, on top
|lover

Φρύγια |woman's |ornament, |fasten to χρῶς.
|dress |glory, statue

1220

σύ τ', ὦ ποτ' οὔσα |gloriously , μυρίων
|triumphant

μῆτερ τροπαίων, Ἔκτορος φίλον |shield, hide, sack

|crown θανῇ γὰρ οὐ θανούσα σὺν νεκρῷ·

ἐπεὶ σὲ πολλῷ μᾶλλον ἢ τὰ τοῦ |skilled,
|clever, wise

κακοῦ τ' Ὀδυσσέως ἄξιον τιμᾶν |tool

1225

ΧΟ. |alas |alas |sharp ὄδυρμα

γαῖά σ' ὦ τέκνον δέξεται.

|sigh, , μᾶτερ, ΕΚ. |alas
|groan

ΧΟ. νεκρῶν ἱακχον. ΕΚ. |woe is me.

1230

ΧΟ. |woe is |emphatic δὴ |unforgettable, ὦν.
|me |infamous

ΕΚ. τελαμῶσιν |wound ἰ μὲν ἐγώ σ' |cure

|steadfast |physician ἄνομ' ἔχουσα, τάργα δ' οὔ·

τὰ δ' ἐν νεκροῖσι |consider, πατήρ σέθεν.
|ponder

ΧΟ. |smash |smash κρᾶτα

Made cold, and trod thy people down to death!

CHORUS. Some Women.

Deep in the heart of me

I feel thine hand,

Mother: and is it he

Dead here, our prince to be,

And lord of the land?

HECUBA. Glory of Phrygian raiment, which my thought

Kept for thy bridal day with some far-sought

Queen of the East, folds thee for evermore.

And thou, grey Mother, Mother-Shield that bore

THE TROJAN WOMEN. A thousand days of glory, thy last crown

Is here... Dear Hector's shield! Thou shalt lie
down

Undying with the dead, and lordlier there

Than all the gold Odysseus' breast can bear,

The evil and the strong!

CHORUS. Some Women.

Child of the Shield-bearer,

Alas, Hector's child!

Great Earth, the All-mother,

Taketh thee unto her

With wailing wild!

Others.

Mother of misery,

Give Death his song!(

HEC. Woe!) Aye and bitterly(

HEC. Woe!) We too weep for thee,

And the infinite wrong!

During these lines HECUBA, kneeling by the body, has been performing a funeral rite, symbolically

staunching the dead Child's wounds.

HECUBA. I make thee whole;

I bind thy wounds, O little vanished soul.

This wound and this I heal with linen white:

O emptiness of aid!... Yet let the rite

Be spoken. This and... Nay, not I, but he,

Thy father far away shall comfort thee!

She bows her head to the ground and remains motionless and unseeing.

*vocabulary***ἄεθλιον** ἄθλιου prize**ἄεθλιος** prize ~athlete**ἄθλιος** wretched ~athlete**ἄνω** (ἄ) accomplish, pass, waste;
upwards, out to sea**ᾠδοῦν** song**αὐδά** voice, report ~Theravada**ἀφανής** unseen, occult, obscure**βίος** life ~biology**βιόω** live; (mp) make a living ~biology**βραχύς** low, short**διόλλυμι** (ὖ) be ruined**ἐνέπω** tell, tell of**ἐνόω** unite**θάπτω** bury ~epitaph**θροέω** say, cry out loud; terrify; (mp)
be moved by joy**ἰός** arrow**ἰωή** a rush, a sweep**κενός** empty, vain**μάτην** in vain, randomly**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**μισέω** (ἷ) hate, wish to prevent
~misogyny**μοῦσα** muse**νέρτερος** lower, of Hades**ὀλβίζω** make/deem happy**περιβάλλω** act: excel; mid: put on
clothing ~ballistic**πίτυλος** sweep of oars; downpour;
onslaught**πλούσιος** wealth ~plutocrat**πόνος** toil, suffering ~osteopenia**προσδοκάω** expect**στέφος** -εος (n, 3) wreath, crown**στρέφω** turn, veer ~atrophy**τύμβος** grave mound ~tomb**ὕμνέω** recite, commemorate**χωρέω** withdraw, give way to (+dat)
~heir

πιτύλους διδοῦσα χειρός, ἰώ μοί μοι.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ φίλταται γυναῖκες

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἐκάβη, σὰς ἔνεπε· τίνα θροεῖς αὐδάν;

ΕΚ. οὐκ ἦν ἄρ' ἐν θεοῖσι πλὴν οὐμοὶ πόνοι

1240

Τροία τε πόλεων ἔκκριτον μισουμένη,

μάτην δ' ἐβουθυτοῦμεν. εἰ δὲ μὴ θεὸς

ἔστρεψε τᾶν περιβαλὼν κάτω χθονός,

ἀφανεῖς ἂν ὄντες οὐκ ἂν ὑμνήθημεν ἂν

μούσαις ἀοιδὰς δόντες ὑστέρων βροτῶν.

1245

χωρεῖτε, θάπτετ' ἀθλίῳ τύμβῳ νεκρόν·

ἔχει γὰρ οἶα δεῖ γε νερτέρων στέφη.

δοκῶ δὲ τοῖς θανούσι διαφέρειν βραχύ,

εἰ πλουσίων τις τεύξεται κτερισμάτων·

κενὸν δὲ γαύρωμ' ἐστὶ τῶν ζώντων τόδε.

1250

ΧΟ. ἰὼ ἰώ· μελέα μήτηρ, ἥ τὰς μεγάλας

ἐλπίδας ἐν σοὶ κατέκναψε βίου.

μέγα δ' ὀλβισθεῖς ὥς ἐκ πατέρων

ἀγαθῶν ἐγένου,

δεινῷ θανάτῳ διόλωλας.

|sweep of oars; down-_{χειρός}, ἰώ μοί μοι.
|pour; onslaught

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὦ φίλταται γυναῖκες

ΧΟΡΟΣ. Ἐκάβη, σὰς |tell, tell of ... |say, cry οὐτ' loud; terrify;
(mp) be moved by joy

ΕΚ. οὐκ ἦν ἄρ' ἐν θεοῖσι πλὴν οὐμοῖ |toil, suffering 1240

Τροία τε πόλεων ἔκκριτον |hate

μάτην δ' ἐβουθυτοῦμεν. εἰ δὲ μὴ θεὸς

|turn τάνω |excel; don κάτω χθονός,

|unseen, ὄς- ὄντες οὐκ ἂν |recite, ...
|cult, obscure |commemorate

|muse |song δόντες ὑστέρων βροτῶν. 1245

|withdraw, |bury ἀθλίω |grave νεκρόν·
|give way |mound

to (+dat) εἰ γὰρ οἶα δεῖ γε |lower, of |wreath,
|Hades |crown

δοκῶ δὲ τοῖς θανούσι διαφέρειν |low, short

εἰ |wealth τις τεύξεται κτερισμάτων·

|empty, vain ἰύρωμ' ἐστὶ τῶν ζώντων τόδε. 1250

ΧΘ. ἰὼ ἰώ· |vain, idle ἴτηρ, ἥ τὰς μεγάλας

ἐλπίδας ἐν σοὶ κατέκναιψε βίου.

μέγα δ' |make/deem happy πατέρων

ἀγαθῶν ἐγένου,

δεινῶ θανάτῳ |be ruined

CHORUS. Beat, beat thine head:

Beat with the wailing chime

Of hands lifted in time:

Beat and bleed for the dead.

Woe is me for the dead!

HECUBA. O Women! Ye, mine own...

She rises bewildered, as though she had seen a vision.

LEADER. Hecuba, speak!

Oh, ere thy bosom break...

HECUBA. Lo, I have seen the open hand of God;

And in it nothing, nothing, save the rod

Of mine affliction, and the eternal hate,

Beyond all lands, chosen and lifted great

For Troy! Vain, vain were prayer and incense-swell

And bulls' blood on the altars!... All is well.

Had He not turned us in His hand, and thrust

Our high things low and shook our hills as dust,

We had not been this splendour, and our wrong

An everlasting music for the song

Of earth and heaven!

Go, women: lay our dead

In his low sepulchre. He hath his meed

Of robing. And, methinks, but little care

Toucheth the tomb, if they that moulder there

Have rich encerement. 'Tis we, 'tis we,

That dream, we living and our vanity!

The Women bear out the dead Child upon the shield, singing, when presently flames of fire and

dim forms are seen among the ruins of the City.

CHORUS. Some Women.

Woe for the mother that bare thee, child,

Thread so frail of a hope so high,

That Time hath broken: and all men smiled

About thy cradle, and, passing by,

Spoke of thy father's majesty.

Low, low, thou liest!

Others.

vocabulary

ἀργέω not work; (pass) be fruitless,
left undone

ἀρχηγός original; chief, originator

ἄστυ -εως (n, 3) town

αὐδάω speak, declare, shout
~Theravada

γεραιός old ~geriatric

δαλός (ᾱ) fire-brand

διερέσσω row through, across ~row

δούλη slave-woman

δυστυχής unlucky

ἐκπέμπω send forth ~pomp

ἐμπύμπρημι burn up ~pyre

ἐνειμι be in ~ion

ἐνίημι put in; motivate ~jet

ἔξειμι go forth; is possible ~ion

ἡδομαι be pleased, enjoy ~hedonism

καινός new, fresh, strange

κληῖρος lot; farm, inheritance; clergy
~clergy

κορυφή peak, crown

λεύσσω see, look

λοισθίος left behind; beam, gaff

λοχαγέω (ᾱ) lead a company

λοχαγός (ᾱ) captain

μηκέτι no more

μορφή beauty

οἶκαδε homeward ~economics

ὄρθιος shrill; steep, straight

πάτρα (αᾱ) fatherland ~paternal

πρόσειμι approach, draw near; add
~ion

προσίημι be allowed near

σάλπιγξ -γος (f) trumpet

στέλλω prepare, send, furl ~apostle

στρατός common people/soldiers
~strategy

στρατόω be on a campaign ~strategy

τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent

τέρμα -τος (n, 3) mark, turn-around
point

ὕφραπτω set on fire from underneath

φλόγεος sparkling?

φλόξ -γός (f) flame ~flame

χωρέω withdraw, give way to (+dat)
~heir

ἔα ἔα· τίνας Ἰλιάσιν ταῖσδ' ἐν κορυφαῖς
 λεύσσω φλογέας δαλοῖσι χέρας
 διερέσσοντας; μέλλει Τροία
 καινόν τι κακὸν προσέσεσθαι.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. αὐδῶ λοχαγοῖς, οἳ τέταχθ' ἐμπιμπράναι

1260

Πριάμου τόδ' ἄστν, μηκέτ' ἀργοῦσαν φλόγα
 ἐν χειρὶ σφάζειν, ἀλλὰ πῦρ ἐνιέναι,
 ὥς ἂν κατασκάψαντες Ἰλίου πόλιν
 στελλώμεθ' οἴκαδ' ἄσμενοι Τροίας ἄπο.

ὕμεις δ', ἵν' αὐτὸς λόγος ἔχη μορφὰς δύο,

1265

χωρεῖτε, Τρώων παῖδες, ὀρθίαν ὅταν
 σάλπιγγος ἡχῶ δώσιν ἀρχηγοὶ στρατοῦ,
 πρὸς ναῦς Ἀχαιῶν, ὥς ἀποστέλλησθε γῆς.

σύ τ', ὦ γεραιὰ δυστυχεστάτη γύναι,

ἔπον. μεθήκουσίν σ' Ὀδυσσεώς πάρα

1270

οἶδ', ὦ σε δούλην κλῆρος ἐκπέμπει πάτρας.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. οἳ γὰρ τάλαινα· τοῦτο δὴ τὸ λοίσθιον

καὶ τέρμα πάντων τῶν ἐμῶν ἤδη κακῶν·

ἔξειμι πατρίδος, πόλις ὑφάπτεται πυρί.

ἔα ἔα· τίνας Ἰλιάσιν ταῖσδ' ἐν ^{|peak,}
^{|crown}

|see, look |sparkling? |fire-brand, ^χέρας

|row through, across· ^ᾠλει Τροία

|new, fresh, strange ^ιτροσέεσθαι.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. |speak ^ιλοχαγοῖς, οἱ τέταχθ' |burn up

1260

Πριάμου τόδ' |town, |no more|not work;|flame
^(pass) be
ἐν χειρὶ σώζειν, ἀλλὰ πῦρ ^ιfruitless, left
^ιundone

ὥς ἂν κατασκάψαντες Ἰλίου πόλιν

|prepare, send, furl· ^ῖ· |be pleased, ^ῖenjoy ^ι· ἄπο.

ὑμεῖς δ', ἵν' αὐτὸς λόγος ἔχη |beauty δύο,

1265

|withdraw, ^ῖgive· ^ῖων παῖδες, |shrill; steep, ^ι·
|way to (+dat) |straight

|trumpet ἡχῶ δῶσιν |original; chief, ^ιτου·
|originator

πρὸς ναῦς Ἀχαιῶν, ὥς ἀποστέλλησθε γῆς.

σύ τ', ὦ |old |unlucky γύναι,

ἔπου. μεθήκουσιν σ' Ὀδυσσεώς πάρα

1270

οἶδ', ὦ σε |slave-woman |send forth |fatherland

ΕΚΑΒΗ. οἶ γὰρ ^ιwretched, ^ιτοῦτο δὴ τὸ ^ιleft behind;
^ιmiserable ^ιbeam, gaff

καὶ ^ιmark, ^ιturn- ^ιον τῶν ἐμῶν ἤδη κακῶν·
^ιaround point

|go forth; ^ιγρίδος, πόλις |ὑφάπτω?: set ^ιon fire from underneath; or
|is possible |ὑφάπτω?: set on fire from underneath

Ha! Who be these on the crested rock?
Fiery hands in the dusk, and a shock
Of torches flung! What lingereth still,
O wounded City, of unknown ill,
Ere yet thou diest?
TALTHYBIUS (coming out through the ruined Wall).
Ye Captains that have charge to wreck this keep
Of Priam's City, let your torches sleep
No more! Up, fling the fire into her heart!
Then have we done with Ilion, and may part
In joy to Hellas from this evil land.
And ye—so hath one word two faces—stand,
Daughters of Troy, till on your ruined wall
The echo of my master's trumpet call
In signal breaks: then, forward to the sea,
Where the long ships lie waiting.
And for thee,
O ancient woman most unfortunate,
Follow: Odysseus' men be here, and wait
To guide thee... 'Tis to him thou go'st for thrall.
HECUBA. Ah, me! and is it come, the end of all,
The very crest and summit of my days?
I go forth from my land, and all its ways
Are filled with fire! Bear me, O aged

vocabulary

ἀνακαλέω call, summon, recall
ἀνάξιος unworthy, undeserved
ἀσπάζομαι greet, salute
ἀφαιρέω take away ~heresy
βάρβαρος non-Greek
γεραιός old ~geriatric
γέρας -ως (n, 3) reward, honor
γονή progeny ~genus
δέρκομαι see, watch
δούλη slave-woman
δύστηνος unhappy, miserable
ἐξάγω lead out ~demagogue
ἐπισπεύδω urge on
ιός arrow

ἰωή a rush, a sweep
καταθνήσκω die, be dead ~euthanasia
κλεινός famous
λάμπω shine ~lamp
μόλις with difficulty, barely
πίμπρημι inflate, spurt; burn up ~pyre
πυρά pyre ~pyre
πυρόω burn something
σαυτοῦ yourself
ταλαίπωρος suffering, miserable
τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps
 ~tachometer
τρέχω run, spin
φείδομαι spare, not use/harm ~aphid

ἀλλ', ὦ γεραιὲ πούς, ἐπίσπευσον μόλις, 1275

ὥς ἀσπάσωμαι τὴν ταλαίπωρον πόλιν.

ὦ μεγάλα δὴ ποτ' ἀμπνέουσ' ἐν βαρβάροις

Τροία, τὸ κλεινὸν ὄνομ' ἀφαιρήσῃ τάχα.

πιμπρᾶσί σ', ἡμᾶς δ' ἐξάγουσ' ἤδη χθονὸς

δούλας· ἰὼ θεοί. καὶ τί τοὺς θεοὺς καλῶ; 1280

καὶ πρὶν γὰρ οὐκ ἤκουσαν ἀνακαλούμενοι.

φέρ' ἐς πυρὰν δράμωμεν· ὥς κάλλιστά μοι

σὺν τῇδε πατρίδι κατθανεῖν πυρουμένη.

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. ἐνθουσιᾷς, δύστηνε, τοῖς σαυτῆς κακοῖς.

ἀλλ' ἄγετε, μὴ φείδεσθ' Ὀδυσσέως δὲ χρῆ 1285

ἐς χεῖρα δοῦναι τήνδε καὶ πέμπειν γέρας.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὀττοτοτοτοτοτοῖ.

Κρόνιε, πρύτανι Φρύγιε, γενέτα

πάτερ, ἀνάξια τᾶς Δαρδάνου

γονᾶς τάδ' οἶα πάσχομεν δέδορκας; 1290

ΧΟΡΟΣ. δέδορκεν, ἅ δὲ μεγαλόπολις

ἄπολις ὄλωλεν οὐδ' ἔτ' ἔστι Τροία.

ΕΚ. ὀττοτοτοτοτοτοῖ. λέλαμπεν Ἴλιος, Περ'

ἀλλ', ὦ |old πούς, |urge on |with difficulty,
|barely

ὥς |greet, salute τήν |suffering,
|miserable πόλιν.

ὦ μεγάλα δὴ ποτ' ἀμπνέουσ' ἐν |non-Greek

Τροία, τὸ |famous ὄνομ' |take away |quickly, soon;
|perhaps

|inflate, spurt; ἡμᾶς δ' |lead out ἥδη χθονὸς
|burn up

|slave-woman θεοί. καὶ τί τοὺς θεοὺς καλῶ; 1280

καὶ πρὶν γὰρ οὐκ ἤκουσαν |call, summon,
|recall

φέρ' ἐς |pyre |run, spin ὥς κάλλιστά μοι

σὺν τῇδε πατρίδι κατθανεῖν |burn something

ΤΑΛΘΥΒΙΟΣ. ἐνθουσιᾶς, |unhappy, τοῖς |yourself κακοῖς.
|miserable

ἀλλ' ἄγετε, μὴ |spare Ὀδυσσέως δὲ χρή 1285

ἐς χεῖρα δοῦναι τήνδε καὶ πέμπειν |reward,
|honor

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ὅττοτοτοτοτοτοῖ.

Κρόνιε, πρύτανι Φρύγιε, γενέτα

πάτερ, |unworthy, Δαρδάνου
|undeserved

|progeny ἴδ' οἶα πάσχομεν |see, watch , 1290

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |see, watch, ἅ δὲ μεγαλόπολις

ἄπολις ὄλωλεν οὐδ' ἔτ' ἔστι Τροία.

ΕΚ. ὅττοτοτοτοτοτοῖ. |shine Ἴλιος, Περ'

feet,

A little nearer: I must gaze, and greet

My poor town ere she fall.

Farewell, farewell!

O thou whose breath was mighty on the swell

Of orient winds, my Troy! Even thy name

Shall soon be taken from thee. Lo, the flame

Hath thee, and we, thy children, pass away

To slavery... God! O God of mercy!... Nay:

Why call I on the Gods? They know, they know,

My prayers, and would not hear them long ago.

Quick, to the flames! O, in thine agony,

My Troy, mine own, take me to die with thee!

She springs toward the flames, but is seized and held by the Soldiers.

TALTHYBIUS. Back! Thou art drunken with thy miseries,

Poor woman!—Hold her fast, men, till it please

Odysseus that she come. She was his lot

Chosen from all and portioned. Lose her not!

He goes to watch over the burning of the City. The dusk deepens.

CHORUS. Divers Women.

Woe, woe, woe!

Thou of the Ages, O wherefore fleëst thou,

Lord of the Phrygian, Father that made us?’

Tis we, thy children; shall no man aid us?’

Tis we, thy children! Seëst thou, seëst thou?

Others.

He seëth, only his heart is pitiless;

And the land dies: yea, she,

She of the Mighty Cities perisheth citiless!

Troy shall no more be!

Others.

Woe, woe, woe!

*vocabulary***ἄεθλιος** prize ~athlete**ἄθλιος** wretched ~athlete**ἄιστος** vanished, sent to destruction

~wit

ἄκοίτης -ου (m, 1) husband, sex partner**ἄκρα** at the edge, extreme ~acute**ἄκρη** at the edge, extreme**ἄκρις** -ός (f) hilltop ~acute**ἄκρον** crest, extremity ~acute**ἄλγος** -εος (n, 3) woe, grief ~analgesic**ἄτα** bewilderment, folly**ἄταφος** unburied**ἀτάω** (mp) suffer, be in distress**αὐδά** voice, report ~Theravada**ἄφιλος** friendless; unfriendly**γάμος** wedding, sex ~bigamy**γεραιός** old ~geriatric**γόνυ** γουνός (n, 3) knee ~polygon**δαίος** hostile, destructive**διάδοχος** being successor**δισσός** double**δούλειος** of a slave**ἰάλεμος** (ᾱ) lament, dirge; sad, dull, stupid**ἰός** arrow**ἰωή** a rush, a sweep**καπνός** smoke**καταφθίω** cause to perish, wane; (of time) pass**κλύω** hear, listen to ~Euclid**κτυπέω** crash**λόγχη** spear point; lot**μαλερός** raging, devouring**μέλαθρον** roofbeam**μέλεος** vain, idle, useless**μέλος** -ους (n, 3) limb; melody**νέρθε** beneath, below**οὐαί** ow! woe!**πάτρα** (αᾶ) fatherland ~paternal**πέδον** ground ~pedal**πτέρυξ** -γος (f) wing ~archeopteryx

γάμων τε πυρὶ καταίθεται τέραμνα
καὶ πόλις ἄκρα τε τειχέων.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. πτέρυγι δὲ καπνὸς ὥς τις οὐ-
ρανίᾳ πεσοῦσα δορὶ καταφθίνει γᾶ.
μαλερὰ μέλαθρα πυρὶ κατάδρομα
δαΐω τε λόγχῃ.

1300

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἰὼ γᾶ τρόφιμε τῶν ἐμῶν τέκνων.

ΧΘ. ἔἔ. ΕΚ. ὦ τέκνα, κλύετε, μάθετε ματρὸς ἀνδάν.

ΧΘ. ἰαλέμῳ τοὺς θανόντας ἀπίεις.

ΕΚ. γεραῖά γ' ἐς πέδον τιθεῖσα μέλεα καὶ

1305

χερσὶ γαῖαν κτυποῦσα δισσαῖς.

ΧΘ. διάδοχά σοι γόνυ τίθημι γαίᾳ

τοὺς ἐμοὺς καλοῦσα νέρθεν

ἀθλίους ἀκοίτας.

ΕΚ. ἀγόμεθα φερόμεθ' ΧΘ. ἄλγος ἄλγος βοᾷς.

1310

ΕΚ. δούλειον ὑπὸ μέλαθρον. ΧΘ. ἐκ πάτρας γ' ἐμᾶς.

ΕΚ. ἰώ. Πρίαμε Πρίαμε, σὺ μὲν ὀλόμενος

ἄταφος ἄφιλος

ἄτας ἐμᾶς ἄιστος εἶ.

|wedding, sex ἥρ' καταιίθεται τέραμνα

καὶ πόλις ἄκρα τε τειχέων.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. |wing δὲ |smoke ὥς τις οὖ'

ρανία πεσοῦσα δορὶ |cause to perish, wane;
|(of time) pass

|raging, |roofbeam πυρὶ κατάδρομα
|devouring

1300

|hostile, - |spear
|destructive point;
|lot

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἰὼ γὰ τρώφιμε τῶν ἐμῶν τέκνων.

ΧΟ. ἔ ἔ. ΕΚ. ὦ τέκνα, |hear , μάθετε ματρὸς αὐδάν.

ΧΟ. |lament, dirge; ἰόντας ἀπύεις.
|sad, dull, stupid

ΕΚ. |old γ' ἐς |ground ἰθείσα μέλεα καὶ

1305

χερσὶ γαίαν |crash |double .

ΧΟ. |being succes-|knee τίθημι γαίᾳ
|sor

τοὺς ἐμοὺς καλοῦσα νέρθην

ἀθλίους |husband .

ΕΚ. ἀγόμεθα φερόμεθ' ΧΟ. |woe |woe ,βοᾶς.

1310

ΕΚ. |of a slave ὑπὸ |roofbeam . ΧΟ. ἐκ |fatherland' ἐμᾶς.

ΕΚ. ἰώ. Πρίαμε Πρίαμε, σὺ μὲν ὀλόμενος

|unburied |friendless;
|unfriendly

ἄτας ἐμᾶς |vanished .

Iliion shineth afar!

Fire in the deeps thereof,

Fire in the heights above,

And crested walls of War!

Others.

As smoke on the wing of heaven

Climbeth and scattereth,

Torn of the spear and driven,

The land crieth for death:

O stormy battlements that red fire hath riven,

And the sword's angry breath!

A new thought comes to HECUBA; she kneels and beats the earth with her hands.

HECUBA. O Earth, Earth of my children; hearken! and O
mine own,

Ye have hearts and forget not, ye in the darkness
lying!

LEADER. Now hast thou found thy prayer, crying to them that
are gone.

HECUBA. Surely my knees are weary, but I kneel above your
head;

Hearken, O ye so silent! My hands beat your bed!

LEADER. I, I am near thee;

I kneel to thy dead to hear thee,

Kneel to mine own in the darkness; O husband, hear
my crying!

HECUBA. Even as the beasts they drive, even as the loads they
bear,

LEADER. (Pain; O pain!)

HECUBA. We go to the house of bondage. Hear, ye dead, O
hear!

vocabulary

αἰθήρ ether, air, sky ~ether
ἄνώνυμος nameless ~name
ἄφανής unseen, occult, obscure
βίος life ~biology
βιόω live; (mp) make a living ~biology
δορός leather bag ~dermatology
δούλειος of a slave
ἐκλύω rescue from ~loose
ἐπικλύζω overwhelm, swamp
ἐπικλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
ἰός arrow
ἵχνος -εος (n, 3) track, trace
ἰωή a rush, a sweep
καπνός smoke
κατακαλύπτω cover up
κλύω hear, listen to ~Euclid
κόνις -ος (f) dust
κτυπέω crash
κτύπος noise

λόγχη spear point; lot
μέλαθρον roofbeam
μέλεος vain, idle, useless
μέλος -ους (n, 3) limb; melody
ὅμως anyway, nevertheless
ὄσσε eyes (dual)
ὄσσομαι see with the mind's eye, forebode
πλάτα flat or broad object; oar blade; (pl) shoulder blades
προφέρω bring forth ~bear
πτέρυξ -γος (f) wing ~archeopteryx
τάλας wretched, miserable ~talent
τάχα quickly, soon; perhaps ~tachometer
τάχος -ους (n, 3) speed ~tachometer
τρομερός trembling
φλόξ -γός (f) flame ~flame
φόνιος bloody
φροῦδος fled, vanished

ΧΟΡΟΣ. μέλας γὰρ ὅσσε κατεκάλυψε 1315

θάνατος ὅσιος ἀνοσίαις σφαγαῖσιν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἰὼ θεῶν μέλαθρα καὶ πόλις φίλα, ΧΟ. ἔ ἔ.

ΕΚ. τὰν φόνιον ἔχετε φλόγα δορός τε λόγχαν.

ΧΟ. τάχ' ἐς φίλαν γᾶν πεσεῖσθ' ἀνώνυμοι.

ΕΚ. κόνις δ' ἴσα καπνῷ πτέρυγι πρὸς αἰθέρα 1320

ῥστον οἴκων ἐμῶν με θήσει.

ΧΟ. ὄνομα δὲ γᾶς ἀφανὲς εἶσιν· ἄλλα δ'

ἄλλο φροῦδον, οὐδ' ἔτ' ἔστιν

ἀ τάλαινα Τροία.

ΕΚ. ἐμάθετ', ἐκλύετε; ΧΟ. Περγάμων γε κτύπον. 1325

ΕΚ. ἔνοσις ἅπασαν ἔνοσις ΧΟ. ἐπικλύσει πόλιν.

ΕΚ. ἰώ·

τρομερὰ μέλεα, φέρετ' ἐμὸν ἵχνος·

ἴτ' ἐπί, τάλαινα,

δούλειον ἀμέραν βίου. 1330

ΧΟ. ἰὼ τάλαινα πόλις· ὅμως δὲ

πρόφερε πόδα σὸν ἐπὶ πλάτας Ἀχαιῶν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ. μέλας γὰρ ὅσσε |cover up

1315

θάνατος ὅσιος ἀνοσίαις σφαγαῖσιν.

ΕΚΑΒΗ. ἰὼ θεῶν |roofbeam καὶ πόλις φίλα, ΧΟ. ἔ. ἔ.

ΕΚ. τὰν |bloody ἔχετε |flame |leather bag|spear
|point;

ΧΟ. τάχ' ἐς φίλαν γὰν πεσεῖσθ' |nameless
|lot

ΕΚ. |dust δ' ἴσα |smoke |wing πρὸς |ether

1320

ἄστον οἴκων ἐμῶν με θήσει.

ΧΟ. ὄνομα δὲ γὰς |unseen, ὄς· ἄλλα δ'
|cult, obscure

ἄλλο |fled,
|vanished, οὐδ' ἔτ' ἔστιν

ἄ |wretched, Τροία.
|miserable

ΕΚ. ἐμάθετ', ἐκλύετε; ΧΟ. Περγάμων γε κτύπον.

1325

ΕΚ. ἔνοσις ἅπασαν ἔνοσις ΧΟ. ἐπικλύσει πόλιν.

ΕΚ. ἰώ·

|trembling μέλεα, φέρετ' ἐμὸν |track,
|trace

ἔτ' ἐπί, τάλανα,

|of a slave ἀμέραν βίου.

1330

ΧΟ. ἰὼ |wretched, πόλις· |anyway, nevertheless
|miserable

|bring πόδα σὸν ἐπὶ πλάτας Ἀχαιῶν.
|forth

LEADER. (Go, and come not again!)

HECUBA. Priam, mine own Priam,

Lying so lowly,

Thou in thy nothingness,

Shelterless, comfortless,

See'st thou the thing I am?

Know'st thou my bitter stress?

LEADER. Nay, thou art naught to him!

Out of the strife there came,

Out of the noise and shame,

Making his eyelids dim,

Death, the Most Holy!

The fire and smoke rise constantly higher.

HECUBA. O high houses of Gods, beloved streets of my birth,

Ye have found the way of the sword, the fiery and

blood-red river!

LEADER. Fall, and men shall forget you! Ye shall lie in the

gentle earth.

HECUBA. The dust as smoke riseth; it spreadeth wide its wing;

It maketh me as a shadow, and my City a vanished

thing!

LEADER. Out on the smoke she goeth,

And her name no man knoweth;

And the cloud is northward, southward; Troy is gone

for ever!

A great crash is heard, and the Wall is lost in smoke and darkness.

HECUBA. Ha! Marked ye? Heard ye? The crash of the
towers that fall!

LEADER. All is gone!

HECUBA. Wrath in the earth and quaking and a flood that
sweepeth all,

LEADER. And passeth on!

The Greek trumpet sounds.

HECUBA. Farewell! — O spirit grey,

Whatso is coming,

Fail not from under me.

Weak limbs, why tremble ye?

Forth where the new long day

Dawneth to slavery!

CHORUS. Farewell from parting lips,

Farewell! — Come, I and thou,

Whatso may wait us now,

Forth to the long Greek ships

And the sea's foaming.

The trumpet sounds again, and the Women go out in the darkness.