Walter Duvall Penrose, Jr.

Paradise, Bodies, and Gods: The Reception of Amazons in *Wonder Woman*

Saturday April 14 -- CAMWS 2018

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1. Apollonius of Rhodes *Argonautica* 2.382-387, ed. Fränkel:

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[μήτι](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=mh%2Fti&la=greek&can=mh%2Fti0&prior=nh/sw|) [παντοίῃ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=pantoi%2Fh%7C&la=greek&can=pantoi%2Fh%7C0&prior=mh/ti) [μέγ᾽](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=me%2Fg%27&la=greek&can=me%2Fg%270&prior=pantoi/h|" \t "morph) [ἀναιδέας](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=a%29naide%2Fas&la=greek&can=a%29naide%2Fas0&prior=me/g%27" \t "morph) [ἐξελάσαντες](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29cela%2Fsantes&la=greek&can=e%29cela%2Fsantes0&prior=a)naide/as)   
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[λαΐνεον](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=lai%2B%2Fneon&la=greek&can=lai%2B%2Fneon0&prior=*)/arhos) [ποίησαν](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=poi%2Fhsan&la=greek&can=poi%2Fhsan0&prior=lai+/neon) [Ἀμαζονίδων](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*%29amazoni%2Fdwn&la=greek&can=*%29amazoni%2Fdwn1&prior=poi/hsan) [βασίλειαι](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=basi%2Fleiai&la=greek&can=basi%2Fleiai0&prior=*)amazoni/dwn)   
[Ὀτρηρή](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*%29otrhrh%2F&la=greek&can=*%29otrhrh%2F0&prior=basi/leiai) [τε](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=te&la=greek&can=te6&prior=*)otrhrh/" \t "morph) [καὶ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=kai%5C&la=greek&can=kai%5C8&prior=te) [Ἀντιόπη](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*%29antio%2Fph&la=greek&can=*%29antio%2Fph0&prior=kai\\" \t "morph), [ὁπότε](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=o%28po%2Fte&la=greek&can=o%28po%2Fte0&prior=*)antio/ph) [στρατόωντο](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=strato%2Fwnto&la=greek&can=strato%2Fwnto0&prior=o(po/te).

Passing them by, beach your ship on a smooth island,

Once you have driven out with all sorts of methods the ruthless birds,

Who truly in countless numbers frequent the deserted island.

There the Amazon queens Otrere and Antiope erected a stone temple to Ares when they went to war.[[1]](#footnote-1)

1. Apollonius of Rhodes *Argonautica* 2.1169-1173:

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[μῆλ᾽](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=mh%3Dl%27&la=greek&can=mh%3Dl%270&prior=*)/arhos) [ἱερευσόμενοι](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=i%28ereuso%2Fmenoi&la=greek&can=i%28ereuso%2Fmenoi0&prior=mh=l%27" \t "morph): [περὶ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=peri%5C&la=greek&can=peri%5C1&prior=i(ereuso/menoi) [δ᾽](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=d%27&la=greek&can=d%278&prior=peri\) [ἐσχάρῃ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29sxa%2Frh%7C&la=greek&can=e%29sxa%2Frh%7C0&prior=d%27" \t "morph) [ἐστήσαντο](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29sth%2Fsanto&la=greek&can=e%29sth%2Fsanto0&prior=e)sxa/rh|" \t "morph)   
[ἐσσυμένως](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29ssume%2Fnws&la=greek&can=e%29ssume%2Fnws0&prior=e)sth/santo), [ἥ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=h%28%2F&la=greek&can=h%28%2F0&prior=e)ssume/nws) [τ᾽](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=t%27&la=greek&can=t%271&prior=h(/) [ἐκτὸς](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29kto%5Cs&la=greek&can=e%29kto%5Cs0&prior=t%27" \t "morph) [ἀνηρεφέος](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=a%29nhrefe%2Fos&la=greek&can=a%29nhrefe%2Fos0&prior=e)kto\\s" \t "morph) [πέλε](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=pe%2Fle&la=greek&can=pe%2Fle0&prior=a)nhrefe/os) [νηοῦ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=nhou%3D&la=greek&can=nhou%3D0&prior=pe/le" \t "morph)   
[στιάων](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=stia%2Fwn&la=greek&can=stia%2Fwn0&prior=nhou=): [εἴσω](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=ei%29%2Fsw&la=greek&can=ei%29%2Fsw0&prior=stia/wn" \t "morph) [δὲ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=de%5C&la=greek&can=de%5C4&prior=ei)/sw" \t "morph) [μέλας](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=me%2Flas&la=greek&can=me%2Flas0&prior=de\\" \t "morph) [λίθος](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=li%2Fqos&la=greek&can=li%2Fqos0&prior=me/las) [ἠρήρειστο](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=h%29rh%2Freisto&la=greek&can=h%29rh%2Freisto0&prior=li/qos)   
[ἱερός](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=i%28ero%2Fs&la=greek&can=i%28ero%2Fs0&prior=h)rh/reisto), [ᾧ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=w%28%3D%7C&la=greek&can=w%28%3D%7C0&prior=i(ero/s) [ποτε](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=pote&la=greek&can=pote0&prior=w(=|) [πᾶσαι](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=pa%3Dsai&la=greek&can=pa%3Dsai0&prior=pote) [Ἀμαζόνες](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*%29amazo%2Fnes&la=greek&can=*%29amazo%2Fnes0&prior=pa=sai) [εὐχετόωντο](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=eu%29xeto%2Fwnto&la=greek&can=eu%29xeto%2Fwnto0&prior=*)amazo/nes).

They all assembled there between the pillars of the temple of Ares,

In order to sacrifice sheep. They hurriedly gathered around the altar, which was outside the roofless temple and was made of pebbles. Inside a black stone, which was sacred, stood firmly fixed to which all of the Amazons used to pray.

1. Apollonius of Rhodes *Argonautica* 2.987-992:

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[τίουσαι](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=ti%2Fousai&la=greek&can=ti%2Fousai0&prior=qe/mistas) [πεδίον](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=pedi%2Fon&la=greek&can=pedi%2Fon0&prior=ti/ousai) [Δοιάντιον](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*doia%2Fntion&la=greek&can=*doia%2Fntion0&prior=pedi/on) [ἀμφενέμοντο](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=a%29mfene%2Fmonto&la=greek&can=a%29mfene%2Fmonto0&prior=*doia/ntion):   
[ἀλλ᾽](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=a%29ll%27&la=greek&can=a%29ll%271&prior=a)mfene/monto) [ὕβρις](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=u%28%2Fbris&la=greek&can=u%28%2Fbris0&prior=a)ll%27) [στονόεσσα](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=stono%2Fessa&la=greek&can=stono%2Fessa0&prior=u(/bris" \t "morph) [καὶ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=kai%5C&la=greek&can=kai%5C5&prior=stono/essa) [Ἄρεος](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*%29%2Fareos&la=greek&can=*%29%2Fareos0&prior=kai\) [ἔργα](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29%2Frga&la=greek&can=e%29%2Frga0&prior=*)/areos) [μεμήλει](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=memh%2Flei&la=greek&can=memh%2Flei0&prior=e)/rga):   
[δὴ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=dh%5C&la=greek&can=dh%5C1&prior=memh/lei) [γὰρ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=ga%5Cr&la=greek&can=ga%5Cr2&prior=dh\\" \t "morph) [καὶ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=kai%5C&la=greek&can=kai%5C6&prior=ga\r) [γενεὴν](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=geneh%5Cn&la=greek&can=geneh%5Cn0&prior=kai\\" \t "morph) [ἔσαν](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29%2Fsan&la=greek&can=e%29%2Fsan0&prior=geneh\\n" \t "morph) [Ἄρεος](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*%29%2Fareos&la=greek&can=*%29%2Fareos1&prior=e)/san) [Ἁρμονίης](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*%28armoni%2Fhs&la=greek&can=*%28armoni%2Fhs0&prior=*)/areos) [τε](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=te&la=greek&can=te2&prior=*(armoni/hs)   
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--For the Amazons, those who dwell on the Doiontian plain, were exceedingly savage and knew not that which is right; rather grievous hubris and the deeds of Ares were their concerns: for they are the offspring of Ares and the nymph Harmonia, who to Ares bore war-loving girls.

1. Pausanias 1.2.1: ταύτην τὴν Ἀντιόπην Πίνδαρος μέν φησιν ὑπὸ Πειρίθου καὶ Θησέως ἁρπασθῆναι, Τροιζηνίῳ δὲ Ἡγίᾳ τοιάδε ἐς αὐτὴν πεποίηται: Ἡρακλέα Θεμίσκυραν πολιορκοῦντα τὴν ἐπὶ Θερμώδοντι ἑλεῖν μὴ δύνασθαι, Θησέως δὲ ἐρασθεῖσαν Ἀντιόπην— στρατεῦσαι γὰρ ἅμα Ἡρακλεῖ καὶ Θησέα—παραδοῦναι τε τὸ χωρίον.

Pindar says that this Antiope was abducted by Peirithous and Theseus, but Hegias of Troezen writes an account of her as follows: Heracles was besieging Themiscyra on the Thermodon but he was not able to take it. Antiope, however, having fallen in love with Theseus—for Theseus was at that time campaigning with Heracles—surrendered the city.

1. Plutarch *Theseus* 26.2:

βίων δὲ καὶ ταύτην παρακρουσάμενον οἴχεσθαι λαβόντα: φύσει γὰρ οὔσας τὰς Ἀμαζόνας φιλάνδρους οὔτε φυγεῖν τὸν Θησέα προσβάλλοντα τῇ χώρᾳ, ἀλλὰ καὶ ξένια πέμπειν: τὸν δὲ τὴν κομίζουσαν ἐμβῆναι παρακαλεῖν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον: ἐμβάςης δὲ ἀναχθῆναι.

And Bion says that even this woman [Antiope] he [Theseus] took by deception: for the Amazons being by nature friendly to men did not flee from Theseus when he landed on their shores, but sent him gifts; he summoned the one who brought the gifts to board the boat; she embarked and he put out to sea.

1. All translations are mine. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)