

“Washed in the Water: Dating Callimachus’ *Lock of Berenice*”

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[sc. *Homerus*] *carmine complexus terram, mare, sidera,
manes...* (Sil. *Pun.* 13.788)

...*totiens* [sc. *poetae*] *ortu occasuque signorum in
declarandis temporibus utuntur...* (Quint. *Inst.* 1.4.4)

1. Catullus 66.8–12

...e Bereniceo vertice caesariem
fulgetem clare, quam multis illa dearum
levia protendens brachia pollicita est,
qua rex tempestate novo auctus hymenaeo
vastatum finis iverat Assyrios...

...the lock from the head of Berenice
shining clearly, which she promised to many
goddesses, extending her slender arms,
at the time when the king, blessed by a recent marriage,
had gone to lay waste the boundaries of Assyria...

2. Catullus 66.29–38

sed tum maesta virum mittens quae verba locuta es!
...
atque ibi me cunctis pro dulci coniuge divis
non sine taurine sanguine pollicita es,
si reditum tetulisset. is haud in tempore longo
captam Asiam Aegypti finibus addiderat.

But what sad words you spoke then, sending your husband!

...
And then did she promise me, not without the blood of a bull,
to all the gods for her dear husband,
if he should have returned. In hardly any time at all, he
added captured Asia to the boundaries of Egypt.

3. *Dieg.* V 40–4 (*P.Mil.Vogl.* I 18 col. V 40–4 = 110a Harder)

Πάντα τὸν ἐν γραμμαῖσιν ἰδὼν ὄρον ἦι τε φέρονται
φησὶν ὅτι Κόνων κατητέρειε τὸν Βερενί-
κης βόστρυχον, ὃν θεο[ῖς] ἀναθήσειν ὑπέσχε-
το κείνη, ἐπειδὴν ἐπανήκη ἀπὸ τῆς κατὰ Κυ-
ρίαν μάχης.

Observing the whole sky as divided by lines and the movements...

He says that Conon turned the lock of Berenice into a constellation, which she promised to dedicate to the gods, when he came home from the war in Syria (trans. Harder 2012).

4. Hyginus, *Astronomica* 2.24 (= 110b Harder)

...cum Ptolemaeus Berenicen Ptolemaei et Arsinoes filiam, sororem suam, duxisset uxorem et paucis post diebus Asiam oppugnatum profectus esset, uouisse Berenicen, si uictor Ptolemaeus redisset, se crinem detonsuram...

When Ptolemy had married Berenice, the daughter of Ptolemy and Arsinoë, his sister, and had left a few days later to attack Asia, Berenice vowed that, if Ptolemy returned victorious, she would cut off a lock (mod. trans. Harder 2012).

5. Callimachus, *Aetia* fr. 110.63–4 (Pfeiffer)

...ὔδασι λουόμενόν με παρ' ἄθα[νάτους ἀνιόντα
Κύπρι]ς ἐν ἀρχαίοις ἄστρον [ἔθηκε νέον.

I, having been washed in the water, [and] going up among the immortals—
Cypris set me as a new constellation among the old ones.

6. Homer, *Iliad* 5.5–6

...ἀστέρ' ὀπωρινῶ ἐναλίγκιον, ὅς τε μάλιστα
λαμπρὸν παμφαίνησι λελουμένος Ὠκεανοῖο.

...like the star of late summer, which appears
exceedingly bright, having been washed in Ocean.

7. Callimachus, *Aetia* fr. 110.51–8

ἄρτι [ν]εότμητόν με κόμαι ποθέεσκον ἀδε[λφραί,
καὶ πρόκατε γνωτὸς Μέμνονος Αἰθίοπος
ἔτετο κυκλώσας βαλιὰ πτερὰ θήλυς ἀήτης,
ἵππο[ς] ἰοζώνου Λοκρικὸς Ἀρσινόης,
[.]αεὶ δὲ πνοιῆι με, δι' ἡέρα δ' ὑγρὸν ἐνεΐκας
Κύπρ]ιδος εἰς κόλπους ἔθηκε
αὐτή] μιν Ζεφυρῖτις ἐπιπροέ[ηκε(ν)
.... Κ]ανωπίτου ναιέτις ἀ[ίγιαλοῦ.

My sister-locks were mourning me when I was just freshly cut off,
and straightaway the brother of the Aethiopian Memnon
came rushing on, circling his swift wings, a gentle breeze,
the Locrian horse of Arsinoë with her purple girdle,
and took me with his breath, and carrying me through the humid air
he placed me in Cypris' lap (mod. trans. Harder 2012).

8. Callimachus, *Aetia* fr. 110.63–4

a. Pfeiffer

...ὔδασι] λουόμενόν με παρ' ἀθα[νάτους ἀνιόντα
Κύπρι]ς ἐν ἀρχαίοις ἄστρον [ἔθηκε νέον.

I, having been washed in the water [and] going up among the immortals—
Cypris set me as a new constellation among the old ones.

b. Harder

...ὔδασι] λουόμενόν με παρ' ἀθα[νάτους ἀναγούσα
Κύπρι]ς ἐν ἀρχαίοις ἄστρον [ἔθηκε νέον.

...Cypris, leading me up among the immortals—I who was washed in the water—
set me as a new constellation among the old ones.

c. Catullus 66.63–4

...uvidulam a fluctu cedentem ad templa deum me
sidus in antiquis diva novum posuit.

The goddess placed me as a new constellation among the old ones—
I who was wet from the wave, going to the regions of the gods.

9. Schol. A C 487 (= fr. 632 Pfeiffer)

...Ζεὺς δὲ εἰς οὐρανὸν αὐτὴν ἀναγαγὼν πρώτην κατητέρειεν.

Zeus catasterized her first, leading her up into heaven.

10. Catullus 66.67–8

...vertor in occasum, tardum dux ante Booten,
qui vix sero alto mergitur Oceano...

...I turn toward my setting, as a leader before slow Boötes,
who only very late is immersed in deep Ocean...

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TABLES

Star	Visual Magnitude	Heliacal rise date, 245 BCE, Alexandria
γ Com	4.36	23 September
β Com	4.26	3 October
HR 4697	4.74	7 October
HR 4707	4.81	8 October
α Com	4.47	12 October
HR 4789	4.81	12 October
HR 4667	4.95	13 October
HR 4733	4.95	14 October
HR 4738	5.00	15 October
HR 4954	4.80	17 October
HR 4924	4.90	17 October
HR 4920	4.78	18 October
HR 4894	4.90	19 October
HR 4883	4.94	19 October
HR 4663	5.10	21 October
HR 4792	5.02	22 October
HR 4717	5.18	24 October
HR 4851	5.12	30 October

Table 1: Calculations performed by Teije de Jong, 12 July 2019.

Dates	Venus, 246–245 BCE, Alexandria
21 January 246	Morning star, first appearance
29 September 246	Morning star, last appearance
17 December 246	Evening star, first appearance
5 August 245	Evening star, last appearance
27 August 245	Morning star, first appearance
11 April 244	Morning star, last appearance
17 July 244	Evening star, first appearance

Table 2: Calculations performed by Teije de Jong, 12 July 2019.