

READING SAPPHO IN THE PANDEMIC

SAPPHO 98

Text, Page ; translation, Lombardo 2016)

- (a)
- 1 ..].θος· ἂ γάρ με γένηα[τ- for my mother once told me
 c]φᾶς ἐπ' ἀλικίας μέγ[αν
 κ]όσμον, αἴ τις ἔχη(ι) φόβα(ι)ς [that in her youth it was considered elegant
 4 πορφύρωι κατελιξαμέ[να πλόκωι, for a girl to put her hair up
 ἐμμεναι μάλα τοῦτο δ[ή· in a purple headband—indeed it was—
 ἀλλ' ἂ ξανθοτέρα(ι)ς ἔχη[but for the girl with hair more golden-red
 7 τα(ι)ς κόμα(ι)ς δάιδος προ[than a flaming torch it was better
 c]τεφάνοισιν ἐπαρτια[to do it up in wreaths of blooming flowers.
 ἀνθέων ἐριθαλέων· [Recently an embroidered headband
 10 μ]ιτράναν δ' ἀρτίως κλ[from Sardis
ποικίλαν ἀπὸ Καρδίων[ν Ionian cities
 ...].αονιασπολεῖς [But, Kleis, I don't know where to get
 . . . an embroidered headband for you.
 (b) σοὶ δ' ἔγω Κλέϊ ποικίλαν [the Mytilenean, though
οὐκ ἔχω πόθεν ἔσσεται [to get
 3 μιτράν(αν)· ἀλλὰ τῶι Μυτιληνάωι [embroidery
 . . .]·[reminders of
 παι. α. (. . .)ειον ἔχην πο. [exile of Cleanax's sons
 6 αἰετῆ ποικιλασκ. . . (. . .)
ταῦτα τὰς Κλεανακτίδα[
φύγας† . . . ισαπολισεχει†
 9 μνάματ'· ἴδε γὰρ αἶνα διέρρουε[ν dreadful loss

Annotated bibliography

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Writes in an engaging way that helps to convey the experience of Sappho's poems.
- Culler, J. 2015. *Theory of the Lyric*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
Influential recent treatment of lyric poetry, including but not limited to Greek lyric.
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Draws connections between the poems and various features of the "real world" of Sappho (including performance, social relationships, etc).
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The different approaches to Sappho 98 in different chapters in this companion demonstrate the range of perspectives that readers bring to this poem.
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Still an indispensable introduction to Sappho and Alcaeus.