Joseph DiProperzio 3/26/22

CAMWS 2022 Conference Handout Fordham University

Callimachus’ Hesiodic Homer: the Callimachean *Hymn to Demeter* as a Homeric Framework for Hesiod’s *Catalogue of Women*.

1. Differences between the Homeric and Callimachean hymns to Demeter:
2. *Homeric Hymn*: Demeter loses her daughter Kore to Hades (ll. 19ff.) and resides at Eleusis (ll. 96ff.), where she establishes the Eleusinian Mysteries (ll.  273-4).
3. Callimachus’ (sixth) hymn: Erysichthon violates Demeter’s grove and is punished by the goddess with perpetual hunger (ll. 66ff.)
4. Erysichthon commits same crime but is younger in Callimachus’ version of the myth:
5. Portrait of Erysichthon in the Hesiodic *Catalogue of Women*:

*CW* Fr. 43a, 2-7: ἠ ' οἵη θυγάτηρ Ἐρυσίχθονος ἀντι] θέοιο/ ]ου Τριοπίδαο/ Μήστρη εὐπλόκαμος, Χαρίτων ἀ]μαρύγματ' ἕχουσα·/ τὸν δ' Αἴθων' ἐκάλεσσαν ἐπ]ών[ύ]μ[ο]ν εἵνεκα λιμοῦ/ αἴθωνος κρατεροῦ ϕῦλα] θνητῶν ἀνθρώπων/ αἴθων]α δὲ λιμὸν ἅπαντες.

“Or as the daughter of Erysichthon equal to the gods, son of Triopas, Mestra with beautiful locks of hair, who had the twinkling of the Graces; and the tribes of mortal men called his name Aethon because of his burning… the burning hunger” (translations mine)

1. Scolion on Lycophron’s *Alexandra* 1393a: Ἐρυσίχθων τις υἱὸς Τριόπα ἐξέτεμε τὸ ἄλσος τῆς Δήμητρος (“A certain Erysichthon, son of Triopas, cut down the sacred grove of Demeter”).
2. Erysichthon in Callimachus’ *Hymn to Demeter*: Demeter calls him τέκνον in l. 46.
3. Erysichthon’s punishment: perpetual hunger.
4. *CW* Fr. 43a: τὸν δ' Αἴθων' ἐκάλεσσαν ἐπ]ών[ύ]μ[ο]ν εἵνεκα λιμοῦ/ αἴθωνος κρατεροῦ ϕῦλα] θνητῶν ἀνθρώπων/ αἴθων]α δὲ λιμὸν ἅπαντες (“the tribes of mortal men called his name Aethon because of his burning… the burning hunger”).
5. Callimachus’ *Hymn to Demeter* 66-67:

αὐτίκα οἱ χαλεπόν τε καὶ ἂγριον ἔμβαλε λιμόν

αἴθωνα κρατερόν, μεγάλᾳ δ' ἐστρεύγετο νούσῳ

“She [i.e., Demeter] immediately cast upon him a grievous and cruel hunger, a strong burning, and he was pained with a great sickness.”

1. Use of deceit to mitigate Erysichthon’s hunger.
2. *CW* Fr. 43a, ll. 18-24, 29-33: Σίσυϕον ἐξαπά]τησε πολύϕρονά [πε]ρ μάλ' ἐόντα/ κού]ρην ἑλικώπιδα κ[αλλ]ιπάρηον/ ]τ' ἄλοχον θυμαρέ ' ἄ[γε]σθαι/ ] γαρο[... ὑπέσ]χετ[ο] μυρία ἓδνα/ **ἑ]κατὸν**[............] ημερα δω[/ ] ων[..] βοῶν ἀ[γέλα]ς ἐριμύκω[ν/ ποίμνας τ' εἰρο]πόκων ὀΐων ἠ[δ' αἰπ]όλι ' αἰγῶν[/.... οὐδ' ἐν] νόωι εἶχε[ν/ ὡς ῥ ' ἑτέ]ρη τε γέ[ν]οιτο καὶ ἐκ[δύσειε]ν ἑωυτῆς/ μορϕ]ήν· ἣ δὲ λυθ[εί]σα ϕίλου μ[ετὰ δώμα]τα πατρός/ ὤιχετ'] ἀπαΐξασα, γυνὴ δ' ἄϕαρ α[ὖτις ἔγεντο/ πατρὸς ἐ]νὶ μεγάροισι….

“[Erysichthon] deceived Sisyphus, although he was very thoughtful, to take as a wife his delightful daughter, [and Sisyphus] promised numberless gifts, a **hundred** loudly bellowing cattle and flocks of woolly sheep and flocks of goats…. But [Sisyphus] did not have in mind that she [i.e., Mestra] would become different and put off her shape; and she, after being released, would go, having darted away, to the dwelling of her dear father, and at once she would become a woman again in the halls of her father.”

1. Erysichthon’s mother lies that her son collecting a debt of “a **hundred** cattle” (ἑκατὸν βόας, *hDem* l. 77).), while the other excuses are that he has been injured by a boar in a hunt (ll. 81—82) or by a discus (l. 85), has suffered a fall from his chariot (l. 86), and is caring for his flocks (l. 86).
2. Relation of Poseidon with Erysichthon’s family.
3. *CW* Fr. 43a, ll. 55-8: καὶ τὴν μέν ῥ ' ἐδάμασσε Ποσειδάων ἐνοσίχθ[ων/ τῆλ' ἀπὸ πατρὸς ἑοῖο ϕέρων ἐπὶ οἴνοπα πόν[τον/ ἐν Κόωι ἀ[μ]ϕιρύτηι καίπερ πολύιδριν ἐοῦσα[ν·/ ἔνθα τέκ' Εὐρύπυλονν πολέων ἡγήτορα λαῶ[ν

“And Poseidon the earth-shaker, carrying her upon the wine-dark sea to Cos, subdued her far away from her father even though she was shrewd; there she bore Eurypylus, leader of many peoples.”

1. Callimachus, *Hymn to Demeter* (ll. 96-99), Triopas, Erysichthon’s father, is the son of Poseidon:

[καὶ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=kai%5C&la=greek&can=kai%5C16&prior=dw=lai) [δ᾽](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3Dd%2527%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3Dd%252723%26prior%3Dkai) [αὐτὸς](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=au%29to%5Cs&la=greek&can=au%29to%5Cs0&prior=d') [Τριόπας](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3D%2Atrio%252Fpas%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3D%2Atrio%252Fpas1%26prior%3Dau%29to/s) [πολιαῖς](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=poliai%3Ds&la=greek&can=poliai%3Ds0&prior=*trio/pas) [ἐπὶ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29pi%5C&la=greek&can=e%29pi%5C5&prior=poliai=s) [χεῖρας](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3Dxei%253Dras%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3Dxei%253Dras0%26prior%3De%29pi) [ἔβαλλε](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29%2Fballe&la=greek&can=e%29%2Fballe0&prior=xei=ras),
[τοῖα](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=toi%3Da&la=greek&can=toi%3Da0&prior=e)/balle) [τὸν](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=to%5Cn&la=greek&can=to%5Cn2&prior=toi=a) [οὐκ](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3Dou%2529k%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3Dou%2529k2%26prior%3Dto/n) [ἀίοντα](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=a%29i%2Fonta&la=greek&can=a%29i%2Fonta0&prior=ou)k) [Ποειδάωντα](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*poseida%2Fwna&la=greek&can=*poseida%2Fwna0&prior=a)i/onta) [καλιστρέων](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=kalistre%2Fwn&la=greek&can=kalistre%2Fwn0&prior=*poseida/wna)·
‘[ψευδοπάτωρ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=yeudopa%2Ftwr&la=greek&can=yeudopa%2Ftwr0&prior=kalistre/wn), ἴδε [τόνδε](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3Dto%252Fnde%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3Dto%252Fnde0%26prior%3Di%29de) [τεοῦ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=teou%3D&la=greek&can=teou%3D0&prior=to/nde) [τρίτον](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=tri%2Fton&la=greek&can=tri%2Fton0&prior=teou=), [εἴπερ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=ei%29%2Fper&la=greek&can=ei%29%2Fper0&prior=tri/ton) [ἐγὼ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=e%29gw%5C&la=greek&can=e%29gw%5C0&prior=ei)/per) [μὲν](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3Dme%255Cn%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3Dme%255Cn6%26prior%3De%29gw)
[σεῦ](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3Dseu%253D%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3Dseu%253D0%26prior%3Dme/n) [τε](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=te&la=greek&can=te5&prior=seu=) [καὶ](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=kai%5C&la=greek&can=kai%5C17&prior=te) [Αἰολίδος](file:////Users/jwdip/Documents/morph%3Fl%3D%2Aai%2529oli%252Fdos%26la%3Dgreek%26can%3D%2Aai%2529oli%252Fdos0%26prior%3Dkai) [Κανάκας](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=*kana%2Fkas&la=greek&can=*kana%2Fkas0&prior=*ai)oli/dos) [γένος](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l=ge%2Fnos&la=greek&can=ge%2Fnos0&prior=*kana/kas)….

“And Triopas himself cast his hands upon his white hair, calling upon Poseidon, who was not listening, with such words: false and unnatural father, see this third in descent from you, if indeed I am the offspring of you and Canace, daughter of Aeolus.”

Works Cited

Bing, Peter. “Callimachus and the *Hymn to Demeter*.” *Syllecta Classica* 6 (1996): 29-42.

Fantuzzi, Marco; Hunter, Richard. *Tradition and Innovation in Hellenistic Poetry*. Cambridge:

 Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Foley, Helene P. (Ed.). *The Homeric Hymn to Demeter: Translation, Commentary, and*

 *Interpretive Essays*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994.

Hopkinson, N. (Ed.). *Callimachus: Hymn to Demeter*. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge

 University Press, 1984.

Hunter, Richard. “The Hesiodic *Catalogue* and Hellenistic Poetry.” In *The Hesiodic Catalogue*

 *of Women: Constructions and Reconstructions*.” Ed. by Richard Hunter. Cambridge and New

 York: Cambridge University Press, 2005. pp. 239—65.

Janko, Richard. “The Structure of the Homeric Hymns: A Study in Genre.” *Hermes* 109.1

 (1981): 9-24.

Most, Glenn W. (Ed.). *Hesiod: The Shield, Catalogue of Women, Other Fragments*. Cambridge

 and London: Harvard University Press, 2018.

Nagy, Gregory. “The Earliest Phases in the Reception of the *Homeric Hymn*.” In *The Homeric*

 *Hymns: Interpretive Essays*. Ed. by Andrew Faulkner. Oxford and New York: Oxford

 University Press, 2011. pp. 280-333.

Ormand, Kirk. “Marriage, Identity, and the Tale of Mestra in the Hesiodic Catalogue of

 Women.” *The American Journal of Philology* 125.3 (2004): 303-38.

Richardson, N.J. (Ed.). *Three Homeric Hymns: To Apollo, Hermes, and Aphrodite*. Cambridge:

 Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Skempis, Marios. “Erysichthon in Thessaly: Lament, False Stories, and Locality in Callimachus’

 *Hymn to Demeter*.” *Scripta Classica Israelica* 35 (2016): 35-57.

Stephens, Susan A. (Ed.). *Callimachus: The Hymns*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University

 Press, 2015.

West, M.L. “The Hesiodic Catalogue of Women: Its Nature, Structure, and Origins.” Oxford:

 Clarendon Press, 1985.