

Cleon's Zombie in the First Parabasis of the *Clouds* (591-4)

1. Imprison Cleon! (Aristophanes, *Clouds* 591-4)¹

ἦν Κλέωνα τὸν λάρον δῶρων ἐλόντες καὶ κλοπῆς
εἶτα φιμώσητε τούτου τῷ ξύλῳ τὸν ἀχένα,
αὐθις εἰς τὰρχαῖον ὑμῖν, εἴ τι κάξημάρτετε,
ἐπὶ τὸ βέλτιον τὸ πρᾶγμα τῆ πόλει ξυνοίσειται.

If you convict that vulture Cleon of bribery and theft, then clamp his neck in the pillory, your situation will be as it was before, and everything will turn out better for the city, in spite of your mistake.

2. Cleon is still alive (Σ^R on *Clouds* 591)

ταῦτα δὲ ὡς ἔτι ζῶντος Κλέωνος λέγεται.

These words are being said **while Cleon is still alive**.

3. Cleon's Death (Thucydides, 5.10.9; 422 BCE)

καὶ ὁ μὲν Κλέων, ὡς τὸ πρῶτον οὐ διανοεῖτο μένειν,
εὐθὺς φεύγων καὶ **καταληφθεὶς** ὑπὸ
Μυρκινίου πελταστοῦ **ἀποθνήσκει**...

Cleon, indeed, as he had not intended from the first to stand his ground, fled at once, and **was overtaken and slain** by a Myrcinian targeteer.

4. Cleon as the Paphlagonian slave (Aristophanes, *Clouds* 581-3)

εἶτα τὸν θεοῖσιν ἐχθρὸν βυρσοδέψην **Παφλαγόνα**
ἠνίχ' ἠρεῖσθε στρατηγόν, τὰς ὄφρῦς ξυνήγομεν
κάποοῦμεν δεινά, βροντῆ δ' ἐρράγη δι' ἀστραπῆς.

Furthermore, when you were about to elect as general the godforsaken tanner **Paphlagon**, we furrowed our brows and carried on dreadfully: thunder crashed amid lightning bolts.

5. Pylaemenes, the leader of the Paphlagonians (Homer, *Iliad* 2.851-2)

Παφλαγόνων δ' ἠγεῖτο **Πυλαιμένεος** λάσιον κῆρ
ἐξ Ἐνετῶν, ὅθεν **ἠμιόνων** γένος ἀγροτεράων

And the Paphlagonians **Pylaemenes** of the stout heart led from the land of the Eneti, from which is the race of wild **she-mules**.

6. The Paphlagonian's obsession with Pylos (Aristophanes, *Knights*)

ἀπολῶ σε νῆ τὴν προεδρίαν τὴν ἐκ **Πύλου** 702

I'll destroy you, by the front-row seat I won at **Pylos!**

τῶν στρατηγῶν ὑποδραμόντων ἐκ **Πύλου**, 742
πλεύσας ἐκεῖσε, τοὺς Λάκωνας ἤγαγον.

How? I got the jump on the general from **Pylos**, sailed down there and brought back the Spartans.

Περὶ Ἀθηνῶν, περὶ **Πύλου**, 1005

About Athens, about **Pylos**,

Ἀλλὰ τόδε φράσσαι, πρὸ **Πύλου Πύλον**
ἦν σοι ἔφραζεν· Ἔστι **Πύλος** πρὸ **Πύλοιο** – 1058

But ponder this, what the god's said about **Pylos** before **Pylos**: "there's a **Pylos** before **Pylos**..."

Ἐγὼ δ' ἔτνος γε πίσινον εὐχρῶν καὶ καλόν· 1172
ἐτόρυνε δ' αὐτὴ Παλλὰς ἡ **Πυλαιμάχος**.

I've got pea soup, fragrant and fine. And it was stirred by Athena Battler at the **Pylisades**.

¹ I used Henderson's translations of Aristophanes, Murray's translation of the *Iliad*, and Smith's translation of Thucydides.

7. The Paphlagonian's leg in Pylos (Aristophanes, *Knights* 75-6)

ἐφορᾷ γὰρ αὐτὸς πάντ'. Ἔχει γὰρ τὸ σκέλος
τὸ μὲν ἐν Πύλῳ, τὸ δ' ἕτερον ἐν τῆκκλησίᾳ.

He keeps an eye on everything. **He's got one foot in Pylos**, and the other in the Assembly.

8. Selling sausages at the city gates (Aristophanes, *Knights* 1397-9)

Οὐδὲν μέγ' ἄλλ' ἢ τὴν ἐμὴν ἔξει τέχνην·
ἐπὶ ταῖς πύλαις ἀλλαντοπωλήσει μόνος,
τὰ κύνεια μειγνὺς τοῖς ὄνειοις πράγμασιν

Nothing severe; he's merely going to take my old job. He'll have his own sausage stand **at the city gates**, hashing up dog and **ass meat** instead of politics

9. Pylaemenes' death (Homer, *Iliad* 5.576-9)

Ἐνθα Πυλαιμένεα ἐλέτην ἀτάλαντον Ἄρηι
ἄρχον Παφλαγόνων μεγαθύμων ἀσπιστῶν.
τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Ἀτρεΐδης δουρικλειτὸς Μενέλαος
ἔσταότ' ἔγχεϊ νύξε κατὰ κληῖδα τυχήσας·

Then the **two slew Pylaemenes**, peer of Ares, the leader of the great-hearted Paphlagonian shieldmen. Him as he stood still, the son of Atreus, spear-famed Menelaus, pierced with his spear, striking him on the collarbone.

10. Harpalion's death (Homer, *Iliad* 13.643-5, 653-5)

Ἐνθά οἱ υἱὸς ἐπᾶλτο Πυλαιμένεος βασιλῆος
Ἄρπαλιῶν, ὃ ῥα πατρὶ φίλῳ ἔπετο πολεμίζων
ἔς Τροίην, οὐδ' αὖτις ἀφίκετο πατρίδα γαῖαν·
[...]
ἐζόμενος δὲ κατ' αὐθι φίλων ἐν χερσὶν ἐταίρων
θυμὸν ἀποπνεύων, ὥς τε σκώληξ ἐπὶ γαίῃ
κεῖτο ταθείς· ἐκ δ' αἶμα μέλαν ῥέε, δεῦε δὲ γαῖαν.

Then there leapt out against him **the son of king Pylaemenes**, Harpalion, who followed his dear father to Troy to the war, but came not back again to his native land. [...] And sinking down on the spot in the arms of his dear comrades **he breathed out his life**, and lay stretched out like a worm on the ground; and the dark blood flowed out and wetted the ground.

11. Pylaemenes' zombie (Homer, *Iliad* 13.656-9)

τὸν μὲν Παφλαγόνες μεγαλήτορες ἀμφεπένοντο,
ἔς δίφρον δ' ἀνέσαντες ἄγον προτὶ Ἴλιον ἱρὴν
ἀχνύμενοι· **μετὰ δέ σφι πατὴρ κίε δάκρυα λείβων**,
ποινή δ' οὐ τις παιδὸς ἐγένετο τεθνηῶτος.

Him the greathearted Paphlagonians tended, and setting him in a chariot they took him to sacred Ilios, sorrowing, **and with them went his father shedding tears**; but there was no compensation for his son who had been killed.

12. Kill the dead tyrants! (Aristophanes, *Birds* 1073-5)

Ἦν ἀποκτείνῃ τις ὑμῶν Διαγόραν τὸν Μήλιον,
λαμβάνειν τάλαντον, ἦν τε τῶν τυράννων τίς τινα
τῶν τεθνηκότων ἀποκτείνῃ, τάλαντον λαμβάνειν.

Whoever of you kills Diagoras the Melian shall get a talent, and **whoever kills any of the long deceased tyrants** shall get a talent.

13. Lesson in Homeric vocabulary (Aristophanes, *Banqueters* fr. 233 K-A)

πρὸς ταῦτα σὺ λέξον Ὅμηρου <έμοι>
γλώττας· τί καλοῦσι κόρυμβα;
υ υ — υ υ — υ υ — υ υ — τί καλοῦσ' ἀμεηνὰ
κάρηνα;

And next, you expound some **Homeric expressions**. What do they mean by “forepoints”?
[...] What do they mean by
“strengthless heads”?

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