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**Pseudo-Hera, Pseudo-Aeneas: a Pindaric Intertext in Vergil’s *Aeneid***

1. tum dea nube cava tenuem sine viribus umbram

in faciem Aeneae (*visu mirabile monstrum*)

Dardaniis ornat telis clipeumque iubasque

divini *adsimulat* capitis, dat *inania verba*,

dat *sine mente sonum* gressusque *effingit* euntis,

morte obita qualis fama est volitare figuras

aut quae sopitos deludunt somnia sensus. (*Aen*. 10.636-42)

Then the goddess made an insubstantial, strengthless phantom of hollow cloud in the shape of Aeneas, *a wonder marvelous to behold*, and decked it out with Trojan weapons; she *created imitations* of the shield and crests of the godlike hero, gave it *empty words and mindless utterance, and fashioned* for it the step of a walking man, just like the shades which are said to flit about after death, or the dreams that delude the slumbering senses.[[1]](#footnote-1)

2. αὐτὰρ ὃ εἴδωλον τεῦξ᾽ ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων

αὐτῷ τ᾽ Αἰνείᾳ ἴκελον καὶ τεύχεσι τοῖον. (*Il*. 5.449-50)

But Apollo of the silver bow fashioned a wraith in the likeness of Aeneas himself and in armor like his.[[2]](#footnote-2)

3. Ἥρα δὲ μεμφθεῖσ’ οὕνεκ’ οὐ νικᾶι θεὰς

ἐξηνέμωσε τἄμ’ Ἀλεξάνδρωι λέχη,

δίδωσι δ’ οὐκ ἔμ’ ἀλλ’ ὁμοιώσασ’ ἐμοὶ

εἴδωλον ἔμπνουν οὐρανοῦ ξυνθεῖσ’ ἄπο

Πριάμου τυράννου παιδί· καὶ δοκεῖ μ’ ἔχειν,

κενὴν δόκησιν, οὐκ ἔχων. (Eur., *Hel*. 31-36)

But Hera, full of resentment because she had not defeated the others, blew my marriage with Alexander to the winds and gave King Priam’s son not myself, but a living *phantom* (*eidolon*)fashioned *out of the upper air* to look like me. He believed it was me he held—an empty belief, because he didn’t.[[3]](#footnote-3)

4. ὅτι τε μεγαλοκευθέεσσιν ἔν ποτε θαλάμοις

Διὸς ἄκοιτιν ἐπειρᾶτο. χρὴ δὲ κατ’ αὐτὸν αἰεὶ παντὸς ὁρᾶν μέτρον.

εὐναὶ δὲ παράτροποι ἐς κακότατ’ ἀθρόαν

ἔβαλον· ποτὶ καὶ τὸν ἵκοντ’· ἐπεὶ νεφέλᾳ παρελέξατο

ψεῦδος γλυκὺ μεθέπων ἄϊδρις ἀνήρ·

εἶδος γὰρ ὑπεροχωτάτᾳ πρέπεν Οὐρανιᾶν

θυγατέρι Κˈρόνου· ἅντε δόλον αὐτῷ θέσαν

Ζηνὸς παλάμαι, καλὸν πῆμα. (Pindar, *Pyth*. 2.33-40)

…because once in the great depths of her chambers he made an attempt on Zeus’ wife. One must always measure everything by one’s own station. Aberrant acts of love cast one into the thick of trouble; they came upon him too, because he lay with a cloud, an ignorant man in pursuit of a sweet lie, for it resembled in looks the foremost heavenly goddess, Kronos’ daughter. Zeus’ wiles set it as a snare for him, a beautiful affliction.[[4]](#footnote-4)

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1. Latin quoted from R.A.B. Mynors’ Oxford Classical Text. Translation adapted from Harrison 1991. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Text from the TLG. Translation from the Loeb Classical Library edition of A.T. Murray and William F. Wyatt. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Text from the TLG. Translation from Burian 2007. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Text and translation of W.H. Race’s Loeb Classical Library edition. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)