

The Archaic Greek *Symposion* and the Culture of *Sophrosyne*

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Susan O. Shapiro
Susan.O.Shapiro@usu.edu

Passage 1: Comic Fragment (Kassel-Austin 8.101.11-13):

... ἐὰν δ' ὑπερβάλῃς, [ὁ οἶνος δίδωσι] ὕβριν,
ἐὰν δ' ἴσον ἴσωσι προσφέρῃ, μανίαν ποιεῖ·
ἐὰν δ' ἄκρατον, παράλυσιν τῶν σωμάτων.

If you exceed the measure, wine brings hybris;
if you drink in the proportion of half and half, it makes for madness;
and if you drink it unmixed, it creates paralysis.

Passage 2: Eubulus 93 (Kassel-Austin 5.244):

ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ:

τρεις γὰρ μόνους κρατῆρες ἐγκεραννύω
τοῖς εὖ φρονούσι. τὸν μὲν ὑγείας ἕνα
ὄν πρῶτον ἐκπίνουσι, τὸν δὲ δεύτερον
ἔρωτος ἡδονῆς τε, τὸν τρίτον δ' ὕπνου.
ὄν ἐκπιόντες οἱ σοφοὶ κεκλημένοι
οἴκαδε βαδίζουσ'. ὁ δὲ τέταρτος οὐκέτι
ἡμέτερος ἐστ' ἀλλ' ὕβρεος, ὁ δὲ πέμπτος βοῆς·
ἕκτος δὲ κώμων, ἕβδομος δ' ὑπωπίων
(ὁ δ') ὄγδοος κλητῆρος, ὁ δ' ἕνατος χολῆς,
δέκατος δὲ μανίας ὥστε κάκβάλλειν ποιεῖ.

5

10

Only three kraters of wine do I mix
for men of good sense. One is for health,
which they drink first; the second
is for love and pleasure; the third is for sleep.
Having drunk this down, those called wise
go home. The fourth krater no longer
belongs to us, but to hybris. The fifth to shouting,
the sixth to revels, the seventh to black eyes.
The eighth belongs to lawsuits, the ninth to anger,
and the tenth to madness that leads to hurling.

Passage 3a: Sappho 58 lines 25-26

ἔγω δὲ φίλημμ' ἀβροσύναν,]τοῦτο καί μοι
τὸ λά[μπρον ἔρος τῶελίω καὶ τὸ κά]λον λέ[λ]ογχε.

But I love *habrosyne*, . . . and love has allotted
to me the brightness and beauty of the sun.

Passage 3b: Sappho Poem 58*

11 νῦν δὴ μ' ἔτι Μοῖσαν ἰοκ[ό]λων κάλα δῶρα, παῖδες,
φίλημμι δὲ φῶνα]γ φιλάοιδαν λιγύραν χελύνναν·

]ποτ'[ἔ]οντα χροά γῆρας ἤδη
ἐγ]έροντο τρίχες ἐκ μελαίναν·

15 βάρυς δέ μ' ὁ [θ]ῦμος πεπόηται, γόνα δ'[ο]ὺ φέροισι,
τὰ δὴ ποτα λαίψηρ' ἔον ὄρησθ' ἴσα νεβρίοισι.

τὰ (μὲν) στεναχίσδω θαμέως· ἀλλὰ τί κεν ποείην;
ἀγήραον ἄνθρωπον ἔοντ' οὐ δύνατον γένεσθαι.

20 καὶ γὰρ π[ο]τα Τίθωνον ἔφαντο βροδόπαχυν Αὔων
ἔρωι φ ἀθρῖσαν βάμεν' εἰς ἔσχατα γᾶς φέροισα[ν,

ἔοντα [κ]άλον καὶ νέον, ἀλλ' αὐτον ὕμως ἔμαρψε
χρόνῳ πόλιον γῆρας, ἔχ[ο]ντ' ἀθανάταν ἀκοίτιν.

]ιμέναν νομίσδει
]αῖς ὀπάσδοι

25 ἔγω δὲ φίλημμι' ἀβροσύναν,]τοῦτο καὶ μοι
τὸ λά[μπρον ἔρος τῶελίω καὶ τὸ κά]λον λέ[λ]ογγε.

Now there are still for me the lovely gifts of the violet-bosomed Muses, children,
and I love the clear-voiced song-loving lyre.

.[my] skin once soft is withered now,
.[my] hair has turned [white] from black.

My heart has become heavy, my knees, which once
were swift to dance like young fawns, fail me.

How often I grieve for these things. But what can I do?
It is impossible for a human being to escape old age.

For they used to say that Dawn with rosy arms, . . . by love,
once carried off Tithonus, going to the ends of the earth,

he was handsome and young, but nevertheless in time,
grey old age seized him, even though he had an immortal wife.

. she thinks
. might give

But I love *habrosyne*, . . . and love has allotted
to me the brightness and beauty of the sun.

* Text and translation from POxy 1787 and PKöln inv. 21351 & 21376, as published in Obbink (2009), with additional notes, suggestions, and modifications from Lidov (2009), Lardinois (2009), Kurke (1992), and Campbell (1982).

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