

### Pindar's Peaceful Rapes

#### 1) Pindar's Piety:

ἔστι δ' ἀνδρὶ φάμεν εὐκοῦς ἀμφὶ δαιμόνων καλά·  
μείων γὰρ αἰτία.

υἱὲ Ταντάλου, σὲ δ' ἀντία προτέρων φθέγξομαι...

...

ἔμοι δ' ἄπορα γαστρίμαργον μακάρων τιν' εἰπεῖν· ἀφίσταμαι·  
ἀκέρδεια λέλογγεν θαμινὰ κακαγόρους.<sup>1</sup>

(*Olympian* 1.35-53)

#### 2) Pelops and Poseidon:

... λάμπει δέ οἱ κλέος  
ἐν εὐάνορι Λυδοῦ Πέλοπος ἀποικία·  
τοῦ μεγασθενῆς ἐράσσατο Γαἰάοχος  
Ποσειδάν...

(37) ὁπότ' ἐκάλεσε πατὴρ τὸν εὐνομότατον  
ἐς ἔρανον φίλαν τε Σίπυλον,  
ἀμοιβαῖα θεοῖσι δεῖπνα παρέχων,  
τότ' Ἀγλαοτρίαιναν ἀρπάσαι,

δαμέντα φρένας ἰμέρω, χρυσέαισί τ' ἀν' ἵππους  
ὑπατον εὐρυτίμου ποτὶ δῶμα Διὸς μεταβᾶσαι·

...

(46) ὡς δ' ἄφαντος ἔπελες, οὐδὲ ματρὶ πολλὰ μαιόμενοι φῶτες  
ἄγαγον...

(*Olympian* 1.23-46)

#### 2b) τῷ μὲν εἶπε· ‘Φύλια δῶρα Κυπρίας ἄγ’ εἴ τι, Ποσειδαον, ἐς χάριν τέλλεται.’

...

(86a) ὡς ἔννεπεν· οὐδ' ἀκράντοις ἐφάσατο  
ἔπεσι. τὸν μὲν ἀγάλλων θεός  
ἔδωκεν δίφρον τε χρύσειον πτεροῖσιν τ' ἀκάμαντας ἵππους.

(*Olympian* 1.75-87)

It is proper for a man to speak well of the gods, for less is the blame.  
Son of Tantalos, of you I shall speak **contrary to my predecessors**...

...

**But for my part, I cannot call any of the blessed gods a glutton—I  
stand back:**

impoverishment is often the lot of slanderers.

“...fame shines for him

In the colony of brave men founded by Lydian Pelops,  
With whom mighty Earthholder Poseidon  
**fell in love**...

...when your father invited the gods  
to his **most orderly feast** and to his friendly Sipylos,  
giving them a banquet in return for theirs,  
then it was that the Lord of the Splendid Trident **seized** you,

**his mind overcome with desire**, and with golden steeds  
conveyed you to the highest home of widely-honored Zeus

...

But you disappeared, and **despite much searching no men returned you  
to your mother**...

“He said to him, “If **the loving gifts of Kypris** count at all for **gratitude**,  
Poseidon, come!”

...

Thus he spoke, and wielded no unfulfilled  
words. The god **honored** him  
with the gift of a golden chariot and winged horses that never tire.”

<sup>1</sup> Text and translation are from Race's 1997 Loeb edition.

### 3) Evadne and Apollo:

ἐνθα **τραφεῖσ'** ὑπ' Ἀπόλλωνι γλυκείας πρῶτον  
ἔψαυσ' Ἀφροδίτας.

οὐδ' ἔλαθ' Αἴπυτον ἐν παντὶ χρόνῳ  
κλέπτοισα θεοῖο γόνον.  
ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν Πυθῶνάδ', ἐν θυμῷ πιέσαις **χόλον οὐ φατὸν**  
ὄξεια μελέτα,  
ᾧχετ' ἰὼν μαντευσόμενος ταύτας περ' **ἀτλάτου πάθας**.  
ἃ δὲ φοινικόκροκον ζώναν καταθηκαμένα  
κάλλιδά τ' ἀργυρέαν **λόχμας ὑπὸ κτανέας**  
τίκτε θεόφρονα κοῦρον. **τᾷ μὲν ὁ χρυσοκόμας**  
**πραῦμητὶν τ' Ἐλεΐθουιαν παρέστασέν τε Μοίρας**.

ἦλθεν δ' ὑπὸ σπλάγχων ὑπ' ὠδίνος τ' ἐρατᾶς Ἴαμος  
ἐς φάος αὐτίκα. τὸν μὲν **κνιζομένα**  
**λεῖπε χαμαί**. δύο δὲ γλαυκῶπες αὐτόν  
δαιμόνων βουλαῖσιν ἐθρέψαντο δράκοντες ἀμεμφεῖ  
ἰῶ μελισσᾶν καδόμενοι.  
(*Olympian* 6.35-47)

### 4) Protogeneia and Zeus:

πρὶν Ὀλύμπιος ἀγεμῶν  
θύγατρ' ἀπὸ γᾶς Ἐπειῶν Ὀπόεντος **ἀναρπάσαις, ἔκαλος**  
μίχθη Μαιναλίαςιν ἐν δειραῖς, καὶ ἔνεικεν  
Λοκρῶ, μὴ καθέλοι νιν αἰὼν πόντον ἐφάψαις  
ὄρφανὸν γενεᾶς. ἔχεν δὲ σπέρμα μέγιστον  
ἄλοχος, **εὐφράνθη τε ἰδὼν ἦρωσ θετὸν υἱόν,**  
...  
**ὑπέρφατον ἄνδρα μορφῆ τε καὶ**  
**ἔργοισι....**  
(*Olympian* 9.57-66)

### 5) Apollo and Cyrene:

τὰν ὁ χαιτάεις ἀνεμοσφαραγῶν ἐκ Παλίου κόλπων ποτὲ Λατοῖδας  
**ἄρπασ'**, ἔνεικέ τε χρυσέῳ παρθένον ἀγροτέραν  
δίφρω, τόθι νιν **πολυμήλου**  
**καὶ πολυκαρποτάτας** θῆκε δέσποιναν χθονός  
ρίζαν ἀπείρου τρίταν **εὐήρατον θάλλουσαν** οἰκεῖν.  
(*Pythian* 9.5-9)

“[Evadne] was brought up there and **in submission to Apollo** first  
experienced **sweet Aphrodite**.

She could not conceal from Aipytos forever that she was hiding the god’s  
offspring.

But he went to Pytho, suppressing the **unspeakable anger** in his heart  
with a stern discipline,

to obtain an oracle concerning that **unbearable calamity**.

She, though, laid down her crimson girdle  
and silver pitcher **under a dark thicket** and began to bear  
a divinely-inspired boy. **To aid her, the golden-haired**  
**god sent gentle-counseling Eleithuia and the Fates,**

and from her womb **amid the welcome birth pains** Iamos  
came immediately into the light. **In her distress**  
**she left him on the ground,**

but two gray-eyed serpents tended him through the gods’ designs and  
nourished him with the blameless venom of bees.”

“Until the ruler of Olympos

**carried off** the daughter of Opos from the land of the Epeians and **quietly**  
lay with her in the Mainalian glens, and brought her  
to Lokros, lest time destroy him and impose a destiny  
with no children. But his spouse was bearing the greatest  
seed, and **the hero rejoiced to see his adopted son;**

...  
**and he became a man beyond description for his beauty**  
**and deeds....”**

“Her [Cyrene] the long-haired son of Leto once **seized** from the  
wind-echoing folds of Pelion

and brought the virgin huntress in his golden  
chariot to a place where **he made her mistress**  
**of a land rich in flocks and abounding in fruit,**

to inhabit the **lovely and flourishing** root of the third continent.

**5b) ὑπέδεκτο δ' ἀργυρόπεζ' Ἀφροδίτα**

**Δάλιον ξείνον θεοδμάτων**

ὀχέων ἐφαπτομένα χερὶ κούφα·

καὶ σφιν ἐπὶ γλυκεραῖς εὐναῖς ἐρατὰν βάλεν αἰδῶ

ξυὸν ἀρμόζοισα θεῶ τε γάμον μιχθέντα κούρα θ' Ὑψέος εὐρυβία.

(*Pythian* 9.9-13)

**5c) ὅσια κλυτὰν χέρα οἱ προσεγεγκεῖν**

ἦρα καὶ ἐκ λεχέων κείραι μελιαδέα ποίαν;

(*Pythian* 9.36-37)

**5d) ὧς ἄρ' εἰπὼν ἔντυεν τερπνὰν γάμου κραίνειν τελευτάν.**

(*Pythian* 9.66)

**6) Coronis and Apollo:**

πρὶν τελέσσαι ματροπόλῳ σὺν Ἐλειθυῖα,

δαμεῖσα χρυσέοις

τόξοισιν ὑπ' Ἀρτέμιδος

εἰς Αἴδα δόμον ἐν θαλάμῳ κατέβα, τέχνας Ἀπόλλωνος.

χόλος δ' οὐκ ἀλίθιος

γίνεται παίδων Διός. ἅ δ' ἀποφλαυρίζαισά νιν

**ἀμπλακίαισι φρενῶν, ἄλλον αἶνησεν γάμον**

**κρύβδαν πατρός,**

πρόσθεν ἀκερσεκόμα μιχθεῖσα Φοῖβῳ,

καὶ φέροισα σπέρμα θεοῦ καθαρὸν.

(*Pythian* 3.9-15)

**6b) οὐδ' ἔλαθε σκοπόν· ἐν δ' ἄρα μηλοδόκῳ Πυθῶνι τόσσαίς ἄϊεν**

ναοῦ βασιλεύς

**Λοξίας, κοινᾶνι παρ' εὐθυτάτῳ γνῶμαν πιθῶν,**

**πάντα ἰσάντι νόφ· ψευδέων δ' οὐχ ἄπτεται,**

**κλέπτει τέ μιν**

**οὐ θεὸς οὐ βροτὸς ἔργοις οὔτε βουλαῖς.**

καὶ τότε γνοὺς Ἴσχυος Εἰλατίδα

ξείνιαν κοίταν ἄθεμίν τε δόλον, πέμψεν κασιγνήταν μένει

θυίοισαν ἀμαίμακέτῳ...

(*Pythian* 3.27-33)

**Silver-footed Aphrodite welcomed**

**Her Delian-born guest**

as she laid a gentle hand on his divinely wrought chariot,

and shed **loving reverence** over their **sweet acts of love**,

joining together in **a marriage of mutual consent** the god and the daughter of mighty Hypseus."

Apollo: "Is it right **to lay my famous hand** upon her

And indeed to **reap** the honey-sweet flower from the bed of love?"

"Thus he [Chiron] spoke and encouraged him to consummate the sweet fulfillment of marriage."

"Before she [Coronis] could bring him [Asclepius] to term with the help of Eleithuia, goddess of childbirth, she was overcome

by the golden arrows of Artemis

in her chamber and went down to the house of Hades through

Apollo's designs. The anger of Zeus' children

is no vain thing. Yet she **made light of it**

**in the folly of her mind** and **unknown to her father** consented to

**another marriage**

although she had previously lain with long-haired Phoebus,

and was carrying the god's pure seed.

"**But she did not elude the watching god**, for although he was in flock-receiving Pytho as lord of his temple,

**Loxias** perceived it, convinced by **the surest confidant**,

**his all-knowing mind**. He does not deal in falsehoods,

and **neither god**

**nor mortal deceives him by deeds or designs**.

And at this time, when he knew of her **sleeping with the stranger**

Ischys, son of Elatos, and her **impious deceit**, he sent his sister

raging with irresistible force...

## 7) Summary:

<u>Poem</u>	<u>Victim</u>	<u>Assailant</u>	<u>Word(s) of Rape</u>	<u>Word(s) of Mitigation</u>
<i>Ol. 1</i>	Pelops	Poseidon	ἄρπάσαι (40)	Φίλια δῶρα Κυπρίας (70) ; χάριν (71)
<i>Ol. 6</i>	Evadne	Apollo	ὑπ' Ἀπόλλωνι (35); κνιζομένα (44)	γλυκείας Ἀφροδίτας (35); ὠδίνος ἐρατᾶς (43)
<i>Ol. 9</i>	Protogeneia	Zeus	ἀναρπάσαις (58)	ἔκαλος (58); εὐφράνθη (62)
<i>Pyth. 9</i>	Cyrene	Apollo	ἄρπασε (6); χέρα προσενεγκεῖν (36)	γλυκεραῖς εὐναῖς (12); ξυνὸν γάμον (13); τερπνὰν γάμου τελευτὰν (66)

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