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PRINTED FOR THE MALONE SOCIETY BY CHARLES WHITTINGHAM & CO. AT THE CHISWICK PRESS

IPHIGENIA AT AULIS TRANSLATED BY LADY LUMLEY

THE MALONE SOCIETY REPRINTS
1909

This edition of Lady Lumley's translation of the *Iphigenia at Aulis* of Euripides has been prepared by Harold H. Child and checked by the General Editor.

Oct. 1909.

W. W. Greg.



17.L2 17.L2

THE play now for the first time printed is the earliest extant attempt to render into English a work of one of the Greek dramatists. The translator was Jane, daughter of Henry Fitzalan, twelfth Earl of Arundel, and wife of John, first Baron Lumley of the second creation. It is a pity that the natural companion of the present piece, Princess Elizabeth's translation, also of a tragedy of Euripides, is not forthcoming.

The volume in which the play is preserved at the British Museum, MS. Reg. 15. A. ix, bears on the first leaf the inscription: 'The doinge of my Lady Lumley dowghter to my L. Therle of Arundell,' while below is the autograph signature of Lord Lumley. It is a quarto volume of 127 leaves, a good many of which are blank and not included in the numbering, which is modern. The contents, all in Lady Lumley's autograph except in the one instance noted, are as follow:

Oratio prima Isocratis ad Demonicum	•	f. 2
Ends imperfectly on f. 2b: f. 3 has headline only: there follow	V	
7 blank leaves unnumbered.		
Epistola		f. 4
A new-year letter to Lord Arundel, to accompany the following		
Oration, and ending: Filia tua tibi deditissima Ioanna Lumleya		
Oratio Isocratis 2ª ad Nicoclem		f. 5
Nicocles, 3ª Oratio Isocratis	. f	. I2
Epistola	. f.	. 23
To Lord Arundel, to accompany the following Oration.		
Euagoras, Oratio quarta Isocratis ad Nicoclem		. 24
There follows I blank leaf unnumbered: another has been cut ou	t.	
Argumentũ Orationis Isocratis quam in laudem pacis scripsit .	. f	. 40
Oratio Isocratis in laudem pacis	. f	. 4I
There follow 2 blank leaves unnumbered.		
The Tragedie of Euripides called Iphigeneia translated out of Greak	e	
into Englisshe	. f	. 63
There follow 13 blank leaves unnumbered.		

A note: acerba audire tolerabilius, quâm videre	. f. 98b
There follow 2 blank leaves unnumbered.	
Two pages of extracts (in a different hand) from charter rolls	
of Yorkshire and Northumberland (temp. Hen. III &	
Edw. I)	. f. 99 ^b
An extract of two pages: Mattheus Siluaticus de lapide aquilæ.	
cap, 395	f. 101 ^b
A note: Nemo poluto queat animo mederi	f. 102 ^b

The whole of the contents are in Latin with the exception of *Iphigenia*. The printed catalogue of the Royal MSS. erroneously states that this too is in Latin, and the statement has been repeated elsewhere. The arrangement of the entry in the catalogue, which separates the play from the orations, has also given rise to an unfounded belief that the former was at one time separate.

The volume appears to have served as a commonplace book or rough copy book. A fair copy of the Fourth Oration is found in another Royal MS., 15. A. ii, a small octavo volume, very carefully written, and uniform with MS. Reg. 15. A. i, containing the 'Oratio Isocratis que Archidamus inscribatur.' This last is certainly a presentation copy to Lord Arundel, and bears on the first leaf an inscription similar to and in the same hand as that in the quarto volume. It also bears Lumley's signature, having passed into his possession with the rest of Arundel's library on the latter's death.

The date of the translations is not known. They were, of course, produced after Lady Lumley's marriage, but were nevertheless in all probability still exercises of childhood. Unfortunately none of the relevant dates are known precisely. John Lumley was most likely born in 1534, Jane Fitzalan probably not later than 1537. Their marriage took place soon after May 1549,

the date of Lumley's matriculation at Cambridge. There is extant (MS. Reg. 17. A. xlix) a translation of 'Erasmus his Institution of a Christian Prince,' bearing at the end the inscription: 'Your lordeshippes obedient sone I. Lumley. 1550.' Since Lumley's own father was executed in 1537, the person addressed can only have been Arundel. The volume, moreover, bears Arundel's name. It seems probable, therefore, that husband and wife pursued their classical studies concurrently, and that the present play was translated at no long period subsequent to their marriage. Lady Lumley was buried on 9 March 1576/7.

The translation, which is by no means either literal or complete, appears from the spelling 'Iphigeneia' to have been made directly from the Greek, and this is indeed inherently probable; but a Latin version of the play by Erasmus had been printed at Paris in 1506, while a complete rendering of the Euripidean tragedies

in that language was also extant.

The present edition follows the MS. line for line, and presents the text as finally corrected by the translator. All alterations are, however, recorded in the following list.

LIST OF IRREGULARITIES AND ALTERATIONS.

N.B.—In this list deletions are indicated by being placed within brackets.

```
Argumt. 1. Tragadie.
                                         248. (no c.w.)
  22. the [ehe] (or [che]) chefeste
                                         254. crastye(!)
  33. a nother
                                         270. (no c.w.)
  48 c.w. fained (49. fainedlye)
                                         283. my | nowne
  56. aske (interlined)
                                         292. an (interlined)
  59. as/thoughe (i.e. written as one
                                         308. honor, [withe]
                                         330. shippes (interlined)
        word and marked for division)
  69. cowcell (cowncell)
                                         364. barbarians (the barbarians)
  84. be [b] let
                                         409 c.w. Me. (410. Mene.)
Text 19. abro- | de [,]? (query in-
                                         422. Ephigeneya,
             serted but comma left)
                                         424. is (interlined)
  21 c.w. wat (22. Watchemen)
                                         455 c.w. gran-
  22. wal- lles:
                                                  (456. graunted,)
                                         475. to [t] be(?)
  36. take (ke written over erasure)
  44 c.w. some- (45. sometimes)
                                               of [the]
  90. whoo, (oo written over erasure)
                                         494. that/thorowghe
                                         505. parte, (r interlined)
 115. choose
 127. Ephigeneya.
                                         508. knowe (n interlined)
 149. Soo (second o altered from t)
                                         523. (no c.w.)
                                         558. complai- | nte. . (?)
 160 c.w. Sen (Sen.)
 165. a noth-| er
                                         590. You [kn (?)] knowe
 183. hinder [this] the
                                         592 c.w. Iphi- (593. Iphi.)
                                         607. mene (ne interlined)
 184. goo. (?)
                                         638. shulde [s] knowe
 245. seruante? (query altered from
                                         648. Aga (Aga.)
        comma)
```

652. fiste (firste)	1128. was [t] reported (?)
654. asonder, (?)	1133. is (it)
676. (no c.w.)	1141. harneste [?] men ? (r
696. it (interlined)	altered from s)
709. Agamemnon[s], (comma	1151. heade? (a interlined and
doubtful)	rather doubtful)
726. your (ur altered from u?)	1153. he (interlined)
731. leda (Leda)	hathe [he] taken
and [, and] the	1157. he (interlined)
740. (no c.w.)	1164. your [daughter] husband,
762 c.w. But (but)	1166. And you (altered from for
783. Agamnon (Agamemnon)	you)
784 c.w. de- (785. determined)	1171 c.w. ther- (1172. therfore)
796. he (interlined)	1201. witstande (withstande)
804 c.w. Aga.	1208. barbarias (barbarians)
(Sen. Agamemnon)	1213. O (interlined)
853. noble/man.	1215. one[,]: (e altered and
854. How [best] I praye	doubtful)
(therfore interlined)	1220 c.w. more (e altered
859. flatterer (re interlined)	from 0)
874. [Iti] It is	1227. desire (r interlined)
893. (no c.w.)	1251. bothe [bot] be
900. shall [y] be yours/and	1255. saye [from] your (to
(rs/ inserted?)	interlined)
934. owne [daughter]. (childe	1286. (no c.w.)
interlined)	1293. for-[sake [you] nowe.
984 c.w. ought (985. oughte)	(me interlined)
990. of (interlined)	1332. speke (k altered and
1000. [tl] trulye (?)	blotted)
1021. cause [whiche] who	1348. wellthe (well written over
1029. you [y] to	erasure)
1030. me (interlined)	13 51. preuilie. (?)
1052. sis- ter [be] slayne,	1354. [had] weare
1064. [knowe] not	1361. iorney[:].
1074. de- liuer/you (r/ inserted?)	1362. the (interlined)
1081. broughtup (?)	1364. wher [s] he
1099. may [maye] hide	1365. there/chaunced (e/ in-
1107, 1112. your (r interlined,	serted)
perhaps you')	1366. uoice (possibly noice for
1113. nwes, (first stroke of worigin-	noise)
ally intended for i and dotted)	1368. meruelinge (r inserted)
	-3

```
1382. lenger (first e altered from 0)

1392. taken [up]

1393. [r(?)] up

1396. that (interlinea)

1408 c.w. Cho (Cho.)

1409. goddes (interlined)
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A peculiarity of the hand is that 'u' is used consistently in all positions for vowel and consonant alike. Long 's' is usually found initially and medially except before 't' and in the second position when doubled. It has not been retained in the reprint. A minuscule 'f' repeatedly appears after a period. Ornamental flourishes complete the half-filled lines at the end of speeches and also frequently occur after catchwords. Many of the latter are followed by a stop which is not needed, but in these cases the stop has been treated as part of the flourish and omitted in the reprint. On folio 69^a the running-title is miswritten 'Iphigeneneya.'

A list of characters is given on folio 65^b. The names are in order of entrance except that the Nuntius should appear after Menelaus. The exact points of entry and exit are unmarked and not always clear, but the following tentative list may be of use. The Chorus may be assumed to be present throughout, though this is not certain.

1. Enter Agamemnon, Senex.

206. Enter Menelaus.

250 or later. Exit Senex.

421. Enter Nuntius.

447. Exit Nuntius.

560. Exit Menelaus.

572. Enter Clytemnestra and Iphi-

657. Exit Iphigenia.

705. Exit Clytemnestra.

708. Exit Agamemnon.

709. Enter Achilles.

719. Enter Clytemnestra.

768. Enter Senex.

814 or later. Exit Senex.

904. Exit Achilles.

905. Enter Agamemnon.

917. Enter Iphigenia.

1075. Exit Agamemnon.

1108. Enter Achilles.

1236. Exit Achilles.

1318. Exit Iphigenia.

1331. Enter Nuntius.

1390. Exit Nuntius.

1400. Enter Agamemnon.

1411. Exeunt omnes.

15. A.15. Eins of my Lady Comby
Solvey for So my Lady Comby
Solvey for Somy Lady Comby
Strandown

Lumler.

· DREW. SAR-(資本LIFORNIA

MS. Reg. 15. A. IX.—Folio i recto

HARA OFF ARRESTELLAS Here beginnethe the tragedic of Environes called sphigeneral.

Aga. Come hether Othon olde man. Sen! ome. but what is the matter 0 kinge! Thon Shalte knowe anone. Sen / I make haste to come, for my onlde age
lis nerie guicke and redie, for bothe
the strengthe of my limmes and also
the sighte of mine eyes dothe yet ion:
tinne. Aga! But what meanethe this, me thinkes I see a stoure shate? / - 1. ~! It maye be so in dede: for it is not yet Omidingsite, as it may be indeed by the course of the seven startes. 1. ga. I thinke to ta. for I heave no moise of Phirdes, neither of the leac, nor yet of the Winde, all thinges nowe are gniete and at reste. Sen! What is the cause. Okinge, that at this time of mighte, thou comeste abro-de for all they that be of this himen take their veste still yea and the Wat

TO WIND AIMPOTELIAD The Tragedie of Euripides called Iphigeneia translated out of Greake into Englisshe.

The Argument of the Tragadie.

After that the captaines of the grecians withe the nauye and the other preparacions of battell, did come together unto the hauen of Aulida, that from thens they mighte saile towardes Troye: ther came sodenly suche a calme wether, that for wante of wynde they coulde haue no passage. Wherfore the hooste beinge greued that they spent there their time idlelye, 10 asked cowncell of the wisemen, to whom Calchas the propheciar awnswered, that if Iphigeneia the daughter of Agamemnon weare sacraficed to the goddes Diana of Aulida, that then the grecians shulde have a fortunate passage to Troye. Wherfore the hooste beinge called together, Menelaus did perswade his brother Agamemnon to agree that his daughter might be sente for. And bicause that Clytemnestra her mother shul-20 de be the willinger to let hir goo, they fained that she shulde be maried to Achilles one of the chefeste noble men of grece. This excuse none knewe but only Agamemnon, Menelaus, Calchas, and Vlysses. But Agamenon after that he had written unto his wife

wife of this matter, repented greately that whiche he had done, lamentinge moche the deathe of his daughter. Wherfore in the nighte he wrote other letters preuely unto his wife, declaringe that she shulde 30 not nede to sende the uirgine hir daughter unto Aulyda: for hir mariage shulde be deferred unto a nother time. Thes letters he delivered afore daye unto an olde man his seruante, that he mighte carye them into grece, declaringe unto him, what they conteined. But Menelaus waitinge afore daye for the cominge of the uirgine, toke the olde man carienge the letter, and did reproue Agamemnon uerye uehementlye, for his unconstantesie. 40 In the meane time one of Clitemnestras company tolde Agamemnon, Menelaus beinge ther present, that Iphigeneia withe her mother Clitemnestra, and yonge Orestes hir brother was come unto Aulida, and that all the hooste knewe of their cominge. Menelaus then perceiuinge that Agamemnon colde not sende his daughter home againe, began fained [fol. 64]

fainedly eto perswade him not to sley the uirgine 50 for his sake. In the meane time whilste they are resoninge of this matter, Clitemnestra comethe in withe Iphigenia hir doughter, thorowe whos cominge Agamenon is wonderfully trobled, bycause he purposed to keape secrete the cownsell of his daughters deathe. Wherfore whilste he goethe about to aske counsell of Calchas, Achilles comethe in the meane time to chide withe him. Whom Clitemnestra hearinge, she dothe salute him as thoughe 60 he sholde haue bene hir sõneinlawe. Achilles beinge ignorante of this matter dothe wonder at it. Then Agamemnons seruante the olde man to whom the letters weare deliuered, dothe bewray Agamenons counsell, and declarethe to them the hole matter. Then Achilles beinge angrie that under the cooler of his name, they had determined the deathe of the uirgine, he dothe defende hir in the cowcell of the grecians, 70 that she shulde not be slaine, but he is ouercomed withe the voice of the comon people. Wherfore whan the matter was broughte to suche a troble, that the whole hooste

hooste required the uirgine, and Achilles onlye was redie to contende againste them all. Then Iphigenia her selfe chauged hir minde, and perswadethe hir mother, that it is better for her to dye a glorious deathe, then that for the safegarde only of hir life, either so many nobleme 80 shoulde fall out within them selues, or else suche a noble enterprise, beinge taken in hande, shulde shamefullye againe be let slippe. Wherfore she beinge brought to the aulter of the goddes, was taken up to the countrie of Taurus, and in hir place was white harte. And whan the sacrafice was thus finisshed the grecians sailed to Troye. 90

The ende of the Argument.

The names of the spekers in this Tragedie.

- 1. Agamemnon, the kinge.
- 2. Senex, an olde man his seruante.
- 3. Chorus, a companie of women.
- 4. Menelaus, Agamenons brother.
- 5. Clytemnestra, Agamenons wife.
- 6. Iphigeneia, the daughter of Clitemnestra and Agamenon.
- 7. Achylles, her fained husbande.
- 8. Nuncius, the messenger.

Here beginnethe the tragedie of Euripides called Iphigeneia.

Aga. Come hether O thou olde man.

Sen. I come, but what is the matter O kinge?

Aga. Thou shalte knowe anone.

Sen. I make haste to come, for my oulde age is uerie quicke and redie, for bothe the strengthe of my limmes, and also the sighte of mine eyes dothe yet continue.

Aga. But what meanethe this, me thinkes
I see a starre shoote?

10

Sen. It maye be so in dede: for it is not yet midnighte, as it may be iudged by the course of the seuen starres.

Aga. I thinke so too, for I heare no noise of birdes, neither of the seae, nor yet of the winde, all thinges nowe are quiete and at reste.

Sen. What is the cause, O kinge, that at this time of nighte, thou comeste abrode? for all they that be of this hauen 20 take their reste still: yea and the [fol. 66] wat

Watchemen as yet are not come from the wallles: wherfore I thinke it mete to goo in.

Aga. O thou oulde man thou semeste unto me to be uerye happie: for trulie I do thinke that mortall man to be uerye fortunate, whiche beinge witheout honor dothe leade his life quietlye: for I can not judge their estate to be happie, whiche rule in honor.

Sen. In thes thinges the glorie and renowne of 30 mans life dothe chefelye consiste.

Aga. But this renowne is uerye brickle, for to wisshe for dignitie, it semethe uerye plesant, but it uexethe them that obtaine it: for sometimes the goddes not trulye honored take uengance of mans life, and otherwhiles againe mens mindes withe care and thoughte to bringe their matters to passe are wonderfully troubled.

Sen. I do not praise this opinion in a noble 40 man, for O Agamemnon, thou waste not borne to haue all thinges chaunce happely unto the: for seinge thou arte a mortall man, thou muste sometime reioyse, and

some-

sometimes againe be sorie; for whether you will or no, this muste nedes happen, bycause it is so appointed by the goddes. But me thinkes you are writinge a letter by candle lighte: what is this writinge? that you have in your hande? 50 whiche sometime you teare, and then write againe: otherwhiles you seale it, and anone unseale it againe, lametinge, and wepinge. For you seme to make suche sorowe, as thoughe you weare out of your witte: What is the matter, O kinge, what is the matter: If you will shewe it me, you shall tell it to a trustie man and a faithefull: for thou knoweste me to be one that Tindarus thy 60 wives father sente with hir, as parte of hir dowrie: bicause he thoughte me to be a messenger mete for suche spouse.

Aga. Thou knoweste that Leda Thyestes daughter, had thre daughters Phæbes and Clytemnestra, whom I maried:

[fol. 67] and

and Helena whom manye noble men desired to have to their wives: But hir father Tindarus consideringe what greate destruction 70 was thretened to them that obtained hir: doughted longe, whether he shulde giue hir in mariage to any of them, or noo. Wherfore bycause he desired to haue all thinges to happen prosperousely, he caused all the younge men that desired to marie his daughter, to come all together into the temple, and ther to make a promise eche to other before the goddes, that yf any man either grecian or els barbarian woulde 80 goo about to take Helena from him, who she choose to be hir husbande: that than they all wolde withe cruell battell take uengance of that man. And this beinge thus brought to passe, Tyndarus gaue her free libertie to chose amonge them all, whom she liked beste: and she choose Menelaus: but I wolde to god it had not happened: for withein a while after, Paris, whoo, as the comon uoice saithe 90

was

was iudge betwene the goddes of their bewtie, came to Lacedemon and he beinge a goodlie yonge man, and of noble parentage, began to fall in loue withe her and so takinge hir priuelye awaye, broughte hir to a litle uillage, uppon the hill Ida. But as sone as thes nwes weare broughte to Menelaus, he beinge as one halfe out of his witte for anger, began to reherse the 100 couenante, whiche he and diuers other noble men had made betwixte them at the desire of Tindarus: sainge that it was mete that they than shulde helpe him, seinge he was oppressed withe suche a manyfeste iniurye. And the grecians beinge wonderfully moued withe his petefull complainte decreed, that they all wolde withe battaile inuade the Troianes, whiche so wron-110 gefully had taken awaye Hellen. Wherfore after that they had prepared weapons, horses, charettes, and all [fol. 68]

all other thinges necessarie for the battell they choose me to be their captaine, bicause I was Menelaus brother. But I wolde that this honor had happened to some other in my place: for nowe we havinge gathered together our hooste, and prepared our selues ready to battell, are constray-120 ned to tary here idle at this hauen, bicause the windes beinge againste us, we can saile no further. And Calchas the prophesier studienge longe what shulde be the cause of it and occasion, at lengthe hathe answered that if my daughter Ephigeneya be slaine and sacrafised to the goddes Dyana, that then the whole hooste shall not onlye haue free passage to Troye, but also uictoriously conquer it: 130 But witheout the dethe of my daughter, none of all thes thinges can be broughte to passe. As sone as I harde of this, I comanded that the hooste shulde be sente home agayne. For I answered that my daughter shulde neuer be slayne throughe my consent.

But

But I usinge all maner of meanes to perswade my brother to the contrarie, yet notwithstandinge I was so moued with his ernest desire, that at lengthe, I 140 agreinge to his cruell requeste, wrote a letter to my wife, that she shulde sende my daughter hether. And bicause she shulde be the better willinge to let hir goo, fained that she shulde be maried to Achilles: bicause he was so desirous of her, that he denied to goo to battell, witheout he might haue hir to his wife; Soo that nowe I have determined the deathe of my daughter, under the color 150 of mariage, and none knoweth of this, only Menelaus, Calchas, and Vlisses. But nowe I repentinge me of the message whiche I wrote to my wife of, haue here in this letter denied all that I saied before. So that if you will carie this letter unto greace, I will declare unto you all that is conteined in it, bicause I knowe you to be a faithefull seruante, bothe to my wife and me. 160

[fol. 69]

Sen

- Sen. Shew me I praye you, what answere I shall make to your wife agreable to the letter?
- Aga. Tell hir that she shall not nede at this time to sende my daughter hether: for her mariage shall be differred unto a nother time.
- Sen. Will not Achilles thinke you be angerie, for that under the color of him you have determined the deathe of your doughter?
- Aga. Achilles bearethe the name onlye: but he is not partaker of the thinge. Neither knowethe he what crafte we goo aboute.
- Sen. Thou haste prepared greuouse thinges, O kinge, for thou haste determined to sacrafice thy owne childe, under the colour of mariage.
- Aga. Alas, I was than wonderfully disceived, for the whiche I am nowe meruelou-180 sely trobled. Wherfore I praie thee make haste, and let not thy oulde age hinder the in this iourney.

 Sen.

- Sen. I make haste to goo, O kinge.
- Aga. Do not staie by the plesante springes, and tarie not under the shadoinge trees, neither let any slepe hinder the.
- Sen. Do not you thinke any suche slouthefulnes in me O kinge.
- Aga. I praie you marke well the waye, 190 and loke aboute it diligentely, leste that my wife preuentinge you, happen to come hether withe my daughter in the meane time.
- Sen. It shalbe done euen so.
- Aga. Make haste I praie the, and if thou mete my wife, turne hir backe againe.
- Sen. But what shall I do that your wife and your daughter may beleue me?
- Aga. Deliuer them this token, whiche 200 is enclosed in this letter: go quickely, for the daye beginnethe to apeare: I pray the helpe me nowe in this matter: for ther is no man to whom all thinges have chaunsed happelye.

 [fol. 70] Cho.

- Cho. What is this? me thinkes I see Menelaius striuinge withe Agamemnons seruante.
- Sen. Darest thou O Menelaus comitte so greuous an offence in takinge awaye thos letters, whiche is neither mete, 210 neither lawfull that thou shuldest see.
- Mene. Goo thy waye thou arte to faithefull to thy master.
- Sen. Truly you have objected to me a good reproche.
- Mene. Thou haste deserued ponisshement.
- Sen. It is not mete that thou shuldeste open thos letters, whiche I carie.
- Mene. Neither oughtest thou to bringe 220 suche a mischefe uppon all grece.
- Sene. Thou striueste in uaine, Menelaius, for I will not deliuer my letters to the.
- Mene. Thou shalte not passe withe them.
- Senex. And I will not leue them behinde me.

Me.

- Me. If thou wilte not deliuer them to me I will breake thy hede withe my mace.
- Sen. I passe not for that: for I thinke it a good thinge to dye for my masters 230 cause.
- Men. O thou frowarde felowe deliuer me thi letters and make no more busynes heare.
- Sen. Helpe O Agamenon I suffer iniurie heare of Menelaus: for withe stronge hande, he hath taken awaie your letter and he passethe not of honestie nor yet of righte.
- Aga. Howe, what busines, and contention 240 is ther amongste you?
- Sen. I oughte rather to tell the matter then you Menelaius.
- Aga. What haue you to do Menelayus withe my seruante? or what cause haue you to striue withe him, and to take awaie that whiche pertainethe to me?

[fol. 71]

- Mene. Turne towarde me I praye you that I maye tell you all the matter. 250
- Aga. Thinke you, that I the sone of Atreus am afraide to loke uppon the Menelaus?
- Mene. Seeste thou O Agamemnon thes thy letters whiche conteine thy craftye counsell?
- Aga. I see them uery well, but thou shalte not keape them longe.
- Mene. Suerlie I will not deliuer them to the before that I haue shewed them unto the whole hooste.
- Aga. Wilte thou desire to knowe that whiche dothe not become the, and darest thou open the seales of my letters?
- Mene. As sone as I had opened thy letter I merueyled what mischefe had put thos thinges in thi mynde, whiche thou haste priuely declared in this letter.
- Aga. Wheare diddest thou get my letter?

- Mene. I toke them from your seruante, for I watchinge by the hooste to heare of your daughters cominge, bi chaunce met withe him.
- Aga. Do you thinke it mete, that you shulde knowe of my matters, I praye you, is not this a token of a naughtie and unshamefaste man?
- Me. It was my pleasure so to do: for I owe no dutie to the.
- Aga. Thinke you that I can suffer this so greuous a thinge, that I shulde neyther do my busines, nor yet rule my nowne house after my fansye?
- Mene. Suerlye you chaunge your minde oftentimes, for sometime you thinke one thinge, and by and by ageyne you are in a nother minde.
- Aga. In dede you file your wordes well:
 but a lerned tonge disposed to euell 290
 is a naughtie thinge.

 [fol. 72] Mene.

Mene. Yea, and an unconstante, and a divers minde is as euell. But nowe I will ouercome you withe your owne wordes if you will not denie them for anger: for I will not speake them gretlye for your prayse. Do not you remember that whan you desired to be made captaine ouer the grecians you semed to refuse it? althoughe in 300 deade you wisshed for it: howe lowlie than did you shewe your selfe, takinge euerie man by the hande, and kepinge open householde, and salutinge euerie man after his degree, as thoughe you wolde haue bought your honor withe the good will of the people. But as sone as you had obtained this honor, you began to change your condicions: for you refused the frendshipe of them, 310 whiche had shewed them selues frindly to you afore, and then you waxed proude, kepinge your selfe secretly within your house. But it dothe not become a good man to chaunge his fassions after that he is in honor, for he oughte than

to be more faithefull to his frindes, when that he is in place to do them pleasure. I have objected this reproche unto you, bicause I my selfe haue had 320 profe of it. After that you withe the whole hooste weare come to this haue, you weare careles: but whan you coulde haue no passage ouer the see, and the grecians desired license to goo home, refusinge to spende their time idelly heare, Then you beinge wonderfully trobled, fearinge leaste an euell reporte shulde rise of you, bicause you beinge captaine ouer a thousande shippes shulde not 330 ouercome Troie, you asked counsell of me what you mighte do, that you mighte neither loose dignite, nor yet dishonor your name. Wherfore as sone as Calchas the proficier had answered that the grecians shulde bothe passe the see quiately, and also conquer Troye, if your daughter weare sacrafised to the goddes Diana, then you weare uerye gladde, [fol. 73] and

and promised of your owne accorde to giue 340 your daughter to be sacrafised: and beinge not compelled by any power, you sente unto your wife for your daughter, faininge that she sholde be maried to Achilles. But nowe sodenly you have chaunged your minde, and haue written other letters: saienge that you will not agree to the deathe of your owne childe: take hede that you do not denie this, for the heauen it selfe can beare witnes of your 350 saienges. Truly this same dothe happen to divers other men, whiche in the beginninge whan they take any weightie matter in hande, do labor uerie diligentlie till they have obteyned it, and then they leue it of shamefullye: whiche shame dothe chance sometimes throughe the fearfulnes of the subjectes, and sometimes whan they do rule the comon welthe whiche are unmete for it. But nowe I do 360 chefelye lamente the state of the unfortunate grecians, whiche whan they toke in hande a noble enterprise againste the

barbarians, are constrained throughe your occasion, and your daughters, withe grete dishonor to leaue the same. Wherfore truly I thinke that no captaine ought to be chosen for dignite, nor yet for fauor, but rather for witte: for he that shulde rule an hooste, oughte 370 in wisedome to excell all other.

Cho. Suerly it is a greuous thinge that one shulde fall out withe an other: but speciallie that any contention shulde be amonge brethren.

Aga. Nowe I will tell you of your fautes, Menelaus, but in fewe wordes, leste I shulde seme to be unshamfaste. Wherfore I will speake to you as it becumethe one brother to an other. Tell 380 me I praye you, why you do sighe so? who hathe done you any iniurye? Do you lament the takinge awaye of your wife? But we can not promise you to get hir againe for you. For you your selfe haue bene the occasion [fol. 74]

Iphigeneya. of your owne troble. Wherfore seinge I haue

not offended you: ther is no cause that I shulde suffer ponisshement for that, whiche I am not giltie of. Dothe my prefer-390 ment troble you? or els dothe the desier of your bewtifull wife uexe you? for euell men diuers times haue suche like desiers. And althoughe truly I am to blame, for that I haue not better determined my matters, yet I feare me leste you are moche more to be repreheded, for that you beinge deliuered of an euell wife, can not be contented.

Cho. Thes saienges truly do not agree withe 400 that whiche was spoken before. Yet not-withestandinge they do teache us well, that we oughte not willingly to hurte our children.

Aga. Alas I wretche haue neuer a frinde. Mene. Yes you haue diuers frindes, excepte you will neglecte them.

Aga. But it dothe become frindes to lamete one withe an other.

Me.

- Mene. If you wolde haue frindes, you weare 410 beste to loue them, whom you desier to helpe: and not them whom you wolde hurte.
- Aga. Why, do you not thinke that grece nedethe helpe in this matter?
- Mene. Yes, but I thinke that bothe you, and grece also are bewitched of some god.
- Aga. Brother me thinkes you are to proude of honor: wherfore I muste seake some other waie, and get me other frindes. 420
- Nun. O Agamemnon, thou ualiant captaine, I have broughte to the Ephigeneya, thy daughter, whom thou diddeste sende for: and withe hir is come Clitenestra thy wife, and Orestes, that thou mightest be comforted withe the sighte of them. I have made haste to bringe you this nwes: bicause I see all the grecians waitinge for the cominge of your daughter as it 430 weare for some strange thinge, [fol. 75]

and some of them saye, that you have sente for hir bycause you are desirous to see her, other judge that she shulde be maried, and some thinkethe that she shulde be sacraficed to the goddes Dyana. me, O kinge, I praye the, to whom shall she be maried? But nowe let us leaue to speake of suche thinges, for it is nede and time to prepare that whi- 440 che shalbe necessarie for the weddinge. Wherfore I praye you Menelaius, also be merie, for this day as I truste shall be uerie fortunate to Iphigeneya. Aga. Thou haste saied well, wherfore goo thou in, for all thinges will chance happely to the. But what shall I saye whiche am thus in troble, and yet may not bewaile my owne miserye. for this occasion they whiche are of 450 seme unto me uerie meane estate happie. for they may complaine miserie, and bewaile teares the deathe of their children but to noble men no suche thinge is

gran-

graunted, for I dare not lament my unfortunate chaunce, and yet it greuethe me that I may not shewe my miserie. Wherfore I knowe not what I shulde saie unto my wife, nor withe what face 460 I shulde loke uppon her. Alas she hathe undone me bicause of her cominge, althoughe in dede she thinkethe she hath a good occasion, for she beleuethe that hir daughter shalbe maried, in whiche thinge she shall finde me a liar. Againe I have pitie of the litell gerle, for I knowe she will speake thus unto me, O father will you kill me? if you forsake me, of whom shall I aske remedie, Alas what 470 answer shall I make to this, suerly nature oughte to moue me to pitie, and if that wolde not, yet shame shulde let me. Alas, Alas: What a greate reproche is it, the father to be an occasion of his owne childes deathe. Howe therfore am I trobled? On this parte pitie and [fol. 76] shame

shame, on the other side honor and glorie do the moche moue me.

Cho. We also lamente your chaunce, so moche as 480 it becomethe women to lamente the miserie of princes.

Me. I praye you brother let me see your hande.

Aga. I giue you libertie: for I will put all the uictorie in your hande.

Me. I will not flatter you brother, but I will shewe you faithefully my opinion. Suerly when I sawe you in suche miserie I was moued withe brotherly pitie, and lamented moche your chaunce. Wherfore 490 nowe I cownsell you, not to sleye your daughter, neyther to do your any domage for my cause. for it is not mete, that thoroughe my occasion you shulde hinder either your selfe, or any of your children. For I waienge the matter, consider what a greuous thinge it is to kille your owne childe. And besides this I pitie moche hir, bycause I do consider she is my kinswomã 500 and hathe not deserued to dye for Helen's cause.

cause. Wherfore I will councell you not to sacrafice your daughter, but rather to sende home againe the whoole hooste, And as for my parte, I will agre unto you. For I consideringe howe a father oughte to loue his childe, haue chaunged clene my opinion: for I knowe a good man ought to folowe that whiche is good.

- Cho. O Menelayus, you haue spoken lyke a noble man.
- Aga. I praise you Menelaus bicause you haue chaunged your minde so gentlelye.
- Me. Suerlye ambition and desire of welthe hathe caused moche strife betwene bretherne, howbeit I do abhorre soche cruell brotherhoode.
- Aga. Althoughe you are agreed, yet I am compelled to slee my daughter. 52
- Me. Whie, no bodie will compell you.
- Aga. Yes trulye the whole hooste will requier hir of me.

[fol. 77]

- Mene. If you will sende her home againe, you neade not deliuer her to the grecians.
- Aga. If I shulde deceiue them heare, then they wolde ponisshe me, whan I come home.
- Mene. You oughte not trulie to feare so moche the hooste: for they knowe not of 530 this matter.
- Aga. But I doute leste Calchas shewe them of it.
- Mene. You may remedie that in ponisshinge him.
- Aga. Brother do you not feare Vlisses? Mene. Yes trulye, for it dothe lie in his power to hurte either you or me.
- Aga. I doughte that for he studiethe uerye moche to get the good will and fauor 540 of the people.
- Mene. He is desirouse in dede of ambition and honor.
- Aga. If he shulde gather the people together, and declare unto them what Calchas hathe saied of my daughter, suerlie he

he might quickelye perswade them to sleye you and me, that thay might get her the easelier. But if it shulde chaunce that I shulde flie, then truly they 550 wolde not onlie seke to destroie me, but also my children. Nowe therfore seinge that I am in soche troble that I knowe not what to do, I shall desier you, O Menelaius, not to shewe this nwes unto my wife, before that Iphigeneya be all redie sacrafised, that I may be lesse moued withe hir pitious complainte. And I praye you also, O ye women, not to open this matter.

Cho. Truly we may see nowe, that they are mooste happie, whiche beinge neither in to hye estate, nor yet oppressed withe to moche pouertie, may quietly enioye the companie of their frindes. But beholde heare comethe Clytemnestra the quene and Iphigeneya her daughter, beinge adorned withe all nobles, Let us therfore mete hir [fol. 78]

with emochemirthe, leste she shulde be abasshed 57° at hir cominge into a strange countrye.

Cly. This trulye is a token of good lucke that so manye noble women meate us. Let us therfore come downe from our charet, that they may bringe us to Agamemnons lodginge.

Iphi. I praye you mother be not offended withe me, thoughe I do embrace my father.

Cly. O kinge Agamemnon I am come hether to fulfill your comaundement in that 580 you sente for me.

Iphi. And I also, O father, am come beinge not a litle ioyous that I maye see you.

Aga. Neither am I sorie of your companye daughter, for of all my childre I loue you beste.

Iphi. What is the cause father, that you seame to be so sadde, seinge you saye, you are so ioyfull at our comminge.

Aga. You knowe daughter, that he whiche 590 rulethe an hooste shall haue diuers occations to be trobled.

Iphi-

- Iphi. Althoughe in dede a captaine ouer an hooste shall be disquieted withe sondrie causes, yet I praye you set aside all soche trobles, and be merie withe us whiche are therfore come unto you.
- Aga. I will followe your councell daughter, for
 I will reioyse as longe as I may have
 your companie.
- Iphi. But what meanethe this father that you do lament so?
- Aga. I have good cause to morne: for after this daye I shall not see you ageine of a greate while.
- Iphi. I do not understande, O father, what you mene by this.
- Aga. Trulye daughter the more wittely you speake, the more you troble me.
- Iphi. If it be so father, then will I studie 610 to seme more folisshe that you may be delited.

[fol. 79]

Aga.

- Aga. Suerly I am constrained to praise gretlye your witte, for I do delite moche in it.
- Iphi. I praye you than father set awaye all other busines, and tarie amongste us your children.
- Aga. Indede I am desirous so to do, althoughe I can not as yet haue libertie.
- Iphi. What is the matter father that you tarie heare so longe in this hauen.
- Aga. Trulye we are desirous to goo hens, but we can haue no passage.
- Iphi. Where I praye you dwell thos people whiche are called the troians?
- Aga. They are under the kyngdome of Priamus.
- Iphi. I wolde to god I might goo withe you into thos parties.
- Aga. I will graunte you your requeste daughter, for I am determined to take you with me.
- Iphi. Shall I goo alone, or els with my mother?
- Aga. No trulie you shall neither haue the companie of me, nor yet of your mother. Iphi.

- Iphi. Whie? will you set me in a strange house?
- Aga. Leaue to enquier of suche thinges, for it is not lawfull that women shulde knowe them.
- Iphi. Make haste O father to goo unto Troye, that you may come quickely ageine 640 from thens.
- Aga. So I do daughter, but I muste sacrafice firste.
- Iphi. Shall I be at the sacrafice father?
- Aga. Ye daughter, for you muste be one of the chefeste.
- Iphi. Why? shall I dawnce aboute it?
- Aga Truly I counte my selfe more happie bicause you do not understande me, goo your waye therfore and make you 650 redie withe the other uirgins. But let me fiste take my leaue of you, for this daye shall seperate you and me [fol. 80]

farre asonder; althoughe this your mariage shalbe uerie noble, yet truly it dothe greue me to bestowe you so farre of, whom withe suche care I haue brought up.

Cli. Althoughe you are somewhat trobled yet I am not of so slender a wit, but that I can easely be perswaded, seinge that bothe the 660 custome and also time dothe require. but tell me I praye you shall not Achilles be my daughters husbande?

Aga. Yes trulie.

Cli. He is a mete mariage in dede, but I am desirous to knowe wher he dwellethe.

Aga. His dwellinge is aboute the flode Aphidna.

Cli. Whan I praye you shall the weddinge be?

Aga. Trulie uerie shortelie, for we make haste to goo hence.

Cli. If it be so, then you have nede to sacrefice that whiche muste be done before the weddinge.

Aga. I will goo about it therfore, that the mariage may be done the quickelier.

Cli. Wher I pray you shall the feste be?

- Aga. Heare bicause of the hooste.
- Cli. Shewe me I praye you the place, that I may be partaker of it.
- Aga. I praye you wife obey me in this matter. 680
- Cli. What cause haue you, O kinge, to saie so, for whan did I euer disobey you?
- Aga. I am determined to marie my daughter here.
- Cli. Shall not I beinge hir mother be at the weddinge?
- Aga. No trulie: for she shalbe maried amongste the grecians.
- Cli. Wheare then shall I tarie?
- Aga. It is beste for you to goo againe to grece. 690
- Cli. If I leave my daughter behinde me, who shall than be in my steade?
- Aga. Trulie I will do your office: for it doth not become you to be amongste suche a companye of men.

 [fol. 81] Cli.

Cli. Althoughe that it be not mete indede: yet the mother ought to be at the mariage of the daughter.

Aga. But I thinke you have more nede to be amongste your other daughters at grece: 700 make you redie therfore to go home.

Cli. I will not goo home yet, for you oughte to do sacrafice onlie: but I muste see all thinges made redie for the mariage.

Aga. I haue labored in uayne: for althoughe I haue used deceite and crafte, yea unto my dearest frindes: yet I can not fulfill my purpose.

Achyll. Wher is Agamemnon, the captaine of the grecians, or who of his seruantes will call 710 him unto me. For I beinge moued withe the pitious complaintes of the people, am compelled to enquire of their captaines the cause, whi they beinge constrayned to forsake bothe their wives, their children, and also their countrie, nowe lie heare idlely without any ualiant dedes doinge?

Cly.

- Cly. As sone as I harde your uoice, O Achilles,
 I came out hastely to meate you.

 72
- Achyll. What woman is this that semeth so bewtiful?
- Cly. I do not meruell thoughe you knowe not me, whom you neuer sawe: Yet neuertheles, I muste nedes praise your shamefastenes.
- Achill. Who are you I pray you, that you beinge a woman dare come amongste suche a companie of men?
- Cly. My name is Clitemnestra, and I am 730 the daughter of leda and the wife of Agamemnon.
- Achill. You have declared uerie well in few wordes what you are, and althoughe you be a noble woman, yet is it not lawfull for me to tarie heare.
- Cli. Whether goo you I praye you let us shake handes to gether: for I truste this mariage shalbe uerie fortunate unto you.

740

[fol. 82]

- Achil. It is not lawfull that I shulde be so familiar withe Agamemnons wife.
- Clit. Yes trulie you may well inoughe, seinge you shall marie my daughter.
- Achill. I do not knowe what mariage you meane, excepte you haue harde some nwes, whiche bicause you knowe to be untrue, you reporte as a false tale.
- Clit. I do not meruell, allthoughe you will not be acknowen of this mariage: for it is the fassion 750 of all younge men to kepe it secrete for a time.
 - Achil. No trulie I will not dissemble withe you for in dede I neuer desired the mariage of your daughter.
- Clit. Yf it be so in dede, then I maruell as moche of your saienges as you did of mine.
- Achill. Tell me I praye you wherfore you haue spoken thes thinges: for it may happen that bothe of us are deceived. 760
- Clitt. Thinke you that it is not a grete shame unto me, that I have tolde suche a lye,

 But

but I will nowe goo, and knowe the truthe of all this matter.

- Achill. Tell me I praie you, or you goo hence, wher your husbande is? for I am uerie desirous to speake withe him.
- Sen. Tarie I praie you, O Achilles, for I muste speake bothe withe you, and also withe Clitemnestra.
- Clit. Who dothe call me so hastelye?

 Sen. It is euen I the seruant of Agamenon.
- Clit. If you have any thinge to saie to us come neare, and tell it quickelie witheout any circumstance, for you neade not to doughte us, for I knowe you have ever served diligentlye

awnciters.

Sen. Bicause I haue bene euer faithefull 780 unto you, therfore nowe I muste open unto you a uerye secrete thinge, trulie Agamnon hathe [fol. 83]

bothe me and also diuers of myne

determined to sleye Iphigeneya his daughter in sacrafice.

790

- †Clit. Suerlie I thinke either you be madde to tell suche an unlikelie tale, or els if it be so in dede, Agamemnon to be halfe out of his witte to agree to suche a cruell murther.
 - Sen. No trulie he is not madde thoughe in dede he hathe plaied the madde mans parte.
 - Clit. Wherfore I praye you hathe he pretended to do so cruell a dede.
 - Sen. Trulye he is compelled to do so: for Calchas the propheciar hath answered that the grecians can not sayle to troic without the deathe of your daughter.
 - Cli. If this be true, wherfore than did he 800 faine, that she shulde be maried.
 - Sen. That was bicause you shulde be the better willinge to let hir come.
 - Cli. Howe I praye you, do you knowe this. Aga.

- Sen. Agamemnon him selfe shewed me of this thinge: for once he did repente him selfe so moche of the consentinge to his daughters deathe, that he was determined to sende you a nother letter by me, whiche was contrarie to the firste.
- Cli. Whie did you not deliuer them to me?
- Sen. As I was bringinge them, I happened to mete withe Menelaus, who withe uiolence toke them from me.
- Cly. Heare you this O Achilles?
- Achill. Yea truly I heare it well, and I pitie you moche: for I do euen abhorre this cruell dede of your husbande.
- Clit. Nowe therfore seinge this thinge is chaunsed so unfortunately unto me, 820 I shall moste ernestelie desier you O Achilles, to helpe me nowe in this miserie: for the reproche shalbe yours, seinge my daughter beinge sente for [fol. 84] under

under the color of your name, shall nowe be slaine. Besides this yf you do not helpe us, we can bi no meanes auoide this mischefe: for I alone beinge a woman can not perswade Agamemnon: And if you forsake us, none shall dare to take our parte.

Cho. Truly it is a uerie troblesome thinge to haue childre: for we are euen by nature compelled to be sorie for their mishappes.

Achill. My minde is trobled more and more, for I am wonderfullie moued withe your pitious complainte: Wherfore seinge you haue required helpe at my hande I will promise you to deliuer bothe you, and your daughter from this miserie, if by any meanes I maye withestande the cruell pretence 840 of Agamemnon and his brother. for this matter pertainethe unto me also, bicause that if she beinge sent for in my name shulde be slaine, then truly it wolde turne to no small dishonor to me. Wherfore I am compelled to helpe your daughter so moche as shall lie in my power: not onlye for that I am moued withe pitie, but also

also bicause it shoulde sounde to no litell reproche to me, if that throughe my occa- 850 tion your daughter shulde be slaine.

+Cli. Suerlie you have spoken uerie well and like a noble man.

How therfore I praye you shall I give you thankes worthie your desertes: for if I shulde prayse you to moche, I feare leste I shulde moue you to hatred, rather then to pitie, for then you wolde iudge me to be a flatterer, whiche of all noble men is to be abhorred, Againe 860 if I shulde giue you fewer thankes, thã you deserue, then I may well be counted unthankefull: so that now I doughte what to do: but seinge you so gentlely haue promised me your helpe, I will submit bothe me, and my daughter under your rule: Wherfore if it please you I will sende for her hether, that she hir selfe may require helpe your hande. 870

[fol. 85]

Achill.

- Achill. No trulie I thinke it not mete, that she shulde come abrode, for suerly men wolde iudge euell of hir, if she shulde come moche amongste companie. It is beste therfore that you kepe hir at home, and as for my parte trulie I will do as moche for hir as shall lie in my power. But I thinke it beste, that you shulde proue firste if you can perswade her father not to deliuer her.
- Clit. Suerlye I shall not preuaile withe him: for 880 he is so fearfull, that he dareth do nothinge witheout the consent of the whoole hooste.
- Achil. Althoughe you thinke you shall not perswade him, yet it is mete that firste you shoulde shewe him, what a greuous thinge it is to be called a destroyar of his owne children, and if he be nothinge moued withe that, then you may lawfully seke helpe at other folkes handes.
- Clit. You have spoken uerie well. Wherfore I 890 will folowe your counsell. but tell me I praye you wher shall I finde you, that I may shew you what answer he dothe make me?

- Achil. I will tarie heare till you come againe, for suerly if I shulde goo with you, you shoulde be sclandered by me.
- Clit. In all this matter I will be ruled by you, wherfore if I obtaine my swte the thankes shall be yours and not mine. But 900 nowe heare cometh Agamemnon, shew me I praye you therfore what I shulde answer him if he aske for my daughter, seinge that she maketh soche mone.
- Aga. I am gladde that I have met withe you O Clitemnestra: for I have divers thinges to talke withe you of.
- Clit. If you have any thinge to saie to me, tell me I pray you, for I am redie to heare.
- Aga. Firste call out my daughter that she maye goo withe me to the temple of the goddes Diana, for I have prepared all thinge redie for the sacrafice.
- Clit. You have spoken well, thoughe in dede your doinges do not agre withe your [fol. 86] wordes

wordes, but goo your waies daughter withe your father, and take withe you your brother Orestes.

Aga. Why do you wepe and lament so daughter? 920 Iphi. Alas? how shoulde I suffer this troble, seinge that all mortall men ar uexed bothe in the beginninge, the middeste, and the endinge of their miserie.

Aga. What is the cause, that all you are so sorowfull?

Clit. I will shewe you, if you will promise me to tell me one thinge, whiche I will require.

Aga. Yes trulie I will graunte you your re-930 queste, for I did thinke to haue asked it of you.

Clit. I heare saie that you goo aboute to sleye your owne childe.

Aga. What, you have spoken thos thinges, whiche you oughte neither to saye, nor yet to thinke.

Clit. Answer me I praye you to this question, as you promised.

Aga.

- Aga. It is not lawfull for me to answer you 940 to thos thinges, whiche you ought not to knowe.
- Clit. I haue not enquired of any thinge that dothe not become me: but take you hede rather, leste you make suche an answer as you ought not.
- Aga. Who hathe done you any iniurye, or who hathe giuen you cause to saie so?
- Clit. Aske you this question of me? as thoughe your crafte coulde not be perceived. 950
- Aga. Alas, I am trobled more and more, for all my secrete councell is now e openlie declared.
- Clit. In dede I haue harde of all that, whiche you haue prepared for your daughter: yea and you your selfe haue partelie confessed it in holdinge your peace.
- Aga. I am constrained to holde my peace, bicause I haue tolde you so manifest a lye that I can not denie it.

 [fol. 87]

 Clit.

Clit. Herken nowe I praye you therfore: for I muste nedes tell you of your faute. Do you not remember, that you maried me withe out the good will of all my frindes, takinge me awaye withe stronge hande, after that you had slaine my other husbande Tantalus, whiche cruell dedes my brother Castor and Pollux wolde haue reuenged, excepte Tindarus my father had deliuered you out of that parell: so that by 970 his meanes, you did obtaine me to be your wife, who after I was maried neuer shewed my selfe disobedient unto you in any thinge. And then I happened to haue thre sones at one birthe, and afterwarde one daughter, and will you nowe sleye hir, knowinge no iuste cause whie? For if any man shoulde aske of you the cause of the deathe of your daughter, you wolde answer for Helens sake, whiche 980 can be no lawfull cause, for it is not mete, that we sholde sleye our owne childe for a naughtie womans sake: neither destroie thos that by nature we ought

oughte to loue, for their cause only whiche are hated of all men. Besides this, if you kille my daughter, what lamentacion muste I nedes make, Whan I shall goo home, and wante the companie of her? consideringe that 990 she was slaine bi the handes of her owne father: Wherfore if you will not be moued withe pitie, take hede leste you compelle me to speke thos thinges, that do not become a good wife: yea and you your selfe do thos thinges that a good man ought not. But tell me nowe I praie you, what good do you obtaine by the deathe of your daughter? do you loke for a fortunate returne? trulye 1000 you can not by this meanes get that, for that iournye can not ende happely whiche is begone withe mischefe. Besides this suerlie you shall stirre up the goddes to anger againste you. for they do euen hate them, that are manquellers. Agayne you can not eniove the companie of your other children whan you come home, [fol. 88]

for they will euen feare and abhorre you, seinge that willinglie you do destroie your 1010 daughter, and you shall not only fall into this mischefe, but also you shall purchase your selfe the name of a cruell tyrante. For you weare chosen the captaine ouer the grecians to execute iustice to all men, and not to do bothe me and also your children suche an iniurie: For it is not mete that your children shuld be ponisshed for that whiche pertaineth not to you, neyther ought I to loose my daughter for He-1020 lenas cause who hathe neuer shewed her selfe faithefull to hir husbande.

Cho. It is mete, O Agamemnon, that you shulde followe your wives councell. for it is not lawfull that a father shulde destroy his childe.

Iphi. Nowe O father I knelinge uppon my knees and makinge moste humble sute, do mooste ernestely desier you to haue pitie uppon me your daughter, and not to 1030 sleye me so cruelly. for you knowe it is geuen to all mortall men to be desirous of life. Ageine remember that I am your

your daughter, and howe you semed euer to loue me beste of all your children, in so moche that you weare wonte euer to desier, that you might see me maried to one worthie of my degree, and I did euer wisshe agayne, that I might liue to see you an olde man, that you mi- 1040 ght have moche ioye bothe of me, and also of your other children. And will you nowe consent to my dethe? forgettinge bothe that whiche you weare wonte to saye, and also what paine you and my mother toke in bringinge me up, knowing no cause in me worthie of deathe? for what haue I to do withe Helena. But nowe father seinge you are nothinge moued withe my lamentation, 1050 I will call hether my yonge brother Orestes, for I knowe he will be sorye to see his sister slayne, and againe you can not choose, but you muste nedes haue pitie either of him, or els of me, consideringe what a lawfull requeste we do desier, for you knowe that all men are desi-[fol. 89] rous

rous of lyfe, and ther is no wise man, but he will choose rather to liue in miserie than to die.

1060

- Aga. I knowe in what thinges I ought to shewe pitie, and wherin I ought not, and I loue my children as it becomethe a father, for I do not this of my selfe, nor yet for my brothers sake, but rather by compulsion of the hooste: for the goddes have answered that they can not passe the see without your dethe, and they are so desirous to go thither, that they care not what troble and miserie they suffer: so that they may 1070 see it. Wherfore it lieth not in my power to withstande them: for I am not able to make any resistance againste them. I am therfore compelled daughter to deliuer you to them.
- Cli. Alas, daughter into what miserie are bothe you and I driuen, seinge that your owne father will concente to your deathe.
- Iphi. Alas mother this is the laste daie, that euer I shall see you. O Vnhappi Troye 1080 whiche haste norisshed and brought up that wicked man Paris: O Vnfortunate Venus

Venus whiche diddest promise to giue Hellena to him, for you have bene the cause of my destruction, thoughe in dede I throughe my deathe shall purchase the grecians a glorious uictorie. Alas mother in what an unluckye time was I borne, that myne owne father whiche hathe concented unto my deathe, 1090 dothe nowe forsake me in this miserie. I wolde to god that the grecians had neuer taken in hande this iornie. But me thinkes mother, I see a grete companie of men cominge hether, what are they I praye you?

- Clit. Trulye yonder is Achilles.
- Iphi. Let me then I praie you go hens that I may hide my face: for I am ashamed.
- Clit. What cause haue you so to do?
- Iphi. Trulie bicause it was saied that I shulde haue bene his wife.

 [fol. 90] Clit.

- Clit. Daughter, you muste laie awaie all shamefastenes nowe, for you may use no nicenes: but rather proue by what meanes you maye beste saue your life.
- Cho. Alas Clitemnestra howe unhappi arte thou for truly ther is grete talkinge of the in the whoole citie.
- Clit. Wherof I pray you?
- Cho. Of your daughter how she shalbe slaine.
- Clit. You have brought me uerie euell nwes, but tell me I praye you doth no bodie speake againste it?
- Achil. Yes I my selfe haue bene in dawnger of my life, bicause I toke your daughters parte.
- Clit. Who I pray you dare hurte you?
- Achil. Truly the whoole hooste.
- Clit. Do not your owne contrie men of 1120 Mirmido helpe you?
- Achil. No truly, for euen they also did speke againste me saienge, that I was in loue withe her, and therfore I did preferre myne owne pleasure, aboue the comodite of my countrie.

Clit.

Clit. What answer then made you unto them?

Achil. I saied that I ought not to suffer her to be slaine whiche was reported by hir owne father that she shoulde haue bene my wife.

Clit. You saied well in dede: for Agamemnon sente for her from grece, faininge that is was for that purpose.

Achil. But thoughe I coulde not preuaile againste suche a multitude of people, yet I will do as moche as shall lie in my power for you.

Clit. Alas then you alone shalbe compelled to striue againste many.

Achil. Do you not see a greate companye of 1140 harneste men?

Clit. I praye god they be your frindes. Achil. Yes trulye that they be.

Clit. Than I hope my daughter shall not die.

Achil. No that she shall not, if I can helpe hir.

Clit. But will ther come any bodie hether to sleye hir?

[fol. 91]

Achil.

- Achil. Yea truly Vlisses will be heare anone withe a greate companie of men to take her awaie.
- Clit. Is he comanded to do so, or dothe he it but of 1150 his owne heade?
- Achil. No truly he is not comanded.
- Cli. Alas then he hathe taken uppon him a wicked dede, seinge he will defile him selfe withe the daunger and deathe of my daughter.
- Achil. Truly but I will not suffer him.
- Clit. But if he goo aboute to take my daughter awaye withe stronge power what shall I do then?
- Achil. You ware beste to kepe her by you, for 1160 the matter shalbe driven to that pointe.
- Iphi. Herken O mother I praye you unto my wordes. for I perceiue you are angrie withe your husband, whiche you may not do. for you can not obtaine your purpose by that meanes: And you ought rather to haue thanked Achilles, bicause he so gentelly hathe promised you his helpe, whiche maye happen to bringe him into a greate mischefe. I wolde counsell you 1170 ther-

therfore to suffer this troble paciently, for I muste nedes die, and will suffer it willingelye. Consider I praie you mother, for what a lawfull cause I shalbe slaine. Dothe not bothe the destruction of Troie, and also the welthe of grece, whiche is the mooste frutefull countrie of the worlde hange upon my deathe? And if this wicked enterprise of the Troians be not reuenged, than truly the grecians shall not kepe 1180 neither their children, nor yet their wiues in peace: And I shall not onlie remedie all thes thinges withe my deathe: but also get a glorious renowne to the grecians for euer. Againe remember how I was not borne for your sake onlie, but rather for the comodite of my countrie, thinke you therfore that it is mete, that suche a companie of men beinge gathered together to reuenge the greate in-1190 iurie, whiche all grece hathe suffered shoulde be let of their iournye for my cause. Suerlie mother we can not speke againste this, for do you not thinke [fol. 92] it

noble men to be let of their iournye for one womans sake? for one noble man is better than a thousande women. Besides this seinge my deathe is determined amongste the goddes, trulie no mortall man oughte 1200 to witstande it. Wherfore I will offer my selfe willingly to deathe, for my countrie: for by this meanes I shall not only leaue a perpetuall memorie of my deathe, but I shall cause also the grecians to rule ouer the barbarians, whiche dothe as it weare properly belonge to them. for the grecians bi nature are free, like as the barbarias are borne to bondage.

Cho. Suerlie you are happie O Iphigeneya, that 1210 you can suffer so pacientlye all this troble.

Achil. Trulie I wolde counte my selfe happi if I mighte obteine the O Iphigeneya to be my wife, and I thinke the O grece to be uerie fortunate bicause thou haste norisshed soche a one: for you have spoken uerie well, in that you will not striue againste the determinacion of the goddes. Wherfore I beinge not onlie moued withe pitie, for that I see you brought into suche a necessite, but also stirred up 1220

more

more withe loue towardes you, desiringe to have you to my wife, will promise you faithefullye to withstande the grecians, as moche as shall lye in my power, that they shall not sleye you.

1230

- Iphi. Suerlie I haue spoken euen as I thoughte in dede: Wherfore I shall desire you O A chilles, not to put your selfe in daunger for my cause: but suffer me rather to saue all grece withe my deathe.
- Achil. Trulie I wonder gretelie at the bouldenes of your minde. And bicause you seme to be so willinge to die, I can not speake againste you: yet neuertheles I will promise to helpe you still, leste you shulde happen to chaunge your minde.
- Iphi. Wherfore mother, do you holde your peace lamentinge so withe in your selfe.
- Clit. Alas, I wretched creature haue greate cause to mourne.
- Iphi. Be of good comforte mother I praie you, and followe my councell, and do not teare your clothes so.

[fol. 93] Cli.

- Cli. Howe can I do otherwise, seinge I shall loose you.
- Iphi. I praie you mother, studie not to saue my life, for I shall get you moche honor by my deathe.
- Clyt. What shall not I lament your deathe?
- Iphi. No truly you oughte not, seinge that I 1250 shall bothe be sacraficed to the goddes

 Dyana and also saue greee.
- Cly. Well I will followe your cownsell daughter, seinge you have spoken so well: but tell me, what shall I saye to your sisters from you?
- Iphi. Desier them I praie you, not to mourne for my deathe.
- Clit. And what shall I saye unto the other uirgins from you.
- Iphi. Bid them all farewell in my name, and I 1260 praye you for my sake bringe up my litell brother Orestes, till he come to mans age.
- Clit. Take your leave of him, for this is the laste daie, that ever you shall see him. Iphi.

- Iphi. Farewell my welbeloued brother, for I am euen as it weare compelled to loue you, bicause you ware so glad to helpe me.
- Clit. Is ther any other thinge, that I may do for you at grece?
- Iphi. No truly, but I praie you not to hate 1270 my father for this dede: for he is compelled to do it for the welthe and honor of greee.
- Clit. If he hath done this willinglye then trulye he hathe comitted a dede farre unworthie of suche a noble man as he is.
- Iphi. Who is this, that will carie me hence so sone?
- Clit. I will goo withe you O daughter. 1280
- Iphi. Take hede I praye you leste you happen to do that whiche shall not become you: Wherfore O Mother I praye you folowe my councell and tarie heare still, for I muste nedes goo to be sacrafised unto the goddes Diana.

[fol. 94]

- Clit. And will you go awaye, O daughter, leuinge me your mother heare?
- Iphi. Yeae suerlye mother, I muste goo from you unto suche a place, from whence I shall neuer 1290 come ageine, althoughe I haue not deserued it.
- Clit. I pray you daughter tarie, and do not forsake me nowe.
- Iphi. Suerlye I will goo hence Mother, for if I did tarie, I shulde moue you to more lamentation. Wherfore I shall desier all you women to singe some songe of my deathe, and to prophecie good lucke unto the grecians: for withe my deathe I shall purchase unto 1300 them a glorious uictorie; bringe me therfore unto the aultor of the temple of the goddes Diana, that withe my blode I maye pacifie the wrathe of the goddes againste you.
- Cho. O Quene Clitemnestra of moste honor, after what fassion shall we lament, seinge we may not shewe any token of sadnes at the sacrafice.
- Iphi. I wolde not haue you to mourne for my 1310 cause, for I will not refuse to die.

Cho.

Cho. In dede by this meanes you shall get your selfe a perpetuall renowne for euer.

Iphi. Alas thou sone, whiche arte comforte to mans life, O thou light whiche doeste make ioyfull all creatures, I shalbe compelled by and by to forsake you all and to chaunge my life.

Cho. Beholde yonder goethe the uirgine to be sacraficed withe a grete companye of 1320 souldiers after hir, whos bewtifull face and faire bodi anone shalbe defiled withe hir owne blode. Yet happie arte thou, O Iphigeneya, that withe thy deathe, thou shalte purchase unto the grecians a quiet passage, whiche I pray god may not only happen fortunatelie unto them, but also that they may returne againe prosperousely withe a glorious uictorie.

Nun. Come hether, O Clitemnestra for I muste speke withe you.

Clit. Tell me I praie you what woulde you withe me, that you call so hastely, is ther any more mischefe in hande that I muste heare of?

[fol. 95] Nun.

Nun. I muste tell you of a wonder, whiche hathe happened at the sacrafisinge of your daughter.

Clit. Shew me I pray you quickely what it is?

Nun. As we wente unto the place wher the sacra- 1340 fice shulde be, and passed thorowe the plesant fildes, wher the whole hooste waited for your daughter: Agamemnon seinge hir brought unto her deathe, began to lament and wepe. But she perceyuinge what mone hir father made saied unto him thes wordes, O father, I am come hether to offer my bodie willinglie for the wellthe of my countrie: Wherfore seinge that I shall be sacraficed for the comodite of all grece, I do desier you, that none of the 1350 grecians may slaie me preuilie: for I will make no resistance ageinste you. And whan she had spoken thes wordes, all they whiche present, weare wonderfullye weare astonied at the stoutenes of her minde: So after this, Achilles withe the reste of the whole hooste began to desier the goddes Diana, that she wolde accepte the sacrafice of the uirgins blode, and that she wolde graunte them a prosperous succes of their 1360 iorney. And whan they had made ende

ende: the preste takinge the sworde in his hande, began to loke for a place conuenient, wher he might sle your daughter; sodenly there chaunced a grete wonder, for althoughe all the people harde the uoice of the stroke, yet she uanisshed sodenlye awaye, And whan all they meruelinge at it, began to give a greate skritche, then ther appeared unto them a white harte lienge 1370 before the aultor, strudgelinge for life. And Calchas beinge then present, and seinge what had happened, did wonderfully reioyse, and tolde the capitaines, that this harte was sente of the goddes, bicause she wolde not have hir aulter defiled withe the blode of your daughter. Moreouer he saied that this was a token of good lucke, and that their iournie shoulde chaunce prosperousely unto them. 1380 Wherfore he willed that they shulde tarye no lenger here. And whan this was so finisshed, Agamemnon willed me to shewe all thes thinges unto you, bi-[fol. 96] cause

cause that I my selfe was present ther: Wherfore I shall desier you, to thinke no unkindnes in the kinge your husbande: for suerlie the secrete power of the goddes will saue them whom they loue: for this daie your daughter hathe bene bothe aliue and deade.

Cho. Suerly O Clitemnestra you oughte to reioise of this nwes, that your daughter is taken

up into heauen.

Clit. But I am in doughte whether I shulde beleue that thou, O daughter, arte amongste the goddes, or els, that they have fained it to comforte me.

Cho. Beholde yonder cometh Agamemnon, who can tell the truthe of all this matter.

Aga. Trulye wife, we are happie for our daughters 1400 sake, for suerlie she is placed in heuen: But nowe I thinke it beste that you goo home, seinge that we shall take our iournye so shortely unto Troy: Wherfore nowe fare you well. And of this matter I will comune more at my returne, and in the meane season I praie god sende you well to do, and your hartes desier.

Cho

Cho. O happie Agamemnon, the goddes graunte the a fortunate iournie unto Troye, and a mooste prosperous returne againe.

Finis.





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