

Sappho Fragment 1 (Ode to Aphrodite)

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verse 1 line 1 ποικιλόθρον' ἀθανάτ' Ἀφροδίτα,
ποικιλόθρον: Liddell & Scott ("LS"), Supplement, p. 253
ποικιλόθρονος, *adorned with variegated flowers*; and
LS, p. 1429 ποικιλεμῶν, *arrayed in spangled garb* "in reference to the stars"
ἀθανάτ': LS, p. 30 *make immortal*
perhaps ETERNAL APHRODITE WHO IS GARLANDED IN STARS,

verse 1 line 2 παῖ Δίος δολόπλοκε, λίσσομαί σε,
παῖ: LS, p. 1286 *demonstrative particle*
Δίος: LS, p. 434 διος, *of goddesses*
δολόπλοκε: LS, p. 443 δολοπλοκος, *wile-weaving*
λίσσομαί: LS, p. 1054 & *esp.* p. 1055, l. 6: "pray" (in an example)
σε: LS, p. 1587 -σε, *adverbial suffix, "motion forward"*
perhaps GODDESS WHO WEAVES ENCHANTMENTS, PLEASE:

verse 1 line 3 μή μ' ἄσαισι μηδ' ὀνίαισι δάμνα,
μή: LS, p. 1123 *not*, "the negative of *will* and *thought*"
μ': LS, p. 1070 "by elision, for μ'ε ; also for μοι
με: Cunliffe ("C") via Wiktionary ("W"), Ancient Greek, *me*, first person singular, accusative
μοι: C via W, enclitic dative of εγω (*ego*)
ἄσαισι: Google Translate ("GT"), *nice*; also, W, ἄσαι, Ancient Greek, aorist active infinitive of ἄω
ἄω: LS, p. 299, first-person singular present infinitive of *blow*, *sleep*, or *hurt*
μηδ': W, Apocopic form of μηδέ
μηδέ: LS, p. 1125, "negative participle"; W, "connecting two clauses", e.g., *but not*, *and not*, or *nor*
ὀνίαισι: LS p. 1231, ονία, cites this passage, Aeolic for αν-
αν-: W, 1. *alternative form of ανα* used before both nouns and verbs to indicate repetition, or to mean *above* or *upward*; 2. *alternative form of ανα* first declension *grief*, *sorrow*, *distress*, *trouble*; LS, p. 96, "modal particle used with verbs to indicate the action is limited by circumstances or defined by conditions" and "in simple sentences and the apodosis of compound sentences; here αν belongs to the verb and denotes that the assertion made by the verb is dependent on a

condition"

δάμνα: LS, p. 368, imperative of δάμναω

δάμναω: LS Supplement p. 368, = δαμαζω

δαμαζω: p. 368, *of animals: tame, break in; of metals: work; of maidens: make subject to a husband; subdue; conquer*

something like DO NOT SNARE, DO NOT TORTURE ME,

verse 1 line 4 πότνια, θῦμον,

πότνια: W, *mistress, lady*; LS, *"poet.title of honour, used chiefly in addressing females, whether goddesses or women"*

θῦμον:(thúmon) W, n (genitive θύμου); second declension thyme (plant of the genus Thymus); LS, *mixture of thyme with honey and vinegar, eaten by the poor of Attica*

perhaps MY BITTERSWEET LADY