

# Sappho Fragment 1 (Ode to Aphrodite)

Barry Brent

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verse 1 line 1 ποικιλόθρον' ἄθανάτ' Ἀφρόδιτα,  
ποικιλόθρον: Liddell & Scott ("LS"), Supplement, p. 253  
ποικιλόθρονος, *adorned with variegated flowers*; and  
LS, p. 1429 ποικιλειμων, *arrayed in spangled garb* "in reference to the stars"  
ἄθανάτ': 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; Monro, *A Grammar of the Homeric Dialect*, pub. 10 November 2022 & 1891 (Oxford) ("M"), section 97 (p. 82, 2022 ed.) *Acc. Sing. Personal pronoun*  
μοι: C via W, enclitic dative of εγω (*ego*)  
ἄσαισι: 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, ονια, cites this passage, Aeolic for αν-  
αν- 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: LS, 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, θύμον,  
πότνια: LS, rev. Jones, online at the Perseus site ("LSJ") "*poet.title of honour, used chiefly in addressing females, whether goddesses or women*"  
θύμον:(thúmon) LS p. 810, *Cretan thyme, Thymbra capitata*; LS p.810 & LSJ, *mixture of thyme with honey and vinegar, eaten by the poor of Attica*  
so perhaps: MADAM, AS MIGHT SOURED, HONEYED THYME,

verse 2 line 1 ἀλλὰ τυῖδ' ἔλθ', αἶ ποτα κατέρωτα  
ἀλλὰ: LSJ, *otherwise*  
τυῖδ': LS, p. 1833 (cited), *hither* LSJ, τυῖδε, Aeol. Adv. *hither*, "τυῖδ' ἔλθ'"  
Sapph.1.5, cf. Supp.1.2, 25.2  
ἔλθ': the form ἐλθέ appears in ἔρχομαι, LS, p. 694  
ἔρχομαι: LS, p. 694, I: *start, set out* II: (*much more freq.*) *come or go (the latter esp. in Ep. and Lyr.)*, ἦλθες *thou art come*, Od.16.461, etc.; χαίροισ' ἔρχεο *go and fare thee well*, Sapph.Supp.23.7  
αἶ: LSJ, Dor. and Aeol. for εἰ, *if only, so that, always c. subj., exc. in or. obliq.*  
ποτα: LS, p. 1454 (cites this line), = *Aeolic for ποκα, at some time or other*  
κατέρωτα: LSJ, Aeol. crasis for καὶ ἀτέρωτα; καὶ ἄλλοτε, Sapph.1.5; Annis, *some other time*  
καὶ: LSJ, *and, and now, and so, and indeed, and further*  
ἄλλοτε: LSJ, *at another time*  
ἀτέρωτα: LS, p. 269, ἀτέρθε *aloof, apart*  
maybe BUT, IF YOU HAVE TO DO IT, DELAY

verse 2 line 2 τὰς ἔμας αὖδας αἰοῖσα πῆλοι  
τὰς: LS, p. 1194: ὁ (ho)  
ὁ: LS, p. 1193, demonstrative pronoun (*e.g., this, that*)  
ἔμας: LS, p. 542, form of ἐμός (emós); τὰς ἔμας, *by me*  
ἐμός: LS, p. 542, n., *Possesive 1st person pronoun*  
αὖδας: LS, p. 275, appears to be a form of αὖδα, under the definition of αὖδάω;  
*speak*  
αἰοῖσα: Textkit Greek and Latin Forums, ("TGLF"), <https://www.textkit.com/greek-latin-forum/viewtopic.php?t=71040>, *hear (my prayer)*; Academic Dictionaries and Encyclopedias ("ADE"),  
[https://morphological\(understroke\)el.en-academic.com/676671/αἰοῖσα](https://morphological(understroke)el.en-academic.com/676671/αἰοῖσα):  
*pres. part. act. fem. nom./voc. sg. (doric aeolic), perceive*  
πῆλοι: W, adv. *at a distance, far away* prep. *far away from*  
maybe MY ANSWER TO SOME DISTANT DAY.

verse 2 line 3 ἔκλυες, πάτρος δὲ δόμον λίποισα

ἔκλυες: perhaps a form of ἔκλυσις

ἔκλυσις: LS, p. 513, *release, deliverance from a thing*

πάτρος: perhaps a form of πάτριος

πάτριος: LS, p. 1348, *of or belonging to one's father*

δὲ: LS, p. 371, *but*

δόμον: perhaps a form of δόμος

δόμος: LS, p. 444, *house or house of a god*

λίποισα: perhaps a form of λίπος

λίπος: LS, p. 1058, *animal fat, tallow, lard; anoint*