Sappho Fragment 1 (Ode to Aphrodite)

Barry Brent

draft 2 February 2024

verse 1 line 1 ποιχιλόθρον' ἀθανάτ' ἀθρόδιτα, ποιχιλόφρον: Liddell & Scott ("LS"), Supplement, p. 253 ποιχιλόφρονος, adorned with variegated flowers; and LS, p. 1429 ποιχιλειμων, 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 δολόπλοχε, 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 $\varepsilon \gamma \omega$ (ego)

ἄσαισι: Google Translate ("GT"), nice; also, W, ἄσαι, Ancient Greek, a
orist 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

ονίαισι: LS p. 1231, ονια, 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 ανια 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 $\alpha\nu$ 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, θῦμον,

πότνια: W, mistress, lady; LS , rev. Jones, online at the Perseus site ("LSJ") "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 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 άλλὰ τυίδ' ἔλθ', αἴ ποτα κἀτέρωτα

ἀλλὰ: LSJ, otherwise

τυίδ': LS, p. 1833 (cited), hither LSJ, τυΐδε , Aeol. Adv. hither, "τυΐδ' ἔλθ" Sapph.1.5, cf. Supp.1.2, 25.2

ἔλθ':W, ἐλθέ, second-person singular agrist active imperative of ἔργομαι

ἔρχομαι: W, first-singular present indicative to go; to come; LSJ, (much more freq.) come or go (the latter esp. in Ep. and Lyr.), ἤλθες thou art come, Od.16.461, etc.; χαίροισ' ἔρχεο go and fare thee well, Sapph.Supp.23.7

αϊ: LSJ, Dor. and Aeol. for εἰ, if only, so that, always c. subj., exc. in or. obliq. ποτα: W, n., Nominative, accusative and vocative plural form of ποτό (potó)

ποτό: W, modern: beverage, drink; From Ancient Greek ποτόν (potón), noun use of the neuter form of ποτός (potós, "drinkable")

κάτέρωτα: LSJ, Aeol. crasis for καὶ ἀτέρωτα; καὶ ἄλλοτε, Sapph.1.5; Annis, some other time

ха: 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; SERVE

verse 2 line 2 τὰς ἔμας αὔδας ἀίοισα πήλοι

τὰς: W, feminine accusative plural of ὁ (ho)

ò: W, relative, poetic Attic) who, which, that

ἔμας: W, feminine accusative plural of ἐμός (emós)

έμός: W, (modifying noun) my, of mine; (substantive, on its own, often with article), mine; LS, n., Pron. of 1st pers.

αὔδας: W, αὔδα, v. second-person singular present active imperative contracted of αὐδάω (audáō); n. 1st decl. Aeolic form of aὐδή (aud (ē'))

αὐδάω: W, v. αὐδάω (audáō) first-singular present indicative, to speak, utter to

 $speak\ to,\ address$

αὐδή: W, n. human voice; speech

αίοισα: 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/ἀίοισα:

pres. part. act. fem. nom./voc. sg. (doric aeolic), perceive $\pi\eta$ hou: W, adv. at a distance, far away prep. far away from

maybe YOUR ANSWER ON SOME DISTANT DAY.