

The Misadventures of Wenamun – Translation

1. The day of the dispatch which Wenamun made to bring the wood
for the great boat of Amun-Re, king of gods, who is upon [the] river.
2. The day of arriving which he did to Tanis, to the [place] which Smendes is therein.
3. I went down to the great sea of Syria.
4. I arrived to Dor a town of the Tjekker.
5. Bader, its ruler, caused to be brought to me bread and wine.
6. A man of my freighter stole money.
7. I got up in the morning.
8. I went to the [place] which the ruler was in.
9. I said to him: "I was robbed in your harbor.
10. "You are the ruler of this land?
11. "Seek my money."
12. He said to me: "As for the thief, he is yours, he belongs to your freighter.
13. "Spend some days here with me that I may seek him."
14. I spent 9 days in his harbor.
15. [Then] I went to him.
16. I said to him: "You have not found my money."
17. I went out from Dor.
18. I saw a freighter.
19. I found money in it.
20. I said to them: Your money, it will remain with me,
"until you have found my money.
21. They left.
22. I celebrated on the seashore in the harbor of Byblos.
23. The ruler of Byblos sent to me, saying: "Leave my harbor!"
24. I sent to him, saying: "Where would I go?"
25. I spent 29 days in his harbor.
26. [Then] he took me upwards.
27. I found him in his loft,
his back to a window,
while the waves of the Great Sea of Syria beat against it.
28. He said to me: "You did come upon what commission?"
29. I said to him: "I did come after the wood
"of the great boat of Amun-Re, king of gods.
30. "What your father did, what the father of your father did,
"you will do it also."
31. He said to me: "You will give to me for doing it, and I will do it.
32. "What is it that you have brought for me?
33. "Am I your servant? Am I [a] servant of the one who dispatched you also?"
34. I said to him: "There is not any boat upon a river, which does not belong to Amun.
35. "His is the sea.
36. "He is the lord of life, prosperity, and health.

37. "He the lord of your fathers.
38. "You, also you, are a servant of Amun.
39. "If you should arrange his commission, you will live and prosper and be healthy.
40. "Cause your scribe to be brought to me that I may send him to Smendes,
 "and he will cause the money to be brought."
41. His diplomat went to Egypt.
42. Smendes caused the money to be brought.
43. The ruler arranged men, 300 to cause that they cut the wood.
44. They cut them.
45. He said to me: "See, the commission, which my fathers did, I have done it."
46. I went to the seashore, to the [place] where the wood was in.
47. I saw 11 ships, which were coming from the sea,
 which belonged to the Tjeker.
48. [Who were] saying: "Arrest him!"
49. I became about to cry.
50. The scribe of the ruler came to me.
51. He said to me: "What is toward you?"
52. I said to him: "Did you not see the ones who come to arrest me again?"
53. He went away.
54. He said it to the ruler.
55. The ruler became about to cry because of the matter which he said to him.
56. He brought to me wine.
57. He caused Tantne to be brought to me, a singer of Egypt.
58. He sent to me, saying: "Eat! Drink!"
59. "You will hear everything which I will say in the morning."
60. [When] morning happened, he said to the Tjeker:
 "I cannot arrest the diplomat of Amun in my land.
61. "Let me dispatch him, and you go after him to arrest him."
62. The wind threw me to the land of Alashiya.
63. Those of the town came out toward me to kill me.
64. I found Hatiba, the ruler of the town, when she went out from her house.
65. I said to her: "I am a diplomat of Amun."
66. She said to me: "Rest yourself."