The Story of Wenamun (P. Moscow 120)

Notes by Minh-Tâm Trinh

I warmly thank Mary Becker, Galen Goldsmith, Dieter Hoffmann, Rachel McEnroe, Foy Scalf, Dawn Schreiner, and Eric Whitacre for their input.

Glossing Conventions

(May not match the conventions in my older notes)

text omitted by the scribe, but implicitly understood addition to fix a scribal error
deletion to fix a scribal error
addition to fix lacuna, or addition uncertain

Sources

- [G] V. "The Misfortunes of Wenamun." *Late-Egyptian Stories*. Bibliotheca Aegyptiaca 1. Brussels: Fondation Égyptologique Reine Élisabeth (1932), 61–76.
- [R] "P. Moscou 120; Ounamon (= LESt 05)." *Ramses Online*. Accessed starting on 1/12/2025. http://ramses.ulg.ac.be/text/legacy/188

Other References

- [J] F. Junge. *Late Egyptian Grammar: An Introduction*. 2nd English Ed. Trans. D. Warburton. Griffith Institute, Oxford (2005).
- [L] *A Dictionary of Late Egyptian*. Ed. L. H. Lesko. Collab. Ed. B. S. Lesko. 2nd Edition. Vol. I. B. C. Scribe Publications (2002).
- [Li] "The Report of Wenamun (1.41): P. Moscow 120." Trans. M. Lichtheim. In Part Seven of *Ancient Egyptian Literature*, Vol. II: *The New Kingdom*. Berkeley: University of California Press (2006), 224–230.
- [Ro] J. A. Roberson. "A Very Brief Introduction to Hieratic." Rev. 1.0 (Spring 2018). https://mqtrinh.github.io/other/egyptian/hieratic/roberson-j-a_very-brief-intro-to-hieratic.pdf
- [TLA] Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae. Version 2.2.0. Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities. https://tla.digital/home

[W] "The Report of Wenamon." Trans. E. Wente. In *The Literature of Ancient Egypt*. Ed. W. K. Simpson. 3rd Ed. New Haven: Yale University Press (2003), 116–124.

Red denotes rubric text in P. Moscow 120.

1/12/25

(1.1) [hsb.t] 5 3bd 4 šmw sw 16

hrw n wdy.(t) iir smsm h3y Wn-Imn n Pr Imn (1.2) [Nsw.t Nb] T3wy
r [ini.t t3] t.t n p3 Wi3 '3 Špsy n Imn-R' Nsw.t Ntr.w nty ḥr tp [...]
(1.3) [...Imn]-Wsr-Ḥ3.t

(1.1) [Regnal year] 5, month 4 of summer, day 16:

Day of the departure that the elder [of the] portal [idaafa], Wenamun, made [relative] from the house of Amun, (1.2) [Lord of] the Two Lands,

to [bring] the timber for the Great Venerable Bark of Amun-Re, King of the Gods, which is at the head [...]

(1.3) [...Amun]-Userhat:

1/26/25

hrw n spr iir=i r D^{c} n.t r p3 (1.4) [nty Ns-Sw-B3-Nb]-Dd Ti-nt-Imn im

iw=i <hr> rdi.t n=w n3 wh3.w n'Imn-R^c Nsw.t Ntr.w

iw=w (1.5) < hr > rdi.t $\leq tw$ m-b3h=w

 $iw = w < hr > \underline{d}d$

ir.y sp-sn m p $\frac{d}{d}$ Imn- R^{ϵ} Nsw.t Ntr.w p $\frac{d}{d}$ (1.6) [-y.n nb]

Day of my departing ["departing that I made"] to Djanet [Tanis], to the (1.4) [place] in which Nesubanebdjed ["He of Banebdjed" = Smendes] [and] Tentamun are.

I am giving [first present?] to them the dispatches [L 110] of Amun-Re, King of the Gods.

They (1.5) are causing them to be read [L 78] [passive] in front of them.

They say:

Yes [L 37] (said twice), as the speech of Amun-Re, King of the Gods, ou- (1.6) [-r lord.]

2/9/25

 $iw=i \ m-\underline{h}nw \ \underline{D}^{c}n.t$

iw Ns-Sw-B3-Nb-Dd (1.7) Ti-nt-Imn [hr] wd.(t)=i irm hr(y)-mnš Mngbt

iw=i h3y r (1.8) p3 ym 3 n H3rw n 3bd 1 šmw hrw 1

iw=i [hr] $spr Dr w^{c} dmi n (1.9) tkr$

I am staying until [TLA $r-33^{\circ}-r$] month 4 of summer

I was inside Djanet.

Then Nesubanebdjed (1.7) [and] Tentamun are sending me with the overseer [of the] ship [L 189] Mengebet.

Then I went down to (1.8) the great sea of Kharu [Syria] on month 1 of summer, day 1.

Then I was going to Djer [Dor], a village of (1.9) fortified gate[s] [L 236].

3/2/25

iw Bdr p3y=f wr < hr > rdi.t ini.tw n=i

'kw 50 irp msh.t (1.10) 1[?] m3s.t n ih 1

iw w^c rmt n t3y br.t [hr] w^c.r

 $iw \underline{t}3y = f nbw (1.11) [\underline{t}bw ir.(w) n] dbn 5 \underline{h}\underline{d} \underline{t}bw 4 ir(w) n dbn 20 \underline{h}\underline{d} \underline{c}rf dbn 10[?]$

Then Beder, its chief, was causing to be brought to me

50 loaves of bread, a jug [L 206] [of] wine, (1.10) [and] one haunch [L 177] of beef.

Then a man of the barge [? boat determinative] fled off [L 95].

Then he seized a bowlful [J 359] (1.11) [of gold worth] 5 [deben], 4 bowlfuls of silver worth 20 deben, 20 sacks of money [silver?] weighing 10 [Ramses: 11?] deben.

3/16/25

(1.12) [...p3 it3]=f nbw dbn 5 hd dbn 31

iw=i [hr] dwn m t3y dw3.w

iw=i [hr] šmi.t r (1.13) [p3] nty p3 wr n im

iw=i dd.n=f

twi t3y.kwi t3y=k n mr hr mntk p3 wr n p3y t3 hr (1.14) mntk p3y=f smty

wh3 p3y=i hd

i3 ir p3 hd ny-sw Imn-R^c (1.15) Nsw.t Ntr.w p3 Nb n N3 T3.wy

(1.12) [...that stolen by] him: 5 deben of gold, 31 deben of silver.

Then I recovered [L 243] in the morning.

Then I went to ["against"] (1.13) the one which [is] that chief ["of"] there.

Then I said to him:

I was robbed [L 224] [stative as passive] in your harbor, and, you are chief of the land, and, (1.14) you are its judge [L 45].

Look for my money!

Ah [L 11], as for [L 37] the money belonging to Amun-Re, (1.15) King of the Gods, the Lord of the Two Lands,

3/30/25

3

A

4/13/25

3

A