

# THE POEM OF PARMENIDES

A NEW TRANSLATION WITH TEXT AND COMMENTARY

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Ad bona dea Empanda

## ABBREVIATIONS

1st = first person

2nd = second person

3rd = third person

α privat. = alpha privative

Abl. =ablative case

Acc. = accusative case

Act. = active voice

Adj. = adjective

Adv. = adverb

Aor. = aorist tense

Cf. = confere, compare

Collat. = collateral

Comp. = comparative

Dat. = dative case

Dor. = Doric

Enclit. = enclitic

Ep. = Epic

Fem. = feminine gender

Fut. = future tense

Gen. = genitive case

Gk. = Greek

I.e. = id est, that is

Impf. = imperfective tense

Ind. = indicative mood

Inf. = infinitive mood

Impers. = impersonal

Inst. = Instrumental Case

Ion. = Ionic

Lat. = Latin

Lit. = literally

Loc. = locative

Masc. = masculine gender

Med. = medial or middle voice

Metaph. = metaphorically

Mid. = middle voice

Mid./Pass. = middle/passive voice

Neut. = neuter gender

Nom. = nominative case

Opt. = optative mood

Orig. = originally

Part. = participle

Partic. = particle

Pass. = passive voice

Perf. = perfective tense

Pl. = plural

Pluperf. = pluperfective tense

poët. = poëtic

Pres. = present tense

Sing. = singular

Superl. = superlative

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## PREFACE

For those who are concerned with such matters, in English, no good translation of the Poem of Parmenides has been produced; the John Burnet (1892) translation being incomplete, and, from what was done, is not even close to good enough for the contemporary student. I have, therefore, produced one. I will not reiterate the biography of Parmenides, whereas it is available elsewhere in many places, and will not interpret his philosophy, which has been done poorly, with meager knowledge of it; since an good translation has, until now, been non-extant. I have rendered only his poem, in translating it putting in enough of myself by translating. The student should note, moreover, that, of his poem, what is extant comes to us in fragments; the enumeration of those fragments in the table of contents to this work is a supposed logical order handed over to us by the textual critics of the 19th century. We accept as correct their text as an article of faith; if they did their work right, and we believe they have, then what we do have is the best text we shall ever have. Keep in mind, however, each part of the poem is a fragment. We cannot, therefore, know what went before or what came after each of them, leaving context to conjecture. Like all things mortal, my translation and commentary are flawed; I must confess my philological powers often failed me. To the best of my knowledge, nevertheless, is the best English translation, ad hoc, you will find. In view of the foregoing, let it, then, be a spring-board for a new study of this worthy author. For my part, I shall rely on my readers to supply the necessary corrections when needed.

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Bozeman, MT

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## I.

[1] Ἴπποι ταί με φέρουσιν,<sup>1</sup> ὅσον τ' ἐπὶ θυμὸς<sup>2</sup> ἰκάνοι,<sup>3</sup>

πέμπων,<sup>4</sup> ἐπεὶ μ' ἐς ὁδὸν βῆσαν<sup>5</sup> πολύφημον<sup>6</sup> ἄγουσαι<sup>7</sup>

δαίμονος,<sup>8</sup> ἣ κατὰ πάντ' ἄστη<sup>9</sup> φέρει<sup>10</sup> εἰδότα<sup>11</sup> φῶτα<sup>12</sup>

Mares carry me along and sent me as far as my heart desires,

leading me on a fated path abounding in legends,<sup>13</sup>

which, going down through every town,

brought forth a man who knows.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of φέρω, bring forth, produce; bear, convey.

<sup>2</sup> masc. nom. sing., heart, soul, life.

<sup>3</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. opt. of ἰκάνω, to come to, reach, attain to.

<sup>4</sup> 3rd pl. imperf. act. ind. of πέμπω, send.

<sup>5</sup> neut. nom. / acc. sing. of βαίνω, to walk, step; to go, to come.

<sup>6</sup> neut. nom. / acc. sing. of πολύφημος, abounding in songs and legends.

<sup>7</sup> fem. nom. pl. pres. act. part. of ἄγω, lead, carry, fetch, bring.

<sup>8</sup> fem. gen. sing. of δαίμων, god, goddess; the power controlling the destiny of individuals: hence, one's lot or fortune; generally, spiritual or semi-divine being inferior to the Gods; genius.

<sup>9</sup> neut. nom. pl. of ἄστυ, town.

<sup>10</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of φέρω.

<sup>11</sup> masc. acc. sing. perf. act. part. of οἶδα, to see, or know.

<sup>12</sup> masc. acc. sing. of φῶς, man; or neut. nom. / acc. pl. of φῶς, light.

<sup>13</sup> also = songs.

<sup>14</sup> εἰδότα φῶτα could also mean 'a knowing light,' but light knows not; men do.

τῆ φερόμην<sup>15</sup> τῆ γάρ με πολύφραστοι φέρον<sup>16</sup> ἵπποι

[5] ἄρμα τιταίνουσαι, κοῦραι<sup>17</sup> δ' ὁδὸν ἡγεμόνευον.<sup>18</sup>

And brought to it I was by wise horses in a chariot;

and maidens lined-up led the way.

Ἄξων δ' ἐν χνοίησιν<sup>19</sup> ἴει<sup>20</sup> σύριγγος<sup>21</sup> αὐτήν

αἰθόμενος<sup>22</sup>—δοιοῖς<sup>23</sup> γὰρ ἐπέιγετο<sup>24</sup> δινωτοῖσιν

κύκλοις ἀμφοτέρωθεν<sup>25</sup> ὅτε σπερχοίατο πέμπειν<sup>26</sup>

Ἡλιάδες κοῦραι, προλιποῦσαι δώματα<sup>27</sup> Νυκτός,

[10] εἰς φάος, ὡσάμεναι<sup>28</sup> κράτων<sup>29</sup> ἄπο χερσὶ<sup>30</sup> καλύπτρας.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> 1st sing. imperf. mid. / pass. ind. of φέρω.

<sup>16</sup> 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of φέρω.

<sup>17</sup> fem. nom. pl. of κόρη, girl.

<sup>18</sup> 3rd pl. imperf. act. ind. of ἡγεμονεύω, lead the way.

<sup>19</sup> fem. dat. pl. of χνόη, axle box.

<sup>20</sup> 3rd sing. imperf. act. ind. of ἵημι, throw, hurl; dismiss, send away.

<sup>21</sup> fem. gen. sing. of σύριγξ, a shepherd's pipe; a pipe; gen. abl.

<sup>22</sup> masc. nom. sing. pres. mid./pass. part. of αἴθω, light up, kindle, pass. = burn.

<sup>23</sup> Adj. neut. dat. pl. of διοί, two, both; loc. dat.

<sup>24</sup> 3rd sing. imperf. mid./pass. ind. of ἐπέιγω, press by weight.

<sup>25</sup> Adv., from or on both sides.

<sup>26</sup> pres. inf. act. of πέμπω, send.

<sup>27</sup> neut. acc. pl. of δῶμα, house.

And in their boxes from their axels pipes burning flames sent,

because both in circles whirling,

by weight were on both sides pressed;

when sun maidens, with their hands from their heads,

thrust back their veils, forsaking their homes for the night

Ἐνθα<sup>32</sup> πύλαι<sup>33</sup> Νυκτός τε καὶ Ἡματός εἰσι κελεύθων,<sup>34</sup>

καὶ σφας<sup>35</sup> ὑπέρθυρον<sup>36</sup> ἀμφίς<sup>37</sup> ἔχει καὶ λάϊνος οὐδός<sup>38</sup>

αὐται<sup>39</sup> δ' αἰθέρια<sup>40</sup> πληνται<sup>41</sup> μέγαλοισι<sup>42</sup> θυρέτροις<sup>43</sup>

<sup>28</sup> fem. nom. pl. aor. mid./pass. part. of ὠθέω, thrust, push.

<sup>29</sup> neut. gen. pl. of κάρα, head; peak, top; gen. abl.

<sup>30</sup> fem. dat. pl. of χεῖρ, hand, hand and arm, arm; dat. of instrument.

<sup>31</sup> fem. acc. pl. of κάλυπτρα, veil.

<sup>32</sup> Adv. there, thereupon, where.

<sup>33</sup> fem. nom. pl. or fem. dat. sing. of πύλη, one wing of a pair of double gates.

<sup>34</sup> fem. gen. pl. of κέλευθος, road, path; abl. gen.

<sup>35</sup> fem. acc. pl. of σφεῖς, they, them.

<sup>36</sup> neut. acc. sing. of ὑπερθύριον, lintel of a door.

<sup>37</sup> Adv. on both sides.

<sup>38</sup> a threshold.

<sup>39</sup> fem. nom. pl. these

<sup>40</sup> fem. nom. pl. of αἰθέριος, belonging to the upper air, Ether.

<sup>41</sup> πληντο 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of πίμπλημι, to be filled, be full of; to be filled, satisfied, have enough of a thing.

<sup>42</sup> Adj. neut. pl. of μέγας, big; vast, high; great, mighty.

τῶν δὲ Δίκη πολύποινος<sup>44</sup> ἔχει κληῖδας<sup>45</sup> ἀμοιβούς.<sup>46</sup>

Where there are the gates of the paths of Night and Day

and on both sides they a lintel and a marble threshold have.

And these as a mighty doors Ether filled.

And Justice much-avenging, giving like for like, the keys holds.

[15] Τὴν δὴ<sup>47</sup> παρφάμεναι<sup>48</sup> κοῦραι μαλακοῖσι<sup>49</sup> λόγοισιν.<sup>50</sup>

πεῖσαν<sup>51</sup> ἐπιφραδέως,<sup>52</sup> ὡς σφιν<sup>53</sup> βαλανωτὸν<sup>54</sup> ὀχῆα<sup>55</sup>

ἀπτερέως<sup>56</sup> ὤσειε<sup>57</sup> πυλέων<sup>58</sup> ἄπο· ταὶ δὲ θυρέτρων<sup>59</sup>

<sup>43</sup> neut. dat. pl. of θύρετρα, door, dat. of manner.

<sup>44</sup> πολὺ + ποινοσ = much-avenging.

<sup>45</sup> fem. acc. pl. of κλείς,

<sup>46</sup> ἀμοιβᾶιος = giving like for like.

<sup>47</sup> Then, now, thus.

<sup>48</sup> παρφάμενος, masc. nom. sing. pres. mid. part. of παράφημι, speak gently to, advise; Med., persuade, appease.

<sup>49</sup> Adj. masc. / neut. dat. pl. of μαλακός, gentle, soft.

<sup>50</sup> masc. dat. pl. of λόγος.

<sup>51</sup> neut. acc. sing. aor. act. part. of πείθω, persuade.

<sup>52</sup> Adv., circumspectly, wisely.

<sup>53</sup> masc. / fem. dat. pl. of σφεῖς, they, them.

<sup>54</sup> βαλανώ, bolt.

<sup>55</sup> masc. acc. sing. of ὀχεύς, anything used for holding or fastening.

<sup>56</sup> Adv., quickly, swiftly.

<sup>57</sup> 3rd sing. aor. opt. ind. of ὠθέω, to thrust, push, force back, shove.

χάσμ' ἀχανές<sup>60</sup> ποίησαν<sup>61</sup> ἀναπτάμεναι<sup>62</sup> πολυχάλκους<sup>63</sup>

ἄξονας<sup>64</sup> ἐν σύριγξιν<sup>65</sup> ἀμοιβαδόν<sup>66</sup> εἰλίξασαι<sup>67</sup>

[20] γόμοις<sup>68</sup> καὶ περόνησιν<sup>69</sup> ἀρηρότε<sup>70</sup> τῆ ῥα<sup>71</sup> Δι<sup>72</sup> αὐτέων<sup>73</sup>

ἰθύς<sup>74</sup> ἔχον<sup>75</sup> κοῦραι κατ' ἀμαξιτὸν<sup>76</sup> ἄρμα<sup>77</sup> καὶ ἵππους.

And then, with gentle words, maidens wisely persuade.

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<sup>58</sup> fem. gen. pl. of πύλη, door, gate

<sup>59</sup> neut. gen. pl. of θύρετρα, door.

<sup>60</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἀχανής, yawning; vast, immense.

<sup>61</sup> 3rd pl. aor. act. ind. of ποιέω, make.

<sup>62</sup> fem. nom. pl. aor. mid. part. of ἀναπέτομαι, fly up, fly away; hurry off; metaph. 'to be on the wing.'

<sup>63</sup> πολύχάλκος, brass.

<sup>64</sup> masc. acc. pl. of ἄξων, axle.

<sup>65</sup> σύριγξ, pipe.

<sup>66</sup> ἀμοιβαῖος, given in return; giving like for like, retributive; interchanging, reciprocal; likewise.

<sup>67</sup> ελίσσω, turn about, turn around; whirl.

<sup>68</sup> masc. dat. pl. of γόμος, bolt.

<sup>69</sup> fem. dat. pl. of περόνη, pin.

<sup>70</sup> neut. nom. acc. dual perf. act. part. of ἀραρίσκω, join, fit together.

<sup>71</sup> partic. ἄρα, then, so then, so, naturally, as it appears.

<sup>72</sup> changed from δὲ in Deils text, thus τῆ ῥα Δι = 'so the Goddess' where Δι is poet. for Δι; τῆ...Δι is dative of instrument.

<sup>73</sup> masc. gen. pl. of αὐτός.

<sup>74</sup> masc. nom. sing. of εὐθύς, straight, straightforward, or masc. nom. sing. of ἰθύς, straight course.

<sup>75</sup> 3rd pl. imperf. act. ind. of ἔχω, hold, have.

<sup>76</sup> Adj. neut. acc. sing. of ἀμαξιτός, traversed by wagons; carriage-road, high-road, highway,

<sup>77</sup> neut. acc. sing., chariot.

Then their fastening bolts quickly forced back

from the wings of the doors a yawning chasm

made brazen axels in pipes likewise whirl.

Just as by the Goddess bolts and pins were held straight in their course,

so too maidens chariot and the horses down the highway.

Καί με θεὰ πρόφρων<sup>78</sup> ὑπεδέξατο,<sup>79</sup> χεῖρα<sup>80</sup> δὲ χειρὶ<sup>81</sup>

δεξιτερῶν<sup>82</sup> ἔλεν,<sup>83</sup> ὧδε<sup>84</sup> δ' ἔπος<sup>85</sup> φάτο<sup>86</sup> καί με προσηύδα<sup>87</sup>

And the cheerful Goddess welcomed me,

and right with right hand took,

and these immortal words spoke:

ὦ κοῦρ<sup>88</sup> ἀθανάτοισι<sup>89</sup> συνάρορος<sup>90</sup> ἠνιόχοισιν,<sup>91</sup>

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<sup>78</sup> fem. nom. sing. πρόφρων, cheerful.

<sup>79</sup> 3rd sing. aor. mid. ind. of ὑποδέχομαι, receive into one's house, welcome.

<sup>80</sup> fem. acc. sing. of χεῖρ, hand.

<sup>81</sup> fem. dat. sing. of χεῖρ, dative of instrument.

<sup>82</sup> fem. acc. sing. of δεξιτερός, right-hand of two.

<sup>83</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of αἰρέω, take with the hand, grasp, seize.

<sup>84</sup> Adv. of ὧδε, in this wise; so, thus, so very, exceedingly.

<sup>85</sup> neut. acc. sing. of ἔπος, word, words, utterance.

<sup>86</sup> 3rd sing. aor. mid. ind. of φημί.

<sup>87</sup> 3rd sing. imperf. act. ind. of προσαυδάω, speak to, address.

[25] ἵπποις ταῖ σε φέρουσιν ἰκάνων<sup>92</sup> ἡμέτερον<sup>93</sup> δῶ,<sup>94</sup>

χαῖρ',<sup>95</sup> ἐπεὶ οὔτι<sup>96</sup> σε μοῖρα κακὴ προὔπεμπε<sup>97</sup> νέεσθαι<sup>98</sup>

τήνδ'<sup>99</sup> ὁδόν—ἧ γὰρ ἀπ' ἀνθρώπων ἐκτὸς<sup>100</sup> πάτου ἐστίν—,

ἀλλὰ θέμις τε δίκη τε. Χρεώ<sup>101</sup> δέ σε πάντα πυθέσθαι<sup>102</sup>

ἡμὲν<sup>103</sup> Ἀληθείης εὐκυκλέος<sup>104</sup> ἀτρεμὲς ἦτορ

[30] ἠδὲ βροτῶν<sup>105</sup> δόξας, ταῖς οὐκ ἔνι<sup>106</sup> πίστις ἀληθείης.

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<sup>88</sup> κοῦρος, Ion. for κόρος, boy, lad.

<sup>89</sup> neut. dat. pl. of ἀθάνατος, deathless, immortal.

<sup>90</sup> fem. nom. sing., accompanying.

<sup>91</sup> fem. ἡνιόχεύω, poet. for ἡνιόχέω, charioteer.

<sup>92</sup> masc. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of ἰκάνω, come to, arrive at, reach.

<sup>93</sup> Adj., neut. acc. sing., of ἡμέτερος, our, ours

<sup>94</sup> neut. acc. sing. of δῶμα, house.

<sup>95</sup> χαρά, joy, delight.

<sup>96</sup> Adv., 'in no wise.'

<sup>97</sup> προπεμψα aor. of προπεμπω, to send before, dismiss.

<sup>98</sup> pres. mid. / pass. inf. of νέομαι, go.

<sup>99</sup> fem. dat. of ὅδε = 'this here.'

<sup>100</sup> Adv., outside.

<sup>101</sup> fem. nom. sing., want, need.

<sup>102</sup> aor. mid. inf. of πυνθάνομαι, learn.

<sup>103</sup> 'and,' correlates with ἠδὲ infra.

<sup>104</sup> εὐκυκλος, well-rounded.

<sup>105</sup> masc. gen. pl. of βροτός, mortal.

Ἄλλ' ἔμπης<sup>107</sup> καὶ ταῦτα μαθήσεαι,<sup>108</sup> ὡς τὰ δοκοῦντα<sup>109</sup>

χρῆν<sup>110</sup> δοκίμως<sup>111</sup> εἶναι διὰ παντὸς πάντα περῶντα.<sup>112</sup>

“O lad, charioteers and horses accompanying,

you to our abode carrying,

delight not in the ill fate which sent you

on this here path,

for it is far from that tread by men;

but is both right and just.

But want for yourself to everything learn;

the well-rounded truth, and your heart unmoved by mortal opinions—

in which it is not possible for there to be true faith.

these things too you will nevertheless learn;

how things are to be thought, to deliver an acceptable oracle—

<sup>106</sup> 3rd sing. and pl. of εἵναι = ‘to be possible.’

<sup>107</sup> ἔμπης = notwithstanding, nevertheless.

<sup>108</sup> 2nd sing. fut. mid. ind. of μαθάνω, come to know, learn.

<sup>109</sup> neut. acc. pl. pres. act. part., of δοκέω, think, fancy.

<sup>110</sup> pres. inf. act. of χράω, deliver and oracle

<sup>111</sup> Adv., of δόκιμος, acceptable.

<sup>112</sup> neut. acc. pl., of περῶω, pass through, penetrate, traverse.

because of being passed in every way through everything.

## II.

Εἰ δ' ἄγ'<sup>113</sup> ἐγών<sup>114</sup> ἐρέω,<sup>115</sup> κόμισαι<sup>116</sup> δὲ σὺ μῦθον<sup>117</sup> ἀκούσας,<sup>118</sup>

αἶπερ<sup>119</sup> ὁδοῖ<sup>120</sup> μούναι<sup>121</sup> διζήσιός<sup>122</sup> εἰσι<sup>123</sup> νοῆσαι<sup>124</sup>

ἢ μὲν<sup>125</sup> ὅπως<sup>126</sup> ἔστιν τε καὶ<sup>127</sup> ὡς οὐκ ἔστι μὴ εἶναι,

πειθοῦς<sup>128</sup> ἔστι κέλευθος ἀληθείη γὰρ ὀπηδεῖ,<sup>129</sup>

[5] ἢ δ' ὡς οὐκ ἔστιν τε καὶ ὡς χρεών<sup>130</sup> ἔστι μὴ εἶναι,

<sup>113</sup> 3rd sing. imperf. act. ind. of ἄγω, lead, conduct, bring.

<sup>114</sup> masc. nom. sing of ἐγώ, Ep., I; Εἰ δ' ἄγ' ἐγών = 'come on,' cf. Liddell and Scott.

<sup>115</sup> 1st sing. fut. act. ind., of ἐρέω I will say.

<sup>116</sup> 2nd sing. aor. mid. imper. of κομίζω, wait upon, attend, care for.

<sup>117</sup> masc. acc. sing. of μῦθος, word, speech; that which is conveyed by word of mouth, tale, narrative, myth.

<sup>118</sup> masc. nom. sing. aor. act. part. of ἀκούω, hear.

<sup>119</sup> Dor. for εἶπερ

<sup>120</sup> ὁδος, belonging to a way.

<sup>121</sup> fem. nom. pl μουνας, Ion., alone, solitary.

<sup>122</sup> fem. gen. sing. of διζησις, inquiry.

<sup>123</sup> 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of εἰμί.

<sup>124</sup> aor. act. inf. of νοέω, think.

<sup>125</sup> ἢ μὲν anticipates ἢ δ' infra where ἢ = πειθω

<sup>126</sup> Conj. of manner.

<sup>127</sup> τὲ καί, often serves to unite components, both similar and opposites. τὲ...καί is not used when one clause is subordinate to another and cannot have the force of 'both...and.' Cf. Smyth's *Greek Grammar*: 2974 .

<sup>128</sup> fem. gen. sing of Πειθώ, the Goddess of persuasion, or mere persuasion.

<sup>129</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of ὀπαδέω, to follow, accompany, attend.

τὴν δὴ<sup>131</sup> τοι<sup>132</sup> φράζω<sup>133</sup> παναπευθέα<sup>134</sup> ἔμμεν<sup>135</sup> ἀταρπὸν<sup>136</sup>

οὔτε γὰρ ἄν<sup>137</sup> γνοιῖς<sup>138</sup> τό γε<sup>139</sup> μὴ ἐὸν<sup>140</sup> οὐ γὰρ ἀνυστόν<sup>141</sup>

οὔτε φράσαις.<sup>142</sup>

Come you! I will tell. To a myth you heard you have attended.

as if indeed the paths for inquiry to think are one;

on the one hand the path of persuasion to truth in the manner is is

it follows not is is not to be

on the other hand not is, must not be.

Thus I show you the straight path to learn to be;

---

<sup>130</sup> neut. nom. sing., that which must be, necessity, fate, that which is expedient or right; it being necessary, since it was necessary.

<sup>131</sup> Particle used to give greater exactness, to the word or words which it influences.

<sup>132</sup> Dor., Ion., and Ep. for σοί, dat. sing. of σύ.

<sup>133</sup> 1st sing. pres. subj. / ind. act. of φράζω, point out, show.

<sup>134</sup> πυνθανομαι, πευθομαι, to learn by asking; learn, ask, inquire.

<sup>135</sup> pres. inf. act. of εἶμι

<sup>136</sup> fem. acc. sing. of ἀταρπός, a path with no turnings, straight path.

<sup>137</sup> conditional partic. in the protasis.

<sup>138</sup> 2nd sing. aor. act. opt. of γιγνώσκω, know by reflection, know by observation, perceive, form a judgment, think.

<sup>139</sup> enclit. partic. calling attention to the words it follows by limitations, cf. Liddel and Scott.

<sup>140</sup> possessive adj. of the 3rd sing., 'it's own.'

<sup>141</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἀνυστός, to be accomplished, practicable.

<sup>142</sup> 2nd sing. aor. act. opt. of φράζω, point out, show.

for neither could you by observation have known it,

nor it if I had not it pointed out,

for it is possible not.

### III.

τὸ γὰρ αὐτὸ νοεῖν ἐστίν τε καὶ εἶναι.

For it is the same to think it and it to be.

### IV.

Λεῦσσε<sup>143</sup> δ' ὅμως<sup>144</sup> ἀπεόντα<sup>145</sup> νόω<sup>146</sup> παρεόντα<sup>147</sup> βεβαίως<sup>148</sup>

οὐ γὰρ ἀποτμήξει<sup>149</sup> τὸ ἐὸν τοῦ ἐόντος<sup>150</sup> ἔχεσθαι<sup>151</sup>

οὔτε σκιδνάμενον<sup>152</sup> πάντη<sup>153</sup> πάντως<sup>154</sup> κατὰ κόσμον<sup>155</sup>

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<sup>143</sup> 2nd sing. pres. act. imper. of λεῦσσω, to look or gaze upon; see, behold.

<sup>144</sup> Conj., all the same, nevertheless, notwithstanding, still.

<sup>145</sup> neut. acc. pl. of ἀπειμι, to be away or far from, to be away or absent, and of things, to be wanting, ἀπό + εἰμί = 'to have passed away.'

<sup>146</sup> masc. dat. sing. of νόος, mind.

<sup>147</sup> neut. acc. pl. of παρέιμι, to be by or present, to be by or near one, to be present so as to help, stand by, of things, to be by, i.e. ready or at hand, παρὰ + εἰμί = 'to have come to be.'

<sup>148</sup> Adv., firm, steady, steadfast, sure, certain.

<sup>149</sup> 3rd sing. fut. act. ind. of ἀποτμήγω, to cut off from, be divided .

<sup>150</sup> neut. gen. sing. pres. act. part. of εἰμί.

<sup>151</sup> pres. mid./pass. inf. of ἔχω.

<sup>152</sup> neut. nom. sing. pres. mid./pass. part. of σκιδνῆμι, to be spread or scattered, disperse.

οὔτε συνιστάμενον.<sup>156</sup>

And in your mind clearly see things not being coming to be,

for, having being, it shall not itself be cut off from being;

being neither scattered in all directions in the Cosmos,

nor completely combined.

V.

Ἐυνὸν<sup>157</sup> δὲ μοί ἐστιν,

ὅππόθεν<sup>158</sup> ἄρξωμαι<sup>159</sup>· τόθι<sup>160</sup> γὰρ πάλιν ἴξομαι<sup>161</sup> αὐθις.<sup>162</sup>

And it is to me all the same whence I shall have begun,

for there I again shall return.

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<sup>153</sup> Adv. on all sides, in all directions.

<sup>154</sup> Adv. by all means, wholly, completely, altogether.

<sup>155</sup> masc. acc. sing. of κόσμος, order, arrangement.

<sup>156</sup> neut. nom. sing. pres. mid./pass. part. of συνίστημι, combine, associate, unite, put together, organize, frame, contrive.

<sup>157</sup> ἔυνος = κοινός, common, public, general.

<sup>158</sup> Adv., whence, from what place

<sup>159</sup> 1st sing. aor. mid. subj. of ἄρχω, to be first.

<sup>160</sup> Adv., there, in that place.

<sup>161</sup> 1st sing. fut. mid. ind. of ἰκνέομαι, reach, attain to, approach as suppliant, it becomes, befits, pertains to, that which is fitting, proper.

<sup>162</sup> Adv., back, back again.

## VI.

Χρή τὸ λέγειν τε νοεῖν τ' ἐὸν ἔμμεναι<sup>163</sup> ἔστι γὰρ εἶναι,

μηδὲν δ' οὐκ ἔστιν· τὰ σ' ἐγὼ φράζεσθαι<sup>164</sup> ἄνωγα.<sup>165</sup>

It is necessary to speak it and to think the being to be;

for it is to be and nothing not is, this I bid thee ponder.

Πρώτης γὰρ σ' ἀφ' ὁδοῦ ταύτης διζήσιος<sup>166</sup> <εἴρω>,<sup>167</sup>

αὐτὰρ<sup>168</sup> ἔπειτ'<sup>169</sup> ἀπὸ τῆς, ἦν δὴ<sup>170</sup> βροτοὶ εἰδότες<sup>171</sup> οὐδὲν

[5] πλάττονται,<sup>172</sup> δίκρανοι<sup>173</sup> ἀμηχανίη<sup>174</sup> γὰρ ἐν αὐτῶν

στήθεσιν<sup>175</sup> ἰθύνει<sup>176</sup> πλακτὸν<sup>177</sup> νόον· οἱ δὲ φοροῦνται<sup>178</sup>

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<sup>163</sup> pres. inf. act. of εἶμι.

<sup>164</sup> pres. mid./pass. inf. of φράζω, bid, order, ponder.

<sup>165</sup> 1st sing. perf. act. ind. of ἄνωγα, command, order.

<sup>166</sup> fem. gen. sing. of διζήσις, inquiry.

<sup>167</sup> 1st sing. pres. act. subj. of εἴρω = εἴρωμι, shut in, confine, hinder.

<sup>168</sup> but, nevertheless.

<sup>169</sup> Adv. thereupon.

<sup>170</sup> post. pos., in truth, to be sure. Cf. Symth 2840.

<sup>171</sup> masc. nom. pl. perf. act. part of οἶδα, see, know.

<sup>172</sup> 3rd pl. pres. mid./pass. ind. of πλάσσω, form, mould and πλήσσω, struck with terror.

<sup>173</sup> δίκρανος, two-headed

<sup>174</sup> fem. nom. sing., want of means.

<sup>175</sup> neut. dat. pl. of στήθος, the breast as the seat of feeling and thought, seat of the will.

κωφοὶ ὁμῶς τυφλοὶ τε, τεθηπότες,<sup>179</sup> ἄκριτα φύλα,

οἷς τὸ πέλειν<sup>180</sup> τε καὶ οὐκ εἶναι ταῦτόν νενόμισται<sup>181</sup>

κοῦ ταῦτόν, πάντων δὲ παλίντροπός ἐστι κέλευθος.

To you I ought hinder from this first path, nevertheless,

then, from that which men have, in truth, seen nothing;

forming two heads, for their heart,<sup>182</sup> lacks means

to straighten their twisted mind.

But just as they are perpetually young, blind,

and dazzled like a disorderly tribe—to whom it is customary

for a thing to come to be this and not to be this,

and everything is a winding road.

## VII.

Οὐ γὰρ μήποτε<sup>183</sup> τοῦτο δαμῆ<sup>184</sup> εἶναι μὴ ἐόντα·

<sup>176</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of ἰθύνω, make straight.

<sup>177</sup> πλακτός, twisted.

<sup>178</sup> 3rd pl. pres. mid. / pass. ind. of φορέω, repeated, repeated or habitual action.

<sup>179</sup> masc. nom. pl. perf. act. part. of τέθηπα, to be astonished, astounded, amazed.

<sup>180</sup> pres. inf. act. of πέλω, come into existence, become, be

<sup>181</sup> 3rd sing. perf. mid / pass. ind. of νομίζω, customary practice.

<sup>182</sup> 'the seat of the will.'

ἀλλὰ σὺ τῆσδ' ἀφ' ὁδοῦ διζήσιος<sup>185</sup> εἴργε<sup>186</sup> νόημα<sup>187</sup>

μηδέ σ' ἔθος πολύπειρον<sup>188</sup> ὁδὸν κατὰ τήνδε βιάσθω,<sup>189</sup>

νωμᾶν<sup>190</sup> ἄσκοπον<sup>191</sup> ὄμμα καὶ ἠχίεσσεν<sup>192</sup> ἀκουήν

[5] καὶ γλῶσσαν, κρῖναι δὲ λόγῳ πολύδηριν<sup>193</sup> ἔλεγχον<sup>194</sup>

ἐξ ἐμέθεν<sup>195</sup> ὀρθέντα.<sup>196</sup>

For never will this overcome—to be is not being,

and from this path of inquiry shut-off your perception.

And let not custom urge, wandering eye,

sound heard, or word of mouth, direct you down this road;

<sup>183</sup> Adv., never, on no account.

<sup>184</sup> 3rd sing. fut. act. ind. of δαμάζω, overpower, subdue, gain the mastery over.

<sup>185</sup> fem. gen. sing. of διζήσις, inquiry.

<sup>186</sup> 2nd sing. pres. imper. act., of εἴργω, shut in, shut off.

<sup>187</sup> neut. acc. sing. of νόημα, that which is perceived, perception, thought.

<sup>188</sup> fem. acc. sing. of πολύπειρος, much experienced.

<sup>189</sup> 3rd sing. pres. mid. pass. imper. of βιάω, constrain, drive on, urge on.

<sup>190</sup> neut. acc. sing. pres. act. part. of νωμάω, deal out, distribute, direct, guide.

<sup>191</sup> masc. / fem. acc. sing. neut. nom. / acc. sing. of ἄσκοπος, aimless, heedless, inconsiderate.

<sup>192</sup> 3rd pl. aor. act. ind. of ἠχέω, to sound.

<sup>193</sup> πολύ + δηρις, much contested.

<sup>194</sup> masc. acc. sing. of ἔλεγχος, argument of disproof, refutation.

<sup>195</sup> fem. gen. sing. of ἐγώ.

<sup>196</sup> masc. acc. sing. aor. pass. part. of ἐρῶ,

but with reason distinguish my much contested

refutation to be mentioned.

### VIII.

Μόνος δ' ἔτι μῦθος ὁδοῖο<sup>197</sup>

λείπεται<sup>198</sup> ὡς ἔστιν· ταύτη δ' ἐπὶ σήματ'<sup>199</sup> ἔασι

πολλὰ μάλ', ὡς ἀγένητον<sup>200</sup> ἔδον καὶ ἀνώλεθρόν<sup>201</sup> ἔστιν,

ἔστι γὰρ οὐλομελές<sup>202</sup> τε καὶ ἀτρεμὲς<sup>203</sup> ἢ δ' ἀτέλεστον<sup>204</sup>

And myth alone still leads you by the right path

it being forsaken for it is; and for this there are very many signs,

as uncreated and unmoved being is, for it is perfect and unmoving,

already endless;

[5] οὐδέ ποτ' ἦν οὐδ' ἔσται,<sup>205</sup> ἐπεὶ νῦν ἔστιν ὁμοῦ<sup>206</sup> πᾶν,

<sup>197</sup> 2nd sing. pres. mid. / pass. opt. of ὁδοῶ, lead by the right way.

<sup>198</sup> 3rd sing. pres. mid. / pass. ind. of λείπω, leave, quit.

<sup>199</sup> neut. nom. / acc. pl. of σημά, sign, mark, token.

<sup>200</sup> neut. nom. of ἀγένητος, uncreated, unoriginated.

<sup>201</sup> neut. nom. of ἀνώλεθρος, indestructible.

<sup>202</sup> οὐλομενος = οὐλος, perfect, complete, continuous; whole.

<sup>203</sup> neut. nom. of ἀτρεμής, unmoved, calm.

<sup>204</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἀτέλεστος, without end, endless.

ἔν,<sup>207</sup> συνεχές<sup>208</sup> τίνα γὰρ γένναν<sup>209</sup> διζήσεται<sup>210</sup> αὐτοῦ;<sup>211</sup>

πῆ πόθεν ἀξηθέν;<sup>212</sup> οὐτ' ἐκ μὴ ἐόντος ἐάσω<sup>213</sup>

φάσθαι<sup>214</sup> σ' οὐδὲ νοεῖν· οὐ γὰρ φατὸν<sup>215</sup> οὐδὲ νοητόν<sup>216</sup>

ἔστιν ὅπως οὐκ ἔστι.

And not ever was and not ever shall be,

since now everything is the same, one, holding together;

for what beginning shall you look for there?

How was it to have grown?

Not from not being I will not permit

you to say or even think;

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<sup>205</sup> 3rd sing. fut. mid. ind. of εἰμί.

<sup>206</sup> Adj. neut. gen. sing. of ὁμός, one and the same.

<sup>207</sup> neut. one alone.

<sup>208</sup> neut. nom. sing. of συνεχής, holding together.

<sup>209</sup> fem. acc. sing. of γέννα, descent, birth origin.

<sup>210</sup> 2nd sing. fut. mid. ind. of διζήμαι, seek out, look for.

<sup>211</sup> Adv., there.

<sup>212</sup> neut. nom. sing. aor. pass. part. of ἀξάνω, increase, grow.

<sup>213</sup> 1st sing. fut. act. ind. of ἔαω, forbid.

<sup>214</sup> pres. mid. inf. of φημί.

<sup>215</sup> neut. nom. sing. of φατός, spoken.

<sup>216</sup> neut. nom. sing. of νοητός, thinkable.

for it is neither spoken nor thought

and as such is not.

Τί δ' ἄν μιν<sup>217</sup> καὶ χρέος<sup>218</sup> ὤρσεν<sup>219</sup>

[10] ὕστερον<sup>220</sup> ἢ πρόσθεν,<sup>221</sup> τοῦ μηδενός<sup>222</sup> ἀρξάμενον,<sup>223</sup> φύν;<sup>224</sup>

οὕτως ἢ πάμπαν<sup>225</sup> πελέναι<sup>226</sup> χρεῶν ἐστὶν ἢ οὐχί.<sup>227</sup>

And what thing is itself, from nothing

and what need called it forth sooner rather than later,

from nothing, having been first, grew?

Thus, either became all at once of urgent desire,

or it is not at all.

Οὐδὲ ποτ' ἐκ μὴ ἐόντος<sup>228</sup> ἐφήσει<sup>229</sup> πίστιος<sup>230</sup> ἰσχύς<sup>231</sup>

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<sup>217</sup> Pron. neut. nom. sing., itself.

<sup>218</sup> neut. nom., need, want.

<sup>219</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of ὀρνυμι, urge on, incite, call forth.

<sup>220</sup> Adj. nom. acc. sing. of ὕστερος, latter, last.

<sup>221</sup> Adv. before, earlier, sooner.

<sup>222</sup> τοῦ μηδενός, neut. gen. sing. of μηδεῖς, nothing.

<sup>223</sup> neut. nom. sing. aor. mid. part. of ἄρχω, to be first.

<sup>224</sup> 3rd pl. aor. act. ind. of φύω, make to grow, produce; beget, engender.

<sup>225</sup> Adv. wholly, altogether; all at once.

<sup>226</sup> aor. act. inf. of πελομαι, to become.

<sup>227</sup> Adv. Att. form of οὐ, contrary to fact, as μή is the contrary of will and thought.

γίγνεσθαι<sup>232</sup> τι παρ' αὐτό· τοῦ εἶνεκεν<sup>233</sup> οὔτε γενέσθαι<sup>234</sup>

οὔτ' ὄλλυσθαι<sup>235</sup> ἀνήκε<sup>236</sup> Δίκη χαλάσασα<sup>237</sup> πέδησιν,<sup>238</sup>

[15] ἀλλ' ἔχει ἡ δὲ κρίσις<sup>239</sup> περὶ τούτων ἐν τῷδ' ἔστιν·

But never from not being will it send forth

that which gives strength of truth

that which was born through itself;

neither allowed to give birth nor to destroy

because Justice releases bonds not of it but holds;

And the difference between these is in this:

ἔστιν ἢ οὐκ ἔστιν· κέκριται<sup>240</sup> δ' οὖν, ὥσπερ ἀνάγκη,<sup>241</sup>

<sup>228</sup> neut. gen. sing. pres. act. part. of εἶμι.

<sup>229</sup> 3rd sing. fut. act. ind. of ἐφήμι, send, let go, loosen.

<sup>230</sup> fem. gen. sing. of πίστις, trust, faith, confidence; that which gives trust or confidence.

<sup>231</sup> fem. acc. pl. of ἰσχύς, strength, bodily strength; force, might.

<sup>232</sup> pres. mid. inf. of γίγνομαι.

<sup>233</sup> Prep. Ion. and poët. ἔνεκα, on account of, for the sake of, because of.

<sup>234</sup> aor. mid. inf. of γίγνομαι.

<sup>235</sup> pres. mid./pass. inf. of ὄλλυμι, destroy, make an end of.

<sup>236</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of ἀνίημι, allow.

<sup>237</sup> fem. nom. dual aor. act. part. of χαλαῶ, slacken, loosen.

<sup>238</sup> dat. pl., bonds, fetters.

<sup>239</sup> fem. nom. sing. separating, distinguishing.

τὴν μὲν ἔαν<sup>242</sup> ἀνόητον<sup>243</sup> ἀνόνημον,<sup>244</sup> οὐ γὰρ ἀληθῆς

ἔστιν ὁδός, τὴν δ' ὥστε πέλειν<sup>245</sup> καὶ ἐτήτυμον<sup>246</sup> εἶναι.

Is or is not; and being, according to necessity, at any rate, separated,

the one permitted being the nameless unheard of,

for it is not a true path, and the other being

to be and to be real.

Πῶς δ' ἂν ἔπειτα<sup>247</sup> πέλοιτο<sup>248</sup> ἔον;<sup>249</sup> πῶς δ' ἂν κε γένοιτο;<sup>250</sup>

[20] εἰ γὰρ ἔγεντ'<sup>251</sup> οὐκ ἔστι, οὐδ' εἴ ποτε μέλλει<sup>252</sup> ἔσεσθαι.<sup>253</sup>

Τῶς<sup>254</sup> γένεσις<sup>255</sup> μὲν ἀπέσβεσται<sup>256</sup> καὶ ἄπυστος<sup>257</sup> ὄλεθρος.<sup>258</sup>

<sup>240</sup> 3rd sing. perf. pass. ind. of κρίνω, separate, put asunder, distinguish.

<sup>241</sup> fem. nom. sing., necessity, constraint.

<sup>242</sup> neut. acc. sing. pres. act. part. of ἐάω, let, permit, let alone, let be.

<sup>243</sup> neut. acc. sing. of ἀνόητος, not thought on, unheard of.

<sup>244</sup> neut. nom. acc. sing. of ἀνόνημος, nameless.

<sup>245</sup> pres. inf. act. of πέλω, to be

<sup>246</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἐτήτυμος, true, truthful, real.

<sup>247</sup> Adv. thereupon, then, in that case.

<sup>248</sup> 3rd sing. pres. pass. opt. of πέλω, come into existence, become, be.

<sup>249</sup> neut. acc. sing. pres. act. part. of εἶμι.

<sup>250</sup> 3rd sing. aor. mid. opt. of γίγνομαι, come into a new state of being.

<sup>251</sup> 3rd sing. aor. mid. ind. of γίγνομαι.

<sup>252</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of μέλλω, be destined.

<sup>253</sup> fut. mid. inf. of εἶμι.

And how would a being thing be set in motion?

And how would it come to be?

For if it came to be itself, is not, and if not,

is destined to it shall be.

Genesis died thus, a death unheard.

Οὐδὲ διαιετόν<sup>259</sup> ἔστιν, ἐπει<sup>260</sup> πᾶν<sup>261</sup> ἔστιν ὁμοῖον<sup>262</sup>

οὐδέ τι τῆ<sup>263</sup> μᾶλλον<sup>264</sup> τό κεν<sup>265</sup> εἴργοι<sup>266</sup> μιν<sup>267</sup> συνέχεσθαι<sup>268</sup>

οὐδέ τι χειρότερον<sup>269</sup> πᾶν δ' ἔμπλεόν<sup>270</sup> ἔστιν ἐόντος.<sup>271</sup>

<sup>254</sup> Adv. answering πῶς.

<sup>255</sup> fem. nom. sing., generation, origin

<sup>256</sup> ἀποσβέννυμι, extinguish, quench, vanish, die.

<sup>257</sup> masc. nom. sing., unheard of.

<sup>258</sup> masc. nom. sing., destruction, ruin, death.

<sup>259</sup> neut. nom. sing. of διαιετός, divided, separated.

<sup>260</sup> Conj., when, after, since, seeing that.

<sup>261</sup> Adj. neut. nom. sing. of πᾶς, all, the whole.

<sup>262</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ὁμοῖος, like, resembling.

<sup>263</sup> Adv. ταύτη here, there.

<sup>264</sup> Adv. comp. of μάλα, very, exceedingly, quite, rightly.

<sup>265</sup> ἄν, modal Particle used with Verbs to indicate that the action is limited by circumstances or defined by conditions.

<sup>266</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. opt. of εἴρω, shut in, shut up.

<sup>267</sup> Pron. neut. acc. sing., itself.

<sup>268</sup> pres. mid. inf. of συνόχωκα, to be collapsed or enclosed.

It is not even divided, since all is alike;

and not something more here or there,

itself being enclosed, may not shut itself in,

and not that which is empty, but everything is full of being.

[25] Τῷ ξυνεχῆς<sup>272</sup> πᾶν<sup>273</sup> ἔστιν· ἐὸν<sup>274</sup> γὰρ ἐόντι<sup>275</sup> πελάζει.<sup>276</sup>

Αὐτὰρ<sup>277</sup> ἀκίνητον<sup>278</sup> μεγάλων<sup>279</sup> ἐν πείρασι<sup>280</sup> δεσμῶν<sup>281</sup>

ἔστιν ἄναρχον<sup>282</sup> ἄπαυστον,<sup>283</sup> ἐπεὶ γένεσις καὶ ὄλεθρος

τῆλε<sup>284</sup> μάλ' ἐπλάχθησαν,<sup>285</sup> ἀπῶσε<sup>286</sup> δὲ πίσις<sup>287</sup> ἀληθής.

<sup>269</sup> Ep. for χείρων.

<sup>270</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἔμπλεος, full of.

<sup>271</sup> neut. gen. sing. pres. act. part. of εἰμί.

<sup>272</sup> neut. nom. sing. of συνεχής, continuously, contiguous, conjoined.

<sup>273</sup> neut. nom./acc. sing., every.

<sup>274</sup> neut. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of εἰμί.

<sup>275</sup> neut. dat. sing. pres. act. part. of εἰμί.

<sup>276</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of πελάζω, approach, draw near.

<sup>277</sup> Partic. but yet, but, however, still, besides, moreover.

<sup>278</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἀκίνητος, motionless.

<sup>279</sup> Adj. neut. gen. pl. of μέγας, great, large.

<sup>280</sup> neut. dat. pl. of πείρα, ends, limits.

<sup>281</sup> neut. nom. acc. sing. pres. act. part. of δεσμεύω, to fetter, put in chains.

<sup>282</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἄναρχος, without leader.

<sup>283</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἄπαυστος, unceasing, never-ending.

For it, everything is contiguous,

for its own being to being draws near.

But of great things, motionless is

in ends fettered, is leaderless, and never-ending,

since birth and death were far away thrown, but true faith pushed.

Ταὐτόν<sup>288</sup> τ' ἐν ταῦτῳ<sup>289</sup> τε μένον<sup>290</sup> καθ' ἑαυτό<sup>291</sup> τε κεῖται<sup>292</sup>

[30] χούτως<sup>293</sup> ἔμπεδον<sup>294</sup> αὐθι<sup>295</sup> μένει<sup>296</sup> κρατερῇ<sup>297</sup> γὰρ Ἀνάγκη

πεῖρατος<sup>298</sup> ἐν δεσμοῖσιν<sup>299</sup> ἔχει, τό μιν<sup>300</sup> ἀμφίς<sup>301</sup> ἐέργει<sup>302</sup>

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<sup>284</sup> Adv. far, far away.

<sup>285</sup> 3rd pl. aor. pass. ind. of πλάσσω, hurl.

<sup>286</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of ἀπωθέω, push.

<sup>287</sup> fem. nom. sing. of πίστις, trust.

<sup>288</sup> τὸ + αὐτό = 'the same thing.'

<sup>289</sup> Adj. neut. dat. sing. of ταὐτός, the same, identical.

<sup>290</sup> neut. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of μένω, remain, stay, linger, continue.

<sup>291</sup> Adj. neut. acc. sing. of ἑαυτοῦ, itself.

<sup>292</sup> 3rd sing. pres. pass. ind. of κεῖμαι, lie, be placed.

<sup>293</sup> Adv. οὕτως.

<sup>294</sup> neut. nom. sing. of ἔμπεδος, firmly standing.

<sup>295</sup> Adv. of Place, on the spot, here, there; of Time, forthwith, straightway.

<sup>296</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of μένω, remain, wait.

<sup>297</sup> fem. nom. sing., strong, powerful, mighty.

<sup>298</sup> neut. gen. sing. of πεῖρατος, ends, limits.

οὐνεκεν<sup>303</sup> οὐκ ἀτελεύτητον<sup>304</sup> τὸ ἐὼν θέμις<sup>305</sup> εἶναι·

ἔστι γὰρ οὐκ ἐπιδέεις<sup>306</sup> μὴ ἐὼν δ' ἄν παντός ἐδεῖτο.<sup>307</sup>

The same in the same and remaining itself throughout,

and thus placed firmly stands, in the same place remaining,

for in fettering bonds mighty Necessity holds

is itself, on both sides, shut in, wherefore

unfinished is not, being is law,

for it is in need not, but everything left lacking,

not being was.

Ταὐτὸν δ' ἐστὶ νοεῖν τε καὶ οὐνεκεν ἔστι νόημα.<sup>308</sup>

[35] Οὐ γὰρ ἄνευ<sup>309</sup> τοῦ ἐόντος, ἐν ᾧ<sup>310</sup> πεφρατισμένον<sup>311</sup> ἔστιν,

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<sup>299</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. subj.; 3rd pl. pres. act. ind., of δεσμεύω, to fetter, put in chains.

<sup>300</sup> Pron. neut. acc. sing., itself.

<sup>301</sup> Adv. on both sides, apart, in two ways.

<sup>302</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of ἔργω, shut in, shut up; shut out or keep away from.

<sup>303</sup> Conj. οὐνεκα, wherefore, because.

<sup>304</sup> nom. / acc. sing. of ἀτελεύτητος, unfinished, unaccomplished, unfulfilled.

<sup>305</sup> fem. nom. sing, fem. acc. pl., law, right.

<sup>306</sup> Adj. neut. nom. sing., ἐπιδείς, be in want of, in need of.

<sup>307</sup> 3rd sing. imperf. mid. / pass. ind. of δέω, bind, fasten; to lack, miss, stand in need of

<sup>308</sup> neut. nom. sing., thought, idea.

εύρησεις<sup>312</sup> τὸ νοεῖν<sup>313</sup> οὐδὲν γὰρ <ἢ> ἔστιν ἢ ἔσται<sup>314</sup>

ἄλλο πάρεξ<sup>315</sup> τοῦ ἔοντος, ἐπεὶ τό γε Μοῖρ' ἐπέδησεν<sup>316</sup>

οὔλον<sup>317</sup> ἀκίνητόν<sup>318</sup> τ' ἔμμεναι<sup>319</sup> τῶ πάντ' ὄνομ' ἔσται,<sup>320</sup>

ὅσσα<sup>321</sup> βροτοὶ κατέθεντο<sup>322</sup> πεποιθότες<sup>323</sup> εἶναι ἀληθῆ,

[40] γίγνεσθαί<sup>324</sup> τε καὶ ὄλλυσθαι,<sup>325</sup> εἶναί τε καὶ οὐχί,

καὶ τόπον<sup>326</sup> ἀλλάσσειν<sup>327</sup> διὰ<sup>328</sup> τε χροά<sup>329</sup> φανὸν ἀμείβειν.<sup>330</sup>

<sup>309</sup> Prep. + gen., without; away from, far from; except, besides.

<sup>310</sup> neut. dat. sing. of ὅς, this, that.

<sup>311</sup> neut. nom. sing. perf. pass. part. of φατίζω, to say, speak, report.

<sup>312</sup> 2nd sing. fut. act. ind. of εὐρίσκω, find.

<sup>313</sup> pres. inf. act. of νοέω, think.

<sup>314</sup> 3rd sing. fut. mid. ind. of εἰμί.

<sup>315</sup> Prep. + gen., outside, before; except, exclusive of.

<sup>316</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of ἐπιδέω, to bind.

<sup>317</sup> neut. acc. sing. of οὔλος, whole, entire, complete.

<sup>318</sup> neut. acc. sing. of ἀκίνητος, motionless.

<sup>319</sup> pres. inf. act. of εἰμί.

<sup>320</sup> 3rd sing. fut. mid. ind. of εἰμί.

<sup>321</sup> Adv. as far as, in so far as; how far, how much.

<sup>322</sup> 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of κατατίθημι, put aside, leave out of the question.

<sup>323</sup> masc. nom. pl. perf. perf. act. part. of πεῖθω, make to believe, convince, persuade, prevail.

<sup>324</sup> pres. pass. inf. of γίγνομαι

<sup>325</sup> pres. pass inf. of ὄλλυμι, destroy.

<sup>326</sup> masc. acc. sing. of τόπος, place, region.

<sup>327</sup> pres. act. inf. of ἀλλάσσω, change; take a new position; exchange; alternate.

And same it is to think, because it is thought.

For it is not without being, in that, being spoken,

you will find, is to think it; for none either is,

or shall be, another thing, except from being,

since Fate bound it and the whole thing motionless to be,

to it is every name, in so far as men leave it out of the question,

having convinced it to be truth, being born and being destroyed,

to be and to be not, and to change place,

and through bodies light to be exchanged.

Αὐτὰρ<sup>331</sup> ἐπεὶ πείρα<sup>332</sup> πύματον,<sup>333</sup> τετελεσμένον<sup>334</sup> ἐστί

πάντοθεν,<sup>335</sup> εὐκύκλου<sup>336</sup> σφαίρης<sup>337</sup> ἐναλίγκιον<sup>338</sup> ὄγκῳ,<sup>339</sup>

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<sup>328</sup> Prep. between, through; on account of.

<sup>329</sup> masc. acc. sing. of χρώς, skin, body.

<sup>330</sup> pres. inf. act. of ἀμείβω, change, exchange.

<sup>331</sup> Part., but, yet, however.

<sup>332</sup> 2nd sing. aor. act. ind. of πείρω, pierce through, pierce, transfix; determine.

<sup>333</sup> neut. acc. sing. of πύματος, last, utmost.

<sup>334</sup> neut. acc. sing. perf. mid. / pass. part. of τελέω, bring to an end.

<sup>335</sup> Adv. from every side.

<sup>336</sup> fem. gen. sing. of εὐκύκλος, well-rounded.

<sup>337</sup> fem. gen. sing. of σφαῖρα, ball globe, sphere.

μεσσόθεν<sup>340</sup> ἰσοπαλῆς<sup>341</sup> πάντη· τὸ γὰρ οὔτε τι μείζον<sup>342</sup>

[45] οὔτε τι βαιότερον<sup>343</sup> πελέναι<sup>344</sup> χρεόν<sup>345</sup> ἔστι τῆ ἢ τῆ.

But since you through the utmost pierced,

it has been from every side to an end,

a well rounded sphere, like a mass,

equal in every way from the center;

for it is neither that which is greater,

nor that which is smaller,

set by fate in motion, for this or that.

Οὔτε γὰρ οὐκ ἐὼν ἔστι, τό κεν παύοι<sup>346</sup> μιν ἰκνεῖσθαι<sup>347</sup>

εἰς ὁμόν,<sup>348</sup> οὔτ' ἐὼν ἔστιν ὅπως<sup>349</sup> εἴη<sup>350</sup> κεν ἐόντος

<sup>338</sup> Adj. fem. nom. sing. of ἐναλίγκιος, like resembling.

<sup>339</sup> masc. dat. sing. of ὄγκος, bulk, mass, size.

<sup>340</sup> Adv. from the middle, from the center.

<sup>341</sup> Adj. neut. nom. sing., equal in the struggle, well-matched; equal.

<sup>342</sup> Adj. neut. nom. sing. comp. of μέγας, great, large.

<sup>343</sup> Adj. neut. nom. comp. of βαιός, little, small, few.

<sup>344</sup> πελω

<sup>345</sup> χρεών, Ion. χρεόν, that which must be; necessity, fate.

<sup>346</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. opt. of παύω, stop, cease, cause to cease.

<sup>347</sup> pres. mid. pass. inf. of ἰκνέομαι, come to, arrive at, reach.

τῆ μάλλον<sup>351</sup> τῆ δ' ἥσσον,<sup>352</sup> ἐπεὶ πᾶν ἔστιν ἄσυλον<sup>353</sup>

οἱ γὰρ πάντοθεν<sup>354</sup> ἴσον, ὁμῶς<sup>355</sup> ἐν πεῖρασι<sup>356</sup> κύρει.<sup>357</sup>

For not is not being, it would itself stop, to reach itself one likeness,

nor is being as it might be, being the more and the less,

since everything is safe from violence,

for they, on every side, the same equally in limits to power.

[50] Ἐν τῷ σοι<sup>358</sup> παύω<sup>359</sup> πιστὸν λόγον ἡδὲ<sup>360</sup> νόημα<sup>361</sup>

ἀμφὶς<sup>362</sup> ἀληθείης<sup>363</sup> δόξας<sup>364</sup> δ' ἀπὸ τοῦδε<sup>365</sup> βροτείας<sup>366</sup>

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<sup>348</sup> Adj. ὁμός, like, common.

<sup>349</sup> Conj. as, in such manner as.

<sup>350</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. opt. of εἶμι.

<sup>351</sup> Adv. comp. of μάλα, very.

<sup>352</sup> Adj., neut. nom. comp. of ἥσσων, inferior, weaker.

<sup>353</sup> Adj. neut. nom. sing. of ἄσυλος, safe from violence, inviolate.

<sup>354</sup> Adv. from every side.

<sup>355</sup> Adv. together, alike, likewise, equally as, just as.

<sup>356</sup> neut. dat pl. of πεῖρα, ends, limits.

<sup>357</sup> neut. dat. sing. of κύρος, supreme power, authority.

<sup>358</sup> Pron. dat. sing. of σύ.

<sup>359</sup> 1st sing. pres. act. ind. of παύω, stop, cease, cause to cease.

<sup>360</sup> Conj. and, both...and.

<sup>361</sup> neut. acc. sing., that which is thought, a thought, a purpose, design, resolve; thought, understanding, mind.

<sup>362</sup> Prep. + gen., concerning.

μάνθανε<sup>367</sup> κόσμον<sup>368</sup> ἐμῶν<sup>369</sup> ἐπέων<sup>370</sup> ἀπατηλὸν<sup>371</sup> ἀκούων.<sup>372</sup>

With that I end my faithful purpose,

and thoughts about truth,

and from this learn men's opinions,

hearing the order of my words, producing illusion.

Μορφὰς<sup>373</sup> γὰρ κατέθεντο<sup>374</sup> δύο γνώμας<sup>375</sup> ὀνομάζειν<sup>376</sup>

τῶν μίαν<sup>377</sup> οὐ χρεῶν<sup>378</sup> ἔστιν— ἐν ᾧ<sup>379</sup> πεπλανημένοι<sup>380</sup> εἰσίν—

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<sup>363</sup> fem. gen. sing. of ἀλήθεια.

<sup>364</sup> fem. acc. pl. or fem. gen. sing. of δόξα, notion, opinion, judgement.

<sup>365</sup> neut. gen. sing. of ὅδε, this.

<sup>366</sup> fem. acc. pl. or fem. gen. sing. of βρότειος, mortal, human, of mortal mould.

<sup>367</sup> 2nd sing. pres. imper. act. of μανθάνω, learn, come to know.

<sup>368</sup> masc. acc. sing. of κόσμος, order, arrangement.

<sup>369</sup> Adj. neut. gen. pl. of ἐμός, my, mine.

<sup>370</sup> neut. gen. pl. of ἔπος, word, words; utterance, that which is uttered in words, speech, tale.

<sup>371</sup> Adj., neut. nom. / acc. sing. of ἀπατηλός, producing illusion.

<sup>372</sup> masc. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of ἀκούω, hear.

<sup>373</sup> fem. acc. pl. of μορφή, form, shape, appearance; Lat. forma.

<sup>374</sup> 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of κατατίθημι.

<sup>375</sup> fem. acc. pl. of γνώμη, a means of knowing, a mark, token; organ by which one perceives or knows, intelligence; thought, judgment, opinion

<sup>376</sup> pres. inf. act. of ὀνομάζω, call; name, specify.

<sup>377</sup> Adj. fem. acc. sing. of εἷς, one.

<sup>378</sup> 'it is necessary.'

[55] τάντια<sup>381</sup> δ' ἐκρίναντο<sup>382</sup> δέμας<sup>383</sup> καὶ σήματ'<sup>384</sup> ἔθεντο<sup>385</sup>

χωρὶς ἀπ' ἀλλήλων,<sup>386</sup> τῇ μὲν φλογός<sup>387</sup> αἰθέριον πῦρ,

ἦπιον<sup>388</sup> ὄν, μέγ' ἐλαφρόν,<sup>389</sup> ἐωυτῶ<sup>390</sup> πάντοσε<sup>391</sup> τωὐτόν,

τῶ δ' ἑτέρω μὴ τωὐτόν· ἀτὰρ κάκεινο<sup>392</sup> κατ' αὐτό

τάντια νύκτ' ἀδαῖ,<sup>393</sup> πυκινὸν δέμας ἐμβριθές<sup>394</sup> τε.

For two forms of ways to name were lain down,

of them, one is not necessary — that in which wandering about is —

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<sup>379</sup> neut. dat. sing. of ὄς.

<sup>380</sup> 3rd nom. pl. perf. mid./pass. part. of πλανᾶω, to make to wander, lead wandering about

<sup>381</sup> Adj. ἀντίος, face to face, opposite; as Adv. in neut., against, over against.

<sup>382</sup> 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of κρίνω, separate, put asunder, distinguish; pick out, choose; decide; adjudge, judge, give judgment; estimate; expound, interpret.

<sup>383</sup> neut. gen. sing., or neut. nom. / acc. sing. of δέμας, bodily frame.

<sup>384</sup> neut. acc. pl. of σῆμα, sign, token, mark.

<sup>385</sup> 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of τίθημι, put, place.

<sup>386</sup> Adj., masc./fem./neut. gen. pl. of ἀλλήλων, each other, one another, mutually.

<sup>387</sup> masc. gen. sing. of φλόξ, flame, blaze.

<sup>388</sup> Adj., masc. acc. sing or neut. nom. / acc. sing. of ἦπιος, mild.

<sup>389</sup> Adj. masc. acc. sing. or neut. nom. / acc. sing. of ἐλαφρός, light in weight; light to bear, easy.

<sup>390</sup> Adj., masc. / neut. dat. sing. of ἑαυτοῦ.

<sup>391</sup> Adv., on every side, in every direction.

<sup>392</sup> neut. nom. / acc. sing. of ἐκεῖνος.

<sup>393</sup> ἀδαίης, unknowing how to, ignorant.

<sup>394</sup> ἐμβριθέης, weighty, heavy.

and face to face distinguished bodies and signs  
 were placed apart from one another,  
 on the one hand, the gentle flaming ethereal fire being,  
 a mighty weight, for itself is the same in every direction,  
 but to the other the opposite, not the same;  
 but there, to itself, the being of ignorant night, and a thick heavy body.

[60] Τόν σοι ἐγὼ διάκοσμον<sup>395</sup> εἰοικότα<sup>396</sup> πάντα φατίζω,<sup>397</sup>

ὥς οὐ μὴ ποτέ τις σε βροτῶν γνώμη παρελάσσει.<sup>398</sup>

I should tell you, the division of everything has been the like,  
 how you, at some time, will overcome the opinions of men.

## IX.

Αὐτὰρ<sup>399</sup> ἐπειδὴ πάντα φάος καὶ νῦξ ὀνόμασται<sup>400</sup>

καὶ τὰ κατὰ σφετέρως<sup>401</sup> δυνάμεις<sup>402</sup> ἐπὶ τοῖσί τε καὶ τοῖς,

<sup>395</sup> masc. acc. sing. of διάκοσμος, battle-order; arrangement, or division.

<sup>396</sup> neut. nom. / acc. pl. perf. act. part. or masc. acc. sing. perf. act. part. of εἶοικα, be like, resemble; be analogous to.

<sup>397</sup> 1st sing. pres. act. subj. of φατίζω, to say, speak, report; promise, engage, betroth.

<sup>398</sup> 2nd sing. fut. mid. ind. of παρελεύω, be surpassed.

<sup>399</sup> Conj. Ep. for ἀτάρ, but yet, but, however.

<sup>400</sup> ὀνομαίνω, call by name, name.

πάν πλέον<sup>403</sup> ἔστιν ὁμοῦ φάεος<sup>404</sup> καὶ νυκτὸς<sup>405</sup> ἀφάντου<sup>406</sup>

ἴσων ἀμφοτέρων,<sup>407</sup> ἐπεὶ οὐδετέρω<sup>408</sup> μέτα μηδέν.

Since, however, everything is named light and night,

at once everything is filled with light and invisible night,

to both equal, since neither is next to not one.

Χ.

Εἴση<sup>409</sup> δ' αἰθερίαν<sup>410</sup> τε φύσιν<sup>411</sup> τὰ τ' ἐν αἰθέρι<sup>412</sup> πάντα

σήματα<sup>413</sup> καὶ καθαρῶς<sup>414</sup> εὐαγέος<sup>415</sup> ἡλίου<sup>416</sup>

<sup>401</sup> fem. acc. pl. of σφέτερος, their own, their; thine.

<sup>402</sup> fem. acc. pl. of δύναμις, power, strength.

<sup>403</sup> Adj., neut. nom. sing. of πλέος, full.

<sup>404</sup> neut. gen. sing. of φάος, light.

<sup>405</sup> fem. gen. sing. of νύξ, night.

<sup>406</sup> ἀφαντος, ον, invisible, forgotten, obscure, secret, unlooked for; α privat. of φαίνομαι, distinct, clear, brought to light.

<sup>407</sup> fem. gen. pl. of ἴσος ἀμφότερος = 'of both alike.'

<sup>408</sup> masc. / neut. dat. pl. of οὐδέτερος, neither of the two.

<sup>409</sup> εἴσος, like, equal, alike.

<sup>410</sup> fem. acc. sing. of αἰθέριος, Ether, or upper air; high in air, on high.

<sup>411</sup> neut. dat. pl. aor. act. part. of φύω, make to grow, produce; beget, engender.

<sup>412</sup> masc. dat. sing. of αἰθήρ, sky, aether.

<sup>413</sup> neut. acc. pl. of σῆμα, sign, mark, token.

<sup>414</sup> Adj., fem. gen. sing. of καθαρός, clean, fair, clear; physically clean, spotless; pure, genuine.

<sup>415</sup> εὐαγής, pure, holy.

λαμπάδος<sup>417</sup> ἔργ' αἰδηλα<sup>418</sup> καὶ ὀππόθεν<sup>419</sup> ἐξεγένοντο,<sup>420</sup>

ἔργα<sup>421</sup> τε κύκλωπος<sup>422</sup> πεύση<sup>423</sup> περίφοιτα<sup>424</sup> σελήνης<sup>425</sup>

[5] καὶ φύσιν, εἰδήσεις<sup>426</sup> δὲ καὶ οὐρανὸν<sup>427</sup> ἀμφὶς<sup>428</sup> ἔχοντα<sup>429</sup>

ἔνθεν<sup>430</sup> ἔφυ<sup>431</sup> τε καὶ ὡς μιν ἄγους<sup>432</sup> ἐπέδησεν<sup>433</sup> Ἀνάγκη<sup>434</sup>

πείρατ'<sup>435</sup> ἔχειν<sup>436</sup> ἄστρον.<sup>437</sup>

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<sup>416</sup> masc. gen. sing. of ἥλιος, the Sun.

<sup>417</sup> fem. gen. sing. of λαμπάς, torch.

<sup>418</sup> Adj. neut. acc. pl. of αἰδηλος, destructive, destroying.

<sup>419</sup> Adv., whence.

<sup>420</sup> 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of ἐκγίγνομαι, spring from.

<sup>421</sup> neut. acc. pl. of ἔργον, work, deed, act. thing.

<sup>422</sup> κύκλωψ, Cyclops, round eye.

<sup>423</sup> 2nd sing. fut. mid. ind. of πυνθάνομαι, learn, learn something from a person; inquire about.

<sup>424</sup> περίφοιτος, περί + φοιτάω, wandering about.

<sup>425</sup> fem. gen. sing. of σελήνη, moon.

<sup>426</sup> fem. acc. pl. of εἰδήσις, knowledge.

<sup>427</sup> masc. acc. sing. of οὐρανός, heaven.

<sup>428</sup> Adv., on both sides, apart, in two ways.

<sup>429</sup> neut. nom. / acc. pl. pres. acc. part. or masc. acc. sing. pres. act. part. of ἔχω, have, hold.

<sup>430</sup> Adv., thence.

<sup>431</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of φύω, make to grow, produce.

<sup>432</sup> neut. gen. sing. of ἄγος, any matter of religious awe.

<sup>433</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of πεδάω, bind with fetters; 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of ἐπιδέω, bind, fasten on; want, want or lack of a number, be in need of.

<sup>434</sup> fem. nom. sing., necessity.

<sup>435</sup> 3rd sing. aor. mid. ind. of πείρω, pierce, transfix.

And you alike shall learn both the origins of the heavens and, in the sky, all the signs, and the pure and holy things of the torch of Sun and whence destructive things arise, and the things of the round faced wandering Moon and their origins; and you will see both sides holding heaven, whence they grew and how necessity with awesome stars transfixed those who attempt.

## XI.

πῶς γαῖα καὶ ἥλιος ἠδὲ σελήνη<sup>438</sup>

αἰθήρ τε ξυνός<sup>439</sup> γάλα<sup>440</sup> τ' οὐράνιον<sup>441</sup> καὶ ὄλυμπος<sup>442</sup>

ἔσχατος<sup>443</sup> ἦδ' ἄστρον<sup>444</sup> θερμόν<sup>445</sup> μένος ὠρμήθησαν<sup>446</sup>

γίγνεσθαι.<sup>447</sup>

How Earth and Sun and Moon and common Sky, Milky Way and Olympus most remote, and the burning might of stars set in motion arose;

<sup>436</sup> pres. inf. act. of ἔχω, have, hold.

<sup>437</sup> neut. gen. pl. of ἄστρον, constellation.

<sup>438</sup> γαῖα καὶ ἥλιος ἠδὲ σελήνη = 'Earth and Sun and Moon.'

<sup>439</sup> masc. nom. sing., common.

<sup>440</sup> neut. nom. / acc. sing. of γάλα, milk, 'the milky way.'

<sup>441</sup> οὐράνιος, heavenly, dwelling in heaven.

<sup>442</sup> Mt. Olympus

<sup>443</sup> Adj. masc. nom. sing., furthest, remotest, extremest, last.

<sup>444</sup> neut. gen. pl. of ἄστρον, a constellation.

<sup>445</sup> neut. nom. / acc. sing. of θερμός, hot.

<sup>446</sup> 3rd pl. aor. pass. ind. of ὀρμάω, set in motion, impel, move; 3rd pl. aor. pass. ind. of ὀρμέω, to be moored, lie at anchor.

<sup>447</sup> pres. mid. / pass. inf. of γίγνομαι.

## XII.

Αί γὰρ στεινότεραι<sup>448</sup> πλήντο<sup>449</sup> πυρὸς ἀκρήτιοι,<sup>450</sup>

αἱ δ' ἐπὶ ταῖς νυκτός, μετὰ δὲ φλογός<sup>451</sup> ἴεται<sup>452</sup> αἴσα<sup>453</sup>

ἐν δὲ μέσῳ<sup>454</sup> τούτων δαίμων<sup>455</sup> ἢ πάντα κυβερνᾷ<sup>456</sup>

πάντα γὰρ <ῆ> στυγεροῖο<sup>457</sup> τόκου<sup>458</sup> καὶ μίξιός<sup>459</sup> ἄρχει<sup>460</sup>

[5]πέμπουσ'<sup>461</sup> ἄρσενι<sup>462</sup> θῆλυ<sup>463</sup> μιγῆν<sup>464</sup> τό τ' ἐναντίον<sup>465</sup> αὐτίς<sup>466</sup>

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448

449 3rd pl. aor. mid. inf. of πίμπλημι, make full, fill.

450

451 masc. gen. sing. of φλόξ, flame, blaze.

452 3rd sing. pre. mid./pass. ind. of ἴημι, let go.

453 Αἴσα = Destiny.

454 Adj. masc. / neut. dat. sing. of μέσος, in the middle of.

455 masc./fem. nom. sing., divinity, divine power; the power controlling the destiny of individuals: hence, one's lot or fortune or fate; personified as the good or evil genius.

456 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of κυβερνάω, steer.

457 Adj. masc. gen. sing. of στυγερός, abominable, hateful, hated.

458 masc. gen. sing. of τόκος, bringing forth, delivery; offspring, young.

459 <ῆ>...μίξις, the mixing, or mingling.

460 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of ἄρχω, begin.

461 πέμπω, send, dismiss.

462 neut. dat. sing. of ἄρσεν, male thing.

463 Adj. neut. acc. sing. of θῆλυς, female.

464 dual pres. opt. μίγνυμαι, mix.

465 Adj. neut. acc. sing. of ἐναντίος, opposite.

ἄρσεν<sup>467</sup> θηλυτέρῳ.<sup>468</sup>

For the more narrow circles were filled with pure fire  
and those around them with night, and among the fire destiny is sent forth,  
and in the midst of this Destiny everywhere steers,  
for everywhere the mingling begins of hated offspring sends both  
a female thing to mix with male things, and again the opposite thing,  
a male thing to mix with a female thing.

### XIII.

Πρώτιστον<sup>469</sup> μὲν Ἔρωτα<sup>470</sup> θεῶν μητίσατο<sup>471</sup> πάντων.

First of all Gods created was erotic Love.

### XIV.

Νυκτιφάεσ<sup>472</sup> περὶ γαῖαν ἀλώμενον<sup>473</sup> ἀλλότριον<sup>474</sup> φῶς.<sup>475</sup>

<sup>466</sup> Adv. back, back again; again, moreover.

<sup>467</sup> neut. acc. sing. of ἄρσην, male.

<sup>468</sup> fem. dat. sing. of θηλυς, the female sex, or thing.

<sup>469</sup> Adj. masc. acc. sing. of πρώτιστος, first of all, foremost.

<sup>470</sup> masc. acc. sing. of ἔρως, erotic love.

<sup>471</sup> 3rd sing. aor. mid. ind. of μητίομαι, devise, perpetrate, contrive.

<sup>472</sup> νυκτι + φάος = 'evening light.'

<sup>473</sup> neut. nom. sing. pres. pass. part. of ἀλάομαι, wander, rove, roam.

A strange evening light roams the Earth over.

### XV.

αἰεὶ<sup>476</sup> παπταίνουσα<sup>477</sup> πρὸς αὐγὰς<sup>478</sup> ἡελίοιο.<sup>479</sup>

Forever casting a timid glance at the glow of the Sun.

### XVA.

ὕδατόριζον<sup>480</sup> εἶπεν<sup>481</sup> τὴν γῆν

A boundary to water to the Earth promised.

### XVI.

Ὡς γὰρ ἕκαστος ἔχει κρᾶσιν<sup>482</sup> μελέων<sup>483</sup> πολυπλάγκτων,<sup>484</sup>

τὼς<sup>485</sup> νόος<sup>486</sup> ἀνθρώποισι<sup>487</sup> παρίσταται<sup>488</sup> τὸ γὰρ αὐτό

<sup>474</sup> Adj. neut. nom. of ἀλλότριος, of or belonging to another; foreign, strange.

<sup>475</sup> neut. nom. sing. of φάος, light.

<sup>476</sup> Adv. of αἰεὶ, ever, always; eternity.

<sup>477</sup> fem. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of παπταίνω, look cautiously or timidly.

<sup>478</sup> fem. acc. pl. of αὐγή, beam, gleam, glow.

<sup>479</sup> masc. gen. sing. of ἥλιος, the Sun.

<sup>480</sup> ὕδατος gen. of ὕδωρ + ὀρίζω = 'boundary of water.'

<sup>481</sup> aor. inf. act. of εἶπον, speak, say; promise, offer.

<sup>482</sup> fem. acc. sing. of κρᾶσις, a mixing, blending, compounding.

<sup>483</sup> masc. gen. pl. of μέλεος, fruitless, idle, unrewarded.

<sup>484</sup> Adj. masc. gen. pl. of πολυπλάγκτος, much wandering, far-roving.

ἔστιν ὅπερ φρονέει<sup>489</sup> μελέων<sup>490</sup> φύσις<sup>491</sup> ἀνθρώποισιν<sup>492</sup>

καὶ πᾶσιν<sup>493</sup> καὶ παντί<sup>494</sup> τὸ γὰρ πλέον<sup>495</sup> ἐστὶ νόημα.<sup>496</sup>

So that each has a mix of fruitless wandering

for them to men the mind is thus disposed;

for the same is the very one who is wise of the fruitless character

of men both to each and every one, for it is all perception.

## XVII.

δεξιτεροῖσιν<sup>497</sup> μὲν κούρους, λαιοῖσι<sup>498</sup> δὲ κούρας.

<sup>485</sup> Adv. thus

<sup>486</sup> masc. nom. sing.

<sup>487</sup> masc. dat. pl. of ἄνθρωπος.

<sup>488</sup> 3rd sing. pres. mid./pass. ind. of παρίστημι, come and stand by; cause to stand, place beside; stand beside or near; be near at hand; come to the side of another; bring to one's side, bring over by force, bring to terms; dispose for one's own views or purposes.

<sup>489</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of φρονέω, have living thoughts, live; have understanding, be wise, prudent; understanding; to have certain thoughts for or towards; comprehend.

<sup>490</sup> fem. gen. pl. of of μέλεος, fruitless, idle, unrewarded.

<sup>491</sup> fem. nom. sing. or fem. acc. pl., quality, property; nature, character.

<sup>492</sup> masc. dat. pl. of ἄνθρωπος.

<sup>493</sup> Adj. masc. dat. pl. of πᾶς, every.

<sup>494</sup> Adj. masc. dat. sing. of πᾶς.

<sup>495</sup> neut. nom. sing. of πλέος, full.

<sup>496</sup> neut. nom. sing. of νόημα, that which is perceived, perception, thought.

<sup>497</sup>

Boys on the right, and girls on the left

## XVIII.

Femina virque simul<sup>499</sup> Veneris<sup>500</sup> cum germina<sup>501</sup> miscent,<sup>502</sup>

venis<sup>503</sup> informans<sup>504</sup> diverso ex sanguine virtus<sup>505</sup>

temperiem<sup>506</sup> servans<sup>507</sup> bene condita<sup>508</sup> corpora fingit.<sup>509</sup>

nam si virtutes<sup>510</sup> permixto<sup>511</sup> semine<sup>512</sup> pugnent<sup>513</sup>

nec faciant<sup>514</sup> unam<sup>515</sup> permixto<sup>516</sup> in corpore, dirae<sup>517</sup>

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<sup>498</sup>

<sup>499</sup> Adv. at the same time, together, at once, simultaneously.

<sup>500</sup> fem. gen. sing. of Venus, loveliness, attractiveness, beauty, grace, elegance, charm; Goddess of Love.

<sup>501</sup> neut. acc. pl. of germen, a sprig, offshoot, sprout, bud; off-spring.

<sup>502</sup> 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of misceo, to mix, mingle, intermingle, blend.

<sup>503</sup> fem. abl. pl. of vena, blood vessel, vein

<sup>504</sup>

<sup>505</sup> fem. nom. sing., manliness, manhood, strength, vigor, bravery, courage, excellence.

<sup>506</sup> fem. acc. sing. of temperies, a due mingling, proper mixture, tempering, temperature, temper.

<sup>507</sup> masc. nom. sing. pres. act. part. of servo, to make safe, save, keep unharmed, preserve, guard, keep, protect, deliver, rescue.

<sup>508</sup> neut. nom./acc. pl. or fem. nom./abl. sing. of condo, to put together, make by joining, found, establish, build, settle.

<sup>509</sup> 3rd sing. pres. act. ind. of fingo, to touch, handle.

<sup>510</sup> fem. nom. pl. of virtus.

<sup>511</sup> neut. abl. sing. perf. pass. part. of permisceo, to mix together, mix thoroughly, commingle, intermingle.

<sup>512</sup> neut. abl. sing. of semen, seed.

<sup>513</sup> 3rd pl. pres. subj. act. of pugno, to fight, combat, give battle, engage, contend.

nascentem<sup>518</sup> gemino vexabunt<sup>519</sup> semine<sup>520</sup> sexum.<sup>521</sup>

At once women and men out of love with off-spring mix

from veins diverse forms from diverse blood tempers virtue,

making safe a well founded body;

now if the virtues have been mixed with seed in one body contend,

they shall be vexed by dreadful off-spring by the seed of the sex.

## XIX.

Οὕτω τοι κατὰ δόξαν<sup>522</sup> ἔφυ<sup>523</sup> τάδε καί νυν<sup>524</sup> ἔασι<sup>525</sup>

καὶ μετέπειτ'<sup>526</sup> ἀπὸ τοῦδε τελευτήσουσι<sup>527</sup> τραφέντα<sup>528</sup>

<sup>514</sup> 3rd pl. pres. subj. act. of facio, to make, construct, fashion, frame, build, erect, produce, compose.

<sup>515</sup> Adj. fem. acc. sing. of unus, one.

<sup>516</sup> neut. dat./abl. sing. perf. pass. part. of permisceo, to mix together, mix thoroughly, commingle, intermingle.

<sup>517</sup> fem. nom. pl. of Dirae, the Furies; or Adj. of dirus, ill - omened, ominous, boding, portentous, fearful, awful, dread.

<sup>518</sup> masc. sing. pres. act. part. of nascor, to be born, begin life, be produced, proceed, be begotten.

<sup>519</sup>

<sup>520</sup> neut. abl. sing. of semen, seed.

<sup>521</sup> masc. gen. pl. or masc. acc. sing. of sexus, sex.

<sup>522</sup> neut. nom. / acc. sing. aor. act. part. of δοκέω, think, opine, suppose, imagine.

<sup>523</sup> 3rd sing. aor. act. ind. of φύω, make to grow, produce.

<sup>524</sup> Adv., now.

<sup>525</sup> 3rd pl. pres. act. ind. of εἰμί.

<sup>526</sup>

τοῖς δ' ὄνομα<sup>529</sup> ἄνθρωποι κατέθεντ'<sup>530</sup> ἐπίσημον<sup>531</sup> ἑκάστῳ.<sup>532</sup>

So, according to your opinion, this was made and now is

And afterwards from this achieves completion

And to these men gave names to distinguish each one

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<sup>527</sup>

<sup>528</sup> neut. nom. / acc. pl. aor. pass. part. or masc. acc. sing. aor. pass. part. of τρέφω, make big; thicken or congeal a liquid, curdle; of slaves, cattle, dogs and the like, rear and keep; maintain, support; bring up, rear, educate.

<sup>529</sup> neut. nom. / acc. sing. of ὄνομα, name.

<sup>530</sup> 3rd pl. aor. mid. ind. of κατατίθημι, put, put down, offer as a prize; lay down from oneself, put off, lay aside; put an end to, settle;

<sup>531</sup> neut. nom./acc. sing. of ἐπίσημον, any distinguishing mark, a device

<sup>532</sup> Adj. masc./neut. dat. sing. of ἑκαστος, each, each one.

## OPERAS CITATAS

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