

Anacreon 358

σφαίρη δηῦτέ με πορφυρῇ
βάλλων χρυσοκόμης Ἔρωσ
νήνι ποικιλοσαμβάλῳ
συμπαίξειν προκαλεῖται·
ἢ δ', ἐστὶν γὰρ ἀπ' εὐκτίτου
Λέσβου, τὴν μὲν ἐμὴν κόμην,
λευκὴ γάρ, καταμέμφεται,
πρὸς δ' ἄλλην τινὰ χάσκει.

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VOCABULARY

βάλλω: throw; hit (with something thrown)
δηῦτε: once more
Ἔρωσ, Ἐρωτος, ὁ: the god of love
εὐκτίτος, -ον (*Ion.*) < εὐκτιστος: well-built; with fine cities
καταμέμφομαι: find fault with; dislike; despise
κόμη, ἡ: hair
λευκός, -ή, -όν: white
νήνις, -ιος, ἡ (*contr.* < νεᾶνις, -ιδος): girl

ποικιλοσάμβαλος, -ον (*Aeol.*) < ποικιλοσάνδαλος:
with coloured sandals
πορφύρεος, -η, -ον: rosy; radiant, glowing
προκαλέομαι: call to, summon
συμπαίξω: play with (+ *dat.*)
σφαίρη, -ης, ἡ: ball
χάσκω: gape; long for
χρυσοκόμης, -ες: golden-haired

COMMENTARY

TEXT: *PMG* 358

METRE: Glyconics (× × | - ∪ ∪ - | ∪ -) in vv. 1-3, 5-7; Glyconics catalectic (× × | - ∪ ∪ - | -), also called Pherecrateans, in vv. 4, 8.

2. βάλλων: hitting me (*acc.*: με) with (*dat.* σφαίρη).
3. νήνι (*dat. fem. s.*) agrees with the two-termination adjective ποικιλοσαμβάλῳ.

4. συμπαίξειν: *inf.* expressing purpose (i.e. '...summons me to play with...')
5. ἢ δ': substantive use of the article (i.e., 'she').
7. λευκὴ γάρ: *sc.* ἐστί; the antecedent is κόμην in the previous line (i.e., 'for it [my hair] is white...').
8. ἄλλην τινά: note that the gender is feminine (a sense that would not be conveyed by the Eng. trans. 'someone else').

LH