

Archilochus, fragment 114

οὐ φιλέω μέγαν στρατηγὸν οὐδὲ διαπεπλιγμένον
οὐδὲ βοστρύχοισι γαῦρον οὐδ' ὑπεξυρημένον,
ἀλλὰ μοι μικρὸς τις εἶη καὶ περὶ κνήμας ἰδεῖν
ροϊκός, ἀσφαλέως βεβηκῶς ποσσὶ, καρδίης πλέως.

VOCABULARY

ἀσφαλέως: safely; steadily, soundly
βαίνω (*pf. pt. act.* βεβηκῶς): walk
βόστρυχος, ὄ: lock of hair
γαῦρος, -α, -ον / -ος, -ον: (+ *dat.*) taking pride in;
exalting in a thing
διαπλίσσομαι (*pf. pt. pass.* διαπεπλιγμένος): walk
with feet wide apart

καρδίη (*Ion.*) < καρδία ἤ: heart; fighting spirit
κνήμη, ἤ: shin, lower leg
πλέως, πλέα, πλέων: (+ *gen.*) full (of)
πούς, ποδός, ὄ: foot
ροϊκός, -ή, -όν: curved; (*here*) bow-legged
σ μικρός, -ά, -όν: short, small
ὑποξυράω (*pf. pt. pass.* ὑπεξυρημένος): trim the hair

COMMENTARY

Text: West (1971) *Iambi et Elegi Graeci*, vol. I.45.

Metre: trochaic tetrameters catalectic

1. μέγαν: 'tall.'
διαπεπλιγμένον (*pf. pt. pass.*): *prob.* means 'who has
a striding gait', but the precise sense intended here
is uncertain.

2. ὑπεξυρημένον (*pf. pt. pass.*): may be translated
adjectivally (*i.e.*, 'with hair neatly trimmed').
3. τις: *indef. pron.* (*i.e.*, 'one').
εἶη: *opt.* without ἄν expressing a wish (*i.e.*, 'But for
me let him be...').
περὶ (+ *acc.*): around, about.
ἰδεῖν: *aor. inf.* < ὀράω; the infinitive has explanatory
sense (*i.e.*, 'bow-legged... to look at').
4. βεβηκῶς: *pf. part.* with present sense (*i.e.*,
'standing').

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