

Scolia 900

εἶθε λύρα καλὴ γενοίμην ἑλεφαντίνη
καί με καλοὶ παῖδες φέροιεν Διονύσιον ἐς χορόν.

VOCABULARY

Διονύσιος, -α, -ον: of Dionysus; Dionysian
εἶθε (+ opt.): introduces a wish
ἑλεφάντινος, -η, -ον: ivory

λύρα, ἤ: lyre
χορός, -οῦ, ὅ: dance

COMMENTARY

TEXT: *PMG*

METRE: choriambic rhythms. Each verse begins with a choriambic dimeter. In v. 1 this is followed by the choriambic sequence (- ∪ ∪ - | ∪ -). In v. 2 a form of the same sequence with dactylic expansion is used.

v. 1: - ∪ ∪ - | ∪ ∪ - | - ∪ ∪ - | ∪ -
v. 2: - ∪ ∪ - | - - ∪ - | - ∪ ∪ - ∪ ∪ - | ∪ -

1. εἶθε... γενοίμην: ‘Would that... I might become...’ (i.e., ‘I wish I might become...’) with λύρα as the predicate and ἑλεφαντίνη modifying it.
γενοίμην: *aor., opt., 1st pers. s.* of the verb γίγνομαι (‘become’)
2. φέροιεν: *opt., act., 3rd pers. pl.* of φέρω (‘carry’), to be construed with εἶθε in v. 1 (i.e., ‘and I wish that...’)

V.H.