

Homer, *Odyssey* XIII.10-19

“εἴματα μὲν δὴ ξείνῳ ἐϋξέστη ἐνὶ χηλῶι
κεῖται καὶ χρυσὸς πολυδαίδαλος ἄλλα τε πάντα
δῶρ’, ὅσα Φαιήκων βουλευφόροι ἐνθάδ’ ἔνεικαν·
ἀλλ’ ἄγε οἱ δῶμεν τρίποδα μέγαν ἠδὲ λέβητα
ἀνδρακάς, ἡμεῖς δ’ αὖτε ἀγειρόμενοι κατὰ δῆμον
τεισόμεθ’· ἀργαλέον γὰρ ἓνα προικὸς χαρίσασθαι.”
ὡς ἔφατ’ Ἀλκίνοος, τοῖσιν δ’ ἐπιήνδανε μῦθος.
οἱ μὲν κακκείοντες ἔβαν οἰκόνδε ἕκαστος·
ἦμος δ’ ἠριγένεια φάνη ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥως
νῆαδ’ ἐπεσσεύοντο, φέρον δ’ εὐήνορα χαλκόν.

15

VOCABULARY

ἀγείρω: gather; (*mid.*) gather, assemble; collect for oneself
ἀνδρακάς: (*adv.*) each man, every man
ἀργαλέος -η -ον: (*adj.*) hard to put up with
αὖτε (*adv.*): in turn, next
βουλευφόρος, -ου, ὄ: (*n.*) advisor, councillor
δῆμος, -ου, ὄ: (*n.*) people
εἶμα, -ατος, τό (φέσ-μα): (*n.*) garment; pl. clothing
ἐνθάδε: here; to here
ἐπιανδάνω: (*v.*) to please; be pleasing, acceptable
ἐπισσεύω: (*v.*) send against; (*mid.*) ἐπισσεύομαι: hurry
towards a destination
εὔξεστος / εὐξεστος, -η, -ον / -ος, -ον: (*adj.*) well made
(*esp.* of carpentry), polished
εὐήνωρ, -ορος: (*adj.*) beneficial to men
ἠδέ: (*conjunctive particle*) and
ἦμος: at the time when
ἠριγένεια: (*adj.*) ‘early born’ an epithet of Dawn

Ἥως: Eos or Dawn
κακκείοντες: (*v.*) *contracted pres. ppt.* of κατακείω: go to
bed
λέβης, -ητος, ὄ: (*n.*) cauldron, pot (*esp.* for boiling water)
μῦθος: (*n.*) speech
νῆαδε: (*adv.*) to the ship
ξείνος -ου, ὄ: (*n.*) foreigner, stranger
πολυδαίδαλος, -ον: (*adj.*) finely made; elaborately crafted
προῖξ, προικός: (*n.*) gift
ῥοδοδάκτυλος: (*adj.*) ‘rosy-fingered’, an epithet of Dawn
τίω, τίνω: (*mid.*) repay or compensate oneself
τρίπος, -οδος, ὄ: a tripod (to support a cauldron over the
fire)
χαλκός, ὄ: (*n.*) bronze
χαρίζομαι: do a favour for someone
χηλός, -οῦ, ἦ: (*n.*) box, chest

COMMENTARY

10. ἐνὶ = ἐν
12. δῶρ’ = δῶρα, τά
ὅσα: ‘as many as’
ἔνεικαν: 3rd *pl. aor.* of φέρω
13. οἱ: *dat. masc. s.* of the third person pronoun ἐεῖ (ἐφέ): ‘to
him’
δῶμεν: hortatory subjunctive, ‘let us give’
ἠδέ frequently, though not always (for example, here),
coordinates with ἡμέν. The two are formed of the affirmative
particle ἦ (‘indeed’, ‘certainly’) coupled with μέν and δέ:
‘certainly on the one hand... and indeed on the other’.

15 τεισόμεθα is 1st *pl. fut. mid.* of τίω, τίνω (*fut., aor.* stems
are formed τι- or τει-): pay; the *mid.* form may mean, as
here, ‘repay / compensate oneself.’

ἀργαλέον: *sc.* ἐστίν
ἓνα... χαρίσασθαι: accusative and infinitive: ‘it is a hard
thing for a man to...’
προικός: *genitive of price / value*: ‘at the price of a gift’, i.e.
‘for free’

18 φάνη: 3rd *s. aor. pass.* of φαίνω: ‘appear.’ As frequently
in Homeric verse, the augment has been omitted (cf.
φέρων in 19)