

Homer, *Odyssey* 13.31-37

ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἀνήρ δόρποιο λιλαίεται, ὧι τε πανῆμαρ
νειὸν ἀν' ἔλκητον βόε οἴνοπε πηκτὸν ἄροτρον·
ἀσπασίως δ' ἄρα τῷ κατέδου φάος ἡελίοιο
δόρπον ἐποίχεσθαι, βλάβεται δέ τε γούνατ' ἰόντι·
ὥς Ὀδυσῆ' ἀσπαστὸν ἔδου φάος ἡελίοιο.
αἶψα δὲ Φαιήκεσσι φιληρέτμοισι μετηύδα,
Ἄλκινόωι δὲ μάλιστα πιφασκόμενος φάτο μῦθον·

35

VOCABULARY

αἶψα (adv.): at once, straightaway, quickly
ἀνα: (+ acc.): over
ἄκοιτις, ἡ: (n.) wife
ἀριδείκετος: (adj.) famous, renowned
ἄροτρον, τό: (n.) plough
ἀρτεμής: (adj.) safe, sound
ἀσπασίως: (adv.) welcome
ἀσπαστός: (adj.) welcome, bringing joy / gladness
βλάβομαι: (v.) *here*: be in pain (*generally* βλάβω:
harm; cause to break down)
γόνυ, γουνός, τό (nom. pl. γούνατα): knee
δόρπον, -ου, τό: supper, evening meal
ἔλκω: drag, pull, draw along
ἐπείχομαι: (v.) approach, go towards; *here*: go for

κρεῖτον: (n.) (voc.) lord
λιλαίομαι: (v.) desire (+ gen.)
μεταυδάω: speak (among a group)
μῦθος, ὁ: speech
νειός, -οῦ, ὁ: (n.) fallow field
οἴνοψ: dark (coloured)
ὄλβιος -α -ον: (adj.) blessed
πανῆμαρ: (adv.) all day long
πηκτός: (adj.) joined, put together
πιφάσκω: (v.) show; (mid.) tell; *here*: 'making
himself clear'
πομπή, ἡ: (n.) procession; *here*: escort
φάος, τό: (n.) light
φιληρέτμος: (adj.) loving rowing

COMMENTARY

31-5. In this short simile, Odysseus' eagerness for the sun to sink is likened to the longing of a ploughman for sunset to bring the end of a hard day's work in the fields.

31. ὥς... ὅτε: 'as when...' (introducing the simile)

ὧι τε: 'for whom...' (τε following ὅς colours what follows as habitual or typical)

32. βόε οἴνοπε: dual: 'twin dark oxen'

ἔλκητον: dual (3rd pers.): 'pull'

33. κατέδου: 'sinks': a gnomic or 'timeless' aorist, expressing what always happens or a general truth

34. δέ τε: the addition of τε to another particle frequently indicates habitual action (as here) or a general truth

35. ἰόντι: *masc. dat. s.* agreeing with ὧι (31)

Ὀδυσῆ' = Ὀδυσῆι