

Mimnemus 5

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- αὐτίκα μοι κατὰ μὲν χροιὴν ὁέει ἀσπετος ἰδρώς,
πτοιῶμαι δ' ἐσορῶν ἄνθος ὁμηλικίης
τερπνὸν ὄμῶς καὶ καλόν· ἐπὶ πλέον ὥφελεν εῖναι·
ἀλλ' ὀλιγοχρόνιον γίγνεται ὡσπερ ὄναρ
5 ἥβῃ τιμήσσα· τὸ δ' ἀργαλέον καὶ ἄμορφον
γῆρας ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς αὐτίχ' ὑπερκρέμαται,
ἐχθρὸν ὄμῶς καὶ ἄτιμον, ὅ τ' ἄγνωστον τιθεῖ ἄνδρα,
βλάπτει δ' ὀφθαλμοὺς καὶ νόον ἀμφιχυθέν.

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¹μοι dat. of interest. χροίη ἡ skin; surface. ὁέω flow. ἀσπετος ον unspeakable, unutterable; countless, unending. ἰδρώς ὄτος ὁ sweat.

²πτοιέω tr. frighten, alarm, make tremble, intr. tremble, cower. εἰσ-οράω look (at). ἄνθος τό flower. ὁμηλικίη ἡ those of the same age, collective noun, esp. of young people.

³τερπνός ἡ ὁν delightful, agreeable, pleasant. X ὄμῶς καὶ Y “both X and Y.” ἐπὶ τπλέον more, further. ὀφείλω ὀφειλήσω ὥφελον owe, be obligated; with inf. ought to; here the aor. indicating unattainable wish (Smyth §1781).

⁴ὀλιγοχρόνιος (α) ον short-lived, here agreeing with ὄναρ, though it goes with ἥβῃ in the next line. ὄναρ τό dream.

⁵ἥβῃ ἡ (prime of) youth. τιμήεις εσσα εν honored; prized, expensive. ἀργαλέος α ον painful, troubling, grievous. ἄμορφος ον shapeless, misshapen; degrading.

⁶γῆρας αος τό old age. ὑπερ-κρεμάνυμι pass. -κρέμαμαι hang over.

⁷ἐχθρός ἡ ὁν hated, hateful; hostile. ἄτιμος ον unhonored, unworthy; dishonorable. ἄγνωστος ον unknown, unfamiliar; forgotten. τιθεῖ = τίθησι, here in the sense of make, cause.

⁸βλάπτω harm, hinder, disable. ὀφθαλμός ὁ eye. νόος ὁ mind, sense, judgment; also the direct object of βλάπτει. ἀμφι-χέω aor.pass.part. nom.sg.n. pour around, spread over, agreeing with l.6 γῆρας.