

Pindar: Olympian 14  
 William S. Annis  
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This short ode, intended for singing at the victory revel (κῶμος) by friends, is for Asopichus of Orchomenos, son of Cleodamus, for winning the boys footrace. The Graces (Χάριτες) are prominent in the ode, and seem to have had special significance at Orchomenos.

The meter defies easy analysis. It's aeolic, with many anaclastic cola with the choriamb shifted to the front and several periods ending in an iambic υ-υ- or penthemimer υ-υ-υ-. It's better to observe the development of the metrical ideas than to name particular cola:

		--υ	--υυ-		
		υ-υ-υ	--υυ-	υ-υ-	-
			--υυ-	υ-υ-	υυ
		υυυ	--υυ-	υ-υ-	υυ
5			--υυ-	υ-υ-υ	-
			--υυ-	υ-υ-υ	υ-
			--υυ-	υυυ	--υυ--
		--υ- <u>υ</u> -	--υυ-	υ-	
			--υυ-	<u>υ</u> --	υ-
10		--υ- υ	--υυ-	υ-	υ-υ- υυ-
		-- <u>υ</u> υ-	--υυ-		
			--υυ-	υ-υ-	υυ
				--υυ-	--υυ--

Lines 11 and 12 should probably be taken as a single period developing line 10 by echoing line 4. This meter is repeated in the second strophe. There is no epode.

Sources: Moore's 1947 *Selections from the Greek Elgiac, Iambic and Lyric Poets*, Bowra's 1935 OCT *Pindari Carmina cum Fragmentis*, Snell and Maehler's 1984 Teubner and Sandys' 1937 *The Odes of Pindar including the Principal Fragments with an Introduction and an English Translation* via Perseus.

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Καφισίων ὑδάτων  
 λαχοῖσαι, αἶτε ναίετε καλλίπωλον ἔδραν,  
 ᾧ λιπαρᾶς ἀοίδιμοι βασίλειαι  
 Χάριτες Ὀρχομενοῦ, παλαιγόνων Μινυᾶν ἐπίσκοποι,  
 5 κλῦτ' ἐπεὶ εὔχομαι. σὺν γὰρ ὕμνιν τὰ τερπνὰ καὶ  
 τὰ γλυκὲ' ἄνεται πάντα βροτοῖς,  
 εἰ σοφός, εἰ καλός, εἴ τις ἀγλαὸς ἀνὴρ.  
 οὐδὲ γὰρ θεοὶ σεμνᾶν Χαρίτων ἄτερ  
 κοιρανέοντι χοροὺς οὔτε δαίτας· ἀλλὰ πάντων ταμίαι  
 10 ἔργων ἐν οὐρανῷ, χρυσότοξον θέμεναι παρὰ  
 Πύθιον Ἀπόλλωνα θρόνουσ,  
 αἰέναον σέβοντι πατρὸς Ὀλυμπίοιο τιμάν.

<sup>2</sup>λαχοῖσαι Sandys, Snell λαχοῖσαν Bowra, Moore.

<sup>4</sup>Ὀρχομενοῦ Sandys Ἐρχομενοῦ Bowra, Moore, Snell.

<sup>1</sup>Κᾱφίσιος of Kephisos, a river near Orchomenos. ὕδωρ ὕδατος τό water.

<sup>2</sup>λαγχανῶ, λήξομαι, ἔλαχον obtain by lot, win for oneself, of gods to be god of, protect + acc. or gen.; λαχοῖσαι Aeolic aorist active participle, nom.fem.pl, agreeing with Χάριτες in line 4. ναίω dwell (in). καλλίπωλος on with beautiful horses. ἔδρα ἡ a dwelling place of gods; sitting; assembly.

<sup>3</sup>λιπαρός ἡ ὄν oily, shiny; rich, fertile; bright, splendid; agrees with Ὀρχομενοῦ in the next line. ἀοίδιμος on sung of, famous in song. βασίλεια ἡ queen, princess.

<sup>4</sup>Χάρις ἡ Grace. Ὀρχομενός ἡ city in Boeotia. παλαιγόνος on ancient. Μινυαί οἱ Minyans, the noble family of Orchomenos; Μινυᾶν Doric gen.pl. ἐπίσκοπος ὁ guardian, overseer.

<sup>5</sup>ἔκλυον aorist stem hear, listen; κλῦτε 2pl. imperative. εὔχομαι pray; boast, vow. σὺν with, by means of + dat. ὕμνιν = ὕμν. τὰ τερπνὰ delights, pleasures, from adj. τερπνός.

<sup>6</sup>γλυκὺς εἶα ὕ sweet, lovely, kind. ἄνω accomplish, achieve; ἄνεται here passive. βροτός ὁ mortal, human.

<sup>7</sup>ἀγλαός ἡ ὄν shining, of people famous, noble. Usually we'd expect the εἴ τις ἀγλαὸς ἀνὴρ clause first. Here scan ἀνὴρ as -- (a common variation).

<sup>8</sup>σεμνός ἡ ὄν solemn; revered, holy; σεμνᾶν = σεμνῶν. ἄτερ without + gen.; usually after the gen.

<sup>9</sup>κοιρανέω to be master of, arrange; rule. κοιρανέοντι = κοιρανέουσι. χορός ὁ dancing; dancing place. δαίς δαιτός ἡ feast, meal. ταμίης οὗ ὁ one who distributes, dispenses; overseer.

<sup>10</sup>χρυσότοξος having a golden bow, epithet of Apollo. θέμεναι fem.pl. aorist middle participle of τίθημι, "having placed;" the direct object is θρόνουσ below. παρὰ beside, goes with χρυσότοξον ... Πύθιον Ἀπόλλωνα.

<sup>11</sup>Πύθιος α on Pythian; epithet of Apollo. θρόνος ὁ seat, chair.

<sup>12</sup>αἰέναον = ἀέναος on ever-flowing; agrees with τιμάν. σέβω worship, honor, reverence; σέβοντι = σέβουσι. τιμή ἡ honor, dignity, authority; price, value; τιμάν = τιμήν.

- ὦ πότνι Ἰαγλαΐα  
 φιλησίμολπέ τ' Εὐφροσύνα, θεῶν κρατίστου  
 15 παῖδες, ἐπακοοῖτε νῦν, Θαλία τε  
 ἐρασίμολπε, ἰδοῖσα τόνδε κῶμον ἐπ' εὐμενεῖ τύχα  
 κοῦφα βιβῶντα· Λυδῶ γάρ Ἰασώπιχον τρόπῳ  
 ἐν μελέταις τ' αἰείδων ἔμολον,  
 οὔνεκ' Ἰολυμπιόνικος ἁ Μινύεια  
 20 σεῦ ἔκατι. μελαντειχέα νῦν δόμον  
 Φερσεφόνας ἔλθ', Ἰαχοῖ, πατρὶ κλυτὰν φέροισ' ἄγγελίαν,  
 Κλεόδαμον ὄφρ' ἰδοῖς', υἱὸν εἵπης ὅτι οἱ νέαν  
 κόλποις παρ' εὐδόξοις Πίσας  
 ἔστεφάνωσε κυδίμων ἀέθλων πετροῖσι χαίταν.

<sup>13</sup>πότνια ἢ title of goddesses and noblewomen *lady, mistress*. Ἰαγλαΐα ἢ name of one of the Graces, *beauty, magnificence, joy*.

<sup>14</sup>φιλησίμολπος *on fond of dance and song*. Εὐφροσύνη ἢ another Grace, *mirth, festivity*. κράτιστος *η on strongest, mightiest, best*. θεῶν κράτιστος = Zeus.

<sup>15</sup>παῖς *παιδός ὁ, ἢ child; son, daughter; boy, girl*. ἐπακοοῖτε Doric, as if from ἐπηκοέω *hear; listen*, 2.pl.pres.opt. as a command. νῦν *now*. Θαλία ἢ the third Grace, *abundance*.

<sup>16</sup>ἐρασίμολπος *on loving dance and song*. ἰδοῖσα Aeolic aor.act.part., nom.fem.sing of aorist stem εἶδον *see*. κῶμος ὁ *revel*. εὐμενής *ἐς favorable, gracious*. τύχη ἢ *fortune, chance; act, deed*. ἐπ' εὐμενεῖ τύχα “upon (this) favorable occasion.”

<sup>17</sup>κοῦφα *lightly, nimbly*. βιβῶω *step*, pres.part., agreeing with κῶμον; a komos was a roving party. Λυδός = Λύδιος *Lydian*; agrees with τρόπῳ Ἰασώπιχος *Asopichus*, the winner of the race. τρόπος ὁ *manner, style of song*; dat. of means.

<sup>18</sup>μελέτη *ἢ care, attention*, here “careful verses, phrases”, with ἐν indicating manner (common in Pindar). αἰείδω *sing*. βλώσκω, μολοῦμαι, ἔμολον *to go, to come*, “I (Pindar) came.”

<sup>19</sup>οὔνεκα *because*. Ἰολυμπιόνικος, *on victorious at the Olympics*. Μινύειος *α on Minyan*; ἁ Μινύεια “the Minyan (city).”

<sup>20</sup>σεῦ = σοῦ. ἔκητι = ἔκητι *by means of, with the help of* with genitive, which usually comes first. μελαντειχής *ἐς black-walled*. δόμος ὁ *house*; acc. of destination.

<sup>21</sup>Φερσεφόνη *Persephone*, Doric gen. ἔλθ' 2.sg. imper. from ἦλθον. Ἰαχώ *Echo*, personified; Ἰαχοῖ *ω-declension vocative*. κλυτός ἢ ὄν *famous, glorious; splendid*; Doric f.acc. φέροισα = φέρουσα, f.nom.part. φέρω *carry*. ἀγγελία ἢ *message, news*; Doric f.acc.

<sup>22</sup>Rephrased: ὄφρα, Κλεόδαμον ἰδοῖσα, εἵπης ὅτι υἱός οἱ νέαν... Κλεόδαμος *Cleodamus*, *Asopichus' father*; direct object of ὄφρα *so that*; ἰδοῖσα *v. line 16*. εἵπης 2.sg. subj. οἱ *to/for him* (i.e. *Cleodamus*). νέος *α on young, new, youthful*; goes with χαίταν *line 24*.

<sup>23</sup>κόλπος ὁ *bosom; valley*. παρά with dat. *near, beside*. εὐδοξός *on honored, famous, glorious*. Πίσας ἢ *Pisa*, Doric gen.sg.

<sup>24</sup>στεφανός *to crown; honor*. κύδιμος *on famous*. ἀέθλος ὁ *contest; the games*. πτερόν τό *feather, wing*; dat. of means; ἀέθλων πετερά “wings of victory” χαίτη ἢ *(flowing) hair*. “say that beside the honored valleys of Pisa his son crowned his youthful hair with the wings of victory.”