

Author(s): John Peradotto

Reviewed work(s):

The Jerusalem Palimpsest of Euripides: A Facsimile Edition. With Commentary by
Stephen G. Daitz

Source: *The Classical World*, Vol. 64, No. 4 (Dec., 1970), p. 123

Published by: Classical Association of the Atlantic States

STEPHEN G. DAITZ (ed.). *The Jerusalem Palimpsest of Euripides: A Facsimile Edition*. With Commentary. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1970. Pp. ix, 32; (plus) 71 pls. DM 86.

The Jerusalem Palimpsest (Hierosolymitanus Patriarchalis 36 = H [incorrectly designated Sabae 36 by Spranger and Taphou 36 by Turyn]) may be the oldest extant manuscript containing noteworthy Euripidean material. Beneath a commentary of the Old Testament prophets done about 1300 are 1593 lines of Euripides from *Hecuba* (101), *Phoenissae* (190), *Orestes* (507), *Andromacha* (294), *Hippolytus* (197), and *Medea* (304) — a 68-page remnant of what apparently was originally "a small, handy text" of the poet, written by three different scribes, mostly in the late tenth or early eleventh century.

Daitz's photographs, made with the help of ultraviolet light, are excellent, despite the adverse circumstances surrounding their production. Although we must trust to his collation for many of the readings, which are still obscured in the photographs by the heavy scrawl of the upper layer of writing, this edition represents a vast improvement over the barely accessible and less legible Spranger photographs of 1937, and the 1938 collation based on them.

In addition to the photographs and the collation, Daitz provides a historical introduction, a codicological description, a painstaking paleographical analysis of the three hands (which Daitz is the first to distinguish), and an examination of the ruling types, which serves to corroborate the distinction among the hands as well as Daitz's dating (950-1050), based on comparison of writing characteristics with specimens in the Lakes' *Dated Greek Minuscule Manuscripts*. The care with which Daitz marshals his evidence makes us more than a little suspicious of the unproved twelfth-century assignation of H in Tuilier's *Recherches critiques sur la tradition du texte d'Euripide* (1968). On the relationship between the text and scholia of H and those of Mss. ABMLPV, the editor has made observations which are important but necessarily tentative, since the scholia of H have not yet been completely deciphered or evaluated.

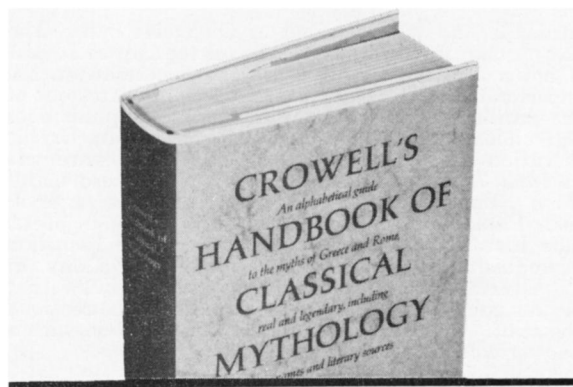
JOHN PERADOTTO

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO

GÜNTER WOJACZEK. *Daphnis: Untersuchungen zur griechischen Bukolik*. ("Beiträge zur klassischen Philologie," 34.) Meisenheim am Glan: Verlag Anton Hain, 1969. Pp. vii, 155. DM 27.60 (paper).

This dissertation, directed by R. Merkelbach, attempts to explain the origins of Greek bucolic poetry in terms of mystic cults of Dionysus and Orpheus. Wojaczek follows Merkelbach in interpreting Longus' *Daphnis and Chloe* as an allegory of initiation into the Dionysiac mysteries, and he tries to show that Daphnis had always been a Dionysiac initiate. Purportedly Dionysiac motifs are noted in Theocritus; the Daphnis-song in *Idyll* 1 becomes a ritual, initiatory song; *Idyll* 7 records the initiation rites of a circle of Coan poets who, dressed as sacred herdsmen, devoted themselves to mystery cults and poetry; the authors of the *technopaignia* are members of this Coan *Dichterbund*, and their figured poems are semi-sacred offerings dedicated in the group's grotto.

One may admit the possibility of a mystical interpretation of Longus' romance, but Wojaczek fails to offer any conclusive evidence that the Daphnis of



At last a reliable, convenient, and readable guide to the myths of Greece and Rome!

The ideal companion to literature from the *Iliad* to *The Centaur*. All the myths found in classical epic, drama, and the leading mythographers are retold in lively, unbroken narratives that can be enjoyed for their own sake.

Places as well as personages have entries, with the legendary history of each fully traced. The accounts are drawn from their original sources, which are cited in each entry. They are alphabetically arranged and liberally cross-referenced. Maps and genealogical charts are included, as well as an index to pronunciation in modern English, with transliterations from the Greek. \$10.00

CROWELL'S HANDBOOK OF CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY by Edward Tripp

THOMAS Y. CROWELL COMPANY
201 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10003