

your patron is myself and all the citizens, whose resolve is being herein fulfilled. Why do ye wait for others of more authority?

*Chor.* For thy good deeds mayst thou have thy fill of food, Pelasgian lord. But of thy grace send hither our stout-hearted sire, Danaus, to think for us and lead our counsels. For his wisdom rather than ours must say where we should make our home in kindly neighbourhood. All men are ready to cast reproach on those of foreign speech. Yet may all be for the best; and may we have good report, with no angry rumours of the native folk. *[The King departs.]*

Take your stand, dear handmaids, in such way as Danaus, giving each her dower of service, allotted you.

*[Danaus enters with body-guard.]*

*Dan.* Children, 'tis right to pray to the Argives and sacrifice and pour libations to them as to Olympian gods, for they are our saviours in no doubtful way. The tidings I bore to our friends in authority they heard with bitterness toward our cousins, but to me they assigned this escort of spearmen, that I might have rank and honour, and might not suddenly and unknown of them die by the death of the spear, so that an ever-living burden should lie upon the land.

Meeting with boons like these, we must set gratitude to them in high honour at the helm of our mind.

And over and above many other sage lessons of your sire, record ye this,—that an unknown company is proven by time; and when one is an alien, every man wears in readiness an evil tongue; and 'tis easy in some way to cast the smirch of a reproach. You therefore I urge to bring no shame upon me, with this youthful beauty whereon men turn to gaze.

The tender autumn fruit is ever difficult to guard; for 'tis watched and coveted by men—why not?—and by brutes that fly or walk the earth. So Cypris carries the tidings of bodies dripping ripe, when she hath found the orchard-gate thrust back; and all men as they pass shoot at the lovely virgin charms an alluring arrow of the eye, for desire o'ercomes them.

Therefore let us not suffer that, in fear whereof we endured much toil and ploughed much ocean with our bark. And let us not work shame to ourselves and delight to my enemies. For habitation, we have twain: one Pelasgus gives and one the state, to dwell in without hire. Herein is fortune good. Only keep watch on these biddings of your father, and honour chastity more than life.

*Chor.* May the Olympian gods send us prosperity in all the rest; but, touching my beauty's flower, be of good cheer, my father. For