

ΕΥΡΙΠΙΔΟΥ  
ΙΦΙΓΕΝΕΙΑ Η ΕΝ ΑΥΛΙΔΙ.

Πρόλογος.

ΑΓΑ. ἐγένοντο Λήδα Θεστιάδι τρεῖς παρθένοι,  
Φοίβη Κλυταιμνήστρα τ' ἐμὴ ξυνάορος  
Ἐλένη τε ταύτης οἱ τὰ πρῶτ' ὠλβισμένοι  
μνηστῆρες ἦλθον Ἑλλάδος νεανίαι.  
δειναὶ δ' ἀπειλαὶ καὶ κατ' ἀλλήλων φόνος

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53. φθόνος Markland and Matthiae.

49. Θεστιάδι] Euripides is fond of these patronymic adjectives—other exx. are Τυνδαρίς, Τυνδάρειος, Ἡράκλειος, Πε-  
λιάς, Τιτανίς.

50. Φοίβη] not mentioned elsewhere except by Ovid *Her.* VIII. 77. ἐμὴ  
ξυνάορος] It is usual in a Euripidean  
prologue for the speaker to announce his  
(or her) name. In this case Ag. suffi-  
ciently declares who he is when he says  
that his wife's name is Clytaemnestra.

52. μνηστῆρες ἦλθον] As a second-  
ary predicate to ἐλθεῖν an adjective or  
verbal noun often indicates a purpose:  
ταύτης μνηστῆρες ἦλθον is equivalent to  
ταύτην ἦλθον μνηστεύσοντες. Cf. Isocra-  
tes *Enc. Hel.* p. 216 ὑπεριδόντες τοὺς  
οἴκοι γάμους ἦλθον ἐκείνην μνηστεύσοντες.  
So *Hec.* 239 οἷσθ' ἦνικ' ἦλθες Ἰλίου κατὰ-  
σκοπος. *Or.* 1300 ἔλθ' ἐπίκουρον ἐμοῖσι

φίλοισι. *Ion* 297 ἐπίκουρος ἐλθών. Ἑλ-  
λάδος] this gen. may depend purely on  
νεανίαι or (better) partly also on τὰ πρῶτ'  
ὠλβισμένοι which words are a 'tragic',  
*i.e.* somewhat grandiose variety of the  
simple ὀλβιώτατοι. Cf. for the gen.  
*Soph. Ajax* 435 τὰ πρῶτα καλλιστεῖ'  
ἀριστεύσας στρατοῦ, and *ib.* v. 1300 στρα-  
τοῦ τὰ πρῶτ' ἀριστεύσας.

53—57. 'And it was frightful to hear  
one threaten the other with death if he  
failed to win the maiden. So difficult  
was the decision, the giving and the  
refusing alike, that her father Tyndareos  
was at a loss how to enjoy fortune's  
blessing without disaster'.

53. κατ' ἀλλήλων] But for these  
words the sentence would imply that  
each suitor threatened Tyndareos with  
death if his request were refused.

E. I.

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