

Anacreon 395
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Anacreon is not usually known for serious poems, but this one comes to us from Stobaeus' collection. Except for lines 5 and 11, which are *υυ—υυ—*, the lines are anacreontics, *υυ—υ—υ—*.

- πολιοὶ μὲν ἡμὶν ἥδη
κρόταφοι κάρη τε λευκόν,
χαρίεσσα δ' οὐκέτ' ἥβῃ
πάρα, γηραλέοι δ' ὀδόντες,
5 γλυκεροῦ δ' οὐκέτι πολλὸς
βιότου χρόνος λέλειπται·
διὰ ταῦτ' ἀνασταλύζω
θαμὰ Τάρταρον δεδοικώς·
'Αἰδεω γάρ ἐστι δεινὸς
10 μυχός, ἀργαλῆ δ' ἐς αὐτὸν
κάτοδος· καὶ γὰρ ἔτοιμον
καταβάντι μὴ ἀναβῆναι.

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¹πολιός (ή) ὃν grey, grey-ish. ἡμὶν = ἡμῖν short iota sometimes in verse; dat. of interest.

²κρόταφος ὁ temple (of the head). κάρη τό head. λευκός ἡ ὃν bright, light; white.

³χαρίεις εσσα εν pleasing, lovely. οὐκέτι no longer, no further. ἥβῃ ἡ (prime of) youth.

⁴πάρα = πάρεστι be present, be near. γηραλέος α ον old, aged. ὀδούς ὀδόντος ὁ tooth.

⁵γλύκερός ἡ ὃν sweet. πολλός = Attic πολύς.

⁶βίοτος ὁ (i) life; duration of one's life. χρόνος ὁ time; period, duration. λείπω pf. λέλειμμαι pf.pass to be left (living). 5–6 πολλὸς δὲ χρόνος γλυκεροῦ βιότου οὐκέτι λέλειπται

⁷διὰ ταῦτα on account of this. ἀνασταλύζω sob, weep.

⁸θαμά often. Τάρταρος ὁ Tartarus, name of underworld holding the Titans, but often used for Hades. δεδοικώς afraid of, perf.part. of δείδω fear.

⁹Αἴδης -εω ὁ Hades (Ionic form and genitive). δεινός ἡ ὃν fearful, terrible.

¹⁰μυχός ὁ nook, corner, but often also used to refer to underworld regions. ἀργαλέος η ον painful, troublesome.

¹¹κάτοδος = κάθ-οδος ἡ descent, way down; take l.10 ἐς αὐτὸν attributive for κάτοδος, “the way down to it.” ἔτοιμος (η) ον ready, prepared, of fate fixed, certain; here impersonal with dat. + inf.

¹²κατα-βαίνω aor.pple dat.sg.m. go down. ἀναβαίνω go up, ascend.